

Three’s too crowded for wife in ‘Shades of Grey’ marriage

DEAR ABBY: I've been married to my best friend for nine years. We have our ups and downs, but we're generally happy. When "Fifty Shades of Grey" came out, I told him I was interested in exploring that scene. He was thrilled because he's always been in the lifestyle but was afraid to scare me away.

Fast forward four years: I no longer wish to be part of it. It's not for me. I agreed to have a live-in submissive with the understanding that she leaves if I say so. But he's now calling me selfish for suggesting it be only the two of us. He has no intention of ever changing it.



DEAR ABBY

She helps him with his company, which is also lifestyle-related, and claims he can't do it without her. Their relationship is nonsexual. Am I selfish for wanting a normal marriage again? He gave me the master bedroom to myself and says that's the compromise and I need to let him be him. What's your opinion?

—WRONG TURN IN HOUSTON

DEAR WRONG TURN: Wait a minute! If your husband can't run his company without this woman, then I have to wonder who is the submissive.

If sleeping in an empty master bedroom while he sleeps in another and has a "nonsexual" relationship with this person is what you want for your future, you wouldn't be writing to me. You asked for my opinion, and here it is: Let your husband be himself, permit yourself to be YOURSELF and while you're doing that, consult a divorce lawyer.

DEAR ABBY: I have a really bad fear of babies and toddlers. My brother's wife just had a second child, and I can't stand being around them. I get really bad anxiety, so I avoid them. His first child is 8, but she is disabled and is like a toddler. I get freaked out around her, too.

When they come over, I go outside or into my room and hide. On top of that, my sister is pregnant and living here with me and our parents. I'm only 17, so I can't move out. It's hard enough when my brother visits with his kids, but if one lives with me, I know I'm gonna lose it.

—LOSING IT IN THE WEST

DEAR LOSING IT: You are NOT going to lose it. You ARE going to talk with your par-

ents about this because you cannot keep hiding in your room forever. The longer you do, the higher your level of anxiety will become.

Have you any idea why you feel the way you do about babies and toddlers? Is it their size, their fragility, the sound of their voices? You may need help from a licensed therapist to get past this. (Some individuals do.) It's important that you understand what is driving this panic because, if you don't, you will find yourself increasingly isolated as your friends and relatives start families.

DEAR ABBY: Our high school-age daughter has a great group of friends. They often spend the night at each other's houses for sleepovers. It's usually two to four girls sharing rooms and beds. My dilemma is that one of her friends is a gay boy. She asked if he could stay over. After some thought, our response was that he could, but in a separate bed. What would your answer have been?

—NOT IN THE PARENTING HAND-BOOK

DEAR NOT: Mine would have been the same as yours, if only for the sake of "propriety."

DEAR ABBY: Because of a medical condition, my husband of 30 years can no longer drive a car -- so now he is driving ME nuts. Not only does he tell me how to drive ("You're too far to the right," or "Watch out for that car!" or "I'd go this way," etc.), but he feels it is his responsibility to remotely lock/unlock the car doors, remotely start the car -- anything having to do with the car but drive it.

Please tell me how to solve the dilemma about who should control the functions of the car.

-- EXASPERATED IN OHIO

DEAR EXASPERATED: YOU should. However, when a man can no longer drive and his wife must take over, some males regard it as a blow to their masculinity. What your husband is doing is an attempt to reassert himself in his former role, and while it may annoy you, please try harder to understand why he's doing what he's doing and be more tolerant. I know I would.

Rare snow falls on Seattle as Midwest thaws from cold blast

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Winter weather pounded a swath of the U.S. West on Monday, closing schools, delaying flights and turning streets into sledding hills in coastal cities like Seattle that rarely get much snow.

Parts of California and Montana braced for the threat of mudslides and avalanches this week, while the Midwest warmed up from a dangerous blast of cold last week that is linked to at least 30 deaths in several states.

The Pacific Northwest's first major winter snowstorm hit western Washington hardest, closing numerous schools in Seattle and nearby cities, canceling ferry service, and causing car crashes but no major injuries.

Some areas north and east of Seattle got 8 to 10 inches of snow. Temperatures were expected to be 15 degrees below normal this week, with lows in the teens, the National Weather Service said.

More than 200 flights at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport were canceled and over 450 delayed.

Chris Allahyar of Edgewood, Washington, told Seattle news station KOMO-TV that he was trying to make a flight but his car got stuck on an icy road.

"Everything was fine until I got off the freeway and everything turned to ice. Couldn't even make it off the road. I'm just stuck right now," Allahyar said. "I really underestimated the temperature."

Communities on the

northern Oregon coast got several inches of unusual snow, and it was falling steadily in Portland, Oregon. A cold spell in Portland was expected to last for about 10 days, with overnight temperatures dipping well below freezing and more snow later in the week.

The storm system lingering over the Northwest has sent waves of snow into the Northern Rocky Mountains, where it mixed with a blast of frigid arctic air and gusting winds to create hazardous driving conditions and dangerous wind chills 40 degrees below zero and lower.

The cold closed or delayed schools. Much of western and northern Montana will likely see subzero temperatures until at least Wednesday, weather service meteorologist Cody Moldan said.

"We're kind of stuck in a cold pattern," Moldan said.

The weather was warmer near Yellowstone National Park, but the fresh snow that fell on the weak snowpack in the mountains near the park led to avalanche warnings.

Snow and rain throughout California has threatened flash flooding where massive wildfires roared through communities last year and dangerous driving conditions in the latest of a series of storms over the past few days.

Officials lifted flash flood warnings Monday but warned that another storm Tuesday could bring danger of mudslides and flooding in the Malibu area, where a wildfire destroyed homes

and burned hillsides bare, and southeast of Los Angeles, where an August blaze scorched a huge area in the Cleveland National Forest.

The weather service issued a winter storm warning for the Los Angeles and Ventura County mountains through Wednesday, with more than a foot of snow expected at higher elevations.

A storm that swept across California and Nevada dumped as much as 8 feet of snow over the weekend, with much more expected.

In parts of California's Sierra Nevada, officials issued blizzard and avalanche warnings through Monday night, warning that cold conditions in the northern mountain range could become life-threatening as a series of intense storms and powerful winds brought whiteout conditions that closed some mountain roads.

Electric-powered commuter trains in the Chicago area were getting back to normal with temperatures in the 40s. The arctic cold played havoc with overhead powerlines and forced the shutdown of two major train lines.

But cold weather again moved into Michigan's Upper Peninsula, where an ice storm created hazardous travel conditions and led schools and businesses to close. Icy conditions were expected Tuesday night and Wednesday in the Lower Peninsula, including the Detroit area.

Heavy snow and gusty winds also made travel difficult in North Dakota.

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weather

COLD

TONIGHT

Clear and bitterly cold

5

Baker City

0

7

La Grande

0

4

Enterprise

0

THU

Partly sunny and chilly

32 16

33 20

29 17

FRI

Cloudy with snow showers

32 23

32 28

30 25

SAT

Cloudy with a little snow

36 20

36 23

36 22

SUN

Mostly cloudy and chilly

33 12

35 22

33 20

Comfort Index takes into account how the weather will feel based on a combination of factors. A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable.

ALMANAC			
TEMPERATURES			
	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
High Monday	39°	40°	33°
Low Monday	26°	21°	24°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Monday	0.17	0.25	0.33
Month to date	0.70	0.96	0.61
Normal month to date	0.08	0.15	0.32
Year to date	1.24	2.57	4.01
Normal year to date	0.88	1.78	3.49

MONDAY EXTREMES	
NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	
High: 81°	McAllen, Texas
Low: -24°	Crane Lake, Minn.
Wettest: 1.37"	Tehachapi, Calif.

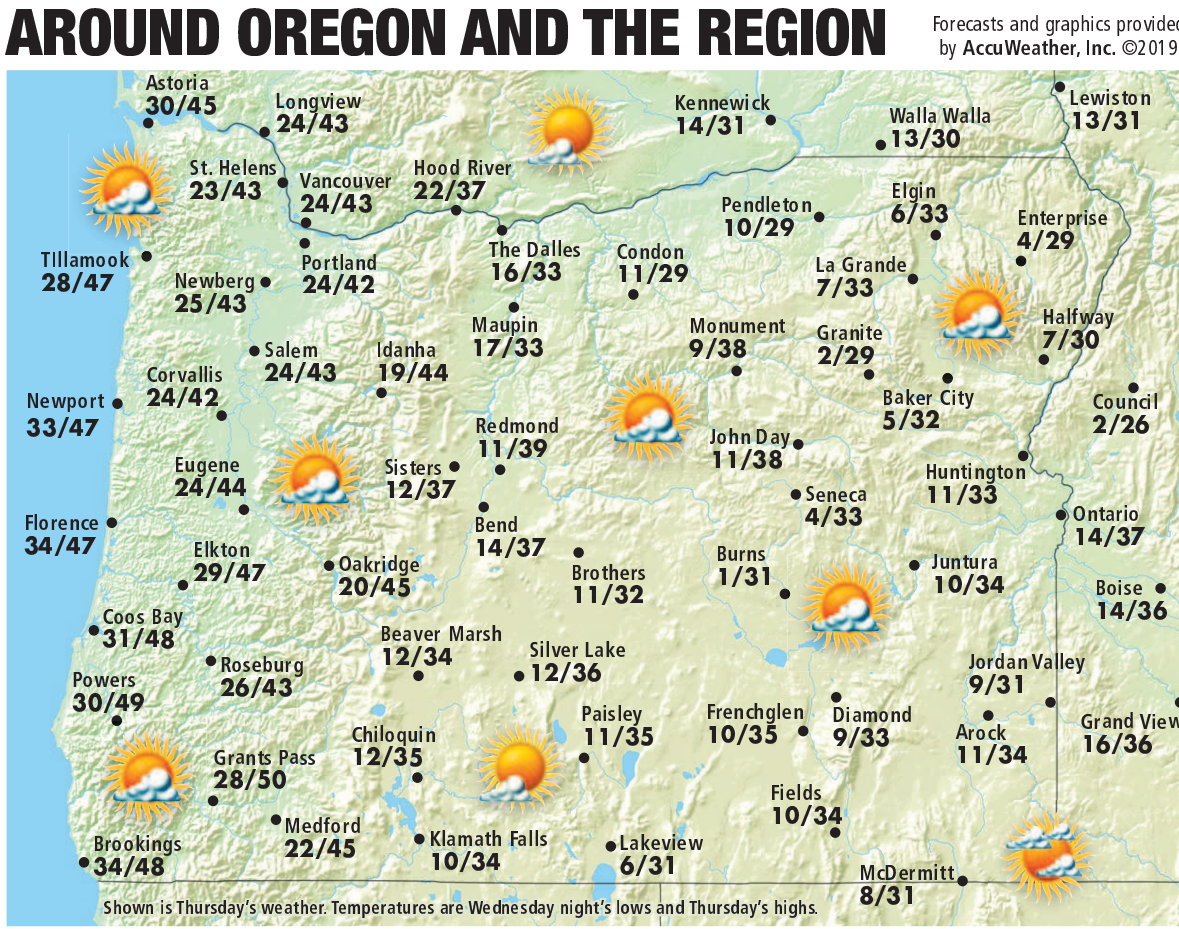
OREGON	
High: 51°	Ontario
Low: 15°	Crater Lake
Wettest: 0.50"	Brookings

AGRICULTURAL INFO.	
HAY INFORMATION THURSDAY	
Lowest relative humidity	35%
Afternoon wind	SSE at 6 to 12 mph
Hours of sunshine	7.1
Evapotranspiration	0.04
RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Tuesday)	
Phillips Reservoir	9% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	33% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	39% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	44% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	25% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	87% of capacity
STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Monday)	
Grande Ronde at Troy	2850 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	N.A.
Burnt River near Unity	10 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	392 cfs
Minam River at Minam	N.A.
Powder River near Richland	67 cfs

WEATHER HISTORY	
The "Blizzard of '78" was in its early stages on this date in 1978. A prolific snow producer, it dumped 14 inches in Baltimore, 16 inches in Philadelphia and 18 inches in New York City.	

SUN & MOON	
	WED.
Sunrise	7:07 a.m.
Sunset	5:06 p.m.
Moonrise	8:17 a.m.
Moonset	7:02 p.m.

MOON PHASES	
First	Full
Last	New
Feb 12	Feb 19
Feb 26	Mar 6



REGIONAL CITIES

City	THU. Hi/Low/W	FRI. Hi/Low/W	City	THU. Hi/Low/W	FRI. Hi/Low/W
Astoria	45/32/c	45/32/r	Lewiston	31/21/pc	33/26/sf
Bend	37/22/c	38/28/sf	Longview	43/28/c	43/35/r
Boise	36/22/pc	39/29/pc	Meacham	31/18/pc	30/25/sf
Brookings	48/39/sh	50/38/sh	Medford	45/31/c	45/31/c
Burns	31/17/pc	34/21/sf	Newport	47/35/c	46/36/c
Coos Bay	48/37/sh	51/39/sh	Olympia	41/24/c	41/29/r
Corvallis	42/29/c	42/32/c	Ontario	37/23/pc	38/30/c
Council	26/12/pc	28/24/sn	Pasco	29/17/pc	28/22/sf
Elgin	33/20/pc	31/26/sf	Pendleton	29/18/pc	29/24/sf
Eugene	44/30/c	44/33/c	Portland	42/28/c	41/31/sn
Hermiston	31/19/pc	30/26/sf	Powers	49/36/sh	51/38/sh
Hood River	37/26/c	40/31/c	Redmond	39/22/c	39/25/sf
Imnaha	36/23/pc	35/27/sf	Roseburg	43/34/c	44/35/sh
John Day	38/24/pc	37/32/sf	Salem	43/28/c	43/32/c
Joseph	29/16/pc	30/24/sf	Spokane	25/18/pc	25/14/sn
Kennewick	31/20/pc	31/26/sf	The Dalles	33/22/c	34/27/c
Klamath Falls	34/21/sn	37/19/sf	Ukiah	33/18/pc	32/26/sf
Lakeview	31/18/pc	33/21/c	Walla Walla	30/20/pc	28/23/sf

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, f-ice

RECREATION FORECAST THURSDAY

ANTHONY LAKES		PHILLIPS LAKE	
Frigid		Some sun; chilly	
15	8	29	15
MT. EMILY REC.		BROWNLEE RES.	
Cold with some sun		Partly sunny	
25	16	32	19
EAGLE CAP WILD.		EMIGRANT ST. PARK	
Partly sunny; cold		Partly sunny; cold	
21	9	30	15
WALLOWA LAKE		MCKAY RESERVOIR	
Partly sunny		Partly sunny; cold	
29	16	32	20
THIEF VALLEY RES.		RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	
Partial sunshine		Partly sunny	
32	16	33	20

GO

NORTH EAST OREGON

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