

# Man's bisexual past gnaws at woman's sense of trust

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a 49-year-old woman who has been in a romantic relationship with a good, caring man for two years. We live together, and he shows me all the time how much he loves me. We have amazing chemistry and are very affectionate. We enjoy spending time together, especially outdoors.



**DEAR ABBY**

When we first started dating, he told me he was bisexual and had had relationships with men. He insists I am his true love and he is with only me now. He has never shown signs of straying, but sometimes I get insecure and wonder if I should take him at

his word that he only wants me. Should I trust him?

— WANTS TO BE SURE IN RHODE ISLAND

**DEAR WANTS:** This man has been upfront with you. Because someone finds members of both genders attractive does not mean the person is incapable of monogamy. During the last two years, he has given you no reason to believe he is untrustworthy, so take steps to deal with your insecurity and take him at his word.

**DEAR ABBY:** My son and daughter-in-law — the parents of three minor children — were divorced in 2019. Prior to their

divorce, the ex-DIL got pregnant by another man. She has since had a little girl. My dilemma is, do I include the new little girl when they come to visit Grandma? She is still my grandchildren's half-sister. As they get older and come to visit me, I would feel bad leaving her out of events.

My son is livid that I would even consider including her. Her other grandparents refuse to have anything to do with her. How do I deal with this?

— DILEMMA IN THE MIDWEST

**DEAR DILEMMA:** You have a loving heart. I assume all the children live together with their mother. To exclude their half-sister would be logistically difficult and cruel to a child who is

blameless. Your son may not like the situation, but it is time for him to grow up and face reality. You are the only grandmother that child has ever known, so remain calm, assert your right to self-determination and refuse to allow yourself to be bullied or intimidated.

**DEAR ABBY:** Unfortunately, I am not in the same income bracket as my family and some of my friends. Also, I married a guy who doesn't like to socialize because he's a recovering alcoholic, and he also has hearing problems. Family and friends rarely ask us to join them when they go out, but they never fail to call and tell me all about the great time they had and where they plan to go next.

It hurts, and I resent them for it. I want to be happy for them and not feel the way I do. Help!

— DIFFERENT IN NEW YORK

**DEAR DIFFERENT:** Your husband may have hearing problems, but your relatives appear to be tone deaf in the sensitivity department. What they are doing is cruel.

Rather than compare your life to that of friends and relatives who have more freedom to socialize than you and your husband do, it would be more constructive to figure out what you CAN do. Socialize either with others or by yourselves in places that don't serve alcohol and aren't overly noisy. Ask your relatives to join you there — and put the ball in their court.

## NEWS OF THE WEIRD

### Southern freeze pummeled bats, birds, other wildlife

**DALLAS** — As many people in the southern U.S. hosted neighbors who had no heat or water during the vicious February storm and deep freeze, Kate Rugroden provided a refuge for shell-shocked bats.

Starving and disoriented, the winged mammals tumbled to the snow-coated ground as temperatures plunged to levels rarely seen in the region.

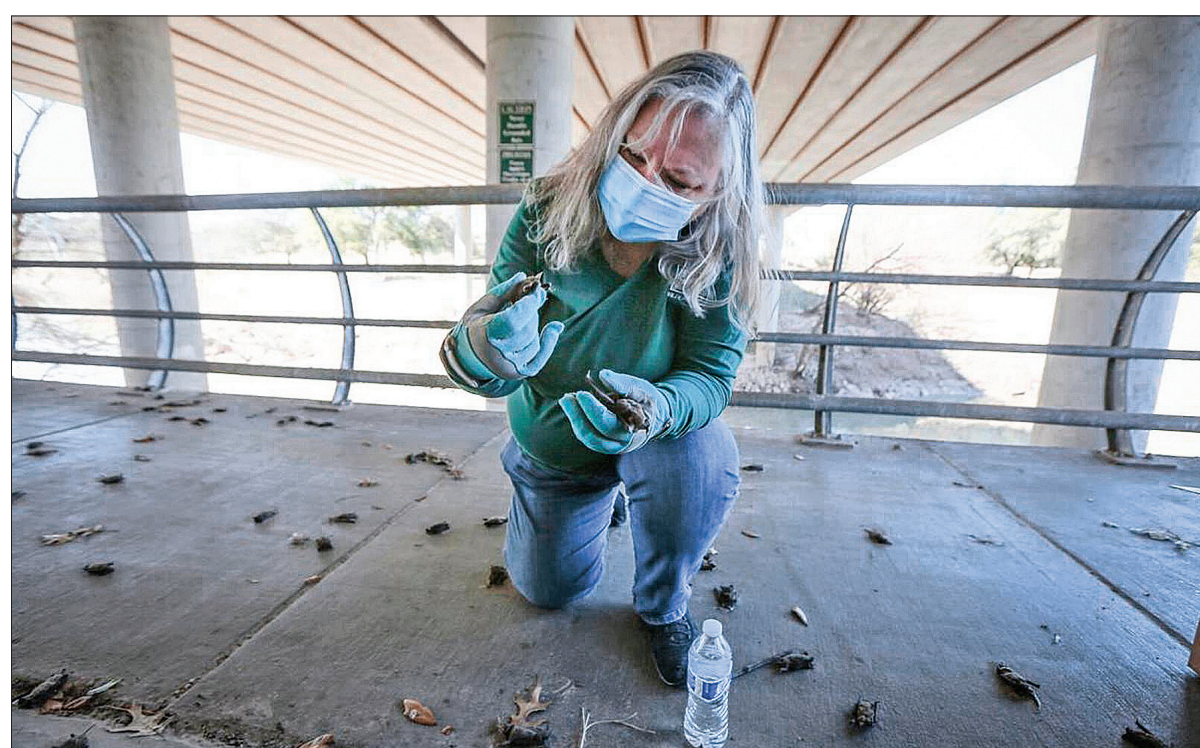
"They burned through their energy reserves as they tried to wake up and get away from the cold and ice," said Rugroden, of Arlington, Texas, one of numerous rehabilitation specialists nursing stranded bats plucked up by sympathetic people. "And there aren't any insects out there for them to eat yet."

Bats are among numerous wildlife believed to have taken a beating in the South, a region unaccustomed to such a severe and prolonged cold snap. Many species migrate there for winter precisely because of its normally mild weather.

It might take weeks or months to determine the extent of the harm, but anecdotal evidence is already turning up — including dead robins on yards and sidewalks.

Alligators in Oklahoma's Red Slough Wildlife Management Area were photographed with snouts protruding from frozen waterways — a survival maneuver enabling them to breathe while their bodies go dormant to conserve energy.

Fish kills were feared in Arkansas and Louisiana. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department said it expected casualties among exotic deer and antelope. Across the Gulf of Mexico coast as far east as Florida, naturalists worried about monarch butterflies and the milkweed plants essential to their survival as they prepare to



Steve Gonzales/Houston Chronicle via AP

milkweed, which provides spots for female monarchs to lay eggs and food for their larvae. If the plants' growth across the South is stunted, more young would not survive.

That situation underscores a hazard for wildlife across the region: Even those that made it through the freeze might see damaged habitat and less food.

In South Texas, bur clover, a winter weed crucial for deer in spring, was showing freeze burn. Long-term, the biggest concerns are for birds and bats, both of which had absorbed heavy blows even before the storm.

Breeding bird populations in the U.S. and Canada have plummeted nearly 30 percent in the past 50 years — primarily because of habitat loss. Spring population counts will offer the first indication of how many succumbed to the cold, said Barboza of Texas A&M.

Migratory birds don't bother fattening up for winter because food in the South is plentiful, he said. During the storm, many probably burned through their meager energy reserves and died of exhaustion. About 20 dead brown pelicans were found on Texas' Chester Island.

Frozen songbirds were spotted on streets in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where temperatures plunged to minus-13 degrees during the storm. Bats have their own challenges, including a fungal disease called white-nose syndrome that has killed millions. To those struggling to save them, every bat is precious. They eat huge numbers of insects that consume farm crops and carry diseases.

"We're seeing a large population hit," including migratory bats just arriving from Mexico, said Rugroden, the rehabilitation specialist. A well-known colony living in a Houston bridge appears to have taken big losses.

— Associated Press

filled to the gills," Knight said.

Fish kills along the Texas coast were expected for recreational favorites such as spotted sea trout and red drum. In Louisiana, officials said it could take a week for dead fish to wash ashore.

The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission warned anglers to expect die-offs of threadfin shad, a primary food source for lake species such as bass, walleye and crappie.

While extreme weather is particularly dangerous for imperiled species, the whooping crane — listed by the federal government as endangered — appears to have weathered the storm, said Joe Saenz, manager of the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas.

About 500 of the majestic birds spend winters at the refuge before returning to Canadian nesting grounds. During the cold spell,

some were spotted feasting on dead fish floating on the Gulf waters.

Biologists are concerned about monarch butterflies, which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in December designated as a candidate for endangered or threatened status because of a sharp decline in recent decades.

The biggest monarch population winters in Mexican mountains and begins its northward trek in March. Had the cold spell happened a few weeks later, the orange-and-black butterflies could have been devastated, said Ray Moranz, an Oklahoma-based scientist.

They still might not escape unscathed. Some typically spend winters along the Gulf coast, where their odds during the deep freeze were poor, said Moranz, of the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation.

Another potential danger is to

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# weather

	TONIGHT	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
	Mainly clear	Partly sunny	Rain and drizzle	Cloudy to partly sunny	Showers possible
<b>Baker City</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>54 33</b>	<b>48 28</b>	<b>50 30</b>	<b>48 26</b>
Comfort Index™	5	5	0	3	3
<b>La Grande</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>51 36</b>	<b>45 30</b>	<b>49 34</b>	<b>46 30</b>
Comfort Index™	7	5	0	3	2
<b>Enterprise</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>53 33</b>	<b>41 27</b>	<b>45 33</b>	<b>40 30</b>
Comfort Index™	8	5	0	8	2

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 Tuesday	52°	49°	51°
Low Tuesday	23°	32°	29°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Tuesday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	0.00	0.00	0.00
Normal month to date	0.05	0.09	0.17
Year to date	0.95	5.03	11.93
Normal year to date	1.43	2.86	5.67

### AGRICULTURAL INFO.

#### HAY INFORMATION FRIDAY

Lowest relative humidity	40%
Afternoon wind	SSE at 8 to 16 mph
Hours of sunshine	9.4
Evapotranspiration	0.12

### RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Wednesday)

Phillips Reservoir	10% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	52% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	51% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	55% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	42% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	992% of capacity

### STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Tuesday)

Grande Ronde at Troy	2170 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	59 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	38 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	413 cfs
Minam River at Minam	171 cfs
Powder River near Richland	87 cfs

### TUESDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
High: 90°			
Low: -15°			
Wettest: 2.14"			

### OREGON

High: 67°	Medford
Low: 17°	Klamath Falls
Wettest: Trace	North Bend

### WEATHER HISTORY

An area from New York to Vermont suffered one of its worst ice storms on record on March 4, 1991. Ice one inch thick accumulated between Buffalo and Rochester, snapping power lines and tree limbs.

### SUN & MOON

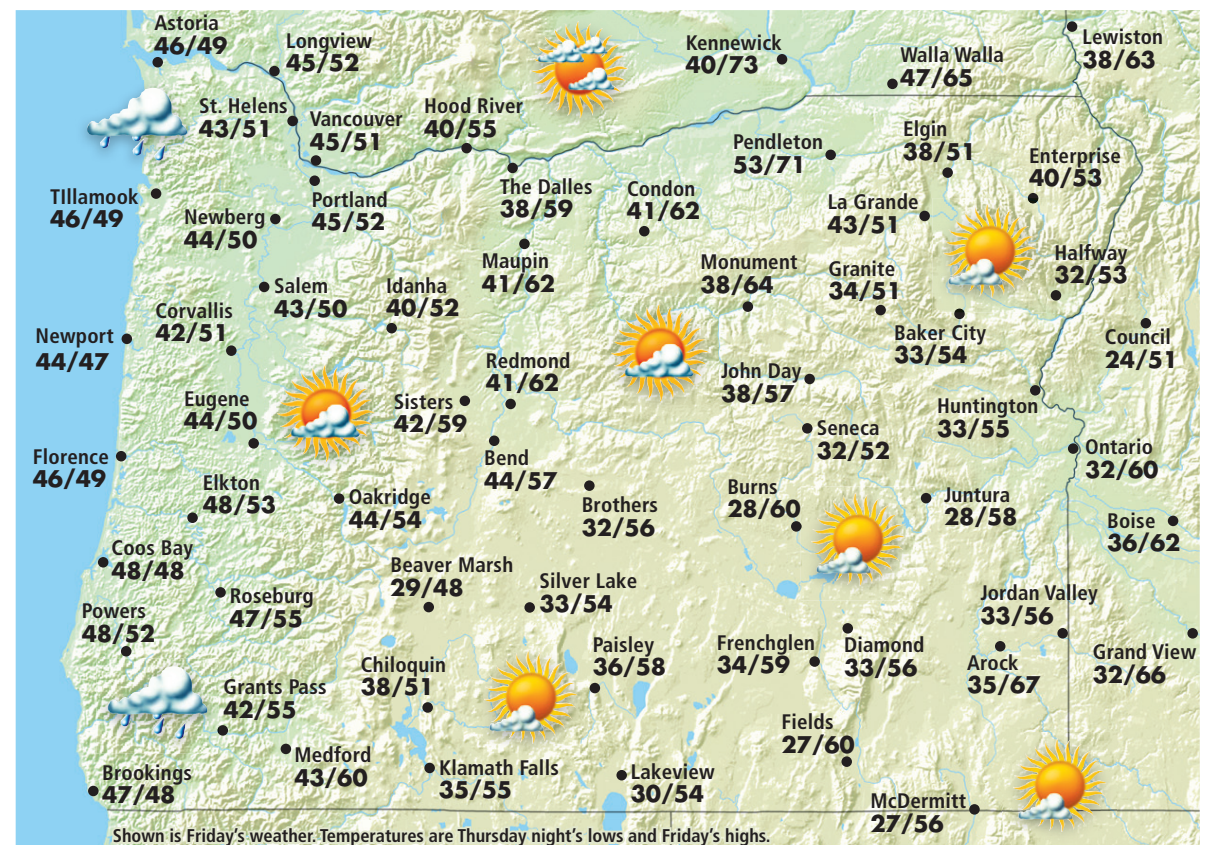
	THU.	FRI.
Sunrise	6:25 a.m.	6:23 a.m.
Sunset	5:44 p.m.	5:45 p.m.
Moonrise	none	12:46 a.m.
Moonset	9:25 a.m.	10:01 a.m.

### MOON PHASES

Last	New	First	Full
Mar 5	Mar 13	Mar 21	Mar 28

## AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

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### REGIONAL CITIES

City	FRI.		SAT.	
	Hi/Low	W	Hi/Low	W
Astoria	49/38/r	50/41/pc	63/41/pc	52/37/r
Bend	57/32/r	51/29/pc	52/41/r	51/39/pc
Boise	62/42/s	53/33/pc	51/35/s	45/28/r
Brookings	48/38/r	49/39/pc	60/37/r	53/34/pc
Burns	60/30/pc	46/23/pc	Newport	49/41/pc
Coos Bay	48/40/r	50/38/pc	Olympia	50/38/r
Corvallis	51/38/r	52/37/pc	Ontario	60/39/s
Council Bluffs	51/30/s	45/29/c	Pasco	68/41/pc
Elgin	51/35/s	45/30/r	Pendleton	71/41/pc
Eugene	50/40/r	54/39/pc	Portland	52/41/r
Hermiston	74/43/pc	59/38/pc	Powers	52/37/r
Hood River	55/38/r	55/38/c	Redmond	62/32/pc
Imnaha	56/33/s	45/27/r	Roseburg	55/40/r
John Day	57/33/pc	43/27/sn	Salem	50/40/r
Joseph	51/34/s	40/28/sn	Spokane	58/38/pc
Kennewick	73/43/pc	59/37/pc	The Dalles	59/40/r
Klamath Falls	55/30/pc	44/24/pc	Ukiah	57/32/pc
Lakeview	54/29/pc	44/21/sn	Walla Walla	65/42/pc

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

### RECREATION FORECAST FRIDAY

City	FRI.	SAT.
<b>ANTHONY LAKES</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>MT. EMILY REC.</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>EAGLE CAP WILD.</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>WALLOWA LAKE</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>THIEF VALLEY RES.</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>PHILLIPS LAKE</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>BROWNLEE RES.</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>EMIGRANT ST. PARK</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>MCKAY RESERVOIR</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>RED BRIDGE ST. PARK</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>36</b>