

Pandemic marriage's first year leaves wife dreading a second



DEAR ABBY
ADVICE

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I got married during the pandemic in a short ceremony. Our first year of marriage has been less a honeymoon than a nightmare. He tends to be hot-headed. He fights dirty with name-calling, which he had occasionally done previously, but since we've been living together, it happens more often.

We are trying marriage counseling, but all of his temper tantrums and antics have made me see him in a different, negative light. He's now talking about growing our family. He can be very sweet and thoughtful, but I don't even know if I still like him at this point.

I'm also wondering if I'm just better alone because I like my space and time to myself. Maybe I'm settling with the current situation when there could be someone better out there. I know the grass isn't always greener on the other side. Is this something I need to give some time to see how it plays out, or should

I end it, the sooner the better? — **HONEYMOON-LESS IN NEW JERSEY**

DEAR HONEYMOON-LESS: The pandemic has stressed many marriages, but with the quarantines relaxing there should be less pressure and confinement. Has it helped? Whether your hot-tempered husband is capable of changing his behavior is something that may be revealed during the counseling.

You didn't mention how long the two of you have been seeing a therapist, but if it has been more than six months with no improvement, it's fair to assume he isn't likely to change, and the marriage should end. In the meantime, use the most powerful form of birth control you possibly can so you don't find yourself pregnant and trapped in a marriage from which you cannot escape.

DEAR ABBY: My mom is in a home for dementia patients, and Dad was living in their big house by himself. He couldn't sell it until everything was settled with my mom. Because he was very lonely, I decided to let him move in with me. We agreed he would pay \$320 a month. I needed the money and thought it was fair. My roommate pays \$400 a month, but I was OK

with Dad paying less.

When my sister found out, she was very upset that I was charging Dad. She had him move out that day, so now he sleeps at my brother's and spends most of the day at his house.

When I turned 18 and lived at home I paid rent, so I saw nothing wrong with it. Now I am an out-cast. No one talks to me except my dad, by phone. I am very depressed about this and feel suicidal. I suffer from anxiety and depression, see a therapist and have been on meds for years. Am I wrong, and how do I fix this? — **GOOD SON IN PENNSYLVANIA**

DEAR GOOD SON: If you haven't done so already, talk about this with your therapist. It is very important that he or she knows you are having suicidal thoughts and that they persist. You did nothing "wrong." Your father agreed to the arrangement, and he should have made that clear to your sister. She was wrong to interfere, and she seems to wield a disproportionate amount of power in your family. I can't fix that and neither can you, so you will have to find ways of coping not only with your depression but also with her. You have my sympathy.

DEAR ABBY: My niece is getting married this spring, which has created a dilemma for my immediate family. When the save-the-date cards went out, she addressed them only to the women in the family. We thought it was a mistake at first, but now the invitations have arrived, and they are also addressed to the women only.

My husband and my son (her first cousin) feel slighted. My son's wife was invited, but she doesn't know the bride at all. It seems the bride has a limited number of guests she can invite for the venue. She also has a large number of friends and the groom's family attending.

Out of respect for my son and my husband — and a son-in-law who was also excluded — we all will respond that we will not attend. I feel terrible not being able to see my niece walk down the aisle, but I'm not used to my spouse being ignored. Am I doing the right thing? — **PUZZLED IN FLORIDA**

DEAR PUZZLED: Before you refuse the wedding invitation, call your niece and ask if she is intentionally excluding the men. Because women make most of the social arrangements, she may not have realized that each guest's name must appear on the invitation. Rather than

an attempt to exclude family members because their chromosomes are not the same as hers, this may simply have been an etiquette boo-boo.

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for 35 years and have a recurring problem with no solution in sight. My wife sets frozen meat on the counter to thaw. She says she can't count on taking it in the fridge because it takes too long and interferes with her meal planning. Her mother has always done it this way, and no one has ever gotten sick. I try talking to her but it only ends up in a fight. Any suggestions would be appreciated. — **RISKY IN ILLINOIS**

DEAR RISKY: The Food and Drug Administration has issued guidelines about food preparation because people have gotten very sick when it wasn't done properly. Over the last 10 or 15 years, conditions in some of our slaughterhouses and agricultural operations have deteriorated, and consumers have died because of it. Whether you can convince your wife to change her ways, I can't predict. But you might be doing her a favor if you visit fda.gov and print out some information for her and your mother-in-law. Better to be safe than sorry.

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weather

TONIGHT	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Cloudy	Mostly cloudy	Rain and drizzle	Mostly cloudy	Cloudy
Baker City Comfort Index™ 0	32 16 0	33 20 2	34 23 1	33 18 0
La Grande Comfort Index™ 0	31 28 1	39 25 1	39 22 3	36 24 3
Enterprise Comfort Index™ 3	29 44 4	30 40 4	20 40 4	26 35 3

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 Sunday	32°	38°	39°
Low Sunday	8°	30°	15°

PRECIPITATION (inches)

	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
Sunday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	0.27	0.82	2.77
Normal month to date	0.22	0.53	1.01
Year to date	0.27	0.82	2.77
Normal year to date	0.22	0.53	1.01

SUNDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)
High: 87° Weslaco, Texas
Low: -24° Crosby, N.D.
Wettest: 2.06" Clarksville, Tenn.

OREGON
High: 66° Brookings
Low: 8° Baker City
Wettest: none

WEATHER HISTORY
A siege of extreme cold began in the Dakotas on Jan. 11, 1936. Langdon, N.D., failed to reach zero all day. Readings remained below zero for the next 41 days. The extremes were associated with drought.

SUN & MOON

	TUE.	WED.
Sunrise	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
Sunset	4:31 p.m.	4:32 p.m.
Moonrise	12:16 p.m.	12:40 p.m.
Moonset	1:53 a.m.	2:58 a.m.

MOON PHASES

	Full	Last	New	First
	Jan 17	Jan 25	Jan 31	Feb 8

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2022

Shows Wednesday's weather. Temperatures are Tuesday night's lows and Wednesday's highs.

City	WED. HI/LO/W	THU. HI/LO/W	City	WED. HI/LO/W	THU. HI/LO/W
Astoria	49/54	50/56	Lewiston	37/42	37/42
St. Helens	48/56	48/58	Walla Walla	36/45	36/45
Vancouver	48/58	47/56	Enterprise	29/44	29/44
Portland	47/56	44/57	Halfway	21/34	21/34
Newberg	47/56	44/57	Council Bluffs	20/35	20/35
Salem	47/55	41/55	Ontario	20/31	20/31
Corvallis	42/54	33/42	Boise	22/39	22/39
Newport	49/53	33/42	McDermitt	27/46	27/46
Eugene	42/56	33/42	Brookings	47/53	47/53
Elkton	43/57	33/42	Brookings	47/53	47/53
Oakridge	41/61	33/42	Brookings	47/53	47/53
Beaver Marsh	28/49	33/42	Brookings	47/53	47/53
Silver Lake	30/49	33/42	Brookings	47/53	47/53
Paisley	33/54	33/42	Brookings	47/53	47/53
Frenchglen	33/52	33/42	Brookings	47/53	47/53
Diamond	30/50	33/42	Brookings	47/53	47/53
Arock	23/42	33/42	Brookings	47/53	47/53
Grand View	27/38	33/42	Brookings	47/53	47/53

REGIONAL CITIES

City	WED. HI/LO/W	THU. HI/LO/W	City	WED. HI/LO/W	THU. HI/LO/W
Astoria	54/46/r	50/42/r	Lewiston	42/34/c	40/33/pc
Bend	55/38/c	47/31/sn	Longview	56/47/sh	52/42/r
Boise	39/21/pc	37/25/pc	Meacham	39/26/c	39/24/c
Brookings	53/47/c	54/43/r	Medford	50/38/c	52/35/c
Burns	39/21/c	41/18/pc	Newport	53/46/c	50/41/r
Coos Bay	56/49/c	52/40/r	Olympia	54/47/sh	52/43/r
Corvallis	54/41/c	52/40/r	Ontario	31/20/pc	33/22/c
Council Bluffs	35/21/pc	36/20/pc	Pasco	40/29/c	43/28/pc
Elgin	40/21/c	38/25/c	Pendleton	53/34/c	48/30/sh
Eugene	56/42/c	53/41/r	Portland	56/43/c	53/39/r
Hermiston	48/31/c	50/27/c	Powers	61/48/c	57/42/r
Hood River	48/38/c	48/36/r	Redmond	52/33/c	49/29/sn
Imnaha	45/37/c	46/34/pc	Roseburg	54/43/c	54/38/r
John Day	48/34/c	43/33/pc	Salem	55/43/c	54/40/r
Joseph	44/34/c	43/23/pc	Spokane	40/31/c	38/30/c
Kennewick	45/30/c	45/29/pc	The Dalles	41/35/c	46/31/c
Klamath Falls	46/26/c	45/21/pc	Ukiah	46/28/c	44/25/pc
Lakeview	43/21/c	42/19/pc	Walla Walla	45/33/c	45/32/c

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

RECREATION FORECAST WEDNESDAY

Location	Forecast	High	Low
ANTHONY LAKES	Mostly cloudy	35	27
PHILLIPS LAKE	Mainly cloudy	35	21
MT. EMILY REC.	Mostly cloudy	39	32
BROWNLEE RES.	Mostly cloudy	42	26
EAGLE CAP WILD.	Mostly cloudy	33	25
EMIGRANT ST. PARK	Cloudy	41	30
WALLOWA LAKE	Mostly cloudy	44	34
MCKAY RESERVOIR	Cloudy	56	36
THIEF VALLEY RES.	Mostly cloudy	32	16
RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	Mostly cloudy	39	28

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