

Boyfriend's threats must be taken seriously



abigail van buren

• dear abby

DEARABBY: I am a 16-year-old girl with a problem I can't talk to anyone about. I have been with my boyfriend, "Jon," for about five months. He has always been kind of jealous and controlling. Recently my parents told me I couldn't see him anymore.

Jon became furious when I told him how my parents feel, and now he's talking about killing them so

we can be together. I know he is serious.

I really love Jon. He is the first boy who has shown an interest in me.

My parents and I have always had a great relationship and my mom is like my best friend. I totally don't want to see them get hurt. I don't know what to do. I can't tell my parents and I can't tell the police. I have

tried to talk Jon out of it, and tell him they will learn to accept him over time. He just gets mad and says I am taking their side. Please tell me what to do.—ANONYMOUS IN FORT MYERS, FLA.

DEAR ANONYMOUS: I hope your sense of self-preservation is stronger than your sense of family loyalty. The boy you are involved with appears to have serious mental problems. He desperately needs psychological evaluation and counseling. Unless you do something now, Jon could talk himself into doing something to your parents—and you will be an accessory because you knew it was going to hap-

pen and did nothing.

I urge you to warn your parents about Jon's threats, so they can protect themselves—and you. As much as you may love him, you cannot reason with someone who is irrational and possibly homicidal.

P.S. Do NOT allow Jon to make you feel guilty for wanting to protect your parents. Your first responsibility is the safety of your family. So please don't wait. Tell them NOW. A good way to begin would be to clip this letter, hand it to them and tell them that you wrote it.

DEARABBY: I have been dating "George" for nine months. Since the day I met him, I knew he was a

little odd, but that was one of the qualities that first attracted me to him.

In the last three months, his behavior has become worse. He is now homeless, penniless, jobless, and has problems with alcohol and depression. He was recently diagnosed with schizophrenia.

I love George dearly, but my role in his life has switched from girlfriend to caregiver/provider. I am not sure what to do. He refuses to get help but is stuck to me like a lost child. How can I save his and my life before it is too late? — DESPERATE IN NEW YORK

DEAR DESPERATE: True lov-

ers must also be true friends, and right now George desperately needs one.

Tell him, as a concerned friend, that because you love him, he must get professional help.

If he doesn't have money, he can still find help in New York in a number of places. One of the large academic hospitals might be the place to start.

In any meaningful relationship, both people involved switch caregiving roles at various times. This is called "nurturing." But being made to feel obligated beyond affection is entrapment—and that you must avoid.

SATURDAY EVENING		E-Eagle Cable S=S&T Telephone DEC. 13, 2003									
E	S	6 pm	6:30	7 pm	7:30	8 pm	8:30	9 pm	9:30	10 pm	10:30
2	2	PBS	Lawrence Welk Show "America's Wonderland"	Keeping Up	As Time Goes By	Two's Company	New Red Green	Austin City Limits	Soundstage	Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers	
3	35	IND	★ ★ ★ "Swordfish" (2001, Action) (PA) John Travolta, Hugh Jackman. (D)	★ ★ ★ "Die Hard 2" (1990, Drama) (PA) Bruce Willis, Bonnie Bedelia. An L.A. cop battles terrorists in Washington. (D)	★ ★ ★ "I'll Be Home for Christmas" (1998) Jonathan Taylor Thomas, Jessica Biel. (D) (DVS)	★ ★ ★ "Two Weeks Notice" (2002) Sandra Bullock, Hugh Grant. Premiere. (PG-13)	★ ★ ★ "The Fugitive" (1993, Drama) Harrison Ford, Tommy Lee Jones. (PG-13)	★ ★ ★ "The Sum of All Fears" (2002, Suspense) Ben Affleck, Morgan Freeman. (PG-13)	★ ★ ★ "Chilly Dogs" (2001, Comedy) Skeet Ulrich, Natasha Henstridge. Premiere. (TV)	★ ★ ★ "The Wizard of Oz" (1939), Ray Bolger	★ ★ ★ "The Santa Clause" (1994, Drama) Michael Keaton, Judge Reinhold. (PG)
4	6	ABC	★ ★ ★ "Swordfish" (2001, Action) (PA) John Travolta, Hugh Jackman. (D)	★ ★ ★ "Die Hard 2" (1990, Drama) (PA) Bruce Willis, Bonnie Bedelia. An L.A. cop battles terrorists in Washington. (D)	★ ★ ★ "I'll Be Home for Christmas" (1998) Jonathan Taylor Thomas, Jessica Biel. (D) (DVS)	★ ★ ★ "Two Weeks Notice" (2002) Sandra Bullock, Hugh Grant. Premiere. (PG-13)	★ ★ ★ "The Fugitive" (1993, Drama) Harrison Ford, Tommy Lee Jones. (PG-13)	★ ★ ★ "The Sum of All Fears" (2002, Suspense) Ben Affleck, Morgan Freeman. (PG-13)	★ ★ ★ "Chilly Dogs" (2001, Comedy) Skeet Ulrich, Natasha Henstridge. Premiere. (TV)	★ ★ ★ "The Wizard of Oz" (1939), Ray Bolger	★ ★ ★ "The Santa Clause" (1994, Drama) Michael Keaton, Judge Reinhold. (PG)
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7	11	CBS	Price Is Right Million Dollar Spectacular (N)	Hack "Dial O for Murder" (N) (D)	District "Hollow Spaces" (N) (D)	News (N)	(:35) Drew Carey (N) (D)	(:35) Drew Carey (N) (D)	(:35) Drew Carey (N) (D)	Survivor: Pearl Islands (Season Finale) The winner is determined. (D)	Survivor: Pearl Islands Reunion (Live) (D)
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12	56	ESPN	2003 Heisman Trophy Presentation (Live) (D)	Outside the Lines (Live)	SportsCenter (Live) (D)	Rodeo					
13	7	FOX	Cops (N)	Cops (N)	America's Most Wanted: Fights Back	She Spies "Last Man Standing" (N) (D)	Mad TV John C. McGinley guest stars. (N) (D)	Blind Date (N) (D)	Blind Date (N) (D)		
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34	43	NICK	Grown Up	Romeo! (N) (D)	All That (N) (D)	Amanda (N) (D)	Cosby	Cosby	Roseanne	Roseanne	Cosby
36	53	A&E	American Justice "Murder on the Boardwalk"	Cold Case Files "Soft Kill; Unsolved" (D)	Twisted Mind: The Andrew Luster Story	True Story of Seabiscuit	American Justice "Murder on the Boardwalk"				
38	83	SCIFI	"Route 666", Lori Petty	"Faut: Love of the Damned", Isabel Brook (D)	"Candyman 3: Day of the Dead", Donna D'Errico						
39	51	TLX	Wild Weddings	Trading Spaces: Family	Trading Spaces: Family	Trading Spaces "Atlanta: Highlands Trace"					
40	38	FX	Beverly Hills, 90210 (N)	Married... Married...	Married... Married...	DVD Exclusive Awards	Kingpin,				
45	31	FMC	(:01) ★ ★ ★ "Cocoon" (1985), Wilford Brimley	(:01) Hour of Stars	(:01) ★ ★ "The Boy in Blue", Cynthia Dale						
49	81	EITV	Celebrities Uncensored	Julia Roberts	Saturday Night Live (N)	Wild On...	Howard S.	Howard S.			
51	86	TRAV	Great Outdoors	Ends of the Earth (D)	Ends of the Earth (D)	Great Outdoors (D)	Ends of the Earth (D)				
53	3	WB	(5:00) "Scrooge" (1951), Kathleen Harrison	★ ★ ★ "Scrooge" (1988, Comedy) Bill Murray, Karen Allen.	News (N) (D)	Consumer "FallTime", Stephen					
54	57	ESPN2	Rodeo	College Basketball Memphis at Illinois. (Live) (D)	Elite 11 Camp	FastBreak NFL					
58	52	HIST	Battlefield Detectives "Trafalgar" (N) (D)	Last Mission A B-29 air strike ends World War II. (D)	Vanishings! Vanishings! (N) (D)	Battlefield Detectives "Trafalgar" (D)					
59	-	HLTH	Paid Prog. Paid Prog.	Diary	Diary	Health Specials (N)					
60	89	UNIV	Sábado Gigante	P. Impacto	Noticiero	Otro Rollo					
62	67	HGTV	Room	Sensible	Designing Designers	Cmas Design	Design	Mission	Room	Sensible	
99	36	WGN	Fresh Pr.	NBA Basketball Indiana Pacers at Chicago Bulls. (Live) (D)	News (D)	★ ★ ★ "Madhouse", Kirstie Alley					

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