

Conceptis Sudoku

by Dave Green

5	2							4
			4	9				1
		4				3		
							1	
	6		7	8	3		2	
	3							
		5				6		
7				3	9			
1							8	2

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

5/04

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This is a logic-based number placement puzzle. The goal is to enter a number, 1-9, in each cell in which each row, column and 3x3 region must contain only one instance of each numeral. The solution to today's Sudoku puzzle is at the bottom of the page.

Question surfaces in second marriage

Dear Dr. Brothers: I'm a widow in my early 50s, and after the death of my great love and the father of my two children, I thought I'd never marry again, nor be interested in sex at all. Miraculously, two years ago I met a man who'd also recently lost his spouse, and was still feeling that life was about over for him because of this loss. Throughout a year and a half, our friendship gradually developed into something much deeper. We went away together for a week in New England and returned as two married people. We know we love each other, and neither of us wanted to risk losing the other. We're both shy about sex, and it's all right, but we still can't seem to talk about it. Is that necessary? — C.F.

Dear C.F.: I doubt this question would've been raised if you didn't feel in your heart that the sex could be better. My answer would've been yes in any case, however, because partners need to be able to feel free so that this isn't a taboo or frightening subject. I suspect he, too, would like to have the unspoken barrier removed.

Males are apt to want this even more than females because when there is more openness, the sole responsibility for the woman's enjoyment of sex doesn't rest on the man alone. Once she can let him know what pleases her and what doesn't, or what she might even find painful, it can relax him and set him free.

It may surprise you that many women, especially older women, find it difficult to discuss sex with their husband.

If you two find that you need help to overcome your shyness, don't be afraid or ashamed to reach out for it.

Dear Dr. Brothers: Now that both of our children are in middle school,



Dr. Joyce Brothers

● Ask

Dr. Brothers

I finally feel free to return to my job, one I missed and truly loved. My husband agreed, somewhat reluctantly, that, yes, we could certainly use the extra money for any number of things we need and want, as well as for our kids' education later. Anyway, my return to my job has had a terrible effect on our sex life and our marriage in general. I can't figure out what he's doing, but it's like he challenges everything I say, no matter what the subject. He contradicts me, interrupts and is just plain rude. Why? — L.L.

Dear L.L.: It sounds as if he's questioning his own importance and validity as a father and as a man. This is a power play, and I suspect jealousy or its cousin, envy. Both are equally destructive to a relationship as well as to him personally. He's unhappy, and you need to discuss it. Ask him directly if he's aware of what he's doing, and why he feels as he does. Why is this attitude suddenly necessary?

Try to get this information without anger, or without demeaning him in any way. That's the last thing he needs, and would only serve to increase his insecurity. The best antidote for him is if you could make him realize how important and special he is in your life and your children's lives. Think of all the qualities he has that you respect and value, and don't leave out how talented you think he is at whatever his job or profession is. Remind him of your own fears and insecurities.

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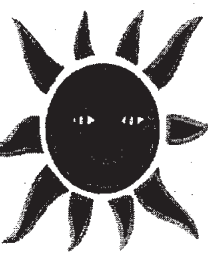
Today's answer

7	2	6	8	4	5	1	3	9
5	4	9	1	3	2	7	8	6
8	1	3	6	9	7	4	2	5
3	9	7	2	6	4	5	1	8
6	8	2	5	1	3	9	7	4
4	5	1	9	7	8	2	6	3
1	7	4	3	5	6	8	9	2
2	3	5	7	8	9	6	4	1
9	6	8	4	2	1	3	5	7


Difficulty Level ★★★

5/03

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