



## ASK DEANNA! Real People, Real Advice

Ask Deanna! Is an advice column known for its fearless approach to reality based subjects!

Dear Deanna!

Before I get started, I'll go ahead and be honest. I fell in love with a lady because of her looks. She's very pretty and because of this, I've been giving her material things, money and anything she asks for. Now I realize she's using me, cheating and everything else but I don't know what to do. My friends told me she was a gold digger but I didn't listen. What do I do about this?

Andre  
Washington, DC

Dear Andre:

Let's fast forward and realize this lady is not a gold digger. She's part of the new breed called Animal Lovers. These are women that want a Jaguar in the garage, a Mink on their back, a Tiger in the bed and a Jackass to pay for everything. Regain your pride and your wallet while you can and simply get rid of her and keep it moving.

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Dear Deanna!

I read your response to Dr. Hart who stated you were too hard on your writers. I agree with him because you sound like you're bitter, mad at the world and don't like men. It was wrong the way you insulted him by calling him Dr. Seuss. You should give him an apology. I'm sure we'll both keep reading but wanted to see if we could get some mercy for the writers.

Donald  
St. Louis, MO

Dear Donald:

If I put the brains of you two clowns together, you're still not a rocket scientist. I'll apologize to the readers for you two wimps wasting good print space with your whining. As for your other comments, I never address ignorance. In other words, keep reading, thanks for the support and get over it!

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Dear Deanna!

I would like to know if there's really a proper dress code for church. I was taught from a young age that women had to wear dresses and there were no exceptions. When I go to church these days, I see children in shorts, women in jeans, men wearing tennis shoes and all kinds of madness. I'm not judging but just want some clarification.

Rolonda  
Jackson, MS

Dear Rolonda:

You're on a thin line. One more swing to the left and you would've been flat out judgmental. You could be a Christian dressed in rags or a sinner dressed in Gucci. God will choose his faithful saints with a clean heart any day of the week. However, He is a loving God and wants all to come to Him as they are. So if you see someone at church dressed in a paper bag it's great because they're getting the Word and not on the street.

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# Cultural gadfly Oscar Brown Jr., succumbs

By Earl Calloway  
Special to Sentinel-Voice  
CHICAGO (NNPA) - Oscar Brown Jr., a Bronzeville institution who was one of the most illustrious artists of the world, died recently. He was hospitalized in mid-April as a result of osteomyelitis, a bone infection and discharged, but was recently readmitted to St. Joseph Hospital, where he died. He was 78.

This amazing patriarch, known internationally as a venerated legend, a virtual father of many aspiring artists and a literary apostle of African-American cultural lifestyles in music, verse and the theater, was a humble individual.

For generations Brown was a dynamic influence upon talented individuals and influenced millions throughout the world.

In a prepared statement, vocalist Maggie Brown, who often performed with her father, spoke of the impact of his legacy in the entertainment world.

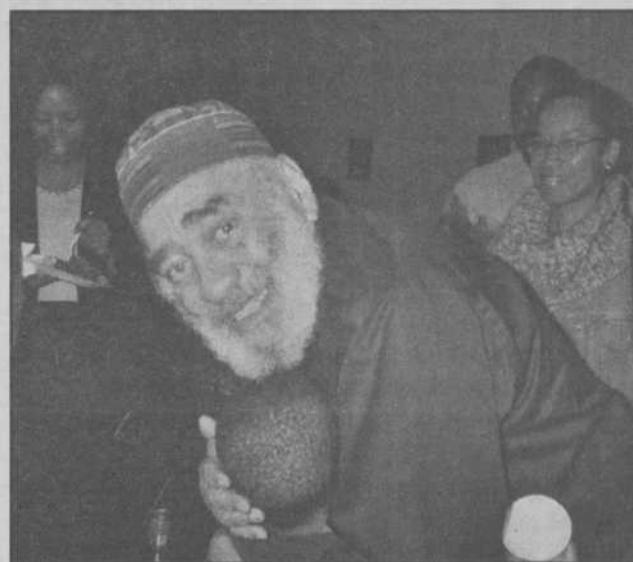
"He is, indeed a national treasure, and one of the most important figures of our time," she said. "Although we will miss him deeply, he has left a wealth of works that will continue to touch the world."

Brown was a man gifted with an innovative mind and a great imagination who gave to the entertainment world thousands of songs and many musical theatrical works, including "Big Time Buck White," a Broadway production featuring Muhammad Ali. His most dynamic production was "The Great Nitty Gritty," which focused on gang problems in Chicago and provided a retrospective of Jean Pointe DuSable, the founder of Chicago. The musical was developed with talents of youth from Chicago communities.

After premiering in the community, "The Great Nitty Gritty" opened at McCormick Place. Recently, the production was featured at the South Shore Cultural Center in the Paul Robeson Theatre.

Dwayne Chattman, a dancer and actor, credited Brown for influencing him.

"Oscar Brown, Jr. is definitely responsible for my career because he selected me to perform in his musical The Great Nitty Gritty. That was my first stage experience in Chicago," Chattman said. "I shall forever remember him as my theatrical father and



Music, literature, art—Oscar Brown Jr. mastered them all.

the theatrical techniques he taught me."

Brown is remembered for having changed the lives of many youths through entertainment and the theatre. Venues in which he produced his musicals were the Regal Theatre, The Hyde Park Theatre, and the Hotel at 67th St. and Stony Island. Other theatres and cultural venues include the Chicago State University in Old Town and the Happy Medium on Rush Street.

His father, Oscar Brown Sr., was a prominent attorney and real estate broker. The

son was also active in the civil rights movement and politics. He ran for public office two times, but didn't make either of his bids for state Senate and Congress. After that, he utilized his talents in the arts and show business.

Brown became successful not only in Chicago, but in New York City, Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C. Among his associates in entertainment were legendary stars such as Redd Foxx, Miles Davis and a host of others. While attending a party in 1962 in Hollywood,

he met his second wife, Jean Pace, a dancer at a nightclub and also a movie star.

Audiences really appreciated Brown and packed venues to enjoy his performances. He often appeared on Chicago's South Side. In October he premiered Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York and in March he introduced "Music is My Life/Politics My Mistress." He lived in a rented apartment at 43rd and Michigan Ave. in the heart of Chicago's Black community.

While Mr. Brown made his debut on Columbia Records and other independent labels, several of his more classic songs became famous as a result of his performing them in supper clubs and concerts, including "The Snake," "Work Song," and "Signifyin' Monkey." More recently he has appeared often on Russell Simmons' "Def Poetry Jam."

Some of Brown's most popular tunes are "Brother Where Are You," "Straighten Up And Fly Right," "World of Grey," "Forbidden Fruit," "Tower of Time," "Hazel's Hips," "Maxine," "Bid 'Em In,"

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