VAL, GIVE ME JUST ONE GOOD REASON WHY YOU WON'T GO STEADY WITH ME?
OH... HI, VAL! I'M ENTERTAINING BOB IN THE LIVING ROOM!

HOW NICE, EVIE! IT'S ABOUT TIME!

ABOUT TIME, VAL? BOB'S BEEN HERE BEFORE!

I KNOW, EVIE, BUT HAVE YOU BEEN ENTERTAINING BEFORE?

VERY FUNNY, VAL! AND PLEASE - NO INTRUDING!

TOO BAD... I'D LOVE TO KNOW WHAT KIND OF ENTERTAINMENT YOU'RE PUTTING ON...

CRASH!

PIE-THROWING! WOW! A BIT OLD-FASHIONED, EVIE, BUT STILL A SURE-FIRE LAUGH-GETTER!

SKATE WITH ME, JUDY?

OH, ANDY, I'D LOVE TO! BUT I CAME WITH WILBUR -

GET AWAY FROM MY 'CHUBBY CHICK, ANDY!'

CHUBBY CHICK!

AND AWAY WE GO!

OH -

HEY -

WHUMP!

SPRAIN YOUR ANKLE, OR SOME-THING, WILBUR?

MAN, EVERY BONE AND FIBER IN MY BODY IS SPRAINED!

YOU SKATE DIVINELY, ANDY
I LOVE YOU, EVIE...

OH, BOB! I LOVE...

OH, BOB! I COULDN'T! NOT ON THE PHONE! SOMEBODY MIGHT BE LISTENING!

IT MAKES ME FEEL A SORT OF... TENDERNESS TOWARD EVERYONE... AND EVERYTHING...

NOBODY'S LISTENING, EVIE -

...IT SEEMS TO HEAR HEAVENLY MUSIC IN THE AIR AROUND ME...

...TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT... IT MAKES THE WHOLE WORLD AN ENCHANTED PLACE!

...GO AHEAD, SAY IT AND GET IT OVER WITH - I WANT TO ASK YOU A QUESTION...

I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN THAT 'TENDERNESS TOWARD EVERYONE' BIT DIDN'T INCLUDE ME!

VAL YOU GET OUT OF HERE!!

THIRTEEN, No. 6, February-April 1963. Published quarterly by Dell Publishing Co., Inc., 750 Third Avenue, New York 17, N.Y. Helen Moyer, President; William F. Callahan, Jr., Executive Vice-President; Harold Clark, Vice-President-Advertising Director, Bryce L. Holland, Vice-President. All rights reserved throughout the world. Second class postage paid at New York, N.Y. and at Sparta, Illinois. Single copy price 12c. Subscriptions in U.S.A. and Possessions 60c one year. Subscriptions in Canada 75c one year; Pan American and Foreign Countries 90c a year. DELL SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE: P.O. Box 2200, Grand Central P.O., New York 17, N.Y. The events contained herein are fictional and any resemblance to any person, living or dead, is purely coincidental. Printed in U.S.A. Designed, produced and copyright © 1963 by Dell Publishing Co., Inc. Trademark No. 733, 447.

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MOTHER! DO YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW WHAT EVIE DID WITH THAT CUTE LITTLE PINK BLOUSE I CONVINCED HER SHE LOOKED AWFUL IN?

NO, VAL...

I TOLD HER IF SHE DIDN'T WANT IT, TO THROW IT IN MY CLOSET, BUT SHE DIDN'T...

WHY DON'T YOU ASK EVIE ABOUT IT, VAL?

I TRIED TO, BUT SHE'S BUSY YAKKING ON THE...

...WHO CARES IF THE OPERATOR HEARS YOU, EVIE! COME ON, JUST WHISPER IT--!

I LOVE YOU, BOB!

WOW! THAT'S MY GIRL!

HEY, I DIDN'T SAY THAT--!

I DID, EVIE! JUST HELPING THINGS ALONG--SAY, EVIE, MAY I ASK WHAT YOU PLAN TO DO WITH THAT HORRIBLE, TASTELESS LITTLE PINK BLOUSE YOU GOT STUCK WITH RECENTLY?

I PLAN TO STRANGLE YOU WITH IT, VAL! GET OFF THAT EXTENSION!!

STOP TEASING EVIE, VAL!

I WASN'T TEASING, MOTHER--I WAS DEAD SERIOUS!
Guess I'm dead as far as that blouse is concerned, too...

Oh, well—it doesn't matter... nothing could dampen my spirits today!

I still can't believe that I actually have a date with Paul Vayne—the handsomest boy in the whole school!

There isn't a girl in school who wouldn't have to be carried to the nurse's office in a swoon if Paul even glanced at her!

When it gets around that he dated me, the air will be filled with the sound of a great gnashing of teeth!

— And it'll get around, all right—I was careful to tell Judy to keep it a secret!

He's due any second now... I just know Paul is the kind who's always on time...

Evie's still at it... poor thing... she thinks she knows what happiness is!

A half hour later...

I'm sure... he'll have a good excuse for being so... late...
AN HOUR LATER

HOW...COULD HE DO THIS...TO ME? I THOUGHT HE WAS SO NICE...SO KIND...

HE MAY STILL...SHOW UP...BUT I WON'T BE HERE!

IF A BOY CALLS, MOTHER, TELL HIM I MUST HAVE FORGOTTEN...ABOUT OUR DATE...

I'LL GO OUT...THE BACK WAY...

HI, VAL! I THOUGHT YOU HAD A DATE WITH PAUL VAYNE THIS AFTERNOON!!

I'VE GOT TO GO SOMEWHERE...WHERE I WON'T MEET ANYONE...

THE PARK! MAYBE I'LL FIND AN ABANDONED RABBIT HOLE, OR SOMETHING, I CAN CRAWL INTO AND DIE...

THAT BLABBERMOUTH, JUDY!

A WHILE LATER

OH... WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF THAT BEFORE? HE COULD HAVE MET WITH SOME KIND OF AN ACCIDENT! I SHOULD HAVE CALLED HIS HOUSE--!

THE NEAREST PHONE BOOTH IS ACROSS THE PARK!

IF SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAPPENED TO HIM, I'LL NEVER FORGIVE MYSELF FOR NOT CALLING SOONER!
PAUL!

VAL!

OH! OH! OH-

OW!

VAL-

ARE YOU HURT, VAL?

LET GO OF ME, PAUL!

VAL, PLEASE LET ME EXPLAIN-

NO, PAUL!

YOU COULDN'T POSSIBLY EXPLAIN!

YOU COULDN'T!

YOU COULDN'T!

PAUL!

COME BACK HERE!
...It's bad enough that the agency sends me the wrong type of girl—hey!

Val, this is Mr. Howard— the famous photographer.

This girl is just the type I wanted! A fresh, simple, innocent-looking, unspoiled little blond!

Simple?

It's a picture for a magazine ad, Val—introducing a new soft drink that's 'as exciting as a first kiss!'

I didn't know you modeled, Paul...

You would have known sooner, Val—right after the agency called me for this rush job today—

Hurry! Hurry!

...I kept trying to get you on the phone—right up to the last minute—but your line was always busy...

Evie?

Okay, Paul. You know what I want?

Maybe...this would be easier, Val—if you'd think about the modeling fee you're going to earn...

Hold the bottle...like this...

I've got to get at least a dozen shots before the light begins to fade...

Come on, kids! Let's get to work!
GOSH, VAL! YOU NOT ONLY WERE KISSED BY PAUL VAYNE, BUT YOU ACTUALLY GOT PAID FOR IT! YOU MUST HAVE BEEN IN A DAZE!

WHY, NO, JUDY... I THINK I TOOK IT ALL IN STRIDE...

HEY! THAT BIG BRUISE ON YOUR KNEE! HOW DID THAT HAPPEN?

OH... AFTER I LEFT PAUL I-ER... FELL OVER A FIRE HYDRANT...

YOU WEREN'T IN A DAZE! HA-HA-AH!

JUDY, A PERSON CAN FALL OVER A FIRE HYDRANT ANY TIME!

VAL, WHAT ABOUT YOUR FRIEND, BILLY? WHAT WILL HE THINK WHEN HE HEARS ABOUT PAUL AND YOU?

OH... I SUPPOSE WE'LL SUFFER FOR A WHILE... TERRIBLY... BUT IT CAN'T BE HELPED...

POOR BILLY! I NEVER COULD FEEL ANYTHING MORE THAN A SISTERSLY AFFECTION FOR HIM...

A VERY STRONG SISTERSLY AFFECTION! REMEMBER WHEN HE HAD TO COME BACK FROM CAMP BECAUSE YOU WENT ON A HUNGER STRIKE?
Billy can't compare with Paul!
Oh, not in any way at all, Val!

In fact, I've often wondered what you ever saw in Billy, Val—even as a brother!

He behaves like a silly, overgrown kid—always clowning and making a fool of himself... and that awful laugh of his—like a hysterical mule... and the way he dresses—how sloppy can you get?

...and he always seems to need a haircut... and you can hear him a mile away when he eats... and he dances like Gepetto made his legs...

Can I have him, Val?

Why... of course, Judy! You might have had him a long time ago if you'd given him any encouragement!

He never encouraged me to encourage him...
WELL, YOU'VE GOT TO ENCOURAGE HIM TO ENCOURAGE YOU TO ENCOURAGE HIM—NO— TOO COMPLICATED... LET ME THINK...

I KNOW! WE'LL HAVE A LITTLE GET-TOGETHER AT MY HOUSE! THE FOUR OF US!

THE... FOUR OF US?

TWO COUPLES! PAUL AND I, AND BILLY AND YOU!

WONDERFUL, VAL! I JUST KNOW BILLY AND I WERE MEANT FOR EACH OTHER!

VAL, DON'T TELL BILLY HE'S FOR ME—OR HE WON'T COME!

DO YOU THINK I'M CRA-A-ZY, JUDY? WE'LL LET IT BE A SURPRISE TO HIM!

I ALWAYS THOUGHT SO, TOO, JUDY! BILLY AND YOU HAVE SO MUCH IN COMMON!

LET'S MAKE IT FOR THIS SATURDAY EVENING—THREE DAYS NOTICE IS PLENTY OF TIME! I'LL PHONE THE BOYS AS SOON AS I GET HOME....BYE NOW—AND DON'T FORGET TO LOOK YOUR VERY BEST!

YOU WON'T EVEN KNOW ME! I'M STARTING ON A DIET RIGHT—

—AFTER THIS LAST—
SATURDAY EVENING

ALMOST TIME, VAL... WHICH ONE DO YOU THINK WILL SHOW UP FIRST?

ARE YOU KIDDING, JUDY? BILLY ONLY LIVES RIGHT NEXT DOOR, SO NATURALLY HE'S ALWAYS LATE!

Billy, Da-A-Arling! Do you need any help tying your shoelaces?

No, Val, sweetheart, baby! My mommy tied 'em for me!

Billy would cross me up this once.

Hi, Judy! You never looked beautiful— I mean more beautiful!

You're... early for a change, Billy...

Sure, sure...

Val, my love, I couldn't wait!
B-BILLY! STOP!

Hey, since when did you start getting shy, Val?

-You're usually the one that pounces on me-

BILL-EE-

AND you're doing all right with Judy, Paul! I'm sure you two will be very happy together!

-Have you met Paul?

Paul! Saa-ay, Judy! You're doing all right for yourself!

I've had my eye on Judy for years, but Val would've broken my head if I-

JUDY! Will you come in the kitchen with me?

W-we'll be right back, boys! Just have yourselves at home!
WE CAN'T LET THIS GO ANY FURTHER, JUDY! BILLY HAS TO BE TOLD RIGHT AWAY THAT HE'S YOUR DATE!

OKAY, TELL HIM, VAL!

HE'S YOUR DATE, JUDY! YOU SHOULD TELL HIM!

THIS AFFAIR WAS YOUR IDEA, VAL! YOU SHOULD TELL HIM!

YOU AND VAL SEEM TO KNOW EACH OTHER PRETTY WELL, BILLY...

WE OUGHT TO! WE PRACTICALLY GREW UP TOGETHER - LIVED RIGHT NEXT DOOR TO EACH OTHER ALL OUR LIVES... WE'RE JUST LIKE BROTHER AND SISTER!

OH!

AT LEAST THAT'S THE WAY I ALWAYS FELT...

OH?

BUT, VAL! OBOY! THE WAY SHE'S CARRIED ON OVER ME -!

CARRIED... ON...?

YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE HOW MANY BOYS SHE PRETENDED TO LIKE, AND DRAGGED AROUND HERE, HOPING I'D SEE 'EM AND GET JEALOUS! HAH!
SLAM!

...BUT THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO - WHEN WE WERE LITTLE KIDS-

HEY!

YOU CAN HAVE BOTH OF THEM, VAL! I'M GOING HOME!

NO, JUDY! YOU CAN'T LEAVE, WAIT!

NOW I'LL HAVE TO DO IT....

BILL-EE! WILL YOU COME IN HERE, PLEASE?

CAN'T GET THE COVER OFF SOMETHING, GIRLS?

N-NO, BILLY... I WANT TO TELL YOU SOMETHING...

JUDY... WAS YOUR DATE...

WAS?

SHE JUST LEFT... BY THE BACK DOOR...

HMM... AND PAUL... WAS... YOUR DATE...
IS MY DATE, BILLY...

WAS... HE JUST LEFT—BY THE FRONT DOOR...

AS LONG AS I HAVE NO DATE I MIGHT AS WELL LEAVE—BY THE BACK DOOR...

PAUL!

PAPA... DID LEAVE...

WHY—? WHY—?

WHY—?

VAL... I THINK I KNOW WHY...

WHEN JUDY INTRODUCED ME TO PAUL, AND I MADE THOSE REMARKS ABOUT THEIR BEING TOGETHER, I THINK IT... PUT AN IDEA IN THEIR HEADS...

WHAT IDEA, BILLY?

THEY BOTH LEFT AT THE SAME TIME, DIDN'T THEY? WELL, I WOULDN'T BE A BIT SURPRISED IF THEY GOT TOGETHER OUTSIDE—

WHAT—? YOU'RE OUT OF YOUR MIND, BILLY! JUDY LEFT BECAUSE... WE HAD AN ARGUMENT!
IT FIGURES—SHE STARTED AN ARGUMENT TO HAVE AN EXCUSE FOR LEAVING—TO MEET PAUL!

RIDICULOUS, BILLY! I'VE NEVER HEARD ANYTHING SO FUNNY! HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA—

I'LL KILL HER!

SHE ISN'T GONE LONG—WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO CATCH UP WITH HER—IF SHE'S ON HER WAY HOME!

NO, BILLY! I WOULDN'T DREAM OF CHECKING ON MY BEST FRIEND! IT WOULD BE AN INSULT TO HER! THERE ISN'T ANY DOUBT AT ALL IN MY MIND ABOUT JUDY—

BUT AS LONG AS YOU INSIST ON GOING AFTER HER, I MIGHT AS WELL GO, TOO...

I—ER—WANT TO APOLOGIZE TO HER FOR THAT ARGUMENT WE HAD...

OF COURSE

NO JUDY IN SIGHT YET—

HEY! WAIT!

SODA ICECREAM
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! I CAN'T! I CAN'T!!
Now that I actually saw it, I don't believe it either! What's he see in Judy that I don't see?

I SURE AM GLAD WE RAN INTO EACH OTHER, JUDY—OTHERWISE I WOULD HAVE GONE ON THINKING THAT BILLY WAS TALKING ABOUT THE WAY VAL FEELS ABOUT HIM NOW!

THAT WAS ALL A LONG, LONG TIME AGO, PAUL—NOW LET'S GET BACK TO VAL'S HOUSE, SHALL WE?

I'VE GOT A LOT OF APOLOGIZING TO DO...

NO... VAL WILL BE VERY HAPPY JUST TO SEE YOU!

BILLY... YOU'RE THE... ONLY ONE...

AND I BELIEVED YOU, JUDY!

AND I BELIEVED HER! SISTERLY AFFECTION PHOOEY!

... THE ONLY ONE I CAN TURN TO... FOR SYMPATHY... AND UNDERSTANDING...

THERE, THERE, VAL... WHAT'S A BROTHER FOR?

CONTINUED
WASTING AWAY...
SLOWLY...WASTING...
AWAY...

OH-H-H, THAT THIS SHOULD
HAPPEN TO ONE SO YOUNG —
SO VIBRANT — SO BEAUTIFUL!

But they'll pay for it — Judy and Paul...

LITTLE DO THEY KNOW WHAT A
HORRIBLE FATE THEY HAVE IN
STORE FOR THEM — WATCHING ME
IN CLASS EVERY DAY — WASTING
AWAY... WASTING AWAY... UNTIL
FINALLY... I'M MARKED... ABSENT...
FOREVER...

VAL, DEAR...

...YOU CAN'T GO ON LIKE THIS!
YOU'VE GOT TO EAT SOMETHING!

Ple-e-e-ase,
Mother! I'm not
Hungry!!

You talk to her, Evie!

VAL! This is Evie!
Won't you tell us
What this is all
About? Maybe
We can help!

You can, Evie!
By leaving me
Alone!
TELL THEM ABOUT IT! SURELY! MOTHER WOULD SMILE AND SAY, "THERE, THERE, DEAR, IT'LL ALL BLOW OVER..."

AND EVIE—! SHE'D LAUGH HERSELF SICK!

—MERELY BECAUSE THE LAST TIME HER HEART WAS BROKEN I LAUGHED MYSELF SICK...

AS IF HER HEARTBREAK COULD COMPARE WITH MINE...

BUT I DO HAVE ONE FRIEND IN THIS WHOLE WIDE WORLD—DEAR, FAITHFUL, UNDERSTANDING BILLY, NEXT DOOR! I'LL HAVE HIM TO LEAN ON... FOR THE LITTLE WHILE... I'LL BE... HERE...

DEAR BILLY! HE'S COME TO COMFORT ME! I MUST GO... TO HIM... BUT I'M WEAK... SO WEAK...

WHAT, VAL? WHAT WAS THAT—?

OH, VAL! BILLY JUST DROPPED IN!

OH—! NOTHING, EVIE! I'M COMING!

OOPS!

-HOLD IT, VAL!
...can't go out there with this...eyeshadow on...

Wonder how many meals I'll have to miss before I really look like that?

Just missing breakfast this morning didn't seem to do any good at all!

Billy! Dear... sweet...

Bill-ee...

Za-zu-Oh-Hi, Val!

Thought you might like to make the Sunday afternoon gym dance with me! Every Tom, Dick and Jumpin' Chick'll be there! Za-zu... Za-zu...

Are... you... serious, Billy?

Why not? Hey! What's eatin' you, Val?

You've... forgotten... already... Billy!
FORGOTTEN WHAT—?

OH—OF COURSE!

THAT ANNIVERSARY AGAIN! BUT, VAL—YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T EXPECT ME TO FEEL THE WAY YOU DO ABOUT A PARAKEET YOU LOST WHEN YOU WERE EIGHT YEARS OLD!

IT'S NOT THE PARAKEET, BILLY! IT'S PAUL AND JUDY! AND WHAT THEY DID TO ME!

GOSH, WHAT DID THEY—0-OH—THAT! VAL, ARE YOU STILL BROODING ABOUT THAT?

STILL...BROODING...

THAT WAS YESTERDAY, VAL! TODAY IS ANOTHER DAY! NOW COME ON OUT AND HOP ON THE BACK OF MY BIKE AND WE'LL ZA-ZU OFF TO THE DANCE!

I'LL ZA-ZU YOU, YOU BIG BUBBLEHEAD!

CLEAR THE ROAD!!

VAL...I'M SURE YOU'D FEEL BETTER IF YOU TOLD BIG SISTER EVIE ALL ABOUT IT...

HEY! MAYBE I WOULD! MAYBE HEARING HER LAUGH HERSELF SICK WOULD... SOMEHOW... SNAP ME OUT OF IT...
IT'S PAUL, EVIE... I LIKED HIM... VERY MUCH... AND I THOUGHT HE LIKED ME... THEN JUDY-

-OF ALL PEOPLE-

- TOOK HIM AWAY FROM ME-

THAT'S IT, EVIE - OKAY, GO AHEAD, LAUGH!

LAUGH LAUGH

VAL! YOU EXPECTED ME TO... LAUGH?

I LAUGHED AT YOU, EVIE... LAST SUMMER... WHEN YOUR HEART WAS BROKEN...
OH, EVIE - I'M SO ASHAMED OF THAT NOW...

YOU WERE ONLY A CHILD THEN, VAL, BUT NOW - NOW THAT YOU HAVE SUFFERED - AND LEARNED COMPASSION AND UNDERSTANDING, I CAN TELL YOU ABOUT THE TORMENT I AM SUFFERING RIGHT THIS MOMENT!

YESTERDAY... I HEARD AN ABSOLUTELY RELIABLE RUMOR THAT BOB - THE ONLY BOY I'VE EVER REALLY LOVED - IS SEEING ANOTHER GIRL! OH... VAL!
YOUR HEART MAY BE BROKEN - BUT MINE - MINE IS IN SHREDS!

Q-OH, MY POOR, POOR SHREDDED HEART!
AAAAN-HAHANANAN
HANAHANANANAN
HANAHANANANAN
HANAHANANANAN

HAHAHOOHOO
HAHAHOOHOO
HAHAHOOHOO
HAHAHOOHOO

MOTH-ER!

HA-HA-HOO-HOO...
HA...HOO...HA...
OO...

EVIE! I'M SO SORRY!
I COULDN'T HELP IT!

THERE, THERE,
DEAR... IT'LL
ALL BLOW
OVER...

EVIE, IF ONLY YOU
HADN'T SAID
'SHREDDED HEART'!
I thought of cannibal breakfast food, and I flipped!

There's no excuse for such cruelty, Val! Why don't you go for a walk?

I'll... do that... Mother...

Mother... shall I... come back?

When you have a different attitude, Val!

That was the same as saying don't come back - because I know I'm going to feel this way for the rest of my life!

Miserable... miserable!

Everybody hates me!

Everybody and fire hydrants!
IT WAS ONLY A FEW DAYS AGO... THAT PAUL AND I... WERE HERE... BUT IT ALL SEEMS LIKE A DREAM NOW—A DREAM THAT TURNED INTO A NIGHTMARE!

OH! THAT BOTTLE WE USED! IT... WAS FORGOTTEN.

I SAT... RIGHT HERE... MY EYES... CLOSED... HOLDING THE BOTTLE... LIKE THIS...

AND I KISSED YOU—LIKE THAT!

PAUL...

I MET BILLY AND JUDY AT THE GYM DANCE, AND AFTER A TALK, WE REALIZED WE WERE ALL MISTAKEN ABOUT EACH OTHER YESTERDAY.

HOW... DID YOU KNOW... I'D BE HERE, PAUL?

I DIDN'T, VAL... I JUST FELT LIKE LEAVING THE DANCE... AND GOING FOR A WALK!

MOTHER SUGGESTED THAT I GO FOR A WALK—TO CHANGE MY ATTITUDE! AND, OBOY, DID IT!

THE END
AND THEN AFTER I FINISH COLLEGE I'M GOING TO-

KRA-A-A-KL-AKLAKLAKL-AKLAKL-

YES, WILBUR? YOU WERE SAYING?

I WAS SAYING, AFTER I FINISH COLLEGE-

AKLAKLAKL-AKLAKL-AKLAKL-

WHY DON'T YOU HAVE ANOTHER SODA, JUDY?

NO, WILBUR... I HAVE TO WATCH MY FIGURE...

I'LL WATCH IT FOR YOU, JUDY. YOU GO RIGHT AHEAD AND HAVE ANOTHER SODA...

NOT VERY FUNNY, WILBUR— BUT AT LEAST YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE FOR A CHANGE!

AKL

URKL

URKL
WHAT DID YOU MEAN BY THAT CRACK IN THERE, JUDY?

WILBUR, YOU'VE TALKED ABOUT NOTHING BUT YOURSELF ALL AFTERNOON!

WELL, HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT? JUDY, DIDN'T YOU ASK ME TO TELL YOU ALL ABOUT MYSELF? DIDN'T YOU?

BUT THAT WAS ALMOST A YEAR AGO, WILBUR! ON OUR FIRST DATE!

YOU'VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT YOURSELF EVER SINCE, WILBUR! YOU EVEN TALKED ABOUT YOURSELF ALL THROUGH THAT HORROR PICTURE TODAY! BUT I COULD UNDERSTAND THAT!

THE MONSTER PROBABLY KEPT REMINDING YOU OF YOURSELF!

YOU COULD?

JUDY, THAT MONSTER DIDN'T LOOK A BIT LIKE ME - EXCEPT FOR, MAYBE A VERY SLIGHT RESEMBLANCE AROUND THE EYES!

I THINK IT'S VERY IMPOLITE FOR A BOY TO TALK ABOUT HIMSELF ALL EVENING WHEN THE DATE IS 'DUTCH,' WILBUR!

(SIGH) JUST ONCE I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO GO ON A DATE THAT WASN'T 'DUTCH'!

THROW THAT UP TO ME, HUH? I HAVE TO WORK HARD FOR MY ALLOWANCE, JUDY - HOLLERING AND SCREAMING ABOUT IT ALL WEEK...

YOUR WISH SHALL BE GRANTED, JUDY! OUR NEXT DATE WON'T BE 'DUTCH!'
Oh, Wilbur! You mean... you'll actually-

Let you pay all of it, Judy!

Wham!

Wow!

EEE!

Ha, ha, ha!

Oh, how I loathe you, Wilbur! I don't ever want to see you again!

You will, Judy! To you I'm irresistible!

He's right... he is irresistible - when Saturday comes around and nobody else asks me for a date!

Maybe in time he'll grow on me... and my loathing for him will turn into something finer... like mere dislike...
TOMBOY TERRY

Terry, head turned, stared after the boy as he walked briskly across the dock and up the path that led away from the lake, a long fishing pole waving up and down on his shoulder. Finally she turned to her friend, Joe, who sat beside her on the end of the dock, eyes glued to the two fishing floats that bobbed gently in the water a few feet below.

“What’s got into Herbie all of a sudden?” cried Terry. “I’ve never before known him to quit fishing in the middle of the day! And he wouldn’t say why!”

“Watch your float, Terry,” said Joe, without looking up. But Terry was still wondering about Herbie.

“Herbie is crazier about fishing than anybody I know,” she mused. “He must have a simply fantastic reason for going off like this, especially when the fish are just starting to bite! Joe, do you have any idea what the reason might be?”

“Yes,” muttered Joe, still watching the floats.

“What, Joe?” cried Terry.

“Has a date—Look, Terry, I think you got a nibble!” cried Joe.

Terry ignored the nibble.

“Herbie... has a date, Joe?” cried Terry. “With a... girl?”

“With his steady—Hey! you got a big nibble, Terry!” yelled Joe.

Terry ignored the big nibble.

“Herbie is going steady?” she cried. “I thought he was too sensible—”

But Joe wasn’t listening.

“Your float! Your float, Terry! It went under!” he yelled.

Then he suddenly threw his pole to one side and snatched Terry’s out of her hand.

Joe gave the pole a terrific yank and fell over backwards on the dock, followed closely by the line, float, sinker and a shower of water, all of which landed on top of him.

Joe sat up and looked at the tangled line.

“Lost the hook,” he mumbled sheepishly.

Terry tried never to laugh when Joe was embarrassed, but this time it was really hard not to. So she turned quickly away and stared down at the water.

Suddenly she pounced on the pole Joe had put down, to grab hers, gave it a yank, and a moment later a fat yellow perch plopped into Joe’s lap!

Joe laughed so long and so loud that Terry said she was sure he had frightened all the fish to the far end of the lake.

After they settled down to fishing again, Terry glanced fondly at Joe and thought how much she liked being with him. And how nice Joe was to let her pal around with him morning, noon and night, day after day.

Then Terry remembered Herbie, and a frightening thought struck her.

“Joe...” she stammered. “You... wouldn’t ever go steady...like Herbie...would you?”

“Me?” said Joe, without taking his eyes off his float. “Me go steady with a girl? I’m not that dumb, Terry!”

Terry felt very happy again. Of course, she should have known that Joe wouldn’t ever be dumb enough to go steady with a girl.
JUDY JUNIOR

Idle Hands

WHAT ARE YOU DOING THERE, JIMMY FUZZI?

HUH... JUDY JUNIOR?

YOU HEARD ME, JIMMY FUZZI!

I'M NOT DOING ANYTHING HERE, JUDY JUNIOR...

YOU'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING THERE! JIMMY FUZZI, ISN'T THAT THE STORY OF YOUR LIFE? ALWAYS STANDING AROUND DOING NOTHING! DON'T YOU FEEL TERRIBLY ASHAMED OF YOURSELF SOMETIMES, JIMMY FUZZI?

NO, JUDY JUNIOR.
WELL, YOU OUGHT TO, JIMMY FUZZI! BOYS WHO DON'T KEEP BUSY ARE ALWAYS GETTING INTO MISCHIEF!

I NEVER GET IN ANY MISCHIEF, JUDY JUNIOR...

OF COURSE YOU DON'T, JIMMY FUZZI—BECAUSE YOU'RE ALWAYS STANDING AROUND DOING NOTHING!

BUT... WHAT'LL I DO, JUDY JUNIOR?

I'M GLAD YOU ASKED ME THAT QUESTION, JIMMY FUZZI!

YES INDEED, JIMMY FUZZI, YOU CERTAINLY CAME TO THE RIGHT PERSON WITH THAT QUESTION...

PICK ME A LARGE BUNCH OF FLOWERS, JIMMY FUZZI!

WHY DON'T YOU PICK THEM, JUDY JUNIOR?

I'M BUSY JUST NOW, JIMMY FUZZI...

DOING WHAT, JUDY JUNIOR?

FIGURING OUT HOW MANY OF EACH KIND OF FLOWER YOU'RE GOING TO PICK FOR ME...
WHAT DOES THAT SIGN SAY, JUDY JUNIOR?

JIMMY FUZZI! IF I COULD READ I WOULDN'T BE HERE, WASTING MY TIME WITH YOU!

I'D BE HOME READING A COMIC BOOK! NOW GO PICK ME THOSE FLOWERS!

OKAY, JUDY JUNIOR.

IS THIS ENOUGH, JUDY JUNIOR?

NO, JIMMY FUZZI! NOT NEARLY ENOUGH! THEY'RE FOR NEXT MOTHER'S DAY - WHICH IS A LONG WAY OFF YET...

SO IT'LL TAKE A REALLY BIG BUNCH TO LAST TILL THEN!

OKAY, JIMMY FUZZI! I GUESS THAT'LL DO!

NO, OVER THIS WAY, JIMMY FUZZI!

YES, JIMMY FUZZI! I'M MAKING SURE IT'LL BE DIFFERENT NEXT MOTHER'S DAY! THE LAST ONE, NOBODY REMEMBERED ME!

Y-YOU JUDY, JUNIOR?
Yes, Jimmy Fuzzy! You'll never know how it feels... to be forgotten... on Mother's Day...

But you're not a mother, Judy Junior!

Hey! Did you pick those flowers?—

I told him! I told him! Boys who stand around doing nothing always get into mischief, I said!

Oh, well— as long as they're already picked, I might as well take a few...

Yes... next Mother's Day will be a glorious one indeed!

Later...

Jimmy Fuzzy... what are you doing there?

I'm running!!

Very good, Jimmy Fuzzy! You need the exercise! If there's one thing I can't stand, it's a flabby boy!
VAL

I FOUND IT IN THE ATTIC, VAL...

ONE OF MY OLD DOLLS! I WONDER IF IT'S THE SAME ONE I HIT BILLY WITH WHEN WE WERE LITTLE KIDS...?

...I REMEMBER IT WAS THE VERY FIRST TIME WE MET... HE TODDLED INTO OUR YARD AND STARTED TO TEASE ME... AND WHAM! I LET HIM HAVE IT!

ROCK-A-BYE, DOLL-EEE...

VA-AL! PWEASE COME OUT AN' PWAY WIV ME?

WOK!

YES... IT'S THE SAME DOLL, ALL RIGHT... I'LL NEVER FORGET THAT 'WOK!'

THIS IS WHERE I CAME IN!

GOOD MORNING, JIMMY FUZZI!

STOP, JUDY JUNIOR! STAND RIGHT THERE! LET ME LOOK AT YOU!

GOSH, YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL THIS MORNING, JUDY JUNIOR!

OH... JIMMY FUZZI...

YOU'RE GETTING MORE AND MORE BEAUTIFUL EVERY DAY, JUDY JUNIOR!

PLEASE, JIMMY FUZZI...

IF THIS KEEPS UP, JUDY JUNIOR, PRETTY SOON YOU'LL BE UN-UN... UN...

-BEARABLE, JIMMY FUZZI!

WELL... THAT WASN'T TOO BAD, JIMMY FUZZI... YOU'VE ALMOST GOT IT DOWN PAT... BUT TOMORROW MORNING DO TRY TO GET A LITTLE MORE FEELING IN IT!
BILLY’S HERE, VAL.
OKAY, MOTHER!

HI, BIL—

HEY! I DIDN’T KNOW THE DATE WAS FORMAL, VAL!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, BILLY!

I’LL BE OUT IN A LITTLE WHILE!

I WASTE ALL THAT TIME GETTING DRESSED UP NICE FOR HIM, AND HE SHOWS UP LOOKING LIKE A HOBO!

I’LL FIX HIM! HE’LL BE ASHAMED TO BE SEEN ON THE STREET WITH ME!

10 MINUTES LATER.

I'M READY, BILLY!

PUFF, PUFF, PUFF... VAL WON'T BELIEVE... I COULDEV RUN HOME... GOT INTO A SUIT... AND GOT BACK... SO FAST...

WILBUR... WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO MAKE A TEENY LITTLE SACRIFICE FOR OUR FRIENDSHIP?

GET RID OF THAT CRUMMY HAT!

NO SACRIFICE IS TOO TEENY, JUDY! NAME IT!

YOU'RE KIDDING, JUDY! THIS HAT ISN'T JUST A HAT! IT'S A PERSONALITY! TO ME IT'S A—A LIVE THING!

TO ME, TOO, WILBUR!

I LOVE MY HAT, JUDY!
I WILL NOT LOVE YOUR HAT, WILBUR!

YOU'LL HAVE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN ME AND THAT HAT RIGHT NOW, WILBUR! TAKE YOUR TIME—THINK IT OVER CAREFULLY—

HMM...

OKAY, JUDY—AFTER A GREAT DEAL OF PAINFUL SOUL-SEARCHING, I HAVE ARRIVED AT A DECISION!

OH, WELL... SOMEHOW I THINK I'D FEEL WORSE IF I LOST HIM TO ANOTHER GIRL...