















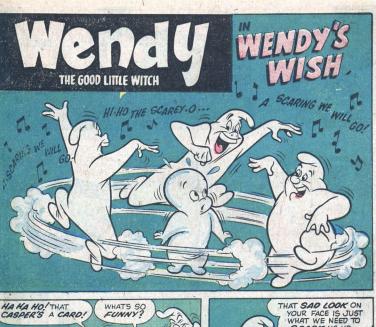




NUMBER 30, IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY.
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CASPER'S DIARY

Dear Diary:

What do you think about my adventure in this issue? Do you think it's the kind of story that my readers would like? I wish you could ask them about this, and ask them to tell me about their feelings in those wonderful notes they sent me.

And speaking about those wonderful notes. I was so happy to read many. many notes from people who just started reading my magazine. It was truly thoughtful of them to let me know their feelings, and all of them were good.

Arthur Farrar, of Ventura, Calif., wrote: 'I'm a newcomer to your books.

but I like them very much."

Roberta Bridenstine, of Birmingham, Mich., wrote: "Today was the first time I ever read your comics, and I love it. You are the best comic I ever read. All my friends like you, too."

That's the kind of mail I've been receiving from newcomers, dear Diary, and you can understand how thrilling it's been. If you see any of my new friends, dear Diary, could you tell them to write me their opinions of my magazine -regardless of what it may be.

I also received a very interesting note from Elvada Overall, of Stockton, Calif. Elvada liked my adventure with Pegasus, the winged horse, and would like to see more stories about mythology. Diary, could you also ask my friends what they think of that.

And then Elvada told me that she wanted to be a writer. She's only 17, but she's already written stories and plays. But then she asked for hints on becoming a writer. "So many ideas come into my head," she wrote, "that when I start to write them, they get mixed up." Elvada then went on to answer her own problem, and I think gave good answer to so many of all of our problems.

"If I work long enough," she wrote, "I find the clues."

Dear Diary, I wish all people would realize this. If we face our problems, just like my trying to find friends, we'll find that we can do it. Why, look at all the mail I get from friends throughout the world. If we say that hopes can't be realized, problems can't be solved, then we won't. But as Elvada wrote: "If I work long enough, I find the clues."

I also received wonderful mail from Mack Crider, of Hot Springs, Ark; Joyce Frazier, of Dubuque, Iowa; Carolyn Card, of Columbus, Kan; Beverly Hall, of Alexandria, La; Dean Carlson, of Batavia, Ill: Penny Lieberman, of Memphis, Tenn; James Thwaite, of Library, Penn; Willa Margo Johnson, of Chicago, Ill; Stephen Fein, of Jamaica, N. Y.; Carol Kunkler, of Garland, Texas, and so many others.

Ask my friends, dear Diary, to keep those welcome postcards coming. Tell them my address is:

> Casper, the Friendly Ghost Harvey Comics 1860 Broadway New York 23. N.Y.

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(signed) ROBERT B. HARVEY
Business Manager
Sworn and subscribed to before me this 29th day

of September, 1959. RUTH J. HENENFELD (My commission expires March 30, 1960.)

GREATEST SHOW

"Hurry -- hurry -- hurry! Get your tickets! The greatest show on earth is about to begin!" The barker's voice, rasping with the promise of untold wonders within, was enough to lure anyone into the magic wonderland of the Big Top!

Anyone, that is, but Mary Jane April. You see, Mary Jane's father OWNED the circus, and she had never known any way of life but the circus way. "And it bores me!" she now whispered to herself. "It's so LOUD and EMPTY!" She slipped away from the crowd, and nearly tripped over the huddled figure of a sobbing little girl -- a girl just about her own age. But what a tattered and torn and raggedly-looking little girl she was!

"My goodness!" exclaimed Mary Jane. "What's wrong? Can I help you?"

"NOBODY C - CAN HELP ME!"
wept the other girl. "A -- all my life,
I've dreamed of going to a circus, a
REAL circus! And now, the first time
one has EVER come to Parksville, I
can't go! Ma and Pa just can't spare
the admission money..." The words
were drowned in a fresh flood of tears.

Mary Jane was stunned. She couldn't understand how a plain old circus could be so terribly important to anyone! "You can stop crying, little girl," she said slowly. "I'll show you your dream circus! My name is Mary Jane April, and my daddy owns it."

"OH!" the weeper scrambled to her feet. "I -- I'm Liza Nobert." she stammered. "I -- I live in Parksville. Oh, it just seems too good to be true! How will I ever thank you?"

"Don't even TRY to thank me!" smiled Mary Jane. "You'll be cured of your circus fever soon enough! Let's go!"

And then they were off -- off into an enchanted fairvland of sight and sound and smell! At least, it was enchanted in Liza's eyes. The top-hatted ringmasters and the clowns, the thrilling high-wire walkers and the daredevil trapeze artists, the fierce wild animals and their trainers, the lumbering elephants and the prancing horses, the spangles and the sawdust -- all of it -all the color and noise and fun of the greatest show on earth dazzled Liza into speechless rapture. She could only stare and stare and stare some more, her thin face a shining mirror of happiness.

As for Mary Jane, something very strange was happening to her. "Why," she thought dazedly, "why, it's almost as though I were seeing it all for the first time -- seeing it through Liza's eyes!" Little shivers of excitement chased up and down her spine.

"It IS wonderful!" she breathed a-

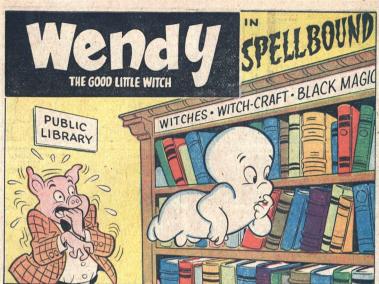
loud. "It really is!"

"Yes, of course!" cried Liza joyously. "Oh, yes, yes, yes! You're so

lucky, Mary Jane!"

"You bet I am!" Mary Jane was close to tears. "I -- I wouldn't trade places with anyone in the whole wide world!"

































































































































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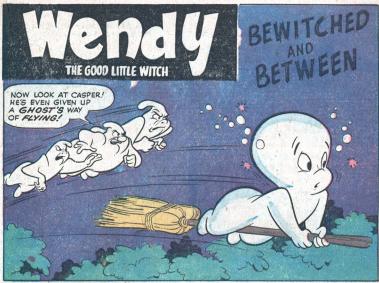


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apper

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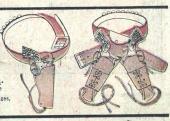


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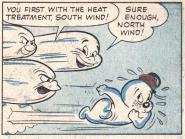


















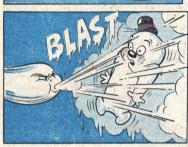


























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