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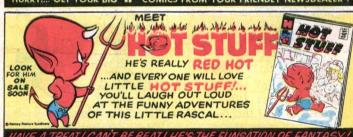




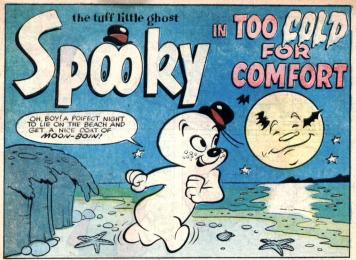
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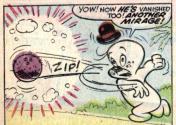














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CHANGEABOUT

Once upon a time there was a princess. She lived in a beautiful palace, waited on by servants galore. Her mother and father, the Queen and King, adored her. She had three whole rooms full of toys. And still the princess wasn't happy.

"I don't want to be a princess," she sulked.
"I want to be a commone: I want to be free to come and go as I please, where I please, when I please! I don't want to have any official duties. Let someone else be the princess!"

"But who?" her parents would ask reasonably. "Who else is there to be the princess, since you're our only daughter?" And for that, of course, there was no answer.

Until one day, when the princess was playing with her doll carriage inside the palace gardens, she heard someone sobbing bitterly just outside the garden gate. "What's wrong out there?" she called sharply. But the weeper outside only sobbed all the harder. So the princess marched over to the gate to see for herself what was going on.

"Why — why — it's impossible!" she stuttered as she caught sight of the small figure outside. For the little girl who stood outside the gate, crying as if her heart would break, was the living image of the princess herself! They could have been twin sisters! "Why are you crying, little girl?" the princess asked a bit fearfully.

"I'm crying because - (sob) - because

I'm just a nobody!" wept the other. "Because I wish with all my heart and soul that I could change places with the girl who lives *inside* this garden! I wish I could be the princess—even for just a little while!"

Already, a daring scheme had formed inside the princess' mind. "Perhaps you can, little girl!" she murmured. "Perhaps you can! Come on inside!" Quickly, she unlatched the garden gate, and the other child entered, looking about her in wonder. "Now you are the princess!" proclaimed the princess in ringing tones, clapping the child on the shoulder. "And now I am you!"

And with that, the princess slipped outside the gate, out into the big, wide, free world she'd longed to be part of for such a long time. Her heart pounded with wild anticipation. But barely two hours went by before that same heart was thudding with weary despair! The princess was hot and dusty and tired — and there was no servant to attend to her needs. She was lonely and lost and forlorn, and she had no one to love her, nothing and nobody to play with. Her great adventure was a failure. She'd been wrong, very wrong, all along, and she trudged back to the palace a sadder but wiser child.

"Am I glad to see you!" the other little girl gretted her with relief, "I don't want to be the princess anymore! I want to go home to my family and my friends — where I belong!"

"I know just how you feel!" smiled the princess. "We've shared a great lesson today — a lesson I don't think we'll ever forget!" And gravely, the two girls shook hands on it.



THE STRANGE ANIMAL

The animals of Ace County were having an awful time. They just didn't know what to do. Never before had a problem like this come up. And they strutted back and forth searching for the answer.

What to do? What to do?" muttered the owl wizard.

"I don't know! I don't know!" said the puzzled parakeet.

"We must do right," insisted the owl wizard.

"Right!" repeated the parakeet.

"So what do we do?" laughed the hyena.

"Gxmnb!" said the unknown animal that presented the problem.

All of them looked at this animal and he repeated, "Gxmnb!" Only louder.

"Oh, what kind of an animal are you?" asked the owl wizard. "Why can't you talk proper English? Why do you present such problems to we animals of Ace County?"

"Why?" repeated the parakeet.

"Zxcvdn!" insisted the strange animal.

"What was that he said?" asked the owl.

"Zxcvdn!" said the parakeet.

"Oh," said the owl. "This does not help us in the least. What can we do for this strange animal? We must treat him as kindly as we know how, yet we do not understand a word he says."

"Perhaps he speaks a foreign tongue," suggested the pretty smart squirrel.

"But of what nation?" said the owl.

"Lumenesia?" suggested the raccoon.

"He doesn't look Lumenese," said the owl. "Ferdinandia?" asked the turtle.

"Hah!" laughed the owl. "Does this animal look Ferdinandian?"

"Fvnbcdm!" said the strange animal.

Perhaps that is the name of his country!" laughed the hyena.

"What?" asked the owl.

"What he just said," said the raccoon.

"What did he just say?" asked the owl.

Each of the animals looked at each other. None of them could remember what this strange-talking animal had said.

Perhaps he will repeat it," said the owl.

"Mnbdcfk!" said the strange animal.

"Was that it?" asked the owl.

"I don't know," said one and all.

The animals stopped talking for the moment. They decided to think this out in silence.

Meanwhile, the strange-talking animal was saying, "Fgjhlk kmnunmh yptghfd!"

Those last words brought a spark to the mind of the owl. "I think I may have the solution," he

"What is it? Speak up!" his friends said.

"I believe," started the owl, "this creature is frightened of us. And because of his fear, he can't say what he'd like to. Words just can't seem to form in his mouth."

"You mean his tongue is tied," asked the raccoon.

"In a manner of speaking," answered the owl. "So let's act casual and as friendly as possible."

They all agreed. Some came over to shake the animal's hand. Some offered the animal some food. And the hyena who was the friendliest of all came over and slammed the animal on his back...

"GULPPP!" went the animal as he was slammed, and ...

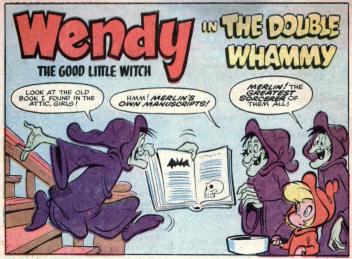
POPPP!

A little frog popped out of his throat.

"Oh, thank you, thank you, thank you," said the animal. "That frog has been in my throat since last April. What a relief to have it out!"

All of the animals of Ace County started to laugh. The animal was not strange at all, and now he was able to talk right. But suddenly the laughing stopped. They heard the little frog say:











































































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