

☐ *Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 12 No. 5 (February 1952)*

Evaluation Date: April 12, 2026

Publisher: Dell Comics

Cover Price: 10¢

Format: Staple-bound comic magazine

Contents: Donald Duck lead story; Mickey Mouse; Grandma Duck; additional Disney features

Cover Description: Donald Duck lounges in bed beneath a yellow quilt while a smaller duck character sleeps nearby, with a lamp and bed frame framing the scene; the title banner appears against a green and blue background.

Summary of Observations

This copy presents as a visually attractive and internally complete example with **nice color retention**, **strong interior printing**, and an **exceptionally straight and stable spine**. Interior pages are readable and evenly toned, with no evidence of moisture staining or restoration. Structural condition at the binding remains intact, though both staples show age-appropriate oxidation.

The principal defect is a **damaged top front corner**, which is visible on the front cover and echoed through multiple interior leaves, indicating true paper loss rather than surface wear. This corner loss affects the top edge and fore edge locally but does not propagate into widespread edge damage. Brittleness testing indicates retained flexibility with no newly induced fiber fracture.

FRONT COVER — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 12 No. 5 (February 1952)

Photo Condition & Quality (IMG_2508.jpeg):

The image is sharp, evenly lit, and fully framed, clearly resolving edges, corners, spine margin, and cover surface texture.

Observations

The front cover retains **strong color saturation**, particularly in the yellow quilt and green background areas, with Donald Duck rendered in clean, stable inks. **Surface gloss is moderately to well retained**, visible as a smooth sheen across central areas of the cover.

At the **top front corner**, there is **localized paper loss**, forming an irregular missing section that removes the original corner point. The loss affects both the top edge and fore edge. Based on visual scale, the missing area measures approximately **12–16 mm along the top edge** and **10–14 mm down the fore edge**. The interior boundary of the loss is uneven with exposed paper fibers, confirming **true corner loss due to chipping/tear-out**, not a crease or fold.

Aside from this defect, general edge wear is light. Other corners show mild rounding estimated at **3–4 mm** inward. No writing, stains, surface creases, or additional tears are observed on the cover face.

- Nice overall color retention
- Moderate to strong surface gloss
- **Missing top front corner (paper loss)** (~12–16 mm × ~10–14 mm)
- Light edge wear elsewhere
- Mild rounding on remaining corners

Overall Impression

The front cover is visually strong with good color and gloss, offset primarily by a single, clearly defined missing corner.

BACK COVER — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 12 No. 5 (February 1952)

Photo Condition & Quality (IMG_2509.jpeg):

The image is clear and evenly lit, showing the entire back cover with edges and corners visible.

Observations

The back cover displays **uniform age-related toning** to a light tan/cream hue typical of early-1950s Dell paper stock. Advertising graphics remain legible with intact borders. Surface gloss is reduced but even. Edge wear is minimal, with mild rounding at corners estimated at **3–4 mm** inward. No writing, tears, tape residue, or moisture staining are visible.

- Uniform age-related toning
- Reduced but even surface gloss
- Light edge wear
- Mild corner rounding (~3–4 mm)
- Advertisement intact and legible

Overall Impression

The back cover is clean and stable with typical age wear only.

INSIDE FRONT COVER — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 12 No. 5 (February 1952)

Photo Condition & Quality (IMG_2510.jpeg):

The image is sharp and evenly lit, clearly showing margins and indicia.

Observations

The inside front cover exhibits cream to light tan paper coloration with even toning. The **top front corner shows corresponding paper loss aligned with the front cover**, confirming through-corner loss affecting multiple leaves. The remainder of the page is flat and intact with no writing or staining.

- Inside front cover present
- Even age-related toning
- **Corner loss aligned with front cover**
- Indicia visible and legible: *Walt Disney's Comics and Stories* Vol. 12, No. 5 February 1952 Dell Publishing

Overall Impression

The inside front cover is otherwise clean, with the corner loss confirming genuine paper removal.

SPINE — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 12 No. 5 (February 1952)

Photo Condition & Quality (IMG_2517.jpeg; profile view):

The image clearly resolves spine alignment and staple positions in profile.

Observations

The spine is **exceptionally straight and well aligned**, with no visible splitting, separation, or sustained curvature. The fold remains crisp relative to typical examples from this period.

- Continuous, straight spine
- No splitting or roll
- Strong overall alignment

Overall Impression

The spine represents a structural strength of this copy.

UPPER STAPLE — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 12 No. 5 (February 1952)

Photo Condition & Quality (IMG_2518.jpeg):

Macro image is sharp and evenly lit.

Observations

The upper staple is present with visible oxidation. Rust is confined primarily to the exposed metal. Surrounding paper shows localized discoloration extending approximately **2–3 mm** from the crown. No tearing or pull-through is observed.

- Staple present
- Moderate oxidation
- Localized paper discoloration (~2–3 mm)

Overall Impression

The upper staple remains functional with age-related oxidation.

LOWER STAPLE — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 12 No. 5 (February 1952)

Photo Condition & Quality (IMG_2519.jpeg):

Macro image is clear and properly framed.

Observations

The lower staple is present and shows oxidation comparable to or slightly greater than the upper staple. Surrounding paper displays mild discoloration extending approximately **3–4 mm**. Structural attachment remains intact with no tearing.

- Staple present
- Moderate oxidation
- Surrounding paper discoloration (~3–4 mm)

Overall Impression

The lower staple shows typical age-related corrosion without loss of attachment.

CENTERFOLD — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 12 No. 5 (February 1952)

Photo Condition & Quality (IMG_2516.jpeg):

The image clearly shows both centerfold pages and the fold seam.

Observations

The centerfold is present and aligned. Staples are visible through the fold. Paper toning matches surrounding interior pages. No splitting or tearing is visible at the fold.

- Centerfold present
- Attached at both staples
- Uniform toning

Overall Impression

The centerfold remains securely attached.

INTERIOR PAGES — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 12 No. 5 (February 1952)

Photo Condition & Quality (IMG_2511.jpeg; IMG_2512.jpeg; IMG_2513.jpeg; IMG_2514.jpeg; IMG_2515.jpeg):

Images are clear and evenly lit, showing full pages with margins.

Observations

Interior pages show cream to light tan paper coloration with **strong interior color saturation** and clean linework. Text is legible throughout. Minor edge wear and small corner bends ($\approx 2\text{--}3\text{ mm}$) are present on select pages, particularly near the affected corner area. No writing, staining, or clipped coupons are observed.

- Cream to light tan pages
- Strong interior artwork color
- Complete and readable
- Minor edge wear and small bends ($\sim 2\text{--}3\text{ mm}$)

Overall Impression

Interior pages are well preserved with balanced color and minimal handling wear.

BRITTLINESS TEST — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 12 No. 5 (February 1952)

Photo Condition & Quality (IMG_2520.jpeg):

The image shows a page being flexed.

Observations

The tested page bends smoothly with good rebound. No new fiber cracking or flaking is visible as a result of the test.

- Smooth flex
- Good rebound
- No visible fiber fracture

Overall Impression

Paper retains flexibility without brittle behavior.

CONSOLIDATED DEFECT LISTING

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 12 No. 5 (February 1952)

- **Missing top front corner on front cover** (~12–16 mm × ~10–14 mm paper loss)
- Corner loss extending through inside front cover and several interior leaves
- Moderate oxidation at both staples with localized paper discoloration
- Minor interior edge wear and small corner bends
- Uniform back cover toning



Walt Disney's Comics and Stories, Vol. 12, No. 5, February, 1952. Published monthly by arrangement with Walt Disney Productions. Subscription price in the U.S.A., \$1 per year, 10 cents per copy; foreign subscriptions, \$2 per year; Canadian subscriptions \$1.20 per year. Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. All rights reserved by Walt Disney Productions throughout the world. K. K. Publications, Inc., assumes no responsibility for return of unsolicited manuscripts. Owners submitting manuscripts assume all risk for their loss or damage. Printed in U.S.A. by Western Printing & Lithographing Co. Entire contents copyright, 1949, 1952, by Walt Disney Productions. Published by

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It was Willie's little mother. "Come back this instant! You're going to scrub this floor, without any magic either. And take off those dirty boots and leave them outside. After you scrub the floor you can clean them, too."

"Aw, Ma," Willie objected, but he put the seven-league boots outside.

"Now's our chance to get 'em," said Thumper. He hopped over to the boots, but Willie saw him through the open door. He grabbed the little rabbit.

"I like rabbits," said Willie, "especially fuzzy little rabbits." He had a calculating look in his eyes.

"They're th' best kind to clean boots," said Thumper, thinking fast. "I do a real good polishing job."

"You do?" said Willie. "Awright, but be sure they shine good before you bring 'em back, or my Ma will make me do 'em over."

"Oh, we will," promised Thumper. He hopped in one boot and Bambi in the other. And in two minutes they hopped to Thumper's house. Thumper's mother shrieked at the sight of two giant boots outside her door.

"Don't be scared, Mother, it's us," said Thumper as he and Bambi climbed out. "We promised to polish Willie's seven-league boots—but we figure if we don't take 'em back soon he will get tired indoors and let it be spring." So every day they brushed off the boots a bit, but not very much. They were keeping their

promise but they were in no hurry about it.

Willie, in his cabin, fretted and fumed because his mother wouldn't let him go out without his boots. Finally, just as Thumper and Bambi figured, he could stand being cooped up inside no longer, and he said the magic words that melted the giant snow quite away. Then Thumper and Bambi were sure Willie felt he had enough of winter for a long time. They hopped the boots back one moonlit night and Willie was glad to put them on and get out of the forest.

On their way home, Thumper and Bambi knocked on the tree trunk doors where the other little animals were sleeping. "Wake up," they cried. The little animals were happy to get out into the fresh, warm air.

"How'd you ever figure you could out-smart the giant?" they asked Thumper.

"A little bird told me something," said Thumper. "It's never size that counts, it's what you do," quoted Thumper. Then he added his own line. "And that's why I'm not in his rabbit stew!"

Flower shyly stepped up to Thumper. "I made a poem up also," he said. "We think you two are braver 'n anything. . . you fooled th' giant and brought us a magic spring!" All the little forest folk applauded because that was exactly the way they all felt. And it really was the earliest, most wonderful spring the forest had ever known!



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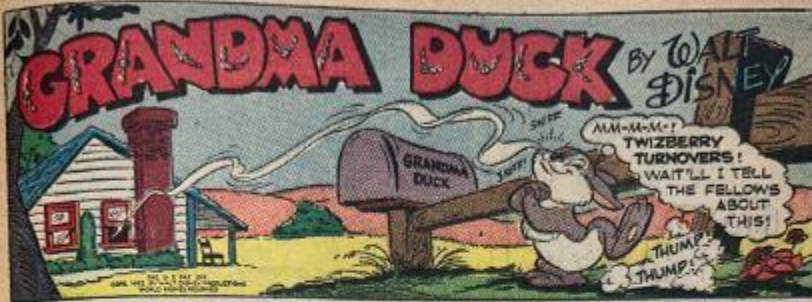
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BUT AT THE SAME MOMENT...



WHAT A TERRIBLE TIME THE ROOTZY-TOOTZY HOTEL MUST BE HAVING WHILE I, CHIEF CHEF EUSTACE J. EUSTACE, TAKE MY VACATION!



I EUSTACE J. EUSTACE AM THE WORLD'S GREATEST CULINARY GENIUS! THERE IS NOTHING ABOUT COOKING THAT I DON'T KNOW!

Y' SAY, SHE'S COOKIN' 'EM RIGHT NOW?



YOU BET! IN A FEW MINUTES I'LL BE CHOMPIN' THOSE LUSCIOUS BERRIES... CRUNCHIN' INTO THAT FLAKY BROWN CRUST!

AH! THOSE HEAVENLY, HEAVENLY, TWIZBERRY TURNOVERS! (SIGH!)



TWIZBERRY TURNOVERS? THAT'S SOMETHING EVEN I NEVER HEARD OF!



I'LL TRAIL THAT RABBIT AND GET THE RECIPE, BY HOOK OR CROOK!

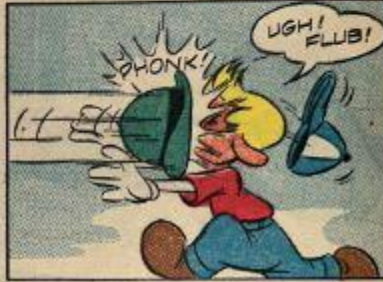
HOPES THERE'S ENOUGH FOR EVERYBODY!



ZUK-ZUK! THAT BE 'NUFF FLOUR, BRANNY!

LAND BAKES. YES! HOW ARE YOU COMING WITH THE EGGS, GUS GOOSE?





YOU'VE
GOT
A GOOD
IDEA...

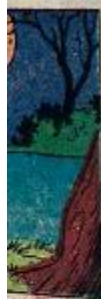


C'MON! WE CAN
PROBABLY EVEN SHOW
US WHERE TO FIND
THAT GOLD!

MAYBE
NOT!



HE'S OFF! HE'S
SWIMMIN' OUT TO
THE MIDDLE!
I'LL BET IT'S
OUT THERE!



WE'RE RICH!
I'LL GET
IT!



HEE, HEE! I
SAW IT! I
SNUCK
AROUND TO
SEE CE
FUN!



POP'S SO GREEDY,
HE DIDN'T NOTICE
THAT IT WAS THE MOON'S
REFLECTION... AND THE
TURTLE IS SAFE NOW!



BUT
AT THE
SAME
MOMENT...

WHAT A TERRIBLE TIME THE ROOTZY-
TOOTZY HOTEL
MUST BE HAVING
WHILE I, CHIEF
CHEF EUSTACE
J. EUSTACE, TAKE
MY VACATION!



YOU BET! IN A FEW MINUTES I'LL
BE CHOMPIN' THOSE LUSCIOUS
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AH! THOSE
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(SIGH!)



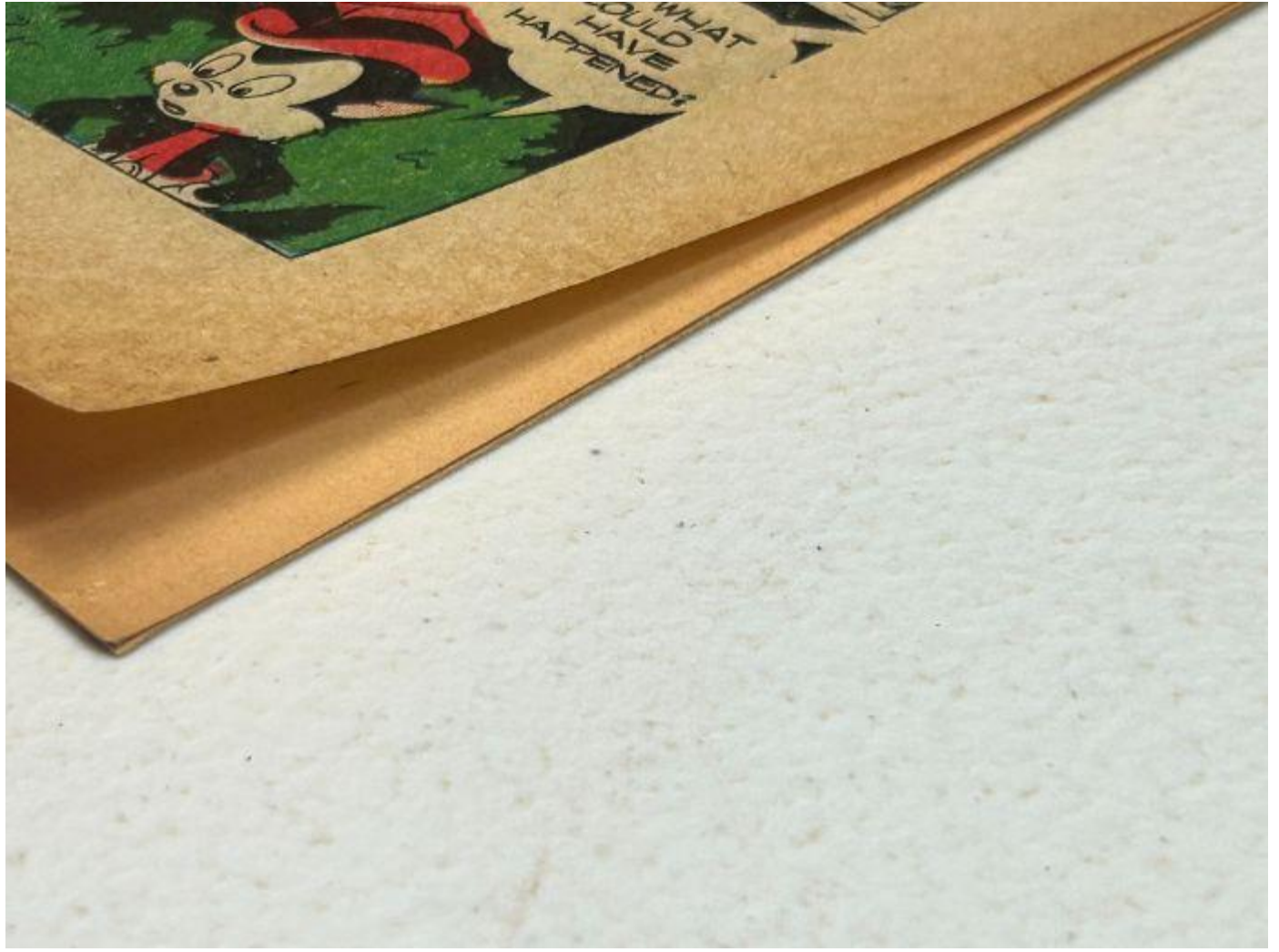
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HOPE THERE'S
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EVERYBODY!

ZUCK-
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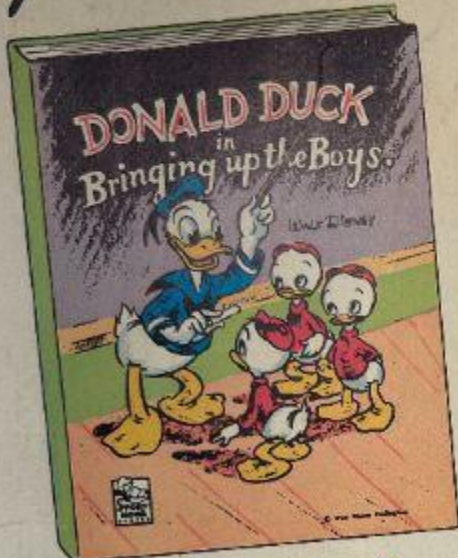


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