

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 4 No. 1  
(October 1943)

Evaluation Date: April 4, 2026



## SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS

This comic retains the front cover, back cover, centerfold, and all photographed interior pages. Overall presentation is notably strong for its early Golden Age publication date. The front cover retains visible surface gloss and strong color despite multiple defects. Interior pages are complete and readable with consistent age-related toning. The spine remains continuous and well aligned, showing characteristics consistent with a **single manufactured staple binding**, which appears original.

Condition issues are present across several areas. The front cover shows **multiple creases, edge chipping**, and **spine-adjacent stress**, with visible writing and abrasion near the spine. The back cover shows **small paper loss**, surface dirt, and localized soiling. One interior page exhibits a **folded corner with a tear along the fold**, while another interior page shows **small puncture-like defects**, visible as dark circular penetrations through the paper. The centerfold remains firmly attached and visually strong, with the staple clean and intact. The brittleness test shows retained flexibility for the tested page.

This issue is the **first issue of Volume 4 (October 1943)**, representing an early wartime-era installment of *Walt Disney's Comics and Stories*. First issues of early Golden Age volumes are widely recognized by collectors as historically significant anchor points within the series and are frequently sought independent of condition due to their age, scarcity, and placement at the start of a volume.

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# FRONT COVER — OBSERVATIONS

*Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 4 No. 1 (October 1943)*

## **Photo Condition & Quality:**

Image is sharp and evenly lit, showing the full cover with edges, corners, spine, and surface texture visible. Resolution is sufficient to evaluate gloss, creasing, writing, and edge wear.

## **Observations:**

- The cover depicts **Donald Duck** seated at a desk, with his nephews **Huey, Dewey, and Louie** nearby.
- Original cover colors remain strong, with visible surface gloss despite age.
- Multiple **vertical and diagonal creases** are visible across the cover, some showing color break.
- Along the outer (fore) edges, **edge chipping** is present, with shallow losses measuring approximately **2–5 mm** at several points.
- Near the spine, **abrasion and surface wear** are visible, including areas of exposed paper fibers.
- **Writing and doodle marks** are present on the cover, concentrated along the left half and near the spine, including hand-drawn shapes and words.
- Corners show moderate rounding; the lower corners display heavier wear than the upper corners.

## **Overall Impression:**

The front cover is visually appealing for its age but shows **significant handling wear**, including creasing, writing, and edge chipping.

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# BACK COVER — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 4 No. 1 (October 1943)

## Photo Condition & Quality:

Image is clear and evenly lit, fully framed with edges and corners visible.

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## Observations:

- Back cover shows **uniform age toning**.
- A **small area of paper loss** is visible, approximately **4–7 mm**, with irregular edges exposing lighter underlying paper.
- Surface dirt and soiling are present, including smudging and embedded grime.
- Writing is visible in the lower section, appearing as penciled or pen marks.
- No moisture tide lines or sharp stain boundaries observed.
- Corners show rounding consistent with handling.

## Overall Impression:

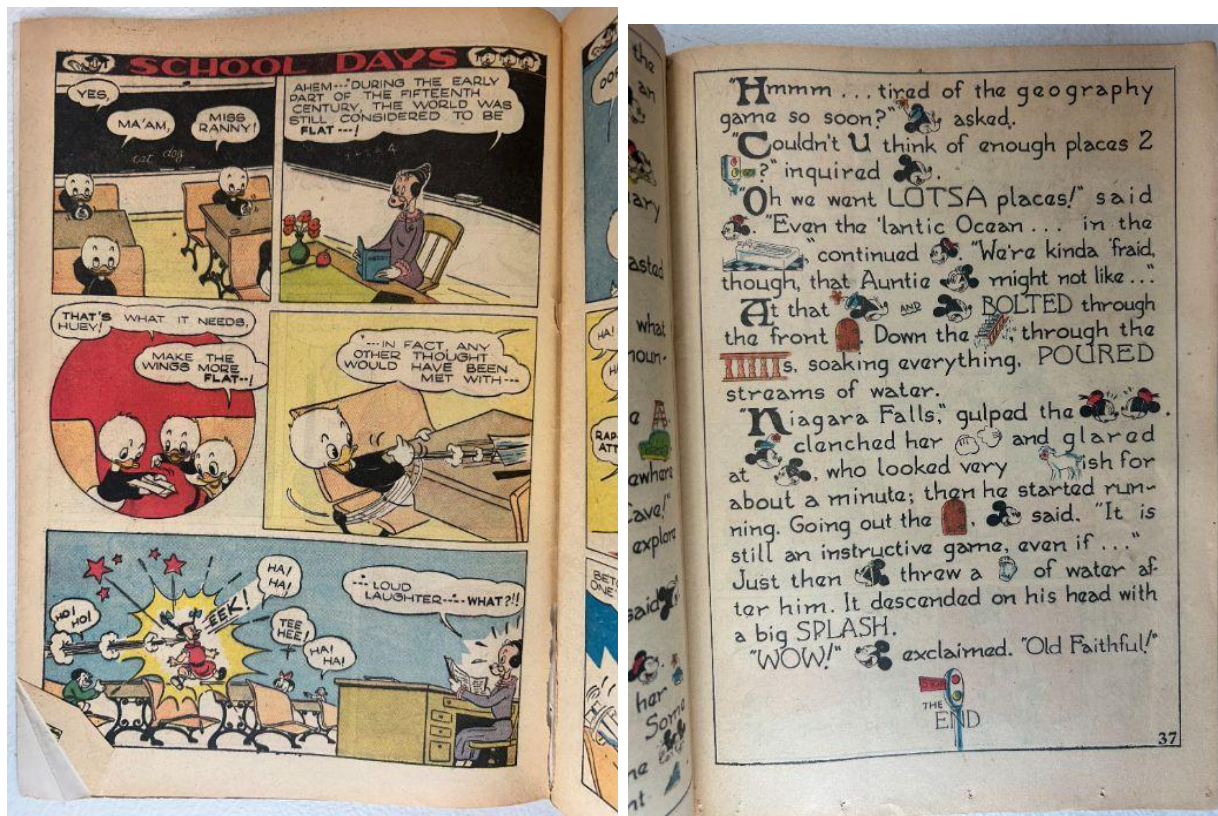
The back cover remains intact but is affected by **small paper loss, dirt, and writing**.

# INTERIOR PAGES — OBSERVATIONS

*Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 4 No. 1 (October 1943)*

## Photo Condition & Quality:

Images are sharp and evenly lit, showing full interior pages with margins, folds, and defects visible.





### Observations:

- Interior pages exhibit **tan to brownish paper coloration**, consistent with early Golden Age newsprint.
- Page toning appears uniform across photographed pages.
- One interior page shows a **folded corner**, with a **tear extending along the fold line**, measuring approximately **8–12 mm**.
- Another interior page shows **two small puncture-like holes**, approximately **2–3 mm in diameter**, penetrating through the page.
- Minor edge wear and small nicks are visible on some pages, without text loss in panels.
- No clipped panels or missing pages observed.
- **Indicia confirmation:** *Walt Disney's Comics and Stories, Vol. 4, No. 1, October 1943.*

### Overall Impression:

Interior pages are complete and readable, with **localized damage** including a folded-corner tear and punctures on individual pages.

# CENTERFOLD — OBSERVATIONS

Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 4 No. 1 (October 1943)

## Photo Condition & Quality:

Image is in focus and evenly lit, clearly showing both pages and the gutter.



### Observations:

- Centerfold remains fully attached.
- A **single manufactured staple** is present, straight, clean, and firmly seated.
- Surrounding paper shows no tearing, splitting, or stress at the fold.
- Fold line shows only light compression.

### Overall Impression:

The centerfold is **exceptionally well preserved** for the period.

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## SPINE — OBSERVATIONS

*Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 4 No. 1 (October 1943)*

### Photo Condition & Quality:

Spine image is sharp and well lit, showing full spine length.



### Observations:

- Spine remains continuous and well aligned.
- No spine splits observed.
- Wear is visible along the cover edges near the spine, but the binding itself remains intact.
- Single staple construction is clearly visible and original.

### Overall Impression:

The spine is **structurally strong**, with wear limited to adjacent cover material.

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# UPPER STAPLE — OBSERVATIONS

*Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 4 No. 1 (October 1943)*

## Photo Condition & Quality:

Macro image is clear and evenly lit.



## Observations:

- Single manufactured metal staple present.
- Staple shows **no rust or oxidation**.
- Surrounding paper remains intact with no discoloration or tearing.

## Overall Impression:

Upper staple is **excellent and original**.

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# LOWER STAPLE — OBSERVATIONS

*Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 4 No. 1 (October 1943)*

## **Photo Condition & Quality:**

Macro image is clear and properly framed.



## **Observations:**

- This issue uses a **single staple**, therefore no lower staple is present.
- No evidence of staple replacement or secondary fasteners observed.

## **Overall Impression:**

Binding configuration appears **original and complete**.

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# BRITTLENESS TEST — OBSERVATIONS

*Walt Disney's Comics and Stories – Vol. 4 No. 1 (October 1943)*

## **Photo Condition & Quality:**

Image shows a single interior page lifted above flat underlying pages.



## **Observations (confined to the lifted page):**

- Page bends in a **smooth arc** without cracking.
- No visible fiber fracture, flaking, or splitting observed at the bend.

## **Overall Impression:**

The tested page demonstrates **retained flexibility** for its age.