

MASTER 9/2/40

"BLONDIE"

MONDAY, APRIL 1, 1940

4:30 - 5:00 P.M. PST  
7:30 - 8:00 P.M. PST

GOODWIN:

Ah - Ah - Ah Don't Touch that  
dial - Light up a Camel  
cigarette - C - A - M - E - L  
and listen to Blondie!

ORCHESTRA: (THEME...EIGHT BARS...THEN UNDER FOR:)

GOODWIN: BEFORE WE DROP OVER TO THE BUMSTEAD HOUSE TO VISIT CHIC YOUNG'S FAMOUS CHARACTERS, "BLONDIE" AND "DAGWOOD," A WORD FROM THE MAKERS OF CAMEL CIGARETTES.

I THINK EVERY ONE OF YOU LISTENERS WHO SMOKE WILL AGREE THAT WHEN IT COMES TO CIGARETTES, THESE THREE FACTORS MAKE FOR MORE SMOKING PLEASURE. THEY ARE: MILDNESS, COOLNESS, AND FLAVOR. NOW LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT THE FACTS AND SEE HOW CAMEL CIGARETTES RATE IN THESE THREE IMPORTANT FACTORS. FIRST -- MILDNESS. WELL, COMMON SENSE TELLS YOU THAT A FAST, HOT-BURNING CIGARETTE WILL NOT SMOKE COMFORTABLY. BUT CAMELS ARE SLOW-BURNING... MILD AND MELLOW. CAMELS GIVE YOU EXTRA MILDNESS.

SECOND -- COOLNESS. YOU DON'T NEED TO BE AN EXPERT TO APPRECIATE THAT THE SLOWER A CIGARETTE BURNS, THE COOLER THE SMOKING. CAMELS GIVE YOU EXTRA COOLNESS. THIRD -- FLAVOR. FAST-BURNING CREATES HEAT...DESTROYS THE SUBTLE

(CONTINUED)

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GOODWIN:  
(Cont'd)

ELEMENTS OF FLAVOR AND AROMA. SLOW-BURNING PRESERVES  
FLAVOR AND LETS IT COME THROUGH. CAMELS GIVE YOU EXTRA  
FLAVOR! YES, SLOW-BURNING CAMELS GIVE SMOKERS EXTRA  
MILDNESS, EXTRA COOLNESS, AND EXTRA FLAVOR. AND EXTRA  
SMOKING, TOO -- MORE ACTUAL SMOKING PER CIGARETTE PER  
PACK. IN RECENT IMPARTIAL LABORATORY TESTS, CAMELS  
BURNED SLOWEST OF ALL -- TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT SLOWER  
THAN THE AVERAGE OF THE FIFTEEN OTHER OF THE  
LARGEST-SELLING BRANDS TESTED. THAT MEANS CAMELS GIVE  
A SMOKING PLUS EQUAL, ON THE AVERAGE, TO FIVE EXTRA  
SMOKES PER PACK.

GOODWIN: AND NOW IT'S TIME FOR OUR WEEKLY VISIT WITH THE BUMSTEADS.  
WE FIND BLONDIE IN HER SPOTLESS KITCHEN -- JUST PLACING A  
HUGE DISH OF FRESH BAKED COOKIES ON THE TABLE AND --  
(BABY...AWAY..."MOMMIE") HERE COMES BABY DUMPLING...

BABY: (COMING IN) MOMMIE -- LISTEN!

BLONDIE: YES, BABY DUMPLING?

BABY: WELL, I WAS JUST WONDERING -- THERE WAS A POOR LITTLE BOY  
AT OUR FRONT DOOR JUST NOW...

BLONDIE: A POOR BOY?

BABY: UHUH. HE WAS AWFUL HUNGRY! I WAS WONDERING IF WE COULD  
SPARE JUST A COUPLE OF ~~THESE~~ COOKIES FOR A HUNGRY BOY,  
MOMMIE?

BLONDIE: WHY OF COURSE WE CAN, DEAR! YOU BRING HIM AROUND TO THE  
BACK DOOR -- AND I'LL FILL HIS LITTLE HANDS WITH COOKIES.

BABY: (GOING) OKAY, MOMMIE! HE'LL BE AWFUL HAPPY.

BLONDIE: LET'S SEE -- I'LL GIVE HIM ONE OF THESE -- NO TWO OF  
THESE -- AND A COUPLE OF THESE FROSTED ONES -- POOR LITTLE  
FELLOW -- AND -- ER -- I GUESS WE CAN SPARE THREE OF THESE  
SUGAR COOKIES. (KNOCK ON DOOR) YES -- I'M COMING.  
(DOOR OPENS)

BABY: HELLO, MOMMIE!

BLONDIE: HERE ARE SOME COOKIES FOR -- WHY, BABY DUMPLING! YOU'RE  
ALL ALONE! WHERE'S THE LITTLE BOY WHO WAS SO HUNGRY?

BABY: WELL, MOMMIE -- ER -- I'M HIM!

BLONDIE: BABY DUMPLING BUMSTEAD! THE IDEA OF PLAYING SUCH A TRICK  
ON ME!

BABY: APRIL FOOL, MOMMIE!

BLONDIE: OH, APRIL FOOL, EH?

BABY: UHUH! APRIL FOOL. CAN I HAVE THOSE COOKIES NOW?

BLONDIE: APRIL FOOL -- NO YOU CAN'T.

BABY: AW!

BLONDIE: WELL -- NOT TIL' AFTER DINNER. THESE COOKIES ARE FOR YOUR FATHER, BECAUSE TODAY IS HIS BIRTHDAY.

BABY: WAS DADDY BORN TWICE, MOMMIE?

BLONDIE: WHY NO, DEAR. WHAT AN IDEA!

BABY: WELL, HOW DOES HE GET TO HAVE TWO BIRTHDAYS THEN?

BLONDIE: OH, DIDN'T I EVER TELL YOU ABOUT THAT?

BABY: NUH -- UH. WILL YOU TELL ME IN THE OTHER ROOM -- WHERE I CAN'T SMELL THOSE COOKIES?

BLONDIE: I DECLARE YOU HAVE A BIGGER APPETITE THAN YOUR FATHER. COME ON THEN...(SHE FADES ON THIS LINE)

BABY: (FADING, TOO) I BET WHEN I GET BIG AND HAVE A LITTLE BOY I'LL MAKE HIS MOTHER GIVE HIM COOKIES EVERY DAY.

BLONDIE: (COMING IN) I GUESS MRS. BABY DUMPLING WILL HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY ABOUT THAT! NOW SIT DOWN AND I'LL TELL YOU WHY YOUR DADDY HAS TWO BIRTHDAYS INSTEAD OF ONE.

BABY: (SIGHS) I HOPE IT TAKES MY MIND OFF COOKIES.

BLONDIE: ~~I HOPE SO, TOO!~~ WELL -- YOU SEE -- <sup>Daddy</sup> ~~SAGWOOD~~ WAS REALLY BORN IN LEAP YEAR.

BABY: UHUH. WHAT'S LEAP YEAR?

BLONDIE: OH, THAT'S A YEAR THAT COMES EVERY FOUR YEARS. IN LEAP YEAR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY HAS TWENTY-NINE DAYS INSTEAD OF TWENTY-EIGHT. WELL -- YOUR FATHER WAS BORN ON THE TWENTY-NINTH!

BABY: THAT WAS TOUGH.

BLONDIE: OF COURSE HIS FAMILY WANTED HIM TO HAVE A BIRTHDAY OFTENER THAN EVERY FOUR YEARS. SO THEY LET HIM PICK HIS OWN BIRTHDAY -- AND HE PICKED APRIL FIRST.

BABY: WHY DID HE PICK APRIL FOOL'S DAY, MOMMIE?

BLONDIE: I THINK IT WAS SO HE'D REMEMBER THAT IT WAS APRIL FOOL'S DAY AND NOT GET CAUGHT SO OFTEN. BUT IT DIDN'T DO ANY GOOD. HE ALWAYS GETS CAUGHT. (DOOR BELL)

BABY: I'LL GO TO THE DOOR, MOMMIE.

*Dithers:*  
BLONDIE: ~~WAIT! I'LL PEEK OUT THE WINDOW FIRST. WHY? WHY IT'S~~

*4ts* MR. DITHERS!

BABY:

~~HE'S COMING!~~ *(yell) were out in the kitchen.*  
*(call) were coming!*  
BLONDIE: BE POLITE, BABY. AFTER ALL HE'S DADDY'S BOSS.

BABY: OKAY, MOMMIE. (DOOR OPENS)

DITHERS: HELLO, BABY DUMPLING.

BABY: HI, MR. DITHERS. SAY -- WHAT'S THAT ON YOUR NECK?

DITHERS: HA? WHERE? I -- I DON'T FEEL ANYTHING ON MY NECK!

BABY: APRIL FOOL! IT'S YOUR OWN HEAD. (LAUGHS)

BLONDIE: BABY!

DITHERS: HA! THAT'S A GOOD ONE.

*well*  
BLONDIE: ~~COME RIGHT IN,~~ MR. DITHERS. THIS IS A NICE SURPRISE.

DITHERS: SURPRISE? DIDN'T DAGWOOD TELL YOU I WAS COMING FOR DINNER?

BLONDIE: WHY, NO! THIS -- THIS ISN'T ANOTHER JOKE IS IT?

DITHERS: IT BETTER NOT BE! DINNER IS NO JOKING MATTER.

BLONDIE: WELL, ALL I MEANT WAS -- DAGWOOD DIDN'T TELL ME AND -- DINNER ISN'T READY AND...

DITHERS: I KNOW. I CAME EARLY. WANTED TO LET YOU IN ON SOMETHING. LITTLE SURPRISE FOR DAGWOOD.

BLONDIE: DID HE TELL YOU IT WAS HIS BIRTHDAY?

DITHERS: SURE. THAT'S THE POINT. SO I ARRANGED THIS SURPRISE. NOW IF I TELL YOU WHAT IT IS -- WILL YOU AGREE NOT TO TELL HIM?

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BLONDIE: OF COURSE I WON'T SPOIL THE SURPRISE!

DITHERS: OKAY -- IT'S A WATCH!

BLONDIE: A WATCH! OH, HOW NICE! BUT YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT. THIS ISN'T HIS REAL BIRTHDAY YOU KNOW. JUST AN APRIL FOOL BIRTHDAY.

DITHERS: DON'T WORRY. THE WATCH IS APRIL FOOL, TOO.

BLONDIE: OH. ISN'T IT -- A GOOD WATCH?

DITHERS: CERTAINLY NOT! IT'S JUST FOR A LAUGH. LISTEN -- I MAKE A SPEECH SEE? LIKE THIS -- "IN RECOGNITION OF YOUR UNBROKEN RECORD FOR BEING LATE AT THE OFFICE -- I WANT TO PRESENT YOU WITH THIS LITTLE TOKEN. WHEN YOU OPEN THE BOX ...WATCH OUT BECAUSE TIME FLIES"... (LAUGHS)

BABY: WHAT'S FUNNY ABOUT THAT, MOMMIE?

BLONDIE: SSSSH, DEAR!

DITHERS: THEN COMES THE BIG LAUGH!

BABY: OH.

DITHERS: IT'S A TRICK WATCH, SEE? WHEN HE GOES TO LIFT IT OUT OF THE BOX -- IT BLOWS UP!

BLONDIE: BLOWS UP?

DITHERS: SURE. FLIES INTO A MILLION PIECES. IT'S A SCREAM! FELLER PULLED IT AT THE CIVIC CLUB THE OTHER DAY. I'M USING THE SAME WATCH.

BLONDIE: OH, CAN IT BE PUT TOGETHER AGAIN?

DITHERS: SURE. JORDAN THE JEWELER CAN FIX IT FOR THE NEXT FALL GUY. HE RENTS THE WATCH. I'M ON MY WAY TO HIS STORE NOW TO GET IT. NOW REMEMBER YOU GAVE ME YOUR PROMISE NOT TO TELL DAGWOOD.

BLONDIE: WELL -- ALL RIGHT, MR. DITHERS -- ONLY DAGWOOD DOESN'T UNDERSTAND JOKES LIKE THAT VERY WELL.

DITHERS: POPPYCOCK! HE'S GOT TO LEARN TO TAKE A RIBBING ONCE IN A WHILE. (DOOR OPENS) DON'T START DINNER TILL I GET BACK. I LAUGH BETTER ON A FULL STOMACH. (LAUGHS) (DOOR SHUTS)

BLONDIE: OH DEAR.

BABY: WHAT'S THE MATTER, MOMMIE?

BLONDIE: WELL, I'M A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT MR. DITHERS' JOKE. ~~DAGWOOD~~ <sup>Daddy</sup> HAS BEEN KIND OF HOPING HE'D GET A PRESENT FROM HIM. NOT SO MUCH FOR THE PRESENT AS TO KIND OF SHOW THAT THEY WERE FRIENDS. HE'LL BE SO HAPPY WHEN HE GETS THE WATCH AND THEN...WHEN HE FINDS OUT IT'S A JOKE -- I'M AFRAID IT WILL BE AN AWFUL LETDOWN!

BABY: CAN'T WE DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT, MOMMIE?

BLONDIE: I DON'T KNOW. WE CAN'T SEEM LIKE POOR SPORTS -- BUT -- I DON'T LIKE IT.

BABY: I BETCHA IF I THOUGHT <sup>among myself for</sup> A LONG TIME I COULD DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT...CAN I GO OUT AGAIN FOR A WHILE, MOMMIE?

BLONDIE: WELL -- YES, DEAR. BUT DON'T BE LATE FOR DINNER.

(DOOR OPENS) OH. HERE'S DADDY NOW.

DAGWOOD: (COMING IN) HI, BLONDIE! HI'YAH, BABY!

BLONDIE: HELLO DEAR! HAPPY BIRTHDAY AGAIN!

DAGWOOD: YEAH. THANKS.

BABY: HELLO DADDY. HAPPY APRIL FOOLS! G'BYE. (DOOR SHUTS)

DAGWOOD: WELL! THAT WAS SOON OVER. WHAT WAS HIS HURRY?

BLONDIE: HE'S GOING OUTSIDE TO THINK.

DAGWOOD: THINK ABOUT WHAT?

BLONDIE: OH -- APRIL FOOL JOKES, I GUESS. LOOK DAGWOOD. YOU -- YOU DON'T MIND MUCH IF PEOPLE PLAY JOKES ON YOU TODAY, DO YOU? EVEN IF IT IS SORT OF YOUR BIRTHDAY?

DAGWOOD: ME. NO!

BLONDIE: (TRYING TO PREPARE HIM WITHOUT BREAKING WORD) I MEAN -- NO MATTER WHO PLAYED THE JOKE ON YOU! YOU WOULDN'T FEEL REALLY BADLY, WOULD YOU?

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DAGWOOD: NO -- NO, HONEY! I CAN TAKE A JOKE! WHY I LIKE JOKES!  
(PHONE) OH -- THERE'S THE PHONE.

BLONDIE: MAYBE I'D BETTER TAKE IT.

DAGWOOD: NO, NO. IT MIGHT BE SOMEBODY WISHING ME HAPPY BIRTHDAY.  
(PHONE UP) HELLO?

VOICE: (FILTER) THIS IS MR. BELL OF THE TELEPHONE COMPANY.

~~DAGWOOD: MR. BUMSTEAD OF THE DITCHERS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY THIS END.~~

BLONDIE: IT IS A JOKE, DAGWOOD?

DAGWOOD: NO, NO, HONEY. (WHISPERS IMPORTANTLY) MR. BELL OF THE  
TELEPHONE COMPANY.

BLONDIE: MR. BELL? OH, DAGWOOD...

DAGWOOD: SHH, BLONDIE. (WHISPERS) THIS MAY BE IMPORTANT. MAYBE  
THEY CALL OLD SUBSCRIBERS ON THEIR BIRTHDAYS NOW AND WISH  
THEM...

VOICE: ARE YOU THERE, MR. BUMSTEAD?

DAGWOOD: ~~YEAH SURE.~~

BLONDIE: ~~BUT LISTEN, DAGWOOD... I THINK IT'S...~~

DAGWOOD: ~~PLEASE BLONDIE! GO AHEAD MR. BELL.~~

VOICE: ~~WELL -- WE'RE TESTING YOUR LINE.~~

DAGWOOD: ~~OK.~~

VOICE: ~~AS A PUBLIC SPIRITED CITIZEN, WE KNOW YOU'LL COOPERATE.~~

BLONDIE: ~~FOR THE LAST TIME, DAGWOOD...~~

DAGWOOD: ~~SSSH. I'M COOPERATING!~~ YES, MR. ~~BEL~~ -- I MEAN BELL...

VOICE: WILL YOU STAND BACK FROM YOUR PHONE ABOUT FIVE FEET,  
PLEASE?

DAGWOOD: SURE -- SURE! I AM.

cut on 12th show.

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VOICE: NOW WHISTLE!

DAGWOOD: GLAD TO! OF COURSE! READY?

VOICE: GO AHEAD.

DAGWOOD: (WHISTLES) (VERY EARNEST...NO TAKES OR GAGS)

VOICE: LOUDER.

DAGWOOD: (WHISTLES LOUDER) (TRYING HARD TO PLEASE)

VOICE: MY. YOU'D MAKE A LOVELY CANARY!

DAGWOOD: TOOOOOOH. (HANGS UP)

BLONDIE: WELL, DAGWOOD. I TRIED TO TELL YOU.

DAGWOOD: AW, I KNEW IT WAS A JOKE. I -- I DIDN'T WANT TO SPOIL HIS FUN. (PROP LAUGH -- THEN A SIGH) I'M GLAD EVERYBODY ELSE HAS SUCH A GOOD TIME ON MY BIRTHDAY.

BLONDIE: WELL, DON'T YOU CARE, DAGWOOD. I HAVE A NICE DINNER FOR YOU.

DAGWOOD: DINNER? WELL -- WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?

BLONDIE: WE CAN'T START DINNER WITHOUT MR. DITHERS.

DAGWOOD: MR. DITHERS? TOOOOOOH. THAT'S RIGHT. (TAKE) HEY -- HOW DID YOU FIND OUT HE WAS COMING?

BLONDIE: WHY -- ER -- (PHONE RINGS) I'LL GET IT.

DAGWOOD: NO. NO. PROBABLY FOR ME. IT'S MY BIRTHDAY YOU KNOW AND.. (PHONE UP) HELLO.

VOICE: (FILTER) GOOD EVENING, MR. BUMSTEAD, ~~MR. BUMSTEAD~~

~~MR. BUMSTEAD?~~

~~DAGWOOD: ON CLERK! DAGWOOD BUMSTEAD!~~

~~VOICE: I'M C. R. METER -- SERVICE DEPARTMENT -- MUNICIPAL LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY. ~~MR. BUMSTEAD ABOUT YOUR COMPLAINT OF EVEN DATE~~~~

~~DAGWOOD: WHAT COMPLAINT WAS THAT?~~

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VOICE: DIDN'T YOU INFORM US THAT THE STREET LIGHT IN FRONT OF  
YOUR HOUSE WAS NOT BURNING?

DAGWOOD: NO -- SOMEBODY PLAYED A JOKE ON YOU, I GUESS HA HA.

VOICE: NEVERTHELESS I'D LIKE TO BE SURE THAT THE RUMOR IS  
UNFOUNDED. ER -- IS THAT LIGHT BURNING?

DAGWOOD: I DIDN'T NOTICE.

VOICE: WOULD YOU MIND STEPPING TO A WINDOW AND ASCERTAINING IF THE  
STREET LAMP IN FRONT OF YOUR RESIDENCE IS LIGHTED?

DAGWOOD: WHY, NO SIR! NOT AT ALL! JUST A MINUTE... (LAYS PHONE  
DOWN)

BLONDIE: WHAT IS IT, DAGWOOD?

DAGWOOD: (WALKING ON THIS LINE) LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY, THEY'RE  
WORRIED ABOUT A STREET LIGHT OUT HERE. NOPE, IT'S OKAY.  
HELLO.

VOICE: YES? IS THE STREET LIGHT BURNING?

DAGWOOD: YEAH, SURE IT'S BURNING OKAY.

VOICE: WELL -- DON'T FORGET TO BLOW IT OUT BEFORE YOU GO TO BED..  
APRIL FOOL!

DAGWOOD: TOOOOOOH. (HANGS UP)

BLONDIE: NOW WHAT? DID THEY GET YOU AGAIN, DAGWOOD?

DAGWOOD: OH NO. NO. ER -- WHAT WERE WE TALKING ABOUT WHEN THE  
PHONE RANG? OH! DINNER!

BLONDIE: WHY DID YOU INVITE MR. DITHERS FOR DINNER TONIGHT, DAGWOOD?

DAGWOOD: IT WAS A MATTER OF PUNCTUATION.

BLONDIE: PUNCTUATION?

DAGWOOD: UHUH, SEE I JUST STARTED TO SAY "YOU MUST COME OUT TO THE  
HOUSE FOR DINNER -- COMMA -- SOME NIGHT SOON,

BLONDIE: WELL?

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DAGWOOD: WELL -- HE PUT A PERIOD AFTER DINNER -- AND BEFORE I COULD FINISH HE SAID HE'D BE OUT TONIGHT. (PHONE) I'LL TAKE THAT! THIS TIME I'LL SHOW 'EM WHO'S AN APRIL FOOL!  
(PHONE UP...HE YELLS) HELLO! LISTEN! FUN IS FUN BUT I'VE HAD ENOUGH NONSENSE FROM YOU!

DITHERS: (FILTER) BUMSTEAD!

DAGWOOD: TOOOOOOH. IT'S MR. DITHERS.

BLONDIE: (GLADLY) OH -- MAYBE HE CAN'T COME.

DAGWOOD: YEAH (TO PHONE) HE -- MAYBE YOU CAN'T COME, HUH?

DITHERS: NONSENSE, BUMSTEAD. I'LL BE THERE. LET ME TALK TO BLONDIE!

DAGWOOD: HE'S COMING BLONDIE. HE WANTS TO TALK TO YOU.

BLONDIE: HELLO, MR. DITHERS.

DITHERS: LISTEN, BLONDIE. I'LL BE A LITTLE LATE. JORDAN THE JEWELER HAD CLOSED HIS SHOP.

BLONDIE: WELL, I'M GLAD IN A WAY. YOU -- WON'T HAVE THE ER -- "TIME" THEN?

DITHERS: I'LL HAVE THE WATCH, DON'T WORRY. I MADE HIM SEND A CLERK DOWN TO OPEN UP AND LET ME GET IT. THEY CAN'T STOP J. C. DITHERS THAT EASY.

BLONDIE: OH -- WELL -- ALL RIGHT. WE'LL WAIT. G'BYE. (HANGS UP)

DAGWOOD: WHAT WON'T HE HAVE TIME FOR, BLONDIE?  
BLONDIE: NEVER MIND, DAGWOOD, I -- I PROMISED NOT TO TELL.  
DAGWOOD: (HAPPILY) OH -- A SURPRISE, EH? I TOLD MR. DITHERS  
IT WAS MY BIRTHDAY. GOLLY! I BET HE'S GOT SOMETHING  
FOR ME.  
BLONDIE: OH, DAGWOOD. DON'T -- DON'T EXPECT TOO MUCH, WILL YOU?  
DAGWOOD: NO, NO, HONEY. IT ISN'T THE GIFT -- IT'S THE THOUGHT  
THAT COUNTS. WELL, I DON'T MIND HOLDING DINNER AWHILE  
FOR GOOD OLD DITHERS...(GOING) I'LL JUST FIX A LITTLE  
SNACK TO KEEP MY STRENGTH WHILE I'M WAITING...  
BLONDIE: OH DEAR! I HOPE HE WON'T BE TOO DISAPPOINTED!  
MUSIC: (IN FOR BRIEF INTERLUDE)  
DITHERS: FINE DINNER, BLONDIE! PUTS ME IN GOOD HUMOR! HA HA!  
DAGWOOD: YEAH. ME TOO.  
BABY: NOW WE HAVE THE CAKE, HUH, MOMMIE?  
BLONDIE: YES...(GOING) I'LL GO BRING IN THE CAKE.  
DITHERS: ER -- BEFORE WE CUT THE CAKE! BABY DUMPLING -- YOU RUN  
OUT TO THE HALL CLOSET AND LOOK IN MY OVERCOAT POCKET!  
BRING ME THE LITTLE LEATHER BOX IN THE RIGHT HAND  
POCKET!  
BABY: CKAY. (GOING) DON'T EAT THE CAKE TILL I GET BACK...  
DAGWOOD: LITTLE LEATHER BOX, EH? HEH! HEH! EXCUSE ME,  
MR. DITHERS. I'LL JUST PUT OUT THE ELECTRIC LIGHTS.  
DITHERS: PUT 'EM OUT? WHY?  
DAGWOOD: THE CANDLES ON THE CAKE WILL LOOK BETTER BY THEMSELVES.  
WE CAN SEE ENOUGH TO...ER...WE CAN SEE ALL RIGHT BY  
THE CANDLES.  
BLONDIE: (COMING IN) HERE COMES THE CAKE! HAPPY BIRTHDAY,  
DAGWOOD.

DAGWOOD: OH BOY! LOOKIT THAT, MR. DITHERS.

DITHERS: YEAH! WHAT'S KEEPING BABY DUMPLING?

BABY: (COMING IN) HERE'S THE WA -- THE LEATHER BOX. BLOW OUT THE CANDLES AND MAKE A WISH, DADDY.

DITHERS: NOW WAIT A MINUTE! BEFORE YOU BLOW OUT THE CANDLES. I'VE GOT A WORD TO SAY.

DAGWOOD: (HAPPY AS A KING) QUIET! ALL! MR. DITHERS HAS A LEATHER -- I MEAN A WORD TO SAY. GO AHEAD, J. C.

DITHERS: WELL, DAGWOOD. "IN RECOGNITION OF YOUR UNBROKEN RECORD FOR BEING LATE AT THE OFFICE...I WANT TO PRESENT YOU WITH THIS LITTLE TOKEN."

DAGWOOD: (OVERCOME) WELL I -- I -- THANKS. ALL I CAN SAY IS THANKS, MR. DITHERS.

DITHERS: "WHEN YOU OPEN THE BOX WATCH OUT BECAUSE TIME FLIES."

DAGWOOD: SURE. I -- I'LL OPEN IT RIGHT NOW! (SNAP OF CLASP) OOOHH. BOY! LOOK, BLONDIE! A -- A WATCH!

DITHERS: PICK IT UP. LOOK IT OVER!

DAGWOOD: NOW I KNOW WHAT YOU DIDN'T HAVE TIME FOR! TO GET IT ENGRAVED! BUT THAT'S OKAY! IT'S A BEAUTY, ALL RIGHT.

DITHERS: TAKE IT OUT OF THE BOX.

BLONDIE: WAIT, DAGWOOD...I...

DAGWOOD: PICK IT UP? OH SURE...(PAUSE) THERE YOU ARE. IT CERTAINLY IS A SWELL WATCH!

BLONDIE: WHY, MR. DITHERS! IT DIDN'T -- IT DOESN'T -- ER --

DITHERS: I SEE IT DOESN'T. SOMETHING WRONG WITH IT.

DAGWOOD: NO -- NO! NOTHING WRONG! IT'S A HONEY.

DITHERS: LET ME SEE THAT WATCH! GIVE IT HERE...

DAGWOOD: SURE. CAREFUL NOW...I WOULDN'T WANT ANYTHING TO HAPPEN -- SO SOON.

DITHERS: WELL I WOULD. (TAPS WATCH ON TABLE)  
DAGWOOD: HEY LOOK OUT. DON'T KNOCK IT! (KNOCKS LOUDER)  
BABY: CUT THAT OUT!  
BLONDIE: BABY! SSSSSH.  
BABY: BUT HE'S TRYING TO BUST IT... (POUNDING OF WATCH SLOW)  
DAGWOOD: HEY!  
DITHERS: THAT'S MIGHTY FUNNY. IT OUGHT TO COME APART.  
(KNOCKS GROW FASTER)  
DAGWOOD: DON'T!  
BABY: NO!  
BLONDIE: LOOK OUT!  
DITHERS: (LOSING TEMPER) WON'T WORK, EH? I'LL MAKE IT WORK!  
(CRASH) THERE!  
DAGWOOD: TOOOOH! MY WATCH! SMASHED TO BITS!  
BABY: AW -- HE'S BUSTED IT!  
BLONDIE: HE CERTAINLY HAS! GLASS ALL OVER THE...  
DAGWOOD: A FINE THING! GIVE A MAN A WATCH AND THEN...  
(BELL...DOOR OPENS OFF)  
DITHERS: LISTEN...I'LL EXPLAIN THE WHOLE THING! IT WAS JUST A  
GAG THAT...  
DAGWOOD: A -- A GAG?  
JORDAN: (COMING IN) EXCUSE ME, MR. DITHERS!  
DAGWOOD: HEY, WHO'S THIS?  
BLONDIE: WHY, IT'S JORDAN THE JEWELER!  
JORDAN: EXCUSE ME FOR WALKING RIGHT IN...BUT I WAS EXCITED!  
DITHERS: YOU'RE EXCITED! LISTEN, JORDAN -- YOU'VE RUINED MY  
WHOLE EVENING.  
JORDAN: AM I TOO LATE FOR THE JOKE?

DITHERS: THE JOKE DIDN'T WORK!  
DAGWOOD: WHAT JOKE?  
BLONDIE: OH DAGWOOD -- I WANTED TO TELL YOU...  
JORDAN: LET ME EXPLAIN -- MY CLERK MADE A MISTAKE...HE DIDN'T  
GIVE YOU THE WATCH THAT COMES APART...  
DITHERS: HAH?  
JORDAN: NO. HERE IS THE TRICK WATCH!  
BLONDIE: THEN WHAT WAS THE WATCH MR. DITHERS BROKE?  
JORDAN: BROKE? WHERE IS IT?  
DAGWOOD: DOWN HERE ON THE FLOOR...SMASHED?  
JORDAN: SMASHED! MR. DITHERS, DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'VE DONE?  
DITHERS: B-BROKEN THE WRONG WATCH?  
JORDAN: YES, MR. DITHERS. YOU'VE DESTROYED THE BEST WATCH IN  
MY STORE. AND IT'S GOING TO COST YOU ONE HUNDRED AND  
FIFTY DOLLARS, MR. DITHERS!  
OMNES: (AD LIB) DITHERS: OOOOW!  
DAGWOOD: TOOOOH!  
BLONDIE: OH! MY!  
BABY: (A LITTLE LATE, BUT TOPPING THEM ALL:)

BAAAAAAAAAAAAAH!

*Music*  
(CENTRAL COMMERCIAL)

"BLONDIE" 14-A  
4/1/40

GOODWIN: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I HAVE A BURNING QUESTION TO PUT BEFORE YOU TONIGHT. AS A MATTER OF FACT, IT'S THE BURNING QUESTION ON CIGARETTES...DOES YOUR CIGARETTE BURN FAST? OR, IS YOUR CIGARETTE SLOW-BURNING? SMOKERS, BELIEVE ME, IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE THE WAY YOUR CIGARETTE BURNS. AND HERE'S A SOUND SCIENTIFIC EXPLANATION OF THAT DIFFERENCE. FAST-BURNING IN A CIGARETTE CREATES HEAT. AND NOTHING INTERFERES WITH MILDNESS, COOLNESS, AND FLAVOR LIKE THE EXCESS HEAT OF TOO-FAST BURNING. SLOW-BURNING, ON THE OTHER HAND, PRESERVES FLAVOR, LETS IT COME THROUGH IN THE SMOKING. AND, OF COURSE, THE SLOWER A CIGARETTE BURNS, THE COOLER AND Milder THE SMOKING. THAT, FRIENDS, IS WHY SMOKERS TURN TO CAMELS *cigarettes* CAMELS ARE SLOWER-BURNING. IN RECENT LABORATORY TESTS, CAMELS BURNED TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT SLOWER THAN THE AVERAGE OF THE FIFTEEN OTHER OF THE LARGEST-SELLING BRANDS TESTED...SLOWER THAN ANY OF THEM. THAT MEANS CAMELS GIVE A SMOKING PLUS EQUAL, ON THE AVERAGE, TO FIVE EXTRA SMOKES PER PACK.. SMOKERS WHO LIVE IN COMMUNITIES WHERE CERTAIN STATE CIGARETTE TAXES ARE IN EFFECT CAN SAVE THE COST OF THE TAX...AND IN SOME INSTANCES,..MORE...THROUGH SMOKING CAMELS. IF YOU LIVE IN A COMMUNITY WHERE THERE ARE NO ADDED TAXES ON CIGARETTES, THE SAVINGS ARE ALL YOURS. CAMELS ARE MADE FROM COSTLIER TOBACCOS...~~SMOKE~~ *and give you extra mildness, extra coolness* ~~MILD, EXTRA COOL,~~ EXTRA FLAVOR. AND AS I SAID BEFORE, GIVE EXTRA SMOKING EQUAL, ON THE AVERAGE, TO FIVE EXTRA SMOKES PER PACK. PENNY FOR PENNY, CAMELS ARE YOUR BEST CIGARETTE BUY.

*MUSIC*

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GOODWIN: AND NOW WE RETURN TO THE BUMSTEADS RINGSIDE WHERE  
DITHERS AND JORDAN THE JEWELER ARE TRYING TO OUTSHOUT  
EACH OTHER.

DITHERS: A HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS? PAH!

JORDAN: PAH TO YOU, MR. DITHERS. NOW LISTEN.

DITHERS: LISTEN TO WHAT? YOU'VE HAD THE FLOOR. NOW LET ME  
HAVE A WORD!

JORDAN: HAVE A THOUSAND WORDS! WHAT DOES IT GET YOU? YOU OWE  
ME ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS.

DITHERS: YEAH? TRY AND GET IT.

JORDAN: I'LL GET IT! DON'T WORRY!

DITHERS: I'M NOT WORRYING!

DAGWOOD: I AM!

BABY: SO AM I!

BLONDIE: SSSH, BABY.

BABY: BUT I GOT SOMETHING TO TELL YOU, MOMMIE!  
~~IT'S~~ IMPORTANT.

DAGWOOD: IT'LL KEEP, BABY. GOSH -- TOO MANY PEOPLE WANT TO  
TALK NOW!

DITHERS: A FINE JEWELER! WANTS ME TO PAY FOR HIS MISTAKES!

JORDAN: A FINE BUSINESS MAN! GIVES HIS FAITHFUL EMPLOYEES  
TRICK WATCHES.

BLONDIE: GENTLEMEN! THIS ISN'T GETTING US ANYWHERE.

BABY: MOMMIE. I WANT TO TELL YOU SOMETHING!

DAGWOOD: (YELLS IT) QUIET, BABY!

BABY: BAAAAAAAH!

DAGWOOD: WELL, I'M SORRY! BUT GOSH! MY NERVES!

"BLONDIE"  
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BLONDIE:           BABY! GO UPSTAIRS TO BED! YOU TOO, DAGWOOD.  
DAGWOOD:           ME? GO TO BED?  
BLONDIE:           I MEAN PUT BABY TO BED! I HAVE AN IDEA FOR  
                      SETTLING THE ~~DISPUTE~~. *argument*  
DAGWOOD:           WELL, OKAY. COME ON, BABY...  
BABY:                BUT I WANT TO TELL YOU SOMETHING.  
DAGWOOD:           TELL ME UPSTAIRS. COME ON NOW...  
BABY:                WELL, OKAY...(GOING) GOOD NIGHT, MOMMIE.

BLONDIE: SAY GOOD NIGHT TO THE COMPANY, BABY DUMPLING.

BABY: (AWAY) GOOD NIGHT ALL. I HOPE YOU GO HOME SOON.

DAGWOOD: (AWAY) BABY! SSSH.

BLONDIE: NOW GENTLEMEN. LET'S GET THIS THING STRAIGHTENED OUT.

DITHERS: I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ANY MORE ABOUT IT.

JORDAN: ALL I WANT TO HEAR IS DITHERS SAYING, "HERE'S YOUR CHECK."

DITHERS: PAH! *Pooh!*

BLONDIE: NO WAIT. AS I UNDERSTAND IT, MR. JORDAN, YOU WANT MR. DITHERS TO HAND YOU ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS.

JORDAN: NOT A PENNY LESS! DITHERS TAKES AN ARTICLE THAT BELONGS TO ME. HE SMASHES IT. ANY COURT IN THE LAND WILL GIVE ME DAMAGES TO THE EXTENT OF THE VALUE. ~~THE VALUE IS ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS, MARKED DOWN ON THE PRICE TAG.~~

BLONDIE: WELL, MR. DITHERS, THAT SOUNDS LIKE A STRONG CASE.

DITHERS: THINK SO?

BLONDIE: YES! YOU DID SMASH A WATCH. AND IT WASN'T YOURS. IT WOULD SOUND BAD IN COURT IF YOU REFUSED TO PAY ANYTHING FOR IT.

JORDAN: HAH! HEAR THAT DITHERS?

BLONDIE: BUT!

JORDAN: BUT?

DITHERS: BUT WHAT?

BLONDIE: BUT I'M WILLING TO HELP YOU OUT, MR. DITHERS. I'VE GOT A PROPOSITION TO MAKE. ~~I'LL GO IN WITH YOU WIN OR LOSE.~~ YOU PUT UP TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS, AND I'LL GET YOU OUT OF THIS.

JORDAN: FOR TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS? NOT A CHANCE.

DITHERS: IS THAT SO? I'VE SEEN BLONDIE GET OUT OF WORSE THAN THIS.  
I'M WITH YOU, BLONDIE.

JORDAN: OH YOU ARE? OKAY. (DEFIANT) LET ME SEE YOU GET HIM OUT  
OF IT, MRS. BUMSTEAD!

BLONDIE: ALL RIGHT, MR. JORDAN! HERE GOES! YOU SPOKE OF GOING TO  
LAW JUST NOW...

JORDAN: OH, YOU WANT TO GO TO LAW, EH?

BLONDIE: NO -- AND NEITHER DO YOU...BECAUSE, MR. JORDAN...WHILE YOU  
MIGHT MAKE MR. DITHERS LOOK -- WELL -- NOT VERY GENEROUS --

DITHERS: EH?

JORDAN: AHA!

BLONDIE: MR. DITHERS WILL MAKE YOU, MR. JORDAN, LOOK VERY VERY SILLY!

JORDAN: EH?

DITHERS: AHA!

BLONDIE: HOW WOULD IT SOUND IN COURT, MR. JORDAN, WHEN YOU HAD TO  
ADMIT THAT YOUR AGENT OR CLERK...DIDN'T KNOW THE DIFFERENCE  
BETWEEN A HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLAR GOLD WATCH AND AN APRIL  
FOOL WATCH THAT FALLS APART.

DITHERS: HEHEHEHE.

JORDAN: WELL -- I'M WILLING TO ARBITRATE.

BLONDIE: THANK YOU. NOW I'M GOING TO ASK YOU SOME QUESTIONS. YOU  
DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER...BUT I THINK YOU'D BETTER...BECAUSE  
THE ANSWERS ARE ALL ON YOUR BOOKS...AND A LAWYER COULD GET  
A COURT ORDER TO LOOK AT THOSE BOOKS.

JORDAN: YOU WANT TO KNOW PRICES?

BLONDIE: AND COSTS, TOO.

JORDAN: I'VE GOT NOTHING TO HIDE.

BLONDIE: GOOD! NOW WHAT IS THE PRICE OF THE TRICK WATCH?

JORDAN: WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH ANYTHING? THE WATCH THAT HE SMASHED IS ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS.

BLONDIE: YOU SAID YOU HAD NOTHING TO HIDE. WHAT DO YOU ASK FOR THE TRICK WATCH?

JORDAN: SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS

DITHERS: WHAT A ROBBER!

JORDAN: A ROBBER AM I! NOW I WILL GO TO LAW!

BLONDIE: WAIT. MR. DITHERS IF I'M GOING TO SETTLE THIS -- YOU'D BETTER LEAVE US ALONE.

DITHERS: HAH!

BLONDIE: PLEASE. GO OUT IN THE KITCHEN AND -- GET A DRINK OF WATER OR SOMETHING.

DITHERS: ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT (GOING) CALL ME WHEN JORDAN HOLLERS FOR HELP.

BLONDIE: MY. I'M GLAD YOU KEEP YOUR DIGNITY, MR. JORDAN.

JORDAN: NEVER MIND THE SOFT SOAP, MADAME. I'M WAITING FOR ANY FACTS YOU MAY HAVE THAT WILL MAKE ME TAKE LESS THAN ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS FOR THAT WATCH.

BLONDIE: ALL RIGHT, I'LL GIVE YOU FACTS. BUT FIRST -- WHY DO YOU VALUE THE TRICK WATCH SO HIGHLY?

JORDAN: IT'S A GOOD RENTAL PROPERTY. IN ONE YEAR I RENTED IT FIVE TIMES AT FIVE DOLLARS A TIME. SIX TIMES COUNTING DITHERS.

BLONDIE: I SEE. AND HOW MUCH DID YOU ACTUALLY PAY FOR THE TRICK WATCH?

JORDAN: THAT'S MY BUSINESS.

BLONDIE: I THOUGHT YOU HAD NOTHING TO HIDE?

JORDAN: WELL -- THE TRICK WATCH COST ME FIFTY DOLLARS. I ASK SEVENTY-FIVE BECAUSE I'M ENTITLED TO FIFTY PER CENT ON ANY SALE.

BLONDIE: THAT'S WHAT I WANTED TO KNOW. ~~YOUR PROFIT IS FIFTY PER CENT.~~ THAT WOULD MEAN THAT THE GOOD WATCH ONLY ACTUALLY COST YOU ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS?

JORDAN: WELL -- ER -- YES. I MIGHT SETTLE FOR THAT. BUT NOT A PENNY LESS.

BLONDIE: WELL -- WE'LL SEE. NOW GETTING BACK TO THE TRICK WATCH. IT COST YOU FIFTY DOLLARS, AND YOU'VE MADE TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS IN RENTALS ON IT. SO IF THAT WATCH GOT SMASHED THE REAL LOSS TO YOU WOULD BE JUST TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS. IS THAT RIGHT?

JORDAN: WELL -- YES.

BLONDIE: ALL RIGHT. MR. DITHERS HAS OFFERED TO SETTLE FOR TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS.

JORDAN: OH HE HAS! WELL IT WON'T WORK, MRS. BUMSTEAD! I'M GOING TO BE PAID FOR THE GOOD WATCH -- BECAUSE IT WAS THE GOOD WATCH THAT HE SMASHED!

BLONDIE: NOT IN THE EYES OF THE LAW.

JORDAN: EH? WHY NOT I'D LIKE TO KNOW?

BLONDIE: BECAUSE THAT WOULD BE LIKE SELLING A MAN SOMETHING HE DIDN'T ORDER -- DOESN'T WANT -- AND DOESN'T KNOW HE'S GETTING. THE LAW WON'T LET YOU DO THAT.

JORDAN: DON'T BE SILLY. A KID BROKE MY WINDOW ONCE. HIS FATHER DIDN'T ORDER THAT --- BUT YOU BET HE HAD TO PAY FOR IT.

BLONDIE: DID YOU SEND THE WINDOW TO THE BOY'S HOUSE AND ENCOURAGE HIM TO BREAK IT?

JORDAN: ARE YOU CRAZY? CERTAINLY NOT!

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BLONDIE: IF I WENT TO A WOOD YARD AND SET IT ON FIRE I'D BE IN TROUBLE, TOO. BUT SUPPOSE A MAN BROUGHT WOOD TO MY BACK YARD. WOOD I HADN'T ORDERED AND DIDN'T WANT. SUPPOSE HE SET IT ON FIRE. COULD HE SEND ME A BILL?

JORDAN: I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

BLONDIE: WELL, TAKE THIS EXAMPLE. YOUR WIFE GOES INTO A STORE WHERE THEY HAVE AN ORIGINAL GOWN FROM PARIS. VALUE THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS. THEY ALSO HAVE EXACT COPIES AT THIRTY DOLLARS A PIECE. YOUR WIFE ORDERS A COPY.

*ford. she better not buy it  
bl. she didn't*

JORDAN: WELL?

BLONDIE: WELL THE STORE MAKES A MISTAKE. THEY SEND HER THE ORIGINAL. SHE DIDN'T ORDER THAT -- DOESN'T WANT THAT -- DOESN'T KNOW SHE HAS IT. BUT SHE WEARS IT THINKING IT'S THE COPY. THEN SHE SPILLS INK ON IT.

JORDAN: SHE DOES? IS IT PAID FOR?

BLONDIE: YES, SHE PAID THIRTY DOLLARS. BUT THE STORE DISCOVERS THEIR MISTAKE. THEY BRING A COPY AND ASK FOR THE ORIGINAL BACK. IT'S SPOILED SO THEY BILL HER FOR THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS.

JORDAN: WHAT? I'D LIKE TO SEE THEM GET IT.

BLONDIE: I'M GLAD YOU SEE MY POINT.

JORDAN: BUT THE WATCH IS DIFFERENT.

BLONDIE: NOT A BIT. LISTEN. MR. DITHERS RENTED A WATCH. HE GOT WHAT HE THOUGHT WAS A TRICK WATCH. HE HAD EVERY RIGHT TO THINK THAT. HE DIDN'T ORDER -- WANT -- OR KNOW HE HAD A GOOD WATCH. HE PAID A RENTAL TO GET A COME-APART-WATCH! WHEN IT DIDN'T WORK THE WAY YOU TOLD HIM IT WOULD -- HE TRIED TO MAKE IT WORK.

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JORDAN: HE MADE IT COME APART ALL RIGHT.

BLONDIE: OF COURSE HE DID ~~AND HE HAD A RIGHT TO~~

HE'S PAID TO SEE IT COME APART. I AM NOT SURE HE COULD  
SUE YOU.

JORDAN: SUE ME? WHAT FOR?

BLONDIE: WELL HE HAD PAID YOU A SUM TO HAVE A LAUGH ON SOMEONE ELSE.  
INSTEAD THE LAUGH HAS BEEN ON HIM. IF I SAID YOU HAD MADE  
HIM VERY RIDICULOUS -- HE MIGHT GET DAMAGES.

JORDAN: I'VE HAD ENOUGH. YOU WIN!

BLONDIE: THANKS. (CALLS) YOU CAN COME IN NOW, MR. DITHERS. BRING  
THE TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS WITH YOU.

DITHERS: (COMING IN) HAH! SEEN THE LIGHT, EH, JORDAN? WELL --  
HERE'S YOUR TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS. (SIGHS) THAT'S A LOT TO  
PAY FOR AN APRIL FOOL JOKE.

JORDAN: OH, YOU THINK YOU'RE STUCK, EH? HOW ABOUT ME? I'M OUT  
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS.

DITHERS: YOU MEAN SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS. I HEARD YOU ADMIT THE  
BROKEN WATCH ONLY COST ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS.

JORDAN: WELL, THEN -- I'M OUT SEVENTY-FIVE. THAT'S FIFTY MORE  
THAN YOU ARE.

BLONDIE: BUT YOU'RE REALLY NOT OUT ANY MORE THAN MR. DITHERS.

JORDAN: OH, I'M NOT, EH? HOW DO YOU FIGGER THAT?

BLONDIE: WELL -- YOU STILL HAVE THE TRICK WATCH HAVEN'T YOU?

JORDAN: I'LL BE LUCKY IF I STILL HAVE IT WHEN I LEAVE HERE. BUT HOW  
DOES THAT MAKE ME LOSING NO MORE THAN DITHERS. HE'S ONLY  
OUT TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS.

BLONDIE: DON'T YOU SEE? IT'S PLAIN AS THE NOSE ON YOUR FACE. ~~FORGON~~  
~~MY MENTIONING THAT~~ LISTEN...

JORDAN: I'M LISTENING.



DITHERS: SO AM I.

BLONDIE: MR. JORDAN HAD TWO WATCHES. HE PAID FIFTY DOLLARS FOR ONE AND ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR THE OTHER. TOTAL ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS.

JORDAN: RIGHT.

BLONDIE: HE NOW HAS ONLY ONE WATCH. BUT HE VALUES IT AT SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS. HIS OWN FIGURE.

DITHERS: RIGHT.

BLONDIE: SO HE HAS SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS PLUS TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS HE MADE IN RENTALS ON IT -- THAT'S ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS, PLUS TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS, MR. DITHERS PAID HIM FOR IT, IS ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS, OR ONLY TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS LESS THAN HE PAID FOR BOTH WATCHES.

DITHERS: SHE'S RIGHT, JORDAN. WE'RE EVEN.

BLONDIE: THEN SHAKE HANDS.

JORDAN: I DON'T MIND. GOOD NIGHT. I'M GOING BEFORE SHE HAS ME OWING SOMEBODY MONEY.

BLONDIE: I'M GLAD YOU MENTIONED THAT. HOW ABOUT THE FIVE DOLLARS RENTAL, MR. DITHERS PAID?

DITHERS: EH?

JORDAN: WHAT?

BLONDIE: IT ISN'T FAIR TO RENT A MAN A THING THAT YOU ALSO SELL HIM AND WHICH HE NEVER GETS. YOU'VE GOT TO WATCH MR. JORDAN.

JORDAN: I'M GOING. I --- I THINK I'VE WORN OUT MY WELCOME HERE!  
(OPENS DOOR)

DITHERS: HEY, WAIT. SHE'S RIGHT AGAIN!. GIMME THAT FIVE!  
(DOOR SLAMS) I'LL GET HIM. (DOOR OPENS) COME BACK,  
JORDAN! (DOOR SLAMS)

BLONDIE: GOODNESS.

DAGWOOD: (COMING IN) HEY, BLONDIE! YOU KNOW WHAT?

BLONDIE: NO! WHAT DEAR?

DAGWOOD: BABY DUMPLING! COME IN HERE.

BABY: HERE I AM.

DAGWOOD: NOW TELL MOMIE WHAT YOU TOLD ~~ME~~ <sup>Daddy</sup> UPSTAIRS.

BABY: I WAS TRYING TO TELL EVERYBODY. DOWN HERE. IT'S JUST THAT I BOUGHT DADDY A WATCH, TOO.

BLONDIE: WHAT? HOW? WHERE?

DAGWOOD: HE TOOK MONEY OUT OF HIS PIG BANK! ALL HE HAD! SO I WOULDN'T BE DISAPPOINTED WHEN DITHERS PULLED HIS JOKE.

BLONDIE: WHY, BABY! THAT WAS SWEET!

BABY: I WENT TO THE TOY STORE AND BOUGHT A WATCH FOR TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTY-EIGHT PENNIES. IT WAS WORTH TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY PENNIES.

DAGWOOD: LIKE MOTHER LIKE SON. A BARGAINEER.

BLONDIE: WELL, WHERE IS THE WATCH YOU BOUGHT, BABY?

DAGWOOD: (LAUGHS) TELL HER, BABY!

BABY: MR. DITHERS BROKE IT.

BLONDIE: OH, NO, BABY.

DAGWOOD: OH YES, HE DID. SEE -- WHEN BABY WENT TO THE CLOTHES CLOSET TO GET THAT BOX FOR DITHERS, HE -- SWITCHED HIS WATCH FOR THE ONE IN DITHERS' POCKET.

BABY: SO THAT DADDY WOULDN'T HAVE A JOKE PLAYED ON HIM.

BLONDIE: WELL BLESS YOUR HEART.

DAGWOOD: I DON'T CARE IF I NEVER GET A WATCH -- WITH A SON LIKE THAT.

BLONDIE: BUT -- WAIT! THEN WHERE IS THE GOOD WATCH WE THOUGHT WAS BROKEN?

BABY: I'VE GOT IT, MOMMIE. RIGHT HERE, SEE?

BLONDIE: FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE! (DOOR OPENS)

DITHERS: (IN BREATHLESS) HE GOT AWAY FROM ME. HEY! WHAT'S THAT?

DAGWOOD: IT'S THE WATCH WE THOUGHT YOU BROKE. BABY SAVED IT.

DITHERS: EH? HOW?

BLONDIE: THERE WAS A LITTLE SKULDUGGERY IN THE CLOSET. IT WAS A WATCH BABY HAD BOUGHT HIS FATHER THAT YOU BROKE!

DITHERS: OH! IT WAS, EH?

BABY: IT TOOK ALL MY PENNIES TO BUY IT, TOO.

DITHERS: WELL, LET'S SEE ~~IF WE CAN'T FIX THAT~~. HOW MUCH WAS JORDAN OUT? TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS. OKAY, I'LL PAY HIM THAT AND I'LL OWN THIS WATCH.

BLONDIE: YOU'LL HAVE A BARGAIN TOO. FIFTY DOLLARS FOR A WATCH THAT RETAILS AT ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS.

DITHERS: YOU MEAN BABY WILL HAVE A BARGAIN? IT'S HIS. TO PAY FOR THE ONE I BROKE.

DAGWOOD: OH NO. THE DIFFERENCE IN PRICE! THAT'S TOO MUCH.

DITHERS: NO, DAGWOOD. I WON'T MISS FIFTY DOLLARS. BUT BABY'S WATCH COST HIM ALL HE HAD. I'M GETTING OFF EASY. HERE BABY.

BABY: THANKS. HERE DADDY.

DAGWOOD: EH?

DITHERS: SPEECH, BABY! SPEECH!

BABY: OKAY. HEY, DADDY -- ER -- IN RECKNITION OF YOUR UNBROKEN REC -- RECORD AS A GOOD DADDY -- I HEREBY PRES -- PRESENT YOU WITH THIS TOTEM OR SOMETHIN'. ANYHOW IT'S YOUR WATCH AN' HAPPY BIRTHDAY...

DITHERS: HAPPY BIRTHDAY.

BLONDIE: HAPPY BIRTHDAY! (MUSIC IN SOFTLY UNDER)

DAGWOOD: GOSH! ALL I CAN SAY IS...I....I HOPE EVERYBODY THAT EVER  
~~HAS A BIRTHDAY HAS AS GOOD ONES AS I HAVE, AND, AND...~~

BLONDIE: LET'S CUT THAT CAKE.

DAGWOOD: AND LET'S CUT THAT CAKE...

DITHERS: CAKE, AH!

BABY: CAKE!

DAGWOOD: CAKE! COME ON EVERYBODY. ~~LAST ONE AT THE TABLE IS AN  
APRIL FOOL!~~

MUSIC: (UP....SEGUE TO THEME)

(CLOSING)

Sing

Happy Birthday to you.

"BLONDIE" -27-  
4/1/40 (REVISED)

GOODWIN: WELL DAGWOOD'S BIRTHDAY ENDED HAPPILY DESPITE ALL THE APRIL FOOL JOKES THAT WERE PLAYED ON HIM -- SO JOIN THE "BUMSTEADS" AGAIN NEXT MONDAY WHEN THE MAKERS OF CAMEL CIGARETTES AGAIN BRING YOU PENNY SINGLETON AS BLONDIE AND ARTHUR LAKE AS DAGWOOD. LET ME ALSO SUGGEST THAT YOU LISTEN TO CAMELS' OTHER STAND-OUT SHOWS. ON SATURDAY THERE'S "LUNCHEON AT THE WALDORF" WITH ILKA CHASE. YOU'LL FIND IT A NEW HIGH IN DAYTIME ENTERTAINMENT -- ON SATURDAY NIGHT TUNE IN AND HEAR BOB CROSBY AND MILDRED BAILEY FEATURING MUSIC WITH A "HEARTBEAT." WELL, THAT'S A TIP FOR YOUR RADIO PLEASURE AND FOR YOUR SMOKING PLEASURE, TRY CAMELS. YOU'LL FIND MORE PLEASURE PER PUFF, MORE PUFFS PER PACK.

ORCHESTRA: (THEME....UP AND FADE FOR:)

GOODWIN: THE "BLONDIE" ORCHESTRA IS DIRECTED BY BILLY ARTZT, WHO ALSO CREATES THE SPECIAL MUSICAL EFFECTS.  
THIS IS BILL GOODWIN, SPEAKING FOR THE MAKERS OF CAMEL CIGARETTES....GOOD NIGHT.  
THIS IS THE COLUMBIA....BROADCASTING SYSTEM.

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