

# GASOLINE ALLEY

I WISH YOU  
BIRDS A HAPPY  
NEW YEAR,  
AND A LOT  
OF LUCK!

HEY,  
FELLOWS,  
I JUST  
GOT IT.

WHERE,  
SUNSHINE?

HERE,  
IN THE  
ARM.

READY  
WITH FIRST  
AID.

DID THE  
TOURNIQUET  
STOP THE  
BLEEDING?

I GUESS SO.  
I'M TRAVELING  
ALL RIGHT.

IT MUST  
HAVE BEEN  
A RIFLE  
SLUG.



HOW DO YOU FEEL AFTER GETTING THAT SLUG IN THE ARM, SUNSHINE?

AS IF I'D BEEN KICKED BY A MISSOURI MULE, THANK YOU.



CHEER UP, SUNSHINE. IT COULD HAVE BEEN WORSE.

ANYWAY, WE GOT THE AIR-STRIP AWAY FROM THE NAZIS.

THE COLONEL SAYS IT CAN BE PUT BACK IN USABLE SHAPE IN A COUPLE OF DAYS.



THAT BAD RIGHT HOOK OF YOURS IS GOIN' TO PUT A CRIMP IN THOSE YARNS YOU'RE SENDIN' OUT.

OH, I'LL PECK AWAY AS A SOUTHPAW AND GET BY.

**GASOLINE ALLEY**

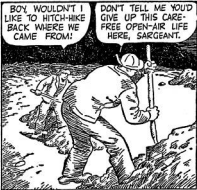
**Sitting It Out**

MAYBE YANK PLANES  
WILL LAND HERE WHEN  
WE GET THIS AIR-  
STRIP PATCHED UP.



BOY, WOULDN'T I  
LIKE TO HITCH-HIKE  
BACK WHERE WE  
CAME FROM!

DON'T TELL ME YOU'D  
GIVE UP THIS CARE-  
FREE OPEN-AIR LIFE  
HERE, SARGEANT.



TOO BAD I CANT  
BE IN THERE  
PITCHING, TOO,  
BLOKES!

YEAH! YOU PICKED  
JUST THE RIGHT  
TIME TO GET  
CREASED, SUNSHINE.





LOOK, SARGE!  
IT LOOKS  
LIKE ONE  
OF OURS!

AN' THEY'RE  
GIVIN' HIM THE  
COME-HITHER.



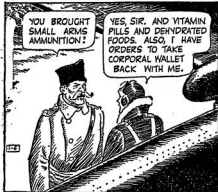
DO YOU  
SEE IT,  
TOO?

YEP.  
I GUESS  
IT'S A  
REAL ONE,  
CORP.



HI, YANK!  
I COULD  
BREAK DOWN  
AN' YODEL!

WHAT A SEARCH!  
ARE  
YOU BIRDS PLAYIN' HARD  
TO GET, WITH ME?



WHERE DO YOU GET SUCH A BREAK, CORP, GOIN' BACK WITH THE PLANE?

GEE, I DON'T KNOW! BUT IT'S ORDERS. AND, OF COURSE, I COULDN'T GO AGAINST ORDERS.

EVEN IF YOU'RE JUST DYIN' TO.

I'M SORRIER THAN YOU KNOW, SARGE, THAT YOU AND TINY ARE NOT COMING ALONG.

SAVE HERE! THE LIEUTENANT 'S TAKING ME, TOO.

NO HARD FEELIN'S, YOU LUGS. SO LONG!

LUCKY STIFFS!

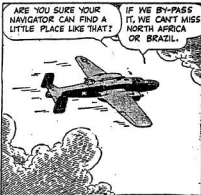
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT, LIEUTENANT!

YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE MENTIONED, WALLET. AND I'M ONLY TAKING SUNSHINE BECAUSE HE'S WOUNDED



WHERE ARE WE BOUND FOR, LIEUTENANT, OR IS IT A MILITARY SECRET?

NOT AT ALL, SUNSHINE. ITALY.



ARE YOU SURE YOUR NAVIGATOR CAN FIND A LITTLE PLACE LIKE THAT?

IF WE BY-PASS IT, WE CANT MISS NORTH AFRICA OR BRAZIL.



WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE DROPPED OFF, CORPORAL WALLET?

ANY ONE OF THE ORIGINAL THIRTEEN STATES WILL SUIT ME.

*King*



TIRED AFTER YOUR DAY AT THE FOUNDRY, NINA?

YES, JESSICA, BUT NOT TOO TIRED.



IT'S NICE THAT YOU CAN STAY WITH THE WALLETS. YOU PAY FOR YOUR BOARD AND ROOM, DON'T YOU?

OF COURSE. UNCLE NALT AND AUNTIE BLOSSOM ARE VERY KIND AND DO LOTS OF THINGS FOR ME.



YOU'RE SURE LUCKY.

YES, I AM. IF THERE'S ANYTHING WRONG WITH THE ARRANGEMENT, IT'S THAT THEY'RE TOO CAREFUL OF ME.



IT'D LIKE TO, JESSICA, BUT NOT TONIGHT. SOME OTHER TIME, MAYBE.... I KNOW, BUT I'M GOING TO STAY AT HOME AND READ.



JESSICA WANTED YOU TO GO OUT, I GATHER, NINA. THERE WERE TO BE BOYS ALONG, I SUPPOSE?

YES, THERE WERE.



YOU DID THE RIGHT THING. AND BESIDES, YOU CAN HAVE JUST AS GOOD A TIME RELAXING AND READING.

I THOUGHT YOU'D APPROVE, AUNTIE BLOSSOM.



OH, NINA! I WISH YOU HAD BEEN IN ON IT LAST NIGHT. WE HAD A SWELL TIME. TWO GIRLS AND THREE LIEUTENANTS. WE DANCED AT THE PAVILION UNTIL NEARLY ELEVEN!

IT WOULD HAVE BEEN NICE.

THEY ARE GRAND BOYS, AND GAVE US A LOT OF LAUGHS. WHY DON'T YOU EVER COME OUT? SKEEZIX WOULDN'T MIND.

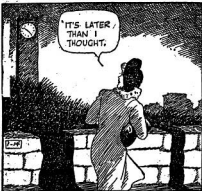
I'M SURE HE WOULDN'T, JESSICA.

I THINK I'M BEGINNING TO GET IT—WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT AUNTIE BLOSSOM—BEING TOO CAREFUL OF YOU.

SHE MEANS WELL, AND I DON'T WANT TO DO ANYTHING TO ANTAGONIZE HER.

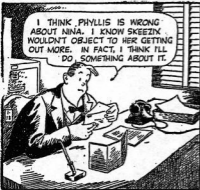










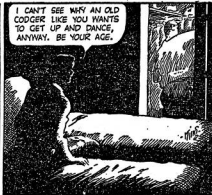


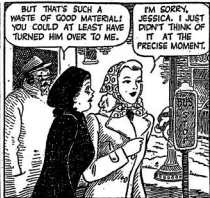
























UNCLE WALT, I'M AFRAID I GOT YOU IN WRONG WITH AUNTIE BLOSSOM THE OTHER NIGHT.

WHEN THE LIEUTENANT CUT IN ON OUR DANCING? IT WASN'T TOO SERIOUS.



ANYWAY, SHE BLAMED IT ALL ON ME, AND MY SHOULDERS ARE BROAD.

HE SEEMED LIKE A NICE PERSON. I HAVEN'T ANY IDEA WHO HE WAS — HAVE YOU?



NO, BUT I MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIND OUT.

DON'T YOU DO IT! IT WAS MERELY IDLE FEMININE CURIOSITY.



YES, THIS IS NINA... YOU HAVE? I'D LOVE TO HEAR ALL ABOUT HIM... SURE THING. COULD YOU COME OVER RIGHT NOW?



WAS THAT THE SOLDIER WHO HAS BEEN TRYING TO GET YOU ON THE PHONE, NINA?

IT WAS A SOLDIER AND HE HAS TRIED, AUNTIE BLOSSOM, AND HE'S COMING OVER.



GOODNESS, THIS ROOM IS A SIGHT! I DON'T APPROVE OF THIS LIEUTENANT'S COMING, YOU UNDERSTAND, BUT WE MUST TIDY UP.

HE ISN'T A LIEUTENANT. HE'S A PRIVATE.

I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU, WILMER. YOU'VE SEEN SKEEZIX ABROAD. TELL ME ALL ABOUT HIM.

NOT SO FAST ABOUT SKEEZIX, NINA.

UNCLE WALT AND AUNTIE BLOSSOM, THIS IS PRIVATE WILMER BOBBLE.

PLEASD TO MEET YA.

YOU USED TO WORK AT WUMPLE & CO. WITH SKEEZIX, DIDN'T YOU?

WON'T YOU SIT DOWN, MR. BOBBLE?

NO THANKS. NINA AN' I ARE GOIN OUT SOMEPLACE AN' SHOOT THE BREEZE.





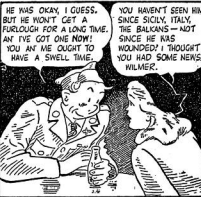
WHAT FOR DO YOU WANT TO HEAR ABOUT THIS GUY SKEEZIX, MNA? I FIGGERED MAYBE YOU'D FORGOT ALL ABOUT HIM BY NOW.

NOT A CHANCE, WILMER. AND YOU TOLD ME OVER THE PHONE THAT YOU'D SEEN HIM!



NOT SINCE HE WAS FLOPPIN' AROUND NORTH AFRICA HAVIN' A BIG TIME WITH THE NATIVE GALS.

I KNOW YOU'RE JOKING. HOW WAS HE LOOKING? WAS HE HOMESICK? WAS HE WORKING TOO HARD?



HE WAS OKAY, I GUESS. BUT HE WON'T GET A FURLOUGH FOR A LONG TIME. AN' I'VE GOT ONE NOW! YOU AN' ME OUGHT TO HAVE A SWELL TIME.

YOU HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE SICILY, ITALY, THE BALKANS — NOT SINCE HE WAS WOUNDED? I THOUGHT YOU HAD SOME NEWS, WILMER.



ME GOING OUT WITH WILMER BOBBLE! SKEEZIX WOULD TURN OVER IN HIS FOXHOLE IF HE KNEW IT.



WILMER IS SO IMPOSSIBLE, SKEEZIX COULDN'T BE JEALOUS. BUT HE'D RAVE! HE USED TO DETEST WILMER SO! I ONLY WENT TO HEAR NEWS OF SKEEZIX.



BUT WILMER DID INTRODUCE LEUT. GINGER! IT'S PUTTING THE "CART BEFORE THE HORSE" TO DANCE WITH HIM FIRST AND THEN BE INTRODUCED. BUT THE WORLD IS TOPSY-TURVY NOWADAYS ANYWAY.



IT WAS THE PROPER THING, NINA, TO HAVE YOUR SOLDIER FRIEND COME HERE TO THE HOUSE FOR YOU.

HOW DID YOU LIKE HIM, AUNTIE BLOSSOM?

HE SEEMED VERY NICE, AND OF COURSE HE WAS A FRIEND OF SKEEZIX. IT'S TOO BAD YOU COULDN'T HAVE STAYED RIGHT HERE AND VISITED.

WE JUST WENT OVER TO THE AJAX SODA FOUNTAIN AND TALKED ABOUT SKEEZIX.

MR. BOBBLE IS A PRIVATE, ISN'T HE? I THOUGHT IT WAS THE LIEUTENANT WHO WAS INTERESTED IN YOU.

I DIDN'T KNOW ANYBODY WAS INTERESTED IN ME - EXCEPT MY ONE AND ONLY.







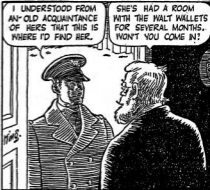
# GASOLINE ALLEY

# The Inquiring Lieutenant



I'M LIEUTENANT GINGER, SIR. IS THIS WHERE MISS NINA CLOCK LIVES?

THIS IS HER HOME, BUT SHE IS LIVING IN TOWN AND DOING WAR WORK IN A BRONZE FOUNDRY.



I UNDERSTOOD FROM AN OLD ACQUAINTANCE OF MINE THAT THIS IS WHERE I'D FIND HER.

SHE'S HAD A ROOM WITH THE WALT WALLETS FOR SEVERAL MONTHS. WON'T YOU COME IN?



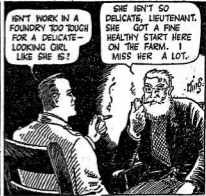
SO THIS IS WHERE YOUR DAUGHTER MINA GREY UP. YOU MUST BE PROUD OF HER, MR. CLOCK.

WE ARE, LIEUTENANT GINGER. SHE'S EXPECTING TO MARRY CORPORAL SKEEZIX WALLET WHO IS 'FIGHTING OVERSEAS.



AN OLDTIME FRIEND FROM AROUND HERE, I SUPPOSE. THAT'S THE TROUBLE. ALL THE NICE 'GIRLS I CAN FIND ARE SIGNED UP.

YES. THEY'VE BEEN GOING TOGETHER SINCE THEY WERE LITTLE TYKES. HE'S A FINE YOUNG CHAP.



ISN'T WORK IN A FOUNDRY TOO TOUGH FOR A DELICATE-LOOKING GIRL LIKE SHE IS?

SHE ISN'T SO DELICATE, LIEUTENANT. SHE GOT A FINE HEALTHY START HERE ON THE FARM. I MISS HER A LOT.



I'M LIEUT. GINGER.  
IS MISS NINA CLOCK  
IN? I HAVE A MESSAGE  
FROM HER FATHER.

I'LL SEE,  
LIEUTENANT.  
WON'T YOU  
COME IN?



THIS IS  
MISS CLOCK.  
LIEUTENANT  
GINGER.

YES, AUNTIE  
BLOSSOM. I HAVE  
MET THE  
LIEUTENANT BEFORE.



I JUST HAD A GOOD VISIT  
WITH YOUR FATHER, MISS CLOCK.  
HE SAID TO TELL YOU BESSIE'S  
CALF IS WELL AGAIN BUT TWO  
OF THE LITTLE PIGS DIED.



I KNOW WHO THAT  
MAN IS! HE'S THE  
OFFICER WHO CUT IN  
AND DANCED WITH  
NINA!





WALT! IT'S THAT OFFICER WHO DANCED WITH NINA. THEY'RE BOTH IN THE LIVING ROOM, NOW.

IT REALLY CAN'T BE AS SERIOUS AS YOU LOOK, PHYLLIS.



BUT, LIEUTENANT GINGER, HOW DID YOU EVER GET TO MEET AND TALK WITH FATHER?

THAT YOUNG PRIVATE, MILMER BOBBLE, SENT ME ON A WILD GOOSE CHASE. HE SAID THAT'S WHERE YOU LIVED.



WILD GOOSE? I LIKE THAT.

I'M SORRY! I DIDN'T MEAN IT, THAT WAY. WHEN ARE WE GOING TO CONTINUE OUR DANCE THAT HAS PRACTICALLY NIPPED IN THE BUD!

FEBRUARY 14TH, SKEEZIX'S BIRTHDAY. HE IS 23 YEARS OLD. AND ON TODAY, OF ALL DAYS, HE IS THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY.



I HAVE NO WORD OF RECENT DANGERS HE HAS FACED, OF BOMBS AND BULLETS, OF FREEZING COLD, OF LURKING DISEASE. I CAN ONLY GUESS HIS OCCASIONAL SATISFACTIONS, WARM RATIONS, A LETTER, A DRY PLACE TO SLEEP.



HE HAS HIS DREAMS AND I FEEL THAT I AM PART OF THEM. FAITH ALONE TELLS ME THAT HE WILL COME BACK TO ME. TODAY, THIS IS MY VALENTINE.





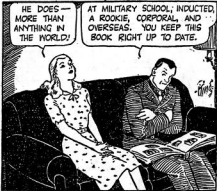
THAT'S A SNAPSHOT OF SKEEZIX AND ME AT THE CLASS PICNIC, LIEUT. GINGER.

A KEEN LOOKING COUPLE, I'D SAY.



AND THIS WAS THE DAY WE BOTH GRADUATED!

HE REALLY MEANS A LOT TO YOU, DOESN'T HE, MISS CLOCK?



HE DOES — MORE THAN ANYTHING IN THE WORLD!

AT MILITARY SCHOOL; INDUCTED, A ROOKIE, CORPORAL, AND OVERSEAS. YOU KEEP THIS BOOK RIGHT UP TO DATE.









YOU KNOW, WALT,  
LIEUT. GINGER SEEMS  
TO BE A MIGHTY  
NICE PERSON.

HE'S A  
CLEAN CUT  
CHAP,  
PHYLLIS.



I'VE REALLY  
CHANGED  
MY MIND  
SINCE HE  
CUT IN  
AND DANCED  
WITH NINA.

THAT  
OUGHT TO  
LET ME  
OUT— FOR  
PERMITTING  
HIM TO.



THEY LET US IN ON  
THINGS AND DON'T  
GO TRAIPSING OFF  
TO NIGHT-CLUBS  
AND PLACES.

I THINK IT'S  
KEEPING BOTH OF  
THEM FROM  
BEING LONESOME.

GOSH, MOM, YOU DON'T KNOW HOW SMELL COMING HERE HAS BEEN! YOU DON'T MIND MY CALLING YOU MOM, DO YOU?

IT'S ALL RIGHT IF YOU WANT TO, LIEUTENANT.

AND DON'T CALL ME LIEUTENANT, I HEAR THAT ALL DAY. CALL ME GING. EVERYBODY DOES.

THAT DOES SOUND A BIT LESS FORMAL— GING.

I LIKE TO CALL YOU MOM BECAUSE YOU REMIND ME OF MY MOTHER— COMPETENT, PRETTY, UNDERSTANDING, GENTLE.

IT IS KIND OF YOU, GING, BUT YOU'RE JUST BEING NICE TO ME.





THAT LIEUTENANT IS AT THE WALLETS AGAIN, AVERY.



AND HE AND NINA AND WALT AND PHYLLIS ARE PILING INTO HIS CAR. EMILY.

WHERE WOULD HE TAKE THE WHOLE FAMILY?



I WONDER WHERE SKEEZIX GETS OFF IN ALL THIS.

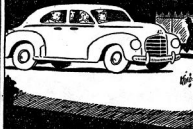
IT LOOKS SERIOUS TO ME.

THANKS A LOT FOR THE MOVIE, MR. WALLET.

I'M GLAD YOU GOT A KICK OUT OF IT, LIEUT. GINGER.

IT'S 50-50. YOU'RE FURNISHING THE TRANSPORTATION, LIEUTENANT.

WHAT BETTER WAY CAN I USE A QUART OF GAS?

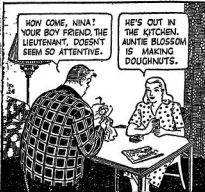


WON'T YOU COME IN, LIEUTENANT!

NOT TONIGHT, THANK YOU. YOU FOLKS GO TO WORK EARLY IN THE MORNING BUT I'LL BE DROPPING IN.







HOW COME, NINA?  
YOUR BOY FRIEND, THE  
LIEUTENANT, DOESN'T  
SEEM SO ATTENTIVE.

HE'S OUT IN  
THE KITCHEN.  
AUNTIE BLOSSOM  
IS MAKING  
DOUGHNUTS.



YOU'D BETTER LOOK  
OUT. SHE MAY BE  
CUTTING IN ON YOU.

HE ISN'T MY  
BOY FRIEND.  
I HAVE  
NOTHING  
TO LOSE.



BUT YOU'D  
BETTER BEGIN  
TO WORRY,  
UNCLE MALT.  
MAYBE HE'S  
CUTTING IN  
ON YOU!



PERHAPS I'D BETTER  
GO AND BREAK IT UP.  
BESIDES, I'D LIKE A  
DOUGHNUT, MYSELF.

MOM, YOU DONT MIND IF NINA AND I GO OUT TO A DANCE, DO YOU?

WELL, BE REASONABLE. COME HOME EARLY.



I MAY BE SENT INTO FOREIGN SERVICE SUDDENLY, NINA. I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT KNOWING YOU HAS MEANT A GREAT DEAL TO ME.

IVE ENJOYED YOU, TOO, LIEUTENANT.



DONT, NINA! CALL ME GING. I ONLY WISH CONDITIONS WERE AS THEY SHOULD BE. THAT TIMES WERE NORMAL. THEN—

THEN YOU'D GO BACK HOME AND MARRY YOUR GIRL THERE. AND ID MARRY MY SKEEZIX. SIMPLE, ISNT IT?





AS THINGS GO NOWADAYS, NINA, WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER A LONG TIME. I THINK I RATE A GOOD-NIGHT KISS.

WHAT OF THE GIRL BACK HOME, GING, WHOSE PICTURE YOU CARRY IN YOUR WALLET?

I'LL TELL YOU SOMETHING! WE'RE NOT ENGAGED. SHE'S NOT EVEN IMPORTANT—NOW.

NOT IMPORTANT? SHE MUST BE IMPORTANT! IF SHE ISN'T, THAT CHANGES EVERYTHING.

HOW DO YOU MEAN, HONEY?

IT MEANS THAT 'SKEEZIX IS BETWEEN ME AND YOU, AS HE HAS ALWAYS BEEN. BUT THERE IS NOBODY BETWEEN YOU AND ME!

1-18



NO, GING. DON'T COME....JUST BECAUSE IT'S BETTER THAT WAY, THAT'S ALL... YES, I'M SURE OF IT.



IF I SEE HIM, THINGS WILL BE WORSE, INSTEAD OF BETTER, AS HE PROMISES.



NINA, WILL YOU SEE WHO'S AT THE DOOR?



GING! I TOLD YOU NOT TO COME.

I'M NOT HERE TO SEE YOU, NINA. I CAME TO SEE MOM.



YOU'VE GOT TO HELP ME, MOM. NINA DOESN'T WANT TO SEE ME— BECAUSE I TRIED TO KISS HER SATURDAY NIGHT.

SHE HAS TOLD ME YOUR RELATIONS WERE FRIENDLY ONLY, GING. WHY DID YOU HAVE TO TRY TO KISS HER?

YOU WOULDN'T KNOW, BUT I CAN'T IMAGINE ANY MAN BEING WITH HER AND NOT WANTING TO KISS HER.

YOU KNOW SHE IS ENGAGED TO SKEEZIX.

YOU DON'T NEED TO TELL ME. SHE REMINDS ME, OFTEN ENOUGH. TELL HER I'M WILLING TO GO ALONG ON A STRICTLY FRIENDLY LEVEL IF SHE'LL TALK TO ME. WILL YOU?





NINA!  
JUST A  
MINUTE.

YOU TOLD ME YOU  
CAME TO SEE  
AUNTIE BLOSSOM.



TAKE A WALK AROUND THE  
BLOCK WITH ME. I WON'T  
TRY TO KISS YOU OR TOUCH  
YOU. I JUST WANT TO TALK.

YOU CAN TELL  
ME RIGHT HERE  
WHAT YOU HAVE  
TO SAY.



ALL RIGHT. IT'S NO  
CRIME TO WANT TO KISS  
YOU, AND TELLING YOU  
SO IS NO GROUNDS  
FOR YOU TO DISLIKE ME.

I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING  
ABOUT DISLIKING YOU,  
GING. BUT IT DID  
VIOLATE OUR AGREEMENT  
THAT WE WOULD BE  
ONLY GOOD FRIENDS.



I ADMIRE YOU FOR YOUR LOYALTY, NINA. BUT BLIND LOYALTY MIGHT WORK AGAINST THE INTERESTS OF YOURSELF AND EVERYBODY—EVEN SKEEZIX.

I KNOW HE IS LOYAL TO ME, AND I'LL BE LOYAL TO HIM.

I SAID THAT PERHAPS YOUR LOYALTY WAS A HABIT. DID YOU EVER THINK THAT HIS MIGHT BE A HABIT, TOO?

I DON'T CARE IF IT IS. WHAT MATTERS IS THAT HE HAS IT FOR ME.

LOYALTY WITHOUT LOVE IS A DOUBTFUL VIRTUE. I CAN GIVE YOU BOTH.

GMC, YOU'RE GETTING NOWHERE. YOU ARE WASTING YOUR TIME, TRYING TO MINIMIZE SKEEZIX'S LOVE FOR ME OR MINE FOR HIM.



GING, AS ONE WHO IS SAFE ON THIS SIDE OF THE WATER, TO THINK YOU'D BE A LITTLE ASHAMED OF TRYING TO CUT IN ON A BOY WHO HAS FOR MONTHS BEEN RISKING HIS LIFE OVERSEAS.

ALL IS FAIR IN LOVE AND WAR - AND THIS IS LOVE AND WAR, NINA.



'SKEEZIX' IS DOING HIS DUTY THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY FROM EVERYTHING AND EVERYBODY HE LOVES. AND HE IS EXPECTING ME TO BE THE SAME WHEN HE COMES HOME AS WHEN HE LEFT.



MY IDEA OF LOYALTY IS DIFFERENT FROM YOURS. HE WENT AWAY TRUSTING ME, AND I WOULDN'T LET HIM DOWN, NOT IF I LOVED HIM ONLY HALF AS MUCH AS I DO!



PERHAPS I WAS KIND OF  
ROUGH ON GING. BUT  
HE HAD IT COMING.

I'M ENGAGED, AND HE KNOWS  
IT. HE HAS PROMISED TIME  
AND AGAIN TO KEEP THINGS  
ON A FRIENDLY BASIS.

I DON'T WANT HIM AROUND,  
ANY MORE. HE TRIED TO  
WEDGE IN BETWEEN ME AND  
'SKEEZIX. I'M GLAD I TOLD  
HIM OFF AS I DID, BECAUSE—

BECAUSE I WAS  
REALLY BEGINNING  
TO LIKE HIM.







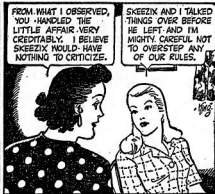
IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT BETWEEN YOU AND GING, NINA? I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM AROUND.

I WAS RATHER FRANK WITH HIM, AUNTIE BLOSSOM. PERHAPS HE COULDN'T TAKE IT.



I WAS GLAD TO HAVE HIM COME, AND YOU SEEMED SENSIBLE IN YOUR ATTITUDE TOWARD EACH OTHER.

HE WAS A BIT DIFFICULT AT TIMES. BUT HE MANAGED.



FROM WHAT I OBSERVED, YOU HANDLED THE LITTLE AFFAIR VERY CREDITABLY. I BELIEVE SKEEZIX WOULD HAVE NOTHING TO CRITICIZE.

SKEEZIX AND I TALKED THINGS OVER BEFORE HE LEFT AND I'M MIGHTY CAREFUL NOT TO OVERSTEP ANY OF OUR RULES.

Dearest Nipa: I got three letters from you all at once! I inclose a snapshot. Please note that something new has been added!



Where am I? I can't say. What am I doing? I'd be censored if I told. Just know that wherever I am



I am loving you more each day, and dreaming of the moment I can really see, hear and touch you.

This job is tedious, uncomfortable and wears you down. The only stars in a dark sky are the thoughts of the day when you and I will start in where we left off, and live our own lives together.

Such is the hope and faith of yours alone, Sheepix.

\* \* \* \* \*



WHAT OF THE LIEUTENANT, MINA? I HAVEN'T HEARD A WORD ABOUT HIM THIS WEEK.

OH, I SENT HIM ON HIS WAY!



THAT'S CRIMINAL, WASTING GOOD MATERIAL DURING SUCH A SCARCITY!

I'D HAVE BEEN GLAD TO TURN HIM OVER TO YOU, JESSICA, BUT IT'S TOO LATE NOW.



BUT I'LL TELL YOU WHAT! YOU COME ON OVER TOMORROW NIGHT, AND I'LL ARRANGE A CONSOLATION PRIZE.

GLORIOUS, MINA! YOU'RE A REAL PAL!



I CAME EARLY, NINA, I DIDN'T WANT TO MISS ANYTHING.

YOUR CONSOLATION PRIZE WILL BE ALONG SOON. I GAVE YOU A GOOD BUILD-UP, JESSICA.



JESSICA, THIS IS PRIVATE WILMER BOBBLE, FRESH FROM ADVENTURES OVERSEAS.

PLEASED TO MEET YA.



AN' THEN THEY COME AT ME, ALL SIX OF 'EM. AN' DID I LET 'EM HAVE IT! IF I HADN'T STOPPED 'EM ALL RIGHT IN THEIR TRACKS, I WOULDN'T BE HERE TO TELL THIS STORY.

GOLLY, JESSICA, I  
CAME OVER TO SEE NINA  
AND THERE YOU WAS!  
WAS THAT A BREAK!

YOU FLATTER  
ME, WILMER.

FLATTER? HECK,  
NO. YOU'RE THE  
LITTLE NUMBER I  
BEEN LOOKIN' FOR!

I THINK  
YOU'RE  
SPOOFING  
ME.

I WAS IN THE ARMY  
SO LONG. ANY DAME  
WOULD LOOK GOOD.  
BUT, YOU! OH, BOY!

YOU SAY  
SUCH NICE  
THINGS,  
WILMER!



I SUPPOSE IT WAS A DIRTY TRICK, MY INTRODUCING WILMER TO JESSICA. HE'S SUCH A BORE.



SHE'S CRAZY ABOUT SOLDIERS AND WOULD LOVE TO HAVE ONE OF HER OWN.



WILMER IS A HORRIBLE EXAMPLE, BUT SHE'LL GATHER ENOUGH FROM HIM TO KNOW SHE'D BETTER BE PRETTY CHOOSY.



SHE ISN'T WILMER'S TYPE AND HE SURELY ISN'T HERS. SO, NO HARM DONE.





# GASOLINE ALLEY



YOU KNOW, WILMER, I USED TO FEEL AWFULLY LONESOME WHEN I'D SEE SOLDIERS AND SAILORS WITH THEIR GIRLS.

HECK, I HAD PLENTY GALS, BUT I WAS LONESOME FOR THE RIGHT ONE!

# Man of the World



YOU MEAN — MAYBE I'M THE RIGHT ONE?

I AIN'T HAD ONE THAT HIT ME RIGHT BETWEEN THE EYES LIKE YOU DID, JESSICA.



I HAD A CHANCE TO GO OUT WITH A YOUNG SQUIRT WHO'D JUST BEEN INDUCTED. BUT YOU'VE BEEN OVERSEAS!

YEP, I HAVE BEEN AROUND, SUGAR!



NO, LET'S NOT GO TO THE DRUGSTORE FOR A SANDWICH. LET'S GO TO THE NIFTY CAFE, WHERE THEY HAVE REAL FOOD AND MUSIC.

THAT WOULD BE KEEN, BUT I COULDN'T AFFORD IT.

THAT'S ALL RIGHT, MILMER. I'M MAKING GOOD MONEY. THIS WILL BE ON ME. AND YOU DON'T NEED TO FEEL BACKWARD ABOUT IT.

I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE YOU TO A NICE PLACE, JESSICA.

HERE'S FIVE DOLLARS. YOU PAY THE CHECK AND NOBODY WILL KNOW THE DIFFERENCE.

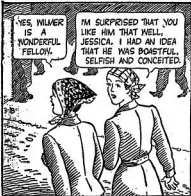
SWELL. I'LL GET BACK AT YOU WHEN PAYDAY COMES AROUND.

By the author of "The Millionaire" and "The Millionaire's Daughter"

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YES, WILMER IS A WONDERFUL FELLOW.

I'M SURPRISED THAT YOU LIKE HIM THAT WELL, JESSICA. I HAD AN IDEA THAT HE WAS BOASTFUL, SELFISH AND CONCEITED.



YOU JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND HIM, NINA. I HAVEN'T FOUND ANYTHING WRONG WITH HIM, AT ALL.

HE'S ALL RIGHT TO GO OUT WITH, PERHAPS. IT WOULD SHOCK ME TO DEATH IF YOU REALLY FELL FOR HIM.



HE ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU, JESSICA.

BECAUSE HE'S ONLY A PRIVATE, I SUPPOSE. HE'D HAVE BEEN A SERGEANT BY NOW IF HE HADN'T BEEN FRAMED. HE TOLD ME SO, HIMSELF.

I'M BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND HOW YOU'VE FELT ABOUT SKEEZIX ALL THIS TIME, NINA.

YOU MUST REMEMBER, JESSICA, THAT I'VE KNOWN SKEEZIX FOR YEARS AND HE'VE BEEN SHEETHEARTS A LONG TIME.



YES, BUT SOMETIMES THE SAME THING HITS YOU ALL OF A SUDDEN! THAT'S THE WAY IT WAS WITH WILMER.

ANYBODY CAN GET A SUDDEN CRUSH, BUT EASY COME, EASY GO, YOU KNOW.



NOT WITH ME, NINA. BELIEVE ME, I CAN TELL! I'VE NEVER BEEN THIS WAY BEFORE.

BUT YOU MUSTN'T, JESSICA! WILMER ISN'T THE MAN FOR YOU. HAVE FUN BUT DON'T LET IT GET SERIOUS.



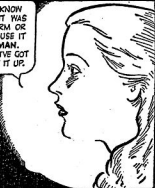
THIS AFFAIR OF JESSICA AND WILMER HAS GONE FARTHER THAN I EVER THOUGHT IT WOULD. AND IT'S MY FAULT.



I'D NEVER HAVE BROUGHT THEM TOGETHER IF I HAD DREAMED SUCH A THING POSSIBLE. WILMER IS A HEEL AND JESSICA MUSTN'T WASTE HERSELF ON HIM.



I DON'T KNOW WHETHER IT WAS THE UNIFORM OR JUST BECAUSE IT WAS A MAN. ANYWAY, I'VE GOT TO BREAK IT UP.



# GASOLINE ALLEY



# A Private in Private

GOSH, TIME GUIDES BY! THERE ARE SUBJECTS WE HAVEN'T TAKEN UP YET, DUCKY.

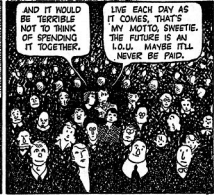
THERE ARE THINGS TO TALK ABOUT—OUR FUTURE, FOR INSTANCE, MILMER.

THE PRESENT, WHICH WE'VE GOT RIGHT IN OUR MITT, IS ALL WE'VE GOT TO SPEND.

BUT WE'VE GOT THE FUTURE TO SPEND, TOO, LAMBIE, WHEN IT COMES ALONG.

AND IT WOULD BE TERRIBLE NOT TO THINK OF SPENDING IT TOGETHER.

LIVE EACH DAY AS IT COMES, THAT'S MY MOTTO, SWEETIE. THE FUTURE IS AN I.O.U. MAYBE IT'LL NEVER BE PAID.





WE HAD A SWELL TIME, JESSICA, HONEY. BUT I MAY NOT COME BACK AN' I'LL HATE TO THINK OF YOU AS A WIDOW.

IT WOULD BE TERRIBLE, WILMER, BUT BETTER THAN NOT BEING MARRIED TO YOU.



BUT I WOULDN'T WANT TO TIE YOU DOWN. I MIGHT BE AWAY FOR YEARS!

I GET IT. THE BRUSH-OFF. IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU FEEL ABOUT IT—



WE CAN STILL BE GOOD FRIENDS AN' START FRESH AFTER THE DURATION.

ALL RIGHT, YOU CAN HAVE IT YOUR WAY.



CUTE  
KID BUT  
NO SOAP?  
WHAT DO  
I CARE?

WILMER,  
I KNOW  
A COUPLE  
OF DAMES—



DAMEST NO. NOT  
THAT KIND. LISTEN:  
I'VE GOT THE PUREST,  
SWEETEST LITTLE GIRL  
IN THE WORLD.



SHE ISN'T ONE  
OF THESE GOOD  
TIME GALS. SHE  
DOESN'T LOVE YOU  
AN' LEAVE YOU



SHE LOOKS TO  
THE FUTURE, SHE  
DOES. SHE THINKS  
OF AN IVY-  
COVERED COTTAGE  
AN' ALL THAT.



LOOK. DIAL THIS  
NUMBER FOR ME.  
WILL YOU? I'LL SHOW  
YOU THE TRUEST  
LITTLE PAL THAT  
EYER LINED!



THAT YOU,  
JESSICA?  
WILL YOU  
MARRY ME!



**GASOLINE ALLEY**

**Oh Again, Oh Again**



AND BOY, WERE YOU PLASTERED, WILMER!

SO I JUDGE, BY THE WAY I FEEL. WHAT HAPPENED, SWIPE?



YOU WERE OFF YOUR DAME FOR LIFE, SO I YOU CALLED HER UP AN' PROPOSED TO HER.

THE HECK I DID! YOU'RE KIDDIN' ME!



ON THE LEVEL. AN' WERE YOU I PROUD!

GOSH! ALL FISHHOOKS! AN' ALL BETS WERE OFF! THE NIGHT-BEFORE!

I'M SO GLAD, WILMER! I WAS SURE YOU'D BE WAITING AT OUR USUAL PLACE!

THEN SWIPE WASN'T KIDDIN'!

YOU SOUNDED KIND OF FUNNY OVER THE PHONE BUT YOU MADE ME VERY HAPPY.

BUT LISTEN HERE, SUGAR, IT'S THIS WAY—

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO SAY! I KNOW YOU DON'T MAKE MUCH MONEY, BUT I'VE GOT A GOOD JOB. I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF—AND YOU, TOO, TILL YOU GET SET AFTER THE WAR.

BUT—

IF YOU MUST KNOW, JESSICA, I WAS HIGH AS A KITE WHEN I ASKED YOU OVER THE PHONE TO MARRY ME.

I UNDERSTAND, MILMER. IT TAKES A LITTLE EDGE TO GET UP NERVE TO PROPOSE TO A GIRL.

I'M PROUD OF YOU FOR IT. AND I'M PROUD BECAUSE YOU FOUGHT AND RISKED YOUR LIFE FOR YOUR COUNTRY ABROAD

SHUCKS, I HAVEN'T DONE SO MUCH.

I'M JUST A C. I. DUB.

TO ME, YOU ARE STRONG AND BRAVE AND OUTSTANDING. JUST THE ONE I'VE WAITED YEARS TO MEET!

YOU KNOW, YOU ARE PRETTY SHEET, YOURSELF."

I'M SO GLAD YOU THINK SO, MILMER. AND I WANT YOU TO KEEP ON THINKING SO - ALWAYS!



IS 'WILMER'  
STILL HANGING  
AROUND,  
JESSICA?

OH, YES! AND I'LL TELL  
YOU THE BIG NEWS—  
WE'RE ENGAGED!



ENGAGED  
TO WILMER!  
YOU CAN'T  
MEAN IT!

IT IS HARD TO  
BELIEVE, ISN'T IT,  
NINA? BUT IT'S  
REALLY TRUE!



I DON'T THINK YOU  
REALIZE WHAT YOU  
ARE GETTING INTO.

OH, I DO!  
AND I  
THINK HE'S  
WONDERFUL!

MAN TO MAN, WILMER, WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR JESSICA?

EVERYTHING IS ON THE UP AND UP, NINA. WHY?



JESSICA IS A GRAND GIRL, BUT SHE IS NAIVE AND TRUSTING. AT HEART, YOU'RE A WOLF.

YOU FLATTER ME.



I WOULDN'T PUT IT PAST YOU TO GIVE HER THE SONG AND DANCE ABOUT BEING PATRIOTIC.

YOU'VE GOT ME WRONG, NINA. AN' BESIDES, WHERE DO YOU FIT INTO THE PICTURE?



I'M GOING TO DO MY BEST TO SEE THAT WHEN YOU GO BACK INTO SERVICE SHE ISN'T TOO MUCH Sadder AND TOO MUCH Wiser.

LISTEN! YOUR IDEA OF A GIRL FRIEND ISN'T MY IDEA OF A GIRL FRIEND, AN' YOU'D BETTER KEEP YOUR SNOOT OUT OF THIS!



KID, I'M OFF YOUR PAL, NINA. SHE'S TRYIN' TO MUSCLE IN BETWEEN US.

YOU MEAN SHE'S MAKIN' A PLAY FOR YOU, WILMER?

MAYBE NOT EXACTLY. BUT SHE'S 'JEALOUS AN' IS GOIN' TO DO WHAT SHE CAN TO BREAK IT UP.

SHE INTRODUCED US. I CAN'T SEE WHY SHED DO THAT.

IF SHE POURS A BUNCH OF SISSY ADVICE INTO YOUR EAR, YOU TELL HER IT'S A LOT OF HOOPY. SHE'S WAY BEHIND THE TIMES!

IF YOU FEEL ABOUT ME LIKE I FEEL ABOUT YOU, DARLING, NOBODY CAN COME BETWEEN US.





IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS, BUT AREN'T YOU GETTIN' IN PRETTY DEEP WITH THIS NEW DAME, MILMER?

IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE TOOK ONE OF 'EM SERIOUS, SWIPE.



KEEP YOUR FEET IN THE DRY, PAL. YOU'VE GOT LOTS OF TIME TO SHOP AROUND.

THAT'S THE WAY I FEEL—SOMETIMES. THEN AGAIN IT WOULD BE MIGHTY NICE OVER THERE TO HAVE SOMEBODY TO THINK ABOUT.



YOU CAN THINK ABOUT 'EM WITHOUT MARRYN' 'EM. THEN ABROAD OR BACK HOME AGAIN, YOU CAN STILL PLAY THE FIELD.

MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT, BUT I'M SORT OF FED UP WITH PAPER DOLLS.



I WANT TO TALK FRANKLY, JESSICA. I GOT YOU INTO THIS AND I WANT TO GET YOU OUT.

I'M GRATEFUL, NINA, BUT NOT FOR TRYING TO GET ME OUT.



WILMER HAS SOME MIGHTY UNPLEASANT FAULTS.

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND HIM AND I'M SURE I CAN CORRECT THEM.



IF IT'S TO BE JUST A FLING, YOU'LL BE UNHAPPY AFTERWARDS.

OH, BUT I'M SURE HE WANTS TO MARRY ME!



THEN YOU'RE STUCK WITH HIM FROM THEN ON.

IF I MARRY HIM, IT WILL BE BECAUSE I WANT HIM MORE THAN ANYTHING IN THE WORLD.





YOU KNOW, GETTIN' MARRIED WOULDN'T BE HALF BAD. UNCLE SAM WOULD CHIP IN \$28 ON TOP OF MY \$50, MAKIN' \$78 A MONTH.

OF COURSE, I'M SUPPOSED TO SEND 50 BUCKS BACK TO THE LITTLE WIFE, BUT SHE'S GOT A GOOD JOB AN' DON'T NEED IT.

AN '78 SMACKERS ISN'T TO BE SNEEZED AT. MY 50 OOZES AWAY LIKE NOTHIN' BUT '78 MIGHT LAST ALMOST TILL PAYDAY.







I'M SAVING ALL I CAN OUT OF MY WAGES. THEN WHEN WE'RE MARRIED I'LL GET AN ALLOTMENT OF \$50 A MONTH BESIDES. I'LL SALT THAT AWAY, TOO.



OF COURSE, \$22 OF THAT WILL COME OUT OF MILMER'S PAY SO THAT HE'LL GET ONLY \$28. BUT I'M SURE HE'LL BE GLAD OF IT.



WE'LL HAVE A NICE LITTLE NEST EGG WHEN HE IS DEMOBILIZED. I'M JUST AFRAID THOUGH THAT HE'LL OBJECT TO TAKING ANY OF THE MONEY I'VE EARNED!

King

# GASOLINE ALLEY



# Green Light

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED A CHURCH WEDDING BUT IF YOU DON'T, WILMER, I'LL DO WHATEVER YOU SAY.

IF THE FOLKS LIVED HERE, AS THEY USED TO, WE COULD HAVE A HOME WEDDING.

OF COURSE YOU MAY GET MORE PRESENTS THAT WAY, BUT THERE'S INVITATIONS TO BE MADE AND SENT, AND THAT TAKES TIME.

A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE WILL DO THE JOB IN 15 MINUTES AND WE GET RID OF A LOT OF FUSS AND FEATHERS.



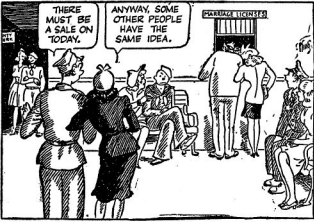
THE BEST WAY IS TO GO AHEAD AN' NOT SAY A WORD TO ANYBODY.

OH, I'D WANT TO LET THE FOLKS KNOW, WILMER!



WIRE 'EM AFTER IT'S ALL OVER. THEN IF THEY HAVE ANY OBJECTIONS, IT'S TOO LATE.

I'D HATE TO DO THAT.



THERE MUST BE A SALE ON TODAY.

ANYWAY, SOME OTHER PEOPLE HAVE THE SAME IDEA.



# GASOLINE ALLEY



JESSICA HAS FALLEN HARD FOR WILMER, UNCLE WALT, AND I INTRODUCED THEM. I CANT BREAK IT UP.

IF IT HAS GONE THAT FAR, NINA, DONT TRY.



SHE'S TOO GOOD FOR HIM.

SUPPOSE YOU DID QUEER IT. SHE'D NEVER KNOW THAT YOU WERE RIGHT, AND MIGHT BLAME YOU THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.



BUT SHE MAY WARRY HIM!

IF THEY DID GET MARRIED AND GET ALONG, THEY'D CONDEMN YOU FOR MEDDLING. I'D SAY, GIVE THEM YOUR BLESSING!





IT'S A SECRET, NINA, AND I KNOW YOU DON'T APPROVE. BUT MILMER AND I ARE GOING TO BE MARRIED!

YOU'VE REALLY MADE UP YOUR MIND, JESSICA?



YES, AND WE HAVE THE RING AND THE LICENSE. IT WILL BE NEXT WEEK.

DARLING, I WISH YOU ALL THE JOY IN THE WORLD!



I'M SO HAPPY!

AND I'M HAPPY FOR YOU, JESSICA.

# GASOLINE ALLEY



# Streamlined Wedding

FIVE BUCKS FOR  
10 MINUTES WORK  
MARRYIN' US!  
THAT'S PRETTY  
STEEP.

WHAT, FOR TYING A  
KNOT THAT, WITHOUT  
UNDUE STRESSES AND  
STRAINS, WILL LAST A  
LIFETIME? IT'S THE  
CHEAPEST OF ALL  
SERVICES.



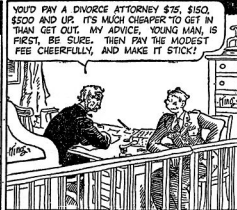
I'M ON THE WRONG END OF THIS  
GAME. SUPPOSE YOUR VENTURE  
DIDN'T TURN OUT WELL. YOU  
WOULDN'T GET IT UNTIED FOR  
FIVE BUCKS. NO SIR!



JUSTICE  
OF THE  
PEACE

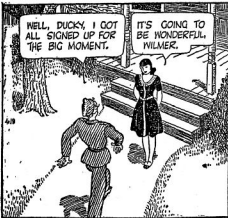


YOU'D PAY A DIVORCE ATTORNEY \$75, \$150,  
\$500 AND UP. IT'S MUCH CHEAPER TO GET IN  
THAN GET OUT. MY ADVICE, YOUNG MAN, IS  
FIRST, BE SURE. THEN PAY THE MODEST  
FEE CHEERFULLY, AND MAKE IT STICK!

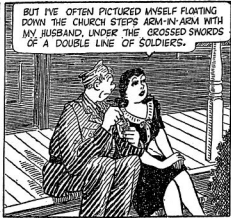


WELL, DUCKY, I GOT ALL SIGNED UP FOR THE BIG MOMENT.

IT'S GOING TO BE WONDERFUL, WILMER.



BUT I'VE OFTEN PICTURED MYSELF FLOATING DOWN THE CHURCH STEPS ARM-IN-ARM WITH MY HUSBAND, UNDER THE CROSSED SWORDS OF A DOUBLE LINE OF SOLDIERS.



THAT'S OKAY TO THINK ABOUT AS A SCHOOLGIRL, CHICKEN. BUT SOLDIERS DON'T HAVE SWORDS ANY MORE. BESIDES, I WOULDN'T TRUST 'EM AFTER I'D GOT PAST 'EM.









SO THE OLD LONE WOLF IS GOING OFF THE DEEP END! YOU'RE A BRAVER G.I. THAN I THOUGHT!

HOW DID YOU BIRDS FIND OUT?

I WAS LOOKIN' FOR CIGARETS IN YOUR TUNIC POCKET.

IS IT MY FAULT I RAN ONTO A MARRIAGE LICENSE?

I WAS GOIN' TO TELL YOU, ANYWAY.

CUT LOOSE, WILMER. IT'S YOUR LAST CHANCE FOR A BINGE.

WHAT ABOUT SADIE AN' PEARL AN' IRENE AN' TOOTS? LEAVIN' 'EM FLAT, I RECKON.

I WILL 'EM ALL TO YOU HYENAS. I START WITH A CLEAN SLATE.

HERE'S LUCK, BOZO! AN', BOY, WILL YOU NEED IT!

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YOU LOOK BEAUTIFUL, JESSICA! WILMER WILL BE PROUD OF YOU.

THANKS, NINA. I HOPE SO.



I WANT IT TO BE A NICE WEDDING, EVEN IF IT IS BEFORE A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

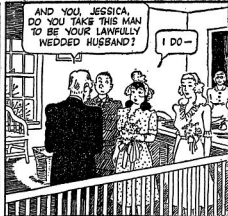
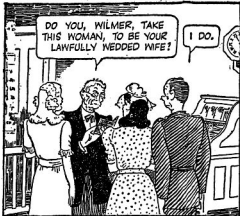
IT WILL BE. AND STREAMLINED, IN ACCORD WITH THE TIMES.



I ONLY WISH THAT THE FOLKS WERE HERE, TOO.

YOU JUST CAN'T HAVE EVERYTHING.









A WONDERFUL SURPRISE!  
SKEEZIX BACK FROM  
OVERSEAS ALMOST IN  
TIME FOR YOUR WEDDING!

GRAND,  
SKEEZIX!

HI,  
SOLDIER!



YES, JUST  
IN TIME  
TO KISS  
THE BRIDE!

MY  
LUCKY  
DAY!



CONGRATULATIONS,  
WILMER. YOU'VE GOT  
A SWELL LITTLE GIRL.  
KEEP HER HAPPY.

OH SURE,  
SKEEZIX!



NINA,  
HOW  
SOON!



I'M FED UP WITH THAT BUNCH NEXT DOOR AND I'M NAILING UP THE GATE!

# GASOLINE ALLEY

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. Copyright, 1947, by The Chicago Tribune

BEFORE YOU DO, WALT—MRS. NERT GAVE ME A DIRTY DIG AND I WANT TO GIVE HER A PIECE OF MY MIND.

WAIT, POP. I WANT TO BURN UP THAT SNOOTY SNOB, HAZEL NERT.

AN' I'M GOIN' TO CRACK DOWN ON THAT SNIP DOTTIE!

I MIGHT AS WELL MAKE IT UNANIMOUS AND GIVE NERT THE BAWLING OUT HE DESERVES.

BUT YOU KNOW HE IS HER THIRD HUSBAND AND SHE IS ONLY 27.

I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE'S A NATURAL RED HEAD.

HERE'S ANOTHER, JUDY.

BOY, WON'T WE HAVE FUN, DOTTIE!

WE'VE GOT TO LICK THE PANTS OFF 'EM SO THEY WON'T START ANYTHING AGAIN!

MY IDEA, PRECISELY.

OL' NERT ISN'T SUCH A BAD EGG AT THAT.

I WOULDN'T NAIL UP THE GATE, WALT!

NO, DOTTIE IS A SWELL KID.

AN' I'VE GOT A DATE WITH HAZEL.

OH, WELL, IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU FEEL ABOUT IT!



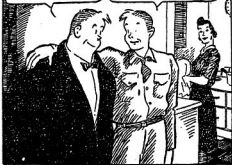
GEE, UNCLE WALT, IT SURE IS LIKE OLD TIMES TO BE AROUND HOME WITH YOU AGAIN!

THAT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE THE OLD-TIME BACK SLAP, SON.



THERE'S CERTAINLY A LOT MORE BEHIND IT THAN THERE WAS WHEN YOU LEFT.

THERE OUGHT TO BE. THEY TRIED HARD ENOUGH TO MAKE A HUSKY HE-MAN OUT OF ME.



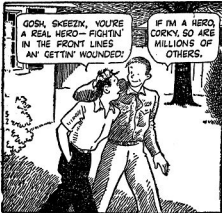
WE CAN SEE EYE TO EYE NOW, SKEEZIX. YOU MUST HAVE SHOT UP A COUPLE OF INCHES.

I REALLY HADN'T NOTICED IT UNTIL I STOOD UP BESIDE YOU — AND NINA.



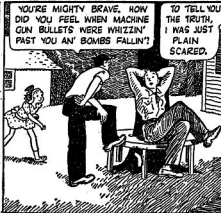
GOSH, SKEEZIX, YOU'RE A REAL HERO— FIGHTIN' IN THE FRONT LINES AN' GETTIN' WOUNDED!

IF I'M A HERO, CORKY, SO ARE MILLIONS OF OTHERS.



YOU'RE MIGHTY BRAVE. HOW DID YOU FEEL WHEN MACHINE GUN BULLETS WERE WHIZZIN' PAST YOU AN' BOMBS FALLIN'?

TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, I WAS JUST PLAIN SCARED.



YOU'RE KIDDIN' ME. YOU'RE PLAYIN' MODEST.

NO. I DID WHAT ALL MY BUDDIES DID— HELPED TO DO THE JOB THERE WAS TO BE DONE—AND GRIPED.





NINA, FOR MONTHS I'VE BEEN DREAMING ABOUT COMING HOME AND SLEEPING UNTIL NOON EVERY DAY.

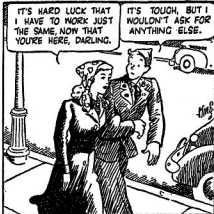
AND HERE YOU ARE, GETTING UP BEFORE THE FOLKS DO TO HAVE BREAKFAST WITH ME.

IT'S HARD LUCK THAT I HAVE TO WORK JUST THE SAME, NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE, DARLING.

IT'S TOUGH, BUT I WOULDN'T ASK FOR ANYTHING ELSE.

I'LL BE AT THE GATE AGAIN WHEN YOU'RE THROUGH TONIGHT, AND A GRAND LONG EVENING IS OURS, SWEETHEART.

IT WILL BE A LONG DAY, BUT IT'S A HAPPY ONE, SKEEZIX.







JUST THINK, SWEETIE PIE, WE'VE BEEN MARRIED NINE DAYS. IT'S BEEN WONDERFUL!

YES, DUCKY, AN' I'VE SPENT EVERY EVENING WITH YOU.



AND I'LL BET YOU HAVEN'T HAD ANY DESIRE NOT TO.

NO, AND I DON'T HAVE TONIGHT. BUT YOU KNOW HOW THE FELLOWS ARE.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN, THE FELLOWS?

THEY'RE PLAYIN' GI MARBLES AN' THEY THINK I SHOULD KEEP MY HAND IN.



NO, WILMER. IF YOU GET YOUR HAND IN, YOU STICK YOUR NECK OUT. WE'RE HAVIN' A NICE COZY EVENING AT HOME.



GOSH, AUNTIE BLOSSOM, THIS IS WHAT I'VE DREAMED ABOUT! A NICE SOFT QUIET SPOT JUST TO LOAF IN.



AND DON'T THINK I HAVEN'T THOUGHT A MILLION TIMES ABOUT RAIDING YOUR COOKIE JAR.

DON'T TELL ME YOU LIKE, MY COOKING BETTER THAN ARMY CHOW, SKEEZIX.



IT'S SWELL TO BE HERE, BUT, BOY, IT'S STILL! WHERE IS EVERYBODY?

JUDY AND CORKY ARE AT SCHOOL, UNCLE WALT IS AT THE OFFICE AND NINA IS AT THE FOUNDRY. REMEMBER?

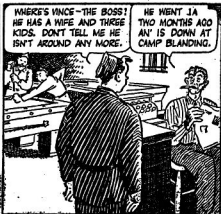
YOU'RE NEW, AREN'T YOU? WHERE'S HARRY, WHO USED TO JERK SODA HERE?

I'VE BEEN HERE A YEAR AND A HALF. HARRY'S A PARATROOPER. HE WAS BACK FROM THE SOLOMONS LAST MONTH.



WHERE'S VINCE - THE BOSS! HE HAS A WIFE AND THREE KIDS. DON'T TELL ME HE ISN'T AROUND ANY MORE.

HE WENT JA TWO MONTHS AGO AN' IS DOWN AT CAMP BLANDING.



THEY'RE MOSTLY NEW FACES. WHERE ARE ALEX AND DAVIS?

ALEX IS A SECOND LIEUTENANT IN THE SIGNAL CORPS AND DAVIS AND JACK ARE ON THE SWING SHIFT. I HAD RETIRED BUT I'M BACK IN THE OLD GAME AGAIN.







I DON'T KNOW ANYBODY AROUND HERE ANY MORE. I'LL GO AND SAY HELLO TO DUFFY, THE COP.

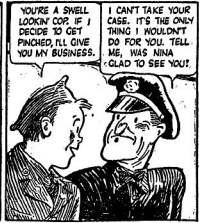


UNCLE BILL CANNON! WHO EVER TOLD YOU YOU COULD BE A POLICEMAN?

SKEEZIX! I HEARD YOU WERE BACK.



DUFFY'S AN MP OUT AT THE AIRBASE. NOW, SOME OF US OLD BIRDS ARE GETTIN' A CHANCE TO GET INTO UNIFORM, TOO.



YOU'RE A SWELL LOOKIN' COP. IF I DECIDE TO GET PINCHED, I'LL GIVE YOU MY BUSINESS.

I CAN'T TAKE YOUR CASE. IT'S THE ONLY THING I WOULDN'T DO FOR YOU. TELL ME, WAS NINA GLAD TO SEE YOU?





SKEEZIX! YOU'VE BEEN HOLDING OUT ON ME. YOU HAVEN'T WORN YOUR SERVICE RIBBON BEFORE.

I THOUGHT YOU'D BELIEVE I'D BEEN OVERSEAS, NINA, WITHOUT MY SHOWING IT.



AND THE PURPLE HEART! YOU DIDN'T EVEN TELL ME YOU HAD IT.

I GOT THAT FOR STOPPING A COVEY OF SHELL FRAGMENTS. ANYBODY COULD DO IT.



I'LL LET YOU WEAR IT TO THE DANCE TONIGHT. YOU DESERVE IT FOR BEING STUCK WITH ME.

I'LL WEAR IT PROUDLY, DARLING. AND IT'S WELL THAT IT WASN'T I WHO MADE THAT LAST REMARK.



MINA, THERE'S ONE THING I ASKED YOU BEFORE I WENT AWAY—PERHAPS YOU'VE FORGOTTEN ABOUT IT.

WHAT COULD THAT BE?



THEY TEACH US IN THE ARMY NOT TO TAKE ANYTHING FOR GRANTED— CHECK AND DOUBLE CHECK.

THAT'S GOOD PRACTICE, ANYWHERE.



AND I'VE BEEN AWAY A LONG TIME. WILL YOU MARRY ME?

DARLING, THE ANSWER IS JUST AS IT HAS BEEN EVERY MOMENT SINCE YOU LEFT— YES.



BY THE WAY, AUNTIE BLOSSOM, HOW'S RACHEL!

SHE'S BEEN GETTING ALONG FINE. WHY DON'T YOU GO AND SEE HER?



RACHEL WAS MY FIRST NURSE AND SHE PRACTICALLY BROUGHT ME UP UNTIL I WENT AWAY TO MILITARY SCHOOL. GOOD OLD RACHEL!



SKEEZIX! YOU IS CERTAINLY A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES!

RACHEL! I JUST COULDN'T GO BACK OVERSEAS WITHOUT SEEING YOU. YOU LOOK GRAND!



YOU'VE SURE GOT A FANCY PLACE. YOU'VE COME UP SOME SINCE I SAW YOU LAST.

SKEEZIX, I AINT WORKED IN TWO YEARS.



I'M MRS. RACHEL JACKSON, MY FOURTH HUSBAND, ARTIMUS JACKSON, WORKS IN A PLANE FACTORY, WITH OVERTIME.

I'M TICKLED TO SEE YOU SO NICELY SITUATED.



IT'S NOT LIKE THE OLD DAYS.

NO, THERE'S NOTHIN' LIKE THE OLD DAYS, WITH YOU TODDLIN' AROUND, PULLIN' THE WIRE OUT OF THE TELEPHONE AN' SPILLIN' MOLASSES. AN' NOW YOU COME TO SEE ME — A SERGEANT!





YOU'RE A GODSEND, GOOTCH. I HAVEN'T HAD ANYBODY TO PAL AROUND WITH. MINA WORKS DAYTIMES.

YES, IN A BRONZE FOUNDRY, GOOTCH.

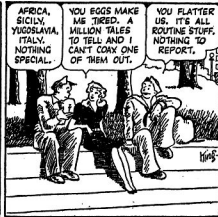
SWELL! DID ORDNANCE KICK YOU OUT, STRAWFOOT!



NO, A FURLOUGH. FIRST IN 18 MONTHS.

IMAGINE ME WAITING ALL THAT TIME FOR HIM! WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO IN THE PACIFIC?

HOPPING FROM TASK TO TASK, AND ATOLL TO ATOLL. WHAT'S YOUR STORY, SKEEZIX?

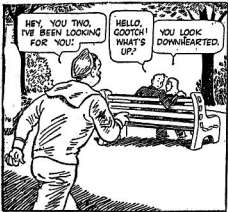


AFRICA, SICILY, YUGOSLAVIA, ITALY. NOTHING SPECIAL.

YOU EGGS MAKE ME TIRED. A MILLION TALES TO TELL AND I CAN'T COAX ONE OF THEM OUT.

YOU FLATTER US. IT'S ALL ROUTINE STUFF. NOTHING TO REPORT.





HEY, YOU TWO, I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU!

HELLO, GOOTCH! WHAT'S UP?

YOU LOOK DOWNHEARTED.



BAD NEWS. IT'S SPUD.

YOU MEAN, HE GOT IT? BOY, THAT'S TOUGH!

SPUD! MISSING IN ACTION!



WORSE, NINA. HIS MOTHER JUST GOT NOTICE.

SPUD! OUR PAL FOR AS LONG AS WE CAN REMEMBER. THAT'S TERRIBLE!

I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE IT.





WE'VE HEARD ABOUT SPUD, MRS. SWALLOW.

WE'VE COME TO SAY THAT WE ARE VERY SORRY.

THANK YOU, BOYS. PLEASE SIT DOWN.



WE WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT WE'VE LOVED HIM SINCE WE WERE TINY KIDS TOGETHER.

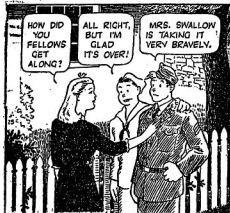
HE WAS VERY FOND OF YOU BOTH. HIS REGRET WAS THAT ALL OF YOU COULDN'T HAVE BEEN IN THE SAME OUTFIT.



IF THERE IS ANYTHING WE CAN DO—

IT IS A TERRIBLE BLOW AND WE SYMPATHIZE DEEPLY.

MY ONLY CONSOLATION IS THAT HE WENT DOWN FIGHTING FOR WHAT WE ALL KNOW IS RIGHT. THANK YOU, SKEEZIX AND GOOTCH, FOR COMING.



HOW DID YOU FELLOWS GET ALONG?

ALL RIGHT, BUT I'M GLAD IT'S OVER!

MRS. SWALLOW IS TAKING IT VERY BRAVELY.



I'M GLAD YOU WENT.

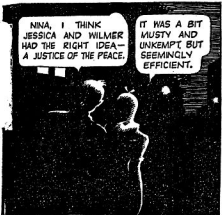
I'M SURE SHE WAS REALLY GLAD WE DID, NINA.

IT'S TOUGH. SPUD WAS HER ONLY SON AND ALL SHE HAD TO DEPEND ON.



WELL, IT'S THE END OF A CHAPTER FOR US, AND THE END OF THE BOOK FOR POOR SPUD.





NINA, I THINK  
JESSICA AND WILMER  
HAD THE RIGHT IDEA—  
A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

IT WAS A BIT  
MUSTY AND  
UNKEMPT BUT  
SEEMINGLY  
EFFICIENT.



WHAT  
DO YOU  
SAY!

SIMPLE AND STREAMLINED  
IS MY IDEA, BUT NOT SO  
STARK AND LEGAL. THERE  
MUST BE A COMPROMISE  
BETWEEN THAT AND FUSS  
AND FRILLS.



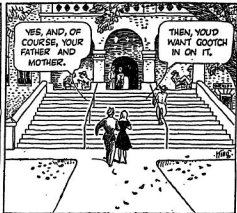
WHAT ARE  
THE  
FORMALITIES?

A WEDDING RING, A  
MARRIAGE LICENSE AND A FEW  
DAYS OF GRACE IN CASE  
ANYBODY WANTS TO BACK OUT.



SHALL WE KEEP IT A SECRET UNTIL IT'S ALL OVER?

I'D LOVE TO, SKEEZIX, BUT UNCLE WALT AND AUNTIE BLOSSOM WOULD SHRIVEL UP IN DISAPPOINTMENT IF THEY WERENT IN ON IT.



YES, AND, OF COURSE, YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER.

THEN, YOU'D WANT GOOTCH IN ON IT.



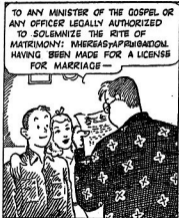
SKEEZIX ALLISON WALLET, 23, WHITE, NEVER MARRIED, SOLDIER.

NINA CLOCK 22; WHITE, NEVER DIVORCED, WAR WORKER.

MARRIAGE LICENSANCES

V-5  
WAR  
1944

# GASOLINE ALLEY



# Counting Chickens





NINA, DARLING, I'M SO GLAD THAT YOU AND SKEEZIX ARE MAKING PLANS FOR YOUR WEDDING.

I'M GLAD, TOO, AUNTIE BLOSSOM.



I WANT YOU TO HAVE A NICE WEDDING. WE'LL START PLANNING RIGHT AWAY.

IT WON'T TAKE MUCH PLANNING. WE WANT A VERY SIMPLE AND QUIET AFFAIR.



I UNDERSTAND, NINA, BUT THERE ARE SOME CONVENTIONALITIES WHICH MUST BE OBSERVED.

YES, THE WEDDING SERVICE MUST BE READ AND THE BRIDGROOM MUST KISS THE BRIDE.



IT'S JUST AS WE  
FEARED, SKEEZIX.  
AUNTIE BLOSSOM IS  
'SOLD ON PUTTING  
OVER AN ELABORATE  
WEDDING.!

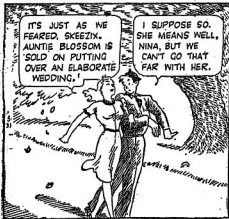
I SUPPOSE SO.  
SHE MEANS WELL,  
NINA, BUT WE  
CAN'T GO THAT  
FAR WITH HER.

SHE CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY  
WE DON'T WANT THE LATEST  
ENGRAVED INVITATIONS, A BIG  
CHURCH WEDDING WITH BANKS  
OF FLOWERS, MAIDS OF HONOR,  
USHERS AND FLOWER GIRLS.

SHE'D  
LOVE IT  
THAT  
WAY.

YOU TALK TO HER. YOU  
CAN EXPLAIN WHAT WE  
WANT BETTER THAN I CAN.

OKAY. I'LL MAKE HER  
SEE IT OUR WAY OR  
DIE IN THE ATTEMPT.



AUNTIE  
BLOSSOM,  
ABOUT THE  
WEDDING—

YES, SKEEZIX. YOU KNOW  
NINA HAS AN IDEA THAT IT  
MUST BE RIGHT AWAY. OF  
COURSE, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.



WHY  
IMPOSSIBLE?  
THAT'S WHAT  
WE BOTH  
WANT.

YOU THINK SO NOW, BUT AS THE  
YEARS PASS YOU WILL BE GLAD  
TO LOOK BACK AT A WEDDING DAY  
OF BEAUTY AND GLAMOR, ONE  
TO BE PROUD OF FOREVER.  
THAT TAKES PREPARATION.



I'VE GOT A GIRL WHO  
DOESN'T GO FOR THAT  
SORT OF THING—  
ESPECIALLY NOW. I'M  
TICKLED PINK ABOUT IT.

I THINK YOU ARE  
WRONG, SKEEZIX, AND  
YOU SHOULD TRY TO  
PERSUADE HER THAT  
SHE IS WRONG, TOO.



UNCLE WALT, AUNTIE BLOSSOM IS PLANNING A BIG WEDDING FOR US, WHICH IS PRECISELY WHAT WE DON'T WANT.

CAN'T YOU HELP US?

YOU KIDS SHOULDN'T NEED ANY HELP.



I KNOW SHE'S LOOKED FORWARD TO IT FOR YEARS. WE DON'T WANT TO HURT HER FEELINGS.

IT'S NICE OF HER TO WANT TO DO SOMETHING FOR US, BUT —

WHO'S GETTING MARRIED ANYWAY? NOT AUNTIE BLOSSOM.



SHE HAD HER CHANCE, AS I WELL REMEMBER. YOU GO AHEAD AND FIGURE IT OUT YOUR OWN WAY. I'LL TAKE THE RAP.

I'M GLAD YOU'RE ON OUR SIDE.



EMILY, BOTH LINA AND SKEEZIX ARE SHORTSIGHTED. I THINK. THEY WANT A QUIET WEDDING WITH NO ENGRAVED INVITATIONS.

THAT'S VERY IMPRACTICAL, PHYLLIS. WHAT ABOUT WEDDING PRESENTS?

"THEY SAY THAT ANYONE WHO REALLY WANTS TO GIVE THEM ONE WILL DO IT ANYWAY.

THAT'S POOR PSYCHOLOGY. AVERY AND I SENT OUT A LOT OF INVITATIONS AND WE GOT A LOT OF NICE THINGS.

THE FUNNY PART IS, THEY DON'T SEEM TO CARE WHETHER THEY GET ANY OR NOT.

THESE MODERN YOUNGSTERS ARE CERTAINLY HARD TO UNDERSTAND.



IT WAS PEACHY OF  
UNCLE WALT TO LET US  
USE HIS GAS TO GO  
OUT TO THE FARM.

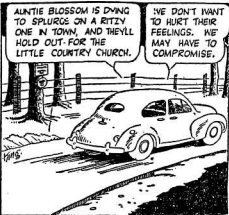
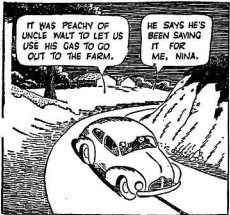
HE SAYS HE'S  
BEEN SAYING  
IT FOR  
ME, NINA.

WHEN THE FOLKS FIND OUT  
WE INTEND TO GET MARRIED  
RIGHT AWAY, THEY'LL WANT  
TO HAVE THE WEDDING  
OUT HERE, WON'T THEY?

I SUPPOSE THEY  
WILL. WE HAD  
THAT PROBLEM  
ANOTHER TIME  
JUST BEFORE  
YOU ENLISTED.

AUNTIE BLOSSOM IS DYING  
TO SPLURGE ON A RITZY  
ONE IN TOWN, AND THEY'LL  
HOLD OUT FOR THE  
LITTLE COUNTRY CHURCH.

I'VE DON'T WANT  
TO HURT THEIR  
FEELINGS. WE  
MAY HAVE TO  
COMPROMISE.



I'M SO HAPPY FOR YOU! I'M SURE YOU'LL WANT TO HAVE THE WEDDING IN THE CHURCH AT THE CORNERS. AFTERWARDS, ALL THE FRIENDS COULD COME HERE FOR REFRESHMENTS.

THAT WOULD BE FINE, MOTHER, BUT YOU KNOW AUNTIE BLOSSOM WOULD LIKE TO HAVE IT IN TOWN.



I SUPPOSE SO, PERHAPS I'M A BIT OLD-FASHIONED, SKEEZIK, BUT THIS IS NINA'S HOME AND SHE'S GONE TO THAT CHURCH SINCE SHE WAS A CHILD.

WHAT IF WE DECIDE NOT TO HAVE A CHURCH WEDDING AT ALL?



THAT WOULD BE ALL RIGHT. THE REV. NEED COULD PERFORM THE CEREMONY RIGHT HERE.

WE HAD REALLY PLANNED TO BE MARRIED TODAY, MOTHER, VERY INFORMALLY AND QUIETLY.

YES, WE POSTPONED IT, BUT NOT BECAUSE WE WANTED TO.





REMEMBER, SKEEZIX,  
IT'S YOU YOUNG  
FOLK'S WHO ARE  
GETTING MARRIED  
AND NOBODY ELSE.

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT  
UNCLE MALT SAID. I  
GUESS THE MEN LOOK  
AT IT ALL DIFFERENTLY.



AUNTIE BLOSSOM'S  
ANGLE IS THAT NINA  
SHOULD HAVE A BIG  
ELABORATE WEDDING  
TO LOOK BACK ON  
AND REMEMBER.

WELL, THAT'S THE KIND  
WOMEN LIKE TO ATTEND.  
PROBABLY AUNTIE  
BLOSSOM'S MOTHER  
TOLD HER THE SAME THING.



BUT IT SEEMS TO ME  
THEY ARE MORE INTERESTED  
IN PUTTING OVER SOMEBODY  
ELSE'S WEDDING THAN LOOKING  
BACK ON THEIR OWN.

I'M BEGINNING  
TO THINK THAT'S  
JUST IT,  
MR. CLOCK.



WELL, WE'VE GIVEN EVERYBODY A CHANCE, NINA. I HOPE WE DO AS WE PLEASE.

AGREED. SIMPLE WEDDING WITHOUT MUCH NOTICE TO ANYONE.

SUPPOSE WE HAVE AUNTIE BLOSSOM'S MINISTER AND GET MARRIED AT YOUR HOUSE WITH ONLY THE FAMILIES AND CLOSEST FRIENDS.

VERY GOOD. THEN WE'LL HAVE A RECEPTION, WITH REFRESHMENTS, THERE ON THE FARM FOR THEM AND OTHER FRIENDS.

NO INVITATIONS EXCEPT BY WORD OF MOUTH. IF THERE'S A BEST MAN, IT WILL BE GOOTCH.

FORSAKE BUT NO YEIL. ONE BRIDESMAID, AND JUDY CAN BE FLOWER GIRL.





I'VE WRITTEN DOWN SOME IDEAS FOR THE WEDDING, SKEEZIX AND NINA..

MAYBE WE'D BETTER TELL OUR PLANS FIRST, AUNTIE BLOSSOM.

WE'RE GOING TO HAVE YOUR MINISTER, REV. LOFT.



THAT'S WHO I THOUGHT WOULD BE NICE.

THE WEDDING IS TO BE AT NINA'S HOME ON THE FARM.

AND A RECEPTION FOR FRIENDS, AFTERWARDS.



WELL, IF YOU TWO REALLY WANT IT, THAT MAY, I WON'T SAY A WORD - BUT -

THANKS, AUNTIE BLOSSOM. I KNEW YOU'D AGREE.

IT'S WHAT WE BOTH WANT.

I JUST STARTED LOOKING FOR YOU. YOU'RE PROMOTED TO THE RANK OF BEST MAN FOR OUR WEDDING, GOOTCH.

THANK YOU, SIR. AND WHAT ARE MY DUTIES?

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE NAVY BUT THEY ARE THOSE OF AN ADJUTANT IN THE ARMY.

YOU ARE TO TAKE OVER FOR THE BRIDEGROOM AND HANDLE THE ARRANGEMENTS, STARTING WITH ENGAGING THE MINISTER.

AYE, AYE, SIR. TELL ME HOW MUCH YOU WANT TO PAY AND I'LL SEE WHO I CAN GET.

AND BUYING THE RING, I SUPPOSE.

I'LL HANDLE THAT, BUT YOU CAN WATCH ME. COME ON.



REV. LOFT, I'M A ONE-MAN TASK FORCE HERE TO SEE IF I CAN INDUCE YOU TO TIE A KNOT FOR A FRIEND OF MINE.

A KNOT? I SUPPOSE YOU MEAN TO OFFICIATE AT A MARRIAGE CEREMONY.

RIGHT YOU ARE. IT'S FOR SKEEZIX WALLET AND NINA CLOCK. I'M GOOTCH, BEST MAN.

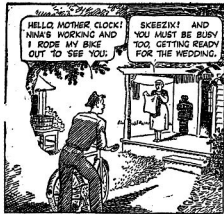
SKEEZIX AND NINA! I'D BE VERY HAPPY TO ACT IN THAT CAPACITY.

OF COURSE, ALL HE MAKES IS A GI SALARY. I HOPE YOU CAN MAKE HIM A REASONABLE PRICE.

THERE IS NO FEE WHATSOEVER, GOOTCH. OF COURSE, IF HE FEELS LIKE MAKING A BIT OF A GIFT, THAT IS ENTIRELY UP TO HIM.

YOU'RE LAYING YOURSELF WIDE OPEN, REVEREND, BUT LEAVE IT TO ME. I'LL SEE THAT YOU GET A SQUARE DEAL.





YES, ALVIN, MA THINKS I BETTER GET TRIMMED UP A MITE. I DONT SEE ANY NEED FOR IT.

YOU'RE GOIN' TO HAVE A WEDDIN' AT YOUR HOUSE I HEAR, MR. CLOCK. NINA GOIN' TO JUMP OVER THE BROOMSTICK?



YEP. SHE AN' SKEEZIK ARE GETTIN' MARRIED AN' I SUPPOSE EVERYBODY'S GOT TO GET PRETTIED UP.

THEN I RECKON IT WONT BE SO LONG BEFORE YOU'RE GRANDFATHER CLOCK!



BY' GOLLY, THAT'S RIGHT, ALVIN! I HADN'T THOUGHT OF IT JUST THAT WAY!

GRANDFATHER CLOCK! THAT'S A HOT ONE!



# GASOLINE ALLEY



SWEETHEART, I WISH I COULD TELL YOU HOW I FEEL WHEN I THINK THAT IT IS ONLY A MATTER OF DAYS UNTIL WE ARE MARRIED.

YOU DON'T NEED TO, SKEEZIX, DARLING. I KNOW.



YOU WAITED A LONG TIME FOR ME. ARE YOU GLAD?

GLADDER THAN I CAN SAY. ARE YOU GLAD YOU'VE BEEN TRUE?



YES

# Counting Chickens



CAN YOU SEE A COZY IVY-COVERED COTTAGE WITH A ROLY POLY SKEEZIX TUMBLING OFF THE FRONT PORCH?

I CAN. AND A SUNNY HAIRIED LITTLE NINA CLIMBING UP THE APPLE TREE. FROM BEING NEARSIGHTED I CAN NOW LOOK FAR, FAR AHEAD.



I USED TO MAKE BRIDAL GOWNS OF SATIN, WITH A TRAIN AND YARDS AND YARDS OF VEIL. BRIDES DON'T GO FOR THAT, MUCH ANY MORE.

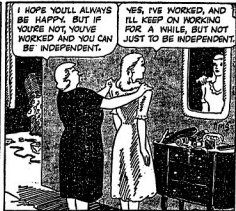
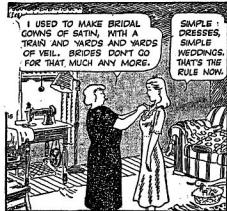
SIMPLE DRESSES, SIMPLE WEDDINGS. THAT'S THE RULE NOW.

I SUPPOSE YOU'RE GOING ON A HONEYMOON.

WE'LL HAVE A FEW DAYS BUT WHERE IT'S TO BE IS A MILITARY SECRET.

I HOPE YOU'LL ALWAYS BE HAPPY. BUT IF YOU'RE NOT, YOU'VE WORKED AND YOU CAN BE INDEPENDENT.

YES, I'VE WORKED, AND I'LL KEEP ON WORKING FOR A WHILE, BUT NOT JUST TO BE INDEPENDENT.



SALLY 'SNIPE  
CAN GET AWAY  
AND IS DELIGHTED  
TO BE MY  
BRIDESMAID,  
JUNE 27TH!

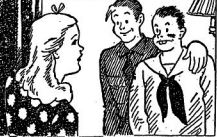
EVERYTHING  
IS CLICKING  
SO FAR.

SALLY 'SNIPE!  
I REMEMBER  
HER!



NOW, WHAT HAVE WE  
FORGOTTEN! THE MINISTER  
IS DATED UP. WE HAVE  
INVITED OUR FRIENDS, FOOD  
IS ALL PLANNED, MY BRIDAL  
DRESS, WHICH IS ALSO A GOING  
AWAY DRESS, IS IN WORK.

IT'S A CINCH  
FOR GOOTCH AND  
ME - THE ARMY  
AND NAVY  
FURNISH OUR  
GLAD RAGS.



GOODBY!

GOOTCH IS  
CERTAINLY  
CONSIDERATE.

YES. HE SAYS  
TWO IS A HUDDLE  
AND THREE IS  
A NATIONAL  
CONVENTION.



# GASOLINE ALLEY

King

Pub. U. S. Pat. Off.  
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The Chicago Tribune. 6-18

AW, COME ON, HAZEL! WE'D HAVE A LOT OF FUN.

I'VE CALLED GRETCHEN AN' NANCY AN' HAZEL, AN' NONE OF 'EM WILL GO WITH ME.

YOUR TECHNIQUE IS CORNY, CORKY.

LISTEN, JUDY. WILL YOU GO FISHIN' WITH ME?

HUH! AFTER THEY ALL TURNED YOU DOWN! OKAY. FOR ONE CONE.

CHOCOLATE CONE.

THERE WAS GRETCHEN BIG AS LIFE EATIN' A BANANA SPLIT WITH RUSTY NAYLER!

WHAT YOU KICKIN' ABOUT. YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO BUY IT.

AN' SHE TOLD ME SHE HAD TO ENTERTAIN HER AUNT.

SHE WAS LETTIN' YOU DOWN EASY.

BY COLLY, THERE'S NANCY WOLFIN' HOT DOGS WITH FUNKY SMITH!

IT'LL BE A COLD DAY BEFORE I'LL ASK HER TO GO OUT WITH ME AGAIN.

YOU MEAN SKATIN'?

IT'S HAZEL! EATIN' A PICNIC LUNCH WITH SHORTY LONG!

WOMEN ARE ALL ALIKE!

YEP. WE'RE ALL ALIKE. YOU'VE GOT TO FEED US TO GET US.



WHAT DO YOU KNOW, SKEEZIX! I JUST MET SISSY BLY— AND YOU WOULDN'T KNOW HIM: HE'S A PFC NOW AND IS A REGULAR HE-GUY!

AND, GOOTCH, WHOM DO YOU THINK I SAW? TRIXIE, OUR OLD PAL. SHE'S STUDYING WITH MME. OCTAVE FOR AN OPERATIC AUDITION!



AND THEY'RE BOTH COMING TO THE WEDDING. SO IS BRICK, THAT I WENT TO MILITARY SCHOOL WITH. HE HAS A LOOIE,— NOW, HE'S A LOOT!

LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A QUORUM.



HI, PICKLEPUSSIES— OR IS THE PLURAL PICKLEPEESE?

HAVE A LOOK! TOP'S IS OUT AGAIN!

HE HEARD WE WERE HAVING EATS AT MY WEDDING.

I DROPPED IN TO SEE IF I COULD HELP AND I DO HOPE, NINA, THAT YOUR MARRIAGE IS A SUCCESS.

I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU, AUNT HESSIE. BUT EVERYTHING IS UNDER CONTROL RIGHT NOW.

IT SEEMS ONLY YESTERDAY YOU WERE STAYING WITH ME AND GOING TO SCHOOL. I CERTAINLY WISH YOU LUCK. MARRIAGE IS SUCH A GAMBLE.

BUT I'VE ALWAYS SAID IT'S BETTER TO HAVE TRIED IT ONCE EVEN IF IT TURNS OUT A FAILURE.

THANKS FOR ALL YOUR GOOD WISHES, AUNTIE.

RACHEL AND MANDY!

WE HEARS THEY'S COOKIN' TO BE DONE.







IT'S A SERIOUS STEP, SKEEZIX, AND WE THINK YOU SHOULD GET STARTED RIGHT.

YOU'RE A SERGEANT IN THE ARMY. SEE THAT YOU DON'T GET REDUCED IN RANK AT HOME.

KEEP A FIRM HAND ON THE CONTROLS.



LOOK AT DOC THERE. HE'S A HORRIBLE EXAMPLE OF A HENPECKED DOPE.

ME? WHAT I SAY GOES IN MY HOUSE! YOU DON'T DARE SAY YOUR PUNY LITTLE SOUL IS YOUR OWN, BILL.

COURTSHIP AND THE HONEYMOON ARE LIABLE TO PUT YOU OFF YOUR GUARD.



BUT YOU'VE GOT MIGHTY FINE MATERIAL TO START WITH, SKEEZIX.

NINA IS A HONEY!

YOU FELLOWS ARE ALL JEALOUS.

I'LL SAY WE ARE—OF YOUR YOUTH, YOUR FRESH OUTLOOK AND YOUR OPPORTUNITIES.





# GASOLINE ALLEY

# To Recall Another Wedding

EVERYTHING IS COMING ALONG NICELY FOR YOUR WEDDING WEDNESDAY, KIDS.

THAT'S FINE BUT THERE IS ONE THING WE MUSTN'T FORGET IN THE MIDST OF ALL THESE PREPARATIONS.

HAVE WE OVERLOOKED SOMETHING?

PERHAPS. WE WANT TO PRESENT THESE TO YOU, AUNTIE BLOSSOM AND UNCLE WALT, WITH OUR HEARTY-GOOD WISHES ON YOUR 18TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY!

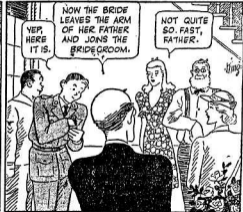
YOU DARLINGS, ALL OF YOU! WE LOVE YOU FOR IT.

WE WERENT GONG TO SAY A WORD.

WE'VE BEEN GETTING ALL THE ATTENTION. YOU DESERVE SOME APPRECIATION.









THE WEDDING HAS JUST TAKEN PLACE AND NINA AND SKEEZIX ARE RECEIVING THE GUESTS.

AMONG THEM ARE AVERY AND EMILY, DOC AND HAZEL, BILL AND AMY, SQUINT, MR. WICKER, LIEUTENANT BRICK, PRIVATES TOPS, WHIMPY AND (SISSY) BLY, SEAMAN GOOTCH, TRIXIE, MILMER AND JESSICA, MME. OCTAVE, SALLY SNIPE, MR. MUMPLE AND AUNT HESSIE.

(CAN YOU IDENTIFY THEM?)



THE AIR IS OUT OF THE TIRES OF THEIR GETAWAY CAR. I'VE FIXED IT WITH THE SHERIFF AN' I'LL GRAB SKEEZIX AN' THROW HIM IN JAIL AN' KEEP HIM DARK.



LISTEN, KIDS, THOSE HYENAS ARE FRAMING ON YOU. SNEAK OUT THIS WAY INTO MY CAR AND SILENTLY STEAL AWAY.

GOSH, UNCLE BILL, THANKS!



I STILL SAY UNCLE BILL IS A HONEY!





JUST WALK ALONG CASUALLY,  
SWEETHEART — AS IF WE'D  
BEEN MARRIED FOR YEARS.

THE  
LINE

JUST  
MARRIED

W

ORANGE JUICE,  
SCRAMBLED EGGS  
AND BACON, TOAST  
AND COFFEE.  
FOR TWO.

IT WILL BE  
GORGEOUS AND  
COZY, DARLING,  
TO HAVE BREAKFAST  
IN OUR ROOM.

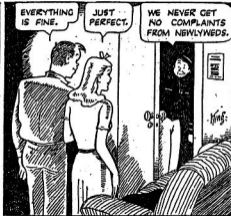


HUSBAND, I LOVE YOU  
MORE RIGHT NOW THAN  
I EVER LOVED ANYBODY  
IN MY LIFE —  
INCLUDING YOU!

WIFE! YOU'LL ALWAYS  
BE TO ME JUST AS  
SWEET AS YOU ARE  
THIS MOMENT.







# GASOLINE ALLEY

# Marriage Will Out



YOU'VE BEEN SWELL TO US, GREGORY. WE'LL LET YOU IN ON A SECRET. WE'VE JUST BEEN MARRIED!

YES, JUST A FEW DAYS AGO!

YOU DON'T TELL ME! I'M CERTAINLY SURPRISED! HOW DID YOU EVER KEEP IT THIS LONG?!



YOU CALLED THE VALET!



OH YES, MY HUSBAND HAS A UNIFORM TO BE PRESSED!



DARLING!

WE'VE HAD OUR SPLURGE AT THE HOTEL SWANK, SKEEZIX. THIS IS A WELCOME CHANGE.

YES, OUR LITTLE HALF COTTAGE ON THE BEACH IS TOPS.



BUT IT'S GOING TO END ALL TOO SOON.

YES, SWEETHEART, YOU MAY GET ORDERS ANY TIME TO PACK UP AND MOVE IN A HURRY.



WELL, THIS IS SOMETHING THEY CAN'T TAKE AWAY FROM US - EVER!

I'LL BE REMEMBERING EVERY LITTLE MINUTE WE'VE HAD TOGETHER ALL THE TIME I'M AWAY.



IT'S LATE BUT  
IT'S PERFECT FOR  
A STROLL ALONG THE  
SHORE, MY OWN.

THANK HEAVENS,  
THERE'S NO BUGLE  
CALL AT 5:30 IN  
THE MORNING!

HEY, YOU TWO!  
NO COUPLES ARE  
ALLOWED ON THE  
BEACH AFTER ELEVEN.

BUT,  
OFFICER,  
WE'RE  
MARRIED!

MARRIED HE SAYS! I'VE  
HEARD THAT ONE BEFORE.  
COME OVER TO THE LIGHT. I  
WANT TO LOOK YOU TWO OVER.

IT'S OKAY. TAKE  
YOUR WALK. AN' MANY  
HAPPY RETURNS!





# GASOLINE ALLEY

# Keep Smiling

THEY DON'T GIVE US MUCH TIME TO PACK — BUT FORTUNATELY WE HAVEN'T MUCH TO PACK.

BUT IT'S SO SUDDEN!

HONEY! WE KNEW IT WAS COMING. REMEMBER WE AGREED — NO TEARS!

THERE, THAT'S BETTER!

I'M ALL RIGHT, SKEEZIK. I JUST WEAKENED FOR A MOMENT.



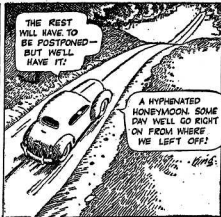
OUR  
HONEYMOON  
HAS BEEN  
SO SHORT!

YES, MY SWEET,  
BUT IT'S HARD TO  
REMEMBER BACK WHEN  
WE WEREN'T MARRIED.



THE REST  
WILL HAVE TO  
BE POSTPONED—  
BUT WE'LL  
HAVE IT!

A HYPHENATED  
HONEYMOON. SOME  
DAY WE'LL GO RIGHT  
ON FROM WHERE  
WE LEFT OFF!



DO YOU  
BELIEVE IN  
TELEPATHY?

IF THERE IS SUCH A  
THING YOU'LL BE GETTING  
A HUNDRED MESSAGES  
A DAY, ANGEL!







IT'S WONDERFUL TO SEE YOU BACK, NINA, BOTH OF YOU.

IT WON'T BE FOR LONG, UNCLE MALT. I HAVE ORDERS TO REPORT IMMEDIATELY FOR DUTY.



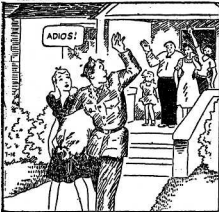
IT HAS BEEN GLORIOUS, AUNTIE BLOSSOM, BUT IT HAS SEEMED MINUTES INSTEAD OF DAYS.

I KNOW YOU ARE GLAD THAT SKEEZIK IS LEAVING YOU AS HIS WIFE, AND NOT MERELY HIS SWEETHEART.



OF COURSE WE KNEW IT WAS COMING. AND I START OUT WITH MORE STAMINA AND DETERMINATION THAN EVER BEFORE.

THAT'S THE SPIRIT! ALL THAT'S HAPPENED SINCE YOU FIRST CAME HOME HAS MADE US VERY HAPPY, SON.





CAN I HELP YOU ANY, NINA?

NO THANKS, UNCLE WALT. I'M JUST SORTING OVER SOME OLD THINGS.



HOW'S THE WASHING COMING, PHYLLIS?

ACCORDING TO PLAN, WALT.



BY GOLLY, THEY'RE STANDING UP UNDER SKEEZIX'S LEAVING BETTER THAN I THOUGHT!





I KNOW YOU CAN'T HELP BEING LONESOME AND LOW, NINA, BUT THINGS WILL LOOK BRIGHTER IN A DAY OR SO.

I'M ALL RIGHT, AUNTIE BLOSSOM.



OF COURSE, YOU ARE! YOU'VE HAD SO MUCH MORE THAN A LOT OF THE GIRLS WITH OVERSEAS SHEETHEARTS.

I KNOW SKEEZIK HAD A LONG FURLOUGH, AND HE DID HAVE A HONEYMOON.



HOW IS NINA TAKING IT, PHYLLIS?

BETTER THAN I THOUGHT SHE WOULD, WALT. SHE'LL COME THROUGH ALL RIGHT.

JESSICA, I SEEM TO BE RIGHT BACK WHERE I STARTED FROM— LONELY AND BLUE AND WORRYING ABOUT SKEEZIX.

WE'RE IN EXACTLY THE SAME BOAT, MINA. FILMER IS ON HIS WAY OVERSEAS AGAIN, TOO.

I DO REALIZE IT IS NOT THE SAME AS BEFORE. SKEEZIX IS MY HUSBAND. I'M REALLY IN THE WAR NOW. I'M GIVING PART OF MYSELF. SO ARE YOU, JESSICA.

WE ARE DOING JUST THAT.

JUST DON'T THINK TOO MUCH, NINA. I BELIEVE YOU SHOULD GO BACK TO WORK.

THAT'S WHAT I PLAN TO DO. I'LL START WITH YOU TOMORROW MORNING.



# GASOLINE ALLEY

# Greetings

IM OUT OF THE DUMPS, JESSICA. I FEEL LIKE PITCHIN' IN AGAIN.

I KNEW GOING TO WORK WOULD DO A LOT FOR YOU, NINA.



IT MAKES YOU FEEL YOU'RE MOVING AHEAD, NOT GOING BACKWARD.



WELCOME HOME!

HOW'S THE MRS.?

FOR ME? I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

WE THOUGHT YOU WERE NEVER COMING BACK.

YOU LOOK JUST THE SAME, ONLY BETTER.

NOT HIGH-HAT OR ANYTHING!

MRS. MARY WALLETT!



WALT, YOU'VE HAD A HARD PULL. CIVIC DUTIES, OVERWORK HERE, SKEEZIK GETTING MARRIED AND SHIPPING OVERSEAS. HOW ABOUT YOUR VACATION?

I COULDN'T AFFORD ONE, MR. WICKER.



BESIDES, I DONT HAVE ENOUGH GAS TO GO VACATIONING. BUT I WOULD LOVE TO GET OFF ALL ALONE AND ROUGH IT!

THEN IT'S ALL FIXED. I'VE GOT A SHACK ON BASS LAKE THAT'S A TWO MILE HIKE FROM THE INTERURBAN.



IT'S ISOLATED, A REGULAR HIDE-OUT. YOU'RE WELCOME TO IT. IT HASN'T BEEN OPENED FOR A YEAR AND IT'LL BE MUSTY. BUT IT WILL DO YOU A WORLD OF GOOD.

BOY! THAT SOUNDS WONDERFUL. THANKS, LANDLORD!

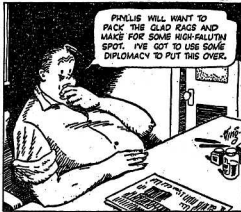




THAT SOUNDS  
WONDERFUL!  
SOLITUDE! NO  
RATION COUPONS.  
NO ARGUMENTS  
WITH OPA, ODT,  
WLB. NO STRIKES,  
NO BOTTLENECKS.



IT'S GENEROUS OF HICKER TO  
OFFER ME HIS SHACK. BASS LAKE!  
THERE MUST BE FISH IN IT! REST  
AND FISH, THAT'S MY PROJECT!



PHYLIS WILL WANT TO  
PACK THE GLAD RAGS AND  
MAKE FOR SOME HIGH-FALUTIN  
SPOT. I'VE GOT TO USE SOME  
DIPLOMACY TO PUT THIS OVER.



# GASOLINE ALLEY

# Satisfaction Plus



WALT, I'LL HAVE TO BUY HARDLY ANYTHING FOR OUR STAY AT THE SKY VIEW UP IN THE MOUNTAINS.

I WON'T EITHER, PHYLLIS.



MY EVENING DRESS WILL BE SUITABLE FOR DINNER, AND WHATEVER EVENING AFFAIRS THERE ARE.

SWELL.



MY HEAVY SHOES AND SLACKS WILL DO FOR MOUNTAIN CLIMBING AND I'LL MAKE A SWIM SUIT FOR THE POOL.

I'VE GOT AN OLD PAIR OF PANTS AND A SHORT SLEEVED SHIRT. THAT'S ALL I NEED.



WHAT DID YOU MEAN, WALT— AN OLD PAIR OF PANTS AND A SHIRT WILL BE ALL YOU'LL NEED FOR THE SKY VIEW HOTEL?

I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THE SKY VIEW HOTEL, PHYLLIS.

MR. WICKER HAS OFFERED US HIS SHACK DOWN ON BASS LAKE. WE CAN CAMP AND ROUGH IT, SLEEP IN BUNKS, EAT AND RELAX!

THAT'S ABSURD! I WOULDN'T CALL THAT A VACATION.

SURE, YOU WOULD! YOU COULD FISH, LIE IN THE SUN, SWIM. COOKING WOULDN'T TAKE MUCH TIME.

BUT, WALT, AT THE SKYVIEW, WE'D GET GRAND MEALS, EASY CHAIRS ON A WIDE PORCH AND GORGEOUS SCENERY!

EVERYTHING IS WORKING OUT ACCORDING TO PLAN.



# GASOLINE ALLEY



WE COULD HAVE A SWELL TIME, PHYLLIS. WEAR OLD CLOTHES, BE OFF BY OURSELVES, NOBODY TO BOTHER US.

I HAVE NO INTENTION OF SLEEPING ON BOARDS, COOKING ON A WOOD STOVE AND FIGHTING ANTS IN THE LONESOMEST SPOT ON EARTH!

# And Never the Twain Shall Meet



THEN HERE IS A COMPROMISE. I'LL GO TO THE SHACK, YOU AND THE KIDS GO TO THE MOUNTAINS.

IF YOU ARE GOING TO BE STUBBORN, NALT, AND NOT GO TO SKY VIEW, I'LL TAKE YOU UP ON THAT.



NOW THAT THAT'S SETTLED, YOU CAN GO AHEAD WITH YOUR PREPARATIONS. MINE WON'T TAKE LONG.

WELL, IF YOU WANT TO MAKE YOUR OWN BED, COOK, AND GIVE TRANSFUSIONS TO MILLIONS OF NICKER'S MOSQUITOES, YOU'RE WELCOME!



I'M SORRY TO LEAVE YOU WHILE THE REST OF US TAKE OUR VACATIONS, NINA.

I'VE HAD MINE, UNCLE HALT, A GLORIOUS ONE! AND I HAVE MY JOB.



WE ARE ALL HOPING AND PRAYING THAT SKEEZIX WILL COME BACK TO US BEFORE VERY MANY MONTHS.

I DON'T WANT HIM TO COME BACK NOW UNTIL THE JOB IS FINISHED. AND I KNOW HE WILL COME BACK!



HE KNOWS THE FIGHTING SPIRIT OF OUR MEN AND THE SUPERIORITY OF AMERICAN EQUIPMENT. HE LEFT WITH NO DOUBTS ABOUT THE FUTURE.

I HAVE NONE EITHER FOR THE SAME REASON. I'M MUCH MORE RESIGNED THAN WHEN HE WAS AWAY BEFORE.

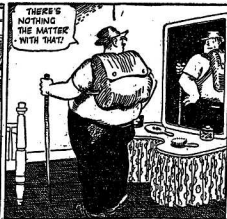


# GASOLINE ALLEY

HUNTING KNIFE, TOOTHBRUSH,  
EXTRA SOCKS AND SHIRT, POSTAL  
CARDS, PENCIL, AND GRUB TO LAST  
UNTIL I GET TO FISHING.



THERE'S  
NOTHING  
THE MATTER  
WITH THAT!



WHAT HAPPENED,  
POP? DID THEY  
PUT YOU IN I.A.?



# Off to the Wars

## GASOLINE ALLEY



## Two Is Company



I'M WALT HALLET,  
A FRIEND OF  
MR. NICKER WHO  
OWNS THIS CABIN.

PUT HER THERE,  
STRANGER. IM HANK.  
I'VE BEEN HANGIN'  
OUT HERE OFF AN'  
ON FOR A SPELL.

I DONT LIKE TO DISTURB  
YOU, BUT MR. NICKER IS  
LETTING ME USE HIS PLACE.

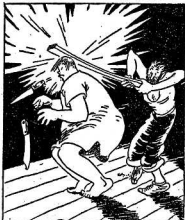
THAT'S JAKE  
WITH ME, FARDNER.  
YOU WONT DISTURB  
ME NONE.

BUT IM AFRAID YOU DONT  
UNDERSTAND. THERE ARE  
PEOPLE WHO LIKE SOLITUDE—  
LOVE TO BE ABSOLUTELY  
ALONE.

OH, THAT'S ALL RIGHT!  
I'VE HAD PLENTY OF THAT.  
IN FACT, IM PLEASURED  
TO HAVE SOMEBODY  
IN HERE WITH ME.



WANK DOESN'T SEEM TO WANT TO LEAVE. PERHAPS A SLEEP WALKING ACT TONIGHT MIGHT GIVE HIM A DIFFERENT IDEA.



HANK! YOU KONCED  
ME ON THE HEAD  
LAST NIGHT.

BUT, WALT, YOU  
WERE WALKIN' IN  
YOUR SLEEP.

THAT'S PRECISELY IT. I CAME  
OUT HERE TO REST. I JUST  
CAN'T HAVE ANYTHING  
INTERFERING WITH MY SLEEP.

BUT YOU HAD A  
COUPLE OF KNIVES!  
I HAD TO DO  
SOMETHING

THAT'S JUST A PECULIARITY OF  
MINE — KNIVES, GUNS, PITCHFORKS—  
ANYTHING SHARP AND DEADLY. I  
WOULDN'T WANT TO COMMIT SOME  
TERRIBLE ATTACK AGAINST MY  
FAMILY. YOU SEE WHY I LIKE  
TO LIVE ALONE?

I DON'T  
BLAME YOU,  
WALT. I'D HATE  
TO BE ON YOUR  
CONSCIENCE.  
I'LL BE  
MOVIN' ON.

# GASOLINE ALLEY



# Good-by Civilization

THE DESIRE TO GET AWAY FROM IT ALL AND DO NOTHING ISN'T FROM LAZINESS. A MAN SHOULD HAVE A CHANCE OCCASIONALLY FOR A BULL SESSION WITH HIS OWN SOUL.



HE GETS SO CLUTTERED UP WITH THINGS, PEOPLE, RULES, AXES TO GRIND, POINTS, AND RUMORS THAT HE NEEDS TO GET AWAY AND SEE HIS DISTORTED IMAGE IN A WOODLAND POOL.



THE FELLOW WHO SAID YOU CAN'T DO A YEAR'S WORK IN TWELVE MONTHS, BUT YOU CAN DO IT IN ELEVEN, MAY HAVE SOMETHING.



# GASOLINE ALLEY

# Native Son



I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT!  
SOLITUDE! SOMETHING I'VE HOPED  
AND PRAYED FOR ALL THESE  
NERVE-RAVELING MONTHS!



HLO,  
POPPY!



HI,  
POP!



YOU KIDS! JUDY  
AND CORKY! HOW  
DID YOU EVER HAPPEN  
TO SHOW UP HERE!

MOMMY  
SAID  
I'VE  
COULD.

SHE  
COULDN'T GET  
RESERVATIONS  
TO SKY VIEW.



KIDS, ISN'T IT GLORIOUS  
JUST TO SIT? NOT A  
RESPONSIBILITY IN THE  
WORLD - TILL YOUR  
BOBBER GOES UNDER.

SWELL,  
POP.

I  
LOVE  
IT.

WELL, JUDY  
HAS LEFT US.

WE CAN'T EXPECT HER  
TO STAY PUT. BUT WITH  
YOU AND ME, CORKY,  
IT'S DIFFERENT.

?





# GASOLINE ALLEY

YOU KNOW, BEFORE YOU KIDS CAME, MY BOAT GOT TO LEAKING BADLY. THE FASTER I BAILED THE FASTER THE WATER SQUIRTED IN AT THE BOTTOM.



I THOUGHT IT OVER. HERE I AM POURING WATER FROM INSIDE MY BOAT OUT INTO THE LAKE. I'VE RAISED THE LAKE LEVEL UNTIL IT'S ABOUT TO RUSH OVER THE SIDES OF THE BOAT.



WHAT I'VE GOT TO DO IS BAIL THE WATER FROM THE LAKE INTO MY BOAT! I TRIED IT, AND THAT LOWERED THE LEVEL OUTSIDE BY SEVERAL INCHES!



BUT, THE WATER INSIDE, BEING DEEPER THAN EVER, WAS FORCED RIGHT OUT THE CRACKS IN THE BOTTOM. WHEN I GOT TO SHORE THE FLOORBOARDS WERE BONE DRY!



# The Life of the Party



TELL US  
ANOTHER,  
POPPY.

I CAN TELL YOU ONE SQUINT  
TOLD ME. I WASN'T THERE  
SO I CAN'T VOUCH FOR IT BUT  
I DON'T THINK SQUINT  
WOULD TELL AN UNTRUTH.



IT HAD BEEN HOT AND DRY ON THE  
DESERT, BUT WHEN THE SUN WENT  
DOWN IT GOT COLD—SO COLD THAT  
THE EXHAUST FROZE BEHIND HIS CAR,  
LIKE IT DOES BEHIND THE STRATOSPHERE  
PLANES. AND IT WAS SO DRY YOU  
COULDN'T SPIT AND HIT THE GROUND!

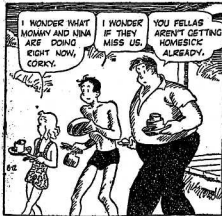


HE CAMPED BESIDE A WATER HOLE,  
THOUGH IT HAD BEEN DRIED UP FOR  
SIX MONTHS. NEXT MORNING HE  
CRAWLED OUT OF HIS SLEEPING  
BAG AND LOOKED AT THE DRY  
WATER HOLE, AND WHAT DO YOU  
THINK?



IT WAS FROZEN TWO FEET THICK  
WITH DRY ICE! YOU KNOW THAT  
THREE KARAT CRYSTAL HE WEARS  
IN HIS RING, THAT YOU THOUGHT  
WAS A DIAMOND? THAT'S A  
HUNK OF THAT SAME DRY ICE.  
HE CARRIES IT AROUND TO  
PROVE HIS STORY.

# GASOLINE ALLEY



# There's a Time and Place for Everything



# GASOLINE ALLEY

# Task Force



JIGGERS, POP!  
LOOK WHO'S  
COMIN'!



SUCH CLOTHES,  
WALT! YOU  
LOOK LIKE  
A TRAMP!

GOLLY, PHYLLIS,  
I'M GLAD TO  
SEE YOU!

I'LL SHOW  
YOU  
MY PET  
TURTLE,  
NINA.

GET INTO  
YOUR  
BATHING  
SUIT!



DON'T YOU  
EVER COMB  
YOUR HAIR  
DOWN HERE!

GOT ANYTHING TO  
EAT IN THE BASKET?  
WE'RE GETTIN'  
KIND OF TIRED OF  
FROGS' LEGS.







BUT, PHYLLIS, I KEEP TELLING YOU, THIS IS A SHACK, A CAMP—NOT A KITCHENETTE APARTMENT!



I DON'T CARE WHAT IT IS! IT'S GOING TO BE A DECENT PLACE TO LIVE IN WHEN I GET THROUGH.

AH, HAVE A HEART!



AND THIS STOVE! I'LL BET IT HASN'T BEEN POLISHED IN YEARS. THAT'S SOMETHING ELSE YOU CAN DO.





WHAT DID NINA  
HAVE TO GO AN'  
LEAVE US FORT  
SHE'S TOPS!

SHE HAD TO  
GET BACK TO  
HER JOB.

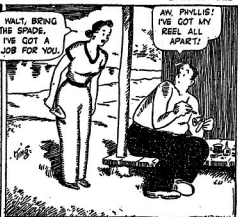


SCRAM,  
JUDY! MOM'S  
THOUGHT UP  
ANOTHER JOB  
FOR US.

HER IDEA  
OF A  
VACATION  
ISN'T  
MINE!



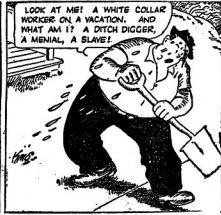
WALT, BRING  
THE SPADE.  
I'VE GOT A  
JOB FOR YOU.



AW, PHYLLIS!  
I'VE GOT MY  
REEL ALL  
APART!

# GASOLINE ALLEY

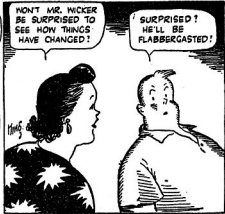
There Ought to Be a Law



# GASOLINE ALLEY

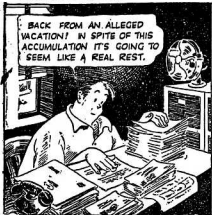


# Botanical Mission



**GASOLINE ALLEY—**

BACK FROM AN ALLEGED VACATION! IN SPITE OF THIS ACCUMULATION IT'S GOING TO SEEM LIKE A REAL REST.



GOSH, IT SEEMS GOOD TO PUSH THE OLD BIKE AGAIN!



I'M BACK FROM MY VACATION, HAZEL. I HOPE YOU MISSED ME.

HAVE YOU BEEN AWAY, CORKY?



BEFORE WE LEFT, NINA, I MADE A REALLY COZY PLACE OUT OF THAT AWFUL CAMP.

I HOPE UNCLE WALT ENJOYED IT AS MUCH AS YOU DID, AUNTIE BLOSSOM.



**GASOLINE ALLEY—**

**Everybody's a Winner**

YOU KNOW, AUNTIE BLOSSOM, I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU, BUT I FEEL A LOT CLOSER TO YOU NOW.

I HAVE THE SAME FEELING TOWARD YOU, NINA DEAR.

BOTH BEING MARRIED DOES AWAY WITH A CERTAIN RESTRAINT, & WE HAVE A LOT MORE IN COMMON.

YES. AND YOU ARE DEFINITELY A PART OF THE FAMILY NOW. IT DOES SOMETHING FOR ALL OF US.

UNCLE WALT WAS SAYING ONLY LAST NIGHT, THAT NOT ONLY IS SKEEZIX MIGHTY LUCKY, BUT SO ARE WE!

THINK HOW LUCKY I AM. I HAVE ALL OF YOU!



FROM THE TIME SKEEZIX LEFT, AUNTIE BLOSSOM, I'VE BEEN MUCH INTERESTED IN JOINING THE WAVES.

WE'D MISS YOU A LOT, NINA.

BUT WHATEVER YOU WANT IS ALL RIGHT WITH US.

I DIDN'T REALIZE I'D MISS SKEEZIX SO MUCH MORE THIS TIME. I'M DOING WAR WORK BUT I'D LIKE TO BE IN IT.

THERE'S NO REASON YOU SHOULDN'T DO AS YOU WANT TO, AND WHAT WOULD HELP THE WAR EFFORT MOST.

THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT— AT FIRST.





YES, NINA, THE WAVES ARE A FINE ORGANIZATION AND ARE DOING A GREAT WORK IN THE WAR.

I GOT A LOT OF INFORMATION ABOUT THEM, THEIR DUTIES AND THEIR OPPORTUNITIES, AND AN APPLICATION — BLANK.



YOU ARE OF FINE CHARACTER AND IN EXCELLENT HEALTH. WE'LL BE PROUD OF YOU AS A WAVE!

THERE'S NOTHING I'D RATHER DO, AUNTIE BLOSSOM. — BUT I'M NOT GOING IN.



NO?

NO.



HERE'S A LOT OF MATERIAL ON THE WAVES, AN APPLICATION BLANK AND EVERYTHING. NINA, ARE YOU THINKING OF JOINING UP?

I'VE BEEN LOOKING INTO IT, UNCLE WALT.



THAT'S SWELL, DAUGHTER! A GRAND IDEA! YOU'LL BE RELEASING A MAN FOR ACTIVE DUTY AND SERVING YOUR COUNTRY, BESIDES.

I'M SORRY, BUT I'M NOT GOING IN.



BUT YOU'D TRAVEL, MAKE FRIENDS AND HAVE A CHANCE FOR SPECIAL STUDIES! WHY AREN'T YOU SIGNING UP?

WALT, DON'T BE SO NOSEY! IF NINA WANTS TO CHANGE HER MIND THAT'S ENTIRELY HER AFFAIR.



MY DARLING HUSBAND: I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU ARE, BUT I KNOW THIS WILL FIND ITS WAY TO YOU. I THINK OF YOU CONSTANTLY.



IF I HAVEN'T HEARD FROM YOU I KNOW IT IS NOT BECAUSE YOU HAVEN'T WRITTEN OR THAT YOU HAVEN'T BEEN DAY-DREAMING OF ME.



I KNOW BY YOUR A.P.O. ADDRESS IN WHAT PART OF THE WORLD YOU ARE, BUT AS THAT COVERS A VERY LARGE SECTION INDEED I CAN'T BEAM MY THOUGHTS TOO DEFINITELY.



MAY YOUR HEAD REST EASY ON WHATEVER IT HAS FOR A PILLOW, TONIGHT. MY LOVE IS YOURS, FOREVER.





SKEEZIX SAYS, "DEAR ALL: I CAN'T TELL YOU WHERE I AM BUT IT'S ON AN ISLAND IN A GROUP, TWO-THIRDS OF THEM VOLCANIC, THE REST CORAL LIMESTONE. THE VEGETATION IS LUXURIOUS, MUCH AS IT IS IN THE PHILIPPINES."



"THEIR AREA, OUTSIDE OF MY ISLAND, IS 245 SQUARE MILES. I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO USE ALL I LEARNED IN MY OTHER OVERSEAS SERVICE."



TWO-THIRDS VOLCANIC AND ONE-THIRD LIMESTONE. THAT'S A TOUGH ONE! BUT HE MUST BE SOMEWHERE IN THE SAME LATITUDE AS THE PHILIPPINES.

I CAN'T FIND IN THE ALMANAC ANY GROUP OF ISLANDS OF 245 SQUARE MILES, EVEN LEAVING OUT ONE.

ANYWAY, HE'S BEEN RIGHT UP TO THE FIGHTING LINES. THAT'S WHAT HE MEANS BY USING WHAT HE'S LEARNED OVERSEAS.

MAYBE IT'S TREASURE ISLAND.





WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHERE SKEEZIX IS, NINA. DID HE GIVE OUT ANY HINTS IN YOUR LETTER?

WELL, HE SAID THE MOONLIGHT WAS WONDERFUL THERE, UNCLE WALT.



THAT THERE WERE GLORIOUS SUNSETS OVER THE SEA, A BRAND NEW SEA! THAT HE WENT ON RECONNAISSANCE TO SEE THE SUNRISE.

THAT SOUNDS ROMANTIC, BUT ISN'T VERY HELPFUL.



AND HE WROTE THAT THEY MAY BE ISLANDS OF ADVENTURE, BUT THEY'RE ALSO THE ISLANDS OF THE THIEVES.

THIS QUIZ PROGRAM SEEMS TO BE GETTING US IN DEEPER. AND DEEPER!

I THINK WE CAN FIGURE THIS OUT, NINA. SKEEZIX HINTED HE WAS IN THE LATITUDE OF THE PHILIPPINES

ON THE MAP, THAT WOULD MAKE IT THE MARSHALLS, THE CAROLINES OR THE MARIANAS. WE AREN'T FAR INTO THE CAROLINES, YET.



HE SAID IN YOUR LETTER, THE SUNSETS WERE OVER A NEW SEA. THAT IS THE PHILIPPINE SEA. THAT'S THE NEW NAME FOR IT.

THEN, HE'D HAVE TO BE IN THE MARIANAS TO LOOK WEST OVER THAT.



HERE'S ANOTHER CLUE, 'ISLANDS OF THE THIEVES.' THE MARIANAS WERE FORMERLY THE LADRONES, AND THAT IN SPANISH MEAN THE THIEVES.

THEN IT'S PROBABLY SAIPAN, TINIAN, OR GUAM. AND WE OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO DOPE THAT OUT.





I'VE GOT IT ALL FIGURED OUT, KIDS. SKEEZIX IS IN THE MARIANAS— ON GUAM.

CORKY AND I DOPED THAT OUT, TOO. HOW DID YOU DO IT, UNCLE WALT?



SKEEZIX SAID THAT, WITHOUT HIS ISLAND, HIS GROUP CONTAINED 245 SQUARE MILES. I ADDED THE AREA OF GUAM, 225, MAKING 740, THE AREA OF THE MARIANAS! HOW DID YOU DO IT?

SKEEZIX WROTE HED GONE ON RECONNAISSANCE TO SEE THE SUNRISE. THERE'S A MT. RECONNAISSANCE ON GUAM, STRAIGHT EAST OF THE OROTE PENINSULA. SO CORKY AND I FIGURE HE IS THERE.



AND HE DIDNT WRITE A THING THE CENSOR OBJECTED TO.

I THINK WE'RE JUST GOOD DEDUCTERS. THAT'S ALL!



# GASOLINE ALLEY

# A Dash of Cold Water

DOC, WE'VE GOT IT ALL FIGURED OUT FROM SKEEZIX'S LETTER WHERE HE IS. I THINK HERE' PRETTY-SMART.

OKAY, MALT, BUT YOU KNOW YOU COULD BE ALL WRONG.

HOW DO YOU MEAN?

I KNOW A WOMAN WHO KNEW WHERE HER SON WAS BECAUSE HE HAD SENT HER A SCOTCH PLAID. HE HAD BOUGHT IT IN SICILY!

THEN A SOLDIER'S WIFE LOOKED UP A BOOK HER HUSBAND MENTIONED - OLD CURIOSITY SHOP, SO SHE IMAGINED HIM IN ENGLAND. WHAT HE MEANT TO GET OVER WAS THAT IT WAS BOUND IN MOROCCO!

MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT, DOC. ANYWAY, I CAN THINK OF HIM BEING THERE UNTIL I FIND OUT DIFFERENTLY.

SURE, IT'S A GOOD GUESSING GAME.



MINA, DOC ISN'T SO SURE WE'VE GOT SKEEZIX PLACED RIGHT, BUT I'D BET THREE TO ONE HE'S ON GUAM

I THINK WE'RE RIGHT, UNCLE WALT



BY THE WAY, HOW IS UNCLE DOC? I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE OUR WEDDING.

A BIT WORN. HE HAD PRACTICALLY RETIRED, BUT OF COURSE, THE YOUNGER PHYSICIANS ARE IN THE SERVICE, SO HE'S WORKING HARD AGAIN.



I'VE BEEN THINKING OF HIM LATELY.

IT'S TOUGH ON THE ONES WHO ARE LEFT. TOO MANY PATIENTS, LONG HOURS, NIGHT CALLS. I DON'T SEE HOW THEY STAND IT.



# GASOLINE ALLEY



# Do Your Ears Burn, Doc?









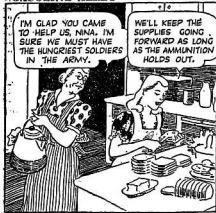
# GASOLINE ALLEY



# Behind the Scenes



**GASOLINE ALLEY**



**With Princesses a Dime a Dozen**





THIS IS WORTH A TRIP BACK FROM FRANCE!

DO YOU MIND IF I SPEND MY FURLOUGH RIGHT HERE!



I DIDN'T DO SO WELL FOR MYSELF BY GETTING YOU OUT THERE TO SERVE, DID I?

YOU CAN HAVE THEM ALL, JESSICA.



I WAS KIDDING, NINA. YOU CAN HAVE THEM ALL—EXCEPT THAT TALL, DARK MASTER SERGEANT.

YOU'RE WELCOME TO HIM, TOO!



NO, HONESTLY, I'M NOT DANCING. MY PLACE IS HERE.

YOU'VE DONE RIGHT—TILL I CAME ALONG. NOW, EVERYTHING HAS CHANGED!



NO, SERGEANT, MY STATION IS RIGHT HERE.

IT'S BAD DISCIPLINE TO LET YOU GET AWAY WITH YOUR FIRST NO!



YOU SEE? I'M NOT HARD TO TAKE, ONCE YOU GET THE IDEA.



A GIRL WHO CAN DANCE LIKE YOU CAN—WITH ME— OUGHTN'T TO BE JUGGLING GINGERBREAD. SHE OUGHT TO BE DANCING—WITH ME.

BUT ONLY ONCE, REMEMBER.



LISTEN. YOU'VE GOT TO MEET ME AWAY FROM HERE, WHERE WE CAN TALK. I'VE BEEN HOARDING YAP FOR MONTHS.

YOU KNOW VERY WELL DATING IS AGAINST THE RULES. ASIDE FROM THAT, NO!



SERGEANT,  
THIS ISN'T  
FAIR!

YOU SAY NO, I SAY YES.  
LET'S GO SOMEWHERE SO  
WE CAN ARGUE IT OUT  
AT LEISURE.



THIS IS MY FIRST FURLOUGH  
IN 14 MONTHS AND I'M DUE  
TO TALK TO SOMEBODY.  
AND YOU'RE IT!



AND I WANT TO TALK  
TO YOU. I'M MARRIED. MY  
HUSBAND IS OVERSEAS AND  
HE'S THE ONLY MAN IN THE  
WORLD I'M INTERESTED IN.



OKAY, LET'S START FROM THERE.  
YOU CAN BE TRUE TO YOUR  
HUSBAND AND STILL BE KIND  
TO HUMANITY—MEANING ME.  
THE LEAST YOU COULD DO IS  
SIT AND LET ME LOOK AT YOU  
FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS.

GOOD NIGHT,  
SERGEANT.  
NOW I KNOW  
WHAT THEY  
MEAN BY A  
SOLDIER OF  
THE LINE.



"OUTGUESS YOUR ADVERSARY: I FIGURED YOU'D COME OUT THE FRONT WAY TONIGHT, EXPECTING ME TO BE AT THE REAR DOOR AGAIN."

IT'S MY TOUGH LUCK ONCE MORE.



TONIGHT, WE TAKE A TAXI OUT TO THE WILD GOOSE FOR A BIT OF A FLING.

YOU MEAN THAT YOU WOULD TAKE UNFAIR ADVANTAGE OF A HUSBAND OVERSEAS, SERGEANT BLOUGH?



IS A WIFE SUPPOSED TO MOPE AT HOME BECAUSE HER MAN GOT THE SAME DEAL THAT A FEW MILLION OTHERS DID?

A WIFE CAN STAY AT HOME WITHOUT MOPING.



IF HE THINKS ANYTHING OF HIS WIFE, HE OUGHT TO BE GLAD SHE HAS A CHANCE TO GET OUT FOR A LITTLE INNOCENT PLEASURE.

AT ANY RATE, I PREFER TO BE ALONE. GOOD NIGHT, SERGEANT BLOUGH.





HAVE SOME MORE. DON'T BE BACKWARD.

GEE, YOU'RE SWELL! YOU KNOW ONE THING I'D LIKE? WOULD YOU DANCE WITH ME?



I'VE HARDLY SPOKEN TO A GIRL IN TWO YEARS. AND I'VE ABOUT FORGOTTEN HOW TO DANCE. MAYBE IT'S THESE SHOES.

YOU ARE DOING ALL RIGHT, SOLDIER.



YOU DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH GOOD THIS HAS DONE ME! I WAS PRETTY LONESOME. I REALLY FEEL AS IF I'D KNOWN YOU A LONG TIME.

COME IN AGAIN BEFORE YOU GET LONESOME. THERE'S NOTHING LIKE A PIECE OF CAKE AND SOME MUSIC TO KNOCK IT OUT.







WE'RE HERE BEHIND THE PALM. HOW ABOUT A LITTLE KISS, NINA?

CHUCK! YOU'RE ONE OF THE THREE WHO HAVE ADOPTED ME—ALL ON THE UP AND UP! YOU WOULDN'T CHEAT ON THE OTHERS?



WE'RE PALS AND BUDDIES, BUT EITHER ONE OF THEM WOULD DO THE SAME IF HE GOT A CHANCE.

YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE A WOLF TO ME. I THINK THE MUSIC GOT YOU. HAVE YOU A GIRL AT HOME?



I DID HAVE BUT SHE STOPPED WRITING TO ME. I'M LIQUIDATED.

DON'T BE TOO SURE. SOMETIMES IT TAKES A LONG TIME FOR MAIL TO CATCH UP.



WHAT'S COOKIN' HERE?

YEAH? JOE AN' I COULDN'T FIND YOU WHEN HE STARTED OUT.

CHUCK GOT HERE A LITTLE EARLY, WHICH ONE OF YOU TWO WOULD BE WILLING TO DANCE WITH ME?



YOU DANCE BEAUTIFULLY, MRS. WALLET. YOU KNOW, YOU REMIND ME AN AWFUL LOT OF MY WIFE. I'VE GOT SOMETHING I WANT TO SHOW YOU.

ALL RIGHT, CORPORAL.



HERE'S HER PICTURE. THE SAME BLONDE HAIR, THE SAME DARK EYES. I'LL BET YOU LIKE A LOT OF THE SAME THINGS SHE DOES.

PERHAPS I DO.



I KNOW YOU LOVE FLOWERS, AND MUSIC AND MOONLIGHT. I COULD TALK TO YOU - ABOUT HER FOR HOURS!

THAT WOULD BE FINE, BUT I'VE GOT TO SEE HOW THINGS ARE COMING IN THE KITCHEN.

JESSICA, YOU'VE GOT TO MEET ME AWAY FROM HERE, WHERE WE CAN VISIT.

OH, NO, SERGEANT BLOUGH. DATING HERE AT THE SERVICE CENTER ISN'T PERMITTED.

IT'S MY FIRST FURLOUGH IN 14 MONTHS. I'VE GOT TO TALK TO SOMEBODY AND YOU'RE IT.

BUT I TOLD YOU, I'M MARRIED!

OKAY, LET'S START FROM THERE. YOU CAN BE TRUE TO YOUR HUSBAND AND STILL BE KIND TO HUMANITY—MEANING ME.

NINA, HELP ME OUT! I'VE GOT THAT PROBLEM I SAID I WANTED. \* BUT I DON'T.



# GASOLINE ALLEY



# New Customer

# GASOLINE ALLEY



SURE, I'M BACK. I LIKE THE COOKIES HERE.

I'LL TELL THE COOK. DO YOU DANCE, SERGEANT BLONEY?

# One-Man Army



THAT'S TOO SISSY. BUT I'M A GOOD SITTER-OUTER. GIVE ME A TRIAL.

ALL RIGHT. I KNOW YOU'RE TOO MODEST TO TELL ME, SO I WON'T ASK WHAT YOU'VE BEEN DOING IN THE WAR.



YOU'RE CLAIRVOYANT. BUT SINCE YOU MENTION IT, I CHASED THE GERMANS OUT OF NORTH AFRICA, BLASTED THEM OUT OF SICILY AND MADE SALERNO FAMOUS.

THAT ISN'T ALL, I HOPE.



THAT WAS BEFORE I GOT MY SECOND WIND. AFTER THAT, I SURROUNDED CASSINO, TOOK ROME AND MADE THE BEACH HEAD LANDIN' IN NORMANDY.

NOW, I KNOW WHERE I HEARD OF SERGEANT BLONEY. GENERAL EISENHOWER TOLD ME ABOUT YOU.

SO YOU SQUIRTS HAVENT BEEN ACROSS YET. I'LL TELL YOU A FEW THINGS YOU MAY RUN UP AGAINST.



I JUMPED FROM A GLIDER AT 30,000 FEET OVER ST. LO. I HAD A GARAND RIFLE IN ONE HAND AND A .45 SUBMACHINE GUN IN THE OTHER, AND I YANKED THE RIPCORDER AT 1500 FEET.



I WAS MAKIN' FOR A NEST OF SEVEN MACHINE GUNS. I GRABBED A GRENADE AN' JERKED THE PIN WITH MY TEETH. THEN I PULLED THE PARACHUTE SHROUD LINES TO STEER RIGHT INTO THE MIDDLE OF THE BUNCH.



IF YOU HAD GUNS IN BOTH HANDS AND A GRENADE READY TO THROW, HOW COULD YOU PULL THOSE PARACHUTE LINES?

BOY, UNTIL YOU GET INTO A TIGHT SPOT, YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU CAN DO!



# GASOLINE ALLEY



# Thomas in the Flesh





OH, THESE ARE JUST EMPTY DISHES AND PIE TINS I'M TAKING HOME TO AUNTIE BLOSSOM.

I AIN'T DOIN' ANYTHING. I'LL LUG 'EM FOR YOU, MISS NINA.



YOU'RE KIND, SERGEANT.

IT'S NOTHIN'. MY PACK USED TO WEIGH 320 POUNDS



UNCLE WALT, THIS IS SERGEANT BLONEY. HE CARRIED MY BASKETS HOME FOR ME.

SERGEANT BLONEY. HAVEN'T I HEARD OF A SERGEANT BLONEY BEFORE?



NO DOUBT, SIR. I'VE FOUGHT ON EVERY FRONT FROM EL ALAMEIN TO NORMANDY.







SO NOW YOU'RE CORPORAL WALLETS WIFE, AND THE NINA HE WAS SPIELIN' ABOUT ALL THE TIME!

SERGEANT WALLETS WIFE! I'M GLAD HE DIDN'T FORGET ME.



FORGET YOU! WE THOUGHT HE WAS NUTS! BUT HE WASN'T SO GOOFY, AT THAT.

YOU SAY SUCH NICE THINGS, SERGEANT BLONEY.

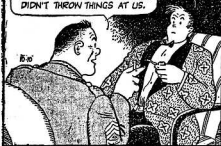


DIDN'T HE TELL YOU HE WERE LOST FOR SIX WEEKS IN THE LIBYAN DESERT AN' FOUGHT GERMANS ALLY THE WAY ACROSS IT, BRINGIN' IN DOZENS OF PRISONERS!

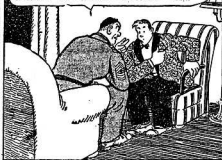
HE MENTIONED ONLY ONE. HE EVIDENTLY DIDN'T COUNT THE PROBABLES.

YES SIR, MR. WALLET, ON THAT NORMANDY BEACH LANDIN', WE THREW EVERYTHING AT THE GERMANS BUT THE KITCHEN STOVE. AND DON'T THINK THEY DIDN'T THROW THINGS AT US.

IT MUST HAVE BEEN A HOT SPOT!



BUT WE HAD SOME SURPRISES FOR THEM. WE'VE DEVISED A LOT OF SECRET WEAPONS OF OUR OWN. THE FULL STORY OF THAT IS YET TO BE TOLD. AN' WE'VE IMPROVED SOME OF THE ENEMY'S AND TOSSED 'EM BACK AT HIM.



OUR IDEA IS NOT ONLY TO GET THERE "FIRSTEST WITH THE MOSTEST", BUT TO BRING HOME THE "MOSTEST FIRSTEST".

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE ABLE TO BE HERE TO TELL US ABOUT IT, SERGEANT BLONEY.



WE WENT INTO A POWER DIVE, CORKY, STRAFING 'EM WITH ALL FOUR WING MACHINE-GUNS. THEN WE LET GO THE BOMBS!

GEE!



WE BANKED AN' CAME AROUND AN' LET 'EM HAVE ALL SIX ROCKETS, THE TAIL GUNNER ALL THIS TIME KEEPIN' OFF THREE MESSERSCHMITTS. BUT AN ACK-ACK FINALLY HIT US AN' TORE OUR PLANE RIGHT IN TWO.

GOSH!



HOW DID YOU GET OUT OF THAT ONE?

HE DIDN'T. WE WERE ALL PLUMMETED INTO THE SEA AN' WERE NEVER HEARD FROM AGAIN!



# GASOLINE ALLEY

# The Low-Down

ALL KIDDIN' ASIDE, MISS NINA, YOU CAN BE PROUD OF THAT MAN OF YOURS. HE WAS FRESH FROM THE STATES WHEN HE HIT THE AFRICAN DESERT BUT HE TOOK IT LIKE A VETERAN.

I'M GLAD TO HEAR YOU SAY SO, SERGEANT

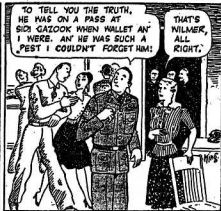
ANOTHER TIME, HE CRASH-LANDED IN THE ADRIATIC SEA ON THE WAY TO YUGOSLAVIA. HE FLOATED FOR DAYS IN A RUBBER BOAT AND WERE PICKED UP BY A FISHING VESSEL. LATER, HE FOUGHT WITH THE PARTISANS IN THE MOUNTAINS.

SKEEZIX DIDN'T TELL US MUCH ABOUT THAT.

HE WASN'T AWARDED THE PURPLE HEART FOR NOTHING, HE WAS WOUNDED IN SICILY AND HELPED CARRY A MORE SERIOUSLY WOUNDED PAL ON A ROUGH STRETCHER OVER BAD TERRAIN TO A DRESSING STATION.

I HAVE HIS PURPLE HEART DECORATION. HE MERELY SAID HE GOT IT FOR BEING WOUNDED.





ISNT NINA COMING  
DOWN TO BREAKFAST  
THIS MORNING?

NO, WALT,  
SHE DECIDED  
NOT TO.

WHAT'S THE  
MATTER, PHYLLIS?  
IS SHE ALL  
RIGHT?

YES, SHE'LL BE ALL  
RIGHT. THERE'S NOTHING  
TO GET EXCITED ABOUT.

SHALL I PHONE  
DOC AND GET  
HIM OVER HERE?

YOU EAT YOUR BREAKFAST.  
SHE DOESN'T NEED DOC,  
AND IF I WERE YOU,  
I WOULDN'T WORRY.



TELL ME  
ANOTHER  
STORY,  
SERGEANT  
BLONEY.

I MANNED A MACHINE GUN  
ON TOP OF A KNOLL.  
SUDDENLY, I SAW TWO  
ENEMY SQUADS DEPLOYED  
AN' COMIN' AT ME. AT  
THE FIRST BURST, MY GUN  
JAMMED, AN' THERE I WAS,  
CORKY.



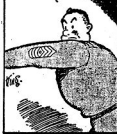
THE NEAREST MAN THREW  
A GRENADE, WHICH I CAUGHT  
JUST BEFORE IT HIT THE  
GROUND. I THREW IT BACK.  
IT EXPLODED JUST AS A  
HIGH ONE CAME OVER. I  
CAUGHT THAT AN' HEAVED  
IT BACK, LEFT-HANDED!



THEN ANOTHER AN'  
ANOTHER. IF I MISSED, I  
WAS FINISHED. BUT I  
KEPT SHOOTIN' EM  
BACK. FINALLY, ONLY  
ONE HEINIE AN' ONE  
GRENADE WAS LEFT.



I THREW BACK HIS HOT  
POTATO, BUT IT WAS A  
DUD. HE THREW IT AT  
ME AN' I PITCHED IT  
BACK. THERE WE WERE  
PLAYIN' CATCH, NOBODY  
DARIN' TO QUIT.



WHAT  
HAPPENED?

THE GAME  
WAS CALLED ON  
ACCOUNT OF  
DARKNESS. BY  
DAYLIGHT, HE  
HAD SNEAKED  
AWAY, THE LOUSE!





YOU MEAN SERGEANT BLONEY HASN'T MADE ANY KIND OF A PASS AT YOU—NOT EVEN TRIED TO HOLD HANDS?

NO, JESSICA. I'M SURE HE WOULDN'T TAKE ADVANTAGE OF AN OVERSEAS BUDDY.

IT'S BEEN DONE. I WISH I COULD THINK WILMER WOULD BE THAT CONSIDERATE.

BESIDES, I DON'T THINK THE SERGEANT IS INTERESTED IN GIRLS. HE DOESN'T EVEN TALK ABOUT THEM.

I HAVEN'T HEARD HIM MENTION ONE IN ALL THE TIME I'VE KNOWN HIM.

OF COURSE, I WOULDN'T LET HIM HOLD MY HAND OR PUT HIS ARM AROUND ME. BUT I'D BE DEVASTATED IF HE DIDN'T TRY!





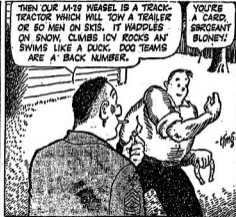


# GASOLINE ALLEY



# Collector's Items

# GASOLINE ALLEY







WOULD YOU LET ME CARRY THESE BASKETS HOME FOR YOU, SERGEANT BLONEY, LIKE YOU DID FOR NINA.

I'M GLAD TO HELP ANY WAY I CAN, MRS. BOBBLE.



IT'S A GRAND MOONLIGHT NIGHT. I'LL BET IT MAKES YOU THINK OF SOME GIRL YOU'RE FOND OF.

NOPE. I JUST KEEP THINKIN' IT WOULD BE A BAD NIGHT TO GET STRAFED.



JUST THE SAME, I'LL BET YOU HAVE A PLACE FOR AFFECTION AND ROMANCE UNDERNEATH THAT HARD SERGEANT'S SHELL.

SOFT INSIDE LIKE AN OYSTER? BY THE TIME ANYBODY FINDS THAT OUT ABOUT AN OYSTER, HE'S DONE FOR.



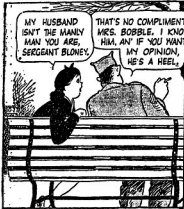
WELL, HERE WE ARE, AND I MUST SAY GOOD-BY FOR NOW.

OKAY, GOOD-BY.









MY HUSBAND ISN'T THE MANLY MAN YOU ARE, SERGEANT BLOWEY.

THAT'S NO COMPLIMENT, MRS. BOBBLE. I KNOW HIM, AN' IF YOU WANT MY OPINION, HE'S A HEEL.



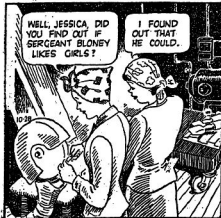
BUT HE'S YOUR HUSBAND AN' HE'S OVERSEAS FIGHTIN' THIS WAR WE ARE IN. PERHAPS HE WANTS TO QUIT. BUT HE CAN'T. HE'S GOT TO SEE IT THROUGH.



YOU SIGNED UP FOR LIFE, NOT FOR THE DURATION.



AFTER HE'S BEEN HOME A WHILE, IF YOU STILL THINK HE'S A JERK, LET YOUR CONSCIENCE BE YOUR GUIDE. BUT, MEANWHILE, TREAT HIM ON THE SQUARE.







THE WIND CARRIED MY PARACHUTE OVER THE RIDGE, AND WHERE DO YOU THINK I LANDED? RIGHT SMACK IN THE COURTYARD OF AN ARAB CHEFTAIN'S HAREM!

SERGEANT BLONEY WANTED ON THE PHONE!



WELL GIRLS, THIS IS IT! I'VE GOT ORDERS TO SHOW UP AT ONCE AT A PORT OF EMBARRATION.

NO!



GODD-BY, PALS. IT'S BEEN SWELL KNOWING YOU.

BUT SERGEANT—



BOY, WASN'T THAT A HECK OF A SPOT TO LEAVE US IN!





WHAT'S GOIN' ON  
AROUND HERE? EVERY  
TIME I COME INTO  
A ROOM, FOLKS  
STOP TALKING.

IT JUST  
HAPPENS  
THAT WAY,  
UNCLE  
WALT.

YOU'RE  
IMAGINING  
THINGS.



IS THERE SOMETHING  
I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO  
KNOW ABOUT? YOU  
DON'T NEED TO BE  
SO CAGEY.

IF YOU MUST KNOW,  
WE WERE JUST  
MAKING SOME  
POSTWAR PLANS.







KEEP GRI  
MUMGRI.

YESGRI, UNKORI  
WALTGRI ISGRI  
ALLGRI EARSORI.



HE'DGRI LOVGRI  
TOGRI GETGRI INGRI  
ONGRI ITORI.

SHALLGRI, WEGRI TELLGRI  
HIMGRI THEGRI STORGRI  
OFGRI THEGRI BEESGRI  
ANDGRI THEGRI FLOWERSGRI!



TO HECK WITH ALL OF  
YOU AND YOUR PIG LATIN!

# GASOLINE ALLEY

PHYLIS, TOMORROW IS ELECTION DAY. I HOPE YOU SEE THINGS MY WAY.

YOU'RE AN OPTIMIST, WALT. THERE'S NO CHANCE. BUT YOU'D BETTER GET SOME SENSE BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!



I'VE REASONED WITH YOU, AND REASONED WITH YOU. YOU'RE OBSTINATE BEYOND BELIEF!

FOR EVERY REASON YOU'VE GIVEN ME, I'VE GIVEN YOU A DOZEN WHY YOU SHOULD VOTE MY WAY!



# What's Good Enough for Grandpa

REASONS. POOEY! ALL DOZEN OF 'EM ARE THAT YOUR FATHER WAS ONE, AND YOUR GRANDFATHER WAS ONE!

THERE'S NO USE ARGUING, WALT. MY MIND HAS BEEN MADE UP FOR MONTHS.







NOW THAT ELECTION IS OVER, I HOPE THE SECRETS AND MYSTERIES AROUND THIS HOUSE ARE OVER, TOO!

SECRETS, MYSTERIES?



OF COURSE, YOU WOULDN'T KNOW! YOU AND NINA!

I'VE TALK ABOUT MANY THINGS, WALT. A LOT OF THEM WOULDN'T INTEREST YOU IN THE LEAST.



THERE THEY GO AGAIN! - ANOTHER LAUGH BEHIND MY BACK!



WHAT'S THE MATTER, POP? SULKIN' BECAUSE NINA AN' MOM ARE HOLDIN' OUT THEIR SECRET ON YOU?

I SUPPOSE YOU'RE ON THE INSIDE OF ALL THIS, TOO, CORKY.



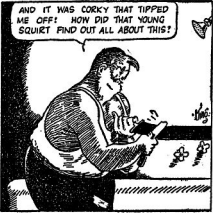
SIT DOWN, POP. WHAT YOU NEED IS SOMEONE TO TELL YOU THE STORY ABOUT THE BEES AN' THE FLOWERS.

THE BEES AND THE FLOWERS!



AW, POP!

CORKY! YOU DON'T MEAN—



# GASOLINE ALLEY



BYE-BYE, PHYLLIS.  
I'M OFF TO THE  
OFFICE.



YOU, TOO,  
NINA!

?



BOY! IT'S A  
WONDERFUL  
WORLD!



WALT, YOU LOOK  
MORE CHIPPER THAN  
I'VE SEEN YOU  
IN MONTHS!

I'D TELL YOU  
WHY, DOC, BUT  
IT'S A SECRET!

# The Sun Shines Bright







I DON'T THINK I OUGHT TO HOLD OUT ON DOC ANY LONGER.



DOC, I THINK I'LL LET YOU IN ON THAT SECRET I MENTIONED!

STRANGE AS IT MAY SEEM, I'M ALREADY IN, WALT.



YOU DON'T SAY! WELL, I WANT TO SURPRISE THE FOLKS AND SIGN YOU UP FOR THE BIG OCCASION.

YOU WANT TO SIGN ME UP! I'VE BEEN SIGNED UP FOR THE PAST THREE MONTHS!



WHY DOESN'T SOMEBODY TELL ME THESE THINGS!

IT'S YOUR ONE-TRACK MIND, WALT. WHICH ISN'T SO BAD, EXCEPT THAT IT RUNS THROUGH A TUNNEL MOST OF THE TIME.

# GASOLINE ALLEY

# Let's Change the Subject

NINA, I FEEL UNSETTLED AND DISCOURAGED. I DON'T SEEM TO COME OUT OF IT.

CHEER UP, JESSICA. WHEN YOUR HUSBAND COMES BACK TO YOU AFTER THE WAR IS OVER, EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE.

YES, BUT YOU HAVE SOMETHING WONDERFUL TO LOOK FORWARD TO, WHICH I HAVEN'T. I'M VERY ENVIOUS OF YOU.

YOU MUSTN'T BE IMPATIENT. I JUST HAPPEN TO BE LUCKY.

YOU HAVE LOTS OF TIME. COME ON, I WANT YOU TO HELP ME TO PICK OUT SOME DRESSES.

I'D LOVE TO! I WAS HOPING YOU'D ASK ME.





# GASOLINE ALLEY





SKEEZIX, DARLING! IT BREAKS MY HEART TO KNOW THAT YOU HAVEN'T BEEN GETTING OUR LETTERS. THREE OR FOUR HAVE BEEN SENT EVERY WEEK.



SO YOUR FOLKS WRITE TO YOU, FUZZY. I THINK MINE HAVE FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT ME.

THIS IS SIX WEEKS OLD. DON'T BE DOWNHEARTED. SOME DAY YOU'LL GET A BUSHEL.



I'M NOT BEING FAIR TO THEM; I KNOW THEY WRITE, BUT IT'S PRETTY TOUGH NOT GETTING EVEN A HINT FROM HOME.

THERE'S A CHANCE OF THE MOON—MAYBE YOUR LUCK WILL CHANGE, TOO.



# GASOLINE ALLEY



# Dinner Conversation



FUZZY! IT'S A TRANSPORT LANDING FOOD, SUPPLIES AND AMMUNITION.

MAY CAN'T THEY LEAVE OUT A COUPLE OF DAYS, RATIONS FOR ME. AN' BRING ME SOME LETTERS.



WE'VE BEEN HOPPING FROM ATOLL TO ISLAND TO ATOLL TILL NOBODY KNOWS WHERE WE ARE.

'CHEER UP! SOME DAY WE'LL GET A JEEP-LOAD ALL AT ONCE.



HEAR THAT! IT'S MAIL CALL!

?



# GASOLINE ALLEY



# Hold Everything





LOOK, SARGE! A  
SNAPSHOT OF MY  
LITTLE GIRL AT  
ONE YEAR!  
SHE'S A HONEY!

YOU'RE LUCKY. THERE'S  
NO CHANCE FOR ANYTHING  
LIKE THAT FOR ME  
UNTIL AFTER THE WAR.



HOW YOU COMIN'  
WITH THE LANDSLIDE  
OF LETTERS YOU GOT!

I'VE STACKED 'EM ALL  
IN ORDER ACCORDING  
TO POSTMARKS, AND  
I'M STARTING WITH  
THE EARLIEST.



I COULDN'T! I  
STARTED AT THE  
LAST AN' WENT  
BACKWARDS.

I FIGURE THAT THIS WAY  
THEY'LL KEEP GETTING BETTER  
AND FRESHER AS I GO ALONG.





IN THIS LETTER NINA TELLS ABOUT ALL OF THEM TRYING TO FIGURE OUT FROM MY LETTERS WHERE I AM.

DID YOU GIVE 'EM HINTS!



NONE THAT WERENT LEGITIMATE. THEY FINALLY LOCATED ME ON GUAM—WHICH WAS RIGHT, AT THE TIME.

MY WIFE GUESSED SAIPAN. SHE HADNT FAR WRONG.



AN' NEVE BEEN HOPPIN' SO FAST SHE HASNT GUESSED RIGHT SINCE.

HERE'S A HOT ONE. CAPT. MEAGER, AN M.D. WHO USED TO BE SWEET ON HER, CALLED TO TAKE HER OUT. WAS HIS FACE RED WHEN HE FOUND OUT SHE WAS MARRIED!



GOOD OLD SERGEANT BLONEY, MY PAL FROM SICILY AND YUGOSLAVIA! HE'S ON FURLOUGH AND HAS SEEN NINA AND THE FOLKS.

MY BUDDY JOE WAS HOME, TOO.

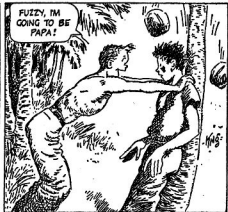
THEN THERE SEEMS TO BE A LETTER MISSING. SHE KIDS ABOUT NOT LETTING UNCLE WALT IN ON THE BIG SECRET, WHATEVER THAT IS.

YEAH, MAYBE IT'S MISSIN'. YOU'LL PROBABLY GET IT LATER.

BUT SHE TALKS AS IF I OUGHT TO KNOW WHAT THE BIG SECRET IS!

AW YOU'LL FIND OUT— YOU'VE GOT PLENTY LETTERS TO READ YET.







# GASOLINE ALLEY



FUZZY, YOU DON'T KNOW HOW WONDERFUL I FEEL TO GET NEWS THAT I'M TO HAVE A SON AND HEIR!

SURE I DO, SKEEZIX. I'VE GOT A YOUNGSTER A YEAR OLD MYSELF.

# Wishful Thinking



YES, BUT YOURS IS A GIRL.


WHAT MAKES YOU SO SURE YOURS IS GOIN' TO BE A BOY?




BY GOLLY, THAT'S RIGHT! I GUESS I WAS JUST TAKING IT FOR GRANTED.

I'D SAY YOU HAD ABOUT A 50-50 CHANCE.


## GASOLINE ALLEY

A black and white illustration of a woman sitting on the ground in a wooded area, reading a letter. She is wearing a dark, long-sleeved dress and a beret. The background shows dense foliage and trees.

NINA, MY DARLING! I AM JUST TOO OVERJOYED TO BE COHERENT. YOUR LETTERS WERE DELAYED, BUT NOW I KNOW!

A black and white illustration of a man in a military uniform sitting on the ground, reading a letter. He is wearing a helmet and a jacket. The background shows dense foliage and trees.

THE GRAND NEWS HAS OPENED UP A WHOLE NEW WORLD TO ME, AND I KNOW THAT YOU ARE AS HAPPY ABOUT IT AS I AM!

A black and white illustration of a man in a military uniform sitting on the ground, reading a letter. He is wearing a helmet and a jacket. The background shows dense foliage and trees.

I CAN SEE UNCLE WALT ALREADY STRUTTING HIS GRANDFATHER STUFF, AND YOU OUGHT TO SEE ME HIGH-HAT EVERYBODY FROM COLONELS DOWN!



# GASOLINE ALLEY



FUZZY, I WAKE UP HAPPY AND I'M HAPPY ALL DAY!

I KNOW, SKEEZIX. I REMEMBER HOW I FELT WHEN I GOT THE GOOD NEWS.



MUD, BUGS, LIZARDS, K RATIONS— SO WHAT!

SCRAM, SARGE!



# Taking On Commitments



WHEN I DIVE FOR A FOXHOLE I'M NOT JUST LOOKING OUT FOR ME. I'M PRESERVING A HUSBAND, A FATHER AND A HEAD OF A FAMILY.

SEZ YOU! REMEMBER YOU HAVEN'T GOT YOUR FINAL PAPERS YET.

IT'S PEARL HARBOR DAY, FUZZY. WE'VE HAD THREE YEARS OF IT. THINK OF ALL THE THINGS WE'VE DONE AND THE PLACES WE'VE BEEN!

WE'VE SURE HANDED PLENTY TO THE JAPS SINCE THEY MADE THEIR SNEAK ATTACK.



REMEMBER HOW WE TALKED ABOUT OUR WARSHIPS WHICH WOULD BE READY IN 1944?

YES. AND 1944 SEEMED SO-FAR AWAY THAT EVERYTHING WOULD BE OVER AN' THEY WOULDN'T DO US ANY GOOD.



I HAD A QUIET LITTLE GUY WORKING IN A FACTORY. SINCE THEN, I'VE SEEN SERVICE ON THREE CONTINENTS AND THE PACIFIC, HAVE MARRIED AND AM HELL ON THE WAY TO BECOMING A FATHER.

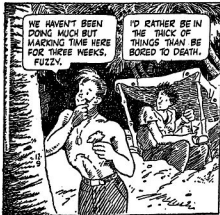
WELL, IT LOOKS AS IF HE STILL HAD ANOTHER PEARL HARBOR DAY TO GO, SKEEZIX.



# GASOLINE ALLEY



# Jungle Shower



WE HAVEN'T BEEN DOING MUCH BUT MARKING TIME HERE FOR THREE WEEKS, FUZZY.

I'D RATHER BE IN THE THICK OF THINGS THAN BE BORED TO DEATH.



SERGEANT WALLET, YOU ARE TO BE PACKED AND READY TO MOVE IN ONE HOUR. ORDERS FROM LIEUTENANT EDGE.

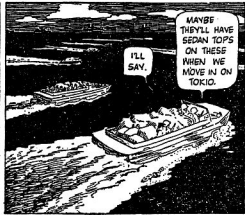
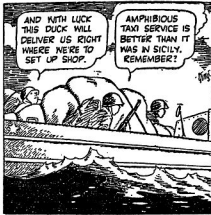
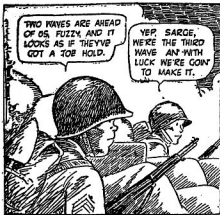
BOY, THAT'S NEWS!

I WONDER WHERE WE'RE HEADED.



IT'S ANYBODY'S GUESS. THIS WAS A MIGHTY COMFORTABLE AND HOMEY FOXHOLE, AT THAT.

WE'VE SURE GOT TO BREAK UP HOUSEKEEPING IN A HURRY.





## GASOLINE ALLEY



## Tropical Disturbance



# GASOLINE ALLEY



# Business Lot

# GASOLINE ALLEY

# Water Boy

WE'VE GOT TO HAVE AN  
ORDNANCE REPAIR SHOP UP  
AND WORKING IN TWO HOURS.



ONE THING THEY DIDN'T TEACH  
US IN BASIC TRAINING WAS TO  
LASH BAMBOO POLES. IT'S TRICKY.



WE'LL RASSLE WITH THIS,  
FUZZY. YOU TAKE THE  
CANTEENS AND SCARE  
US UP SOME WATER.

OKAY, SARGE.  
DON'T GET IT  
ALL DONE  
WHILE I'M GONE.





'T'S A  
FILIPINO.  
HEY, YOU!



WHAT YOU  
DOIN' HERE?  
DO YOU TALK  
ENGLISH?

I SPEAK  
ENGLISH. THIS  
MY HUT. THEN  
COME SHELLS  
AND BOMBS.



LISTEN. CAN  
YOU LASH BAMBOO?  
KNOW HOW TO  
BUILD A HOUSE?

I' BUILD  
MANY  
HOUSE.



GET A LOAD OF THIS  
AN' FOLLOY ME. I'LL GIVE  
THE SARGE A SURPRISE.



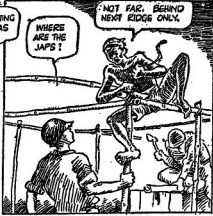
LOOK, SARGE, I BROUGHT  
A FILIPINO WHO SPEAKS  
ENGLISH AN' CAN LASH  
THAT PESKY STUFF.

GOOD!  
HE'S HIRED.



HOW DO  
YOU HAPPEN  
TO BE INSIDE  
THE AMERICAN  
LINES?

I HIDE IN CAVE WHEN  
BOMBS COME. THIS MORNING  
I GO TO MY HUT. IT WAS  
COLLAPSED.



WHERE  
ARE THE  
JAPS?

NOT FAR. BEHIND  
NEXT RIDGE ONLY.



WE VERY GLAD AMERICAN SOLDIERS COME. JAPS VERY BAD, VERY MEAN.

DON'T THINK WE AREN'T GLAD TO BE THIS FAR, BONGO.



AND WE HON'T STOP TILL WE CLEAN 'EM OFF YOUR ISLANDS.

JAPS STEAL EVERYTHING, CHICKENS, PIGS, CROPS, WOMEN MEN.



WE AMERICANS ARE MIGHTY HAPPY TO LIBERATE YOU FLIPINOS.

VERY NICE. BUT DON'T FORGET WE FLIPINOS ARE AMERICANS, TOO.





YOU HAVE A FINE FAMILY, BONGO, BUT, YOU UNDERSTAND, I CANT PAY THEM.

SURE NUFF YOU DRIVE OUT JAPS. WE WORK.



BUT I WILL GIVE ALL OF YOU A FEED!

NICE! WE LIKE EATING.





# GASOLINE ALLEY

With Best Wishes







YOU KNOW WE WERE TALKIN' YESTERDAY ABOUT WHAT THE FOLKS WERE DOIN' ON CHRISTMAS. THEIR CHRISTMAS ISN'T THE SAME DAY. SKEEZIX.

FUZZY, CHRISTMAS IS CHRISTMAS WHEREVER YOU ARE.

YES, BUT BECAUSE OF THE INTERNATIONAL DATELINE, IT'S A DIFFERENT DAY. YOU REMEMBER WHEN WE CROSSED IT, WE LOST A DAY?

THEN CHRISTMAS THERE IS A DAY EARLIER—OR IS IT A DAY LATER?

YOU SEE, IT GETS AN HOUR EARLIER EVERY THOUSAND MILES YOU COME WEST. THEN WHEN YOU HIT THE DATELINE IT'S A DAY LATER.

WELL, CHRISTMAS FOR ME WAS THE DAY I GOT MY LETTERS AND PACKAGE!





SO THE 'NATIVES' BUILT YOU A HOME HIGH AN' DRY AN' UNDER THE TREES! VERY THOUGHTFUL OF THEM.

YEP, SINC,  
AND  
ALL FOR  
FREE.

I'VE BEEN DIGGIN' MINE FOR THE LAST 4 MONTHS - NEW ONE EVERY OTHER DAY. 'DANG MONOTONOUS.

I KNOW!

DON'T MIND IF I PARK MY JUNK? THOUGHT YOU WOULDN'T. I'LL BE BACK DIRECTLY. WANT TO GO BRING MY COT AN' TOOTHBRUSH.

