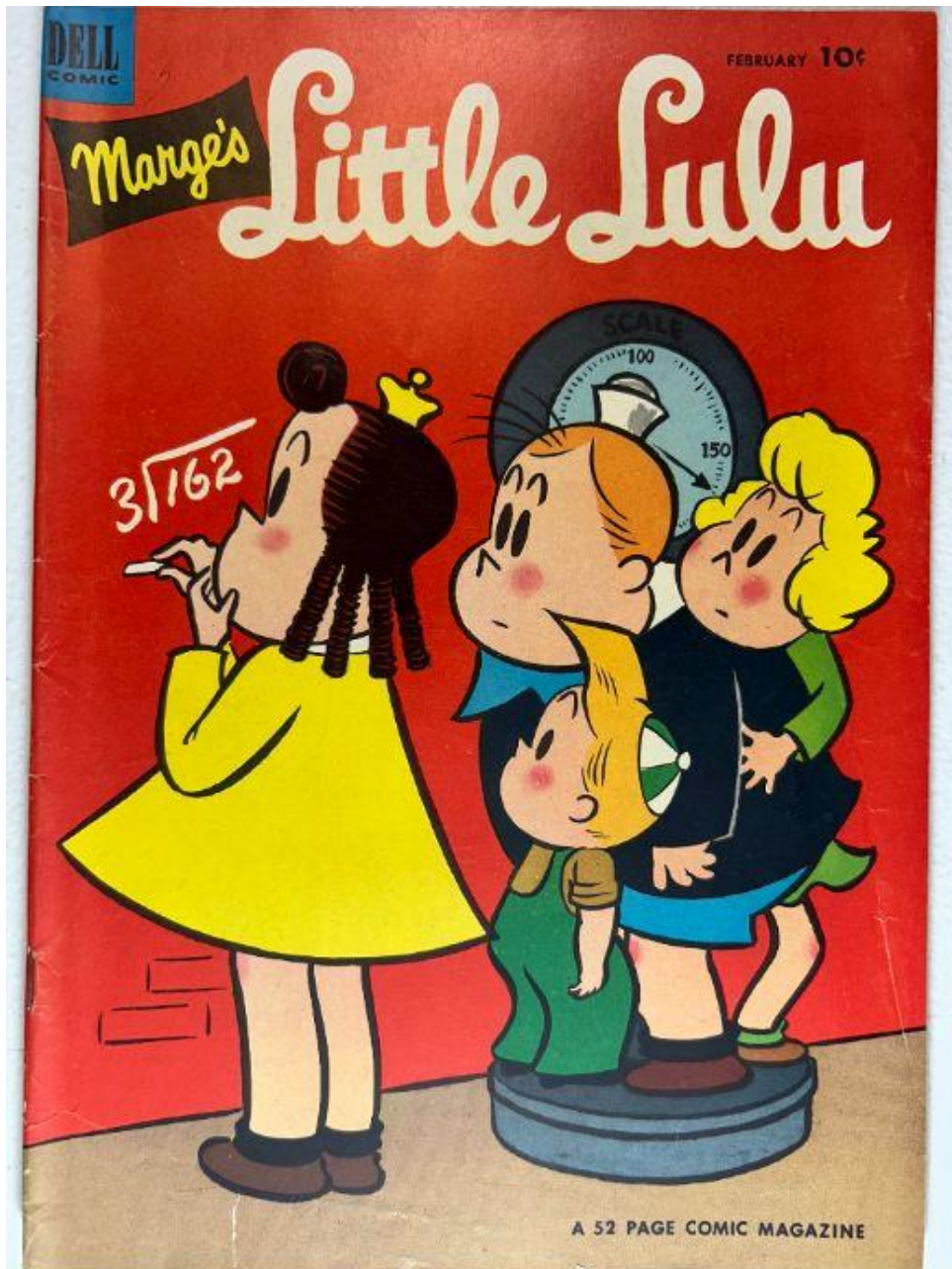


# Marge's Little Lulu Vol. 1 No. 56 – February 1953

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## Front Cover Observations

*Marge's Little Lulu Vol. 1 No. 56 – February 1953*



## Overall Composition & Scene

- The cover depicts four illustrated child characters standing near a mechanical scale against a solid red background.
- One character in a yellow coat is writing a calculation (" $3/162$ ") on the wall.
- Three additional characters stand together on the scale platform, positioned in a stacked formation, creating a humorous visual scenario.

## Foreground Elements

- The figure in the yellow coat holds a pencil and faces the wall while marking the calculation.
- The three characters on the scale include:
  - A taller figure positioned toward the back, facing left.
  - A medium-height figure standing in front of the taller one, looking forward.
  - A smaller figure in green overalls standing at the front edge of the scale.
- All figures feature simple, rounded outlines and soft color palettes consistent with the era.

## Printed Text & Branding

- Title: "**Marge's Little Lulu**" in large cream-colored lettering with a black banner reading "Marge's."
- Upper right: "**FEBRUARY 10¢**" printed in small type.
- Upper left: **DELL COMIC** logo in a blue square.
- Bottom center: "**A 52 PAGE COMIC MAGAZINE**" printed in black.

## Condition – Surface

- Light to moderate spine stress lines visible along the left edge.
- Minor creasing present across the red background field.
- Small areas of color loss along the spine fold.
- No stains, ink transfer, or moisture rippling observed.

## Condition – Edges & Corners

- Bottom right corner shows mild rounding.
- Upper left corner slightly blunted near the spine.
- Bottom edge exhibits faint handling wear but remains structurally intact.

## **Condition – Spine**

- Multiple visible stress marks and small breaks in the ink layer.
- Slight inward curvature along the spine line.
- Staples not visible from this angle but indentation lines indicate original placement.

## **Overall Impression**

- Strong, bright cover colors with moderate spine and edge wear typical of mid-grade Golden Age issues.
- No major structural defects, tears, or staining detected.

# ☑ Inside Front Cover Observations

Marge's Little Lulu Vol. 1 No. 56 – February 1953

98¢

25¢

25¢

25¢

25¢

25¢

50¢

25¢

79¢

49¢

49¢

29¢ ea.

Copyright, 1952  
WALT DISNEY  
PRODUCTIONS  
All rights reserved.

Higher prices in some  
areas due to greater  
freight costs.

All those wonderful characters from Walt Disney's *Peter Pan* movie are yours to play with, to read about, to color and paint. You'll have ever so much fun enjoying the adventures in the many ways that Whitman offers them. For instance, those two big coloring books jam-packed with pictures . . . the two story books, one with full-color pictures on every page, the other a jumbo book with 192 pages and 48,000 words . . . the punch-out book with characters that you may put together yourself . . . picture puzzles galore, some in frame trays, and others come six in a box . . . sewing cards complete with cord laces . . . statuettes of eleven Peter Pan movie characters, each with plastic stand-up base . . . and a fun book filled with "things to do," like games, puzzles, dot-to-dot and more! You'll find Whitman's Peter Pan fun at stores everywhere.

By Whitman Publishing Company, world's largest publishers of children's books

## Overall Layout & Structure

- A full-page advertisement printed on a saturated yellow background promoting **Walt Disney's Peter Pan** merchandise.
- Central composition features a large illustrated figure holding a blue sign surrounded by multiple product images arranged in a circular layout.

## Primary Visual Elements

- Numerous product illustrations including storybooks, paint books, puzzles, records, and picture books, each with printed prices such as **25¢, 50¢, 79¢, 98¢, 49¢, and 29¢**.
- A central Peter Pan figure appears smiling, positioned slightly to the right of mid-page, holding a blue irregularly-shaped sign.
- Products are displayed at various angles, overlapping slightly for a dynamic presentation.

## Printed Text Content

- The central blue sign reads: **"Eleven Fun-Packed Ways to Enjoy Walt Disney's Peter Pan – Available at Stores Everywhere!"**
- The bottom section includes manufacturer information: **Whitman Publishing Company**, with descriptive promotional text encouraging children to enjoy various Peter Pan-themed activities.
- Copyright marking: **1952 Walt Disney Productions** printed beneath the central figure.

## Condition – Paper & Surface

- Even yellow background with consistent color saturation.
- Light age toning visible around outer margins.
- No stains, foxing, moisture damage, or ink smearing observed.
- Paper surface presents light handling wear but remains stable and clean.

## Condition – Edges & Corners

- Slight corner rounding at the lower right corner.
- Outer edges show faint wear but no tears, chips, or creases.
- Spine-side margin intact with no detachment visible.

## Condition – Printing

- Strong registration throughout with no color misalignment.
- All text blocks and fine lines remain crisp and fully legible.
- Ink density appears uniform across all product illustrations.

## Overall Impression

- A clean, brightly printed inside front cover with strong advertising artwork and minimal wear typical for its age.

## ☑ Centerfold Observations

Marge's Little Lulu Vol. 1 No. 56 – February 1953



## **Overall Layout & Structure**

- A two-page interior spread printed in full color using a standard panel grid.
- Panels transition horizontally and vertically, depicting a continuous outdoor narrative involving a group searching for something unusual in the woods.

## **Left Page – Scene & Panel Content**

- Upper panels show characters discussing an object that “came down” near a chestnut tree, suggesting a mistaken flying-saucer sighting.
- Mid-panels depict the group running across grassy fields toward a wooded area.
- Lower panels show the group stopping abruptly, hearing a sound, and moving toward a tree to investigate quietly.

## **Left Page – Background Elements**

- Grassy ground with alternating light and dark shading.
- Trees with green foliage, some with visible trunks and branch silhouettes.
- A small path runs through part of the wooded area.

## **Left Page – Condition – Paper & Printing**

- Paper shows even tan oxidation with slightly darker tone along outer margins.
- No tears, chips, stains, or writing visible.
- Ink registration remains strong with clean panel borders and legible dialogue.

## **Right Page – Scene & Panel Content**

- Upper panels include a nighttime illustration with a large circular moon behind a tree line.
- Characters discuss reporting the event “to the police station,” continuing the mistaken-identity storyline.
- Mid-panels show animated reactions and repeated declarations of honesty.
- Lower panels depict a uniformed figure lifting a child by the arm, showing a misunderstanding or comedic arrest scenario.

## **Right Page – Background Elements**

- Dark green foliage representing evening or low-light conditions.
- Small wooden fence sections and grassy slopes.
- Interior of a small shelter or shed suggested in one panel.

## **Right Page – Condition – Paper & Printing**

- Oxidation consistent with left page.
- No stains, tears, or marks.
- Colors remain vivid, particularly reds, greens, and blues.
- Dialogue balloons clear and smudge-free.

## **Overall Impression**

- A clean, fully intact centerfold with solid color retention, uniform aging, and no structural defects.

# ☑ Back Cover Observations

Marge's Little Lulu Vol. 1 No. 56 – February 1953



## Overall Layout & Scene

- Full-page comic-style advertisement featuring a multi-panel sports narrative centered around a professional basketball player identified in the printed text as "George Mikan."
- Panels progress from an on-court competition to a locker-room rest scene, then to second-half gameplay, concluding with a final scoring moment.

## Primary Visual Elements

- Top banner features bold yellow and red text introducing the athlete and the scenario.
- Upper panel depicts active gameplay with several players positioned around a contested ball, including a tall figure wearing a jersey labeled "99."
- Mid-page panels include scenes of resting on a bench, receiving encouragement, and performing athletic moves.
- Lower panels show sequences of passing, layups, and a final successful basket.
- A product advertisement appears integrated into the lower-right panel, framed as part of the narrative.

## Printed Headline Text

- Large printed title: "**George MIKAN SPARKS in Backboard Battle.**"
- Secondary narrative captions describe halftime conditions, strategy, and recovery.
- The lower-right product block promotes a cereal brand using motivational phrases.

## Promotional & Narrative Content

- Narrative emphasizes endurance, recovery, nutrition, and performance.
- Captions highlight the athlete's contribution to turning the game around, referencing game scores and momentum shifts.
- A faux "Official Score Card" is printed in the bottom-right panel.

## Color & Printing

- Bright and well-saturated colors: strong reds, blues, yellows, and whites.
- Good registration with clean alignment of color layers.
- Panel borders remain sharp without misalignment or blurring.

## Condition – Surface

- Clean surface with mild natural aging visible in lighter areas.
- No stains, moisture ripples, or discoloration visible.
- Very light scuffing present but does not interrupt printed detail.

## Condition – Edges & Corners

- Corners show slight softening, mainly the upper corners.
- Top edge displays mild wear but remains intact.
- No chips, tears, or significant edge abrasion detected.

## Condition – Spine Side

- Spine-side margin shows faint rubbing consistent with normal handling.
- No splitting or tearing visible from this angle.
- Printing remains undisturbed up to the fold.

## Overall Impression

- A vivid, intact back cover with strong color and clean presentation.
- Minor age wear present but no structural defects.

## Spine Observations

*Marge's Little Lulu Vol. 1 No. 56 – February 1953*



## Overall Setting & Angle

- The comic rests on a white wire rack viewed from a low side angle, showing the full spine profile and the alignment of the cover relative to the page block.

## Spine Shape & Alignment

- The spine shows **visible inward curvature** along its entire length.
- A slight **spine roll** is present, causing the front cover to lean upward and away from the page block.
- The book does not lie fully flat, indicating mild structural tension along the fold.

## Spine Surface Condition

- Multiple **small stress lines** run vertically along the spine, breaking the red cover ink at various points.
- Light **abrasion** is present along the fold, revealing lighter underlying paper fibers in isolated spots.
- No open cracks or exposed splits are visible from this angle.

## Spine Corners

- The **top spine corner** shows mild rounding and small compression.
- The **bottom spine corner** appears slightly more softened but remains intact with no material loss.

## Staple Regions

- Staple impressions are visible beneath the cover surface, indicating original staple placement.
- No outward staple pulling, lifting, or tearing is visible from this exterior side profile.

## Overall Impression

- The spine displays typical Golden Age wear, including a noticeable roll, multiple stress lines, and light abrasion, but retains full structural continuity without splitting.

## ☑ Staples Observations

*Marge's Little Lulu Vol. 1 No. 56 – February 1953*

### Upper Staple Area



- The staple head is fully visible and lies flat against the cover surface.
- A **horizontal stress line** runs directly through the staple entry point, breaking the red cover ink.
- Light **paper abrasion** appears immediately above and below the staple, exposing lighter underlying fibers.
- A small **surface crease** extends outward from the staple toward the left, consistent with tension along the spine.
- No tearing, staple pull-through, or separation of the cover is visible from this angle.

## Lower Staple Area



- The lower staple is firmly seated with no lifting of the metal or visible distortion.
- Minor **surface wear** is present along the spine fold near the staple, with limited color loss in the red ink.
- A short, shallow **stress mark** radiates horizontally from the staple, appearing as a fine white line.
- No cracks, paper splits, or exposed fibers appear around the staple opening.
- Staple alignment suggests original factory placement without shifting.

## Overall Impression

- Both staples remain structurally secure.
- Upper staple shows moderate cosmetic wear but no structural tearing.
- Lower staple is minimally worn and fully intact.

# ☑ Inside Pages Observations

Marge's Little Lulu Vol. 1 No. 56 – February 1953

## Inside Page Set 1 — "The Downfall of Mr. McNabbem"



## **Scene & Panel Content**

- Opening page presents a school-office setting where an authority figure reprimands another character for failing to catch truants.
- Mid-panels show exasperation, physical gestures of frustration, and attempts to locate a missing item (a pipe).
- Lower panels depict the character leaving the room to borrow a student for an errand, transitioning the story forward.

## **Background Elements**

- Interior office furniture includes a desk, chair, bookshelf, and wall trim.
- Doorway frames feature simple rectangular construction.
- Minimal shadowing used to define floor and desk edges.

## **Condition – Paper**

- Heavy cream-tan oxidation throughout the page.
- Margins show darker aging but no staining.
- No tears, chips, writing, or insect damage visible.

## **Condition – Printing**

- Solid registration of black linework on all panels.
- Colors remain strong with no bleeding or misalignment.
- Speech balloons remain crisp and readable.

## **Overall Impression**

- A complete and well-preserved introductory story page with uniform aging and no structural defects.
-

Inside Page Set 2 — "Flying Saucer / Little Men" Sequence



## **Scene & Panel Content**

- Characters approach a clearing where a small craft-like object is visible.
- Reaction panels show running, shouting, and excitement about reporting the sighting.
- Police station panels depict hurried explanations, skepticism, and eventual dispatch of an officer.
- Final panels reveal small mechanical toys as the source of the misunderstanding.

## **Background Elements**

- Woodland area includes grass, trees, shadows, and open clearings.
- Interior police station features a desk, telephone, counters, and background shelving.
- Simple moon and nighttime sky illustrated in early panels.

## **Condition – Paper**

- Light to moderate oxidation across page surfaces.
- No moisture rippling, staining, or tears observed.
- Corners slightly softened but intact.

## **Condition – Printing**

- Strong color palette remains intact with clear reds, greens, and blues.
- Clean edges around speech balloons and character outlines.
- No registration drift visible in panel borders.

## **Overall Impression**

- A clean, brightly printed story continuation page with uniform aging and no structural issues.
-

Inside Page Set 3 — Chase and Group Sequence



## Scene & Panel Content

- Characters hide inside a wooden crate or storage container, with others crouched around the structure.
- Dialogues emphasize pursuit, concealment, and playful misdirection.
- Later panels show a large group surrounding the crate and preparing to lift it using a small wagon.

## Background Elements

- Repetitive brick-wall backgrounds suggest an alley or rear-building location.
- Wooden crate structure includes horizontal planks and hinged sections.
- Crowd scenes include numerous figures illustrating group dynamics.

## Condition – Paper

- Oxidation consistent with previous pages, slightly darker at outer margins.
- No tears, chips, or stains visible.
- Paper fibers remain intact with no brittleness observed.

## Condition – Printing

- Strong registration of multi-panel action sequences.
- Colors remain steady, especially in large group scenes.
- Dense dialogue sections remain fully legible.

## Overall Impression

- A structurally complete interior page showing moderate aging with no damage beyond natural toning.
- 

## Inside Page Set 4 — Carnival / Tunnel of Love Sequence

### Scene & Panel Content

- Characters laugh or tease another character in early panels.
- Mid-panels show two characters running toward a carnival ride entrance marked “**Tunnel of Love.**”
- Lower panels display a boat entering the tunnel, followed by pursuit and comic tension.

## **Background Elements**

- Carnival setting includes fences, striped structures, and the boat-ride entrance.
- Water in lower panels depicted with solid blue fields and simple ripple lines.
- Indoor tunnel shown as a dark interior with a rounded archway.

## **Condition – Paper**

- Uniform oxidation, with slight darkening near the gutter.
- No staining, tears, or paper loss.
- Corners show minor rounding.

## **Condition – Printing**

- Bright color saturation in carnival scenery.
- No ink offsetting or registration error visible.
- Strong consistency in water and tunnel shading elements.

## **Overall Impression**

- A well-preserved interior scene page with vivid color and intact panel structure.
-

## Brittleness Test Observations

*Marge's Little Lulu Vol. 1 No. 56 – February 1953*



## Page Flex & Structure

- The lifted lower-outer corner bends in a **smooth, continuous arc**, indicating the page can flex without resistance.
- No cracking, snapping, or separation of fibers appears along the fold line during the lift.
- The page layers remain uniform, showing no signs of splitting or delamination.

## Paper Surface & Tone

- Paper shows **heavy Golden Age oxidation**, presenting as a deep tan-to-brown tone across both sides.
- Despite oxidation, the fiber structure remains cohesive without powdering or flaking.
- Surface texture appears dry but intact.

## Edge Behavior

- The raised corner lifts cleanly, with **no micro-tears** forming at the fold.
- The edge remains smooth and unbroken.
- No splintering or brittleness shedding is visible.

## Mechanical Response

- Page shows moderate stiffness typical of aged newsprint but **returns naturally** when released.
- No audible cracking or hint of imminent breakage occurs during movement.
- The paper retains functional flexibility despite advanced toning.

## Overall Impression

- The page is **aged but not brittle**, demonstrating safe handling resilience.
- Oxidation is advanced, but structural integrity remains acceptable for Golden Age paper.