

Marge's Little Lulu – Vol. 1 No. 68 (February 1953)

Evaluation Date: April 7, 2026

SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS

Marge's Little Lulu – Vol. 1 No. 68 (February 1953)

The comic presents as an original, complete copy with strong retained cover color and generally orderly interior pages. The front cover features Lulu walking while carrying a boxed dog, rendered against a deep red background with bold white and yellow title lettering. Color saturation remains strong, with surface gloss present in protected areas.

Observed wear is **localized and primarily concentrated along the spine and staple areas**, with additional minor edge and corner wear consistent with handling. The spine remains straight and continuous with visible surface cracking and stress typical of the period, but no full splitting. Staples are present, embedded, and original, showing oxidation with associated localized paper stress. Interior pages are complete and legible, exhibiting cream to light-tan page color with moderate age-related toning and light corner softening. The back cover remains intact with advertising content fully legible and uniform toning. The paper demonstrates retained flexibility during the brittleness test.

FRONT COVER — OBSERVATIONS

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Photo Validation (img_1436 Front Cover)

The image clearly and fully depicts the entire front cover, including masthead, artwork, all edges, corners, and the spine. The photo matches the operator-designated Front Cover and is sharp and evenly lit.

Findings

- Strong red background color with even saturation
- Title lettering remains bold and legible
- Surface gloss visible in portions of the field
- Light edge wear along the perimeter
- Minor corner rounding at lower corners
- Along the spine-adjacent edge, shallow surface cracking and paper stress are visible
- No writing, tears, or large creases observed

Overall Impression

Front cover is visually appealing with **light handling wear and spine-edge stress**.

BACK COVER — OBSERVATIONS

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Photo Validation (img_1437 Back Cover)

The full back cover is visible with all edges and corners shown. The image matches the operator designation.

Findings

- Uniform age-related toning
- Advertising content remains clear and legible
- Light edge wear and corner rounding present
- No paper loss, stains, or writing visible

Overall Impression

Back cover remains intact with **light edge wear and uniform toning**.

INSIDE PAGES — OBSERVATIONS

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Photo Validation (img_1438–img_1441 Inside Pages)

Each image clearly depicts interior comic pages with panels, margins, and gutters visible. All images correspond correctly to Inside Pages.

Page Color

Cream to light tan.

Findings

- Uniform age-related toning throughout
- Color printing remains clear and well registered
- Light corner softening visible on several pages
- Minor edge wear present
- No interior tears, writing, stains, or missing material observed

Overall Impression

Interior pages are **complete, legible, and evenly worn**.

CENTERFOLD — OBSERVATIONS

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Photo Validation (img_1442 Centerfold)

The image clearly shows the centerfold spread and both staple locations.

Findings

- Centerfold attached at both staples
- Mild compression along the fold line
- No tearing, separation, or pull-through observed

Overall Impression

Centerfold remains **securely attached and stable**.

SPINE — OBSERVATIONS

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Photo Validation (img_1443 Spine)

The full spine length is visible from top to bottom, matching the operator-designated Spine image.

Findings

- Spine is straight and continuous
- Visible surface cracking along the fold
- Paper remains intact with no full spine split
- Localized stress visible near staple positions

Overall Impression

Spine shows **surface wear and cracking typical of age**, but remains structurally intact.

STAPLES — OBSERVATIONS

Upper Staple

Photo Validation (img_1444 Upper Staple)

Macro image clearly shows the upper staple and surrounding paper.

Findings

- Original staple present and embedded
- Visible oxidation
- Localized paper stress and darkening
- No pull-through or tearing

Overall Impression

Upper staple remains functional with **rust and minor paper stress**.

Lower Staple

Photo Validation (img_1445 Lower Staple)

Macro image clearly shows the lower staple and adjacent paper.

Findings

- Original staple present with heavier oxidation than upper staple
- Surrounding paper shows localized stress
- No tearing or detachment observed

Overall Impression

Lower staple remains embedded with **pronounced oxidation but intact paper**.

BRITTLENESS TEST — OBSERVATIONS

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Photo Validation (img_1446 Brittleness Test)

The image shows controlled flex of an interior page corresponding to the designated Brittleness Test.

Findings

- Page bends smoothly
- No visible fiber cracking, flaking, or fragmentation

Overall Impression

Paper demonstrates retained flexibility.

COMPLETE DEFECT LIST (Non-Compressed)

- Spine surface cracking and paper stress
- Staple oxidation (upper and lower) with localized paper stress
- Light cover edge wear
- Corner rounding
- Interior page corner softening
- Uniform age-related toning