

WEIRD

#16

LOVE™



WEIRD-TORIAL



Weird Love editors,
Craig Yoe, Clizia Gussoni, Clizia Gussoni, and Clizia Gussoni.

Dear Weird Lovers,

This has never happened to us before! Weirdly enough this time around we're at a complete loss for words. We don't even begin to know what to say this issue about these utterly bizarro romance comic book stories. They actually leave us completely speechless.

What should we do? Sure we could BS you and go on and on and on with some kind of pure baloney, but if we just did that you would probably be royally annoyed—and rightfully so! And you, dear reader, would see right through us and realize that what we were writing was a complete, total waste of your valuable time.

You are smart enough that you would never fall for such blatant nonsense. Because you are so intelligent, you would stop reading the stupid gibberish we wrote and not hopelessly plow through such ridiculous crapola to the very end.

Weird Love,

—Clizia Gussoni & Craig Yoe



Dear Weird Lovers,
**LOOK FOR ANOTHER BIZARRO
ISSUE OF WEIRD LOVE
IN TWO MONTHS!**

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Editors: Clizia Gussoni and Craig Yoe.

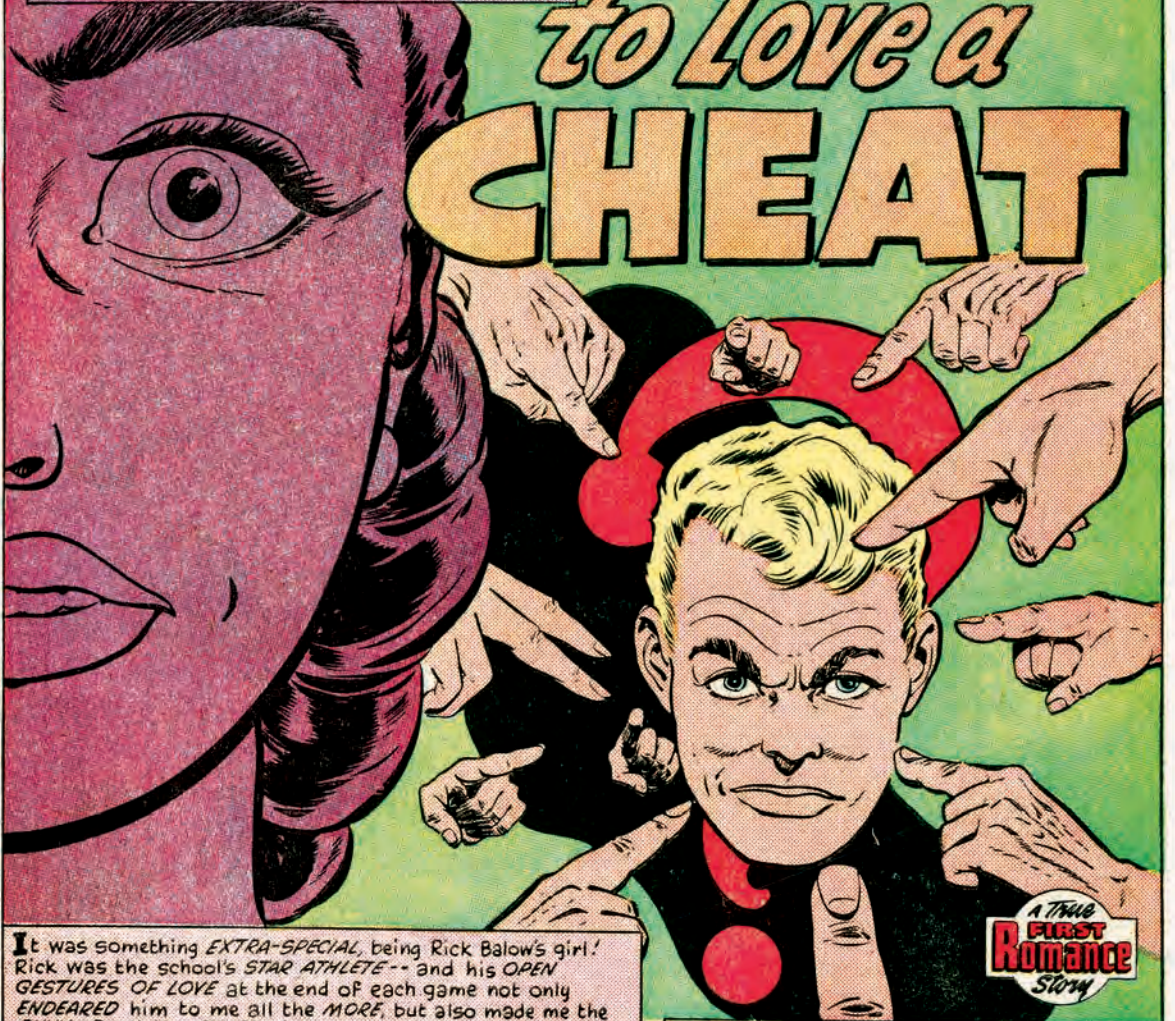
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A PALL OF DISGRACE AND SHAME HUNG OVER THE BOY I LOVED!! AND I HAD TO FACE THE TERRIBLE QUESTION--SHOULD A GIRL ALLOW HERSELF...

to Love a CHEAT



A TRUE
First Romance
STORY

It was something EXTRA-SPECIAL, being Rick Balow's girl! Rick was the school's STAR ATHLETE-- and his OPEN GESTURES OF LOVE at the end of each game not only ENDEARED him to me all the MORE, but also made me the ENVY of all the OTHER girls...

Afterwards, I waited for Rick... we were going to the school VICTORY DANCE...



HELLO, MY DARLING! I WONDER IF YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU--HOW ENVIOUS ALL THE OTHER GIRLS ARE



OH, DARLING, I'M SO PROUD! YOU CLINCHED THE SCHOOL'S PLACE IN THE REGIONAL PLAY-OFFS WITH THAT WINNING BASKET!

LISTEN TO THE GAL! YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW IT, HON? BUT IT WAS LUCK--JUST SHEER LUCK...



ELLEN--WOULD YOU MIND TERRIBLY IF WE SKIPPED THE DANCE? I OUGHT TO GO HOME AND STUDY FOR MID-TERMS. I'M WAY BEHIND...

OH, RICK--MUST YOU? I-- I'M WEARING THIS DRESS SPECIALLY! YOU CAN STUDY TOMORROW AFTERNOON...



OF course we went to the DANCE! And I had a GRAND TIME--but Rick's spirits seemed DARKENED by a VAGUE SHADOW of WORRY...

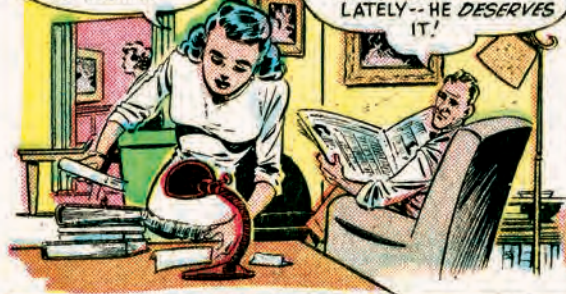
NOW TELL THE TRUTH, MR. HERO! WOULD'N'T YOU RATHER HOLD ME IN YOUR ARMS INSTEAD OF A TEXTBOOK?

YOU KNOW I WOULD, DARLING, BUT I-- AH, NEVER MIND! LET'S DANCE--AND HAVE FUN!

We didn't make a date for the FOLLOWING night, because Rick had to WORK. So I stayed HOME and STUDIED HARD for the coming exams until late in the evening. Then...

OH, MY! THAT'S ENOUGH BOOKWORKING FOR TONIGHT! THINK I'LL RUN DOWN TO THE DRUG STORE, DADDY. RICK WILL BRING ME HOME...

ALL RIGHT, HONEY. GIVE THAT BOY OF YOURS A HUG FOR ME! THE WAY HE'S BEEN SPARKING THE SCHOOL TEAM LATELY-- HE DESERVES IT!



I chattered BLITHELY with him for an hour-- until CLOSING TIME -- and then...

HONEY, IT'S 11 O'CLOCK--TIME TO CLOSE UP--RICK! YOU'RE NOT EVEN LISTENING TO ME!...

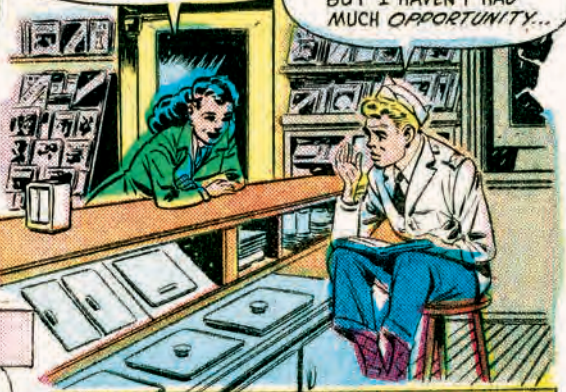
WHA?...OH--SURE I AM, HONEY! I WAS JUST GLANCING THRU MY MATH BOOK FOR TOMORROW'S EXAM. THAT'S ALL...



Rick worked four evenings a week... He was SAVING MONEY to augment the ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP he hoped to win in order to go to college! My Rick was a WONDERFUL GUY...

HEY! IS THIS THE SERVICE A CUSTOMER GETS? WHAT ARE YOU--A CLEEK--OR A BOOKWORM HERE?!

HUH--? OH, HELLO HONEY-- I DIDN'T SEE YOU COME IN! I'M TRYING TO STUDY FOR EXAMS-- BUT I HAVEN'T HAD MUCH OPPORTUNITY...



I waited while he closed up--and then he walked me home...

MMMMM... DARLING--IF YOU DO HALF AS WELL WITH THE MATH MID-TERM AS YOU DO WITH YOUR GOOD-NIGHT KISSES, YOU'LL PASS HIGH!

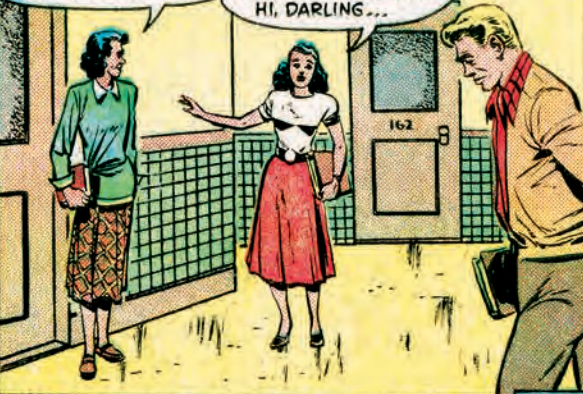
WELL--LET'S HOPE SO, ELLEN... LET'S--HOPE--SO!!



Next day, when we had the big math test, I said a **SILENT PRAYER** for Rick! If he **PASSED** it, he was almost **CERTAIN** to get the **SCHOLARSHIP**...

WHEW! THANK HEAVEN THAT EXAM IS OVER!

AMEN TO THAT, SUSIE! I--OH--THERE'S RICK! HI, DARLING...



I had never **SEEN** Rick so **NERVOUS** and **IRRITABLE**! I could **TELL** that something was **WRONG**--**REALLY** wrong...



RICK, HONEY-- WHAT'S THE MATTER?

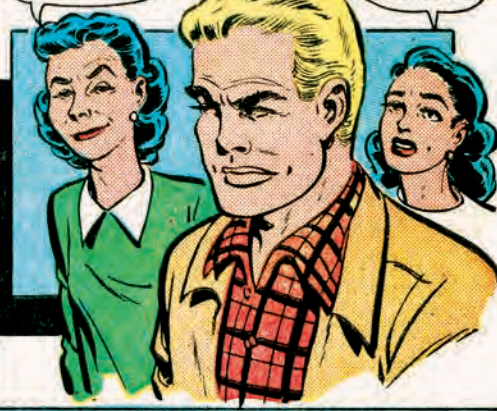
ATTENTION! THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS ARE TO REPORT AT ONCE TO THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE--BALOW, JONES, MORTON, FRANKS...

THAT'S WHAT THE MATTER! I KNEW IT! THEY'VE FOUND OUT!...

WELL! YOU'RE A GLOOMY-LOOKING GUS,! WHATEVER IS THE MATTER, LOVER-BOY?

AHH, LET ME ALONE, WILL YOU, SUSIE!

HEY-- NO FIGHTING TILL THE BELL SOUNDS!



He walked away from me, looking like a man **FACING DEATH**! I didn't know what to **MAKE OF IT** until a half hour later, when Susie dropped **HER BOMBSHELL**...



WELL!! YOU KNOW WHY THOSE BOYS-- PRACTICALLY THE WHOLE BASKETBALL TEAM-- WERE CALLED TO THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE? BECAUSE THEY ALL CHEATED IN THE MATH EXAM-- AND THEY WERE CAUGHT AT IT!!

Susie's eyes **GLEAMED** with **VICIOUSNESS** and **EXCITEMENT**! She was the **SCHOOL GOSSIP**! And **THIS** was the most **SENSATIONAL** news she'd had for **MONTHS**!! The **BASKETBALL TEAM** caught for **CHEATING**--Rick included! I stared at her--**UNBELIEVING**--**DUMBFOUNDED**...



WHAT DO YOU THINK OF YOUR **PRECIOUS RICK NOW**, ELLEN?? DON'T FORGET-- IF HE'LL **CHEAT** IN A TEST-- HE'LL **CHEAT** IN LOVE, TOO!!

SUSIE-- STOP IT! I-- I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ANYMORE!!

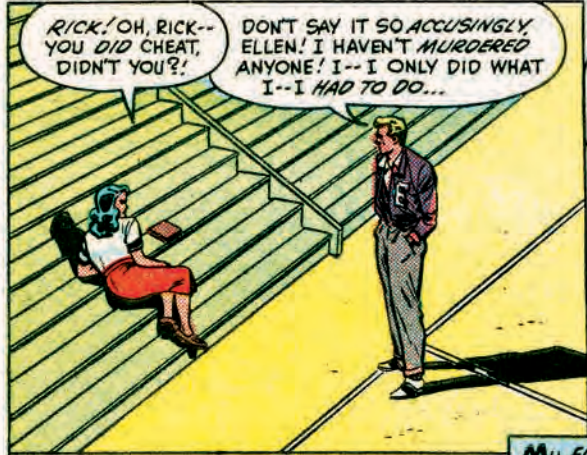
I fled into the **EMPTY GYM** to **ESCAPE** her... I wanted to be **ALONE**--I wanted to **THINK**--I wanted to **DO SOMETHING** about the sudden **PAIN** and **BEWILDERMENT** in my heart...



IF HE'LL **CHEAT** IN A TEST, HE'LL **CHEAT** IN LOVE!! **CHEAT--CHEAT...**

IT CAN'T BE TRUE! RICK WOULDN'T **CHEAT**! HE WOULDN'T **THROW AWAY** EVERYTHING WE'VE **PLANNED FOR**--**WORKED FOR**--**PRAYED FOR**!...

Then Rick walked SLOWLY into the gym-- and I knew it WAS TRUE!! One look at his Face TOLD ME--IT WAS TRUE-- he HAD CHEATED!!



RICK: OH, RICK-- YOU DID CHEAT, DIDN'T YOU?!

DON'T SAY IT SO ACCUSINGLY, ELLEN! I HAVEN'T MURDERED ANYONE! I-- I ONLY DID WHAT I-- I HAD TO DO...

Try to imagine the thing you CHERISH most in the world suddenly turning to ASHES before you... and you'll have SOME IDEA of how I felt at that moment...

"WHAT YOU HAD TO DO"? WHY DIDN'T YOU STUDY FOR THE TEST-- SO YOU WOULDN'T HAVE HAD TO CHEAT?! WHAT ABOUT YOUR SCHOLARSHIP-- THE CHAMPIONSHIP-- THE...

FOR HEAVENS SAKE, ELLEN-- LET ME ALONE, LET ME ALONE!! I TELL YOU I HAD TO DO IT! I THOUGHT YOU'D UNDERSTAND THAT!!



YES-- YOU HAD TO CHEAT! I GUESS SUSIE WAS RIGHT!! YOU'D CHEAT ON ME, TOO-- IF YOU HAD TO!! ALL RIGHT, THEN, RICK-- I'LL LET YOU ALONE THEN-- FOREVER!! FOREVER!!!



My FURY had flared SUDDENLY and BITTERLY-- and the HIDEOUS SUSPICION Susie had planted in my heart had BURST OUT!! I ran BLINDLY out of the gym, the WHOLE WORLD CRASHING around me...

I CAN'T TRUST HIM-- SO I --(sob)-- DON'T DARE TO LOVE HIM!! I--OH! WHO'S THAT?...

OKAY! SO WE'RE THROUGH! BUT LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING, TOOTS!...

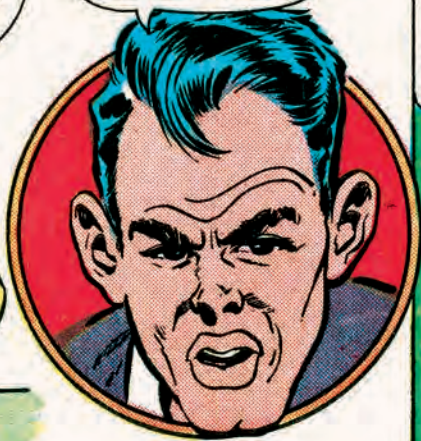
YOU CAN'T TELL ME ANYTHING, TED FRANKS! YOU-- YOU CHEAT!



It was a LOUD, FURIOUSLY ANGRY conversation... I couldn't help OVER-HEARING IT and RECOGNIZING the voices...

I CAN TELL YOU THIS-- THAT EVERY ONE OF US GUYS HAD TO CHEAT BECAUSE YOU DAMES WOULDN'T GIVE US TIME TO STUDY!! YOU DIDN'T CARE THAT WE HAD TO PRACTICE EVERY AFTERNOON! WE STILL HAD TO DATE YOU EVERY NIGHT TO KEEP YOU!! WE NEVER HAD A CHANCE TO STUDY...

BUT YOU GIRLS NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT! OH, NO!! YOU WANTED TO GO OUT-- HAVE FUN-- SHOW OFF THE CHAMPS!! SO NOW WE'RE CHUMPS-- THANKS TO YOU!!!



I tiptoed away in a DAZE... my HEAD was SPINNING... and my HEART was THROBBING-- with SHAME and GUILT...

IT-- IT'S THE TRUTH! AND I-- WE ALL-- WERE TOO SELFISH TO SEE IT! THE BOYS HAD TO CHEAT-- BECAUSE WE-- THE GIRLS-- CHEATED THEM OF THEIR STUDY TIME!...



I could think of only **ONE THING**..that I had to **FIND RICK** and tell him I **UNDERSTOOD** and was **ASHAMED** of what I had **DONE** to him!! I searched all over the school, and when I came back to the gym...

I knew, suddenly, what I had to do--to win Rick's **FORGIVENESS**-- to see **JUSTICE** done! It took all my **COURAGE** to step forward and **SPEAK**--but my love for Rick somehow gave me that courage!...

OH!! IT'S THE **PRINCIPAL**--
TONGUE-LASHING THE
WHOLE TEAM---

THERE IS NO **POSSIBLE**
EXCUSE FOR THIS **MASS CHEATING**!!
NONE OF YOU WILL EVER **PARTICIPATE**
IN **SPORTS** IN THIS **SCHOOL**
AGAIN! IN FACT, YOU...

PLEASE, MR. JAMESON--
THERE IS AN
EXCUSE, SIR...

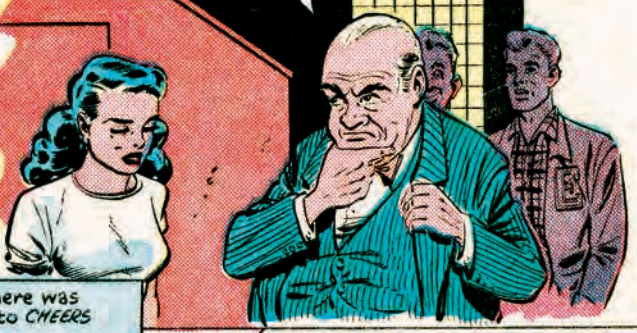
WHATEVER YOU HAVE TO
SAY CAN WAIT, YOUNG
LADY! YOU HAVE **NO RIGHT** TO
COME **BARBING** IN HERE NOW...



BUT IT **CAN'T** WAIT, SIR! BECAUSE **THESE BOYS**
AREN'T THE **CHEATS**.. WE ARE--THE **GIRLS** WHO
GO WITH THEM!! WE NEVER **ALLOWED** THEM
TO **STUDY**...

The **WHOLE MISERABLE** story poured from my lips--how I had **IGNORED** Rick's gentle hints about **STUDYING**... how **ALL** the girls had done the **SAME THING**... and as I spoke, Mr. Jameson's face changed from **ANGER** to **SURPRISE** and then--when I had **FINISHED**--to a kind of **ADMIRATION**...

MISS HOLMES--THAT'S THE MOST
EXTRAORDINARY CONFESSION I'VE EVER HEARD! I STILL
DON'T **CONDONE** THE **CHEATING**, OF COURSE--**BUT**--WELL--
MAYBE **THOSE BOYS DO DESERVE** ANOTHER **CHANCE**!!



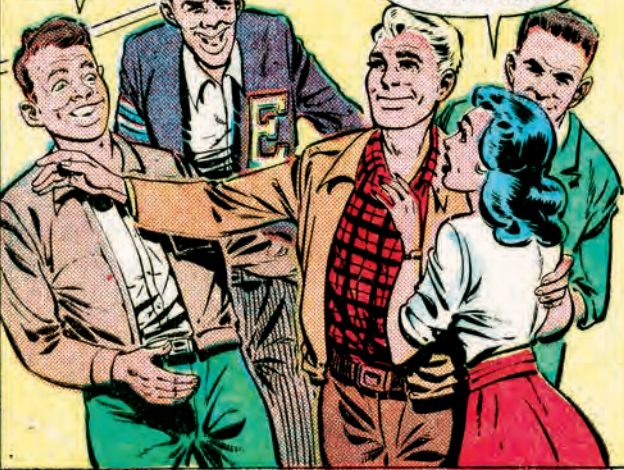
He strode from the gym--and for a moment there was **UTTER SILENCE**! Then, abruptly, the team burst into **CHEERS** and **RUSHED** at me with **OUTSTRETCHED ARMS**...

WHATT A GAL! LEMME
AT THAT **PRINCESS**!

ALL RIGHT, YOU GUYS--**HANDS OFF!**
IF YOU WANT HER **KISSED**--I'LL
DO IT! I'M HER **GUY**!!

SHE'S A
LIFESAVER!!

OH, RICK--RICK--
MY **DARLING**...



THEN YOU-- YOU **FORGIVE** ME?

THERE'S ONLY **ONE THING** I DO WHERE
YOU'RE CONCERNED,
HONEY-- AND
THAT'S **LOVE**
YOU--**NOW**
MORE THAN
EVER!!



And that's my true story! So remember, girls--when
YOUR **GUY NEEDS YOU** most, **DON'T LET HIM DOWN!**
Make sure--**VERY SURE**-- that the **FAULT** doesn't lie
with **YOU** instead of **HIM**!!