

QUICK, SANDY... THAT
OLD LADDER... GRAB IT AS
WE HIT... IT'S OUR ONLY
CHANCE... NOW!



Harold Gray's
**Little Orphan
Annie**

VOLUME FOURTEEN
SUNSHINE
AND SHADOW

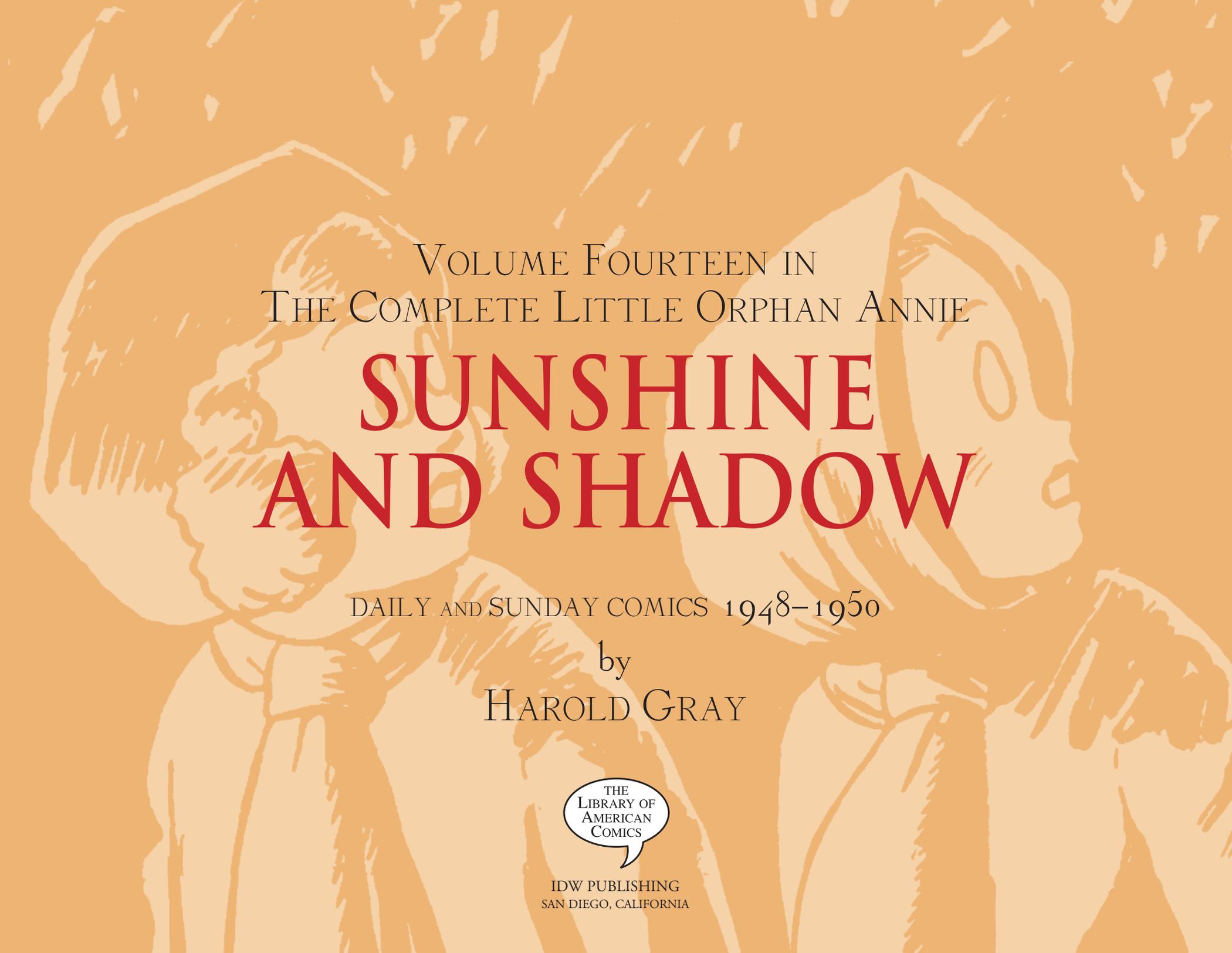


GYPSY
BELLE

DAILIES AND
COLOR SUNDAYS
1948-1950

EDITED BY DEAN MULLANEY
WITH A BIOGRAPHICAL ESSAY BY JEET HEER

America's Spunkiest Kid and the \$100 Million Treasure!



VOLUME FOURTEEN IN
THE COMPLETE LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE

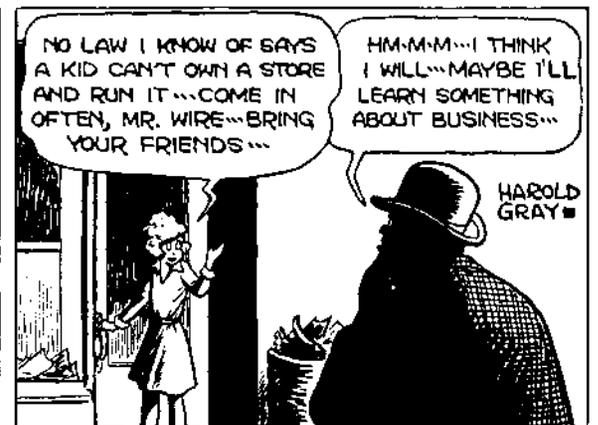
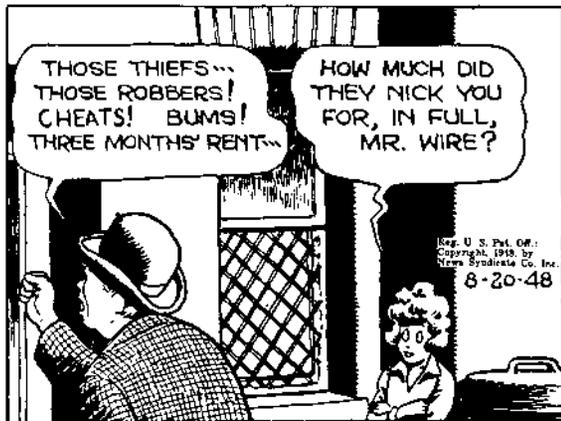
SUNSHINE AND SHADOW

DAILY AND SUNDAY COMICS 1948-1950

by
HAROLD GRAY



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Little Orphan Annie

LIFE IS A SORRY MELANGE OF GOLD AND SILVER AND STUBBLE, OF ROSES AND WORMWOOD AND WEEDS, OF RUBIES AND RUBBLE. (R.H. SCHAUFFLER)

YEAH...PETER AND POLA PETARD PULLED OUT, OWIN' OLD WINSTON WIRE THREE MONTHS' RENT---

MAX, PUDDLE'S CHAUFFEUR, VANISHED TH' SAME NIGHT!

DOZENS O' OTHERS WENT TH' SAME TIME... WHERE?

WHO KNOWS?

WHO CARES?

YEAH! EVERY ONE O' THAT MOB THAT I KNEW, WE CAN DO WITHOUT!

I HEAR THAT NEW KID, ANNIE, HAS RENTED TH' PETARD STORE...

YEAH?

WHAT'S THIS I HEAR ABOUT YOU RENTING THAT PETARD STORE? AND YOU KNOW PLENTY ABOUT THAT PLACE... COME ON...GIVE OUT!

OH, HELLO, MR. STARR! JUST 'CAUSE YOU'RE A COP, MUST I TELL YUH ALL?

YOU'RE A GOOD KID, ANNIE... YOU KNOW WE COPPERS ARE TH' BEST FRIENDS YOU HAVE...COME NOW, WHADDYUH KNOW?

SH-H-H! LISTEN! CAN YOU KEEP A SECRET?

SURE! I CAN KEEP A SECRET!

FINE! WELL, SO CAN I---

THE MOST OUTRAGEOUS THING I EVER HEARD! THAT ORPHAN BRAT... RENTED A STORE...GOING INTO TRADE! THAT'S THE LAST STRAW!

ANNIE? SHE DID? WHY, TH' LITTLE CAPITALIST RASCAL!

YES, MR. PUDDLE! FROM FORTY A MONTH TO TWENTY SHE BEATS ME DOWN TO! THAT ONE! WHAT A HEAD FOR BUSINESS! CASH BUSINESS! SHE'S A VERY SMART GIRL!

HM-M-M! TOUGH SPOT FOR ANY BUSINESS, IN THIS ALLEY...

YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN, MR. PUDDLE! THAT KID GANG O' HOODLUMS, THE "CLIPPERS," JUST ABOUT OWN THIS ALLEY, YOU KNOW-

YEAH? YOU'RE A GOOD COP! WHY DO THEY OWN THIS ALLEY?

YEAH! I'M A GOOD COP! BUT I'M ONLY A COP! WHEN THE LAZY PUBLIC PUT UP WITH MOBS, ANY COP IS LICKED...

WELL, STARR, I'M PART OF YOUR PUBLIC! BUT I'M NOT LAZY...

I'M JUST ONE OF THAT PUBLIC THAT'S GETTING MIGHTY SICK AND TIRED OF BEING SHOVED AROUND BY A FEW ORGANIZED CHEAP BUMS...SEE?

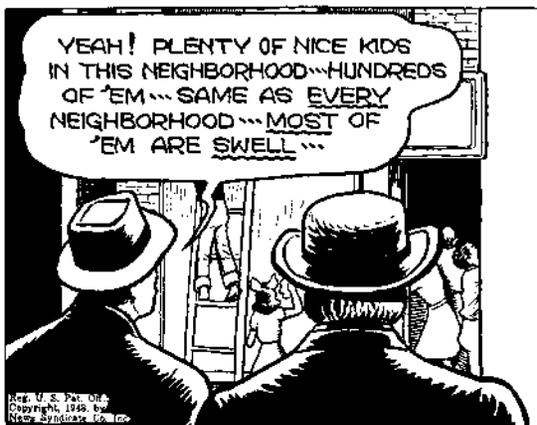
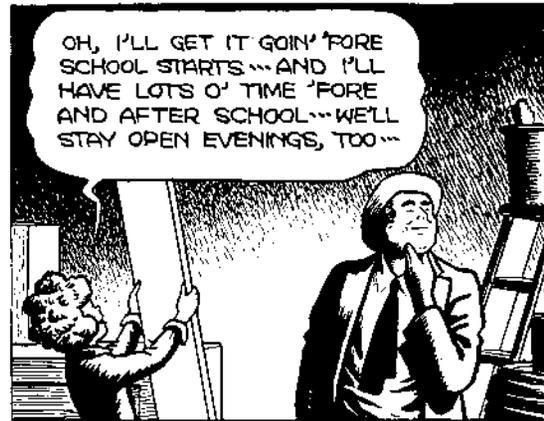
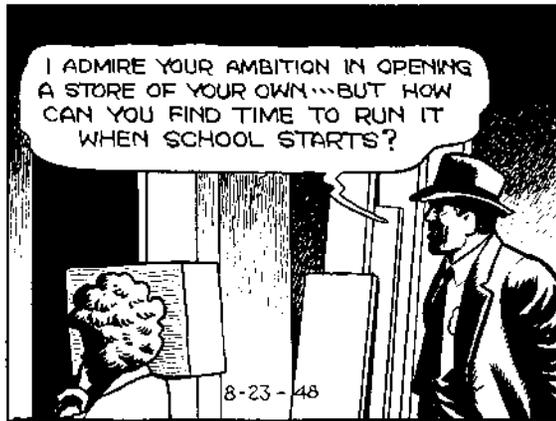
YEAH! SURE! BUT WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT, MR. PUDDLE? YOU KNOW HOW IT IS...

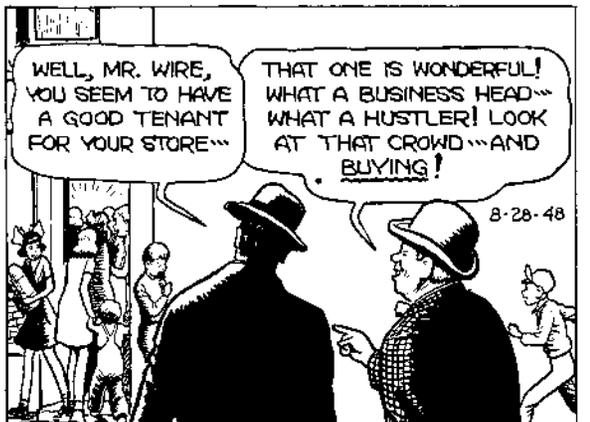
I DO! AND IT'S GOING TO BE CHANGED, AT LEAST IN THIS ALLEY! FROM NOW ON, DECENT PEOPLE ARE GOING TO BACK HONEST MERCHANTS... ALL THE WAY!

I'LL KEEP AN EYE ON ANNIE'S PLACE... IT'LL BE A PLEASURE!

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HAROLD GRAY





Little Orphan Annie

POOR ANNIE AND HER LITTLE STORE... SHE'LL NEED PROTECTION... STILL, HARDLY "SUCH PROTECTION AS VULTURES GIVE TO LAMBS" (SHERIDAN)... BUT ANNIE IS NO LAMB!

SUNDAY PAPER? YES, SIR, MR. LING! COMIC BOOK? RIGHT HERE... LATEST ONES, HOT OFF TH' PRESS... CANDY BARS? FRESH THIS MORNING!

GEE! THIS IS A BEE-UTIFUL DOLL! HOW MUCH IS IT, ANNIE? OH, IT SAYS \$2.98!

I'LL NEVER HAVE THAT MUCH MONEY... BUT IT'S SO PRETTY... I'VE ALWAYS DREAMED OF A DOLL LIKE THAT... B-BUT...

HM-M... TELL YOU WHAT I'M GOIN' TO DO... JUST TO GET THINGS GOIN', MAMIE--

...I'M CUTTIN' THAT PRICE RIGHT IN TWO! \$1.49 TO YOU... AND I'M THROWIN' IN THIS SPECIAL HAT FOR IT!

OO-OH... ANNIE! I CAN BUY IT, NOW! OH-H-H... IT'S MINE! I'M GOIN' TO CALL HER SADIE!

CHEE! LOOK AT TH' DOUGH SHE'S TAKIN' IN! WHEN DO WE START?

"LITTLE MONSTER" SAYS TO WAIT! IT AIN'T RIPE YET...

YEAH! "LITTLE MONSTER" IS SMART! HE SAYS THEY GOTTA MAKE IT FIRST, 'FORE THEY CAN PAY OFF...

HE OUGHT TO BE SMART AFTER ALL HIS OLD MAN'S LEARNED HIM!

HERE COMES GOLD TOOTH! HI, GOLDIE!

DID "LITTLE MONSTER" SAY ANYTHIN'?

YEAH! HE SAID FER ME TO START SELLIN'...

BOY-OH-BOY! WHAT A DAY! IF BUSINESS KEEPS UP LIKE THIS I'M GOIN' TO NEED A BIGGER STORE...

OH, HELLO! WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?

I AIN'T BUYIN'... I'M SELLIN'... YOU'RE DOIN' O. K., I SEE... IT'D BE A SHAME IF ANYTHING BAD HAPPENED... WINDOW BROKE... STUFF STOLEN... MAYBE A STICKUP... SOME TOUGH YOUNG PUNKS IN THIS END O' TOWN...

YEAH? MAYBE THEY AREN'T AS TOUGH AS THEY THINK...

YOU COULD FIND OUT... SEE? BUT I FIGGER YOU'RE SMART... I'M HERE TO INSURE YUH! YOU'RE JUST GETTIN' STARTED... SO IT'LL ONLY COST YUH A SAWBUCK A WEEK... AND NOTHIN' WILL HAPPEN...

8-23-48

YEAH? WELL, SOMETHIN' WILL HAPPEN TO YOU, MAC, 'LESS YOU GET OUT O' MY STORE... QUICK!

HI, ANNIE! SO THEY'VE STARTED, EH? WHAT DID HE WANT? TO SELL YOU PROTECTION?

YES! BUT I'M NOT BUYIN'... AND I'M NOT HOLLERIN' FOR TH' COPS... I'LL HANDLE THIS...

HAROLD GRAY

O. K... JUST LIKE TOO MANY STORE OWNERS... THAT'S WHY IT'S SO TOUGH FOR US COPS!

MAYBE NOT, MR. STARR... MAYBE I'LL BE A LITTLE MORE'N TH' "CLIPPERS" FIGGERED ON... I'VE GOT RED HAIR!