

EDITORIAL

*archy is shocked again*¹

By STUART HEMSLEY

*with apologies to mr. marquis**"The mysterious allure of the female—at least the female cockroach—can be isolated in a test tube"*—NEW YORK TIMES SERVICE

well boss
 mehitabel the cat still hears
 the pad of the rhythmical feet
 but i guess the message
 dosen t come through any more
 as clear as she likes to hear it
 how s tricks i asked
 toujours gai archy toujours gai
 but it could be a h dash double l
 of a lot gaier she says
 the old joints take me here and there
 but the vital organs
 o the vital organs exclamation point
 archy i need help soon before i
 take the last trip down the bay
 and you can get it for me
 you my literary cockroach
 can get me some cheerio
 to pull a lady through
 then she tells me how they took
 the female of my species
 and distilled therefrom the very
 essence of s dash e dash x
 how they squashed these splendid
 creatures and reduced their intimate
 fundamentals to a chemical formula
 and a nice price they ll get
 for it too if i know the market

this is what she wants boss
 and me to get it for her
 me with the transmigrated
 soul of a vers libre bard
 me the confidant of egyptian pharaohs
 me reduced to a common body snatcher
 me a low down pulverizer
 of my own kith and kin
 for the sake of lechers
 so i said nothing doing
 and chased her out of there but
 live and learn and read the papers boss
 and know what is going on
 in your own backyard
 under the rough integuments
 of my female counterparts
 there beat hearts of gold
 and a lot more besides
 that even i didn t know about
 it s what s inside that counts eh boss
 i leave you now boss
 for i think i saw something
 hop in under the trash paper
 over by the wastebasket
 and if it s who i think it is
 i won t be back until tuesday
 or wednesday
 archy

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