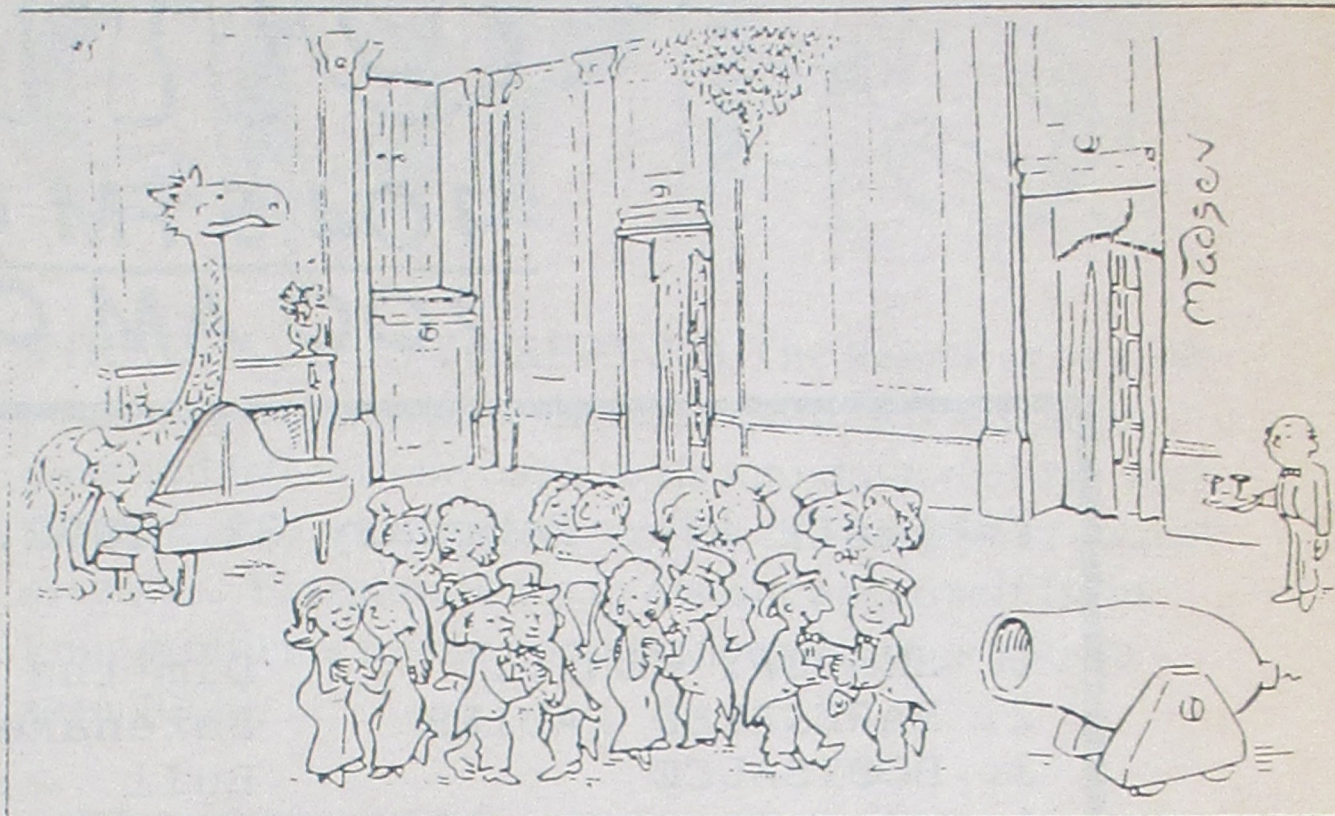


characters in comics should sometimes deal with the complications of real life, and even comics with stories in a fantasy setting (Legion of Super Heroes, to name one of the best should continue to strive for realism and believability in their characters. That doesn't mean that they all have to be thugs, homosexuals, deviants, or anything of the sort; but, as in the real world, it's reasonable for comics to reflect the fact that there are people of divergent natures in society. The majority of characters in comics are like the majority of people in society: ordinary, average, real people at heart, even if some of them can leap tall buildings in a single bound in the comics. There are all sorts of other people in the world too, though, and in the interest of realism comics can and should occasionally acknowledge that; however, while comics should always maintain a degree for relevance and reality, one hopes we don't lose sight of the main goal of comics and storytelling in general: fun. The problems of real life should have some place in comics, but they shouldn't dominate storytelling or intrude to the degree that they inhibit the other elements of the story. Drama, adventure, humour and imagination are the essential elements of good comic books, and for the sake of the industry and the readers one hopes that these elements are never eclipsed by "adult" concerns. While it's necessary for fiction to have some grounding in reality, we should always remember that comics should be, first and foremost, fun.

CAN YOU FIND 3 THINGS WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?



ANSWERS: If you picked the giraffe, the cannon, and the upside-down door, give yourself a gold star - those things are wrong here.

If you picked the three gay couples dancing together, then go straight to your room and think about the difference between right and wrong.

Millions of decent, hardworking Canadians happen to be gay, and they deserve to fit into the picture too. Still puzzled? here's a clue: Different things are natural to different people.

Now, study the drawing again.

Bew fair.

And draw your own conclusion.

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