



## My Spongy Valentine

As Cupid's favorite day draws near  
It's time to give full-throated cheer  
Not just to all the gals and guys  
With whom we share our love (and fries)  
But also to those other things  
That buoy the soul like water wings.  
Things so everyday-ish they  
Get overlooked. But not today!  
Today we frankly celebrate  
The stuff we overlook that's great.  
Stuff like sponges when they're new  
That don't yet smell like old fondue  
Made in someone's sweaty shoe  
(That make your hands smell like it, too.)  
To all ye sponges not yet gross:  
A toast to virgin cellulose!

And let us also give full props  
To all our favorite dollar shops  
Filled with cards, and cans of fish,  
And puzzle books, and licorice,  
And napkins and the spatulas  
You find in homes of batchulas  
Plus the toys worth more than gold  
To anyone who's 4 years old.  
We may be down, but at those stores  
We're living like Louis Quatorze!

Time now, to also offer thanks  
To a thigh's best friend: her Spanx.  
And while we're at it, let's thank, too,  
Whoever gave us super glue  
And its cousin, twice removed  
The Post-it note. Can't be improved.  
And Ziploc bags — we love you, natch.  
And toothpicks with the floss attached.  
Also getting thanks, muchachas?  
Small motels for cucarachas.

On this day of love and hearts  
We hail the happy Pop of Tarts  
Whether frosted or just plain  
They fill the role of pink Champagne  
To kids whose lives are one long wait  
Between the Pop-Tarts that they ate.



Lenore Skenazy  
Lenore Skenazy



Written by [Lenore Skenazy](#) on February 10, 2023

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(And some of us at 63  
May share that same affinity.)

Finally, let us kiss through air  
That humble thing we call The Chair  
The seat of pow'r! The people's throne!  
Allowing us to work, un-prone.  
Whether hard or downright mushy  
Thanks from our collective tushy.

You daily items, full of grace  
Make our world a better place.  
Plastic, frosted, sticky, plain,  
Cheap or crunchy, cute, mundane  
To you we say: "I'm glad you're mine!  
Will you please be my Valentine?"

*Lenore Skenazy is president of Let Grow, a contributing writer at Reason.com, and author of Has the World Gone Skenazy? To learn more about Lenore Skenazy ([Lskenazy@yahoo.com](mailto:Lskenazy@yahoo.com)) and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*

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