



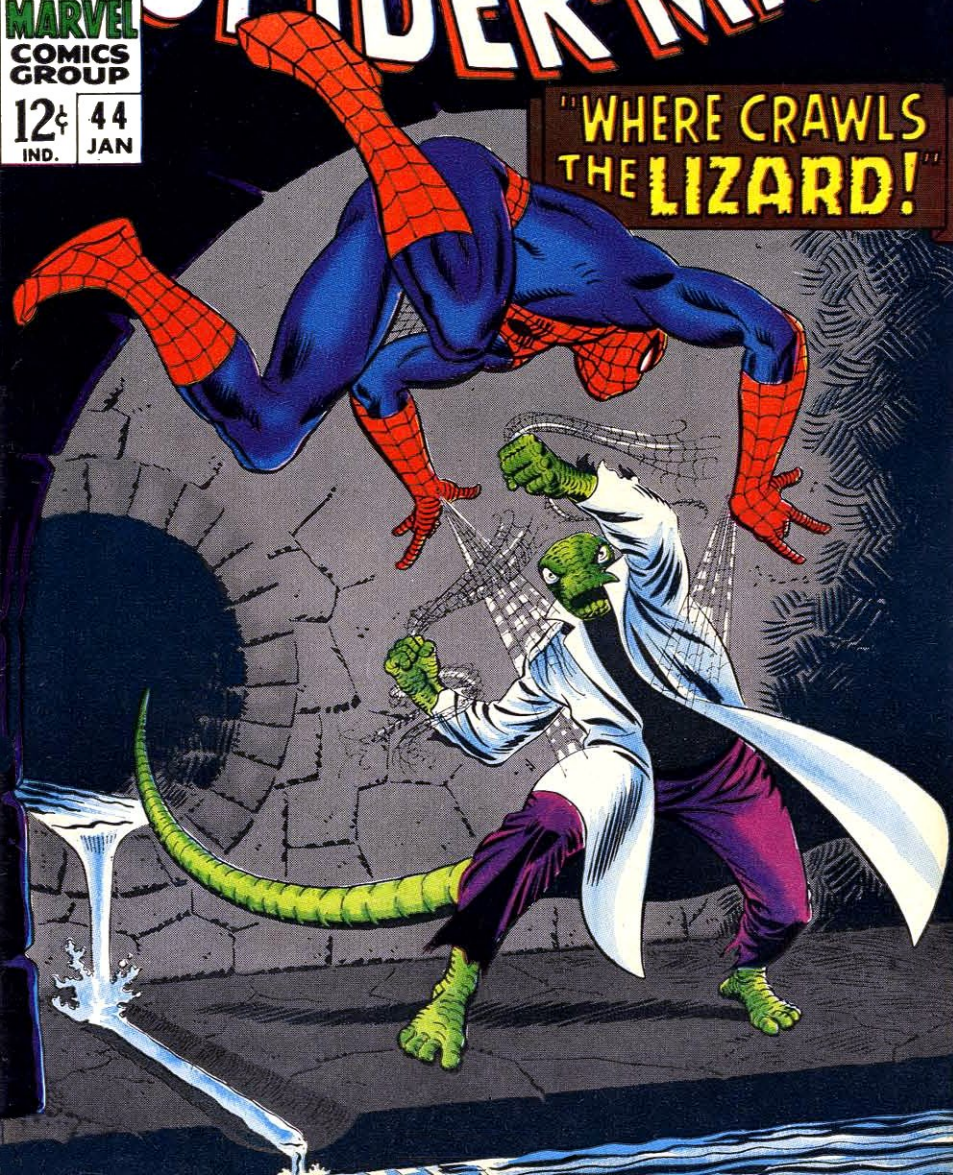
MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP

12¢ 44
IND. JAN

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

"WHERE CRAWLS
THE **LIZARD!**"



U.S. GOVERNMENT SURPLUS

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THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!

"WHERE CRAWLS THE LIZARD!"

GUESS WHAT? PETEY'S EVER-LOVIN' AUNT MAY IS ACTUALLY GONNA TAKE A VACATION! BUT, AS HER DOTING NEPHEW WALKS HER TO THE TRAIN, A FRIGHTFUL TRANSFORMATION SEEMS TO BE IN THE OFFING... JUST A STONE'S THROW AWAY...!

NOW STOP WORRY-
ING ABOUT THE EXPENSE,
AUNT MAY! THE TRAVEL
AGENT SAID WE COULD
SEND YOU NOW AND PAY
LATER!

DOC
BROMWELL
SAID A FEW WEEKS
AT THE SEA SHORE
WILL HAVE YOU
SKIPPING AROUND
LIKE A SUPER-HERO
IN NO TIME!

BUT YOU TOOK
YOUR LAST THIRTY
DOLLARS FOR THE
DOWN PAYMENT ON
THIS TRIP, PETER!

AWW, I'LL SELL SOME
MORE NEWS PIX TO
JOLLY JONAH AND
DOUBLE THAT AMOUNT
BEFORE YOU RETURN!

I HOPE!

STORY: SAM LEE
ILLUSTRATION: TAZZY
JOHN KOMITA
LETTERING: SWINGIN'
SAM ROSEN
LUGGAGE: HONEST
IRVING FORBUSH

MARTHA'S
TRAIN SHOULD
BE ARRIVING
FROM FLORIDA
ANY MINUTE NOW!
I CAN'T WAIT TO
SEE HER... AND
LITTLE BILLY
AGAIN! HE MUST
BE... WAIT!

MY HAND! IT'S
TURNING GREEN--
GETTING SCALY--
LIKE--LIKE A
LIZARD'S!

NO! NO! IT CAN'T
BE HAPPENING TO ME
AGAIN! IT MUSTN'T!
NOT NOW! NOT WHEN I'M
ABOUT TO SEE MY WIFE--
AND MY SON!

IT'S MAD--
INSANE!
THERE'S NO
REASON
FOR IT! NO
REASON--!

BUT THEN, SECONDS LATER...

IT'S SUBSIDING AGAIN... GETTING BACK TO NORMAL!

PERHAPS I JUST IMAGINED IT... IN THE EXCITEMENT OF WAITING FOR MARTHA AND BILLY!

AND YET... I'VE FELT STRANGE... EVER SINCE I HELPED SPIDER-MAN CREATE A POTION TO DEFEAT THE RHINO!

*JUST LAST ISH!
IF YOU FORGOT, SHAME ON YOU!
...STERY STAN.

THAT POTION! WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF IT BEFORE?

THE POTION WAS CREATED OF CERTAIN INGREDIENTS WHICH WERE ALSO USED IN THE FORMULA WHICH YEARS AGO TURNED ME INTO...THE LIZARD!

CAN IT BE THAT THE SIMPLE ACT OF HANDLING THE POTION...OF INHALING ITS FUMES...HAS ACTUALLY TRIGGERED THAT DREAFFUL REACTION IN MY BODY AGAIN?

IF SO...IT MEANS THAT I MIGHT CHANGE BACK TO THE LIZARD AT ANY MOMENT... JUST AS DANGEROUS... JUST AS DEADLY...AS EVER BEFORE!

GOSH! I COULD HAVE SWORN I SAW CURT CONNORS BEHIND THAT PILLAR!

PETER, DEAR... ARE YOU SURE YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT WITH ME GONE? WILL YOU GET TO BED EARLY AT NIGHT... AND EAT PLENTY OF VEGETABLES?

SURE, AUNT MAY! DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT A THING! I'LL TAKE MY VITAMIN PILLS AND STAY OUT OF DRAFTS AND EVERYTHING!

AS FOR YOU, YOUNG LADY... REMEMBER... NO FOOTBALL PRACTICE OR KARATE LESSONS! AT LEAST NOT FOR THE FIRST FEW DAYS!

OH, PETER. HERE I AM... DESERTING YOU... LEAVING YOU ALONE... WITH NO ONE TO LOOK AFTER YOU... AND YOU'RE TAKING IT WITHOUT A WHIMPER!

YOU'RE THE MOST WONDERFUL NEPHEW ANY WOMAN EVER HAD!

HONK!

MEANWHILE, AT A NEARBY TRACK, WE FIND...

GOLLY, MOM... DO YOU THINK DAD'LL TAKE ME TO SEE THE JETS?

I'M SURE HE WILL, BILLY! BUT... I WONDER WHERE HE IS? I WAS HOPING HE'D BE WAITING FOR US!

MAYBE HE'S HIDING... TO SURPRISE US... LIKE HE USED TO DO WHEN I WAS LITTLE!

CAN SOMETHING HAVE HAPPENED TO HIM?

I DON'T WANT TO WORRY BILLY, BUT CURT IS NEVER LATE... UNLESS...

NO! I WON'T EVEN THINK OF IT! IT CAN'T BE!

AND, JUST A FEW FEET AWAY... CONCEALED BEHIND A SHADOWY ARCH...

I WASN'T IMAGINING IT! MY... MY RIGHT ARM IS TINGLING... JUST AS IT DID... THE LAST TIME?

THAT'S HOW IT ALL STARTED... I THOUGHT I COULD RE-GROW MY ARM... LIKE SOME OF THE LOWER ORDER REPTILES DO... BY DRINKING A SERUM EXTRACTED FROM EXPERIMENTAL LIZARDS!

BUT I DIDN'T REALIZE THAT THE SAME SERUM THAT ENABLED ME TO GROW A NEW ARM, WOULD ALSO CHANGE ME... INTO A HUMAN LIZARD! *

*DON'T TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT! CHECK WITH ISH #6... SCRUPULOUS STAN

WATCH MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ON TV





CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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In Care of

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Post Office State

Zip Code No.

Print Your
Last Name
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SUPER SPY**

see through walls

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other device gives both features
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the floor and the ceiling. Nothing
escapes Spy-Pen.**MAIL COUPON TODAY!****HIDDEN DEVICES** Dept. A.H. 10
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SPY-PEN, plus 27¢ shipping costs.

Name

Address

City State

Calif. residents add 4% Sales Tax

WITH THE UNIMAGINABLE
POWER I NOW POSSESS,
I CAN DO ANYTHING!

NOTHING CAN STAND
IN MY WAY, NOTHING
CAN MATCH THE SUPREME
POWER OF...THE LIZARD!

THROOM!

I'LL NEED A LAIR
OF MY OWN...AND I'LL
FIND ONE...BEHIND
THIS TUNNEL WALL!

PERFECT! THE IDEAL
PLACE FOR THE WORLD'S
GREATEST REPTILE...
A MAZE OF HIDDEN,
UNDERGROUND
PIPES!

IN SUCH AN ATMOSPHERE, WHAT
PERFECT PLANS I CAN CREATE...
FOR THE DOWNFALL OF THE ENTIRE
HUMAN RACE!

AND ESPECIALLY FOR
THE DOWNFALL OF MY
GREATEST ENEMY...
THE MASKED SPIDER-
MAN!

AND, SPEAKING OF SPIDEY...

REMEMBER, DEAR...IF YOU
NEED ANYTHING, CALL
MY FRIEND, MRS.
WATSON! DRINK
PLENTY OF MILK.
DON'T NEGLECT YOUR
STUDIES... AND BE
SURE TO GET A
HAIRCUT!

AND YOU BE SURE
TO HAVE A GREAT
TIME, AUNT MAY!
I'LL BE OKAY, HERE...
SO DON'T WORRY
ABOUT A THING!

DON'T FORGET...
THE DOCTOR
SAID YOU'RE TO
HAVE PLENTY
OF REST! SO
NO PUSH-UPS
FOR THE NEXT
TWO WEEKS!

HONESTLY, PETER PARKER...
YOU'RE SIMPLY A CAUTION!

NOW BE A REAL PUSSYWILLOW
TILL I GET BACK!

AUNT MAY...FOR THE
ZILLIONTH TIME...YOU
MEAN PUSSYCAT!

AND
DON'T FOR-
GET TO WATER THE
PLANTS... AND
TURN OFF THE
HALL LIGHT WHEN
YOU GO TO SLEEP...

OH, DEAR!
THE TRAIN
IS MOV-
ING!

GET LOTS OF
REST, HEAR?

GO EASY ON
THE WATUSI!

I'LL WRITE TO
YOU EVERY
DAY, PETER!

WHW! I HAD TO
KEEP KIDDING HER...
OR SHE MIGHT HAVE
CHANGED HER MIND
ABOUT GOING AT
THE LAST MINUTE!

DOC BROMWELL SAID SHE HAD TO HAVE
THIS VACATION... BECAUSE SHE'S SO
RUN-DOWN!

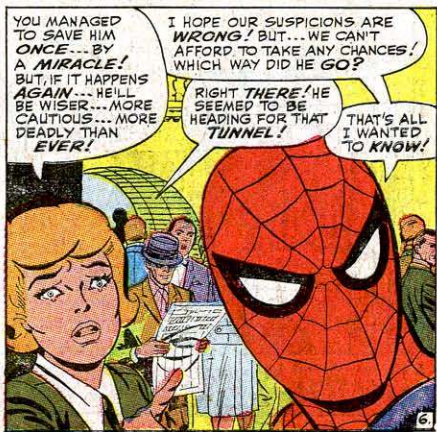
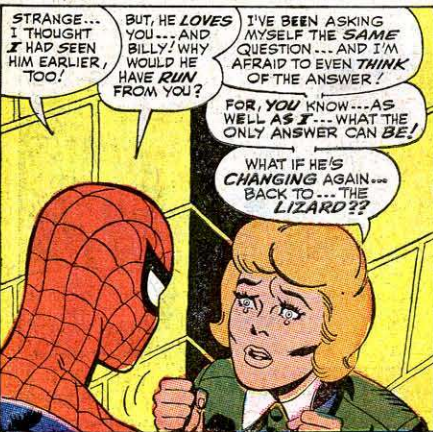
BUT IF ONLY
I COULD CONVINCE HER NOT TO
WORRY ABOUT ME SO... IF SHE
ONLY KNEW THAT... SAY!

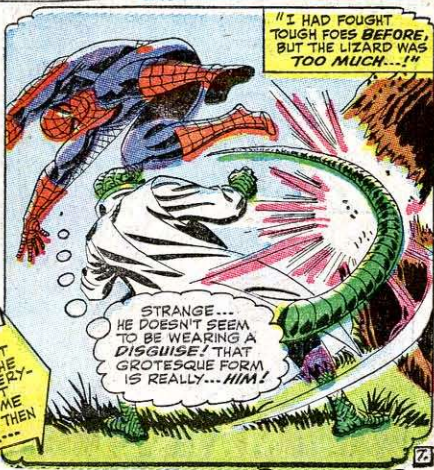
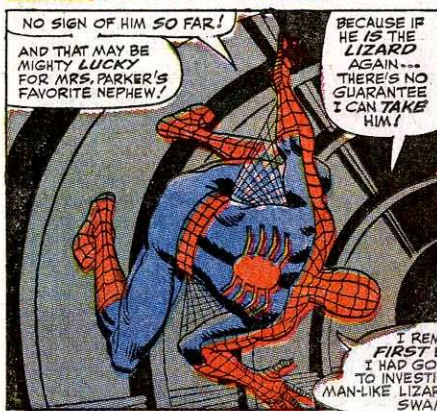
THAT'S MRS. CONNORS...
THE DOC'S WIFE! THEN IT
WAS HIM I SAW! BUT...
SHE'S IN
TEARS!

I DON'T KNOW
WHAT'S WRONG
BUT SOMETHING
TELLS ME I'D
BETTER FIND
OUT!

MOM... WHAT'LL
WE DO! WHERE'LL
WE GO?

WATCH MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ON TV





"BUT, THE MOST FRIGHTENING THING OF ALL WAS THE LIZARD'S INSANE MASTER PLAN..."



UH OH! LOOKS LIKE THERE ISN'T MUCH DOUBT ABOUT IT NOW!

ONLY SOMEONE WITH THE LIZARD'S STRENGTH COULD HAVE POUNDED A HOLE LIKE THIS THROUGH A CEMENT WALL!

THERE ARE A HUNDRED OPENINGS AHEAD... NO WAY TO TRAIL HIM NOW!



A LITTLE WHITE LIE CAN'T DO ANY HARM AT THIS POINT!

I COULDN'T FIND A THING! WHY DON'T YOU JUST WAIT AT THE DOC'S LAB? MAYBE HE'LL CALL!

IF YOU THINK SO...

MAYBE DAD'S WAITING FOR US THERE!



IN THE MEANTIME, I'LL KEEP SEARCHING!

I'VE GOT TO CATCH HIM BEFORE THE CITY IS THROWN INTO A PANIC!

...OR, BEFORE HE... OR SOMEONE ELSE... IS HURT... OR WORSE!



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE 8

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Postpaid
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First time revealed . . . this private collection from "Art the Magician." **COMPLETE SECRETS REVEALED!** Every single trick fully explained! You saw some of them on T.V. Many were performed by such master magicians as HOUDINI, THURSTON, etc. And now . . . **YOU** can do all of these famous magic tricks. They're fun! They're mystifying! Simply terrific for parties!

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"POSITIVELY ASTONISHING" . . .

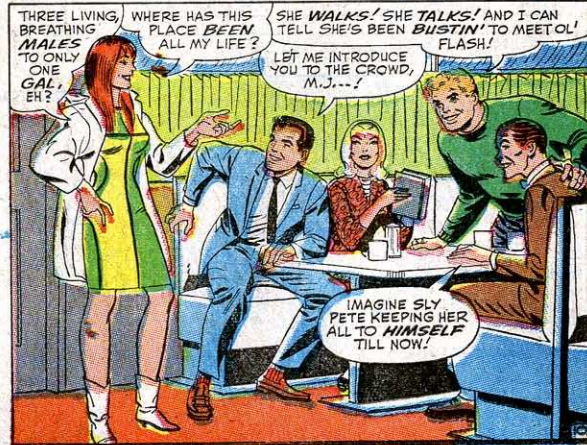
say people who have seen this collection. You'll be plucking coins from thin air! You'll cause cards to change their spots at your command! You'll hear the gasps of wonder as you do the world-famous "Indian Rope Trick." You'll actually do over 250 baffling tricks, including:

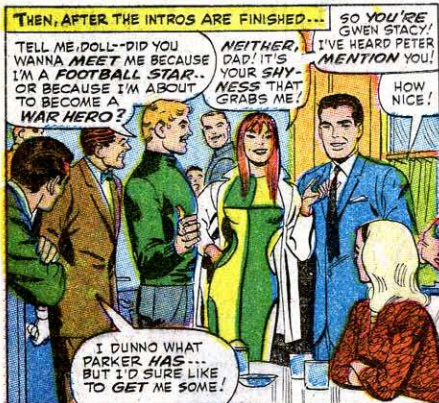
- The Vanishing Ball
- The Mind Reading Trick
- The Secret of Number 9
- Phantom Writing
- Growing Money Trick
- The Coin Leaping Trick
- Disappearing Handkerchief
- The Knot that Unties Itself
- The Disappearing Coin
- Making a Ball Roll by Itself
- Miracle Card Jumping Trick
- The Phantom Money Trick, etc., etc.

HURRY! Supply is Limited!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★









ALL I NEED
DO IS BREAK THROUGH
THIS WINDOW... INTO
THE WHOLESALE
JEWELRY SHOW-
ROOM INSIDE!



WITH LUCK, SPIDER-MAN
HIMSELF WILL BE ACCUSED
OF THIS ROBBERY...

IN WHICH CASE HE'LL BE TOO BUSY
DODGING THE LAW TO BE ABLE TO
GET IN MY WAY AGAIN!

OR ELSE...
HE'LL LEARN WHAT
I'VE DONE AND COME
AFTER ME,
FAST...

GIVING ME A CHANCE
TO FINISH HIM, ONCE
AND FOR ALL!

EITHER WAY...
THE LIZARD
CAN'T LOSE!



SECONDS LATER...

LOOK, SAM!
ON THAT
BUILDING
ABOVE...

ONLY SPIDER-
MAN CAN CLIMB
A WALL LIKE
THAT!

WE'D
BETTER
SEE WHAT
THE SCORE
IS!



THIS, IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF
MINUTES BEFORE THE OFFICERS
FIND...

THE PLACE
WAS CLEANED
OUT! MUST BE A
FORTUNE IN
GEMS MISSING!

GUESS THERE'S
NOT MUCH
DOUBT WHO
DID IT!

YOU'D BETTER
WAIT HERE WHILE
I CONTACT
HEADQUARTERS!



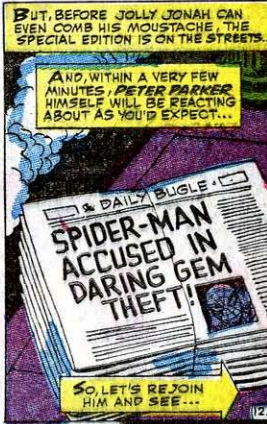
THEN, JUST AS DAWN IS BREAKING...

WHAT'S THAT?! YOU PUT OUT A
LATE EXTRA WHILE I WAS ASLEEP?

SPIDER-MAN... ACCUSED OF
STEALING GEMS?

BUT, WHAT IF IT'S A
PHONY?... LIKE ALL THOSE
OTHER STORIES WE RAN!
IF YOU MAKE ME A LAUGH-
ING STOCK AGAIN...

OF COURSE I WANT
TO SEE HIM IN JAIL!
BUT HE ALWAYS COMES
OUT LILY WHITE,
AND WE LOOK LIKE
FOOLS! HOLD
EVERY-
THING, BLAST
IT! I'LL BE RIGHT
THERE!



BUT, BEFORE JOLLY JONAH CAN
EVEN COMB HIS MOUSTACHE, THE
SPECIAL EDITION IS ON THE STREETS...

AND, WITHIN A VERY FEW
MINUTES, PETER PARKER
HIMSELF WILL BE REACTING
ABOUT AS YOU'D EXPECT...

SO, LET'S REJOIN
HIM AND SEE...

WATCH **MARVEL** SUPER-HEROES ON TV



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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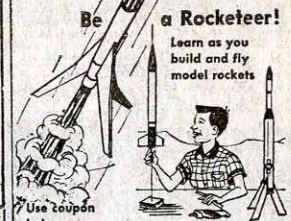
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YOU TRICKED ME!
YOU WANTED THE
CROWD BELOW TO
SEE ME SCALE
THAT WALL!

AND THAT'S
NOT ALL I
WANTED!

I'M ALSO
ITCHING FOR
A CHANCE...



...TO DO
THIS!



..AND
THIS!

I'VE GOT TO KEEP
HAMMERING AT
HIM... NO MATTER
WHAT!



NO MATTER HOW
STRONG HE IS,
HE CAN'T FIGHT
AS WELL AS...
UNHH!!

HIS TAIL! THE
ONE THING I
CAN'T COPE
WITH...

FALLING BACK...
CAN'T STOP...!!



EVEN YOU CAN'T
SURVIVE SUCH A
PLUNGE!!

SO... THE
LIZARD
WINS AT
LAST!



BUT THEN...

NOT WHILE
I CAN
STILL SHOOT
MY WEBBING,
HE DOESN'T!



AGAIN YOU'VE SAVED
YOURSELF BY A STROKE
OF LUCK!

BUT YOU'VE ONLY WON
A TEMPORARY RESPITE...!

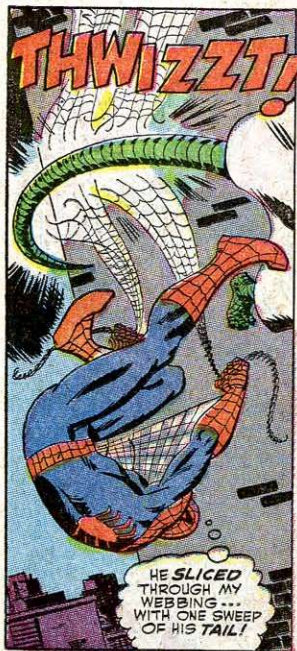
I'LL FINISH YOU FOREVER
BEFORE YOU CAN MOVE!



HE SLITHERED DOWN THAT
WALL FASTER THAN A REAL
LIZARD COULD HAVE DONE!

AND IT'S NOT
HARD TO GUESS
WHAT'S COMING
NEXT!

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HE SLICED THROUGH MY WEBBING... WITH ONE SWEEP OF HIS TAIL!

BUH! THE WEBBING SAVED ME... BUT I STILL HIT TOO HARD!

IT'S SPIDER-MAN!

DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO TWIST MY BODY AROUND... TO BREAK THE FALL...!

HOW'D HE EVER GET UP FROM A FALL LIKE THAT?

STAY WHERE YOU ARE! LET ME SEE THAT ARM... I'M A DOCTOR!



MY ARM... CAN'T MOVE IT! IT'S HURT... HURT REAL BAD...!



BUT, IT TAKES MORE THAN THAT TO MAKE THIS A SPIDEYLESS WORLD...!

CAN'T GO DOWN THERE NOW! TOO MANY PEOPLE AROUND!

BUT, AT LEAST I PUT HIM OUT OF ACTION! HAH! HE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO STOP ME NOW!



...SO LONG AS I CAN SHOOT A WEB! MATTRESS OUT BENEATH ME IN TIME TO BREAK MY FALL!

AND THEN, AS THE MURDEROUS, SUPER-POWERED MANACE SLITHERS AWAY INTO THE NIGHT... BUT YOU

YOU'RE MIGHTY LUCKY! IT'S ONLY A BAD SPRAIN... NO BONES BROKEN!

MUSTN'T USE IT TILL THE SWELLING GOES DOWN! I'LL TAPE IT SECURELY FOR YOU!

THEN, I'LL TAKE YOU TO MY OFFICE WHERE I CAN GIVE YOU A COMPLETE PHYSICAL!



OH NO! TOO MUCH CHANCE OF A SMART MEDIC FIGURING OUT MY IDENTITY!

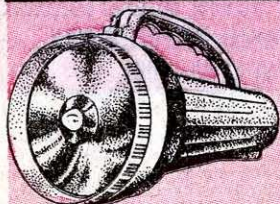
I'LL HELP YOU UP NOW...!





NOTE: OUR LETTERS SECTION APPEARS AFTER NEXT PAGE...

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ITEM! It's a funny feeling writing these Bullpen pages — here's why — Smilin' Stan is typing these imperishable words on July 14th — but by the time they're sent to the printer and finally reach YOU, it'll be sometime in October! In other words, there's always an interval of about three months from the time we write something till the time you read it! Even though you've probably seen our Marvel Super-Heroes TV show by now — at the time we're writing this, it won't be on the air for another two months! It's kind'a spooky, isn't it? Anyway, that's the reason WE can't comment about our show yet, even though YOU can! It'll be a couple of months before WE get to see it! See how much luckier YOU are! Who SAYS this isn't the Marvel Age of Compounded Confusion?

ITEM: We just received a letter from a ravin' reader who asks a question that many of you have tossed at us over the past few years — and so, we figure we might as well answer it here and now! First, the litin' letter:

Dear Bullpen Gang:

I am curious to know how the letters for your letters columns are selected. Does Stan run all the letters thru one of Read Richard's all-purpose computers — or does Irving Forbush just go Eny Neeny Miney Moe? Neil Neches
 631 E. 96th Street
 Bklyn., N.Y. 11236

Now, for the benefit of a widely waiting world — your ameliorable answer: Actually, Fabulous Flo, our gregarious gal-Friday, opens all the mail first, and scans it quickly — albeit lovingly! Then, all the letters of more than passing interest (which includes about 95% of 'em) are given to Smiley. Poor Stan the Man, who has turned into a case of human, walking eye-strain, gobbles 'em up and puts a check atop those he thinks would be interesting enough for our various letters pages. He then returns 'em to Flo who bravely types them up for the printer, after first passing them around to the rest of the Bullpen. You might be interested in knowing that we read anywhere from 200 to 500 a day, in order to select a half dozen or so for the letters pages! Now then, if there's anything ELSE you wanna know about the process, don't write us a letter! Have pity, pussycats!

ITEM: Here's some more late info about the merry Marvel goings-on at various campuses around this cavortin' country of ours: Just recently, the STANFORD U. M.M.S.'ers, led by Jumpin' Jack Marchese, stumped your friendly neighborhood Spider-Man into the office of Campus King, while collecting hundreds of dollars for charity! . . . Readers of the TRINITY COLLEGE magazine, Ivy, are undoubtedly being awed by rapturous reprints of Marvel artifacts in the Sept. ish! . . . RENESSEAR POLYTECH was the scene of a mirthful Marvel Beaux Arts Ball last April! The festivities featured a home-made 9-foot pile of mighty Thor, curls and all, plus 30x40-inch posters of actual Marvel panels! . . . Tom Salazar and Corky Reed of COLORADO STATE gave their prof a Spidey

T-shirt which he dramatically, ~~donned~~ for class one day! So here's to Doc Fry — long may he propagate the faith! . . . A tribute to Marvel was broadcast by Ken Friedman at SHIMER COLLEGE recently — while WESU-FM, at WESLEYAN U., is actually planning a Marvel dramatization series for the coming semester, for which we proudly thank station-manager Mark Estren. . . . Oh, by the way, the Renaissance Polytex dressed as Spidey; Tony Pangaro as the Black Panther; John Matthews, Barb Weiser, Debbie Priest, and Mike Hicks as the F.F.; and our cavortin' companion Pete Crissey as an Agent of Shield. (His wife, Sharon, was his captive, natch!) . . . In between times, we hope the Marvel Madmen mentioned above managed to latch onto a little erudition as well!

ITEM: Let's meet a few of our newest Bullpen buddies: You'll notice the name JIM STERANKO listed as illustrator of the current Agent of Shield series in STRANGE TALES. Jim is a titanically talented newcomer, with a really exciting background. Believe it or not, he was formerly one of our most successful stage magicians — being billed as the greatest liberationist (escape artist) since Houdini! And then there's Mischievous MORRIE KURAMOTO, our latest addition to Jolly Sully's hardworking production staff. Besides being a crackerjack letterer, Morrie is one of America's top watercolor artists! And, how about Marvel's newest editorial help-mate — RON WHYTE! Ron is merely the recipient of a fellowship to the Yale Drama School — and has the greatest sensu-humor since J. Jonah Jameson! So, welcome aboard, group — and thanks for adding a little more glamor to Marveldom!

ITEM: It looks as though EVERYONE is latching on to Marvel these days! In the June '66 ish of THE NEW GUARD, published by The Young Americans for Freedom, there was an adroit appraisal of the Marvel Mystique which really set us back on our heels! (Aside to dynamic Dave Nolan — your no-prize is on the way!)

ITEM: Whoops! We almost forgot to list the newest disc jockeys on our ever-growing roster! Let's hear it, gang, for — Rick Stevens, WONE, Dayton, Ohio — Don Kennedy, KISN, Portland, Ore. — King Zbornik, WRIT, Milwaukee, Wisc. — Regge Cordic, KNX, Los Angeles, Calif. — and Rick Snyder, WTRY, Troy, N.Y. — Heroes all! Incidentally, how about us giving a stainless steel no-prize to the deejay who's the fastest talker? Many fans have told us that Merry Marcher Gary Stevens, WMCA, New York, should win the prize hands down — but we'd like to hear what the rest of Marveldom thinks. So, let us know who YOUR nominee is for the title "The Fastest Gums in Marvel-land!" We'll announce the winner sooner or later somewhere or other, in our usual methodical manner!

See you again next ish — same time — same bulletin page! Till then, remember — be good to each other! After all, isn't there a little bit of the super-hero in all of us?

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

A Line-Up Of Some Of The Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

FANTASTIC FOUR #58: It had to happen! Mankind is at the mercy of Doctor Doom! The F.F. are defeated at last! And — that's only part of it!

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X-MEN #27: The return of the marvelous Mimic! Plus, more super-guest-stars and super-problems than you can shake a gamma ray at!

DAREDEVIL #23: Another thrilling change of scene for DD, as he battles the Gladiator to a finish in the most off-beat yarn of the season!

THOR #135: Sensational! You'll gape at the origin of the High Evolutionary! And, you'll flip at the way Goldlocks battles the future Man-Beast!

STRANGE TALES #152: Shield finally shows its block-busting power — while Dr. Strange enters a dimension so mysterious that we can't even describe it here!

SUSPENSE #85: Iron Man faces the Mandarin once more — but things are different this time! As for Captain America — he wages one of his greatest fights — against Batroc!

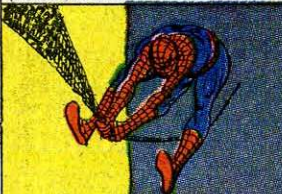
ASTONISH #87: You've never seen anything like the Sub-Mariner's showdown with Krang — nor the Hulk's epic struggle against the indestructible Hulk-Killer!

SGT. FURY #37: The hectic Howlers are up to their battle-helmets in sand, as they take on Nazis and desert tribesmen alike on the North African front! Wah-hoo!

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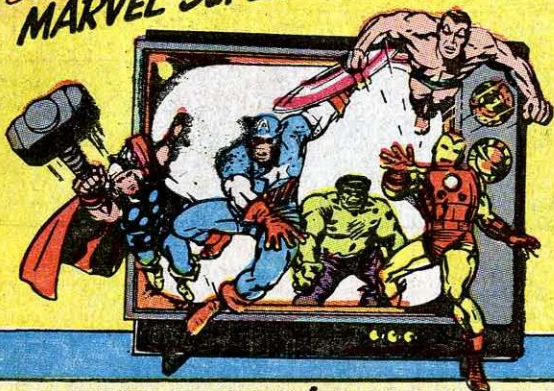
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The Spider's Web

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO: THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP, SECOND FLOOR 625 MADISON AVE., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022

Dear Stan and John,

I just finished reading SPIDEY #41 about 15 minutes ago and, wow, was I surprised to see the change in frail and fragile Peter! I'm writing to tell you all the good and bad about this ish. Good—Pete's new cycle, JJJ's son's vouching for Spidey, Pete's problem with Betty being gone for good, Pete's acting normal now that his own problems are floating away one by one, and Petey's meeting soon with Mary Jane. Bad—JJJ's still being against Spidey, your super-villains becoming inhuman. Things I want to see—Pete getting his own apartment, Pete liking a girl that he knows likes him, JJJ letting up on Spidey, and I wish everything in the mag would be brought up to date. John is doing great on the artwork. I like the way he's made the people in the mag really look real. Make mine Marvel!

Jeff Cecil, 136 E. Third St.
Springfield, Ohio 45504

We will, Jeff — we will! But waddaya mean you wish everything in the mag would be brought up to date? When's the last time you saw Petey read by the light of a gas lamp? How much more modern could a chick like Mary Jane be? If we were any more up to date we'd have to change the name of the strip to TALES OF THE FUTURE! (Incidentally, that cycle Pete rides isn't exactly vintage 1930, either!) But, don't worry, J.C. — out of the magnanimity of our burstin' hearts, we forgive you for your editorial transgression — and we warmly welcome you back to the fold — web 'n all!

Dear Stan and John,

Did you ever sit down after reading an issue of SPIDER-MAN and wonder what a Spidey mag would be like if it were not produced by Marvel? Well, I'll tell you. First of all, Uncle Ben would still be alive. Peter would never have aged, and he'd still be in high school—like forever. He'd have lots of loyal sidekicks, and possibly a pet called Spidey-Dog, or some such. His dialogue would be exactly the same as every other costumed hero, and he'd fight alien invaders and bug-eyed monsters. JJJ would be very fond of him, because everyone loves a super-hero, and he'd probably belong to a crime-fighting group of some sort. The Parkers would never have any money problems and Aunt May would never be ill. There'd be a new story in each ish, so that they could print any story they want to, any time they want to, in any order—instead of having a thread of continuity which takes lots more thought and hard work, but allows room for a sophisticated, well-rounded plot. The script and art would be less than sensational, and there'd be far less action. And that's why we're lucky that Spidey is produced by Marvel Madmen! Allen Amasy, Heritage Rd., RFD #2
Sewell, N. J. 08080

Al baby, we suspect you're trying to tell us something! Naturally, we haven't any idea whom you're referring to, but we got a big kick out of your merry missive nonetheless. And, you don't have to worry about offending the various Brand Echhs — each one of 'em will think you mean the other guy!

Dear Stan and John,

I thought I'd drop you a line about SPIDER-MAN #39 and #40. The art was magnificent. John Romita has modified his style greatly since DAREDEVIL #12. In that issue, ol' Hornhead was all muscle—his whole muscular structure was very exaggerated. Fortunately, John can really portray girls realistically; Betty Brant looks better than ever. The story, plot, and script all held me breathless, and it was undoubtedly the best I've ever read—continued or otherwise. You will get letters from guys who will proclaim you should have ended it in one mag, but disregard them. The length was what gave the story elements of suspense, and pity for poor Aunt May. Just one comment—you should not have had "Just a Guy Named Joe" in issue #38. Instead, you could have featured Part I of the Gobby episode so we could compare the previous art on him with John's. Keep up the good work, but try to surpass it!

Dave Serene, 498 S. 3rd St.
Indiana, Pa. 15701

Don't we always, Davey boy? Y'know, lots of Spido-philas have commented on ol' Ring-A-Ding's ability to draw the most fetching, far-out, frankly fabulous femmes to be found anywhere. But, the really amazing thing about it is, he draws men — machines — and monsters equally well! (So now you know why we keep that ball and chain around his leg all day long!) Of course, we do have one problem with him, though. If we don't keep our eye on him every minute, he's liable to turn Aunt May into a glamor girl!



Dear Stan and John,

When I finished reading SPIDER-MAN #40, I almost had tears in my eyes! Of every single comic that I've read, there has not been a greater or truer comic than that. The

way Johnny Romita draws Betty Brant makes her look better than Elizabeth Taylor, Peter looks much more handsome, and Aunt May looks younger and brighter. Well done!

Genaro Timonedda, 1523 W. Ohio
Chicago, Ill. 60622

A fine Marvelite you are, Gene! Are you trying to get Liz Taylor to sue us? Couldn't you have said that Betty looks better than Irving Forbush's sister, instead? But, don't worry, faithful one — the beauteous Mrs. Burton may well be a Spidey fan herself — in which case we're all among friends! (Incidentally, Fabulous Flo tells us that this is about the 500th letter you've sent us! We love ya for it, G. T. — boy, if only we had the postage stamp concession in your neighborhood!)



Dear Stan and John,

In reference to SPIDER-MAN #41, when the villainous Rhino met the awesome might of the titanic Spidey, I must, in all frankness, admit that I had to yield to the enjoyment I received from the pulse-pounding story. Not only was the art above the mean in all respects, but the plot had a welcome reviviscence to the good luck Parker so lacked for a long, long time. We here at Wimbeldon have always read Marvel Comics since the pre-hero days of yore when we first arrived. (We're ready for graduation soon!) Over here, if you don't have the latest issue of Spidey or F.F., they won't admit you to the bull sessions before classes. What we want to really transmit from us here at the Academy to you at the Bullpen is that we greatly enjoy your magazines and hope to continue being some of your prominent readers. So hail Wimbeldon and, most of all, hail Marvel!

Richard Marone, II & Alfred Attanasio
Wimbeldon Academy, 22 Hennessy Pl.
Irvington, N. J. 07111

We'll accept that, lads! But, there's one thing we've gotta know — do they teach the use of words like "reviviscence" in Wimbeldon? If so, that exemplary edifice of education even excels mighty Marvel as an ebullient example of hard-core erudition! (And if that doesn't get us in good with Wimbeldontians everywhere, we'll wiggle our webs!)

Dear Stan and John,

Well, judging from SPIDER-MAN #41, it looks like Peter Parker has grown up. His own motorcycle, an apartment in the offing, fewer traumatic problems — he isn't

Pete anymore, he's Mr. Parker. I shed a tear to see our neurotic teenager mature so quickly. I wonder, will he remain a Spider-Man, or will he grow up to be a Reed Richards? It's a relief to see him sans ulcers. Girl-wise, check that last panel on page 20 in issue #41, than refer back to panel 8 on page 15 in issue #25. Parker's all set if Mary Jane is as nice personality-wise as she is to look at. In the Parker "Fabulous Femmes" stable, of Gwen, Liz, Betty, and Mary Jane, only the last two are worth Peter's attention. I would suggest you keep Pete away from Gwen—she's a beast of prey. It would be cool if Mary Jane had some sort of super-powers of her own!

Dwight Decker, 112 Parrott St.
Mt. Vernon, Ohio

Well, Dwight, by now you know Mary Jane's personality as well as we do. (Or maybe better — because we're usually confused!) As for Gwen being a beast of prey, we're not sure what gives you that opinion, but some of the guys in the bullpen seem to think they've seen worse! Anyway, if Mary Jane does have any super-powers, we promise you one thing — you'll learn all about it as soon as we do! Okay?

Dear Stan and John,

Congratulations on another great ish! Spidey #41 was the greatest yet! That's because of all the changes you've made. Pete's motorcycle is great, but I wonder what prompted you to introduce it? I guess it was just the usual Marvel originality. He looks sharp, zooming around like that. I wasn't too excited about Jameson's son, probably because he's not really of any importance to the mag. I guess I'd best not expect to see Betty around anymore. But that's ok, 'cause it looks like Pete's getting in good with Gwen. This is good as she's a doll since Johnny's been drawing her. Also, Mary Jane Watson will probably be gorgeous, too. If Stan G. ever leaves MILLIE THE MODEL, Johnny would be a great replacement. But I would rather see him on Spidey and Daredevil. The Rhino was great, but their fight seemed to be the low point of the story due to all the things happening in Pete's personal life. It's funny, but sometimes I feel like I actually know Pete because of the usual Marvel realism. The Spider-Man I've enjoyed for the past 40 issues now is almost gone. It was great, but the way things are going, the new Spidey, as well as the new Peter Parker, are going to be even greater, and if anyone can make it so, you guys can do it! Richard Teeter, 61 Francine Ave, Amityville, N. Y. 11701

You know it, Dick! We enjoyed your liltin' letter, except for one little thing, pal. You know how impressionable Jazzy Johnny is! Ever since he read what you said about Stan G., he's been practicing drawing Millie the Model! But, don't worry — we've got a secret weapon in reserve — we're teaching Stan G. how to draw spiders! (Aww, stop worrying, now! We're only funnin' you! We'd never swap Johnny for Stan — Our MILLIE fans would mob us!)

NEXT ISH: We've got all sorts of goodies coming up for you, O true believer! If you think the Lizard was something to worry about this time, wait'll you see the breath-taking villainy he uncorks when next we meet! And, if you're mildly curious to see how your friendly neighborhood fall guy can make out with an injured wing against one of the most dangerous super-foes of all, we suggest that you tune in again when SPIDER-MAN #45 hits the stands! It's such a fantastic value for only 12¢ that we expect the government to subsidize us! Most any day now! And, by the way, it features probably the greatest, most exciting battle sequence you've ever thrilled to, as Spidey plunges into a no-holds barred, fight-to-the-finish against his most deadly foe — using only one arm! Remember, Stan the Man and Jazzy Johnny did it all for you — so brush away those tears of gratitude, and face front!

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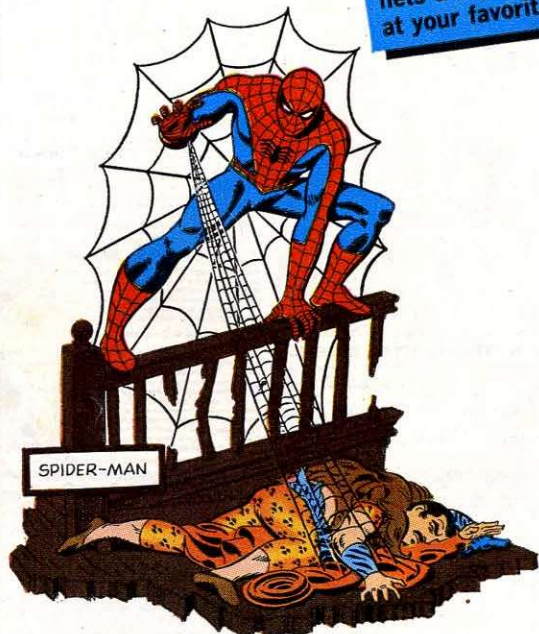
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