



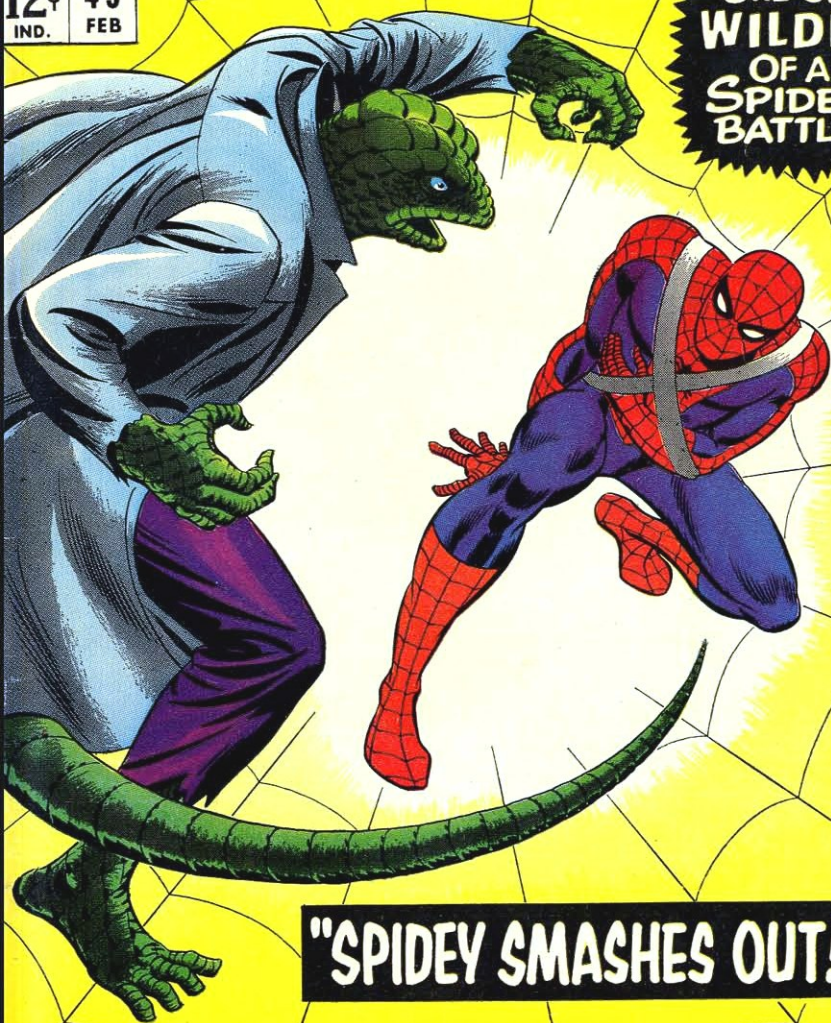
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## THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!

# "SPIDEY SMASHES OUT!"



LAST TIME  
WE FOUGHT,  
I WASN'T  
ABLE TO STOP  
THE LIZARD WITH  
BOTH ARMS... SO  
NOW MY TASK WILL  
BE TWICE AS  
DANGEROUS! BUT...  
I'VE GOT TO  
TRY!

LAST ISH, WE SAW  
OUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBOR-  
HOOD SPIDER-MAN INJURE  
HIS ARM WHILE BATTLING THE  
DEADLY LIZARD! BUT, WITH  
HIS SUPER-POWERED Foe  
STILL AT LARGE, HOPING TO  
POPULATE THE ENTIRE WORLD  
WITH AN ARMY OF GIANT  
LIZARDS, SPIDEY KNOWS HE  
DARE NOT REMAIN HOME  
NURSING HIS WOUND...  
NO MATTER WHAT!

THAT NOISE...  
FROM AROUND THE  
CORNER! SOUNDS  
LIKE TROUBLE!

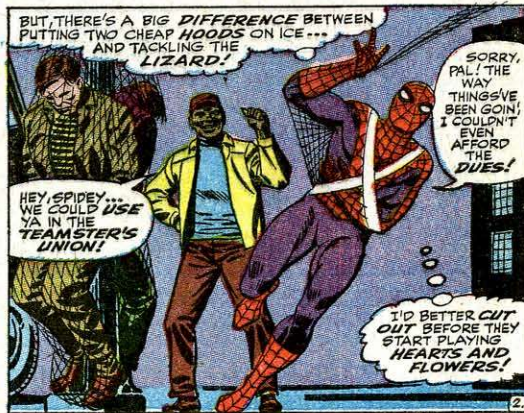
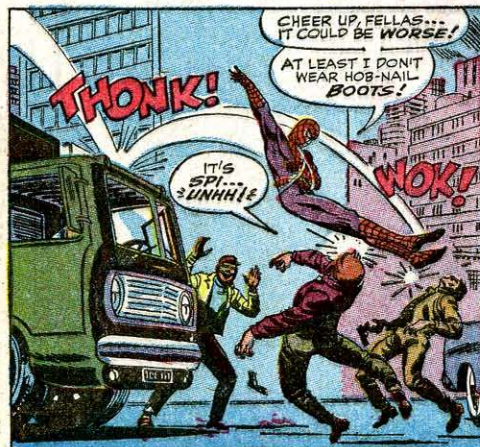
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ADVENTURE IN AGONIZING ACTION

LETTERING - SAM ROSEN... WEB-UNDANGLING - IRV FORBUSH

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BUT THEN, MOMENTS LATER...

IT'S NO USE! I CAN'T UNDERSTAND ANY OF THIS STUPID SCIENTIFIC GIBBERISH!

THE PAGES CONTAIN NOTHING BUT CHEMICAL SYMBOLS... NUMBERS... EQUATIONS!! WHAT GOOD IS THAT TO ME?!!

I'LL FIND ANOTHER WAY! I'LL DO IT WITHOUT HIS NOTES! I'VE GOT THE STRENGTH... THE POWER... TO ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING!

**THOP!**



ALL I HAVE TO DO IS FIND CONNORS HIMSELF!

I'LL FORCE HIM TO GIVE ME THE FORMULA... BEFORE I DESTROY HIM!



WHILE, BACK AT THE MOONLIT ROOM...

MOM! WHAT WAS THAT NOISE? SOMETHING WOKE ME UP!

IT WAS NOTHING, BILLY DEAR. THE, EH... THE WIND BLEW SOME OF YOUR FATHER'S BEAKERS OVER!

BUT I CLOSED THE WINDOWS... YOU'LL BE ABLE TO GO BACK TO SLEEP AGAIN!



I FEEL SO ALONE... SO HELPLESS! MY OWN DEAR, WONDERFUL HUSBAND... TRANSFORMED INTO A LIVING MONSTER!

WHOM CAN I TURN TO? WHAT CAN I DO? HOW CAN I PROTECT BILLY FROM KNOWING THE TRUTH?

IF ONLY I KNEW WHERE TO FIND SPIDER-MAN!

MOM... DID YOU... EVER FEEL SCARED... WITHOUT KNOWING WHY...??



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THE NEXT MORNING, AT THE OFFICE OF THE **DAILY BUGLE**, WE FIND...

THINGS ARE PRETTY **SLOW** RIGHT NOW... SO THIS IS MY CHANCE TO ASSUME THE IDENTITY OF **PATCH**, THE UNDERWORLD INFORMER, AND KEEP MY EYE ON **PETER PARKER**!

I'VE GOT TO LEARN HOW HE MANAGES TO GET SO MANY EXCLUSIVE PHOTOS OF **SPIDER-MAN**!



**FOSWELL!**

WHERE IN BLUE BLAZES DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?

I'M NOT RUNNIN' A BLASTED TRAVEL AGENCY AROUND HERE!

I JUST THOUGHT I'D MOSEY AROUND TOWN, MR. JAMESON, AND SEE IF I COULD PICK UP SOME **LEADS** ON A NEW STORY!

**FORGET IT, MISTER!** THE **LIZARD** WAS SIGHTED LAST NIGHT! SEE WHAT YOU CAN DIG UP ABOUT HIM!

WELL, THAT TAKES CARE OF THAT! I'LL HAVE TO PUT OFF TAILING PARKER TILL SOME OTHER TIME!



DON'T JUST STAND THERE! GET GOING!

WHAT'S WITH YOU TWO AGAIN?? HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU TO MAKE YOUR BLAMED WEDDING PLANS ON YOUR OWN TIME?!

THINKING HERE! DOESN'T ANYONE DO A FULL DAY'S WORK ANY MORE?



SORRY, J.J. BUT IT WAS BETTY'S COFFEE BREAK, SO WE THOUGHT...

BUT, IT'S NED'S COFFEE BREAK, ALSO!

THAT **SINKS** IT! THE WHOLE WORLD IS AGAINST ME!

I WORK MY FINGERS TO THE BONE, KEEPING THIS NEWSPAPER TOGETHER... JUST TO PROVIDE **JOBS** FOR EVERYONE... AND THAT'S THE THANKS I GET FOR IT!

IT'S LIKE I ALWAYS SAY... EVERYONE TAKES **ADVANTAGE** OF ME BECAUSE I'M TOO **SOFT-HEARTED**!



THE OLD KNOCKOUT! HUSH, PARKER! WE CAN'T AFFORD TO BE FIRED NOW... BEFORE OUR WEDDING!

BUT, AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME, MISTER PARKER HAS **OTHER**, LESS ROMANTIC MATTERS TO CONCERN HIM...

I'VE PROVEN THAT I CAN HANDLE MYSELF IN A FIGHT... EVEN WITH ONE ARM... BUT NOW I'VE **ANOTHER** PROBLEM...

EVERYONE KNOWS THAT **SPIDER-MAN** HAS AN INJURED LEFT ARM...



SO WHAT'LL HAPPEN WHEN PETER PARKER IS SEEN AROUND TOWN ALSO SPORTING HIS WING IN A SLING?

MAYBE I CAN FAKE IT, BY KEEPING MY HAND IN MY **FOCK**... OWN! NO... IT'S TOO PAINFUL!

THE **HECK** WITH IT! A FELLA HAS TO TAKE **SOME** CHANCES! I'LL JUST **BLUFF** MY WAY THROUGH!

WHY SHOULD ANYONE TRY TO CONNECT ME WITH **SPIDEY**? I COULD HAVE HURT MY ARM ON MY **CYCLE**!



THAT'S IT! THAT'S THE EXCUSE I'LL USE!

ANY-THING'S BETTER THAN HIDING INDOORS LIKE A **COWARD**!

I'LL HAVE TO GRAB A **BUS** THIS MORNING! CAN'T USE MY WHEELS WITH ONLY ONE HAND!



BOY, MARY JANE WILL **FLIP** WHEN SHE SEES HOW **ZINGY** IT LOOKS SINCE I PAINTED IT THAT **ROLLICKIN' RED**!

LATER, AT THE CAMPUS OF GOOD OL' E.S.U....

JUST MY LUCK! THE FIRST JOKER I RUN INTO HAS TO BE **FLASH THOMPSON**! OH WELL...



WILL YA LOOK AT THAT, HARRY! IT'S **PUNY PARKER**, WITH HIS ARM IN A SLING!

WHATCHA TRYIN' TO DO, USELESS...? MAKE US THINK YOU'RE **SPIDER-MAN**?

IF HE IS, HE'S SURE DOING IT THE **HARD** WAY!

**VER-RY FUNNY**, GROUP! ALMOST AS FUNNY AS SPRAINING YOUR ARM WHILE PRIVING A **CYCLE**!

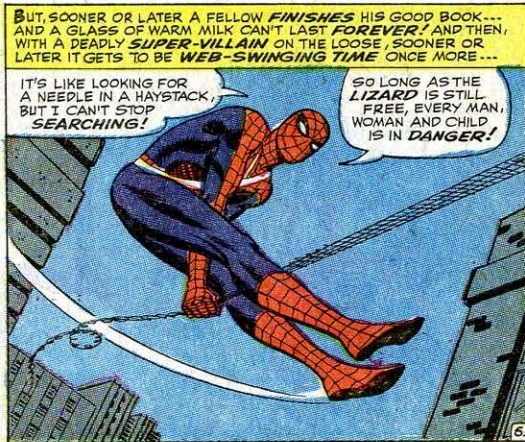
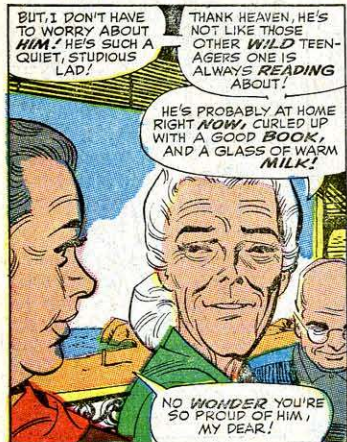


AWW, DON'T BE **ANGRY**, PETE! I **FIGURED** THAT MUST BE WHAT HAPPENED!

THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR RIDING THAT THING, SON! A CHARACTER LIKE YOU BELONGS ON A **TRICYCLE**!

WHEW! IT WENT EASIER THAN I EXPECTED! SHOULD HAVE **KNOWN** THEY'D NEVER LINK ME WITH **SPIDEY**!

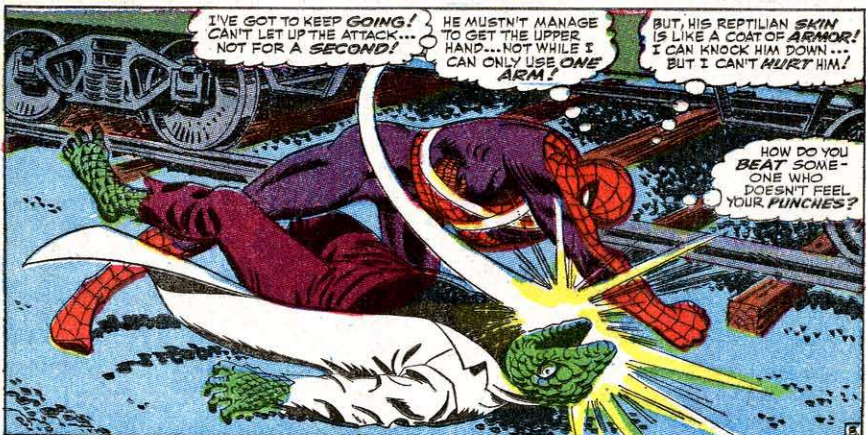












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THEN, AS IF IN ANSWER TO  
SPIDEY'S SILENT QUESTION...

YOU BRAINLESS,  
BUMBLING FOOL!  
NOW YOU'LL LEARN  
YOUR LESSON...YOUR  
FINAL LESSON!

WHEN YOUR  
TWO ARMS WERE  
HELPLESS AGAINST  
ME **BEFORE**,  
WHAT DID YOU  
EXPECT TO  
ACCOMPLISH  
**NOW?**

**TAPT!**

UGH!!  
HIS TAIL!  
COULDN'T  
DODGE IT!  
IN TIME....

THIS TIME YOU WON'T  
ESCAPE ME **ALIVE**! I'LL  
SEE TO IT THAT YOU  
NEVER INTERFERE  
WITH ME **AGAIN**!

**CRUNCH!**

NOT IF MY  
SPIDER-SPEED  
DOESN'T FAIL ME,  
YOU **WON'T**!

I **DID** IT! I  
MADE HIM DROP  
THE PIECE OF RAIL!  
BUT THE ODDS ARE  
**STILL** ALL ON  
HIS SIDE!

I CAN'T STOP  
MYSELF FROM  
**PULLING** MY  
PUNCHES...  
KNOWING HE'S  
REALLY **CURT**  
CONNORS!



BUT THE LIZARD HAS NO SUCH SCRUPLES... AS HE STRIKES BACK WITH EVERY IOTA OF POWER HE POSSESSES...

YOUR SKIN IS NOTHING BUT WEAK, HUMAN FLESH... WHAT CHANCE CAN YOU HAVE AGAINST MY POUNDING REPTILE FISTS?!!

THOP!



EVERYTHING SPINNING 'ROUND... CAN'T BREAK FREE IN TIME...!

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN! HAH!

TO ME, YOUR POWER IS A JOKE!

HAVE TO STAY LIMP... PREPARE FOR IMPACT!

MUSTN'T LAND ON WEAK ARM...!



BUT YOU'LL BE IN NO CONDITION TO LAUGH!



UNHHHHH!!

AT LEAST... I MANAGED TO RELAX... LETTING MY MUSCLES CUSHION MOST OF THE SHOCK!

SO! YOU STILL LIVE!

BAH! NO NEED TO WASTE ANY MORE OF MY STRENGTH ON YOU!

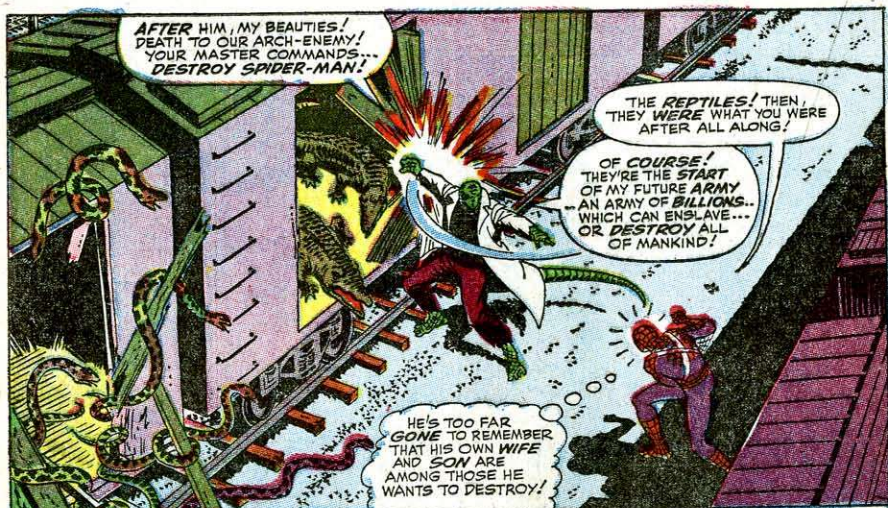
NOT WHEN MY COUNTLESS POWERFUL ALLIES CAN DO THE JOB FOR ME!

THRAKX!

WHA... WHAT'S HE DOING NOW???





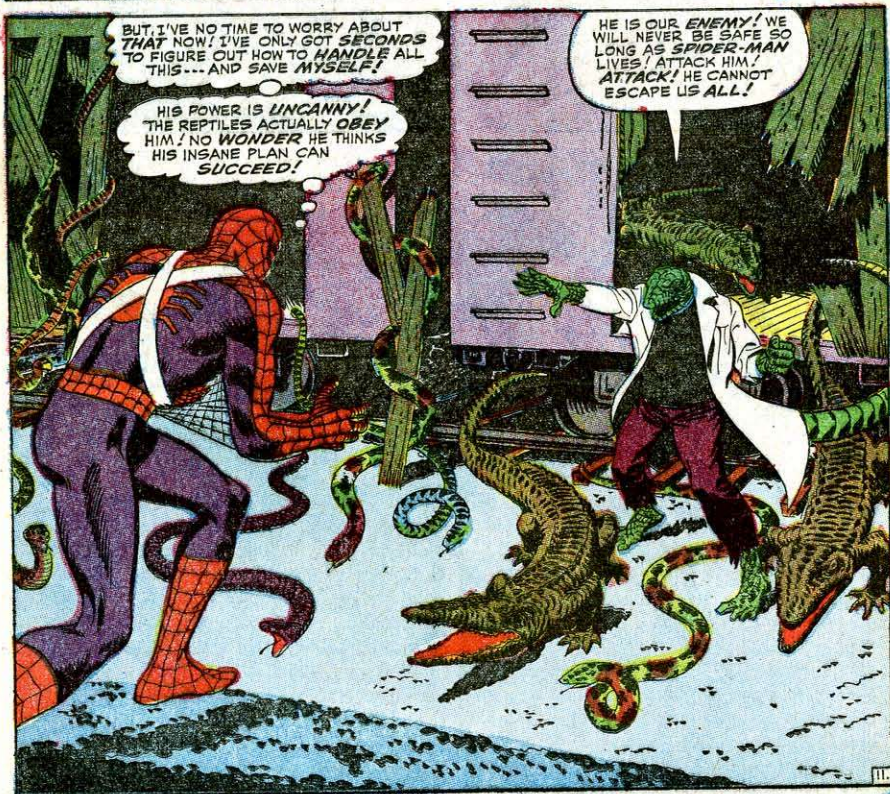


AFTER HIM, MY BEAUTIES!  
DEATH TO OUR ARCH-ENEMY!  
YOUR MASTER COMMANDS...  
**DESTROY SPIDER-MAN!**

THE REPTILES! THEN,  
THEY WERE WHAT YOU WERE  
AFTER ALL ALONG!

OF COURSE!  
THEY'RE THE **START**  
OF MY FUTURE ARMY...  
AN ARMY OF **BILLIONS**...  
WHICH CAN ENSLAVE...  
OR **DESTROY** ALL  
OF MANKIND!

HE'S TOO FAR  
GONE TO REMEMBER  
THAT HIS OWN WIFE  
AND SON ARE  
AMONG THOSE HE  
WANTS TO DESTROY!



BUT, I'VE NO TIME TO WORRY ABOUT  
THAT NOW! I'VE ONLY GOT **SECONDS**  
TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO **HANDLE** ALL  
THIS... AND SAVE **MYSELF!**

HIS POWER IS **UNCANNY!**  
THE REPTILES ACTUALLY **OBEY**  
HIM! NO WONDER HE THINKS  
HIS INSANE PLAN CAN  
**SUCCEED!**

HE IS OUR **ENEMY!** WE  
WILL NEVER BE SAFE SO  
LONG AS **SPIDER-MAN**  
LIVES! **ATTACK HIM!**  
**ATTACK! HE CANNOT**  
**ESCAPE US ALL!**





BUT, SINCE OUR PRIME PURPOSE IS ENTERTAINMENT, LET'S TURN TO PLEASANTER MATTERS. FOR JUST A BRIEF MOMENT OR TWO... AS WE VISIT THE HOME OF MRS. ANNA WATSON...



SURE THING! I'M HEADED IN THAT DIRECTION, ANYWAY!



HOWEVER, A FEW MINUTES LATER...



BUT, THE WAY THINGS LOOK RIGHT NOW, PETER PARKER WOULD PROBABLY BE THE LAST ONE MARY JANE, OR ANYBODY, WOULD RUN INTO AT A DISCOTHEQUE...



BUT, I CAN'T GIVE UP! THERE'S A LOT MORE AT STAKE THAN JUST THE LIFE OF ONE PART-TIME WEBHEAD!









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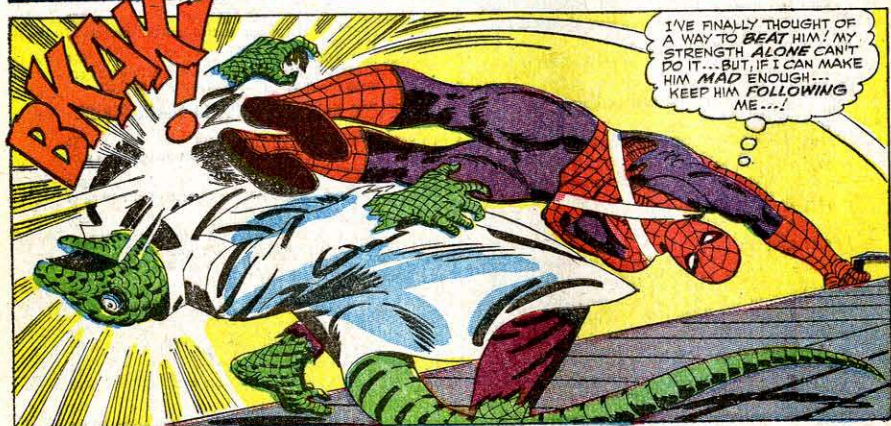
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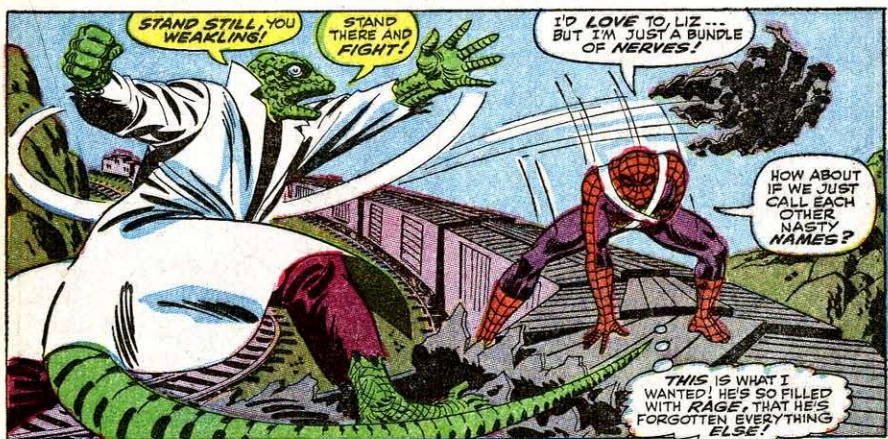
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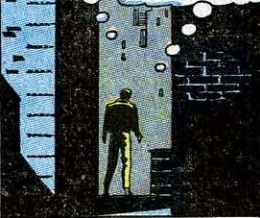


ANOTHER MIGHTY MARVEL FIRST! KNOWING HOW TITANICALLY TALENTED OUR RIOTOUS READERS ARE, WE'RE LEAVING THIS PANEL FOR YOU TO WRITE YOUR OWN DIALOGUE! IF YOU CAN GET SOMEONE TO PLAY **HEARTS AND FLOWERS** SOFTLY IN THE BACKGROUND, IT WON'T DO A BIT OF HARM, EITHER.



A SHORT TIME LATER, SPENT AND WEARY...ALMOST TO THE POINT OF EXHAUSTION...A THOUGHTFUL YOUTH SLOWLY, LABORIOUSLY, STRUGGLES INTO HIS STREET CLOTHES. ONCE MORE, AND THEN LISTLESSLY WENDS HIS WAY HOMEWARD...

I'M ALMOST SORRY IT'S ALL OVER NOW!



AT LEAST WHILE I WAS FIGHTING THE LIZARD, I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO THINK ABOUT MY OWN PERSONAL PROBLEMS...

MINUTES LATER...



HI THERE, PETE!

WOW! IS HE IN A WORLD OF HIS OWN? HE DOESN'T EVEN HEAR US!

LEAVE IT TO ME, HANDSOME HARRY! I'LL PUT HIM OUT OF HIS TREE!

HEADS UP, DAD! IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T HEARD, THE HUMAN RACE HAS ONE MORE OPENING...IF YOU GET YOUR APPLICATION IN FAST!

HMM? OH...HI, MARY JANE... AND HARRY? I, EH, MUST HAVE BEEN DAY-DREAMING!

DAY-DREAMING? TIGER, YOU WERE THE ORIGINAL ONE-MAN FOG! IF I DIDN'T KNOW YOU, I'D SAY YOU WERE STRICTLY OFF THE WALL!

CAN WE GIVE YOU A LIFT, PETE?

NO THANKS! I HAVEN'T FAR TO GO!

THEN REV'ER UP, HARRY BOY! SEE YA, PETEY... WE'RE WHEELIN' WHERE THE ACTION IS!

WHAT A PRIZE CHUMP I AM FOR WORRYING, WHEN I HAVE TO BREAK A DATE WITH MARY JANE!

LOOKS LIKE SHE COULDN'T CARE LESS...LONG AS SHE'S GOT A JOE WHO'LL TAKE HER WHERE SHE WANTS TO GO!

NO DOUBT ABOUT IT... THAT CHICK'S AS PRETTY AS A PUMPKIN SEED... BUT, JUST ABOUT AS SHALLOW!

AND, I NEVER REALIZED HOW ICKY IT CAN BE... LISTENING TO A GAL WHO'S ON ALL THE TIME!

OR, MAYBE IT'S MY FAULT! I'M JUST TRYING TO BLAME MY BLUE FUNK ON HER!



IT'S ALMOST TIME TO MAKE THE NEXT PAYMENT FOR AUNT MAY'S VACATION...AND I DIDN'T GET A SINGLE PICTURE OF THE LIZARD THAT I CAN SELL!

AS FOR THAT LAST BATCH OF PIX I SHOT...I NEVER DID DEVELOP THEM...AND THEY'RE ANCIENT HISTORY BY NOW, ANYWAY!

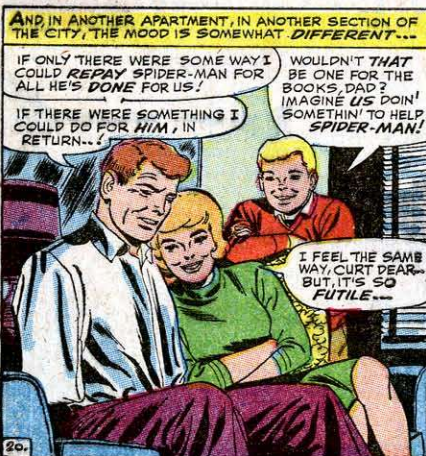
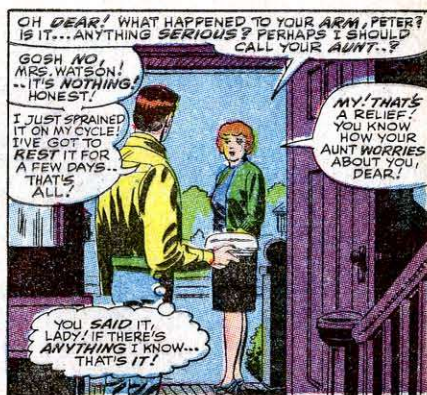
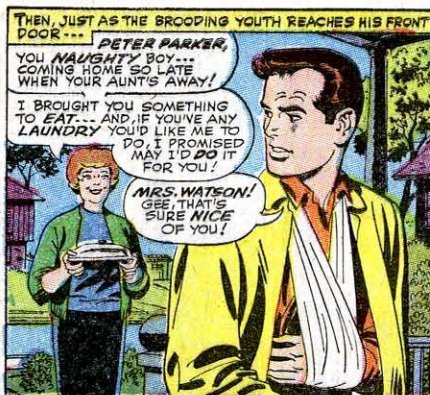
AND, JUST WAIT! L'LL AUNT MAY COMES HOME IN A FEW DAYS...AND SEES MY ARM IN A SLING! SHE'LL WORRY HERSELF SICK EVERY TIME I GET ON MY BIKE AGAIN!

ON TOP OF EVERYTHING ELSE, THERE'S MY STUDIES...!

I WAS SUPPOSED TO BE SPENDING THESE PAST DAYS BONING UP ON ALL THE WORK I'VE MISSED! HOW'LL I EVER CATCH UP NOW?





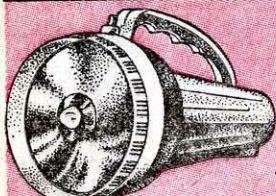


**NEXT:**

**PETER PARKER'S PAD!**

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





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## THE LATEST LOW-DOWN ON MARVEL'S LIGHT-HEARTED LUMINARIES

### FOR LITERATURE LOVERS AT LARGE!

**ITEM:** Before we do another thing, we've gotta give a mighty Marvel vote of thanks to the famous serviceman's newspaper, *Stars and Stripes*, for the terrific write-up they gave our mags just a few issues ago! We've received enthusiastic letters of comment about it from G.I.'s all over the world, and no wonder, considering that *Stars and Stripes* had things like this to say about us: "(Marvel is) responsible for getting the collegiate crowd on the comics kick!" Then, they go on to say, "From the Ivy League to the Pacific Coast Conference, more than 100 college campuses have their own fan-club chapter of the 'Merry Marvel Marching Society'." Not to mention: "—They are the first breed of super-characters that young adults can really identify with." Though the thing that really knocked us out was when we read: "—It's anything but 'just another fad' when the professors are reading them, too." We'd love to quote lots more, but you all know how inordinately modest we are — so we'll just toss another "much obliged" to our great G.I. boosters, and let it go at that!

**ITEM:** We get letters each day complaining about the difficulty of finding Marvel mags in some areas. The best way to prevent this unspeakable tragedy is to tell your dealer that he should be sure to display the Marvel titles up front. We're not trying to get you to shill for us, but unfortunately some dealers haven't yet realized the difference between Marvels and ordinary comics — and only you, O Keeper of the Faith, can remedy that situation by letting your dealer know that we're taking over the world — together!

**ITEM:** We never thought we'd say anything like this to you — because you know how greedy we are — but for the love of Aunt Petunia, don't send us your nickels, dimes, quarters, or postage stamps for our rings, mini-books, plastic figures, bubble gum cards, toys, or any of that jazz! We don't have any here at the Bullpen — honest! We're not the ones who sell those items — the manufacturers themselves do that! So, watch for all our Marvel goodies at your local stores and spare the gang in the Bullpen from having to lick a zillion stamps daily! Okay?

**ITEM:** It's time for another of our extravagant explanations! Practically every Marvelite in captivity has written to ask why we printed a TV ad a month or so ago which featured another company's character! Some of the letters were cute as all get-out, describing us as turncoats, traitors, defectors, or just plain weak-minded! Perhaps it was a startling sight to see a rival super-hero staring at you from the pages of one of our own publications! But, the explanation is really kind a simple. We most sincerely believe in the theory of a free press. We also believe that honest competition is healthy for everybody concerned. So, if a competitor wants to pay us his own good money in order to buy an ad in one of our mags, we're delighted. Actually, we consider it a great compliment to us — for it proves that no matter how willing we may hate to admit it, even they are willing to pay a bundle just to appear

in a Marvel mag! (Say! Do you think they'd accept an ad for one of our mags in a book of theirs? It sure would be fun to find out!)

**ITEM:** Have we told you yet about the big COMICS FAN CONVENTION held in midtown Manhattan at the end of July? The guest of honor was none other than Jolly Jack Kirby, who gave a short, enthusiastically-received speech to his many fans, and then answered a whole kaboodle of questions from everyone in sight. A few weeks later, at another Comics Con, practically the whole Marvel Bullpen was in attendance. Smilin' Stan talked and talked and talked and talked — and talked — for hours, in his usual capriciously confusing manner, while Rascally Roy, Fabulous Flo, Jazzy Johnny, Wild Bill, Jaunty Jim, Mirthful Marie, Rambunctious Ron, Dandy Denny, Liltin' Larry, and Merry Morrie did their brilliant bit to spread the word of Marvel-dom through the awed assemblage! Our thanks to Dave Kaler, John Benson, and the many, many frantic fans whose heart-warming hospitality and good humor helped to make the occasion a truly memorable one for us all!

**ITEM:** Before next month's mags go to the printer, we should start receiving your cogent comments concerning our Marvel Super-Heroes TV Spectaculars! So, watch this space, as well as our various letters pages, for a detailed summing-up of the pros and cons of Marvel's first venture into what we laughingly refer to as — Show Biz! We have a hunch it'll be fun to compare notes. And remember — every one of you true believers is an official Marvel Critic-at-Large! We have spoken!



## THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

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**FANTASTIC FOUR #59:** We call it "Doomsday"! You'll call it possibly the greatest F.F. spectacular of them all! Featuring Dr.

Doom — the Silver Surfer — the Inhumans — and mebbe we can squeeze the F.F. themselves into a few pages! It's a blast, dad!

**AVENGERS #36:** No card-carrying Merry Marcher would dare miss the exciting, rapturously-requested return of Quicksilver and the Scarlet Witch! And, just for good measure, we tossed in one of the most mind-staggering melees ever! You've been warned, pussycat!

**X-MEN #28:** We hadda do it! At long-awaited last, the X-Men face a brand new mutant menace whose super-power is... the Wall of the Banshee! Also, wait'll you get a peek at the overwhelming, unspeakable Ogre!

**DAREDEVIL #24:** In answer to a zillion requests, we have another nutty, nail-biting mystery for you! And, just to make it extra-special, it features the return of a fighting-mad Ka-Zar — plus, the most serious threat yet to Matt's secret identity! A sizzler!

**THOR #136:** The big one, at last! Odin decides to make Jane Foster an immortal, so that she and the Thunder God can be married! But, it leads to one of the most unusual, unsuspected problems of all! We did thee not!

**STRANGE TALES #153:** Nick Fury stars in one of the most hair-raising auto chases since the Perils of Pauline, as Hydra strikes again — while Dr. Strange attacks an army of Mindless Ones, single-handed, to save a helpless girl!

**SUSPENSE #86:** You've never seen Iron Man stronger — more supremely powerful — than now, when he battles the menacing Mandarin to a fateful finish! Meanwhile, Captain America invades an enemy stronghold to learn the secret of the dreaded Z-Ray!

**ASTONISH #88:** The surprise sensation of the season! Mighty Prince Namor faces a menace from outer space — and the evil Attuma, as well! And, talk about fights! You'll flip your wig over the Hulk's bombshell battle with blustering Boomerang!

**SGT. FURY #38:** The hard-hitting Howlers blaze into action in the Mediterranean theater, alongside a Japanese-American hero of the famed Nisei regiment. In addition, you'll wanna be on hand to find out the latest scoop on the wounded Dino Manelli!

**MARVEL COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #7:** The fabulous Fantastic Four! The invincible Iron Man! The dynamic Dr. Strange! The incredible Hulk! Never before have so many fans received so much for so little!

**FANCY MASTERPIECES #6:** Another terrific trio of titanic tales with everybody's Golden-Age favorite, Captain America — plus three fantasy classics!

**MARVEL TALES #6:** Spidey — Thor — the Human Torch — and the high-flying, heavenly Wasp! All in one mag — the biggest bargain since the Louisiana Purchase!



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Pete LaBonde  
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Michael Howard  
Chicago, Ill.  
Jean Lum  
Honolulu, Hawaii  
Robert Corber  
Bridgeport, Conn.  
Dan Gerdee  
Baltimore, Md.

Brian Alpin  
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James Knight  
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Plainsboro, N. J.

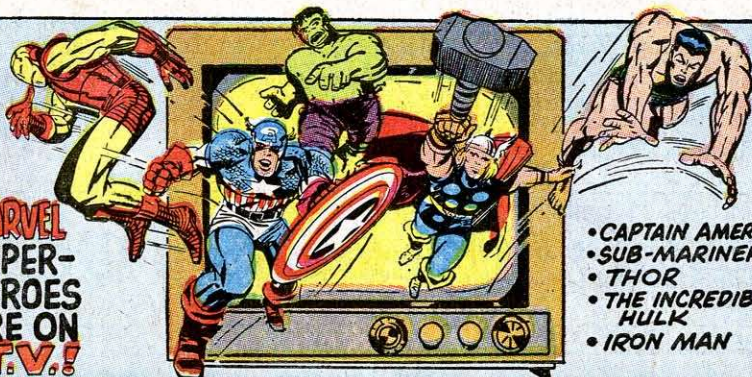
Keith Knepley  
Napoleon, Ohio  
Tom Braswell  
Wilson, N. C.  
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# The Spider's Web

SEND YOUR  
LETTERS TO:

THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP, SECOND FLOOR 625 MADISON AVE., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022

Dear Stan and John,

Shakespeare and Plato have "hit the dirt" since I picked up a Marvel mag about six weeks ago. Now I'm addicted. It's especially bad because now that I'm on a diet and can't eat, I compensate by buying Marvel Masterpieces. I'm going broke! As a struggling collegian, I can identify with Spidey who is my absolute favorite, although Daredevil has red hair like myself. Question: In issue #42 you told a guy that Spider-Man wore his duds under his clothes. Very reasonable, but where in the name of Odin did he have them stashed before and after his fight with Flash Thompson in MARVEL TALES #5? Anyway, keep 'em coming! Your work is a great relief in most cases from the contemporary literature bing published. The artwork is great, too! Why doesn't the hero or his alter ego ever get the girl?

Eddie Barnett, Kansas State Teachers College  
(soon—Univ. of Kansas), Emporia, Kans.

Aw, you know he gets her sometimes, Ed! Look at ol' Reed Richards, in the FANTASTIC FOUR — he married Sue Storm, didn't he? (Of course, if you ask us to give any other examples, we're dead!) As for where Spidey hid his duds in ish #5 of MARVEL TALES, your guess is as good as ours. That story was done so long ago, that we clean forgot what Petey told us. So, it's no-prize time again! A handsome, web-covered no-prize to the Spidophile sending us the best answer to Eddie's quaintly quizzical query!

Dear Stan and John,

Normally, I just read one of your great mags and then feel good for the rest of the day, but after reading the SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL, I could contain my exultation no longer. This is one of the finest comics I've ever read. First of all, the cover — the finely drawn scene of Spidey dealing the Hulk a monumental blow, while in the background Iron Man zooms up, Goliath stomps menacingly forward, Thor regally advances by way of his enchanted hammer, Captain America races to the battle while the Wasp hovers over his head, and Hawkeye stands ready to release an arrow! Next, the way the left-hand corner trademark balanced the blurb reading "Spidey faces the mighty Avengers and the Incredible Hulk!" And finally, the way the announcements of the other two stories at the bottom helped to offset the banner at the top! Truly, this is more than just a cover — this is a work of art! The inside front cover was well done. The drawings gave an enticing preview into the content of the stories, and helped to prepare the reader for the thrills and action that followed. The characterization of Spider-Man was magnificent. His agonizing uncertainty, his final decision, the scuffle that follows, the fight with the Hulk, his deep thoughts about whether or not to catch the Hulk, his returning to the Avengers empty-handed, and his final sorrow all showed the character that is Spider-Man as never before. Needless to say, the art was incomparable. Johnny Romita handles Spidey like DaVinci handled the Mona Lisa; and Stan, your scripts are some of the finest ever written. I would like to personally thank all of you guys

in the Bullpen for having the spirit and goodwill to put out your comics. May I say that you have nothing to worry about from any of your competitors, for you put out the finest comics that have ever been made.

David Gasser, 1450 Norton Ave.  
Glendale 2, Cal.

Sure, Davy boy — you know it — and we know it — but there must be *someone* we still haven't convinced! Those competitors that you don't want us to worry about are still managing to sell a mag here and there! Actually, faithful one, we'll never stop worrying about competition — for only by our constant striving to stay ahead of the pack can you be certain that we'll never let you down! — And, we hope Brand Echh has the same attitude. The harder we all compete, the more you frantic ones will benefit — and isn't that what really matters?

Dear Stan and John,

SPIDER-MAN #41 was comparatively poor considering the past work you have done. The Rhino is a great villain in all, but you left out one thing — his origin! Your super-duper villain popped out of the Mexican Border! I really got mad when you went and changed poor puny Peter's character and personality. You go and spend forty great issues of Spidey building up Peter as a shy, timid, hard-working student who changes into our hard-working crime-fighter. Then you go and change all this in issue #41! I hope Peter gets run over by his own motorcycle! So much for all that. I was fortunate enough to get a copy of SUPER-HEROES and THOR SPECIAL #2. SUPER-HEROES was colossal. Wow, the art sure has changed since the '40's! How do you reprint a mag from the '40's? Do you have a copy of it or just the plates used in printing them? I can see why Stan is still around writing today after reading his first story. Stan, I really enjoyed your wonderful first story! THOR SPECIAL #2 — What a story, what art! Never has Thor or Odin had such strength or character. I am especially glad to see Stan write such great stories for the annuals so they wouldn't be just a bunch of reprints. Long live Marvel!

Dennis Marshall, 55 Warren Dr.  
Portsmouth, Va.

So say we all, Dennie! We appreciate your kind words, tiger, and to answer your question — we manage to scare up an old copy or two of our mags by scrounging around our storerooms — and then, when we find them, we photograph the printed pages. But, that's only the beginning! We then have to retouch all the grey tones that appear in the photos and perform about a zillion other technical tasks on the artwork before it can be sent to the printer! (Those who sometimes claim we reprint yarns to save money are completely wrong! It would be cheaper — and easier — to do the job over completely — but we'd feel as though we're cheating you. In our opinion, one of the main features of an older reprint story is the fact that you can enjoy looking at the artwork exactly as it originally appeared! Right?)

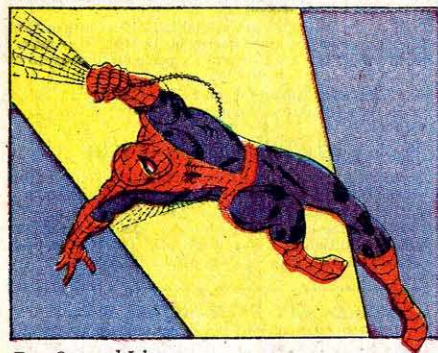


Dear Stan and John,

I have chosen to direct my criticism towards SPIDER-MAN #41. The most protuberant fallacy of this issue concerns the sound effects. In most instances the errors were commonplace and insignificant and can be overlooked, but you seem to have developed a monomania about "Stomp"! Undoubtedly there are effects other than "Stomp" which could have been used to herald the ponderous Rhino's approach, to evidence his progress. You could have used even the simplest of effects, such as "Clomp" or "Fromp" to break this monotonous continuance, but you monomaniacs persisted in maintaining the same sound effect from the time of the Rhino's debut to the juncture of his defeat. "Stomp" appears for the first time in panel 7 of page 5. It occurs again in panel 2 of page 6. Going on, however, on the same page in the third panel, you have a "Throoom" and another "Stomp". In panel 4 it is encountered again, and it also recurs twice in the first panel of page 7. Then, it reoccurs in panel 8 of page 10, and so on. I counted 15% "Stomp's" in all. (In panel 5 of page 12 one of your "Stomp's" wasn't completely written out.) The only other severe sound effects inexperience incorporates a defection in the dialogue. These occur in panels 2 and 1 on page 12 and 15 respectively. The above said inexperience consists of your representation of police car sirens. In both instances you use several "E's" to indicate the approach of the minions of the law. "EEEEEE!" What does that sound like, other than a hysterical female? Did the constabulary have a bunch of screaming women sitting on top of the cars? Really, try to be a little more introspective, will you? How about something like "WHRRrrrrRrr"? You chaps had better get to work on that sort of thing. Well, I hope you will resolve these things, at the same time maintaining your unparalleled standards in the lesser concerns, such as plot and art. After all, it's the little things that count!

Roland Bryer, 50 Riverlawn Dr.  
Fair Haven, N. J.

If you think we're gonna take umbrage at the criticism of a guy who can use a word like "recrudesces" without even blinking, forget it! We'll try to stifle our Stomps from now on, Rolly, and are grateful to you for taking the time to bring this crucial, earth-shaking matter to our attention! All of Marveldom is in thy debt! (And, if the Rhino appears again, we'll see to it that he wears sneakers! How'sat?)



Dear Stan and John,

I have written previous comments to SPIDER-MAN hoping to get them printed, but, alas, all have failed. The only way I could've done it was to have joined the service because I can't write cute little witticisms or use a large vocabulary. So now I'll just tell you the facts about the Web-Spinner's duel with the Rhino. It was magnificent, superb, fabulous, and one of the best fights he's had to date. This is all due to the original plot, the new villain, and to the fact that Spidey didn't actually defeat him. Rhiny just collapsed! I hope he comes back to tangle with Spidey again because he's one of those baddies you love to hate. Boy, has Petey got girl trouble — three of them!

On your letters pages, a fan said that Spidey's troubles are boring. He's got it all wrong! Those troubles are what sets him apart from other super-heroes. It moves the reader to see the difficulties he must overcome in trying to lead an almost normal life. I think he's great just the way he is! So if you two keep writing and drawing the way you do, you'll have a permanent Marvel fan for life — and even longer! Tom Halczak, 766 Huntington R  
Stratford, Conn. 06497

Thanks, Tommy! But, y'know something? If you fit a way to be a Marvel fan longer than for a lifetime, you'll probably be the next guy we do a story about! Dear Stan and John,

I have been wondering for a long time — what happens to Spidey's webbing after it's been used???

Tom Bralek, 423 Cypress Ave.  
Akron, Ohio

That's an easy one, T. B. — the same thing that happens to real spiders' webs after the spiders' leases are up and they've relocated elsewhere! So what else is new, ol' buddy?

Dear Stan and John,

SPIDER-MAN #42 must be "The Best Comic Book Story of the Year"! I have never read a better story from Marvel or any other brand of comic book. This issue also contained "The Most Original Battle Scene of the Year". I'm referring to Spider-Man catching those bricks with his web and slinging them at the Colonel. Stan, I know it'll be hard to top this issue or even equal it, but please try because once a person gets used to a good thing, it's hard to give it up. When Pete gave up Betty, I was kind of sad. Then Gwen cheered me up. Now I turn to page 20 after reading the most exciting Spidey of them all — imagine how I felt after everything had gotten calmed, for it turns out that the last two panels of this issue were the most exciting panels in the book! Mary Jane Watson is perfect for Pete. Don't let her get mad when Pete has to sneak off and change to Spidey. Make her be understanding. This one is too valuable for Pete to lose. After all the misery he's been through, he deserves some of the good things in life. How about an issue called "A Day with Mary Jane"? After reading such a good issue I can't get interested in your other great books. SPIDER-MAN #42 was great — it's the best book I've ever read in my whole life. This issue makes Stan a thousand times greater than Shakespeare! To tell you the truth, Stan, I always thought you were better than him, anyway. Good luck to the greatest bunch of artists, authors and letterers I've ever known! Gary Nowell, 321 George Wright Homes  
Paris, Tex. 75460

Thanks a howlin' heap, Gary — but, just between us, ol' Stan would be mighty proud just to be one-thousandth as good as Shakespeare — who Smiley figures is the greatest there ever was. However, what's this about you not being able to get interested in our other mags? Keep that up, and we'll have to sabotage poor Spidey! After all, we like you too much to allow you to suffer the Brand Echhian fate of not tasting the glories and wonderment of the F.F., mighty Thor, D.D., and the rest of our glory-studded literary gems! It's not just the lost revenues we're worried about, lad — it's your welfare — your literary diet — your peace of mind! We want the best for our frantic ones — and that means the whole, mad, mishmash of Marvel's merry masterworks! (We'd like to say more, but you know how we hate to brag about our mags!)

NEXT ISH: You guessed it! There's another big change coming up in the life of Peter Parker — everybody's favorite fall guy! It looks as though our ubiquitous underdog will finally make the break from his doting Aunt May and go it on his own! We've got all sorts of surprises in store for you — you'll see a few old, familiar faces — and perhaps a few dangerously exciting new ones, too! Also, there's a sizzling new super-villain awaiting you, and more titanic thrills than you can shake your webs at! So, wherever you go — whatever you do — be with us for ish #43 — you're the one we did it for! 'Nuff said!





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(Available as a Separate Unit for \$8.95 Postpaid)

## ANALOG COMPUTER

Electronic Computer multiplies, divides, calculates powers, roots, logarithms. Set-up on the problem on the scales of two linear potentiometers and find the answer by listening for a tone, the null point on the third potentiometer. More accurate, educational, and practical than similar computers that sell for several times the price. Easy to assemble. Complete with Headphone.

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## LIGHT AND OPTICS LAB

Exciting optical projects for the study of light. Equipment includes: five Precision Lenses, Prism, Polarizing Filter, Diffraction Grating, Mirror, Telescoping Tubing, Lens Mounts, Tape Holders and Brackets. All the parts and instructions for a Microscope, Camera Obscura, Camera Lucida, and Projector, and many other optical experiments.

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## PHOTOGRAPHY LAB

A PRECISION 35MM ENLARGER... horizontal type with twin condensing lenses and 3" f/11 projection lens. Produces quality enlargements up to 8" x 10". Contact Print Frame takes negatives up to 3 1/2" x 4 1/2". 3 Plastic Developing Trays, Neon Safelight, Tray Thermometer, Clips, Developing Chemicals, Printing Enlarging Paper and Darkroom Headband. Make quality enlargements for 6c. Make prints for only 2c.

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## RADIO LAB AND COURSE

SHORTWAVE AND BROADCAST RADIOS. 3-tube regenerative circuit. Uses 115V AC house current. Complete with headset. CARBON MICROPHONE and 2-tube AUDIO AMPLIFIER. RADIO TRANSMITTER for code or voice.

RIPPLE TANK WAVE GENERATOR with variable frequency. Produces waves, radio waves, etc. Invaluable in understanding wave theory. SIGNAL TRACER, SOLDERING IRON and CONTINUITY TESTER. Valuable trouble shooting tools. Use explained in accompanying manual. Simplified Radio-TV Servicing.

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## DC POWER SUPPLY

Changes regular 110-120V AC to the direct current required for electronic projects and experimenting. Consists of a Power Transformer, Vacuum Tube Rectifier, 20/2000µF Capacitor Filter Circuit, and a Potentiometer Voltage Selector. Dial Control for 0 to 85V. A safe isolated Power Supply that eliminates the need of expensive multi-volt batteries.

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## PHOTOMICROGRAPHY LAB

"Fresnel-type" Camera takes and prints pictures of subjects mounted on microscope slides. Enlarges up to 100 times. Takes the place of microscope, camera and printer. No other equipment needed. Includes: Developing Trays, Chemicals, Paper, Microscope Slides and Safe Light. Uses standard sizes of regular roll film.

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## SLIDE PROJECTOR

Has interchangeable projection assemblies—one for standard 35mm slides, and the other with greater magnification, for microprojector slides. Comes with 140 watt GE Projection Lamp, Large Twin Condensing Lenses for extra brightness, sturdy Slide Housing with inner chock, Microscope Slides and Safe Light. Uses standard sizes of regular roll film.

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## LIGHT TRANSMITTER-RECEIVER

The TRANSMITTER consists of a Light Source, a Modulating Reflector Diaphragm and an Optical Projection System. The RECEIVER is a Two-Slide-Audio Amplifier, controlled by a Photo-electronic Cell that catches the projected light and causes the original sound waves to be reproduced in the headphones.

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## ATOMIC ENERGY LAB

ATOMIC CLOUD CHAMBER WITH PROJECTOR ILLUMINATOR. See the vapor trails of alpha and beta particles, and of cosmic rays. SPINTHARISCOP. Shows exploding atoms. LECTROSCOPE—metal housed with Geiger and Magnifying Viewer. Measures background radiation and tests sample sources. SAFE RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS. Alpha Source in handy container and Uranium Ore. Full instructions and explanations open up the fascinating field of nuclear physics.

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## SPECTROSCOPE

Analyze spectra of glowing gases. See and identify the Fraunhofer lines. A quality instrument featuring an easy-to-read built-in scale and a powerful condensing bulb for a bright spectrum. Equipment includes Alcohol Burner and a 2 Watt Neon Spectral Lamp. Full instructions for use and use.

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## ULTRAVIOLET LAMP

140 watt filter type UV LAMP. Heavy metal cabinet. 6 Foot Cord, Rotary Switch. Produces dazzling color effects with invisible blue light. Has many uses in the fields of Microscopy, Crime Detection and Science. Accessories include Invisible Ink, Tracer Powder, Fluorescent Crayons.

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## SURVEYOR'S TRANSIT

A practical Transit. 6X erect image telescope with Range Finder Ruler for measuring remote distances and heights. Vernier reading for both horizontal and vertical scales. Leveling Head with Thumb Screw Adjustment and Spirit Level. Clamps under head hold wooden legs of Tripod. (Legs not included). Instructions cover elementary surveying, range-finding.

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