



# the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY

MARVEL  
COMICS  
GROUP

12¢ 52  
IND. SEPT

**"TO DIE A  
HERO!"**





# THROW YOUR VOICE



Throw your voice into 11-ries, behind doors, everywhere. Instrument fits in your mouth and out of sight. Fool teacher, friends and family. Free book on "How to Become a Ventriloquist." No. 137 — 25c



# MAGIC CARDS

Deck is marked and stripped. Can be read from the back but looks like ordinary deck. With instructions for 10 terrific tricks. No. 183 — \$1.98

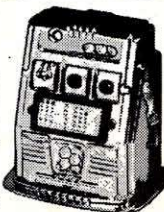
# SURPRISE PACKAGE



Are you willing to take a chance? We won't tell you what you get, but because you're willing to gamble, we'll give you more than your money's worth. No. 678 — Only 50c

# JACK POT BANK

A Dime-operating Jack Pot Bank that works just like the one armed bandit in Las Vegas. Just deposit the dime and spin the handle. Reels spin and look like the real stuff. Dimes are removable. This game should not be used for gambling purposes, only for fun. No. 2060 — 1.98



# UNBEATABLE SELF DEFENSE MADE EASY KETSUGO ONLY \$1.00



The powerful choice secrets of: Karate, Aikido, Ate-Waza, Judo, Yawara, Jiu Jitsu, Savate. REDUCE ANY ASSAILANT TO CRINGING HELPLESSNESS

Learn by yourself in just one week. No matter how small you are you can walk with confidence—fear no man.

No. 224 — \$1.00



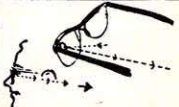
# Boomerang

Here's something new in target throwing. In case you miss, it comes right back to you, and bingo! you're all set to "fire" again. More fun than a "barrel of monkeys." No. 141 — 75c



# ATOMIC SMOKE BOMB

Just light one and watch the column of thick, white smoke rise to the ceiling, mushrooming in to a dense cloud, just like an A Bomb. No. 971 — 20c



# SEE BEHIND GLASSES

A specially treated pair of sunglasses with secret mirrors that enable you to see behind you without anyone knowing you're watching. Really comes in handy at times. No. 30 — 75c

# TREASURE CHEST OF FUN

# EXHAUST WHISTLE



Just slip it into the exhaust pipe of your friend's car... then watch him when he starts the engine! The howls and noises will make him think the motor's about to blow up or fall apart—while you roar with laughter. No. F193 — 50c

# WORMS

Drop these seemingly innocent pellets into a glass of water and magically a worm will appear. Can you imagine the look of horror on your victims face? No. 612 — 15c



# ONION GUM

Yes—Looks like real chewing gum but tastes like... like... ONIONS! Its too funny! 12 slices to a pack. No. 281 — 20c

# MINIATURE SECRET CAMERA

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# WHOOPEE CUSHION

Place it on a chair under a cushion, then watch the fun when someone sits down! It gives forth embarrassing noises. Made of rubber, and inflatable. A scream at parties and gatherings. No. 247 — 50c



# JOY BUZZER

The most popular joke novelty in years! Wind up and wear it like a ring. When you shake hands, it almost raises the victim off his feet with a "shocking" sensation. Absolutely harmless. No. 239 — Only 50c

# X-RAY SPECS

An Hilarious Optical Illusion \$1.00



Scientific optical principle really works. Imagine—you put on the "X-Ray" Specs and hold your hand in front of you. You seem to be able to look right through the flesh and see the bones underneath. Look at your friend, is that really his body you "see" under his clothes? Loads of laughs and fun at parties. No. FL7 — \$1.00



# Pan Size—Clips On Your Pocket-6-Power Magnifier

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# Secret Spy Scope



Item No. F59 — \$1.98



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Rush me the items listed below. If I am not 100% satisfied, I may return any part of my purchase after 10 days Free Trial for full refund of purchase price.

Item	Name of Item	How Many	Total Price
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# THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!

## "TO DIE A HERO!"



I WOULD'A THOUGHT A GUY AS STRONG AS SPIDER-MAN WOULD BE A HECKUVA LOT HEAVIER!

MAYBE HE'S BEEN DRINKIN' NO-CAL! WHAT'S A DIFFERENCE?

WHERE HE'S GOIN', IT WON'T MATTER WHAT HE WEIGHS!

INTO THE SUB-CELLAR WITH THEM!

WAIT! YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME!

YOU FOOL! THE KINGPIN CAN DO ANYTHING!

SPIDEY HAS BEEN DEFEATED BY THE DECEPTIVELY POWERFUL KINGPIN, WHILE TRYING TO SAVE A BEWILDERED J. JONAH JAMESON! AND NOW... THE FANTASTIC FINALE..

PRODUCED AND PRESENTED BY:  
STAN (TAR MAN) LEE  
and JOHN (DING) ROMITA  
EMBELLISHED BY:  
MICKEY DEMEO  
LETTERED BY:  
SAM ROSEN

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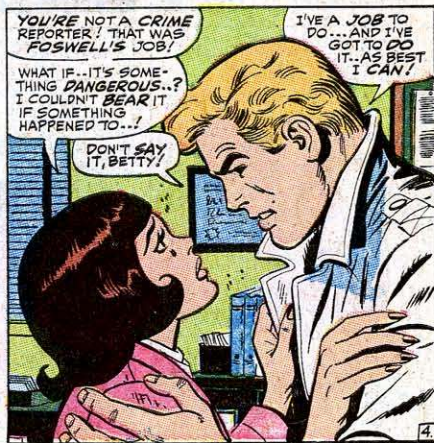










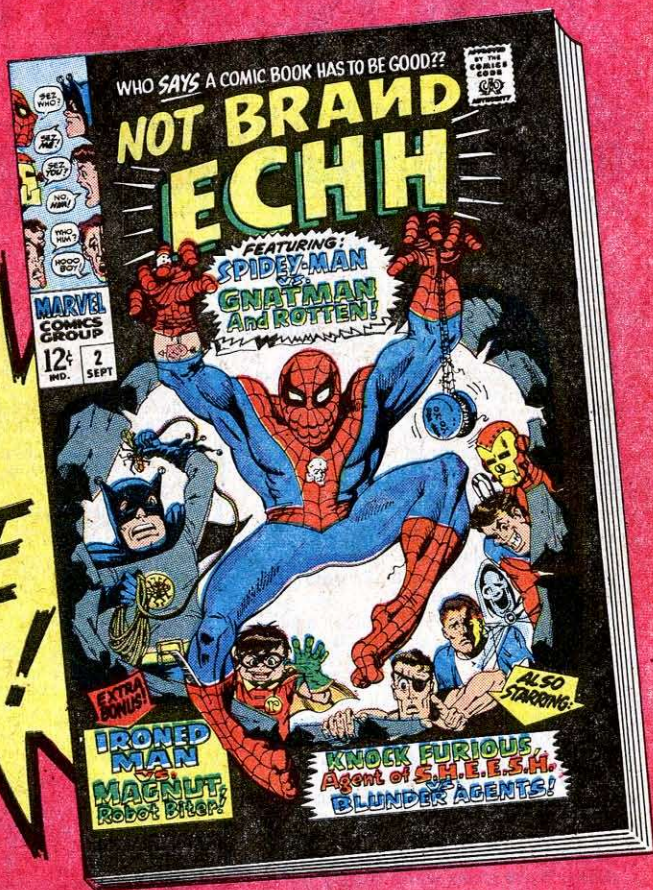


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# BASEBALL FANS ARE CRAZY

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**BASEBALL GAME**

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Easy to play, real thrilling, exciting baseball with STRAT-O-MATIC. 400 big league players perform according to their actual abilities and your managerial decisions.

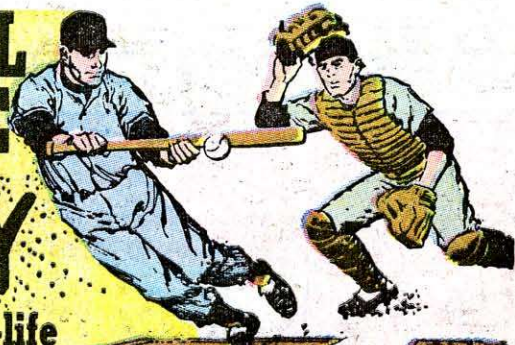
You, the manager, not only decide line-ups, insert pinch-hitters, pinch-runners, and relief pitchers, play your infield "in or deep," and make defensive changes at any time, but also call for the sacrifice, steal, hit-and-run, and squeeze-play. All strategy moves are possible with STRAT-O-MATIC.

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**STRAT-O-MATIC BASEBALL** is the best baseball game I ever have had. Kids swamp over the back porch to play this game! Boy, it is a lot of fun! Thank you for making such a wonderful game. —P. C., Attleboro, Mass.

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—G. V., Cincinnati, O.  
As close to realism as one can get and therefore far more superior to other competing baseball games.

—F. T., Manila, P.I.

Although it's fantastically realistic, it's also very simple to play. —A. F., Los Angeles, Calif.

I'm one hundred percent satisfied with it. The game provides hours of fun for me and my friends. It's very realistic, and true to life.

—C. H., Lanett, Ala.

The best baseball game. It is realistic and yet not too difficult to play.

—F. M., Port Huron, Mich.

Thank you for creating such an exciting yet realistic game and putting a shine to what might have been a boring summer.

—N. S., Los Angeles, Calif.

Boys are waiting in line to play the game!

—A. H., Chicago, Ill.

It has given me more pleasure than any other game.

—S. E., Rossville, Ind.

The most exciting and fun game ever.

—L. S., Boston, Mass.

It is so stupendous, words can't explain.

—J. R., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Best on the market.

—J. E., Miami, Fla.

Has given me more enjoyment than I have ever had from any one thing in my entire life. It's worth its weight in gold. As I love baseball, this game gives me something enjoyable to do during the off seasons as well as during the season.

—S. C., Temple City, Calif.

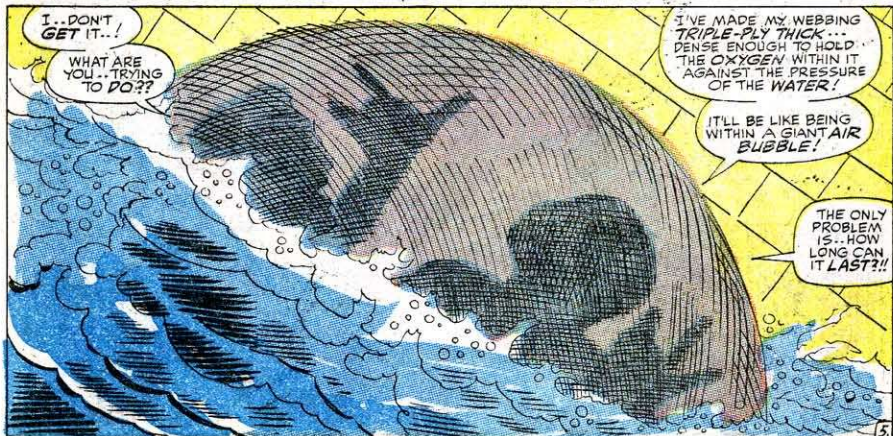
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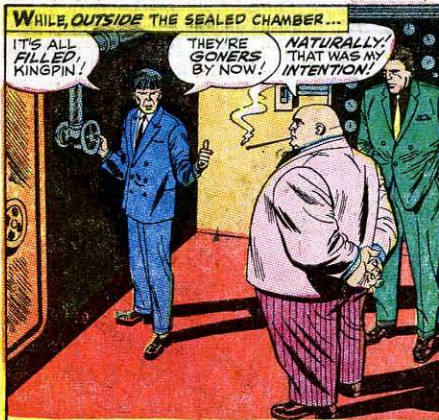
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Are You a Boy? \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Date Born \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Print Your  
Last Name  
Plainly Here

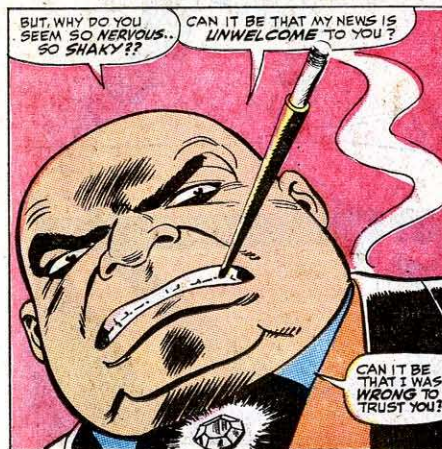
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a boy  
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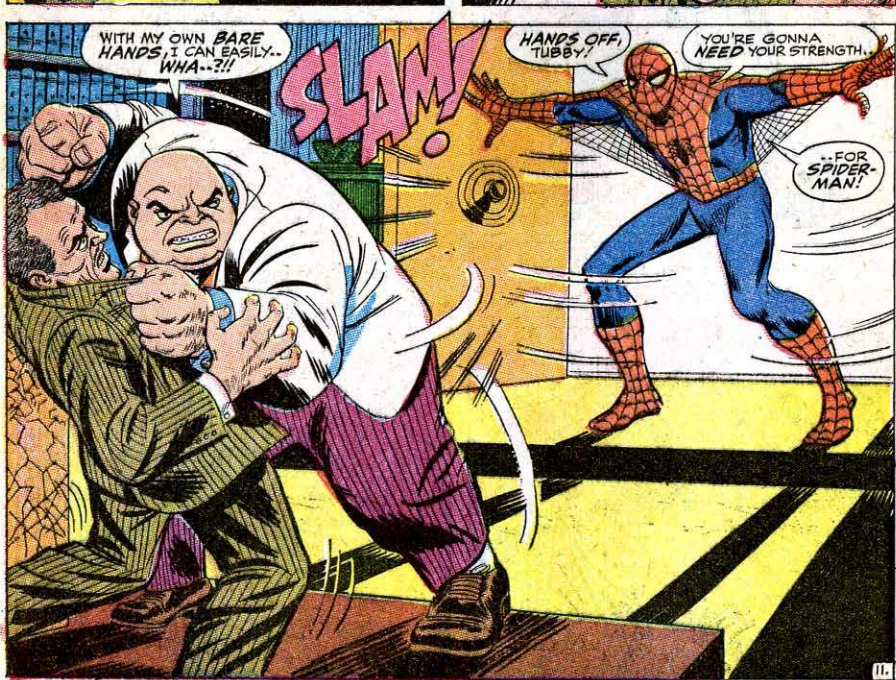
















BUT, KNOWING HOW YOU WORRY ABOUT SPIDEY IN MOMENTS LIKE THIS, LET'S BREAK THE TENSION FOR A FEW SECONDS AS WE SWITCH OUR SCENE TO THE DOORWAY OF THE SILVER SPOON, WHERE AN UNEXPECTED VISITOR IS JUST ENTERING...









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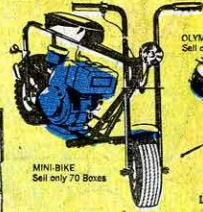
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WOT A SURPRISE — JOHNNY MAESTRO

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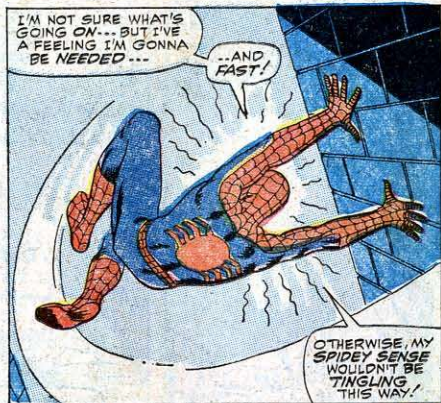
2 Diff. Indian Cents	50	25 Diff. Africa	50
Confederate 1/2 Republic	25	25 Diff. France	50
2 Diff. Confederate Notes	25	25 Diff. French Col.	75
3 Diff. Liberty Nickels	75	25 Diff. Italian Col.	75
Set of 1945 Steel Cents	50	10 Diff. Jamaica	25
20 Assort. Foreign Coins	100	25 Diff. Japan	25
1 Diff. Vietnam Coins	60	50 Diff. Poland	70
1 Coin of Nepal	50	24 Diff. Romania	50
Ireland "Pig" Halfpenn	25	25 Diff. Russia	50
2 "S" Mint Lincoln Cents	25	25 Diff. Spanish Col.	75

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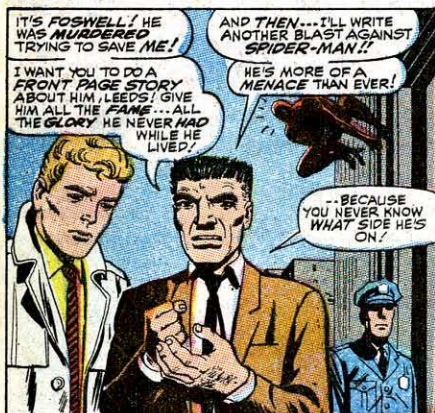












NOTE: OUR LETTERS SECTION APPEARS AFTER NEXT PAGE...



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**WALLACE W. REUMANN**

Author of "SUPER KARATE" and world-famous authority on KARATE, is the ONLY instructor in the Northwest U.S. recognized by the International Karate Federation in Tokyo.  
I spent 2 years in Japan learning the little-known Oriental art of KARATE and was awarded the 4th Degree Black Belt - symbol of the highest possible proficiency - and am ready to show you every move of KARATE and KARATE specialists within hours of your order. You will receive information will be refunded.  
You don't have to attend a school of my 2 schools where I train men like you and teach you how to practice KARATE in the privacy of your own home with only a few minutes of practice a day. I have am-petected all I know about KARATE.  
"SUPER KARATE" - profoundly illustrated and clearly explained - In this book I take you step by step through the fundamentals of KARATE so that you understand clearly and immediately operate to make you master of KARATE. You may wonder how he does it, or how much of your body is your PROTECTION!  
The best of hundreds of years of development in Japan, KARATE is the Oriental system of self-

defense in which you turn your hands, arms and legs into incredibly powerful weapons of attack. When you know how to use KARATE, you disarm and disable your opponent in SECONDS. When you apply KARATE techniques, you can cut an aggressor down with a blow of the side of your hand. You can tear an attacker from the rear over your shoulder and slam him into the ground. In fact, recent photographs in "SUPER KARATE" show a 115-lb. girl slaming her 200-lb. instructor into the prison mat.  
With KARATE you can disarm and disable two, three and even four attackers. You can disarm your opponent with a simple pressure of your thumb and finger against his throat. A dozen vital nerve centers of your opponent and watch his gut or knee fall from his limp hand while he himself sinks to the ground completely helpless and faint.  
In fact, a knowledge of KARATE will turn you into a actually have to use it for you actually become self-assured and

100's of Illustrations

**only 99¢**

completely confident of yourself and your ability to handle your assailant. You will walk with a determined and confident step. You'll look any man in the eye and you'll walk the streets with the knowledge that NOTHING can frighten you - that you can deal with any man, and that you can win all this with NO bodily contact!

**Costs ONLY 99¢**

You owe it to your own peace of mind - to your loved ones - to be able to defend yourself in these days of street attack may come at any time from hoodlums, or so-called "beatniks" or "gangs." So mail coupon NOW for your complete KARATE - for the amazingly low price of only 99¢ plus 5¢ for postage and handling. If you and your friends don't say KARATE has made a new man out of you, every cent will be refunded!

## GIANT LIFE-LIKE KARATE PRACTICE DUMMY

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INCLUDES ILLUSTRATED KARATE INSTRUCTION PROGRAM! Now you can speed up your knowledge of KARATE and become a champ more quickly than you ever thought possible! You can practice on your own personal KARATE master - just as though you actually had a live partner to work with. KARATE life-like Giant KARATE PRACTICE DUMMY shows a clearly shown, very realistic area which could be attacked. INSTANTLY you know WHERE to strike. KARATE MASTER shows you HOW to attack. You also learn the body's major vulnerable points, the defense or on-guard position to take, and your body's personal weapons which you can use to deadly effect, such as your hand, knee, elbow, etc. 16 numbers on the dummy show you the exact location you should strike. Check coupon, only two plus 5¢ for postage.

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Order both the SUPER KARATE BOOK and LIFE-LIKE DUMMY for only \$1.98 postpaid and SAVE 52¢. Just check box in coupon below. We pay all postage.

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**PRECISE PUBLICATIONS Dept. KA-55**

Box 122, Lenox Hill Sta., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021

- ☐ Rush your special Combination money-saving package of SUPER KARATE BOOK and DUMMY. I enclose \$1.98 as payment in full if sent 52¢ less than in plain wrapper. My friends and I must be delighted with my amazing new power or you refund my money in full.
- ☐ Rush my copy of SUPER KARATE BOOK in plain wrapper for which I enclose 99¢ plus 5¢ for postage and handling (Total: \$1.25).
- ☐ Rush my life-like KARATE DUMMY in plain wrapper, for which I enclose 99¢ plus 5¢ for postage and handling (Total: \$1.25).

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I understand that by studying KARATE, I am morally bound and I will never use it for KARATE as an aggressor (only to defend myself) and will never abuse it.



# MARVEL BULLPEN BULLETINS • MARVEL BULLPEN BULLETINS • MARVEL BULLPEN BULLETINS

## AWE-INSPIRING ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR YOU TO YAWN WITH!

**ITEM!** The time has come! 'Tis the merry month of June, and that means the first two of Marvel's sensational SPECIALS are now on sale! Even as you read these spine-tling words, the great, action-packed **SGT. FURY AND HIS HOWLING COMMANDOS SPECIAL** has just hit the newsstands with the shattering impact of a B-52 bomb load! When you realize that it features Nick Fury, in the present, as the full chicken-colonel Director of Shield, reuniting his howlers for a special mission in Viet Nam, you'll know why we urge you to get your copy TODAY! This one's not gonna be around long! And, in case we forgot to tell you—every story, every feature in this year's king-size sensation is ALL-NEW—ALL-ORIGINAL! Then, just to prove how big-hearted we are, we've also issued a new, queen-sized **MILLIE THE MODEL SPECIAL** for your sisters, gal friends, and various other fun-and-fashion buffs! We know you'll be all shook-up to learn that it, too, is on sale now! And, next month, whatever else you do, don't fail to grab the blood-bustin' **DAREDEVIL SPECIAL** and the equally-great **AVENGERS SPECIAL**! They're both ALL-NEW with ALL-ORIGINAL stories and features—as are the indescribably wonderful **FANTASY FOUR** and **SPIDER-MAN SPECIALS** which we're bestowing upon you in the following month! Watch these pages for the next two issues to get a more complete rundown on what DD, the AVENGERS, SPIDEY, and the ever-lovin' FF will contain—'cause we're the kinda guys who'll TELL you!

**ITEM!** We just received a letter that may be of interest to all you Believers who like to save your Marvel mags—so we'll pass it along right now—

Dear Stan: We have trouble with pages that come loose from too much handling, and have found a way to correct this. Just open the staples and put a piece of transparent tape on the outside cover and in the exact center of the book. Then close the staples again. It preserves the magazine no matter how many times it's read. No more lost pages!—Sincerely, But Cavadin, (Cashton, Wisc. 54619)

Many thanks, Bud o' boy! But just tell us one thing—is it true you're a manufacturer of transparent tape?

**ITEM!** Once again the time-differential gap is enough to drive us all batty! Here's why—as we write these deathless phrases, we're just about to send the first ish of our nutty new satire mag **BRAND ECCH** to the printer. But, by the time you READ this page, ish #2 is already on sale! We won't receive any mail from you about the mag for another couple of months (our time), but you're probably starting to flood us with your capricious criticism already (your time)! Anyway, all we're trying to say is—whatever you do, don't dare miss our newest mag—the book that's been called the biggest gamble Marvel—or anyone else—ever attempted! If it isn't a sell-out, every one we know is including the REAL Brand Ecchs! We're concluding "We told you so!" And you KNOW how we hate to fall on our faces! (Especially when Irving Forbush is looking!)

**ITEM:** Speaking of Honest Irv, your letters have been running about a zillion-to-one in favor of us never showing what he looks like! And we don't mind telling you what a relief that is! After all, how do you present a portrait of a naturally neurotic non-entity? (Sounds like a new idea for a no-prize contest, huh?)

**ITEM!** Well, looky here! Another letter which you may be interested in—

Dear Stan: You are making a drastic mistake. Not being content to produce the best-written and best-drawn comics in America, you're allowing Marvel to turn into a fad—due to the tons of merchandise bearing your characters which is on sale all over. If this isn't stopped, Marvel may suffer the fate of all other fads—it may rise in a burst of glory and then fade out until, months from now, Marvel is naught but a memory. Your mags are great enough to stand on their own merit without all the other stuff. Please! I was here when The Marvel Age of Comics began, but I don't want to be here when it ends!—PFC Bruce Long, C-21, Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Bruce, buddy—we really appreciate your concern, but we have a feeling the end isn't quite in sight yet. One thing you must have noticed—no matter what novelties and nick-nacks are produced bearing the Marvel imprint—and we think they're all kinda swell—it doesn't in any way affect the stories or artwork in our award-winning mags. For the Merry Ones who enjoy model kits of our characters—or records—or games—or sweatshirts—or coloring books—or almost anything you can name, we've got 'em in abundance. But, for those who are interested solely in the Marvel mags themselves, we're working as hard as ever—and as enthusiastically as ever—to produce the best darned illustrated epics the world has ever seen! Isn't that really all that counts? So long as we can continue turning out the type of thrillers our rockin' readers enjoy, there's no reason for anyone to become a Marvel dropout! And, the day we start to slip—the day we start giving you less than our best, then we deserve whatever happens! Fair enough?

### STAN'S SOAPBOX!

We've said it before—and we're gonna say it again! We love your letters! It's a real kick hearing from you! We're overwhelmingly touched by the interest you show and the time you spend writing to us—but please, PUH-LEASE, make your letters shorter! We wouldn't bother asking you this if not for the fact that we honestly read each and every communication you send us—and the mail gets heavier each month! (Which is great! It shows that you're all hangin' loose!) But, the more mail we get, the less time we get to read it. So, from the bottom of our hearts to the top of our weary little bloodshot eyeballs, we beg you, we beseech you—keep your letters down to just one page or less! The notepaper manufacturers may not like it, but it just may allow us a little time to write a story or two between applying our eye-drops! Okay? Thanks, tiger—we knew you'd understand!

### THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Marvel-ous Mags on Sale Right Now!

**BRAND ECCH #2:** Nuttier and more exciting than ever! Spidey-Man vs. Gnatman and Rotten! Knock Furious, Agent of Sheesh, vs. Blunder Agents! Ironed-Man vs. Magnut, Robot-Biter! You've never seen anything like it!

**FANTASTIC FOUR #66:** Rarely have you thrilled to a more fascinating mystery than the one in store for you now! The Thing's

sightless girl friend captured and brought to the strangest place on earth—for what mind-staggering purpose? A real shocker!

**AVENGERS #43:** See Hercules and Hawkeye fighting behind the Bamboo Curtain! See Quicksilver develop a new, startling super power! See the introduction of the evil Red Guardian! See action as only Marvel can dish it out!

**X-MEN #35:** When our magnificent mutants get a guest star, we don't kid around! This one features none other than Spider-Man—battling desperately against the savage fury of the X-Men! It's dynamite!

**DAREDEVIL #31:** Possibly the most sensational of all DD's adventures! Imagine the Man Without Fear minus his super-senses—forced to battle his most deadly foes while he's actually sightless! It's Daredevil's most fateful moment—and when you see the ending—HOOO BOY!

**THOR #143:** Get set for sheer magnificence as Balder the Brave and the stunning Sif are pursued to earth by the evil Enchanters—the only arch-foes powerful enough to defy Thor and Odin at the same time! So be it!

**STRANGE TALES #160:** Nick Fury and his SHIELD stalwarts battle a vociferous new villain during the big black-out of 1965—and with help from Captain America, yet! While, after a disastrous defeat at the hands of Mordo, Dr. Strange and the entire earth face obliteration by the Living Tribunal! Talk about mind-suffer!

**SUSPENSE #93:** See Iron Man suffer his greatest defeat—at the hands of a giant whose true identity will knock you for a loop! As for Captain America, he's finally invaded the lair of A.I.M. to rescue SHIELD's loveliest agent—only to lose her forever!

**ASTONISH #95:** Wait! You meet the merciless menace from Skull Island as he tackles Sub-Mariner with his invincible super-submarine! But what of the Hulk? How can he face the threat of a deadly madman's alien weapon when he himself is helpless on the lost planet?

**SGT. FURY #45:** In one of the most off-beat war sagas of all time, the hard-hitting Howlers rescue an important General's son—only to be brought to the brink of disaster by... THE WAR LOVER. 'Nuff Said!

**FANTASY MASTERPIECES #10:** This is the Golden-Age gas everyone's been demanding—the All-Winners Squad, featuring Captain America, the Human Torch, Sub-Mariner, Miss America, and the Whizzer—in a 43-page epic destined to become the most talked-about reprint of the decade!

**MARVEL TALES #10:** Spidey vs. Kraven the Hunter. Thor battling it out with Loki the Human Torch fighting for his life against the Painter of a Thousand Perils—the most frenzied fight card since the opening of Madison Square Garden! Oh, and just to top it off, your big-hearted Bullpen's tossed in another scintillating story by the wonderfully winsome Waspi

**MARVEL COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #10:** The frankly fabulous F.F.—our own Jolly Green Giant—the incomparable Iron Man—and the warily worrisome Watcher! Is this any way to print a comic book? You bet it is, tiger!



### Let's meet 26 more M.M.S. members!

Bonnie Goodwin  
New York, N.Y.  
John Ray  
New York, N.Y.  
Marc Marshall  
E. Omaha, Neb.  
Ken Frisch  
Toleno, Ohio

Clegg Harrington  
Landis, N.C.  
Steve Loris  
Fort Smith, Ark.  
Ronny Havel  
Kingston, N.Y.  
Rodney Raspberry  
Shreveport, La.

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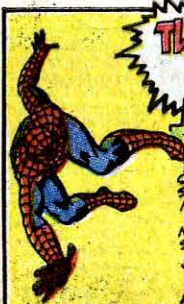
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Dear Stan and John,

What has happened to the real Spider-Man? Who is this imposter who claims to be Peter Parker, the alter ego of the well known web-slinger? The Spider-Man that I remember seems to have disappeared from the face of the earth, and has been replaced by a completely different character who acts more like an agent of Brand Echh than an honest-to-goodness Marvel hero! In the space of almost one year, the team of Stan Lee and John Romita has changed both the appearance and the personality of Peter Parker to the point where he is practically beyond recognition! Petey has evolved from a quiet, sensitive, studious, square-type loner into a groovy, hip, and frugging party-goer who zips about on a motorcycle and has no trouble at all trying to get a date with some slick chick. Why, I can remember the time when Pete didn't have a friend in the world! What I'm trying to say is, please, bring back the old Spider-Man—the Spider-Man who, scorned by the public, and continuously worrying about the health and welfare of his sick Aunt May, had often thought of giving up his identity as a crime-fighter forever—the Spider-Man who was constantly being weighted down by a feeling of guilt over the death of his uncle and by an ever-present sense of loneliness! These are the qualities which set Spider-Man apart from the ordinary, run-of-the-mill superhero, and made him unique, the most dramatic, tragic, realistic hero ever to appear in a comic mag. Let's see him restored to his former heights of greatness!

George Gambino, 30 Drake Lane  
Levittown, L. I., N.Y. 11756

Hooo boy! You know what that means, frantic ones! It's vote time again! Does ol' George speak for the majority of far-flung Spidophiles everywhere—or is he but a pale, lonely voice, echoing plaintively thru the endless vales of Marveldom? Only you can decide—so let's hear it, heroes! Do we make Spidey the guilt-ridden, friendless foul-up of old—or are we on the right track now with our merry modernization of Petey? We'll letcha know the verdict as soon as all the votes are in—both of 'em!

Dear Stan and John,

I want to congratulate you on issue #49. It was terrific! Talk about two for the price of one—I never expected the Vulture and Kraven together in the same mag. The only mistake I could find was the title of the forthcoming issue. The words, "Spider-Man No More!", seem to inevitably insure the outcome of the story. I think a question mark would have been more fitting. But I'm sure he'll handle

this new challenge with as much fighting spirit as he has shown in previous adventures. I'm glad Pete broke up with Betty Brant. She's far too old for him, and besides, I'd prefer M. J. any day. As for Gwen, with Flash in the Army, Harry's the only bachelor up for grabs, and she can take it from there, I'm sure. Speaking of Flash and the draft, don't let Pete go web-slinging so much that he neglects college. The idea of Spidey in Viet Nam just doesn't grab me. In DD #28 you received a letter from a Peace Corps Establishment in Niger, West Africa. I just wanted to say that I was deeply touched and I wish them the best of luck. Recently I ordered through the mail the 8 super-hero posters advertised in your mags. The art was beautiful—could you please tell me who the artist was? By now I've probably bored the whole Bullpen, but in case anyone is still awake, I'm signing off! Kurt Kramer, 242 E. University Fresno, Cal.

Everyone better be awake, Kurt—because we want the whole population of Marveldom to know that we really dug your liltin' letter—and the answer to your question is that the posters you mentioned were drawn by the whole batty Bullpen, and then touched up by madeap Marie Severin in order to keep the style uniform. By the way, we were interested in your comments about Spidey's love life—but things don't always turn out the way we expect when it comes to romance—so leave us not take anything for granted, faithful one! Although, there is one thing we can be reasonably sure of—Petey's not likely to get involved with the Thing's Aunt Petunia!—At least, we don't think so!

Dear Stan and John,

Happy birthday, dear Spidey, happy birthday to you! I wonder how many people realize that when issue #49 hit the stands, it marked the fourth anniversary of the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN. In those four years Spidey has battled Kraven, the Vulture, Mysterio, Doc Ock, Dr. Doom, the Torch, Ringmaster, the Hulk, Green Goblin, a guy named Joe, the Terrible Tinkerer, and a runaway space capsule, to name a few of the superb Marvel menaces. Some of the regulars have left, and others have been relegated to a part-time basis. Some new villains have come on the scene, and, best of all, some of the old-timers have returned. In those same four years Spidey has evolved from a neurotic nut to a more mature version, capable of solving personal problems. In four years he had but one writer and only two artists. The stories are better than ever. So I say to you, Stan, keep up the good work, and may you enjoy continued success for many years to come.



So, until Brand Echh pays me to read their mags, I'll walk a little taller, stand a little straighter, and talk a little prouder, as I say—"Make Mine Marvel—for this truly is the Marvel Age of Comics!"

Harvey Zeises, 2047 N. Wanamaker St.  
Phila., Pa. 19131

We kinda like the way you turn a phrase, Harv—it seems to remind us of something we must have seen or read in the past! Anyway, any tiger who can toss those little epigrams around so glibly can't be all bad! Thanks for the birthday wishes, buddy—we assume your gift'll arrive in the next mail!

Dear Stan and John,

I have a question which has puzzled me for a long time. Spidey's web-shooter is worn at his wrist and is activated when he touches the electrode in the palm of his hand. Then, why isn't his web activated when he makes a fist? From pictures I've seen of his device, I don't see how it could not be activated when he does make a fist. Please explain!

Chris Jessup, 280 Chestnut St.  
Geneva, Ohio 44041

We've thought about it for months, Chris—spent countless sleepless nights tossing and turning, yawning and yearning—and then it came to us! We found the answer! It was earth-shaking in its sheer simplicity—soul-shattering in its cold, clear logic! In order to activate his little webbie-shooter, Spidey does indeed touch the electrode in the palm of his hand... but—he has to touch it *twice*! When he makes a fist, he only touches it once! Just address your no-prize to Stan and John, Pussycat!

Dear Stan and John,

SPIDEY #49 was nothing short of terrific. The cover was a work of art, the scenery on it was very good, and I liked the way the sky kept slowly changing color as it did in #39. The Vulture really looked great swooping down and smashing Spidey. Kraven never looked as fierce as he did in this ish. The idea of the Vulture robbing a helicopter was very original, and kept the story moving. The fight between Kraven and the Vulture was superbly drawn. I'm glad that Spidey defeated a villain, especially Kraven, by just overpowering him instead of using some scientific gizmo. One more thing, I like your new trademarks in the cover corners—they're a great improvement.

Larry Katz, 116 Summit Ct.  
Westfield, N. J.

Over what, Larr? Okay, okay—simmer down, square-shooter—we know whatcha mean! Incidentally, you haven't seen the last of ol' Vulture yet! He'll be back again within the coming year—but in a way you'd never suspect! We were just kicking the next Vulture plot around a few days ago, and we came up with a gimmick that'll make you realize why fandom calls Marvel "The House of Ideas"! (They call us other things, too—but it's probably just as well that we don't hear 'em!)

Dear Stan and John,

In SPIDER-MAN #48 you showed that it was a freezing winter's day, and snow was covering the ground. On page 10, panel 7, you stated that Spidey had just returned from a battle with Still-Man. I bought a DAREDEVIL and read it. There wasn't even a flake of snow in it, and yet Spidey #48 showed that there was snow on the ground all the way through! How can you say that it is spring or summer in one mag and winter in another when they are both so closely related as if they were one story? Don't tell me the snow melted either, because in #48 there was snow on the ground both before and after Spidey visited DD. By the way, why does Webhead dislike DD so much? In DD #27 he acted as though they were mortal enemies. There is still one thing we had better settle scientifically. No man, not even a super-villain, can fly, even with the help of wings. Therefore, it is illogical that the Vulture can seek his prey from the air. What do you say to that? Despite all this, I still enjoy your mags. The art is too good to be true! Long live the best comic makers that are alive today!

Niels Dutka, 9859 Witham  
Dallas, Tex.

Our sentiments exactly, N. D.! But did you haveta spoil that tender little thought with all those cataclysmic

complaints? Let's take the first one first—you say it was snowing in the Spidey yarn, but bone dry in Daredevil's epic, eh? Wouldja believe snow flurries? They ended as soon as you left ol' Webhead and rejoined the fearless one? No? Well then, how's about the fact that Jazzy Johnny loves to draw those finky little flakes, while Gentleman Gene says they give his drawing hand frostbite? No sale? Okay, we won't fight it any longer, Niels—one grudgingly-awarded no-prize comin' up! But, when you say it's illogical for the Vulture to fly—sheesh! Here's a bunch of mags wherein one cat walks on walls—another can burst into flame—one can turn into a Thunder God—to say nothing of a green-skinned rampager and an ever-lovin' orange-skinned butterball—and you say it's illogical for a fella to fly! Another peep outta you and we'll reclaim that no-prize!



Dear Stan and John,

As regional president of the Tufts University Medical School MIMS, I just wanted to take a few minutes to fill you in on some of our activities here in Boston. First of all, let it never be said that your phenomenal art work is of little educational value. We, here at the Medical School, highly prize the care and accuracy that go into each drawing. In fact, we were so impressed by Spidey's musculature that we have adopted the full-size Spidey pinup to classroom use to study the muscles of the human body. With each new ish, we closely scrutinize the varied positions of every super-hero so as to acquaint ourselves with perfect human anatomy. Incidentally, being med students, Doc Strange is our personal favorite super-hero. Where did he get his degree from? Several of our members wear their Doc Strange T-shirts to class. So how come he doesn't carry a black bag? We keep a live tarantula as our MIMS mascot. As yet, none of our members have volunteered to be a second Spider-Man by being bitten. Who says comics are for kids? I pick up the new issues on the way to class and read them whenever the lecture lags. I haven't been caught yet. For intellectual stimulation, Marvel mags are unbeatable!

Richard Ross, 42 Joy St.  
Boston, Mass. 02114

And, as Brand Echh will testify, they're also great for wrapping fish in! Glad you like our web-spinner, Dick—and we're delighted that our pictures of him aid you in your anatomy studies. Now, if ever you need a new specimen for your pickle jar, we'll try to dig up Irv Forbush's phone number for you!

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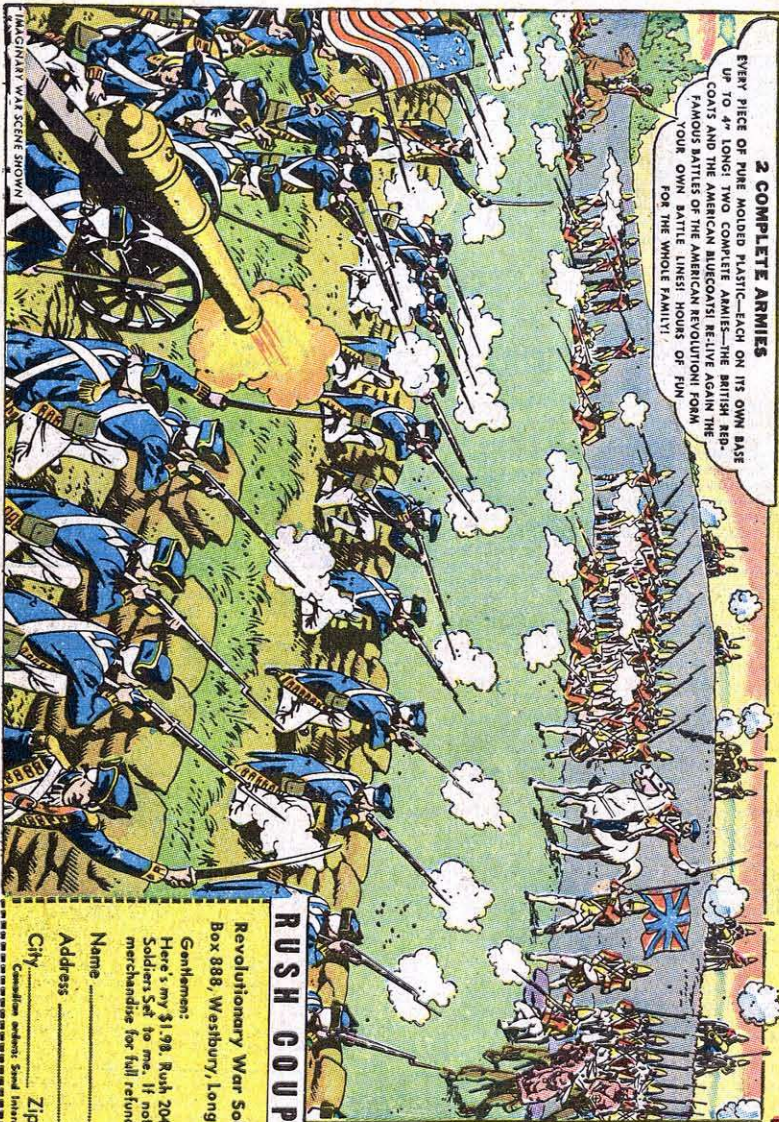
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