

SPIDER-MAN

15¢ 85  
JUNE

# the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

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BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY

TM



MARVEL  
COMICS  
GROUP

REVEALED  
AT LAST...  
**THE  
SCHEMER'S  
SECRET!**

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CAN SAVE  
YOU NOW!**



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THE  
SCHEMER'S  
SECRET?**

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# THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!

LAST ISSUE, WE SAW THE MYSTERIOUS SCHEMER FACE-TO-FACE WITH THE KINGPIN-- AND WITH THE KINGPIN'S WIFE...



THEN, SPIDER-MAN BROKE IN...AND THE ACTION REALLY BEGAN...



BUT, SUDDENLY REALIZING THAT THE SCHEMER HAD ESCAPED... AND THAT HIS OWN WIFE WAS GONE... THE KINGPIN WENT MAD...



HE'S GONE! I'M NO BETTER OFF THAN I WAS BEFORE!



## AND NOW... THE SECRET OF THE SCHEMER!

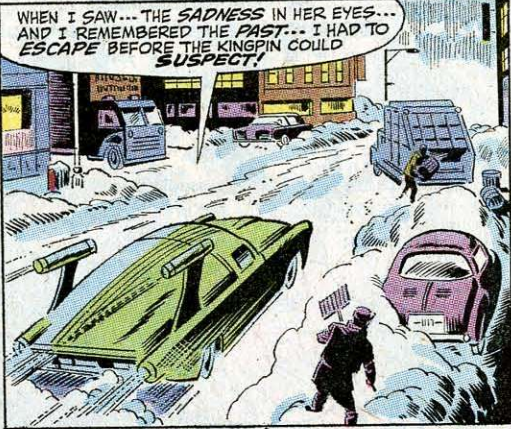


AMAZING SPIDER-MAN is published by MAGAZINE MANAGEMENT CO., INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 625 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N. Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Published monthly except November, semi-monthly. Copyright © 1970 by Magazine Management Co., Inc., Marvel Comics Group, all rights reserved. 625 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10022. Vol. 1, No. 85, June 1970 issue. 15¢ per copy. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Printed in the U.S.A. by World Color Press, Inc., Sparta, Illinois 62286. Subscription rate \$2.35 for 13 issues including 25¢ King Size Special. Canada \$2.75. Foreign subscriptions \$4.00.





IT WAS NOT  
SO, MY LOVE!









# JIM DRISCOLL IN *The Race to Danger*



JIM AND BOBBY VISIT THE "PITS" AT THE SPRINGFIELD RACE TRACK.

THE JUDGES SAY WE CAN'T RACE OUR RADIO-CONTROLLED CAR WITH-  
OUT A DRIVER.

NO TIME TO FIND A DRIVER. THE RACE STARTS IN 3 MINUTES.



HOW ABOUT ONE OF THESE BOYS?

YEAH THE OLDEST ONE. THE FELLOW WEARING THE LEES.



ME? SURE, I'LL DO IT.



YOU JUST SIT HERE IN THE CAR. WE'LL DRIVE IT AND STEER IT BY REMOTE CONTROL.



ON THE 10TH LAP - TROUBLE!!

JIM. JIM. WE'RE LOSING CONTROL. YOU'LL HAVE TO REALLY DRIVE!



I'VE NEVER DRIVEN A REAL CAR. BUT I KNOW A FEW TRICKS FROM MY MODEL CAR RACING.



THE WINNER!  
JIM DRISCOLL.



THEY THOUGHT YOU'RE OLDER THAN I AM, JIM, BUT WE'RE THE SAME AGE.

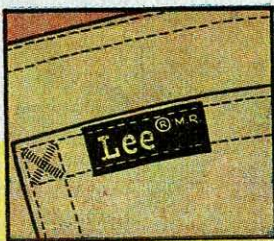


YOU STILL WEAR KID CLOTHES, BOB

I'M WEARING LEE LEENS LIKE THE HIGH SCHOOL GUYS.

BOYS! ARE YOU OLD ENOUGH TO WEAR LEES? HIGH SCHOOL AND JUNIOR HIGH GUYS WEAR LEE LEENS - HOW ABOUT YOU? IT'S TIME TO GET OUT OF KIDDY CLOTHES AND GET INTO LEE LEENS. THEY'RE TOUGH! THEY'RE TIGHT!

**Lee Leens:**  
the grown-up pants







I KNEW IT!  
HE'S TOO  
SHARP!  
GETTING TOO  
CLOSE! I  
NEED TIME  
TO THINK!

HOLY SMOKE! I JUST  
REMEMBERED! I'VE  
GOT SOME PIX  
DEVELOPING IN  
THE DARKROOM!

DON'T LET  
US SPOIL  
THE PRINTS!  
WE'LL WAIT,  
M' BOY!

JUST SO  
LONG AS THEY'RE  
NOT SHOTS OF  
ANY OTHER  
CHICKS!



WHEW!  
THAT WAS  
TOO CLOSE!

OKAY... SO I GAINED A  
LITTLE TIME! BUT NOW  
WHAT DO I DO?

HAVE TO THINK  
OF SOMETHING  
DRASTIC... TO  
THROW HIM OFF  
THE TRAIL...  
ONCE AND FOR  
ALL!



AND... SINCE IT WAS  
SPIDER-MAN WHO  
GOT ME INTO  
THIS JAM...

LET'S SEE IF  
THE WEB-SPINNER  
HIMSELF WILL  
BE ABLE TO GET  
ME OUT!



IT'S A REAL LONG SHOT...  
BUT IT'LL BE WORTH IT...  
IF IT WORKS!

IT'S A GOOD  
THING MY VOICE  
SOUNDS MUFFLED  
... AND DIFFERENT  
... THRU MY MASK!



DAD, I STILL THINK YOU'RE WAY OFF-BASE  
ABOUT PETER! I'VE KNOWN HIM FOR... OH!

WHAT'S THAT, HONEY?  
WHAT DID YOU SAY?

THERE'S  
SOMEONE...  
AT THE  
WINDOW!

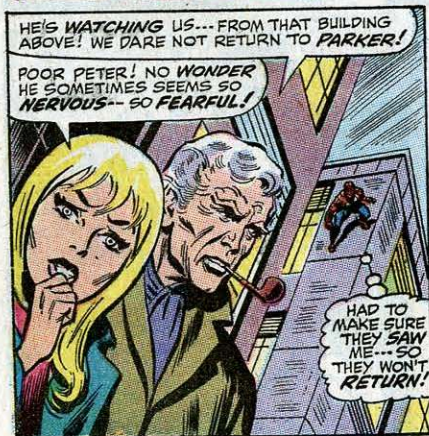


SPIDER-  
MAN!

STAY WHERE  
YOU ARE,  
MISTER! THIS  
ISN'T A  
SOCIAL  
CALL!

PARKER'S  
THE ONE  
I WANT!







BUT, WHAT OF THE KINGPIN? AHH, WE WERE HOPEING YOU'D ASK...

IT DOESN'T SEEM POSSIBLE! HOW DID THE BUGLE MANAGE TO GET THESE PHOTOS OF MY BATTLE WITH THE SCHEMER... AND SPIDER-MAN?



IF THERE WAS A PHOTOGRAPHER ON THE SCENE, I'D HAVE KNOWN IT!

EVERY TIME THAT ACCURSED SPIDER-MAN IS INVOLVED IN ANYTHING, THE BUGLE PRINTS HIS...

WAIT!! WHAT'S THIS?!!



SO THAT'S WHY THE SCHEMER RAN OFF WITHOUT YOU!!

THAT'S WHY HE GOT AWAY SO EASILY... WHILE YOU CLAIMED TO BE "HIDING" IN THE SHADOWS!



I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN! MY SUSPICIONS WERE RIGHT...

THERE IS SOMETHING BETWEEN THE TWO OF YOU!

YOU MUST BE MAC! HOW... CAN YOU SAY A THING LIKE THAT?

LOOK! SEE FOR YOURSELF! IT'S ALL HERE... RIGHT IN THIS PICTURE!

I SAID LOOK AT IT!!



IT WAS YOU!! YOU WERE THE ONE WHO LED HIM OUT... THRU THE SECRET SLIDING PANEL!!



# THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Marvelous Mags On Sale Right Now!

**FANTASTIC FOUR #99:** The Human Torch goes wild as he battles the Inhumans! It's the one you've been waiting for!

**SPIDER-MAN #85:** The surprise of the season! At last you will learn the shocking origin of the Schemer! It's a bombshell!

**SILVER SURFER #16:** World's mightiest villain invades the earth to trap the Surfer! Don't miss — the hands of Mephisto!

**AVENGERS #76:** Can anyone or anything stop the thunderbolts of the man called Arkon? The Avengers must — or earth falls!

**THOR #176:** Evil Loki now rules Asgard! Thor must do his bidding! And if that's not bad enough . . . Surtur creates the — Inferno!

**CAPTAIN AMERICA #126:** In the teeming heart of Harlem, Cap rejoins the fighting Falcon in battle with the deadly Diamond-Head!

**HULK #128:** It had to happen! Ol' Greenskin takes on the mighty Avengers — in the middle of the San Andreas Fault, yet!

**DAREDEVIL #64:** DD goes Hollywood! The Stunt-Master goes bad — again! And that spells action all the way!

**CAPTAIN MARVEL #20:** Back at last! The sensational superhero who wouldn't die! But that was before he met — the Rat Pack!

**IRON MAN #26:** Happy Hogan in the clutches of the Collector! And Iron Man can only save him by capturing — the Solar Sword!

**SUB-MARINER #26:** The Red Raven! Is he Namor's new ally against the surface-men — or the greatest menace of all time?

**SGT. FURY #78:** V-2 rockets aimed at the heart of Nazi Europe! And Nick Fury must stop them! Why? You'll find out, soldier!

**CHAMBER OF DARKNESS #5:** Cover story by King Kirby — at his most way-out, weird, and wondrous! Plus, two more dead-of-night shockers!

## MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS

**#27:** Three of Marvel's mightiest! The Fantastic Four — Doc Strange — and Iron Man! Bargainsville!

AND, OF COURSE —  
**RAWHIDE KID #77** — MILLIE  
**THE MODEL #183** — CHILI #14  
— MAD ABOUT MILLIE #12 —  
**OUR LOVE STORY #5** — KID  
**COLT #146!**

AND; STILL ON SALE —  
**TOWER OF SHADOWS #5:** The demon that devoured Hollywood — a haunted house — and a sword-and-sorcery swashbuckler!

**MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #26:** If Daredevil doesn't grab you — if the X-Men don't move you — then, make way for the Hulk!

**MARVEL TALES #26:** "The Final Chapter!" — one of Spidey's greatest! Plus Thor and the Human Torch! Get it!

Not to mention WHERE MONSTERS DWELL #3 — MY LOVE #5 — RINGO KID #3 — HOMER THE HAPPO GHOST #4 — and PETEY #4. Which we won't, of course.

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BUT, SINCE WE HATE TO INTRUDE ON PRIVATE DOMESTIC SQUABBLES, LET'S CHANGE OUR SCENE ONCE AGAIN...











ANOTHER GUN??! WHAT DO YOU DO... BUY THEM BY THE CARLOAD?

STAY BACK! I'M WARNING YOU---STAY BACK!



PEOPLE ARE ALWAYS WARNING ME!

IT'S NICE TO KNOW THEY CARE!

NOW SHOOT TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT!



BUT IF YOU DO, MY WEBBING'LL MAKE YOUR POPGUN BACK-FIRE!

OR HAVE YOU ALREADY NOTICED?



I THOUGHT HIS SPECIAL CLOAK AND GLOVES WOULD SHIELD HIM!

DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD BE THIS EASY!



WRONG AGAIN, YOU ARROGANT BUMBLER!

A SWORD-LIKE ROD... SEWN RIGHT INTO YOUR CLOAK'S LINING!

I'LL BET YOU'VE GOT THE TRICKIEST TAILOR IN TOWN!





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 Williamsport, Penna. 17701

Papers sent only to boys in Continental U. S.

GRIT PUBLISHING CO.,  
 Williamsport, Pa., 17701

PLEASE PRINT  
 Dept. MC-40

Send my first bundle of papers, selling helps and prize offers.

Name

Are You a Boy? ☐ Age  Date Born  Year

In Care of

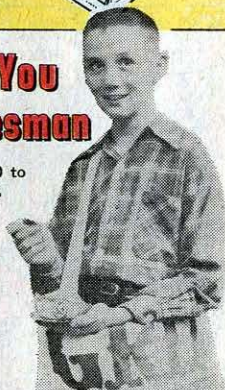
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NOW... I'LL CLAIM THE REWARD BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE GOES WRONG!



THIS IS THE ADDRESS ON THE REWARD POSTER!

WAIT! YOU... YOU CAN'T TAKE ME THERE!



WANNA BET?

WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU! TAKE HIM INSIDE!

WAITING? BUT... HOW DID THEY KNOW?



YOU FOOL! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING!

KEEP 'IM HERE... TILL THE CHIEF COMES!

WHAT KIND OF PRECINCT IS THIS? WHY THE HIGH FLOOR... THE APARTMENT-TYPE FURNISHINGS?

S'MATTER? YOU WANT US TO REDECORATE IT FOR YOU?



HE WAS DRESSED LIKE A COP... LOOKED LIKE A COP... BUT SOMETHING'S WRONG! I CAN FEEL IT!

WHERE COULD I HAVE SLIPPED UP? WHAT HAVE I GOTTEN MYSELF INTO?







STEEL PANELS...  
SLIDING DOWN!!  
COVERING THE  
DOORS AND  
WINDOWS!!



SURPRISED, GENTLEMEN?  
YOU REALLY *SHOULDN'T* BE!

THAT  
VOICE! YOU  
SHOULD HAVE  
KNOWN! YOU  
SHOULD HAVE  
SUSPECTED!



AFTER ALL, WHO  
WOULD BE MORE  
ANXIOUS TO PAY  
A REWARD FOR  
THE SCHEMER  
THAN... THE  
KINGPIN?



AND, NOW THAT YOU HAVE  
STUPIDLY *DELIVERED* HIM...  
YOU SHALL *RECEIVE* YOUR  
REWARD...

BUT IT WILL BE  
SOMEWHAT  
DIFFERENT  
THAN YOU MAY  
HAVE EXPECTED!

THOSE  
"POLICE"...  
THEY WERE  
YOUR MEN...  
IN PHONY  
UNIFORMS!



THERE'S NO NEED TO  
EXPLAIN IT TO ME, YOU  
WITLESS FOOL!

CLICK!

I'M WELL  
AWARE OF  
EVERY  
BRILLIANT  
FACET OF  
MY LITTLE  
PLAN...



... JUST AS I AM  
AWARE THAT YOU  
WILL *NEVER* ESCAPE  
ME AGAIN!

A STEEL-  
CABLE NET...  
DROPPING FROM THE  
CEILING!



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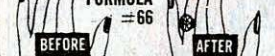
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**YOU'RE  
NOT DEAD!  
YOU'RE ALIVE!  
ALIVE!  
ALIVE!**

BUT... YOU'RE MORE  
LOST TO ME NOW...  
THAN EVER BEFORE!!

I SEE IT IN YOUR  
EYES... HEAR IT  
IN YOUR VOICE...  
KNOW IT BY YOUR  
DEEDS!!

**YOU HATE  
ME! HATE  
ME!  
HATE  
ME!**



**NO! MAY  
HEAVEN  
FORGIVE  
ME... I  
LOVE  
YOU...**

... EVEN WHILE I  
WISH... WITH EVERY  
FIBRE OF MY BEING...  
THAT YOU WERE  
**NOT MY FATHER!**

**RICHARD!!**  
YOU'RE ALIVE!  
I **KNEW** IT! MY  
HEART TOLD ME  
... IT WAS YOU!



BUT... YOUR  
**FATHER!**  
WHAT HAVE  
YOU **DONE**  
TO HIM?

I DON'T **KNOW!** HE SEEMS  
TO BE... IN A STATE OF  
**SHOCK!**

**HIS EYES  
ARE OPEN...  
BUT HE STARES  
AHEAD... WITHOUT  
SEEING... WITH-  
OUT MOVING.**



IT'S AS THOUGH...  
HIS ENTIRE **BODY...**  
HAS BECOME AN  
**EMPTY SHELL!**

I THOUGHT... I WANTED HIM  
TO **PAY...** FOR MY OWN HURT...  
AND DISILLUSIONMENT!

BUT...  
NOT LIKE  
**THIS...**  
NOT LIKE  
**THIS!**

IF EVER I'M TO  
BREAK **FREE...** IT  
HAS TO BE **NOW!**  
**NOW!**



I'LL NEED EVERY OUNCE OF SPIDER STRENGTH... I POSSESS!! BUT... IF I FLEX HARD ENOUGH... AND CAN BEAR... THE PAIN... I'LL...



THERE! I DID IT! THEY SNAPPED!

AT FIRST I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE AN ACT... A RUSE OF SOME SORT!



BUT THE KINGPIN WOULD NEVER SIT STILL WHILE SPIDER-MAN ESCAPED!

HE IS IN A STATE OF SHOCK! AND EVEN IF HE SHOULD COME OUT OF IT... WHAT WILL BE LEFT TO HIM?



WHAT PUNISHMENT CAN ANYONE METE OUT WHICH CAN COMPARE TO WHAT THEY'VE ALL BEEN THROUGH?

MAYBE OUR PATHS WILL CROSS AGAIN... MAYBE THEY WON'T...



SOMEHOW, IT DOESN'T SEEM TO MATTER ANYMORE!



NEXT

**BEWARE  
THE  
BLACK WIDOW!**



## MINI-BULLETINS TO SKIM, SCAN, AND SAVOR!

ITEM! CAPTAIN MARVEL lives again — with the same great team of THOMAS, KANE, and ADKINS that knocked you for a loop a few months ago! Who says mighty Marvel doesn't listen to the fans?

ITEM! Now it can be told! The name of the mag which BARRY SMITH is drawing is — CONAN THE BARBARIAN! Watch for it! Who says mighty Marvel isn't on the move again?

ITEM! This you've gotta see — our own STAN LEE and JIM STERANKO have teamed up to produce the zingiest romance strip of all time in the current OUR LOVE STORY #5. Who says mighty Marvel doesn't do the unexpected?

ITEM! Those two new titles we told you about last ish will be —

AMAZING ADVENTURES and ASTONISHING TALES. Each will feature TWO complete epics, and if you guess the INHUMANS, KAZAR, the BLACK WIDOW, and DR. DOOM, you won't be far wrong! They'll be on sale early in May! Who says mighty Marvel doesn't keep its promises?

ITEM! Didja hear about STAN THE MAN rapping for hours with JOE McDONALD, BARRY MELTON, and their manager ED DENSON? Or maybe you know them better as COUNTRY JOE AND THE FISH! Anyway, don't be too surprised to hear of a Marvel rock album on sale one of these days! (If Irving Forbush could only sing!) Who says mighty Marvel's not taking over the whole funky world?

Don't worry, man!  
**THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST**  
is on another page!

## STAN'S SOAPBOX

Okay, team — this time we'll pull a switcheroo. Instead of ME doing the yakkin', I'm gonna listen to YOU! Here's your chance to gather up your gripes and sock 'em to us! Don't pull your punches — just think of it as therapy for both of us! We'll announce the results of this swingin' little survey as soon as all the votes are in. Don't cop out, hear? If nothing else, think how this'll impress our mailman!

Excelsior!

*Stan Lee*

AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, THESE ARE MARVEL'S BEST:

PENCILLERS: 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_

INKERS: 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_

HEY, MAN, THESE ARE MY FAVORITE TYPES OF PLOTS:

THESE ARE THE KIND OF YARNS THAT TURN ME OFF:

WOW! THESE ARE THE TYPE OF MAGS YOU SHOULD DO MORE OF:

IF I WERE YOU, STAN (UGH!), THESE ARE THE CHANGES I'D MAKE AT MARVEL:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Okay, pencil-pusher, time's up! Clip this out and send it to STAN LEE'S LITTLE SURVEY, 635 Madison Ave., N.Y.C., 10022. Thanks a heap, hero — and consider yourself no-prized!









# THE SPIDER'S WEB

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO:

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

Dear Stan and Roy,

I feel moved to comment on the quickening pace of your recent Marvel masterworks. It would appear that every magazine graced by the pen of Mr. Thomas immediately moves through great changes in its characters, changes of permanent import. Namor loses his wings and gills, Daredevil reveals his secret identity to Karen, Dr. Strange acquires a new identity, Hank Pym marries Janet Van Dyne, the Avengers' line-up changes like a kaleidoscope, Capt. Marvel and Rick Jones find together, etc. In the midst of all this turmoil, the grand master, Mr. Lee, has been deluged by great but transient stories—stories that thrill, but do not develop. Only SPIDER-MAN moves on, but whither?

By the time this letter reaches you, the answer may already be fixed, but I feel that two things need to be said. Your shorter stories I applaud if they mean smaller panels or shorter fight sequences, but not if it means and end to the sub-plots which make Marvel what it is. I see these beings submerged in the Avengers as its old lineup is brought back on a regular basis (it seems) to boost circulation. The other point is SPIDER-MAN. Let's not have Gwen Stacy go the way of Betty Brant. It's reasonable that Peter should have misconstrued Gwen's talk with Flash and that he should have gotten mad at her. It is not reasonable that Gwen would let the incident go at that, and that Peter would adjust so easily to the loss. When Peter kissed off Betty Brant, he did it knowing she hated Spider-Man, knowing (not guessing) she had another beau, and knowing she was a bit neurotic. None of this applies to Gwen. I can see it evolving this way—Flash Thompson starts prying into Peter's affairs to get in formation for Gwen. Being Flash, he shows his hand, and Peter learns the truth. Being Peter, he figures out a cover story and rejoins Gwen perhaps even disclosing his identity, a la Daredevil.

Sorry this letter is so long and diffuse. Keep up the good work.

John Hall, 4006 Pine Street  
Phila., Pa. 19104

Our crystal ball is a bit iced up at the moment, John, but maybe after the spring thaw we'll let you know if things will be warming up for Pete and Gwen. Oh yeah—the Rascally One sure looks cute when he blushes...

Dear Stan,

SPIDER-MAN #80 was great as it always should be, but on page 2, panel 5, when Pete was about to hit Flash, he should have! It's not that I don't like Flash, but I'm getting pretty tired of Pete backing out every time he gets ready to show what a man he is. And another thing, I've never seen Pete kiss Gwen. I know this isn't the Lonely Hearts Club, but come on. He's supposed to be going with the girl. They've got to have some romance in their lives. I've seen ants do more in the romance bit. I hope I've made my point!

James Haynesworth, 1431 S Street S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20020

As a matter of fact, Jim, in the very same issue you mention, Pete and Gwen do kiss (although we do cheat just a bit on the moment of impact!) In an attempt to produce a superhero comic we've omitted those things you can find in abundance in OUR LOVE STORY and MY LOVE. And anyway, we're firm believers

in that old adage, it's "quality, not quantity" that counts. We think those infrequent romantic moments are worth waiting for. As far as Pete proving what a man he is, we think it's most important to prove something like that to yourself, first and foremost. And Pete certainly knows his own strength!

Dear Stan, Jim, John, and Sam,

How many times am I gonna have to tell you that Marvel is realism? How long is it gonna take to get through to you to tell these fine feathered fans who won't shut up and insist on forever harping on the subject of Pete's problems that if they'd quiet down for a minute and look at their own lives, maybe they could manage to understand the Marvel theory of realistic emotions and art combined with the fantasy of a superhero. Listen, all you Pete-defamers—you sometimes have problems, don'tcha? Sometimes you feel sorry for yourself for days at a time, and your whole world seems to collapse, doesn't it? If it doesn't, I'd sure like to have your secret on how to live a perfect life! On the other hand, sometimes everything seems perfect and you feel as if nothing in the world can hurt you. That's life, man! And that's what Marvel does. They try their best to portray the realities of life, along with a believable superhero. I guess you could say that even a guy with Spidey's powers has real-life problems. After all, the poor guy's only super-human...

Eric Shratter, 2112 Mytheewood Dr.  
Huntsville, Ala. 35803

We thank you for coming to our defense, Eric. It's difficult for us to imagine a person leading a problem-free life... but if such a guy really exists, send him on over to us—we'll make a real superhero out of him!



## KNOW YE THESE, THE HALLOWED RANKS OF MARVELDOM:

**R.F.O.** (Real Frantic One)—A buyer of at least 3 Marvel mags a month.  
**T.T.B.** (Titanic True Believer)—A divinely-inspired "No-Prize" winner.  
**Q.N.S.** (Quite "Nuff" Saver)—A fortunate frantic one who's had a letter printed.

**K.O.F.** (Keeper Of The Flame)—One who recruits a newcomer to Marvel's rollickin' ranks.  
**P.M.M.** (Permanent Marvelite Maximus)—Anyone possessing all four of the other titles.  
**F.F.F.** (Fearless Front-Facer)—An honorary title bestowed for devotion to Marvel above and beyond the call of duty.



Dear Stan, John, and Jim,

Panning time again—I guess you're used to it by now. First of all, ish #81 was somewhat of a let-down. The art looked as if the pencil point was jagged and the pen kept running out of ink and had a broken point. The story was one of your better ones, though, even if the somewhat scratchy art spoiled it a bit. Anyway, the Kangaroo is a good, original character. It's about time you got away from all those mutants and come back to a trained-to-be-superhuman type guy.

And now for the letters section. I agree with Gerald Palma in that I think you should try getting back to those smaller panels with a lot of dialogue. How come whenever you use alot of space and fewer panels, the dialogue diminishes to one or two small word balloons with large lettering? And about the question of Pete getting drafted, well... the answer seems so painfully obvious, I almost hesitate to say it... so I'll type it down on paper. Pete's got a college deferment! Even though he hasn't been on campus in a while, he's still got a scholarship, and people on academic scholarships usually don't get drafted unless their grades get real low. And as for Perry Wolf's letter, the only point I think I'll comment on is #5, in which he says that Flash is due to come out of the army. Unless they've changed the term of service while I blinked my eye a minute ago, Flash still has more than 18 months left. I counted the Marvel time that has elapsed since Fearless Flash decided to honor his draft card, and by actual day-count, it comes to about 32 or 33 days. Now then, counting for weekends and uneven nights not shown, I'll up the time to two months or maybe even three. So I believe our stubborn soldier is gonna be around for quite some time.

And one more thing—would you change gorgeous Gwennie back into the smart and sophisticated beauty queen she once was?? For some unknown reason you've transformed her into a common, everyday teeny-bopper. Well, anyway as long as my wallet can stand the strain, MAKE MINE MARVEL!

Eric Shratter, 2112 Mythewood  
Huntsville, Ala. 35803

Yipes! You've said a mouthful, Eric. While we're collecting our thoughts, we'd like to reply that considering the fact that Pete isn't a debonair playboy, it certainly wouldn't do for Gwen to be a sophisticated beauty queen. We've got to keep them in the same league, y'know.

As far as Pete's draft status goes, we'll let you know his lottery number as soon as we can dig up his birth certificate...

Dear Stan and John,

SPIDER-MAN #80 urged me to write my first letter to you. Life appeared to improve this ish for Pete, in that he got Gwen back and finally told J.J.J. off in public. The Chameleon has long been my favorite SPIDER-MAN villain, and I was overjoyed to see him return. Looking back through my old SPIDER-MAN #1, I found that the Chameleon first appeared in SPIDER-MAN #1, not #2. Do I receive a No-Prize for my searchings? I'm glad you didn't reveal the Chameleons identity at the end because it implies he will return someday. So—till Peter Parker gets drafted, I'll be a loyal fan.

Thomas Czapllicki, 1404 Chestnut  
Wyandotte, Mich. 48192

There comes a time (at least once) in every man's life when he forgets an issue number, and when there's eighty-odd to choose from, it's only understandable. So pardon our collective memory (no one caught it here), and may the U.S. Post Office deliver your No-Prize with great speed!

Dear Stan,

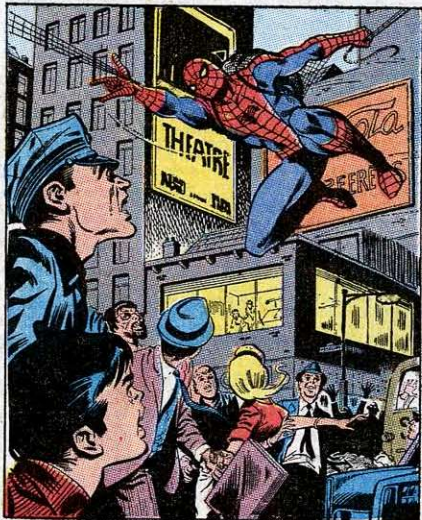
In view of occurrences in other Marvel mags, we're all waiting with bated breath for the moment when Peter Parker discloses his secret identity to Gwendolyn. Let's be realistic, guys, he just can't go on forever like this. In Spiderman #80, you seem to have temporarily got him back in good graces with Gwen, but you have dropped another clue to his secret. Someday it seems likely that somebody is going to patch together all the insignificant little hints, and discover that Spidey really is Peter Parker. Who knows, it might even be Gwen.

The one thing that really makes Spiderman your best character is that he is the most fully and realistically developed of them all. We can see his home life, good ol' Aunt May, his friends, his trials and tribulations with J.J.J., and his life at school. The only part of the picture that needs work is his relationship with Gwen. Just for once couldn't the girl our hero loves turn out to be a girl who can understand and accept the way he is and the danger that he must constantly be in, and still love him. This is no different from the situation that many wives of early American explorers and frontiersmen found themselves in, and they still loved their husbands and stood by them. Don't tell me that this kind of girl no longer exists.

Maybe this is asking too much, but if Spidey is to remain the greatest Marvel character ever, his relationship with Gwen has got to be straightened out somehow. Don't let us down, guys.

Bill Maas  
Bill Kurtz  
564 Mayfield Ave.  
Stanford, Calif.  
94305

It does seem, guys, that most everyone in Marveldom is particularly concerned about Pete and Gwen, as this letters' page seems to indicate. Of course, Pete and Gwen are just a little too young to really commit themselves at this point, but we stopped worrying long ago. In most cases, when nature is left to take its course, things always seem to work out just fine!



Dear Stan, John, etc.,

I was sitting in the doctor's office, when I picked up the October 24th issue of LIFE magazine and began thumbing through it—WALLOPIN' WEBSNAPPERS!! There was a feature on a new kind of gun used by police that shoots out a nylon fishnet and can collar a crook ten paces ahead of a pursuing patrolman. The weapon's name?? If you haven't guessed by now, it's SPIDER!! The fellow who dreamed up the thing must be a die-hard Spido-ophile. Just thought I'd mention it.

Kurt Ackerman, 3 Harbor Ct.  
W. Long Branch, NJ 07764

Thanks, Kurt—if it's exciting to know that Spidey's fame has reached far beyond the hallowed halls of Marveldom, into the realm of honest-to-goodness crime fighting. And most pleasing of all is the fact that the device detains rather than harms, reaffirming the solid American percept that a man is innocent until proven guilty.



**"Either  
that  
bulge  
goes,  
or I  
do!"**

A girl can't stomach a guy with a pot belly. Especially when he's in a swim suit for all the world to see. It does nothing for her image to be associated with a Mr. Lard Belly. And it doesn't do a blessed thing for him, either.

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*Joe Weider*  
Trainer of the champions . . . with more than 2,000,000 successful students.

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**JOE WEIDER** Dept. 83-50 5G  
Famous Fitness School  
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Union City, N.J. 07087

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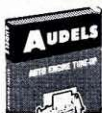


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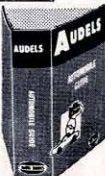
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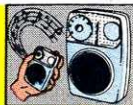


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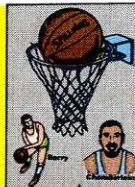




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