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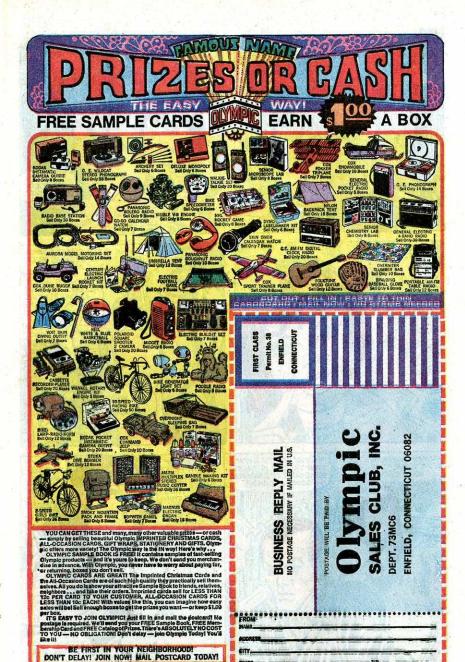






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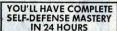
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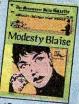
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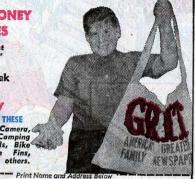
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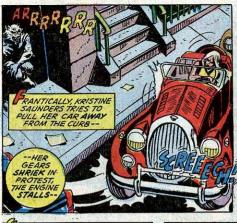
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DIETETIC DOODLINGS AND DIZZY DISPATCHES DESIGNED TO DELIGHT! (Or: Just the son of Salan and Me — and Salana Makes Three!)

ITEM! You might've guessed - and probably did - that when mirthful Marvel finally produced a full-scale parody mag, we'd do it with a vengeance! And we have! On July 10th, the first far-out issue of our brand-new CRAZY Magazine goes on sale - headlining some of the biggest, brightest names in the humor field! We'll let you dig the full details on our awe-inspiring ad elsewhere in this issue (it was specially designed by MARV WOLFMAN, who's been helping STAN and ROY get it all together) — but we can't resist telling you that, just for the heck of it, a bunch of our Bullpen biggies couldn't resist turning Hollywood on us and posing for a host of gagged-up photos therein! Why not try an ish, ef-fendi? That's CRAZY - just 40¢ for 52 big pages, wherever magazines are displayed!

ITEM! This month likewise heralds themind-bending beginning of a startling
new series we call THE SON OF SATAN.
This one not only picks up where GHOST.
RIDER left off in the pages of MARVEL
SPOTLIGHT, but guest-stars our supernatural cyclist just for good measure.
Sneak a peek at what Groovy GARY
FRIEDRICH and Happy HERB TRIMPE
are layin' down — and see if you don't
find Daimon Hellstrom, THE SON OF
SATAN, one of the most phantasmagorical new Marvel creations of all!

ITEM! Make way for - SATANA! That's

right — our Son of Satan hero-villain is barely out of the brimstone bag, and already he's sporting a sinister (but beautiful) sister! Strictly speaking, she's the Devil's Daughter, not a full-fledged kissing cousin of Count Dracula, but nonetheless she'll be bat-winging it your way in the second great issue of VAM-PIRE TALES, now on sale (as is the third big ish of MONSTERS UNLEASHED, for that matter). Who knows? Between Satana and the macabre Morbius, VAMPIRE TALES may just give our smash DRACULA LIVES title a run for its blood-money!

ITEM! Looks like it's cross-over time at mixed-up Marvell Try these tantalizin' tidbits on for size: • Remember the android called the Recorder, from THOR? Well, he's more enigmatic and eerie than ever in the pages of WARLOCK—now on sale! • Meanwhile, Kraven the Hunter (let's see now —what mag was that he appeared in, again') stalks DAREDEVIL in the nighted streets of San Francisco, and one Dr. Spectrum (formerly of AVENGERS infamy) is trying for revenge on IRON MAN! • All this, plus a titanic clash between wall-crawing SPIDER-MAN and the savage SUB-MARINER, in the current ish of MARVEL TEAM-UP, oughta keep a few heads spinning till next time!

ITEM! Oh yes - we almost forgot! We

want to apologize for accidentally misleading a few of you in a recent Bullpein Bulletins, when we mistakenly reported the cover price of our new HAUNT OF-HORROR digest-size magazine at 606 instead of the correct 75s. We mixed it up for a moment with MONSTER MAD-NESS — which itself has just added fifteen coppers to its price and a bunch of pages to its format, to become (under Roy and our hard-working new recruit TONY ISABELLA) a bigger bargain thanever! If you don't believe us, pick up our fabulous fourth issue — which zeroes in on none other than the immortal KING KONG — and see what we mean!

ITEM! A reminder that SAVAGE TALES #2 should still be on sale, if you're living right! This one features work by the likes of THOMAS, SMITH, BUSCEMA, KANE, BRUNNER, and top comic-strip illustrator AL WILLIAMSON. Matter of, fact, Roy and Jeanie Thomas just paid a whirlwind weekend visit to Al's rural retreat especially to line up some of the finest action sketches you'd ever want to see — just to decorate the pages of SAVAGE TALES, which may just be the supreme achievement yet in the cataclysmic career of CONAN THE BARBANIAN. YNIT said?

ITEM! Didja notice we just ran out of room? Oh, you did, huh? Oh well ... See ya next time, Marvelite!



"SPIDER'S WER

Dear Gerry and group,
Shocking but necessary. I think you've
done the right thing. The story line needed to
be changed. I don't mean to imply that I was
pleased, but Gwen Stacy was always too
perfect a character, and that part of the mag
stagnant. Just the same, It is tragic. You
shouldn't work a relationship like that into the story line again unless you're prepared to consummate it

The question now is, what happens to Spidey? I hope it will be a true furning point, not just the removal of a central character

Kip Hitz 4777 Oakes Rd. Dayton, Ohio 45426

Dear Marvel

Okay, Conway, I've said it before and I'll say it again. You're a good writer, but you're Just not good enough for SPIDER-MAN. The atrocity you committed in issue #121 was only the latest of your crimes. You must be taken off this magazine!

And would you mind explaining one thing? And would you mind expressing one uning: What do you mean by claiming that a fall from that height would kill anyone before they struck the ground? Everyday skydivers fall that distance and further before their chutes open. It doesn't kill them. I myself have fallen that distance skydiving and I'm still around.

So not only do you kill Gwen Stacy, you kill her in a way that doesn't make sense. And, even if there is some scientific explanation which I do not grasp, than half of the characters in Marvel Comics should be dead, because they are always falling from such heights and being saved at the last minute. nergins and being saved at the last minute.

Marvel Comics seem to be getting less consistent every month, and your consistency used to be one of the greatest things. about Marvel.

I am disgusted with all of you for letting issue #121 happen.

Richard Nathan 5307 Sepulveda Blvd. Van Nuys, Calif. 91401

Thank you for taking my advice. I didn't.

expect you to, and I certainly didn't expect you to follow my suggestion in such a drastic manner. A few issues ago, I wrote you a brief letter concerning Peter Parker's journalistic career, and at the end, I tossed journalistic career, and at the end, 1 tools off a post-script requesting that you get rid of Marvel's prize twerp, Gwen Stacy. And in SPIDER-MAN #121, you did it. Congratulations on a good move.

Of course when I saw the cover, I was making all sorts of guesses. I knew the Green Goblin would be the villain, so I suspected you'd kill off Norman Osborn, You can only give a person amnesia so many times (it was already getting monotonous). then there's always Aunt May, who's been tottering on the brink of death with a strong tail-wind ever since SPIDEY #1. A thought even occured to my brain that you might kick even occured to my brain that you might kick off J.J.J. just for laughs. I never imagined you could actually kill Gwen. You have more intelligence than I gave you credit for. I fervently hope Gwen doesn't make a

I fervently hope Gwen doesn't make a miraculous recovery in #122 (or in any subsequent issues). I also hope Peter doesn't mourn her too long. Even though he was stupidly in love with her, how long can he grieve over a person whose brain was constructed entirely out of old Pepsi bottles, and whose personality had the exact color, consistency, and flavor of a loaf of Wonder

As long as we're discussing the women in Peter's mag, do not ever have Mary Jane Watson fall in love with Harry! Of course M.J.'s immature (so is Harry; he's the one on LSD), but that doesn't mean she hates men. She just doesn't mean she nates men. She just doesn't want any short-haired, neurotic, spoiled acid-head (or even a well-adjusted dude) trying to own her. Keep her independent, but do develop her personality. You people haven't yet gotten over the notion that the way to give a female character personality is to give her a romance. We know M.J. isn't made out of Wonder Bread and mayonnaise like a certain happily-departed blonde-brian but what is the made of 22 blonde-brain, but what is she made of?

Jane C. Hollingsworth 1415 East Second St. Port Angeles, Wash. 98362

And there you have it. Solemn acceptance. Fierce anger, Ebuillent Joy. A sampling of

the maddening wide spectrum of response to the death of Gwen Stacy in SPIDER-MAN

At this point, we feel obliged to take a paragraph or two to explain a few points of contention:

contention:

First, for the many who wrote and com-plained that the fall alone could not have killed Gwen If she were unconscious (and therefore unable to be scared to death, the therefore unable to scared to death, the usual explanation for a person dying before usual explanation for a person dying before hitting the ground), if a person dying before hitting the ground, if a person dying before the total explanation of the say that the whipishe fields the underwent when Spidey's webbing stopped has not denly was, in fact, what killed her. In short, it was impossible for Peter to save her. He couldn't have swung down in time; the action he did take resulted in her death; if he action he did take resulted in her death; if he action he did take resulted in her death; if he action he did take resulted in her death; if he action he did take resulted in her death; if he action he did take resulted in her death; if he action he did take resulted in her death; if he action he did take resulted in her death; if he action he did take resulted in her death; if he action he did take resulted in her death; if he action he did take resulted in her death; if he action her did not her death; if he action her did not her death; if he action her death; if he action her did not her death; if he action her death; if her death; if he action her death; if her death; i

Issues and nad come to the conclusion that something was wrong—or, more accurately, missing. The relationship between Pete and Gwen had been through a lot of inconsequential ups and downs, and unless the two were to be married, there was nowhere else to take it. But marriage seemed wrong, too.

Peter just wasn't ready.

So Gerry, Roy, and Stan debated the question long and hard...and it turned out that all had reached the same inescapable conclusion. Gwen's death was simply fated to

clusion. Gwein's based our stories just happen. We've said before that our stories just seem to write themselves, that we often don't have any control over them. This was such a case. Events had shaped themselves in such a way that their only logical resolution was tragedy. And the rest, as they say,

So don't blame Gerry. Don' blame Stan. Don't blame anyone. Only the inscrutable, inexorable workings of circumstances are culpable this time.

And no one regrets it more than we. It was hard, hard story to write.







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