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"SPIDER'S WEB

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO:

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SPIDER-MAN #124 was an unexpected surprise. Not since #109 has Spidey reached such heights of brooding and suspense. The overall atmosphere in this issue was one of darkness and tension, a mood created by the omnipresent and drizzling rain. I can even tolerate the artwork of Gil Kane and even compliment him for doing such an excellent job this

The story was a little above average. It seems that since the deaths of Gwen Stacy and Norman Osborn, the stories in SPIDER-MAN have become more serious both in action and dialogue. The conflict between Pete and (literally) everyone else was well done, Ger.

werewolves? And hasn't enough happened to Jonah's son already without the present disaster? Nevertheless, I have to congratulate all of you on a story well done. (By the way, Robbie and John Jameson already knew each other—as far back as issue #71.)

In closing, I'd like to urge you once again to return John Romita to full-time drawing on SPIDER-MAN. (And if you could find Steve Ditko's telephone number, I wouldn't exactly be disappointed, either.)

Michael Ambrose c/oW. R. Ambrose Netherlands Res. Agency 2nd Reg. USACIDC APO NY 09011

We doubt that anyone would be disappointed, Mike, if Jazzy John or Sturdy Steve returned to the art chores on SPIDEY. But at the same time, we know a few hordes of fans who would object vehemently to taking Ross (Boss) Andru off the strip-and since we can't have four artists drawing the strip at one time ("four" because Gil Kane also has his contingent of immensely enthusiastic supporters)—we'll just sit placidly here in the corner of the Bullpen twiddling our thumbs and making silly faces at the walls in sheer confusion.

Anyway, thanks for the good words, pal, and a hearty "goo goo gah gah" from your rapidly regressing-into-delirium

Bullpen buddies.





Dear Roy, Gerry, Gil, and John, Don't you dare take Gil Kane off SPIDEY and just have him do MARVEL TEAM-UP once every other month. As far as I'm concerned, Gil draws, as one fan said, "spiderly". I couldn't agree more. John's inks go nicely over Gil's pencils and do not cover up his distinctive style. He is definitely "the" artist for our Web-Spinner. (Ed. Note: See what we mean?

As for issue #124, well, as I've said before, I don't care for werewolf characters, but in this case I'll make an exception. I say this because I have a hunch there's more to J.J.J.'s son and his strange malady than we currently know. Plus, Gil Kane drew the werewolf character as something ferocious, not ridiculous. But most importantly, this issue had something that's been missing for a long time from this mag. I can only describe it as that late-night-rainywhich has been missing, in my opinion, since the Ditko days. I've always felt Spidey was a kind of creature-of-the-night character, and I hope much more in this vein is in store for us. Hopefully, we'll be seeing more of Hammerhead, Doc Ock, and that mysterious man in the shadows

I needn't mention the masterful way Gerry has handled the characterization of Peter Parker, especially this issue. Only one question: wha' happened to Spidey's ulcer? Make Mine MARVEL!

Ralph Macchio 188 Wilson Drive Cresskill, N.J. 07626

The ulcer is still hangin' in there, Ralph

(bleech! that sounds disgusting!!); it sorts suspect his injust hasn't been acting up lately.

As for Gil Kane...though he's no longer doing SPIDEY, you'll find him in such mags as MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE, 1956, we think...!

BLACK PANTHER (beginning with JUN-GLE ACTION #9), and he'll soon be returning to his own creation, the Man-Bat cailed MORBIUS whose own series debuts soon in FEAR. So have heart, believer. We know how great the guy is-and we have no intention of letting him slip away!

Oh, and about Doc Ock and Hammerhead-just wait'll you see their explosive return—in perhaps the weirdest, wildest SPIDEY saga ever!

To the Spider-Man team:

A Spidey-Mobile? Great idea. Then you can have Harry don a super-doer costume and aid Spidey as, oh, say, "The Sparrow". Then they could discover a secret attic above their apartment where Peter could put his chem lab-and call it the Spider Web. Then Mary Jane could become Spider-Girl. Of course, you can also add a Spidev-Plane, a Spidey-Boat, and a Spidey-Skateboard. And can you see Aunt May as Aunt Spidey?
A Spidey-Mobile? Uah!

Rob Sansing Auburn University

Now that you've seen the fate of the Spider-Mobile, Rob, we hope you'll think a little more kindly toward us. And listen-never fear about Harry becoming "The Sparrow." Not only would he be embarrassed to run around with his knobby knees showing, he's also got another career off and running at the moment.

Concerning the SPIDER-MAN series, issues 123 and 124 in particular, I'd like to discuss the person of J. Jonah Jameson.

In the early part of Spider-Man's career, Jonah was a main character, forever crusading against Spidey. Now Jonah has made his big return, but I fear it could be the end of his hatred for Spidey and the beginning of an under-standing between them. Why? Robbie is always trying to convince Jonah of Spider-Man's good traits; sooner or later, it's gotta sink in. And just this month, John, as Man-Wolf, attacked Jonah. Could he be subconsciously rebelling against his father's unfair attitude toward Spider-Man? If John were to express this feeling to Jonah, I'm sure it would have an effect on Jonah, because he really respects his son. And lastly, on page 25, Jonah admits to himself that Spider-Man saved him.

As for the rest of the story, thanks for returning Pete to college, even if only briefly. And one question: where oh where is Liz Allen?

R.D. #1 Lewisberry, Pa. 1, 39

We can't answer that question-yet. And as far as Jonah is concerned, we sorta suspect his unrelenting hatred for Spider-Man is one of the constants of the universe. But, who knows? We've been wrong before...once or twice...back in



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This one's for you older Marvelites for the True Believers who've been with us lo these many years. Remember how we used to rap about the fact that so many people thought comic-books were just for kids? And remember how I'd clue you in to Marvel's greatest crusade - to your Bullpen's yow to change that image - to give the comic-book its rightful place within the media - to have it fully accepted as one of the most powerful, most viable forms of communication the world has ever known? Remember how we'd pledge never to rest till the intellectual community bestowed upon the comicbook all the attention and the recognition it has so rightfully earned?

Well, I guess you know what I'm leading up to. We may not yet be all the way home, but we're mighty close. Never before have so many newspapermen, disc jockeys, college students, musicians, sports figures, and other assorted full-grown adult types been so fanatically tuned-in to the wondrous world of Marvel! Never before have we received such massive mountains of mail from so many campuses throughout the free world! In fact, within the past few months alone, yours truly just finished a whirlwind college lecture tour, speaking at Iowa State, Bennington College, Allegheny, Montana State, the University of Delaware, and Northwestern U., just to name a few. Never have I seen more enthusiasm, more excitement, or more ebullient interest - interest in the stories, the illustrations, the conception - everything in fact that has to do with the production and the philosophy of your friendly neighborhood Marvel mags!

So, on behalf of your breathless, blushin' Bullpen, let me thank each and every one of you for helping us make a dream come true. Yea verily, you and we together have transformed yesterday's feckless little "funny books" into one of today's most widely-hailed art forms — and Marvel loves ya for it!

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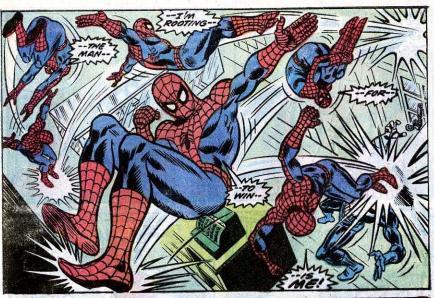
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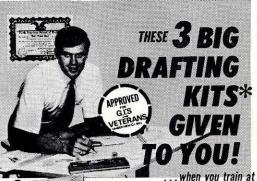












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