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# the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

TO BEAT ME,  
WEBHEAD--YOU  
HAVE TO FIND  
THE REAL ME  
FIRST!

AND YOU'RE NOT  
GOING TO LIVE  
LONG ENOUGH TO  
DO THAT!

AT LAST!  
THE  
LONG-AWAITED  
WEDDING  
OF BETTY BRANT  
AND NED LEEDS!

INTRODUCING

THE MOST MIND-BOGGLING  
WEDDING GUEST OF ALL--  
THE MURDEROUS

## MIRAGE!



# A Fearsome Foursome

Monogram's new "Evil Show Rods" ... four sinister-looking four-wheeled creatures to build and enjoy.

Sinister? Yes.

But, what fun you'll have building and displaying these 1/24th scale plastic model kits designed exclusively for Monogram by Tom Daniel.

Which one do you think is the most "evil"? Pick your favorite ... or better yet, build them all for the "evilest" kit collection in the neighborhood.

Available wherever model kits are sold.

## HANGMAN

A fiendish custom tow truck loaded with ghoulish features right down to the realistic noose dangling from the towing boom.

## SAND SHARK

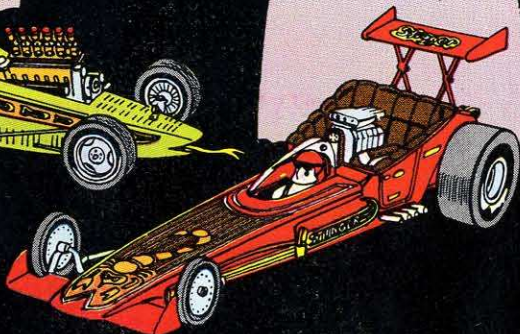
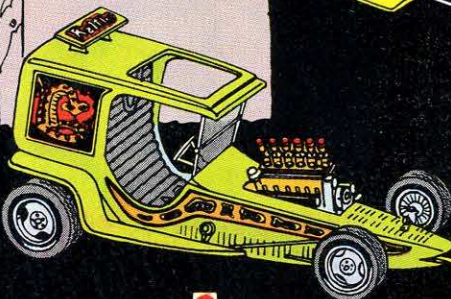
One of the most menacing machines you've ever laid eyes on. A custom show rod with "shark" decals, fins, and custom features you'll really go for.

## RATTLER

The fork-tongued custom show rod that's sleek as a snake. With a deadly Pontiac mill and custom goodies to really rattle your cage.

## STINGER

Deadly as a scorpion, this wild rear engine rail dragster puts the sting on its competition. One of the most unconventional dragsters to ever hit the asphalt.



MONOGRAM MODELS, INC.  
MORTON GROVE ILL. 60053



Stan Lee PRESENTS: A MINOR **MILESTONE** IN THE EVER-EXCITING LIFE OF...

# THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™

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Ross Andru : ILLUSTRATOR  
Mike Esposito : DELINEATOR  
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request the honor of your  
presence at the long-awaited  
wedding of BETTY BRANT  
and NED LEEDS today at  
Morgan's of Malverne.  
Reception to follow.

MARY WOLFGAR : CATERER

OH, THAT'S  
JUST  
SWELL!

BETTER GET OUT YOUR SUNDAY  
BEST, MARVELITE. WE GUARANTEE  
THIS IS ONE AFFAIR YOU DO NOT  
WANT TO MISS!

THE SUN IS  
COMING UP  
ALREADY--AND  
I HAVEN'T EVEN  
BEEN TO BED  
YET!

I TELL YA--I'VE GOTTA  
GET OUT OF THIS BUSINESS!  
THE HOURS ARE KILLIN'  
ME!

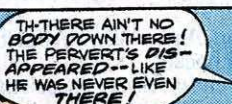
## ON A CLEAR DAY, YOU CAN SEE... THE MIRAGE!

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# WHAT TO SINK YOUR TEETH INTO WHEN YOU'RE HUNGRY AND YOU'RE NOT A WEREWOLF

Every now and then, do you get this uncontrollable urge to bite into something that's really got some meat in it?

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Well, take heart. And, while you're at it, take Slim Jim along in your pocket.

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You might want to carry a few extra ones, too. Then, if you meet a werewolf, you can give him something to sink his teeth into instead of you.



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\* SPIDEY'S #152 & 154, TO BE EXACT, FOOTNOTE-FANS...LW!

NO! THE HACKLES--RISING ON MY NECK--! IT CAN'T BE-- BUT IT'S TRUE!

HE'S FOUND ME AGAIN!

GO AWAY, CURSE YOU! I'LL STAND FOR NO MORE OF YOUR...

NO! STAY BACK! KEEP AWAY FROM ME!

I'M SORRY I LEFT YOU! I DIDN'T MEAN FOR IT TO HAPPEN LIKE THAT!

I'LL DO ANYTHING TO MAKE IT UP TO YOU-- BUT DON'T TOUCH ME! JUST DON'T TOUCH--

EH? H-HE'S GONE AGAIN!

BUT HE'S LEFT ME SHIVERING LIKE A FRIGHTENED CHILD!

I CAN'T STAND IT ANY MORE-- THE EVER-PRESENT, ALL-PERVASIVE FEAR--THE INDIGNITY HEAPED UPON INDIGNITY--!

THERE HAS TO BE AN END TO IT!

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AND AS OUR RAGTAG FRIEND RUSHES OFF IN QUEST OF HIS UN-NAMED ALLY, LET'S TAKE A QUICK HOP FROM THE GARBAGE-STREWN STREETS OF THE BOWERY...







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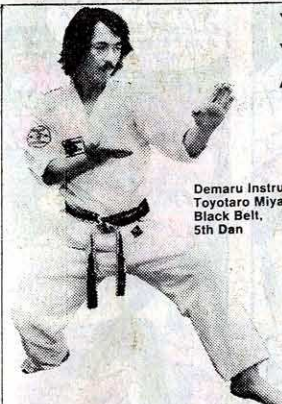
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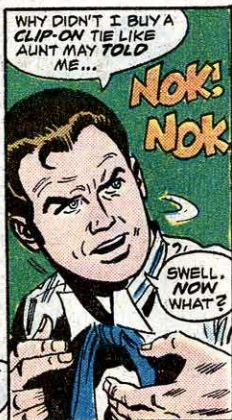
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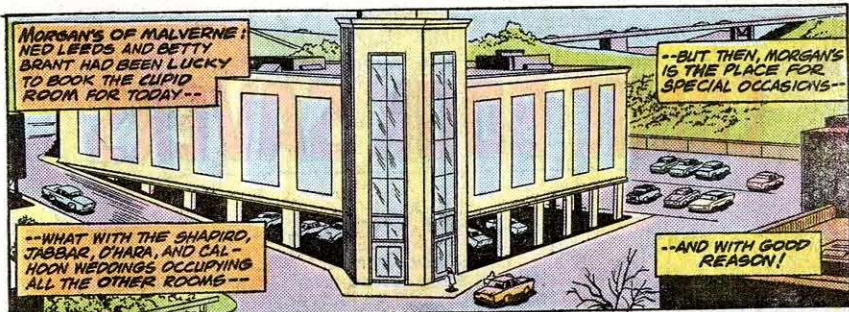
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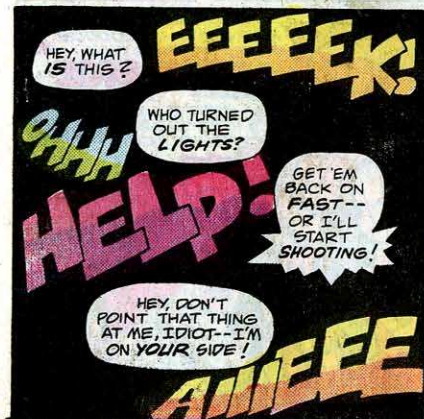
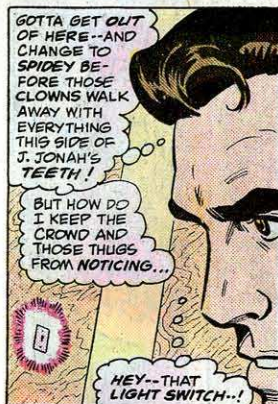
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# THE SPIDER'S WEB

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Not so long after getting Spidey involved in "Whodunit?", Lively Len and the rest of the Marvel Bullpen encountered their own behind-the-scenes whodunit—only this time no one's been able to come up with a solution. Y'see, the entire file of letters on issue #152 disappeared without a trace! As you may expect, there was considerable consternation and gnashing of teeth over this most unusual incident. But fortunately, we managed to scare up a few last-minute letters just under the proverbial wire, or "The Spider's Web" would be non-existent this month.

Okay, enough friendly chattering! On with the regularly-scheduled letters page!

## Dear Peoples:

SPIDER-MAN #152 was hardly earth-shattering, but it was solid nevertheless. None of the scenes struck me as being the hyper-intense "How am I ever gonna get out of this one?" kind. Spidey's opening fight-for-life sequence seemed somewhat commonplace, as comic death-traps go, though the escape was logical enough. Actually, the entire plot was more or less trivial. The Shocker wasn't that much of a menace, and he was defeated with comparatively little effort. (New York's financial situation being what it is, a grand-scale blackout might not be all that bad. At least we wouldn't have to pay our electric bills!)

This issue's interest, for me, lay in characterization and the interaction thereof. J.J.J. attempting to recover from his party in his own lovable fashion; Peter's ever-present secret identity/social problems; Spidey's battle repartee played against the Shocker's dead-serious (*dull*) super villain talk; the misunderstanding men in blue—yep, that's SPIDER-MAN all right.

Particularly interesting this time around were the supporting characters. So Flash Thompson has finally become a decent human being—it's about time! Harry's been cured and totally enervated: he's kind of pathetic now, with his new-found wistfulness, but that's valid considering all he's been through. Just don't overdo it. Harry should go back to being a less uptight version of his old self, once he's readjusted to everything.

Mary Jane Watson. Oh no, don't tell me that MJ is going to pull a "Gwen" every time Peter cuts out to fight a baddie! That's going to get tiresome mighty fast, and I've always thought that Ms. Watson had a bit more depth. Why don't you let her figure out Peter's secret identity, and then spring the news on him when he tries to explain his next disappearance? This could be built up gradually, and it would give both characters a break.

This letter is way too long as it is, so I won't even venture a guess as to who the mystery man on page 7 is—how's that for restraint?

Naomi Basner  
New York, NY

It's wog-boggling, Naomi, if ya wanna know the truth! Most of the letters on #152 hazarded guesses, and some of them were pretty far out, if memory serves us right. But the other outstanding topic of discussion in that mysterious, missing sheaf of missives was something else you mentioned briefly—namely, Ms. Mary Jane Watson—and the next letter deals with exclusively that topic.

Dear Len, Ross, et al,

Pardon me if I seem a bit confused, but have I missed an

issue of SPIDER-MAN? The reason I ask is because of a number of rather disturbing incidents in #152, particularly those involving Mary Jane Watson. I mean, Mary Jane has known Peter Parker for quite a while, right? So why should she be angry about his sudden disappearance from the night—or rather, the issue—before? Worried or upset, yes! But angry?

Maybe I've gotten a wrong impression about M.J. over the last few years, but I thought Peter meant a great deal to her. It doesn't make sense that she should turn on him the way she did in issue #152.

Other than that, Len, I like the way you're keeping pace with Spidey's private life. Just watch out for Mary Jane, okay?

Janice Henry  
Snow Low, AZ

Point taken, Jan! But we can't help drawing attention to the fact that, indeed, very few of us always react consistently, and that an accumulation of repressed feelings might well have caused M. J. to act as she did in #152. And now, before this discussion escalates into heavy psychology, let's squeeze in one last note...

Dear Marvel,

After carefully examining page seven of SPIDER-MAN #152, and page 10 of #154, I've come to the conclusion that the mysterious derelict is none other than Doctor Octopus.

Look carefully at page seven, panel 4 in #152—the man is holding a cup with two hands and pouring at the same time! This isn't possible, unless he has more than two arms. In #154, he trips a passerby without coming near him. That's the clincher! (Hey, do I get a no-prize?)

Marc Blumberg  
5435 Grove St.  
Skokie, IL 60078

Well, by now you know that not only were your inferences astute, but they were also correct. Unfortunately, Marc, we can't hand out a no-prize, since your letter is one of the few to survive, and it just wouldn't be fair to the other Marvelites whose missives went astray. Now, if you could solve our very own letterical whodunit in the same fashion, that might well be worth a no-prize!

Meanwhile, it's time to exit stage left for another madcap month. See ya later, pilgrims!

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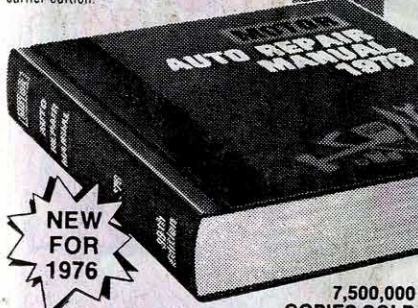
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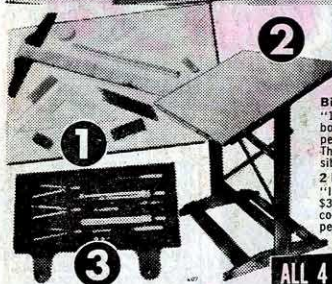
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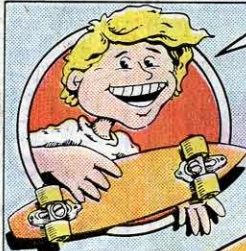
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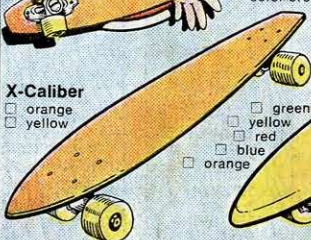
That's right. Steve's South Bay Sporting Goods, the largest skateboard outlet in the known world, is now offering four of their most dynamic designs to you at home. You'll be sidewalk surfing in no time at all.

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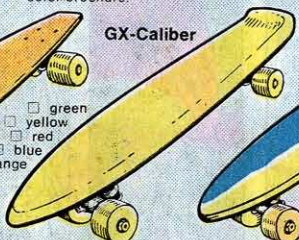
### X-Caliber

- ☐ orange
- ☐ yellow



### GX-Caliber

- ☐ green
- ☐ yellow
- ☐ red
- ☐ blue
- ☐ orange



### Sunrise



### Kick Back

- ☐ red
- ☐ white
- ☐ blue
- ☐ orange
- ☐ black
- ☐ white
- ☐ red
- ☐ yellow

This one is a pultruded fiberglass board that's great for slalom skateboarding. It's flexible and really sturdy. A top performance board. ☐ 22" ☐ 27" ☐ w/regular wheels \$25.45; ☐ w/large wheels \$25.85; ☐ w/wide \$26.45; ☐ w/stokers \$33.85

This is a 24" polypropylene skateboard that's flexible with a kicked tail for hotdogging. Also a non-slip deck for traction. ☐ w/reg. wheels \$20.45; ☐ w/large \$20.85; ☐ w/wide \$21.45; ☐ w/stokers \$28.85

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This is a hand fiberglassed board with just the right amount of flex. Each board has its own custom poured color design. ☐ 24" ☐ 27" ☐ w/reg. wheels \$29.45; ☐ w/large \$29.85; ☐ w/wide \$30.45; ☐ w/stokers \$37.85

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A tricolor 26" laminated flexible board. The non-skid deck and kicked tail make this another high performance board. ☐ w/reg. wheels \$29.45; ☐ w/large \$29.85; ☐ w/wide \$30.45; ☐ w/stokers \$39.85

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THERE'S GOT TO BE A GIMMICK TO THIS, AND I'VE GOT TO FIGURE OUT WHAT IT IS--

--BEFORE THIS BOLD BREAKS EVERY BONE IN MY BODY!



YOU KNOW, IN A WAY IT'S REALLY DEPRESSING, DISCOVERING THAT ONE WHOSE WORK YOU'VE ADMIRER SUFFERS FROM FEET OF CLAY!

ALL THE YEARS I SPENT STUDYING VISUAL ELECTRONICS--JUST SO I COULD PERFECT AN M.O.\* TO EQUAL THAT OF THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN--

\* THAT'S MODUS OPERANDI, DICK TRACY FANS... LEM.



--AND NOW I FIND THAT EVEN THE NOTORIOUS WALL-CRAWLER IS JUST ANOTHER TURKEY WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN!

MAN, AM I THICK! THE ANSWER HAS BEEN IN FRONT OF ME ALL ALONG!



AFTER TODAY, WHEN PEOPLE SPEAK ABOUT THE CRIMINAL ELITE, THEY'LL BE TALKING ABOUT THE MIRAGE--

--THE MAN WHO FINISHED SPIDER-MAN!

THAT TIME I SAW IT--! THOSE GIZMOS ON HIS HEAD HAVE BEEN PROJECTING 3-D HOLOGRAPHIC IMAGES--

--WHILE THE REAL MIRAGE STANDS NEARBY, PROBABLY SHIELDED BY SOME SORT OF INVISIBILITY SCREEN!



ALL I HAVE TO DO IS... UUNNNH!!

THE KING IS DEAD, INSECT! LONG LIVE THE KING!



COME ON, WEBHEAD-- GET UP! THE LEAST YOU CAN DO IS DIE STANDING ON YOUR FEET!

GEE, THANKS. THAT'S REAL SPORTING OF YOU!



BUT I DON'T FIGURE TO DIE STANDING UP, DOWN, OR SIDEWAYS, BRIGHT-EYES!

THIS LITTLE WEB-SLINGER IS NOT THRU YET!



BUT YOU MIGHT AS WELL BE, INSECT-- BECAUSE YOU'RE REALLY STARTING TO SLIP!

THAT SWING OF YOURS MISSED BY A MILE!



WRONG, LAUGHING-BOY! I HIT JUST WHAT I WAS AIMING FOR--

--NAMESLY, THIS CHANDELIER!





SAVAGELY, THE AWESOME GLITTERING MASS PLUNGES TOWARDS HIM, EVEN AS A FEEBLE PROTEST FORMS ON THE MIRAGE'S GLITTERING LIPS--



AND IF THAT ISN'T A CLUE FOR YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD WEB-SLINGER TO GET HIS TAIL OUT OF HERE, I DON'T KNOW WHAT IS!





# MORE MERELY MAGNIFICENT MARVEL MADNESS MADE TO MOVE YOU TO MAFFICKING!

(\* Look it up in the ol' Webster, scoffers! There really is such a word!)

## STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Okay, gang, it's name-dropping time again! Recently, I was guest of honor at the San Diego Comics Convention, and what a terrific Con it was. Let me just take a minute to thank Richard Butner and Shel Dorf for being the best hosts possible, and—while we're at it—I thought you'd like to know some of the really great guys I ran into out there. First of all, there was Jerry Siegel, the creator of Superman, looking as young as he did when he used to toil here in the Bullpen. Then, there was artist-writer Don Rico, now teaching a course in comics at UCLA, and as much fun to bend an elbow with as when we were both teenage rookies in the early days of comics. Sci-fi greats Ray Bradbury, Ted Sturgeon, and George Pal would have made the Con a success by themselves—and next year I hope we can spend still more time together. And what's a ComicCon without my ol' pal Will Eisner and me tryin' to upstage each other on the podium? And you should've seen the great sketch that MAD's Sergio Aragones presented me with—if I thought I looked that way I'd shoot myself! (Put the gun away, Forbush—I'm only kiddin'!) It was great seeing Mell ("Miss Peach" and "Mama") Lazarus again, even if I do envy the fact that he's moved to the West Coast! And, helping me judge a costume contest, was none other than Jim Steranko, who's really a great judge ('cause he agreed with all my choices!) And let's not forget the mighty Marvel contingent! There was Marv Wolfman, all over the place, as budding artists and

writers pursued 'im like mad with their samples. Also, it was a real treat running into Russ Heath, Jim Starlin, Ernie Chua, and not only Jack Kirby—but the whole captivatin' Kirby clan—son, daughter, grand-daughter, and Jack's lovely wife Roz. Hey, I almost forgot—Chuck Norris, one of the greatest martial arts experts of all, gave an exhibition I'll never forget—and you'll be reading more about it in our own kung-fu mags. Yep, it was a real classy Con—and it'll give us somethin' to shoot at this Easter when we have our own Marvel Con in New York. (And those of you who attended our last Con don't haveta be told—we're pretty good shooters!)

Two more things I've gotta say before we wrap this up. I also met Captain Sticky and Gabe Wisdom. Captain Sticky is a real, live, costumed superhero who's become a sensation on the West Coast. You'll be seeing him soon in some of our comicbook yarns, so I won't say much more 'cause I don't wanna kill the surprise. But I'll tell you this—the guy is too much! As for Gabe Wisdom, he's a radio personality who's been doing a Thor act in Hawaii and on the Coast, and he's so great at it that I've gotta find a way to get him to our Con this Easter—along with Captain Sticky. Yep, there's a lot of fun and excitement coming your way, gang, so stay tuned to Marvel and, while you're waiting, never tickle a tousled tadpole, 'cause the eyes of Marveldom are ever upon thee!

Excelsior!

*Stan*

Gentleman GENE COLAN and Terrific TOM PALMER. Be sure to be in on this bountiful battle, fans, 'cause, this we promise you—one of these two super-stars dies. But you'll have to pick up both books to find out whom.

ITEM! A word of caution to all readers of AMAZING ADVENTURES (and who among Marveldom isn't?), 'cause we've changed the name of our far-out future series once again, from Killraven, Warrior of The Worlds, back to the original War of The Worlds title. So, be sure to pick up the latest DON MCGREGOR, CRAIG RUSSELL, KEITH GIFFEN, JACK ABEL masterwork. Under any title it's still the best-selling science fiction series anywhere!



ITEM! We've said before that the whole world seems to be infected with Marvel Madness, and now you can't even escape us if you try, 'cause we're not only in our munificent mags, but we're all over the airwaves as well. Frinstance, didja catch of Smiling Stan himself gabbin' it up with Mighty MIKE DOUGLAS while dressed as Marvel's own CAPTAIN AMERICA, or the other day when he was conversing with delightful DAVID HARTMAN on GOOD MORNING, AMERICA, or even his appearance on the TOMORROW show along with a couple of ranking representatives of our Distinguished Competition? Well, if you didn't, you must have caught ROY the boy THOMAS's appearance on TO TELL THE TRUTH playing, of all people, a dehydrated-food salesman. And though we're constantly making it big on the national airwaves, we never forget the local communities. If you're lucky enough to live in the Washington, DC, Virginia area, you probably heard SAL BUSCEMA speak out on comics over station WAMU, or maybe you caught the younger Buscema sibling in one of his seminars at the local Virginia libraries. Sheesh, not only does Sal draw faster than virtually every other artist in the whole-blamed bullpen, but he still has time to give talks, and to begin building his brand-new house on the rolling Virginia hillside. And speaking of new houses, Devil-May-Care DOUG MOENCH just moved into his own mini-mansion in the wilds of Pennsylvania, which all your jealous bull-penners call "The House That Marvel Built!" Luck to both of you, guys, and remember to invite us over for a weekend in the country.

ITEM! We've been hinting at it in our liltin' letter columns; in fact we've probably been shouting it out at the top of our lungs; so we may as well let all you Fantastic Ones in on the big news for the year! Starting in March, and going all the way through to next October, your batty bullpen will be bringing back the awesome, all-new, all-original Annals that Mighty Marvel is so famous for. That's right, True Believer, these 52-page extravaganzas will be coming out at the rate of about two each month, beginning with the ever-fabulous FANTASTIC FOUR (by Rascally ROY THOMAS and Big JOHN BUSCEMA) and the Invincible IRON MAN (by STEVE "Baby" GERBER and Our Pal SAL BUSCEMA). Following these super-giants will be DOCTOR STRANGE, THE AVENGERS, THE INCREDIBLE HULK, DAREDEVIL, THE MIGHTY THOR, CAPTAIN AMERICA, MARVEL TEAM-UP and MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE, CONAN THE BARBARIAN, MASTER OF KUNG FU, THE DEFENDERS, LUKE CAGE, and the wondrous wall-crawler, SPIDER-MAN! These bombastic blockbusters are not to be

missed. Unless you want us to go broke, that is!

ITEM! Just a quick word or three about the greatest stamp sensations this side of the Asgard Post Office. Our second sensational set of value stamps has proven the instant success we hoped it'd be, even though we forgot to tell you that there is a special, super-secret stamp number 100 that we're waiting to spring on you unannounced one of these days. It'll only appear in one mag, and the only thing we promise you is that it will not be in a rollickin' reprint title, but in an all-original regular-size comic. It's up to you Faithful Ones to keep an eagle-eye out for number 100. You have been warned.

ITEM! This is the month that the much-heralded TOMB OF DRACULA and DOCTOR STRANGE crossover takes place with Marvelous MARV WOLFMAN doing the scripting chores on T.O.D. as usual, leading into a frightful finale in the mystic Mage's own mag, scripted by Stainless STEVE ENGLEHART. Art on both books by



# DAREDEVIL'S "DARE-DOUBLE"!

RON RAINEY, KNOWN TO MOVIE BUFFS AS "THE MAN WITH 999 FACES," HAS RETIRED FROM THE SILVER SCREEN, BUT NOT FROM HIS LOVE FOR DISGUISES...

EGAD I LOOK PERFECT. WEARING THIS DAREDEVIL COSTUME I CAN STEAL ANYTHING I WANT AND BECOME RICH WHILE DAREDEVIL TAKES THE BLAME! HAHHA!

TOWN & CRIER  
CRIME WAVE!!  
CHRONICLE/TIMES  
DAREDEVIL GOES ON A RAMPAGE!  
DAREDEVIL HAS STOLEN MILLIONS IN TWO WEEKS!

MATT, I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE THIS ABOUT DAREDEVIL!

NEITHER CAN I, FOGGY...

BUT I DO HAVE A PLAN!

DAILY BUGLE  
DAREDEVIL

STOREFRONT  
LEGAL SERVICES

I HAVE A HUNCH THE FAKE DAREDEVIL WON'T BE ABLE TO RESIST THESE HOSTESS FRUIT PIES!

THAT NIGHT...

HAHA

AH HA! THERE HE IS -- RIGHT ON TIME!

ALL RIGHT, YOU PHONY. YOU'VE GOT THE PIES-- NOW I'M TAKING YOU IN!

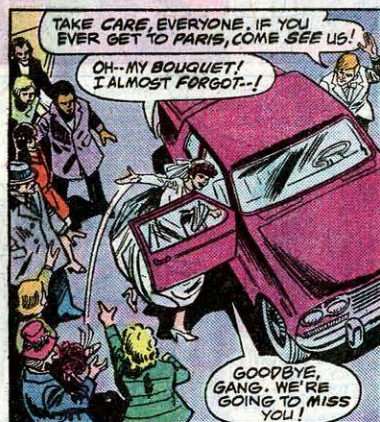
BUT I'LL LET YOU FINISH THAT HOSTESS CHERRY FRUIT PIE BEFORE I DO!

MMMM... REAL FRUIT FILLING... LIGHT, TENDER CRUST... IT MAY BE CURTAINS FOR ME, BUT WHAT A DELICIOUS EXIT!

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FRUIT PIE  
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APPLE







## Epilogue:

A SHORT TIME LATER, ON A QUIET STREET IN FOREST HILLS...

IT WAS SWEET OF DEAR MARY JANE TO INVITE ME TO HER PLACE FOR TEA ALONG WITH HER AUNT ANNA...



...BUT POOR ANNA MAY VISITS WITH HER NIECE SO RARELY, I JUST COULDN'T INTRUDE!



NO, I'LL JUST FIX MYSELF A NICE QUIET DINNER. WATCH TONY ORLANDO AND PAWN ON TV, AND...



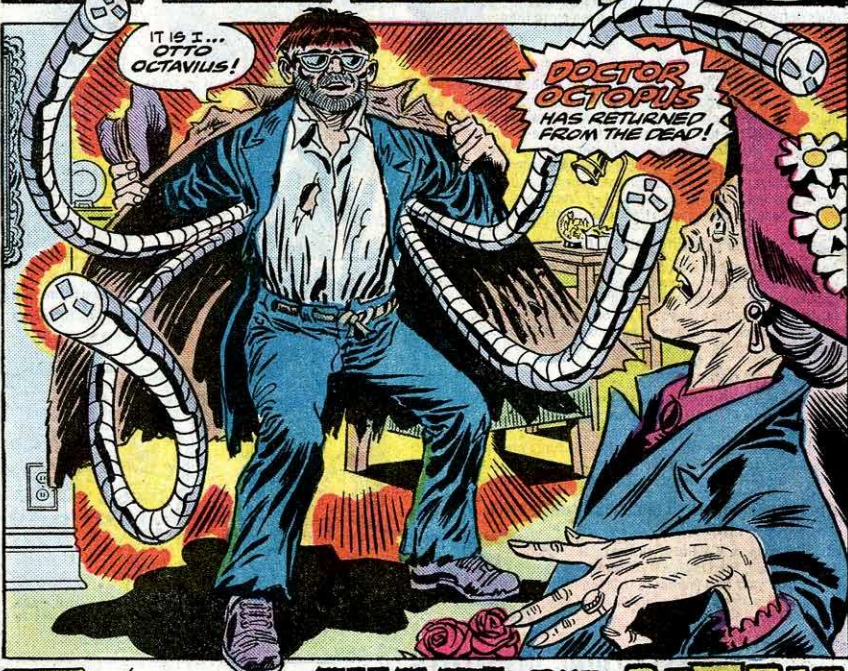
DEAR MAY, THANK HEAVENS YOU'RE HERE AT LAST!

LAND SAKES! WH-WHO ARE YOU? WH-WHAT DO YOU WANT HERE?

I--I'M WARNING YOU--! LEAVE HERE IMMEDIATELY-- OR I'LL SCREAM!



NO, MY DEAR-- PLEASE! DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE ME?



IT IS I... OTTO OCTAVILUS!

**DOCTOR OCTOPUS**  
HAS RETURNED FROM THE DEAD!

**NEXT ISSUE!**

THE TITLE SAYS IT ALL! BE HERE FOR...

**"THE GHOST THAT HAUNTED OCTOPUS"**



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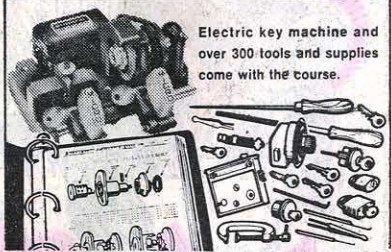
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Jack W. Gray, Mantua, N.J.

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Richard Kennedy, Philadelphia, Pa.



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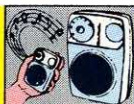
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CROQUET SET



JR. GUITARS



WRIST WATCHES



VOLLEYBALL SET



TENNIS RACKET



SWIM SET



CASSETTE TAPE RECORDER



SLEEPING BAGS



30-POWER TELESCOPE



COMPLETE ARCHERY SETS



FLYING MODELS



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MAGIC SET



MICROSCOPE SETS



FOUR PLAYER BADMINTON



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☐ All Flower Seeds ☐ All Vegetable Seeds ☐ Mixed Vegetable and Flower Seeds

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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