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# the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

PETER  
PARKER  
GOES  
**WILD!**



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# THE SAGA OF JOHNNY WEST

JOHNNY WEST, WEARING HIS ACME BOOTS, KEEPS AN EYE OUT FOR KIDS IN TROUBLE.

ONE DAY AFTER SCHOOL ...

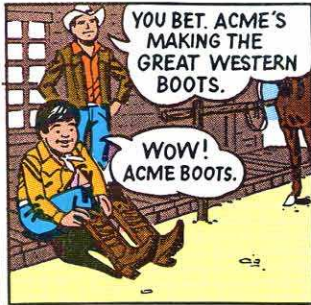
LOOKS LIKE A JOB FOR JOHNNY WEST...

SCRAM KID, I'M BORROWIN' YOUR HORSE!



GEE, JOHNNY WEST! I WISH I COULD STAND UP TO TROUBLE LIKE YOU DO.

YOU CAN, BY STANDIN' PROUD IN ACME BOOTS!



YOU BET. ACME'S MAKING THE GREAT WESTERN BOOTS.

WOW! ACME BOOTS.

THE NEXT DAY, IT'S A DIFFERENT STORY...



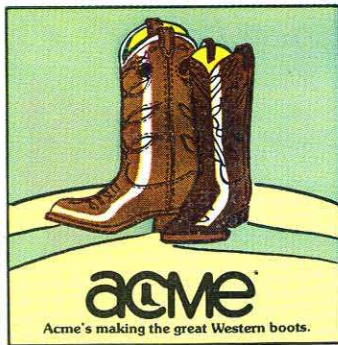
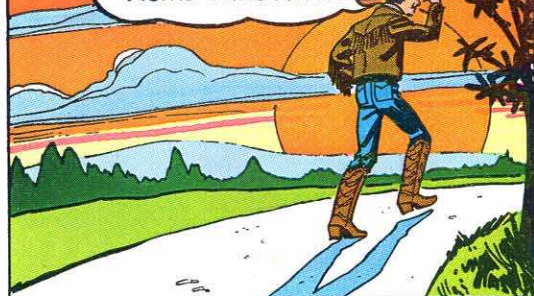
WOW... HOW DID YOU SCARE THAT BIG CREEP OFF?



THANKS, JOHNNY WEST...



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While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the arachnid's powers... and had, in effect, become a human spider.

Stan Lee  
PRESENTS: **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN**®

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STERN  
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JOHN  
BYRNE &  
ARTISTS

GENE  
DAY

DIANA ALBERS, LETTERER  
GEORGE ROUSSOS, COLORIST

DENNIS O'NEIL, EDITOR  
JIM SHOOTER, ED-IN-CHIEF

# "A METHOD IN HIS MADNESS!"

J. JONAH JAMESON WAS A RESPECTED NEWSPAPER MAN... A PILLAR OF NEW YORK SOCIETY FOR YEARS... A MAN OF POWER AND INFLUENCE!

THOUGH HE WAS OFTEN GRUFF, NARROW-MINDED AND STUBBORN AS A MULE, BASICALLY HE WAS A GOOD MAN. HE ONLY HAD THIS ONE LITTLE FIXATION...

SPIDER-MAN... SPIDER-MAN... EVERYWHERE I LOOK, I SEE HIM! HE'S COMING AFTER ME! THREATENING ME! WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN? WHAT?!

THE DAY THAT JONAH SUFFERED A TOTAL NERVOUS BREAKDOWN, HIS FRIENDS JUST SADLY SHOOK THEIR HEADS. "POOR JONAH," THEY SAID, "HIS HATRED OF SPIDER-MAN HAS DRIVEN HIM MAD!"

BUT HIS FRIENDS WERE WRONG...



...FOR JONAH'S MADNESS HAD BEEN CAUSED BY AN OUTSIDE FORCE, DEVELOPED BY THE MAN WHO NOW HOLDS HIM CAPTIVE!

BLAST! NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I PROD HIS BRAIN WITH THREATENING IMAGES OF SPIDER-MAN, I CAN'T KNOCK HIM OUT OF THIS STATE OF AMNESIA!

EVEN WITHOUT MEMORY, JAMESON'S MIND IS AS OBSTINATE AS EVER! STILL, I SUPPOSE I SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISED...

...IT WAS HIS STUBBORNNESS WHICH MADE HIM THE IDEAL TEST SUBJECT FOR PERFECTING MY MENTAL ATTITUDE-RESPONSE VARIATOR RAY!

THANKS TO JAMESON'S UN-WITTING HELP, I HAVE AT LAST GAINED THE POWER OVER HUMANITY I HAVE SOUGHT FOR SO LONG!



AFTER YEARS OF EXPERIMENTING, JONAS HARRLOW HAS DEVELOPED A DEVICE WHICH WILL DRIVE MEN MAD!

WELL, ARE WE FEELING ANY BETTER NOW, JONAH? ANY HINT OF THOSE MEMORIES RETURNING?

N-NO, DOCTOR. I WOULDN'T EVEN KNOW MY NAME, IF YOU HADN'T TOLD ME. THE ONLY NAME THAT KEEPS REPEATING IN MY MIND IS SP-SP-I-I!



HE PASSED OUT. HE COULDN'T EVEN BRING HIMSELF TO SAY SPIDER-MAN.

SPIDER-MAN! HOW IRONIC—I WOULD NEVER HAVE THOUGHT OF USING JAMESON AS MY GUINEA PIG, WERE IT NOT FOR HIM.

THAT WALL-CRAWLING MENACE HAS THWARTED ME FOR TOO LONG! MY GREATEST 'RECREATED MEN'—HAMMERHEAD, THE KANGAROO, AND WILL-O'-THE-WISP—



-- HAVE ALL BEEN DEFEATED BY SPIDER-MAN!

BUT NOW, I HAVE A WEAPON OF SUCH POWER THAT I NO LONGER NEED TO RELY UPON UNDERLINGS! I CAN ATTACK SPIDER-MAN DIRECTLY AND DEFEAT HIM!



AND I OWE IT ALL TO A MAN WHO HATES SPIDER-MAN EVEN MORE THAN I...J. JONAH JAMESON! HAH-HA!



"LOOKING BACK, THE TESTING PROCESS WAS RIDICULOUSLY SIMPLE! I MERELY TRAINED MY EXPERIMENTAL RAY-PROJECTOR ON JAMESON'S OFFICE AND SUBJECTED HIM TO EVER-INCREASING EXPOSURES OF MY VARIATOR BEAM."



"PLAYING OFF HIS HATRED FOR SPIDER-MAN, I GRADUALLY MADE HIM MORE AND MORE IRRATIONAL AND EVENTUALLY, HIS GROWING PSYCHOSIS LOST HIM THE SUPPORT OF HIS OLDEST AND CLOSEST ASSOCIATE--CITY EDITOR JOE ROBERTSON!"



"ROBERTSON'S RESIGNATION\* OF COURSE, MADE JAMESON'S MENTAL STATE ALL THE EASIER TO MANIPULATE!"



\*ISSUE #196--D.

"BEFORE LONG, I HAD TURNED A LEVEL-HEADED PUBLISHER INTO A RAVING PARANOID! EVEN THE WOMAN DEAREST TO HIM--DR. MARLA MADISON--WAS UNABLE TO REASON WITH HIM!"

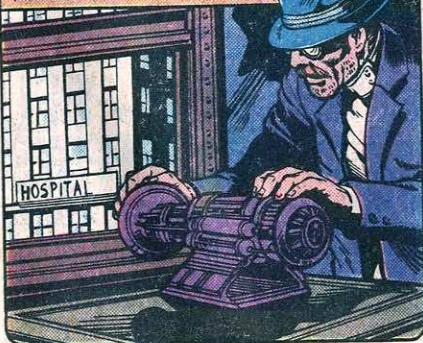


"THE DECISION OF THE BUGLE'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO REPLACE JAMESON WAS THE LAST STRAW--HE SUFFERED A TOTAL NERVOUS COLLAPSE!"



\*ISSUE #198--D.

"NOT CONTENT TO LET MY EXPERIMENT END THERE, I FOUND OUT THE LOCATION OF JAMESON'S HOSPITAL ROOM AND KEPT A MINI-PROJECTOR TRAINED ON HIM AT ALL TIMES."



"THE CONSTANT BOMBARDMENT DROVE HIM TO VIOLENT OUTBURSTS. WITHIN DAYS, HE PASSED MY FINAL TEST, BREAKING FREE FROM THE DOCTORS AND FLEEING LIKE A MADMAN!"



\*ISSUE #201--D.



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"FOR A TIME, I LEARNED, HE HID OUT IN THE BUGLE BUILDING--BUT HE COULDN'T REMAIN HIDDEN THERE FOR LONG!"

SOON, HE WAS ON THE RUN AGAIN--FLEEING INTO AN ALLEYWAY, WHERE AN UNFORTUNATE MISSTEP RENDERED HIM UNCONSCIOUS.\*



\*Issue #202--D.

"THAT WAS WHERE I FINALLY FOUND HIM. HE'D SUSTAINED ONLY A MINOR CONCUSSION--BUT IN HIS STATE OF MIND, IT WAS ENOUGH TO INDUCE A NEAR-TOTAL AMNESIA!"

"THE AMNESIA HAD NOT BEEN PART OF MY PLAN--ALTHOUGH, ADMITTEDLY, IT DID MAKE HIM EASIER TO HANDLE. WITHOUT A SINGLE COHERENT MEMORY, IT WAS CHILD'S PLAY TO CONVINCE JAMESON THAT I WAS HIS CLOSEST FRIEND."



INTERESTING, THOUGH! IT'S ALMOST AS IF HIS MIND HAD SUBMERGED HIS MEMORIES AS A DEFENSE AGAINST THE INDUCED PSYCHOSIS.

JONAH JAMESON MAY WELL BE THE ONE MAN ON EARTH WHO IS JUST TOO STUBBORN TO STAY CRAZY! NOT THAT IT MATTERS NOW...



...I'VE ALREADY COLLECTED ENOUGH DATA FROM JAMESON'S TESTING TO PERFECT MY APPARATUS!



WHY, I ALREADY HAVE HIS SUCCESSOR NEARLY AS UNSTABLE AS JONAH WAS BEFORE THE BREAKDOWN!

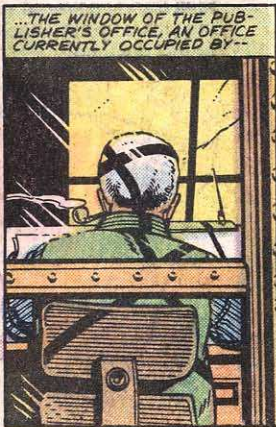
SPEAKING OF WHOM, I WONDER HOW THE ACTING PUBLISHER IS GETTING ALONG TODAY? I HAVEN'T GIVEN HIM AN EXPOSURE IN OVER 24-HOURS.



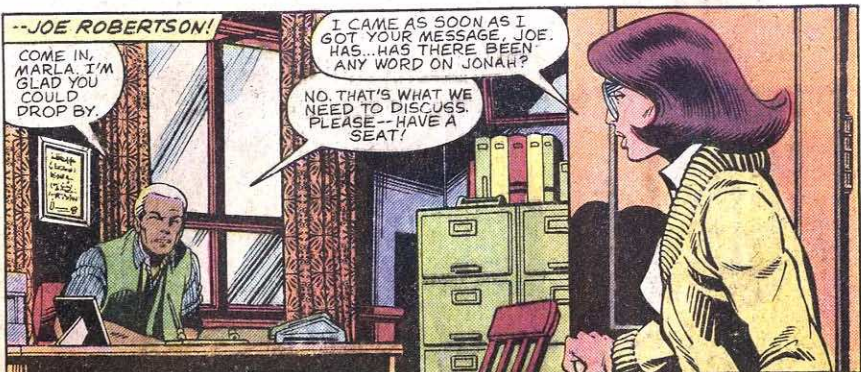
PLAYING THE CONTROLS OF THE GIANT VIEW-SCREEN, NARROW ZOOMS IN ON ONE PARTICULAR WINDOW OF THE DAILY BUGLE BUILDING...



...THE WINDOW OF THE PUBLISHER'S OFFICE, AN OFFICE CURRENTLY OCCUPIED BY--











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FOR ONLY A SECOND DOES PETER HOLD THE FORMER FRIENDS BACK, AND THEN...

SHUT UP! SHUT UP, BOTH OF YOU! I DON'T HAVE TO PUT UP WITH THIS--!

WHUUUPH!

AHHK!



OH, MY GOD! WHAT HAVE I DONE?!

WHAT CAME OVER ME? IT WAS LIKE EVERY BIT OF SELF-CONTROL I EVER HAD JUST FLEW OUT THE WINDOW!



WITH MY SPIDER-STRENGTH, I'M LUCKY I DIDN'T KNOCK THEM THROUGH THE WALLS!

NOOOOO!!

EH? THAT'S GLORY! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?



DASHING BACK INTO THE CITY ROOM, PETER SUDDENLY FREEZES IN HIS TRACKS, HIS MOUTH AGAPE AT THE SIGHT OF INSTANT MASS PSYCHOSIS!

NO MORE FILING! NO MORE!

WHY AM I WRITING THE SPORTS PAGE? I HATE SPORTS!!

HELP ME!

THAT'S MY BY-LINE!

NO-NO-NO NO-NO...





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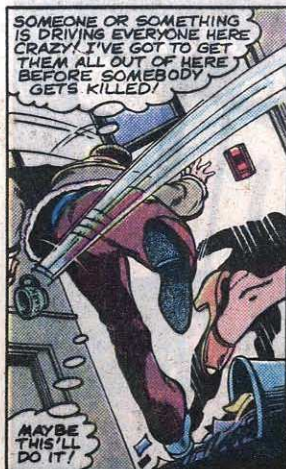
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SOMEONE OR SOMETHING IS DRIVING EVERYONE HERE CRAZY! I'VE GOT TO GET THEM ALL OUT OF HERE BEFORE SOMEBODY GETS KILLED!

MAYBE THIS'LL DO IT!



**BRRRRNNNGGGG**

OUT! EVERYBODY OUT-- NOW! COME ON-- MOVE IT! HEAD FOR STAIRWAY 'C'!

IT'S WORKING! THEY'RE ALL ACTING INSTINCTIVELY!



THE YEARS OF FIRE DRILLS PAY OFF IN LESS THAN A MINUTE, PETER FINDS HIMSELF ALONE IN THE DEVASTATED CITY ROOM...

EVERYONE'S GONE... I KNOW THEY'RE GONE! BUT NOW THAT THE SHOCK OF THE WHOLE THING IS OVER, I... I CAN'T SHAKE THE FEELING THAT SOMEONE IS STILL HERE! AND HE'S OUT TO GET ME!

I...FEEL...SICK.



NO! I HAVE TO GET HOLD OF MYSELF! SOMETHING IS CAUSING THIS... SOMETHING UNNATURAL, LIKE GLORY SAID! I JUST HAVE TO GRIT MY TEETH--



--AND LET MY SPIDER-SENSE LEAD ME TO THE PLACE WHERE THE FEELING--THE DANGER IS STRONGEST!



STUMBLING FORWARD LIKE A SLEEP-WALKER, PETER SOON FINDS THE FOCAL POINT OF HIS DISTRESS...

JONAH'S OFFICE! YEAH... THAT MAKES SENSE SOMEHOW. BUT WHAT'S CAUSING THIS... INSANITY?









WHOA, THERE! PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER, PARKER! YOU'RE SPIDER-MAN... YOU CAN DO THINGS LIKE THIS! NO VERTIGO...NO ACROPHOBIA... EVERYTHING'S FINE!



I'LL BET MY LAST ISSUE OF **SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN** THAT THERE'S A GIZMO HIDDEN IN THERE, SENDING OUT SOME SORT OF HIGH FREQUENCY WAVES TO PULL ALL THE WRONG STRINGS IN MY HEAD.

EITHER THAT, OR IT'S MAGIC!



GAINING THE ROOFTOP, SPIDER-MAN DASHES PAST THE TOWER, BUT...



I'D HOPED THAT THE GADGET WAS STATIONARY-- SO I COULD CIRCLE AROUND BEHIND IT... BUT THAT SICK FEELING IS STAYING RIGHT WITH ME!

A--AND IT'S GETTING WORSE! G-G-GOTTA DO SOMETHING FAST...

GOTTA CONCENTRATE ON TRASHING THE TOWER...WHILE I CAN STILL STAND!



IGNORING HIS FEAR AND PAIN, SPIDER-MAN SINKS HIS FINGERS INTO THE SIDES OF THE TOWER, AND PULLS FOR ALL HE'S WORTH!

BUT... IS THAT IT? I EXPECTED IT TO FILL THIS THING! N-N-NO ONE COULD BUILD SOMETHING LIKE THIS!



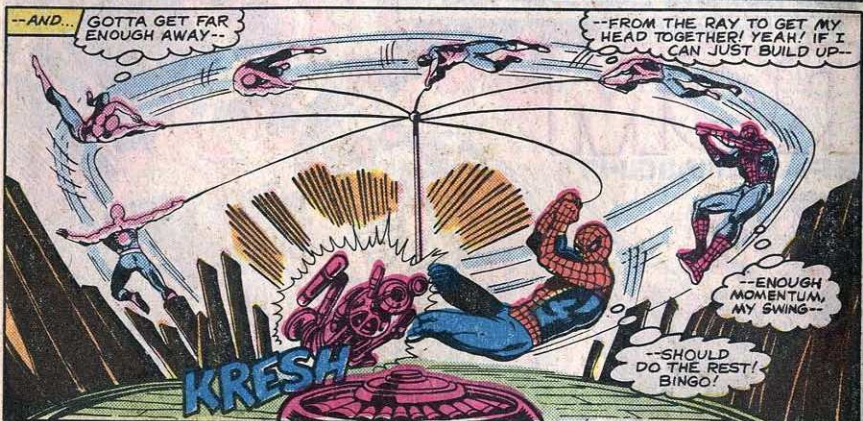




IT MUST BE THE WORK OF... OF BEINGS FROM OUTER SPACE! H-H-HELP!

THIS IS FANTASTIC! NOW I'VE TURNED SPIDER-MAN INTO A GIBBERING PARANOID! I'VE BEATEN HIM AT LAST!

BUT, EVEN CAUGHT UP IN THE THROES OF IRRATIONAL FEAR, SPIDER-MAN MANAGES TO SHOOT A SLENDER WEB-LINE UP TO A NEARBY FLAG-POLE AS HE RUNS--



--AND... GOTTA GET FAR ENOUGH AWAY--

--FROM THE RAY TO GET MY HEAD TOGETHER! YEAH! IF I CAN JUST BUILD UP--

--ENOUGH MOMENTUM, MY SWING--

--SHOULD DO THE REST! BINGO!

AND, AS SPIDER-MAN STANDS PANTING OVER THE WRECKED PROJECTOR, A BIZARRE SPEAKER SUDDENLY POPS UP FROM THE BASE...

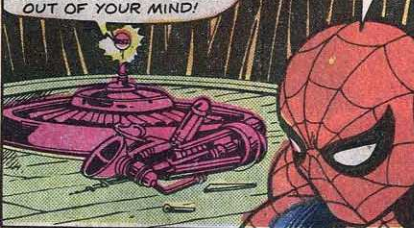
VERY IMPRESSIVE, SPIDER-MAN! YOU'RE STILL A FORMIDABLE OPPONENT... EVEN WHEN YOU'RE HALF OUT OF YOUR MIND!

WHAT? WHO'S THAT?



THE NAME OF JONAS HARROW WOULD MEAN LITTLE TO YOU, THOUGH WE'VE BEEN ADVERSARIES FOR SOME TIME! YOU SEE...

FASCINATED, SPIDER-MAN LISTENS AS THE VOICE FIRST RECOUNTS HARROW'S ROLE IN HIS PAST AND IN JAMESON'S BREAKDOWN-- AND THEN ISSUES A CHALLENGE!



SHORTLY...



I DON'T KNOW WHO'S CRAZIER... HARROW, FOR DARING ME TO MEET HIM ON HIS OWN GROUND... OR ME, FOR TAKING HIM UP ON IT!



HE STRIKES  
FROM OUTER  
SPACE...

...CLEAVING  
THROUGH THE SKY  
LIKE A FIERY  
SWORD OF JUSTICE...

...HURTLING  
EARTHWARD  
ON HIS DREAD  
MISSION OF  
COSMIC  
VENGEANCE!

AND NOTHING CAN STOP HIM!!

Stan Lee PRESENTS:

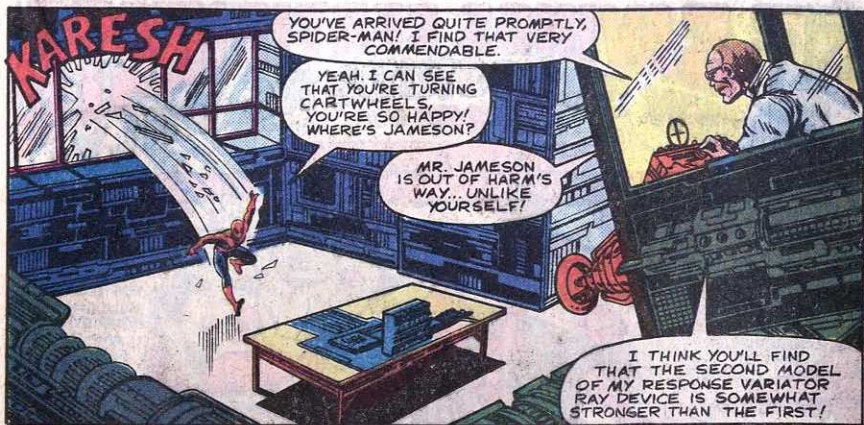
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FINDS YOU!







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AND SO, THE SIGHT OF THE MAN HE HATES ACCOMPLISHES WHAT NARROW'S PROBING COULD NOT! JONAH JAMESON'S MIND SNAPS BACK TO NORMAL!



MEANWHILE, UNAWARE OF JONAH'S RETURN TO RELATIVE SANITY...





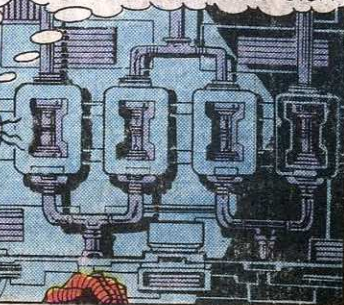
--BUT IT'S ENOUGH TO GIVE ME THE CREEPING WHIM-WHAMS! STILL, I HAVE TO STAND UP TO IT... I HAVE TO STOP HARROW!



THIS ISN'T MUCH STRONGER THAN THE BEAM THAT HIT ME IN THE BUGLE OFFICES... AND THIS TIME I KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME! I JUST HAVE TO GRIT MY TEETH AND BEAR IT... SOMEHOW!



HEY--WAIT! THAT LOOKS LIKE A BANK OF VOLTAGE REGULATORS! AND THE ONE ON THE FAR LEFT IS GIVING ME A SPIDER-SENSE BUZZ THAT JUST WON'T STOP!



THAT SEEMS LIKE A GOOD PLACE TO START!

**SKRA-ZZAKK**



NO GOOD! ANOTHER ONE JUST PICKED UP THE POWER LOAD! THEY MUST BE SET TO SWITCH BACK AND FORTH IN SOME PRE-ARRANGED SEQUENCE.



THROWING ROCKS AT THEM WON'T DO ANY GOOD--

--UNLESS I USE BIGGER ROCKS!



BLASTED WALL-- CRAWLING MURDERER! HARROW'S GOT HIM JUMPING AROUND LIKE A TOY ON A STRING!

I'M NOT SURE WHAT'S GOING ON HERE... THE LAST FEW DAYS SEEM LIKE A BLUR TO ME... BUT SOMETHING ABOUT THIS ROOM MAKES MY HEAD HURT!

I'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE-- AND GET HELP!



THERE, I ALREADY FEEL BETTER OUT HERE IN THIS CORRIDOR! NOW TO FIND... EH? WHAT'S THIS?

A PLUG?





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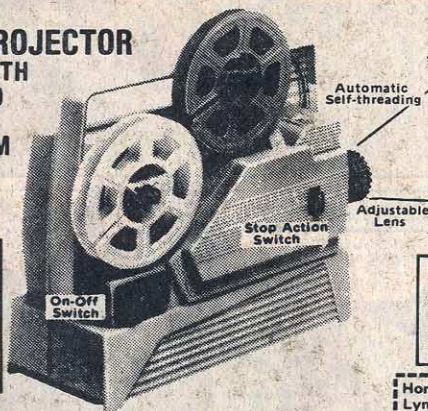
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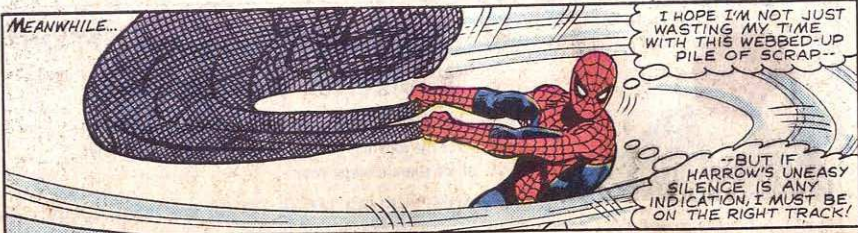
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MEANWHILE...



I HOPE I'M NOT JUST WASTING MY TIME WITH THIS WEBBED-UP PILE OF SCRAP--

--BUT IF HARROW'S UNEASY SILENCE IS ANY INDICATION, I MUST BE ON THE RIGHT TRACK!

I HOPE SO. IF THERE ARE ANY BACK-UP REGULATORS BESIDES THESE... OUCH! I DON'T WANT TO THINK ABOUT IT!

**ZRAM-A-KOWW**

AND AT THE VERY MOMENT SPIDER-MAN SMASHES THE ENTIRE BANK OF VOLTAGE REGULATORS--

--JONAH JAMESON, GATHERING UP ALL HIS COURAGE, YANKS A CERTAIN PLUG FROM ITS WALL OUTLET...

CUTTING OFF POWER TO NOTHING MORE THAN A TELEPHONE ANSWERING MACHINE!

OF COURSE, NO ONE WILL EVER CONVINCE HIM OF THAT!



JUST AS I THOUGHT! EVERY LIGHT IN THE PLACE WENT OUT! HAH, WHO NEEDS "SUPER HEROES"?

AND, IN THE DARKENED LAB CHAMBER...

NO REGULATORS...NO POWER...NO VARIATOR BEAM! THAT WAS SIMPLE!



OR WAS IT?

DON'T MAKE A MOVE, SPIDER-MAN! YOU'LL NOT DEFEAT ME AGAIN! I SWEAR, YOU'LL NOT! I'VE COME TOO FAR THIS TIME!

YOU'VE STOPPED MY BEAM... I DARE SAY YOU'LL STOP A BULLET EVEN BETTER!







# BULLPEN BULLETINS

## STAN'S SOAPBOX

Well, gang, by now all of Marvel-dom has had a chance to latch onto our latest and probably greatest production, the long-awaited EPIC ILLUSTRATED. The final sales figures aren't yet complete, but from all the preliminary reports it looks as though EPIC will be the biggest sellout sensation of the decade! If the amount of mail we've received is any indication, it seems that your excitement and enthusiasm will make EPIC the biggest thing since Galactus! And there's one other factor that convinces me that EPIC is something truly special — the guys and gals in the business themselves, the artists, writers, editors, letterers, colorists, and production people — the ones who work on magazines day in and day out, the ones who've seen it all and done it all — they happen to be our very big-

gest boosters! They seem to be as thrilled with EPIC as anyone!

Now don't go figuring that this is just another sales pitch, another howlin' example of Lee's typical high-pressure hype, 'cause it isn't! I'm not selling a thing today — in fact, we haven't any left to sell! The ever-passionate, pantin' public has already bought out every copy it could get its hands on. I'm just writing these lovable little lines 'cause I thought you'd like to know what's happening with the magazine to which you've given such a fantastic, rousing reception. It looks like you've made EPIC ILLUSTRATED a roaring success, and the whole blushin' Bullpen joins me in saying, "Thanks a heap — you're heroes all!"

Excelsior!

*Stan*

## THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST!

- ☐ MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #65 — The Thing and Triton vs. the Serpent Squad in a race to retrieve the Serpent Crown.
- ☐ SHOGUN WARRIORS #18 — The Shoguns in an all-out battle against the Alien attack on Earth!
- ☐ SPIDER-WOMAN #26 — To save Scotty's life, Spider-Woman must ally herself with the Enforcer.
- ☐ STAR TREK #4 — "The Haunted House of Space!"
- ☐ SPIDEY SUPER STORIES #47 — Mighty Marvel and the Electric Company bring you more exciting, easy-to-read tales of the web-slinger.
- ☐ DAREDEVIL #165 — DD faces Spider-Man's deadliest foe... Doctor Octopus!
- ☐ MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #89 — "Many Foes Has the Hulk!"... and the Leader turns them all against of Greenskin! A Hulk classic.
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #206 — Jonah Jameson's terrible secret!
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #247 — "The Return of Baron Strucker!"
- ☐ THOR #287 — Thor's quest for the Ring of Power continues!
- ☐ MICRONAUTS #18 — The Micronauts face Odd John, the mutant insect master!
- ☐ DAZZLER #1 — Because you demanded it — Daz in her own mag! Guest-starring: Spider-Man, the X-Men, and the Avengers.
- ☐ GHOST RIDER #46 — Johnny Blaze must meet a challenge to his life as the world's greatest cyclist!

- ☐ BATTLESTAR GALACTICA #17 — "Forbidden Fruit!" What it can do to a man will make your skin crawl!
- ☐ SAVAGE SHE-HULK #8 — She-Hulk takes on the Invincible Iron Man!
- ☐ MARVEL FUN AND GAMES #11 — All new brain twisters to tickle your fancy.
- ☐ INCREDIBLE HULK #249 — The man-brute in battle against Jack Frost. Art by sturcy Steve Ditko.
- ☐ AVENGERS #157 — A new menace stalks the unsuspecting Avengers. And don't miss the most shocking surprise of all!
- ☐ CONAN #112 — Conan lays siege to the City of the Bear God!
- ☐ MARVEL TALES #117 — One of Spidey's greatest hits: Showdown with the Grizzly.
- ☐ MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS #90 — Representing the Fantastic Four's epic struggle to free Reed from the Negative Zone!
- ☐ X-MEN #135 — Can even the X-Men stop an all-powerful Phoenix-turned-evil?
- ☐ TALES TO ASTONISH #8 — From the best of Marvel — Subby slugs it out with the fighting-mad Thing!
- ☐ ROM #4 — ROM's most powerful weapon falls into the hands of the deadly Dire Wraiths!
- ☐ STAR WARS #37 — Luke fights a star-duel with Darth Vader!
- ☐ MASTER OF KUNG FU #90 — Shang-Chi rumbles with a vicious street-gang in New York's Chinatown!

- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR #220 — Canada's favorite son John Byrne writes and draws this titanic tale of the FF in mortal combat with invading Aliens in — where else? — Canada!
- ☐ MARVEL TEAM-UP #95 — Meet the awesomely acrobatic Ingrid Ingrid, is she Spider-Man's friend — or deadly enemy?
- ☐ IRON MAN #136 — Wait'll you see the new villain Shell-head tangles with in merry ol' England. He'll send a chill up your spine!
- ☐ SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #44 — Someone is killing New York's top mobsters. All Spidey's gotta find out is, who's doing it — and why?
- ☐ DEFENDERS #85 — The Black Panther joins the Defenders to take on the Mandarin's minions!
- ☐ MARVEL SUPER ACTION #21 — Yellowjacket's secret revealed! The best from Marvel's past.
- ☐ AMAZING ADVENTURES #8 — Re-printing our finest Disaster strikes the X-men as they battle the Brotherhood of Evil Mutants!
- ☐ FANTASY MASTERPIECES #8 — "Mephisto strikes back!" A Lee-Buscema golden oldie! Plus: Warlock!
- ☐ MAN-THING #5 — How can the Man-Thing save a terrified young woman stalked by a man who knows no fear?
- ☐ MARVEL SPOTLIGHT #7 — Star-Lord arrives on a strange planet called... Heaven!
- ☐ MARVEL TREASURY #26: THE RAMPAGING HULK — The Green Goliath in action against the Harpy, the Bi-Beast, Mook, and the whole blamed world in general. Bonus: a new Wolverine-Hercules team-up!

## MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ CRAZY #63 — Now — Crazy is crazier than ever with madcap comedy from Steve Skeates, Marle Severin, Tom Sutton, Dave Morris, Mike Golden, Bob McLeod, Paul Kupperberg, Tom Mackman, Paul Kirchner, and many, many more. Don't miss it!
- ☐ SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #53 — The Barbarian on a quest to retrieve his own stolen soul!
- ☐ TOMB OF DRACULA #5 — Dracula unleashes his wrath upon the renegade vampires! Then, a terrifying new, regular feature: *Little Daughter of Dracula!*
- ☐ THE HULK #21 — The Incredible One ventures into the magical kingdom of the Myth Realm. Plus: the debut of *Dominic Fortune!*

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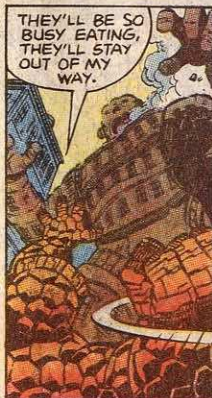
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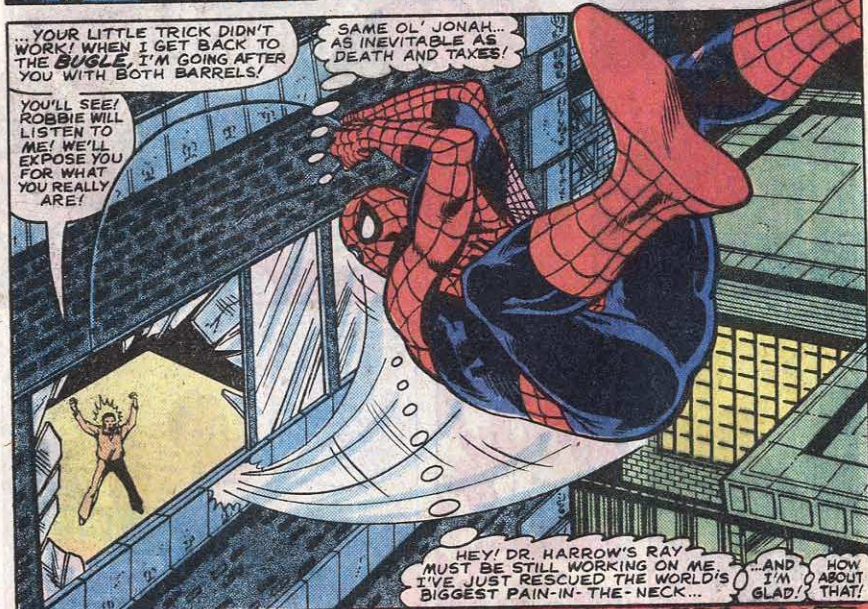


# THE THING™

# IN "SUNDAY PUNCH!"







1  
NEXT

THE MIND-  
BENDING  
MENACE  
OF

THE SPIDER-MAN



# THE SPIDER'S WEB

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP  
575 Madison Avenue  
New York, New York 10022

DENNIS O'NEIL  
EDITOR  
MARK GRUENWALD  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Marvel,

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #200, without a doubt, was the best issue to date (and I've read them all)! It was a sheer masterpiece of human emotion. The depth of Parker's fury, the criminal mentality of the Burglar, the changeover from hunter to hunted, the irresistibly intense desperation on all sides... I could go on all night!

And then, not least by any means, there was that moment of expectancy fulfilled. Thank you, thank you, THANK YOU for page 32. I knew there was no way the lady could have just faded out into oblivion and memory. Thank you for returning my all-time favorite comics character to me... AUNT MAY LIVES!

It was beautifully executed. I was expecting it all along... but I dreaded the possibility, however slight, that May Parker might actually be dead. You've totally redeemed yourselves in my eyes.

And it was a relief to see Mrs. Parker accepting Spider-Man as a hero at last. Considering the number of times he's saved her life, it was a bit unrealistic to maintain her obsessive fear of him. And the entire SPIDER-MAN supporting cast has never been so human as they were here.

So... what next? Old villain time? The Circus of Crime? A guy named Joe? The Rhino? The Vulture? The Gibbon? The Prowler?

Whatever the future holds, AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #200 was a prime example of psychological manipulation, showing just what can be done in such a traditionally straightforward, simple medium.

Steve Lowther  
12 The Grove  
Guilmsborough, Cleveland  
England

Aw, shucks, Steve! We were just doing our job, trying our best to entertain you, same as we have for two hundred some issues.

But, if you'll allow us to toot our own horn just a bit, we have to admit that we're more than a little pleased with the overwhelmingly favorable response to our bicentennial anniversary issue! AMAZING SPIDER-MAN usually gets a lot of mail, but the of postal pouch has never been this full! Hundreds upon hundreds of congratulations have come winding their way to 575 Madison Avenue... and they're still coming in, months later!

The sentiment is appreciated, people. But, truthfully, it is we who should thank you! It has been your support, your thoughtfulness, your caring that has made Marvel the world's greatest comics company and Spider-Man a household word around the world. We love you for it... and we promise that the first 200 issues were just the beginning!

Now, getting down to specifics, Steve... yes, some old villains (and some new) will be showing up soon, though not necessarily the ones you mentioned. As a matter of fact, Joe Smith is slated to return in CAPTAIN AMERICA #246, and both the Vulture and the Prowler should be appearing shortly in the pages of our sister magazine, SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN! Watch for it!

—R.S.

Dear People,

My God, I don't believe it! I actually liked AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #200! In fact, I loved it! Congratulations! You've accomplished a most difficult task indeed.

You mad egotists may not believe this, but Spider-Man is not one of my favorite characters. Let me explain... Stan Lee has said that people would like to be someone like Spider-Man. I'm not so sure. If I ever became a super hero, and had a girl friend murdered before my eyes — as well as suffering countless identity crises — I wouldn't feel very heroic. I'm surprised that Spider-Man hasn't committed suicide! But I digress.

Spider-Man is a wonderful character, and I do like him. However, I think he's a bit overexposed, and he loses a lot of believability that way. If he was confined only to this magazine, perhaps I would like him a little more and wouldn't be turned off by the multiple soap operas every month.

You must admit, SPIDER-MAN is like a soap opera. But when Peter Parker is the only supporting character in the book, Spider-Man is at his best, as "The Spider and the Burglar" clearly shows. I think your supporting cast bogs the stories down — except, perhaps, for Aunt May and occasionally J. Jonah Jameson. I think that Spider-Man is quite interesting enough without a bunch of mindless idiots shuffling around all the time.

Anyway, issue #200 was an excellent adventure story, and that's definitely Spider-Man's forte. There was never a boring moment, and Keith Pollard's pencils seemed extraordinarily good. This was a story that would have done John Ford proud!

Well, I've said my piece. As for guessing which page Stan Lee wrote, I would have to say the last page. But if I'm wrong, it's probably page seven.

And before I forget, the Romita cover was much appreciated. But why not have Steve Ditko do a cover? He did co-create Spider-Man!

Randy Prinslow  
665 Marino Drive North  
Salem, OR 97303

Randy, nothing would make us happier than to have Steve do a SPIDER-MAN cover (or story, for that matter). However, when Steve returned to Marvel, he specifically requested that he be assigned neither Spider-Man nor Dr. Strange, and we, of course, will honor his wishes.

(But if he ever changes his mind...)

On that matter of your guess... yes, Stan the Man did indeed script the last page of issue #200. The first person to correctly pick that page was Rascally Roy DeRousse of Manchester, Missouri! Congratulations, Roy! Your No-Prize should be arriving in no-time at all!

And finally, on the matter of Spider-Man's ever-lovin' supporting cast... we really have to disagree. Over the years, the response we've gotten vis-a-vis the appearance of everyone from Betty Brant to Debra Whitman has been on a par with our readership's reaction to the old Wall-Crawler himself. Does any one else have any views of this subject? As always, we want to hear your opinions!

—R.S.

Dear Marvel,

I'd like to congratulate you and all for AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #200. It was by far the best single SPIDER-MAN comicbook of the last decade... a fitting culmination to the 200 issues needed to mold Spider-Man's character. It was fitting, knowing the cyclical nature of Spider-Man's life, that he should polish off the Burglar, his first adversary. And though the plot element of having the buried treasure eaten by silverfish was too hackneyed for words, and the final page too reminiscent of the end of SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #5, I felt so proud of Peter Parker that I didn't care. We finally got a fitting rationale for someone becoming a super hero... a longing for justice and a loathing for cruelty and crime.

Anything less seems trivial in comparison. You did right by Spider-Man, guys!

Lazarus Dobelsky  
202 Kambrook Road  
Caulfield 2162  
Victoria, Australia

And finally, this short note sums everything up... —R.S.

To all involved with AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #200:

Earlier today, I was asking myself why I, at the age of 25, still read comicbooks. Thanks for answering my question.

Roger Enevoldsen  
324 Georgia Avenue  
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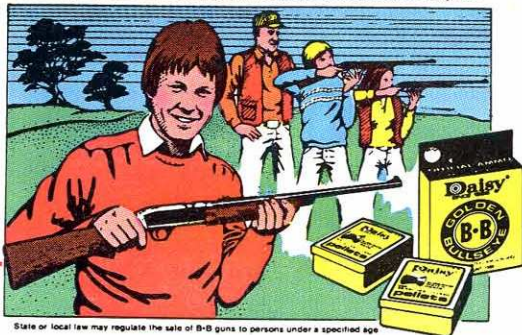
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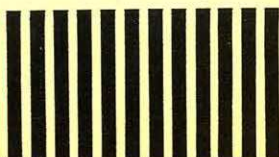
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