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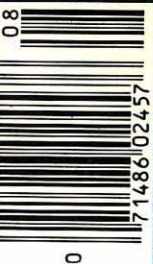
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TM

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

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A'CALLING...



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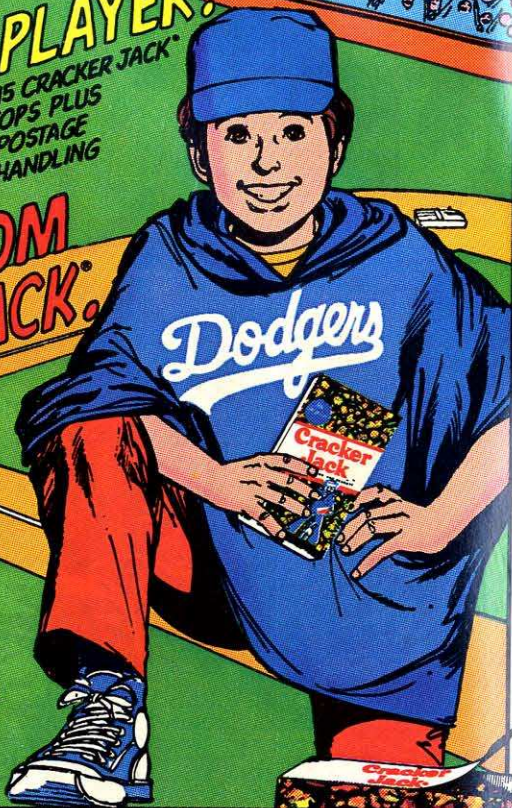
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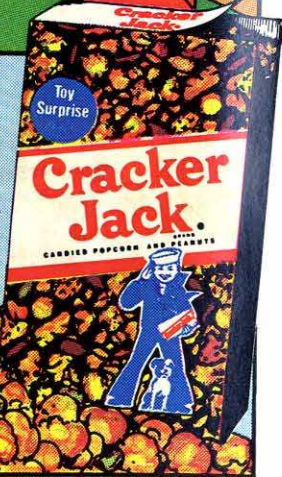
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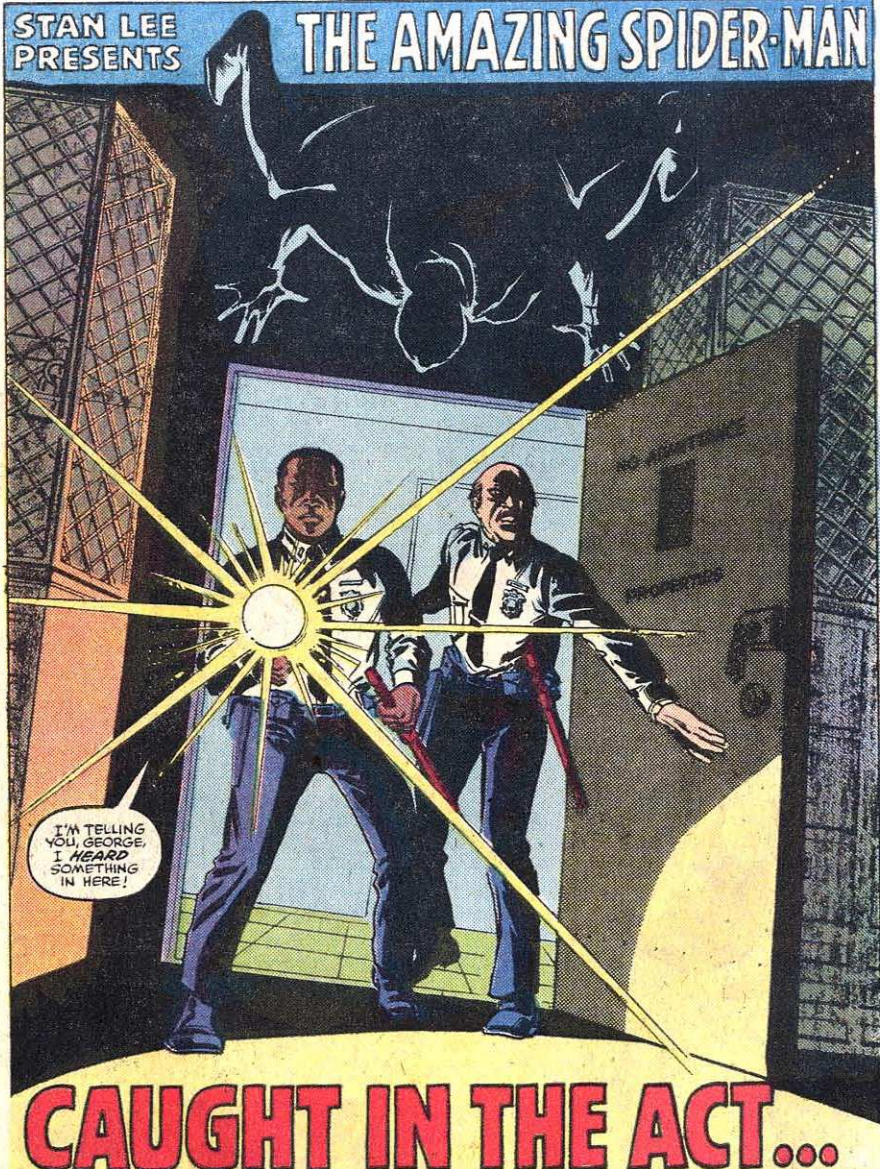
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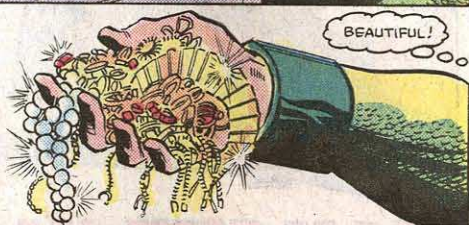
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



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SCRIPTER ARTISTS LETTERER COLORIST EDITOR PRECINCT CAPTAIN

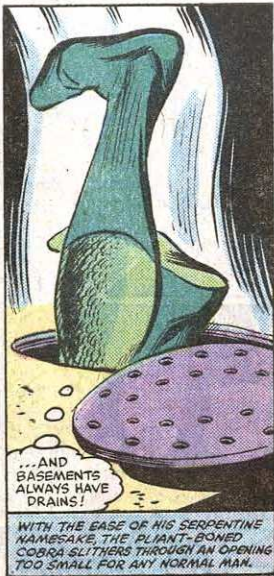
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AFTER ALL,
I CAN ALWAYS
COME BACK
FOR MORE!

HOW AMUSING!
THIS IS THE MOST
WELL-GUARDED ROOM
IN THE ENTIRE
PRECINCT HOUSE...
BUT IT'S IN THE
BASEMENT...



...AND
BASEMENTS
ALWAYS HAVE
DRAINS!

WITH THE EASE OF HIS SERPENTINE
NAMESAKE, THE PLANT-BONED
COBRA SLITHERS THROUGH AN OPENING
TOO SMALL FOR ANY NORMAL MAN.



ONCE I REPLACE THE
DRAIN COVER, NOT A
CLUE WILL REMAIN OF
MY ENTRY... SAVE FOR
THE BURNING
LIGHT.

THAT SHOULD GIVE THOSE TWO COPS
SOMETHING TO WONDER ABOUT! HAH-HA!



BENEATH THE CITY STREETS, NEW YORK IS A LABY-
RINTH OF UNTOLD MILES OF PIPES AND CONDUITS.



FOR THE COBRA, IT IS CHILD'S PLAY TO TRAVEL THAT
MAZE-LIKE NETWORK FROM THE LOWLY POLICE
PROPERTIES ROOM TO A PLUSH PENTHOUSE ON
CENTRAL PARK WEST.

AH... HOME!



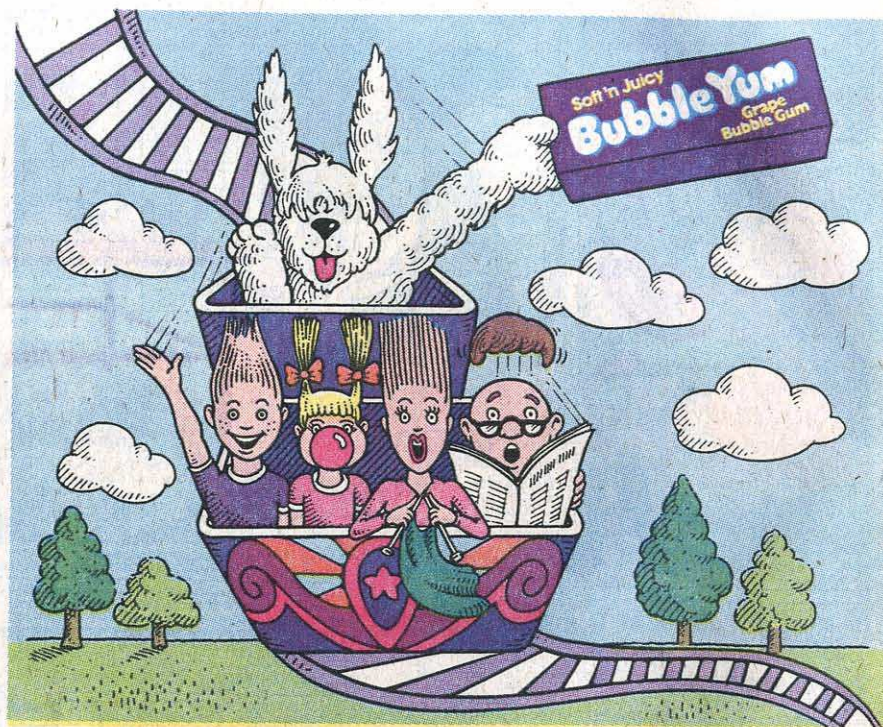
I NEVER
KNEW A
WORD
COULD
SOUND SO
SWEET!

AFTER SPENDING HALF MY
LIFE IN WRETCHED PRISON
CELLS, IT FEELS GOOD TO COME
HOME AND RELAX AFTER A
NIGHT'S WORK!



AND A GOOD NIGHT'S WORK IT'S BEEN! I SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT
OF THIS SCHEME YEARS AGO. THERE'RE FEW RISKS, PRACTICALLY
NO THREAT OF CAPTURE--

--AND THE POLICE COLLECT ALL MY LOOT FOR ME!
WHO SAID CRIME DOESN'T PAY?

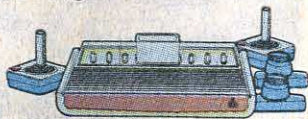


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City _____
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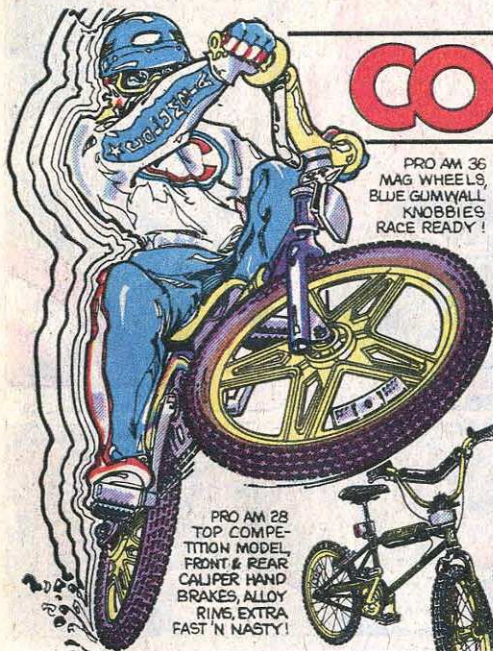
Age Date of Birth Month Day Year

☐ Male

Please Print Your Last Name Plainly Below

☐ Female

Signature of Parent
or Guardian



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KNOBBIES
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COLUMBIA

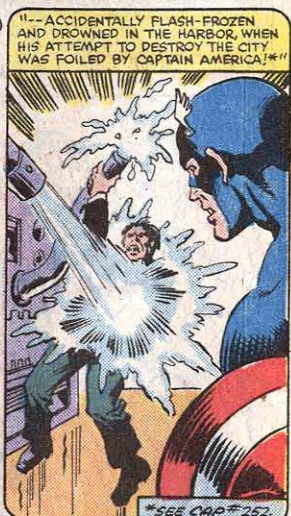
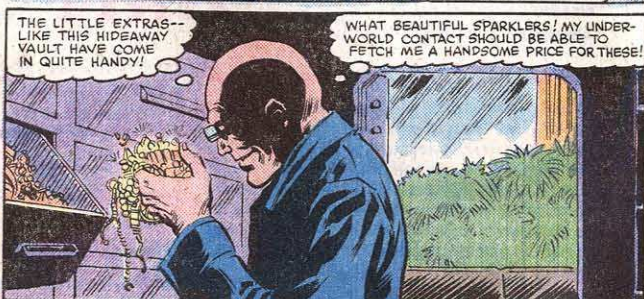
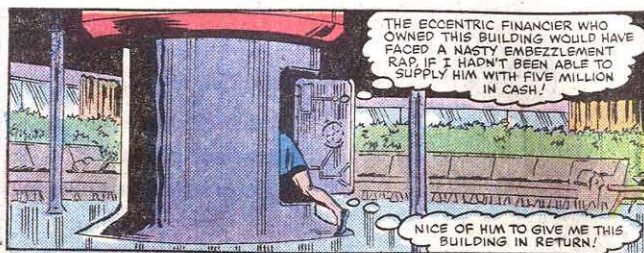
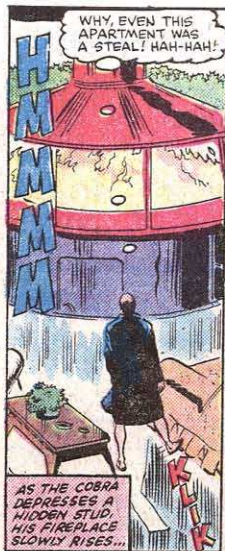
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CALIPER HAND
BRAKES, ALLOY
RIMS, EXTRA
FAST 'N NASTY!**





MEANWHILE, SOME FIFTY BLOCKS TO THE SOUTH, IN A MODEST CHELSEA APARTMENT BUILDING...

...GRAD STUDENT PETER PARKER--LIVER OF THE NOT-SO-GOOD LIFE--GIVES HIS UNDIVIDED ATTENTION TO A VERY IMPORTANT PROJECT!

THIS HAS TO FIT JUST SO, OR THE WHOLE THING'S BLOWN!

C'MON, PARKER--LET'S SEE A LITTLE OF THAT FABLED SPIDER-DEXTERITY! YOU CAN DO IT! JUST ONE MORE AND...

EASY NOW... EASY!

...DONE!

WOW, I THOUGHT I'D NEVER FINISH! IT TOOK ME HALF THE NIGHT, BUT IT WAS WORTH IT!

I FINALLY HAVE TWO NEW SPIDER-MAN COSTUMES! NOW TO LOWER THE BLINDS AND TRY 'EM ON!

I'VE NEEDED A COUPLE NEW OUTFITS FOR A LONG TIME. THE WAY MY OLD SPIDER-SUIT'S BEEN GETTING SHREPPED LATELY*--

--I WAS BECOMING THE AMAZING PATCHES-MAN!

*SEE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #60 AND LAST ISSUE.

OF COURSE, I'D HAVE SAVED MYSELF A LOT OF WORK, IF I'D JUST SILK-SCREENED THE DESIGN ON THE NEW BODYSUITS AND LET IT GO AT THAT.

BUT WHEN I FOUND A NEW SUPPLY OF FLEX-NYLON NETTING, I JUST COULDN'T RESIST PUTTING THE UNDERARM WEBS BACK ON MY OUTFITS.

THE NETTING ON MY OLD SUIT HAD RIPPED OUT LONG AGO, AND I COULDN'T FIND REPLACEMENTS FOR THE LONGEST TIME!

I SHOULDN'T HAVE HAD THAT PROBLEM NOW. THIS NEW BRAND IS TWICE AS TOUGH AS THE OLD.





--THE DAILY BUGLE'S EDITOR-IN-CHIEF CONFERES WITH A CLOSE FRIEND.



ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO DO THIS, JONAH? THEY'RE SO POWERFUL!

YOU CAN'T MAKE AN OMELET WITHOUT BREAKING EGGS, MARLA. AND YOU CAN'T RUN A NEWSPAPER WITHOUT TAKING RISKS.

BESIDES, THERE'S A STORY IN THIS... I CAN SMELL IT. THIS COULD BE THE BIGGEST EXPOSE SINCE WATERGATE!



MR. JAMESON...

AH...LEEDS! COME IN. SIT DOWN.

DR. MARLA MADISON, THIS IS NED LEEDS...ONE OF MY BEST REPORTERS.



SEE, MARLA? TOLD YOU HE WAS GOOD!

NO NEED TO INTRODUCE DR. MADISON, SIR. I KNOW THAT SHE'S THE NATION'S LEADING ELECTRO-BIOLOGIST.

YOU TOLD ME THAT YOU WANTED ME TO RESEARCH THE BRAND CORPORATION, MR. JAMESON, BUT YOU HAVEN'T TOLD ME WHY.

NED, AS YOU'VE NO DOUBT DISCOVERED, MARLA WAS SET TO BECOME BRAND'S NEW DOMESTIC RESEARCH DIRECTOR--



--UNTIL SHE WAS ABDUCTED BY SOME SUPER-SCON CALLED KILLER SHRIKE!

WE THINK THE SHRIKE WAS TIED IN WITH BRAND SOMEHOW.

== SEE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #57 ==

YOU SEE, MR. LEEDS, MY MEMORIES OF THAT NIGHT ARE CLOUDED. TESTS I'VE RUN INDICATE THAT I WAS SUBJECTED TO A FORM OF ELECTROMAGNETIC... WELL, HYPNOSIS FOR WANT OF A BETTER TERM.



BUT SOMETHING TERRIBLE IS GOING ON AT THE BRAND CORPORATION! I KNOW IT! I TURNED DOWN THEIR JOB OFFER--

--AND WITH JONAH'S ENCOURAGEMENT, I'VE MADE SOME INQUIRIES AMONGST THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY. BUT NO ONE WOULD TELL ME ANYTHING ABOUT BRAND...THEY WERE AFRAID!



NO WONDER! BRAND IS OWNED BY ROXON OIL... AND ROXON CONTROLS A LOT OF PURSE-STRINGS!

STILL, I FOUND AN UNDERWORLD CONTACT WHO CLAIMS TO HAVE SOME DIRT ON BRAND. IN FACT, I'M SEEING HIM THIS AFTERNOON!



GOOD. I'M GOING WITH YOU!

NO, MARLA. I WON'T HAVE YOU ENDANGERED!

I HAVE A STAKE IN THIS, JONAH!

I'LL LEAVE IT UP TO MR. LEEDS... IS THIS "CONTACT" DANGEROUS?

WELL, NO... BUT...



THEN I'M GOING!

VERY WELL, LEEDS--?

WE'LL BE CAREFUL, SIR.

LOOKS LIKE THE SCUTTLEBUTT IS TRUE. JONAH HAS QUITE A CASE FOR THE LADY. I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM GIVE IN LIKE THAT.



BUT IT'S EASY TO GIVE IN TO SOMEONE YOU LOVE.

EXCUSE ME--AREN'T YOU THE FAMOUS MRS. LEEDS?

HMM?



PAUSING TO TALK TO HIS LOVELY WIFE, NED LETS SLIP A FEW THINGS ABOUT HIS NEW ASSIGNMENT AND...

NO, IT'S NOT A BIT DANGEROUS!

SO...HOW DO YOU LIKE WORKING AS ROBBIE'S SECRETARY?

OH... FINE.

NED, ARE YOU SURE--?



HONEY, IF ANY REAL DANGER WERE INVOLVED, I WOULDN'T LET DR. MADISON COME ALONG.

SO JUST TAKE IT EASY, BETTY! REMEMBER WHAT THE MARRIAGE COUNSELOR SAID--WE HAVE TO GIVE EACH OTHER ROOM AND ALLOW FOR OUR RESPECTIVE CAREERS.



BUT, AS NED AND MARLA LEAVE...

HE'S RIGHT. I SHOULDN'T WORRY. BUT HE CAN BE SO ROCKLESS AT TIMES.

OH, HE DROPPED HIS NOTEBOOK.

NED?

TOO LATE, HE DIDN'T HEAR ME. I WONDER WHERE HE'S HEADED TODAY?

OH!

NED!

MAY 15

MEET "NOSE" NORTON AT MAXIE'S BAR, 11th AVE. BRAND BIZ

THAT'S A HORRIBLE PART OF TOWN!

IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO HIM--!

I HAVE TO TALK TO SOMEONE BUT WHO? IT'S OUR COUNSELOR'S DAY OFF...GLORY'S STILL AT LUNCH...

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SEVERAL MINUTES LATER, IN AN OFFICE ON THE CAMPUS OF EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY...



GOOD AFTERNOON! DEPARTMENT OF BIO-PHYSICS... MS. WHITMAN SPEAKING.

THIS IS BETTY LEEDS CALLING... UH... FROM THE DAILY BUGLE. I MUST SPEAK WITH PETER PARKER!

WELL, HE DOESN'T WORK HERE AS A TEACHING ASSISTANT ANY MORE, BUT I THINK HE'S IN ONE OF THE LABS.

HOLD ON, I'LL TRANSFER YOU.

BUT ONCE THAT WORK IS DONE...

OH, PETER! IF WHAT I SUSPECT ABOUT YOU IS TRUE, A CALL FROM THE BUGLE CAN ONLY MEAN TROUBLE!



*FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE RECENT ISSUES OF SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN!



IN HER WORK, DEBRA WHITMAN IS A MODEL OF EFFICIENCY.

MEANWHILE, IN A NEARBY LABORATORY...



PETE? CALL FOR YOU!

HMM? OH, SURE! BETTER TAKE OVER FOR ME HERE, ROG.

OUR EXPERIMENT'S REACHED A CRITICAL STAGE.

FOR NEARLY TWENTY MINUTES, PETER LISTENS AS BETTY CHOKES OUT HER WORRIES AND FEARS, UNTIL FINALLY...



AND I JUST DIDN'T KNOW WHO ELSE TO TURN TO.

THEN I'M GLAD YOU CALLED, BETTY. BUT YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T LET YOURSELF GET UPSET LIKE THIS.

NED'S A BIG BOY... HE CAN TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF.

I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, PETER. I DO FEEL BETTER FOR HAVING TALKED TO YOU.

THAT'S WHAT OLD FRIENDS ARE FOR, BETS. YOU TAKE CARE, YA HEAR?

POOR BETTY... I CAN UNDERSTAND HER FEARS. I HOPE LEEDS KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING. THAT'S A ROUGH NEIGHBORHOOD.

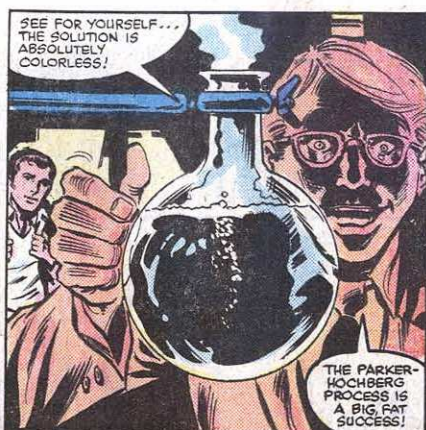


I'M TEMPTED TO CHECK UP ON HIM, BUT I CAN'T LEAVE THIS EXPERIMENT UNTIL...



YIPPEE! WE DID IT! PETE--
THE NEW FORMULA WORKS--
EVEN BETTER THAN WE
THOUGHT IT WOULD!

WHAT? THE REACTION'S
STABILIZED ALREADY?



SEE FOR YOURSELF...
THE SOLUTION IS
ABSOLUTELY
COLORLESS!

THE PARKER-
HOCHBERG
PROCESS IS
A BIG, FAT
SUCCESS!



WELL, DON'T GO COUNTING YOUR NOBELS JUST YET,
HERR HOCHBERG. WE STILL HAVE A LOT OF BUGS
IN THE SYSTEM!

UH, LISTEN... I
HAVE TO RUN!

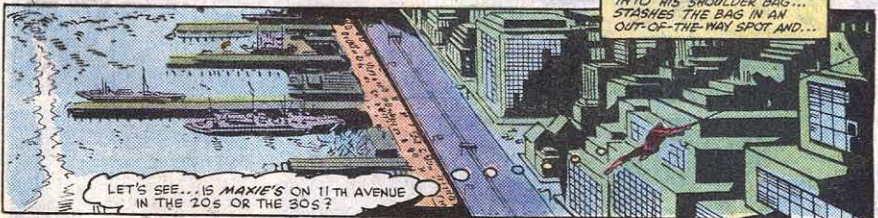
NO
SWEAT PETE.
CATCH YOU
LATER!



AND, AFTER A QUICK DASH DOWN THE HALL...

GOOD OL' HOCHBERG... BEST LAB PARTNER
I EVER HAD! IT'S A REAL PLEASURE TO WORK
WITH SOMEONE WHO'S SMART ENOUGH TO
KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

IN THE SECLUSION OF THE
DESERTED STAIRWELL, PETER
STUFFS HIS STREET CLOTHES
INTO HIS SHOULDER BAG...
STASHES THE BAG IN AN
OUT-OF-THE-WAY SPOT AND...



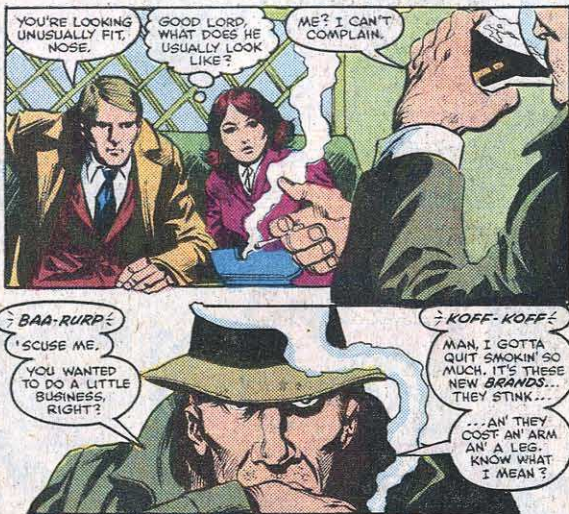
LET'S SEE... IS MAXIE'S ON 11TH AVENUE
IN THE 20S OR THE 30S?



MEANWHILE, JUST
OUTSIDE THE
ESTABLISHMENT
IN QUESTION...

NOT EXACTLY
THE COPA, IS IT?

THIS IS NICE, COMPARED
TO SOME OF NORTON'S
HANG-OUTS. JUST BE GLAD
HE DIDN'T WANT TO MEET
AT JOE'S!





WHAT'LL IT BE?

GIMME
A BUD.

NOSE
AROUND?

IN THE BACK... BUT
I THINK HE'S WITH
SOME "CUSTOMERS."



AH, YES. WELL, HE DIDN'T KNOW I WAS
COMING... I CAN AFFORD TO WAIT. HMM...
I DON'T KNOW THE WOMAN, BUT THE MAN
SEEMS FAMILIAR.

NOW,
WHERE HAVE
I SEEN--?



BLAZES! IT WAS AT MY LAST
TRIAL... HE'S A REPORTER!
NORTON IS SELLING ME
OUT, AFTER ALL!

SHORTLY, BEHIND THE BAR...



THIS IS FAR
ENOUGH, NOSE.
TELL US WHAT
YOU KNOW.

KEEP YER VOICE
DOWN, LEEDSIE. IT
AIN'T LIKE I'M GIVIN'
YA-A TIP ON THE
HORSES!



LOOK, NORTON, IF YOU HAVE
SOMETHING ON BRAND --
SPILL IT!

I DON'T LIKE THIS. HOW
COULD SUCH A LOWLIFE
KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT
THE BRAND CORPORATION?

BUT WHILE LEEDS AND
NORTON ARGUE, JUST
BLOCKS AWAY, A HUGE
FIGURE LUMBERS IN
THEIR DIRECTION.



SOMEHOW, I HAVE TO DRAW
THAT LITTLE CREEP OUT INTO
THE OPEN. I DON'T WANT TO WASTE
MY POWER ON ANYTHING BUT HIM.
IF I CAN HELP IT!

I'VE HEARD HE'S HUNG OUT
IN THIS PART OF TOWN BEFORE.
MAYBE IF I TRASH A FEW
BARS, HE'LL TURN UP!

AND, HIGH OVERHEAD...

I THOUGHT I KNEW THIS NEIGHBORHOOD LIKE THE BACK OF MY HAND!

MAYBE I SHOULD DROP DOWN CLOSER TO THE STREETS! MAXIE'S HAS TO BE SOMEWHERE NEARBY!

HOLD THE PHONE! MY SPIDER-SENSE IS GIVING ME THE OLD WARNING BUZZ! I DON'T KNOW IF LEEDS IS INVOLVED--

--BUT THERE'S SOME KIND OF BAD CRAZINESS GOING ON...

"...IN THIS VICINITY!"

STOP STALLING, NOSE! HAH, I BET YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING!

LISSEN, I GOT PLENTY'A DIRT ON BRAND. IT'S JUST THAT YER AWFUL ANXIOUS TO GET IT!

THAT DRIVES THE PRICE UP, YA KNOW?

'SIDES, I DON'T LIKE BEIN' GRABBED!

SO, LAY OFF THE MATERIAL!

YOU CAN'T BACK OUT NOW, NOSE. YOU'RE IN TOO DEEP.

I HAVE YOUR VOICE ON TAPE, CLAIMING TO KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT THE BRAND CORPORATION! YOU WOULDN'T WANT THE WRONG PEOPLE TO HEAR THAT TAPE!

REALLY, NOSE?

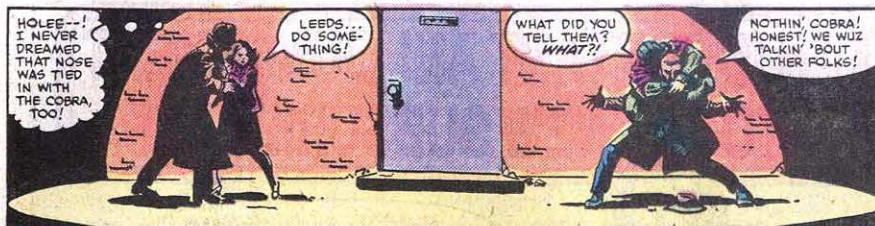
C-C-COBRA!

TALKING TO REPORTERS ABOUT US, NOSE? THAT WASN'T WISE!

DON' GIVE ME THAT BULL, MAN!

NOSE NORTON DON' SCARE EASY!

NO, COBRA! I SWEAR, IT AIN'T THE WAY IT LOOKS!



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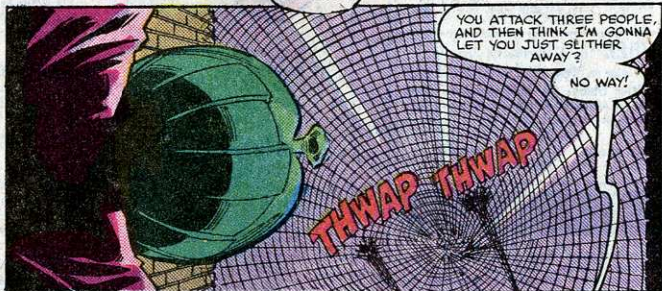
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DRAWING SPIDER-MAN'S ATTENTION WITH AN ALMOST MESMERIZING GAZE, THE COBRA FEINTS TO HIS LEFT--

--AND AS THE WEB-SLINGER WHIRLS TO PROTECT DR. MADISON, THE COSTUMED MASTER CRIMINAL SUDDENLY FIRES HIS VENOM DARTS TO THE RIGHT!

LEEDSIE!

HE... HE TOOK THE HIT MEANT FOR ME!

NED!
OH, NO! THE COBRA SUCKERED ME LIKE I WAS A RANK AMATEUR!

I'VE FAILED BETTY AGAIN!
POOR NED'S DEAD BECAUSE I...

HUH?
Y-YOU'RE ALIVE!

YEAH, BUT MY INTERVIEW RECORDER WILL NEVER BE THE SAME!

HEY... WHERE'S NOSE?

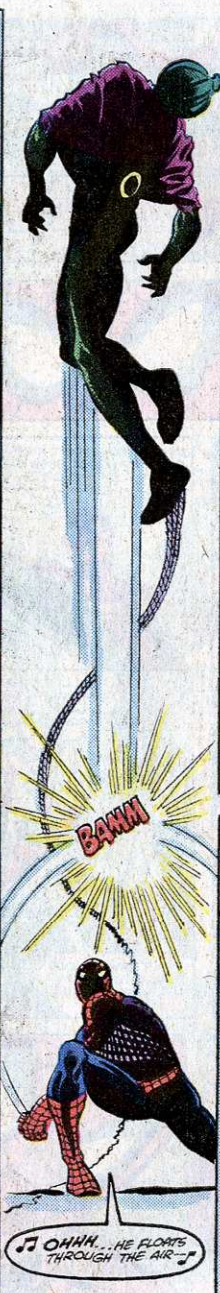
MAXIE!!
GET HELP!

THAT WOULDN'T BE HEALTHY, MAXIE!





DON'T WORRY, FRAIDY-CAT! I WON'T LET YOU HIT THE COLD, HARD GROUND!



WHAT THE DEVIL!



ONCE I SEPARATE THEM, I CAN HAVE MY REVENGE!

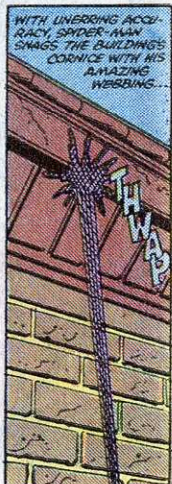


DON'T YOU LIKE MY SINGING, CHUCKLES!

GEEZ, EVERYONE'S A CRITIC!



THERE YOU GO, REPEATING YOURSELF AGAIN!



SAY DIDN'T OUR LAST FIGHT END SOMETHING LIKE THIS?

OH WELL...FOURTH FLOOR GOING DOWN!

LOOK WHAT I FOUND, DADDY! CAN I KEEP HIM?

YES

HAH! DO YOU REALLY WANT TO?

NO, BUT THERE'S SOME NICE POLICEMEN A FEW BLOCKS AWAY, WHO SHOULD WELCOME HIM WITH OPEN ARMS!

SOUNDS GOOD TO ME! MY FRIEND THE NOSE HAS DONE A FAST FADE, BUT DR. MADISON AND I WILL BE GLAD TO FILE STATEMENTS!

FAIR ENOUGH, BUT I'D BETTER GET COBRA TO THE PRECINCT HOUSE WHILE HE'S STILL GROGGY!

DR. MADISON DIDN'T HAVE MUCH TO SAY, I'VE NEVER BEEN ONE OF HER FAVORITE PEOPLE--

-- BUT MAYBE THIS LITTLE EPISODE WILL CONVINCE HER THAT I'M ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS!

HAH, THAT'S TOO MUCH TO HOPE FOR.

STILL, IT'D BE A REAL GAS IF J. JONAH JAMESON'S LADY BECAME A SPIDER-BOOSTER!

EH? WHERE?

DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME TRYING TO GET AWAY AGAIN, COBRA!

I HAVE MY STICKY FINGERS LATCHED ON TIGHT! NOTHING'S PRYING YOU LOOSE THIS TIME!

BUT THEN...

WOW! MY SPIDER-SENSE IS GOING WILD! THERE MUST BE BIG DANGER RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!



BULPEN BULLETINS

INTRODUCING...

... Ken and Ellie's darling boy, supreme high muckamuck of the mighty Marvel Comics creative crew, Editor of all he surveys, me. As usual, I'm here to give you the news and backstage blather.

WEDDINGS, BABIES, AND STUFF...

Boy, am I excited on these things! Please, hereby, be thou informed of the marriage of topnotch X-Men inker Bob Wiacek to beautiful Ann Karanitis, in November of 1980! Also, be thou informed of the marriage of ace colorist Bob Sharen to gorgeous Karen Jones in June of 1981. Also, be thou informed of the marriage of recently-promoted Editor Mark Gruenwald to stunning Beinda Glasse last May. May I add that all of the above-named ladies are as intelligent and accomplished in their own fields (which are computer analysis, teaching, and singing, respectively) as they are beautiful. Congratulations, folks.

It also gives me great pleasure to announce the birth of Allen and Judy Milgrom's first child, Rachel Gail Milgrom this February fifth. Allen, as you know, is an artist as well as an outstanding Editor. The inside word is that he's got the kid taking backgrounds for him already. Congratulations, Al and Judy!

Last, and least, Bob Layton has been cloned. Congratulations, Bob.

MARVEL MOVIES!

As of April 26th, the Mighty Marvel Comics Group's new headquarters are at 387 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016! Please use our new address for all correspondence — subscriptions, complaints, raves, kickbacks, or just shooting the breeze.

You should see the new offices! In fact, so should I! As I write this, it's only mid-February, so we haven't moved yet (though we will be by the time you read this) so I really don't know what our new space is like. I've seen the floor plan though, and I think we're going to like it. I'll tell you all about the new digs after we get settled.



that, I happen to think the concept is terrific! It's about a super-special anti-terrorist unit of the U. S. Army code-named "G. I. Joe," which uses the latest in computerized, laser-guided, high-tech weaponry and equipment. Imagine a gun which automatically aims wherever you look and destroys any target your eyes are focused on when you say "bang" into your hol-mike. It's real! — and you'll see it and other sophisticated gear in action in G. I. JOE: I promised you no hard sell in this column, so I'll refrain from giving you the "rush right out and buy lots" line. It's probably too late anyway. I can't help being excited about G. I. JOE and Marvel's first TV advertising for it, however. The ad was prepared by Marvel Productions, our own television production studio and run with the help and cooperation of the super terrific people at Hasbro Toys. It seems to us that this could be the single biggest event in comics history, marking the beginning of a new era of wider exposure for Marvel Comics and the Marvel Universe. I wanted you to know about it.



ON A PERSONAL NOTE...

... would you believe that I've been named as one of the six New Yorkers of the Year for 1981 by the Jaycees of New York? The honor was bestowed upon me for my contributions toward revitalizing the comics industry and helping Marvel Comics achieve a new pinnacle of success. Wow. I'm deeply honored... and I'm going to ask for a raise, because of this, of course! The others honored included Dave Winfield of the New York Yankees and Gary Jeter of the New York Giants. Not bad company, eh?

IN CLOSING...

... I'd just like to say that I was only kidding about Bob Layton being cloned. Actually, Baby-faced Bob, who is an extremely talented artist and writer, and a true gentleman whom I am privileged to call a friend, was not cloned. He was Xeroxed.

Best,

Jim Shooter
Jim Shooter

THE HYPE BOX

Get a load of...

KA-ZAR #17 — BRUCE JONES and guest-penciler RON FRENZ have come up with the guaranteed most off-beat tale of the year as Ka-Zar, Shanna, Zabu, and private-eye Scott Brannigan (who?) engage in a multi-level adventure that fandom'll be talking about for months to come!

PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #69 — You demanded it (and how!) — you got it (and how!) — the return of *Cloak and Dagger*!

MARVEL TEAM-UP #120 — Spider-Man teams up with the swashbuckling hero of the 1930's, *Dominic Fortune*! Only Dom is now in his seventies! What's he been up to? Read it and find out!

WHAT IF #34 — The Marvel Universe will never be the same after this special all-humor issue featuring a zillion short spoofs on ourselves by a multitude of contributors, including: MILLER, BYRNE, CLAREMONT, SIENKIEWICZ, and HEMBECK!

CRAZY #88 — This Crazy Super Special (containing 80+ more material) features a lampoon of the Death of Phoenix, using the original BYRNE, AUSTIN artwork, with all-new dialogue by JIM OWSELEY. You're either gonna love it or hate it, but you've got to see it!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

- ☐ **MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #90** — The Thing and Spider-Man!
- ☐ **TEAM AMERICA #3**
- ☐ **SPIDER-WOMAN #45**
- ☐ **G. I. JOE #2**
- ☐ **DAZZLER #18**
- ☐ **KA-ZAR #17**
- ☐ **DENNIS THE MENACE #10**
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #185**
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #231**
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #272**
- ☐ **THOR #322**
- ☐ **MICRONAUTS #44**
- ☐ **GHOST RIDER #71**
- ☐ **MOON KNIGHT #22**
- ☐ **DR. STRANGE #54**
- ☐ **INCREDIBLE HULK #274**
- ☐ **AVENGERS #222**
- ☐ **CONAN #137**
- ☐ **MARVEL TALES #142** — Reprinting Amazing Spider-Man #5, by LEE and DITKO! featuring Spider-Man's first encounter with... Dr. Doom!
- ☐ **X-MEN #160**
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- ☐ **MARVEL TEAM-UP #120** — Spider-Man and Dominic Fortune! (See Hype Box)
- ☐ **IRON MAN #160**
- ☐ **PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #69** — The return of *Cloak and Dagger*!
- ☐ **DEFENDERS #110**
- ☐ **STAR WARS #62**
- ☐ **MASTER OF KUNG FU #115**
- ☐ **WHAT IF #34** — Special all-humor issue!
- MARVEL MAGAZINES**
- ☐ **CRAZY #88** — A Super Special featuring a special re-worded Death of Phoenix!
- ☐ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #78**
- ☐ **BIZZARRE ADVENTURES #32** — This issue's theme: "Gods! It's weird!"
- MARVEL SUPER SPECIALS**
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A large, menacing figure with long brown hair and a dark, hooded cloak stands on a brick rooftop. He has a fierce, angry expression and is flexing his fists. In the background, city buildings are visible, including one with a sign that reads "WARING HOTEL ROOMS".



Spider-Man is crouched on the rooftop, looking up at Mister Hyde. He is wearing his iconic red and blue suit. To his left, a green-skinned man with a purple hood (Cobra) is also crouched, looking towards Spider-Man. The rooftop is made of red bricks, and the city skyline is in the background.

YOU HAVE
SOMETHING I
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HYDE IN PLAIN SIGHT!

THE SPIDER'S WEB

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575 Madison Avenue
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TOM DeFALCO
EDITOR
LINDA GRANT
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Friends,

If I was nervous about the return of the Black Cat in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #226, I had cause. After all, in her first appearance, she had grace and style and wit to match Spider-Man himself. And what happened? She's off her rocker. You said.

Then I thought: No, it's a trick. Obviously, Felicia doesn't want to go to jail... so she pretended to be psycho, and Parker fell for it.

Then I thought: they'll never say so. After all, they don't care, do they?

I had no little faith. Okay, now I'm happy. She's back, her grace and style and wit are undimmed, and Parker's visit to the laundromat looked like the story of my life. Things are looking up. There is hope on the horizon.

I have a few reservations: The panel where B.C. landed on Spider-Man's back disturbed me. The theme that women with powers can't be as competent as men offends me. Are you afraid that she would upstage Spider-Man?

Okay, I'll cool it with the complaints. The Black Cat looks good, and I for one would like to see more of her.

The fourth page was a classic. Good stuff, indeed.

Elizabeth Holden
120 Lewis Street, Apt. 2
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada K2P 0S7

Liz, Liz, Liz! If we didn't care, we wouldn't be in this crazy business!

And we're afraid that you misconstrued Spider-Man's little sacrifice play at the party. He let the Black Cat slam into him to discourage her from wanting to become his partner. Like the man said, he works alone. We never meant to imply that B.C. wasn't competent. Obviously, nothing could be further from the truth.

But we are glad you enjoyed the story. You certainly weren't alone!

Dear Webblings,

All right! AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #226 was the best Spider-tale that I have read in a long time! What can I say, except that it was marvelous... from the eerie cover, all the way to page 22.

I'm thrilled to see that John Romita Jr. is really getting into action on the art. Sure, he did an awesome job on IRON MAN, but his SPIDER-MAN is just so great!

Roger, you turned out a masterful script as usual. I liked the way you tied last issue's Foolkiller storyline in with this one. I must also thank you for bringing back Captain Jean DeWitt, who had not been seen for quite a while. The Black Cat is going straight? Well, I'll be Jameson's uncle (I just can't see it as a lasting relationship, though).

Tom, I must salute you for doing something that no other Editor has ever done: namely, linking all of Spider-Man's mags together. At last, we're beginning to find out just when some of his MARVEL TEAM-UP adventures take place. Keep up the good work. And please, involve Peter Parker a little more with the Daily Bugle, okay?

What do you have planned for issue #231? After all, that issue will mark twenty

years since Spider-Man first appeared in AMAZING FANTASY #15. Will you give it a king-size format like FANTASTIC FOUR #236?

Thank you for a great 1981. I'm looking forward to 1982 with great expectations. Happy New Year!

Andrew Krepela
6102 Third Street SE
Everett, WA 98204

Actually, Andy, we're holding the larger format in reserve for Spider-Man's twenty-fifth anniversary! We're celebrating the twentieth year by trying to make every issue special in its own right... and by bringing back the classic original SPIDER-MAN stories in MARVEL TALES.

But, since you brought it up, we have an important question to put to everyone reading these words. This issue, bearing an August, 1982 cover-date, marks the twentieth year of Spider-Man. But the twentieth anniversary of this magazine, the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, won't occur until issue #238, cover-dated March, 1983! When the 25-year mark swings around, which anniversary should we celebrate... that of the magazine? Or that of ol' Spidey himself? Or both? We'll leave it up to you!

Dear Tom,

On page three of "But the Cat Came Back..." I thought to myself, "Boy, have these guys ever blown it now!" Here's an indication that the Black Cat was only faking her obsessive infatuation with Spider-Man in order to get lenient treatment. I was greatly disappointed, since she was much more impressive to me as a kooky admirer of Spider-Man, than as just a scheming, two-faced enemy.

Of course, as the story went on, B.C. put some real moves on Spider-Man in order to convince him that she wants to go straight, and all because of her love for him. Whether she is sincere or not is still up in the air.

Well, I think it's great that you've cooked up some suspense from the situation. I only hope that when the smoke clears, it will end up that she really does love Spider-Man... and is still a criminal. To have a criminal who's in love with a super hero would be a fine hook on which to hang some plot threads in the future. And, as Spider-Man is apparently drawn to her as well, we could see some classic, "I love her/him, even though I know it can never work" stories. We are all, oftentimes, the captives of our emotions.

So don't turn the Black Cat into just another villain with an unusual modus operandi. Let it be a case of "outlaw love".

T. M. Maple
(No street address given)
Toronto, Ontario

"Outlaw love"? Hey, wouldn't that make a wild comics title?

But seriously, T.M., it looks like you've been reading our minds again, you rascally ol' Spiderphile, you!

Dear Tom,

I loved AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #226.

Or rather, I should say that I loved the Black Cat. I hope you bring her back frequently. Page four, panel five had me rolling in laughter for an hour. In fact, I still chuckle when I look at it.

Isn't it the end of November in New York? Shouldn't there be a little snow on the ground?

Glad you gave us a nice ending to lift our spirits.

David Lipson
5432 South Ingleside
Chicago, IL 60615

Actually, winters in New York tend to be a bit milder than the ones you experience in the Windy City, Dave. (Though we'd probably all like to forget the past winter, right?) But then, we never said that AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #226 took place in November, now did we?

Dear Mr. DeFalco,

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #226 was a very good story indeed. And I think the most intriguing element was Ms. Felicia Hardy. I'm generally not too keen on female characters in comics, but the Black Cat is something else.

"But the Cat Came Back..." was an excellent return. I have to admit that I'd fallen for the mental instability bit. The fact that she pulled that stunt just to avoid prison shows that she is even crasier than Spider-Man.

I hope you bring Felicia back... not in a book of her own, just in an occasional appearance, every five or six issues.

I'd like to see more of Captain Jean DeWitt, too. I see her relation to Spider-Man in much the way Nick Fury relates to Captain America.

On the whole, SPIDER-MAN looks to be in great shape. Keep up the good work!

Dave Levy
RD #3, 1140 Lawrence Avenue
Toms River, NJ 08957

Not to worry, Dave. You haven't seen the last of the Black Cat... not by a long shot!

NEXT ISSUE: Join us as we launch the 21st year of Spider-Man with "Hyde in Plain Sight". Nutt said!



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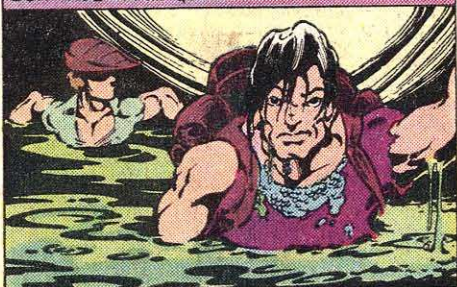
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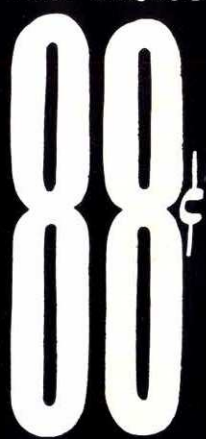
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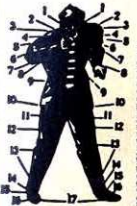
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