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the AMAZ SPIDER-MAN

FEATURING THE
TRIUMPHANT RETURN
OF THE ORIGINAL
STILT MAN!



HIGH & MIGHTY!

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SCOTTIE *in* A Cracker Jack story

OKAY, SCOTTIE! THE SCORE IS TIED, BASES LOADED, AND TWO OUTS! GET IN THERE AND SHOW 'EM WHAT YOU'RE MADE OF.

I'LL DO MY BEST, COACH.

STRIKE ONE!

STRIKE TWO!

YOU'RE
CRACKER
JACK.

ZOOM!

WHAP!

WHEN YOU'RE
REALLY GOOD-THEY CALL
YOU CRACKER JACK

YOU
DID IT,
SCOTTIE.

WE WON
THE PLAYOFFS!

WHAT A
CRACKER
JACK!

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Stan Lee
PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

HIGH & MIGHTY!

THE PLACE: MANHATTAN,
A SEEDY HOTEL ROOM.
THE SITUATION: ONE
MAN'S ENCOUNTER
WITH THE TRUTH.

I'M NOT
THE MAN I'D
INTENDED TO BE.
I'M A FAILURE--
A FRAUD!

NO ONE
TAKES THE
STILT-MAN
SERIOUSLY
ANYMORE!

HIS NAME IS
WILBUR DAY, AND
HE IS ABSOLUTELY
RIGHT.

ROGER STERN

Plot
BILL MANTLO
Script
BOB HALL
Breakdowns
FRANK GIACOIA
Finished Art
RICK PARKER
Letters
BOB SHAREN
Colors
TOM DeFALCO
Editor
JIM SHOOTER
Tall Person

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"AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT WHEN I STOLE THE SECRET OF HYDRAULIC EXTENSION LIMBS FROM MY EMPLOYER, CARL KAXTON."

"HE HAD INVENTED THEM—BUT ONLY I HAD THE VISION TO SEE HOW THEY COULD BE APPLIED."



"I INCORPORATED THEM INTO AN INCREDIBLE COSTUME—"



"BUT THEN, MY PLANS WERE ALL DESTROYED BY THE UNTIMELY APPEARANCE OF DAREDEVIL!"





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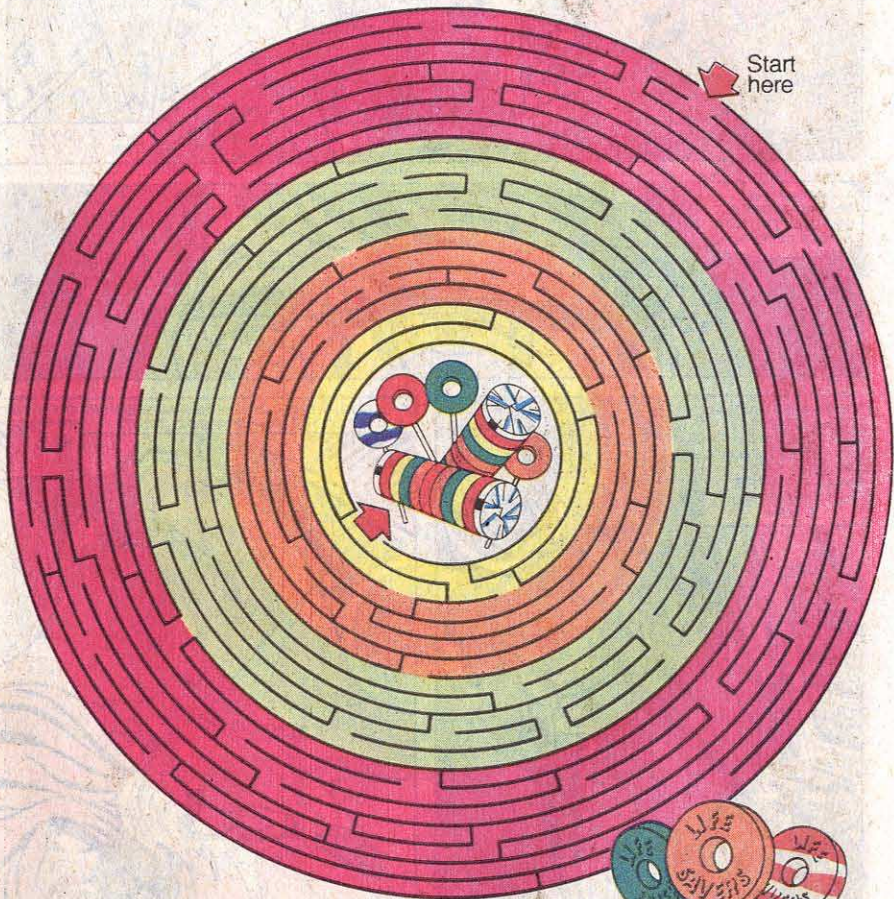
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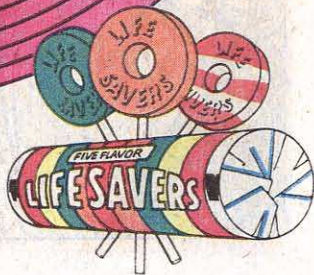
Circle of flavors!

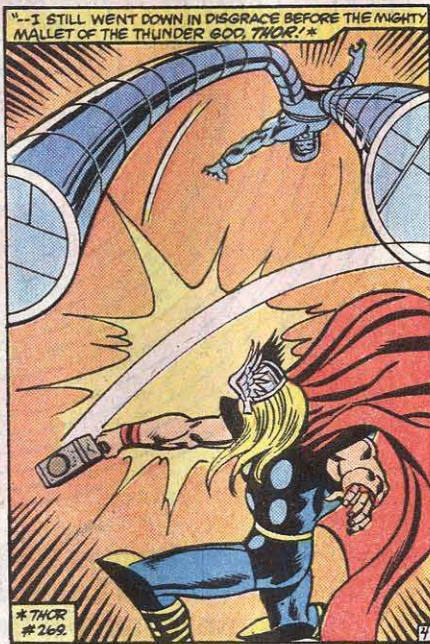
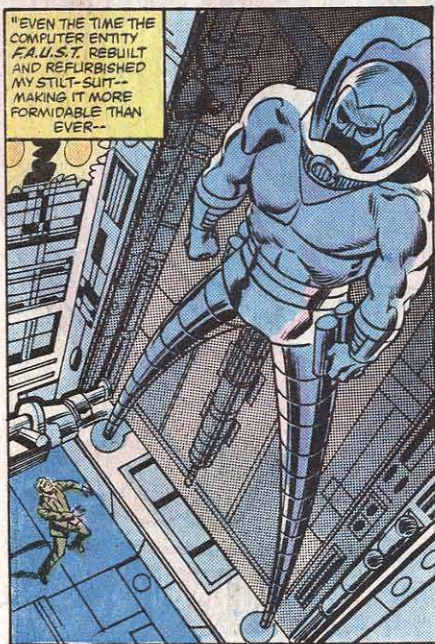
Find your way through this circle of flavors to the delicious Life Savers center.

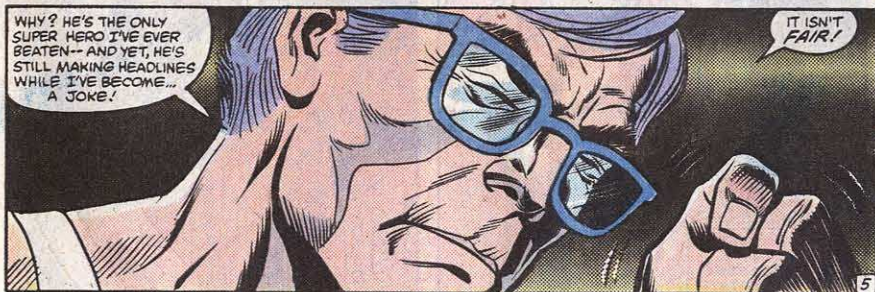
Directions: Use a pencil to find the secret path. Remember not to cross any solid lines.



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and Lollipops.
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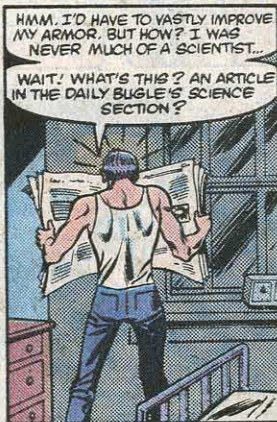




BUT... WHAT IF I WERE TO TROUNCE SPIDER-MAN AGAIN?



WOULDN'T THAT REVITALIZE MY REPUTATION AND ESTABLISH MY CREDENTIALS?



HMM. I'D HAVE TO VASTLY IMPROVE MY ARMOR. BUT HOW? I WAS NEVER MUCH OF A SCIENTIST...

WAIT! WHAT'S THIS? AN ARTICLE IN THE DAILY BUGLE'S SCIENCE SECTION?



YES, YES! THAT WILL DO IT!

THAT WILL MAKE STILT-MAN A FORCE TO BE FEARED!



ELSEWHERE, AT THAT PRECISE MOMENT...

I'VE BEEN WEB-SWINGING ALL DAY AND STILL HAVEN'T SEEN ANY SIGN OF DOCTOR OCTOPUS OR THE OWL! THEY MUST BE BOTH HARD AT WORK DIRECTING THEIR CITY-WIDE GANG WAR!



GUESS THERE'S NOTHING MORE I CAN DO TONIGHT!

MIGHT AS WELL HEAD HOME.

*SEE ANY CURRENT ISSUE OF THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN FOR DETAILS!

HOME-- A WEST CHELSEA APARTMENT BUILDING, WITH WHAT'S LAUGHINGLY DESCRIBED AS "A VIEW OF THE RIVER"--



-- BUT ONLY IF YOU LEAN OUT THE AIRSHAFT WINDOW AND STRETCH YOUR NECK!

AT LEAST IT'S CHEAP ENOUGH SO I CAN AFFORD BOTH IT AND MY GRADUATE SCHOOL EXPENSES...

... AND IT'S GOT A SNAZZY SKYLIGHT ENTRANCE THAT'S JUST PERFECT FOR THIS WEB-SLINGING SUPER HERO.



IT'S LATE-- BUT I'VE GOT TO STUDY FOR MY FINAL EXAMS!

AND I MUSTN'T FORGET TO DEVELOP THE PHOTOS I SHOT EARLIER FOR THE *SMILEY* *SINGLE*! : WHEN? :



I HAVE A FULL NIGHT STILL AHEAD OF ME!

BUT FIRST I'D BETTER CATCH A FEW HOURS OF SLEEP.

THE TELEPHONE!

BRRING

BRRING



HELLO? OH-- HI, AUNT MAY!

HOW'S YOUR NEW HALFWAY HOUSE DOING?



JUST FINE, PETER. THE OLD PLACE IS SHAPING UP NICELY. I THINK I'M GOING TO ENJOY BEING A LANDLADY.

WHEN WILL I SEE YOU AGAIN?



I'LL STOP BY TOMORROW, AUNT MAY-- I PROMISE! I'VE JUST HAD SO MUCH TO DO LATELY!

LIKE PASSING MY EXAMS AND TRYING TO STOP DOC OCK AND THE OWL FROM DESTROYING NEW YORK.



YOU ALWAYS DID PUSH YOURSELF TOO HARD, PETER.

WHY DON'T YOU RELAX AND TAKE A VACATION WHEN THE SEMESTER'S OVER?

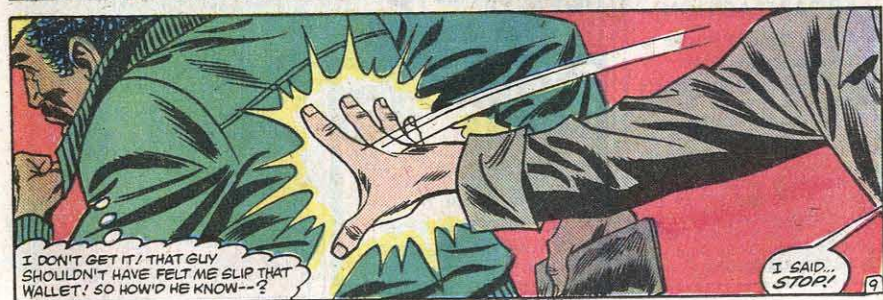


A VACATION! BLESS HER DEAR HEART! BUT I JUST MIGHT TAKE HER ADVICE-- SOME YEAR!



MOMENTS LATER, PETER PARKER IS SOUND ASLEEP.. [7]





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LOST IN THE WOODS, THE WORLD'S RICHEST TWINS ARE FOUND BY THE INCREDIBLE HULK...





BUT, IN THE ENSUING PANDEMONIUM, WILBUR DAY UNOBTUSIVELY SLIPS AWAY...

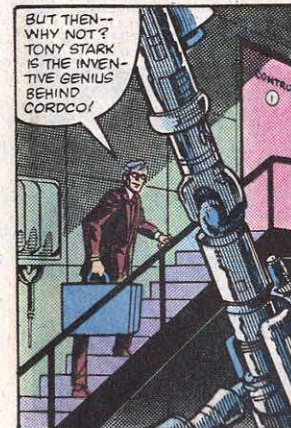
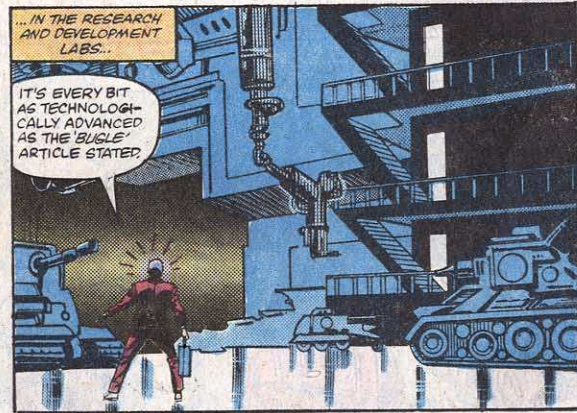


THAT TRANSIT COP'S RIGHT. I MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN HURT-- IF I WERE ANYONE BUT SPIDER-MAN!



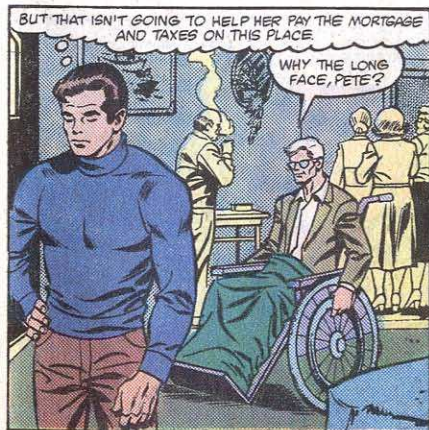
BUT, EVEN AS PETER PARKER TURNS HIS ATTENTION TO OTHER MATTERS, WILBUR DAY APPROACHES THE GATES OF CORDCO, A SUBSIDIARY OF STARK INTERNATIONAL...

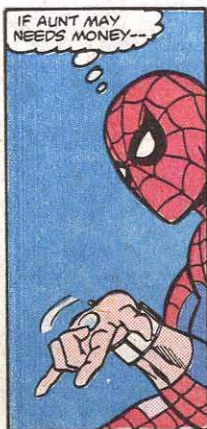




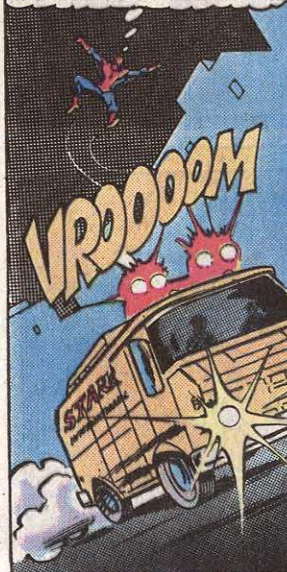
WILBUR GETS TO WORK...

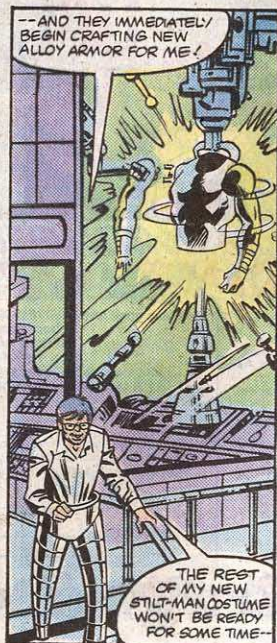






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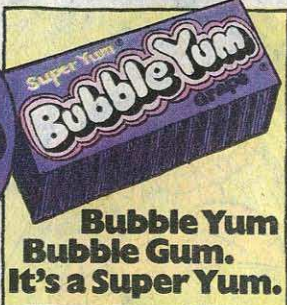
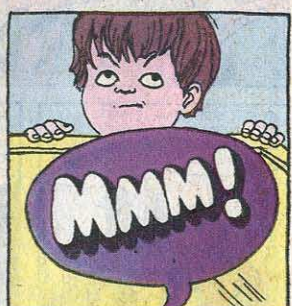
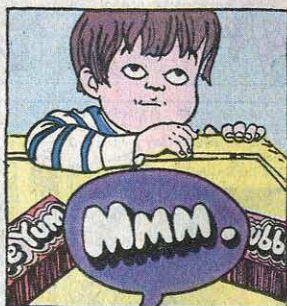
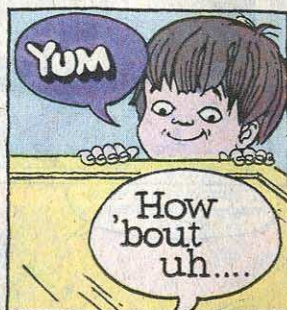
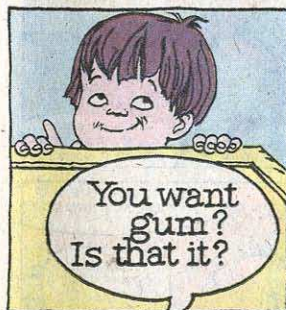
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NOT BAD! OF COURSE, I'D BE IMPRESSED, STILT-MAN... IF IT WASN'T STILL SUCH A SILLY GIMMICK!

SPIDER-MAN!

W-HOW DID YOU KNOW I WAS PLANNING YOUR DEWISE?



YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING! I'M DOWNRIGHT SURPRISED TO FIND YOU HERE!

IN FACT, I DOUBT I'D EVEN RECOGNIZE YOU--

--IF NOT FOR YOUR DISTINCTIVE STRETCH SOCKS!

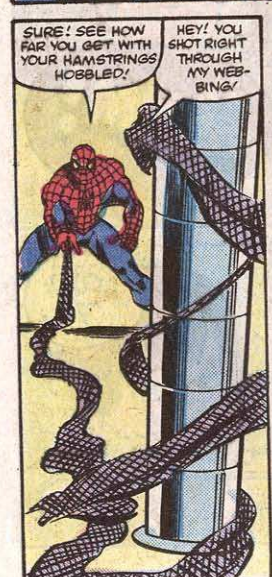


WHAT'D I DO TO RANK NUMBER ONE ON YOUR HATE PARADE?

I DEFEATED YOU YEARS AGO--MY ONLY REAL VICTORY...

...YET NEVER RECEIVED ANY RECOGNITION FOR IT!

I MEAN TO RECTIFY THAT OVERSIGHT, TODAY!



SURE! SEE HOW FAR YOU GET WITH YOUR HAMSTRINGS HOBBLING!

HEY! YOU SHOT RIGHT THROUGH MY WEB-BING!



OF COURSE! YOUR WEBBING CANNOT STICK TO MY SPECIALLY-DESIGNED SILICONE-COATED LEG-UNITS!

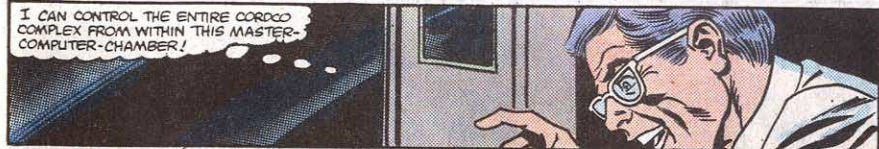
HEY, WHERE ARE YOU GOING? THE FUN'S JUST STARTING!



NO, WALL-CRAWLER! I HAVE NO DESIRE TO CONTINUE THIS BATTLE--UNTIL THE REST OF MY STILT-MAN COSTUME IS COMPLETED!

AND I KNOW HOW TO KEEP YOU AWAY FROM ME UNTIL THEN!

I CAN CONTROL THE ENTIRE CORDCO
COMPLEX FROM WITHIN THIS MASTER-
COMPUTER-CHAMBER!



I CAN PROGRAM THE FACTORY ITSELF TO BECOME
AN AUTOMATED DEATH-TRAP--DIRECTED TOWARD
THE COMPLETE DESTRUCTION OF SPIDER-MAN!

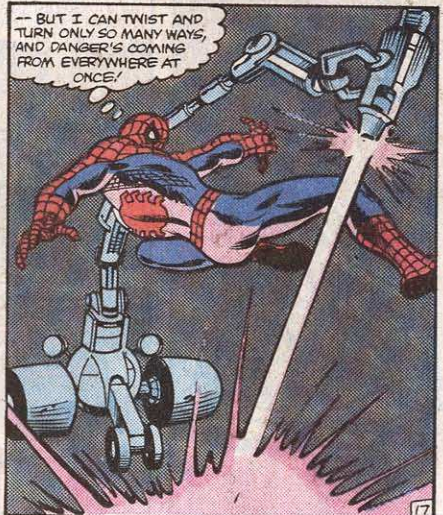


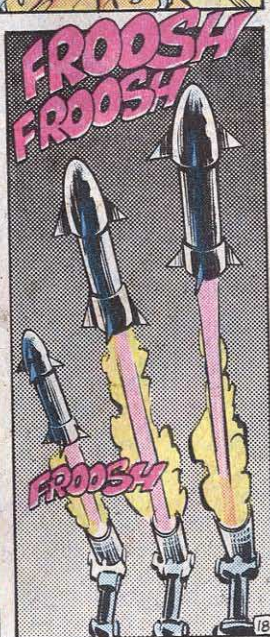
MY SPIDER-SENSE IS WARNING
ME WHERE TO LEAP--

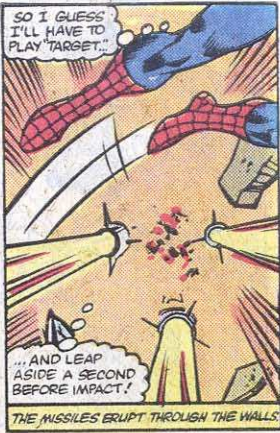
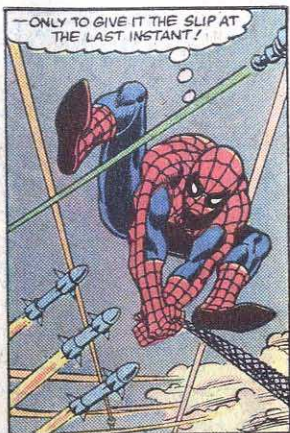
-- AND MY SPIDER-ABILITY IS
KEEPING ME IN ONE PIECE!



-- BUT I CAN TWIST AND
TURN ONLY SO MANY WAYS,
AND DANGER'S COMING
FROM EVERYWHERE AT
ONCE!









YOU'RE
RIGHT,
STILTS!
!



I CAN HOLD MY
BREATH A LONG TIME--
BUT NOT FOREVER!



BUT IT WON'T
TAKE ME THAT
LONG TO FIND
THE EXHAUST
FANS THAT
VENTILATE
THIS LAB!



STAY BACK, SPIDER-MAN-- I'M
WARNING YOU! I WON'T BE
TAKEN WITHOUT A FIGHT!

HOLY SMOKES! THAT DEVICE
AIMING ITSELF AT STILT-MAN
--I RECOGNIZE IT! IT'S A
SONIC DISRUPTOR!

I DON'T KNOW IF ITS
BLAST WILL KILL HIM
THROUGH HIS ARMOR--BUT
I CAN'T JUST STAND BY
AND FIND OUT!



STILT-MAN--
LOOK OUT!

WHAT?
IS THIS
SOME KIND
OF TRICK--?



THE DISRUPTOR THAT WILBUR DAY HAD HIM-
SELF SET IN MOTION, FIRES--

-- CATCHING THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
WITH ITS FULL FORCE.



SECONDS LATER, AS THE
STILT-MAN DISMANTLES
THE DISRUPTOR BEFORE
IT CAN FIRE AGAIN.

SPIDER-MAN TOOK A BLAST
AIMED AT ME! --HE MAY
HAVE SAVED MY LIFE!

BUT THERE
WAS NO ONE
HERE TO
WITNESS...

THE SPIDER'S WEB

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387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10018

TOM DeFALCO
EDITOR
LINDA GRANT
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Tom:

It's been a long time since I've bothered to write to a comics magazine. I never thought I'd be doing it again. I sold my entire collection about a year ago (shame on me) to put a down payment on an engagement ring. To tell you something about the young lady... she was worth it!

Since then, I've bought a few issues of my old favorites to keep in touch, but that's it. Then I found myself buying AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #230. Then #231 and #232. Three issues of non-stop action... unbelievable! And not once did you lose sight of the character development. Not once did anyone act uncharacteristically. And Spider-Man won every battle in a believable, realistic manner. I'm impressed.

I always liked Spider-Man as a character, but more and more I find myself truly impressed with the way he's being handled. And the art—the way it changed a little with each issue, becoming darker and grainier for Mr. Hyde's appearance—bravo!

Keep this up and I may have a new collection going. But what will my wife say?

Chris Weltzel

123-B Cleveland Avenue
Charlottesville, VA 22901

Hey, if she's as great as you say, Chris, she'll probably want to read 'em, too! (Marvel Comics help build strong families twelve different ways!)

Dear Guys,

What a way to launch Spider-Man's 21st year! "Hyde... In Plain Sight" was very well-written (no big surprise for a Roger Stern story), and the artwork was excellent, though I can't help thinking that it could be even better! Maybe you could arrange a Romita Jr./Sr. team-up some day? At any rate, from the looks of things, Spider-Man should easily last another 21 years!

I know that almost everyone from here to Timbuktu has asked, begged, and pleaded with you to bring back the Green Goblin, and I'm certainly no exception. Bring back the Green Goblin!

Joey Like

1210 East Vantress Street
Washington, IN 47501

If it's a Romita Two-In-One you've been craving, we hope you picked up AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #16, Joey. As for the Goblin... well, read on!

Dear Tom:

Thank you for AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #232. It sure is nice to get a wrap-up that is a wrap-up!

There was very little to dislike about this whole Cobra and Hyde storyline. Both villains had a chance to take on Spider-Man, and each blew his chance. The idea of letting a villain beat himself has, of course, been used before and to good effect, but the way in which Spider-Man used Hyde's own rage to blind him (in more ways than just the physical) was lovely.

It was also nice to see that Hyde, who nearly bested a relatively inexperienced Thor, could still give a much-less-powerful Spider-Man fits.

Maybe next issue will get back to more of the trials and tribulations of Peter Parker,

but this single, cover-to-cover action issue (with a real ending!), was a nice breath of fresh air.

Thanks.

S. A. Wiebe

8535 47 Avenue NW
Calgary, Alberta

Dear Tom,

Let's look at the past year with you as editor.

Issue #222: "Faster Than the Eye" with the Speed Demon was a lot of fun as a single-issue story. Having Spider-Man fight a villain he had to chase and corner before he could catch was the reason. This was a real test of Spider-Man's agility and brains.

Issue #223: "Night of the Ape" with the Red Ghost and his Super-Apes sounds silly. If this wasn't Marvel, it probably would have been. The highlight here was the characterization of Roger Hochberg, Hochberg and Parker could become good friends with interesting plot possibilities.

Issue #224: "Let Fly These Aged Wings" began Roger Stern's tenure on the book quite nicely. I am looking forward to the Vulture's next appearance after this one!

Issue #225: "Fools... Like Us" was another speedy story. Although the Fool-killer turned out to be no problem for Spider-Man in the end, it had to hurt for Parker to find out that one of his brightest students was a psychotic killer.

Issue #226: "But the Cat Came Back" leads me to predict further comings-and-goings with the Black Cat in the near future.

Issue #227: "Goin' Straight!" made me wonder about that prediction. The second "death" of the Black Cat upset me. At least, if they do meet again, there'll be no need for a fight.

Issue #228: "Murder By Spider" ... Roger, where were you?

Issue #229: "Nothing Can Stop the Juggernaut" had all the suspense, intrigue, and drama a continued story needs. I wound up getting two copies by mistake, and traded one to a friend who is crazy for anything to do with the X-Men.

Issue #230: "To Fight the Unbeatable Foe" was a conclusion well worth reading and re-reading! Just where and when the Juggernaut will return cannot be known, but—being unstoppable—he could emerge anywhere!

And finally, issues #231 and #232—"Caught in the Act" and "Hyde... In Plain Sight"—this story was a dream come true. And I'd never realized that Spider-Man and the Cobra were both wall-crawlers. Wow!

As for next issue... well, the Tarantula isn't my favorite villain, but I'll be looking forward to seeing how you guys handle him.

So, that's the past year. Be assured that you'll hear from me again next year! Maybe sooner.

Martin F. Phipps
9 Larkspur Drive
Repean, Ontario

Sooner, we hope, Marty! The suspense might kill us, otherwise!

Dear Tom,

Regarding ASM #230-232: Wow! You must be doing something right, as usual! The stories were good, and the artwork was very good. Your bold, bright, balloon-less covers are especially striking. The Cobra never looked more sinister than on the cover of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #231—the picture was clean, well-defined, and almost 3-D!

There was a bit of the old Lee/Ditko feel in ASM #232, what with Debra suspecting a link between Peter and the Web-head... and with the return of the under-arm webbing on Spider-Man's costume.

In closing, I'd like to see more of Mary Jane Watson, Flash Thompson, Harry Osborn, and the Black Cat!

Karl Kunak

8148 Irvine Avenue
North Hollywood, CA 91605

The Black Cat?! Did you say, "The Black Cat"?

Well then, rush right back out to your friendly neighborhood newsstand and/or comics emporium! For this very month, in SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #75, The Black Cat is back!

'Nuff said!

Ah, but it's not enough said about AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #231! For in just thirty days, that issue will go on sale... and dear friends, a new super-villain is born! Who is he? What is he? And what is the strange relationship between this new foe and the late, great Green Goblin? The answers just begin to unfold in "Shadow of Evil Past!"... next month's amazing saga by Roger Stern and John Romita Jr.!

Don't miss it!

—Tom DeFalco



BULLPEN BULLETINS

STAN LEE...

...fearless Publisher, Presenter, and Creative Director of Mighty Marvel called me up from his office out in Los Angeles today. He thought he'd take out a few minutes from being a Hollywood Mogul to check in with me, your large, menacing-looking, omelet-but-basically-lovable Editor-in-Chief — just to see how the comics were doing. Well, I was delighted to tell him that the comics are doing great! This is our best year ever!

Needless to say, Stan was thoroughly impressed, but he said something that made me very proud to know him. He said, "Jim, I love to hear that sales are good, but sometimes good sales can be a short-term fluke — what I really care about is whether or not the comics are good. If the comics are good, sales will take care of themselves." My sentiments exactly! Anyway, since Stan is a little behind in his reading, being that he's a busy film biz exec and all, I proceeded to tell him all about what's been going on in all our current titles, what's going on now, and all the daring, exciting developments I've got planned. When I finished, he was ecstatic! He said, "Jim, what you've got in the works is fantastic! It's the best plotting I've ever heard — the kind of stuff that makes Marvel number one! I'm absolutely delighted!"

I feel like a million bucks!

WHICH BRINGS UP...

...the rumor of the month. It seems that some strange folk out there have been spreading the weird notion that we here at The House of Ideas are planning to make all sorts of drastic, destructive changes, tearing down everything we've built up over the years on a number of our top titles — even killing off a passel of Marvel stars!

What balderdash!

Change, of course, is the essence of what makes the Marvel Universe come alive — and I'll be darned if I'll ever let things stagnate here. There are enough Dull Comics in the world without any Marvel titles slipping back into their ranks. I'm not crazy, though... at least not in a hero-destructive way.

AND NOW A WORD FROM THE SUBSCRIPTION DEPARTMENT...

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A PROBLEM SOLVED!

Since I seem to be having a lot of trouble finding time to take a vacation — or sleep, or eat, or do anything but my job, I recently decided to combine a couple of little vacations with some work.

Two weeks ago, superstar artist/writer Jim Starlin invited a bunch of us up to his beautiful update New York home. Among those present were artist Berni Wrightson and his wife, colorist Michelle Brand, artist Carl Potts, artist/writer Bob Layton, colorist Christie Scheele, and of course, Jim Starlin and his wife, painter Daine Grazianas. We all played racketsball at Jim's club, the Tiger Fitness Center in nearby Kings-ton, ate a magnificent meal at Rud's, a renowned area restaurant, picnicked on Jim's huge lawn, and enjoyed the Adirondack scenery. In between things, I wrote a few memos, answered some important mail, consulted with Jim about his new *Dreadstar* series, worked out a deal with Berni to do a cover for an upcoming Dr. Strange Special Edition reprint, and signed Bob to a Spider-Man Graphic Novel contract!

Last week, I met star scripter David Michelinie and aceinker Brett Breeding in Atlantic City for two days. We stayed in luxury at Caesar's Regency Hyatt on the Boardwalk, ate in several terrific restaurants, gambled a little, and in general enjoyed the resort facilities. In between things, I wrote a treatment for a possible TV show that I can't tell you about yet, answered some business questions of Brett's, and worked out an Avengers Graphic Novel plot with Dave.

Now that's how to work!

ATTENTION COMIC SHOP OWNERS!

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**Carol Kalish
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NEXT MONTH...

I'm really going to take a break. Watch this space for our first *Guest Columnist*!

Hang in there,

Stan Lee

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THE HYPE BOX

ROM #39 — Written by BILL MANTLO. Break-downs by SAL BUSCEMA. Finishes by IAN AKIN and BRIAN GARVEY. Just another incredible adventure of the shining Spaceknight! — as he crosses paths with Shang-Chi, Master of Kung Fu. Bill and Sal do it again, and the look fliers. Akin and Garvey have been giving this book a joy to behold. But don't take our word — behold it for yourself!

VISION AND SCARLET WITCH (Limited Series) #4 — Written by BILL MANTLO. Pencils by RICK LEONARDI. Inks by IAN AKIN and BRIAN GARVEY. The awesome conclusion to this four issue extravaganza. Enter: the X-Men's premier adversary... *Magneto!* And the news he brings about Quicksilver and the Scarlet Witch is alone worth the cover price! But that's only a small part of this month's goings on!

THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE #2 — This month: From the "B's" through The Collective Man. The second issue of the monthly 12 issue series that'll tell all the inside info on our heroes and villains! It's a monumentally comprehensive, informative, and entertaining endeavor. Organized and edited by MARK GRUENWALD.

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

- ☐ **MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #86** — The Thing, Daredevil, the X-Men and more!
- ☐ **TEAM AMERICA #3**
- ☐ **SPIDER-WOMAN #48**
- ☐ **DAZZLER #24**
- ☐ **KA-ZAR #23**
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #181**
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #237**
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #278**
- ☐ **THOR #328**
- ☐ **MICRONAUTS #50**
- ☐ **GHOST RIDER #77**
- ☐ **MOON KNIGHT #28**
- ☐ **INDIANA JONES #2**
- ☐ **DOCTOR STRANGE #3**
- ☐ **INCREDIBLE HULK #280**
- ☐ **AVENGERS #228**
- ☐ **CONAN #143**
- ☐ **MARVEL TALES #146** — Reprinting *AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #11*: The Return of Doctor Octopus, by STAN LEE and STEVE DITKO.
- ☐ **X-MEN #168** — Special double-sized issue!
- ☐ **ROM #39**
- ☐ **POWER MAN/IRON FIST #90**
- ☐ **VISION/SCARLET WITCH (Limited Series) #4** — The awesome conclusion!
- ☐ **G.I. JOE #8**
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #251**
- ☐ **MARVEL TEAM-UP #126** — Spider-Man and the Hulk! Plus: Luke Cage and the Son of Satan!
- ☐ **IRON MAN #157**
- ☐ **PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #75** — Special double-sized issue!
- ☐ **DEFENDERS #118**
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MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #84**

SPECIAL EVENTS

- ☐ **X-MEN SPECIAL EDITION #1** — Reprinting the very first appearance of the New X-Men, plus: an all-new story starring Kitty Pryde by CHRIS CLAREMONT and DAVE COCKRUM!
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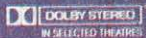


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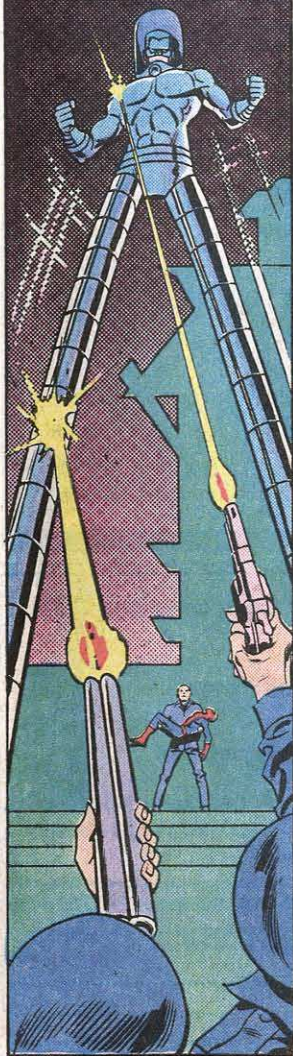
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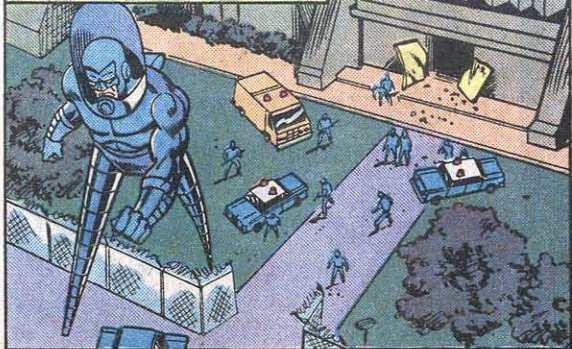
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TELL HIM WE'RE
EVEN, WHEN HE
COMES TO!



IGNORING THE SECURITY STAFF-- AND THE BULLETS THAT SHRIEK OFF HIS ARMOR,
THE STILT-MAN TURNS AND STRIDES AWAY...



LEAVING BEHIND A REVIVING SPIDER-MAN AND A MYSTIFIED VIC MARTINELLI...

DO YOU KNOW WHAT HE MEANT,
WEB-SLINGER--ABOUT YOU TWO
BEING EVEN?

I SAVED
STILT-MAN'S LIFE IN
THERE, FRIEND...
AND, IN RETURN,
HE DIDN'T TAKE
MINE.

FUNNY
WAY OF
EVENING THE
ODDS, HUH?

YEAH...
FUNNY.

END

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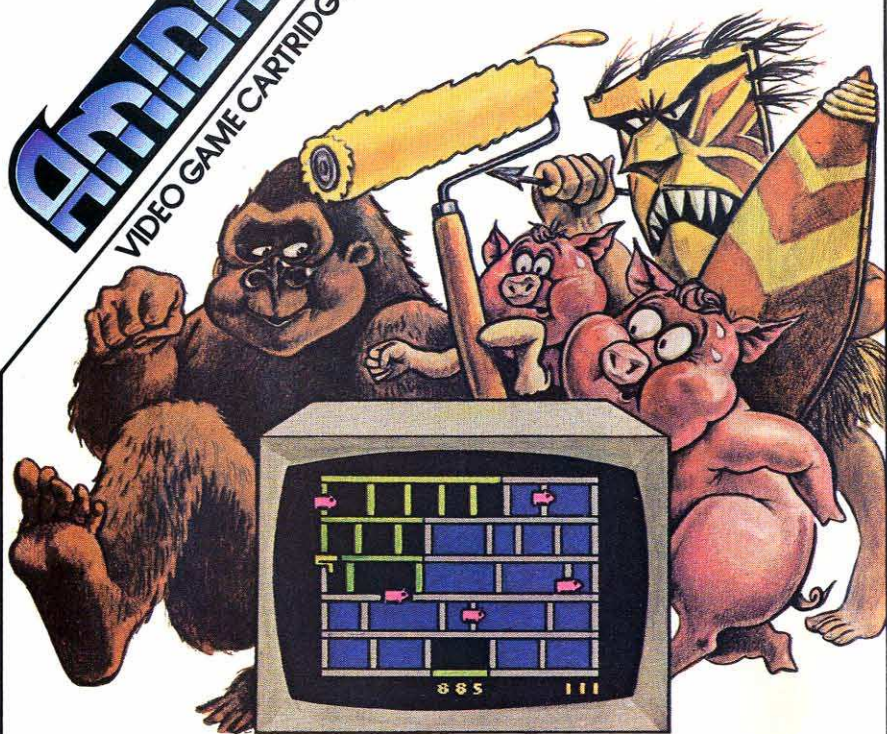
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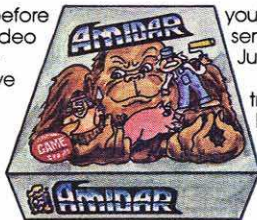
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