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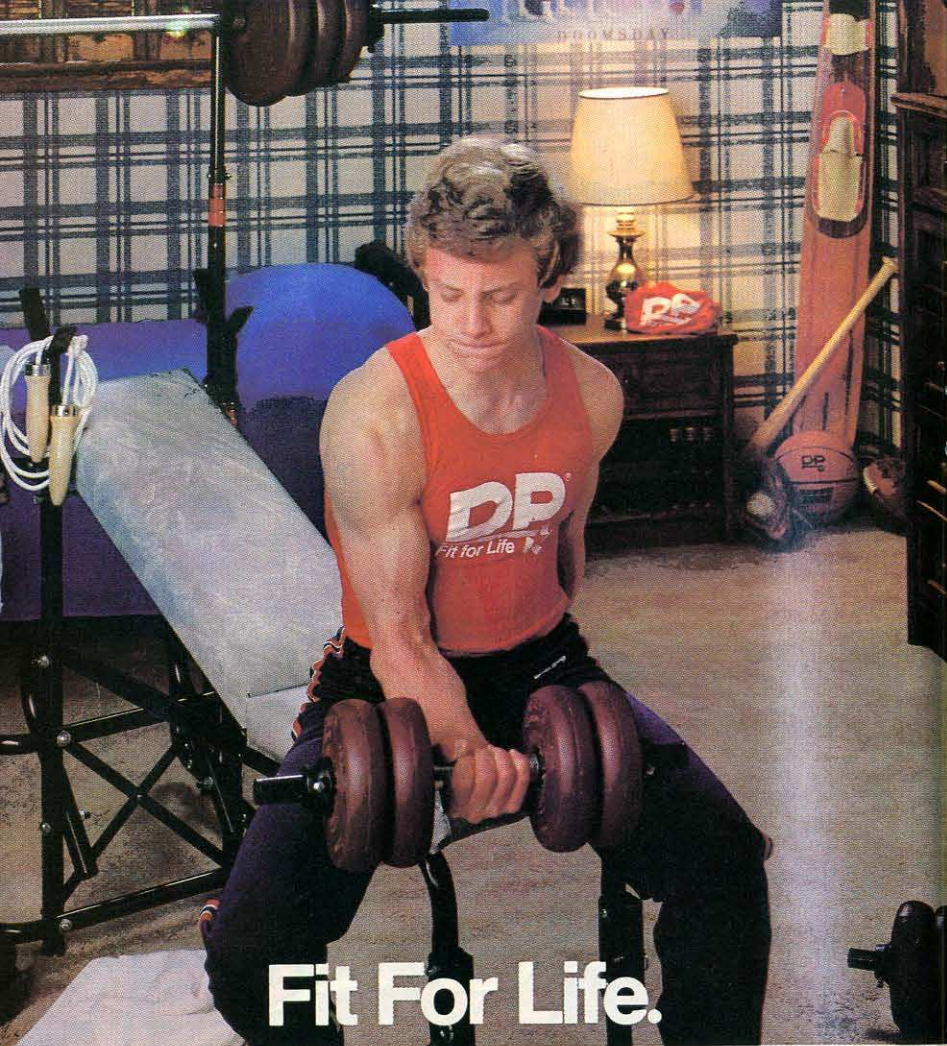
# the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

ONLY ONE MAN  
CAN SAVE  
SPIDER-MAN FROM  
THE HOBGOBLIN...

...IF THAT'S  
YOUR IDEA OF  
BEING SAVED!







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# SECRETS!

Presented by **STAN LEE**  
Written by **ROGER STERN**  
Breakdowns by **JOHN ROMITA JR.**  
Finishes by **DAN GREEN**  
Letters by **JOE ROSEN**  
Colors by **BOB SHAREN**  
Edited by **DANNY FINGEROTH**  
Chiefed by **JIM SHOOTER**

IN A DARKENED  
COTTAGE ROOM IN  
THE SUBURBAN  
COMMUNITY OF  
ENGLEWOOD CLIFFS,  
NEW JERSEY...

WELL!  
HELLO,  
THERE!



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NUTS! THOSE BLASTED SLIDING DOORS NEVER LOCK RIGHT! WHEN MY SPIDER-SENSE WARNED ME THAT SOMEONE WAS COMING IN, I WAS JUST HALF OUT OF MY COSTUME SHIRT!

DID I SHUCK IT OFF IN TIME OR--?

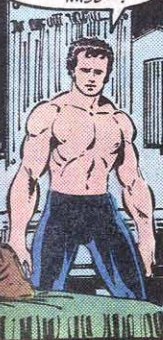


MMM! WHAT A DAY TO FORGET MY CONTACT LENSES!

YOU KNOW, HANDSOME, YOU'RE WORTH WEARING GLASSES FOR! I BET YOU'RE DYNAMITE WITH THE LIGHTS ON.

BUT ISN'T IT THE WRONG SEASON FOR LONGJOHNS?

ACTUALLY THEY'RE... AH... WARM-UP PANTS, MISS--?



SHIRLEY, JUST SHIRLEY!



I'LL BET I COULD HELP YOU WARM UP, STRANGER!

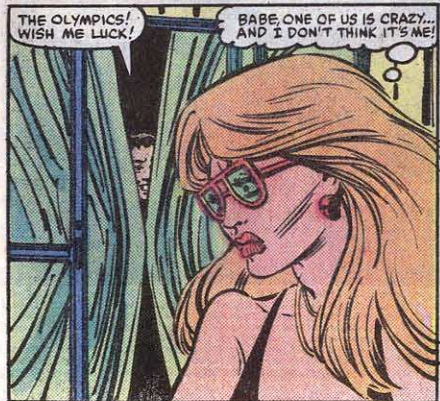


GEE, THAT'S AWFULLY NICE, SHIRLEY, BUT I HAVE TO DO THIS MYSELF... ALONE!

IT'S PART OF A TOP-SECRET TRAINING PROGRAM... YOU UNDERSTAND!

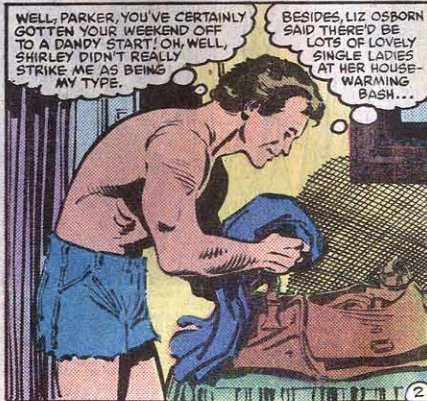


HUH? NO, I DON'T. TRAINING FOR WHAT?



THE OLYMPICS! WISH ME LUCK!

BABE, ONE OF US IS CRAZY... AND I DON'T THINK IT'S ME!



WELL, PARKER, YOU'VE CERTAINLY GOTTEN YOUR WEEKEND OFF TO A DANDY START! OH, WELL, SHIRLEY DIDN'T REALLY STRIKE ME AS BEING MY TYPE.

BESIDES, LIZ OSBORN SAID THERE'D BE LOTS OF LOVELY SINGLE LADIES AT HER HOUSE-WARMING BASH...







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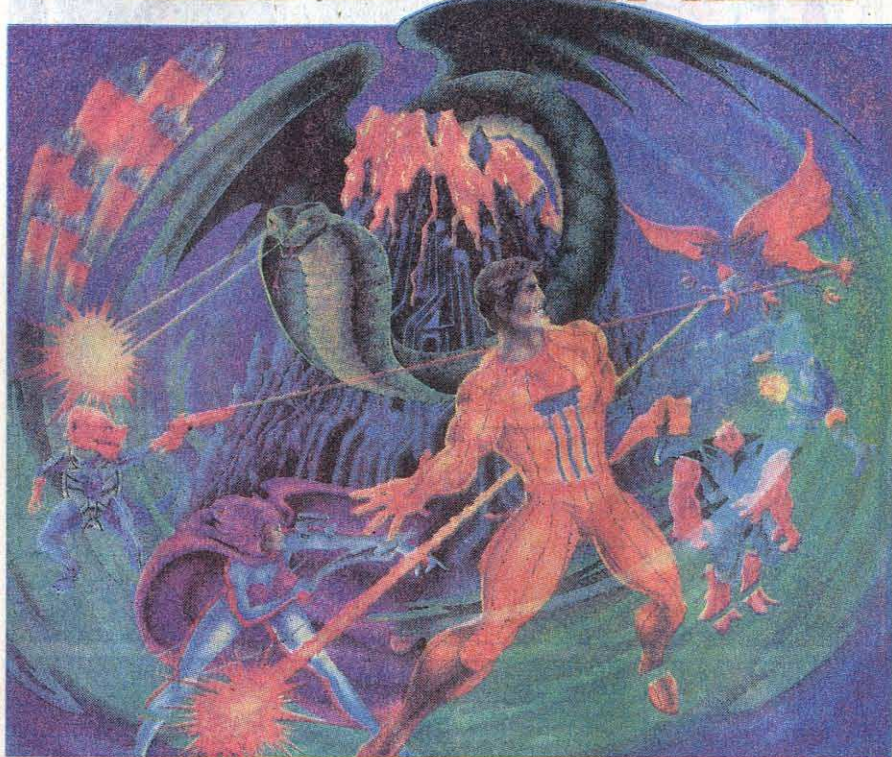
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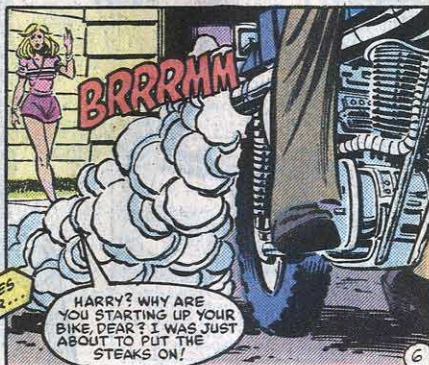
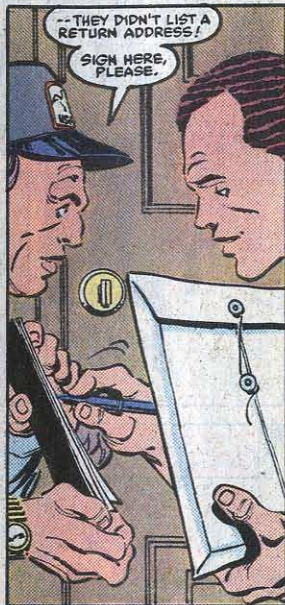
"ON THAT SCORE, THE EXPERIMENT WAS A SUCCESS.



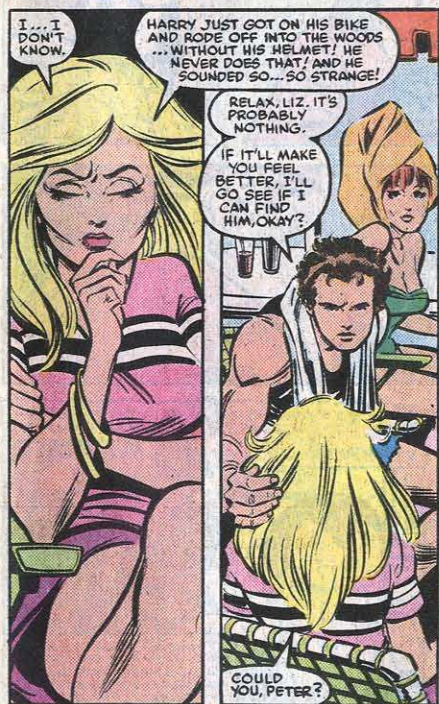
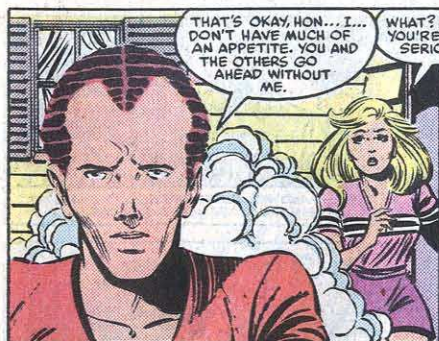
"INSTEAD, I CREATED A CREATURE WHO WAS A BIGGER MENACE THAN SPIDER-MAN COULD EVER BE!"













ONCE OUT OF SIGHT OF THE PARTY, PETER BOUNDS INTO THE TREETOPS, HIS AMAZING MUSCULATURE--OVER 40 TIMES STRONGER THAN THAT OF A NORMAL MAN--



--AND HIS ASTOUNDING ABILITY ENABLING HIM TO COVER VAST DISTANCES...

...IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE!



THERE HE IS...IN THE MIDDLE OF THAT CLEARING. AT LEAST HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE HE'S DONE ANYTHING TOO CRAZY!



HARRY?  
NEED SOME-  
BODY TO TALK  
TO, OL, BUDDY?



NO THANKS, PETE. I HAVE TO HANDLE THIS MYSELF.

MAYBE YOU DO... AND MAYBE YOU DON'T. LOOK, WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER ALL THROUGH COLLEGE...AND IF YOU'RE HURTING, I WANT TO HELP!



PETE, I MAY BE BEYOND HELP. I DON'T KNOW... WHAT I'VE JUST LEARNED IS SO UNBELIEVABLE!

I'VE RECEIVED AN ANONYMOUS BLACK-MAIL DEMAND FROM SOMEONE WHO HAS PROOF THAT... THAT MY FATHER WAS THE GREEN GOBLIN!



WHAT?! NOW--??

IT'S ALL IN HERE --PHOTOCOPIES OF PAGES FROM SOME SECRET JOURNAL.

IT'S LIKE READING A CONFESSION...IN MY FATHER'S OWN HANDWRITING!



SCANNING THE PAGES, PETER PARKER RECALLS THE STORY HE HAD BEEN TOLD LONG AGO...THE STORY HE HAD KEPT SECRET.

IT HAD ALL BEGUN YEARS AGO, WHEN NORMAN OSBORN HAD HIS PARTNER, MENDEL STROMM, ARRESTED FOR EMBEZZLEMENT.



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WITH STORMM OUT OF THE WAY, OSBORN GAINED COMPLETE CONTROL OF HIS CHEMICAL COMPANY... AS WELL AS ACCESS TO STORMM'S NOTES AND EXPERIMENTAL FORMULAS.



OSBORN DECIDED TO CHECK THEM OUT PERSONALLY.

BUT HE WAS NOT AS SKILLED A SCIENTIST AS HIS FORMER PARTNER.

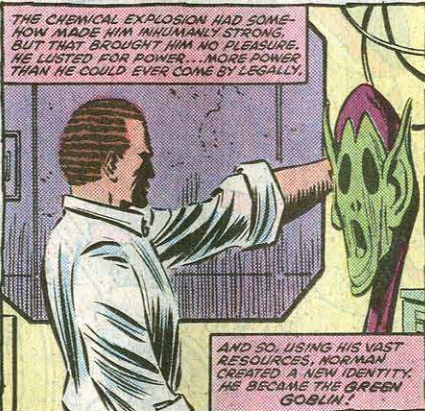


STILL, NORMAN OSBORN HAD ALWAYS BEEN A SURVIVOR. HE RECOVERED.



HIS MIND DID NOT.

THE CHEMICAL EXPLOSION HAD SOMEHOW MADE HIM INHUMANLY STRONG, BUT THAT BROUGHT HIM NO PLEASURE. HE LUSTED FOR POWER... MORE POWER THAN HE COULD EVER COME BY LEGALLY.



AND SO, USING HIS VAST RESOURCES, NORMAN CREATED A NEW IDENTITY. HE BECAME THE GREEN GOBLIN!

HE IMMEDIATELY SET OUT TO MAKE A NAME FOR HIMSELF...



--BY DEFEATING SPIDER-MAN!

IT WASN'T AS EASY AS HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE!

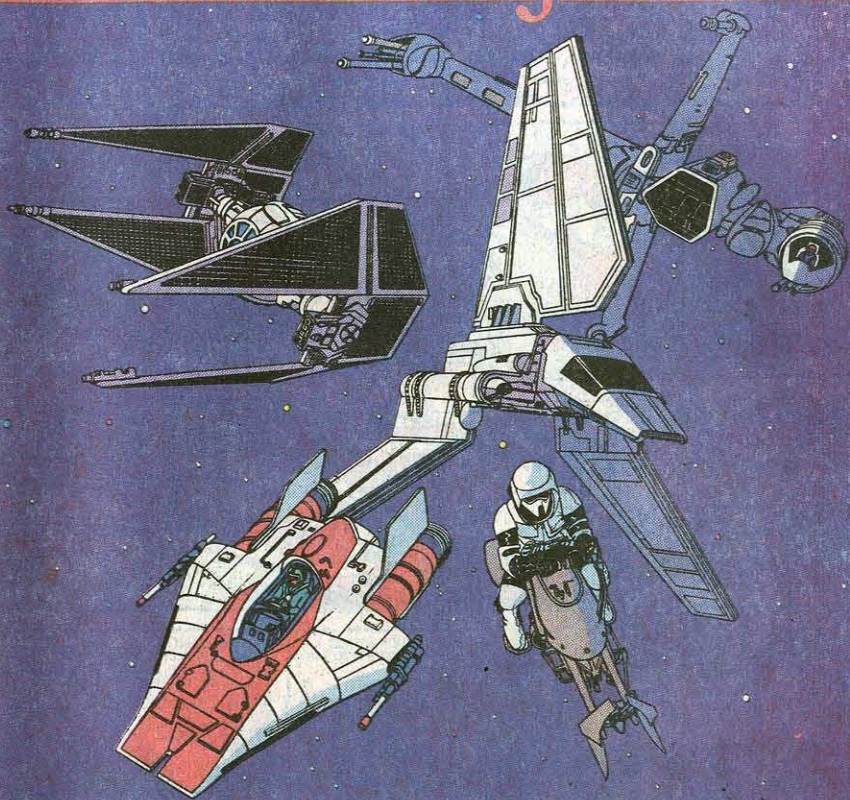
BUT EVENTUALLY, HE MANAGED TO DISCOVER THAT SPIDER-MAN WAS SECRETLY PETER PARKER. THAT WAS USUALLY THE END OF SPIDER-MAN.



9



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WITH HIS GREAT  
ENEMY HELPLESS  
BEFORE HIM,  
OSBORN RE-  
VEALED HIS  
IDENTITY...  
TAUNTING  
PARKER WITH  
HIS SECRET  
STORY.



BUT OVERCONFIDENCE  
GOT THE  
BETTER OF HIM.

WISHING TO  
PROVE HIS SUPERI-  
ORITY, THE GOBLIN  
RELEASED HIS CAP-  
TIVE FOR ONE FINAL  
BATTLE.

FOR THE GOBLIN,  
IT VERY NEARLY  
WAS!



KNOCKED BACK INTO  
A TABLE OF EQUIPMENT,  
OSBORN RECEIVED A  
MASSIVE ELECTRO-  
CHEMICAL SHOCK--ROBBING  
HIM OF ALL MEMORY OF  
THE GREEN GOBLIN!



IF ONLY HIS AMNESIA  
HAD BEEN PERMANENT--  
BUT IN TIME, NORMAN  
OSBORN REMEMBERED  
EVERYTHING. THE  
GOBLIN BECAME  
MY DEADLIEST  
ENEMY.

"AND THEN, HE STRUCK AT ME  
THROUGH THOSE CLOSEST TO ME...  
AND KILLED GWEN  
STACY, THE GIRL  
I LOVED.



"THAT WAS THE  
FINAL BLOW.  
I TRACKED THE  
GOBLIN DOWN,  
DETERMINED TO  
AVENGE  
GWEN'S DEATH.

"I WANTED TO KILL HIM... BUT I  
COULDN'T. I WOULDN'T BE-  
COME A MURDERER LIKE HIM.  
IN THE END, FATE TOOK A  
HAND.



"--AND NORMAN  
OSBORN WAS KILLED  
BY A TRAP HE'D SET  
FOR ME!"





NORMAN HAD JUST DIED, WHEN HARRY-- COMING DOWN FROM A BAD ACID TRIP-- FIRST DISCOVERED HIS FATHER'S SECRET. I WAS IN NO SHAPE THEN TO GIVE HIM THE HELP HE NEEDED.

HE COULDN'T HANDLE IT. HE WENT TOTALLY OFF THE DEEP END... FOR A TIME, HE EVEN THOUGHT HE WAS THE GOBLIN.

IT WAS A BLESSING WHEN HIS MEMORY OF ALL THOSE NIGHTMARES WAS DESTROYED. BUT, WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN NOW?



PETE... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY. MY FATHER WAS A CRIMINAL... A MURDERER! HE... HE KILLED GWEN. IT'S ALL SO SENSELESS. HE MUST HAVE BEEN OUT OF HIS MIND!

YEAH... HE MUST'VE BEEN, BUT HE'S GONE NOW... IT'S OVER.



OH, I WISH IT WAS. I'D LIKE TO TELL THIS BLACKMAILING SLIME WHERE TO STICK HIS EVIDENCE. BUT IF THE NEWS GOT OUT, WHAT WOULD IT DO TO LIZ... TO OUR BABY?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.



FOR RIGHT NOW, YOU PLAY THIS GUY'S GAME... STRING HIM ALONG AND FIND OUT WHAT HE'S AFTER. MOST OF ALL, PLAY IT COOL! I'LL BE WITH YOU EVERY STEP OF THE WAY!

YOU'D STILL HELP ME, PETE... KNOWING WHO MY FATHER WAS AND WHAT HE DID?



DARNED RIGHT, I WOULD! THE GOBLIN'S HURT ENOUGH PEOPLE. I WON'T STAND BY AND SEE HIM HURT YOU, TOO!

NOW... WHERE AND WHEN ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO MEET THIS CREEP?



THE NEXT AFTERNOON, AT NEW YORK'S PRESTIGIOUS CENTURY CLUB...

MR. OSBORN! HOW NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, SIR! AND WHO IS YOUR GUEST?



THIS IS MR. PARKER, A CLOSE FRIEND OF MINE. WE'RE CONSIDERING HIM FOR MEMBERSHIP.

VERY GOOD, SIR. THE CLUB ROOM IS NOW OPEN FOR YOUR PLEASURE.





SOME PLACE! MUST COST A FORTUNE TO JOIN!

TWO FORTUNES! I WAS LUCKY... I INHERITED MY MEMBERSHIP.

WE'RE A LITTLE EARLY. MIGHT AS WELL HANG OUT AT THE BAR.

OKAY, BUT NOTHING ALCOHOLIC!



DON'T WORRY! I STAY FAR AWAY FROM MIND-ALTERING SUBSTANCES NOWADAYS!

I CAN SEE THE "BOOKER ROOM"... THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO MEET OUR MYSTERY MAN, RIGHT?

THAT'S WHAT HIS NOTE SAID... WHICH MEANS HE HAS TO BE A MEMBER OF THIS CLUB.



THAT'S NOT ALL HE IS! THE ONLY MAN WHO COULD POSSIBLY HAVE GOTTEN ACCESS TO NORMAN OSBORN'S SECRET PAPERS IS... HUH???



THE KINGSPIRIT???

THERE HE SITS, BOLD AS BRASS, HAVING SUNDAY DINNER WITH TWO OF HIS MUSCLE BOYS! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

I THOUGHT THE HOGGOBLIN WAS BEHIND THIS BLACKMAIL BUSINESS! I KNOW HE BROKE INTO OSBORN'S OLD HIDEAWAYS AND MADE OFF WITH HIS GOBLIN EQUIPMENT... I'D ASSUMED THAT HE FOUND BLACKMAIL MATERIAL AMONGST THAT STUFF.

MAYBE I'M WRONG.

UH, HARRY, DO YOU KNOW THE FAT GUY AT THE FAR TABLE?



NOT PERSONALLY. THAT'S WILSON FISK-- HE'S SOME SORT OF BIGWIG IN THE IMPORT-EXPORT TRADE, BUT IT'S RUMORED THAT HE DIDN'T COME BY ALL OF HIS MONEY HONESTLY!

THAT'S AN UNDERSTATEMENT! HE RUNS MOST OF THE ORGANIZED CRIME ON THE EAST COAST! THIS COULD BE A BIGGER DEAL THAN I THOUGHT!



AND, WHILE PETER CONSIDERS THE POSSIBILITY OF THE KINGSPIRIT'S INVOLVEMENT, A CLUB STEWARD OPENS UP THE BOOKER ROOM...



AND IMMEDIATELY DRAWS A LINE OF RESTLESS MEMBERS.

GOOD AFTERNOON, MR. VANDERGILL... MR. KINGSLEY! GO RIGHT IN!



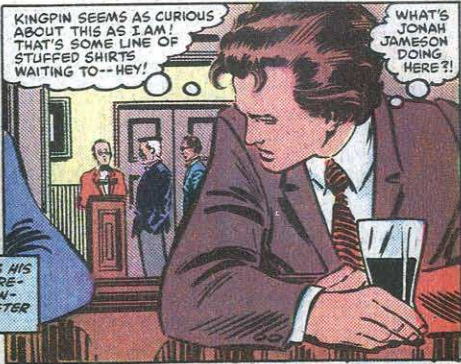
THE ACTIVITY IN THE OUTER CORRIDOR DOES NOT ESCAPE THE NOTICE OF "MR. FISK"...



...NOR DOES HIS INTERESTED REACTION GO UNNOTED BY PETER PARKER.

KINGPIN SEEMS AS CURIOUS ABOUT THIS AS I AM! THAT'S SOME LINE OF STUFFED SHIRTS WAITING TO--HEY!

WHAT'S JONAH JAMESON DOING HERE?!



I ASKED YOU A CIVIL QUESTION, WILLIAMS! I DON'T NEED SMART ALECY ANSWERS!

BUT, SIR, I THOUGHT YOU WERE JOKING! YOU ASKED WHO'D RESERVED THE ROOM AND...WELL, DIDN'T YOU, SIR?



SHORTLY, AS PETER AND HARRY APPROACH THE STEWARD.



I HAVE YOUR NAME ON THE LIST, MR. OSBORN, BUT NOT YOUR FRIEND'S. I'M AFRAID I CAN'T LET HIM IN.

SEE HERE, WILLIAMS. MR. PARKER IS A CLOSE AND TRUSTED--!

EASY, HARRY EASY! IF THOSE ARE THE RULES, THOSE ARE THE RULES!

YOU GO AHEAD, AND DON'T WORRY! I'LL BE NEARBY.



WELL, THAT'S THE LAST OF THEM.

I WONDER WHAT THEIR MEETING IS ALL ABOUT?

THE KINGPIN HASN'T MADE A MOVE, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT HE WON'T. CRIMENY, WHAT IF HOBGOBLIN SOLD OSBORN'S PAPERS TO THE KINGPIN?!



OSBORN HAD LEARNED MY SECRET IDENTITY. IF HE WROTE THAT DOWN, TOO...THE KINGPIN MIGHT HAVE THE GOODS ON ME THIS VERY MOMENT!



WASTING NOT A SECOND, PARKER DASHES INTO AN UNOCCUPIED ROOM...





WHILE, JUST A FEW WALLS AWAY...

LOOKS LIKE I'M IN THE SAME BOAT WITH HALF THE CLUB, BUT WHY ARE THEY STARING AT ME LIKE THAT?

IT'S HIM... IT MUST BE!

HIS OLD MAN WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO KNEW!



NORMAN OSBORN WOULD HAVE HAD PROOF OF THE KICKBACKS...

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER THAN TO LET NORMAN IN ON THAT OIL DEAL. HIS BOY PROBABLY FOUND HIS PRIVATE PAPERS.

YOUNG OSBORN CERTAINLY HAS ME OVER A BARREL! I WONDER WHAT HIS DEMANDS WILL BE? MERGER? TAKEOVER?



AND AT THE BACK OF THE ROOM, SEATED APART FROM HIS FELLOW MEMBERS...

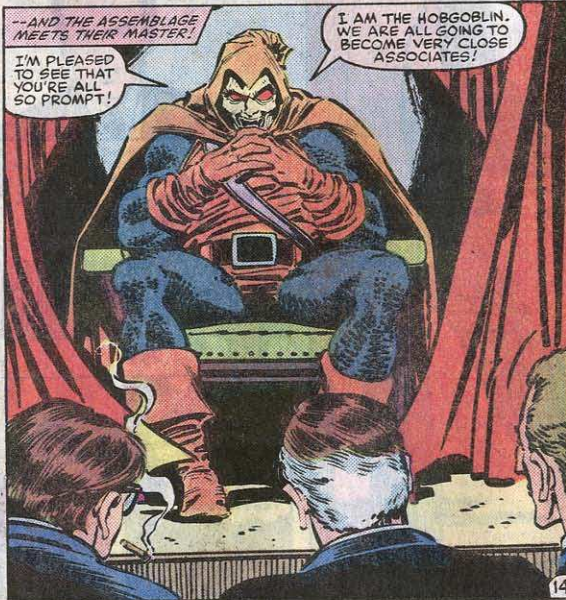
I NEVER REALIZED THERE WERE SO MANY IN THE CLUB WITH SO MUCH TO HIDE! I CAN IMAGINE WHAT THEY'RE THINKING!

PERHAPS THEY'RE RIGHT. I USED TO CONFIDE EVERYTHING IN NORMAN OSBORN... HE WAS A GOOD FRIEND. I'D HATE TO THINK THAT HIS SON HAD STOOPED TO BLACKMAIL.

WELL, WE'LL SOON FIND OUT.



AS THE CLOCK CHIMES THE HOUR, A CURTAIN AT THE END OF THE CHAMBER SLOWLY OPENS--



--AND THE ASSEMBLAGE MEETS THEIR MASTER!

I'M PLEASED TO SEE THAT YOU'RE ALL SO PROMPT!

I AM THE HOBGOBLIN. WE ARE ALL GOING TO BECOME VERY CLOSE ASSOCIATES!







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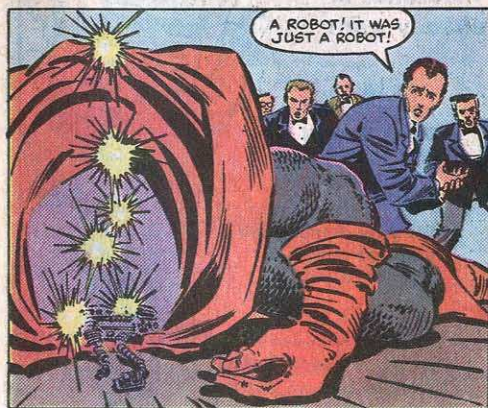
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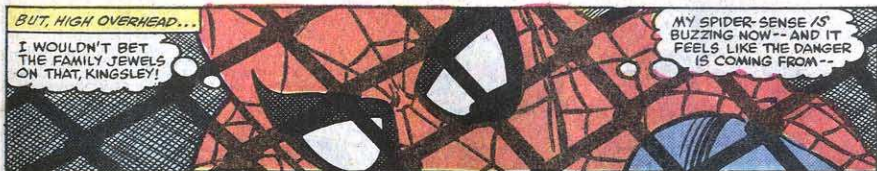
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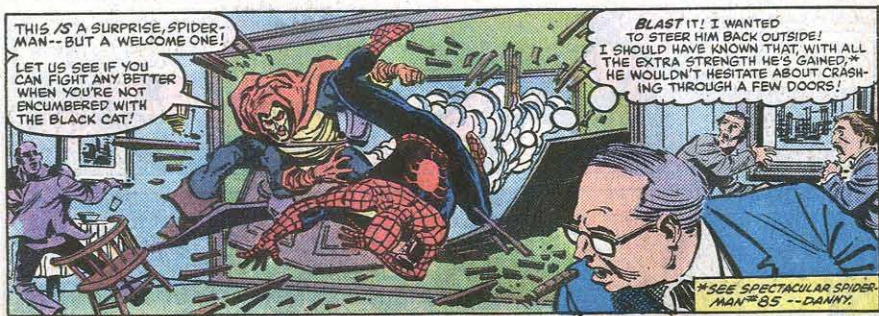
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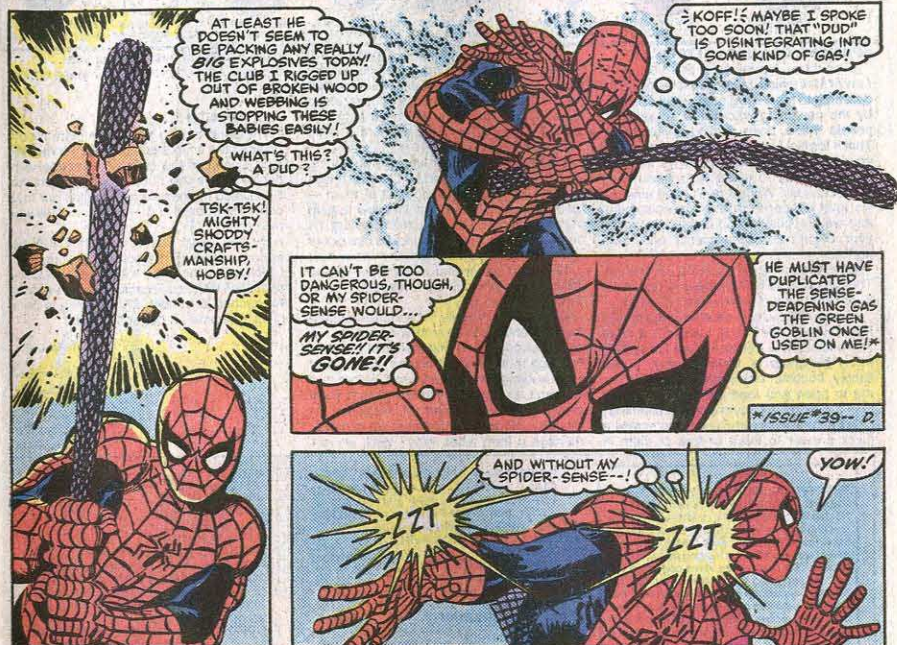














# Bulpen Bulletins

## WE'RE BACK!

We've been away for almost a month, the Marvel editors and me, attending the

THEIR  
FATE  
IS IN  
YOUR  
HANDS



ANN NOCENTI  
CARL POTT'S ASST.



JIM OWNSLEY  
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## SPEAKING OF YOUR LETTERS...

Ever since I publicized *Shooter's First Law of Mail* which decrees that "every letter delivered to Marvel will be opened and read by the person to whom it is addressed," people have been "writing even more." That's terrific! I wish we could answer all of your letters, but unfortunately it's impossible. Please try to understand if you don't get an answer. We just don't have time and we love to hear from everyone out there, and we respectfully and carefully consider your comments, compliments and complaints.

One little problem has come up, though. There's going to have to be one exception to my First Law of Mail — me.

I know, I know, how dare I exempt myself from my own rule? Well, I wouldn't if I had any choice. The trouble is that I'm getting many hundreds of letters a day. It has simply become physically impossible for me to open and read each one. It would take me five or six hours a day, presuming I didn't succumb to temptation and scrawl a quick answer to three or four of them in

ChicagoCon, Comix Fair '83 in Houston, the San Diego Comic Con, and more — and taking a few days of working vacation in Los Angeles. At last, we're back. I'm sitting at my Editor in Chief desk in my Editor in Chief office, and the editors are all back in their respective rooms.

You wouldn't believe what went on here while we were gone. Or maybe you saw last month's Marvel Comics...

I'm not sure what my reaction is. I'm half convinced that congratulations are in order, and half convinced that heads should roll. So it's up to you people out there — should we give the assistant editors, who were solely responsible for last month's, um... rather zany Marvel Comics a raise? Or should we give them their walking papers? Or feed them to the fishes? I'll be waiting for your letters...

which case it would take even longer. Until recently, I was spending those hours every day — usually at home, after work. In other words, the time was coming out of my sleep time. That could only go on so long, I'm afraid. Sleeping only three hours a night was wearing me down.

But don't worry, your letters aren't going to be read and screened by some careless minion. I'll still read almost all of them — and the only other person I'll allow to help me with them will be a trusted assistant. I tell you who, but I haven't picked him or her yet. We'll do the mail together from now on — and I swear that every letter will be treated with as much care, respect, and attention as ever.

Oh, and by the way, all samples submitted will continue to be examined only by me or somebody on an editorial level qualified to judge them. And, of course we respond to all submissions. When I said before that we can't answer mail, I meant letters. Subs always get some kind of response — though, unfortunately for most we can only manage a form letter. Why? Well, we got

over 20,000 submissions last year...

Again, I'm very, very sorry. Please understand.

## NEXT MONTH...

I'm going to give you a complete report on what the editors and I did on our month-long sweep of the country, complete with photos — like the ones we took when the San Diego motorcycle cops pulled our four convertibles over, and — well... I'll tell you next time.

By the way, Stan Lee and I will be appearing at the fabulous Multimedia ChicagoCon this year! It's at the Hotel Continental in Chicago, Thanksgiving weekend, November 25 through 27. It's going to be a blast, so come on out and see us!

Take care,

Jim Shooter  
Editor in Chief

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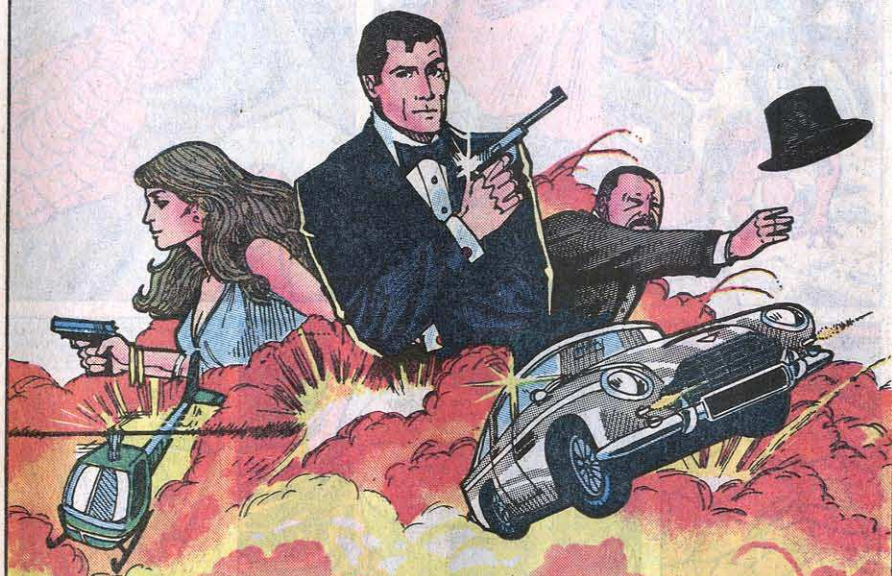
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NEXT ISSUE **CONFESSIONS!**



# THE SPIDER'S WEB

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DANNY FINGEROTH  
EDITOR  
BOB DeNATALE  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

How embarrassing. While I was away on the west coast last month, frolicking in the sun and being a comics con celebrity with the rest of Marvel's editors, my assistant, Bob DeNatale, hung around here and totally outclassed me! I mean, he, Roger Stern, John Romita, Jr., Ron Frenz, Brett Breeding, and Terry Austin got together behind my back and made last month's AMAZING SPIDER-MAN one genuinely great comic! I was truly impressed by it — and I'd be highly surprised if you folks weren't, too, though it's too early for us to have gotten your mail on that issue yet. Anyway, now that I'm back, I can see that I'm going to have to work twice as hard to keep up with what Bob and company did. There's no justice, I tell you!

Well, while I cry in my beer, here's a look at your comments on SPIDER-MAN #244...

Dear Roger, John, & Klaus:

Do you know what I like about SPIDER-MAN #244? Everything!

I really dug the cover... one of the best to date. In fact, "Ordeals!" was one of the best issues of SPIDER-MAN yet! (Of course, I know you can top it if you really try.)

I'm a college student, and sometimes it seems like I've been in school for decades—I'm 25, pushing 26—and I have to tell you that the way you handled Pete's formal leave-of-absence added a nice, perhaps even ironic, touch to the story. I've waited in lines throughout my college career (they are definitely part of the reality of academic life). I could both empathize and sympathize with Pete's frustrated attempts to get the necessary signatures for his forms. Dean Krenshaw's attitude of thinking that he was doing Peter a favor is also something you encounter in higher education. (Thankfully, there are also a lot of professors who will go out of their way to help you.) Peter's timely application of webbing to Krenshaw's door was poetic justice.

Mary Jane Watson? What can you say about that vibrant, bouncy redhead? Not much, 'cause we really don't know enough of her past to know what makes her tick. (I can't wait to see why she avoids committing herself to serious relationships!)

Spider-Man really jumped to conclusions about Lefty Donovan being the Hobgoblin. He's in for quite a shock. And if Hobgoblin can duplicate the experiment that gave Norman Osborn the strength of the Green Goblin, look out!

By the by, not only can Roger Stern really script those stories... not only is John Romita, Jr. as good, if not better than, his father... but Klaus Janson really inks J.R.'s pencils well. John and Klaus are a good art combo, and I'd really like to see them work together again.

Keep it coming, guys! The saga of the Hobgoblin could well become one of Marvel's finest hours!

Will Rose  
Carrollton, CA 30117

John and Klaus together, Will? How about next issue?!

Dear Roger and John:

"Once again, the turbulent personal life of Peter Parker undergoes a major change in the pages of the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, this time with Peter taking a leave of absence from graduate studies. I know that Pete has always had problems, but it's getting a little old. Just once, I'd like to see Parker do one thing without screwing up."

Now, I'm not panning Spider-Man himself! The ol' Wall-crawler is as refreshing now as he was back in AMAZING FANTASY #15. But it's time for Peter Parker to rise above his image of the eternal loser and have a streak of good luck for a change.

Roger Stern is definitely a master craftsman. He's managed to weave the many series subplots into one interesting adventure in issue #244's "Ordeals!" And John Romita Jr. is the best penciler that this book has had in some time, but the dark and moody inks of Klaus Janson don't fit John's pencils that well.

Despite my criticisms, I feel that SPIDER-MAN is one of the most entertaining super hero features around, and entertainment is what it's all about, right?

Michael Foy  
Concord, NC 28025

Right you are, Mike! And say, we don't mind the criticism in the least! As we've always said, time and time again, we openly solicit good, constructive criticism. 'Cause if we're doing something you don't like, and you don't tell us, we'll never get a chance to fix it!

Nuff said?

Dear Roger and John,

I'd like to give my approval to Pete's quitting school. It's a good idea, a great change of pace, and should make for interesting stories.

Secondly, I love the ever-building feeling of suspense around the Hobgoblin. I have the distinct feeling that he is going to be one gigantic pain in the neck for Spider-Man.

Third, I have to say that SPIDER-MAN is probably the best comic around. It's better than X-MEN, DAREDEVIL, and everything else. Keep up the good work.

Mario Tiamberg Jr.  
Duncanville, TX 73116

We'll do our best, Mario! (Hope I spelled your last name correctly!)

Dear Mr. Stern and Mr. Romita:

SPIDER-MAN #244 was beautiful. The standout scenes were those of Pete going through the agonies of standing in line while quitting school by the book. I myself am in college, and I know the feeling. His retaliation on Dean Krenshaw was superb—and it showed a lot of style.

The warehouse brawl likewise was vintage SPIDER-MAN, especially with SM's wise-guy joking in the midst of battle.

Let's see more of the Hobgoblin. He is slowly turning out to be an excellent SPIDER-MAN villain.

And, please, more of Mary Jane and the rest of the gang!

David Long  
Arlington, VA 22204

Guys:

When Norman Osborn became the

Green Goblin, the explosive chemicals which gave him his great strength also drove him insane. Now, if the Hobgoblin uses the same chemicals, will he now become just as insane?

As for the letters page of ASM #244, there were a number of people who ventured guesses as to the identity of Hobgoblin. Well, I'm sorry but I think they're all wrong. For instance, someone guessed that Hobby was J. Jonah Jameson. No way. Jonah hates costumed characters, he certainly isn't going to become one. Dr. Bart Hamilton... definitely not, he's dead. Both Jack O'Lantern and the Chameleon are familiar with Spider-Man's fighting style, and they'd be better prepared for him. Neither Roger Hochberg nor Lance Bannon have the resources to finance Hobgoblin's operations.

The man who is the Hobgoblin already owns stock in Osborn Manufacturing. He is also an extremely powerful man position-wise. He obviously has some scientific and mechanical knowledge, as well as a general knowledge of chemical explosives. Wealth, power, intelligence, plus a good physical build all add up to one person... Flash Thompson!

Shan Ferguson  
(No address on letter)

Flash Thompson?!? Wealth? Power? Intelligence?!?! (Psst! Hey, Shan, you know something we don't know?)

Dear Rog,

The Hobgoblin, huh? Roger Hochberg? Jameson? Bannon? Nah!

I think I've got it... L. Keating!  
Jay Beauvillia  
Appleton, WI 54915

You're not fooling me. The Hobgoblin is really Stan Lee!

Clarence Pruitt  
Argyle, TX 76226

The Hobgoblin can be one of two people: K. J. Clayton or Aunt May's gentleman friend Nathan Lubensky (he's just using the wheelchair to throw suspicion away from him).

Raymond Hulin  
Seattle, WA 98107

Dr. Jonas Harrow!

Douglas Faber  
and Paul Neitzke  
Milwaukee, WI 53218

Ned Leeds is the Hobgoblin.

Shane Moody  
Orlando, FL 32809

The Hobgoblin is obviously Aunt May!  
Lee Hester  
Palo Alto, CA 94396

Who is the Hobgoblin? The answer lies in the future.

Thirty days in the future is AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #250! The story is called "Confessions!" We think you're going to like it... a lot!

Nuff said.

Danny Fingeroth



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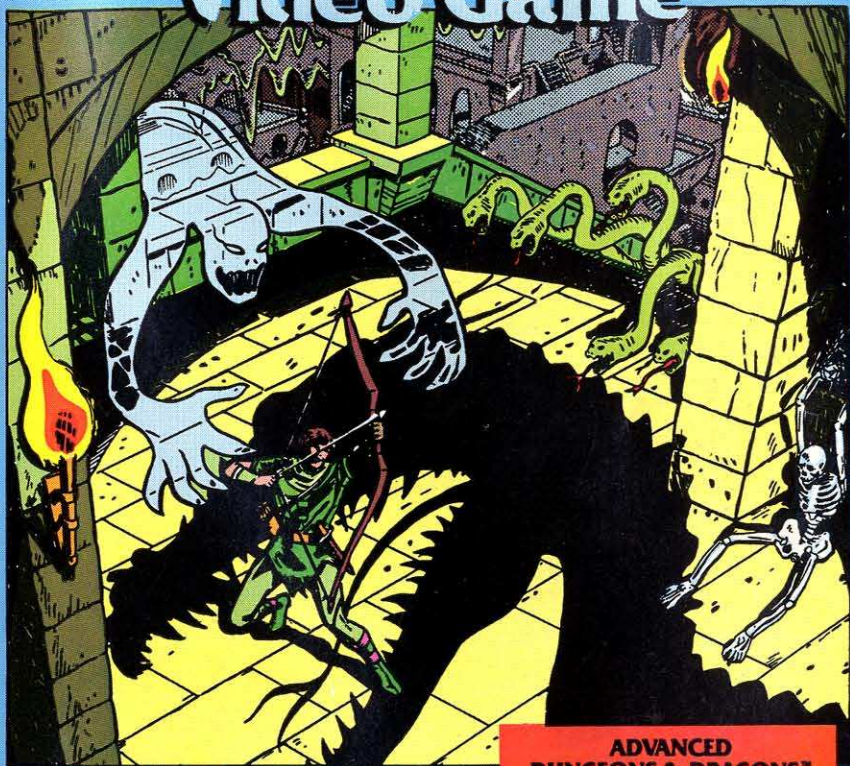
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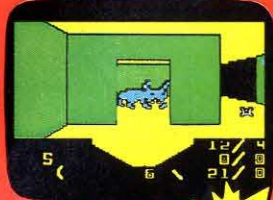


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Winners will be selected in random drawings from all entries received by VENTURA ASSOCIATES, INC., an independent judging organization whose decisions are final. The odds of winning are determined by the total number of entries received.

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