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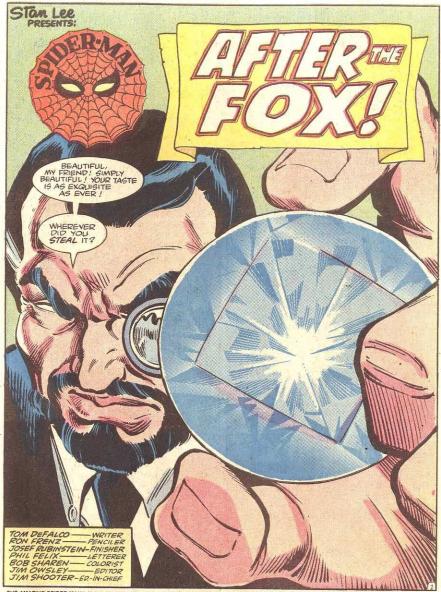
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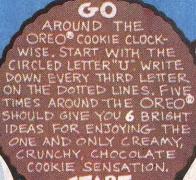








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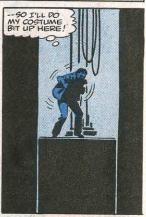












































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BULLPEN BULLETIN

ONCE UPON A TIME.

there was a large and ungainly Barbarian-in-Chief who was the head of a small, rowdy, motley horde of Goths. One day, he said to L'ymn, his Administrative Assistant, "Wench! Take a memo!" The memo went something like this — in fact, it went exectiv like this:

TO: Goths, small, rowdy, motley horde of FROM: B. – I. – C., the large and ungainly SUBJECT: Resignation

If has been seven years since Arch the Uninhibited stepped down and I as-sumed the Thorny Throne. In these last seven years, we have done exceedingly well. We've explored much new ground salied many uncharted waters, and climbed many previously unconquered lofty peaks, reaching new heights. The GNP (Goth National Product) is up again — that's seven record-breaking years in a row — and the Blademaking Department informs me that we're still the cutting edge.

Nonetheless, I've decided to resign. Oh, I don't mind the work over ritual executions is kind of fun, actu ally And, it's gratifying to be mentioned in the same breath as Alilla the Hun so often. And, the pay isn't back And, I don't even mind the mewling and lying of some of the other tribes and scribes. Who cares what wimps and losers say?

What got to me, finally, was having my seventh anniversary completely over-looked. Every savage knows the awe-some significance of the number seven to gods, kids, and big shots, like me

and yet no one around here so much as sacrificed a goat in my honor. Well, that does it. So long, ingrates. I

A little later, another memo circulated:

TO: Goths, small, rowdy, motley horde of FROM: B. - I. - C., the large and ungainly SUBJECT: Previous memo

Please disrenant



And, almost immediately thereafter, an-

TO: Department Heads, Sub-Chiefs, and other ungrateful scum FROM: B = L = C., the large, ungainty, and angry SUBJECT: Ritual execution

Report to the Altar of Blood in the village square at dawn tomorrow for gory. painful death.

Hasty meetings were called, and much discussion ensued among the receipients of the latter memo. Shortly before dawn, they sent around a message of their own.

TO: The whole darn Hords FROM: Department Heads and Sub-

SUBJECT: Celebration You are all invited to a slightly belated anniversary party for our beloved Chief Be there and have Fun or else.







Well, the Department Heads and Sub-Chiefs were spared, the party was a tre-mendous success, and working happily and wholeheartedly together, the Horde shambled on to even greater success and glory. And the morals of the story are: a.) When everyone is busy exploring

new ground, sailing uncharted waters, etc. and in general being the best dam Barbarian Horde in the whole dam world, they very likely will forget little things like your anniversary

b.) Most people can't read minds. If something's eating at you, tell people. Often, a few gently humorous memos can work wonders

All work and no play make a Berba-rian Horde dull. Hey, they needed a party.
 d) it's best to be the boss.

The end

A FINAL NOTE .

I've been asked to inform you that The Comics Buyer's Guide, a fan publication, is conducting a fan awards balloting. Information on how to cast your ballot, if you wish, can be found elsewhere in this magazine, on one of the advertising pages. Be well!

Rust Jim Shooter Editor-in-Chief

8

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CHRIS WARNER (penciler) and E.R. CRUZ (ink. CHIS WASHIELDERGER BID LE-TRACKING OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROP adventures are over before they even begin? You must not miss this issue by writer BOB BUDIANSKY and artist ALAN KUPPERBERG!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

- THE THING #24 Battle with the Rhino! DAREDEVIL #219 FRANK MILLER is JAHDBUS A daringly different story! An by John Buscema and Gerry Talacci NEW MUTANTS #28
 WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #3 — Featuring
- the villainy of the Vulture!

 GARGOYLE (Limited Series) #1 The popular Defender gets his own series! See
- ICEMAN (Limited Series) #4 -- The action-packed finale! SECTAURS #1 — There's a fantastic war going on, and you're invited! See
- Hype Box!
 BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (Limited Series) #4 Last issue! But will their romance end in happiness or disast AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #265 CAPTAIN AMERICA #306 POWER PACK #11 MICROMAUTS #9 or disaster?
- ALPHA FLIGHT #23 The Death of
- ☐ DOCTOR STRANGE #71 He's reunited with Clea at last!

- DUNE (Limited Series) #3 INCREDIBLE HULK #308
- AVENCERS #256
 CONANTHE BARBARIAN #171
 BARYEL TALES #176 Reprinting
 Coce Upon a Time There Was a Robot,"
 by STAN LES and STEV DITKO, from
 Amazing Spider-Man #36.
 X-MEN #194
- ROM #67 KULL THE CONQUEROR #10 issue, featuring another great BARRY WINDSOR SMITH coveri
- G.I. JOE #36 MOON KNIGHT #1 — He's back! He's different! And he's on newestands every-where! See Hype Box! FANTASTIC FOUR #279
- **IRON MAN #195**
- PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #103 DEFENDERS #144 STAR WARS #96 Find out who (and what!) the new Dark Lord reality is!
 - TRANSFORMERS #5 Now in their own monthly series, because you demanded

- # See Hype Box.
 ROCKET RACCOON (Limited Series) #2 THE OFFICIAL MARVEL INDEX TO THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #3 -
- reaturing everything you wanted to know about what happened in Arnazing Solder-Man #59-78 and the black-and-white magazine, Spectacular Spicer-Man #1-
- ☐ DOCTOR WHO #9
- **MARVEL MAGAZINES** SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #112
 MARVEL AGE #27
- EPIC COMICS STARSTRUCK (Limited Series) #2 GROO THE WANDERER #4 SISTERHOOD OF STEEL #3
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THE SPIDER'S

JIM OWSLE'

Marvel Comics Group, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016. Please include your name and address. We will, however, withhold them

Alright Danny and Tom,

I have been watching the development of the Hobgoblin story line with some interest and a touch of amusement.

The interest is due to the well-written plot you have laid out, and the amusement derives almost entirely from the fact that no one can figure out who the Hobgoblin is.

It came to a head in issue #257 when Craig Swan, in the letter column listed all the people he had considered to be H.G. It looks like he did some large bit of pondering on the subject, but he stated the same findings that everyone else seems to be presenting. ALL HIS SUBJECTS WERE MENI

Did anyone stop to think that Hobby might be of the FEMALE persuasion?

No? Consider the wonders a suitable costume over a strength increasing exoskeleton could provide.

Now, for myself, I have lined up several suspects. (Ah Ha, you knew this was coming, didn't you?)

1. Harriet Osborn - Who, you say? Why. it is Harry's long forgotten sister (and she must have been forgotten because we've never heard of her before). Who better to lift up the torch of the Osborn / Goblin tradition?

2. Betty Leeds - Well, she doesn't appear to do anything at the BUGLE so she must have a lot of time to get around (and we all know a separation can put stress on a person).

3. Gwen Stacy - Wouldn't you be upset if you were a Clone???

4. And last but not least (and this is my favorite) how about MAY PARKERIII??? Little old ladies have to have some fun too. and where do you think she gets the money to pay for the home she lives in?

Of course, by the time this letter is received the whole situation could have been resolved, and we will know the truth. If that is the case . . . well . . . never mind.

(Hey, maybe it . . . nah . . . do you think could the Hobachlin be . olin be . . . WEEZIE??) Sqt. Dale A. Russell P.O. Box 1683 RAF MILDENHALL (ENGLAND) APO NEW YORK, 09127

Okay, Dale, Harriet, Betty, Gwen, May maybe. But the Hobgoblin can't possibly be WEEZIE (aka: Louise Simonson, WEB OF SPIDER-MAN's answer to Norman Mailer). She hates orange . .

Hi Guys, It's us again.

We've hired a hit man. Now, tell us, who is the Hobgoblin? You can tell us peacefully or we can get down to the NITTY GRITTY STUFFI If you don't, we will stop collecting Spider-Man, and Frank will kill you! It's your choice. You'll be hearing from us again.

BG and ST Winnipeg, Manitoba CANADA

But Guys, if we tell you who Hobby is, he'll have his hit men hit us, and then you'll have to have your hit man hit his hit men and then he'll hire more hit men to hit your hit man and ... SHEESH! Like, can't we just forget the whole thing?

Dear Editor and Creative Staff,

So, Spider-Man's new costume is a giant leech, huh?

Now, if Peter was smart, he'd give the giant bloodsucker to the Hobgoblin for a while. Maybe that would put an end to the goblin for a while.

I can see the Bugle headlines now:

Symbiote, once costume, now human bloodsucking leech, kills Hobgoblin.

"Now being held in custody; first leech from another planet to post bail. And so it goes ...

Mike Souza Boute 2 Kenyon, RI 02836

Gentlemen.

At last, the final verdict is in.

Having weighed all the evidence at hand. painstakingly scrutinized all the various suspects, and bribed all the appropriate public servants, we here at the Institute for the Study of Obfuscating Phenomena have finally completed our investigation. All of our long hours of research have led us to but one inescapable conclusion:

CLARA PELLER IS THE HOBGOBLIN!! Having solved that mystery, we are currently looking into the possibility that Spider-Man's black costume is the reincarnation of Pablo Picasso.

Dr. T.W. Wolfe The Strom Center for the Study of Obfuscating Phenomena Leemoyer Ave. Burton, NH

If you ask us, which you didn't, we don't think there's any super-villains back there.

Hey Jim

I know who the Hobgoblin is! Where was Elliot when Hobby was around? Hmm? Here's the information:

NAME: Elliot Brown

OCCUPATION: Employee of Marvel Comics: agent of the Kingpin; criminal
OTHER ALIASES: The Arranger

IDENTITY: Secret HEIGHT: Approx. 5' 9" WEIGHT: Approx. 200 lbs.

EYES: Brown HAIR: Not applicable

I hope you apprehend this dangerous crimi-nal before he does any harm (be secretive; he might take hostages).

James A. Hogard P.O. Box 1891 Andrews, TX 79714

Hey Jim! There he is! Quick, don't let him get away!! Whoops, watch out for those stun-pumpkins! Hey Jim are you okay? Jim? Jim?!!

Dear Spidermen

I realize that all of you at Marvel are very busy people. But I think that in yall's hurried rush that yall may have missed something (but

I could be wrong)

Spider-Man's costume that he received on the Beyonder's world was made of living organic tissue, right? Well, that would mean that the webbing he used during the time he wore that suit would have been made of the same that soft would have been made of the same organic tissue, right? If so, then, where is that selfsame webbing right now? Is it lurking around the back alleys attacking winos, or does it have something bigger in mind?

I know that I'm keeping my doors and windows locked 'till I find out.

Bitts Collins Rt. 1 Box 73 Granbury, TX 76048

So will we, Bitts!

Dear Spider people.

I must say that issue #261 was the best comic I have ever read. Patch things up between Peter and Aunt May already!

Kenneth Kamiel 138-20 31st Rd. Apt 1A Flushing, NY 11354

Dear Web-Heads,

Well, I just read issue #261 and what can I say, except that was a terrific issue! Everything was perfect. From the writing to the artwork to the editing.

By the way, I wrote to you after I read #257, and I said the Hobgoblin was Mendel Stromm. Well, I was wrong. I am, 'now positive it's the other freelance photographer Lance Banon. I don't know who else has the same idea, but ever since #260, when Mr. Robertson asked "I wonder where they (Peter Parker and Lance Bannon) are now?", and it turned to the battle between the Hobgoblin and Spider-man, I be came suspicious. Then in #261 the Hobgoblin knew Mary Jane's name, well, that all ties in.

Jong Lee 1025 S. Granada Ave Alhambra, CA 91801

Dear Marvel

I finally figured out who the Hobgoblin probably is. One of two people. One is Ned Leeds, on his "assignment" all this time, was getting ready for Webs-maybe. But the other could be that Williams guy that was in ASM #249. He looks familiar to that guy that gave Harry Osborn the blackmail package in #249 page 6, panel 5. The cap and the mailman suit threw Harry off. Now that's my opinion on the Hobgoblin thing. Keep up the good work in MARVEL TALES, WEB OF SPIDER-MAN, and PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

Tod Preece Leander, TX

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