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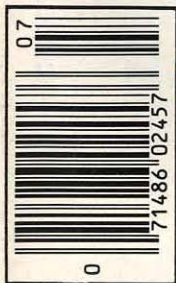


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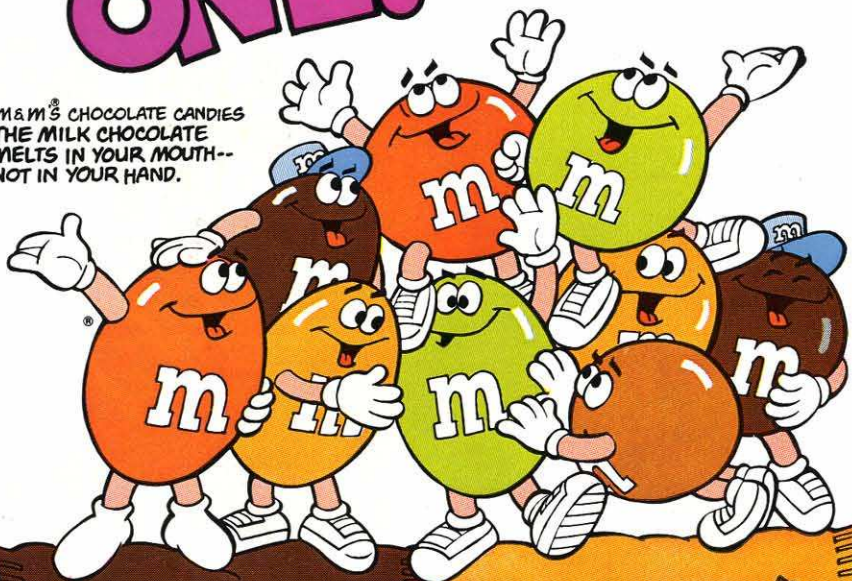
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# "If This Be Justice--"

"THOMPSON, POPULARLY KNOWN BY HIS HIGH SCHOOL NICKNAME OF 'FLASH', WAS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY AFTER HIS BATTLE WITH SPIDER-MAN AND IS CURRENTLY BEING HELD WITHOUT BAIL."

"CLOSE FRIENDS OF THOMPSON'S PROFESSED ASTONISHMENT THAT THOMPSON WAS UNMASKED AS THE COSTUMED CRIMINAL 'HOBGOBLIN'. ONE ANONYMOUS SOURCE STATED, 'HE WAS ALWAYS AN OBNOXIOUS SON-OF-A-GUN, BUT THIS? WOW.'"

"AND WOW TO YOU COMMUTERS. IT'S 8:45 AM HERE ON WNBC RADIO. IF YOU'RE NOT ALREADY AT WORK, YOU'D BETTER BE GETTING READY TO GO."



TOM DEFALCO -- PLOT  
PETER DAVID &  
JO DUFFY -- SCRIPT  
MIKE HARRIS -- PENCILS  
VINCE COLLETTA -- INKS  
PARKER & ROSEN -- LETTERS  
J. FERREITER -- COLORS  
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FLASH THOMPSON, OF ALL PEOPLE, AND YOU WERE THERE TO PHOTOGRAPH IT, PARKER.

AS ONE NEWS PHOTOG TO ANOTHER, PETE... CONGRATULATIONS. GOOD JOB.



THANKS, LANCE.

HARD TO FEEL GOOD ABOUT IT, THOUGH. ONE MOMENT I WAS FIGHTING HIM AS SPIDER-MAN...

AND THE NEXT I'M UNMASKING HIM AND PHOTOGRAPHING HIM LIKE HE'S JUST ANOTHER BAD GUY...

INSTEAD OF ONE OF MY OLDEST FRIENDS.



PETER. GOOD. MR. ROBERTSON WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOU IN HIS OFFICE.

SURE, BETTY.



PETER PARKER'S GOT A REAL KNACK FOR GETTING SPIDER-MAN RELATED SHOTS. I SHOULD KEEP AN EYE ON HIM... MAYBE I'LL PICK UP SOMETHING.

LOOK, BETTY, I KNOW YOU AND FLASH WERE CLOSE. I'D LIKE TO --

TO WHAT? STAB HIM IN THE BACK, LIKE EVERYONE ELSE DID? YOU'VE TAKEN CARE OF THAT. THANK YOU.



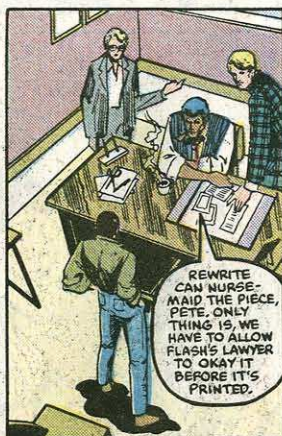
IF YOU... OH, FORGET IT, PETER. IT'S NOT WORTH DISCUSSING.



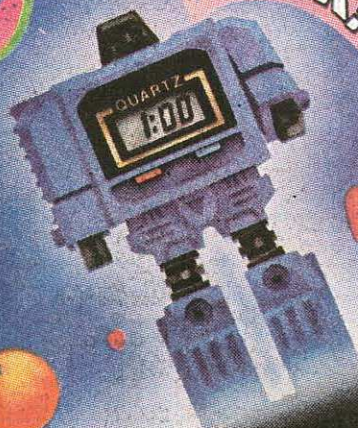
GREAT. I'M NOT THE ONE WHO MADE FLASH INTO THE HOBGOBLIN. HECK, HE TRIED TO KILL ME.

SO WHY DO I FEEL LIKE I SHOULD BE TRYING TO HELP HIM?









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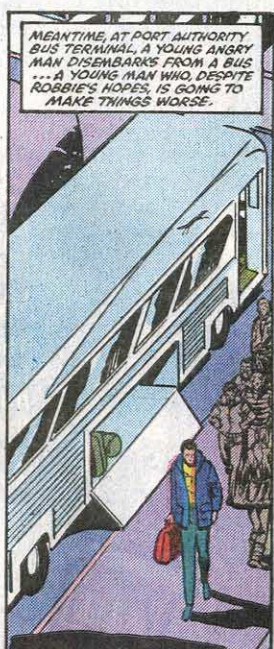
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...PETER PARKER, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, APPROACHING THE POLICE STATION WHERE FLASH IS INCARCERATED.

I'VE KNOWN FLASH FOR YEARS, AND HE'S BEEN CONSISTENT: A FREQUENT THORN FOR PETER PARKER, AND ONE OF SPIDER-MAN'S STAUNCHEST SUPPORTERS.

IN LATER YEARS WE BECAME FRIENDS... THEN RECENTLY, HE STARTED TO ACT ERRATICALLY--AROUND THE TIME THE HOBGOBLIN SHOWED UP.

HE BECAME INSANELY JEALOUS REGARDING ME AND HIS GIRLFRIEND SHA SHAH. AND THEN, ALL OF A SUDDEN, HE TURNED HUMAN AGAIN. ACTED LIKE MY PAL...EVEN CONVINCED ME THAT HE HAD ALWAYS HAD MY BEST INTERESTS AT HEART, EVEN WHEN HE MADE LIFE MISERABLE FOR ME IN HIGH SCHOOL.

AND I, LIKE A SAP, BOUGHT IT. BUT HE WAS SO CONVINCING. THEN AGAIN, PSYCHOPATHS USUALLY ARE.

SO, IF HE IS THE HOBGOBLIN--WHICH LOOKS LIKELY--THEN I DON'T OWE HIM ANYTHING, EXCEPT MAYBE A PUNCH IN THE MOUTH.

BUT I KEEP WONDERING, WHAT IF IT'S A SETUP? IF IT IS, THEN HOBGOBLIN'S RUNNING LOOSE AND I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN HELP. SO EITHER I HELP FLASH, WHO MAY BE A MAJOR ENEMY OF MINE...

OR I STAY OUT OF IT AND LET FLASH ROT IN JAIL, AND PRAY I'M NOT MAKING A MISTAKE.

ARE YOU PETER PARKER?

WOW! WHAT A KNOCKOUT! I'LL BE ANYONE SHE WANTS ME TO BE.

YES.

I'M SHARON BANKS, FLASH'S ATTORNEY.

MY PLEASURE, MISS BANKS.

CALL ME SHARON.

OKAY, YOU, UHM, DON'T LOOK LIKE YOUR STANDARD PUBLIC DEFENDER, SHARON.

HMMM, THAT COP...

GOOD BYE. MY FIRM DOES PRO BONO AND LEGAL AID WORK SOMETIMES. THIS IS MY STINT, AND BOY DID I DRAW A WINNER.





THAT COP SET OFF MY SPIDER-SENSE. I WONDER WHY. MAYBE IT'S HIS GUN.



SURE. THAT'S PROBABLY IT.



SOON, IN AN INTERROGATION ROOM...

SO IS FLASH GOING TO PLEAD INNOCENT OR WHAT?

HE'S INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY, PETER. OR DIDN'T THEY TEACH THAT TO YOU AND FLASH IN SCHOOL?

FRANKLY, WE HAVEN'T DECIDED. BUT IF FLASH MAINTAINS HIS INNOCENCE, HE'LL NEED THE SUPPORT OF ALL HIS FRIENDS.



FRIENDS? HOW CAN I CALL SOMEONE WHO I THINK MAY HAVE TRIED TO BLOW ME TO BITS A FRIEND?

FRIENDSHIP STARTS WITH TRUST. I CAN'T TRUST FLASH. HOW CAN I HELP HIM? DO I WANT TO?

WHAT IF HE IS THE HOBGOBLIN, BUT ISN'T RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS ACTIONS? LIKE HIS PREDECESSOR, THE GREEN GOBLIN. THEN DOESN'T HE DESERVE MY AID?

JUST BLINK IF YOU'RE CONSCIOUS, PETER.

I WANT TO KNOW BEFORE YOU SEE HIM... ARE YOU SYMPATHETIC TO FLASH'S CAUSE?



DO YOU WANT TO HELP HIM?



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ELSEWHERE--

THERE IT IS. THE POLICE STATION WHERE MY SISTER WAS A CAPTAIN...

CAPTAIN JEAN DEWOLFF.



SHE WAS THE BEST COP I EVER KNEW. HONEST. DEDICATED.

LOOK AT THEM DOWN THERE. GOING ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS. THEY SHOULD BE MOURNING HER, BUT INSTEAD THEY'RE GOING ON AS IF NOTHING HAPPENED.



COPS! THEY MAKE ME SICK. IT WAS A COP WHO KILLED MY SISTER, BLEW HER TO PIECES.

AND MY FATHER WAS A TOP LEVEL COP. A CRAZY MAN WHO, FOR HIS OWN TWISTED PURPOSES, POSSESSED MY MIND AND PERVERTED MY POWERS...

THE POWERS OF--

--THE WRAITH!



THEY TOOK THE ONLY GOOD COP AMONG THEM AND DESTROYED HER, LIKE THEY ALMOST DESTROYED ME. BUT I'M GOING TO GET THEM FOR WHAT THEY DID TO HER. TO US.

THE SIN-EATER, A COP TOOK HER AWAY FROM ME. HE THOUGHT, SINCE I WAS OUT IN CALIFORNIA, I WOULDN'T FIND OUT. BUT I DID!



AND NOW THE WRAITH, A HERO, IS GOING TO GET BACK SOME OF WHAT WAS TAKEN FROM HIM. AND I'M GOING TO GET IT IN BLOOD!

BRIAN DEWOLFF. A YOUNG MAN. A HEROIC MAN. DRIVEN NOW BY DEMONS ONLY HE CAN SEE. HIS SISTER WAS A TOUCHSTONE FOR REALITY. WHEN HE LOST HER, HE LOST...









AN HOUR LATER--

HEY, JACK! HOW MANY DAYS DOES THIS MAKE?

THIRTY-SIX, BERT. THIRTY-SIX DAYS WITHOUT A CIGARETTE.

IT ONLY GETS EASIER. LOOK-- MY HAND BARELY TREMBLES NOW.

WISH I HAD YOUR WILL POWER, JACK BRENNAN.



GETTING THE WILL POWER WAS EASY-- AFTER I SAW MY LUNG X-RAYS.

IT FEELS GOOD, THOUGH. I FEEL LIKE I CAN BREATHE EASIER-- THAT DEATH ISN'T CREEPING UP ON ME.



SO FLASH DOESN'T KNOW HOW HE GOT TO WHERE HE WAS, OR HOW HE GOT INTO THE HOBGOBLIN'S SUIT, OR WHERE ALL THE EVIDENCE THAT WAS IN HIS APARTMENT CAME FROM.

THAT'S IT. FLASH CLAIMS HIS MIND IS A COMPLETE BLANK.

WORKS FOR ME.



DON'T FORGET-- I WANT TO SEE THAT ARTICLE BEFORE IT SEES PRINT.

YOU BET, SHARON. I'LL BRING IT TO YOU MYSELF.







AND HE DOES IT...

GOT MY WEB SHOOTERS  
GOT MY CLOTHES WEBBED  
TO MY BACK-- I'M SET.

BUT NOW WHAT? I  
CAN'T JUST GO DASHING  
THROUGH THE POLICE  
STATION. I'LL HIT TOO  
MANY INTERRUPTIONS.

WHICH  
GIVES ME  
ONE OPTION. I'LL  
STAY UP HERE  
IN THE CEILING  
FRAMEWORK...

... GO  
THROUGH  
THE AIR  
DUCTS...

...AND PRAY  
THAT MY SPIDER-  
SENSE WILL BE ABLE  
TO PICK HIM OUT.

THIS IS NUTS!  
I'M REACTING  
TO EVERYTHING...  
ELECTRICAL WIRES,  
SERVICE REVOLVERS,  
PRISONERS IN  
CELLS...

THERE'S DANGER  
EVERYWHERE!  
I'LL NEVER...

DIE  
WAIT!

YEAH?

MR. THOMPSON?





WH-WH-  
WHAT ARE  
YOU DOING?

WH-  
WHY--?

I  
HAVEN'T  
DONE  
ANYTHING!!

I  
SWEAR..



WHOA! I MUST BE  
GETTING CLOSE... MY  
SPIDER-SENSE IS  
SUDDENLY TINGLING  
LIKE CRAZY!



JUSTICE  
IS--



SPIDER-MAN!

UH-UHN,  
CHUCKLE'S.  
NOT NICE.

TILL THE COURTS  
DECIDE THE MAN'S  
GUILTY, HE'S GOT  
NOTHING TO BE  
PUNISHED FOR!



NOW, PUT THE  
GUN DOWN!

DIDN'T ANYBODY EVER  
TELL YOU IT'S NOT POLITE  
TO POINT?

WHEN I WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL, SPIDER-MAN WAS  
MY HERO... AND NOW HE'S SAVED MY LIFE...



...EVEN THOUGH  
HE KNOWS WHAT  
I'M HERE FOR!



WHAT'S  
GOING ON  
HERE?

SPIDER-MAN... ASSAULTING ONE  
OF THE UNIFORMED MEN!!



SWAT COPS! \*  
THIS CAN'T LOOK  
GOOD TO THEM.

AND SINCE I DOUBT THEY'RE GOING TO  
LET ME EXPLAIN... OR LISTEN IF FLASH TRIES  
TO TELL THEM WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON  
HERE...

\*SPECIAL WEAPONS  
AND TACTICS--ON2.

PUT HIM DOWN AND  
BACK AWAY SLOWLY,  
OR--!



OOOF!

I GUESS I'D  
BETTER JUST FIND  
MY OWN WAY OUT.





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TRUST ME, FELLAS.  
THIS ISN'T WHAT IT  
LOOKS LIKE.

I WAS JUST  
LOOKING FOR  
THE EXIT.

GANGWAY!  
COMING  
THROUGH!  
ONE SIDE,  
PLEASE!

GET  
HIM,  
MEN!

I'M NOT  
GONNA GET  
HIM. YOU  
GET HIM!

YOU  
FIRST!

NO,  
YOU!

TRUST  
ME...

...I'M REALLY A  
NICE GUY ONCE  
YOU GET TO  
KNOW ME!

YOU'D HATE YOURSELF TOMORROW  
IF YOU INJURED YOUR FRIENDLY  
NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN!

AND I'D FEEL EVEN WORSE  
IF SOMETHING HAPPENED TO  
ONE OF THEM...

I'LL HAVE TO  
WATCH MYSELF  
AND ONLY USE A  
FRACTION OF  
MY STRENGTH.

THEY'RE  
OCCUPIED WITH  
SPIDER-MAN  
FOR NOW... BUT  
THOSE POLICE  
HAVE CUT OFF  
MY ESCAPE  
ROUTE!

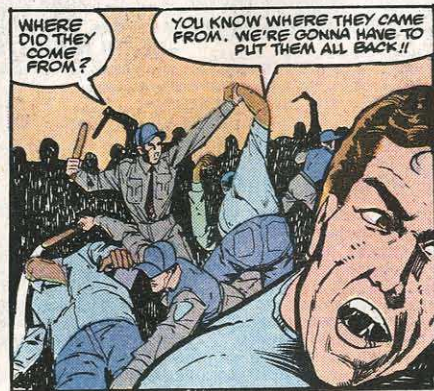
I'LL HAVE TO IMPROVISE  
ANOTHER ONE!!

1000  
1001

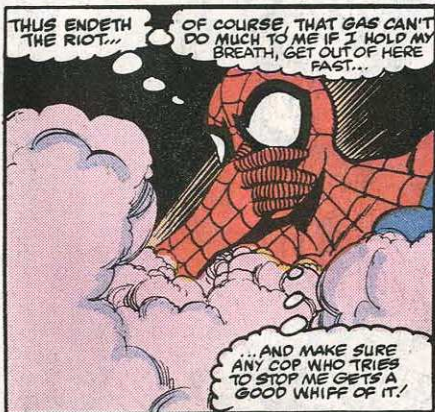












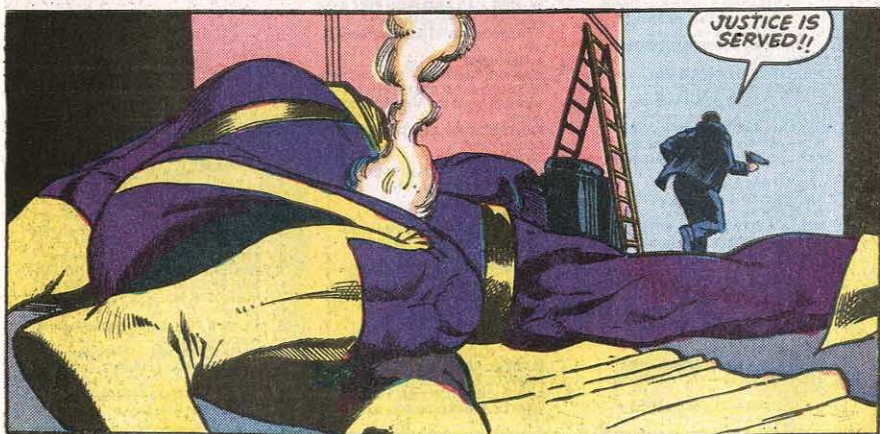


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# BULLPEN BULLETINS

# M

Tom DeFalco ...

... has gotten very philosophical ever since he finished reading *Secret Wars II*. Apparently, being exposed to my keen insights into human nature, my observations upon the relationship of man and god has changed him somehow. It wasn't so bad the first couple of weeks when he was just walking around with his hands folded, lost in existential pondering—but then he saw *Super Bowl XX*.

"I've got it," he announced as he arrived at work on Super Bowl Monday. "I, too, have keen insight into human nature, and I have devised a way to improve office morale as well as the quality of our work."

"Office morale's fine," said I, "and everybody's already doing the best he, she, or it can."

"Picture this," Tom continued, undaunted, "are you ready? *Cheerleaders!* What do you think? Huh?"

"You mean... girls with pom-poms?"  
"And guys with megaphones! No sexism here!"

"But..."  
"Think of it! For the inkers, they'd be shouting 'hold that line!' For the letterers, it'd be 'gimme an m! Gimme an a!'"

"Gimme a 'break!'" I screamed. "Why don't you go lie down, Tom! The pressure of being Executive Editor is getting to you. You need rest. Or a shrink. Or something."

Crushed, Tom shambled away. I wondered if I'd been too rough on him.

But, then, later, I saw him delivering his latest script for *The Amazing Spider-Man* to editor Jim Owsley's office. He ran it into the room...

... and he **spiked it**.  
Good grief.

## On Another Note ...

While out in Denver recently I happened to catch a performance by six of the most talented musicians I have ever seen—Bill Wesley, Wes Makey, Windall Armour, Rob Chamberlin, Steve Espinoza, and Curtis Bushey. Together, they're...

## The Hit City Band

I understand that they'll have a syndicated TV show starting up in March called *Hit City*. Figures. Also, they'll be on the road soon, so watch for them in your town.

I never met these guys before, none of them are my relatives, and no, they don't have pictures of me in a Compromising Situation. I'm giving them this plug because they're just plain **fantastic**. When they make it big, remember, you heard about 'em here first.

## The New Universe!

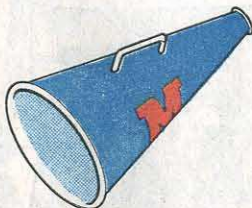
Eight exciting new titles will be launched this summer, four in July and four in August. Together, they form the foundation of the **New Universe**. Twenty-five years ago Stan Lee and several extremely talented artists brought forth the Marvel Universe. Now, in honor of the silver anniversary of their achievement, we're creating another Universe, unlike anything ever created before. You'll have to see it to believe it. Watch this space for more information.

## Thanks ...

... for your support. Be well.

*Shooter*

Jim Shooter  
Editor in Chief



## CHECKLIST

- ☐ CLOAK AND DAGGER #7
- ☐ DAREDEVIL #232
- ☐ WEST COAST AVENGERS #10—On the trail of the missing Ben Grimm, with special guest star, the Thing!
- ☐ NEW MUTANTS #41
- ☐ SQUADRON SUPREME (Limited Series) #11
- ☐ WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #16
- ☐ CONAN THE KING #35
- ☐ ALPHA FLIGHT #36—With the Avengers!
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #319—More than a score of Marvel villains are wiped out when the Scourge comes to town!
- ☐ POWER PACK #24
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #277—Watch out! It's the Scourge!
- ☐ VISION AND SCARLET WITCH (Limited Series) #10—Guest-starring the Inhumans!
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR INDEX #8—The real scoop on what happened in issues #126-147!
- ☐ THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE #8—"M's" the letter!
- ☐ AVENGERS #269
- ☐ CONAN THE BARBARIAN #184
- ☐ ETERNALS #10—With the Mighty Thor!
- ☐ G.I. JOE #49—The origin of the

- ☐ Cobra Emperor!
- ☐ INCREDIBLE HULK #321
- ☐ MARVEL TALES #189
- ☐ POWER MAN AND IRON FIST #124—Alone in the Ninja Compound!
- ☐ SOLOMON KANE (Limited Series) #6
- ☐ X-MEN #207
- ☐ MARVEL SAGA #8—Iron Man gets his golden armor and the FF are bankrupt, while the Angel tries out his wings!
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR #292—Versus Adolf Hitler!
- ☐ IRON MAN #208
- ☐ PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #116
- ☐ THOR #368
- ☐ TRANSFORMERS #18
- ☐ X-FACTOR #6—Revealed at last: The master of the evil mutants!
- ☐ SECTAURS #7
- ☐ MARVEL TEAM-UP INDEX #4—Spidey and his partners swing into action in issues #60-62!
- ☐ DOCTOR WHO #22
- ☐ STAR WARS #106

- ☐ MARVEL MAGAZINES
- ☐ MARVEL AGE #40
- ☐ MARVEL FANFARE #27—BILL MANTLO and TONY SALMONS bring you a Daredevil extravaganza!

- ☐ SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #125
- ☐ SAVAGE TALES #6—The only place to go for hard-hitting adventure!

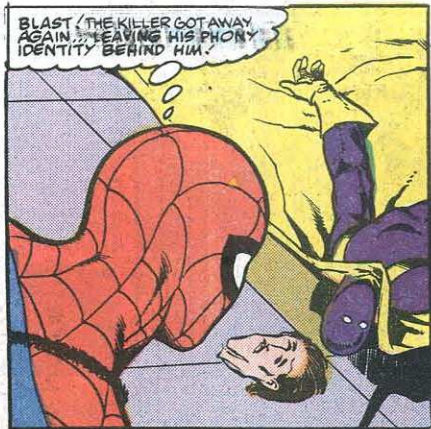
## EPIC COMICS

- ☐ ELFQUEST #12
- ☐ SWORDS OF THE SWASH-BUCKLERS #7—Their only hope is... Cap'n Kidd!
- ☐ THE ONE (Limited Series) #6—The One fights the Other for the control of the Human Race!
- ☐ GROO THE WANDERER #17
- ☐ BOZZ CHRONICLES (Limited Series) #3

## STAR COMICS

- ☐ MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE #2—The Comet Warriors drop in on He-Man and Orko, but when the Meteor Legion arrives, things really get hot!
- ☐ PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-HAM #8—Featuring "Kumono My House or Pigs Over Tokyo!"
- ☐ EWOKS #8—Logray battles the evil witch Morag!
- ☐ MUPPET BABIES #8—Gonzo celebrates Camilla's birthday... in Featherland!
- ☐ CARE BEARS #5—It's the story of the very first Care Bear!













## THE SPIDER'S WEB

JIM OWSLEY  
EDITOR  
ADAM BLAUSTEIN  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

## VIEW FROM THE TENTH FLOOR

Thursday, December 19, 1985. Now, by the time this is printed that date will be ancient history. At press time, however, this day is being remembered as The Day Of Doom: With the Christmas rush upon us (printers take holidays, y'know), Adam and I were responsible for nudging several Spider-projects through production and off to press. Failure would mean this issue would arrive late. Since you're reading this, you know we made it, and all is well. But I just thought you should know how close to the line we were. We were real close.

Adam and I would like to take this opportunity to thank one of the most important (if unused) bullpeners on our crack squad of experts: Under the unparalleled direction of Anita Busman (Ms. Organization & Congeniality 1985) and her Ace Assistant, Phil Feitz, this lone production artist has faced incredible, unrealistic deadlines, demanding editors, and even an Editor in Chief or two, and has come through every single time. Don't ask me how she does it. I have a feeling she's secretly The Beyonder, and I wouldn't want to give her away.

She's done a tremendous job and well all be lost without her. Especially on The Day Of Doom. So Adam and I would just like to say thanks to Bolester Barbara Johnston, our ace Cover Production Artist.

See, Barbara? Who says nobody appreciates you? Come on by after work. Adam and I'll buy you a milk.

Jim Owsley

To Tom and the gang,

I really got a kick out of ish 274. The art by Ron & Joe was great, & I was glad to see Mr. Romita Sr. back, if only as a contributor.

The story was fun, even though it featured the Beyonder, who I'm not really crazy about. What started getting me psyched was seeing Gwen Stacy again. I just hope seeing her doesn't screw Pete up too bad (he's got enough problems).

The high point was the Green Goblin, who I'm a real fan of. I feel that Hobgoblin is a fair successor for Norman Osborn & son, but he needs the maniacness (in the pathological form) of Norm. Hobgoblin is a great character, & I'm looking forward to next ish when we discover Hobbie's true identity as (get ready) J. Jonah Jameson!

Anyway, keep up the innovation of 274, and tell Jim I love the editing.

Chris Johnson  
Providence, RI

Dear Web-Slingers,

ASM #274 was nothing short of terrific! Stan the Man himself would have been proud of this ish. If a man who commits a felony is a felon, then Tom DeFalco is an iron, because the irony in this story was too much for words! I mean, Mephisto battling in the cause of life? And with Spider-Man as his champion, to boot? Incredible! And of course, poor Peter's luck is so bad that here he was, a pawn in a cosmic game of chance with the fate of the Universe resting on his shoulders and he never even knew what the heck was going on!

It was also a great thrill to see the work of old-timer Jack Furry credited in a Marvel mag. As a longtime fan of his GoldenAge creation, THE BLUE WHIZ, I'm very glad to see that he's still in the business. Keep 'em flyin', Jack!

Before I go, I just wanna say it's been one heckuva quarter century with you guys, and here's to many more! Excelsior!

A.B. Hassan  
(no address given)

Dear Spider-Scholars,

Two nights ago I read AMAZING #274. It was GREAT!!!! Since SECRET WARS II started, I wasn't really impressed with the Beyonder schtick, so I just didn't pick up SW II and read the tie-ins that I usually collected. I thought they were okay, but AMAZING #274 was the best.

The next day, I went to Sunday School (I'm 14) and there we talked about the Holocaust, and how God seemed to be testing the Jews. Our teacher brought up a chapter of the Bible titled Job. It was about how Satan had challenged God that he couldn't find one man who would not lose faith in God above all. So God accepted the challenge. Job was plagued with the death of his family and his livestock, and he got boils all over his body. Instantly I saw the resemblance of the stories, and decided to write you (something I usually don't do because they've never gotten printed, which means no reply), and congratulate you on a tale well woven.

I don't suppose this discovery deserves a No-Prize?

Scott M. Gimpie  
139 Springridge Drive  
Berkeley Hills, NJ 07922

Sorry, Scott, no No-Prize, but you can take consolation from the fact that you're the only reader so far to notice that particular parallel. So, go ahead and award yourself a Job-Prize (which is sort of like a Fred-Prize, only more dignified!)

Dear Spidey-People,

What can I say? ASM #275 was awesome! I've been waiting with baited breath for MONTHS for the return of Spidey's deadliest enemy, and I knew it was going to be one heck of

a rematch, but even so, this ish blew me right out of my shoes!

Hobgoblin's new computerized battle system makes him possibly the most dangerous opponent our Webhead has ever faced (and that's saying a lot), since it's Spidey's Spider-Sense that gives him his largest advantage. That's how Spidey can take on foes that are much much more powerful than he is (like Firelord) without getting creamed, although when he's up against someone who can cancel out or circumvent it (like Ace and now Hobgoblin) he's a whole lot more vulnerable. I think Spidey probably relies too much on his danger sensing ability, so that when he's in situations where he's deprived of it he's really in deep trouble. Maybe after this story is over, Peter might give some thought to sharpening the rest of his skills, on the realization that he depends on his Spider-Sense too much.

As far as the identity of the Hobgoblin, as of this issue it seems like you've narrowed it down to either Ned Leeds or Flash Thompson, altho' I did notice someone at the Bugle asking if anyone had seen Lance Bannon lately, so there may yet be some surprises left. In fact, I wouldn't put it past you sneaky Spider-Writers to make Hobby turn out to be someone else entirely, just to keep us all on our toes. Keep up the great work!

Rick Fedukulous  
1723 Wilson St.  
Newark, NJ

Dear Jim and Adam,

The latest issue of Spider-Man with the Beyonder was really good. I'm a little tired of all this Beyonder stuff and I hope he gets offed in the big finale.

I've liked SECRET WARS II from the start, but this guy's getting on my nerves. I'll bet on the heroes' next also.

The art looked a little rushed, but that's because it was such a big issue, right?

I'm familiar with everyone's names through Marvel Age, but who's Jack Furry?

Hope after SECRET WARS, our heroes look at themselves and see that there's always someone bigger than you are on the next block. Maybe it'll make them less silly about what they do.

But not Spidey!

Howard Filson  
23 Dunham's Corner  
East Brunswick, NJ

Tom,

The fanfare of your book is relatively small compared with the creative quality of it. It hasn't received the attention it deserves. On the lighter side, doesn't it feel like the Lee/Ditko days of the glorious past? The entire flavor of the book seems fresh and innovative. The Spidey of the 60's has made a comeback.

It is great to see new characters introduced that are original as well as interesting. Puma, Silver Sable, Fox, and Styde prove that. They all possess style and have their distinctive personalities. Puma reminds me of Thunderbird, who could have been a Marvel great but was killed before he could be explored. Puma has great potential who stands among the ranks of Wolverine, and if he is handled properly could become very popular. He is not the standard Indian stereotype, but a different kind of hero/villain, the first who is a businessman and an assassin. I like what you have done with him so far, but he could be implemented in other books.

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN is truly a remarkable book. It is a good feeling to see writers and artists revitalize Marvel's cornerstone books, transforming dull, repetitive stories into lively, characteristic, creative ones. With FANTASTIC FOUR, THOR, and AVENGERS, AMAZING SPIDER-MAN has joined the ranks of comics that regained their former glory.

- Wouldn't it be neat if Spider-Man met up with Shang-Chi one more time? It would be a classic rematch.

Michael Palmer  
Peru, NY 12972

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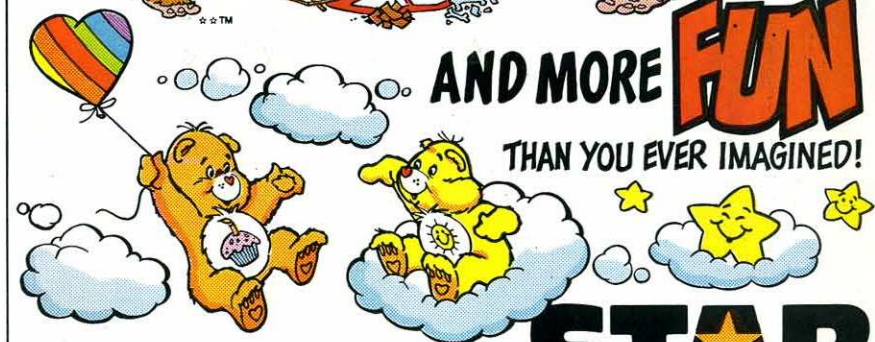
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TO YOU,  
AND YOU  
HAVE A  
RIGHT TO  
DECIDE HOW  
AND WHEN  
ANYONE  
TOUCHES  
YOU!

YEAH! AND  
BE SURE TO  
**TELL**  
SOMEBODY,  
TOO!

IF SOMEBODY  
TRIES TO TOUCH YOU  
IN WAYS THAT DON'T  
FEEL GOOD OR SEEM  
RIGHT, **SAY NO!**

AND, DON'T FORGET, IF  
THE FIRST PERSON YOU TELL  
DOESN'T BELIEVE YOU, KEEP  
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SOMEONE WHO DOES!

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