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PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN.



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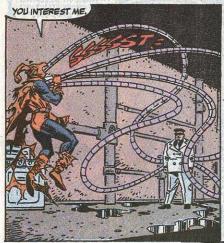














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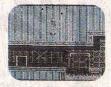
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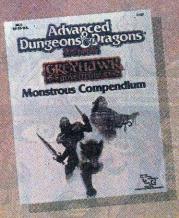
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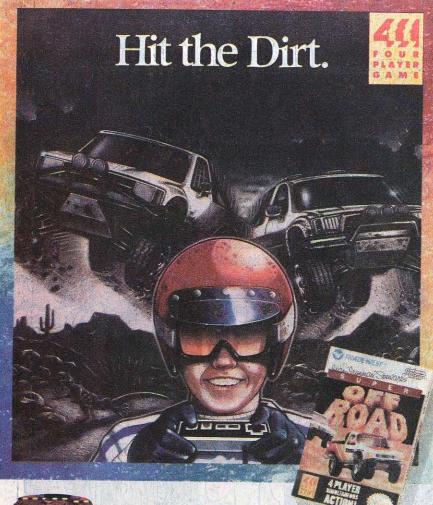
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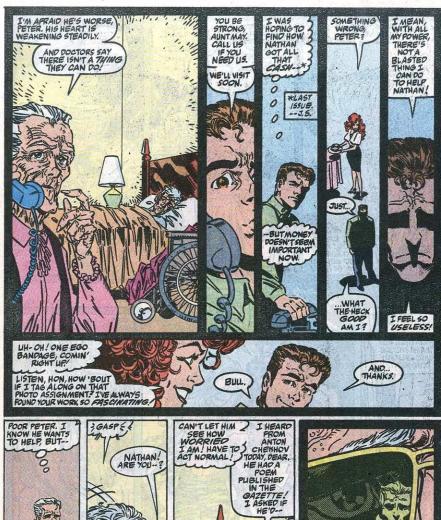
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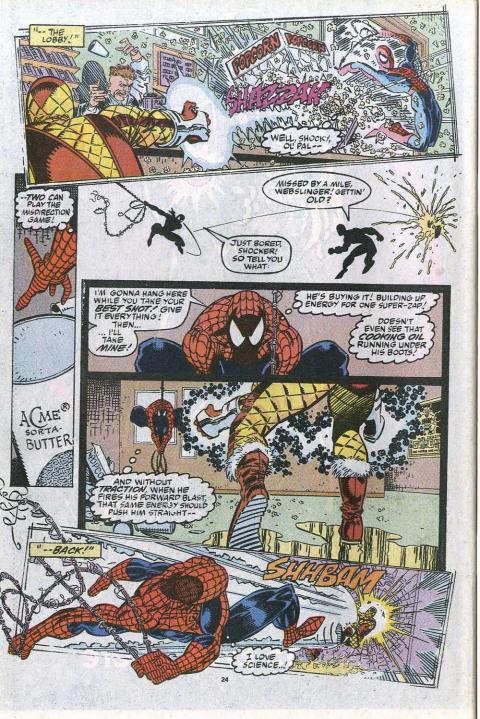
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HAPPY ENDING? WELL YES, BUT THERE ARE ENDINGS...





MARVEL RILLETINS

STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Something surprised me the other day! You'll probably find that hard to believe because you know it takes a lot to surprise a card-carrying Bullpener. But it really happened, and I thought you'd be interested, mainly because the same thing has probably happened to you, too!

There I was in a comic book store, poking through the new issues and feeling as ginchy as a little kid let loose in a toy factory. Then I heard a couple of fans arguing. One asked the other, "How come you've turned into a Marvel Zombie? What's the big deal with their books? To me, all comics are pretty much alike!" The hapless Marvelite tried to explain his preference for our merry little mags but his irate inquisitor kept shouting him down and wouldn't listen.

Well, Marvels are my favorites, too. (Big surprise!) But I never tried to articulate what I really like about them. So, I thought I'd jot my own reasons down on paper and let you

see if they agree with yours.

To me, Marvel is more than a group of magazines. It's a cornucopia of fantasy, a wild idea, a swashbuckling attitude, an es- the best of luck in all his future writing encape from the humdrum and the prosaic. It's deavors. Now Peter, where's that next HULK a serendipitous feast for the mind, the eye, and the imagination! It has a spirit you can almost feel, a sense that every Marvelite is an equal among equals as we share the fun and the foibles together. Finally, it's a gleaming tribute to our love of satire and excitement, a literate celebration of unbridled creativity, coupled with a touch of rebellion and an insolent desire to spit in the eye of the dragon!

Or, to put it another way, if there were no Marvel, we'd have to invent it! Hey, come to think of it-we did!

Okay, that's my opinion. What's yours? A turbo drive No-Prize for the most interesting version!

Excelsior!

ITEM! First Chris Claremont did it, then John Byrne, then Peter David, and Sid Jacobson. Now the latest Marvel writer to try his hand at scripting a novel is Jim Starlin (of SILVER SURFER fame). In collaboration with his wife, Daina Graziunas, Jim has produced a spine-tingling tale of suspense called *Among Madman*. The premise of the book is this: what would you do if everyone you knew suddenly went insane? Jim has produced fifty new illustrations for the book, which is being published by New American Library as part of their new Roc-Line of science-fiction novels. The book will be out in August, and Jim and Daina promise more novels are on the way. So keep an eye out for

ITEM! Speaking of novels, one of the prose books by the aforementioned Peter David (of INCREDIBLE HULK fame) recently spent some time on the NEW YORK TIMES bestseller list. The book was Peter's Star Trek: The Next Generation novel, Rock and a Hard Place. The ever-prolific Peter has written several novels in the past, including KNIGHT LIFE and HOWLING MAD, and promises more in the future. We wish Peter plot you promised . .

ITEM! This year, millions of Americans watched the San Francisco 49ers win the Super Bowl. But what you may not know is that the 49ers have a super hero on their ream! That's right, the 49ers tight end Jamie Williams is a huge Marvel fan, and actually fancies himself as Spider-Man. Before a game, Jamie psyches himself up by imagin-ing that he's Spider-Man, and that the other members of the 49ers are super heroes as well. Jamie says that in a really competitive game, he becomes Conan the Barbarian. With such stalwarts as Spidey and Conan on their team, it's no wonder the 49ers won the Super Bowl!

ITEM! Hope you caught Stan Lee's recent appearance on the syndicated ENTERTAIN-MENT THIS WEEK over the weekend of March 31. Stan talked all about Marvel's upcoming movie and TV projects, and his comics plans for the future. The ENTERTAINMENT THIS WEEK crew also stopped off at the Marvel offices for a brief look to see how we were getting along without Stan here on a day-to-day basis. Their conclusion? Even though we may not see Stan every day, since he lives out in L.A., we still work with his many creations every day, and his presence is very much a part of Marvel

today.
ITEM In other TV news, our very own Gerry
Conway, of WEB OF SPIDER-MAN and
SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN, recently sold his first script to TV. It was an episode of ABC'S FATHER DOWLING MYSTERIES starring Tom Bosley, and it aired on March 15. Gerry is now an active member of the FATHER DOWLING family, with several more scripts on the way. Regrettably, Gerry's new career meant he had to change his plans to take over the writing of the PUNISHER comic. But don't worry—Gerry hasn't gone totally Hollywood on us. He'll still be scripting his two Spidey books a month, so you can look forward to having the Conway touch on Peter Parker's books for the foreseeable future. Now, Gerry, what's this we hear about Father Dowling getting the Captain Universe powers?

ITEM! By now every True Believer knows that the CAPTAIN AMERICA Movie is scheduled for release in August, and the long-delayed PUNISHER Movie should be finally coming out sometime before then. Who would have thought Mighty Marvel would have two major motion pictures featuring our characters out in the same year? Not us, that's for sure!

ITEM! Books, sports, movies, TV, and ... oh yes, comics! Who says this isn't the Marvel Age of Multi-Media Madness?

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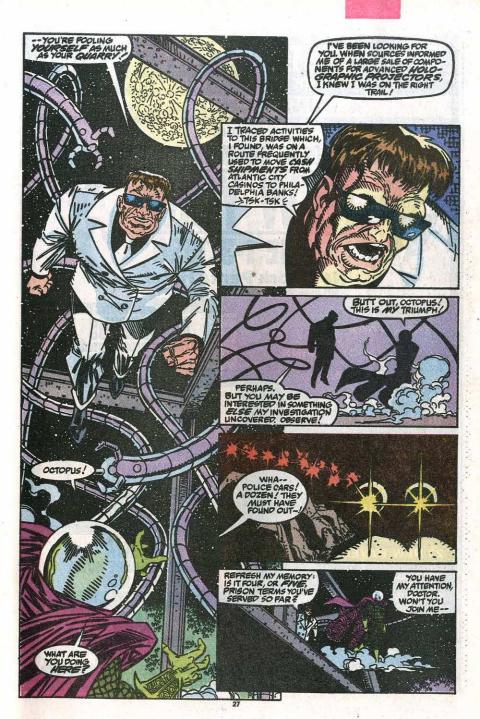
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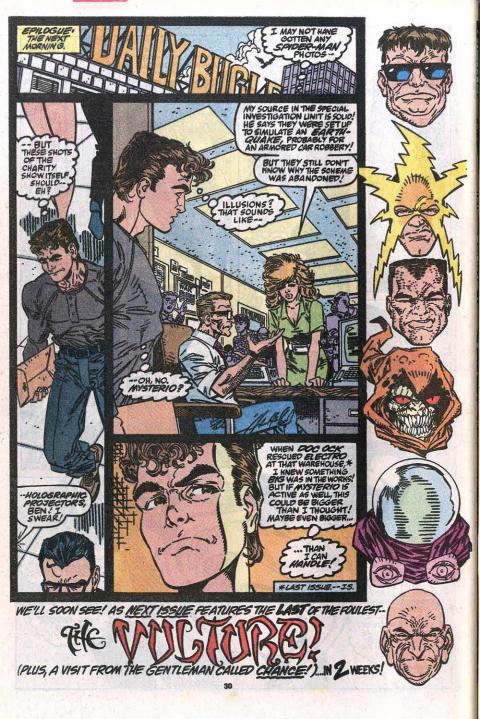
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FOR SPIDER'S WEB

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JIM SALICBUR ARACHNERD DAN CUDDY ASSISTANT EDITOR

Attention correspondents: All letters considered for publication must include your name and address, though we will withhold that information upon request

Dear Jim.

I just finished reading AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #328, and I have one thing to say to you, but I forgot what that was, so I'll just say great job! I loved seeing Todd drawing the two guys I first noticed him doing-Spidey and the Hulk. I love Todd's art and I was sad to see him go, but Eric and Al did a great job.

I would like to see Spider-Man's new cosmic powers lessen a little. I like the molecular rearrangement power because he would be able to change the clothes he is wearing into a super strong Spider-suit, but all the other powers should be eliminated, or given a lot lower limit. But I know you guys have some plans for these new powers, and I'm sure I will like it.

So until Mary Jane gains 100 lbs. and becomes a butcher, Make Mine Marvel!

> Peter Riley Osborne 377 N.E. Plymouth Circle Corvallis, OR 97330

Oh, one favor please-Have Venom make an appearance and battle Spidey so Venom knows not to mess with him again!

So until Mary Jane marries Jonathon Caesar, Make Mine Marvel! Craig Youngwolfe

916 Loyadell Altus, OK

We're sorry that Super-Spidey never got to confront Venom, Robert and Craig, but that wasn't the point of "Acts of Vengeance." But keep your eyes peeled for a future issue of WHAT IF —? You may be pleasantly surprised.

Dear Marvel,

"What are you?!" "I'm Bat-

I love it! I love it! I love it. . .!

Delirious Kheng 4922 Aldama St. Los Angeles, CA 90042

You like the molecular rearrangement powers, Peter? Let's hear from another fan who also likes them, but for a completely different reason . . .

Judging by the end of the story this go 'round, we shall soon see the end of "Super-Spidey." This is a mixed blessing, like the black suit, some of these new powers are pretty good and do have merit but in turn do have liabilities. Frankly I'm surprised that this storyline has lasted this long. Changes this drastic and far reaching don't usually last in a character so established as Spider-Man. Not that I don't like these new powers, I find some of them rather fascinating. I doubt any of these new powers will last but then again I never expected Spidey to fly, so you just might surprise me and keep a few of the lesser ones.

My favorite powers are, by the way, the webs. I love the changing webs. The increased strength is another good one, but as far as the rest of them are concerned I could care less if they just faded away without ever coming back. They do make for an interesting story nonetheless

The flying is one power I wouldn't keep at all, and the increased spider-senses would be the first I'd get rid of. After all, what good is a power that is more of a hindrance than a help?

I know that Quasar just put him away this month in issue #6 of his book, but I'd love to see Venom show up in one of the Spider-books before these new powers fade; and see Spidey beat the stuffin' out of the sucker, make him/it want to go back to the Vault.

Robert J. Spassov 7097 Dolphin St. Bolivar, OH 44612

Well it's been ice. Until next month-

Dear Spider's Web.

I think you're doing a good job! Make that a great job!! The "Assassin Nation Plot" was great! But now the "Acts of Vengeance" stories in issues #326 and #327 were great! I mean, this new power is great! Spider-Man vs. Magneto-who'd ever thought? I hope we'll be seeing more of him in the future.

Issue #328 was the greatest drawing that Todd has ever done! The way he draws MJ makes you wish you were a cartoon. The Hulk has never been better drawn. And Sebastian Shaw-I can't believe it!! I've been collecting comics for over a year and a half and I have all the SPIDER-MAN comics since issue #296. This has to be the best drawn yet.

Dear Bat-(ahem) Spider-Men,

Todd McFarlane returns to the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN and the Hulk in the same issue? Urkh . . .! My heart! I thought I'd breathe easier, but it's too much-oww ow . .

And I want more. Hey, who says this isn't the Marvel age of overindulgence?

Uh...! Now would somebody please eagh...! Call 911 vuhr . . . ! I don't wanna miss next issue . . .

> Bill "Heart Attack" LaBarre 5823 Otter View Trail White Bear Lake Township, MN 55110

Don't worry, Bill. When Todd McFarlane's new comic, SPIDER-MAN, debuts in June, we'll be sure to reserve you a bed in the hospital right next to Aunt May!

Dear David, Todd and Jim,

On AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #328, what can I say-you guys simply did it again. It's a classic as far as I'm concerned. David Michelinie's script is just great! Featuring Spider-Man and the Hulk to fight it out was the best thing you ever did. Since Spidey has become a cosmic super hero, he can give the gray skinned goliath a run for his money!

The "Super Spidey Saga" is just fantastic! But I know Spidey won't be using this power for long. After all that he has been through since gaining this cosmic power, it seems that his life has become miserable. I know deep down inside, Spidey wants the power to wear off or just vanish. So we just have to wait until the end of this storyline and see, right?

Now I want to congratulate Todd McFarlane on a job well done. I have waited a long time to see Todd draw Spider-Man and the Hulk together! Since this is Todd's last issue, I know that he took great care to give us Spidey fans one of his best works ever to end his run on the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN.

I am looking forward to the upcoming SPIDER-MAN comic which Todd will be writing and drawing. We have to stop worrying about what he will write in this new book. We must give him a chance since it is his first time scripting.

Yoke Sun Foo 25. Jalan SS14/1B Subang Jaya 47500 Petaling Jaya Selangor, Malaysia

Trust us-you can stop worrying about Todd's writing ability. What we've already seen is mint!



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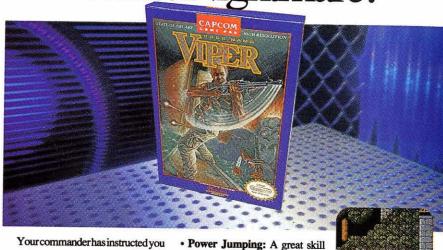
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- Secret Communique: As you advance through the 8 levels, you'll uncover the message--and the dreaded Drug Lord.
- Bombs: Handed off by a fellow agent, use these to escape to a more challenging level.
- Spectacular Graphics: Sensational graphics make South America's dangers come alive!





