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THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

HEY,
SPIDER --
I'VE GOT A
CRUSH
ON YOU!



*BAGS &
MAHLEST*

DIRECT EDITION
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**INTRODUCING
THE
DOCTOR OCTOPUS**

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STAN LEE PRESENTS
THE AMAZING
SPIDER-MAN™ IN
PART ONE: CROSSROADS

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Y'KNOW,
SEWARD--
I'VE BEEN
THINKING
ABOUT IT--

--MAYBE
THIS ISN'T
SUCH A GOOD
IDEA AFTER
ALL.

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AREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO GOT ALL EXCITED WHEN I OFFERED YOU A CHANCE TO MAKE A HOLOGRAPHICALLY PROJECTED JUMP INTO CYBERSPACE?

WHOEVER DRAINED ALL THE FILES FROM MY COMPUTER BANKS* DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE FAIL-SAFE PROGRAMS I HAD ENCRYPTED THERE. ALL THEY WERE ABLE TO GRAB WERE CODED FRAGMENTS--

--WHICH WILL ALLOW ME TO TRACE ANY MISSING INFORMATION TO THE SYSTEM IT WAS DOWN-LOADED INTO.

YOU MEAN-- LIKE THAT SYSTEM RIGHT THERE?

BEN-- YOU FOUND IT!

YEAH. BUT WHAT DID I FIND?

NOPE. THAT WASN'T ME. MUST'VE BEEN SOME OTHER BEN REILLY.

* LAST ISSUE-- BOB.

DON'T WORRY. THIS WON'T TAKE LONG.

INTERESTING. THAT CYBER-DOOR LEADS INTO THE COMPUTER BANKS HOLDING THE STOLEN FILES--

--BUT THOSE TENTACLE-LIKE PROJECTIONS APPEAR TO BE LINKING IT UP TO A VASTLY LARGER SYSTEM ... WHICH IS COVERTLY MONITORING THE SMALLER ONE.

YOU MEAN WHOEVER HIT US-- HAS SOMEONE ON THEIR TAIL?

APPARENTLY SO.

CHOOSH!

I THINK YOU SHOULD LAUNCH THE PROBE NOW, BEN.

BUT BE ALERT. A SYSTEM THIS SOPHISTICATED IS BOUND TO HAVE ELABORATE PROTECTION PROGRAMS IN PLACE.

JUST WHAT I WAS
AFRAID OF! THOSE ARE
COMPUTER-GENERATED
ANTI-VIRAL
PROGRAMS!

STOP
BEING SUCH
A KNOW-IT
ALL!

BREAK
OFF CONTACT,
BEN! GET OUT
OF THERE!

TOINK!

FZEET!

NOT YET! A FEW
MORE SECONDS
AND WE MIGHT DOWN-
LOAD ENOUGH DATA
TO GET A FIX ON THEIR
LOCATION!

LISTEN TO ME--
HOLOGRAPHIC PRO-
JECTIONS OR NOT... THE
DANGER FROM THOSE
THINGS IS REAL!

YOU'RE ALIVE
IN CYBERSPACE--AND
YOU COULD VERY POSSIBLY
DIE THERE!

GIVE ME A BREAK!
DEFYING DEATH IS MY
BUSINESS! I'M THE
SCARLET SPIDER,
REMEMBER?

OH, THAT'S
RIGHT.

I THOUGHT
YOU HATED
THAT NAME.

TOOM!

FAKK!

SSSSHAAAKKKK!

THEY'VE
SHORTED
OUT THE
INTERFACE!



FOLLOW MY
VOICE! IT'S THE
ONLY WAY TO GET
YOU BACK!



BEN... DO YOU
HEAR ME? IF
YOU DON'T PHASE
OUT IN THE NEXT
TEN SECONDS--

--YOUR MIND
IS GOING TO
DISASSOCIATE
FROM YOUR
BODY!

YOU'LL
BE TRAPPED
IN CYBERSPACE...
FOREVER!

BEN?

CHAKKKAASH!

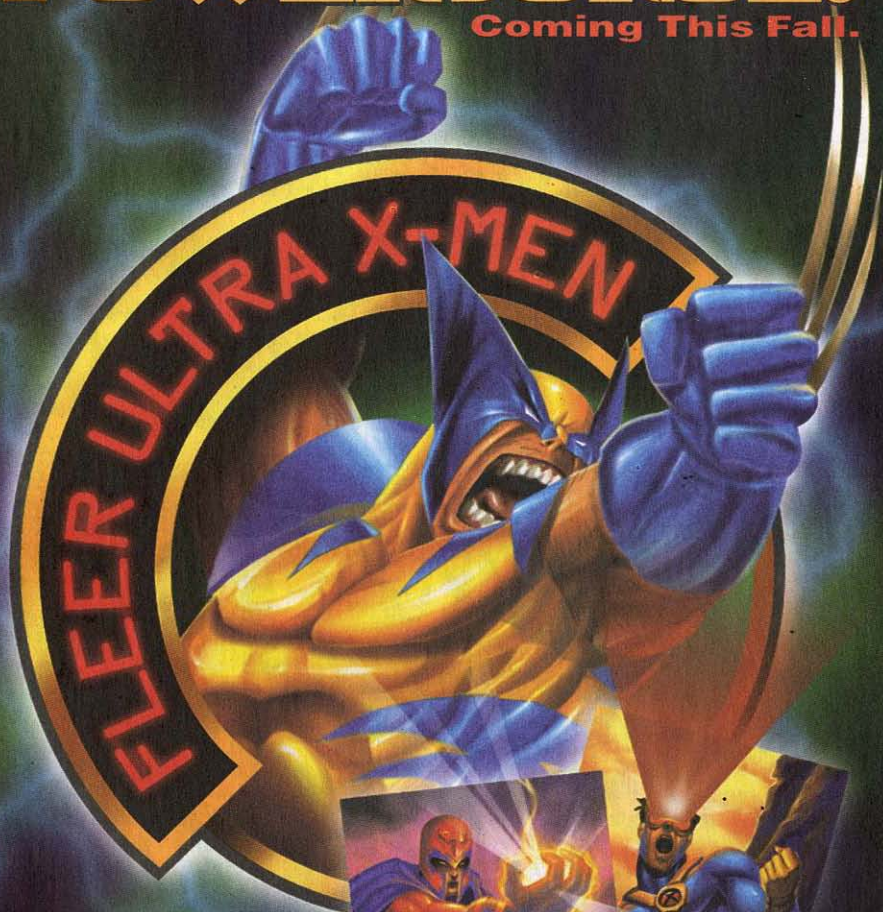
BEN!!

KRAKK!
SPAKKK!



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THE WHOLE BLOODY
SYSTEM'S OVERLOADING!
WE'LL NEVER--

DON'T WORRY,
SEWARD--I'VE
GOT YOU!

WHOOOM!

I'LL SAY THIS:
LIFE SURE IS
INTERESTING.

AREN'T YOU
GLAD I'M AROUND
TO KEEP YOUR LIFE
INTERESTING?

YOU KNOW, THINGS
LIKE THIS NEVER
HAPPENED TO ME
BEFORE I MET
YOU.

FIRST I FIND OUT
I'M NOT THE REAL
PETER PARKER--BUT
HIS CLONE. AND I
TOTALLY LOSE IT. BUT,
HEY, I FIGHT MY WAY
BACK. I FIND A SENSE OF
SELF-WORTH. EVERY-
THING LOOKS LIKE IT'S
COMING TOGETHER.

UNTIL THAT
PSYCHIC "TIME-
BOMB" KICKS
IN. TURNS OUT
THE ATTACKAL
PROGRAMMED
ME TO GO NUTS.
KILL MY WIFE. I
END UP CHASING
MARY JANE
ACROSS HALF
THE CITY.

BUT I FIGHT
BACK AGAIN.
OVERCOME THE
PROGRAMMING.
SAVE HER. SAVE
MYSELF.

EVERYONE
BREATHES A SIGH
OF RELIEF. THE
WORST IS OVER.

MAYBE.

PROBLEM IS-- I
DON'T KNOW WHAT
OTHER PROGRAMS
PROFESSOR WARREN
SLIPPED INTO MY
UNCONSCIOUS. WHO'S
TO SAY I WON'T GO
PSYCHO AGAIN IN A
YEAR? OR SIX MONTHS?
OR TOMORROW?

I CAN'T
EXPECT MARY
JANE TO LIVE LIKE
THAT! SHE DESERVES
BETTER THAN--

HEY,
SAILOR--



--COME
HERE
OFTEN?

MARY
JANE!



WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
HERE?

LOOK, HANDSOME-- I'VE SPENT
A GOOD PART OF OUR MARRIED LIFE SITTING
BY THE WINDOW, WORRYING ABOUT YOU--

--WAITING
FOR YOU TO
COME HOME.



IT'S
REALLY
BORING.

SO WHEN YOU SLIPPED
OUT TONIGHT, I DECIDED
TO GO AFTER YOU.

NO MORE BROODING ALONE
ON ROOFTOPS. NO MORE HIDING
YOUR PROBLEMS BEHIND THE
MASK.



YOU WERE
EXPECTING
SOME OTHER
PREGNANT
REDHEAD?

WE'RE
A FAMILY
NOW.

BUT, MJ-- HOW
CAN YOU EVER TRUST
ME AGAIN? WHAT IF
I'VE BEEN PROGRAMMED
TO--

DO ME A
FAVOR. SHUT
YOUR BIG
MOUTH--

--AND
LET'S GO
HOME.

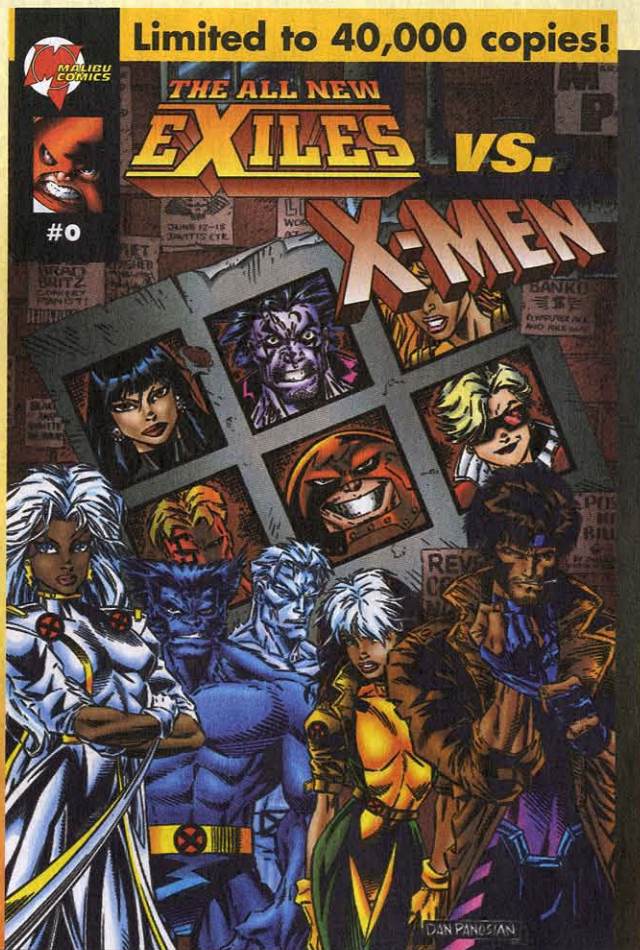
WE'LL SORT
THIS OUT. WE'LL
FIND THE ANSWERS.
AND WE'LL LIVE
HAPPILY EVER
AFTER.

'CAUSE,
Y' KNOW
WHAT?



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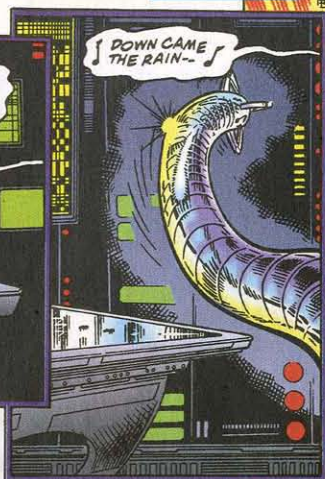
--WE
DESERVE
IT.

MY LOVE--
WHEN YOU
SAY IT--

--I CAN
ALMOST
BELIEVE
IT.



THE ITSY-BITSY
SPIDER CRAWLED
UP THE WATER
SPOUT...



DOWN CAME
THE RAIN--



--AND
WASHED THE
SPIDER OUT...



OUT
CAME THE
SUN AND
DRIED UP
ALL THE
RAIN...



AND THE
ITSY-BITSY
SPIDER--



--CRAWLED
UP THE SPOUT
AGAIN...

WHY DO YOU ALL
HAVE SUCH DUMB-
FOUNDED LOOKS
ON YOUR FACES?
HAVEN'T YOU EVER
HEARD ME SING
BEFORE?

WELL,
ACTUALLY,
DOCTOR
OCTOPUS--WE
HAVEN'T.



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A full-page comic book illustration of Doctor Doom. He is shown from the waist up, wearing his iconic green and gold armor. His head is encased in a mechanical helmet with a visor. He has purple hair visible on top. He is surrounded by a complex network of blue and yellow mechanical tubes and machinery, which appear to be part of his suit or a larger machine. The background is a stylized cityscape with pink and purple hues. There are four speech bubbles containing dialogue.

THERE'S A FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING, I SUPPOSE.

I'VE HAD THAT TUNE IN MY HEAD ALL DAY. SOMETHING MY FATHER-- THE LOU-- USED TO SING TO ME WHEN I WAS A LITTLE GIRL.

AH, WELL-- SO MUCH FOR NOSTALGIA.

NOW WHAT'S THE EMERGENCY, BRUCKNERR? WHEN YOU CALLED ME, YOU SOUNDED LIKE YOU WERE HAVING A STROKE.

THERE'S BEEN AN ATTEMPTED SYSTEMS-BREACH.

TRAINER, NO DOUBT. I'D DO THE SAME IN HIS PLACE.

DID HE ACCESS ANY FILES?

NO! O-O OF COURSE NOT! I DESIGNED THAT ANTI-VIRAL PROGRAM MYSELF!

MY DEAR DOCTOR... IF YOU FIND MY SERVICES LACKING, I MIGHT JUST HAVE TO--

HAVE TO WHAT?

NOTHING. NOTHING AT ALL.

AH!

YOU REALLY SHOULD TRY THIS SOME TIME, BRUCKNERR. DOWNLOADING INFORMATION FROM THE GLOBAL NET-- DIRECTLY INTO CHIPS IMPLANTED IN THE BRAIN.

QUITE THE ECSTATIC EXPERIENCE!

YES, I'M SURE IT IS. NOW, ABOUT THE PROGRAM FRAGMENTS WE RETRIEVED FROM TRAINER'S SYSTEM--

--IT SEEMS YOU WERE RIGHT. WHILE WORKING ON HIS GENETIC RESEARCH, TRAINER DID INDEED DEVELOP A PROGRAM THAT ALLOWS HIM TO SIMULATE ORGANIC MATTER WITHIN VIRTUAL REALITY.

NOT JUST SIMULATE. THESE FILES REVEAL THAT TRAINER HAS DEVISED THE TECHNOLOGY TO PROJECT ACTUAL LIVING MATTER INTO VIRTUAL REALITY ITSELF! HE'S MANAGED TO CREATE A STABLE INTERFACE BETWEEN OUR WORLD AND THE WORLD OF VIRTUAL REALITY!

USE THIS DATA TO MAKE THE APPROPRIATE ADJUSTMENTS TO THE WAVE GENERATOR-- IMMEDIATELY!

BRUCKNERR--

SHOULDN'T WE TEST IT FIRST? THINK OF THE POSSIBLE DANGER THIS COULD PRESENT TO INNOCENT CIVILIANS--

--DON'T THINK UNLESS I ASK YOU TO!

AKKK!

SLAM!

MY CONCERN IS PERFECTING THE GENERATOR. I COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT THE POSSIBLE DANGER TO PEOPLE.

UH, DOCTOR? I C-C-A-N'T BREA-THE! I C-C-C--

THIS MEANS LESS THAN NOTHING TO ME.

MY INTENTION IS TO TAKE THE VIRTUAL REALITY TECHNOLOGY THAT EXISTS AND ULTIMATELY IMPROVE UPON IT--

GAAAAAAA--

--MUCH AS I DID WITH THE TECHNOLOGY OF MY MENTOR, THE LATE AND LAMENTED OTTO OCTAVIUS.

OUR ORGANIZATION IS YOUNG, BRUCKNERR. AND, IN ORDER TO REACH OUR GOALS, WE MUST BE THE SOLE WINNERS IN THE TECHNO-WARS--

--DON'T YOU AGREE?

P-DO YOU WANT ME TO?

OF COURSE.

THEN I DO AGREE, DOCTOR.

WHOLE-HEARTEDLY.

WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT, SEWARD?

LOOKS LIKE AN OCTOPUS.

ONE OF THE GREATEST SCIENTIFIC MINDS ON THE PLANET-- AND THAT'S YOUR ANALYSIS?

WE DIDN'T REALLY DOWNLOAD ALL THAT MUCH BEFORE OUR OTHER SYSTEM CRASHED. JUST ENOUGH TO LET US KNOW THAT MINE WEREN'T THE ONLY FILES PLUNDERED.

AND AS FOR THAT STRANGE CREST-- WELL, AS I SAID--

--LOOKS LIKE AN OCTOPUS. AND YOU'RE THE EXPERT IN THAT AREA.

DOCTOR OCTOPUS.

COULD THERE BE SOME CONNECTION BETWEEN THIS AND OCTAVIUS? SOME SCHEME HE SET IN MOTION BEFORE HE DIED?

WELL, WHOEVER'S BEHIND THIS-- IF THEY'VE GOT EVEN A FRACTION OF SEWARD'S FILES CONCERNING SPIDER-MAN AND THE SCARLET SPIDER--

BUT PETER'S GOT A CAREER, A WIFE, A BABY ON THE WAY. HE'S WORKED TOO HARD, COME TOO FAR, TO SEE IT ALL CAPSIZED AGAIN. I WON'T LET IT BE CAPSIZED AGAIN!

I'M GOING TO DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS. TO PROTECT PETER AND M.J. SEE THAT THEY GET A SHOT AT THE HAPPINESS THEY--

HELLO...?

WELL, SH... HEY, YOU GUYS. I WAS JUST THINKING ABOUT YOU.

GOOD THINGS, I HOPE.

NOTHING BUT THE BEST.

SO... HOW ARE YOU, PETER?

I GUESS-- THAT'S WHAT I'M HERE TO FIND OUT.

YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT ANOTHER "TIME-BOMB," AREN'T YOU?

WOULDN'T YOU BE?

YEAH. I SURE WOULD.

AND--HEY... LOOK AT YOU! YOU'RE REALLY STARTING TO SHOW.

I LOOK LIKE A SACK OF POTATOES, RIGHT?

YOU LOOK BEAUTIFUL.

...I KNOW IT'S SHORT NOTICE, DOCTOR TRAINER...

...BUT MARY JANE AND I TALKED IT OVER...

...AND WE DECIDED THAT... IF ANYONE CAN HELP US-- IT'S YOU.

--YOU'VE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE.

NOW, COME ON-- LET'S SEE WHAT WE CAN DO--

--IT COULD MEAN BIG TROUBLE.

NOT FOR ME. I'VE GOT NO LIFE TO SPEAK OF.

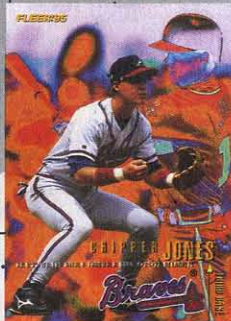
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WHO'S HOT.



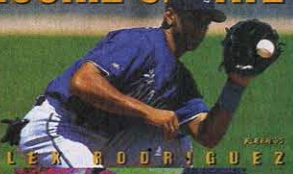
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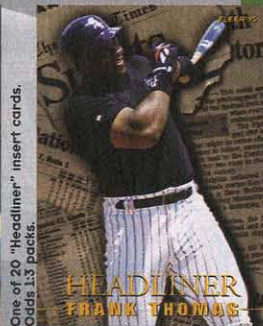
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--TO PUT
YOUR MIND
AT EASE.

"WHAT ARE THEY
DOING IN THERE?"
"IT'S NOT LIKE A
TRIP TO THE DENTIST
FOR A CLEANING,
MARY JANE. IT'S
GOING TO TAKE TIME."
"BUT IT'S BEEN
HOURS."

"AND IT MIGHT BE
HOURS MORE.
FIRST SEWARD'S
GOT TO PROBE FOR
ANY BIOLOGICAL
IMPLANTS... AND
THEN COMES THE
REALLY HARD WORK."

"WHICH IS...?"

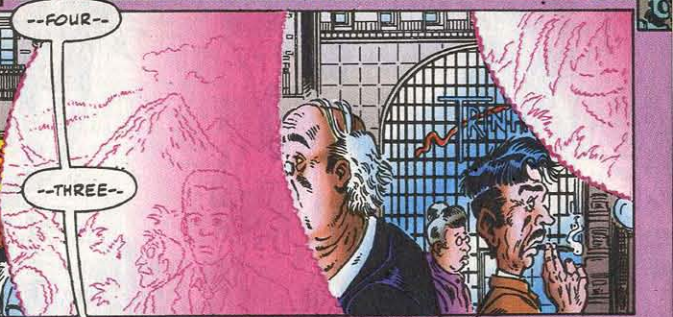
"USING BRAIN WAVE
MONITORS AND
ADVANCED HYPNO-
THERAPEUTIC TECH-
NIQUES TO PROBE
FOR SUBTLE
PSYCHOLOGICAL
IMPLANTS."

"HE'S GOT TO
COMB PETER'S
PSYCHE FOR
EVEN THE
SMALLEST
ANOMALY."

AND--IF
HE FINDS
ONE?

HE WON'T.

I
HOPE.





"BINGO!"

"LOOK AT IT, JOHNSON!
SPIELBERG'S GOT
NOTHING ON US!"

"WELCOME TO THE JURASSIC
AGE--COURTESY OF THE
WORLD'S FIRST VIRTUAL
REALITY BOMB!"



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THE ALL NEW EXILES

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Similar to **Generation X #1**, this new X-Title will be sizzling hot - especially at its \$1.50 cover price!

★ Bonus! Order the **Exiles #1 Set** & get 1 rare painted cover edition and 1 super-rare **Exiles Limited Edition #1** featuring a different cover! **An absolute can't miss!**

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JUST LIKE BRUCKNERR FEARED...
THE WAVE'S UNSTABLE.



IT'S CUTTING
OUT!



BUT THE
IMPORTANT
THING IS, IT
WORKED!

BRUCKNERR,
THIS IS
STEELE.



TELL THE
DOCTOR THAT THE
MINIATURIZED PROTO-
TYPE WAS SUCCESS-
FUL.

WE CAN PROCEED
WITH CONSTRUCTION OF
THE REAL BOMB.



NO MORE
"TIMEBOMBS."

NO MORE
WORRIES.

THANKS TO TRAINER'S
RESULTS, WE CAN FINALLY
RELAX.

YEAH, YOU, ME,
AND OUR SON--
FACING THE FUTURE,
UNAFRAID.

HOW'S THAT
NON-ALCOHOLIC
CHAMPAGNE?

JUST YOU, ME,
AND OUR DAUGHTER...
LIVING HAPPILY EVER
AFTER.

TERRIBLE.
BUT WHO
CARES?

THIS IS THE MOST
WONDERFUL
NIGHT OF MY
LIFE.

ON SALE THIS MONTH

WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #129

TIME BOMB—Part 2 of 2: Spider-Man is out. To kill Mary Jane! Can the Scarlet Spider and the New Warriors stop the web-slinger from fulfilling Kaine's prophecy? By **DeFalco/Battler/Emberlin**

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #406

THE GREATEST RESPONSIBILITY—Part 1 of 3: The story that ends an era begins here! Peter Parker and Mary Jane don't have time to ponder their destiny as the new Doctor Octopus strikes! By **DeMatteis/Medina/Mahlsdorf**

SPIDER-MAN #63

THE GREATEST RESPONSIBILITY—Part 2 of 3: The finale of the clone saga continues! Spider-Man and the Scarlet Spider (together again for the last time!) vs. the new Doctor Octopus... and wait! You see her! By **MacKie/Kane/Palmer**

SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #229

THE GREATEST RESPONSIBILITY—Part 3 of 3: In this milestone 48-page issue, Peter Parker gives up his life as Spider-Man! Not a hoax! Not an imaginary story! By **DeFalco/Buscema/Sienkiewicz**

GREEN GOBLIN #1

First issue of a wild new ongoing series! Learn the origin of Marvel's newest, craziest criminal: Who is he? How did he come to be? The answers will shock you! By **DeFalco/McDaniel**

NEW WARRIORS #64

The Scarlet Spider and the Warriors are caught between Night Thrasher (with his new team, Psi-ones) and Genocide's Eugenix! By **Skolnick/Zircher/Pepoy**

UNTOLD TALES OF SPIDER-MAN #2

In one of his earliest adventures, Spider-Man goes after the monstrous menace called Batwing... and makes a shocking discovery! Only ninety-nine cents! By **Busiek/Olliffe/Vey & Ekland**

SPIDER-MAN ADVENTURES #10

Spider-Man vs. Venom, adapted from the smash hit animated television show! By **Yomtov/Saviuk/Stell**

SPIDER-MAN:

THE LOST YEARS #3 of 3

The finale of this acclaimed limited series! Ben Reilly vs. Kaine... and learn the secret behind the murder that Peter Parker was jailed for! By **DeMatteis/Romita, Jr./Ranson**

VENOM: SINNER TAKES ALL #3 of 5

Would ya believe... the hide of Venom! And the Sin-Eater forges ahead with his plan for mass mayhem and merciless punishment! By **Hama/Laznicki/Palmiotti & Branch**

WEB OF SPIDER-MAN

SUPER SPECIAL #1

In the startling, no-holds-barred conclusion to "Planet of the Symbiotes," Spider-Man, the Scarlet Spider and Venom must end the threat of the invading symbiotes... while facing off against a 50-foot Carnage! And in the special flip feature, the Scarlet Spider concludes his running battle with the newly evolved Lizard! By **Michelinie/Kavanagh/Kese/Lightle/Robinson/Zircher/Crawford/Albrecht**

SPIDER-MAN VS.

GREEN GOBLIN

A 176-page trade paperback collecting the essential battles between Spider-Man and his greatest enemy! By **Loe/Ditka/Romita, Sr./McFarlane** and more!



PETER PARKER: SPIDER-MAN NO MORE!

"The end of an era." You've undoubtedly heard that phrase countless times before, but never was it more fitting than here and now. In **SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #229**, on sale this month, Peter Parker - husband, clone and father-to-be - hangs up his costume and gives up being Spider-Man!



SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #229

It's true: the man we've followed through years of thrilling adventures and memorable milestones (ever since **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #150**, in fact), is retiring and leaving the super heroics to the guy who started it all: Ben Reilly, the one, true, original Peter Parker!

As Peter and Mary Jane begin their new life, Ben will continue on, as the Scarlet Spider! Ben's adventures as New York's new reigning web-slinger will then be chronicled in the four core Spider-titles (which he will be taking over as of September), along with **NEW WARRIORS**!

Written by **Tom DeFalco** and beautifully illustrated by **Sal Buscema** and **Bill Sienkiewicz**, **SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #229** is a can't miss, 48-page classic that will go down in history as one of the most important Spider-Man stories of all time!

Yes, it is the end of an era... but it's also the beginning of a thrilling new one!

GREEN GOBLIN GETS HIS OWN SERIES

This month marks the release of **GREEN GOBLIN #1**, kicking off an ongoing series that stars a character best known as Spider-Man's greatest enemy! But this is an *all-new* Goblin, and he's fighting on the side of the angels! *Why?* And just who is this new costumed crimefighter intent on striking fear into the hearts of evildoers everywhere? You're about to find out.



GREEN GOBLIN #1

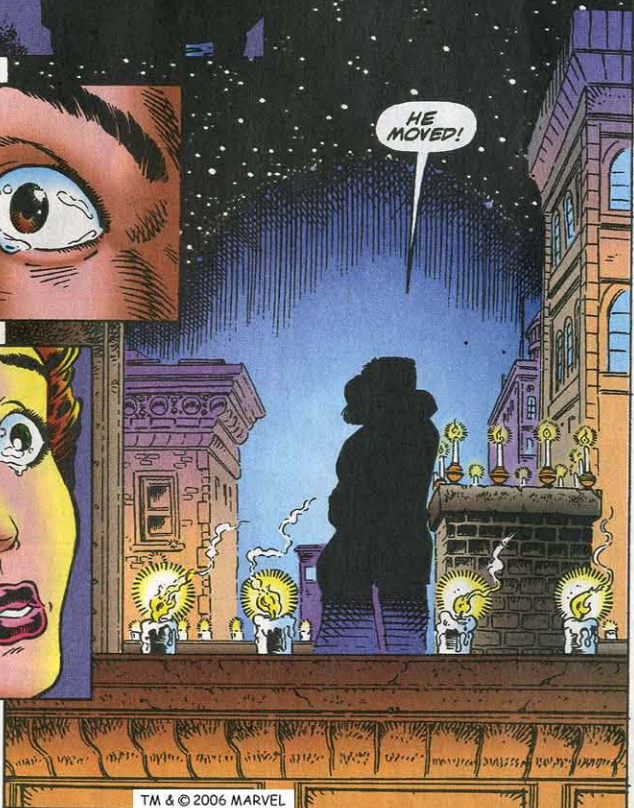
Writer **Tom DeFalco** discussed working on this new series: "I find it a real challenge to write a character who's been linked with villainy for so many years... but as a former Editor in Chief of Marvel, I know how he feels!"

Joining Tom on the series is artist **Scott McDaniel**, who recently finished a much-acclaimed stint on **DRAKE-DEVIL**. Scott describes his approach to the series: "This project afforded me the opportunity to take my art to the next level. The challenge for me is to keep the graphic nature of my style and add detail. With **GREEN GOBLIN**, there's just a plethora of over-the-top images to play with! It's a heckuva lot of fun!"

You can see for yourself what Tom, Scott and everyone else here at the **WEBNET** are so excited about by picking up a copy of **GREEN GOBLIN #1** - flying off the shelves at a comic shop near you!

webnet





...I'M SO STIFF
FROM SITTING AT THIS
CONSOLE SO LONG--
I CAN HARDLY
MOVE.

WHICH I WOULDN'T MIND...
IF I'D BEEN MAKING SOME
PROGRESS ALL THIS TIME.

BUT I STILL CAN'T
BREAK THESE ENCRYPTIONS.
WHOEVER'S BEHIND THIS
THEFT, HE'S QUITE THE
FORMIDABLE--

CHANK!

GOOD EVENING,
PROFESSOR.

WHO ARE
YOU?

HOW DID
YOU GET IN
HERE?

WHY...
IT'S
EASY--

--WHEN YOU
KNOW THE
ACCESS CODES.

WHY,
PROFESSOR--
YOU LOOK SHOCKED.
AND MORE THAN A
LITTLE WORRIED.

LET ME CALM
YOUR FEARS: I'M
NOT INTERESTED
IN VIOLENCE. I
HAVE NO DESIRE
TO DO YOU
HARM.

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- ☐ PPK Spectacular Spider-Man
- ☐ SPI Spider-Man
- ☐ S99 Spider-Man 2099
- ☐ SMA Spider-Man Adventures
- ☐ WEB Web of Spider-Man
- ☐ WHI What If?

MORE FROM MARVEL

- ☐ AVE Avengers
- ☐ BUT Beavis & Butt-Head
- ☐ CAM Captain America
- ☐ DDV Daredevil
- ☐ D99 Doom 2099
- ☐ DOC Dr. Strange
- ☐ FAN Fantastic Four
- ☐ FFO Fantastic Force
- ☐ FWK Force Works
- ☐ GAR Gargoyles
- ☐ GHR Ghost Rider
- ☐ G99 Ghost Rider 2099
- ☐ INC Incredible Hulk
- ☐ IRM Iron Man
- ☐ NWR New Warriors
- ☐ REN Ren & Stimpy
- ☐ SIL Silver Surfer
- ☐ THR Thor
- ☐ WMC War Machine

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Spider-Sense tingling yet?



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BUT I WILL
DO YOU HARM--IF
YOU DON'T
SURRENDER ALL
YOUR MATERIALS
ON CYBERSPACE,
PARTICULARLY
THE ONES...

... ABOUT
THE INTERFACE
YOU'VE DEVELOPED
BETWEEN LIVING
ORGANIC MATTER
AND VIRTUAL
REALITY.

... PULL
ANYTHING!

FIZAKK!

LESSON NUMBER ONE: YOU
CAN'T SNEAK UP ON ME.

LESSON
NUMBER
TWO--

AND DON'T
TRY TO...

SHRAKK!

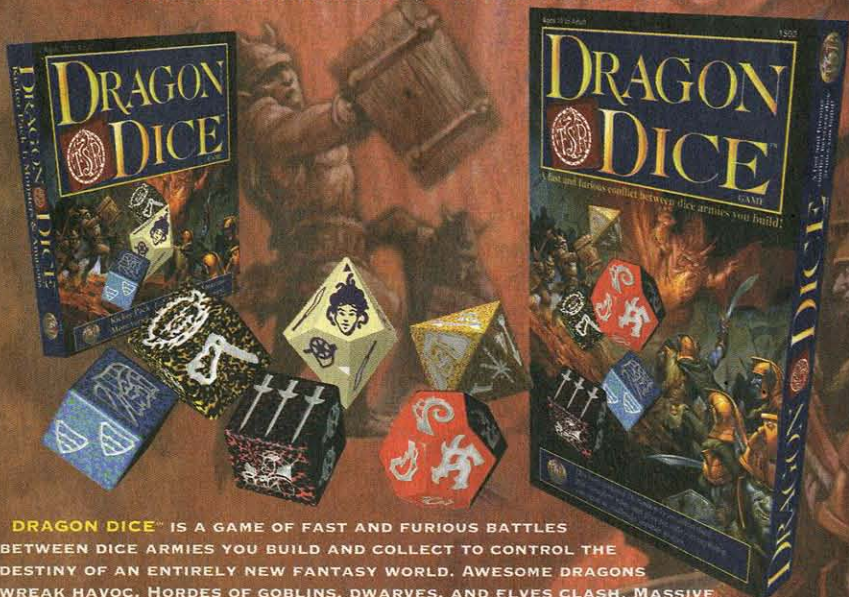
-- MY PERSONAL
FORCE-FIELD IS
IMPENETRABLE.

SHAKK!

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"DEATH, NATURE'S NEMESIS, CREATED HIS OWN RACES TO WREST CONTROL OF THE ELEMENTAL POWERS. THE MOREHL, OR LAVA ELVES, WORSHIPED FIRE AND DESTRUCTION. THE TROGS, A GOBLIN RACE, SPRANG FROM EARTH AND CORRUPTION. FROM THE INSTANT OF THEIR CREATION, FIERCE CONFLICT ENVELOPED THE WORLD. HORDES OF SELUMARI, VAGHA, MOREHL, AND TROGS SWEEP ACROSS THE LAND IN ENDLESS BATTLE, USING THEIR ELEMENTAL MAGIC TO WREAK HAVOC AND SUMMONING DRAGONS TO TURN THE TIDES OF WAR."



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LESSON
NUMBER THREE:
DON'T CONFUSE THE NEW
DOCTOR OCTOPUS WITH THE
UNFORTUNATE SOUL WHO
CAME BEFORE ME.

CRUNCH!

OCTAVIUS
WAS A
MENTOR...
AND A
FRIEND.

KRAK!

TOOM!

THR
AKK!

SNK
K!

BUT HE
WAS NEVER
MY EQUAL!



AND NOW THAT
I'VE MADE THAT
POINT--

--WE CAN
CONTINUE
OUR LITTLE
CHAT.



W-WHY
ARE YOU
DOING
THIS?



I WAS RAISED
TO REVERE
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
ABOVE HUMAN LIFE
ITSELF. TECHNOLOGY
IS MY GOD. THE ONLY
THING THAT MATTERS
TO ME.

YOU KNOW
THAT BETTER
THAN MO--



UH, UH, UH, MY
ITSY-BITSY SPIDER.
ONE MORE STEP AND
I SNAP HIS
NECK.



TELL HIM
I MEAN WHAT
I SAY.

BELIEVE
ME, BEN. SHE
MEANS IT.



SEWARD--DO
YOU KNOW THIS
WOMAN?!

OH, WE
KNOW EACH
OTHER VERY
INTIMATELY
...DON'T
WE--



--DADDY?



THE GREATEST RESPONSIBILITY CONTINUES
IN THE PAGES OF SPIDER-MAN #63!

THE SPIDERS WEB

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NEW YORK, NY
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DANNY
FINGEROTH
EDITOR
MARK
BERNARD
ASST. EDITOR

CONSIDERED "THE" IF YOU DON'T HAVE YOUR FILL
WISDOM PRINTED, PLEASE LET US KNOW

All we can say is...Wow. AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #400 brought in the most massive deluge of mail in recent memory, responses ranging from sheer outrage to heartfelt praise, more than a few claiming they'd been moved to tears, even more stating that the issue was the best comic book story they'd ever read. We were expecting a large response, but even we were blown away by the emotional impact this issue had on so many of you. So this month, we're running excerpts of as many letters as we can fit, and forgo our usual allegedly witty responses.

...So it's finally happened. You killed off Aunt May. AMAZING #400 was probably the best Spidey story I've read since "Kraven's Last Hunt." A real death by real causes. You can't find that too much in comics anymore. Mr. DeMatteis, I can never forgive you... but I can't thank you enough...

Matthew Little
2541 Darlington Road
Beaver Falls, PA 15010

...I knew. Right from the start of issue #400 I could sense that Aunt May was going to die. Even as J.M.'s wonderful writing encouraged us to share Peter's relief at her recovery, I realized it was all part of the build-up to the most emotional moment in over three decades of Marvel Comics. Without the memories and the love, her death would not have been so monumental...

Kevin Barron
43 Mill Falls
Driffield
N. Humberstone Y025 7AZ
ENGLAND

...The fact that Aunt May knew Peter was Spider-Man was not surprising to me, being a parent of three wonderful children myself. As a parent (or guardian, as was May), we know more of our children than they think we do, and sometimes, for humility's sake, we keep our pride inside and smile a lot. Those six pages of Peter and May were truly a gift for all...

Frank C. Evangelista
92 Waldo Avenue
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

...It was good to see May say goodbye and tell Peter she knew he was Spider-Man and was proud of his efforts, which is something he has needed to hear for a long time. The death bed and wordless funeral scenes conveyed the sadness of the moments so well, it brought tears to my eyes...

Chris Morrison
100 Roselawn Drive
Independence, KY 41051

...Ahhhhh!! How could you do this?! How could you kill Aunt May?! She was the best supporting cast member there ever was in any book! I can't imagine her no longer being in this book!...

Drew Blankenship
Route 6
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

...Today, the first thing I picked up at the comic store, and the first one I read, was AMAZING #400. I have waited so long for this one. I didn't even page through it, for fear of diluting the story's impact. As a comic collector for nearly 10 years, and after amassing more than 1500 comics, I must write to tell you that ASM #400 is the best comic I've ever read, and possibly, the greatest single comics story of all time!...

Chris Tait
Philadelphia, PA

...Aunt May is gone, and she died as she lived, not in some obscure battle which Peter would later blame himself for, but bestowing upon him the love and blessing she has always given him. And he will have that love always in his heart to remember her. However, I am very saddened that Ben had to face his grief alone. It was not fair. He loved Aunt May too, as much as Peter did, and the two of them should have shared their loss. But then, life isn't fair...

Zenonte D. Dion
1908 N. 17th Street
Philadelphia, PA 15121

...I especially loved the part when Aunt May revealed to Peter that she knew all along that he was Spider-Man and told him how proud she is of him. Whether he's the real one or the clone, he's got the Parker legacy and it should continue. Even by ordinary people like us...

Augie Silvestre
(No address on letter)

...The scene between Peter and Aunt May on her deathbed was especially touching to me. My last living grandparent passed away two years ago, and it reminded me so much of our last time together. Gwen's death in ASM #121 was, up to this point, the most memorable Spidey story I ever read. I did not think you could ever top that story.

You just did...

Jeffrey D. Cox
186 Garrison Road
Guntersville, AL 35976

...I've known Aunt May all my life. I did not hesitate to cry when I lost her. She was always there for Peter, as this comic has always been there for me.

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Perhaps over the years, as a reader, I had come to take Aunt May a bit for granted; she was Peter's lovable old aunt, harmless, doting. Perhaps their relationship had even become a bit clichéd, with Peter always watching out for her, worrying over her, and she always fussing over him. Then J.M. DeMatteis came along and gave May the one thing she needed to become absolutely genuine: her dignity. And in the end, she gave Peter the greatest gift any parent can – acceptance...

Mark J. Kiewlak
316 West Main Street
Nanticoke, PA 18634

...She knew! She knew! How cool is that?! I'll tell ya – really cool! How long has she known? I've always known that Aunt May wasn't so senile she couldn't figure out the whole Peter/Spidey thing, but I'm glad we all found out before the end. While the "death" of that guy with the big "S" on his chest made me sit up and take notice, the death of May Parker made me sit down and cry...

Spencer Clarke
5821 Steeplechase Drive
Plano, TX 75093

...ASM #400 is the most stirring and compassionate comic book I have ever read. May Parker passed away with all the strength and dignity of her character. As much as I really hate to see May disappear from the pages of Spider-Man, I can tell that this chapter was written for the fans. You took her love of life and put it into one grand retrospective. I've been a reader of this mag for 23 years and thank you for this sentimental, bittersweet tale. Rest in peace, May Parker.

Rick Wiley
429 6th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11215

NEXT WEEK: It's SPIDER-MAN #63, "The Greatest Responsibility," part 2! The new Doctor Octopus has Spider-Man and Scarlet Spider right where she wants them, as her mysterious scheme threatens to throw the world into virtual reality chaos! And Peter is faced with the most important decision of his life. No lie. It's brought to you by Howard Mackie, and the titanic guest art team of Gil Kane and Tom Palmer!

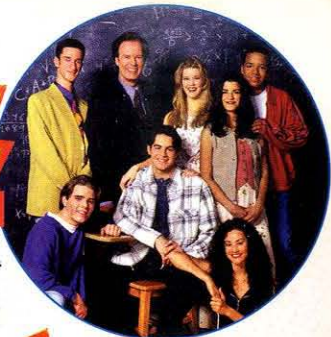
NEXT ISSUE: There is no next issue! Ha-ha!! Join new writer Tom DeFalco, returning artist Mark Bagley, and the rest of the crew in thirty days time for THE AMAZING SCARLET SPIDER #1! (We told you to be ready for anything, now, didn't we?)

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YOU WILL WATCH
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bodies means back-
to-school laughs!



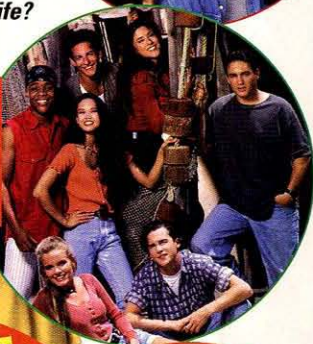
hang time

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to life?



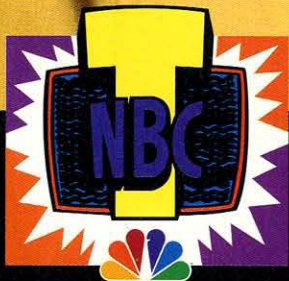
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