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COMICS



SPIDER-MAN

FEB '97 420

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THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

SKROOCE
HUNTER.

'Twas a
Night
Before

X
MAN



02

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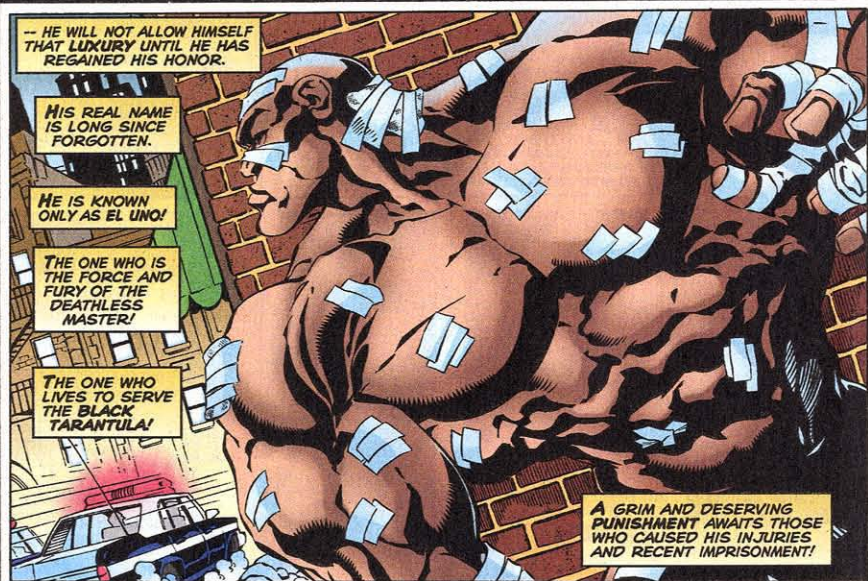
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'Twas the Night Before Christmas...

a Holiday Tale starring the
always-Amazing Spider-Man!

a Stan Lee
presentation
Tom DeFalco
writer

Steve Skroce
penciler
Bud LaRosa
inker

Richard Starkings &
Comicraft/TA
letters

Bob Skaren
colors
ECW

separations

Ralph Macchio
editor

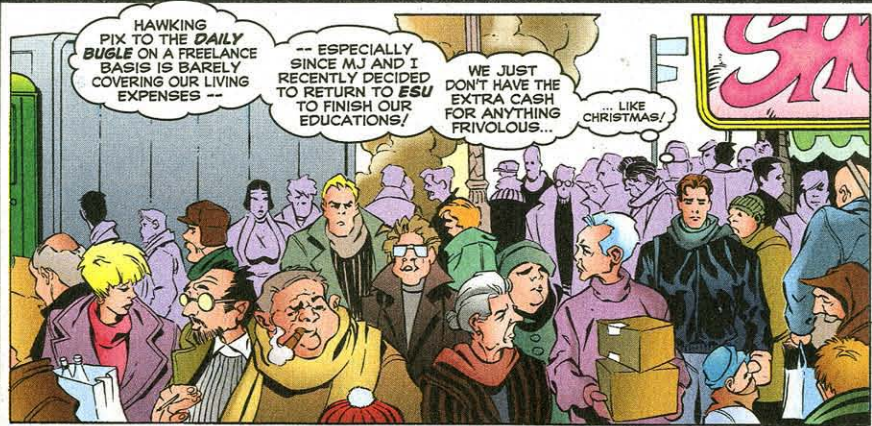
Bob Harras
editor in chief



CONGRATULATIONS,
MR. PARKER! YOU'VE
FINALLY FOUND THE
PERFECT GIFT FOR
YOUR LOVING WIFE!

JUST IMAGINE THE
PURE DELIGHT THAT'LL
SHINE IN MARY JANE'S
EYES IF SHE FINDS THEM
UNDER THE TREE.





CHECK OUT SATURDAY MORNING



WE'VE
GOT

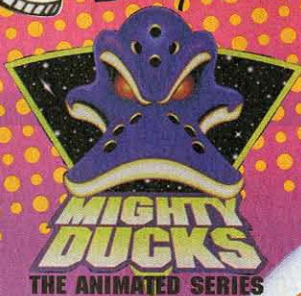
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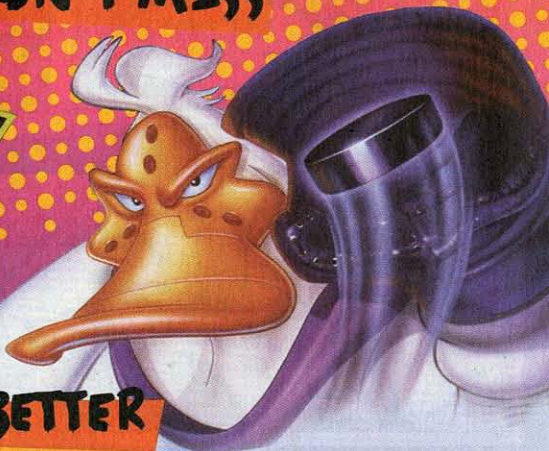
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built this Beast?
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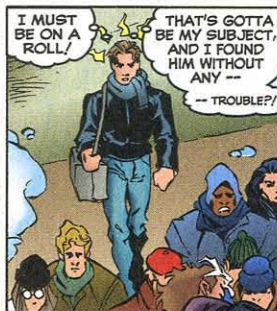


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I MUST
BE ON A
ROLL!

THAT'S GOTTA
BE MY SUBJECT,
AND I FOUND
HIM WITHOUT
ANY --
-- TROUBLE?!

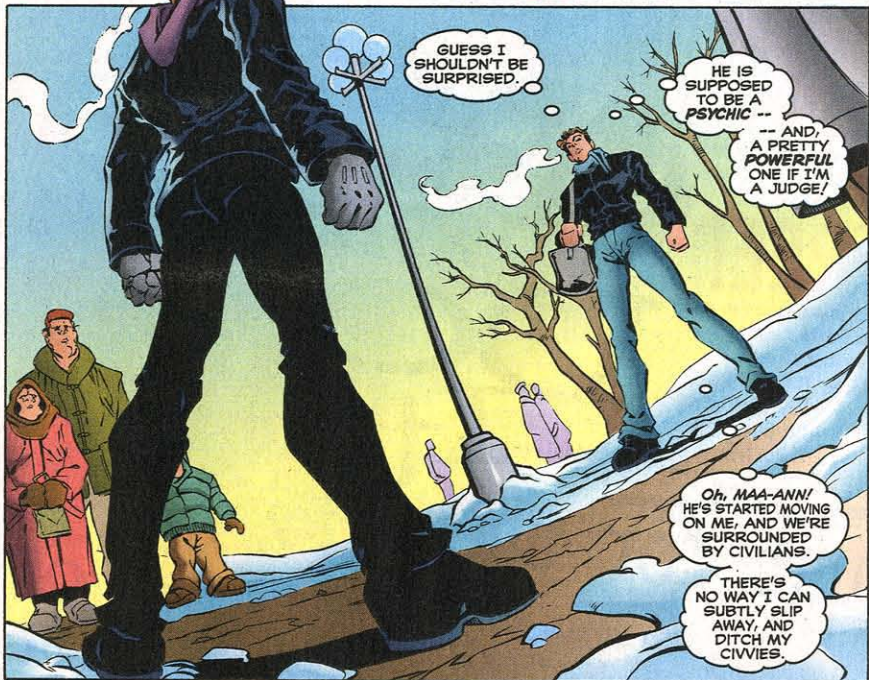


THIS IS
JUST
GREAT!

THE TEMPO OF MY SPIDER-
SENSE **INCREASES** AS I
DRAW CLOSER
TO HIM!



Uh-Oh!
LOOKS LIKE HE'S
TAGGED ME!



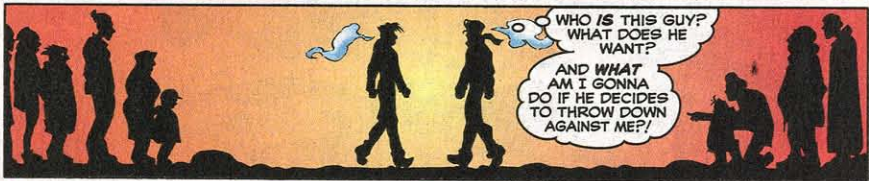
GUESS I
SHOULDN'T BE
SURPRISED.

HE IS
SUPPOSED TO
BE A
PSYCHIC --

-- AND,
A PRETTY
POWERFUL
ONE IF I'M
A JUDGE!

Oh, MAA-ANN!
HE'S STARTED MOVING
ON ME, AND WE'RE
SURROUNDED
BY CIVILIANS.

THERE'S
NO WAY I CAN
SUBTLY SLIP
AWAY, AND
DITCH MY
CIVVIES.



WHO IS THIS GUY?
WHAT DOES HE
WANT?

AND **WHAT**
AM I GONNA
DO IF HE DECIDES
TO THROW DOWN
AGAINST ME?!



I KNOW IT'S PRACTICALLY
A **REQUIREMENT** IN
SITUATIONS LIKE
THIS...

... BUT IS
THERE ANY
CHANCE WE COULD
PASS ON THE
GRATUITOUS
FIGHT?

Uh... SURE... SOUNDS
GOOD TO ME.

HOW'S
ABOUT WE GO
FOR COFFEE, AND
A TALK?

I'M UP
FOR THE
TALK...

... BUT I'D
PREFER
TEA!

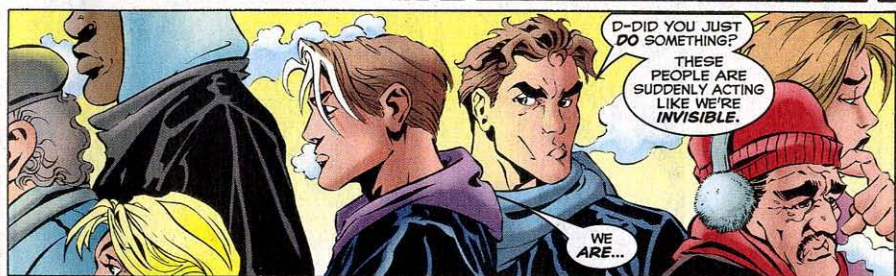
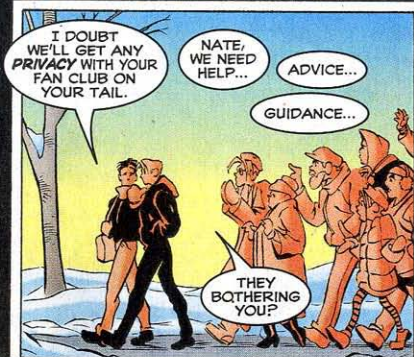
AT THAT VERY
MOMENT...

SOMEWHERE IN
ARGENTINA...

ESTAS
LOCO?!

WHAT
MADNESS
IS THIS?!







YEAH, BUT I NEVER EXPECTED YOU TO ACT SO IRRESPONSIBLY.

DEFINE "IRRESPONSIBLY."

WHAT THAT BE, LIKE, IF I SCANNED YOUR MIND --

-- AND UNCOVERED YOUR WEB THING?



W-WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

WEB THING?!

I GOT NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!

LIKE I'M REALLY BUYING YOUR INNOCENT ACT!

Uh... PETER, ISN'T IT?

HAVEN'T WE'VE ALREADY ESTABLISHED I CAN READ MINDS? YOU'D BE WELL ADVISED TO --



YIKES!

-- SAVE THE COYNESS FOR SOMEONE YOU CAN CON!



ARE YOU CRAZY?

WHERE DO YOU COME OFF PULLING A STUNT LIKE THAT?



WHERE'S YOUR SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY?

AREN'T YOU THE GUY WHO JUST TRIED TO LIE TO ME?

I DON'T LIKE PEOPLE WHO KEEP SECRETS, MR. PARKER.

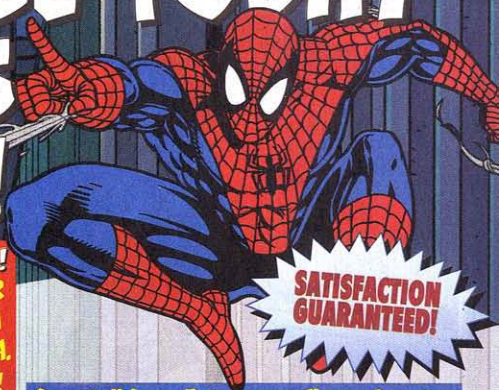


OKAY -- NO SECRETS!

WE'LL GO IT YOUR WAY!

LIKE YOU REALLY HAVE A CHOICE!

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☐ ELK Electra ☐ XFO X-Force
☐ EXC Excalibur ☐ MAN X-Man
☐ GEN Generation X ☐ MEN X-Men
☐ WOL Wolverine

Heroes Reborn

- ☐ AVE Avengers ☐ FAN Fantastic Four
☐ CAM Captain America ☐ IRM Iron Man

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☐ GHR Ghost Rider ☐ SIL Silver Surfer
☐ INC Incredible Hulk ☐ W99 2099, World of Tomorrow
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MEANWHILE, ON
THE WESTSIDE...

MOVE IT,
PAL! WE'RE
TAKING YOU TO
A SHELTER FOR
YOUR OWN
GOOD.

YEAH!
THIS AIN'T THE
WEATHER FOR
STREAKING!

I-I-T
AIN'T FAIR! ME
AND MY BUDDIES
WERE MINDIN' OUR OWN
BUSINESS WHEN THIS
WACKO POPPED UP, AND
DEMANDED OUR CLOTHES!



YEAH! YEAH!
FASHION PLATES
LIKE YOU ARE ALWAYS
PRIME **TARGETS**
DURING THE
HOLIDAYS.

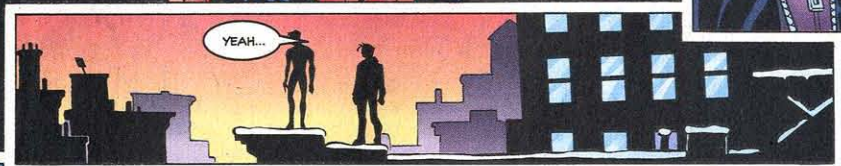
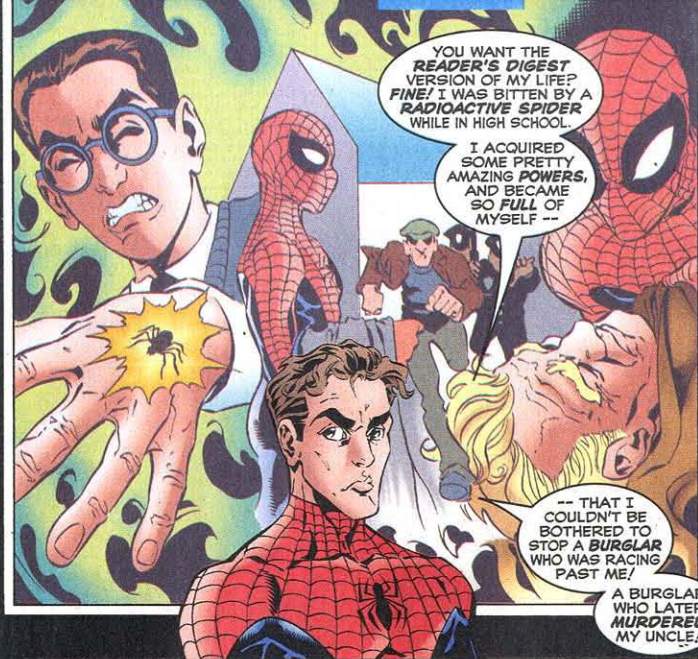
YOU'D BE
SURPRISED,
OFFICER.




IN
THESE CRAZY
TIMES, ALMOST
ANYONE CAN
BECOME --

-- A
TARGET!







WH-WHERE
ARE WE, NATE?

IN MY MIND,
PETER! YOU'RE
EXPERIENCING MY
MOST VIVID MEMORIES
OF THE WORLD I
CAME FROM!

Y-YOU'RE FROM
SOME KIND
OF PARALLEL
UNIVERSE

I SUPPOSE
THAT'S WHAT IT
WOULD SEEN TO
YOU. TO ME... IT
WAS SIMPLY
HOME!

A PLANET
WHICH WAS
RULED -- AND
EVENTUALLY
DESTROYED --
BY A TYRANT!

THESE IMAGES --! THEY SEEM
SO HAUNTINGLY FAMILIAR, LIKE
DISTORTED, FUN HOUSE MIRROR
VERSIONS OF MY OWN NIGHTMARES!





BEST
OFFER I'VE
HAD ALL
DAY.

THESE
ERRANDS --
THEY CONNECTED
WITH THOSE **BOOTS**
WHICH KEEP FLOATING
TO THE FRONT OF
YOUR MIND?

**STOP
THAT!**

I'M SERIOUS,
NATE. YOU **SHOULDN'T**
EAVESDROP ON ANOTHER
PERSON'S THOUGHTS.

IT'S VERY
ANNOYING!

OKAY!
OKAY! BUT
MARY JANE
SEEMS, LIKE
GREAT!

SHE
IS!

I'M ALSO
REAL SORRY
TO LEARN ABOUT
YOUR RECENT
TRAGEDY.

GOING
FOR IMMEDIATE
COUNSELING WAS A
GOOD IDEA, BUT I DON'T
THINK YOU SHOULD
FEEL **GUILTY**
ABOUT --

NATE --
THIS **ISN'T**
A SUBJECT I
WANT TO
DISCUSS
NOW!



MEANWHILE...

WHERE
ARE YOU, MY
FRIEND?

YOU
ROBBED THOSE
TRANSIENTS WITHIN
A TEN BLOCK
RADIUS OF THE
HOSPITAL.



ARE
YOU STILL
IN THIS
AREA?



ARE YOU,
EVEN NOW,
LOOKING
FOR --
-- ME?!

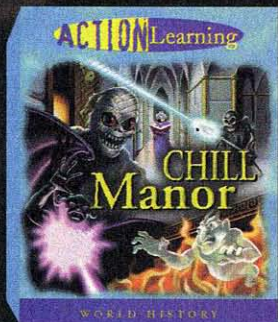
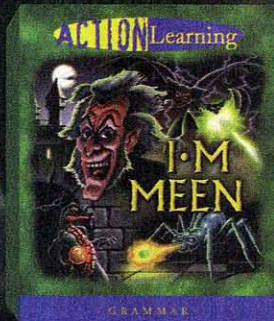
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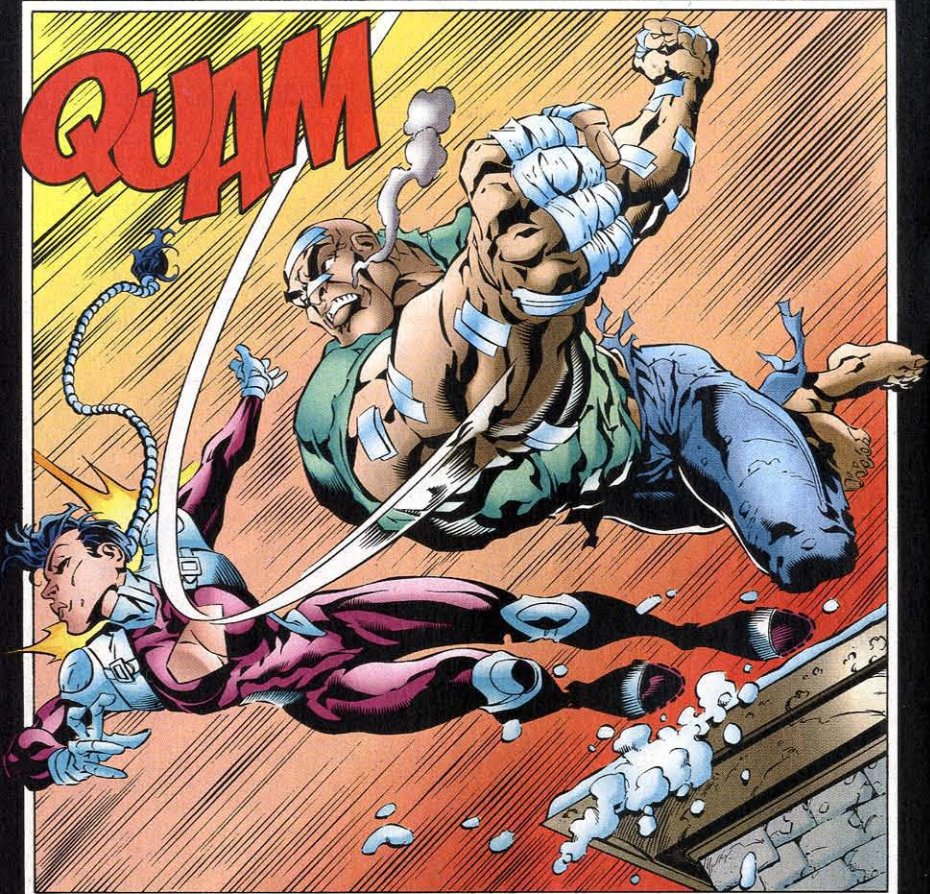
Title Key

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Chill Manor 401142

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THAT'S IT? YOU CAME ALL THIS WAY TO PHOTOGRAPH A HOLE IN A BUILDING?

IT'S WHAT THE BUGLE WANTED!

NEVER EVEN TOLD ME WHO --- OR WHAT --- CAUSED IT!

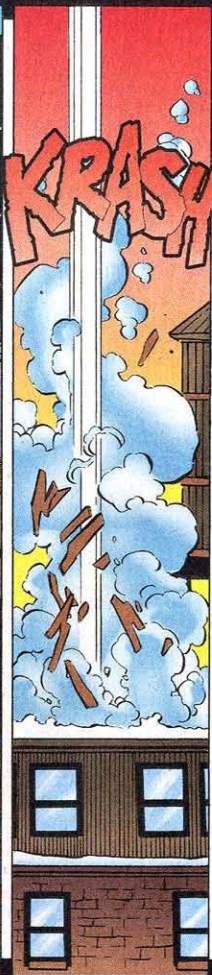
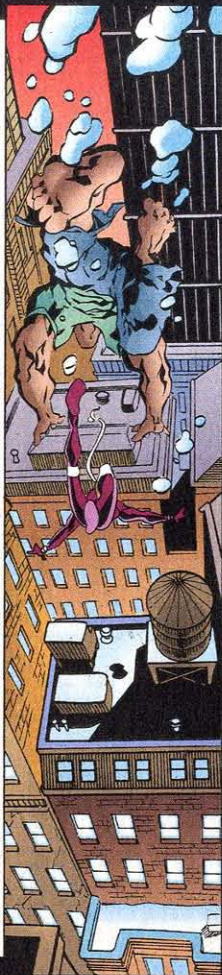
NOT THAT IT MATTERS. I JUST WANT TO DROP THE FILM, AND BUY SOME BOOTS!



I'M REAL GLAD I PACKED EXTRA CIVVIES TODAY.

BE CAREFUL WITH THE CLOTHES NEXT TIME! THEY'RE NOT *CHEAP* ON THIS WORLD.

I'LL TRY TO REMEMBER.



A DARK AGE REVISITED

Remember the "Age of Apocalypse" storyline, which rocked the X-Men line of books a couple of years ago and gave us X-Man and the Dark Beast? Well, get ready then for TALES OF THE AGE OF APOCALYPSE, a 48-page one-shot on sale next week, which gives you the chance to return to the alternate Earth ruled by the evil Darwinist despot, Apocalypse!

X-Editor Mark Powers tells us, "In this story, we see the beginnings of *Prelate Summers'* questioning of *Apocalypse's* regime. We also see *Blink's* first active duty with the alternate X-Men, and the return of another AGE OF APOC-

ALYPSE fave, *Morph!*" And if that's not enough, there's also a twisted version of the *Inhumans*, further mutated by exposure to the *Terrigen Mists*, by none other than *Maximus the Mad!* And thrown in for good measure are *Diablo* and the *Absorbing Man*, who gets to take on the alternate *Magneto!* Sounds like this magnum opus is gonna be positively jam-packed with stuff!

Written by Scott Lobdell and Ralph Macchio with the awe-inspiring artwork of Joe Bennett and Joe Pimentel, TALES OF THE AGE OF APOCALYPSE, to quote Mark, "is a fun story that gives even more background to the alternate reality that's had such a profound effect on the X-Men books!" And it's all yours in just seven days!

THE GREEN GOBLIN TELLS ALL!

He made his momentous comeback during the recent four-part REVELATIONS storyline in the Spider-Man books, but many questions were left unanswered when the smoke cleared and the clone saga was officially ended! Now, the full story behind the return of Norman Osborn - the original Green Goblin - is finally revealed in SPIDER-MAN: THE OSBORN JOURNAL, a 32-page one-shot, on sale next week and told from Norman's own point of view!

According to JOURNAL writer Glenn Greenberg, "This book lets us in on what Norman has been doing since his supposed death way back in the milestone AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #122! It answers all the questions raised by or not answered in REVELATIONS. It traces the last 23 years of Spider-Man continuity, from the point of view of the man most responsible for it!" You can expect to learn how Norman was really connected to such notable figures as the Jackal, Scriver, Judas Traveller and Gaunt! And with Kyle Hoiz doing the penciling, you can bet your pumpkin bombs that this book is gonna have a unique look all its own! "We're really getting into Norman's mind in this book," Glenn explains, "and Kyle is the perfect guy to depict a place as scary as that!"

Serving as a prologue and companion piece to REVELATIONS, and the final word on the recently-ended clone era, SPIDER-MAN: THE OSBORN JOURNAL is a must-read for any serious Spider-phile! And if you're wondering if Glenn will be true to the character of Norman Osborn, his boss, editor Tom Brevoort, tells us, "Glenn practically is Norman!" Just don't ask to see the scar on his chest!



MUTINY ON THE ENTERPRISE!

Remember that classic STAR TREK episode, "Mirror, Mirror" (you know, the one where Spock has the wicked goatee)? Ever wonder what happened after the events of that unforgettable story, once the parallel universe Captain Kirk returned to his ship, the I.S.S. Enterprise, to see all the changes wrought by his counterpart from our universe? Well, you're going to find out in one week, when we present STAR TREK: MIRROR, MIRROR, a 48-page sequel to the episode!

The story picks up shortly after the TV episode, when the mirror Kirk and his landing party (consisting of Dr. McCoy, Mr. Scott and Lt. Uhura) return to their Enterprise to discover that the mirror version of Spock has been ordered by Starfleet (which, in the mirror dimension, is part of an evil Empire) to kill the (not so) good captain! Instead of killing Kirk, Spock locks him in the ship's brig, and the two officers are then forced into trying to outsmart each other (Be more clever than Kirk? As if such a thing was possible!). This leaves the rest of the crew forced to choose sides. And look out, cause Scotty's ready to bust heads if he has to, and he's not afraid to use a club to do it!

Written by Tom DeFalco and penciled by Mark Bagley, this major Marvel Star Trek event is guaranteed to please! So get ready to return to a decidedly different sector of the final frontier, in the mighty Marvel manner!

CHECKLIST FOR DECEMBER 18

TALES OF THE AGE OF APOCALYPSE Because you demanded it, a return to the Age of Apocalypse! We revisit one of the most interesting and intriguing locales created in the X-Universe and focus on two of its most popular characters: Morph and Blink! By Scott Lobdell, Ralph Macchio and Joe Bennett!

WHAT IF? #94 Spotlight on the Juggernaut! In this tale, Juggie finds himself in a world where no one fears or hates him! By Jorge Gonzalez and James Calafiori!

X-MAN #24 Guest-starring Spider-Man! And it's a meeting that could shake up Spidey's view of mutants and Nate's perception of super heroes in this reality! By Terry Kavanagh and Roger Cruz!

X-MEN #61 Someone's interested in reforming the Inner Circle of the Hellfire Club! And Storm, Cyclops and Wolverine face deadly forces unleashed by Candra! By Scott Lobdell and Cedric Noan!

DOMINO #2 Domino draws ever closer to her husband's mysterious kidnappers, but she crosses paths with Lady Deathstrike! Will she be able to defeat the woman who almost killed Wolverine? By Ben Raab and David Perrin!

EXCALIBUR #106 The Acolytes return! Now the question is, will Colossus once again turn his back on his X-Family when they come calling? The big guy will not be the same after this! By Ben Raab and Casey Jones!

ONSLAUGHT: BOOK FIVE In this installment, the Sentinels take Manhattan! Reprising X-FACTOR #125, PUNISHER #11, GREEN GOBLIN #12, AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #415 and SPIDER-MAN #72!

ONSLAUGHT: BOOK SIX In the cataclysmic

closing chapters, our heroes face and end the menace of Onslaught! Reprising the destined-to-be-classic UNCANNY X-MEN #336, X-MEN #56, AVENGERS #402, FANTASTIC FOUR #416 and ONSLAUGHT: MARVEL UNIVERSE!

STAR TREK: STAR FLEET ACADEMY #3 Decker is inducted into the elite Red Squad! But why do they want him to break contact with his Ferengi friend, Nag, and what's their mysterious connection to the renegade who wants to take over Earth? By Chris Cooper and John Royle!

STAR TREK: MIRROR, MIRROR Taking off where the classic Star Trek episode ended! The mirror version of Captain Kirk returns to his ship only to be arrested by Spock! By Tom DeFalco and Mark Bagley!

ABOMINATIONS #3 Its finally here! The conclusion of the "Future Imperfect" spin-off! Will the alternate Abomination be stopped before he can kill the woman who may be carrying the Maestro's baby? By Ivan Velaz Jr. and Angel Medina!

THE ART OF JOHN ROMITA SR. A complete look at the work and life of one of Marvel's most prolific and influential artists! The ultimate tribute, including a reprint of his first Marvel work, originally printed in 1951!

GHOST RIDER/BALLISTIC The Marvel/Top Cow crossover continues! Ghost Rider enters the Top Cow universe in search of Mephisto! Things are definitely going to get bad for the Lord of Lies when Cyberforce's Ballistic joins the fray! By Warren Elleri, Billy Tan and D-Tron!

INCREDIBLE HULK #450 Doctor Strange learns what happened to Earth's missing heroes as he goes head-to-head with the Hulk! Throw the

mysterious Wild Man into the mix and you've got a recipe for disaster! By Peter David, Mike Deodato, Jr. and Jeff Rebnor!

IRON MAN #4 Iron Man is about to get scorched by the new Living Laser! Is he prepared to face this menace or is he in way over his shelled head? By Jim Lee, Scott Lobdell and White Portacio!

PUNISHER #16 "Total X-tinction" comes to its tragic end and the only question is: Will the Punisher survive the experience? By John Ostrander and Tom Lytle!

ADVENTURES OF SPIDER-MAN #11 What can Spidey do when two of his most deadly foes, Doctor Octopus and Venom, team-up for the first time to destroy the web-crawler? Or just 99 cents you can find out if he'll make it out of this stupefied alive! By Glenn Greenberg and Alex Saviuk!

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SPIDER-MAN #77 Morbius the Living Vampire is back and it means big trouble for Spider-Man! Plus, the family of Gwen Stacy steps back into the life of our favorite web-crawler! By Howard Mackie and John Romita Jr.!

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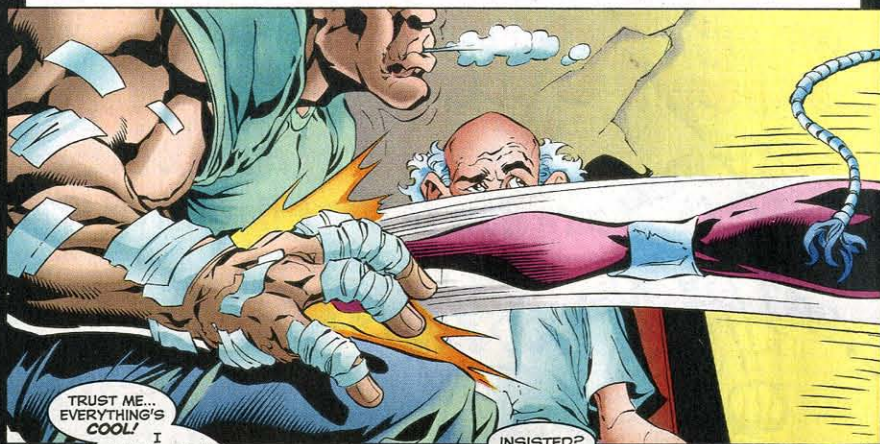
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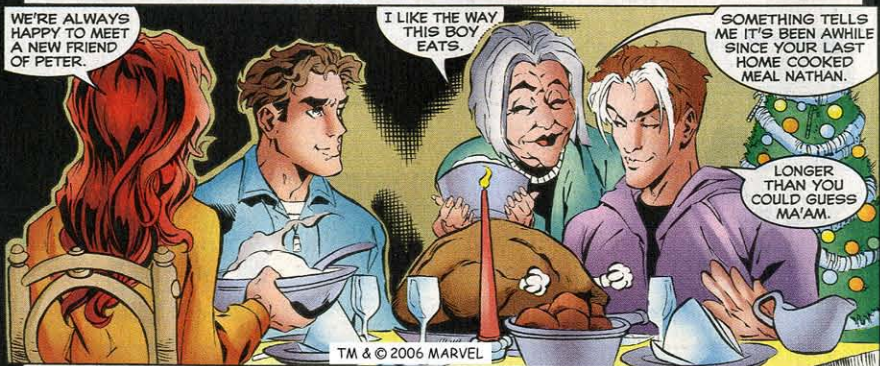


I
CALLED MARY
JANE AND AUNT
ANNA...AND THEY
PRACTICALLY
INSISTED YOU
COME!

WELL...
THEY SAID
IT'D BE
OKAY!



WE'RE ALWAYS
HAPPY TO MEET
A NEW FRIEND
OF PETER.



I LIKE THE WAY
THIS BOY
EATS.

SOMETHING TELLS
ME IT'S BEEN AWHILE
SINCE YOUR LAST
HOME COOKED
MEAL NATHAN.

LONGER
THAN YOU
COULD GUESS
MA'AM.







You blasted your way through an onslaught of undead marines and

hell-spawned hordes in Doom, Ultimate Doom and

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Seems flesh-eating mutants have the mortality rate of a cockroach and are alive and kicking in Final Doom—the last of the **id** legendary Doom products.

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BLOODTHIRSTY

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Sony PlayStation

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DOOM**
End of story.

OF COURSE
NOT, PETER.

THIS IS
ONLY A DREAM...
BUT YOU CAN STILL
TELL ME WHAT'S
BEEN BOTHERING
YOU!

I-IT'S
ABOUT THE
BABY...

... I JUST
CAN'T FORGIVE
MYSELF FOR NOT
BEING WITH MARY
JANE WHEN...

WHEN...

IT WASN'T
YOUR FAULT!

THERE WAS
NOTHING YOU
COULD HAVE
DONE!

THAT'S WHAT
OUR THERAPIST
KEEPS SAYING,
BUT...

LISTEN TO
HER, PETER! YOU
KNOW IN YOUR
HEART THAT'S
SHE'S TELLING
YOU THE
TRUTH.

AND YOU
NEEDN'T WORRY
ABOUT THE BABY
ANYMORE.

LITTLE
MAY IS
SAFE... AND
HAPPY.

YOU AND
MARY JANE WILL
BE REUNITED WITH
HER SOMEDAY.

T-THANK
YOU, AUNT
MAY...

THANK
YOU!

YOU'RE
WELCOME,
PETER.

MERRY
CHRISTMAS!

SOMEWHERE
IN ARGENTINA...

ANY
WORD FROM
EL UNO?

NOT YET, MASTER...
BUT THIS PACKAGE
ARRIVED FROM THE STATES.

I TRUST IT
HAS ALREADY
BEEN SCANNED
AND CLEARED BY
OUR EXPLOSIVE
EXPERTS.

OF
COURSE.

SHALL
I OPEN
IT?

IS SOMETHING
WRONG, CHESBRO?
WHAT DOES THE
PACKAGE
CONTAIN --?!

A CHRISTMAS
WREATH MADE OF
ROSES, AND --

-- Oh,
GOD! --

!-IT'S
EL UNO!

H-HIS HEAD
HAS BEEN RETURNED
TO YOU... WITH WARMEST
REGARDS FROM
THE ROSE!

MERRY
CHRISTMAS
SINCERELY
ROSE



c/o Marvel Comics, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016

THE SPIDER- MAN WEB

RALPH MACCHIO **JOE ANDREANI**
Editor Assistant Editor

Correspondents: If you don't want your full address printed, please let us know.

Dear Spider's Web,

I immensely enjoyed AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #415. I think one of the aspects I was most impressed with was the utilization of the crews of both the Daily Bugle and the Daily Grind. Now, this is the J. Jonah Jameson I like to see. The gritty newswoman. The "We've got to get the news out" JJJ. Cool!

It was good to see a moment between Shirley and Devon. I was really touched to see Shirley explain the concept of guardian angels to her jaded little boy.

I hope to see more of the terrific Spidey supporting cast. They are as much the reason that I read the Spider-Man titles as old Webhead himself. The interaction between both Peter and Ben with their friends is humorous and often heartwarming. A return by Flash Thompson is most welcome.

That's all for now. Thanks.

Angie Saunders
110 Bauer Ct. E-14
Crestline, OH 44827

Glad you liked the ish, Angie! If you like the portrayal of Jolly Jonah as a tough, crusading journalist, make sure you catch his recent appearances in various X-books, where he's been sniffing around in the past of a certain incendiary presidential candidate. And as for our ever-popular supporting cast, we couldn't agree with your assessment more. And just around the corner, as they enter a new phase of their lives, you'll be seeing Peter and Mary Jane meet a whole new slew of cast members. Even more than will join Saturday Night Live this season! Hope you like 'em just as well. We sure do.

Dear Spider's Web,

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #415 was great! I love that first picture we see of a Sentinel—it's the best picture of a Sentinel I've ever seen! And I'm glad to see that Peter is out of the hospital. I was getting worried about him.

I have a few questions that have boggled my mind since reading ASM #415:

1) The Sentinel said something about the secondary life form inside Mary Jane being beyond embryonic normalcy. Does that mean that Peter and MJ's baby is going to be a mutant?

2) On page 23, the Green Goblin is fighting a Sentinel. Is that a sign that he's going to help Spider-Man defeat the Sentinels?

Until Spider-Man starts wrapping bugs in little cocoons, Make Mine Marvel!

Micah Ely
US DAO Am Emb
PSC 98, Box 100
APO AE 09830

We're not quite sure what

you meant by that last comment, there, Micah, but we can pass along that Peter was very touched by your concern about his health situation. As for your questions:

1) It doesn't seem like we're liable to know too much about the status of little May...for now, anyway. But you never know which rabbit we're going to pull out of which hat over here at the House of Ideas, so we're just gonna remain tight-lipped on this one for a while.

2) As you've seen by now, Micah, while the two never fought side-by-side against the Sentinel invasion, both Spidey and the Phil Urich Green Goblin had an indispensable role in protecting their city. Pretty classy ending note for the hippest, happeninest hero of the '90s to go out on, eh?

Dear Spider's Web,

Recently, I got back into comics after an eight-year layoff, and boy, am I glad I did! After reading all that's been going on lately, I can't believe I missed eight years of Spidey. Anyway, the main reason I came back was because I had heard that Peter Parker was going to give up being everyone's favorite web-slinger, and I had to find out for myself. I have to admit, I was pretty disappointed about his departure. I kept reading through the Scarlet Spider phase because I knew that you couldn't leave the world's greatest superhero on the shelf for too long. As the months went by, I really warmed up to Ben Reilly's character. You guys did a superb job at giving Ben his own identity. Hats off!

I just finished reading AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #415 and must say that Mark Bagley's art was breathtaking! He is truly a very talented artist. I understand that he will be leaving AMAZING—does he have anything planned for the near future? Anyway, getting back to issue #415, I think Peter just can't stay away from the action. I mean, his powers aren't reliable at all and yet he's still giving all he's got against the Sentinels! Seeing him risk everything without reliable powers really shows that web-slinging is truly where his heart is. Isn't he worried that someone will see him sticking to walls without something concealing his identity?

In closing, I'd like to say keep up the great work, and until a clone of Elvis shows up in the Daily Grind, Make Mine Marvel!

Bob Koch
1086 Greenwood Place
Fairbault, MN 55021

Welcome back to the ranks of the comic reader, Bob. We missed you. Hopefully you're back for the long haul, and we're sure you'll want to be after you

sample the scintillating Spidey stories we've got swinging your way. As for Mr. Bagley, yes, we're sorry to see him go, too. But never fear, Mark will be collaborating with top-scribe Kurl Busiek on THUNDERBOLTS, which tells the tales of the team that rises to fill the void left in the post-Onslaught Marvel Universe. You should see them popping up all over (like in INCREDIBLE HULK #449, for instance) on their way to their own #1 issue, winging its way to you in February!

Dear clones of the real Spider-staff,

I've finally decided to reveal this startling information: Ben is the clone!!!!

Either the writers planned to have Pete and Ben fooled for a while, or they slipped up and forgot one thing: Kraven the Hunter.

Our Hunter foe fought Spidey way before the Jackal and the clone did, and fought him enough times to memorize his scent. He also fought Spidey after the original clone battle.

In the "Web of Life" crossover, Ben said that the Grim Hunter knew the Scarlet Spider wasn't Spidey because of a different pheromone output, or scent—which means either Kraven was remarkably stupid or the real Spidey won the clone fight.

On a final note, I'm glad Peter got his powers back, and I can't wait to see him in costume. Maybe Onslaught will kill Ben, giving Pete his chance.

So, like the past five years, don't just Make Mine Marvel, Make Mine Peter Parker.

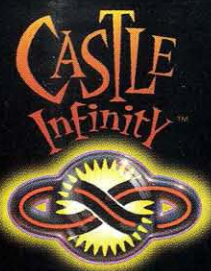
Matt Van Giesen
2 Cross St.
Dover, NJ 07801

Okay, Matt, you twisted our arm...Peter's back, and by the way, good reasoning! We won't reveal whether or not our trusty band of writers actually planned that Grim Hunter red herring, but we're glad to have alert readers, such as yourself, to catch such subtle hints! It makes the job that much more rewarding to have our carefully crafted cryptic clues recognized once in a while (even if we didn't exactly mean to...y'know...ah, just forget it). Regardless, we're just happy to take the credit!

NEXT ISSUE:

Introducing: The deadly *Dragonfly*! The mysterious new Spidey-foe who's like no one you've ever seen! And what other startling new Spider-Man foe is she intimately connected with? Be here next time and all will be revealed!

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