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COMICS

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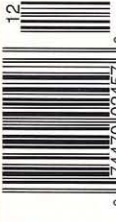
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

DEC
#429

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

DeFALCO
BENNETT
LaROSA
MILGROM

THE
ABSORBING
MAN™
REGRETS...



TM & © 2006 MARVEL

HEY, IT'S
THE EVER-
AMAZING

SPIDER-MAN!

A true hero at heart, Spider-Man has dedicated his life to preventing injustices against the innocent.

MARY JANE WATSON-PARKER

The wife of Peter Parker/Spider-Man, and his closest confidant. She has currently returned to Empire State University as a student majoring in psychology.



NORMAN OSBORN

The wealthy industrialist who pursued a life of crime as the costumed Green Goblin. Years ago, the Goblin was presumed killed in a battle with Spider-Man that also took the life of Peter Parker's girlfriend, Gwen Stacy. But recently Osborn resurfaced, having spent years running a criminal empire in Europe where he fled. Having come back to America, Osborn is determined to once again bring horror into the lives of Peter Parker and those he loves.



JOE "ROBBIE" ROBERTSON

A man of great journalistic integrity, he is the conscience of the Daily Bugle newspaper. Robbie began his career there as the paper's city editor, and has risen to become its editor in chief. He is a friend and confidant of Peter Parker.



J. JONAH JAMESON

The owner/publisher of New York's Daily Bugle newspaper. Jameson has spent much of his long career branding Spider-Man a dangerous vigilante responsible for multiple crimes. Although respected in the journalistic community, Jameson's obsession with the web-slinger has occasionally forced him to adopt extreme positions on some issues. He employs Peter Parker as a freelance photographer.



ABSORBING MAN

Carl "Crusher" Creel was an ex-con who, years ago, gained the incredible power to absorb the properties of any object he touched. This was due to the magical intervention of the evil Asgardian Loki, half-brother to the Mighty Thor, who needed a human pawn to accomplish his goals. Carl is primarily a foe of Thor.



TITANIA

Mary "Skeeters" McPherran was a woman given artificially-induced super-strength by Doctor Doom on the Beyonder's planet during the so-called Secret Wars. After returning to Earth, she kept company with Crusher Creel, and recently, they married. She possesses an intense hatred—and fear—of Spider-Man.



DAREDEVIL

As a youngster, Matt Murdock was blinded by a canister from a truck containing radioactive materials. The radioactivity enhanced his remaining senses, aiding him when he took up costumed crimefighting to avenge the wrongful death of his father. Daredevil is a frequent partner of Spider-Man and each has disclosed his secret identity to the other.



Meet Peter Parker, once a brilliant, though meek, high school student, orphaned as a child and reared by his doting Uncle Ben and Aunt May. At a science fair, Peter was bitten by an irradiated spider and gained the proportionate strength, speed, agility and early warning "spider-sense" of that arachnid. He used these powers for personal fame and fortune as a masked Spider-Man. But when Peter failed to stop a criminal who later killed his beloved Uncle Ben, the youth's costumed identity took on a far deeper significance. He realized that with great power there must also come great responsibility. So Peter Parker became the wall-crawling nemesis of the criminal element; a young man determined to atone for the tragic death of his uncle — The Amazing Spider-Man!

PREVIOUSLY IN

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®



In pitched battle through the streets, the wondrous web-spinner held his own with the revitalized Doctor Octopus, until the six-armed terror suddenly fled.

Despite saving dozens of lives during the course of the struggle, Spider-Man was still pursued by the police for his beating of industrialist, Norman Osborn which Osborn captured on videotape and sent to the media.



NEW MARSHMALLOW ALPHA-BITS[®] SUPERSHAPES!

?? SUPER OR DUPE ??

CAN YOU TELL THE SIX NEW SUPERSHAPES FROM THE FAKES?



DO I RING TRUE?



DON'T BOLT YET!



DOCTORS APPROVE!



TIME IS RUNNING OUT!



NEED A HAND?



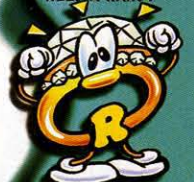
DO I CARRY ANY WEIGHT?



SQUIRMING?



PUT YOUR ARMS AROUND ME!



TRY ME ON FOR SIZE!



DO I CUT IT?



STRING ALONG WITH ME!



SOMETHING'S FISHY!



OPEN UP AND PICK ME!



DON'T BARK UP THE WRONG TREE!



SO, WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

NOW WITH BIGGER-THAN-EVER MARSHMALLOWS!



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NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF VOWELS.

ANSWER: ANSWER: A E I O U

**TWENTY-FOUR HOURS
HAVE PASSED SINCE
THE NEWS MEDIA BEGAN
SHOWING CLIPS OF WHAT
HAVE COME TO BE KNOWN
AS THE OSBORN TAPES.**

THE
Stan Lee
PRESENTS
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

The Price!

TOM DEPALCO
WRITER

JOE BENNETT
PENCILER

LAROSA & MILGROM
INKERS

COMICRAFT'S/KIFF SCHOLL
LETTERS

RALPH MACCHIO
EDITOR

BOB SHAREN
COLORS

BOB HARRAS
CHIEF

**A SERIES OF VIDEOS WHICH
DRAMATICALLY SHOW AN ENRAGED
SPIDER-MAN VICIOUSLY ASSAULTING
A HELPLESS NORMAN OSBORN.***

**FUELED BY THESE SHOCKING
TAPES, THE PUBLIC DEMANDS
SPIDER-MAN'S IMMEDIATE ARREST!**

**HEY,
BABE!**

**YA GOTTA
CHECK OUT
TODAY'S BUGLE.
THE FRONT PAGE
IS A REAL
HOOT!**

**S'FUNNIEST
THING I'VE SEEN IN
THIS RAG SINCE THEY
STOPPED RUNNIN'
CALVIN AND
HOBBES!**

***FOR DETAILS, CHECK OUT
SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN
#250 - Helpless Ruff.**





A FEW NIGHTS LATER
ON THE NOT SO LOVELY
ISLE OF MANHATTAN...

CAN'T
YOU MOVE ANY
FASTER, SIMON?
I'M **DROWNING**
OUT HERE.

PATIENCE,
TITO/
PATIENCE!

A LITTLE
DISCOMFORT
IS A SMALL PRICE
TO PAY FOR THE
RUN OF THIS
STORE.

YEAH!
YEAH! I JUST
HOPE WE SCORE
A COUPLE'A
DECENT SIZED
TV'S.



HEY! MAYBE WE SHOULD'A BROUGHT
A TARP T'KEEP THE MERCHANDISE
DRY.

Y'KNOW, THIS
RAIN DON'T SEEM
ALL THAT **NATURAL**
TO ME, TITO.

I KEEP WONDERING
IF IT'S SOME KIND OF
HARBINGER...

LIKE
FOR GLOBAL
WARMING...OR
THE APPROACHING
MILLENNIUM.

AN' I
THINK YA
OUGHT'A LAY
OFF THE NEW AGE
BUSHWAH... AN'
CONCENTRATE
ON THAT LOCK!



AND I WISH YOU'D
BOTH THOUGHT REAL
HARD ABOUT THE
FUTURE... **BEFORE**
YOU CAME OUT
TONIGHT!

Uh...
TITO...
WHO SAID
THAT?!

TRUST
ME, MAN... YA
DON'T WANNA
KNOW!



HI,
FELLAS!

NICE NIGHT
FOR A LITTLE
B&E...

AT
LEAST UNTIL
YOUR FRIENDLY
NEIGHBORHOOD
WEB-SWINGER
HIT THE
SCENE!



HELLOPP!

WAS IT
SOMETHING
I SAID?

PLEASE
DON'T LET
THIS MANIAC
BEAT ON
US!



WHAT'S ALL THE
SHOUTING AB --
SPIDER-
MAN?!

SAVE
US!

H-HE'S
ASSAULTIN'
US... JUST LIKE
HE DID THAT
OSBORN
DUDE!

C'MON,
OFFICER! YOU
CAN'T POSSIBLY
BELIEVE --!

DON'T MATTER
WHAT I BELIEVE, WEBS...



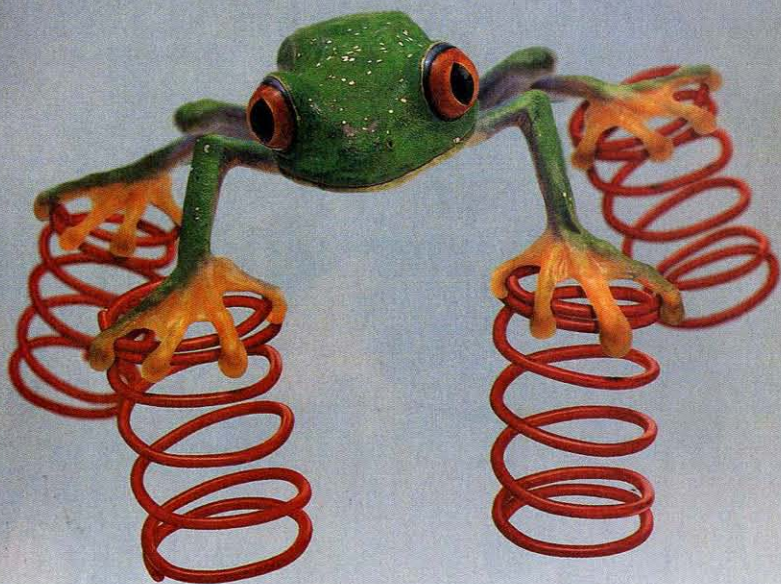
YOU'RE
BUSTED!

STUNNED, SPIDER-MAN INSTINCTIVELY
CHOKES BACK ANY REPLY, AND THEN --

-- AS IF HE HADN'T A CARE IN THE WORLD --

-- HE CASUALLY RETREATS INTO THE NIGHT!









AND, AT THE CO-OP OWNED BY THE RENOWNED, SIGHTLESS CRIMINAL ATTORNEY MATT MURDOCK...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT OF BED, MATT?

I'M FINE, FOGGY -- HONEST!

FINE! YOU'RE STILL RECOVERING FROM A GUNSHOT WOUND. YOU'RE LUCKY TO BE ALIVE.

I WANT YOU TO TAKE IT EASY FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

DON'T WORRY! THE MOST STRENUOUS THING I'VE PLANNED IS A VISIT WITH AN OLD FRIEND.

GOOD! THAT SHOULDN'T BE TOO TAXING!

IT HAPPENED IN DAREDEVIL #368 --
"Devilish Ruff."

POOR FOGGY! I DIDN'T EXACTLY LIE TO HIM.. BUT I DID WITHHOLD A CRUCIAL BIT OF INFORMATION.

MY OLD FRIEND HAPPENS TO BE **SPIDER-MAN** -- WHO'S BEEN ACCUSED OF ATTACKING THE FORMER FATHER-IN-LAW OF **LIZ OSBORN**, THE WOMAN FOGGY'S CURRENTLY DATING.



AND I'M **NOT** GOING AS MATT MURDOCK!

♪UGNNE LEFT SHOULDER'S STILL A LITTLE TENDER, BUT I CAN'T LET THAT STOP ME.



I'VE KNOWN **SPIDER-MAN** A LONG TIME, AND -- WHILE WE RARELY AGREE ON MOST ISSUES -- I CAN'T BELIEVE HE'D ATTACK **NORMAN OSBORN** WITHOUT PROVOCATION.



WHILE HE MAY EVENTUALLY NEED MY SERVICES AS A DEFENSE ATTORNEY --

-- EVERY BOUNTY HUNTER ON THE EAST COAST IS PROBABLY GUNNING FOR THE WEBHEAD BY NOW!

I HAVE A HUNCH HE'LL APPRECIATE A LITTLE MORAL SUPPORT FROM **DAREDEVIL** RIGHT ABOUT NOW!

CUT 'EM OUT

WITH **Post** TOY BUCKS™ YOU CAN SAVE



NOW WHEN YOUR FOLKS TELL YOU TO 'CUT IT OUT!' DO IT! **CUT OUT POST TOY BUCKS™ COUPONS** FROM INSIDE SPECIALLY MARKED BOXES OF THESE POST CEREALS. **AND YOU'LL SAVE HUGE** ON THE STUFF YOU'VE BEEN DREAMIN' OF! SO, THE NEXT TIME YOU HEAR 'CUT IT OUT!' SAY 'THANKS.' AND CLIP AWAY!

AND CLEAN UP!

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VIDEO GAME. TITLES SUBJECT
TO AVAILABILITY.

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CAN'T IT WAIT, ROBBIE? I'M LATE FOR A MEETING WITH NORMAN.

YOU SEEM TO BE SPENDING AN AWFUL LOT OF TIME TOGETHER, JONAH.

TOO MUCH IF YOU ASK ME!

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

IT MEANS I WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON.

YOU LOOK LIKE A MAN WHO COULD USE A FRIEND, JONAH.

LOOK, JOE, I REALLY WISH I COULD --

EXCUSE ME. I HOPE I'M NOT INTERRUPTING.

N-NOT AT ALL, NORMAN. I WAS JUST ON MY WAY TO SEE YOU.

OUR MEETING WILL HAVE TO WAIT, JONAH.

SOMETHING UNEXPECTED JUST POPPED UP...

...AND I NEED YOU TO JOIN ME IN THE BULLPEN.

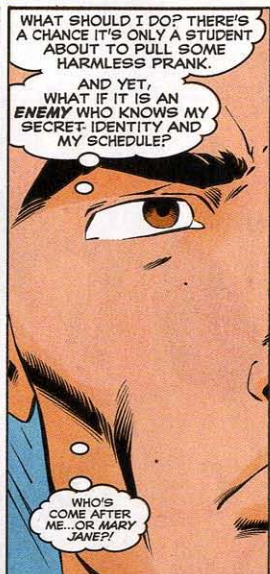
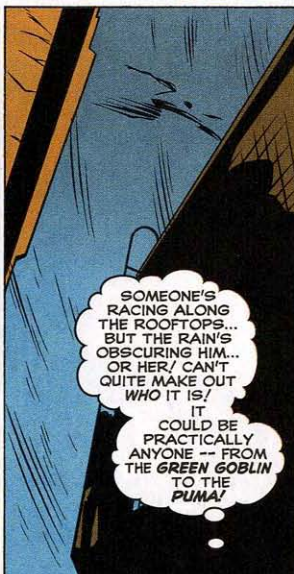
YOU, TOO, ROBERTSON.

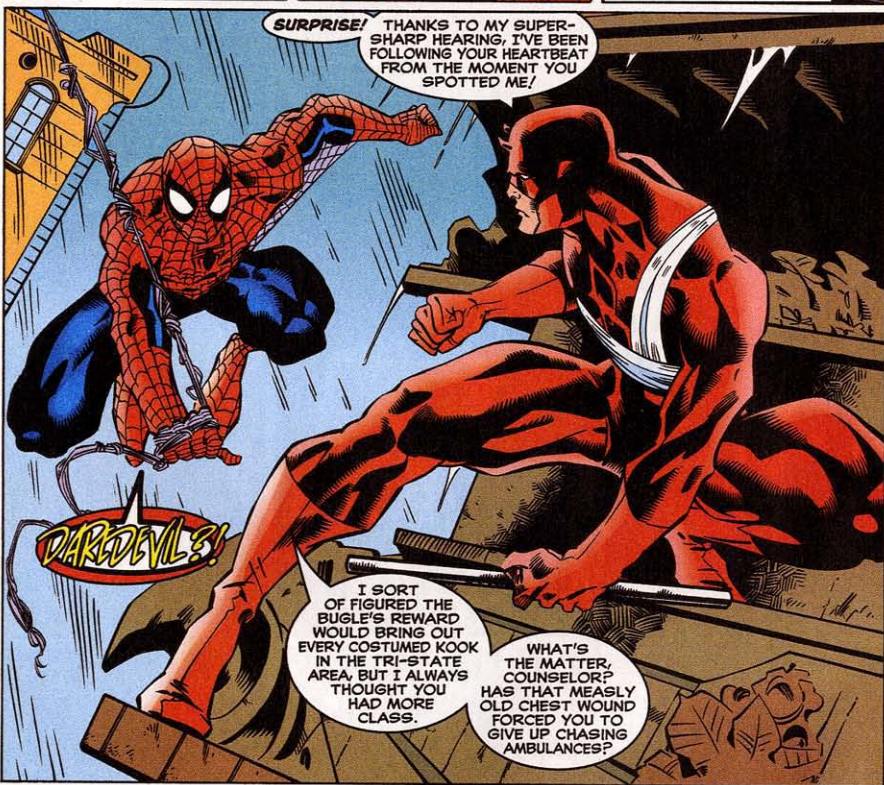
ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE THUNDER GIRL AND LIGHTNING-BOLT.

THEY CLAIM TO HAVE RECENTLY GAINED SUPER POWERS, AND THEY INTEND TO JOIN THE HUNT FOR SPIDER-MAN.

YEAH! WE FIGGER T'PUT YER REWARD T'GOOD USE.

MAYBE MAKE A DOWNPAYMENT ON A SECRET HEAD-QUARTERS, OR ORDER UP A LIGHTNINGMOBILE WITH ALL THE EXTRAS.







WELL... UH...LET'S JUST SAY YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS MY CONNECTION TO PETER PARKER.

AND, CONTRARY TO WHAT HE SAYS PUBLICLY, NORMAN OSBORN IS THE ORIGINAL **GREEN GOBLIN**.

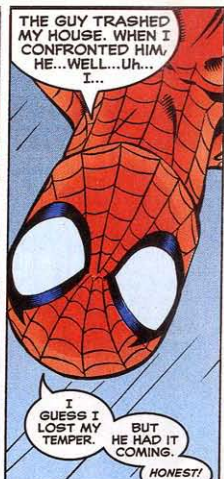
CAN YOU PROVE IT?

UH... NO!

GO ON!



HIS PULSE RATE JUMPED AT THE FIRST MENTION OF OSBORN, BUT IT'S BEEN STEADY EVER SINCE.



THE GUY TRASHED MY HOUSE. WHEN I CONFRONTED HIM, HE...WELL...UH... I...

I GUESS I LOST MY TEMPER.

BUT HE HAD IT COMING.

HONEST!



I BELIEVE YOU.

SWELL! ONE DOWN AND A FEW MILLION MORE NEW YORKERS TO GO!

AT THIS RATE I'LL ONLY NEED ANOTHER FEW MILLENNIA TO CONVINCE EVERYONE I'M INNOCENT.



A **HELICOPTER!** I HEARD IT HOVERING ABOVE US, AND IT SEEMS TO BE DRAWING CLOSER.

SO THAT'S WHAT SET OFF MY SPIDER-SENSE EARLIER-- NOT D.D.--BUT WHY?!

WHAP

WHAP

WHAP WHAP

HEY! WHAT'S THAT?!

HIS ENGINE IS PLAYING HAVOC WITH MY HYPER-SENSITIVE HEARING!

HE SEEMS TO BE TALKING TO SOMEONE ON HIS RADIO, BUT I CAN'T MAKE OUT HIS WORDS.



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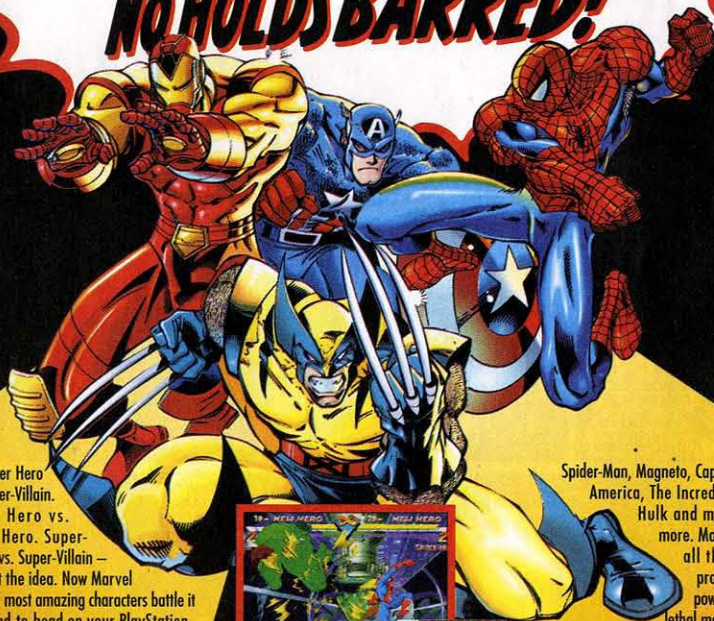
THE OFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF THE #1 ARCADE SMASH!

MARVEL
COMICS

MARVEL SUPER HEROES

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TO
HEAD
FIGHTING
ACTION!

**NO TRUTH. NO JUSTICE.
NO HOLDS BARRED!**



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AND SO, A FEW MINUTES LATER...

NICE INTERROGATION TECHNIQUE.

TOO BAD BUGA-BUGA ISN'T ADMISSIBLE IN COURT.

WHAT'D YOU LEARN?

THAT WE'D BETTER MAKE TRACKS!



I'M SURPRISED ANYONE WOULD GO UP IN THIS WEATHER.

IT SEEMS J. JONAH JAMESON IS PUTTING HIS WALLET BEHIND HIS HEADLINE.

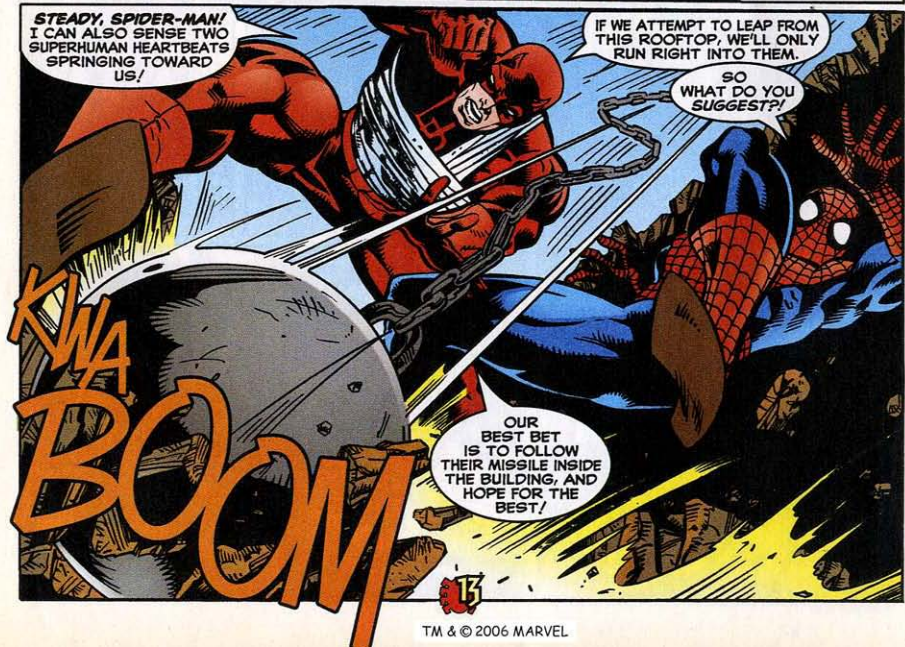
HE'S HIRED HALF THE HELICOPTERS IN THIS CITY TO KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR ME.

GREED CAN BE VERY MOTIVATING, AND -- Ops!



I HEAR IT! A LARGE, METALLIC OBJECT WHISTLING THROUGH THE AIR IN OUR DIRECTION!

SOMETHING TELLS ME THAT IT'S DESIGNED TO DO A LOT MORE THAN WHISTLE!



STEADY, SPIDER-MAN! I CAN ALSO GENSE TWO SUPERHUMAN HEARTBEATS SPRINGING TOWARD US!

IF WE ATTEMPT TO LEAP FROM THIS ROOFTOP, WE'LL ONLY RUN RIGHT INTO THEM.

SO WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST?!

OUR BEST BET IS TO FOLLOW THEIR MISSILE INSIDE THE BUILDING, AND HOPE FOR THE BEST!





WHETHER
YA CALL ME
CREEL, ABSORBIN'
MAN OR LIGHTNING
WHATEVER, THE FINAL
RESULT IS GONNA
BE EXACTLY
THE SAME!

YER GONNA
DOWN!

A BIT
TOUCHY --
AREN'T
WE?!



I'LL
SHOW YA
TOUCHY!

IF YA
THINK THIS IS
ALL A **GAME**,
YA DON'T
KNOW ME!

NOT
ONLY CAN I
ABSORB THE
POWER/A
ANYTHING I
TOUCH --



-- I'M ALSO A GUY
WHO'S FOUGHT BOTH
THE **HULK** AND **THOR**
T' STANDSTILLS!

THE
WAY I HEAR
IT, YOU'RE ALSO
THE **SUSAN LUCI**!
OF THE VILLAIN SET...
BECAUSE YOU ALWAYS
COME OUT A **LOSERRR!**

I'LL
REMEMBER
YA SAID THAT
WHEN I WRAP MY
MITTS AROUND YER
SCRAWNY NECK,

WHO AM I KIDDING?
CREEL'S WAY ABOVE
MY POWER
CLASS!

MY
ONLY HOPE
IS TO KEEP
OUT OF HIS
REACH --

-- AND TO THINK
I CRITICIZED
DAREDEVIL'S PLAN!



HAS ANYONE SEEN
PETER PARKER? I
KNOW HE WAS
ON CAMPUS
EARLIER.

HE'S PROBABLY CUTTING
CLASS AGAIN, PROFESSOR
HOWARD, AND --
HEY!

WHAT'S
CAUSING THE
COMMOTION IN
THE HALL?

WHATEVER
IT IS DOES
NOT CONCERN US.
PLEASE TAKE YOUR
SEATS, AND
WE'LL ALL --



RUN
AWAY!

BROOM

NICKELODEON

NICKELODEON

NICKELODEON

HEY MACK HEY

Every night at 8



Hey Arnold!®
Mondays at 8/7C
New Episodes



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Alex Mack®
Tuesdays at 8/7C
New Episodes



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Wednesdays at 8/7C
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New Episodes



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New Episodes



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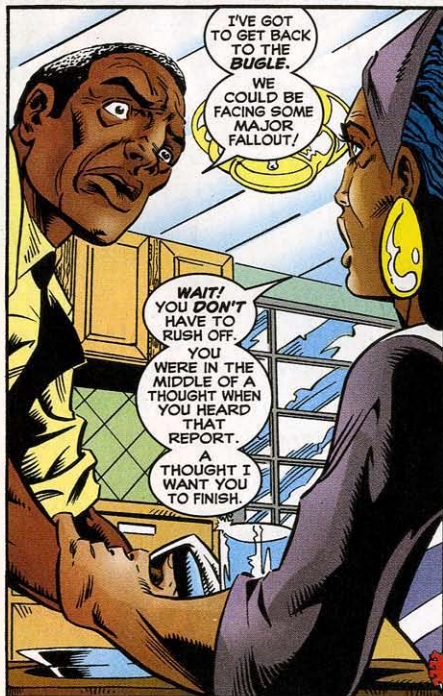
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© 1997 Nickelodeon Television Inc. All rights reserved.
Rugrats created by Doug Langford. All other characters & names created by Gail Kirtz.



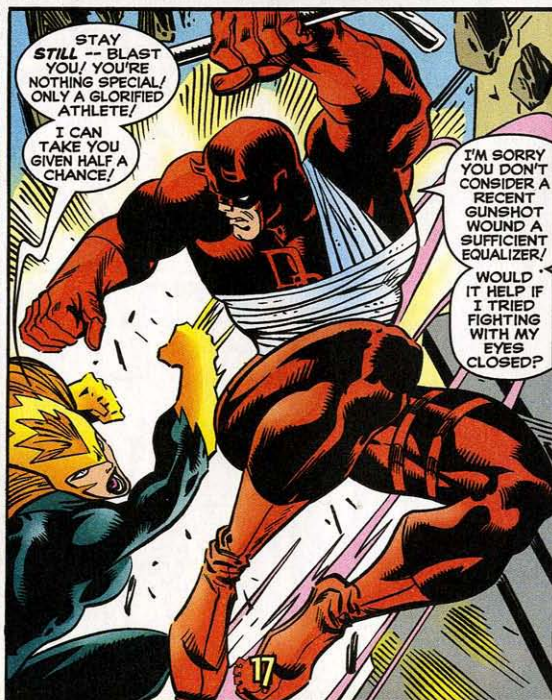
MEANWHILE, BACK AT ESU...

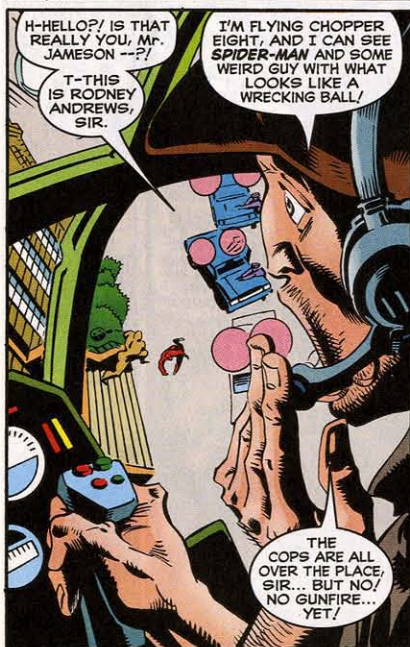
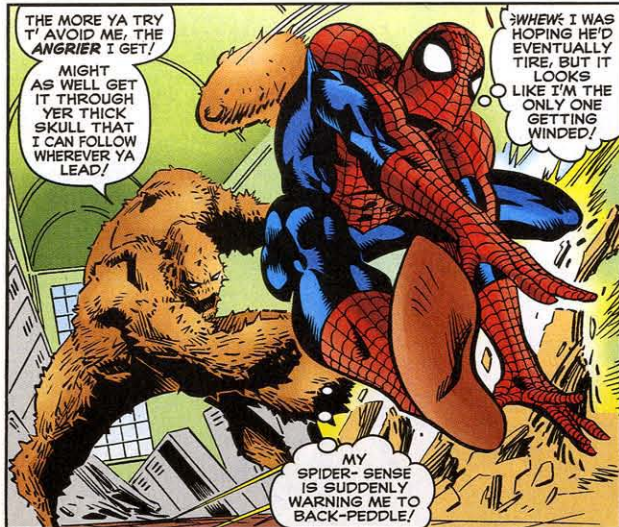
RUN, MARY JANE/
SPIDER-MAN AND
DAREDEVIL ARE DUKING
IT OUT WITH A COUPLE A
HEAVY HITTERS!

Y-YOU'RE
SURE IT'S...

...SPIDER-MAN?

WHO
ELSE WEARS
RED, BLUE AND
WEBBS ALL OVER?!







SEND FOR A FREE* DEMO THAT'S SO COOL, IT'S SCARY.

**NEW
CD-ROM**

Welcome to the world of Nightmare Ned. Where the fears are real and getting flushed down the toilet is the least of your worries. Ned is an ordinary kid with an imagination that's outta control. And you're here to help him turn fear into fun by overcoming his nightmares. Explore a creepy toilet underworld and evade a slithering plumber's snake.

Meet crazy characters like a mad dentist who's dangerous to your health. Solve wacky puzzles. Battle zany creatures. Just don't let go of your yo-yo. 'Cuz it's the only weapon you've got.

HERE'S HOW TO GET YOUR FREE* NIGHTMARE NED CD-ROM SAMPLER!

*plus shipping and handling

- ◆ This demo requires a computer with Microsoft Windows 95, Pentium 90Mhz processor or faster, 16MB RAM and 4X CD-ROM drive.
- ◆ Complete coupon information listed below.
- ◆ In USA: Mail completed coupon and a check or money order for \$1.95 in U.S. funds (do not send cash) for shipping and handling to: Nightmare Ned CD-ROM Sampler Offer, P.O. Box 52997, Dept. 1800, Phoenix, AZ 85072-2997.
- ◆ In Canada (excluding Quebec): Mail completed coupon and a check or money order for \$3.00 in Canadian Funds (do not send cash) for shipping and handling to: Nightmare Ned CD-ROM Sampler Offer, P.O. Box 903779, Kitchener, Ontario, N2G 4S7.
- ◆ Make check or money order payable to: Disney Interactive Direct Mail (please do not send cash).

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Mars





NOW THAT I HAVE ROOM TO OPERATE, I CAN PUT MY SPEED AND AGILITY TO GOOD USE!

WITH A LITTLE LUCK I CAN SLOWLY WEAR CREEP DOWN BY STRIKING AT HIM FROM MORE DIRECTIONS THAN HE CAN COUNT!

STOP BOUNCIN' AROUND LIKE A BLASTED JUMPIN' JACK, AN' FIGHT LIKE A MAN!



I'M WARNIN' YA, WEBS! I'VE HAD ENUFFA YER STUPID SHENANIGANS!

IF YOU WANTED A BETTER CLASS OF SHENANIGANS, YOU SHOULD HAVE GONE AFTER DARE-DEVIL INSTEAD OF ME!

Uh-oh! I DIDN'T EXPECT HIM TO HURL HIS BALL AND CHAIN WHILE I WAS STILL IN MOTION!



HOLEEE--!



SHAQWAMM



T-THAT HELICOPTER JOCKEY TOOK MY HIT --!



HE'LL DIE --
-- UNLESS I CAN RICOCHET FROM BUILDING TO BUILDING --
-- INCREASING MY MOMENTUM --



THE SPIDEY WEB

Dear *Spider's Web*,

I'm new to the Marvel family. I just recently subscribed to AMAZING SPIDER-MAN and two other Spider-titles. I used to go to the store and get them, but now all I have to do is pop open the mail box and there it is! Even though I'm quite a young fan (12 years old), I'm happy to be a part of the Marvel family!

When I got issue #423, I was very shocked and felt bad for Spidey when he was beaten by Electro and left on the street like a sack of potatoes. It was very pitiful for a superhero like him to fall like that. If I could, I would have jumped in the comic and taken care of Electro myself!

In ASM #424, Spidey had his worst headache yet! Is it from the Morbius bite? If so, will it affect Spidey in the near future?

Finally, will Marvel produce a second ESSENTIAL SPIDER-MAN volume?

Well, until Spider-Man turns into a blood-sucking beast from the Morbius bite, Make Mine Marvel!

Joshua Patel
Riverdale, IL

Welcome to the family, Joshua! Just sit right down here; we're always happy to make another place at the table.

Sorry you felt so bad for Spidey over his treatment at the hands of Electro, but as we're sure you know by now, Electro sure got his in the end. And as for Peter's headaches, they certainly have gotten worse. You didn't miss Spidey's harrowing moments of hanging from a windowsill while not being able to move in PETER PARKER, SPIDER-MAN #83, did you?

And lastly, we certainly are producing a second volume of the acclaimed ESSENTIAL SPIDER-MAN series (as well as ESSENTIAL X-MEN and ESSENTIAL WOLVERINE, for that matter)! As a matter of fact, it'll be on sale by the time this letter sees print! Better hurry over to that store where you used to buy your comics and grab a copy!

Dear *Spider's Web*,

I've just come up for air after reading AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #424, and I have to say that Joe Bennett does a mighty fine job of drawing some mighty fine women, not mention the Spidey-kicks-but action shots. I'm really starting to take a shine to the action sequences, and in #424, you couldn't complain about the lack of them. Also, I really liked page 18 when Spidey nearly lost it and wanted to make some ninja pancakes. It's

good for us to be reminded now and then just how powerful a superhero he is sometimes, and that if he really wanted to, he could flatten just about anyone. But he doesn't. That's cool.

Uh, guys, I was wondering if it is possible for you to include the dates from the letters that are written to the Spider's Web and all the other letters pages, so it could give us all an idea of when (as we already know where) the writers are coming from. I really get into the letters pages and often track down my previous comic issues to see what the writer is on about.

I only have one gripe and that is that I have been trying to collect (so far successfully) every Marvel title that Spidey has been in since 1994. The collecting bug has bitten me severely. The only problem is that you now have SPIDER-MAN CYBERCOMICS on America Online, and I don't own or have access to an online computer. My question is this: Is there any other way to collect or be able to read these stories? Are they available on CD-ROM or have they been printed on paper somewhere? Please tell me as I am desperate to read and/or collect them from story #1 onward. Remember, I live in Australia and we only just got electricity here yesterday.

Brett Boughton
45 Pratten Street
Brisbane, AUSTRALIA 4075

Well, since you've seen fit to take cheap a shot at your own country there, Brett, we won't burden you with any hackneyed letters page reply with a phony accent, with phrases like, "G'day, Mate!" in it and all. Deal?

Sorry, but no go on the dates issue. We just want to keep as much space available for insightful comment and discussion, and we think adding even another line per letter isn't warranted here (especially since two of the Spidey monthlies are down to one letters page. Sob!). Usually letters (or at least most of them) contain the issue number(s) being discussed on any given letters page, so you shouldn't have a problem.

As for printing the SPIDER-MAN CYBER-COMIC... hmmm, interesting idea. What do the rest of you out there think? Any of you computer-inhibited folks out there dying to see Spidey's online adventures set down on good, old-fashioned paper? Let us know!

Dear Spidey people,

I haven't picked up a Spider-Man issue since Ben Reilly was said to be the real Spider-Man.

I recently picked up AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #424, and let me tell you, it was great! The story was great, the art was great, it was just amazing! But what really got me was all the stuff I missed. Peter's back; the Green Goblin's back; one of my favorite Spidey pencils, Mark Bagley, is gone; Mary Jane got pregnant, but then the baby died. Let's just say that I'm never going to skip another issue again. I'm just glad that the one and only Spidey is again kicking some serious butt! Oh, yeah, and I knew the Green Goblin wasn't really dead! So Make Mine Marvel!

Chris Osman
8814 Penny Hollow Lane
Eugene, MO 65032

Let that be a lesson to you, Chris! Don't ever miss an issue, or you're likely to find that a whole slew of amazing things have happened all over again! Hah! Seriously, though, it certainly is nice to have you back. Hope you enjoy the stay.

Dear AMAZING team,

A few random thoughts on AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #424 and the current storylines in general:

1. Please, please, please put the lightning bolts back on Electro's mask! I was hoping if the last couple of years had shown anything, it was that the classic Spidey villains shouldn't be tampered with.

2. I'm really enjoying the appearances of the new Rose in these pages. After that embarrassingly awful Blood Rose/Kingpin II nonsense in WEB OF SPIDER-MAN a few years back, it's refreshing to see the character returned to its original concept. Is it still Richard Fisk under the mask? They might well tell.

3. Madam Qwa is very similar in appearance to Madame Fang, a villainess Tom created in his last run on this title. Any connection? And if not, are there any plans for Tom to finally tie up that Madame Fang/Manslaughter Marsdale storyline, as it's been hanging for well over a decade now.

4. The letters page controversies rage on. I agree we need to see the baby May storyline resolved soon. I'm a bit tired of children disappearing with frequent regularity in the Marvel Universe. There seems to be some sort of common feeling that superhero heroes having kids is somehow going to alienate a section of the audience, so they end up being killed off, disappearing mysteriously or being aged to adulthood. Just for once, could we see a couple of characters bringing up their child just like normal parents?

MATT HICKS
ASSISTANT
EDITOR

RALPH MACCHIO
EDITOR

BOB HARRAS
CHIEF

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5. Letters page controversy number two seems to be about the return of Norman Osborn, the original Green Goblin. I have sympathy with those who complain about his return. The retroactive continuity that has him surviving his "final" battle with Peter has ruined possibly the greatest Spider-Man story of all time, and the explanation that he didn't re-enter Peter's life until recently because of his "business affairs in Europe" is a bit feeble to say the least. However, what I would say to those readers who, like myself, would have preferred to see the Goblin stay dead is that to get ourselves free of the clone debacle, perhaps the resurrection of Norman Osborn is a price we have to be willing to pay. I'm not happy with it myself, but it beats the alternative, and I guess it does open up some interesting storylines in the future. (I have to disagree with the letter page comment that Spider-Man is the only major Marvel hero without an arch-enemy. For my money, his arch-enemy has always been Otto Octavius, the original, and far superior, Dr. Octopus.)

6. Having said all that, wouldn't it make an interesting issue or two to see the original Green Goblin up against the original Hobgoblin either in battle or as allies? Just a thought.

Looking forward to next month's anniversary issue. Cheers.

Andy Oliver
38 Sycamore Avenue
Uppingham, Essex
ENGLAND
RM14 2HR

Whew! Guess you had quite a bit on your mind there, Andy! Let's take them in order:

1. Well, not this time around. It seems Electro was just too drunk with power to bother going home to get the mask! We'll have to wait for Electro's next appearance to see if he is to do it again.

2. All together now: "Not! Telling!"

3. No connection as yet between the aforementioned Madames, but who knows what the future holds? And that decade-long hanging plotline? It's called suspense!

4. Maybe. Maybe not.

5. So! This one disagrees with us, does he? Why, he shall be sentenced to...the return of his favorite villain! (How's that for a punishment?)

6. Indeed it would, Andy. However, it seems that Norman is tied up in quite a bit of skulduggery as we speak, and good ol' Roderick Kingsley is bidding away his time in a moldy jail cell. But c'mon, you know that someday, some writer is just not going to be able to resist the Clash of the Gobblins! (You don't actually think that Norman would work side by side with the guy that stole all his stuff, do you?)

Dear Spider's Web,

After reading issue #424, I knew that I just had to write you guys and give you a resounding thumbs-up. This is only the second time that I have ever written to this letters page after following the ol' webhead for over 20 years, but you really compelled me to send in a response.

Finally! After years of frustration in seeing Spidey always holding back his power against any opponent, we see an admission

by him that he's sick of it! We get to see him haul a multi-ton freight car over his head like a feather. Yeah, I always knew he had that kind of strength; it's just really refreshing to see him let go once in a while! In the end, he acts the only way he can: with responsibility.

My thanks to the Spider-team for making it finally happen. The closest we came to something of this nature before was when Spidey was lifting tons of subway off his back in one of the earlier issues of the SPIDER-MAN title.

Stan Lee promised us a long time ago that Spidey would become one of the most powerful super heroes in the Marvel Universe, and he was still a teen then. Now that he's a man, naturally, he should be even more powerful than he was before—as you grow older, you develop more strength.

What you've done this issue is to give us a glimpse of what we've always suspected, but rarely seen. A hardy and grateful "thank you" from a long-time reader. Here's a couple of questions (that you can dance around, of course). What's going on with those headaches Spidey's having? Does Spidey have Morbius's blood taint now? If Morbius is still alive, Spidey better seek some answers—before his incisors start becoming a problem to brush.

Keep up the good work!

Dave Sauer
372 Lehigh Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15232-2008

And a hearty hello to you, Dave. It's good to know that our long-time readers can still get themselves so worked up over an issue that they have to write in. That "thank you" goes right back out to you.

Thanks also for your interesting insight into Spidey's strength factor. You wouldn't be referring to the classic ASM #32-33 by the great Stan Lee and Steve Ditko, would you? That particular scene has long been one of our favorites as well. But please don't tell us that you were unmoved by Peter and Ben's display of power when kicking Sentinel tail back in SPIDER-MAN #72?

And please don't be concerned, Dave. We've been dancing around questions regarding the Morbius bite for many an issue, now! But you'll be pleased to know that the Morbius bite sub-plot was resolved in issue #84 of our sister title PETER PARKER, SPIDER-MAN. Guess the dance is finally over.

NEXT ISSUE

GUEST STARS? YOU WANT GUEST STARS, YOU SAY? OKAY, THEN... HOW-ABOUT THE SILVER SURFER? SO JUST WHO'S BAD ENOUGH TO WARRANT SUCH SUPER-POWERED ATTENTION? WOULDJA BELIEVE... NINE ANGRY BOY SCOUTS? (JUST KIDDING!) YOU GUESSED IT, THE FLAT-OUT SCARIEST ANARCHO-SERIAL KILLER AROUND... LARNAGE! HEAD FOR COVER! IT'S THE FIRST OF A TWO-PART CHILLER BROUGHT TO YOU WITH LOVE AND COMPASSION (YOU'RE GONNA NEED IT!) BY TOM "ITALON" REFALCO, STEVE "SCREAMS" SKROCE AND "BLOODCURDLING" BUD LAROSA! WEAR SOMETHING OLD-IT'S GONNA GET DIRTY!

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION (REQUIRED BY 39 U.S.C. 3685)

1. Publication Title: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
2. Publication No.: 540-030
3. Filing Date: October 1, 1997
4. Issue Frequency: MONTHLY
5. No. of issues published annually: 12
6. Annual subscription price: \$23.88/12 issues
7. Complete mailing address of known office of publication: 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016
8. Complete mailing address of headquarters or general business office of Publisher: Same
9. Full names and complete mailing addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor: Stan Lee, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. Editor: Ralph Macchio, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016. Managing Editor: N/A
10. Owner (If owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as that of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.) Approximately 75% of the Common Stock of Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. is owned indirectly through wholly-owned subsidiaries by Marvel Parent Holdings, Inc., and the balance of Marvel's Common Stock is publicly owned. The shares of Marvel's Common Stock are listed for trading on the New York Stock Exchange. Complete Mailing Address: Marvel Parent Holdings, Inc., 5900 North Andrews Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309.
11. Known bondholders, mortgages, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities. If none, check box: None
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at special rates. (Check one.) The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for Federal income tax purposes: ☐ Has not changed during preceding 12 months. ☐ Has changed during preceding 12 months. (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)
13. Publication Title: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
14. Issue date for circulation data below: SEPTEMBER 15, Extent and Nature of Circulation
15. A. Total No. Copies Printed (net press run): Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 274,400. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 253,000.
16. B. Paid and/or requested Circulation: (1) Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales: Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 149,472. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 128,323. (2) Paid or requested mail subscriptions: Average no. of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 10,497. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 8,505.
17. C. Total Paid and/or requested Circulation (sum of 15B(1) and 15B(2)): Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 159,950. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 134,828.
18. D. Free Distribution by mail (samples, complimentary, and other free): Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 600. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 600.
19. E. Free Distribution outside the mail: Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 0. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 0.
20. F. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15D and 15E): Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 600. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 600.
21. G. Total Distribution (Sum of 15C, 15F): Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 160,550. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 135,428.
22. H. Copies not distributed: (1) Office use, leftovers, Spoiled: Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 125. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 125. (2) Returns from News Agents: Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 113,725. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 117,447.
23. I. Total (Sum of 15G, 15H(1), and 15H(2)): Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 274,400. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 253,000.
24. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15C / 15G x 100): Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 95. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 99.
25. Publication of Statement of Ownership: ☐ Publication required. Will be printed in the December issue of this publication. ☐ Publication not required.
26. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: Armida Fuentes, Marketing Coordinator 10/1/97

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including multiple damages and civil penalties).



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B-BABY
LOVE?!



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DOLL!

Y-YER
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COMIN' TO
GET'CHA!

I AIN'T GONNA
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