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THE AMAZING

SPIDER-MAN



DIRECT EDITION

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\$2.99 US \$4.50 CAN

**FEATURING
THE GREATEST
SPIDER-SLAYER
STORIES
OF ALL TIME!**

INCLUDING...

CAPTURED

BY

**J. JONAH
JAMESON!**

TO KILL A SPIDER-MAN!

**24 HOURS TILL
DOOMSDAY!**

...AND MORE!

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Want to grow?
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helps your bones grow.
Momma Mia!



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AT A DEMONSTRATION ON RADIATION, HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT PETER PARKER WAS BITTEN BY AN IRRADIATED SPIDER FROM WHICH HE GAINED THE ARACHNID'S INCREDIBLE ABILITIES. WHEN A BURGLAR KILLED HIS BELOVED UNCLE BEN, A GRIEF-STRIKEN PETER VOWED TO USE HIS GREAT POWERS IN THE SERVICE OF HIS FELLOW MAN, BECAUSE HE LEARNED AN INVALUABLE LESSON: WITH GREAT POWER MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY. S T A N L E E P R E S E N T S :

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!

SETUP!

THE
FAMOUS J.
JONAH JAMESON,
PUBLISHER OF THE
DAILY BUGLE, AND
RENOWNED
SPIDER-MAN
HATER.

LOOK AT YOU
SITTING SO SMUGLY
WITH THE COSTUME AND
WEB-SHOOTERS OF YOUR
MOST HATED ENEMY
SPREAD OUT BEFORE
YOU.

AND HOW
DID YOU ACQUIRE
THESE ITEMS,
JONAH?

DID YOU
FACE DOWN
SPIDER-MAN
AND TAKE THEM
FROM HIM WHEN
YOU HAD THE
CHANCE?

NO.

SOME
STREET URCHIN
DID THE JOB
YOU WERE TOO
COWARDLY TO
PERFORM.

AND YOU
BOUGHT THEM
FROM HIM.

YOU ARE A
COWARD,
JAMESON!

ALWAYS
WERE!

ALWAYS
WILL BE!

HOWARD MACKIE
ERIK LARSEN
JOHN BEATTY
story and art

RS & COMICRAFT'S TROY PETERI
letters

GREGORY WRIGHT
colors

RALPH MACCHIO
editor

BOB HARRAS
chief

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®: Vol. 2, No. 20, August, 2000. (ISSN #0274-5232) Published by MARVEL COMICS, Bill Jemas, President; Bob Harras, Editor-in-Chief; Stan Lee, Chairman Emeritus. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Published monthly. Copyright © 2000 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. Price \$2.99 per copy in the U.S. and \$4.50 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: U.S. \$27.00; foreign \$30.00; and Canadian subscribers must add \$10.00 for postage and GST. GST #R127032692. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL CHARACTERS, INC. POSTMASTER: SEE DANBURY, CT. 06813-1979. TELEPHONE # (203) 743-5331. FAX # (203) 744-9944. Printed in the

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ALWAYS
GETTING OTHERS
TO DO YOUR
DIRTY WORK.

MY FATHER,
SPENCER SMYTHE,
WAS ONE OF THE
FIRST.

HE
CREATED THE
SPIDER-SLAYERS
AT YOUR
BEHEST.

A CREATION
WHICH QUICKLY
BECAME AN OBSESSION
AND ULTIMATELY LED
TO HIS DEATH FROM
THE RADIATION
EMITTED BY THE
SLAYERS.

THEN, HIS
OBSESSION
BECAME MINE,
JAMESON.

HIS
FATE WILL
NOT.
NOW YOU
AND SPIDER-MAN
MUST PAY FOR
MY FATHER'S
DEATH.

I'VE DONE
EVERYTHING
YOU WANTED,
SMYTHE --

NO,
JONAH, YOU
HAVEN'T.

YOU'VE
ONLY DONE
THAT WHICH
YOU HAD
TO.


YES, YOU
HAVE FORGONE
YOUR TYPICAL RAMBLING
ANTI-SPIDER-MAN
EDITORIALS FOR THE
TIME BEING... STOPPED
RUNNING PICTURES OF
HIM IN YOUR RAG,
THE DAILY
BUGLE...



...BECAUSE
IT SUITS MY
PURPOSES.

AND YOU
HAVE PURCHASED
HIS WEB-SHOOTERS
AND COSTUME FROM
THE CHILD WHO FOUND
THEM FOR THE SAME
REASON.

YES...
YOUR INHERENT
COWARDICE HAS
MADE YOU QUITE
COOPERATIVE,
JONAH.



AND THERE
IS A CERTAIN
POETIC JUSTICE IN
WATCHING YOU SERVE
A SMYTHE FOR
A CHANGE!



BY THE
WAY... HAVE YOU
SPOKEN TO YOUR
LOVELY WIFE, MARLA,
AND YOUR HEROIC
ASTRONAUT SON,
JOHN, TODAY,
JONAH?

GO
AHEAD...

...GIVE
THEM A
CALL.

BRING



DR.
JAMESON.
HOW CAN I
HELP U --

JONAH!

I WAS JUST
THINKING ABOUT
YOU.

I'M
DOING FINE,
HONEY, BUT
I'VE REALLY
GOT TO GET
BACK TO
WORK.

LISTEN... I
HEARD FROM JOHN
THIS MORNING AFTER
YOU LEFT. HE'S FLYING
IN FROM CALIFORNIA
THIS AFTERNOON.

MAYBE WE
SHOULD ALL
GO OUT FOR
DINNER.



JONAH...?

"...ARE YOU OKAY?
YOU SOUND
DISTRACTED?"

"I'M FINE. JUST
CAN'T WAIT
FOR THIS DAY
TO END."

"I'LL SEE
YOU LATER."



SO YOU WILL
CONTINUE TO
COOPERATE,
JONAH... WON'T
YOU?



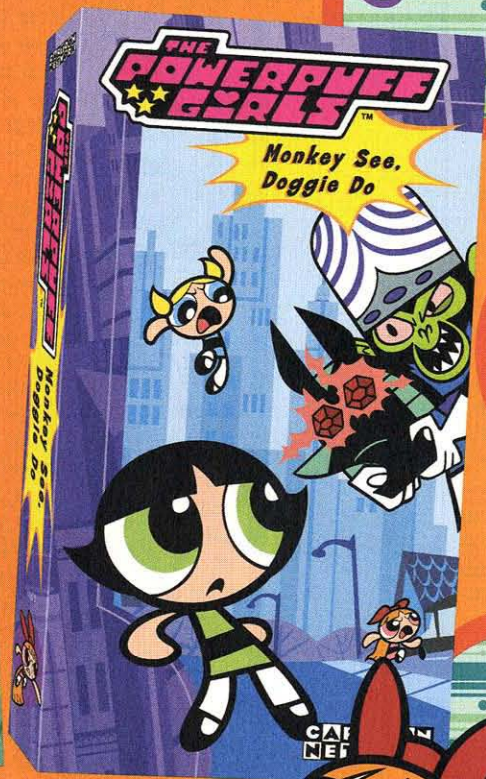
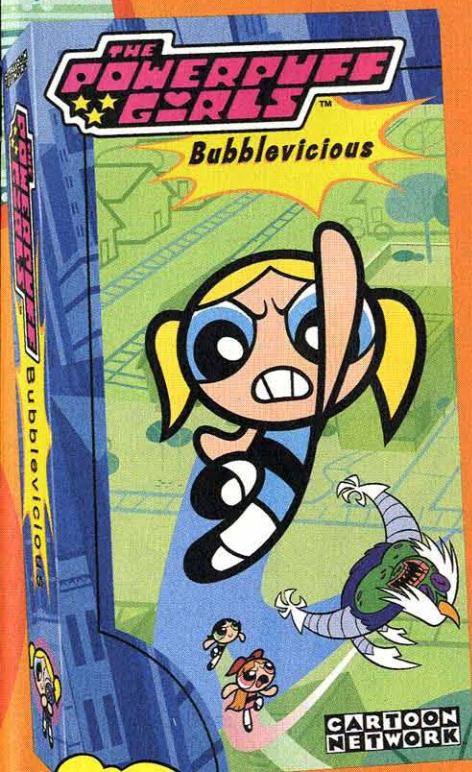
THEN LET
US BEGIN.

WE HAVE
A PAPER TO
PUT OUT.

AND A
WARM-BLOODED
SPIDER TO
SLAY!



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MEANWHILE...

AT THE APARTMENT WHICH PETER PARKER SHARES WITH RANDY ROBERTSON...

PETER, YOU'VE GOT TO CHILL.

LIFE IS TOO SHORT TO STRESS OVER THE DETAILS.

"DETAILS", RANDY?

THE RENT, ELECTRIC AND PHONE BILLS ARE ALL DUE AND I'M NOT SURE WHERE THE MONEY IS COMING FROM.

ME NEITHER.

WHICH IS EXACTLY WHY YOU'VE GOT TO COME OUT WITH ME AND MY FRIENDS TONIGHT.

INSPIRED IDEAS ONLY COME FROM PARTYING AND RELAXING.

NOT REALLY IN THE MOOD FOR PARTYING, RAND --

BRING

HELL-LO!

...DOOR!

HI! YOU'RE RANDY, RIGHT?

I'M JILL STACY, A FRIEND OF PETER'S.

I THINK WE MET AT MAY PARKER'S HOUSE... YOU KNOW WE ALL... WHEN PETER OPENED THE BOX...

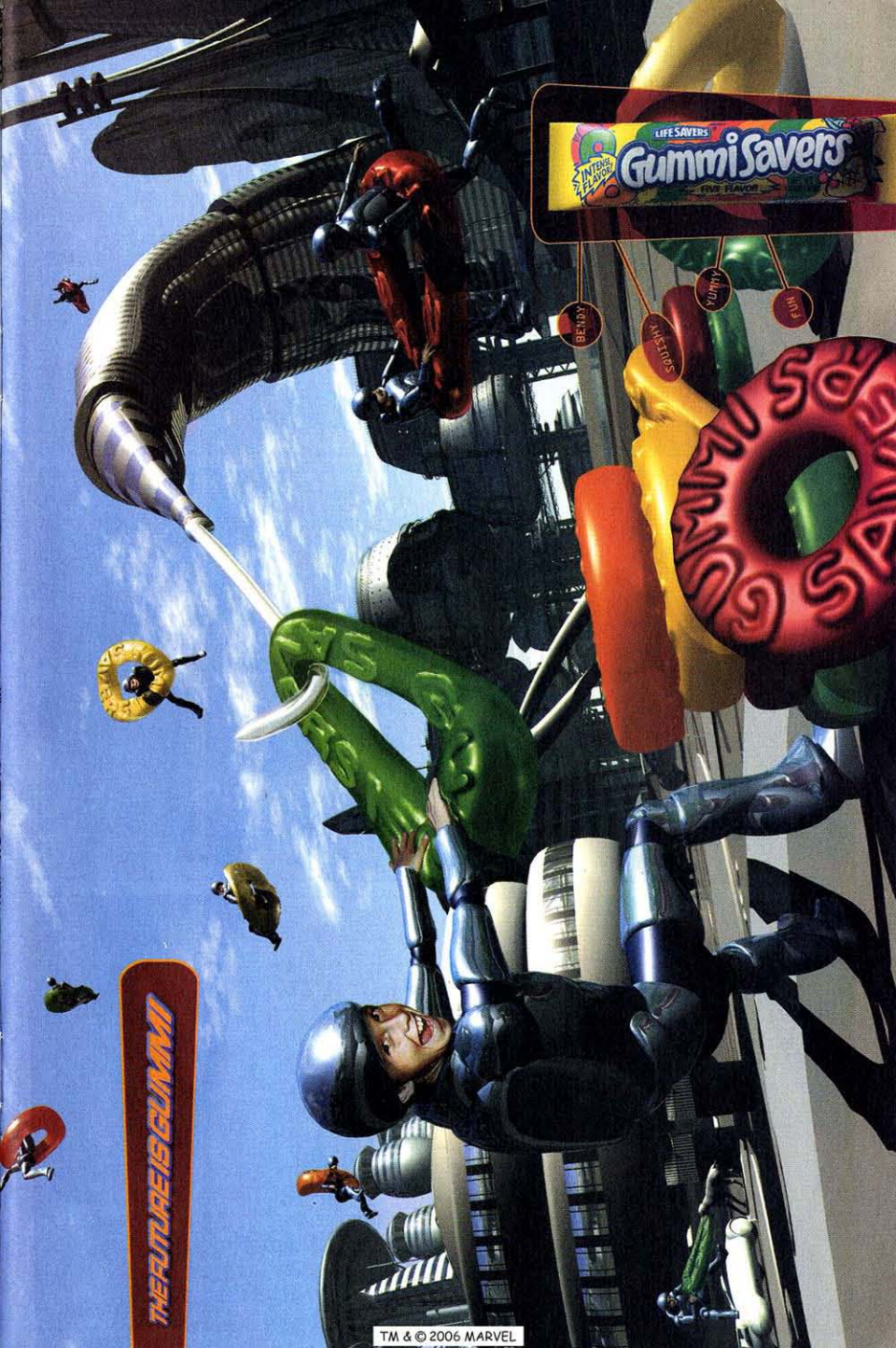
YEAH, RIGHT... I DO. COME ON IN.

SAVED BY THE BELLS! YOU GET THE PHONE AND I'VE GOT THE...

HEY, GLORY, WHAT'S UP?

JONAH NEEDS TO SEE YOU. HE SAID IT WAS URGENT.

I THINK IT'S ABOUT A JOB.



THE FUTURE IS GUMMI



A dynamic illustration of Spider-Man in his red and blue suit, crouching on a ledge and looking down. He is surrounded by a dense urban environment at night, with various signs and buildings visible. The scene is lit with dramatic, low-key lighting, emphasizing the hero's silhouette and the vibrant colors of his suit. The background features a mix of architectural details and commercial signage, creating a sense of being in the heart of a city.

ULTIMATE ACTION!

ULTIMATE
SPIDER-MAN

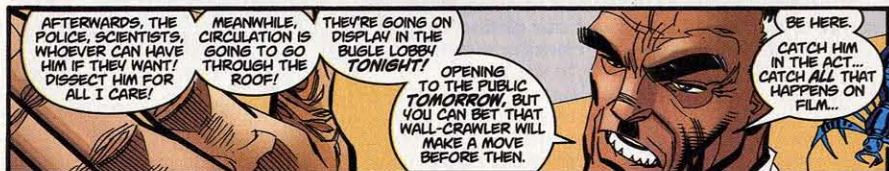
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SOMETHING IS GOING ON HERE.

SOMETHING MORE THAN THE TRAP I KNOW IS BEING SET FOR ME.

THERE'S SOMETHING JONAH'S NOT SAYING... MAYBE IT HAS TO DO WITH HIM LOOKING UNDER THE MASK WHEN I GOT KNOCKED OUT RESCUING HIM FROM VENOM.*

I STILL DON'T KNOW IF HE ACTUALLY DID, BUT JONAH'S BEEN ACTING STRANGE LATELY.

* See Peter Parker #10 for details --- Ralf.

HOW YOU DOING, PETER?

DOES LIVING WITH MY SON HAVE YOU CLIMBING THE WALLS YET?

NOT SO THAT ANYBODY'D NOTICE, ROBBIE.

I'D LOVE TO CHAT, SON, BUT I JUST GOT THIS AFTERNOON'S SPECIAL EDITION FRONT PAGE MOCK-UP, AND...

...I NEED TO TALK TO OUR ILLUSTRIOUS PUBLISHER.

FWAM

J. JONAH JAMESON

I THOUGHT WE'D GOTTEN PAST THIS KIND OF THING!

THIS IS NOT GOING TO BE PRETTY.

ROBBIE ROBERTSON DOESN'T GET MAD EASILY, BUT WHEN HE DOES...

...IT'S BEST TO PUT AWAY THE LETTER OPENERS AND STAPLERS WHEN THINGS GET LIKE THIS.

YOU KNOW, GLORY, RANDY ISN'T GOING TO GIVE ME A MOMENT'S REST UNLESS I FIND OUT IF YOU'D BE INTERESTED IN GOING OUT WITH HIM SOMETIME.

AND IF HE'S ANYTHING LIKE HIS DAD...



HAVE
THE BOY
GIVE ME A CALL
SOMETIME.
AND
WE'LL
SEE.

OKAY...
TIME FOR A
REFEREE TO
ENTER THE
RING.
YOU
SHOULD GIVE
ME A CALL TOO,
PETER.
LET'S CATCH
A MOVIE OR
SOMETHING.



...I'LL...
THINK
ABOUT
IT.

A FEW
MINUTES
LATER...



I'M
RUNNING
LATE
AGAIN.
THE
STORY OF
MY LIFE.



WHAT
WOULD I DO IF I
DIDN'T HAVE MY
OWN PERSONAL
FORM OF RAPID
TRANSPORTATION?

AN
EMPTY
CLOSET...
...AN OPEN
WINDOW...
...A COUPLE
OF WEB-LINES
AND...

...I AM
AIRBORNE!

AND BEING
LATE FOR DINNER
IS THE LEAST OF
MY PROBLEMS.

BECAUSE
I KNOW I'M
BEING SET UP
TONIGHT.

JONAH KNOWS
I WON'T LEAVE MY
COSTUME AND WEB-
SHOOTERS SITTING
AROUND WAITING TO
BE ANALYZED.

AND THE
ONLY WAY TO
COLLECT MY
PAYCHECK...

...IS TO
SHOW UP AS
SPIDER-MAN, WALK
INTO WHATEVER
TRAP THEY'VE GOT
PLANNED FOR
ME...

WITH ADVANCES
IN DNA SCIENCES, THERE'S
NO TELLING WHAT THOSE
SCIENTISTS WILL FIND AND HOW
LONG IT'LL TAKE THEM TO TRACK
DOWN MY SECRET
IDENTITY.

I CAN'T
RISK THAT.

I'VE STILL
GOT AUNT MAY
TO THINK ABOUT.
IF SHE SHOULD
EVER LEARN...

BUT...

...I NEED
THE MONEY! AUNT
MAY HAS GOT TO BE
STRETCHING IT THIN
HELPING ME OUT.

...AND GET LOTS
OF PICTURES TO SELL
TO THE BUGLE.

BETWEEN
A ROCK AND
A HARD
PLACE.

THE
STORY OF
MY LIFE.

tobacco is



W h a c k o
IF YOU'RE A TEEN

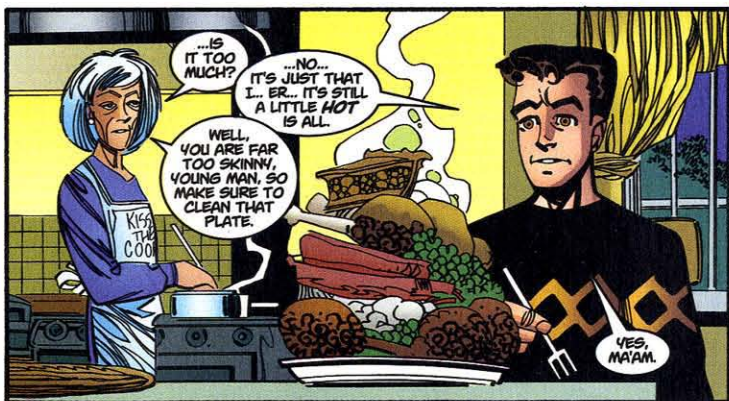
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A SHORT TIME LATER...

PETER, PLEASE... EAT!

AUNT MAY... I... ER...

WHAT...?



LATER THAT NIGHT...

THE MENACE OF SPIDER-MAN!

THIS IS IT, PARKER!

THIS IS WHERE IT ALL COMES TO AN END. THE VINDICATION OF J. JONAH JAMESON.

EXACTLY WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN, JONAH?

DON'T BOTHER YOURSELF WITH THE DETAILS, PARKER.

FIND YOURSELF SOME PLACE SAFE TO SIT AND WAIT. AND YOU STAY THERE NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS!

WHEN THE WALL-CRAWLER SHOWS UP, YOU START SNAPPING AWAY.

AND DON'T STOP UNTIL HE'S TRAPPED BUT GOOD.

I'LL BE IN MY OFFICE UNTIL IT'S OVER.

BUT THIS TIME...

...WHEN HE'S FALLEN...

...I WILL LOOK UNDER THE MASK.

I WON'T HESITATE UNTIL TIME RUNS OUT.

AND I'LL LOOK INTO HIS FACE FOR THE FIRST TIME. AND WE'LL SEE WHICH ONE OF US BLINKS FIRST.

WE'LL ALL SEE!

HE DOESN'T KNOW! HE NEVER LOOKED!

ALL THESE WEEKS OF WONDERING AND...

...JONAH NEVER LOOKED UNDER MY MASK. WHAT AN INCREDIBLE RELIEF.

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LATER THAT NIGHT...

WELL, THAT WAS A LOT OF WORRYING FOR NOTHING.

WORRYING IF JONAH KNEW MY SECRET IDENTITY AND WHAT HE WAS GOING TO DO WITH THE INFORMATION.

SO IF THIS ISN'T ABOUT THAT...

...THEN WHAT IS GOING ON? WHY HAS HE BEEN ACTING SO STRANGE LATELY?



GUESS ALL I CAN DO IS SIT AND WAIT.

BUT FOR WHAT? FOR SPIDER-MAN TO SHOW UP?
I AM --

IS THAT A SPIDER-SLAYER?

-- WHOA! SPIDER-SENSE IS KICKING IN.

WHATEVER IS GOING TO HAPPEN...
...IS STARTING!



A BIT ON THE SMALL SIDE.

BUT, WHEREVER THERE'S A SPIDER-SLAYER...

...ALISTAIR SMYTHE CAN'T BE FAR BEHIND.



ALL THE PIECES ARE STARTING TO FALL INTO PLACE.

NIGHT AS WELL GET THIS OVER WITH.

TIME FOR YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN TO MAKE AN APPEARANCE.



AND WHILE THE SUSPENSE
BUILDS IN MANHATTAN, LET'S
BRIEFLY TURN OUR ATTENTION
TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE OFFICE OF
SENATOR STEWART
WARD OF NEW YORK.

SENATOR
KELLY, YOU
HAVE THE FULL
SUPPORT
OF MY OFFICE.

IT'S A
SHAME THAT
IN THESE TIMES
OF PARTISAN
POLITICS, MEN
OF INTEGRITY
MUST
GO OUTSIDE THEIR
PARTIES TO MAKE
A RUN AT THE
PRESIDENCY.

THANK
YOU, STEWART.
I WAS HOPING
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT.

NO...
THANK YOU,
ROBERT. I CAN
ASSURE YOU THAT
I AM NOT THE ONLY
ONE IN OUR PARTY
THAT IS READY TO
BACK AN INDEPENDENT
CANDIDATE WHO IS
WILLING TO BRING
THE MUTANT
AGENDA TO THE
FORE.

* Check out
X-Men #102
for the full story
--- X-Rail.

IT'D LIKE TO SHAKE
THE HAND OF THE
MAN WHO IS ABOUT
TO CHANGE THE
FACE OF POLITICS-
AS-USUAL --

WELL, I
WOULDN'T MIND
SHAKING THE
HAND OF THE MAN
WHO IS GOING TO
HELP GET OUR
CAMPAIGN OFF
TO THE START
IT NEEDS.

THANK
YOU, MS.
STRONG.

AS A
MATTER OF
FACT, SENATOR,
PERHAPS MY
FIRM COULD HELP
YOU WITH YOUR
OWN REELECTION
BID.

MAYBE WE
COULD DISCUSS
IT OVER DINNER
SOMETIME.

YES,
INDEED, MS.
STRONG...
...WE WILL BE
SEEING EACH
OTHER SOON.

'CHOO!
SORRY,
STEWART, BUT
I'M FIGHTING A
KILLER COLD.
I'D HATE TO
PASS IT ON
TO YOU.

SUSAN, WE
HAVE ANOTHER
APPOINTMENT.

AND BACK AT
THE BUGLE...

KTASH

SMYTHE!

I'M
HERE.

COME
OUT. I CAN'T
WAIT TO HEAR
HOW YOU GOT
OUT OF PRISON.

BRAVO!

I ALWAYS HAVE
UNDERESTIMATED YOUR
INTELLIGENCE.

BUT WAIT!
IS THAT AN
EXPRESSION OF
SURPRISE
I DETECT
BENEATH THE
MASK?

YOU
WERE EXPECTING
ME TO BE IN MY
WHEELCHAIR...
WEREN'T YOU?

APPARENTLY
THE SPIDER-SLAYER
CARAPACE I USED AGAINST
YOU THE LAST TIME WE
MET HAD A BENEFICIAL
SIDE EFFECT
ON MY SPINE.

I'M
CURED.

CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

I
COULDN'T
BE **LESS**
INTERESTED
IN THE
EXPLANATION.

CRUNCH

YOU
SHOULD
NOT HAVE
DONE
THAT!

SNAP



PLEASE, SMYTHE, IS THIS THE BEST YOU CAN DO?

I WOULD'VE EXPECTED MORE FROM YOU THAN THESE MINI-SLAYERS.

I SAW THIS BIT IN THE MUMMY -- EXCEPT THEY USED BEETLES.



WHAT DO YOU WANT?

THWIP



WHY DID YOU SET JAMESON UP FOR ALL THIS?

SO MANY QUESTIONS FOR SOMEONE CLAIMING TO BE UNINTERESTED IN EXPLANATIONS!

LET'S START WITH QUESTION NUMBER ONE...

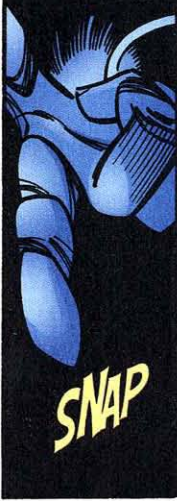
THE "MINI-SLAYERS," AS YOU CALLED THEM, WHILE FAR MORE DANGEROUS THAN YOU CAN EVER IMAGINE...



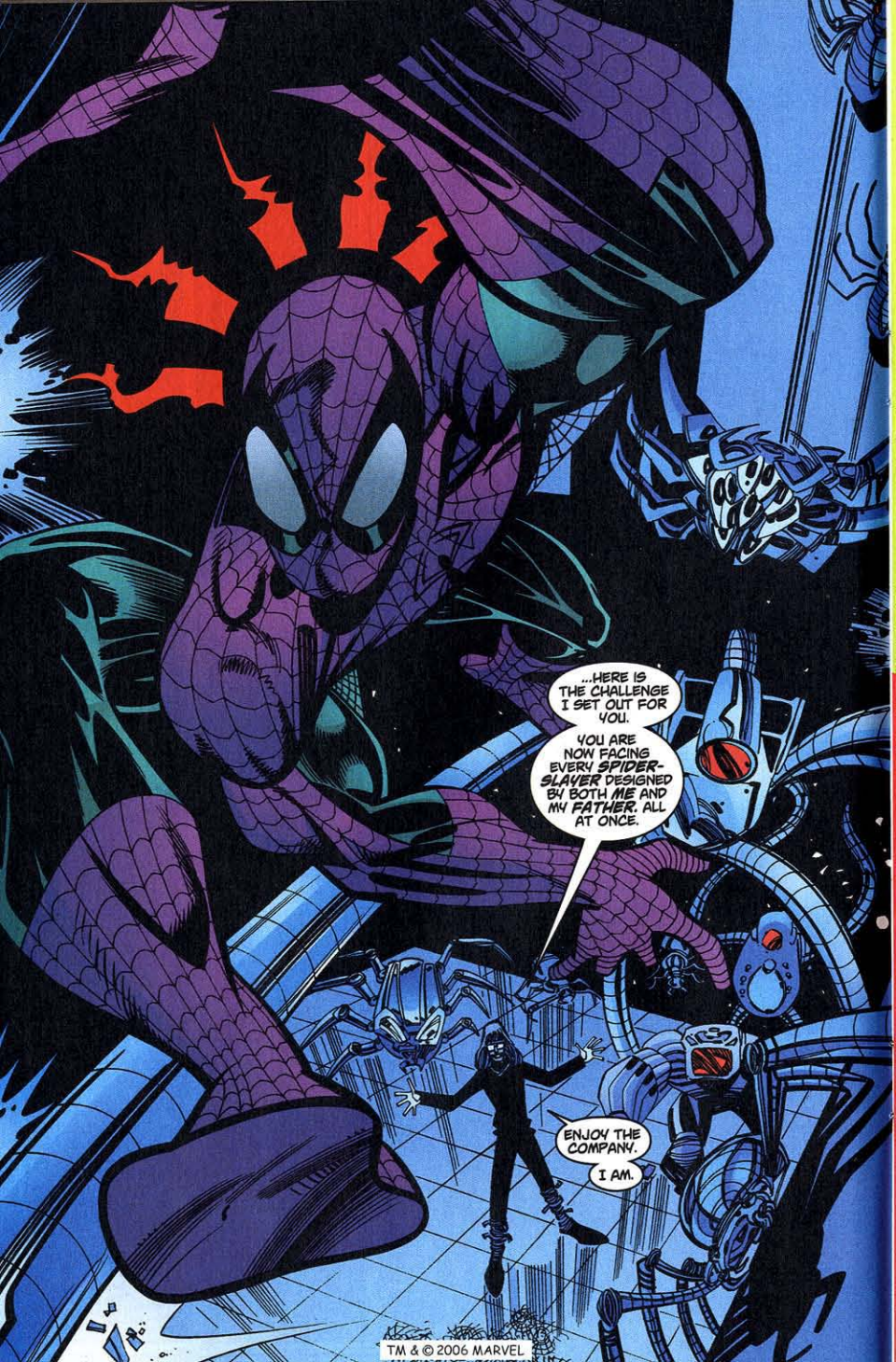
...ARE ONLY THE START.

YOU SEE... I HAVE LEARNED FROM MY FATHER'S, AND MY OWN, MISTAKES.

A SINGLE SPIDER-SLAYER JUST NEVER DID THE TRICK, SO...



SNAP



...HERE IS
THE CHALLENGE
I SET OUT FOR
YOU.

YOU ARE
NOW FACING
EVERY **SPIDER-
SLAYER** DESIGNED
BY BOTH ME AND
MY FATHER. ALL
AT ONCE.

ENJOY THE
COMPANY.

I AM.

JOE KUBERT

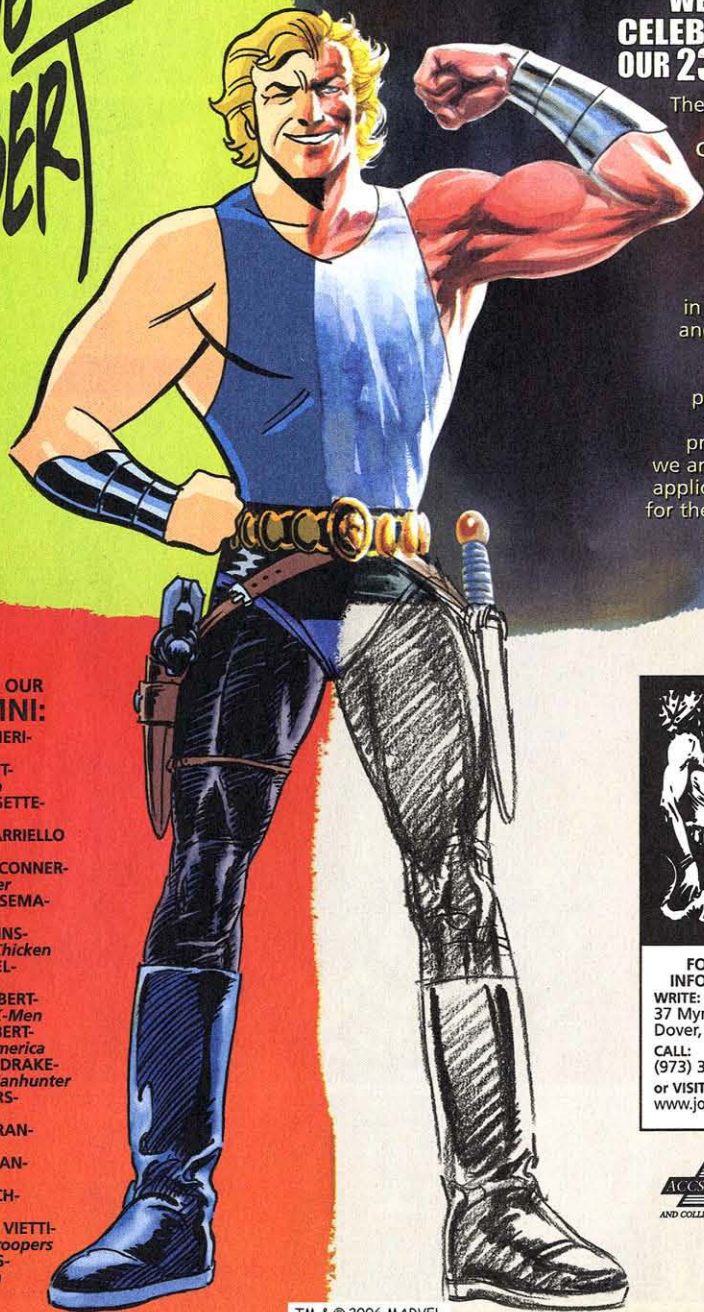
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AND...

EXACTLY
WHY AM I
DOING
THIS?

OH, YEAH...
I NEED THE
MONEY!

GOT THE
CAMERA IN PLACE
AND SET ON
AUTOMATIC.


BUT THERE'S
GOT TO BE AN
EASIER WAY TO
EARN SOME
BUCKS!

SOME WAY
THAT DOESN'T
INVOLVE THROWING
MYSELF IN FRONT OF
A FREIGHT TRAIN AND
GETTING THE GRUESOME
PICTURE PUBLISHED IN
THE BUGLE AS A
PUBLIC SERVICE
ANNOUNCEMENT.

YOU'D THINK I COULD
COME UP WITH SOME
WAY TO GET MY LIFE
IN ORDER SO THAT I'M
NOT ALWAYS JUST
SCRAPING BY.

WHY CAN'T
THINGS EVER
WORK OUT FOR ME
THE WAY THEY DO
FOR EVERYONE
ELSE?





THERE IS STILL THE ISSUE OF YOU AND JAMESON PAYING FOR WHAT YOU DID TO MY FATHER, KILLING HIM INDIRECTLY.




YOU SEE... WHAT YOU'VE FOUND UP UNTIL NOW WAS MERE DIVERSION.

ALLOW ME TO PRESENT...

...THE NEWEST, DEADLIEST SLAYER AND...

...A TRULY DEVIOUS PLAN!

AND THAT'S JUST THE BEGINNING.



IF YOU COULD WRITHE AND TWIST IN PAIN FOR A FEW MOMENTS WHILE MY MINI-SLAYER STARTS INVADING THE DEEPEST RECESSES OF YOUR MIND...



...A SPLENDID TIME IS GUARANTEED TO BE HAD BY ALL!

TO BE CONTINUED
NEXT ISSUE!

Hi, Webheads.

Just thought I would drop you guys a line and give all of you a long distance pat on the back for the interesting "MJ Missing" storyline. It has always been said that the true essence of Spider-Man has been storylines involving Peter's struggle with his personal life and the use of his secret identity to escape from, or use it to try and better his life. The mix of action and a mysterious story is what will keep everybody hooked. Keep it up!

As usual, the artwork by John Byrne and company is nothing short of fantastic. Mr. Byrne's classic approach to penciling Spidey gives the book a taste of nostalgia that I believe appeals to most everyone.

The only request I have for the book, and I hope you will consider it, is to change back to the original AMAZING SPIDER-MAN logo. I don't know why it was changed in the first place. That logo is the first thing you see when you go to your comic stand and that is a major part of what I remember about reading Spider-Man books when I was younger. I thought for sure when the Spidey titles were revamped that the books would have the old look back or a newer, different one, not the same one you ended the original series with. I think if you took a poll and asked people if they would prefer the original arcing logo with the webbing behind it, you would get a resounding positive response to this. So how about it, guys? What do you think?

Chris Lillies
Winnipeg, Manitoba
CANADA

What do we think, Chris? We think your idea of an informal poll is a good one. So what does everyone think? Should we keep the current logo, revert to the "classic" logo, or design an entirely new one? Let us know because, as Stan Lee has always been fond of saying, the fans are the true editors of Marvel comic books!

Dear Matt and Ralf,

You're halfway there! Peter's personal life is a total mess. Now, all you have to do is let him use the Spider-Man suit as an escape from the misery of real life, and you'll be back on track. You know, back when being a friendly neighborhood webspinner was fun?

Villains like the Ghost are a nice relief from the usual parade of heavy hitters like Venom and Doc Ock. I'm not too sure what to make of Cassandra Locke, though, mostly because I'm not sure why she was in this issue, other than as a plug for MARVEL: THE LOST GENERATION. Jonah's behavior is a bit odd as well.

He's always been tough on Pete, but never flat out, close-the-door-in-your-face, mean. Maybe he's been replaced by the Chameleon again. Having him know Pete's identity is a no-no. If that's the case, Madame Webb better be paying JJJ a visit in the near future.

I do agree that Pete should branch out, get some shots of the Avengers or something. I'm glad the Tricorp thing is over. After it was introduced, it never really paid off in any way, and sometimes I felt like it had been forgotten. Better to cut away that kind of excess baggage.

My one main complaint with this series is with the dialogue. At times it can be pretty unrealistic. Example: Page 7, panels one and two. Pete: "I've been looking all over for you." Cassandra: "I...er..." Pete: "Terry! Terry Kwan! I'm talking to you!" First, I get that you are trying to establish the misdirection, but the execution is clunky. Second, who really says "I...er..."? Third, unless there is another Terry nearby, I think the full name is a bit overboard. Plus, if you say it out loud, it sounds like Pete is mad at Terry. "I'm talking to you" is a bold statement. He could have just taken another step and tapped her on the shoulder. Much less rude and would have still gotten the point across. Ah well, just a thought.

One last question, just how can the Ghost hit you, when, at the same time, you cannot hit him?

Ronnie Dingman
Louisville, KY

The Ghost controls his own instability, Ronnie, just like the Vision and Shadowcat do. He decides when he's solid and when he's not. Pretty neat, eh?

Oh yeah, and just one more thing: "I...er..."

There. See, people use it all the time in everyday conversation all the time!

Dear Spider's Web,

"Is Mary Jane alive?" says the tagline on the cover. I sure hope so (and think so), and I hope this search for Mary Jane isn't going to last too long—not longer than a year, anyway. Please. I think it's better to solve subplots within six months and move on to new ones with maybe one major subplot that lasts about year.

John Byrne draws a nice Dr. Doom, but with the recent events in FANTASTIC FOUR, I knew ahead of time that it was going to be a Doom robot. It would be nice to have Spider-Man facing the real Doom again sometime soon (after the current FF storyline concludes, of course). I don't think those two have met one-on-one since AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #350.

Oh, and one complaint about

recent AMAZING SPIDER-MAN covers: The color schemes are just painful to the eye. Ouch! Tone down the bright colors!

Michael Bregman
Mickey@mickey.net

Do you have some beef with Spidey, Michael? Usually, wishing someone would have an encounter with Vic Doom isn't something you'd do to someone you liked even a little bit. It's kind of like hoping someone gets audited by the IRS, which we now (just to be fair) wish upon you!

Dear Spider's Web,

I am a long-time reader of Spider-Man and I had felt that the webbed one was losing some of his edge lately. However, although I believe that Mary Jane should return, her apparent death has really brought back a sense of excitement to the Spidey titles. Howard Mackie's writing has greatly improved in the past few months. The appearance of Dr. Doom in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #15 was well thought out, and did not seem forced like some of the guest spots immediately following the relaunch. Keep up the good work, guys!

While reading ASM #15, I noticed that although Anna's hair appeared to be yellow on the cover, it was brown throughout the book. This confused me at first, but then I realized that the unnatural lighting provided by Doom's android's weapon fire as Spidey fled with Anna caused her brown hair to appear blonde. How's that? Sounds like no-prize material to me.

D. McCall
Maryville, TN

That's a pretty thin try for a no-prize, D., but technically correct. Although it bothers us to no end, your no-prize is in the mail.

Dear CrawlSpace,

I did not like AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #14 or #15. Did ASM #16 end the streak? In a word: yes. ASM #16 was up to par. The Ghost is a cool but underrated and underused villain, so it is nice to see him strut his stuff. The fight scene with Spider-Man was real and I liked it when the Ghost got in a few punches on Spidey. Too often (I think) Spidey survives fights too easily. Actually, I would have liked more of a fight in this issue, but it was cut short.

I have no ill feelings about Spidey being ditched by Tri-Corp. This aspect of Peter's life was underused and frankly boring. And finally, I'm in a pickle about whether JJJ looked under Spider-Man's mask in PETER PARKER: SPIDER-MAN #10. How are we honestly not supposed to think

THE SPIDER'S WEB

MATT
HICKS
ASSISTANT
EDITOR

RALPH
MACCHIO
EDITOR

BOB
HARRAS
CHIEF



that after all these years of torment, JJJ would not look under the mask? It is just too unbelievable that he would not look. I'd like to write this off as a silly gimmick, but hey, it has me thinking...

Brendan Walsh
Sputnik3000@aol.com

Well, if we have you guessing, Brendan, then we must have done something right. Is your point that you find the concept of JJJ not looking under the mask so unlikely that you believe we couldn't possibly come up with a plausible explanation? Gee, that sounds an awful lot like a dare to us...

Dear Web Weavers,

Well, now that we are about a year-and-a-half into the Spidey revamp, I thought it would be a good time to review my thoughts on the books and the direction of the character. AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #16 provides a pretty good reflection on the general state of affairs.

First, the good: John Byrne's art has been well suited to the title. He draws a lithe, agile Spidey. I'm sorry to see him go, but Erik Larsen and John Romita Jr. are both adept replacements. The villain selection has been good also, with a fine mix of new and classic. The Ghost is an old favorite of mine from IRON MAN. Please steal him and add him to the pantheon of Spidey baddies. A renewed focus on Peter's personal life has also added some spark to the title, as have the development of subplots.

Which leads me to the bad: Too many subplots! M.J. missing/dead, Senator Ward, Pete's lab job, Sandman's return to crime, fallout from the Gathering of Five, and so forth. Issue #16 saw a return to the lab for the first time in a number of issues. This leads to choppy flow in the books. More focus, please!

A bigger concern is the loss of some of the essence of what made Peter/Spidey so easy to relate to. Early in the existence of the character, Peter was an everyman: student, girl troubles, money troubles, and the usual teenage concerns. Now he's been cloned, married a supermodel, had his parents return as doppelgangers, his aunt abducted and replaced by a stand-in, and a baby either die or be spirited off by parties unknown. The revamp found him living in a posh pad with a cushy lab job. This doesn't make the character easier to identify with, fellas! Especially the lab job; it would be difficult for someone with Peter's schoolwork track record and resume to get a job like that in the real world.

I think the book is on the right track, and the loss of job and apartment in issue #16 is more like the old Parker luck. I just wanted to share with you what I feel are the essentials of the character, and hopefully encourage you to keep moving in a positive direction.

Brian Elliott
(Address withheld by request)

Thanks for writing, Brian. The TriCorp situation obviously didn't pan out like we had anticipated. The idea of Peter finally capitalizing on his science talents was a tantalizing one

to pursue, but it just didn't mix well with the rest of what we had going on. Not that we're closing this door forever, mind you. There's always be the chance we'll return to it in the future.

We are, however, committed to clearing up some of the dangling plot threads from the past year-and-a-half. In fact, ending Peter's employment at TriCorp was just the first step of clearing the plate a bit, as it were. We also think the inclusion of a new voice (in the guise of Paul Jenkins on PETER PARKER: SPIDER-MAN) will help juice things up a bit. Thanks for keeping the faith.

Dear Ralf,

I'd like to thank whoever wrote the cover copy for AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #16. The old-time alliteration and "boggle the mind" catchphrases were so hokey they made me grin from ear to ear!

Given John Byrne's work on MARVEL: THE LOST GENERATION, I wasn't surprised to see Cassandra Locke show up here. Normally, this sort of self-promotion would seem gratuitous. But, isn't the cross-continuity of the Marvel Universe the very essence of its appeal? Certainly, for me, it is. I'll have to admit to being a bit confused that sometimes she would be invisible to the people around her and sometimes she wouldn't. It seemed almost random. However, I'm assuming that it had something to do with her "time travel" controls and her subtle manipulation of them. Using her to undermine Peter's certainty over Mary Jane's survival was also a nice touch.

Well, I wish I could say that I didn't see this coming, but I still can't help but be disappointed that Peter lost his job at TriCorp. I kept hoping that Peter would confide in Dr. Twaki, and just once, have someone on his side, supporting his Spider-Man identity. Still, I doubt this is the last we'll see of Twaki or TriCorp. You don't just drop little bombs like Cassandra Locke's comments regarding Twaki and his future to brush the character aside. Given the revelations of this issue, I'd like to see Reed Richards pay a call on TriCorp sometime. I always enjoy seeing Marvel's greatest intellects interact.

Scot W. Myers
Charleston, SC
swmyers@aol.com

True, the "cross-continuity of the Marvel Universe" is the very essence of its appeal, but we also will always have a soft spot in our hearts for gratuitous self-promotion.

Hey,

I really liked AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #16. The Ghost is a cool villain. I always liked him in IRON MAN. It's fun to see Spidey go up against another hero's foe; it mixes things up a little bit.

I do have one complaint, though. You're kind of getting carried away with these bad things happening to Peter. I know that his problematic life has always been a big part of the book, but this is too much. I'm sure things will improve when Mary Jane returns (like I actually believe that she's dead). Pretty much everyone that I talk to wants her to come

back.

Jeff Stoltman
stoltman@hbc.com

"Like I actually believe that she's dead"? That sounds like another dare. Don't dare us, Jeff. You never know what'll happen. The last time someone dared us they said, "There's no way you'd ever bring the clone back." So be careful when you're talking tough with us, okay?

Dear Spider's Web,

First off, I would like to comment on AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #16. I really felt that this issue was paced well and had a lot of plot development, but in some areas you guys are going way too fast. I applaud you for trying to get Spidey back to basics, but you don't have to do it in just a couple of issues. We all know what makes Spidey great: money problems, relationship difficulties, taking pix of Spider-Man and selling them to an irate J. Jonah Jameson, and going up against insurmountable odds and not always coming out smelling like a rose.

Ralf, you have had Spider-Man in your care for quite some time now and it's time to make him great again. I continue to trust your judgment with quite possibly the most famous super hero icon in the world. Thank you for all your commitment and hard work.

Robert Acquarulo
New Haven, CT

Well, not to put too fine a point on it, but placing your trust in Ralf's care is your first mistake. And "hard work and commitment"? Try stopping by the Marvel Offices before noon. If you can spot Ralf before the clock strikes twelve, then you get to edit the letters page.

NEXT ISSUE:

ALISTAIR SMYTHE CONTINUES HIS ALL-OUT ASSAULT ON SPIDEY. IF HE WANTS HIS ORIGINAL COSTUME BACK, SPIDER-MAN WILL HAVE TO TAKE OUT EVERY SPIDER-SLAYER THAT SMYTHE CAN THROW HIS WAY! BUT ONE SLAYER IS BEING HELD BACK FOR THE GRAND FINALE. WHAT MAKES THAT ONE SO SPECIAL? FIND OUT IN FOUR WEEKS, IN A TALE GUARANTEED TO TANTALIZE BY HOWARD MACKIE AND THE GUEST ART TEAM OF ERIK LARSEN AND JOHN BEATTY. IF ONLY RALF WERE REALLY A GUEST EDITOR, WE CAN BUT DREAM.

SPIDER'S WEB  MARVEL COMICS
387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH • NEW YORK, NY 10016

IF YOU DON'T WANT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS PRINTED, PLEASE LET US KNOW. LETTERS MAY BE EDITED FOR CONTENT AND LENGTH.

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MAIL@
MARVEL.COM

MARK E-MAIL
"OKAY TO PRINT"



"CAPTURED BY J. JONAH JAMESON!"

DO YOU THINK
SPIDEY'S HAD
TROUBLE
BEFORE?
JUST WAIT'LL YOU
READ THIS ONE!

WHAT HAPPENS
TO A SUPER-
HERO ON THE
RUN, WHEN
HE HAS NO
PLACE TO
GO?



SWINGIN' SCRIPT BY:

STAN LEE

DAZZLIN' DRAWINGS BY:

STEVE DITKO

LOQUACIOUS LETTERING BY:

S. ROSEN

STURDY STEVEY DITKO DREAMED UP
THE PLOT OF THIS TANTALIZING TALE,
AND IT'S FULL OF UNEXPECTED SURPRISES!
SO, TURN THE PAGE AND SEE IF YOU CAN
GUESS WHAT'S COMING NEXT...!





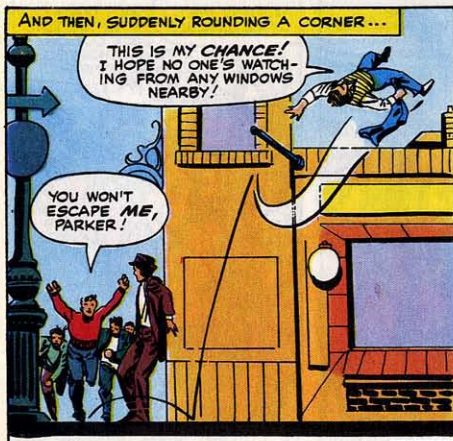


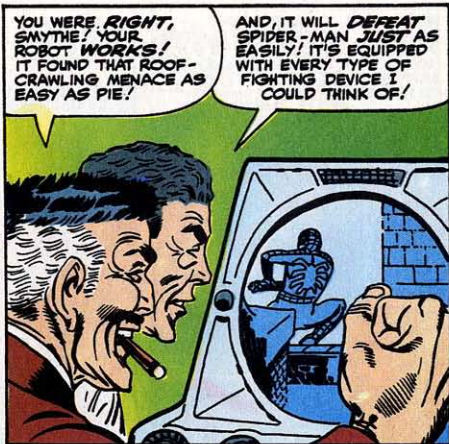


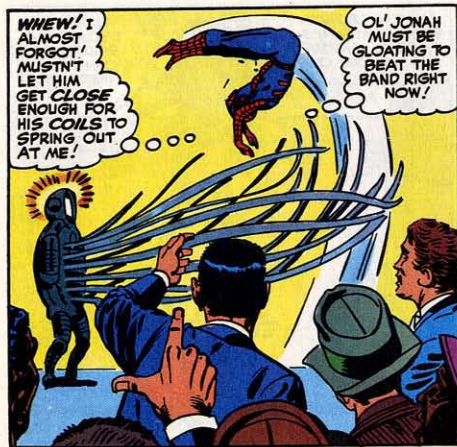












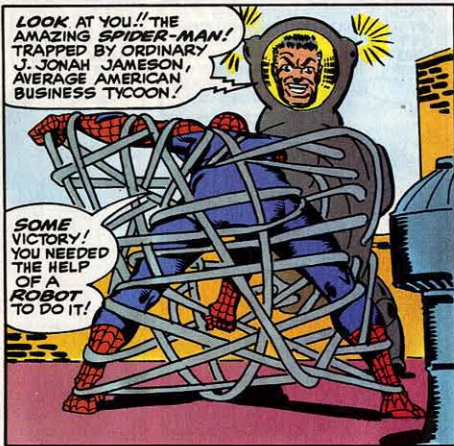
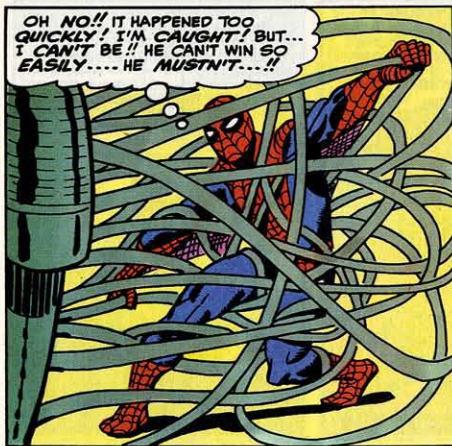














WHEN THE NEWS OF MY BRILLIANT TRIUMPH IS MADE PUBLIC, I'LL PROBABLY BE ASKED TO JOIN THE AVENGERS! BUT, I'LL PROVE MY MODESTY BY DECLINING!

STAND STILL WHEN I'M TALKING TO YOU! YOU'RE DISTRACTING ME!



IF ONLY I COULD BURN MY WAY OUT!! RATS! YOU NEVER CAN FIND A HUMAN TORCH WHEN YOU NEED ONE!

SAY IT, SPIDER-MAN!... SAY IT! LET ME HEAR YOU SAY YOU SURRENDER!

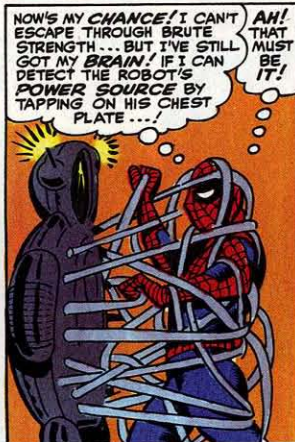


OKAY, SMYTHE! NOW THAT WE HAVE HIM TRAPPED AND HELPLESS... WHAT DO WE DO NEXT?

WELL, IF THE ROBOT TRIES TO BRING HIM BACK HERE, THE COILS MAY LOOSEN DURING THE TRIP, AND HE MIGHT ESCAPE!

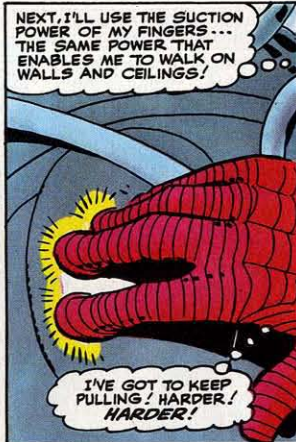
SO WE'LL GO TO HIM INSTEAD! WE'LL LOCATE HIM WITH THIS PORTABLE FINDER!

DON'T GO 'WAY! WE'LL BE RIGHT THERE! CHORTLE'S



NOW'S MY CHANCE! I CAN'T ESCAPE THROUGH BRUTE STRENGTH... BUT I'VE STILL GOT MY BRAIN! IF I CAN DETECT THE ROBOT'S POWER SOURCE BY TAPPING ON HIS CHEST PLATE...

AH! THAT MUST BE IT!



NEXT, I'LL USE THE SUCTION POWER OF MY FINGERS... THE SAME POWER THAT ENABLES ME TO WALK ON WALLS AND CEILINGS!

I'VE GOT TO KEEP PULLING HARDER! HARDER!



THERE! NOW, HERE'S WHERE MY KNOWLEDGE OF SCIENCE COMES IN! I'VE GOT BRIEF MINUTES TO FIGURE OUT THE OPERATION OF THIS PANEL!

LUCKY I AM THE BOOKWORM THAT FLASH CALLS ME!!



AND, RACING TO THE SCENE, WE FIND...

WITH THIS LITTLE GADGET ZEROED IN ON MY ROBOT, I CAN PINPOINT HIS LOCATION EXACTLY!

TURN RIGHT AT THE NEXT CORNER, DRIVER!

FASTER! FASTER! I CAN'T WAIT!

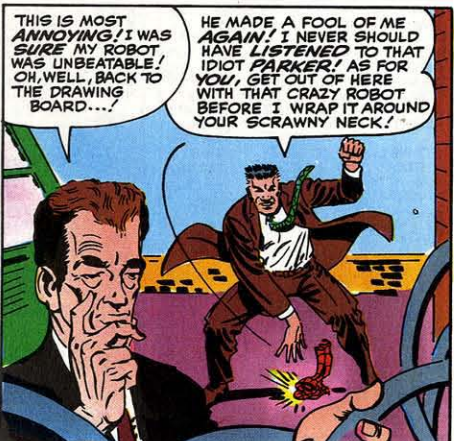
TURN LEFT... TURN RIGHT... BACK... FORWARD... THEY MUST BE NUTS!



SECONDS LATER, THE CABBIE IS CERTAIN HIS FARES ARE DEMENTED, AS HE SEES...

KEEP GOING! THE ROBOT ISN'T MORE THAN THIRTY FEET AWAY!

THIS IS A DAY THE POETS WILL WRITE BALLADS ABOUT...



FINALLY, A SHORT TIME LATER...

HI, AUNT MAY!
SORRY I'M
LATE! BOY, I'M
STARVED!

YOU CAN HAVE SOME-
THING TO EAT LATER!
RIGHT NOW, I WANT
TO HAVE A SERIOUS
TALK WITH YOU!

WOW! IT
MUST BE
SERIOUS!
YOU'RE
ALWAYS
TRYING TO
GET ME TO
EAT MORE!
WHAT'S
WRONG?

THAT, YOUNG MAN, IS
WHAT I WANT YOU
TO TELL ME!

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

I WENT UP TO TIDY YOUR ROOM AFTER
MARY JANE WENT HOME, AND...

MARY JANE?!
WHAT WAS
SHE DOING
HERE?

I WANTED YOU
TO MEET HER...
BUT THAT CAN
WAIT!

THIS IS MORE
IMPORTANT!
I HAPPENED TO
FIND THIS
BEHIND THE
BOOKCASE!

MY EXTRA SPIDER-MAN COSTUME!
I'VE GOT TO THINK OF SOMETHING
FAST!

OH, THAT OL' THING! I
CAN EXPLAIN THAT...

I'M
WAITING,
PETER!

I'VE GOT TO
FIND A WAY TO
CLEAR MYSELF
WITHOUT LYING
TO HER...

IT'S JUST A DISGUISE.
AUNT MAY... I WAS GOING
TO USE IT TO FOOL SOME
PEOPLE! LOOK... YOU CAN
SEE IT HASN'T EVEN BEEN
WORN! IT'S BRAND NEW!
I'VE NEVER EVEN HAD IT
ON!

GOSH, I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU
SUSPECT ME OF BEING SPIDER-
MAN! LOOK UNDER MY COAT
SLEEVES... NO COSTUME! NOW,
WOULD HE EVER GO OUT WITHOUT
IT?

PETER PARKER!
YOU SILLY BOY!!
OF COURSE
YOU'RE NOT SPIDER-
MAN!

SO FAR I
HAVEN'T
ACTUALLY
TOLD AN
UN-
TRUTH!

BUT, I DON'T WANT YOU WEARING
THAT SILLY COSTUME TO ANY
PARTIES... IT MIGHT GET YOU IN
TROUBLE! SO, I'LL JUST TAKE
IT WITH ME! AND THERE'S A
CAKE FOR YOU IN
THE KITCHEN!

SHE'S
GONE!
BOY,
WHAT A
CLOSE
SHAVE!

SHE MUST NEVER
DISCOVER MY SECRET!
AT HER AGE, THE SHOCK
COULD BE FATAL!

BUT, I'M IN THE CLEAR AGAIN... FOR
NOW! ALL IN ALL, THINGS DIDN'T
WORK OUT TOO BADLY!... EXCEPT
THAT I'VE BECOME A SUPER-HERO
WITHOUT A COSTUME!

WHAT IF I
HAVE TO
BECOME
SPIDEY
AGAIN?
SOON?

OH, WELL, I'LL
WORRY
ABOUT
THAT
WHEN THE
TIME
COMES!

AND, UNLESS WE MISS OUR GUESS,
THAT TIME IS COMING SOONER THAN
PETER THINKS! BUT, YOU'LL LEARN
ABOUT IT FOR YOURSELF WHEN YOU
READ OUR SENSATIONAL NEXT
ISSUE... DON'T MISS IT! IT'S YOUR
KIND OF YARN!

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™

TO KILL A SPIDER-MAN!

ANYONE ELSE MIGHT HAVE THOUGHT SPIDEY WAS DEAD WHEN KA-ZAR FISHED HIM OUT OF THE LAKE LAST ISH...AND SO DID THE SAVAGE NOBLE-MAN...UNTIL HIS JUNGLE-BRED INSTINCTS REVEALED...

THE MASKED MAN STILL LIVES!

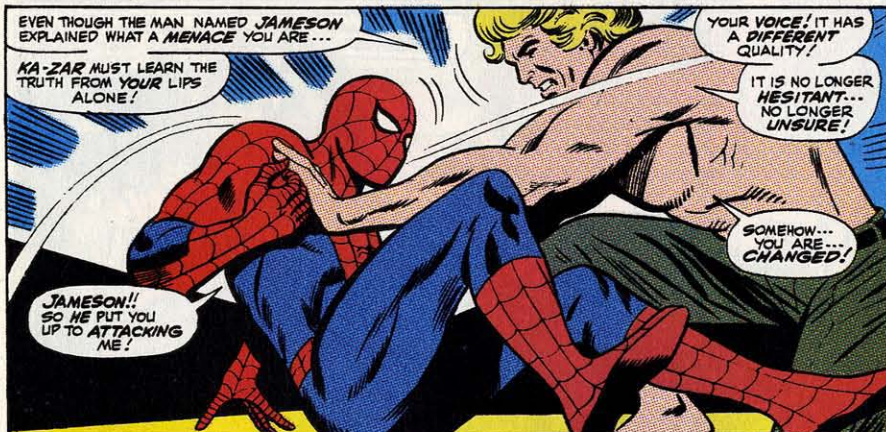
NOW THAT HE IS VANQUISHED...

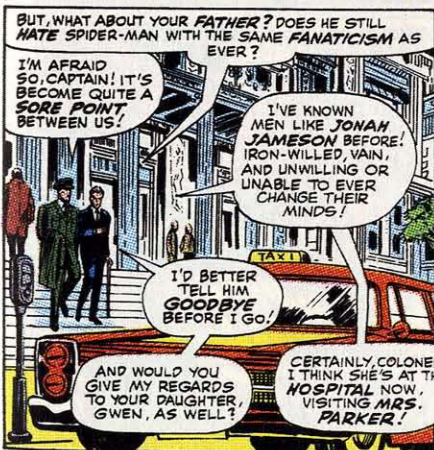
I MUST TAKE HIM TO A PLACE OF SAFETY AND LEARN THE TRUTH ABOUT HIM!

Wow! Try to beat this combo if you can...

SPECTACULAR SCRIPT:
SMILIN' STAN LEE
BRILLIANT BREAKDOWN:
JAZZY JOHNNY ROMITA
FABULOUS FINALIZING:
DASHIN' DONNY HECK
EXOTIC EMBELLISHMENT:
MIGHTY MICKEY DEMEO
LUSCIOUS LETTERING:
SWINGIN' SAMMY ROSEN
AND, IN THE IMMORTAL WORDS
OF IRVING FORBUSH...
WHEW!™







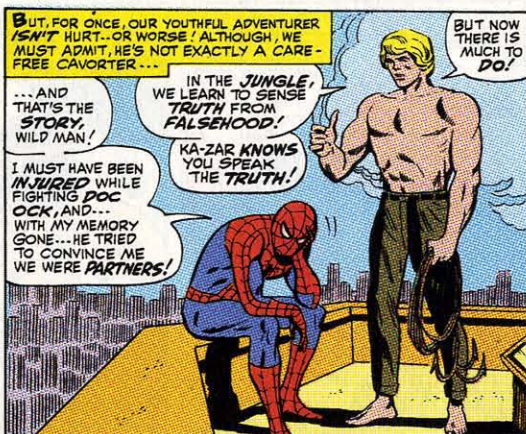


I KNOW HE'S TAKEN OFF ON THOSE MYSTERIOUS PHOTO ASSIGNMENTS BEFORE...

IF HE WAS HURT... OR WORSE... SOMEONE WOULD HAVE FOUND HIM BY NOW!

BUT NEVER THIS LONG... NEVER WHILE HIS AUNT WAS SO ILL!

NO! DON'T EVEN SAY IT!



BUT, FOR ONCE, OUR YOUTHFUL ADVENTURER *ISN'T* HURT... OR WORSE! ALTHOUGH, WE MUST ADMIT, HE'S NOT EXACTLY A CARE-FREE CAVORTER...

...AND THAT'S THE STORY, WILD MAN!

I MUST HAVE BEEN INJURED WHILE FIGHTING DOC OCK, AND... WITH MY MEMORY GONE... HE TRIED TO CONVINCE ME WE WERE PARTNERS!

IN THE JUNGLE, WE LEARN TO SENSE TRUTH FROM FALSEHOOD!

KA-ZAR KNOWS YOU SPEAK THE TRUTH!

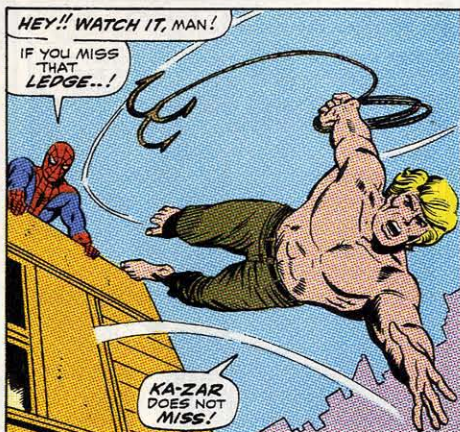
BUT NOW THERE IS MUCH TO DO!



KA-ZAR WILL AID YOU TO CLEAR YOUR... WAIT!

THAT GUTTERAL ROAR IN THE STREET FAR BELOW...

THE WARNING ROAR OF ZABU!!



HEY!! WATCH IT, MAN!

IF YOU MISS THAT LEDGE...

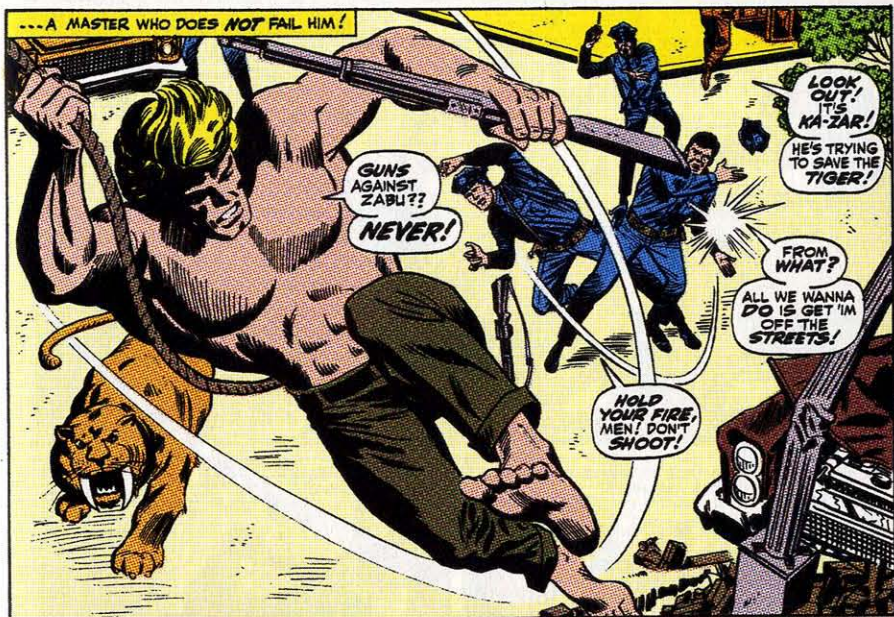
KA-ZAR DOES NOT MISS!

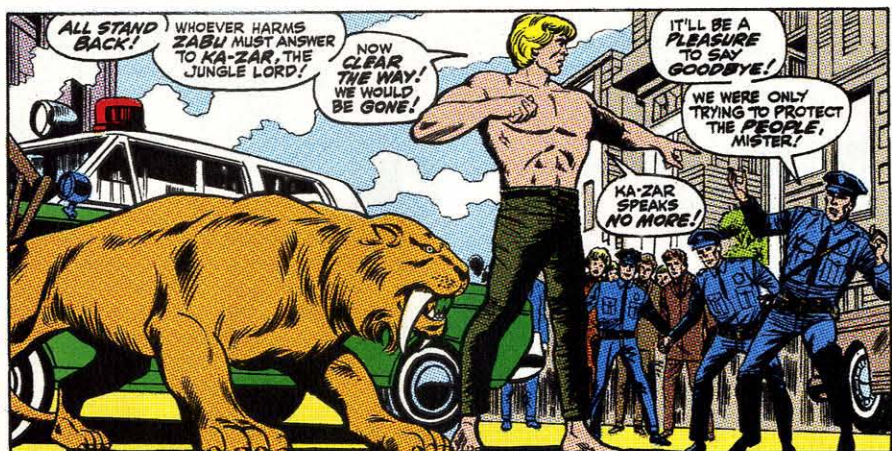


AND, IN THE STREET BELOW...

...A GRIMLY GROWLING SABER TOOTH PROWLs THE PAVEMENT, SEARCHING FOR HIS MASTER...

GRRRRRRRRR!





ALL STAND BACK!

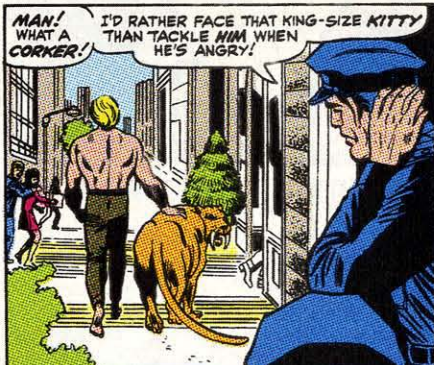
WHOEVER HARMS ZABU MUST ANSWER TO KA-ZAR, THE JUNGLE LORD!

NOW CLEAR THE WAY! WE WOULD BE GONE!

IT'LL BE A PLEASURE TO SAY GOODBYE!

WE WERE ONLY TRYING TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE, MISTER!

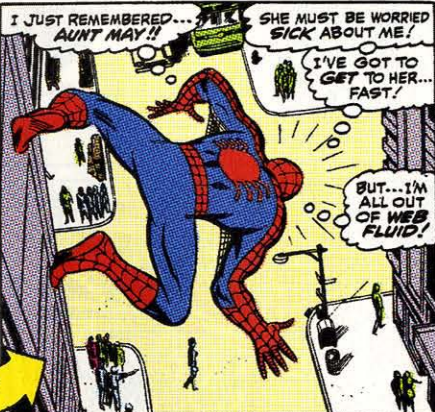
KA-ZAR SPEAKS NO MORE!



MAN! WHAT A CORKER!

I'D RATHER FACE THAT KING-SIZE KITTY THAN TACKLE HIM WHEN HE'S ANGRY!

BUT, EVEN AS THE FAR-OUT PAIR WALKS OFF OUR SCENE CHANGES ONCE MORE...



I JUST REMEMBERED... AUNT MAY!!

SHE MUST BE WORRIED SICK ABOUT ME!

I'VE GOT TO GET TO HER... FAST!

BUT...I'M ALL OUT OF WEB FLUID!

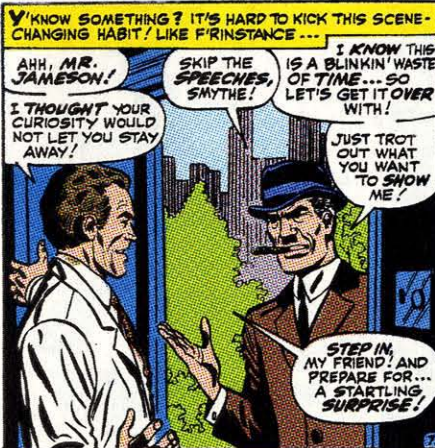


CAN'T SWING ACROSS TOWN WITHOUT IT!

I'LL HAVE TO TRAVEL BY WALL-CRAWLING!

FIRST, BACK TO THE APARTMENT... FOR MY CLOTHES!

EASY, SPIDEY! YOU'RE STILL KIND'A WOOLLY!!



Y'KNOW SOMETHING? IT'S HARD TO KICK THIS SCENE-CHANGING HABIT! LIKE F'INSTANCE...

AHH, MR. JAMESON!

I THOUGHT YOUR CURIOSITY WOULD NOT LET YOU STAY AWAY!

SKIP THE SPEECHES, SMYTHE!

I KNOW THIS IS A BLINKIN' WASTE OF TIME... SO LET'S GET IT OVER WITH!

JUST TROT OUT WHAT YOU WANT TO SHOW ME!

STEP IN, MY FRIEND! AND PREPARE FOR... A STARTLING SURPRISE!

THIS IS IT, JAMESON!

I CALL IT MY INVINCIBLE SPIDER SLAYER!

YOU WILL NOTICE THAT IT IS FAR **BIGGER**, FAR MORE **POWERFUL**, FAR MORE **DEADLY** THAN ITS FIRST PROTOTYPE!

REMEMBER HOW MY FIRST ROBOT CAME WITHIN A HAIR'S-BREADTH OF DEFEATING SPIDER-MAN?

NOW THIS ONE... BEING MANY TIMES ITS **SUPERIOR**, CANNOT POSSIBLY FAIL!

IT...LOOKS LIKE...IT COULD HANDLE ANYTHING... THAT LIVES!

AND SO IT CAN! IT SHALL **SLAY** THE WEB-SLINGER WITHOUT MERCY!

NOW WAIT A MINUTE!!

NOBODY'S TALKING ABOUT MURDERING HIM!

I JUST TOOK POETIC LICENSE, MR. JAMESON!

SPIDER SLAYER SOUNDS SO MUCH MORE **DRAMATIC**!

THERE IS NO NEED FOR YOU TO WORRY!

I TRUST MY PAY-MENT WILL BE THE SAME AS BEFORE?

SURE! SURE! LET'S SEE HOW THIS CONTRAPTION WORKS AGAIN...

IT'S PERFECT! I CAN SEE EVERYTHING THROUGH THE ROBOT'S FACE SCREEN!

I JUST WANT HIM CAPTURED, SEE?

I WANT HIM BEHIND BARS... LIKE FOREVER!

AND NOW... LET ME SHOW YOU WHY OUR SUCCESS IS ASSURED THIS TIME...!





COULDN'T
HELP OVER-
HEARING,
COLONEL!

ALL THE BEST
ON YOUR NEW
ASSIGNMENT,
MY BOY!

THANKS, MR. ROBERTSON! TELL ME
...DO YOU EVER FEEL LIKE
GETTING BACK IN UNIFORM?

AT MY AGE? BEING CITY
EDITOR IS EXCITEMENT
ENOUGH!

ANY-
WAY, TELL
DAD I
DROPPED
BY!

SURE
WILL, SON!



AND NOW, GANG... YOUR PATIENCE IS ABOUT TO
BE REWARDED! 'CAUSE HERE WE GO...

I'M STILL FEELING
TOO WOOLY TO
CRAWL MY WAY
ACROSS TOWN!

I'VE
GOTTA
GET
MYSELF
A RIDE...!



AND THIS IS ONE
WAY TO DO IT!



IT'S KINDA
SLOW...
BUT AT LEAST
I'M GOING IN
THE RIGHT
DIRECTION!

THIS REST
IS WHAT I
NEEDED!

I'M FEELING
BETTER
ALREADY!



BUT, THERE ALWAYS SEEMS TO BE ONE
PARTY-POOPER ON THE SCENE...

IT'S
SPIDER-
MAN!

ON TOP
OF THAT
BUS!

HELP!
POLICE!
I SEE
HIM!

I'VE
FOUND
SPIDER-
MAN!!

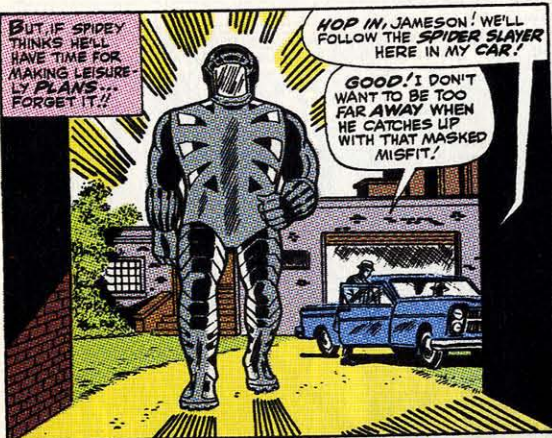
OH,
NO...!



WELL, IT'S
BACK TO THE
ROOFTOPS
FOR ME!

I CAN'T
LET THEM
CATCH
ME...

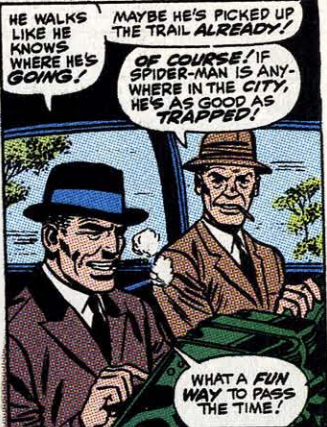
TILL I FIND A
WAY TO CLEAR
MYSELF!



BUT IF SPIDEY THINKS HE'LL HAVE TIME FOR MAKING LEISURELY PLANS... FORGET IT!!

HOP IN, JAMESON! WE'LL FOLLOW THE SPIDER SLAYER HERE IN MY CAR!

GOOD! I DON'T WANT TO BE TOO FAR AWAY WHEN HE CATCHES UP WITH THAT MASKED MISFIT!

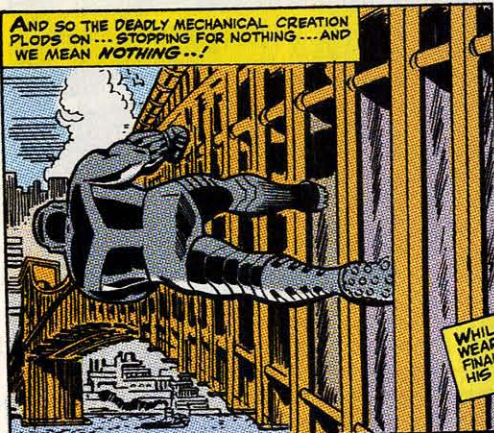


HE WALKS LIKE HE KNOWS WHERE HE'S GOING!

MAYBE HE'S PICKED UP THE TRAIL ALREADY!

OF COURSE! IF SPIDER-MAN IS ANYWHERE IN THE CITY, HE'S AS GOOD AS TRAPPED!

WHAT A FUN WAY TO PASS THE TIME!



AND SO THE DEADLY MECHANICAL CREATION PLODS ON... STOPPING FOR NOTHING...AND WE MEAN NOTHING...!



I'M IN LUCK! THE APARTMENT'S EMPTY!

HARRY MUST BE OUT SOMEWHERE!

WHILE A WEARY SPIDEY FINALLY REACHES HIS GOAL...



FIRST THING TO DO IS GET OUT OF THESE DUDS AND CHECK WITH AUNT MAY!

3 WHWHE! I'VE NEVER FELT SO TIRED BEFORE!



NO ANSWER!

MAYBE IT'S JUST AS WELL! I'M NOT SURE WHAT I'D TELL HER, ANYWAY!



AFTER I GET SOME SHUT-EYE, I'LL... SAY! WHY'S MY SPIDEY-SENSE TINGLING LIKE THIS?!!

SOME-THING'S WRONG!

THAT NOISE... OUTSIDE
MY WINDOW!

IT SEEMS CRAZY...
BUT, IT SOUNDS LIKE
FOOTSTEPS...

WALKING
UP THE
WALL!!



WE MUST BE GETTING
CLOSE!! HE'S MOVING
FASTER!!

THAT VOICE!!
IT... IT'S
JAMESON'S!!

I DON'T KNOW...
WHAT IT'S ALL
ABOUT...
BUT I'D BETTER
PUT ON MY
MASK!!



A ROBOT... WITH
JONAH'S FACE IN THE
VIEWPLATE!!

...JUST LIKE THAT
TIME ONCE
BEFORE!!



THERE
HE IS! IT
WORKED!
WE FOUND
HIM!!



WE GOT HIM
DEAD TO RIGHTS...
BURGLARIZING
SOMEONE'S
APARTMENT!



THAT'S A
STROKE OF
LUCK,
ANYWAY!

HE DOESN'T SUSPECT
I LIVE HERE... HE
THINKS I'M ROBBING
THE PLACE!

SURRENDER,
SPIDER-MAN...
OR ELSE...
HEY!!

SURRENDER??
NEVER HEARD
OF THE WORD!

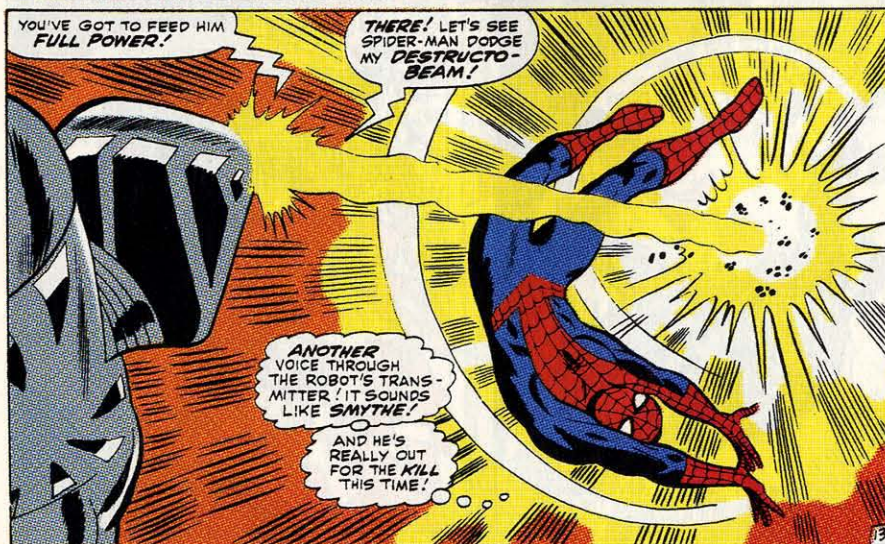
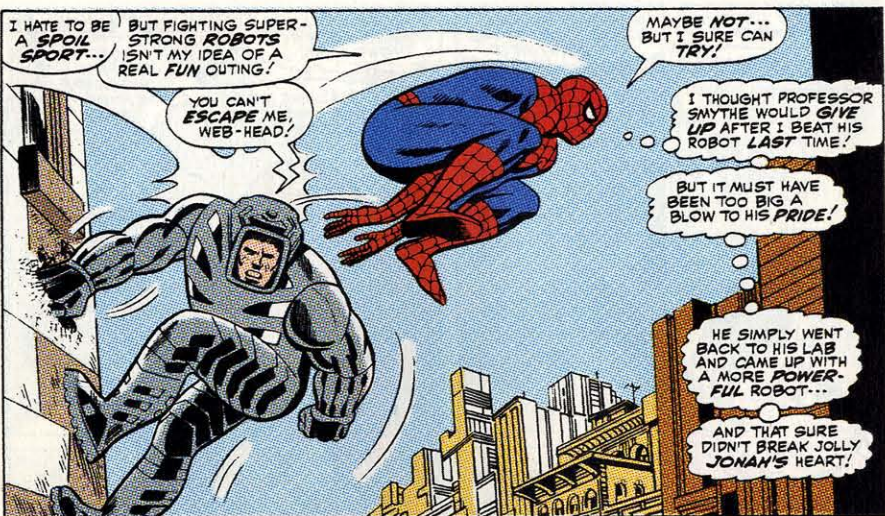


THEN THAT'S YOUR
HARD LUCK!!

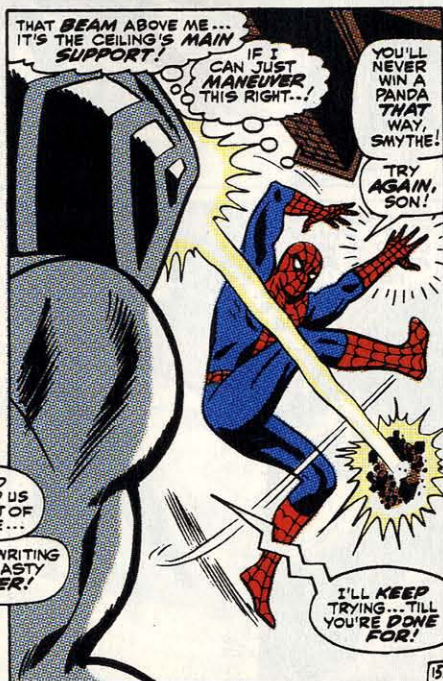
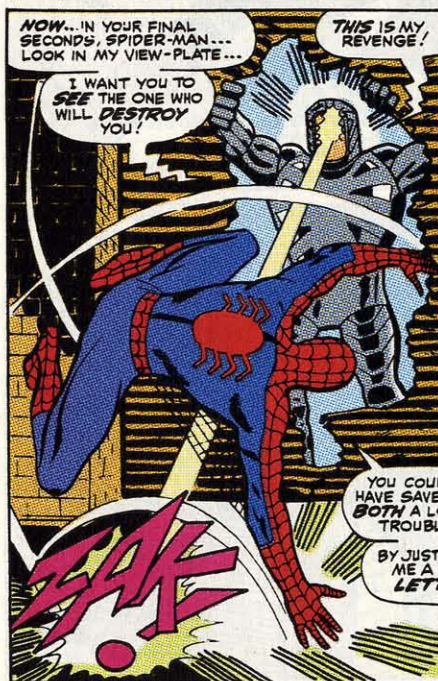
MY KICK
DIDN'T EVEN
UPSET
HIM!

HE'S MUCH
STRONGER
THAN THE
LAST ONE!

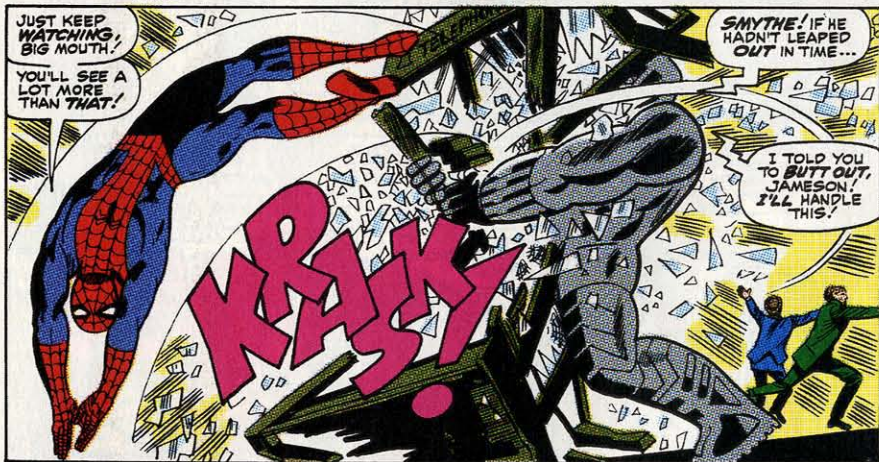
K
R
A
K!



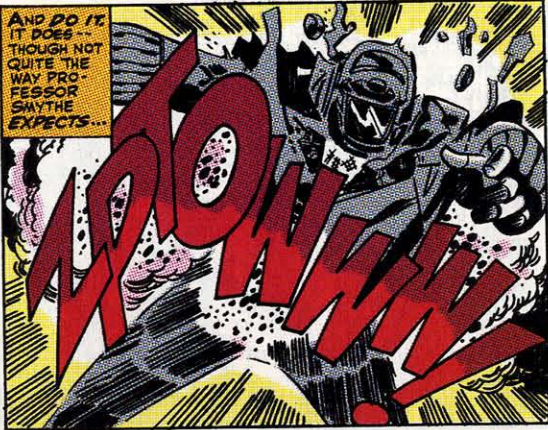












ALL I NEEDED WAS A PLACE WHERE THERE'D BE ENOUGH SPIDERS TO DO THE TRICK...

WHILE, AT THE OFFICE OF JONAH JAMESON, THE MOOD IS SOMEWHAT LESS THAN TRIUMPHANTLY HILARIOUS...

AND THAT'S WHY I CAME TO YOUR LAB, SMART GUY... NOT FOR YOU...FOR YOUR SPIDERS!

IF YOU'D HAVE BEEN SATISFIED TO JUST CAPTURE HIM...LIKE I WANTED YOU TO... WE'D HAVE WON!

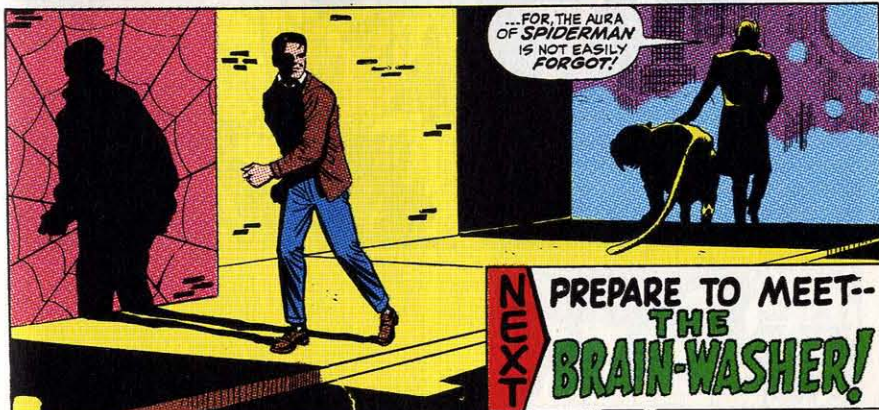
I JUST HEAPED THEM ALL TOGETHER, FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT...THEN--BLOOE!

GET OUT, YOU BUM!! I'VE GOT A GOOD MIND TO TURN YOU OVER TO THE POLICE!

YOU NEUROTIC NUT! YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE A MIND!

AND JUST BETWEEN US, SMYTHEY...I'M BUSHED!

OUT! OUT! OUUUUT!



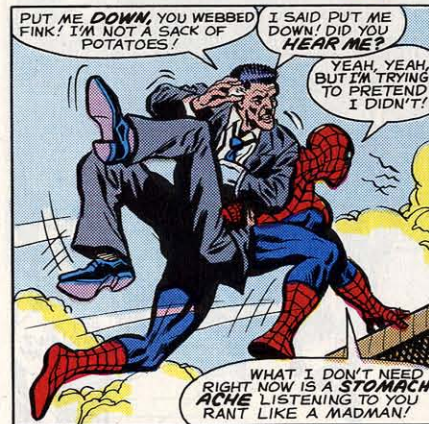
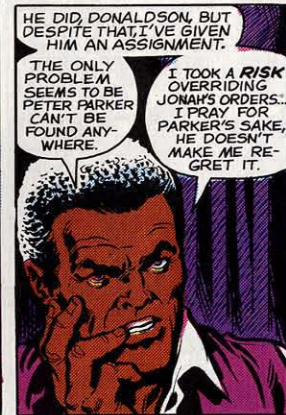
While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the arachnid's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

MARY WOLFMAN / KEITH POLLARD & JIM MOONEY / D. ALBERS • LETTERS / JIM SHOOTER
SCRIPT / EDITOR ILLUSTRATORS GLYNIS W. • COLORS / CON. EDITOR









FROM WHAT I CAN TELL, IF WE MAKE ANY ATTEMPT TO REMOVE THE SHACKLE, THE CHANGE IN PRESSURE WILL DETONATE THE BOMB.



SUDDENLY, THE HALL OUTSIDE THE SMALL LAB COMES ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF RUNNING FEET. THEN, A MOMENT LATER...

ALL RIGHT--NO ONE MOVE! SPREAD YOUR LEGS WIDE AND FREEZE!



WHERE'S SPIDER-MAN? HE WAS SEEN DRAGGING SOMEONE IN HERE!

MEANWHILE...

FOLLOWED THE CREEP HERE FROM THE AIRPORT--AN' NO ONE'S THE WISER!



NOW TA GET WHAT I CAME FOR!

AWRIGHT, PUNK, DON'T BUDGE... NOT UNLESS YER ITCHIN' FOR TROUBLE!



AN' BELIEVE ME, THE FLY IS READY FOR ANYTHIN'!

BY ALLAH! WH-WHO ARE YOU?

JUST A JOE WHO WANTS SOMETHING YOU GOT, BIG-SHOT.



AN' WHAT I WANT, I USUALLY TAKE! GOT THAT?

YEAH, HERE IT IS, THE INVITE TO THE KING TUT EXHIBIT!

WITH THIS, I'LL MAKE A MILLION!



MEANWHILE DOWN-TOWN IN POLICE HEAD-QUARTERS...

LET'S GET THIS STRAIGHT, JAME SON. YOU SAY SPIDER-MAN KIDNAPPED YOU?



BETTER BELIEVE IT, TOWER. HE AND THAT CREEP SWEETHE PUT THIS BOMB ON MY WRIST!

SURE, JONAH, AND I ACCIDENTALLY CLAMPED IT ON MY WRIST AS WELL, RIGHT?

HE'S A KILLER, TOWER! I DEMAND YOU ARREST HIM FOR MY SON'S DEATH!



DO WE REALLY HAVE TO GO THROUGH THIS ROUTINE AGAIN?



BUT, IN THE APARTMENT OF MARY JANE WATSON A MOMENT BEFORE BETTY BRANT-LEEDS CAN DIAL HER PHONE...

WISH I KNEW WHY I'M SEEING PETE AGAIN... IF ONLY HE WEREN'T SO INSISTENT!

HEY, I JUST REALIZED SOMETHING-- I'M ACTUALLY SCARED! ABOUT DATING PETE?



NO... I STILL DIG THAT BROWN-EYED HUNK, BUT WHAT IF HE PROPOSES AGAIN?

I DON'T THINK I CAN GO THROUGH THE TRAGEDY OF MARRYING ONLY TO BREAK UP-- LIKE BETTY AND NED...



...OR LIKE MOM AND DAD SO MANY YEARS AGO...

SLAMM!
RINGGG!



MEANWHILE...

I'M GETTING SICK, YOU MANIAC! PUT ME DOWN! AND I'M HUNGRY! I WANT TO EAT!

SURE YOU DON'T HAVE ANY MORE DEMANDS FAT-HEAD?

HOW ABOUT A LIMOUSINE TO TAKE YOU TO THE CEMETERY WHEN THE BOMB GOES BOOM?



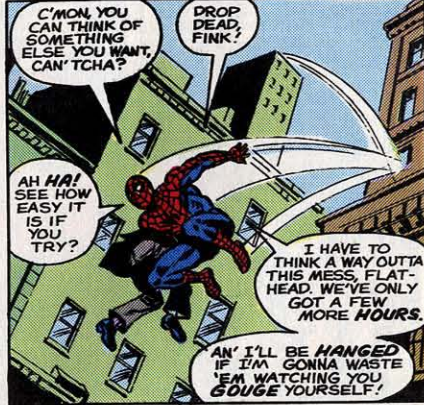
C'MON, YOU CAN THINK OF SOMETHING ELSE YOU WANT, CAN'T TCHA?

DROP DEAD, FINK!

AH HA! SEE HOW EASY IT IS IF YOU TRY?

I HAVE TO THINK A WAY OUTTA THIS MESS, FLAT-HEAD. WE'VE ONLY GOT A FEW MORE HOURS.

AN' I'LL BE HANGED IF I'M GONNA WASTE 'EM WATCHING YOU GOUGE YOURSELF!



'SIDES, I'M STARVING, TOO, BUT I CAN'T EAT AND LET JONAH SEE MY JAWLINE.



HE'S LIABLE TO RECOGNIZE IT AS PETER PARKER'S!

I'LL GIVE YOU A BREAK, JONAH... I'M NOT USED TO HOPPING AROUND THIS CITY LUGGING 180 POUNDS OF DEAD WEIGHT.

IF ONLY I HAD SOME WEB-BING... BUT I CAN'T DRAG JONAH BACK TO MY APARTMENT FOR THE NEW BATCH I MILD UP AND FORGET TO TAKE



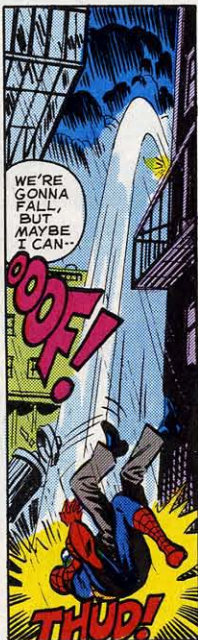
HEY! MY SPIDER-SENSE IS GOING CRAZY-- SOMETHING'S WRONG!

THE ONLY THING WRONG HERE, FREAK-- IS YOU!









FOR A LONG TIME, THERE IS NO MOVEMENT IN THIS DARK ALLEYWAY. THEN, JONAH STIRS. HE SHAKES THE CROWERS FROM HIS MUSTY HEAD, AND...

ALIVE? I'M ALIVE? I FELL ON SPIDER-MAN! HE MUST HAVE TAKEN THE IMPACT!



AND HERE HE IS, HELPLESS, UNCONSCIOUS--WITH NOTHING TO STOP ME FROM REMOVING HIS LUDICROUS MASK AND FINALLY LEARNING WHO HE ACTUALLY IS.



MEANWHILE, IN THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AT EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY...

YOU ORGANIZED THIS, BETTY... HE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE HERE BY THREE.

WELL, WHERE'S PARKER? I'M TIRED OF WAITING FOR HIM.



EXCUSE ME, PEOPLE. IT'S ALMOST SIX THIRTY. YOU'LL HAVE TO LEAVE.

WHAT ABOUT OUR FRIENDS DIPLOMA?

WE'LL MAIL IT TO HIM.



ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE DIME STORE DISCO, A RAIN-DRENCHED MARY JANE WATSON ANGRILY WAITS IN THE COMFORT OF A LEAKY TELEPHONE BOOTH...

ALL RIGHT, MR. PARKER. WHERE ARE YOU?

YOU SAID TO MEET YOU HERE BY SIX. YOU'RE LATE--



AND I'M NOT GOING TO GIVE MYSELF PNEUMONIA WAITING ANOTHER MINUTE.

CLIFF? M.J. HERE. HEY, TIGER, HOW ABOUT GIVING A GAL A LIFT?



WELL, MR. P--YOU BLEW IT THIS TIME.



WHATEVER. LAST HOPE THERE WAS--IT'S GONE--FOREVER!

HEY, BABE. YOU'RE LOOKING REAL DOWN.

DOWN? CLIFF--GOOD OL' MARY JANE IS NEVER DOWN. NEVER!



ELSEWHERE...

HUNH? WHERE AM I? HOW DID I GET HERE?

IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU AWOKED, CREEP!



I CARRIED YOU ALL THE WAY HERE MYSELF!

MY HEAD FEELS LIKE THE HULK WAS TAP DANCING ON IT! WOW!

CURT CONNERS? TAKE IT EASY, SPIDER-MAN--YOU MAY HAVE A CONCUSSION.



I WANT TO RUN A FEW TESTS.

COMING HERE HAD BETTER BE WORTH IT, CONNERS. I HAD TO CARRY THE BLASTED WALL-CRAWLER FOUR BLOCKS IN THE POURING RAIN!

B-BUT I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT ELSE TO DO.

NOT NOW, BLAST IT... NOT WHILE THERE'S SO LITTLE TIME REMAINING.

I'M SORRY, BUT I STILL CAN'T FIGURE HOW TO REMOVE THE SHACKLE OR THE BOMB.

FIGURES! ONLY SMYTHE KNOWS, AND HE'S NOT TALKI--

HOLD IT, I'M A GRADE-A--DUNCE!

I'VE SAID THAT FOR YEARS!

SNAP

JAMESON, WHY DON'T YOU--AWWW, FORGET IT! IT'S HARDLY WORTH THE EFFORT.

C'MON, WE'VE GOT A LITTLE TRIP TO TAKE.

WHERE? WHERE ARE YOU DRAGGING ME OFF TO NOW?

WESTCHESTER! AND WE BETTER MOVE!

ONE HOUR? WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT!

THEN YOU'D BETTER START PRAYING, JONAH.

IT TAKES ALMOST HALF AN HOUR FOR A TIRED, WEAK-LIMBED SPIDER-MAN TO CARRY AN EQUALLY-TIRED J. JONAH JAMESON TO THE WESTCHESTER LAB OF SPENCER SMYTHE...

WE'RE BACK, SMYTHE! AND WE'RE AFTER YOU!
YOU HEAR ME, MISTER?

KRASH!

HE'S NOT SPEAKING. HE'S SO SMUG IN HIS BLASTED VICTORY!

I'M SICK OF THIS GARBAGE, SMYTHE! I WANNA KNOW HOW TO--

OH MY ACHING BACK, JAMESON--LOOK!

DON'T TELL ME...DON'T DARE TELL ME

SMYTHE WANTED TO SEE US DIE, JAMESON. I GUESS HE'S FAILED AGAIN.

HE'S DEAD!

THERE IS A HEARTBEAT'S SILENCE, A NUMBING OF THE SENSES. THEN A FRUSTRATED RAGE WHISPER OVER THE TROUBLED WALL-CRAWLER...







THERE'S PROBABLY AN UNWINDING MAINSPRING INSIDE THE SHACKLE... AND WHEN IT SLOWS DOWN, THE PRESSURE DECREASES UNTIL--
BOOM!

YOU UNDERSTAND THESE THINGS? HOW? WHO ARE YOU?







NEXT ISSUE: ON THE WINGS OF THE **FEARSOME FLY!**



BULLPEN BULLETINS

AVAILABLE JUNE 28TH

AVENGERS #31

The Vision returns as we kick off the storyline that leads to this summer's AVENGERS/THUNDERBOLTS crossover! By Kurt Busiek, George Pérez and Al Vey!

BEFORE THE FANTASTIC 4: BEN GRIMM & LOGAN

Logan, Ben Grimm and Carol Danvers — trapped behind enemy lines and hunted by the Black Widow! By Larry Hama, Kaare Andrews and Walden Wong!

CAPTAIN AMERICA: THE CLASSIC YEARS

More Golden Age action starring the Living Legend of World War III! By Joe Simon and Jack Kirby!

DEADPOOL

The Merc-With-The-Mouth faces his toughest challenge yet: getting home from outer space! By Christopher Priest, Jim Calafiore and Jon Holdredge!

GAMBIT

Remy doesn't know what's worse: being stalked by Crossbones, Batroc, Zaran and X-Cutioner — or being trapped under a collapsed building with his ex-wife! By Fabian Nicieza, Yanick Paquette and Sean Parsons!

MARVEL KNIGHTS

What lives a mile below Brooklyn and destroys everything in its path? Ulik, the Asgardian troll — and that's our final answer! By Chuck Dixon, Eduardo Barreto and Klaus Janson!

MARVEL: THE LOST GENERATION

The First Line faces the only menace they can't stop — and it lurks within their own government! By Roger Stern and John Byrne!

WOLVERINE

Look out for about 10,000 empty bullet casings, approximately 20,000 shards of broken glass — and only 1 survivor — as Logan has a showdown with Lord Haan! By Steve Skroce!

X-FORCE

San Francisco is now ground zero in an anti-mutant wargame hatched 40 years ago — and the people who planned it all return to see it through to its bitter end! By Warren Ellis, Ian Edginton and Whilce Portacio!

X-MEN THE MOVIE: BEGINNINGS

Collecting the three prequels to the X-Men movie! Get the lowdown on Magneto, Rogue and Wolverine before the blockbuster hits!

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This 80-page reprint book collects UNCANNY X-MEN #380, CABLE #79 and GAMBIT #16 in one handy volume!

SPOTLIGHT

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Watch out, Commies! Head for the hills, saboteurs! This 216-page volume continues the Golden Age adventures of the Super Soldier and his trusty

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X-MEN THE MOVIE: BEGINNINGS



What moment from Magneto's past drives him to be the most feared mutant on the planet? Why is the frightened young girl named Rogue on the run from mysterious government agents? What

leads the amnesiac man named Logan towards his destiny? Find out in the 144-page trade paperback that collects the three prequels to the upcoming X-Men movie! You'll have to wait until July 14th to see the film... but you can learn the story behind the story next week!

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58
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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

TO
KILL
A
SPIDER-MAN!

WOW!
LOOK WHO'S
BACK!

MC

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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

SMYTHE!
WHAT HAVE
YOU DONE
TO US?!!

I'VE
LOCKED
YOU BOTH
TO THAT
BOMB,
FOOL--

--AND IT'S
PRIMED TO
BLOW IN
24 HOURS!

**24 HOURS
TO DOOMSDAY!**

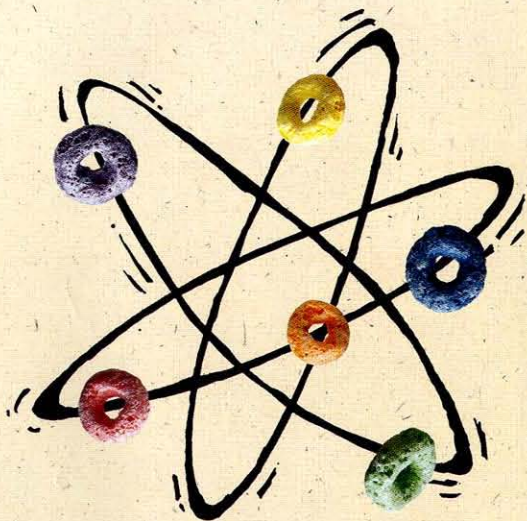


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