



THE AMAZING

# SPIDER-MAN



#27

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MACKIE  
ROMITA JR  
HANNA

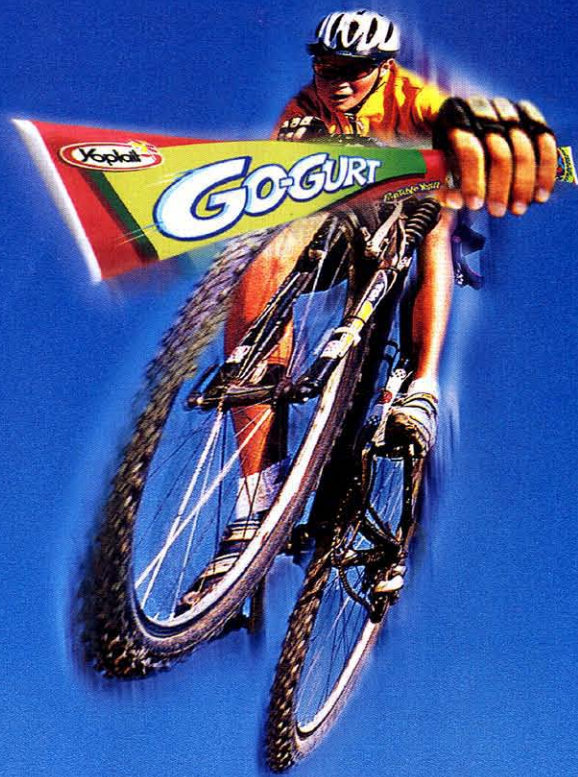
DIRECT EDITION



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GRAB IT AND GO...  
ANYWHERE.





THERE HE IS, MR. Q., RIGHT OUT IN THE OPEN, JUST RIPE FOR THE SNATCHING.

LET'S NOT ACT PREMATURELY, MR. P.



NO GOOD WILL BE SERVED BY ALERTING THE LITTLE FELLOW TO OUR LURKING ABOUT.

TOO TRUE. PATIENCE IS THE NAME OF THE GAME, AS THEY SAY.



"NO NEED CAUSING HIM TO RUN."

THE GREEN GOBLIN, PETE!

I MEAN... I WAS AS CLOSE TO HIM AS I AM TO YOU!



I'M TELLIN' YOU... THE DUDE WAS BUTT UGLY! IT'S TURNED MY HEAD AROUND.

I'VE READ ABOUT THESE SUPER BAD GUYS... HEARD THE STORIES FROM MY DAD, BUT...

RANDY, YOU'VE GOT TO LET IT GO.

THE GOBLIN THING WAS WEEKS AGO. YOU CAN'T LET IT GET TO --



"LET IT GO"? HOW?

HELP!

SOMEONE'S IN TROUBLE.



ER... RANDY... I THINK I LEFT MY WALLET IN THE RESTAURANT! I'LL CATCH UP WITH YOU.

SURE, PETE, BUT KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN. NEVER KNOW WHEN A SUPER-DUDE MIGHT BE LURKING IN THE SHADOWS.



# STRAY

HOWARD MACKIE WRITER  
JOHN ROMITA JR. PENCILS  
SCOTT HANNA INKS

GREGORY WRIGHT  
COLORS

RICHARD STARKINGS &  
COMICRAFT 5  
JASON LEVINE  
LETTERS



MAN! YOU JUST CANT FIND A DECENT ALLEY IN THIS CITY THESE DAYS. HOW'S A SUPER HERO SUPPOSED TO CHANGE INTO HIS COSTUME WITHOUT --?

YUCK!

WHY CANT PEOPLE CLEAN UP AFTER THEIR DOGS?!





A DEMONSTRATION ON RADIATION, HIGH BY A 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-STRAWN PETER RESOLVED TO USE HIS GREAT POWERS IN THE SERVICE OF HIS NEIGHBORHOOD. HE LEARNED AN INVALUABLE LESSON: WITH GREAT POWER MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY.

STAN LEE PRESENTS:

# THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN





DID YOU CALL FOR  
HELP, LITTLE  
GIRL?

WHOA!  
SPIDER-  
MAN?! I...  
I--

EVERYTHING'S GOING  
TO BE OKAY. TELL ME  
WHAT'S WRONG. WHO'S  
BOTHERING YOU?



IT'S...  
IT'S... MISTER  
MITTENS. HE'S  
UP THERE!

"MISTER  
MITTENS"?  
WELL, THAT'S  
A NEW  
ONE!

FIRST  
THE SQUID...  
NOW MISTER  
MITTENS... GUESS  
ALL THE GOOD  
NAMES HAVE  
BEEN  
TAKEN...

ANYWAY...  
DONT YOU  
WORRY, LITTLE  
GIRL, I WONT  
LET HIM  
HURT --



...YOU?



MISTER  
MITTENS...?



HOW  
ABOUT YOU  
BE A NICE KITTY  
AND LET ME  
HELP YOU?

MISTER  
MITTENS...?

HISSSSSS  
REEOOOW  
OW! SCRATCH  
HISSSSSS





# Meet Hockey's Way Cool Chimp!

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## Jack's Word Search

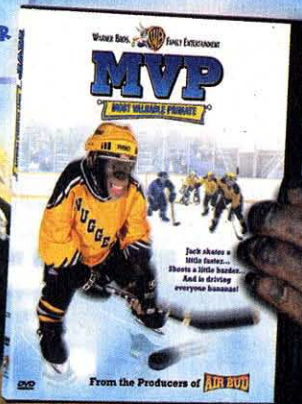
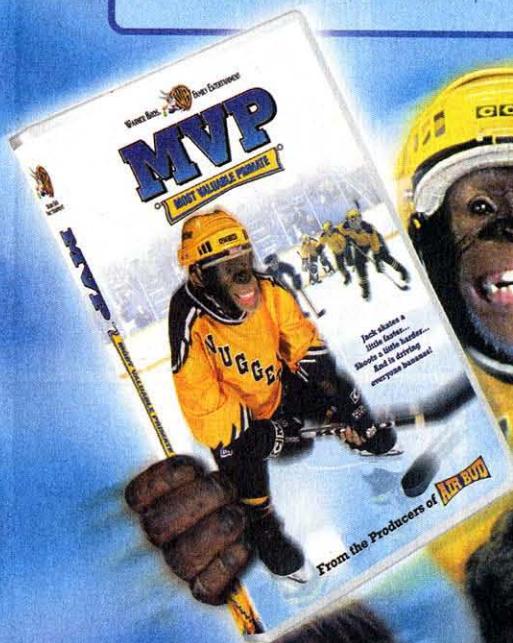
Can you find the words listed in the puzzle below?

B	E	I	O	U	X	A	E	I	O	M	BANANA
A	O	I	Y	X	A	E	O	U	Z	G	CHIMP
N	E	H	O	C	K	E	Y	E	I	O	MVP
A	O	I	Y	X	A	E	O	U	Z	A	GOALIE
N	E	I	O	U	Y	X	A	E	I	L	HOCKEY
A	S	K	A	T	E	E	O	U	Z	I	SKATE
X	E	C	H	I	M	P	A	E	I	E	ZOOKEEPER
U	O	I	Z	O	O	K	E	E	P	E	

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Hercules, Thor and Beta-Ray Bill face the horror that is the God-Slayer! By Dan Jurgens & Tom Grummett!

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Magneto has targeted the X-Men. His weapon: the mutant called Wolverine! By Mark Millar & Adam Kubert!

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Qabiri has destroyed Earth 253—now he's closing in on ours! By Steven Grant & Ariel Olivetti!

## X-MEN #110

Where has Kitty Pryde been—and what is her message for the X-Men? By Scott Lobdell & Leinil Yu!

MARVEL  
SPOTLIGHT

ULTIMATE X-MEN #2

Is  
Wolverine  
Working  
For  
Magneto?

New  
Penciler  
John  
Romita  
Jr.!

INCREDIBLE HULK  
#24

Which writer had the best year, Paul Jenkins or Brian Michael Bendis? Which ongoing series was tops in 2000, AVENGERS or ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN? The House wants to reward this past year's stand-out stars—and we want your voice to be heard—that's why this month we've created the first-ever Marvel.com Awards!

Movies have the Oscars, music has the Grammys... and it's high time Mighty Marvel had their own awards! And instead of a stuffy "board of experts" telling us what they deem worthy, we're asking you—yes, you—to pick the year's best in over 20 categories!

What was the greatest fight scene? Who do you think most deserves their own series? Who has the coolest costume? You'll find those questions and more waiting for you right now at [www.marvel.com](http://www.marvel.com)!

Just log on and make your picks—and in March Your Man @ Marvel will announce all the winners!

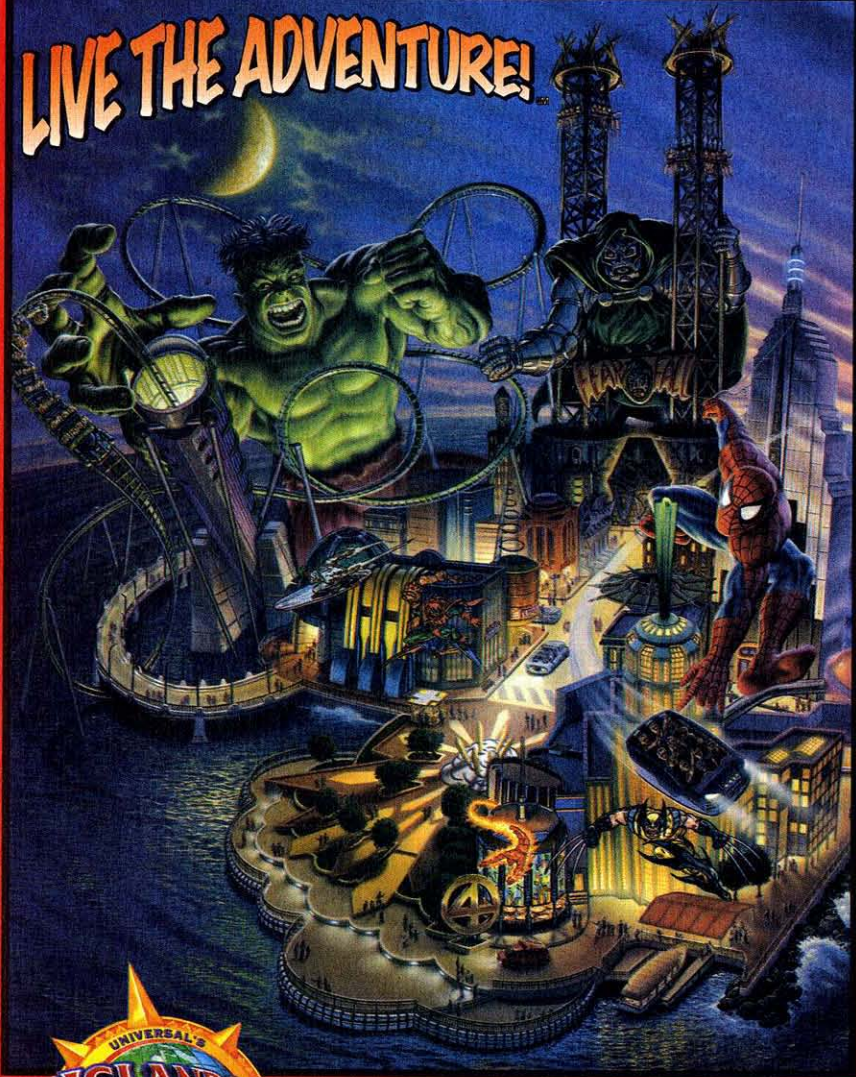
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**A** SHORT TIME  
LATER...



HEY! IT'S THE BEST WE  
COULD AFFORD ON OUR  
LIMITED BUDGET, MY  
FRIEND.



PHEW! RANDY... I  
DONT KNOW ABOUT  
THIS STUFF... I DONT  
KNOW IF IT'S GOING  
TO BE MUCH OF AN  
IMPROVEMENT OVER  
WHAT WE'RE OVER  
TO COVER.











LADIES  
AND GENTLEMEN,  
THE PLACE BENEATH  
THE ALLEY IS  
PROUD TO  
PRESENT...

...THE  
BLACK  
VINYL!

EXCELLENT!  
PETE, YOU ARE  
GOING TO LOVE  
THESE GUYS!

THEY'RE  
THE BAND FOR  
THE MILLENNIUM.  
THEY DO THIS 80'S  
RETRO COVER  
OF 70'S SONGS  
WITH POST-  
80'S FUNK.

OH... ER...  
COOL.



AND WE  
BEAT THE  
CROWD!

WHAT A  
SURPRISE.

COOL!  
JILL AND  
GLORY ARE  
HERE.



ANOTHER  
SURPRISE?

~SNIFF~  
PETER...



NICE  
COLOGNE, PETE.  
LET ME GUESS...  
RANDY GAVE IT TO  
YOU? ~SNIFF~  
HONKY SAILOR  
~SNIFF~ ISN'T  
IT?



WELL...  
THIS IS...  
NICE.

YEAH...  
IT IS.

VERY  
NICE.

VERY.



I'M GOING  
TO GET DRINKS.  
WHO WANTS  
WHAT?

ALL  
THEY HAVE  
IS SODA. NO  
LIQUOR  
LICENSE  
YET.

RANDY...  
COME WITH  
ME, MY  
FRIEND.





**JOE  
KUBERT'S**

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MOST HELPFUL. THEIR POSITIVE  
ENCOURAGEMENT AND TIPS ON  
IMPROVING MY COMPOSITION HAVE  
DONE A WORLD OF GOOD."  
-VICTOR J. MILLER, SR, USA

"I WAS REALLY (AND I  
MEAN REALLY!) IMPRESSED  
AND HAPPY WITH THE QUALITY  
OF THE COURSES."  
-THOMAS DEROUAULT, FRANCE

"THANKS AGAIN... FOR PROVIDING  
A PERSON SUCH AS MYSELF WITH  
THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN."  
-DANIEL BELIC, AUSTRALIA

"I HAVE LEARNED MORE ABOUT  
PENCILING IN THIS SHORT TIME-  
THAN IN THE FIFTEEN YEARS  
I'VE BEEN TRYING TO BREAK  
INTO THIS INDUSTRY!"  
-SANDY CARRUTHERS, CANADA

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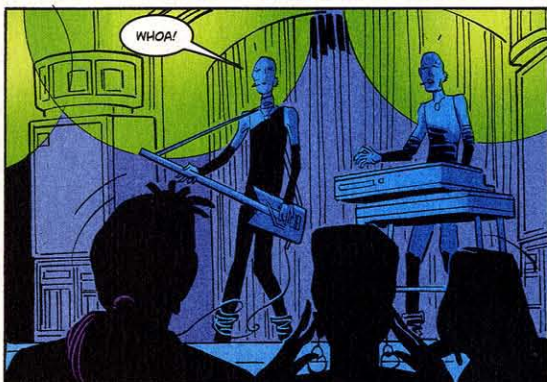














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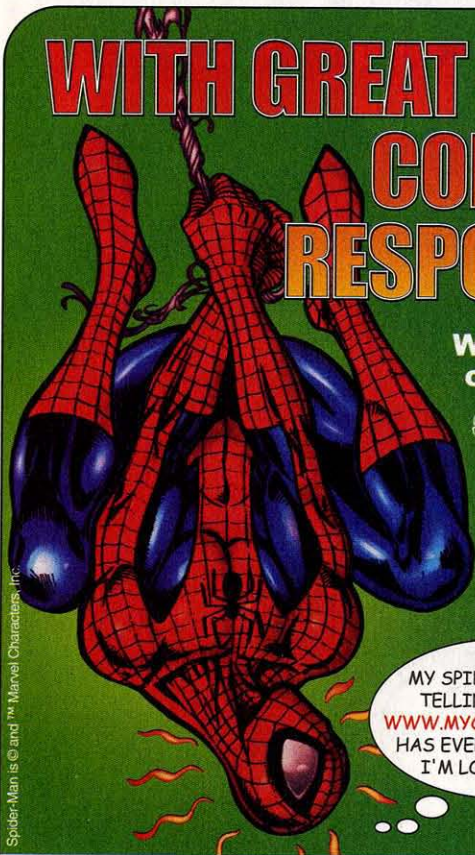
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YOU GENTLEMEN HAVE CAUGHT ME AT A REALLY BAD TIME IN MY LIFE...

NORMALLY I'M FULL OF SNAPPY BANTER AND WITTY REPARTEE AND I TRY TO FIND THE JOY IN HERO-VERSUS-VILLAIN CONFRONTATIONS.

NOT TODAY!

TODAY I AM FEELING AS THOUGH MY LIFE HAS BEEN INVADDED FOR THE LAST TIME!

HERE'S THE DEAL:

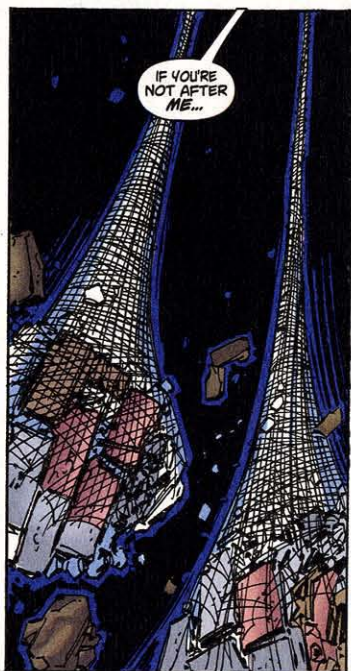
YOU TELL ME WHO HIRED YOU TO COME AFTER ME AND WHY --



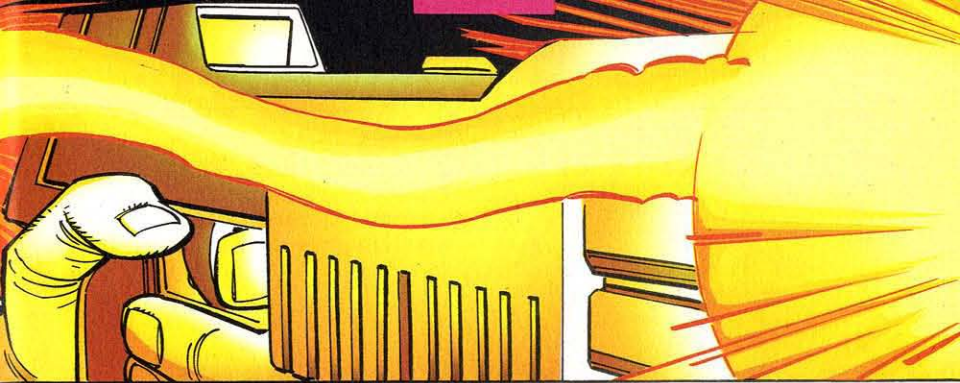


-- AND I  
WON'T MAKE ANY  
LAME JOKES ABOUT  
WEARING PINSTripES AND  
BOW TIES OUT ON AN  
ASSASSINATION  
ATTEMPT.









AH! A MISSION MOST FURTIVE.

AN ESCAPEE.  
A HEINOUS CREATURE.  
A WALKING GENETIC  
TIME BOMB.

IS THIS NOT  
TRUE, MR. P?

**-UGHK!**



INDEED  
IT IS,  
MR. Q.

THE GENTLEMEN OF  
A.I.M. \* SOUGHT  
OUR TALENTS TO  
TRACK DOWN THIS  
FELINE AND END  
ITS LIFE.

**-AGHK!**

\* Advanced Idea  
Mechanics - Axel



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- ☐ **THO** Thor
- ☐ **BLT** Thunderbolts

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- ☐ **CAB** Cable
- ☐ **DDP** Deadpool
- ☐ **GAM** Gambit
- ☐ **GEN** Generation X
- ☐ **MTX** Mutant X
- ☐ **XME** Uncanny X-Men
- ☐ **WOL** Wolverine
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TELL  
YOU WHAT:  
WE'RE GOING TO  
GIVE THIS POOR  
KITTY A  
BREAK.

HIS LIFE'S  
BEEN SCREWED  
WITH MORE THAN  
ENOUGH.



WE'RE  
GOING TO LET  
HIM LIVE A LITTLE...  
HANG OUT WITH HIS CAT  
FRIENDS... GET A  
GIRLFRIEND... LIVE IN  
PEACE.

MEOW



MEOW?

...HOPEFULLY  
SOME PLACE  
FAR, FAR  
AWAY.

SHOO!  
GO ON... GET!  
MAKE SOME  
FRIENDS...



...AND  
LET ME GET  
BACK TO  
MINE!

SIGNAL  
TO NOISE

LATER THAT  
NIGHT...



C'MON,  
PETE! YOU'RE  
NOT STILL MAD AT  
ME ... ARE  
YOU?





THE  
WHOLE THING...  
IT MADE ME  
UNCOMFORTABLE,  
RANDY.  
WORSE...  
IT MADE JILL  
UNCOMFORTABLE.



AND GLORY CERTAINLY DIDN'T  
LOOK TOO PLEASED WHEN WE  
PUT THEM IN THAT CAB.

OKAY...  
OKAY!  
I SCREWED  
UP!



LOOK -- I'LL  
MAKE IT UP TO YOU.  
WHAT CAN I DO?  
ANYTHING!

HMMM ...



WELL, FOR  
STARTERS YOU  
CAN HOLD THE  
DOOR WHILE I  
FIND MY OTHER  
KEYS--



SNIFFE  
SNIFFE



SNIFFE

OH NO.



LOOKS  
LIKE WE'VE  
GOT OURSELVES  
ANOTHER ROOMIE,  
PETE!

**PHEW!**

I THINK I'VE  
GOT ANOTHER  
BOTTLE OF  
"HOWDY SAILOR"  
UPSTAIRS!

**THE END**



Hey, Spider's Web:

I just finished reading AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #25 and I am floored. I have been reading the adventures of everyone's favorite wall-crawler for over twenty years, and I have one simple piece of advice: keep John Romita Jr. and Scott Hanna right here on AMAZING SPIDER-MAN. I can't stress this enough. I have always been a big fan of J.R. Jr. (and a gigantic fan of his dad), but I think he is doing some of his best work ever. Combine that with Hanna's superb inks and . . . well, what can I say . . . you've got one very happy Spider-fan here. Please keep these two together and working on Spidey. There just is no alternative.

Jim Holtz  
Yarmouth, ME  
Via Internet

Couldn't agree more, Jim. And no worries - John Romita Jr. and Scott will be staying put on AMAZING SPIDER-MAN for the near future. After a brief hiatus on our monthly, they'll be returning - triumphantly - with issue #30, the first issue of J. Michael Straczynski's run. Everyone's excited. You should be, too.

Dear Marvel,

I want to start off saying that I appreciate the change the Spider-Man magazines have been taking lately. After reading and collecting comics for twenty-five years, I thought I'd seen it all. But the death of someone very close to a superhero shakes the foundations of the superhero's supporting cast. When you take away a key element of that cast, you take away the pleasure that the readers find in that character. And when you bring that character back, you have to do it in a skillful way such that the original sense of fulfillment of the character's personality remains intact. Because, after all, that is not why the character is being brought back: because the fans miss him/her. In the case of Mary Jane, I can't believe the rumors I'm hearing over the Internet and through valid inside sources. If the plot to bring Mary Jane back in some way jeopardizes her character bio, then I'm sure the success that Marvel has so recently seen in the Spider-Man books (read: ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN) will fizzle away. In my opinion, this whole tragedy has the same thinking behind it that the clone saga mess did. And it will reap the same disappointment among the readers. Even though all the rumors I've heard are just that: rumors, they come from very reliable sources. So, in an effort to save at least one fan, try not to destroy Spider-Man's greatest supporting character. Who knows? You might save many more from departing the title...again.

Chris Brewer  
Via Internet

Rumors are rumors, Chris, as you say. No more, no less. No doubt, Mr. Jane's death casts quite a long shadow over Peter Parker's life, and the rumors of her being alive will need to be addressed at some point - directly. The question is *when*. In fiction, and in particular in comics, there's a basic rule: if you don't see the corpse - and sometimes even if you *do* - can you assume they're really dead? Then again, sometimes everything is as it seems. Find out which is the case some time in the near future.

Dear Spider's Web,

I should have known better. The last issue of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN I picked up was the issue that had the return of Aunt May. I wrote you a letter that day telling you that we have reached new depths of cliché comic book writing, and that I would never buy another comic again. I had read Spidey for 20 years, grown up with him. You brought back two excellent characters (Ben and Norman) and killed off the least plot-usable in an incredible issue (ASM #40). I was disappointed in an incredible story when you brought her back.

Now I pick up ASM #25 and see that you killed the greatest female character created for a hero since Lois Lane! You people ought to be ashamed of yourselves. No wonder you are losing fans left and right. You kill any good character for "the good of readership" and then bring them back when sales slip again. People read comics like Spidey for entertainment, not to feel like they have lost someone. This whole mess is just disgusting. And I didn't even finish the story line in the issues. Do us old time fans a favor and quit while you are this far behind!

Larry Conn  
Chelsea MI  
Via Internet

Sorry you feel that way, Larry. Yes, people

read Spidey for entertainment, as you say, but they also come for something more - the characters. Your strong reaction proves this. All we can say is keep your ears to the ground. There are plenty more developments to come.

Dear Spider's Web,

I'll keep this short, since my last letters were pretty lengthy. I'm no fortune-teller, but I saw the story line coming in my sleep. I would have told my buddies to just tell me - I was wrong and saved the four bucks this issue cost me. I'm really glad J. Michael Straczynski will be coming soon, because right now, AMAZING SPIDER-MAN is not doing well. I'm sorry to say this, but I believe it's true.

Tell me I'm the only one that thinks this. I know I'm not, heck I read Wizard and go to comic book shops. But you can never tell me the letters page. You'd think everything was going hunky-dory. Things will get better, and I stick by what I've said in my last few letters: I love Spidey-Man. If I stop collecting the title, I'll stop collecting comics.

I know this won't see print. Sorry if I don't have sunshine to spread every single time I write a letter, but if you guys don't want an honest opinion, you should say so. And if you still don't want an honest opinion, show it.

LL Delvin Williams  
2SOPS, Schriever AFB, CO  
Via Internet

Your opinion is appreciated, Lieutenant. All of our readers' opinions matter to us - even *Ralf's*. In your case, you're clearly in the mood for a change, so the good news is that change is coming. AMAZING SPIDER-MAN is going to shift a few gears and go into overdrive in the months ahead. Straczynski has big things planned for this title, and the buzz is already strong.

Nonetheless, you might want to stay through the 4-part story arc, the biggest one yet, and concludes in the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL 2001. Howard Mackie and Paul Jenkins have something big planned with this story arc, and Spider-fans won't want to miss it. It's going to get a lot of folks talking.

Dear Spider's Web,

I just had to write in after reading the "Revenge of the Green Goblin" series and the number 25 editions of both Spider-Man titles. Wow! Howard Mackie and Paul Jenkins outdid themselves. Many have complained about the state of the titles as of late (myself included), but the story was brilliant and the way I see it, if Howard is leaving Amazing, there's no reason why he shouldn't do it with a bang. Excellent story telling will simply set the stage for J. Michael Straczynski. I just couldn't believe the dark storyline. It had been such a long time since a story line that intense was seen in the titles and I think it was a great way to shake things up a bit. Just when you think the dynamic between Peter and Norman could be explored any further...is it any wonder that Wizard magazine rated Spider-Man and AMAZING SPIDER-MAN as both the character and title to watch in 2001? I like the direction things seem to be headed in.

This is nothing new. I've said that before and then just as quickly complained when I saw the next issue, but the one little sign is that I have to be around and sticking things out if I want to complain, right? So it's not all bad. This isn't the first letter you guys have received from me, so not all of us are rookies in this department. This "month of Spider-Man" hasn't been too bad either, especially for a Spider-Man addict like myself. "The Mysterio Manifesto,"... SPIDER-MAN/DAREDEVIL... Spider-Man guest appearances in WOLVENIN, the annuals, the regular titles... "Revenge of the Green Goblin" limited series... the excitement over the upcoming movie... the new videogame... Joe Quesada's devotion to keep Spidey and the X-titles... all of it has fed my hungry Spidey appetite very well and the stories have been pretty good. All I can say is let's keep it up.

Until Next Time  
Ciao  
Tyrone M.  
Via Internet

That's the goal, Tyrone. Of course, we're thrilled that our friends at Wizard magazine project such a bright 2001 for the one and only wall-crawler. We think they're right on the money.

Dear Web-Heads,

You're doing a great job with AMAZING SPIDER-MAN so keep on doing it. Keep Randy as Peter's roommate. I love it when Peter tries

to keep his secret from Randy. I'm glad Peter is finally getting over M.J.'s death. Is Mary Jane captured by one of his enemies, or did it have nothing to do with him being Spider-Man? I'm sure it hurt Peter when Jid wouldn't let him protect her as Spider-Man. It's just another woman he likes who doesn't like Spider-Man. Why doesn't Peter find a way to increase his powers? I'm sure he will need it with his enemies becoming more powerful. Maybe Mr. Fantastic of the Fantastic Four could help him become more powerful. Stronger webbing, extra four arms and become a giant spider thing. Peter would of course be able to turn human since Reed would make that possible. I can wait for PETER PARKER: SPIDER-MAN #24 to come in the mail. If he does start dating or gets married again make it with someone who could protect herself from his enemies. Are you going to do any more WHAT IF stories?

Brett Foerster  
Via Internet

No WHAT IF-type stories planned, Brett, but in coming months look forward to a comprehensive look at our favorite wall-crawler. In April, there will be three Spider-titles on the stands, each offering a different glimpse of the character we all know and love. More on that next issue.

Dear Marvel,

Although I know that ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN is popular, I must urge you not to ever consider replacing the current continuity with its Ultimate counterpart. There are rumors abounding that this may eventually happen. This would be disastrous to your fan base. Spider-Man is just now returning to its status as Marvel's greatest super-hero. You cannot replace a Spider-Man who has increased the number of our fans by alienating the ones that you already have. To say that only a fledgling book is "accessible" to "new readers" insults the intelligence of your fans. Anyone who picks up a Spider-Man book can understand it. What happens in twenty years when Ultimate is no longer accessible - kill it and start "Extreme Spider-Man"? Sounds silly, doesn't it? Don't mess with what works. I'm happy the ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN is a good book, but I believe the best way to keep all of the fans happy is to keep both universes going simultaneously. I am a loyal Spider-Man fan with almost one thousand Spider-Man comic books. I think that you would seriously damage the loyalty of fans like me if you replaced the current continuity. What happens if the new fans you have attracted are of this type move on to the next flavor-of-the-month?

Stick with solid stories and you will not only attract the new fans, but please the ones that you already have.

Thank you,  
D. McCall  
Via Internet

Sleep easy. There are absolutely no plans for the Ultimate Universe to supplant the Marvel Universe as core continuity. The coming month should prove it.

Editor's note: Special thanks to super-intern John miegegas for his invaluable assistance on this issue.

**TEXT ISSUE**  
BEGINNING A  
4-PART STORY  
ARC THAT  
CONCLUDES  
IN AMAZING  
SPIDER-MAN  
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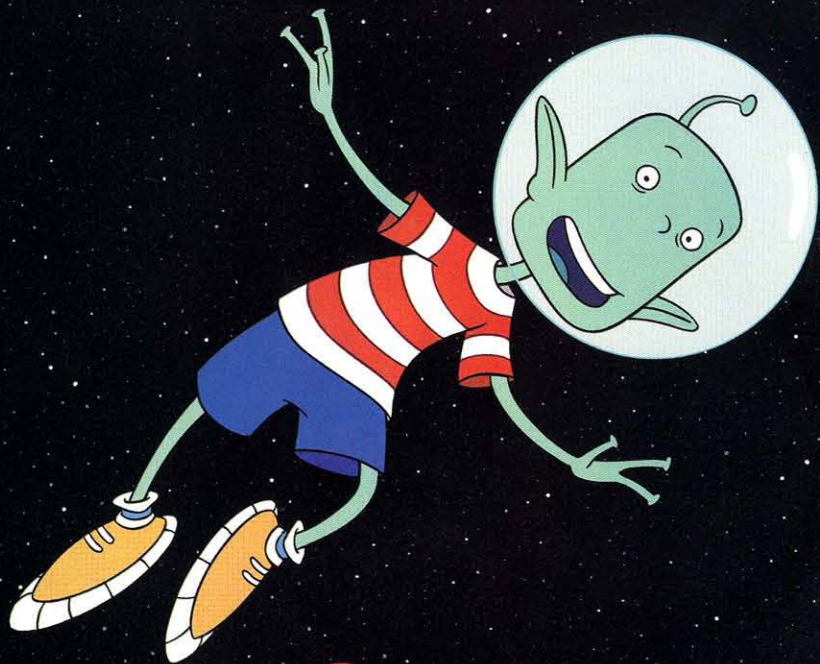
got milk?

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