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PlayStation 2



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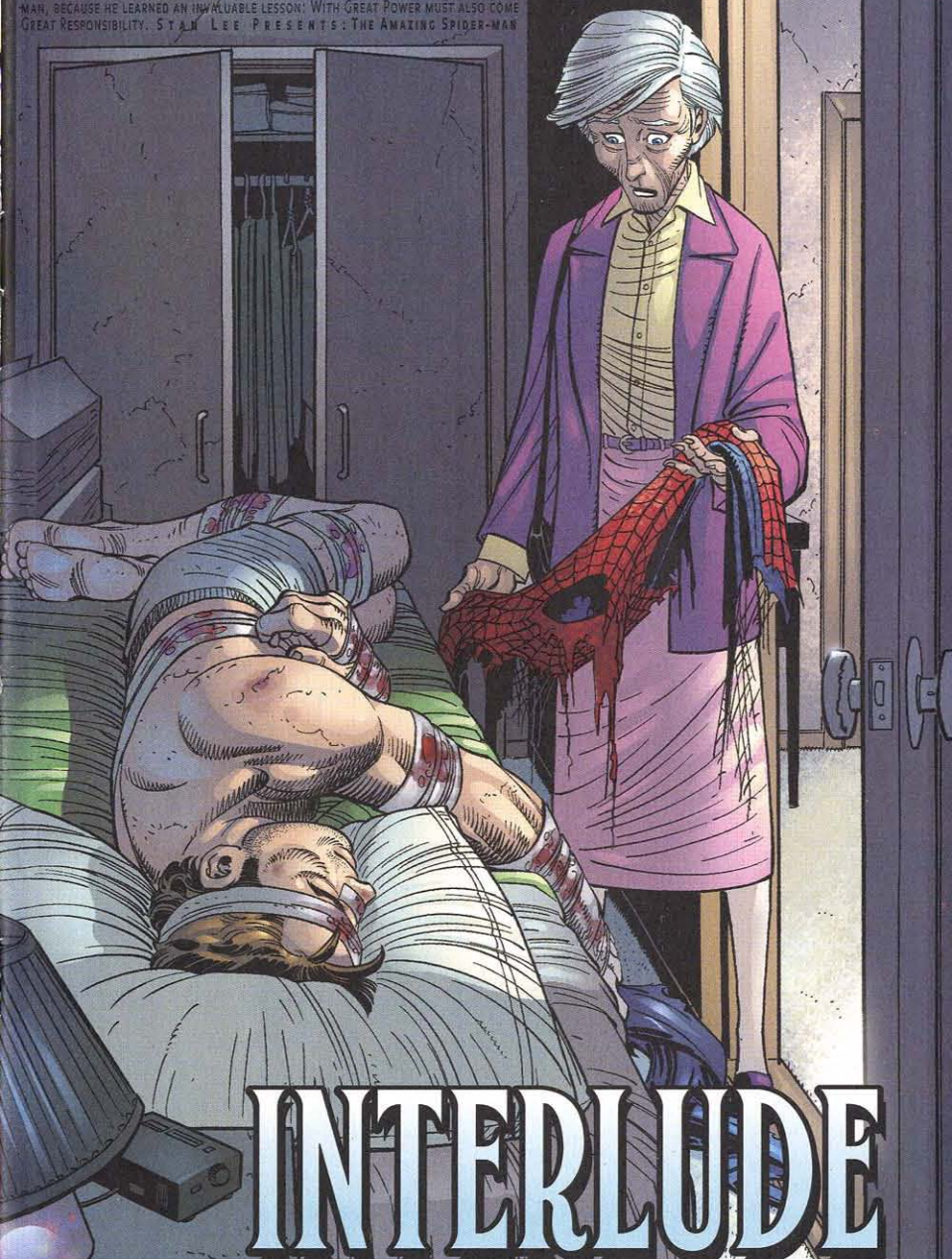
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AT A DEMONSTRATION ON RADIATION, HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT PETER PARKER WAS BITTEN BY AN IRRADIATED SPIDER FROM WHICH HE GAINED THE ARACHNID'S INCREDIBLE ABILITIES. WHEN A BURGLAR KILLED HIS BELOVED UNCLE BEN, A GRIEF-STRIKEN PETER VOWED TO USE HIS GREAT POWERS IN THE SERVICE OF HIS FELLOW MAN, BECAUSE HE LEARNED AN INVALUABLE LESSON: WITH GREAT POWER MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY. STAN LEE PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



INTERLUDE

J. MICHAEL STRACZYNSKI
words

JOHN ROMITA JR.
pictures

SCOTT HANNA
inks

DAN KEMP
colors

RS & COMICRAFT'S WES
letters

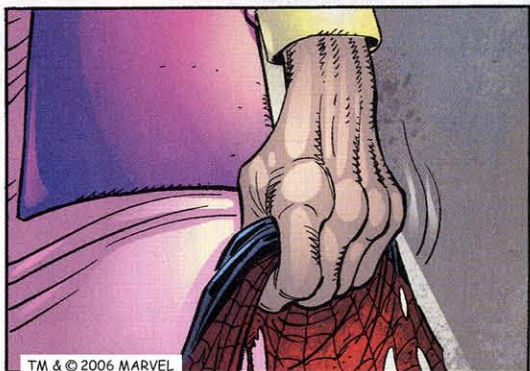
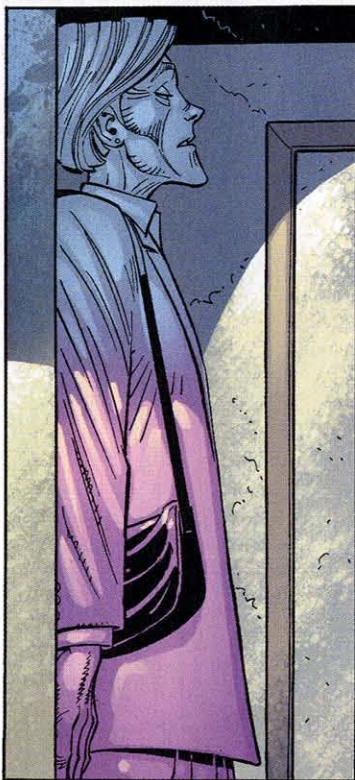
JOHN MIESEGAES
assistant edits

AXEL ALONSO
edits

JOE QUESADA
chiefs

BILL JEMAS
presides

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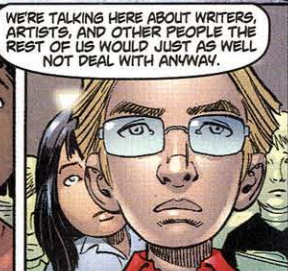




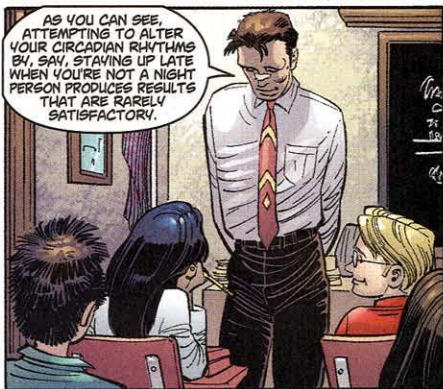
SOME PEOPLE ARE BORN WITH A NATURAL INCLINATION TOWARD BEING MORNING PEOPLE. THEY WAKE UP BRIGHT AND EARLY AND CHEERFUL AND INSTANTLY ALERT AND NOBODY LIKES THEM AND THAT'S JUST THE WAY IT SHOULD BE.



ON THE FLIP SIDE ARE PEOPLE WHO WORK ALL NIGHT AND DON'T SLEEP UNTIL DAWN.



WE'RE TALKING HERE ABOUT WRITERS, ARTISTS, AND OTHER PEOPLE THE REST OF US WOULD JUST AS WELL NOT DEAL WITH ANYWAY.



AS YOU CAN SEE, ATTEMPTING TO ALTER YOUR CIRCADIAN RHYTHMS BY, SAY, STAYING UP LATE WHEN YOU'RE NOT A NIGHT PERSON PRODUCES RESULTS THAT ARE RARELY SATISFACTORY.



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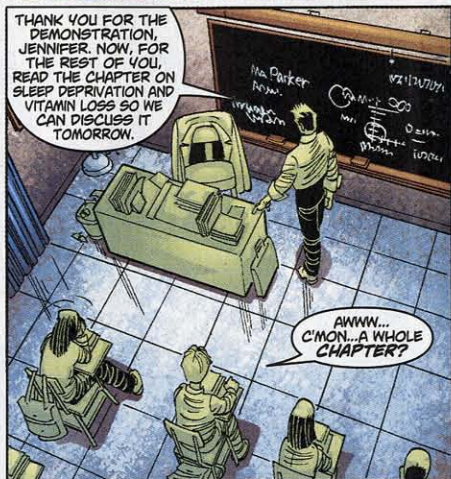
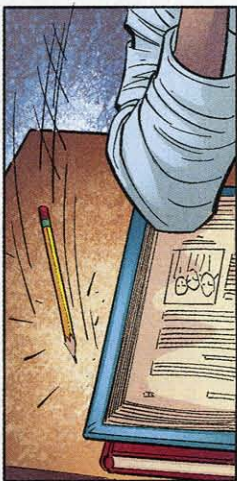
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PETER.

DOMINIC.

HOW'S IT GOING?

OKAY... I GUESS.

AH. JENNIFER...



YEAH, I CAUGHT THE LAST PART OF THAT. SAD CASE.

SAD HOW?

I HAD HER IN MY CLASS LAST YEAR. TROUBLED KID. I FIGURED IT WAS DRUGS. CLOSE, BUT NOT CORRECT. SHE'S CLEAN, AS FAR AS I KNOW.



"SO WHAT'S THE PROBLEM THEN? I MEAN, YOU SAID SHE WAS A SAD CASE."

"SHE IS. BUT NOT FOR THE USUAL REASONS."



"HER BROTHER'S A USER. HE'S BEEN SUSPENDED TWICE IN THE LAST YEAR FOR BEING HIGH. HE GETS HER TO DO HIS HOMEWORK, HELP HIM TAKE CARE OF THINGS, COVER FOR HIM."



"SHAME, REALLY."

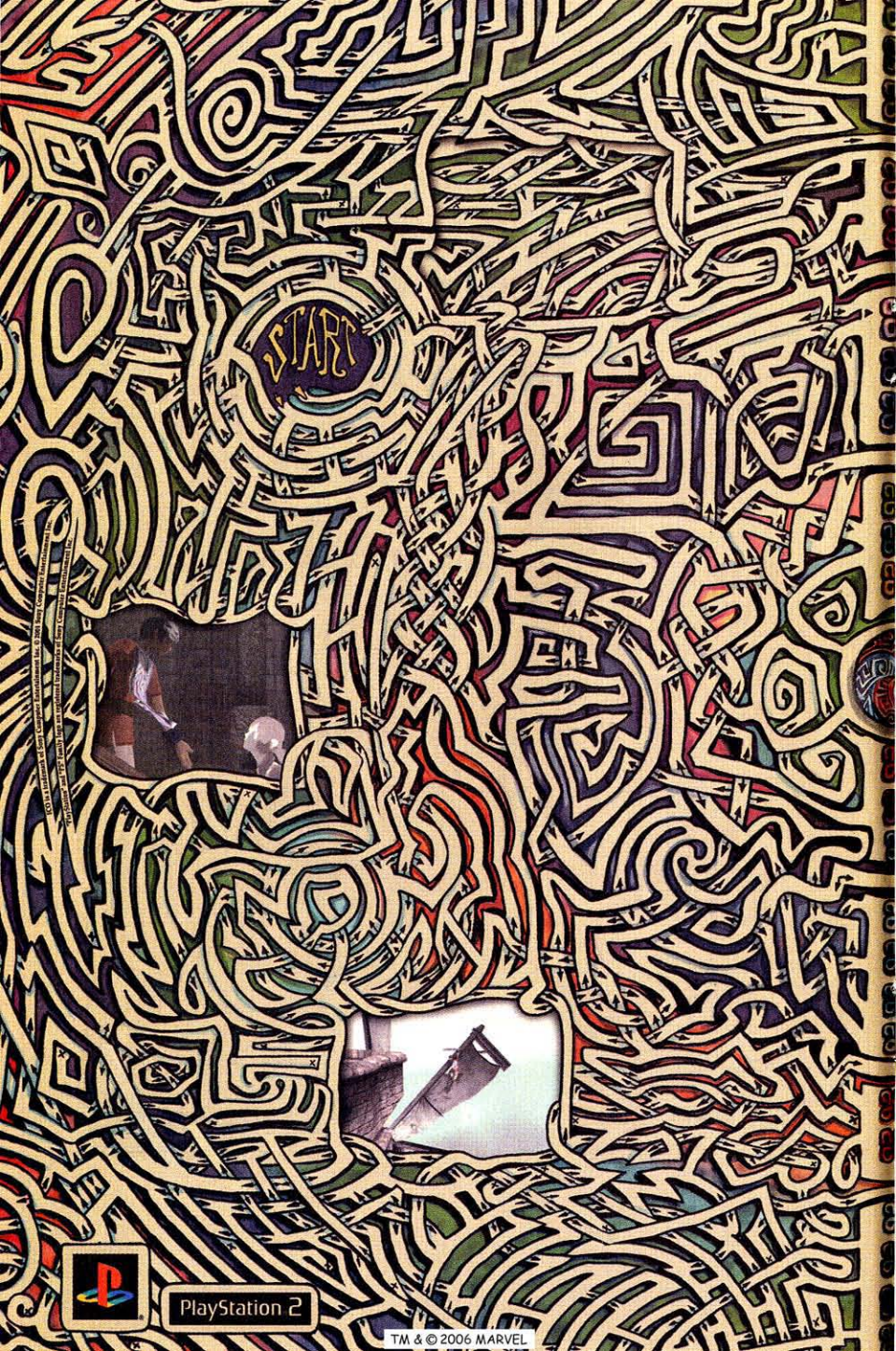


"SHE HAS A LOT OF POTENTIAL LEFT TO HER OWN DEVICES, SHE COULD GO FAR. TOO BAD SHE'LL NEVER GET THE CHANCE."



"THE BAD ONES ALWAYS DRAG THE GOOD ONES DOWN WITH THEM. ALWAYS DO, PETER."





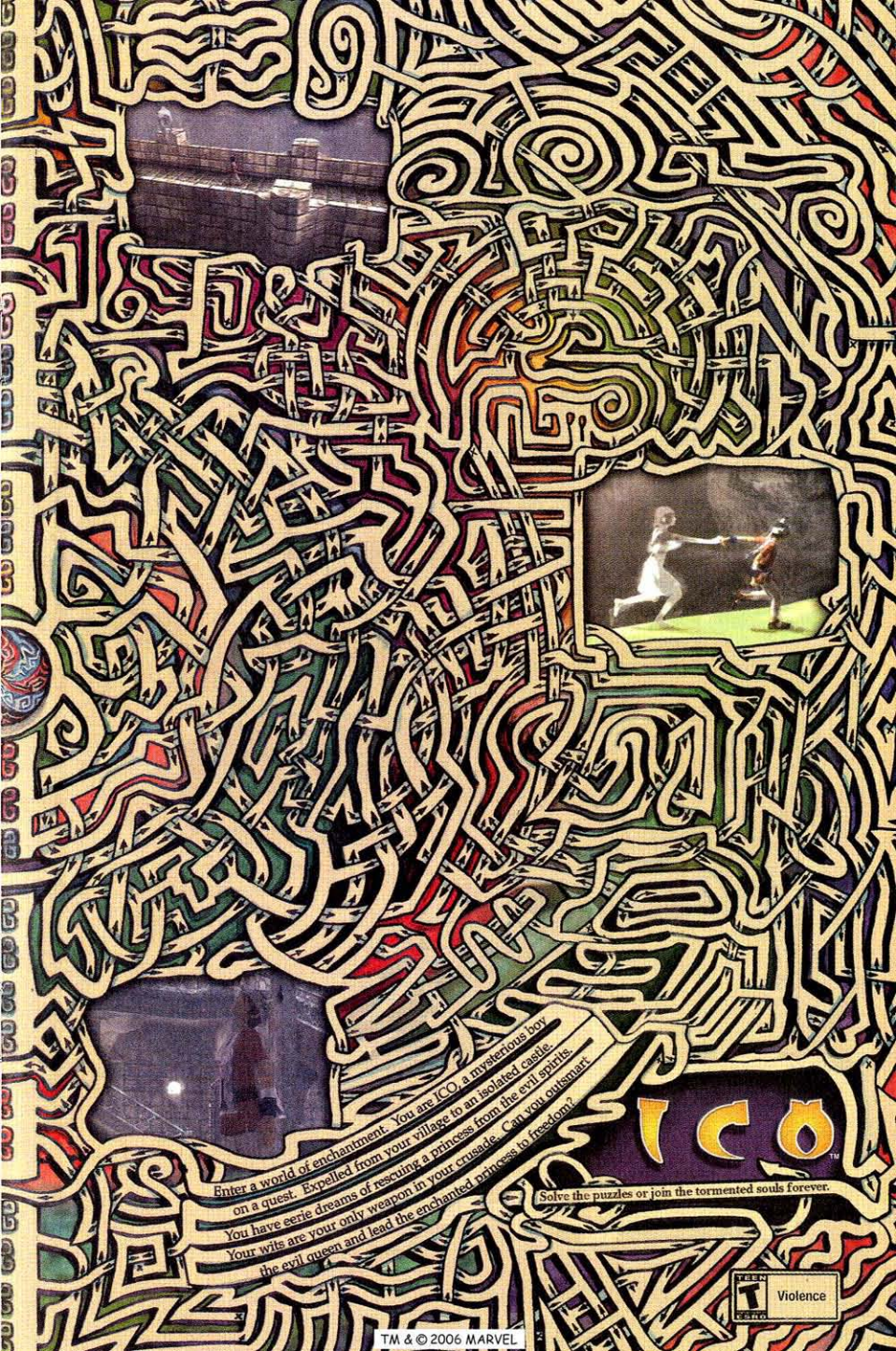
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PlayStation 2

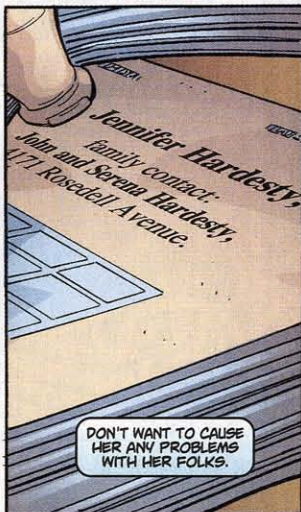
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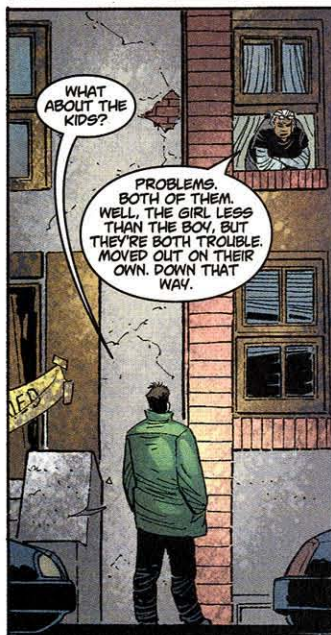
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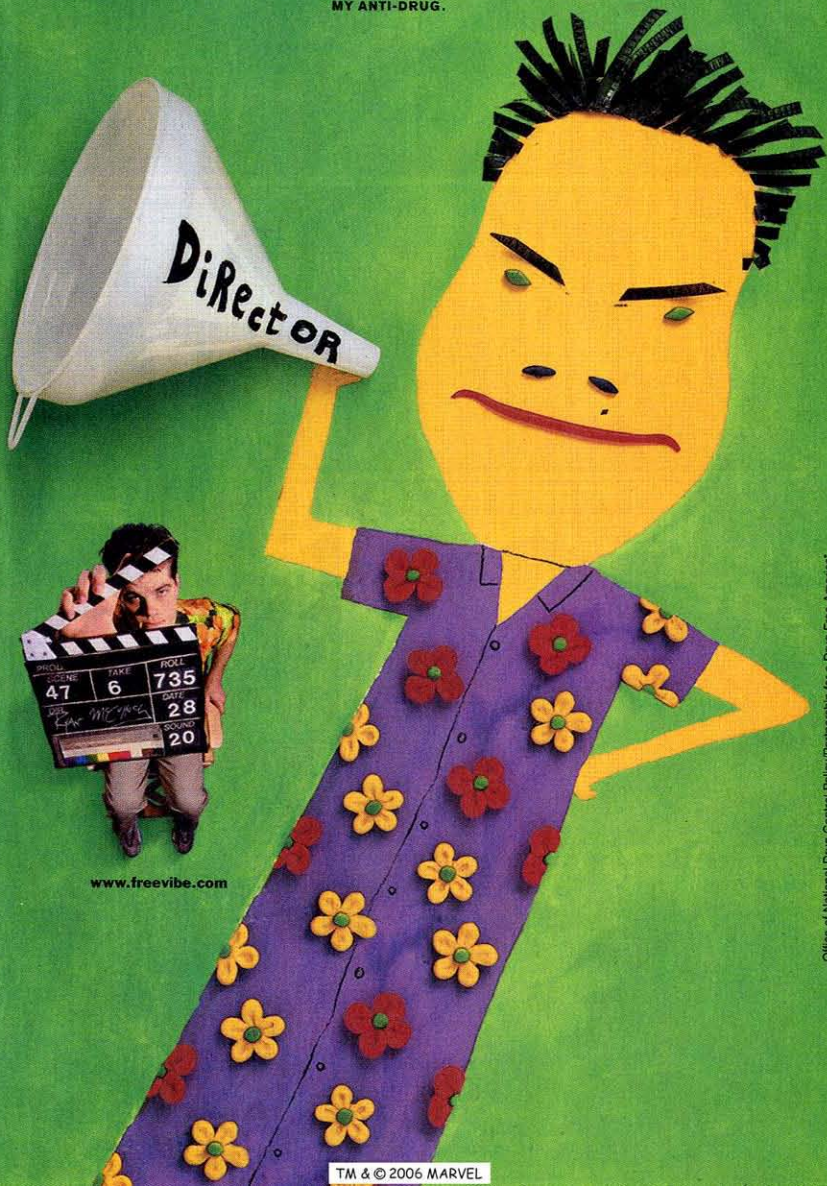






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HELLO...?

THE SMELL OF DISUSE COMES UP THE STAIRS TO ME. OLD CLOTHING. FOOD LEFT TO DECAY. STALE AIR.

I DECIDE TO CONTINUE.



OH.
UHM... HI.



MR. PARKER?!
WHAT... WHAT'RE
YOU DOING
HERE?



I.. UH... GOT
LOST? I WAS LOOKING
FOR A GROCERY
STORE? I...

I WAS CONCERNED.
I WAS ACROSS THE
STREET AND I
HEARD...



YEAH... IF YOU
SPOKE TO MISSUS
JAMES I'LL BET YOU
HEARD A LOT.

CAN
WE, LIKE,
TALK ABOUT
THIS?

SURE
YOU GOT
SOMEWHERE
PRIVATE?

YEAH. MY
ROOM.



SO, THIS...
IS YOUR ROOM,
THEN.

YEAH. WHAT
DO YOU
THINK?

IT'S,
UHM... WELL,
IT'S VERY...
IT'S -

A STY.

PRETTY MUCH
THE WORD I WAS

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WE WERENT.
FINALLY, STEVE
AND I JUST HAD
TO GET OUT.

STEVE'S YOUR
BROTHER?

YEAH.
I KINDA LOOK
AFTER HIM. HELP
HIM WITH HIS
HOMEWORK AND
STUFF.



I'M SURPRISED YOU STAVED
IN SCHOOL.

WE'RE NOT ALL
WEAK, EITHER, MR. PARKER.
MORE KIDS THAN YOU WANT
TO KNOW ABOUT ARE LIVING IN
STREETS OR IN CARS, GOING
TO SCHOOL AS MUCH AS
THEY CAN. WE DON'T TELL
ANYBODY BECAUSE --



WELL, WE JUST CANT, THAT'S ALL.
THEY'D KICK US OUT, OR WE'D HAVE
TO GO TO A FOSTER HOME, AND
THE OTHER KIDS...IT'S BETTER
THIS WAY.

WE HIT THE STREETS
A LOT, ASKING FOR CHANGE
AND STUFF. WE GET A FEW
BUCKS HERE AND THERE. IT'S
NOT SO BAD. WE CAN EVEN
EAT AT McDONALD'S ONCE
IN A WHILE.



IT'S JUST...
IT'S JUST THE
WAY THINGS ARE,
Y'KNOW?

THERE'S SUCH PAIN IN HER VOICE.
BUT ALSO SUCH STRENGTH.



I PASS BY THIS
NEIGHBORHOOD
A DOZEN TIMES
A MONTH. HOW
COULD I NOT
KNOW THIS WAS
HERE? HOW COULD
I NOT SEE THIS?



WORST OF ALL...
WHEN DID I STOP
SEEING THIS?



PLEASE DON'T TELL ON
US, MR. PARKER.

I --

PLEASE.
THERE'S NOTHING YOU
CAN DO UNLESS YOU WANT
TO ADOPT ME AND STEVE
AND HALF THE KIDS OUT
HERE RIGHT NOW. IF YOU
TELL ANYBODY, WE'LL END
UP IN A FOSTER HOME
OR WORSE.



WE'RE SIX MONTHS FROM GRADUATING,
SIX MONTHS FROM BEING LEGAL. CAN
YOU GIVE US THAT, MR. PARKER?
WE'VE COME THIS FAR ON OUR OWN.
WE CAN MAKE IT THE REST OF THE
WAY. JUST...LET US.





IT'S JUST A **HARMLESS** LITTLE TOY.

→ YEAH, AND THE BLACK PLAGUE WAS JUST A RASH.

LAUNCH
STUFF
LIKE →

BOTTLE
ROCKETS FLAMING
PUMPKINS

WRECK **11**
NEIGHBORHOOD
HANGOUTS LIKE...

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- 2 MINI GOLF COURSE
- 3 YOUR MAMA'S KITCHEN

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THIS IS FUN

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and **TWISTED METAL 2**

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ENTERTAINMENT

TEEN
T
CONTENT RATED BY
ESRB

COMIC MISCHIEF
VIOLENCE

16

at them
!!



**TWISTED
METAL**
small brawl



-- SO ANYWAY, IF YOU COULD JUST, LIKE, FORGET YOU SAW THIS, I'D REALLY APPRECIATE IT.

I --

JENNY!



LISA? WHAT'S THE --

IT'S STEVE! YOU GOTTA COME QUICK!



STEVE!
OHMYGOD...
STEVE!



IS HE --

HE'S ALIVE, BUT BARELY. WE NEED TO GET HIM TO A HOSPITAL, FAST. DIAL 911.

THEY DON'T LIKE TO COME HERE, TOO DANGEROUS, IT'LL TAKE FOREVER --



JUST DO IT! IT'S THE ONLY CHANCE HE'S GOT!



OKAY, OKAY!

LISA, SEE IF YOU CAN FLAG DOWN A CAR.

YOU'RE KIDDING --

HE'S DYING!



HE'S UNCONSCIOUS, GOING INTO SEIZURES. HE COULD DIE BEFORE THE AMBULANCE EVER GETS HERE.



GOT TO
RISK IT.

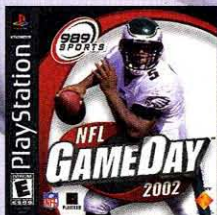
HOLD ON, STEVE.
JUST...HANG IN
THERE A FEW MORE
MINUTES.



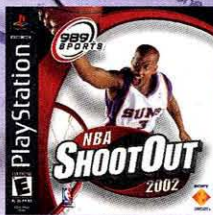




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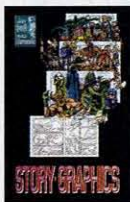
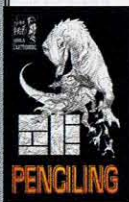


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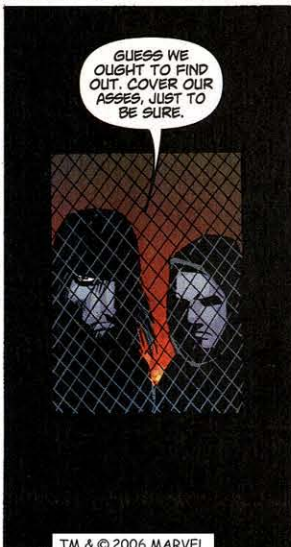
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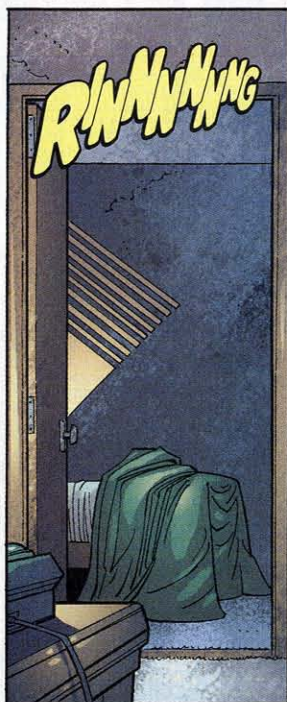


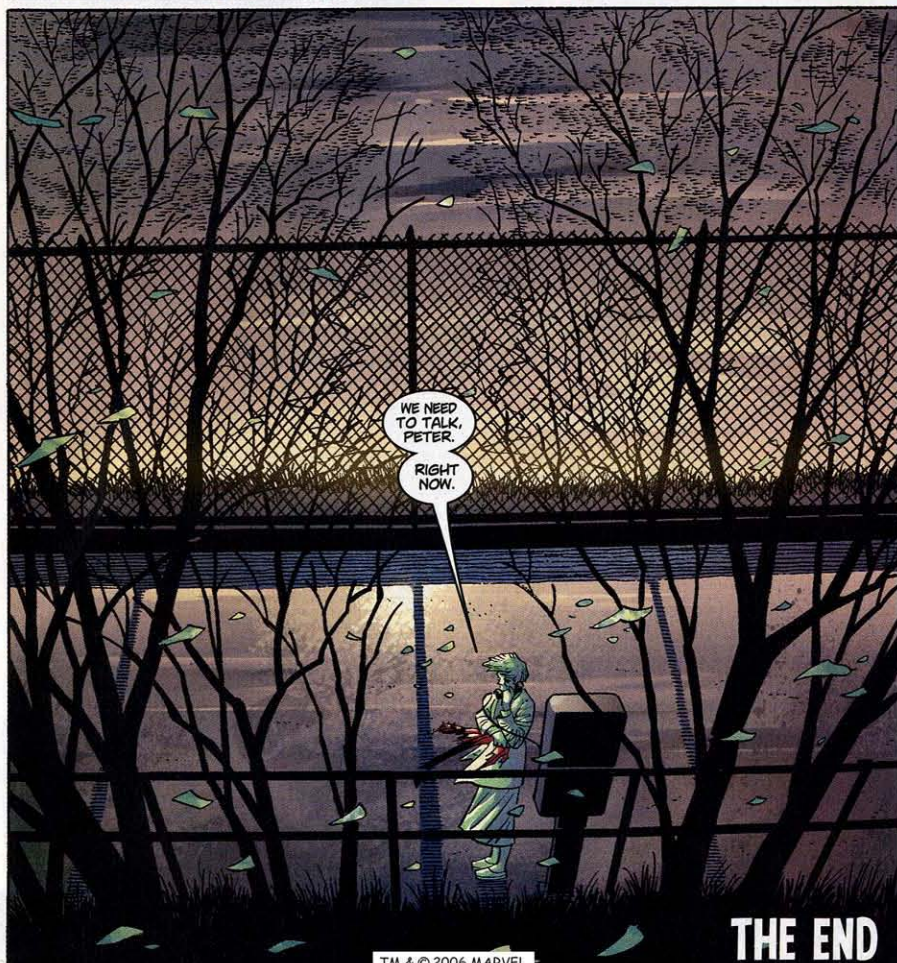
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The response to AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #36 has been overwhelming, to say the least. The reactions this issue elicited were strong and very personal. Here they are. No responses, so we can fit as many as possible.

Dear Spider's Web:

I just finished reading AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #36. I cried all over again. I wish to God September 11 had never happened. I wish AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #36 had never had to come out like this.

Whatever waited as #1 in the 100 Greatest MARVELS, THIS NECESSARY, REAL-LIFE CLASSIC JET TOOK top honors.

Paul Koskoff
Chicago, IL

Dear Spider's Web,

I am a 41-year-old businessman who has been a consistent and long-standing fan of Marvel Comics for 35 years — since AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #30, which is one of my favorite Stan Lee/Steve Ditko collaborations. I also worked in 2 World Trade Center from 1986-1988 and in the American Express Tower, right next to Twin Towers, from 1989-1997. The Am Ex Tower took quite a bit of damage as a result of the September 11th attacks and looks shredded on one side. It remains unoccupied.

My wife and I made the decision to leave New York City nearly 5 years ago and find ourselves oddly enough for two East Coasters, in Kansas. Like everyone else, we were stunned and sickened by the events of September 11th. We've asked ourselves the question "What is the question about my move away from the New York financial district and our move from NYC. But our children have angered me with questions about the attacks. I think, partly because they know their dad once worked in those buildings.

I always look forward to Marvel comics. But when I picked up AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #36, I saved it to read with Josh, my 9-year-old son, for our nightly bedtime reading. He's a Spider-Man fan, too. I used to read him the wonderful, faithful illustrations of lower Manhattan to show him not only the scene of destruction where I once worked, but also the Am Ex Tower, the World Financial Tower with the pyramid-shaped dome on page 3, where I once worked. As I guided him through Mr. Romita Jr.'s illustrations, and read him Straczynski's words, he lay back on his bed and began to cry. His sadness and tears grew at the sight of the little boy Spider-Man held as his father was being carried away from the wreckage. We held each other for a longer time than usual before we kissed each other good night.

This was his first (and so far only) display of tears from the attack (forgivable, I think, for a 9-year-old child from Kansas). Who knows, really, what brought them on? Was it the scenes of death and destruction? Was it his knowledge that his dad might possibly have been in one of those buildings had his parents not made a different decision 5 years ago? I'm not sure it matters. What is important was that he found, through Straczynski and Romita's work, a release for the great feelings he'd been holding inside his little heart, which had come out only through his occasional questions. Gentlemen, I've loved Mr. Romita's work since his days on IRON MAN when I was in high school in the 70s. His style has evolved quite a bit since then and I always love viewing his art. Mr. Straczynski, I've only begun to get acquainted with your work over the last several months. For this one issue alone, you have my gratitude.

Joseph Greene
Shawnee, KS

Dear Spider's Web,

Wed Nov 14th, 2001. Known as NEW COMICS WEDNESDAY, 9:30 a.m. and the comics hit the shelf. Some of our close customers line it, about three total, our regular "Early Birds" to get "their worms." The last box is opened to reveal a black cover. Something not familiar to Spider-Fans, as we have already grown accustomed to the dazzling art of John Romita Jr. and J. Scott Campbell.

Months ago, we were anticipating a "change" in Peter Parker's life. But it seemed so insignificant that we barely turned up the plate. The answer questions that are on the fans' minds: How does this affect the lives of our heroes? Would Marvel allow such an event to pass by and be forgotten? Would it stay away from allowing such an event to impact our heroes? Would it allow the tragedy of our lives to enter into the place many of us to escape the pressures we face in our reality?

The answer: AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #36.

You could hear a pin drop in our small comic shop. Odd for a Wednesday morning, where boxes being opened, subs being filled, and videos of old cartoons playing is the norm. Where arguments over who'd beat whom in an all-out brawl in the pages of our favorite books are heard probably three stores down. But there we all were, sitting on the two couches and few chairs in our store, reading about how our heroes were affected by the tragedy that shook our lives forever. A dry eye was not to be found in our small store that morning. Doom, Cap, Spider — these are the heroes, and even the villains that grew up looking to as the strong. Yet, the sheer evil of what happened that tragic day was even enough to break them, if just for a moment.

Thank you, Marvel, for doing this book.

Mike Savage & Scott Rimbeck
Owners, Millennium Comics
Brandon, FL

Dear Spider-Crew,

I salute Marvel's courage to tackle this issue, and what better character to view the September 11 tragedy through than Marvel's New York City everyman, Peter Parker/Spider-Man. Many other comic companies are slow to offer a response in meditation, a comment on the events of 9-11 — not Marvel. Marvel, with the fantastic HEROES, which has by now raised a great deal of money for a very worthy cause, and now, AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #36. Bravo.

I thought everything in this issue was great — especially the Captain America scene — except for the villains-can-be-sad-too page! WHAT! THE &*&!!?! You really mean that the Dr. Doom (please note, his name is "Doom") is crying over this? And the Kingpin? And Magneto? AND THE &*&!!?! JUGGERNAUT!!?!?!! Of all villains to pick to show at Ground Zero, why the Juggernaut?

How garish and offensive do those characters look against the rubble of the WTC? The Kingpin? If there is a tinge of compassion, it will forever remain a secret in this man's cold heart." But no, we just got Kingpin looking forlorn. Oh, he's a humanitarian, now is he? This murderer? This drug dealer? This crime lord?

Ditto Dr. Doom. Doc Doom's views on terrorism? Wouldn't he support it? He's committed crimes, and he's not easily defined as terrorism in trying to further his personal and political goals.

Actually, Magneto is the only one I could see legitimately crying, as he is a concentration camp survivor from WWII, and would then be much more horrified by such an atrocity.

But this villains-are-sad-too page was truly offensive. I felt like ripping out that one page and just pretending it didn't exist. (Which of course, thanks the magic of comics, I can do)

"Tony"
Via Internet

Dear Mr. Straczynski and Mr. Romita,

I am an N.Y.P.D. Sergeant with 15 years on the job. I was working on 09/11/01 when this tragedy occurred. I am writing to thank you.

I'm sure you will receive many letters in response to this issue, and most will be positive because of the excellent writing and beautiful and respectful way in which you handled the event. I'm also just as sure you will receive some letters saying you should not have handled such a serious and painful issue in comics, but I understand why you wrote this issue.

Because you had to. The same way people came all the way up from down south just to help feed us or bring in supplies of socks and insoles for our shoes because the ground was still so hot in those first few days after the collapse. It was a desire to do one's part in helping all those who had suffered. This is your craft, your art, and what better way for you to help but in doing what you do best.

The first few pages were so accurate in their portrayal of how helpless we all felt. Those who were there and regret that they could not get just one person out, even though they barely survived themselves, and those who were there yet and the guilt that it felt knowing when all those buildings collapsed there were cops inside and we were not there to pull them out. All that was left to do was dip. "You can not see us for the dust, but we are here." You can not see us for the dust, but we are here. "Thank you for those words, they are more meaningful than you could know. The work you both did is greatly appreciated."

Thank you and God bless.

Name withheld by request
Est Meadow, NY

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

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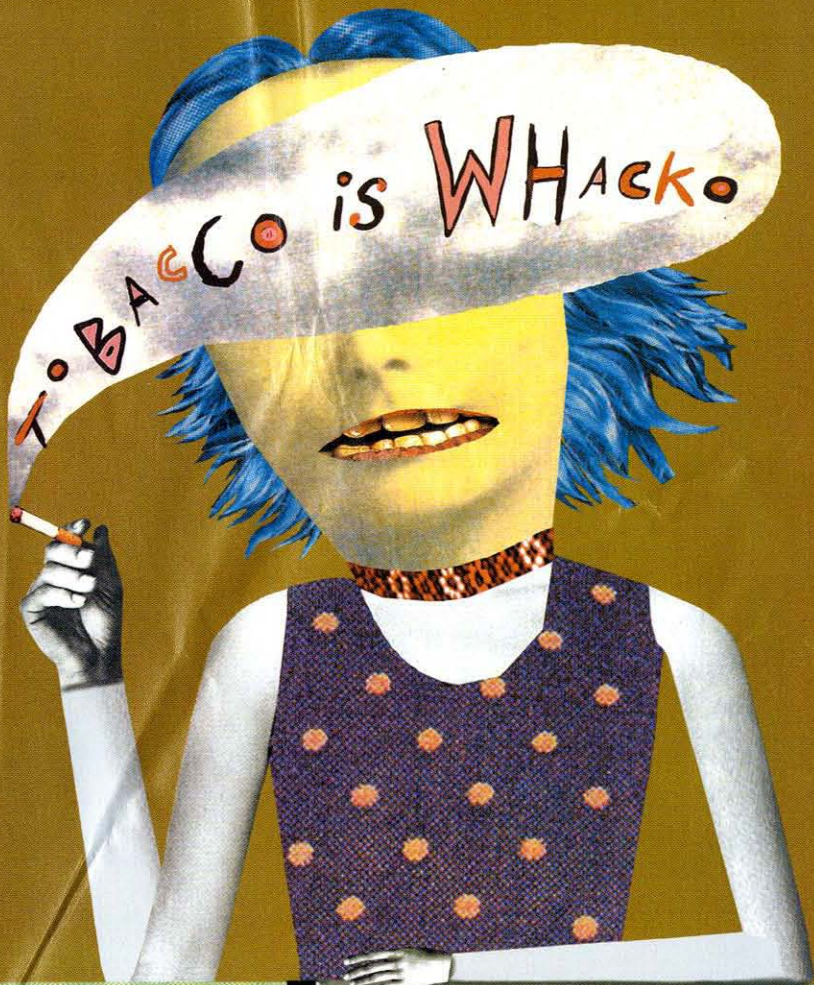
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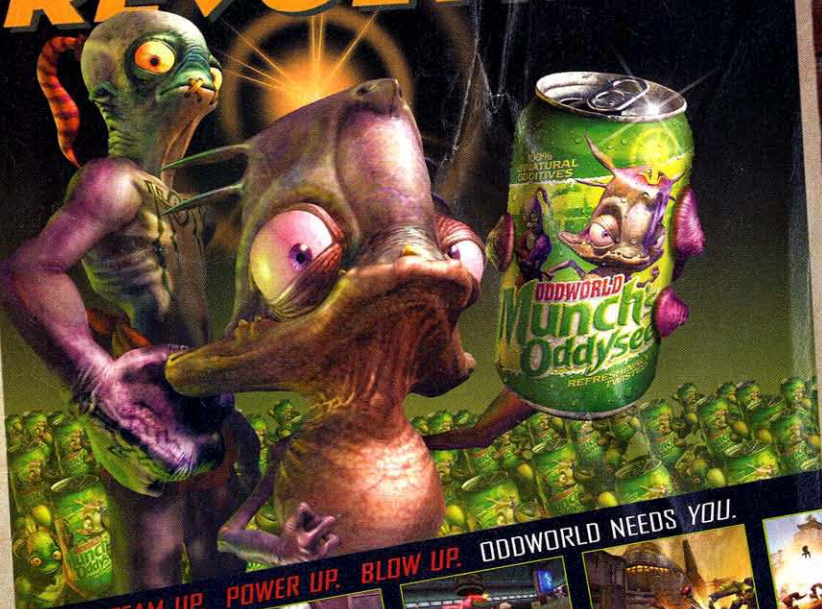
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