



MARVEL<sup>®</sup>  
com  
579

WAID

MARTIN

RODRIGUEZ

DIRECT EDITION



\$2.99 US

RATED A

579 11

WWW.MARVEL.COM

**MARVEL**  
VARIANT  
EDITION  
579

# the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



**RATED A**

\$2.99 US



WAID  
MARTIN  
RODRIGUEZ

[WWW.MARVEL.COM](http://WWW.MARVEL.COM)

DIRECT EDITION



BUDGET CUTS TOP MONDAY'S DEBATE -- HOLLISTER WANTS TO TAX AND SPEND ON BUSES AND TRAINS, CROWNE WANTS TO STOP SPENDING MONEY ON A CRUMBLING SYSTEM. WHO'S LOOKING OUT FOR YOU? THE DB POLL WILL SURPRISE YOU! MORE ON PAGE M32

DECEMBER 3, 2008

WEDNESDAY

## SHOCKER & AWE



When an errant Metro Card ensures Peter Parker a free ride into Manhattan (and work) it seems Pete's luck has finally taken an upswing. But as the train heads under the river, mysterious rumblings derail the train and trap the passengers under the river.

In the darkness, Pete swaps into his Spider-Man gear and tries to organize an escape effort, when he discovers the rumblings were caused by old foe the Shocker! Shocker's working on behalf of a mob boss to kill a jury out to take down one of their top bosses.

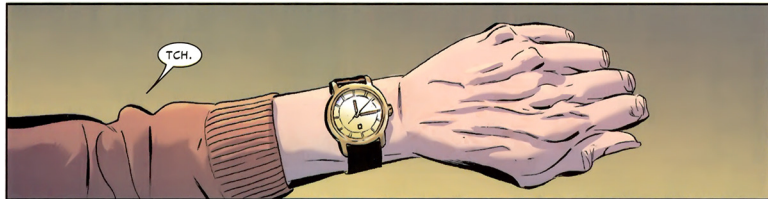
Y'see, the jury's also on this train, heading to take a look at the crime scene. Trapped under the river, Spidey discovers he's got more than lives on the line and a crime boss to help take down when one of the jurors reveals himself to be J. Jonah Jameson...Senior.

## POLICE TIE SPIDER-MAN TO RECENT MURDERS!

**EXCLUSIVE TO THE DB!**

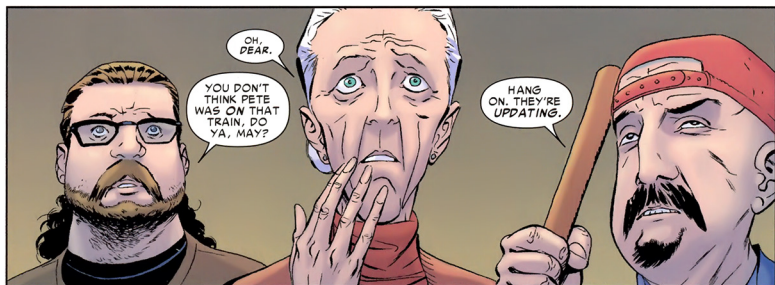
In off-the-record conversations with DB staffers, police have confirmed that Spider-Man is the key suspect in the string of recent murders that has shocked this city. Although police have been reluctant to discuss the specifics of the murders, so-called "Spider Tracers" have definitely been found on each victim, leaving no doubt as to the involvement of Spider-Man. Spider-Man is already wanted for violations of...

**THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** (ISSN #0274-5232) No. 579, February, 2009. Published Thrice Monthly by MARVEL PUBLISHING, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 417 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10018. PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. © 2008 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. 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. \$2.99 per copy in the U.S. in the direct market and \$3.99 per copy in the U.S. and \$3.99 in Canada (GST #R127032852) through the newsstand; Canadian Agreement #40686537. Canadian Agreement #40686537. Printed in the USA. Subscription rate (U.S. dollars) for 12 issues: U.S. \$27.00. Canada \$37.00. Foreign \$39.00. POSTMASTER: SEND ALL ADDRESS CHANGES TO THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, c/o MARVEL SUBSCRIPTION DEPT., P.O. BOX 110 NEWBURGH, NY 12550. TELEPHONE # (800) 217-9158. FAX # (845) 457-5029. subscriptions@marvelsubs.com. ALAN FINE, CEO Marvel Toys & Publishing Divisions and CMO Marvel Characters, Inc.; JIM SOKOLOWSKI, Chief Operating Officer; DAVID GABRIEL, Senior VP of Publishing Sales & Circulation; DAVID BOGART, VP of Business Affairs & Editorial Operations; MICHAEL PASCUOLO, VP Merchandising & Communications; JIM BOYLE, VP of Publishing Operations; DAN CARR, Executive Director of Publishing Technology; JUSTIN F. GABRIEL, Director of Publishing & Editorial Operations; SUSAN CRESPI, Editorial Operations Manager; STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Mitch Dane, Advertising Director, at mdane@marvel.com. For Marvel subscription inquiries, please call 800-217-9158.



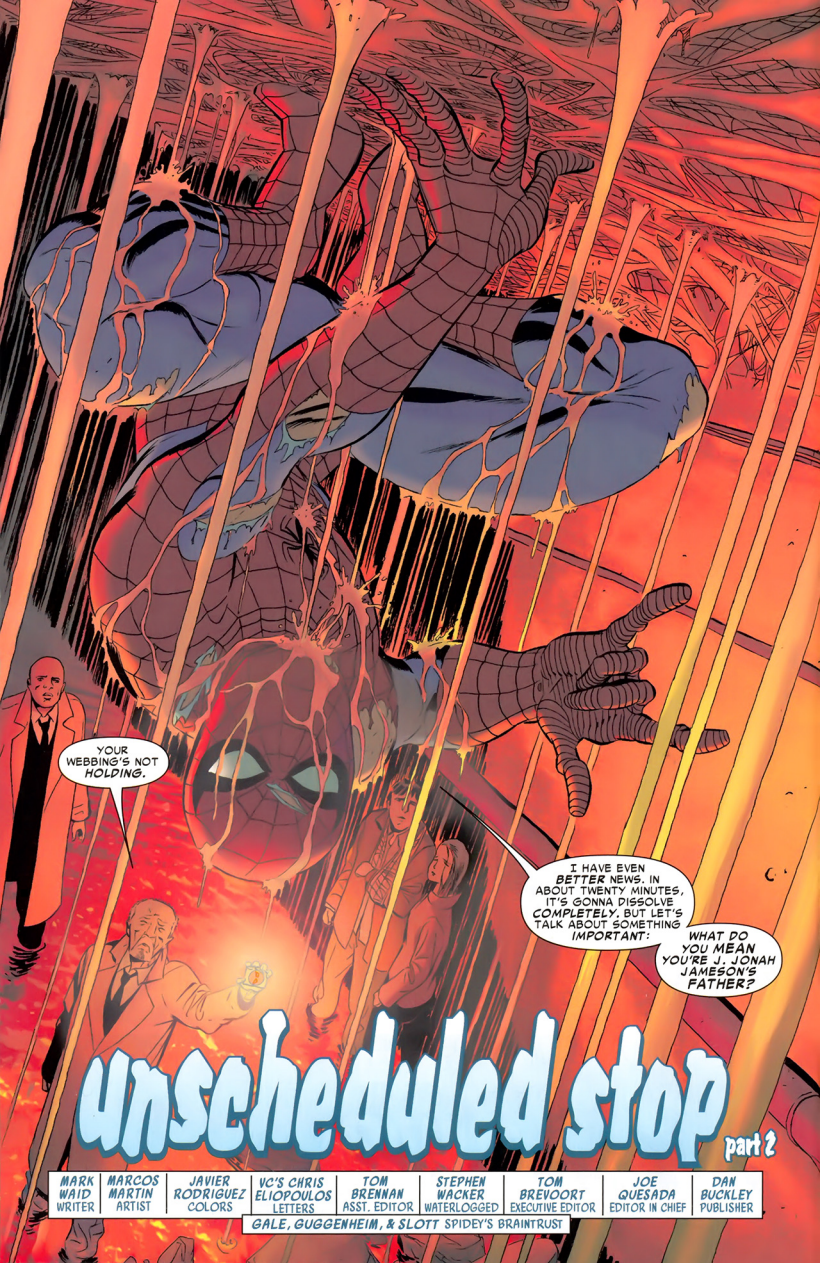
**ZONY**





"--HE ISN'T THERE."

**THWIP!**



YOUR  
WEBBING'S NOT  
HOLDING.

I HAVE EVEN  
BETTER NEWS. IN  
ABOUT TWENTY MINUTES,  
IT'S GONNA DISSOLVE  
COMPLETELY, BUT LET'S  
TALK ABOUT SOMETHING  
IMPORTANT:

WHAT DO  
YOU MEAN  
YOU'RE J. JONAH  
JAMESON'S  
FATHER?

# unscheduled stop

part 2

MARK  
WAID  
WRITER

MARCOS  
MARTIN  
ARTIST

JAVIER  
RODRIGUEZ  
COLORS

VC'S CHRIS  
ELIOPOULOS  
LETTERS

TOM  
BRENNAN  
ASST. EDITOR

STEPHEN  
WACKER  
WATERLOGGED

TOM  
BREVOORT  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

JOE  
QUESADA  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

DAN  
BUCKLEY  
PUBLISHER

GALE, GUGGENHEIM, & SLOTT SPIDEY'S BRAINTRUST

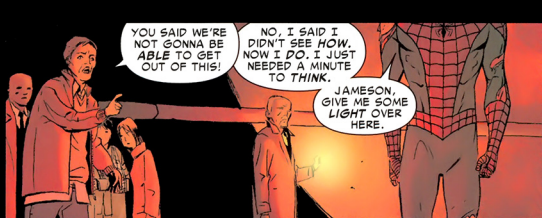




I'M SORRY WE HAD TO MEET LIKE THIS. I'M SORRY FOR MY SON.

DON'T APOLOGIZE TO ME. APOLOGIZE TO THE HUMAN RACE.

RIGHT NOW, LET'S FIND THE EXIT.



YOU SAID WE'RE NOT GONNA BE ABLE TO GET OUT OF THIS!

NO, I SAID I DIDN'T SEE HOW. NOW I DO. I JUST NEEDED A MINUTE TO THINK.

JAMESON, GIVE ME SOME LIGHT OVER HERE.



FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO MIGHT HAVE BEEN SLIGHTLY DISTRACTED WHEN, OH, THE EXIT SHAFT CRUMBLLED AND DOOMED US ALL...THIS LOWLIFE IS THE SHOCKER.



HE WAS HIRED BY GIACOMO--

I OBJECT!

OVERRULED, MOB-SALARIED COUNSELOR!

--HE WAS HIRED BY GIACOMO TO ENGINEER THIS OH-SO "ACCIDENTAL" TUNNEL COLLAPSE--



--USING THESE TRADEMARK VIBRO-GAUNTLETS OF HIS THAT NOW LOOK EXACTLY LIKE I FEEL.

WAKEY-WAKEY, MR. QUICKER PICKER-UPPER.



WHU... WHERE...?



THAT'S THE GUY WHO DID THIS? YOU MURDERED MY PARTNER, YOU SICK SON OF A--

I'LL KILL YOU!

WHOOA! NOT SO FAST! THE SHOCKER IS ABSOLUTELY A REPELLENT CREEP--



--BUT HE IS NOT A SUICIDAL DOPE. HE GOT DOWN HERE SOMEHOW...SO THAT MUST MEAN HE KNOWS HOW TO GET OUT.

RIGHT?

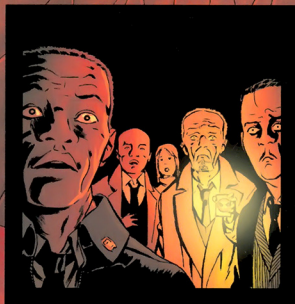
I...I...

**HEY!**

THIS IS NOT TWENTY QUESTIONS, AND I AM NOT FRIENDLY IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD!

WE ARE RUNNING OUT OF AIR AND WE ARE RUNNING OUT OF TIME! IS THIS WHERE WE'RE ALL GOING TO DIE? YOU AND US BOTH?

ANSWER ME!



\*KOFF\*

TH-THERE'S AN OLD, UNUSED \*KOFF\* MAINTENANCE TUNNEL THAT...

...THAT RUNS PARALLEL TO THIS ONE.

WHERE?

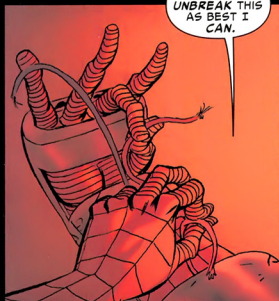
UP THROUGH THAT.





AWESOME.

GOOD THING  
WE HAVE A  
JACKHAMMER,  
THEN. JAMESON,  
LIGHT.



I NEED  
TO SEE TO  
UNBREAK THIS  
AS BEST I CAN.



LUCKILY, I KNOW A  
THING OR TWO ABOUT  
WRIST-MOUNTED  
GIZMOS.

EVERYBODY,  
LISTEN UP.

WE'RE SEALED  
OFF, AND THE  
CEILING'S GIVING  
WAY.

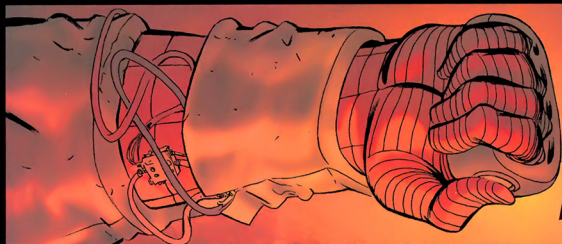
OUR ONLY CHANCE  
OF GETTING OUT OF  
HERE IS FOR ME TO  
LOOSEN THE RUBBLE  
THAT'S BLOCKING THE  
AFOREMENTIONED  
SHAFT, COMMA,  
EXIT.



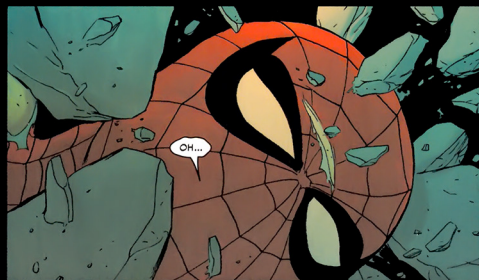
I'D MAKE  
PILLOWFACE DO  
THIS, BUT I DON'T  
TRUST HIM NOT TO  
TURN ON US, SO  
IT'S UP TO ME.

STAND BACK  
AND, ABOVE ALL,  
IGNORE MY GIRLISH  
SCREAM OF  
ANGUISH--

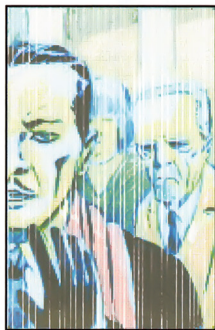
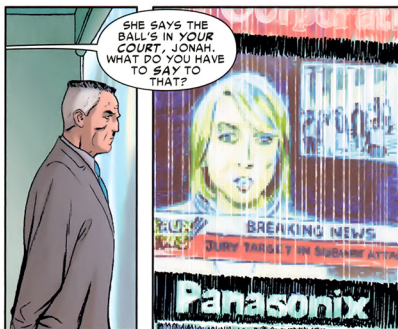
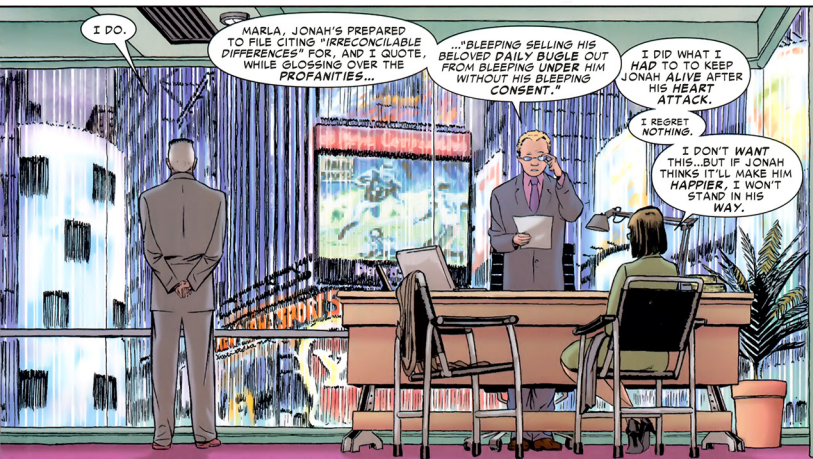
--BECAUSE  
THIS IS GONNA  
HURT.

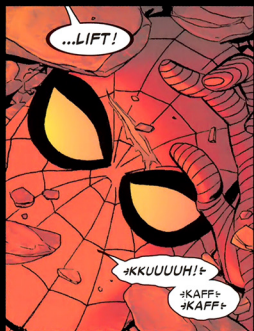


**KLIK**













IT'S  
FADING.

LIKE I NEEDED  
ANOTHER DEADLINE  
TO WORRY ABOUT.

HEY,  
HOW MUCH DO  
YOU KNOW ABOUT  
ENGINEERING?

NOT  
MUCH.



AH.



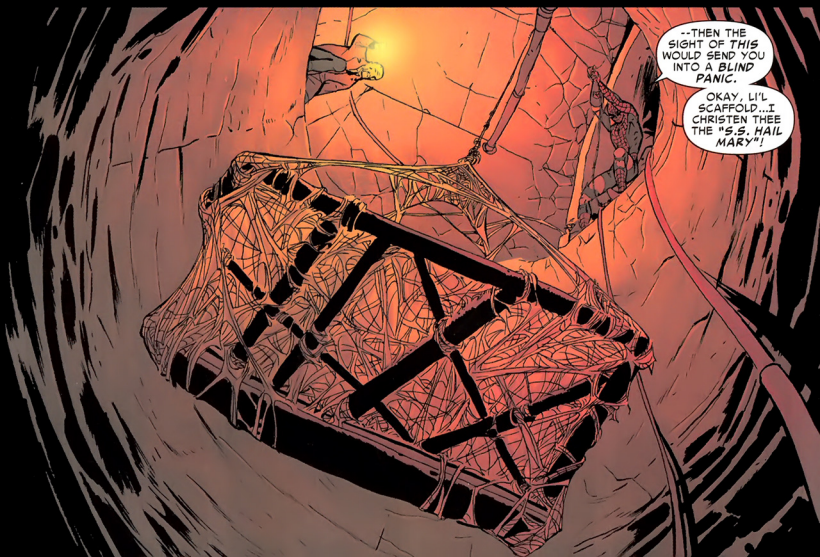
WELL,  
THAT'S  
PROBABLY  
A GOOD  
THING.



HOW  
COME?

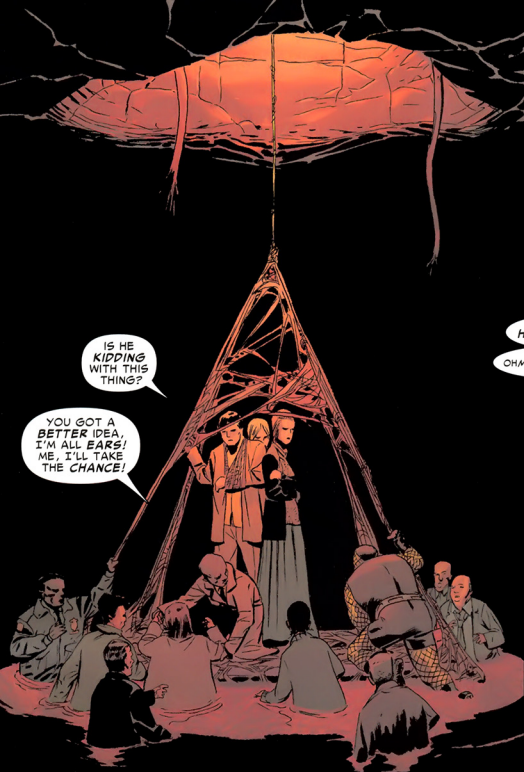


BECAUSE IF YOU  
KNEW ANYTHING AT  
ALL ABOUT STUFF LIKE  
BRACING AND LOAD  
DISTRIBUTION--



--THEN THE  
SIGHT OF THIS  
WOULD SEND YOU  
INTO A BLIND  
PANIC.

OKAY, LI'L  
SCAFFOLD...I  
CHRISTEN THEE  
THE "S.S. HAIL  
MARY"!



IS HE  
KIDDING  
WITH THIS  
THING?

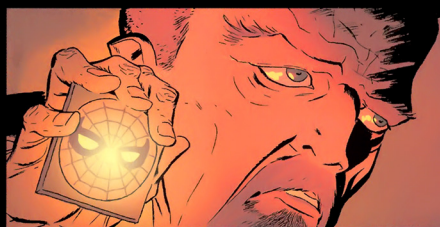
YOU GOT A  
BETTER IDEA,  
I'M ALL EARS!  
ME, I'LL TAKE  
THE CHANCE!



ANNND

HNNNNHHH!

OH MANTHIS IS HEAVY...



WHAT  
CAN I DO  
TO--?

SHINE  
THE LIGHT  
DOWN!



DON'T  
WORRY ABOUT  
ME! WORRY  
ABOUT THEM!

HNNNNHHH!





IT'S  
HOLDING!

FINGERS  
CROSSED. SO...  
HHNNNNHH...



...YOU'RE REALLY...  
HHNN+...JJJ'S POP,  
HUH?

WHAT DID YOU  
DO TO THAT KID?  
RAISE HIM IN A...HGG+...  
SKINNER BOX FULL  
OF CIGARS AND  
ONIONS?



JONAH'S  
STEFFATHER  
WAS THE CIGAR  
SMOKER.

THAT'S WHO  
RAISED JONAH  
AFTER I...HAD  
TO LEAVE. HIS  
STEFFATHER.  
A MILITARY  
MAN.

MY  
BROTHER.



WHAT WAS  
THAT?

NEVER  
MIND.

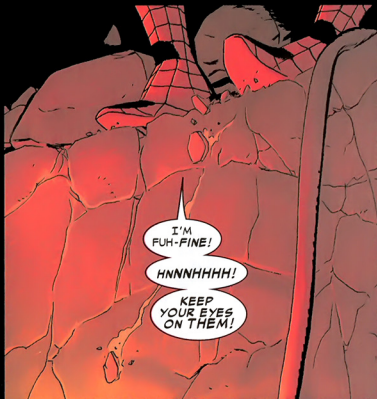
SO WAS  
JONAH OLD  
ENOUGH TO  
REMEMBER Y-Y.

YAAAAH--!



YOU OKAY?  
YOU NEED THE  
LIGHT?

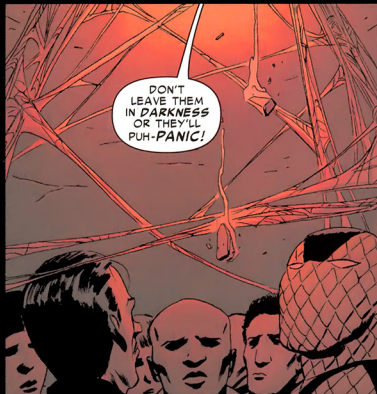
NO!



I'M  
FUH-FINE!

HHNNHHHH!

KEEP  
YOUR EYES  
ON THEM!



DON'T  
LEAVE THEM  
IN DARKNESS  
OR THEY'LL  
PUH-PANIC!

NOT REALLY. HE  
WAS OLD ENOUGH  
TO RECOGNIZE  
ME...BUT I'VE BEEN  
LIVING OUTSIDE  
THE COUNTRY  
SINCE HE WAS  
A CHILD.

I FINALLY MOVED BACK TO  
NEW YORK ABOUT A YEAR  
AGO. THAT'S HOW I ENDED  
UP ON THIS JURY--FOR THE  
FIRST TIME IN DECADES,  
I WAS A LOCAL  
AGAIN.

KEEP PULLING,  
SPIDER-MAN. JUST  
A FEW MORE  
FEET...



KEEP  
THE LIGHT  
ON THEM AND  
KEEP TALKING  
TO ME!

DID JONAH  
KN-KNOW YOU  
AT ALL?



SO DOES YOUR  
SON KNOW YOU'RE  
HOME?

NO. I  
WAS GOING  
TO--

NNN--  
NNGH!

OKAY, SORRY TO  
INTERRUPT--



--BUT I NEED  
EVERYONE TO  
START CLIMBING.  
HURRY!

GLAD TO  
OBLIGE.



DON'T TRY ANYTHING  
FUNNY, SHOCKER! YOU'RE  
NOT GOING ANYWHERE  
IN THE DARK!



RELAX, OLD MAN! I REMEMBER  
SEEIN' A TOOLBOX UP HERE  
SOMEWHERE, AND--

**HURRY!**



**KLIK**

AH-HA!



YOW.



MY  
GOD...

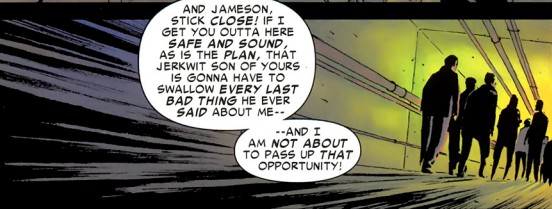
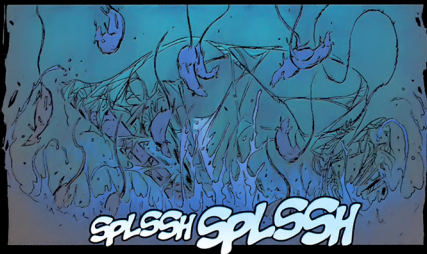


**I SAID  
HURRY!**











SHOULDN'T  
WE BE IN  
CONNECTICUT  
BY NOW?

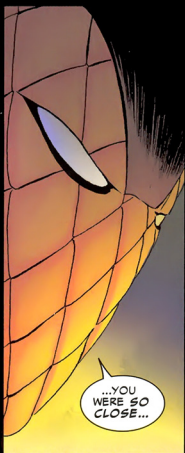
GOD,  
YOU TALK  
A LOT.

HEY,  
GOOD NEWS.  
SEE THAT UP  
AHEAD?



LOOKS LIKE  
A RESCUE TEAM  
COMIN' TO MEET  
US.

THERE IT  
IS, WEBHEAD.  
SALVATION FOR  
THE WHOLE  
GROUP. WOW...



...YOU  
WERE SO  
CLOSE...



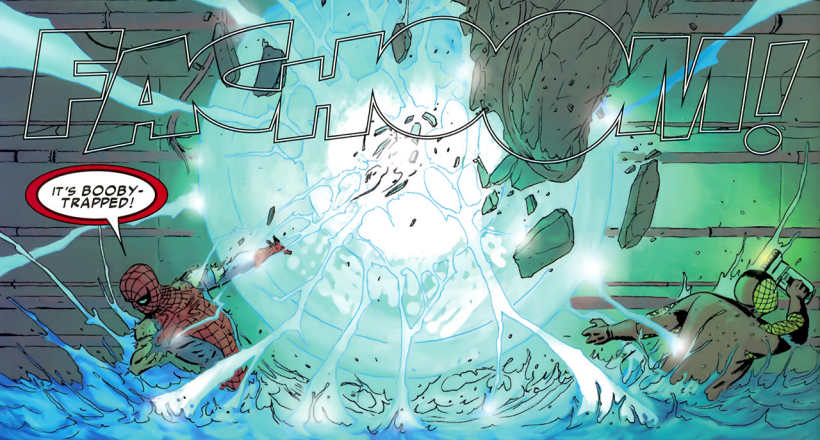
SPIDER-SENSE  
TINGLING!  
WHY--?

**NO!**  
SHOCKER'S  
GAUNTLET--!



**KLIK**





IT'S BOOBY-TRAPPED!



HE  
SEALED US OFF  
AGAIN....!

AND GOT  
AWAY. BUT AT  
LEAST I AVOIDED  
THE "WE'LL MEET  
AGAIN, SPIDER-  
MAN!" SPEECH.

NOW,  
LOOK  
UP.



NATURAL LIGHT.  
A SEWER GRATE  
AT STREET LEVEL--  
AND RIGHT IN THE  
NICK OF TIME.



IT'S CIRQUE  
DE SOBBY TIME,  
FOLKS! JUST CALL  
ME THE AMAZING  
LADDER-MAN, AND  
PLEASE, AS ALWAYS--  
BE CAREFUL WHAT  
YOU GRAB!

CLIMB!



PICK UP  
THE PAGE,  
PEOPLE!

THAT'S  
ALL OF THEM,  
SPIDER-MAN!

YOU LET  
EVERYONE  
ELSE GO  
FIRST?

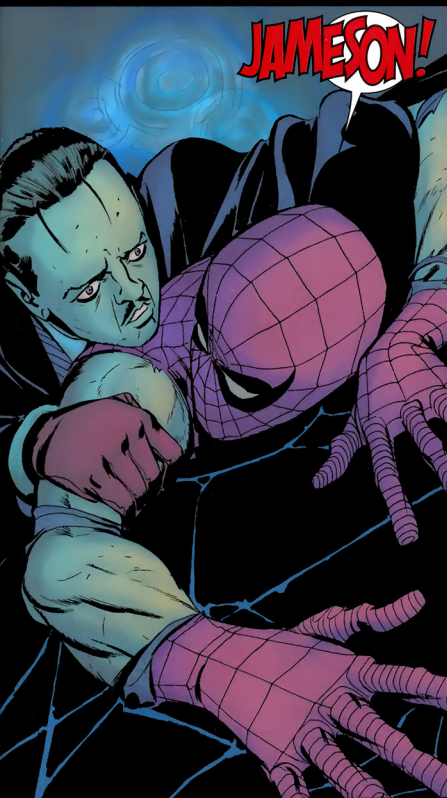
THIS IS SO  
CONFUSING  
FOR ME! I'VE  
NEVER ACTUALLY  
LIKED ANYONE  
NAMED "JAMESON"  
BEFORE!



LET ME GET  
THIS LAST GUY  
TO THE GRATE AND  
I'LL PULL YOU  
RIGHT UP!

JAMESON,  
YOU STILL  
WITH ME?

JAMESON?



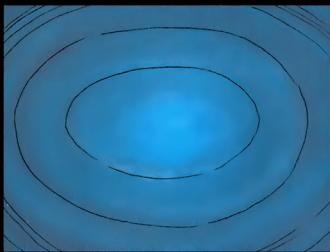
**JAMESON!**



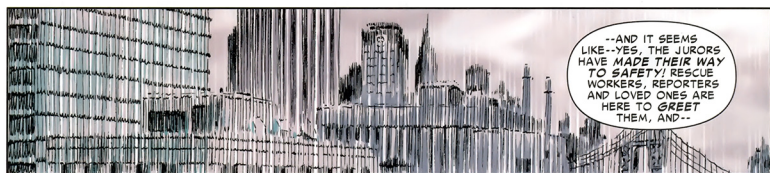
AW,  
NO...

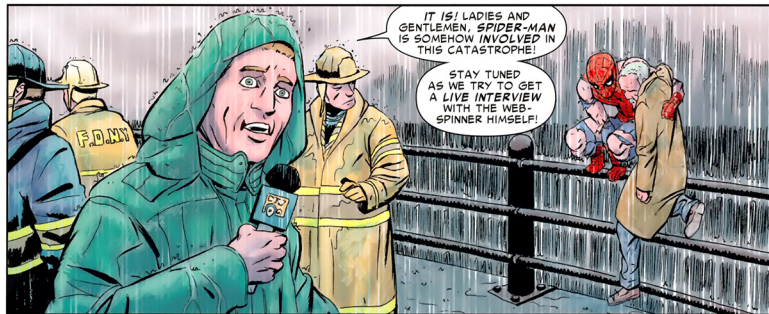


...NO, NO,  
NO...













# the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL

Send e-mail to  
SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM  
(please mark as OKAY TO PRINT)

Welcome back to the only dependable thing left in this crazy four-color world, the Spidey letter column. Like Brevoort's appetite for all things brownie, we're always here...day in and day out. And unlike the "jokes" of Ed Brubaker, it seems like we really are appreciated and understood.

This time out, we've got a ton of feedback on ASM #574 and the return of Flash Thompson. This was without a doubt the biggest surge in letters we've seen on the book since the end of One More Day. This issue definitely seems to have struck a chord, so I'm just gonna keep quiet and fit in as many of your voices as I can starting with this very special letter that touched us all...

Dear Spider-Mail,

I have, literally, just finished reading issue 574, and I feel compelled to write in for the very first time. I've been reading Spider-Man comics since I got my first subscription as a birthday present in the late-70s, and I've never understood better why I love the Web-Head than I do after reading this single story.

It's funny, I already had enormous respect for those who put the good of their country before even their own lives, but I hadn't made the connection between that and what I've learned from reading Spider-Man, though I see now that they have always been much the same thing.

The reason I'm writing for the first time in 30-odd years is to say: thank you.

Thank you, the ones who've gone before you, and the ones who will come after, for believing that it "is" important to do the right things for the right reasons, and that it gets more important as it gets harder to do them.

Thank you for this moving display of support for our troops. I especially admire the fact that you refused to dilute that support by commenting on the war itself. I doubt there is "anyone" in the country who doesn't have an opinion of the war, but by not touching that point you've made your support of our boys and girls over there so much stronger.

Nathan  
Jackson, TN

☺☺☺☺

Spidey Office,

I just finished reading Amazing Spider-Man #574, and I wanted to thank you for your story. I think I knew what had happened to Flash as soon as I saw the words "Landstuhl Regional Medical Center," and I almost had to put the book down right there.

I decided to keep going though, and I was very impressed with the realism of the story. I was thinking to myself, these guys got it right for once, meaning, a realistic interpretation of being in combat, and doing anything for your fellow Soldier. I knew there had to be more to it, and sure enough I saw a real American Hero smiling at me from the Letters Page. We wish Jeff Guerin the best, and pray for his speedy recovery.

I can empathize with Jeff, and with Flash Thompson. I grew up reading all the comics my meager allowance would afford, and I would have done anything to have the ability to help people like Spider-Man does. After I graduated high school, I got out of comics for a little while. It wasn't until I was at Walter Reed Army Medical Center that I found myself picking them up again. When you're in a

hospital bed for awhile, you obviously have a lot of free time.

This story just hit so close to home for me, because I woke up just like Flash did in Germany. I lost my right leg above the knee and my left leg below the knee to an IED in 2004, while serving with the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force in Iraq. I just wanted to thank you for telling our story and thank you to Jeff for his input, and courage to be a hero in the real world.

Some people might think Flash will be in a wheelchair for the rest of his life. I used to think that too. I have a challenge for Flash though: I stood up thirty days after I was blown up. I walked out of the hospital 4 months after that. All it took was the strength and willingness to do so. Now, I even have a set of legs I can run with.



I hope you can tell the rest of Flash's story at some point. Thank you for honoring those that have served in the War on Terror, especially those that lost their lives, and those of us that left part of us there.

That was one of the best comics I've ever read in my entire life.

Robbie Doughty  
Paducah, KY

☺☺☺☺

Dear Steve,

Wow. Great issue folks. Kitson, Gray and Fabella's art, Guggenheim's script, all top notch.

But the topper for me was the article in the letters page. Jeff Guerin is indeed a hero and an inspiration. Thank you for sharing his story with us all. Thank you for using the person of Flash Thompson to share his and other soldiers' stories...

Marvel has always stepped up and supported the real heroes in the world.

From the 9-11 tributes, to our soldiers in harm's way across the globe, Marvel has done

them right each and every time.

Truly I can say with gusto, Make Mine Marvel!!!

John Durkin.  
Ohio

☺☺☺☺

Dear Steve and Tom,

I just want to start off by saying I really enjoyed issue #574, and think you did an outstanding job with your portrayal of our troops and what they're going through. I come from a military family, both my grandfathers served (one was a Navy pilot the other was an Army engineer) and my father served in the Air Force (23 years & 3 tours in Vietnam.) So I know it is men & women like them who we owe our lives and the freedoms we take for granted, to.

Now that being said.... WOW!! And I thought I had unresolved issues with my school tormentors! Poor Flash Thompson is like a rented mule, there for the beating. He goes from a drunk to a vegetable (thanks to Poppa Goblin) to a paraplegic! What's next, will we discover his affinity for show tunes and dressing like Liza Minnelli? Well at least he's getting the M.O.H. out of this raw deal. Just keep him away from Dr. Connors (heh.heh.)

God Bless America and Excellence!  
Joseph E. Toth  
Pine Bush, NY

Like I said, we got a lot of mail on this one, so we're going to cut it in here and get back to more next week. That's right, folks! It's a letter column cliffhanger! Will your letter be in there?!! Find out in seven days!

Until then, give this Waid/ Martin two-parter a re-read and revel at the beautiful art and witty writin'! You're going to be seeing more of both Waid and Marcos over the next few months.

And get ready for next week's one-off tale by longtime Spidey scribe Roger Stern and classic Spidey artist Lee Weeks..."FILL IN THE BLANK!" See you there!

(Brennan, get my things and start the car. I'll be right out.)

Viva Templar!  
Simperin' Steve!  
11/13/08

## NEXT WEEK



Point Blank!

Tom Brennan  
Asst. Editor  
  
Joe Sabino  
Production

Stephen Wacker  
Editor  
  
Joe Quesada  
Editor in Chief

Tom Brevoort  
Executive Editor  
  
Dan Buckley  
Publisher