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HOLLINGSWORTH

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

ALSO THIS ISSUE:

KAINE
BY DEMATTEIS & FIUMARA

SPIDEY SUNDAYS
BY STAN LEE & MARCOS MARTIN



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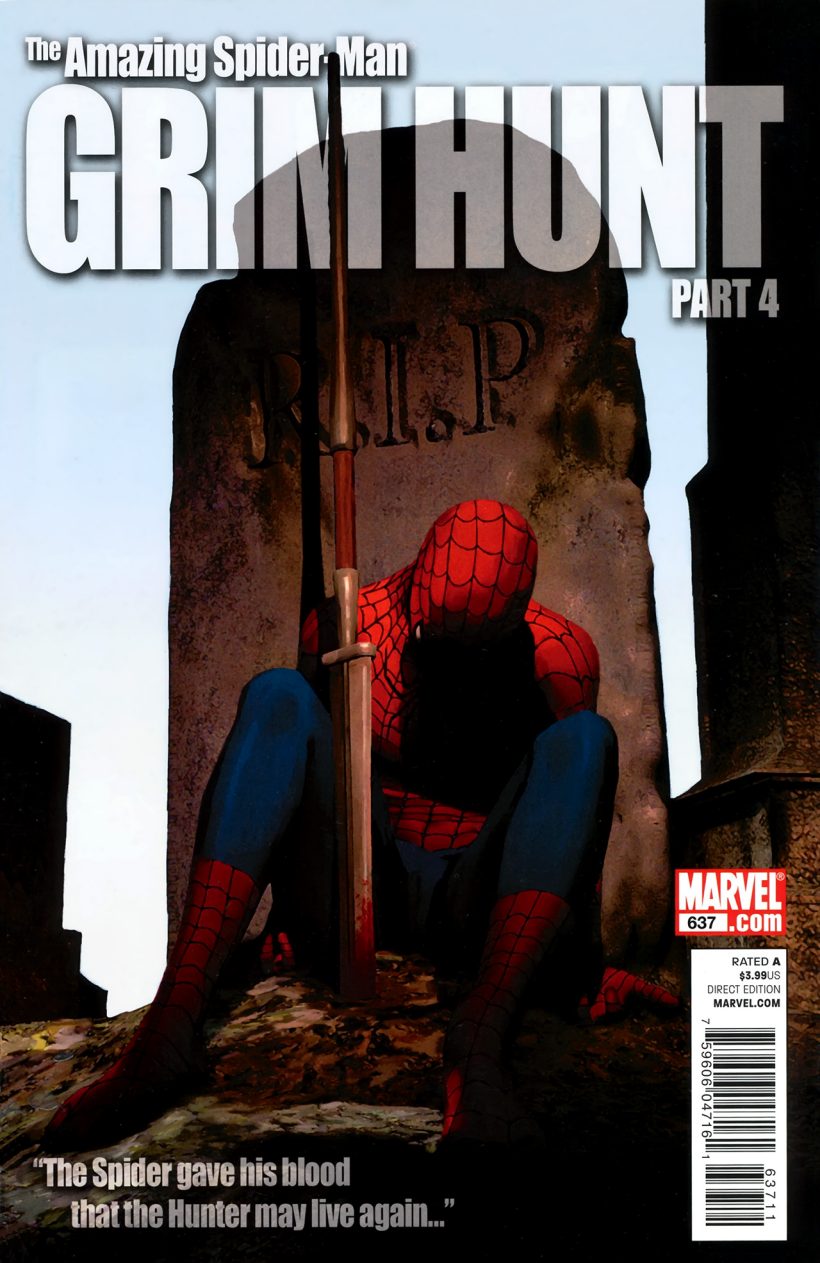
GREEN Goblin HUNT

PART 4

The Amazing Spider-Man

GRIM HUNT

PART 4



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"The Spider gave his blood
that the Hunter may live again..."

City Hall Press Room.

FELLOW NEW YORKERS, I WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT EVERYTHING POSSIBLE IS BEING DONE TO IDENTIFY AND CONTAIN THE CURRENT CRISIS...

"AS HAS BEEN REPORTED, THE ANIMALS CURRENTLY ROAMING OUR STREETS ARE NOT ALL RESIDENTS OF THE CENTRAL PARK ZOO.

"AND WHILE THE NUMBER OF RABID HOUSE PETS IS GROWING, THE MAJORITY OF ANIMALS ARE COMING FROM... SOMEWHERE ELSE."

EXPERTS ARE BEING FLOWN IN, AND THIS OFFICE WOULD CONSIDER IT EXTREMELY HELPFUL IF THE ANIMAL RIGHTS IDIOTS WOULD BACK OFF AND LET THEM DO THEIR JOB.

"WE DON'T YET KNOW WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS, BUT I PROMISE YOU THAT ONCE THIS CRISIS HAS BEEN AVERTED, THEY WILL COME TO JUSTICE."

RESIDENTS ARE ADVISED TO STAY INDOORS AND LOCK THEIR PETS IN THE BATHROOM--

HELLO? ARE YOU PEOPLE LISTENING TO ME? YOU LOOK LIKE A BUNCH OF SLACK-JAWED YOKELS! WE'VE DEALT WITH FAR WORSE--

UH... MAYOR JAMESON?

WHAT?

THERE'S SOMETHING BEHIND ME, ISN'T THERE?

The Amazing Spider-Man

"Call it a clan, call it a network, call it a tribe, call it a family: Whatever you call it, whoever you are, you need one." — Jane Howard



Sasha Kraven, widow of the famed Sergei "Kraven the Hunter" Kravinoff, has assembled her family — son Alyosha, daughter Ana and brother-in-law The Chameleon — to "hunt Spiders."

In subsequent weeks, they kidnapped the psychic Madame Web, brutalized Spider-Man's renegade clone, Kaine, and murdered Mattie Franklin, the former Spider-Woman, in a bizarre sacrifice that brought Kraven's son Vladimir back to life as a twisted monster.



Kaine managed to warn Peter Parker, the Amazing Spider-Man, of their plot. But the Kravens took the upper hand, kidnapping more spiders — Arachne and Araña — and baiting Spider-Man into their palatial New York estate, where they hunted and eventually killed the wall-crawler, using his sacrifice to bring Sergei back to life.

But they were deceived — they didn't kill Spider-Man, but rather Kaine in disguise. While his blood brought the Hunter back to life, it has cursed him with the "unlife" — leaving Kraven unable to die unless killed by Spider-Man.



As the "web of life" has been upset, New York City has seen nature in an upheaval — animals have gone mad and spiders swarm the streets. Meanwhile, when Parker discovered that Kaine's death brought Sergei back to life, he found himself ready to cross the line ...

GRIM HUNT

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (ISSN #0274-5232) No. 637, September, 2010. Published Thrice Monthly by MARVEL WORLDWIDE, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, LLC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 417 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10016. PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. © 2010 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. \$3.99 per copy in the U.S. (GST #R127032852) in the direct market and \$4.99 per copy in the U.S. and \$4.99 in Canada (GST #R127032852) through the newsstand. Canadian Agreement #40668537. 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 5187 BRENTWOOD, TN 37024. TELEPHONE: (800) 217-9158. FAX: (615) 377-0523. subscriptions@marvel.com. ALAN FINE, EVP & Office of The President, Marvel Worldwide, Inc. and EVP & CMO Marvel Characters B.V.; DAN BUCKLEY, Chief Executive Officer and Publisher - Print, Animation & Digital Media; JIM SOKOLOWSKI, Chief Operating Officer; DAVID GABRIEL, SVP of Publishing Sales & Circulation; DAVID BOGART, SVP of Business Affairs & Talent Management; MICHAEL PASCIULLO, VP of Merchandising & Communications; JIM O'KEEFE, VP of Operations & Logistics; DAN CARR, Executive Director of Publishing Technology; JUSTIN F. GABRIE, Director of Publishing & Editorial Operations; SUSAN CRESPI, Editorial Operations Manager; ALEX MORALES, Publishing Operations Manager; STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Ron Stern, VP of Business Development, at rstern@marvel.com. For Marvel subscription inquiries, please call 800-217-9158. Manufactured between 06/23/2010 and 07/02/2010 by R.R. DONNELLEY, INC., GLASGOW, KY, USA.

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ONCE UPON A TIME,
THERE WAS A GREAT
HUNTER.

HE HUNTED EVERYTHING ON
THE EARTH, AND EVENTUALLY...
HE LOST HIS **PURPOSE**.



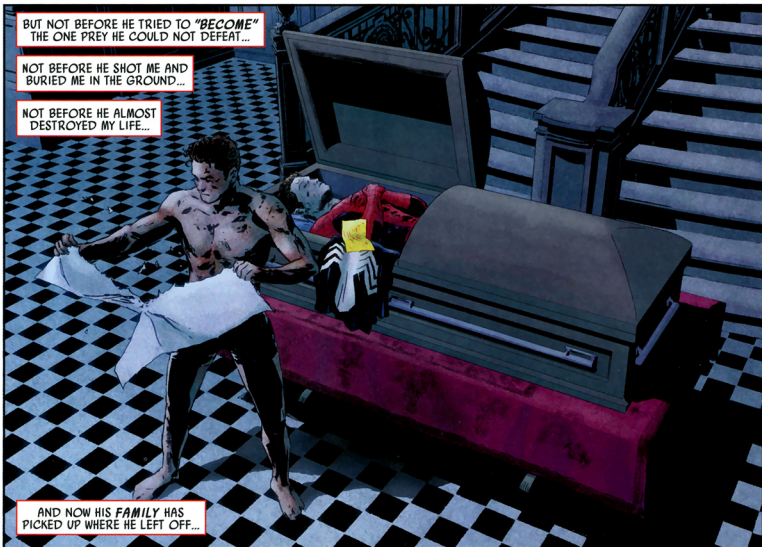
SO HE WENT OUT OF HIS
LEOPARD-SPOTTED MIND
AND KILLED HIMSELF...



BUT NOT BEFORE HE TRIED TO **"BECOME"**
THE ONE PREY HE COULD NOT DEFEAT...

NOT BEFORE HE SHOT ME AND
BURIED ME IN THE GROUND...

NOT BEFORE HE ALMOST
DESTROYED MY LIFE...



AND NOW HIS **FAMILY** HAS
PICKED UP WHERE HE LEFT OFF...

ATTACKING **SPIDERS**...



MATTIE FRANKLIN...**KILLED**..

SMASHH





MADAME WEB...TORTURED.

YEAGH!



JULIA CARPENTER, ANYA CORAZON...
MY "SISTERS"...

ALL ATTACKED...ALL TO GET AT ME...



AND FINALLY, **KAINE**. DEAD BECAUSE
FOR ONCE IN HIS MISERABLE LIFE...
HE DID SOMETHING **NOBLE**.

HE SACRIFICED HIMSELF SO
I COULD LIVE...BUT IN THE PROCESS,
HELPED TEAM PSYCHO BRING **KRAVEN**
THE HUNTER BACK TO LIFE.

MY "SPIDER FAMILY..." **BROKEN**.



FOR ME. THIS
WAS ALL FOR ME...



WELL, YOU WANT
ME, SASHA
KRAVINOFF...?



I'M COMING...

I'M COMING FOR
ALL OF YOU.

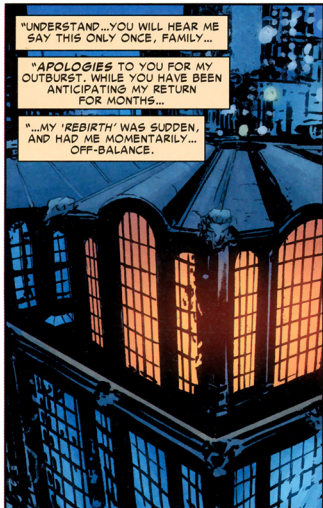
the GRIM HUNT conclusion

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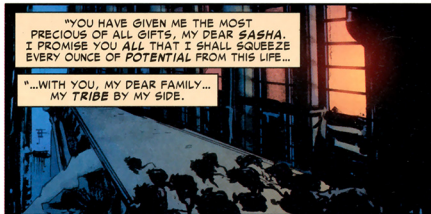
GALE, KELLY, SLOTT, VAN LENTE, WAID, WELLS web-heads
dedicated to J.M. DEMATTEIS and MIKE ZECK



"UNDERSTAND...YOU WILL HEAR ME SAY THIS ONLY ONCE, FAMILY..."

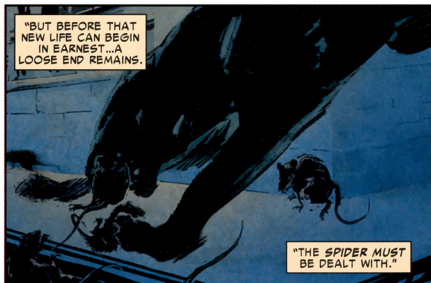
"APOLOGIES TO YOU FOR MY OUTBURST, WHILE YOU HAVE BEEN ANTICIPATING MY RETURN FOR MONTHS..."

"...MY 'REBIRTH' WAS SUDDEN, AND HAD ME MOMENTARILY... OFF-BALANCE."



"YOU HAVE GIVEN ME THE MOST PRECIOUS OF ALL GIFTS, MY DEAR SASHA. I PROMISE YOU ALL THAT I SHALL SQUEEZE EVERY OUNCE OF POTENTIAL FROM THIS LIFE..."

"...WITH YOU, MY DEAR FAMILY... MY TRIBE BY MY SIDE."



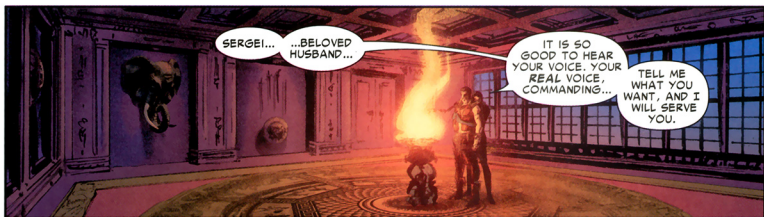
"BUT BEFORE THAT NEW LIFE CAN BEGIN IN EARNEST...A LOOSE END REMAINS."

"THE SPIDER MUST BE DEALT WITH."



BUT I AM CONFIDENT THAT, WITH MY FAMILY... ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE."

I NEED YOU NOW, MORE THAN EVER."





ARE YOU
MAD?! YOU
CAN'T LEAVE
NOW!

THE HELL
I CAN'T. I PLAYED
MY PART IN SASHA'S
GAME AND SHE CHANGED
THE RULES WHEN SHE
KILLED THE WRONG
SPIDER-MAN.

THIS
ISN'T A GAME!
WE ARE YOUR
FAMILY!

MUST HAVE
MISSED ALL OF
THE CHRISTMAS
CARDS, ALY.

SASHA PAID
ME THREE
MILLION DOLLARS
TO TAKE PART
IN THIS FARCE.
"FAMILY" AIN'T
FREE.



THEN
EARN YOUR
KEEP!

ALY, YOU'VE NEVER
BEEN A "DRINK THE
KOOL-AID" TYPE.
OPEN YOUR
EYES...

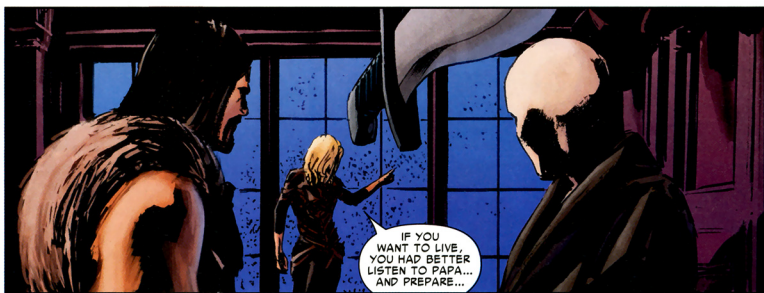
THUD



KRAVEN WAS MAD
WHEN HE SHOT
HIMSELF. AND HE
DIDN'T COME BACK
ANY BETTER--



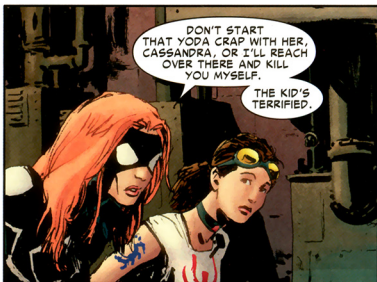
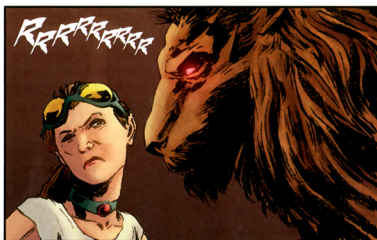
THUNK



IF YOU
WANT TO LIVE,
YOU HAD BETTER
LISTEN TO PAPA...
AND PREPARE...



HE'S
COMING. AND
THE SPYDER IS
SO VERY VERY
ANGRY.





LET HER GO!

EVERYTHING IS WRONG! THAT MAN IS NOT MY HUSBAND--

OH, BUT HE IS...REFRESHED FROM A LONG NAP. IT'S LIKE THAT WITH OLD MARRIED COUPLES...SOMETIMES YOU FORGET.

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO? HOW DO I SAVE MY FAMILY?



HA HA HA! YOU STUPID SOW. YOU BLINDED ME WITH YOUR DRUGS AND YOUR TORTURE AND YOUR PATHETIC CONNING TO "RECAPTURE" A GLORY THAT NEVER EXISTED!

YOU BROKE THE WEB OF LIFE AND NOW I SEE NOTHING!



THEN YOU ARE USELESS TO ME.

NNNNNGH!



No!!!

THANK YOUR GOD THAT I DON'T HAVE THE TIME TO GIVE YOU THE DEATH YOU DESERVE.

THE OTHER TWO ARE YOURS, VLADIMIR. DO AS YOU--



KADUNK

WHAT IS THAT?

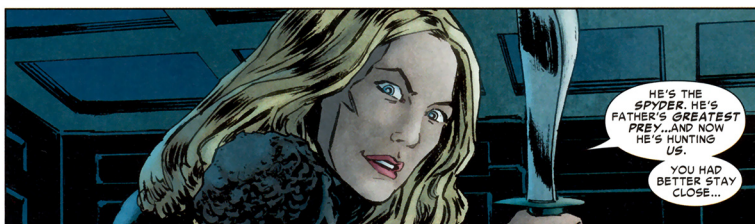
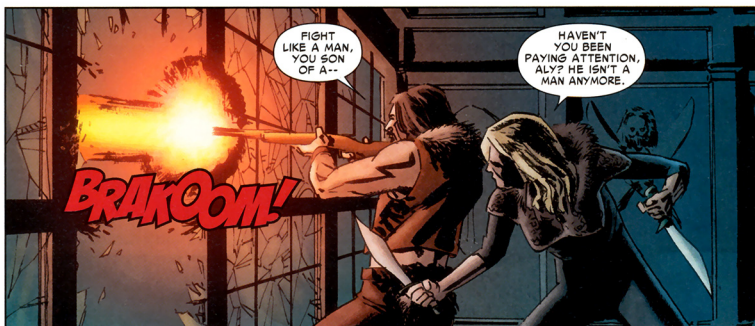
IT'S... TERRIFYING... ISN'T IT? BLINDNESS..?



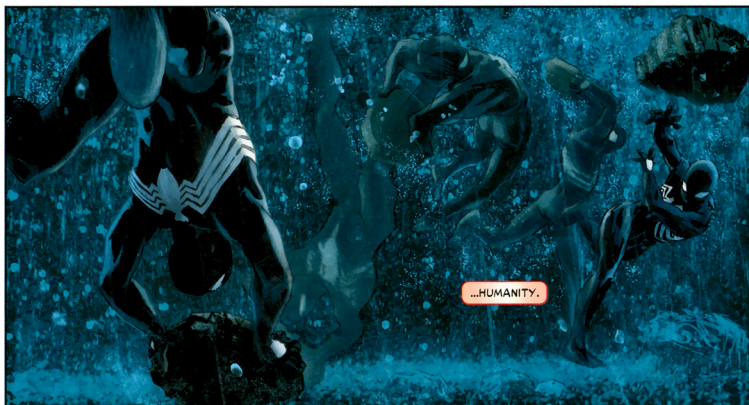
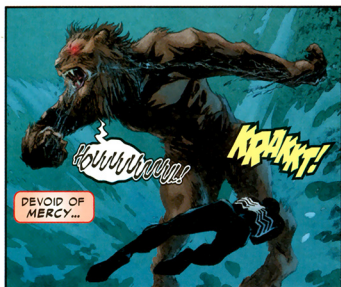
THIS...IS THE REAPING.

YOU HAVE MADE THE SPIDER VERY VERY ANGRY.

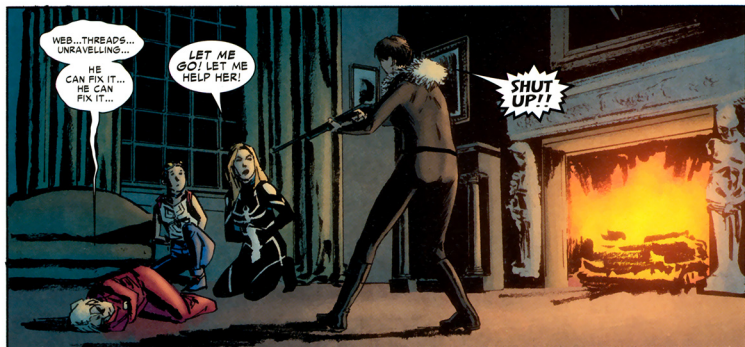












WEB...THREADS...
UNRAVELLING...

HE
CAN FIX IT...
HE CAN
FIX IT...

LET ME
GO! LET ME
HELP HER!

SHUT
UP!!



SERGEI!!
WHAT'S
HAPPENED?!

WHERE
IS MY
FAMILY?

LISTEN TO
YOURSELF BLEAT.
IS THAT HOW YOU
LED THE "GREAT
KRAVINOFFS" IN
MY ABSENCE?



WHERE
ARE THE BOYS,
SERGEI?

LOST...
DEAD?
I DON'T
KNOW.

"DON'T KNOW?"
SERGEI, WHY ARE YOU
SO COLD? I BROUGHT
YOU HOME, SERGEI.
I BROUGHT YOU
BACK--

BROUGHT
ME BACK...TO
WHAT?

TO LIFE!



YOU
CALL THIS
LIFE!?

THIS
PLACE IS
HELL!

THANK

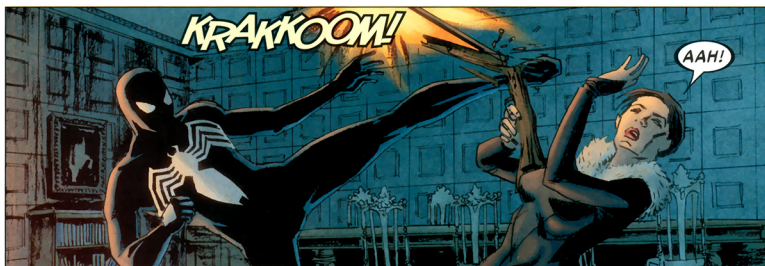


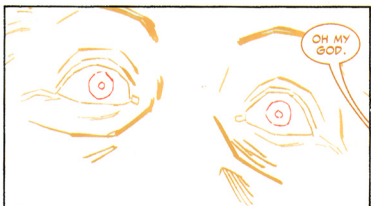
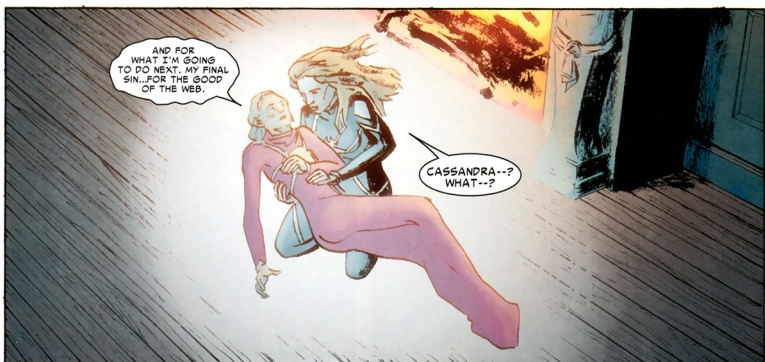
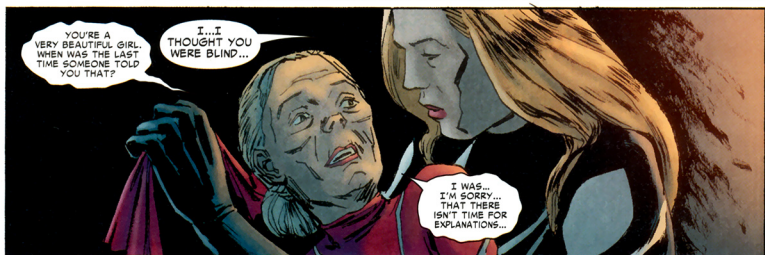
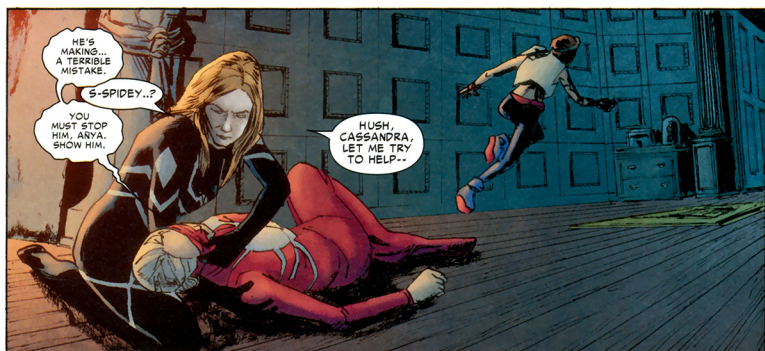
BUT THE
JOURNEY YOU
HAVE MADE. THE
SECRETS YOU
MUST KNOW...

YOU WILL
RESTORE THIS
FAMILY TO
GREATNESS--

MY
FAMILY...
SHOULD NOT
HAVE FALLEN
FROM
GREATNESS
WITHOUT
ME.

THAT IS WHY
I HATE YOU, SASHA.
BECAUSE YOU WERE
TOO WEAK TO PROTECT
AND STRENGTHEN
MY TRIBE.







SERGE!! SERGEI,
WHAT'S HAPPENING?!
HE'S HERE--WHERE
ARE YOU!?

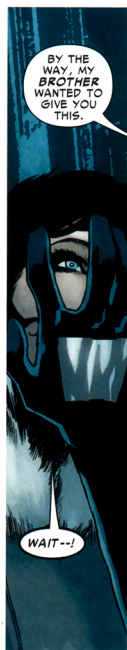
YOU. IT'S
BEEN YOU ALL
ALONG, PULLING THE
WEB APART, THREAD
BY THREAD.

WAS IT
WORTH IT? DID
YOU GET EVERYTHING
YOU WANTED?



CONSIDERING
EVERYTHING YOU'VE
TAKEN?

AAAAAH!



BY THE
WAY, MY
BROTHER
WANTED TO
GIVE YOU
THIS.

WAIT--!



W-WAIT--

DID
YOU "WAIT"
FOR MATTIE?
CASSANDRA?
KAINE--?

NOW YOU
KNOW WHAT IT
FEELS LIKE, TO
BE WOUNDED,
HUNTED...



...SLAUGHTERED.

OVER MY
DEAD BODY,
SPYDER.

YOUR
CALL.



TAKE A BREATH, AND DUCK, TOUGH GUY!

NNGH!

ANYA, GET OUT OF HERE!



ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO KILL THAT LADY...?

...

THEN I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE.



LOYALTY. EVEN AMONG MONGRELS...



INSPIRATIONAL... BUT MISGUIDED, CHILD.



EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED HERE, YOUR PAIN AND SUFFERING, WAS AS I COMMANDED IT TO BE.

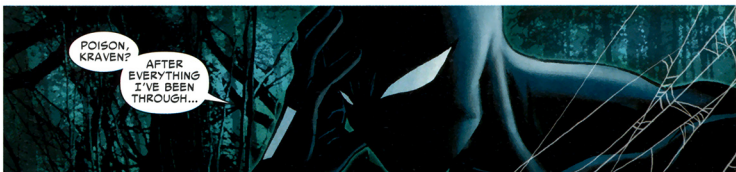
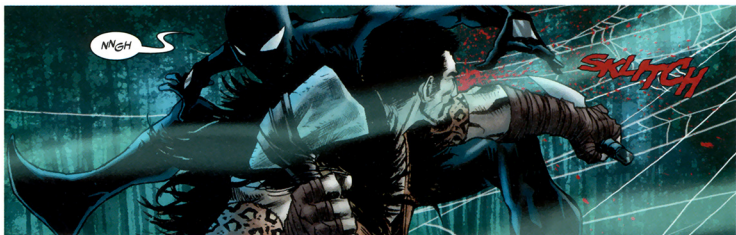
TO HARDEN YOU, SPIDER-MAN. TO FORGE YOU INTO SOMETHING WORTHY OF BATTLING KRAVEN THE HUNTER.

I CAME BACK FROM THE DEAD TO BAG THE ULTIMATE PRIZE...AND IT FINALLY STANDS BEFORE ME.



HAVE YOU SUFFERED ENOUGH, SPYDER?

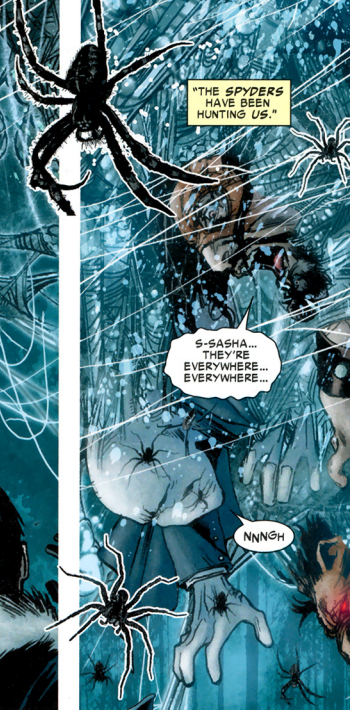
OR DO I NEED TO KILL SOMEONE CLOSER TO YOU?







IT'S
TRUE...WE
WERE NEVER
HUNTING
HIM...



"THE SPYDERS
HAVE BEEN
HUNTING US."

S-SASHA...
THEY'RE
EVERYWHERE...
EVERYWHERE...

NNNGH



IT'S NOT
POISON.
IT'S MY
BLOOD.



MY
PAIN.
MY
SHAME.
MY
RAGE.

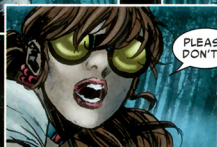
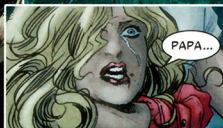


WE
ARE ONE,
SPYDER.

NOT
ON YOUR
LIFE...

OR THE
SECOND
ONE.





SEE.

OF ALL WHO
COULD HAVE BEEN,
YOU ARE THE SPIDER-MAN.
YOU ARE THE ONE WHO CAN
CARRY GREAT POWER
WITH GREATER
RESPONSIBILITY...

"IT ISN'T FAIR. IT ISN'T ANYTHING YOU ASKED FOR...BUT THE TRUTH IS THAT YOU REPRESENT THE MORAL FIBER THAT RUNS THROUGH EVERYTHING.

"THAT IS YOUR PURPOSE...
YOU ARE THE STRENGTH
OF THE THREAD FROM
WHICH THE WEB OF
LIFE IS WOVEN.

"BUT AS A DESTROYER...YOU WOULD BE EQUALLY EFFECTIVE. AND THE LIVES THAT YOU WOULD RUIN WITH ONE ACT--"

"BUT HOW
MANY LIVES
HAVE BEEN RUINED
BECAUSE OF
THESE SICK--"

"PAIN IS
INEVITABLE,
PETER...*SUFFERING*
IS OPTIONAL. YOU
MUST CHOOSE A
HIGHER PATH--

"THEY HAVE DONE
TERRIBLE THINGS...
BUT IF YOU FOLLOW
SUIT AND KILL
THIS MAN...

"YOU WILL NEVER FORGIVE YOURSELF."

"YOU
WILL NEVER
HEAL

"YOU
WILL BECOME
SOMETHING
UGLY AND
TERRIBLE...

"AND THE WEB WILL BREAK FOREVER."

"SAVE KRAVEN'S
LIFE, YOU SAVE
YOUR OWN...AND
THE THOUSANDS
YOU WILL SAVE
AFTER THAT..."

AND
THE MILLIONS
THEY WILL SAVE
AFTER THAT.

YOU ARE
THE BEST OF US.
THE CENTER
MUST HOLD.





YOU
PEOPLE ARE
SCREWED
UP.

YOU GOT
A SECOND
SHOT, KRAVEN. GO
BE A DENTIST OR
SOMETHING...

WE'RE
DONE
HERE.

NO!



GOOD.
THAT...THAT
WAS GOOD.

GOD, I
HOPE SO. C'MON,
LET'S GET OUT OF
HERE BEFORE I
FORGET I'M NOT
A MONSTER....

WHAT
ABOUT
THEM?

WE'LL
TAKE THEM
TO THE AVENGERS...
OR THE A.S.P.C.A...
WHATEVER. I JUST
HAVE TO--

PWTHOOOMP!



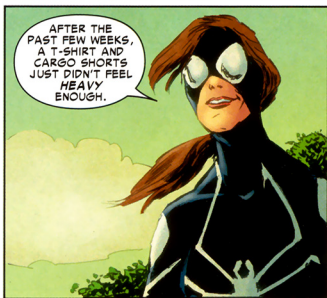
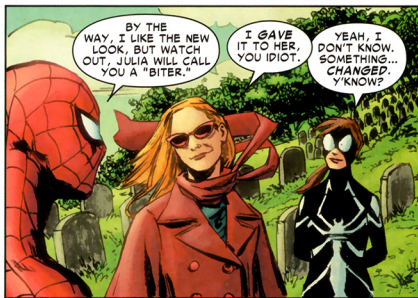
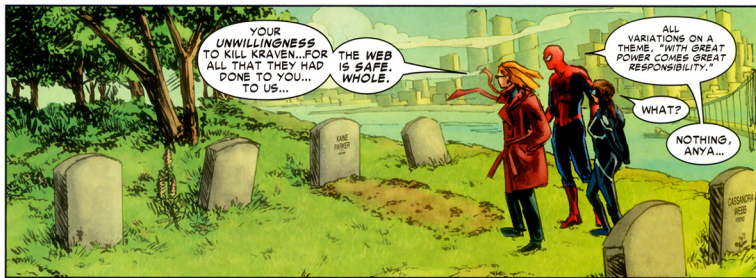
OOOOOKAY.
SOME KIND OF
FLASHPOTS.

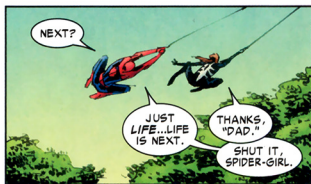
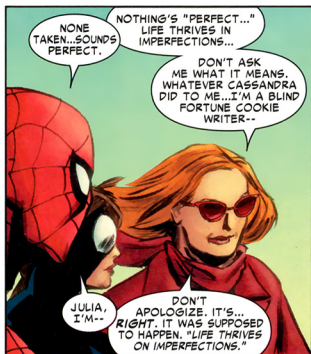
THEY'RE
GONE. I
THINK.

DID WE
WIN?



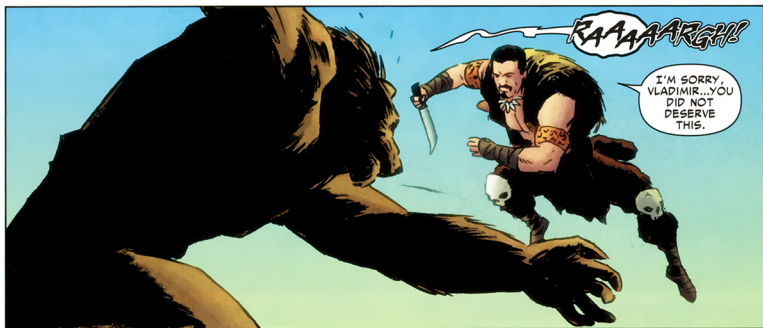
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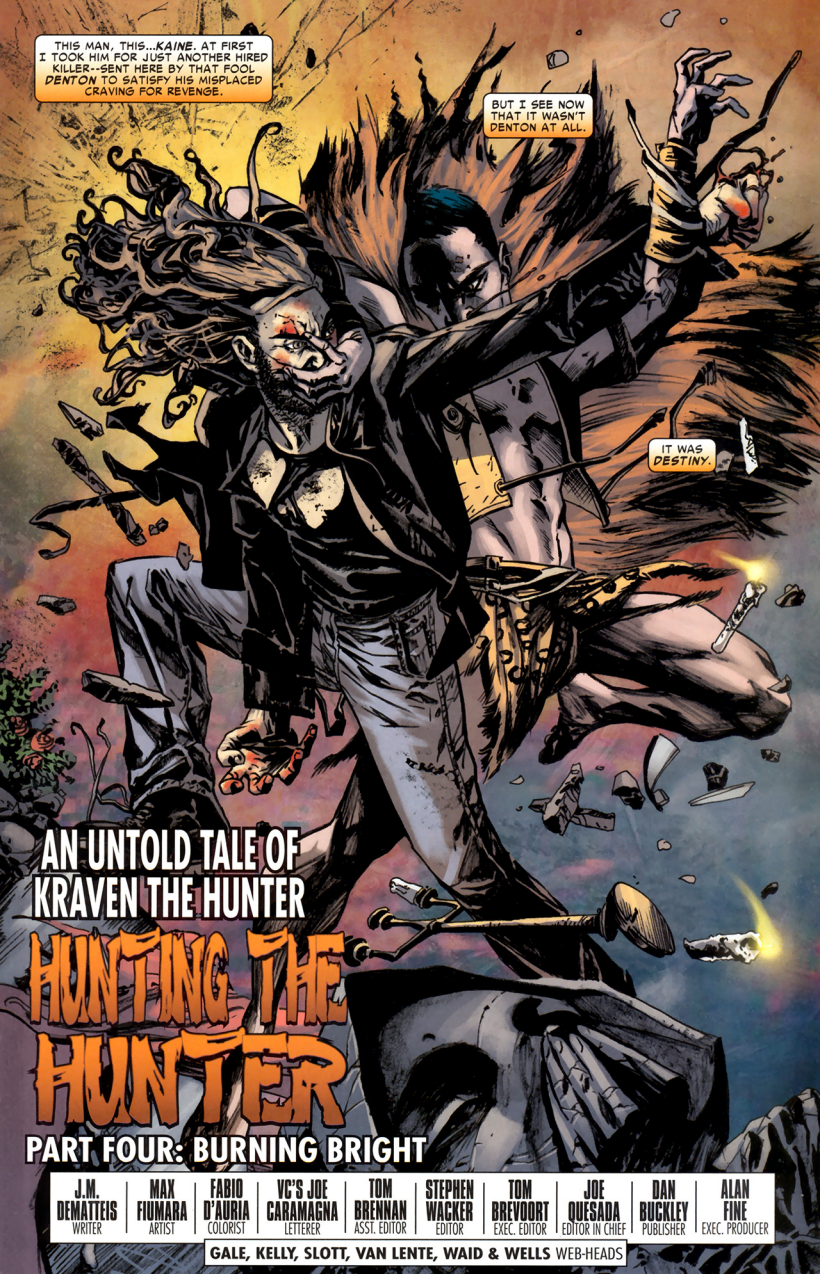












THIS MAN, THIS...KANE. AT FIRST I TOOK HIM FOR JUST ANOTHER HIRED KILLER--SENT HERE BY THAT FOOL DENTON TO SATISFY HIS MISPLACED CRAVING FOR REVENGE.

BUT I SEE NOW THAT IT WASN'T DENTON AT ALL.

IT WAS DESTINY.

AN UNTOLD TALE OF
KRAVEN THE HUNTER

HUNTING THE
HUNTER

PART FOUR: BURNING BRIGHT

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GALE, KELLY, SLOTT, VAN LENTE, WAID & WELLS WEB-HEADS



THERE IS AN AURA AROUND THIS ONE. AN... ENERGY THAT I'VE GLIMPSED BEFORE, DANCING ON THE PERIPHERY OF MY VISION...

...WHEN HERBS AND ROOTS HAVE WIDENED MY CONSCIOUSNESS. WHEN THE UNIVERSE HAS UNFOLDED INTO DEEP MEANING...



STOP!

...AND DEEPER CHAOS.



DON'T WORRY, SIR--WE'RE HERE.

I'M NOT WORRIED IN THE LEAST, MR. DABIKU.

BUT REST ASSURED THAT, HOWEVER NOBLE YOUR MOTIVES--



SHRIMP



--I DON'T NEED YOUR HELP.

I COULD NEVER SEE IT CLEARLY, BUT I COULD FEEL IT: A THING OF SPITE AND CRUELTY AND ARROGANCE...



...TAUNTING ME.

"WHAT ARE YOU?" I WOULD ASK: NO ANSWER WOULD COME. BUT NOW I SEE.



NOW I KNOW.

IT IS THE MONSTER THAT DEVoured MY HOMETLAND, CONSUMED MY MOTHER'S SANITY, DROVE ME INTO THE JUNGLES--



THE
SPIDER.

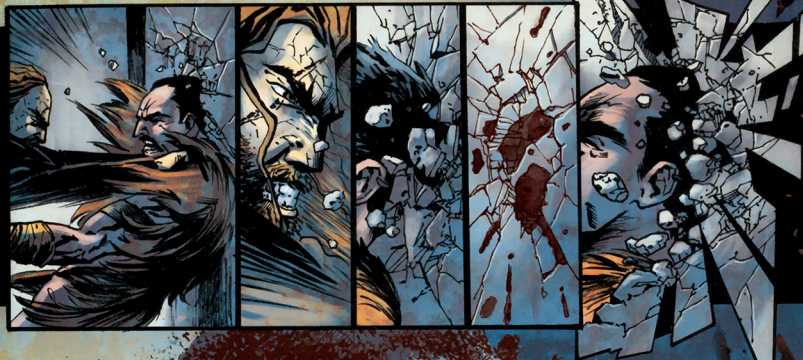


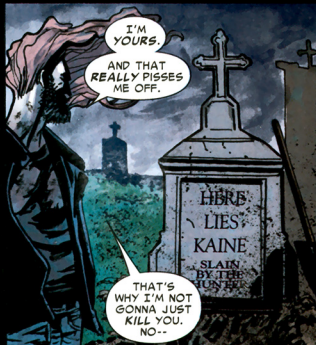
YES, IT HAS A NAME
NOW. AND SOMEHOW...IT'S
ALIVE IN KATANA. ALIVE...



...AND
HUNGRY.

THE SPIDER WANTS MY HEART,
MY SANITY, MY VERY SOUL.
AND I DON'T KNOW IF I HAVE
THE STRENGTH--OR THE WILL--





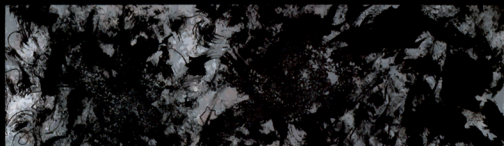
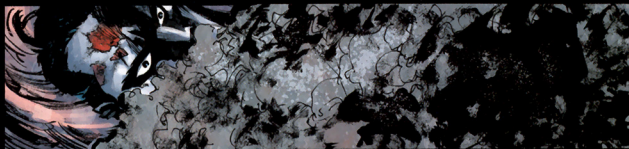
SYMMETRY?

IF THIS IS
DESTINY, SPIDER--
THEN I EMBRACE IT,
I EMBRACE YOU,
AS I LIVED...

...WITH THE FULLNESS
OF MY PASSION, THE
INFERNO OF MY HATE.

AND IF I'M MEANT TO
DIE AS WE GRAPPLE
HERE TONIGHT...

CHUFF



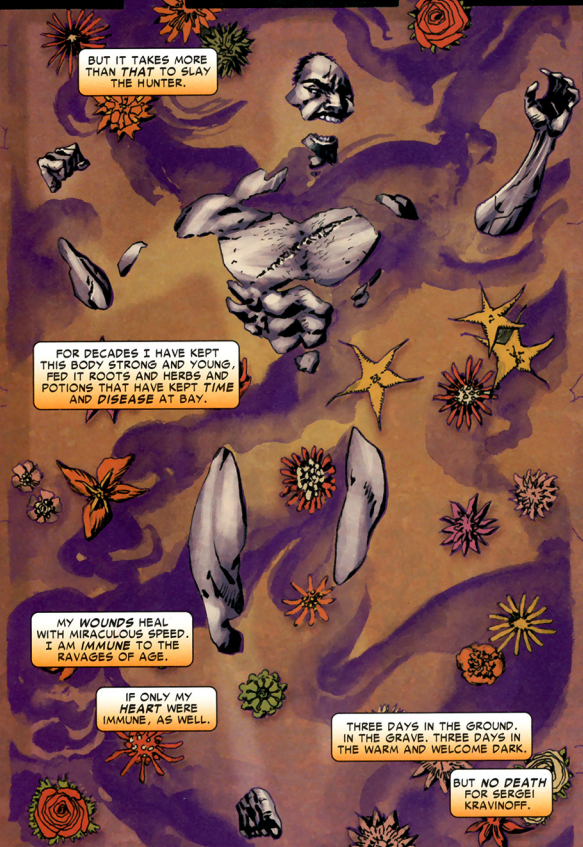
...SO BE IT?



THREE DAYS IN
THE GROUND.
IN THE GRAVE.



THREE DAYS IN
THE WARM AND
WELCOME DARK.



BUT IT TAKES MORE
THAN THAT TO SLAY
THE HUNTER.

FOR DECADES I HAVE KEPT
THIS BODY STRONG AND YOUNG,
FED IT ROOTS AND HERBS AND
POTIONS THAT HAVE KEPT TIME
AND DISEASE AT BAY.


MY WOUNDS HEAL
WITH MIRACULOUS SPEED.
I AM IMMUNE TO THE
RAVAGES OF AGE.

IF ONLY MY
HEART WERE
IMMUNE, AS WELL.

THREE DAYS IN THE GROUND.
IN THE GRAVE. THREE DAYS IN
THE WARM AND WELCOME DARK.

BUT NO DEATH
FOR SERGEI
KRAVINOFF.

NOT YET.



FOR THE GROUND
WHISPERED TO ME.
THE GRAVE TOLD
ME ITS SECRETS.
AND THE DARK?

THE DARK
ENLIGHTENED
ME.

AND I SAW THAT THIS
KAINE IS *NOT* THE SPYDER...
BUT ITS *HERALD*; CRYING
IN THE WILDERNESS
ANNOUNCING ITS ARRIVAL.

SAW, TOO, THE *TRUE*
FACE OF THE SPIDER'S
VESSEL. SAW IT--AND
RECOGNIZED IT.

FOR WE HAVE MET
BEFORE. AND, *SOON*...
WE WILL MEET *AGAIN*.

FOR THE
FINAL TIME.

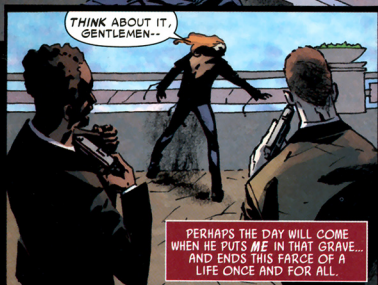
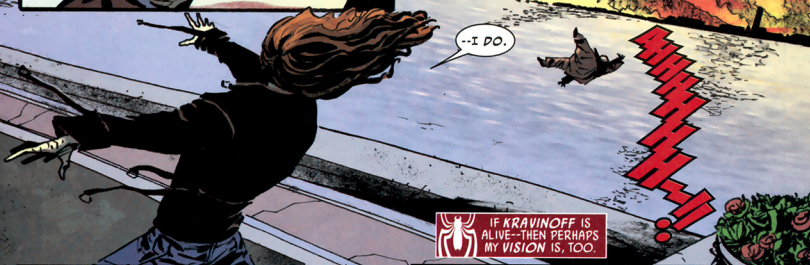
...I GOT
FIVE WITNESSES
THAT SWEAR HE'S
ALIVE!

**KRAVEN'S
ALIVE.
DAMMIT!**

HONESTLY?
I'M NOT
SURPRISED.

YOU NEVER CAN
TRUST THOSE
JUNGLE WITCH
DOCTORS.





the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL



TOM BRENNAN STEPHEN WACKER
ASST. EDITOR EDITOR

TOM BREVOORT JOE QUESADA
EXECUTIVE EDITOR EDITOR IN CHIEF

DAN BUCKLEY ALAN FINE
PUBLISHER EXEC. PRODUCER

And that's the Grim Hunt, folks. Both of us here in the Spidey Office want to extend a huge thank you to the creative team for their engaging and brutal work in executing this particular story during some severe deadline crunches. In addition, everyone who has worked on *Amazing* over the past couple of years helping to set up the hints and clues deserves a bow as well.

And let me one last time mention the work of J.M. DeMatteis and Mike Zeck on the original "Kraven's Last Hunt." One of the best super hero stories you'll ever read and a book you should be ordering from your comic book retailer before reading another word on this page.

Lots of big Spidey events are just around the corner, but before we can get to them we've got to get through more of your comments on "Something Can Stop The Juggernaut!"

Spidey Team,

I just finished issue #629. Excellent read. I had just recently sent an email on 4/15 concerning the identity of Kraven's "daughter." After reading the Item section of Spider-Mail I am even more convinced that she is May Parker. It's too bad that if I'm right and these get into print that it won't be until September or later. So if I'm right how about a secret no prize until then? I won't tell. Honest.

John Gresko
Via e-mail

Sorry, John, as you can see from "Grim Hunt," Kraven's daughter was exactly who she said she was.

I do have it on good authority, though, that Publisher Dan Buckley is really the Rhino.



One of the advantages about editing a comic like Spider-Man is all the different people you get to "meet" from various parts of life and parts of the world who may happen to pick up the book. We get an incredible amount of mail on Spidey and when the letters don't go on for pages about how mean I am to Brennan or how much Brennan deserves a raise (Hi, Brennan's mom!), we often find out that many of you lead interesting lives and have very different perspectives.

Occasionally we even learn something from you knuckleheads (which is very difficult for me considering I really haven't had room in my head to learn new things since 1988). Here's a couple letters that illustrate my point...and yes one's for an older issue. SUE ME!!

Dear Stephen,

Great to see Roger Stern writing *Amazing Spider-Man* again - and doing a mostly-sterling job - but I do think of Stern's being a little bit blasé about cluster headaches.

If Carrie's father really used to get them, she'd have known they are severe one-sided headaches, typically felt in or around one eye or temple. You don't get them between the eyes. Also, they come on so quickly that, if she thought Peter had one, she could reasonably be expected to want to make sure he was able to get back home. It's also reasonable to assume Carrie would know to look for some of the symptoms such as redness and watering of the affected eye, swelling and drooping of the eyelid, and a bad case of the sweats! I should probably add that the likelihood of Peter suffering from this extremely rare condition is remote as it only affects one in a thousand people - I'm one of about 60,000 sufferers in the UK, out of a population of more than 60 million!

It was nice to see it mentioned in a mainstream comic-book, though - even if the

reference was a little misleading. For information, if Peter really had been suffering a cluster headache attack, he could have expected to be having severe one-sided migraine attacks at least twice a day (I tend to get them four times a day) for a period of anything up to 12 weeks.

So there you have it - I thought you'd appreciate a few facts.

And now, having climbed down from one soapbox, I'm going to get on another to support Jonah Jameson's decision to fire Pete for faking a photograph. As a newspaper reporter (and occasionally editor) myself, I know that JJJ was absolutely right to do this. Having been a news photographer for many years, it's reasonable to expect Peter to know that the information provided by people working in the news and current affairs industry is expected to consist of facts, or opinion based on facts. In falsifying a photo - no matter how noble his intentions - Peter betrayed the public's trust. To be honest, I was unpleasantly surprised that you were prepared to show him making this huge lapse of judgment.

Still, the development offers up new opportunities for agony in the life of our favourite Everyman and I'm looking forward to seeing what happens next.

Mike Sivier
Llandrindod Wells, Wales



Hello Spidey office,

First off, you will have to forgive me for this delayed reply to issue #613. I'm a new father and work long hours in a laboratory, thus my comic reading usually happens in bursts (I'm only up to issue #616, as of now).

I've been very pleased with the stories and artwork that has been published in "recent" storylines. I was a skeptic of non-married, 3 issues-per-month Spider-Man, but I think you've been pulling it off marvelously (pun intended). Specifically in the Gauntlet storyline, the new character depth shown for the Chameleon (helping those for whom he masquerades), Electro (struggling to control his powers and afford an expensive surgery), and Sandman (wanting a family/child to care for) have been very touching and generates understanding / sympathy for the "bad guy's" perspective.

However, I do have one small concern regarding issue #613. The aforementioned surgery for Electro made no scientific sense. I know that is a strange statement since you deal with much that is pure science fiction, but it rubbed me the wrong way. I have a Bachelors in Chemistry and a Ph.D. from the Microbiology and Immunology department at the University of Rochester, so I feel I can speak to issues of biological science.

I'm talking specifically about the use of "custom-engineered bacteriophages that are linked to the carbon atoms in Dillon's body to amplify his battery capacity". Bacteriophages do not bind to carbon atoms. Bacteriophages are made of proteins which are capable of interacting with other proteins, but proteins cannot specifically interact with one particular type of atom. Protein / protein interactions ARE governed by interactions of atoms, but it's the atoms carrying extra charges (Nitrogen, Oxygen, Calcium, Metals, etc) that are primarily responsible for the phenomenon. How carbon atoms could be related to Electro's battery capacity, is beyond me. There is thought of using phages as gene therapy vectors, which could have worked well for some genetic sort of explanation. Alternatively, a surgery to graft some sort of superconducting material that would keep Electro's current from dying would also maintain at least a realistic logic to the science fiction. If there was some sort of deeper reason for the use of bacteriophage, please let me

know.

Keep up the good work and I look forward to catching up with the current issues!

Matthew Giannandrea, Ph.D.
University of Rochester,
New York

Matthew, it goes without saying that with my Bachelor's of Fine Arts in Theatre, I know the answer to this (and certainly the idea of "phages as gene therapy vectors" made me chuckle all through the week! I mean the very thought...!), but let me promise you and all of your friends out there in science-land that in one week I will have an official answer from the story's writer Mark Waid!

(Personally I just blame unstable molecules.)



We also received interesting letters from Tolga Kolburan, Mike Sivier, Kelly Salmon, Francesco Vanagoli, Jorge Balderas, Ian Billicliff, Jacob Spiwak, Jason Santa and Govinda Jones.



Remember, if you're in San Diego next week (or even near a computer) be sure to check out *Marvel.com* for some big news about the future of Spider-Man and about the next big Spidey story: *Origin of The Species*.

And, of course next week we also start the Spidey event of the summer *One Moment in Time* wherein we answer the questions about Spidey's past many of you have been demanding since *One More Day* made history almost 3 years ago. It's by Joe Quesada and Paolo Rivera and it's worth the wait.

See ya then.

Viva Hollingsworth!

Simperin' Steve
6/24/10

Cover #1 by Mike Fyles
Cover #2 by Olivier Coipel, Mark Morales & Justin Ponsor

IN ONE WEEK



O.M.I.T.

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

SIT TIGHT, SPIDEY AFICIONADOS! TIME ONCE AGAIN FOR AMERICA'S FAVORITE TWO-PAGE FEATURE: SPIDEY SUNDAYS!

THE EVIL BRAIN AND THE BRAINLESS BULL HAVE SECRETLY FOLLOWED PETER INTO THE SPIDER-MAN DIMENSION! AND THAT'S ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW!

The AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

by Stan Lee & Marcos Martin

THAT KID, PETER, IS HELPING SPIDER-MAN BUILD A TIME MACHINE!

HOW D'YA KNOW, BRAIN?

DIDN'T YOU HEAR REED RICHARDS TELL HIM TO READ JUST THE FRAMMISTAT OF HIS DIGITAL ACCELERATOR TO THE PROPER MOLECULAR SYNCHRONISM?

OH HHH, YEAH, I MUST'A LIKE-- FORGOT.

WOW! I'M GONNA BE THE FIRST MAN EVER TO TRAVEL IN TIME!

BUT I WANNA DO IT AS SPIDER-MAN!

MY COSTUME'S IN THE CLOSET!

HE'S LIKE-- GONE! HIS INVENTION MADE HIM DISAPPEAR!

NO, YOU CRETIN! HE JUST WENT INTO ANOTHER ROOM!

WAIT! THE WORLD OF THE FUTURE GETS A LOOK AT ME!

DUH, WHERE'D SPIDER-MAN COME FROM?

PARKER MUST HAVE TOLD HIM THE INVENTION IS READY!

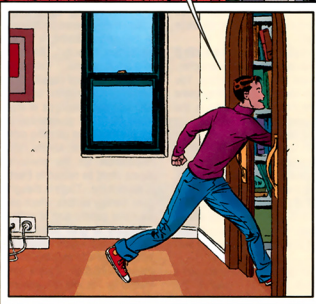
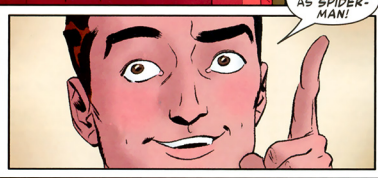
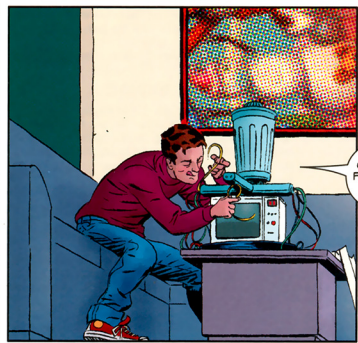
BRAIN! LOOK WHO'S COMIN'!

JUST ANOTHER FRIENDLY CLARIFICATION FROM THE HELPFUL STAFF AT MIGHTY MARVEL. AND NOW, BACK TO OUR SUSPENSE FILLED SAGA...

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO FIND THIS RIVETING TALE A BIT TOO COMPLEX, BRAIN AND BULL THINK SPIDEY AND PETER ARE TWO DIFFERENT PEOPLE.

SURPRISED YOU, HUH? HEY, THAT'S WHAT WE DO! SEE YA NEXT ISH!

NOW TO SETTLE WITH MY MOST HATED ENEMY ONCE AND FOR ALL!



Grim Hunt Epilogue.

AND SOMEWHERE
ELSE...WHERE THE
MOST TATTERED
THREADS OF
THE WEB ARE
LEFT TO ROT...

A REMINDER...THAT NOTHING
TRULY DIES ON THIS EARTH...SO
LONG AS THERE IS BALANCE.



ONE HUNTER CHEATS
DEATH AND NOW WALKS
THE EARTH...

SO ANOTHER MUST
RISE TO MEET HIM.



RISE, CURSED ONE,
THE THREAD OF YOUR WEB
HAS NOT YET BEEN CUT...



RISE...TARANTULA.



Special thanks to ScanDog for the variant cover!