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Special 25th Anniversary Issue

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

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MFARLANE



Stan Lee PROUDLY PRESENTS A COMIC BOOK MILESTONE: THE FABULOUS 300TH ISSUE OF...

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

VENOM

HER NAME IS MARY JANE WATSON-PARKER.

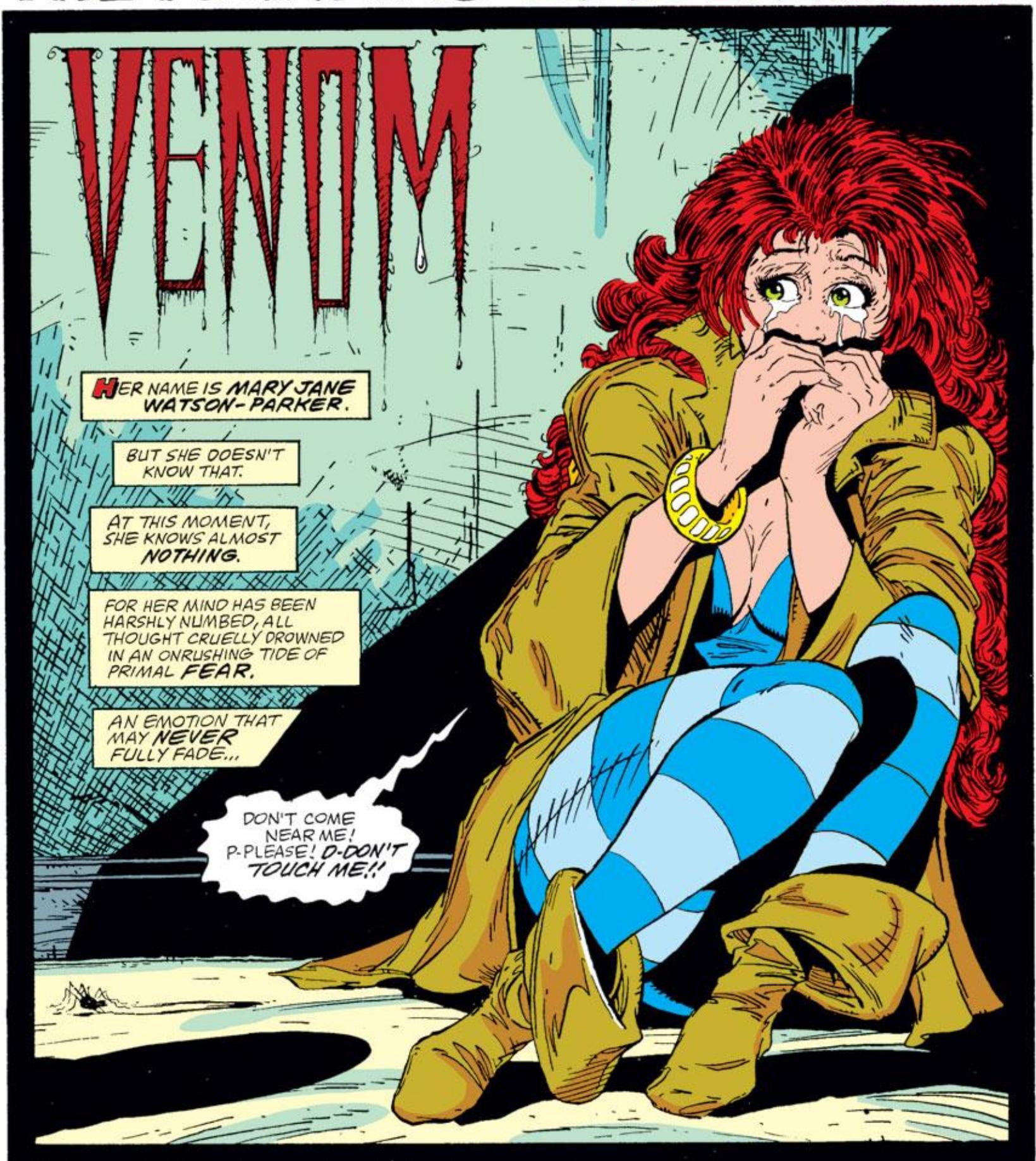
BUT SHE DOESN'T KNOW THAT.

AT THIS MOMENT, SHE KNOWS ALMOST NOTHING.

FOR HER MIND HAS BEEN HARSHLY NUMBED, ALL THOUGHT CRUELLY DROWNED IN AN ONRUSHING TIDE OF PRIMAL FEAR.

AN EMOTION THAT MAY NEVER FULLY FADE...

DON'T COME NEAR ME!
P-PLEASE! D-DON'T
TOUCH ME!!



DAVID
MICHELINE

WRITER

TODD
MCFARLANE

ART

RICK
PARKER

LETTERS

BOB
SHAREN

COLOR

JIM
SALICRUP

EDITOR

TOM
DEFALCO

EDITOR IN CHIEF



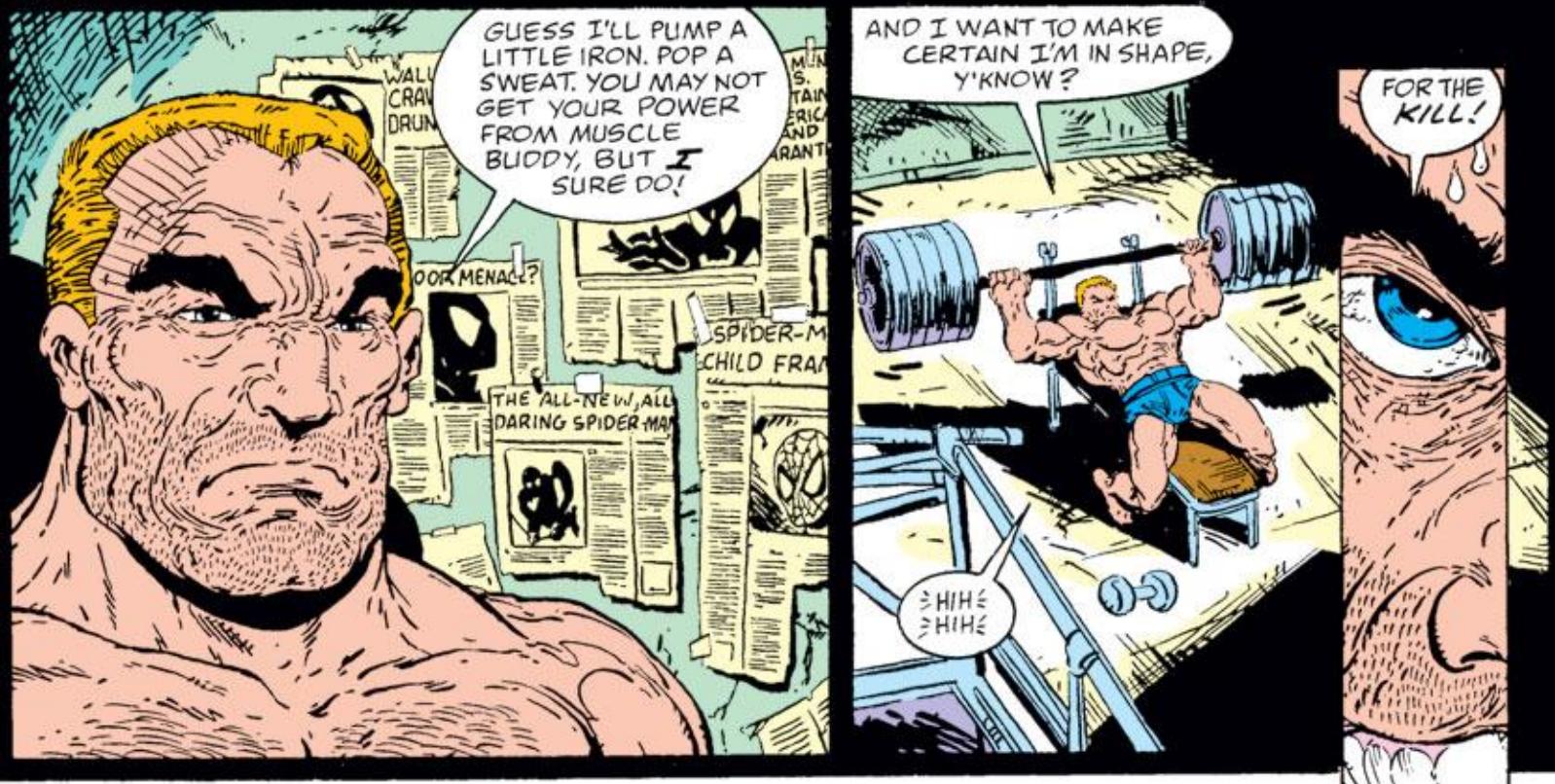


ANSWER: THE KIND THAT CURRENTLY CRAWLS UP THE SHEER WALL OF A SOUTH BRONX TENEMENT. THE KIND THAT HAS JUST COME--

-- HOME.

YEAH, YEAH, I KNOW! THE WOMAN WASN'T OUR TARGET! BUT SHAKING HER UP COULD STILL WORK! I MEAN, IF WE DON'T FIND HIM--

--HE MIGHT FIND US! EITHER WAY--



MIDNIGHT:
THE LYDEN HOUSE
HOTEL IN MID-
MANHATTAN...

CAN'T SLEEP.
TOO TENSE.
THINK I KNOW
WHO THAT
INTRUDER
COULD HAVE
BEEN.
TROUBLE
IS--

DON'T KNOW WHO THE MAN
WHO BROKE IN WAS, BUT FROM
MJ'S DESCRIPTION, THE INHUMAN
THING SHE SAW SOUNDS AN
AWFUL LOT LIKE--



--MY OLD
COSTUME!

"I FIRST GOT MY BLACK-AND-WHITE SUIT ON
ANOTHER PLANET, DURING THAT BEYONDER THING.*
I BROUGHT IT TO EARTH BECAUSE IT WAS GREAT
HAVING A COSTUME THAT COULD MIMIC MY
CIVILIAN CLOTHES, AND CHANGE FROM ONE
TO THE OTHER AT A MENTAL COMMAND!"

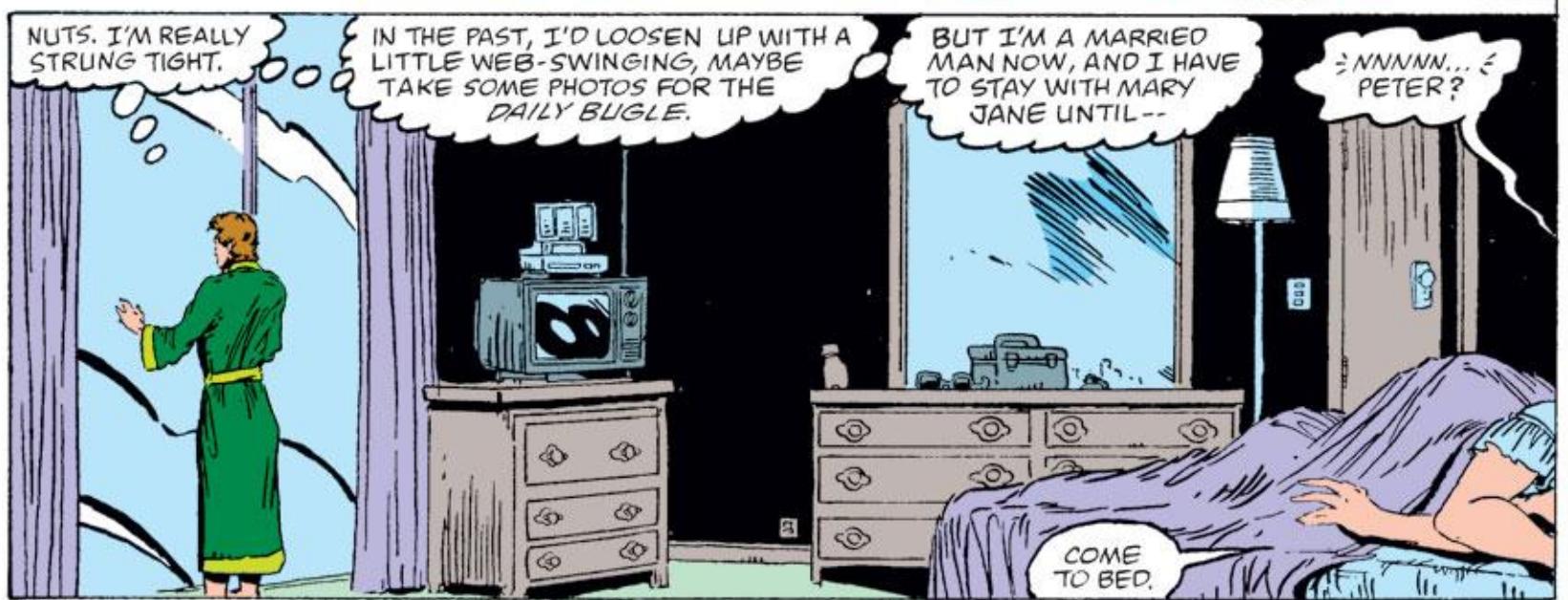
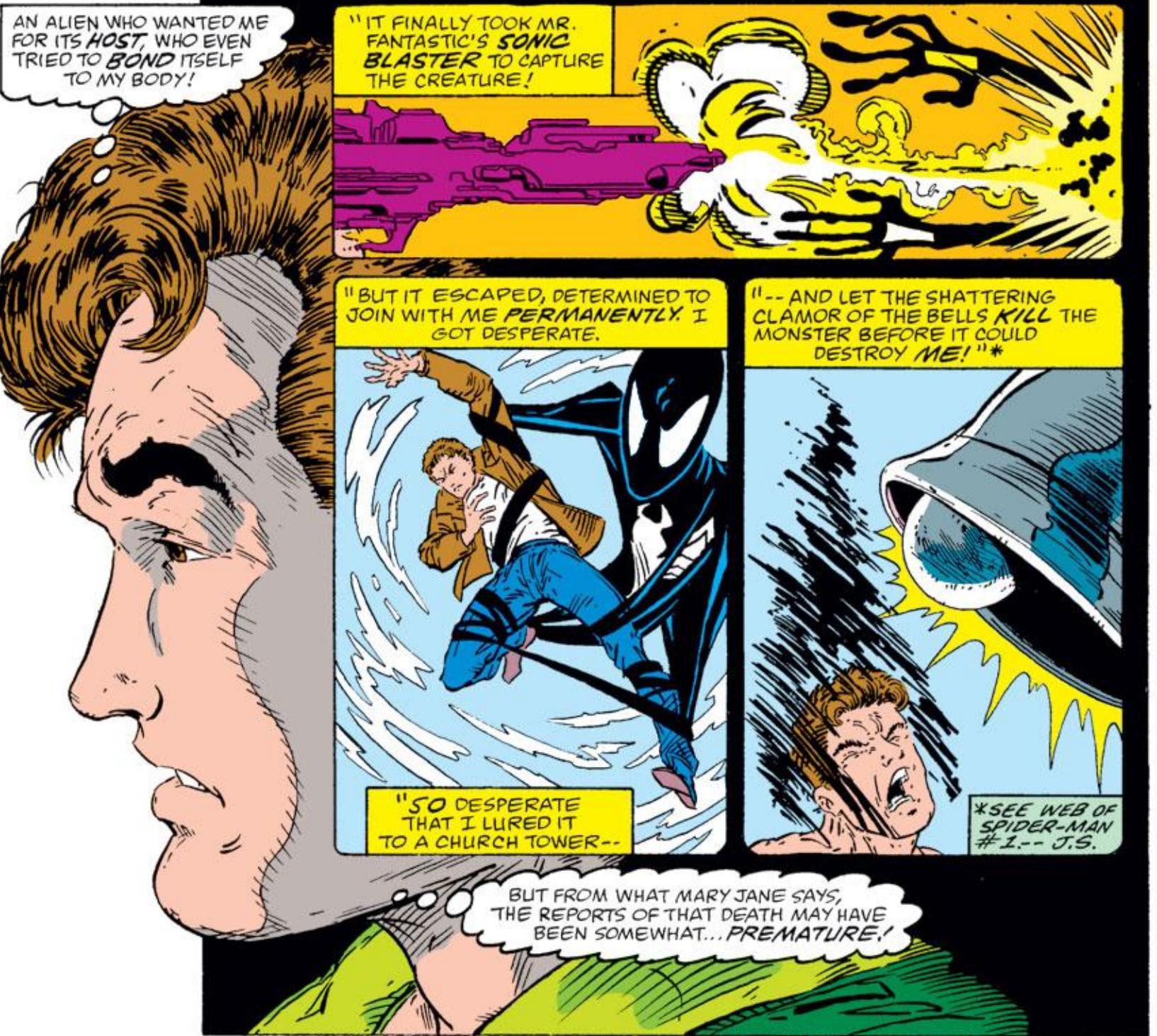
"THE PROBLEMS STARTED
WHEN MR. FANTASTIC
DISCOVERED WHAT MY
COSTUME REALLY WAS:

"A LIVING, THINKING,
SYMBIOTIC BEING!"

--THAT'S
IMPOSSIBLE!

*FOR MORE INFO, SEE SECRET WARS #9. -- J.S.





STUBBORNLY, GRUDGINGLY, FITFUL SLEEP FINALLY COMES.

AND EVENTUALLY, AS THE SUN SLIPS INTO ITS ASSIGNED POSITION OVER MANHATTAN ONCE MORE...

ERRNNGG... YAWN MARY JANE...?

OVER HERE, PETER.

I HOPE YOU WEREN'T CALLING ROOM SERVICE -- I ALREADY KNOW WHAT I WANT FOR BREAKFAST!

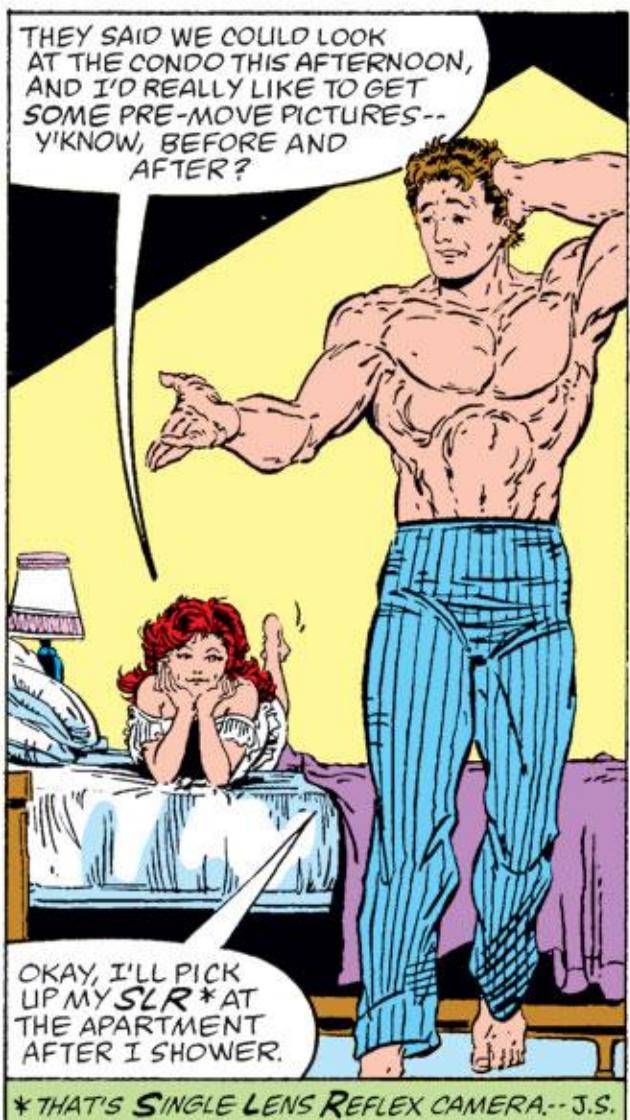
-- AND WE'VE BEEN MOVED TO THE TOP OF THE WAITING LIST FOR THE **BEDFORD TOWERS**!

IF WE WANT THAT CONDO, IT'S OURS!

SILLY. I WAS CALLING A REAL ESTATE AGENT I KNOW. I'VE PULLED IN SOME MARKERS--

YOU DO UNDERSTAND... DON'T YOU?

I GUESS WE WERE JUST LUCKY. I KNOW THIS IS SUDDEN, PETER, BUT I JUST CAN'T LIVE IN THAT APARTMENT ANYMORE. I'D SCREAM AT EVERY LITTLE CREAK OR RATTLE!



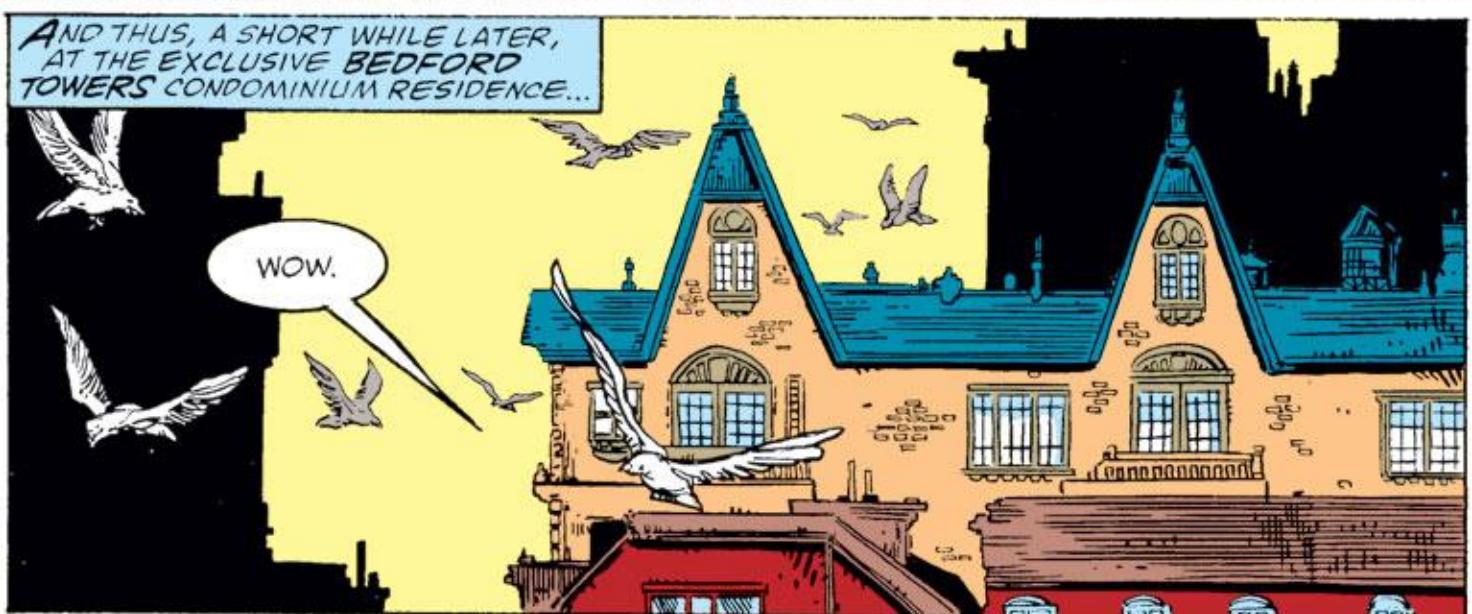


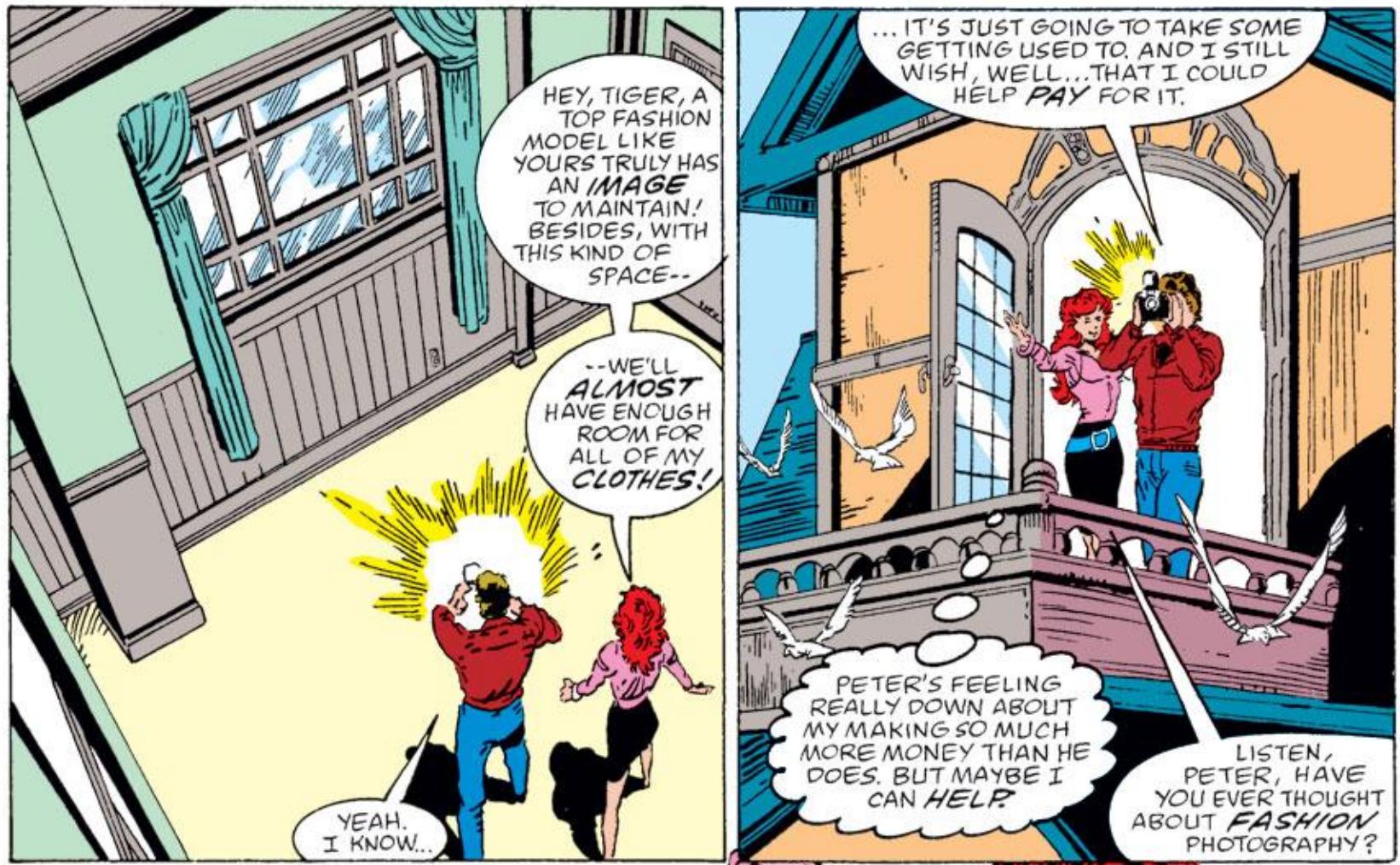
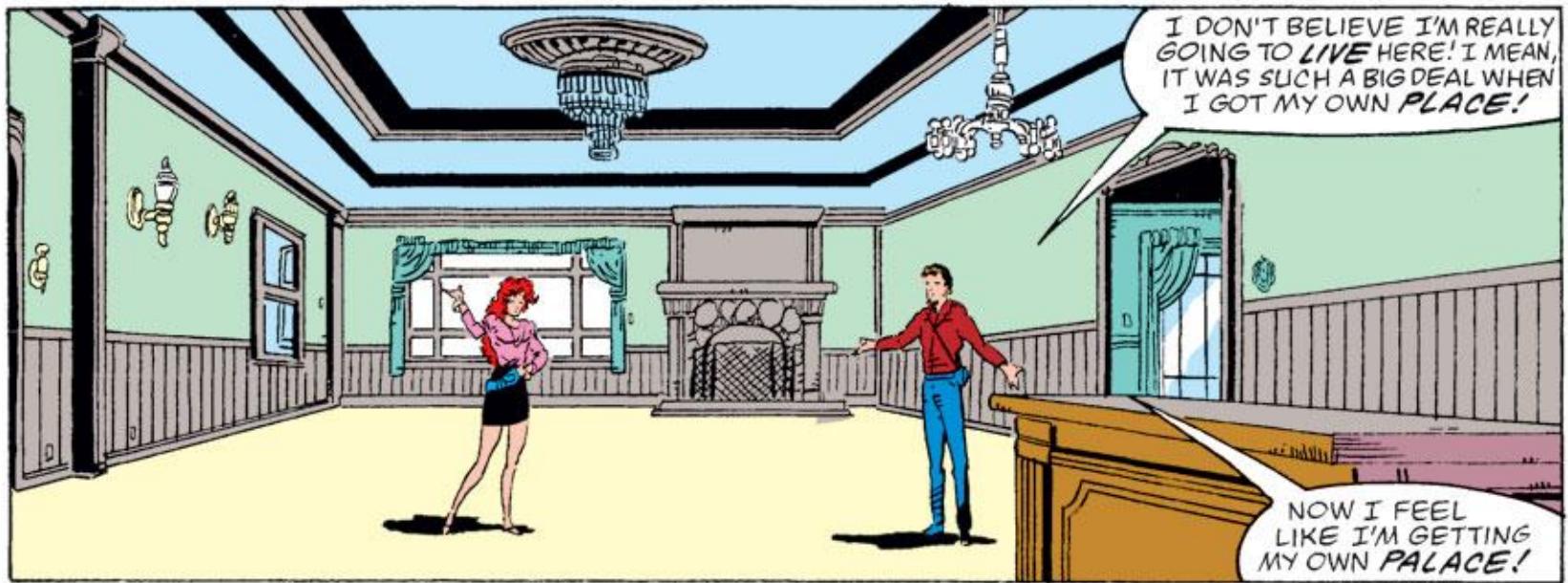
>HEH< AUNT MAY WILL GET SUCH A KICK WHEN SHE HEARS ABOUT THE FANCY WEST-SIDE CONDO I'M MOVING INTO. QUITE A STEP UP FROM THIS PLACE!

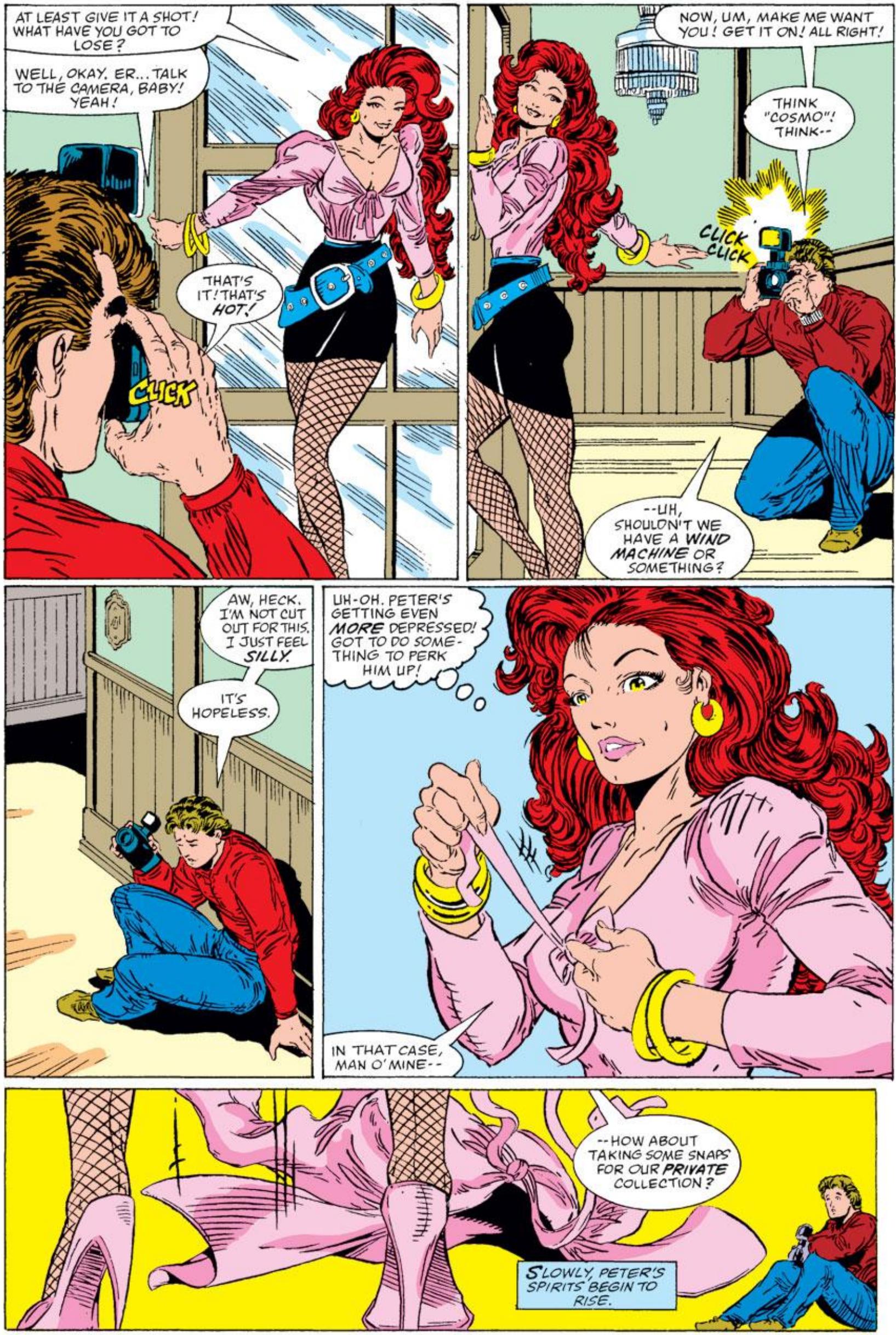


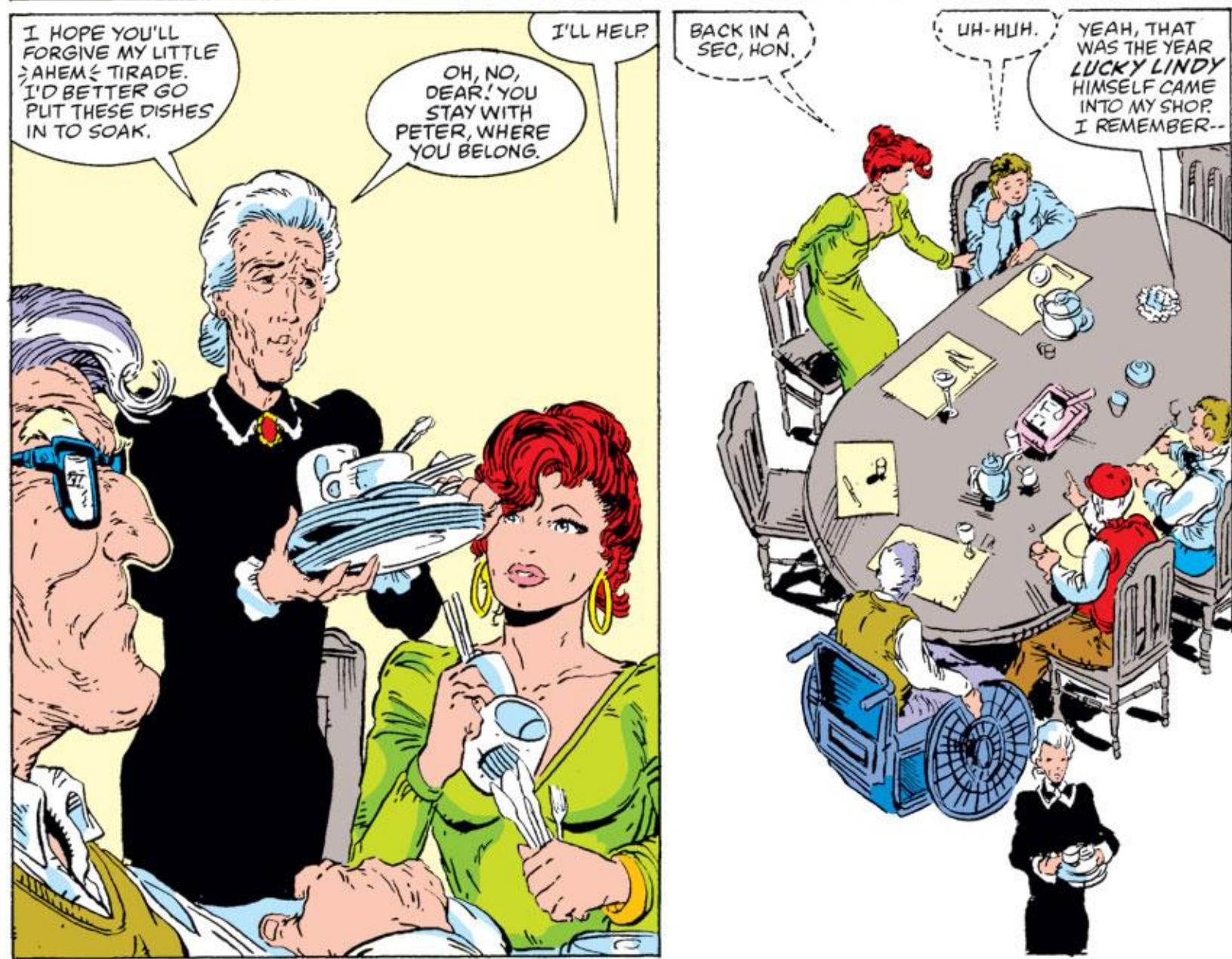
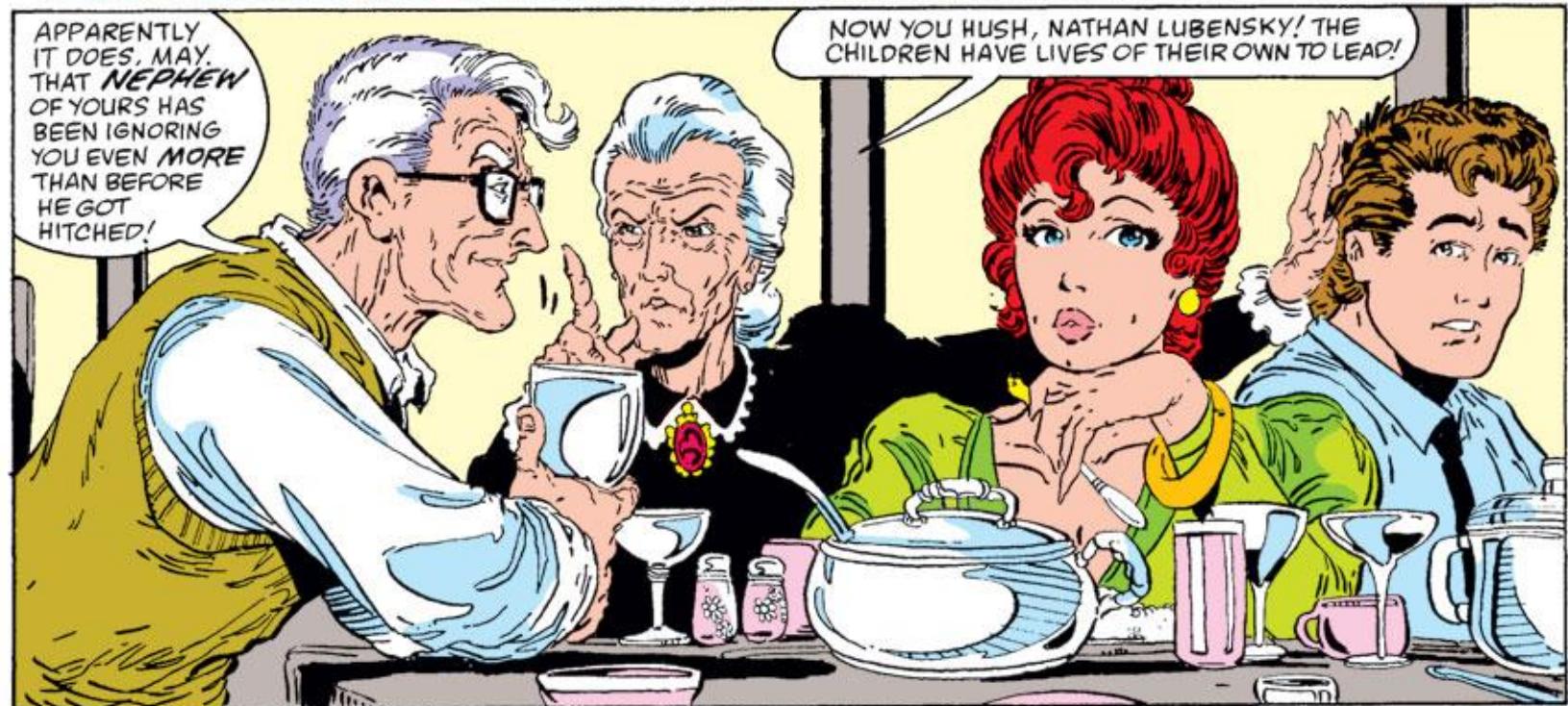
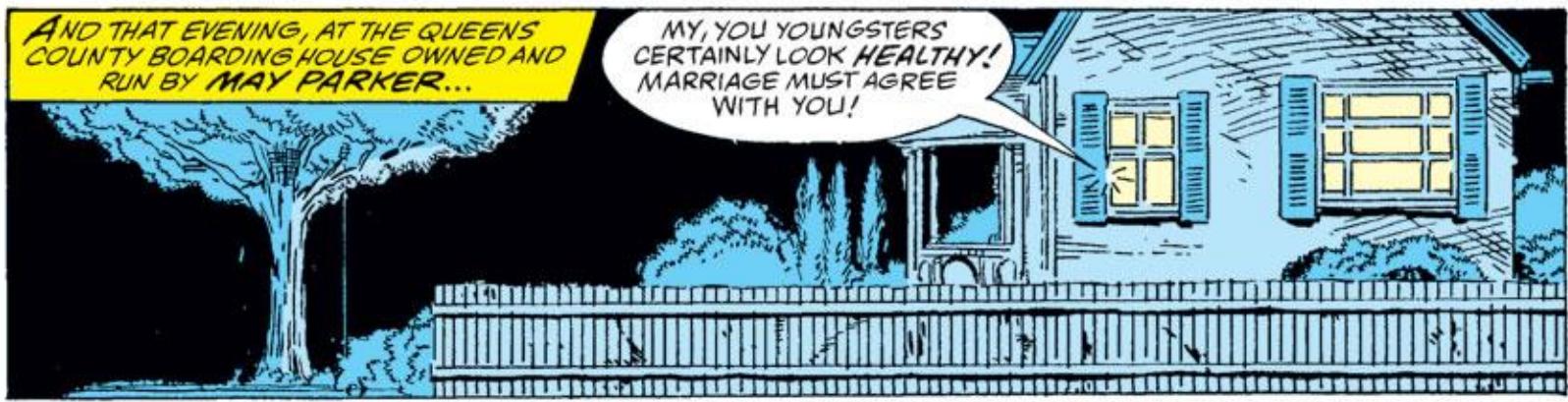
--HUH. I COULDN'T BE IN ANY DANGER--
OR MY SPIDER-SENSE WOULD WARN ME.
BUT SOMEHOW, I ALMOST--

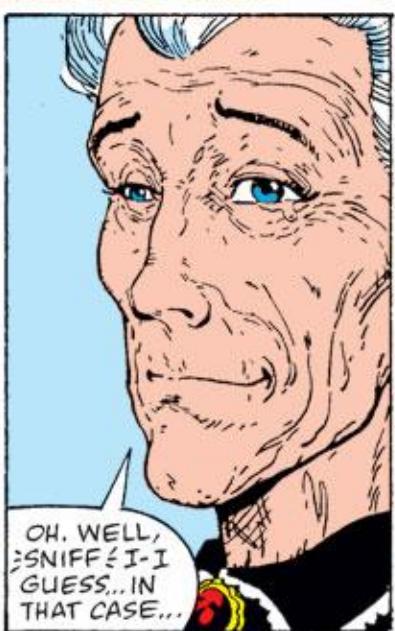




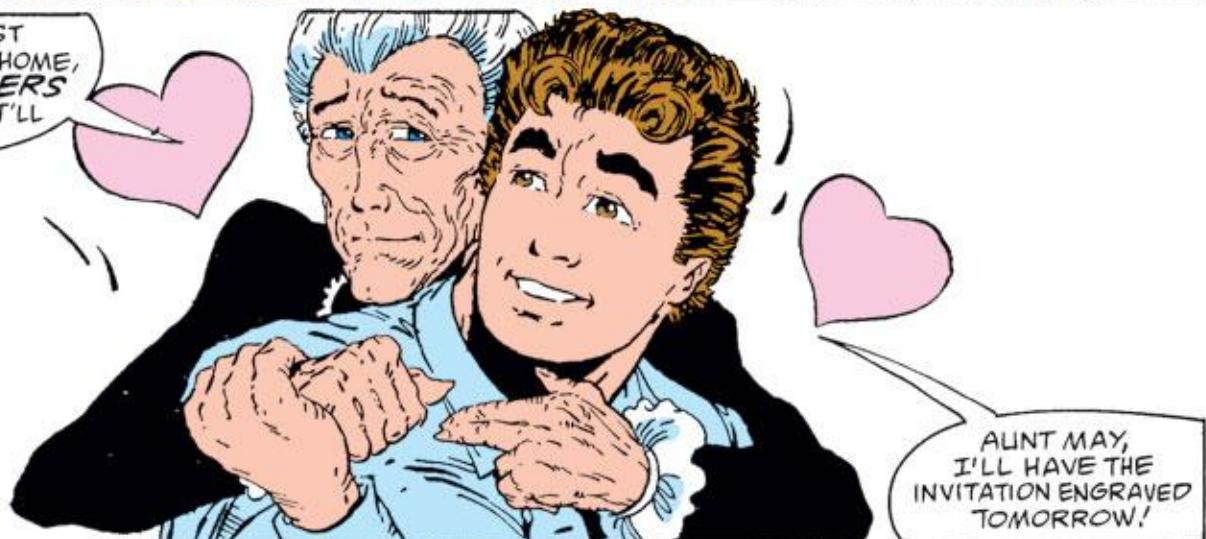




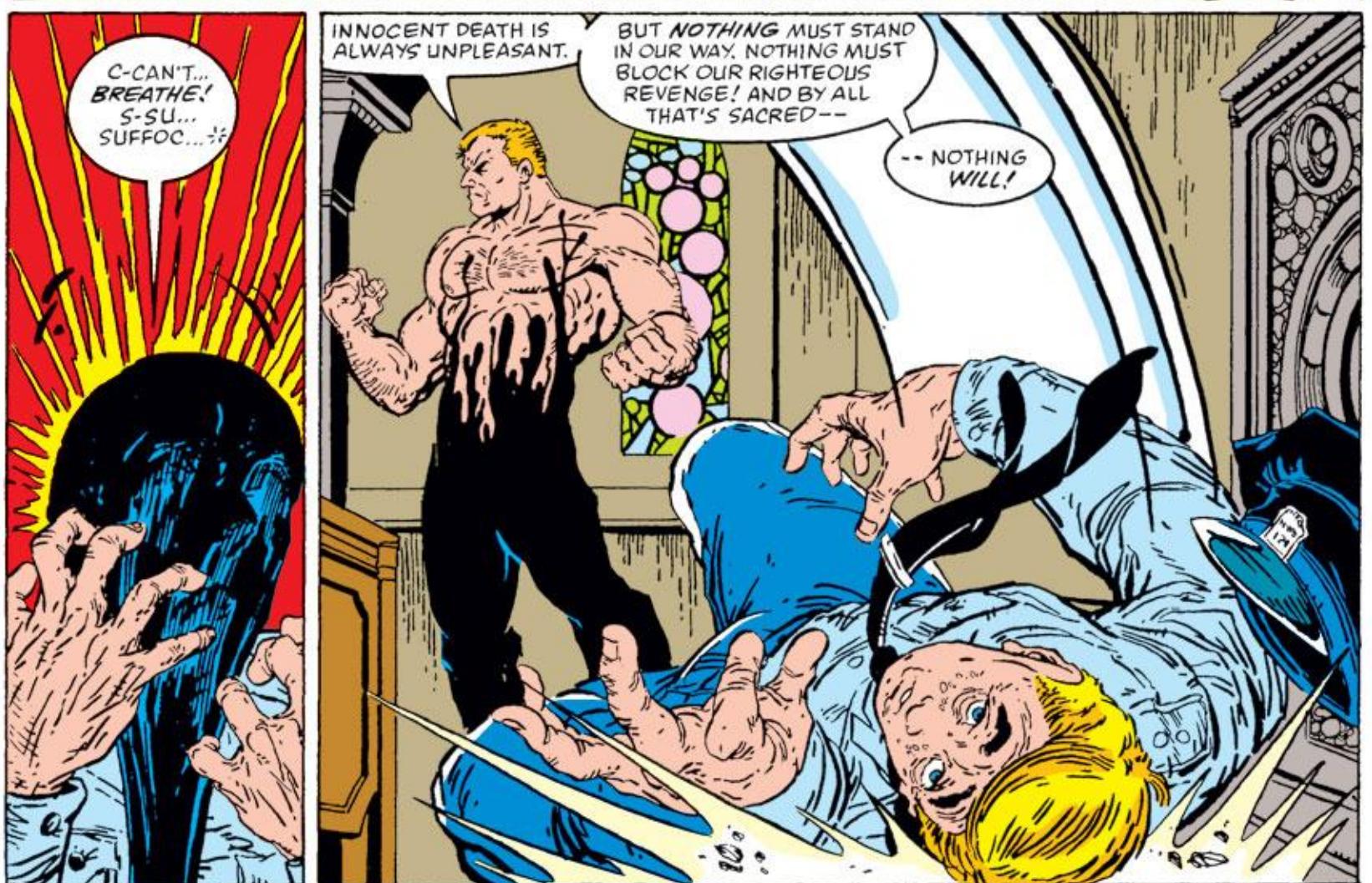




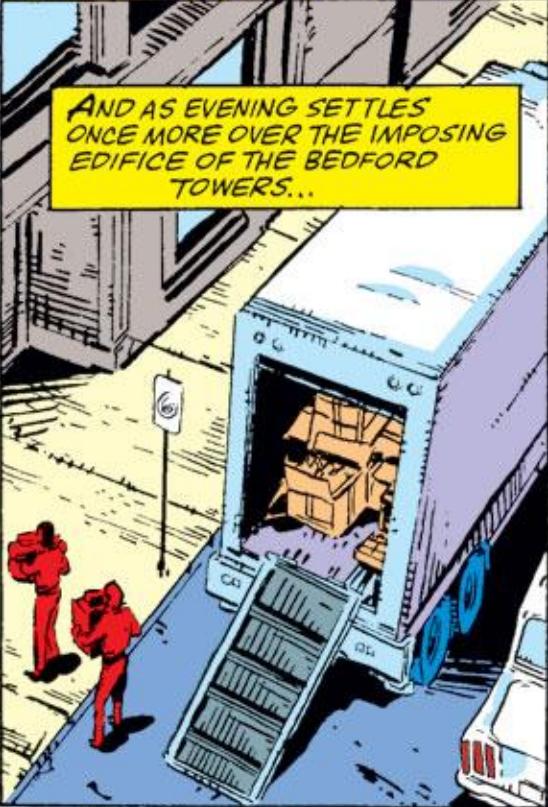
... PETER, IF I'M NOT THE FIRST GUEST YOU ASK TO YOUR NEW HOME, I'LL HAVE THE GREY PANTHERS PICKET THE PLACE SO FAST IT'LL MAKE YOUR HEAD SPIN!







A DAY PASSES. THE YOUNG POLICEMAN'S BODY IS NOT FOUND.



SORRY THIS MOVE IS SO LATE, FOLKS. ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE, I COULDN'T GET A VAN ANY EARLIER.



DARN! I'M MISSING THE NETS GAME! THAT MAKES ME MAD!

WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?

I RAN OUT OF YOUR FRIENDS, PETER, SO I CALLED IN SOME OF MINE!

DO HURRY WITH THOSE BOXES, JEEVES. WATCHING YOU CARRY THEM IS POSITIVELY EXHAUSTING!



WOW! THERE'RE PETE'S OLD NEIGHBORS--CANDI, RANDI, AND BAMBI!

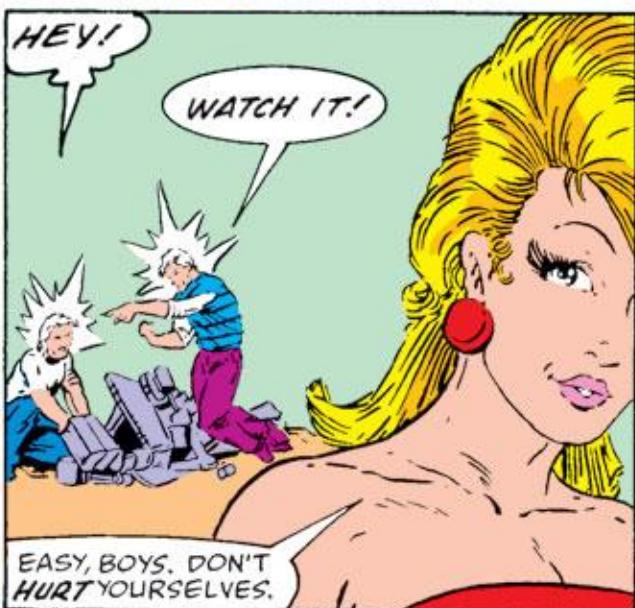
MAN, IF I HAD THEM LIVING NEXT DOOR, I'D NEVER MOVE--

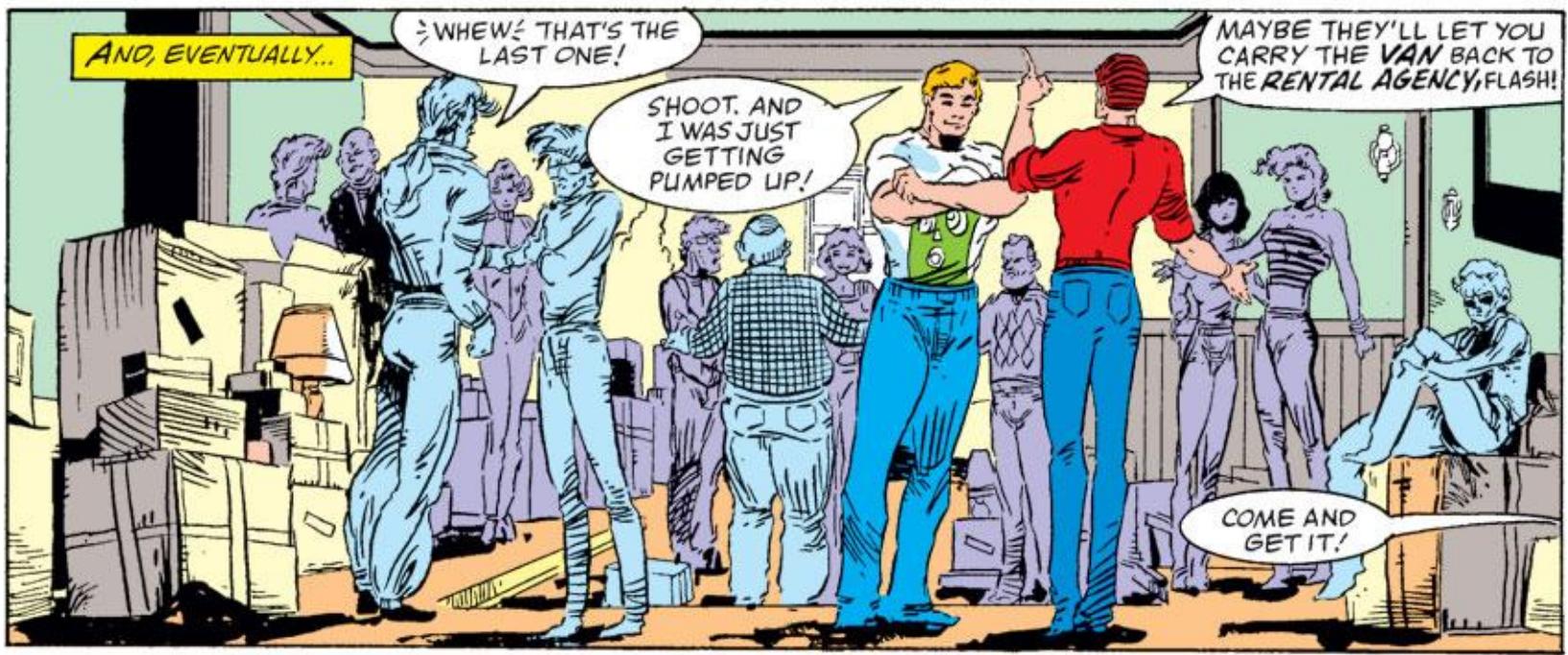


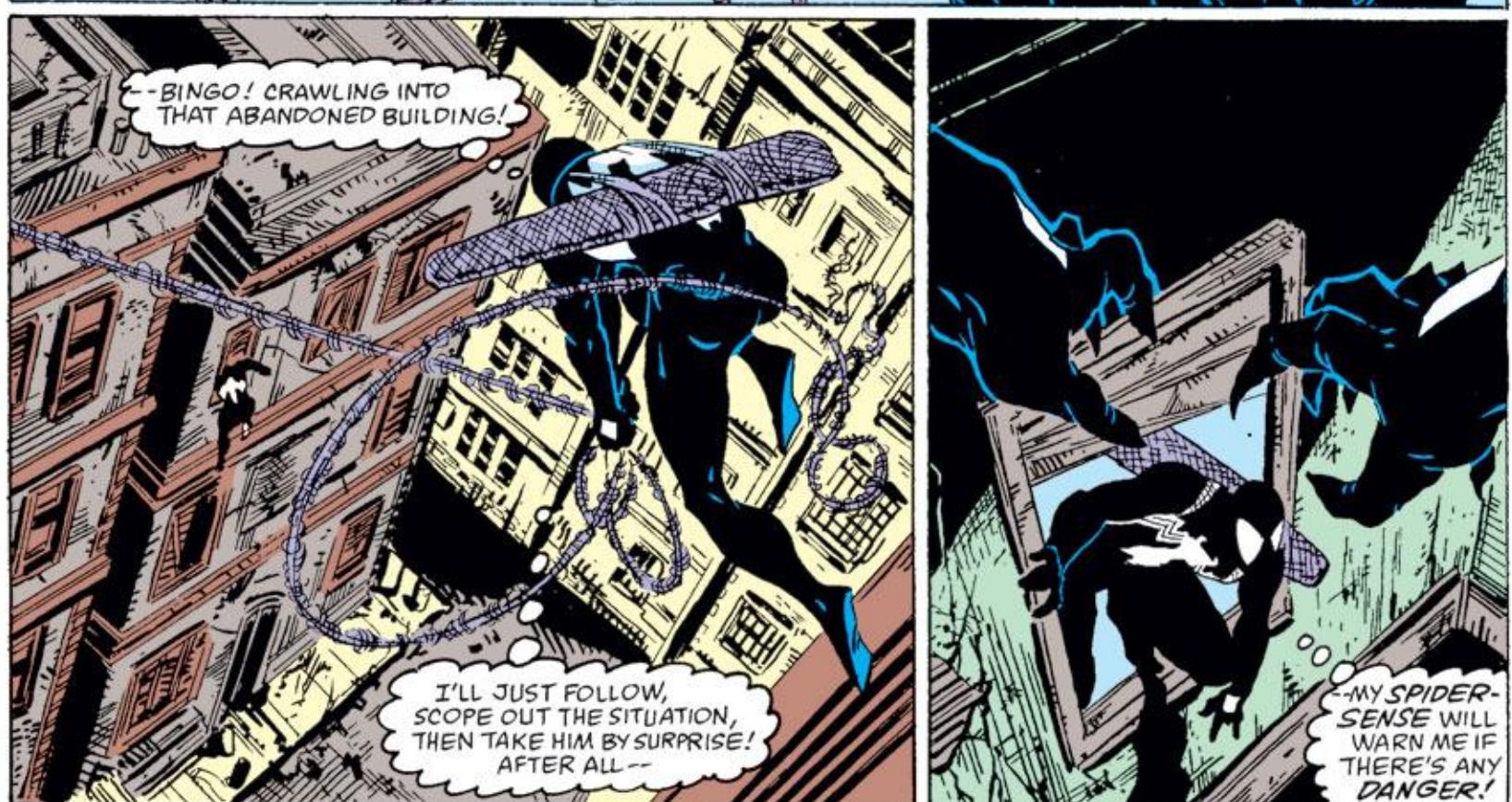
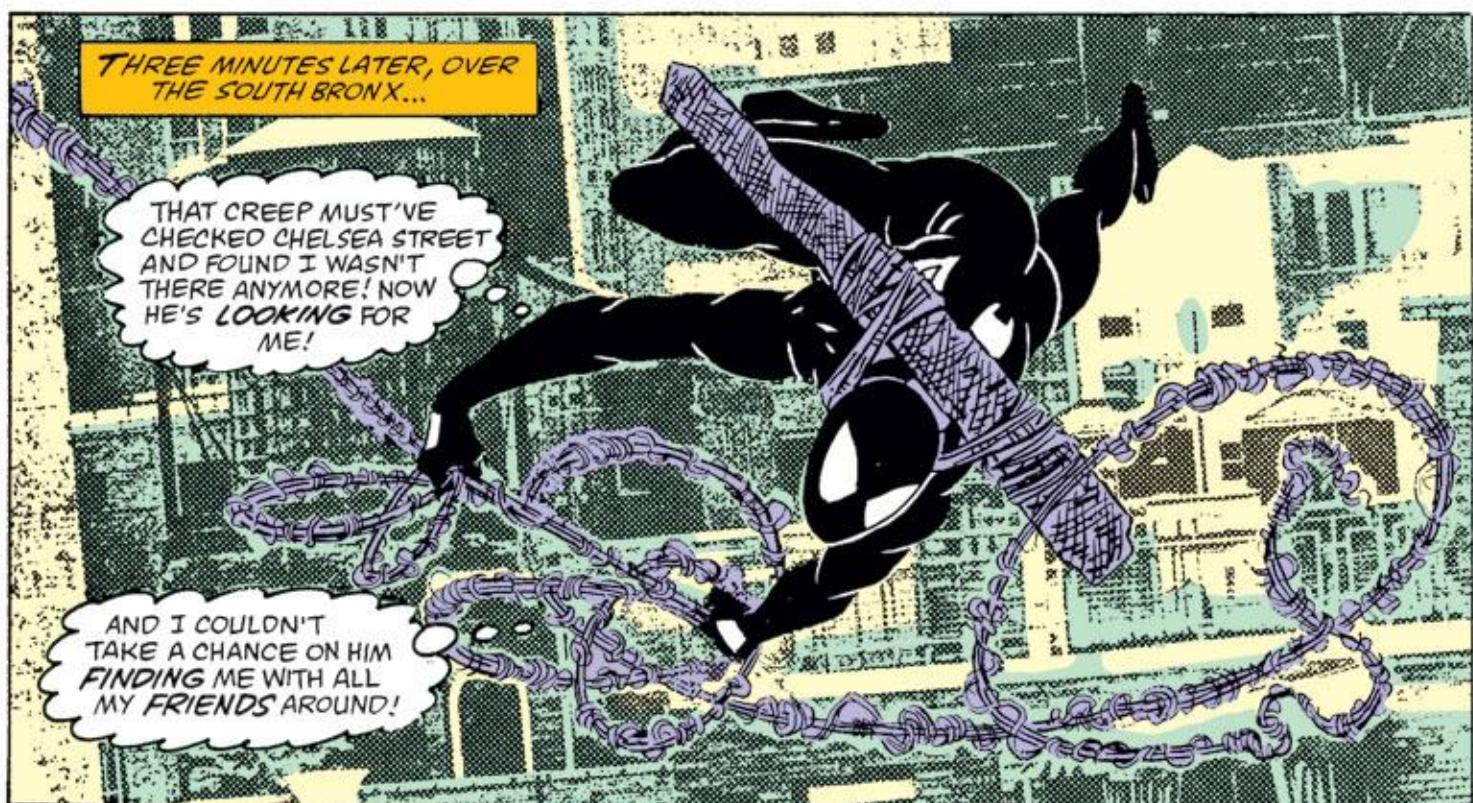
HEY!

WATCH IT!

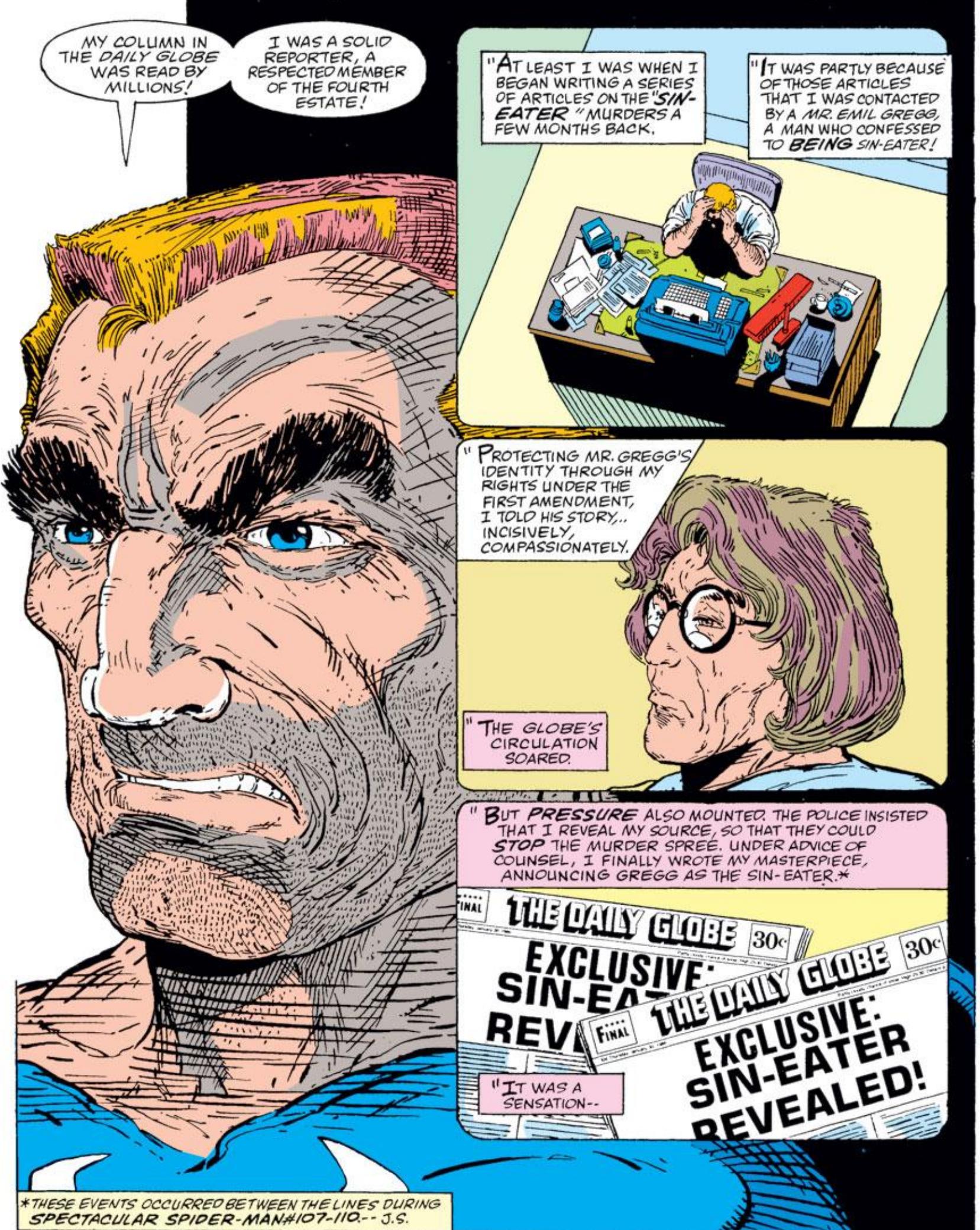
EASY, BOYS. DON'T HURT YOURSELVES.











-- FOR ABOUT
AN HOUR-AND-
A-HALF!

THAT WAS HOW LONG
IT WAS BEFORE YOU
REVEALED WHO THE
REAL SIN-EATER
WAS!

"SOON, THE WHOLE CITY KNEW THAT SIN-EATER
WAS ACTUALLY POLICEMAN STAN CARTER--
AND THAT MY STORY WAS BASED ON THE LURID
RAMBLINGS OF A COMPULSIVE CONFESSOR!"



--MY LIFE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SHATTERED! I MAY HAVE MADE AN ERROR IN JUDGMENT, BUT I WAS ALWAYS A GOOD JOURNALIST.

AND THE GARBAGE I WAS FORCED TO WRITE BEGAN TO ROT MY SOUL.

"I RELOCATED IN THE BRONX. SPENT PART OF MY MEAGER INCOME ON BODY-BUILDING EQUIPMENT.

"I'D HEARD THAT EXERCISE COULD REDUCE STRESS.

IT DIDN'T WORK.



-- AND I DECIDED TO END IT. ALL. BUT I WAS RAISED CATHOLIC, AND SUICIDE IS A MORTAL SIN. SO I WANDERED FROM CHURCH TO SHADOWED CHURCH, PRAYING FOR FORGIVENESS. THEN, AT OUR LADY OF SAINTS, SOMETHING... ODD HAPPENED.

"A SHADOW MOVED. CARESSSED ME."

"I WAS JOINED."

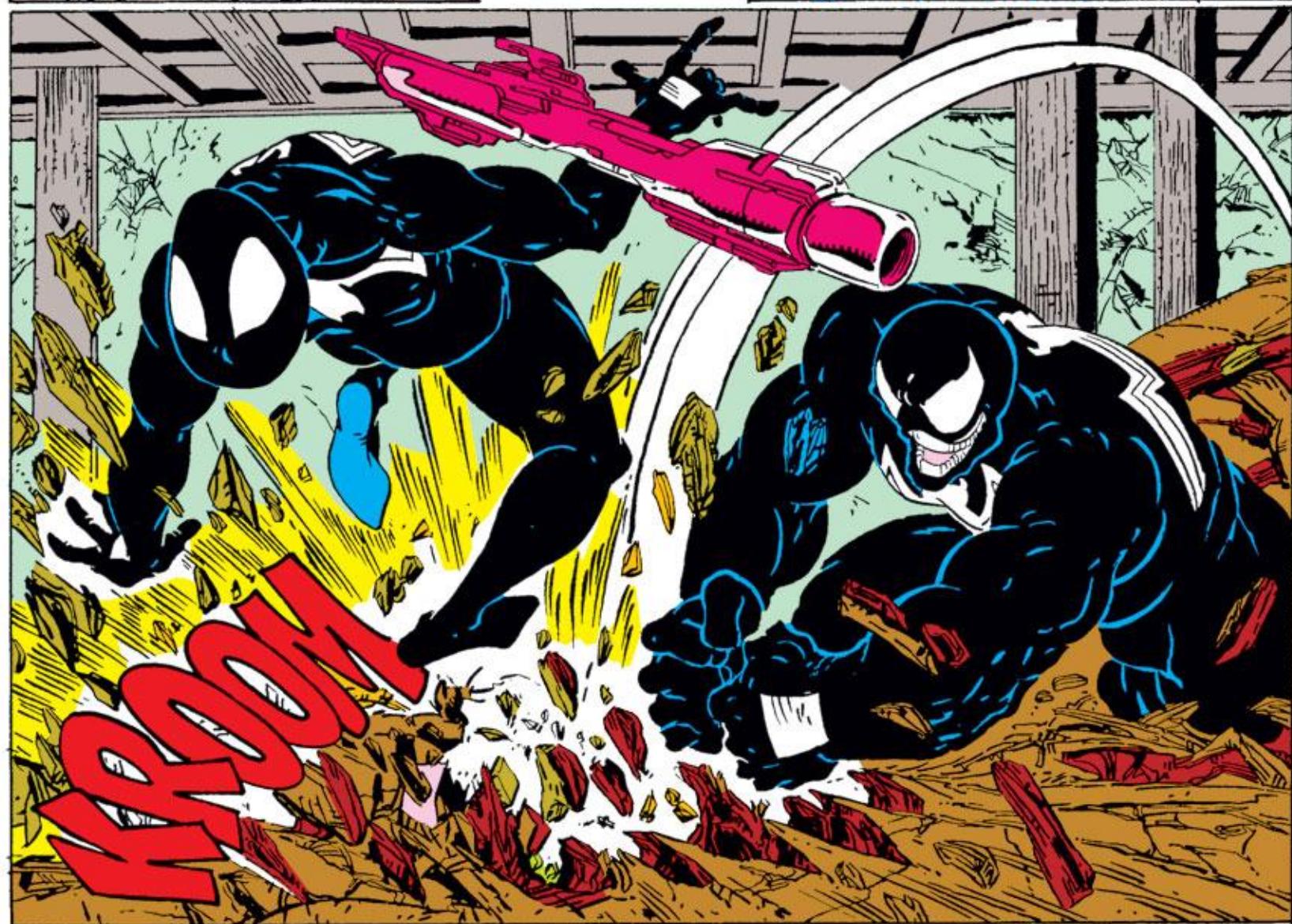
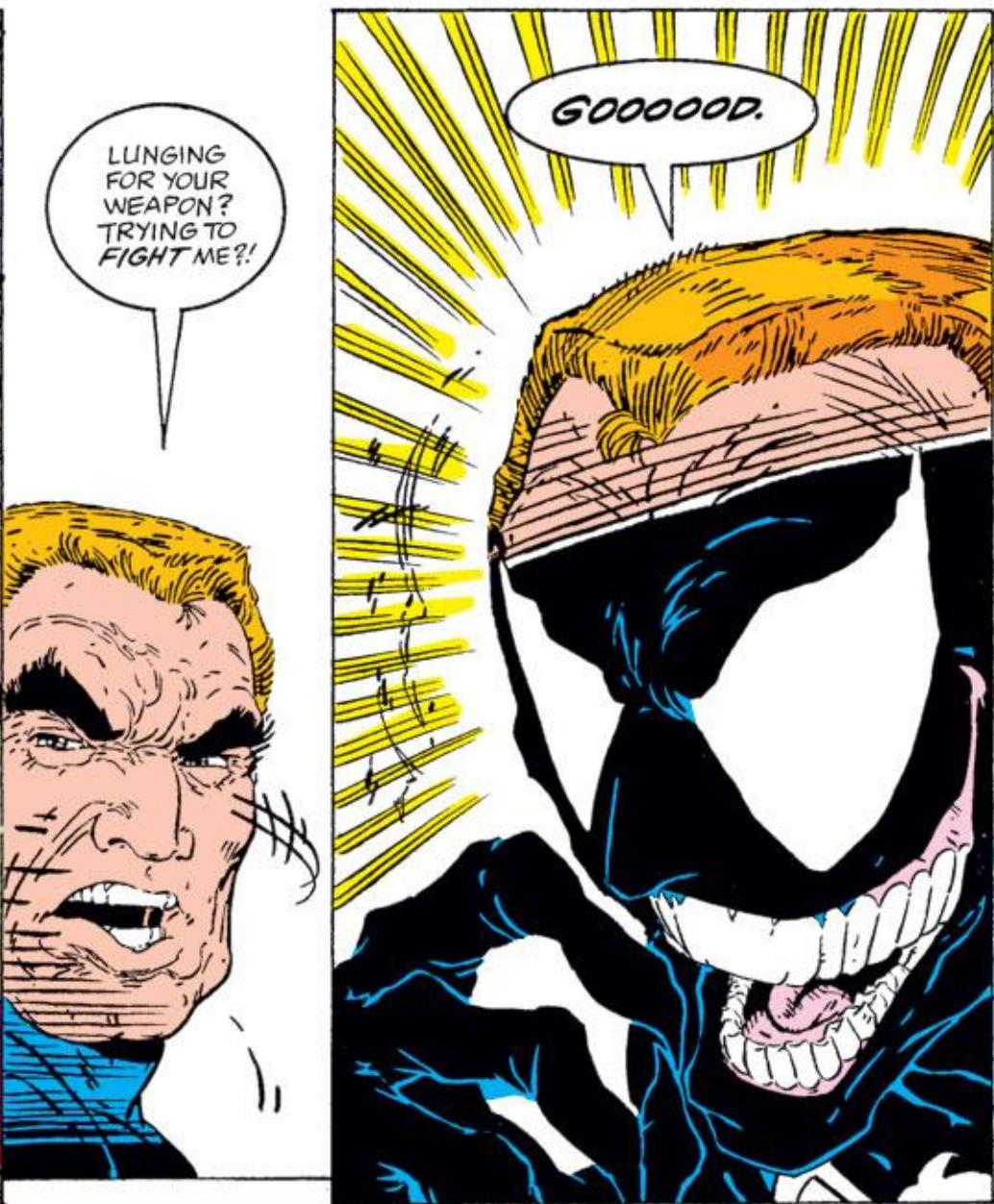
BUT THIS WAS A SHADOW FILLED WITH LIGHT. IT CLARIFIED MY ANGUISH, FOCUSED MY PURPOSE. ITS HATRED FOR YOU MATCHED MY OWN.

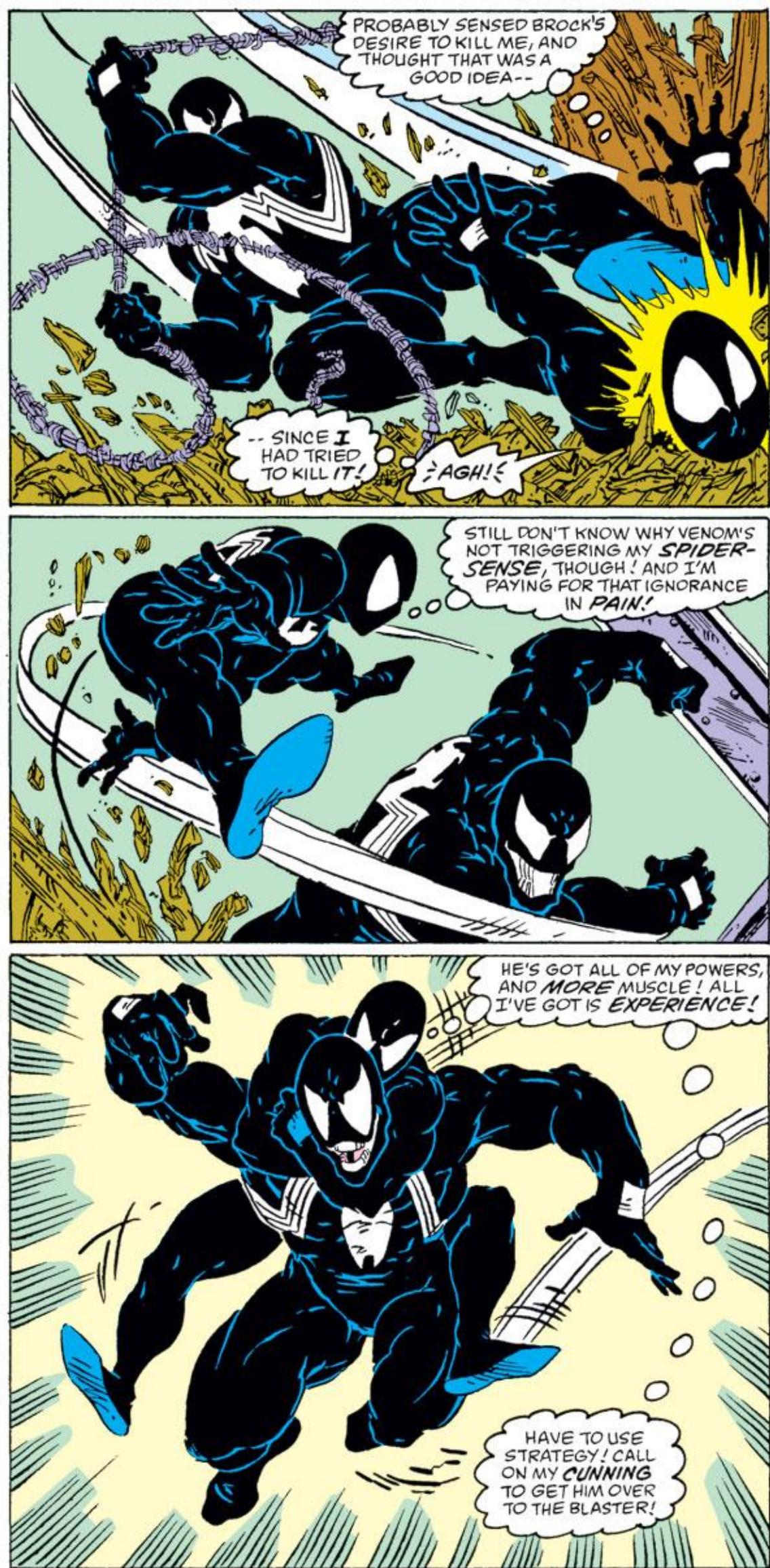
IT KNEW WHO YOU WERE. AND IT HAD POWER. OH, SUCH POWER!

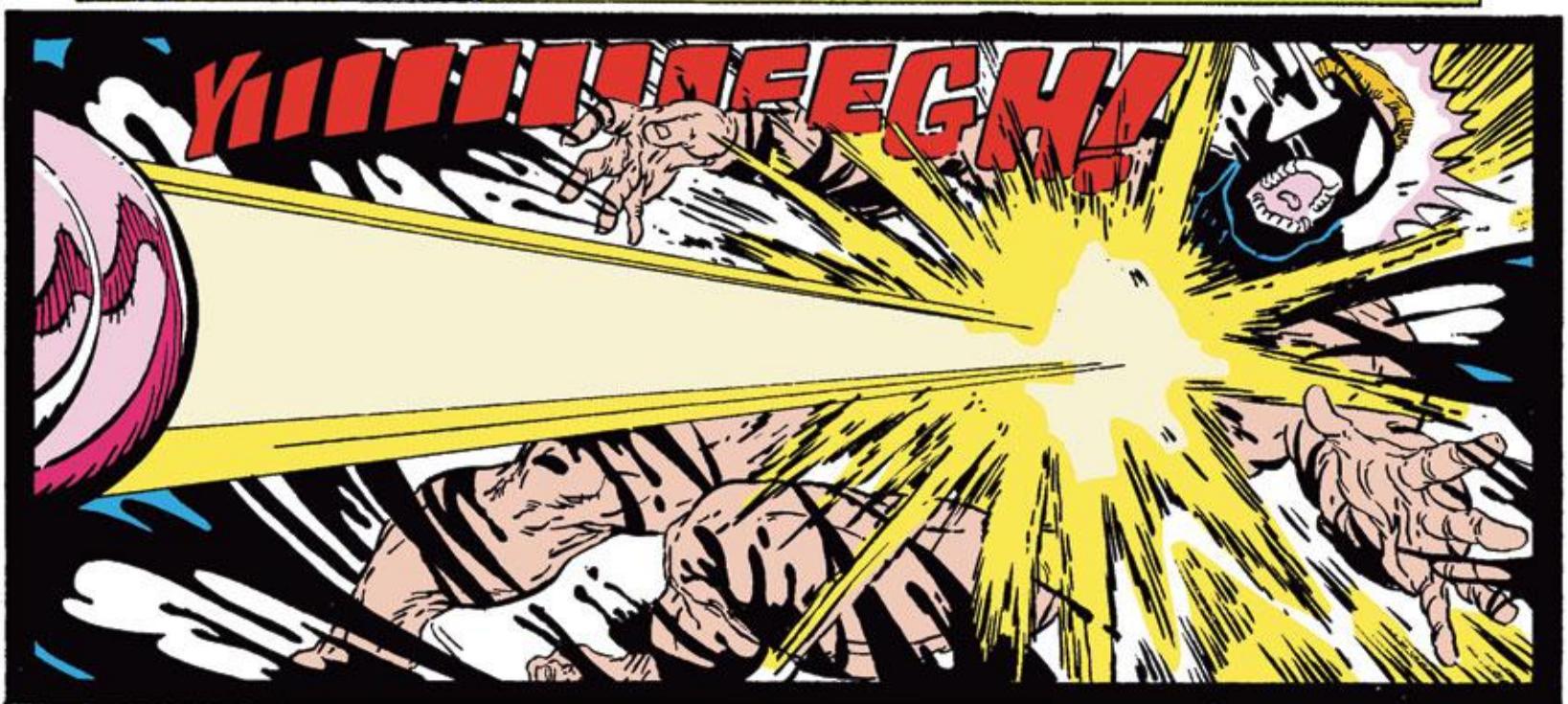
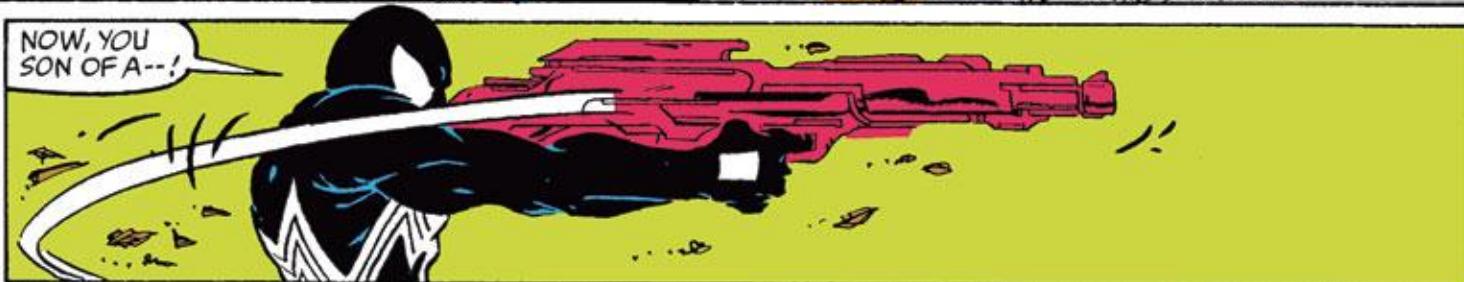
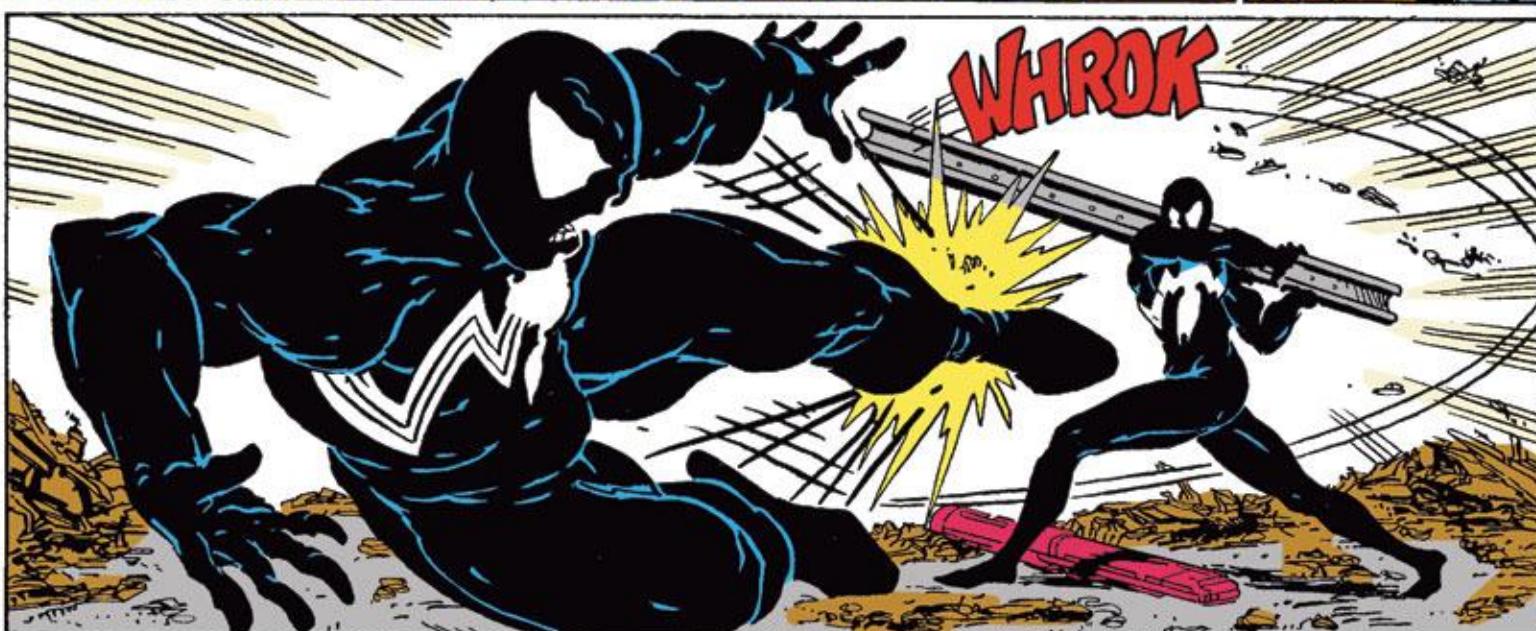
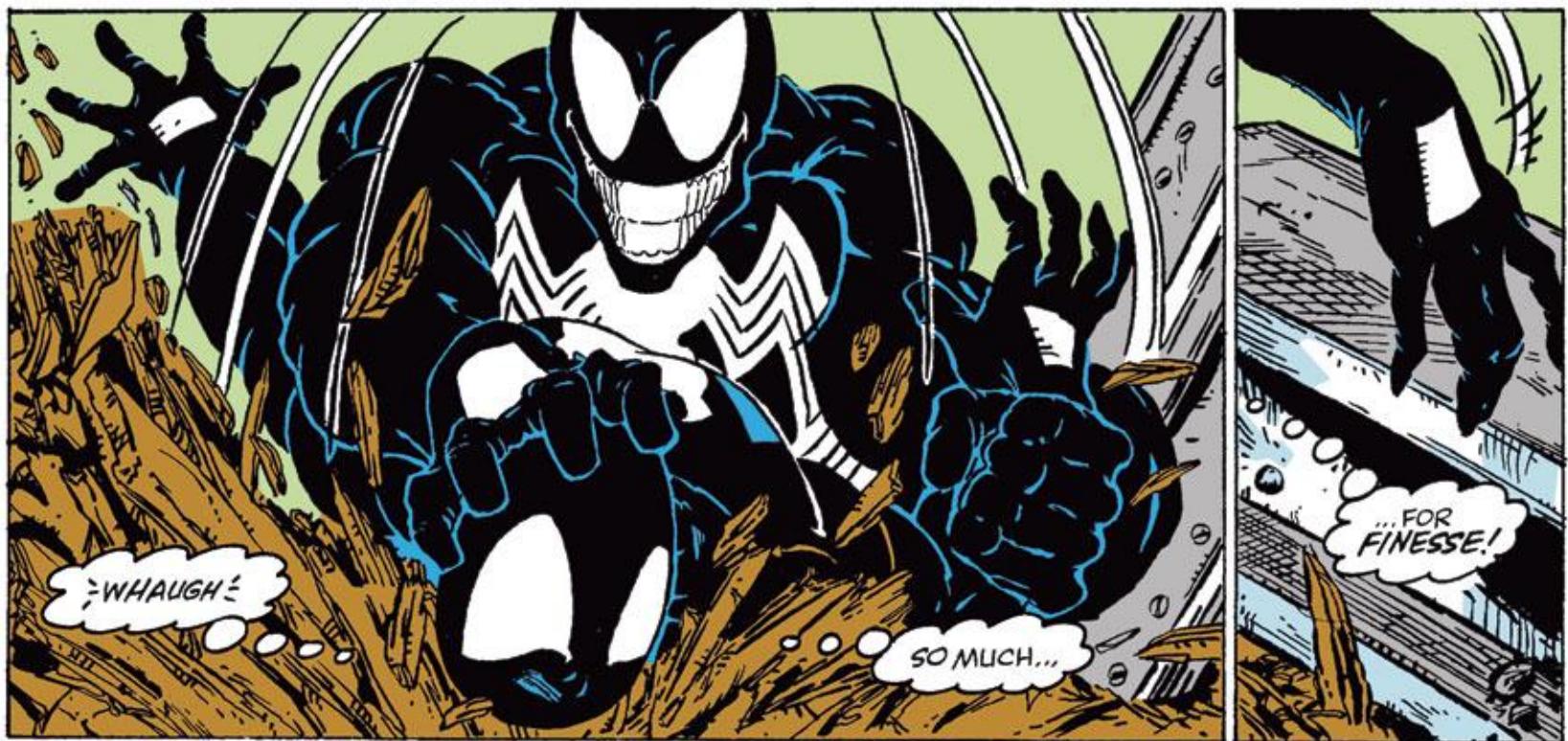
WE FOUND THE WOMAN FIRST. LATER, WE FOUND YOUR EMPTY APARTMENT. YOU WERE RUNNING FROM US.

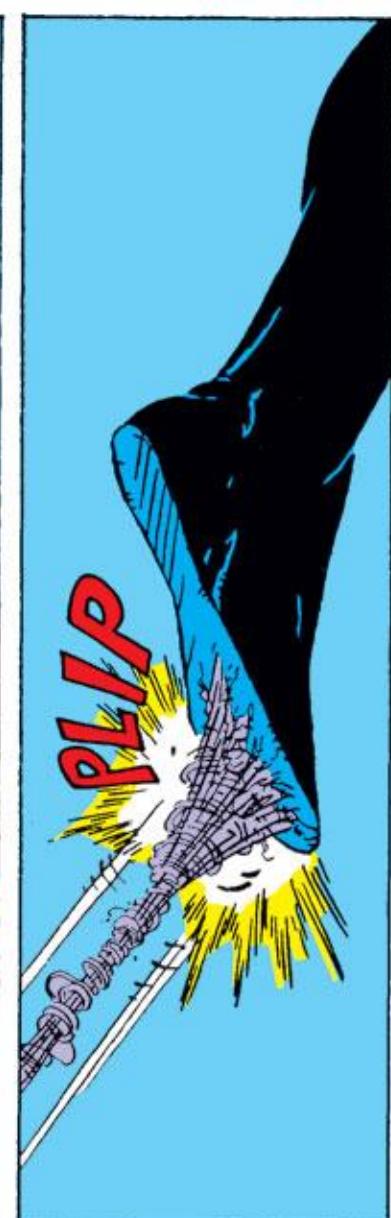
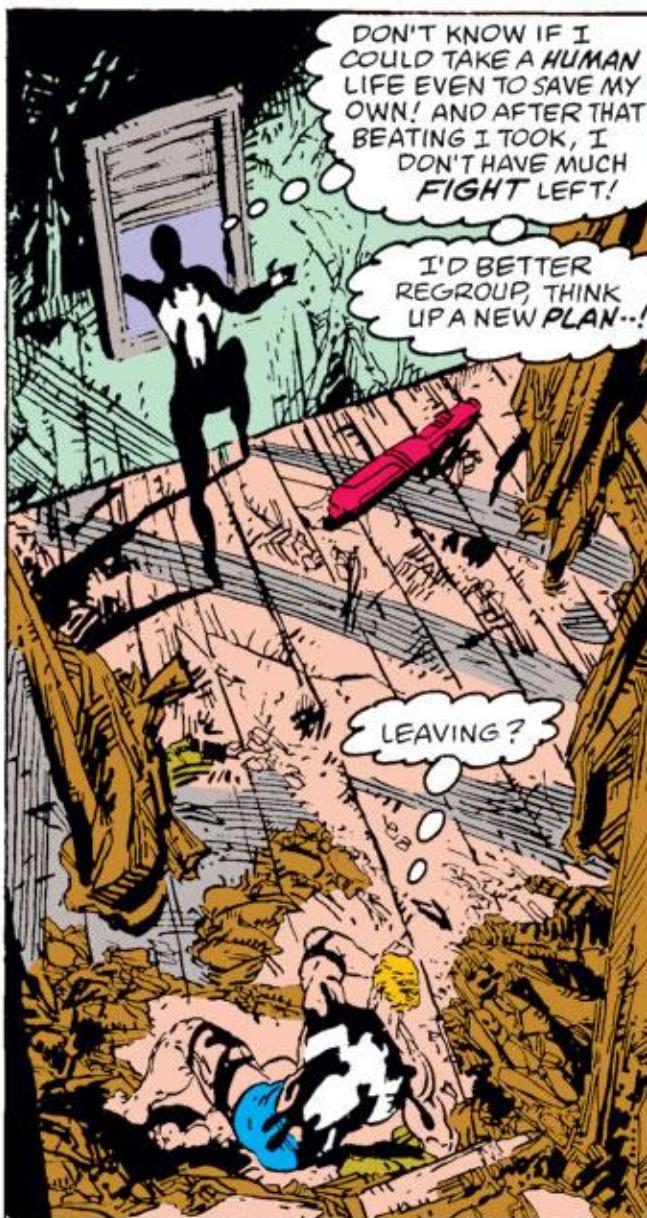
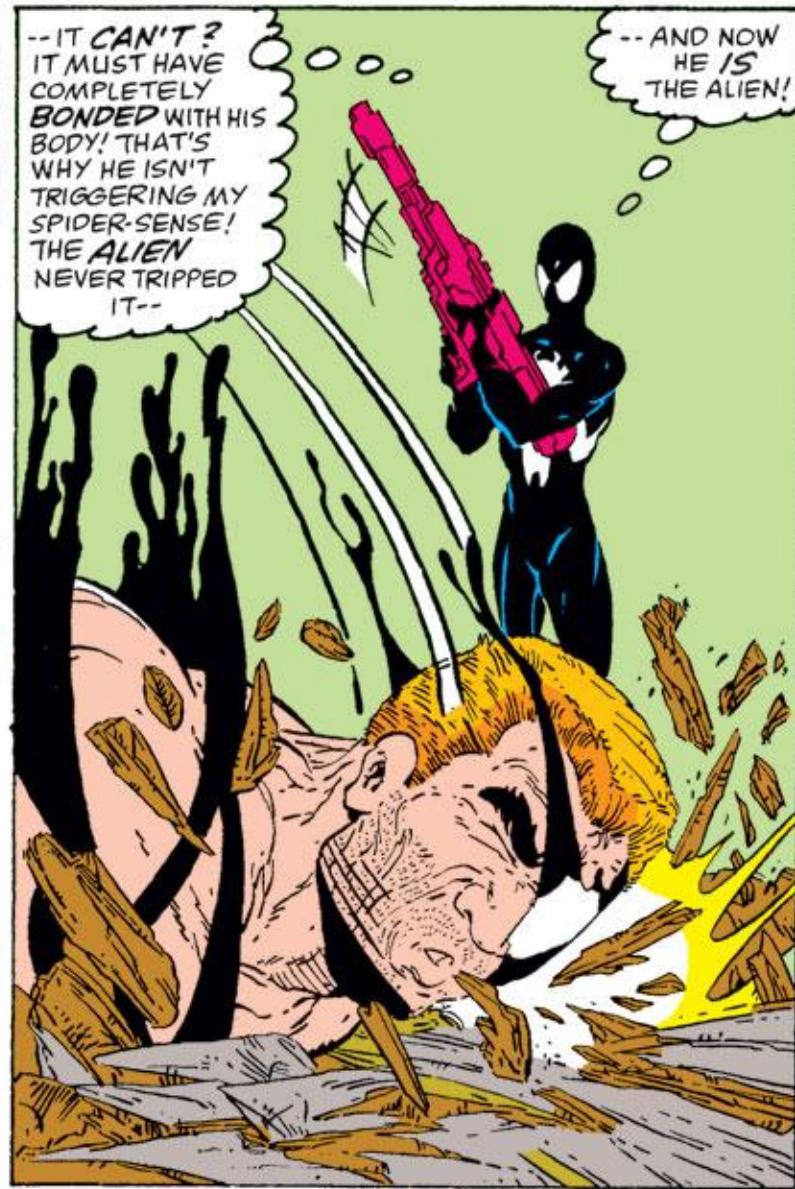
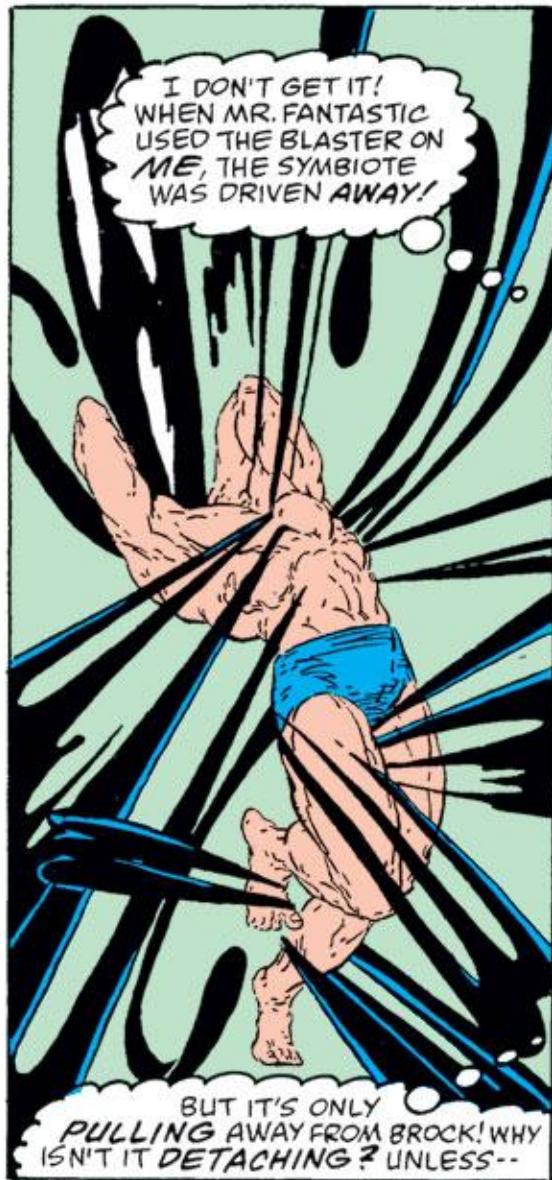
"BUT THE SHADOW KNEW YOU WELL, KNEW YOU'D HAVE TO LEARN WHO WE WERE. SO WE WENT 'TROLLING,' USING OURSELVES AS A LURE. AND APPARENTLY, THE BAIT --"

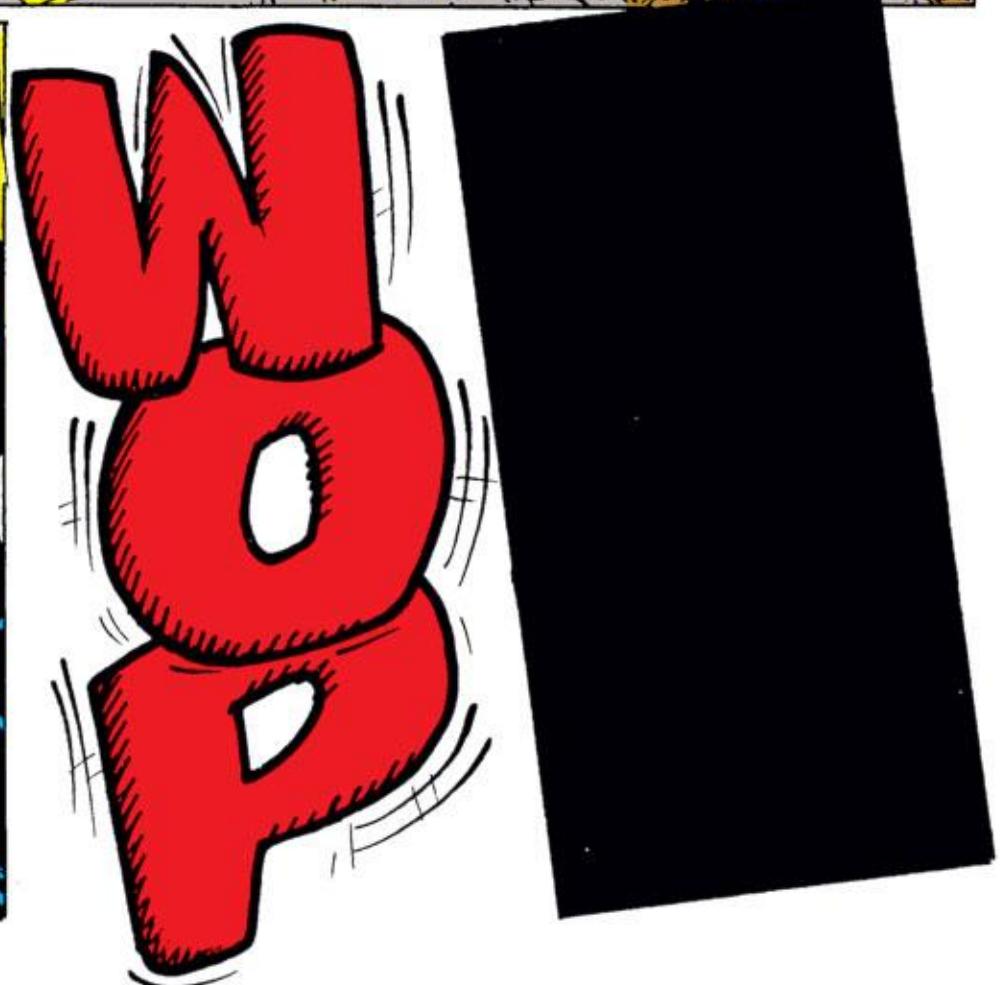
NOW!



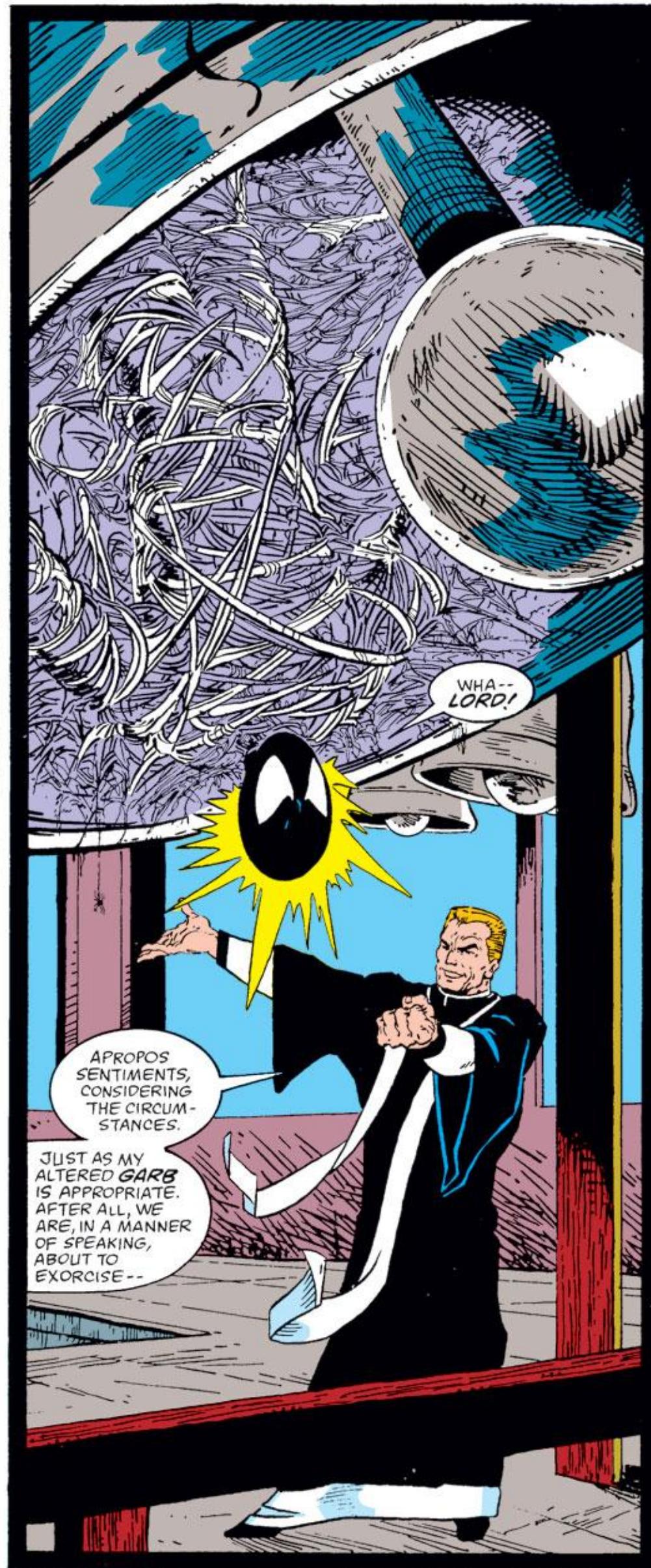


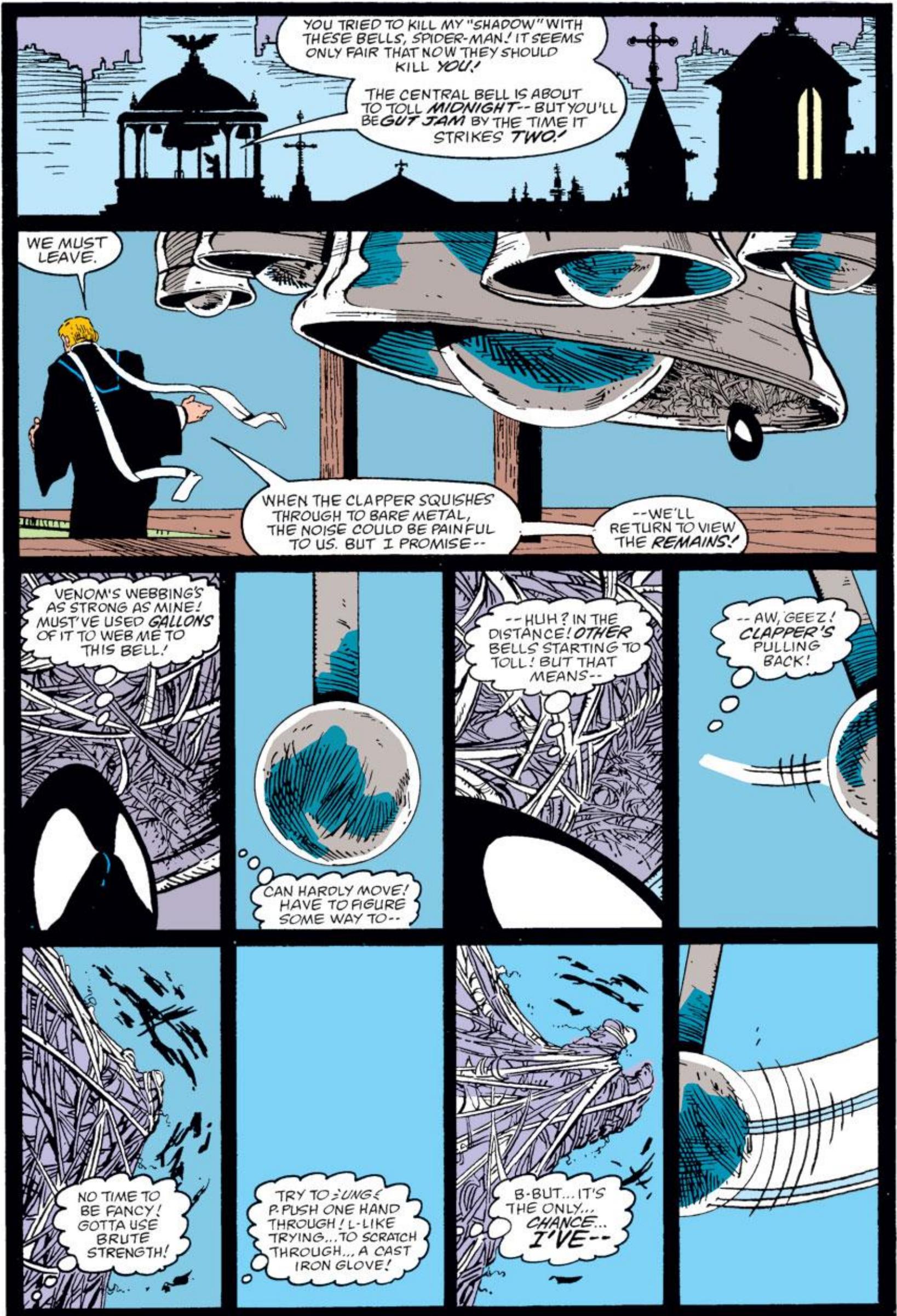


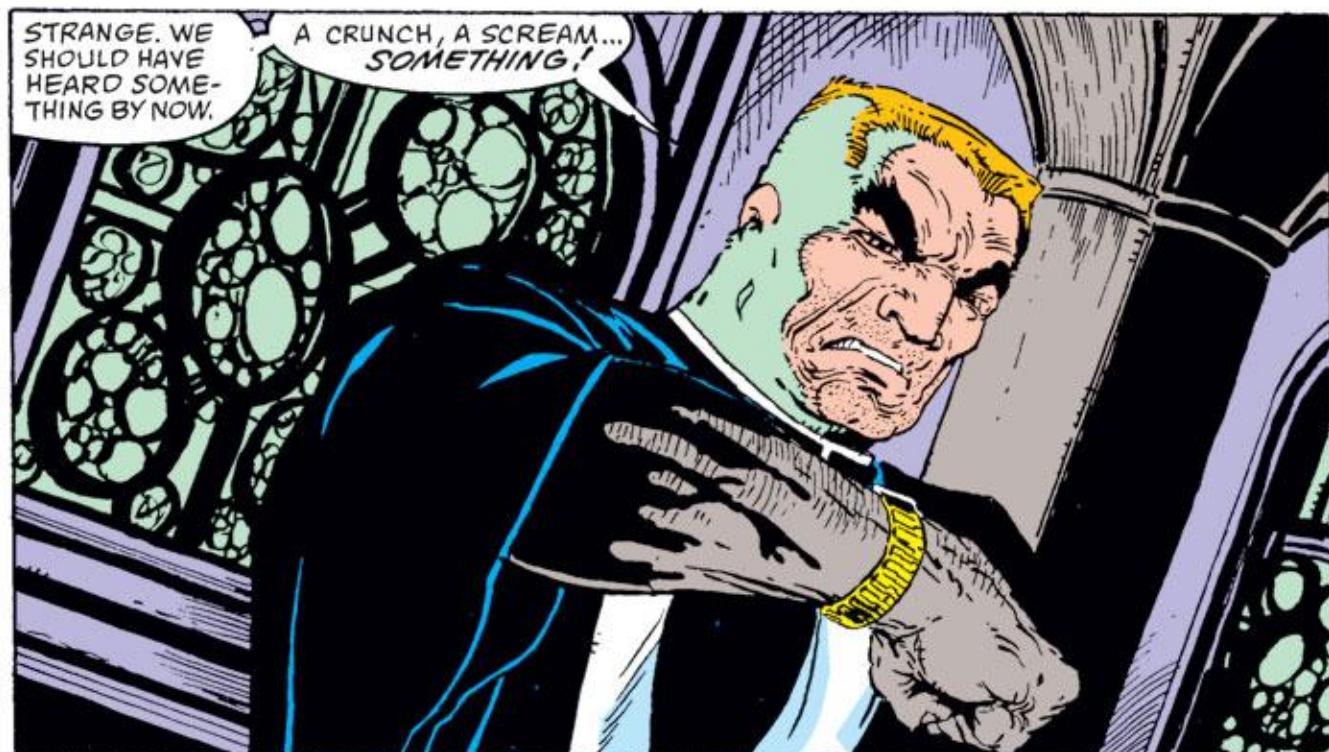


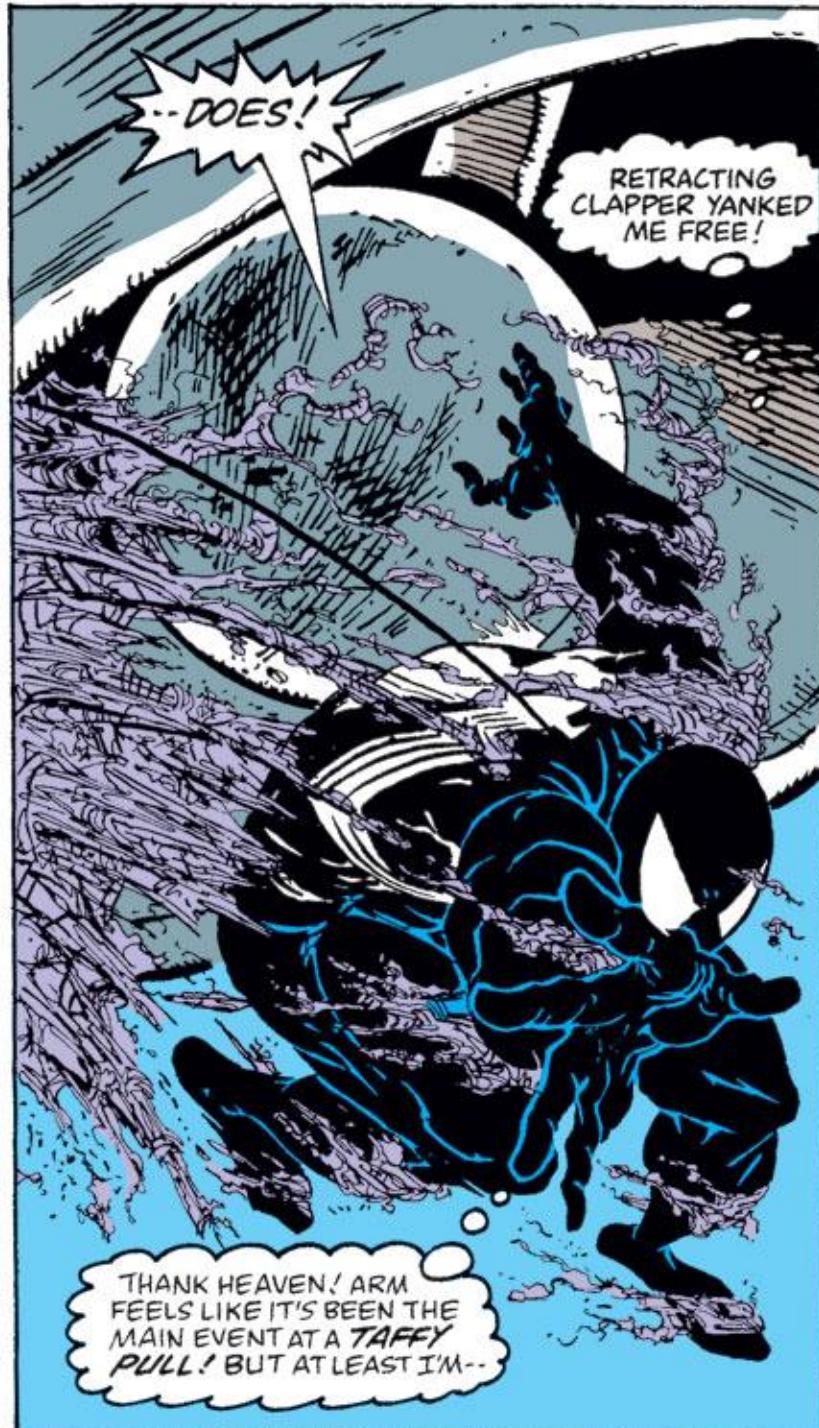


UNKNOWN
HOURS
PASS.









THINK, SPIDEY! HOW CAN YOU FIGHT THIS GUY? HE HAS THE SAME POWERS AS YOU, THE SAME WEBBING, THE SAME-- WAIT! HE DOESN'T HAVE THE SAME WEBBING!

AND I REMEMBER PUMA SAYING THE WEBBING WAS ORGANIC!*

THAT COULD MEAN IT'S MADE OF THE ALIEN'S OWN SUBSTANCE, THAT HE REGENERATES IT OVER TIME! AND THAT COULD BE MY KEY--

KRRIK

* IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #259 -- J.S.

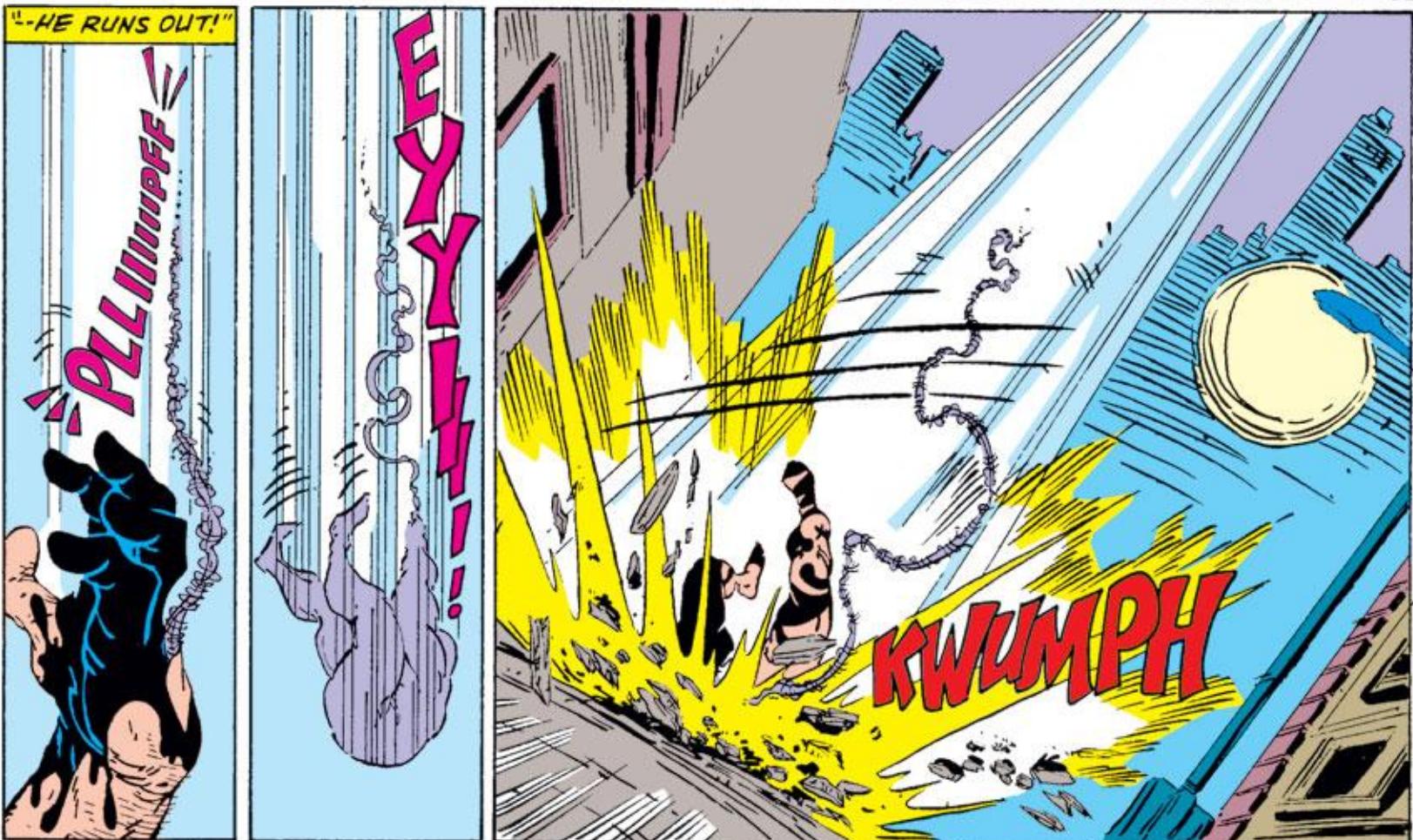
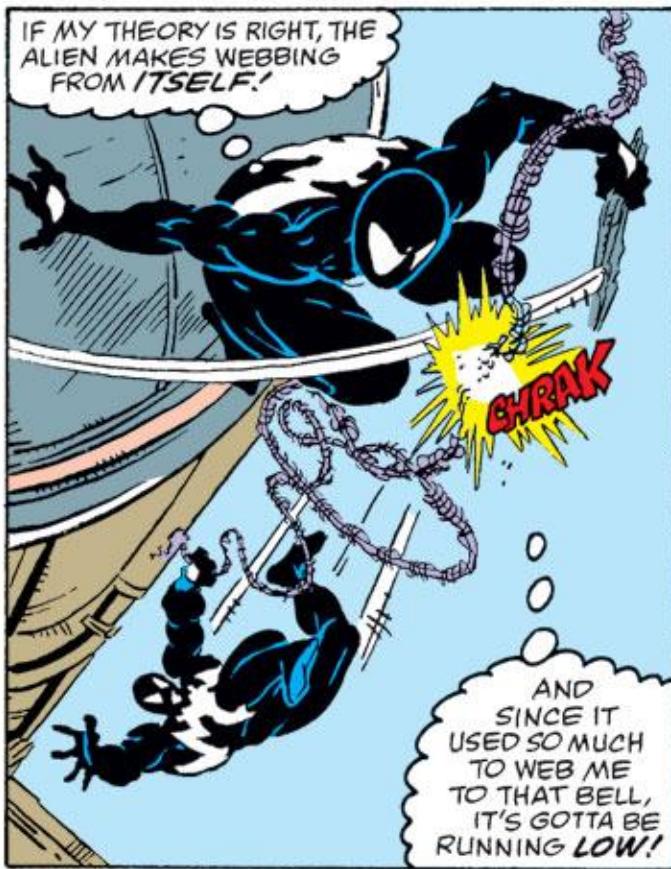
WHEN I WORE THE ALIEN SUIT, I NEVER NEEDED WEBBING CARTRIDGES! NEVER EVEN KNEW WHERE THE WEBBING CAME FROM!

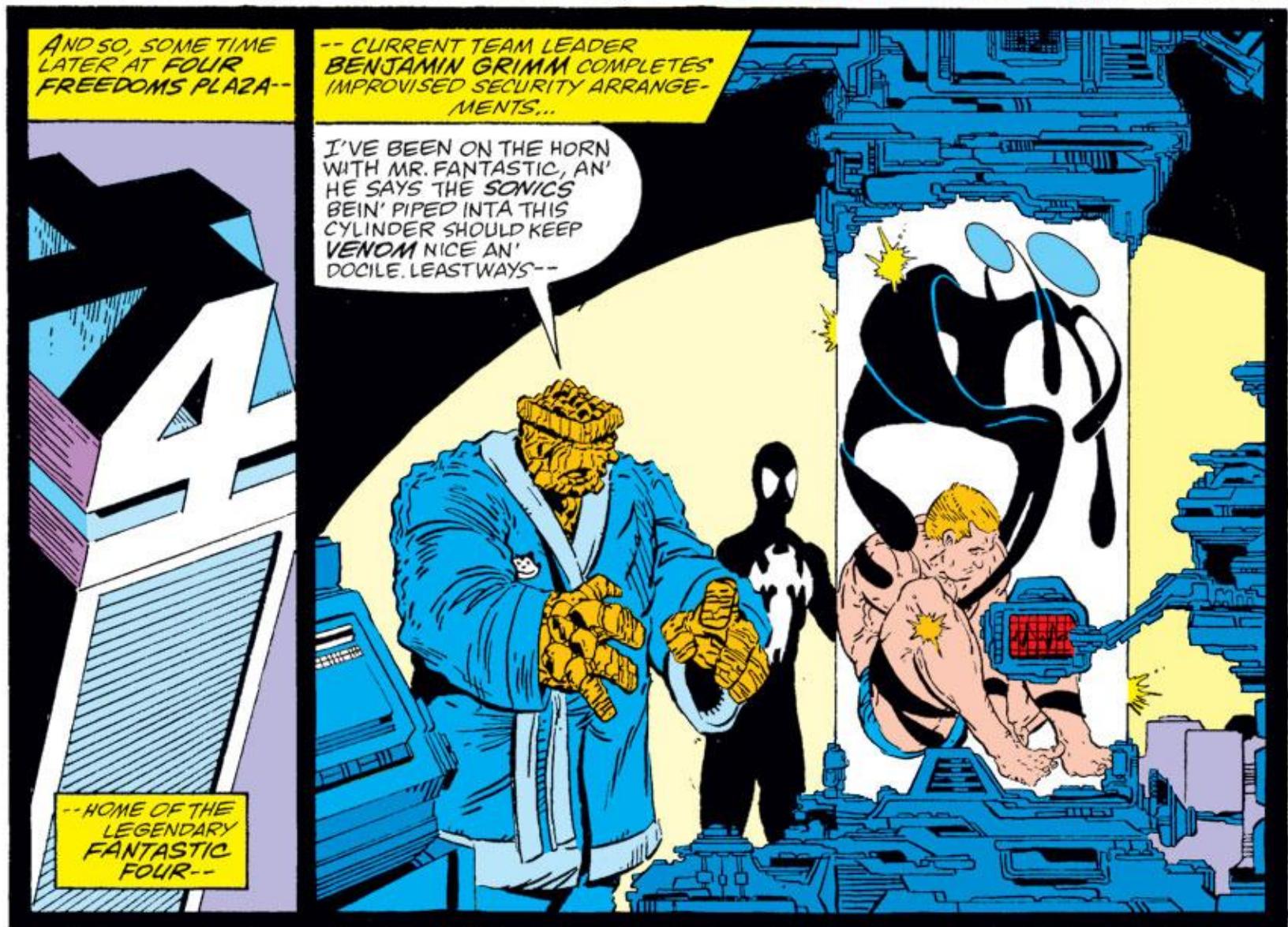
BLONG

--TO SURVIVAL!

PLIP

TINOK







SPIDER-MAN MAKES THE TRIP TO THE BEDFORD TOWERS CAREFULLY, FAVORING HIS LEFT ARM.

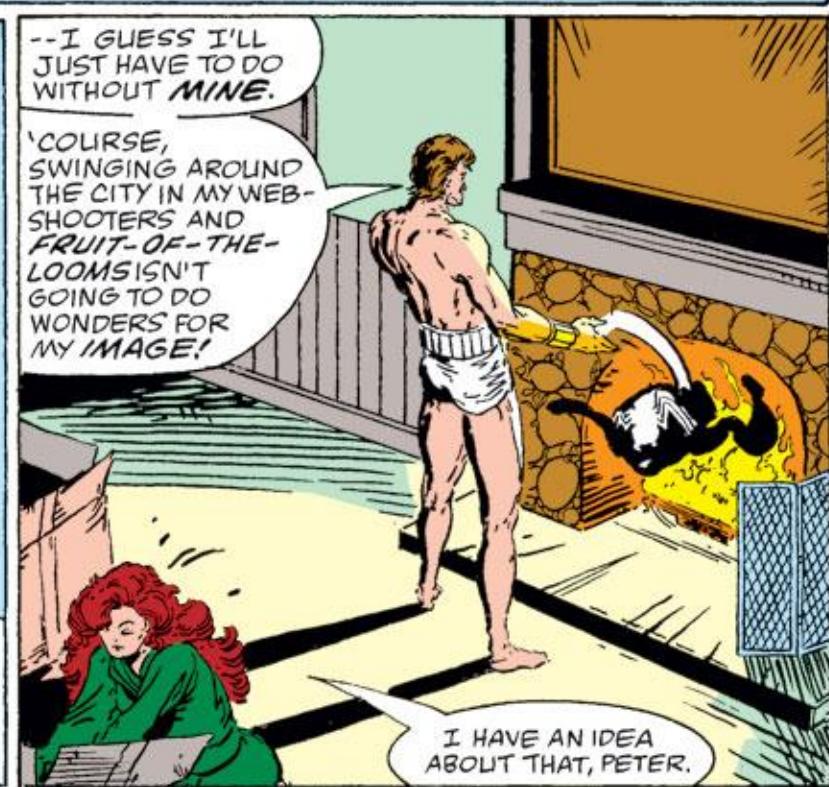
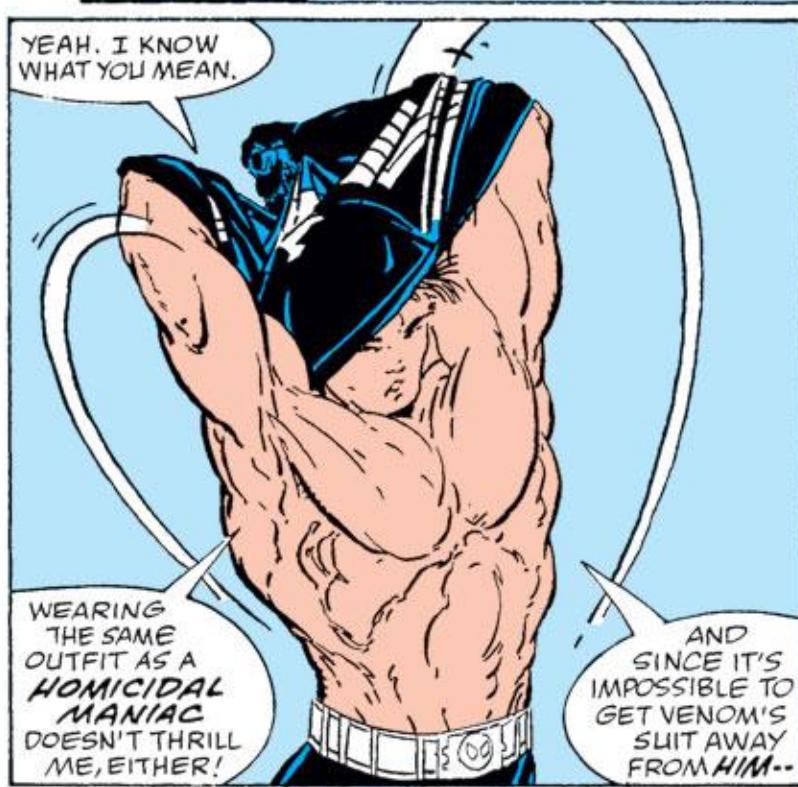
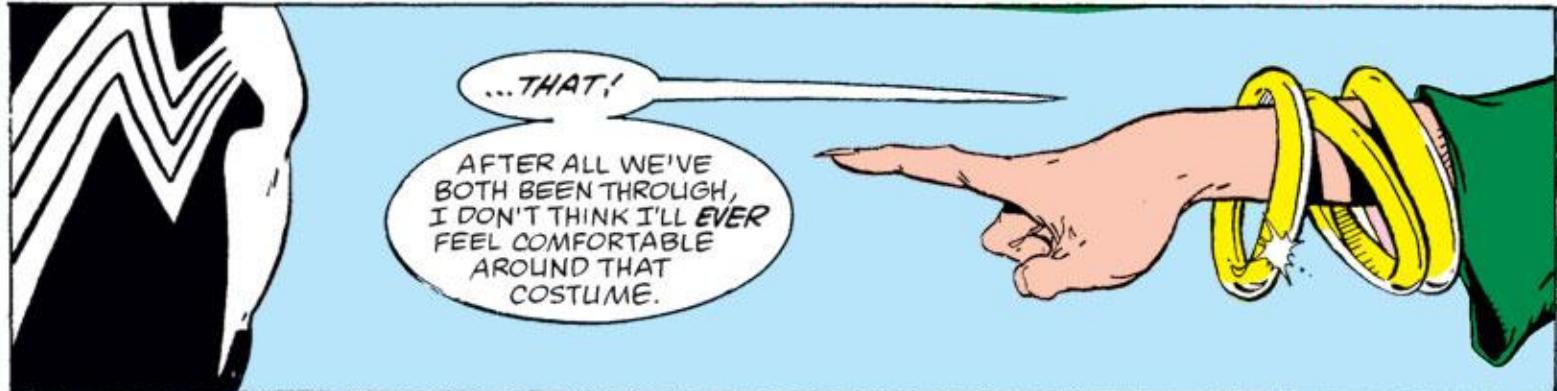
AND ONCE THERE, AFTER HIS TALE HAS BEEN TOLD...

WHAT'S WRONG, MJ? YOU SEEM AWFULLY... DISTANT.



SWEETHEART, IF I DON'T SHOW UP AT THE BUGLE WITH PHOTOGRAPHS OF SOMETHING TOMORROW, ROBBIE AND THE OTHERS WILL GET SUSPICIOUS ABOUT WHY I DISAPPEARED FROM THE MOVE PARTY! I HAVE TO--





*IN THE SPIDER-MAN VS. WOLVERINE SPECIAL-- J.S.

