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THE AMAZING

SPIDER-MAN

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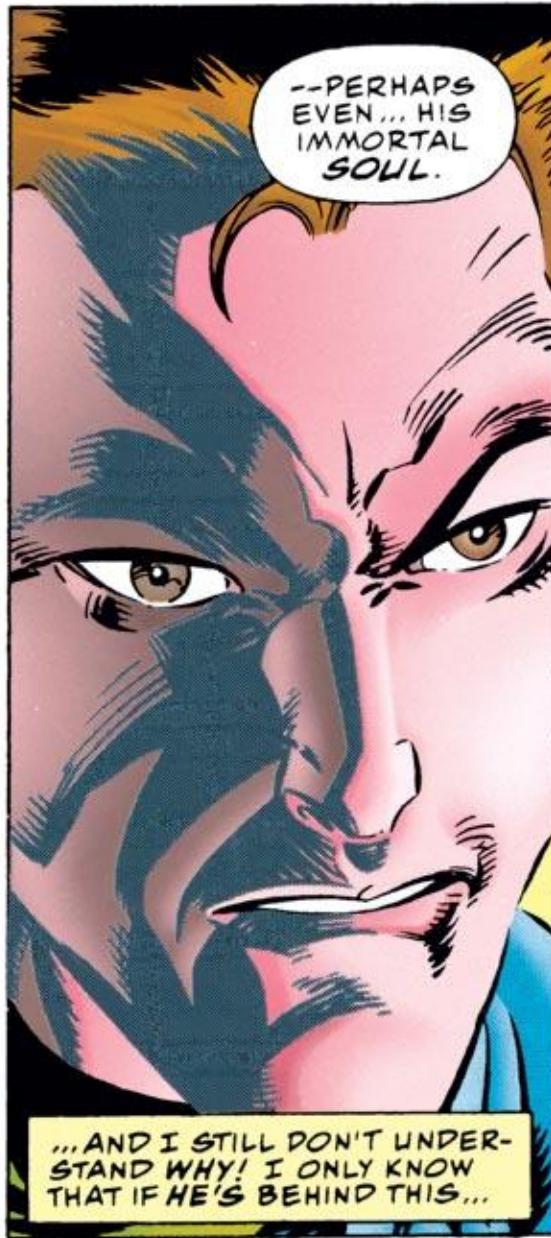
SAVAGE JUDGMENT!

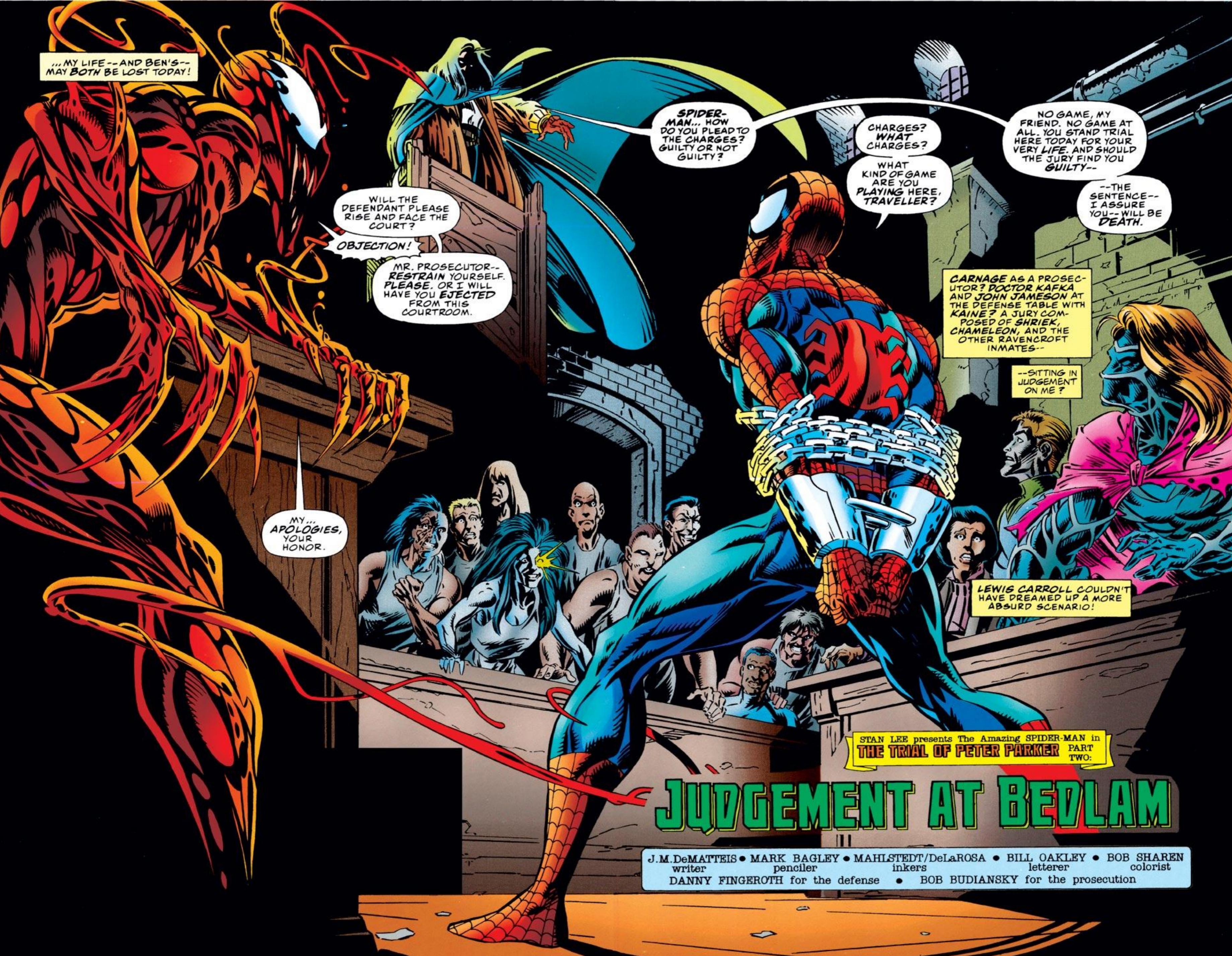
BAGGED &
MAILED

THE TRIAL OF PETER PARKER

Part 2 of 4







WHEN I FIRST CAME TO THIS AUGUST INSTITUTE*-- I FOUND AN IRATIONAL HATRED OF YOU TO BE THE ONE COMMON THREAD LINKING THE MINDS OF THE LUNATICS INCARCERATED HERE.

AND SO I RETURN HERE NOW TO EXPLORE A SIMPLE--YET PROFOUND-- QUESTION:

ARE YOU, SPIDER-MAN, BY YOUR VERY EXISTENCE, SOMEHOW BRINGING THESE ENTITIES... THESE SO-CALLED SUPER-VILLAINS ... INTO BEING?

AND WOULD YOUR EXTINCTION ACTUALLY EXTINGUISH THEM, AS WELL? WOULD YOUR DEATH REMOVE THEIR REASON FOR BEING--

--AND RESTORE THEM TO SOME SEMBLANCE OF SANITY?

OR ARE YOU A TRUE HERO-- WITHOUT WHOM THESE WRETCHED SOULS WOULD OVERRUN THE CITY YOU HAVE SWEORN TO PROTECT--

--DEFILING IT WITH THEIR EVIL?

* IN OUR "POWER AND RESPONSIBILITY" CROSSOVER.--Danny

THAT IS THE QUESTION WE INTEND TO ANSWER HERE TODAY.

CARNAGE HAS BEEN ASSIGNED THE TASK OF PROSECUTING THIS CASE--

SO, I ASK AGAIN, SPIDER-MAN-- HOW DO YOU PLEAD?

HERO OR VILLAIN? TOOL OF EVIL--

--OR SERVANT OF THE GREATER GOOD?

I COULDN'T ANSWER IF I WANTED TO-- AND TRAVELLER KNOWS IT.

-- WHILE THE MAN CALLED KAINES HAS BEEN DESIGNATED DEFENSE ATTORNEY.

HE'S DONE SOMETHING TO ME. I'M PARALYZED...

...UNABLE
TO MOVE
OR SPEAK.

I DON'T THINK
KAIN HAS
THE SAME
PROBLEM.

JUDAS
TRAVELLER!

I'VE
HEARD
ABOUT YOU!
YOU'RE
SCRIER'S MAN,
AREN'T
YOU?

AN
ARROGANT
TIN GOD--

--JUST
WAITING
TO BE
BROUGHT
DOWN!

THON!

WHAT MAKES YOU
THINK YOU HAVE
ANY RIGHT TO SIT
IN JUDGEMENT
ON SPIDER-
MAN?

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK
YOU COULD EVER HOPE TO
UNDERSTAND HIS DECENCY,
HIS VALOR--

--HIS SHEER
HUMANITY?

I WILL NOT LET HIM
BE VICTIMIZED BY YOU... OR
TORMENTED BY THE LUNATICS
YOU'VE ASSEMBLED--

--HERE... ?

IS QUITE
UNAFFECTED BY
YOUR... "MARK OF
KAIN." AND THAT
SURPRISES
YOU--

LET ME...
ENLIGHTEN
YOU.

IMPOSSIBLE!
YOUR FACE--!

--WHICH LEADS
ME TO BELIEVE
THAT YOU DON'T KNOW
--OR UNDERSTAND--
ME AT ALL.

KRAK!

AARRR!

I'M NOT
SCRIER'S MAN
--HE'S MINE...
AND HAS BEEN
FOR UNTOLD
CENTURIES.

JUDAS TRAVELLER
SERVES NO ONE... ANSWERS
TO NO ONE... BUT HIMSELF.

--AND THERE'S
NOTHING A
WASTE OF
GENETIC
MATERIAL
LIKE YOU CAN
DO--

I DO
EXACTLY AS I
PLEASE--

--TO
STOP
ME.

MAYBE
NOT... BUT
FOR SPIDER-
MAN'S
SAKE--

--I HAVE
TO TRY--

--EVEN IF IT MEANS MY LIFE.

AND THAT, KAIN, IS PRECISELY WHY I HAVE CHOSEN YOU TO DEFEND HIM.

NOW, COUNSELOR... LET US BOTH FORGIVE AND FORGET ANY UNKIND WORDS SPOKEN IN MOMENTARY ANGER.

SUCH OUTBURSTS HAVE NO PLACE IN A COURT OF LAW--

--DON'T YOU AGREE?

AH... YES--

--YOUR HONOR.

I DON'T GET IT: KAIN'S A MURDERER. AS TWISTED AS ANYONE I'VE EVER ENCOUNTERED.

WHY DOES HE SEE ME AS SOME KIND OF... PARAGON WHO HAS TO BE DEFENDED AT ANY COST?

EXCELLENT! THEN LET THE TRIAL BEGIN!

MR. PROSECUTOR-- CALL YOUR FIRST WITNESS!

I CALL--

THAM!

--MYSELF!

TERRIFIC. THE ONLY THING THAT'S MISSING IS THE QUEEN OF HEARTS SCREAMING, "OFF WITH HIS HEAD!"

I HOPE THINGS ARE GOING BETTER THAN THIS FOR BEN!

MRS. PARKER--

--YOUR HUSBAND HAS HAD MANY... LET'S CALL THEM EXTENDED ABSENCES... OVER THE YEARS.

PERIODS WHEN HE SEEMED TO JUST... DISAPPEAR WITHOUT A TRACE... FOR DAYS, WEEKS--SOMETIMES EVEN MONTHS.

PETER'S A PHOTO-JOURNALIST. HE... GETS CALLED OFF ON ASSIGNMENTS THAT--

DURING THE PERIOD IN QUESTION--TWO YEARS AGO--THERE WERE NO ASSIGNMENTS.

NO ONE AT THE DAILY BUGLE HAD THE SLIGHTEST IDEA WHERE YOUR HUSBAND WAS.

PERHAPS YOU COULD ENLIGHTEN US?

I SUPPOSE COMMITTING MURDER COULD BE LABELLED "PERSONAL BUSINESS."

--AND NOTHING YOU SAY CAN CHANGE THAT, DO YOU HEAR ME? NOTHING YOU SAY CAN--

HE... HE WAS AWAY ON... PERSONAL BUSINESS, MR. TOWER.

MY HUSBAND IS NOT A MURDERER. HE'S AS GOOD AND DECENT A MAN AS EVER LIVED--

THE COURT ISN'T INTERESTED IN YOUR BIASED OPINIONS CONCERNING THE DEFENDANT.

WE WANT FACTS, MRS. PARKER. HARD FACTS.

NOW ANSWER THE QUESTION, PLEASE--

WHERE WAS HE?

TRAPPED IN A COFFIN SIX FEET IN THE GROUND BY KRAVEN THE HUNTER-- FIGHTING FOR HIS LIFE.*

I SHOULD TELL THEM. I HAVE TO TELL THEM!

BUT, I CAN'T JUST REVEAL TO THE WORLD THAT PETER IS SPIDER-MAN!

WHERE WAS HE?

* DURING "KRAVEN'S LAST HUNT."
--DANNY

I CAN'T.

NO REPLY?
WELL, THEN--

--THAT
WILL BE
ALL, MRS.
PARKER.

BUT--

THAT
WILL BE
ALL.

OH, AUNT
ANNA-- I FEEL
LIKE SUCH A
FOOL. I DID
PETER MORE
HARM THAN
GOOD.

"THEY'LL FIND THE
REAL MURDERER."

THE VISION
...AGAIN! MARY
JANE!

HER TIME OF
DEATH IS COMING
CLOSER!

SOMETHING'S WRONG
WITH KAIN. HE LOOKS
LIKE HIS SOUL'S BEEN
TORN INSIDE OUT.

BUT HE'S NOT MY PROBLEM
RIGHT NOW. CARNAGE IS.

OH, HE'S
HORRIBLE!
HORRIBLE!

IT WAS
SPIDER-MAN
WHO CREATED
ME! HE BROUGHT
THAT ALIEN
SYMBIOTE TO
EARTH!

IF IT WASN'T FOR
HIM--I WOULD NEVER
HAVE BECOME SO
CORRUPTED...SO UNSPEAK-
ABLY...EVIL!

SO YOUR POINT IS--
AND I WANT TO MAKE THIS
PERFECTLY CLEAR-- IF NOT
FOR THE EXISTENCE OF
THAT MAN--

--YOU WOULD BE A
SANE AND RESPONSIBLE
MEMBER OF SOCIETY! DID
I STATE THAT CORRECTLY?

I COULDN'T
HAVE SAID IT
BETTER
MYSELF!

MISTER KAIN--
YOU MAY NOW CROSS-
EXAMINE THE
WITNESS.

I KNOW
SOME-
THING OF
YOUR LIFE,
KASSADY.

ISN'T IT TRUE
THAT--BEFORE
YOU BONDED WITH
THE SYMBIOTE--
YOU WERE A
MURDERER...
MANY TIMES
OVER?

A SICK, PER-
VERTED WRETCH
WHOSE LIFE WAS
SPENT BRINGING
PAIN AND MISERY
TO EVERYONE
AROUND YOU?

Nah. You
MUST HAVE ME
MIXED UP WITH
SOME OTHER
KLETUS KASSADY.

I
DON'T

THINK

SO!

YAAA!
SIZZZZ

YOU
HURT
ME!!

CHRAK!

NOBODY
HURTS ME!

NOBODY!!!

SHA-
CHAK!

LOOK AT THEM: SAVAGE.
UNRELENTING. TWO OF
A KIND.

OR
ARE
THEY?

THERE'S SOMETHING
ABOUT KAINES. FOR
ALL THE AWFUL CRIMES
HE'S COMMITTED...

...INCLUDING THE
MURDERS THAT
BEN IS STANDING
TRIAL FOR...

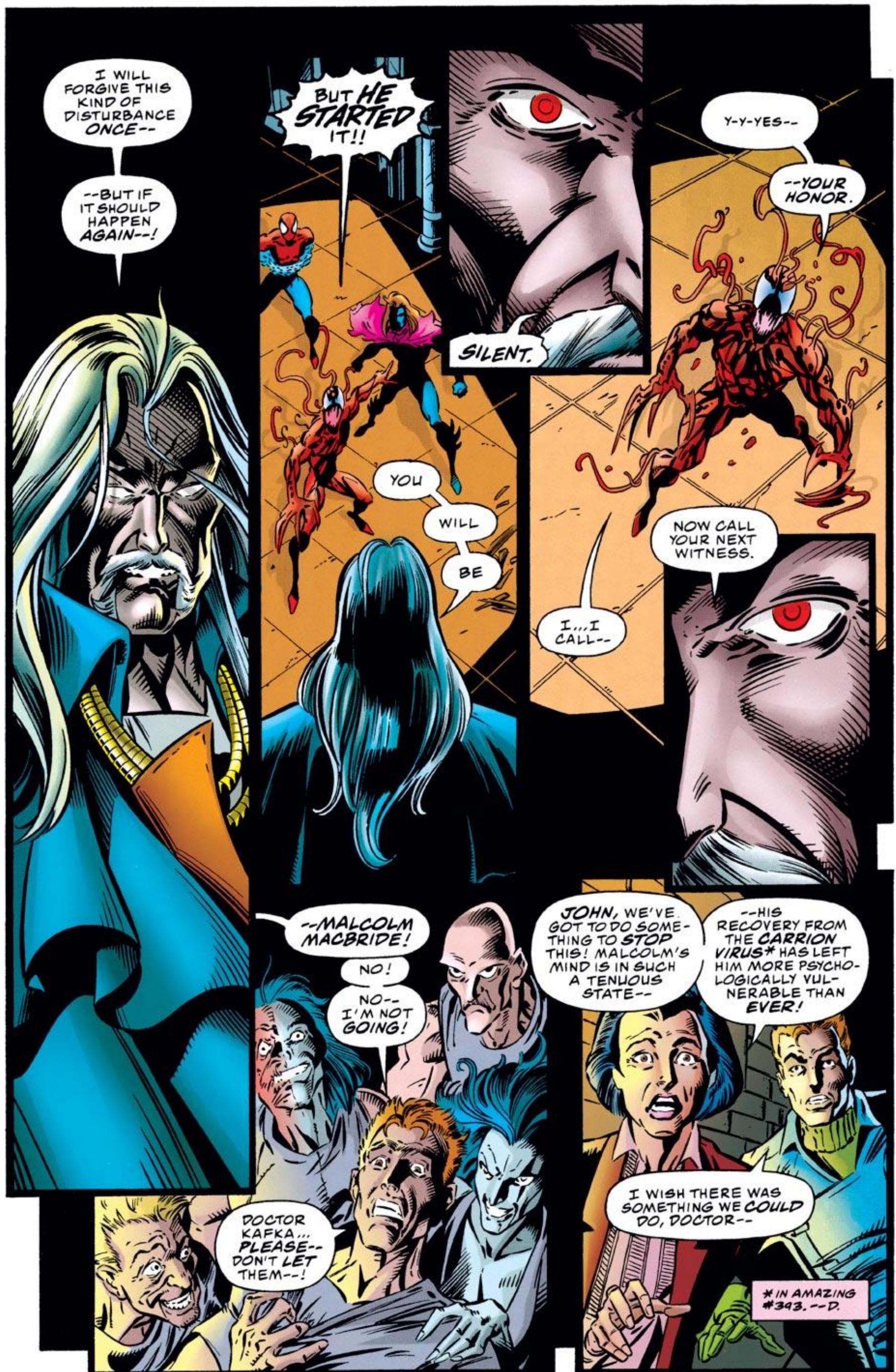
...I CAN'T HELP FEEL-
ING THAT THERE'S--
MORE TO HIM. SOMETHING
BENEATH
THE DARKNESS.

OR MAYBE I'M JUST PRO-
JECTING IT. MARY JANE
SAYS I HAVE A HABIT OF
SEEING THE GOOD IN
EVERYONE...

...EVEN WHEN
THERE'S NOTHING
THERE TO SEE.

ENOUGH!

AND LET'S FACE
IT: WHAT GOOD
COULD THERE
POSSIBLY BE
AT THE CORE OF
A STONE KILLER
LIKE KAINES?





INDEED!

AND PETER PARKER IS--

-SPIDER-MAN!

HE KNOWS?!
THIS HAS GOT TO
BE TRAVELLER'S
DOING!

EVEN WITHOUT HIS
MASK, HE'S A MENACE!
HIS VERY PRESENCE ON THE
PLANET SEEMS TO INSPIRE
EVIL... A WHIRLPOOL OF
DEATH AND MADNESS THAT
SUCKS IN EVERYTHING
AROUND HIM!

THE MAN IS A
PSYCHIC MAGNET
FOR TRAGEDY! HE
DESTROYS EVERY-
ONE CLOSE TO
HIM!

HIS UNCLE BEN--
MURDERED BECAUSE
OF SPIDER-MAN'S
INACTION! GWEN
STACY AND HER
FATHER! NED
LEEDS! NORMAN
AND HARRY
OSBORN!

THE
LIST OF HIS
VICTIMS GOES
ON AND ON,
YOUR HONOR!

WHY, IT'S MY CONSIDERED
OPINION THAT THE DEFENDANT'S
AGED AUNT WAS KILLED BY THE
PRESSURES OF HER NEPHEW'S
LIFE AS SPIDER-MAN!

I WON'T LISTEN TO
THIS ANYMORE!

I CAN'T
LISTEN TO
THIS ANY-
MORE!

I

HAVE

HAD

ENOUGH!!

SUCH FURY.
ENOUGH TO
MOMENTARILY
FIGHT OFF YOUR
PARALYSIS.

YOU ARE A
MAN OF GREAT
PASSION, PETER.
GREAT PASSION.

AND YOU'RE GOING
TO KEEP DISSECTING
ME, IS THAT IT? PICKING
AT ME AND SLICING ME
OPEN UNTIL YOU UNDER-
STAND ME?

IT WASN'T ENOUGH
WHAT YOU DID AT RAVEN-
CROFT! * OR FORCING
ME TO WITNESS THE
DEATHS OF MILLIONS
OF PEOPLE!**

HE'S TAKING
MY LIFE AND
TWISTING IT...
TURNING IT INTO
SOMETHING AS
UGLY AND OBSCENE
AS HE IS!

AND I
WON'T STAND
FOR IT,
TRAVELLER, DO YOU
HEAR ME?!

I WON'T
STAND
FOR IT!

NO--FOR REASONS
I CAN'T EVEN BEGIN
TO UNDERSTAND--
YOU'RE GOING TO KEEP
AT IT AND AT IT AND
AT IT--

*ISSUES #394 AND
**#402.--Danny

--UNTIL YOU'VE
DESTROYED ME!

WELL,
THEN DO IT!
DO IT!

I WON'T
STRUGGLE!
I WON'T
RESIST!

ALL I WANT IS TO
BE LET GO LONG
ENOUGH TO TAKE
KAIN TO THAT
COURTROOM!

LONG ENOUGH TO
CLEAR PETER PARKER'S
NAME-- AND SAVE BEN
REILLY'S LIFE!

WELL
SAID!

BUT I'M AFRAID, DEAR PETER, THAT WHAT YOU WANT IS OF NO RELEVANCE TO THIS COURT.

B-BUT THE DEFENSE HASN'T PRESENTED ITS CASE!

YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO HIM! HE--

AND GOD BLESS THEM BOTH FOR STANDING UP FOR ME...

GENTLEMEN AND LADIES OF THE JURY--

--HAVE YOU REACHED YOUR VERDICT?

WE FIND THE DEFENDANT--

GUilty!

GUilty!

GUilty!

GUilty!

...FOR ALL THE GOOD IT'LL DO ME!

WAIT A MINUTE! WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THEM? WHAT'S TRAVELLER DOING NOW?

NO! THEY'VE BOTH WORKED SO HARD... STRUGGLED SO LONG... TO KILL THEIR INNER DEMONS! TO BE FREE OF...

...CARRION AND VERMIN!

HE IS GUILTY-- BEYOND A SHADOW OF A DOUBT.

AND THE SSSENTENCE ISSS-- DEATH!

CHAK!

WELL, THE GOOD NEWS IS...

WITH THAT JURY... I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANY DOUBT. ASIDE FROM MALCOLM, THE ONLY SANE PERSON OVER THERE IS DOCTOR KAFKA'S ASSISTANT, EDWARD WHELAN.

"...THINGS COULDN'T POSSIBLY GET ANY WORSE--!"

WHERE ARE THEY?!

WE'VE SEARCHED EVERY ALLEY... EVERY ROOF-TOP--

--PEOPLE DON'T JUST VANISH INTO THIN AIR!

BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT SPIDER-MAN AND KAINES DID.

WE HAD THAT MURDERING \$*#!! IN OUR HANDS!

THOOM!

WE HAD HIM!

AND WE'LL HAVE KAINES AGAIN, STUNNER. I SWEAR TO YOU... AND TO GOD, WE'LL HAVE HIM.

IF I HAVE TO, I'LL WALK THROUGH THE FIRES OF HELL TO SEE THAT JUSTICE IS DONE.

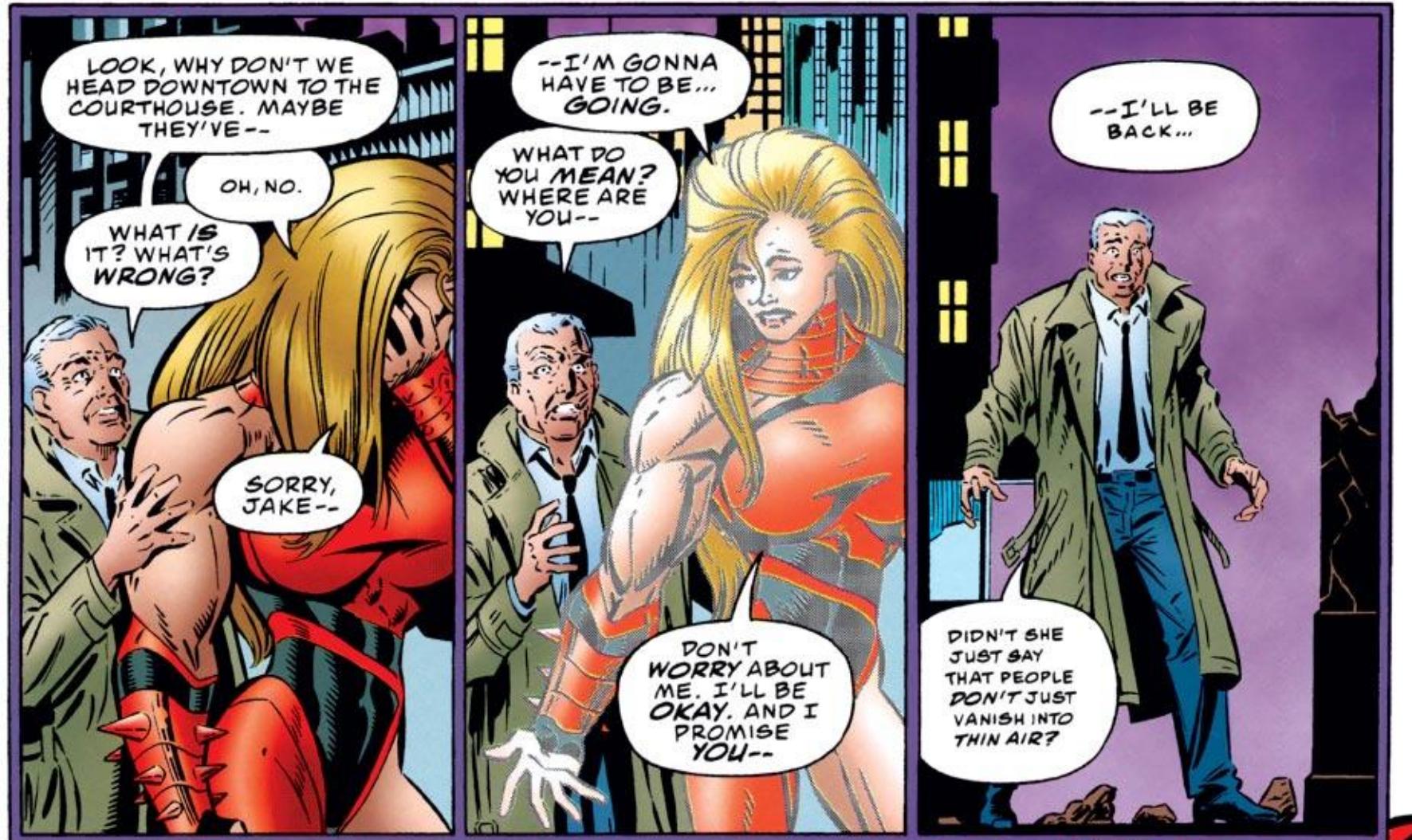
TO YOU, DETECTIVE RAVEN, IT'S JUSTICE. TO ME--IT'S MY LIFE!

OTTO... HE WAS EVERYTHING TO ME. UNTIL I MET HIM... NOBODY EVER LOVED ME... NOBODY EVER CARED!

YOU CAN'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO LOSE SOMEONE YOU LOVE! HOW IT TRIPS YOU APART AND--

I KNOW, STUNNER--

--MORE THAN YOU REALIZE!







THE OTHERS! WHERE
ARE THEY--?

BACK
IN THEIR CELLS
--WHERE THEY
BELONG.

AND KAIN!
IS HE--?

HE IS
ALIVE. BUT
HE WOULD HAVE
BEEN DEAD...
HAD I NOT STOPPED
THIS.

I WANTED
TO HELP HIM,
TRAVELLER!
WHY DID YOU
STOP ME?

YOU HAD
TO REMAIN
PARALYZED...
OR ELSE--HOW
COULD I
KNOW?





* LAST MONTH--IN SPIDER-MAN #59. -- Danny



IN HIS OWN WAY, KAINES AS MUCH A MYSTERY AS TRAVELLER. WHY DOES HE CARE ABOUT ME? WHY WAS HE WILLING TO DIE TO SAVE ME?

I'VE GOT TO BRING HIM IN... BUT, AFTER THAT, THERE ARE QUESTIONS I WANT ANSWERED. QUESTIONS THAT--

...uhhhh...

GOT YOU--
YOU MURDERING MAGGOT!

AND NOW
I'M GONNA DO
T'YOU WHAT
YOU DID TO
OTTO!

YOU'RE A
DEAD MAN,
KAINES!
DEAD AND
BURIED!

STUNNER...
DON'T! THIS
ISN'T THE
ANSWER!

GET
IN MY
WAY,
WEBS--

--AND
YOU DIE,
TOO!



