SPIDER-GIRL®

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59

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SEASON OF THE SERPENT PART 6 of 6

The daughter of the original Spider-Man, May "Mayday" Parker has inherited her father's amazing powers. Possessing the proportionate strength, speed, and agility of a spider, as well as the ability to cling to walls, she now follows in his web-lines! Stan Lee presents...

SPIDER-GIRL

PREVIOUSLY

While *Peter* and *Mary Jane Parker* prepare for the birth of their second child--

--May discovers that *Seth, the Serpent-God of Death* is the power behind the terrorists known as the *Soldiers of the Serpent*.

The Earth's mightiest heroes quickly gather at *Avengers Mansion* to form a united front against him--

--but are soon ensnared within a deadly *entropy field*--

--and only Spider-Girl can save them!

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Hoo-boy! You'd love to play the fearless hero and zing Seth with a witty retort or two--
--but your throat is clogged with fear and your voice would only falter.
So you bury your terror beneath a flurry of motion--
--and take out a few of his men!
That's far enough, you arrogant little witch! You never had a chance against us. Our master is all-powerful!
I'm really going to enjoy killing you--!
NO!
The child is mine!
Oh, god!
H-He killed that guy--!
Zapped him right out of existence!
And you have the gall to defy him!
Get out of here, girl! Now! Run! Move!
She's trying to escape, master.
Should we pursue her?
No, I want you men to stay here...

She is obviously trying to distract me--
--and draw my attention away from her friends at *Avengers Mansion.*
Have you managed to determine the type of energy that's being used to empower this field, *Big Brain?*

It appears to defy any conventional classification, Stinger.
Could we be dealing with some kind of *magic?*
I don't care *who* or *what* is behind this stupid field. It won't stop me.

Stop wasting your zap bolts, guys. Ain't no way you're gonna punch a hole through this darned thing.
You think you can do better, *J2?*
DUH!

I'm the son of the unstoppable *Juggernaut,* remember?
Walking through impregnable barriers is kind of my thing.

OW! OWWW!

T-This ain't possible--!
I-It's draining the life out of me!

Psilord! You're the only one who can rip him free without making physical contact with the field.
Figures you Avengers would need the Fantastic Five to bail you out of trouble.
Hey, how's about you save him first and posture later?

Yeah.
Sure.
I...I'll just put it in the favor bank.

You... you okay, Juggie?
Sorry, Thunderstrike. I just wasn't strong enough. I never was as unstoppable as my dad.
If only he were here--

"--I'm sure my dad would know how to handle this problem!"
Your simple-minded strategy has failed, little girl...

I possess more than sufficient power to *destroy* you--

--and still sustain the *entropy field!*

Seth is giving you a lot more credit than you deserve.

You ran because you're a big weenie.

You didn't have a plan.

Heck, you weren't even smart enough to realize that your cowardice would *endanger* innocent civilians.

H-How dare you attack me?
You should be fleeing in absolute horror.
Been there.
Done that.
Boring!
Besides, I'm not really afraid of death.
I'm a teenager, Seth.
A TEENAGER!
KZAKK!
Death should fear me!
Now this is interesting--!
Something just caused a minor fluctuation in the field.
Spider-Girl! She's probably attacking its source!
You think--?!
I'm impressed, child.
You actually managed to hurt me.
It's been quite a few years since I experienced physical pain.
That sensation alone more than justifies all the personal attention I've devoted to you.
You like pain--?!
Oh, goody!
KWA THOOM!

His name is *Peter Parker* and he's worried about his daughter.

Though he is no longer a costumed adventurer, Peter heard about the gathering at *Avengers Mansion*--

--and immediately forbade *May* to attend.

Where is she? She should be *home* by now. What's *keeping* her?

Peter! PETER! You need to see this--!

What *is* it, Mary Jane?

What's *wrong?*

I was just channel-surfing when the news caught my eye.

Something bad is happening at *Avengers Mansion,* but that's not the worst of it--!

May is in trouble.

BIG trouble!

My god--! I think that's *Seth!*

Listen, hon--I'd better change into *Spider-Man!* This guy's supposed to be as powerful as the mighty *Thor* and--

AAAAAAA! No! No! This can't be happening-- *NOT NOW!*

I-Is it the *baby?*

I...I am so *sorry,* Peter... but my water just broke.

The baby's *coming!*

I've got to get you to the *hospital.*

No! Our daughter needs you. Go help *May!*

You desperately want to pour on the speed and put as much distance as possible between you and this maniac--but you *can't! You can't!*

Stop *gawking,* people--and get *out* of the streets!

Save your *breath,* child!

These louts aren't worth the effort.

Besides, they'll all *die* soon enough.

Death always wins in the end!

And yet, *life* still finds a way to keep rolling along--!

You suddenly spot a construction site a few blocks ahead, and quickly veer toward it.

Clear the area--!

Run for your lives!

Hurry! There's a super-powered killer right behind me--

--and you want to be *gone* when he arrives!

I-Is she *serious-?!*

Who cares! We get *paid* either way!

That's the spirit, buddy! I'm risking my life to save your sorry butt and all you think about is--*Hey!*

Anybody know *where* I can find the keys to this truck?

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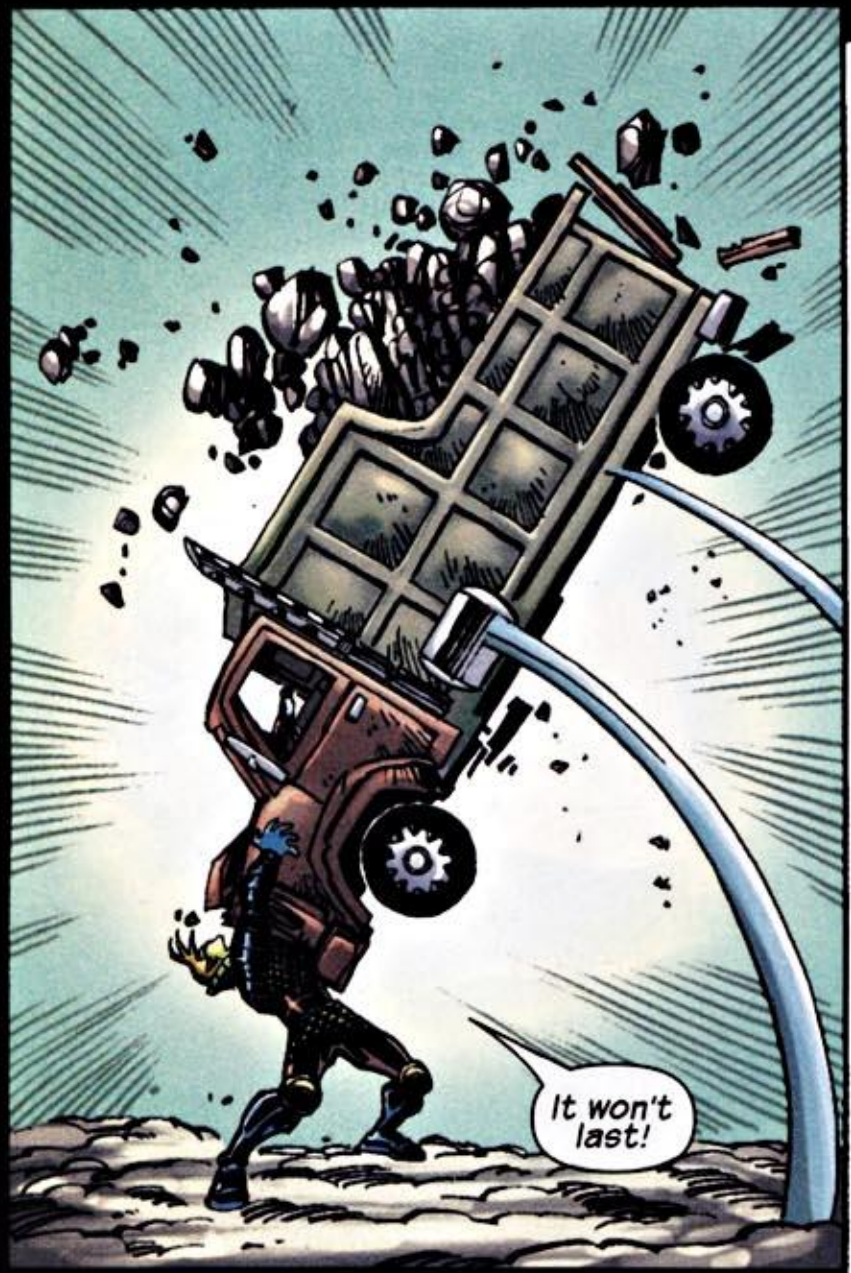
I am afraid this chase has grown rather *tiresome*, child.
I have other duties to attend to and must therefore *conclude* our little--

UFFFT

Oops! I probably should have warned you about that first step.
Are you *proud* of yourself, little girl?
Enjoy the *feeling*--!

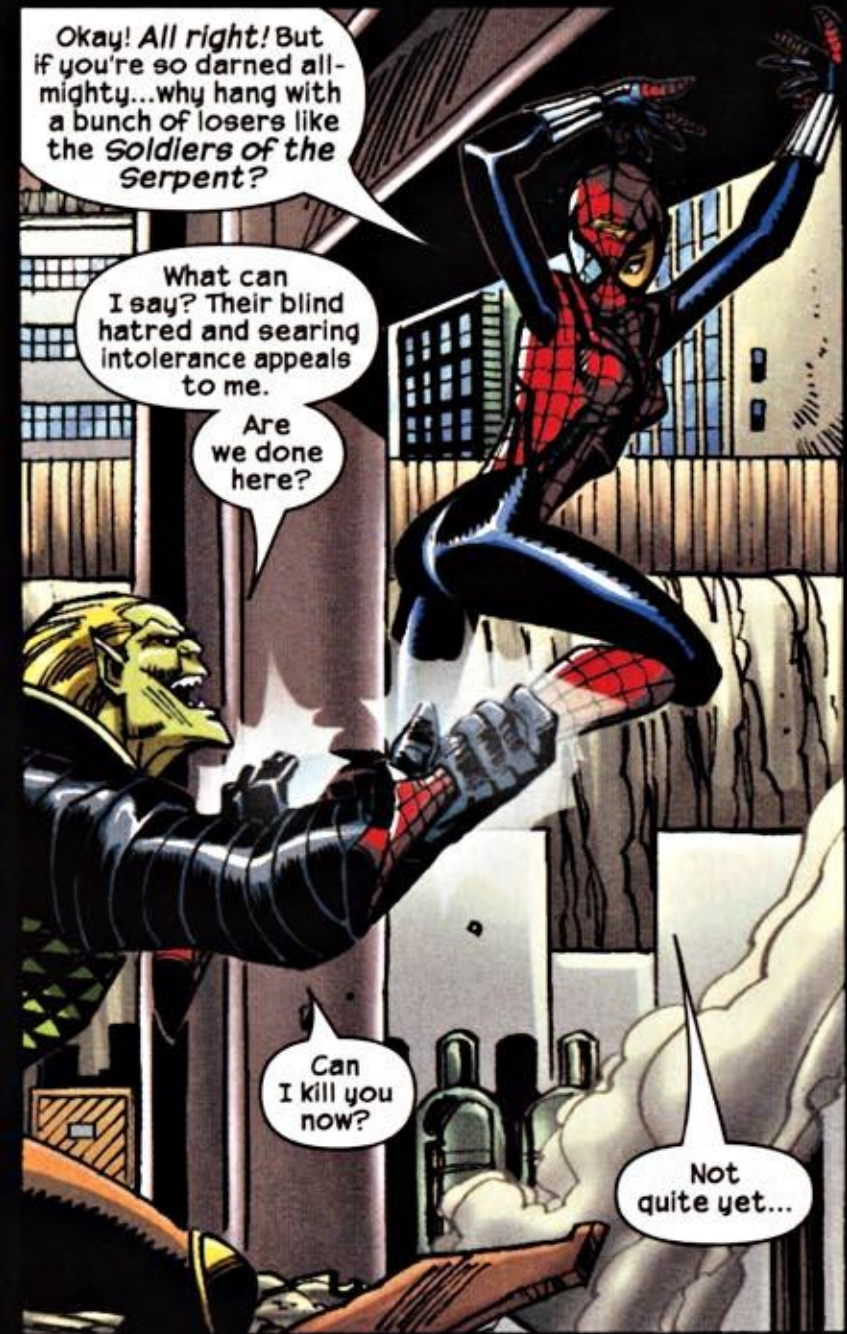

It won't last!

I possess far more *power* than you could ever conceive.
I have conquered *armies* and humbled *gods*.
I am Seth, the Serpent-God of Death!

Did you truly believe that you--*a mere mortal*--had even the slightest hope of surviving my unrelenting rage?

Now that you ask--*yes!*
I just have to hold out long enough for the good guys to escape your force-thingeee.
My entropy field--*impossible!*
Don't underestimate them, pal! They're a pretty ingenious bunch.

That may be so, but I am still *Seth*. You warn me not to underestimate *them*--
--even as you continue to underestimate *me!*


Okay! *All right!* But if you're so darned all-mighty...why hang with a bunch of losers like the *Soldiers of the Serpent?*
What can I say? Their blind hatred and searing intolerance appeals to me.
Are we done here?
Can I kill you now?
Not quite yet...

I want to show you how I can use my sticking ability to *attract* and *repel* your face in rapid succession.
Pretty neat, *huh?*

I may not be on your *power level*, Seth--

--*but nobody manhandles SPIDER-GIRL!*

KWAPP!

For the barest of instants, you truly feel good about yourself, your heart brimming with possibility and hope.

SKRASH!

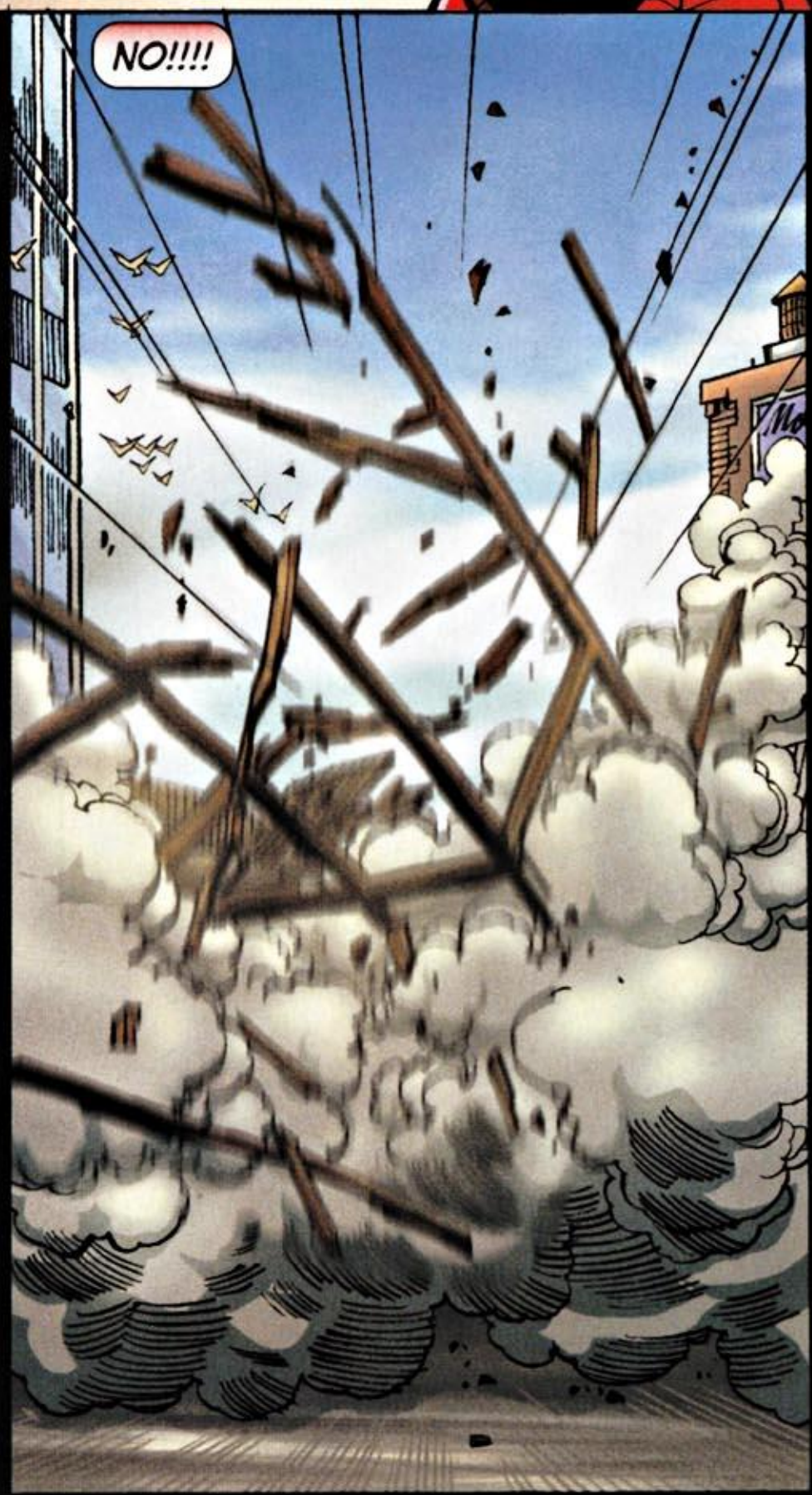
PROPANE

But that instant dies as the world suddenly erupts in fire and fury!

CHAPPO!

T-That wasn't supposed to happen--!
You never even saw those propane tanks.

You were only trying to stun him.
Maybe there's a chance he's still alive and--
Oh, god!
no!


NO!!!!

On your toes, people! The entropy field has begun to waver--!
We need to be ready in case it goes down.
You think Spider-Girl is causing it?
That'd be my guess!

You are a far greater *fool* than ere I imagined, child.

Compassion will be the death of you.

It is a weakness that grows like a hungry cancer, consuming both your intelligence and your own sense of self-preservation.

ARRGH!
W-Why are you still here, Peter?
Y-Your daughter needs you.
So do you!
Besides, as you often remind me, we need to have more faith in May.
She's a responsible young lady who knows how to take care of herself.
Now you just concentrate and push!
PUSH!
Did you really think that you could kill me?
ME?!
I am Death-- and I cannot die!
The glorious gift that I so freely bestow on others will forever be denied to me.
TWAKK!
TWAKK! TWAKK! TWAKK!
I want to hear you beg, little girl.
ARRGH!
I won't end your suffering until you plead for mercy.
TWAKK!
C-Can I get that in writing?

You don't understand me, Seth.
You never did!
You might be able to bust me up--and even kill me--but you'll never break my spirit!
As long as I'm alive, I'll keep fighting--!
I'll keep trying to find a way to beat you!
TWUMPP!
Do you hear me, Seth?
I won't quit.
Not now!
Not EVER!

You insufferable little insect--!

TWAMM!

How can someone with so little *power* have the ability to inflict such monumental *indignities?*

Good genes would be my guess.

ENOUGH!

I shall not suffer another *insult* or *injury!*

I am the SERPENT-GOD OF DEATH--

--and now you shall tremble before the TERROR ETERNAL!

KNEEL, child! Worship the living god that ascends before you.
Cower in the dust as you behold my full and unfettered glory!
You've *got* to be kidding.
I hate to break it to you, Seth--
--but you look *ridiculous!*
If *this* was your big play, I'm suddenly feeling a *lot* more confident.

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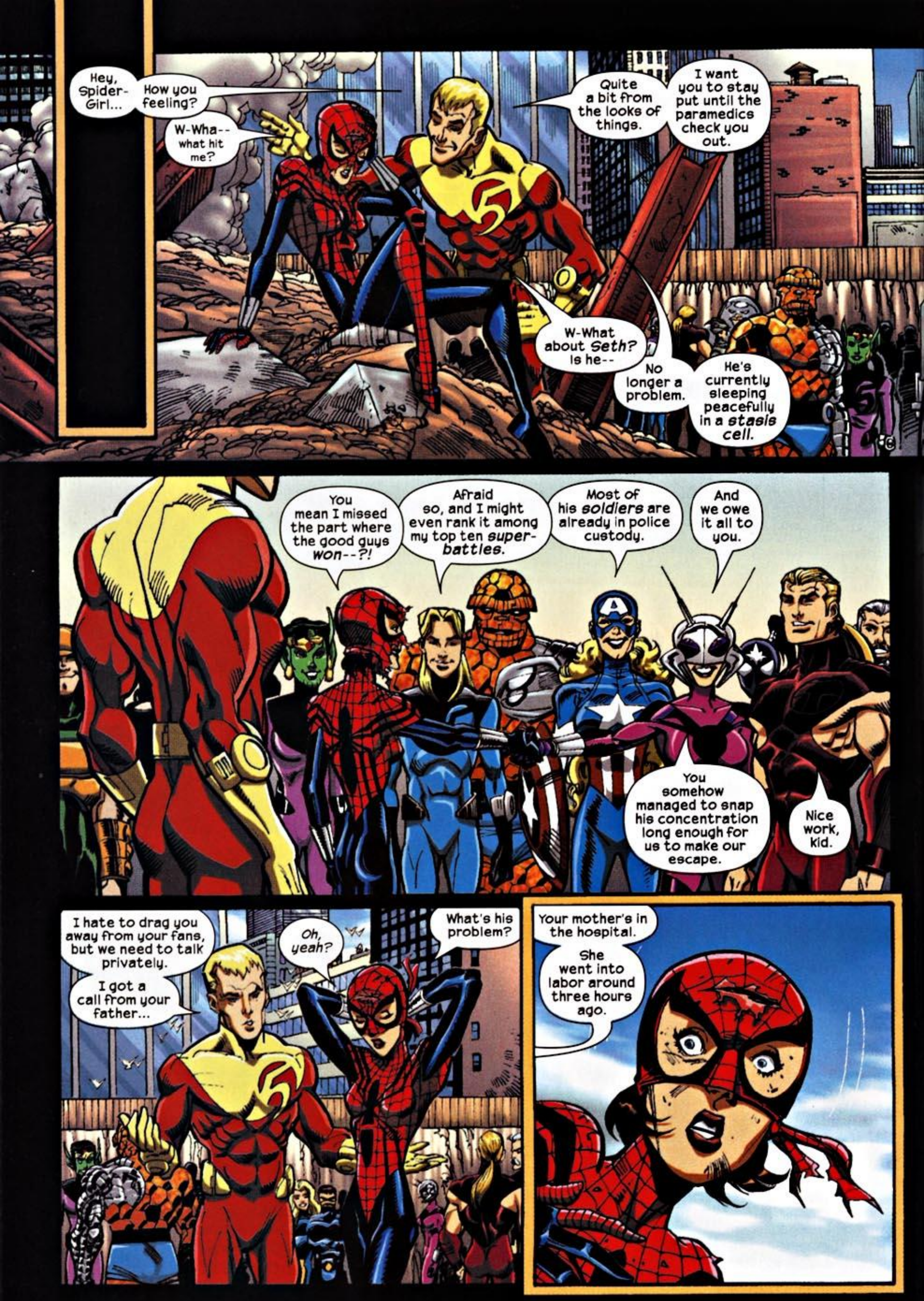
Hey, Spider-Girl...
How you feeling?
W-Wha-- what hit me?
Quite a bit from the looks of things.
I want you to stay put until the paramedics check you out.
W-What about *Seth*? Is he--
No longer a problem.
He's currently sleeping peacefully in a *stasis* cell.
You mean I missed the part where the good guys *won*--?!
Afraid so, and I might even rank it among my top ten *super-battles*.
Most of his *soldiers* are already in police custody.
And we owe it all to you.
You somehow managed to snap his concentration long enough for us to make our escape.
Nice work, kid.
I hate to drag you away from your fans, but we need to talk privately.
I got a call from your father...
Oh, yeah?
What's his problem?
Your mother's in the hospital.
She went into labor around three hours ago.

You immediately try to call your dad--

--but he doesn't answer his cell.

(Probably still in the hospital.)

Then, over the Torch's objections, you race back to *Forest Hills*--

--stopping quickly at home to score some clothes--

--and check for messages.

(Again, no luck!)

You don't even remember the trip to the hospital.

MIDTOWN MEDICAL

All you can think about is your mom.

It's been a pretty rough pregnancy and--Oh, god!

No!

No.

Daddy--?!

E-Everything's *fine,* dear.
The baby's *healthy* and your mother's doing *great.*
I...I'm sorry if I scared you...but I...I just...*wellllll...*
No need to explain.
I know the feeling.
Hey, Hotshot! I have someone who can't wait to meet you.
Benjamin Richard Parker, this lovely young lady is your older sister.
I have a hunch that you two are going to be having some pretty amazing adventures together.
Would you like to hold him, hon?
H-He's *beautiful!* Tell me, Dad--did you name him after *my* Uncle Ben or *yours?*
Does it really matter?
Guess not!
Hi, Ben--*Hoo-boy!* Have I got *lots* to teach you!
Welcome to the first day of the rest of your life--!
THE END... for now!