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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

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BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY



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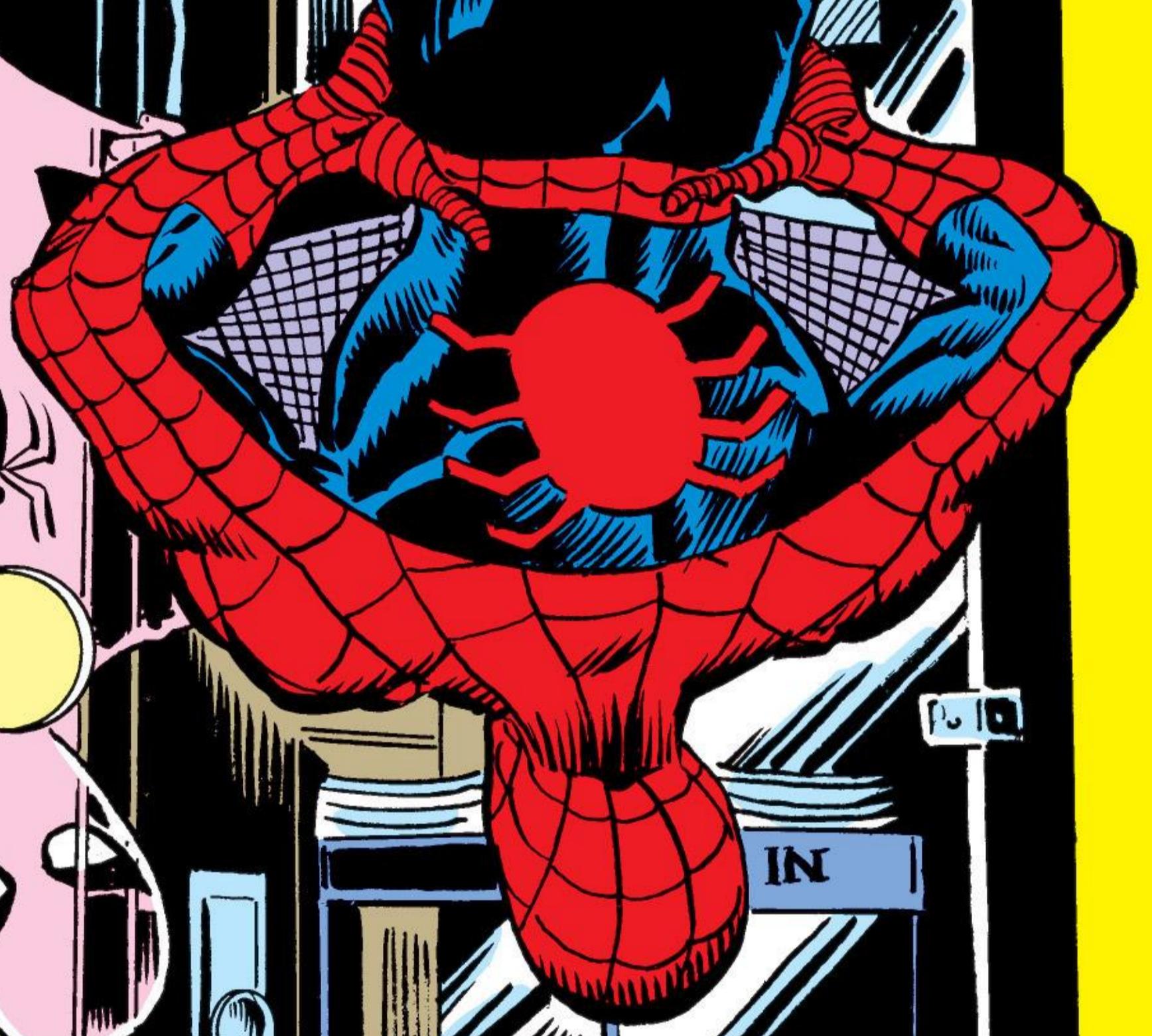
TOM DEFALCO
EDITOR

JIM SHOOTER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

10:06 AM...THE
OFFICES OF
MANHATTAN
DISTRICT AT-
TORNEY BLAKE
TOWER...

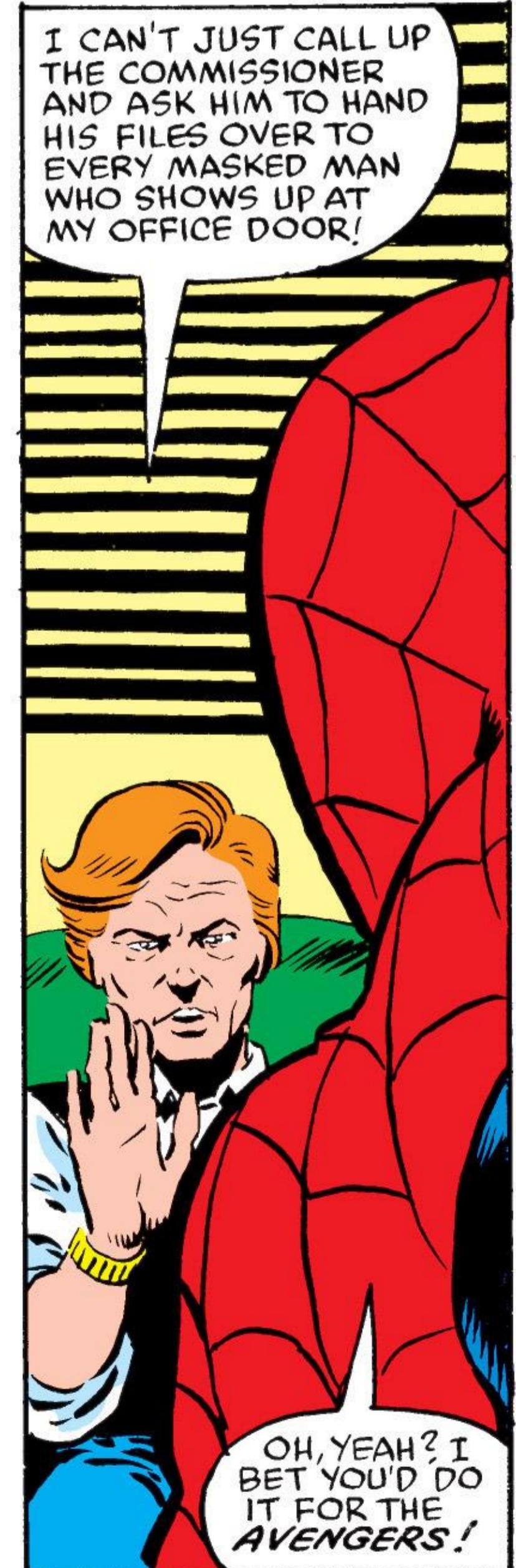
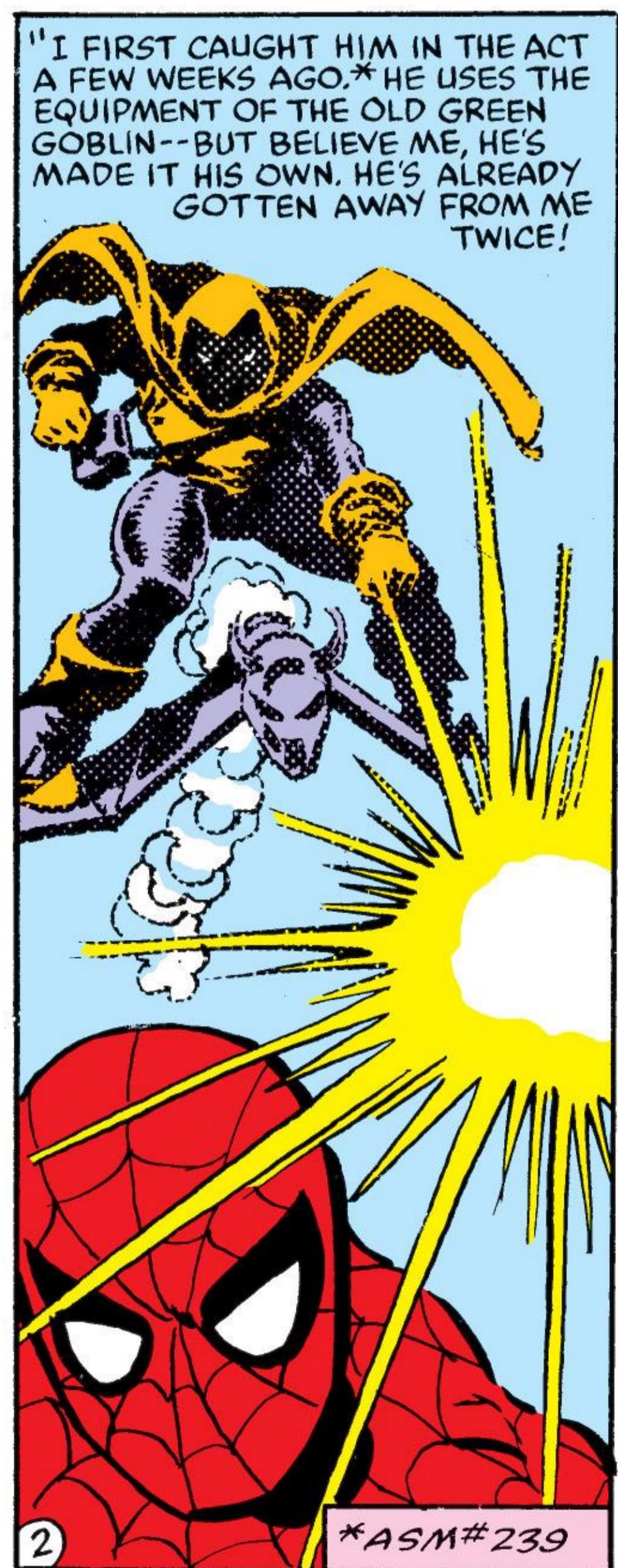
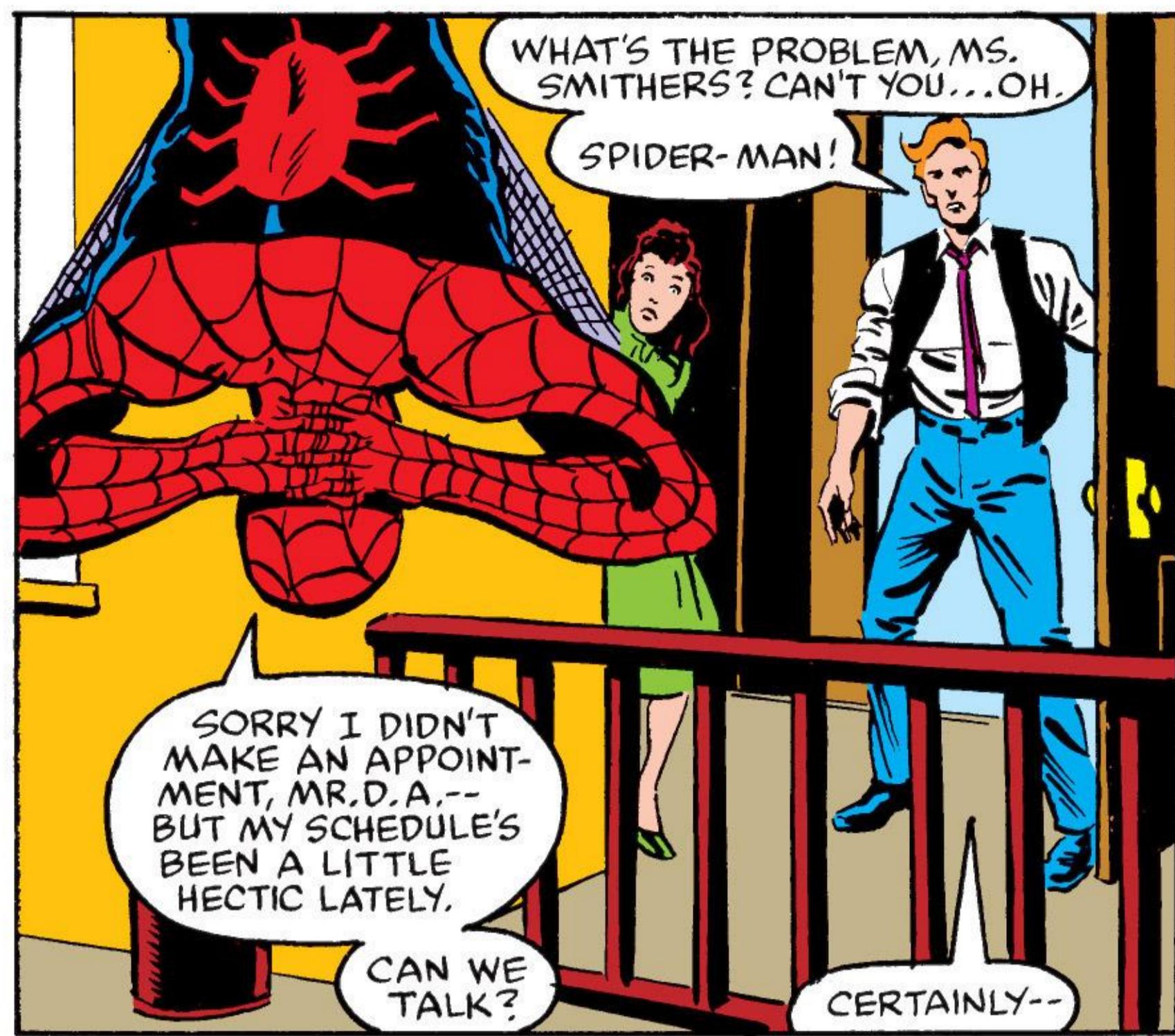
UH, S-SORRY TO
BUZZ YOU, SIR...
I KNOW YOU DIDN'T
WANT TO BE DIS-
TURBED...BUT THERE'S
SOMEONE HERE TO
SEE YOU...

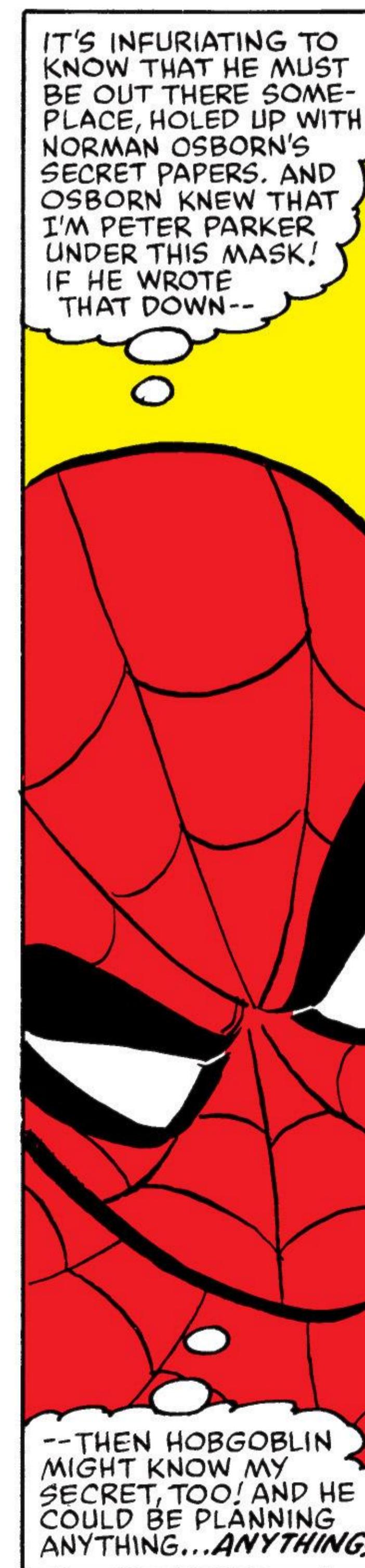
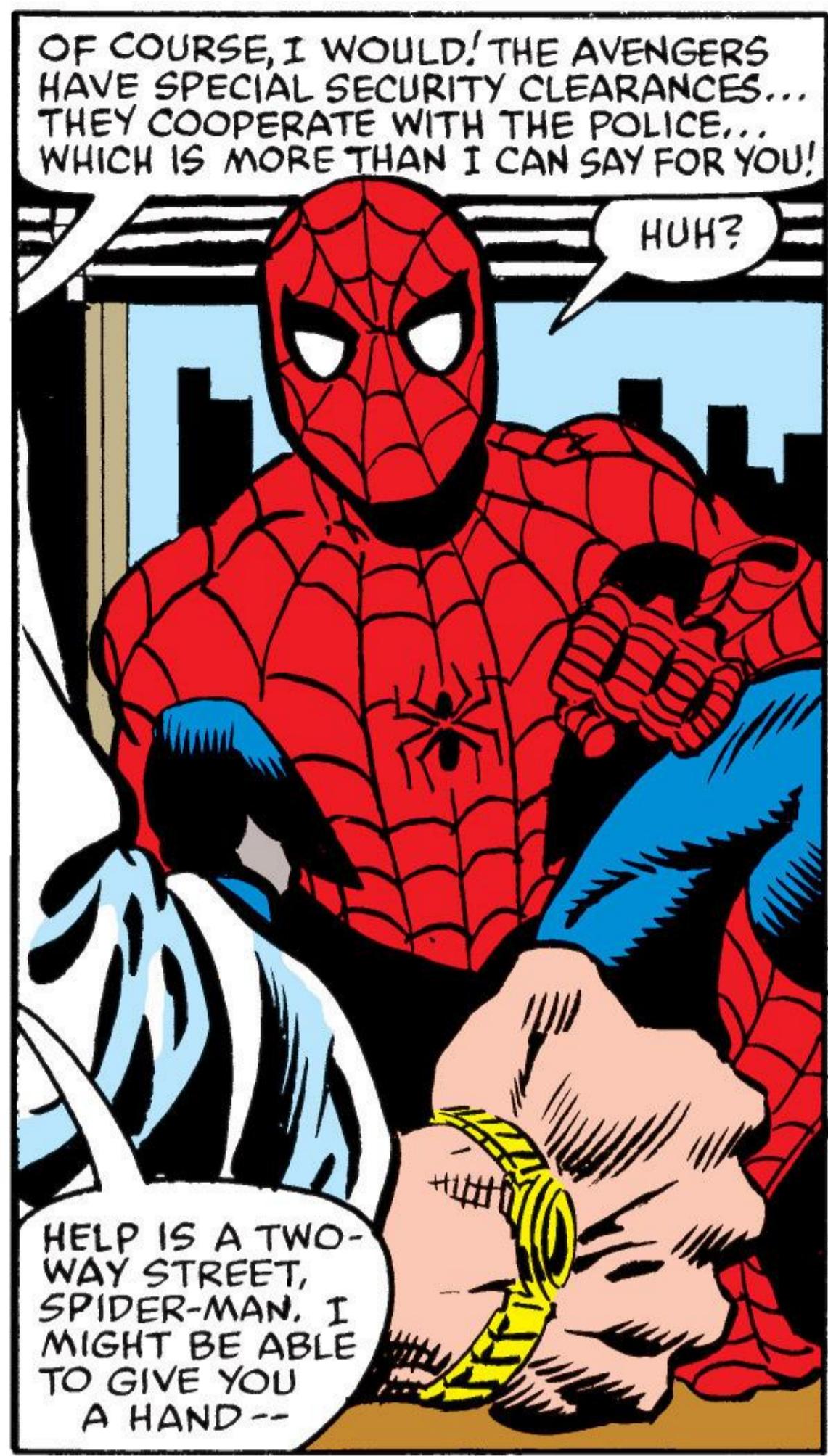
...AND I
DON'T THINK
HE'LL GO AWAY
UNTIL HE DOES!

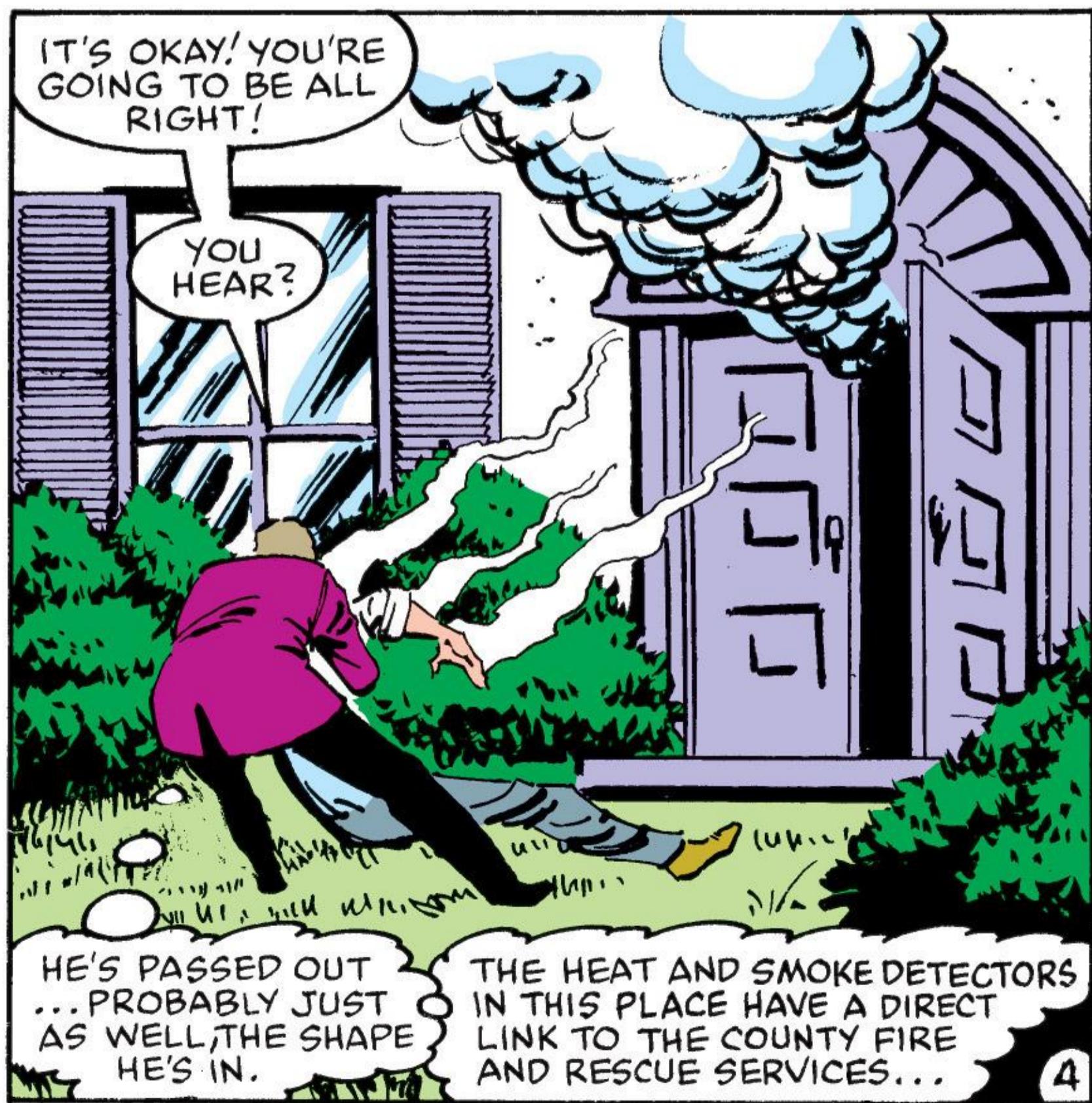
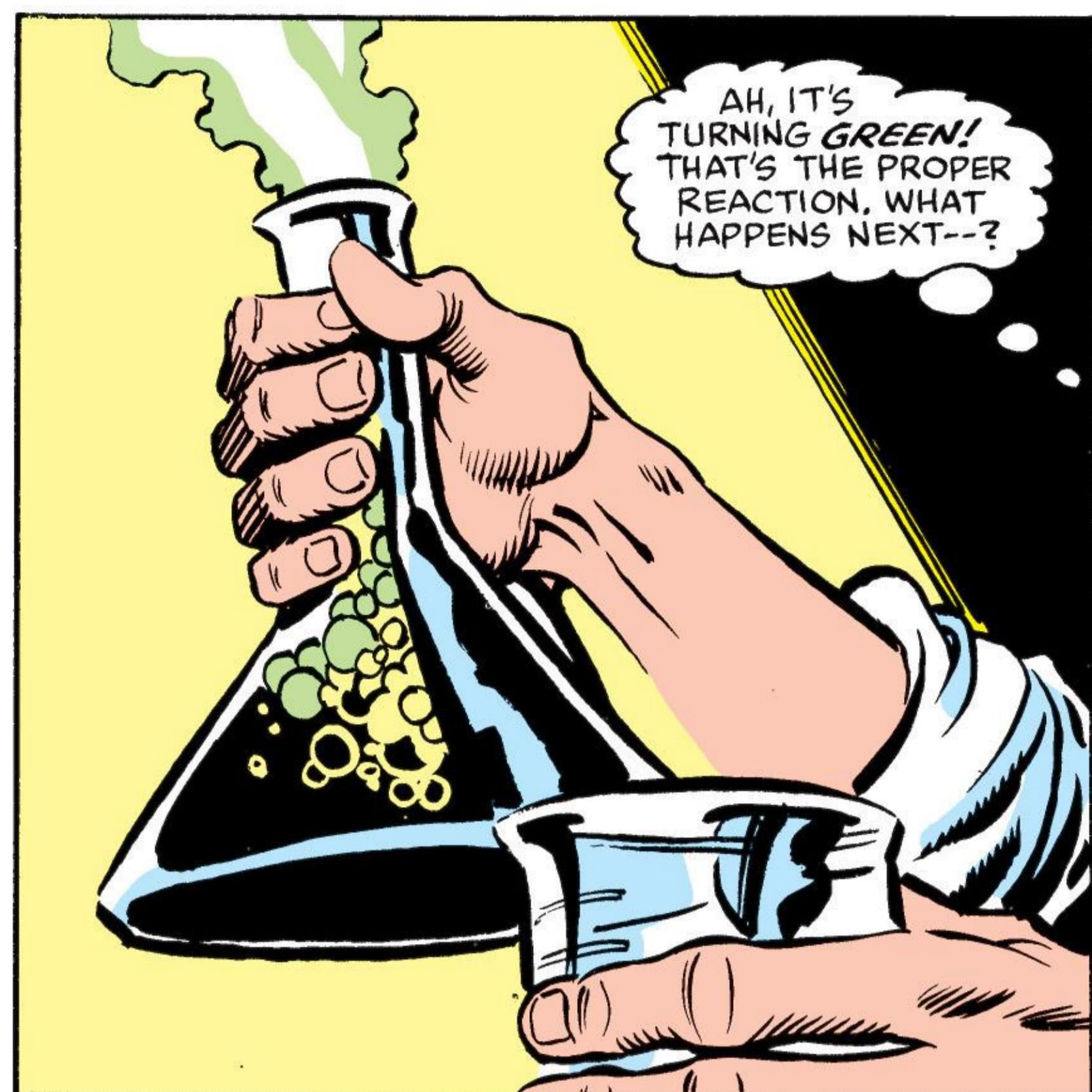


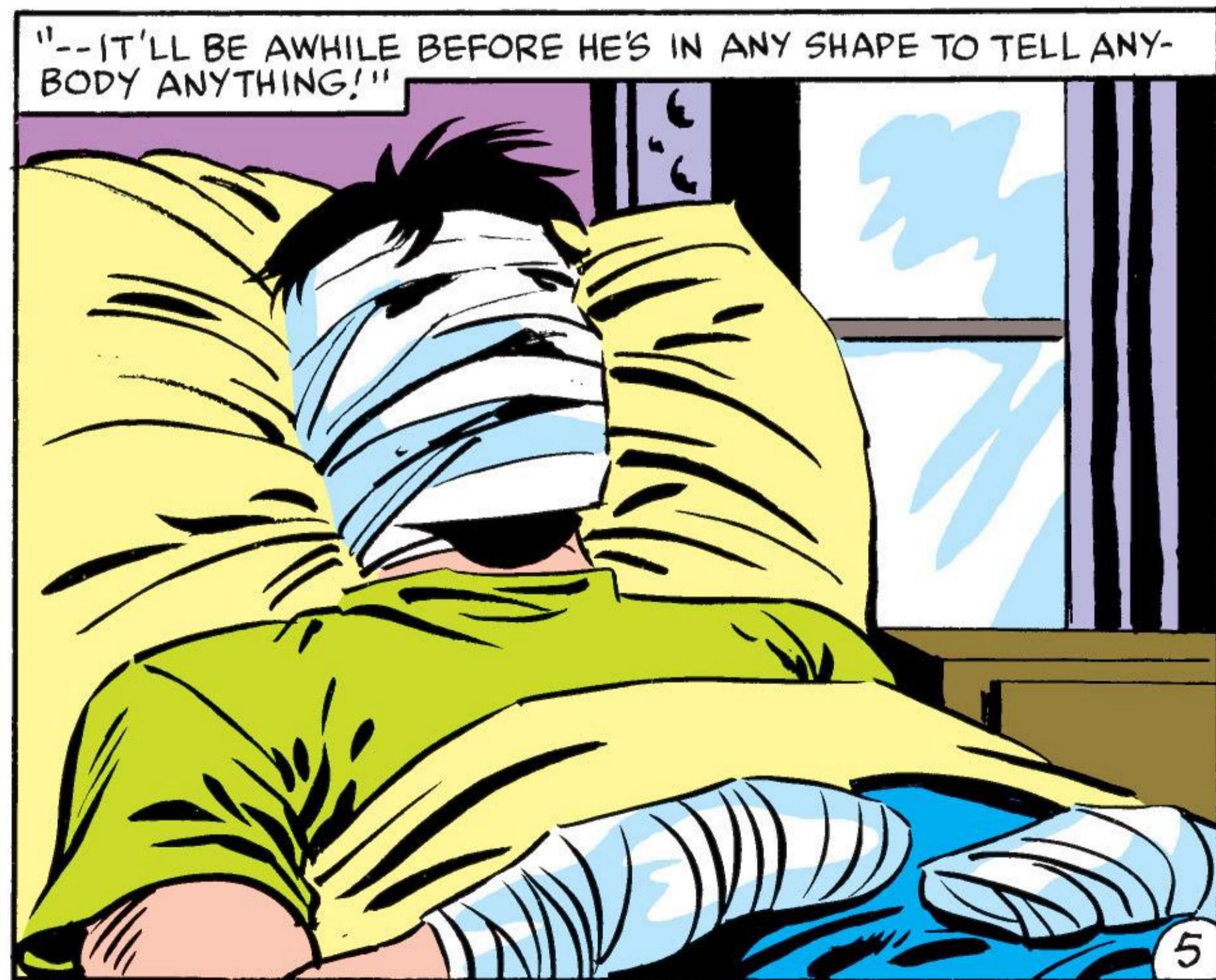
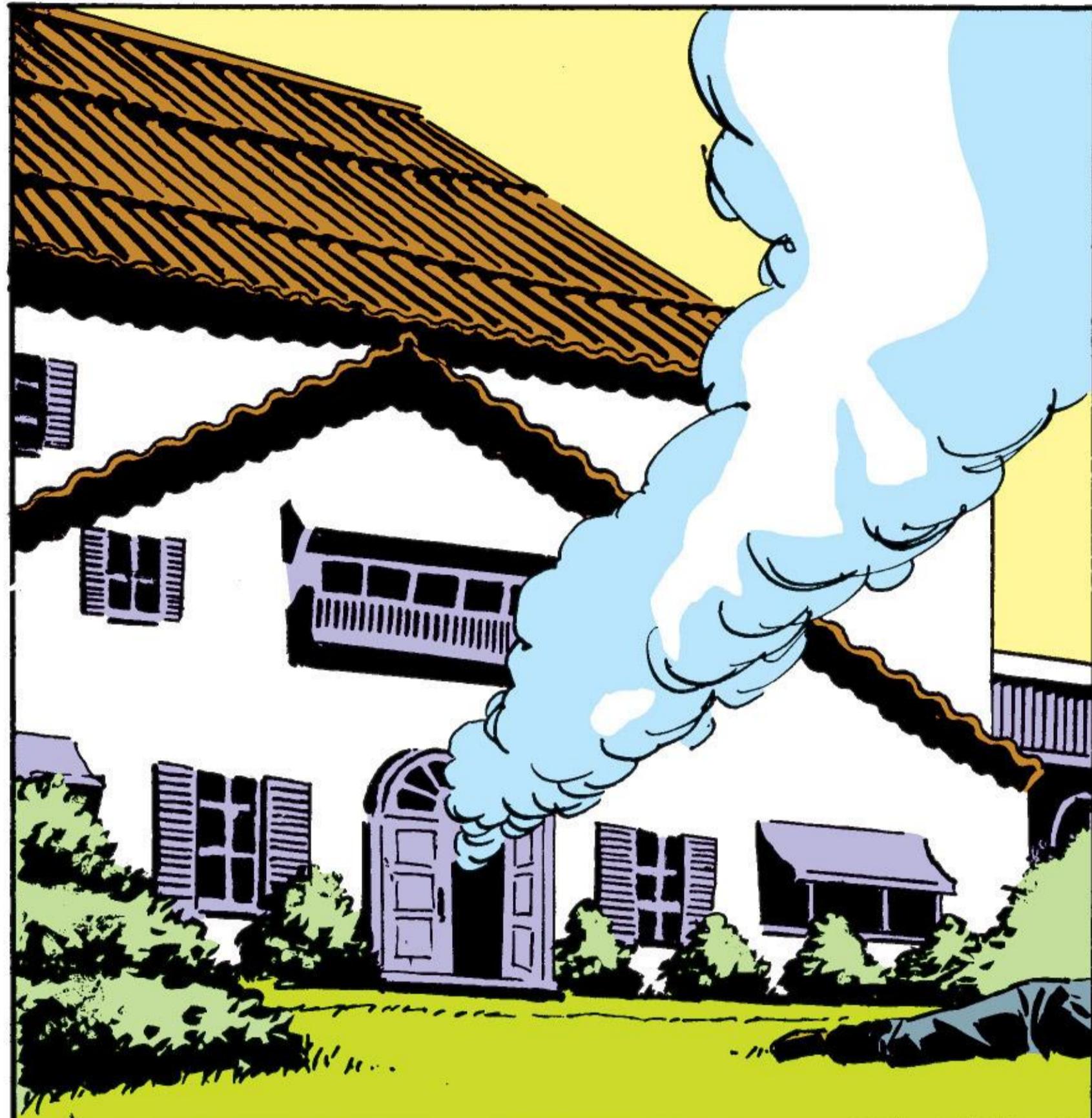
STAN LEE
PRESENTS

SACRIFICE PLAY!









MIDTOWN MANHATTAN, AFTERNOON...

NOW'S THE TIME WHEN IT WOULD REALLY BE HANDY TO BELONG TO THE AVENGERS. IF I WERE AN AVENGER, I COULD JUST PUNCH UP LEFTY DONOVAN'S STATISTICS ON THEIR COMPUTER.

OR BETTER YET, I COULD HAVE THE BUTLER DO IT, WHILE I LOLLED AROUND THE MANSION AND COUNTED THE ZEROES ON MY PAYCHECK!

MAN, I CAN'T BELIEVE THE SALARY THOSE GUYS GET!*

OH, WELL, THIS WORKING CLASS HERO WILL JUST HAVE TO FALL BACK ON HIS USUAL SOURCE OF INCOME AND INFORMATION!

SWINGING AROUND TO THE BACK OF THE BUGLE BUILDING, THE NIMBLE WEB-SLINGER ALIGHTS, CLINGING TO THE WALL LIKE SOME GREAT HUMAN SPIDER!

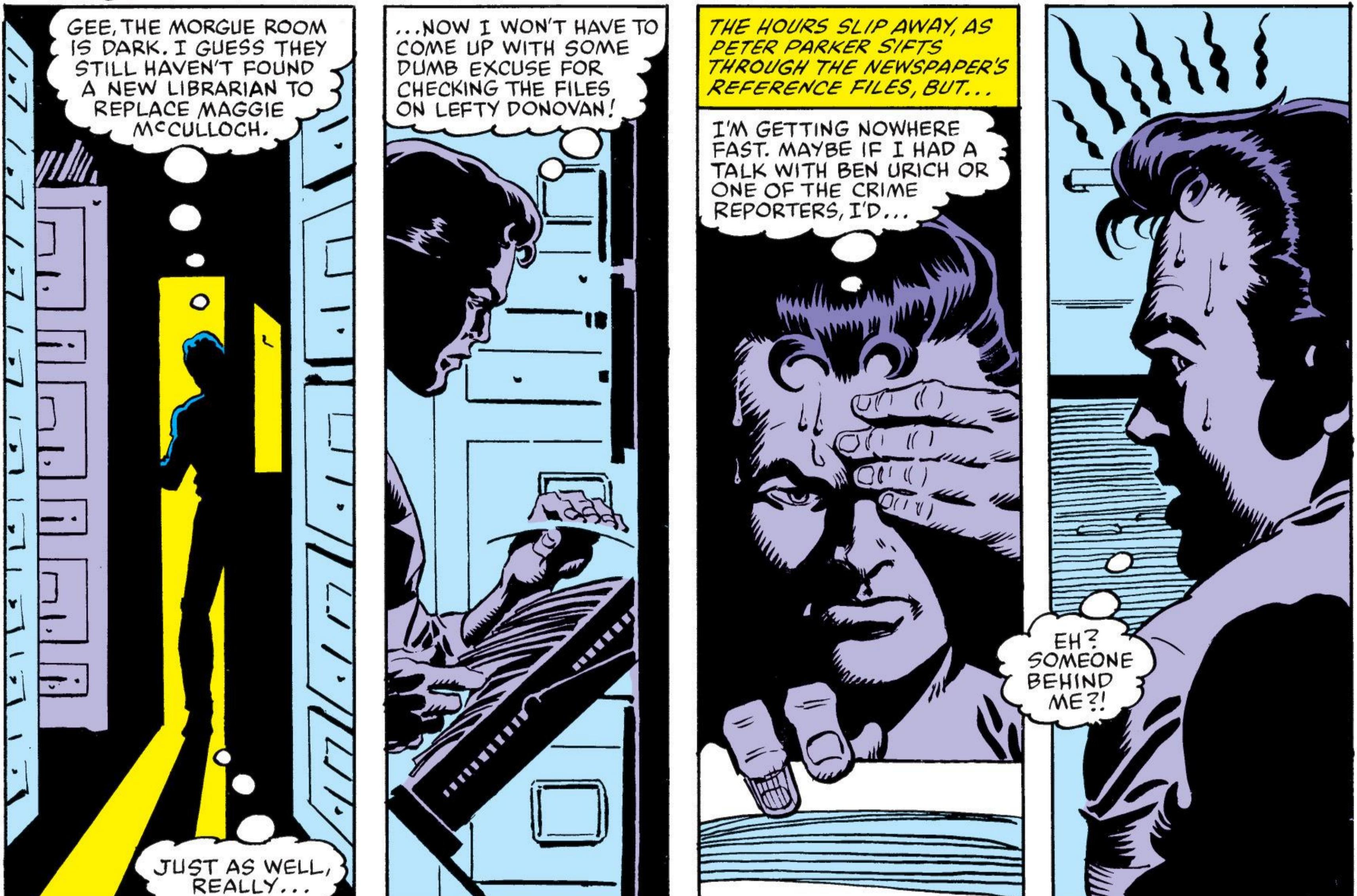
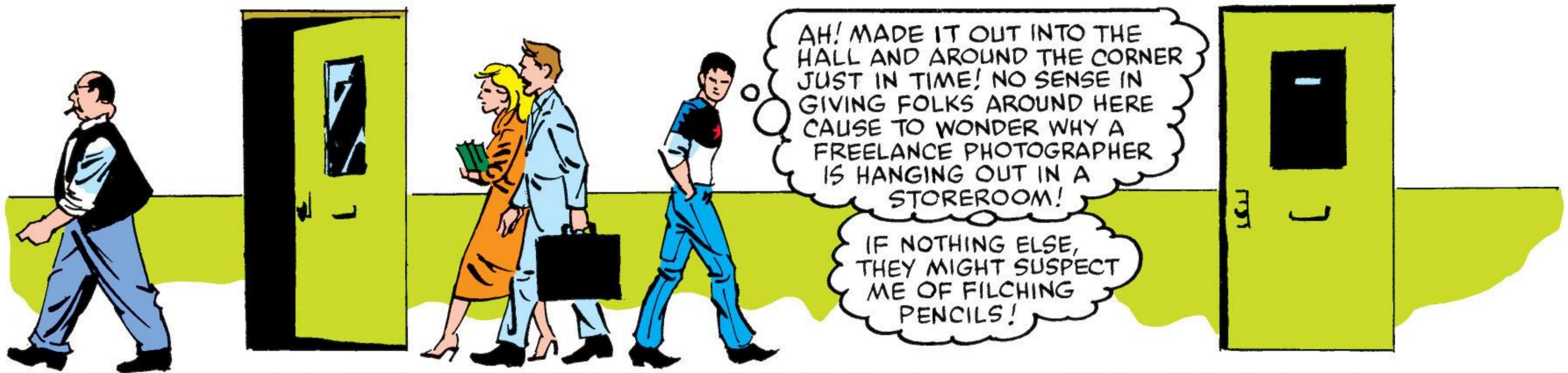
*HE FOUND OUT IN AVENGERS #235
... DID YOU?

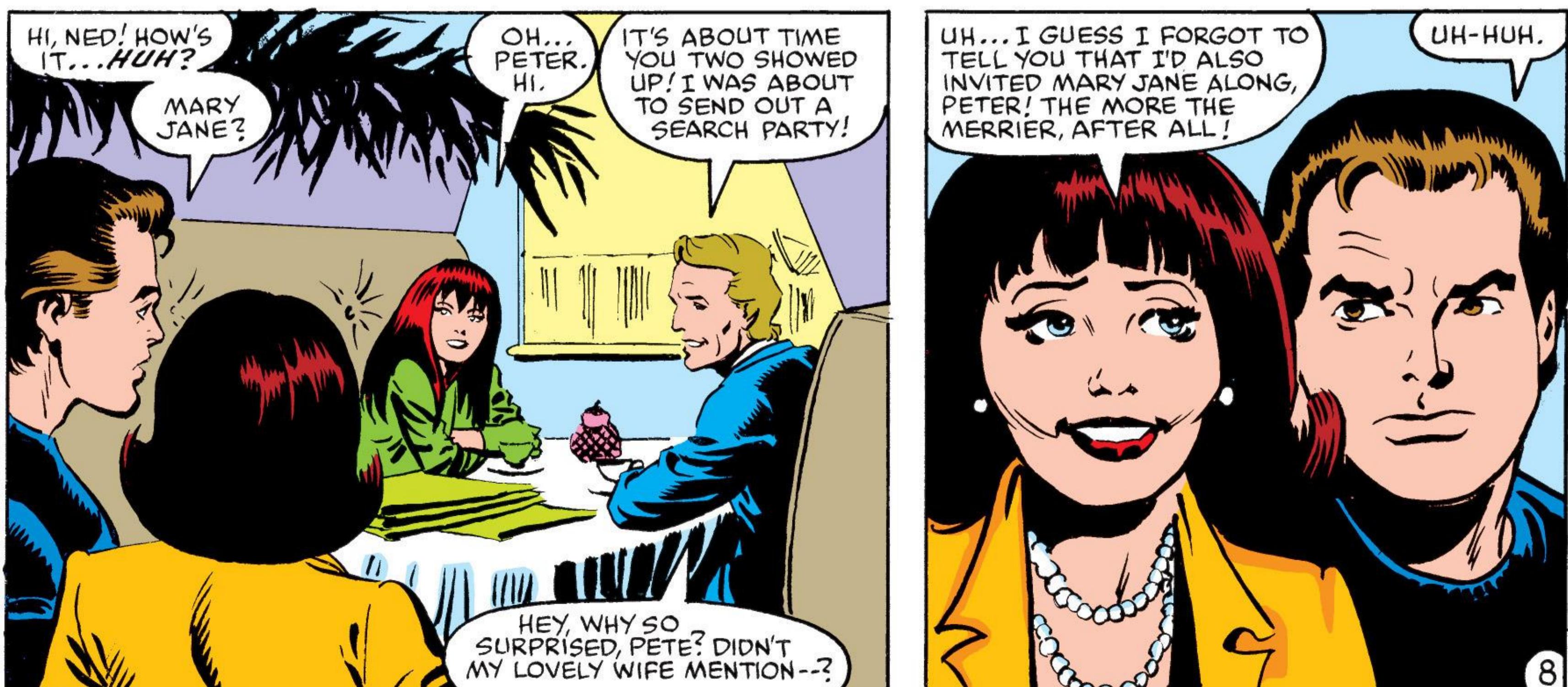
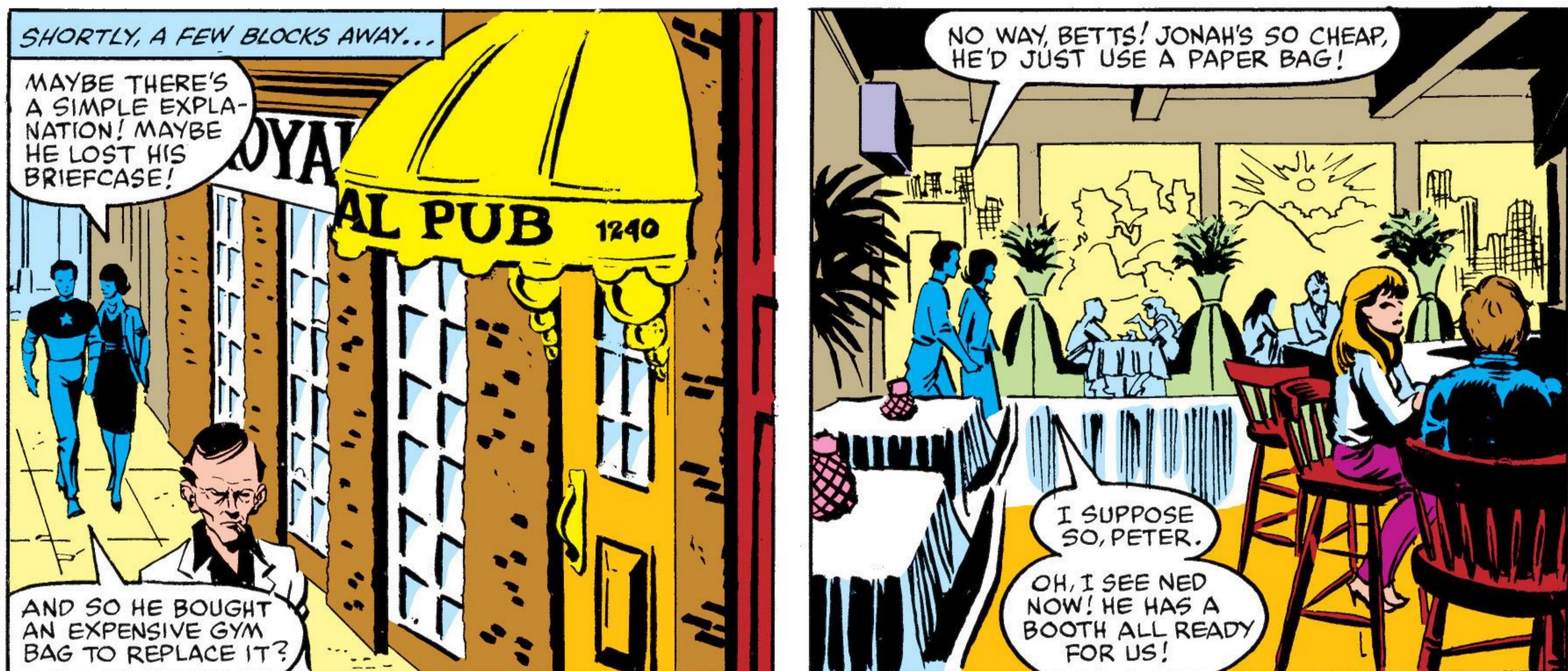
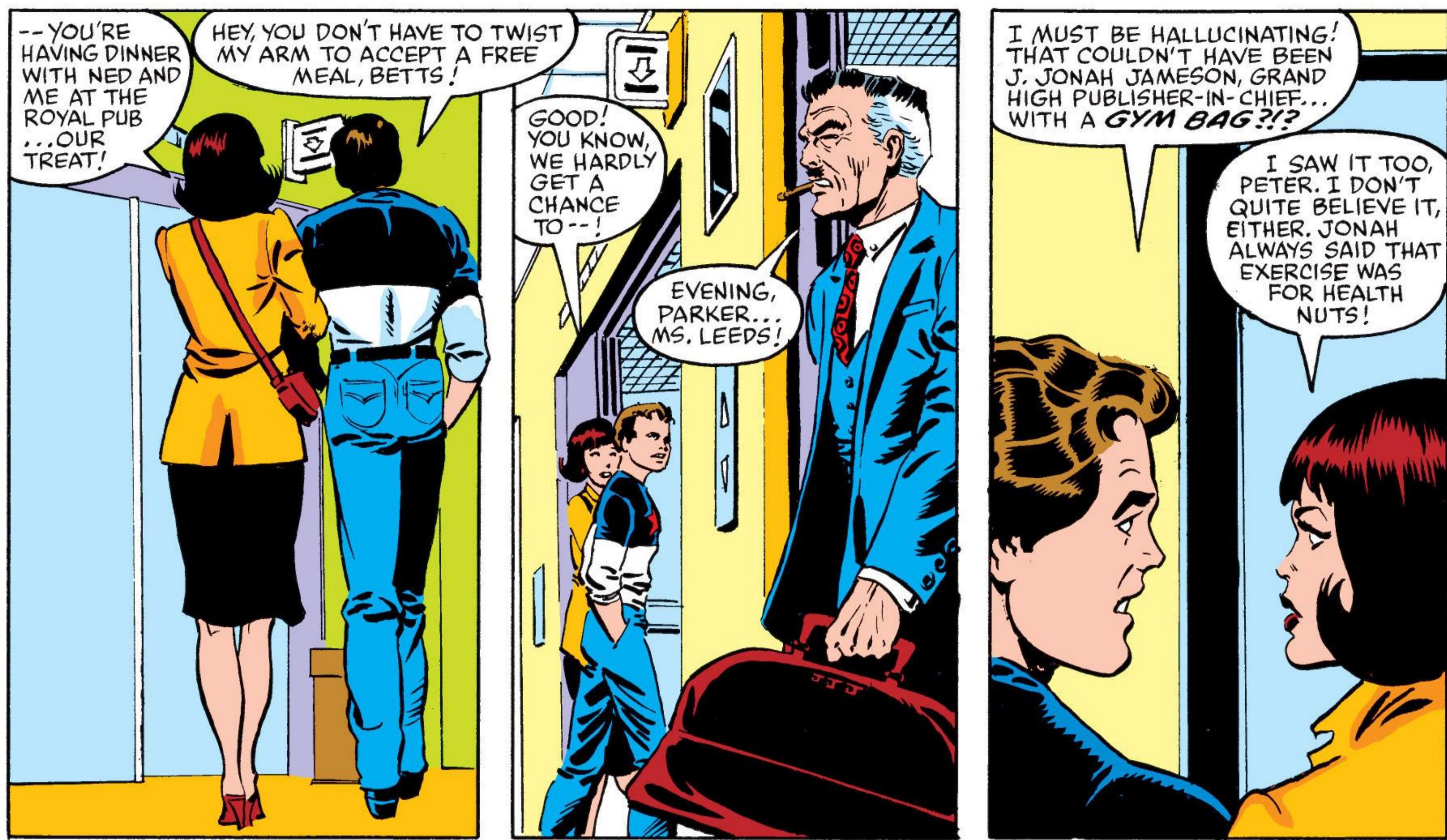
THEN, HE TURNS AND SKITTERS DOWN THE SIDE OF THE BUILDING, UNTIL HE COMES TO ONE PARTICULAR WINDOW.

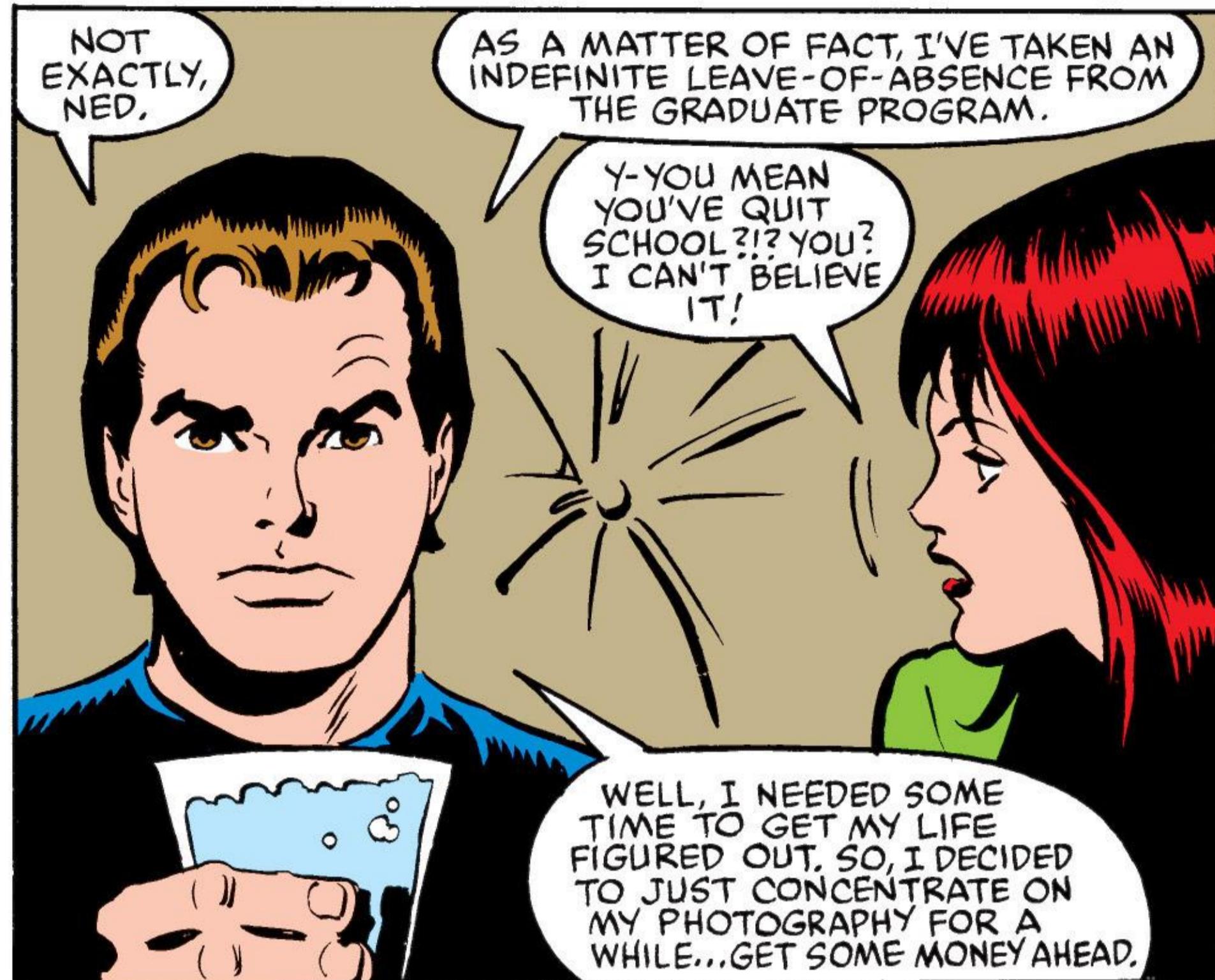
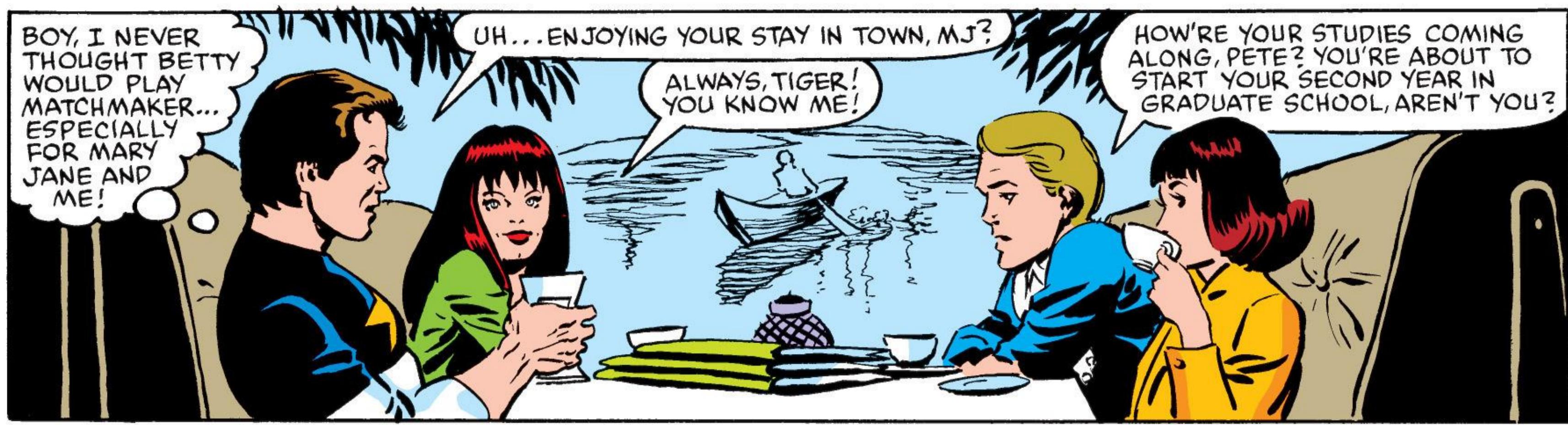
THAT'S THE NICE THING ABOUT TALL BUILDINGS--PEOPLE RARELY BOTHER TO LOCK THE WINDOWS ON THE 15TH FLOOR!

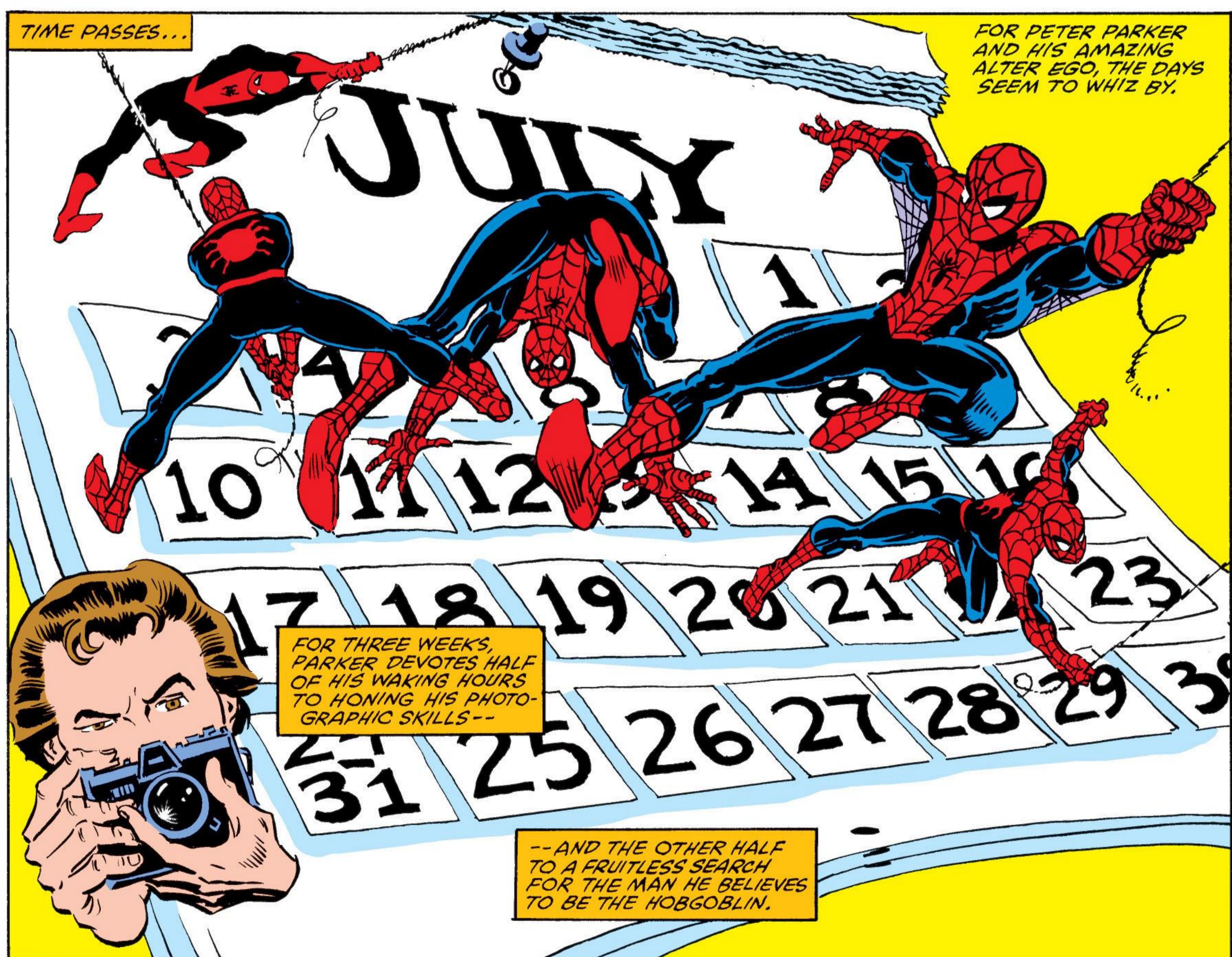
SPIDER-SENSE IS GIVING NARY A TINGLE... THE COAST MUST BE CLEAR!

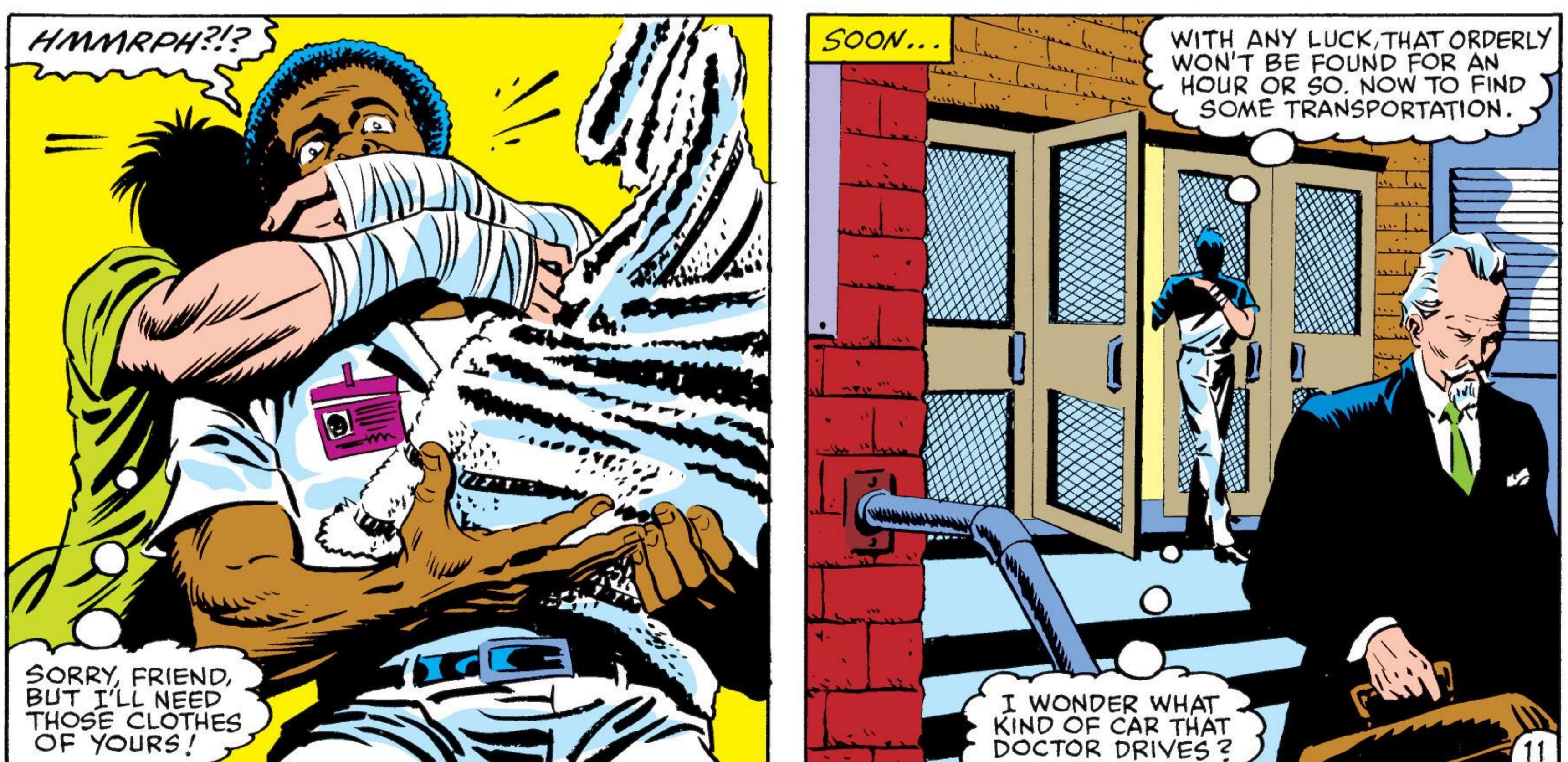
SLIDING THE WINDOW BACK INTO PLACE, SPIDER-MAN PULLS A SET OF STREET CLOTHES FROM THE WEB-PACK ON HIS BACK, AND AFTER A QUICK CHANGE...

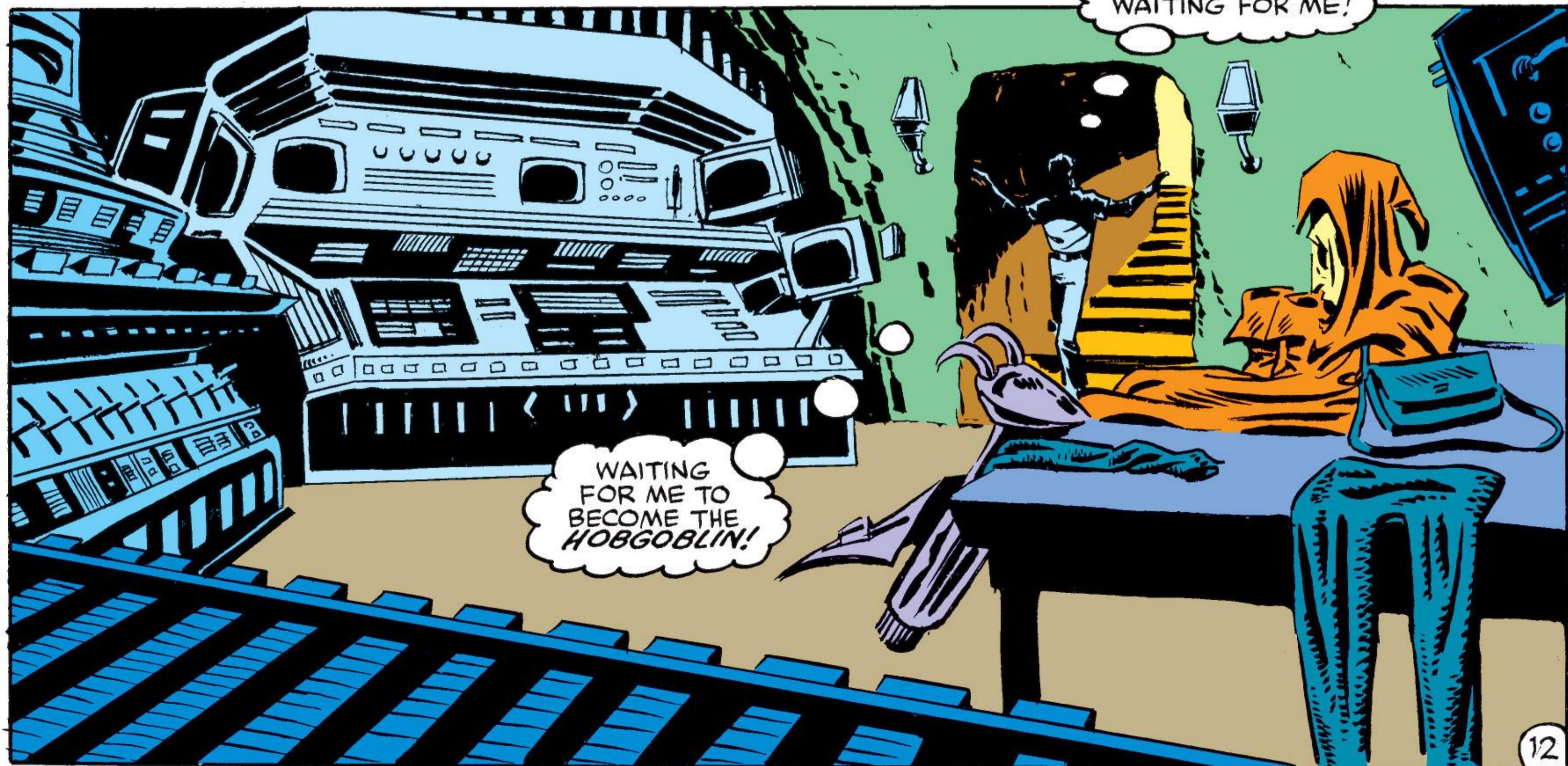
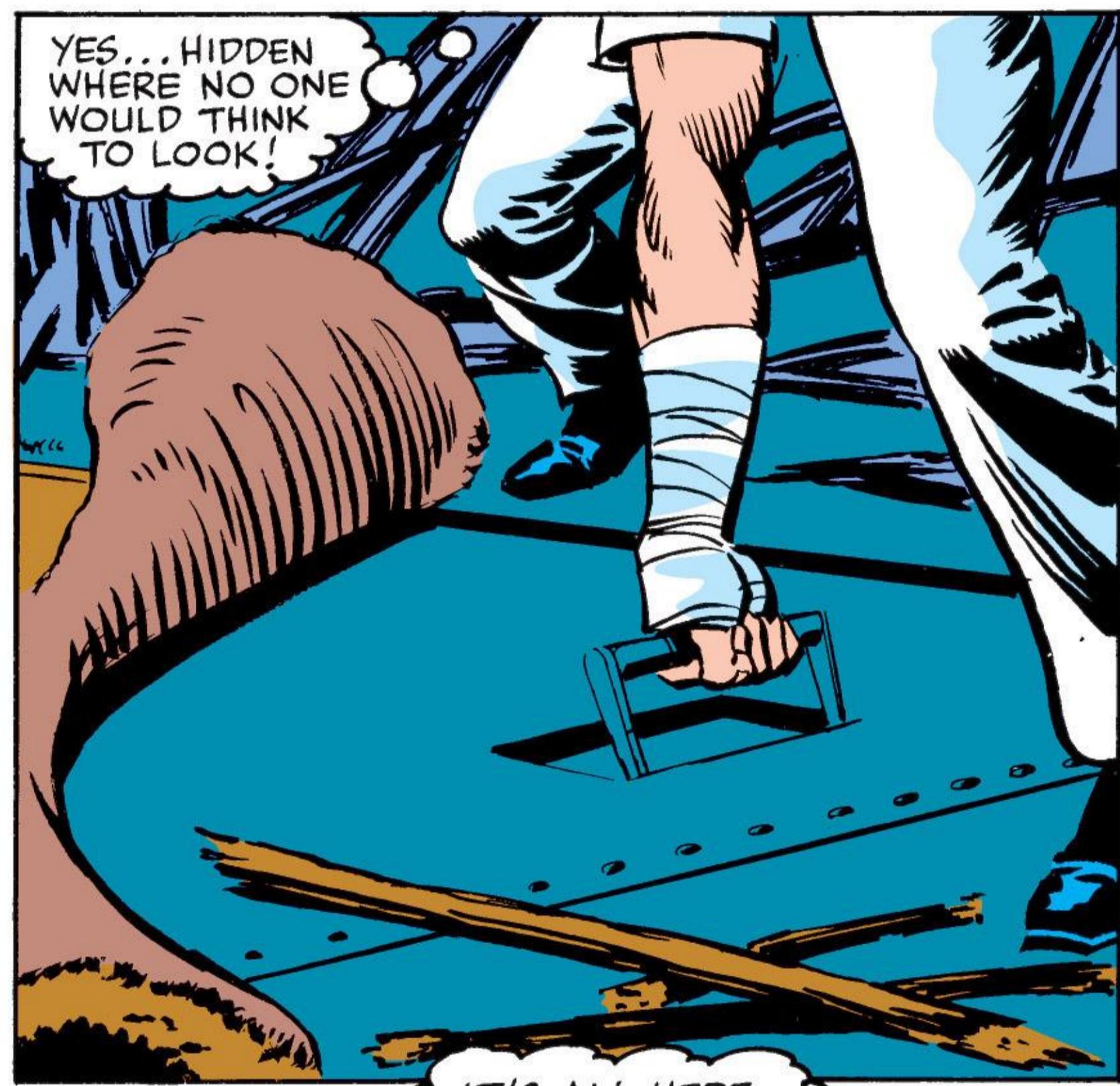
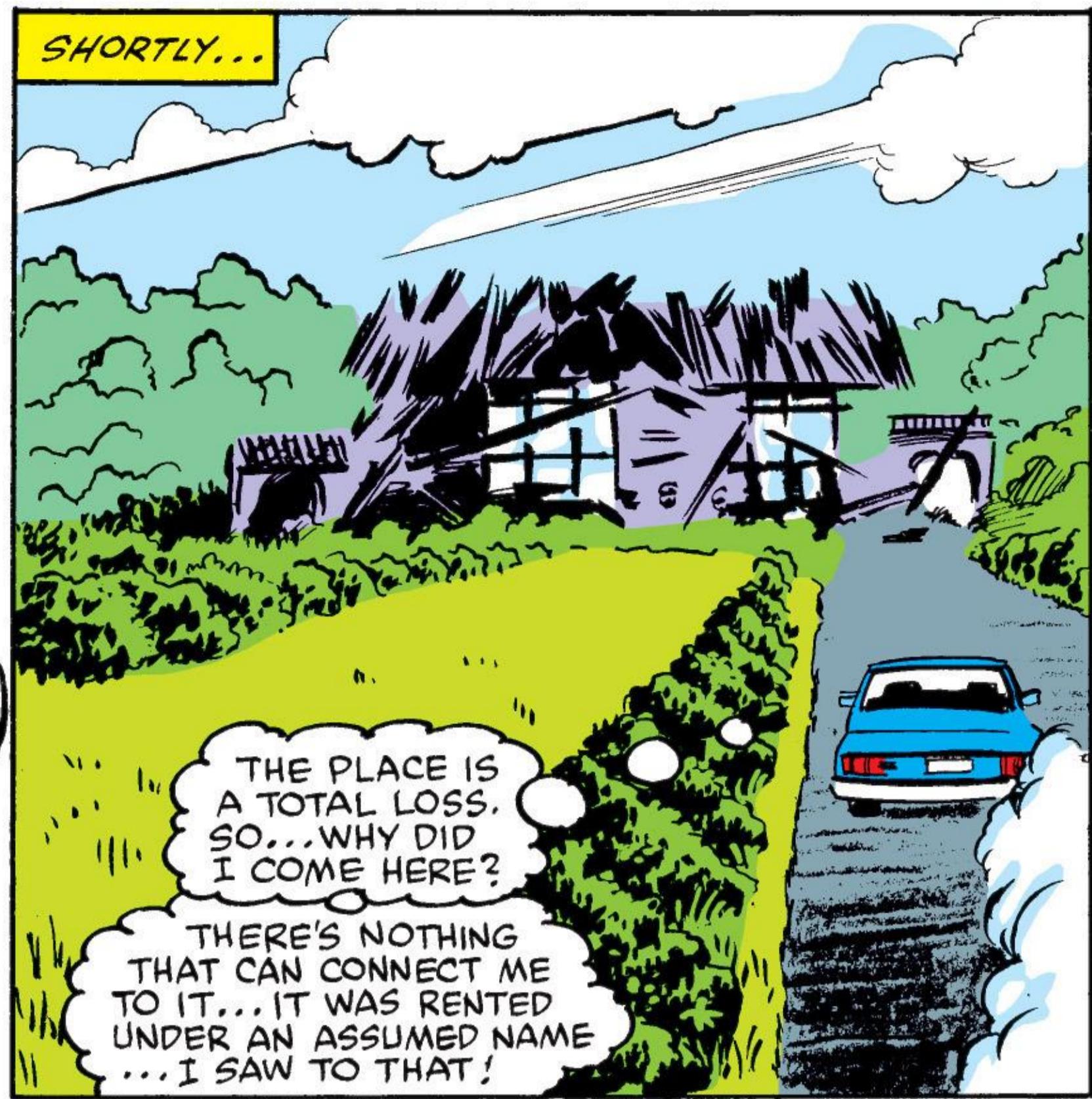
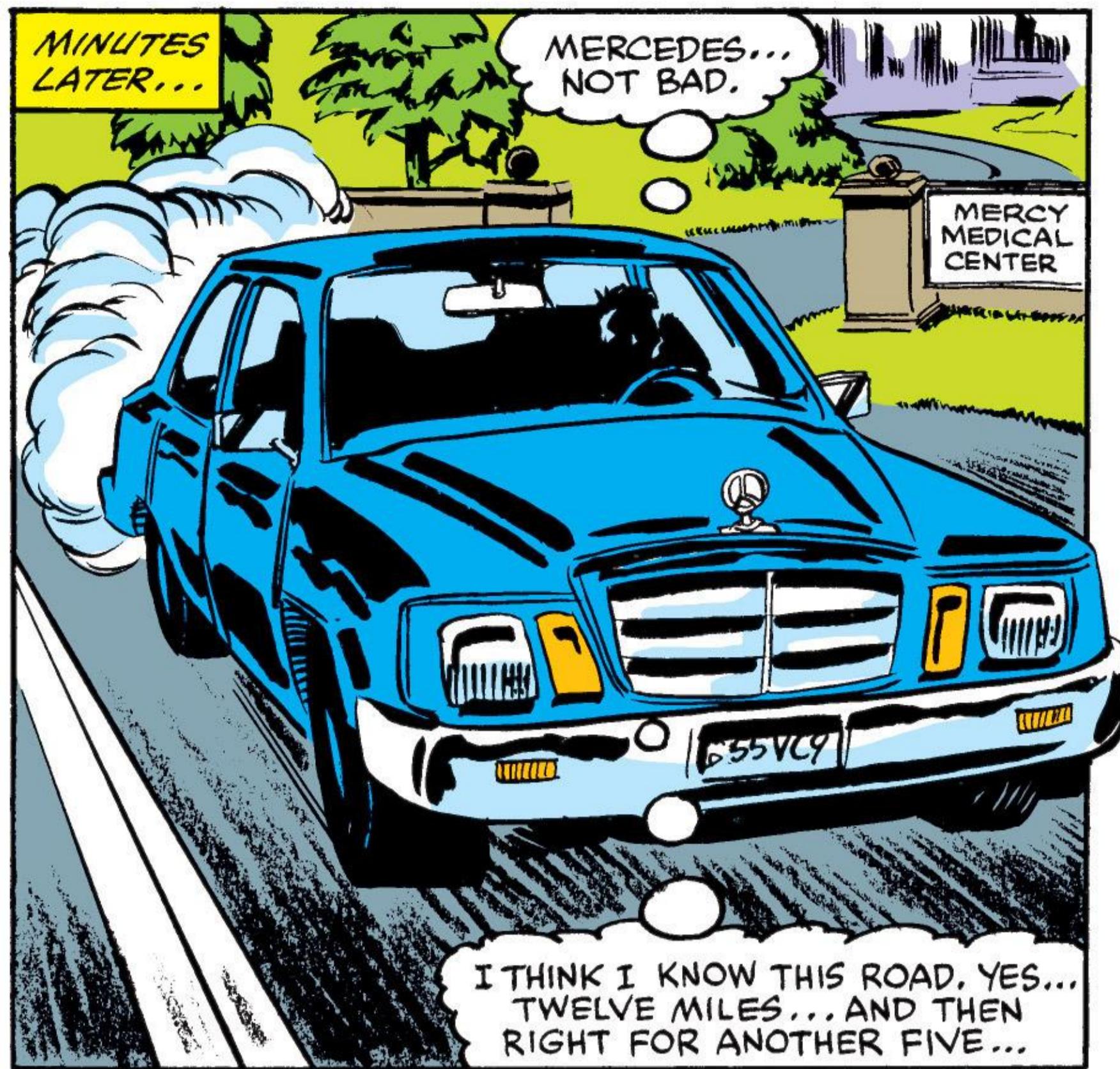


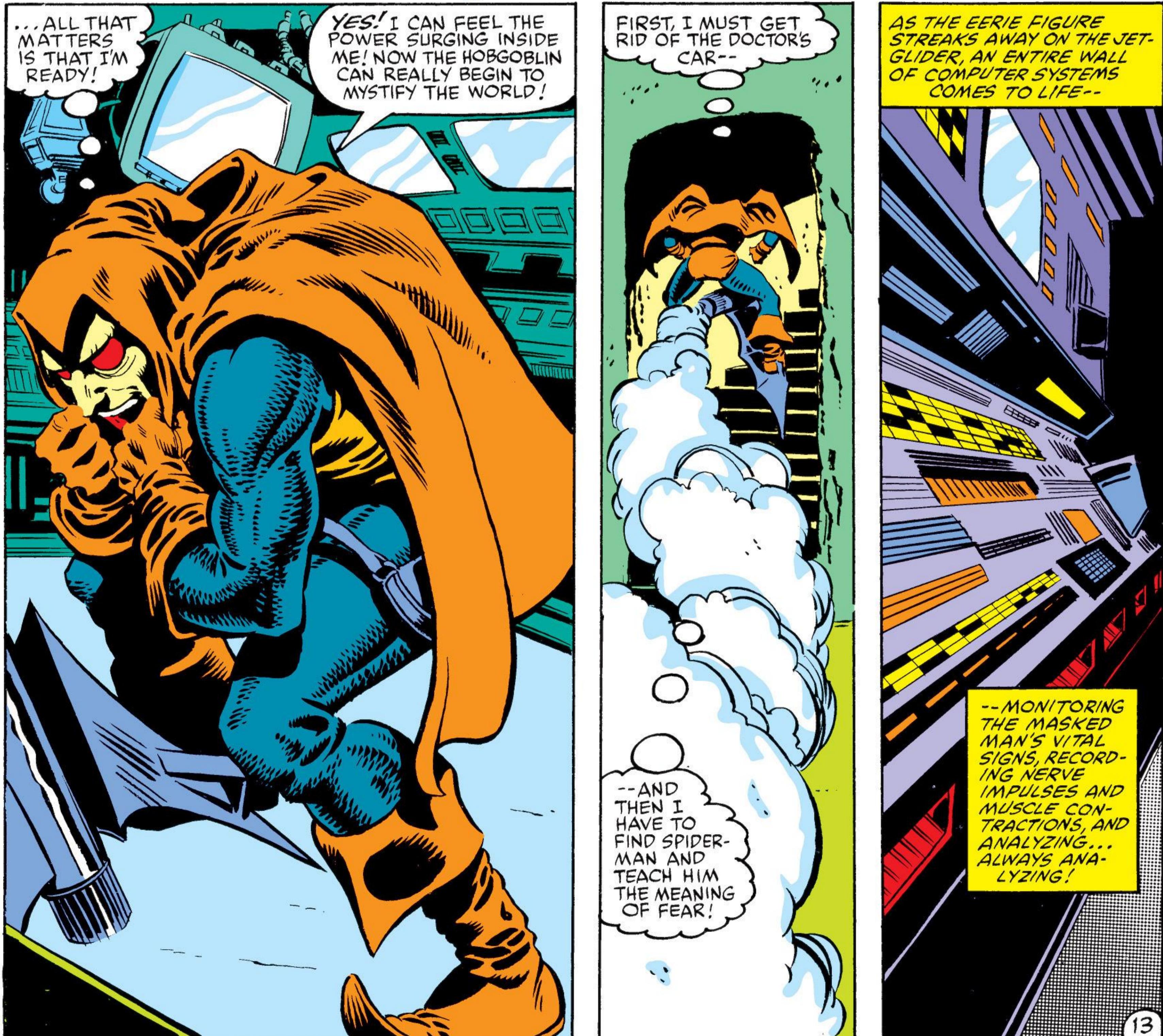
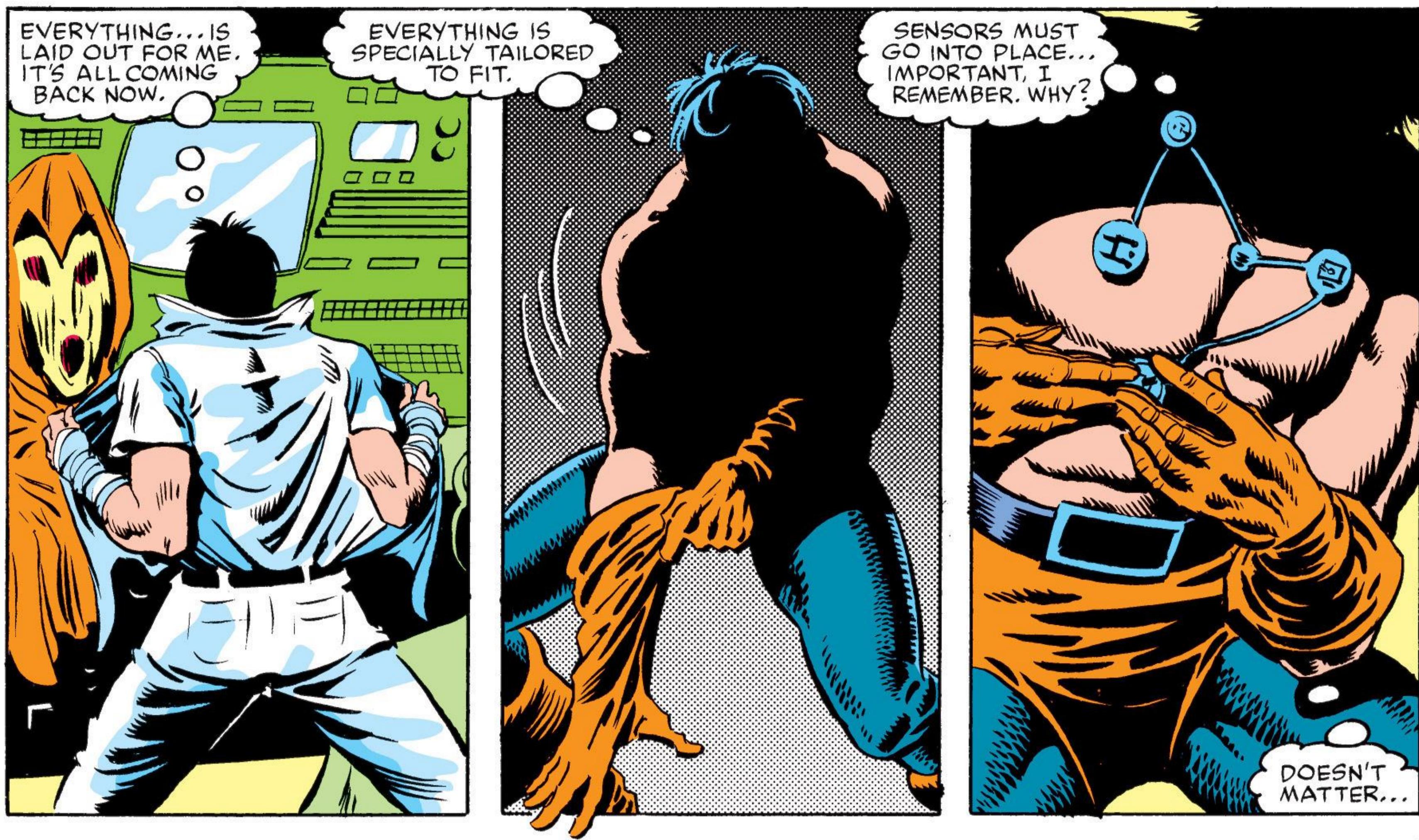








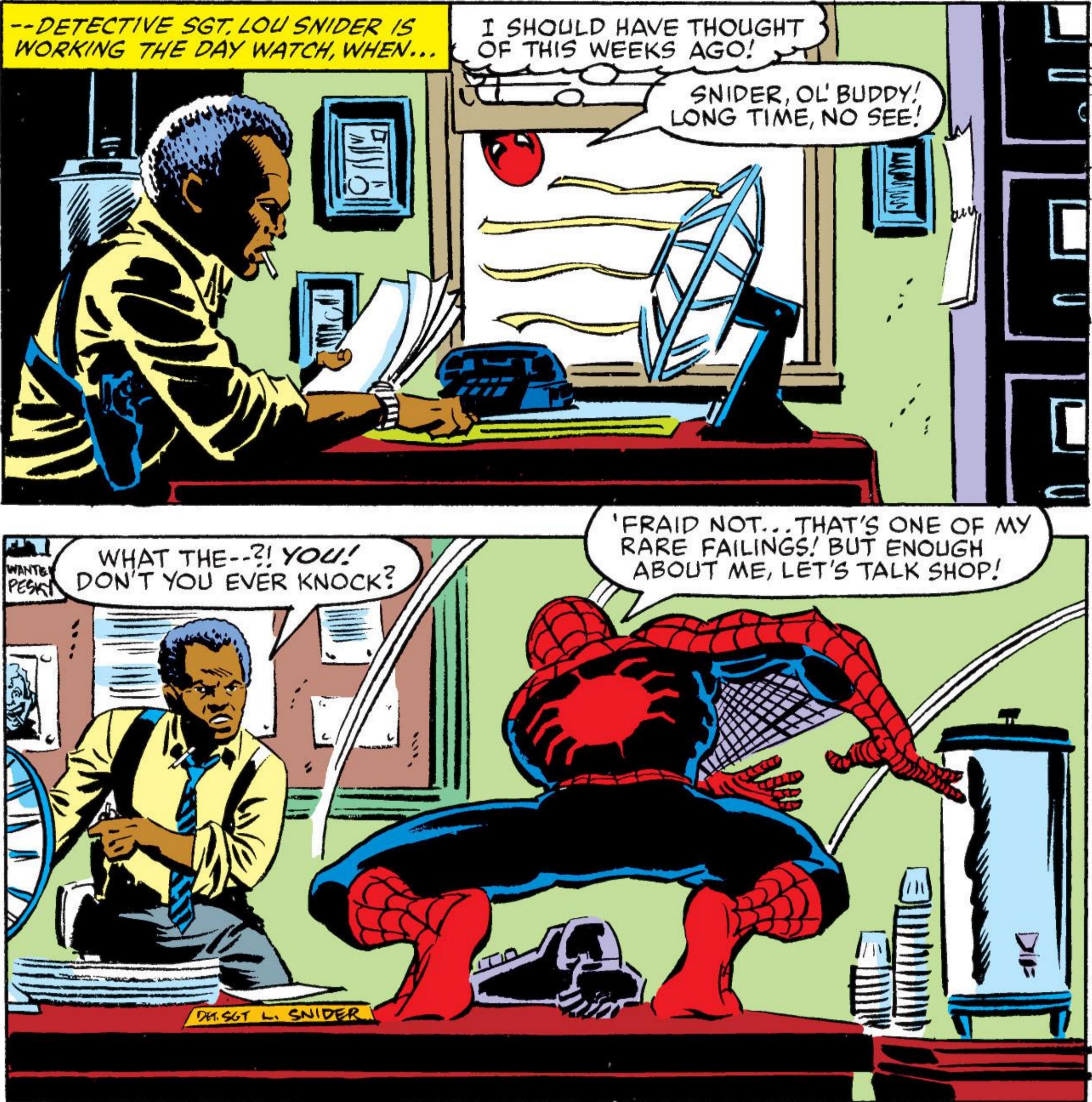




MEANWHILE, AT MANHATTAN'S FIFTH PRECINCT--



--DETECTIVE SGT. LOU SNIDER IS WORKING THE DAY WATCH, WHEN...



I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR A LESS-THAN-REPUTABLE GENT NAMED LEFTY DONOVAN. I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO FIND HIM, BUT I HAVE DISCOVERED THAT MOST OF HIS ENCOUNTERS WITH THE LAW HAVE BEEN IN THIS PRECINCT!

UH-HUH, SO YOU THOUGHT YOU'D WALTZ IN HERE AND HAVE A LOOK AT HIS FILE, EH?

WELL, FORGET IT! I'M NOT STICKIN' MY NECK OUT FOR YOU! YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE REAL CHUMMY WITH CAPTAIN DEWOLFF UP IN MIDTOWN

--WHY DON'T YA ASK HER FOR HELP?

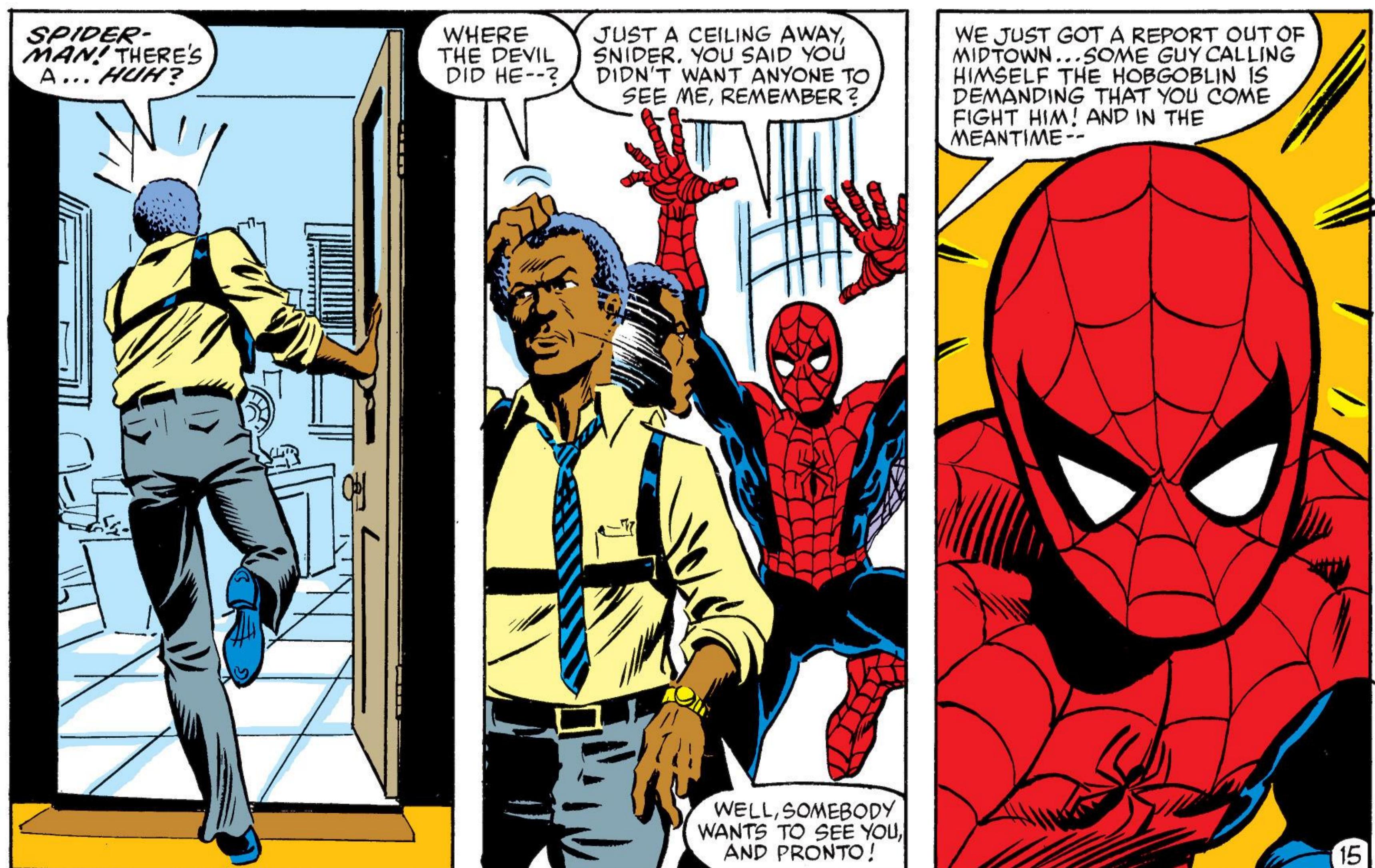
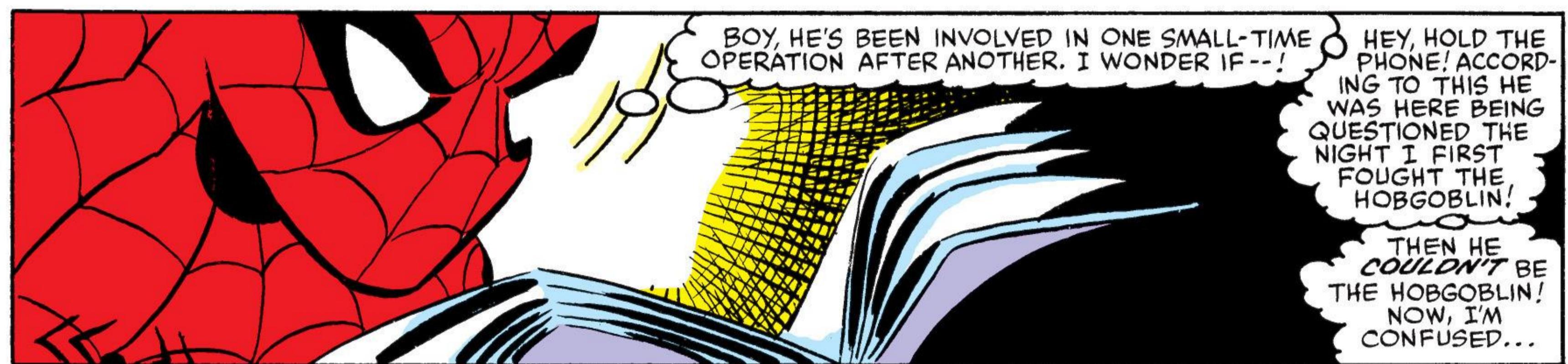
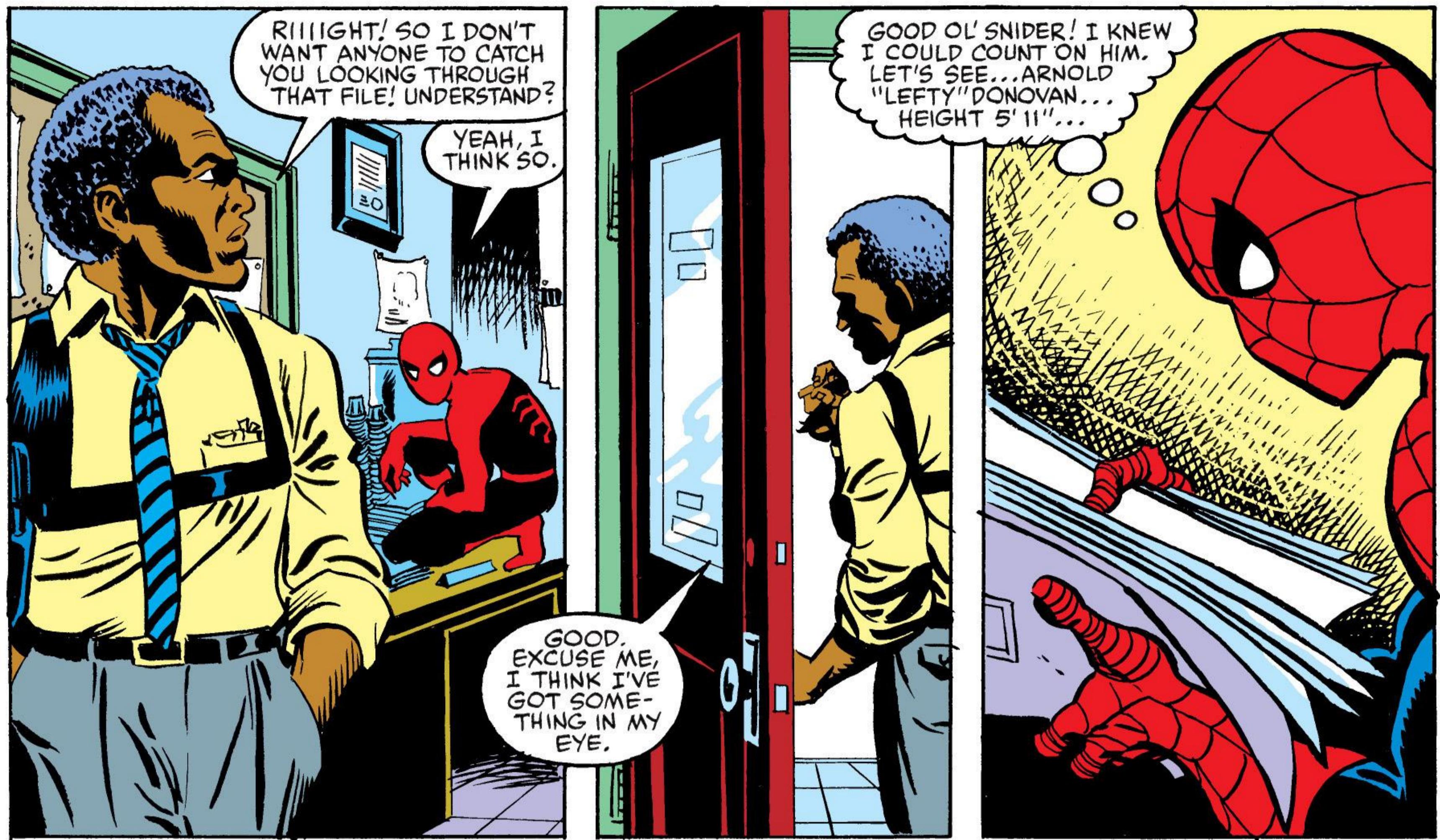
I DID. SHE SENT ME TO YOU! C'MON, SNIDER--!

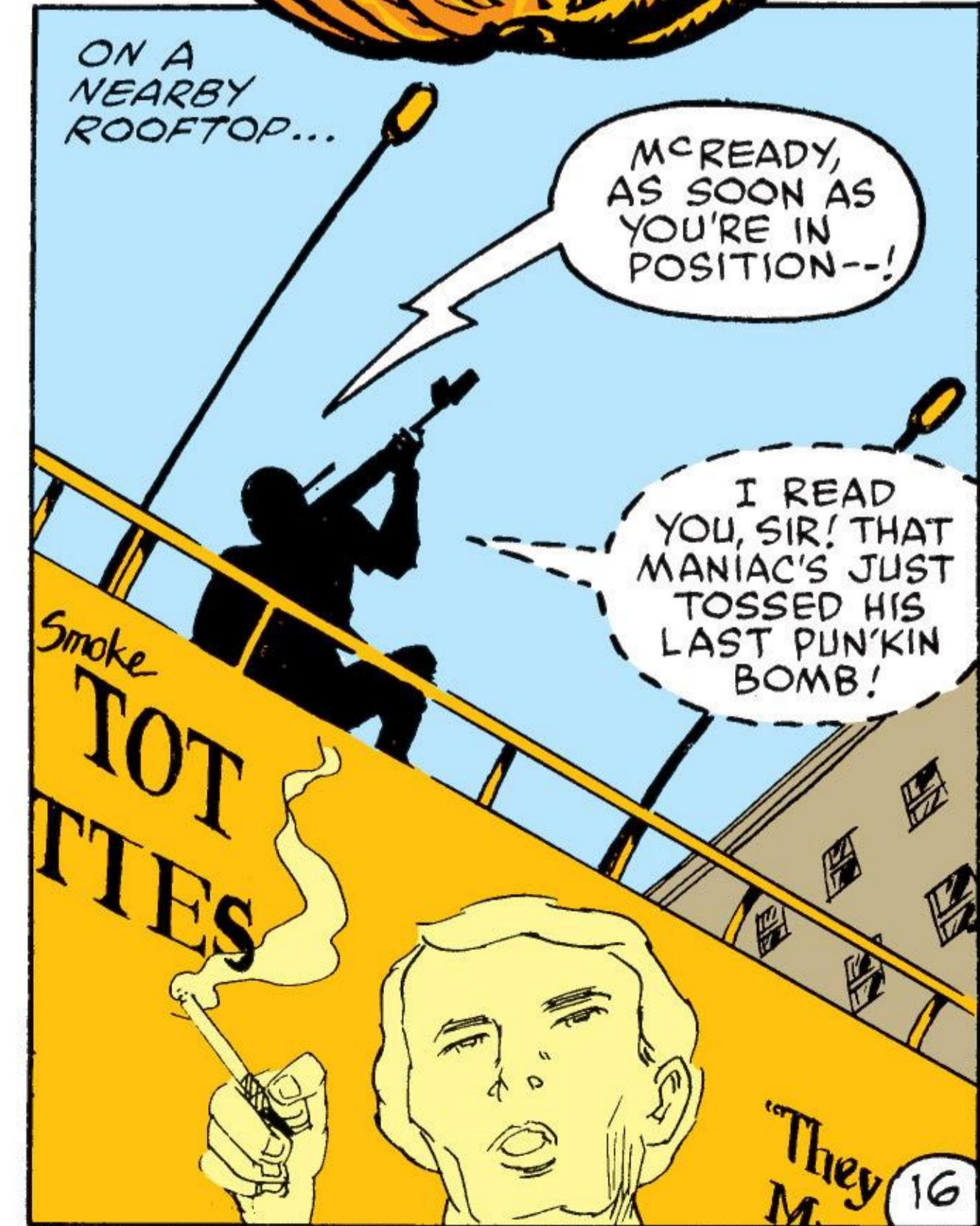
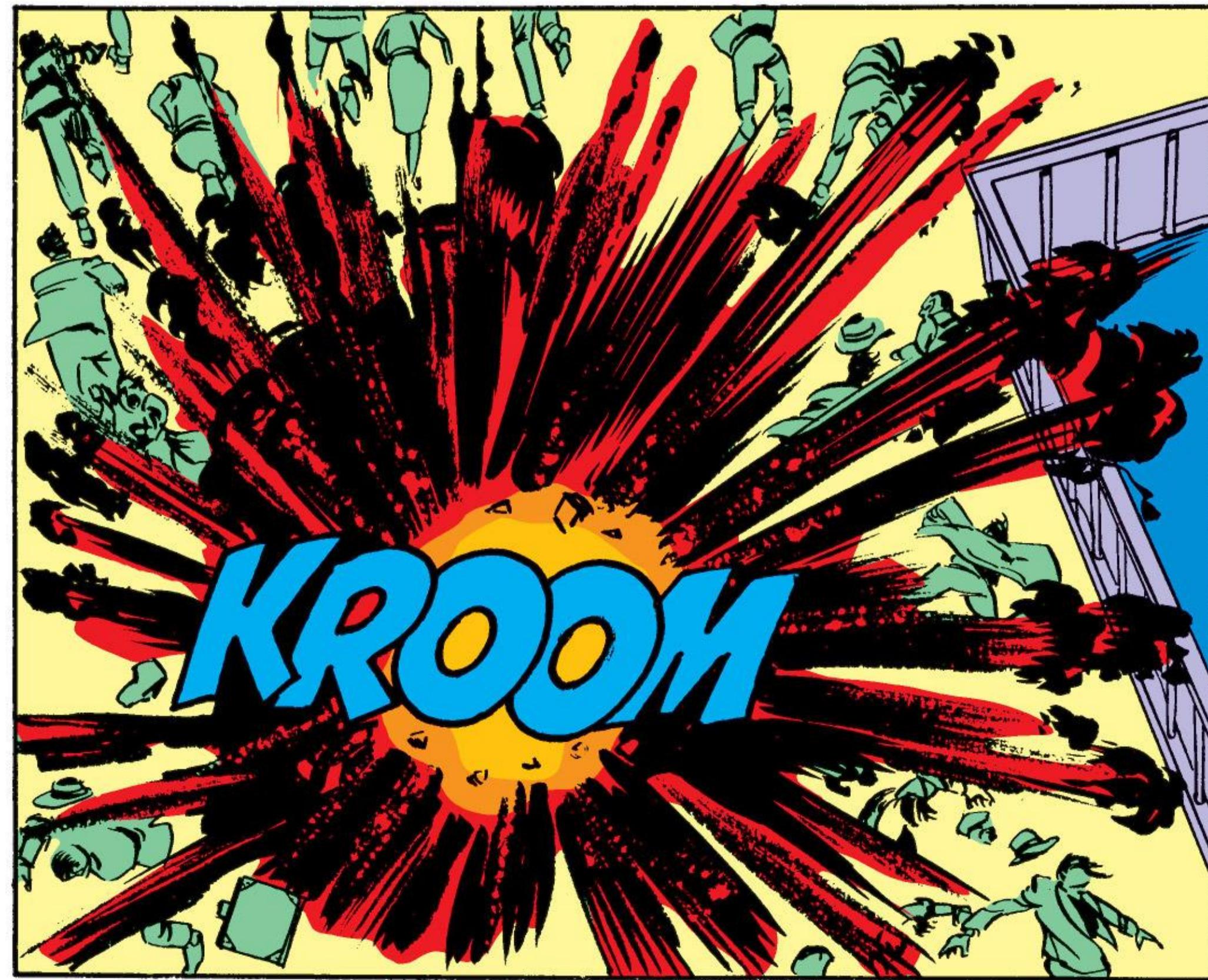
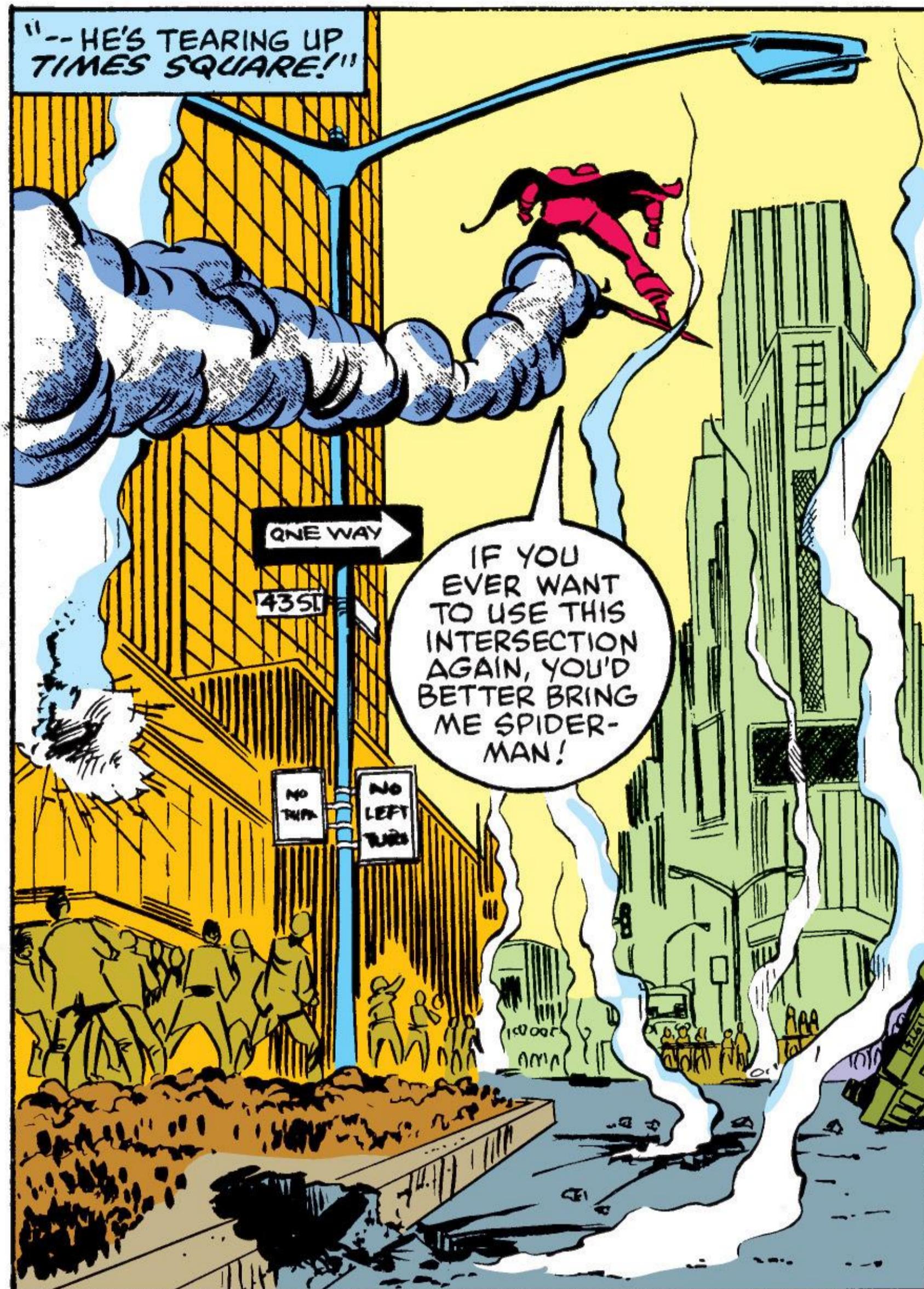
NO WAY! I HAPPEN TO KNOW THAT THE D.A. ALREADY TURNED YOU DOWN LAST MONTH! IT COULD COST ME MY BADGE--

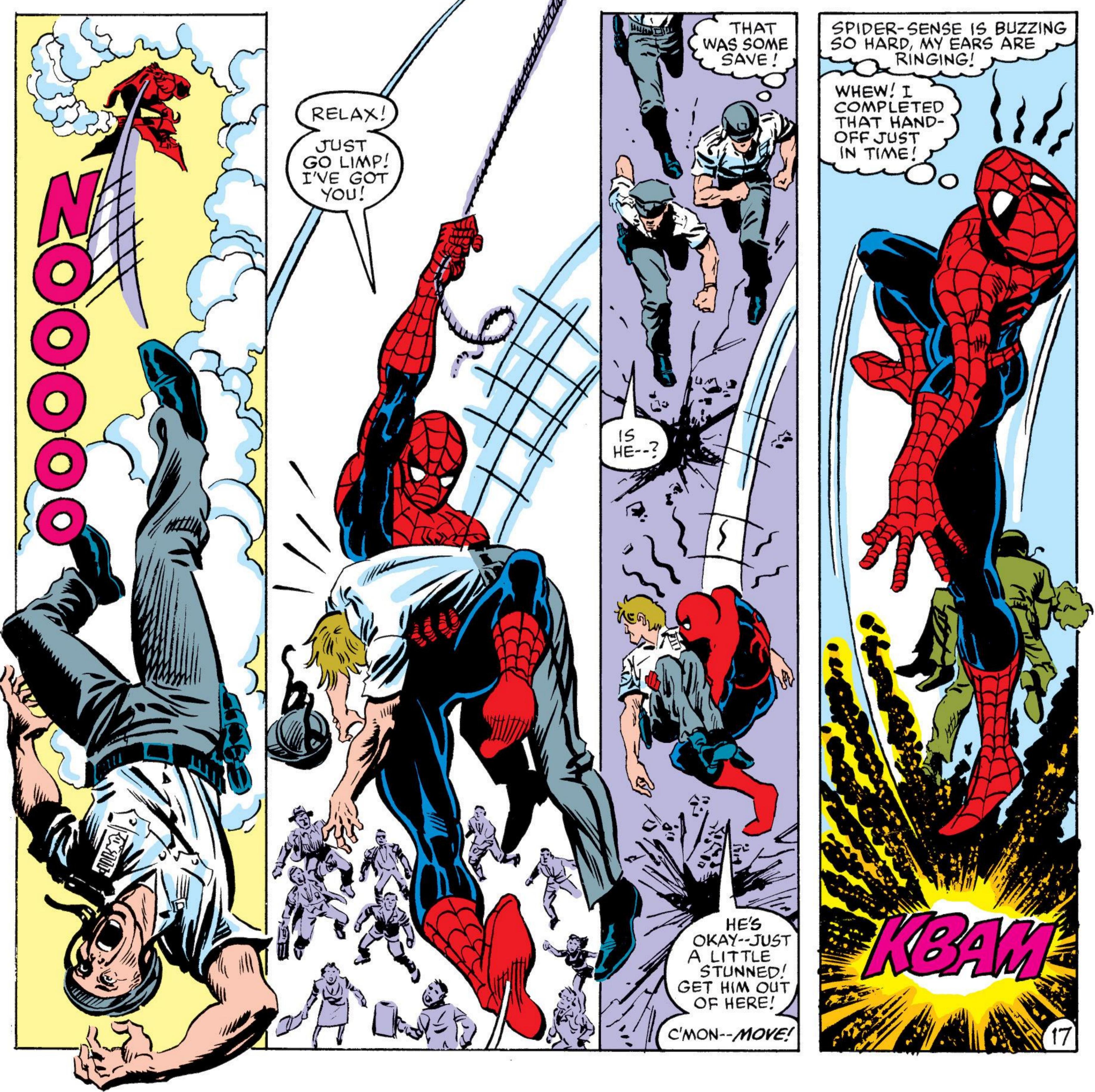
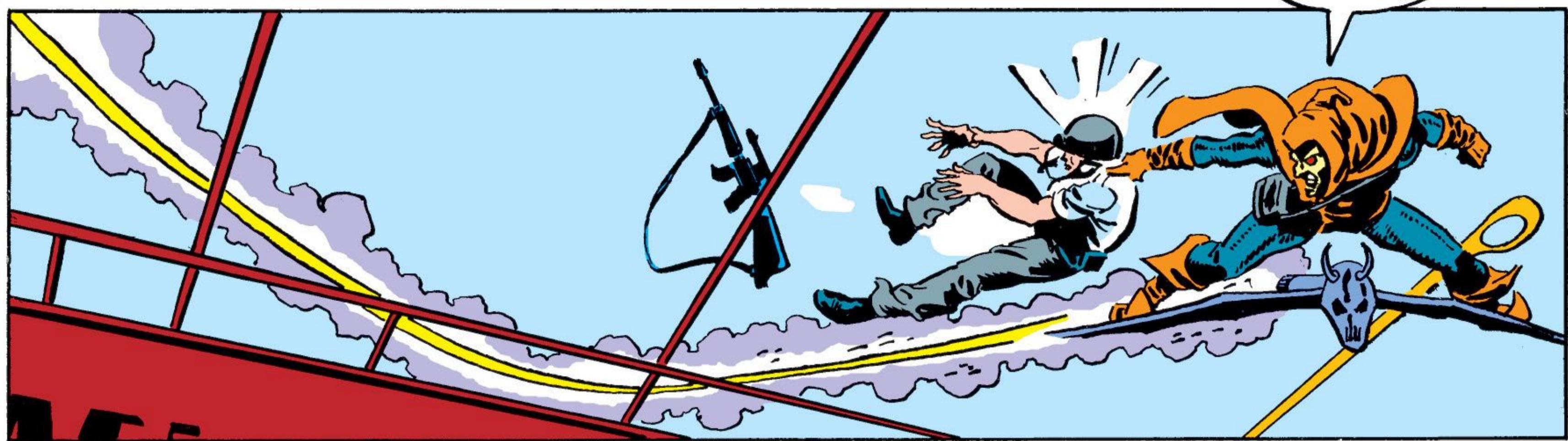
--IF I WERE TO LET YOU SEE THIS FILE!

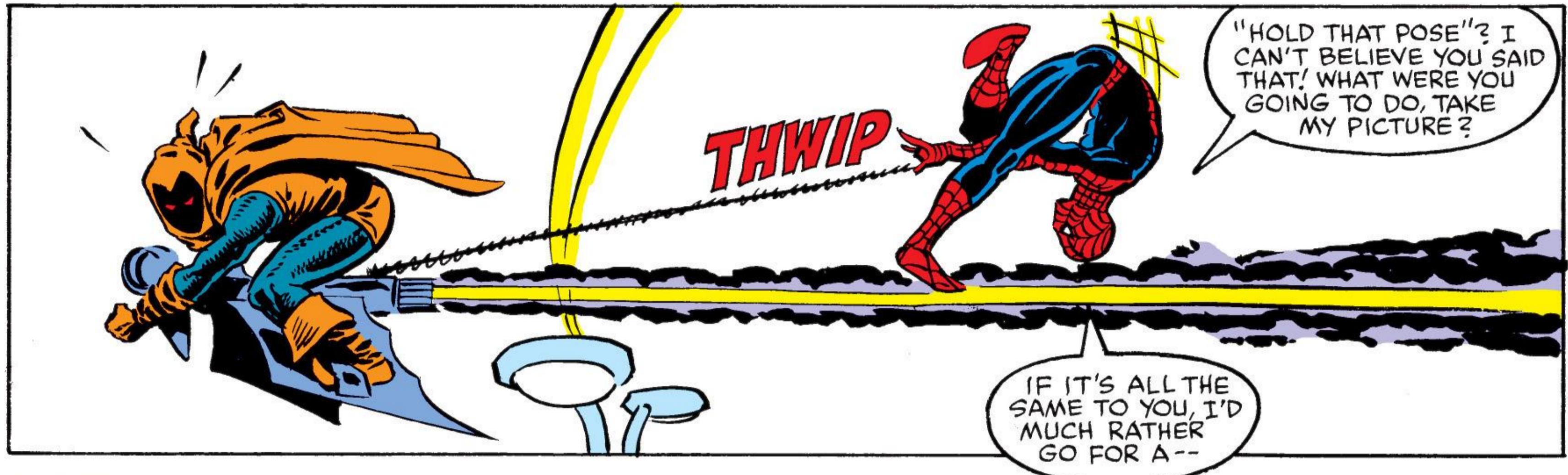
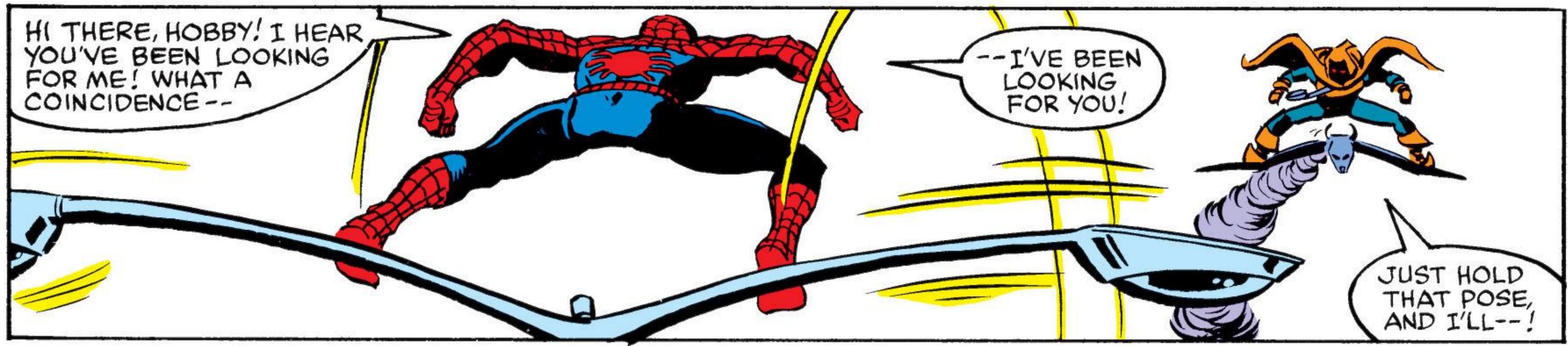
THAT FILE, HUH?

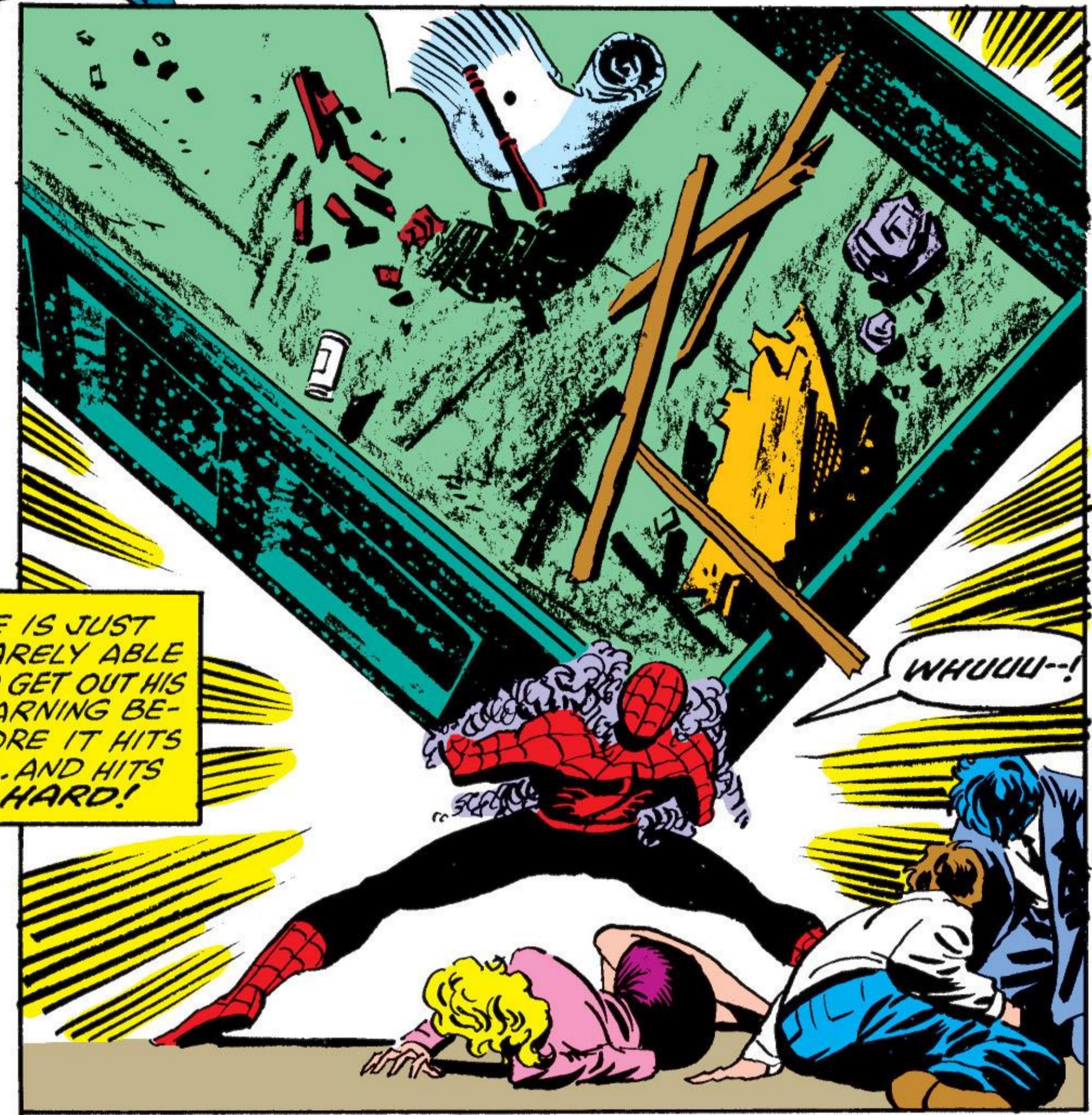
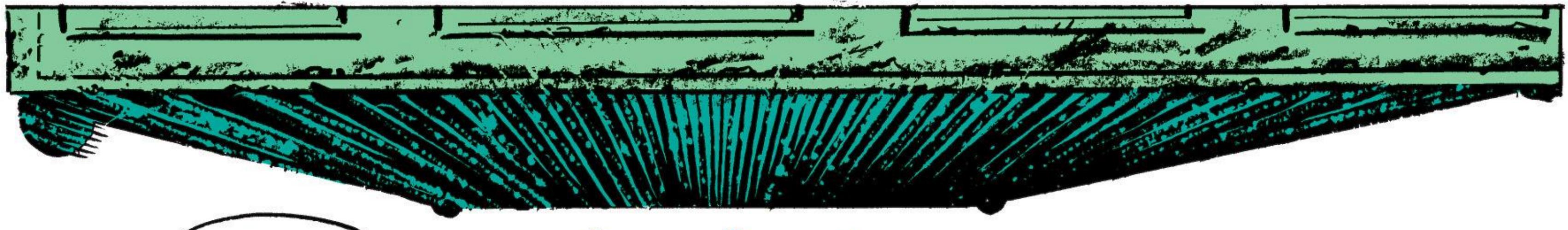


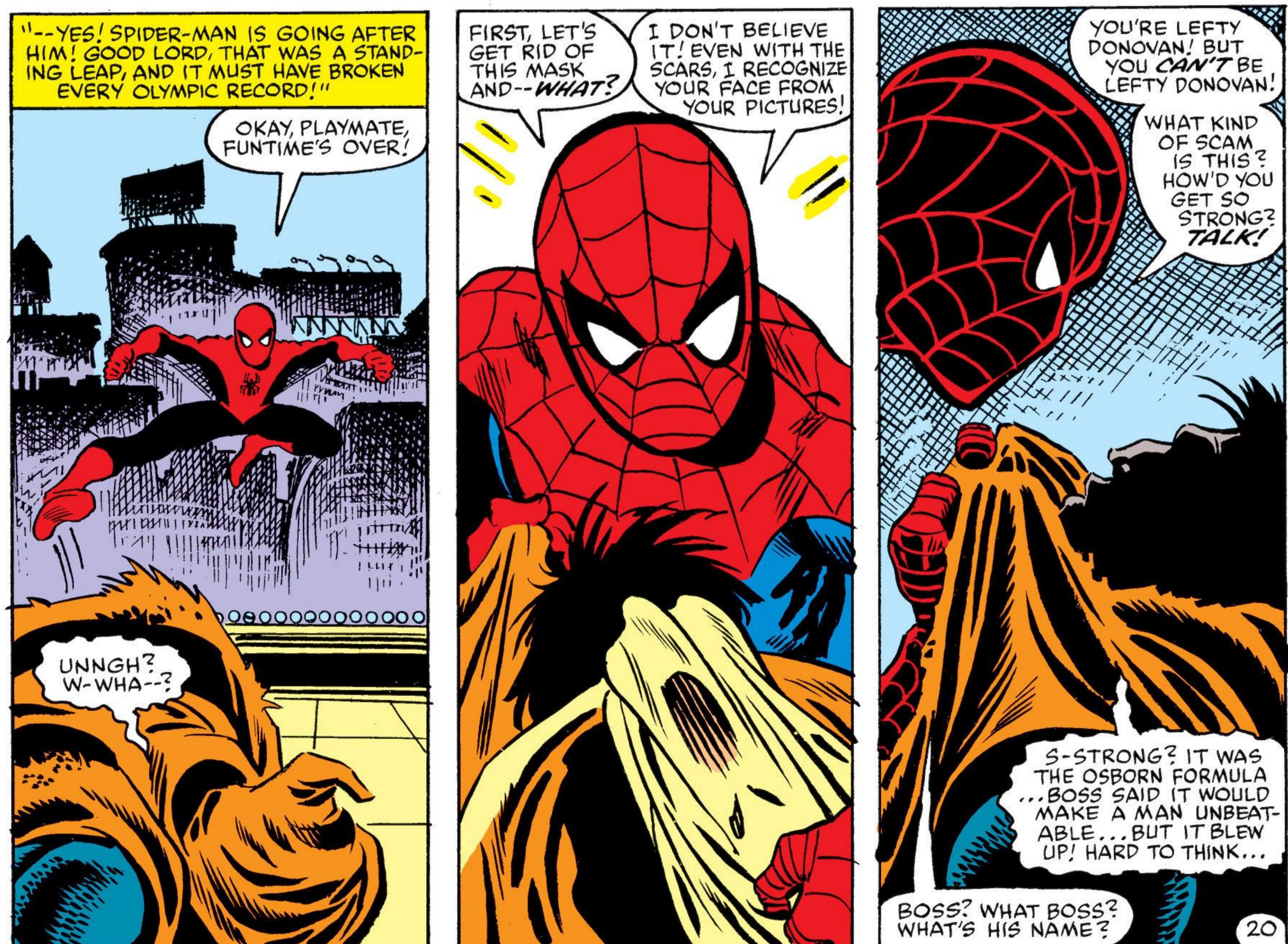
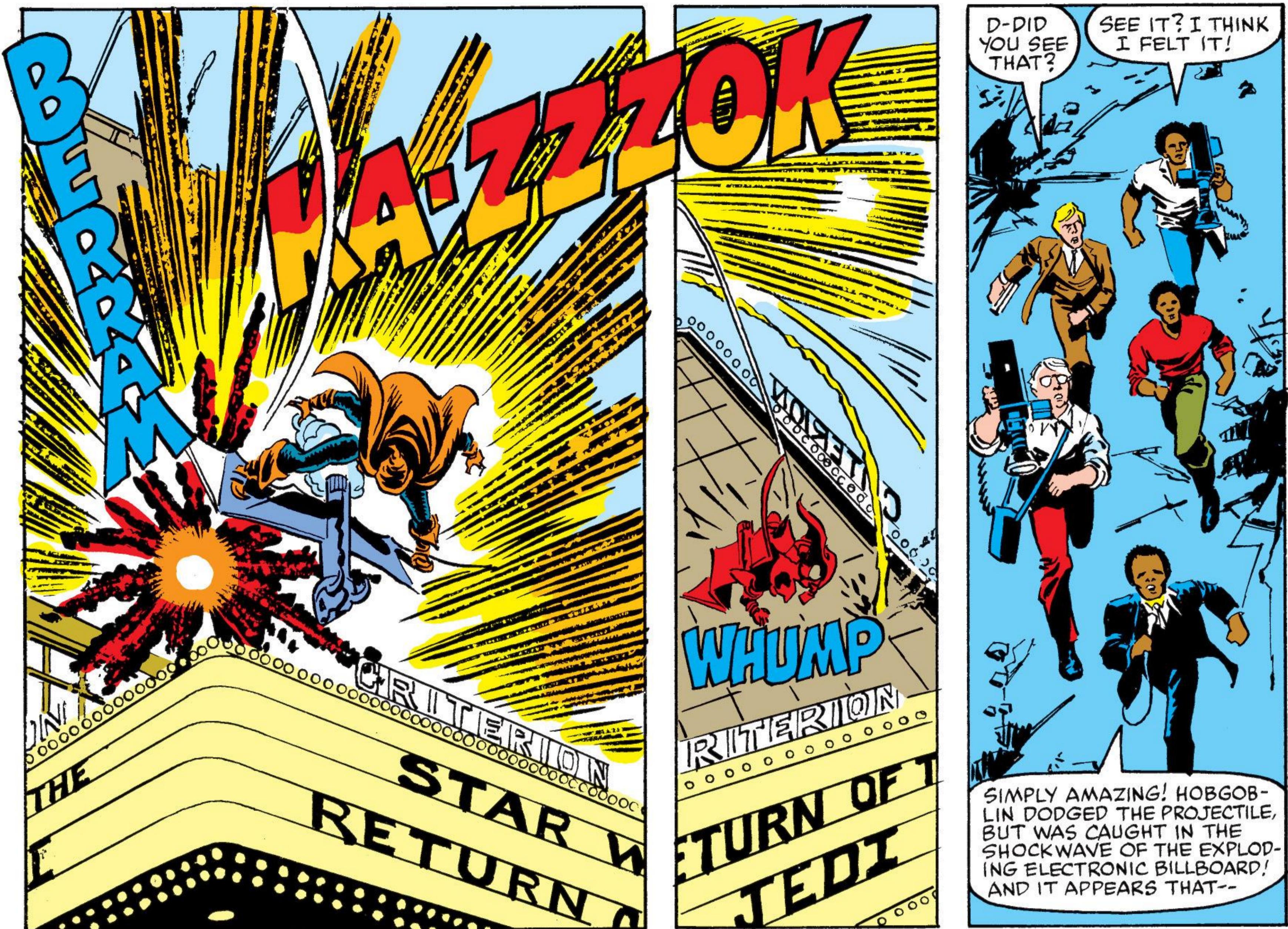


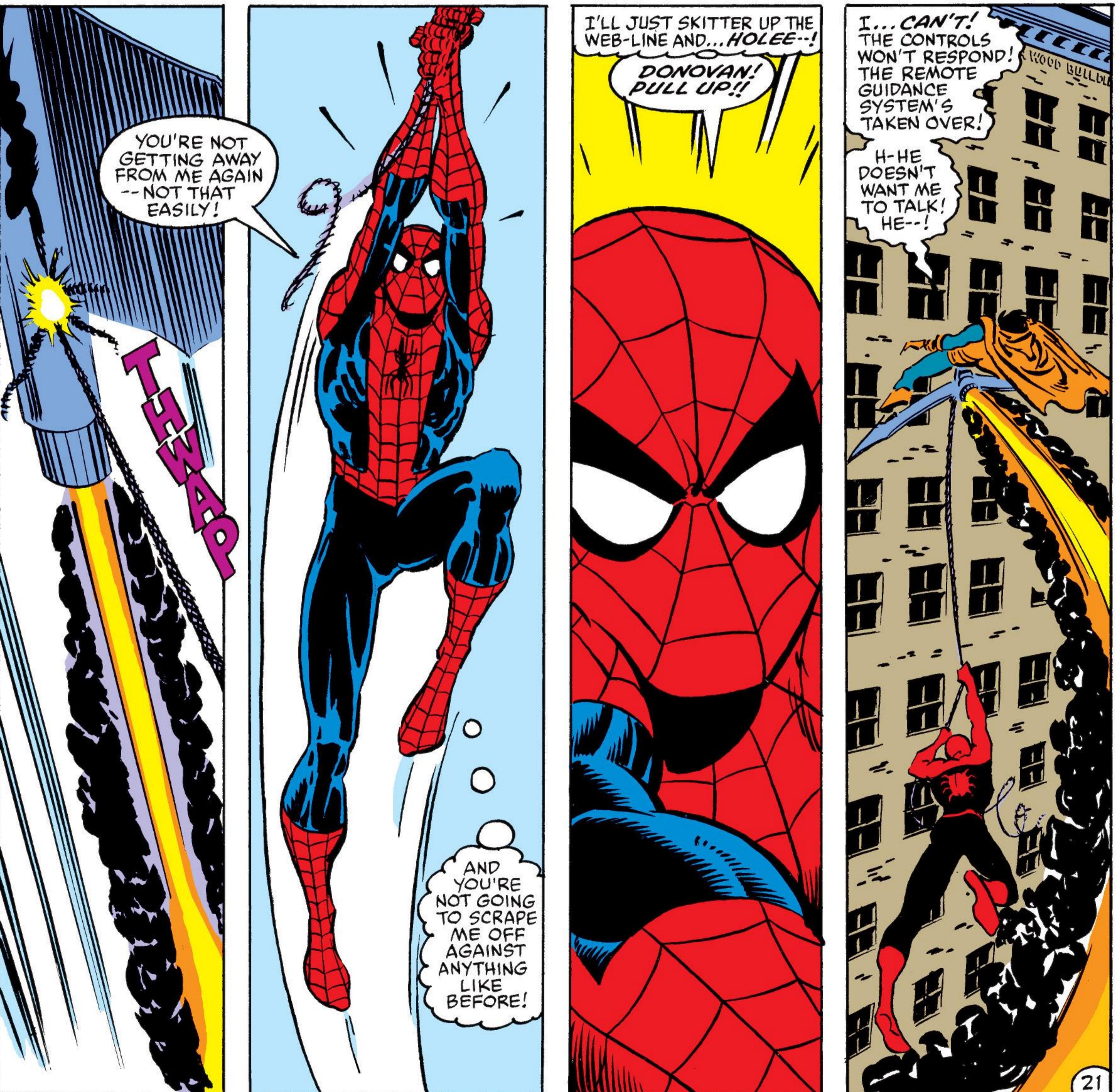
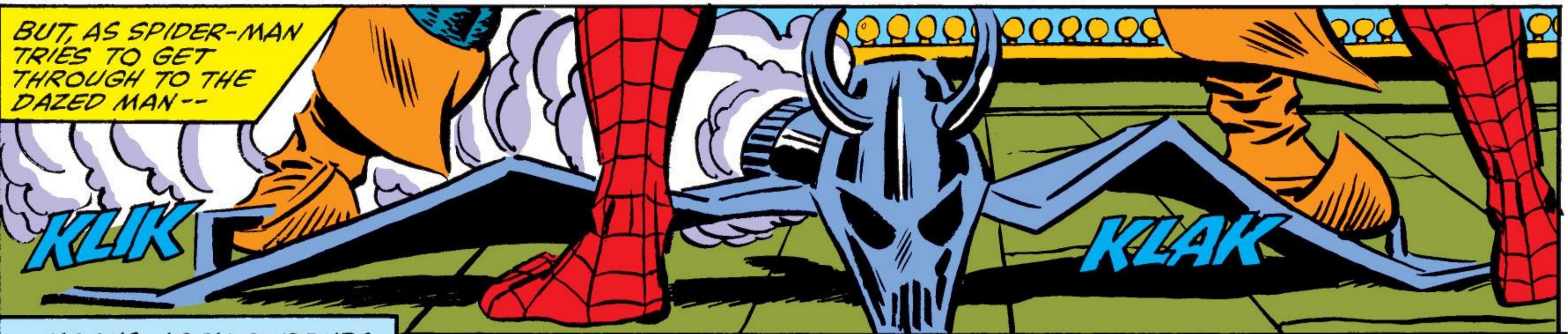


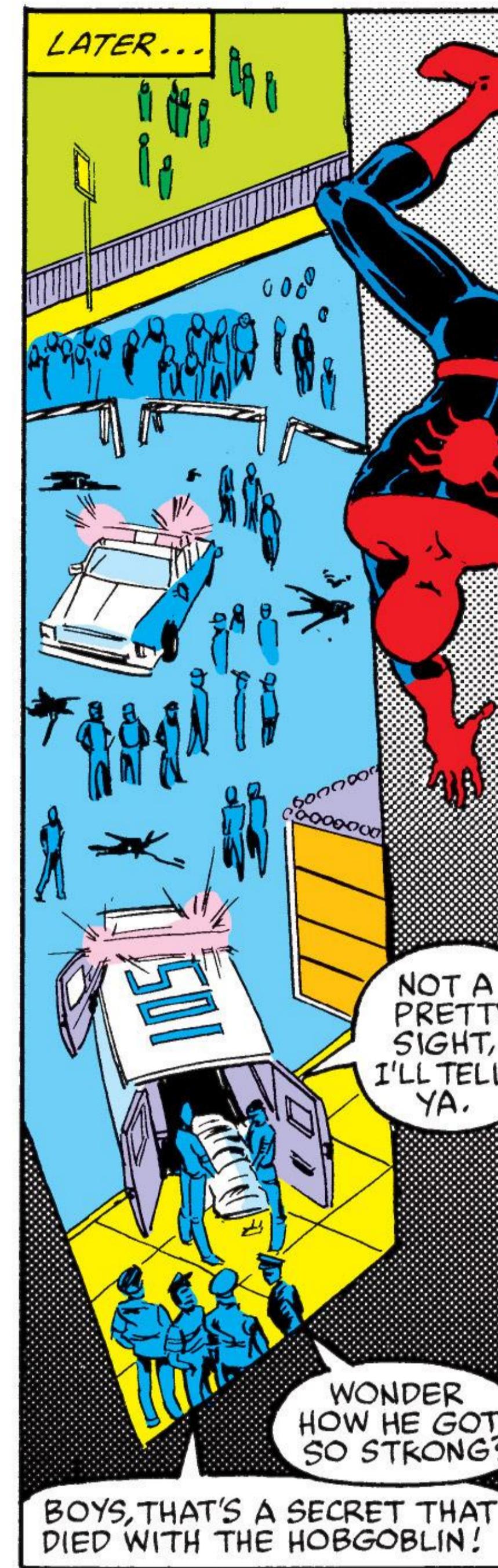












THE SPIDER'S WEB

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

TOM DeFALCO
EDITOR
ELIOT BROWN
ASSISTANT EDITOR

WHO IS THE HOBGOBLIN? THE PUBLIC SPEAKS!

At first I thought it was Jack O'Lantern, but now I think it's this Menken guy from AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #239.

George A. Williams
Angie, LA 70426

The villain is J. Jonah Jameson!

Paul Birkholz
Maple Grove, MN 55369

Would I be correct in saying that Lance Bannon is the Hobgoblin?

Donald Parker
Ullin, IL 62992

I'm sure it's Kraven the Hunter inside that Hobgoblin outfit.

Todd "C.K." Freeman
Turkey, APO NY 09289

Hobgoblin is obviously the mummified clone of Dr. Bart Hamilton's son's old girlfriend, who was killed by an allergic reaction to jet-glider exhaust fumes.

Charles A. Spencer
Sumter, SC 29150

I don't know! That's right! I have no idea who the Hobgoblin is! You guys have really done it this time! You've stumped me!

Conrad Felber
Cochrane, Ontario P0L 1C0

Who is the Hobgoblin? The question remains unanswered! Perhaps next issue...

Dear Roger, John, and Tom:

I'm getting edgy, guys. I know you're leading up to the 250th issue of the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN... it's just that it's becoming difficult to figure out where you're taking us. First, we get the introduction of the Hobgoblin, another stellar Stern and Romita creation. Then, I pick up issue #240 and find that the Vulture has returned. I'm uncertain as to his part in this storyline, but I was pleased to see him feathering these pages again. And finally, we're about to get his origin.

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #240's multiple-image shots and all-around improved spideriness has convinced me that John Romita Jr. is definitely the SPIDER-MAN artist of the 80s. The sight of Amy Powell is like a breath of fresh air. She's definitely what Peter needs. I've been overly patient, waiting for him to latch on to a woman of this caliber. PLEASE, no more hard-luck romances. Debra Whitman can stay bewildered, bothered and bonkers for all I care. Her paranoia is not needed in Peter Parker's already-crazed lifestyle. Felicia Hardy is likewise a no-win candidate because of her former profession as a cat burglar. And with Anna Weston returning north, Mary Jane will probably be showing up in tow, also. I can only hope that MJ has a new boyfriend, or has become a nun or something. Amy is it, guys!

Finally, how about a change of scenery every now and then? Outside of New York and the surrounding area, I can only remember London as a former Spider-Man haunt. Surely, the man could use a trip to Hawaii... or for intrigue, the Orient. Japan.

India. This is not a complaint, mind you, just a suggestion.

Frankly, I've never enjoyed the book more than I have recently. Roger and John are definitely at their peaks, and have made me so edgy.

Christopher Libby
Biddeford, ME
04005

Relax, Chris! After all, if you could figure out exactly where the stories were leading, wouldn't be any surprises... now would there?

Dear Tom:

The Vulture's back! All right! I'm glad to see that he's been resurrected (not from the grave, but from Sun City). I'd always wondered where old villains go in their waning years. Hey, picture Doctor Doom sitting in a rocking chair in Daytona! How about Doc Ock downing Geritol in a convalescent home?

No, but seriously, folks, it's good to see the old codger back on the scene again. With today's mad rush to create dazzling technological menaces to fit the trends, we often neglect the classics. That's what's been nice about recent issues of the Spider-titles, with the return of Dr. Octopus and the Vulture.

Keep up the good work, especially in the way you're tightening up the continuity.

Crawford Smith
York, PA 17403

Dear Tom,

Thank you so much for AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #240. Where did you find Bob Layton? Besides John Romita Sr., he's the best AMAZING SPIDER-MAN inker I've seen in a long time. In combination with J.R. Jr., he makes Spider-Man and Peter Parker look ten times better.

Ever since issue #234, I've been buying SPIDER-MAN regularly again, and I haven't been disappointed at all. Spider-Man has found challenges and met them with the same strength and stamina that made him famous. He could probably take on the Hulk now! Good going!

Richard Haselrig
Greenville, NC 27834

Where did we find Bob Layton? We're not sure. He just followed us home from school one day...

Dear Roger, John and Tom:

I must commend you on the new life you have breathed into that tired old Spider-adversary (no pun intended), the Vulture. The concept of a senoir citizen super-villain is certainly unique.

But the highlight of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #240, for me at least, was the introduction of the new character. "What new character?" you ask. Why, officer Blumberg, the policeman speaking to Lt. Keating on page 17, panel one. I have this gut feeling that he's going to turn into a real superstar. Of course, I could be prejudiced, but his name does have a nice ring to it.

I hope it won't be like pulling teeth to get him to appear again soon.

Cary G. Blumberg, D.D.S.
Bensenville, IL 60106

Was the next issue soon enough, Doc?

Guys!

Whew! I haven't picked up an issue of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN in years. I was missing a lot!

I decided to pick up issue #240 because my favorite scribe, Roger Stern, was writing this crazy book. After all these years, I still enjoy Roger's witty characterizations, solid plots, and good action. The Vulture was portrayed really well this issue. I'm glad that a villain this old has not outlived his usefulness. Here, he was shown not as a person bent on the death of Spider-Man, but as a guy who had a beef with an old acquaintance.

Peter Parker hasn't lost that old pizzazz. He's still an interesting fellow, and he still has his share of problems. I'm just sorry that J. Jonah Jameson wasn't around this issue.

As for the art, Bob's inks on John Romita Jr.'s pencils were fabulous. I think he brings out the magic in J.R.'s work better than most inkers. (Dan Green is just as good, by the way, and I hope to see more of his inking on this book soon.) Romita's panels are filled with excitement, and the facial expressions he conveys are an integral part of this book.

Well, that's all for now. Thanks for rekindling my old flame for SPIDER-MAN. I am currently thinking of subscribing, and I patiently await the 250th issue.

J. Galanek
Sarasota, FL 33579

NEXT ISSUE: Enter a world of wild imaginings, as we submit for your approval the lives of four people... Felicia Hardy, J. Jonah Jameson, Mary Jane Watson and Peter Parker. Four people... whose lives are linked to that of the Amazing Spider-Man. Four people... whose hopes and fears and dreams just might make heroes of them all. What are we talking about? We're talking about "Daydreamers"... the story that's waiting for you just ahead in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #246, on sale in thirty days. Watch for it!

Tom DeFalco

