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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

JACKPOT'S SECRET
REVEALED!

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DIRECT EDITION



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THE DB! SPECIAL EDITION!



BILL HOLLISTER: SUPER-VILLAIN SUPPORTER? "WILD" BILL WAS ON THE SAME BOARD OF ADVISORS FOR HAIDORFER/JAMMET DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE AS DR. OTTO OCTAVIUS. WHY IS THE MAYORAL CANDIDATE HIDING HIS SUPER-VILLAIN FRIENDS? SEE PAGE P23

OCTOBER 29, 2008

WEDNESDAY

WHO IS JACKPOT?

VISIT
THE
SPIDEY-BLOG!
www.marvel.com/blogs/spider-office



Jackpot, a mysterious new hero assigned by the Initiative to monitor New York City's street level crimes, has frequently crossed paths with the Amazing Spider-Man. She's tough and resourceful, but green at the job, clearly needing a little more experience. At the first debate for Mayor between businessman Randall Crowne and then-council-woman Lisa Parfrey, Jackpot's brash behavior left Parfrey dead at the hands of Menace. But she's gotten over her hump, recently playing a small but pivotal role in defending New York during the Skrull invasion. She's also closed in on proving the criminal activity of billionaire Walter Declun. As her fame grows, everyone, even Spidey, can't help but ask: who is Jackpot really?

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POLICE TIE SPIDER-MAN TO RECENT MURDERS!

EXCLUSIVE TO THE DB!

In off-the-record conversations with DB staffers, police have confirmed that Spider-Man is the key suspect in the string of recent murders that has shocked this city. Although police have been reluctant to discuss the specifics of the murders, so-called "Spider Tracers" have definitely been found on each victim, leaving no doubt as to the involvement of Spider-Man. Spider-Man is already wanted for violations of...

WHO IS THE
MYSTERIOUS
VILLAIN KNOWN AS
BLINDSIDE?
(A NEW SUPER-
BADDIE CREATED
AND CONCEIVED
IN THE MIGHTY
MARVEL
MANNER!)

WHO IS THE
MYSTERIOUS SUPER-
HEROINE KNOWN AS
JACKPOT?
(HINT: SHE'S
NOT WHO YOU
THINK SHE IS!)

AND INTRODUCING...
THE MOST DANGEROUS
MARVEL VILLAIN SINCE
THE KINGPIN...
THE MOGUL!
(ACTUALLY IT'S A GUY
NAMED WALTER DECLUN,
BUT LEGAL NEEDED
SOMETHING TO
TRADEMARK! HE'S
A NASTY PIECE
OF WORK,
THOUGH!)

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN IN A TALE OF TWO JACKPOTS

MARC
GUGGENHEIM
WRITER

MIKE
MCKONE
PENCILS

ANDY
LANNING
INKS

JEREMY COX
W/SOTOCOLOR
COLORS

VC'S CORY
PETIT
LETTERS

TOM
BRENNAN
ASST. EDITOR

STEPHEN
WACKER
EDITOR

TOM
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Chapter One. The Past As Prologue!

OUR STORY BEGINS SEVERAL MONTHS AGO, WHEN NEW YORK WAS ROCKED BY THE LATEST CRAZY CREATION TO EMERGE FROM THE HOUSE OF IDEAS...

JACKPOT!

EVEN IF YOU COULD IGNORE THE, UM, RESEMBLANCE JACKPOT HAS TO A CERTAIN RED-HAIRED MODEL...

...YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN COULDN'T.

SO WHAT'S YOUR NAME, ANYWAY? YOUR REAL ONE.

EXCUSE ME?

YOU REMIND ME OF... SOMEONE.

ARE YOU GONNA TELL ME YOUR NAME?

FLASH THOMPSON.

YOUR TURN.

...

SARA EHRET.

SO NOT "MARY JANE."

"NOT SO MUCH, NO."

EXCEPT WHEN SPIDEY WENT TO PAY A VISIT ON "SARA EHRET"...

...HE GOT
A LITTLE
SURPRISE.*

TAP
TAP
TAP

--THE
HELL--?

I WAS GONNA SEND
FLOWERS, BUT NOBODY
HAS A "SUPER-HERO-
MADE-ROOKIE-MISTAKE"
BOUQUET.

SO YOU
WEAR A WIG AS
PART OF YOUR
WHOLE COSTUME
THING, HUH?

?

HELLO?
JACKPOT? IT'S
ME. I THOUGHT
YOU COULD
PROBABLY USE
SOME CHEERING
UP.

YOU'RE NOT EXPERIENCING DÉJÀ VU, TRUE BELIEVER.
THIS SEQUENCE ORIGINALLY APPEARED IN ISSUE #551.
WHO SAYS THIS ISN'T THE MIGHTY MARVEL AGE OF
THE FLASHBACK?

-- SOLIPSISTIC STEVE

WHO...?

IT'S ME.
SPIDER-MAN. YOU
DON'T HAVE TO
PLAY ALL COY. YOU
TOLD ME YOUR
SECRET IDENTITY,
REMEMBER?

I DON'T HAVE
A SECRET IDENTITY.
I JUST HAVE MY
IDENTITY.

SARA
EHRET.

YEAH.

SARA,
NO "H," EHRET,
E-H-R-E-T.

OKAY,
YOU'RE
STARTING TO
WEIRD ME OUT
HERE A
LITTLE BIT.

YOU'RE NOT
THE ONLY ONE,
LADY...

OKAY,
LOOK...I KNOW
THIS IS GONNA
SOUND WEIRD, BUT...
AREN'T YOU
JACKPOT?

THE
SUPER HERO?

YEAH. AS IN
"THE SUPER HERO
WHO TOLD ME HER
SECRET IDENTITY
WAS YOU."

SHE
DID?
SHE
DID.

SHE
DID.



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Chapter Two. Blindsided by Blindside!

TODAY.

CHAK!

GOOD MORNING.

SORRY IF THAT KICK TO THE JAW WAS A LITTLE TOO ROUGH. I'M REALLY SNIPPY BEFORE I GET MY MORNING CUP OF COFFEE.

FIRST, BLINDSIDE IS A MEMBER OF MY ROGUE'S GALLERY. AND SECOND, I DO NOT TALK IN CLICHÉS.

HEY!
BLINDSIDE IS MY SUPER-VILLAIN!

OH, GREAT.
AND HERE I WAS JUST THINKING HOW MUCH I MISSED YOU AND YOUR CLICHÉS.





SPIDEY!
ARE YOU
OKAY?!



WEEEEEE-OOOOO-WEEEE-OOOO-WEEE-OOOO

I'M SURE THE
BLINDNESS IS TEMPORARY,
AND I'M JUST AS SURE IT
WON'T GO AWAY BEFORE
THE COPS SHOW UP.

MY
LUCK, THIS
IS PROBABLY
TRUE.

AND
SINCE I'M
GUESSING YOU
HAVEN'T
REGISTERED
YET--

GOOD
GUESS.

--I'M
GETTING YOU
OUT OF HERE.

EEEEEE-OOOOO-WEEEE

GETTING
SAVED BY JACKPOT.
I'D BE BETTER OFF
LETTING THE COPS
ARREST ME.

FUNNY. I TRY.

Later.

Y'KNOW, SPIDEY,
LIFE WOULD BE A LOT
EASIER FOR YOU IF YOU'D
JUST REGISTER WITH
THE GOVERNMENT.

REGISTER. YOU
MEAN, REGISTER
LIKE YOU DID?





Chapter Three. This Plot Thickens!

SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK, REED?

SPONTANEOUS TACTILE-INITIATED VISION LOSS? THERE COULD BE ANY NUMBER OF CAUSES...

IF HIS POWER IS BASED ON A GENETIC MUTATION OR THE SIDE-EFFECT OF RADIOACTIVITY, I MIGHT BE ABLE TO DEVISE A MEANS OF TRACKING THE ENERGY SIGNATURE.

THIS IS WHAT I'M HOPING.

The Baxter Building.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR.

ON THE OTHER HAND, BLINDSIDE'S "POWER" COULD BE A FOCUSED FORM OF TELEPATHY, WHERE HE SIMPLY MAKES YOU THINK YOU CAN'T SEE.

OR HE'S INITIATING A SUBTLE, FOCUSED INTER-DIMENSIONAL PHASE SHIFT WHICH MIMICS BLINDNESS.

HOWEVER, I BELIEVE THE DIAGNOSTIC AXIOM REGARDING HOOFBEATS WOULD APPLY IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE.

I WAS WITH YOU RIGHT UP UNTIL "HOOFBEATS."

"WHEN YOU HEAR HOOFBEATS, THINK HORSES, NOT ZEBRAS."

THE MOST LIKELY EXPLANATION IS MOST LIKELY THE EXPLANATION?

PRECISELY...

IN THIS CASE, SOME FORM OF NEUROTOXIN.

THERE ARE STILL RESIDUAL TRACES OF IT IN YOUR SYSTEM.

GREAT, SO I KNOW HOW HIS POWERS WORK-- BY POISONING PEOPLE, BASICALLY--BUT NOT HOW TO TRACK HIM DOWN.

YOU KNOW, APART FROM "TRACKING BLINDSIDE DOWN" BEING ILLEGAL...

...IT COULD BE QUITE DANGEROUS, GIVEN HIS POWERS.

"DANGER" IS MY MIDDLE NAME. OR IT WOULD'VE BEEN IF MY AUNT HAD LET ME CHANGE IT WHEN I WAS TEN.

I SAID, "GIVEN HIS POWERS." BUT IF YOU HAD A WAY OF NEUTRALIZING THEM, SAY, WITH AN ANTIDOTE THAT COUNTERACTS THE EFFECTS OF THE TOXIN...

YOU'RE A BEAUTIFUL MAN, YOU KNOW THAT?

BEEP

HMM.

HMM?

ACCORDING TO THE COMPUTER, THE CHEMICAL COMPOUND OF THE NEUROTOXIN HAS A COMMERCIAL NAME--

OEDIPUS. YOU HAVE TO APPRECIATE THE IRONY.

MOREOVER, OEDIPUS IS PATENTED.

BY WHO?

"BY WHOM."

OEDIPUS IS A FICTIONAL CHARACTER INFAMOUS FOR CLAWING HIS OWN EYES OUT (AND SLEEPING WITH HIS MOM, BUT I DON'T THINK THAT'S RELEVANT.)
--STEPHEN WACKER P.H.D.

DECLUN INTERNATIONAL.

"DECLUN WHAT?"

IT'S A COMPANY FORMED A FEW MONTHS AGO BY A GUY NAMED WALKER DECLUN.



HE OWNS A NEWSPAPER?

AND THREE NEW MEDIA COMPANIES AND HE'S APPLYING TO BUY A RADIO STATION.

PLUS, THERE WAS THIS LITTLE THING WHEN HE TOOK ON WOLVERINE IN THE MIDDLE OF A MANHATTAN STREET CROWDED WITH PEOPLE.

YOU MEAN HE'S GOT SUPER-POWERS?

NO, WHICH MADE IT A LITTLE GAUCHE FOR WOLVERINE TO STAB HIM THROUGH THE EYEBALLS.

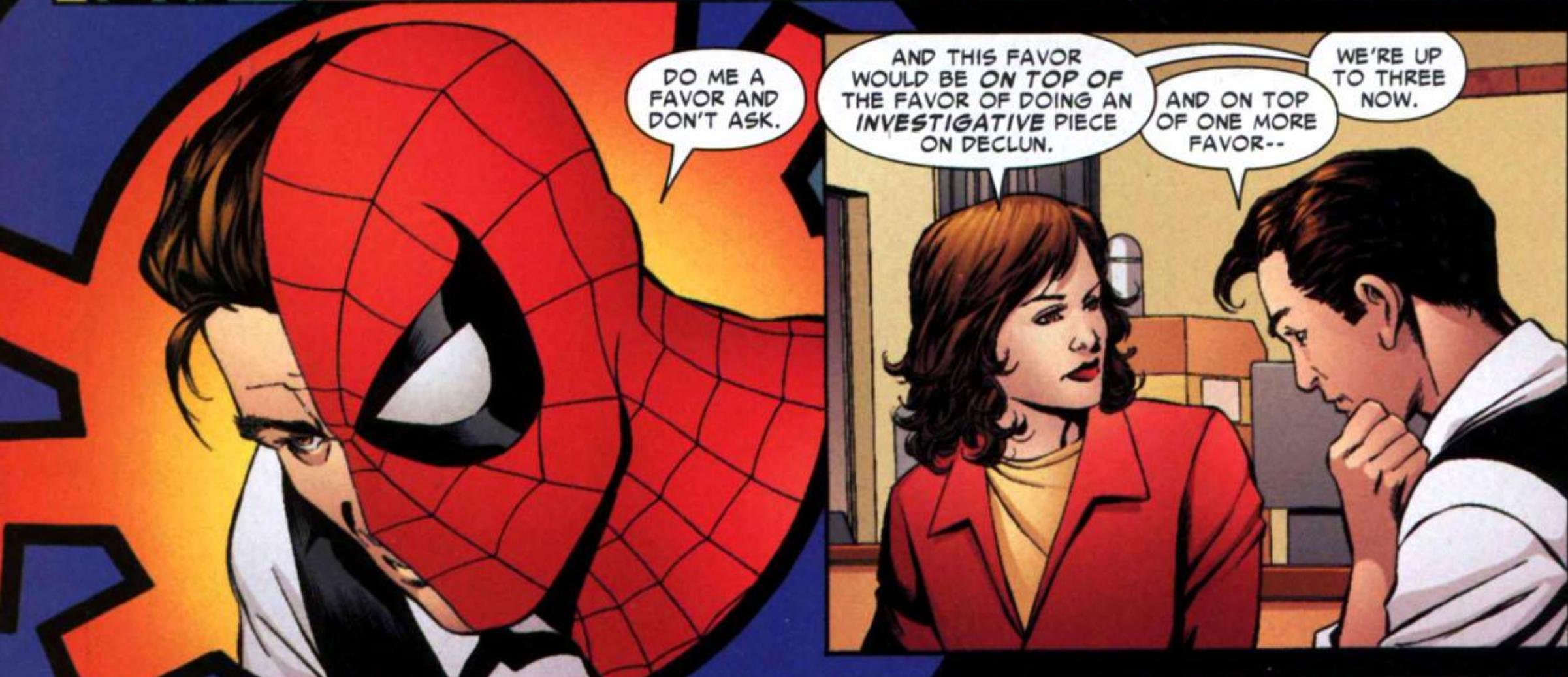
WELL, AREN'T YOU CURIOUS HOW HE SURVIVED? I MEAN, DON'T YOU THINK THAT WOULD MAKE A GOOD STORY FOR YOUR PAPER?

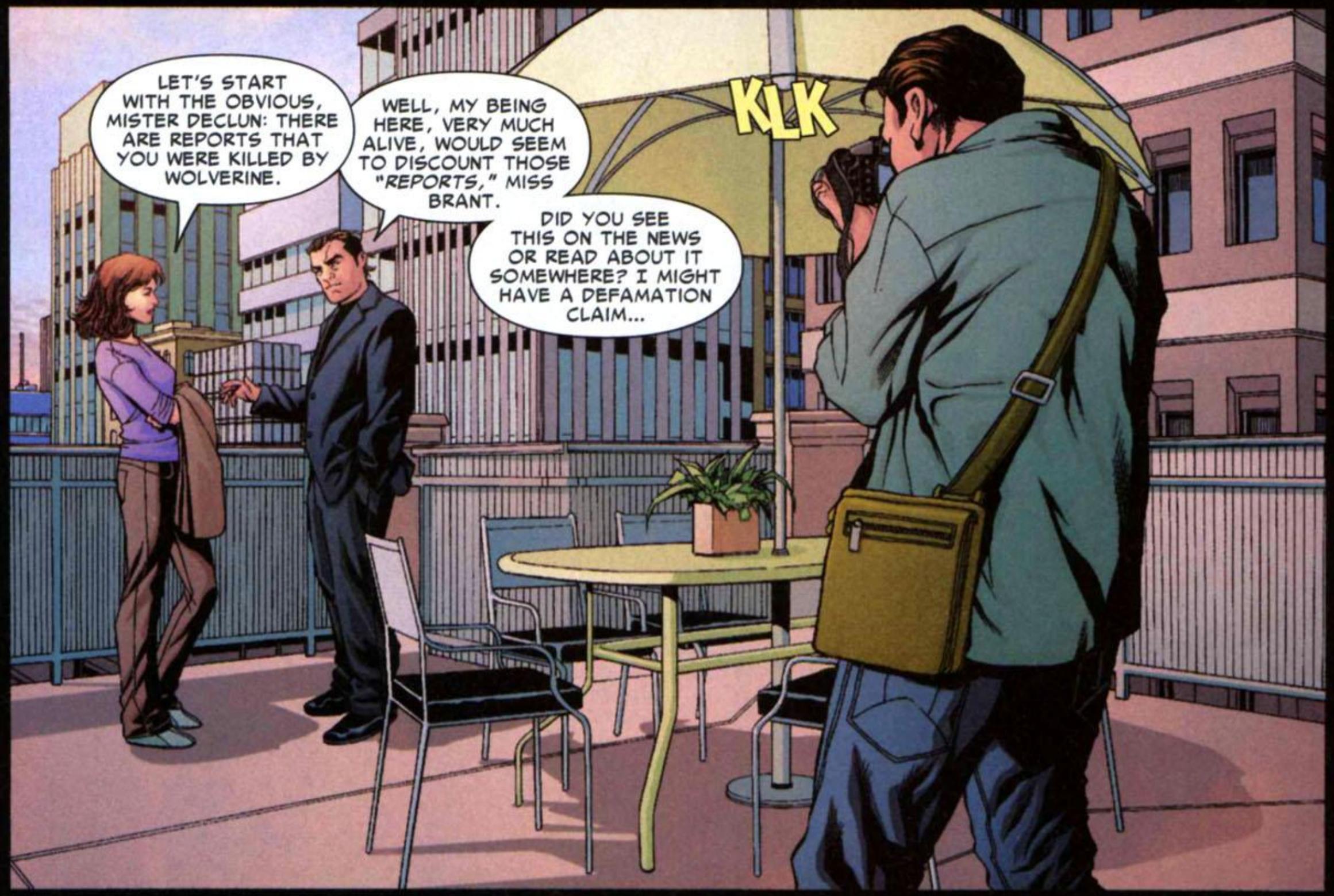
AND SINCE IT MOST CERTAINLY WOULD MAKE A GOOD STORY, YOU'D NEED SOME ART TO GO ALONG WITH IT. PHOTOGRAPHS.



WELL, I'M ONLY A NEWSPAPER PHOTOGRAPHER--SO I ONLY HAVE TO LOOK AT THE COMPETITION'S PHOTOS, AND...







AS A RESULT,
YES, I HAD TO ENDURE
EXTENSIVE RECONSTRUCTIVE
SURGERY--INCLUDING
CYBERNETIC IMPLANTS
IN BOTH EYES.

BUT I'M
OBVIOUSLY
NOT DEAD.

I THINK THE
POINT IS, WOLVERINE
MUST'VE BEEN
AFTER YOU FOR A
REASON.

PETER--

KLK

NO, THAT'S
ALL RIGHT. I'D LIKE
TO ANSWER.

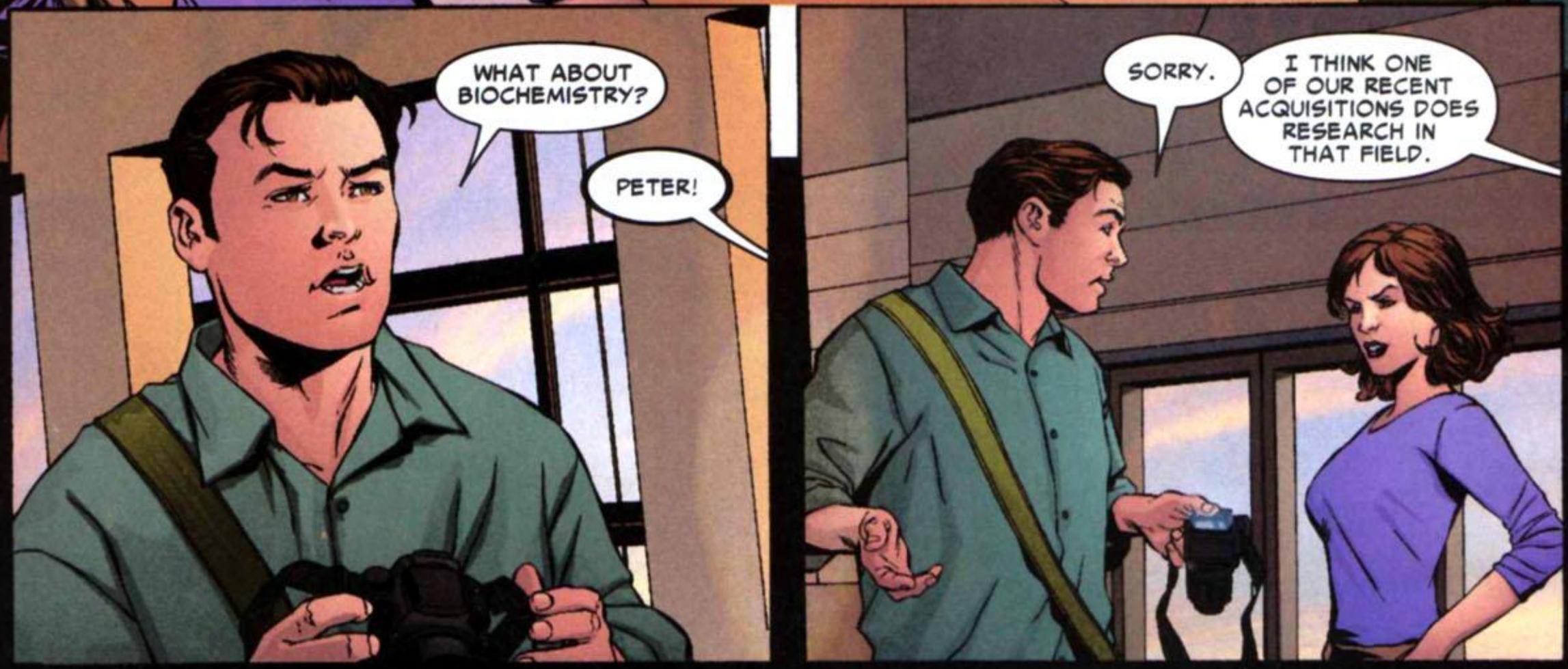
FROM WHAT I
UNDERSTAND, THIS
"WOLVERINE" DOESN'T
NEED A REASON. HE'S
A STONE-COLD AND
UNCONTROLLED
KILLER.

I JUST
HAPPENED
TO GET IN HIS
WAY.

AND THE
CLOUD UNDER
WHICH YOU LEFT
DAMAGE
CONTROL...?

THEY PAID ME
\$100 MILLION IN
SEVERANCE. IF THAT'S
A CLOUD, IT'S ONE
WITH A PLATINUM
LINING.

AND NOW THIS
NEW VENTURE OF
YOURS?



I SAID
I WAS
SORRY...

PETER, I COULD
CARE LESS WHETHER
YOU OFFENDED DECLUN
WITH YOUR BUTT-INSKI
QUESTIONS. THE GUY'S
A MAJOR LEAGUE
CREEP.

BUT I'M
WORRIED ABOUT
YOU. IF YOU'RE
INVOLVED IN
SOMETHING--



Chapter Four. The Secret Of The Secret identity!

 WHAT THE HECK
AM I DOING?

I MEAN, ONE MINUTE I'M PLAYING
INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER, THE NEXT
I'M BREAKING AND ENTERING.

CHAK

BUT WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT
IT, IT'S KINDA HER FAULT
FOR LYING TO ME ABOUT
HER SECRET IDENTITY IN THE
FIRST PLACE.

YEAH...THAT DIDN'T
TAKE. THERE'S NO
AVOIDING IT...

...I SUCK.

I'M TOTALLY INVADING
SOME POOR WOMAN'S
PERSONAL SPACE
FOR ABSOLUTELY...

...NO REASON.

DAMN,
JACKPOT.

WHAT ARE YOU
INTO HERE?

UH-OH.
SPIDER-SENSE
TINGLING...



QUIET,
NOW...



HOLY--

LOOK
AT YOUR
BACK!

WHAT THE
HELL--?

OOPS.

WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
HERE--?!

WELL,
I--

SORRY,
I WAS...

TWAK!

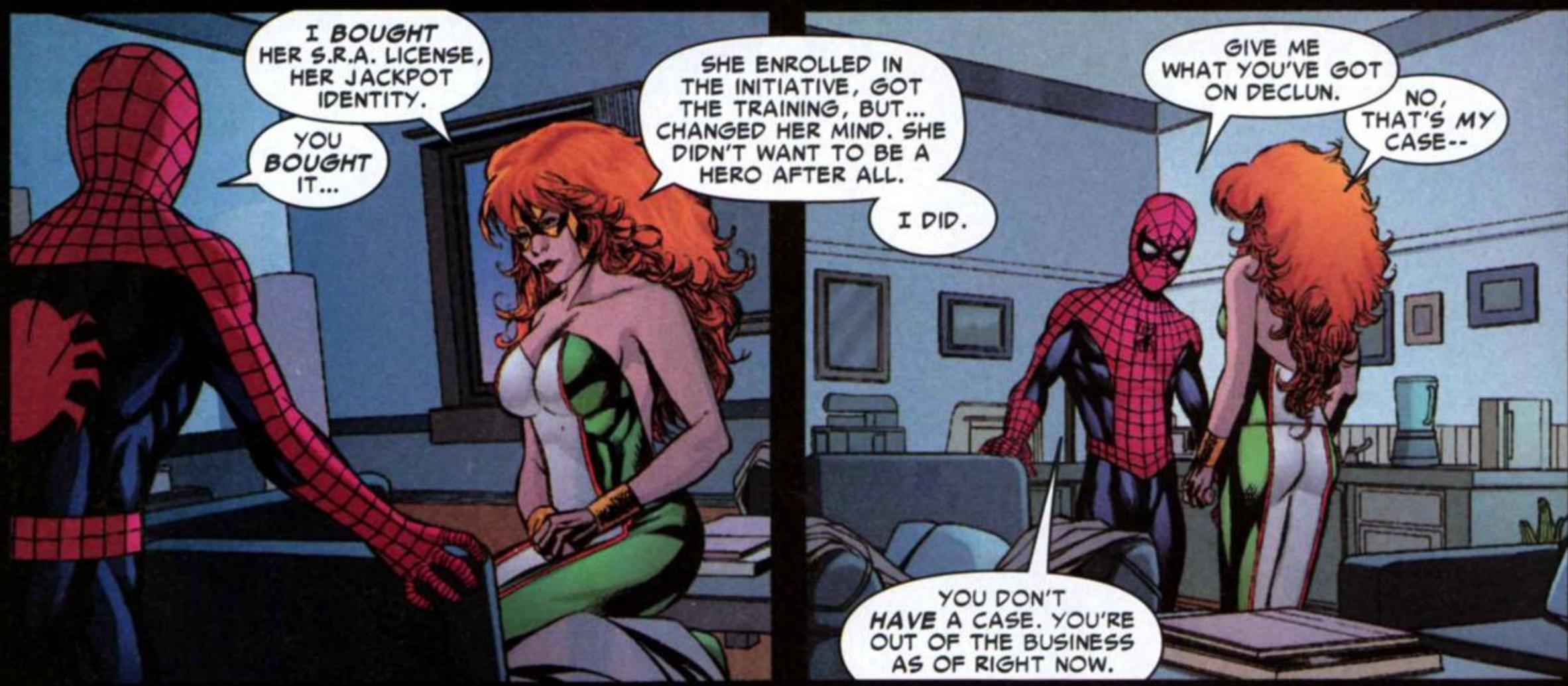
OKAY, I
DESERVED
THAT...

I SHOULD
KILL YOU.

DON'T THINK
YOU'D GET VERY
FAR. I COME BY MY
SUPER-POWERS
NATURALLY.

UNLIKE SOME
OTHER PEOPLE,
APPARENTLY.





FINE.
HAVE IT YOUR
WAY.

HERE.

THANK
YOU.

I
JUST...

I JUST
WANTED TO MAKE
A DIFFERENCE.

YOU WANT
TO MAKE A
DIFFERENCE?

GO
VOLUNTEER AT
F.E.A.S.T.

 JACKPOT, ALANA. WHOEVER...
FRAUD OR NOT, SHE DID
SOME GOOD WORK HERE...

DECLUN'S
A GREEDY
LITTLE GUY.

AND
BUSY.

HE'S INTO EVERYTHING. BIG
MEDIA--MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPERS,
TV STATIONS, INTERNET...

REAL ESTATE--MAKING A KILLING
ON THE SUB-PRIME MORTGAGE CRISIS,
PUTTING PEOPLE OUT OF THEIR HOMES...

BIOTECH--SELLING SUSPECT
PHARMACEUTICALS TO THIRD
WORLD COUNTRIES. INCLUDING...

YUP. HERE
IT IS.

OEDIPUS. SYNTHETIC
NEUROTOXIN...TEMPORARY
BLINDNESS...
BLAH, BLAH, BLAH...

"APPARENTLY
STOLEN."

BINGO.

THE LEAD SUSPECT WAS
NICK CHERNIN, THE
DECLUN SCIENTIST WHO
INVENTED IT.

EITHER THE CHARGES DIDN'T
STICK OR DECLUN DIDN'T
TRY TO MAKE 'EM STICK.

BUT WOULD'JA LOOK
AT THAT? MR. CHERNIN'S
IN THE PHONE BOOK.



Chapter Five. A Hero Falls!

PORt WASHINGtON,
NEW YORK.

NICE HOUSE.

YOU GOTTA ADMIRE
A SUPER-VILLAIN WHO
COMMUTES FROM
THE SUBURBS. GOOD
WORK ETHIC.

DING DONG DING DONG

COMING...
WAITASEC...

HIYA
BLINDSIDE!
THIS A BAD
TIME?

THIS IS A
FIRST FOR ME,
MEETING A SUPER-
VILLAIN AT HIS
HOUSE.

...

BUT I'LL BE
HONEST WITH YOU,
IT'S ONLY 'CAUSE I
NEVER HAD A SUPER-
VILLAIN'S HOME
ADDRESS BEFORE.

WELL...OTHER
THAN 1445 GIANT
CASTLE LANE,
DOOMSTADT,
LATVERIA.

NONO
NO!

WHAT?
YOU'RE NOT
GONNA INVITE
ME IN?

OH, I SEE.
YOU'RE GOING
TO FIX ME A
DRINK...

I'LL TAKE A GIN
AND TONIC. HOLD
THE GIN, THOUGH. I
GOTTA DRIVE THE
SPIDEY-MOBILE HOME.

NOT A
DRINK
EXACTLY...

TOO BAD.
I COULD USE
A DRINK.
THIRSTY.

YOU'RE
WONDERING WHY
I'M NOT BLIND,
AREN'T YOU? C'MON,
ADMIT IT. YOU'RE A
LITTLE CURIOUS.

IT'S CALLED
AN ANTIDOTE,
JERKWAD!

THWAK!

WHERE ARE
YOU RUNNING OFF
TO NOW?

IT'S
CALLED A GUN,
"JERKWAD."

I GUESS YOU
FIGURED
I WOULDN'T HAVE
ANY PROTECTION
HERE, RIGHT?

CHAKCHAKCHAKCHAK
CHAKCHAKCHAKCHAK
CLICK

NOPE.
JUST KNEW I
COULD DODGE ANY
"PROTECTION"
EASILY.

THIS IS A NICE
HOUSE. I DIDN'T
KNOW SUPER-VILLAINS
LIVED THIS NICE,
TRUTH BE TOLD.

SHAME
YA GOTTA
SHOOT IT
UP.

HEH. HERE'S SOMETHING ELSE YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT SUPER-VILLAINS...

YOU KNOW, YOU RUINED A PERFECTLY LOVELY EVENING.

COMMANDA. BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I SAW HER AND HER SUPER-POWERED ARMOR. I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT'S HIS GIRLFRIEND.

I REALLY GOTTA FIND A GIRL WITH SUPER-POWERS.

SORRY, I CAN COME BACK LATER, IF--

MY LIFE JUST REALLY SUCKS SOMETIMES.

...WE DATE.

YAAAH!

KILL HIM, SWEETIE.

Mmm... DO I GET A VOTE ON THIS?

NO.

WHAT ABOUT ME?



'CAUSE
I'M VOTING
WITH MY
FEET!

WHAT DID I SAY ABOUT
STAYING OUT OF THE
SUPER HERO BUSINESS?

YOU'RE
COMPLAINING?!

YES, THIS IS ME
COMPLAINING.

YOU
FOLLOWED
ME HERE,
DIDN'T YOU?

DON'T
FLATTER
YOURSELF!

NO, I
THOUGHT I'D BUST
BLINDSIDE MYSELF AND
GET BACK IN YOUR
GOOD GRACES.

TAK

SAY
GOODNIGHT,
RED!

DON'T BE
INSULTED, BUT
I GOTTA MAKE
THIS QUICK...

THWIP



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Moments Later...



I DON'T
KNOW. BUT I'M
GOING TO GET YOU
TO A HOSPITAL,
ALRIGHT?

I DON'T
THINK I'M GOING
TO MAKE...

ALL I EVER
WANTED WAS...
WAS TO BE A
HERO...

YEAH, WELL,
THAT'S HOW THEY'LL
TREAT YOU AT THE
HOSPITAL, I PROMISE.
JUST HOLD ON...

DON'T
THINK I...



TELL ME.

THIS
WASN'T YOUR
FAULT.
JUST
TELL ME.

CAUSE OF DEATH
WAS MYOCARDIAL
INFARCTION, THE RESULT
OF A FATAL COMBINATION
OF ALL THE DRUGS IN
HER SYSTEM.

THE DRUGS
IN HER SYSTEM
COMBINED WITH
A NEW ONE,
YOU MEAN.

SO TELL
ME...WAS IT THE
ANTIDOTE TO
BLINDSIDE'S POWER
I GAVE HER?

NO. IT WAS
THE OEDIPUS
NEUROTOXIN.

THIS
WASN'T
YOUR
FAULT.

"THIS WAS
YOUR FAULT."

Park Slope, Brooklyn.

SARA EHRET'S HOME.

YOU
CAN'T BLAME
ME FOR ALANA'S
DEATH, SPIDER-
MAN.

FUNNY. I
THOUGHT I
JUST DID.
SHE KNEW
THE RISKS.
SHE--

YOU'RE THE
ONE WITH THE
TRAINING. YOU'RE
THE ONE WITH
THE POWERS.

YOU'RE
THE ONE WITH THE
RESPONSIBILITY.

I DIDN'T WANT
IT. I DID THIS
BECAUSE...
THE LIFE YOU
HAVE... I DIDN'T
WANT IT. ALANA
DID.
WELL,
NOW SHE
DOESN'T
HAVE ANY
LIFE.

YOU SAY
YOU DON'T WANT
THE RESPONSIBILITY?
GUESS WHAT?
PEOPLE LIKE US...



THE END?



www.thelongbox.net

A
GREEN GIANT
SCAN



LIKE IT?
BUY IT!