

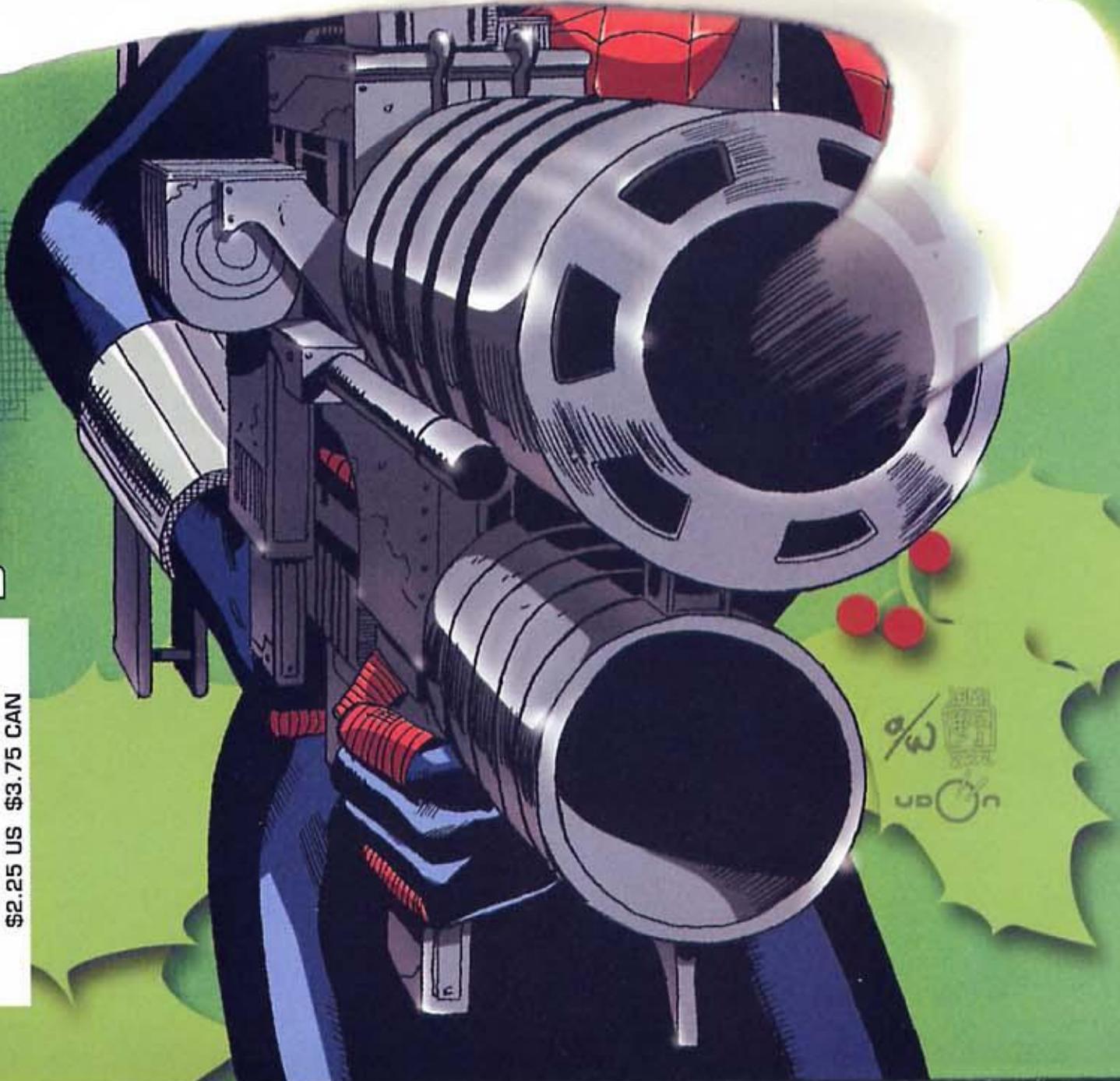
MARVEL

54

SEASON OF THE SERPENT

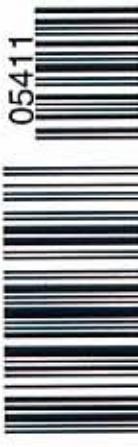
PART
1 of 6

SPIDER-GIRL



DEFALCO
OLLIFFE
WILLIAMSON

DIRECT EDITION



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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

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Your name is *May "Mayday" Parker*. You are the daughter of the original *Spider-Man*, and no one can blame you for feeling a tad paranoid.

In the past few months, your friend *Courtney Duran* was almost killed in a car accident.



Then you accidentally discovered that *Jack Jameson*, a boy you really like, has a secret life as a super hero, too.



And then you recently kissed *Brad Miller*, a longtime heartthrob--



--only to learn that the reality of dating him just hasn't lived up to your fantasies.



The only good news is the baby brother in your future-- --but something might be wrong with your mom.



Season's greetings from your friendly neighborhood web-stunner!

"Twas a week before Christmas,
and all through the city,
everyone was out shopping,
in streets cold and gritty.

As you passed a jewelry store,
and a Santa so gay,
your spider-sense did tingle,
giving his gun away.

With your suspicions aroused,
To your costume you flew,
A holdup was in progress,
And obvious to you!

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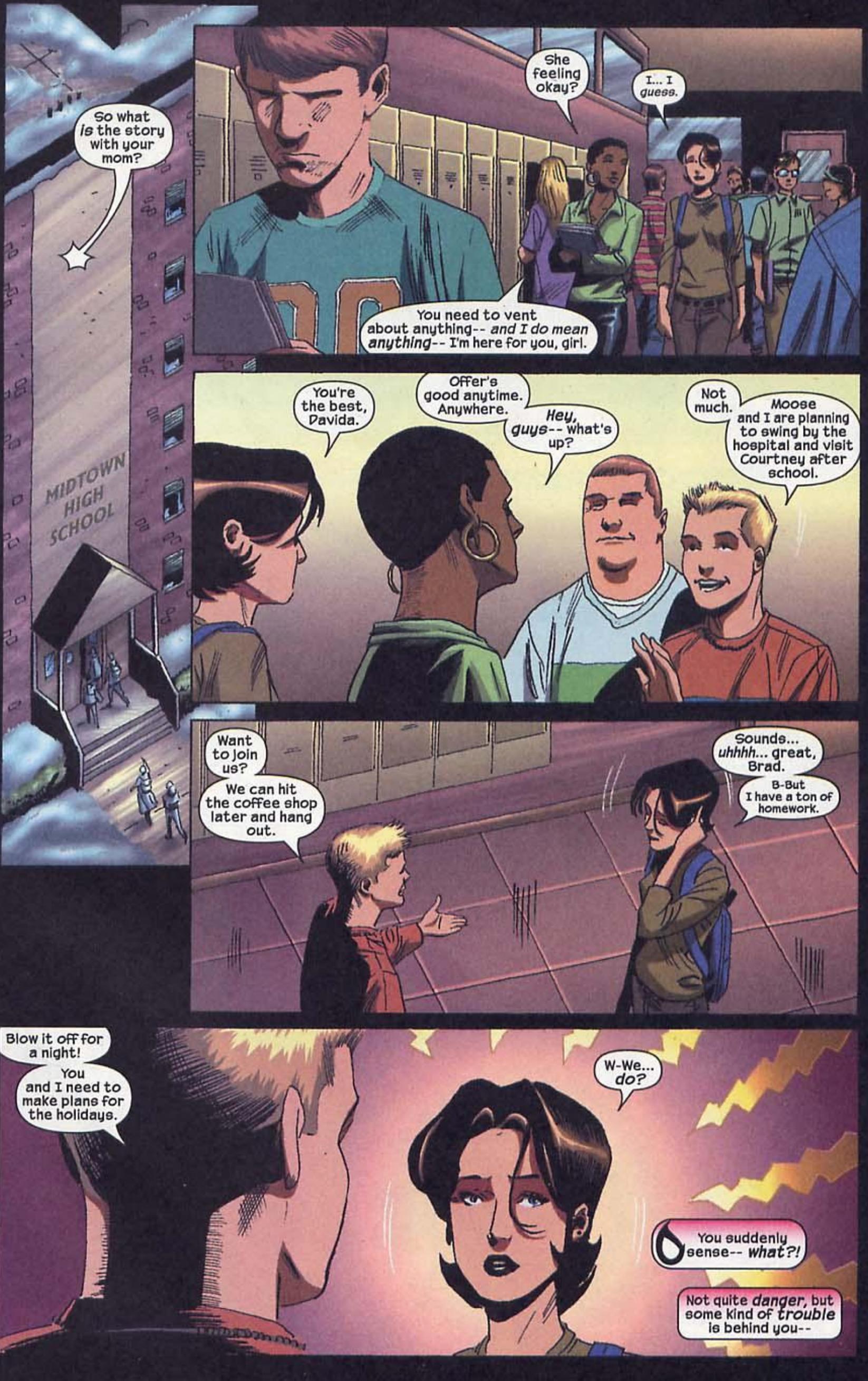


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A few hours later, you finish your last class, slip back into your webs and go prowling for more sinister Santas.

Hey, your dad told you to follow your instincts.

But your mind keeps drifting to your so-called love life.

Brad still wants to make plans--

--and JJ invited you to Christmas with the Jamesons!

Which you might accept just to see the expression on your dad's face.

How do other costumed adventurers spend the holidays?

Kind of hard to picture Darkdevil decorating a tree--

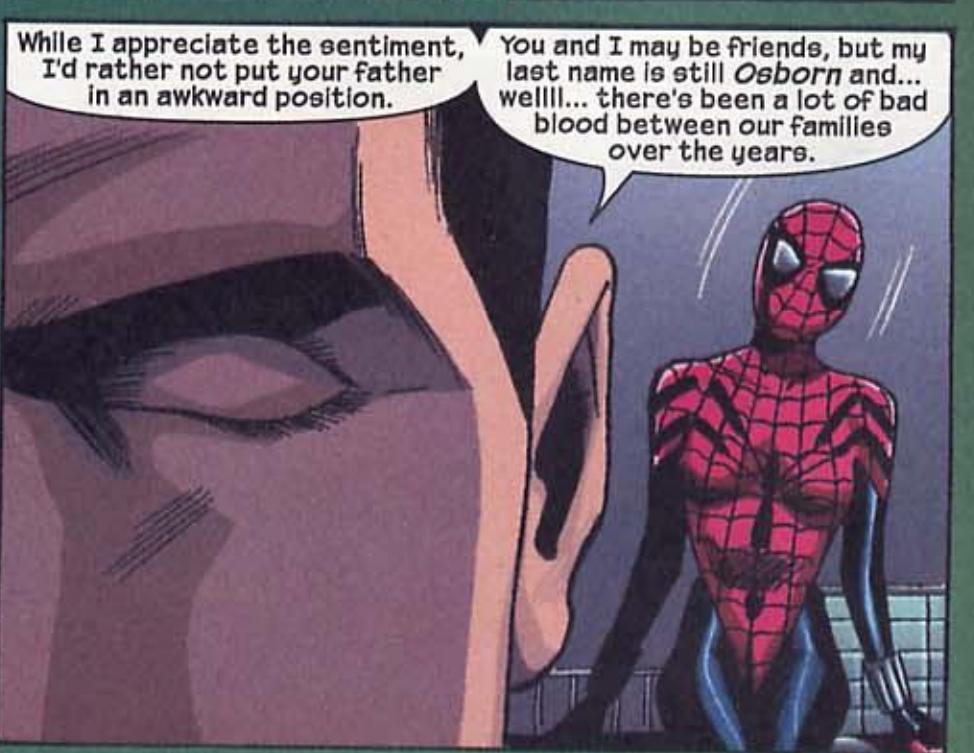
--or lighting a menorah.

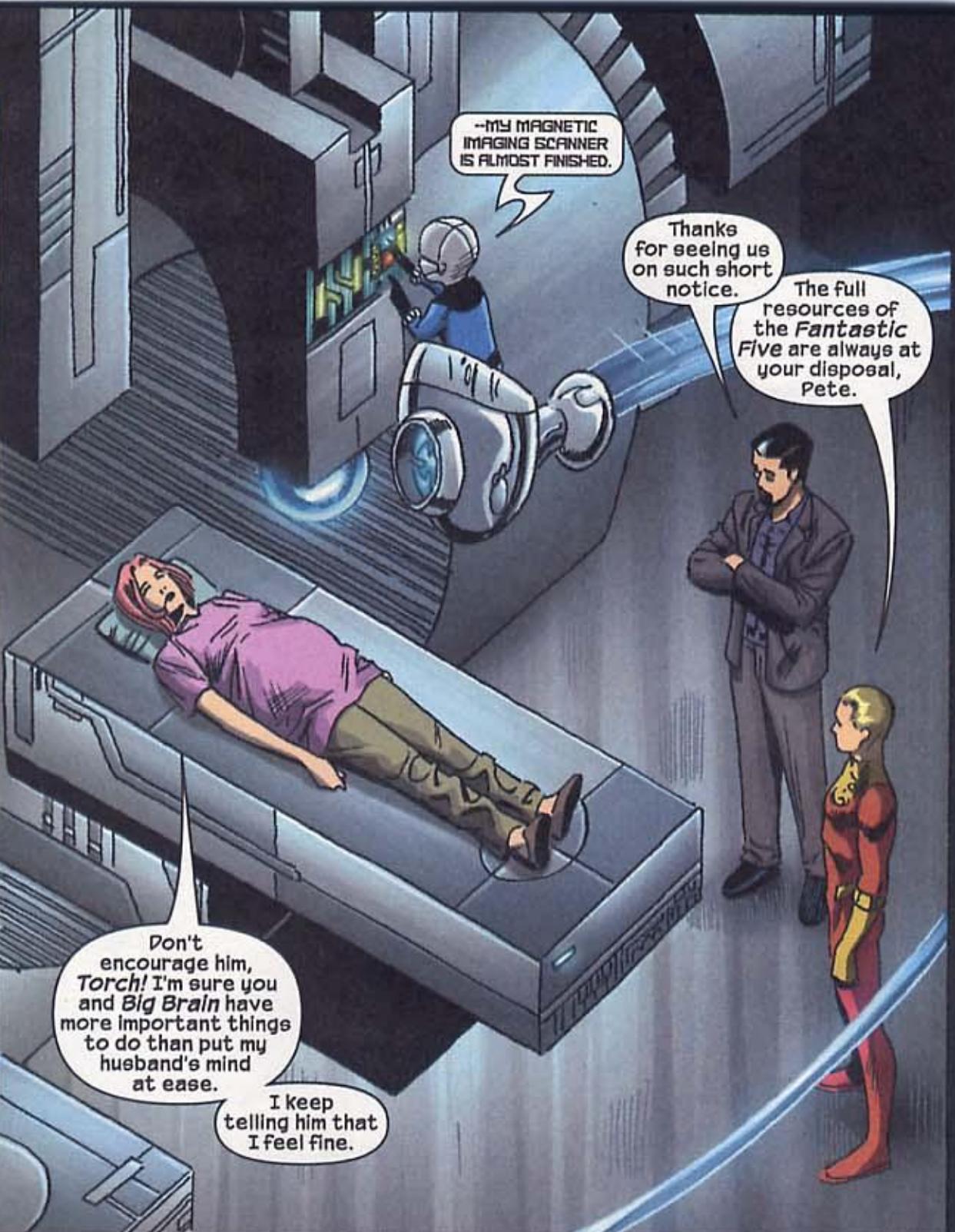
What's the etiquette among super-folk?

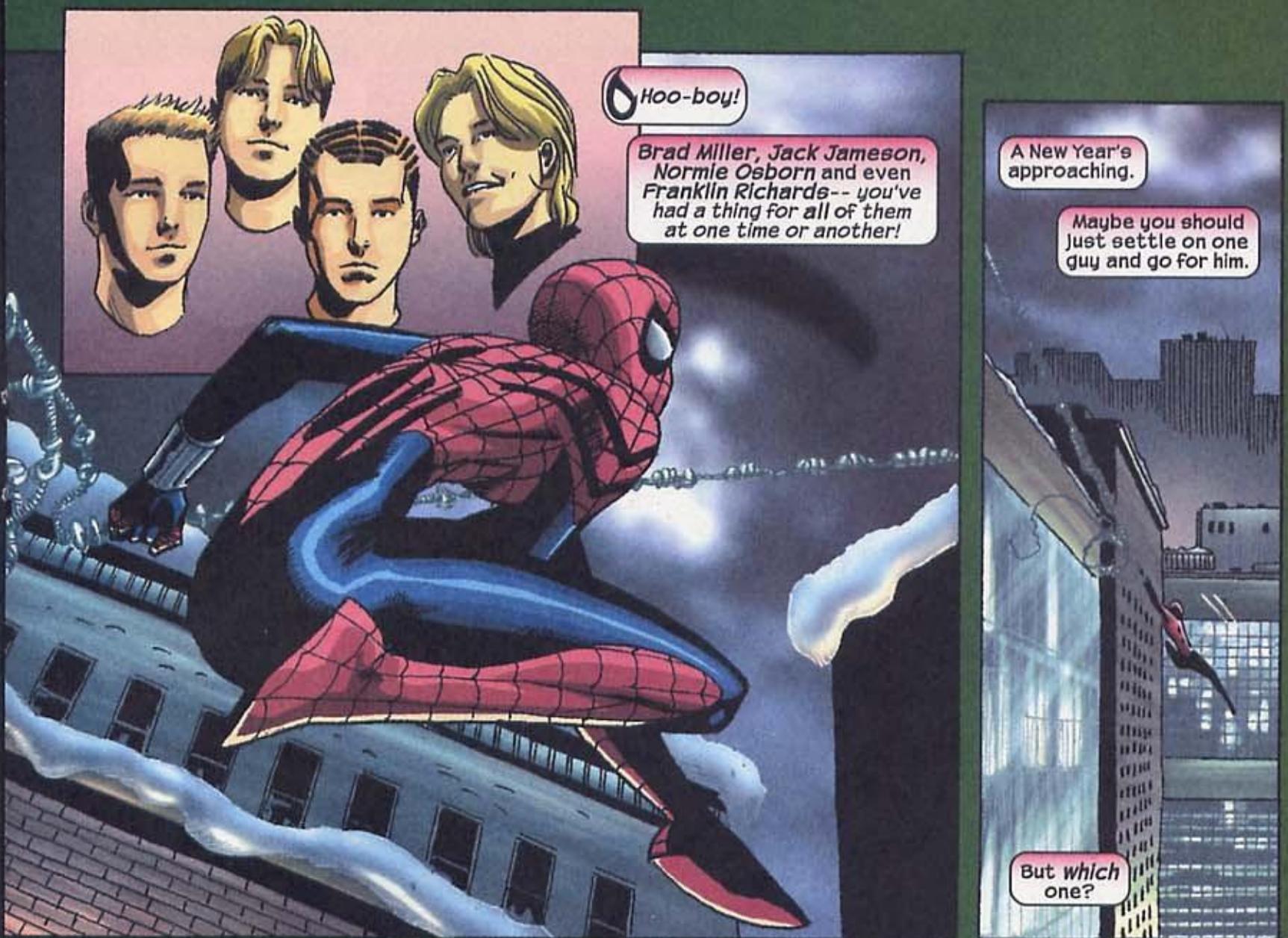
Can you get away with one card to the entire *Fantastic Five*--

--or exchange presents with only some of the Avengers?

Hoo-boy! Being a super hero is a lot more complicated than people think!







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Without a moment's hesitation, you make your dad proud by popping out your cell phone and dialing 911...

Hi there! I want to report a bunch of terrorists.

Yes, there's a reason why your caller I.D. isn't working.

No, I can't give you my number.

Because I... I'm a... y'know... a super hero.

Of course, I'm serious.

Do you want this tip or not?!

You know you should wait for the cops, but--

--curiosity is just another name for Spider-Girl!!

Listen--! Someone is in the weapons locker.

B-But I locked that cubicle myself.

Looks like these guys are planning an invasion.

Arrgh! There are days when being a super hero isn't all it's cracked up to be!

Then I suggest you investigate it at once!

Oops! That old familiar tingle is telling you to make tracks or--

The Master's right--!

The door's still bolted, but I hear movement inside.

It can only be someone who's crazy or looking to commit suicide!

There--! I see a stranger in the far corner.

Hey,
boys!

Guess
who's going
GRIM and
GRITTY!





Bad news, girlie...

It takes nearly an *hour* to charge the energy cells needed to fire that blaster.





I am
the shadow
that troubles
sleep.

THWAMM!

How
is
this
possible?

You sense the approaching
blows, but even your
spider-like reflexes aren't
fast enough to save you.

--and causes
even the most
courageous spirit
to tremble.

I am
truly surprised
that you do not
recognize me,
my sweet--

SMOK!

I am
the worm that
nibbles at every
soul--

PHOMP!

--for I have been
your most constant
companion.

RELEASE
THE GIRL--!

The situation's already bad enough-- don't add to your jail time!

Put her down nice and slow... and nobody gets hurt.

His grasp momentarily tightens, as if to emphasize your utter helplessness.

So be it!

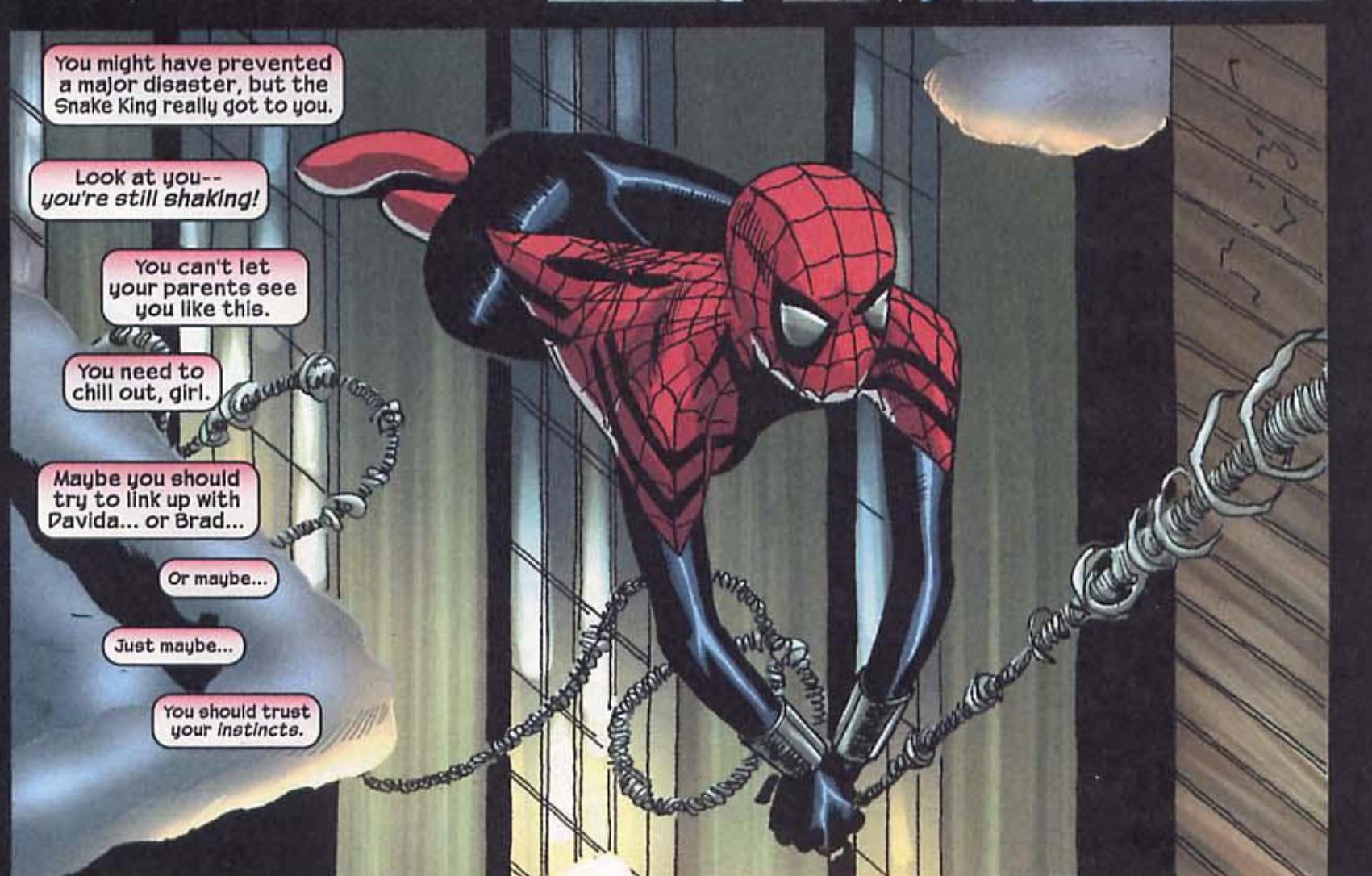
The child has already proven unworthy as a challenger.

--Snake-Breath ups the ante!

Perhaps she'll serve as an adequate DISTRACTION!

Just when you think your humiliation is topping out--

WA-WAM!







THE END...
FOR NOW!