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YOU WON'T  
BELIEVE IT!

THE MOST SHOCKING CLIMAX EVER!



# the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

THE FRIGHTFUL FINISH OF THE BLACK CAT!

THE TRAGIC DECISION OF BETTY BRANT!

THE FINAL FATE OF AUNT MAY!

...AND THE END OF THE ROAD FOR SPIDER-MAN?

TRULY IT CAN BE SAID...  
THIS ONE HAS IT ALL!



While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the arachnid's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

Stan Lee  
PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™

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# NINE LIVES HAS THE BLACK CAT!

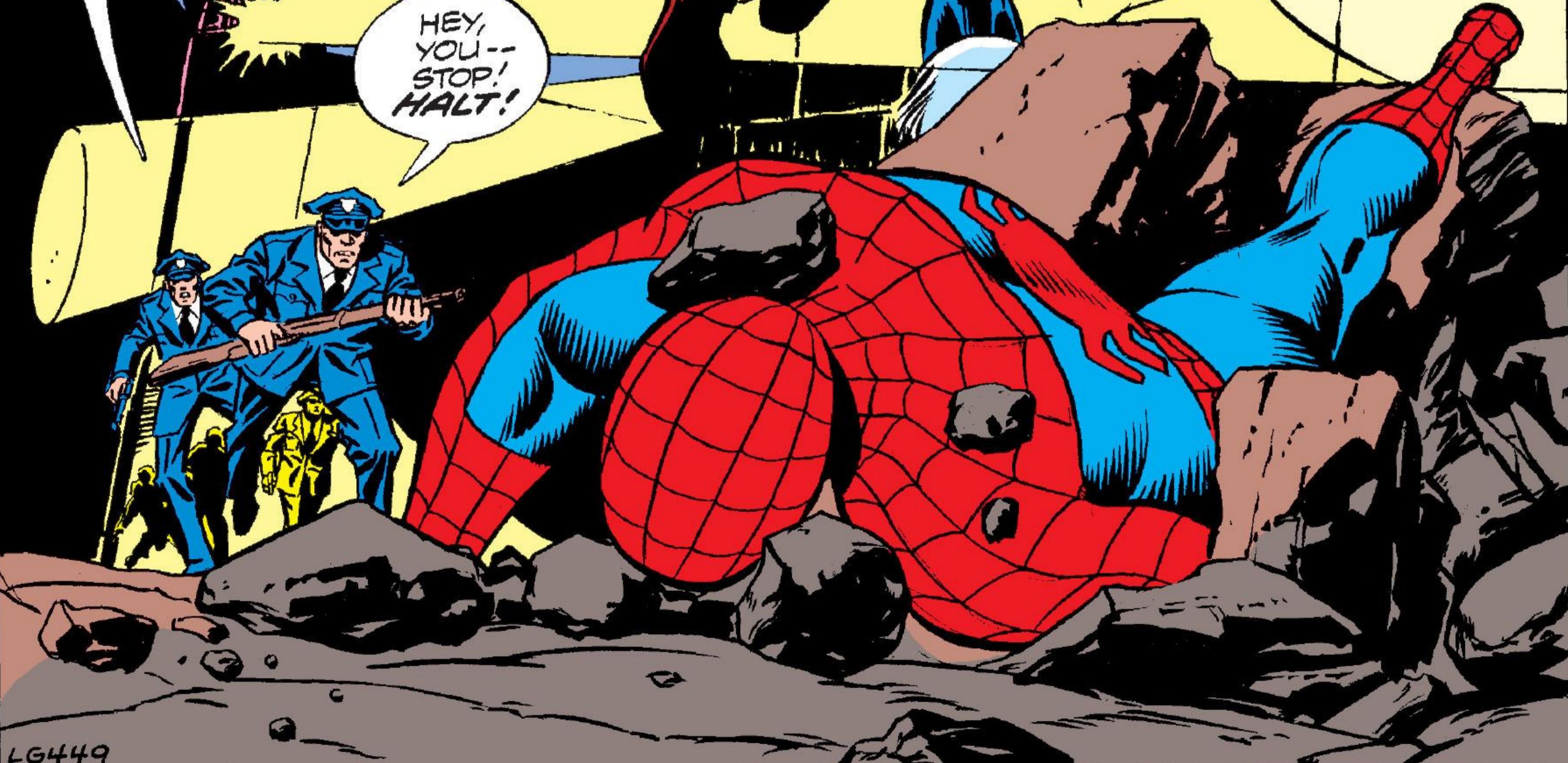
WHAT'S HAPPENING? A FELINE FEMME-FATALE CALLED THE BLACK CAT PROVES TO BE BAD LUCK FOR SPIDEY WHEN THE PRISON WALL HE IS SCALING SUDDENLY DECIDES TO--EXPLODE!

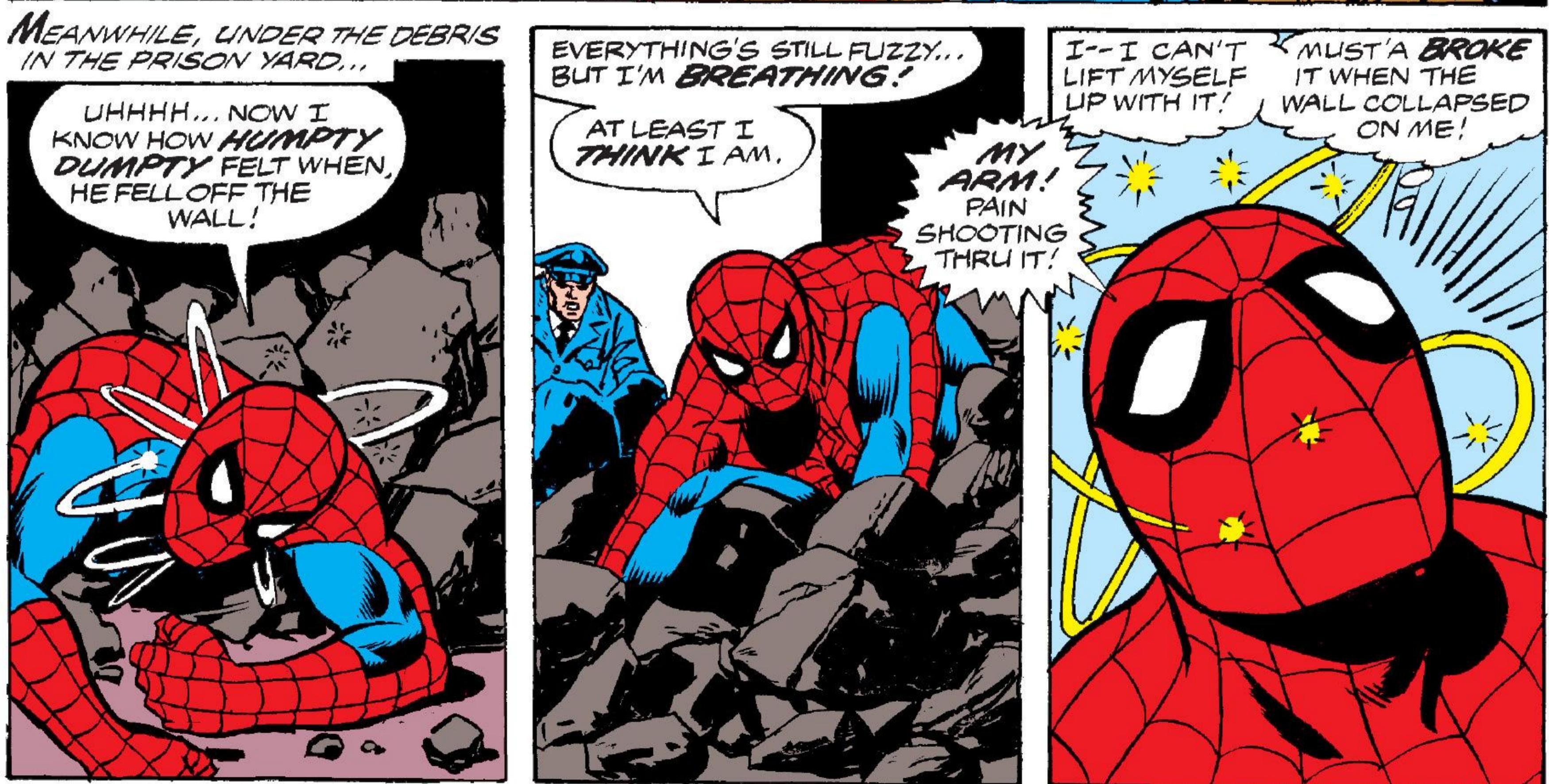
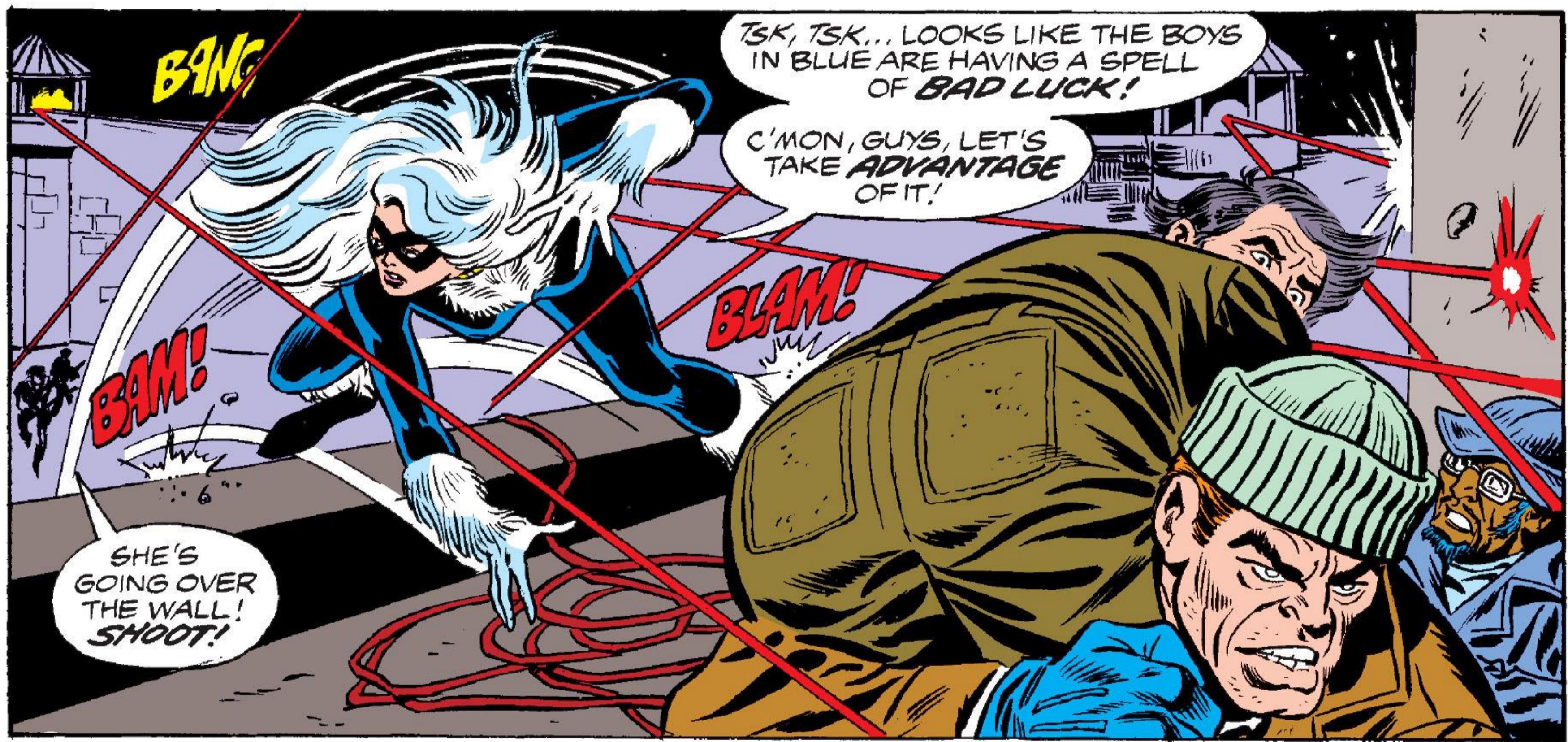
HATE TO DO THIS TO YOU, SPIDEY, BUT I'D ALREADY WARNED YOU--

NEVER LET THE BLACK CAT CROSS YOUR PATH!

LOOK! SHE BROKE INTO HARDY'S CELL!  
SHE'LL ESCAPE WITH HIM!

HEY,  
YOU--  
STOP!  
HALT!





JUST GREAT! I TRY AN' STOP A PRISON ESCAPE, AND NOT ONLY DO I BREAK MY ARM, BUT I FAIL!

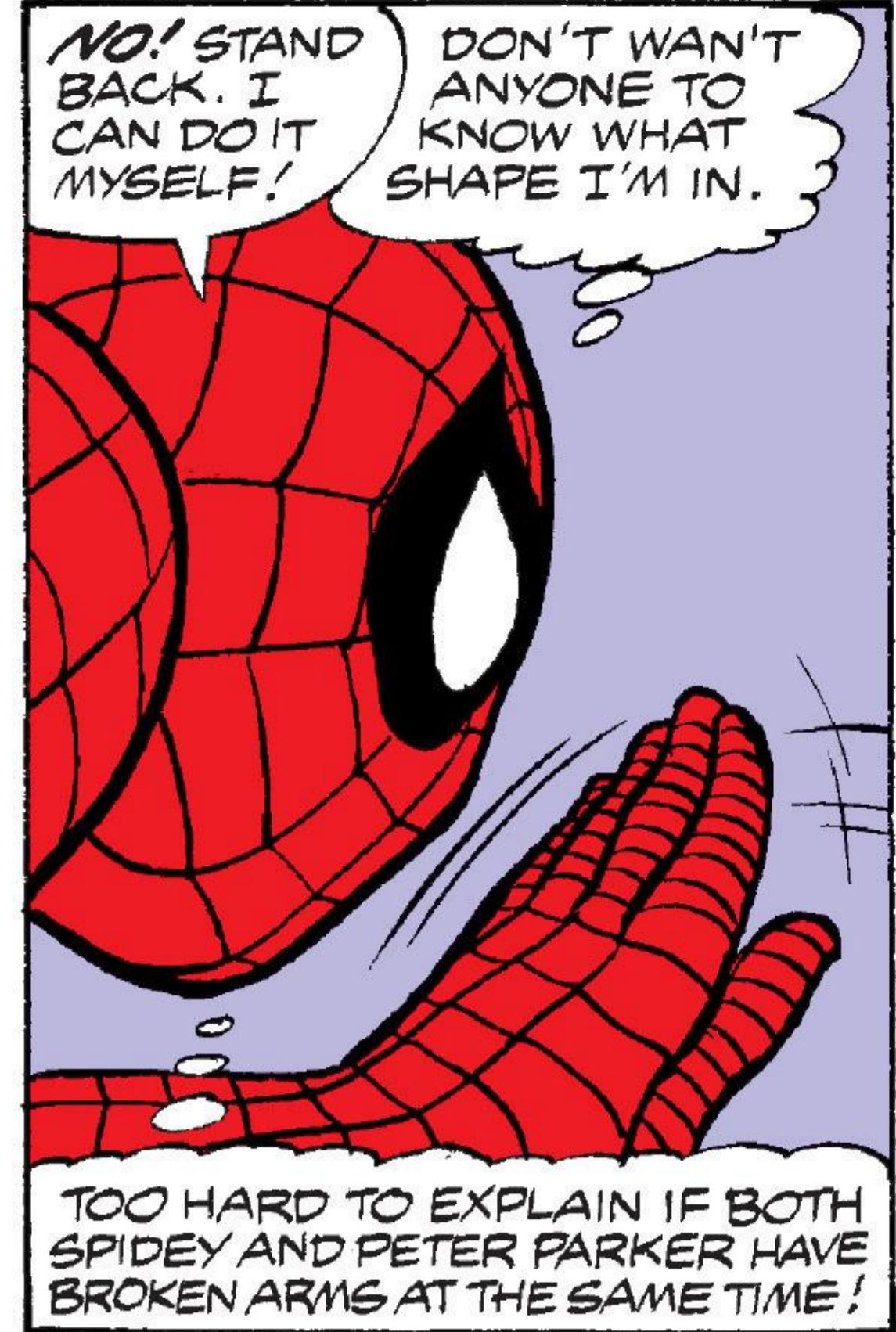
GOOD TO KNOW SOME THINGS DON'T CHANGE--MY LUCK IS STILL ROTTEN!

S-SARGE! WHAT DO WE DO WITH THIS ONE?

GIVE HIM A HAND, DOOLEY! HE TRIED TO HELP US!

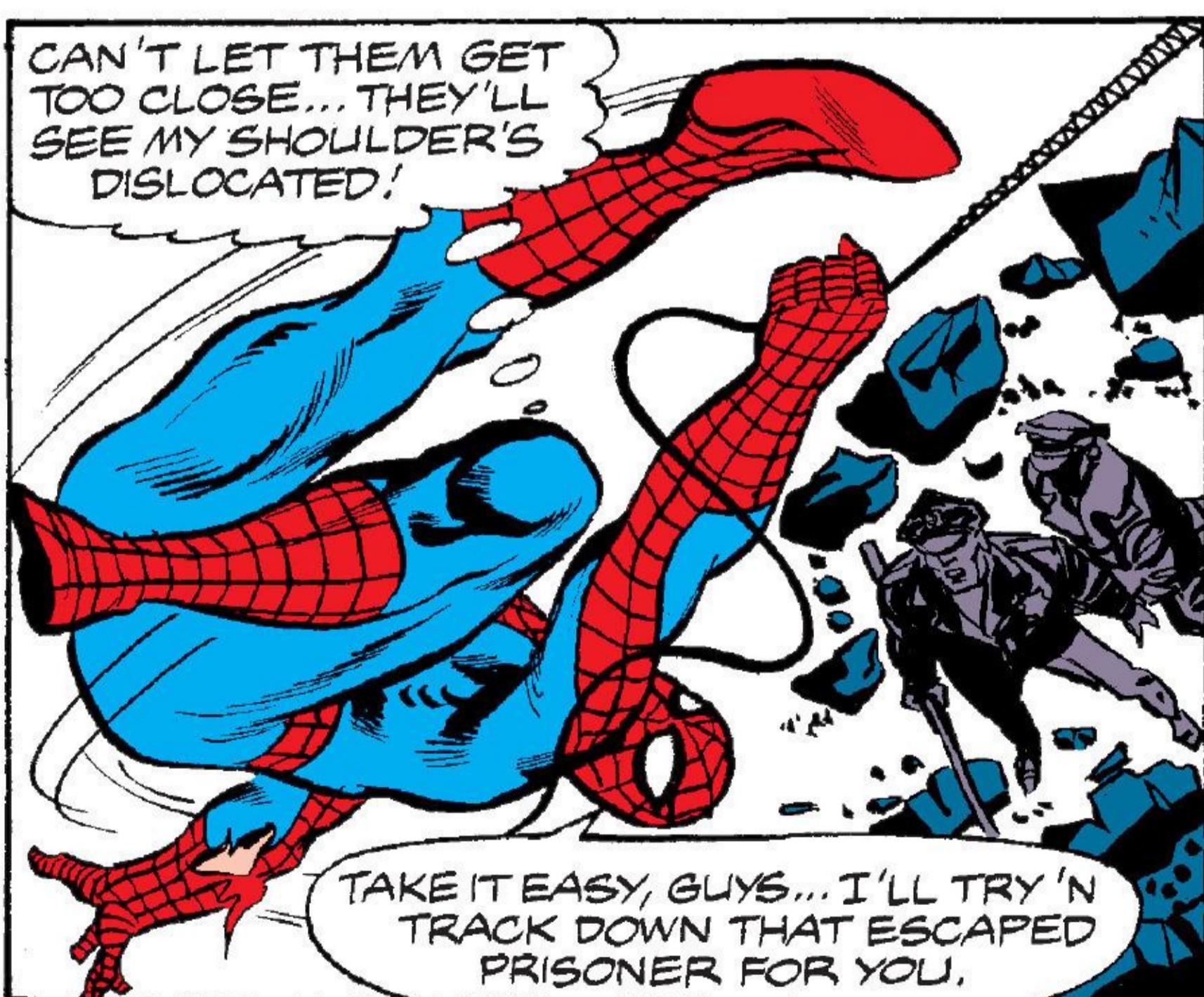
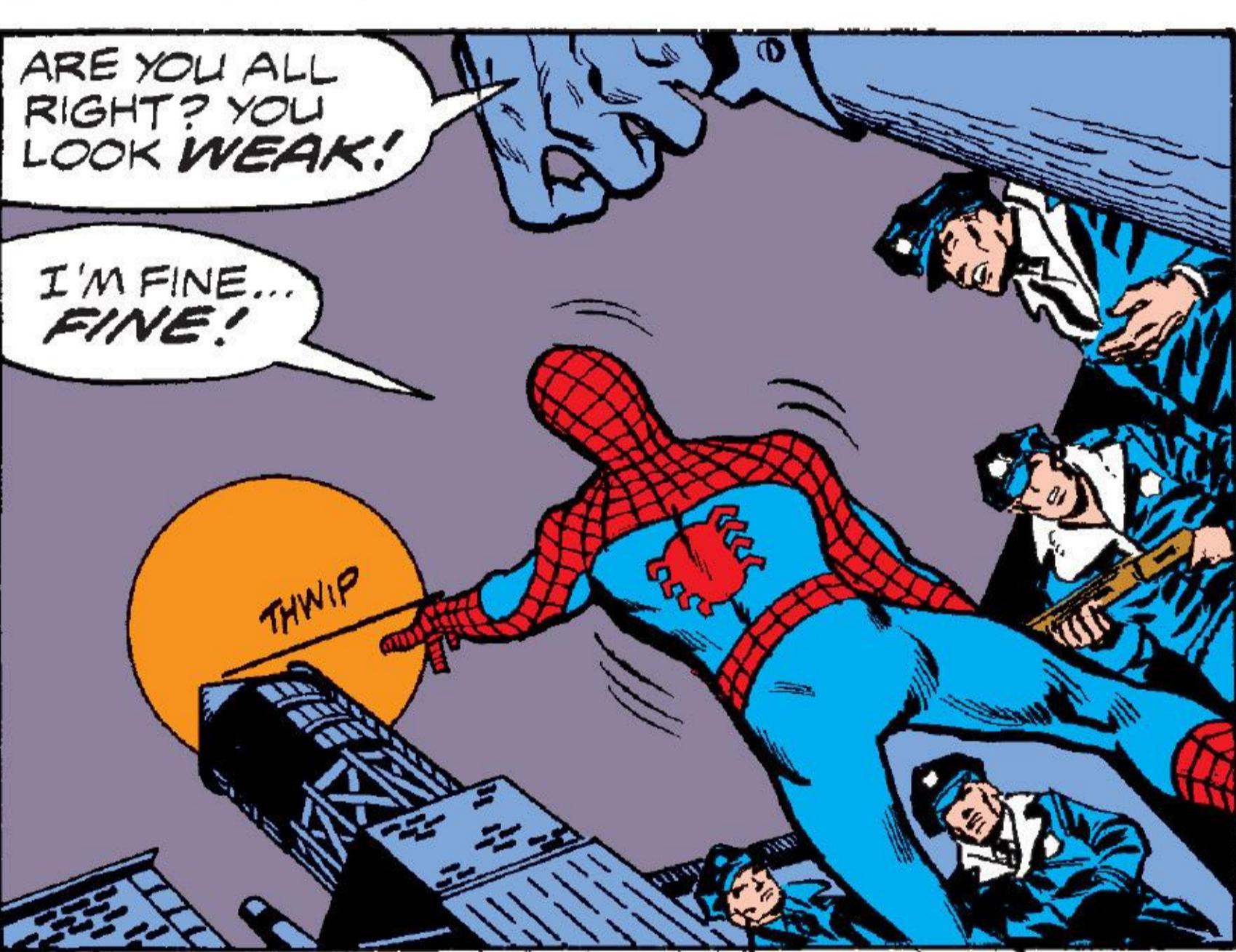
NO! STAND BACK. I CAN DO IT MYSELF!

DON'T WAN'T ANYONE TO KNOW WHAT SHAPE I'M IN.

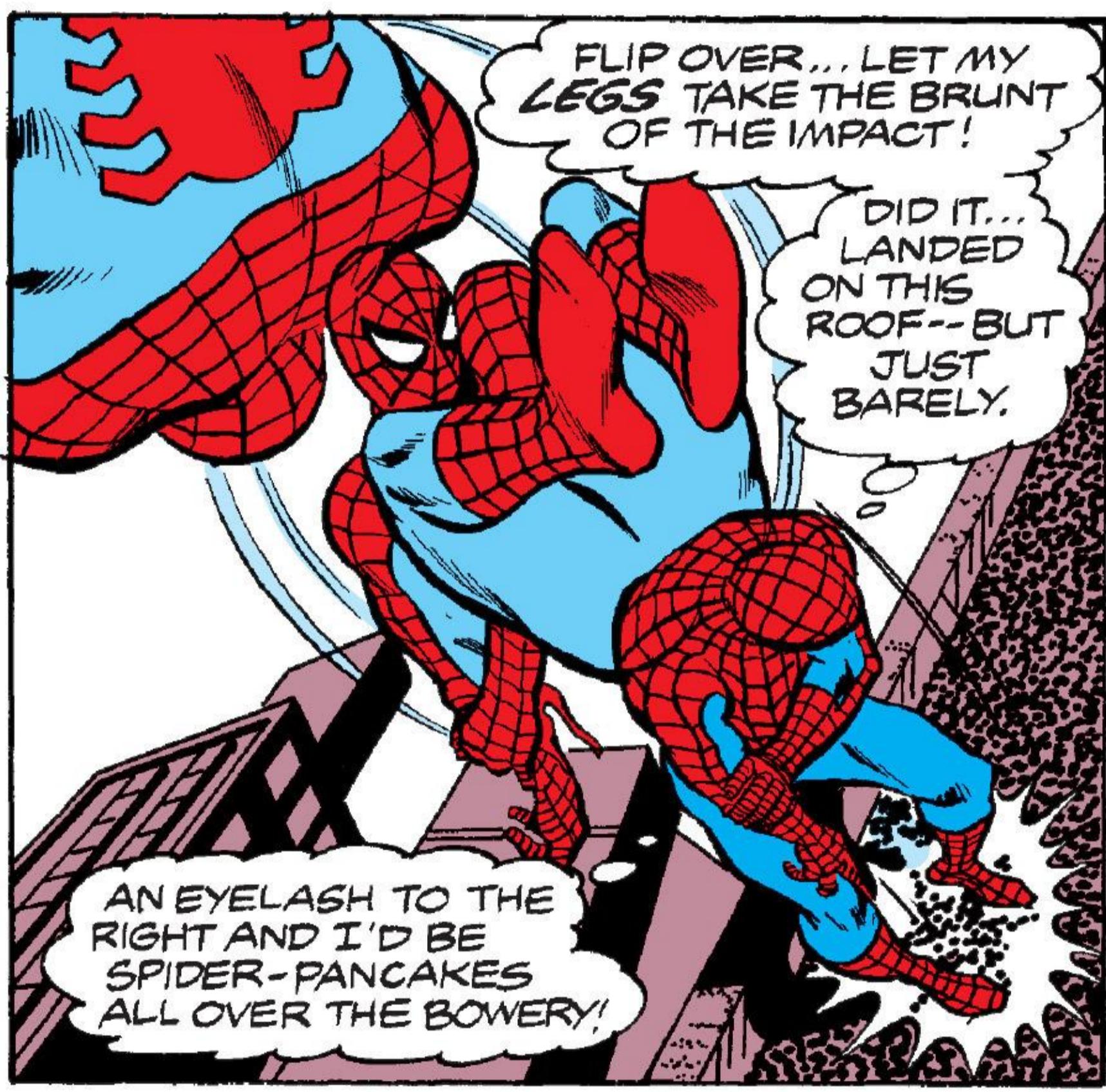
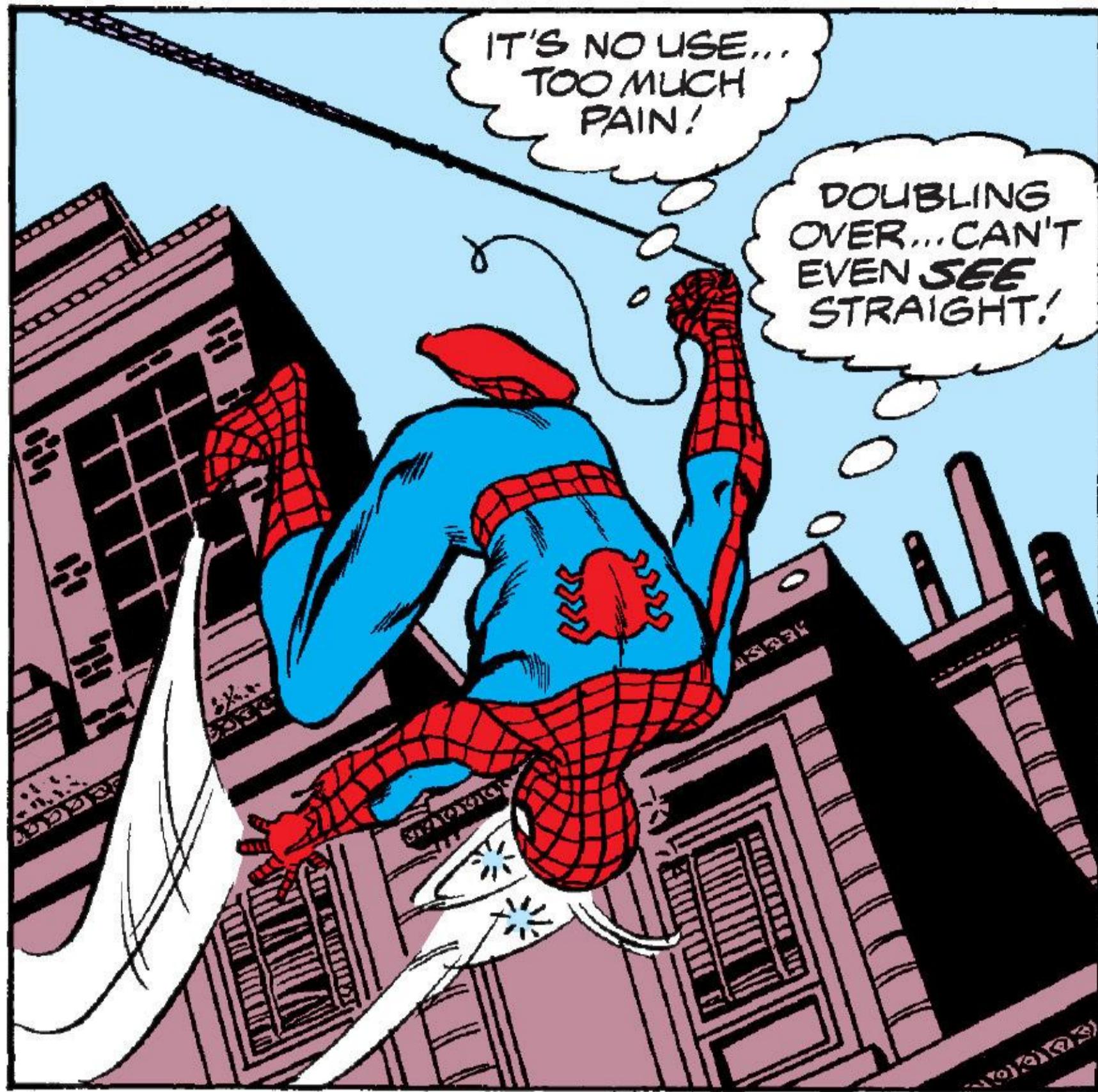


EVERY FIBER OF HIS BEING ACHING WITH PAIN, SPIDER-MAN STILL STRAINS AT THE DEBRIS PINNING HIM TO THE PRISON GROUNDS...

AND, IF YOU COULD LOOK BEHIND HIS GRIM RED MASK, YOU WOULD SEE A FACE CONTORTED IN TORMENTED AGONY. BUT, TORTURIOUSLY, FINALLY...

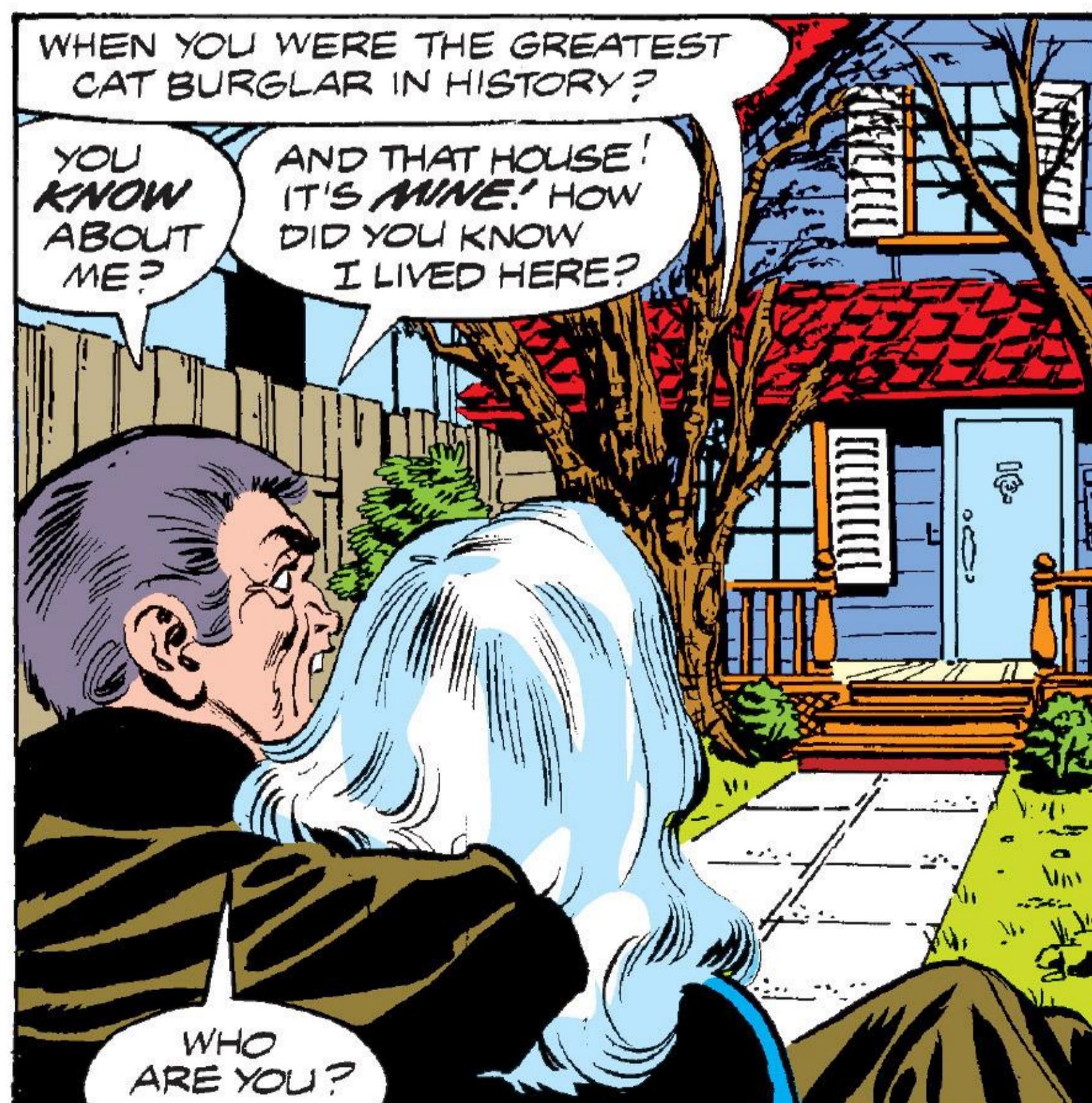


NOT CERTAIN, BUT I THINK THEY BOUGHT IT!

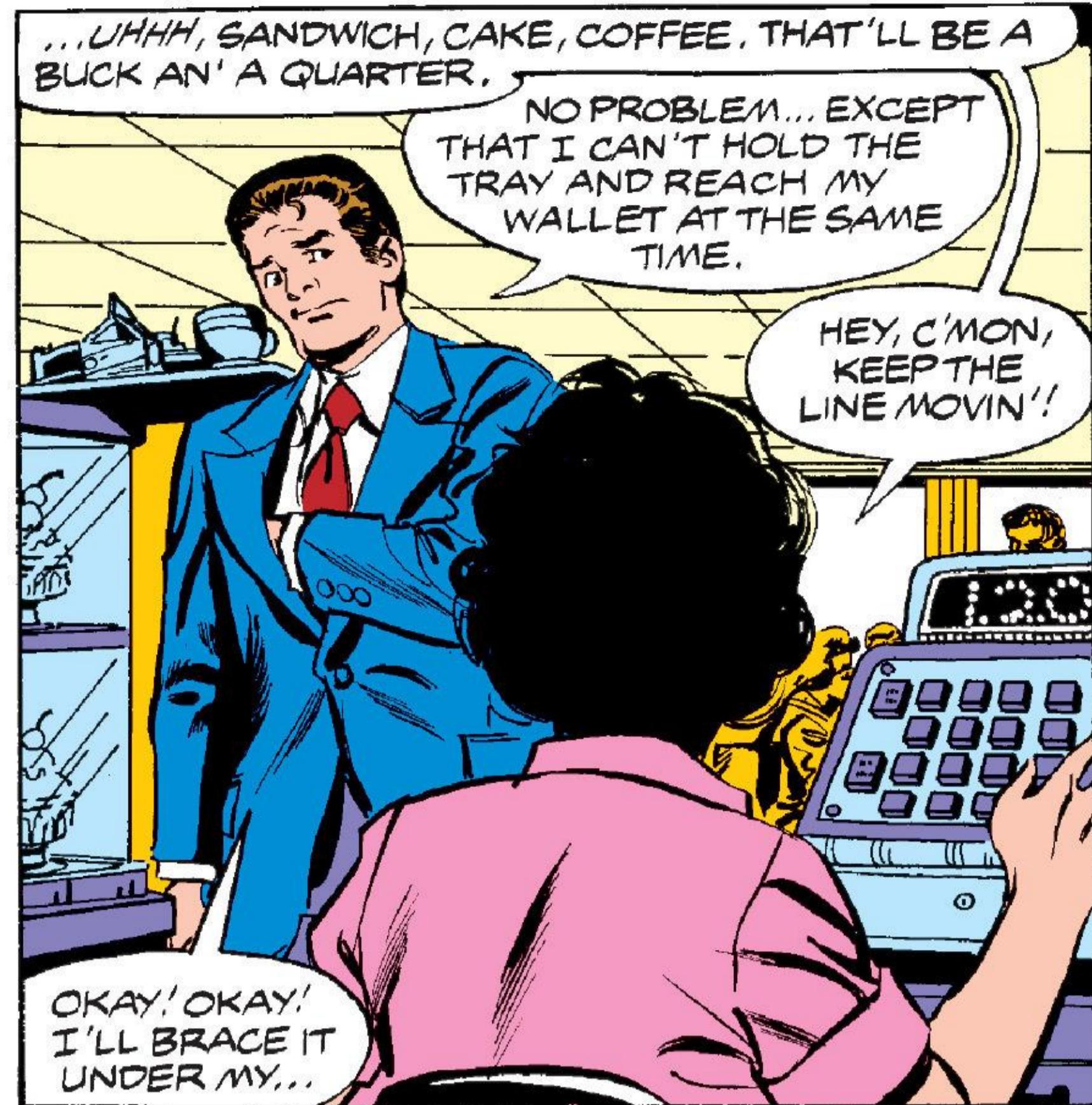
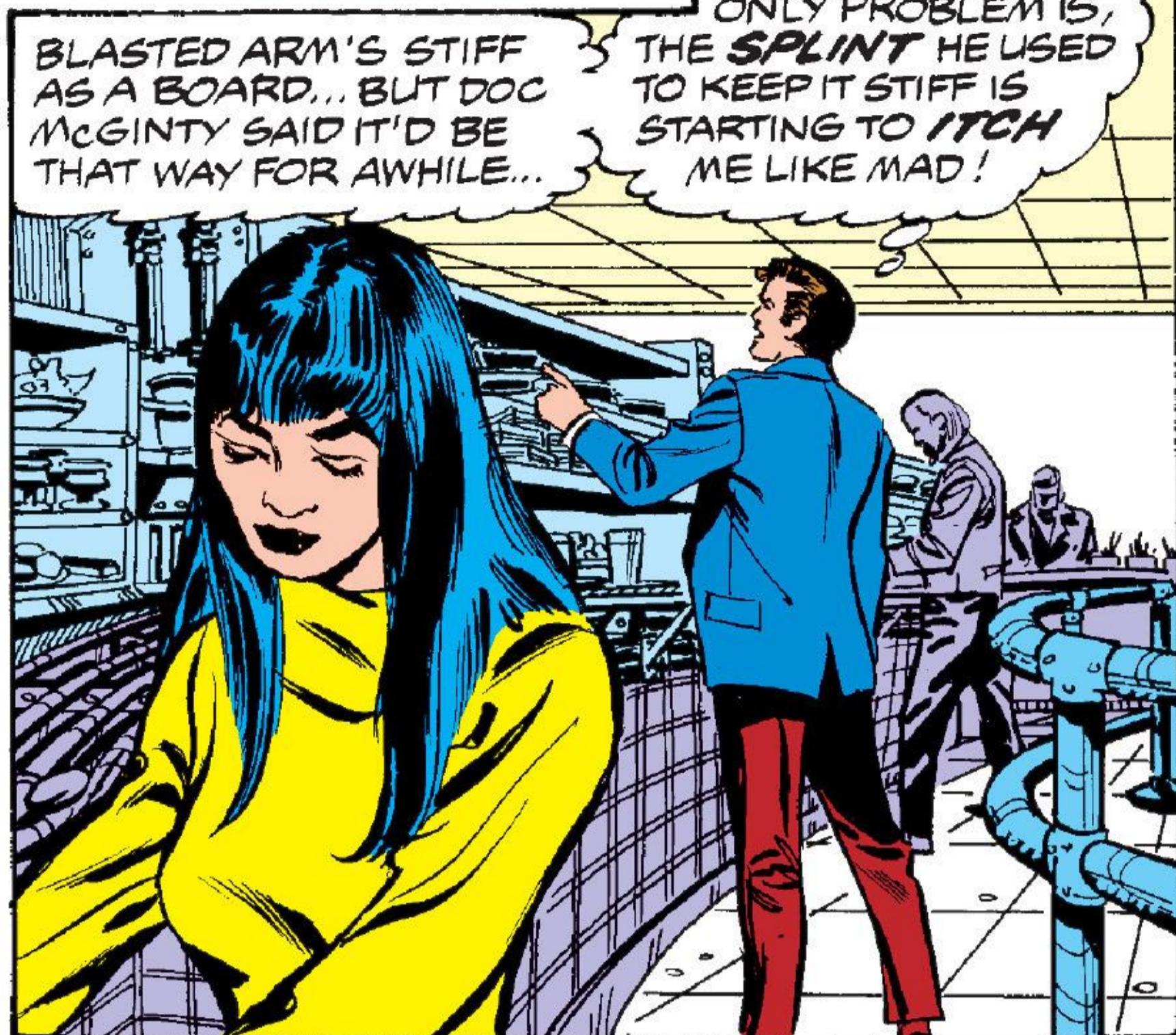




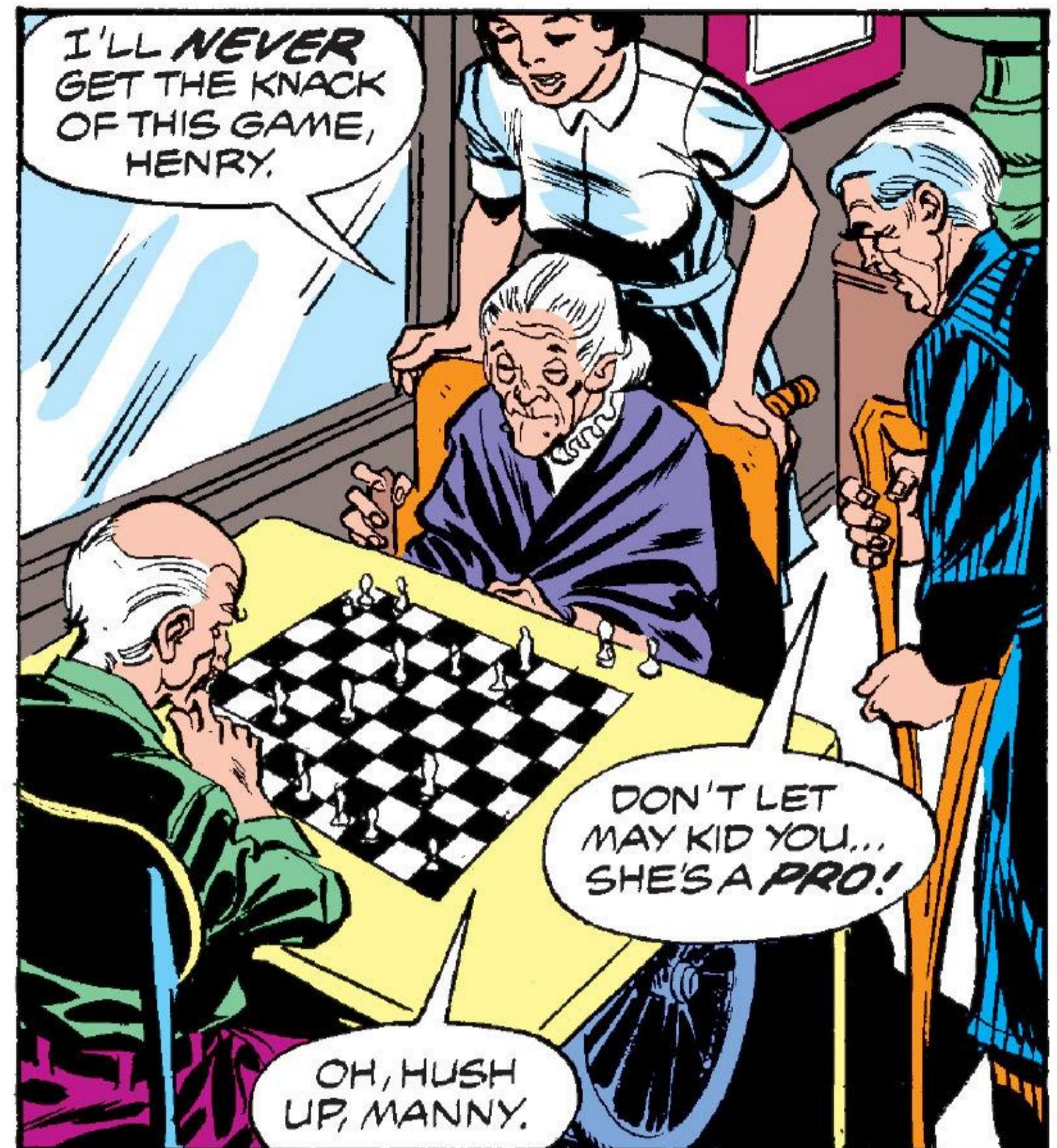
WHO'S OUR MYSTERY MENACE? YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL NEXT ISSUE TO FIND OUT. BUT, FOR NOW...



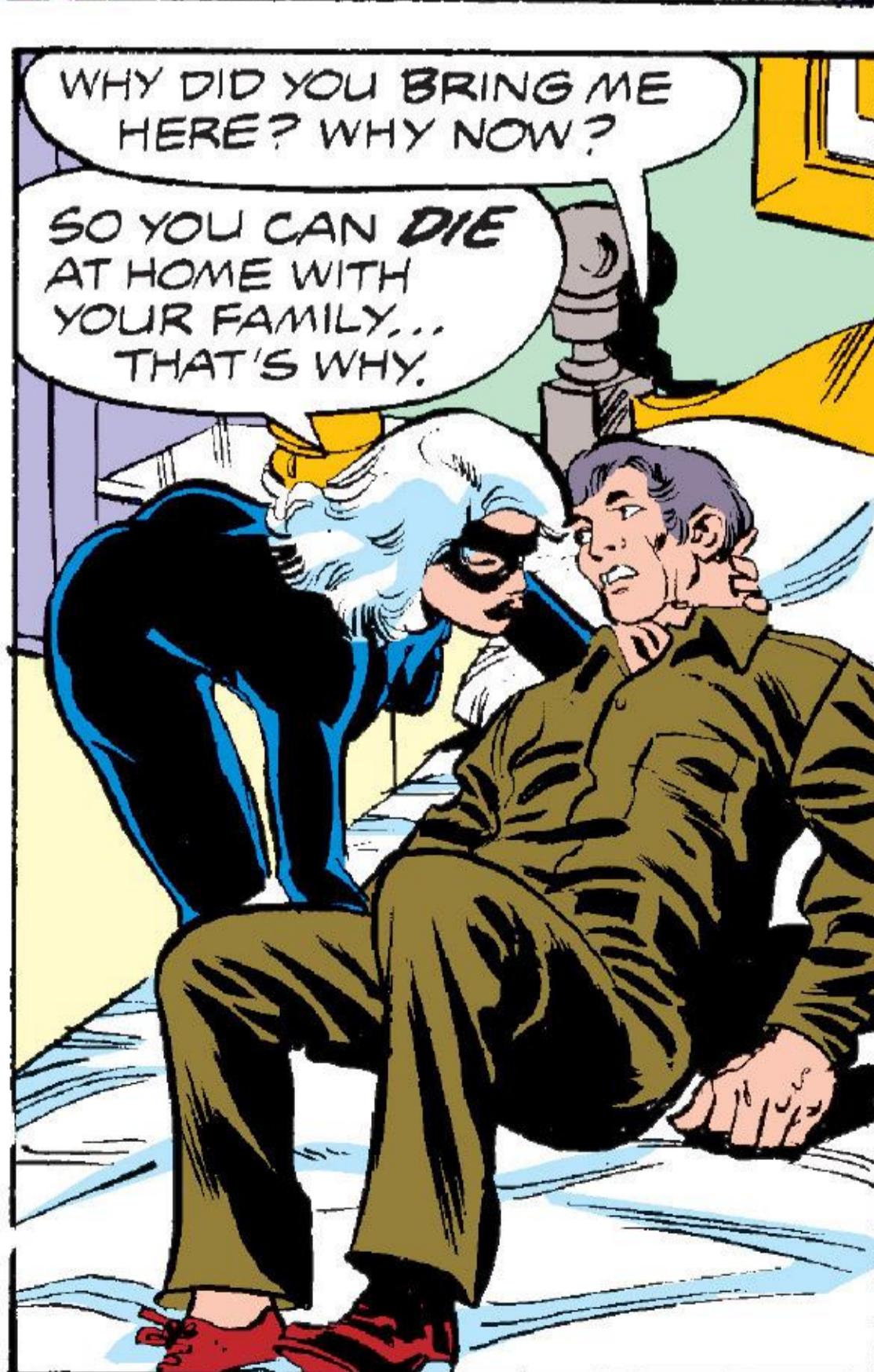
THAT'S A QUESTION TO BE ANSWERED LATER, BUT, FOR NOW, LET'S HEAD TO THE CAMPUS AT EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY, WHERE...







ONE MYSTERY  
BREWS... AS  
FOR THE OTHER...



HAVEN'T YOU GUESSED YET? DIDN'T YOU RECOGNIZE MY VOICE? I'M FELICIA HARDY-- YOUR DAUGHTER!

WHEN I LEARNED YOU WERE DYING, I TRIED TO HAVE YOU SET FREE... BUT THE STATE REFUSED... THEY SAID YOU WERE STILL DANGEROUS.

BUT I HAD TO GET YOU OUT... A MAN HAS A RIGHT TO DIE AT HOME!

FELICIA... PLEASE... DON'T TELL ME IT'S YOU... IT CAN'T BE...

OF COURSE IT'S ME, FATHER. MOM MAY HAVE TOLD ME YOU DIED IN A PLANE CRASH YEARS AGO...

I KNOW SHE DIDN'T WANT TO TELL ME YOU WERE THE **GREATEST** CAT BURGLAR THE WORLD HAD EVER KNOWN-- BUT I FOUND OUT THE TRUTH...

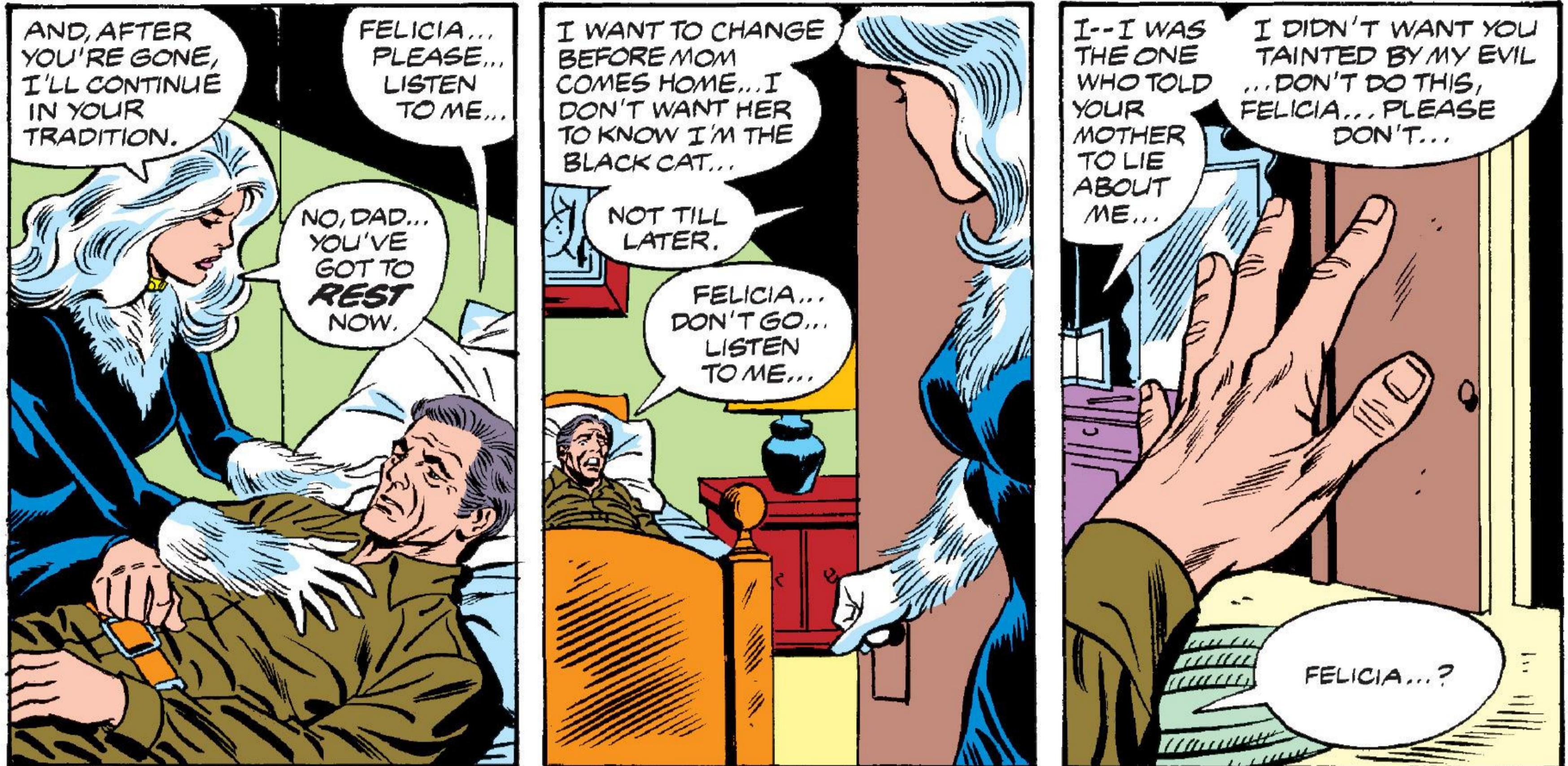
I'VE KNOWN ABOUT YOU ALL ALONG!

I-- I LOVED YOU, DAD... I READ EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU... STUDIED MOVIES TAKEN OF YOU... AND, THE MORE I READ ABOUT YOUR DARING EXPLOITS--

-- THE MORE I REALIZED I WANTED TO BE LIKE YOU.

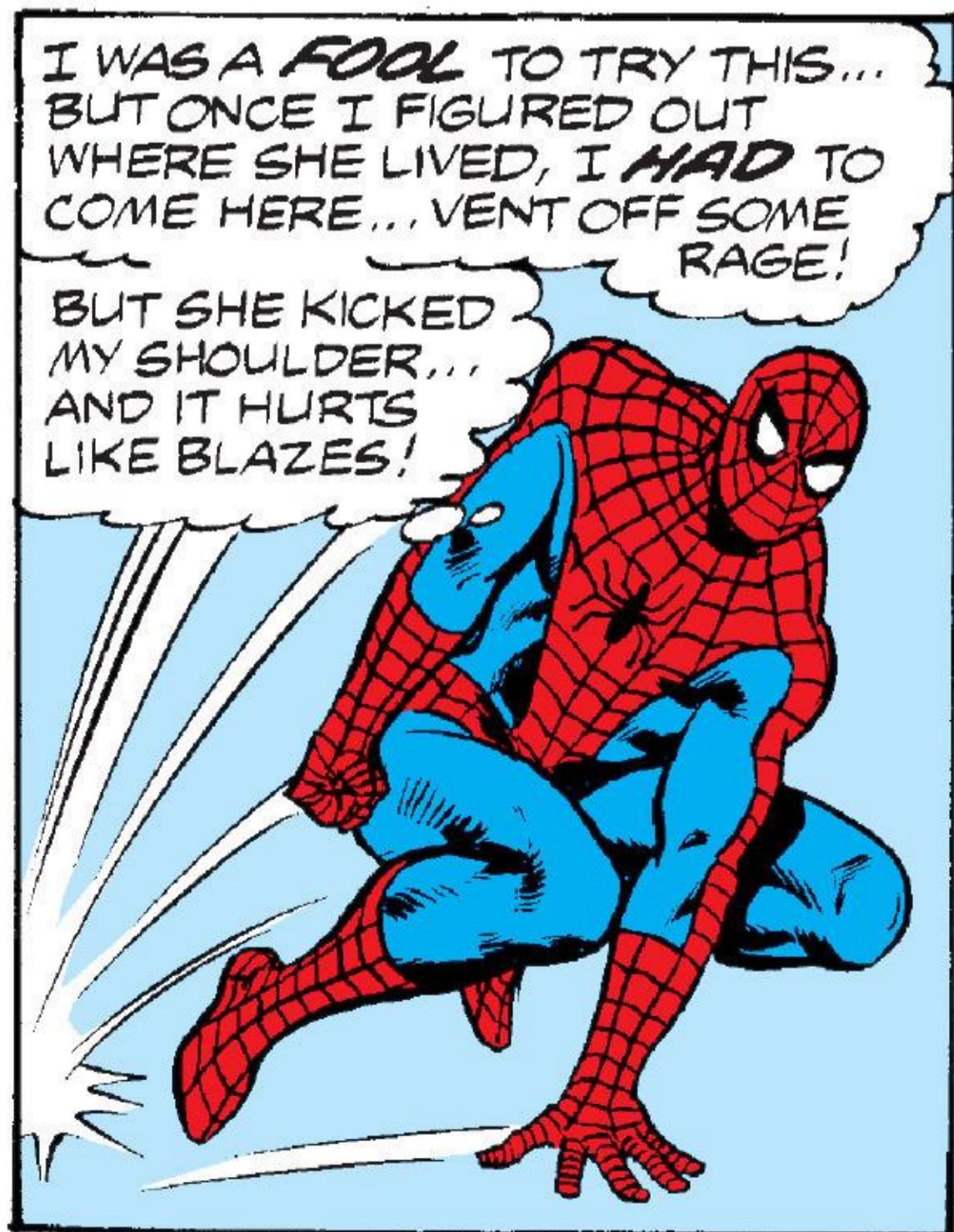
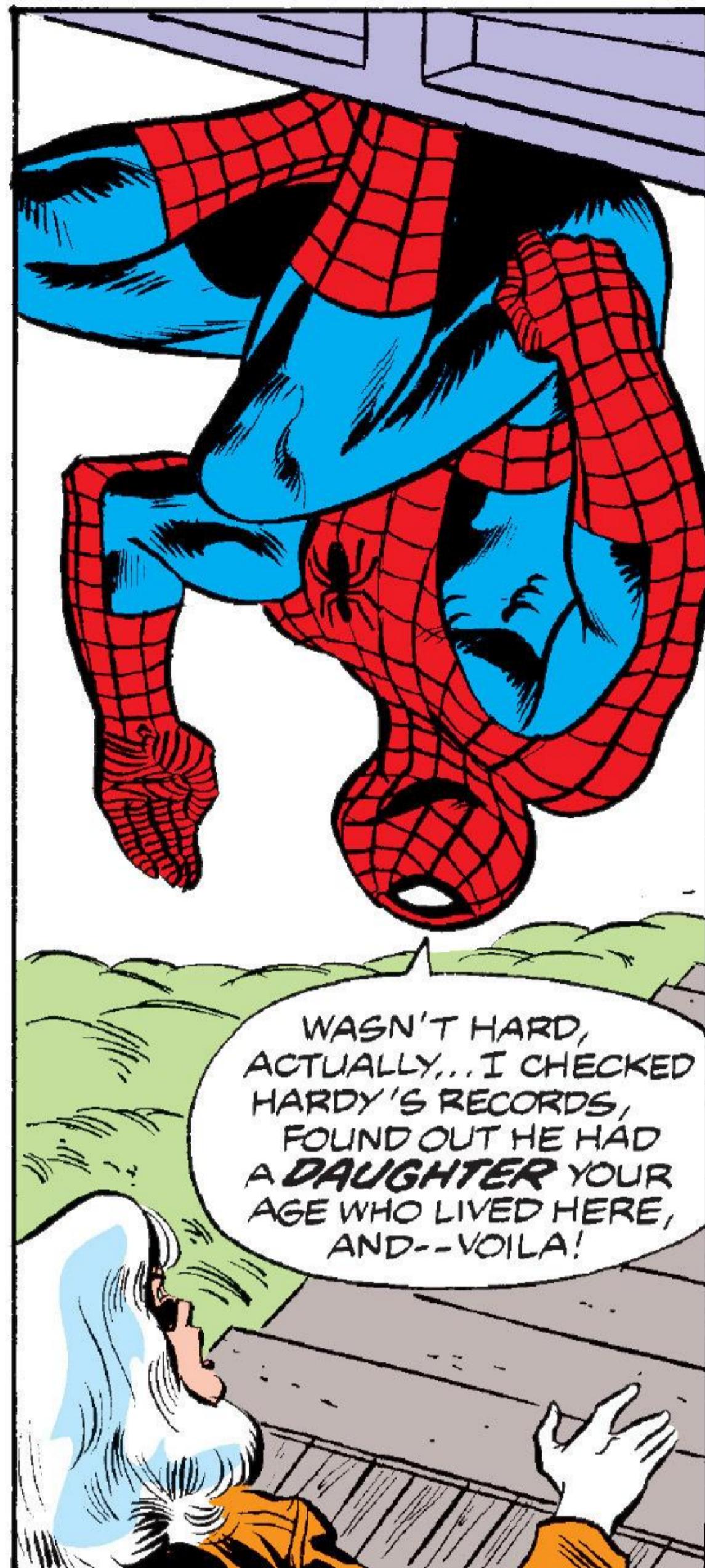
"YOU WOULD'VE BEEN PROUD OF THE WAY I TRAINED, DAD. I LEARNED THE MARTIAL ARTS..."

"... GYMNASTICS, THE TRICKS OF BURGLARY AND MUCH MORE. IT TOOK YEARS, BUT I PERFECTED YOUR EVERY MOVE... LEARNED YOUR EVERY TRICK."



AS FELICIA HARDY LEAVES HER FATHER'S BEDROOM, SHE HEARS THE CLICK OF THE DOORLOCK, AND...





RIGHT DOESN'T ENTER INTO THIS, LOVE-- MY FATHER WAS OUT OF THE CAT-BURGLING RACKET FOR **YEARS** WHEN THEY CAUGHT UP WITH HIM.

HE WASN'T EVEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE JOB THEY ARRESTED HIM FOR. WAS THAT RIGHT?

PLEASE, SPIDEY  
LOVE--DON'T  
STOP ME... I  
DON'T WANT  
TO HURT  
YOU TO GET  
MY WAY.

'CAUSE I'M **GOING** TO GET IT... NO MATTER WHAT I HAVE TO DO.

SHE'S FAST AND AGILE...  
AND I'M STUCK WITH A  
LOUSY BROKEN ARM  
THAT MAKES IT ALMOST  
**IMPOSSIBLE**  
TO SWING!

WAS IT  
RIGHT FOR HIM  
TO **SUFFER**  
ALL THOSE YEARS?

WAS IT RIGHT NOT  
TO GIVE HIM THE DIGNITY  
OF DYING AT HOME?

HUH? SHE'S GONE...  
AND MY SPIDER-SENSE  
IS BUZZING LIKE--

SORRY TO **DROP IN**  
ON YOU, LOVE--BUT  
I CAN'T STAY LONG...

LEAVING ME  
BEHIND,  
BEAUTIFUL?  
SHAME ON  
YOU!

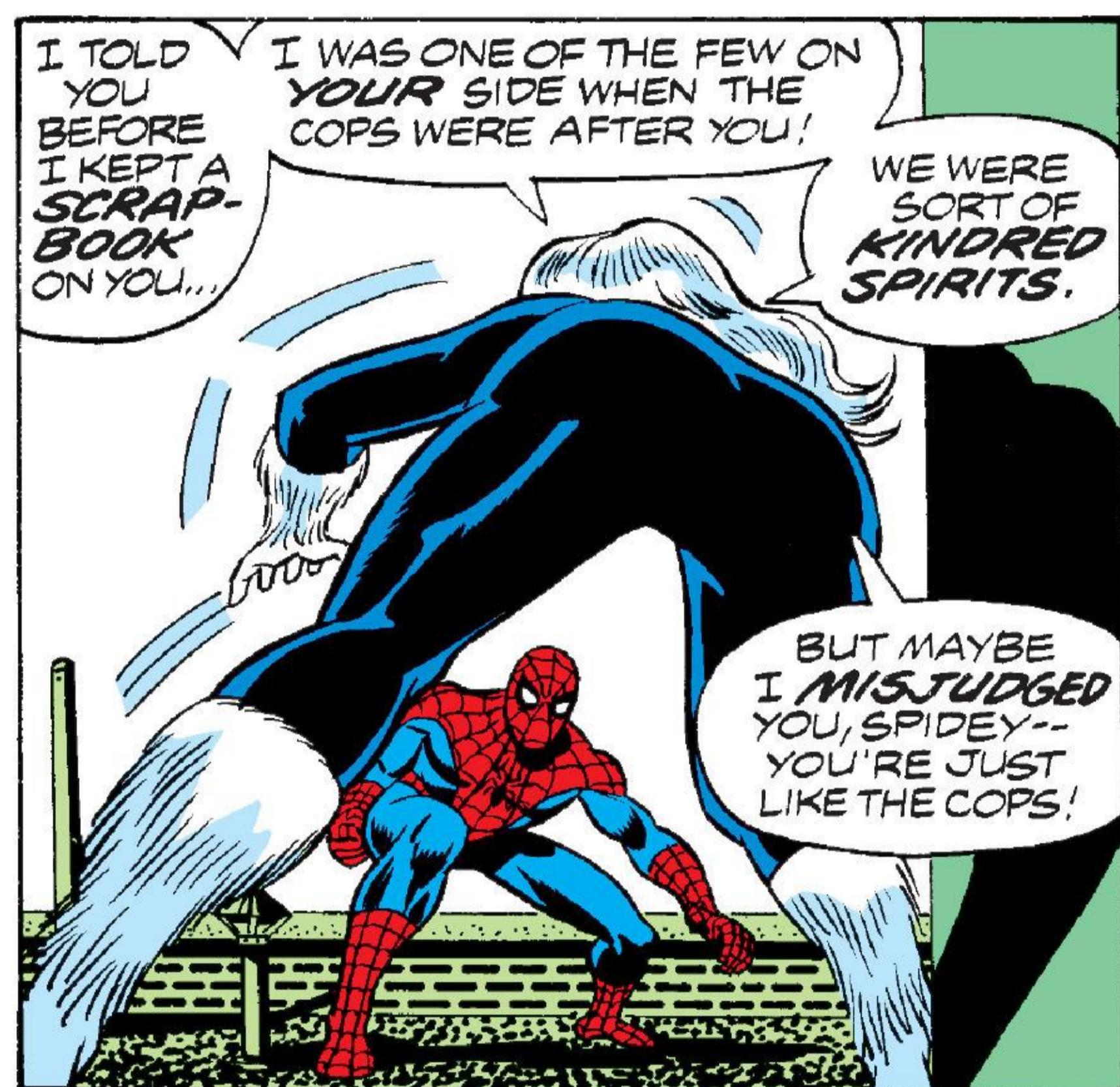
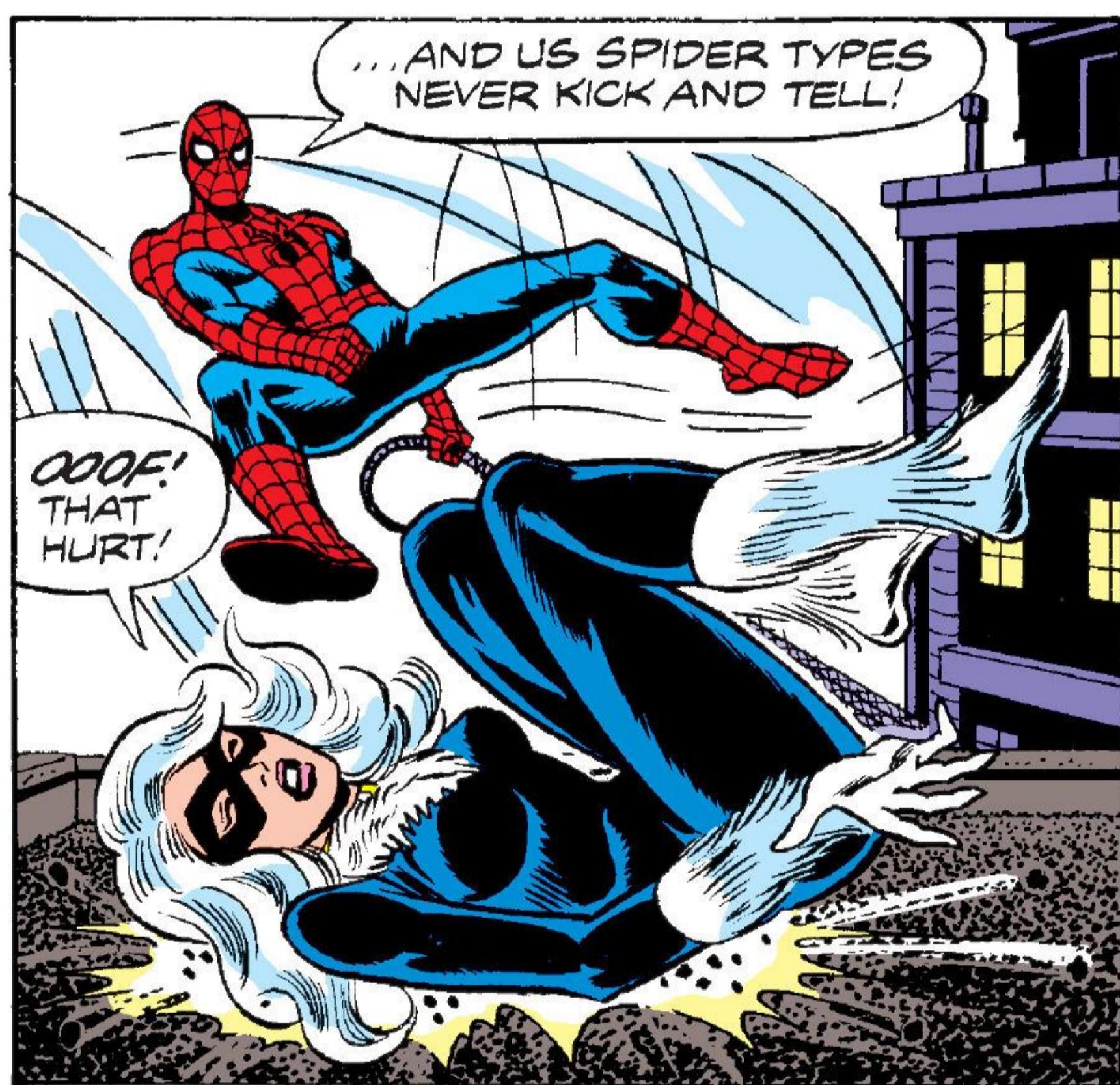
A GENTLEMAN'S SUPPOSED TO  
**ESCORT** A LADY HOME!

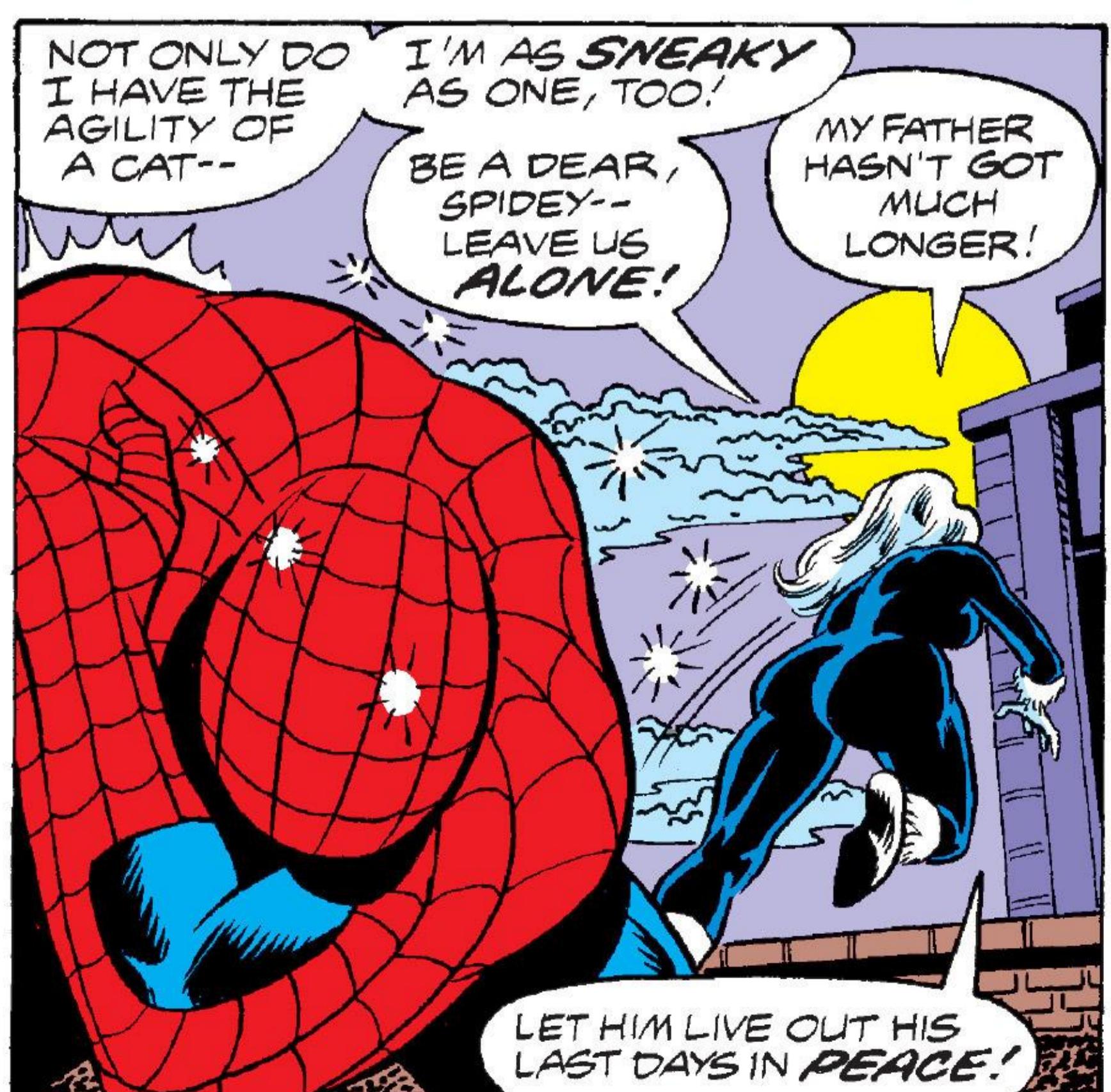
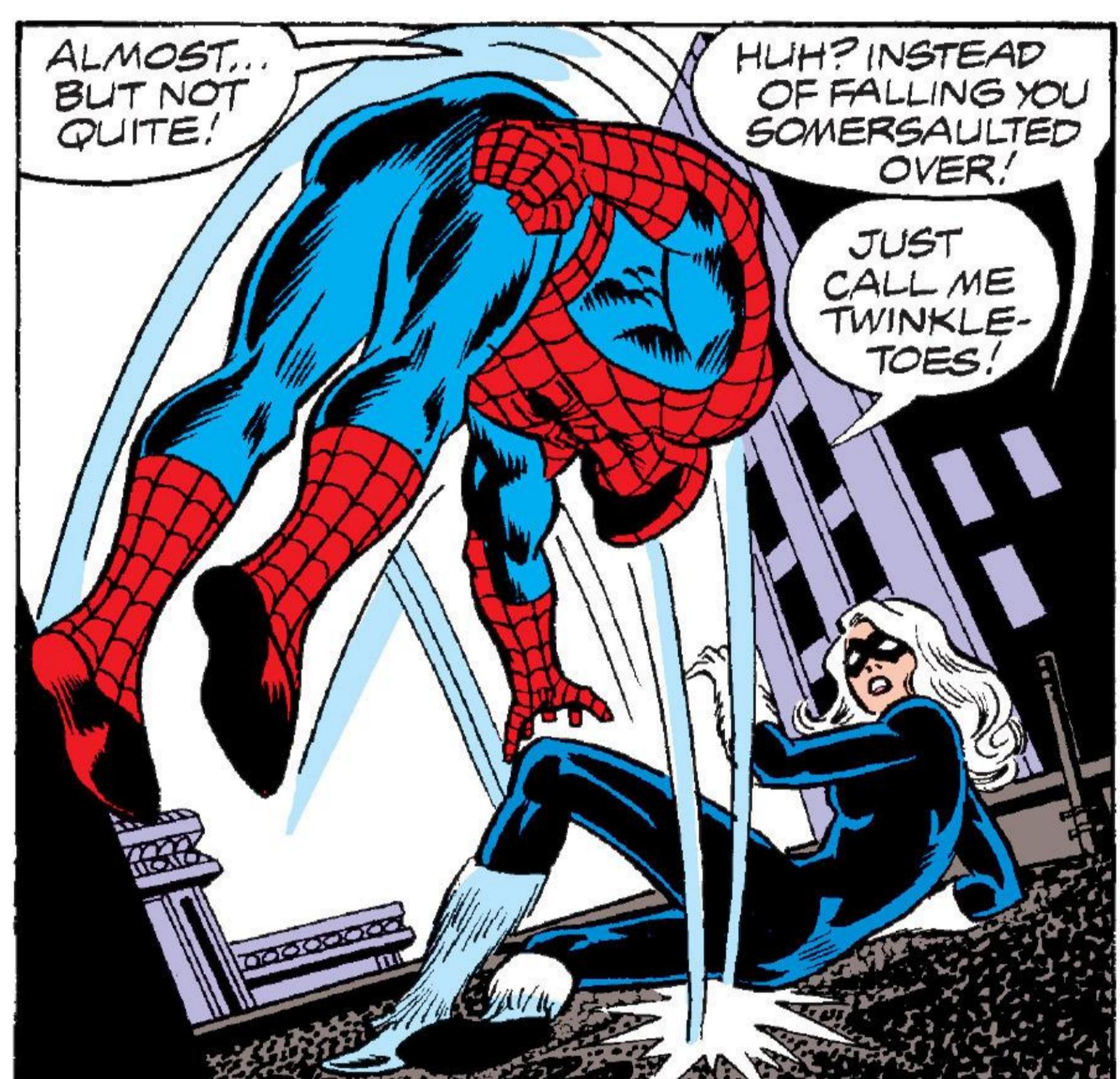
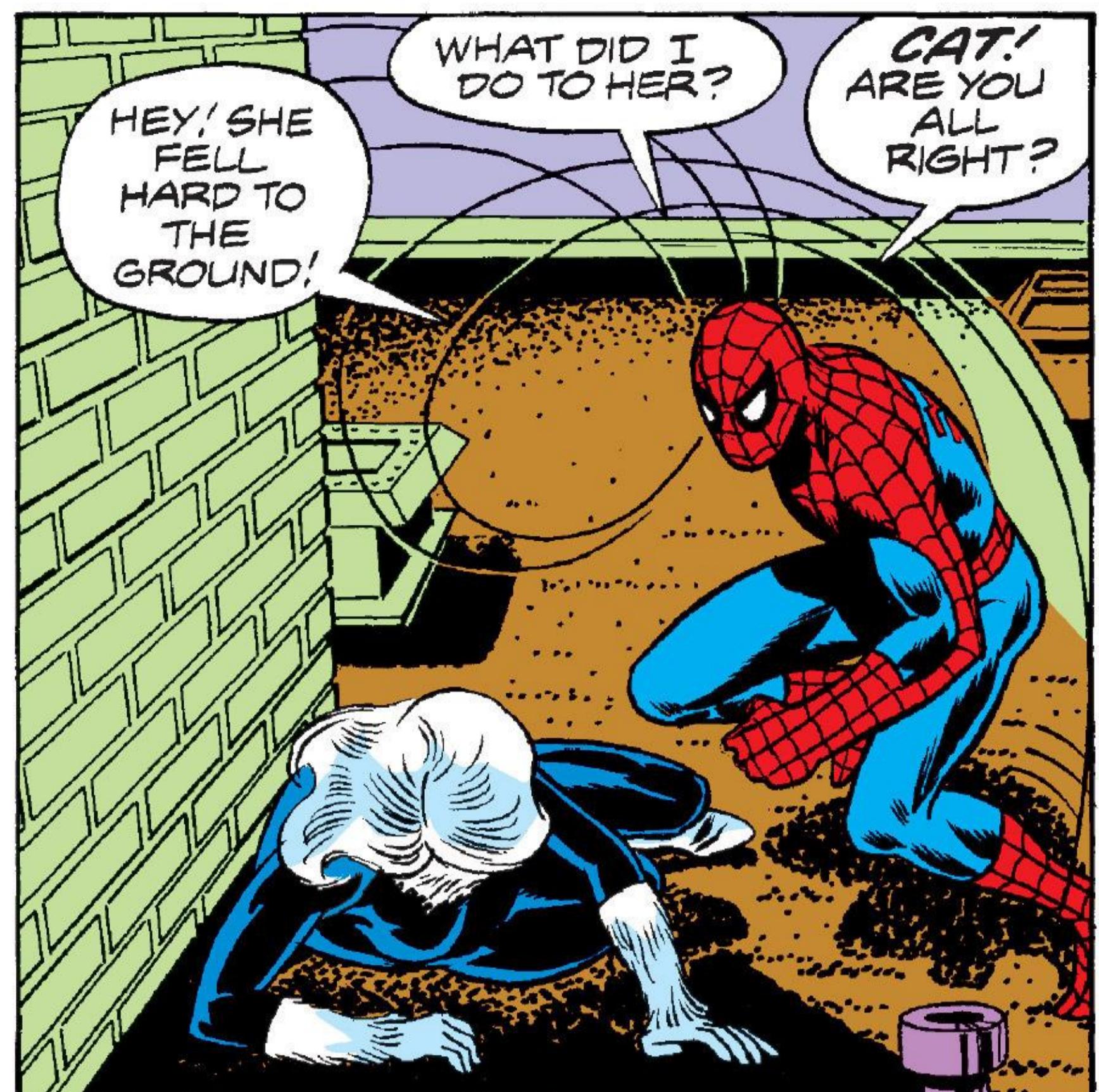
I'D TAKE YOU UP ON  
THAT OFFER, SPIDEY, BUT WE'RE  
NOT GOING THE SAME WAY!

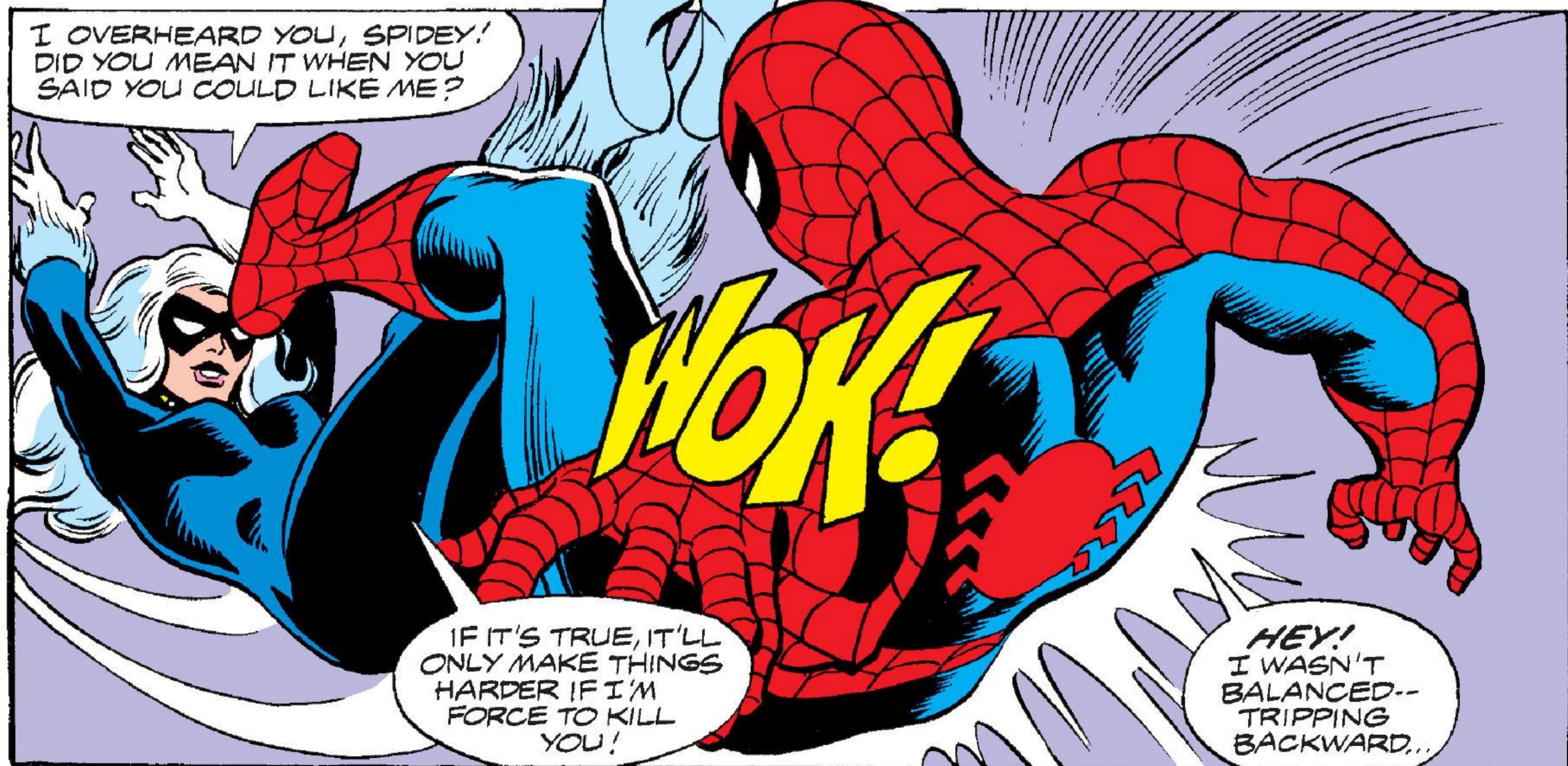
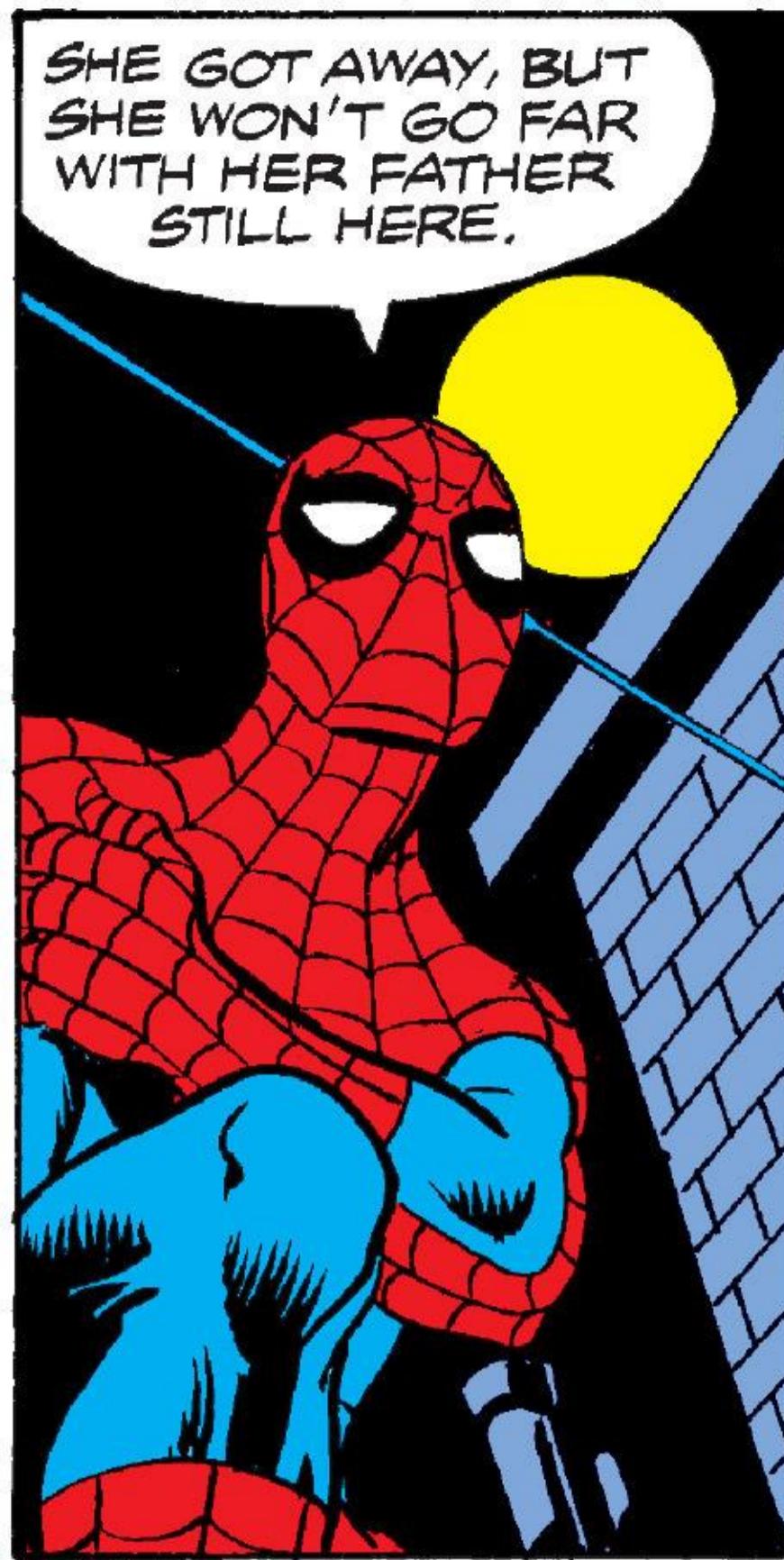
I'M GOING HOME, AND  
YOU'RE GOING STRAIGHT  
DOWN!

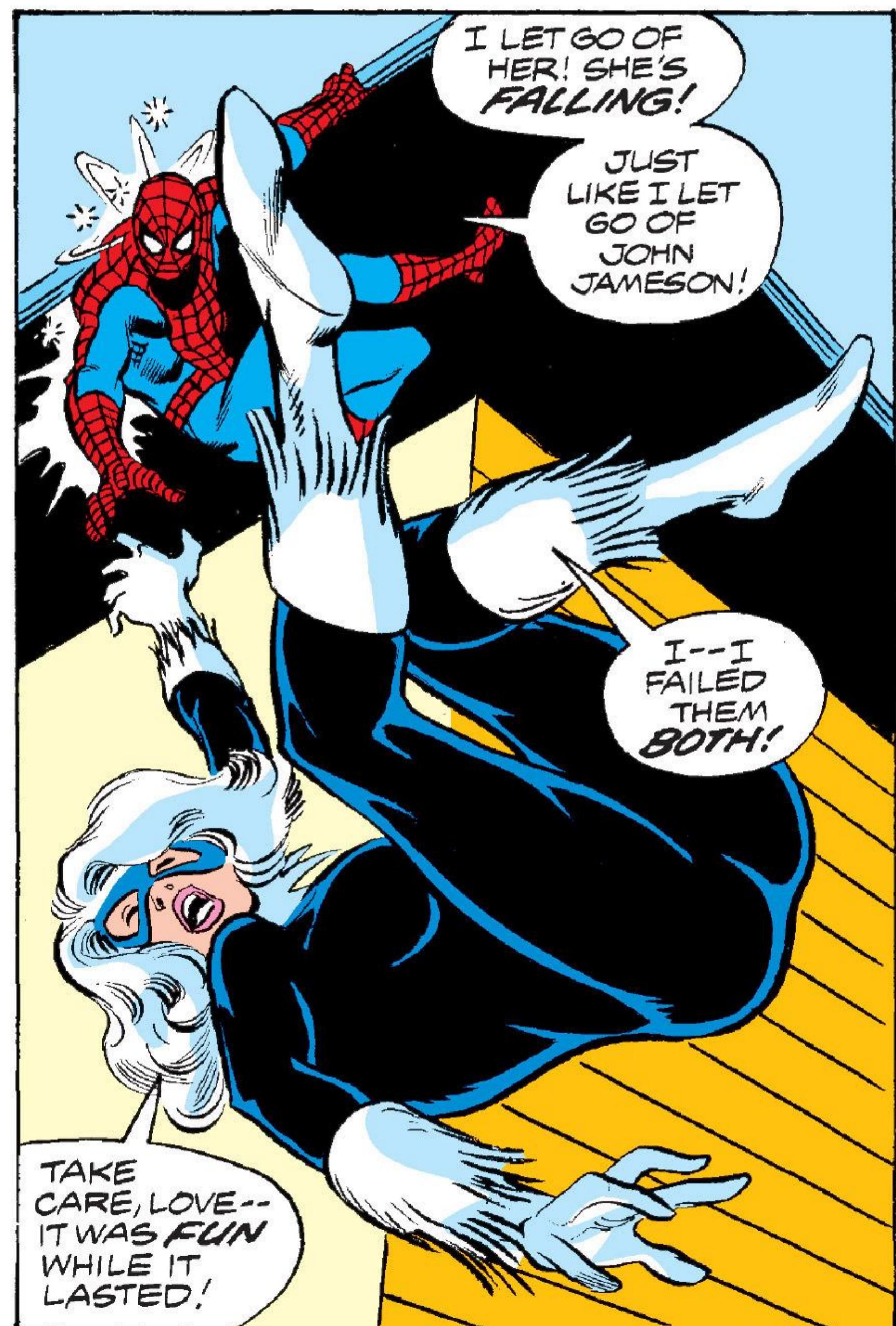
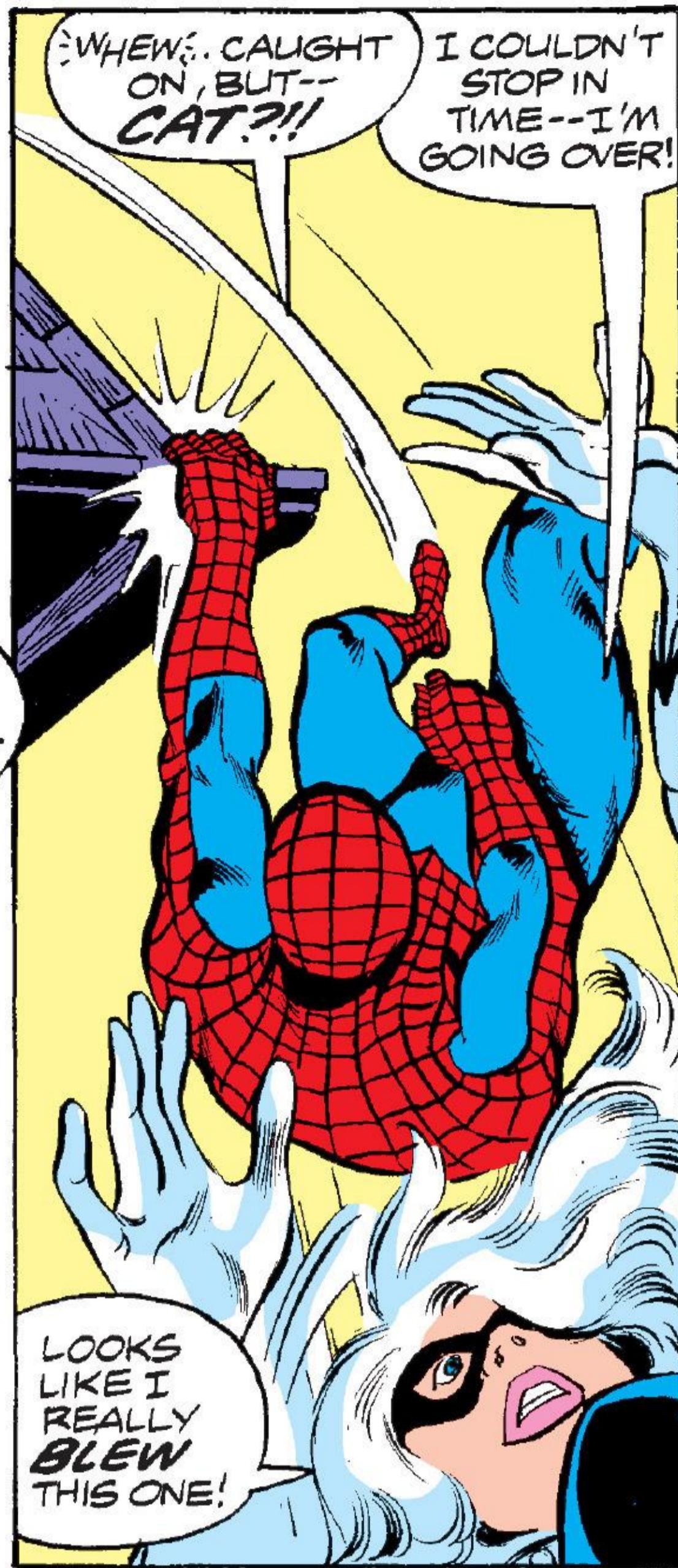
THE WIRE  
**SNAPPED!**  
BUT HOW?

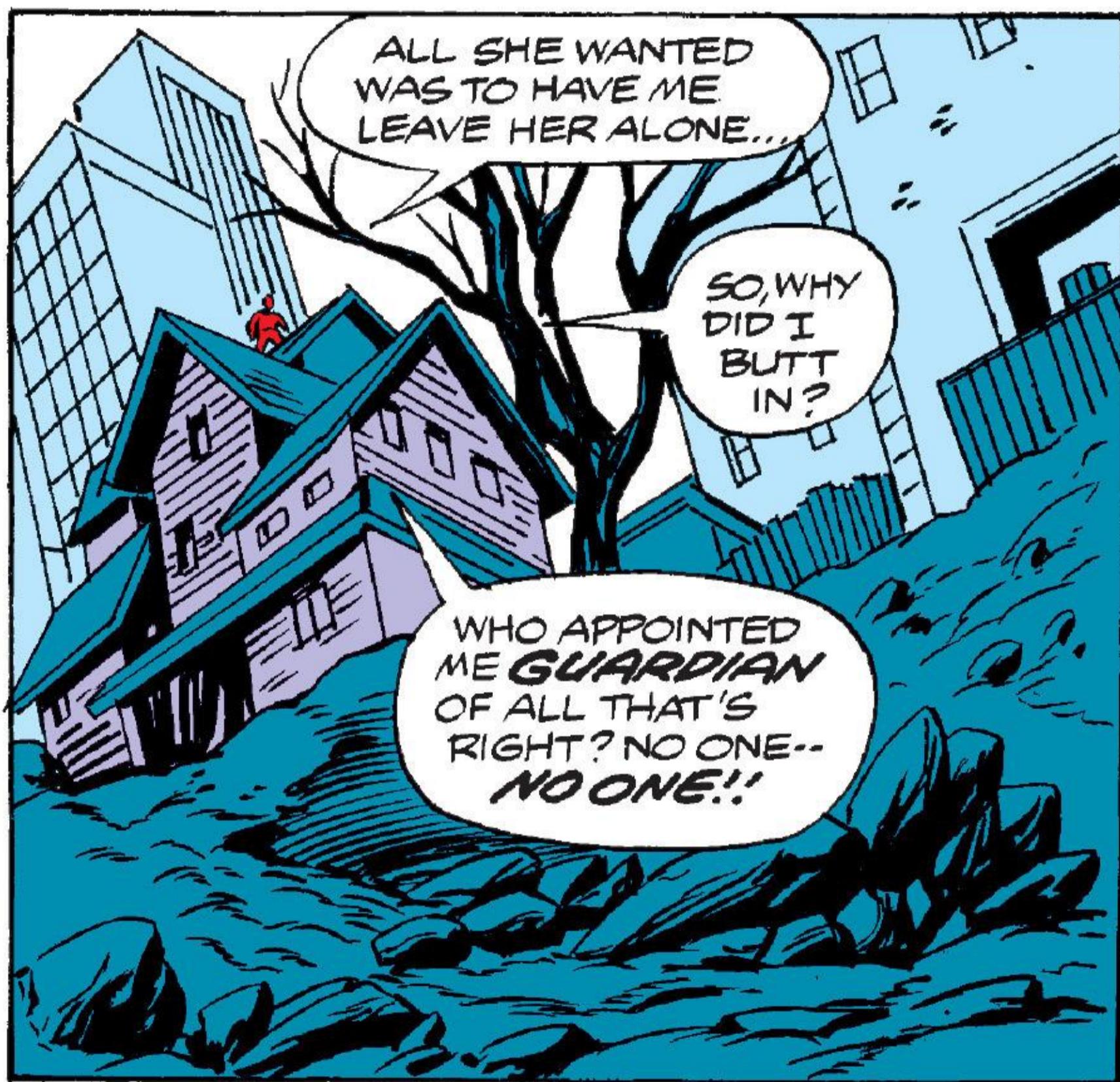
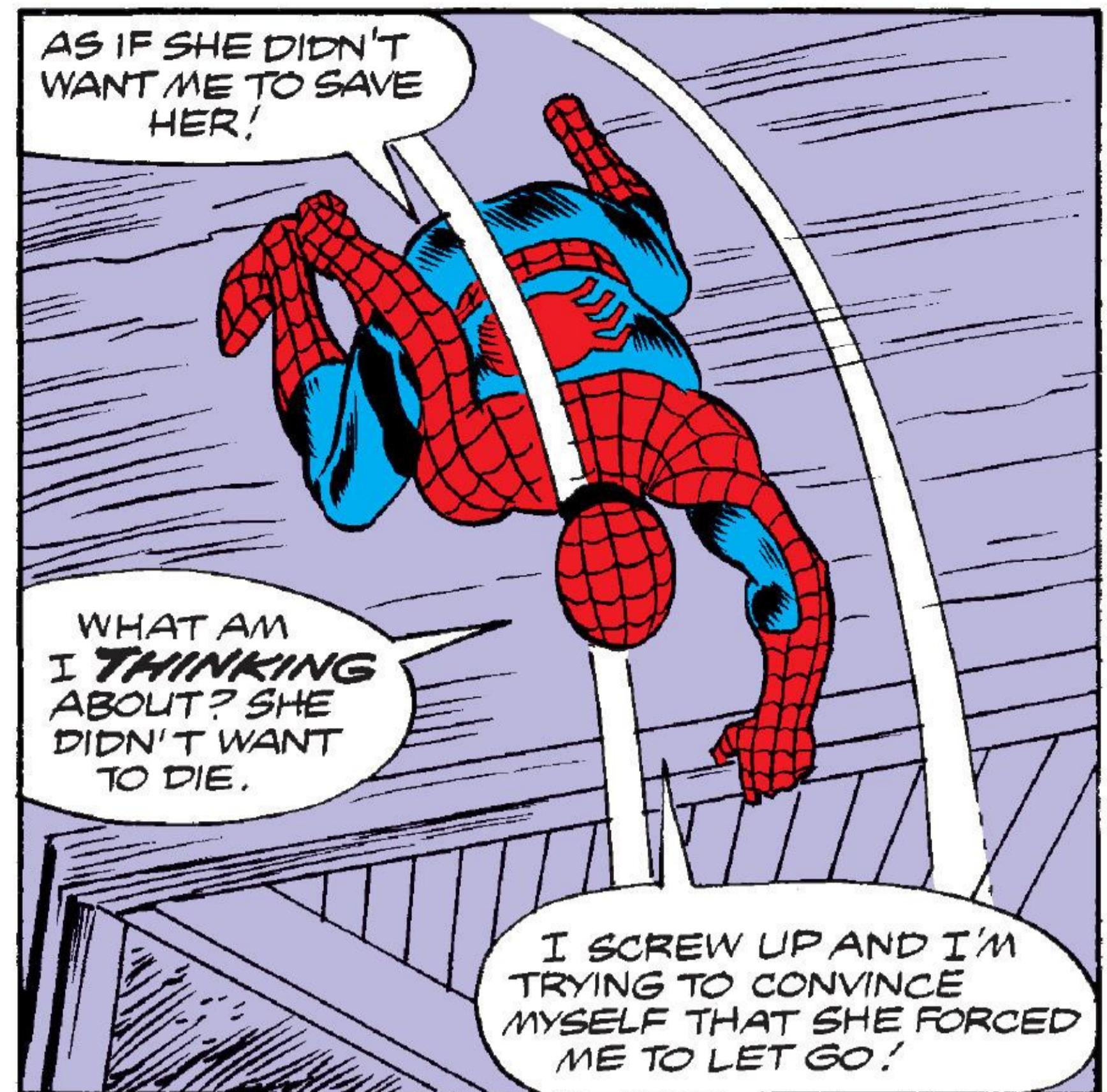
NEVER  
MIND HOW--  
GOTTA  
**SAVE**  
MYSELF!











Tired, weary, the troubled Spider-Man trudges homeward, the youth's thoughts as glum and dark as the somber night skies...

FROM THE DAY UNCLE BEN DIED BECAUSE I WOULDN'T STOP THAT BURGLAR FROM RUNNING PAST ME, EVERYONE WHOSE PATH I'VE CROSSED HAS SUFFERED!

FROM GEORGE STACY TO GWEN... FROM JOHN JAMESON TO... TO THE BLACK CAT...

WITH ALL THIS POWER AT MY COMMAND, I'VE STILL BEEN HELPLESS WHEN IT CAME DOWN TO SAVING THEIR LIVES!

"ALL MY POWER"? HAH! WHAT BLASTED GOOD HAS ALL THIS POWER DONE ME?

IT NEVER GIVES ME ANYTHING... IT JUST STEALS FROM ME...

STEALS MY FREEDOM... STEALS MY INNER PEACE...

...STEALS AWAY MY SOUL--AND REPLACES IT WITH... WITH DEATH!

EH--? WHAT'S THIS? A TELEGRAM FOR ME?

HURRIEDLY, PETER PARKER RIPS OPEN THE PALE YELLOW ENVELOPE AND READS THE FATEFUL MESSAGE WITH A LUMP GROWING IN HIS QUIVERING THROAT.

HE IS BEYOND TEARS, BEYOND EMOTION NOW. SUDDENLY HE FEELS VERY EMPTY, AND VERY USED.

OUTSIDE, THE DARK STORM CLOUDS GATHER TO ORCHESTRATE A CONCERT OF THUNDER AND LIGHTNING, BUT THEY ARE NOTHING WHEN COMPARED WITH THE TUMULTUOUS TURMOIL BUBBLING WITHIN PETER PARKER'S STRICKEN SOUL...

WESTERN UNION

MR. PETER PARKER... RESTWELL NURSING HOME REGRETS TO INFORM YOU OF THE DEATH OF YOUR AUNT, MAY PARKER THIS MORNING AT 10:30 A.M.  
STOP.