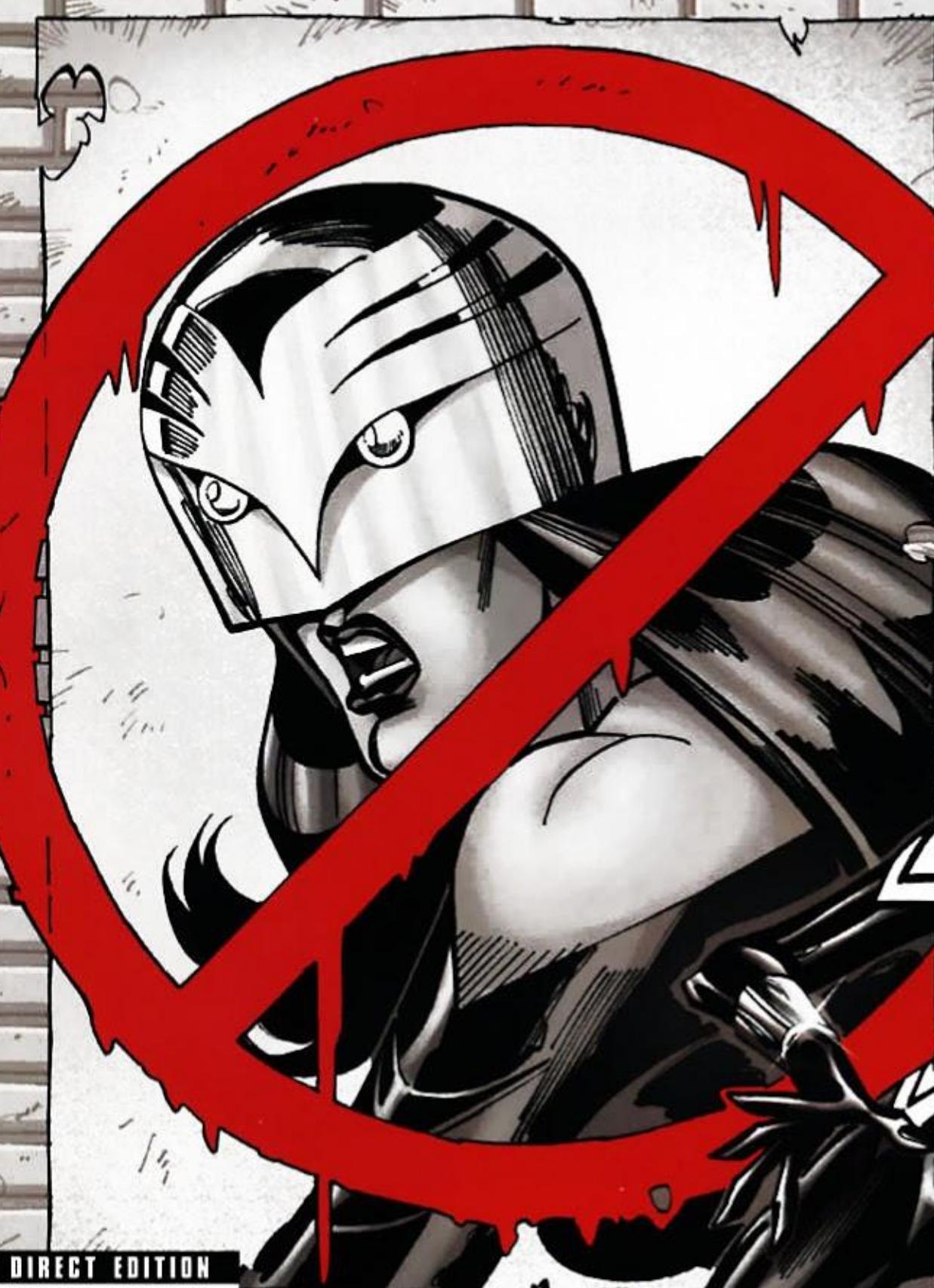


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THE DAUGHTER OF SPIDER-MAN®

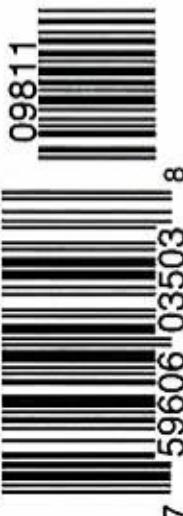
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SPIDER-GIRL®



DIRECT EDITION

ALL AGES



\$2.99 US \$4.25 CAN



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.

SPIDER-GIRL

PREVIOUSLY

Script, Plot
& Pencils
Tom DeFalco &
Ron Frenz

Art Finishes
Sal Buscema

Artists Emeritus
Pat Olliffe &
Al Williamson

Colorist
Gotham

Letterer
VC's
Dave Sharpe

Production
Tom Valente

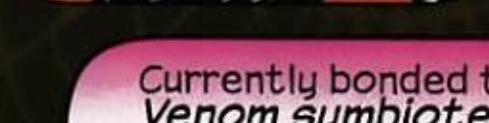
Editor
Molly Lazer

Editor In Chief
Joe Quesada

Publisher
Dan Buckley



During an encounter with *Kaine*, *Spider-Girl* experiences one of his precognitive flashes and sees herself being murdered by a member of the crime cult called the *Scriers*.



After being attacked and almost killed by a *Scrier*, she changes costumes in an attempt to circumvent the prophecy.



Currently bonded to the *Venom symbiote*, *Normie Osborn* makes a deal with *Special Agent Weadon* to replace his fiancée *Raptor* on the government super-team that includes *Kaine*.



Meanwhile, the *Scriers* engage the services of *Roderick Kingsley*, the original *Hobgoblin*, to destroy *Spider-Girl* and *Kaine*.

Spider-Girl (ISSN #1522-3655) No. 98, July, 2006. Published Monthly by MARVEL PUBLISHING, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 412 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10016. PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. © 2006 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity may exist purely coincidentally. \$2.99 per copy in the U.S. and \$4.25 in Canada (GST #R127032852) through the direct market and \$2.99 per copy in the U.S. and \$4.25 in Canada (GST #R127032852) through the newsstand. Canadian Agreement #4066953. Printed in the USA. Subscription rate: U.S. \$12.00; Canada \$27.00; Foreign \$39.00. POSTMASTER: SEND ALL ADDRESS CHANGES TO Spider-Girl, C/O MARVEL SUBSCRIPTION DEPT., P.O. BOX 30520 SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84130-0520. TELEPHONE # (800) 217-9158. FAX # (801) 208-0877. subscriptions@marvelsubs.com. AVI ARAD, Chief Creative Officer; ALAN FINE, President & CEO Of Marvel Toys and Marvel Publishing, Inc.; DAVID BOGART, VP Of Publishing Operations; DAN CARR, Executive Director of Publishing Technology; JUSTIN F. GABRIE, Managing Editor; STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Joe Maimone, Advertising Director, at jmaimone@marvel.com or 212-576-8534. For Marvel subscription inquiries, please call 800-217-9158.

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Sacrifices Must Be Made

It's a typical morning in the Parker house--coffee, pancakes, newspapers and baby formula as everyone prepares to start the day!

Yes, it's a typical morning in the Parker house until *cousin Kristy* opens her big fat mouth...

So the new job with Normie Osborn--did I mention he's engaged?

Her name's Brenda Drago, and she's a lovely girl.

For a masked vigilante.

Anyway, I love the work, and the job would be just perfect--

--if only poor Normie could get rid of that horrible Venom thingie.

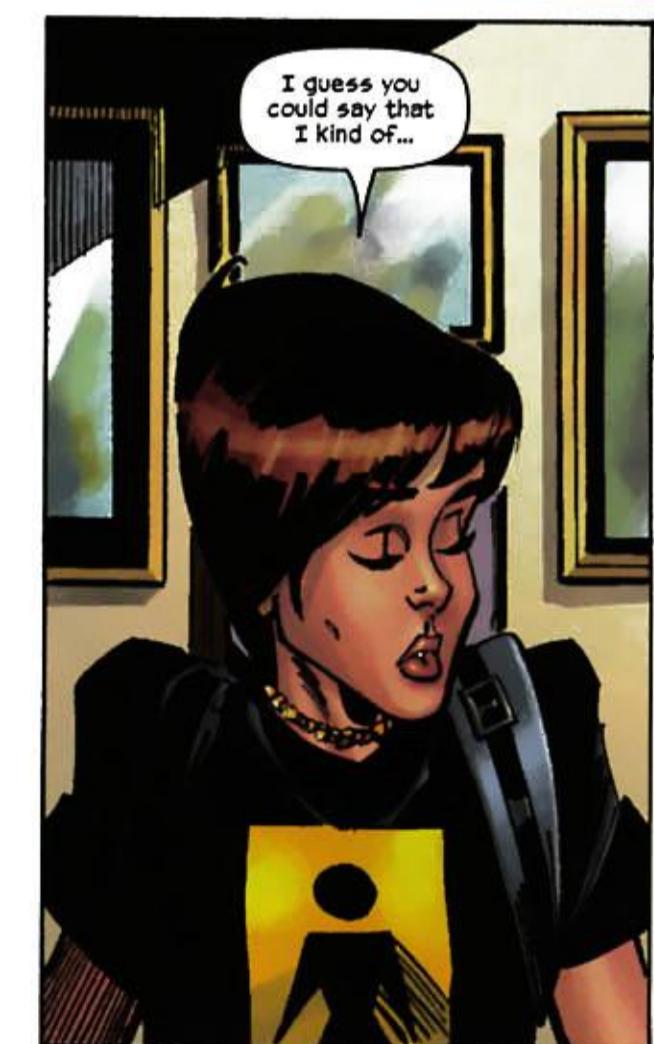
V-Venom thingie--?!

May--!

Your name is May "Mayday" Parker.

You are the daughter of Spider-Man, and ARRRGH!







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The surprise on your father's face
and the bitterness of his words
haunts you all the way to school.

You betrayed his
trust, and no punishment
will ever erase your guilt--

--especially because
you're still lying!

You couldn't tell
him that a *criminal cult* has targeted
you for death.



Or that your
black costume is
already hidden in
your backpack.

Or that you intend
to see Normie--

--and remain
Spider-Girl.

Great way to start
a morning, kid!

At least the rest of the day
couldn't possibly get any worse!

BWA-BWOOSH!

There! I trust
that proves my aim
and reflexes are as
sharp as ever.

Do you have
any idea when
I can actually
battle the real
Spider-Girl?

Please do not
mistake impatience
for ingratitude,
Scryer.

I appreciate
the fact that your
organization
freed me from
prison.

I am merely
anxious to fulfill
my obligations so
that I can pursue
my own agenda.

Completely
understandable,
Hobgoblin.





Just then, in an allegedly abandoned amusement park--

--that conceals a top secret government installation...

I've been meaning to congratulate you on your recent engagement.

Raptor will make a beautiful bride--

--and the world certainly needs more Osborns.



A little of both.

I knew your grandfather--
Norman Osborn--and I didn't enjoy our encounters.

I'm still not sure if I can trust you or if I want you on my team.

A pity it isn't your call.
We are all here to serve the government--

Are you trying to rattle us, or is this a standard technique in these training sessions?

in our own unique ways!

Nice move.

I see you and your alien symbiote have formed quite a bond.

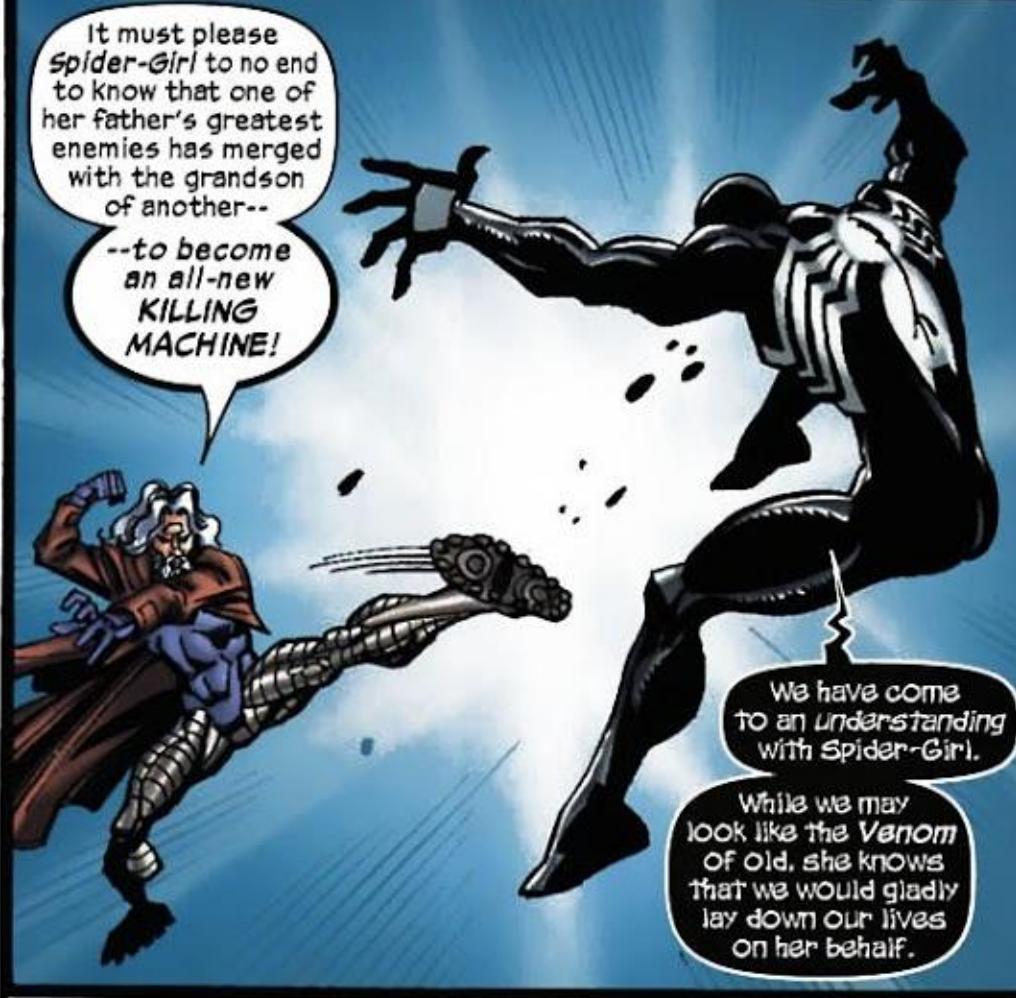


It must please Spider-Girl to no end to know that one of her father's greatest enemies has merged with the grandson of another--

--to become an all-new KILLING MACHINE!

If that's really true, there is something you should know.

Have you ever heard of a criminal organization known as the Brotherhood of Scriers?



We have come to an understanding with Spider-Girl.

While we may look like the Venom of old, she knows that we would gladly lay down our lives on her behalf.

Yes, my grandfather had dealings with them.

Tell me more...



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The **Scriers**
want you dead.

Why?

MIDTOWN
HIGH
SCHOOL

They're a vicious international
crime cartel, and you're a friendly
neighborhood web-slinger.

Heck, you've never
even been to New Jersey.

Hey, girl!
You still
with me?

Sorry, Davida.
I sometimes get
lost in my own little
thoughts.

You need
to get out
more.
I don't know where
you've been keeping
yourself lately, but it
doesn't seem healthy.

How's about we hit the mall
after school and raise our
parents' blood pressure
with some credit card
action?

Yeah, I know--
babysitting,
homework,
blah, blah,
blah!

I wish
I could,
but...

I'm so glad
we ran into you,
May. I got some-
thing I need to
discuss.

What is it,
Moose?
Can
we talk in
private?

It's kinda
personal.

I'm sure Courtney
and Davida won't mind.
We can catch up with
them later.

Uhhhh...
Sure.
whatever.

What was
that all
about?

Since when
are May
and Moose so
close?

Don't
ask me!
I'm just the
girlfriend.

You're
a teenager,
May--live a
little!

Maybe
Courtney and
Moose can talk
some sense
into you.



At least
I was.

Meanwhile,
across town...

Sorry to ruin
your hijacking,
boys--

--especially
after you went to
all the trouble of
getting the matching
T-shirts and
haircuts.

What were you
going to call your-
selves--the Bald
Brigade?

The T-Shirt
Terrors?

Please tell
me you're all
related--
--if only to
alleviate my fears
for the gene
pool!

Can you
believe that
bunch of
losers?

It's almost
like they were
here to answer
a casting call.

In a manner
of speaking,
they were!

Yes, my
dear...
...in
fact...it still
does!

An associate
informed me that
you *Ladyhawks* often
patrol this
neighborhood.

We arranged
this hijacking
as bait.

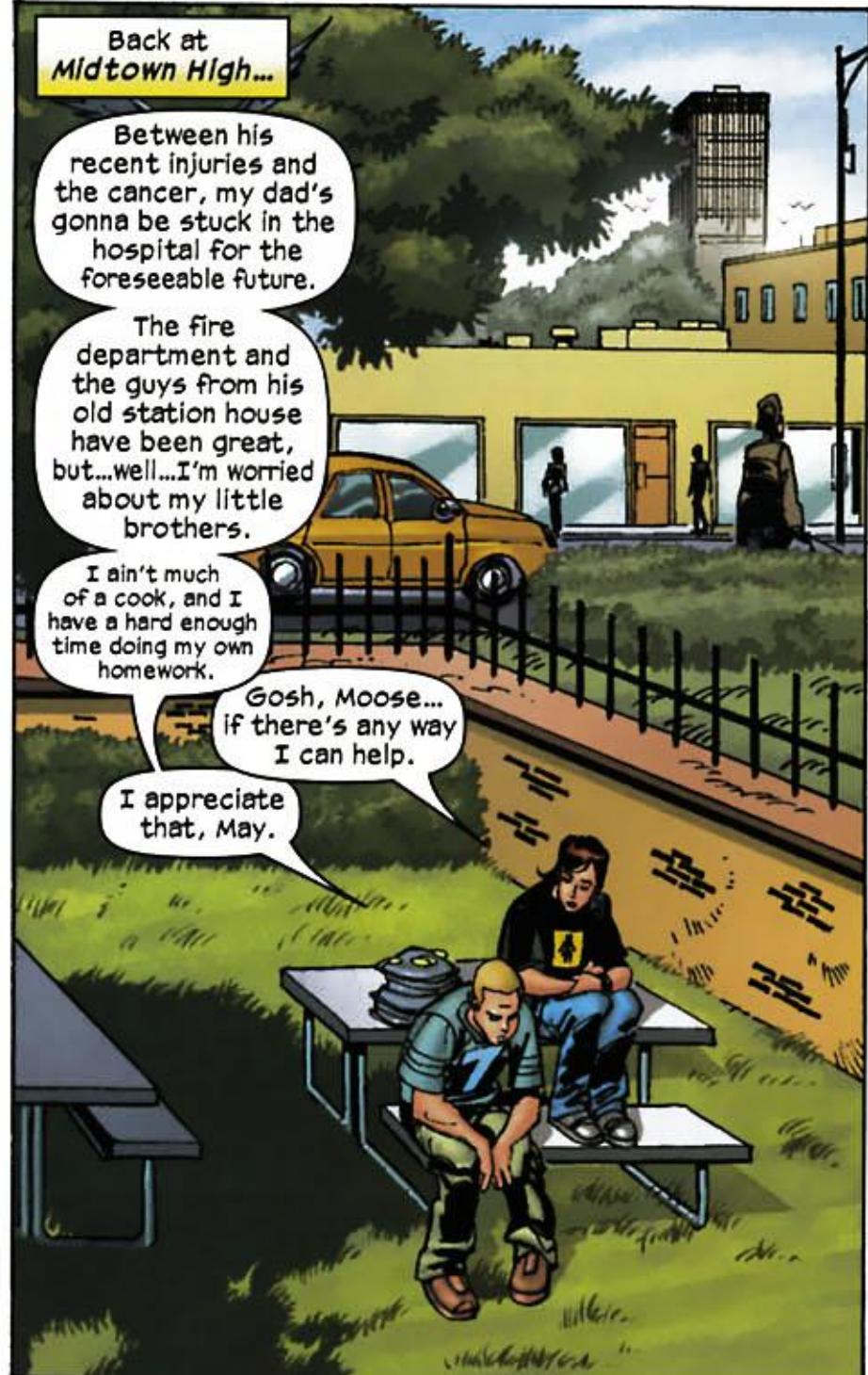
I want you
young ladies to
understand that
I bear you no
personal
malice.

This is just
business.

Name sounds
familiar.
Where have
I heard it
before?

Didn't it used
to belong to one
of Spider-Man's
old enemies?

I am the
HOBGOBLIN!



And on another continent...

Forgive me, O' mighty Raza...

I have just received word from the front gate.
It seems an unexpected visitor has arrived and begs a personal audience with you.

What manner of man dares travel to such a remote region on a fool's quest?
Send him away!

My time is too precious to be squandered on--

KRASH! THUMP! BWAKKK!

Please forgive this unseemly intrusion, my dear Raza.

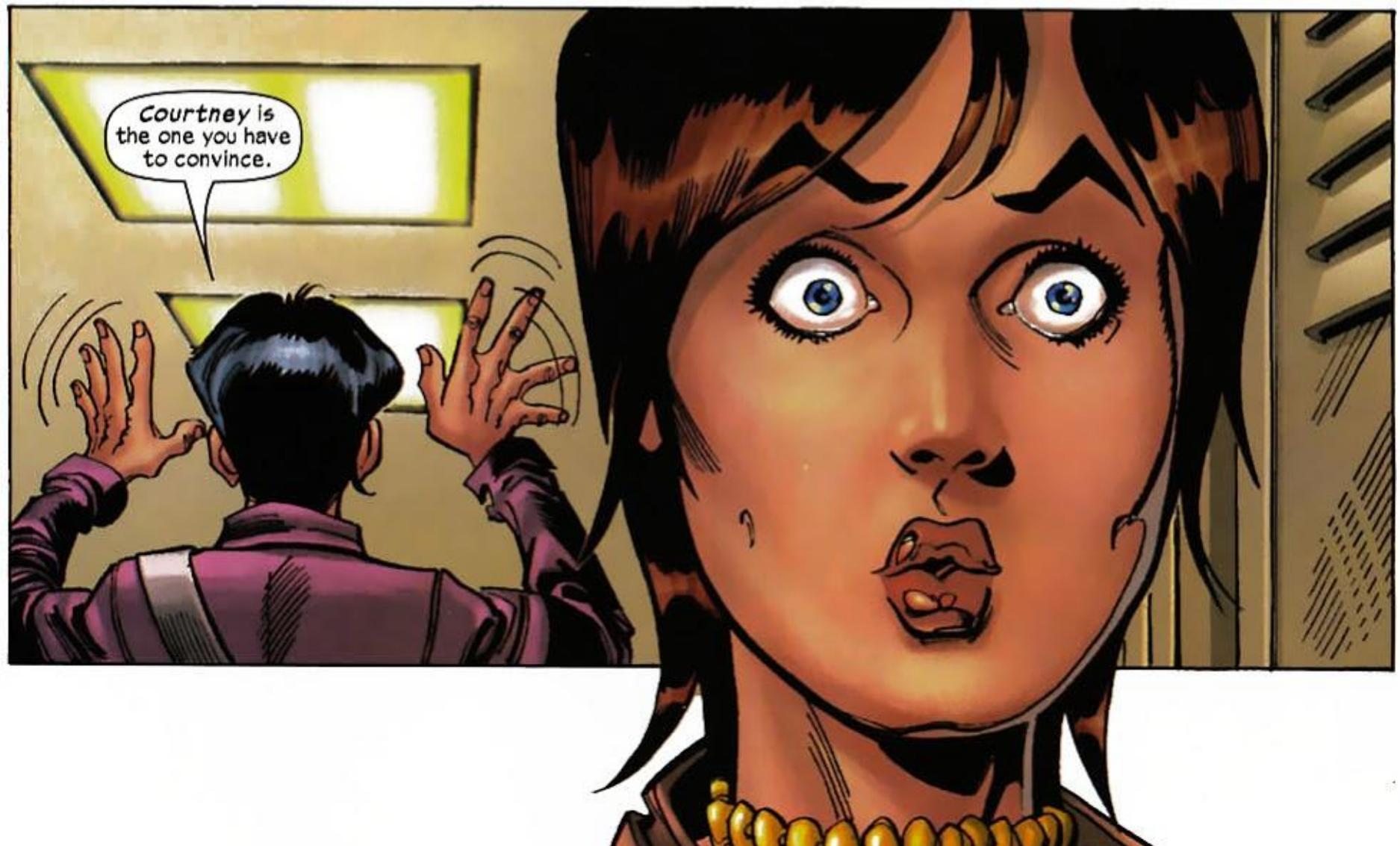
My enthusiasm to gaze upon your glorious beauty may have overwhelmed my manners.

Ahhh, I should have realized it was you...

Come! Join me.

The Black Tarantula is always welcomed in my humble temple.





Across town...

SWAKKKK!

JJ--?!
JJ, can you
hear me?

I...I'm a
little busy
now, Richie.

I've never fought
this lunatic before, but
it's like he was waiting
for me.

He seems
to know all
my moves.

I looked
up on the Internet,
JJ. If this guy's the
real Hobgoblin, he's
major trouble.

Used to go
toe-to-toe
with Spider-Man
himself.

I'll be sure to
sign up for his fan
club if I survive
the day.

Speaking of
which, you got
any ideas on how
to beat this
bum?

Afraid
not, bud.

I suggest you
keep your distance
and try to avoid his
finger-blasters.

Like I couldn't
come up with that
on my own!

Are
you talking to
yourself, young
man?

I know being
a costumed
adventurer can be
quite stressful.

Perhaps you
should consider
an alternative
career.

Too many in
our profession have
succumbed to mad-
ness or worse.



And the hits just keep on coming!

As if you didn't have enough to worry about with the *Scriers*...

...you're now in a lover's triangle with *Courtney* and *Moose*.

...Normie Osborn...

...and the Venom Symbiote...

May, where are you right now?

Dad--?!

You are to go directly home. Absolutely no stops! Do we understand each other?



I... I hear you.

You may not--under any circumstances--go web-swinging.

I couldn't if I wanted to.

You took my web-shooters, remember?

Don't you dare crack wise with me, young lady!

What's that whistling sound?

I...I must be in a bad reception area. I'll call you back.

When did you become such an accomplished liar?

How can you continue to betray your father's trust?

Sure, you have responsibilities as *Spider-Girl*...

What about your family?

Don't they count anymore?

What are you doing, May--

--and where will it end?!

ZEEEEE

Swell! Bet it's even more good news...

THWAK!

THWAK!

THWAK!

Brenda
"Raptor" Drago
was not a happy
child.

Her father was a
career-criminal and
her mother drank.

She spent most of her youth
shuffling between disapproving
relatives and dreaming of
Prince Charming.

THWAK!

THWAK!

THWAK!

She didn't even recognize
the Prince when they were
first introduced.

PLINK!

She eventually came to realize that
Normie Osborn was her true prince.

She recently agreed
to become his wife--

THUMPP!

--and live happily
ever after!

Enough!

The guilt is
tearing you
apart.

You can't continue to
deceive your parents.

You have to be
completely honest
with them and just
hope for the--

ZEEEEEEEEE

That you,
Dad?

Believe it or not,
I'm headed home right
now, and I should
arrive within--

I am called
Hobgoblin. I
am sure he has
often spoken
of me.

This is not your
father, child...although
he and I go back a
long way.

W-who
is this?

Can't
say he
did.

You mind
telling me how
you got this
number?

Nope.

I obtained a
cell phone from
one of your
associates.

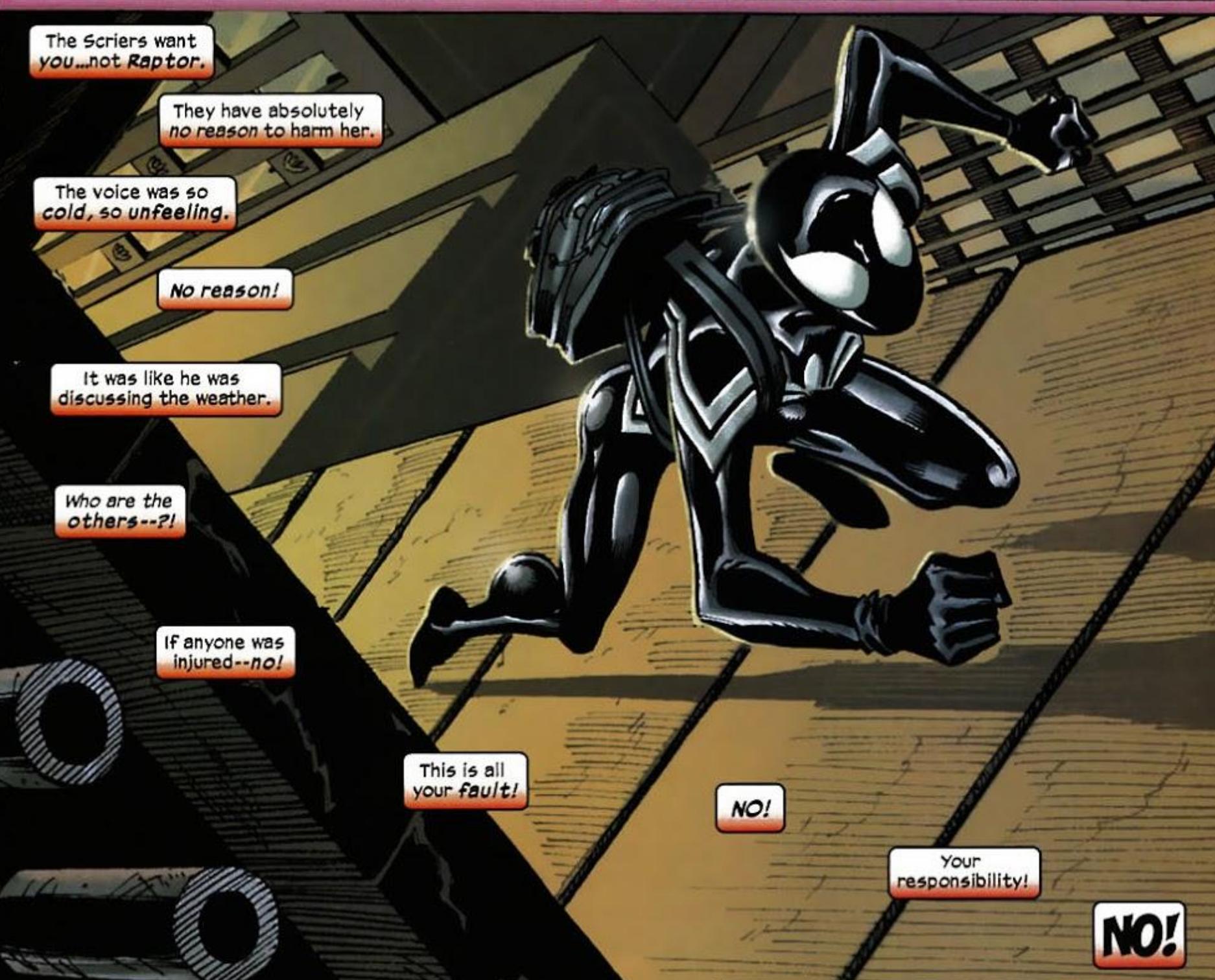
I believe
her name is
Raptor.

You were
listed on her
speed dial.

W-what have
you done with her?
Put her on the
phone now!

I'm afraid you
would find the
conversation a
trifle one-sided.

You may retrieve
her at the park on
the corner of 61st
Street and York.



A million conflicting thoughts and haunting images fill your mind as you make your way across town...



Your heart is already jackhammering when you suddenly feel it--

--a familiar tingle that warns you of danger.

Maybe this was
only an elaborate
trap, a deadly ploy
to throw you
off your game.



Spider-Girl?

so he
called you
too.

We have been
trying to reach Brenda,
but we keep getting her
voice mail.



Our grandfather spoke of the one called Hobgoblin.

Called him
utterly *ruthless*
and devoid of
honor.



If he has
harmed the woman
we love, we shall
surely --



**What is it,
Normie?**

What have
you--



To Be Continued!

MARVEL HEROES HOTSPOT

"Beyond Borders, Beyond Nations--for A United Marvel World!"

TOM SEZ

What is everybody so afraid of?

It seems like nothing can be announced about upcoming releases in this business without an immediate and vocal negative reaction from the fans. Doesn't matter what company, doesn't matter the characters or the creative team--each and every bit of news is responded to with anxiety and fear. Why is that?

Are comic book fans just naturally conservative about their fiction? Are we all afraid of change? I include myself in this, as anybody will tell you that I'm among the more conservative people working at Marvel when it comes to the handling of the characters.

Is it that we all feel like we've been punched in the face one too many times by sensationalistic stories at the expense of our heroes? Or are we each longing for the comic books of our youth, a different set of books for each reader, preventing everybody from being happy, no matter what information comes to light? Or is it that the curtain between fans and creators has been largely drawn away, exposing everybody too much to the mechanisms behind each project's becoming a reality? Does the man behind the curtain scare you?

I find that I long for the days when people would respond to the books for the first time when they held them in their hands. Because that was a reaction to the stories, not a fear of a worst-case scenario that might never come to be.

It's not universal. With every project, there are fans who like it and fans who don't. But it *seems* universal, because each announcement gets the exact same reaction months ahead of time--even if the sentiment turns around once the book finally hits the stands. Why is that? Why must cynicism always rule the day?

Let me know your thoughts. Mheroes@marvel.com.

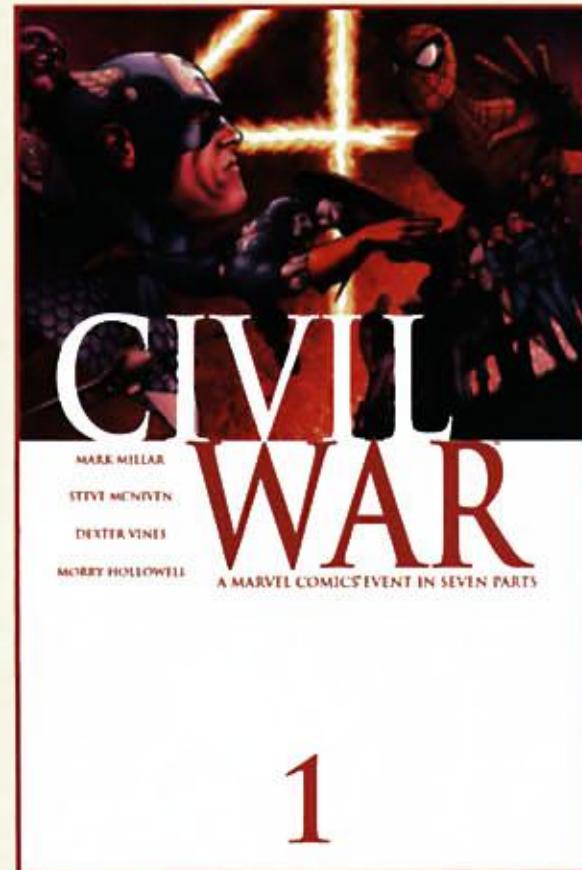
Tom B

ITEM! There's nothing cooler in this business than coming back from lunch to find a message on your voice mail from Stan Lee himself. El Hombre ("The Man," to all us Anglos) was just checking in with the Hotspot office on a very special project we'll be releasing towards the end of the year. Stan, by the way, is exactly the way he comes across in all of those movie and television appearances--that's no put-on, he's really like that! So it's always a pleasure to hear that distinctive voice emanating from the telephone speaker as it signs off with a resounding cry of "Excelsior!"

ITEM! It's the end of the world as we know it--the world of MC2, that is! With the apparent demise of SPIDER-GIRL in a few short months, Tom DeFalco and Pat Olliffe have taken it upon themselves to craft LAST PLANET STANDING. More than just a sequel to last year's LAST HERO STANDING, LPS may very well wind up being the last stand for

any number of MC2 heroes--and possibly for the entirety of the MC2 universe altogether! You have been warned!

ITEM! This is the month! CIVIL WAR #1 hits the stands on 5/3/06, giving readers everywhere the opportunity to decide "Whose Side Are You On?" We figure you're maybe a bit sick of all the hype after so many months, though, so we'll just leave you with this image of the awesome Steve McNiven cover!



ITEM! We didn't think he had it in him, but writer Paul Jenkins has spawned an offspring! Taking his cue from such easy-to-remember alliterative appellations as Reed Richards, Peter Parker and Rob Reynolds, Paul and his wife Melinda have named the boy Jack Jenkins! So we're taking this opportunity to name young Jack as our second Hotspot Hunk of the Month! Just take a look at that photo--how could we resist?



MEET YOUR EDITORIAL CREW! Tom Brevoort's current snack of choice is Firehouse Brand BBQ Chipotle potato chips. Andy Schmidt's is cinnamon Pop Tarts. Molly Lazer's is hummus and Wheat Thins. Aubrey Sitterson is off in China somewhere, looking for grilled panda meat.

ON SALE
MAY 2006

ANNIHILATION: NOVA #2: Can Drax teach Nova to control his new powers?

ANNIHILATION: RONAN #2: Up against Gamora, the Deadliest Woman in the Universe!

ANNIHILATION: SILVER SURFER #2: The ex-heralds of Galactus take a stand against the Annihilation Wave!

ANNIHILATION: SUPER-SKRULL #2: The Super-Skrull's quest takes him behind enemy lines!

CAPTAIN AMERICA #18: The Twenty-First Century Blitz begins!

CIVIL WAR #1: Whose side are you on?

FANTASTIC FOUR - A DEATH IN THE FAMILY: Sue Storm is dead, and the Human Torch will do the impossible to get his sister back again.

FANTASTIC FOUR: FIRST FAMILY #3: The FF go public for the first time!

IRON MAN #8: The New Avengers! Graviton! And a mysterious armored assassin!

IRON MAN: INEVITABLE #6: The final showdown between Iron Man and Spymaster!

LAST PLANET STANDING #1: Could it be the end of the Universe as we know it?

LAST PLANET STANDING #2: Galactus targets Asgard as Earth's heroes prepare to make their last stand.

MARVEL TEAM-UP #20: Captain America battles A.I.M. while a new hero gets his start!

MS. MARVEL #3: Ms. Marvel faces a deadly new foe from beyond the stars.

NEW AVENGERS #19: As the New Avengers battle the Collective, S.H.I.E.L.D. arrests Spider-Man!

SHE-HULK #8: She-Hulk must decide with whom she stands. A CIVIL WAR tie-in!

SON OF M #6: Quicksilver reaches the end of the line?

SPIDER-GIRL #98: Spider-Girl is back in black as the Hobgoblin attacks her closest allies.

SPIDER-MAN UNLIMITED #15: Klaus Janson! And the Lizard!

THE THING #7: Ben takes Alicia on a trip to ancient Greece. What could possibly go wrong?

THUNDERBOLTS #102: Joystick vs. Speed Demon!

X-FACTOR #7: Siryn receives a final gift from her deceased father, Banshee!

X-MEN: THE END - MEN AND X-MEN #5: The return of Jean Grey?

WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON?

CIVIL WAR
ON SALE 5/3/06

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