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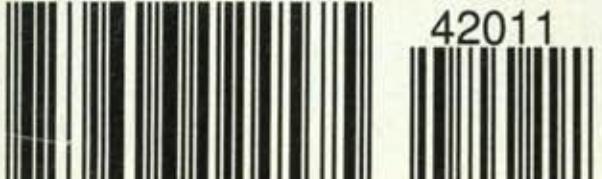
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

SKROCE
HUNTER

I'w as a
Night
Before

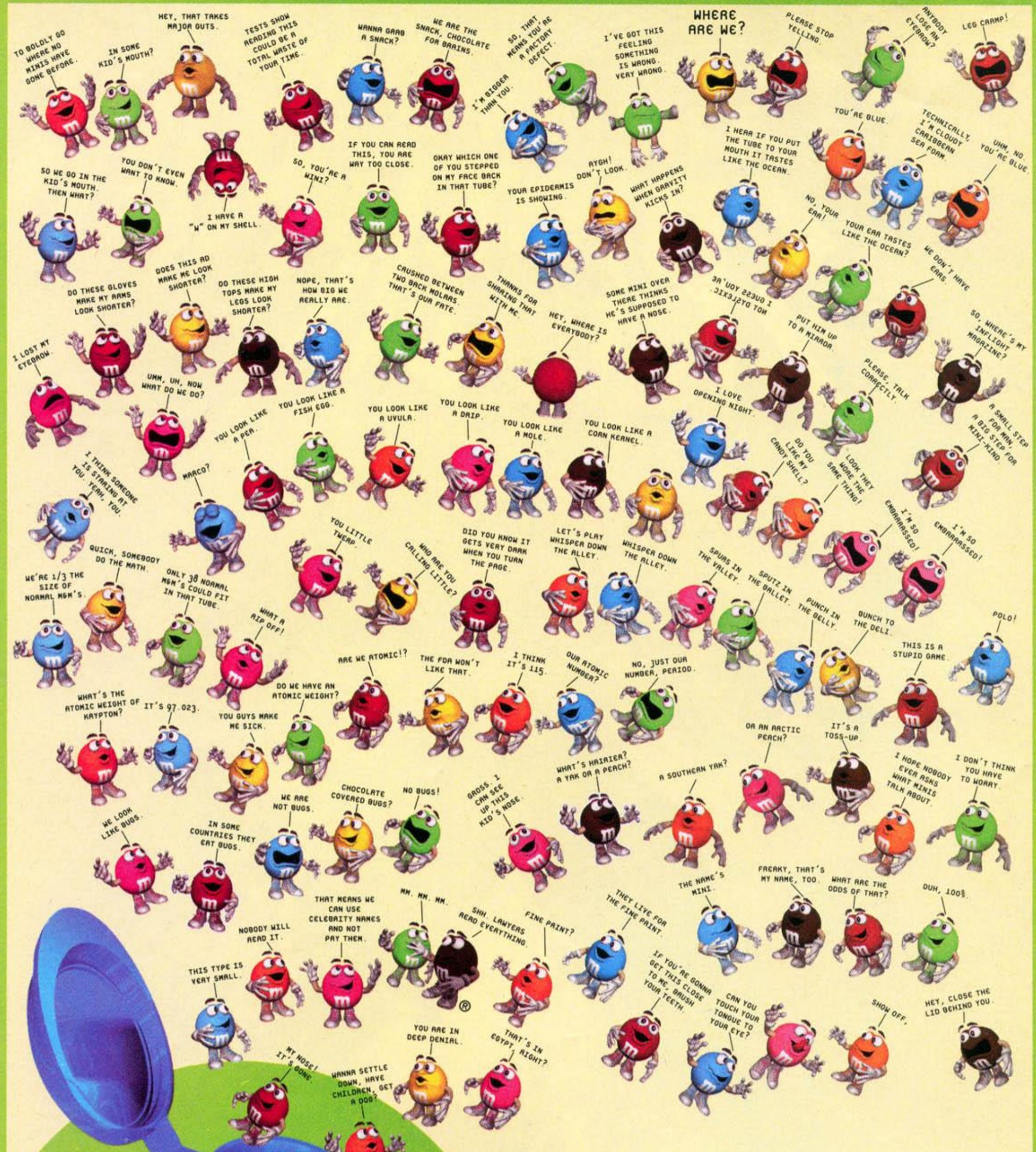
X
MAN

DIRECT EDITION



42011

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\$1.50 US \$2.10 CAN



NEW
m&m's
MINIS

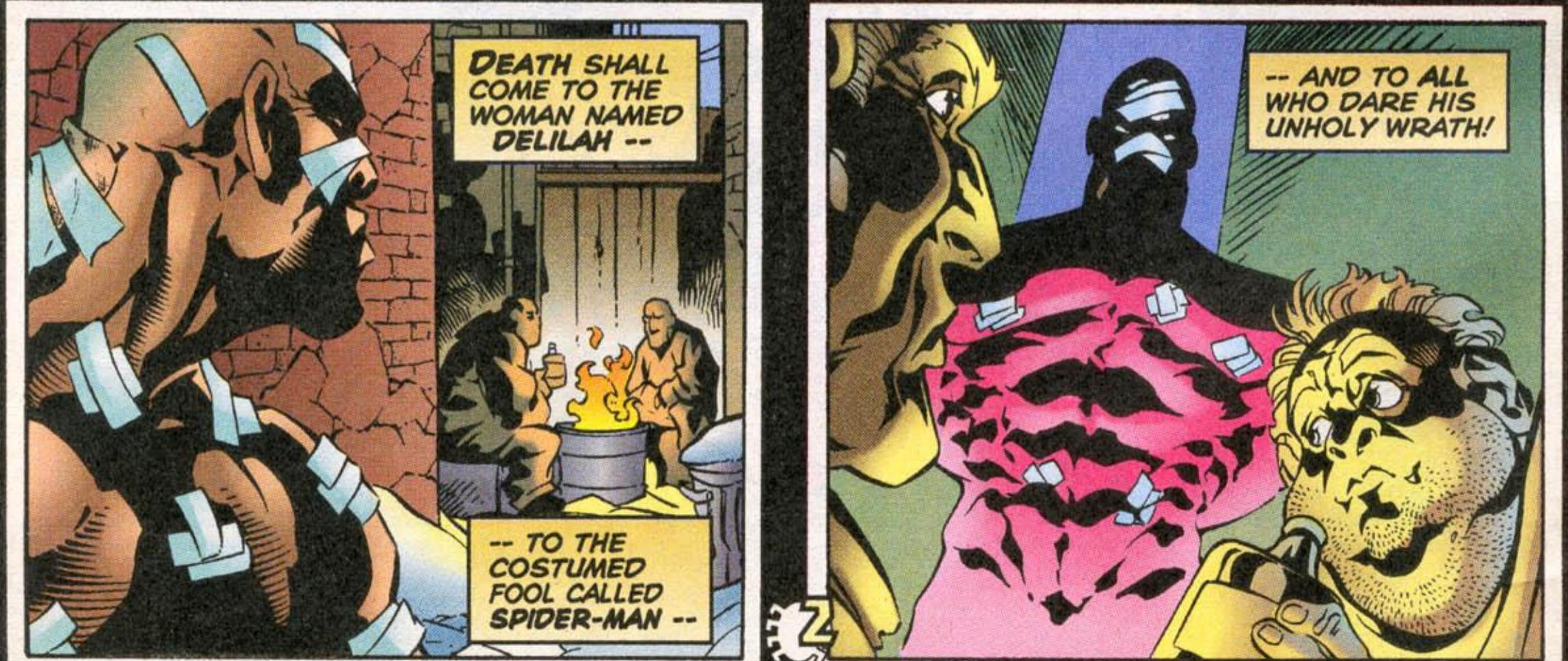
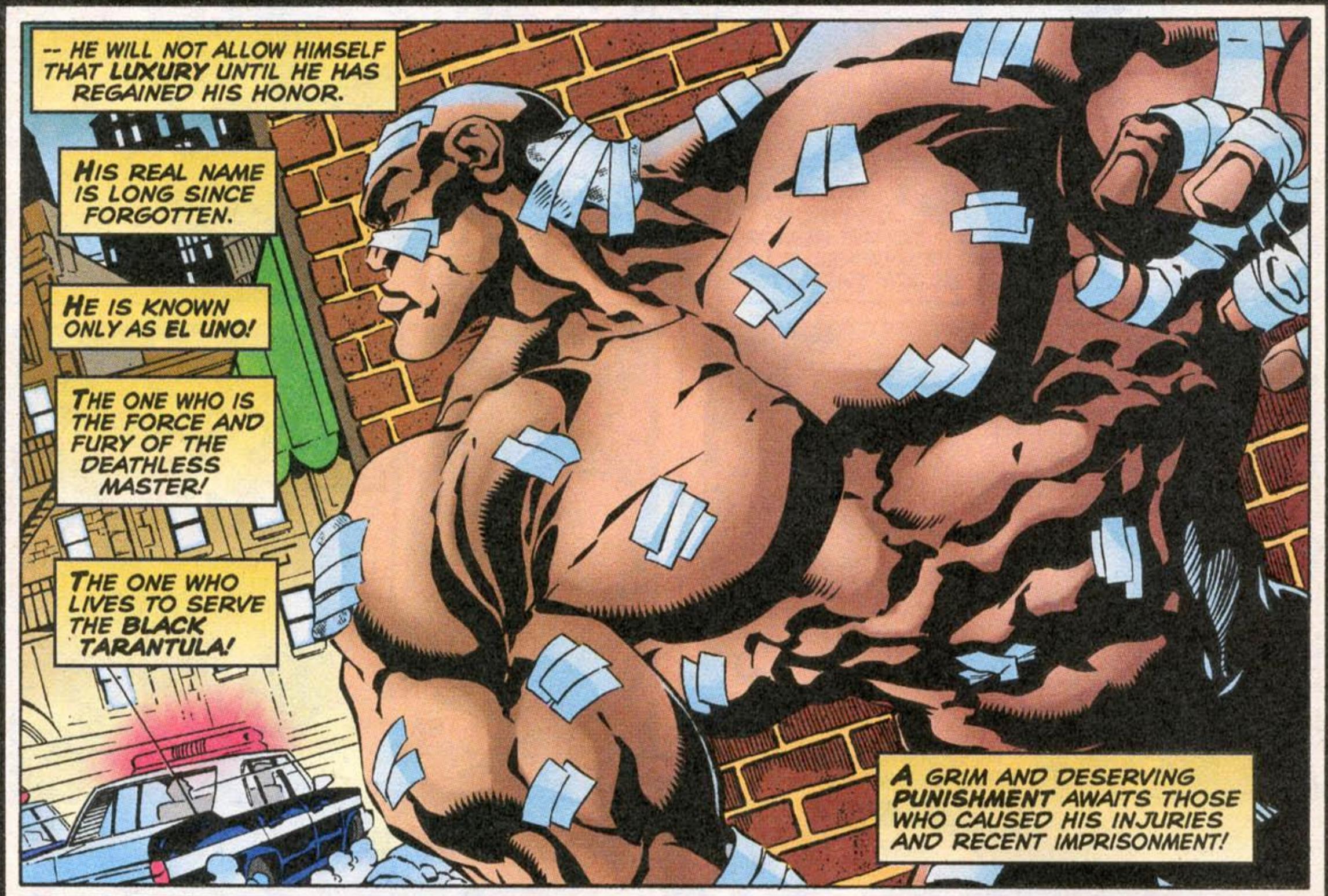
115 tiny chocolate candies packed into one of six cool colorful tubes. Want to know all about new "M&M's"® MINIS? Just get up really close and see what they have to say.

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TONS OF CHOCOLATE CANDY SEARCHING FOR A MOUTH



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'Twds the Night Before Christmas...

a Holiday Tale starring the
always-Amazing Spider-Man!

a Stan Lee
presentation

Tom DeFalco
writer

Steve Skroce
penciler

Bud LaRosa
inker

Richard Starkings &
Comicraft/A
letters

Bob Sharen
colors

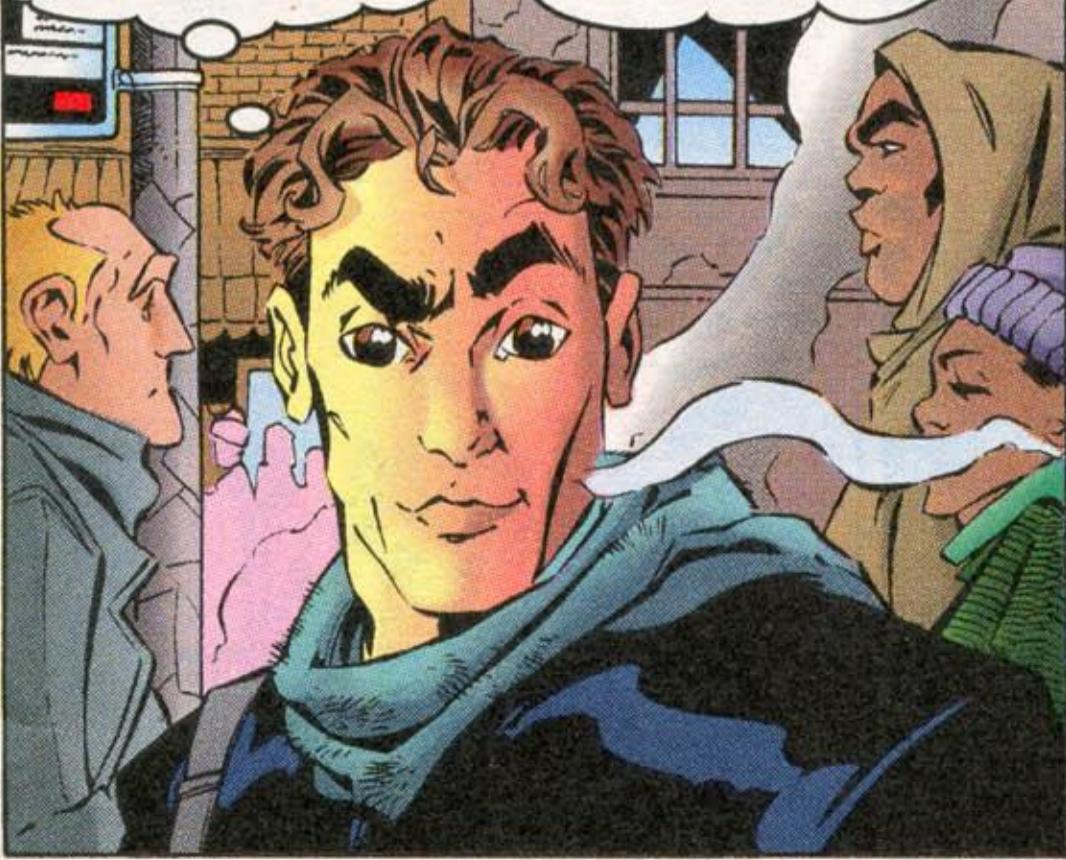
GCW
separations

Ralph Macchio
editor

Bob Harris
editor in chief

JUST IMAGINE THE
PURE DELIGHT THAT'LL
SHINE IN MARY JANE'S
EYES IF SHE FINDS THEM
UNDER THE TREE.

CONGRATULATIONS,
Mr. PARKER! YOU'VE
FINALLY FOUND THE
PERFECT GIFT FOR
YOUR LOVING WIFE!

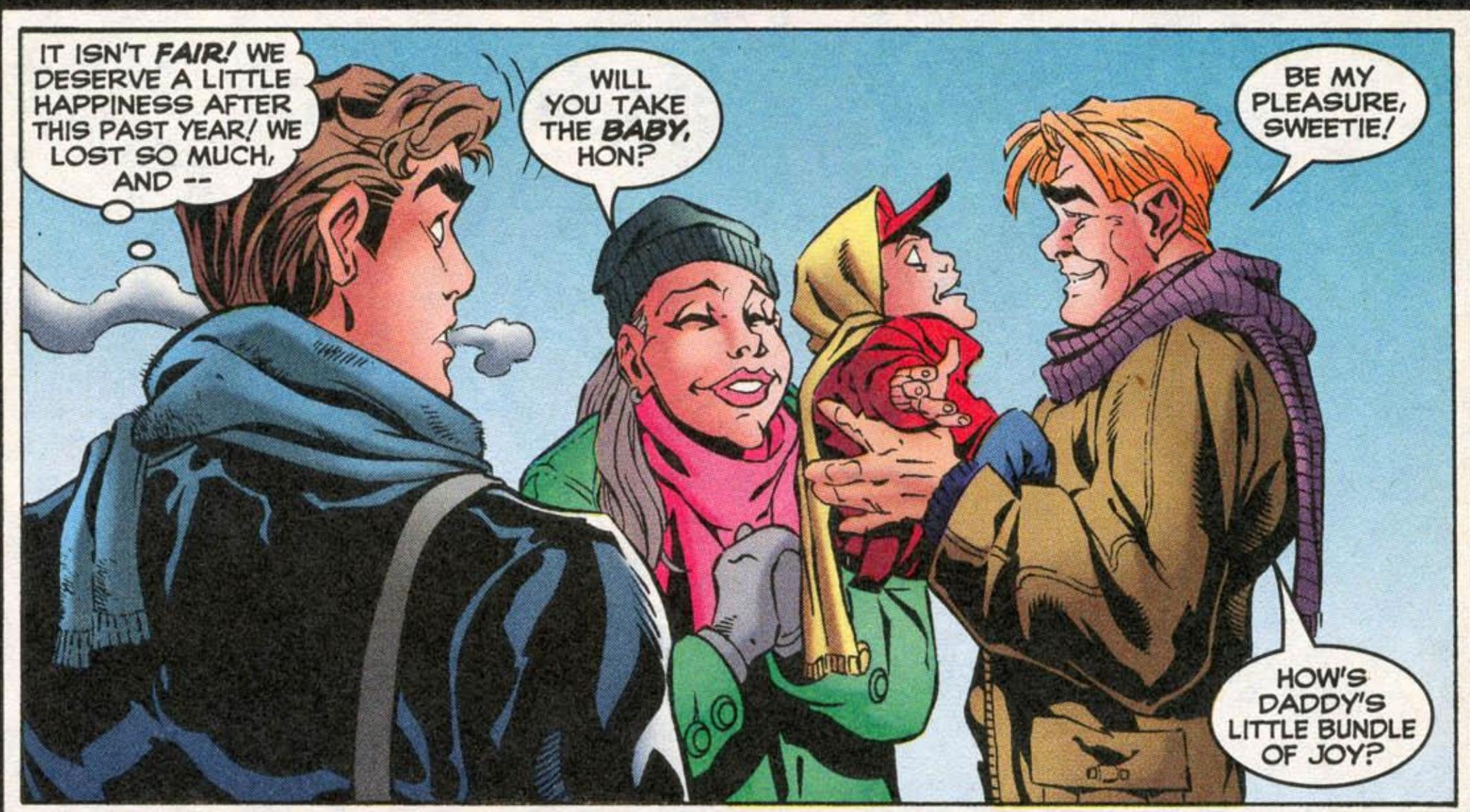
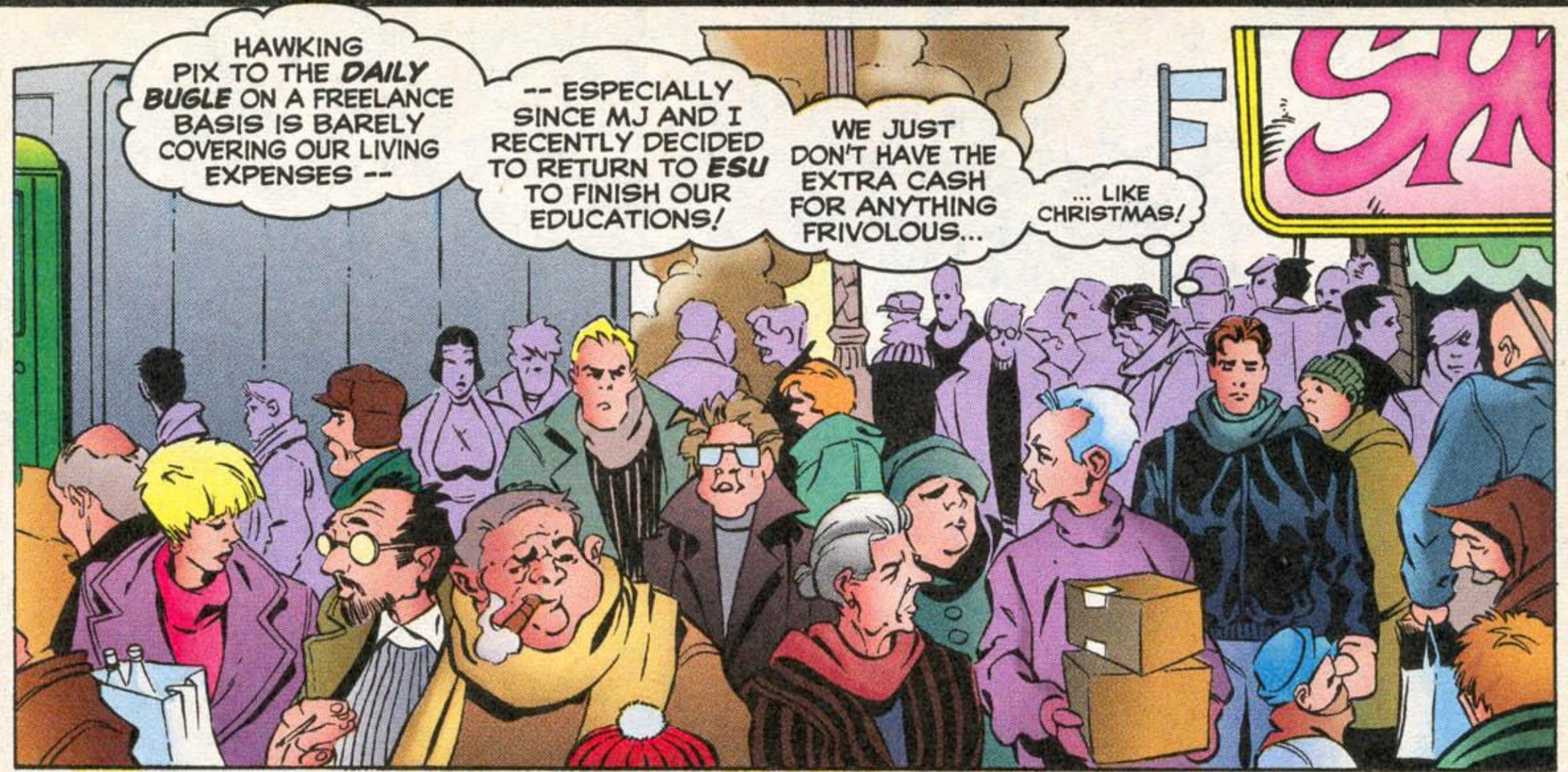


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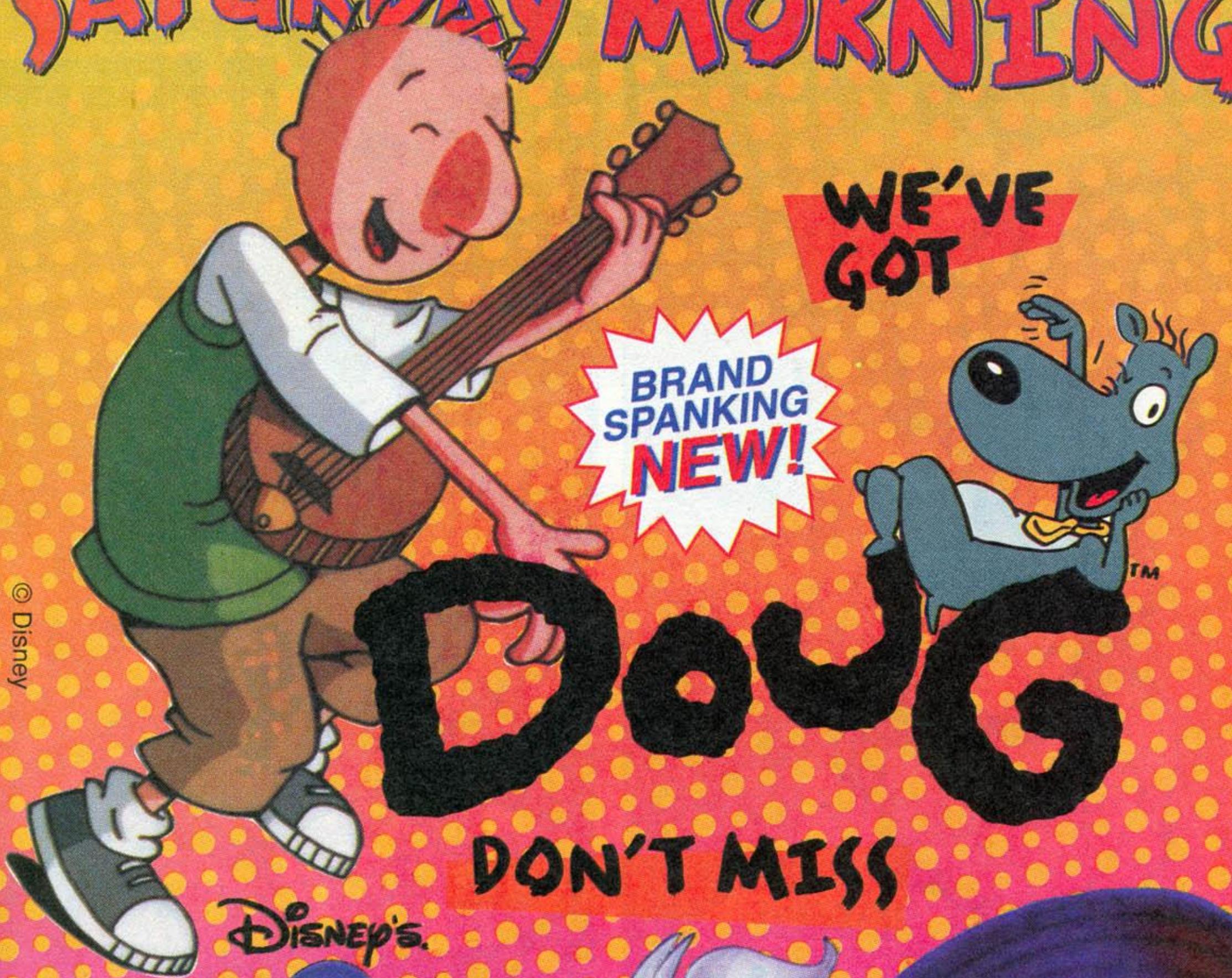
YESSIR!
THOSE BOOTS
ARE DEFINITELY
MADE FOR
WALKING.

THEY'RE
ALSO WAAAY
OUT OF MY
PRICE
RANGE!





CHECK OUT abc SATURDAY MORNING



© Disney

Disney's.

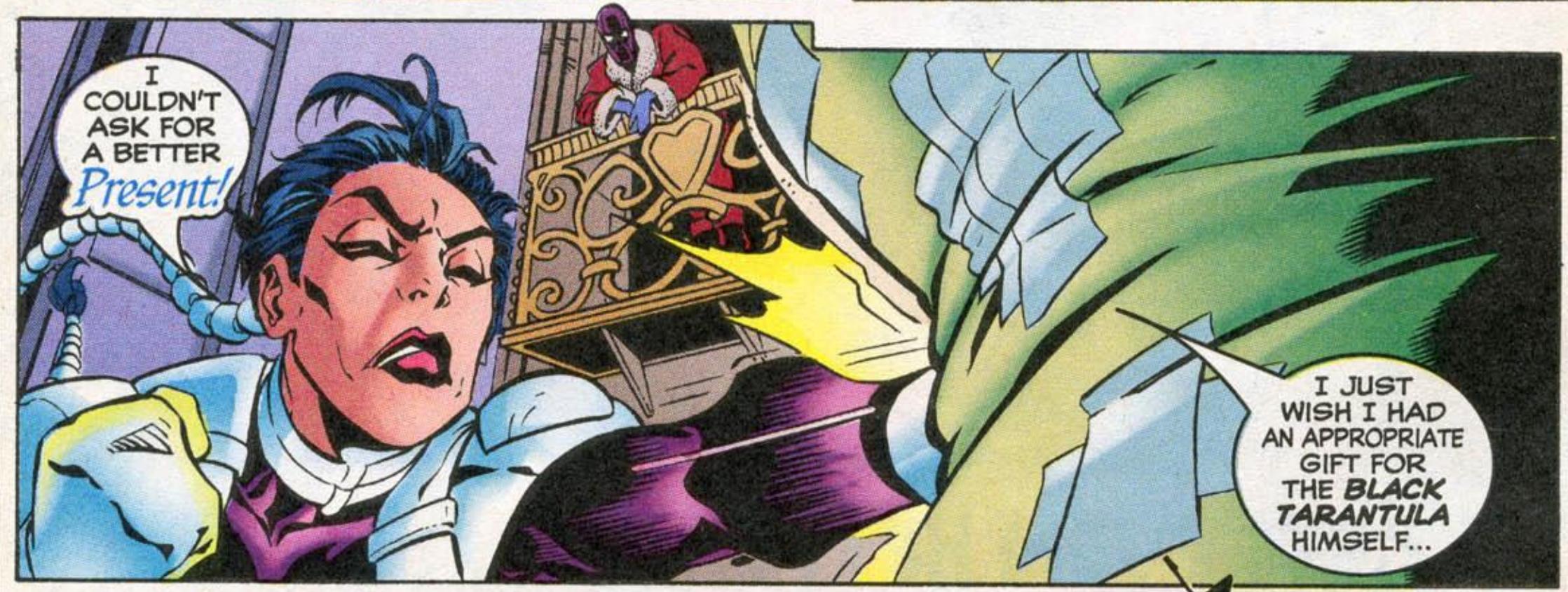
MIGHTY
DUCKS

THE ANIMATED SERIES

Also on Fridays, check local listings.

IT GETS EVEN BETTER

FLASH FORWARD • BONE CHILLERS • DISNEY'S JUNGLE CUBS
THE BUGS BUNNY & TWEETY SHOW • GARGOYLES: THE GOLIATH CHRONICLES



HAA-CHA! THE BUGLE
CAME THROUGH
FOR ME.

TWO
ASSIGNMENTS
WHICH SHOULD NET
ME JUST ENOUGH TO
MAKE MARY JANE A
VERY HAPPY -- AND
FASHIONABLE -- LADY
ON CHRISTMAS MORN.

BUT I GOTTA MOVE MY
TAIL IF I'M GONNA
BAG BOTH SHOTS --

-- DROP
OFF THE
FILM --

-- AND SCORE THE
BOOTS BEFORE
THE STORE
CLOSES!

THE
FIRST GIG
SHOULD BE
A BREEZE!

THE
SPECIAL
FEATURES
EDITOR NEEDS
A FEW SNAPS
OF A **STREET**
PROPHET --

"-- WHO'S BEEN
GATHERING QUITE
A FOLLOWING IN
WASHINGTON
SQUARE PARK!"

GO ON,
MEREDITH...

SO, LIKE I
WAS SAYING, I'M
REALLY GONZO OVER
THIS COOL GUY...

BUT HE, LIKE, STILL HAS A THING
FOR HIS OLD GIRLFRIEND... EVEN
THOUGH SHE'S, LIKE, WAYYY
OVER HIM!

ANY CHANCE YOU
COULD, LIKE, USE
YOUR POWERS TO
MAKE HIM...

... FORGET
HER?

THAT'S NOT WHAT I
DO, MEREDITH.

MAYBE
THE TWO OF
YOU SHOULD
JUST TALK.

WHAT
GOOD WILL
THAT DO?

YOU'LL
NEVER KNOW
UNTIL YOU
TRY.

Enter the **In Your Face** **sweepstakes**

you could win a trip for four to a real
championship stock car race!

Think you got what it takes to handle all the excitement of being front and center while race cars tear up the track? Well, it just got more intense 'cause if you win, Revell-Monogram's kickin' in some of their awesome model kits too!

GRAND PRIZE

winner will receive a trip for 4 to one of the largest championship stock car races in the U.S. & 3 stock car model kits.

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2nd PRIZE

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here's how to enter

On a 3" x 5" postcard, print your name, age, address, and home telephone number, along with your parent or guardian's signature, have your parent or legal guardian write and sign the statement: "My child and I agree to abide by the official rules of this sweepstakes." Without this signed statement, your entry will be disqualified. Mail entry to: "In Your Face" Sweepstakes, Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc., 387 Park Avenue South, Dept. A, New York, NY 10016. Winners will be selected in a random drawing on or about 3/15/97.

**Revell
MONOGRAM**

Sweepstakes Rules No purchase necessary. One entry per household. To be eligible to enter you must be between 10 and 17 years old at the time of the drawing. Entries must be received by 2/15/97. For a complete set of "In Your Face" Complete sweepstakes rules, mail a self-addressed stamped envelope to: "In Your Face" Sweepstakes Complete Rules, Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc., 387 Park Avenue South, Dept. A, New York, NY 10016. Request for rules must be received by 1/15/97. Void where prohibited. Employees of Revell-Monogram, Inc., Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. and their affiliates and agencies are not eligible to participate. Sweepstakes sponsored by: Revell-Monogram, Inc.

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built this Beast?
Who cares!

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#3 Goodwrench Monte Carlo

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Dodge Ram VTS Pickup

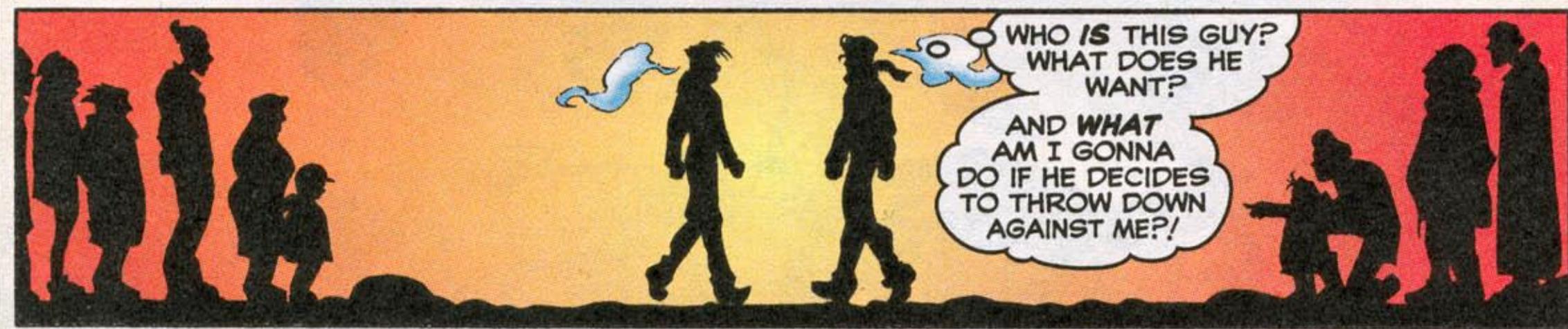
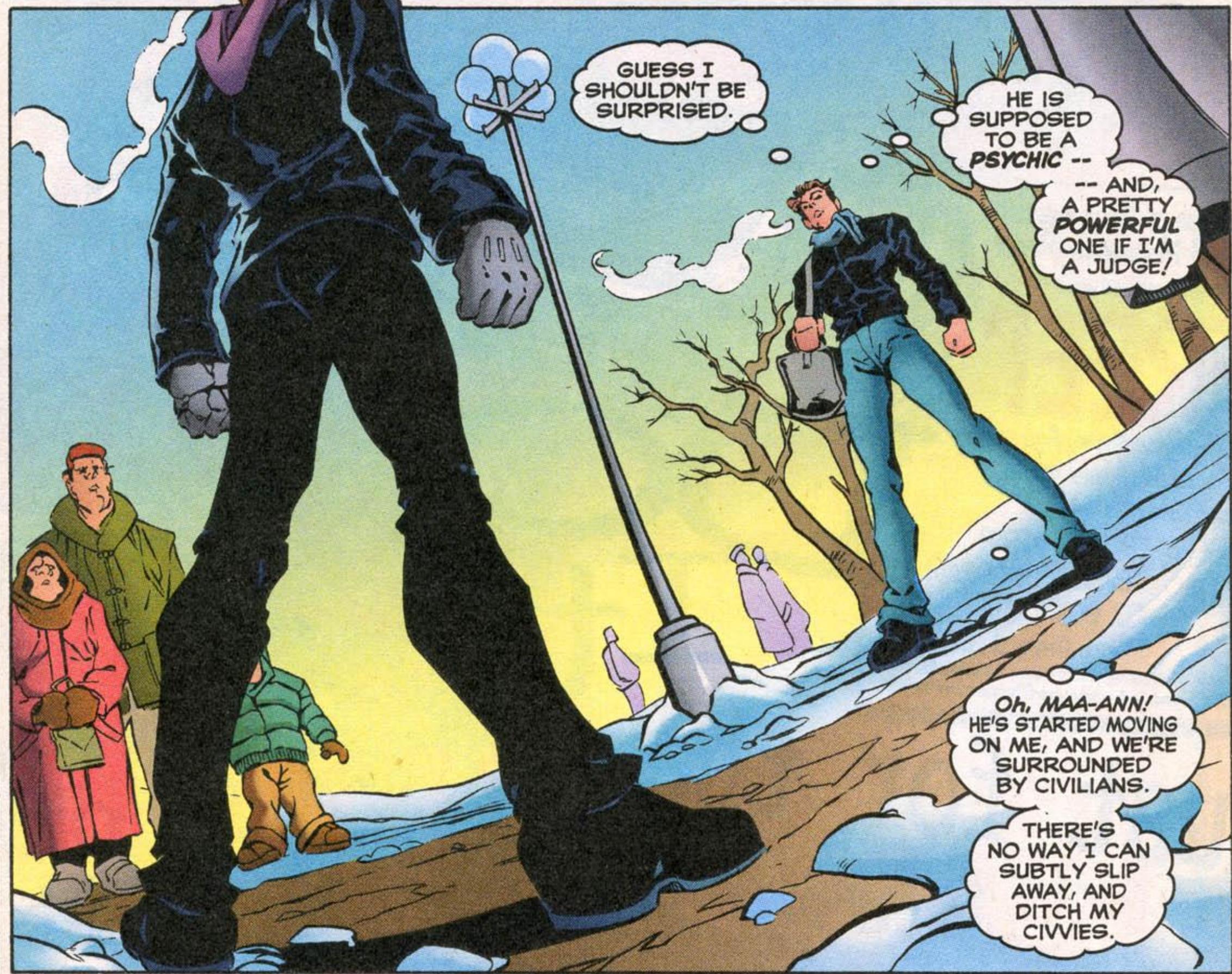
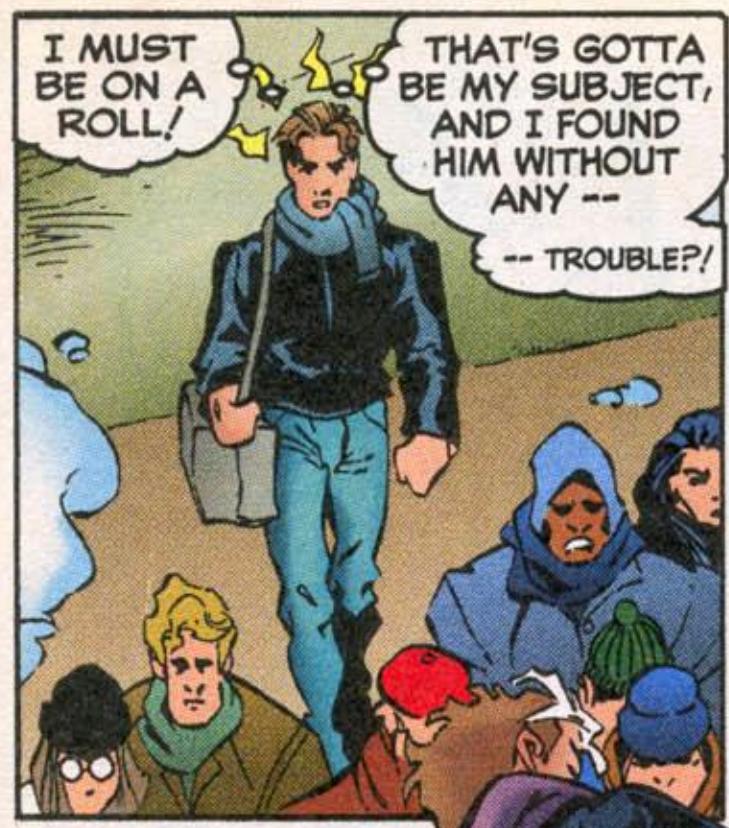
'64 Pontiac GTO 2'n'1

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AT THAT VERY
MOMENT...

SOMEWHERE IN
ARGENTINA...

ESTAS
LOCO?!
WHAT
MADNESS
IS THIS?!

I-IT'S ONLY
A SIMPLE
CHRISTMAS
TREE,
MASTER.

IMPUDENCE
DOES NOT
BECOME YOU,
CHESBRO.

ONLY A
CHILD WOULD
APPRECIATE
THIS HOLIDAY
REMINDER -- AND
NO CHILD LIVES
HERE!

I HOPE
YOU SPEAK
THE **TRUTH**,
CHESBRO.

EL UNO
HAS BEEN A
LOYAL AND STEAD-
FAST SERVANT OF THE
BLACK TARANTULA
FOR MANY
CENTURIES!

NO MATTER
WHAT CRUEL FATE
HAS BEFALLEN HIM,
HE WILL EVENTUALLY
FIND A WAY TO
REESTABLISH
CONTACT!

HAVE
FAITH,
MASTER!

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AFantasy#15 (origin),1

M 2 1st Vulture

M 3,14 1st D.O./GG

M 4-5

M 6

M 7-10

M 11-13,15,17,20,129

M 16,18,23,28,50

M 19,25,26,39,40

M 21,22,24,27,101,102

M 29,30,100,160

M 31-38,41,42,51,94,150,151

M 43-49,96,98,134,135

M 52-93,95,99,106

M 103-120,123,124,156-159,194,200-202

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M 125-126,130-133,137-140,152-155,176-180

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149

* 163-173,181-193,195-199,249-251

* 203-231,244,253,258,275,276,281,284,286-288,293,294,360-363,400

232-237,240-243,260-274

238 (1st Hobgoblin)

* 245,259,275,278,302-311,344-347

* 252,289 (death N Leeds),312,315-317 (Venom)

277,280,290-292,295,296,334,343

298 (1st McFarlane, Venom),299,301

300

* 313,314,318-325,328,330-333,365,375,388

* 297,321,326,329,348-359,364,366-374,376-387,389-399,401-up

Spiderman vs Wolverine (one shot 1987 Death Ned Leeds)

Spider-man:Maximum Cloneage Alpha,Omega

* Spiderman Unlimited 1-up

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Amazing Scarlet Spider 1-up,Scarlet Spider 1-up

Spiderman 2099 1-up, Spiderman Adv. 1-up, Spider-man Index 1-8

Annual 1

2-4

5-9

* 10-15 (Byrne),21 (Peter Parker cvr)

* 16-20,21 (Spiderman cvr),25

* 22-24 (Evolutionary war),26 up

* Giant Size 1,4 (3rd Punisher ap)

* 2,3,5,6

Spiderman (McFarlane)

* 1 bagged limited (Black cover, or Red cover)

* 1 regular black/silver/gold,26,50,51,54

* 2-25,27-49,53,55-up

AMAZING X-MEN

1 (1st print)-up

ANIMAL MAN

1-up

ASTONISHING TALE

1 Kazarr, Dr Doom begin),25

2-8 (some Barry Smith),26-36

9-24

ASTONISHING X-MEN

1-up (1st print)

AVENGERS

1

2

3

* 4 (1st SA Cap)

* 5 (2nd Cap)

6-11,16 (Capt. Amer.)

* 12-15,57 (1st Vision)

* 17-19,58 (origin Vision)

* 20-30,50,71,93

* 66-70,72-91,109,112-130

100 (Adams, Smith art)

* 131-163,263,326,328

* 164-191,300,350,360-363

* 192-239,365-up

240-299,301-325,327,329-349,351-359,364

Annual 1

2,3,7 (Starlin)

4-6,10 Giant Size 1-5

8,9,11-up

BATMAN (Pre #262 send for catalog)

262-365,369-410,417-420,426-428

430-up

CAPTAIN AMERICA (See also Tales Of Suspense 58-99)

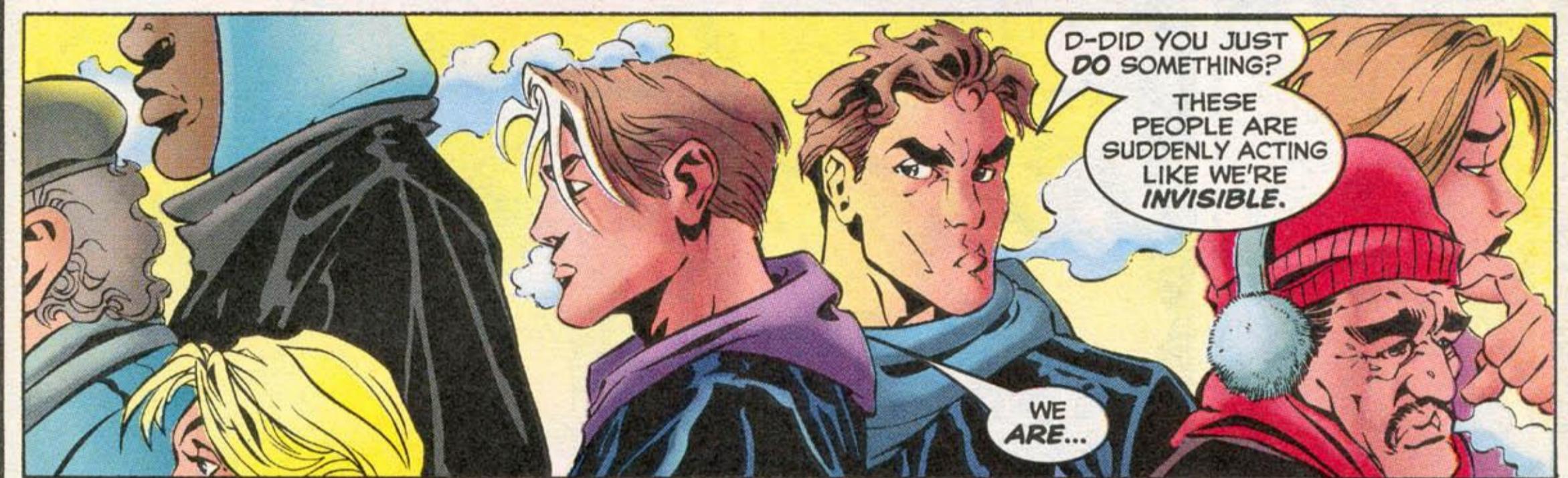
100 (origin)

* 101,109 (Origin Retold)

* 102-108,117 (1st Falcon),241

110,111,113 (Steranko)

* 112,114-116,118-120





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- SPI Spider-Man
- SSM Sensational Spider-Man

The X-Men

- CAB Cable
- DDP Deadpool **New Title!**
- ELK Electra
- EXC Excalibur
- GEN Generation X
- WOL Wolverine
- XME Uncanny X-Men
- FAC X-Factor
- XFO X-Force
- MAN X-Man
- MEN X-Men

Heroes Reborn

- AVE Avengers
- CAM Captain America
- FAN Fantastic Four
- IRM Iron Man

Marvel Heroes

- DDV Daredevil
- GHR Ghost Rider
- INC Incredible Hulk
- JIM Journey Into Mystery
- PNS Punisher
- SIL Silver Surfer
- W99 2099, World of Tomorrow

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- VOT Star Trek: Voyager
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H6CMDR

MEANWHILE, ON THE WESTSIDE...

MOVE IT, PAL! WE'RE TAKING YOU TO A SHELTER FOR YOUR OWN GOOD.

YEAH! YEAH! FASHION PLATES LIKE YOU ARE ALWAYS PRIME TARGETS DURING THE HOLIDAYS.

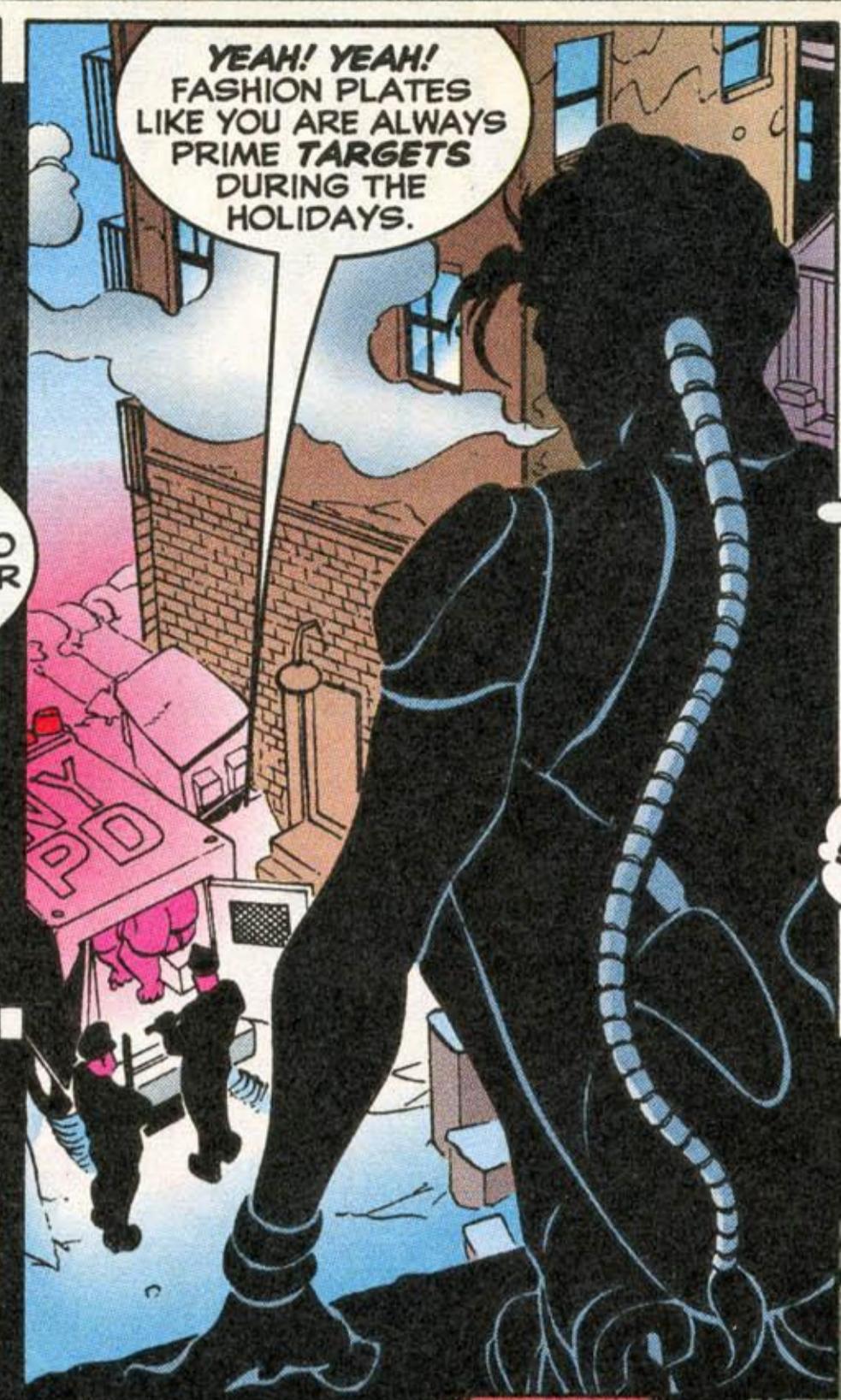
YOU'D BE SURPRISED, OFFICER.

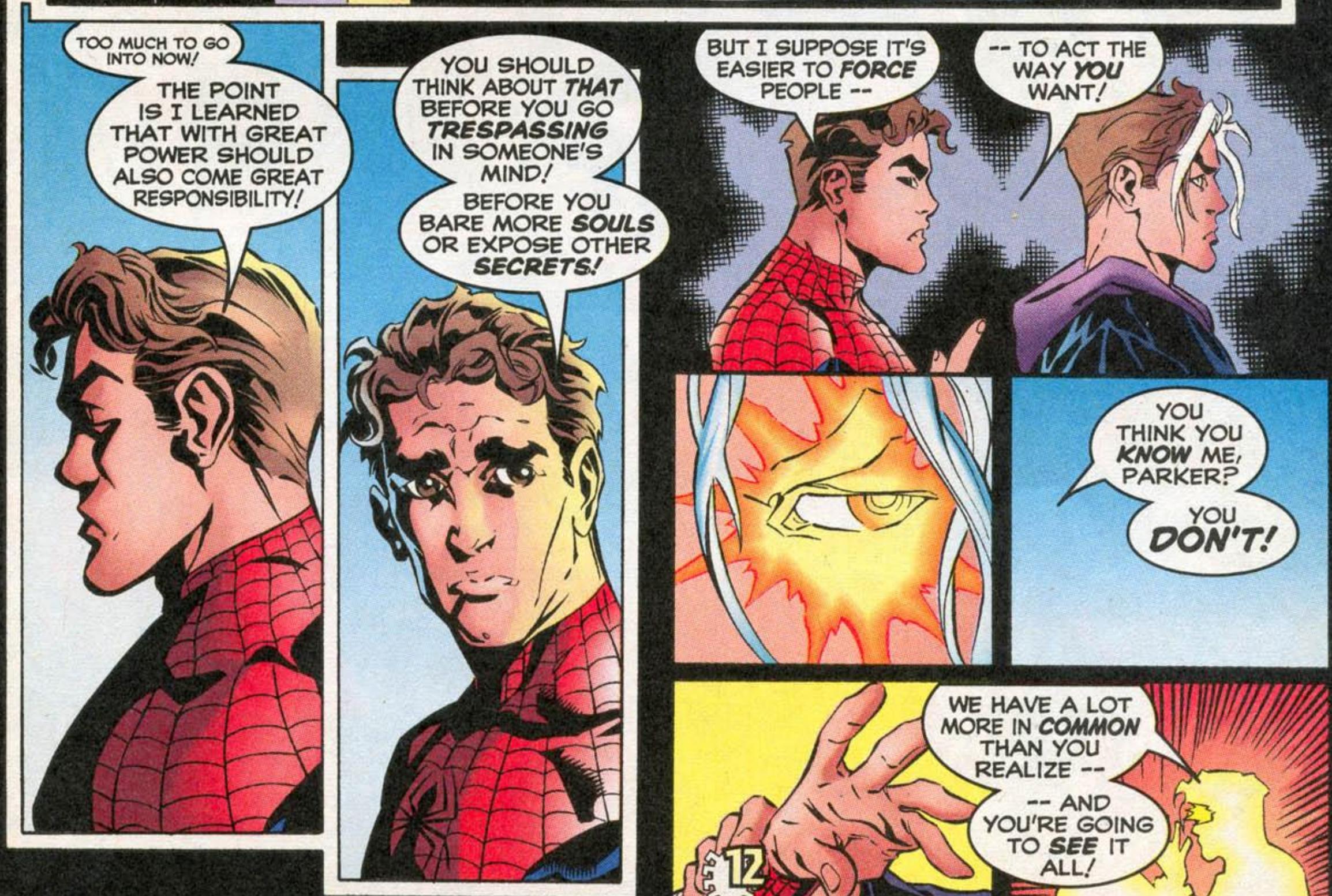
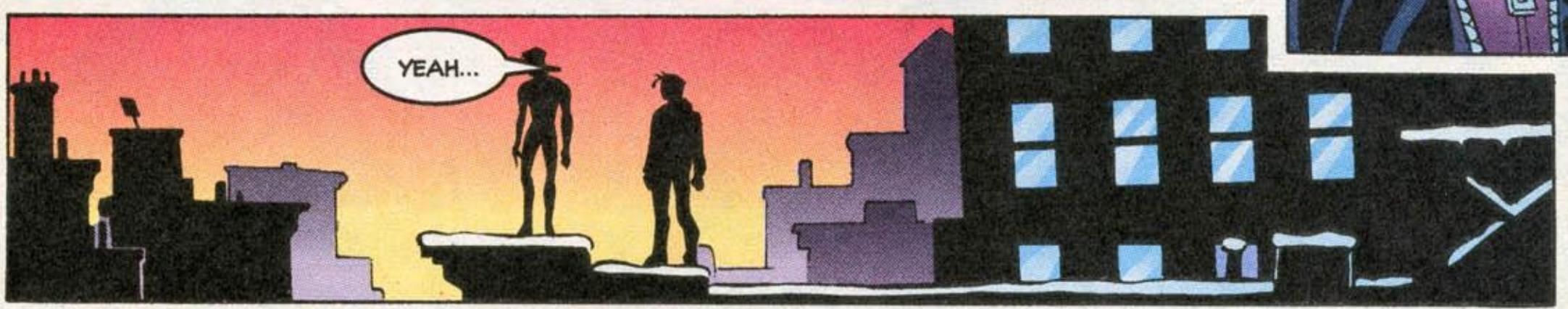
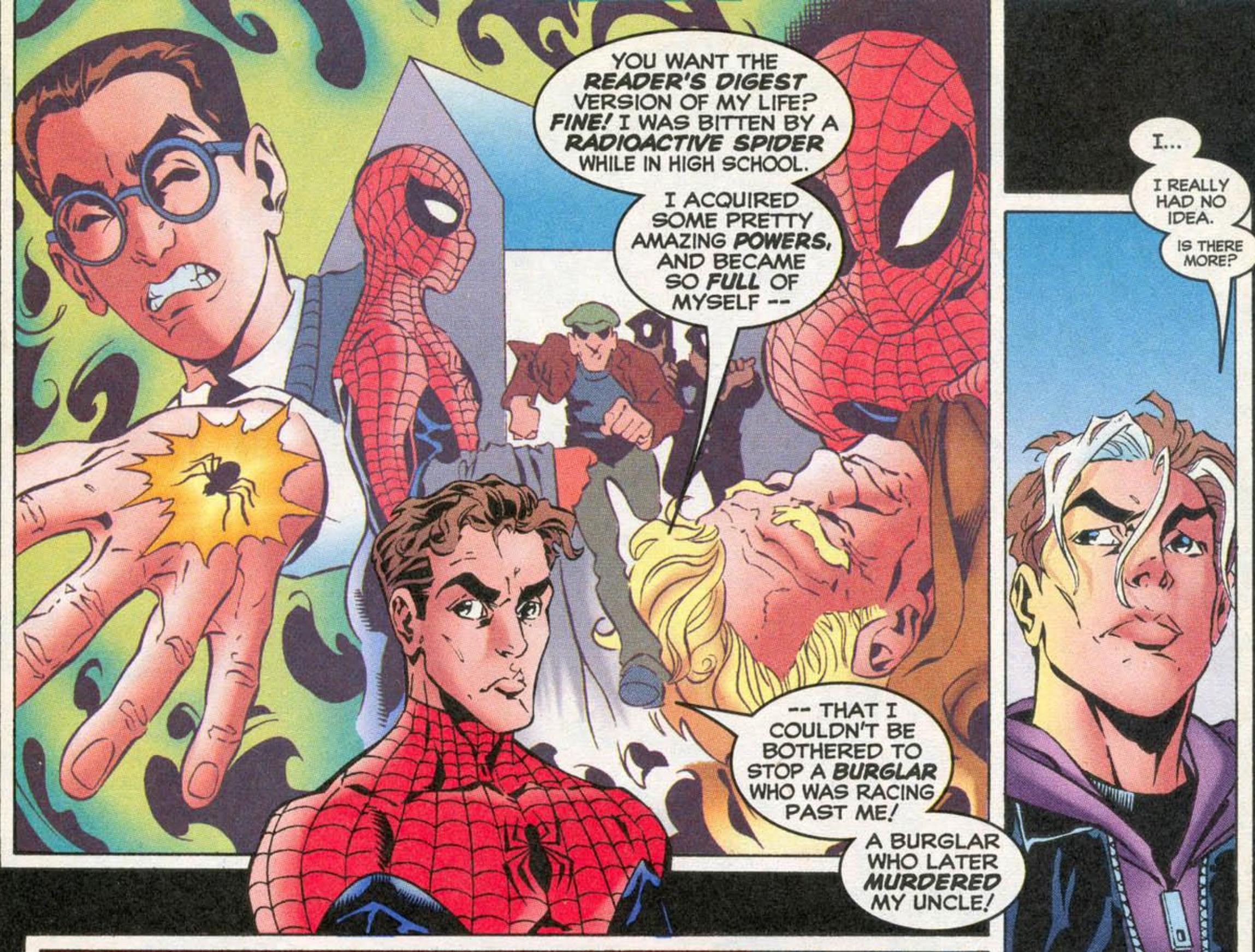
YEAH! THIS AIN'T THE WEATHER FOR STREAKING!

I-IT AIN'T FAIR! ME AND MY BUDDIES WERE MINDIN' OUR OWN BUSINESS WHEN THIS WACKO POPPED UP, AND DEMANDED OUR CLOTHES!

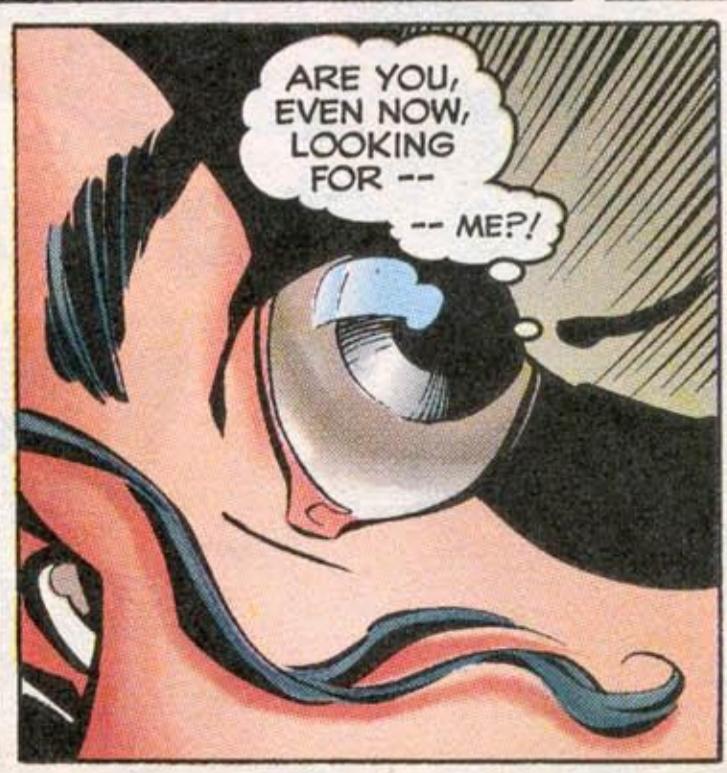
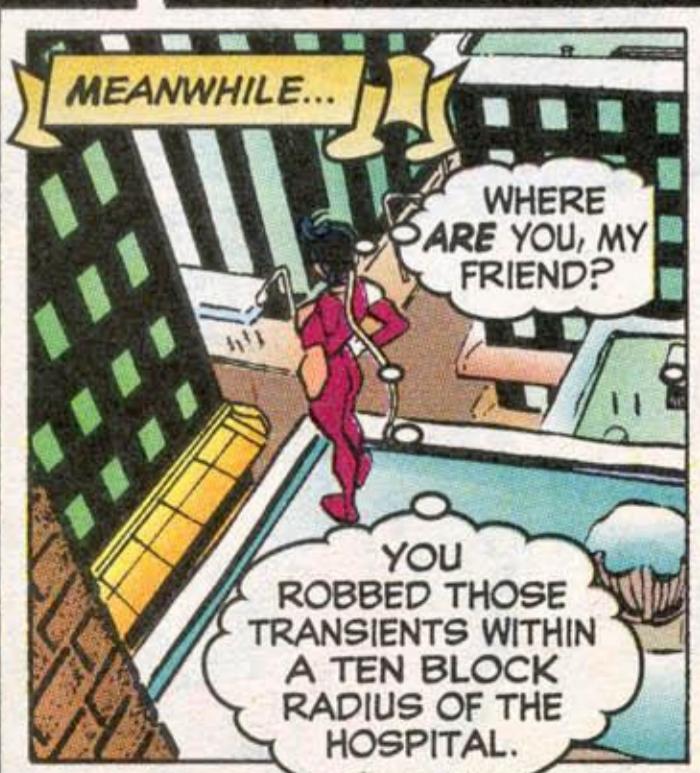
IN THESE CRAZY TIMES, ALMOST ANYONE CAN BECOME --

-- A TARGET!





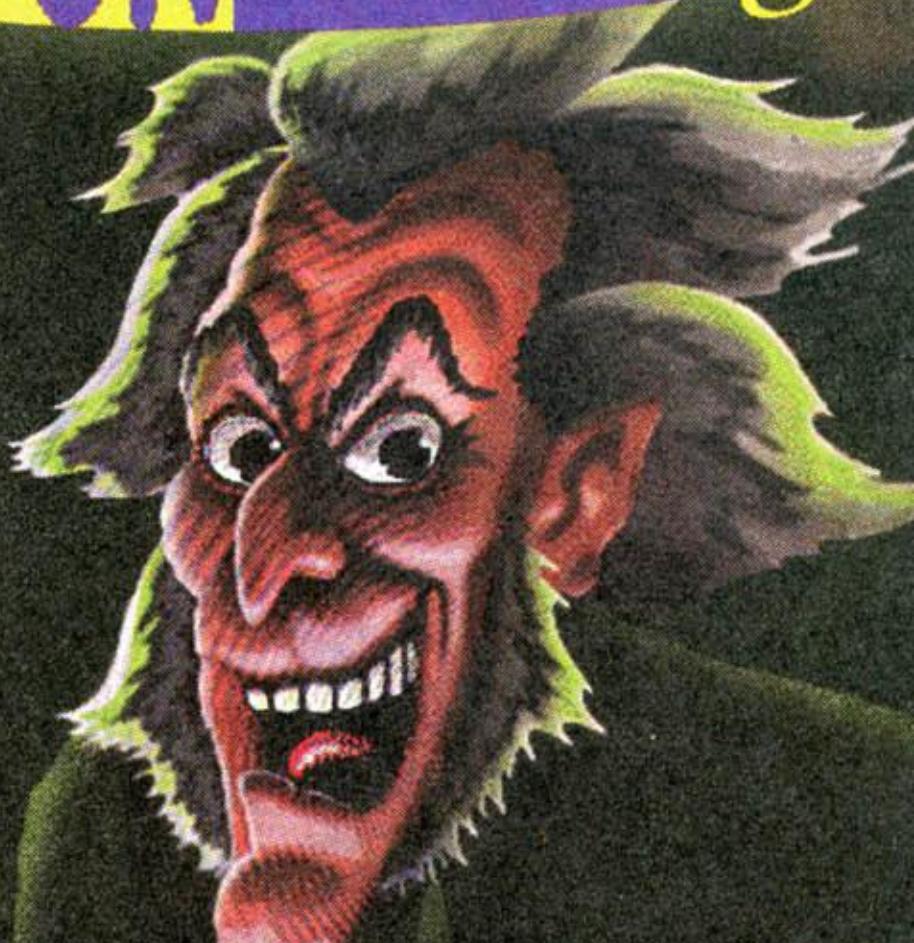




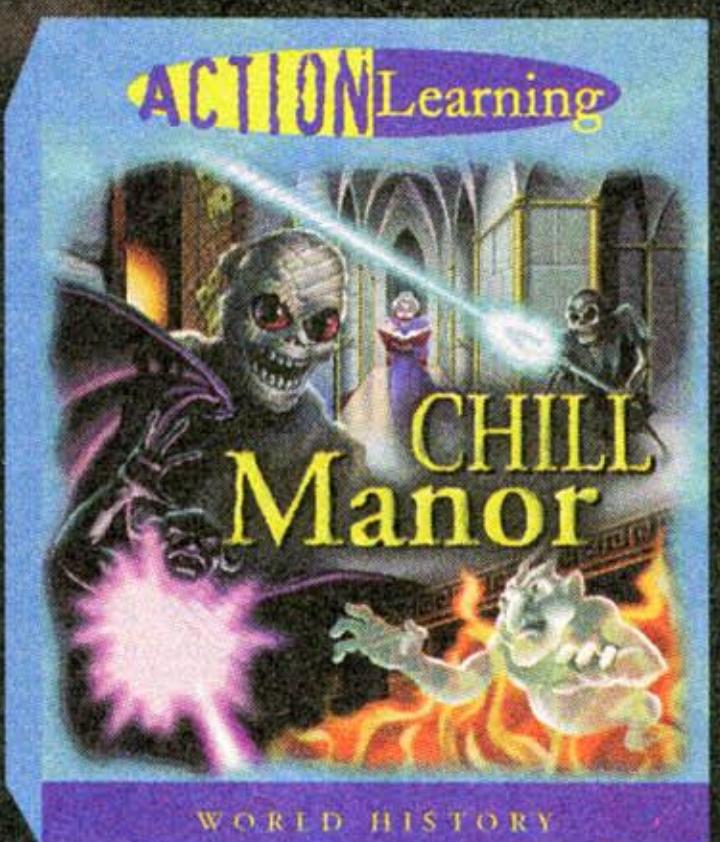
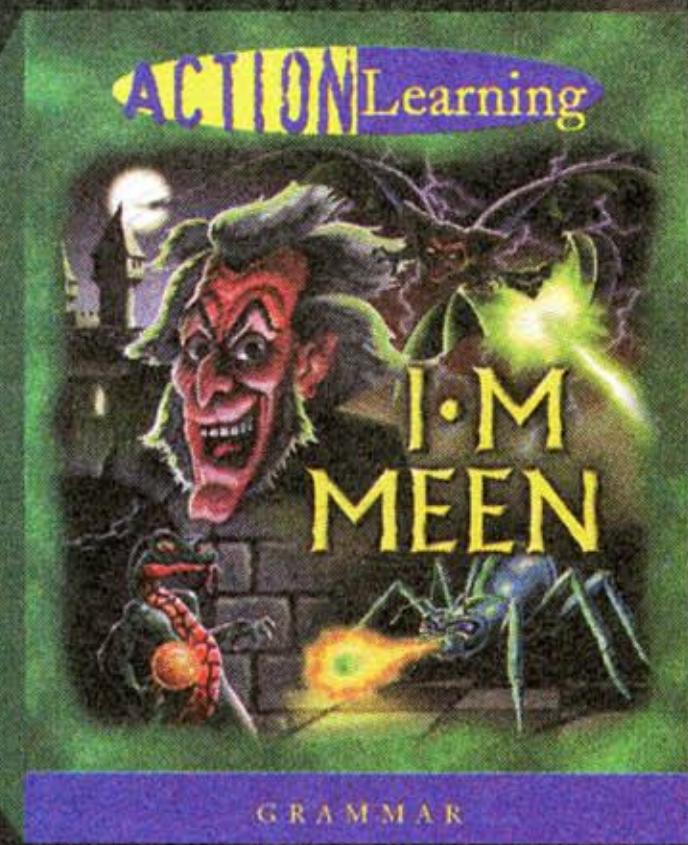
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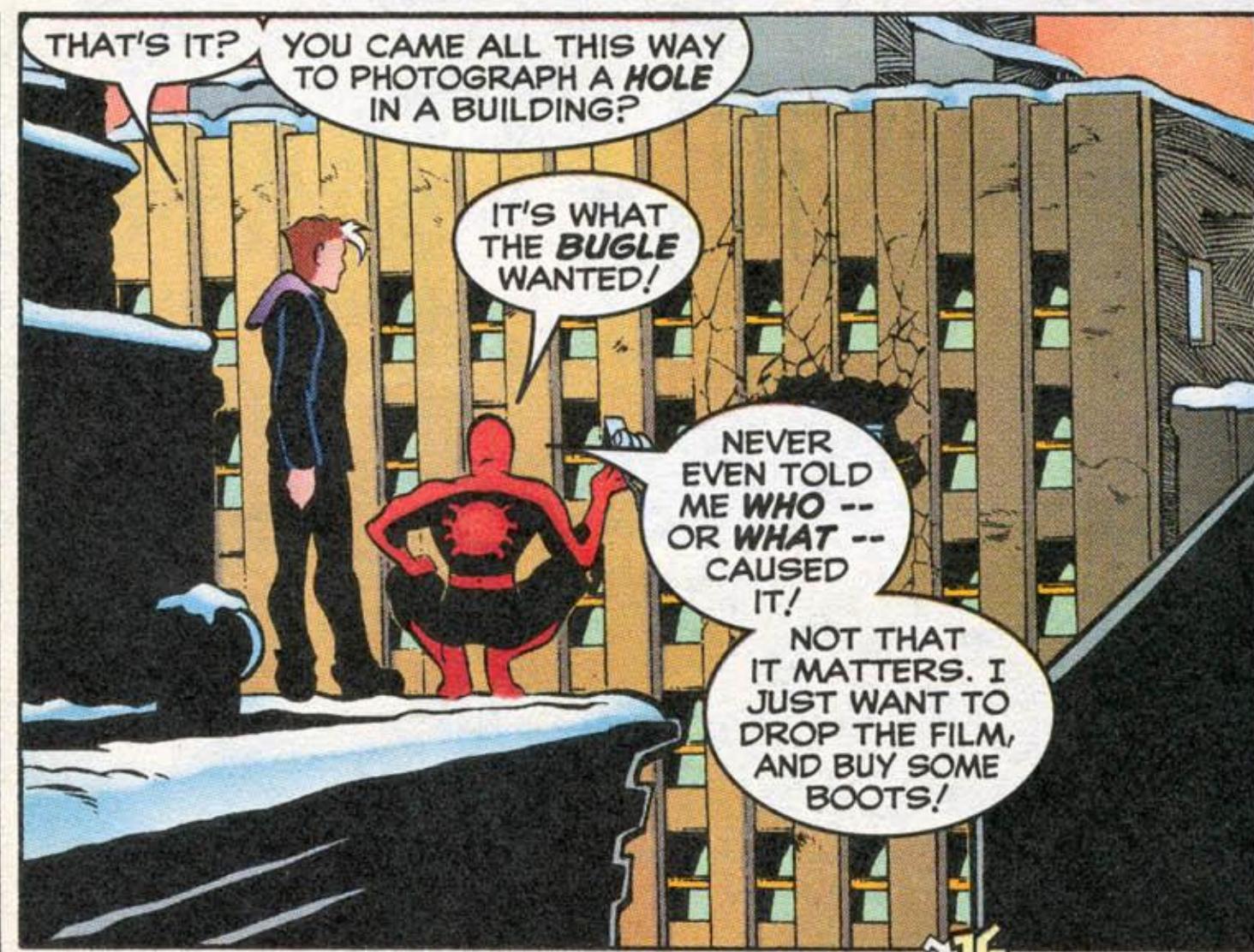
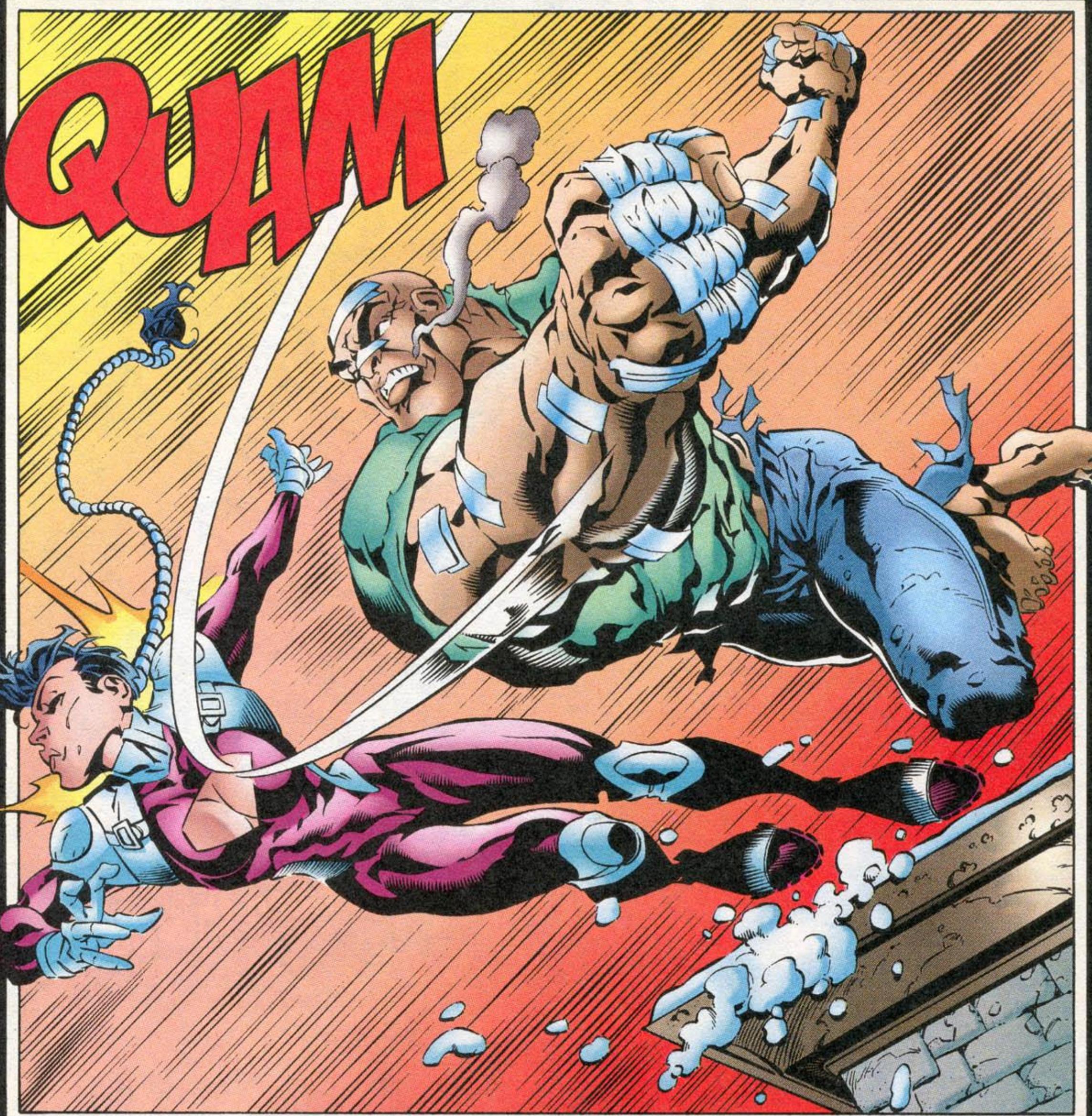


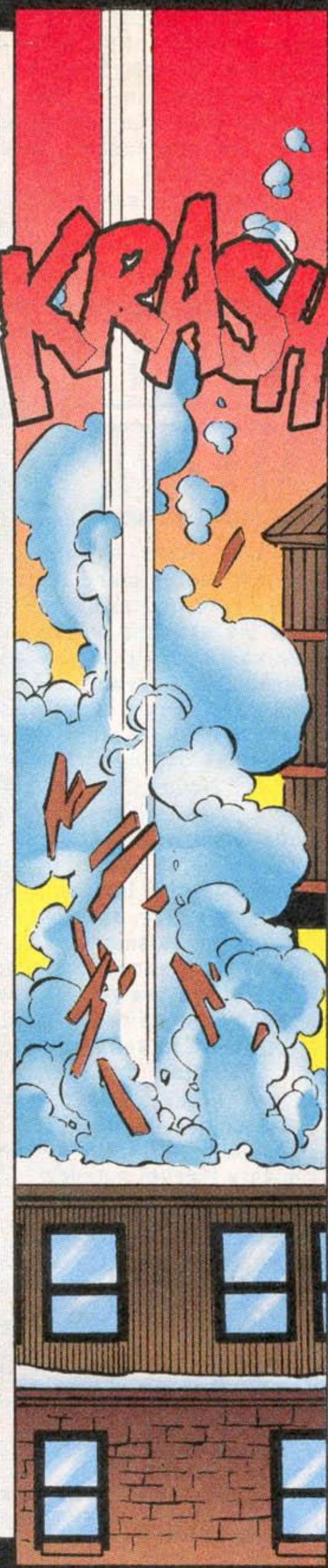
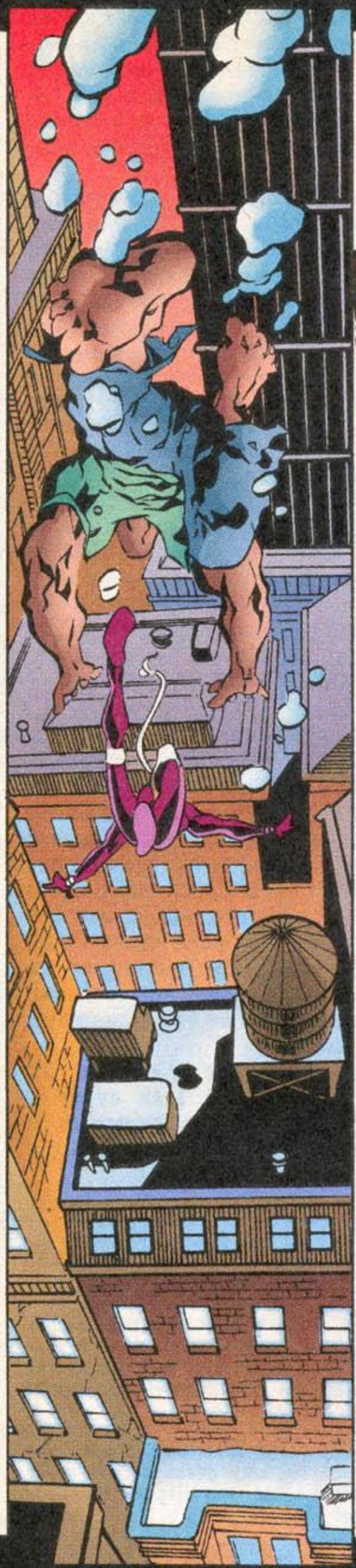
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A DARK AGE REVISITED

Remember the "Age of Apocalypse" storyline, which rocked the X-Men line of books a couple of years ago and gave us X-MAN and the Dark Beast? Well, get ready then for TALES OF THE AGE OF APOCALYPSE, a 48-page one-shot on sale next week, which gives you the chance to return to the alternate Earth ruled by the evil Darwinist despot, Apocalypse!

X-Editor Mark Powers tells us, "In this story, we see the beginnings of Prelate Summers' questioning of Apocalypse's regime. We also see Blink's first active duty with the alternate X-Men, and the return of another AGE OF APOC-

THE GREEN GOBLIN TELLS ALL!

He made his momentous comeback during the recent four-part REVELATIONS storyline in the Spider-Man books, but many questions were left unanswered when the smoke cleared and the clone saga was officially ended! Now, the full story behind the return of Norman Osborn - the original Green Goblin - is finally revealed in SPIDER-MAN: THE OSBORN JOURNAL, a 32-page one-shot, on sale next week and told from Norman's own point of view!

According to JOURNAL writer Glenn Greenberg, "This book lets us in on what Norman has been doing since his supposed death way back in the milestone AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #122! It answers all the questions raised by or not answered in REVELATIONS. It traces the last 23 years of Spider-Man continuity, from the point of view of the man most responsible for it!" You can expect to learn how Norman was really connected to such notable figures as the Jackal, Scier, Judas Traveller and Gaunt! And with Kyle Hotz doing the penciling, you can bet your pumpkin bombs that this book is gonna have a unique look all its own! "We're really getting into Norman's mind in this book," Glenn explains, "and Kyle is the perfect guy to depict a place as scary as that!"

Serving as a prologue and companion piece to REVELATIONS, and the final word on the recently-ended clone era, SPIDER-MAN: THE OSBORN JOURNAL is a must-read for any serious Spider-phile! And if you're wondering if Glenn will be true to the character of Norman Osborn, his boss, editor Tom Brevoort, tells us, "Glenn practically is Norman!" Just don't ask to see the scar on his chest!

TALES OF THE AGE OF APOCALYPSE Because you demanded it - a return to the Age of Apocalypse! We revisit one of the most interesting and intriguing locales created in the X-Universe and focus on two of its most popular characters: Morph and Blink! By Scott Lobdell, Ralph Macchio and Joe Bennett!

WHAT IF? #94 Spotlight on the Juggernaut! In this tale, Jugg finds himself in a world where no one fears or hates him! By Jorge Gonzalez and James Calafio!

X-MAN #24 Guest-starring Spider-Man! And it's a meeting that could shake up Spidey's view of mutants and Nate's perception of super heroes in this reality! By Terry Kavanagh and Roger Cruz!

X-MEN #61 Someone's interested in reforming the Inner Circle of the Hellfire Club! And Storm, Cyclops and Wolverine face deadly forces unleashed by Candra! By Scott Lobdell and Cedric Nocon!

DOMINO #2 Domino draws ever closer to her husband's mysterious kidnappers, but she crosses paths with Lady Deathstrike! Will she be able to defeat the woman who almost killed Wolverine? By Ben Raab and David Perrin!

EXCALIBUR #106 The Acolytes return! Now the question is, will Colossus once again turn his back on his X-Family when they come calling? The big guy will not be the same after this! By Ben Raab and Casey Jones!

ONSLAUGHT: BOOK FIVE In this installment, the Sentinels take Manhattan! Reprinting X-FACTOR #125, PUNISHER #11, GREEN GOBLIN #12, AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #415 and SPIDER-MAN #72!

ONSLAUGHT: BOOK SIX In the cataclysmic

ALYPSE fave, Morph! "And if that's not enough, there's also a twisted version of the Inhumans, further mutated by exposure to the Terrigen Mists, by none other than Maximus the Mad! And thrown in for good measure are Diablo and the Absorbing Man, who gets to take on the alternate Magneto! Sounds like this magnum opus is gonna be positively jam-packed with stuff!"

Written by Scott Lobdell and Ralph Macchio with the awe-inspiring artwork of Joe Bennett and Joe Pimentel, TALES OF THE AGE OF APOCALYPSE, to quote Mark, "is a fun story that gives even more background to the alternate reality that's had such a profound effect on the X-Men books!" And it's all yours in just seven days!



MUTINY ON THE ENTERPRISE!

Remember that classic STAR TREK episode, "Mirror, Mirror" (you know, the one where Spock has the wicked goatee)? Ever wonder what happened after the events of that unforgettable story, once the parallel Universe Captain Kirk returned to his ship, the I.S.S. Enterprise, to see all the changes wrought by his counterpart from our universe? Well, you're going to find out in one week, when we present STAR TREK: MIRROR, MIRROR, a 48-page sequel to the episode!

The story picks up shortly after the TV episode, when the mirror Kirk and his landing party (consisting of Dr. McCoy, Mr. Scott and Lt. Uhura) return to their Enterprise to discover that the mirror version of Spock has been ordered by Starfleet (which, in the mirror dimension, is part of an evil Empire) to kill the (not so) good captain! Instead of killing Kirk, Spock locks him in the ship's brig, and the two officers are then forced into trying to outsmart each other (Be more clever than Kirk? As if such a thing was possible!). This leaves the rest of the crew forced to choose sides. And look out, cause Scotty's ready to bust heads if he has to, and he's not afraid to use a club to do it!

Written by Tom DeFalco and penciled by Mark Bagley, this major Marvel Star Trek event is guaranteed to please! So get ready to return to a decidedly different sector of the final frontier, in the mighty Marvel manner!

CHECKLIST FOR DECEMBER 18

closing chapters, our heroes face and end the menace of Onslaught! Reprinting the destined-to-be-classic UNCANNY X-MEN #336, X-MEN #56, AVENGERS #402, FANTASTIC FOUR #416 and ONSLAUGHT: MARVEL UNIVERSE!

STAR TREK: STAR FLEET ACADEMY #3 Decker is inducted into the elite Red Squad! But why do they want him to break contact with his Ferengi friend, Nog, and what's their mysterious connection to the renegade who wants to take over Earth? By Chris Cooper and John Royle!

STAR TREK: MIRROR, MIRROR Taking off where the classic Star Trek episode ended! The mirror version of Captain Kirk returns to his ship only to be arrested by Spock! By Tom DeFalco and Mark Bagley!

ABOMINATIONS #3 It's finally here! The conclusion of the "Future Imperfect" spin-off! Will the alternate Abomination be stopped before he can kill the woman who may be carrying the Maestro's baby? By Ivan Velez Jr. and Angel Medina!

THE ART OF JOHN ROMITA SR. A complete look at the work and life of one of Marvel's most prolific and influential artists! The ultimate tribute, including a reprint of his first Marvel work, originally printed in 1951!

GHOST RIDER/BALLISTIC The Marvel/Top Cow crossover continues! Ghost Rider enters the Top Cow universe in search of Mephisto! Things are definitely going to get bad for the Lord of Lies when Cyberforce's Ballistic joins the fray! By Warren Ellis, Billy Tan and D-Tron!

INCREDIBLE HULK #450 Doctor Strange learns what happened to Earth's missing heroes as he goes head-to-head with the Hulk! Throw the

mysterious Wild Man into the mix and you've got a recipe for disaster! By Peter David, Mike Deodato, Jr. and Jeff Rebner!

IRON MAN #4 Iron Man is about to get scorched by the new Living Laser! Is he prepared to face this menace or is he in way over his shelled head? By Jim Lee, Scott Lobdell and Whilce Portacio!

PUNISHER #16 "Total X-Tinction" comes to its tragic end and the only question is: will the Punisher survive the experience? By John Ostrander and Tom Lyle!

ADVENTURES OF SPIDER-MAN #11 What can Spidey do when two of his most deadly foes, Doctor Octopus and Venom, team-up for the first time to destroy the wall-crawler? For just 99 cents you can find out if he'll make it out of this slugfest alive! By Glenn Greenberg and Alex Saviuk!

DAILY BUGLE #3 The final issue of the landmark black and white limited series! A behind-the-scenes look at the people who produce the greatest newspaper in the Marvel Universe! A can't miss for Spidey fans! By Paul Grist and Karl Kerschl!

SPIDER-MAN: THE OSBORN JOURNAL At last: the true, never-before-revealed, full story behind the original Green Goblin's recent return, told in his very own words! A horrifying journey into the mind of a madman - Spider-Man's all-time greatest enemy! By Glenn Greenberg and Kyle Hotz!

SPIDER-MAN #77 Morbius the Living Vampire is back and it means big trouble for Spider-Man! Plus: the family of Gwen Stacy steps back into the life of our favorite wall-crawler! By Howard Mackie and John Romita Jr.!

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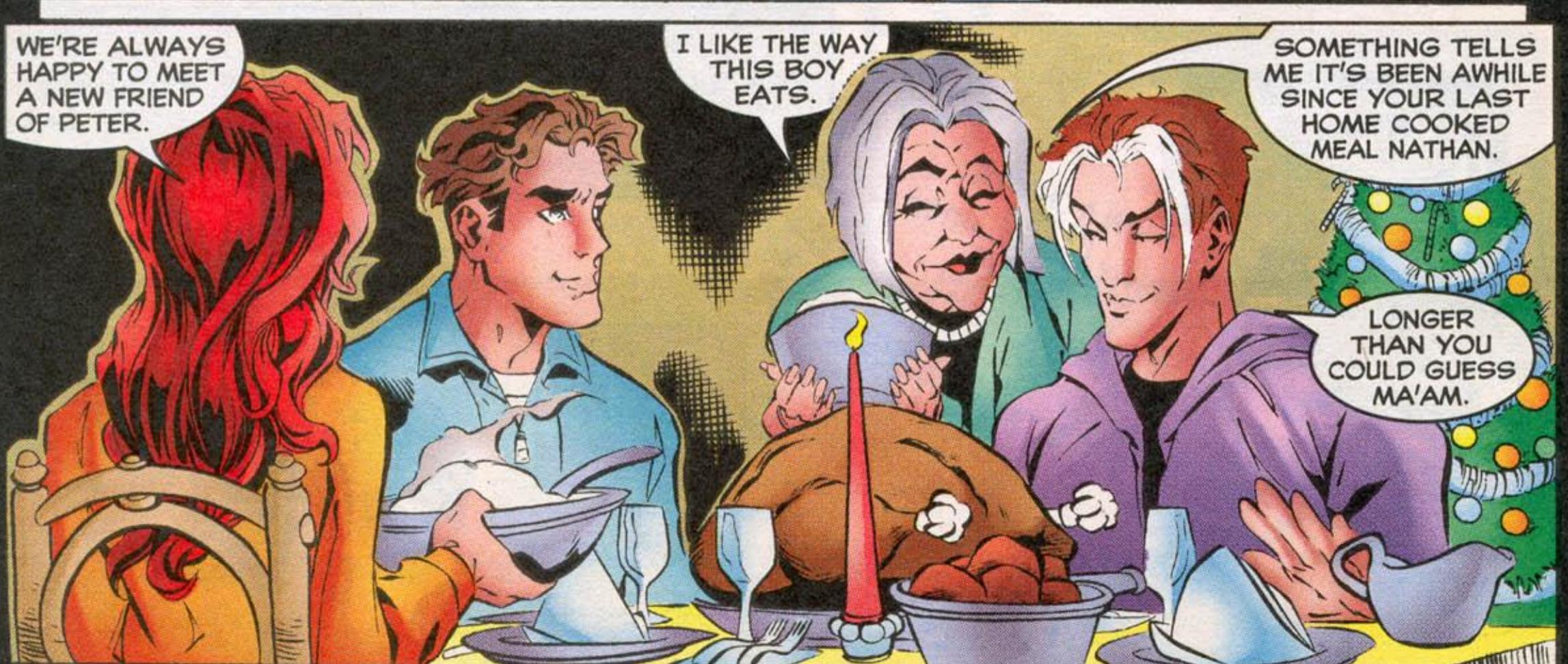
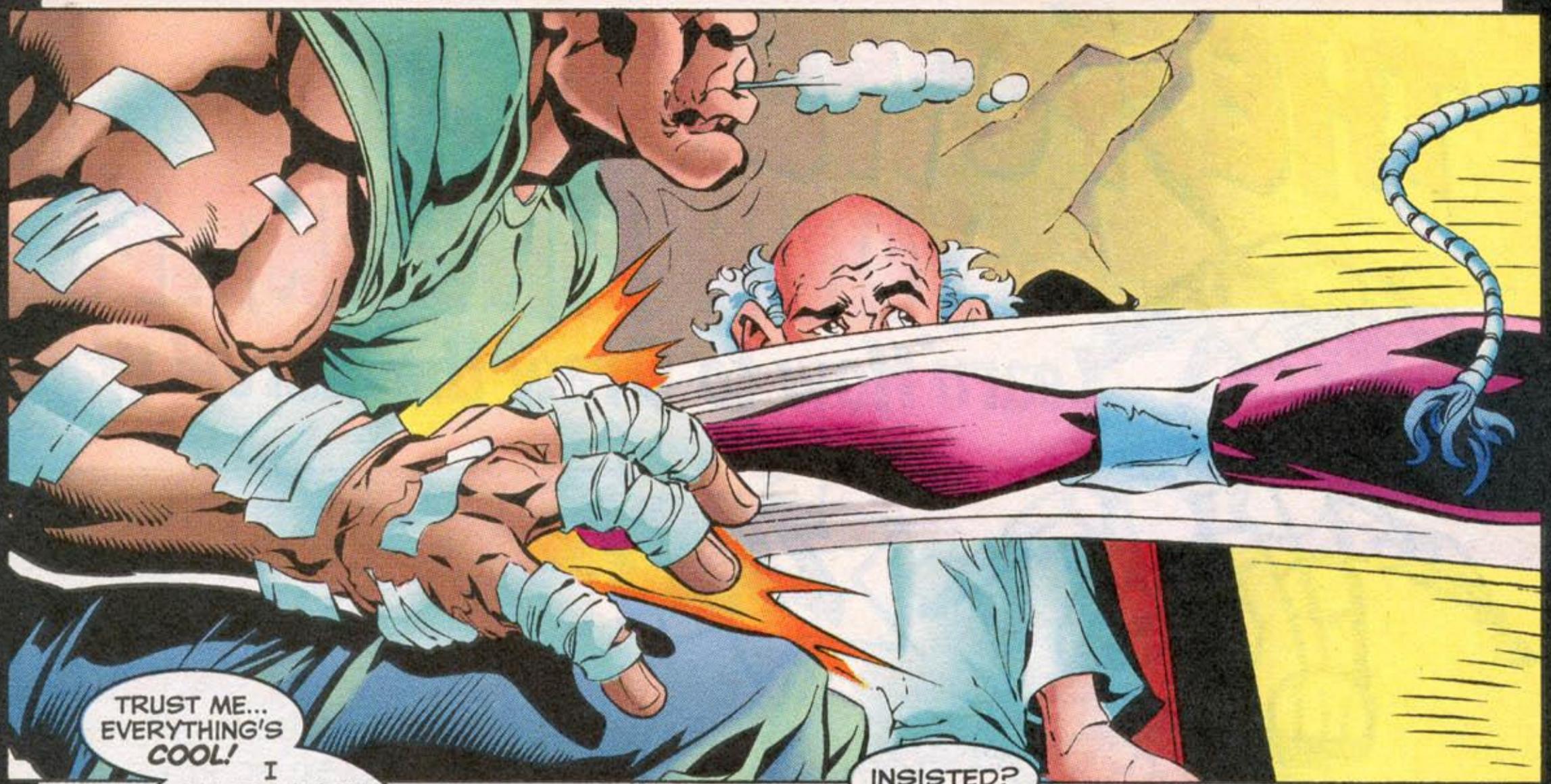
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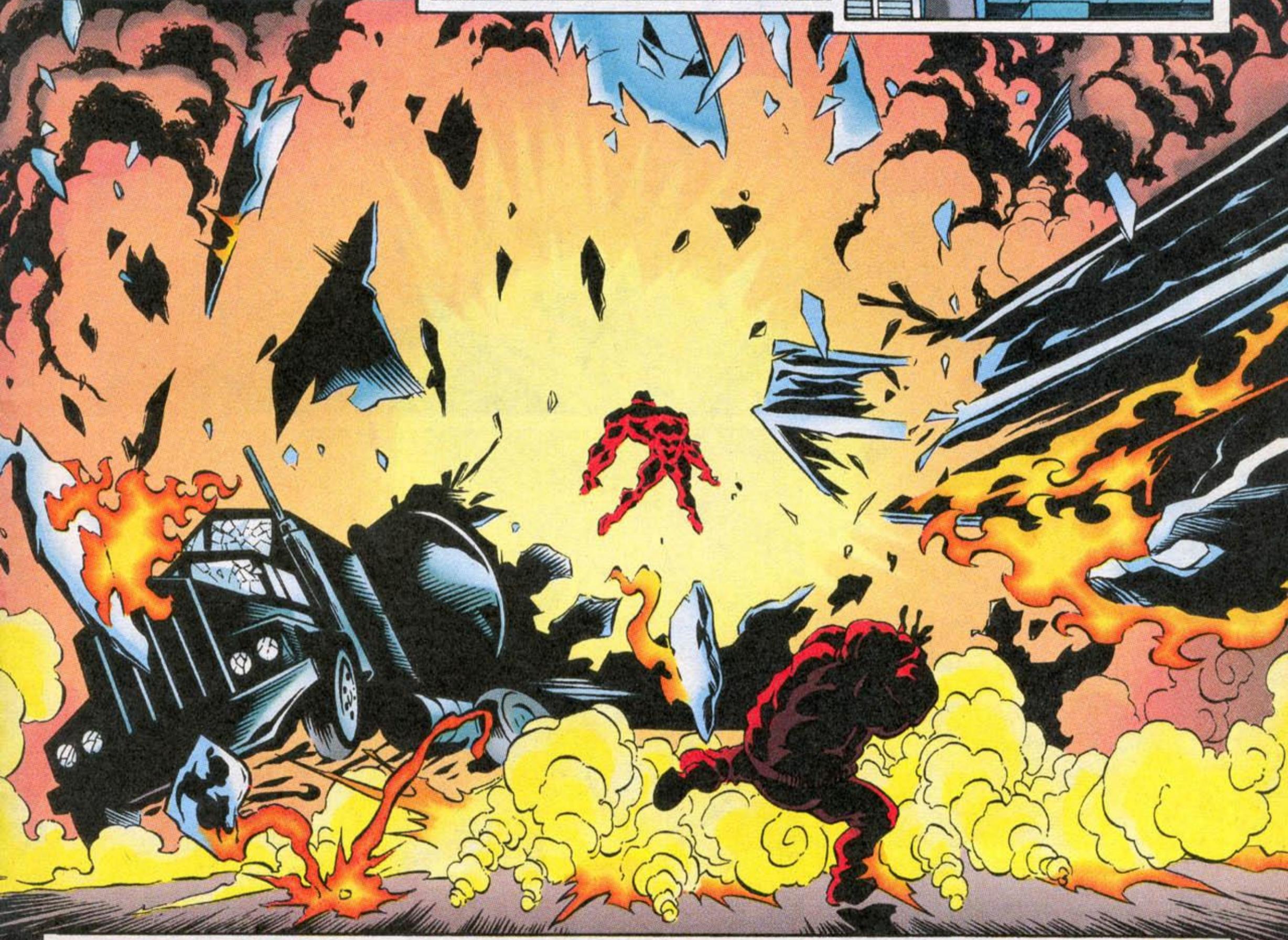
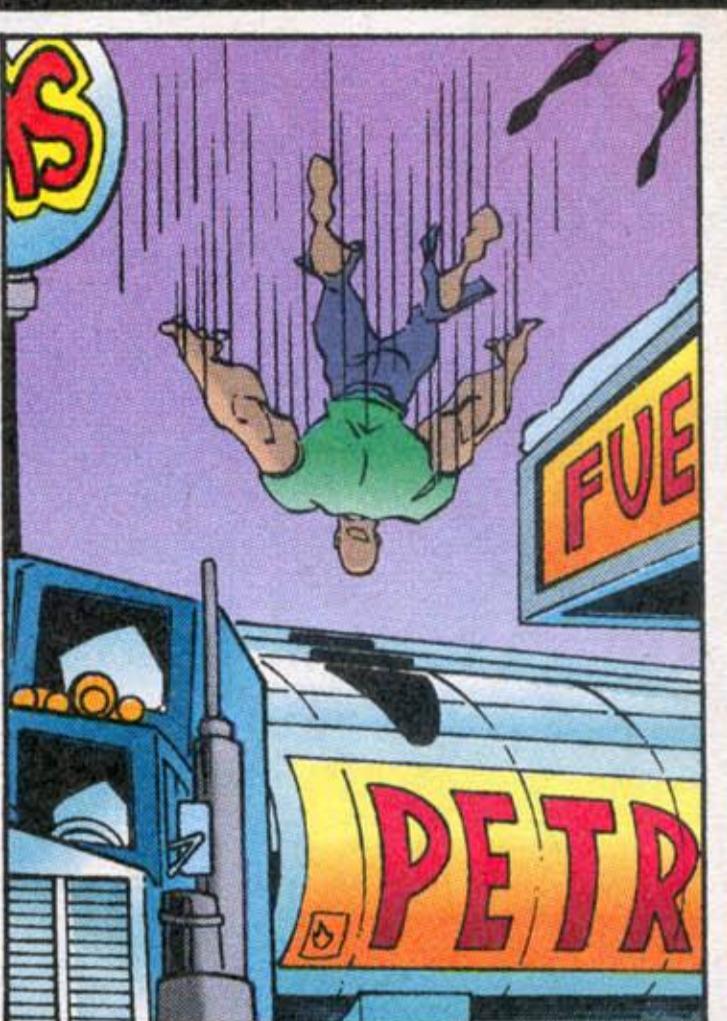
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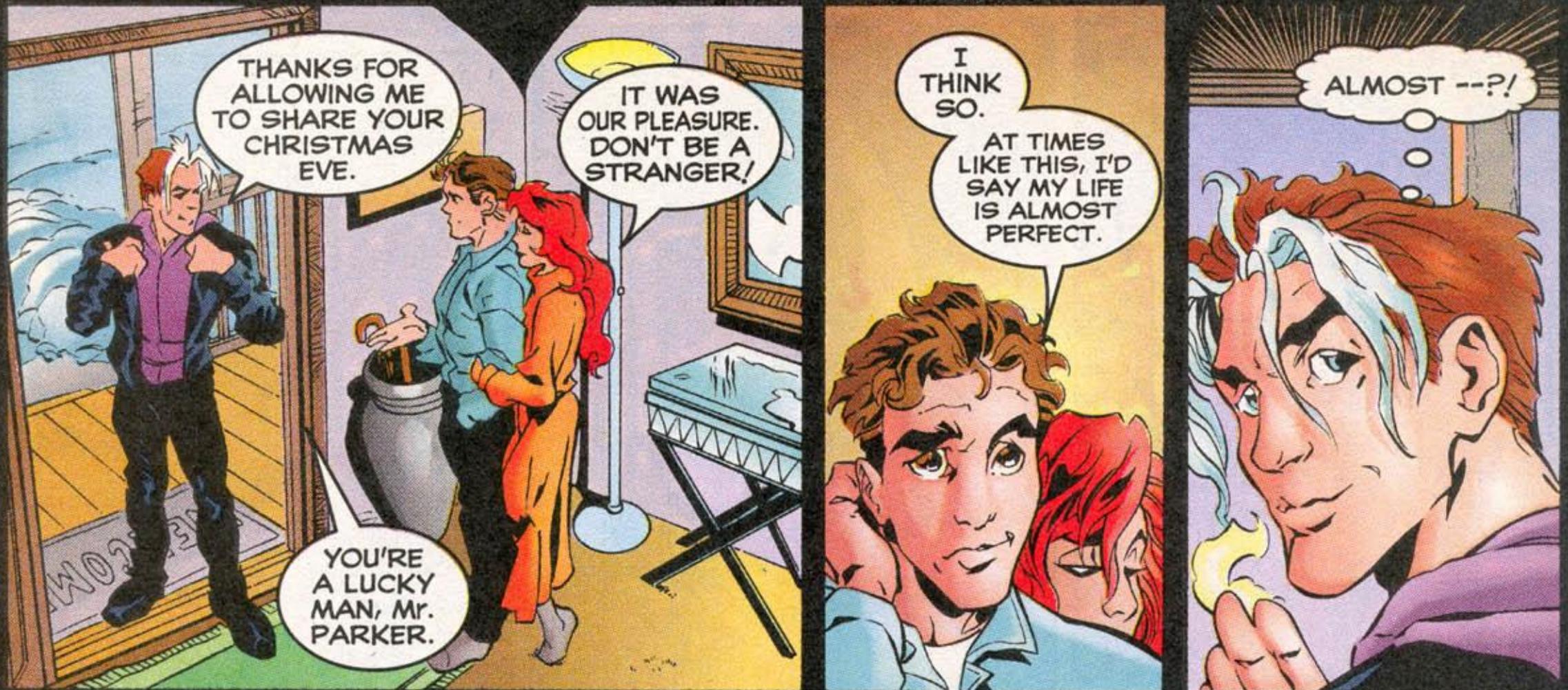
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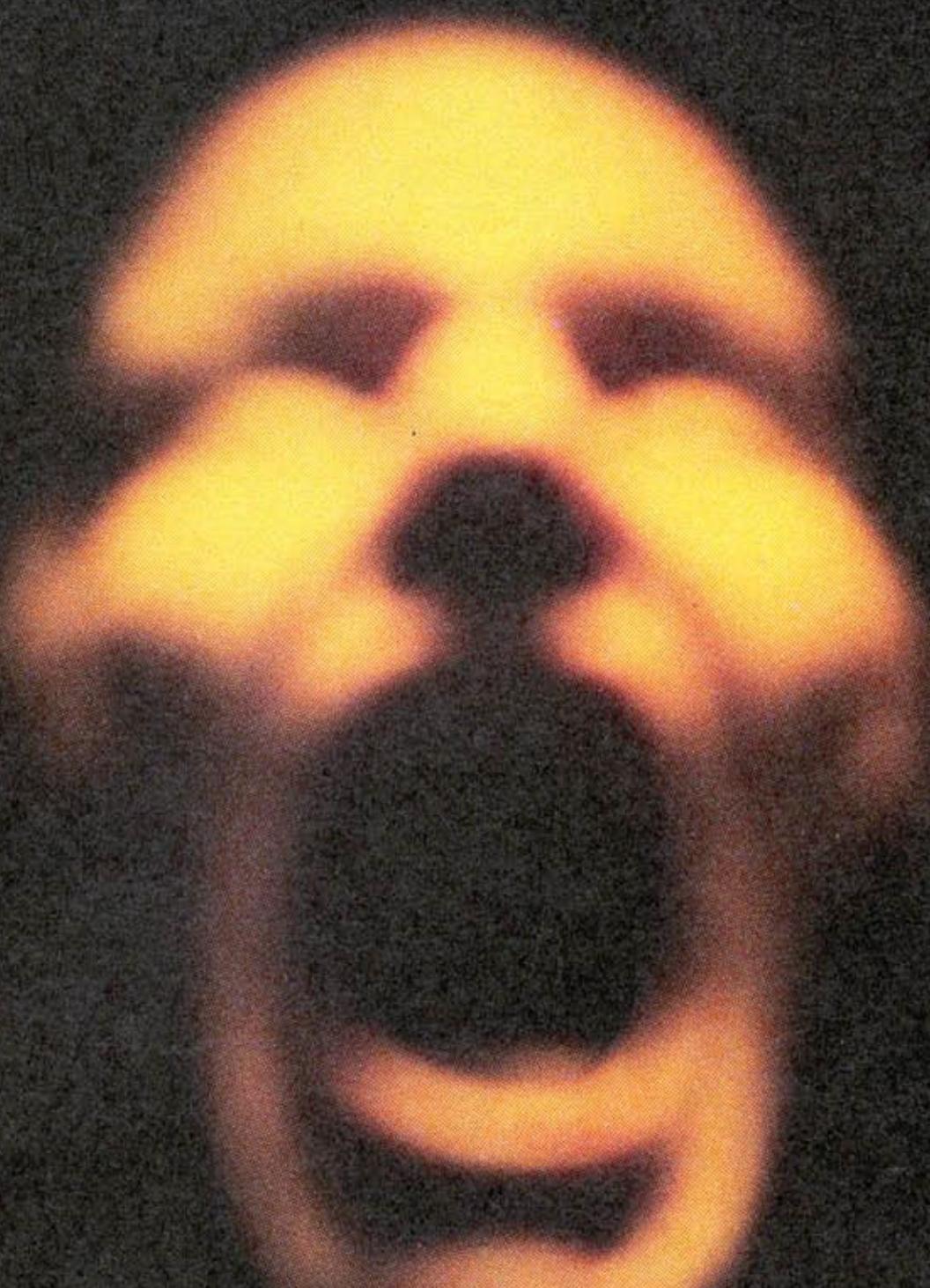


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IN ARGENTINA...

ANY
WORD FROM
EL UNO?

NOT YET, MASTER...
BUT THIS PACKAGE
ARRIVED FROM THE STATES.

I TRUST IT
HAS ALREADY
BEEN SCANNED
AND CLEARED BY
OUR EXPLOSIVE
EXPERTS.

OF
COURSE.
SHALL
I OPEN
IT?

IS SOMETHING
WRONG, CHESBRO?
WHAT DOES THE
PACKAGE
CONTAIN --?!

A CHRISTMAS
WREATH MADE OF
ROSES, AND --

-- OH,
GOD! --

I-IT'S
EL UNO!

H-HIS HEAD
HAS BEEN RETURNED
TO YOU... WITH WARMEST
REGARDS FROM
THE ROSE!

MERA
CHRISTMAS
SINCERELY
ROSE



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RALPH MACCHIO

Editor

Correspondents: If you don't want your full address printed, please let us know.

Dear Spider's Web,

I immensely enjoyed AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #415. I think one of the aspects I was most impressed with was the utilization of the crews of both the Daily Bugle and the Daily Grind. Now, this is the J. Jonah Jameson I like to see. The gritty newsman. The "We've got to get the news out" JJJ. Cool!

It was good to see a moment between Shirley and Devon. I was really touched to see Shirley explain the concept of guardian angels to her jaded little boy.

I hope to see more of the terrific Spidey supporting cast. They are as much the reason that I read the Spider-Man titles as old Webhead himself. The interaction between both Peter and Ben with their friends is humorous and often heartwarming. A return by Flash Thompson is most welcome. That's all for now. Thanks.

Angie Saunders
110 Bauer Ct. E-14
Crestline, OH 44827

Glad you liked the ish, Angie! If you like the portrayal of Jolly Jonah as a tough, crusading journalist, make sure you catch his recent appearances in various X-books, where he's been sniffing around in the past of a certain incendiary presidential candidate. And as for our ever-popular supporting cast, we couldn't agree with your assessment more. And just around the corner, as they enter a new phase of their lives, you'll be seeing Peter and Mary Jane meet a whole new slew of cast members. Even more than will join Saturday Night Live this season! Hope you like 'em just as well. We sure do.

Dear Spider's Web,

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #415 was great! I love that first picture we see of a Sentinel—it's the best picture of a Sentinel I've ever seen! And I'm glad to see that Peter is out of the hospital. I was getting worried about him.

I have a few questions that have boggled my mind since reading ASM #415:

1) The Sentinel said something about the secondary life form inside Mary Jane being beyond embryonic normalcy. Does that mean that Peter and MJ's baby is going to be a mutant?

2) On page 23, the Green Goblin is fighting a Sentinel. Is that a sign that he's going to help Spider-Man defeat the Sentinels?

Until Spider-Man starts wrapping bugs in little cocoons, Make Mine Marvel!

Micah Ely
US DAO Am Emb
PSC 98, Box 100
APO AE 09830

We're not quite sure what

JOE ANDREANI

Assistant Editor

you meant by that last comment, there, Micah, but we can pass along that Peter was very touched by your concern about his health situation. As for your questions:

1) It doesn't seem like we're liable to know too much about the status of little May...for now, anyway. But you never know which rabbit we're going to pull out of which hat over here at the House of Ideas, so we're just gonna remain tight-lipped on this one for a while.

2) As you've seen by now, Micah, while the two never fought side-by-side against the Sentinel invasion, both Spidey and the Phil Urich Green Goblin had an indispensable role in protecting their city. Pretty classy ending note for the hippest, happeningest hero of the '90s to go out on, eh?

Dear Spider's Web,

Recently, I got back into comics after an eight-year layoff, and boy, am I glad I did! After reading all that's been going on lately, I can't believe I missed eight years of Spidey. Anyway, the main reason I came back was because I had heard that Peter Parker was going to give up being everyone's favorite web-slinger, and had to find out for myself. I have to admit, I was pretty disappointed about his departure. I kept reading through the Scarlet Spider phase because I knew that you couldn't leave the world's greatest superhero on the shelf for too long. As the months went by, I really warmed up to Ben Reilly's character. You guys did a superb job at giving Ben his own identity. Hats off!

I just finished reading AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #415 and must say that Mark Bagley's art was breathtaking! He is truly a very talented artist. I understand that he will be leaving AMAZING—does he have anything planned for the near future? Anyway, getting back to issue #415, I think Peter just can't stay away from the action. I mean, his powers aren't reliable at all and yet he's still giving all he's got against the Sentinels! Seeing him risk everything without reliable powers really shows that web-slinging is truly where his heart is. Isn't he worried that someone will see him sticking to walls without something concealing his identity?

In closing, I'd like to say keep up the great work, and until a clone of Elvis shows up in the Daily Grind, Make Mine Marvel!

Bob Koch
1086 Greenwood Place
Fairbault, MN 55021

Welcome back to the ranks of the comic reader, Bob. We missed you. Hopefully you're back for the long haul, and we're sure you'll want to be after you

sample the scintillating Spidey stories we've got swinging your way. As for Mr. Bagley, yes, we're sorry to see him go, too. But never fear, Mark will be collaborating with top-scribe Kurt Busiek on THUNDERBOLTS, which tells the tales of the team that rises to fill the void left in the post-Onslaught Marvel Universe. You should see them popping up all over (like in INCREDIBLE HULK #449, for instance) on their way to their own #1 issue, winging its way to you in February!

Dear clones of the real Spider-staff,

I've finally decided to reveal this startling information: Ben is the clone!!!!

Either the writers planned to have Pete and Ben fooled for a while, or they slipped up and forgot one thing: Kraven the Hunter.

Our Hunter foe fought Spidey way before the Jackal and the clone did, and fought him enough times to memorize his scent. He also fought Spidey after the original clone battle.

In the "Web of Life" crossover, Ben said that the Grim Hunter knew the Scarlet Spider wasn't Spidey because of a different pheromone output, or scent—which means either Kraven was remarkably stupid or the real Spidey won the clone fight.

On a final note, I'm glad Peter got his powers back, and I can't wait to see him in costume. Maybe Onslaught will kill Ben, giving Pete his chance.

So, like the past five years, don't just Make Mine Marvel, Make Mine Peter Parker.

Matt Van Giesen
2 Cross St.
Dover, NJ 07801

Okay, Matt, you twisted our arm...Peter's back, and by the way, good reasoning! We won't reveal whether or not our trusty band of writers actually planned that Grim Hunter red herring, but we're glad to have alert readers, such as yourself, to catch such subtle hints! It makes the job that much more rewarding to have our carefully crafted cryptic clues recognized once in a while (even if we didn't exactly mean to...y'know...ah, just forget it). Regardless, we're just happy to take the credit!

NEXT ISSUE:

Introducing: The deadly Dragonfly! The mysterious new Spidey-foe who's like no one you've ever seen! And what other startling new Spider-Man foe is she intimately connected with? Be here next time and all will be revealed!

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