

MARVEL
COMICS



SPIDER-MAN

MAY '96 68

SPIDER-MAN

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AUTHORITY

BLOOD
BROTHERS
PART 3 OF 6



THIS AINT YOUR DADDY'S
HOBGOBLIN!

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 THE SMOKING
RUINS OF THE
MANHATTAN COFFEE
HOUSE KNOWN AS
THE DAILY GRIND.

THIS WAS WHERE HIS
LIFE WAS SUPPOSED
TO BEGIN ANEW

His given name is Peter Parker. While in high school, he was bitten by a radioactive spider and endowed with amazing powers, which he has since used to protect the innocent and battle evil. Now he calls himself Ben Reilly, and as a costumed crimefighter, he continues his crusade... for he understands that with great power comes great responsibility!

STAN LEE PRESENTS:
SPIDER-MAN

IT WAS TO BE A JOURNEY
BACK TO A SIMPLER TIME
AND PLACE.

A TIME BEFORE HE
WAS SPIDER-MAN...

...BEFORE
THE JACKAL...

...BEFORE
CLONES...

...BEFORE A FIVE YEAR
EXILE FROM ALL THAT
HE KNEW AND LOVED.

BUT HOW OFTEN
CAN A MAN BE
BEATEN DOWN...

...AND FIND THE
FORCE OF WILL
TO RISE FROM
THE ASHES?

THE MAN, WHO CALLS
HIMSELF BEN REILLY,
IS ABOUT TO FIND OUT
THE ANSWER TO THAT
QUESTION.

**BLOOD
BROTHERS**
PART 3 OF 6

SPIDER-MAN THE DEPTHS

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Who is doing this to me?

Who knows that Ben Reilly is Spider-Man? Knows where I work? Where I live?

And WHO is willing to take it all away from me?

And why did they have to hurt Shirley to get to me?

SO, Mrs. WASHINGTON, YOU DON'T RECALL ANYTHING UNUSUAL ABOUT THIS BEN REILLY?

ANY ARGUMENTS LATELY? ANYTHING STRANGE ABOUT HIM? A BAD TEMPER, MAYBE?

NO... I TOLD YOU... NOTHING.

BEN HAS BEEN AN EXEMPLARY EMPLOYEE.

YOU THINK BEN HAD SOMETHIN' TO DO WITH TORCHING MY MOM'S PLACE?

SON, OUR RECORDS SHOW THAT Mr. REILLY HAS A HISTORY OF LASHING OUT AGAINST HIS EMPLOYERS THIS WAY. SORRY.

NO!

Shirley believes them!

She thinks I did it!

She trusted me...
helped me when no one else would...

...gave me a job...

...helped me find an apartment...

I'm going to find out who it is that's setting me up...

...helped me start pulling my life together.

And now someone is trying to pull it all down...

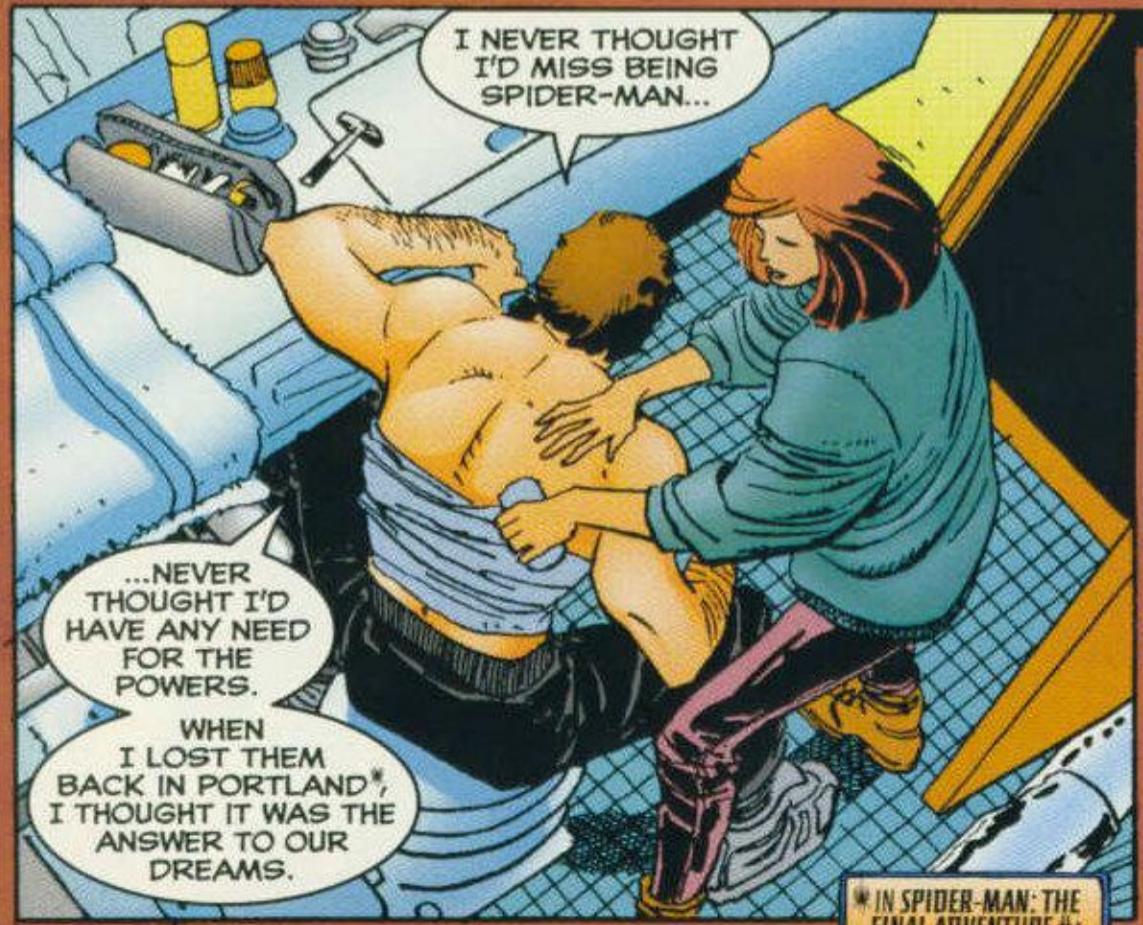
...piece by piece.

...and when I do...

ELSEWHERE...

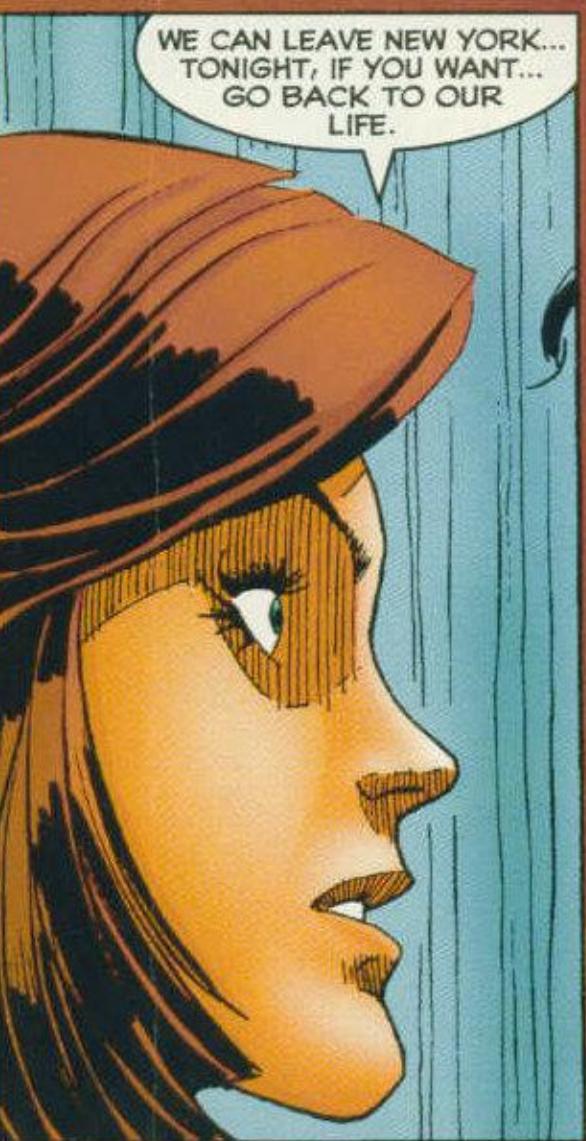


* SEE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #471 - Amazing Ralf



* IN SPIDER-MAN: THE FINAL ADVENTURE #4
- Finally Ralf





ON THE OTHER
SIDE OF TOWN...

WALKS A WOMAN
WITH MUCH ON HER
MIND.

JESSICA CARRADINE'S
YOUNG LIFE IS ONE FILLED
WITH PASSION AND PAIN.

FOR AS LONG AS SHE CAN REMEMBER SHE HAS BEEN OBSESSED WITH A BURNING HATRED OF SPIDER-MAN, WHOM SHE HOLDS RESPONSIBLE FOR SO MUCH THAT HAS BEEN WRONG IN HER LIFE... AND FOR HER FATHER'S DEATH.

BUT, RECENTLY,
SOMEONE HAS
ENTERED HER
LIFE WHO HAS
DISTRACTED
HER FROM HER
OBSESSION...



...GIVEN HER REASON
TO LOVE INSTEAD OF
HATE.

SHE HAS KNOWN HIM
AS BEN REILLY...

...BUT, SEVERAL
NIGHTS AGO,
SHE CAUGHT HIM
ON FILM...

...AND NOW SHE
KNOWS HIM AS
SPIDER-MAN.

Oh,
BEN...
WHAT AM I
GOING TO
DO?

I
NEVER MEANT
FOR THIS TO
HAPPEN.

MY
RELATIONSHIP
WITH HIM IS THE
BEST THING THAT
HAS HAPPENED
TO ME IN
YEARS.

I
COULD RUIN
YOU WITH THIS
PICTURE.



IT'S
WHAT I ALWAYS
WANTED...

...BUT
I CARE FOR
YOU.

AND I
CAN'T DO
IT.



SPIDER-M --
er, BEN?!

HOW
DID YOU...?

YOU
REALLY
SHOULD LOCK
YOUR WINDOWS...
THIS CITY IS
DANGEROUS.



LOOK,
BEN, WE'VE
GOT TO
TALK.

YEAH,
WE DO!
I DON'T
KNOW WHAT YOU
THINK YOU'RE DOING,
BUT IT ENDS...
TODAY!

YOU'RE
GOING TO CALL OFF
WHOEVER IT IS THAT
YOU SENT AGAINST ME
TO DESTROY MY LIFE...

...AND
YOU'RE GOING
TO WALK AWAY.



BEN, I
DON'T KNOW
WHAT YOU'RE
TALKING
ABOUT --

STOP,
JESS! JUST
STOP!

NO MORE
LIES! NO MORE
DECEPTIONS!

I'M
SORRY ABOUT
HOW TOUGH YOUR
LIFE HAS BEEN, AND
I'M SORRY ABOUT
WHAT HAPPENED
TO YOUR
FATHER.

BUT
IT WASN'T MY
FAULT!

YOUR
FATHER WAS
THE **BURGLAR**
WHO KILLED MY
UNCLE.

AND
HE SCREWED
UP BOTH OF
OUR LIVES
FOREVER.

DON'T YOU TALK
ABOUT **MY** FATHER!
YOU DIDN'T KNOW
HIM!

I'M
DONE TALKING,
JESSICA.

JUST
STAY OUT
OF MY
LIFE.



A SHORT
TIME LATER...

NOW there's almost no one I can turn to... no one I can trust anymore.

The one person I DO trust... with my life... is missing.

And I can't help but think his disappearance has got something to do with all the garbage that's coming down on my life right now.



THIS
WON'T TAKE
LONG.

I JUST
WANTED TO
TELL YOUR HUSBAND
THAT I'VE GOT A LEAD
ON SEWARD. I'M GOING
TO FIND HIM... I'M GOING
TO GET THE TRUTH...
AND I'M GOING
TO DO IT MY
WAY.

I'M
GOING TO
PROVE TO
PETER, ONCE AND
FOR ALL, THAT
SEWARD DIDN'T
INTERFERE WITH
THE TEST
RESULTS.

AND
THAT I
AM THE
REAL PETER
PARKER.

I DON'T DOUBT
IT, BEN, BUT...

...TAKE
A LOOK AT
ME.

SEE THE
BRUISES AND
CONTUSIONS?

If I were to blame for something happening to Seward...

After all he's done for me over the past five years... pulling me out of the lowest period of my life... being a friend... I'd be devastated!

I've got to find him.

The spider-tracer I planted on his equipment as it was being moved the other night* will lead me right to him.

But before I do that... there's something I've got to get off my chest.

* SEE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #411 - RAI!



THIS IS WHAT I GOT FOR GETTING TOO CLOSE TO YOUR FRIEND, Dr. TRAINER AND THE MULTIVEX CORPORATION.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF YOUR FRIEND NOW?

I STILL THINK OF HIM AS A FRIEND.



IN ANOTHER PART
OF THE CITY...

This is
the place.

And there's the crate
from Seward's lab...

...just sitting out
in the open?

A note pinned
to it.

YOU
WERE
WARNED

"You were
warned --!"

Spider-sense
going crazy!

THE MARK'S IN POSITION,
BRAMER. I CAN TAKE
HIM OUT FROM HERE ON YOUR
WORD.

HOLD
YOUR GROUND,
LASHER. WE DO
THIS AS A UNIT...
AS CELL-
12.

NARDI.
ANDROS. CONFIRM
POSITIONS.

All around
me.

GOT
THE HIGH
GROUND.

I'm not
alone in --

READY
ON YOUR
WORD.

TAKE HIM
DOWN!

...MOVE!

High-impact pulse burst
leaving a crater exactly
where I was.

Obviously up against
professionals.

Let's see if I can draw them
out of the shadows --

ENOUGH WAITING,
BRAMER. I'M
TAKING HIM OUT
SOLO.

NICE
HANDS.

WHO
DOES YOUR
NAILS?

Electrical charge building up
through his finger tentacles.

Got to keep moving
before I fry.

I'VE
GOT HIM,
BRAMER. IF YOU
AND THE REST
WANT TO COME IN
AND CLEAN UP
BEFORE --







BRAKOM



...I'LL
BE MORE
THAN HAPPY TO
GIVE THEM TO
YOU.

GREEN
GOBLIN?

HOW QUICKLY
THEY FORGET! NO,
SPIDER-MAN, IT'S
ME...

...THE
HOBGOBLIN...



...WITH ONE
OR TWO CYBERNETIC
ENHANCEMENTS!

WANT
TO SEE?

SO
YOU... YOU
GREEN GOBLIN
WANNABE... YOU'RE
THE ONE WHO'S
BEHIND ALL
THIS?

THERE ARE MORE LAYERS TO
THIS THAN YOU WOULD EVER
BE ABLE TO COMPREHEND,
SPIDER-MAN.

BUT FOR
NOW... ALL YOU'VE
GOT TO KNOW IS
THAT YOU'VE STUCK
YOUR NOSE
WHERE IT DOESN'T
BELONG...

...AND
IT'S MY
JOB TO CUT
THAT NOSE
OFF!

*He's packing a
lot more artillery
than the Green
Goblin ever did.*

*Who IS
this guy?*

*Hitting me from
all sides... can
barely keep ahead
of him.*

*Got to try to get
in close... take him
out quickly.*

THAT'S IT, SPIDEY. COME AND GET ME!

I WAS HOPING TO TEAR INTO YOU UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL.

NOW DON'T GO PASSING OUT ON ME... YET!

YOU TOLD BRAMER YOU WANTED ANSWERS.

WELL, I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU ALL THE ANSWERS YOU NEED.

EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU...

...EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED TO PETER PARKER AND BEN REILLY... THE COFFEE HOUSE... EVERYTHING...

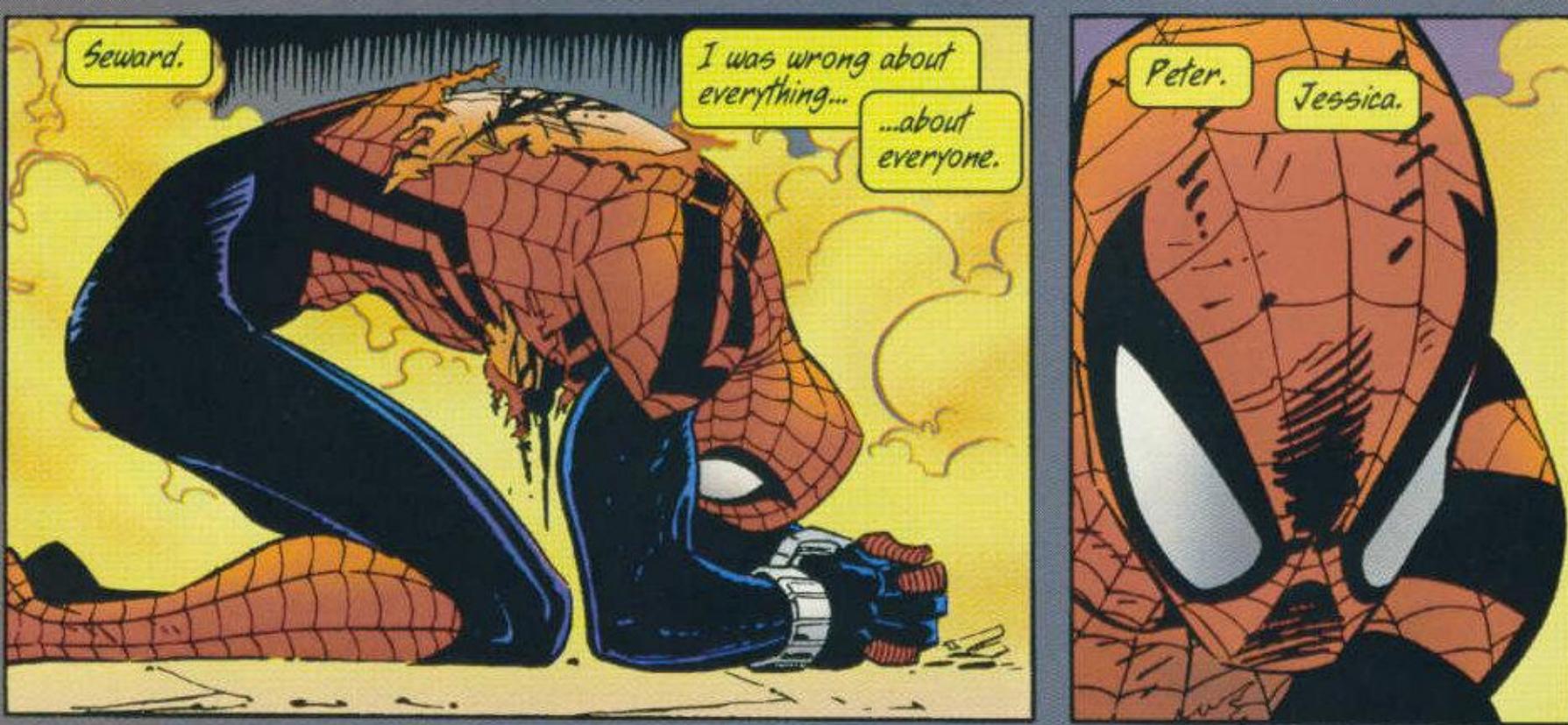
...IT'S ALL BEEN ORCHESTRATED BY ME... AND ALL PART OF A MUCH GRANDER SCHEME.

NONE OF YOUR LIVES MEAN ANYTHING TO ME, BUT -- LUCKY YOU! --

-- I'VE BEEN ORDERED NOT TO KILL YOU!







LATER THAT NIGHT...



TO BE
CONTINUED IN
**SPECTACULAR
SPIDER-MAN**
#234!