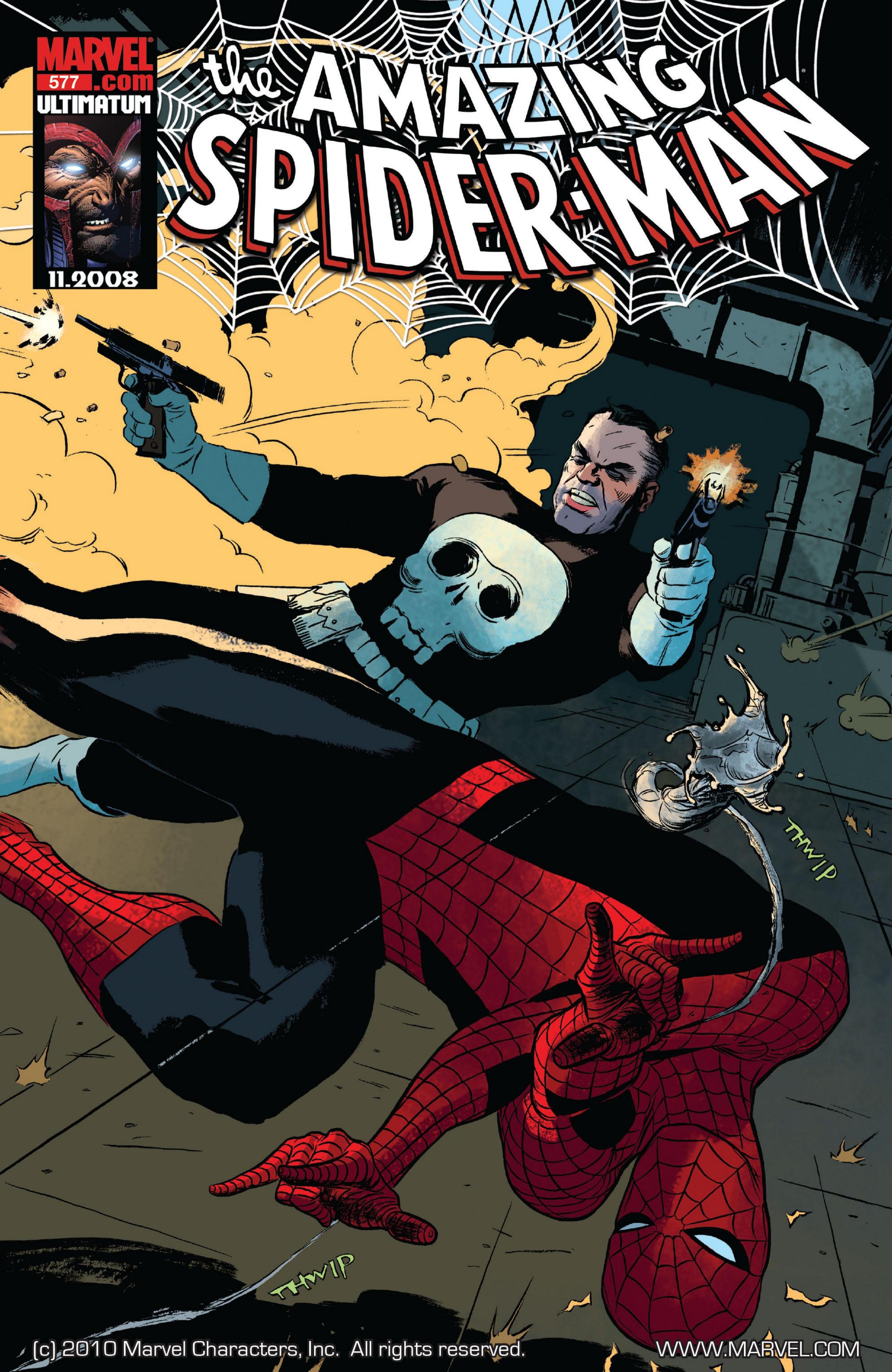


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577 ULTIMATUM  
11.2008

# the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



# THE DB! FOR EVERY BRAND NEW DAY!



READY FOR THE

WAR JOURNAL ENTRY #5A62

Well well well - the bug's back in town. I remember when Spider-Man went off grid just after that whole "Civil War" business, but now he's back. I'd be impressed if I cared. Whatever, he always struck me as a good kid. Stupid, bleeding heart idealist, but a good kid.

No matter, with guys like him around fighting the superweirdoes, I can focus on the real hardcore criminals. Although you can't tell one from the other these days. Word has it the web-head just took out a new, tougher Hammerhead (if you can believe it) who's trying to get all the gangs lined up behind someone named "Mr. Negative." Jeez, can't these freaks keep to their own world and let me deal with mine?

I don't like these costumes getting involved with the world of real crime. I got a lead on a few gangs upstate with some connections to an old Avengers villain. No matter, kill them quick and let Galactus sort it out.

As for the bug...also heard he's a serial killer now. Cops've found five dead bodies with his spider-tracer on 'em. Maybe he has gone off the deep end...nah, any idiot could figure out it's not Spider-Man. He ain't got the stomach for it.

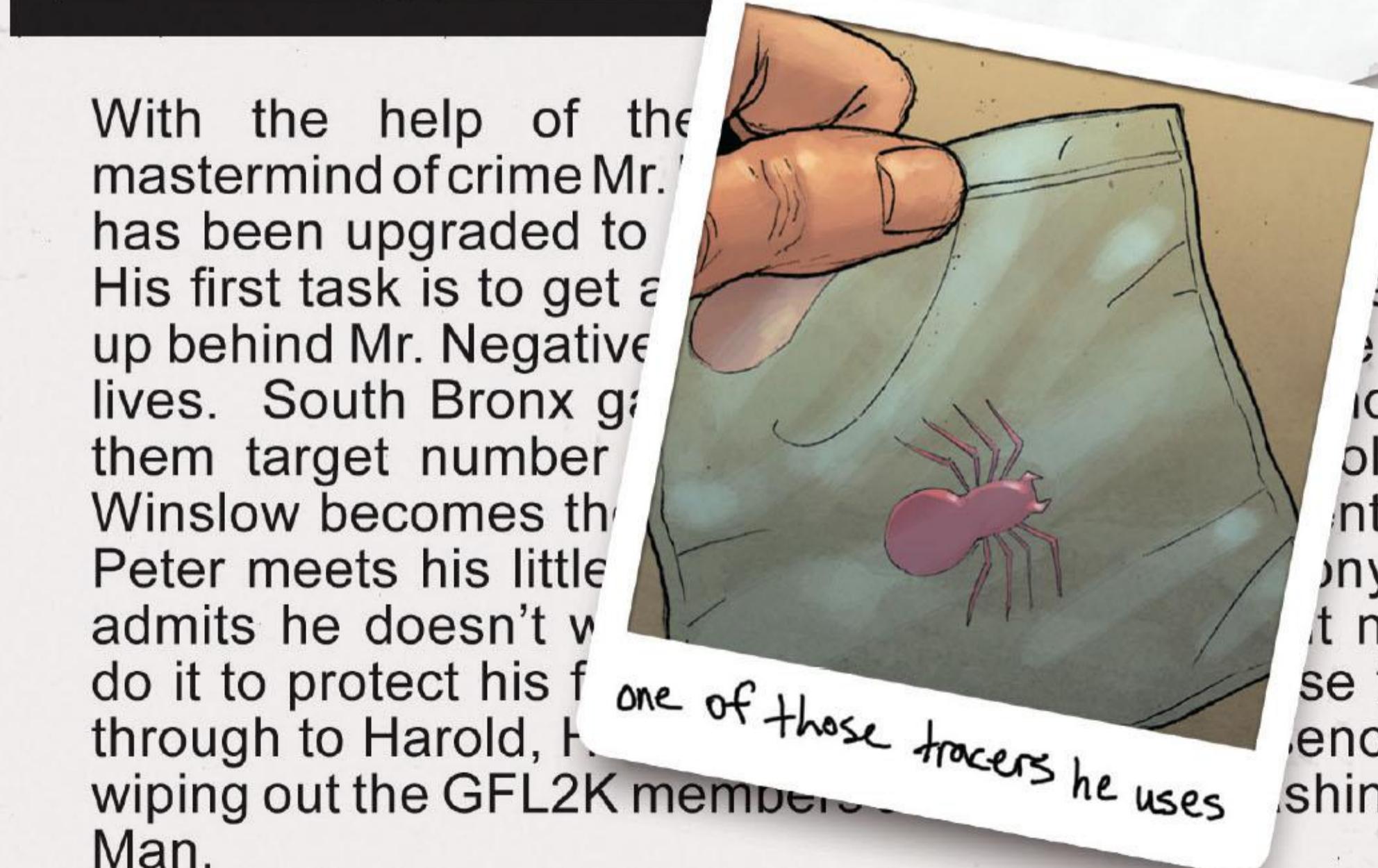


WAR JOURNAL OUT



Friggin' Webs Stick for an hour

With the help of the mastermind of crime Mr. Negative has been upgraded to a super-villain. His first task is to get a lead on where to set up behind Mr. Negative's hideout. South Bronx gang members are their target number one. Peter Winslow becomes the target. Peter meets his little brother, Harry. Harry admits he doesn't want to become a criminal, but does it to protect his friend, Harold. Harold gets through to Harry, helping him to stop the gang, wiping out the GFL2K members.



one of those tracers he uses

chromatic Hammerhead enforcer. They either line up with their prey, making the old "Dunk" position when they're done. Harold didn't need to go to the police to get the evidence known, thus exposing Spider-Man.

## POLICE TIE SPIDER-MAN TO RECENT MURDERS!

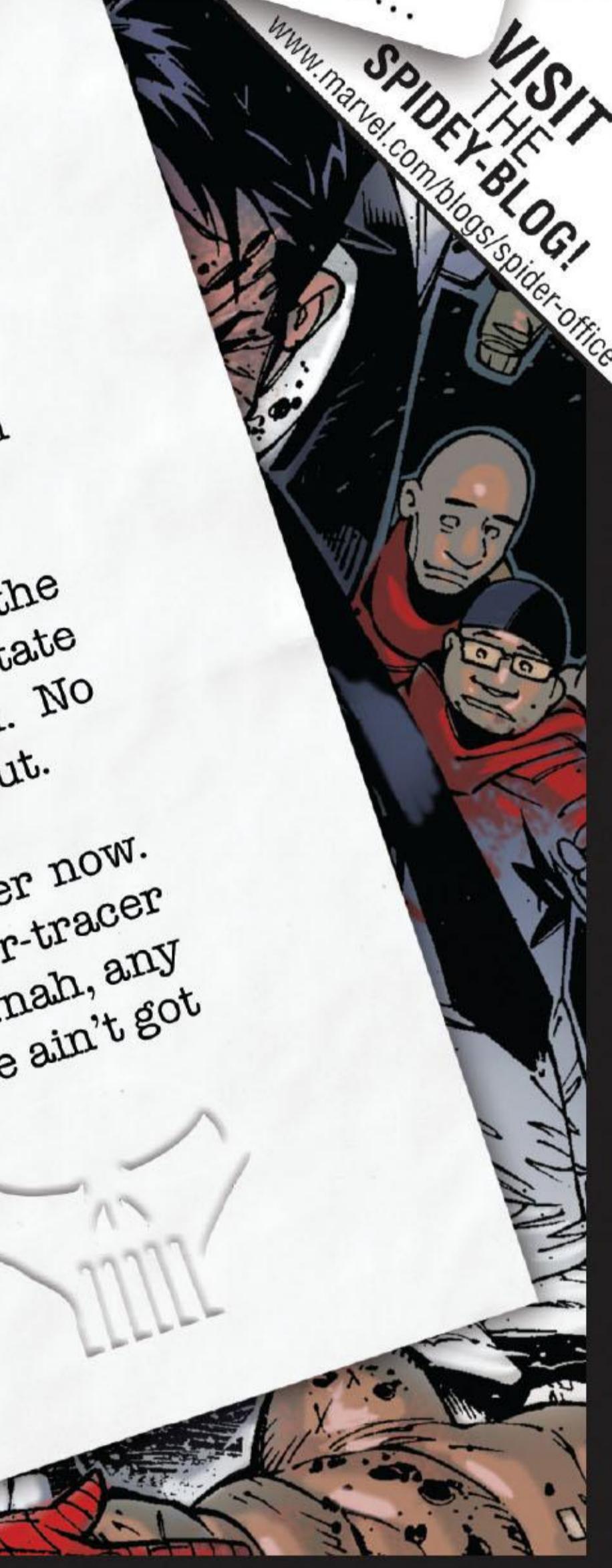
**EXCLUSIVE TO THE DB!**

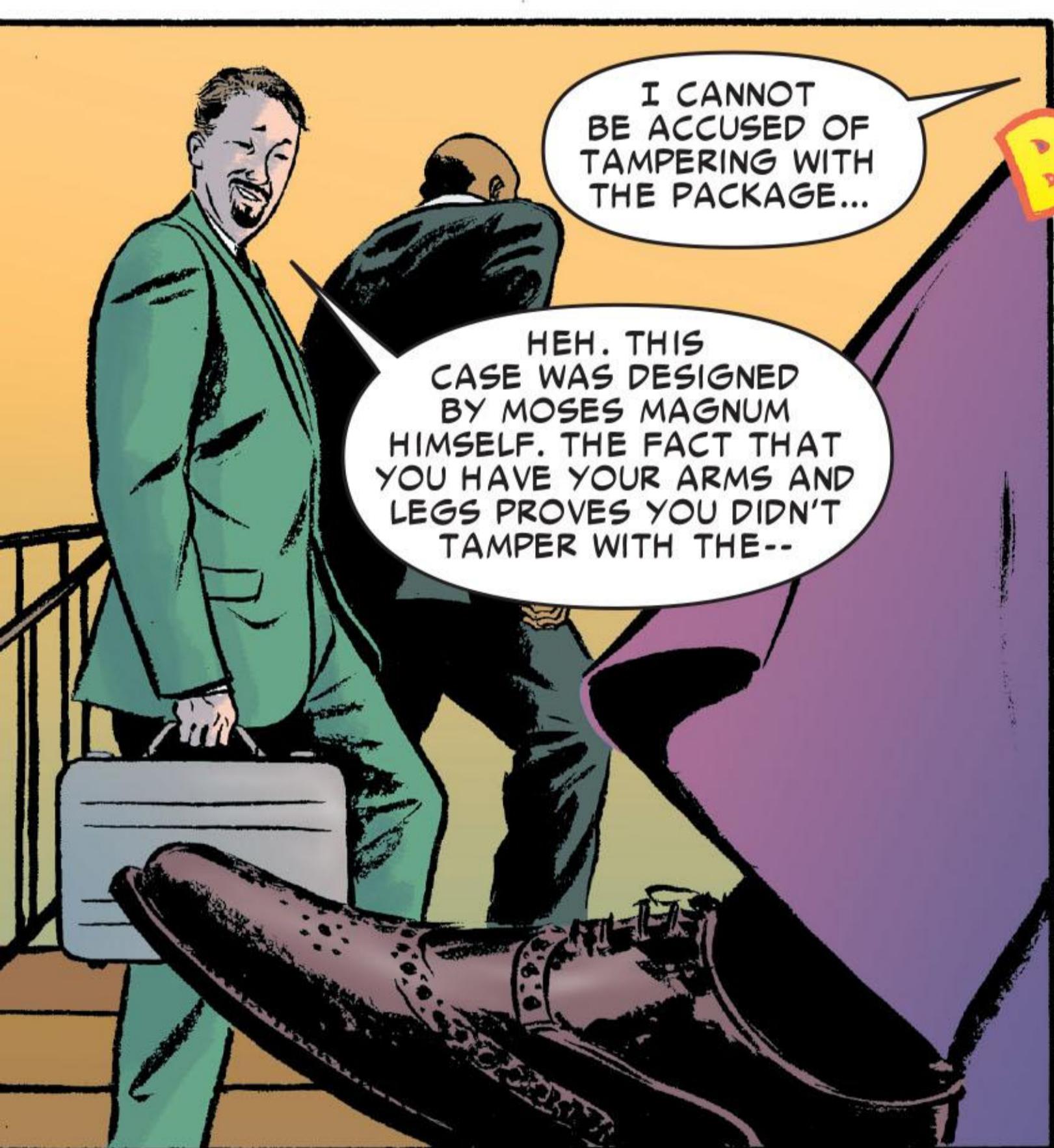
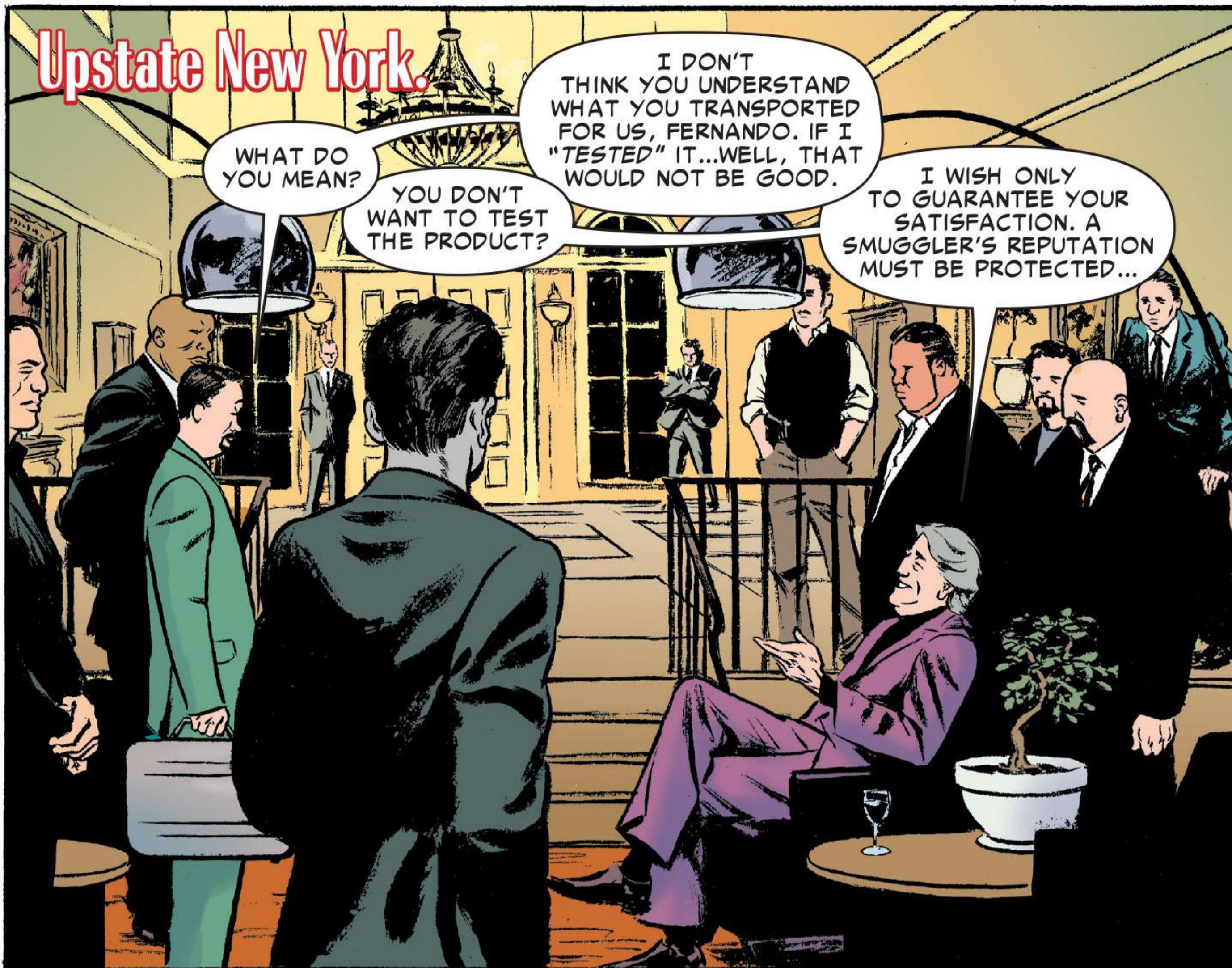
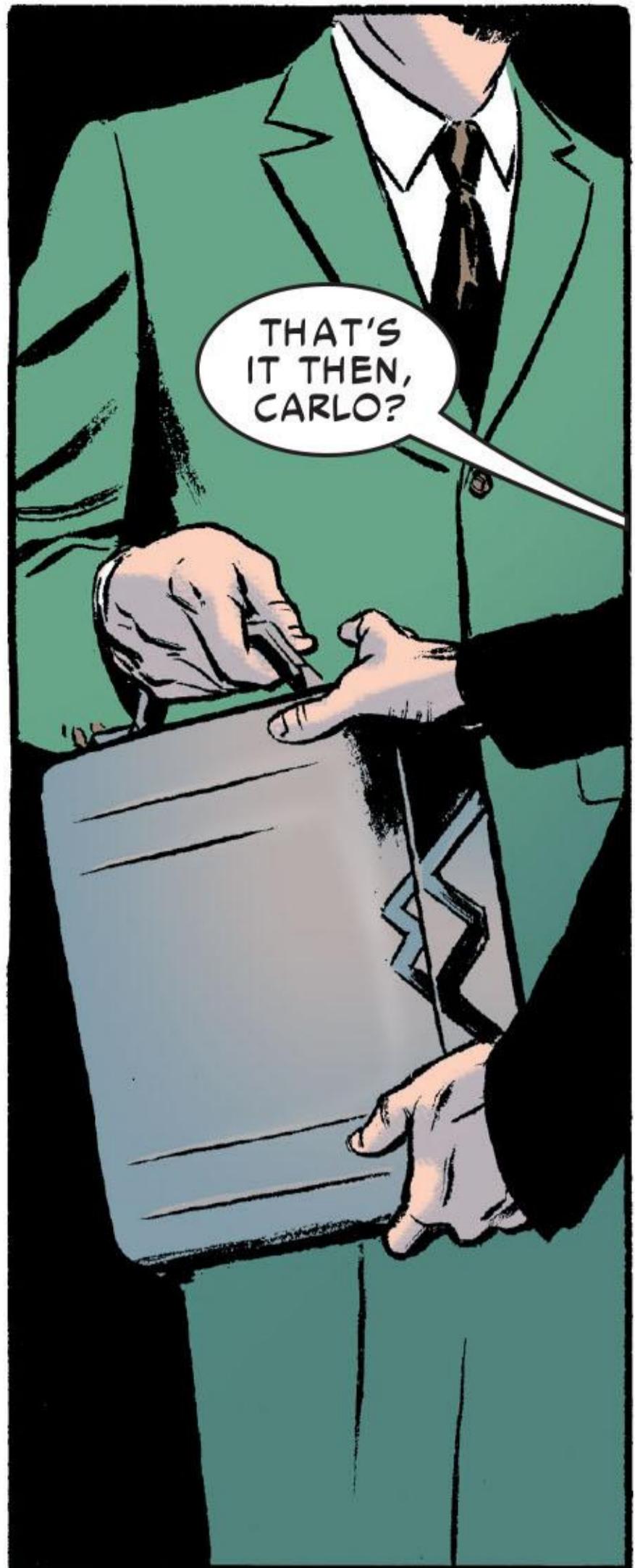
In off-the-record conversations with DB staffers, police have confirmed that Spider-Man is the key suspect in the string of recent murders that has shocked this city. Although police have been reluctant to discuss the specifics of the murders, so-called "Spider Tracers" have definitely been found on each victim, leaving no doubt as to the involvement of Spider-Man. Spider-Man is already wanted for violations of...

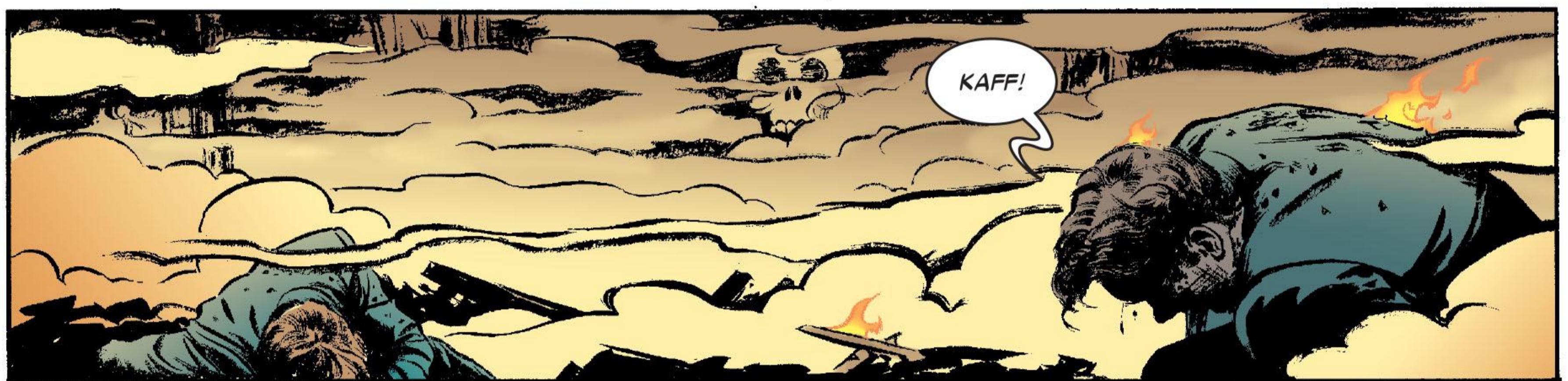


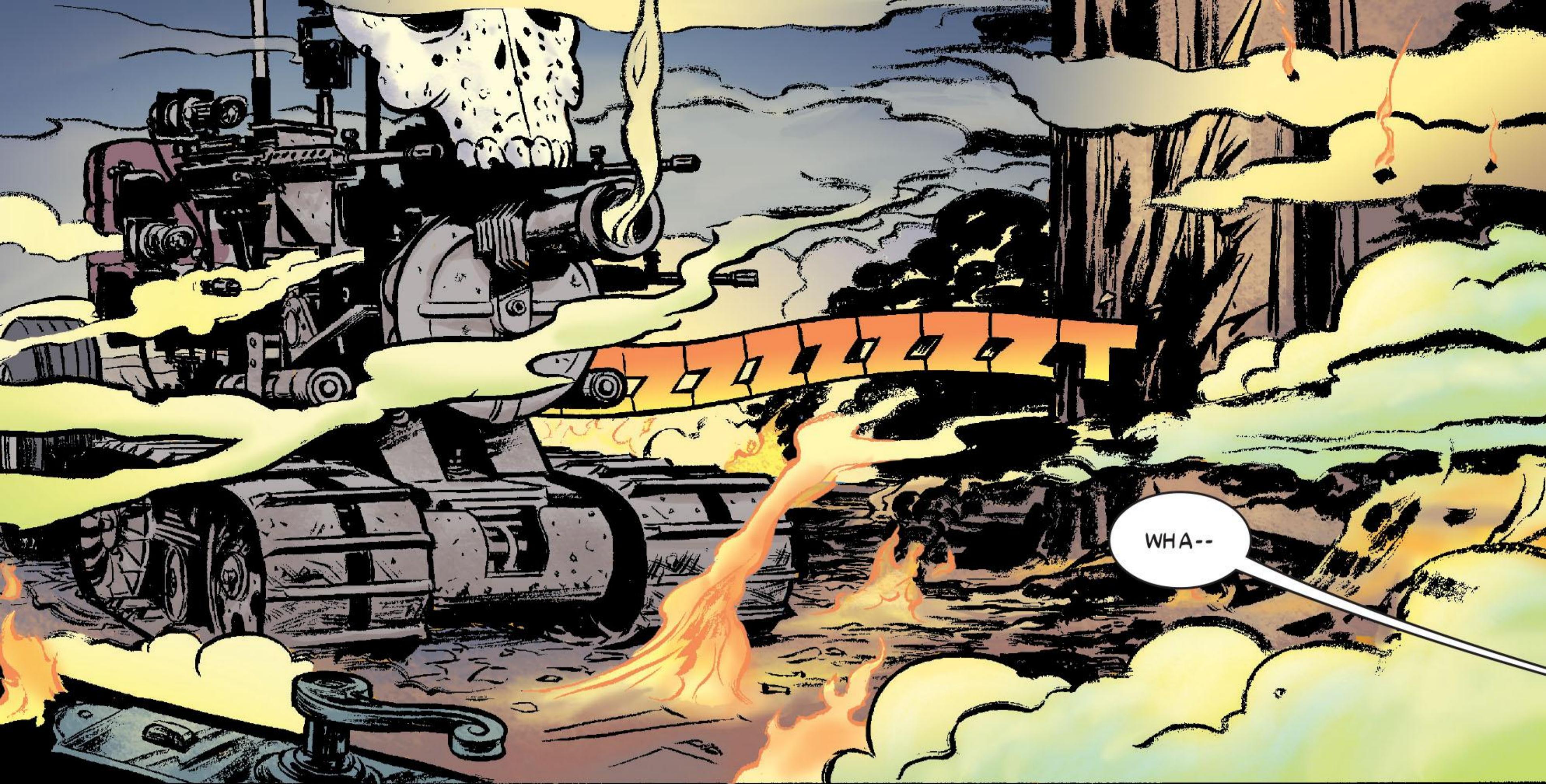
BLEEDIN' HEART...

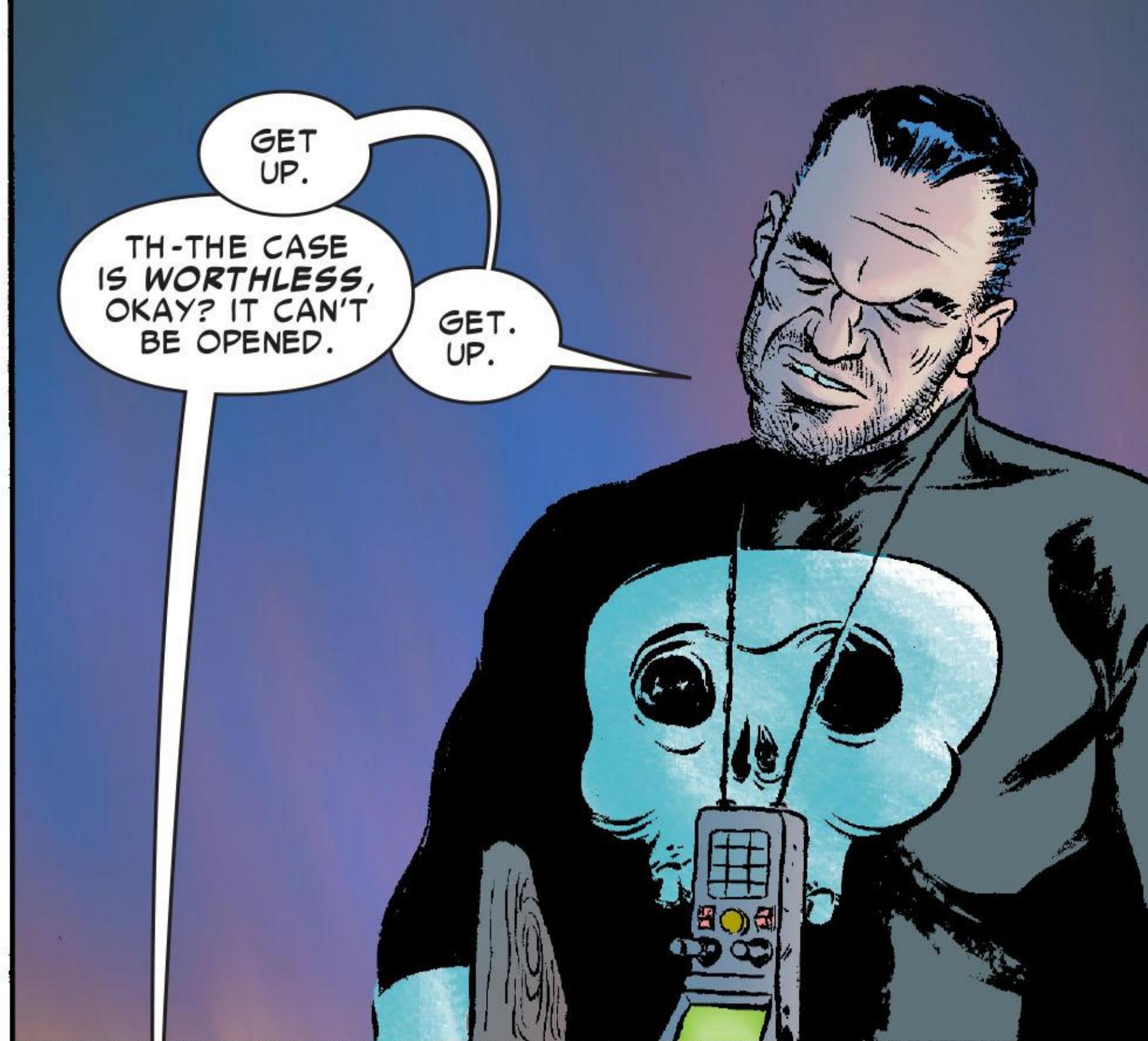
VISIT  
THE  
SPIDEY-BLOG!  
[www.marvel.com/blogs/spider-office](http://www.marvel.com/blogs/spider-office)



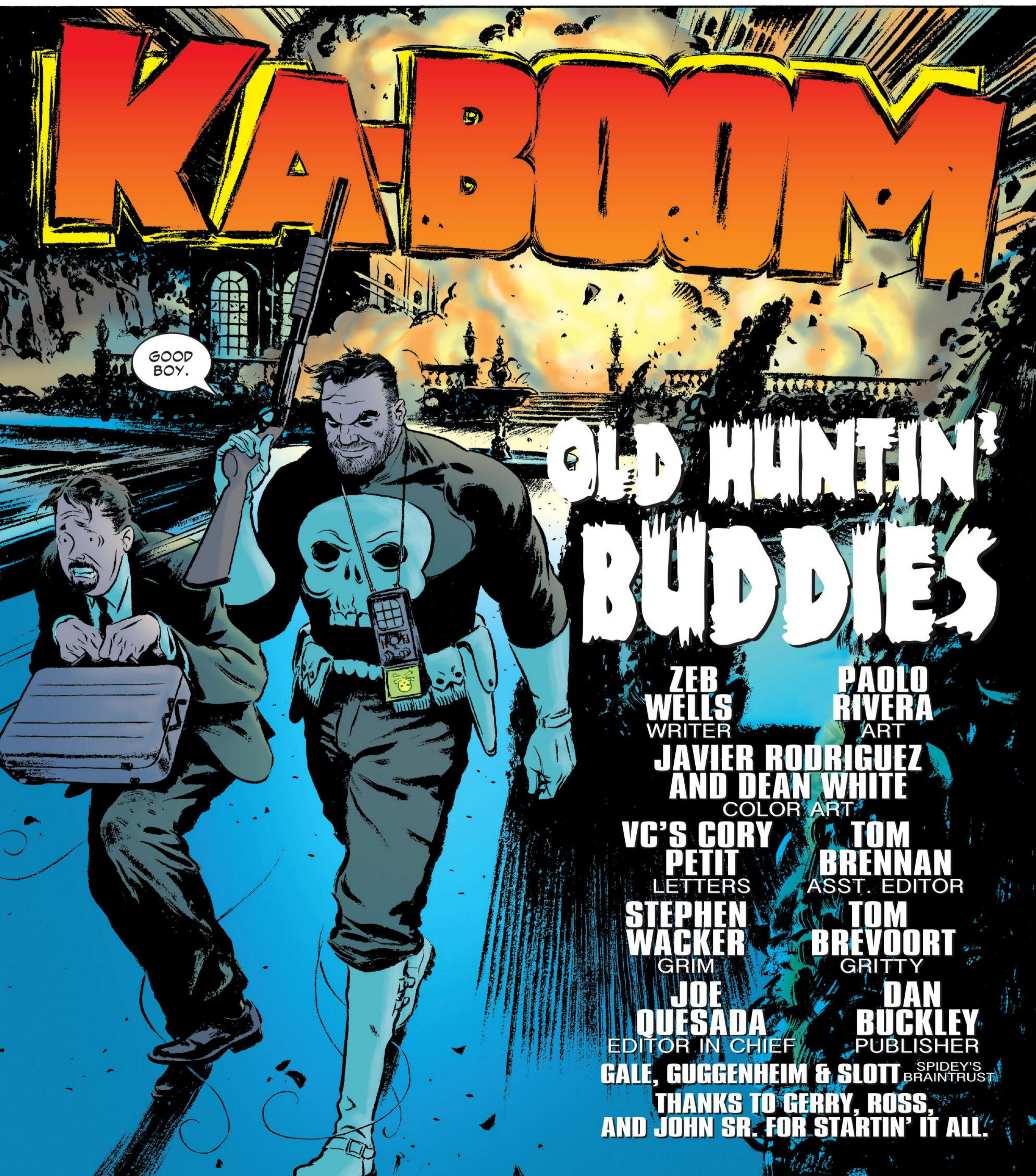
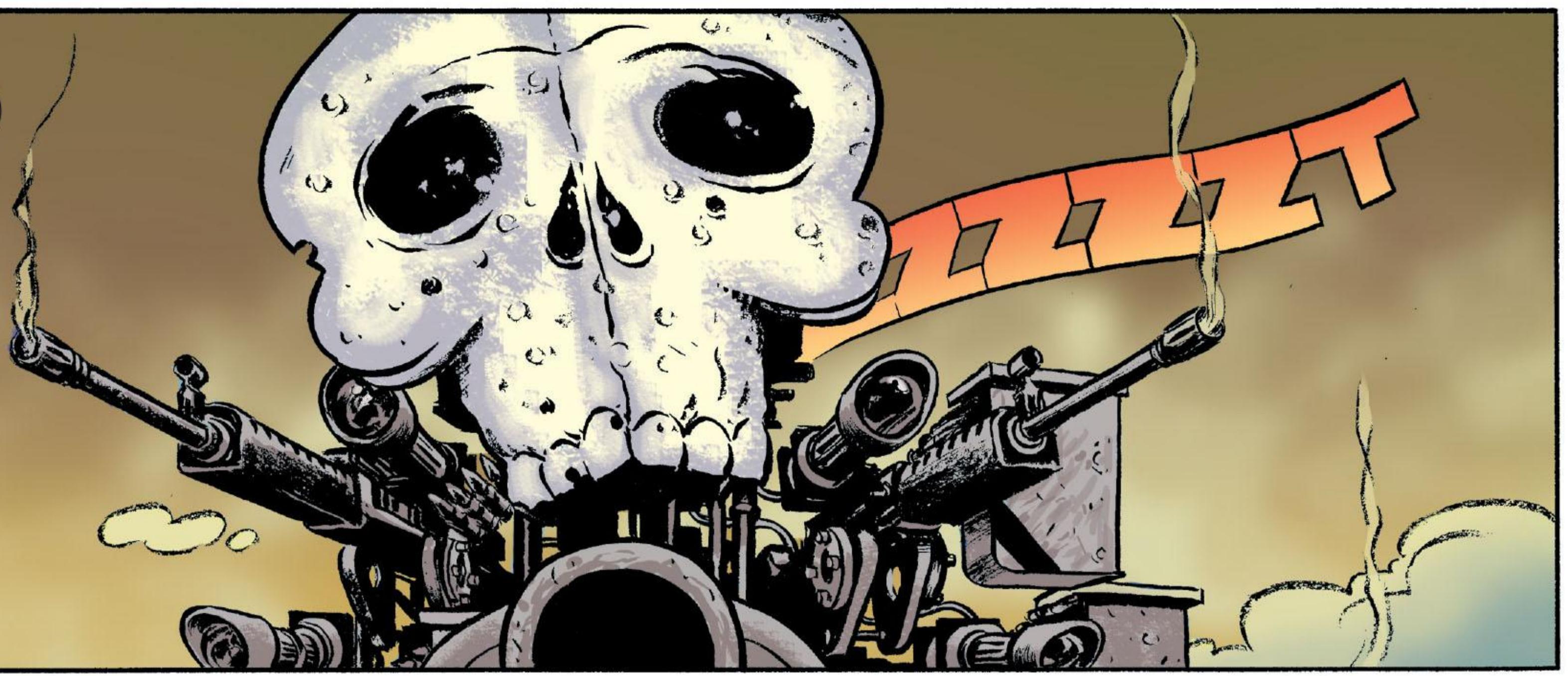








STAY...



ZEB  
WELLS  
WRITER

JAVIER RODRIGUEZ  
AND DEAN WHITE  
COLOR ART

VC'S CORY  
PETIT  
LETTERS

STEPHEN  
WACKER  
GRIM

JOE  
QUESADA  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

GALE, GUGGENHEIM & SLOTT  
THANKS TO GERRY, ROSS,  
AND JOHN SR. FOR STARTIN' IT ALL.

PAOLO  
RIVERA  
ART

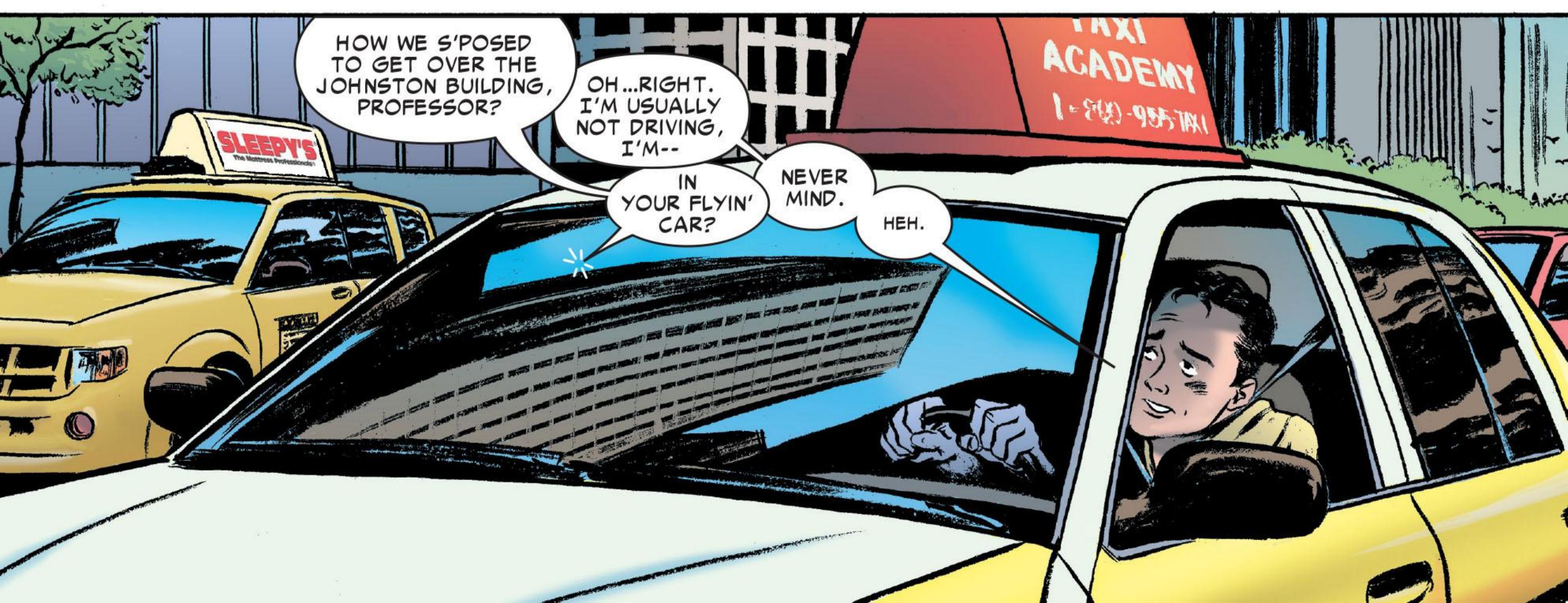
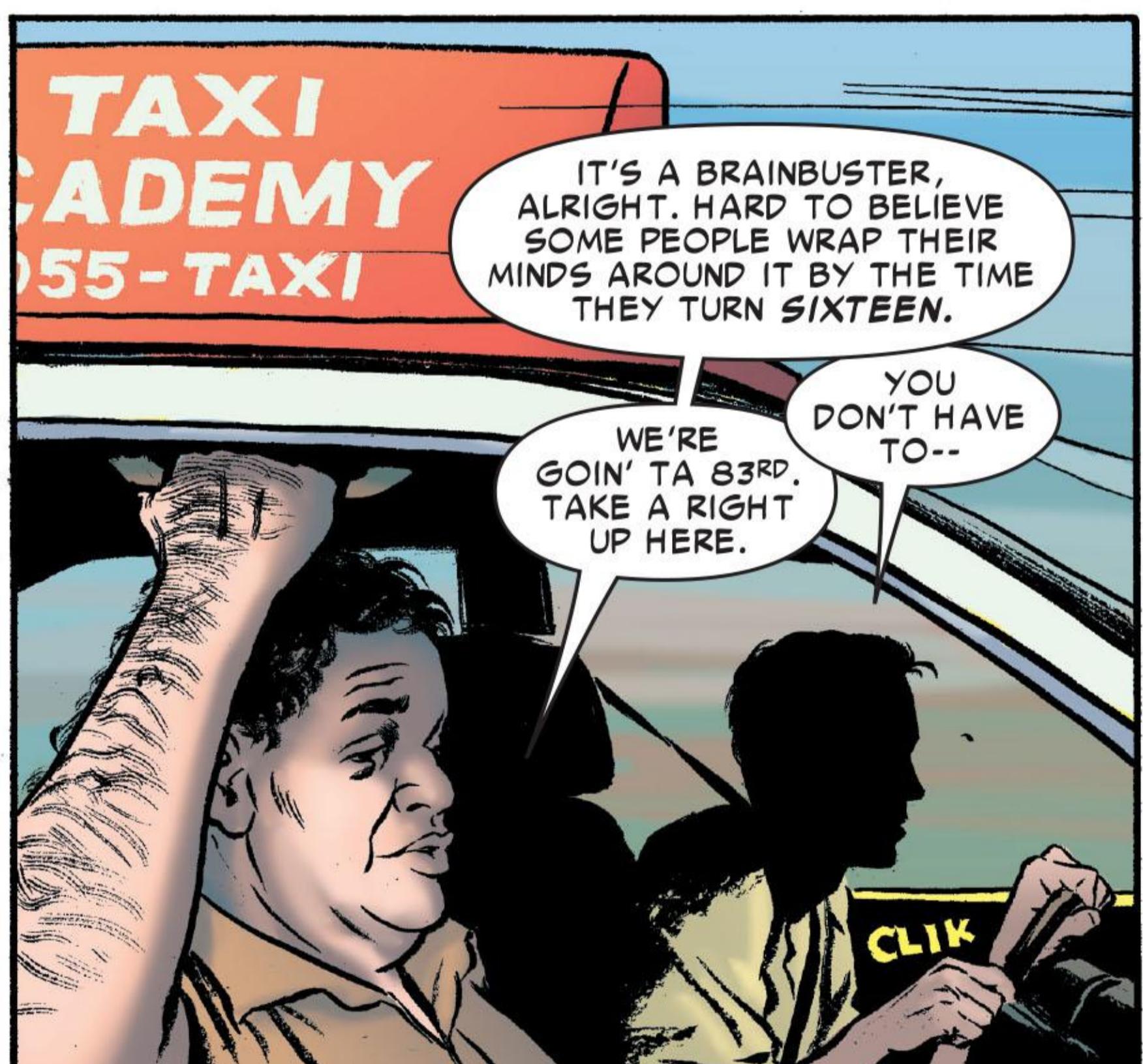
TOM  
BRENNAN  
ASST. EDITOR

TOM  
BREVOORT  
GRITTY

DAN  
BUCKLEY  
PUBLISHER

SPIDEY'S  
BRAINTRUST

# New York City.



FOUR MISSED RED LIGHTS,  
TWO ILLEGAL LEFT TURNS,  
AND ONE ALMOST-CRUSHED  
SHIH TZU LATER...

FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH  
THESE THEN COME BACK AND  
RETAKE THE EXAM...LET'S  
MAKE IT NEXT MONDAY.

SURE...  
SEE YOU  
THEN?

NOPE.  
THAT'S MY  
DAY OFF.



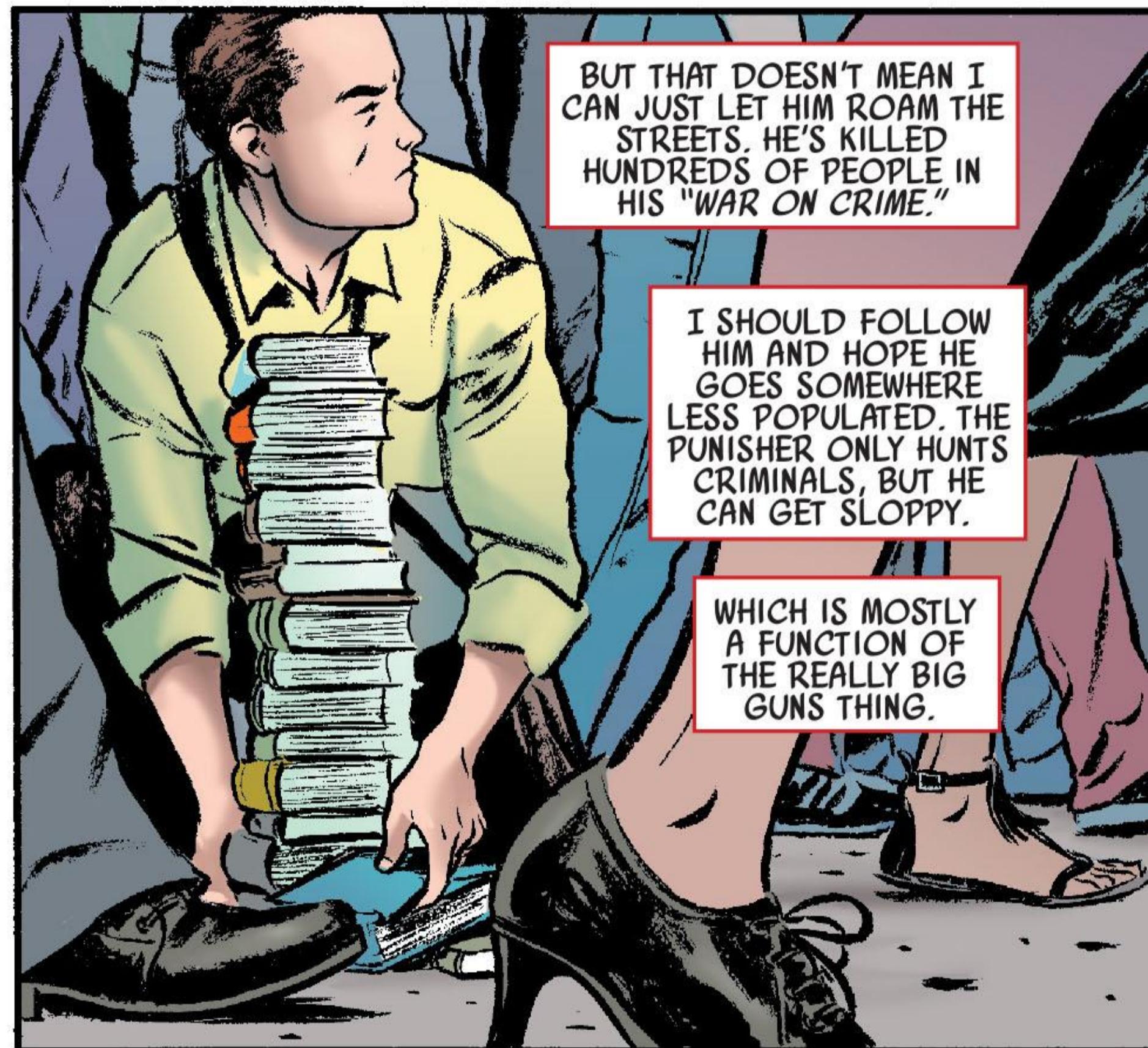
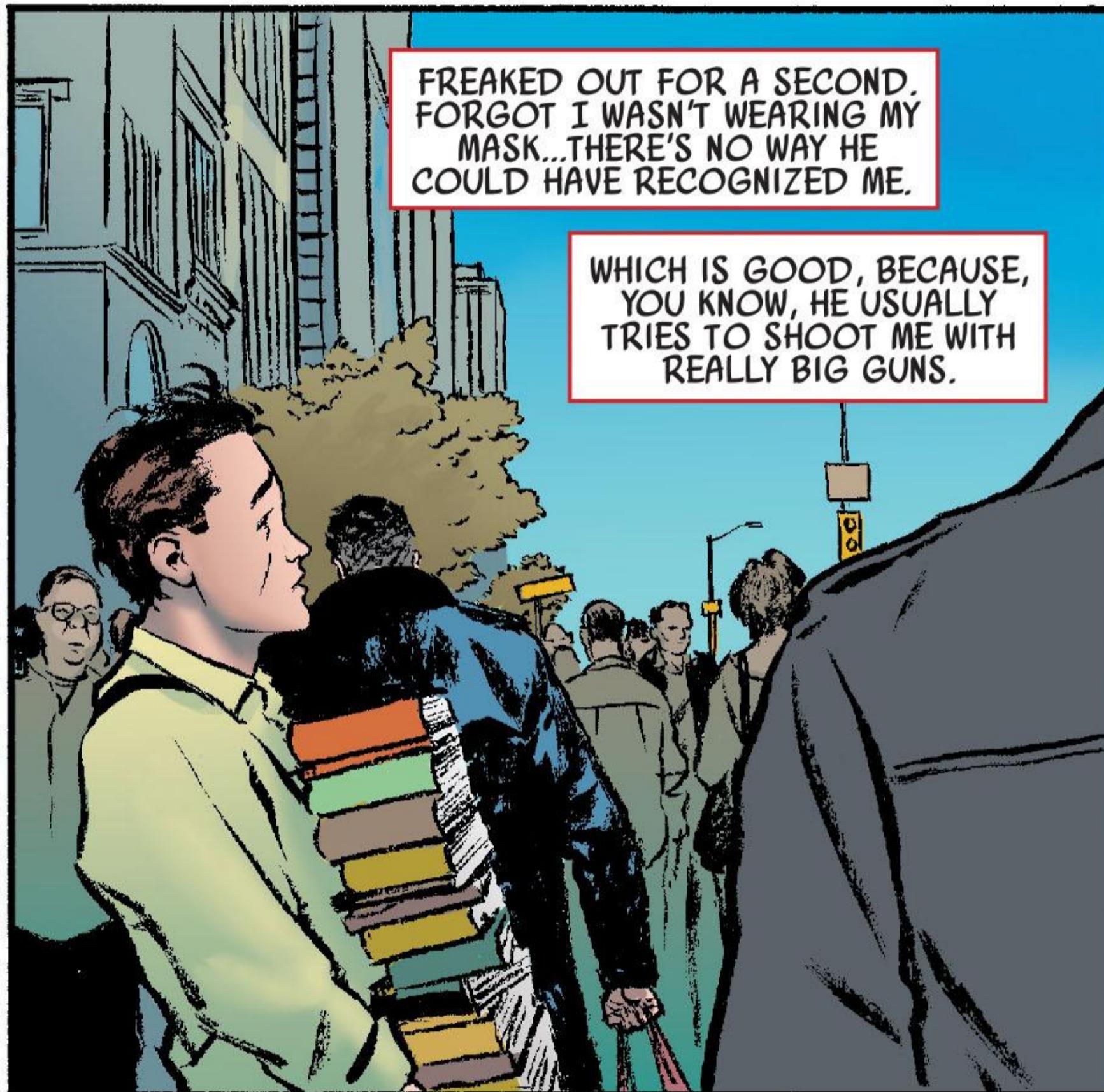
HOW CAN GETTING A HACK  
LICENSE BE SO HARD? IT'S  
CALLED A "HACK LICENSE"  
FOR PETE'S SAKE.

GOTTA STICK WITH IT THOUGH.  
FREELANCING FOR AN **ETHICAL**  
**FRONT LINE**  
SURE DOESN'T PAY  
AS WELL AS THE BUGLE...

AND BETTY TOLD ME CABBIES  
CAN MAKE \$400 A DAY IF  
THEY'RE GOOD. THAT WOULD  
DEFINITELY HELP ME--

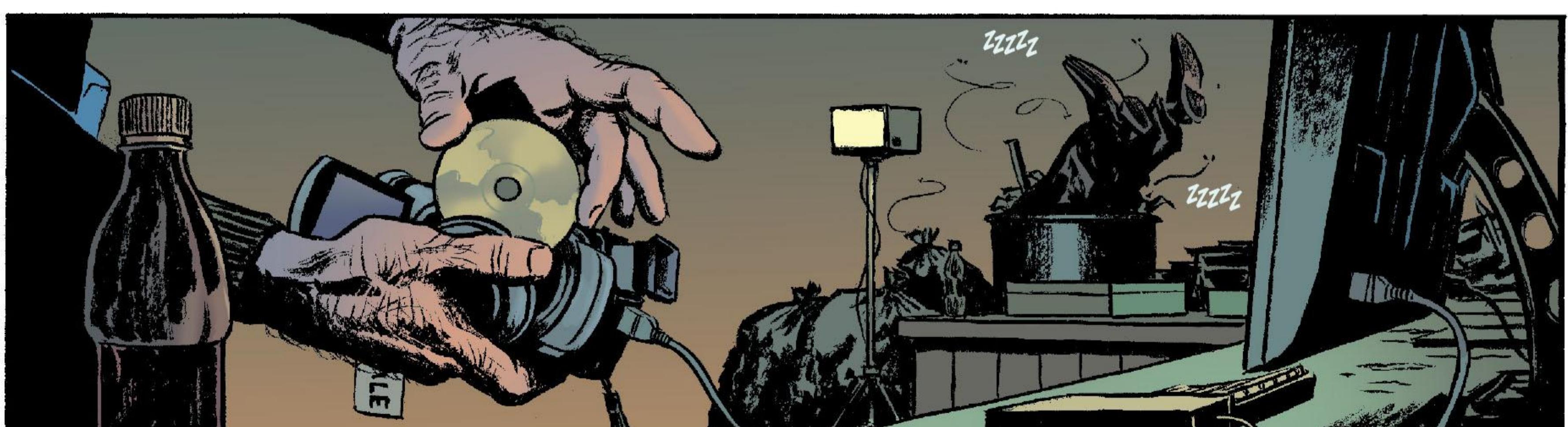
OOPS.

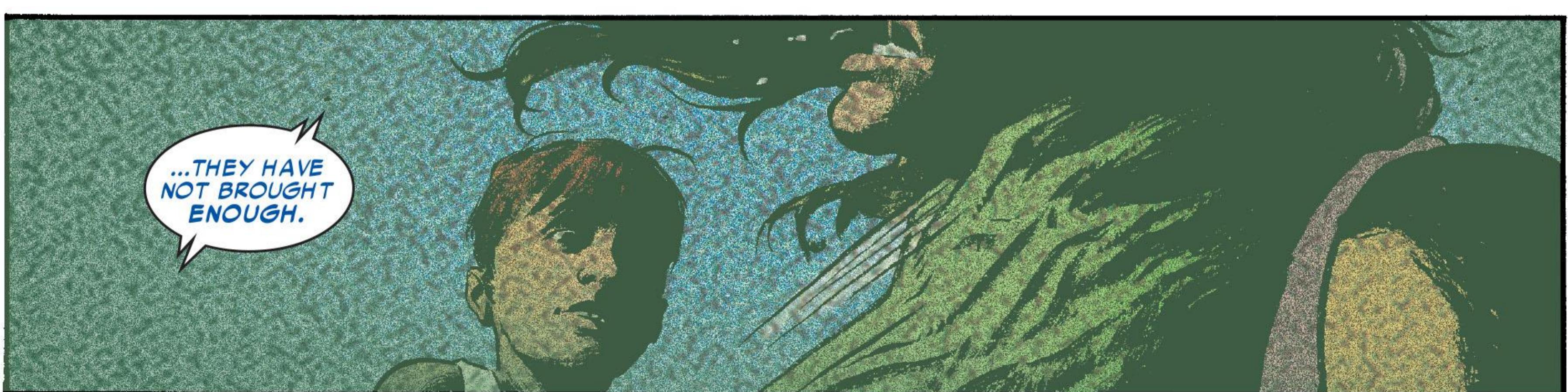
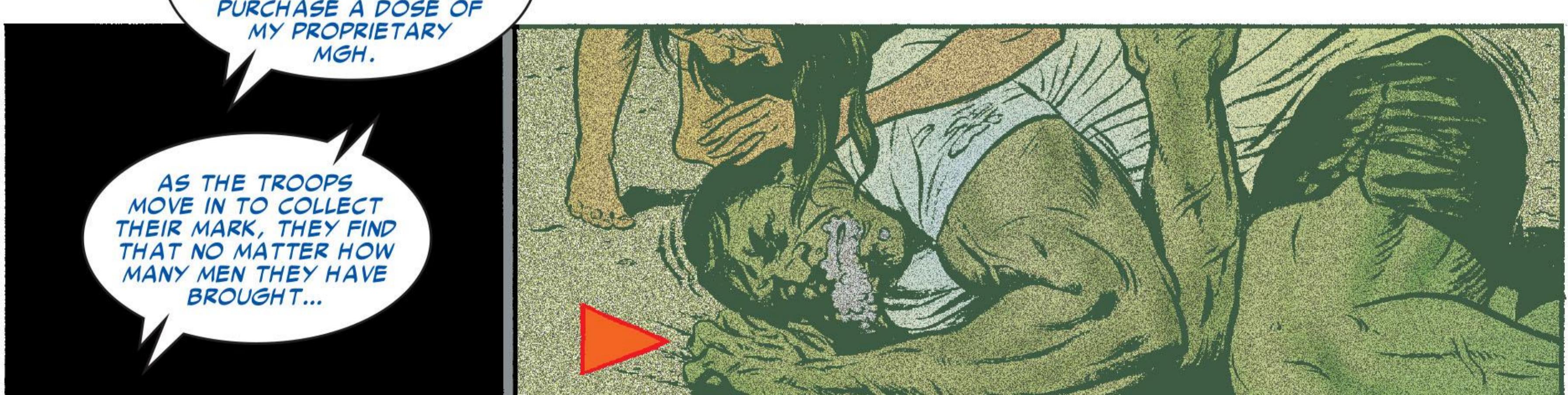
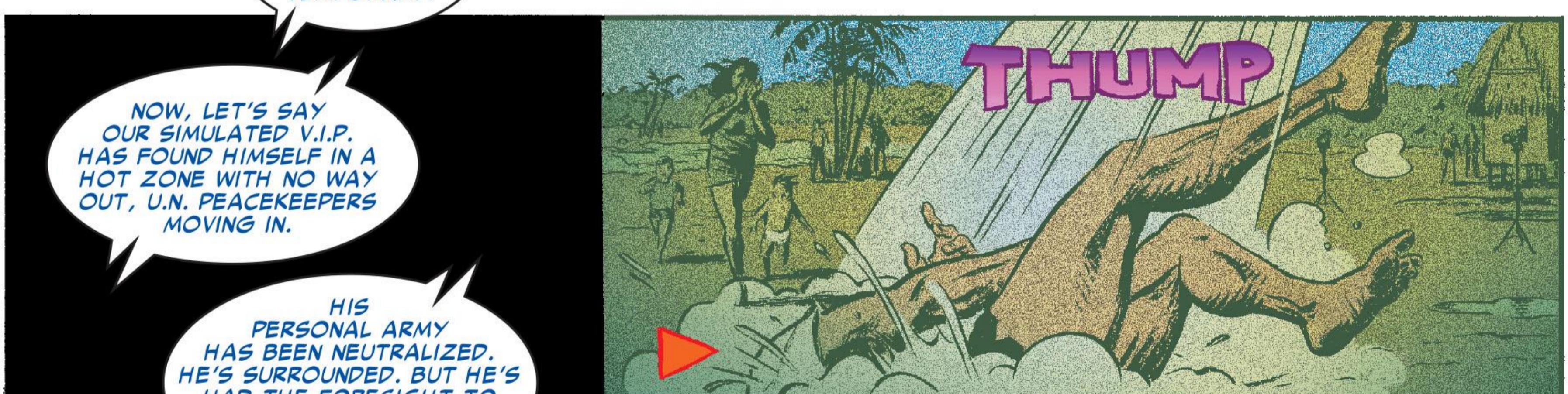
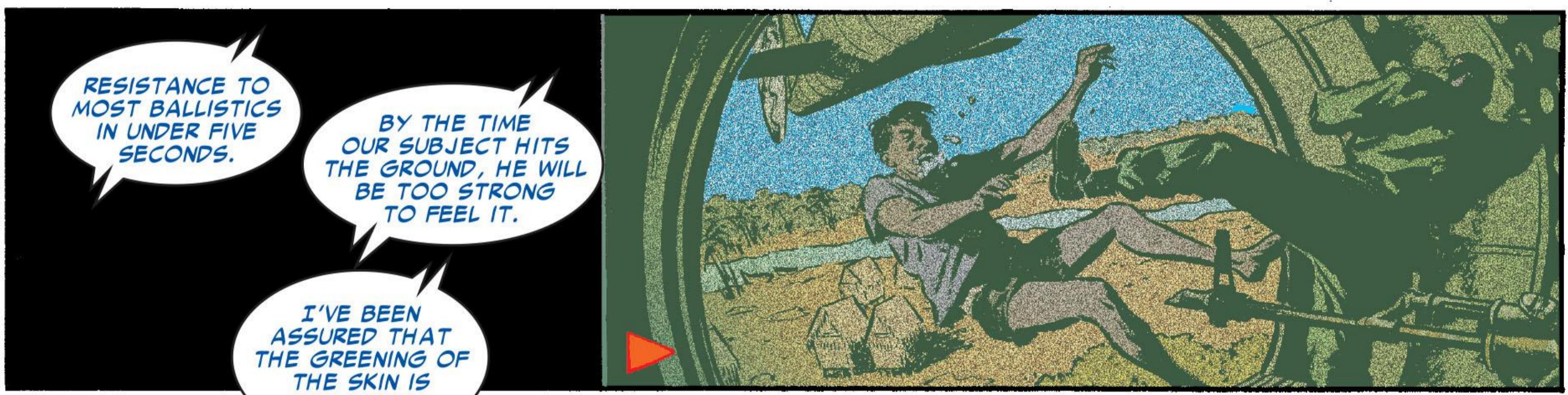
SORRY,  
I...

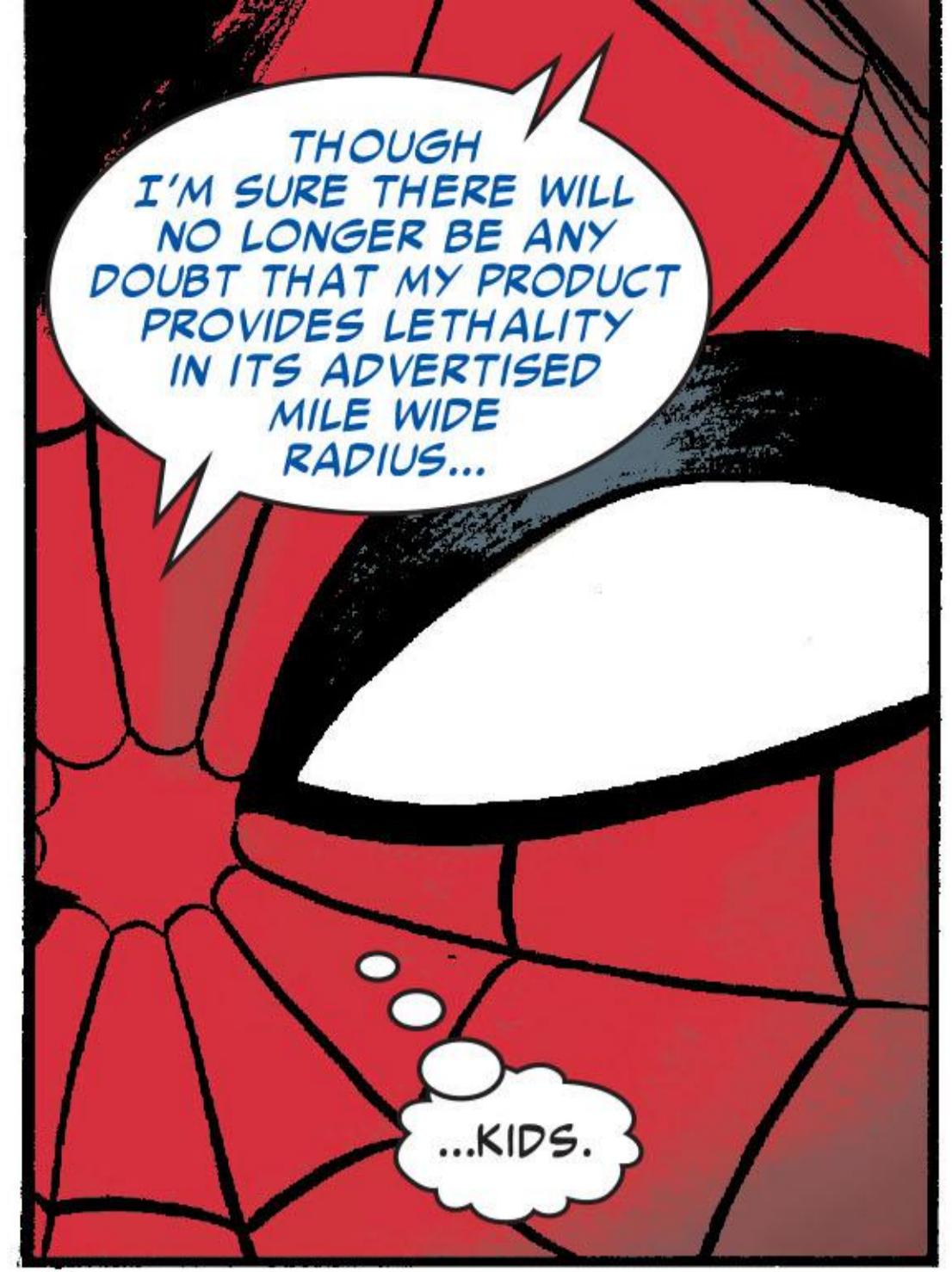


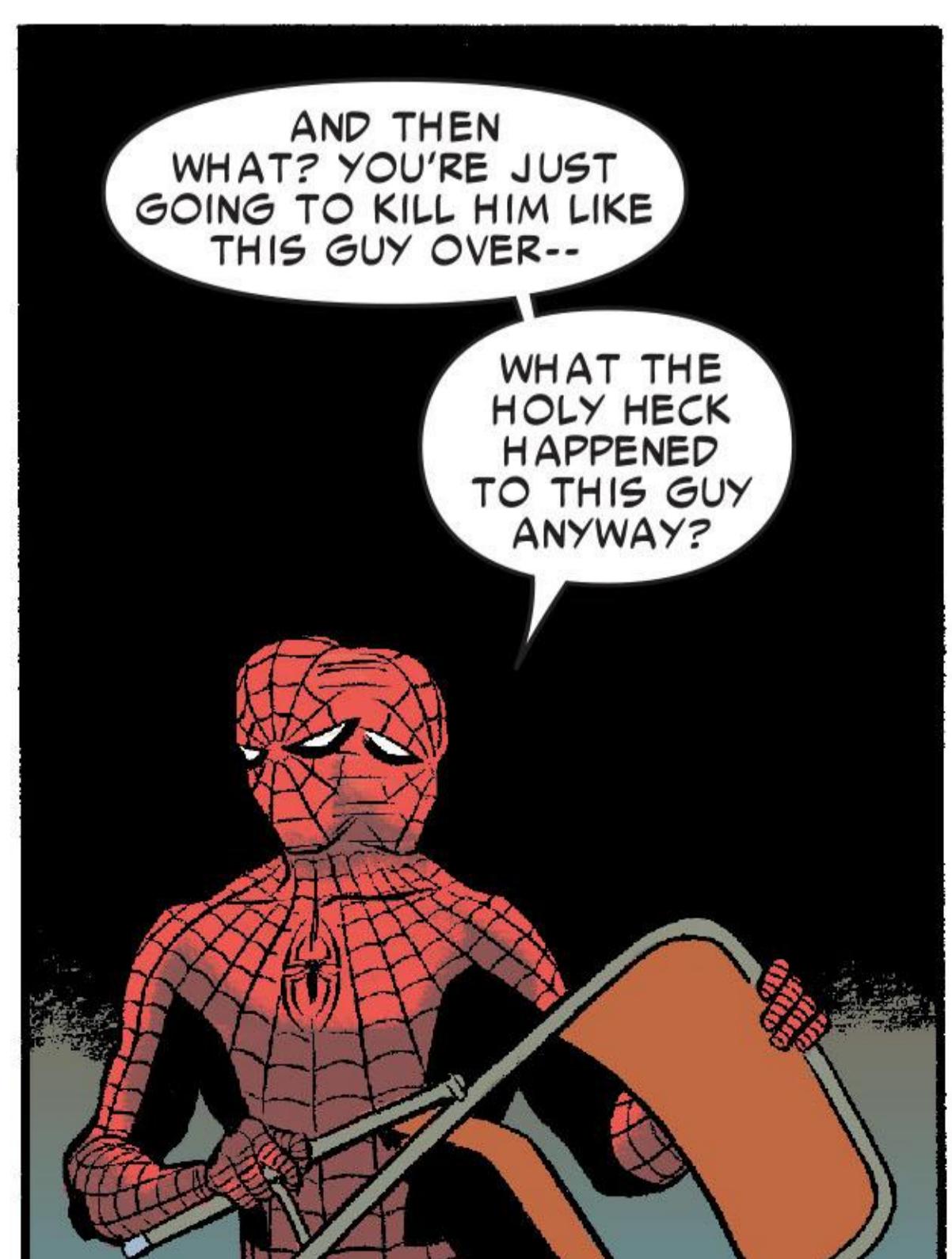


## Far Rockaway, Queens.









YOU SAW THE SALES PITCH. THEY ALL DESERVE WHATEVER I GIVE THEM.

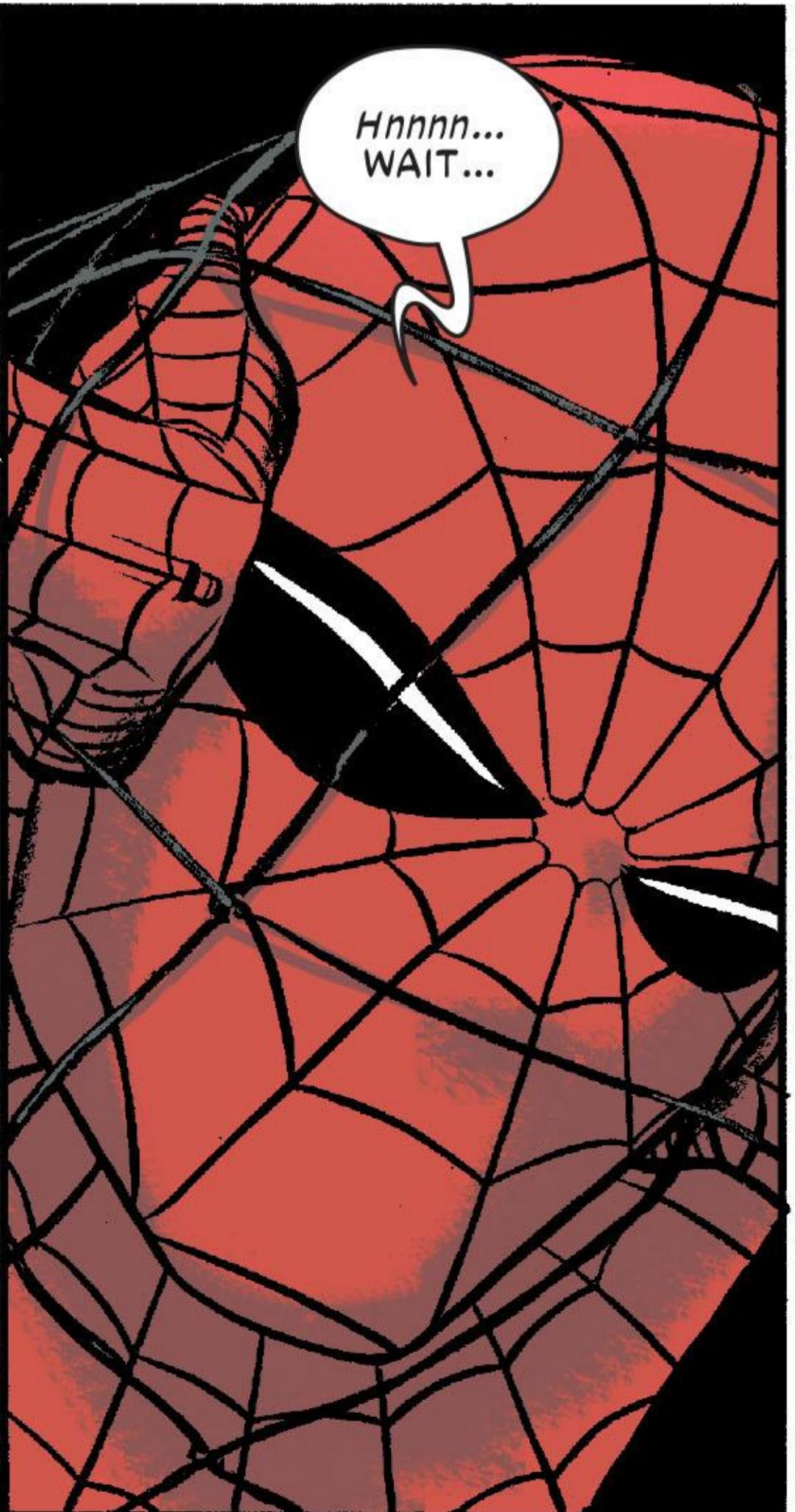
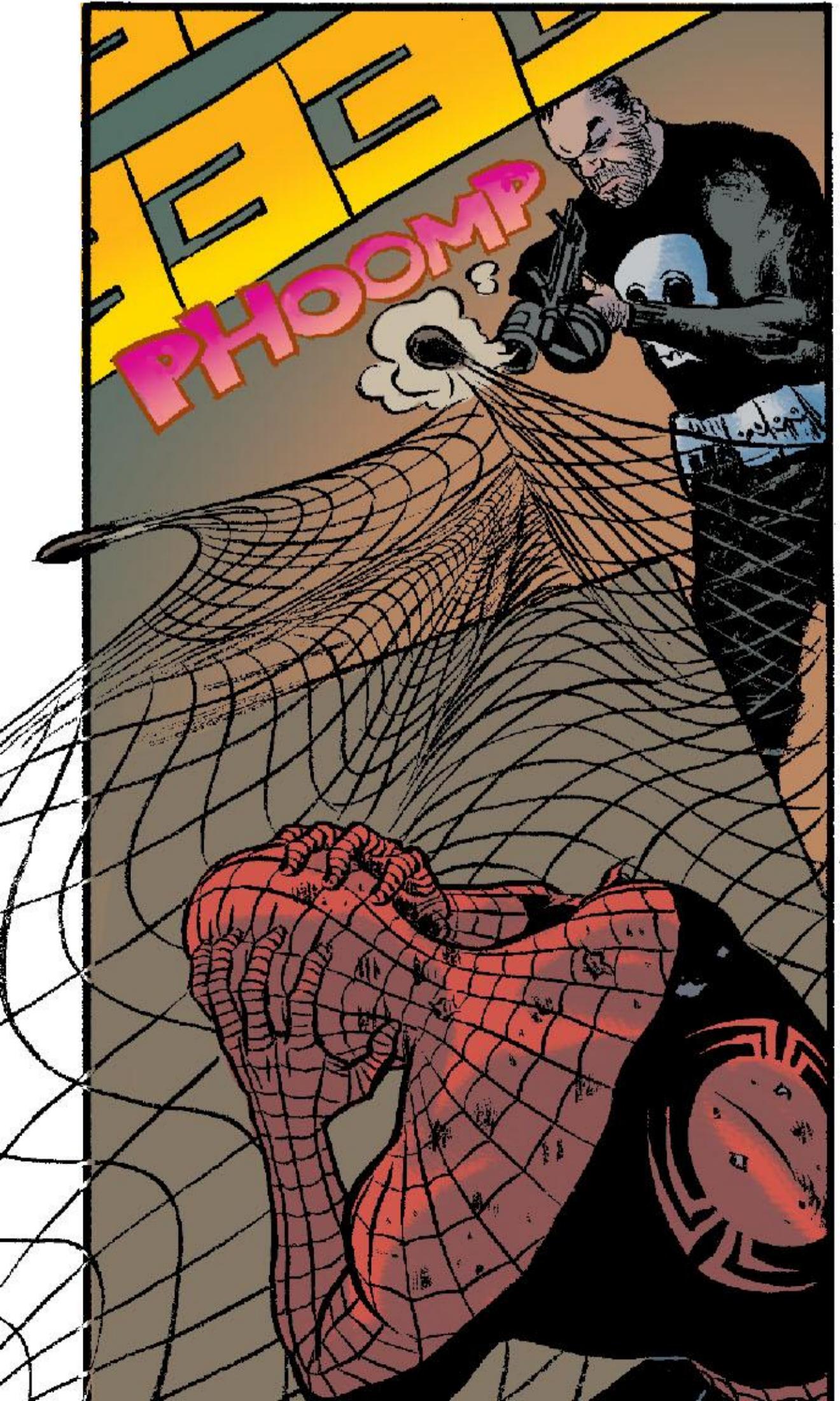
EVERYONE WHO'S SO MUCH AS SPOKEN TO MAGNUM ABOUT BUYING A WEAPON.

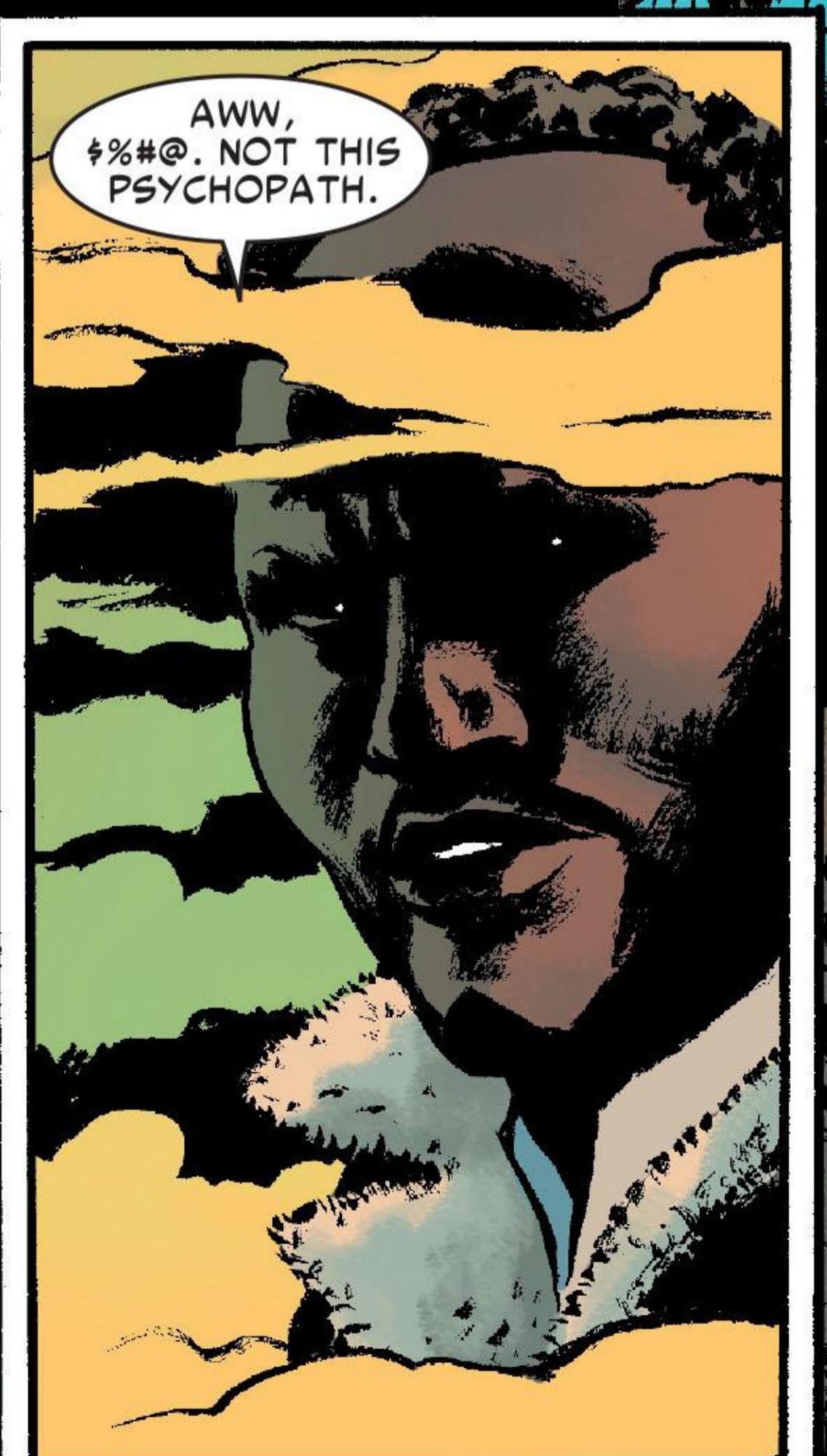
LOOK, I KNOW PEOPLE NOW...I'M KIND OF AN AVENGER. I'M TALKING HEAVY HITTERS. WE CAN TAKE CARE OF THIS THE RIGHT WAY.

YOU'VE KILLED ENOUGH PEOPLE, FRANK.  
YOU KNOW ME... I CAN'T STAND HERE AND LET YOU KILL MORE PEOPLE. I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT YOU AGAIN, BUT YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE ME.

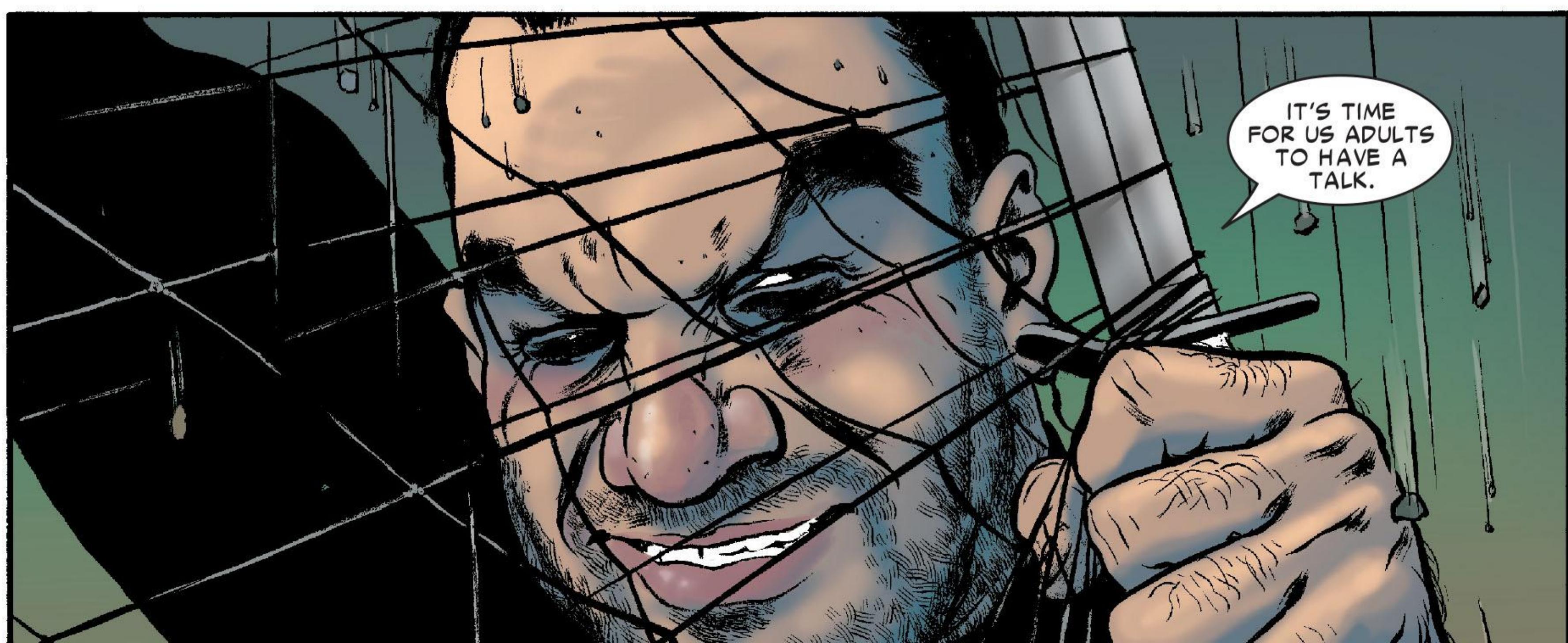
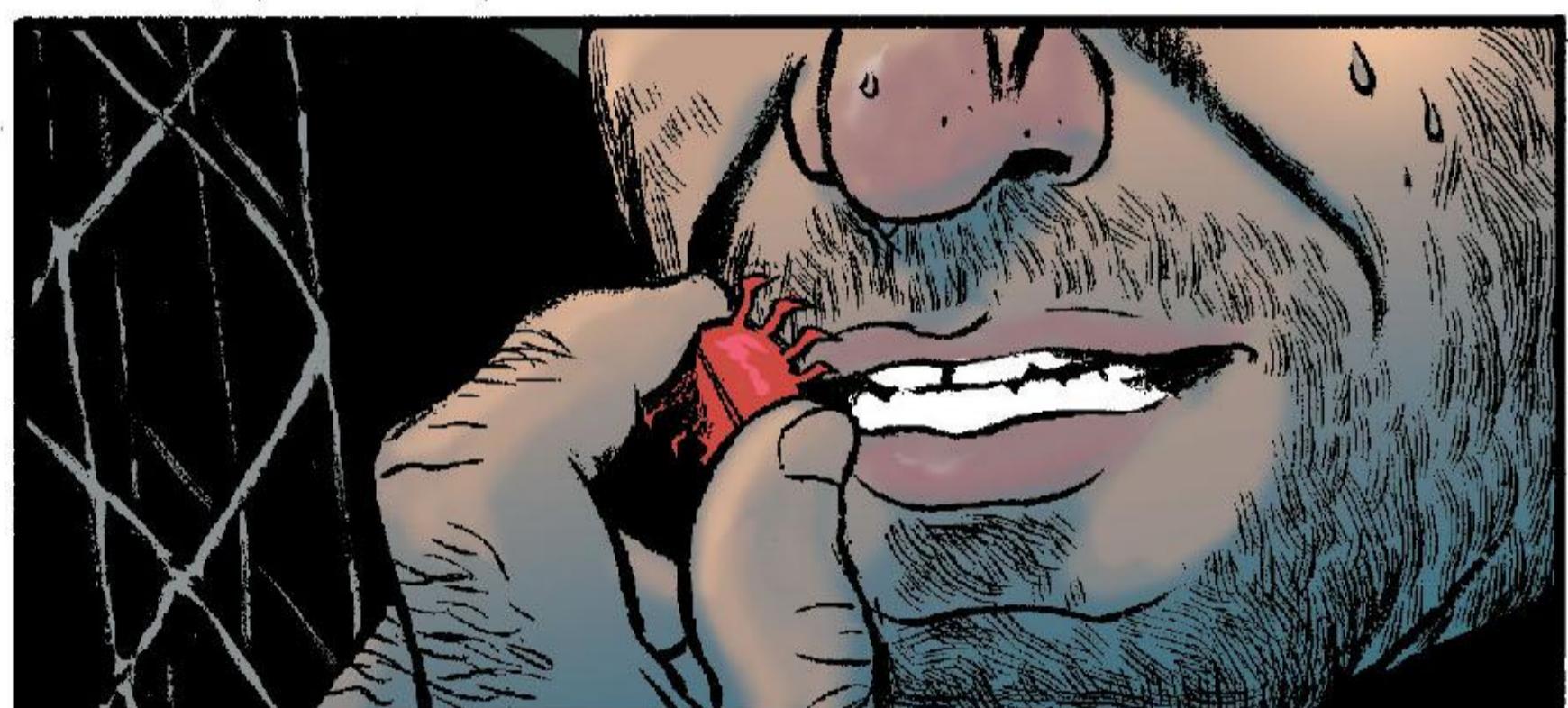
HEY! ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME??!

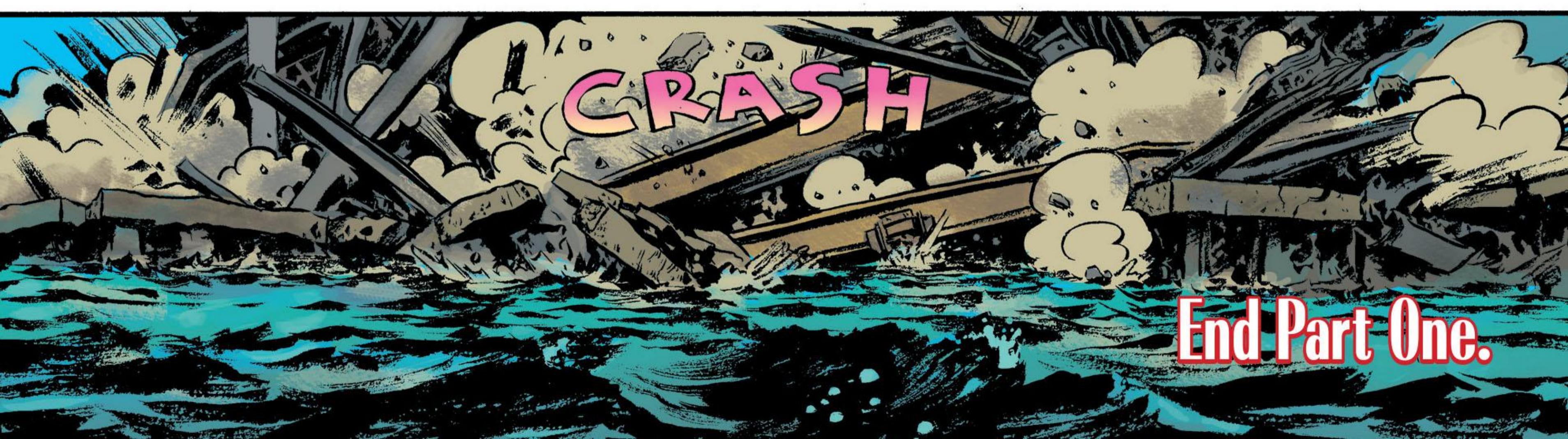
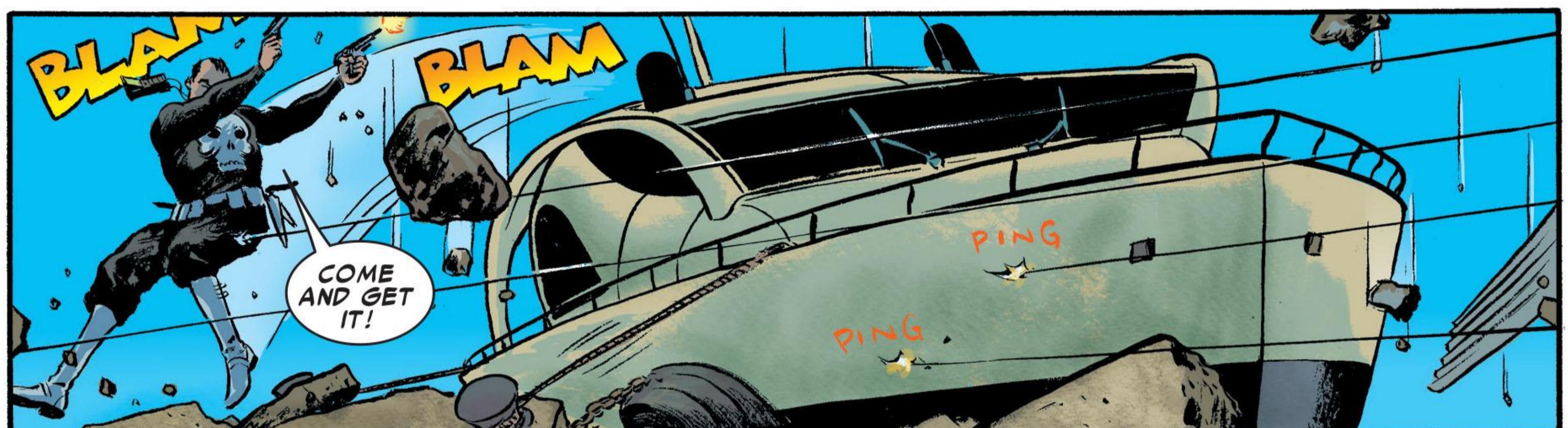
SORRY. EARPLUGS.





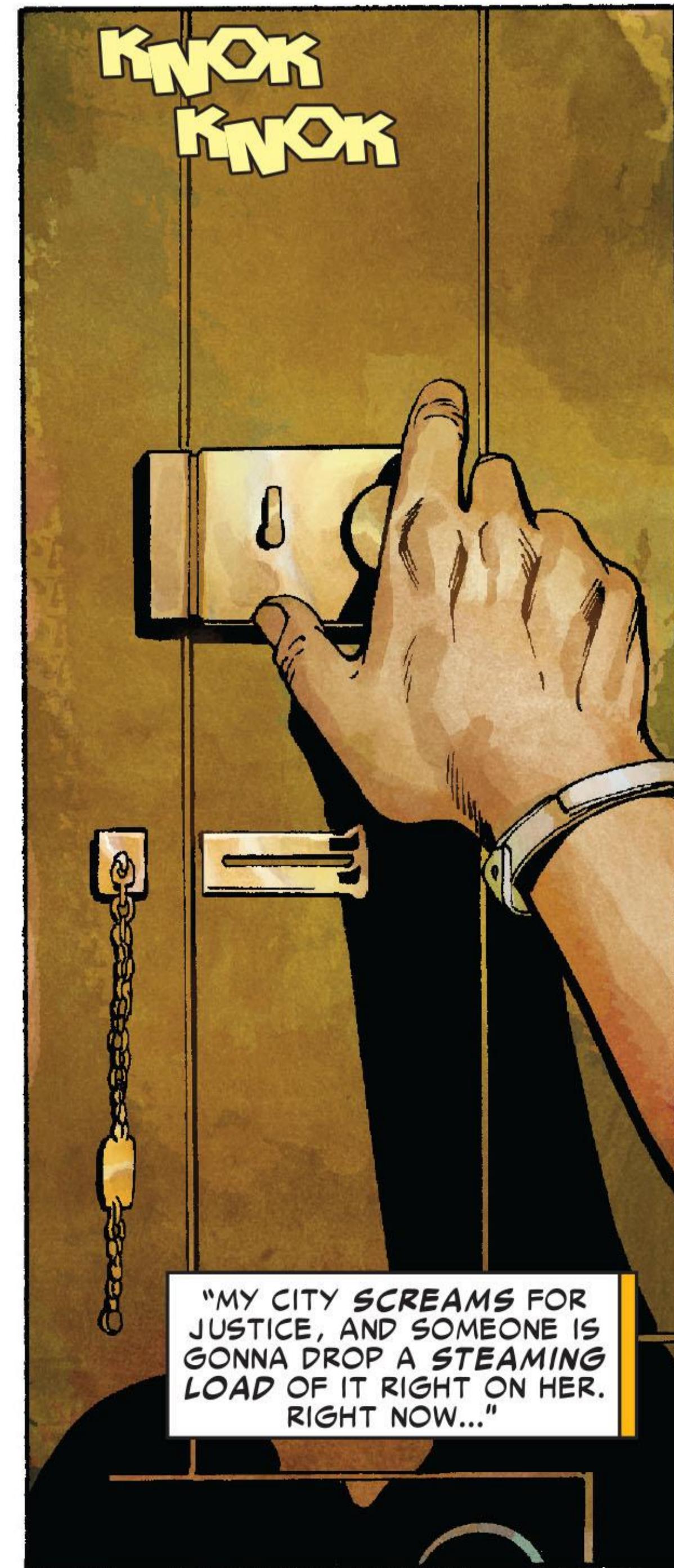
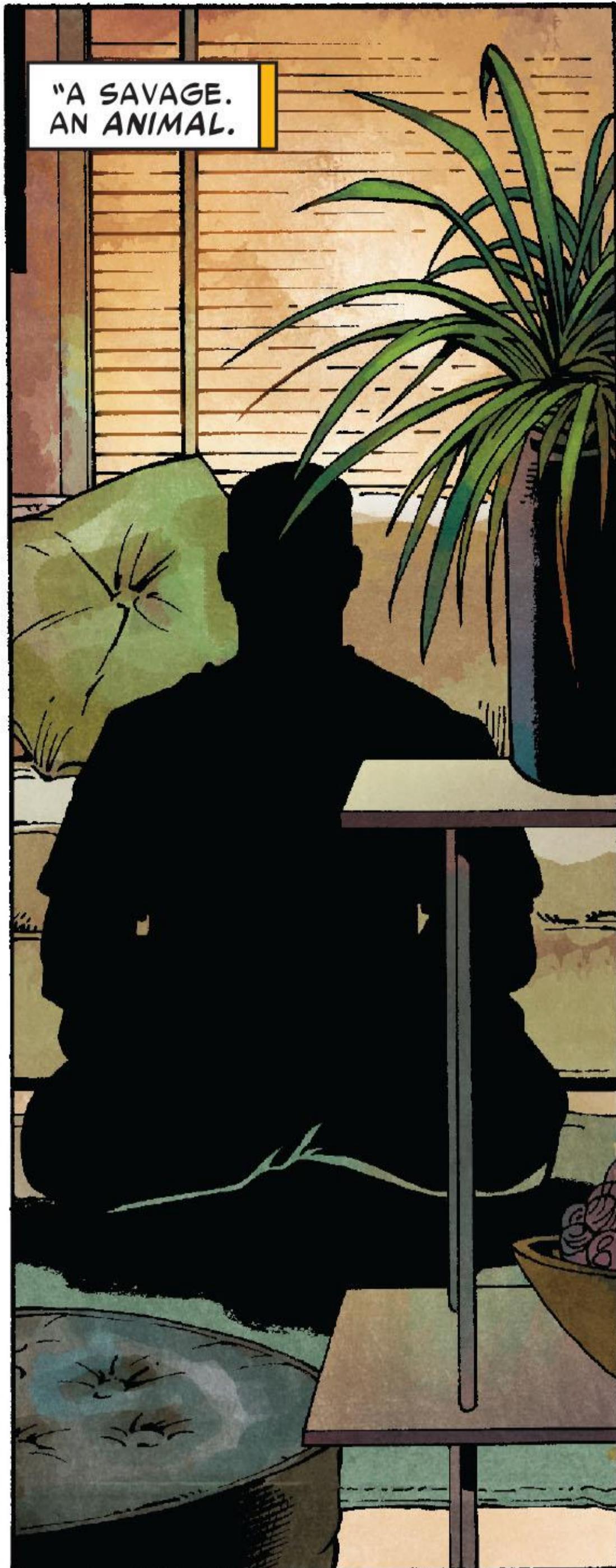






End Part One.

## Interlude.



"THAT STEAMING SOMEONE IS ME."

"CALL ME THE BOOKIE. IT'S WHAT PEOPLE CALL ME."



A BOOKIE MINUTE MYSTERY by

JOE  
KELLY  
WRITER

BARRY  
KITSON  
PENCILS

MARK  
FARMER  
INKS

DEAN  
WHITE  
COLORS

VC'S CORY  
PETIT  
LETTERS

SPIDER-TRACER  
KILLER STRIKES AGAIN!



AS YOU  
ALREADY KNOW, THE  
SPIDER-TRACER KILLER,  
OR...S.T.K. AS I'VE NOM  
DE PLUMED HIM...

...KILLS HIS  
VICTIMS AND LEAVES  
WHAT APPEARS TO BE  
ONE OF SPIDER-MAN'S  
TRACERS ON THE BODY  
IN AN ATTEMPT TO  
FRAME HIM.

I CALLED  
A BIG FAT B.S.  
TO THAT, AN'  
TOOK ON THE  
CASE.

I BEGAN MY  
INVESTIGATION  
LOOKING FOR  
CONNECTIONS...

AN' I FOUND  
ZIP, EXCEPT THAT  
ALL OF STK'S VICTIMS  
UNTIL TODAY HAVE BEEN  
PICKED UP AT ONE  
TIME OR ANOTHER  
BY THE LAW.

THIS SUGGESTS  
THAT THE KILLER  
MIGHT HAVE A THING  
FOR JUSTICE...

SOMEONE'D HAVE  
TO FORK OVER A  
BUTTLOAD OF CASH  
T'PULL THAT OFF.

DON'T YOU,  
MISTER FORMER DAILY  
BUGLE PUBLISHER, INDEED  
HAVE A BUTTLOAD OF  
SAID CASH? MAYBE EVEN  
A COUPLE EXTRA  
CHEEKS, WORTH?

YOU BELIEVE  
IN JUSTICE, JJ,  
DON'T YOU?

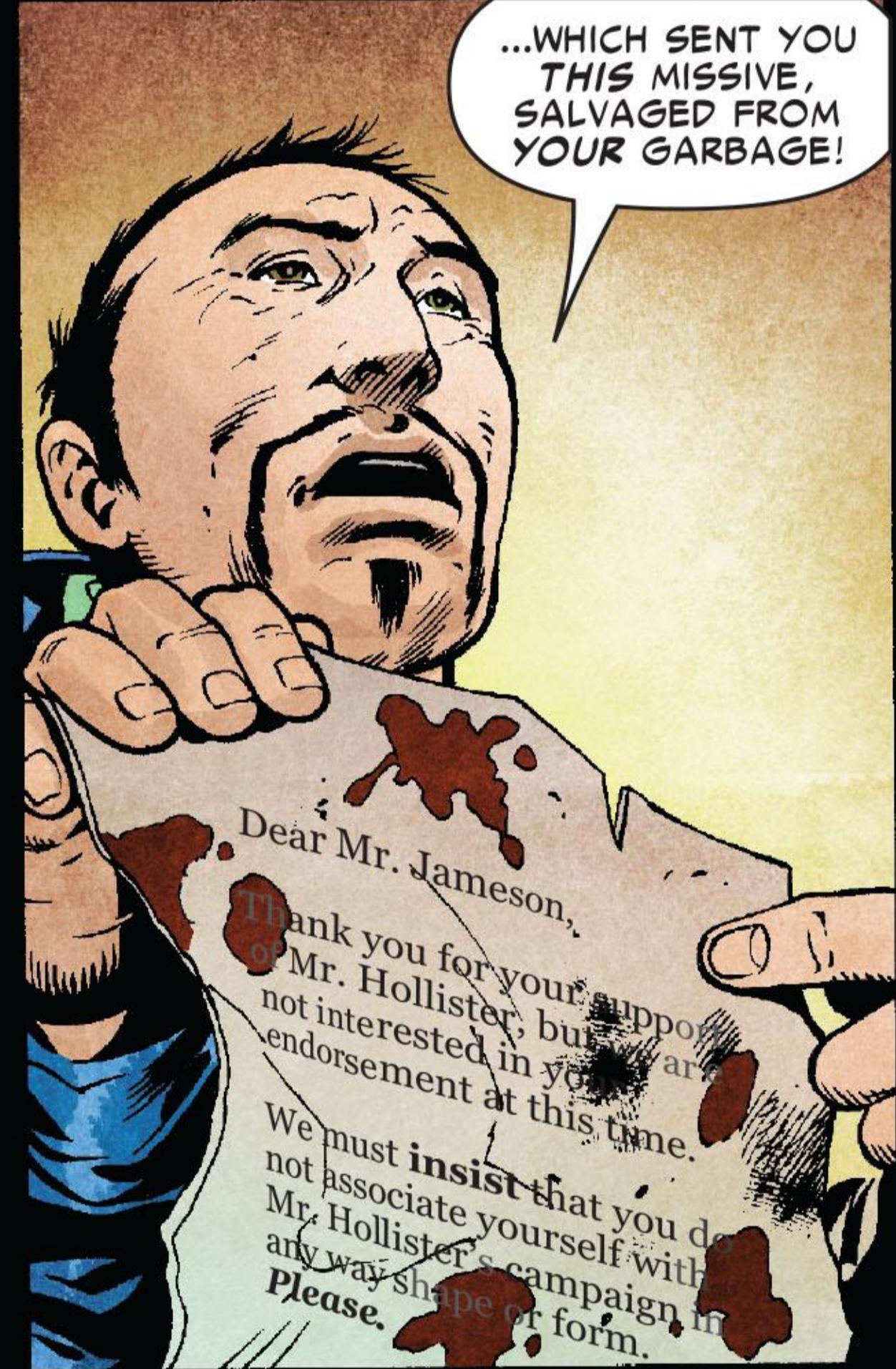
YEAH, I  
THOUGHT  
SO.

"I CALLED IN A FEW FAVORS FROM  
SOME CLIENTS IN BLUE AND THEY  
TOLD ME THE TRACERS ARE A  
PERFECT MATCH TO SPIDEY'S TECH."

"IN OTHER WORDS,  
THEY WORK."

GETS BETTER...  
THIS IDEA OF GOIN'  
AFTER SPIDER-MAN  
USING HIGH-TECH  
TACTICS ISN'T NEW,  
IS IT?





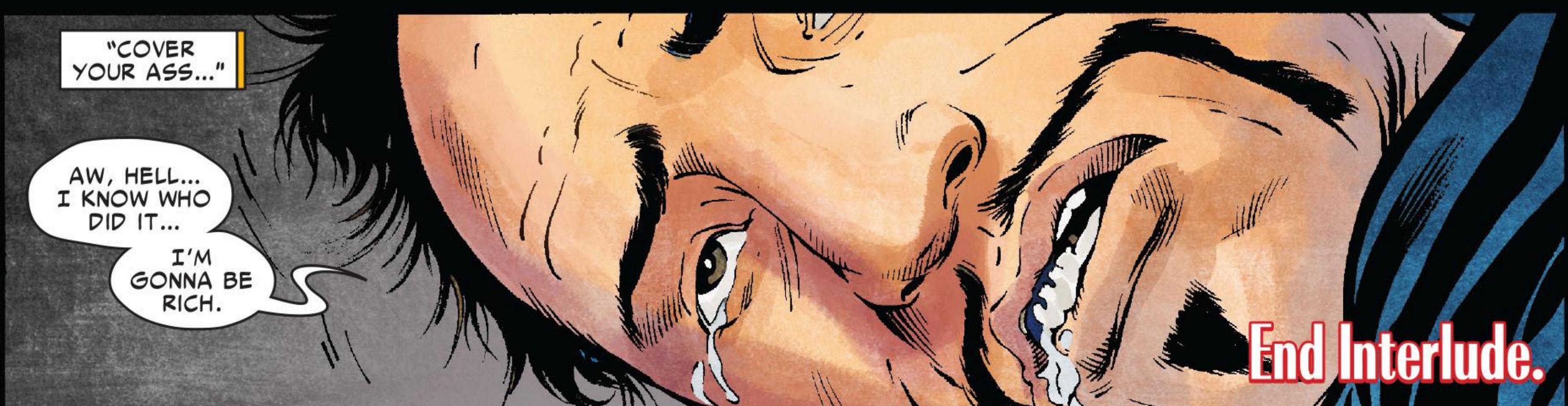
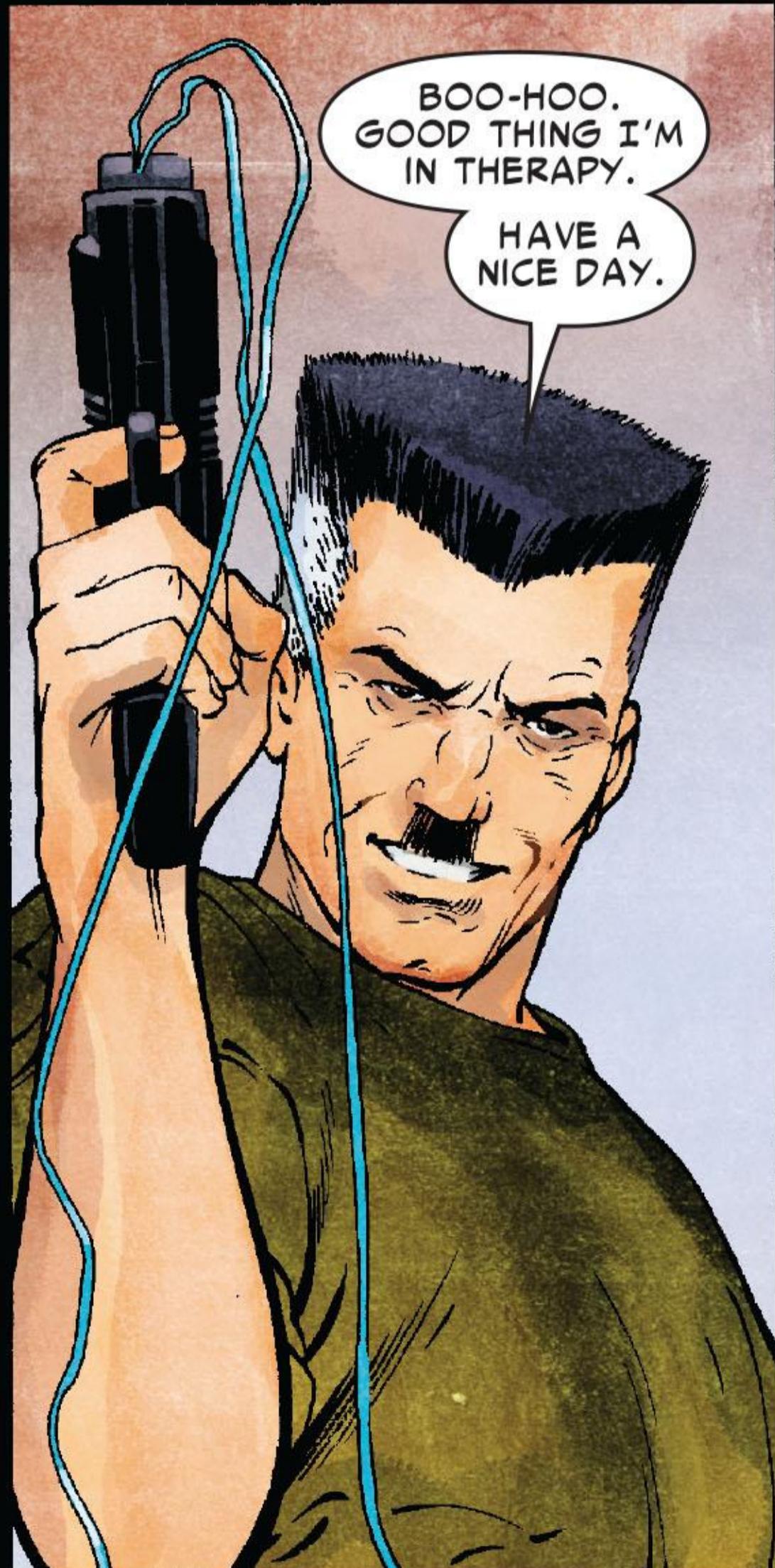


OF COURSE  
I AM. IT'S MY  
SECOND  
AMENDMENT  
RIGHT.

AND MY  
PLEASURE.



BY THE WAY, "GUMSHOE,"  
BOTH CANDIDATES TURNED  
DOWN MY ENDORSEMENT. A  
CLASSIC CASE OF COVERING  
ONE'S POLITICAL ASS.



# OLD HUNTING BUDDIES

PART 2

"DON'T BREATHE,  
PETER."

THAT'S WHAT THE  
TINGLE IN THE  
BACK OF MY  
HEAD IS SAYING...

BUT THAT'S ALL  
I WANT TO DO.  
BREATHE IN AND  
FILL MY LUNGS.

BUT WHEN I TRY,  
THE TINGLE  
BECOMES A  
SCREAM AND I  
LISTEN TO IT.

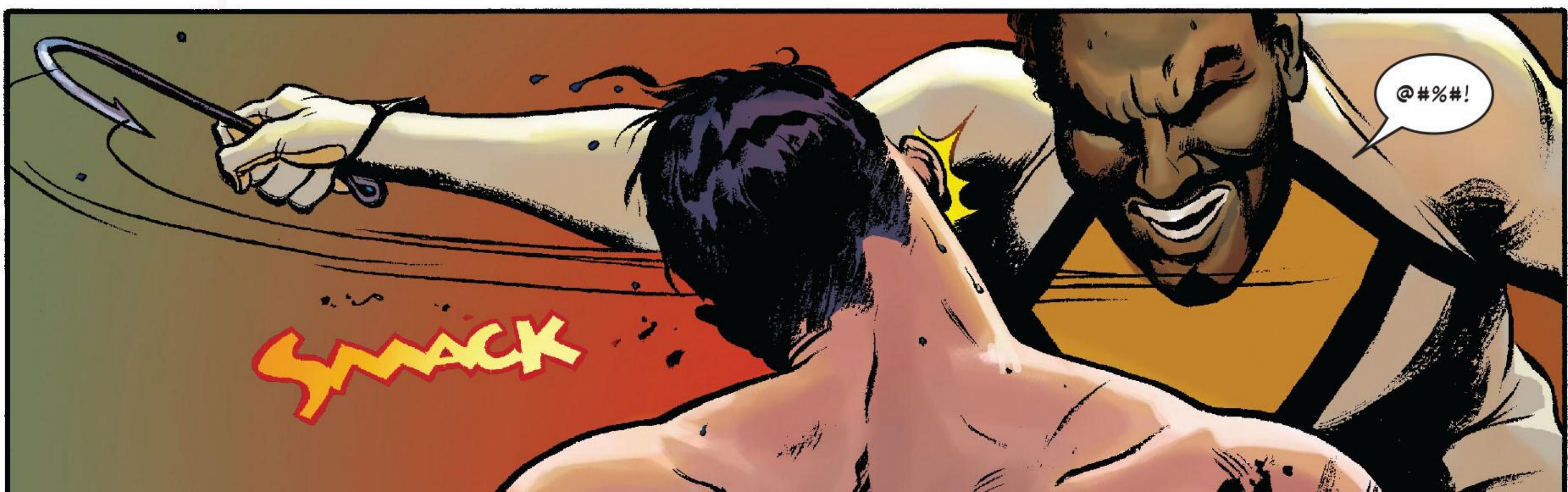
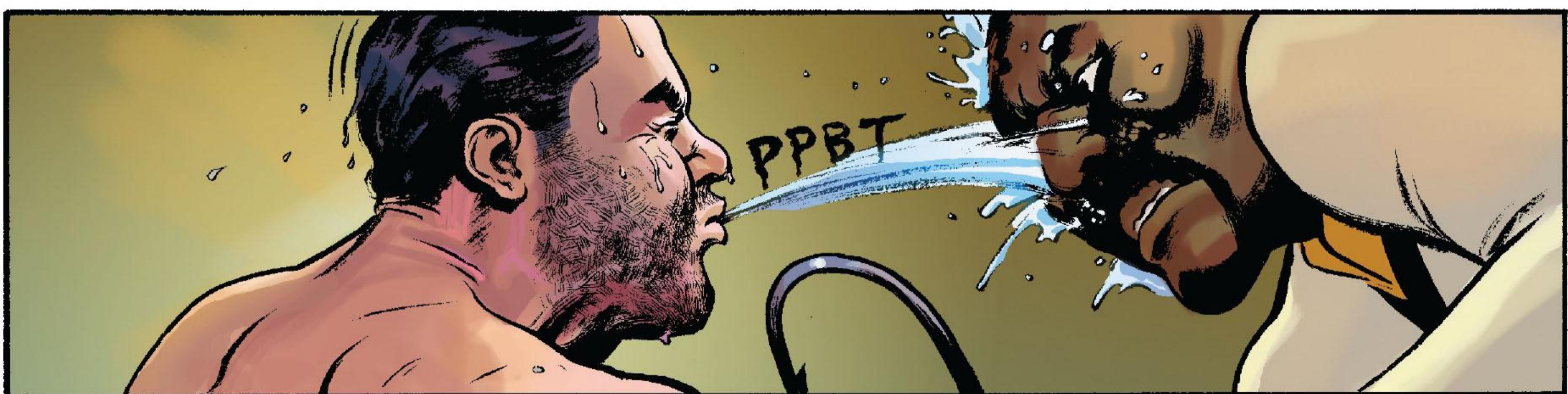
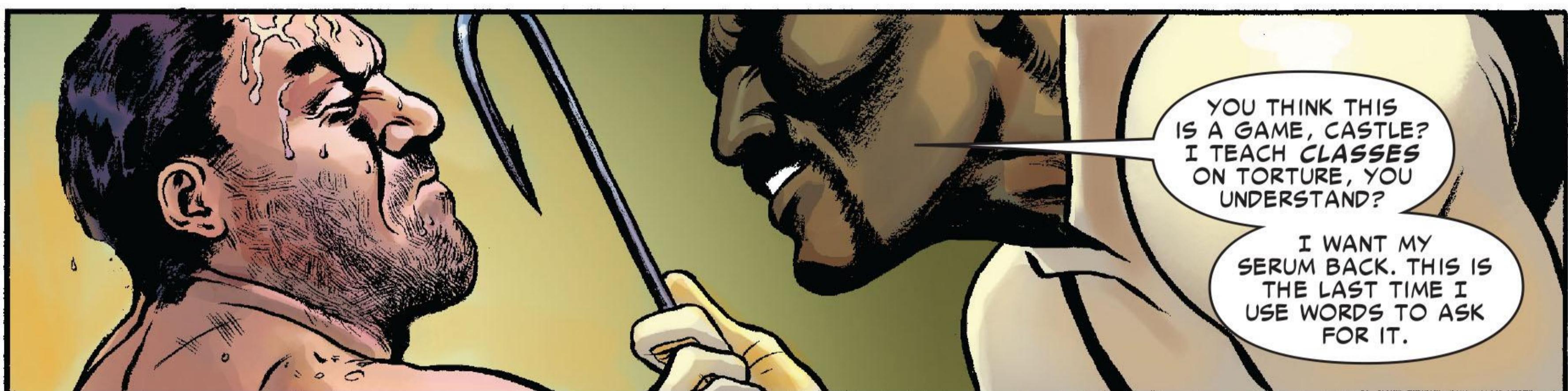
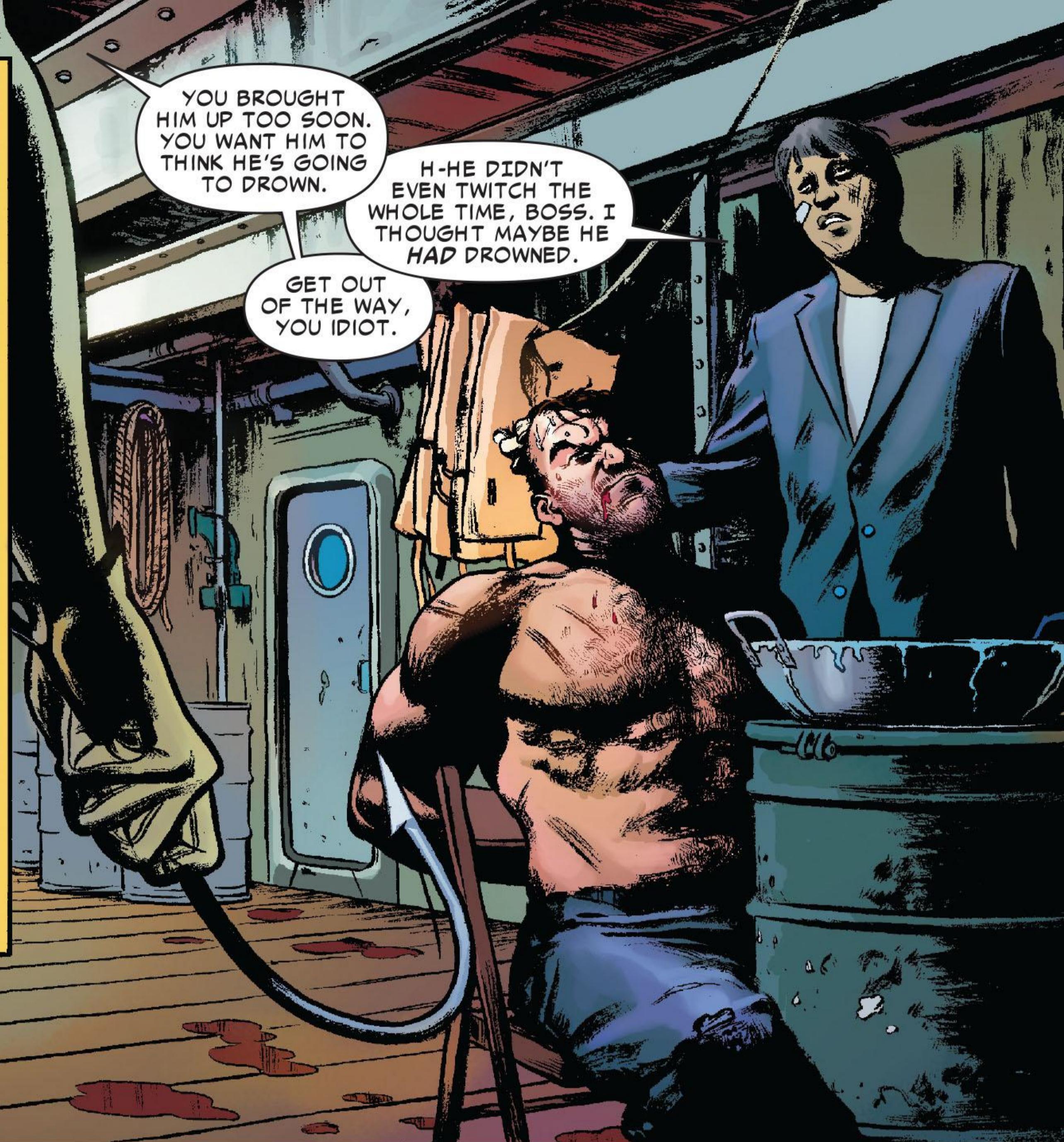
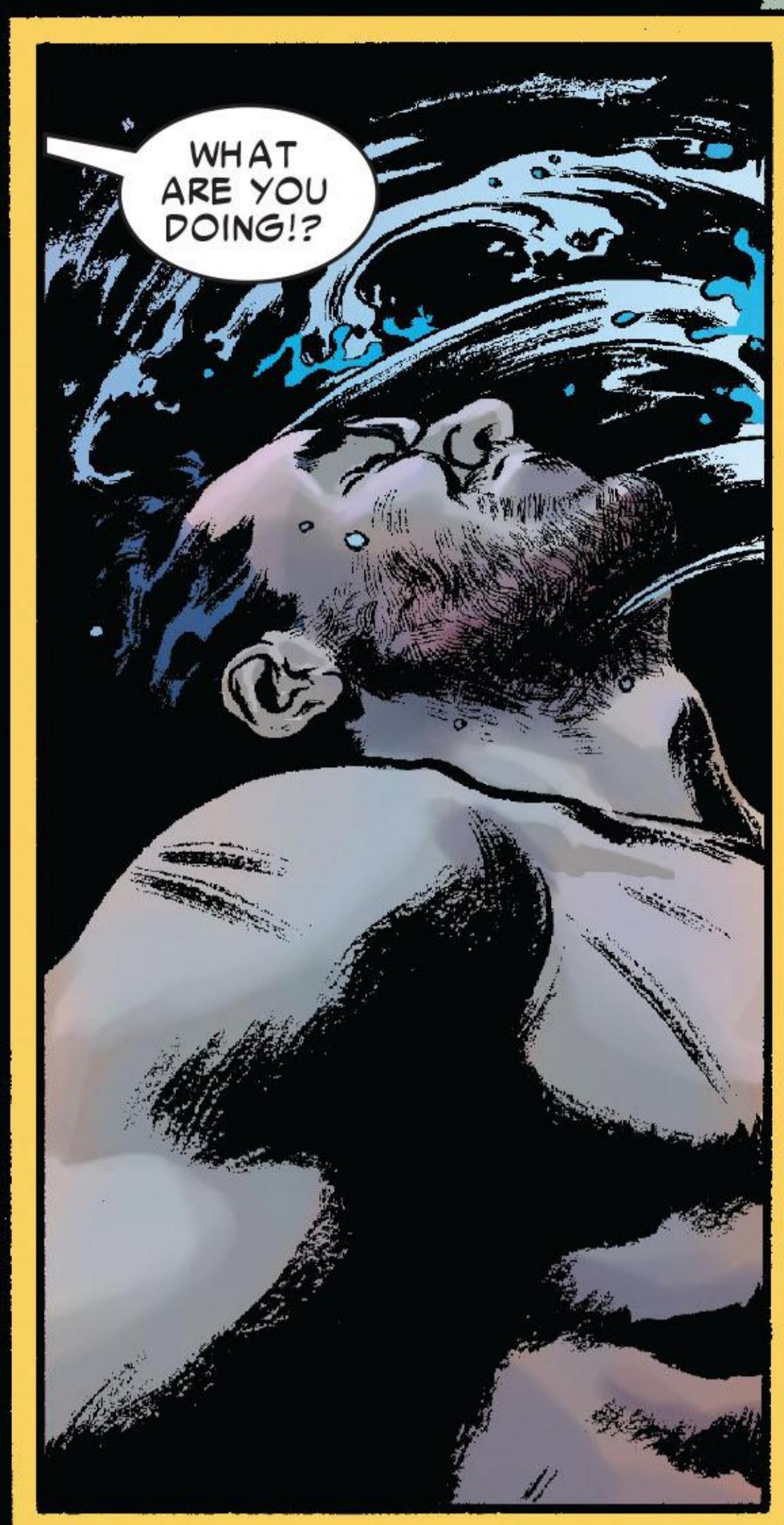
I SWIM, WHEN ALL  
I WANT TO DO IS  
BREATHE...

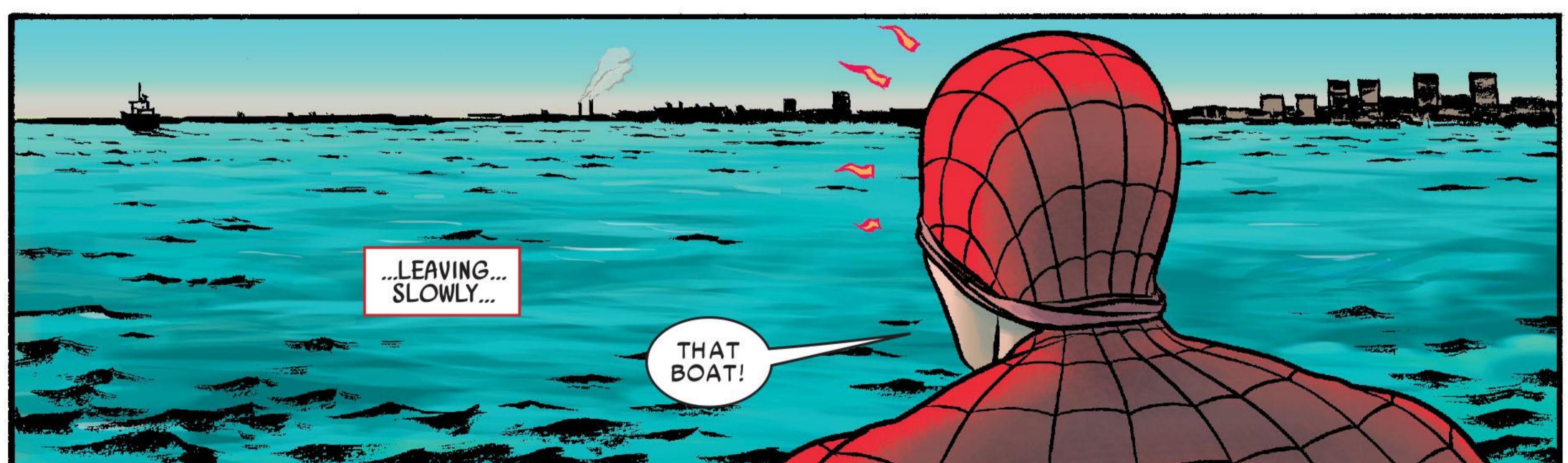
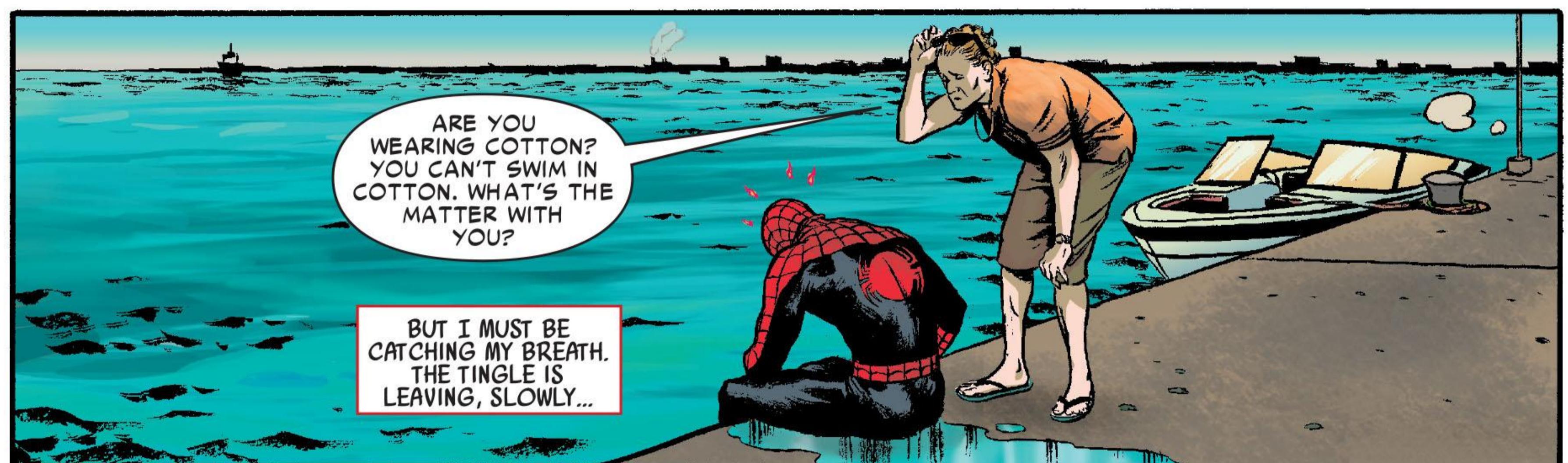
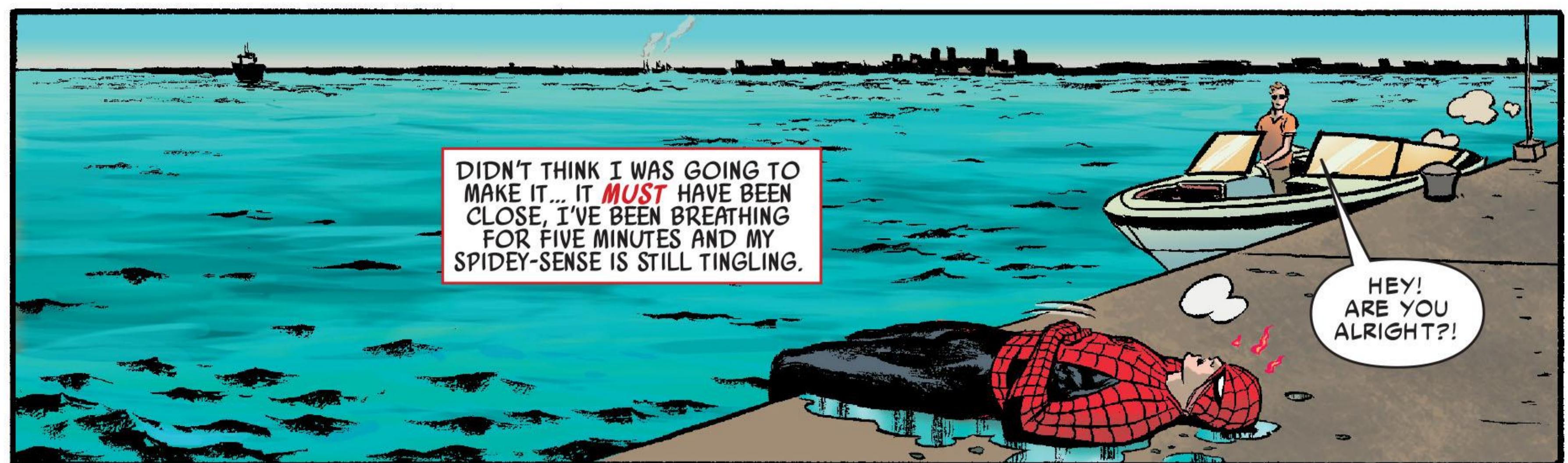
...BUT I  
WON'T...

...NOT YET,  
PARKER...

...NOT YET...

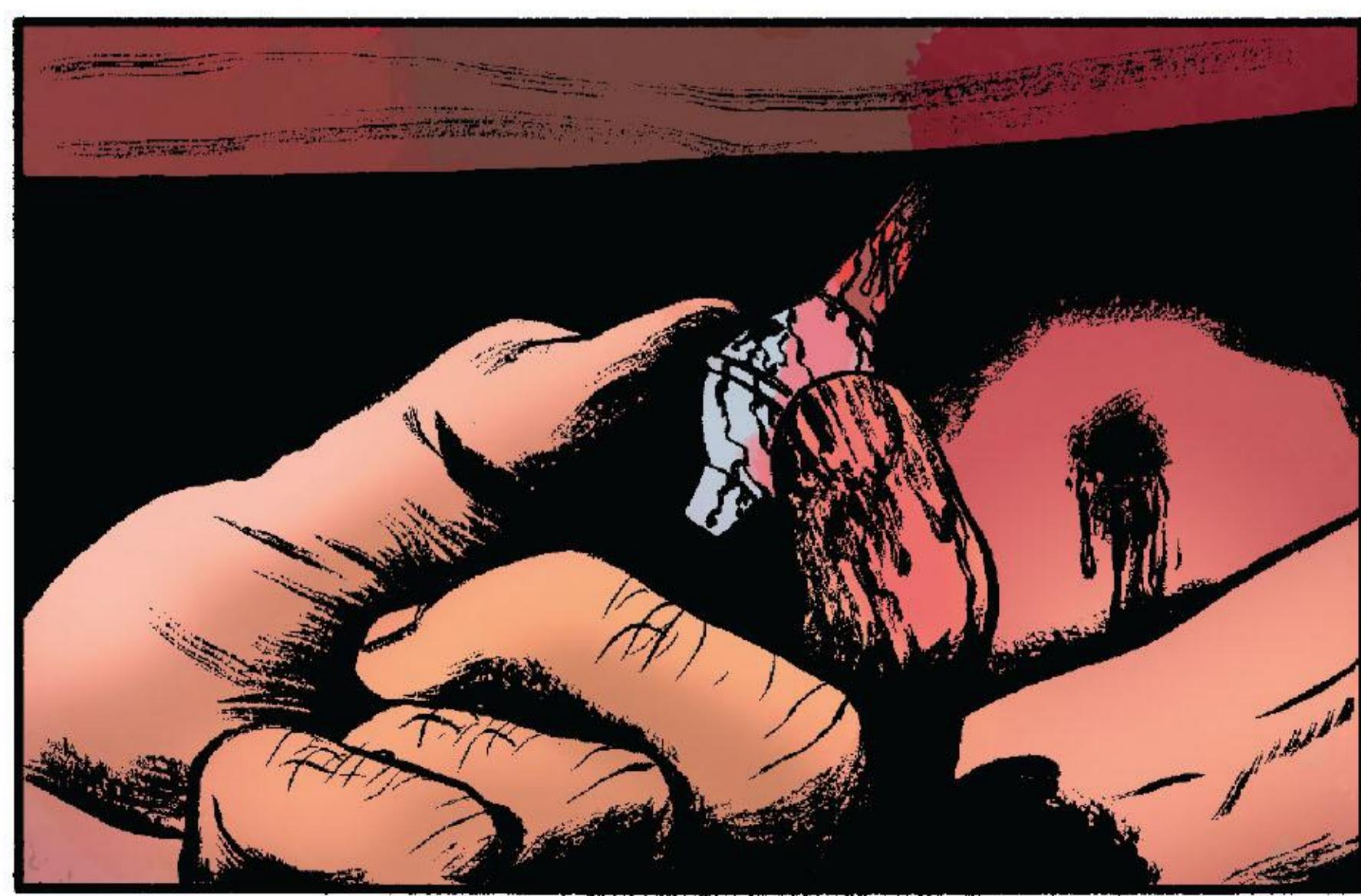


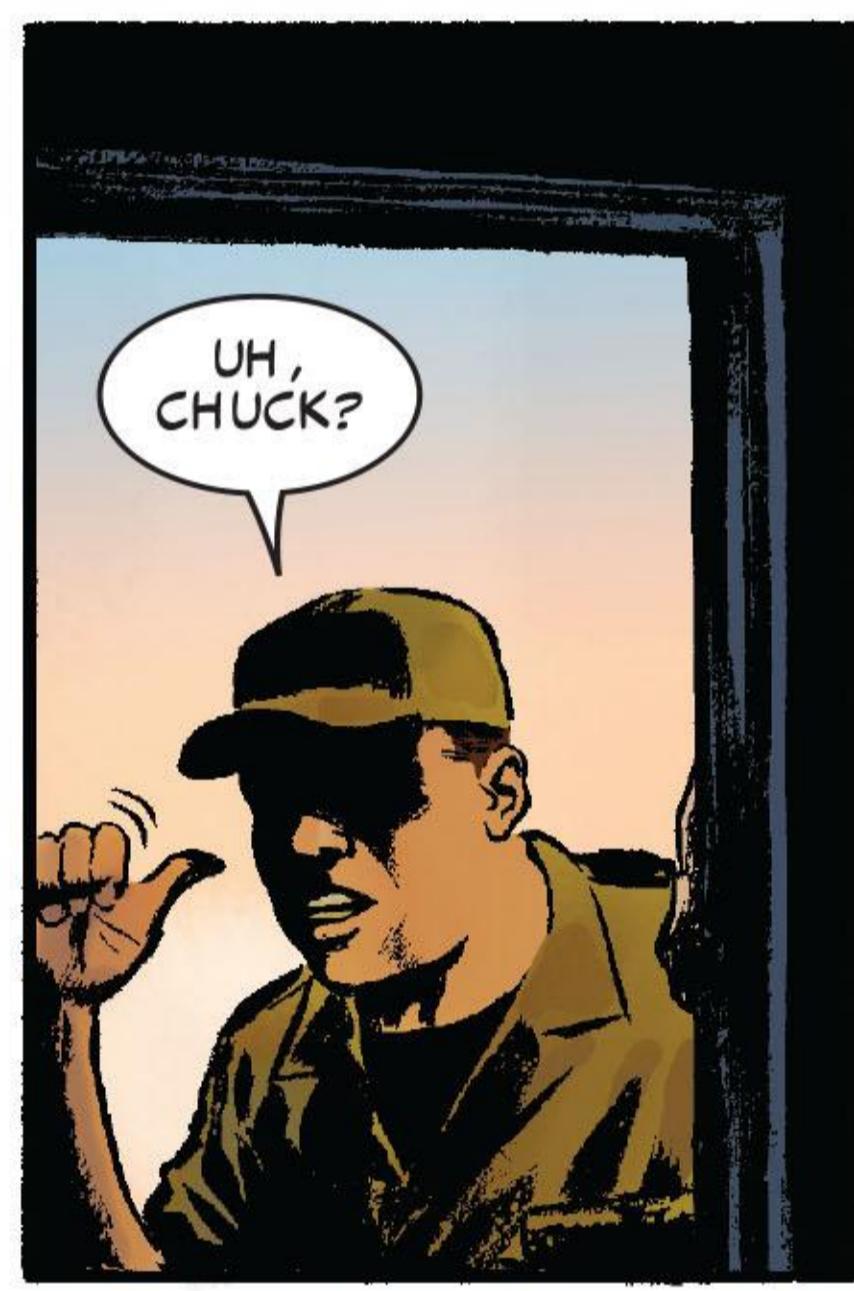
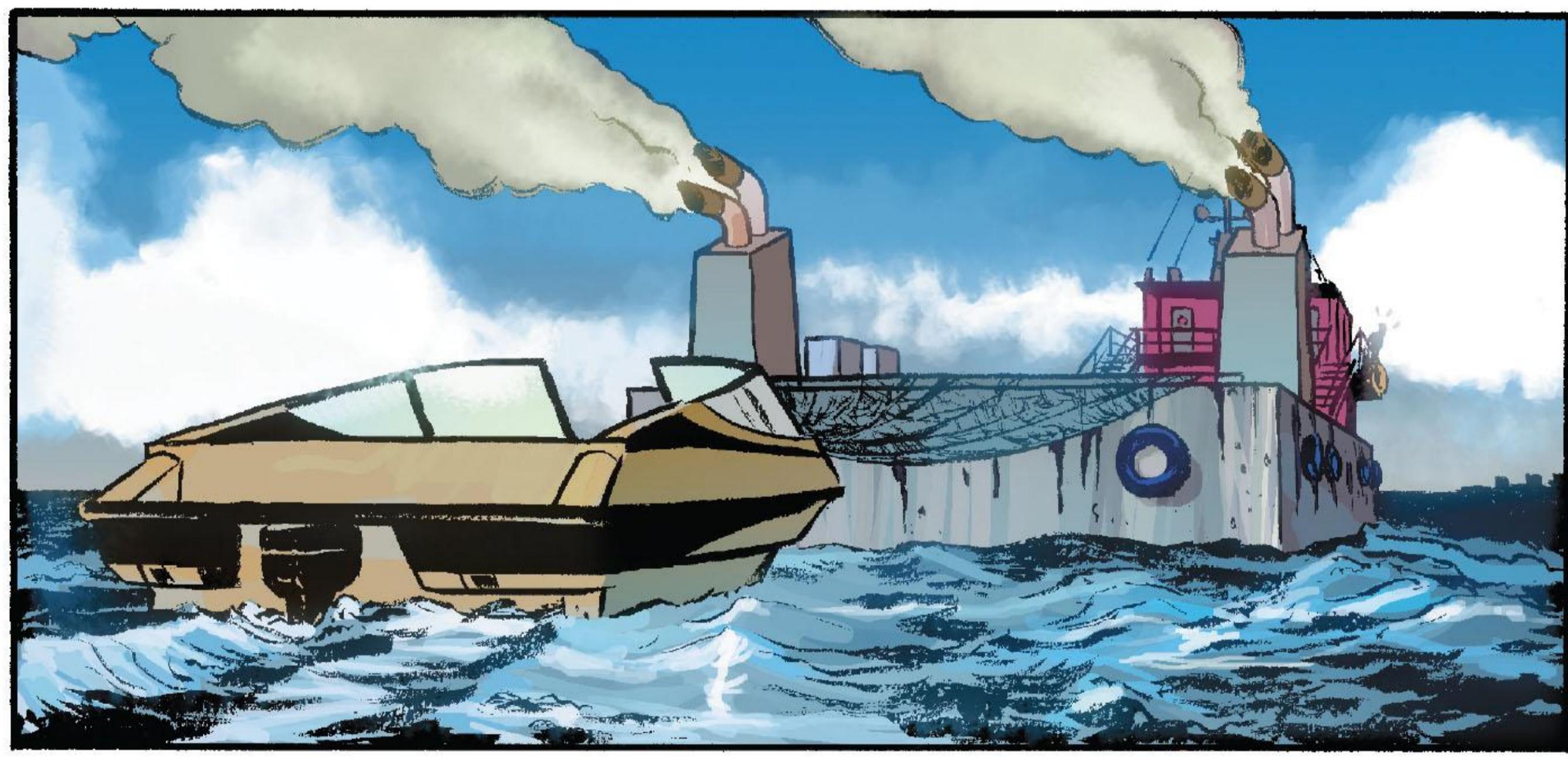


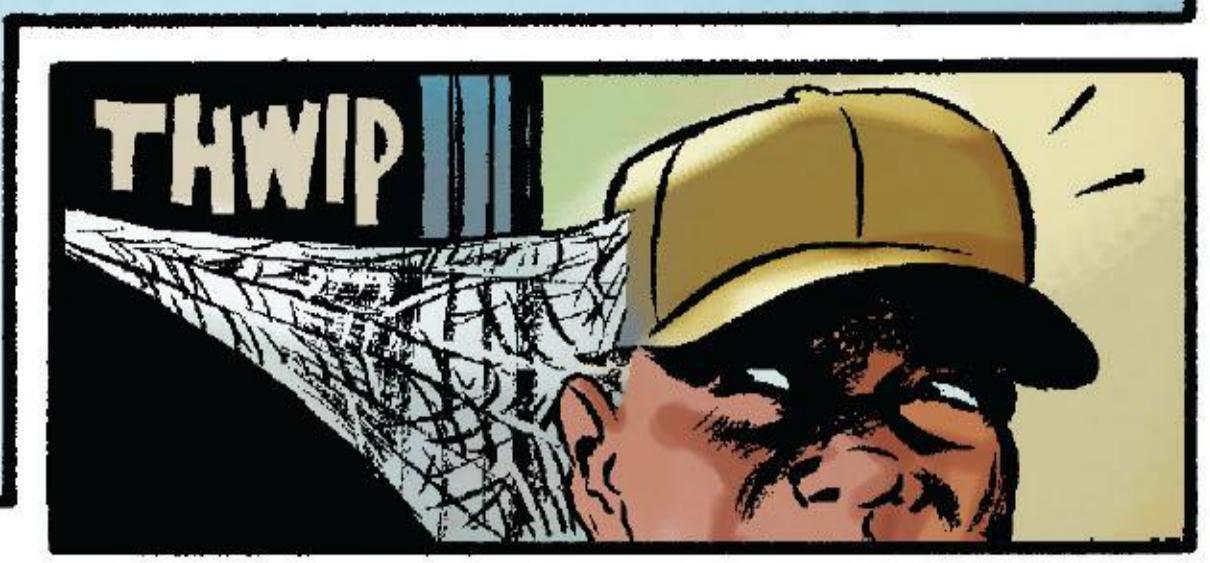
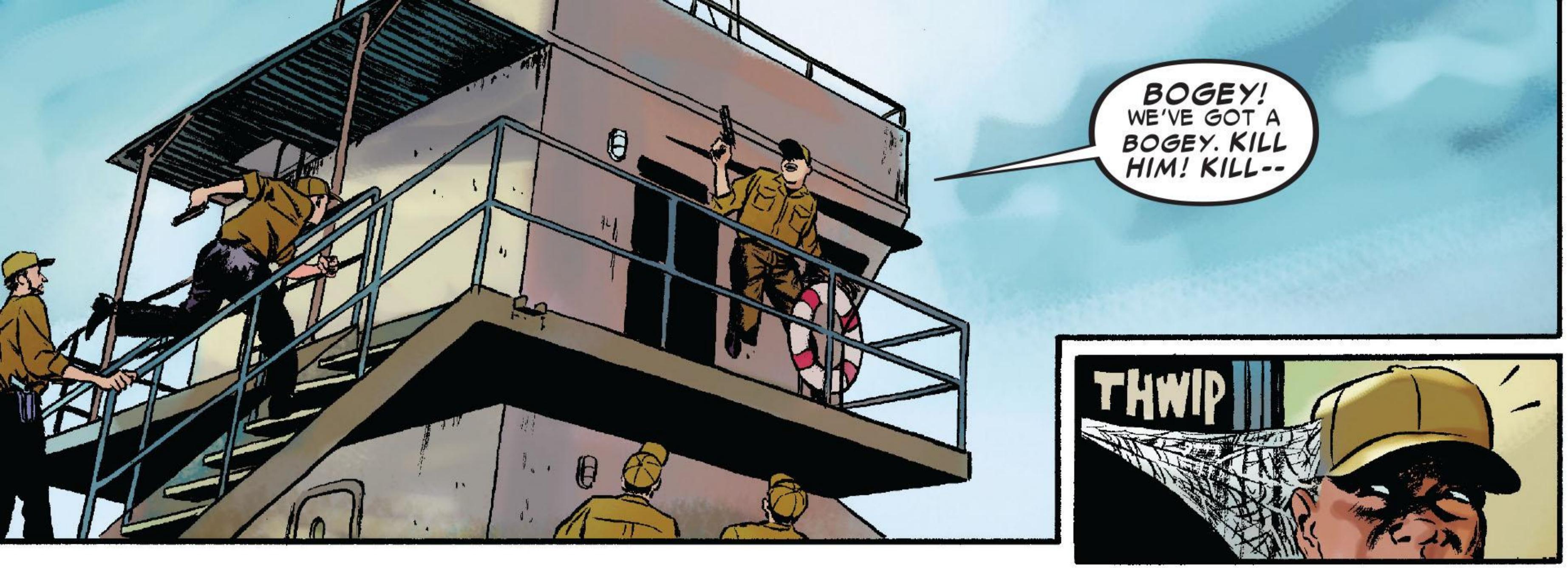




NOW, SINCE THE SAMPLE IS NO LONGER IN ITS CASE, AND YOUR BODY SEARCH REVEALED NOTHING BUT SCARS AND BULLET HOLES...









DIDN'T YOU  
WANT TO KNOW  
WHAT IT FELT LIKE  
TO HAVE ALL YOUR  
RAGE...ALL YOUR  
HATRED...CONVERTED  
DIRECTLY INTO  
POWER?

TO KEEP  
KILLING AND  
KILLING AND KILLING  
UNTIL ALL OF IT IS  
EATEN UP.

DIDN'T YOU WANT  
TO KNOW WHAT YOU  
REALLY ARE, WITHOUT  
BOUNDARIES? WITHOUT  
RESTRAINT?

I TOLD YOU.  
I DESTROYED  
IT.

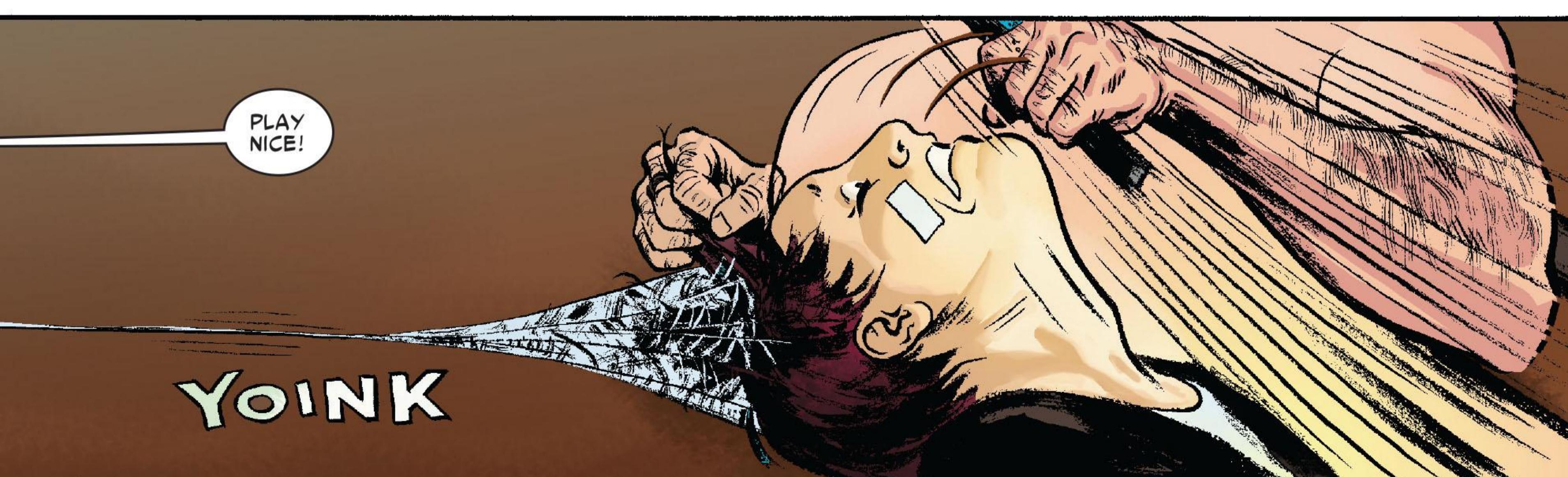
NOW LET'S  
GET THIS OVER  
WITH. I'M TIRED  
OF YOUR  
VOICE.

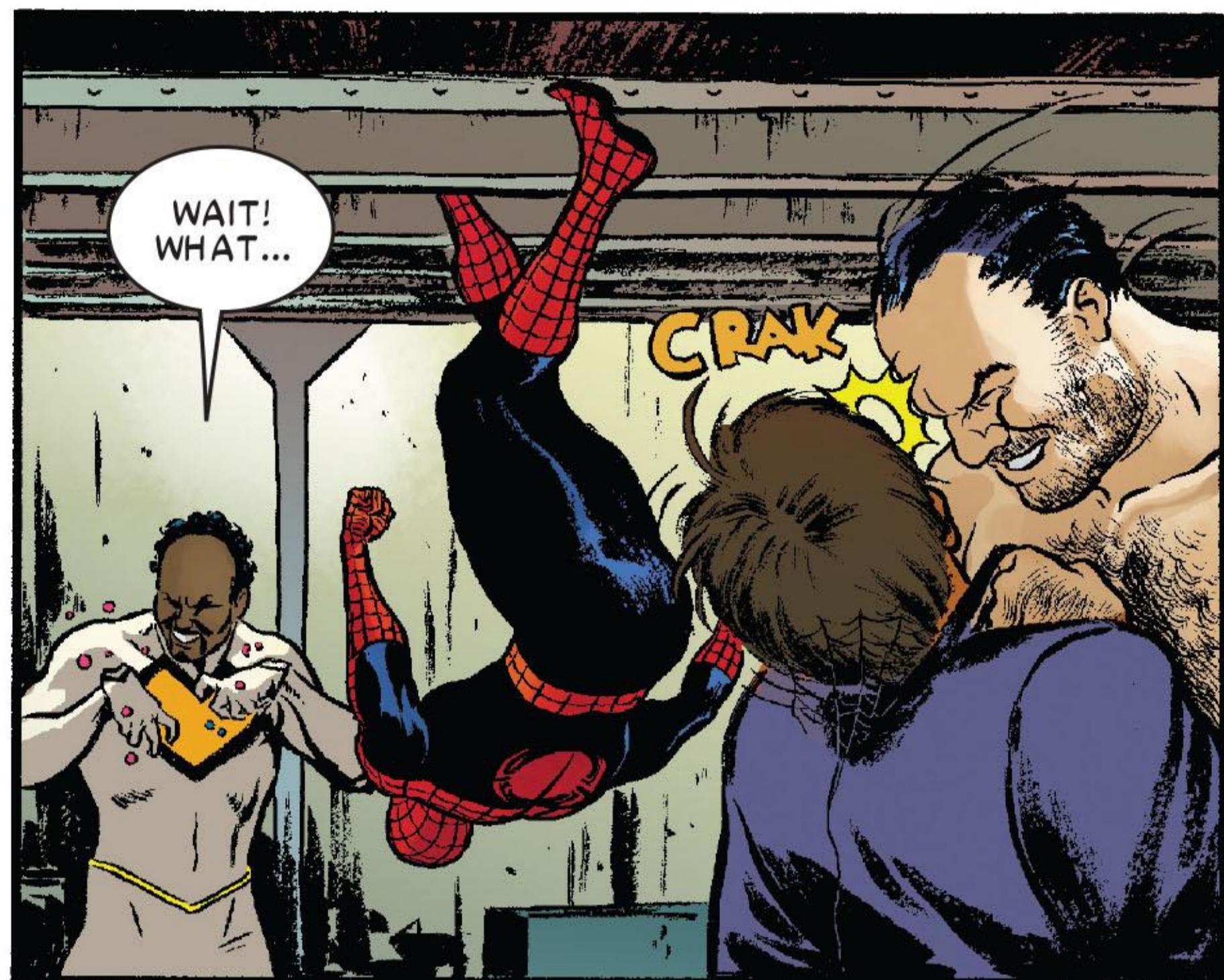
Y-YOU'RE  
TELLING THE  
TRUTH, AREN'T  
YOU?

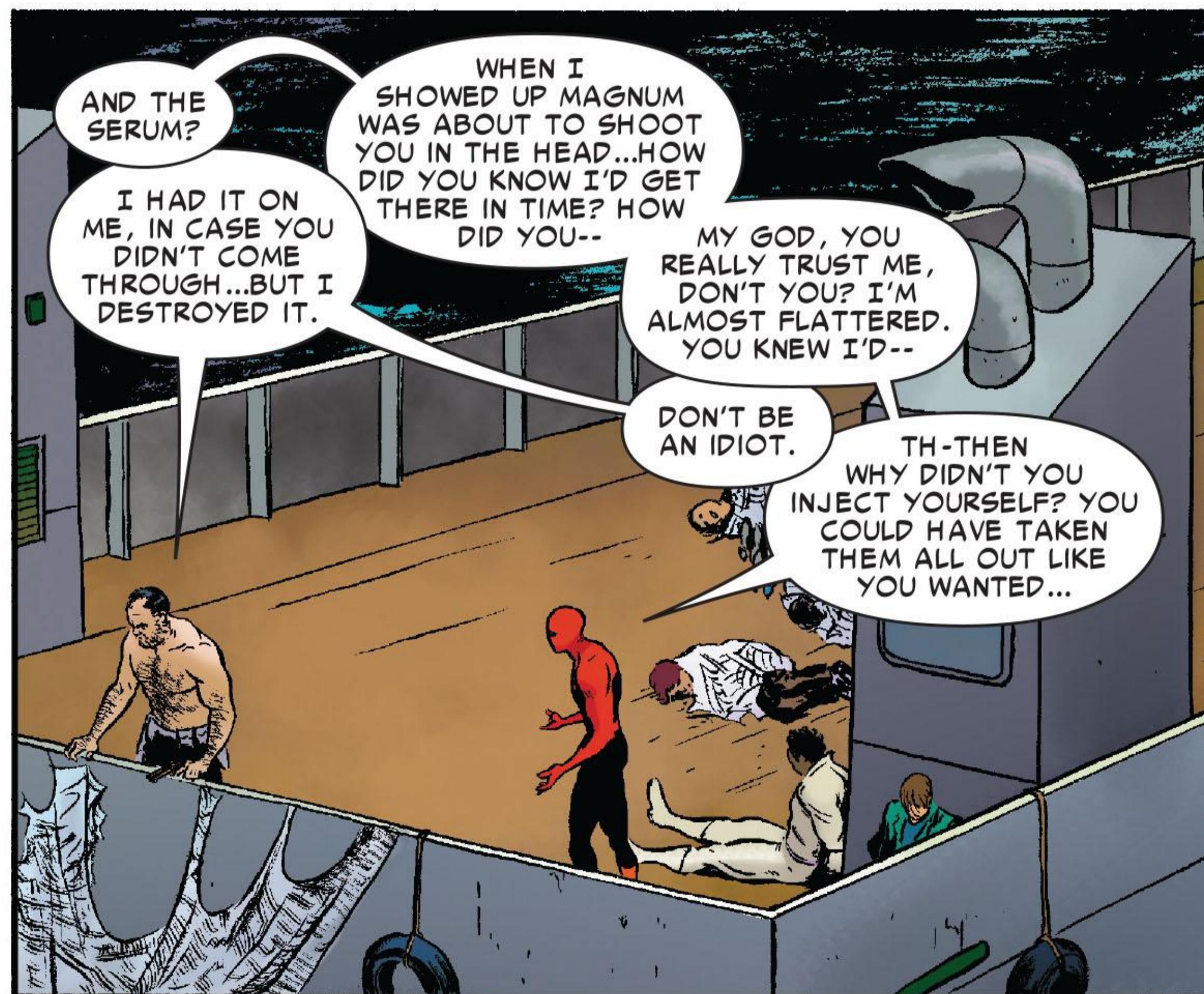
VERY  
WELL.

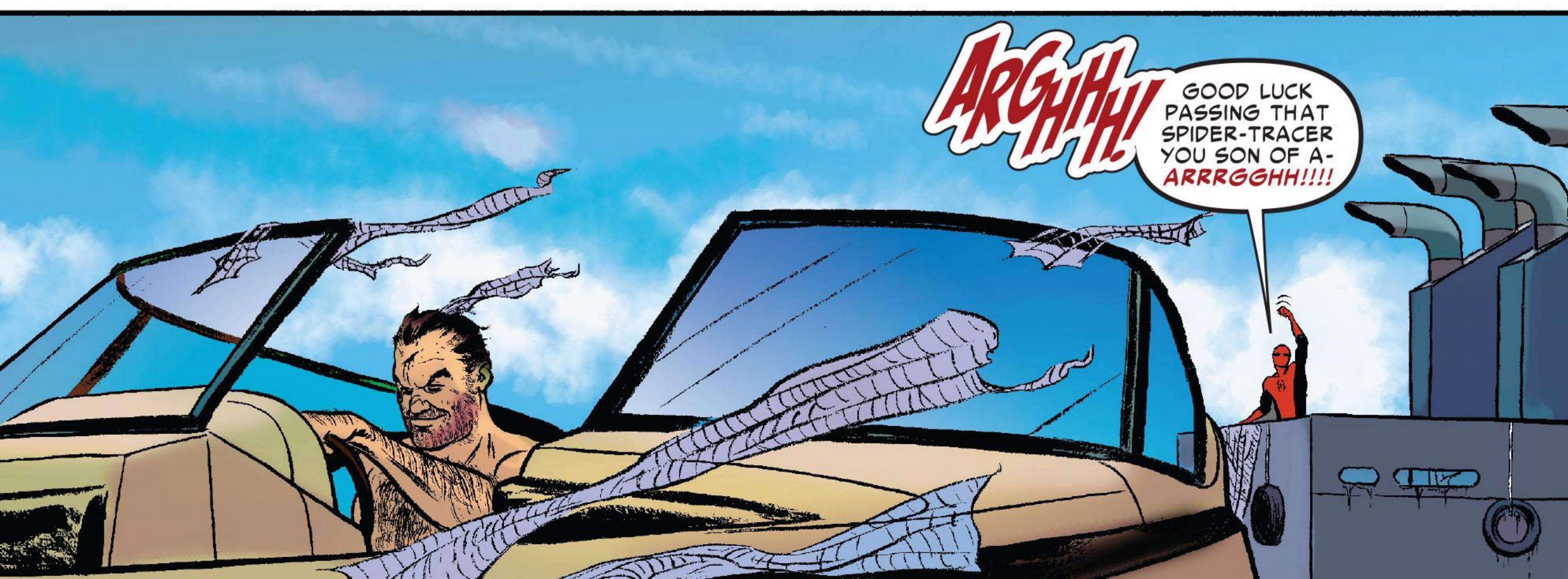
**CHEK**

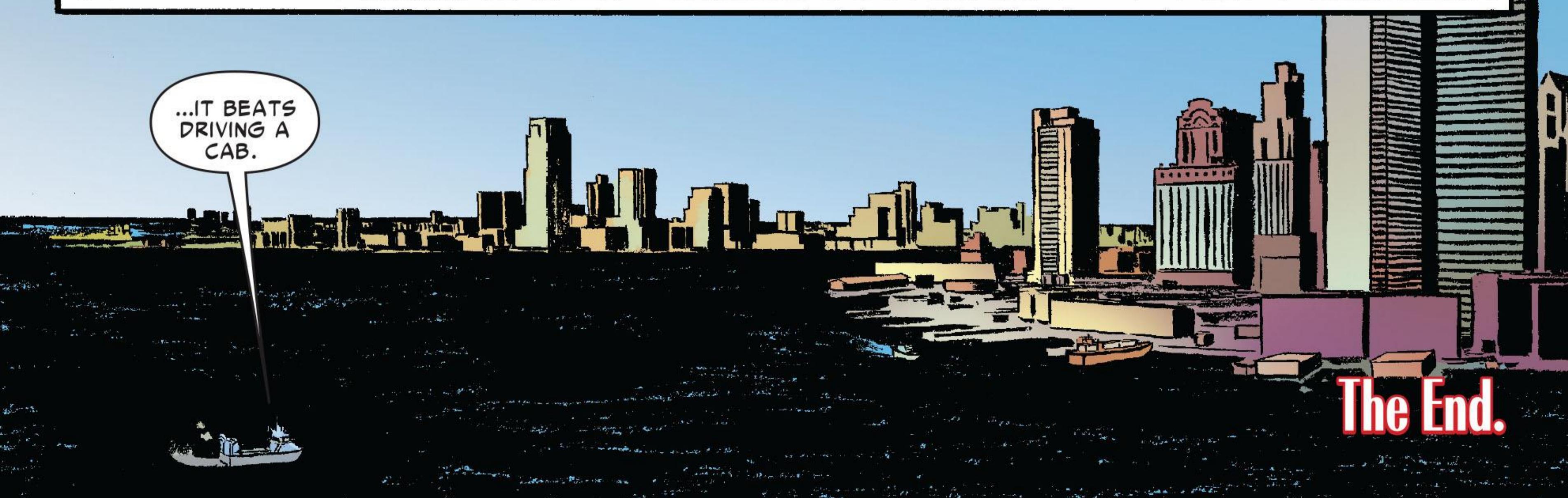












# the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL



Send e-mail to

[SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM](mailto:SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM)

(please mark as OKAY TO PRINT)

We're right back to the mail on parts 3 & 4 of New Ways to Die. Before that, though, we want to say thanks to former Spidey Braintrusters Zeb Wells and artist Paolo Rivera for stopping by for this extra-sized Punisher-palooza. Now howzabout I shut up and you get to gabbin'...

Dear Spider-people,

Months (or weeks?) ago when I read AMS #549 I wrote to you simply stating that I was thrilled about the new Goblin character (Menace), but that I already figured out who he was. You never published that brief letter, I'm guessing because I'm right!

I've just finished ASM #571, the battle between Menace and Norman Osborn was neat and I'm sticking to my guns...MENACE IS DEXTER BENNETT. Let's look at the evidence:

—Dexter Bennett arrives in the spotlight around the same time as Menace first appears.

—Dexter Bennett is more than just covering Menace in the DB; he's practically promoting him — "The DB! is about the new Menace" (ASM #549).

—And Menace wants to be known, known and feared, hence his attack during a mayoral debate (ASM #550).

—Dexter Bennett offers a ten thousand dollar bonus to the first person to get him a photo of Menace (ASM #549). Why? He wants to promote himself.

—Both Bennett and Menace are not interested in Spider-Man, but with power.

—Menace must have some super enhanced strength/stamina in order to toe-toe with Norman Osborn (ASM #571).

—Bennett displays enhanced stamina by beating "death three times" (ASM #564).

—"No one at the DB knows half of what I'm doing" — Dexter Bennett (ASM #560).

Anyway, whenever you decide to reveal who Menace is, please don't let it be anything like ASM #289.

Speaking of ASM #289, please bring back Roderick Kingsley, the Hobgoblin, to these fine pages. I was glad to see him over in Spider-Girl, but it's been way too long since Hobby has been featured in the pages of this book.

Kevin Coleman  
NYC

**Kevin, indeed I did not run your letter originally because you in fact may be onto something...however I am running it now, so maybe you aren't onto anything and this is simply reverse psychology on my part. UNLESS, me actually calling it reverse psychology is in and of itself reversed reverse psychology and you are onto our plans exactly. Crazy world, ain't it?**

**Truth is, Menace's identity is known only to Tom Brennan. Even the current Spider-Man creators don't know who Menace is. So you should definitely inundate Tom with e-mail at his personal account [BrennantheMenace@gmail.com](mailto:BrennantheMenace@gmail.com). Seriously, it works. Make him tell you.**



Dear Spidey Mail,

Please tell Mr. Slott, that he (in my book) has reached a new level of Cool. New Ways To Die is excellent. And Mr. Wacker, those BND hating people in ASM #565 are wrong (in my book), because even though it wasn't your decision to revert back to the so called "sixties type," you guys nailed it and I see amazing potential.

The new villains have been ok for me, except for Mr. Negative, amazing stuff there. Does have a split personality, childhood-trauma, or a bad laxative? Menace I have some theories

about. I think it's one of the main supporting cast of BND.

Ok, last note, please wish me luck on my writing career, I was thinking about dipping my hands in this genre. I always wanted to write The Spot, I think he has spunk.

Shafi Sikander, age 21  
Via e-mail

**Thanks for the letter, Shafi. We get letters of yours quite often, so let me give you some advice I give to a lot of aspiring creators: breaking into one of the comic companies is like trying to walk onto the field and join the New York Giants. Occasionally you might hear of it happening to someone out of the blue, but it's extremely rare.**

**I'd suggest you take some swings at creating your own characters and stories. Comics are one of those rare artforms where you don't need a lot of money to create your own stuff. You're a writer, so look around online or at schools, or even comic conventions for artists looking to break in also and work together to create your own comics. That's just one way to make your mark in the crazy comics world, but it's a tried and true one.**

**The other way is buy Reese's Peanut Butter Cups for Brevoort, but trust me, he doesn't need any more.**



Dear Spider-team,

I'm a longtime fan and I use to be a hardcore collector when I was kid during the McFarlane/Larsen days. Since then, I have finished college, bought a home, and married the love of my life, leaving me with little free time the past few years to keep my collection going.

In a turn of events this past year, I was faced with the hardest thing I have ever had to deal with: caring for my mother who has just recently passed away from a long battle with lung cancer. Without the support of my close family, I don't know how I would have gotten through this the past few weeks.

Then things got a little easier when I came across my entire collection of Amazing Spider-Man comics that my mother had kept safe for me all these years packed away in the basement of her house. She always made sure I could get my hands on each month's issue for years.

Since getting my comics and bringing them home with me, I've started reading them over again. This led me to find a little local comic book shop here in town called Memory Lane Comics that now helps me feed my Spider-Man addiction once again. Great for my soul but hard on my wallet. I purchased all the comics I missed collecting over the years and started getting each new issue as it comes out. I started reading around #540 up to the newest issue and I have to say this book is better than ever!

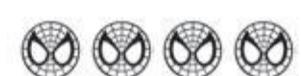
I love the Brand New Day story line and it came at a perfect time for me in my life. I feel as if I'm starting a Brand New Day, which I thought I wouldn't ever be able to do after losing my mom.

This story line has helped me through this hard time and lifted my spirits when I was sad. It has made me realize that there is light at the end of the tunnel even at the darkest times. I'm glad to be starting a good Brand New Day and it's awesome that Spider-Man can come along for the ride. It's very comforting to have this back in my life again and it feels as if it's my Mom's way of still being with me and saying things are going to be okay.

You guys keep up the good work and I will see you next issue #572

Longtime fan and renewed fanatic,  
Graylon Martin  
Wilmington N.C.

**Beautiful letter, Graylon. Thanks for sharing. Terribly sorry to hear about your loss, but we're honored to have you back reading Spidey.**



Web-Heads,

Amazing Spider-Man #571 was sheer excellence! How do you pump any more action into a book? You have Spidey fighting Anti-Venom while Norman Osborn is taking on Menace. I can't wait to find out who the guy really is.

Then you throw in the Thunderbolts and Bullseye. This truly was ACTION IN THE MIGHTY MARVEL MANNER. Gosh, you guys just keep getting better and better. NWTD is one hell of a story line. Dan, keep up the good work. John Jr.? I don't even have to tell you. How do you tell the best to get better?

Love you guys!

John Staltaro  
Stratford, Connecticut

Steve,

I loved the reference to "Bigfoot in the freezer" in ASM #572! Being an archaeologist, I get asked all the time about finding Bigfoot and it was such a relief for you guys to make that parallel to modern "finds."

Keep up the great writing and keep incorporating contemporary "archaeology"!

John Blair  
Via e-mail

**John...I...I don't even know what to say to this. I guess I'll promise to do my best to make sure we keep...uhhh..."incorporating contemporary archaeology"**

**...like Bigfoot.**

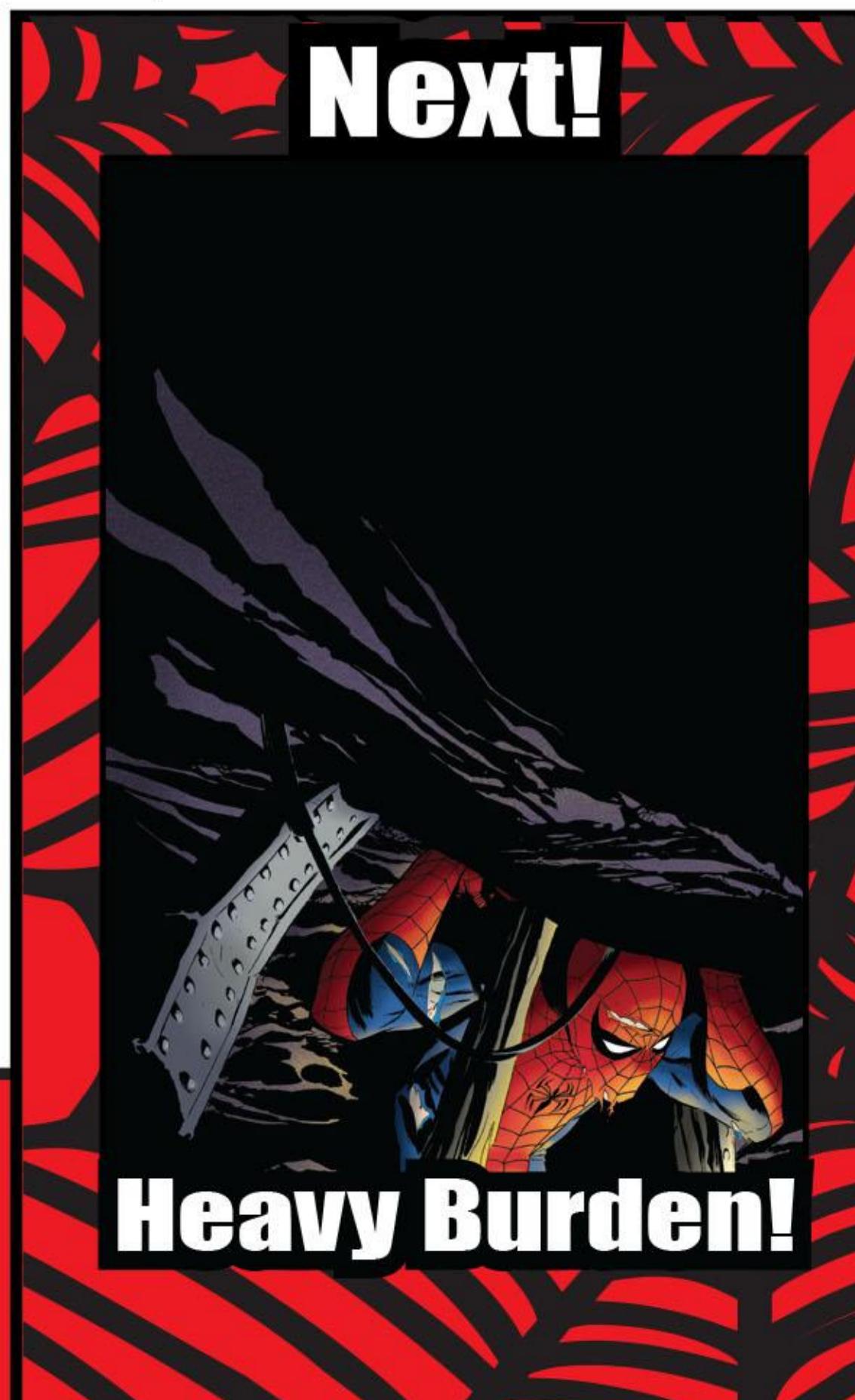


**See ya next week gang. Maid Waid and Marcos Martin are up next with the return of a classic Spidey foe on Pete's luckiest day.**

Viva Templar!  
Simperin' Steve  
10/24/08

Cover by Paolo Rivera

Next!



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