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NOV.

# the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

HALF-MAN... HALF-REPTILE...  
**THE LIZARD**  
WILL TAKE OVER ALL OF  
EARTH UNLESS SPIDER-MAN  
ALONE CAN STOP HIM!

**THE MARVEL AGE OF COMICS IS HERE!**

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# "FACE-TO-FACE WITH... THE LIZARD!"

IT IS COMMON KNOWLEDGE  
THAT SPIDER-MAN IS THE MOST  
SUCCESSFUL NEW SUPER-HERO  
SINCE THE FANTASTIC FOUR!

THIS, THE LATEST AND POSSIBLY  
THE GREATEST OF ALL HIS  
ADVENTURES, WILL SHOW  
YOU WHY THE MYSTERIOUS  
MASKED TEEN-AGER HAS  
BECOME AMERICA'S SUPER  
SENSATION!

WRITTEN BY:  
**STAN LEE**

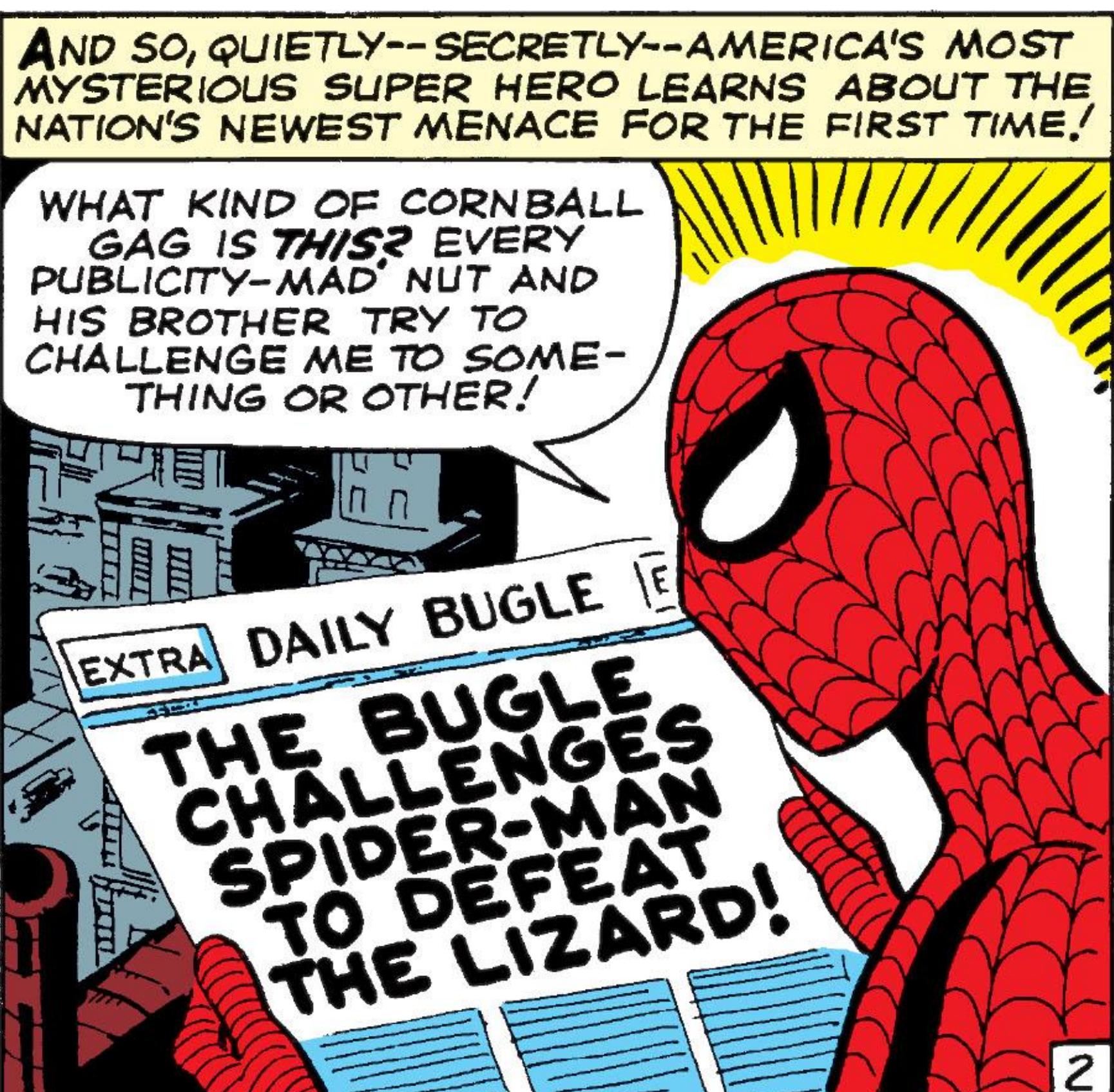
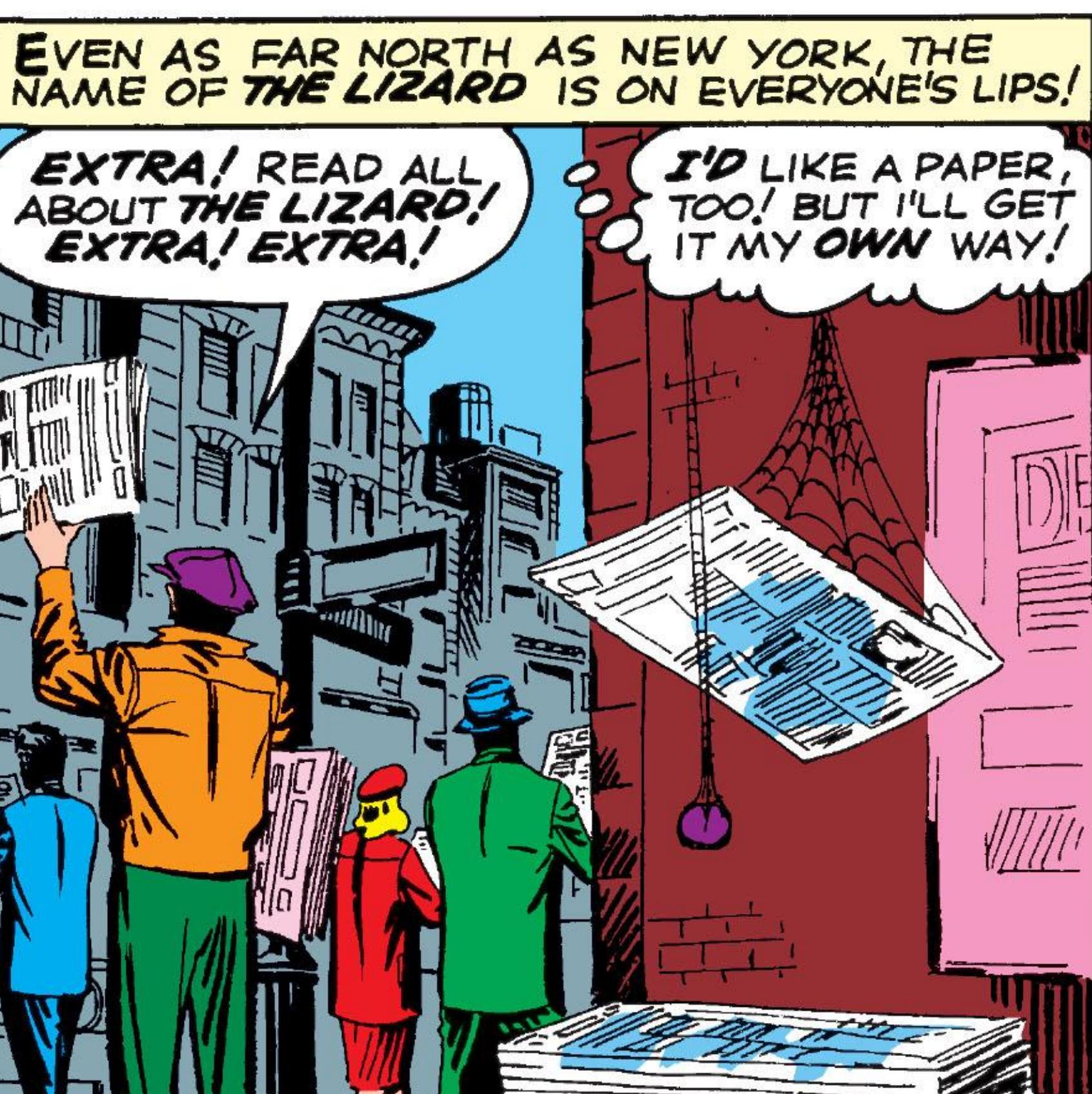
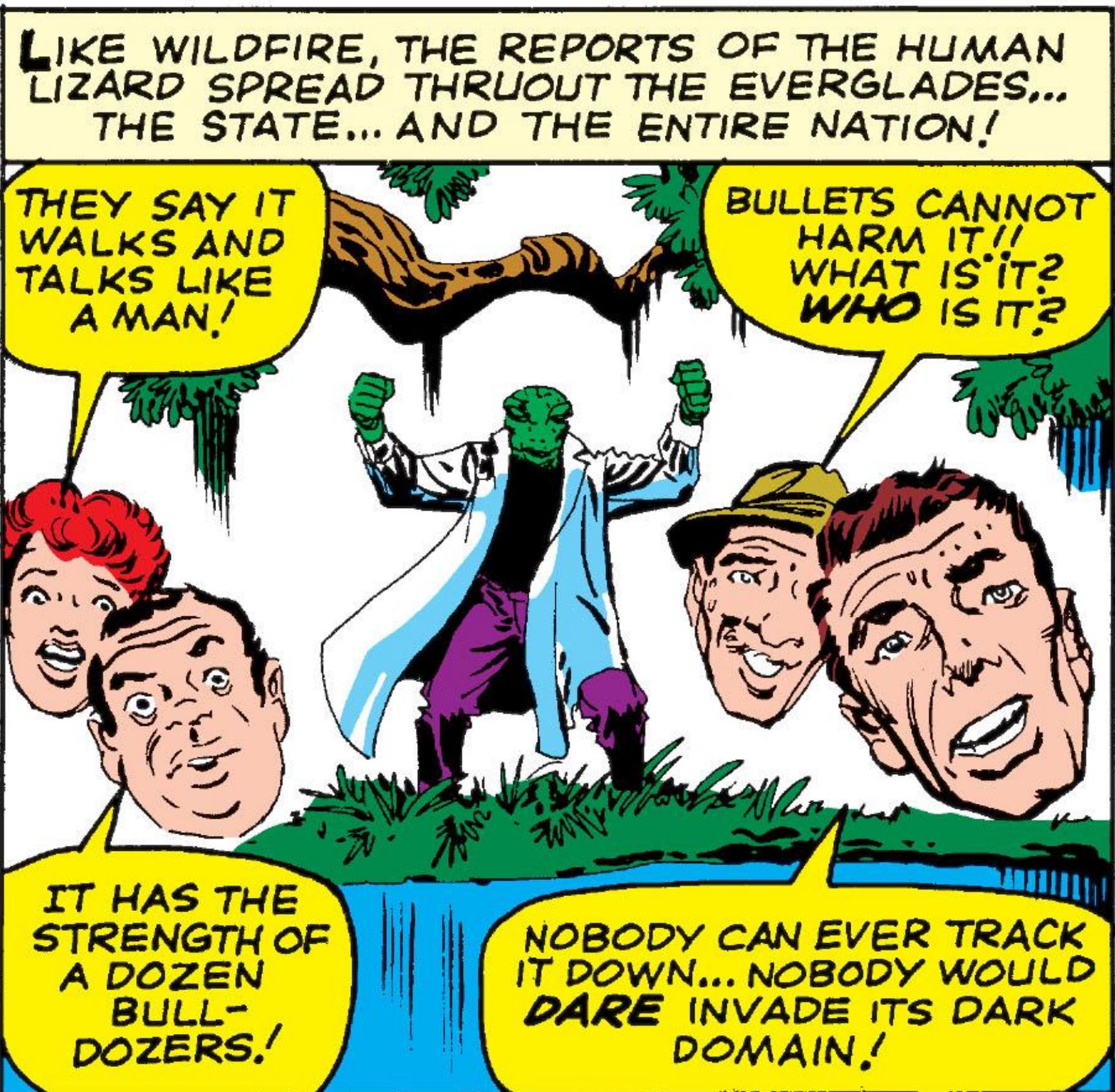
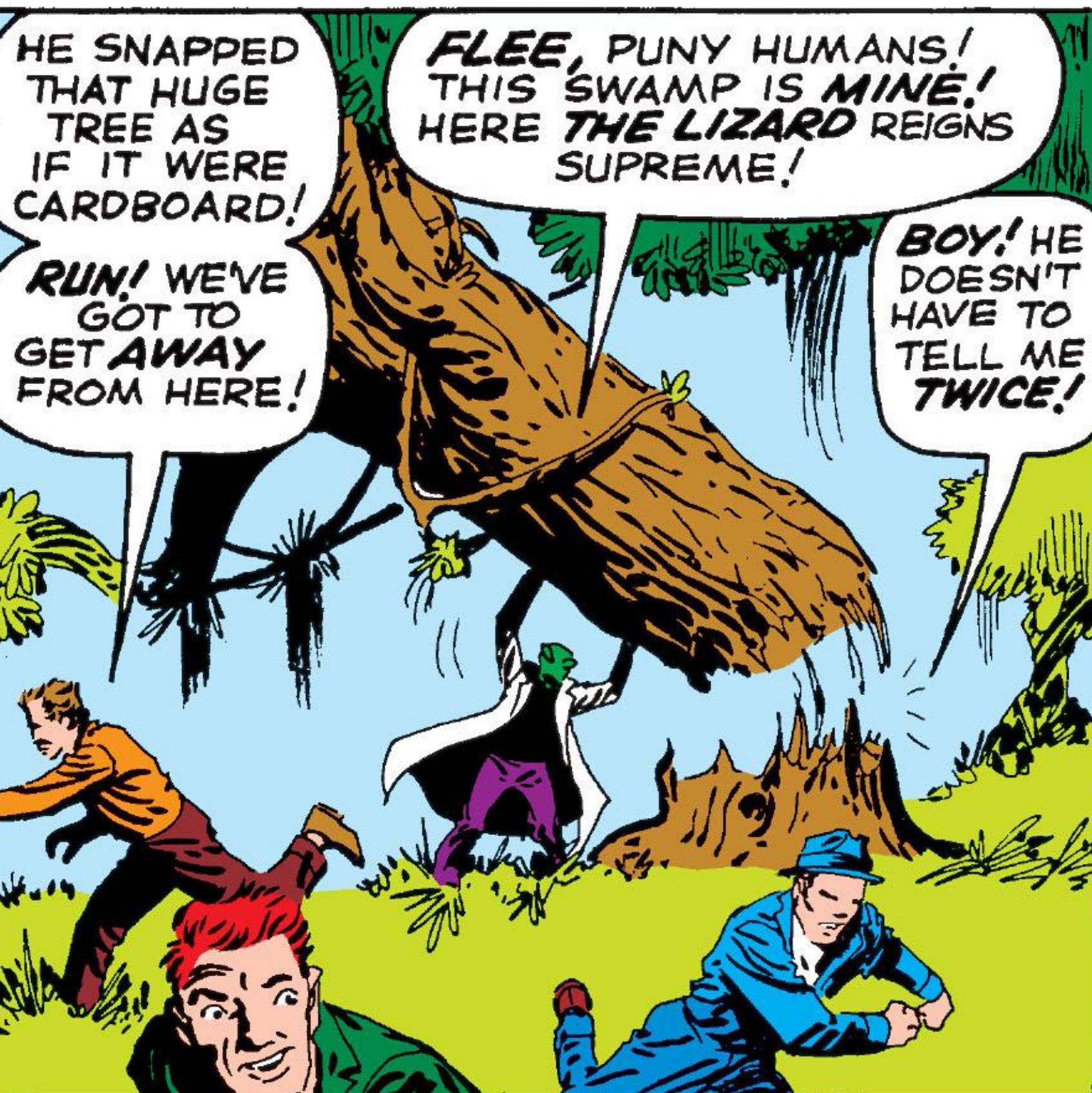
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**STEVE DITKO**

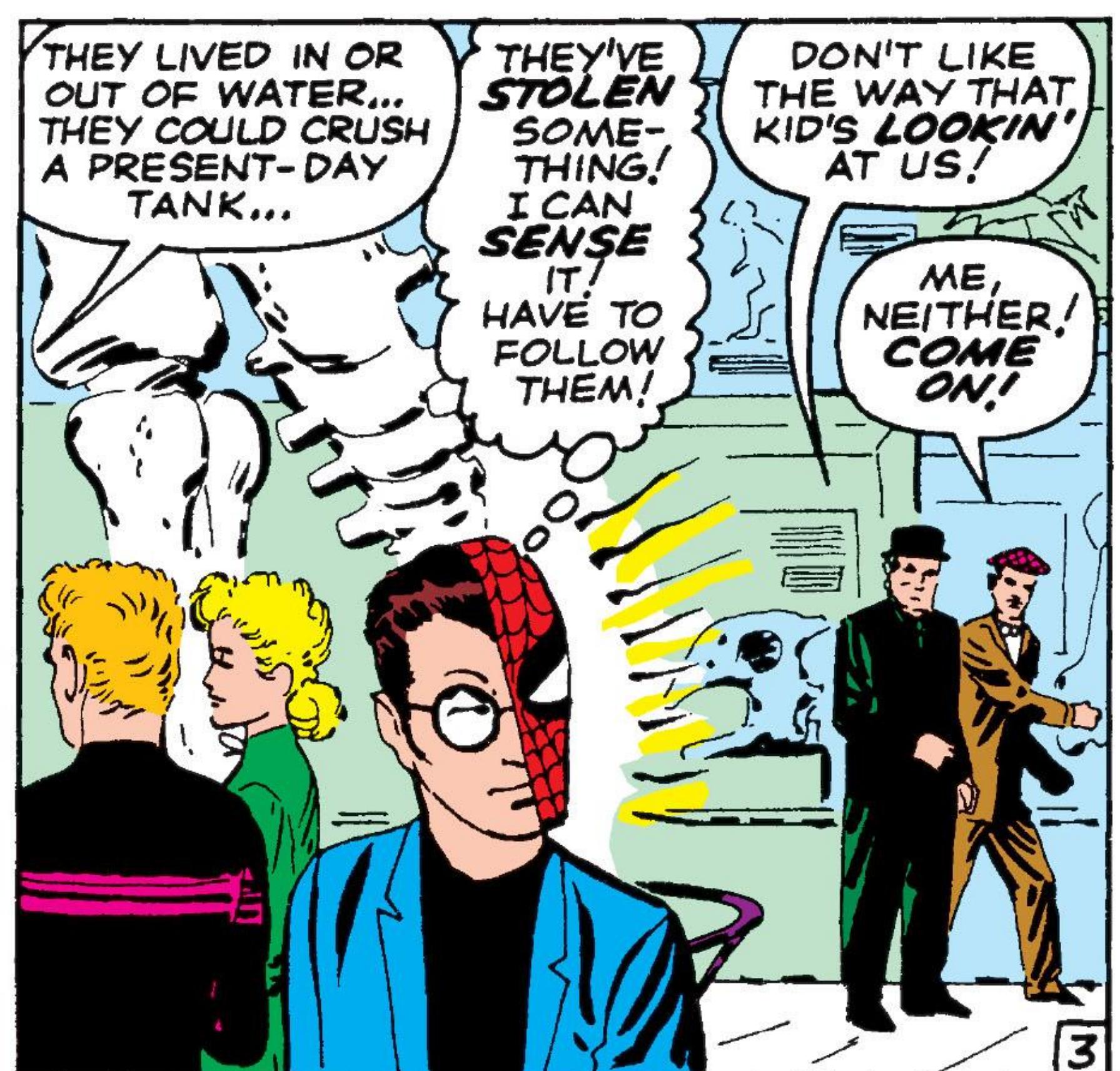
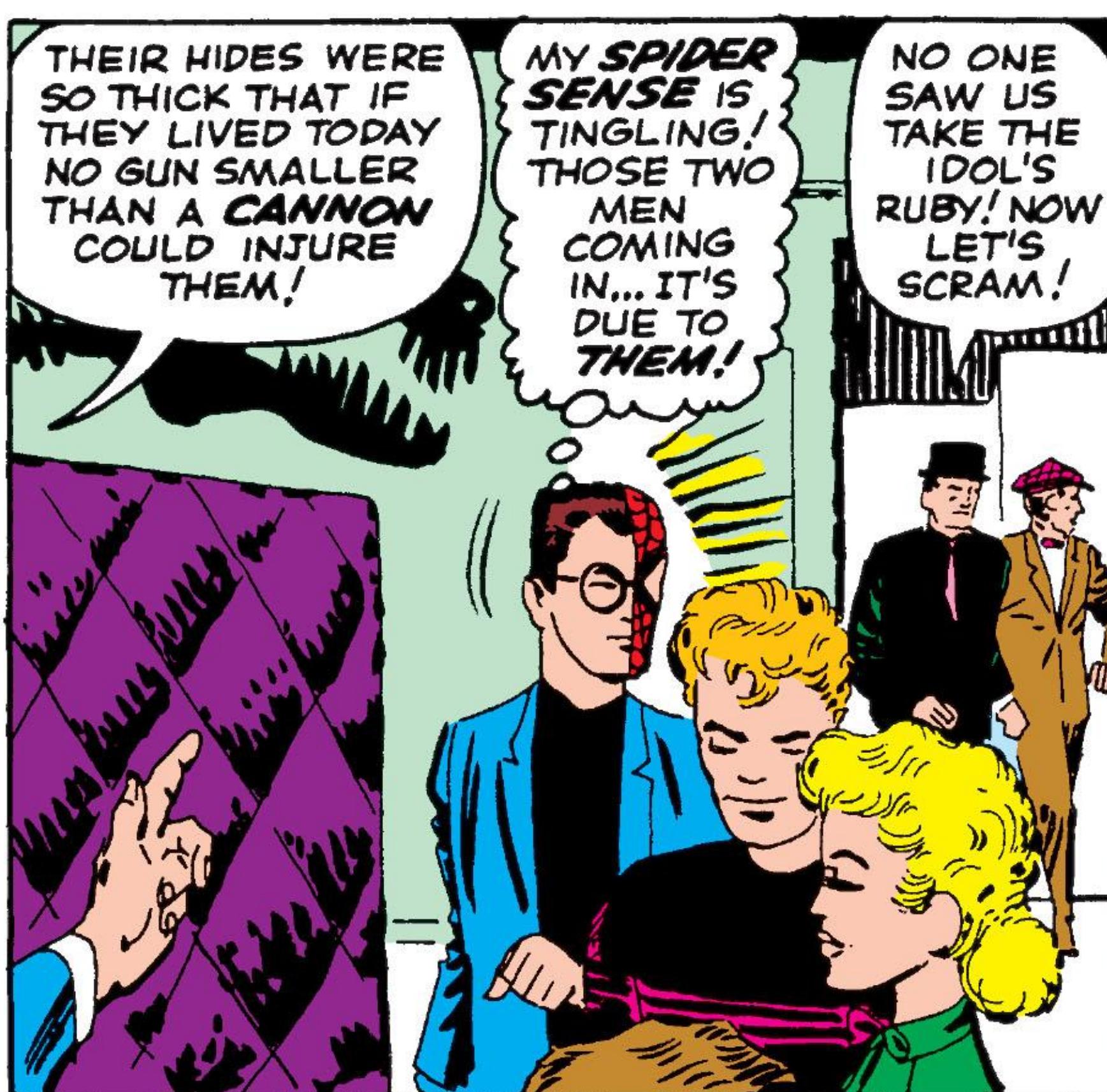
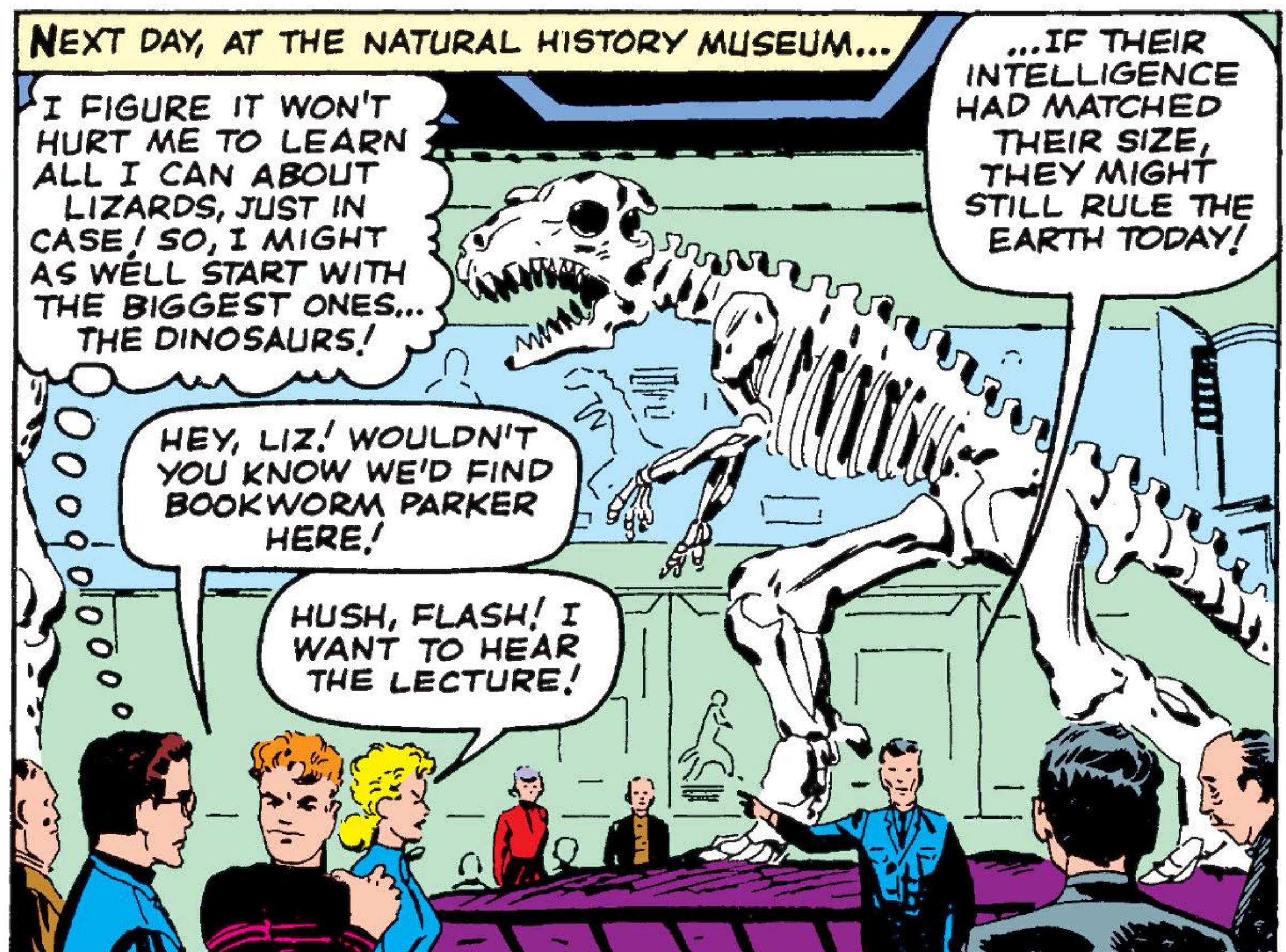
LETTERED BY:  
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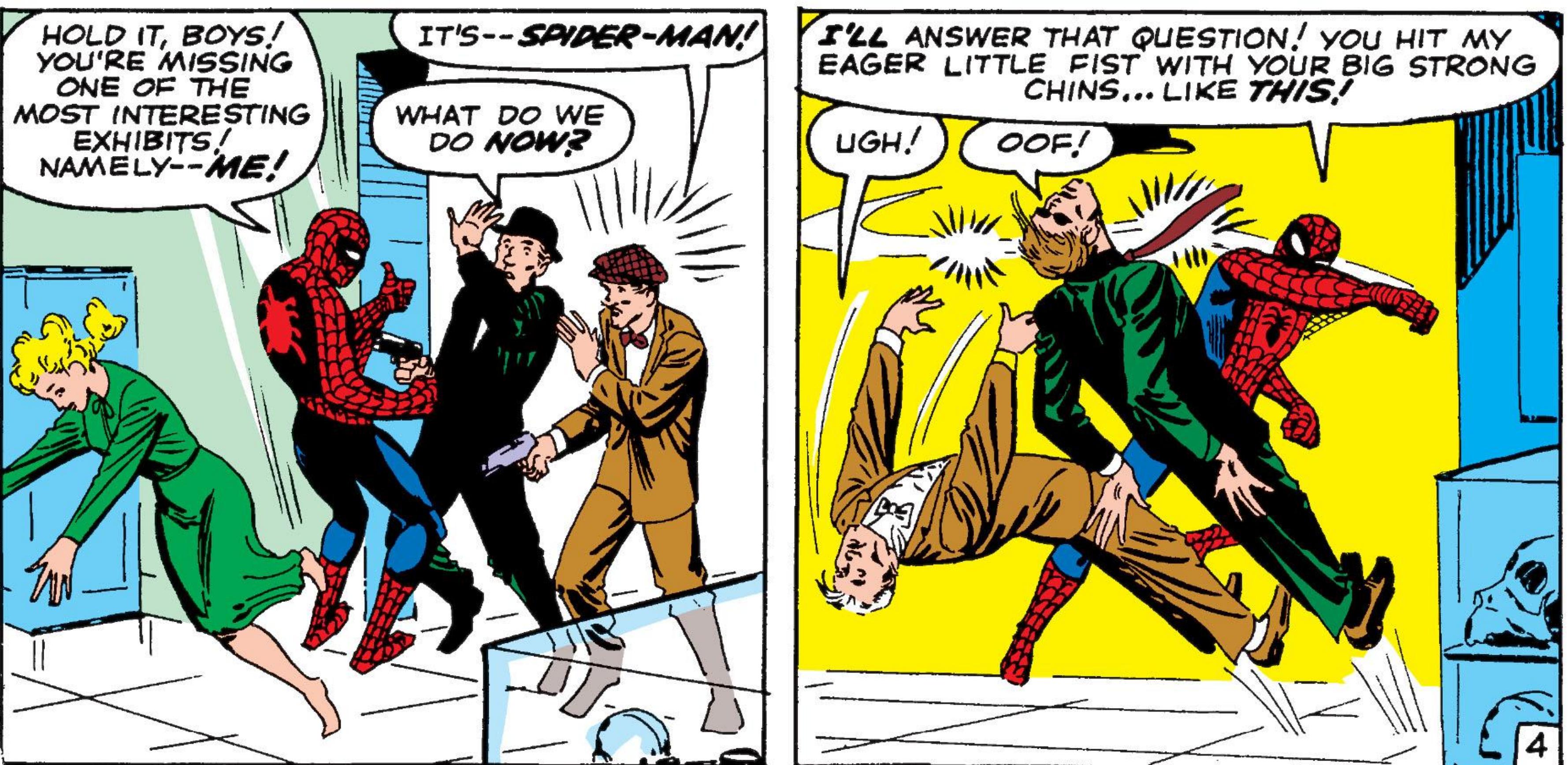
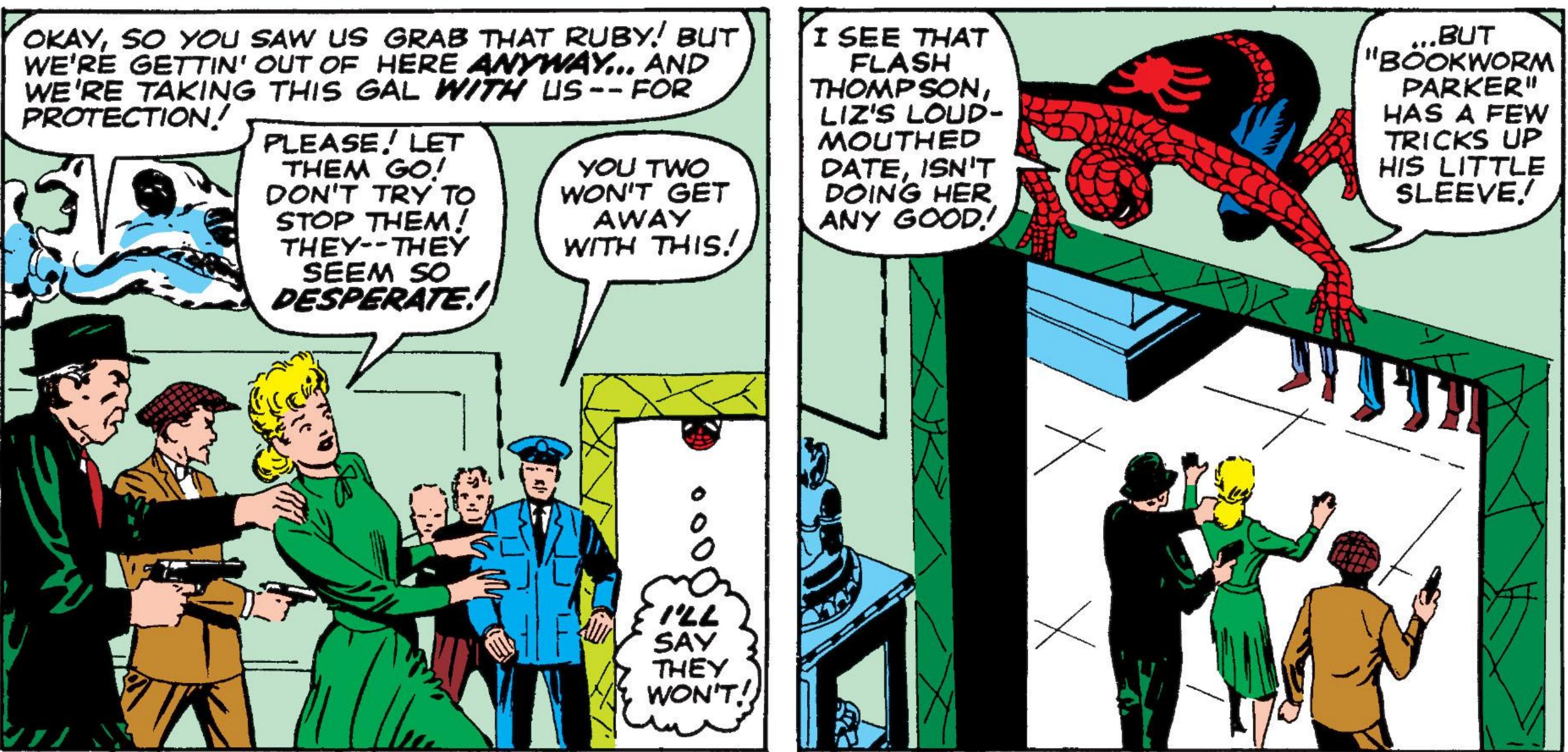
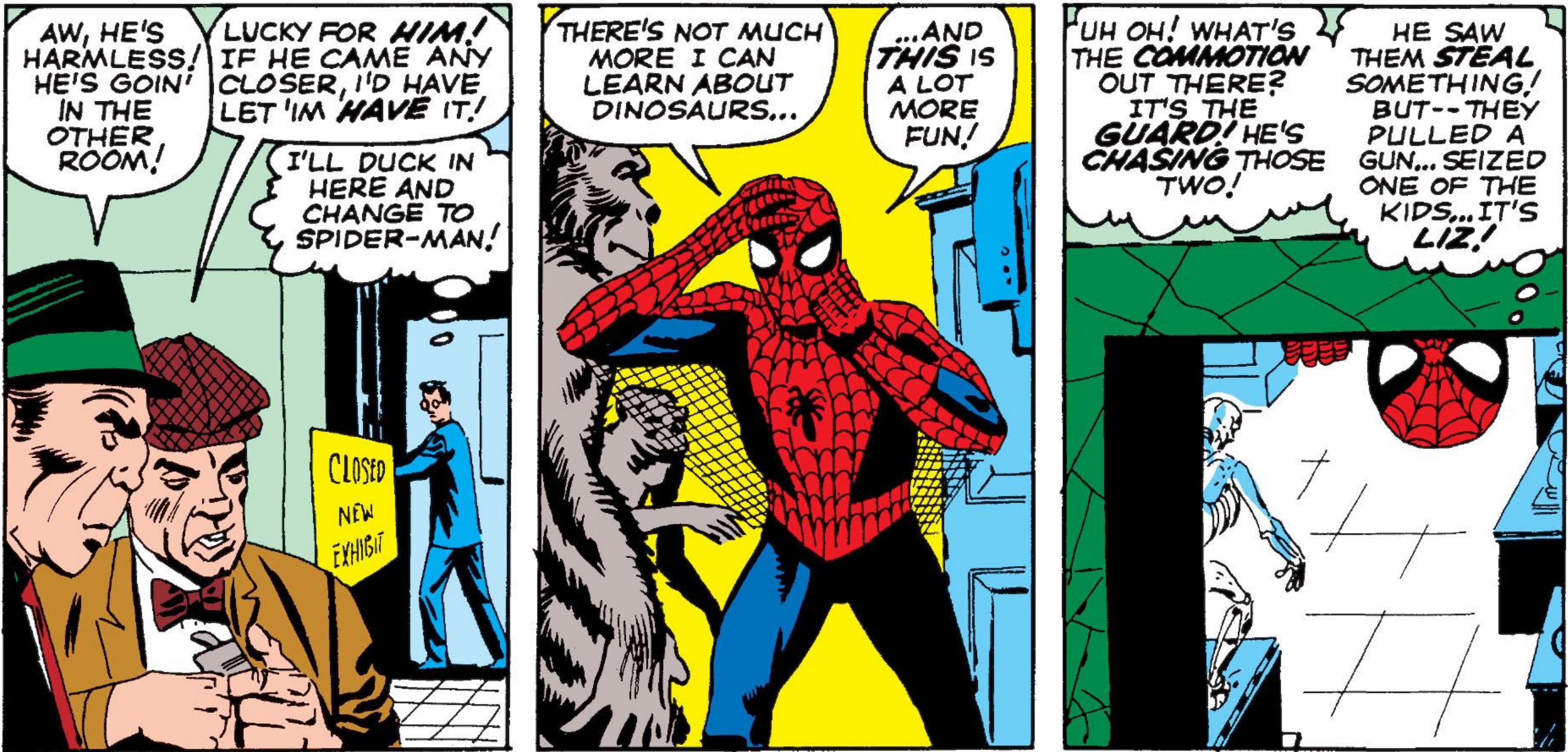


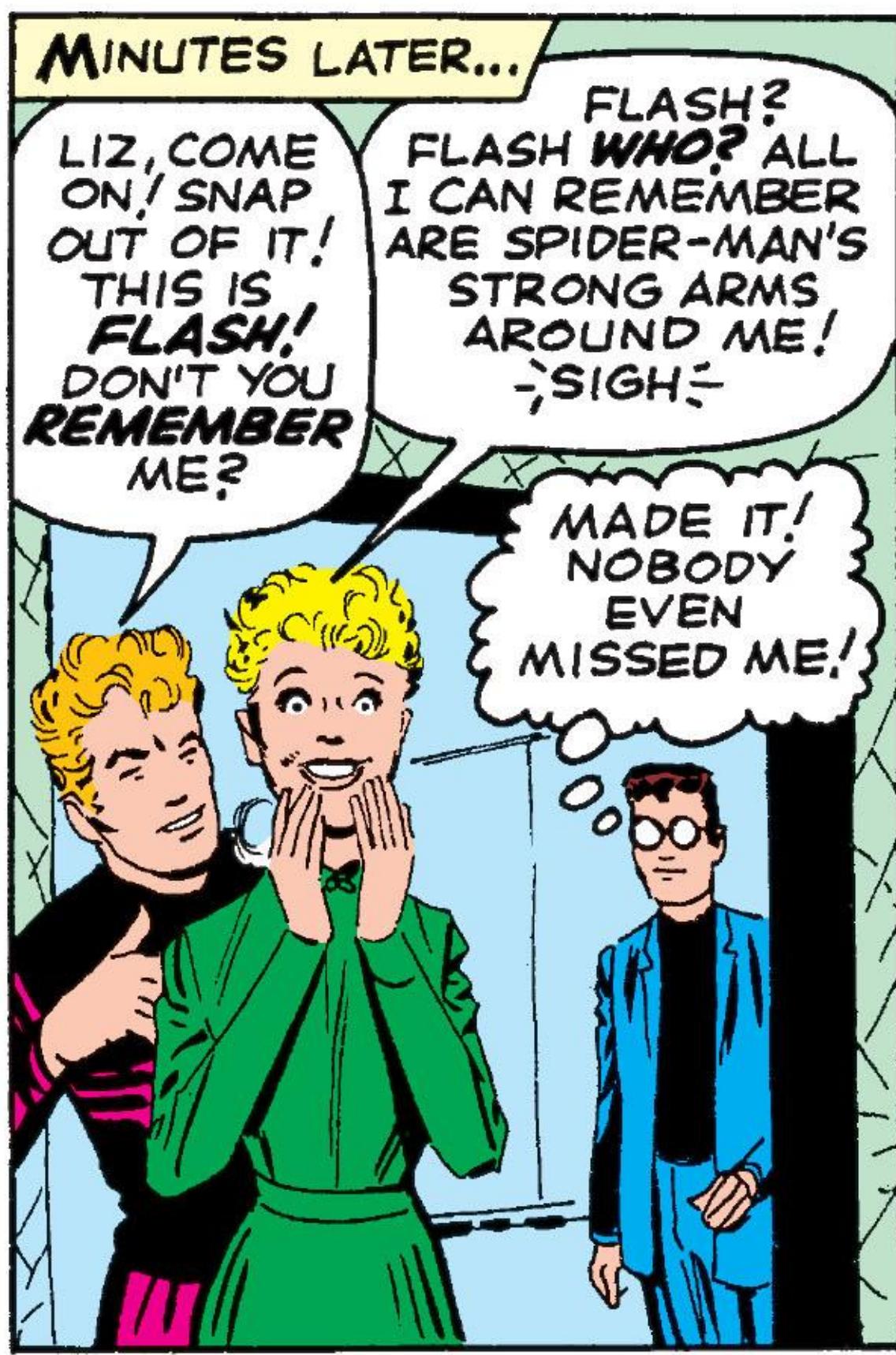
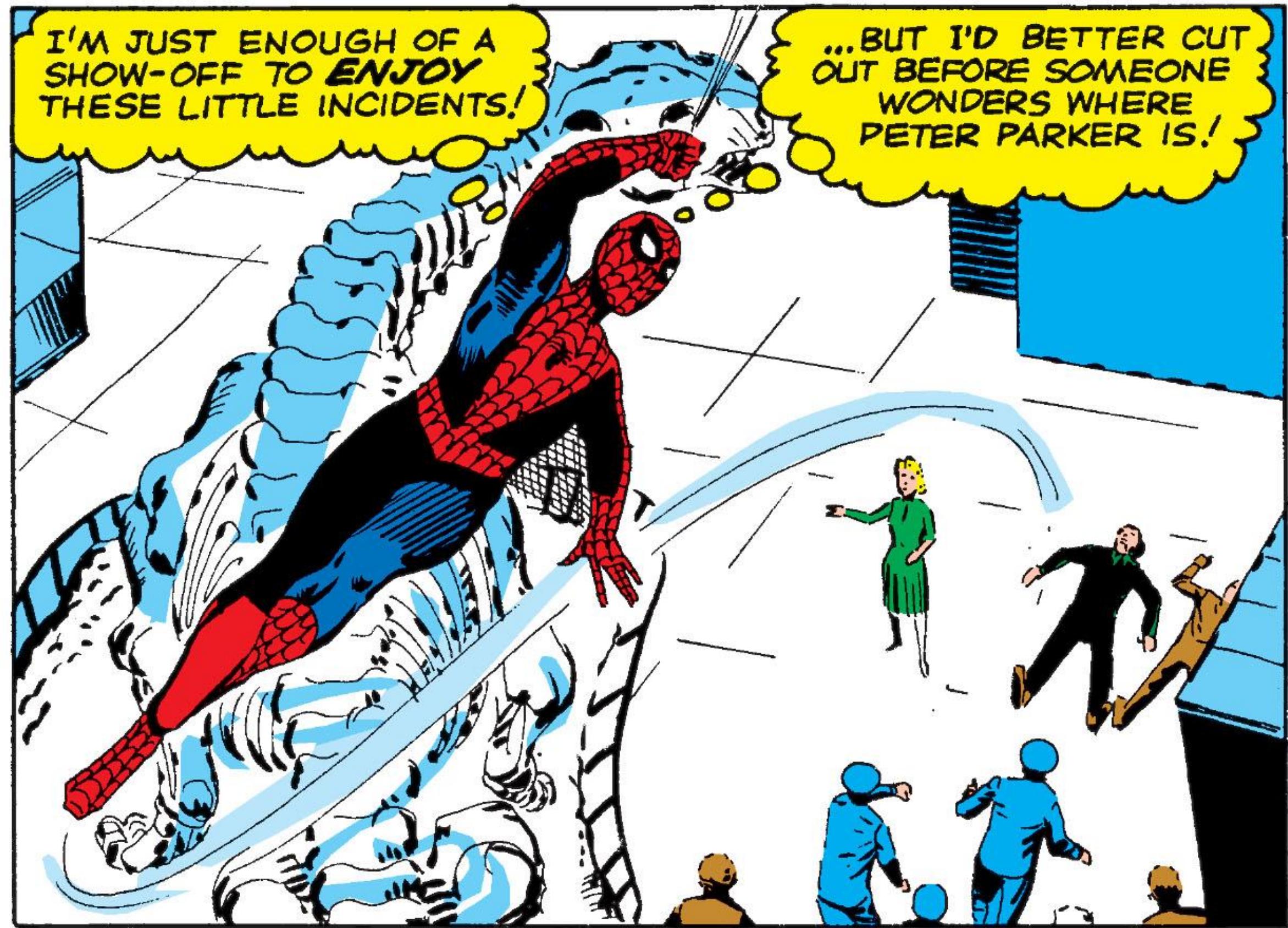
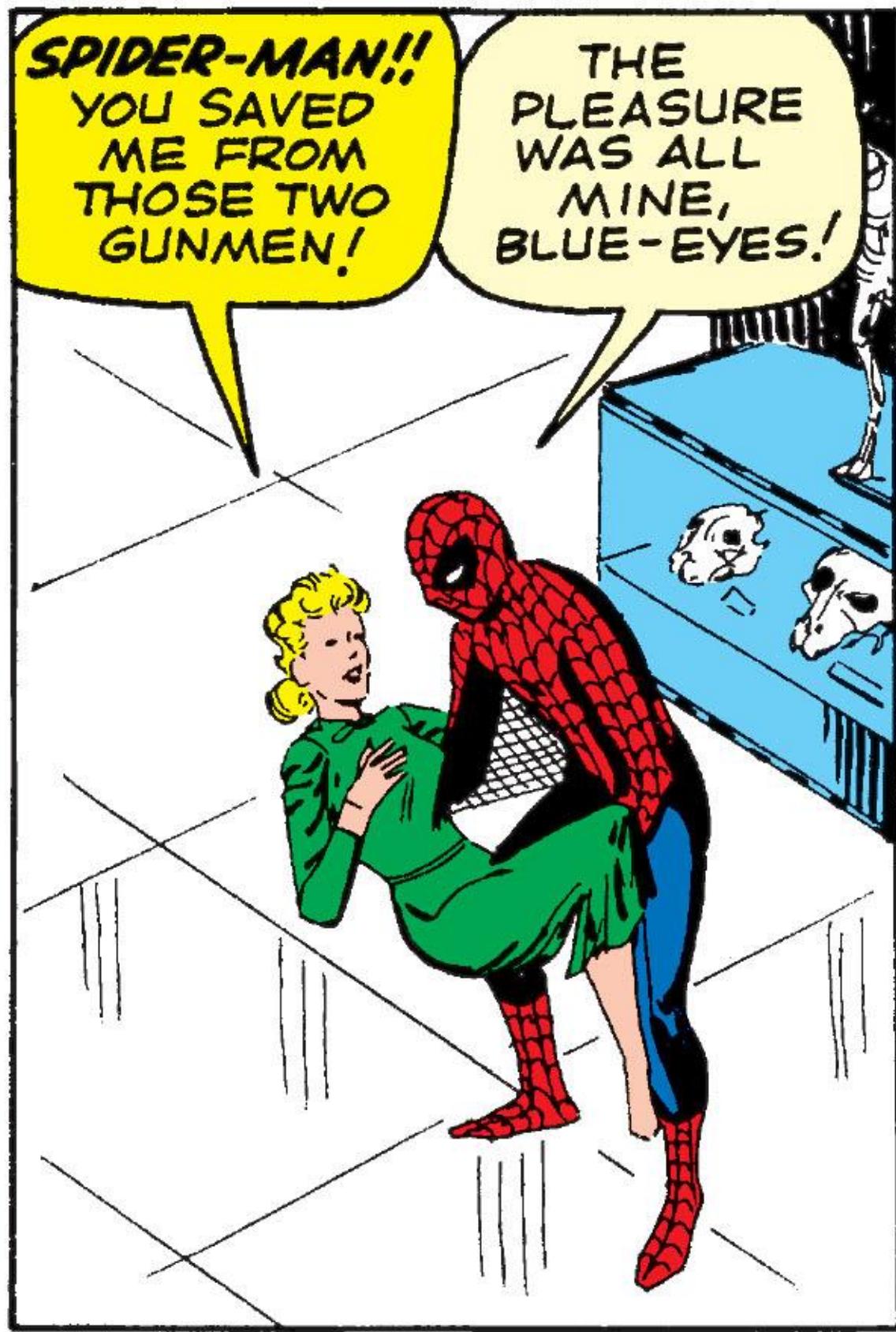
A  
21-PAGE  
SPIDER-MAN  
SUPER  
EPIC!

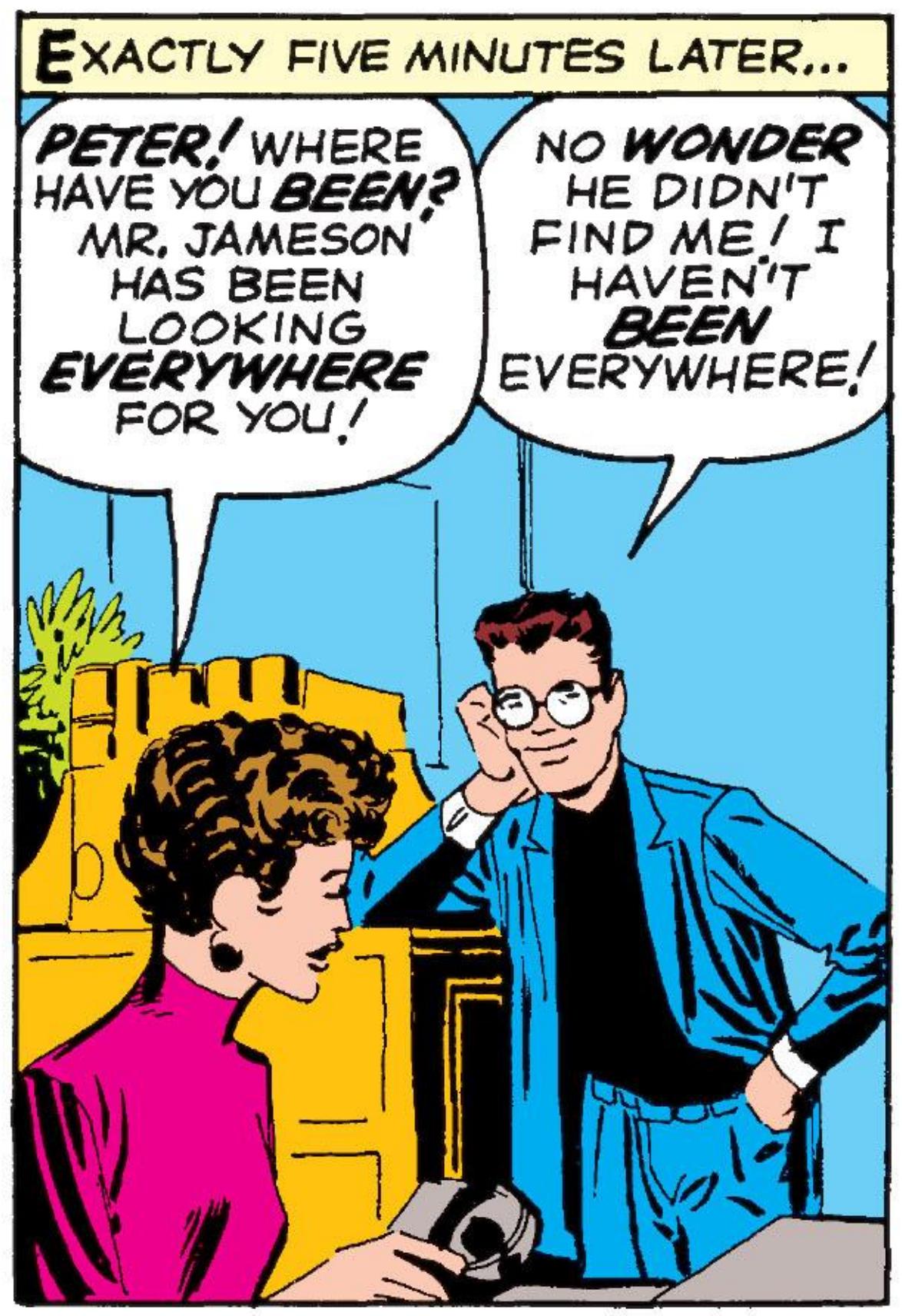
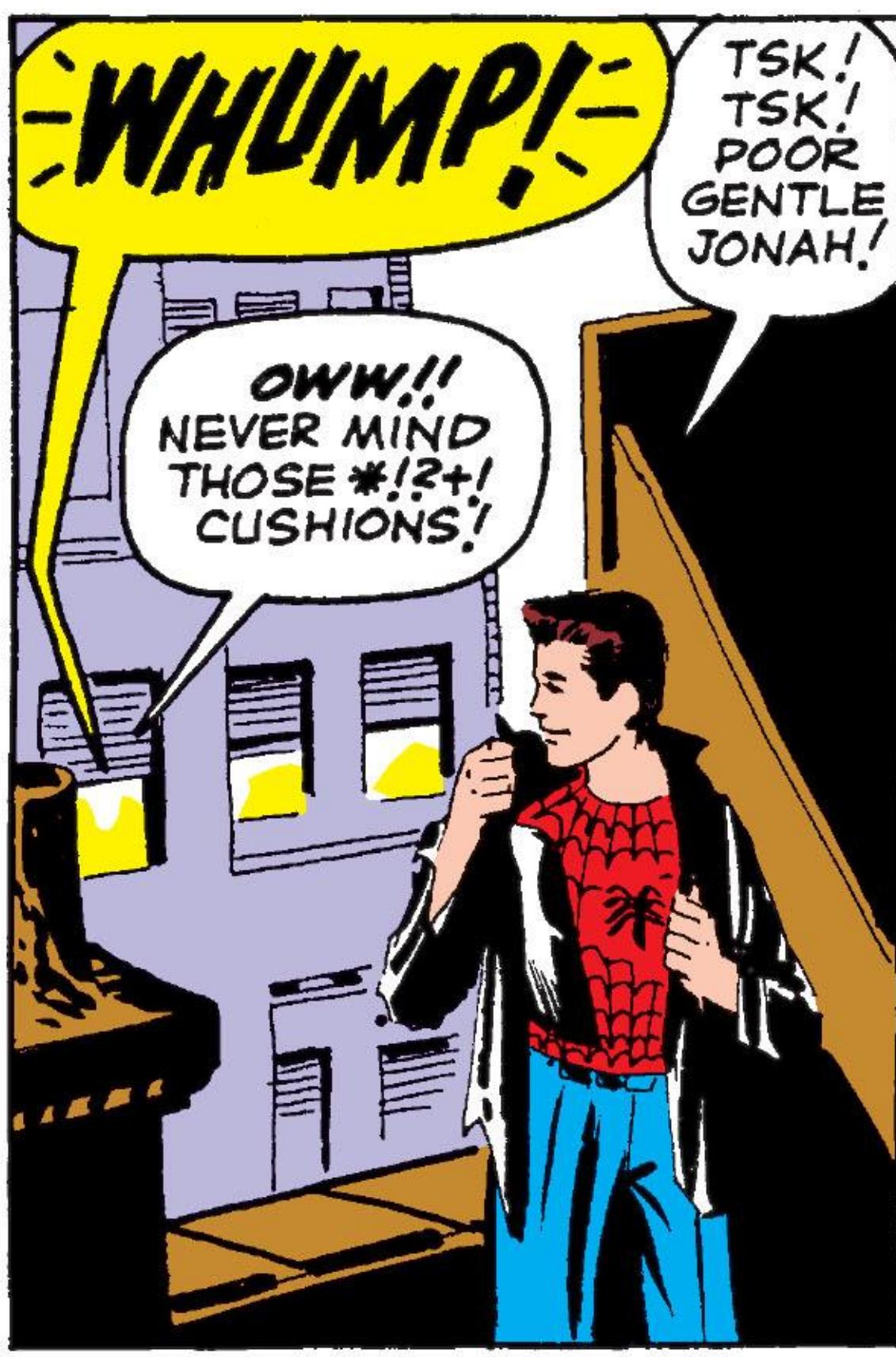
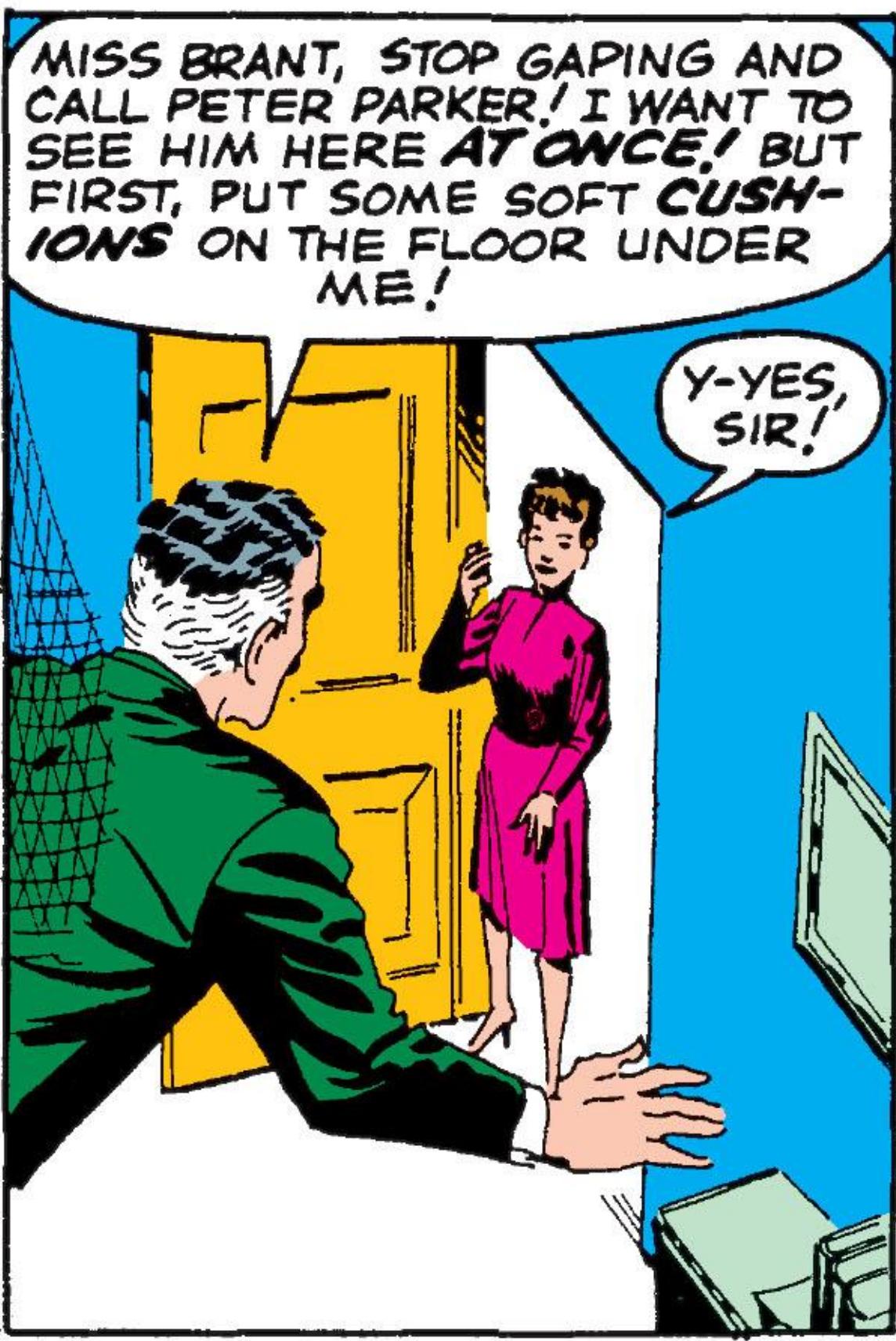
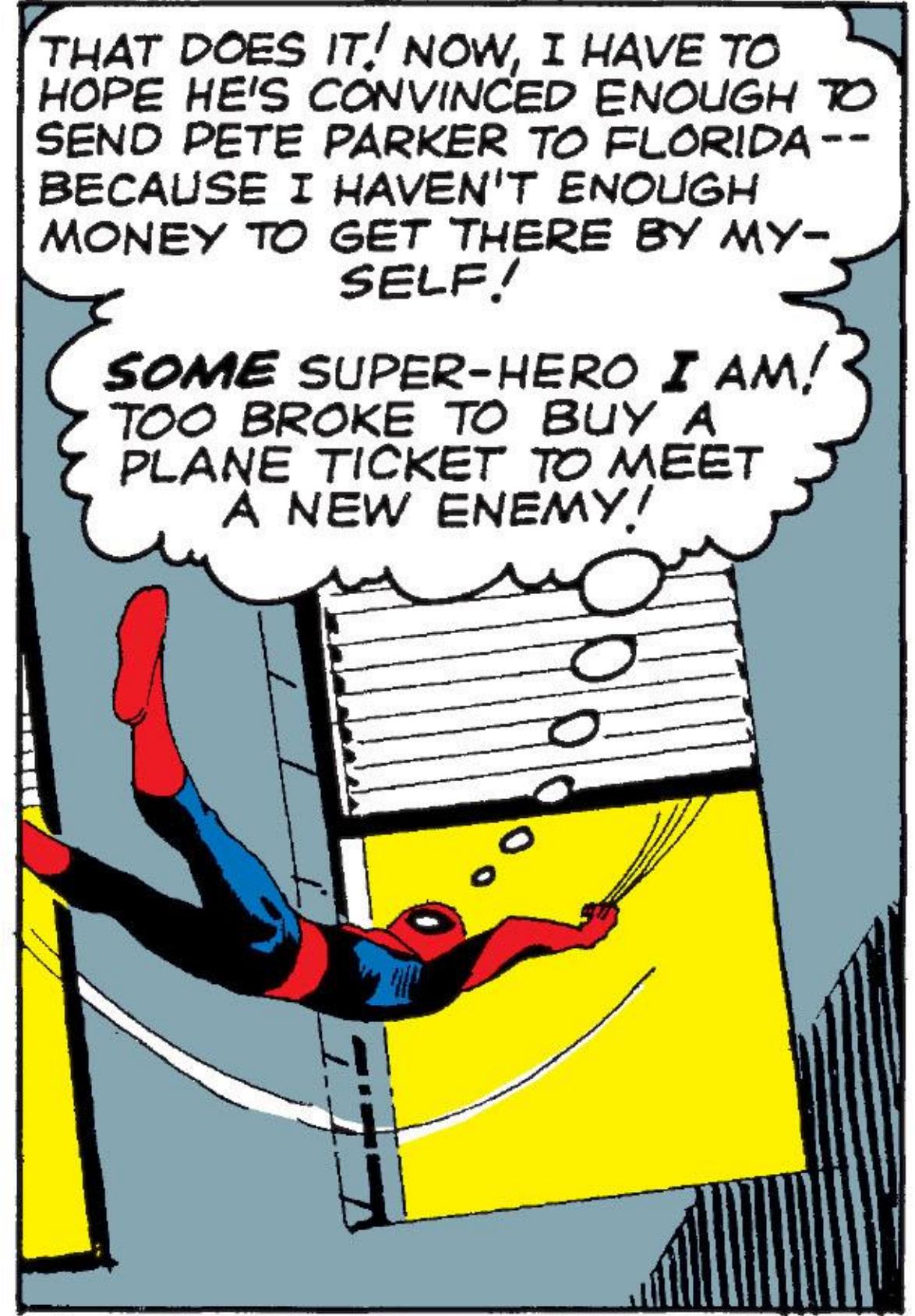
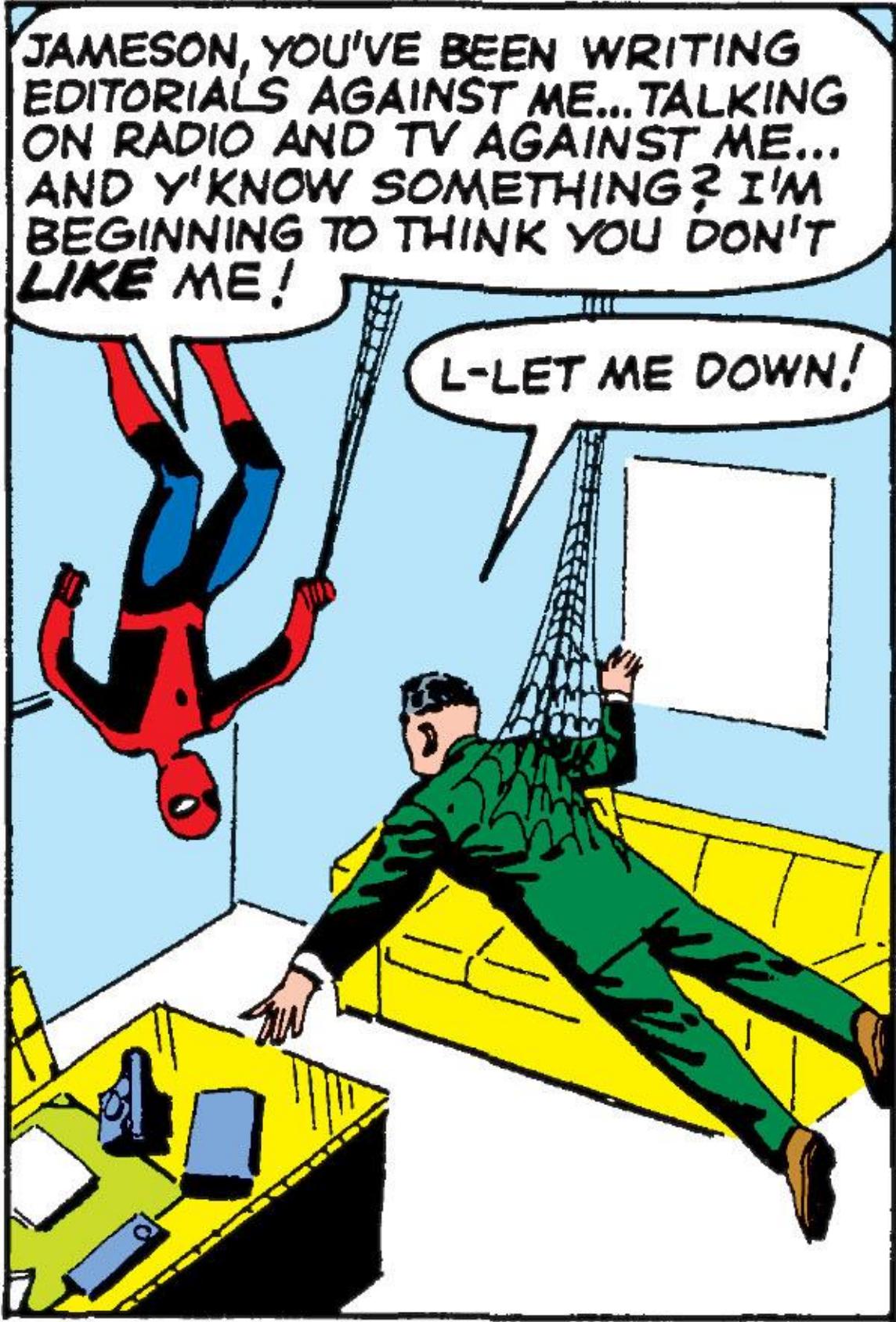
A SUPER-HERO IS NOTHING WITHOUT A SUPER-VILLAIN! AND, OUR LATEST SUPER-VILLAIN APPEARS, WITHOUT WARNING, IN THE MURKY SWAMPS OF FLORIDA'S EVERGLADES! THIS IS THE FIRST ENCOUNTER BETWEEN MAN-KIND AND--THE LIZARD!

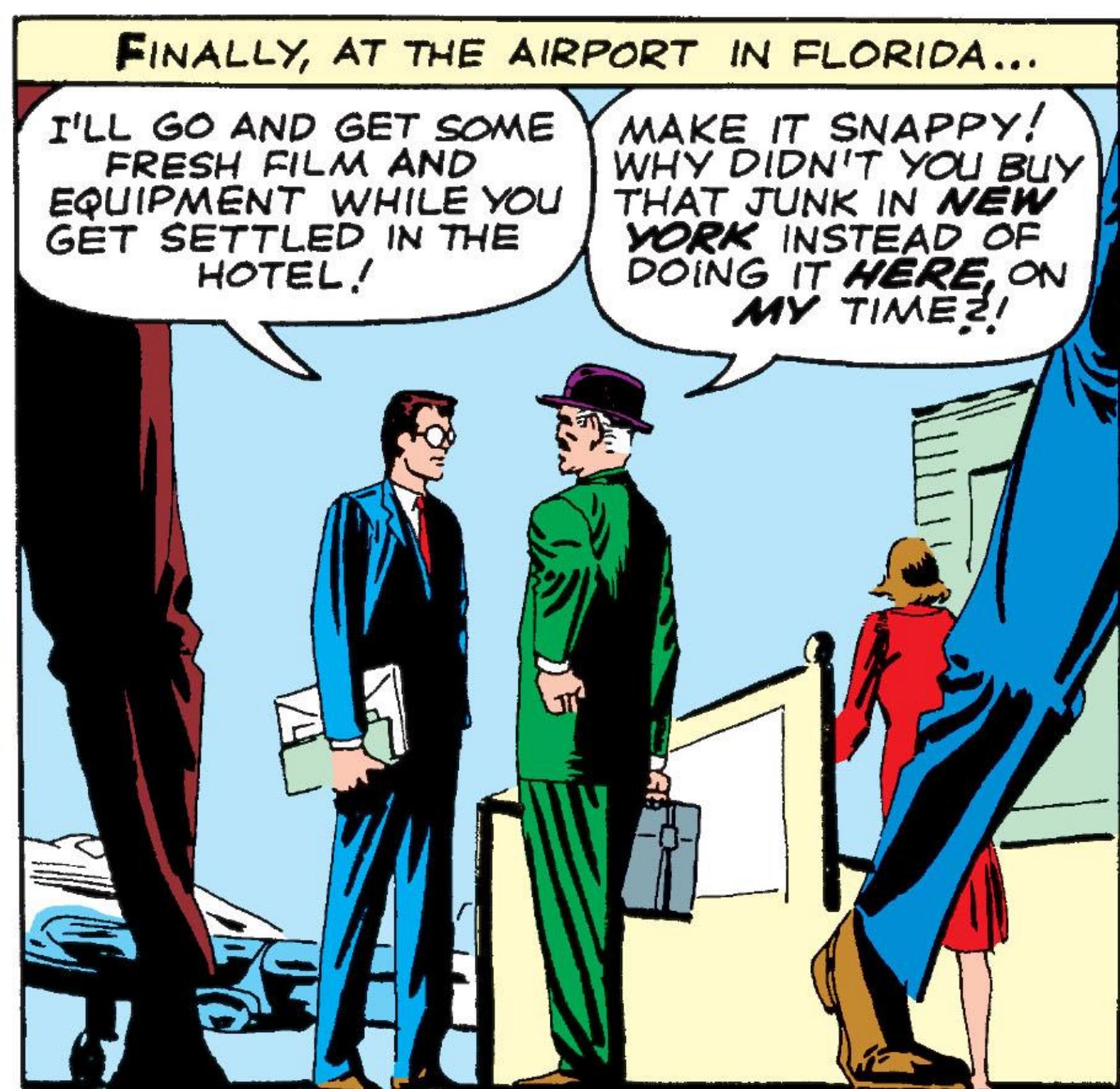
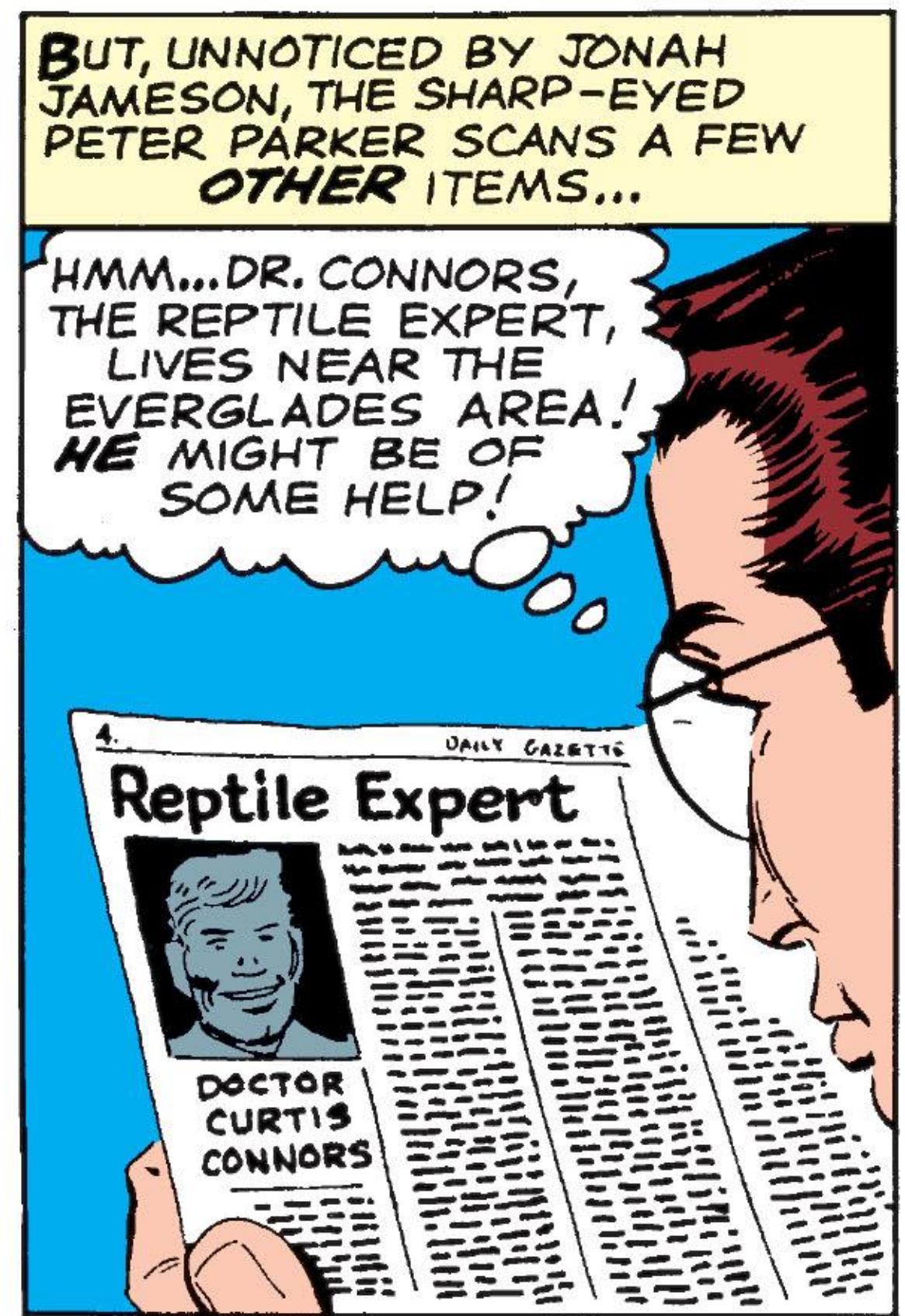
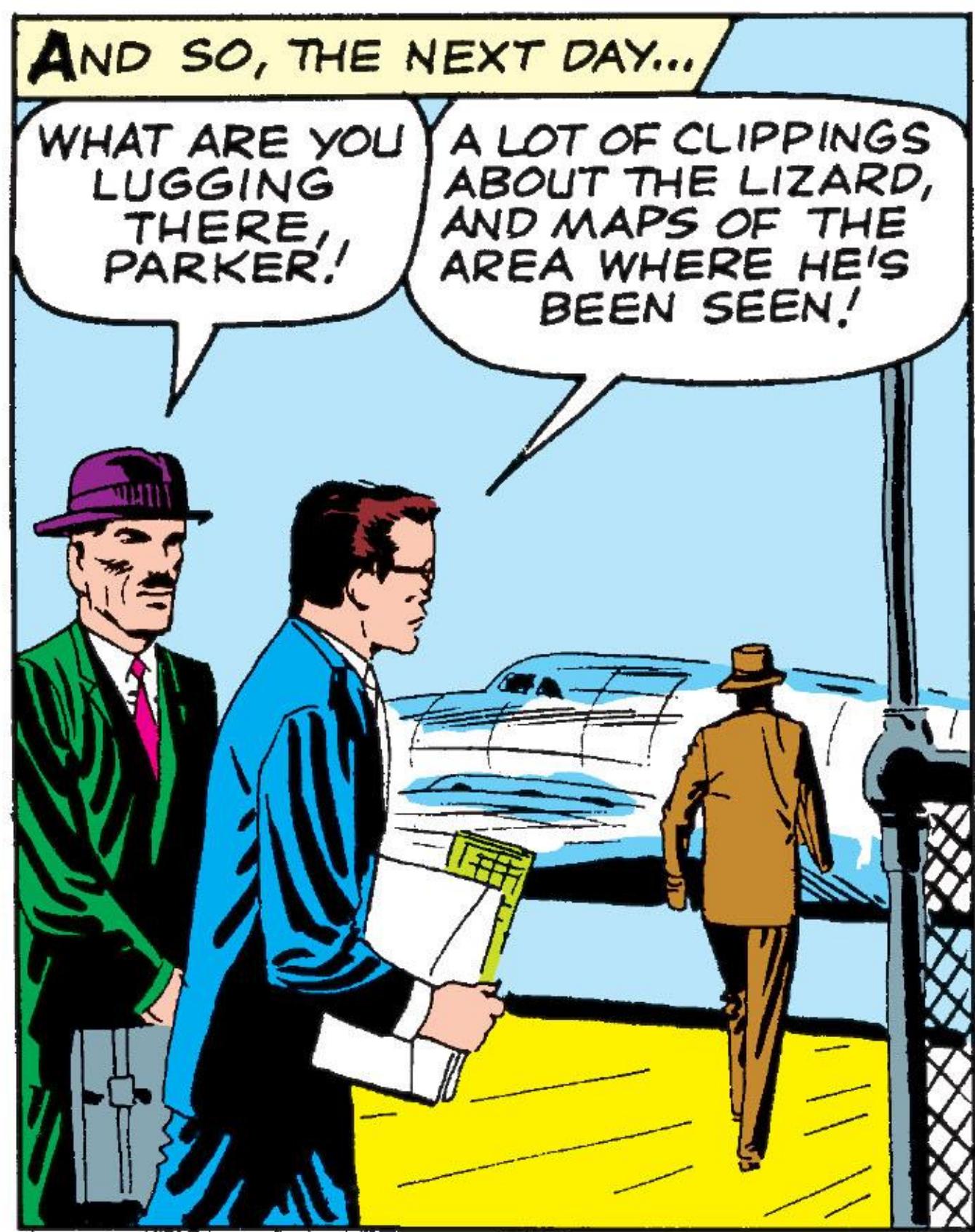
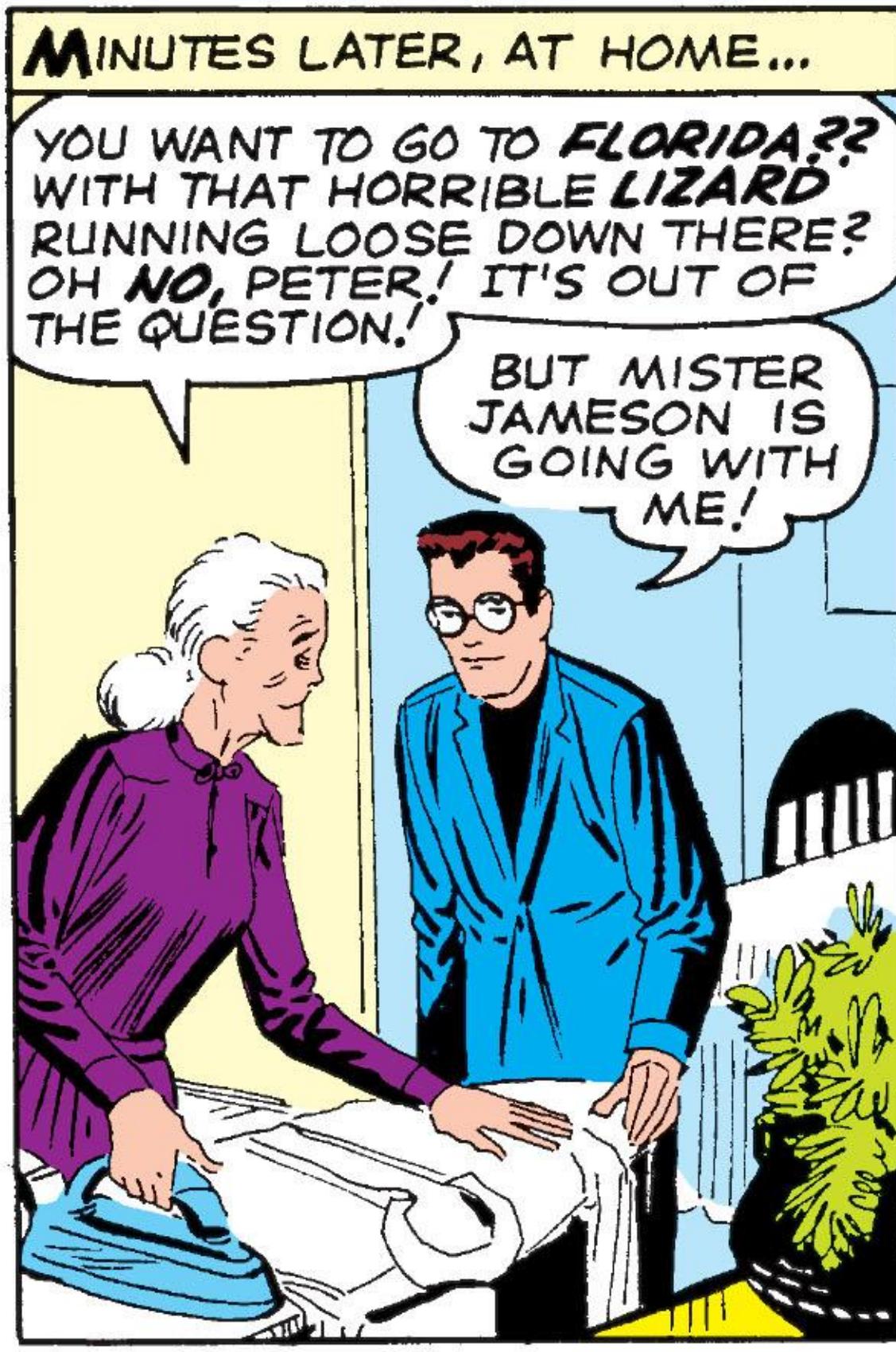
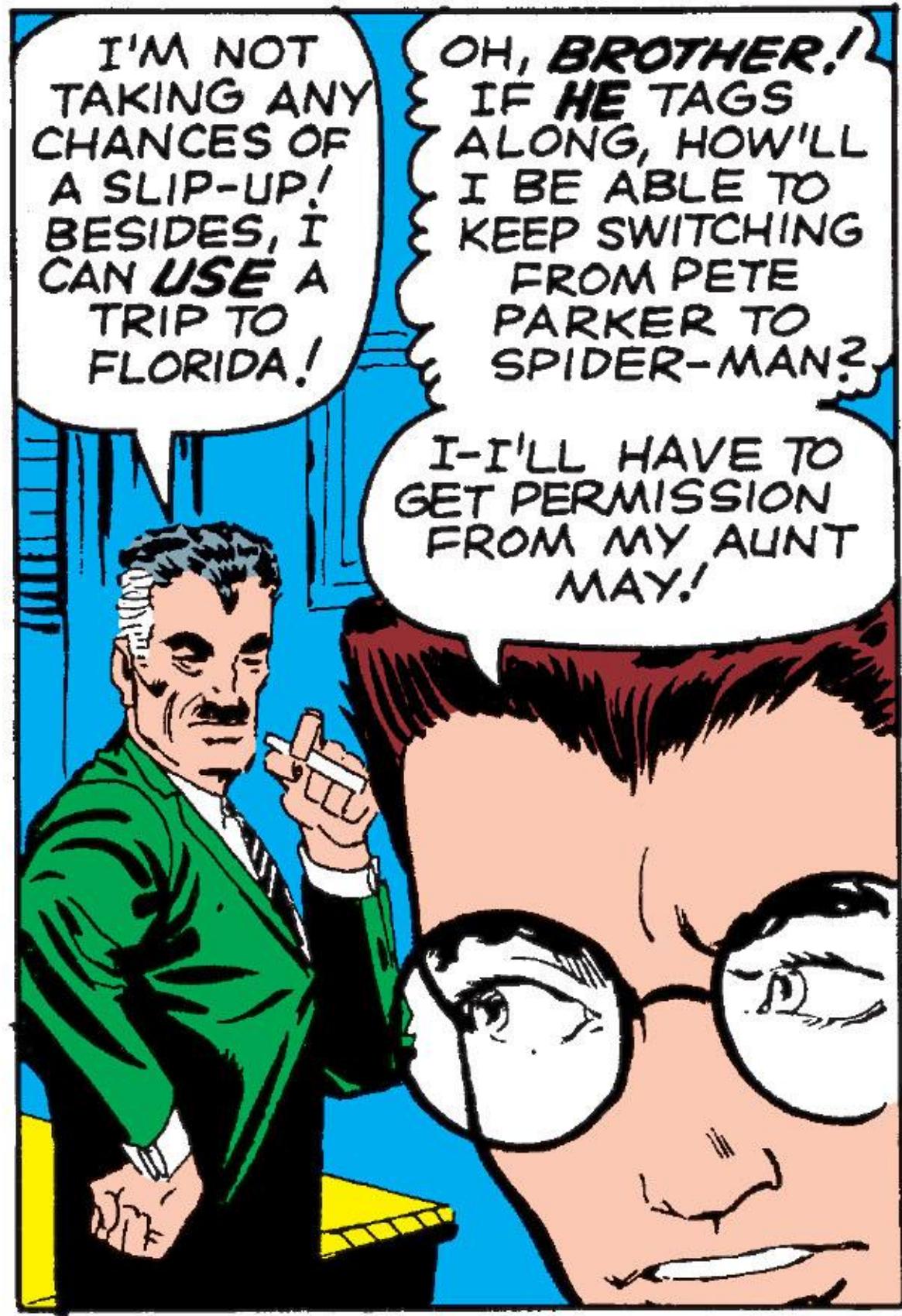


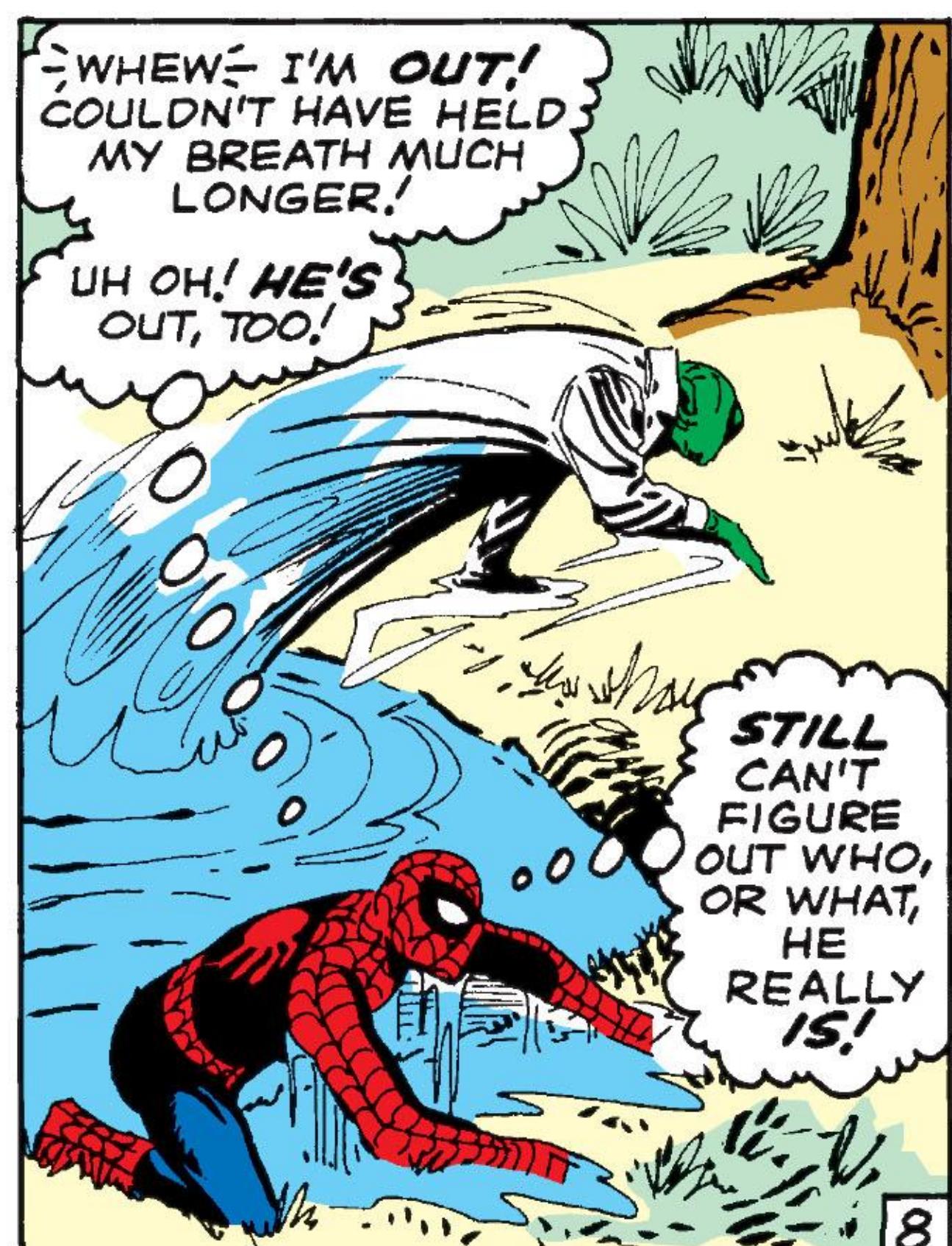
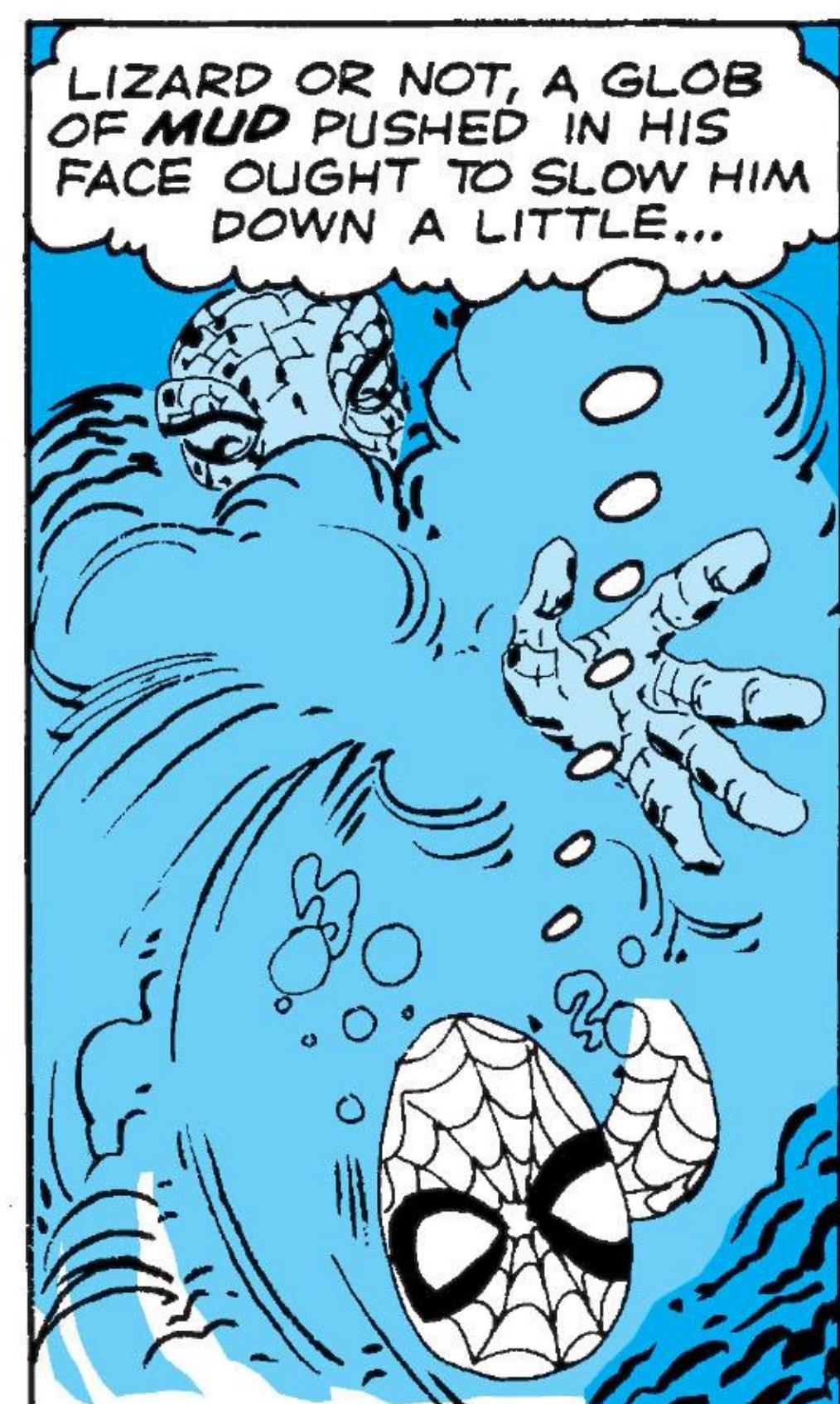


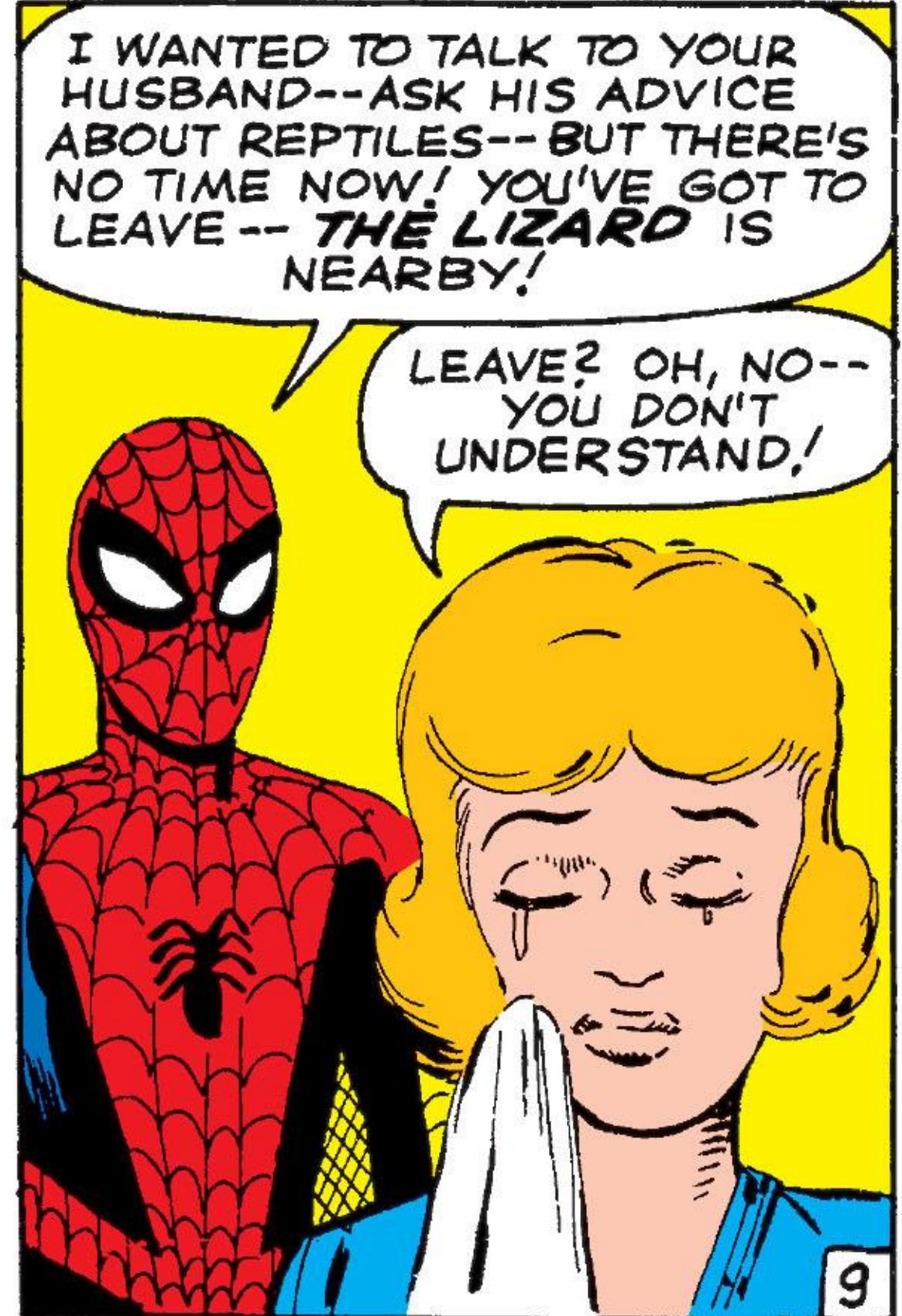
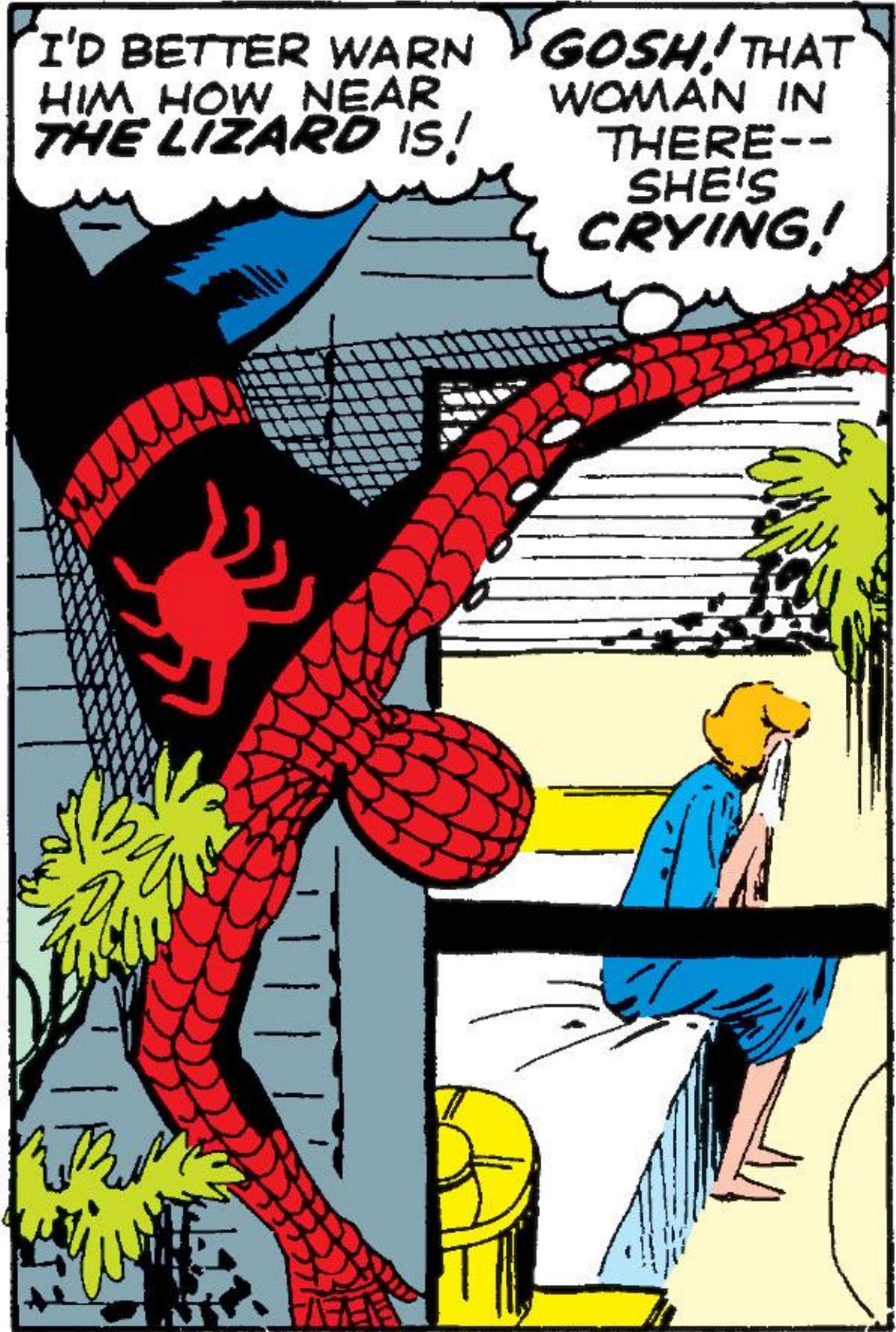
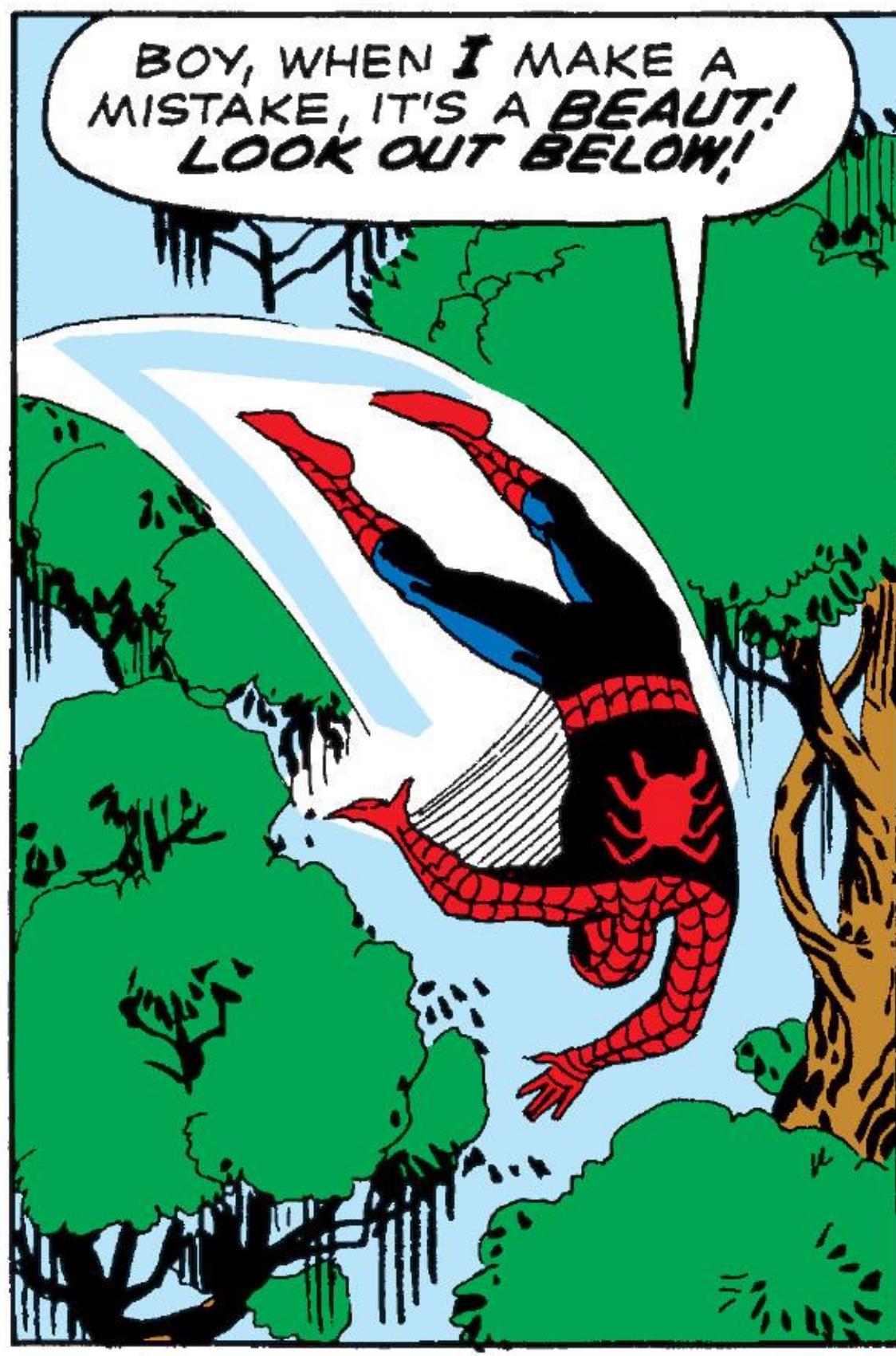
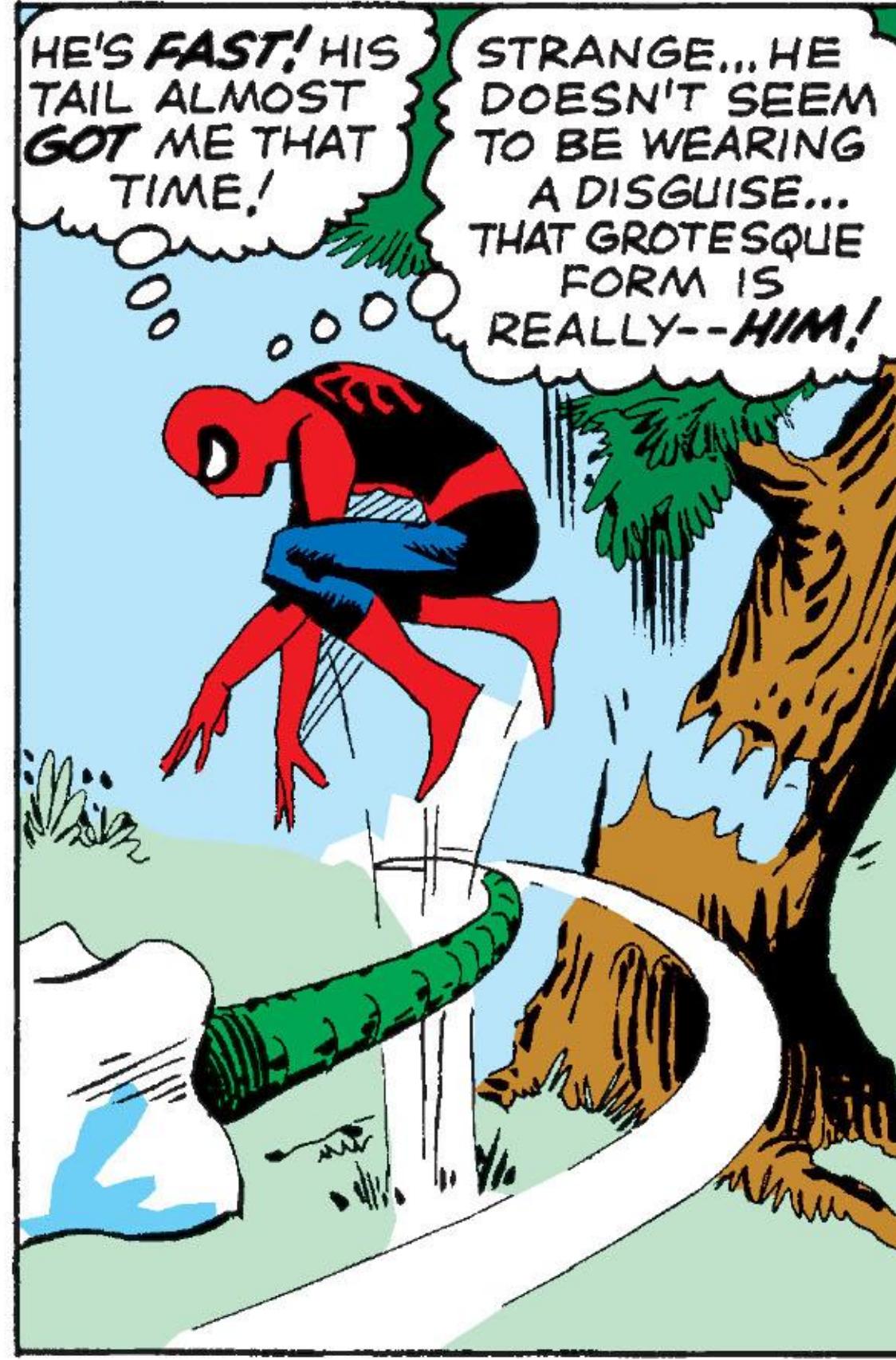


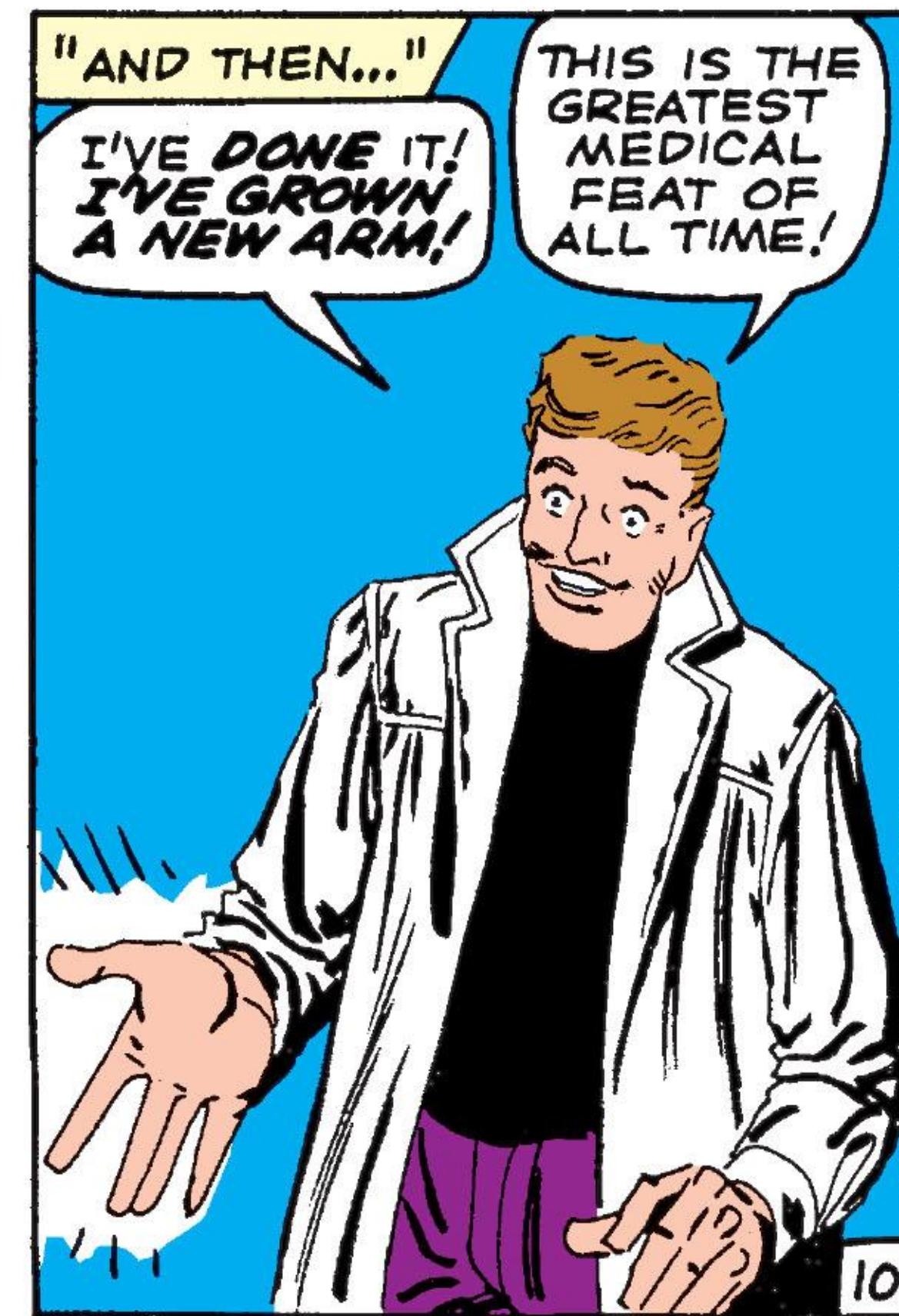
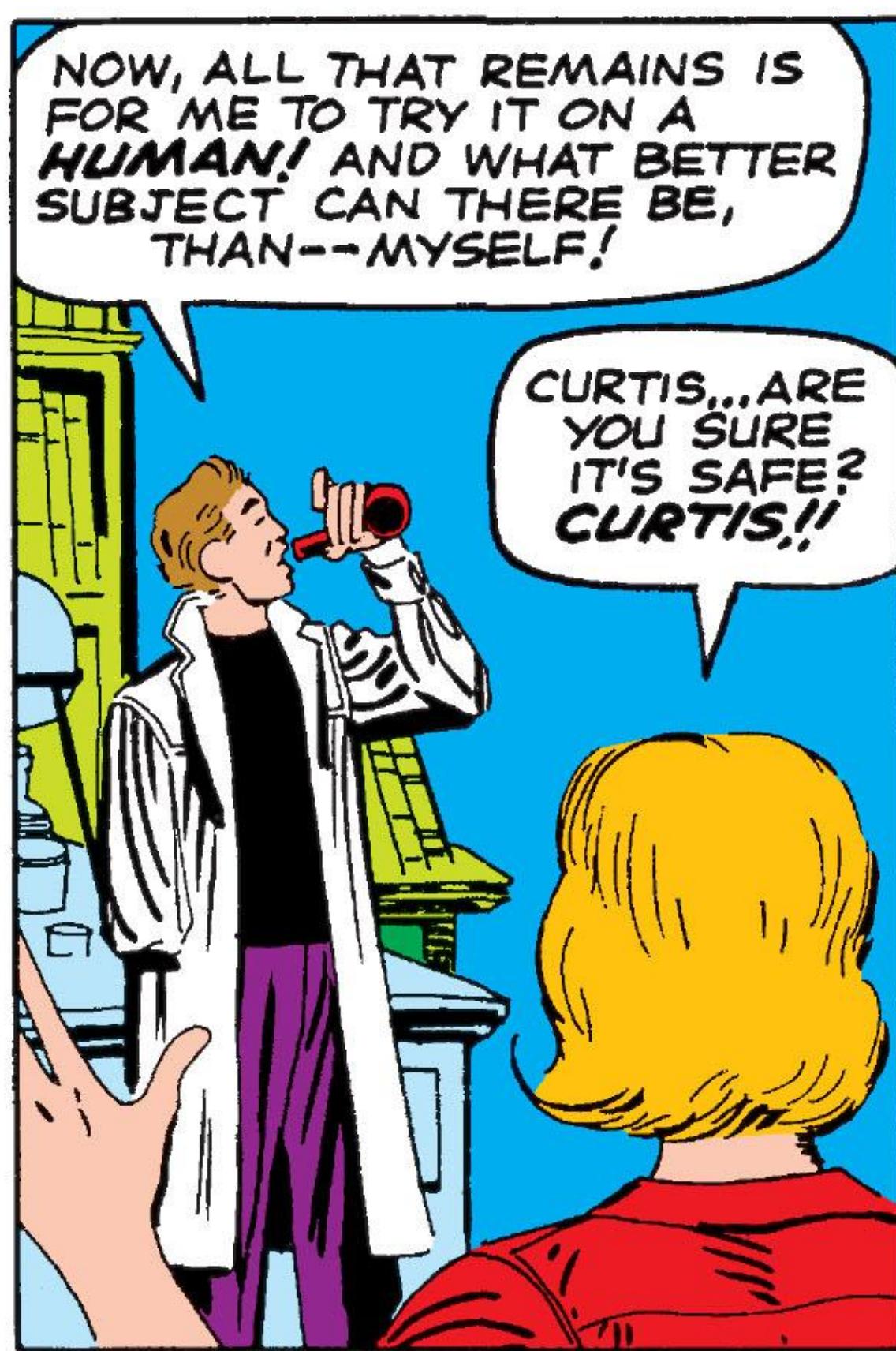
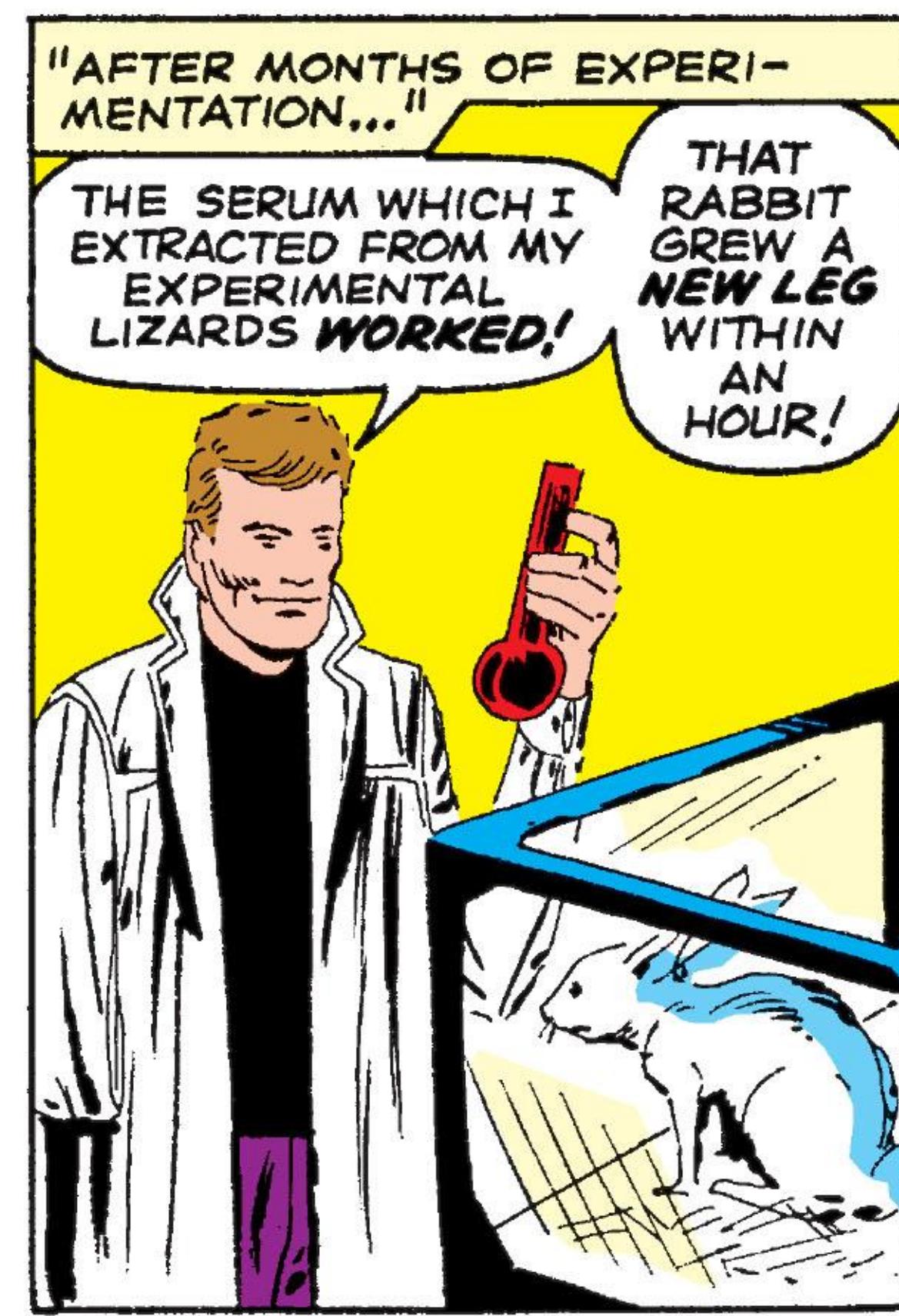
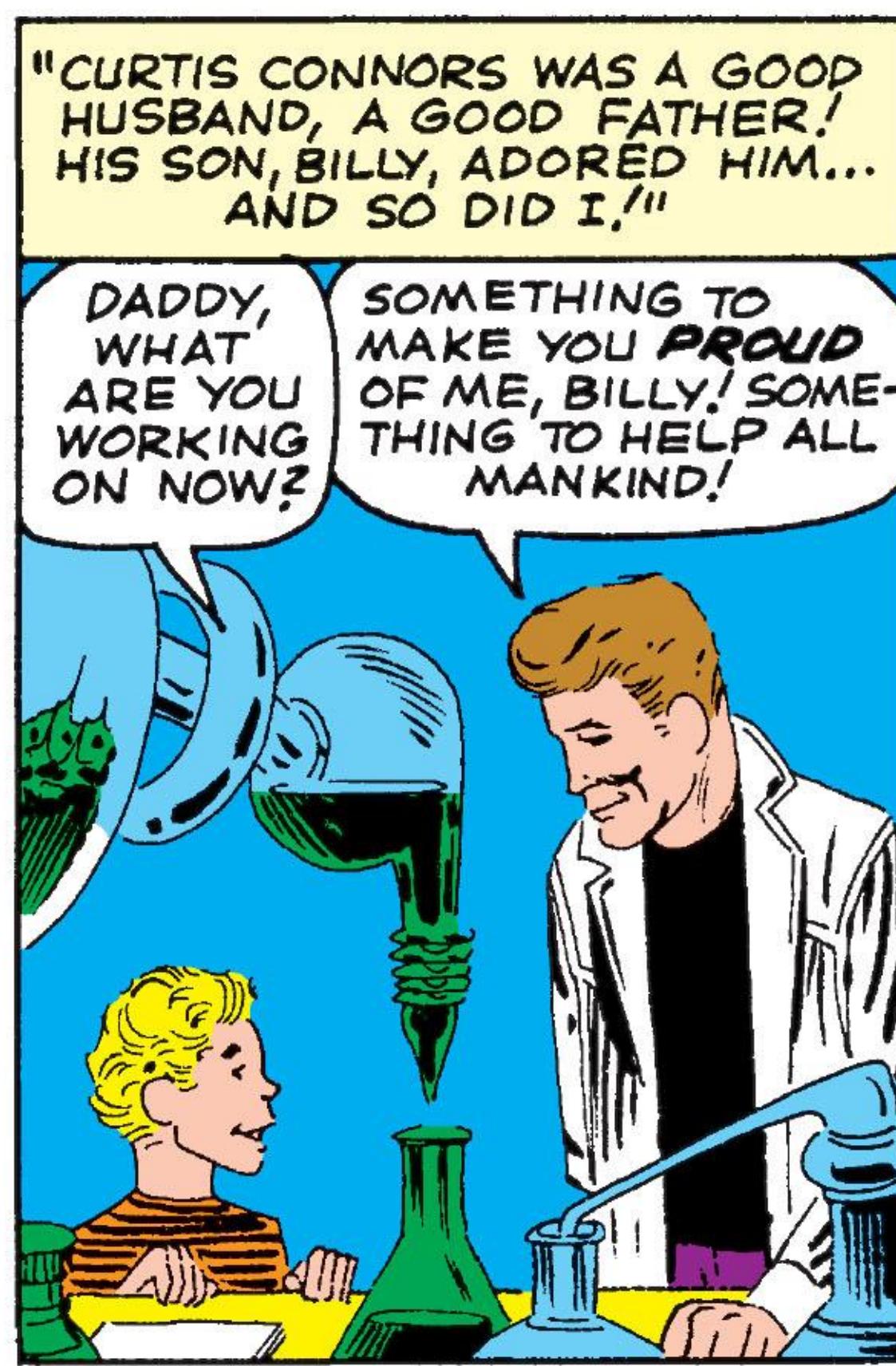
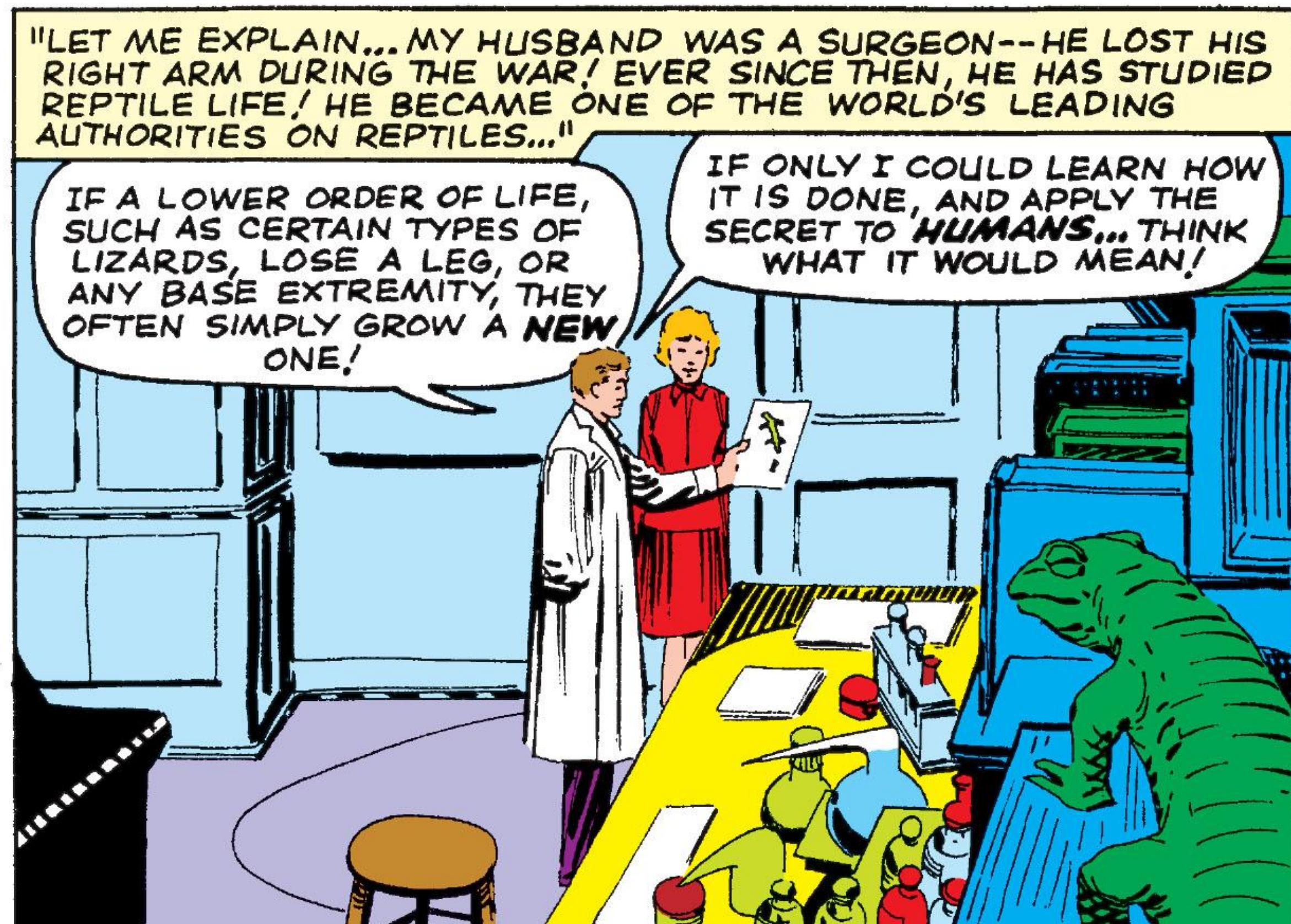


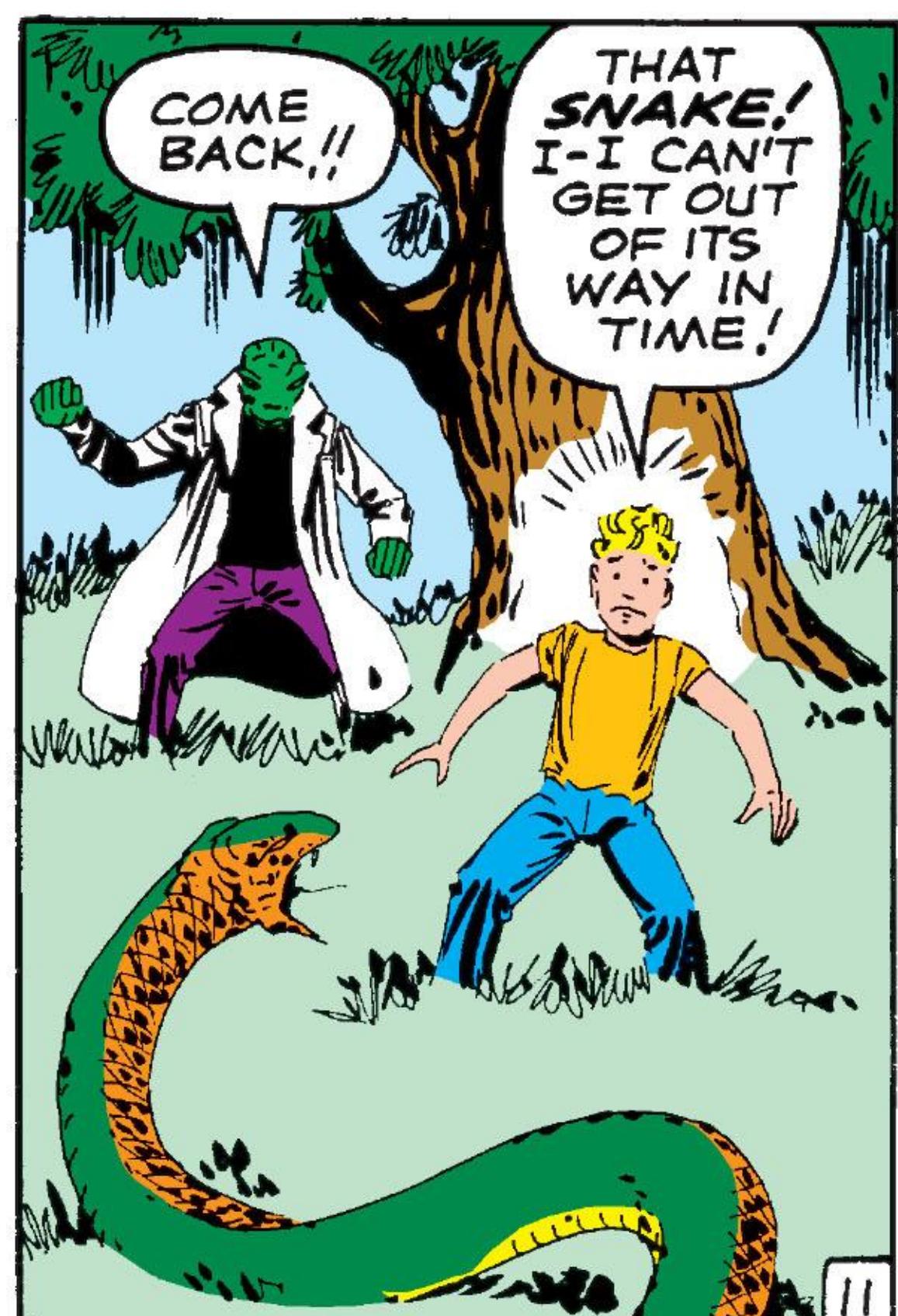
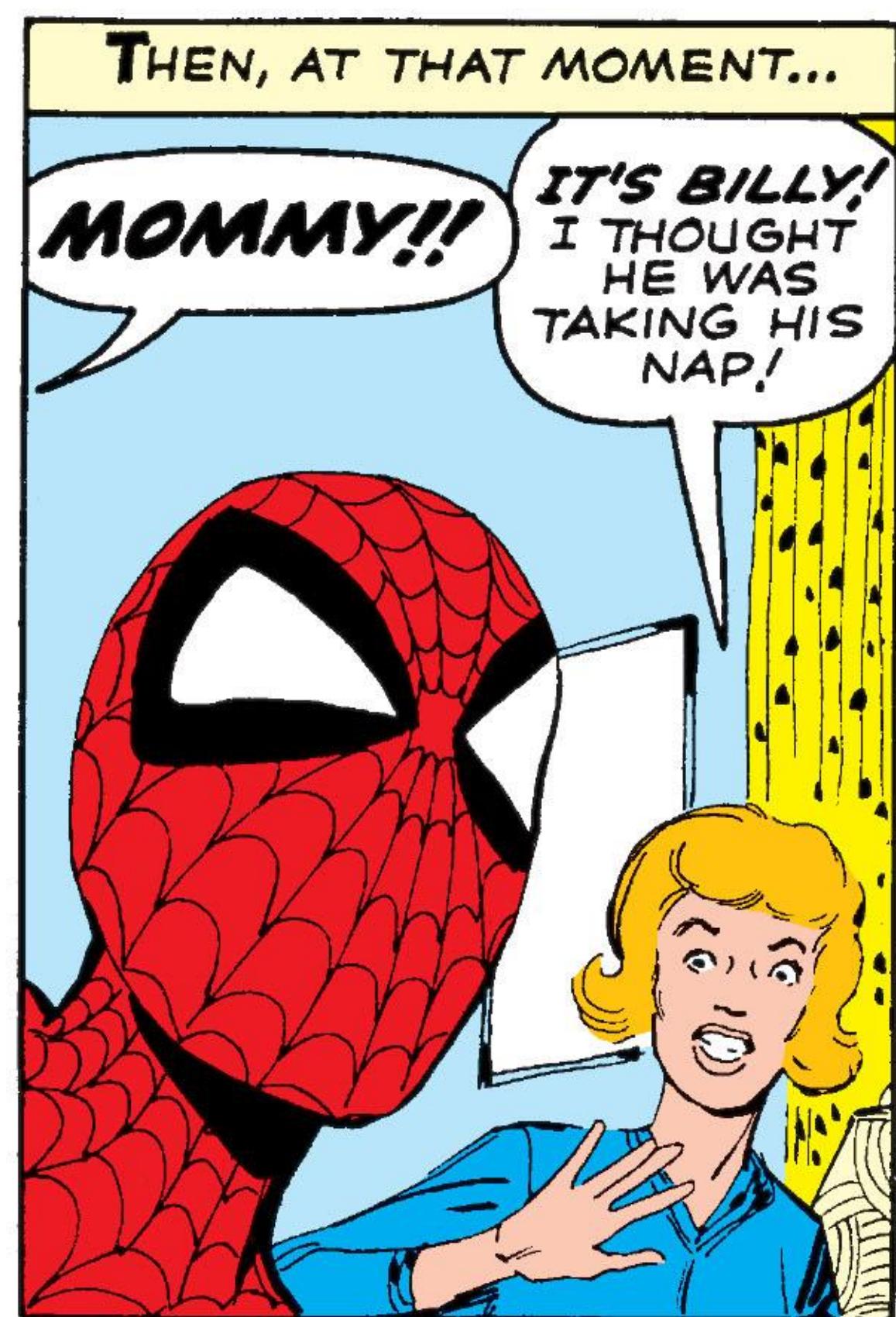
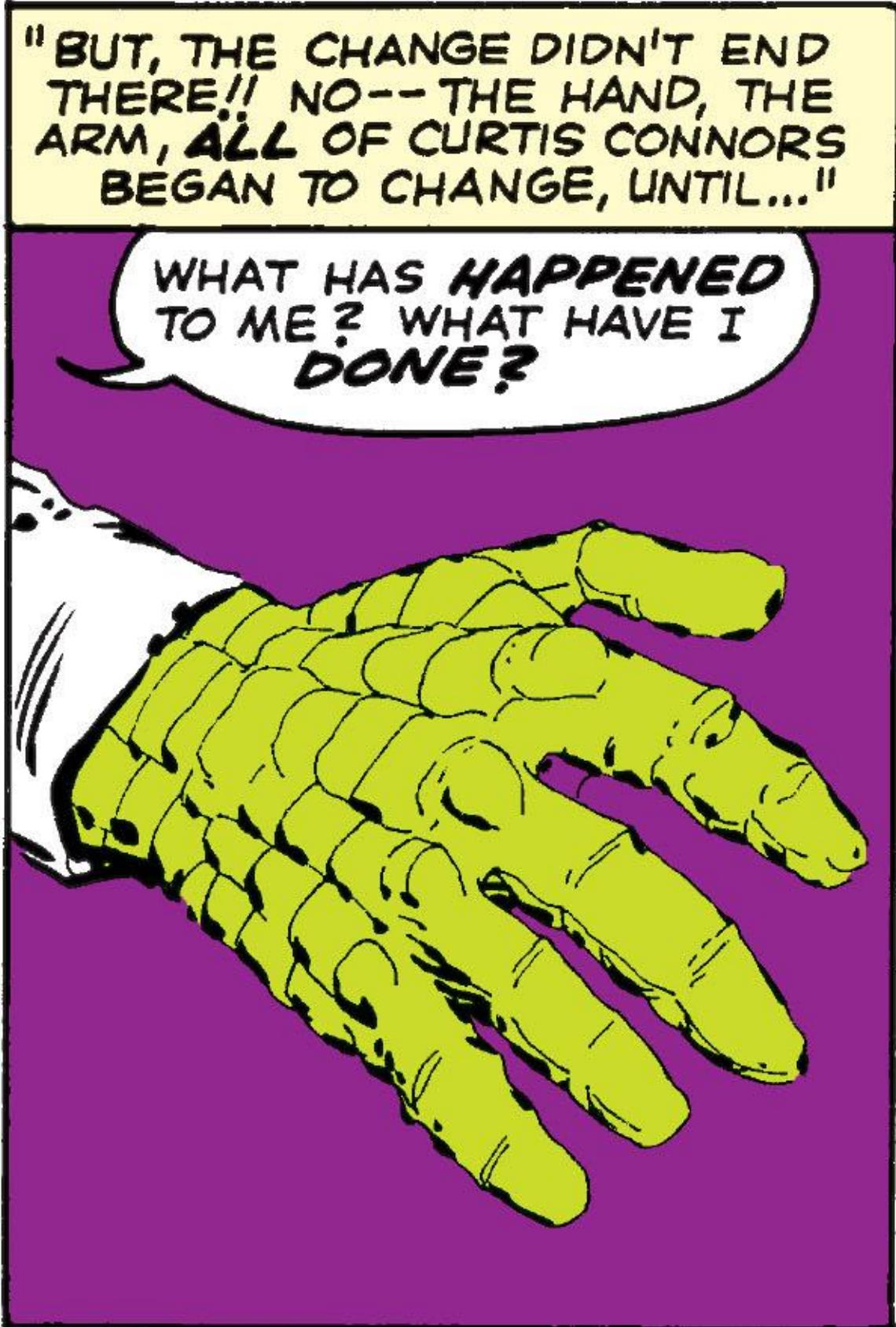


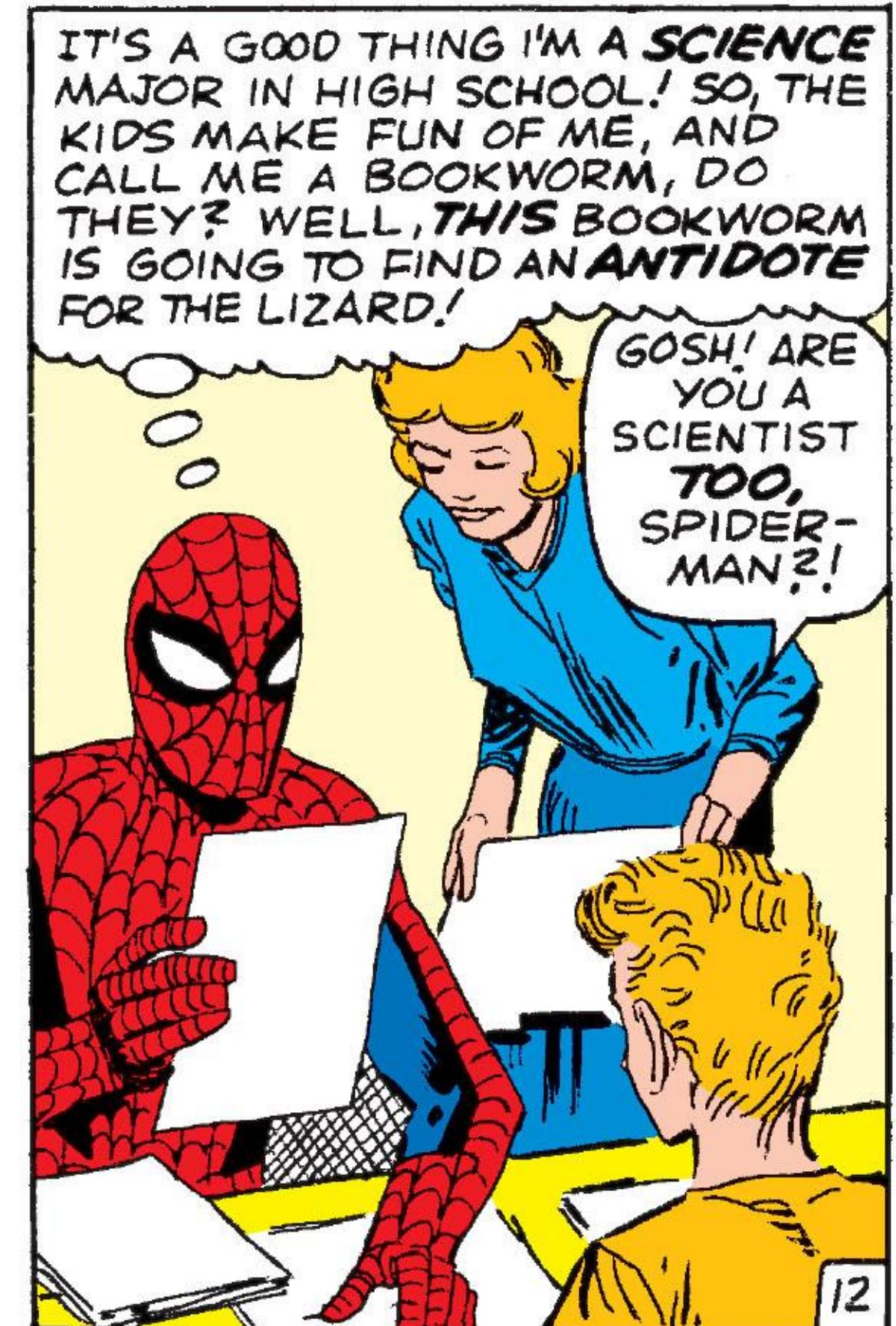
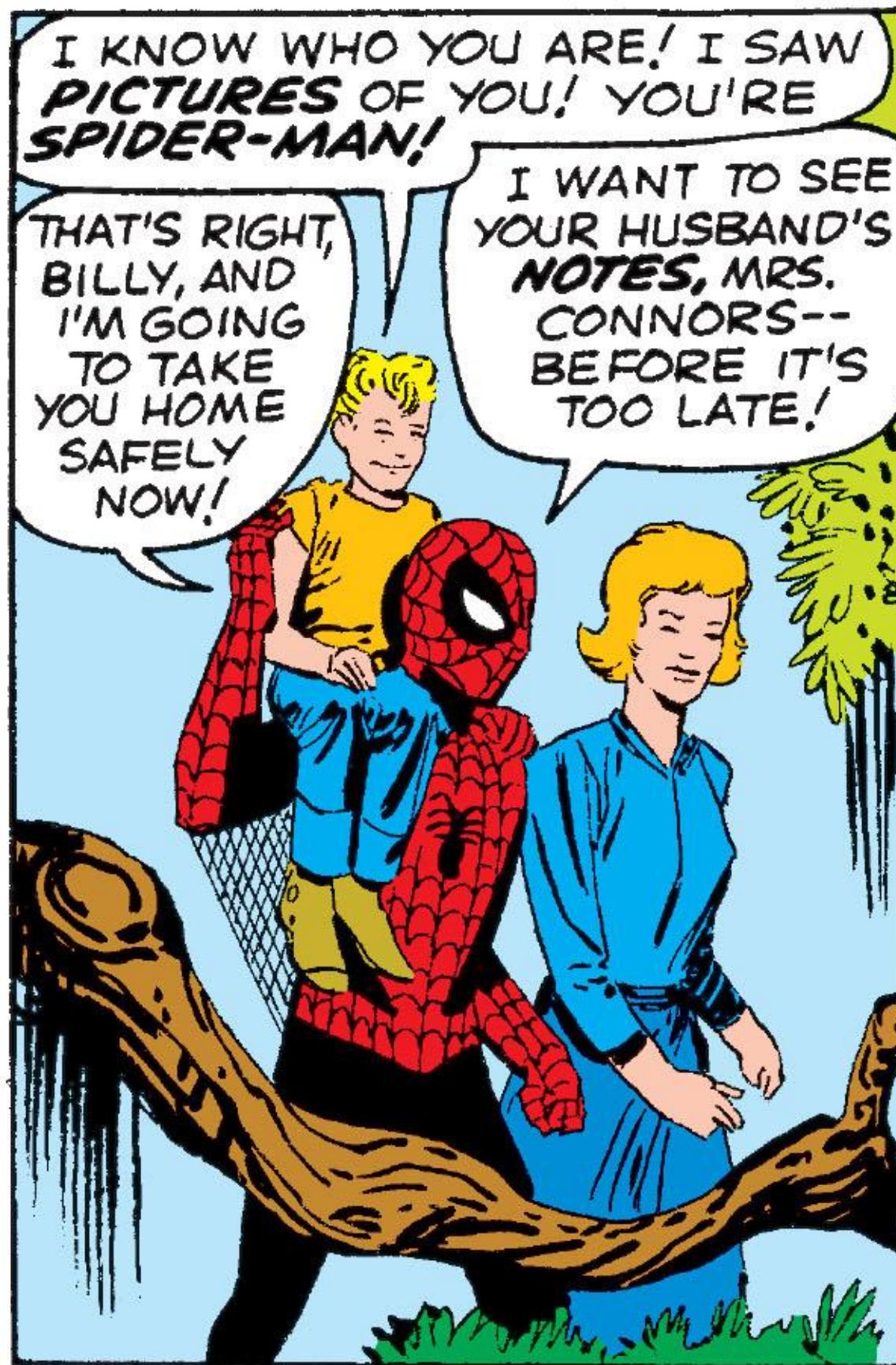
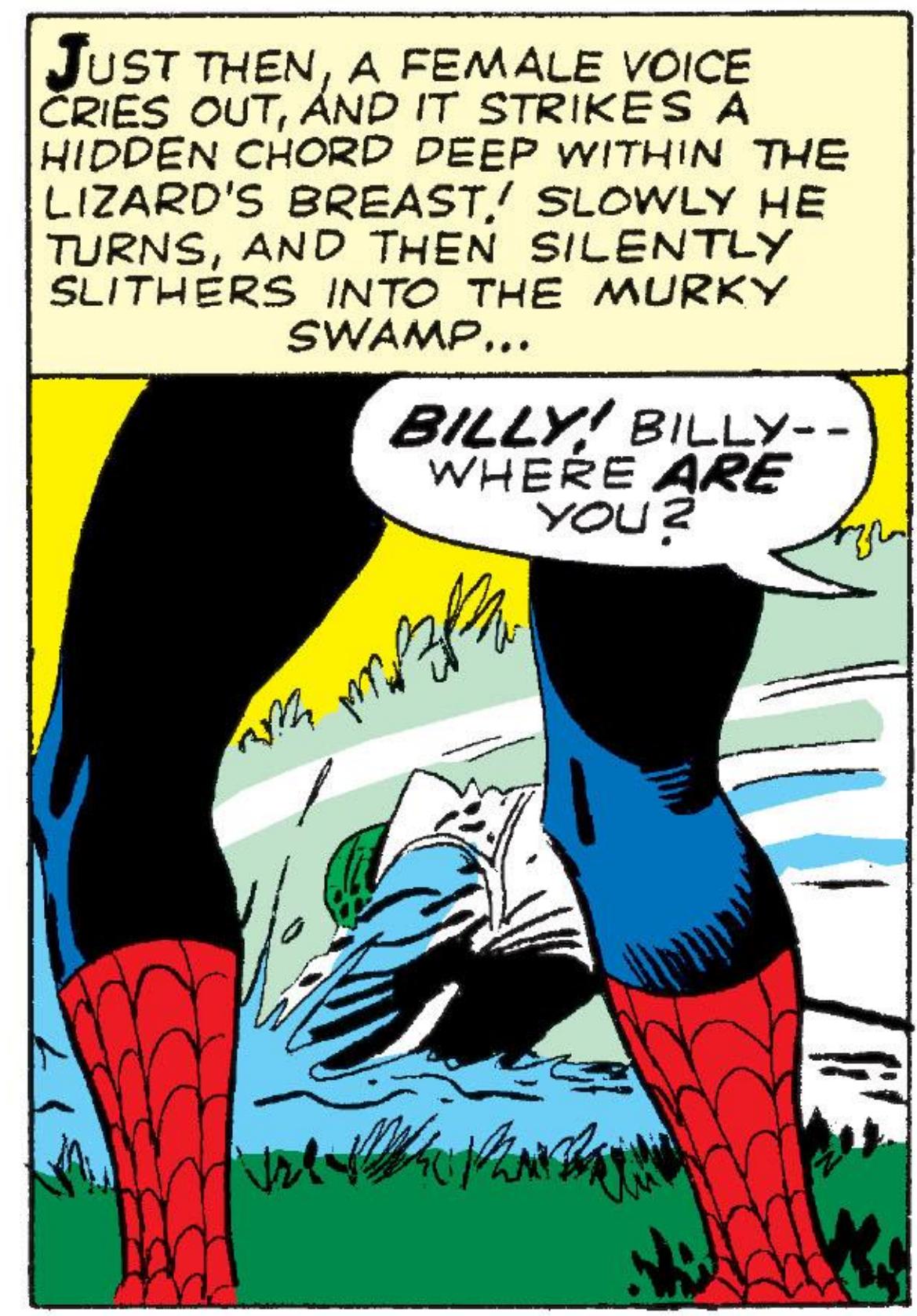
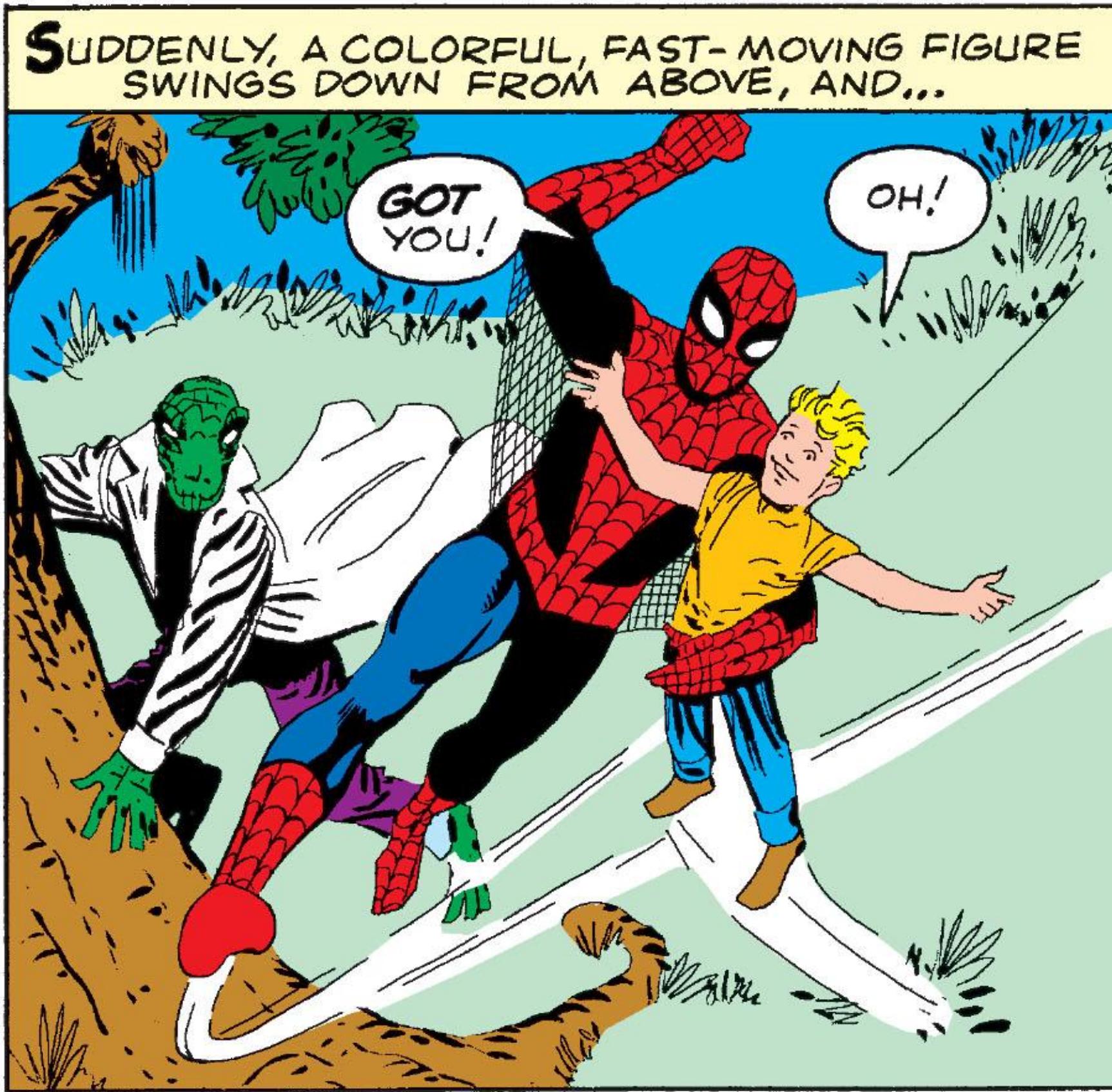


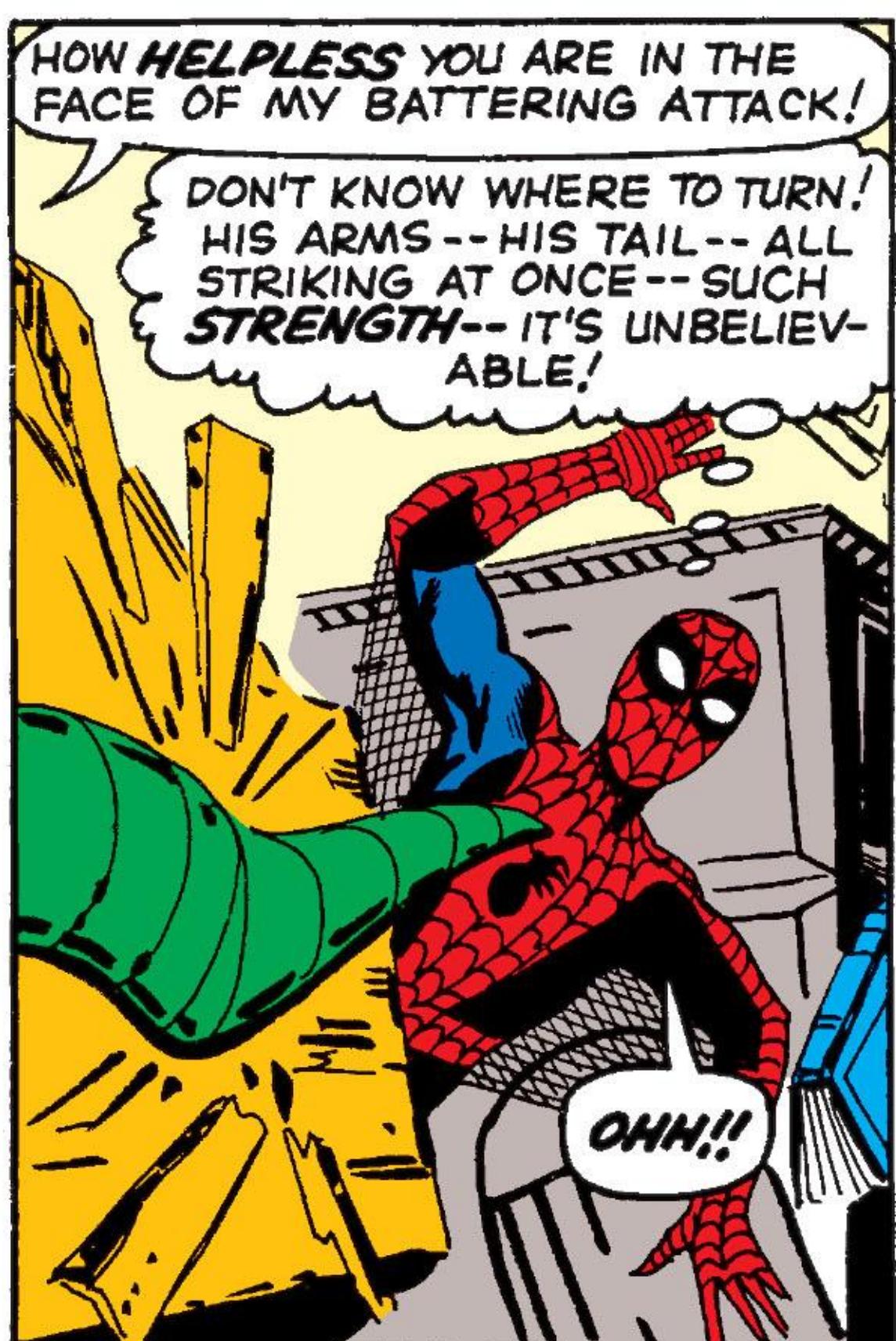
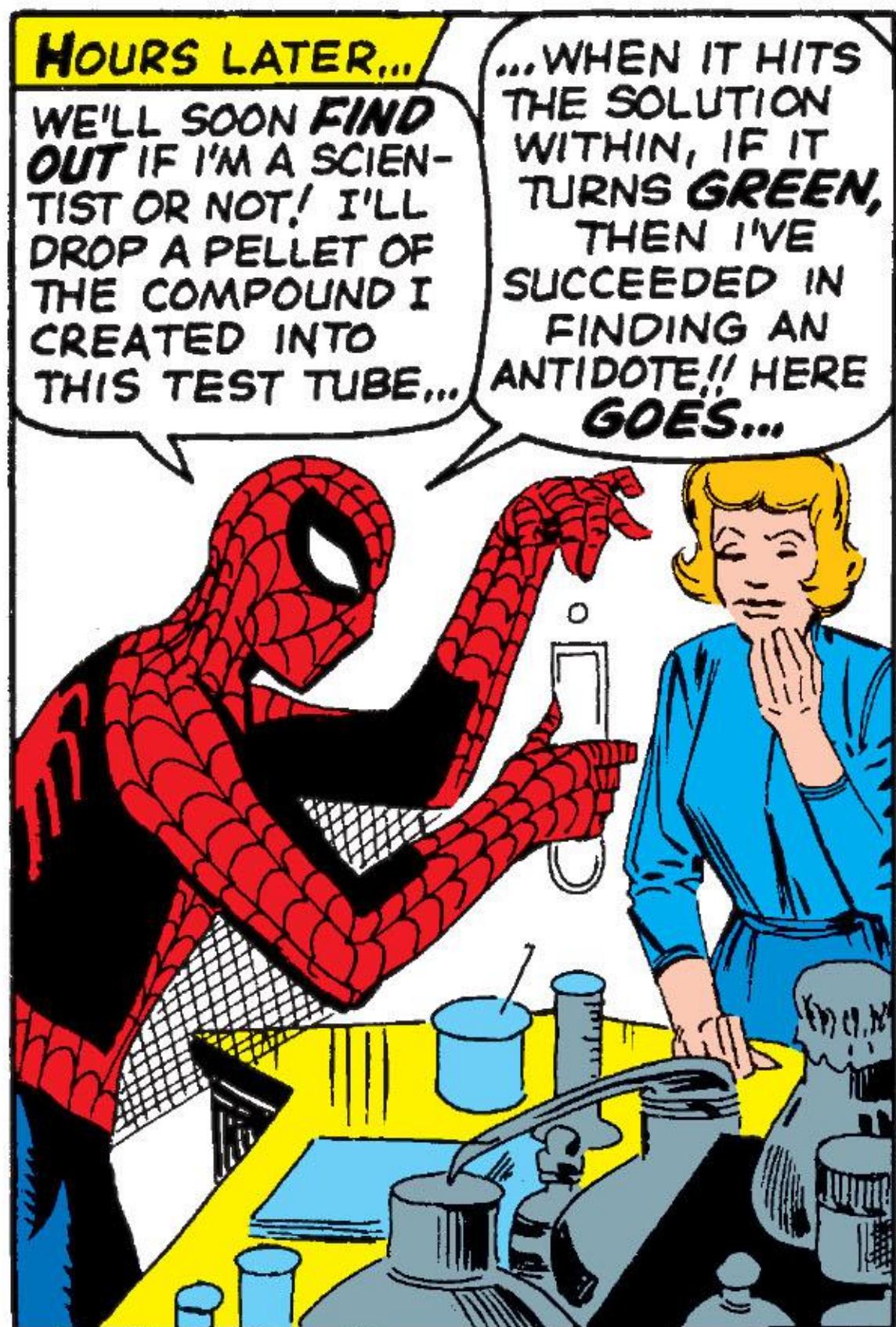


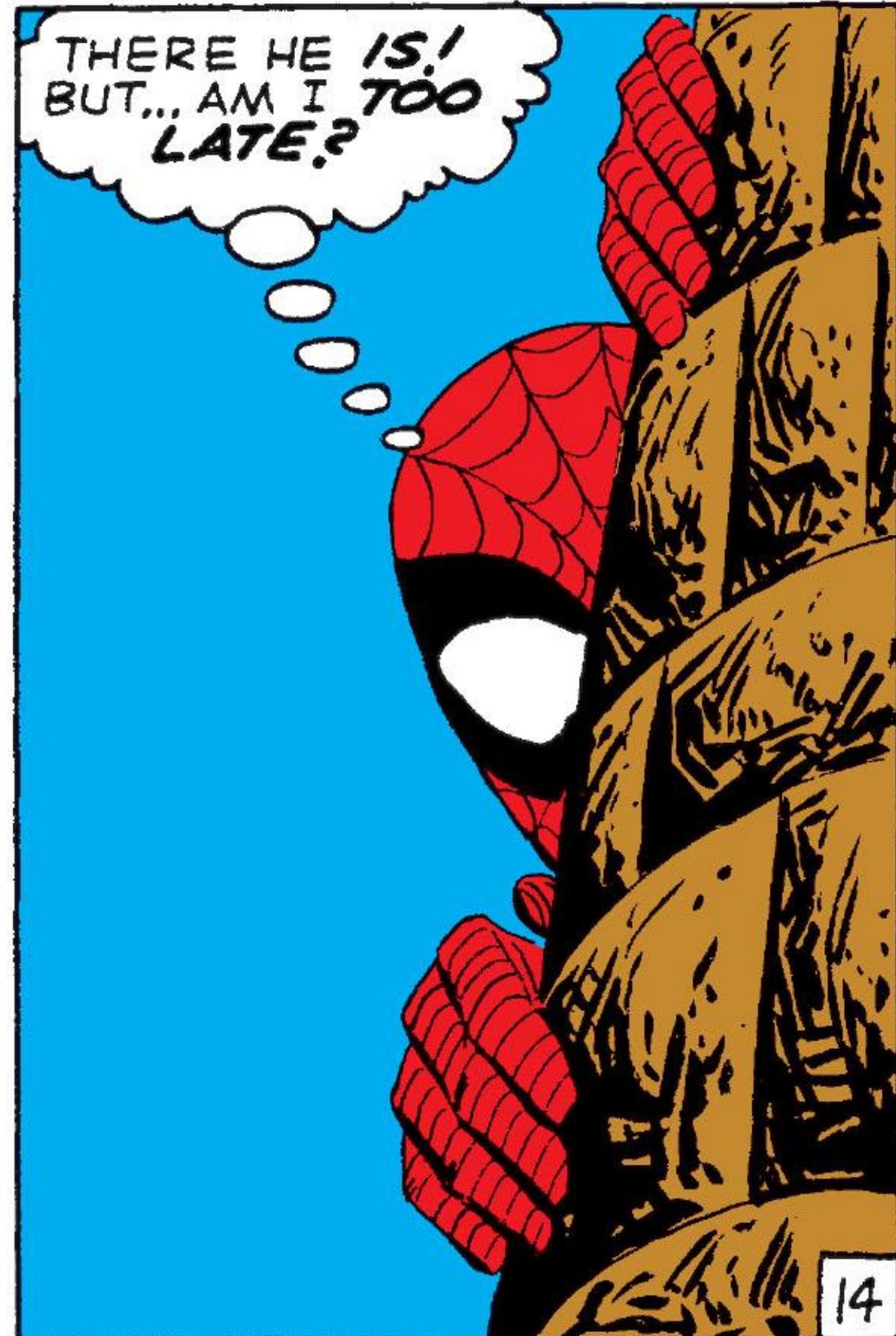
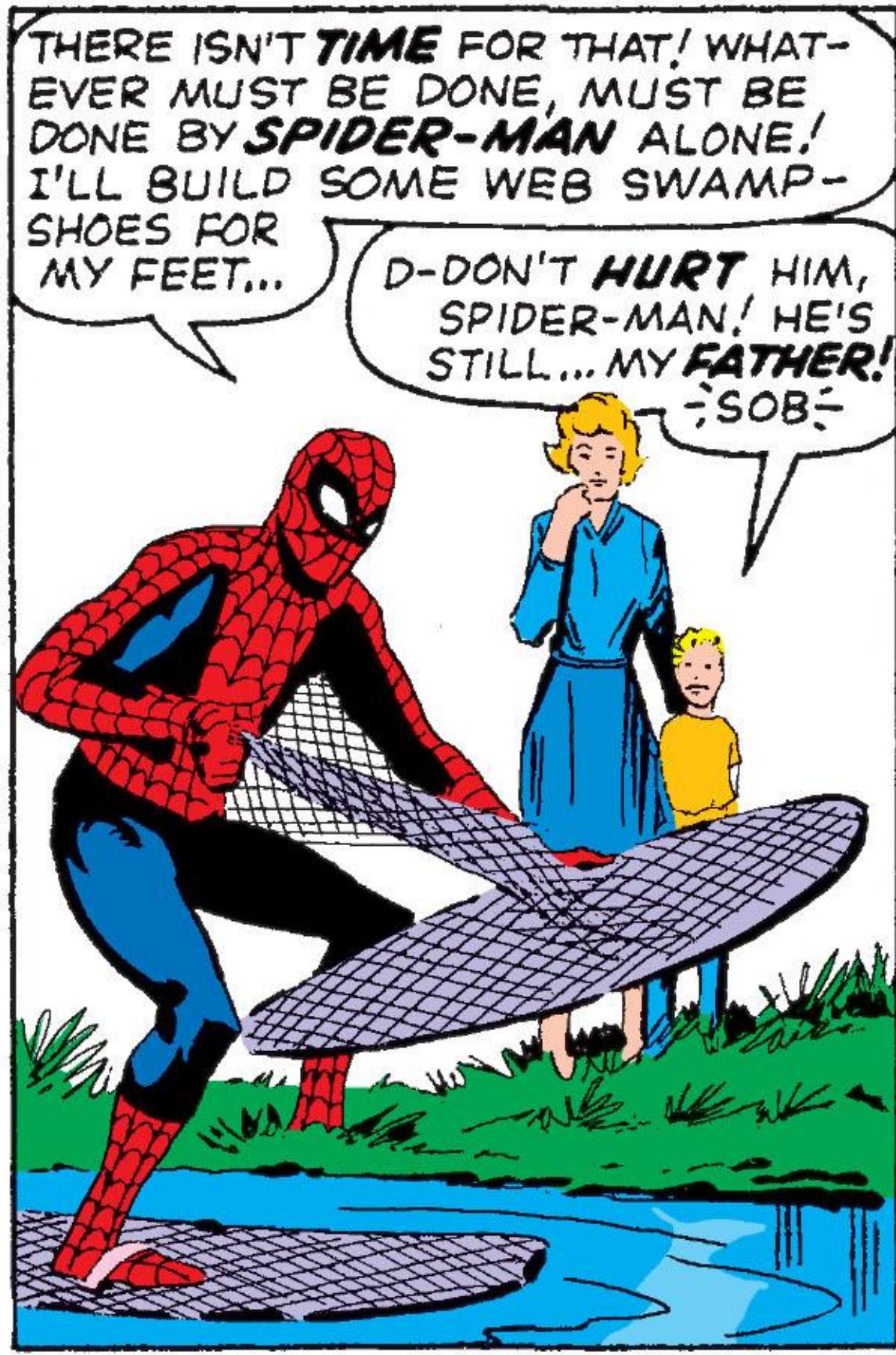
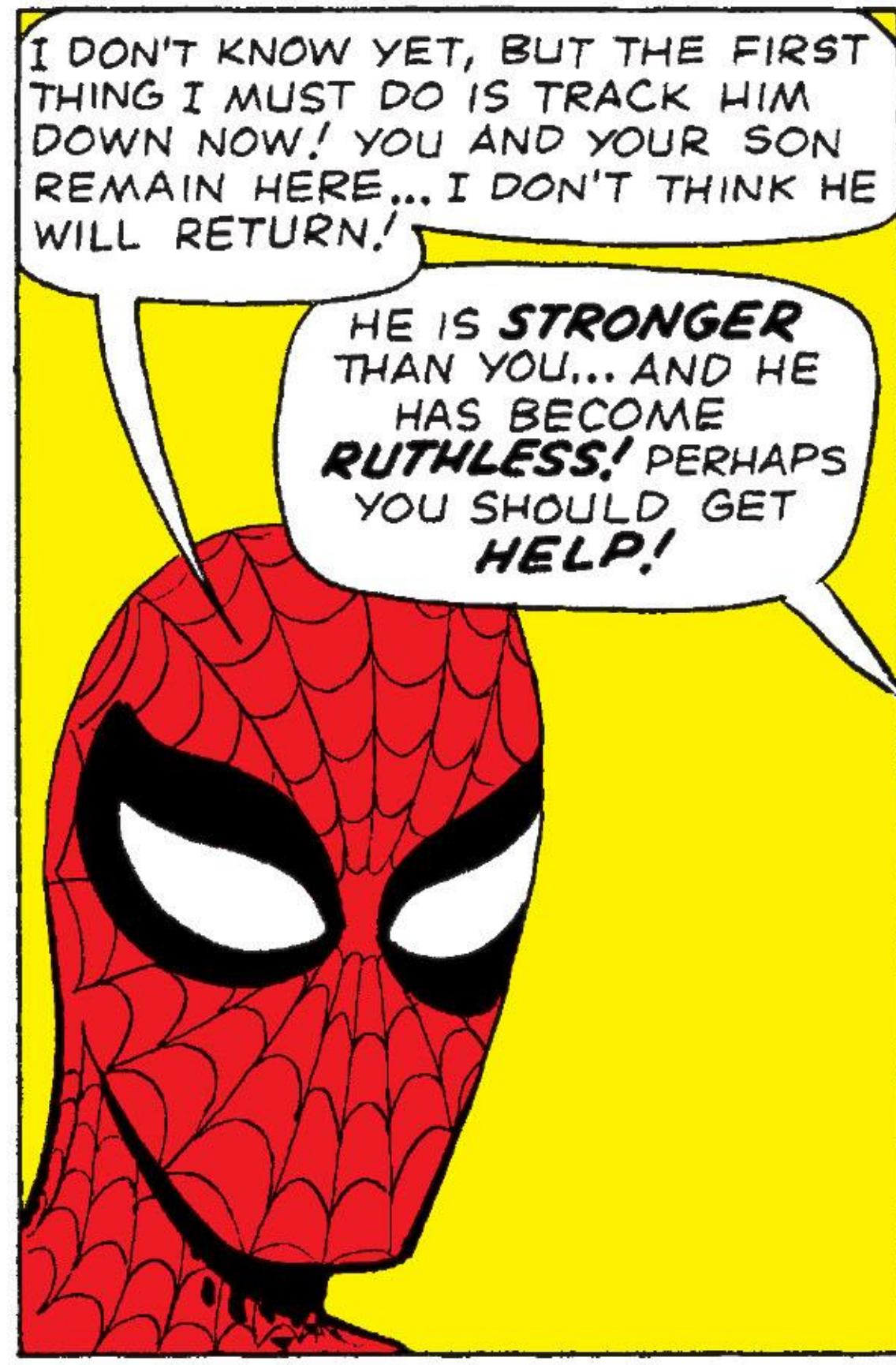


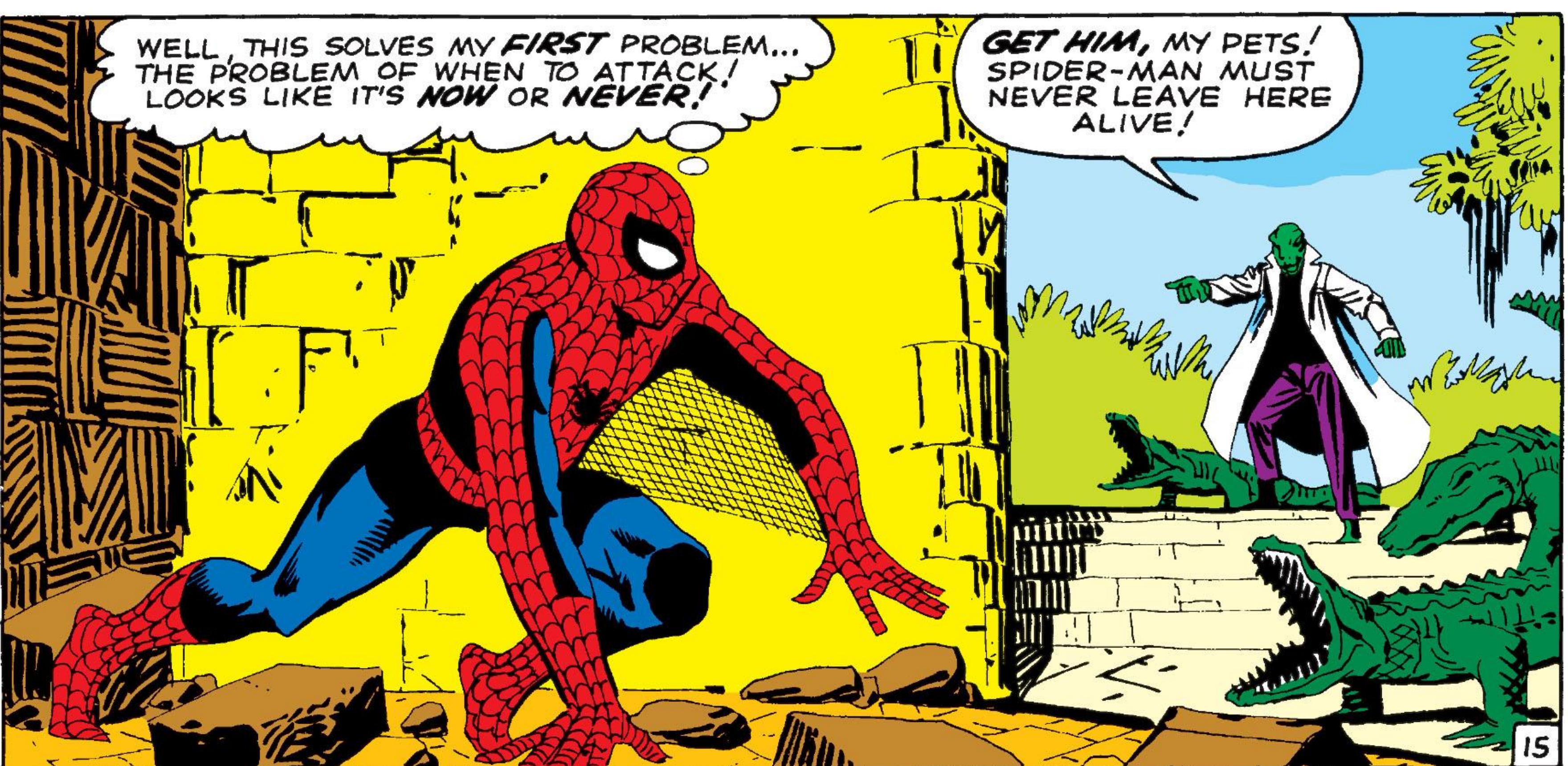
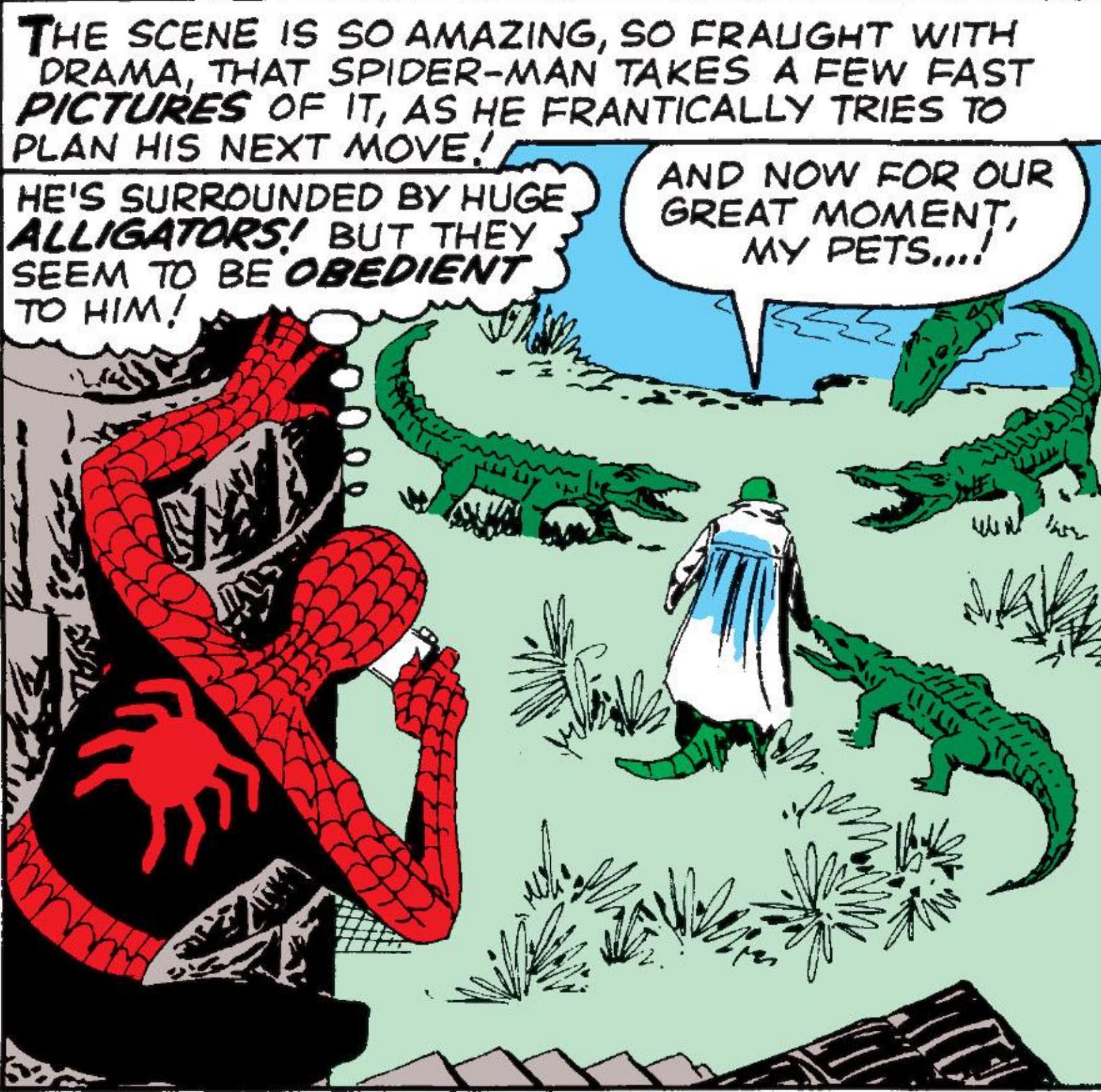


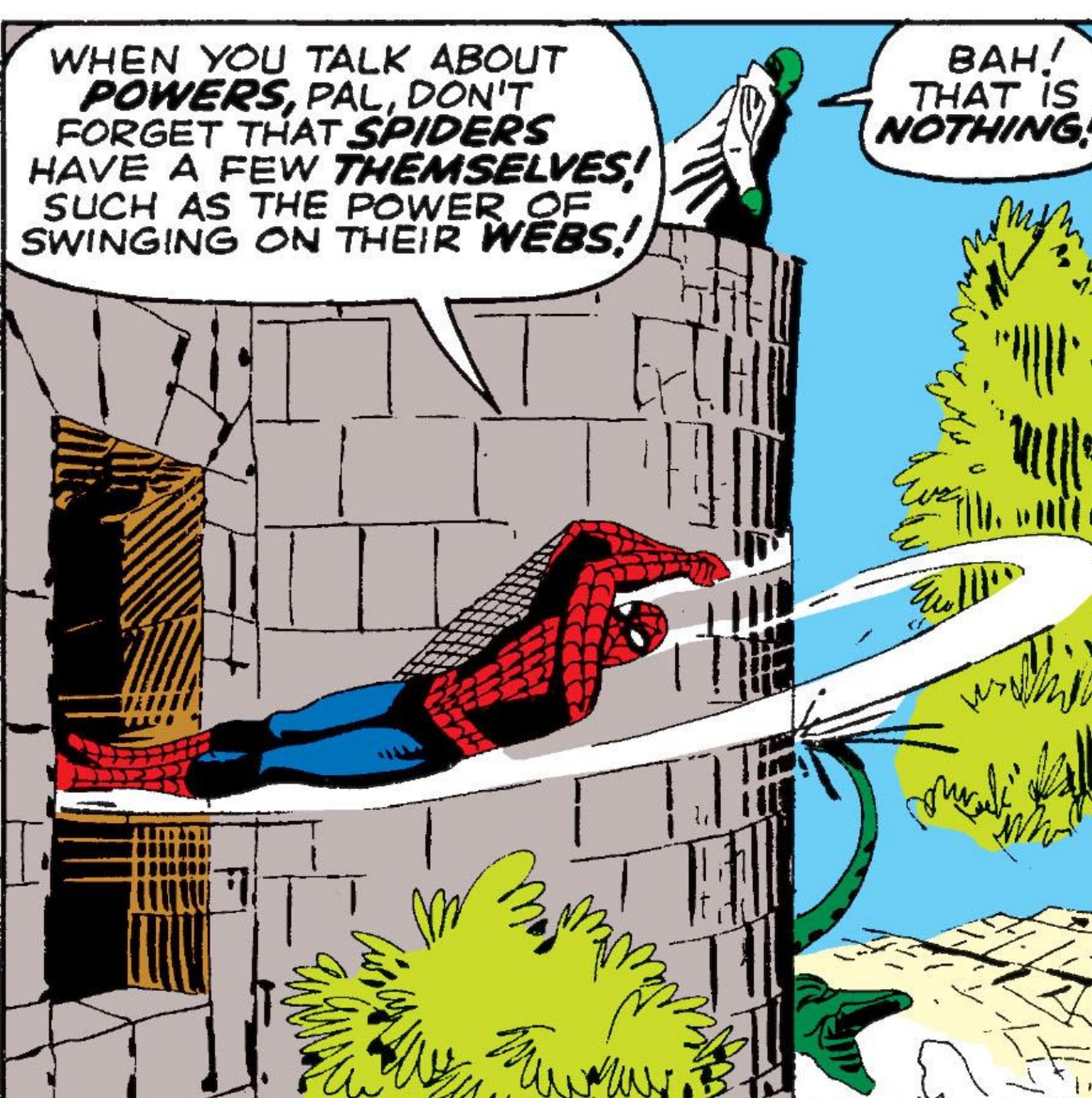
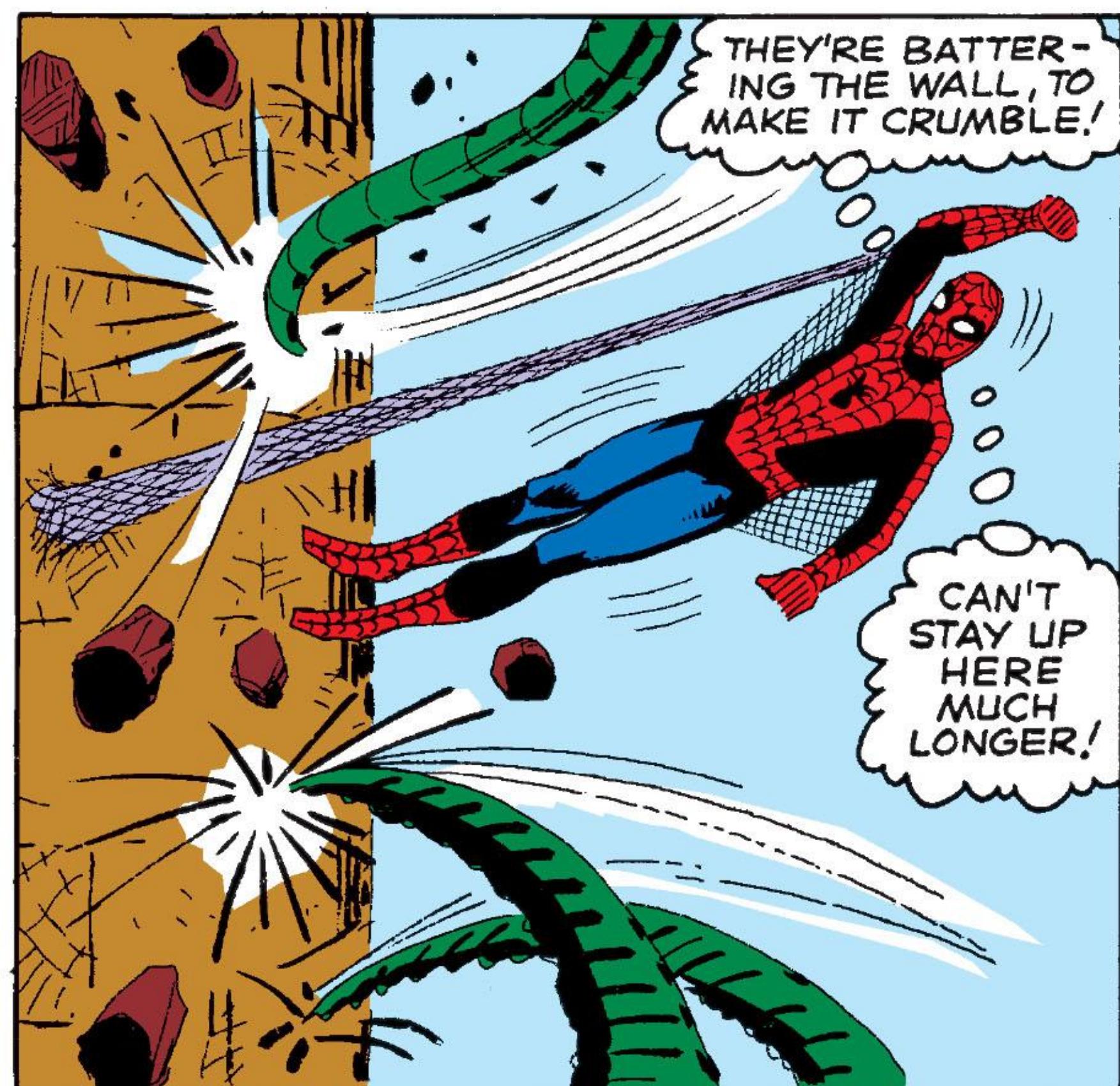


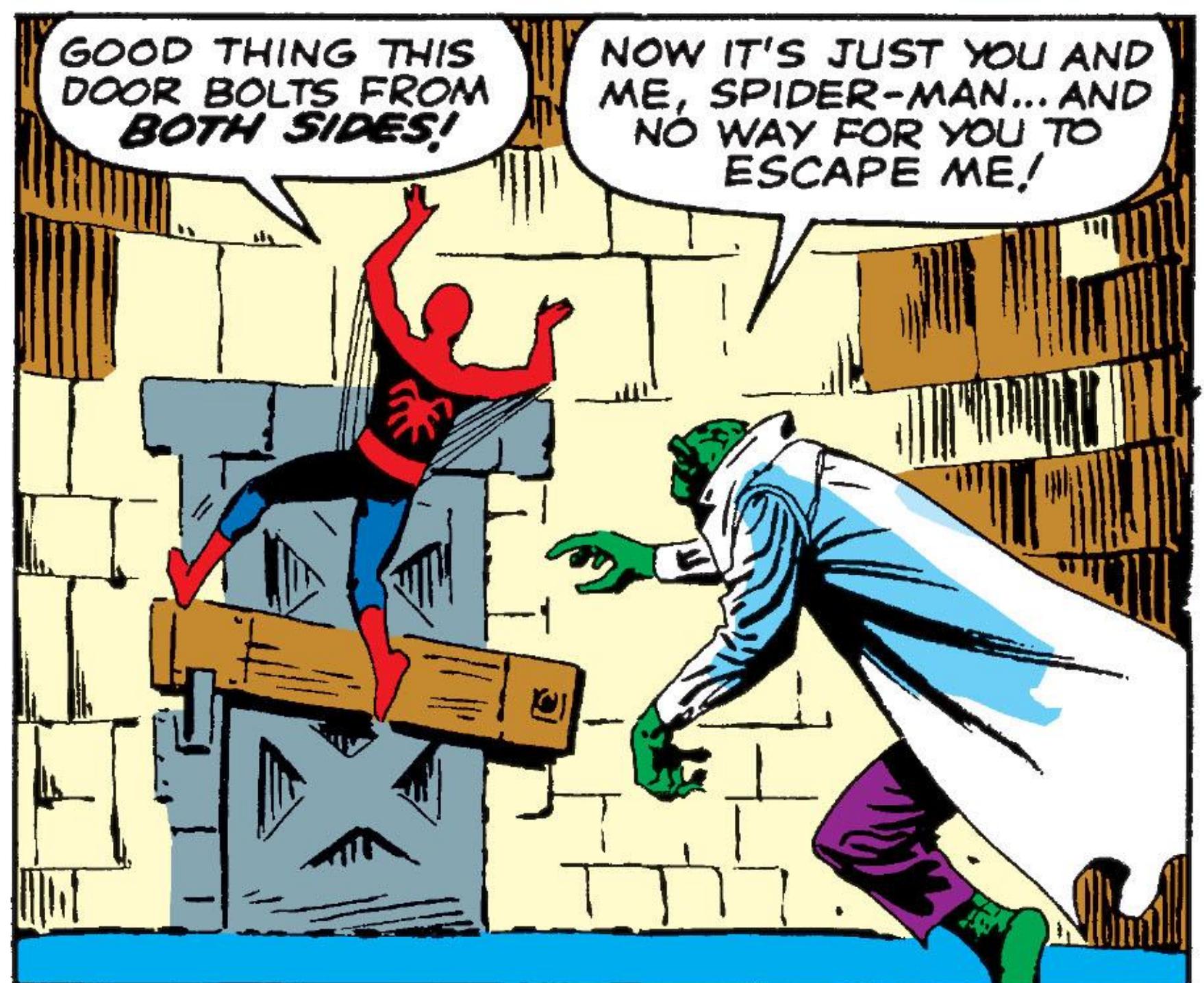
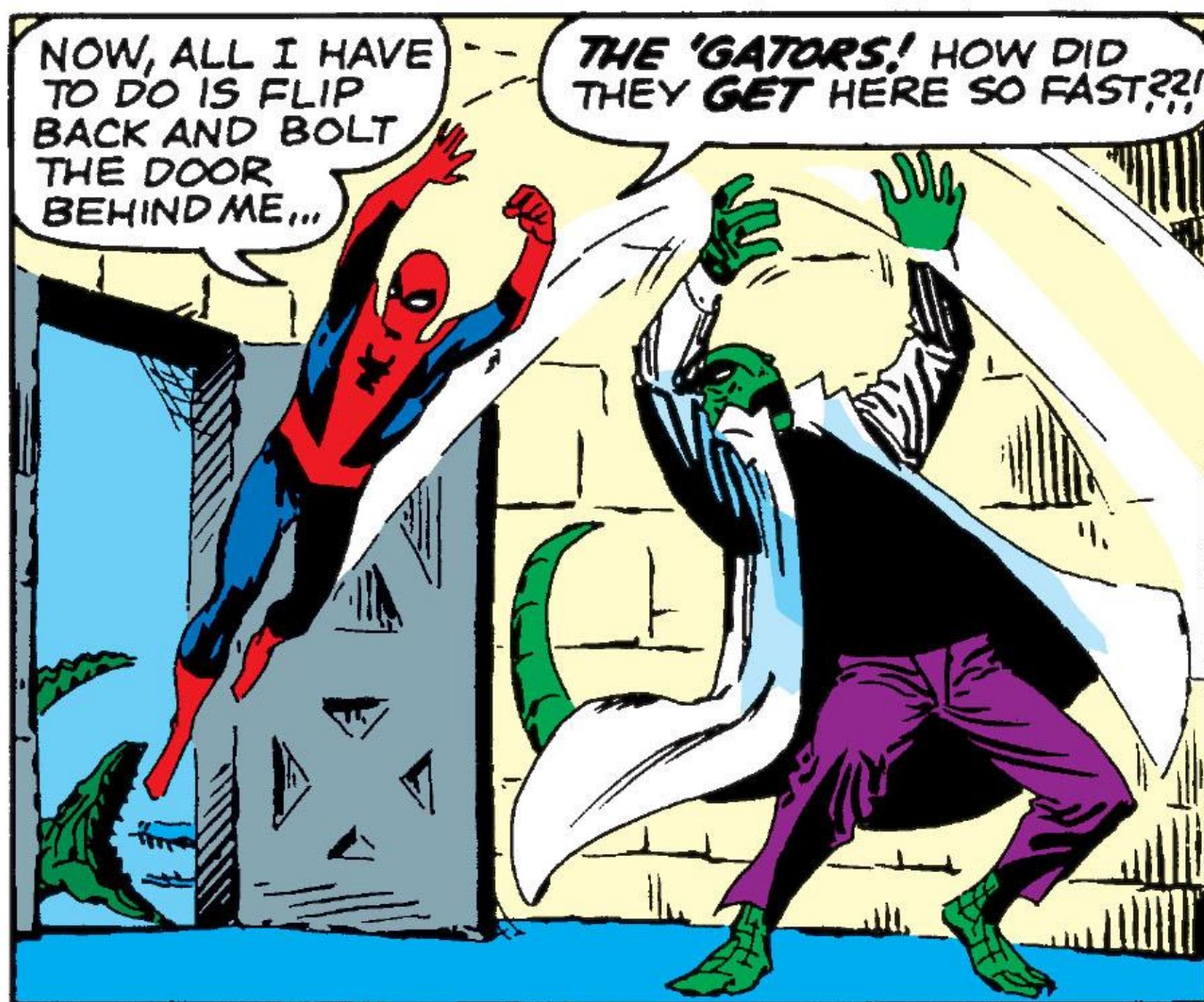
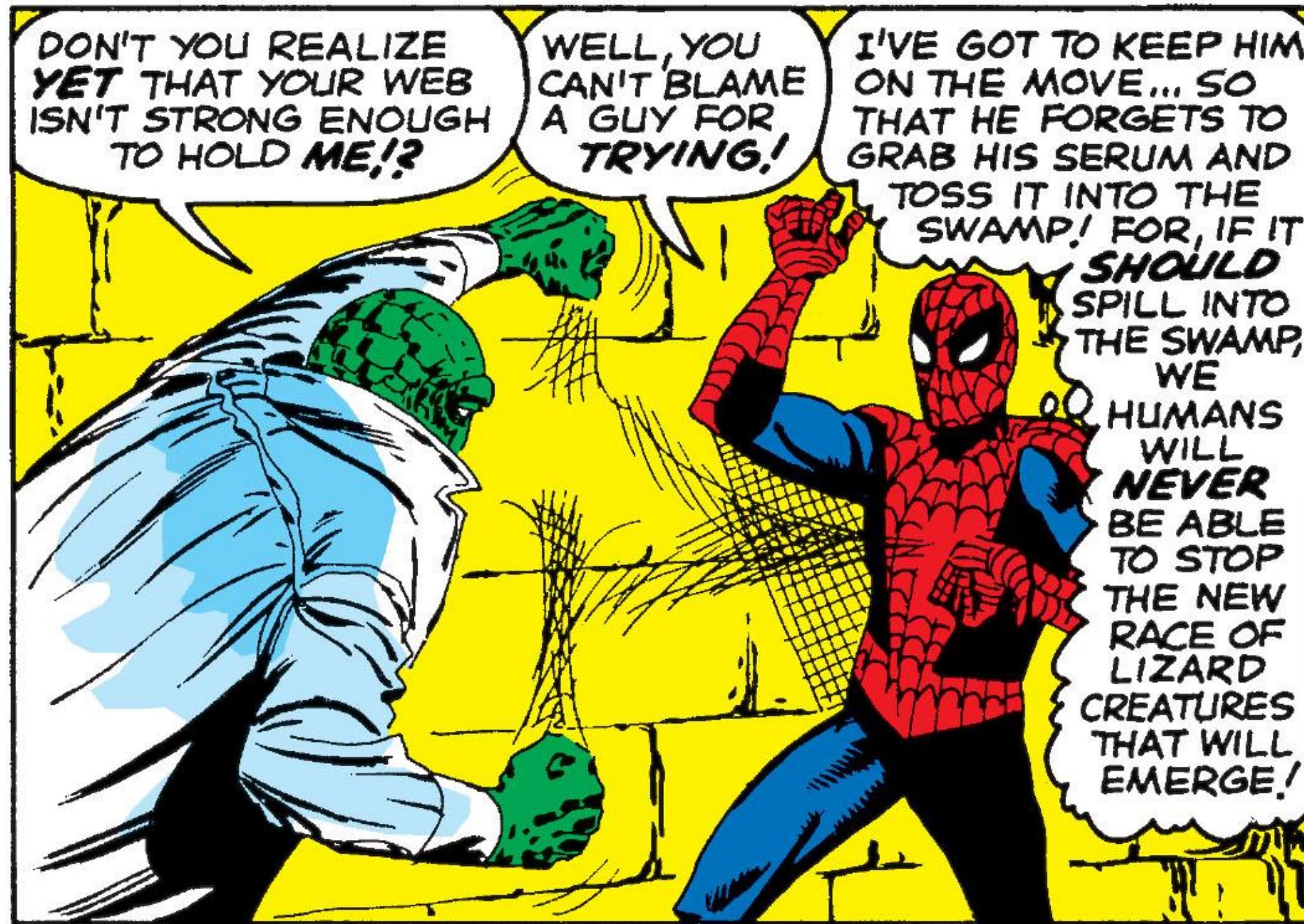












AS SPIDER-MAN PLUNGES TOWARD THE FLOOR BELOW, GRASPING HIS LIFE-SAVING STRAND OF WEB IN ONE HAND, HE LUNGES OUT SKILLFULLY, AND...



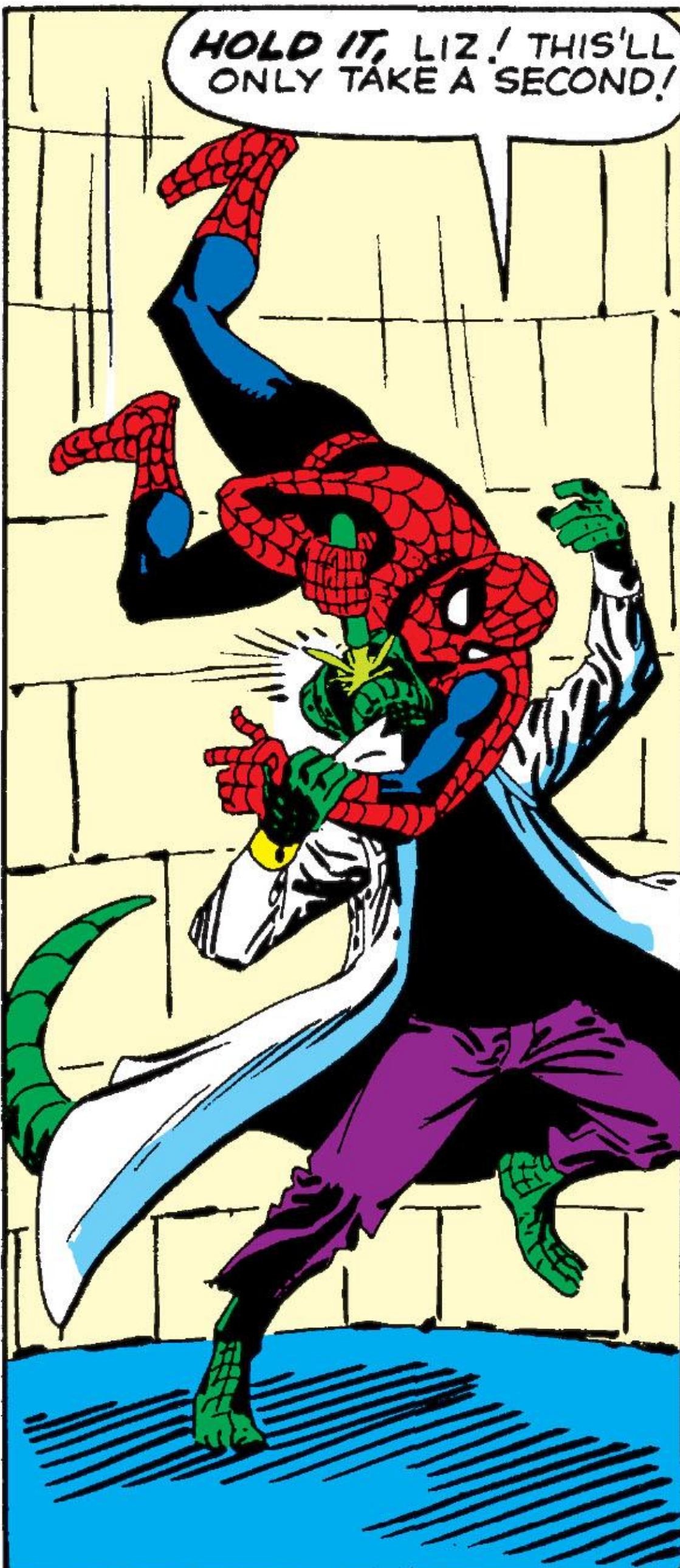
THEN, IN MID-AIR, THE AMAZING COSTUMED CRUSADER SUMMONS ALL HIS SPEED, HIS UNERRING SKILL, HIS LIGHTNING-FAST REFLEXES, AND WHISKS A SMALL VIAL FROM HIS BELT...



IF I MISS NOW... THERE MAY BE NO SECOND CHANCE FOR ME!



HOLD IT, LIZ! THIS'LL ONLY TAKE A SECOND!

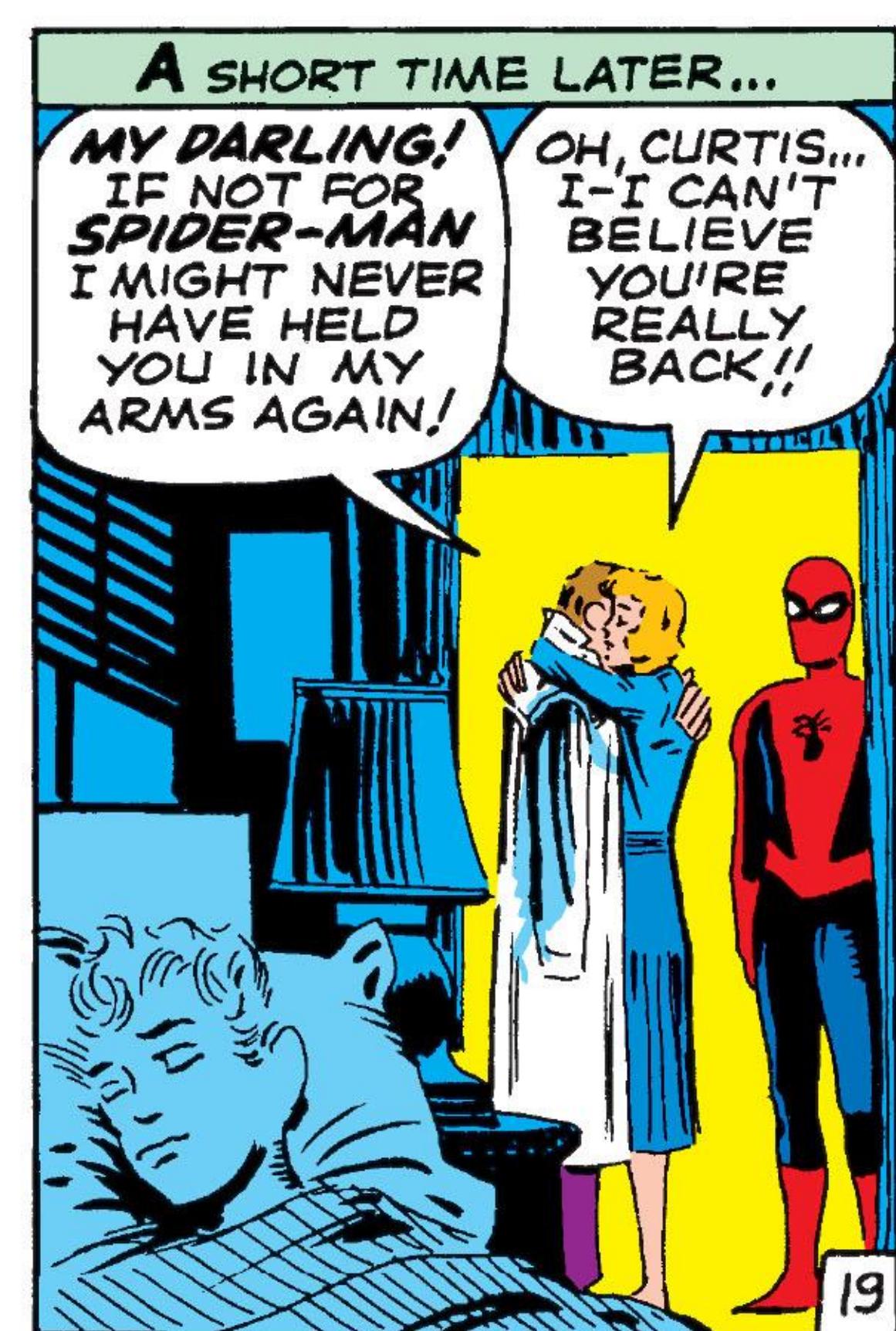
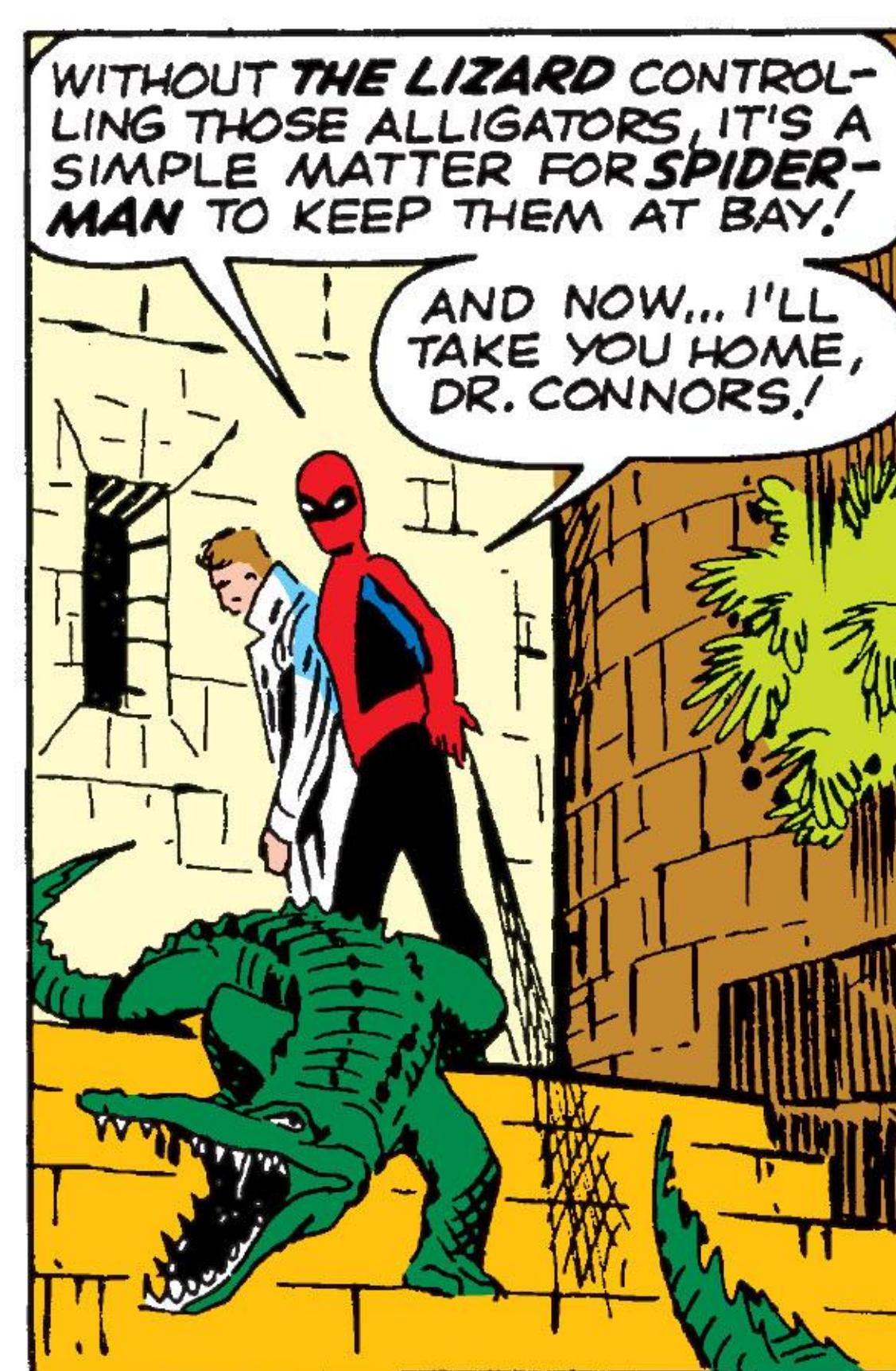
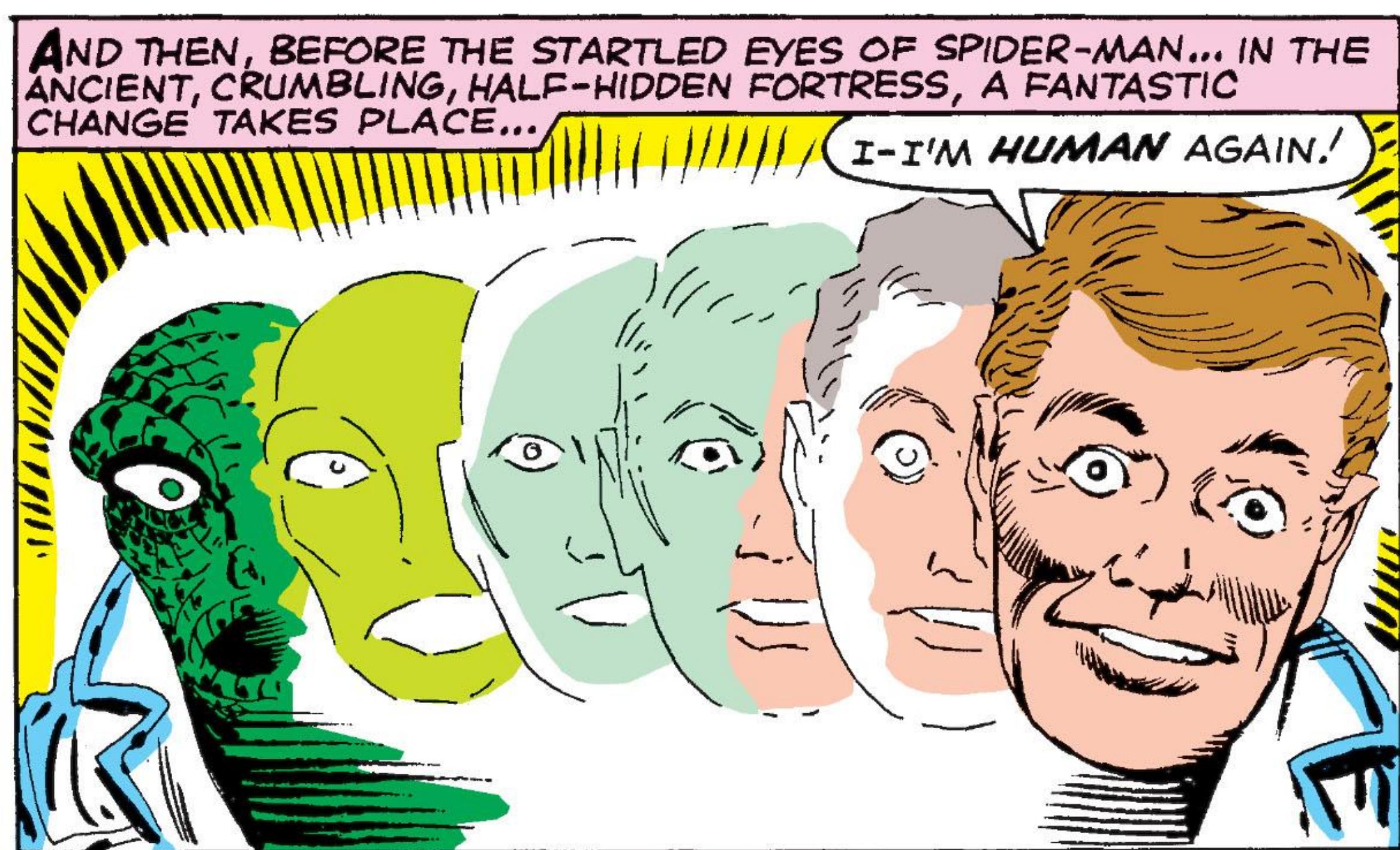
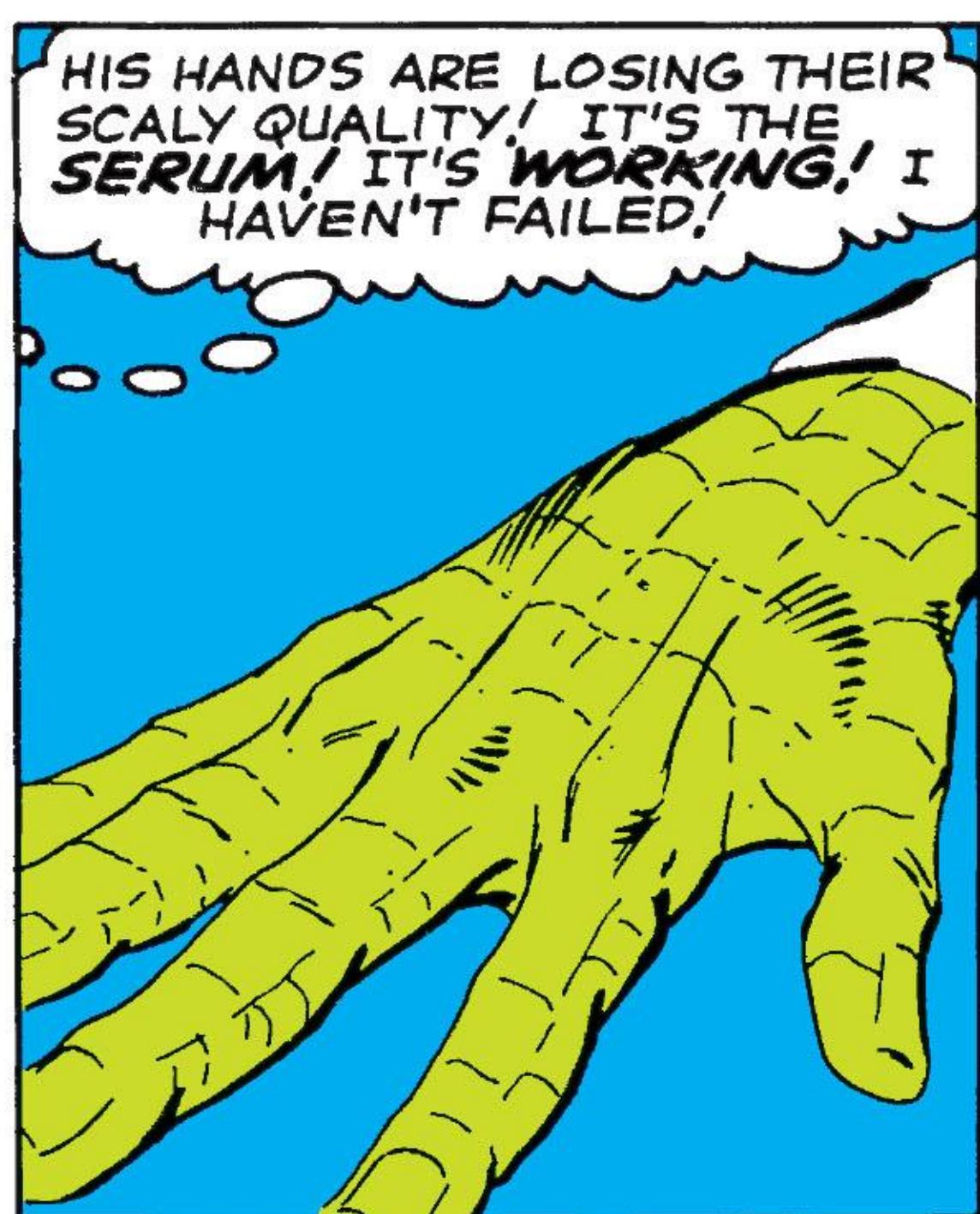


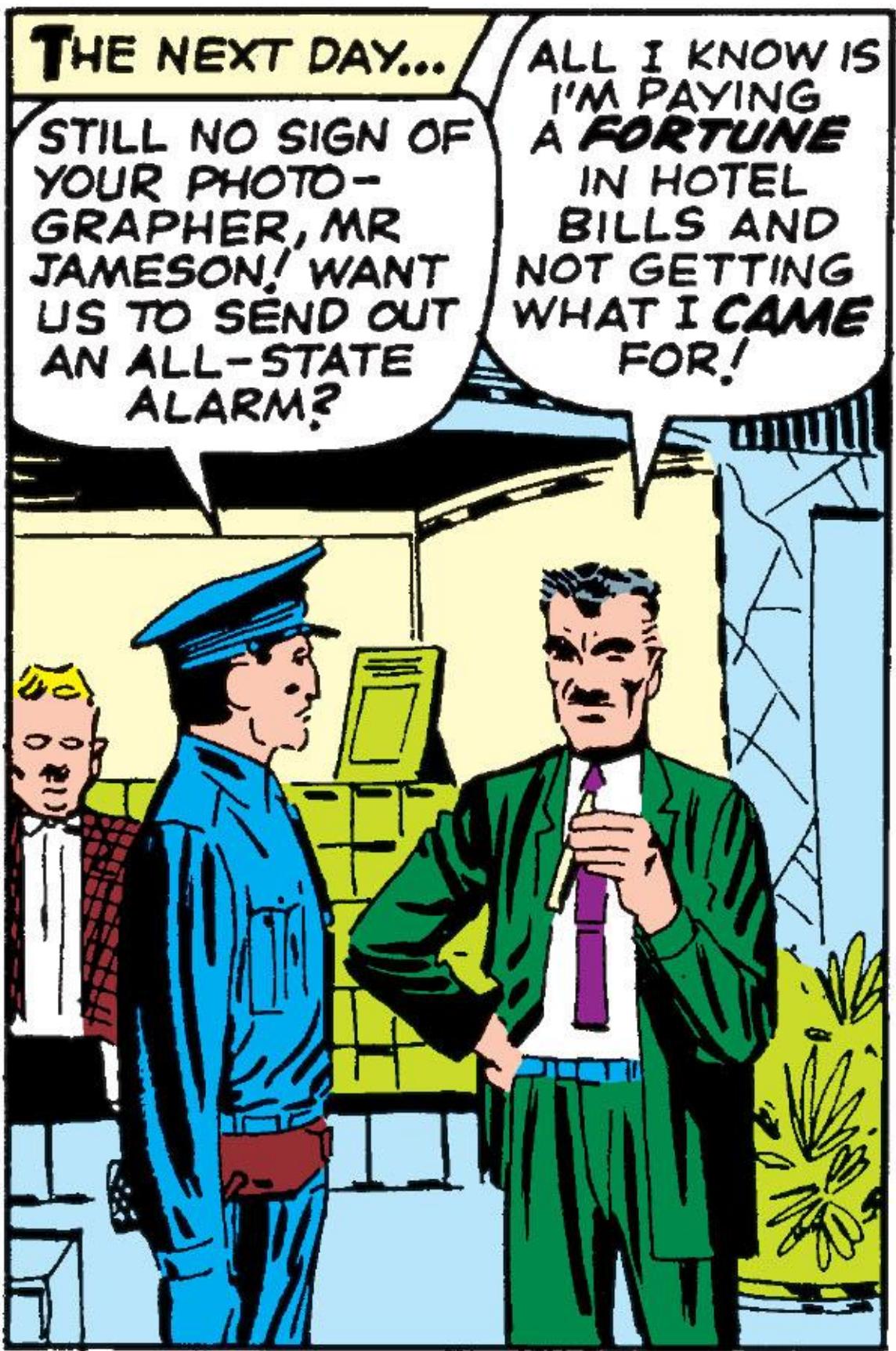
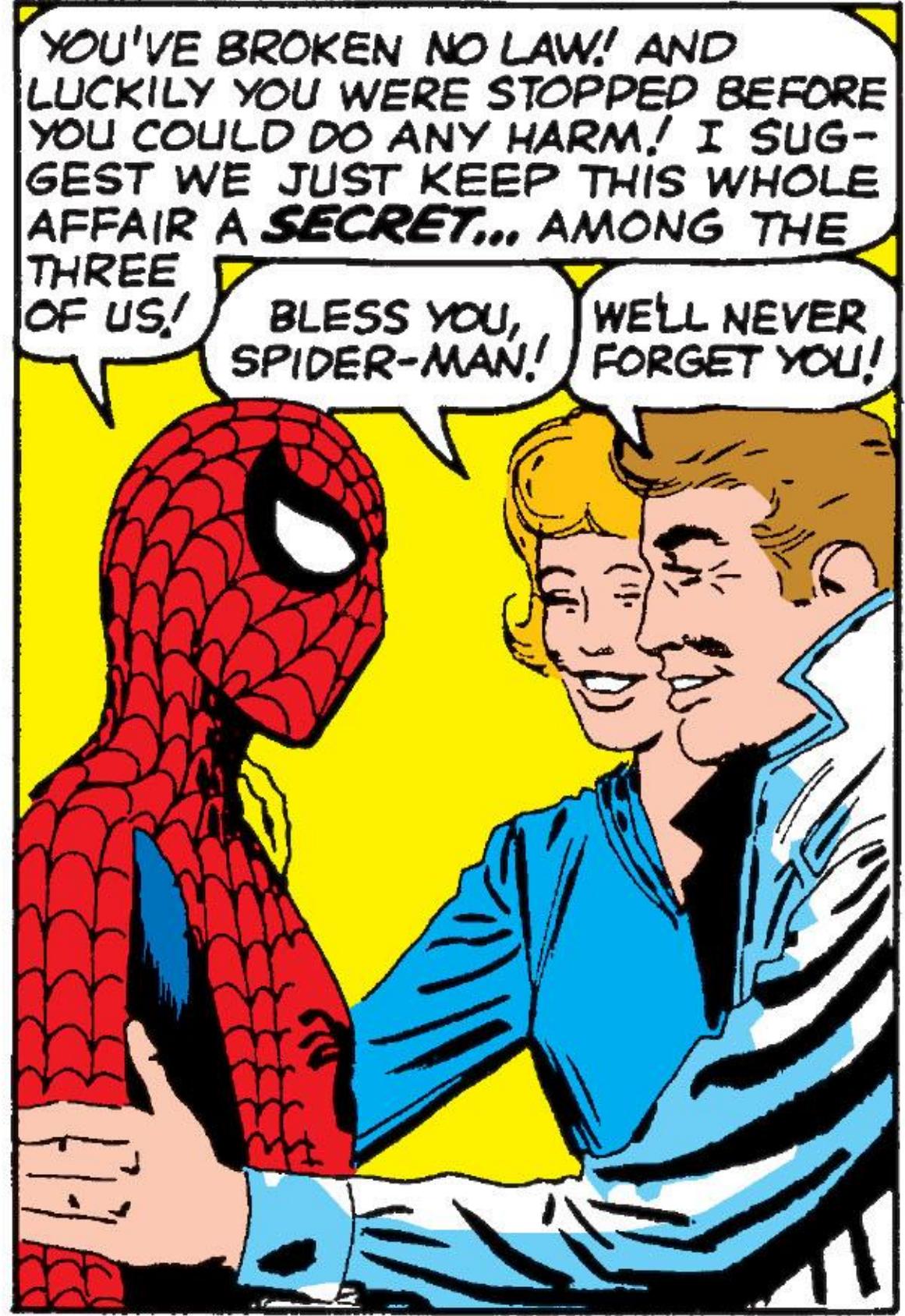
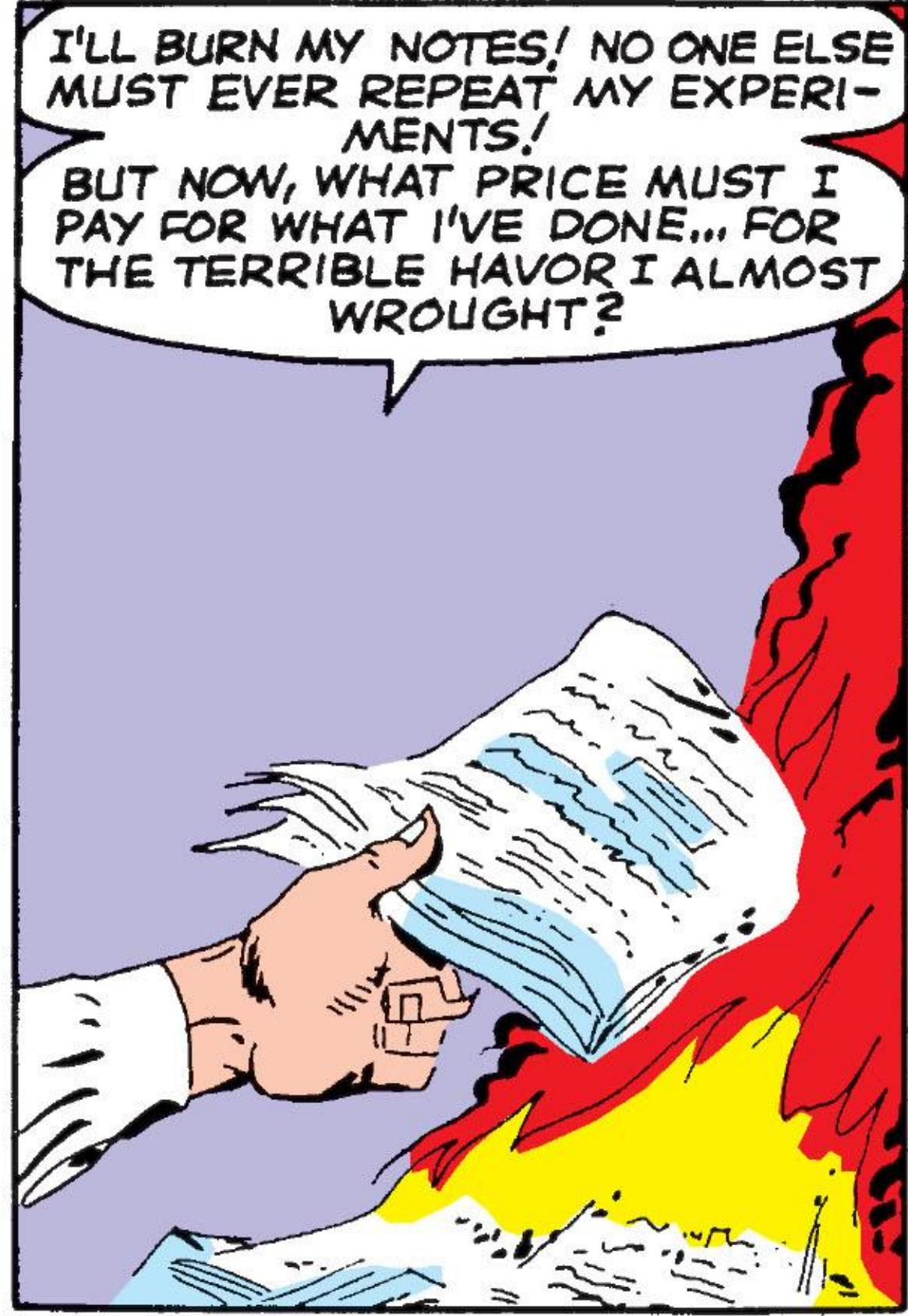
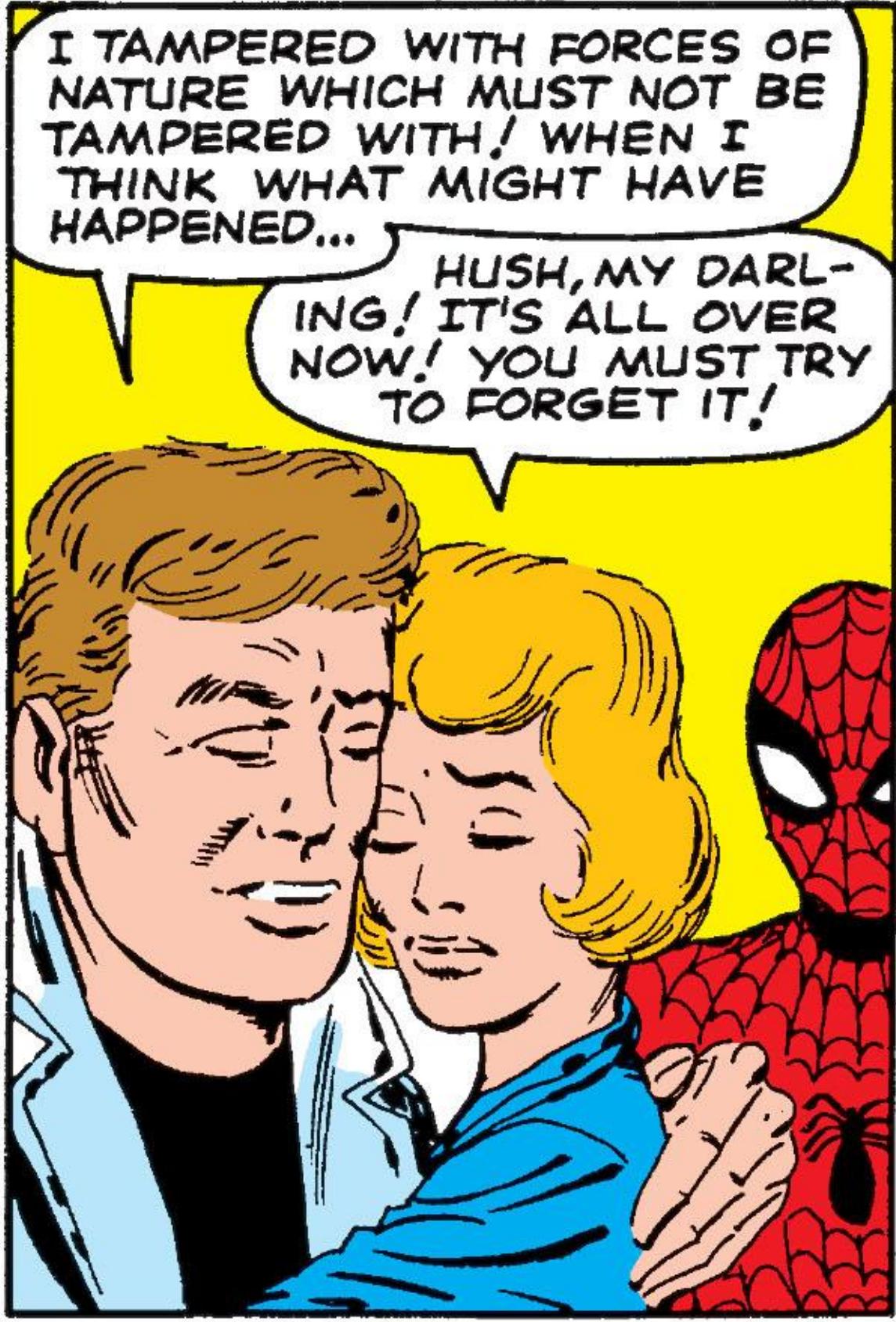
I DID IT!  
NOW, IF ONLY...  
OOOF!!

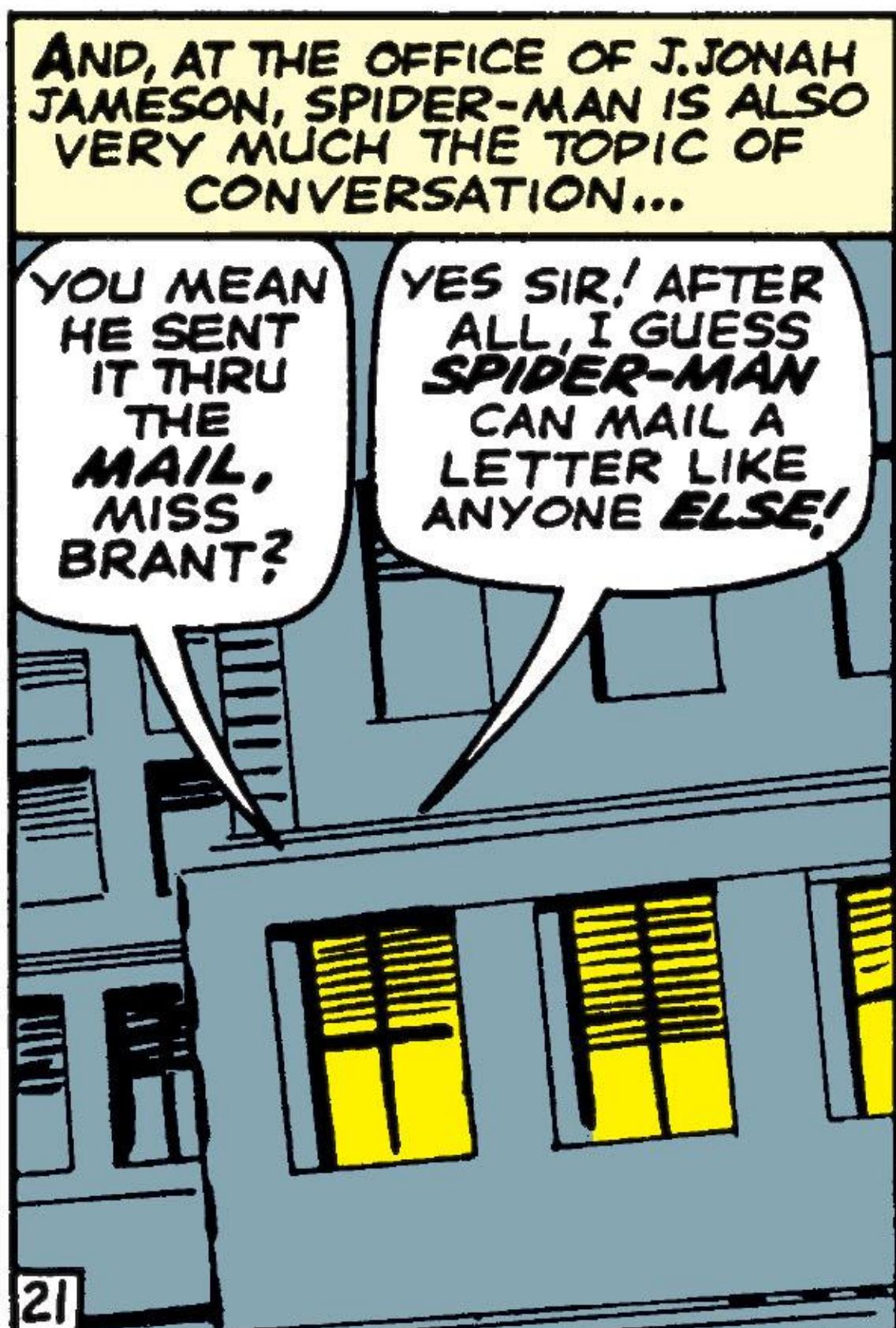
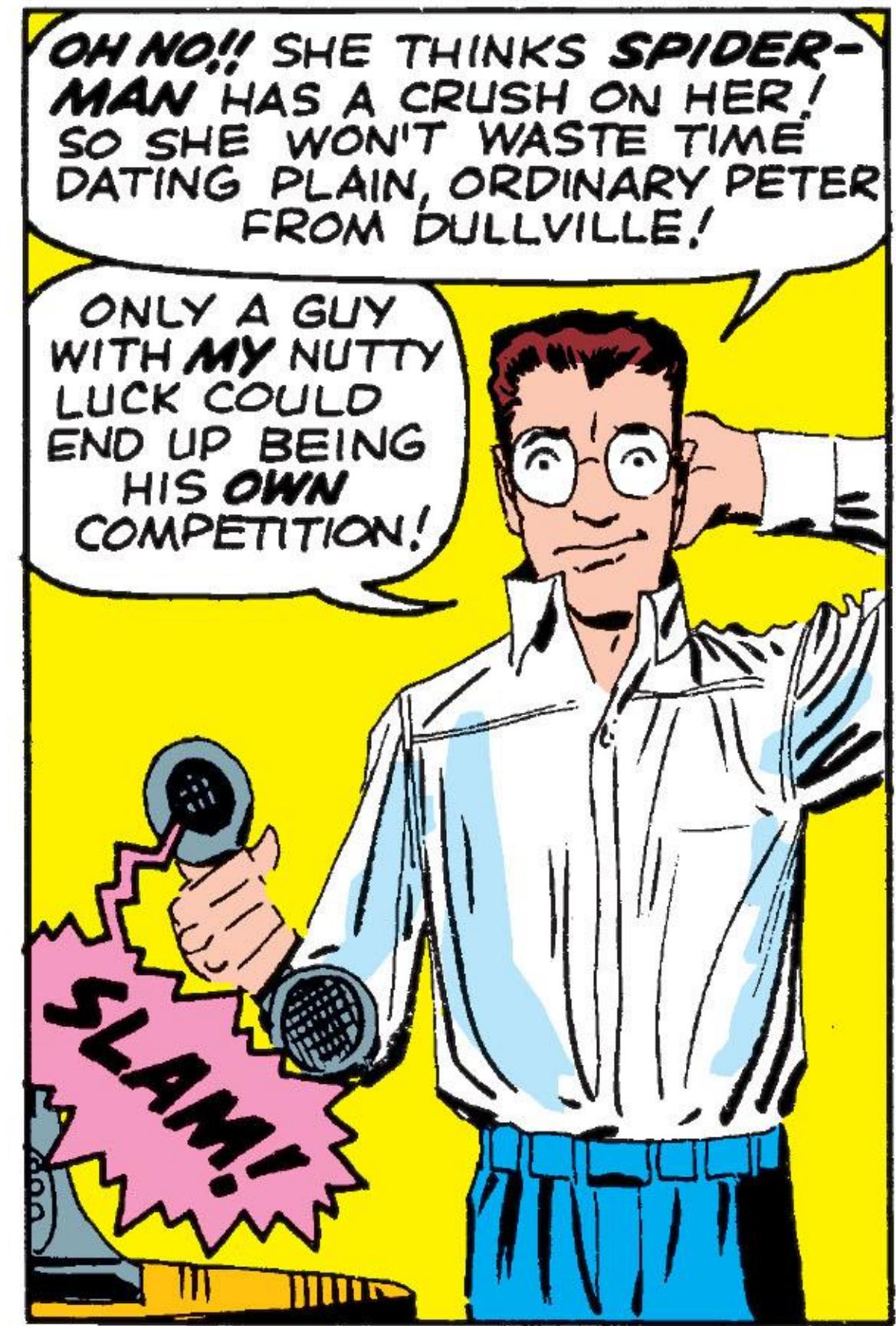
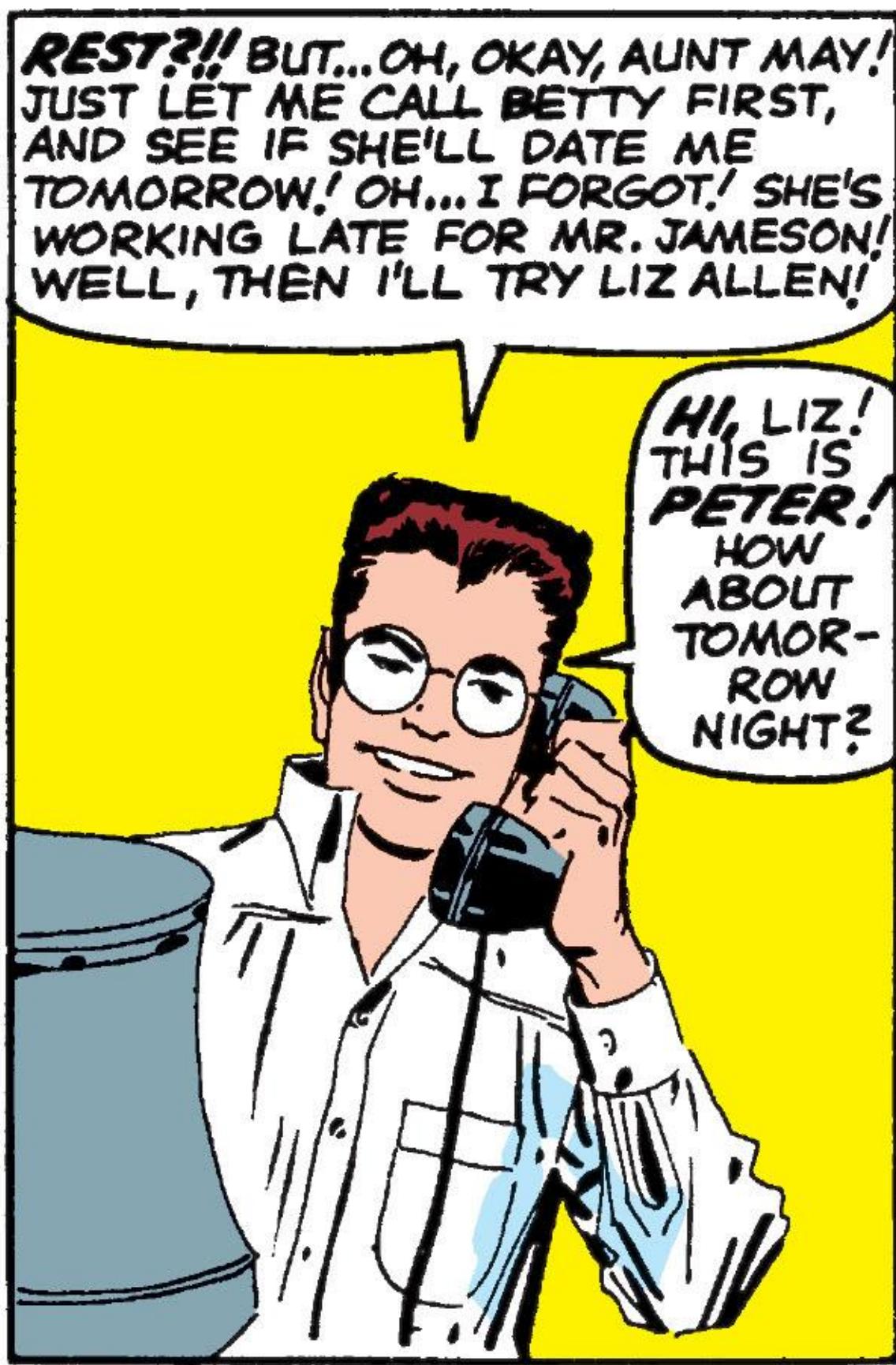


WHY DOESN'T THE SERUM WORK?? WHAT DID I DO WRONG?? WHAT--??











# SPIDER'S WEB

Please address  
your letters to:  
**THE SPIDER'S WEB**  
Third Floor  
655 Madison Ave.  
New York 21, N. Y.

Dear Stan and Steve,

The truth is I've loved Spider-Man from the very beginning and sincerely hoped he would get his own magazine. Well, I decided to wait until the next issue to send in my verdict. Here is the newly discovered evidence: 1) Issue #3's artwork improved greatly; 2) Issue #3's color schemes were much better; 3) Issue #3's paneling improved. (I especially liked page 9.) Now that I have brought before the court the new evidence, I will give you some helpful (I hope) hints. Keep up the fabulous plots as in issue #3. Also, please keep your human interest gimmicks. Let's have more villains, and keep returning them. Your interesting sub-plots help, too. On the condition that these hints are fulfilled, the prosecuting attorney withdraws all charges and submits this verdict for consideration by the judge, your reader — The verdict is: Guilty — guilty of having the greatest comic magazine! The sentence is: Eternity — an eternity of success for Spider-Man. Case is closed.

Ken Dixon  
674 Buttonwood Drive  
Springfield, Del. Co., Pa.

*The FANTASTIC FOUR is trying to appeal the verdict, we hear, but it's too late! Thanks for your unusual way of telling us you like us. (At least, that's what we HOPE you were saying.)*

Dear Stan and Steve,

Just bought AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #3 this morning and I can't say I'm sorry! If you can keep up the good work, in a few years you ought to be able to publish it oftener than monthly. But Stan, old boy, you'll have to keep up the story quality! I wish you lots of luck, since you already must have to use a separate typewriter for each hand with all the work you do. (Looks like you get snowed under occasionally and have to use your feet, too — once in a while you do slip; then again, nobody's perfect.) Together, you and Steve have made SPIDER-MAN one of the few books I not only buy regularly, but also enjoy without a sense of disappointment at substandard stories or a closetful of cliches. Sincerest congratulations on your new feature, DR. STRANGE, in STRANGE TALES! If the first story is any indication, you've got another winner on your hands. This is really good!

Phil Castora  
Burbank Hotel  
Burbank, Calif.

*We almost hoped not too many readers would notice DR. STRANGE, so that we could turn out the stories without too much effort. But, the reaction has been far more favorable than we expected, so it looks as though the ol' Master of Black Magic will be a regular feature, which means another headache for us! If you haven't seen him yet, treat yourself to a copy of the latest STRANGE TALES — but only after you've bought SPIDER-MAN, of course!*

Dear Stan and Steve,

How do you do it? First, you came out with the F.F., then Ant-Man, Thor, and Iron Man, and now — the best of all — Spider-Man! What a rare character — he sure is neat. I love his origin, his aunt, and especially him. I

liked his idea of joining up with the F.F. My one gripe is his costume. It may be snazzy, but he looks like a criminal in it. Please tell me, is he ever going to be at peace with the world?

John Black  
37 Windsor Sq.  
Penicuik, Midlothian  
Scotland

*Never mind YOUR questions! What WE wanna know is: how do you pronounce the name of that town you live in??*

Dear Stan and Steve,

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #3 topped the excellent #2. Although I like two stories in a comic rather than one long one, this story was great. At first, Doctor Octopus looked too crazy, but he turned out to be a great foe. Maybe he should return in a future issue. One of the high points of the story was his crushed spirit at being defeated, and his thoughts of quitting the hero business. It will be a long time before I forget those terrific action scenes on pages 15-19. They were really great. I enjoyed the Human Torch's appearance and I'm glad he didn't play too big a part in capturing Doctor Octopus. My reasons for saying this is since this is Spider-Man's comic, he should have most of the action to himself. I don't agree that Spider-Man should have a secret partner. He wouldn't be the same with one. I like Spider-Man's new sign. The way he flashes it on walls and such gives the story more color (as if you needed it!). I agree that Spider-Man should be published monthly. He is very deserving of it. Finally, the pin-up page was excellent, and it was very skillfully drawn.

Dave Bibby  
40 Hillside Ave.  
Verona, N. J.

*Don't worry, Davey boy — good villains are hard to come by, and when we succeed in creating a few, you can be sure we'll bring them back whenever possible! So don't be surprised if you see Doc Ock (as we call him, here in the bull-pen) coming back for more maypole dances in future issues.*

Dear Stan and Steve,

I guess it'll seem kind of funny hearing from the mother of some of your fans, but I'd like to say that I enjoy your comic SPIDER-MAN. I'm not one to interfere in the hopes of others, but I noticed in your fan mail that they are already searching for a secret pal for Spider-Man or trying to push him into the Fantastic Four. He does a mighty fine job alone! Come on, you kids, why not let Spider-Man live his role alone like Richard Diamond?? Don't mess up two mighty fine comics just because Spider-Man goes it alone, huh? I have four daughters who are fans, also. They say they like Spider-Man just as he is . . . only thing they'd like to see is his clobbering Flash, the boy who is always blabbing at him.

Ruth Green  
115 Oak Drive  
Central Point, Oregon

*We're very pleased to announce that we have received many letters from parents, such as Mrs. Green, all with kind words for SPIDER-MAN! As*

**CONTINUED**

**for S-M getting any secret partners, the mail so far has been heavily AGAINST the idea, so we have no plans to introduce any secret pals just yet. (Although we like to spring surprises on you from time to time — such as changing ANT-MAN into GIANT-MAN unexpectedly, in TALES TO ASTONISH #49.)**

Dear Stan and Steve,

I find your comic simply perfect! Wait a cotton-picking minute now, and let me finish — I don't mean your stories are all perfect — I mean your style is perfect. First of all, I like the idea of your letter column being at the end of the story, hot in the middle. I like the idea of Spider-Man being a teenager and not a full grown man. I like the idea of his costume being completely different with not one thing being a take-off from some other hero. Last, but not least, I like his personal style which is his alone. I very seldom write to a comic but I couldn't resist this letter because of all the perfectly original ideas you have come up with.

Ralph Gershovich  
3200 N.W. 189th Terr.  
Miami, Fla.

**Never mind the soft soap! What do you MEAN our stories aren't all perfect?? For 12¢ do you expect HEMINGWAY?!! (Irving Hemingway, our next door neighbor!)**

Dear Stan and Steve,

Please have the Vulture return occasionally to plague Spider-Man. I like the idea of Spider-Man, who can't fly, fighting the Vulture who can. Please don't have Spider-Man win so easily against normal crooks. Please have Dr. Octopus return again, too, and please have SPIDER-MAN monthly. Please tell me why someone hasn't noticed his super-muscles while he is Peter Parker — doesn't his school have Physical Education??

Alan Oberle  
760 Oakway Place  
Glendale 22, Mo.

**Pete's muscles aren't the bulging kind, Alan. Even in Physical Education (known as P.T. in the N.Y. area, for Physical Training) he just looks like a well-built slim teen-ager. Of course, if one should FEEL his muscles, that would be another story!**

Dear Stan and Steve,

I just bought SPIDER-MAN #3 and it was great. I'm surprised with each issue that Steve Ditko does such wonderful art. I was happy to see that Steve signed the cover of SPIDER-MAN #2 and #3. I'd like to see this carried over to other MARVEL COMICS. When Joe Sinnott draws a story for JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY I'm not sure if he or Jack Kirby drew the cover. The same is true of TALES OF SUSPENSE. I think that Jack drew the covers, even if Don Heck drew some of the stories, but I could be wrong. If each artist would sign his covers, all we fans would be sure of the artist. Here are a few other items I would like to comment on: don't give Spider-Man a secret partner, let Dick Ayres do more art in STRANGE TALES, and let Prince Namor team up with Spider-Man in a full length adventure. Next to Dr. Doom, Dr. Octopus is in second place as far as villains go — the reason is his having such different powers — and in third place is the Vulture. What I'd like to see is the F.F. battling Dr. Octopus and the Vulture together. I bet the Thing would have his hands full trying to hold Dr. Octopus. This would give Spider-Man a chance to get a crack at Dr. Doom. The Torch should be added and make it a book length adventure. I'd also like to see Spider-Man guest star with the Torch in STRANGE TALES, and have Dick Ayres do the art for both. Since both Spider-Man and the Torch are teenagers, they should be featured together every once in a while. They would make a great team! Thanks for letting me bend your ear.

Gerry Johnson  
30A Bayview Place  
Superior, Wisc.

**BEND it? You practically BROKE it! The reason we don't usually have artists sign the covers,**

**Gerry, is that they often represent the work of MANY men. One might do the rough layout — another the pencilling — then, we might decide to change a figure or two and still another artist might make the correction — ditto for the inking. However, when one man does the whole thing as Steve did on the covers you mentioned, he usually DOES affix his signature! There! That ought to pretty well confuse everybody!**

Dear Stan and Steve,

PIOOEY! With complaints, that is. I hate all those know-it-all and I-want-to-make-a-comment readers. In the first SPIDER'S WEB there were only two letters I completely agreed with and these were the ones written by Jerome Haro and Bill Ryan. Bill's letter wasn't "suggestions," as he put it, but praises telling you to keep up the good work. Fred Bronson and his "normal superhero." Bah! It clearly states in the first issue that "there's never been a hero like Spider-Man!" Frank Glen can take that "full of pity" letter and stand in the corner. Let Spider-Man stay as he is. Phil Leibfred should learn that a hero like S-M will live on the pages of a comic book as long as someone is there to draw him. Your plots are terrific, so go tell Buddy Saunders to soak his head. Secret partner, be hanged . . . the only partner Spider-Man could have is Ant-Man. You can also tell any "middle of the road" readers to take a long walk off a short pier. Your book is the greatest. Keep up the good work!

Paul McDonough  
5 Cherry St.  
Hartford 6, Conn.

**We appreciate your praise, Paul, but in all honesty, we like the letters of complaint, too. Many times the complaints of our readers are well-founded, as our steady fans know, we have made many changes over the past months based on readers' comments — and will continue to do so in the future. Our one job — our ONLY job — is to please YOU, the wonderful, loyal fans who make our mags possible.**

#### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS SECTION:

- **A personal message to our readers, from Stan and Steve: We've been in the business of creating comics for many years. During that time we've had quite a few hits (and our share of duds, too!) But no successful mag has ever given us the pleasure, or the THRILL, which we get from seeing how you, the magazine readers, have made SPIDER-MAN the success story of '63! Just as he seems to appeal to YOU, he appeals to US the same way! We really ENJOY writing and drawing his adventures, and we want to repeat that your letters mean a lot to us — we read every single one — and we feel that a great deal of Peter Parker's growing fame is due to your intelligent suggestions and sincere criticism. So, from the bottom of our hearts to the tips of our ink-stained fingers — many many heartfelt thanks to you, from Stan and Steve!**
- **By now, you have probably seen S-M's appearance in STRANGE TALES ANNUAL #2, and FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL #1. If you haven't, we suggest you try to find a copy. (Not as easy as it sounds — they're already sold out in some areas.) We're anxious to hear how you like his guest appearances in other mags, and if you'd like to see more of the same.**
- **Well, let's all put away our little webs and resume our normal identities again, until we meet here next-ish for more of SPIDER-MAN'S own brand of super-excitement!**



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