



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

MEDIA
BLIZZARD. PART OF 2



DADS
TJR

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: **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!**

IMPOSSIBLE, BE MY DREAM!

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LEARNING THAT MYSTERIO IS BEHIND A NEW TELEVISION NETWORK THAT SEEMS TO ADDICT ITS VIEWERS, SPIDER-MAN CONFRONTS HIS OLD FOE, ONLY TO FALL PREY TO THE HORRIFIC ILLUSIONS HE HAS UNLEASHED...*

WHOA-BABY!
EITHER MY WEB-SHOOTERS ARE JAMMED BECAUSE OF A DEFECT IN THAT NEW BATCH OF WEBBING I MIXED--

--OR THEY'VE BEEN FROZEN BY THIS SUDDEN SNOW STORM!

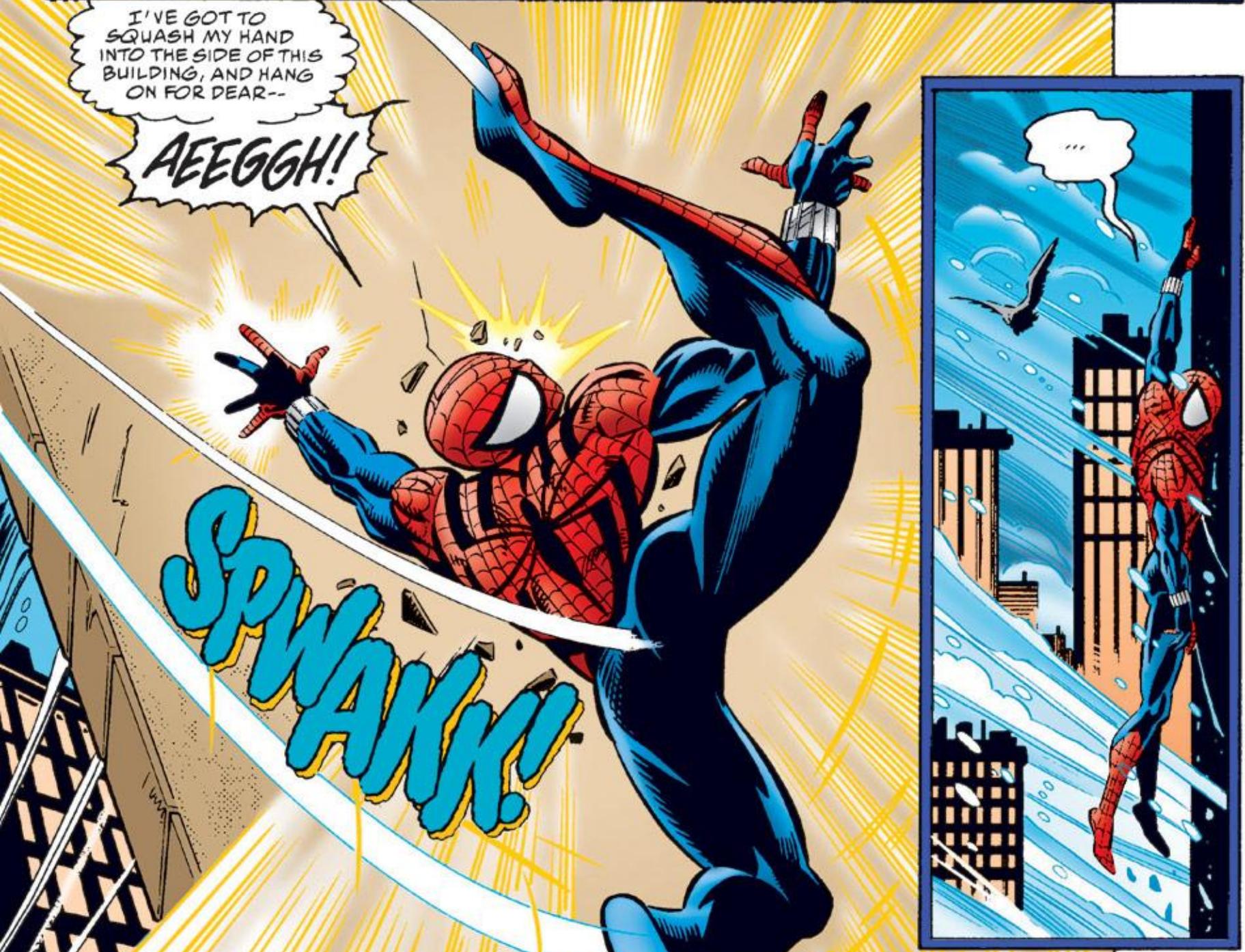
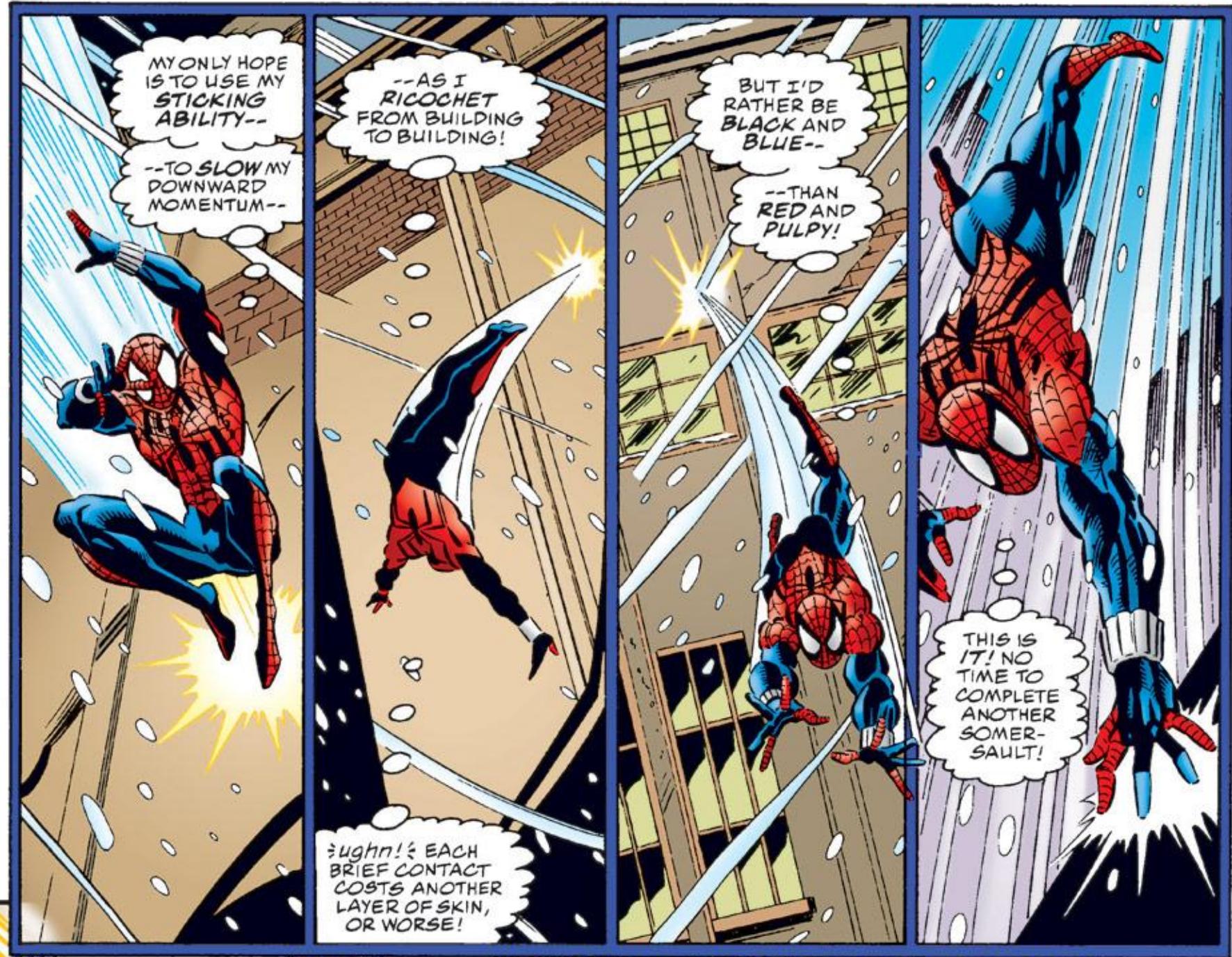
EITHER WAY,
I'M SPEEDING TOWARD AN EXTREMELY PERSONAL ENCOUNTER WITH THE GROUND!

CLIKKT
CLIKKT

CLIKKT
CLIKKT

*SEE
SENSATIONAL
SPIDER-MAN
#1 -- BOB.

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BEAUTIFUL!

**I LOVE LIVE
TELEVISION!**

TALK ABOUT
THRILLS AND
CHILLS! THE
AUDIENCE MUST
HAVE BEEN GLUED
TO THEIR SEATS!

WITH A BIRD'S EYE
VIEW OF ACTION LIKE THIS,
MY NEW NETWORK WILL
SOON HAVE BETTER
RATINGS THAN THE
OJ VERDICT!

I WONDER HOW
SPIDER-MAN WILL
REACT WHEN HE
DISCOVERS HE'S THE
STAR OF A LIVE
BROADCAST!

THE REAL
FUN WILL
BEGIN WHEN
HE FINALLY
WAKES UP--!

THANKS TO THOSE SPECIAL
FILM-LIKE RECEIVERS THAT I
TRICKED HIM INTO ATTACHING TO
THE LENSES ON HIS MASK, I
CAN MAKE HIM SEE ANY
ILLUSION I DESIRE--

--AND HE'LL
BELIEVE IT'S
REAL!

HE'LL SOON
BE FORCED TO
EMPLOY MERE
STRENGTH AND
AGILITY AGAINST
THE MATCHLESS
IMAGINATION
OF
MYSTERIO!

NO SENSE BORING THE AUDIENCE WHILE HE'S JUST HANGING THERE--

--NOT WHEN I CAN CUT TO MY MOBILE UNITS ON RYKER'S ISLAND!"

HERE'S THE PRISONER YOU REQUESTED... AND HIS PERSONAL PROPERTY!

HE CALLS HIMSELF ARMADA, AND HE'S ACCUSED OF STEALING AN EXPERIMENTAL MICROCHIP FROM THE NEURAL PORT COMPLEX!

SURE! KNOCK YOURSELVES OUT!

JUST SO LONG AS YOU FEDS REMEMBER TO CREDIT THE NYPD WITH THIS BUST!

HE MUST BE SOMEONE REAL SPECIAL FOR THE VAULT TO SEND TWO GUARDS-MEN OUT TO QUESTION HIM!

I AM AFRAID THAT'S CLASSIFIED. PLEASE EXCUSE US. WE NEED A FEW MINUTES ALONE WITH THE SUSPECT!

MARY AND ANITA, I MUST CONGRATULATE YOU BOTH!

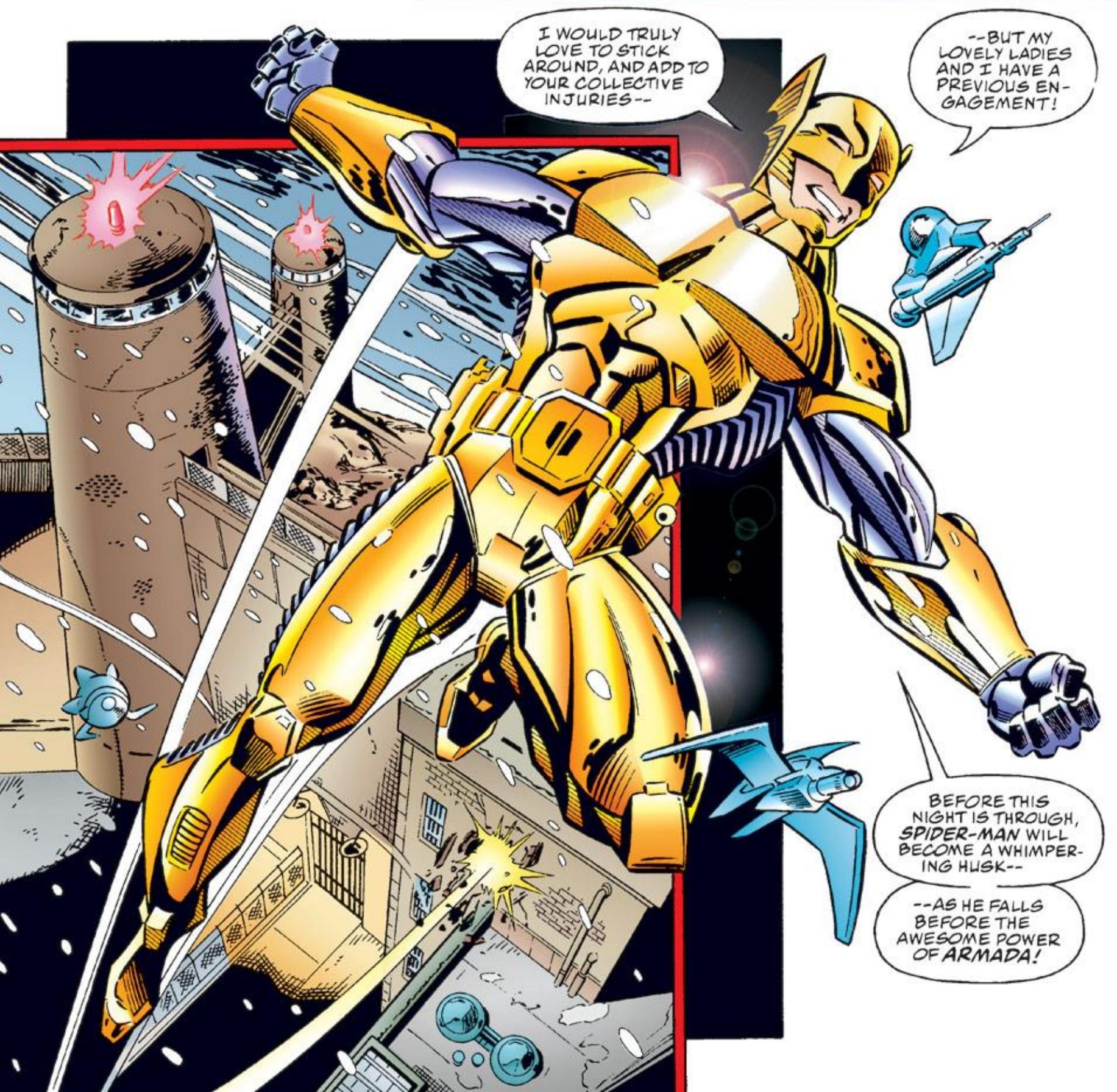
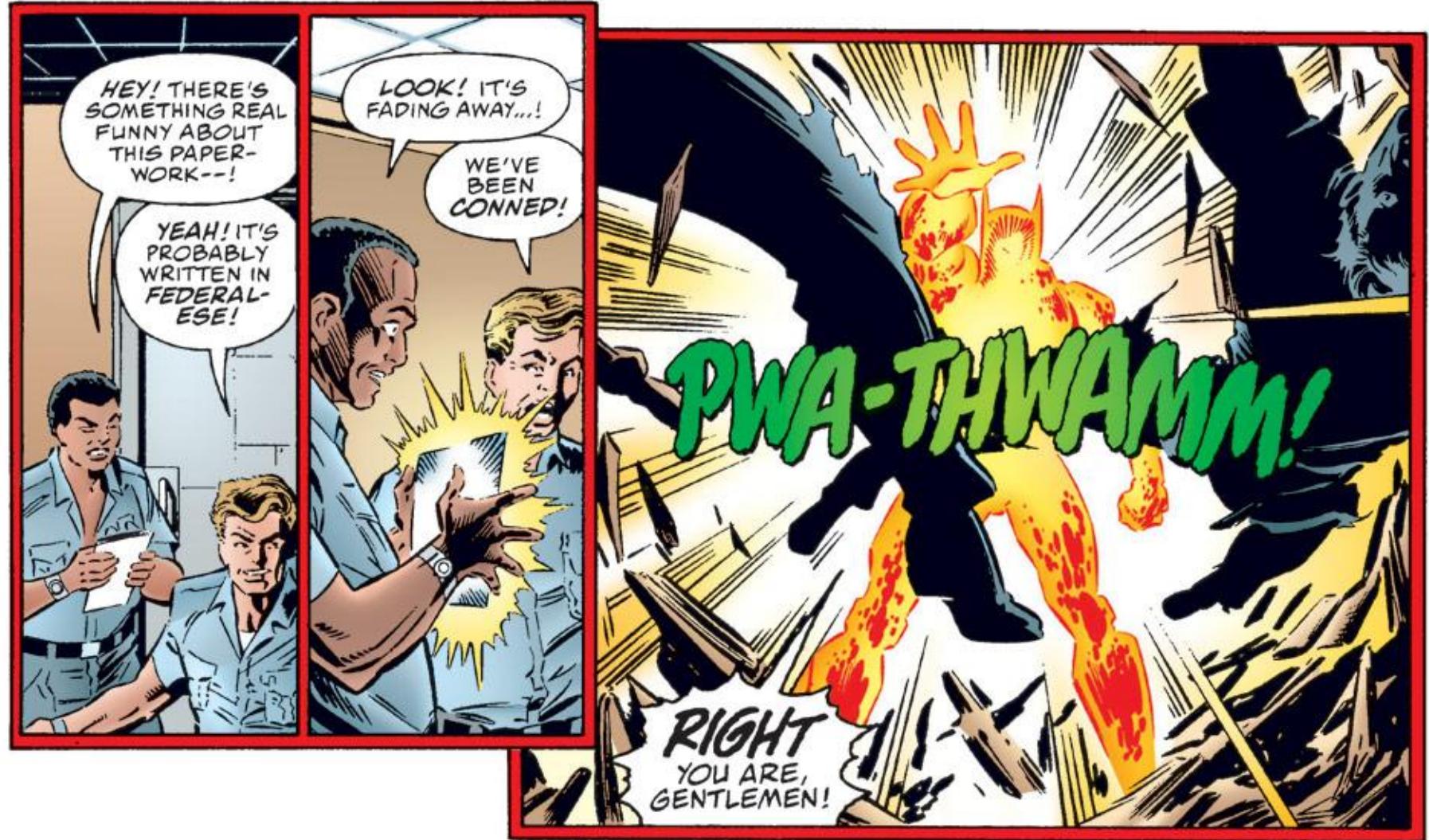
YOU ALMOST HAD ME BELIEVING THAT YOU WERE A PAIR OF FEDERAL OFFICERS!

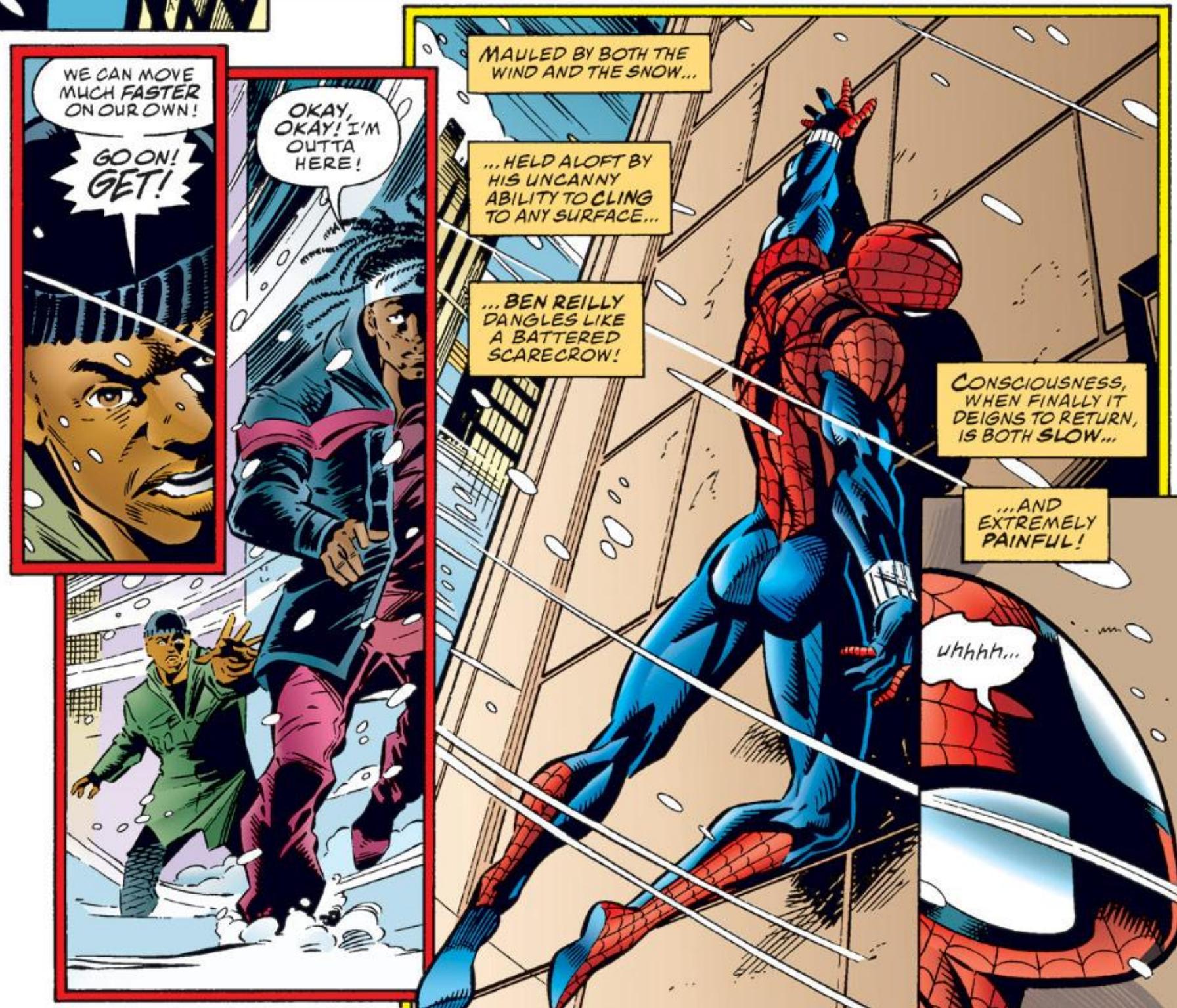
MARY, YOU CONCENTRATE ON FREEING MY COSTUME AND YOUR SISTERS FROM THAT EVIDENCE LOCKER WHILE ANITA ATTENDS TO THESE PESKY HANDCUFFS!

EEP

EEP







SUBJECTIVELY,
IT TAKES HIM A
FULL YEAR OF
UNTOLD AGONY
BEFORE HE
DARES MOVE...

ALMOST A CENTURY PASSES
BEFORE HE ACHIEVES A SITTING
POSITION AND GENTLY DETACHES
HIS INJURED LIMB...

BUT MY LEFT
ARM IS PRACTICALLY
USELESS, AND--

YO! YO!
YO!

ugghn!
SHOULDER'S IN
SAD SHAPE!

DOESN'T
FEEL
DISLOCATED...

WE GONNA
BREAK US A
BLADE!

WHERE'S
YOUR HOMIE,
MAN?

WE BE
TRASHIN'
YOU BOTH!

YOU BLADES
SHOULD'A KNOWN
BETTER'N TO
CREEP JAGGED
SKULLS' TURF!

GOTTA TEACH
YA A LESSON IN
RESPECT, MAN!

THOUGH YOU
AIN'T GONNA
BENEFIT FROM
IT!

NAH! WE
BEAT YOU SLOW
AN' NASTY! SO
YOUR HOMEBOYS
GET THE
MESSAGE--!

YOU'RE
HEADED FOR
THE SLAB,
MAN!

WITH THE SUDDENNESS OF SUMMER LIGHTNING, BEN UNEXPECTEDLY CATAPOLETS INTO THEIR MIDST WITH A BREATH-TAKING THIRTY-FOOT LEAP--!

HI, EVERYBODY! I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT YOU GUYS, BUT YOU SEEM TO BE MANIFESTING BLATANT ANTI-SOCIAL TENDENCIES!

SPIDER-MAN!

A QUICK NAP MAY RELIEVE SOME OF YOUR HOSTILITY!

CAP 'IM! HE CAN'T-- YUMPH!

OKAY, MAYBE I CAN'T YUMPH, BUT I CAN CERTAINLY KICKBOX WITH THE BEST OF 'EM!

BUT NOW THAT I'M CLOSER, I REALIZE I'M DEALING WITH--

OMIGOSH! FROM A DISTANCE, I THOUGHT THESE WERE GANG-BANGERS--!

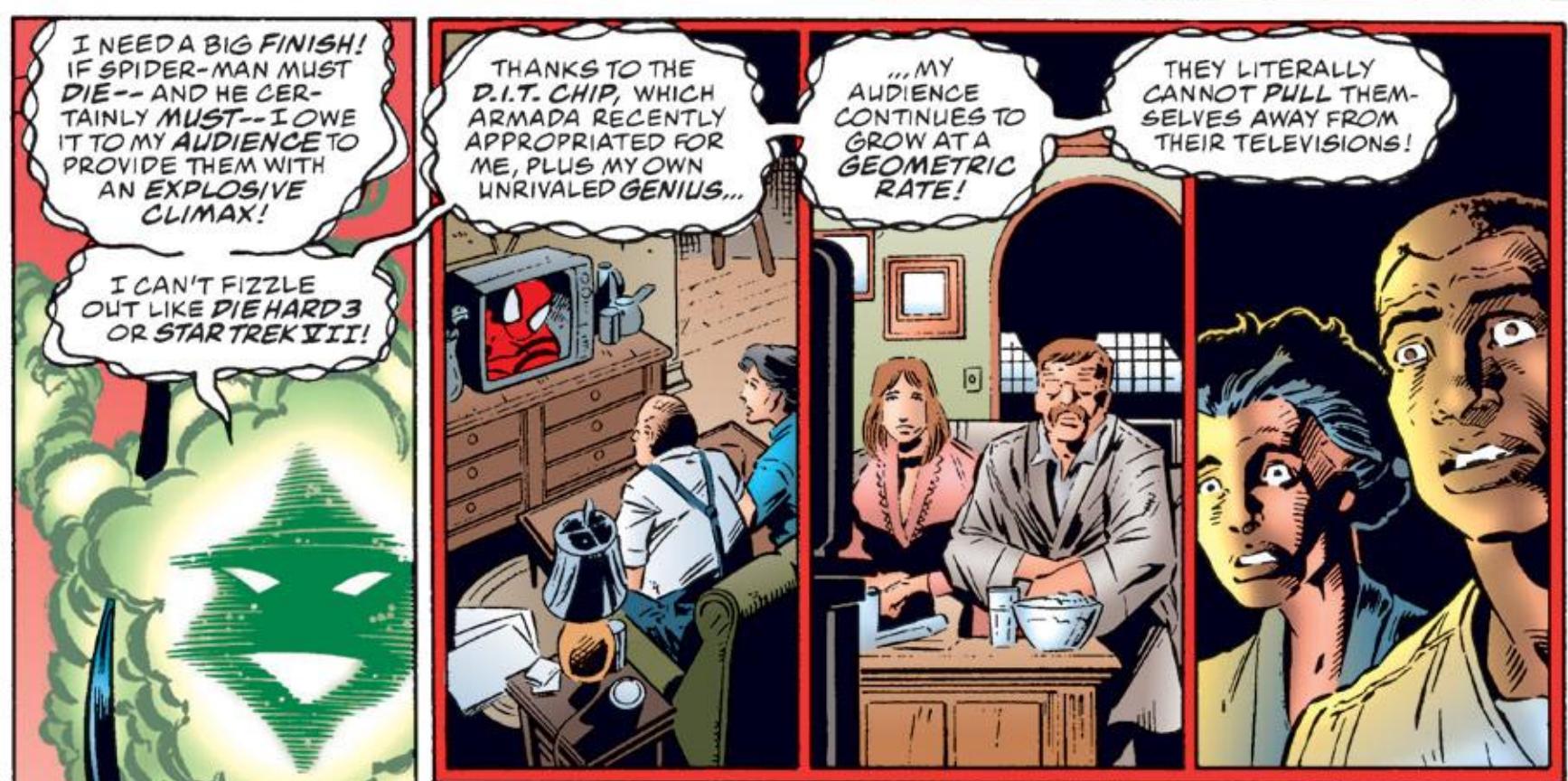
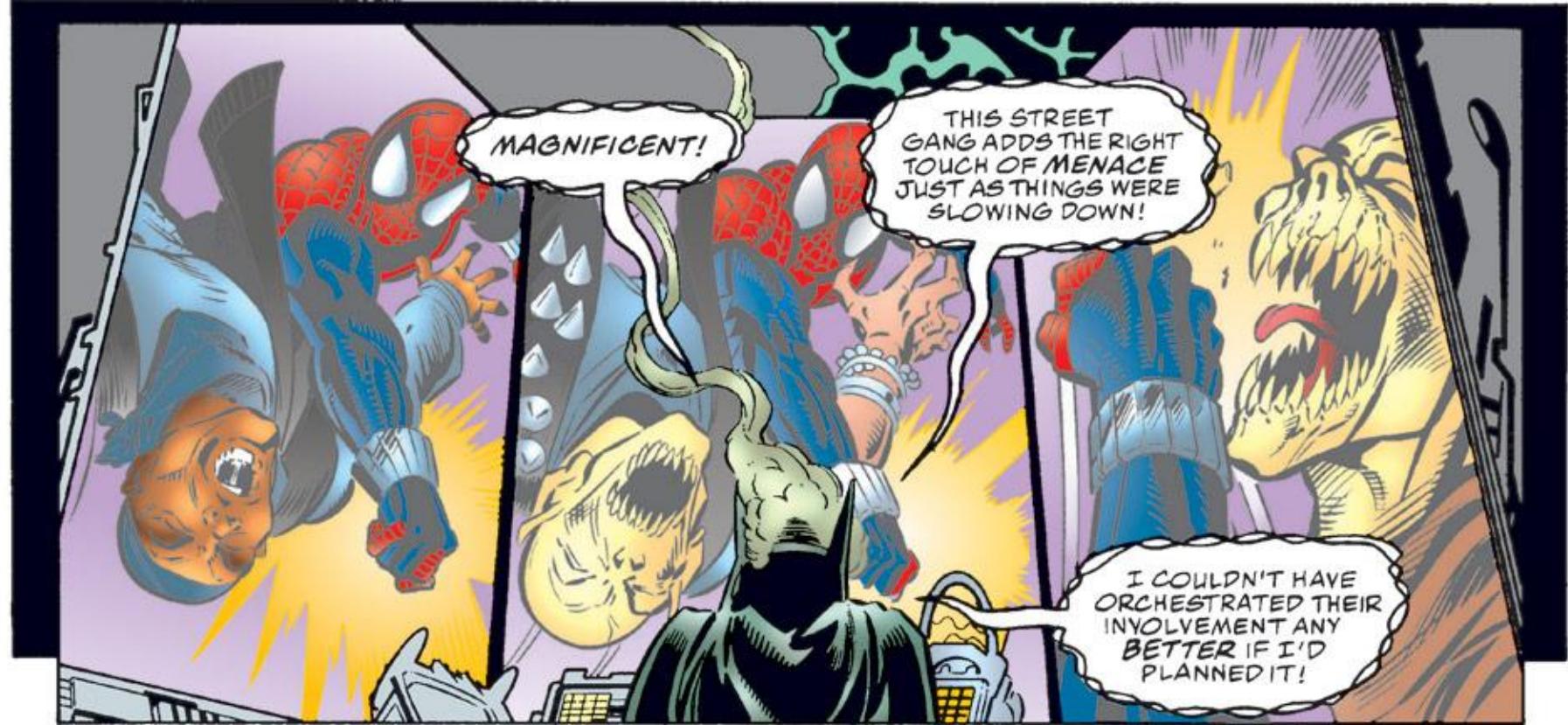
--MONSTERS!

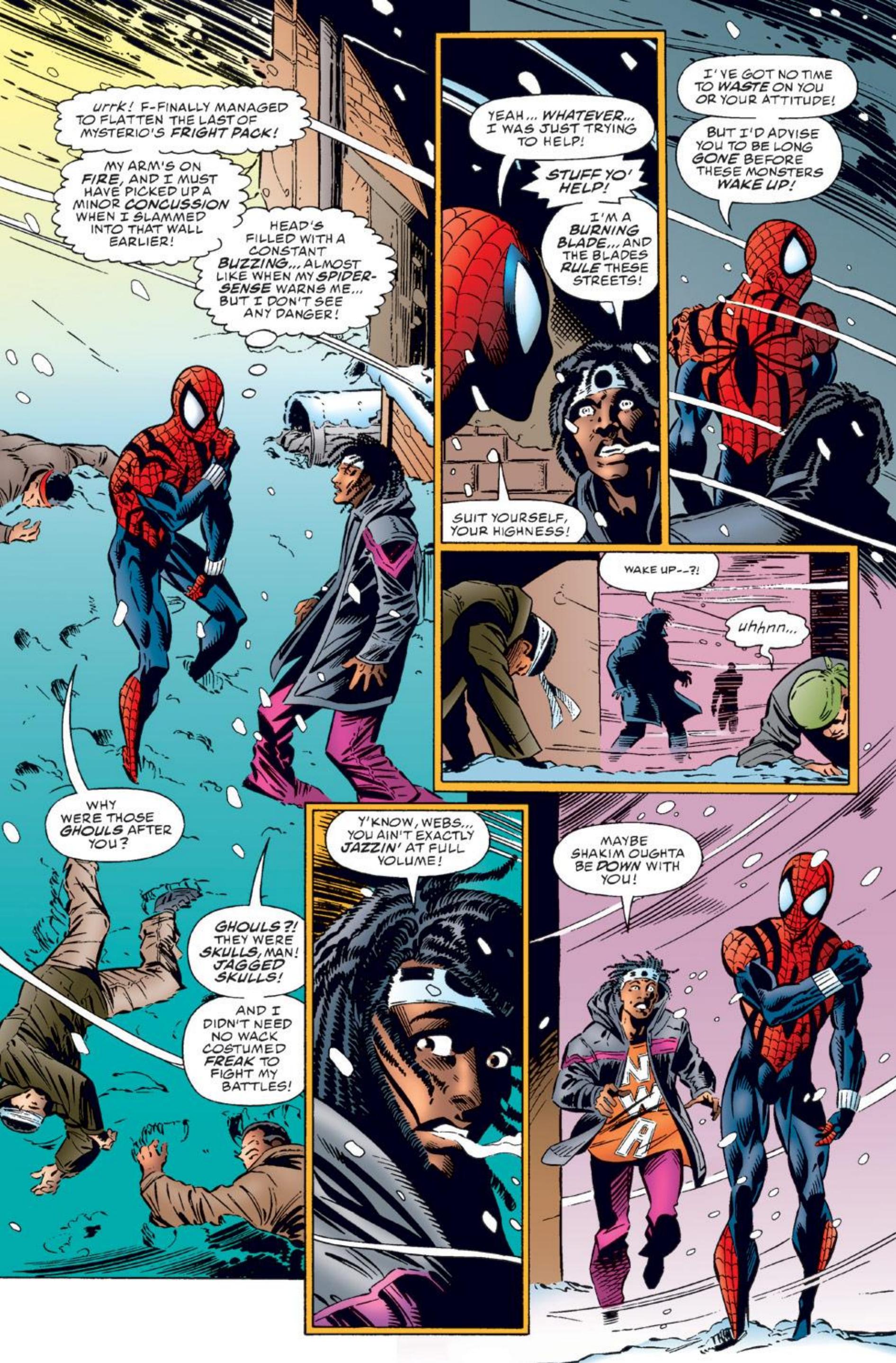
I DON'T KNOW IF THEY'RE SOPHISTI-CATED ROBOTS OR MERELY PEOPLE IN ELABORATE COSTUMES--

THOP!

--BUT THEY MUST BE CONNECTED TO MYSTERIO!







MERE MINUTES AFTER SPIDER-MAN AND SHAKIM HAVE QUIT THE SCENE, AN ANGRY VOICE GREETS THE SLOWLY AWAKENING SKULLS...

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU DUDES?!

I-IT WAS THAT YOUNG BLADE!

H-HE HAD HELP!

WHO---?!

S-SPIDER-MAN!

THAT WEB-HEADED FREAK'S GOT NO CALL TO MESS IN SKULL BUSINESS!

I COULDN'T AGREE MORE!

THE MAN NEEDS TO BE TAUGHT A SEVERE LESSON!

W-WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH US, MAN?

MY NAME IS ARMADA, AND I AM MERELY HERE TO ASSIST YOU IN...

...THE EXECUTION OF SPIDER-MAN!

LET'S MOVE, GENTLEMEN! WE'RE ON A TIGHT SCHEDULE! THE EVENING NEWS AIRS IN FORTY MINUTES...

...AND I ALREADY PROMISED MY CLIENT THAT HE CAN LEAD OFF WITH THE WALL-CRAWLER'S DEMISE!

MEANWHILE, BARELY A DOZEN BLOCKS AWAY...

BRAIN'S STILL POUNDING, AND THE WEATHER'S GETTING WORSE!

SHOULD HAVE SEWN A LITTLE EXTRA INSULATION INTO THIS COSTUME WHEN I RECENTLY REDESIGNED IT!

YOU SEEM TO BE A PRETTY SLICK OPERATOR, SHAKIM. HOW'D YOU GET MIXED UP WITH A STREET GANG?

YOU BENT, MAN? IN MY PART OF THE CITY, YOU GET WITH A GANG... OR YOU GET DEAD!

AIN'T MUCH OF A CHOICE!

I DON'T NEED TO HEAR THAT NOISE FROM YOU, MISTER! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO FACE THE STREETS ALONE, HUSTLING JUST TO SURVIVE!

MAYBE I UNDERSTAND A LOT BETTER THAN YOU THINK!

LISTEN, MAN--! I USED TO DREAM ABOUT HAVING A REAL LIFE! OF BEING ONE OF THEM RICH LAWYER DUDES... LIKE MY MAN, JOHNNY COCHRAN!

ODD! I KNOW I SAW AN ARMY OF MONSTERS UNLEASHED ON THIS CITY, BUT THERE'S NO TRAIL OF DESTRUCTION!

DID MYSTERIO CON ME WITH ONE OF HIS ELABORATE ILLUSIONS?!

I'M SURE YOU COULD FIND ANOTHER WAY!

IT'S NOT TOO LATE! YOU COULD STILL GO BACK TO SCHOOL--!

FORGET IT, MAN! I GOT MORE CHANCE TO GROW WINGS, AND--

HEY! WHAT'S THAT CRAZY BIRD DOING OUT IN A SNOWSTORM?

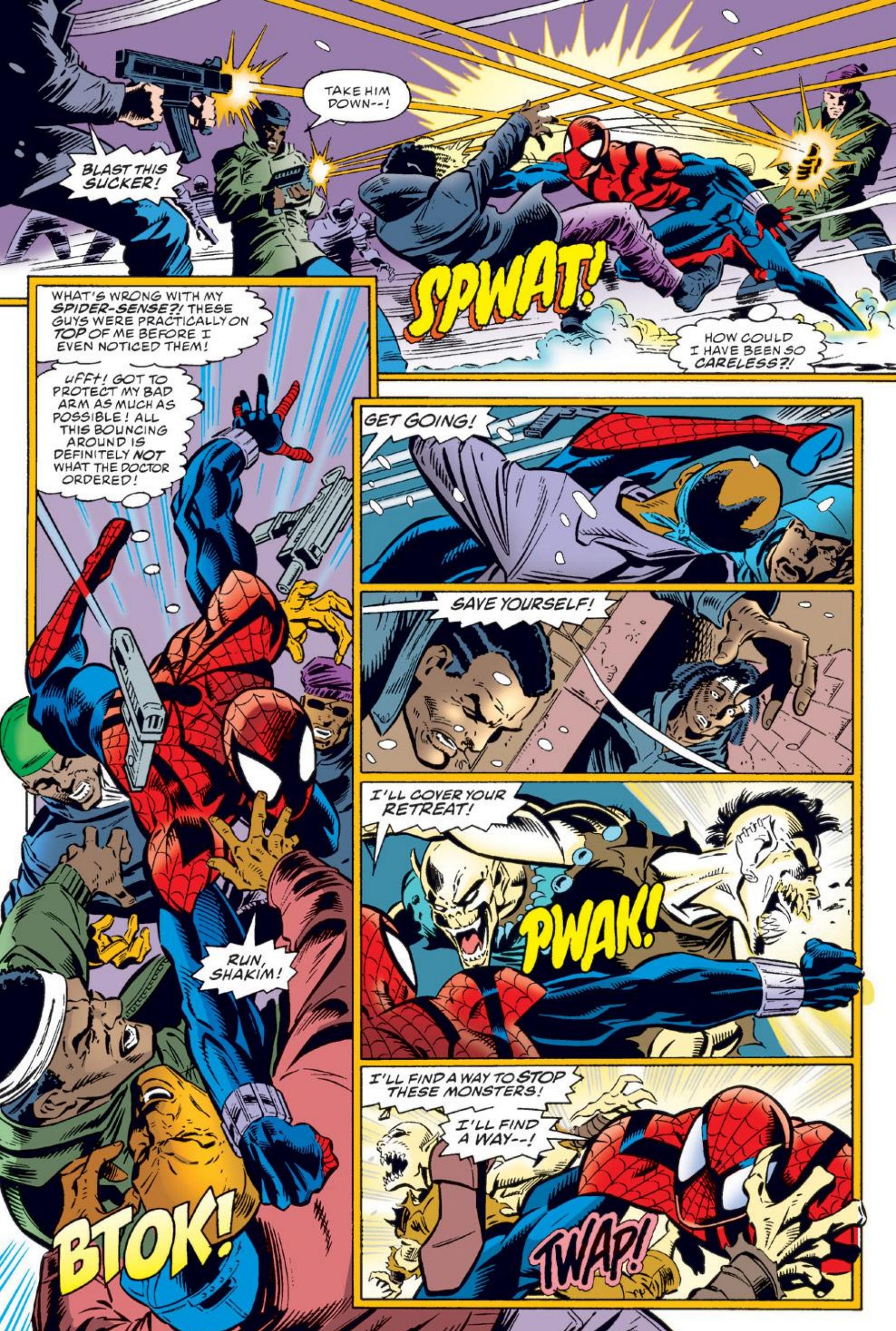
I CAN'T TELL YOU ITS EXACT PURPOSE... BUT I CAN GUESS WHO SENT IT!

SHAKIM,
GET BACK!

IT'S SOME KIND OF ROBOT, AND THAT CAN ONLY MEAN--!

? ?





THAT VULTURE UP THERE--
I'M BETTING IT'S SOME-
HOW TRANSMITTING
THIS ACTION TO
MYSTERO!

I HATE
TO DENY MY
OLD CHUM
HIS DAILY
JOLLIES--

--BUT
EVEN WE
SPIDER-MEN
HAVE A
CONSTITU-
TIONAL RIGHT
TO PRIVACY!

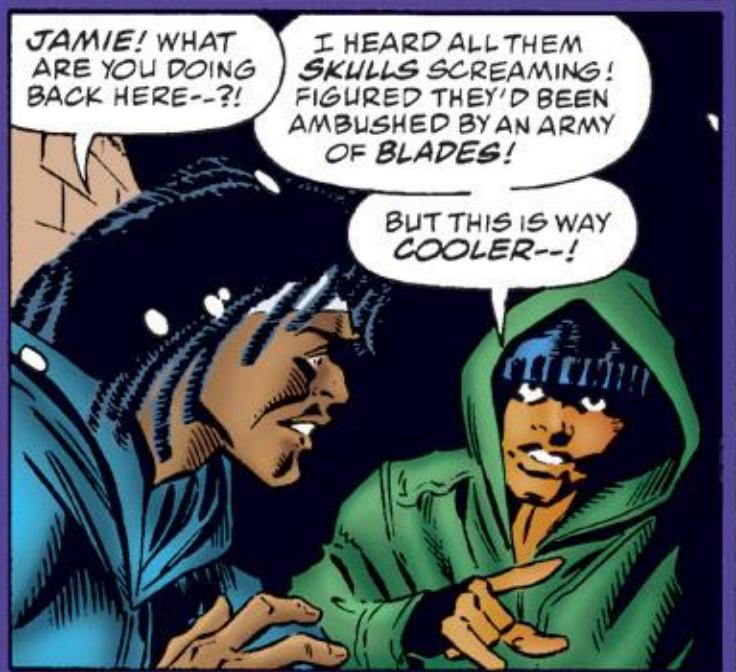
DARN! I WAS HALF-
HOPING THAT THESE
MONSTERS WOULD VANISH
AS SOON AS I TAGGED
THAT-- HEY!

I'M SUDDENLY
BEING BLASTED
FROM VARIOUS
DIRECTIONS!

I CAN
ALMOST HEAR
HIM LAUGHING
AT ME!

AND I
RECOGNIZE
THE GIZMOS
RESPONSIBLE
--!

ZAK!



AARRGH!

THAT'S THE SPIRIT, SPIDER-MAN!

KEEP STRUGGLING! IT MAKES FOR EXCELLENT DRAMA!

IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW, MYSTERIO IS BROADCASTING THIS EVENT LIVE ON MYSTERYVISION!

D-DON'T WORRY, ARMADA!

Y-YOUR LITTLE PLAY-THINGS CAN ZAP ME ALL THEY WANT, BUT I'M NOT GOING TO SURRENDER!

DO YOU HEAR ME, ARMADA?!

I... I WON'T SPOIL THE SHOW!

I WON'T GIVE UP! I'LL KEEP FIGHTING UNTIL I FIND A WAY TO BEAT YOU!

WILL

FIND

WAY!

NICE SPEECH!

A TRIFLE MELODRAMATIC FOR MY TASTES, BUT I DON'T EVEN LIKE ER!





OR HE MIGHT HAVE BEEN HOPING A LUCKY SHOT COULD DAMAGE A CRITICAL PIECE OF YOUR EQUIPMENT!

OWW! I'VE REALLY GOTTA LEARN TO RESTRAIN MY ENTHUSIASM, AND STOP TRYING TO SLUG HIM WITH MY INJURED LEFT ARM!

HEY! ARE YOU SURE MYSTERIO IS GETTING ALL THIS?

I'D HATE FOR HIM TO MISS A SINGLE, ACTION-PACKED MOMENT!

ANY CHANCE OF YOU GETTING ME A COPY OF THIS TAPE FOR MY OWN PERSONAL VIDEO LIBRARY?

YOU'VE MOCKED ME FOR THE LAST TIME, SPIDER-MAN!

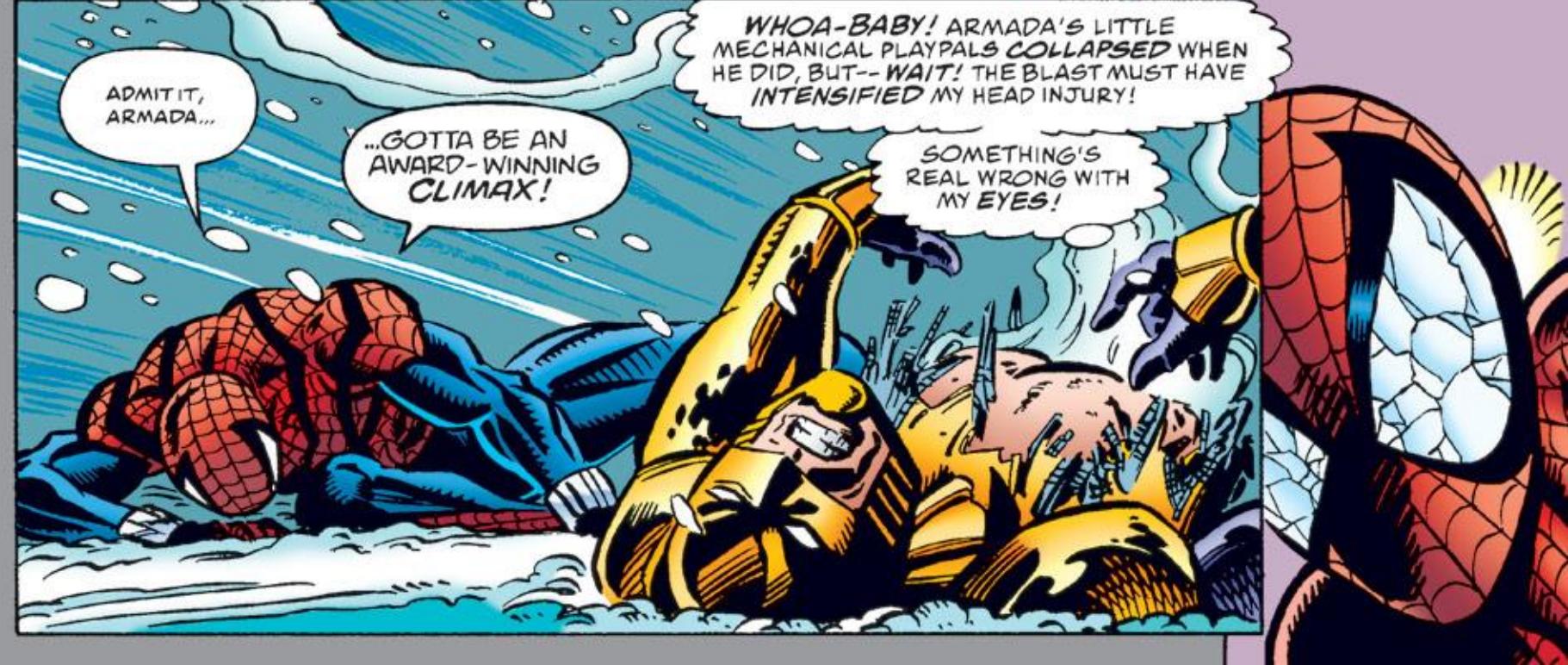
BY NOT FIGHTING BACK, I HAVE REGAINED ENOUGH STRENGTH AND POWER TO EASILY DESTROY YOU!

YOU'RE EXHAUSTED! ON THE VERGE OF COLLAPSE--!

KWLUD!

BUT MY BODY ARMOR HAS BEEN SECRETLY RECHARGING ITSELF!





MY VISION HAS
SUDDENLY GONE
ALL SCREWY!

IT'S FILLED
WITH STATIC, AND
CRAZY ZIG-ZAGGING
LINES!

JUST LIKE WHAT
YOU SEE ON--

--A BUSTED
TELEVISION?!

THESE TRANSPARENT
LENSSES WERE COVER-
ING MY EYEPIECES THE
WHOLE TIME!

MYSTERIO MUST'VE
SECRETLY PLANTED
THEM ON ME WHEN HE
HAD ME WEAR THAT
STUPID 3-D VISOR!*

NO WONDER I WAS
SEEING MONSTERS!
MYSTERIO WAS USING
THEM TO BROADCAST
THE ILLUSIONS THESE
THINGS WERE MAKING
ME SEE!

MAN! I MUST BE
THE WORLD'S BIGGEST
CHUMP!

THAT'S WHY MY
HEAD'S BEEN POUNDING!
MY SPIDER-SENSE WAS
TRYING TO WARN ME!

*SEE SENSATIONAL
SPIDER-MAN#1--BOB.

WELL,
MAYBE I CAN
FIND A WAY TO
RETURN THE
FAVOR...

CURSE THAT
OVERCONFIDENT,
WALL-CRAWLING
CLOWN!

HE RUINED THE
CATACLYSMIC ENDING
THAT I HAD SO CARE-
FULLY CONCEIVED
FOR HIM!

WHAT NERVE! WHO IS
SPIDER-MAN TO REWRITE
MY WORK? HOW DARE HE
SURVIVE ARMADA'S
ASSAULT?!

I AM THE WORLD'S
GREATEST SHOWMAN!
IT WAS MY GENIUS... MY
VISION... THAT CREATED
THE MYSTERYVISION
NETWORK!

AND SOON... VERY SOON...
IT WILL BE MY INCOMPA-
RABLE INTELLECT WHICH
WILL FINALLY ORCHESTRATE
A MOST HUMILIATING
FINALE FOR THE NOT-SO-
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!





THE SPIDER'S WEB

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CORRESPONDENTS: IF YOU DON'T WANT YOUR FULL ADDRESS PRINTED, PLEASE LET US KNOW.

APOLOGIES DEPT.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank Joe Rubinstein for pitching in on the inks for AMAZING SCARLET SPIDER #2. Unfortunately, we neglected to include a credit for Joe in that issue.

We hope that Joe will accept our sincerest apologies, and our promise that it won't happen again... at least until the next time it happens!

- Bob and Mark

Dear Spider's Web,

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #403 was one of the best single issues of any comic book that I have ever read. Spider-Man being tried in a court for nothing more than his own impossibly bad luck, by a judge, jury and prosecutor consisting of some of the most powerful super-villains to ever walk the Earth! His lawyer? None other than the mighty Kaine himself!

It's incredible how many people blame Spidey for ruining their lives, especially after all he's done for the city, the country, the world and even the universe itself! It was bound to come to a head sooner or later, and it couldn't have been handled better, in my opinion. Spider-Man has always been one of the most moral and strong-willed heroes in the comic book industry, but I think that since his recent bout with insanity and the gauntlet of emotional trials he's recently faced, he's become even stronger!

One last thing: could you guys con J.M. DeMatteis and Mark Bagley into doing a Judas Traveller graphic novel or limited series? I'd sell half my vital organs to get my hands on something like that!

James Dysart
1703 NE 13th Avenue #33
Brainerd, MN 56401

The esteemed Mr. DeMatteis is more than busy right now, James, writing DAREDEVIL and DOCTOR STRANGE for Marvel's Edge line. But he has expressed an interest in coming back to do a special Spider-Man project, so we'll keep you posted on that.

Dear Marvel,

For nearly twenty years, I have been a fan of Spider-Man, through good times and bad. I have always loved the Spider-Man comics, but now it could all be ruined by the current clone storyline.

At the time of this writing (ASM #404 is just out), the conclusion is still far away, but it looks as if twenty years of stories and major events in Spider-Man's life are just going to be thrown away by claiming that all these events happened to the clone.

My only hope is that the whole storyline is a gigantic joke by the Jackal. He hates Peter, so wouldn't he do everything

he could to make Peter believe that he was the clone, even faking blood tests, altering the real Spider-Man's blood, to make it seem like he was the clone?

I only hope that the above is true, and Spider-Man can be an incredible comic again.

Joseph Devlin
155 Berneray Street
Glasgow, Scotland
United Kingdom

Sorry, Joseph, but the Hulk's got dibs on the "incredible" adjective! Luckily, Spidey's got "amazing", "spectacular" and now "sensational" to choose from!

Keep in mind that we're *not* throwing out twenty years of stories and major events in Spider-Man's life. Everything that has occurred since AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #149 indeed "happened", and things would have gone exactly the same way if it were Ben Reilly in Peter's place, since they are, in essence, the same person. It is only now, with five years of different life experiences between them, that they are separate individuals with their own identities.

Dear Spider-Men,

My long-lasting subscription to the Spider-titles recently came to an end, with ASM #399. I loved that issue – it had it all. But alas, I didn't renew. I am getting older and I thought that I would just buy issue #400 and let my passion die. So I did. I tried some other companies in the hope of finding some spark to rekindle my once passionate love for comics. I didn't find it.

The other day, I was visiting my local comics retailer when I decided to take a look at how my favorite web-slinger was doing after I left him in such trouble. I picked up #404 and I was blown off my feet. Was this the same comic I had recently given up on? This comic was supersaturated with action, intrigue, great art, epic drama and new digitally mastered coloring! This was one of the best comics I have ever read!

I can't believe Peter Parker is a clone. I can't believe Ben Reilly is the real deal. I can't get enough of this 'Spidercide'. And most of all, I can't believe you made an army of spectacular Spider-Men!

Thank you for bringing me back. I am now here to stay after my ill-timed sabbatical.

Kip Sleen
6009 Gettysburg Avenue
New Hope, MN 55428

Welcome back to the fold, Kip! We missed you! Now, what did you think of the events that occurred after your return? We hope we haven't lost you again!

Dear Spider-Men,

I must say, AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

#404 was fantastic. The "Maximum Clonage" story is excellent. The artwork is very impressive. I've just finished SPIDER-MAN: MAXIMUM CLONAGE OMEGA and am still recovering from the conclusion. After months of this clone saga, it has finally ended. You guys deserve a vacation after this story!

I find it sad to learn that Miles Warren's whole life revolved around Gwen Stacy. When she died, so did, in a way, Warren. When the Jackal returned in ASM #399, he seemed as though all he wanted to do was bring pain and misery to the lives of Peter Parker and Ben Reilly. Now, it seems that he was just a lonely man seeking vengeance for a long-lost love. Everything he did was for Gwen. I never thought the death of one woman could bring such pain and misery. The Jackal's death was just as lonely as his life.

And then there's Kaine. He has become my favorite character in the entire Marvel Universe and I hope to see him again. I think he will return because when he died, the Jackal said that he was just a pile of bad chemicals, but then he looked at one of his cloning pods and said that even bad chemicals could be put to good use. So, will we see Kaine again?

And when will we see Traveller and Scrier again, and when we learn about their secret pasts?

Peter Albitz
Box 613 RD5
Boyertown, PA 19512

No plans for the return of Traveller and Scrier just yet, but we have an inkling that they'll pop up again when they're least expected!

Hope you didn't miss SCARLET SPIDER UNLIMITED #1, Peter – it dropped some clues about the current status of Kaine! Plus, it just so happens that your favorite character will be showing his disintegrating face verrry soon!

NEXT ISSUE:

The "Media Blizzard" storyline concludes in SPIDER-MAN #65! It's the final showdown between Spider-Man and the new Mysterio... with the minds of Mysteryvision's addicted audience at stake!

NEXT ISSUE:

The Great Game is on again... and its latest players – whether they like it or not – are Spider-Man and his arch-nemesis Kaine! And it looks like these hated enemies must join forces to survive the latest round of super-powered game players! Calling the match are colorful commentators Tom DeFalco, Mark Bagley and Larry Mahlstedt!