

MARVEL
COMICS



SPIDER-MAN

JUN '97 81

PETER PARKER

SPIDER-MAN



CAT
HAS COME
TO THE
CITY --



-- AND HIS CLAWS ARE **OUT** FOR
THE WONDROUS WEB-SLINGER!

DIRECT EDITION



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**A COOL SPRING
NIGHT IN NEW
YORK CITY...**

SOMETIMES
I FORGET HOW
BIG THIS TOWN
IS.

THEN
SOMEONE
COMES ALONG
AND REMINDS ME
JUST HOW **SMALL**
I AM BY
COMPARISON.

SOMETIMES
I WISH THERE
WERE **TWO** OF
ME.

WHOA!
DON'T WANT
TO GO **THERE**
AGAIN!



MACKIE/ROMITA JR./HANNA story & art

SHADOW OF THE

CAT



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GOT TO STAY FOCUSED ON THE PROBLEM AT HAND.

FIND THE MADMAN THAT SEEMS TO BE TEARING A PATH THROUGH THE DARK UNDERBELLY OF OUR FAIR CITY.



STOP HIM.

AND DO IT ALL WHILE TRYING TO GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP AND MAINTAIN SOME SORT OF DECENT GRADES.



WHAT WAS I THINKING ABOUT WHEN I DECIDED TO GO BACK TO COLLEGE?

AS IF THE PRESSURES OF BEING ONE OF THE FEW REMAINING SUPER-POWERED GOOD GUYS AND HOLDING A MARRIAGE TOGETHER ISN'T ENOUGH.



TOO LATE!

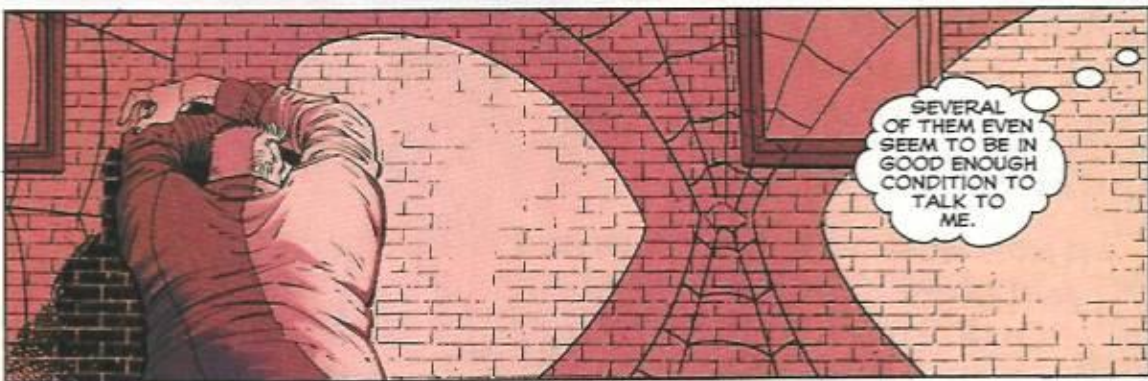


HE'S BEEN HERE ALREADY.

THIS IS THE FIFTH PLACE TONIGHT AND I GET THE FEELING THAT I'M NO CLOSER THAN I WAS WHEN I STARTED.









OKAY...
...MAYBE
TALKING ISN'T
WHAT THEY HAD
IN MIND!
I CAN BE
FLEXIBLE!



PTOOM

PTOOM

PTOOM

GENTLEMEN!
THIS IS **REALLY**
VERY UNNECESSARY!
ALL I WANT TO
DO IS TALK
REALLY!

I'M
SPIDER-MAN!

ONE
OF THE
GOOD
GUYS!

OKAY...
WELL...YEAH/
I KNOW THAT
DOESN'T COUNT
FOR MUCH TO
YOU...

SINCE I
HAVE HELPED
PUT ONE OR TWO
OF YOU BEHIND
BARS A TIME
OR TWO,
BUT...

...THIS
TIME I WANT
TO HELP
YOU!

AND
WHAT'S
GOING ON HERE?
USUALLY GUYS LIKE
YOU RUN FOR THE
HILLS WHEN I
SHOW UP.

I LIKE
TO THINK
IT'S THE
MASK.

FWOK

FWOK

YOU
KNOW...
THERE'S **NO**
TALKING
TO SOME
PEOPLE!



THIS GUY
I'M AFTER HAS
PUT A MAJOR
HURTIN' ON
THESE GUYS.

IT'S
CAUSING THEM
TO ACT OUT OF FEAR
INSTEAD OF USING
THE SMALL AMOUNT
OF GRAY MATTER
AT THEIR DISPOSAL.

THAT'S
NOT GOING
TO MAKE MY
JOB ANY
EASIER.

THE
CAT! THAT'S
MY MAN.

BUT
WHO IS
HE?



EARLIER.

PETER,
JUST FOLLOW
MY LEAD. I'VE
BEEN IN DOZENS
OF SITUATIONS
LIKE THIS.

WE
WALK RIGHT
THROUGH THE
LOBBY AND
LOOK LIKE WE
BELONG.

IF WE
GET STOPPED,
GIVE THE NAME
MYRON SHAPIRO. HE'S
THE SUPERINTENDENT OF
THIS PLACE. OWES ME A
FAVOR. HE'LL GET US TO
THE APARTMENT
WE NEED.

SURE,
BETTY,
BUT...

...IT
DOESN'T
LOOK LIKE
THE POLICE
ARE EVEN
GIVING US A
SECOND LOOK.



THEY'RE
TOO BUSY
TAKING CARE
OF THEIR
OWN.

IT
LOOKS
LIKE SOMEONE
HAS BEATEN
UP A COUPLE
OF DOZEN
COPS.



IT HAD
TO BE MORE
THAN ONE
MAN, PETER?

YEAH...
MAYBE...

LET'S
FIND
OUT.



NOW.

SOMEWHERE ON
MANHATTAN'S
LOWER EAST SIDE...

C'MON! STICK
TOGETHER!

BILLY Z
HAS GOT A SAFE
HOUSE JUST UP
AHEAD!



IF WE
CAN GET
THERE AHEAD
OF HIM, WE MAY
STAND A
CHANCE!

YEAH,
WHO'RE YOU
FOOLIN'? IT'S LIKE
RUNNIN' FROM
A GHOST
OR --



Ah,
JEEZ/
NO!



WE'LL
SHOOT!

I AIN'T SHOOTIN'
IT! YOU SHOOT
IT, MISTER
BRAVE
GUY!

I AIN'T GOIN' TO
HAVE HIM HAVE
A MAD ON AT
ME!

SHUT
UP, THE
BOTH OF
YAS!



HE'S
HERE
SOME-
WHERE.

I
CAN FEEL
HIM.
JUST BE
READY.

HE LANDS
WITHOUT
A SOUND.

HE STRIKES WITH
LITTLE THOUGHT...

...AND LESS
MERCY.

OOLPH!

WHERE
IS HE?

I DON'T
KNOW! I
SWEAR --

FWAK

NOBODY
KNOWS ABOUT
THE KID? MAYBE
HE'S --

WHERE
IS HE?

WHERE
IS HE?

FWAK

WORD
ON THE STREET
IS THAT SOMEONE'S
GOT HIM DOWN AT THE
PIERS, BUT I DIDN'T
HAVE ANYTHING TO
DO WITH --

HE HAS HIS
ANSWER.



HE DOES NOT
KILL THEM.

HE CAME TO THIS
CITY AS A VISITOR.

THEY, LIKE ALL THE
OTHERS, WILL SPEAK
OF HIM IN WHISPERS
FOR YEARS TO COME.



NOW SOMEONE
HAS MADE HIS
STAY BUSINESS.



HE WILL
REMAIN.

THEY WILL
LEARN...

...WHAT HAPPENS
TO THOSE WHO
OPPOSE...



...CAT.



EARLIER.

THIS
DOOR HAS
BEEN BROKEN OFF
ITS HINGES. BETTY,
MAYBE WE
SHOULD --

I'M
GOING IN,
PETER! IF YOU
WANT TO WAIT
OUTSIDE... FEEL
FREE!



NICE PLACE.

YEAH... BUT WHERE ARE THE POLICE?

THE POLICE ARE GONE.

THEY ARE LOOKING AFTER THEIR OWN.

I BELIEVE THAT WAS MY EX-HUSBAND'S INTENT WHEN HE DID WHAT HE DID.

I DON'T KNOW, PETER. WANT ME TO **CALL** ONE FOR YOU? WOULD IT MAKE YOU FEEL SAFER?



HE WANTED TO DISTRACT THE POLICE, SO THAT HE COULD FIND OUR SON WITHOUT INTERFERENCE.

THEY **WILL** NEVER CATCH HIM. BETTER TO TRY TO CAPTURE A SHADOW.

YOU SAYING YOUR HUSBAND BEAT UP ALL THOSE POLICE OFFICERS BY HIMSELF?



AND HE COULD HAVE DONE SO TO TWICE AS MANY.

HIS NAME IS **SHEN KUEI**. TO MOST HE IS KNOWN, AND FEARED AS... **CAT**. HE IS A MARTIAL ARTS MASTER.

THERE IS ONLY ONE OTHER WHO HAS EVER BEEN ABLE TO CHALLENGE HIM.



ESPIONAGE HAS ALWAYS BEEN HIS STOCK IN TRADE. BUT AS OF LATE HE HAS SET HIS SIGHTS ON FARTHER AND DARKER HORIZONS.



IT IS WHY I LEFT HIM...

...SOUGHT TO KEEP OUR SON APART FROM HIS FATHER'S TAINT.



YET, SHEN KUEI KEPT US ALWAYS IN HIS FAR-REACHING GRASP.

HE WILL NOT STOP UNTIL HE HAS FOUND OUR SON AND PUNISHED THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE KIDNAPPING.



HE WILL NOT STOP UNTIL BLOOD STAINS THE STREETS OF THIS CITY.

I CANNOT BE A PARTY TO THIS!



THIS IS A JOB FOR THE LAW! SORRY, BETTY!

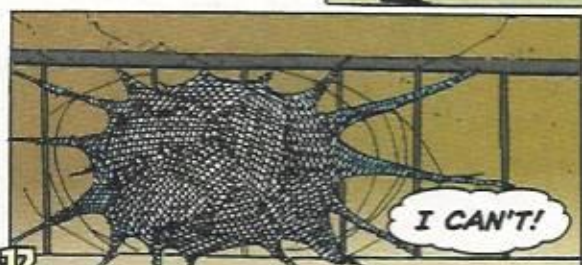


STAIRS TO THE ROOF!



I'VE GOT TO STOP THE FATHER BEFORE HE **KILLS** SOMEONE!

BUT THE BOY! I CAN'T LET HIM BE HURT!



I CAN'T!







NOW THAT **SHOCK-WAVE** HAS GOTTEN YOUR **COMPLETE** ATTENTION, CAT...

... I HOPE YOU WILL NOT BE FOOLISH ENOUGH TO TRY ANYTHING RASH. I TAKE NO PLEASURE IN THREATENING YOUR SON.

RAZOR FIST, IF YOU --



WILL YOU PLEASE REFRAIN FROM ALL POINTLESS THREATS?

WE CAME TO DO BUSINESS.



I AM LISTENING.

OUR EMPLOYER WANTS YOU OUT OF THE PICTURE IN THIS CITY.



I AM NOT IN ANY PICTURE.



BUT FOR HOW LONG, CAT? OUR EMPLOYER IS NOT WILLING TO RISK YOUR INTERFERING WITH HIS PLANS.



WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?



YOUR LIFE.

SET THE BOY FREE AND MY LIFE IS YOURS.

WHAT? I WILL **NOT** LET YOU DO THIS.

BETWEEN THE TWO OF US WE CAN --



NO!

FWAK

INTERFERE
AND I WILL FIND **SOME**
WAY TO KILL YOU. I WILL
NOT ALLOW YOU TO RISK
MY SON'S LIFE WITH
HEROICS!

MY SON
IS MY WORLD. HE
IS THE MOST PURE
THING IN MY DARK
EXISTENCE.



YOU SAY YOU
HAVE EXPERIENCED
THE LOSS OF
A CHILD.

DO NOT ALLOW ME...
OR HIS MOTHER... TO
ALSO EXPERIENCE
SUCH A THING.

YOU
CLAIM TO WANT
TO HELP. THEN **DO**
SO. ENSURE THAT THEY
HONOR THEIR WORD OF
MY SON'S SAFETY.

THEY
WON'T.



THEN I NEED FOR YOU
TO RESCUE MY SON. I
NEED TO KNOW THAT I
CAN TRUST YOU TO
DO THIS THING
FOR ME.



I WILL NEVER LET THEM TAKE
YOUR CHILD FROM YOU. AS
MUCH AS I TRY NOT TO THINK
ABOUT IT... I LIVE WITH
THAT PAIN EVERY DAY
OF MY LIFE.



ENOUGH!

YOUR
DECISION
HAS BEEN
MADE...

FRZATT





A full-page comic book illustration showing Spider-Man in his classic red and blue suit wrestling Electro. Electro is a large, blue, muscular figure with a metallic mask and glowing yellow eyes. He is being thrown or held by Spider-Man. In the background, a man in a green shirt and grey pants is seen from behind, looking on. The scene is set on a rooftop with a wooden floor and a cityscape visible in the distance under a dark sky.

YOUR FRIENDLY
NEIGHBORHOOD
SPIDER-MAN!

AND
AS SUCH I'D
LIKE TO OFFER
YOU SOME
FRIENDLY ADVICE,
SHOCKWAVE.

IN THE
FUTURE, AND FIRST
AND FOREMOST, DO
NOT KIDNAP YOUNG
CHILDREN.

ESPECIALLY
NOT WHEN THEIR
FATHER IS AN
EX-SPY, MARTIAL
ARTS MASTER
WITH A REAL
SHORT FUSE.

Oh
YEAH...

... AND IF
YOU HAPPEN TO
GET OUT OF PRISON
ON SOME SORT OF
TECHNICALITY, OR
BECAUSE
MR. CAT WON'T
PRESS CHARGES,
OR IF YOU JUST
ESCAPE...

... STAY
OUT OF THIS
TOWN.

I
MEAN
IT!



IT IS OVER, CAT!

YOUR SON MAY SURVIVE, BUT...



...YOU WILL NOT!

MY SON'S SAFETY WAS ALL THAT MATTERED, RAZORFIST.



NOW THAT HE IS SAFE I CAN DO...



...THIS!



I SHALL
LET **YOU** LIVE,
RAZORFIST.

NOT OUT
OF ANY MERCY,
BUT SO THAT YOU CAN
CONVEY A MESSAGE TO
YOUR ILL-BEGOTTEN
EMPLOYER.

SHEN
KUEI, CAT,
HAS ARRIVED IN
NEW YORK
CITY.

HE
SHALL STAY
AND...

...HE SHALL
PROSPER.

I THINK I JUST
HELPED A MAN
THAT I'LL SOON
HAVE TO GO
UP AGAINST

BUT
THAT DOESN'T
MATTER.



ALL
THAT
MATTERS
IS THAT THE
CHILD IS
ALIVE.

AND IF I
CAN PREVENT
A PARENT FROM
SUFFERING THE WAY
MARY JANE AND I
HAVE... I WILL.

ALWAYS.



LATER THAT NIGHT AT
THE PARKER RESIDENCE...

I'M
FINE.

WE
JUST GOT WORD
THAT SPIDER-MAN
HELPED RESCUE THE
BOY. EVERYTHING'S
GOING TO BE
FINE.

PETER!

BETTY
SAID YOU TOOK
OFF. SHE DIDN'T
KNOW WHERE YOU
WENT. I WAS
WORRIED.

YEAH...
IT IS... ISN'T
IT?

MMMM/
NOT THAT I
MIND, BUT...
WHAT'S *THIS*
FOR?

FOR
ALL THAT
WE HAVE
AND...

...AND
FOR ALL
THAT WE'VE
LOST.

I'M
SORRY I
COULDN'T DO
MORE.

THE
END.