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the AMAZING
SPIDER-MAN

RETURN
OF THE
SPIDER-MAN!

A large, detailed illustration of Spider-Man's right hand, wearing his iconic red and blue suit with the spider emblem on the wrist. The hand is positioned as if it is reaching out from the center of the word "SPIDER-MAN".

VAN LENTE • SIQUEIRA
SANTOS • COX

THE DB! FOR EVERY BRAND NEWS DAY!



MOB VIOLENCE IS UP IN DISGRACED FORMER MAYORAL CANDIDATE BILL HOLLISTER'S HOME BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN. TODAY'S DB POLL SAYS HOLLISTER'S LEADERSHIP SHOULD BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE RISE IN CRIME! MORE ON PAGE Y32!

MARCH 25, 2009

WEDNESDAY

OPEN SPOTS!



Years ago, Dr. Jonathan Ohnn, a scientist working for the Kingpin, was tasked with repeating the events that created the super hero Cloak in order to access and harness the dimension of darkness. His experiments caused a power surge and blackout in New York City, but the real damage was done when that same power surge bonded him with elements of the dimension of darkness, creating the one man portal conduit known as the Spot, a frequently dispatched enemy of Spider-Man...

Speaking of enemies of Spider-Man, the good news is, Spidey unmasked and busted both Menace and the Spider-Tracer Killer. The bad news? They're both friends of Peter Parker. Menace was secretly Lily Hollister, Harry Osborn's fiancée; and the Spider-Tracer Killer wasn't a killer at all, but a group of cops out to pin unsolvable murders on the web-head. One of those cops? His roommate, Vin Gonzales. Although Gonzales blew the whistle on the conspiracy and arrested the ringleaders, he'll still face jail time for his involvement. With his new friends having gone crazy and to jail respectively, maybe it's time Pete put family first and go visit his Aunt May...

WANTED: A Mayor!

By Betty Brant

With last week's Mayoral madness behind us, who will be our city's next Mayor? A stunning announcement from the Crowne camp says Randall Crowne – who came within a hair of victory after the superhuman Menace revealed herself to be daughter of opponent Bill Hollister – will NOT seek to take part in a special election to fill the post. So who will it be? Names touted by City Hall insiders include Former Damage Control CEO Walter Declun, philanthropist Martin Li, Brooklyn Borough President Jeff Jeffers and crusading attorney Matt Murdock. Even our own publisher, Dexter Bennett, has been suggested by his former protégé, Randall Crowne... (more on page E14)

Brighton Beach, Brooklyn.

WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?

TRANSLATED FROM RUSSIAN.
-COMRADE STEVE

YOU A PIRATE?

IN THAT KIDS' BOOK--TREASURE ISLAND--THE PIRATES MARK GUYS THEY'RE GONNA WHACK WITH THE BLACK SPOT TO SCARE THE DAYLIGHTS OUT OF THEM FIRST.

AND NOBODY SAW WHO DROPPED IT OFF?

THE ENVELOPE WITH YOUR NAME ON IT WAS LYING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROOM WHEN I OPENED UP, MR. IVANKOV--I SWEAR!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, DMITRI. EITHER SOMEONE--PERHAPS FYODOR--IS PLAYING A PRANK ON YOU...

...OR SOMEONE IS ACTUALLY TRYING TO KILL YOU.

AFTER ALL THE BAD PRESS FROM OUR DRIVE-BY IN STATEN ISLAND LAST WEEK, PERHAPS OUR ENEMIES SENSE WEAKNESS.

THEN THEY'RE WRONG.

THE SALVADORANS, THE BROTHERS ZASLON, MR. NEGATIVE'S MASK-WEARING FRUITS...

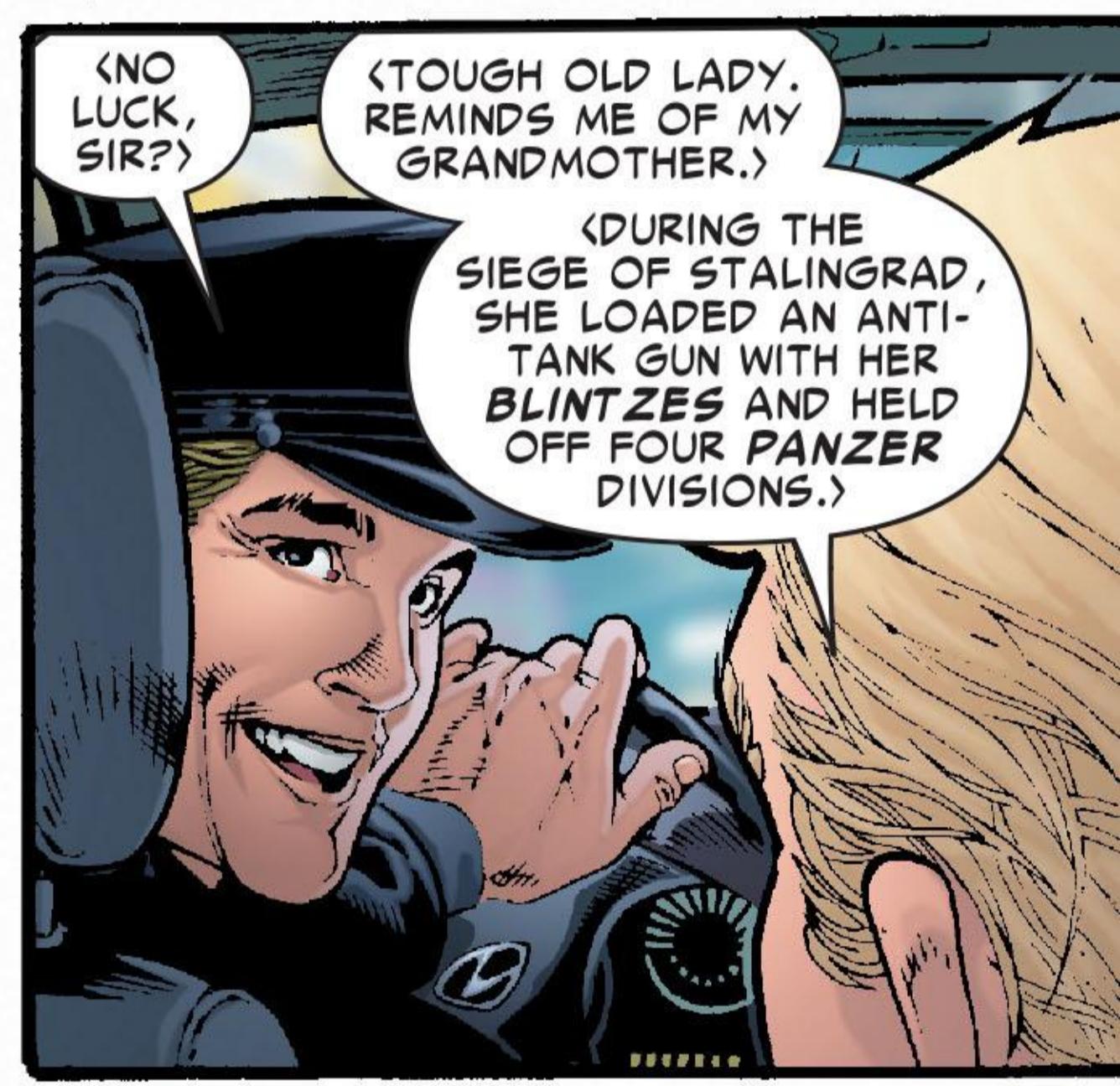
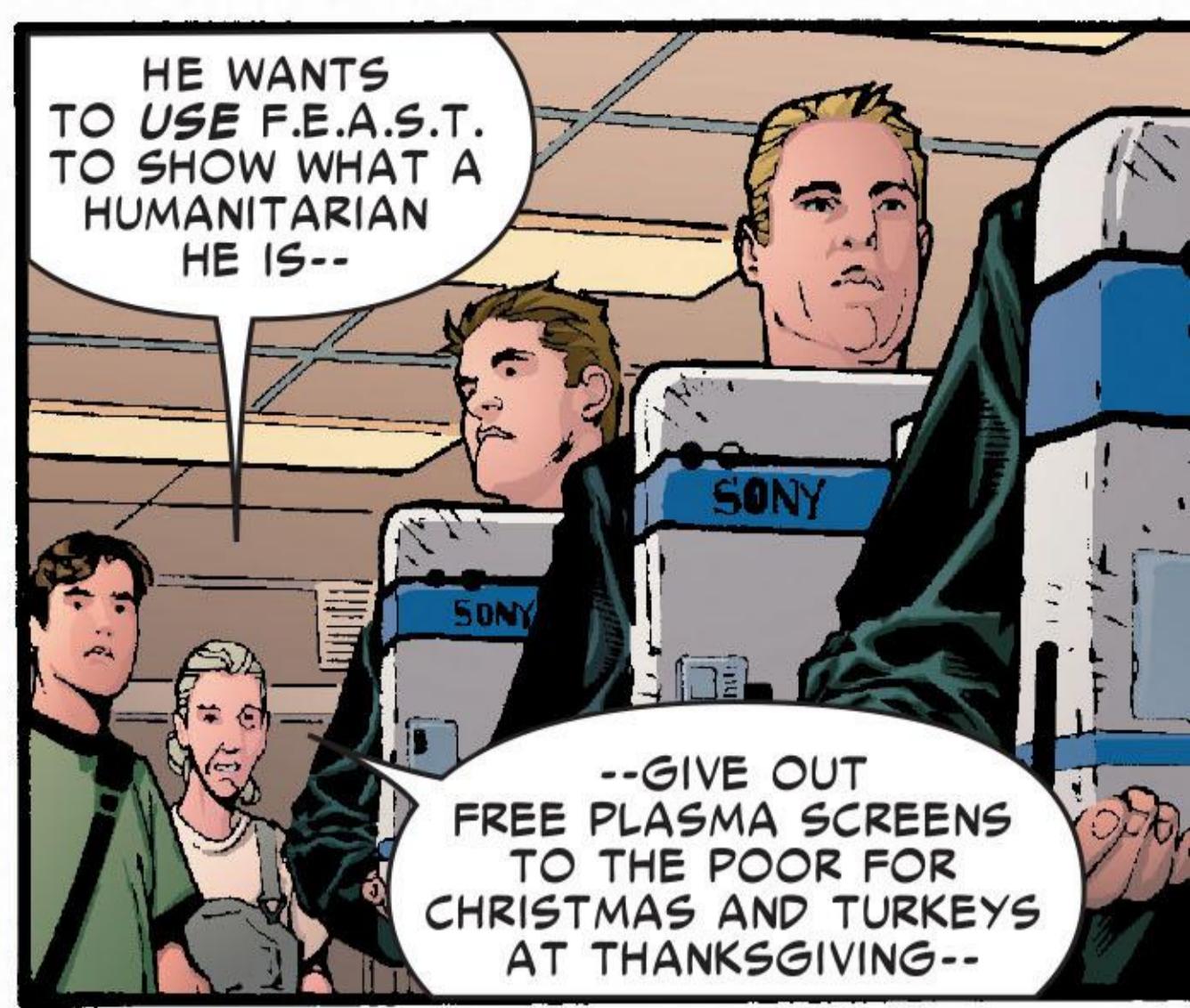
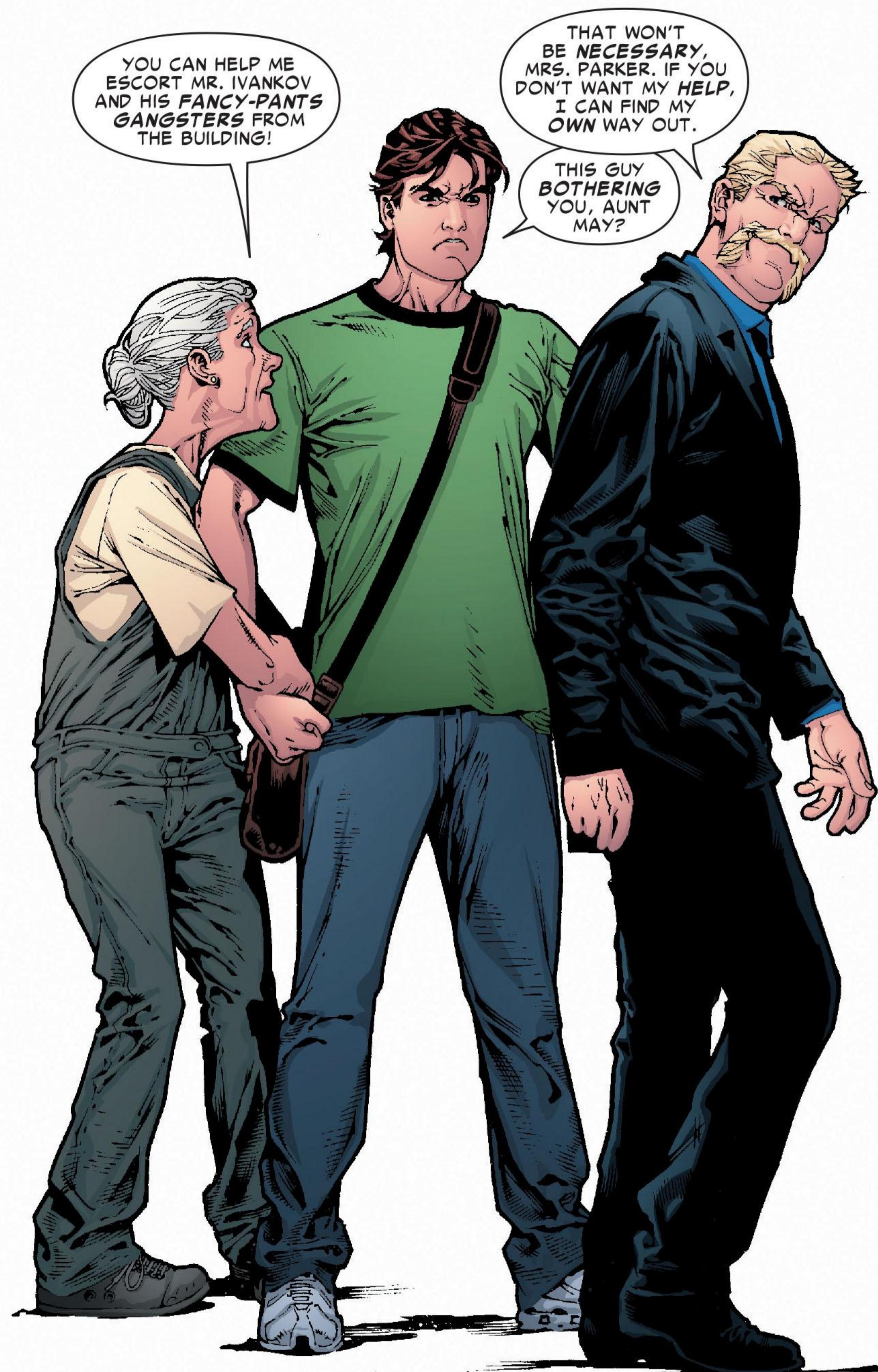
...THEY NEED TO TAKE A NUMBER TO GET AT DMITRI IVANKOV.

NOT A SPOT.



Two Weeks Later.





Red Hook, Brooklyn.

EXPLAIN TO ME AGAIN WHY I AM GOING PERSONALLY TO THIS MEET, FYODOR?



BECAUSE THE PRIG WON'T TALK TO ANYONE OF "LESSER RANK."

I SERVED WITH GENERAL KOSCHEI IN GROZNY, BOSS--HE'S A STICKLER FOR CHAIN OF COMMAND.)

...sigh...

THE GOODS BETTER BE WORTH MY EXPOSURE-->

THEY WILL BE, YOU'LL SEE!



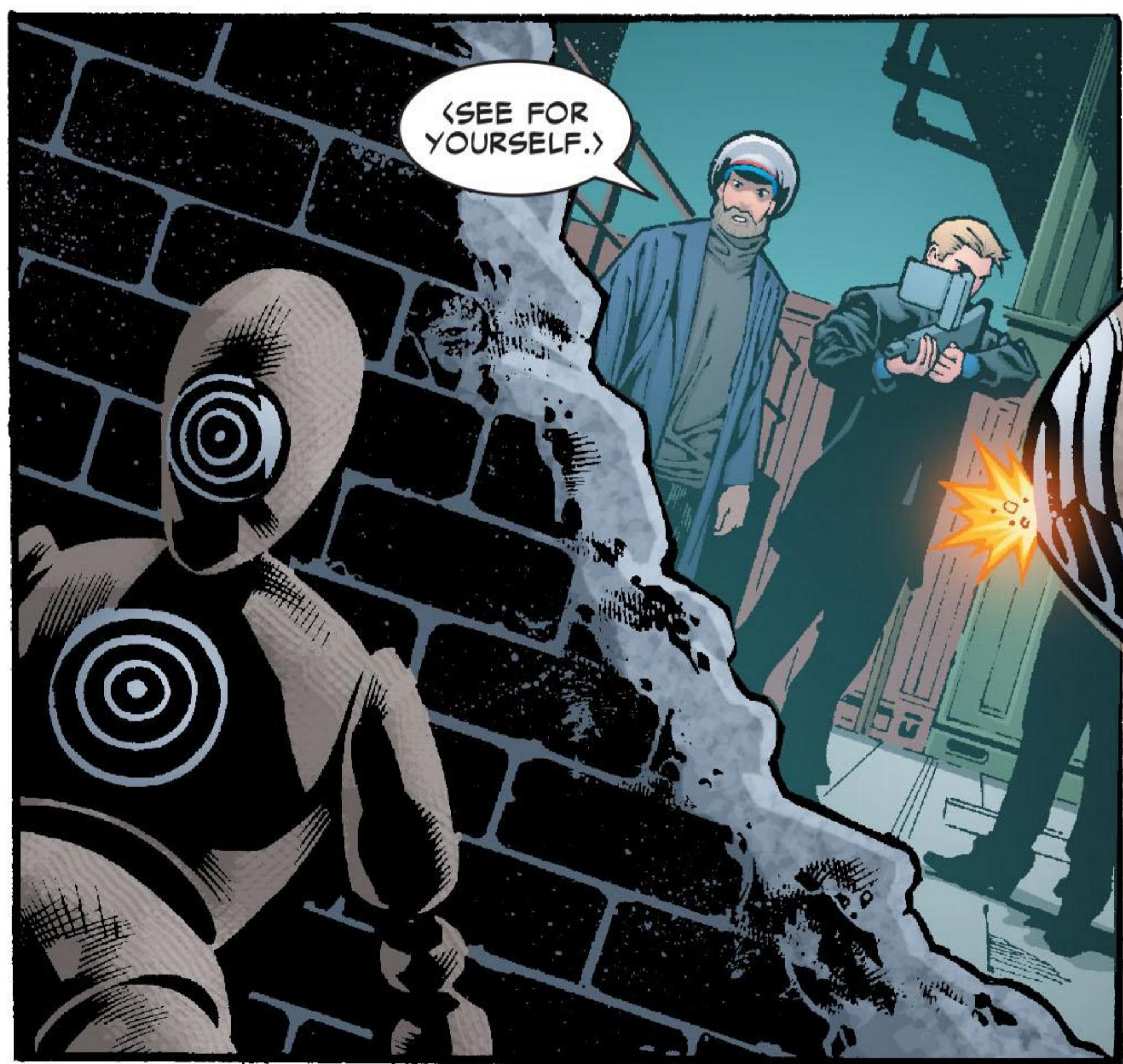
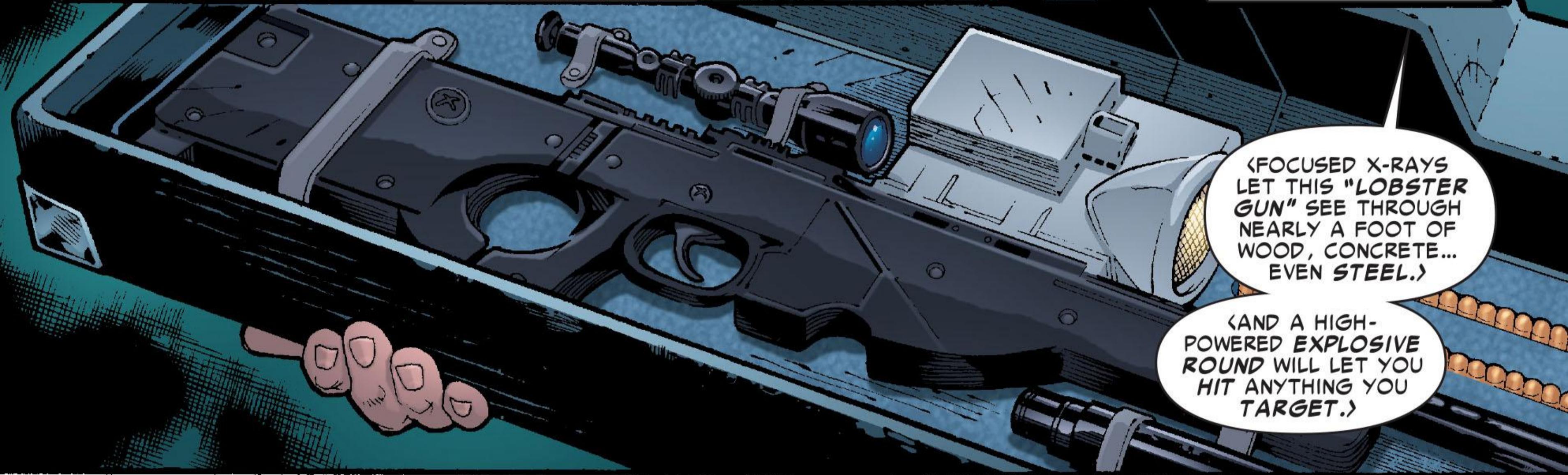
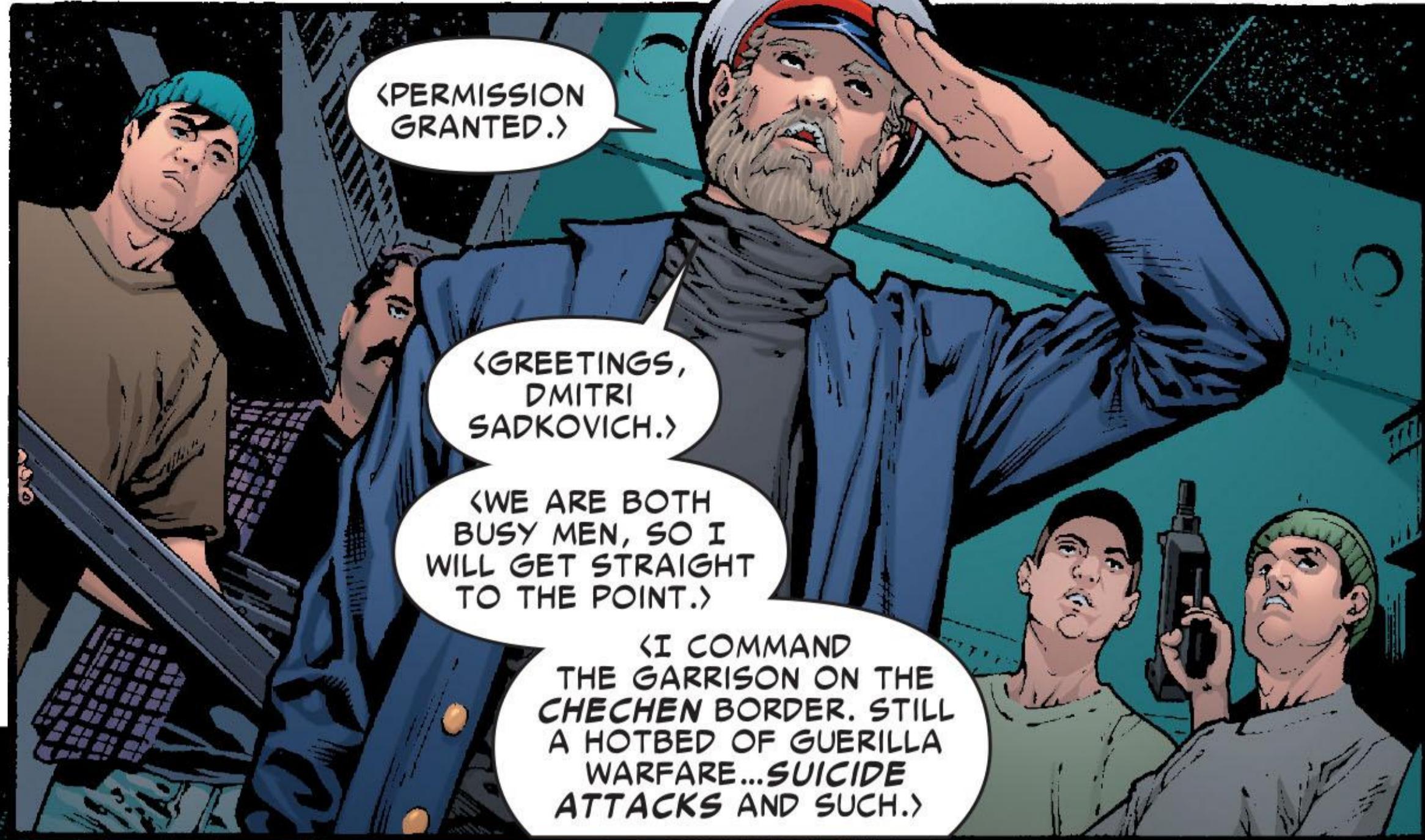
BE CAREFUL, NOW--THERE IS A FINE LINE BETWEEN A JOKE AND AN INSULT!

WHAT--WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, DMITRI?



GENERAL!
REQUESTING PERMISSION TO COME ABOARD!





KLIK

"YES, NATASHA! SOON
MOOSE WILL BE STUFFED AND
MOUNTED OVER FIREPLACE!"

WAIT.

SHOULD I
DO THAT?

IS THAT
RACIST?

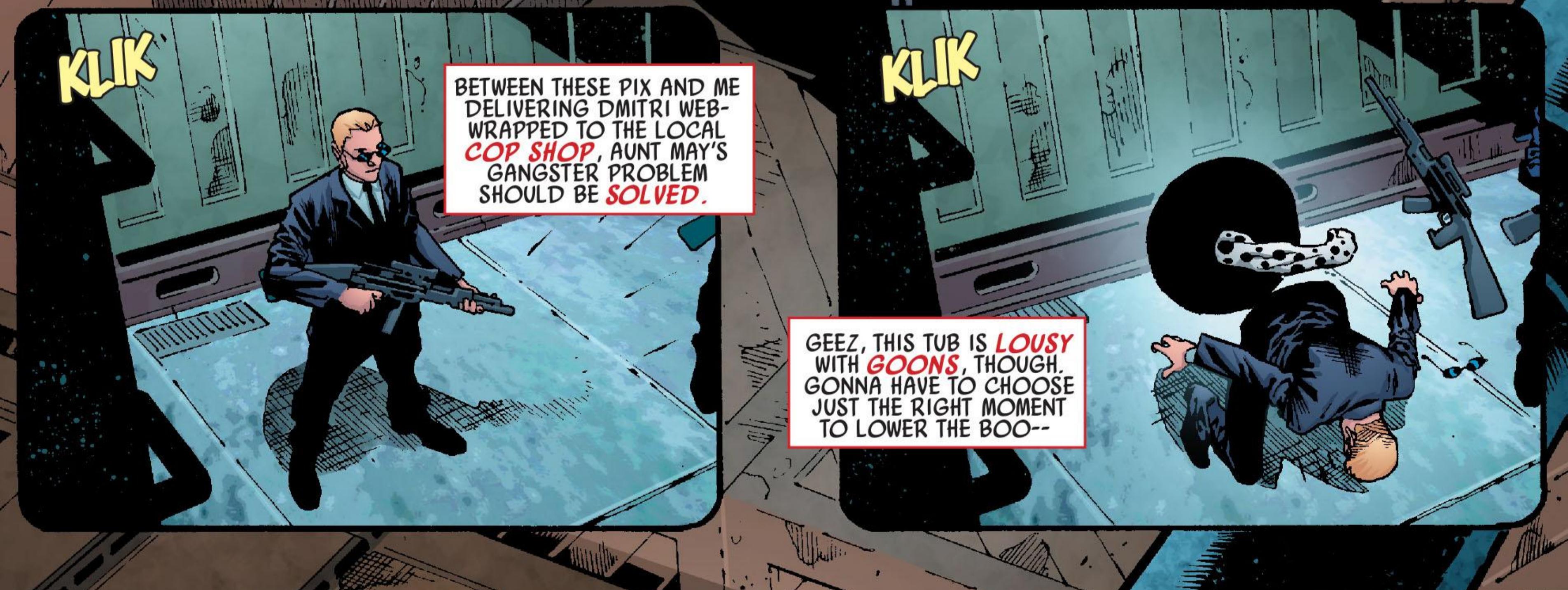


KLIK

BETWEEN THESE PIX AND ME
DELIVERING DMITRI WEB-
WRAPPED TO THE LOCAL
COP SHOP, AUNT MAY'S
GANGSTER PROBLEM
SHOULD BE **SOLVED**.

KLIK

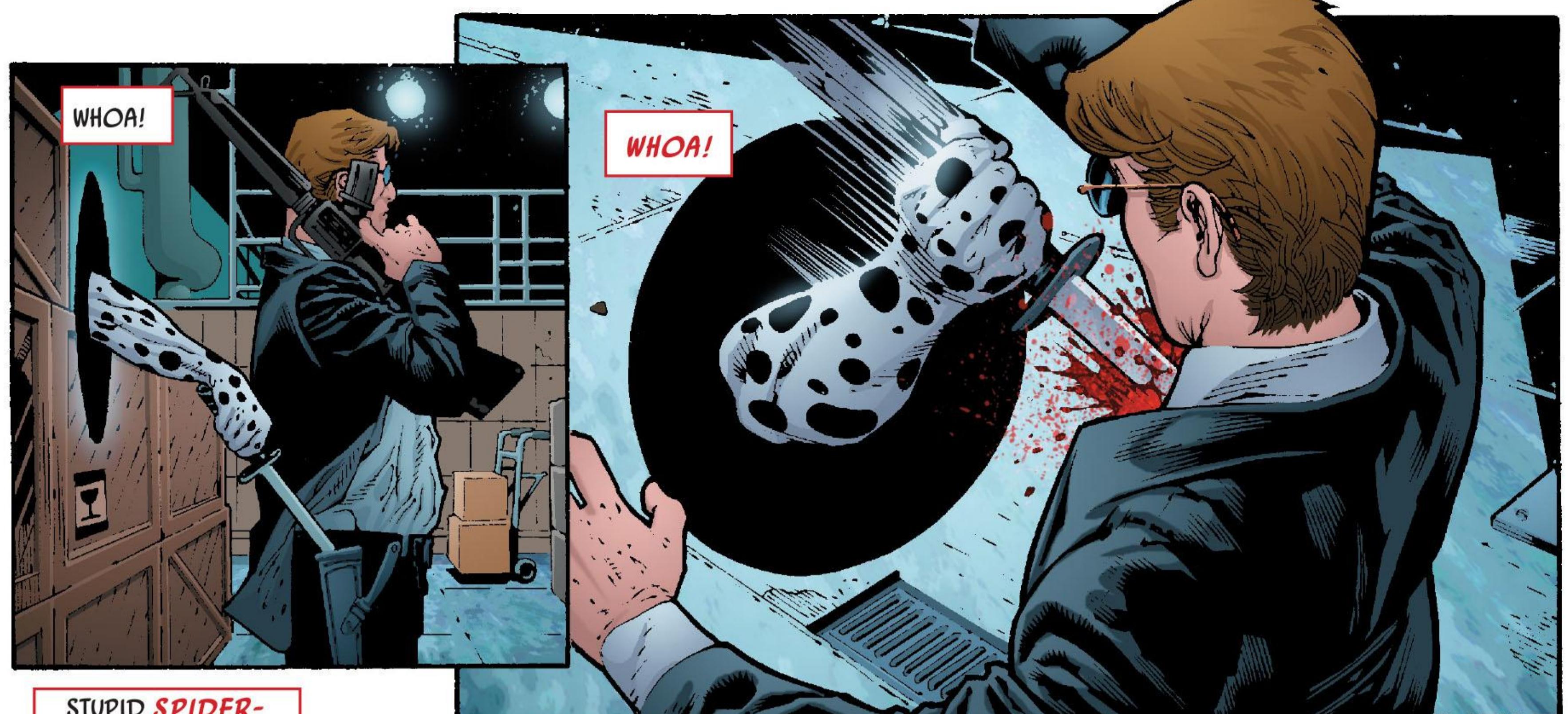
GEEZ, THIS TUB IS **LOUSY**
WITH **GOONS**, THOUGH.
GONNA HAVE TO CHOOSE
JUST THE RIGHT MOMENT
TO LOWER THE BOO--



WHA...?

WHAT
WAS...?



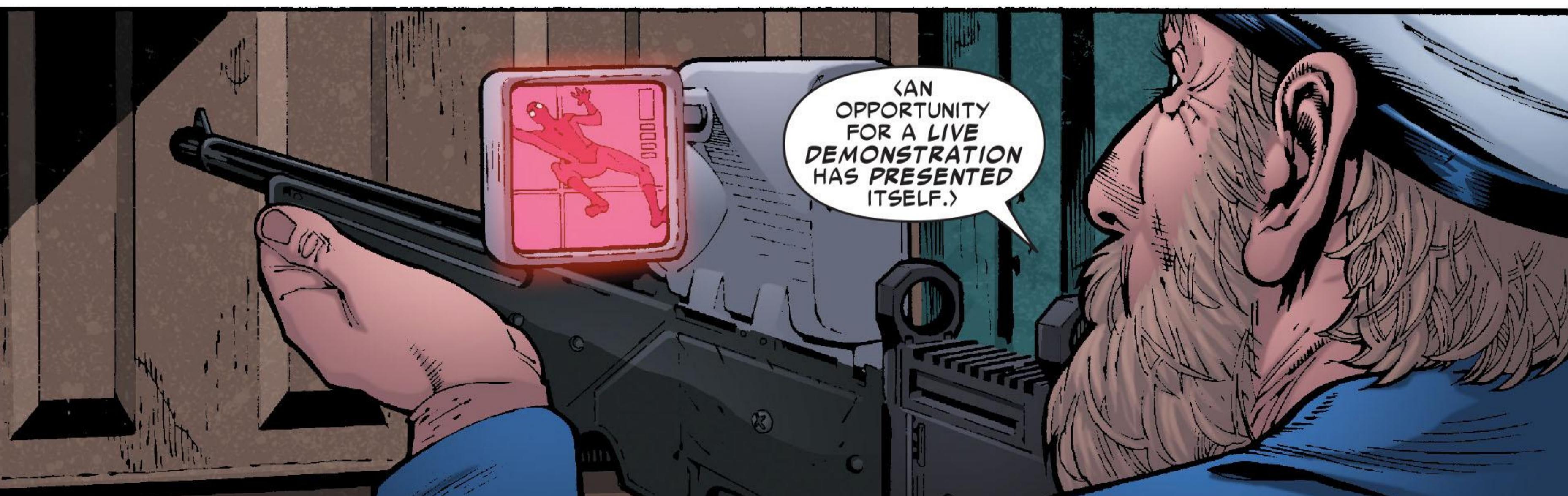


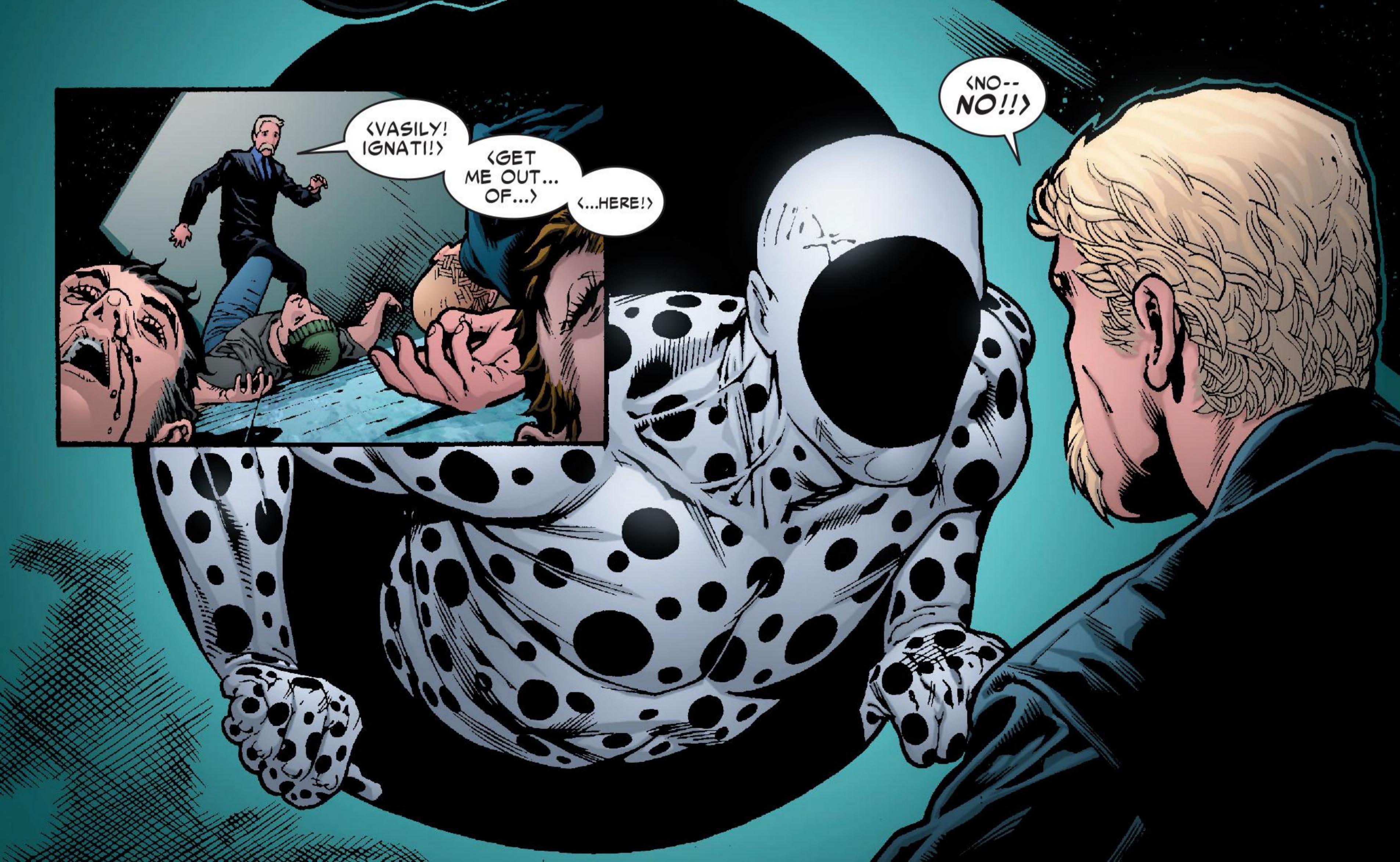
STUPID SPIDER-SENSE DIDN'T WARN ME OF NOTHIN'!

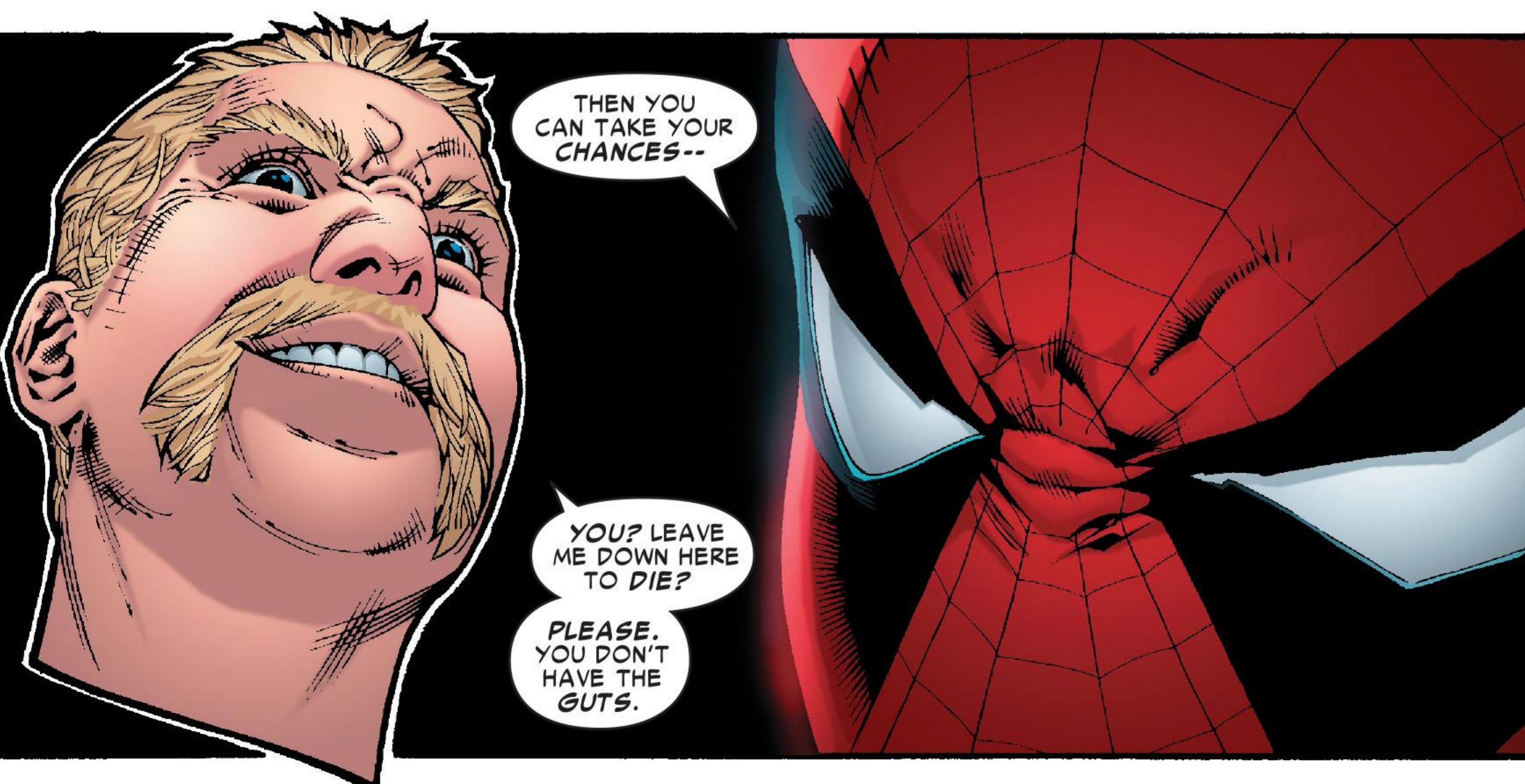


«AH.»

«WE ARE QUITE FORTUNATE, GENTLEMEN.»







ALL
RIGHT.

WOK

YOU
GOT ME
THERE.

UNTIL LAST WEEK, THE
NYPD THOUGHT I WAS
A SERIAL KILLER...

THE GOVERNMENT... SECRETLY
RUN BY MY WORST ENEMY... HAS
BASICALLY BRANDED ME A
TERRORIST...

THE MEDIA SAYS I'M
TURNING THE YOUTH OF
AMERICA INTO SERIAL-
KILLING TERRORISTS...

YET THIS GUY CAN TELL
JUST BY LOOKING AT ME I'M
REALLY A GOOD GUY! WHERE'S
THE JUSTICE IN THAT?

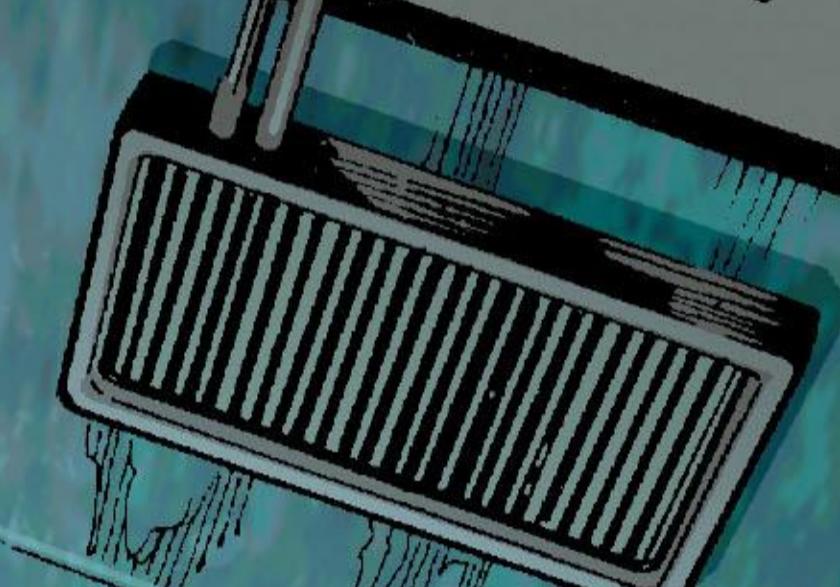
IF ONLY I WERE MORE
INTIMIDATING... I
SHOULD PRACTICE TALKING
LIKE CHRISTIAN BALE.

I AM THE
SPIDER.

I
OWN THE
NIGHT.

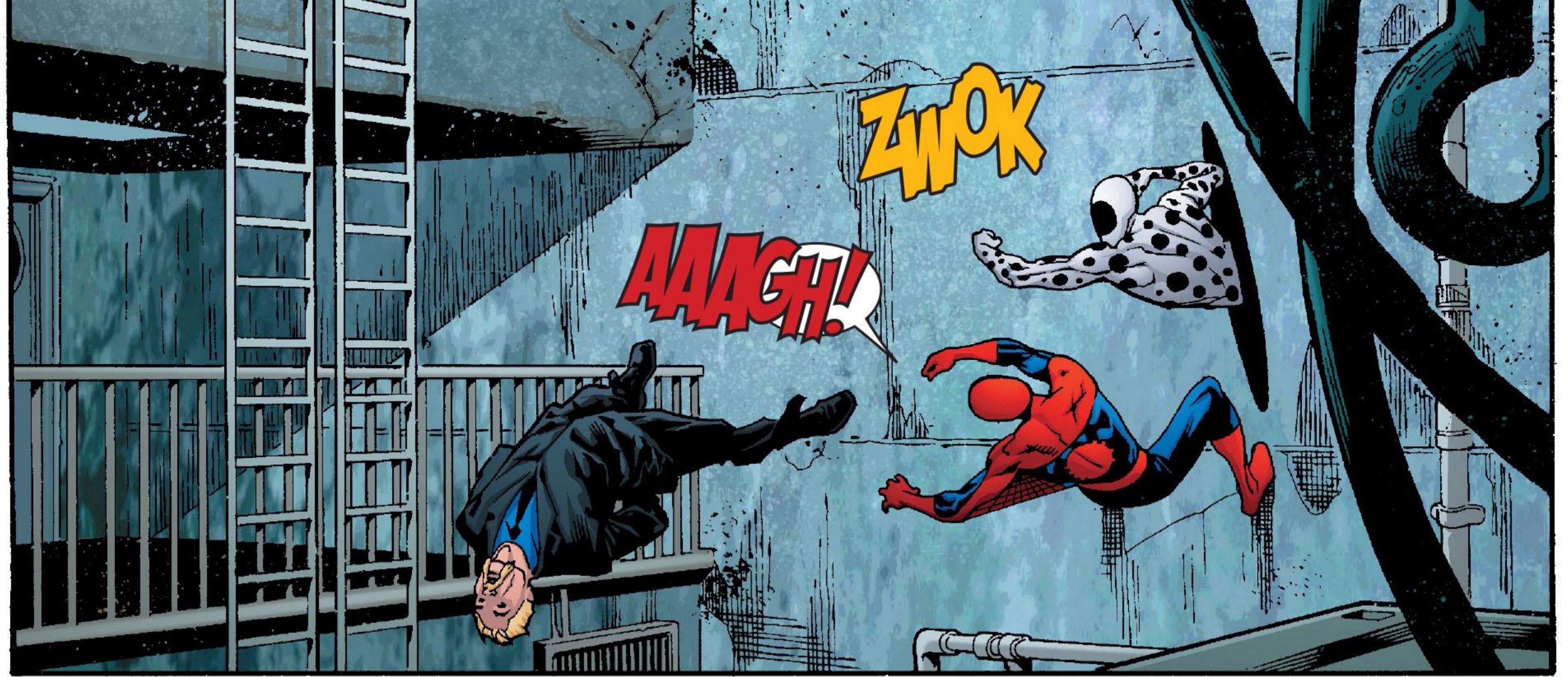
YOUR WORST
NIGHTMARE HAS
COME TO LIFE,
PUNK, AND YOU'RE
LOOKING RIGHT
AT--

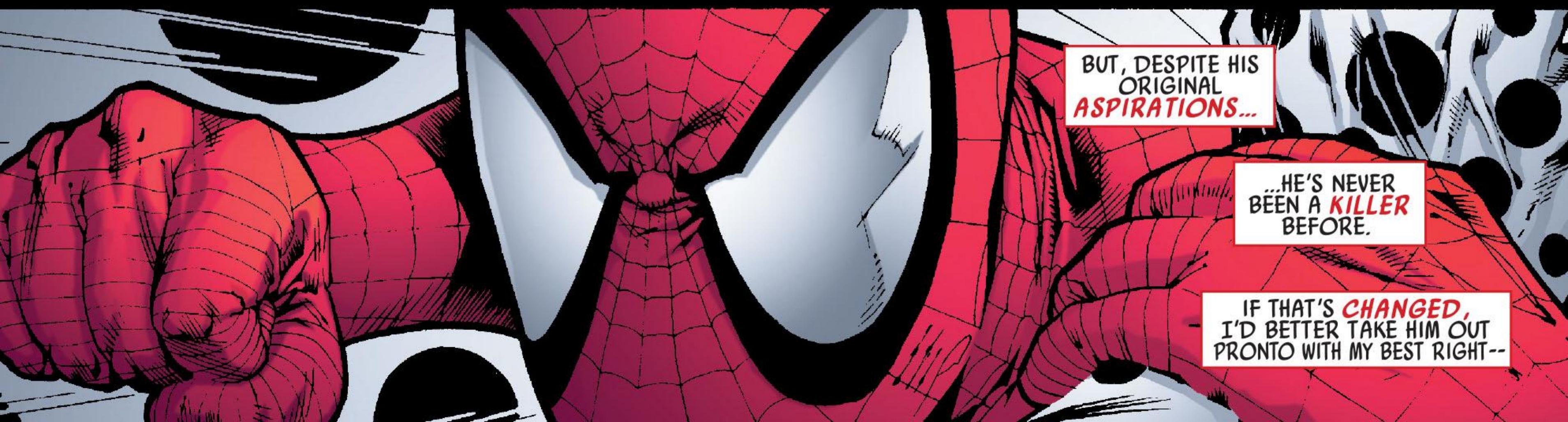
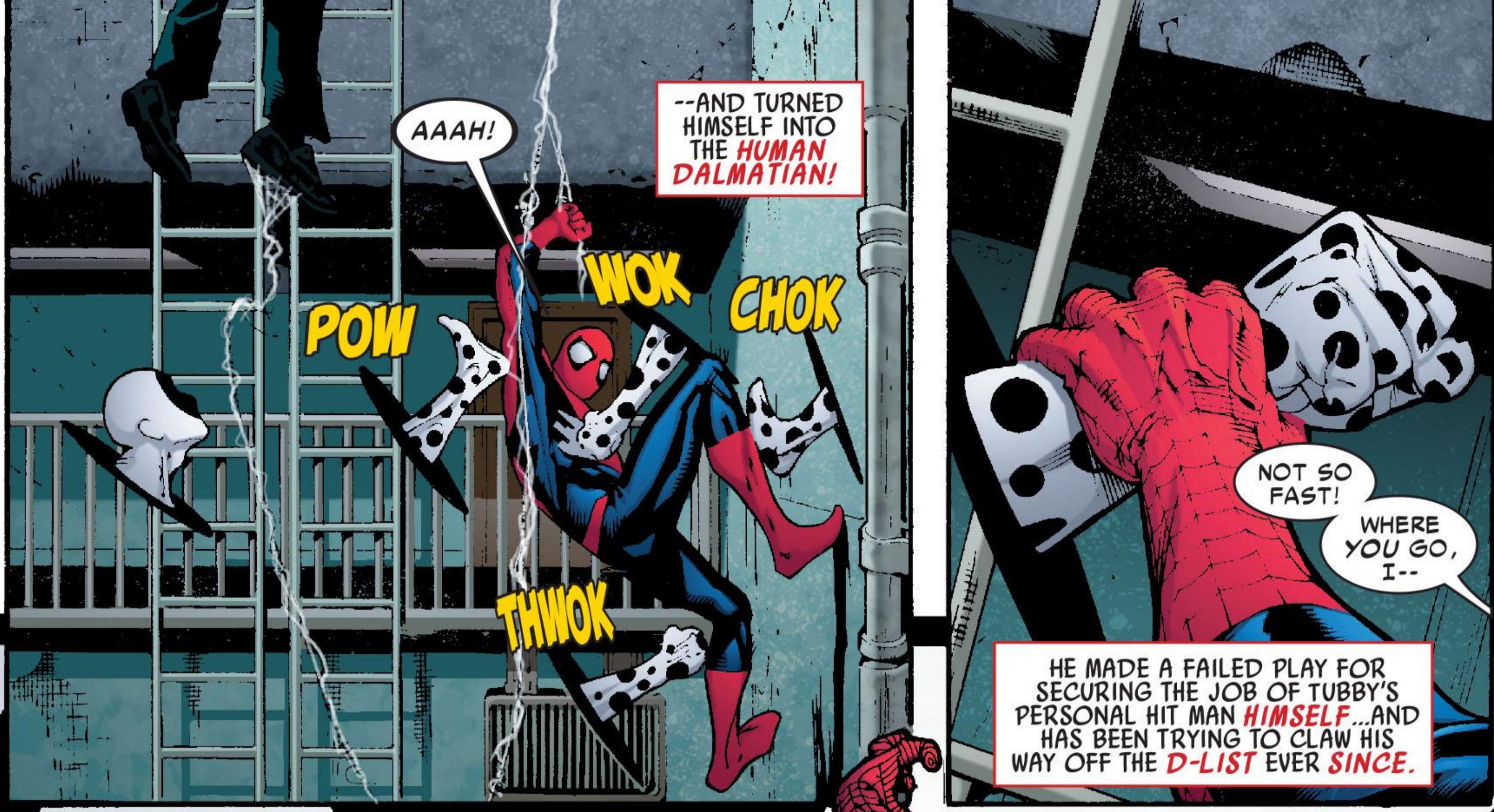
Uo...



KOF!
HACK!

HOW CAN HE
KEEP THAT UP
FOR AN ENTIRE
MOVIE...?







OW! SON-OF-AN-OSBORN!

MY DOSE!

HE'S STEPPED UP HIS GAME.

OR BEEN PUSHED OVER THE EDGE.

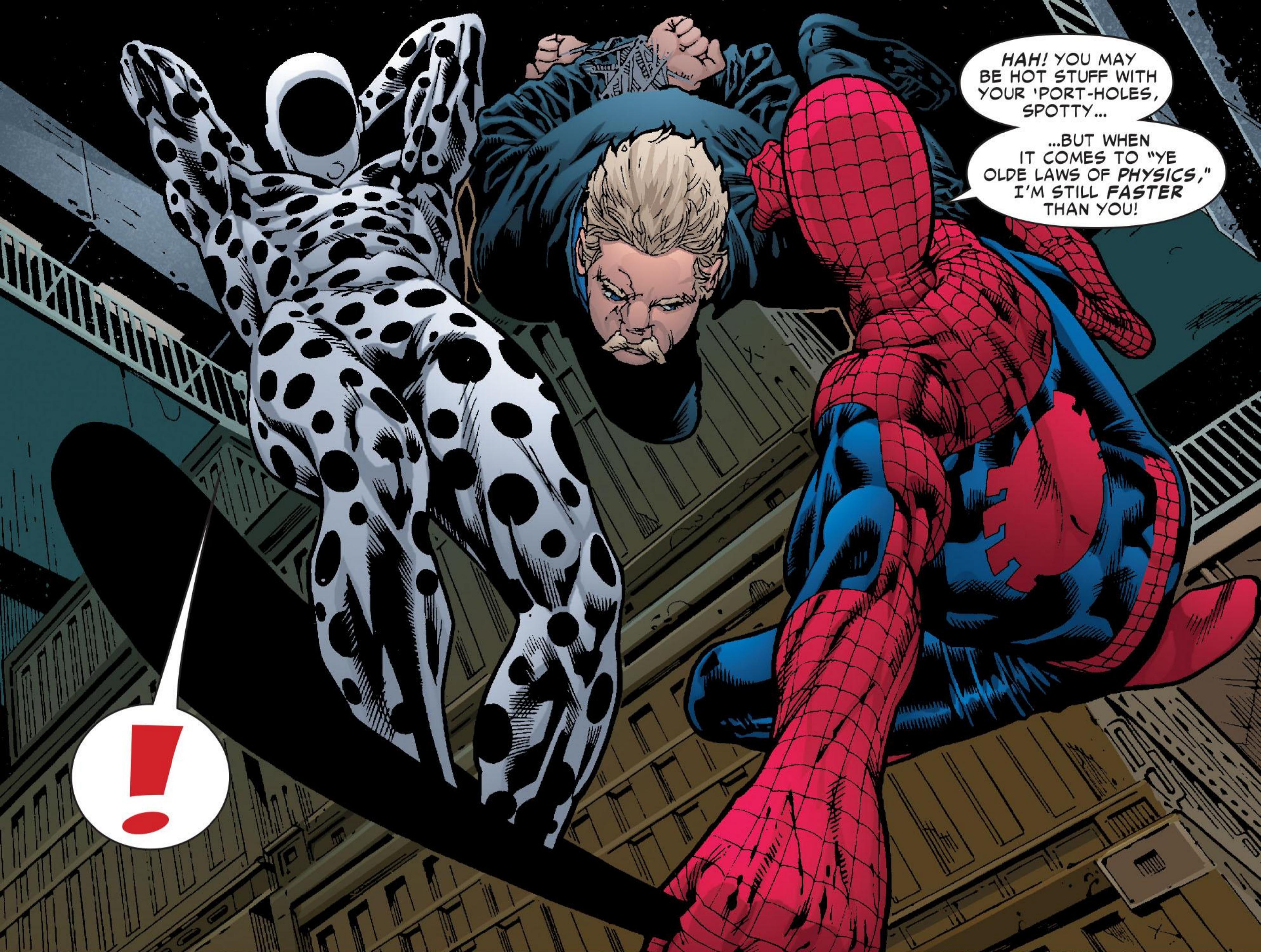
OR BOTH.

EITHER WAY: BAD NEWS FOR MY SIDE.

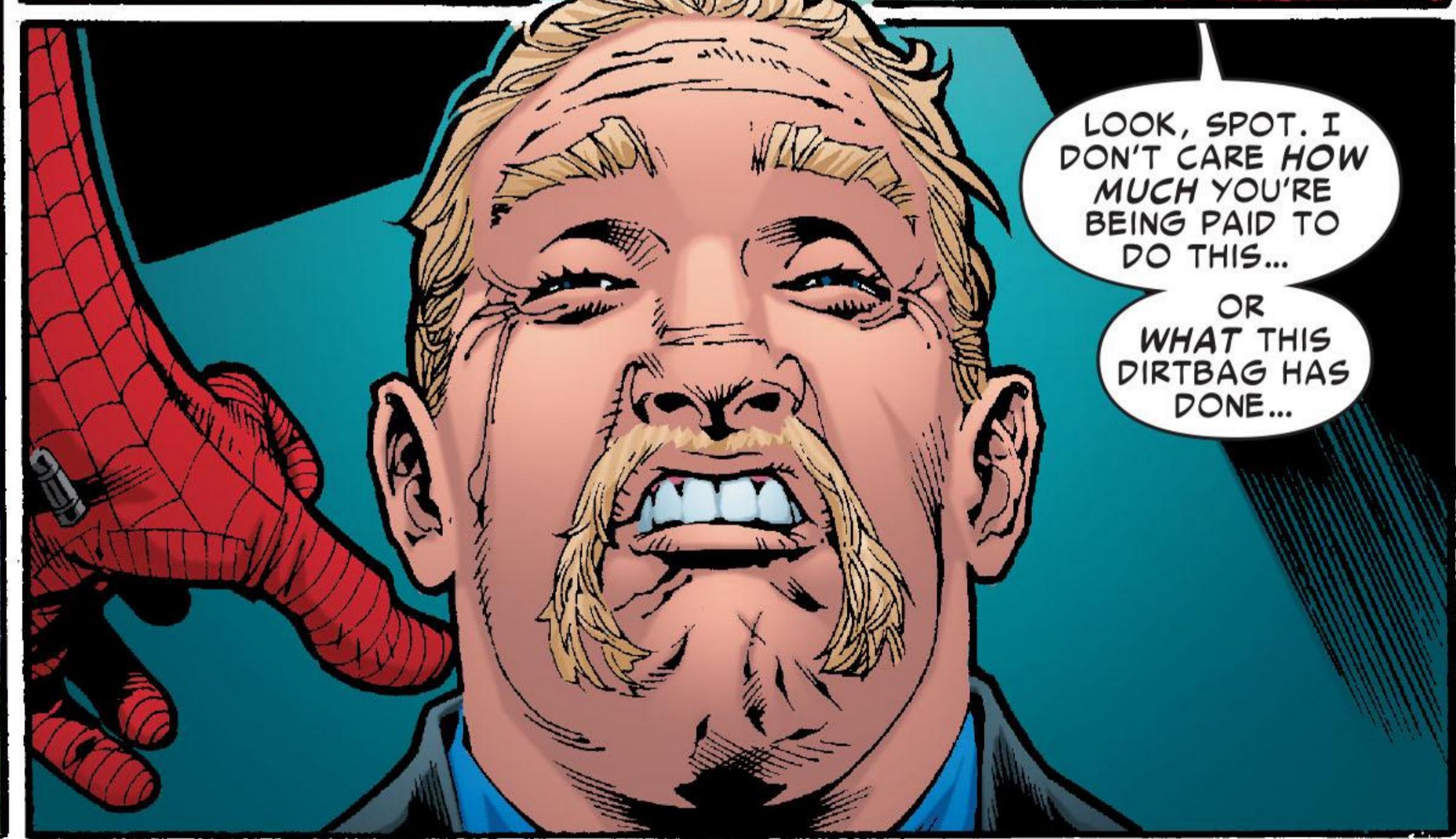
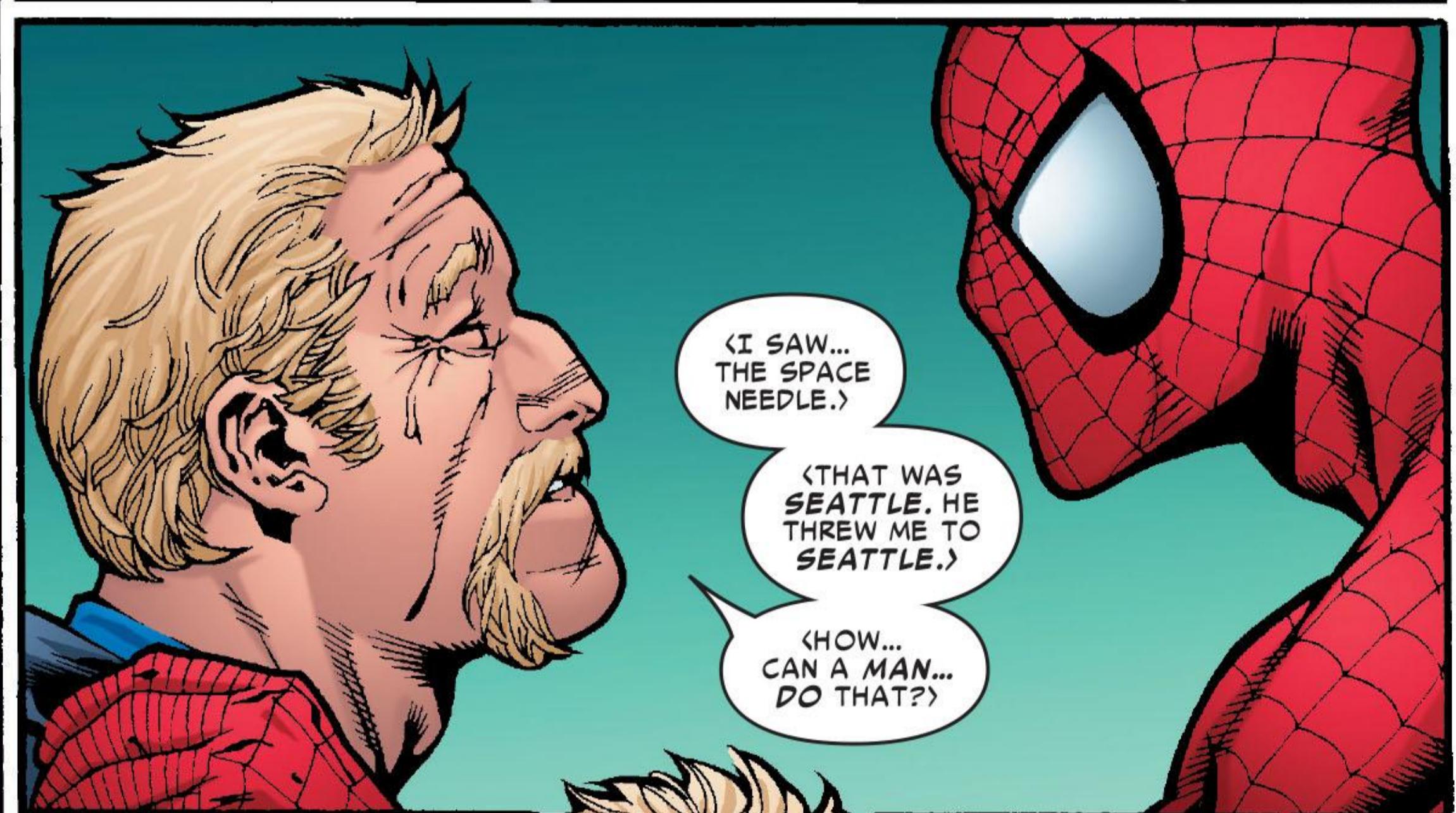
SPOT'S POWERS COULD MAKE HIM AN UNSTOPPABLE ASSASSIN.

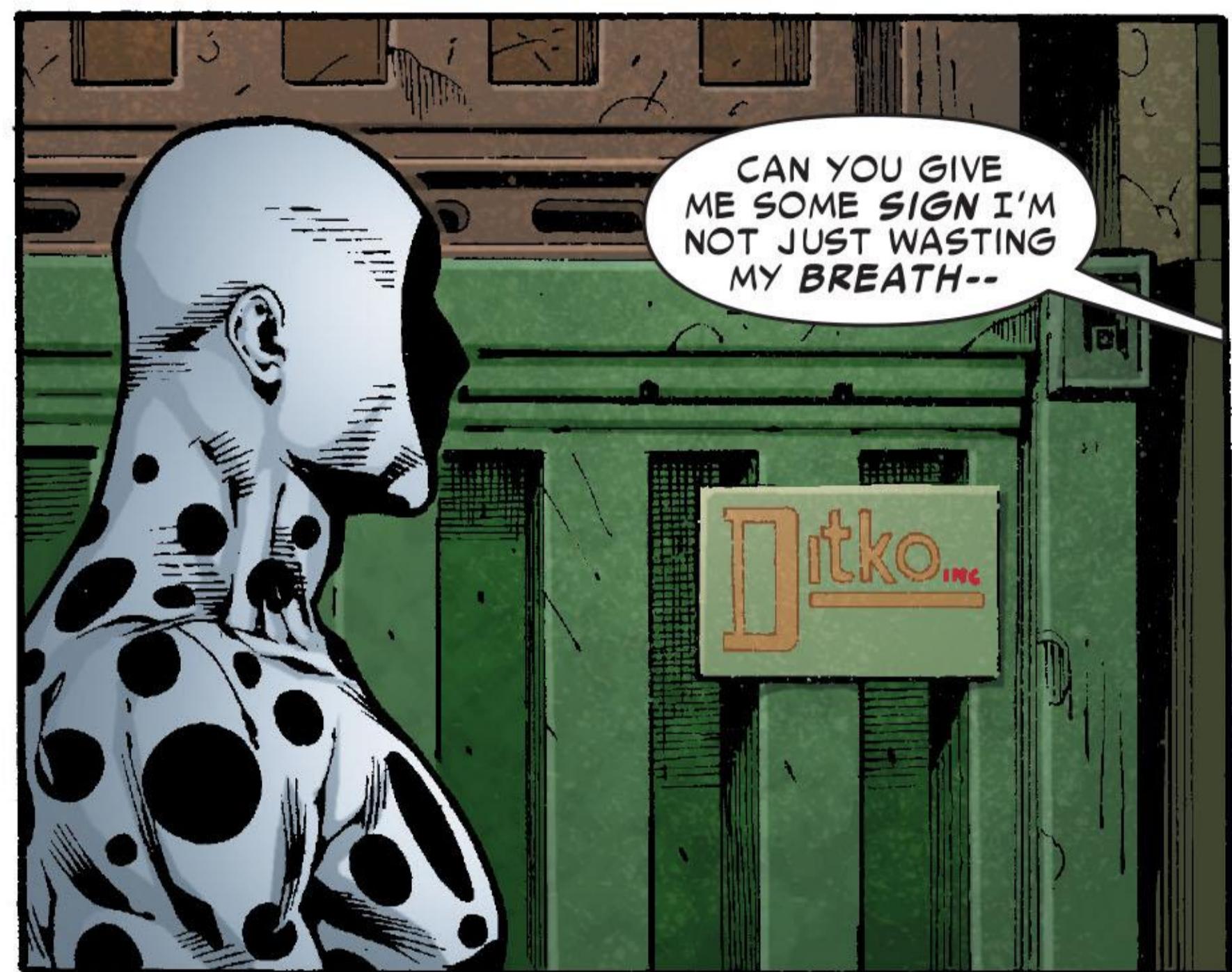
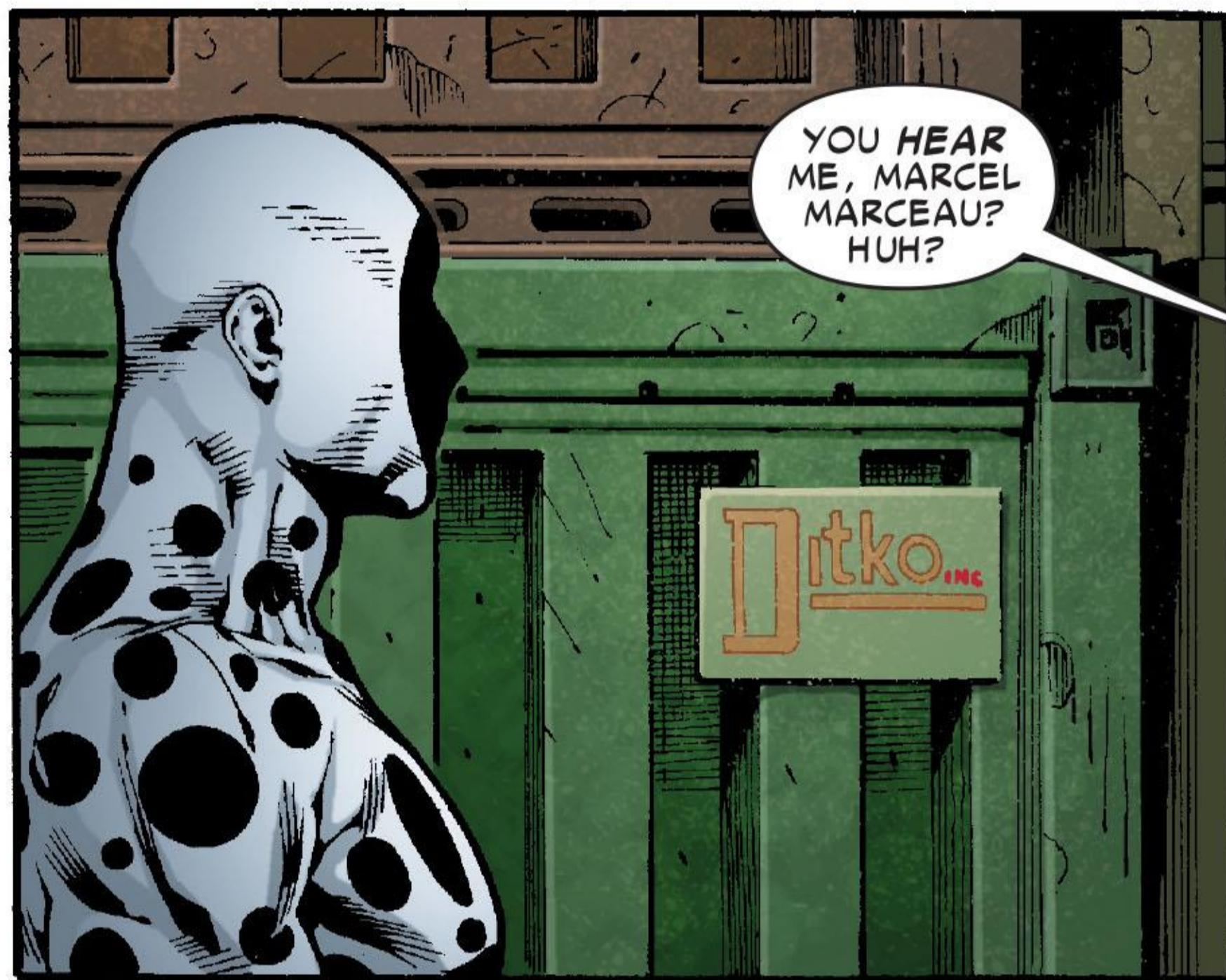
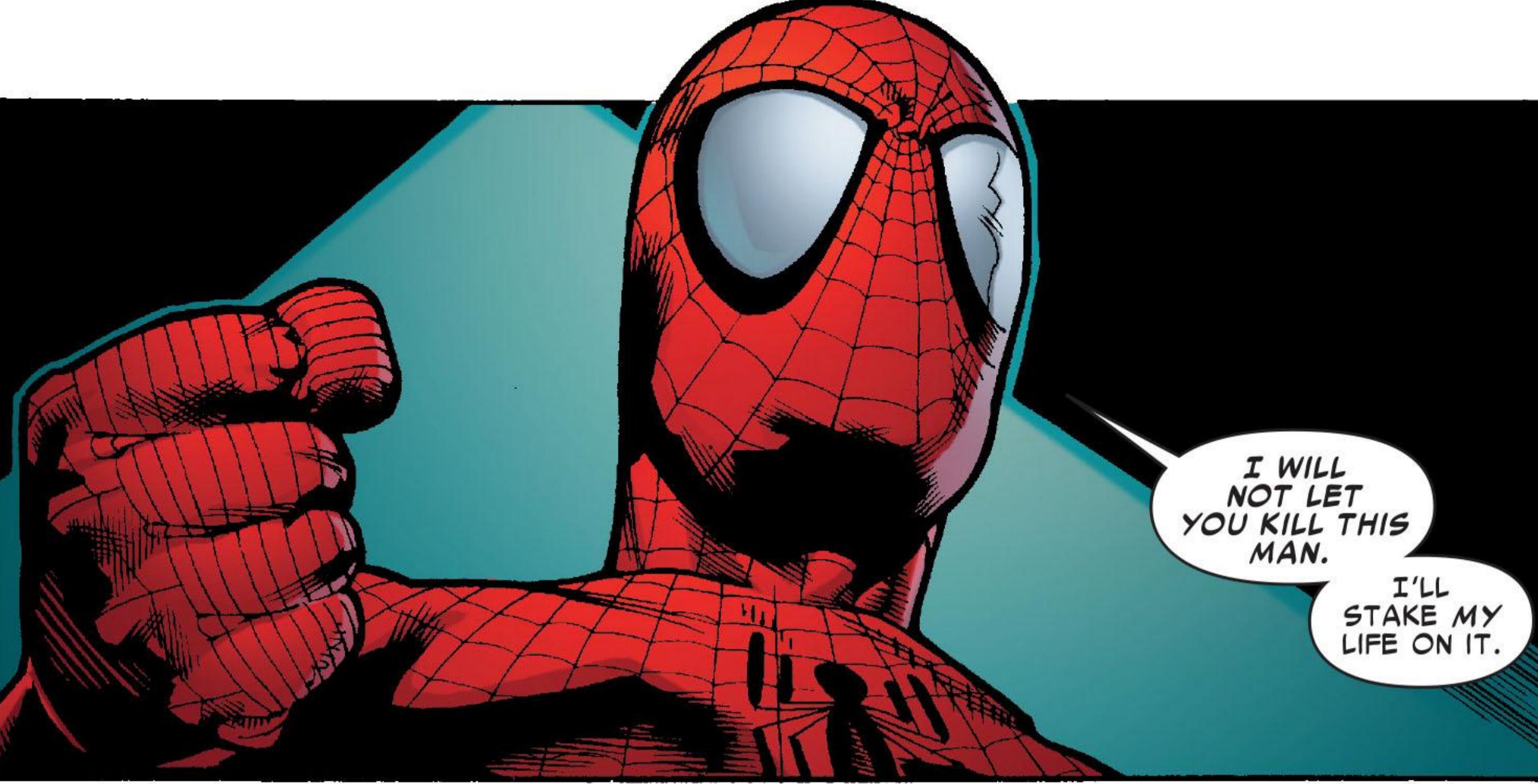
AND IT LOOKS LIKE IVANKOV IS HIS LATEST TARGET.











After double-crossing my last employer, M.O.D.O.K., the Mandarin used his black light ring to envelop me in my own spots...

...entrapping me in my own anti-dimension.

* IN THE IMMORTAL SUPER-VILLAIN TEAM-UP: M.O.D.O.K.'S 11 #3 - STEVE "FRED ACTUALLY WRITES THESE EDITOR'S NOTES SO I HAVE TO SAY THIS STUFF" WACKER

Occasionally, I was able to project my image back into this world—

--like when I tried to contact my old cronies at the Bar with No Name. But they never could see or hear me.

* AMAZING #552. SORT OF. -STEVE "I JUST LIKE ASTERISKS" WACKER

Because I hadn't gone in there of my own volition, I had no way of knowing which way was the route out.

I fear I went rather mad.

Moreso than I was before, I mean.

So what I decided to do, eventually, was concentrate on the one good thing I had in my life before I had my accident.

I homed in on that... and, somehow, even though it felt like it took a thousand lifetimes...

...I finally
made it home,
only to find
my beacon,
my light...

...had been
cut down at
the wrong
place, at the
wrong time
by a murderous
brute without
a second
thought.

I resolved then
to spend every
waking moment
on the perfect
method of
vengeance.

UM...

...DON'T
TAKE THIS
WRONG
WAY...

...BUT DO
YOU ACTUALLY
EXPECT ME TO
BE ABLE TO
READ THIS?

SPOT?

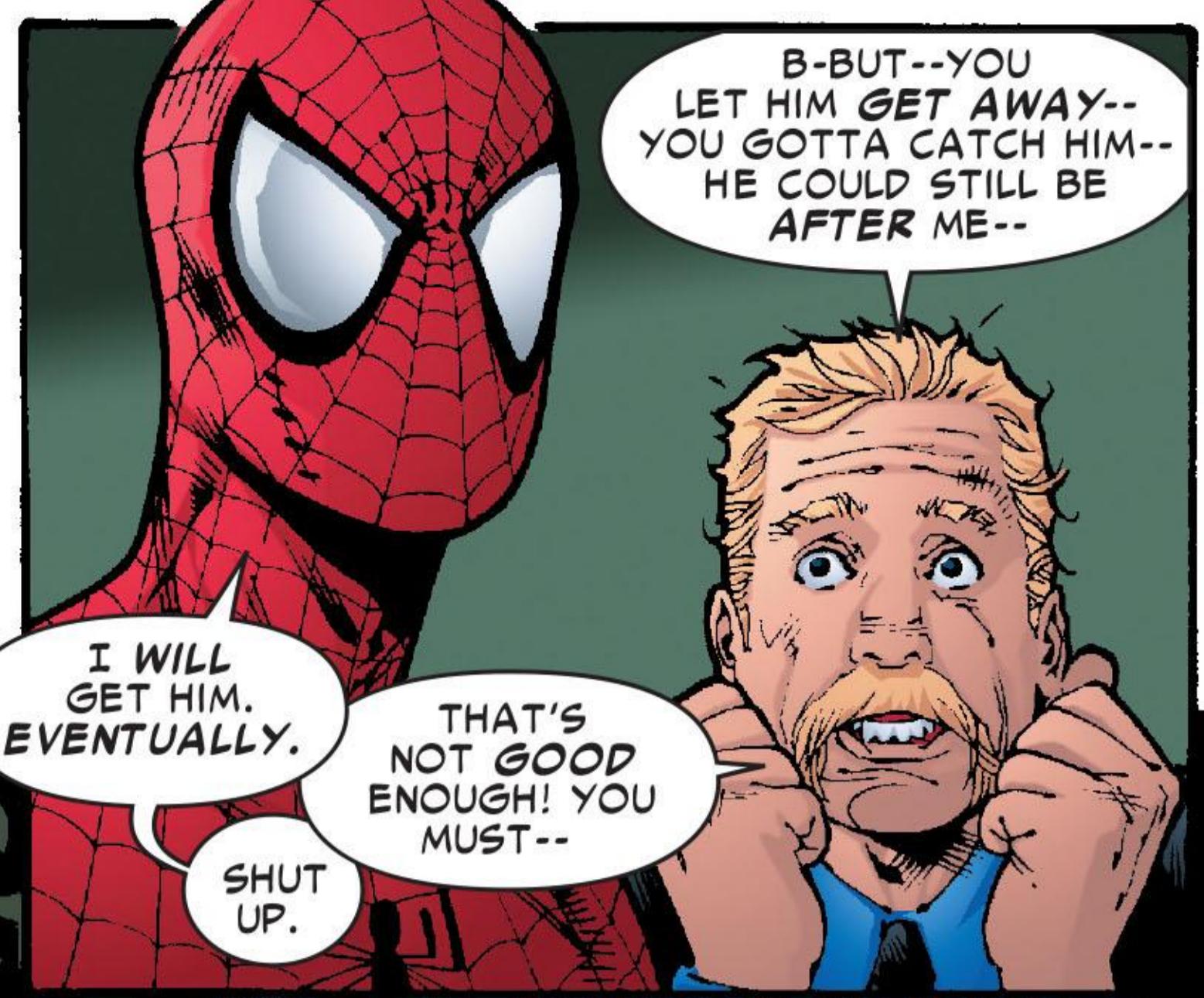
"WYATT
OHNN..."

OHNN?
T-THAT'S THE
CHILD WHO GOT
ACCIDENTLY
SHOT IN THE
DRIVE-BY IN
STATEN--

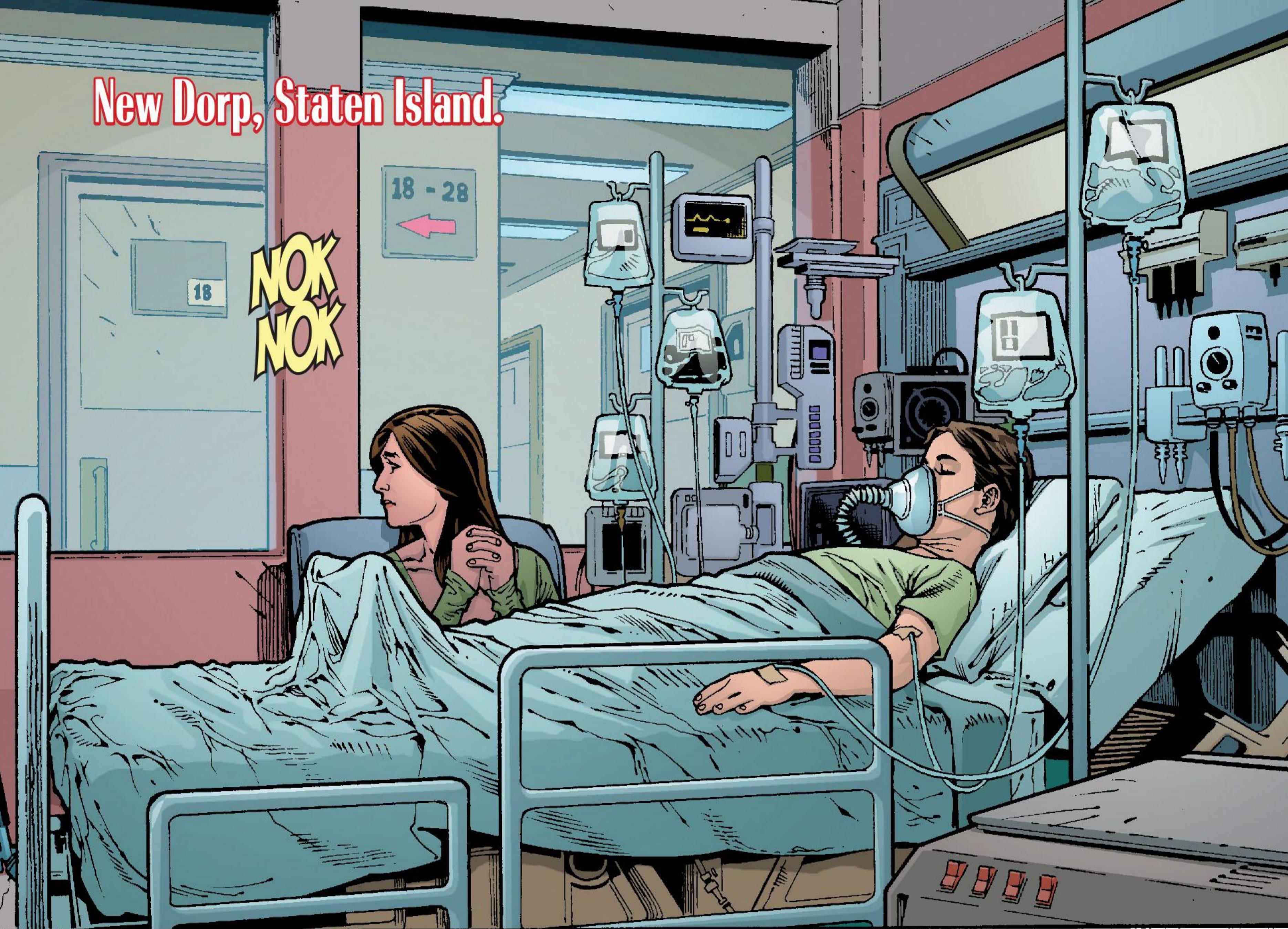
WYATT OHNN
520 New Dorp
Staten Island

WHAT?
...
NOTHING...





New Dorp, Staten Island.



Bellevue Hospital, Manhattan.

FORENSIC PSYCHIATRIC UNIT.

IS HE...
IS HE COMING
FOR ME
NOW?>

NO? WHAT
ABOUT...>

...NOW!>

NO?
THOUGHT I
FELT A...>

BUT
NOT YET,
NOT...>

HE CAN
COME ANYTIME,
ANYWHERE,
WHENEVER HE
WANTS...>

HE'S JUST
LIKE A...HEE,
HEE...>

JUST LIKE A
PIRATE...>

THEY SEND
YOU THE BLACK
SPOT TO LET YOU
KNOW THEY'RE
COMING FOR
YOU...>

BUT YOU
DON'T KNOW
WHEN, NO,
NO...>

THEY
CAN COME
ANYTIME...>

ANY
TIME AT
ALL...>

MARKED

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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL



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Movin' fast this week, folks. We'll get to your letters on ASM 581 and 582, our two-parter catching up on the secrets behind Harry Osborn's return. But first an astute reader writes in again:

Professor Wacker,

First, I wanted to thank you for posting my e-mail in the letters page of Amazing #587. I was, to say the least the least, very surprised.

Anyways, in regards to Hobgoblin being dead, I'm not sure whether you're being sarcastic or serious, but Hobby's still alive. The original Hobgoblin, Roderick Kingsley, is nice and safe on a Caribbean island somewhere. You might be referring to the guy who took over the role of Hobgoblin from Kingsley for a while, Jason Macendale. Now Macendale is dead, killed by Kingsley.

Again, like I said, I wasn't sure if you were being sarcastic or not. I hope I didn't come off sounding jerkish, I didn't mean to, I just wanted to clear that up.

Thomas Sanders
Via e-mail

Excellent point, Thomas. Indeed I had Macendale in mind when I wrote the answer, but as to the current condition of Roderick Kingsley...you're only assuming he's nice and safe. The future may not be that kind. (I'm now twirling Brennan's peach-fuzz moustache)



Dear Spider-Mail,

I hope to see more of Spidey doing what only Spidey can. This week's fight with the Molten Man was a good illustration of how Spidey's unique combat style and equipment distinguishes him from other super-guys. And Mike McKone draws one of the best-looking Spideys I've seen in a long time.

You've come a long way to winning me over post "One More Day." I'm still not convinced that any of these stories would be adversely affected by having Pete and MJ married, but what's done is done. "Amazing Spider-Man" is back to being a fun read -- may it stay that way for a long time.

Greg Nock
Cincinnati, OH



Hello Spidey Staff,

I'd like to start by saying, "Thanks for the ride." It's been incredible having a continuous Spidey title 3-times a month. I've been a loyal Marvel reader for, just about, twenty years and though I've thought about writing in many times, I just never got to the computer to pound out a letter. However, I just had to write for this...I'm itching for a No-Prize.

That's right the coveted non-prize. I'm sure you've had more than a few eagle-eyed readers notice the slight error in issue 582. When Spidey is fighting the Molten Man his glove (right hand) catches fire and he takes it off to put the fire out (pg 10). Then there are multiple panels showing his right hand gloved and ready for action (middle panel on page 11, top and middle panel on page 13). And though it is possible that some panels are out of chronological sequence to show how Liz and Normie were getting to safety during the fight, the middle panel on page 13 shows Harry returning with the treatment he got from his car after he asked if Spidey had a plan. And on the very next page Peter's ungloved again. If you can explain this I'd love to hear it, but I'd love a No-Prize even more. Just an excuse to buy multiple copies and see my name in my favorite book.

Can't wait to see. I love your work and can't wait to see MJ return.

Have a great year and keep up the great work. Till Steve Rogers comes back and reveals his man-crush on the Sentry - Make Mine Marvel!
Ed Zeltner
Florida

Ed, while you weren't the only reader to point out the discrepancy with Spidey's gloved hand, traditionally the No-Prizes are awarded to readers who come up with a logical explanation for the perceived errors, expiations that reveal how incredibly cognizant and bright us feeble-minded comic book editors really.

If an explanation can't be found, then I have the next best thing: simply write Brennan up with human resources and charge him 20 bucks for every error. (I mean, how else am I going to pay for tickets to the upcoming Broadway smash Spider-Man: The Musical?)



Web-Spinners,

Congratulations on a solid first year of scintillating Spidey stories! I've been collecting comic books since I was 12 years old, and I've never found Spider-Man comics as exciting as they are right now. You've got a great team of writers and artists, and I've really enjoyed the new additions to Spidey's rogue's gallery, especially Menace. Everything about Amazing just seems fresh and fast paced, I really feel like I'm getting my money's worth. However, I've had a few questions over the last year's worth of stories.

- 1) If everything in Spidey's life has still happened except for marrying Mary Jane, then how did he save Aunt May's life and when will we find out how his identity was made secret again?
- 2) Does the Scarlet Spiders story from Avengers: The Initiative #7 have anything to do with Spidey's identity being a secret again?
- 3) Is there any possibility of some of the classic supporting cast Deb Whitman, Randy Robertson, Glory Grant, Jill Stacy, Caryn Earle, etc. appearing in Amazing again?
- 4) Will we see Mia Flores (from issue #546) again or was she created just to satisfy that issue's plot?
- 5) When will we find out what happened to Carlie's father?
- 6) When will there be follow-up on Mr. Negative getting a vial of Spidey's blood?
- 7) Will we see more of a merging of the Mr. Negative and Martin Li personalities since he got sick at the end of New Ways to Die?
- 8) I really liked the interaction between Peter and Norah Winters, when will she make another appearance?
- 9) Will Mysterio be a part of any longer reaching story arcs now that he's a more supernatural Spidey villain?

I also noticed an error in Amazing Spider-Man #547 on Page 5 in Panel 5, Harry is missing the earring he wears throughout the rest of this 3-part story. I haven't seen this mentioned in the letters page in any of the last year's worth of Amazing issues, so in the hopes of getting a fabled No-Prize I'd like to suggest that he removed it in order to maintain a professional appearance around his employees at the Coffee Bean. This would also explain why he hasn't been wearing it since then. Thanks again for making Spider-Man exciting again, I'm really looking forward to all the new stories you have planned for 2009, especially

issue #600. So until President Obama replaces Peter Parker as Spider-Man, Make Mine Marvel!

Ryan Drayson
Brantford, Ontario, Canada

THAT'S HOW YOU DO IT! Consider your no-prize not on the way, Ryan. Just don't send in your address and I won't send it out.

As to your questions

1-Sorry, but you're going to have to wait a little longer for those answers. You'll get 'em though.

2-Partly.

3-At least one of them will be appearing in the next few weeks.

4-Originally Mia was created for that story, but many readers are asking for her to return, so we're considering it.

5-No plans to reveal too much yet about her dad. It's a bit of Carlie's background we'll keep dropping hints to from time to time.

6 and 7-Absolutely more Mr. Negative in the offing (including the not-forgotten vial of Spidey's blood). You'll also be seeing a lot more of Mr. N throughout the Marvel Universe this year.

8-We've gotten a huge amount of feedback about Norah, so she'll definitely be back. Among other places, she's a big part of American Son coming up in May.

9-If plans pan out, you'll have more Mysterio later this year courtesy of Dan Slott and Marcos Martin.

And that wraps up another week and another month. Thanks to Fred Van Lente and Paulo Siqueira for bringin' back one of the all-time weirdest Spidey villains. You'll be able to follow the Spot into DARK REIGN: MR. NEGATIVE #1 on sale in June.

Join us in 7 days as Dan Slott and Barry Kitson bring you the team-up you've been demanding; Spidey and The Fantastic Four...where we find out exactly what it is they remember about Spider-Man's secret I.D....the answer ain't what you're thinking (unless you randomly guess exactly right, in which case send in your stock picks c/o the above address.)

Viva Templar!
Simperin' Steve
3/5/09

This week's cover by Chris Eliopoulos, Klaus Janson and Dean White.

Next Week!



FF, You, Spidey!

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