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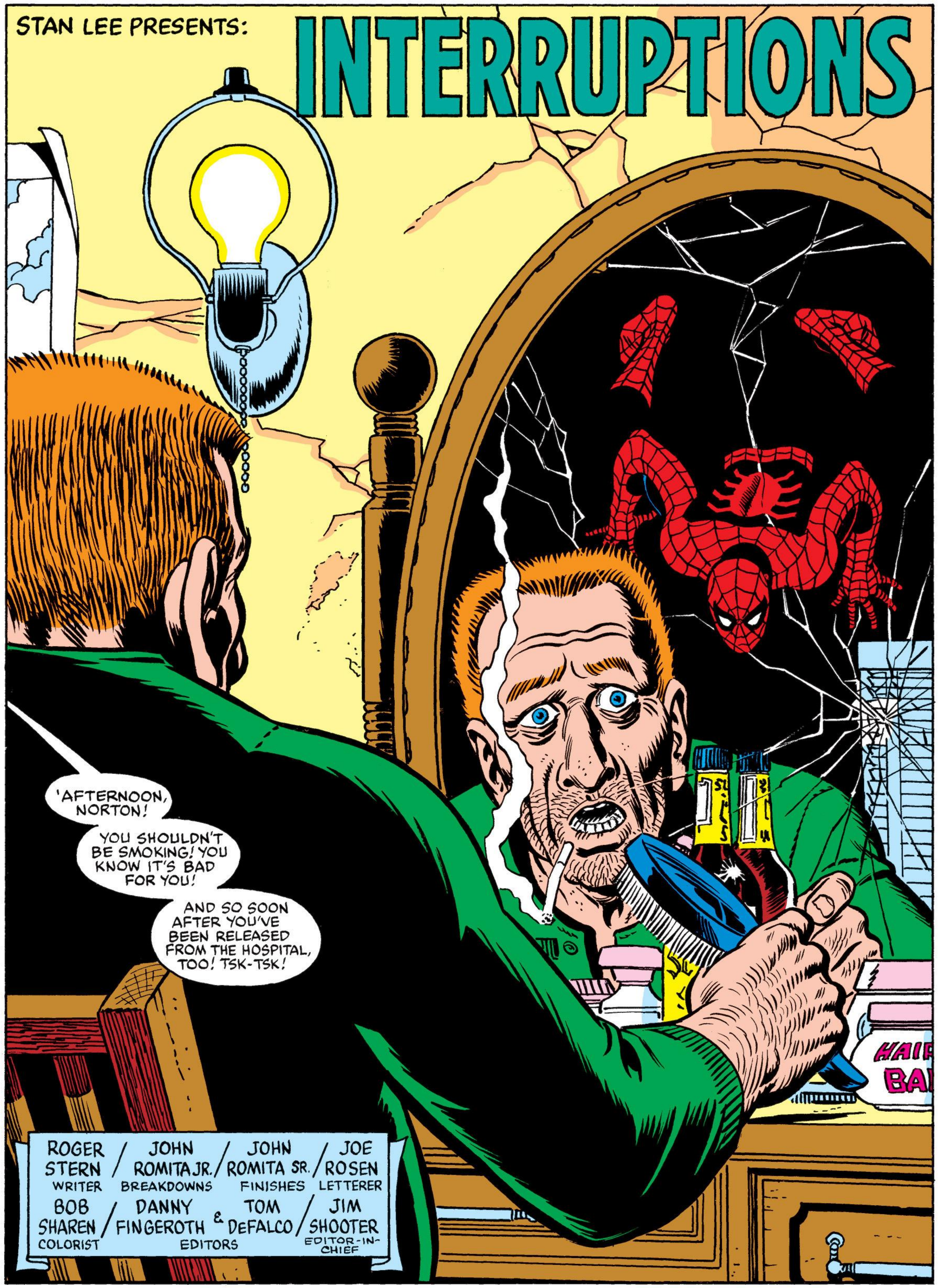
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®
J.R. JR. + J.V.R.



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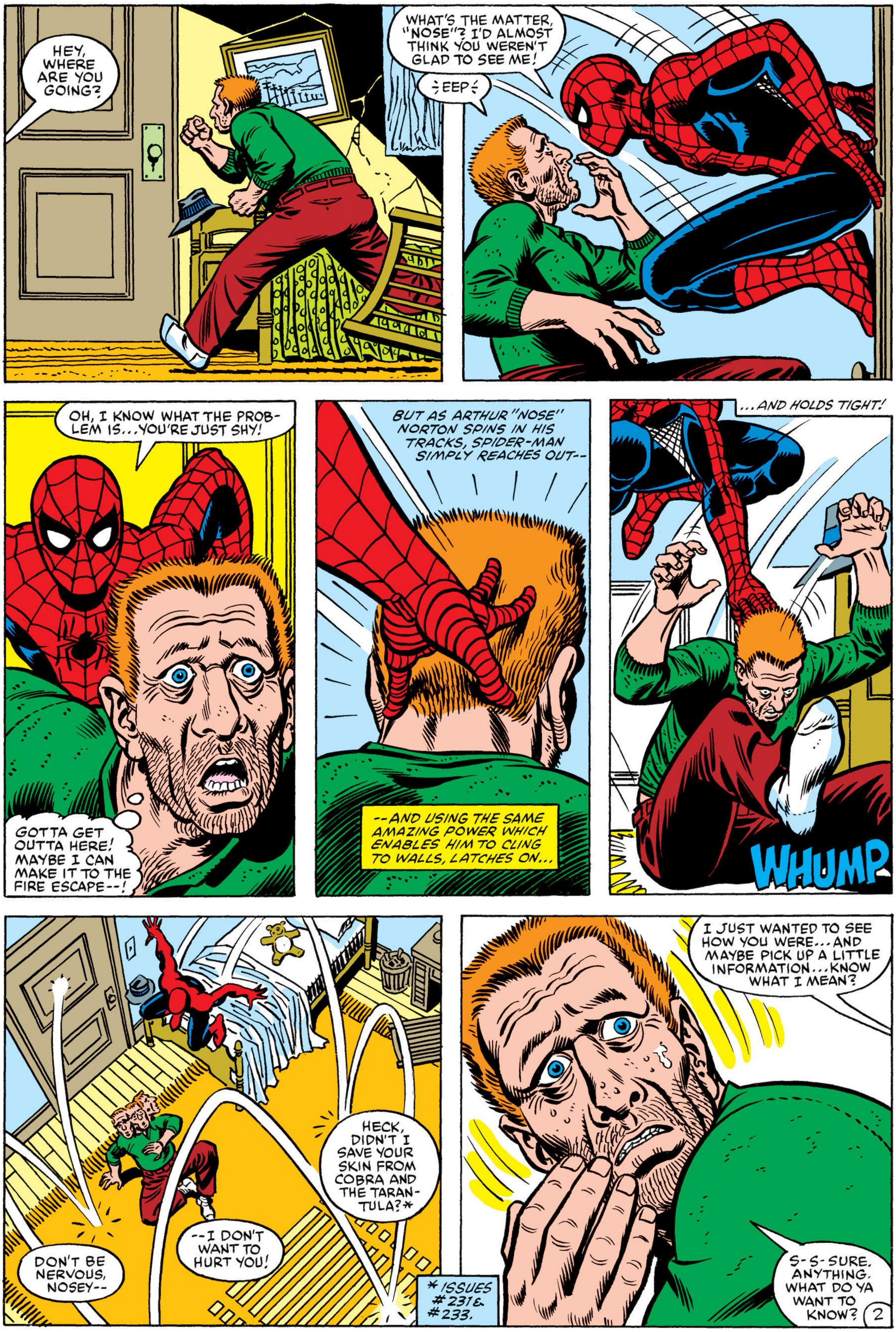
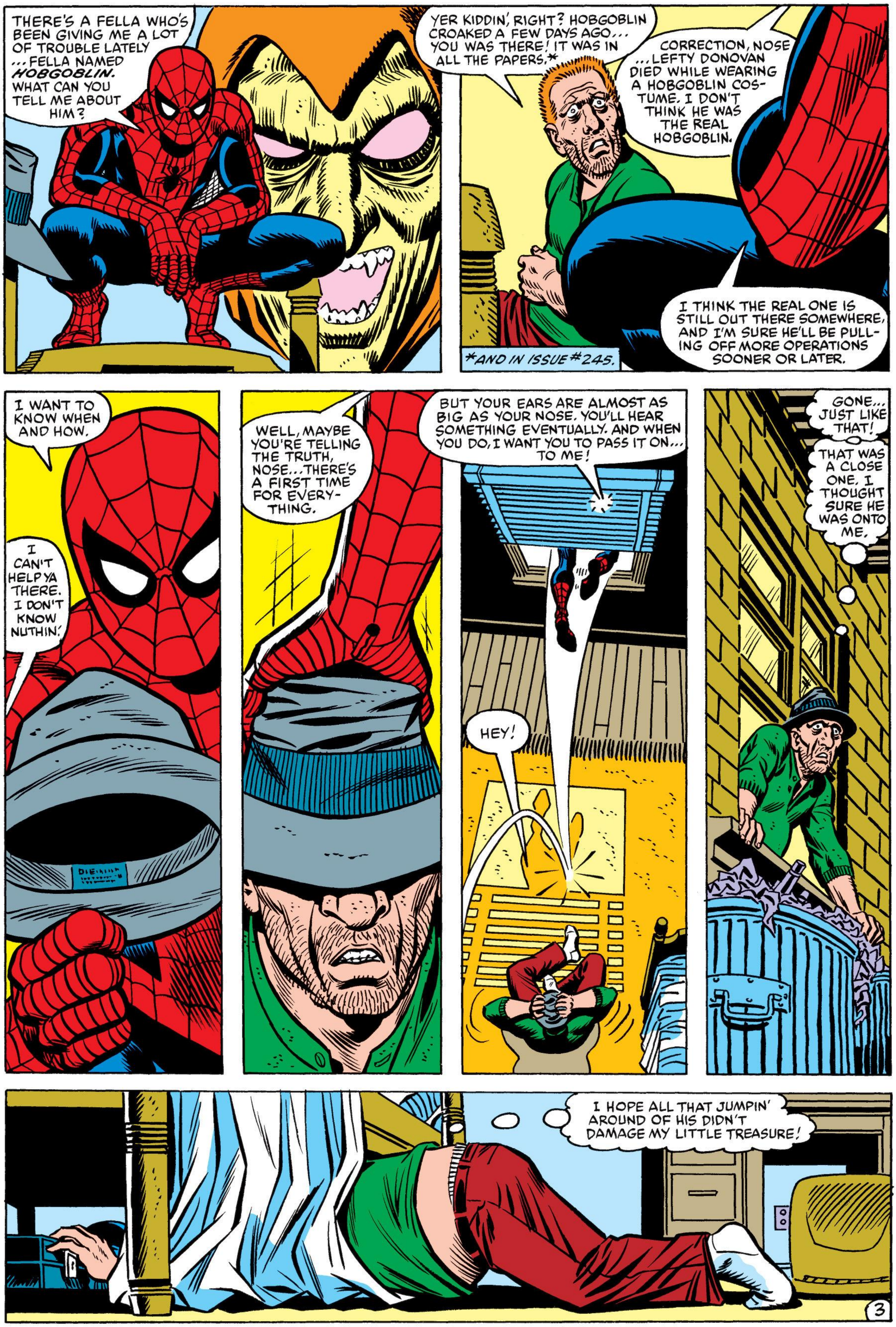

HEY, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
WHAT'S THE MATTER, "NOSE"? I'D ALMOST THINK YOU WEREN'T GLAD TO SEE ME!
÷EEP÷
OH, I KNOW WHAT THE PROBLEM IS...YOU'RE JUST SHY!
GOTTA GET OUTTA HERE! MAYBE I CAN MAKE IT TO THE FIRE ESCAPE--!
BUT AS ARTHUR "NOSE" NORTON SPINS IN HIS TRACKS, SPIDER-MAN SIMPLY REACHES OUT--
--AND USING THE SAME AMAZING POWER WHICH ENABLES HIM TO CLING TO WALLS, LATCHES ON...
...AND HOLDS TIGHT!
WHUMP
DON'T BE NERVOUS, NOSEY--
--I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU!
HECK, DIDN'T I SAVE YOUR SKIN FROM COBRA AND THE TARANTULA?*
*ISSUES #231 & #233.
I JUST WANTED TO SEE HOW YOU WERE...AND MAYBE PICK UP A LITTLE INFORMATION...KNOW WHAT I MEAN?
S-S-SURE, ANYTHING. WHAT DO YA WANT TO KNOW?


THERE'S A FELLA WHO'S BEEN GIVING ME A LOT OF TROUBLE LATELY ...FELLA NAMED HOBGOBLIN. WHAT CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT HIM?
YER KIDDIN', RIGHT? HOBGOBLIN CROAKED A FEW DAYS AGO... YOU WAS THERE! IT WAS IN ALL THE PAPERS.*
CORRECTION, NOSE ...LEFTY DONOVAN DIED WHILE WEARING A HOBGOBLIN COSTUME. I DON'T THINK HE WAS THE REAL HOBGOBLIN.
I THINK THE REAL ONE IS STILL OUT THERE SOMEWHERE, AND I'M SURE HE'LL BE PULLING OFF MORE OPERATIONS SOONER OR LATER.
*AND IN ISSUE #245.
I WANT TO KNOW WHEN AND HOW.
I CAN'T HELP YA THERE. I DON'T KNOW NUTHIN'.
WELL, MAYBE YOU'RE TELLING THE TRUTH, NOSE...THERE'S A FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING.
BUT YOUR EARS ARE ALMOST AS BIG AS YOUR NOSE. YOU'LL HEAR SOMETHING EVENTUALLY. AND WHEN YOU DO, I WANT YOU TO PASS IT ON... TO ME!
HEY!
GONE... JUST LIKE THAT!
THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE. I THOUGHT SURE HE WAS ONTO ME.
I HOPE ALL THAT JUMPIN' AROUND OF HIS DIDN'T DAMAGE MY LITTLE TREASURE!

NAW...THE SEAL ON THE MAIN LOCK IS STILL INTACT. THAT'S A RELIEF!

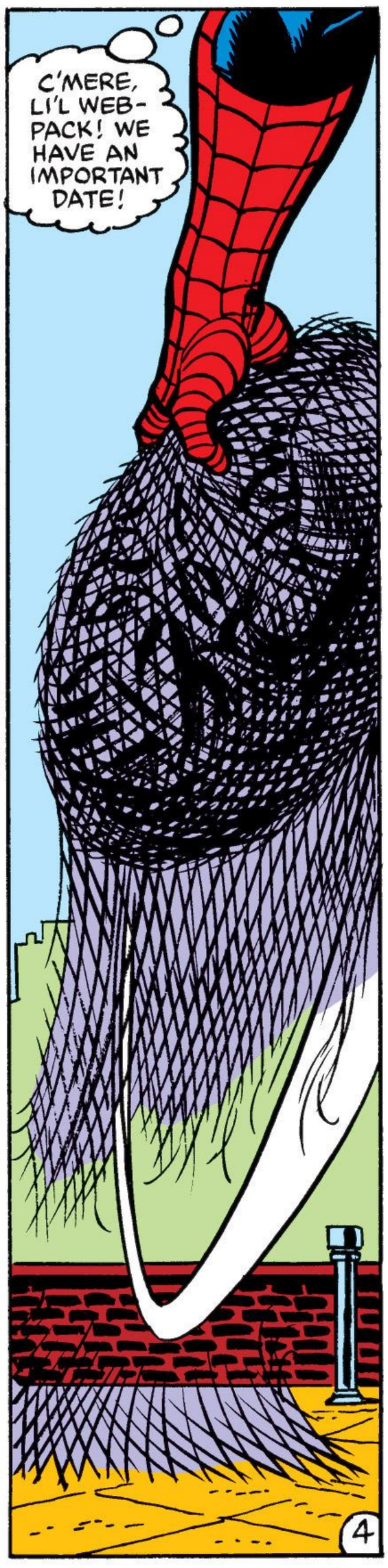
WHEN HE WAS SQUATTIN' ON THE BED --RIGHT ON TOP O'MY LITTLE MONEY-MAKER-- I JUST ABOUT DIED! IT'S A GOOD THING HE DIDN'T KNOW I HAD THIS.

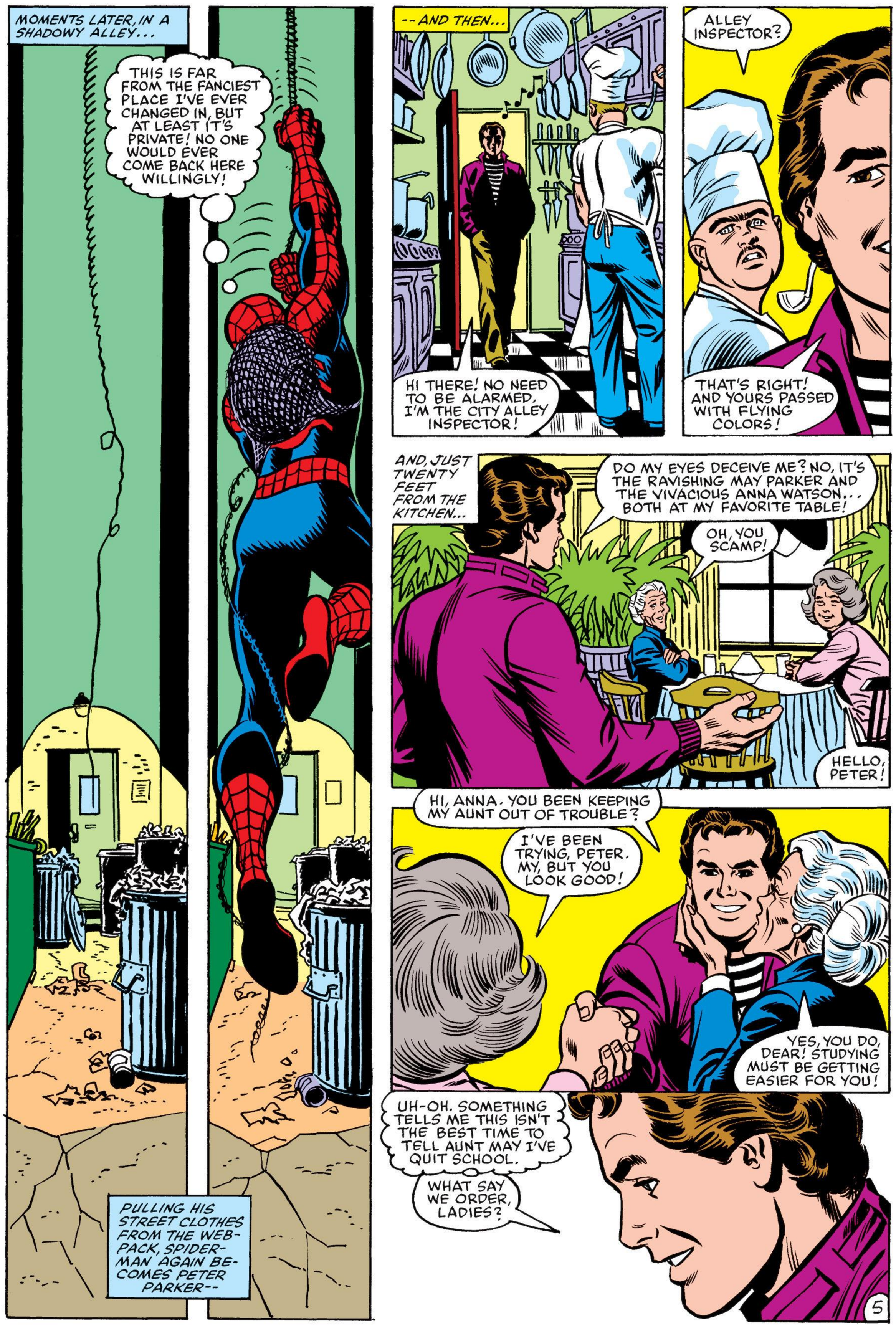
IF HE EVER FOUND OUT... IT COULD RUIN EVERYTHING!

MEANWHILE...
NOSE WAS TOO SCARED TO BE LYING TO ME. BOY, I WISH I KNEW MORE UNDERWORLD INFORMANTS.
UNFORTUNATELY, ABOUT THE ONLY TIME I EVER RUN INTO GUYS LIKE NORTON IS WHEN I'M PUTTING THEM AWAY.

INFORMATION CAN BE SO IMPORTANT, TOO! IF I'D KNOWN THAT THE CITY WAS GOING TO PICK UP THE BLACK CAT'S HOSPITAL BILL*--
--I MIGHT NOT HAVE QUIT GRAD SCHOOL TO DEVOTE MORE TIME TO MAKING A LIVING.
*SEE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #84.

OH, WELL...FELICIA'S MEDICAL EXPENSES WERE HARDLY MY ONLY CONSIDERATION. I'VE BEEN A STUDENT MOST OF MY LIFE --
--IT'S ABOUT TIME I GOT OUT AND EXPERIENCED MORE OF THE SO-CALLED REAL WORLD.

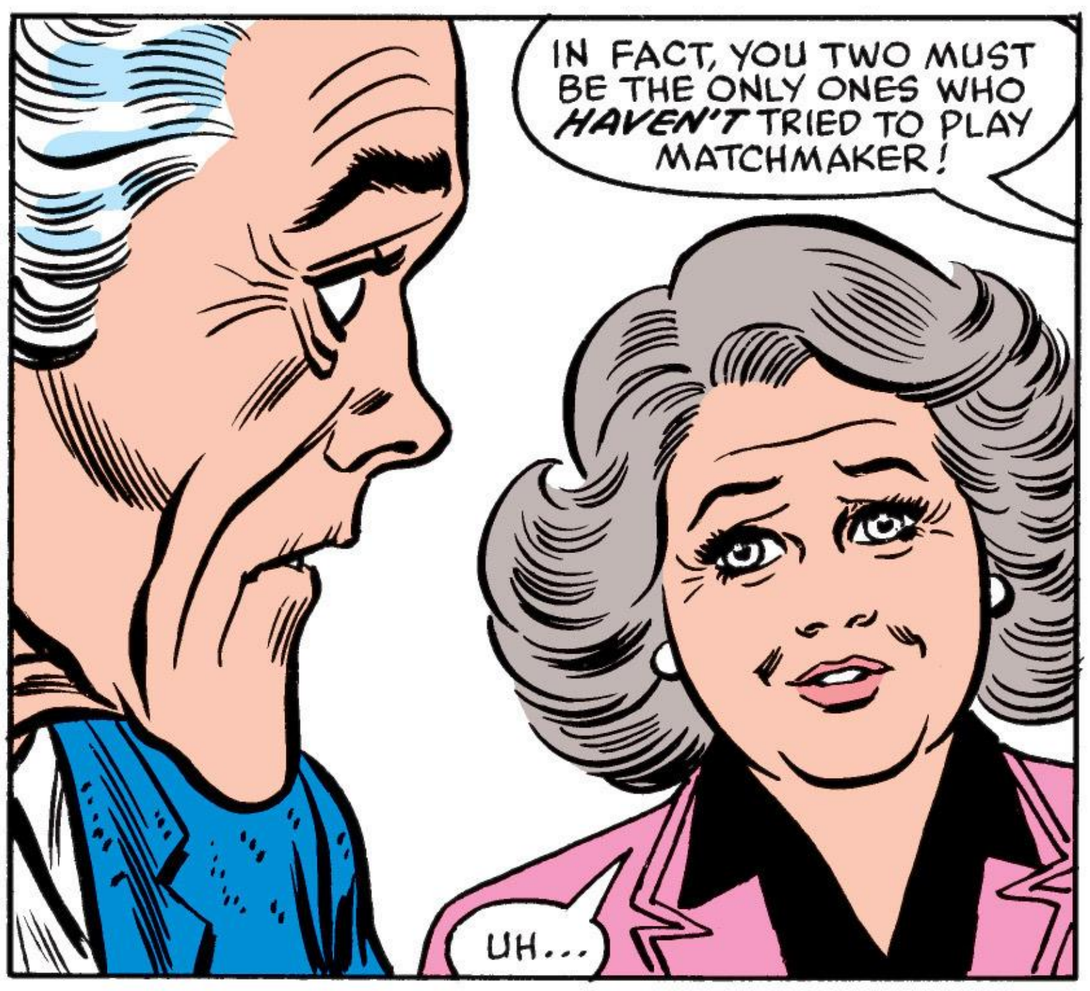

C'MERE, LI'L WEB-PACK! WE HAVE AN IMPORTANT DATE!

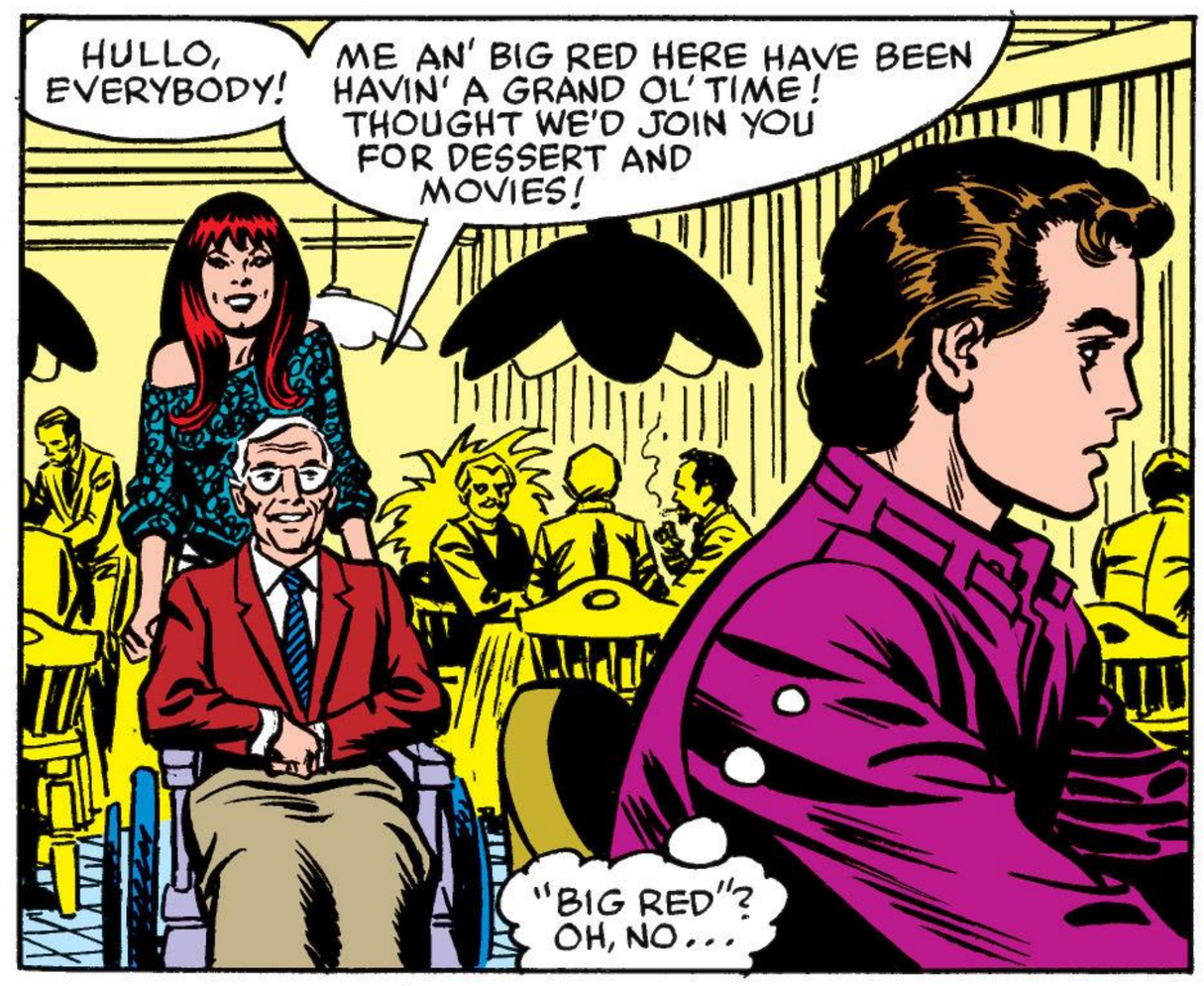

MOMENTS LATER, IN A SHADOWY ALLEY...
THIS IS FAR FROM THE FANCIEST PLACE I'VE EVER CHANGED IN, BUT AT LEAST IT'S PRIVATE! NO ONE WOULD EVER COME BACK HERE WILLINGLY!
PULLING HIS STREET CLOTHES FROM THE WEB-PACK, SPIDER-MAN AGAIN BE-COMES PETER PARKER--
--AND THEN...
HI THERE! NO NEED TO BE ALARMED, I'M THE CITY ALLEY INSPECTOR!
ALLEY INSPECTOR?
THAT'S RIGHT! AND YOURS PASSED WITH FLYING COLORS!
AND, JUST TWENTY FEET FROM THE KITCHEN...
DO MY EYES DECEIVE ME? NO, IT'S THE RAVISHING MAY PARKER AND THE VIVACIOUS ANNA WATSON... BOTH AT MY FAVORITE TABLE!
OH, YOU SCAMP!
HELLO, PETER!
HI, ANNA. YOU BEEN KEEPING MY AUNT OUT OF TROUBLE?
I'VE BEEN TRYING, PETER. MY, BUT YOU LOOK GOOD!
YES, YOU DO, DEAR! STUDYING MUST BE GETTING EASIER FOR YOU!
UH-OH. SOMETHING TELLS ME THIS ISN'T THE BEST TIME TO TELL AUNT MAY I'VE QUIT SCHOOL.
WHAT SAY WE ORDER, LADIES?

AND, AFTER THREE SERVINGS OF VEAL SCALOPPINE...
OKAY, THAT'S TWO MORE TEAS AND A SANKA. I'LL BE RIGHT BACK WITH THOSE AND YOUR DESSERT MENUS.

DO YOU HAVE TO BE GOING SOMEWHERE SOON, ANNA?
WHAT? OH,..NO, NOT REALLY. I MEAN, WE WERE THINKING OF SEEING A MOVIE LATER, BUT...
WELL, I'M GLAD WE HAD THIS CHANCE TO GET TOGETHER BEFORE YOU GO BACK TO FLORIDA. YOU KNOW, IT'S FUNNY...

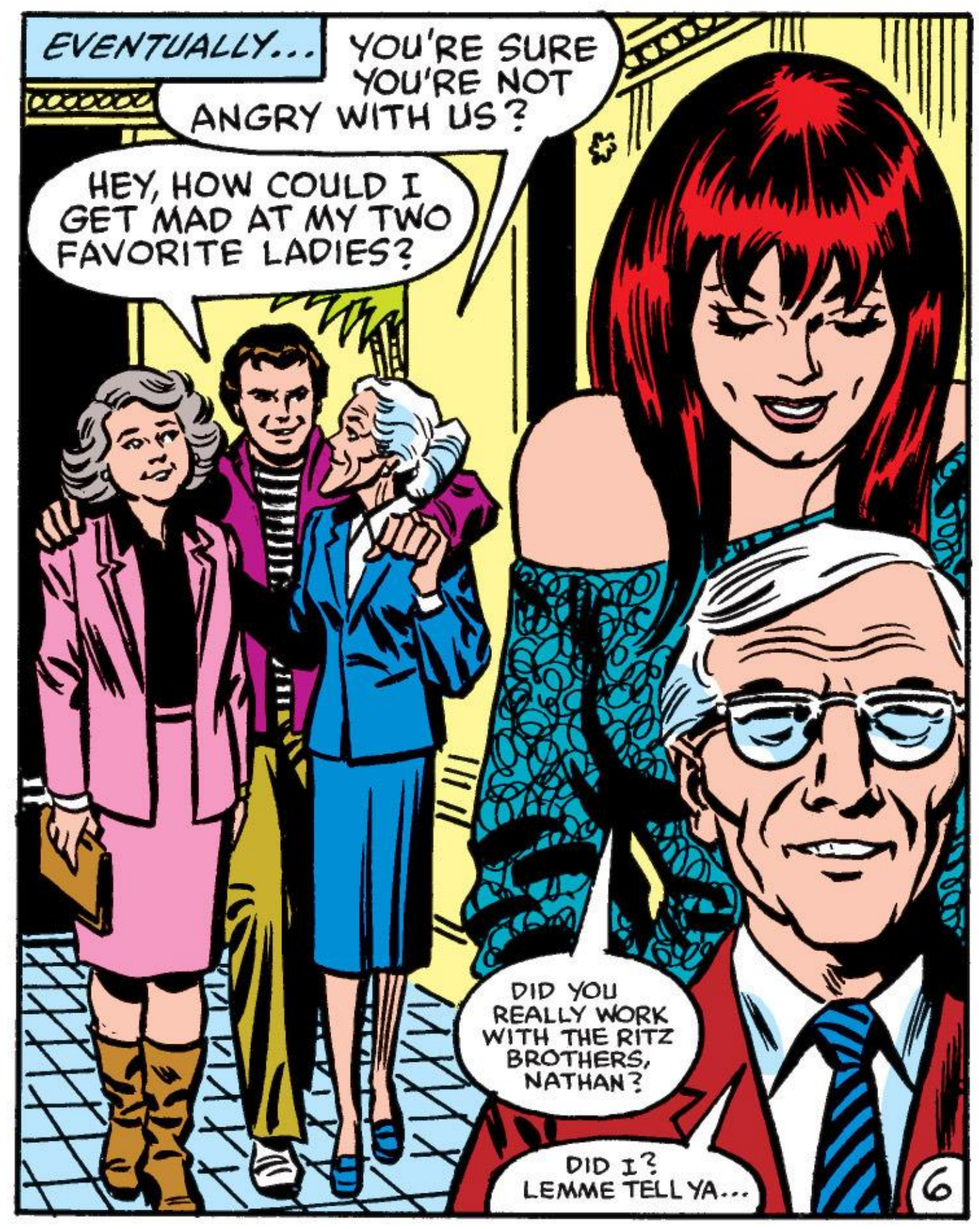
...EVER SINCE YOU AND MARY JANE CAME BACK TO THE CITY, EVERYONE I KNOW HAS BEEN TRYING TO SET THE TWO OF US UP.


IN FACT, YOU TWO MUST BE THE ONLY ONES WHO HAVEN'T TRIED TO PLAY MATCHMAKER!
UH...


HULLO, EVERYBODY!
ME AN' BIG RED HERE HAVE BEEN HAVIN' A GRAND OL' TIME! THOUGHT WE'D JOIN YOU FOR DESSERT AND MOVIES!
"BIG RED"? OH, NO...

WELL, WE MEET AGAIN! YOUR AUNT'S FRIEND NATHAN IS QUITE A CHARMER, TIGER.
UH... HI, MJ. YES, HE CERTAINLY IS!

WELL...AH... CHEESECAKE ANYONE?


EVENTUALLY...
YOU'RE SURE YOU'RE NOT ANGRY WITH US?
HEY, HOW COULD I GET MAD AT MY TWO FAVORITE LADIES?
DID YOU REALLY WORK WITH THE RITZ BROTHERS, NATHAN?
DID I? LEMME TELL YA...

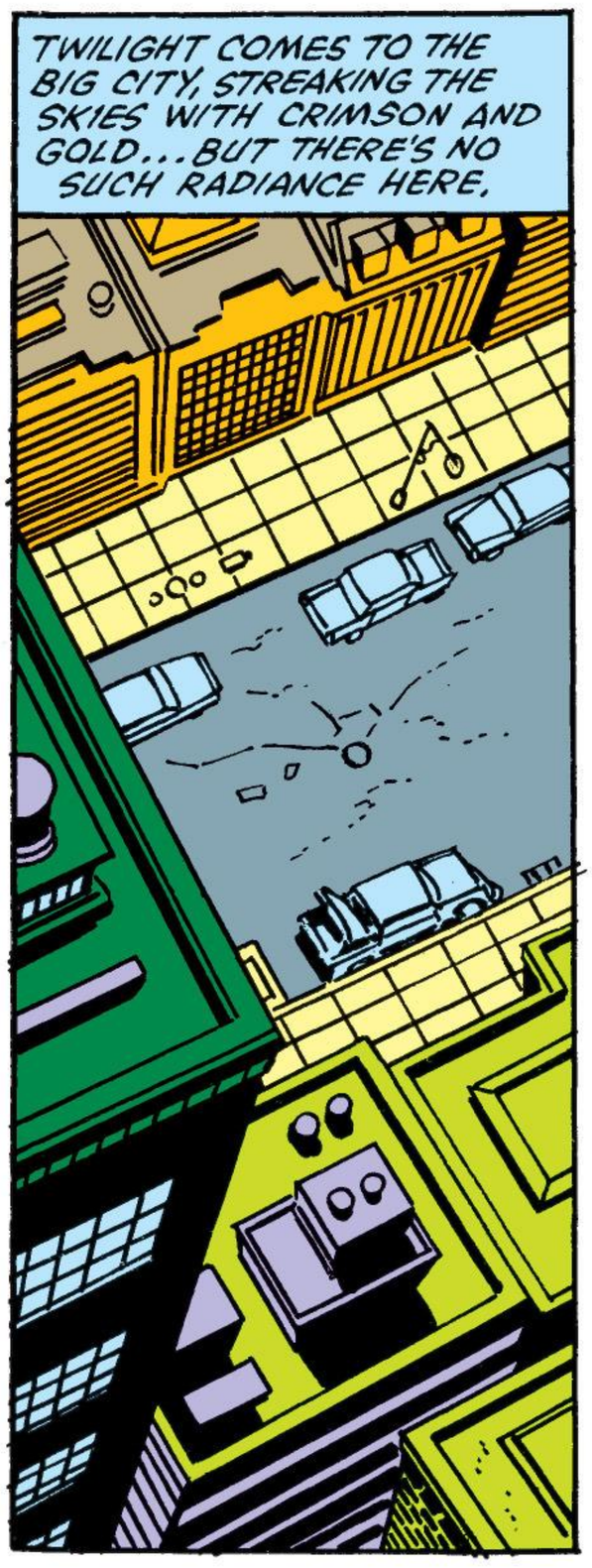
PUT YOUR PURSE AWAY, AUNT MAY. DINNER IS ON ME.
ARE YOU SURE--?
I CAN COVER IT. I'M A BIG BOY NOW!

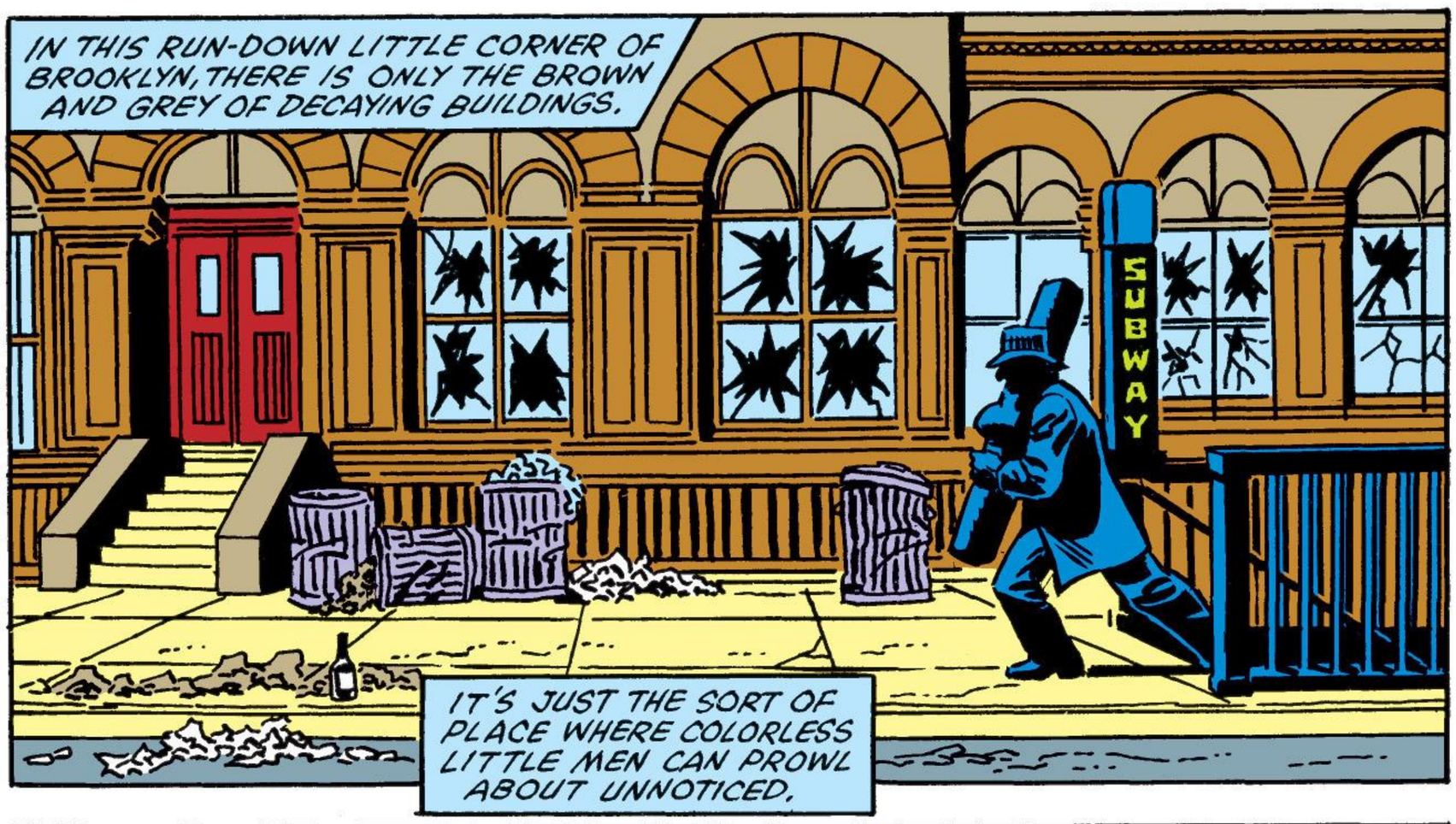
YES...YES, YOU ARE. I'M SORRY FOR WHAT ANNA AND I DID, BUT--
--WELL, I ALWAYS THOUGHT YOU AND MARY JANE WOULD MAKE A GOOD COUPLE.
YEAH, AND I COULD NEVER FIGURE THAT OUT. WE'RE NOTHING ALIKE--!

YOU HAVE MORE IN COMMON THAN YOU MIGHT THINK, PETER. YOU'VE BOTH LOST SO...SO VERY MUCH.
?!?

OUTSIDE...
ENJOY YOUR MOVIE, FOLKS!
SEE YOU AROUND, TIGER!

I'D LIKE TO HAVE ASKED AUNT MAY ABOUT WHAT SHE SAID BACK THERE... BUT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A LITTLE AWKWARD, ASKING RIGHT IN FRONT OF MARY JANE.
WHAT COULD SHE HAVE MEANT...THAT WE BOTH LOST SO MUCH?


TWILIGHT COMES TO THE BIG CITY, STREAKING THE SKIES WITH CRIMSON AND GOLD...BUT THERE'S NO SUCH RADIANCE HERE.

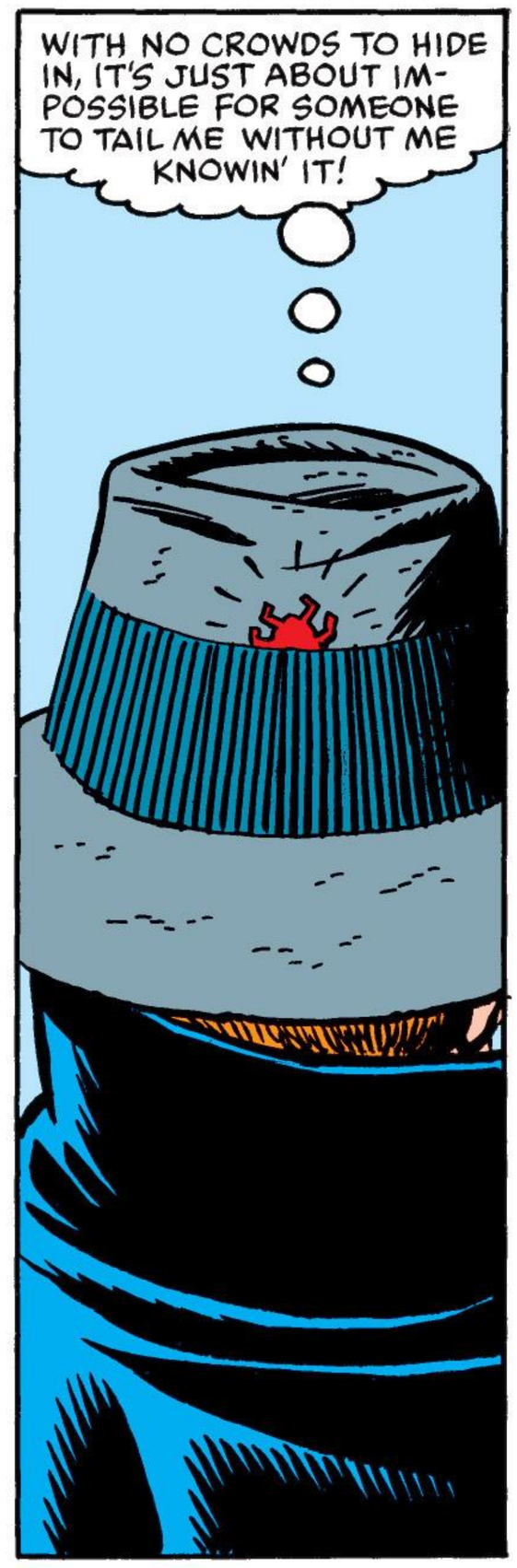

IN THIS RUN-DOWN LITTLE CORNER OF BROOKLYN, THERE IS ONLY THE BROWN AND GREY OF DECAYING BUILDINGS.
SUBWAY
IT'S JUST THE SORT OF PLACE WHERE COLORLESS LITTLE MEN CAN PROWL ABOUT UNNOTICED.

WON'T BE LONG NOW. ONCE I UN-LOAD THIS THING AND GET MY TEN-G'S, I THINK I'LL HEAD FOR A SAFER CLIMATE.
BETTER MAKE SURE NO ONE'S FOLLOWIN' ME. CAN'T AFFORD TO SCREW UP NOW!

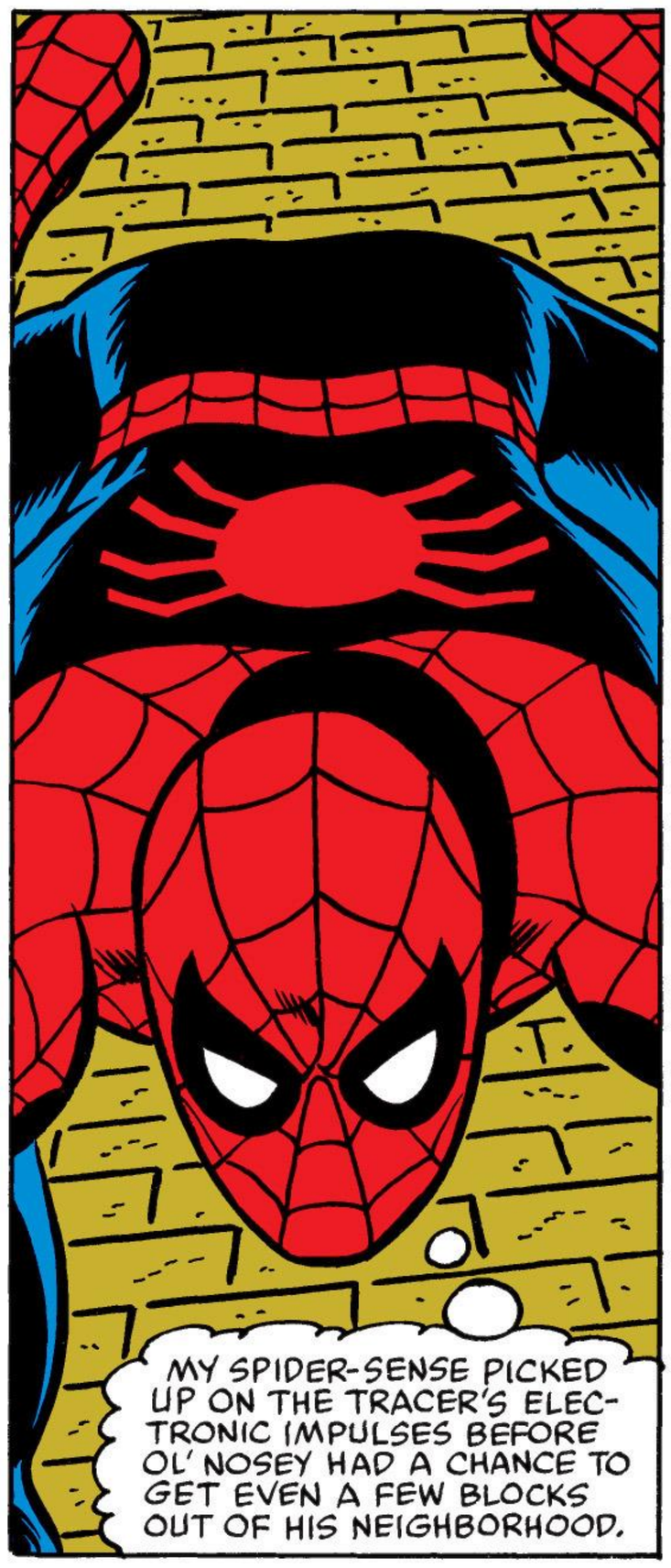
FURTIVELY, NOSE NORTON SLIPS FROM SHADOW TO SHADOW, ALLEY TO ALLEY--
--OFTEN GOING BLOCKS OUT OF HIS WAY AND DOUBLING BACK.

UNTIL, FINALLY...
NOT A SOUL IN SIGHT. GOOD.

'COURSE, IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD, IT'S NOT SURPRISIN'--NOTHIN' HERE BUT OLD WAREHOUSES AND BURNT-OUT BUILDINGS.
BUT THAT'S TO MY ADVANTAGE.


WITH NO CROWDS TO HIDE IN, IT'S JUST ABOUT IMPOSSIBLE FOR SOMEONE TO TAIL ME WITHOUT ME KNOWIN' IT!

I THOUGHT THAT NOSE MIGHT LEAD ME SOMEWHERE INTEREST-ING!
SLIPPING A SPIDER-TRACER INTO HIS HAT-BAND WAS DEFINITELY A GOOD MOVE.

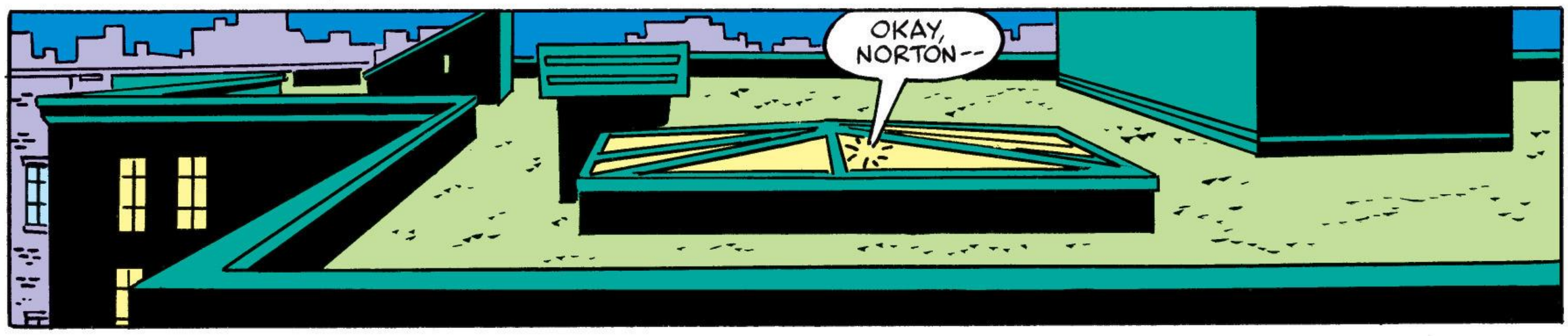

MY SPIDER-SENSE PICKED UP ON THE TRACER'S ELEC-TRONIC IMPULSES BEFORE OL' NOSEY HAD A CHANCE TO GET EVEN A FEW BLOCKS OUT OF HIS NEIGHBORHOOD.

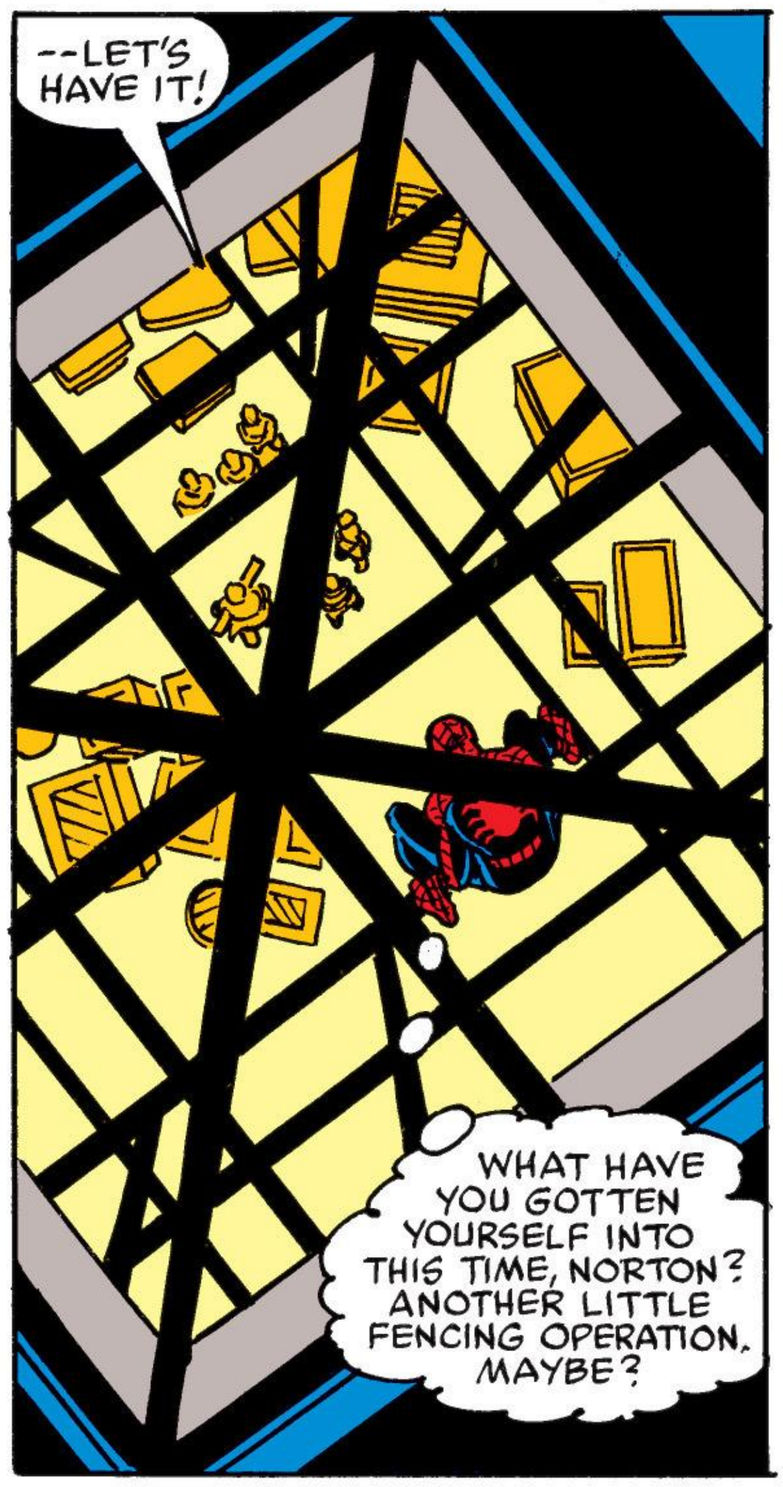
BUT, PREOCCUPIED AS HE IS IN CON-CENTRATING ON THE SIGNAL FROM HIS TRACER --
--SPIDER-MAN FAILS TO NOTICE ANOTHER FIGURE WHO PROWLS THE ROOF-TOPS THIS NIGHT!

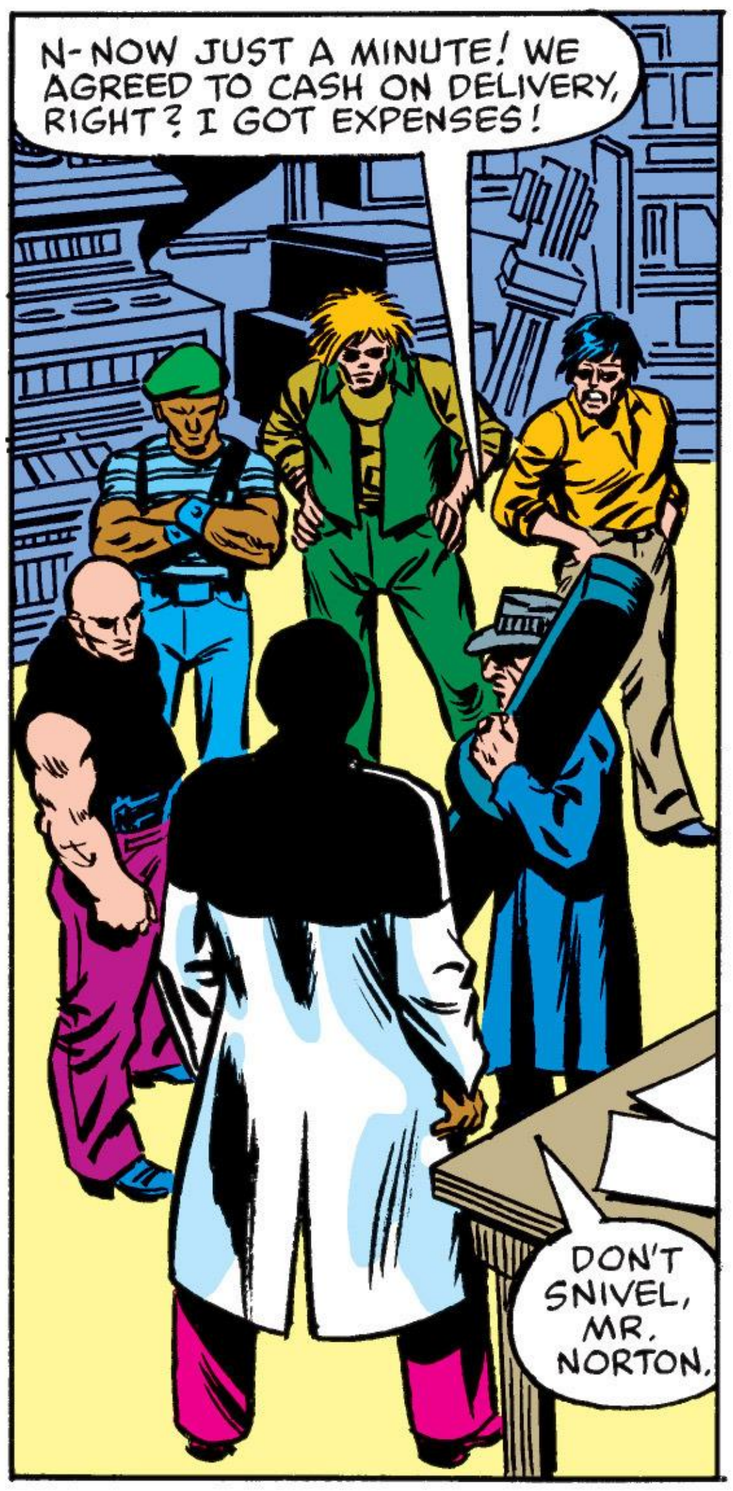
IT'S ME-- NORTON! OPEN UP!

YOU SURE YOU WEREN'T FOLLOWED?
WHAT DO YOU THINK I AM, A JERK?
SHUT UP AN' GET INSIDE!

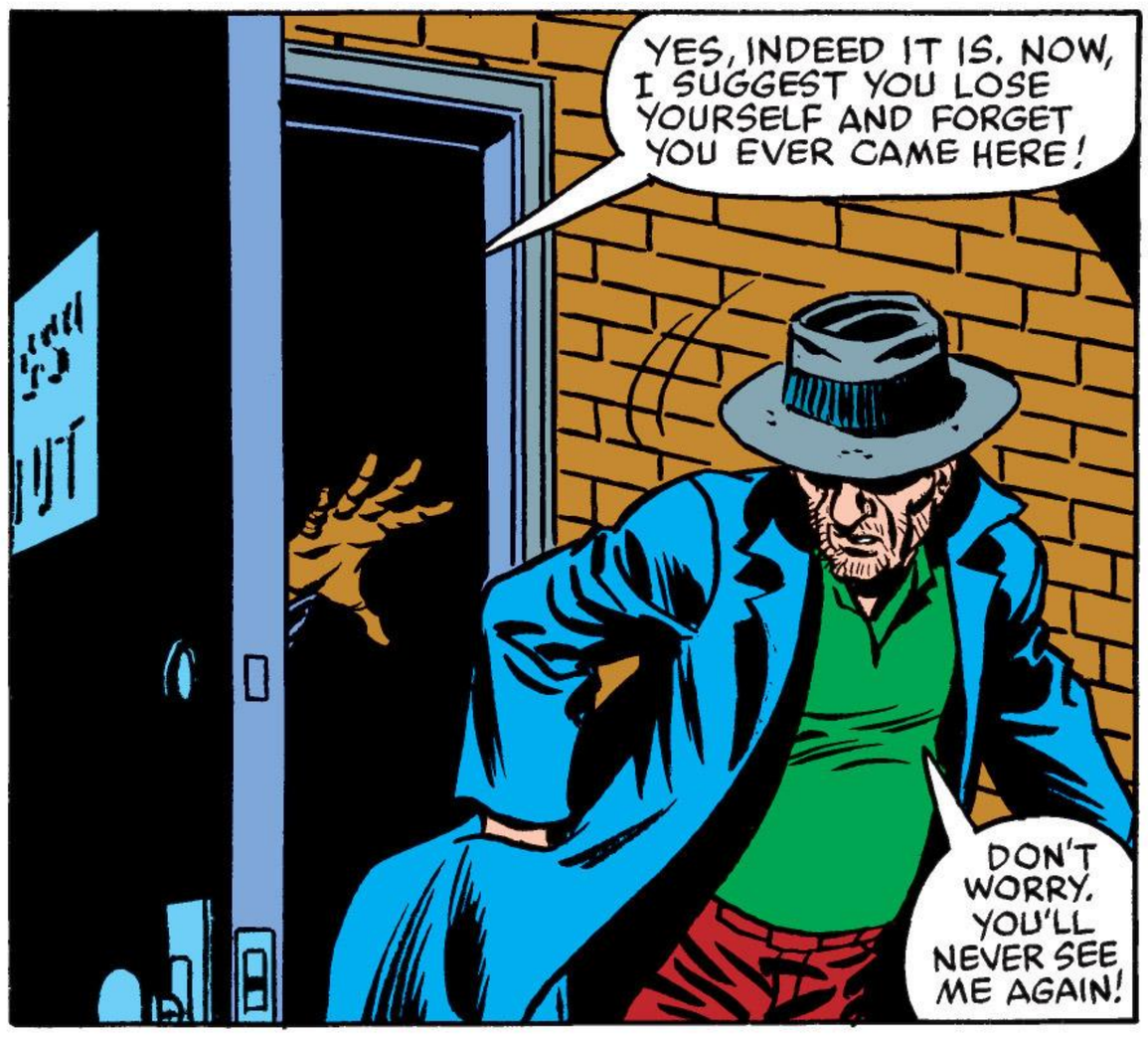
SLAM

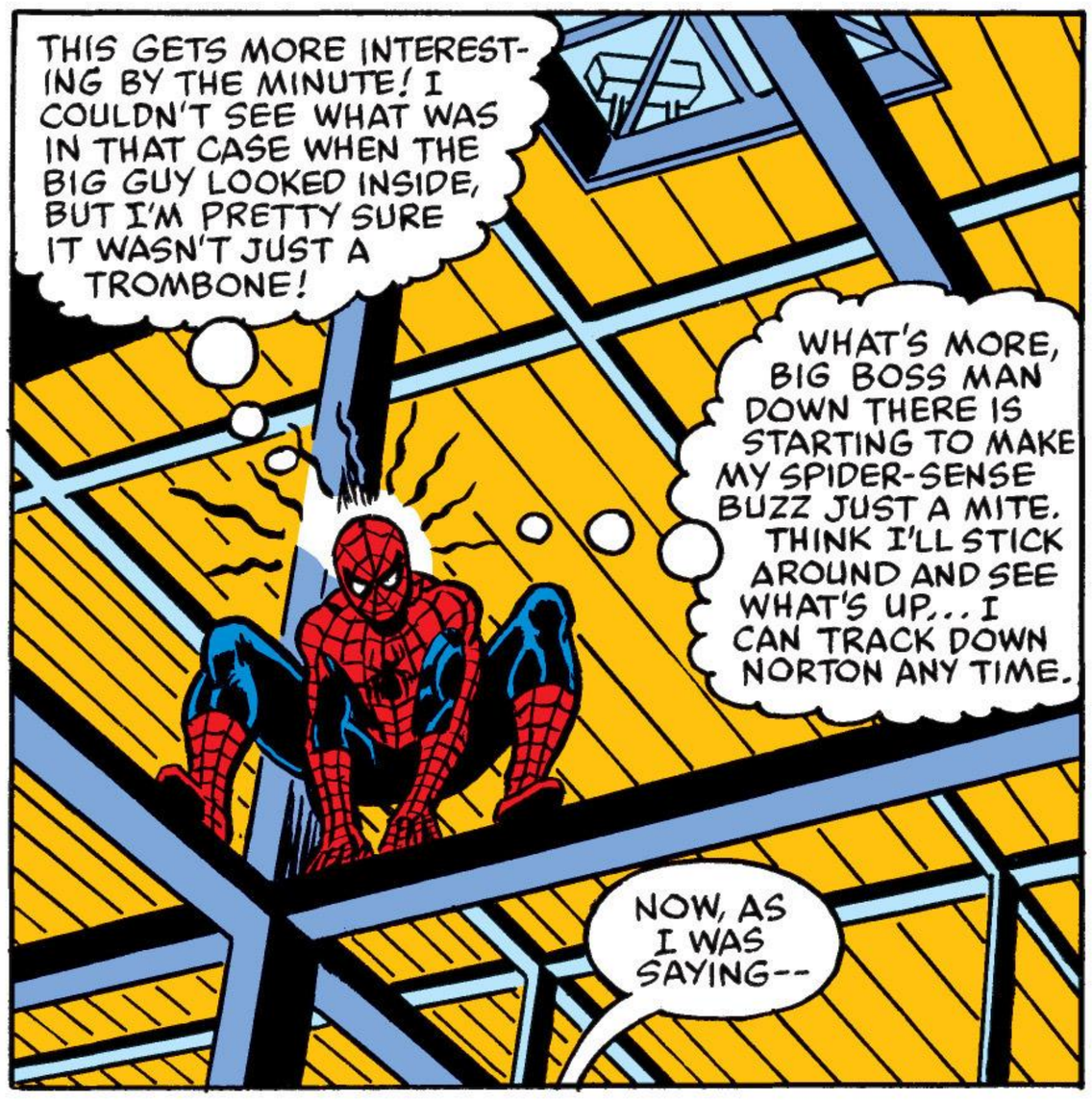

OKAY, NORTON--


--LET'S HAVE IT!
WHAT HAVE YOU GOTTEN YOURSELF INTO THIS TIME, NORTON? ANOTHER LITTLE FENCING OPERATION, MAYBE?

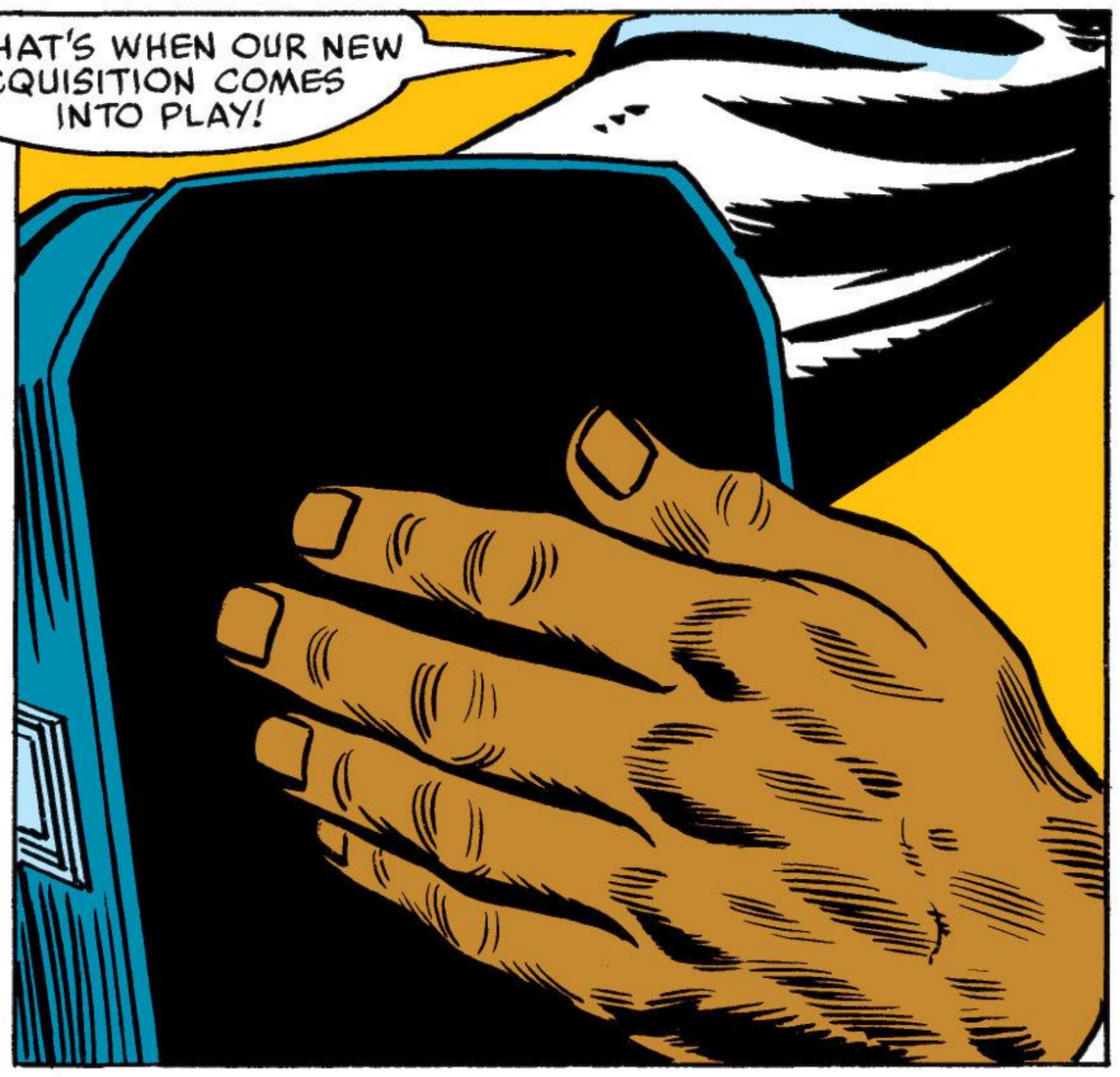

N-NOW JUST A MINUTE! WE AGREED TO CASH ON DELIVERY, RIGHT? I GOT EXPENSES!
DON'T SNIVEL, MR. NORTON.

I AM QUITE PREPARED TO PAY IN FULL FOR WHATEVER EQUIPMENT I NEED.
IN THAT CASE, PAL, THIS BABY IS ALL YOURS!

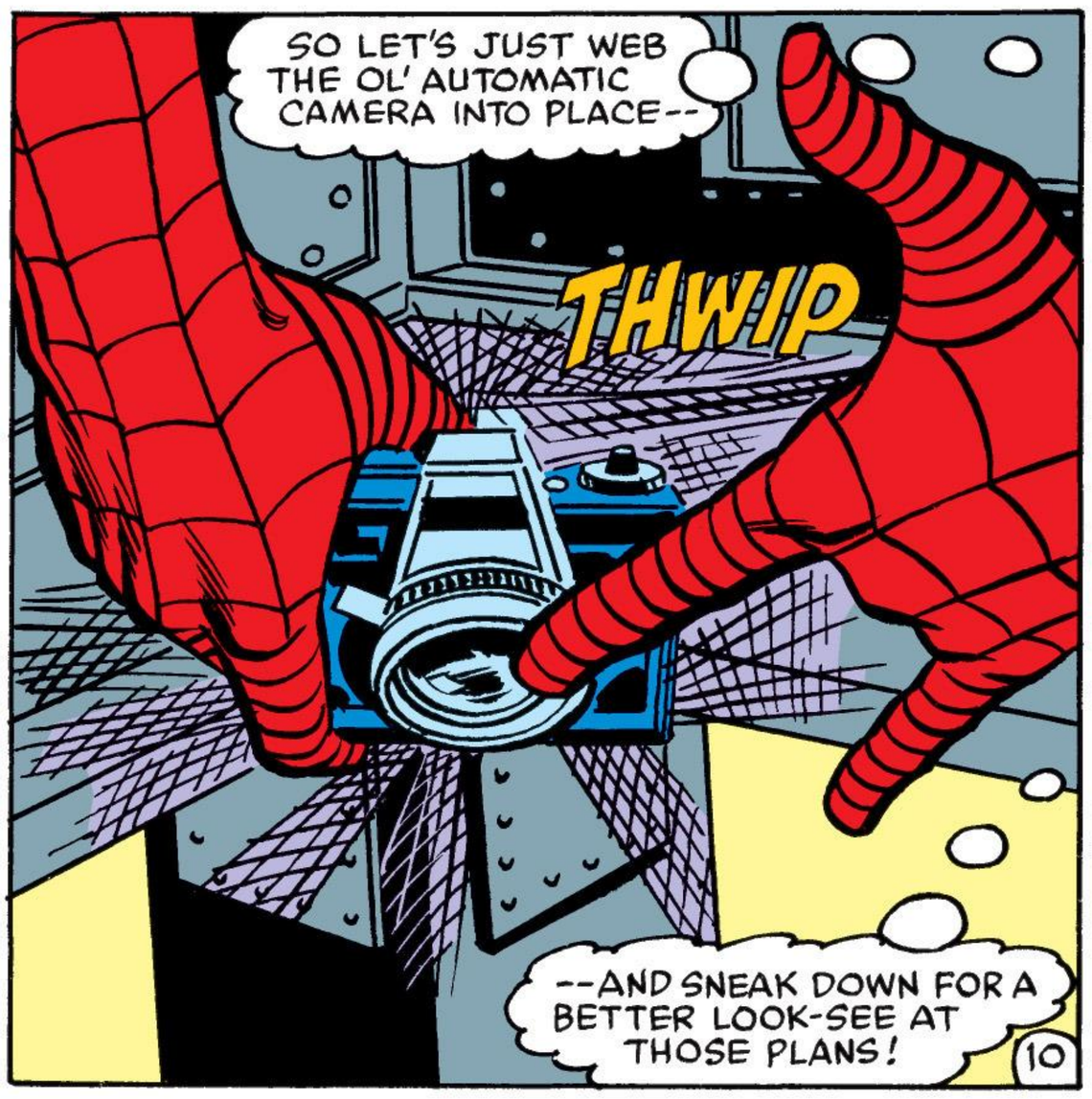

YES, INDEED IT IS. NOW, I SUGGEST YOU LOSE YOURSELF AND FORGET YOU EVER CAME HERE!
DON'T WORRY. YOU'LL NEVER SEE ME AGAIN!


THIS GETS MORE INTERESTING BY THE MINUTE! I COULDN'T SEE WHAT WAS IN THAT CASE WHEN THE BIG GUY LOOKED INSIDE, BUT I'M PRETTY SURE IT WASN'T JUST A TROMBONE!
WHAT'S MORE, BIG BOSS MAN DOWN THERE IS STARTING TO MAKE MY SPIDER-SENSE BUZZ JUST A MITE. THINK I'LL STICK AROUND AND SEE WHAT'S UP... I CAN TRACK DOWN NORTON ANY TIME.
NOW, AS I WAS SAYING--

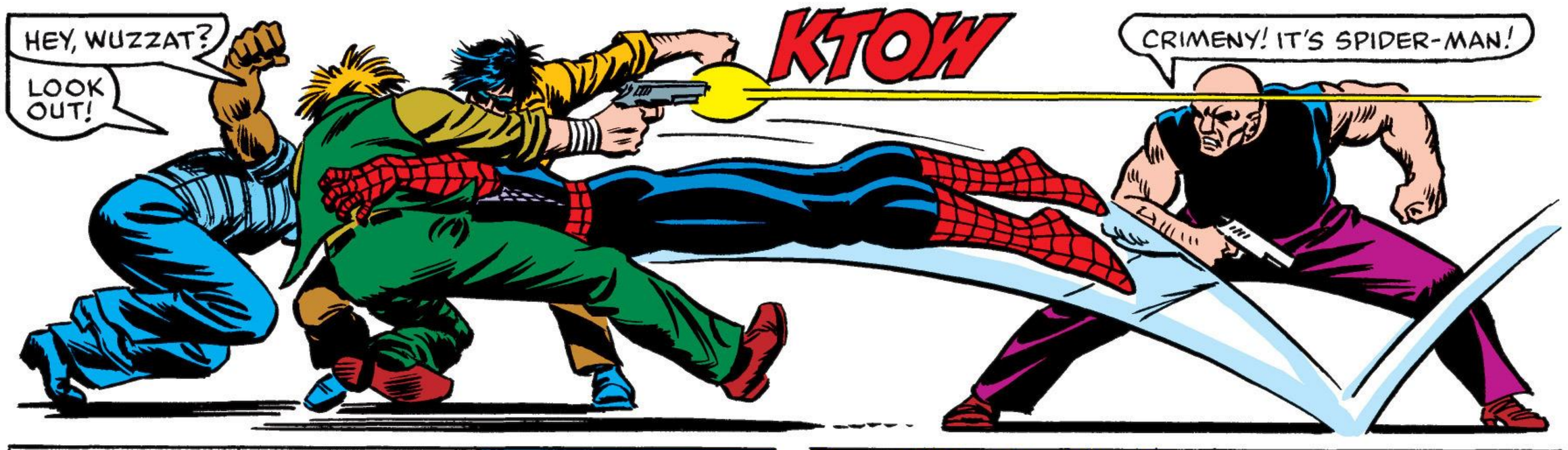
--THE ARMORED CAR WILL PASS THIS POINT AT APPROXIMATELY 3:30.


THAT'S WHEN OUR NEW ACQUISITION COMES INTO PLAY!

MY, MY! SOUNDS LIKE A HEIST IN THE MAKING!
IF THIS WON'T PRODUCE SOME NEWSWORTHY PHOTOS FOR PETER PARKER, I DON'T KNOW WHAT WILL!


SO LET'S JUST WEB THE OL' AUTOMATIC CAMERA INTO PLACE--
THWIP
--AND SNEAK DOWN FOR A BETTER LOOK-SEE AT THOSE PLANS!

BUT EVEN AS SPIDER-MAN SETS UP HIS CAMERA--
--ON THE ROOFTOP ABOVE, A MERCURY-VAPOR SECURITY LIGHT AUTOMATICALLY CLICKS ON WITH THE COMING OF SUNDOWN.
THE RESULT IS UNFORTUNATELY ILLUMINATING!
UH-OH!
WHAT THE--?! THERE'S SOMEBODY UP IN THE RAFTERS!
NO ONE MUST FIND OUT ABOUT OUR OPERATION! BRING HIM DOWN!
YOU'RE THE BOSS, DOC!
KTOW
YEAH! NOBODY'S GONNA QUESTION A LITTLE NOISE IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD!
OH! SO THAT'S THE WAY IT'S GOING TO BE, IS IT?


HEY, WUZZAT?
LOOK OUT!
KTOW
CRIMENY! IT'S SPIDER-MAN!

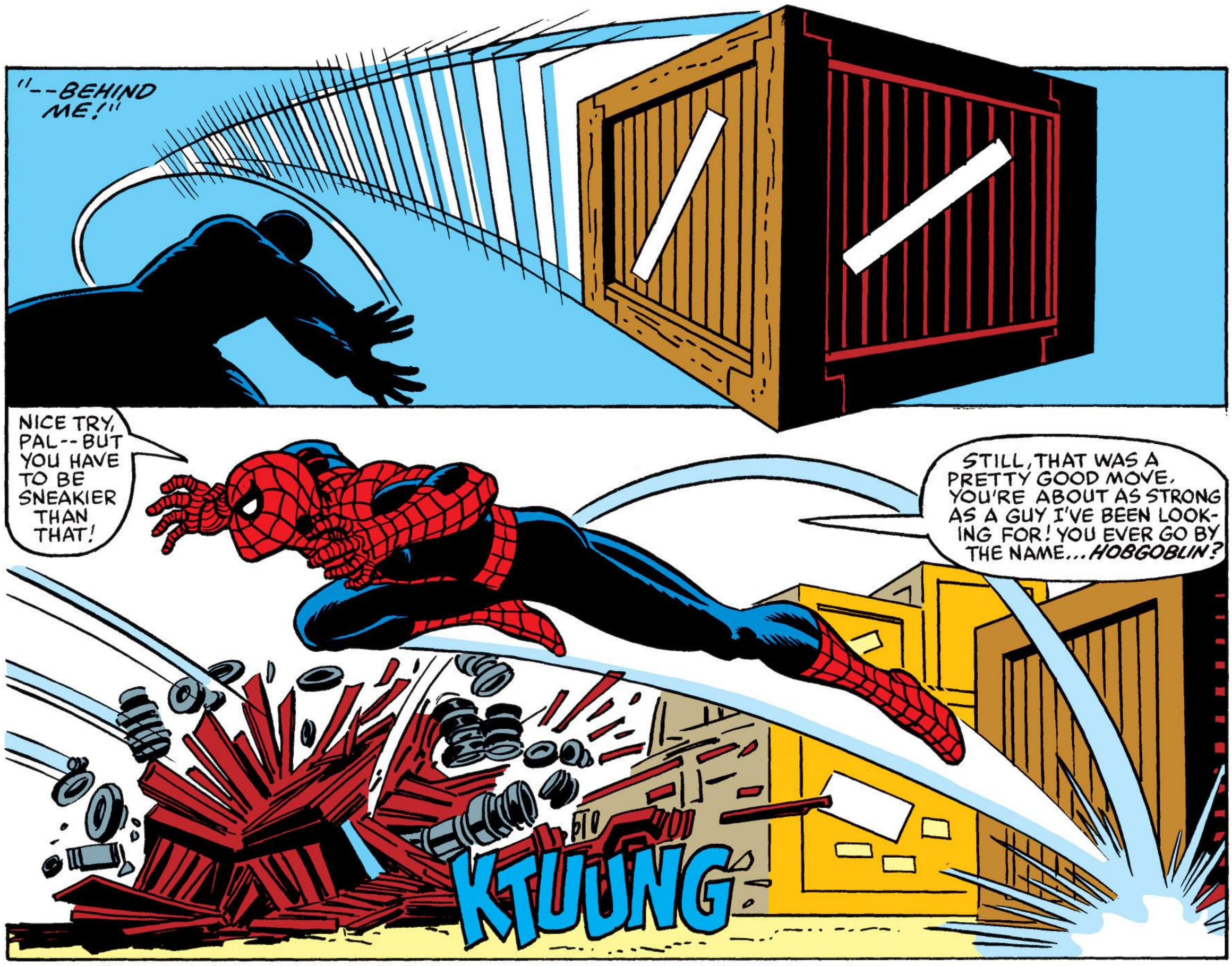
RIGHT THE FIRST TIME, KIDDIES! HEY, WHY THE BIG STRUGGLE?

I MEAN, YOU WANTED ME TO COME DOWN, DIDN'T YOU?
WELL, HERE I AM!
KLUNK

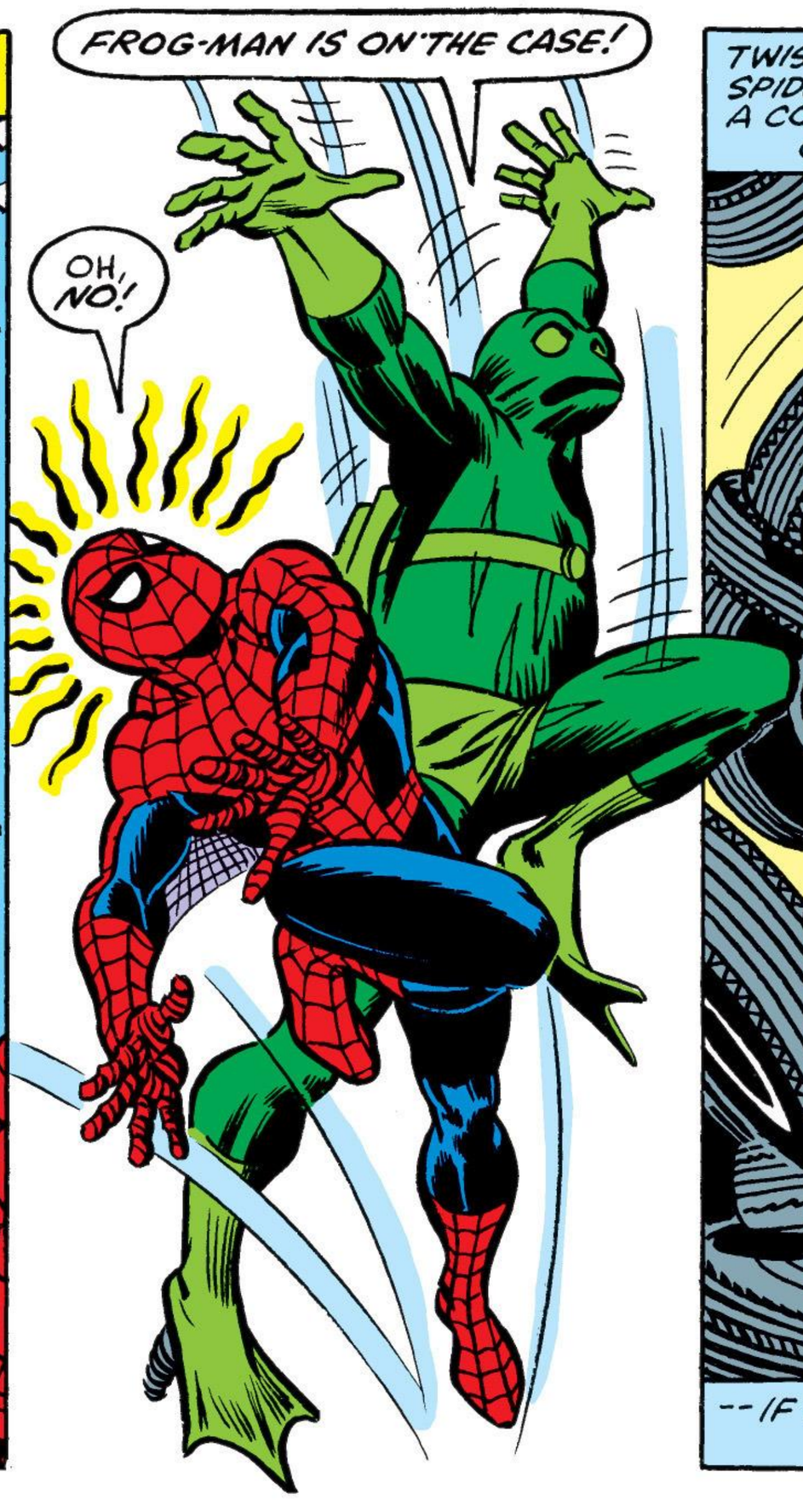
OKAY, THAT'S TWO DOWN.
AND FROM THAT LI'L TINGLE IN MY NOGGIN, I'D SAY THE OTHER TWO--

WUNK
--ARE RIGHT ABOUT THERE!
WUDD

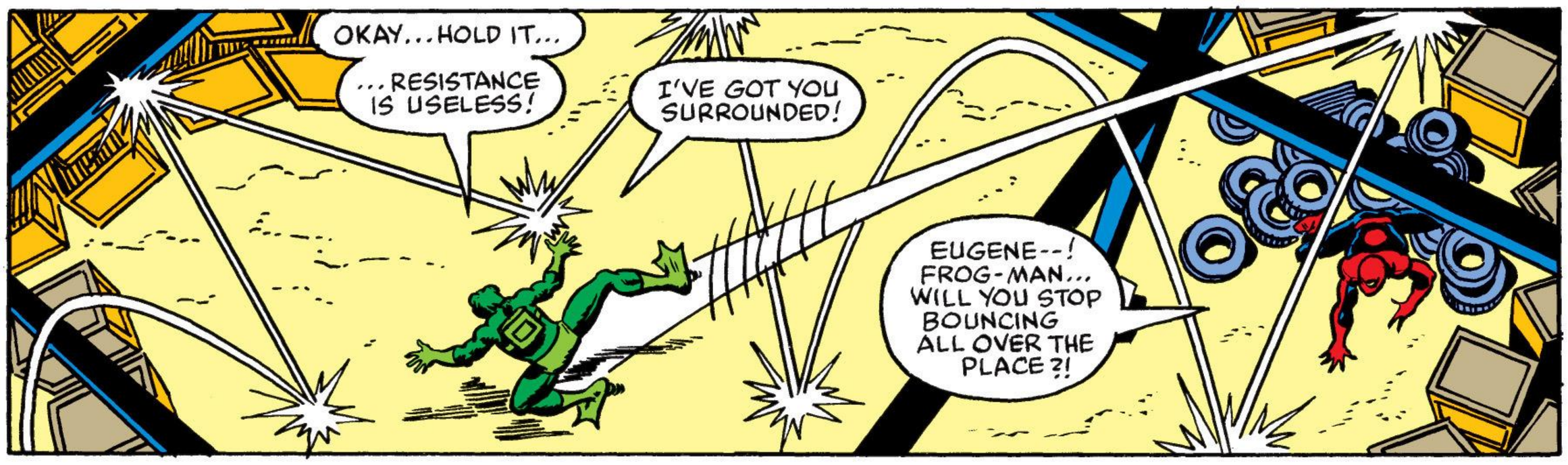
NOW THE ONLY ONE LEFT TO DEAL WITH IS THEIR BOSS... THE FELLA WHO GAVE ME THE BUZZ IN THE FIRST PLACE.
YEAH... THERE'S HIS TINGLE! FEELS LIKE HE'S UP TO SOMETHING--


"--BEHIND ME!"
NICE TRY, PAL--BUT YOU HAVE TO BE SNEAKIER THAN THAT!
STILL, THAT WAS A PRETTY GOOD MOVE. YOU'RE ABOUT AS STRONG AS A GUY I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR! YOU EVER GO BY THE NAME...HOBGOBLIN?
KTUUNG

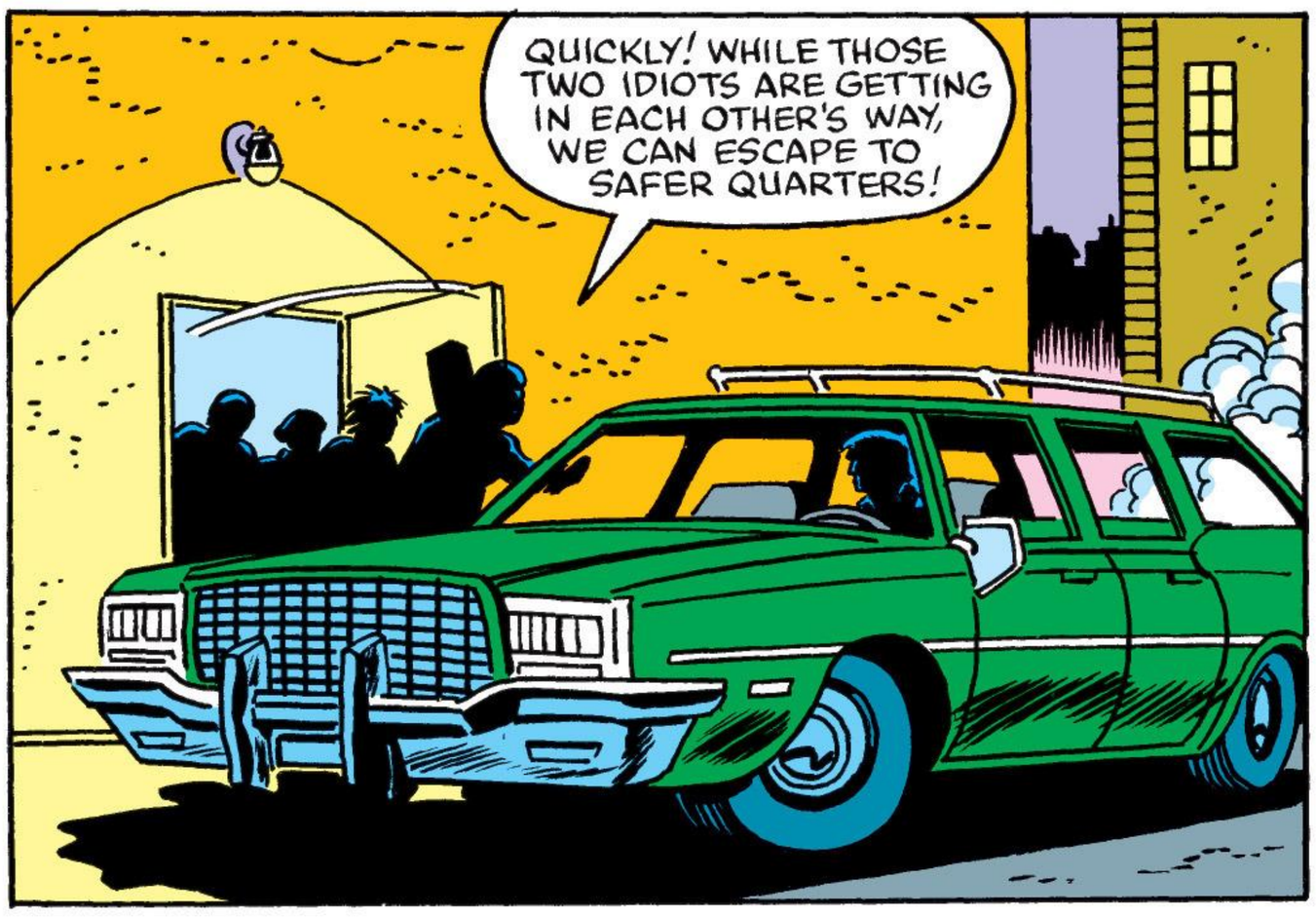
BUT BEFORE SPIDER-MAN CAN CHECK OUT HIS SUSPICIONS...
KRESH
EVERY-BODY FREEZE!
?!?

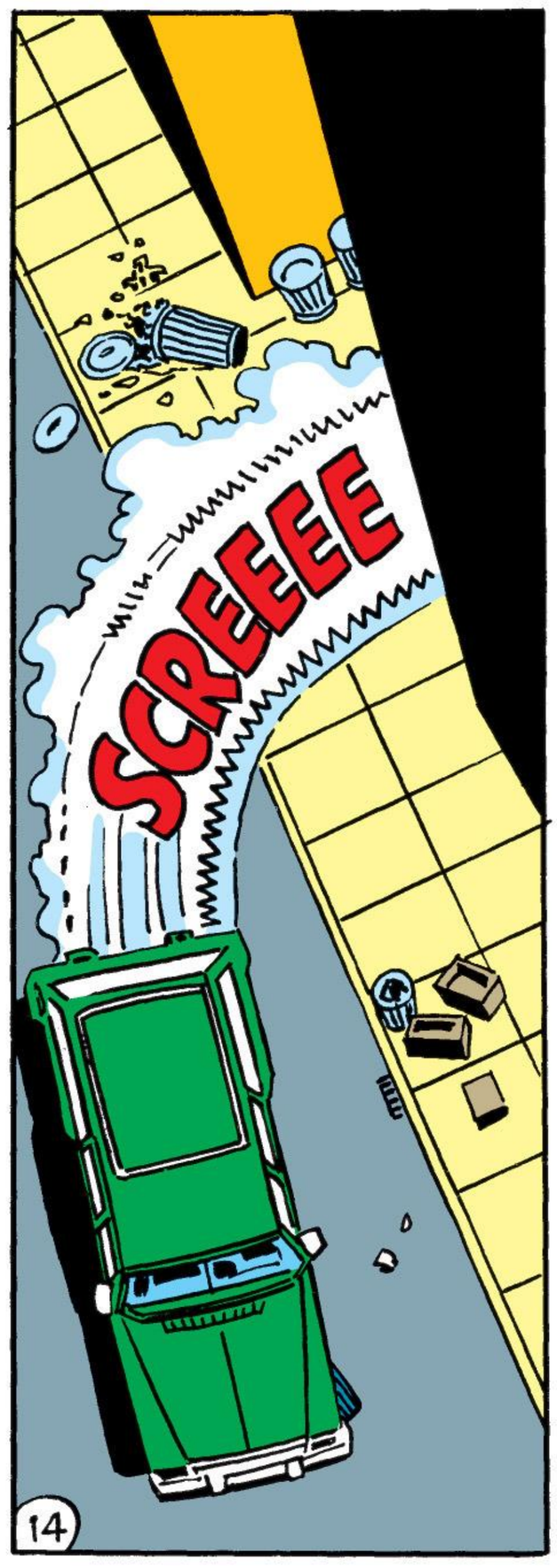

FROG-MAN IS ON THE CASE!
OH, NO!

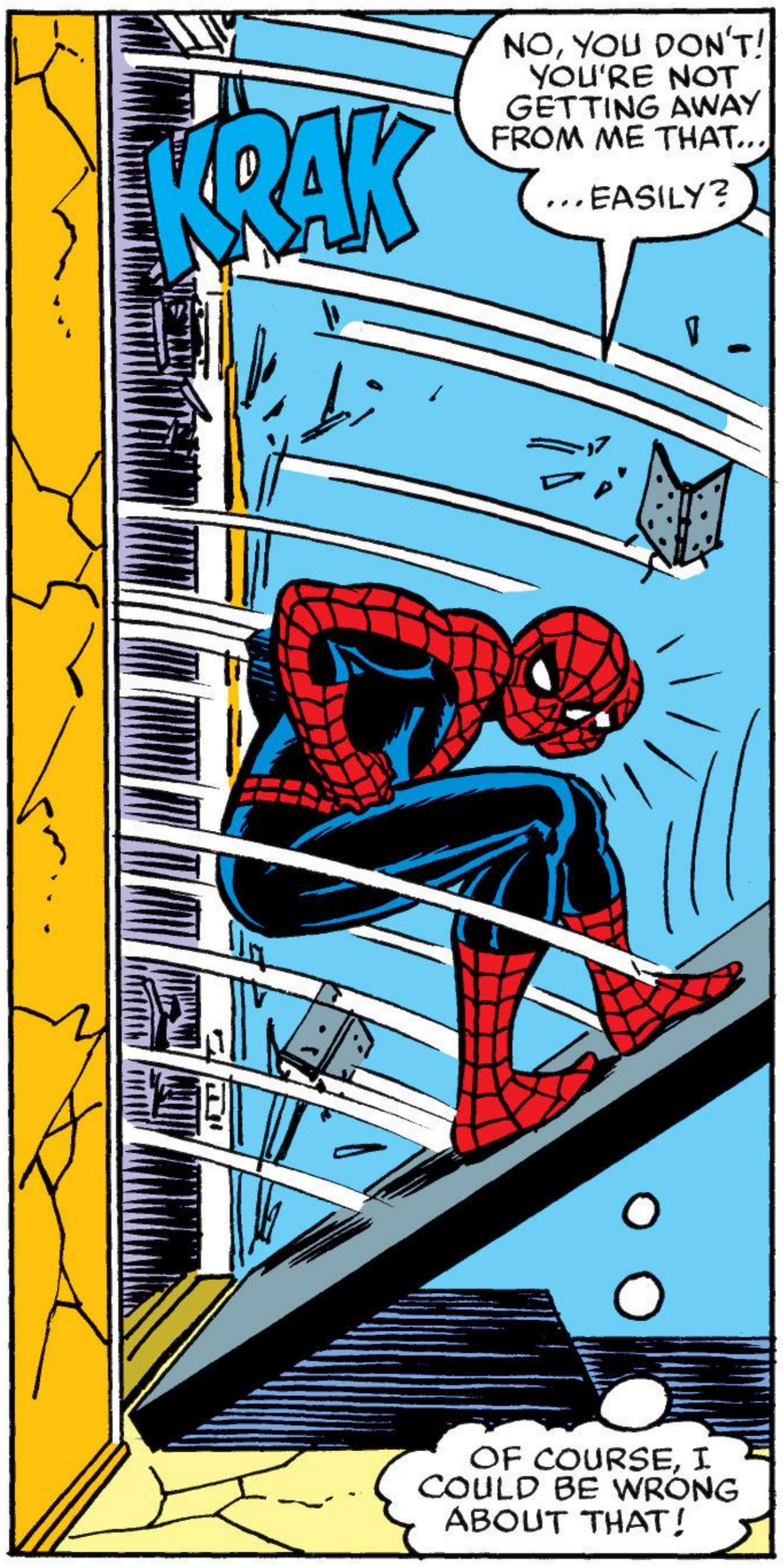
TWISTING ABOUT IN MID-AIR, SPIDER-MAN MANAGES TO AVOID A COLLISION WITH THE HURTLING GREEN-CLAD FIGURE--
--IF NOT WITH A STACK OF STEEL-BELTED RADIALS!

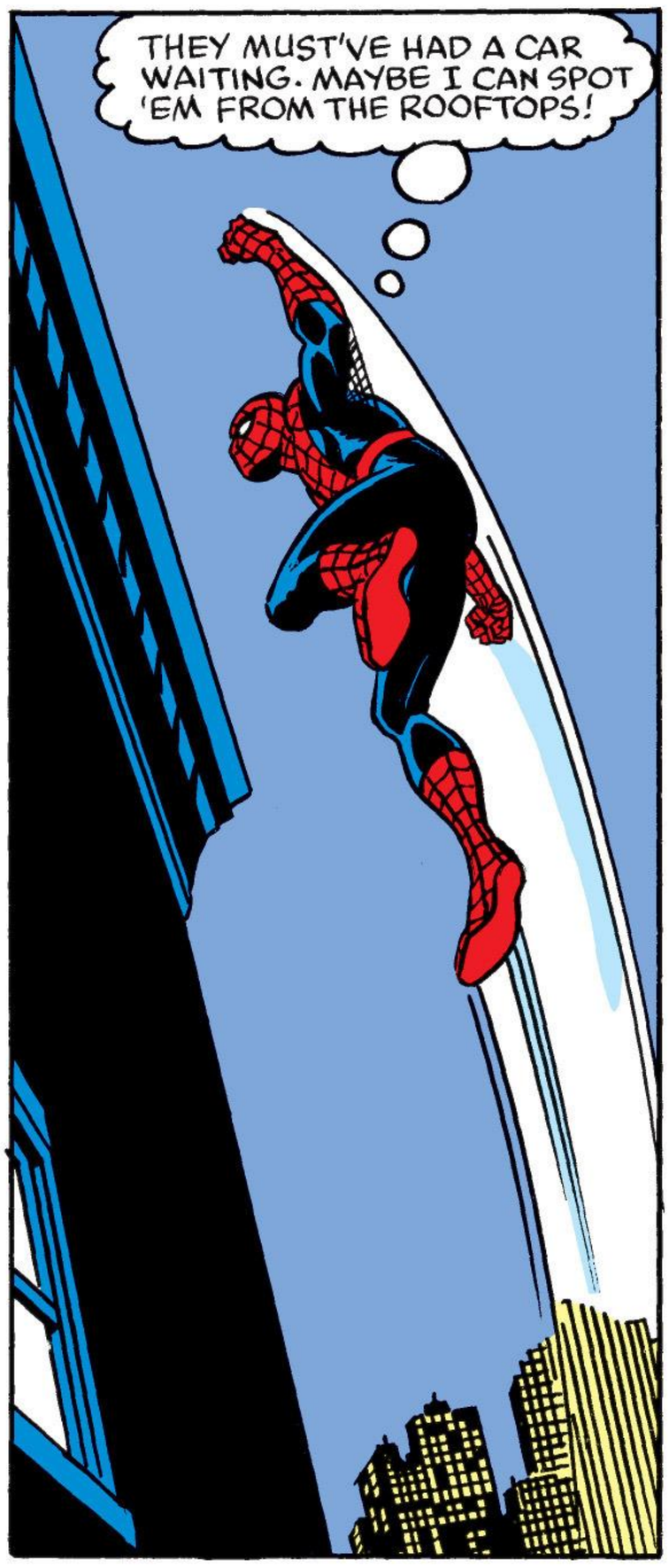

OKAY...HOLD IT...
...RESISTANCE IS USELESS!
I'VE GOT YOU SURROUNDED!
EUGENE--! FROG-MAN... WILL YOU STOP BOUNCING ALL OVER THE PLACE?!

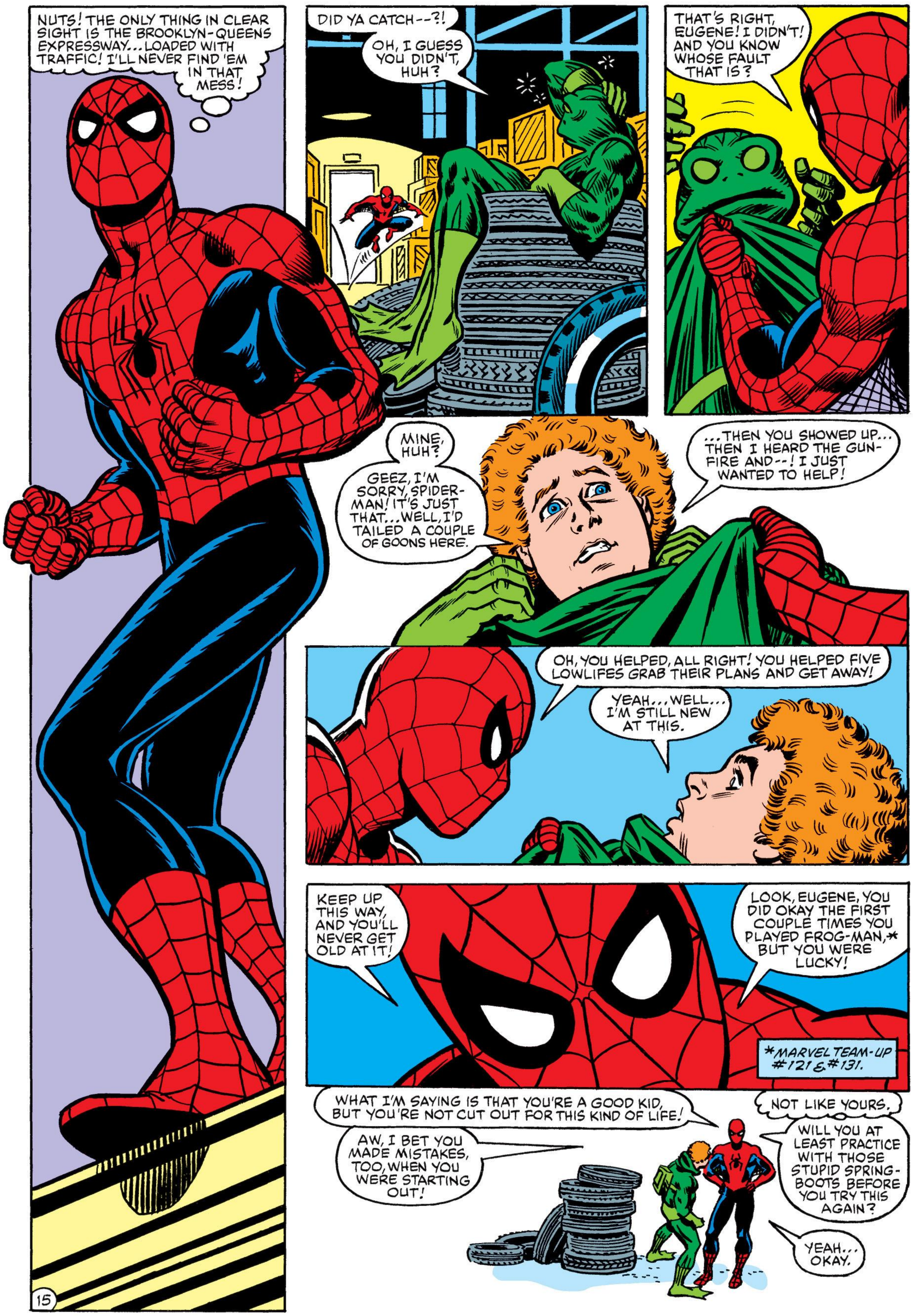
I...I'D LOVE TO... REALLY!
B-B-BUT I CAN'T!
GREAT!

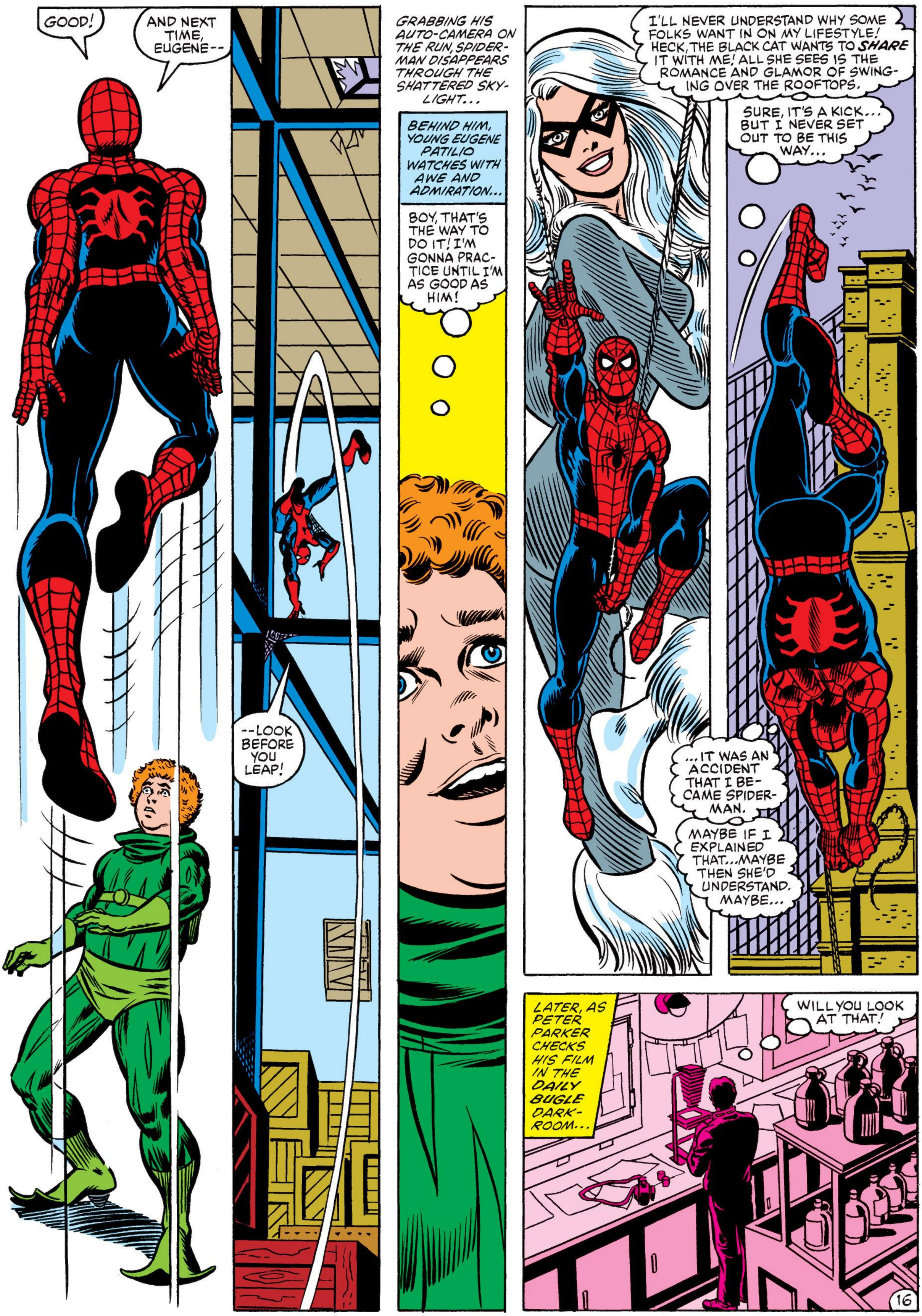

QUICKLY! WHILE THOSE TWO IDIOTS ARE GETTING IN EACH OTHER'S WAY, WE CAN ESCAPE TO SAFER QUARTERS!


SCREEEE


KRAK
NO, YOU DON'T! YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY FROM ME THAT...
...EASILY?
OF COURSE, I COULD BE WRONG ABOUT THAT!


THEY MUST'VE HAD A CAR WAITING. MAYBE I CAN SPOT 'EM FROM THE ROOFTOPS!

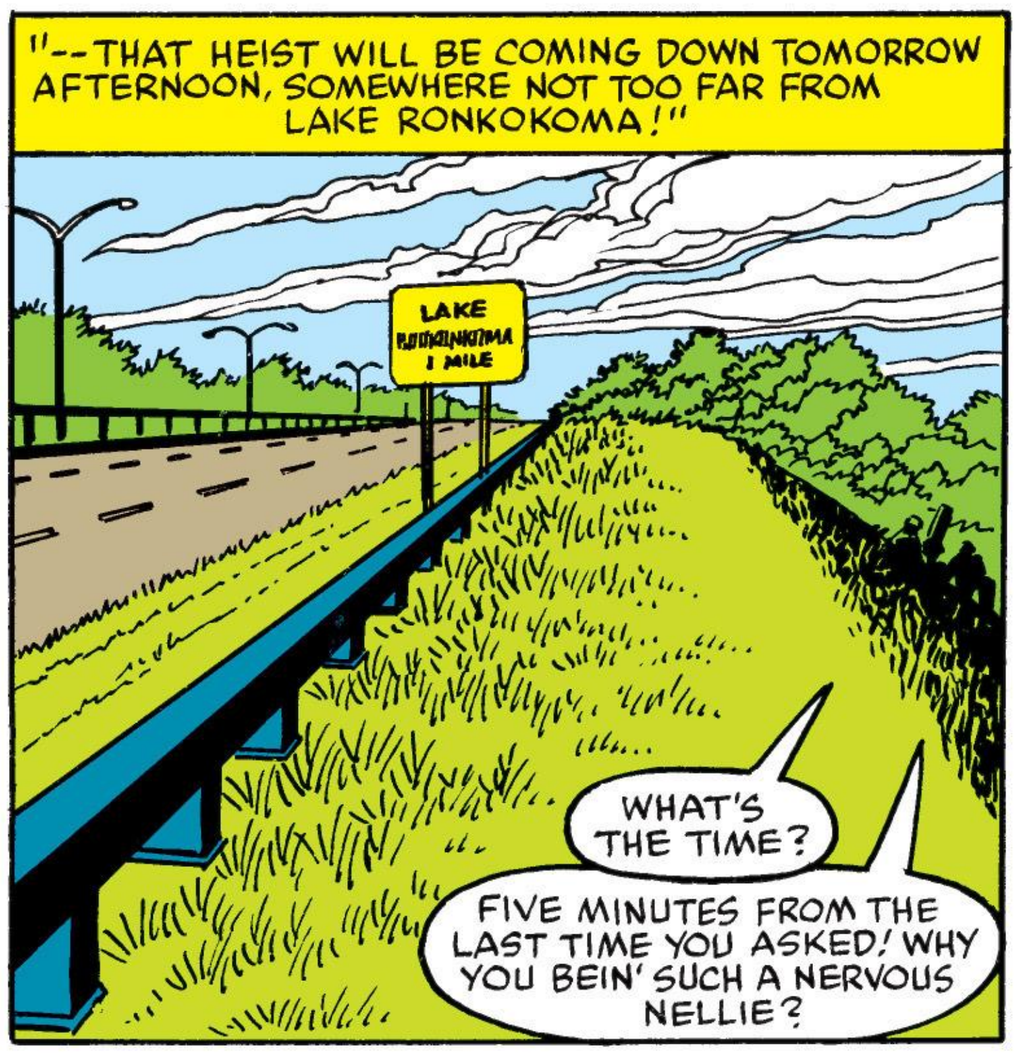

NUTS! THE ONLY THING IN CLEAR SIGHT IS THE BROOKLYN-QUEENS EXPRESSWAY...LOADED WITH TRAFFIC! I'LL NEVER FIND 'EM IN THAT MESS!
DID YA CATCH--?!
OH, I GUESS YOU DIDN'T, HUH?
THAT'S RIGHT, EUGENE! I DIDN'T! AND YOU KNOW WHOSE FAULT THAT IS?
MINE, HUH?
GEEZ, I'M SORRY, SPIDER-MAN! IT'S JUST THAT...WELL, I'D TAILED A COUPLE OF GOONS HERE.
...THEN YOU SHOWED UP... THEN I HEARD THE GUN-FIRE AND--! I JUST WANTED TO HELP!
OH, YOU HELPED, ALL RIGHT! YOU HELPED FIVE LOWLIFES GRAB THEIR PLANS AND GET AWAY!
YEAH...WELL... I'M STILL NEW AT THIS.
KEEP UP THIS WAY, AND YOU'LL NEVER GET OLD AT IT!
LOOK, EUGENE, YOU DID OKAY THE FIRST COUPLE TIMES YOU PLAYED FROG-MAN,* BUT YOU WERE LUCKY!
*MARVEL TEAM-UP #121 & #131.
WHAT I'M SAYING IS THAT YOU'RE A GOOD KID, BUT YOU'RE NOT CUT OUT FOR THIS KIND OF LIFE!
NOT LIKE YOURS.
AW, I BET YOU MADE MISTAKES, TOO, WHEN YOU WERE STARTING OUT!
WILL YOU AT LEAST PRACTICE WITH THOSE STUPID SPRING-BOOTS BEFORE YOU TRY THIS AGAIN?
YEAH... OKAY.


GOOD!
AND NEXT TIME, EUGENE--
--LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP!
GRABBING HIS AUTO-CAMERA ON THE RUN, SPIDER-MAN DISAPPEARS THROUGH THE SHATTERED SKY-LIGHT...
BEHIND HIM, YOUNG EUGENE PATILIO WATCHES WITH AWE AND ADMIRATION...
BOY, THAT'S THE WAY TO DO IT! I'M GONNA PRAC-TICE UNTIL I'M AS GOOD AS HIM!
I'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND WHY SOME FOLKS WANT IN ON MY LIFESTYLE! HECK, THE BLACK CAT WANTS TO SHARE IT WITH ME! ALL SHE SEES IS THE ROMANCE AND GLAMOR OF SWING-ING OVER THE ROOFTOPS.
SURE, IT'S A KICK... BUT I NEVER SET OUT TO BE THIS WAY...
...IT WAS AN ACCIDENT THAT I BE-CAME SPIDER-MAN.
MAYBE IF I EXPLAINED THAT...MAYBE THEN SHE'D UNDERSTAND. MAYBE...
LATER, AS PETER PARKER CHECKS HIS FILM IN THE DAILY BUGLE DARK-ROOM...
WILL YOU LOOK AT THAT!

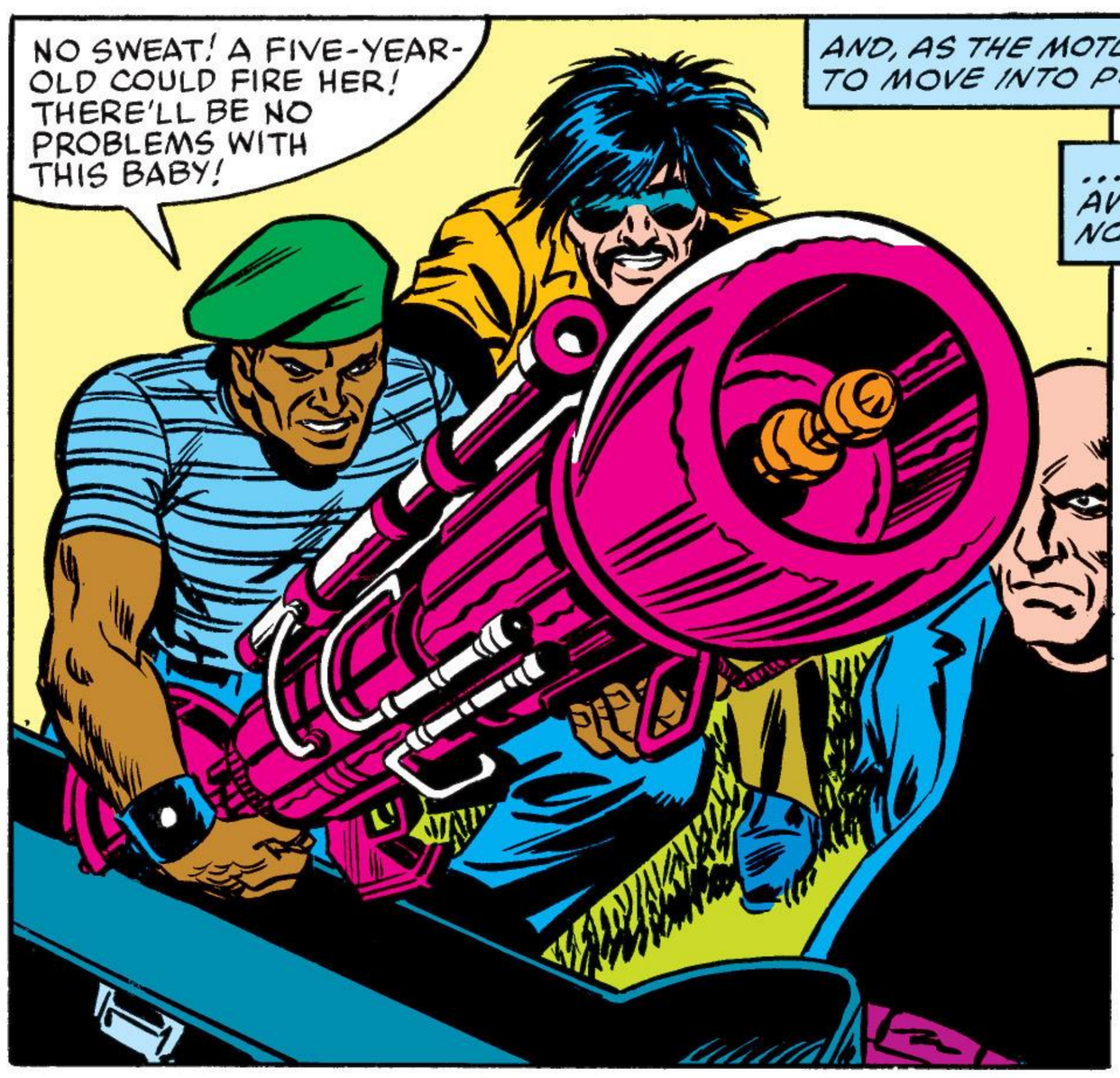
MOST OF THESE PIX ARE PURE MUD, THEY'RE SO DARK. BUT THIS ONE DEFINITELY LOOKS WORTH ENLARGING!

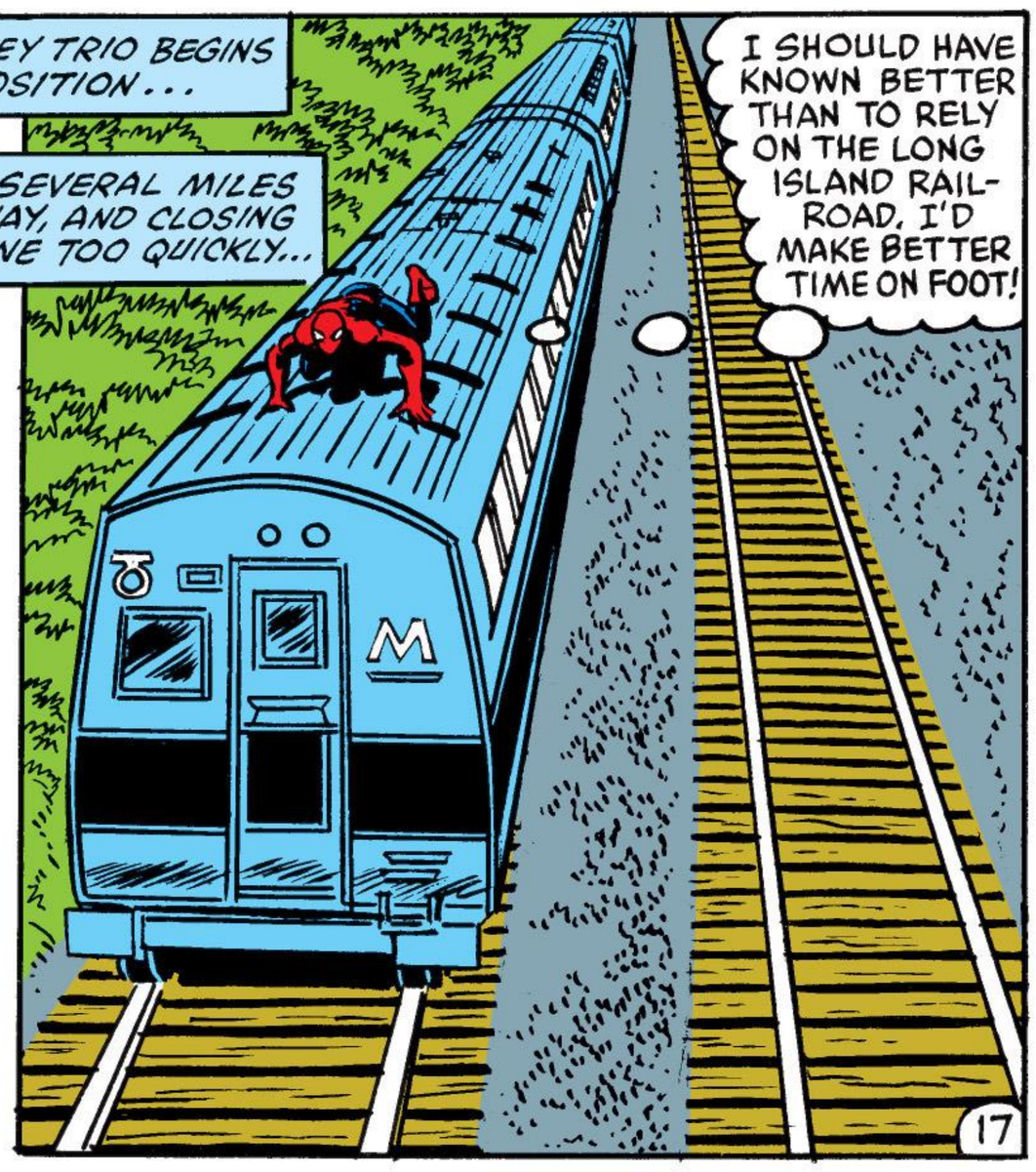
AND, WITHIN MINUTES...
HAH! IF THAT'S NOT A MAP OF LONG ISLAND, I'LL EAT MY MASK!

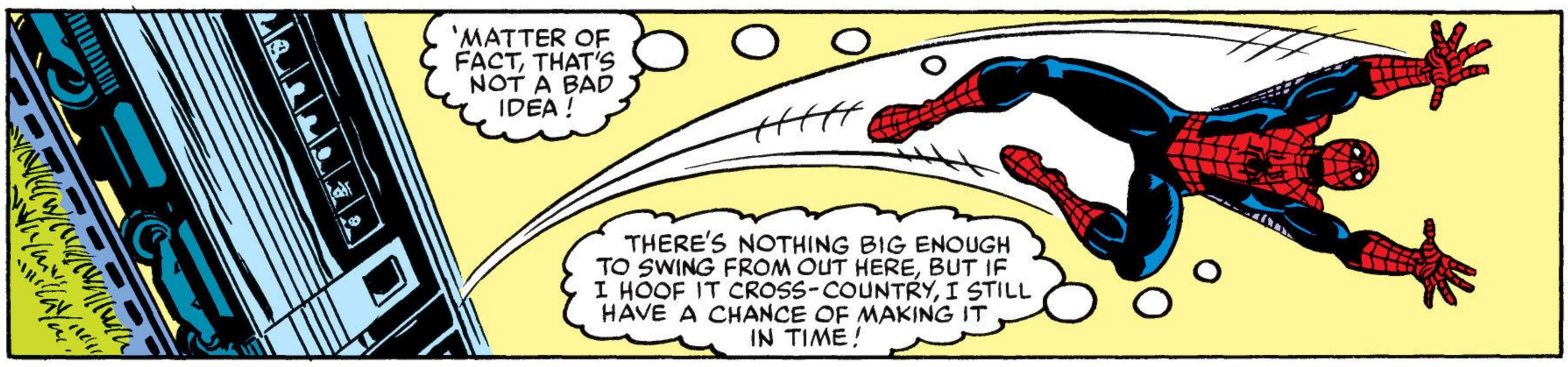
YEAH! THIS WAS AMONG THE PLANS AND TIMETABLES THAT GANG HAD LAID OUT! AND IF THE FEW DISCERNIBLE NOTES SCRIBBLED ON IT ARE ANY INDICATION--

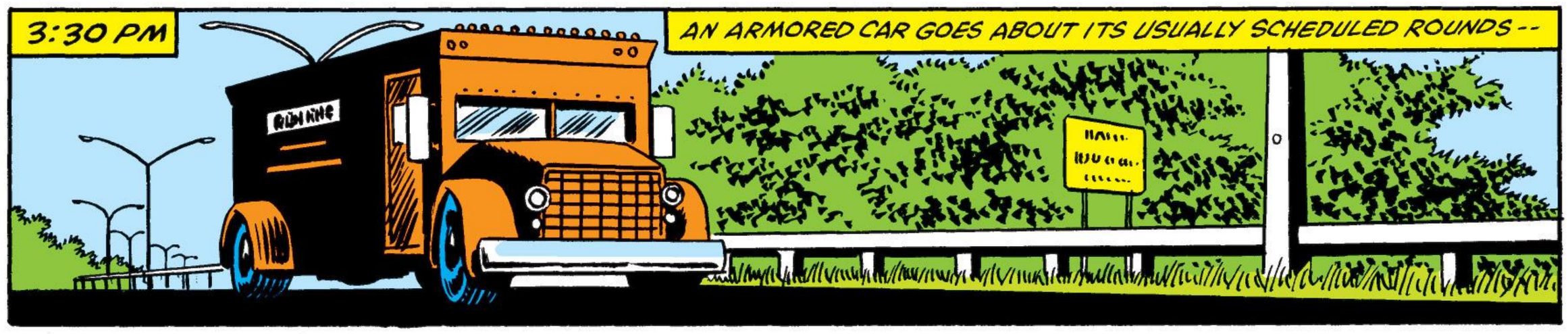

"--THAT HEIST WILL BE COMING DOWN TOMORROW AFTERNOON, SOMEWHERE NOT TOO FAR FROM LAKE RONKOKOMA!"
LAKE
1 MILE
WHAT'S THE TIME?
FIVE MINUTES FROM THE LAST TIME YOU ASKED! WHY YOU BEIN' SUCH A NERVOUS NELLIE?

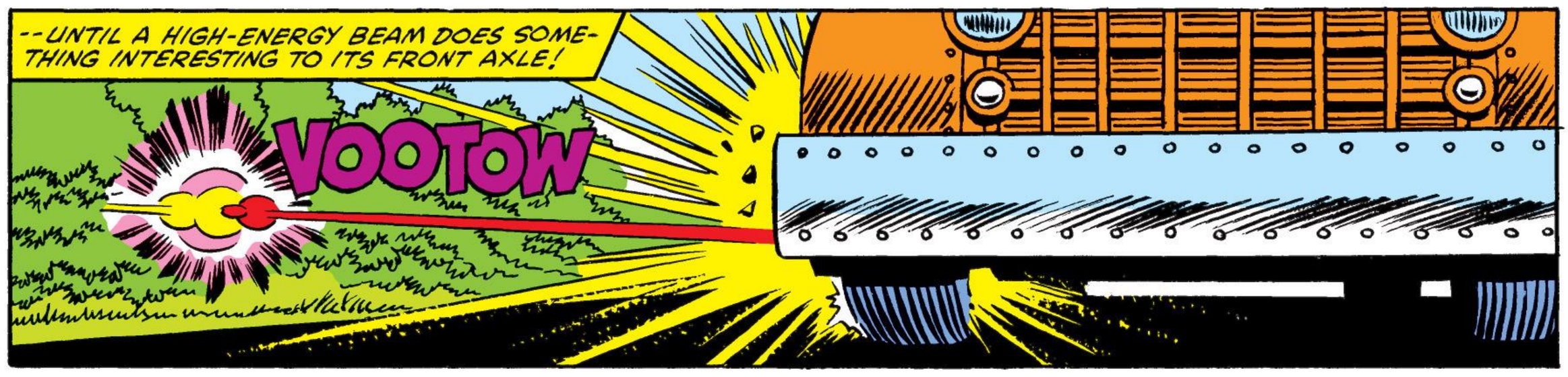
BECAUSE, BONE-HEAD, IF WE'RE NOT IN POSITION WHEN THAT ARMORED CAR BREEZES BY--!
DON'T WORRY! WE'LL BE READY! HEY, YOU SURE YOU CAN USE THAT THING?


NO SWEAT! A FIVE-YEAR-OLD COULD FIRE HER! THERE'LL BE NO PROBLEMS WITH THIS BABY!
AND, AS THE MOTLEY TRIO BEGINS TO MOVE INTO POSITION...


...SEVERAL MILES AWAY, AND CLOSING NONE TOO QUICKLY...
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER THAN TO RELY ON THE LONG ISLAND RAILROAD. I'D MAKE BETTER TIME ON FOOT!


'MATTER OF FACT, THAT'S NOT A BAD IDEA!
THERE'S NOTHING BIG ENOUGH TO SWING FROM OUT HERE, BUT IF I HOOF IT CROSS-COUNTRY, I STILL HAVE A CHANCE OF MAKING IT IN TIME!

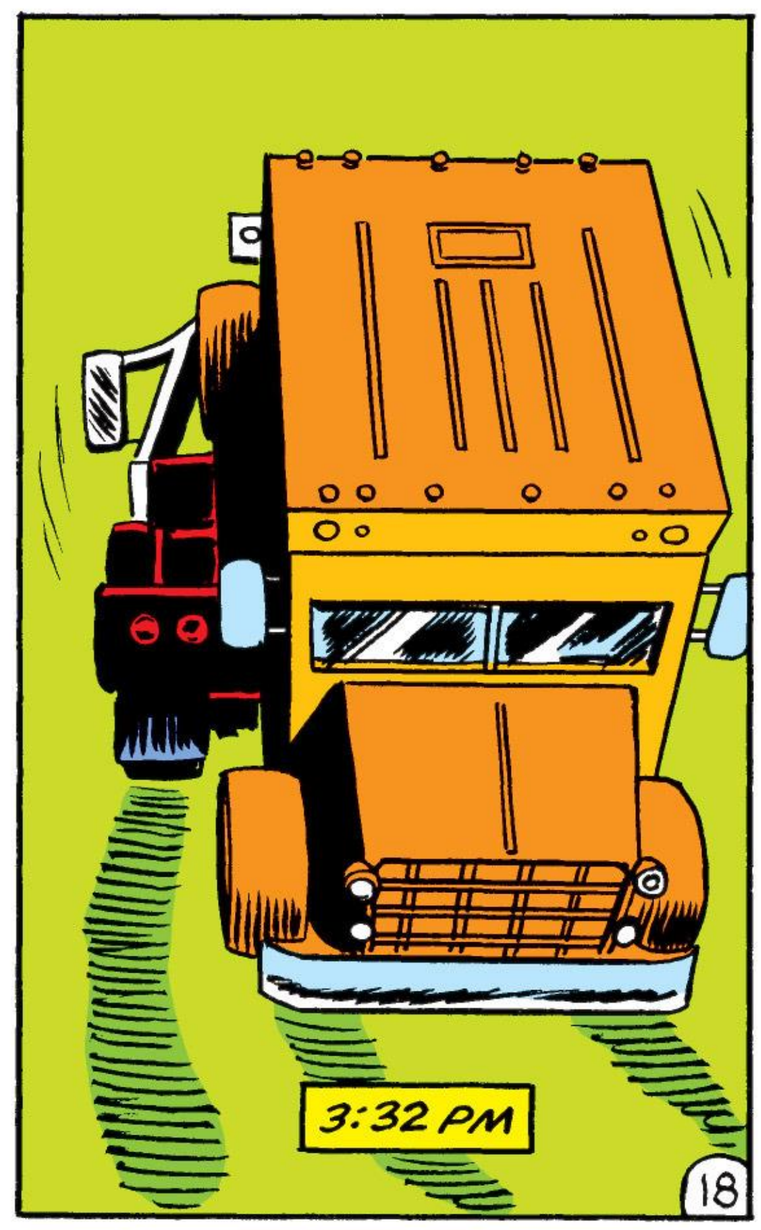

3:30 PM
AN ARMORED CAR GOES ABOUT ITS USUALLY SCHEDULED ROUNDS --


--UNTIL A HIGH-ENERGY BEAM DOES SOMETHING INTERESTING TO ITS FRONT AXLE!
VOOTOW

THEN, THINGS BEGIN TO HAPPEN VERY QUICKLY!
SCREEE
KSPLOOSH
LOOK OUT--!

TOO LATE, SUCKERS!
THEY WON'T GIVE US NO MORE TROUBLE! BRING UP THE TOW TRUCK!

3:31 PM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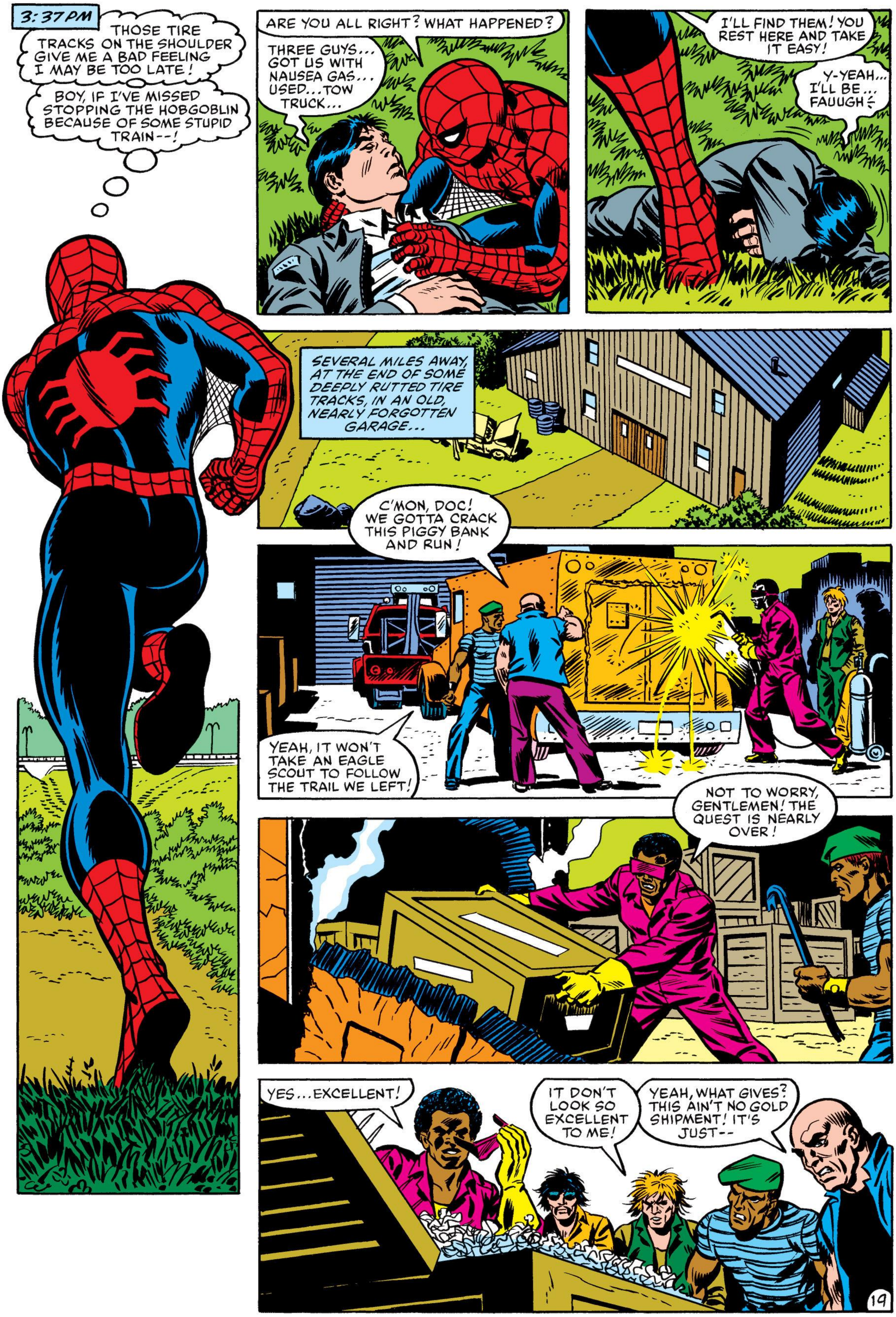

3:37 PM
THOSE TIRE TRACKS ON THE SHOULDER GIVE ME A BAD FEELING I MAY BE TOO LATE!
BOY, IF I'VE MISSED STOPPING THE HOBGOBLIN BECAUSE OF SOME STUPID TRAIN--!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? WHAT HAPPENED?
THREE GUYS... GOT US WITH NAUSEA GAS... USED...TOW TRUCK...
I'LL FIND THEM! YOU REST HERE AND TAKE IT EASY!
Y-YEAH... I'LL BE... FAUUGH!
SEVERAL MILES AWAY, AT THE END OF SOME DEEPLY RUTTED TIRE TRACKS, IN AN OLD, NEARLY FORGOTTEN GARAGE...
C'MON, DOC! WE GOTTA CRACK THIS PIGGY BANK AND RUN!
YEAH, IT WON'T TAKE AN EAGLE SCOUT TO FOLLOW THE TRAIL WE LEFT!
NOT TO WORRY, GENTLEMEN! THE QUEST IS NEARLY OVER!
YES...EXCELLENT!
IT DON'T LOOK SO EXCELLENT TO ME!
YEAH, WHAT GIVES? THIS AIN'T NO GOLD SHIPMENT! IT'S JUST--

--SOME LOUSY WRECKIN' BAR! YOU MEAN TO TELL ME THAT WE BUSTED OUR HUMPS TO STEAL THAT?!
PRECISELY. THE GOLD SHIPMENT WAS JUST A FABRICATION OF MINE!
IT INSURED THAT YOU'D BE GIVING ME YOUR FULL COOPERATION.
NOW, AT LAST, I HAVE WHAT I NEED--
--TO REGAIN MY FULL POWER!
YOU LOUSY @☆%×××@#!! I'LL TEACH YOU TO PLAY US FOR SAPS!
NO, YOU WILL NOT! EVEN WITHOUT THE POWER OF THE WRECKING BAR, I HAVE ENOUGH MIGHT TO HANDLE YOU!
WUNK
BUT NOW, WITH THE BAR IN MY POSSESSION--
KRAK
--AND WITH THIS, I AM UN-BEATABLE!

ARE THERE ANY OF YOU FOOLISH ENOUGH TO TRY ANYTHING... PHYSICAL?

PUT A LID ON THE FANCY TALK, DOC, OR YOU'LL HAVE TO EAT YOUR WORDS!

YEAH, YOU BETTER BE GOOD AT SWINGIN' THEM HUNKS O' STEEL!

OTHERWISE WE'LL USE 'EM ON *YOU!*

THERE'S THREE OF US TO ONE OF YOU, DOC! MAKE YOUR MOVE!

AT THAT MOMENT, OUTSIDE...

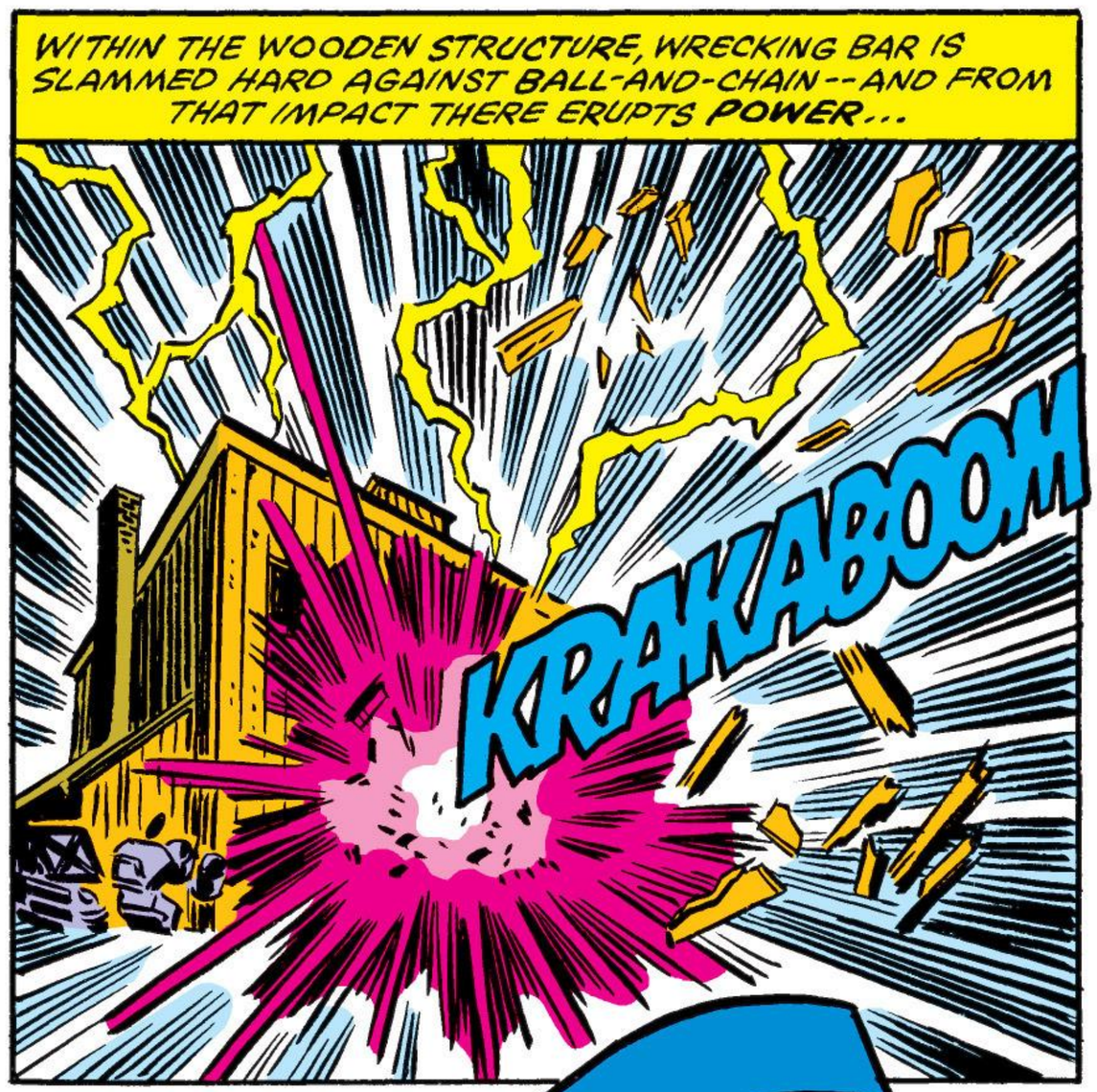
AH-HAH! THE END OF THE LINE! I WONDER WHAT I'LL FIND INSIDE?

SUDDENLY...

KRASH

WHUPS! IT'S ONE OF MY LITTLE PLAYMATES FROM LAST NIGHT-- BUT IT LOOKS LIKE HE JUST WENT TEN ROUNDS WITH LARRY HOLMES! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

THUD



...POWER WHICH HERALDS ONE MAN'S REBIRTH!

NOTHING CAN STOP... THUNDERBALL!

SPIDER-MAN! I DIDN'T THINK YOU CLEVER ENOUGH TO TRAIL ME HERE! BUT YOU'VE STILL ARRIVED TOO LATE TO STOP ME!

NEEDLESS TO SAY...TO BE CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE!

THE SPIDER'S WEB

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

DANNY FINGEROTH
EDITOR
BOB DeNATALE
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Roger and John,

If anyone was ever on the verge of a nervous breakdown, it has to be my old buddy Peter Parker. Give the boy a break, will you?

Look, at the beginning of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #242, Pete doesn't know what his grade is going to be for the first-year grad finals because Dr. Sloan is short-handed. Then's, he's caught in the middle of Lance and Amy's problems. On top of this, the Mad Thinker throws a rampaging super-robot at him. Next, Amy practically attacks him, and then who pops in? Just the woman who Pete proposed to a while back – and the one person I'm glad to see back... but, oh, what a time for her to show up – Mary Jane Watson!

And now, you tell me that Pete is going to make a most dramatic decision about his life, career and everything next issue. If this keeps up, the man is going to freak out! Still, you can bet I'll be first in line to buy AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #243! So, keep on making mine Marvel!

Scott Schaier
Merrick, NY 11566

Dear Sirs:

Re: AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #242

Hey what is this? Everybody *knows* that SPIDER-MAN is just the kid stuff of the Marvel Universe. He's supposed to get all the dumb villains and silly plot devices. Where do you get off, doing first class art, mature themes, and truly interesting plotting in SPIDER-MAN? Well, the cover was dumb enough to pass. Glad to see you aren't abandoning all your traditions.

You want to make people start taking the book seriously or what?

Brian Smith
Arlington, VA 22212

Dear Rog and John,

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #242 gave me a hundred laughs... especially the ending. And, of course, the art was great.

By the way, in issue #239, I saw how big Lance Bannon's apartment is... and now, in issue #242, we see him with a sports car. If Pete's beating him out with all the better news pictures, how come Lance appears more well-heeled than Pete?

Trent Robinson
Waltham, Quebec

Funny you should ask, Trent. Keep on perusing the Spider-titles in the months to come and you'll find out how come!

Dear Rog and John,

I don't think I've ever been so impatient to get next month's AMAZING SPIDER-MAN in the mail. As soon as I read to the last panel of the last page of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #242, I instantly fell back in love with Mary Jane Watson. MJ is by far my all-time favorite comic book character. I pray that her appearance in the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN wil be a lasting one.

Dave Van Kainen
Lewiston, MI 49756

Dear Rog and John

RE: ASM #242.

Now *this* is what Spider-Man is all about: rollicking action and fun, with a taste of subtle irony and wit throughout! Believe it or not, I felt just a little bit sorry for the Thinker's robot. After all, it took all that verbal abuse and couldn't talk back! Oh, well...

Rog, you're one of the few writers around who fully understands both Peter Parker and Spider-Man, and you use that understanding to best effect in "Confrontations!" And, of course, I couldn't imagine this issue without John Romita Jr. I especially liked the cover, too. (Thanks, Terry Austin!)

And coming up next... Mary Jane Watson!

Michael Kanterovich
Hollis, NH 03049

Dear Rog and John

I want to compliment you on the great work you've been doing on AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, and tell you how much I enjoyed issue #242. I can't wait until next month's issue to find out how Peter will resolve his problems with the ladies and find out what other surprises wait in store for Spider-Man.

On another note, has it ever been revealed what the J. in J. Jonah Jameson stands for?

You know, my brother said that you would never print this letter... and if you did, he would buy me the comic of my choice!

Elliot English
Erial, NJ 08081

Oh, he did, did he? Well, sounds to me like he owes you one, Elliot! Which one shall it be... hmmm! I assume you've already picked up this issue of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN! Roger recommends this month's issue of DOCTOR STRANGE, which features the annihilation of every single vampire on Earth (and all the married ones, too)! J.R. suggested that you try his first issue of the X-MEN. And Mike Carlin started jumping up and down and insisting that you pick up KA-ZAR #29, the special double-sized issue, available in comics shops *and* on newsstands, which features the wedding of Ka-Zar and Shanna. (Mike Carlin?! What's he doing in here? Go on, Carlin! Get back to your own office!)

As for that fateful first initial... that's still a mystery, Elliot!

Dear Roger and John,

It is nice to see that some things never change. Mary Jane is still a knockout.

John Brittan
Daly City, CA 94015

This is astounding! We received so many letters about the return of the divine Ms. M.J. Watson, that they plumb crowded out the Hobgoblin identity guesses this issue. It just goes to show you that romance beats out sheer villainy any day of the week!

But, if the Hobgoblin *is* the villain you love to hate, then do not miss PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #85, on sale in two short weeks, where Hobby returns for real and, after undergoing a monumental transformation, takes on Spidey *and* the Black Cat!

NEXT ISSUE: Well, yeah, next issue... I wish I could tell you all the exciting things happening in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN next month, but, well, you see... frankly, I'm not sure what they are. You've read about Assistant Editor's Month in the Bullpen Bulletins – the month when all us Marvel editors will be away convention hopping – and my assistant Bob DeNatale is keeping a real tight lip about what he's planning for our books that month. I just hope he takes seriously the responsibility he has. I mean, hey – ! These Spider-Man titles are the cornerstone of Marvel Comics. He'd better not be planning anything weird. I've left him strict orders what to do... and he'd *better* follow them!

— Danny Fingeroth

(Hi, folks! Bob D. here, and there's just enough time for me to slip in this Next Issue Blurb while Danny is out of the office. I gotta admit, there may be some pretty wild stuff going down in the other Spider-Man books, but AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #248 is gonna be something really special! I've coaxed out of Roger Stern what may well be the best story he's ever written. Heh-heh! *That'll* show Danny who's the real creative brain in this corner of the Bullpen. Join us next month and meet (courtesy of Roger, Ron Frenz and Terry Austin) "The Kid Who Collects Spider-Man." It's the most powerful, moving story in Spider-Man history. Plus, of course, the frenzied conclusion to Spider-Man's battle with Thunderball, by Stern, Romita Jr. and Brett Breeding. All in all, issue #248 is one of the *best* comics you'll ever see! So run down to the newsstand and reserve your copy now. Believe me, you'll be glad you did.)

SCRIPT: ALAN ZELENETZ PENCILS: FRANK CIROCCO INKS: TERRY AUSTIN EDITOR: CARL POTTS

MARVEL MAKES THE MAGIC!

ON SALE IN LATE DECEMBER