

MARVEL
COMICS

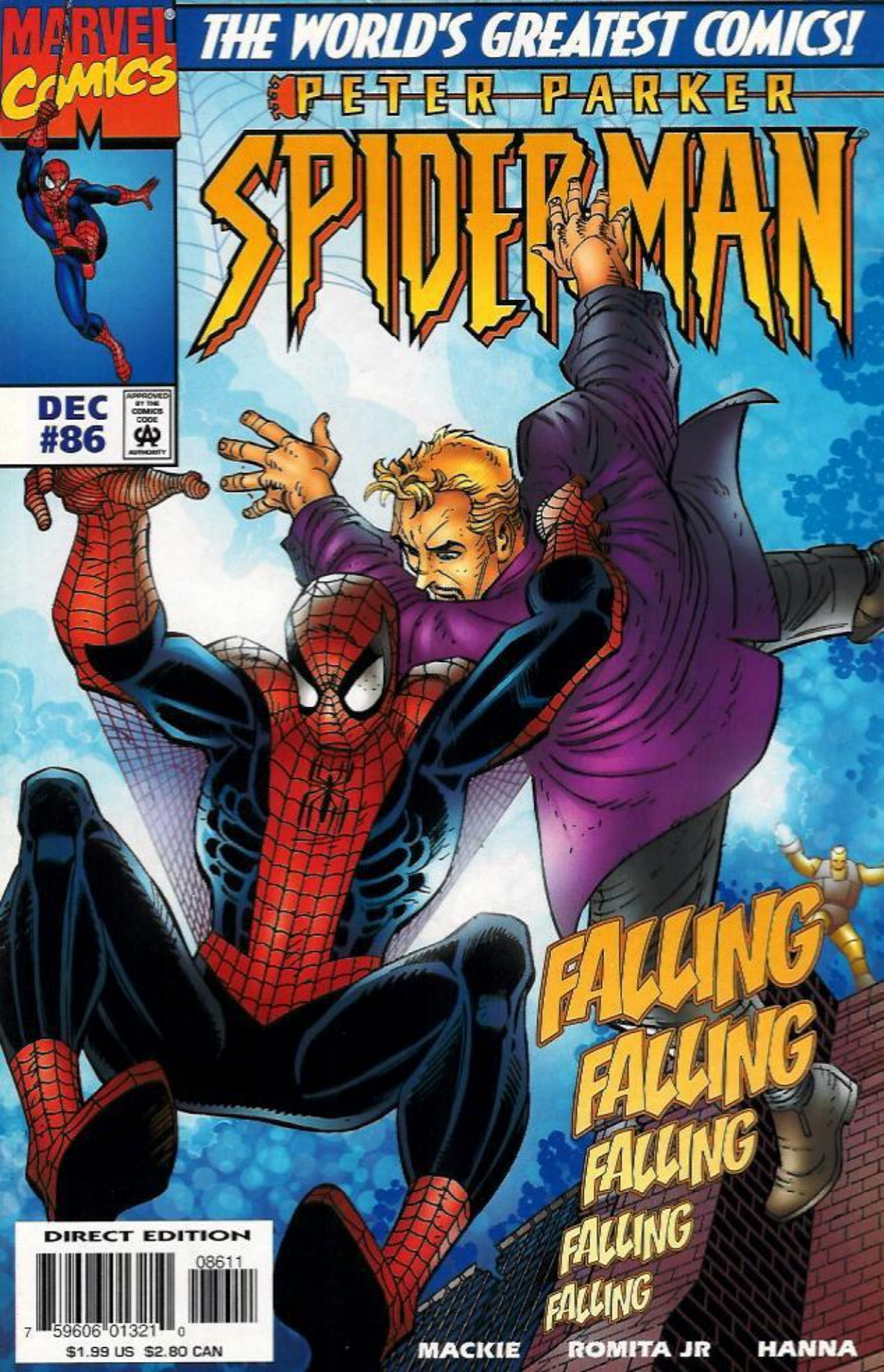
THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMICS!

PETER PARKER

SPIDER-MAN

DEC
#86

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BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY



FALLING
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FALLING

DIRECT EDITION



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\$1.99 US \$2.80 CAN

MACKIE

ROMITA JR

HANNA



THE SPAN OF YEARS

THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE...

MY NAME IS
PETER PARKER.
SPIDER-MAN...

...I LOST A PIECE OF
MY SOUL ON THIS BRIDGE
A FEW YEARS BACK.

I'M NOT GOING
TO RELIVE
THAT NIGHTMARE
AGAIN TONIGHT!

NO...
PLEASE...


...DON'T
DO IT!

HOWARD MACKIE/JOHN ROMITA JR./SCOTT HANNA story & art

RS & COMICRAFT'S KIFF SCHOLL letters **GREGORY WRIGHT** colors

RALPH MACCHIO editor **BOB HARRAS** editor in chief

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A dramatic comic book panel set in a city during a heavy rain. Spider-Man, in his iconic red and blue suit, is positioned on the right, looking towards the left. In the foreground, Paul Stacy, a man with blonde hair wearing a blue suit, is seen from the side, looking back over his shoulder. In the background, Gwen Stacy is being held by the Green Goblin. The rain is depicted with numerous white diagonal lines across the entire scene, creating a sense of intensity and chaos. The city skyline is visible in the background under a dark, stormy sky.

HER NAME
WAS GWEN
STACY, THE
LOVE OF
MY LIFE.

SHE WAS TAKEN
FROM ME BY THE
GREEN GOBLIN.


THE WAY HE HAS
TAKEN SO MUCH
FROM ME SINCE.

THIS IS HER
COUSIN PAUL.

HE BLAMES ME
FOR GWEN'S DEATH.

GET IN LINE
BEHIND ME,
BUDDY.

I'VE LIVED WITH
THE GUILT EVERY
DAY OF MY LIFE.



REPLAYING EVENTS
OVER AND OVER IN
MY MIND.

QUESTIONING WHETHER
I COULD HAVE DONE
SOMETHING DIFFERENT.

SOMETHING THAT
WOULD HAVE LET
GWEN SURVIVE.

MAYBE I COULDN'T
MAKE A DIFFERENCE
THEN, BUT...

...BUT I
CAN NOW!

YOU ARE NOT
GOING TO DIE!

NOT HERE.

NOT NOW.

WHERE DID THIS
RAIN COME FROM?



ON THE BRIDGE BELOW,
TRAFFIC HAS COME
TO A STANDSTILL.

IT'S
SPIDER-MAN!

HE'S
TRYING TO
SAVE THAT
YOUNG
MAN!

WHATTAYA
KIDDIN' ME? HE'S
GONNA PUSH'IM. THE
BUG'S DONE IT
BEFORE!



COMING
THROUGH/
CLEAR OUT OF
THE WAY IF YOU
KNOW WHAT'S
GOOD FOR
YOU!

Oooh/
LOOK WHO
IT IS!

WHO
IS IT?

I DON'T
KNOW... LOOKS
LIKE QUILT MAN
TO ME!

HA/
HA/ HA/
HA/



THE
NAME'S THE
SHOCKER!

FRA
KOO
OOM



REMEMBER
IT!

I'M
NOT A JOKE
ANYMORE!

WOODHAVEN,
QUEENS.

ONE OF THE LAST
REMAINING
NEIGHBORHOODS
IN NEW YORK CITY --

-- WHERE GENERATIONS
FROM THE SAME FAMILY
GROW UP ON THE SAME
STREETS.

A PLACE WHERE
YOUNG BOYS STILL
PLAY TWO-HANDED
TOUCH FOOTBALL
IN THE MIDDLE OF
THE STREET.

PAYING NO ATTENTION TO
PARKED CARS, TRAFFIC
OR INCLEMENT WEATHER.

THEY PAY ATTENTION TO
NOTHING BUT THE GAME.

GO
LONG! GO
LONG!

I'M
GONNA HIT
YA!

THOOOMP

ALMOST
NOTHING.

JEEZ! WILL YOU LOOKIT
THAT?! SOMETHIN'S
GOIN' DOWN ON
TOP OF MY
BUILDING!

COOL!





WATCH
IT --!

PTOOM!

IF YOU **LIVE**...
I WANT YOU TO
TELL WHOEVER SENT
YOU NOT TO INSULT
ME BY SENDING
AMATEURS THE
NEXT TIME!

IF I **LIVE**?
IT'S ONLY MY
FOOT! IT'LL BE
OKAY.

YOU'D
THINK.

THAT HAD
TO HURT, BUT I
THINK HE'S STILL
BREATHING.

NOT FOR
LONG. NOT WHEN
VINNY SEES WHAT
HE DID TO HIS
WHEELS --



THE HOME OF ARTHUR
AND JILL STACY...

PAUL WAS
ALWAYS AN OVER-
ACHIEVER, MARY
JANE.

SCIENCE AWARDS, HONOR
SOCIETIES, SCHOLARSHIP...
MY FATHER STILL HAS THIS
MINI SHRINE TO PAUL... TO
THE CHILD HE USED
TO BE.

WHEN HE
WAS A KID HE
AND MY DAD WERE
LIKE BEST
BUDDIES.

NOW...
...I DON'T
KNOW WHAT
HAPPENED.

WE
ALL GROW UP
AND SOME OF US
GROW APART FROM
OUR PARENTS,
JILL.

IT'S MORE
THAN THAT, M.J.
EVER SINCE GWEN
AND MY UNCLE GEORGE
DIED... PAUL CHANGED.
GOT COLDER. MORE
DISTANT.

IN A WAY I GUESS WE SHOULDN'T HAVE
BEEN SURPRISED THAT HE FELL IN WITH
A GROUP OF MUTANT HATERS LIKE THE
FRIENDS OF HUMANITY. I'M MORE
SURPRISED IT DIDN'T HAPPEN
SOONER.

I LOVE
MY BROTHER...
I JUST DON'T
UNDERSTAND
HIM.

YOU THINK
PETER IS GOING
TO BE ABLE TO TALK
TO HIM? AFTER THE WAY PAUL
HAS TREATED HIM... I
DON'T KNOW WHY
HE WOULD.

PETER CAN BE
REAL FORGIVING
SOMETIMES.

DELIVERY
FOR MISTER
STACY. I WAS
TOLD HE LIVES
HERE.

I'M HIS
DAUGHTER.
I'LL SIGN
FOR IT.

SORRY,
M'AM, IT'S GOT
TO BE MISTER
STACY.

I'VE GOT
IT, KIDDO.



...I'M
REALLY GLAD
YOU STUCK
AROUND!

I OWE YOU
BIG TIME FOR A
LOT OF HUMILIATING
DEFEATS!

NOW THAT
I'VE GOT A CROWD
GATHERED...

...IT'S
PAYBACK
TIME!

YOU
MIGHT NOTE
A FEW CHANGES
IN MY POWER
LEVEL.

FTOOM

AT LEAST
UNTIL YOU
DIE!

AS MUCH AS
YOU MIGHT WANT
TO DIE, PAUL... IT'S
NOT GOING TO
HAPPEN!

WHAT?
I DON'T WANT
TO DIE!

10

THEN WHY THE BRIDGE
DRAMATICS? WHY DID YOU
COME UP HERE AND LOOK
LIKE YOU WERE GOING TO
WALK OFF?

THAT IS
NONE OF YOUR
BUSINESS!

NOW PUT
ME DOWN!





HOW EMBARRASSING!

I'M ACTUALLY GETTING MY TAIL HANDED TO ME BY THE SHOCKER!



THE SHOCKER!

A GUY WHO DRESSES IN A QUILT!

MAYBE I'M GETTING TOO COCKY, BUT...



...THIS IS ONE GUY I COULD COUNT ON BEATING EVEN WHEN I FIRST STARTED OUT IN THE SUPER-HERO BIZ!

FINE! I'LL TAKE HIM MORE SERIOUSLY FROM NOW ON, BUT...

...I AM NOT GOING TO FAIL **ANOTHER** MEMBER OF THE STACY FAMILY.

EVEN IF IT IS PAUL!



THE SHOCKER'S GOING DOWN... NOW --



YOU'RE REALLY INTO THIS SNEAKING UP FROM BEHIND THING, HUH?



WELL, IT'S
NOT GOING
TO WORK!

I'VE MADE
A FEW CHANGES
TO MY ENTIRE
VIBRO-SHOCK
SYSTEM. I
MINIATURIZED
THE VIBRO UNITS
AND SPREAD THEM
ALL OVER MY
COSTUME.

AT EVEN
THE FIRST HINT
OF A SNEAK ATTACK,
THE VIBRATION SHIELD
IS THROWN UP
AND...

...WELL...
I'M SURE YOU'RE
FEELING THE RESULTS
RIGHT THROUGH YOUR
FILLINGS JUST
ABOUT NOW.

NEEDLESS
TO SAY, BUT I
WILL *ANYWAY*, I
ALSO INCREASED
THE POWER OF
THE UNITS.



FOR YEARS I SPENT
SO MUCH TIME MOANING
ABOUT ALWAYS LOSING
TO GUYS LIKE YOU, AND
THEN, ONE DAY, IT
CAME TO ME.

I THINK
I WAS WATCHING
SOME INFOCOMMERCIAL
ABOUT TAKING CHARGE
OF THE POWER WITHIN...
OR SOMETHING
LIKE THAT.

ANYWAY...
I REALIZED THAT
I HADN'T BOTHERED
TO UPDATE MY VIBRO
TECHNOLOGY SINCE I
FIRST STARTED OUT
WITH THIS GIG.

AS YOU
CAN PROBABLY
TELL... I WAS
SUCCESSFUL WHEN
I TRIED.

I LIKE
TO THINK MY
MOTHER WOULD
HAVE BEEN PROUD
OF HER BOY.



WHAT
DO YOU
THINK?

DON'T
WORRY. YOU
CAN GET BACK TO
ME ON THAT
ONE.

AT THAT MOMENT ON THE
STREETS OF QUEENS...

DO YOU AND
YOUR FATHER
GET ALONG,
JILL?

YEAH/
OF COURSE
WE DO!

DON'T
MAKE IT SOUND
LIKE A FOREGONE
CONCLUSION.

MY DAD
AND I **NEVER**
HIT IT OFF. I
ENVY YOU.

SORRY.

MY DAD IS MY BEST
FRIEND. IT SEEMS LIKE
THE MORE TENSION THAT
DEVELOPS BETWEEN HIM
AND PAUL...THE CLOSER
WE GET.

THAT'S
NOT TO SAY
THAT MY FATHER
ISN'T DIFFICULT TO
GET ALONG WITH
AT TIMES.

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

HE IS REALLY GOOD AT WHAT
HE DOES, PROBABLY ONE
OF THE BEST PRIVATE
INVESTIGATORS
WORLDWIDE,
BUT...

...HE TENDS
TO SEE **EVERYTHING**
AS A BIG CONSPIRACY...
IT'S MADE LIFE TOUGH
AT TIMES.

EVEN
FOR ME.
I JUST
DON'T THINK
EVERYTHING
HAS TO TURN OUT
BAD.

A SHORT
DISTANCE AWAY...

I'VE GOT
A BAD FEELING
ABOUT THIS.

SOMEONE'S
ON TO ME.

I CAN
FEEL HIM IN
MY BONES
BUT...

...WHERE
IS HE?

PTOOF
PTOOF

HE'S
GOOD.

GOOD ENOUGH
FOR ME NOT TO
WANT TO SHOOT IT
OUT WITH HIM!

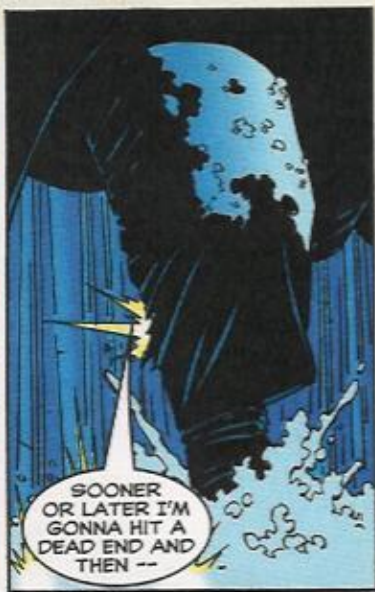
GOOD
ENOUGH FOR
ME TO RUN.



THIS IS NO GOOD.



HE'S GOT ME RUNNING WHERE HE WANTS ME TO RUN.



SOONER OR LATER I'M GONNA HIT A DEAD END AND THEN --



WELL, I'M TAKIN' THIS GUY DOWN WITH ME.



END OF THE LINE.



IT'S EITHER SINK OR SWIM. NO TWO WAYS --

-- WHOA! I HOPE THIS GAS TANK IS EMPTY! I HOPE --



MEANWHILE...

SHOW'S
OVER, HERO.

I WIN.

YOU ARE
THE LOSER!
THE KID
IS MINE! HE'S
DEAD! AND I'M
GOING TO COLLECT
BIG TIME!

THEN, WITH
YOUR SCALP ON
MY BELT, I'M GOING
TO BE ABLE TO START
CHARGING TOP
DOLLAR.

YOU MORONIC
MISCREANT!

WHAT IS IT
EVER ABOUT,
KID?

I CAN'T
BELIEVE I WAS
GOING TO LAY DOWN
AND LET AN IMBECILE
LIKE YOU KILL ME.
WELL, IT'S *NOT* GOING
TO HAPPEN!

WATCH
YOUR MOUTH,
KID, OR...

...NEVER
MIND!
GOOD-
BYE.

KRAK



PSHOCK

COMING
YOUR WAY,
PAUL!



YEAH,
YEAH,
YEAH.

I'VE
GOT IT UNDER
CONTROL.

THOUGH I
AM IMPRESSED
BY THE WAY YOU
CAN SCREAM
LIKE THAT.



IT TOOK ME YEARS
TO BE ABLE TO DO
IT WITH ALL THE
BLOOD RUSHING
TO MY HEAD.

OOPH/
SEE/
TOTALLY
SAFE!

IT'S
NOT LIKE I
HAVEN'T DONE
THIS KIND OF
THING --







IT'S
BEEN A
WHILE!
WHY DON'T
YOU *STICK*
AROUND?!

THE
TRAPSTER!!

YOU'RE
GOING TO
LOVE SOME OF
THE NEW THINGS
I'VE GOT UP MY
SLEEVE!

IT SHOULD BE
A REAL *BONDING*
EXPERIENCE!

A SHORT
TIME LATER...

HI, AUNT ANNA,
WE'RE HOME!
ANY
WORD FROM
PETER?

AUNT
ANNA?
IS
EVERYTHING
OKAY?

MARY JANE, DEAR,
YOU HAD BETTER HAVE
A SEAT.

WHAT?
WHY?

OH!
YOU HAVE
COMPANY.
JILL AND I
WILL --

HARDLY
COMPANY, MS.
PARKER.

JUST
AN OLD FRIEND
LOOKING FOR BEN
REILLY'S COUSIN
PETE.

WHY
DON'T YOU
DO LIKE YOUR
AUNT SAID
AND TAKE A
SEAT?

TO BE
CONTINUED IN
**PETER PARKER
SPIDER-MAN** 87