

SPIDER
MAN

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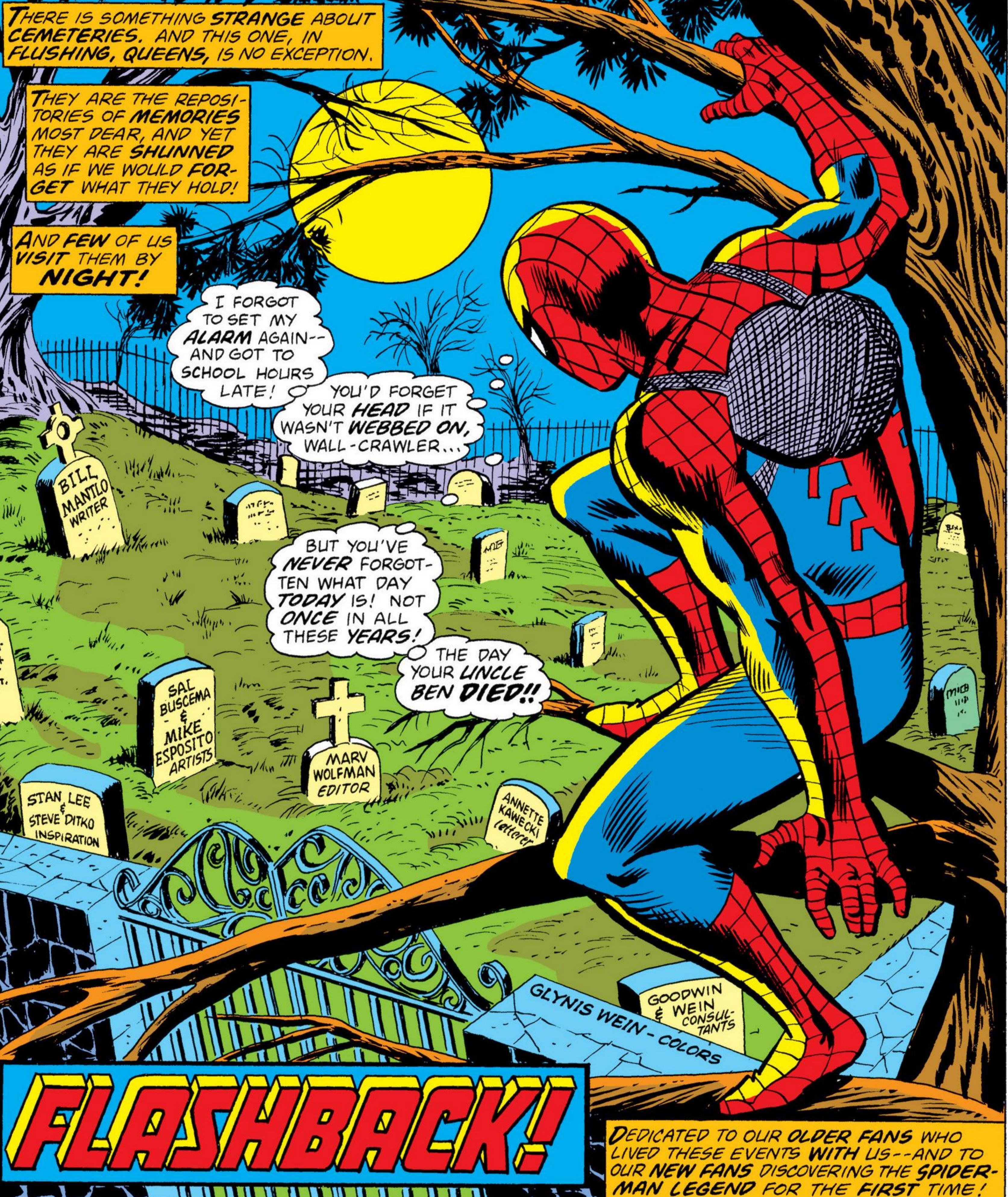
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

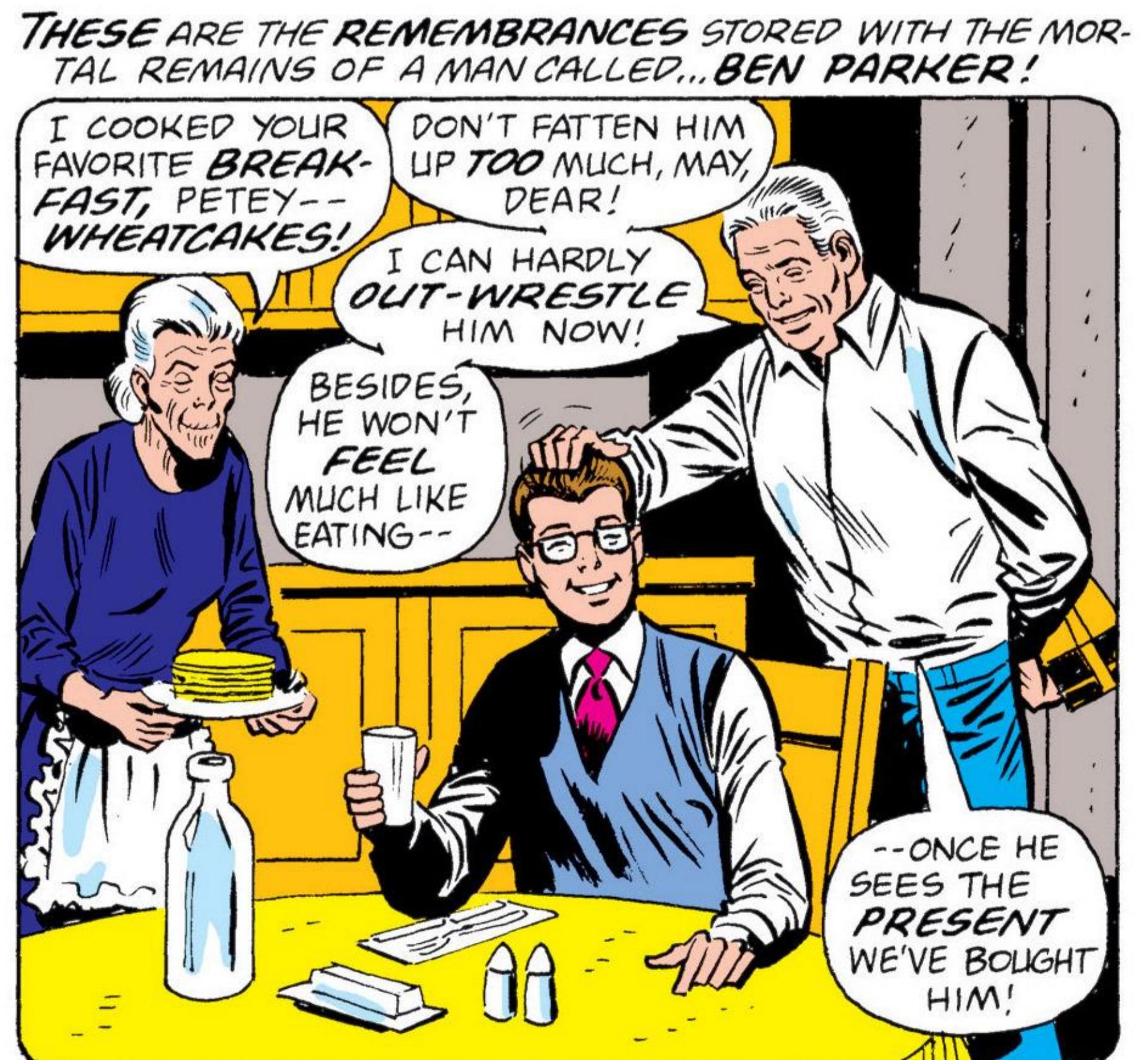
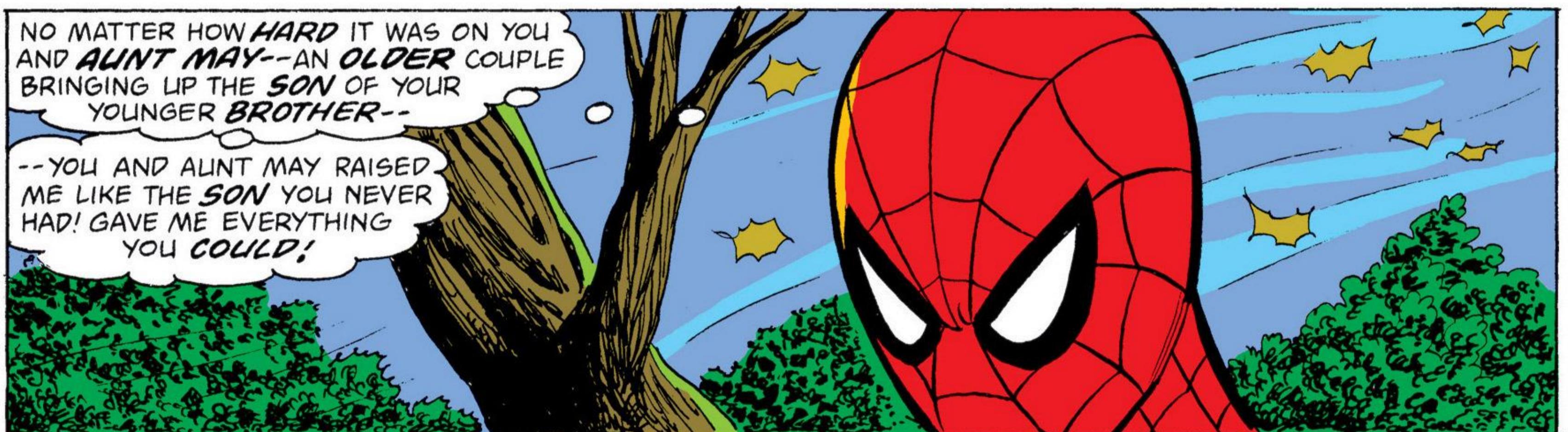
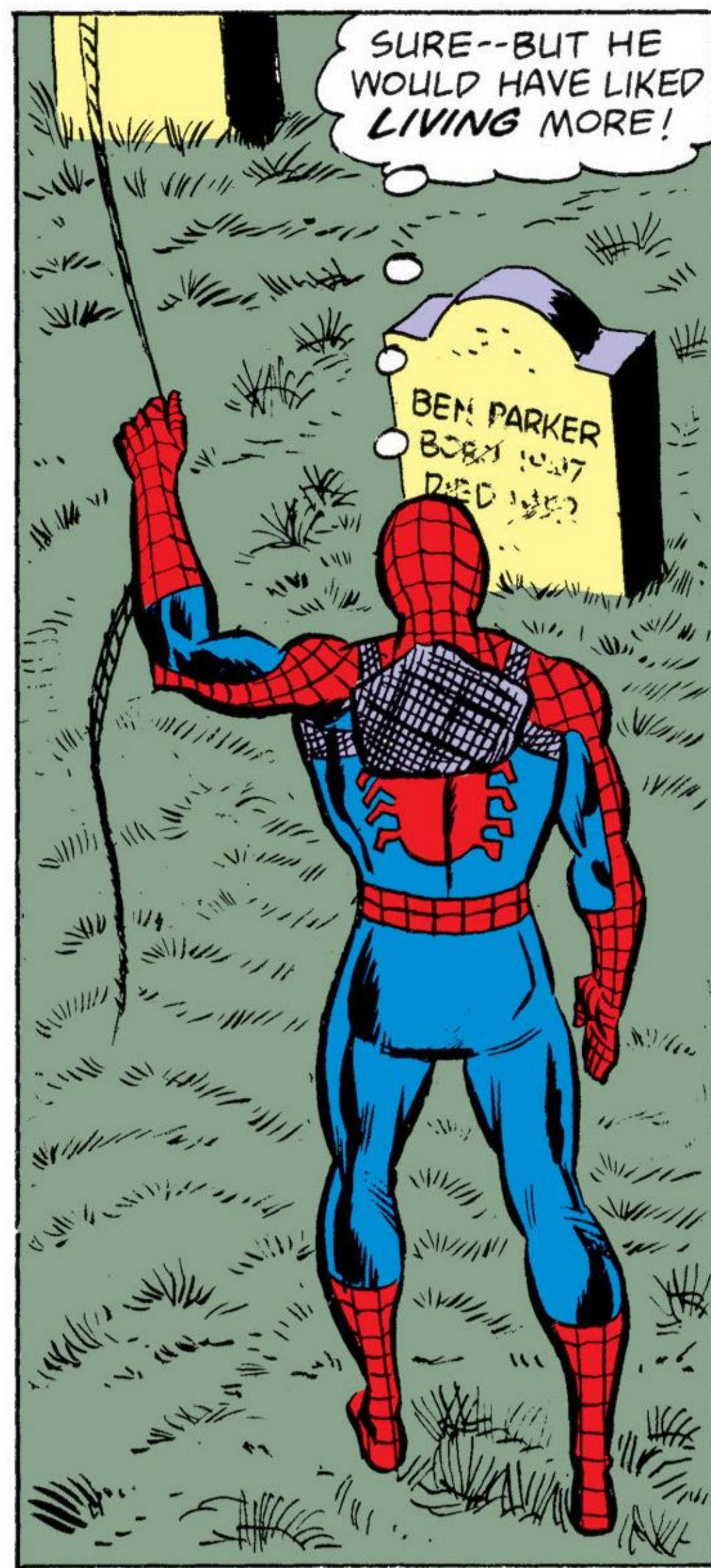


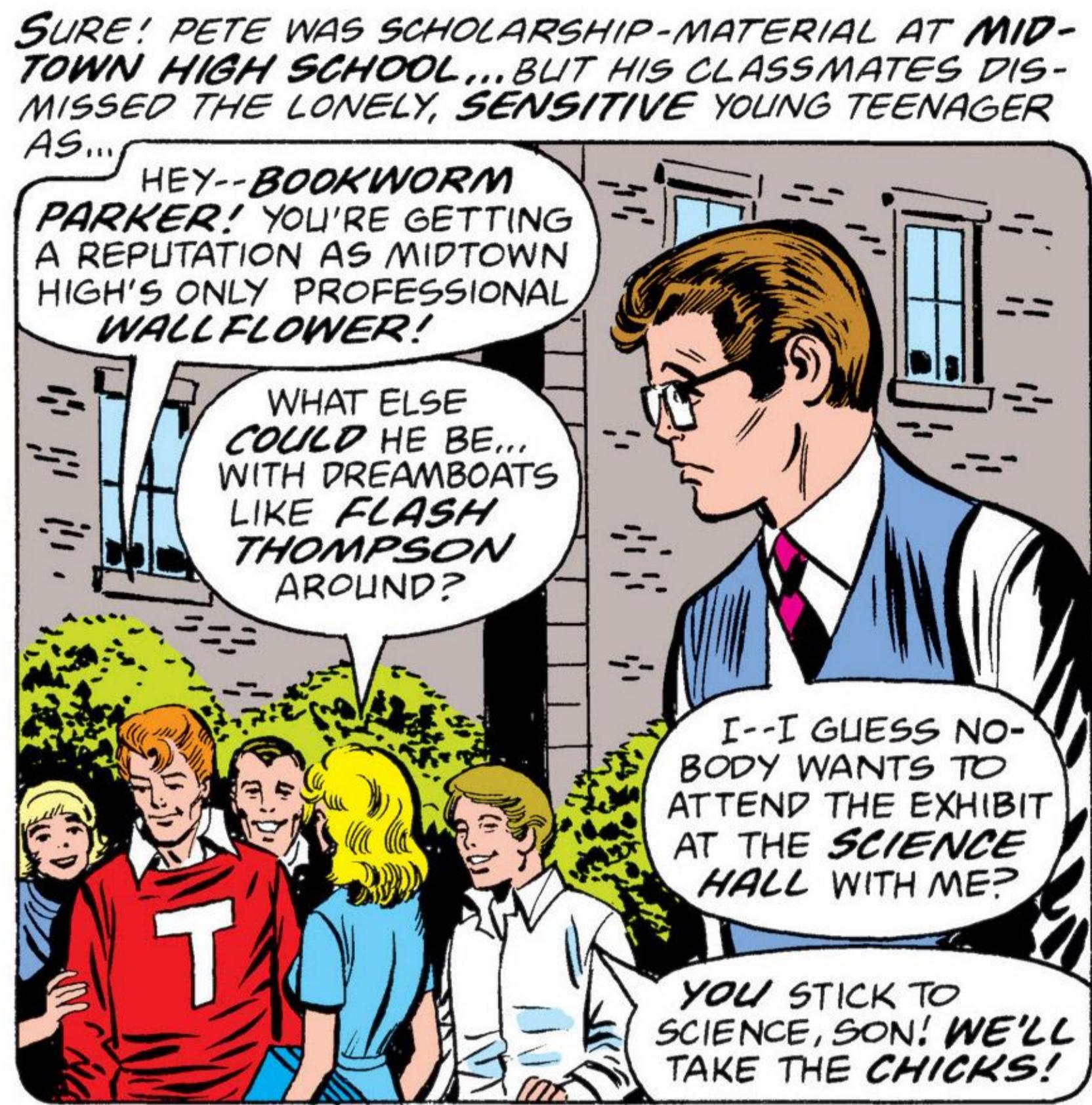
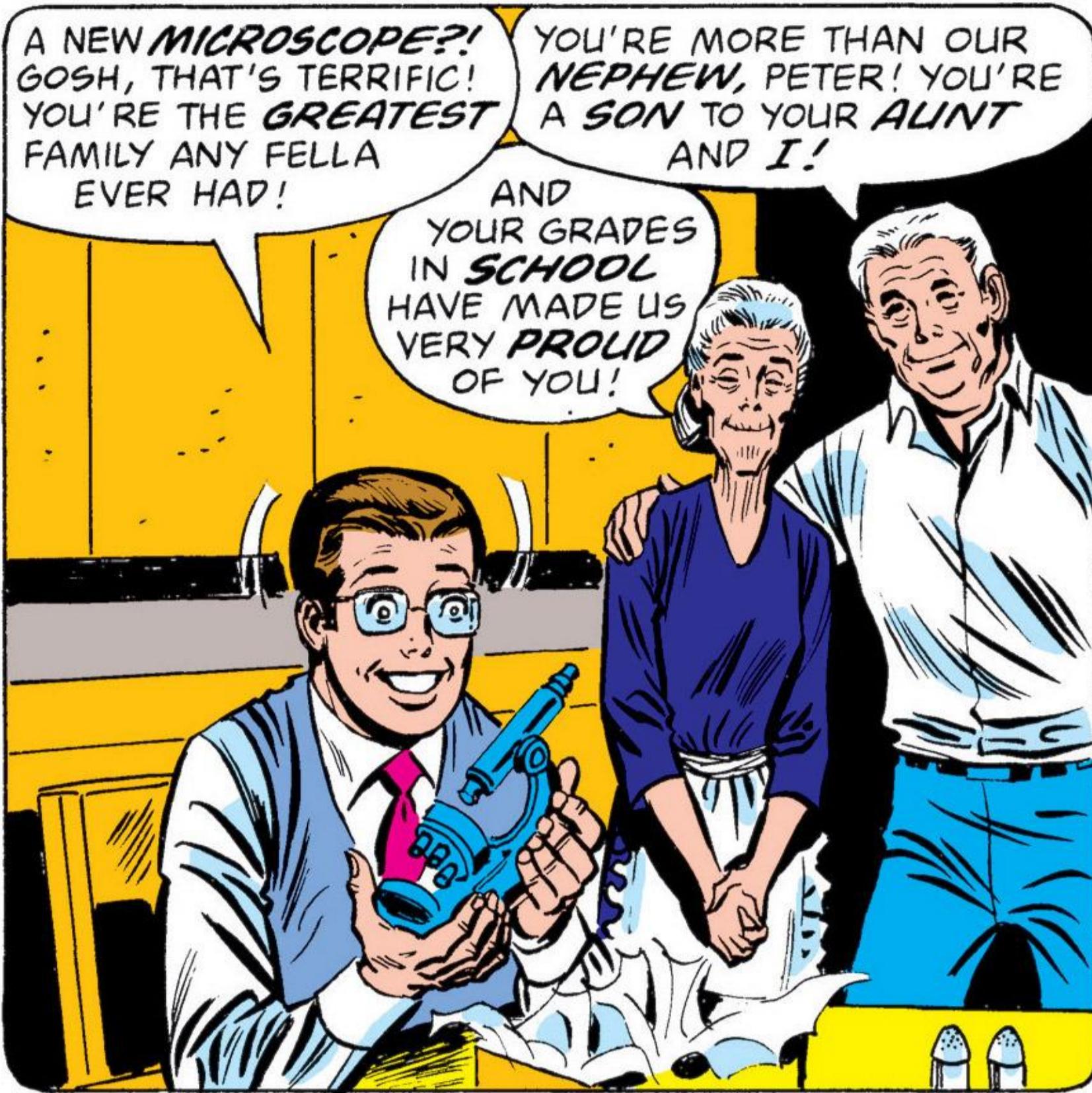
THE PAIN--
AND THE POWER!

While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the arachnid's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

STAN LEE PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™

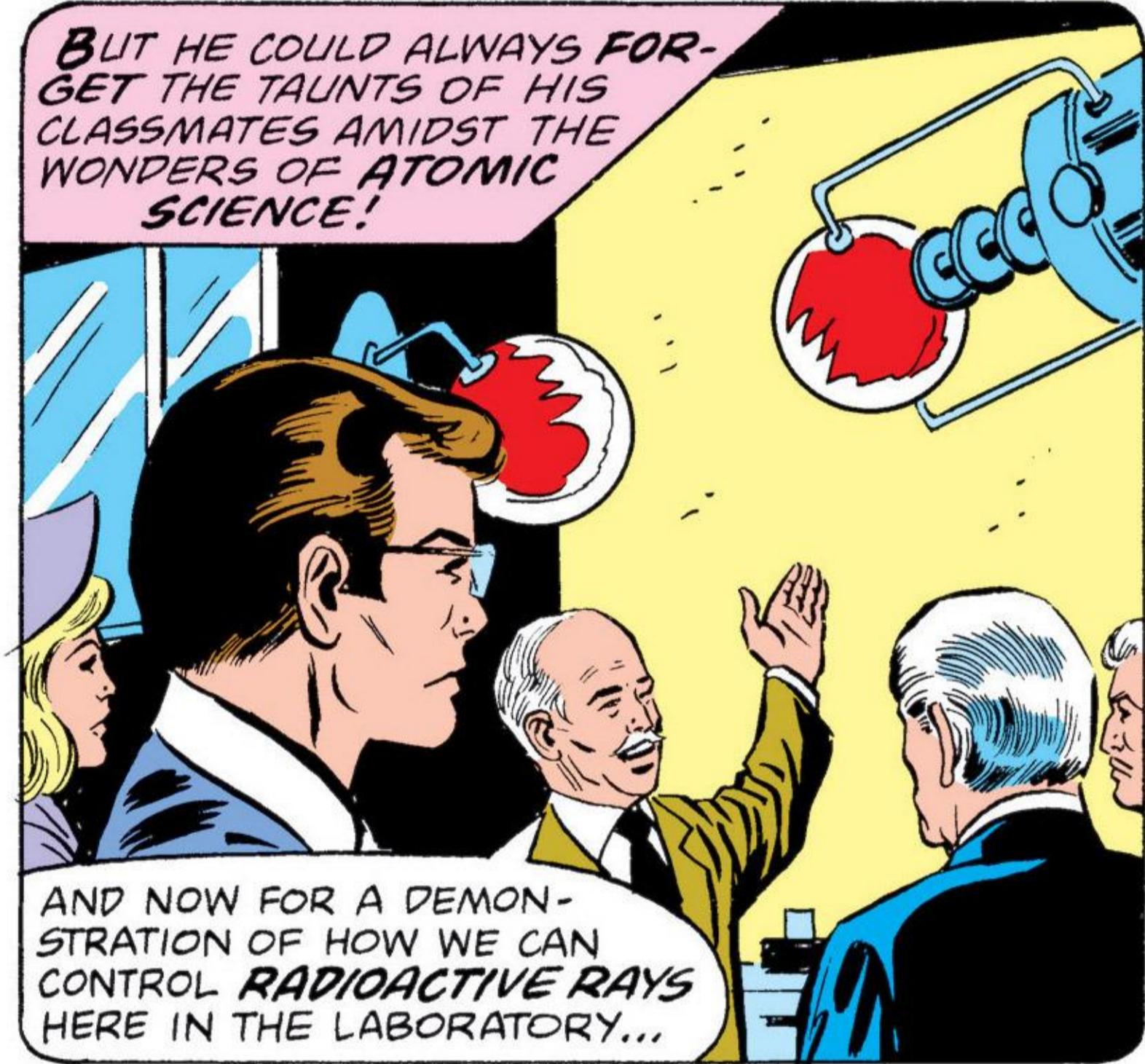






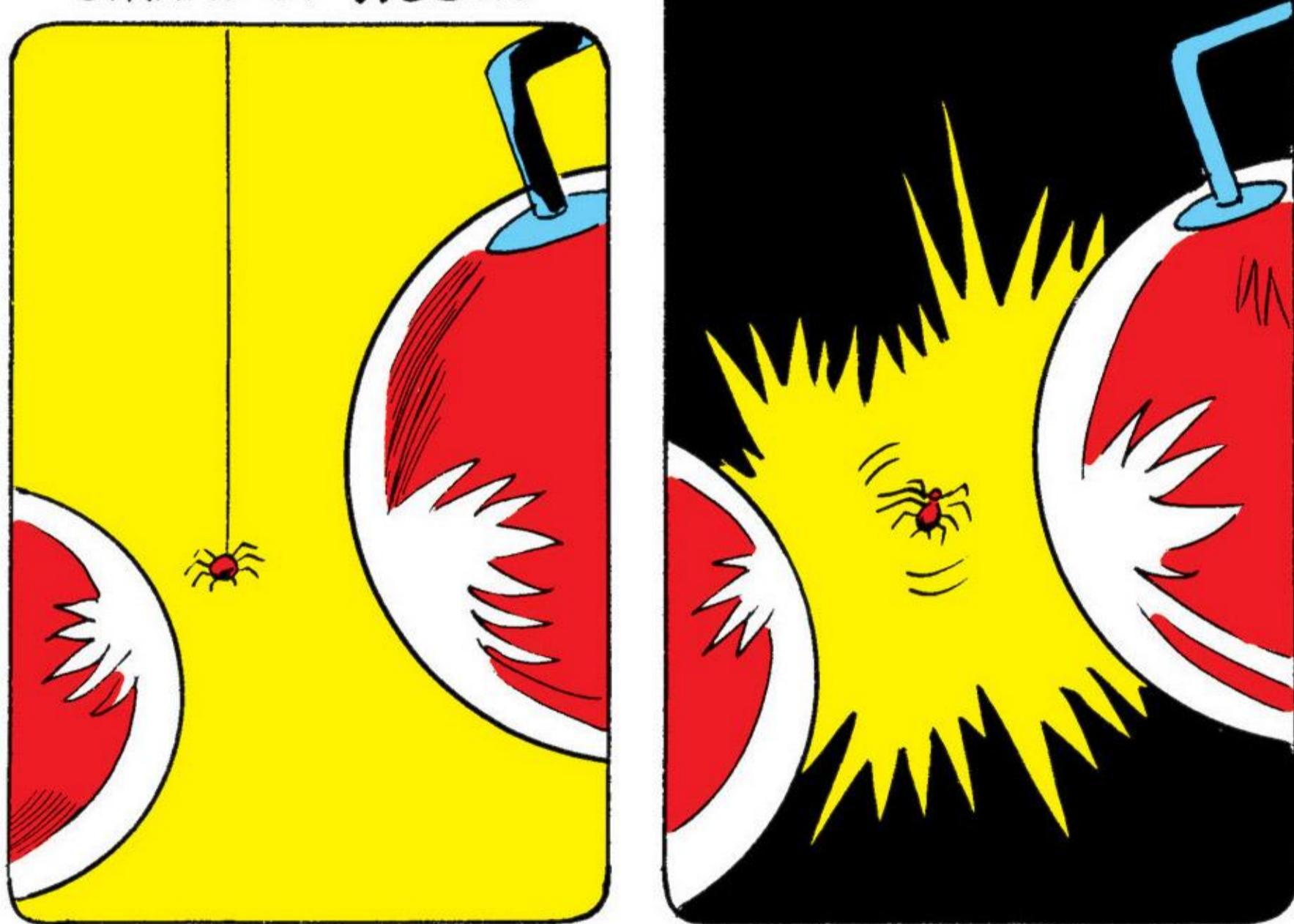
FOR PETER PARKER, BEING A TEENAGER MEANT FACING MANY HEARTBREAKING MOMENTS.

BUT HE COULD ALWAYS FORGET THE TAUNTS OF HIS CLASSMATES AMIDST THE WONDERS OF ATOMIC SCIENCE!



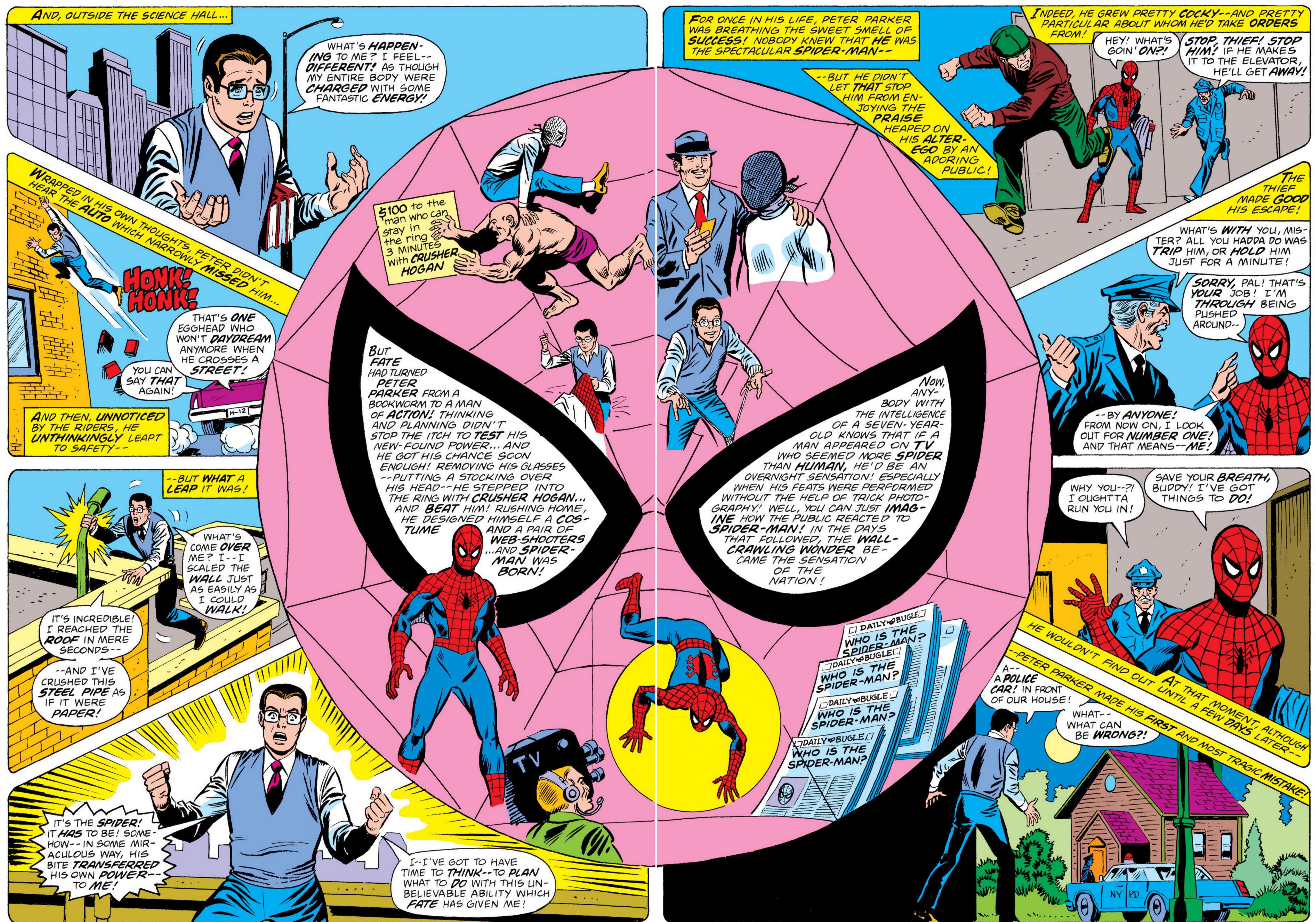
BUT, AS THE EXPERIMENT BEGAN, NO ONE NOTICED A TINY SPIDER, DESCENDING FROM THE CEILING ON AN ALMOST-INVISIBLE STRAND OF WEB...

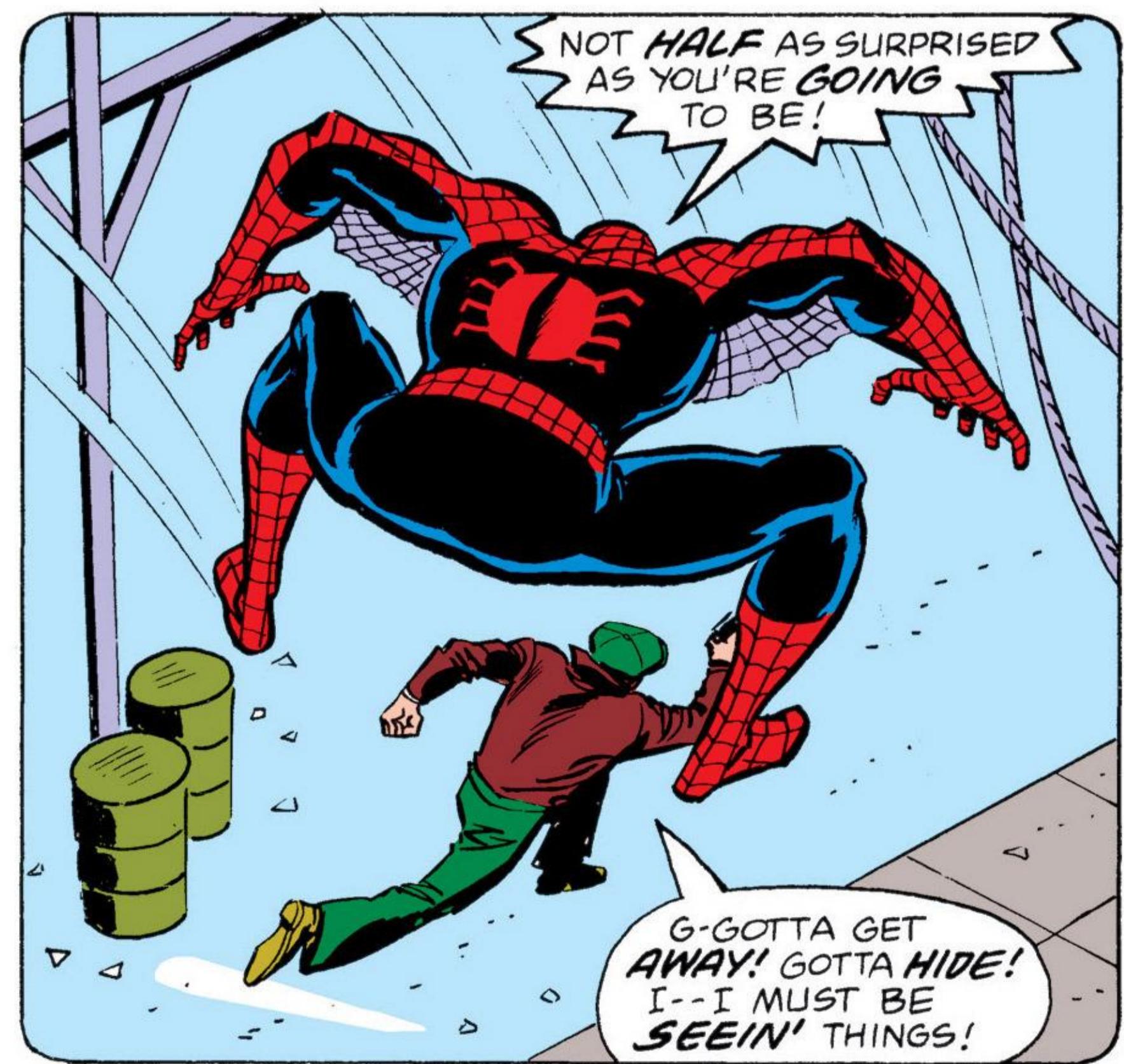
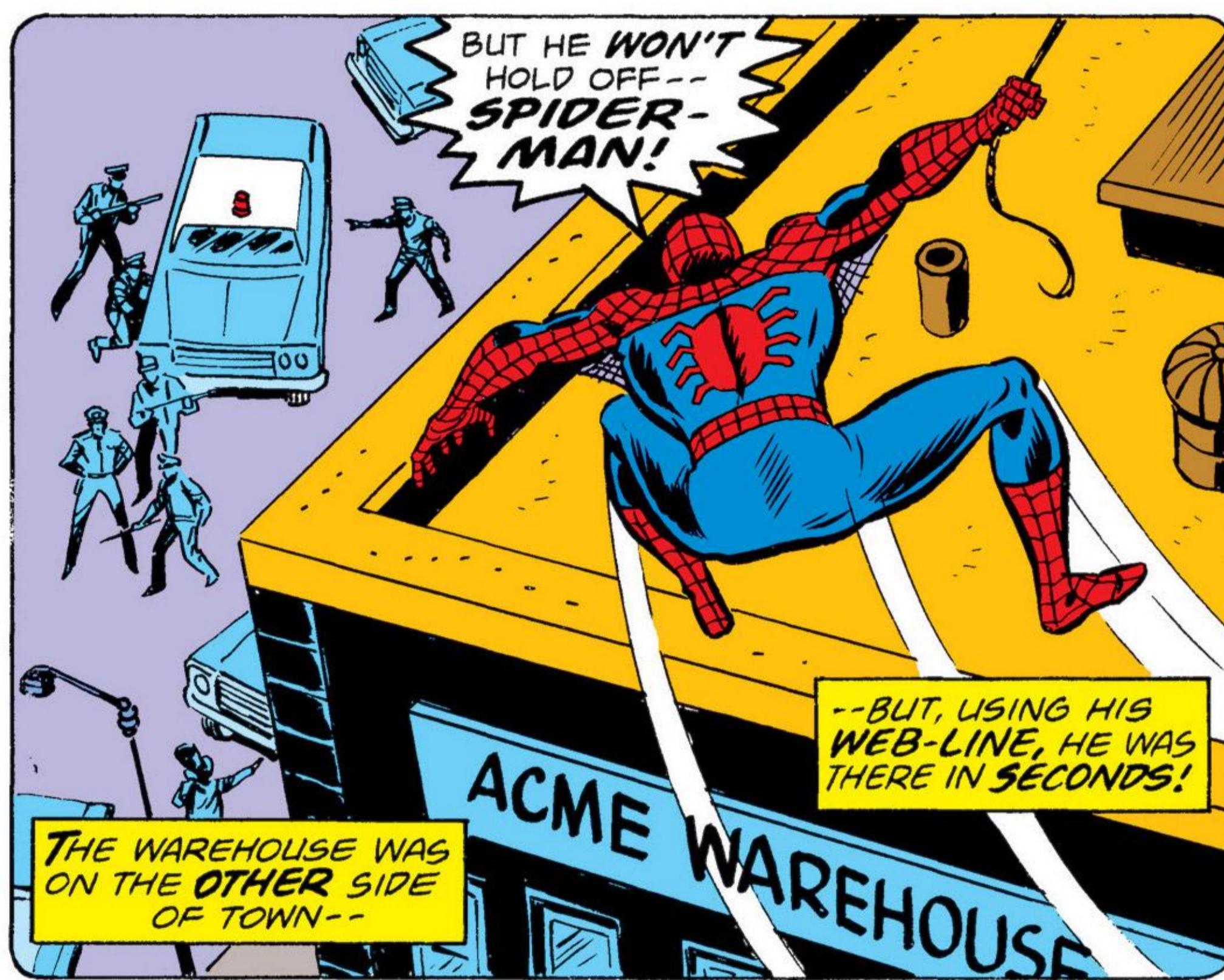
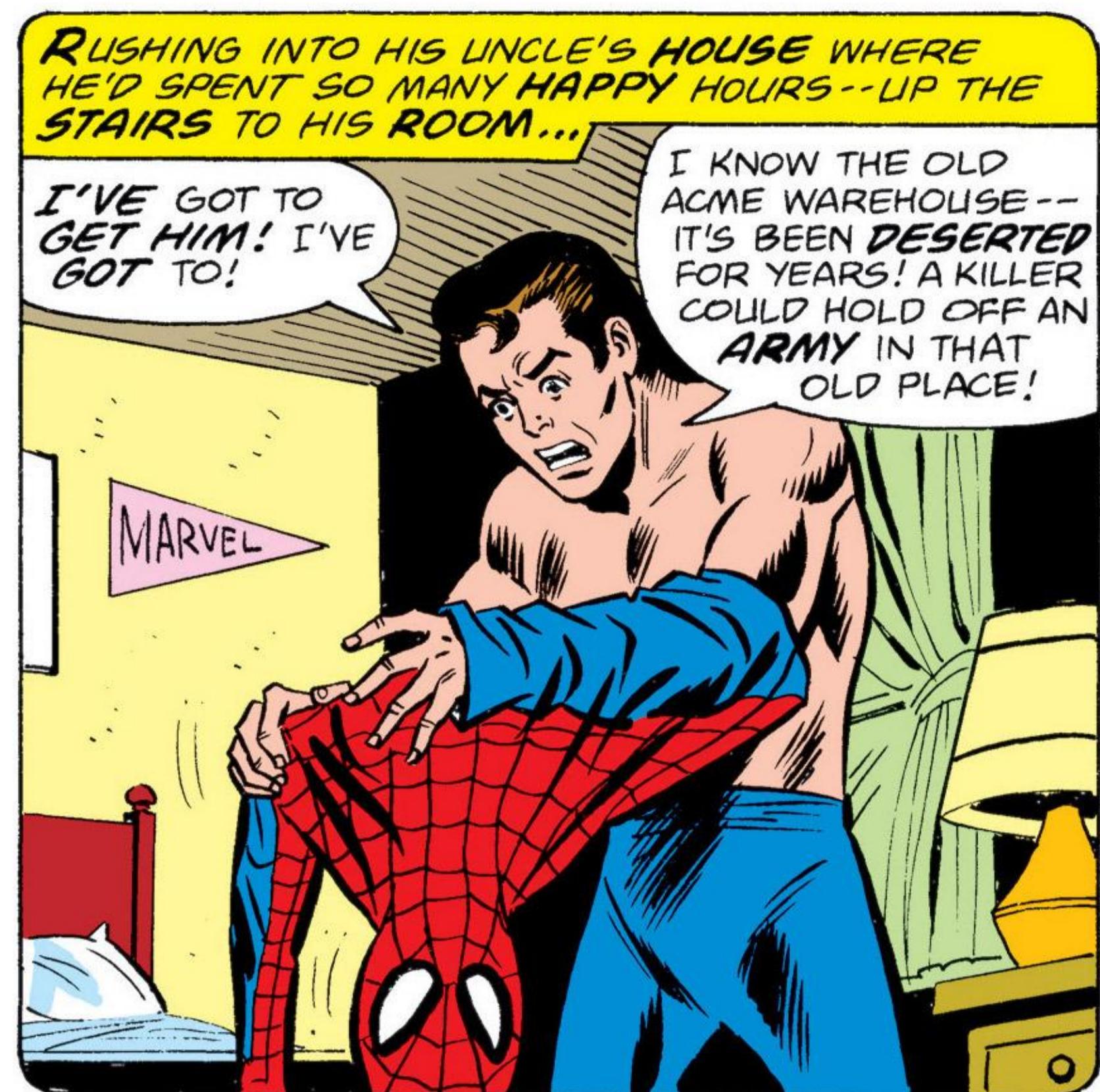
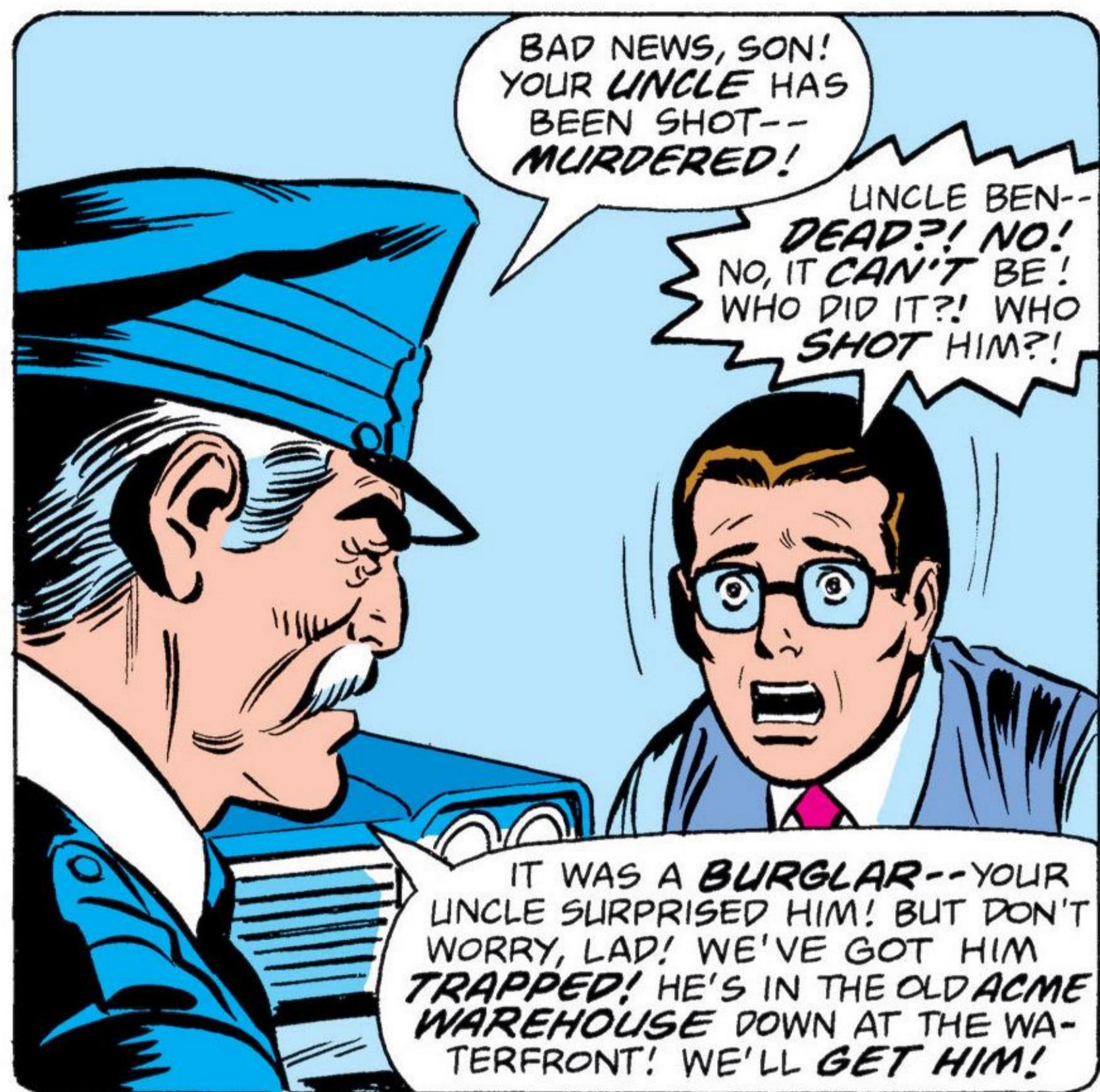
A SPIDER WHOM FATE HAD GIVEN A STARRING--IF BRIEF--ROLE IN THE DRAMA WE CALL... LIFE!

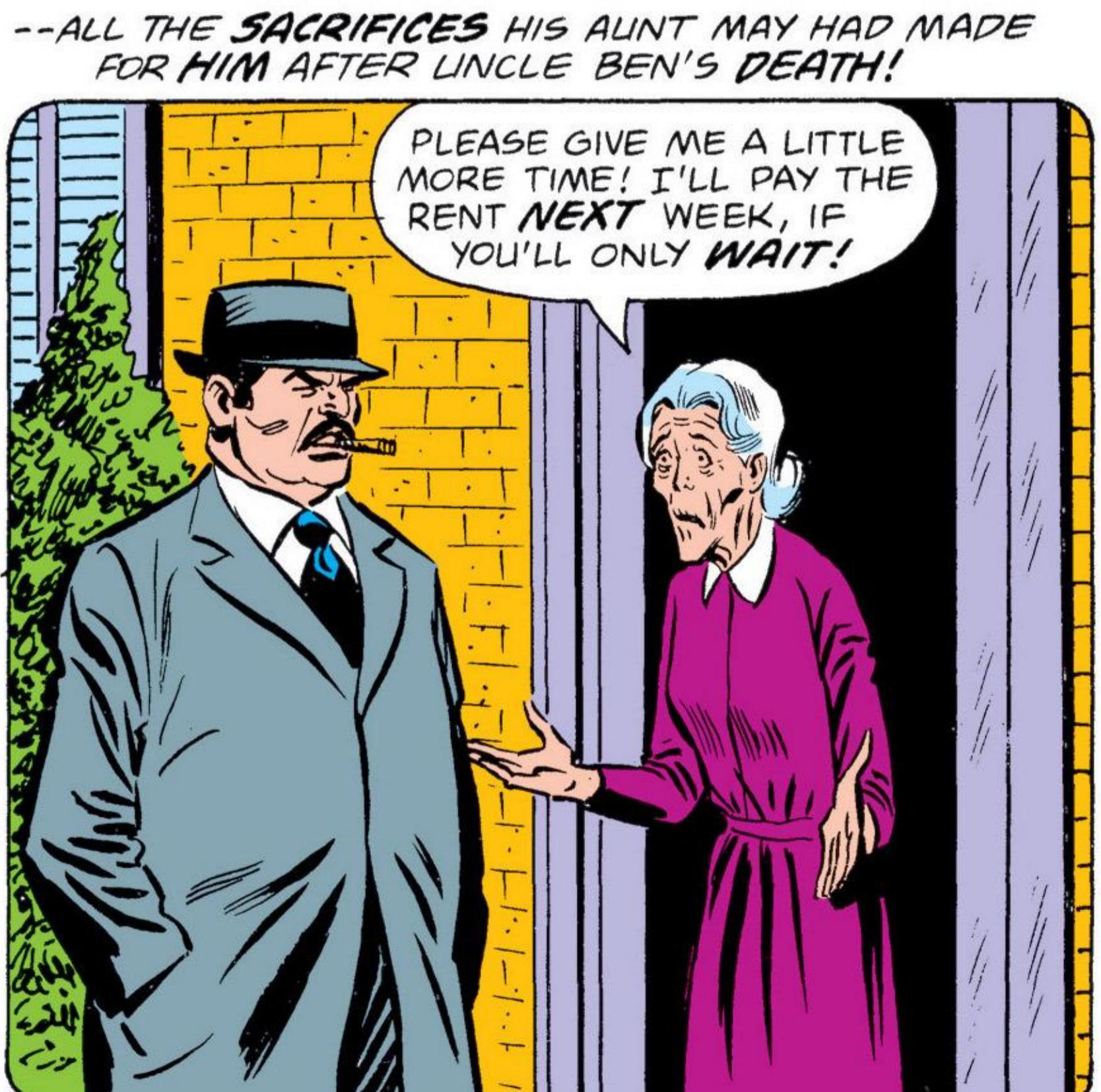
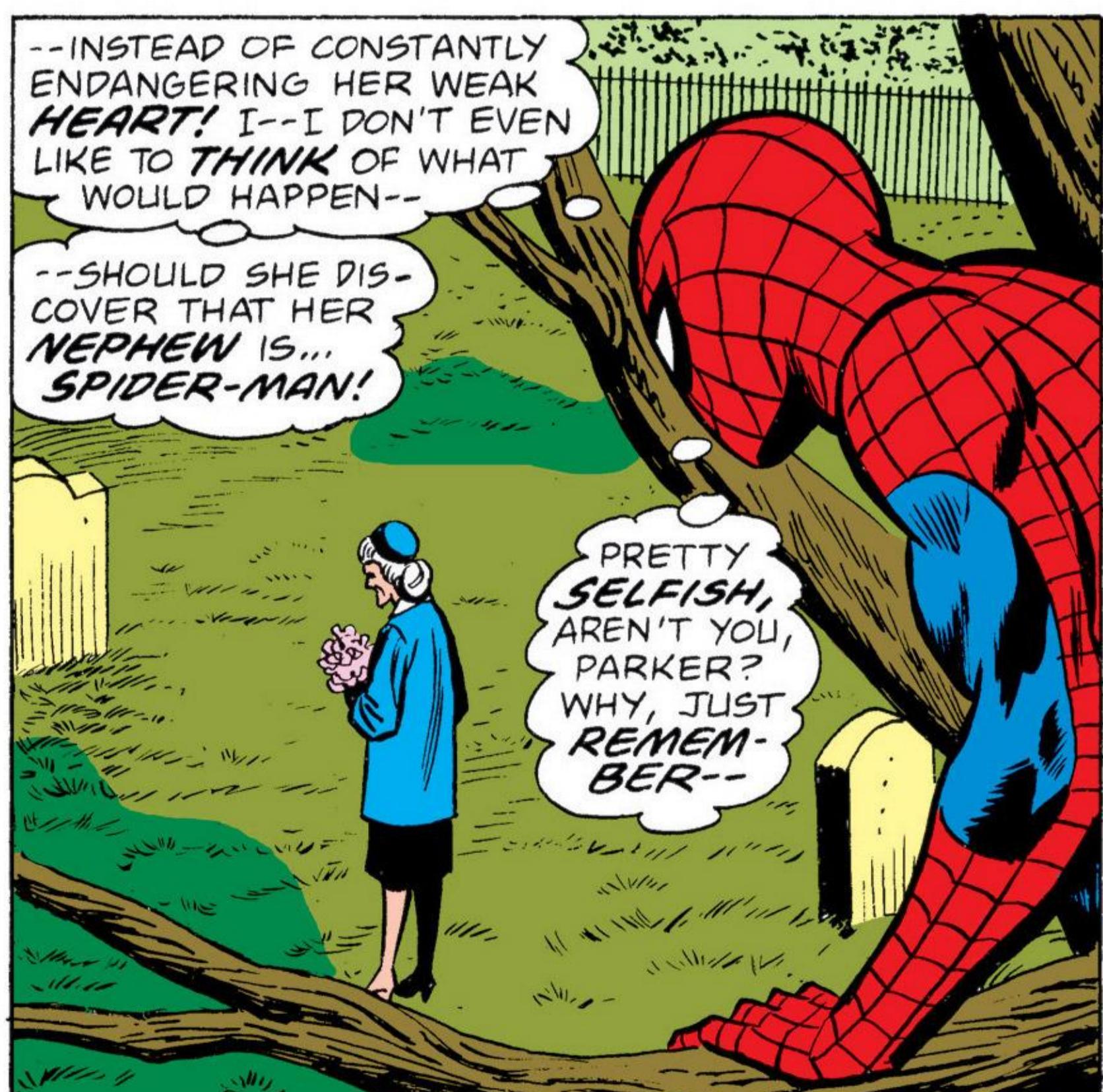
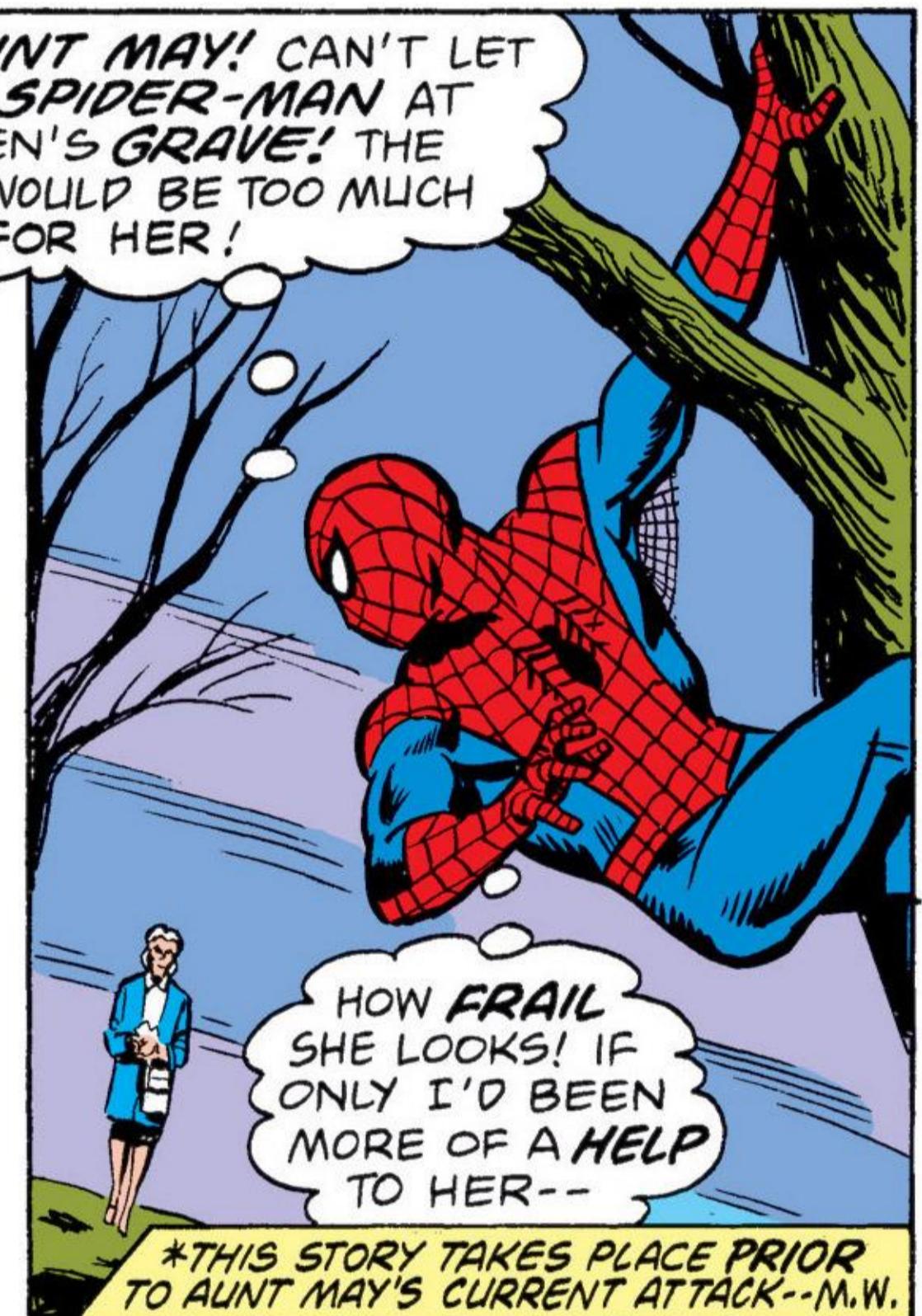
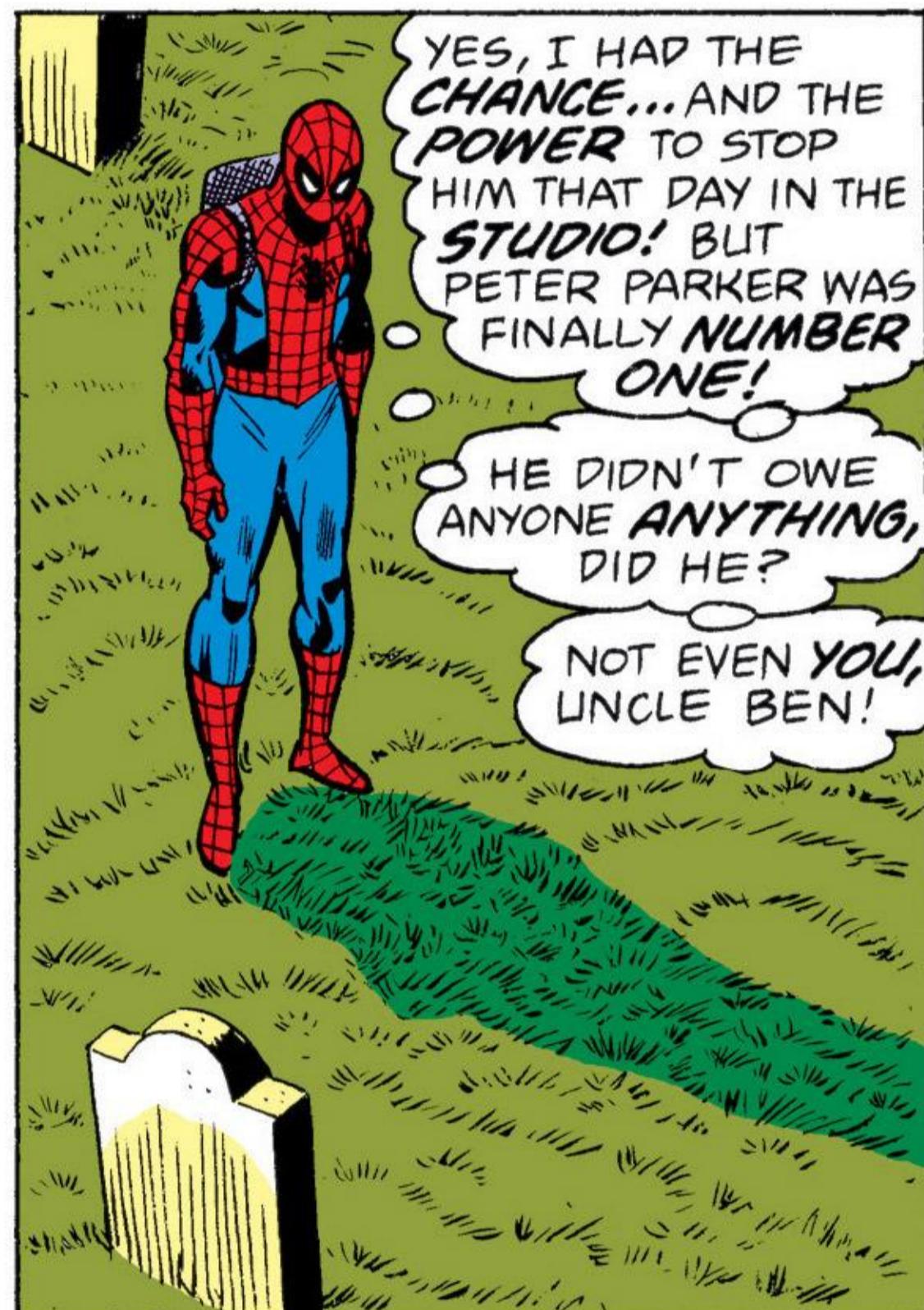
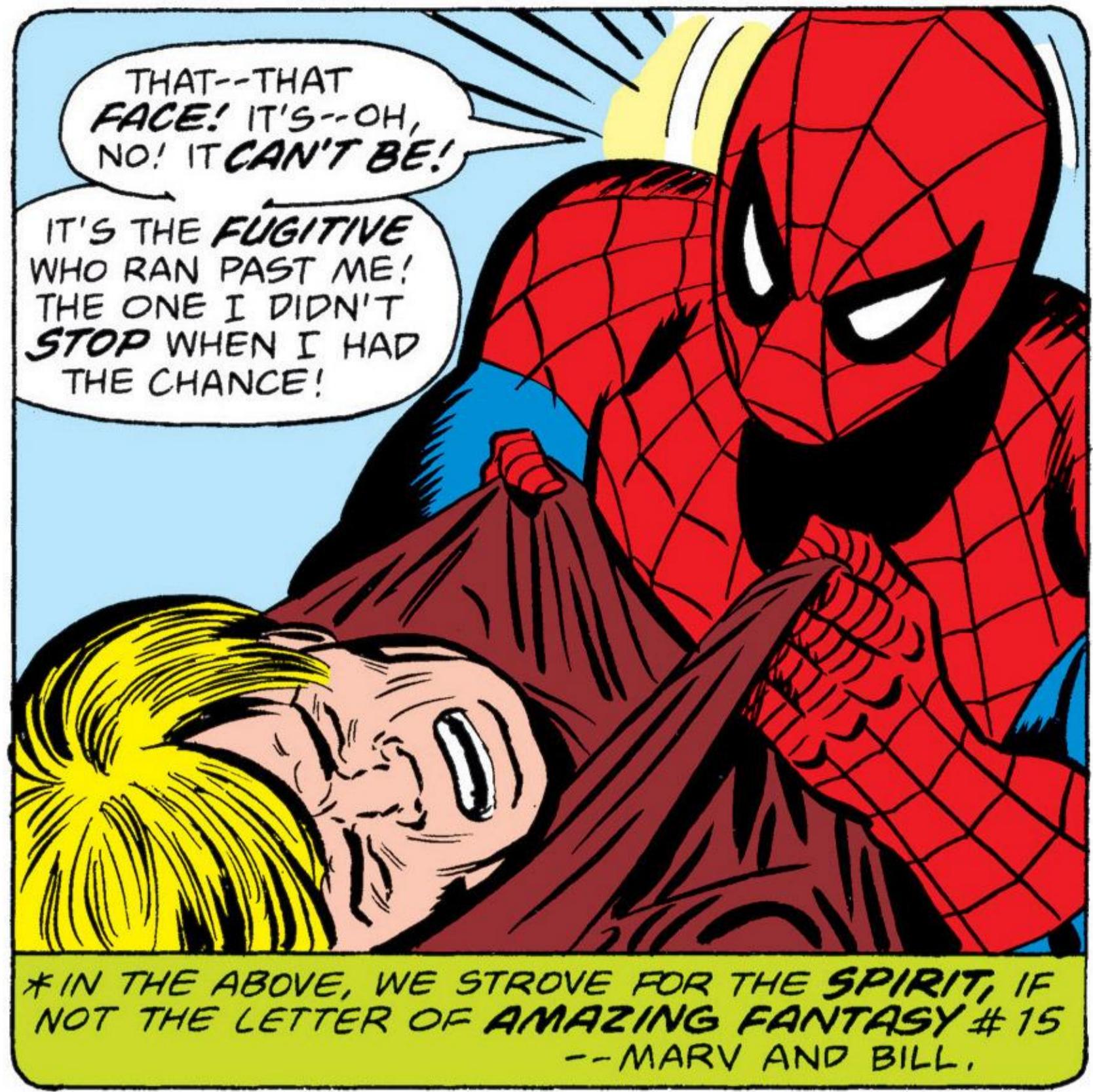


ACCIDENTALLY ABSORBING A FANTASTIC AMOUNT OF RADIOACTIVITY, THE DYING INSECT, IN SUDDEN SHOCK, BIT THE NEAREST LIVING THING--A SPLIT-SECOND BEFORE THE LIFE EBBED FROM ITS RADIOACTIVE BODY!





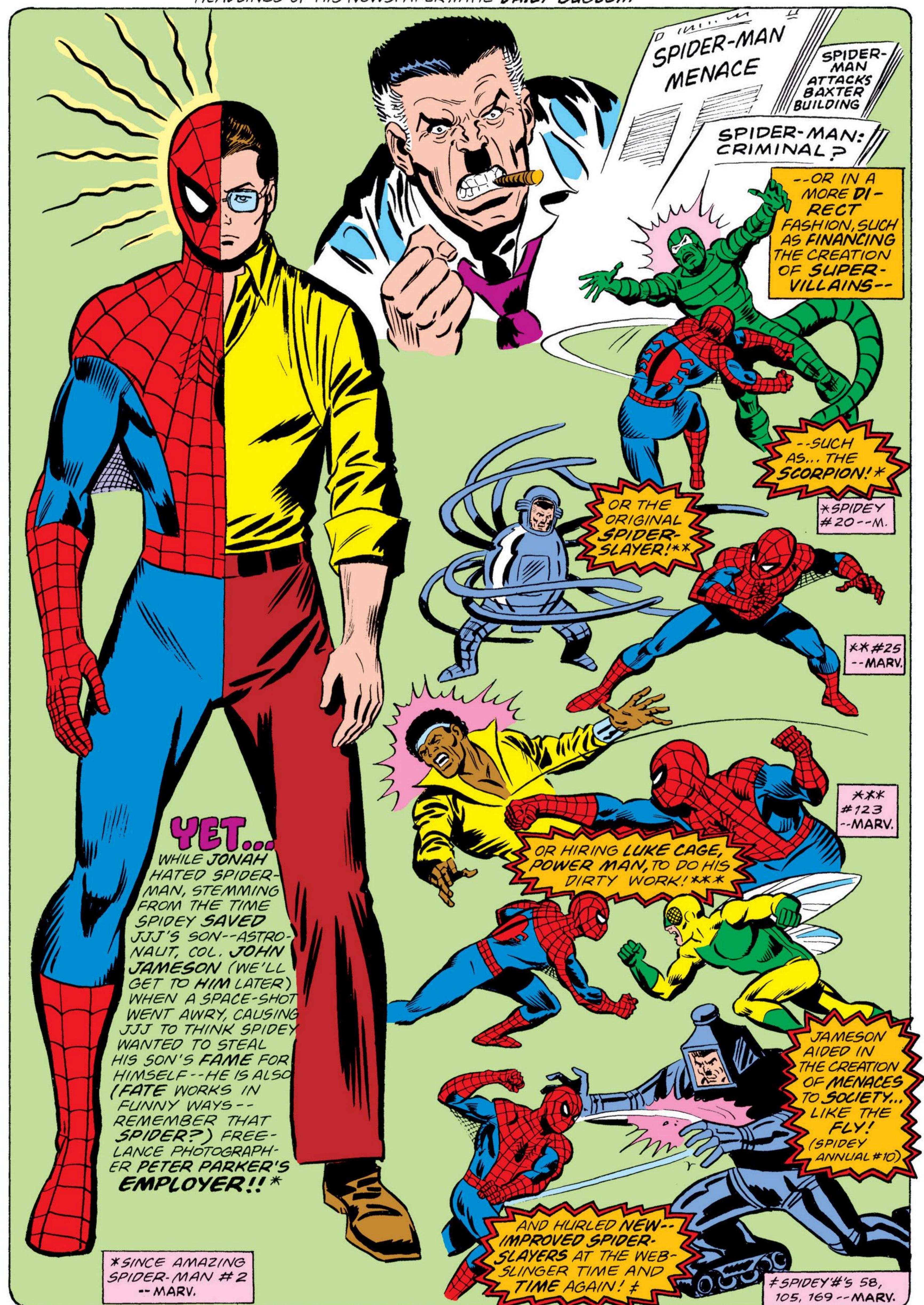




PETER TRIED TO HELP... AS SPIDER-MAN! RETURNING TO SHOW BUSINESS, HE PERFORMED BEFORE LARGER AND LARGER AUDIENCES! BUT THE TROUBLE HE HAD CASHING HIS CHECKS--



J. JONAH JAMESON NEVER LET UP! OVER THE YEARS, HE HAMMERED AWAY AT SPIDER-MAN--CALLED HIM EVERYTHING FROM A VIGILANTE TO A COMMON CRIMINAL--ATTACKING THE WALL-CRAWLER IN THE TABLOID HEADLINES OF HIS NEWSPAPER...THE DAILY BUGLE...



BEING THE WALL-CRAWLER DIDN'T MAKE OUR HERO'S SCHOOL LIFE ANY BED OF ROSES, EITHER!

TAKE FLASH THOMPSON, MIDTOWN HIGH'S B.M.O.C. (BIG MAN ON CAMPUS) FOR INSTANCE! ALL-AROUND JOCK--

--FLASH DIDN'T HAVE THE TIME OF DAY FOR PETER PARKER!

BUT HE WAS SPIDEY'S GREATEST FAN ... EVEN TO THE POINT OF IMPERSONATING HIS HERO AND GETTING HIMSELF KIDNAPPED BY THE DEADLY DOCTOR DOOM!*

* SPIDEY #5--M.

A LOT'S CHANGED SINCE FLASH GOT BACK FROM VIET-NAM!

AND, ALTHOUGH STILL A SPIDEY FAN, HE'S ALSO ONE OF PETE'S CLOSEST FRIENDS!

THEN THERE'S WHAT SOME HAVE LAUGHINGLY REFERRED TO AS PETER PARKER'S LOVE LIFE!

IT STARTED WITH J.J.J.'S SECRETARY... BETTY BRANT!

YOU COULD SAY THEY FELL IN LOVE BEHIND A DESK IN JONAH'S OFFICE--*

*#7--MARV.

--BUT IT'S EASIER TO PIN DOWN THE BREAK-UP OF THEIR RELATIONSHIP...STARTING WHEN BETTY'S BROTHER DIED DURING SPIDEY'S SECOND BATTLE WITH DOCTOR OCTOPUS--AND ENDING WHEN PETER'S SECRET IDENTITY AND SEEMING LOVE OF DANGER DROVE THEM APART!**

**SPIDEY #30--M.

STILL, THINGS DO CHANGE! PETER PARKER--A LITTLE OLDER AND A LITTLE WISER--LEFT HIGH SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL CRUSHES BEHIND, ENROLLED IN EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY--

--AND MET... GWEN STACY!



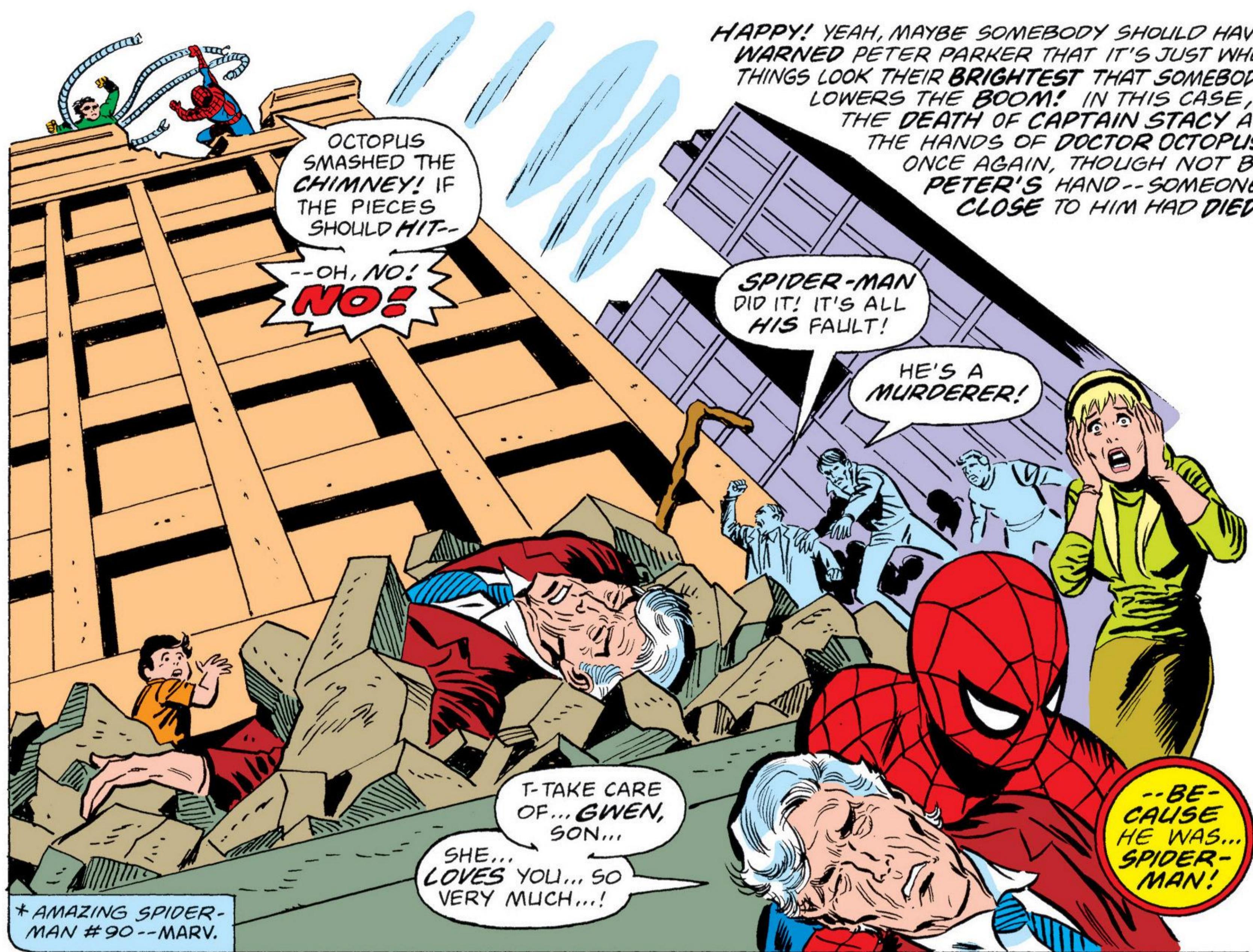
IT DIDN'T START OUT AS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT--BUT THEN MOST LOVE STORIES NEVER DO! LOVE IT WAS--AND GWEN'S DAD, CAPTAIN STACY, APPROVED!



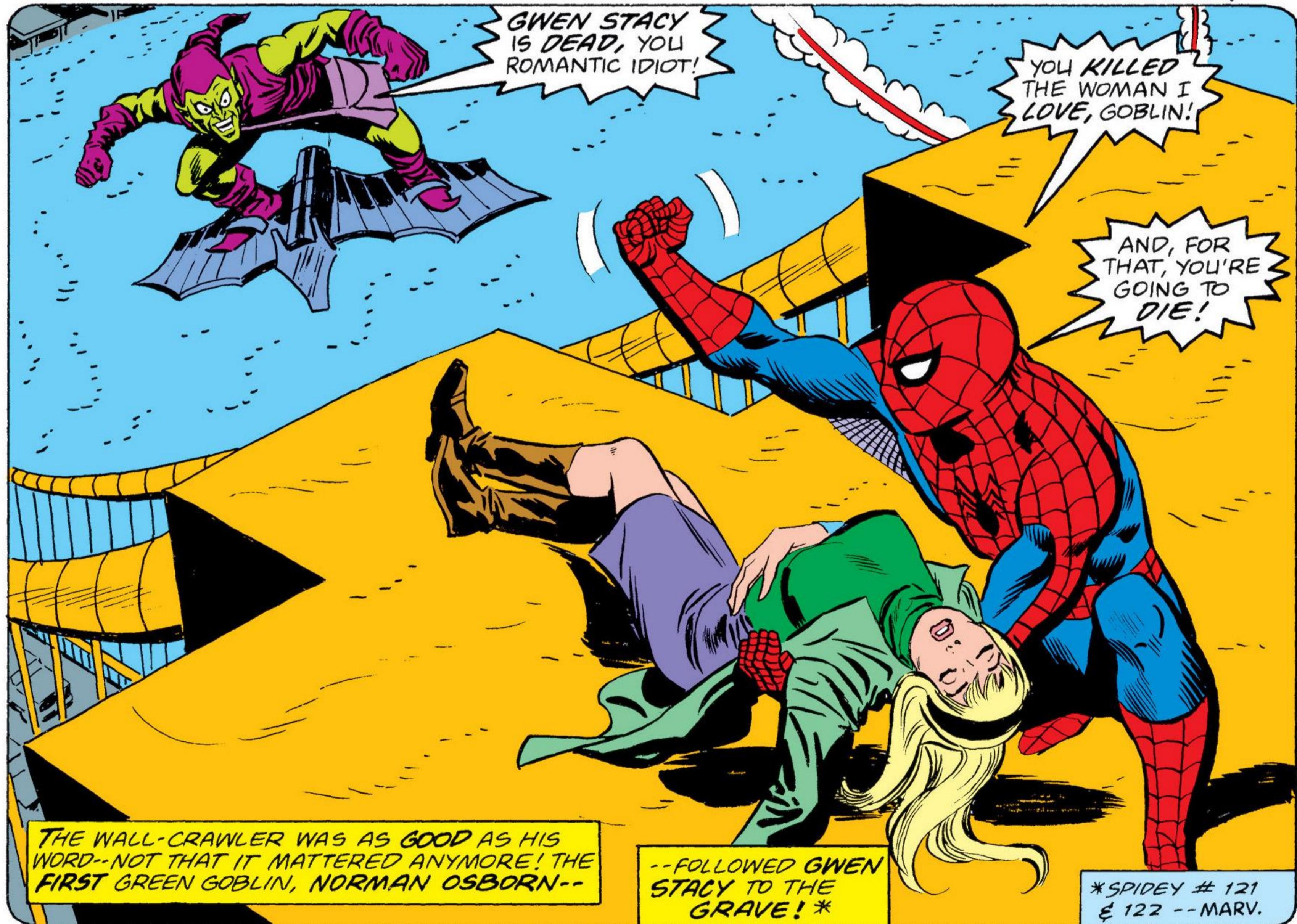
THINGS BEGAN LOOKING UP FOR A YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER WITH A FLAIR FOR ACTION PIX--AND FOR A YOUNG MAN AND HIS GIRL!

AND DAILY BUGLE EDITOR "ROBBIE" ROBERTSON--WELL, HE LIKED TO SEE PEOPLE HAPPY!

HAPPY! YEAH, MAYBE SOMEBODY SHOULD HAVE WARNED PETER PARKER THAT IT'S JUST WHEN THINGS LOOK THEIR **BRIGHTEST** THAT SOMEBODY LOWERS THE BOOM! IN THIS CASE, THE DEATH OF CAPTAIN STACY AT THE HANDS OF DOCTOR OCTOPUS! ONCE AGAIN, THOUGH NOT BY PETER'S HAND--SOMEONE CLOSE TO HIM HAD DIED--



BIG DEAL! THAT RADIATIVE SPIDER SHOULD HAVE SAVED ITS BITE! FOR ALL HIS FANTASTIC POWER, FOR ALL HIS SUPER-HUMAN STRENGTH--HE DIDN'T HAVE WHAT IT TOOK TO SAVE CAPTAIN STACY, OR...



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

BUT, IF YOU THINK LIFE WAS UNRELENTINGLY GRIM FOR OUR WEB-SLINGER--

--CONSIDER THE CASE OF CURT CONNERS, A ONE-ARMED SCIENTIST--

--WHO TRIED TO REGENERATE HIS LOST LIMB... FAILED... AND INSTEAD BECAME--

* SPIDEY #6 -- MARV.

--THE LETHAL LIZARD!*

TRAGEDY HAUNTED FREDERICK FOSWELL, ALSO! AS THE BIG MAN, HE AND HIS ENFORCERS TRIED TO DESTROY SPIDER-MAN! BUT, REPENTANT--

--HE GAVE HIS LIFE TO SAVE J. JONAH JAMESON!*

* AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #10 & 52, AND MARVEL TEAM-UP #40 -- MARV.

HE DIED A HERO, YET HAD HE LIVED, HE WOULD HAVE SEEN HIS DAUGHTER FALL VICTIM TO A REVENGE HE NEVER WANTED!*

OR CONSIDER THE PLIGHT OF COLONEL JOHN JAMESON-- WHO NEVER SHARED HIS FATHER'S HATRED OF SPIDER-MAN!

WHAT DID HE DO TO DESERVE BECOMING... THE
MAN-WOLF?!*

* SPIDEY #124 -- MARV.

NOTHING! BUT, AS FATE CHOSE A SPIDER TO IRRADIATE PETER PARKER-- SO IT CHOSE A MOONSTONE TO CHANGE JOHN JAMESON INTO A MONSTER!

JUST AS IT TURNED MICHAEL MORBIUS, A MAN WITH AN INCURABLE BLOOD DISEASE--

--INTO A BLOOD-LUSTING LIVING VAMPIRE!*

AND PETER PARKER INTO A SIX-ARMED FREAK!*

QUITE A SENSE OF HUMOR, FATE!

* SPIDEY #100-102 -- MARV.

AND YOU MIGHT CALL THE CASE OF HARRY OSBORN--

--NORMAN OSBORN'S SON, AND PETER PARKER'S FRIEND AND SCHOOL-MATE--

--A CLASSIC EXAMPLE OF "FATE ON THE REBOUND!"

HARRY DIDN'T ASK FOR HIS DRUG ADDICTION--BUT THE NEWS OF HIS FATHER'S DEATH AND HIS OWN NEUROSES CREATED THE NEW **GREEN GOBLIN!***

*SPIDEY # 136--MARV.

OF COURSE, NOT ALL OF SPIDEY'S VILLAINS HAVE BEEN DESERVING OF SYMPATHY! THERE'S ALSO:

KINGPIN!



KRAVEN--



--THE HUNTER!



MOLTEN MAN!



THE SHOCKER!

DOCTOR OCTOPUS!

WILL-O'-THE-WISP!

THE BEETLE!

STEGRON--

TARANTULA!



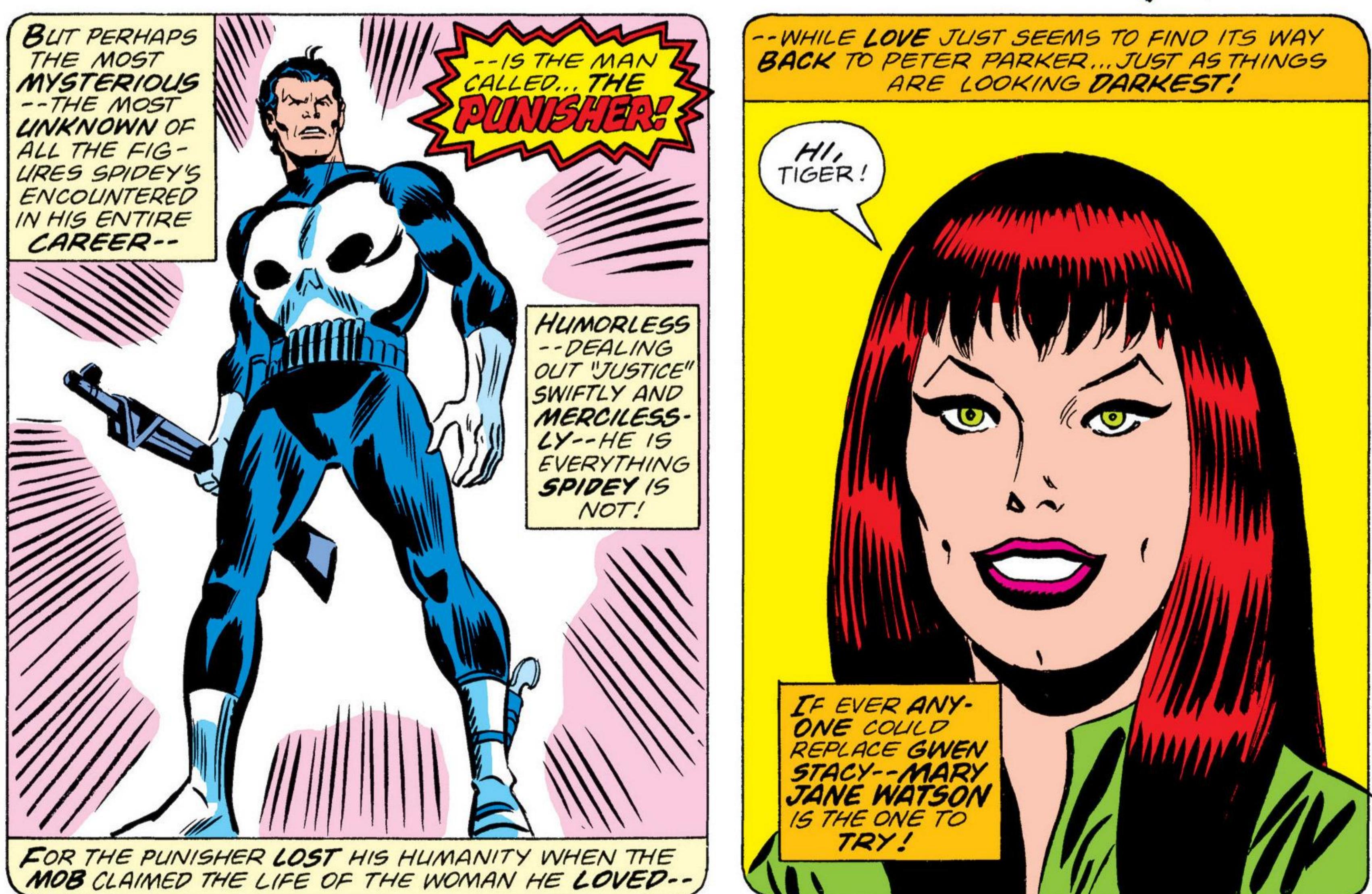
MIRAGE!

(WELL, MAYBE HE'S DESERVING!)



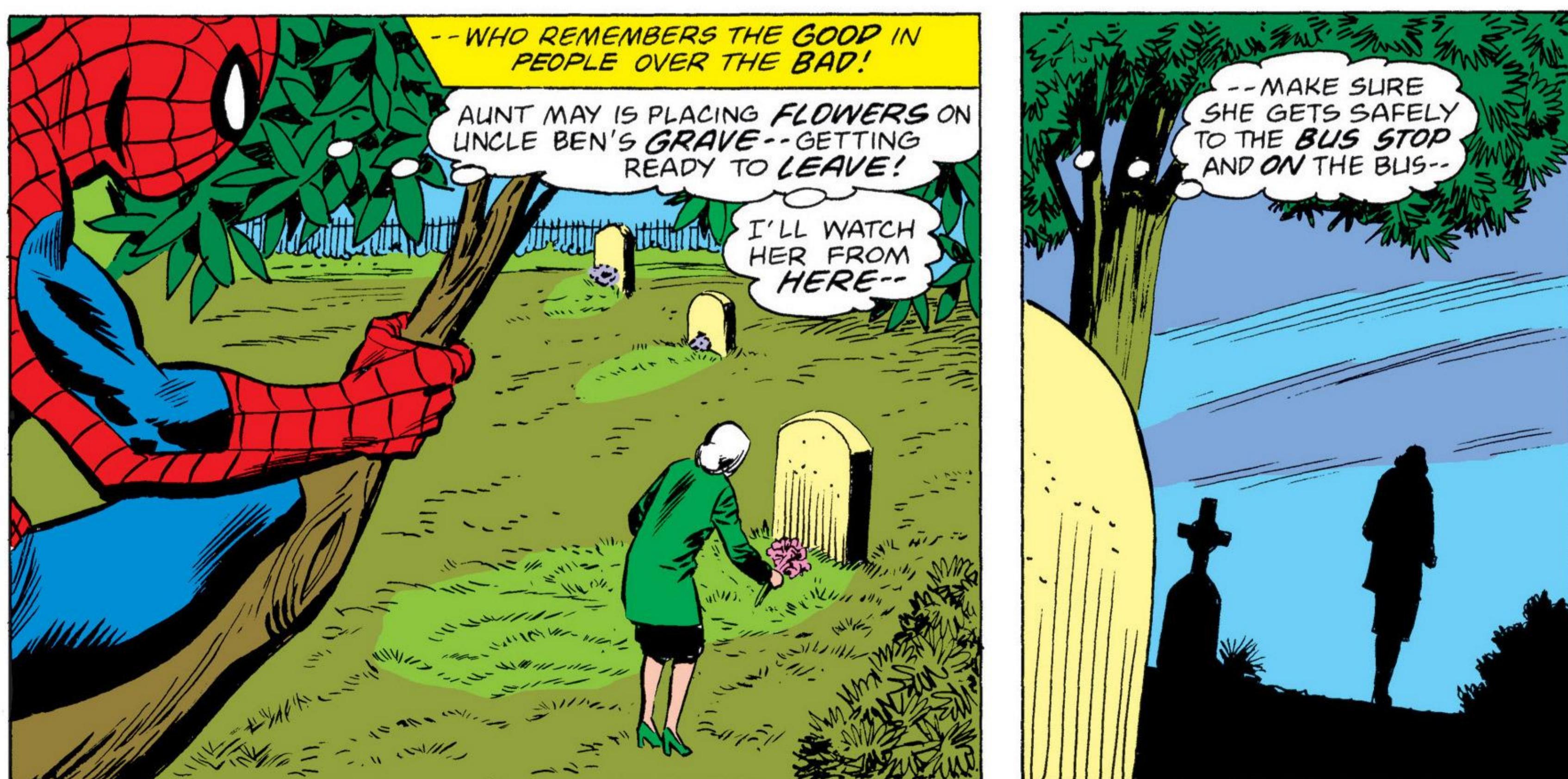
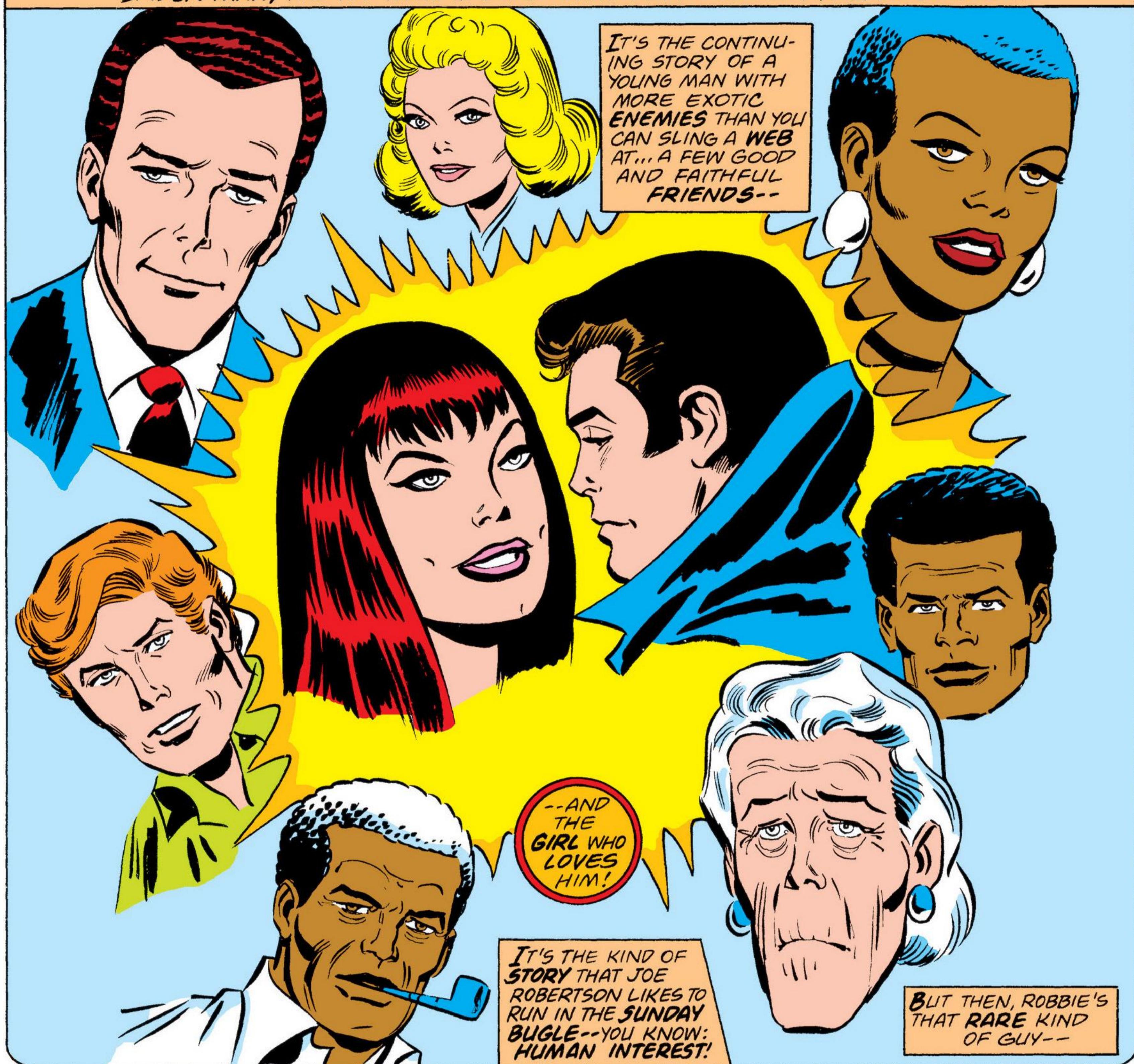
--THE DINOSAUR MAN!

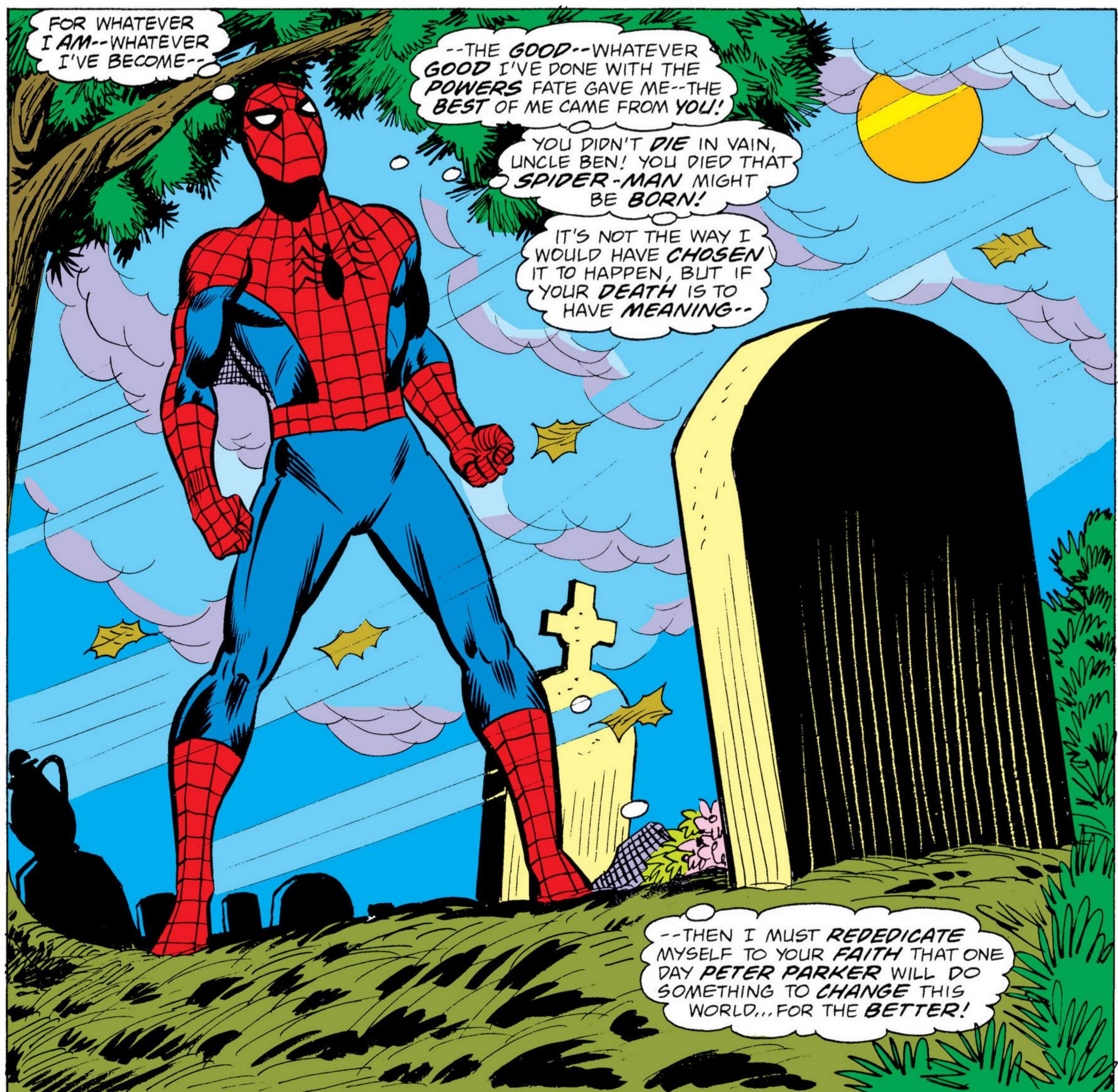
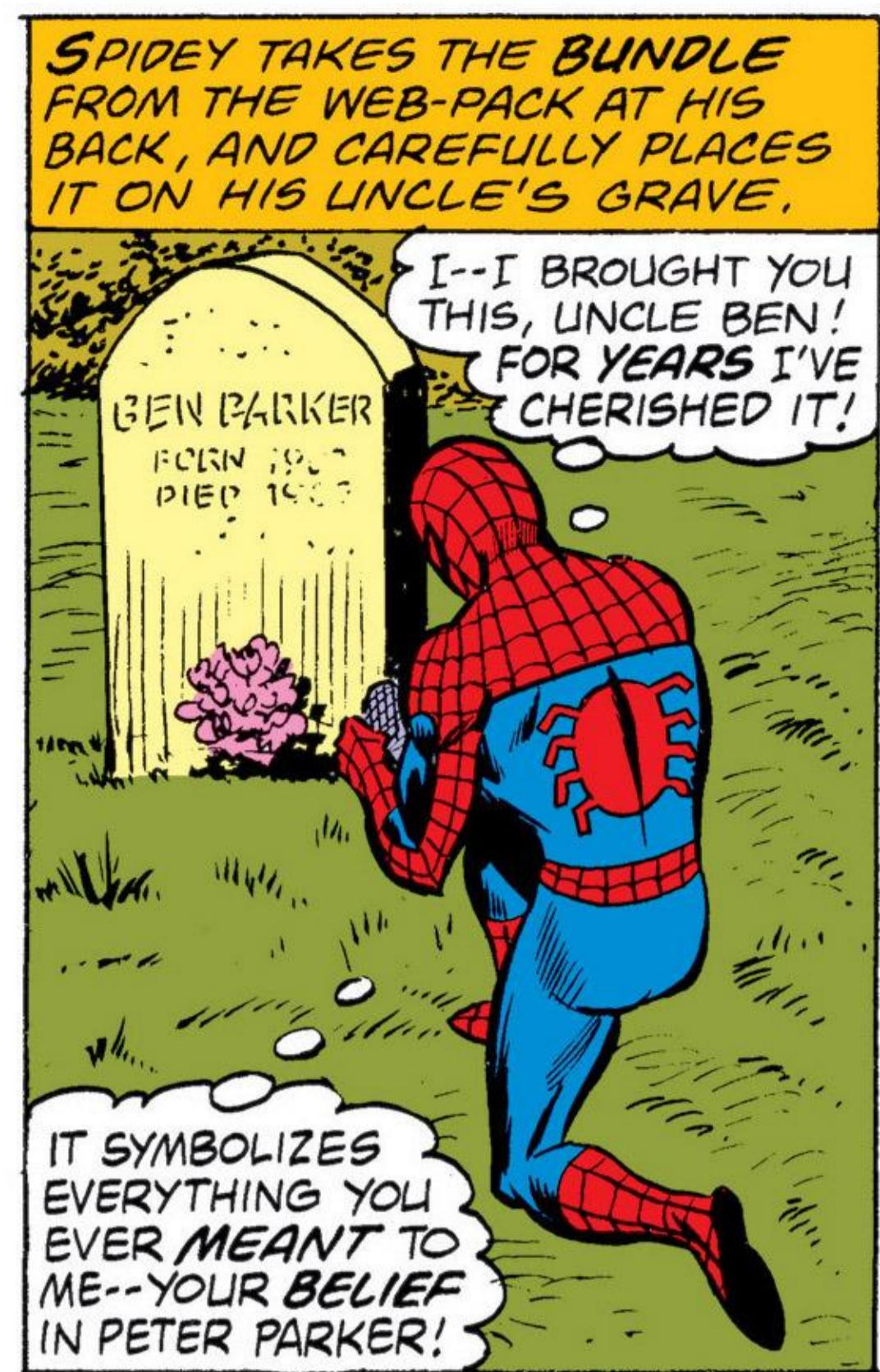
AND THEN AGAIN, BEING SOMEWHAT OF A SUPER-CELEBRITY AROUND THE BIG APPLE HIMSELF--



SO THAT BRINGS US PRETTY MUCH UP TO NOW, PILGRIM! THE LEGEND OF PETER PARKER, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, HAS HAD MORE UPS AND DOWNS THAN A RUNAWAY ROLLER COASTER!

IT'S THE CONTINUING STORY OF A YOUNG MAN WITH MORE EXOTIC ENEMIES THAN YOU CAN SLING A WEB AT... A FEW GOOD AND FAITHFUL FRIENDS--





THE WIND WHISPERS THROUGH THE TREES AS IF IN ANSWER--

--THE YOUNG MAN KNOWN TO THE WORLD AS SPIDER-MAN SWINGS OFF INTO THE NIGHT!

--AND, AFTER STANDING IN THOUGHTFUL SILENCE FOR A FEW MOMENTS MORE--

--BUT LIFE, UN-LIKE FICTION, IS RARELY SO CLEAN-CUT!

BRRR!
COLD NIGHT
T'BE WALKIN'
OUT HERE--

--'SPECIALY WHEN I SHOULD BE AT HOME, CELEBRATIN' A BIRTHDAY WITH MY BOY, TOMMY! POOR KID! HE'S A SMART ONE--BUT THE OTHER KIDS PICK ON HIM 'CAUSE HE AIN'T A FIGHTER!

WISH I COULD'VE AFFORDED TO BUY THE LAD A PRESENT THIS YEAR THAT MEANT SOMETH--

EH? WHAT'S THAT IN FRONT OF THAT TOMB-STONE?

WHY, I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

WHAT FOOL WOULD LEAVE AN EXPENSIVE THING LIKE A MICROSCOPE IN A GRAVEYARD??

SOMETHIN' STICKY ON IT--BUT IT SEEMS T'BE EVAPORATIN'!

WELL, FINDERS-KEEPERS! THIS IS JUST WHAT MY TOMMY WOULD LOVE!

WITH THIS, IT WON'T MATTER WHAT HIS FRIENDS CALL HIM!

GUESS IT PAYS TO WORK THE GRAVE-YARD SHIFT!

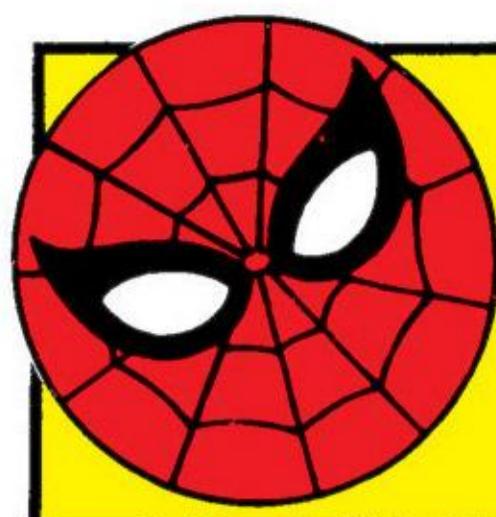
SOME-TIMES YOU CAN PROFIT BY OTHER FOLKS' MEMORIES!

AND SO IT GOES!

NEXT ISSUE:

THE LEGEND CONTINUES! THE

ROCKET RACER ROLLS ON!



THE SPIDER'S WEB

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Dear Marvel,

I've just gotta tell you guys how much I enjoyed issue #175. I haven't enjoyed SPIDER-MAN this much since, uh, #174. The Punisher is one of my favorite characters, and always has been since he first appeared—but unlike many Marvelites I would not like to see him in his own mag. He seems to work so well in guest shots that I just don't think he would do as well alone; and there is so much about him that is unknown, you'd have to reveal some of his past, which would dispel the mystery that surrounds him.

I am impatiently awaiting next issue to find out how the Goblin will turn out with still another identity.

Markus Greiner
625 Fullerton
Chicago, IL 60614

Reaction to the guest-appearance of the Punisher has been quite favorable, indeed, even if a bit contradictory. For instance, Mark, you'd prefer to keep his origins shrouded in mystery, while the following letter asks for exactly the opposite. Witness...

Gentlemen:

The Punisher is one of the finest supporting characters in Marvel's entire cast. I, for one, would like to learn more about his origin—just how this self-styled vigilante happened to embark upon his malevolent one-man crusade against crime.

Being incensed with Spider-Man for cracking jokes during battle (in the first panel of page 3) is so within the Punisher's character!

On the other hand, his obtuse comment (in the last panel of page 3) is totally *out* of character for him—even during his weakest possible moment. In fact, it's out of character for *any* 1977 comic-book hero. Such a rhetorical inanity is something Batman might have said circa 1966. You should excise such glib dialogue from the speech patterns of your characters—especially one as somber as the Punisher.

As for the apparently impending return of the Green Goblin—obviously, Dr. Hamilton will become the third-generation pumpkin-thrower.

A final point—J. Jonah Jameson seems to finally be on the verge of coming over to Spider-Man's side. Let this happen! Jonah has been Spidey's worst enemy for nearly 15 years, due originally to petty jealousy (see SPIDER-MAN #10). It's time for Jonah to grow up.

Terry Harms
1020 West 41st Place Apt. 3
Kansas City, MO 64111

Dear spider people—

After reading ish #175, I've got to warn you that you've come to another turning point in Spidey's life. JJJ just can't be against Spider-Man anymore. How could he justify it, after the way the web-slinger saved his life?

C'mon, there's no easy way out this time; a foil is a foil, but sooner or later everyone learns his or her lesson.

By the way, does the *Daily Bugle* carry the Spider-Man strip?

Thomas L. Czaplicki
Box 31
Lincoln Park, MI 48146

More likely, the Howard the Duck strip, Tom.

As for Jolly Jonah, we feel constrained to point out that the facts have never stopped him before—so why should they, now? There have been many occasions upon which Spidey has saved JJJ or his son, John; these incidents have only served to fuel Jonah's jealousy. Of course, we mere armadillos can't

hope to predict the actual future actions of the volatile Jameson...so you'll have to keep reading to see what effect, if any, the aforementioned incident has had upon the apoplectic publisher.

Dear Marvel,

I love your comics. They are the proverbial "cat's pajamas" and they put that proverbial "sunshine" in my proverbial "life." I only have one problem—in their desire to be fresh as the proverbial "daisy" in their dialogue, I feel that many Marvel writers have those "old" proverbial "butterflies in their stomachs" in taking the proverbial "bull by the horns" and feel compelled to let the reader know when using those proverbial "cliche phrases" that they are, proverbially, "with it," by having every character and her proverbial "brother" accompany those phrases with a certain proverbial phrase.

Sorry for kicking the proverbial dead horse.

Eric M. Heideman
1010 15th Ave. SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414

We get the proverbial point, Eric—and we promise to warn our proverbial scripters to watch themselves in the proverbial future!

Dear Marvel,

I bought a book today on 150 ways to play solitaire. I was just flipping through the pages, when I noticed a game called Will-o'-the Wisp. It says that this game got its name because it is not so easy to win as it appears on paper. It also says that Will o' the Wisp is similar to the game Spiderette, which in turn is patterned after the game Spider. I was just wondering if all this had anything to do with Marvel's Will o' the Wisp and his relationship to Spider-Man?

Maureen Toonkel
1507 Monks Ave S-13
Mankato, MN 56001

According to Lively Len Wein, he conceived the Will-o'-the-Wisp character a full fifteen or more years ago, Maureen—but he and we are delighted with your sleuthing and the amazing coincidences you unearthed! We thank you for bringing this startling observation to our attention, and now we must also thank all of you Spidophiles for making this yet another enchanting installment of "The Spider's Web"!

Take thirty!

