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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



KELLY
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THE DB! FOR EVERY BRAND NEWS DAY!

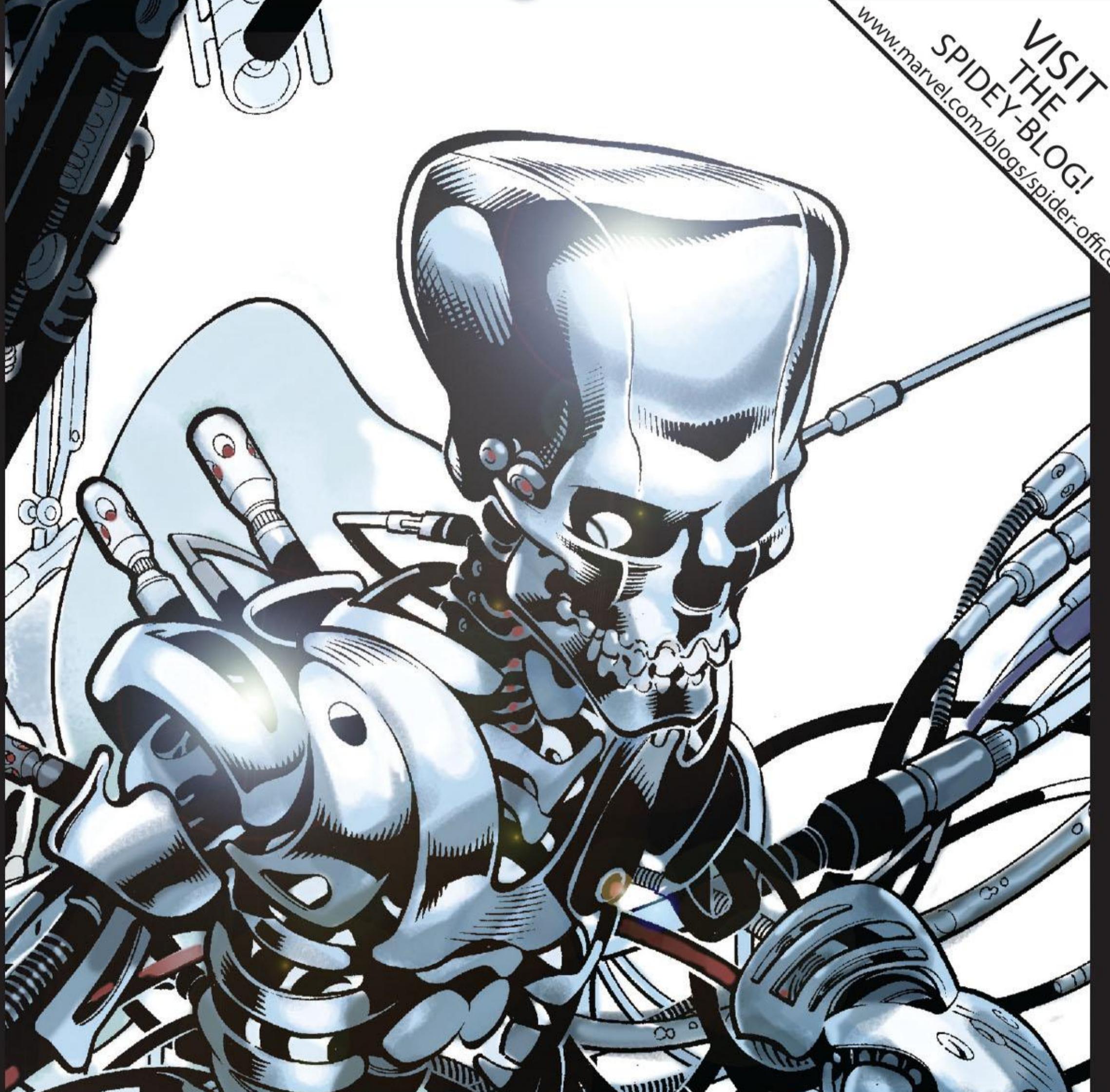


HOW WILL CANDIDATES FIGHT RISE IN GANG VIOLENCE? RANDALL CROWNE OFFERS PLAN FOR 1 MILLION NEW COPS BY END OF FIRST TERM; HOLLISTER OFFERS EDUCATION "REFORM" TO KEEP "KIDS" OFF "STREETS". DO WE REALLY WANT SMARTER GANG MEMBERS? MORE ON PAGE J42

OCTOBER 29, 2008

WEDNESDAY

DROP THE HAMMER!



VISIT
THE
SPIDEY-BLOG!
www.marvel.com/blogs/spider-office

Hammerhead. He used to be one of the biggest losers of the underworld, a mob goon with an impenetrable skull trying his best to be smarter, stronger and bigger than he could ever hope to be. He'd seemingly met his demise during the superhuman civil war, but was rescued and re-tooled by Spider-Man's newest arch-nemesis, the mysterious Mr. Negative. A new player on the crime scene, this monochromatic megalomaniac used his resources to outfit Hammerhead with a new skeleton and a new lease on life – in exchange for becoming Negative's top enforcer in the new age of superhuman crime!

POLICE TIE SPIDER-MAN TO RECENT MURDERS!

EXCLUSIVE TO THE DB!

In off-the-record conversations with DB staffers, police have confirmed that Spider-Man is the key suspect in the string of recent murders that has shocked this city. Although police have been reluctant to discuss the specifics of the murders, so-called "Spider Tracers" have definitely been found on each victim, leaving no doubt as to the involvement of Spider-Man. Spider-Man is already wanted for violations of...

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CONTINUED ON A2



MEET **S.I.M.O.N.** AN ACRONYM SOMEONE SPENT WAY TOO LONG WHIPPING UP TO DESCRIBE A RAT WITH A SUPERCOMPUTER IN HIS BRAIN.

TIME THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER SPENT GUARDING HIS CAGE.

DUH, GRAFT A FIFTY TERABYTE MICROPROCESSOR ONTO THE NOGGIN OF MOTHER NATURE'S GREATEST SURVIVOR, DO THE MATH.

THE TARGET IS COMPROMISED AND IN MOTION. ENGAGE IF YOU HAVE A SHOT.

MEET THE HIGHLY TRAINED AND EXCEEDINGLY WELL-ARMED DUDES SENT TO BRING S.I.M.O.N. HOME.

SERIOUSLY...? I DON'T KNOW WHY THEY'RE ROCKING THE CLOWN GEAR. I MISSED THAT PART.

MEET...
GRETA.

SWEET GHOST OF CHARLTON HESTON! SMITE MY ENEMIES WITH YOUR LIGHTNING AND YOUR GOLDEN CADILLAC--KEEP THE BAD MANS AWAY FROM MAH CHIHUAHUA!

GRETA FOUND S.I.M.O.N. SNIFFING AROUND THE DUMPSTER SHE CALLS HOME. INSTANT LOVE CONNECTION.

GRETA IS HOW I KNOW GOD HATES ME.



I KNOW IT ISN'T RIGHT,
I KNOW THAT SHE'S IS A
MENTALLY FRACKED
VICTIM OF OUR COLD
CAPITALIST SOCIETY WHO
NEEDS COMPASSION,
UNDERSTANDING,
AND A HAND UP...

BUT THIS EXERCISE IN HEROISM IS
A LITTLE LIKE CARRYING TWO
HUNDRED POUNDS OF BACON FAT
SEASONED WITH CIGARETTE ASHES.

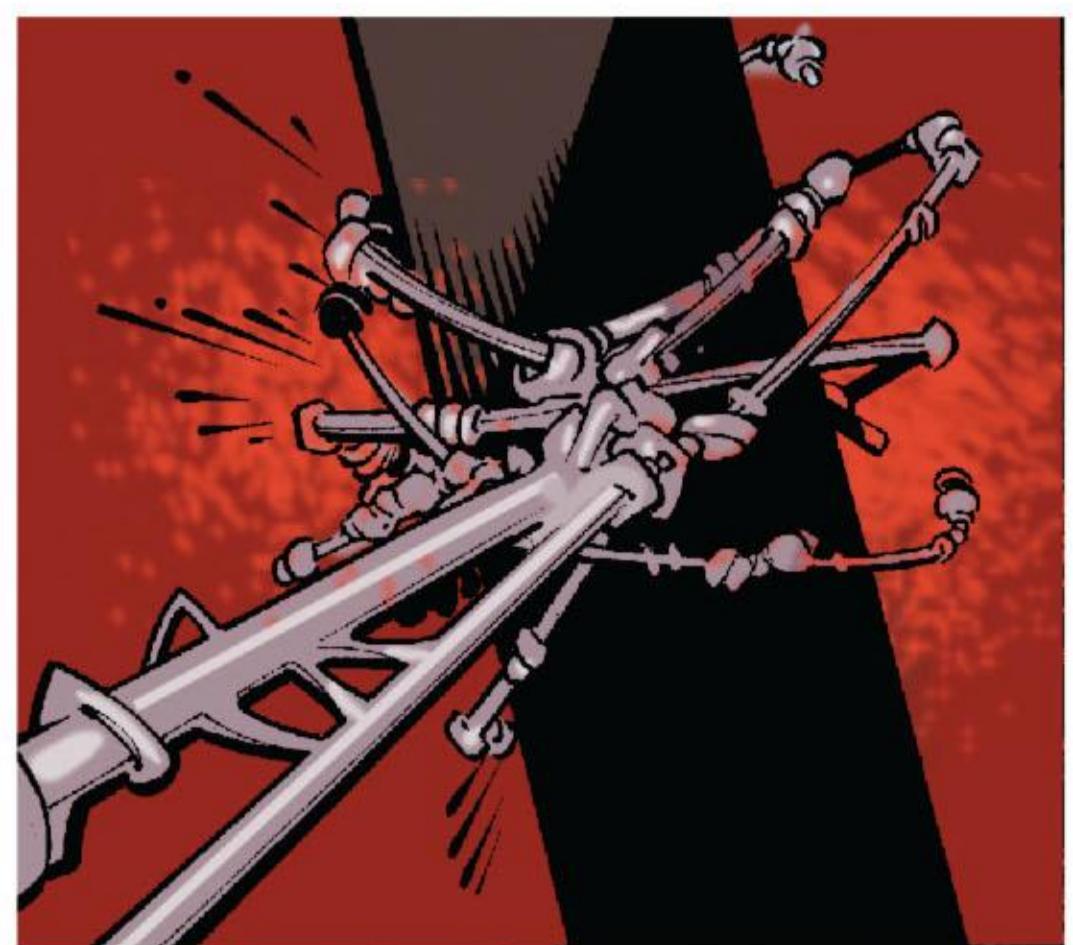
AFTER IT WAS LEFT
OUT IN THE SUN.

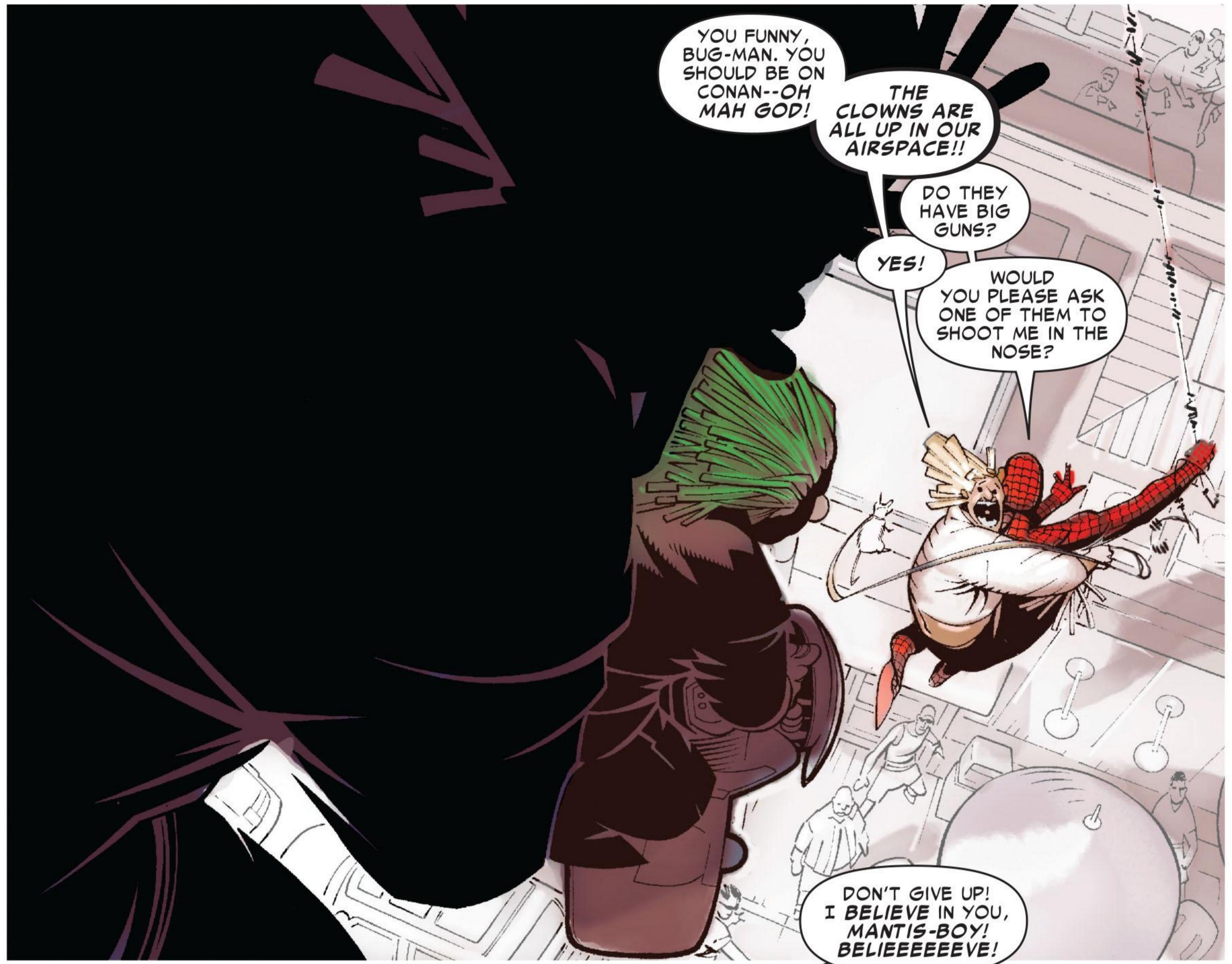
FLY LIKE THE
WIND, BUG-MAN,
OR WE GONNA
DIE!!!

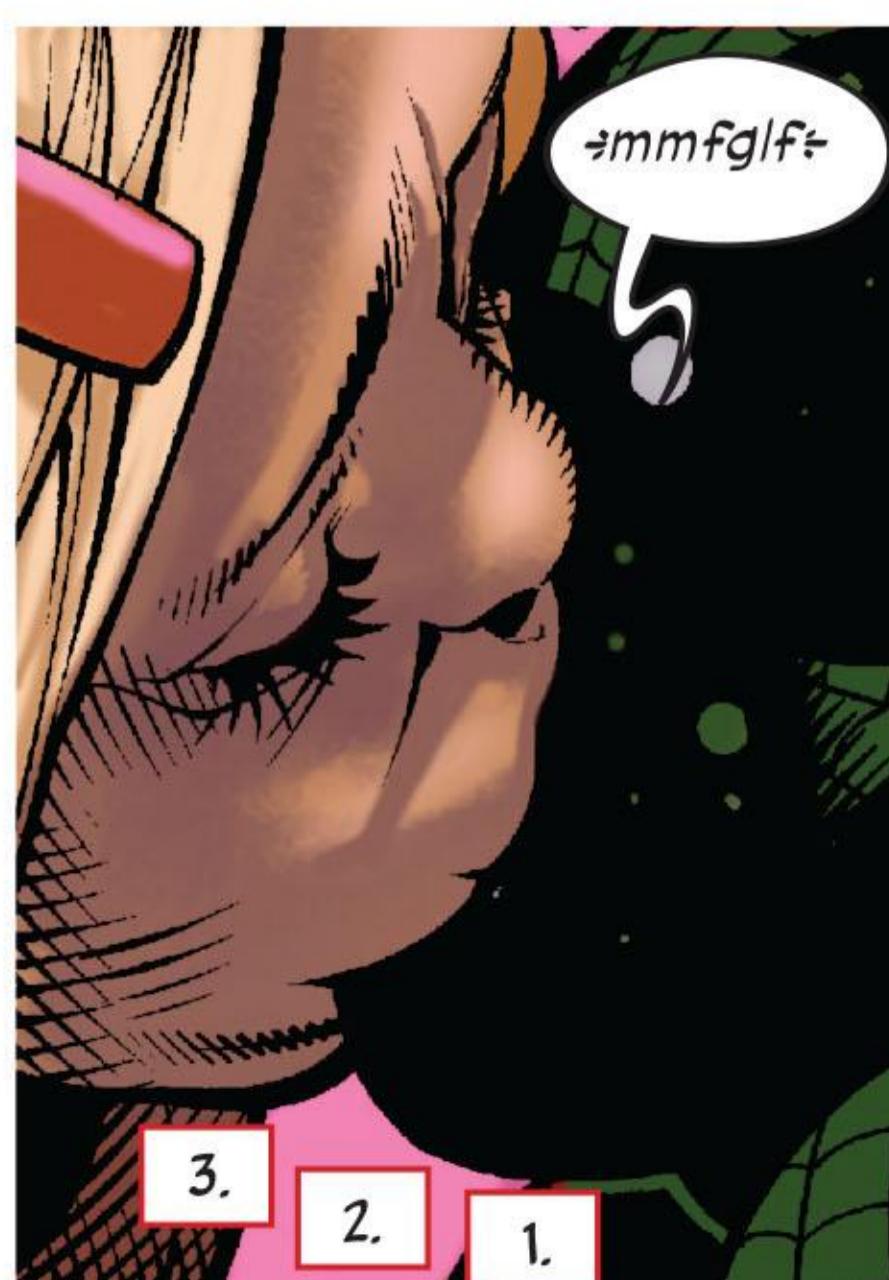
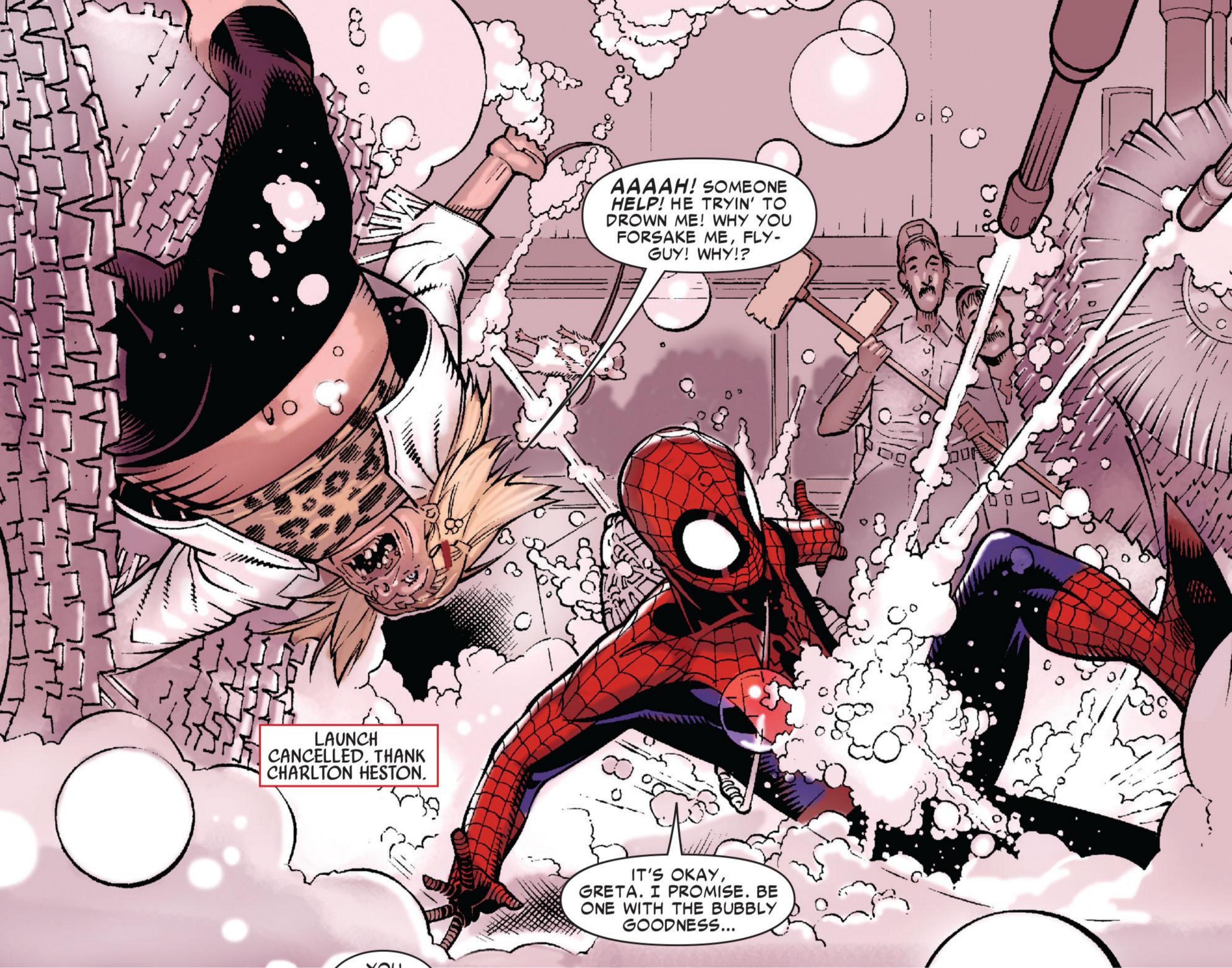
JUST ONCE, GOD...
"PANTY EMERGENCY" BACK-
STAGE DURING FASHION WEEK?
I'LL EVEN TAKE "KIDNAPPING IN
THE AIR-FRESHENER FACTORY."
JUST THROW ME
A BONE...

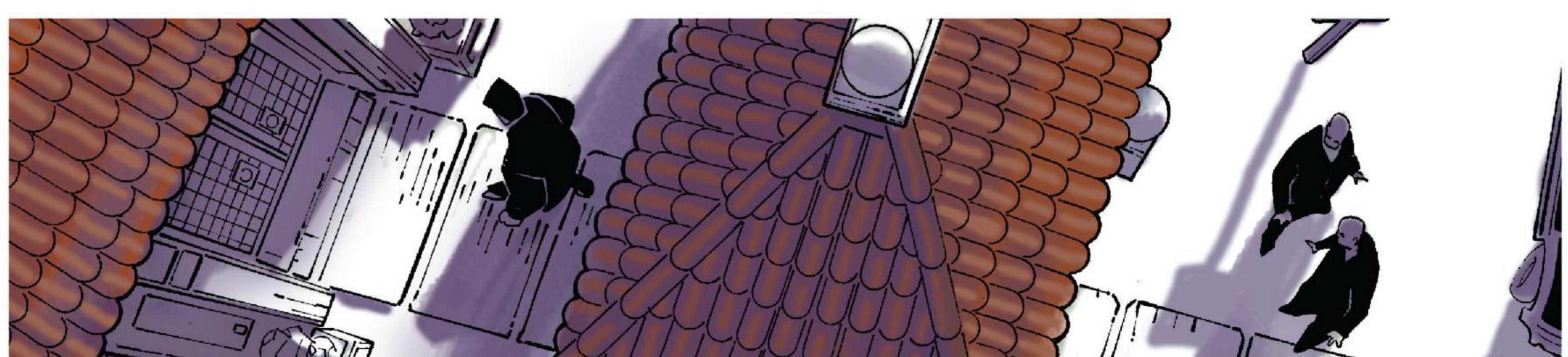
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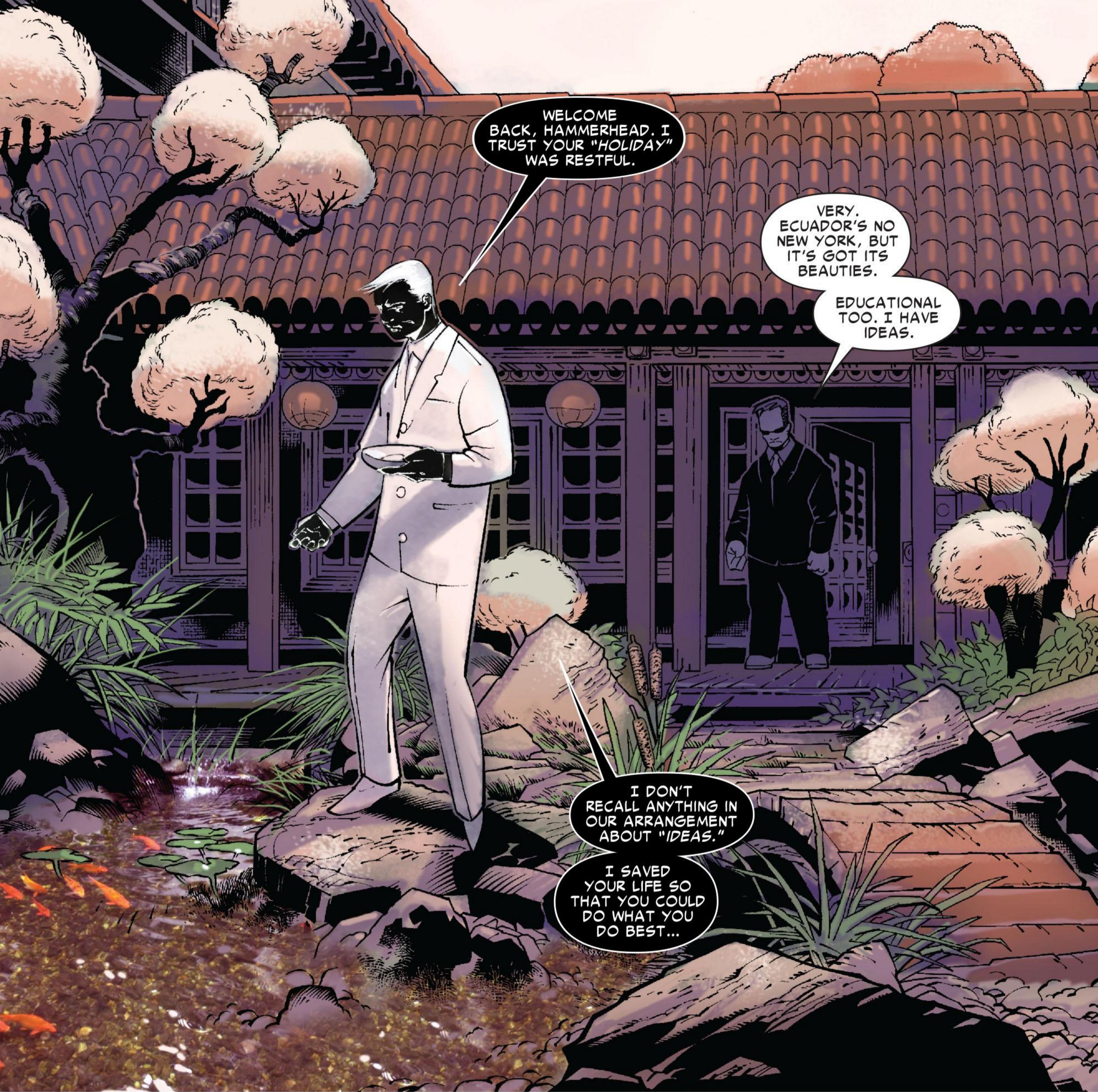
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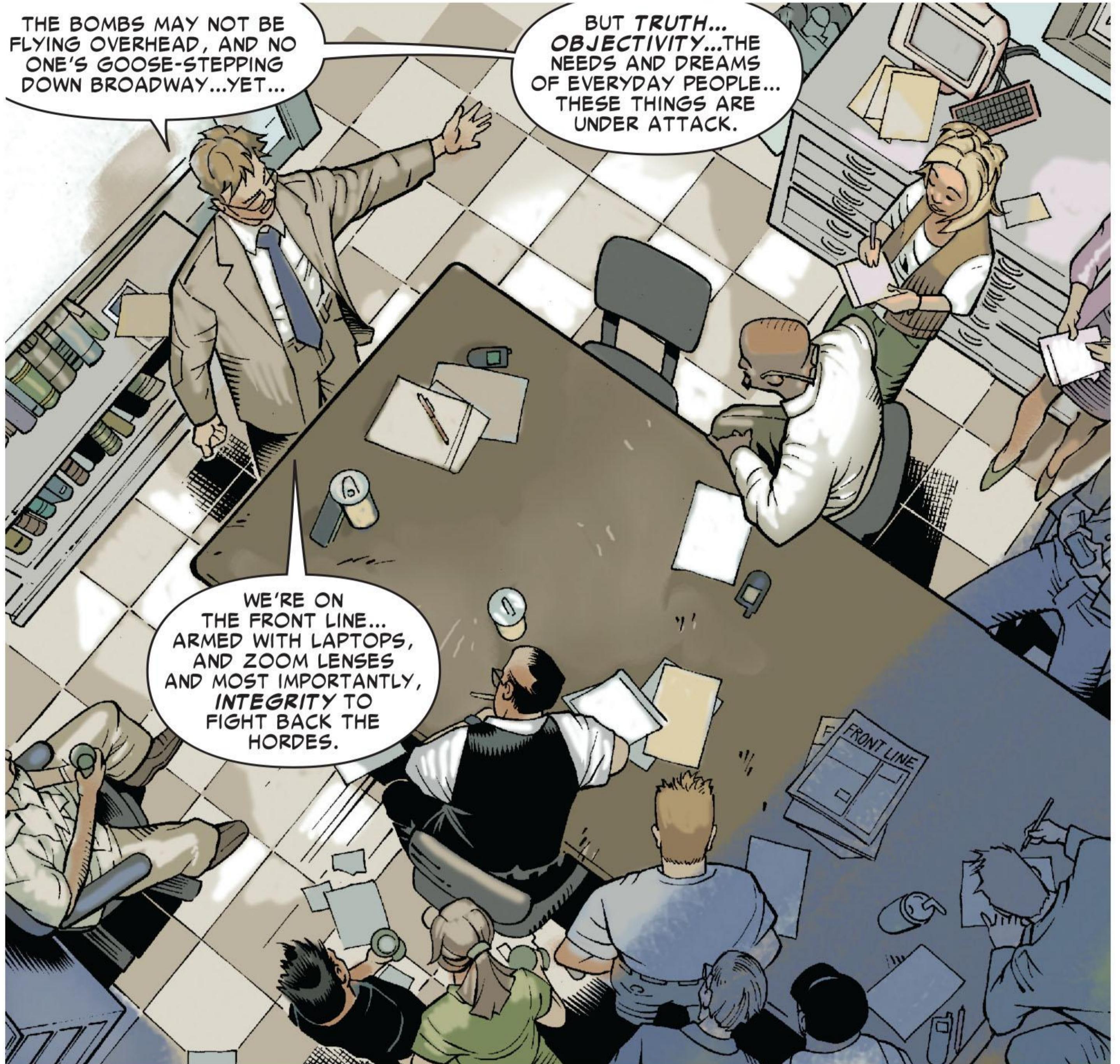
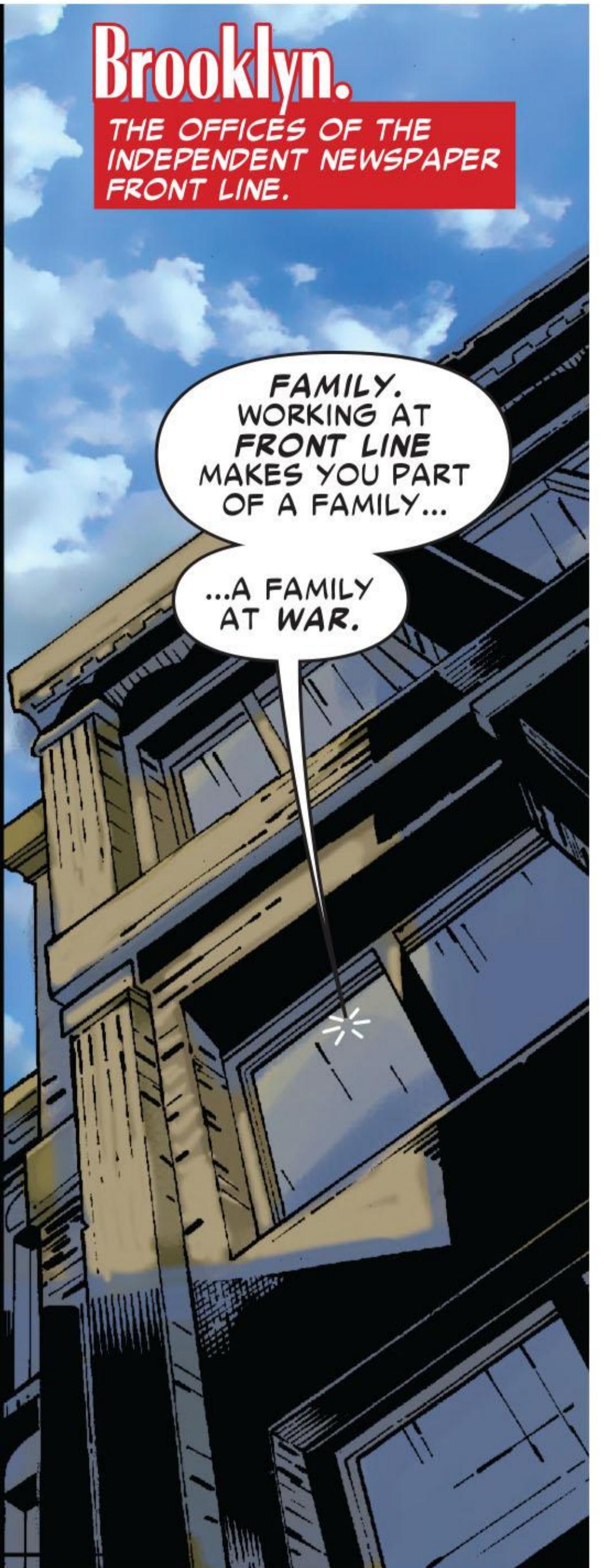




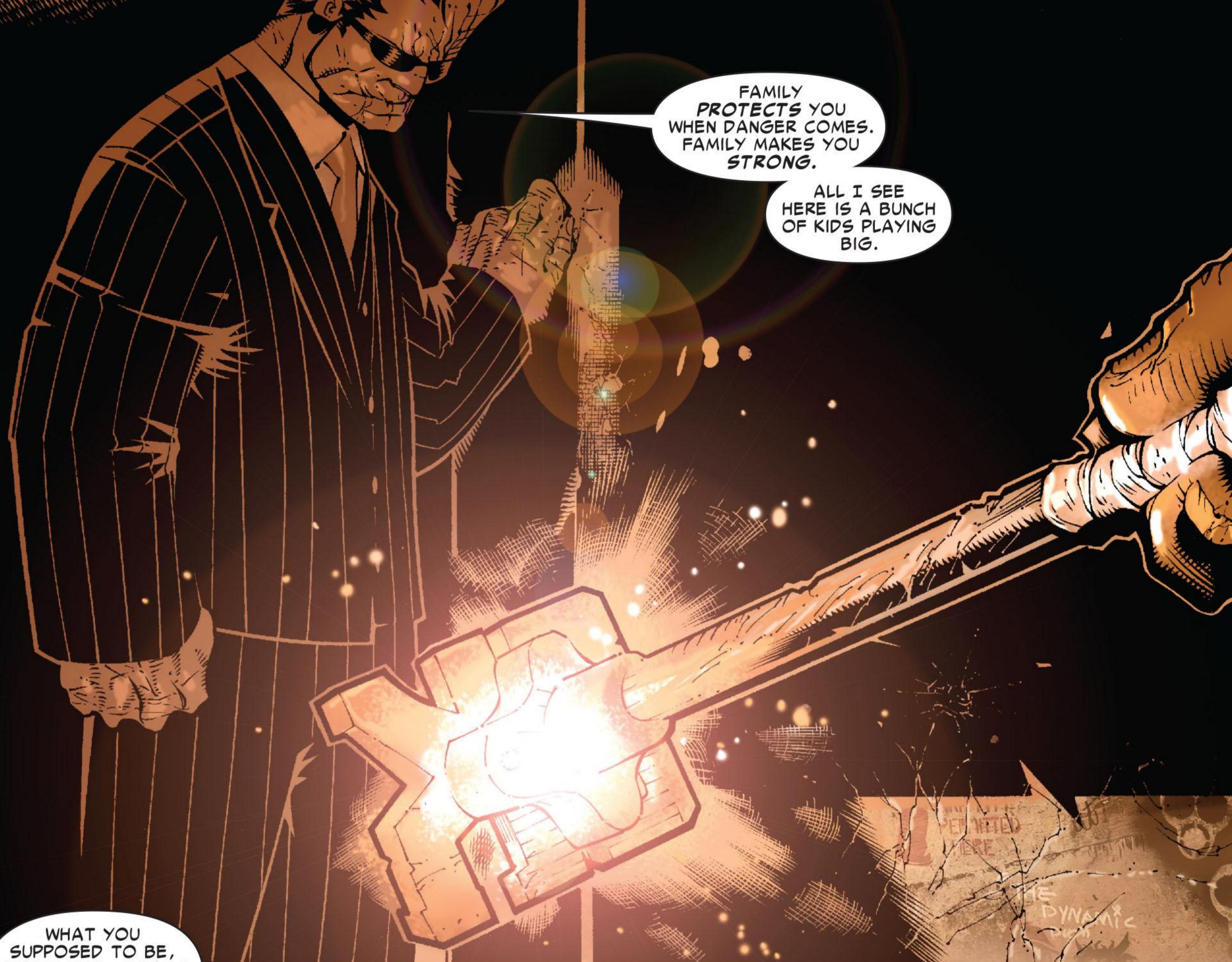


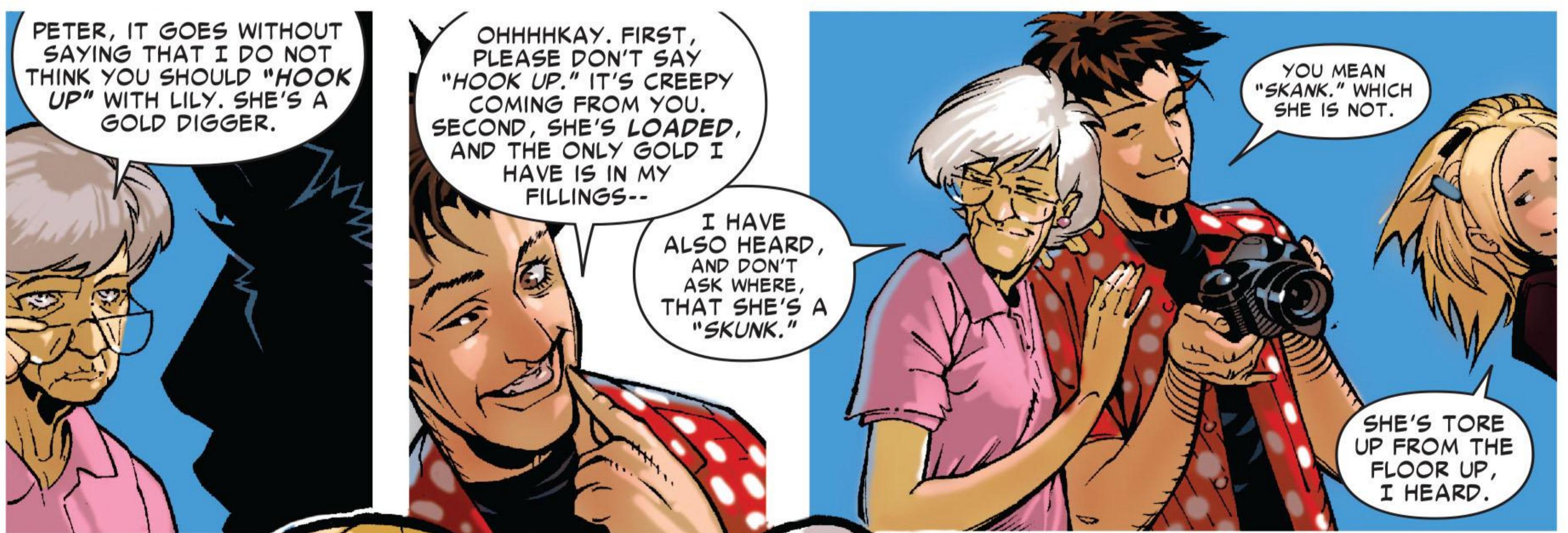


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FRONT LINE.

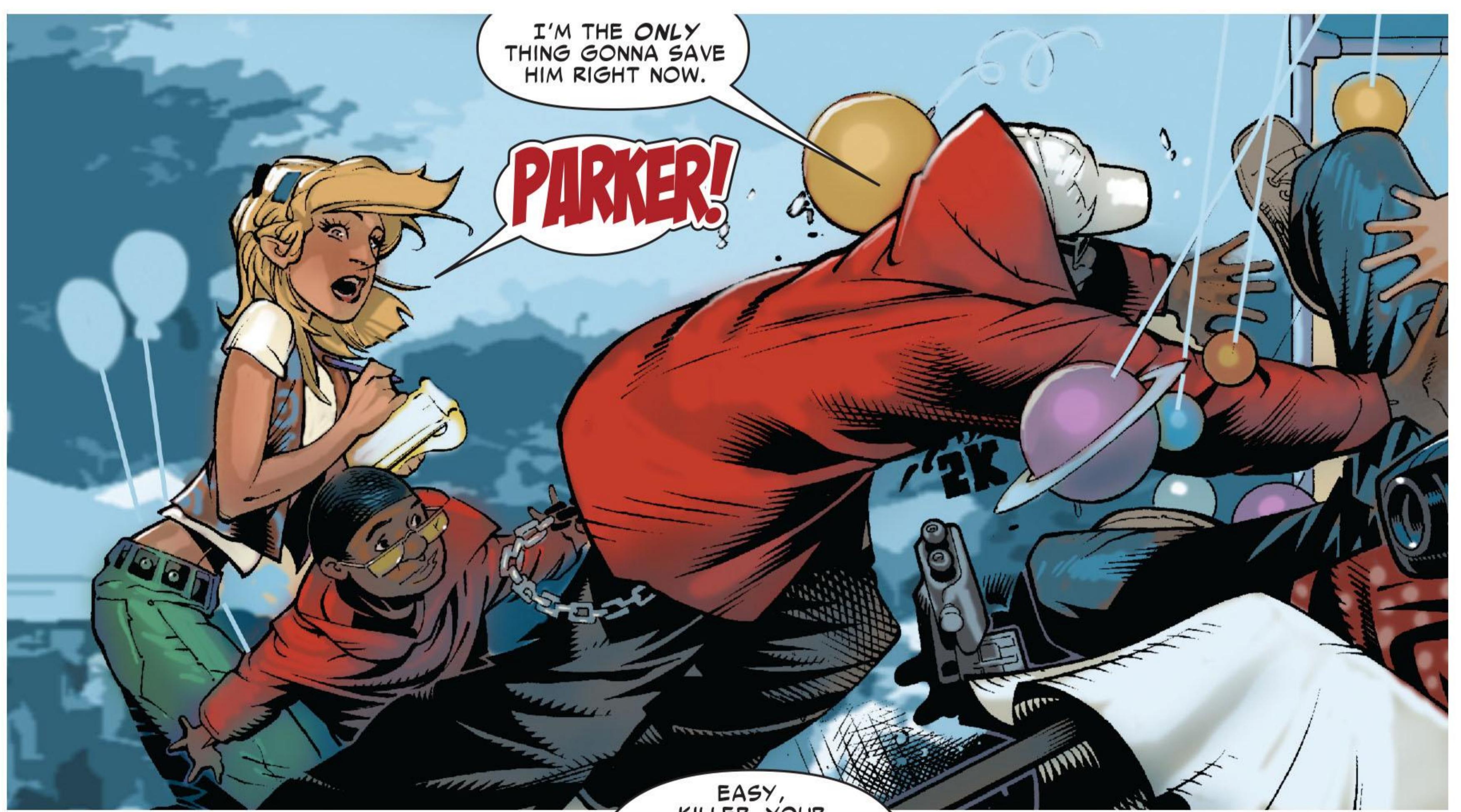
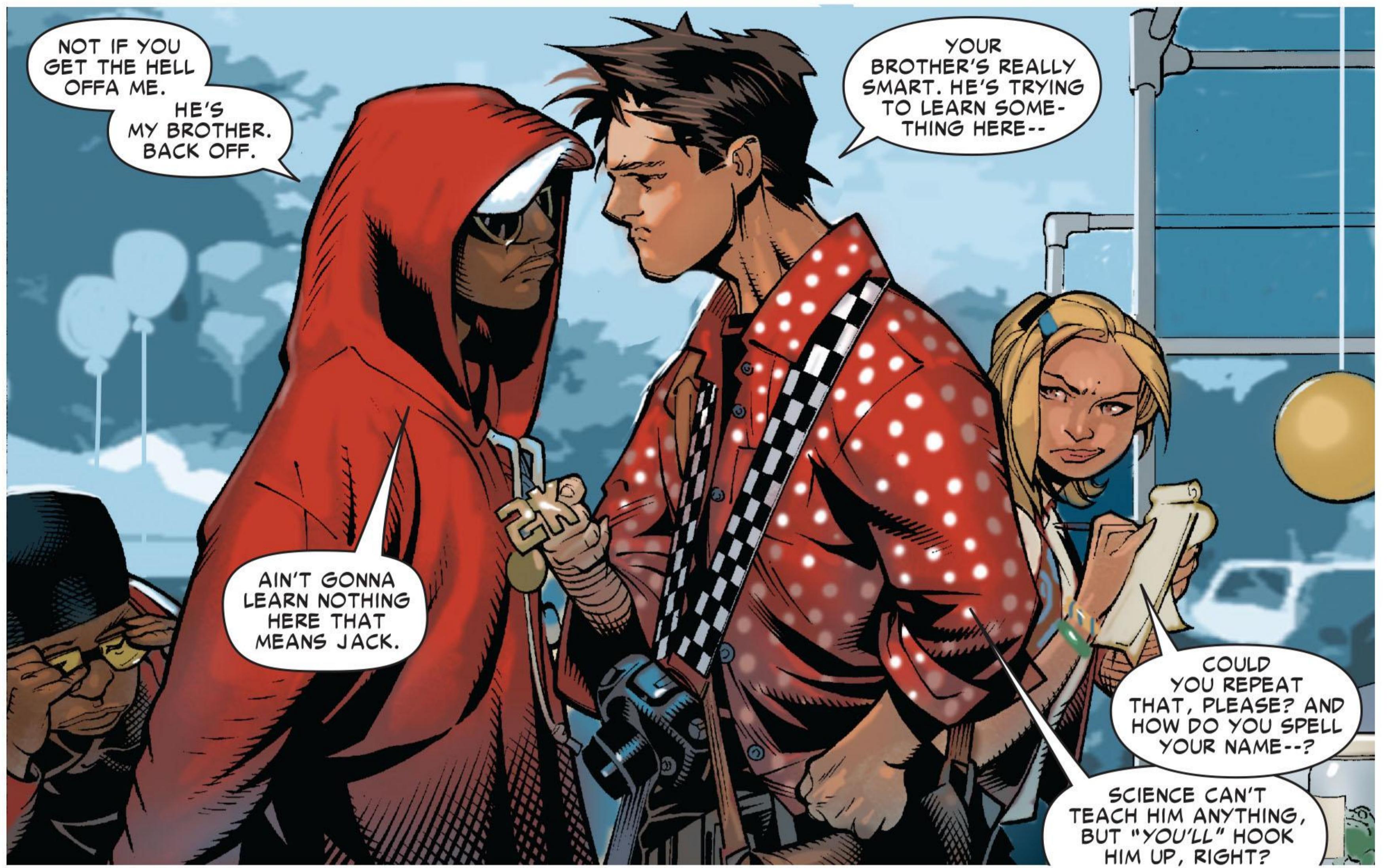






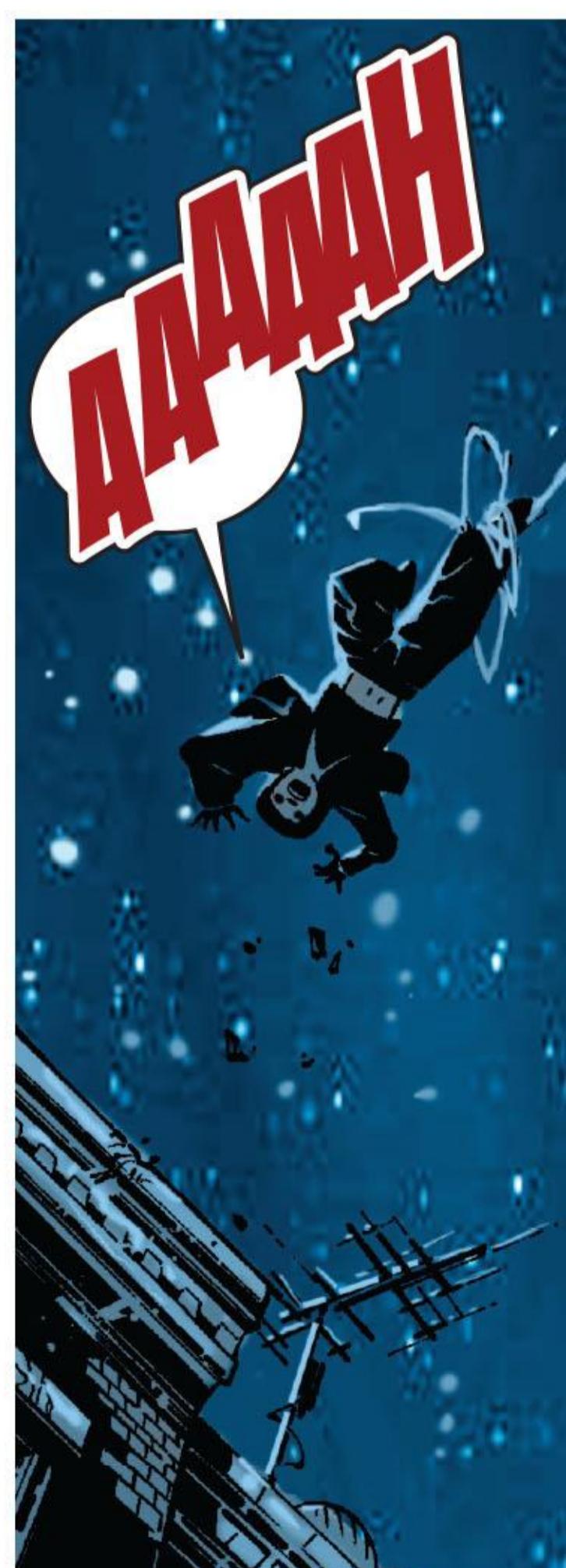








Later That Night.



THIS HOW
YOU WANT TO
DIE, SKUNK?

OR DO YOU
WANT IT IN A CELL?
SHIVVED BY SOME BETTY
WHO BOUGHT YOUR EARLY
PAROLE FOR A PACK
OF CAMELS?

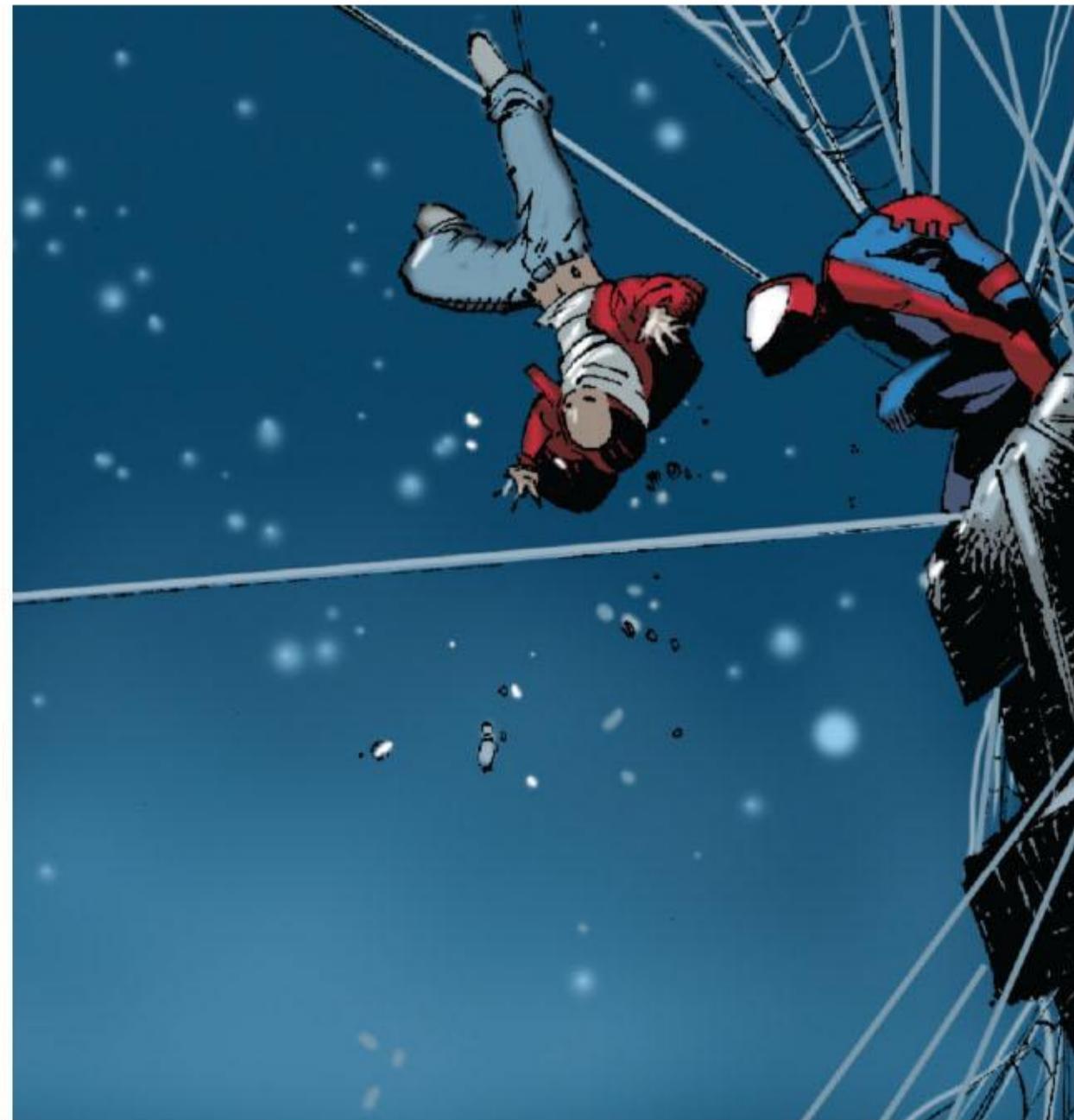
'CAUSE
THAT'S WHERE
YOU'RE HEADED.
FAST.

YOUR
LIFE IS HANGING
BY A THREAD,
HAROLD.
LITERALLY.

YOUR ENTIRE
FUTURE HANGS
IN THE BALANCE
OF THIS ONE
MOMENT.

SO CHOOSE.
DO YOU WANT
TO LIVE AS A
MAN...

...OR DIE A
GANGSTER?



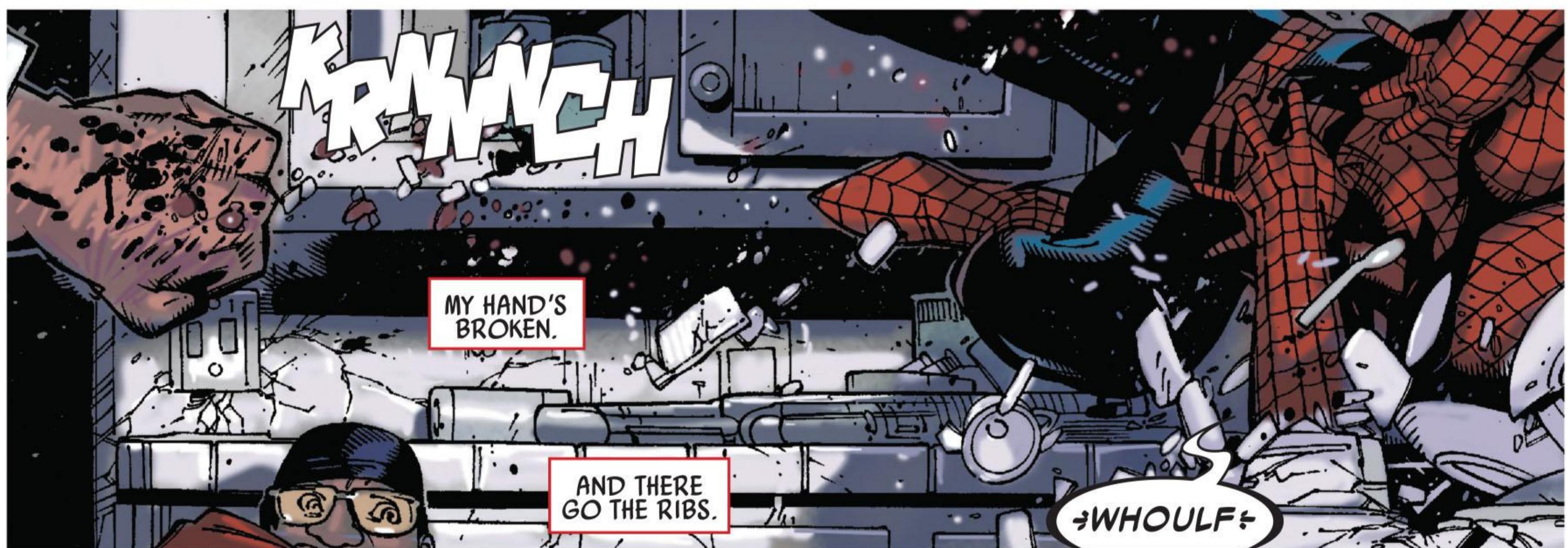


I WANT
TO LEAVE
A MESSAGE FOR
YOUR BROTHER.



FOR ONCE, I'M SPEECHLESS.

THIS CAN'T BE HAMMERHEAD. IT CAN'T.





YOU'RE
NOT LETTING
GO...THAT WASN'T
HOME DEPOT
LARYNX, WAS
IT?

KEVLAR.

OH
POOP.



LIKE I SAID...
IT'S A BRAND NEW DAY,
WEBs. EITHER YOU
EMBRACE IT, OR, WELL...
YOU DON'T.

WHYFF
RNNFF YFFF NN
YKKFF NNF
MRRRRRF?*

WHY AREN'T YOU
A JOKE ANYMORE?

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL



Send e-mail to

SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM

(please mark as OKAY TO PRINT)

With this issue we officially welcome aboard the co-creator of BEN 10 and former DEADPOOL and JLA writer Joe Kelly to the Spider-Man writing team.

Hopefully you picked up the recent AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: EXTRA! which featured Joe's first work for us on Spidey, in a prelude to this very story drawn by the inestimable Chris Bachalo! Joe's bringing some gangbuster ideas to the table and will be spearheading a big story next spring. Welcome aboard, Joey K!

We still have letters literally pouring in about NEW WAYS TO DIE, so let's see where your heads are at:

Dear Steve and gang,
A limerick for you.

Some Spidey fans have grown mad;
They think all the changes are bad.
But having read Brand New Day,
I must emphatically say,
You've made this Spidey fan mighty glad!

Juster A.
Via e-mail

Thanks, Juster. In return here's a quatrain for you:

Where is Brennan? I've lost the old boy.
I need him to do my work for me.
There he is. Playing with a Wolverine Toy.
I'm taking a nap.

Cool! Now I'm a published poet!

Dear Spider-Mail,

Pew! I've been looking forward to New Ways To Die since I first heard about it but I never imagined it would be this (no pun intended) amazing! I have to give credit to Dan Slott's brilliant writing for making these past couple of issues perhaps the greatest comic books I've ever read. Add in of course John Romita, Jr.'s excellent art and it's the perfect match! I just can't wait to see where this one goes. To all of you guys of the BND team please keep up the great work!

Josh Wilding (Age 18)
Wales, UK



Dear Spider-Mail,

I just don't understand it. You have been, without a doubt, publishing one of the best Spider-Man comics in recent memory. Yet all a lot of people can do is whine about One More Day. I, for one, am rooting for this comic. If you keep it up, and keep banging out such great quality issues, then I'm sure other fans will come around and come back.

Seriously, I really have been astounded. Not only has the almost weekly Spider-Man been great, but it's been giving me such bang-for-my-buck. Unlike some other books, Amazing Spider-Man hasn't been decompressing its stories, and every issue feels like it was worth each and every penny.

Seriously, keep it up. The reappearance of

Norman Osborn and Venom has been stupendous. Venom hasn't been written this well, in, like 10 years!

And the mysterious twist, Osborn and Venom no longer knowing Spidey's identity, has got me so jazzed. Again, I know people complain about One More Day, but the way the aftermath has been handled has been magnificent.

Erik Hollender
Revere, MA

Thanks for writing, Erik. You hit on one thing everyone involved in this book has had their eyes on since the beginning. We're well aware that asking you to buy three books a month is a big commitment and we don't take that lightly. We consciously try to pack each issue full so that no page goes to waste. On everything--from working to keep the quality high on the art and story side, or throwing in Easter eggs in the background or the always new, clue-filled, recap page or this letter page--we're trying as hard as we can to make this book worthwhile to you every week. The last thing we want is for you to feel like you're being asked to slap another few bucks down just because of habit.



Dear Stephen,

As a fan of the game GO myself, I have to ask...which one of the Spidey Brain Trust is the GO fan? Is it Dan Slott, since he put it in the issue??

Glenn Haight
Via e-mail

Slott. Though I'm not sure if he ever played it. It just seemed like an appropriate game for Mr. Negative to play



Hey Steve & all you groovy Spider-peeps!

First off, thanks for making my favorite Marvel book my favorite Marvel book again. It's rockin' with each new issue, and I know you're just getting warmed up!

Okay, enough with the love-fest. On to my very serious complaint:

I have significant doubts about this new character I've been hearing about, this "Auntie Venom". Seriously guys, you know you're totally Venom-ed out when you have to resort to bringing distant blood relations into the mix. Really, can "Unca Venom" be far behind?

Before long, we'll be seeing "Third-Cousin-Once-Removed Venom". Ohhh, scary. This will no doubt culminate in the inevitable Spidey spin-off book "Venom's Brood — The Psycho Tribe That Made Manson's Family Look Like The Osmonds". Thrill as they slay all their critics...literally!

Now, it's not that I don't like the big V, mind you. In fact, I'm one of his biggest fans. It's just that I feel that overexposure like this is--

--Huh? What's that? Not "Auntie" like that; it's actually--

Um...oh. Oh, well, that's different...

[Ahem. Cough.] As Gilda Radner used to once say...nevermind. My crayon just broke anyway and I'm tasting that darned metal in my mouth again. I'll be fine in about seven days.

Alan Beebe
Montreal, Canada

Wow. Good thing you have free health care in Canada.



Dear Steve,

Re: ASM #570. This was another interesting issue. I really liked the interaction between Anti-Venom and Spidey. I know, of course, that Peter won't lose his powers, but think of all the great things that Eddie's powers could accomplish.

As always, John, Klaus and Dean are doing an amazing job with the art and Dan has a great feel for all the characters. With everything going on at the moment, they do a nice job keeping everything clear while still introducing some interesting cliffhangers in each issue.

I really hope we get a Menace/Green Goblin battle in a future issue. Norman's last line in the issue was just perfect. I can't wait to see what happens next.

Well, keep up the fantastic work, and I'll keep buying.

Nate Hartz
Manlius, IL

And that brings us to the end of another letters page, friends. We'll be back in a week with Part Two of the return of Hammerhead and a fix for Spidey's broken jaw you gotta see to believe! Plus a cover that makes a perfect matching bookend to this issue's! Who says this ain't the Marvel Age of Symmetry! (Brevoort, that's who! He's always sayin' that! Scary, bearded hippy. Get 'im!!)

VIVA TEMPLAR!
--Simperin' Steve
10/9/08

Next Week!



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