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TM
FEATURING
THE MOST
SAVAGE
SUPER-
VILLAIN
OF ALL!

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®



I.J.R. J.I.R. + AM

HYDE... IN PLAIN SIGHT!

I DON'T BELIEVE THIS!
I GO TO ALL THE TROUBLE
OF FINALLY CAPTURING THE
COBRA, AND WHAT HAPPENS?

HIS EX-PARTNER,
MR. HYDE, SHOWS UP
WITH BLOOD IN HIS
EYES... NEARLY SMASHES
US WITH A CHUNK OF
BUILDING... AND CAUSES
ME TO TWIST MY ANKLE
IN THE BARGAIN! *

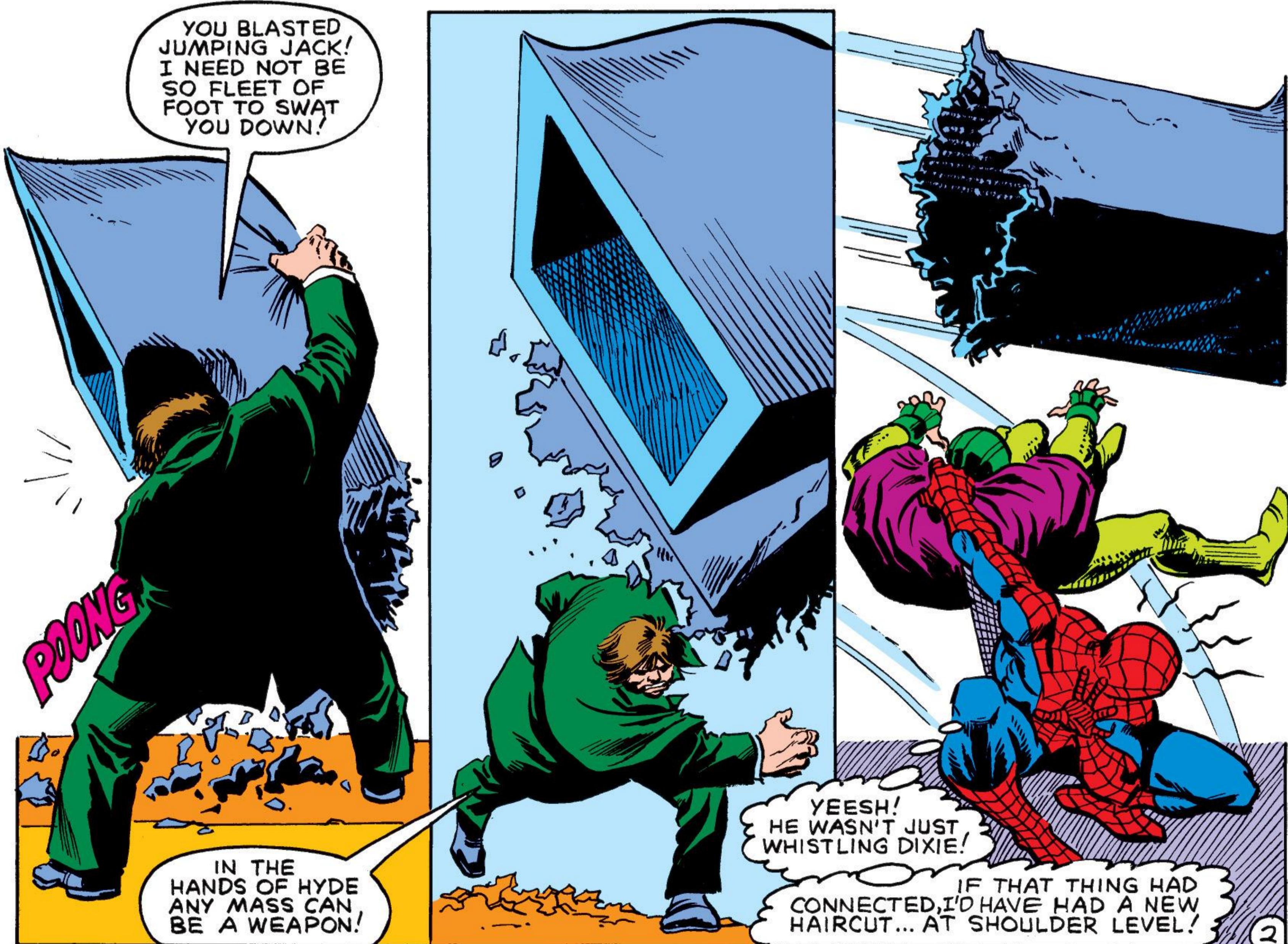
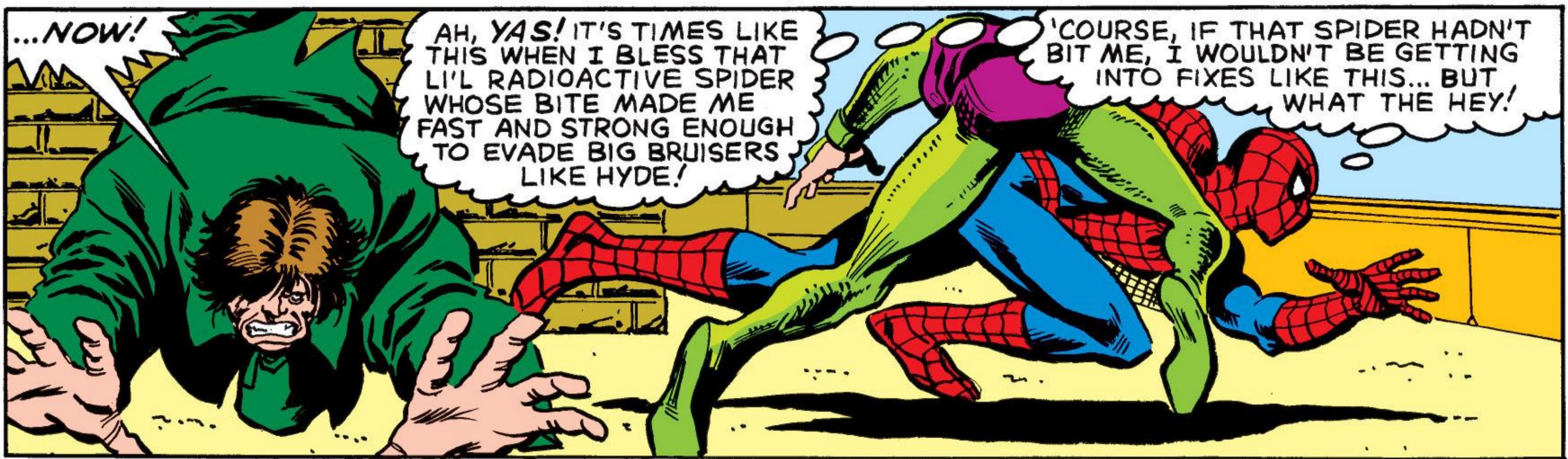
I CAN'T WIN!

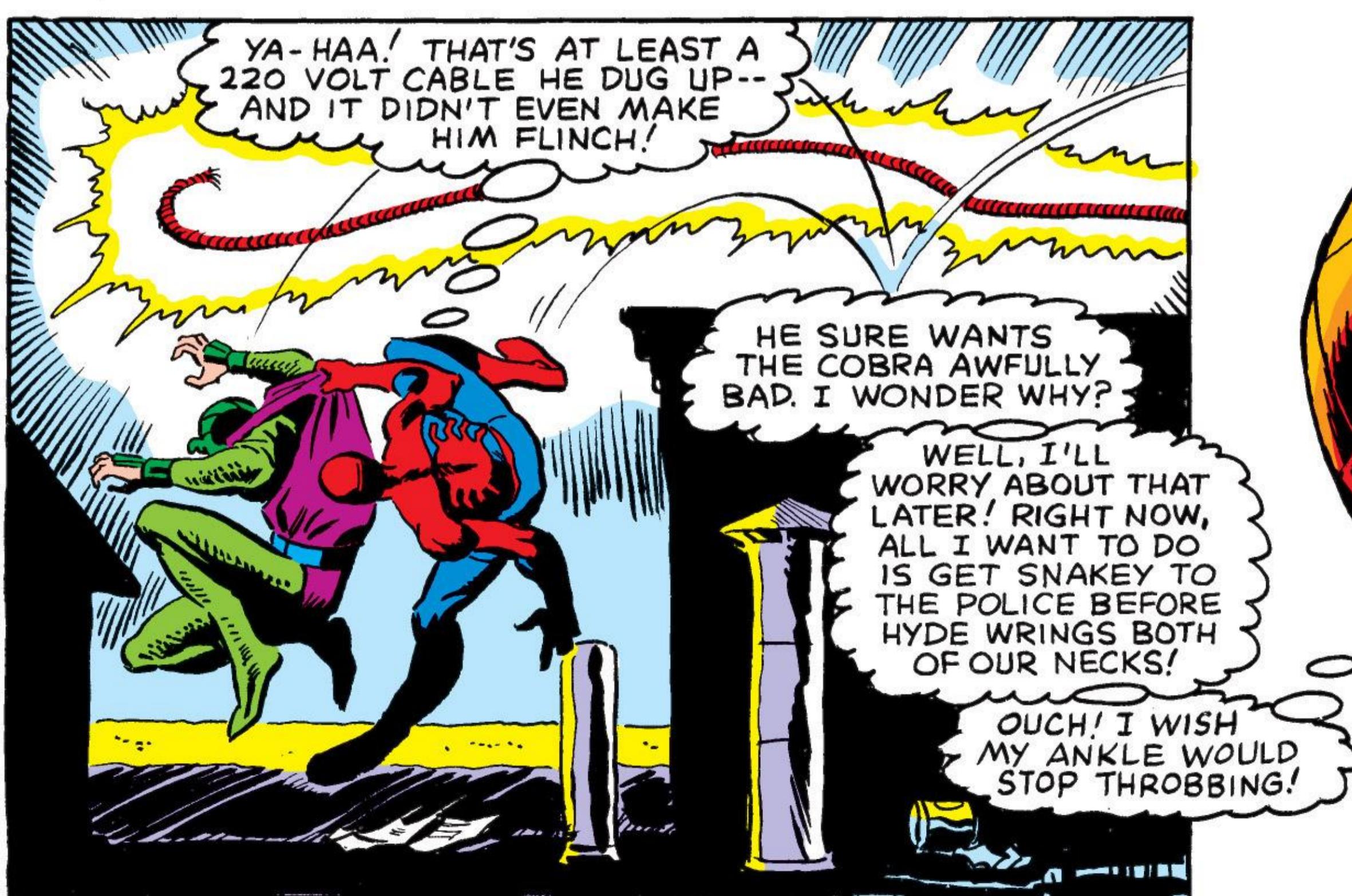
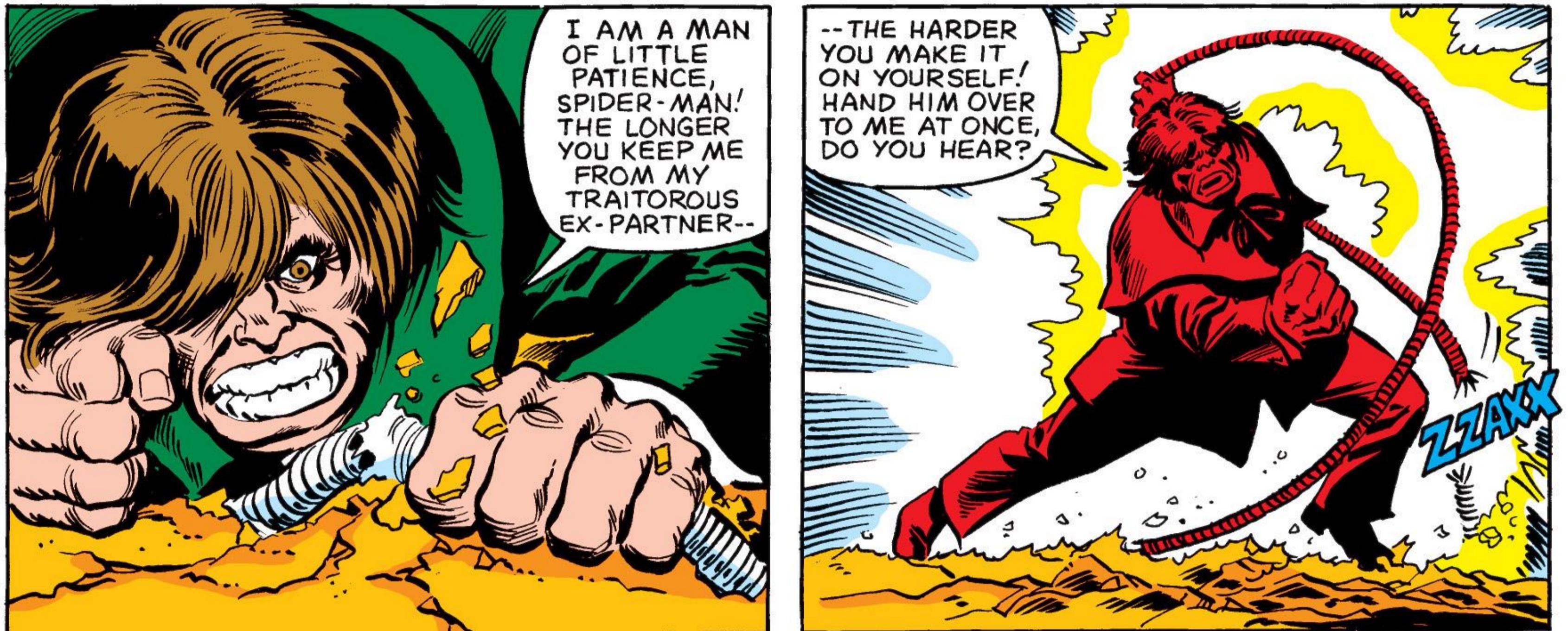
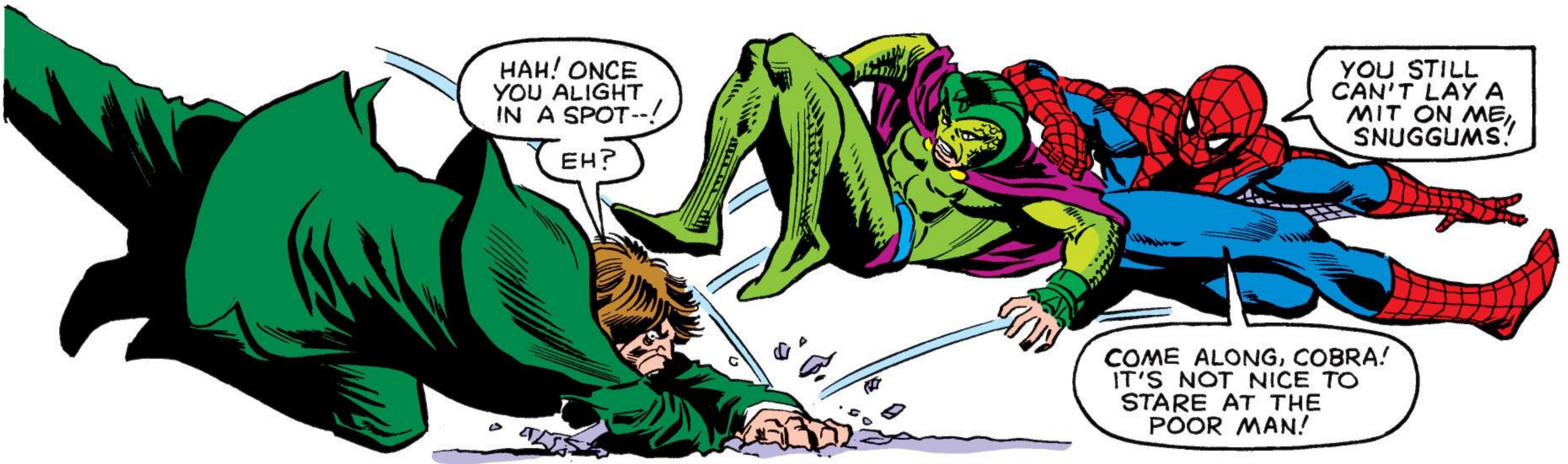
I DON'T LIKE
TO REPEAT
MYSELF,
SPIDER-MAN!

GIVE ME THE
COBRA, OR I'LL
REMOVE HIM FROM
YOUR DEAD BODY...

STAN LEE
PRESENTS:
ROGER STERN
SCRIPTER
JOHN ROMITA, JR.
PENCILER
JIM MOONEY
INKER
DIANA ALBERS
LETTERER
BOB SHAREN
COLORIST
TOM DEFALCO
EDITOR
JIM SHOOTER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

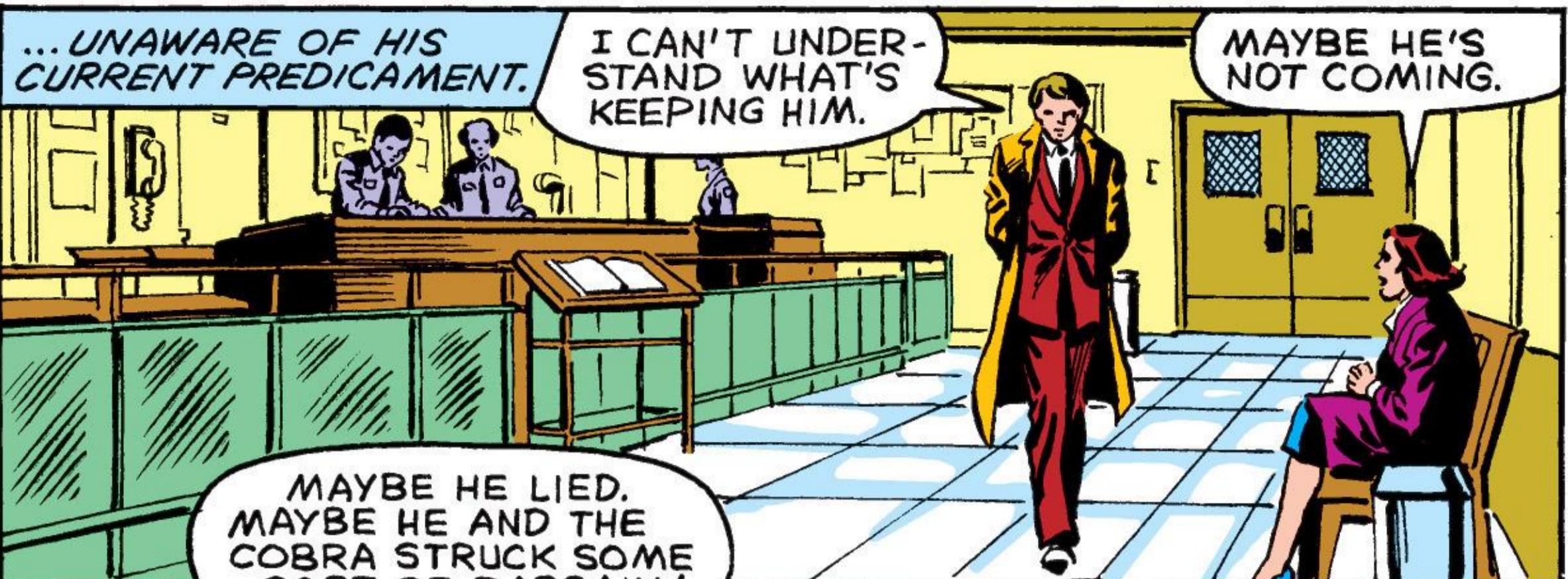
*LAST ISSUE! YOU REALLY
SHOULD HAVE BEEN HERE!

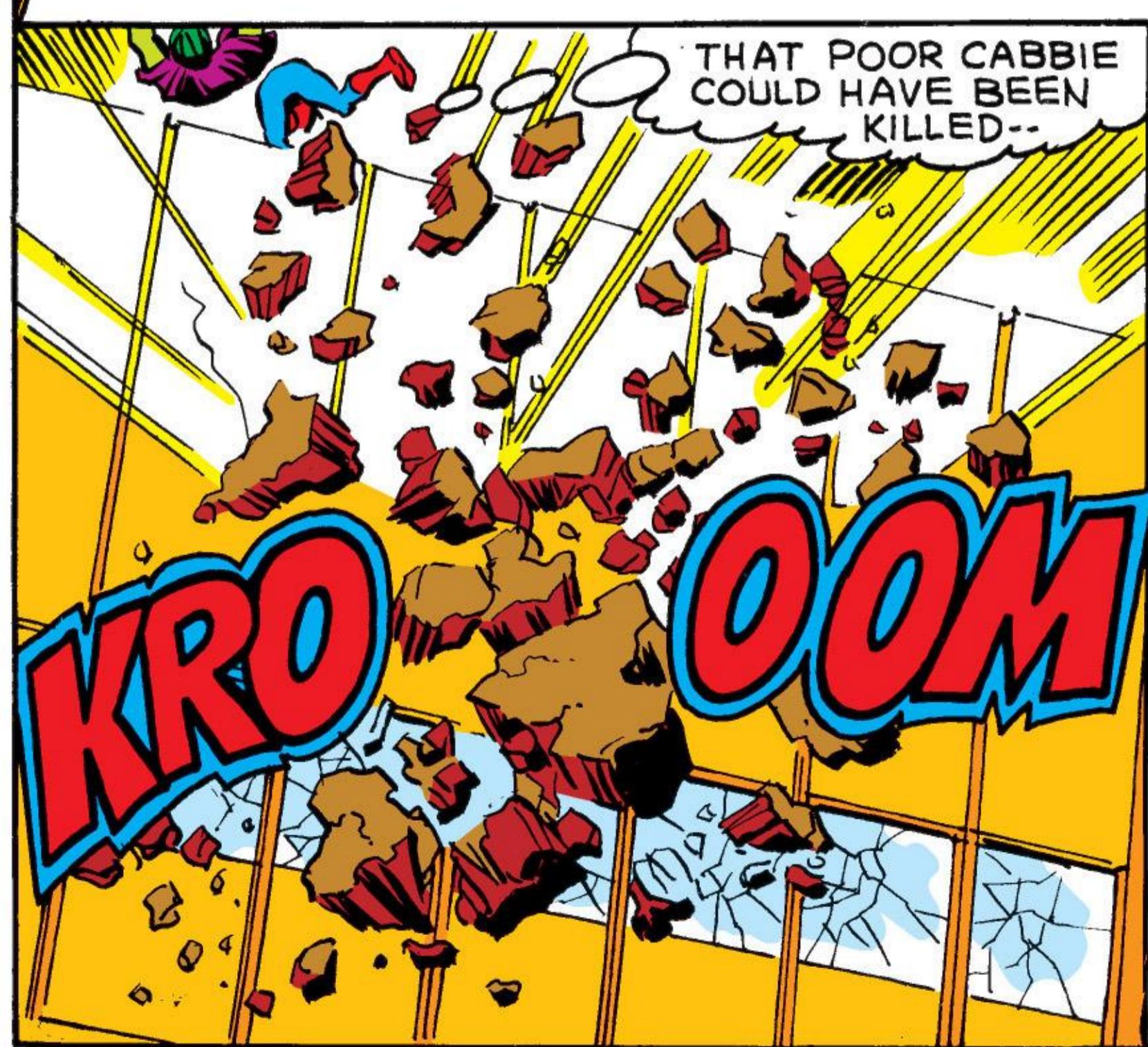
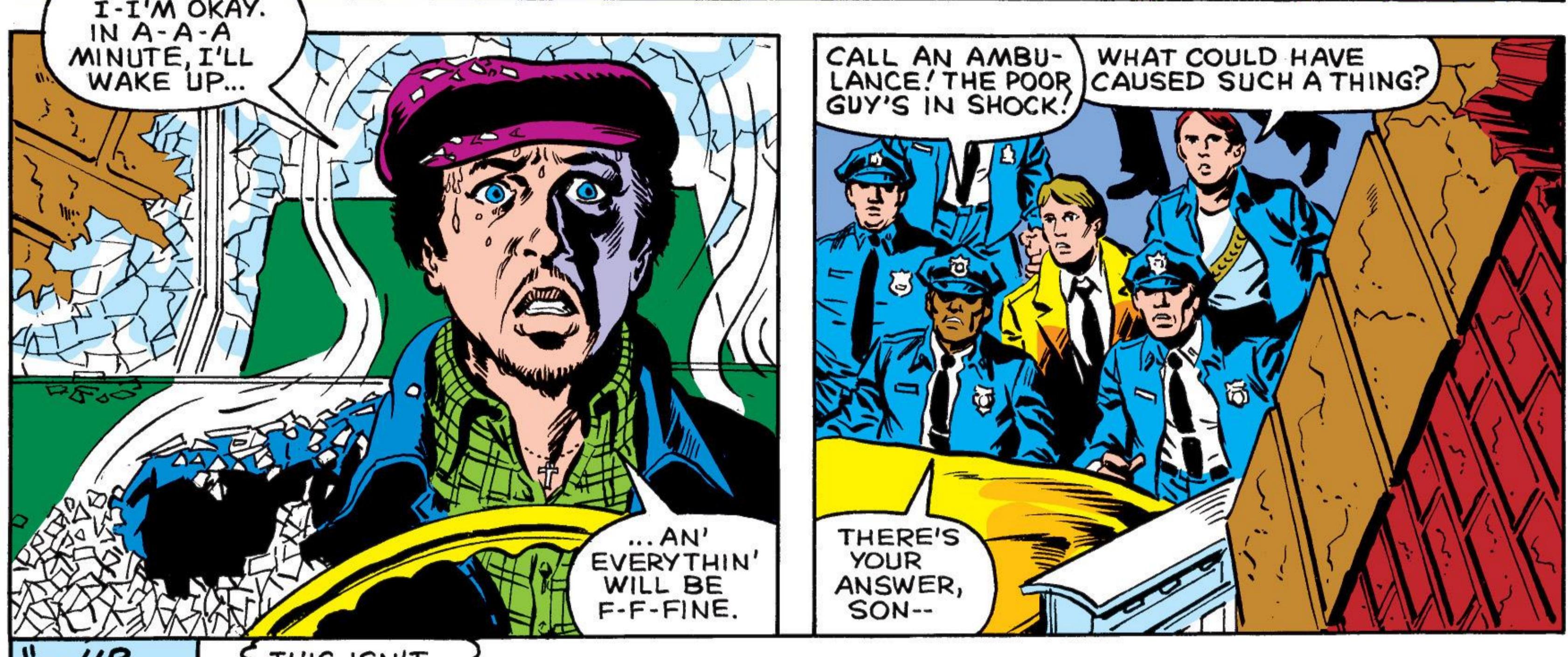
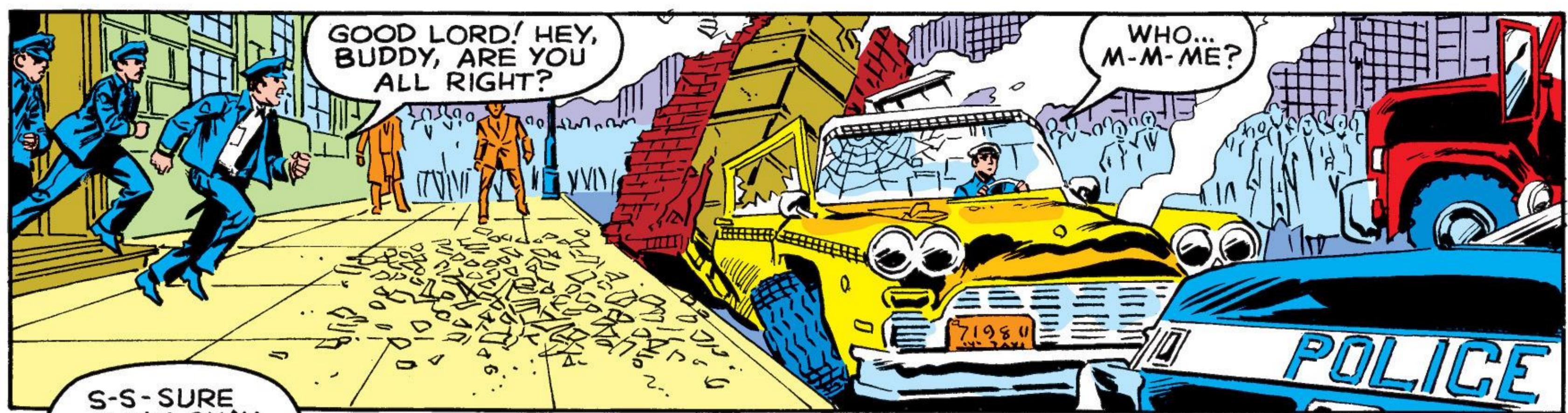


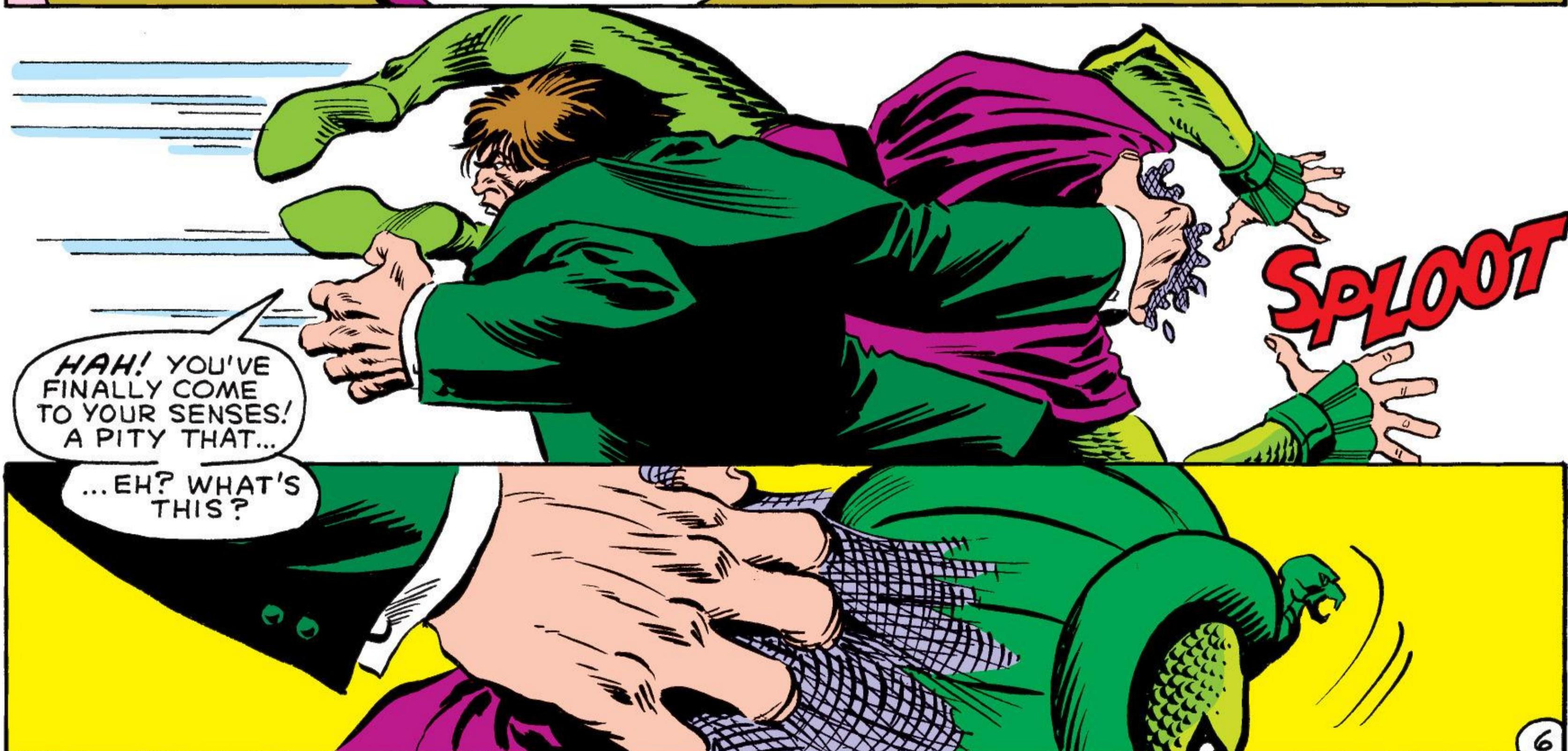
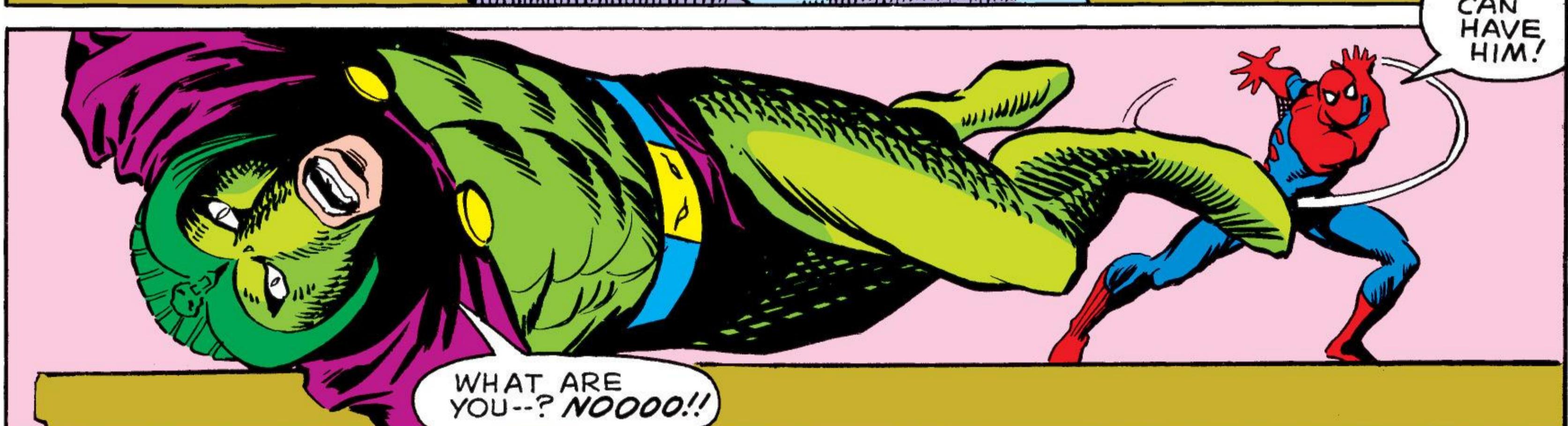


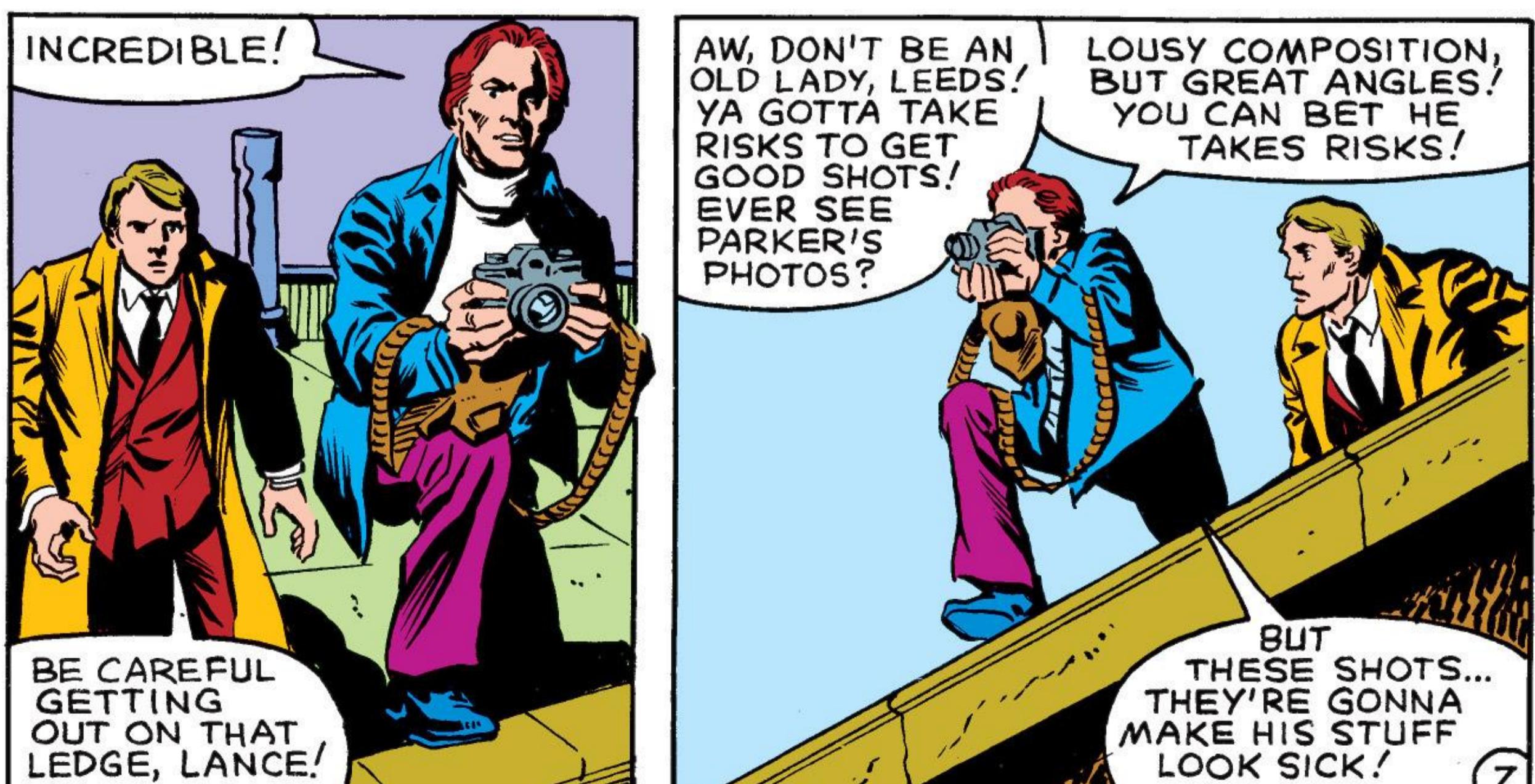
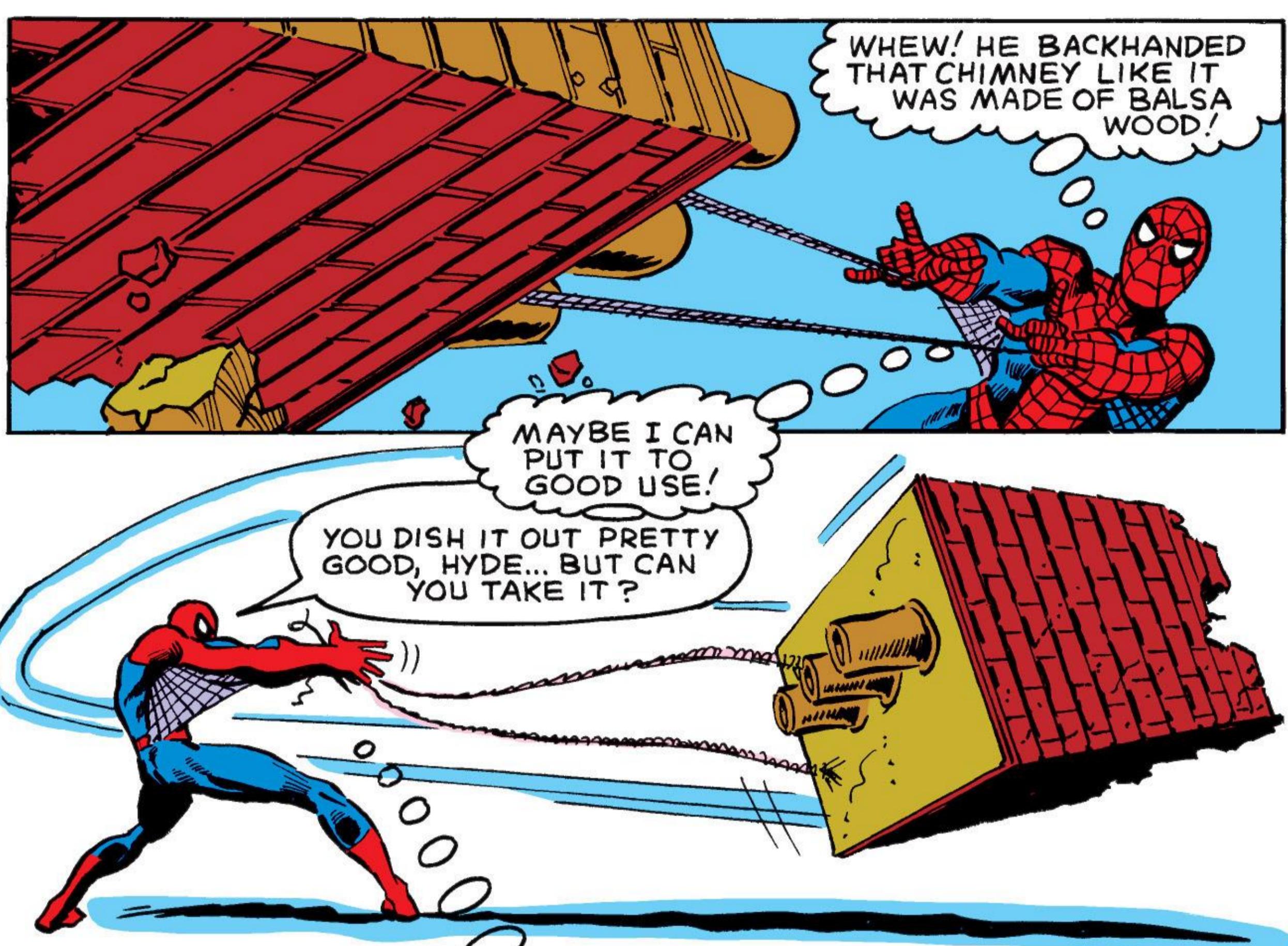
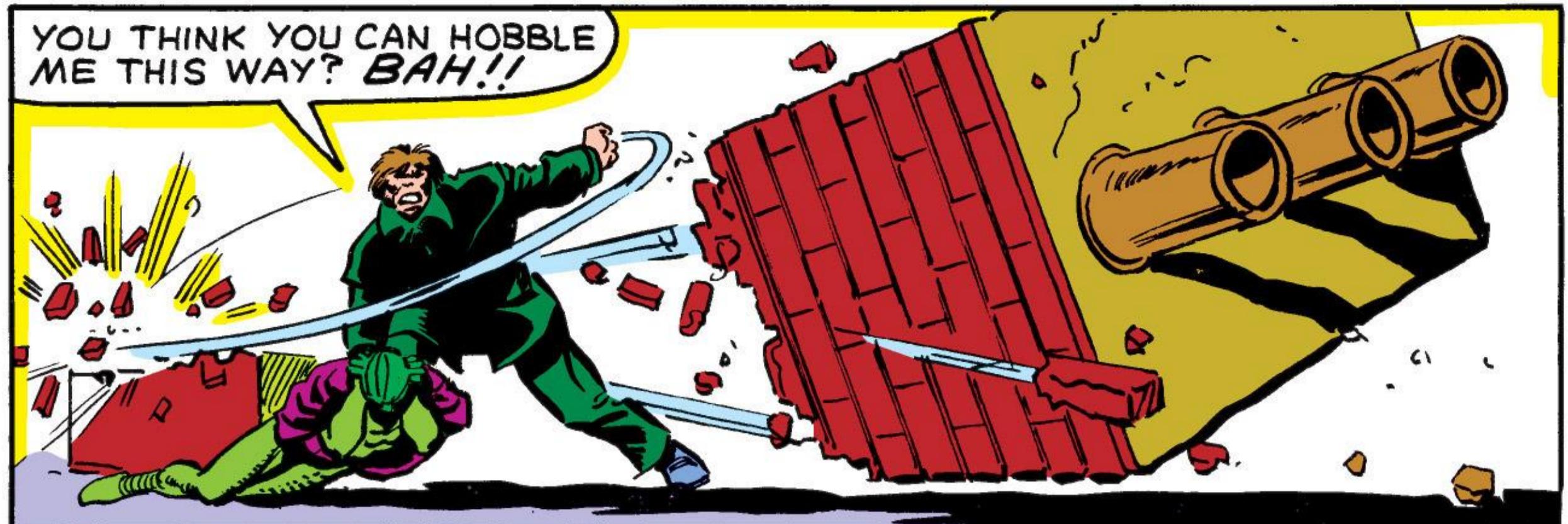
AT THAT MOMENT, IN A POLICE STATION JUST A FEW BLOCKS AWAY--

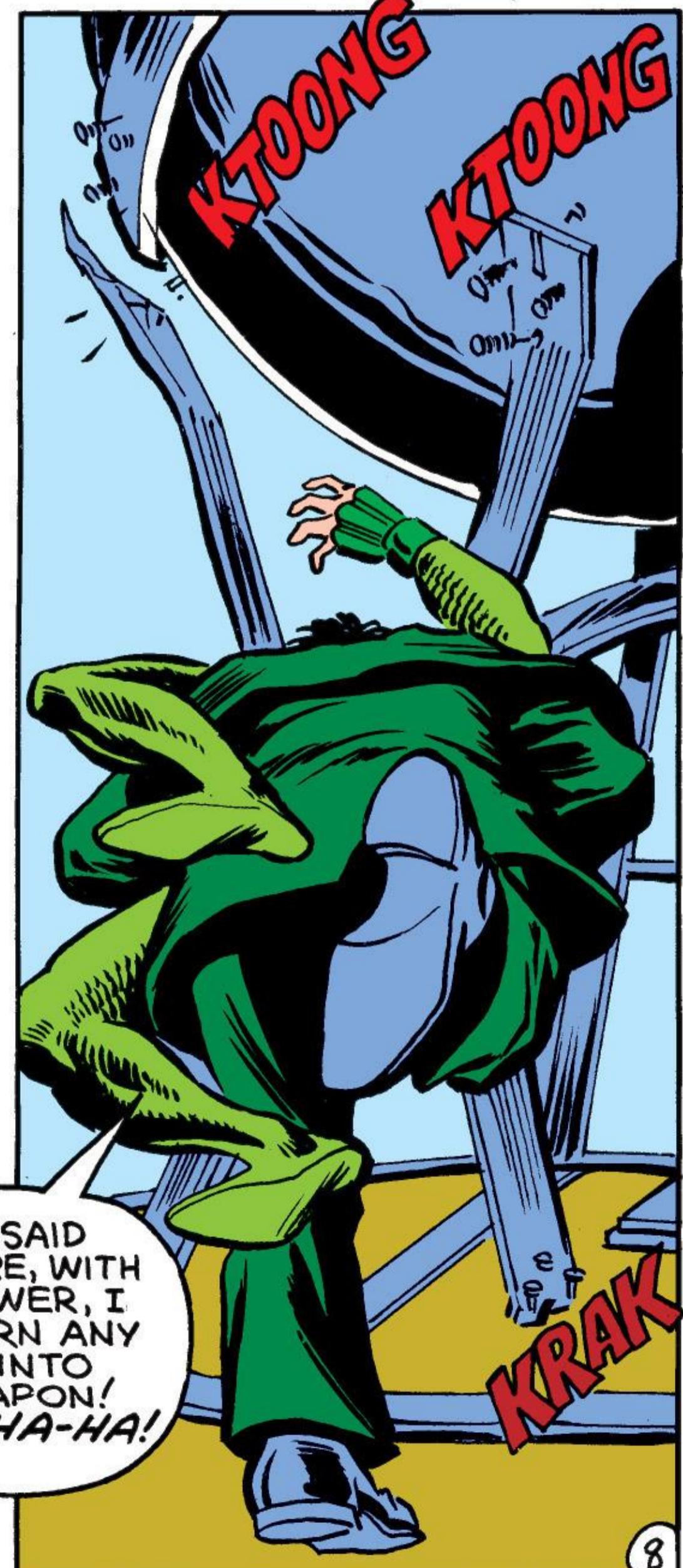
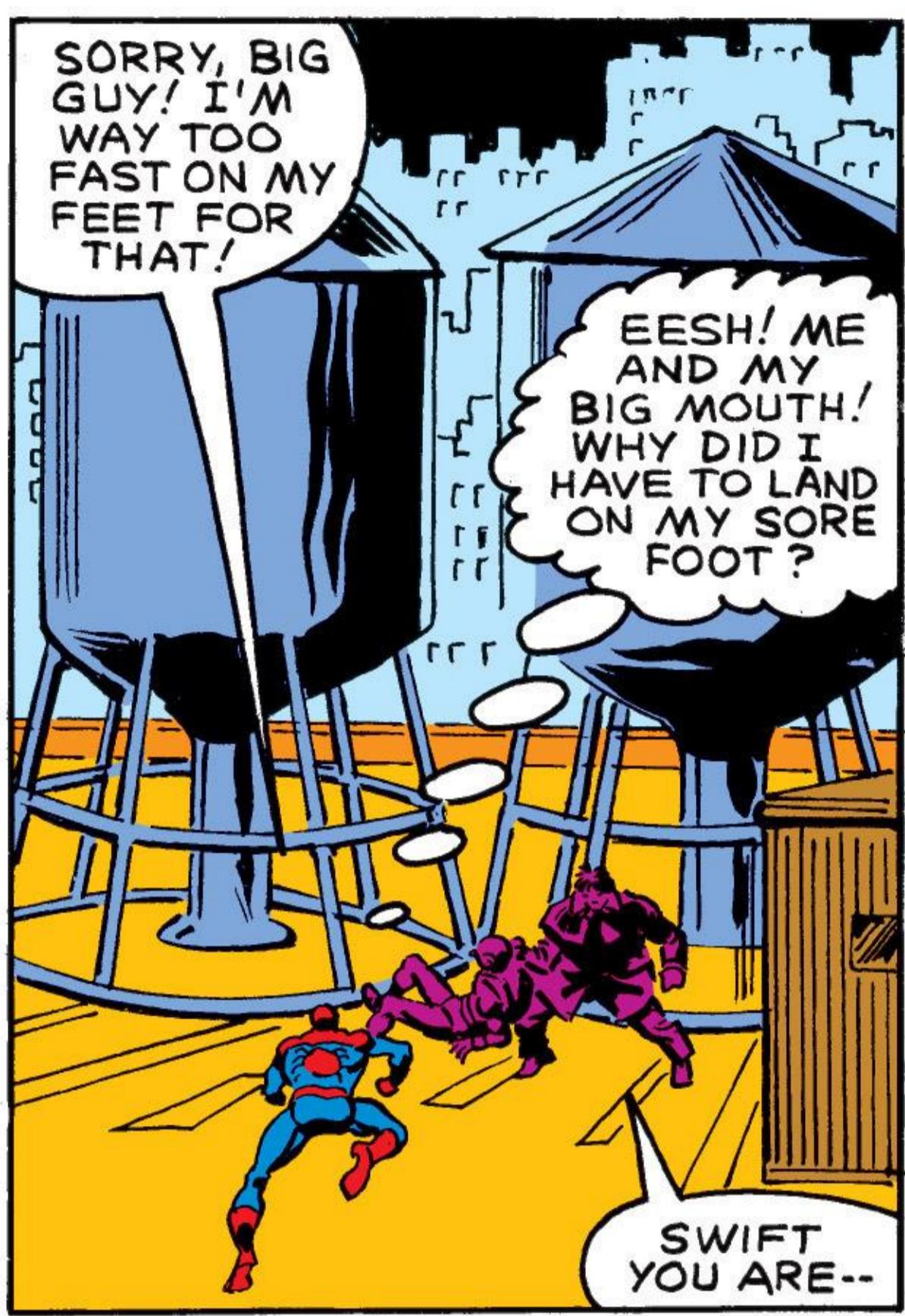
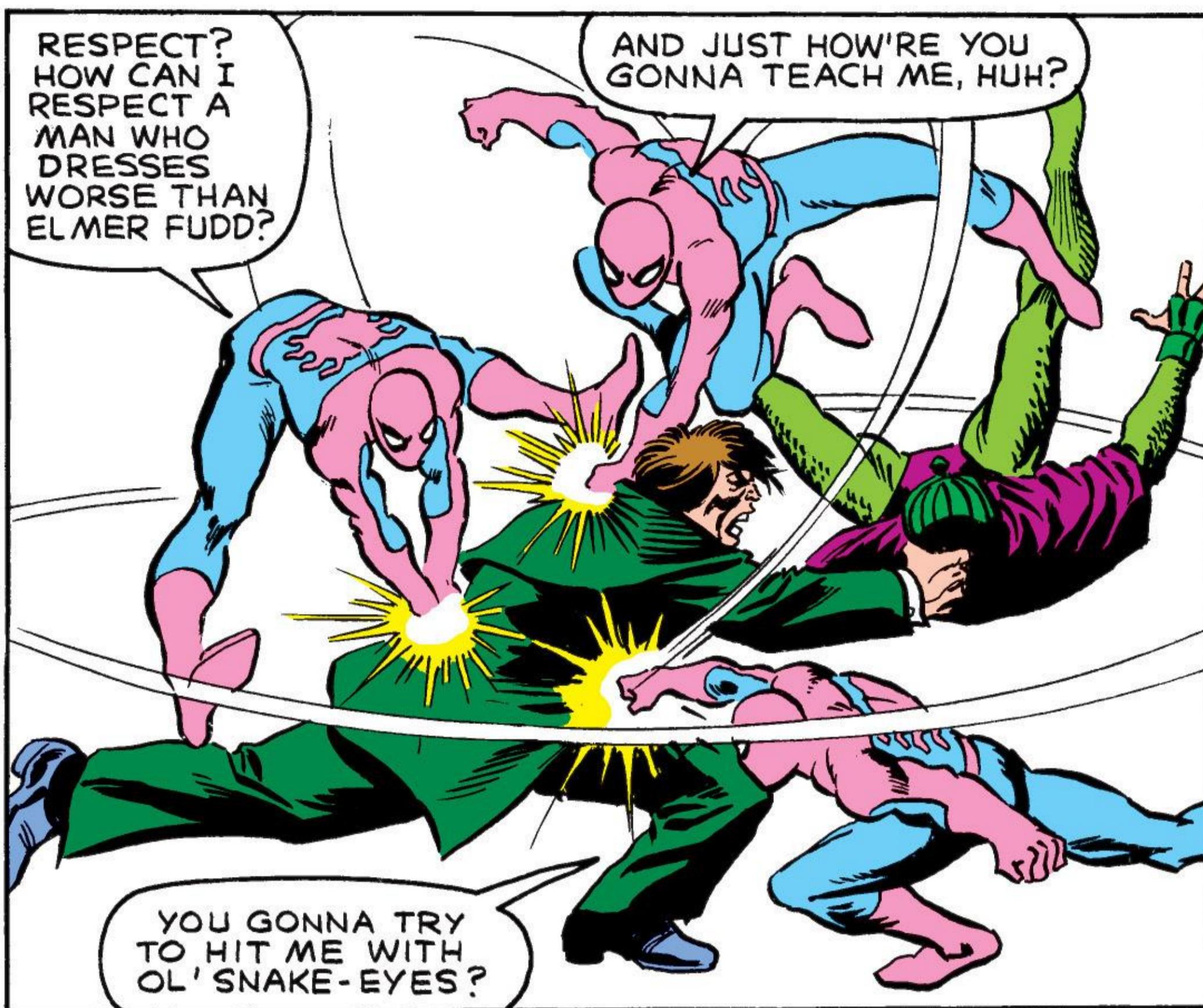
--DAILY BUGLE REPORTER NED LEEDS AND DR. MARLA MADISON-- HIS PUBLISHER'S SOMEWHAT SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR-- AWAIT SPIDER-MAN'S ARRIVAL...

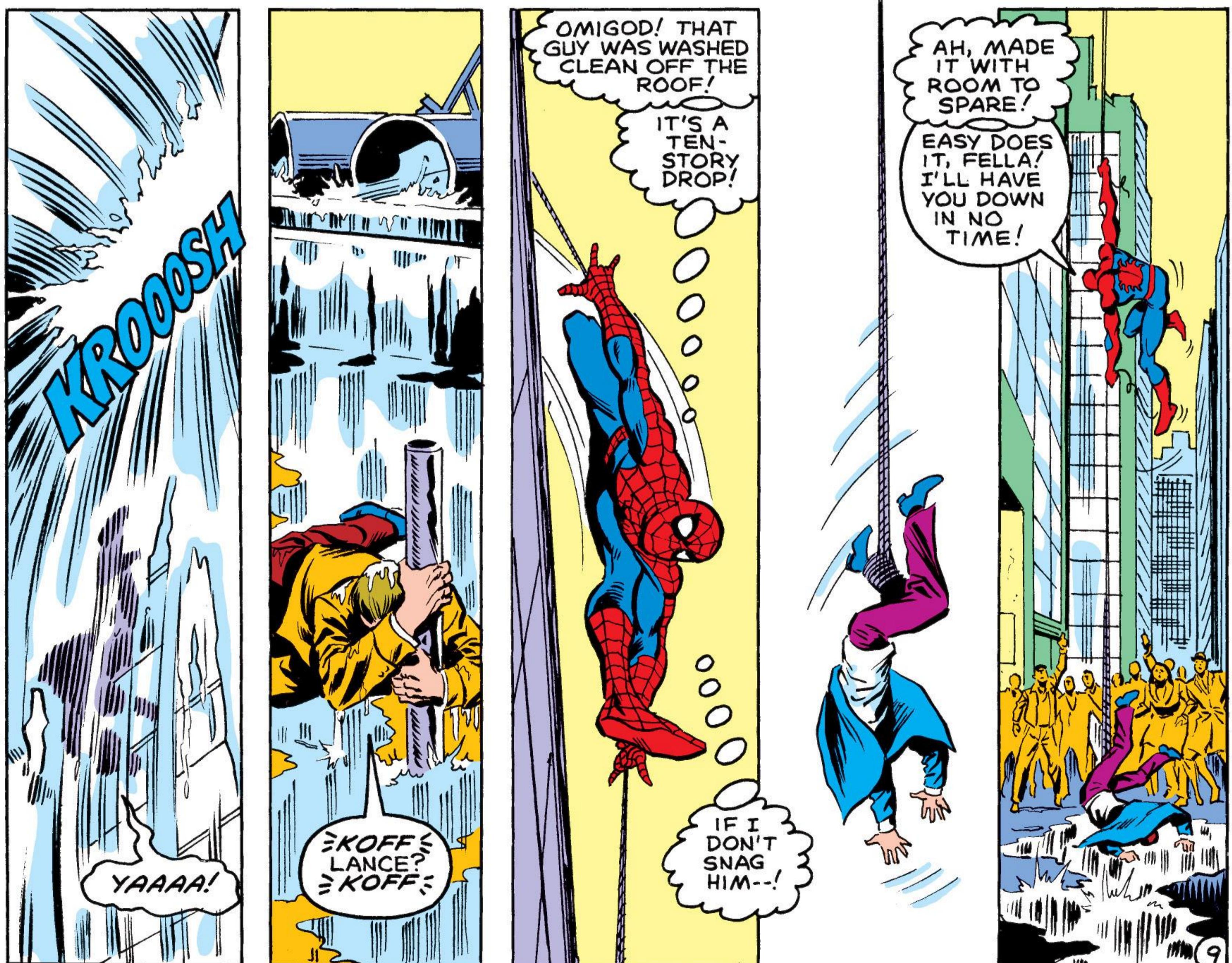
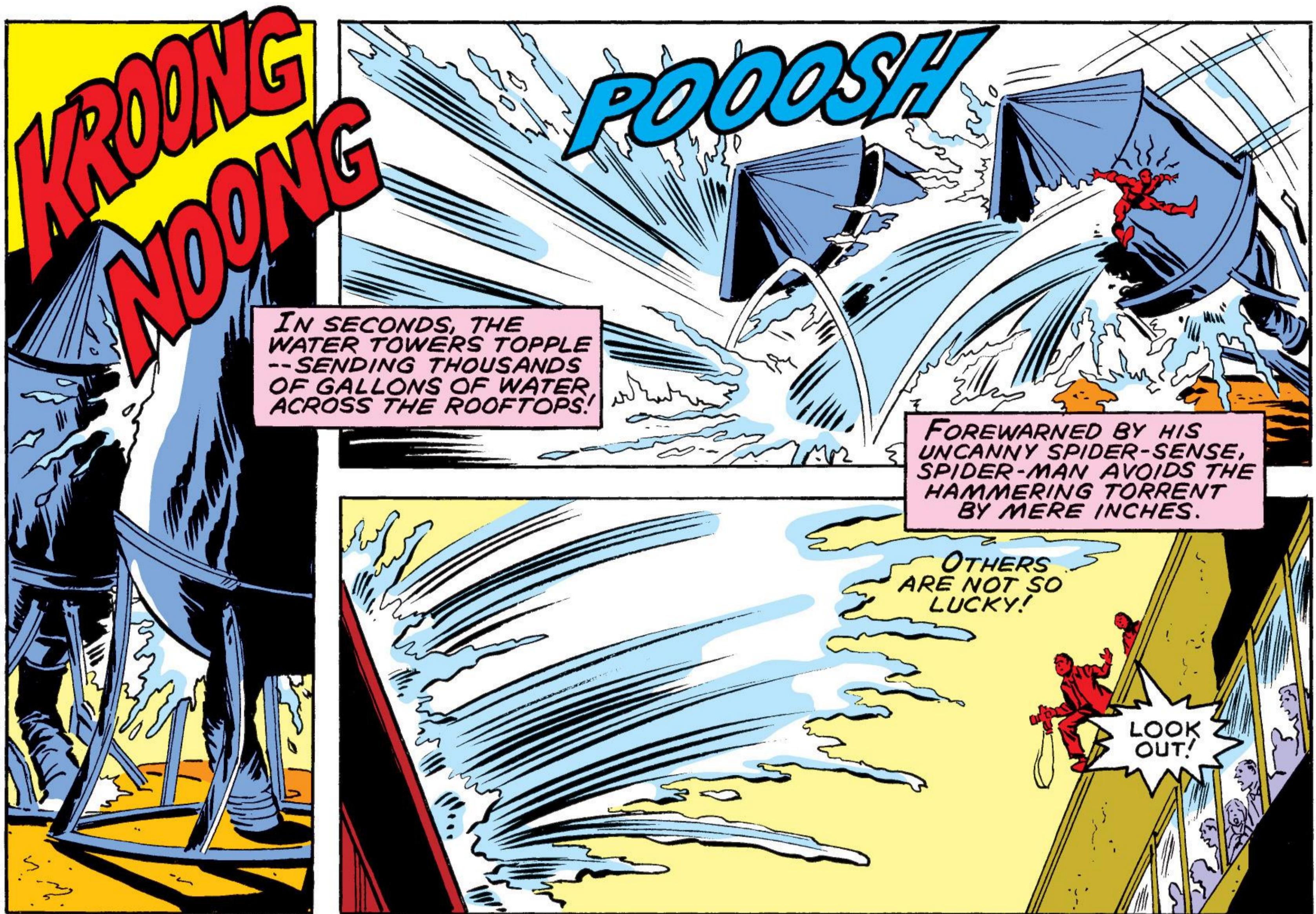




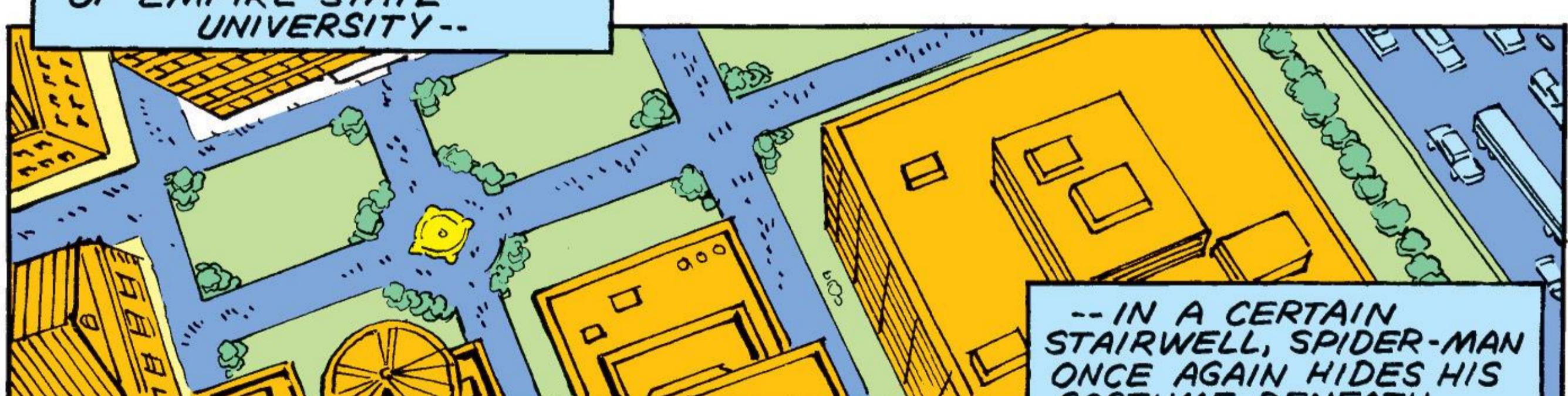
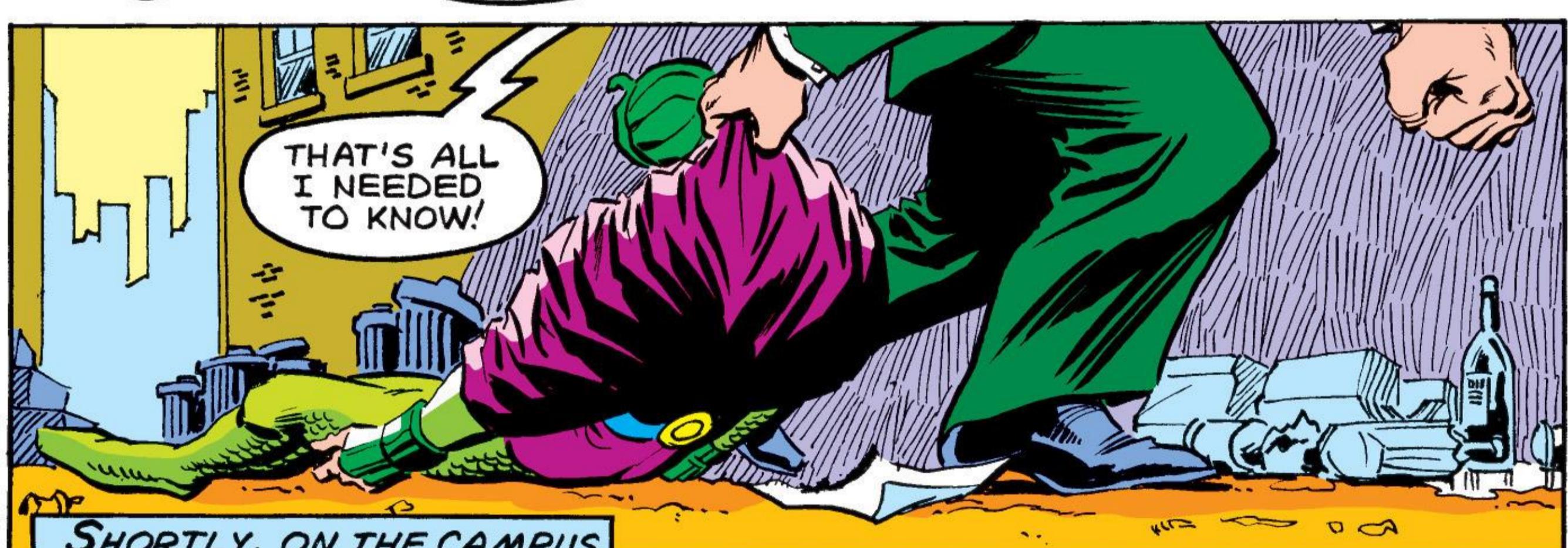


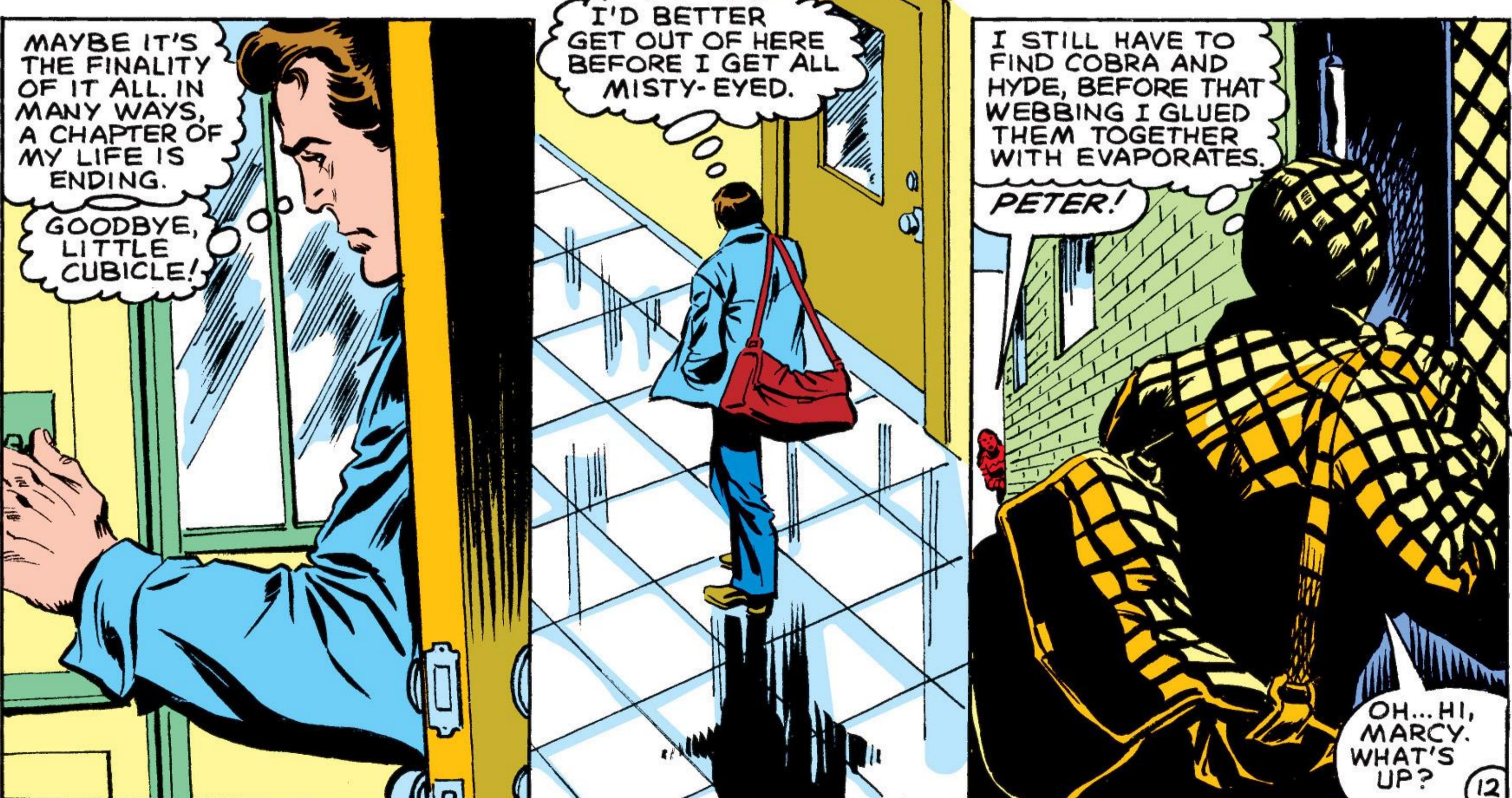
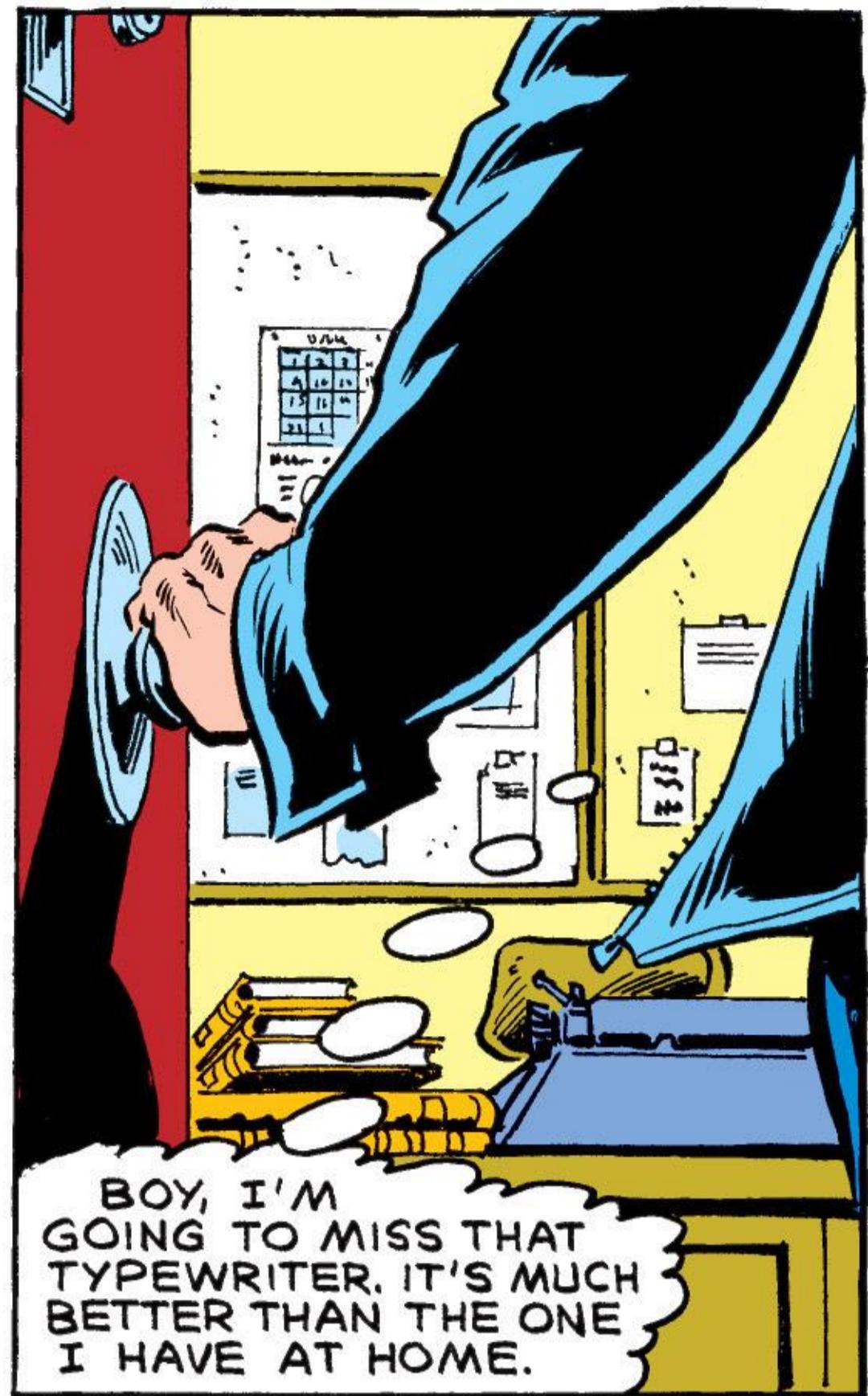
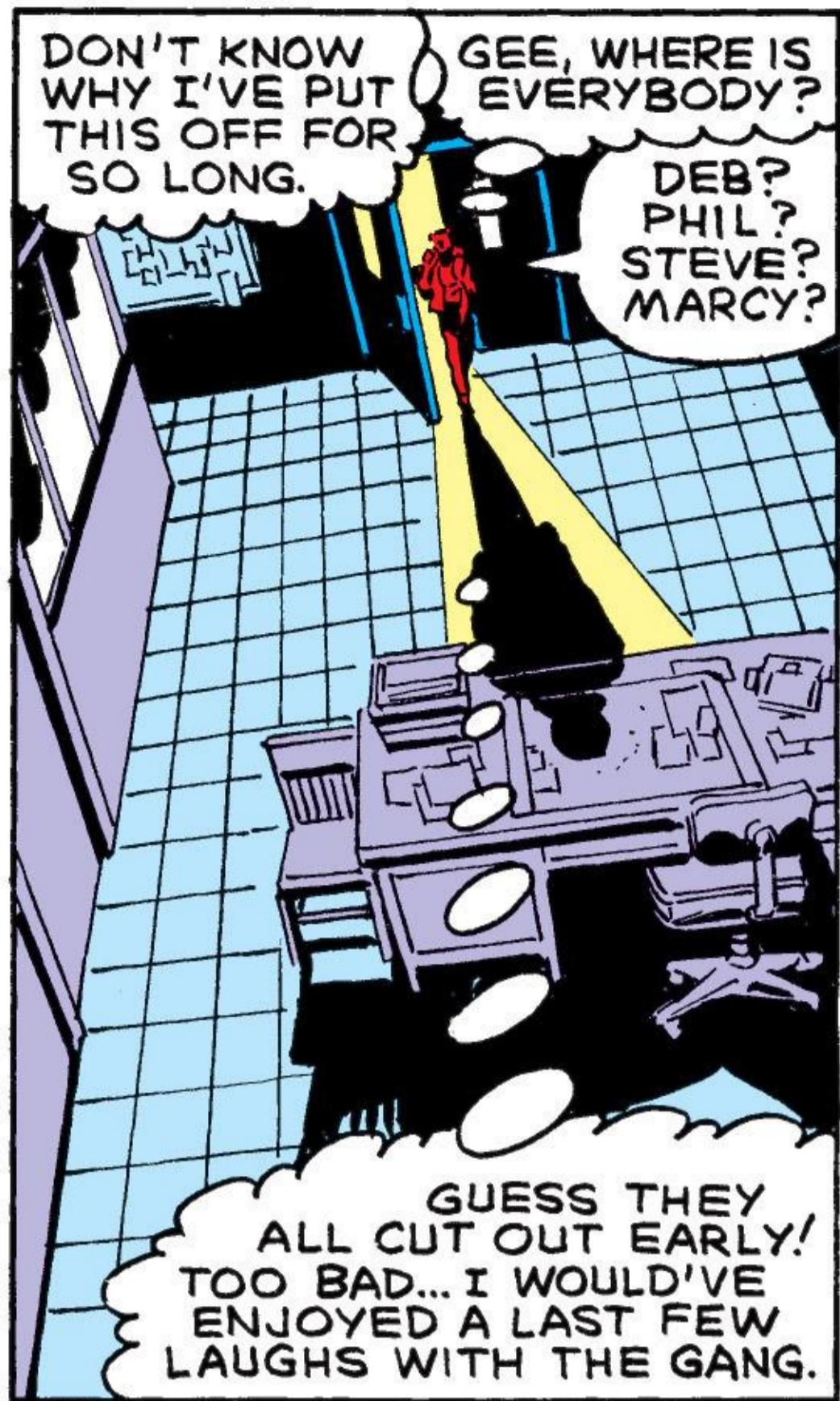


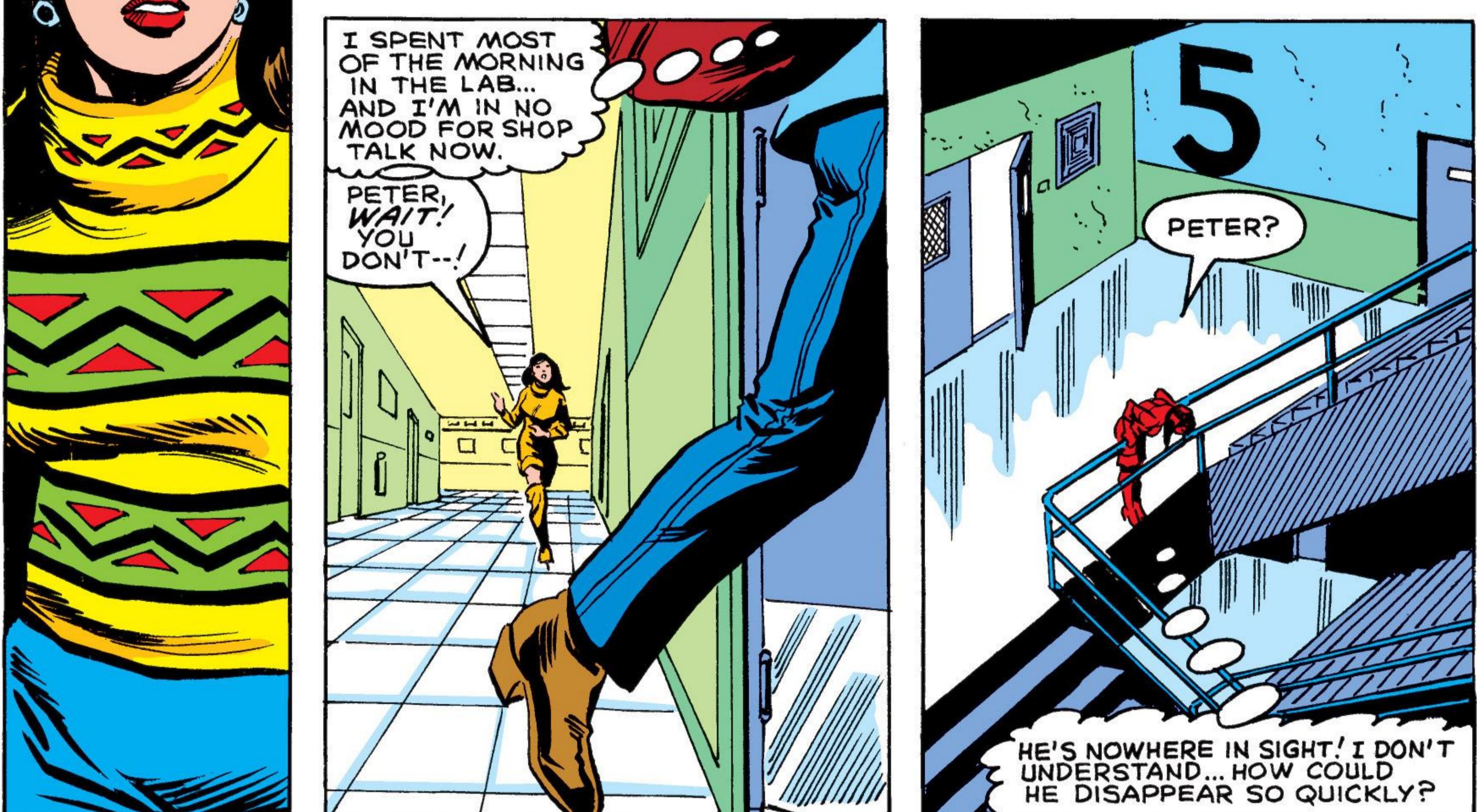




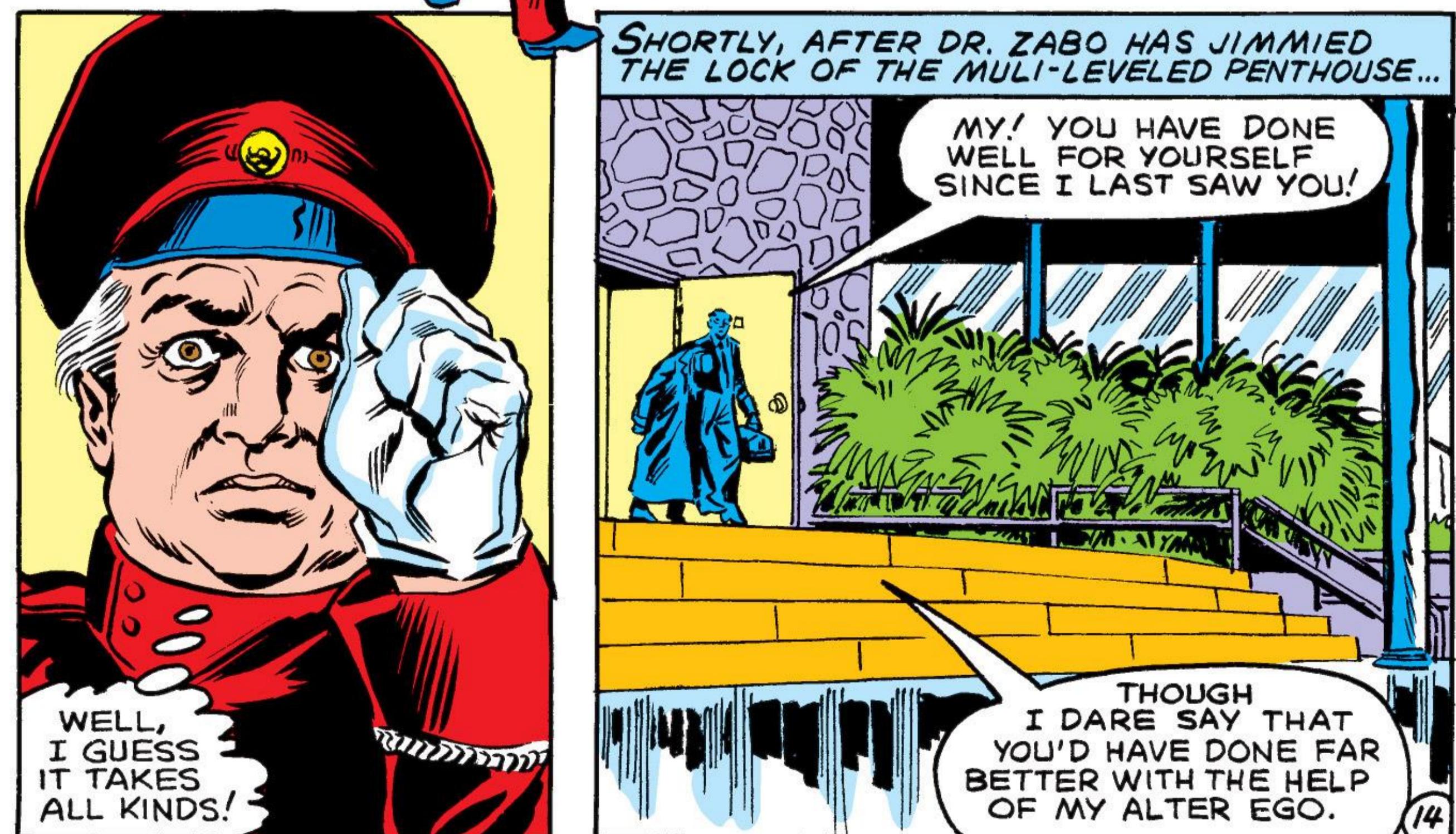
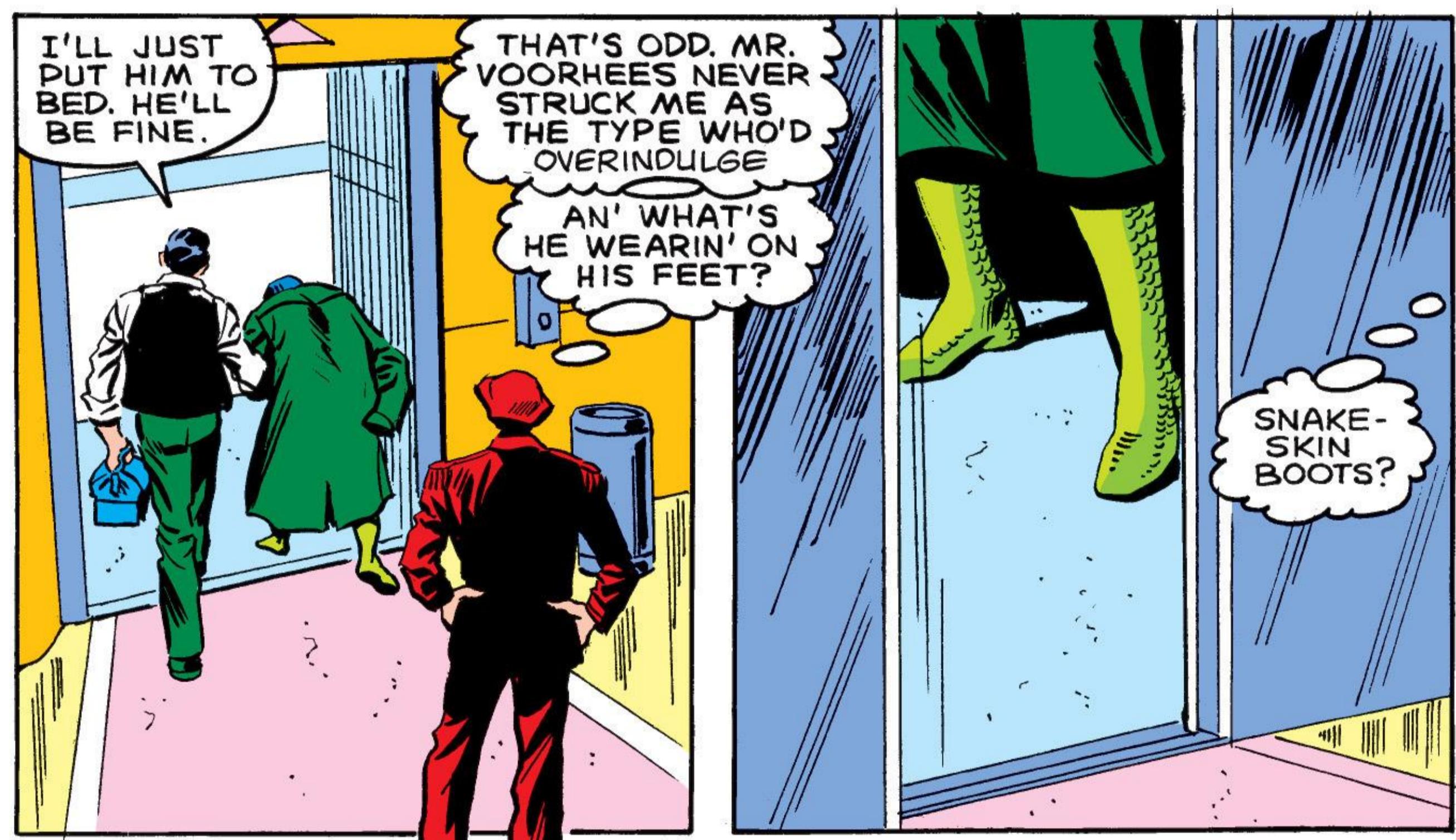
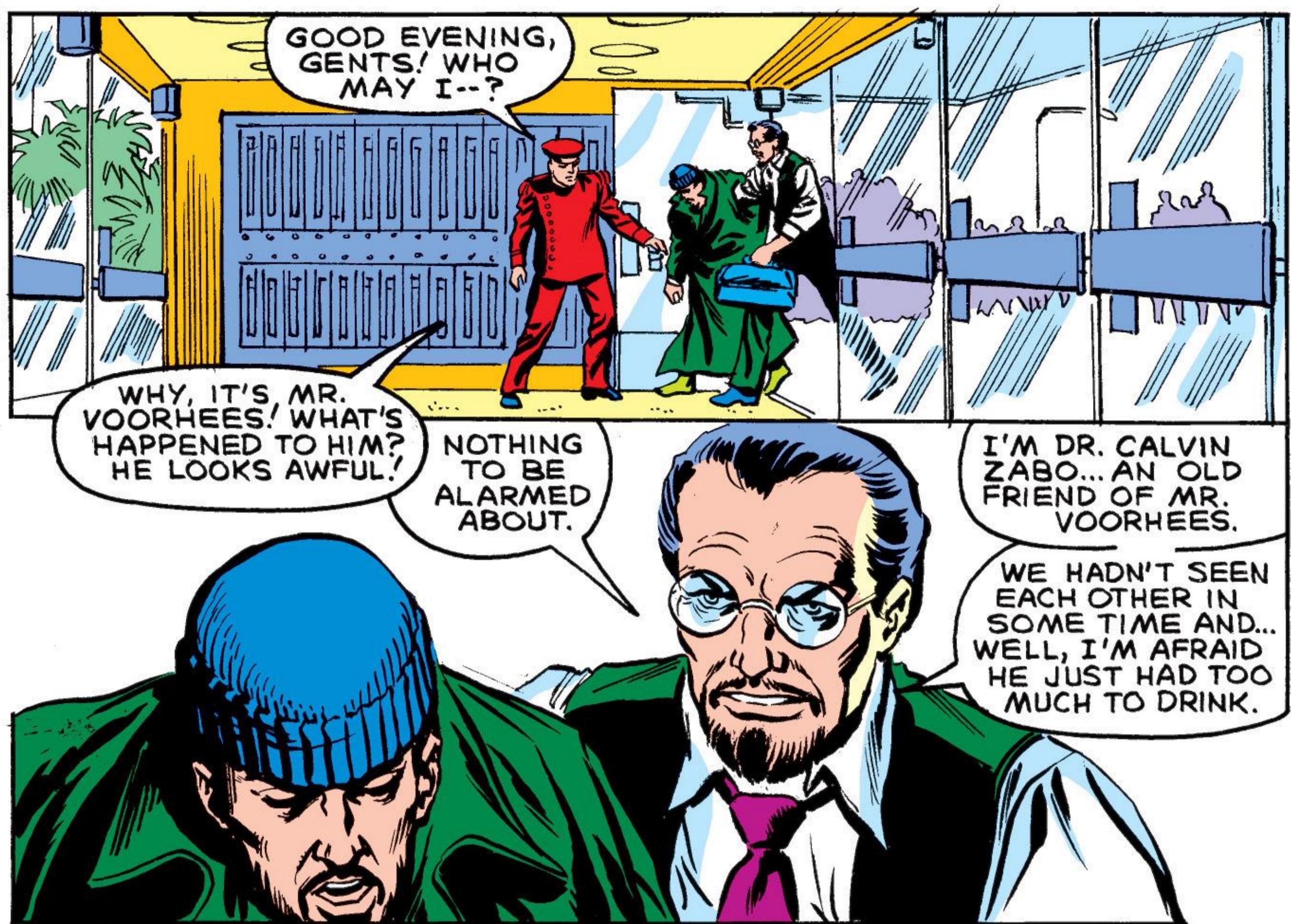


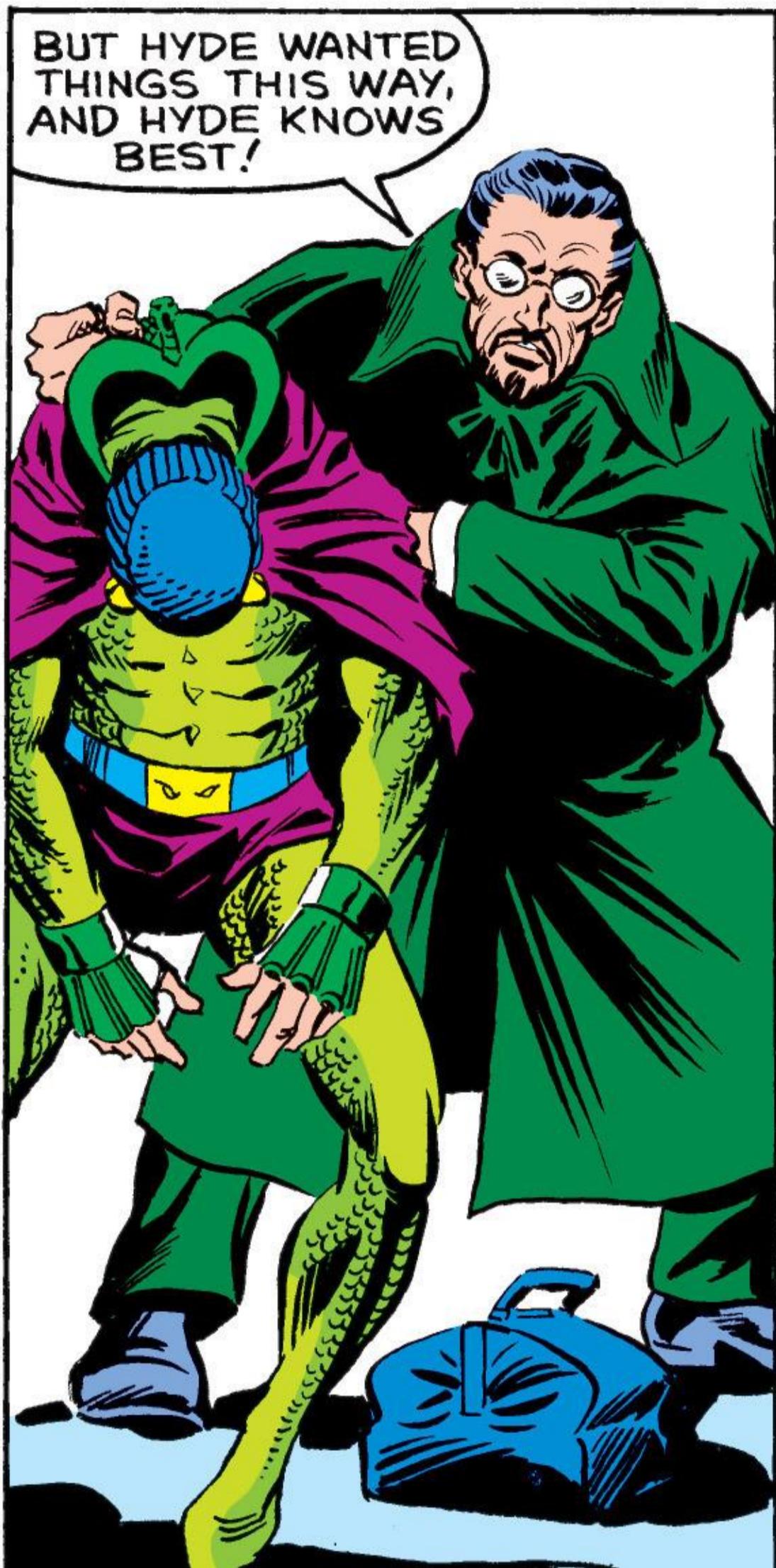


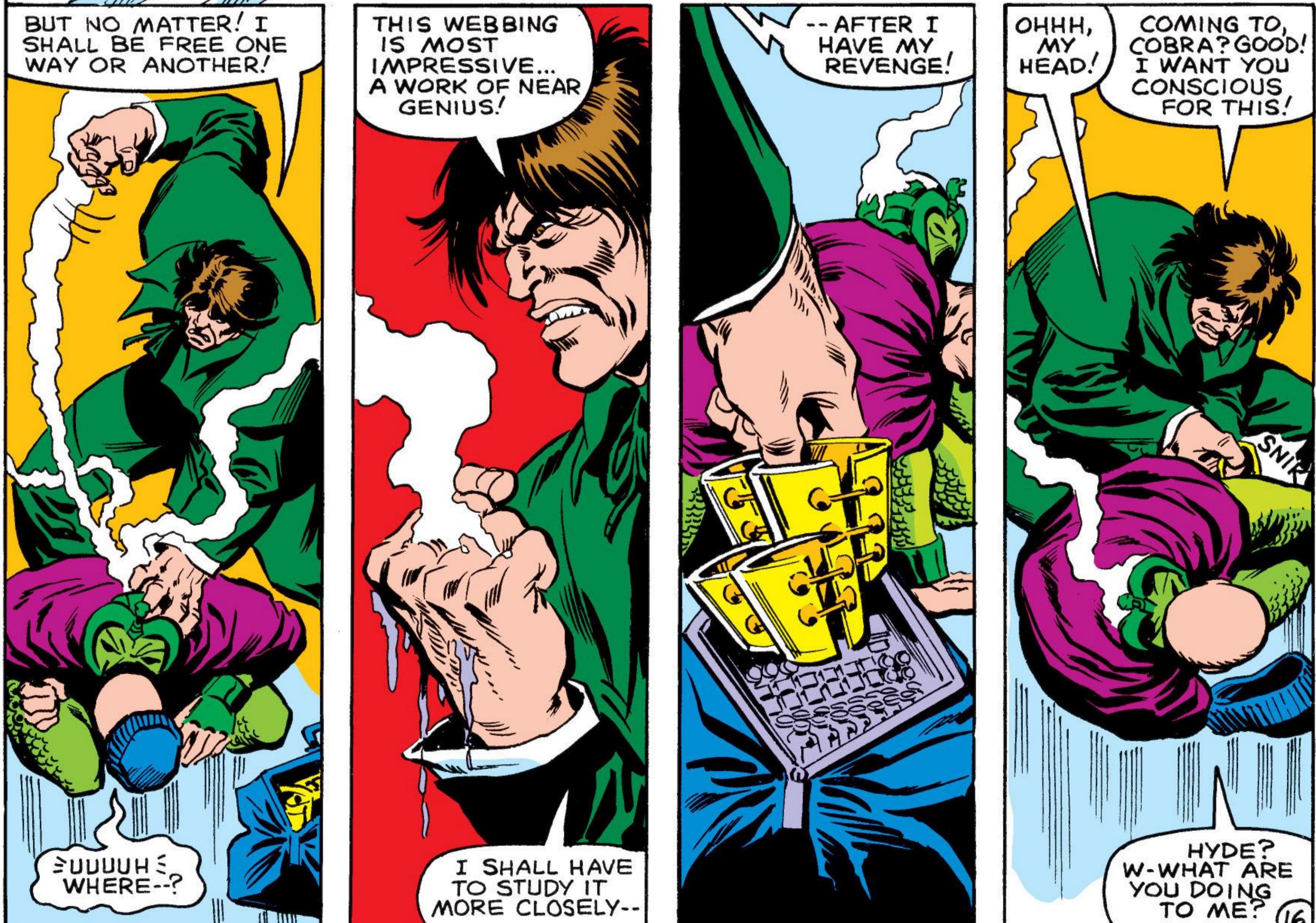
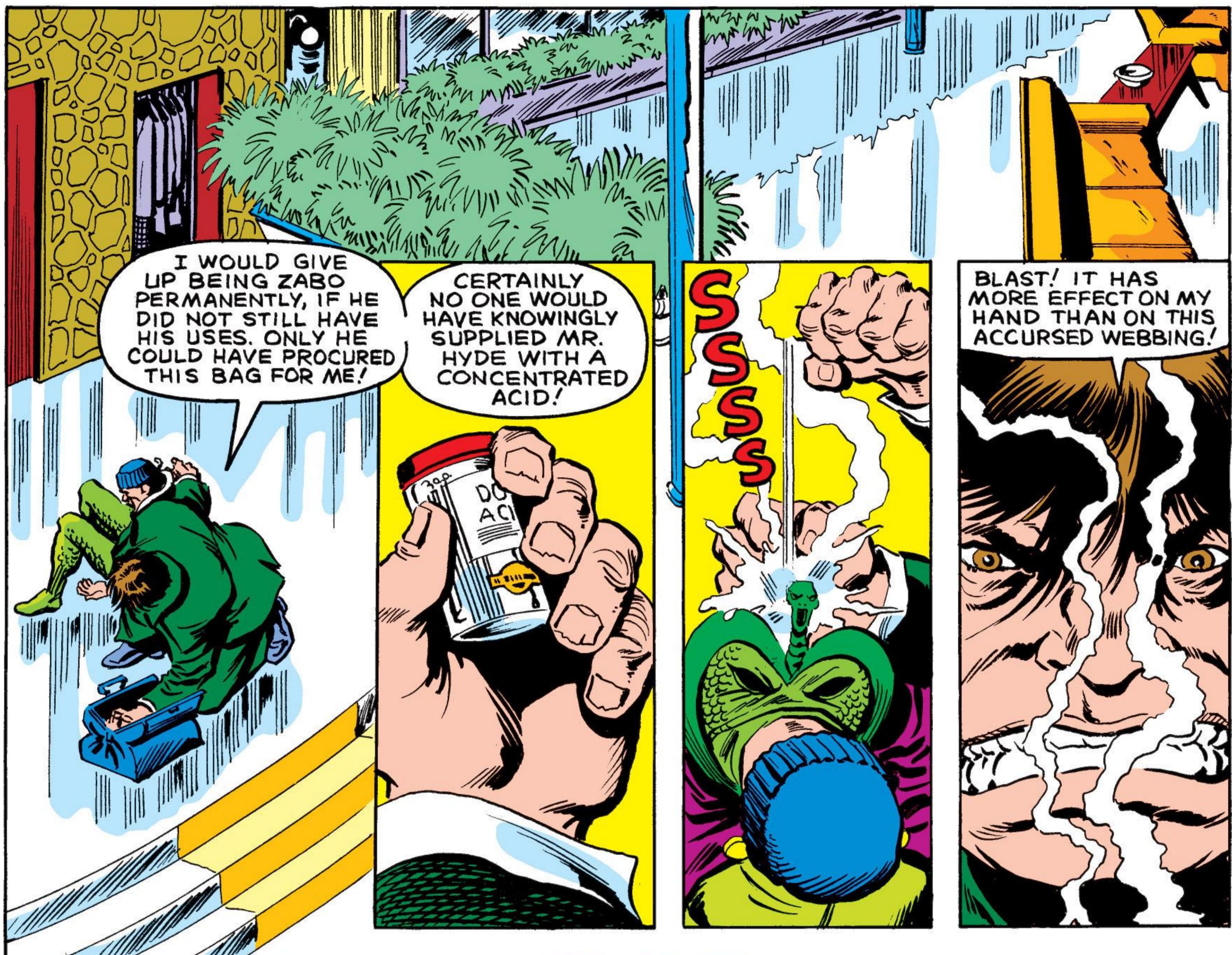


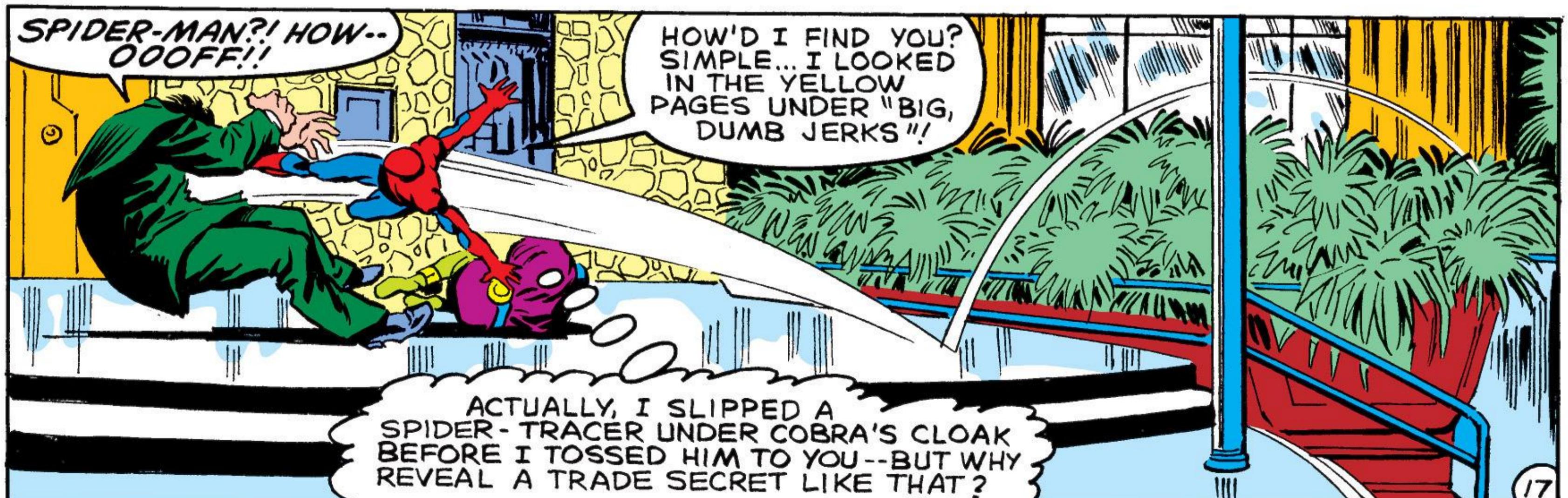
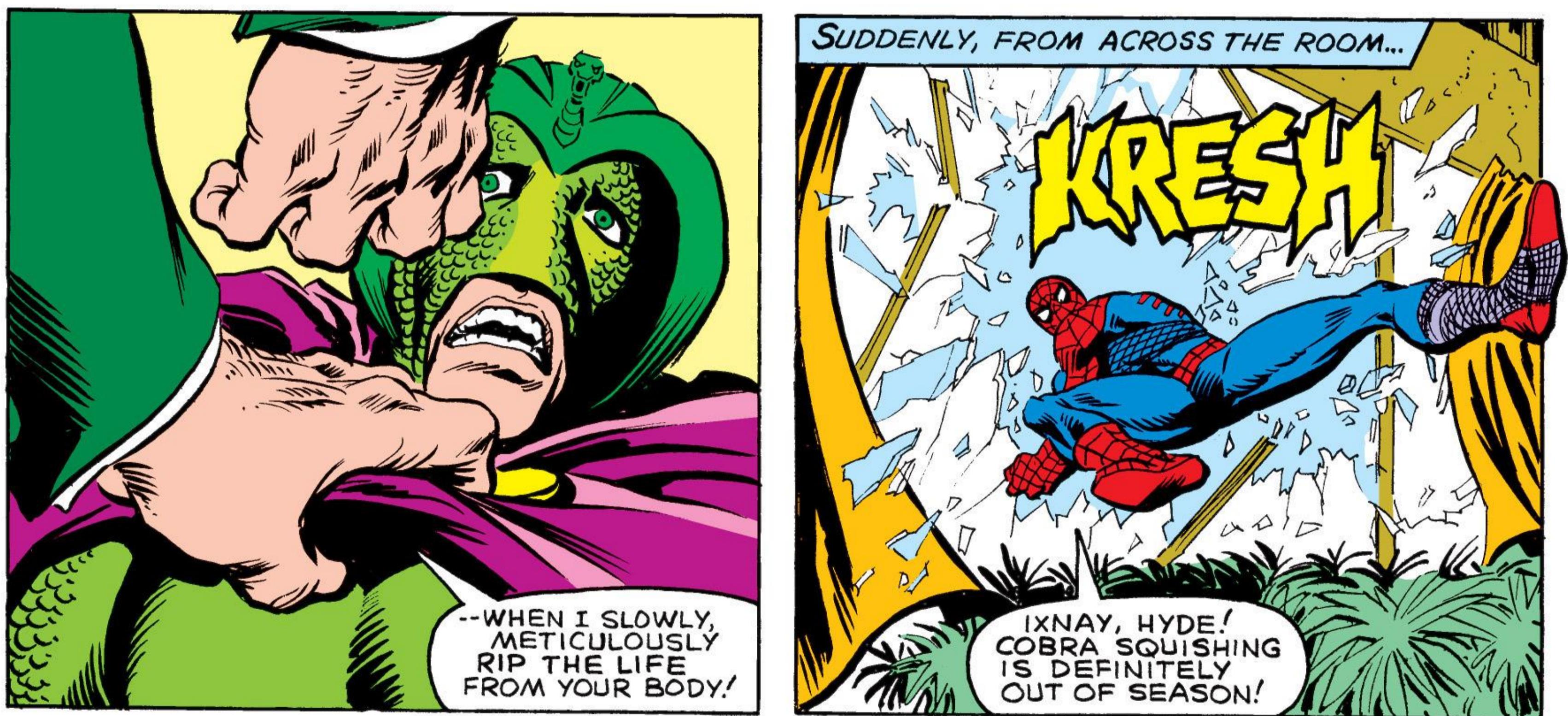
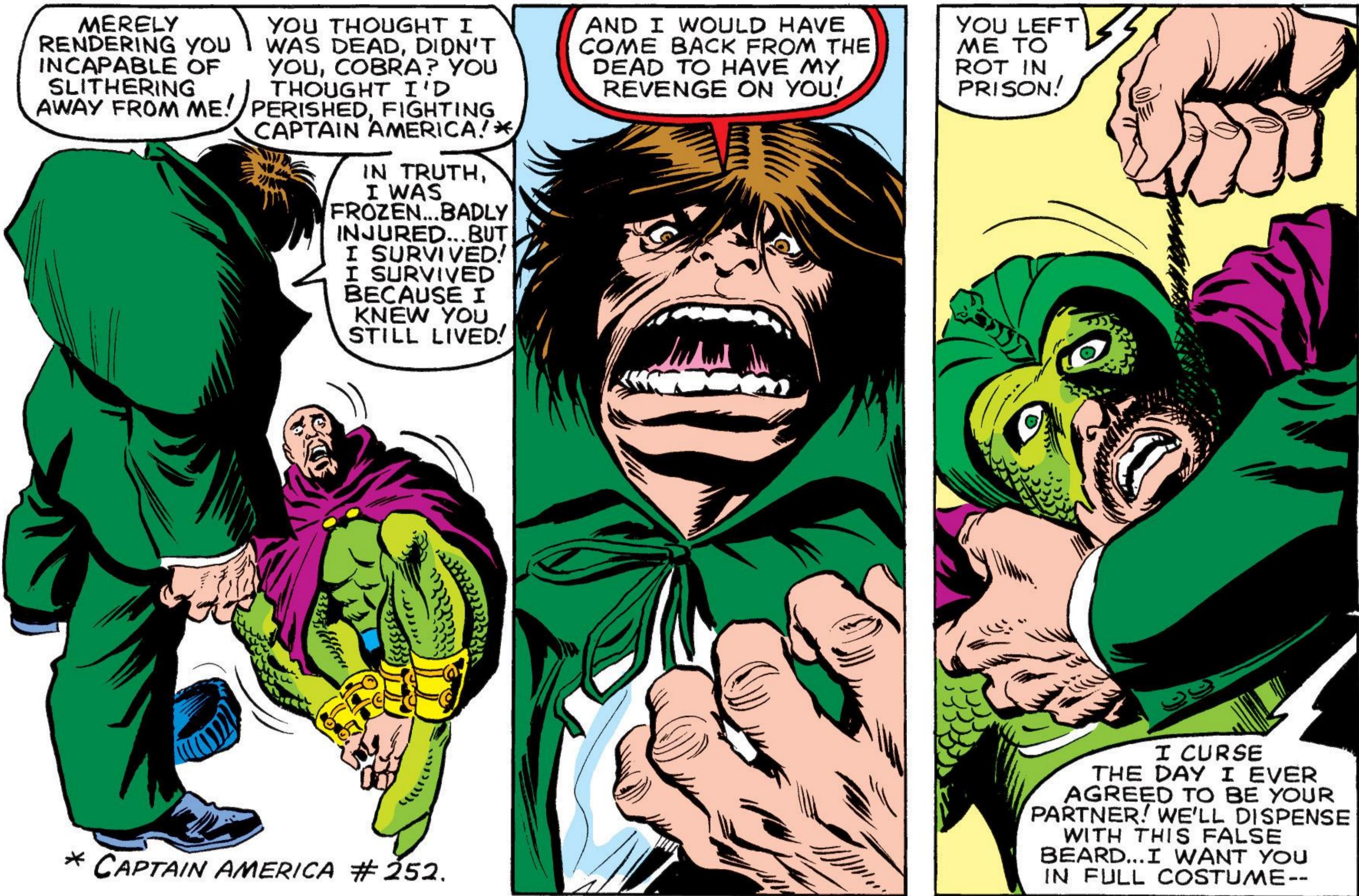


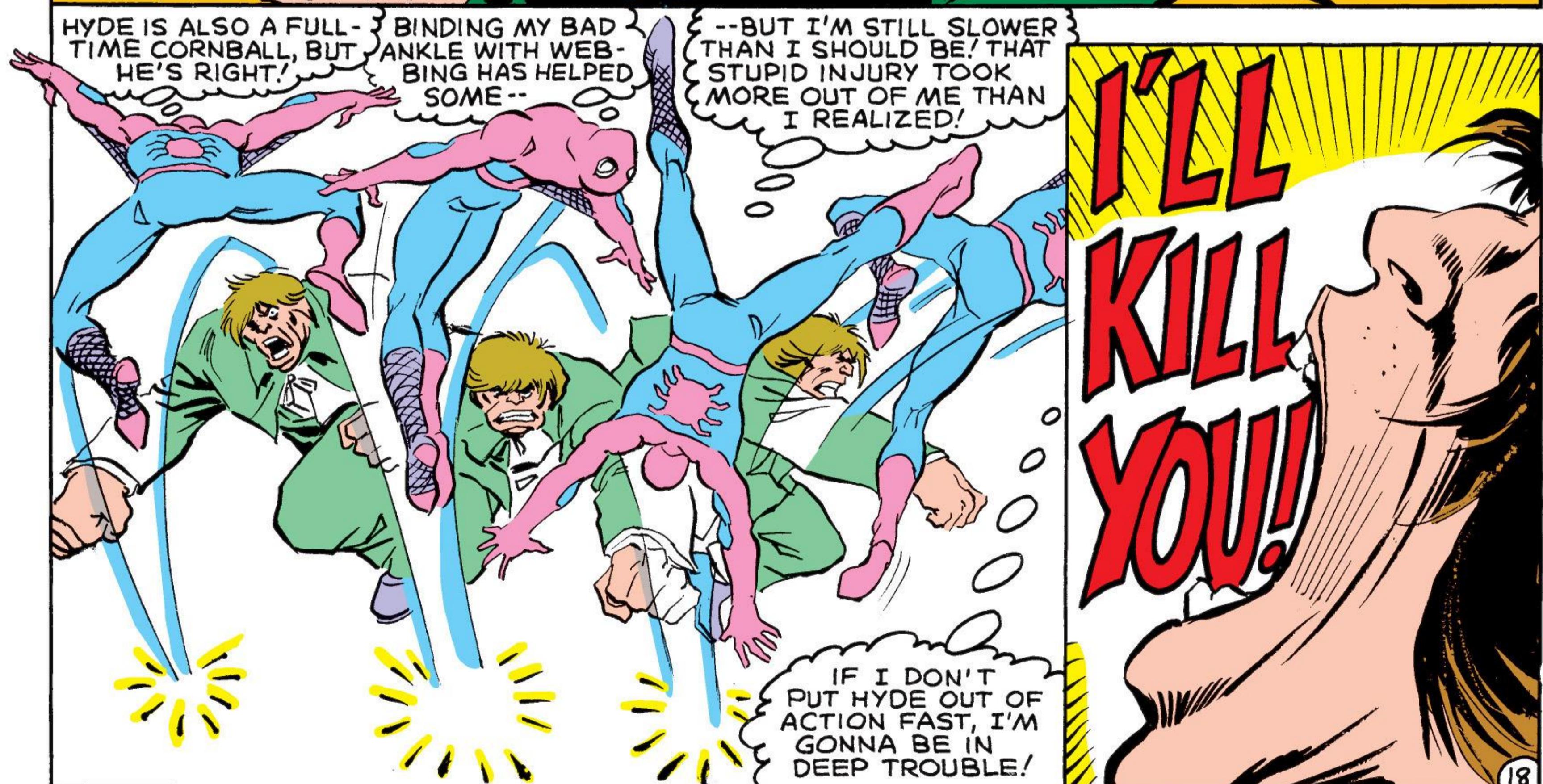
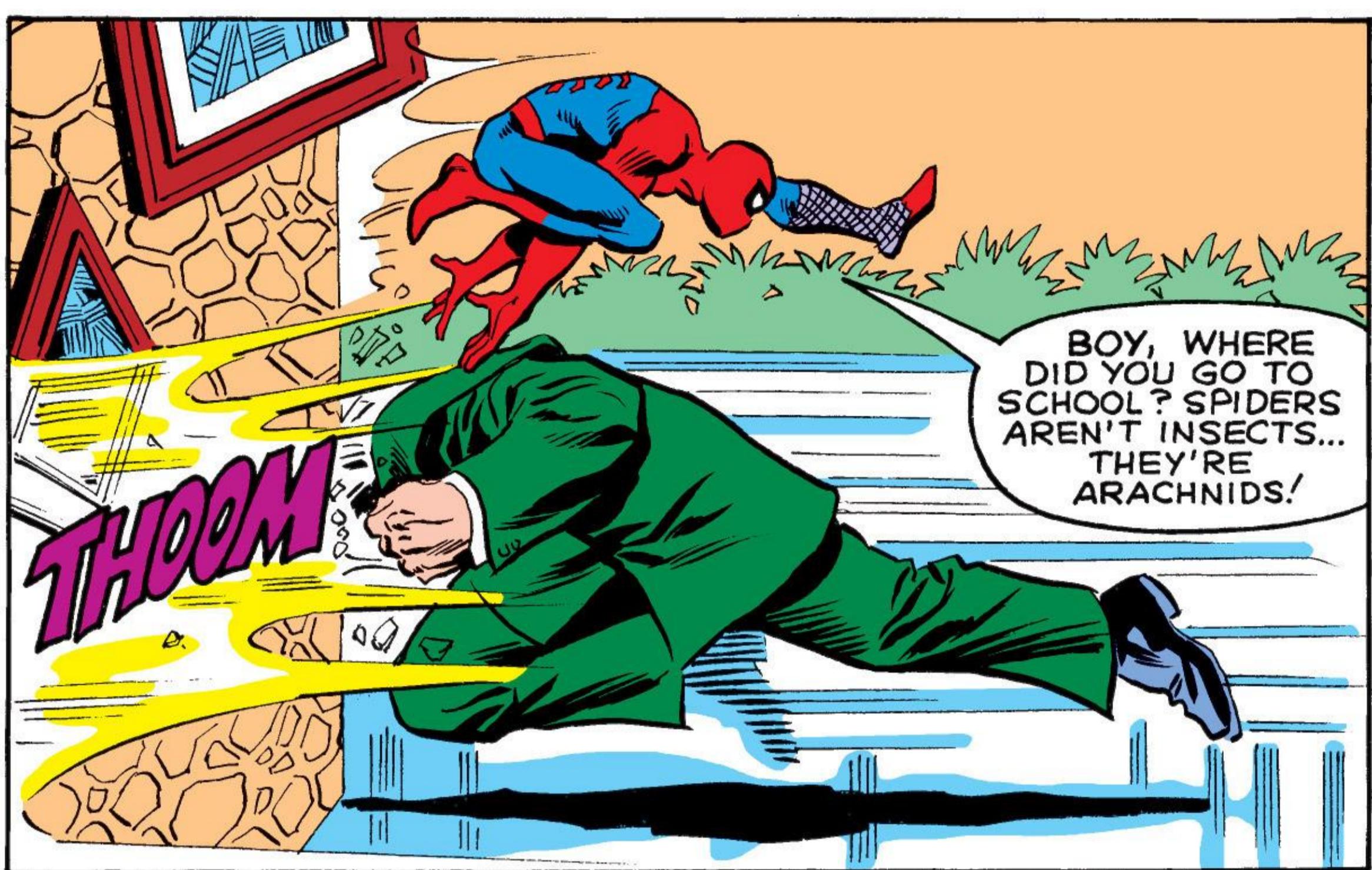
MEANWHILE, AT A
TOWERING LUXURY
HIGH-RISE ON
PARK AVENUE...

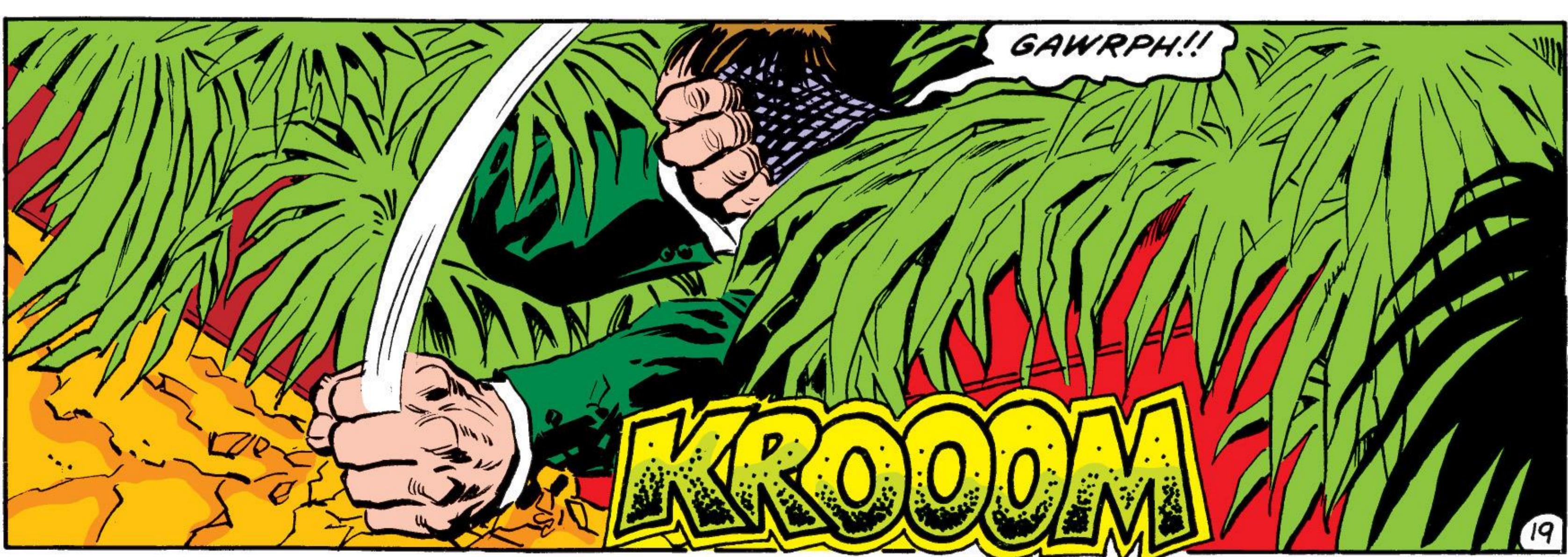
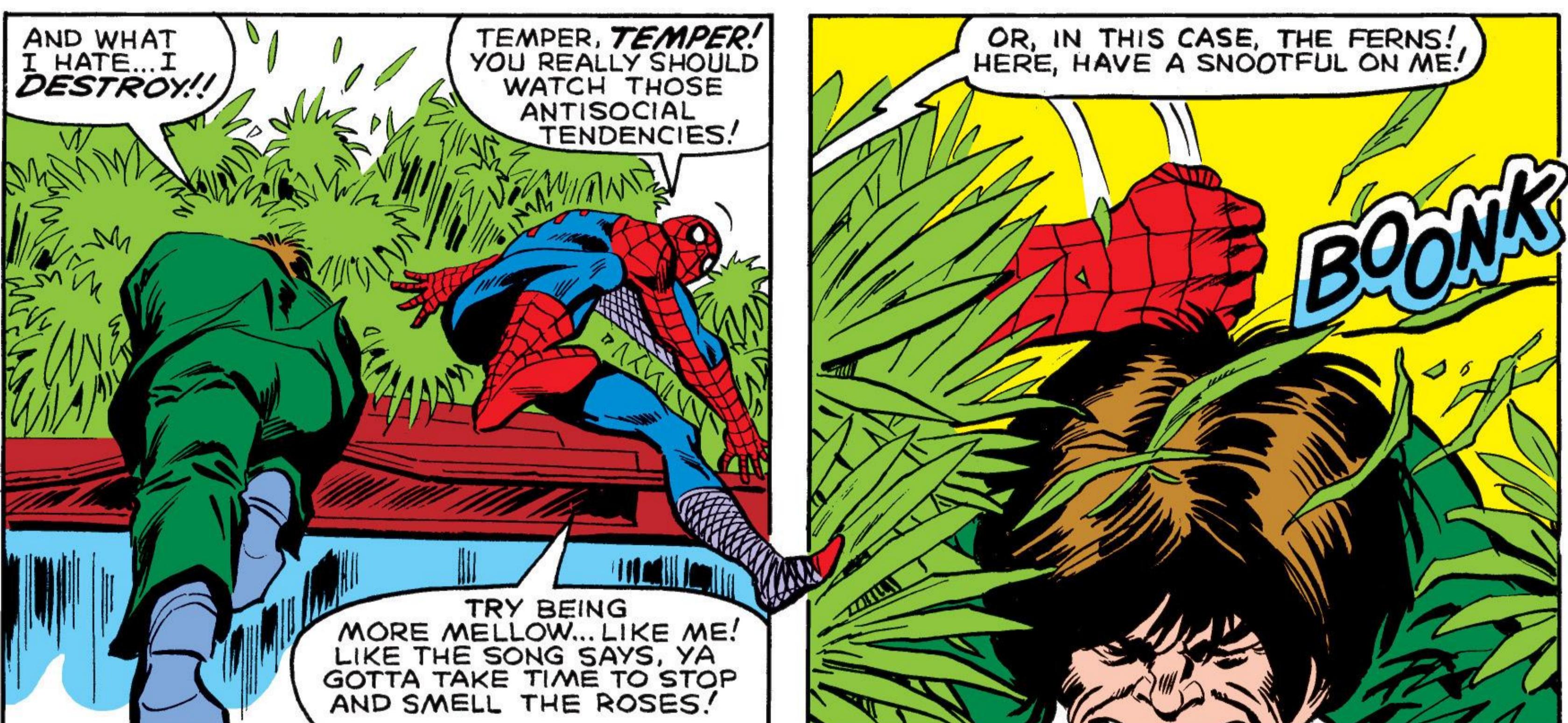
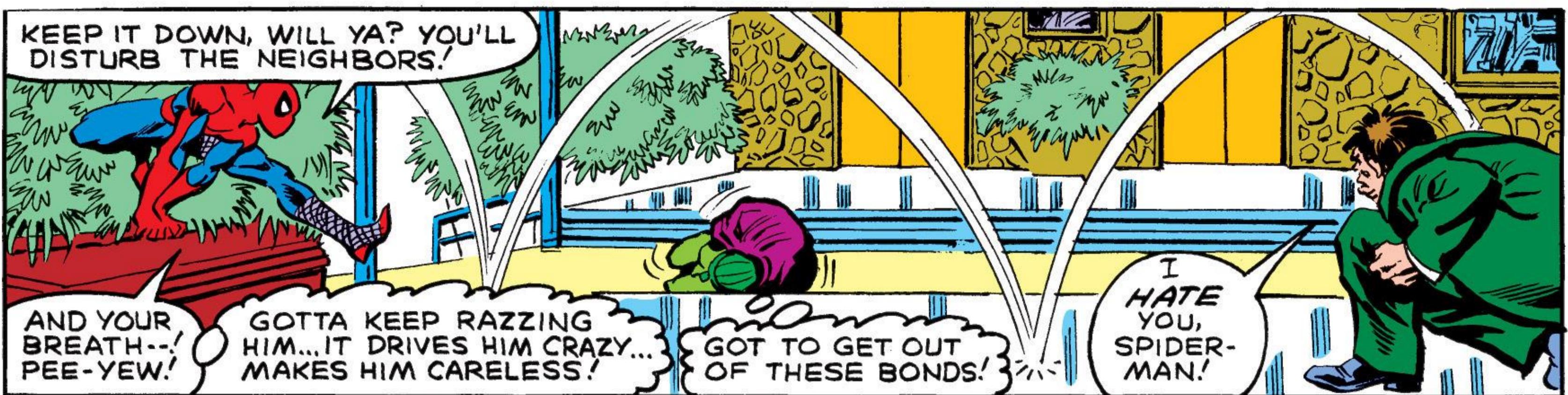








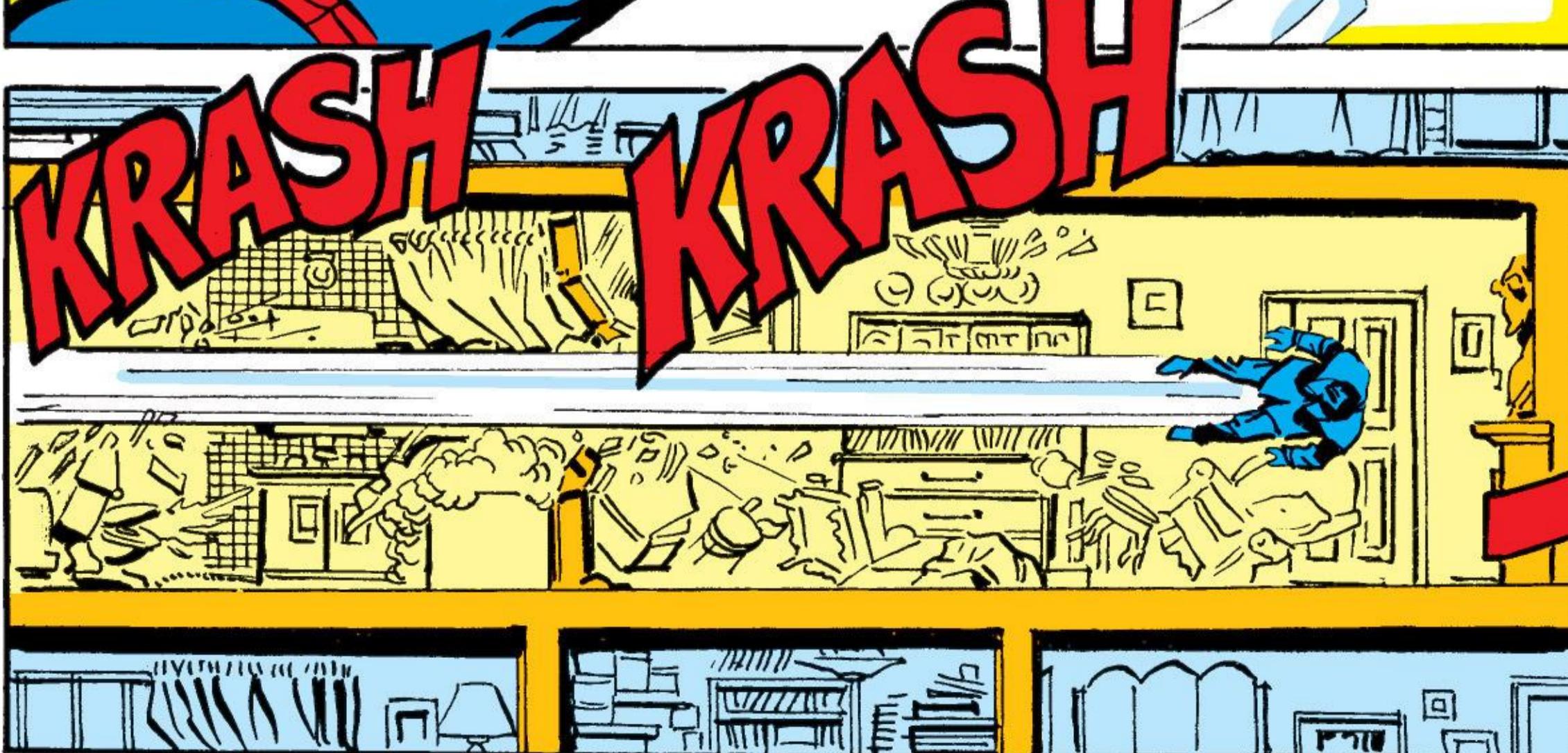


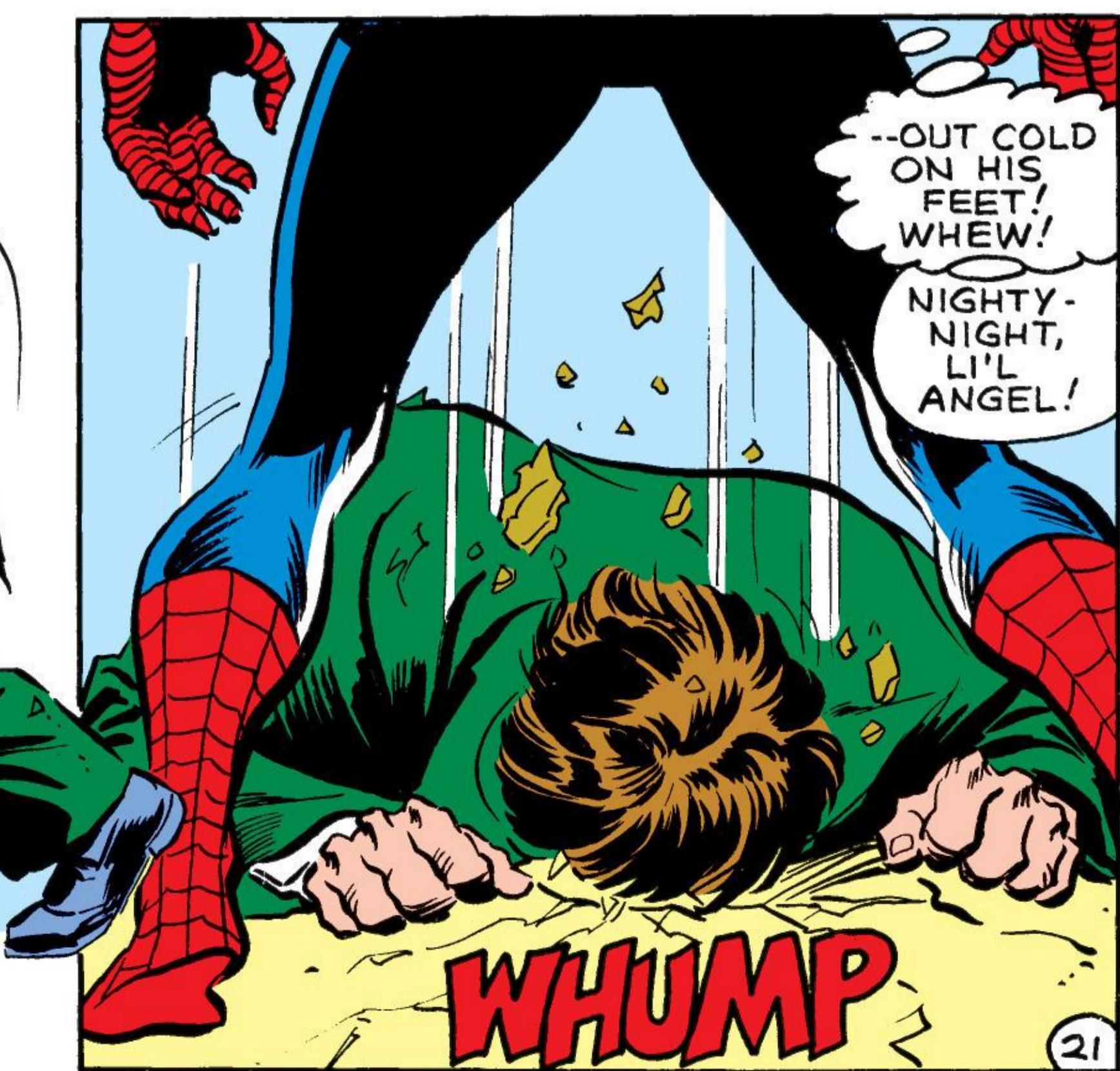
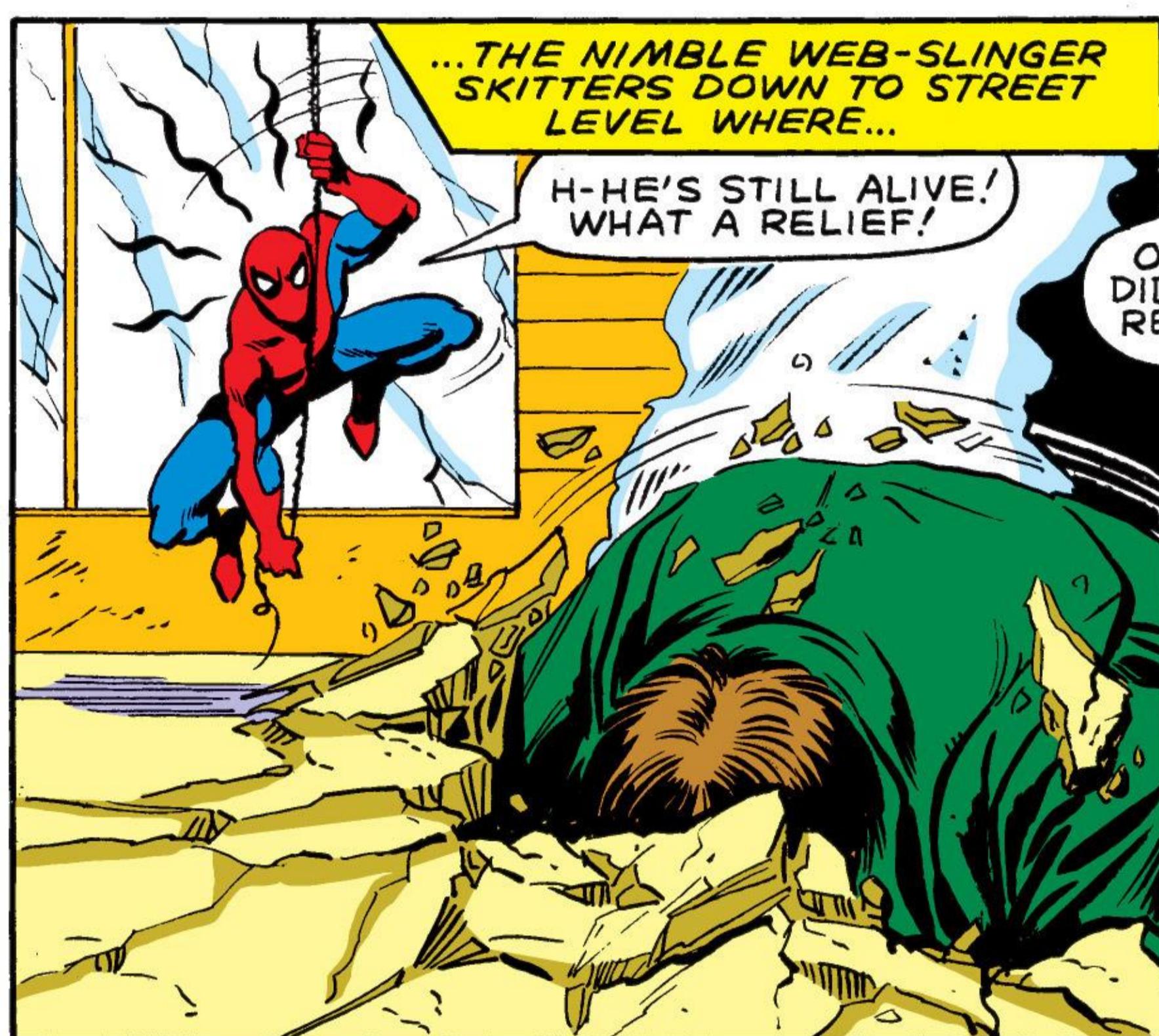


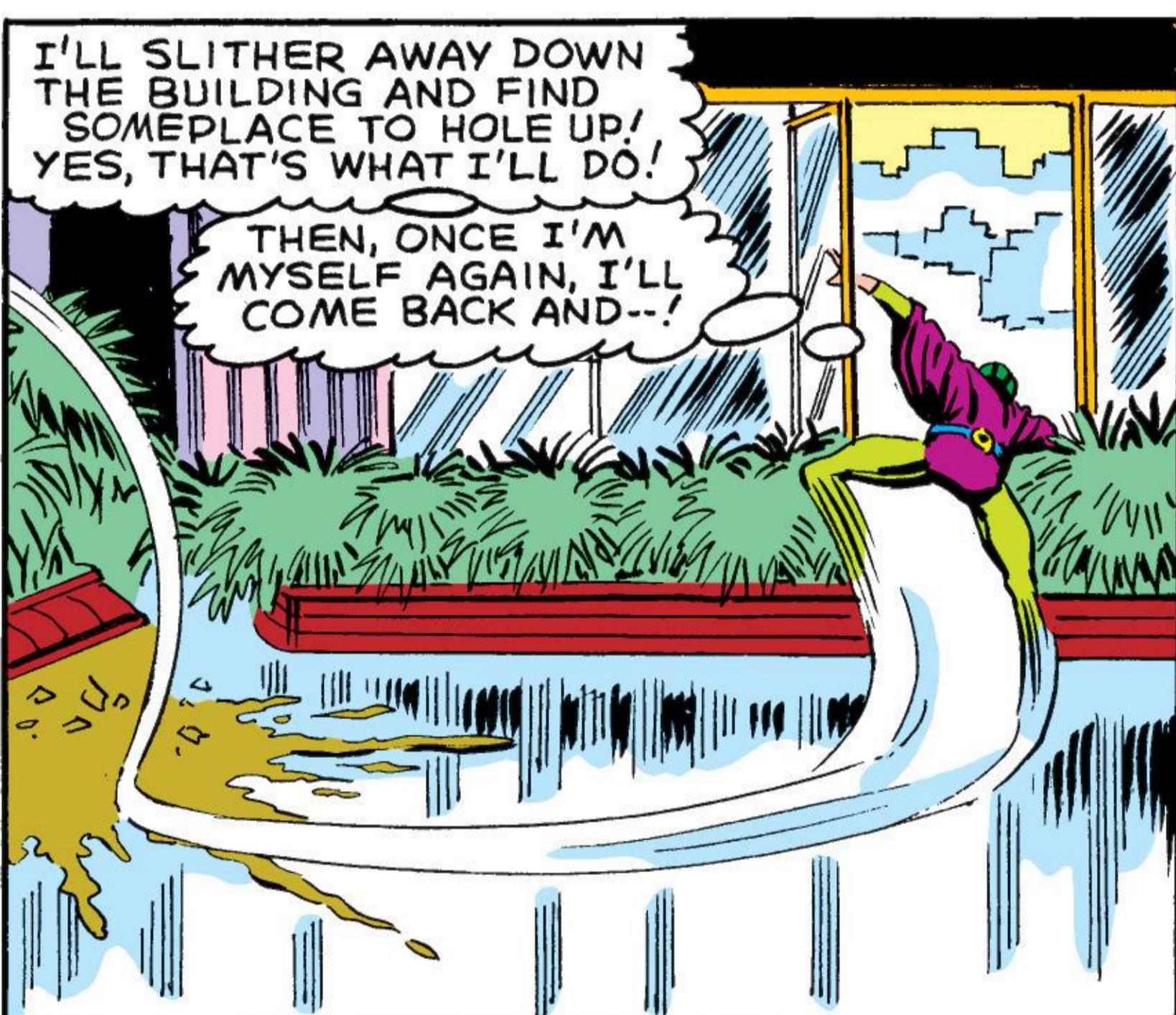
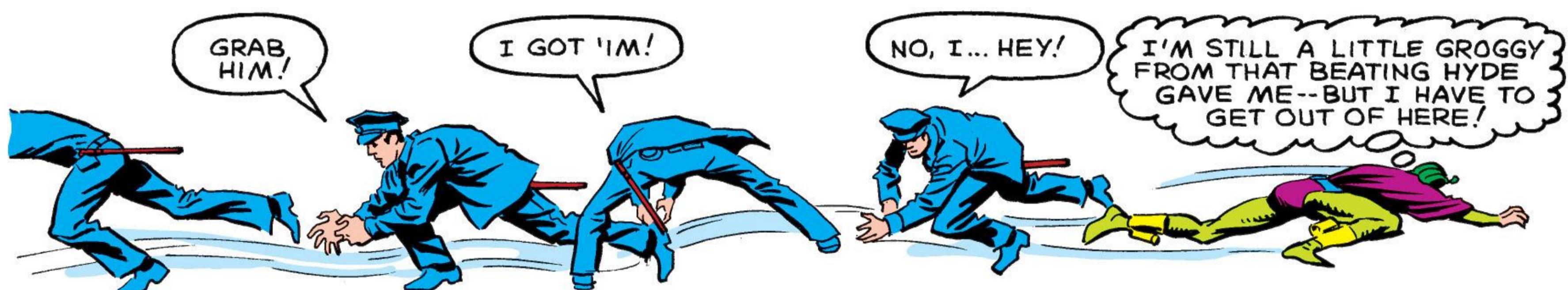
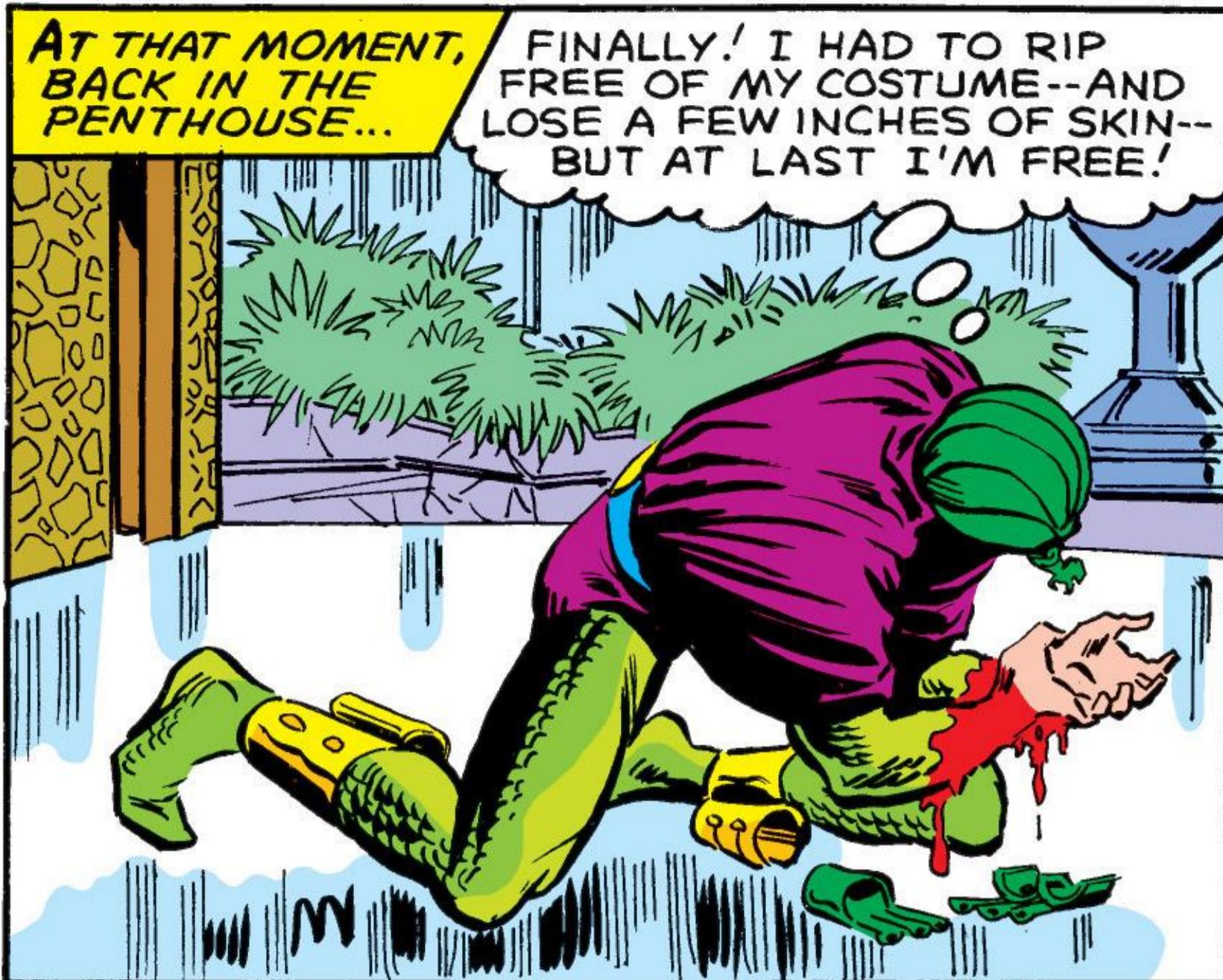
EASY THERE, BIG FELLA!
WE DON'T WANT YOU
BLUNDERING INTO TOO
MANY BREAKABLES!
INSURANCE RATES ARE
HIGH ENOUGH AS IT IS!

RAHRN...
RAHRN!

THWAP







THE SPIDER'S WEB

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP
575 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

TOM DeFALCO
EDITOR
LINDA GRANT
ASSISTANT EDITOR



Dear Editor,

I can safely say that AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #227 is one of the better efforts to issue forth from the House of Ideas in the past five or six years. In that time, I've come to expect a certain form and content to the SPIDER-MAN stories, and issue #227's story – "Goin' Straight" – would vie for my vote as a truly classic tale. And, it kept up with the SPIDER-MAN tradition of exciting stories with tricky plot-twists.

Just for once, it was nice to see Spider-Man get mad at Captain DeWolff without having something nasty happen as a result. And it was certainly nice to see someone – Captain DeWolff again – on the NYPD try to help Spider-Man. And, wonder of wonders, Peter Parker actually whizzed through an important term paper, impressing his professor in the bargain. Bravo, Rog!

The Romita Jr./Mooney art was, of course, superb. The action that leapt from this issue was of the same cloth that first made Spider-Man's rep in comics. If John or Jim ever leave, I'll be the fella in front of the office, holding my breath until they return.

All in all, another excellent effort! I remember now why I started reading the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN years ago, and have stayed with the book while others came and went: QUALITY!

Sp/4 J. D. Long
Meddac Box 1314
Ft. Leonard Wood, MO 65473

At ease, soldier!
And thanks!

Dear Tom,

If anyone expected Spider-Man and the Black Cat to make a life together, then they weren't very familiar with SPIDER-MAN. All Peter Parker and his flashier-dressed alter ego have ever had is an inordinate amount of bad luck with women. In a way, this wouldn't be the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN if Peter were to have a problem-free relationship. Still, with the atmosphere you've been striving for, maybe a steady relationship of some sort is in order.

And now that you have a steady police person as a supporting character in Captain Jean DeWolff, it seems only natural to develop a counterpart Mafioso. Sam Galvagno seems to be just the type. It's been a long time since Spider-Man had a regular

underworld adversary, someone who isn't a costumed super-villain. Still, when the Kingpin is through dealing with Daredevil...

Mike Sopp
438 West 32nd St.
Erie, PA 16508

The Kingpin has recently been appearing in SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN, Mike. And if the ol' Wall-crawler interferes too much in organized crime, we wouldn't be too surprised to find him throwing more of his weight around!

Editor:

Dang!

I am dreadfully unhappy as regards the fate of the Black Cat. Why did she have to dive off that pier? I rather liked her, and I thought you had a most interesting situation on your hands, what with the Spider-Man/Cat romance starting to bloom.

I don't know why I liked Felicia Hardy so much better than Parker's past girl friends, but I did. Maybe it was because she seemed more complex. Gwen Stacey was sweet and nice, but rather like a bowl of Cream of Rice. Mary Jane Watson had more of the old get-up-and-go, but she was more confused than complex.

Ah well. . . I don't suppose *this* cat has nine lives, huh? In any case, it might interest you that after a day as a Cornell grad student – and, yes, as a T. A. – there's nothing finer than sitting down with a cup of tea and the latest exploits of my friend, Mr. Parker.

Ann L. Mackay
113 Cook Street
Ithaca, NY 14850

Peter may give up his job as a Teaching Assistant, Ann, but the grad studies roll on. . . and we're sure he appreciates the thought.

Dear Mr. DeFalco,

While other writers at Marvel may be better known, Roger Stern's current run on AMAZING SPIDER-MAN has convinced me of what I began to suspect during his tenure on CAPTAIN AMERICA. He is Marvel's finest, most consistent writer. The clincher, of course, was AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #226-227. In this truly touching two-parter, he has continued to prove himself the master of characterization and plot development.

Issue #226 was a perfect ten in every way. The laundry room scenes were instant classics. Along with Felicia's skywriting idea, they show his talent for innovation in storytelling. Still, it was the characterization that made these issues special. I particularly liked his handling of Felicia Hardy and Jean DeWolff (hopefully, we'll be seeing more of both). And in issue #227, it was ol' Spider-Man himself who came leaping out of the book in three-dimensional glory! We've long known that Peter Parker was a man of principles, but never have those principles been so expertly shown in the contrasting of characters. Spider-Man's hopeful trust in Felicia, his hurt in being duped by her, the grimness of the battle with the mobsters, and Spider-Man's gritty determination to bring Felicia to justice had me *feeling* for Spider-Man as much as any classic novel would make me

concerned for its protagonist. The only thing I found a bit too pat was Felicia's return to crime. I would have preferred to see her try to make more of a go of it before succumbing to temptation.

I don't mean to neglect the art in these issues. John Romita Jr. and Jim Mooney have done their usual excellent job. It has been their work, in conjunction with the writing, that has brought this book up to its current high standards. With Rog, John, and Jim on the case, I'm sure it will stay that way!

Michael Brog
Box 76 Gilman
Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, MD 21218

Whew! Your letter presents me with a dilemma, Mike! If I show it to Rog, I won't be able to convince him that he really doesn't need a raise this year. (Hmmm... maybe if I wear my old sweater with the holes in the elbows, and ply him with sourballs?)

Dear People,

Never before have I seen a normal criminal of Mr. Galvagno's ilk actually realize that his men were no match for Spider-Man in a fair fight, and take the appropriate actions. I believe that Shiner was correct when he predicted that Galvagno will soon become the Kingpin's "fair-haired boy."

Lynn Savage
118 Franklin Street
Bristol, RI 02809

Dear Tom,

The Black Cat had better not be dead or I'll. . . I'll. . . I'll scream!
AAAAAAAHHHHHHHH!!
Seriously, though, AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #227 was fantastic. Thanks for making me glad I subscribed.

Gregory Kay Diekoff
RR #3 Venado Lakes
Delavan, IL 61734

INTRODUCING. . . LOVELY LINDA GRANT!
Did I just hear you say, "Who?" Well, then, I guess it's time for us to get better acquainted. I'm the new assistant editor of these pages. That means I get to share an office with Two-Fisted Tom DeFalco – and to remind him when our sourball supply needs to be replenished.

A bit of background: I was born in Yonkers, a suburb of New York City. I've done quite a bit of traveling and finally decided to call "The Big Apple" home. After renting an apartment here with a fearless fifteen pound cat named Sasha, I found a job at Marvel Comics as secretary to the Editor-in-Chief, Jim Shooter.

One recent Friday afternoon, Tom made two momentous decisions: he quit smoking the smelly cigars he used to torture us with, and he asked me to take over as his new assistant (my predecessor, Mark Gruenwald, had been promoted to full editor). Applauding the demise of Tom's cigars, I accepted his offer. And a new editorial team was born.

Well, I'd like to go on (and possibly discuss the great bratwurst stands of Heidelberg), but there's work to be done. . .