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COMICS
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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP 12¢

16
SEPT.

"SPIDEY BATTLES
DAREDEVIL!"

FEATURING:
THE EERIE
MENACE OF
THE
RINGMASTER
!!



WARNING!! IF YOU DON'T SAY THIS IS ONE OF
THE GREATEST ISSUES YOU'VE EVER READ, WE
MAY NEVER TALK TO YOU AGAIN!

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"DUEL WITH DAREDEVIL"

also FEATURING THE UNIQUE VILLAINY OF
DAREDEVIL and CIRCUS
THE RINGMASTER HIS OF CRIME



ACTION!
Thrills!
SUSPENSE!

ALL
ON
THE
INSIDE!

Written by: STAN LEE
MASTER OF THE SPOKEN WORD
Illustrated by: STEVE DITKO
DEAN OF DRAMATIC DRAWINGS
Lettered by: S. ROSEN
SULTAN OF SPARKLING SPELLING

X757

A TEEN-AGER'S LIFE IS FILLED WITH UPS AND DOWNS! THIS IS ONE OF THE DOWN PERIODS FOR YOUNG PETER PARKER, AS HIS WELL-MEANING AUNT TALKS ON, AND ON, AND ON ...

BUT WHY WON'T YOU CALL MARY JANE WATSON?? I'M SURE YOU'D LIKE HER IF YOU DATED HER!

BUT I'VE GOT A GIRL FRIEND, AUNT MAY! I DON'T WANT ANY BLIND DATES!

BUT MRS. WATSON IS SUCH A GOOD FRIEND OF MINE! AND HER NIECE, MARY JANE, WOULD JUST LOVE TO MEET YOU! AND YOU'RE NOT REALLY ENGAGED, OR ANYTHING!

GOSH, AUNT MAY, I'M OLD ENOUGH TO ARRANGE MY OWN DATES... HONEST!

I'M NOT GETTING ANY STUDYING DONE! I MIGHT AS WELL GO OUT!

I'LL BE BACK LATER, AUNT MAY! I'M GOING OUT FOR SOME AIR!

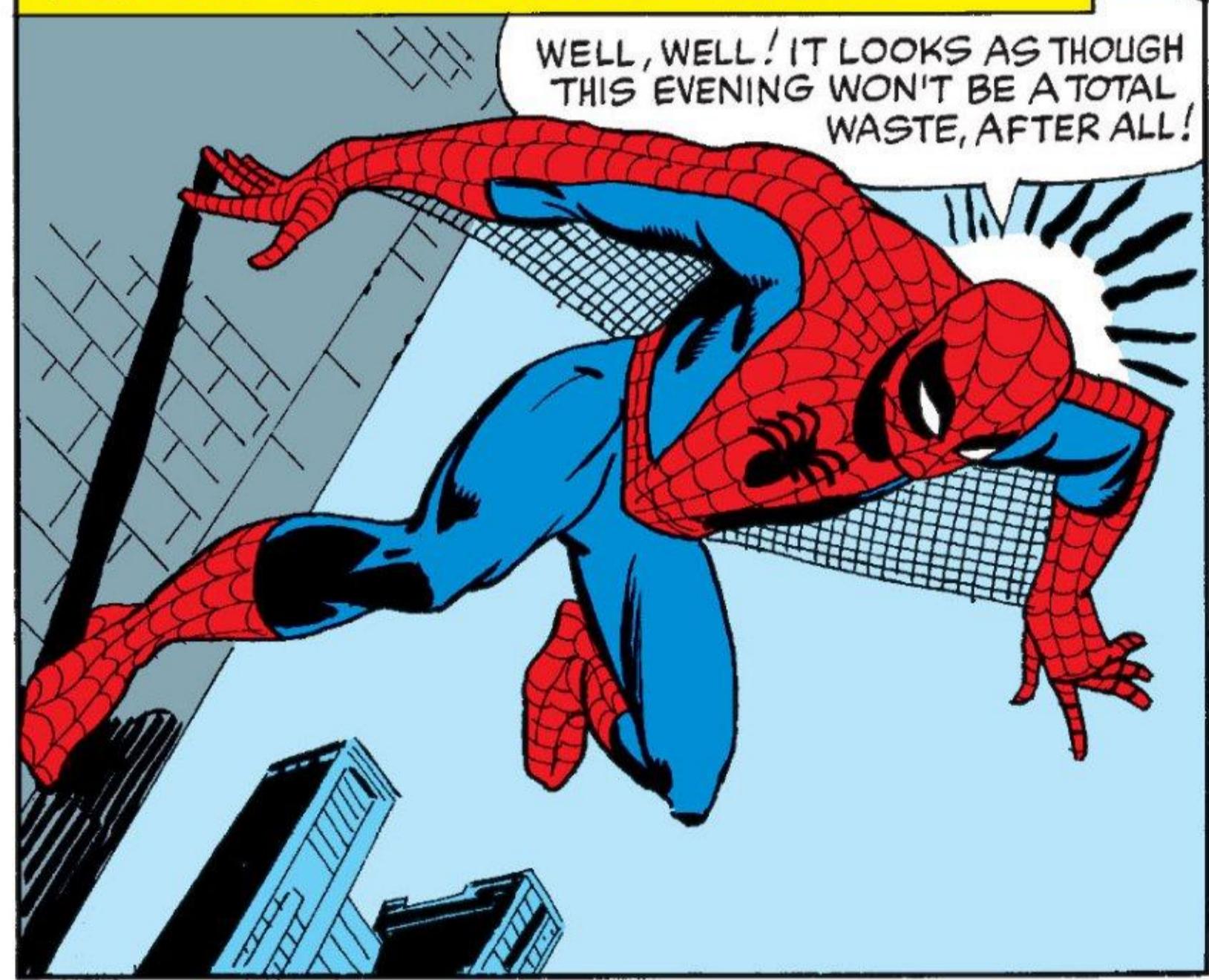
BE SURE YOU DRESS WARMLY, DEAR! IT'S A BIT NIPPY OUT!



FIVE MINUTES LATER, IF DOTING AUNT MAY HAPPENED TO GLANCE SKYWARD, SHE'D SEE THE MOST COLORFUL, MOST DRAMATIC, MOST EXCITING OF ALL SUPER-HEROES SWINGING THROUGH THE SKY... NOT FEELING THE NIP IN THE AIR ONE SINGLE BIT!

GOOD OL' AUNT MAY! SHE MEANS WELL, BLESS HER... BUT SOMETIMES I THINK I'LL POP MY CORK IF I CAN'T GET AWAY FROM HER NAGGING!

AFTER LONG, RELAXING MINUTES OF EFFORTLESSLY PROPELLING HIMSELF FROM ROOFTOP TO ROOFTOP, SPIDER-MAN COMES TO A SUDDEN HALT... HIS KEEN EYES SPOTTING TROUBLE BELOW ...

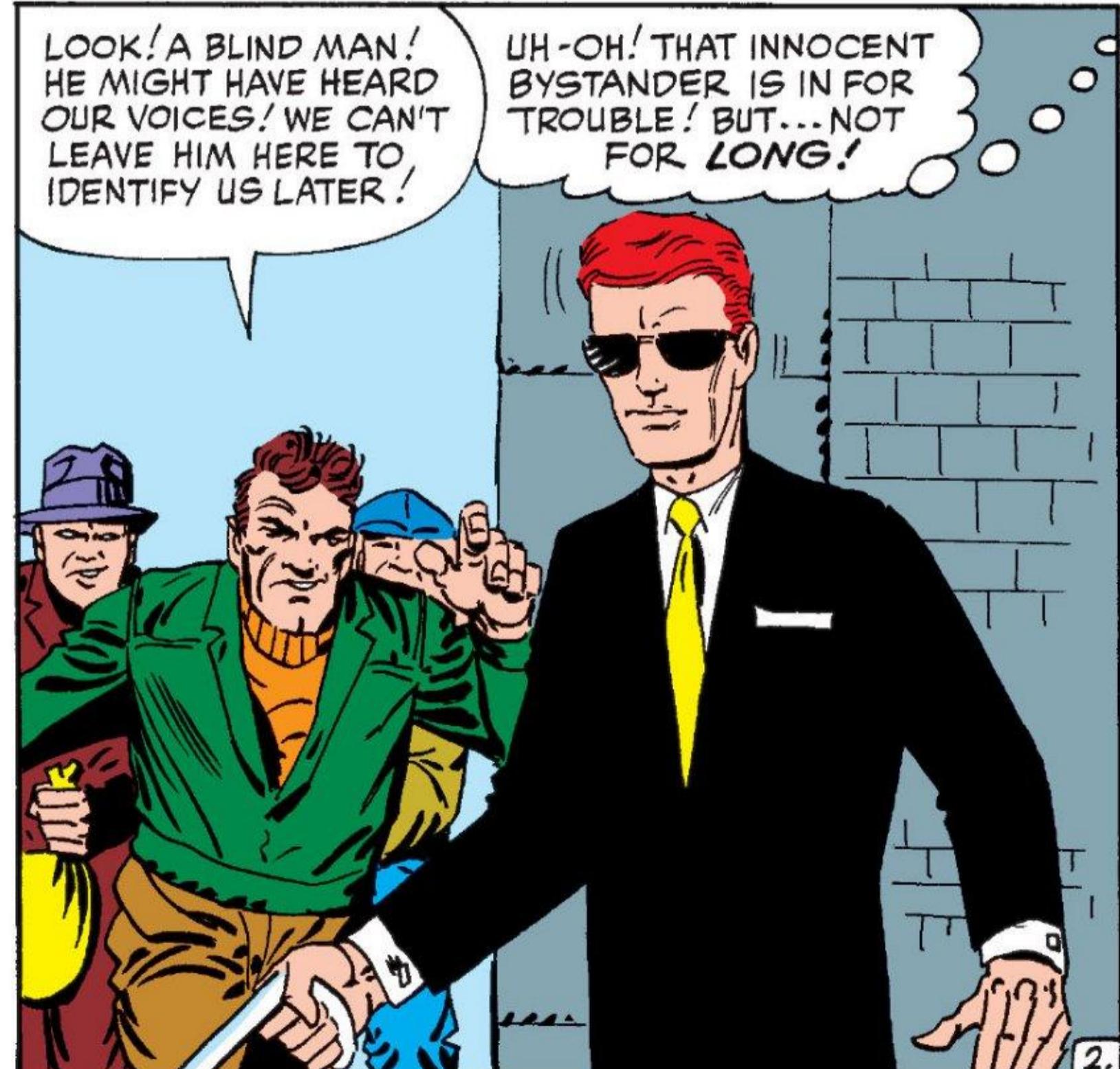


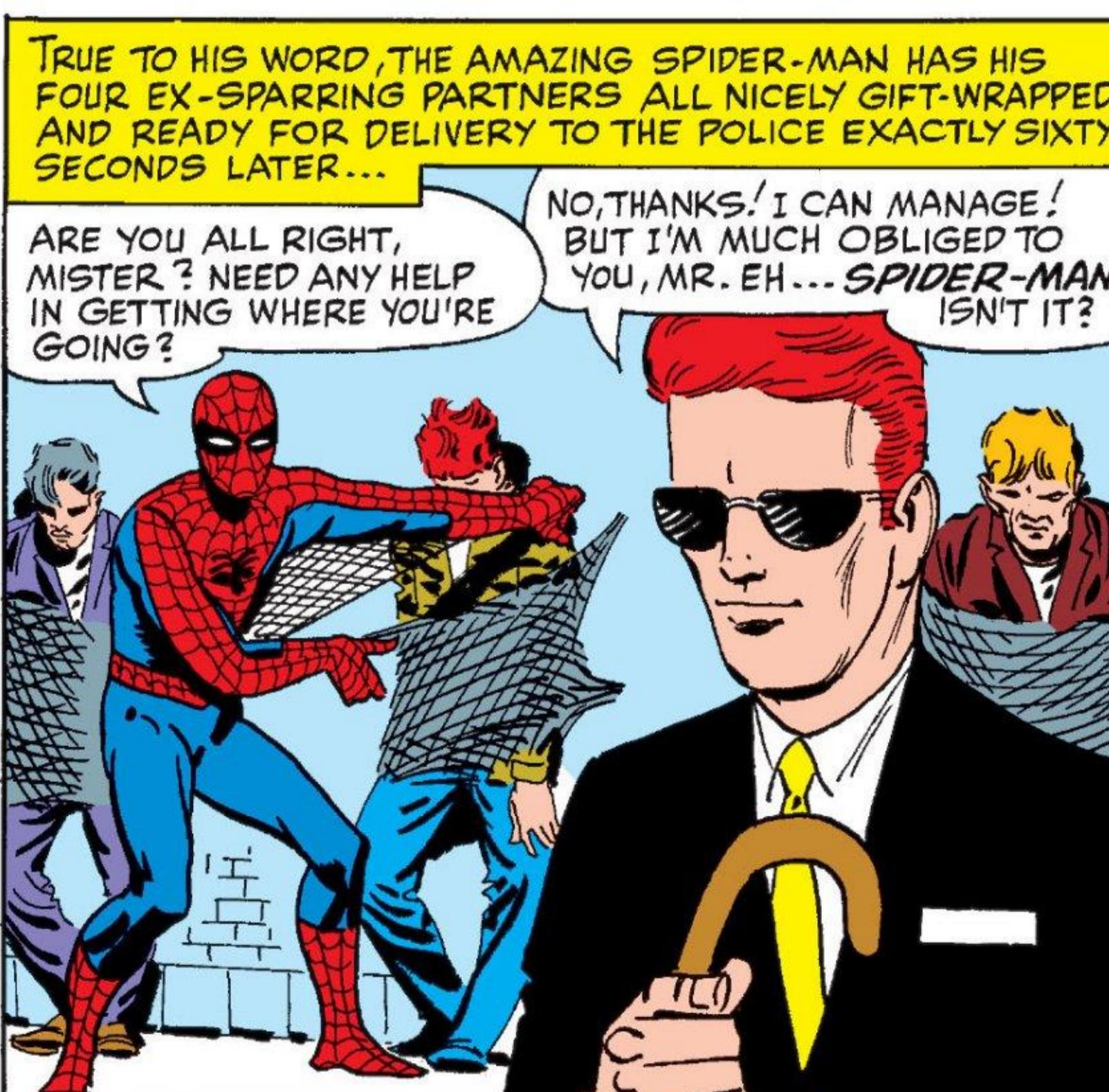
FOUR SHADY-LOOKING CHARACTERS, RACING OUT OF THE REAR OF THAT STORE... CARRYING MONEY BAGS! JUST WHAT I NEED TO SNAP MYSELF OUT OF THE DOLDRUMS!

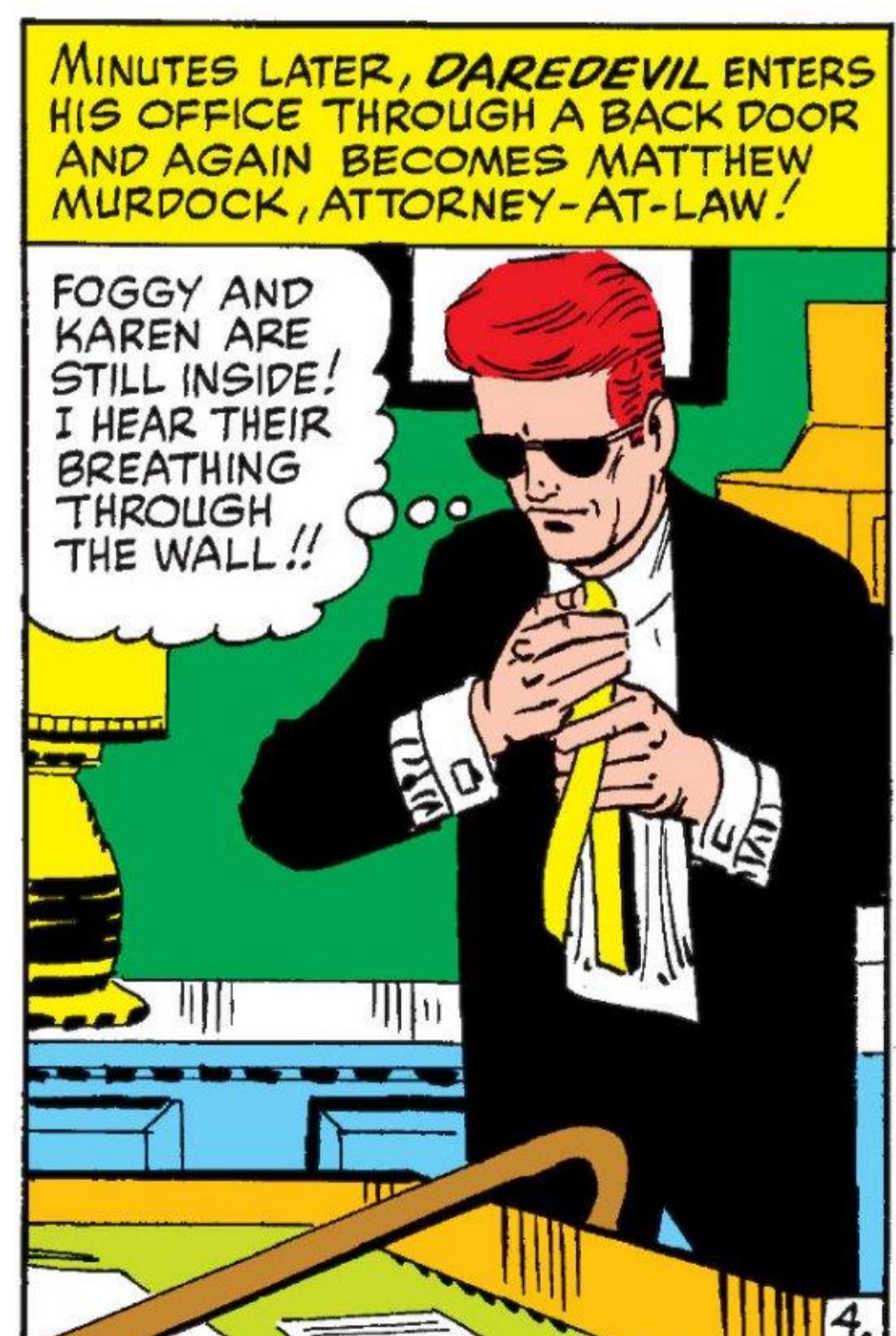
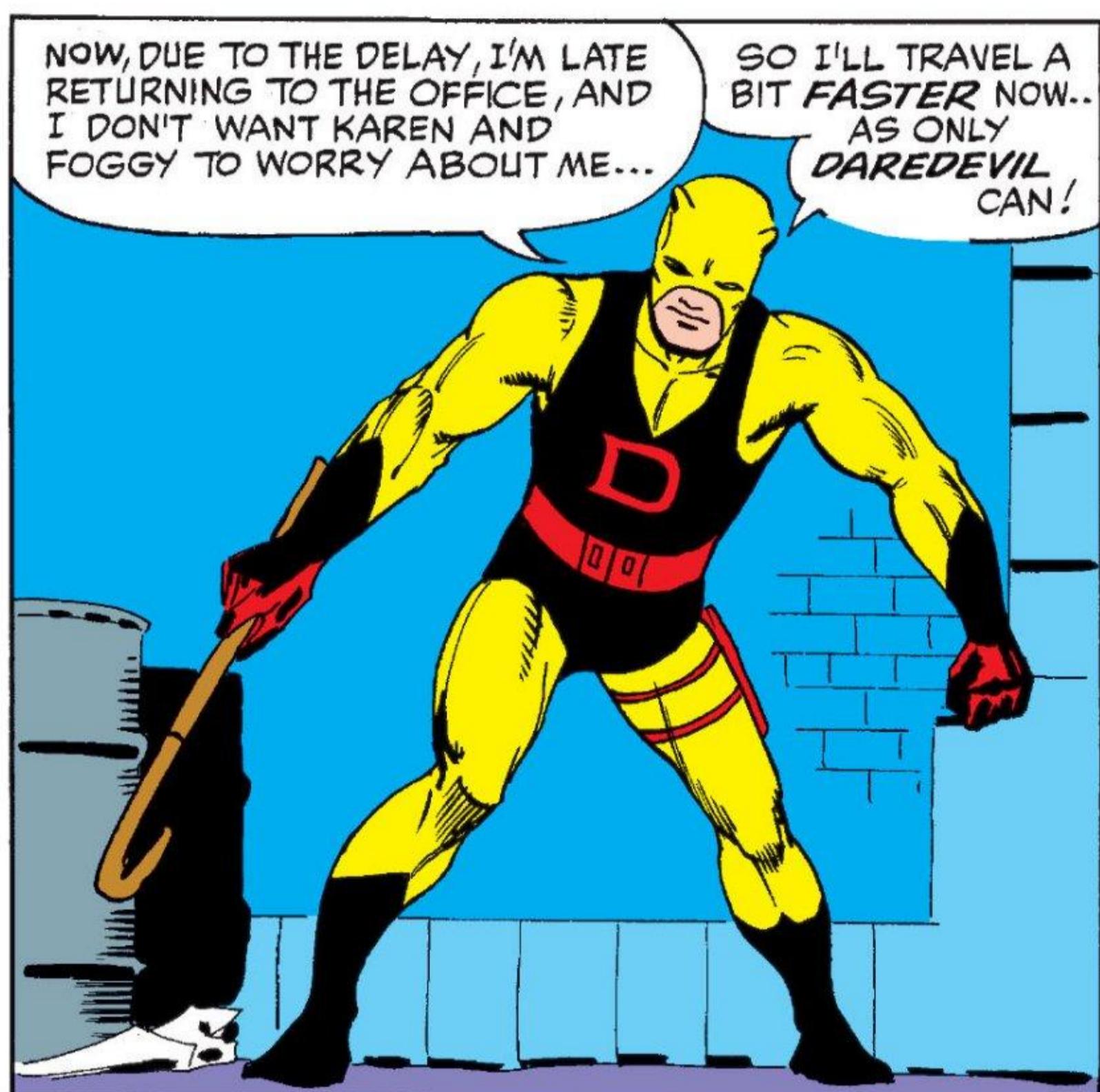
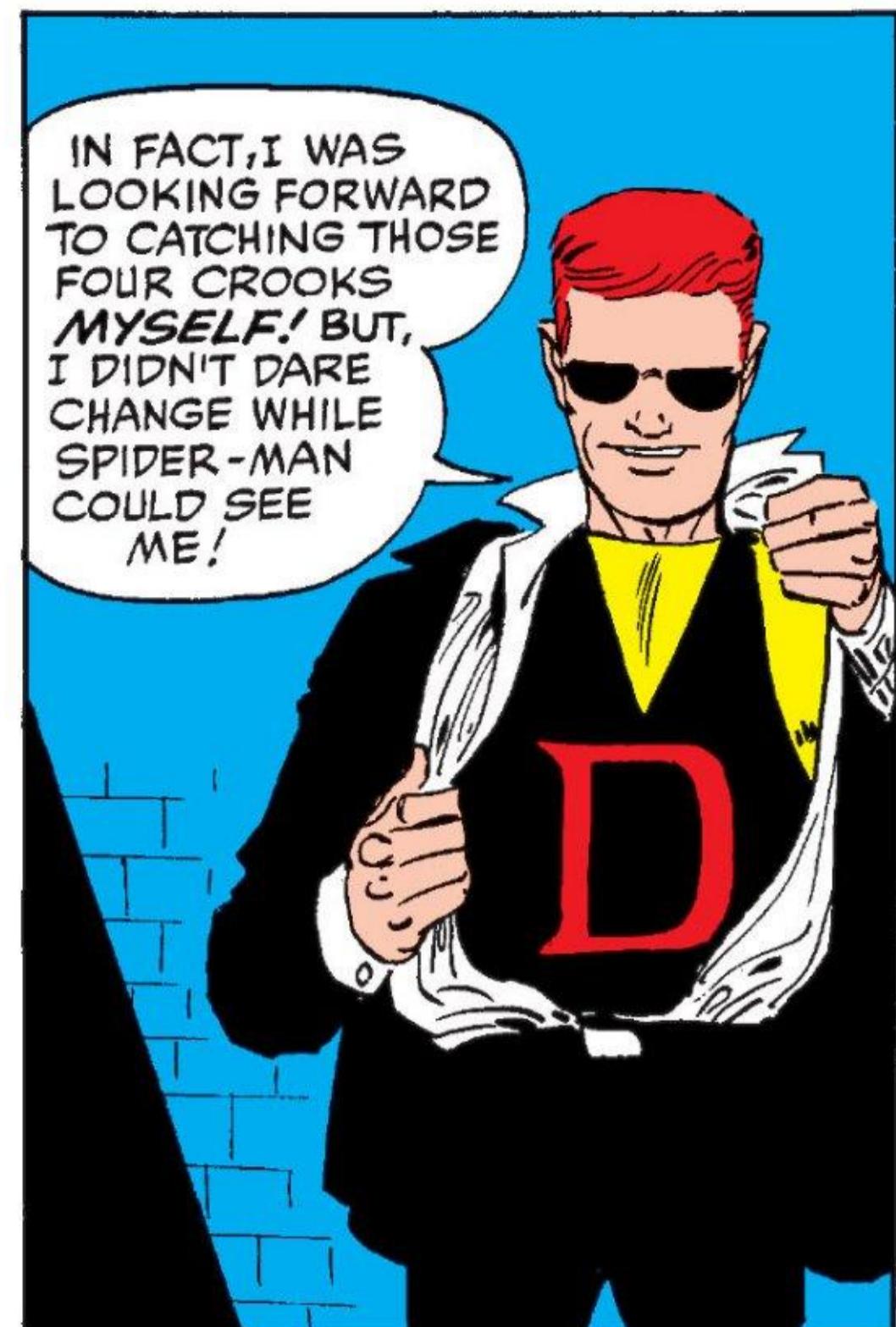
STEP ON IT! THE BURGLAR ALARM WENT OFF! THE COPS'LL BE AFTER US SOON!

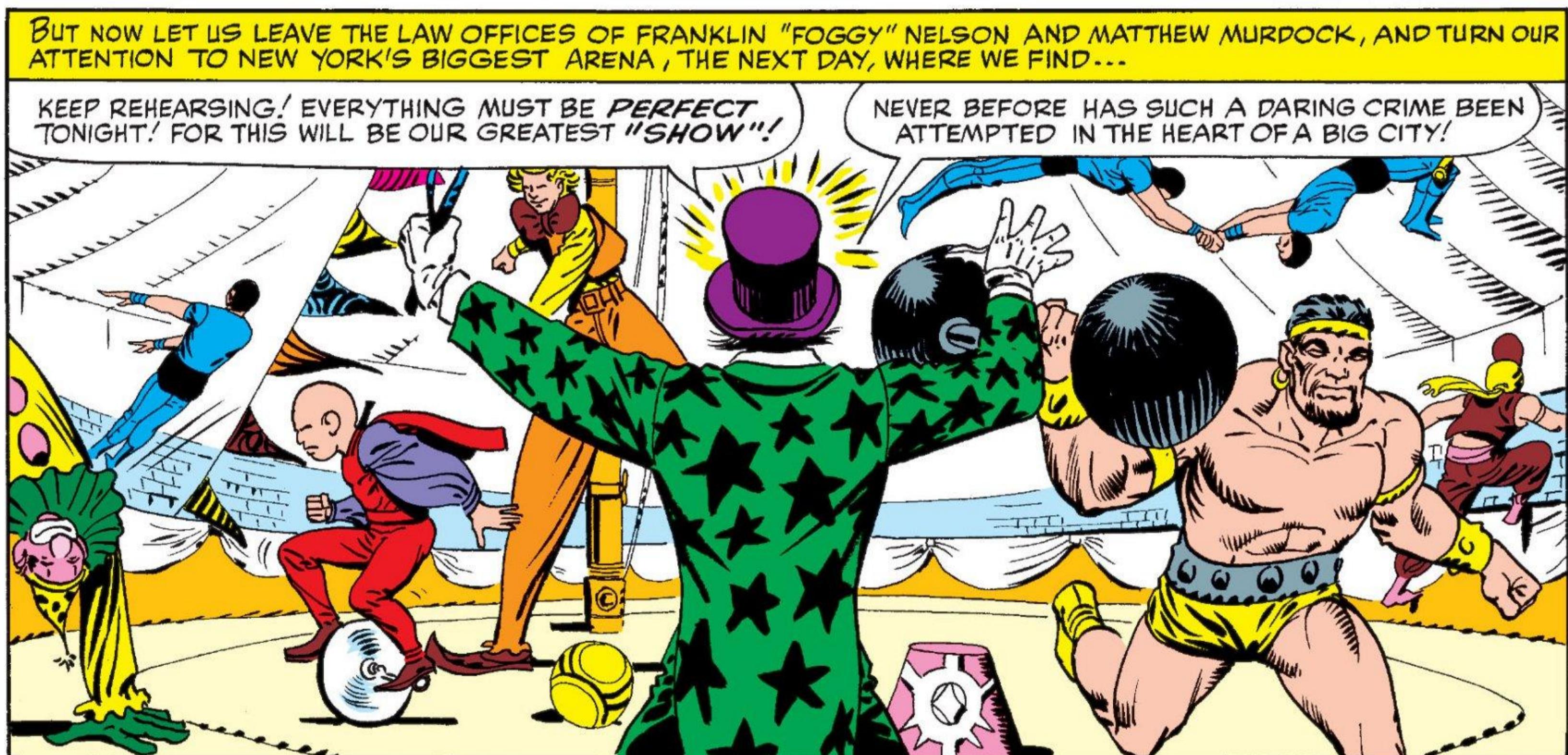
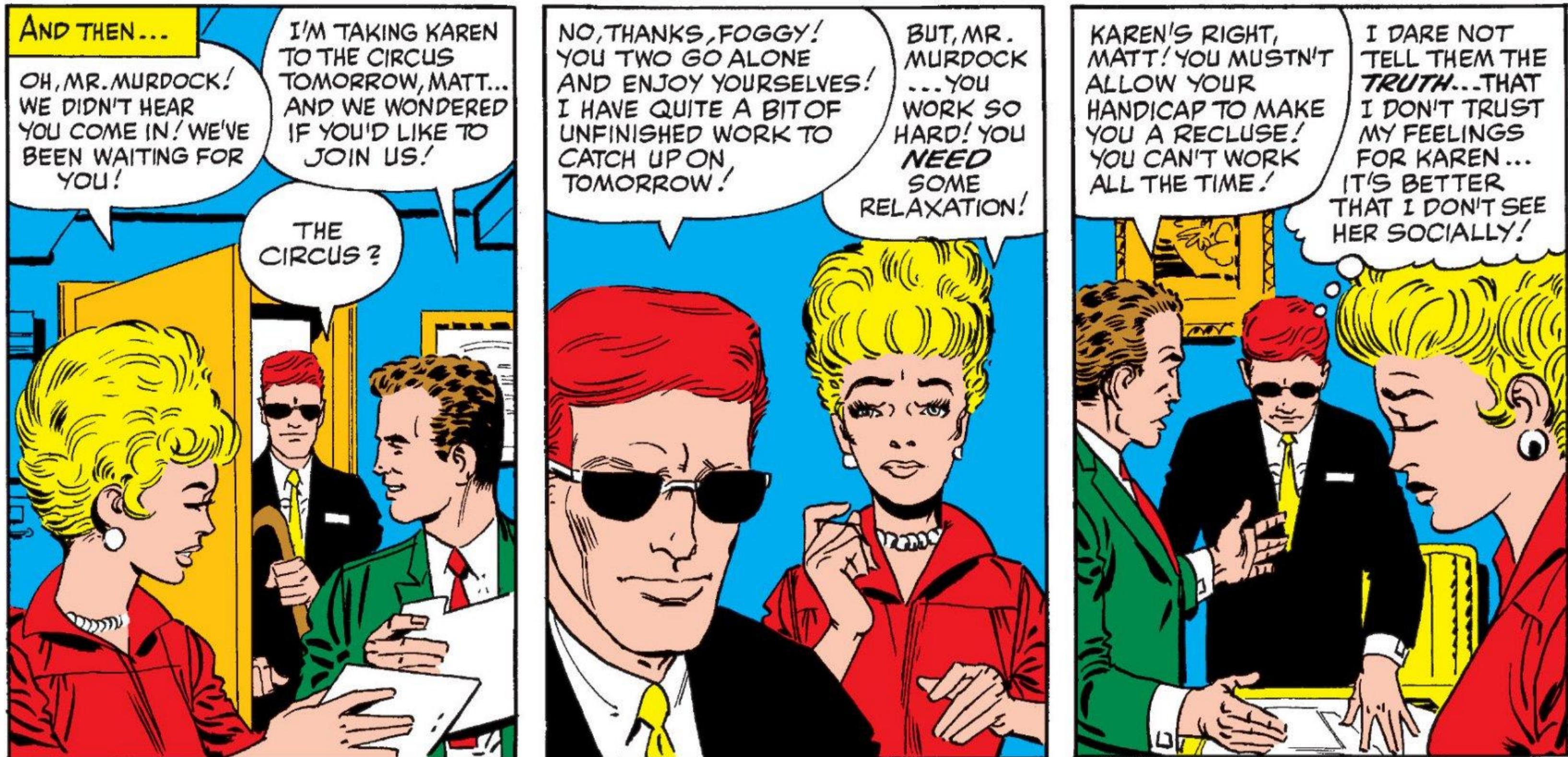
LOOK! A BLIND MAN! HE MIGHT HAVE HEARD OUR VOICES! WE CAN'T LEAVE HIM HERE TO IDENTIFY US LATER!

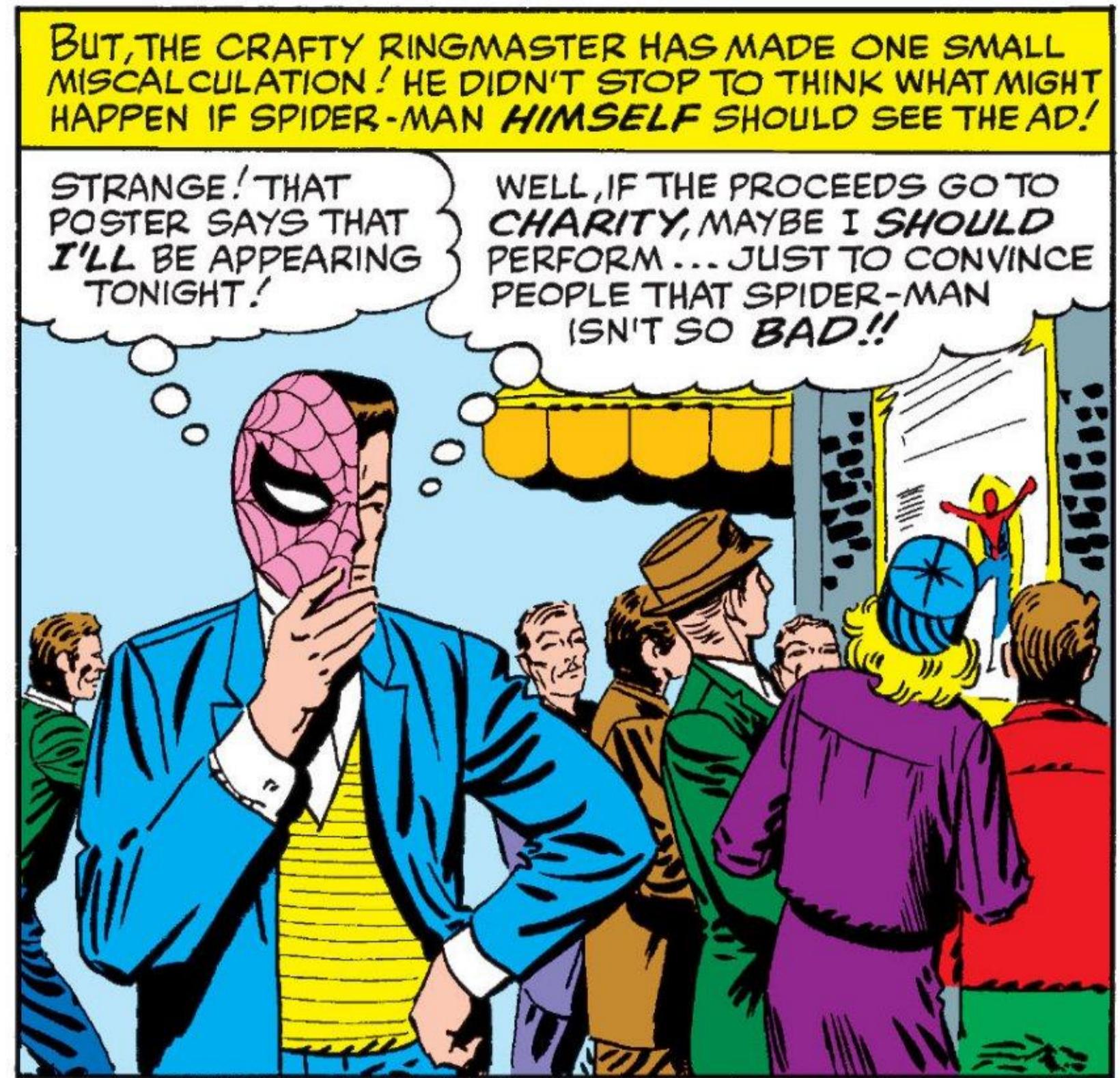
UH-OH! THAT INNOCENT BYSTANDER IS IN FOR TROUBLE! BUT... NOT FOR LONG!











AND, AT THE LAW OFFICES OF NELSON AND MURDOCK,
WE FIND ...

SAY! LISTEN TO
THIS... SPIDER-
MAN WILL BE
PERFORMING AT
THE CIRCUS TONIGHT!

SPIDER-
MAN, EH?
THAT SHOULD
BE MIGHTY
INTERESTING!

ON SECOND
THOUGHT, PERHAPS
I WILL GO WITH
YOU TWO! IT
SOUNDS LIKE
FUN!

OH, THAT'S
WONDER-
FUL!!

A SHORT TIME LATER, JUST BEFORE THE SHOW BEGINS...

WE'LL EXPLAIN
EVERYTHING
THAT HAPPENS,
MATT... SO YOU
WON'T MISS A
THING!

I APPRECIATE
THAT, FOGGY!
EVEN THOUGH
I'LL BE ABLE TO
SENSE ALL THE
DEVELOPMENTS A
LOT CLEARER THAN
YOU CAN SEE
THEM!

HMM... THAT'S
THE BLIND MAN I
HELPED LAST
NIGHT! I WONDER
WHY MY SPIDER
SENSE TINGLES
SO WHEN HE'S
NEAR ??

OH, WELL,
MAYBE I
ONLY IMAGINED
IT! HE CERTAINLY
CAN'T PRESENT
ANY SORT OF
THREAT TO ME!

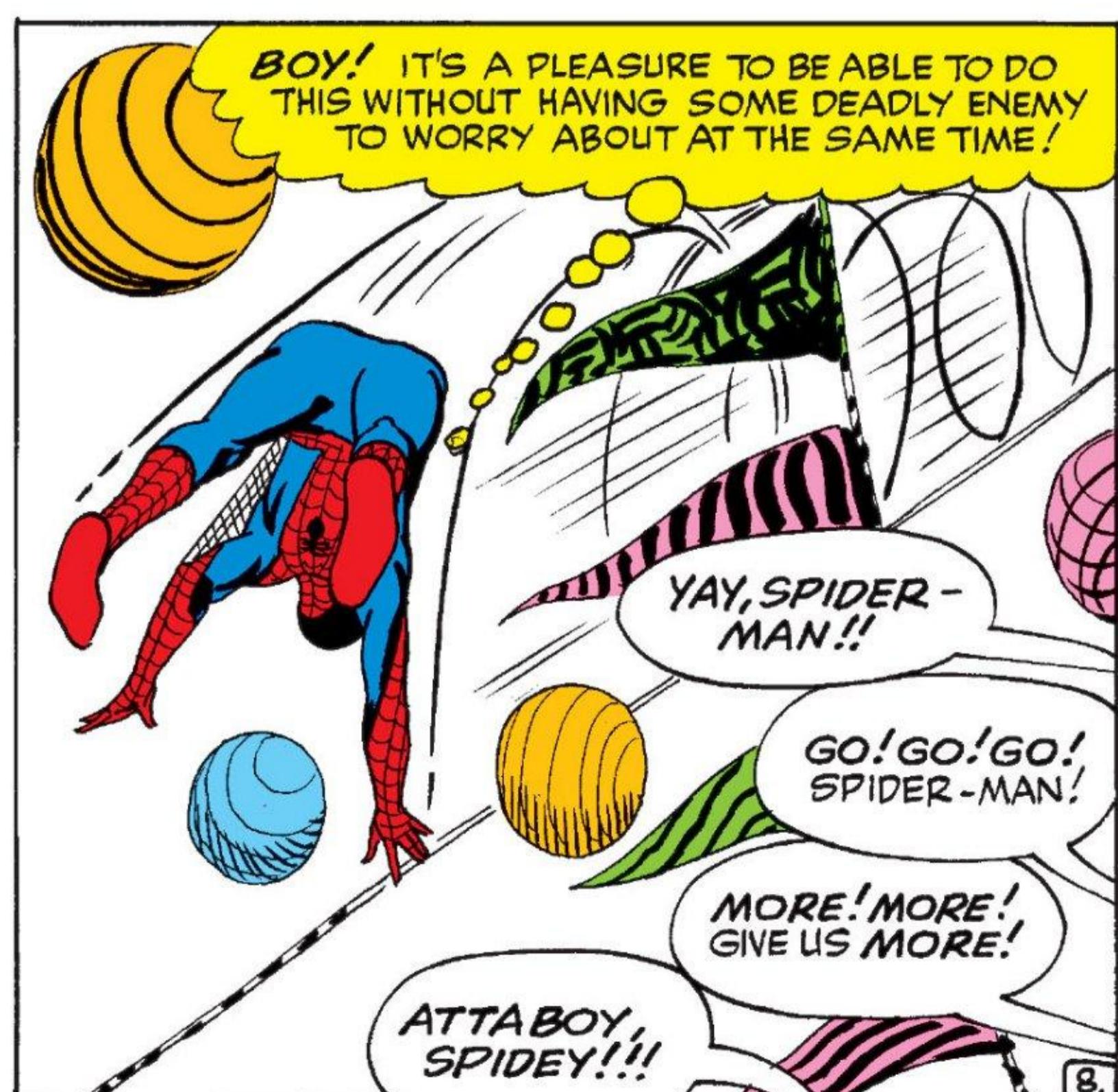
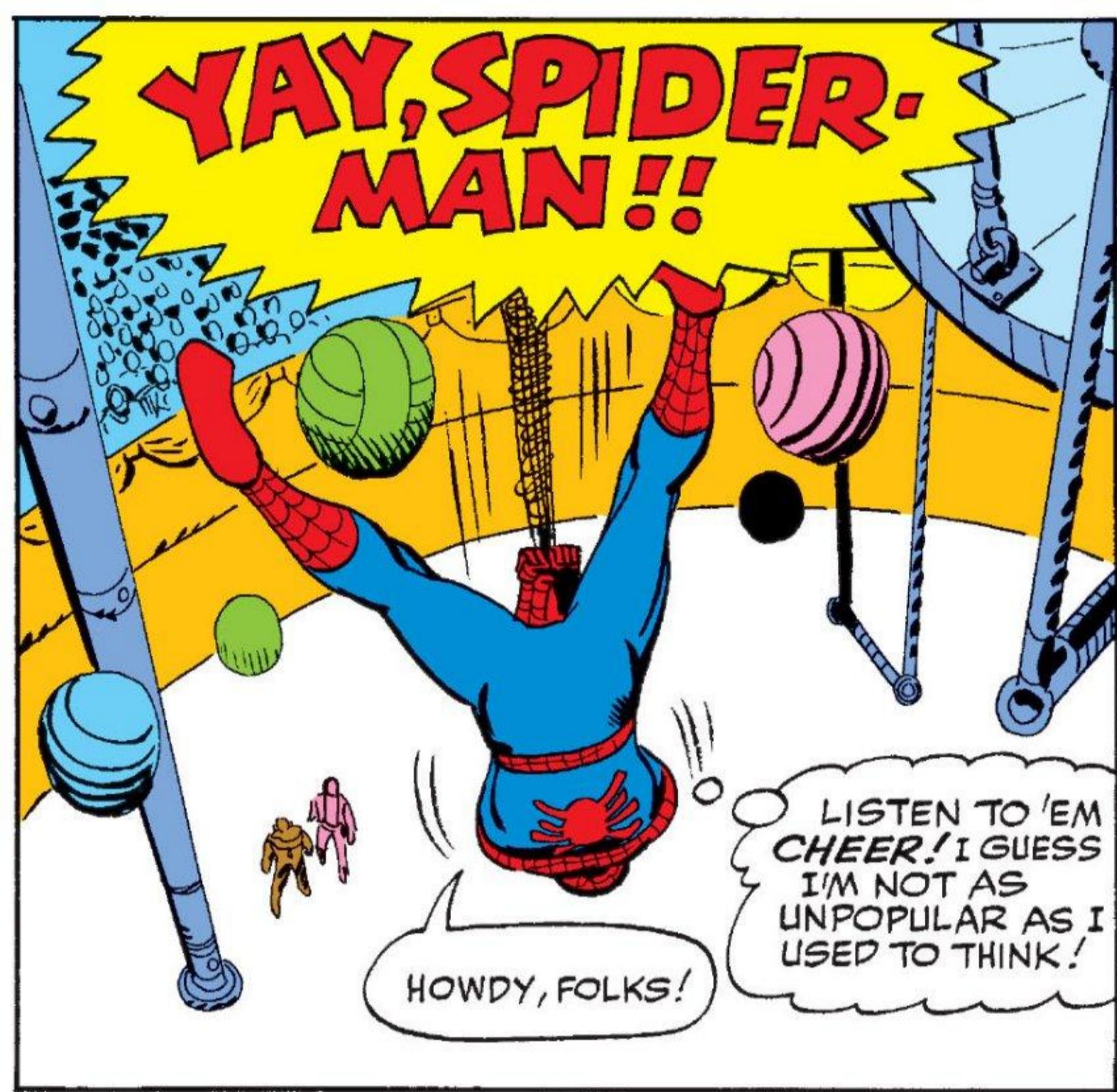
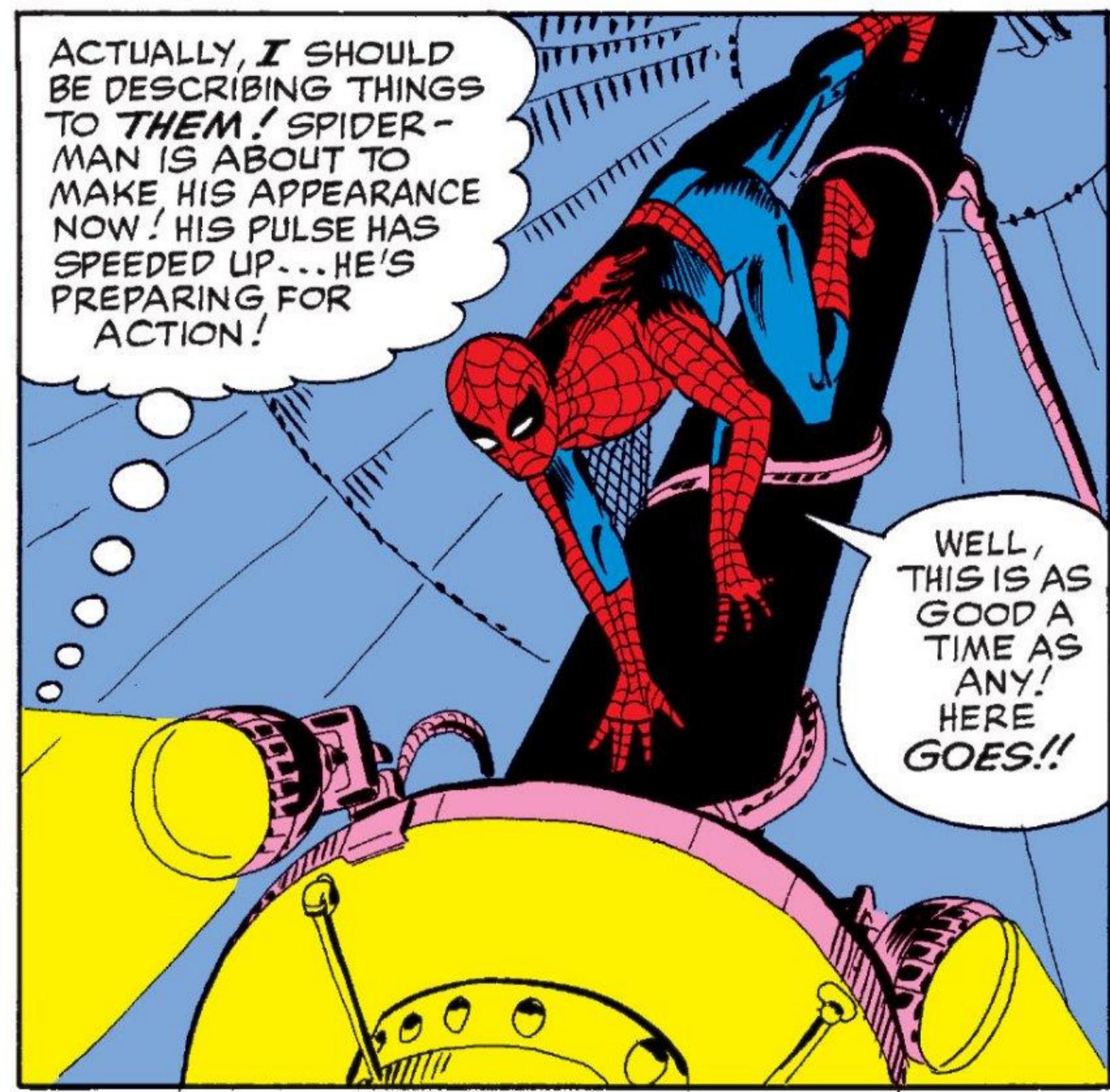
THE FOOLS HAVE COME TO SEE
SPIDER-MAN! BUT, THEY'LL GET
A FAR DIFFERENT KIND OF
SHOW INSTEAD!

I THINK I'M GONNA
ENJOY THIS! I ALWAYS
WANTED TO BE A
CIRCUS STAR... AND
WITH MY SPIDER
POWERS I OUGHTTA
BE A SMASH
SENSATION!!

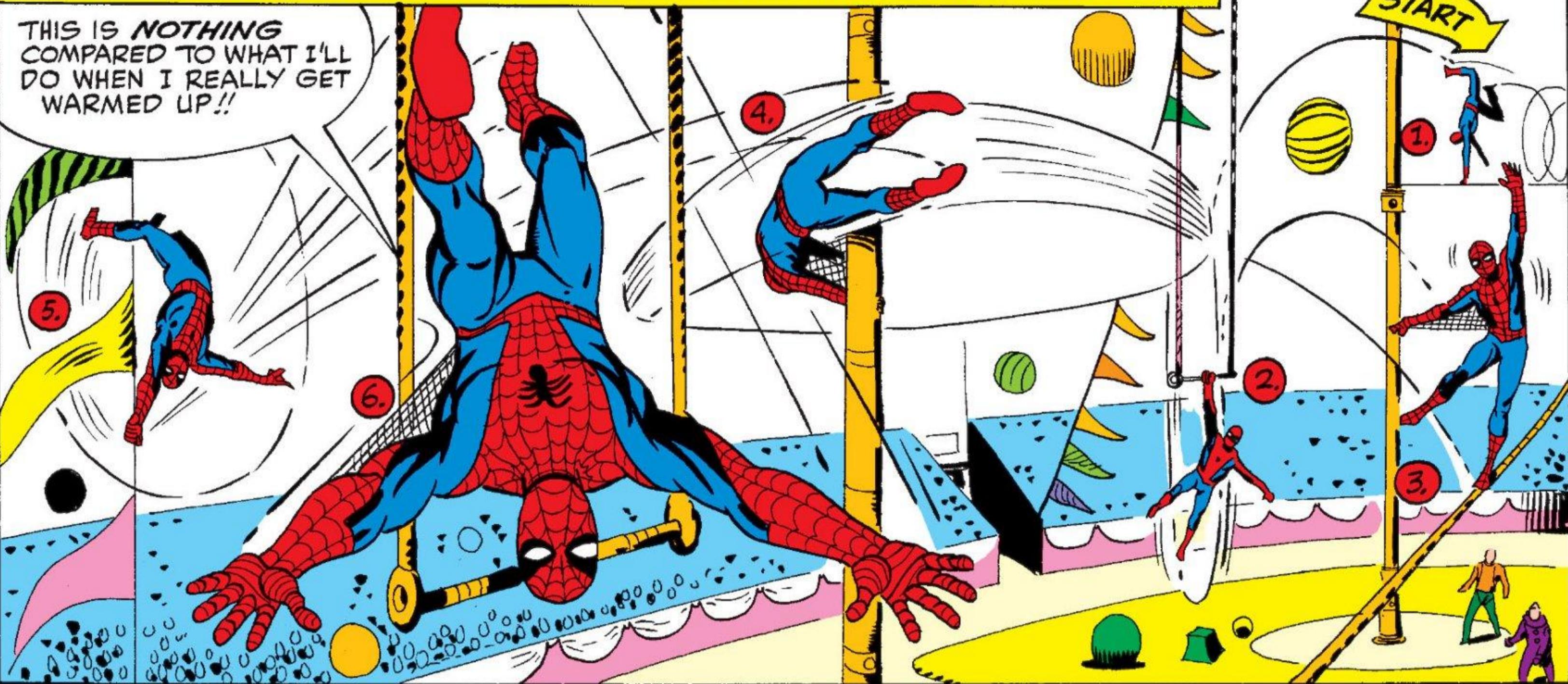
ANYWAY IT'S NICE TO BE
ABLE TO DO SOMETHING
FOR CHARITY!

THE HOUSE IS FILIN'
UP GOOD, BOSS!
WE'LL SOON BE
RICH!

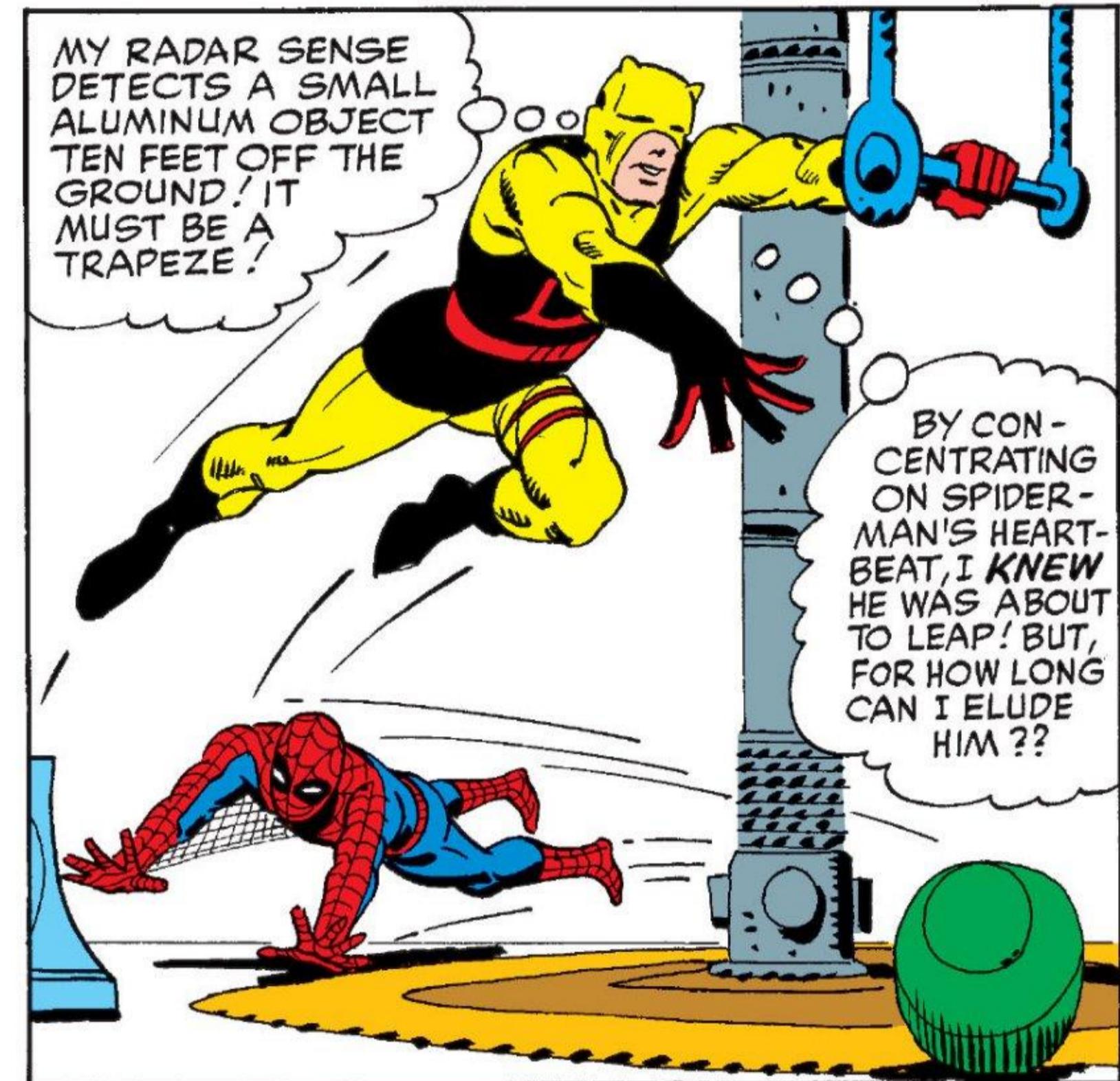
KEEP THE ENTERTAINMENT GOING
UNTIL THE PLACE IS FILLED! I DON'T
WANT ANYONE TO GET SUSPICIOUS!

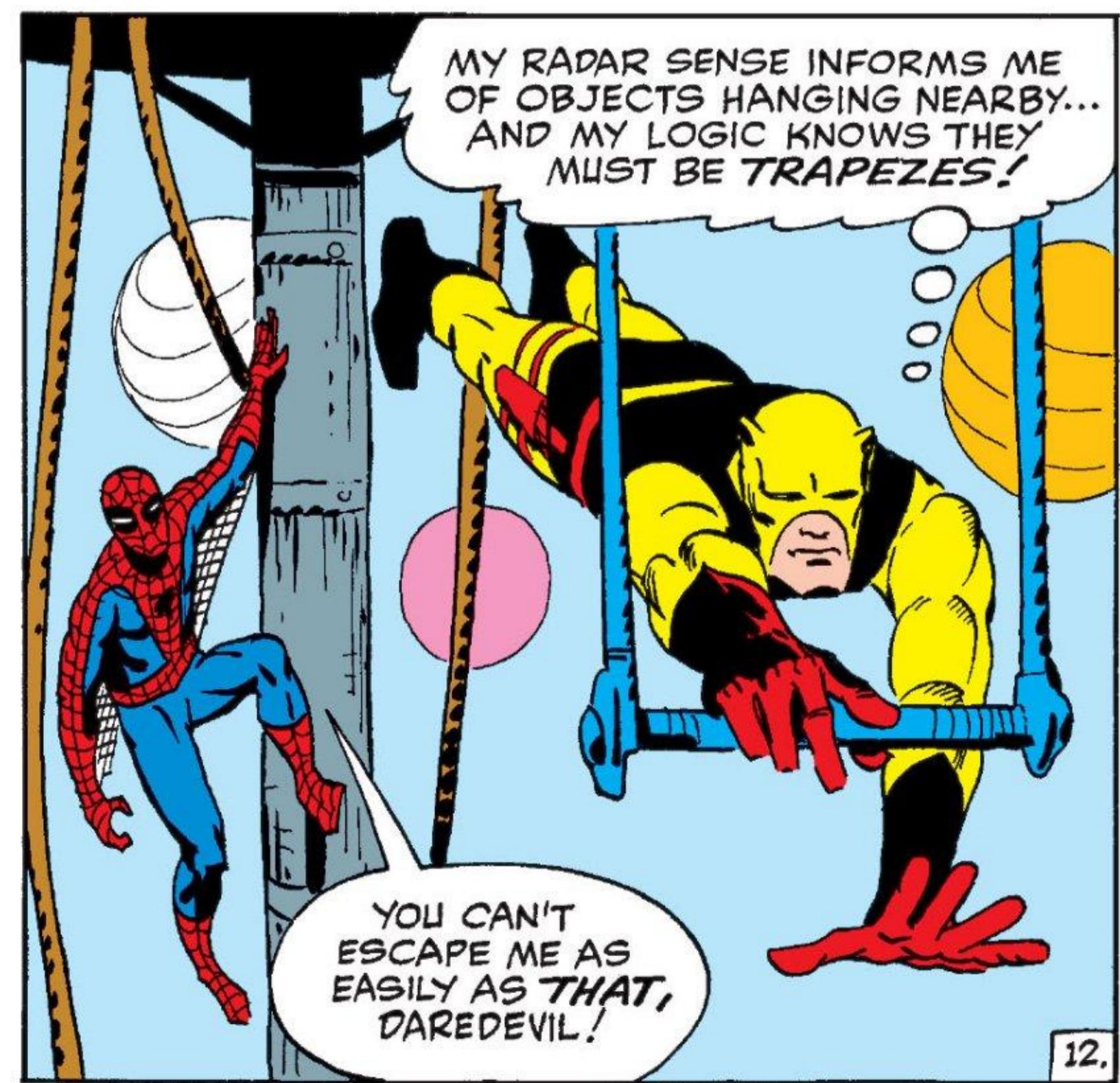
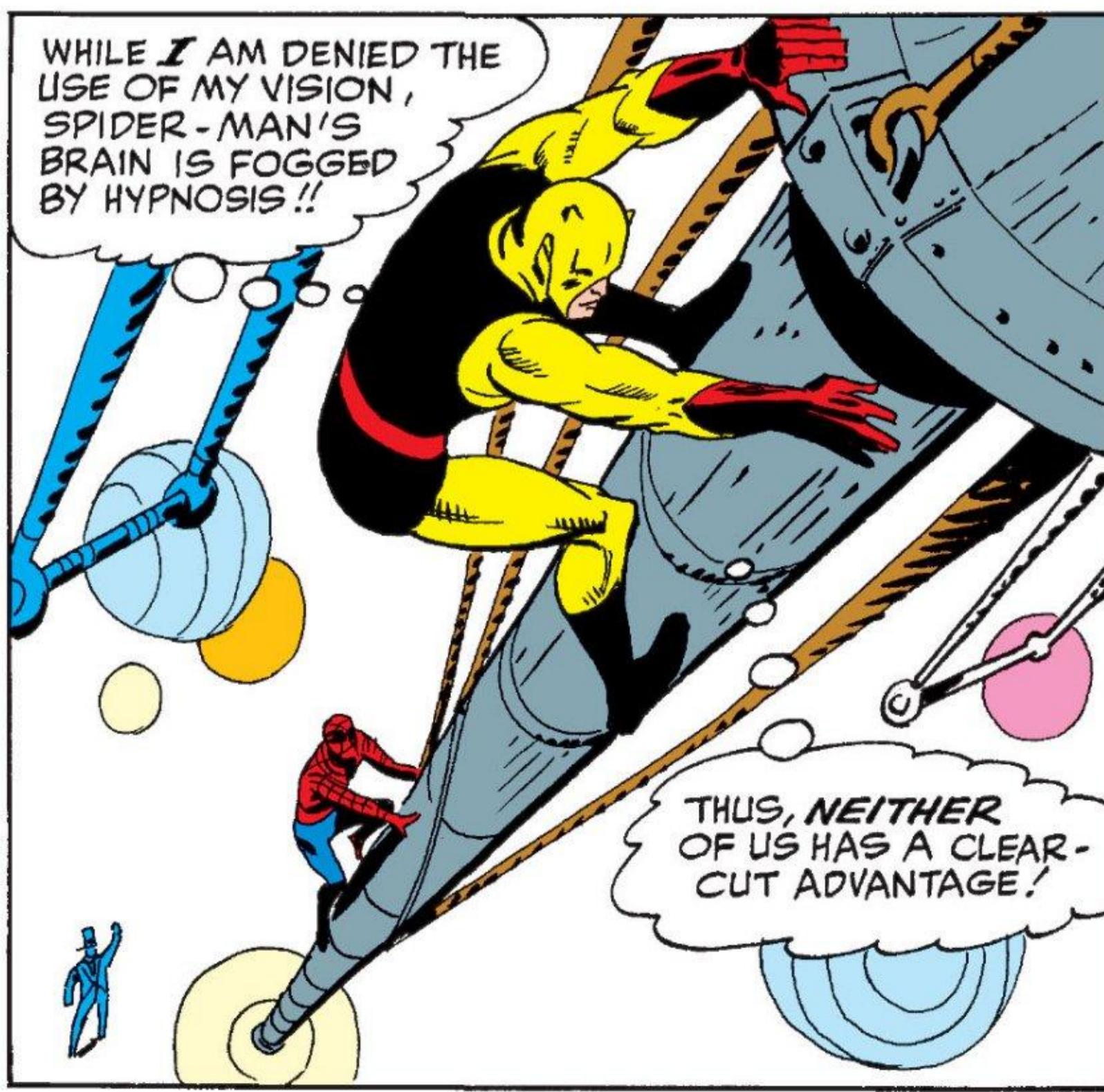
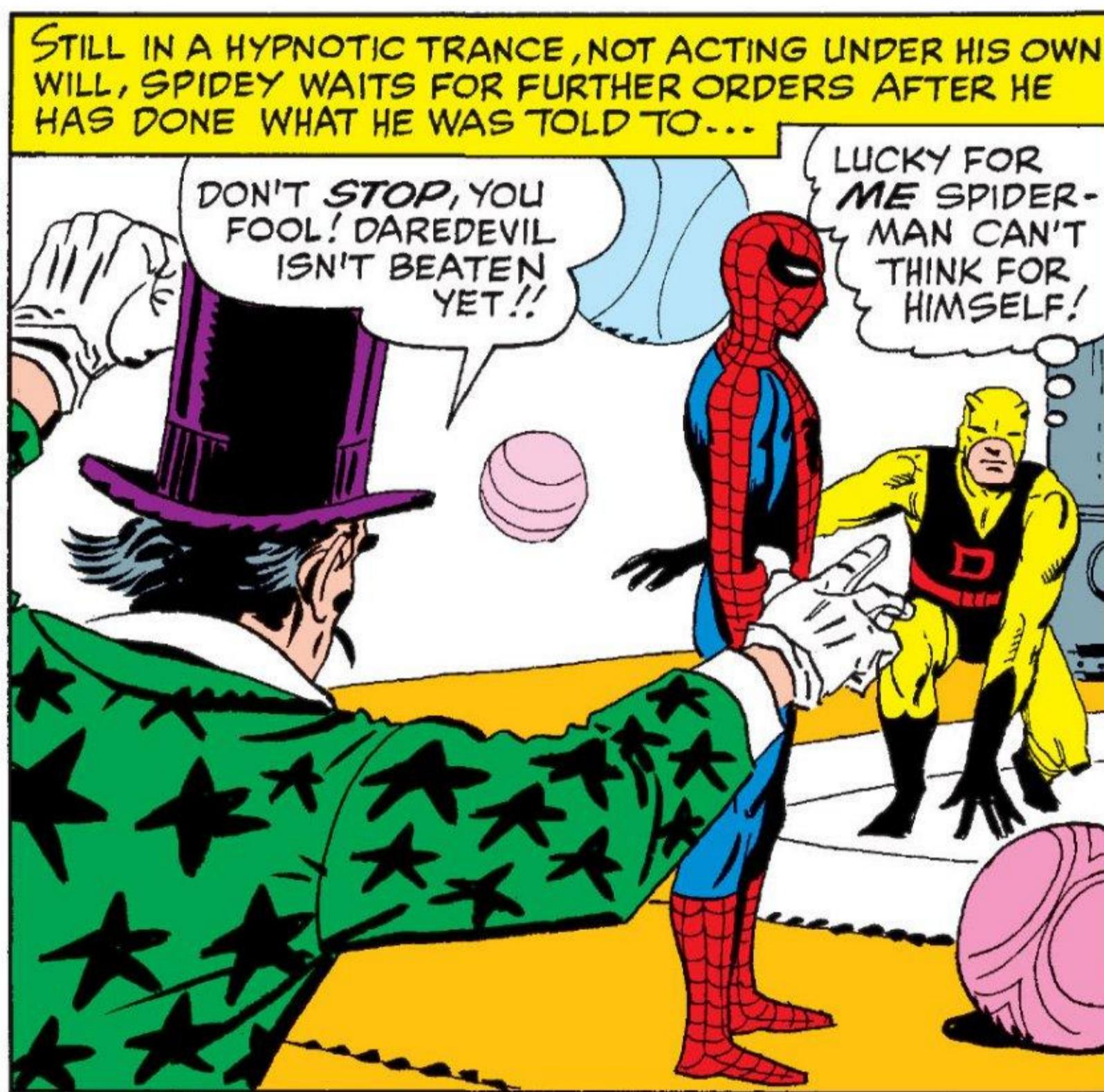


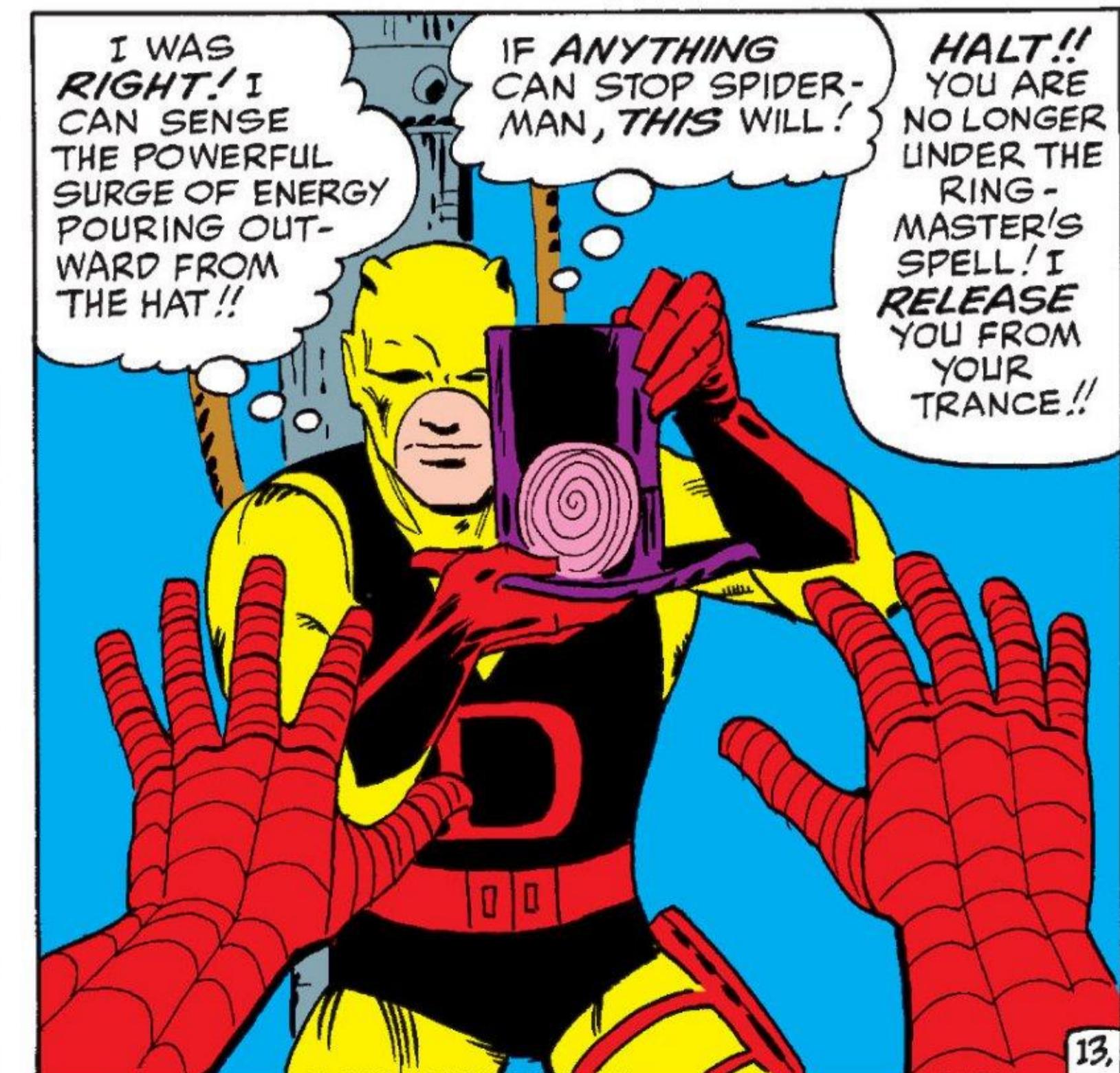
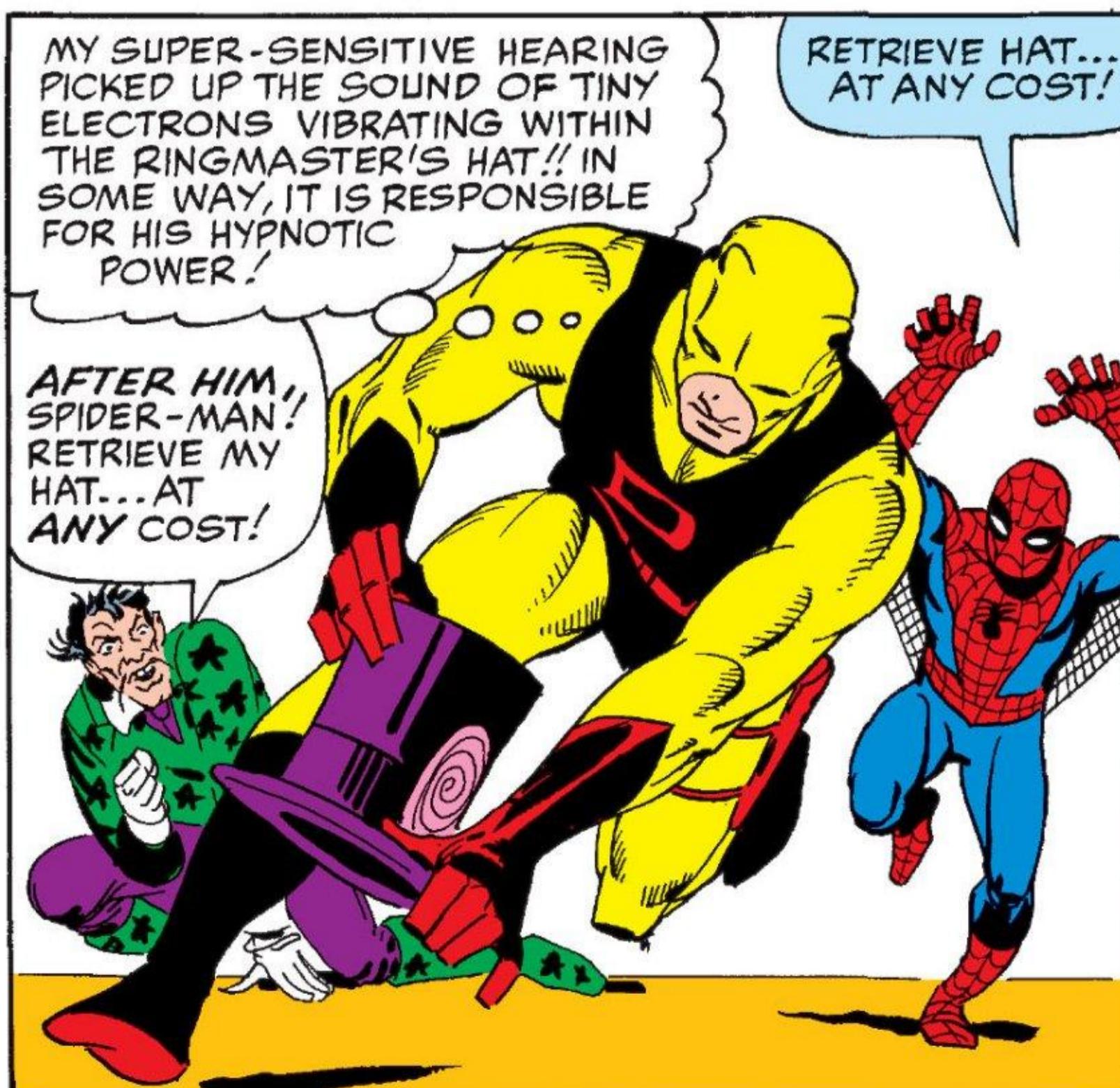
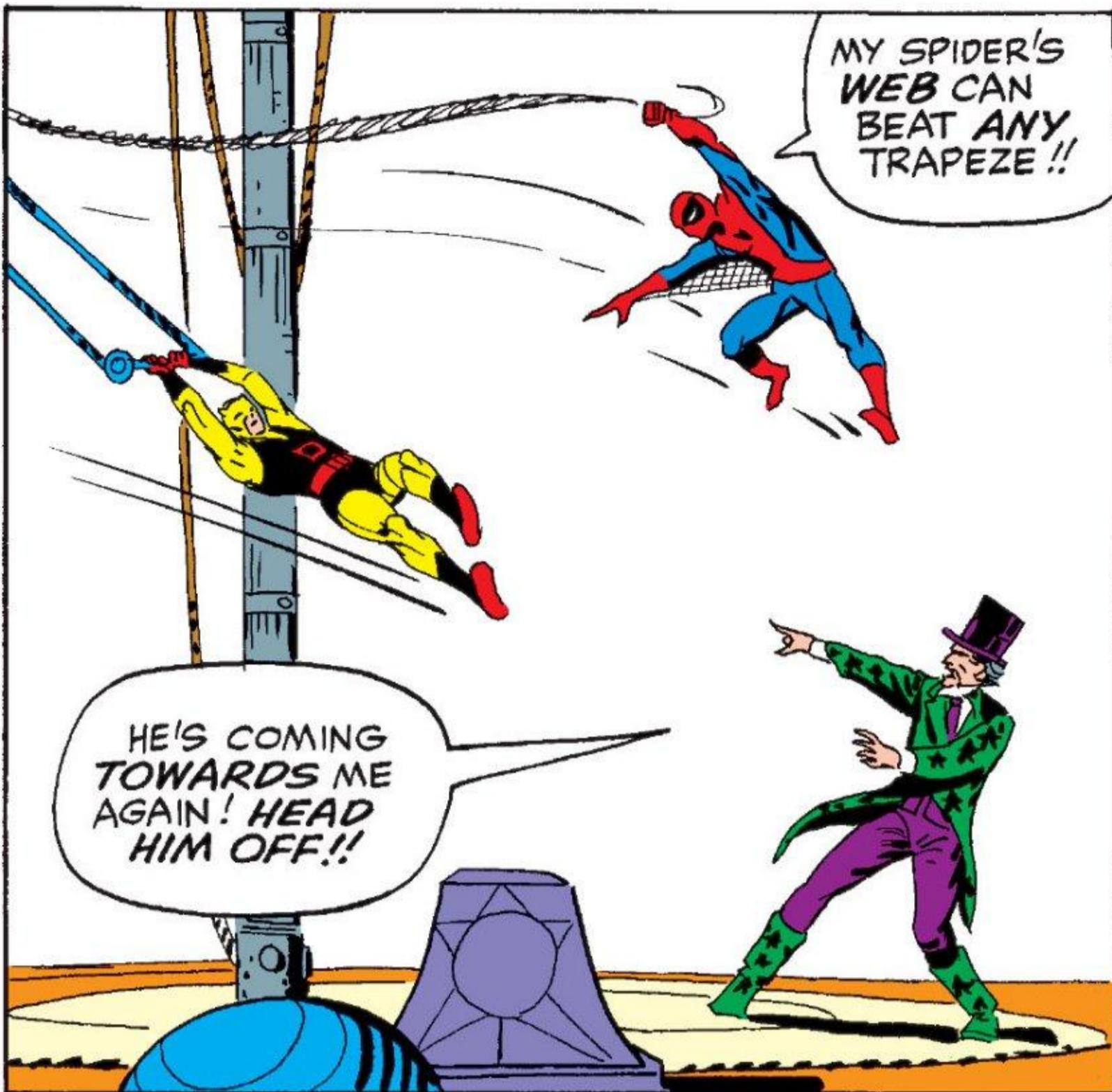
THEN, FOR THE NEXT FEW FABULOUS MOMENTS, SPIDER-MAN GIVES AN EXHIBITION THE LIKE OF WHICH HAS NEVER BEEN WITNESSED BEFORE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD....!!

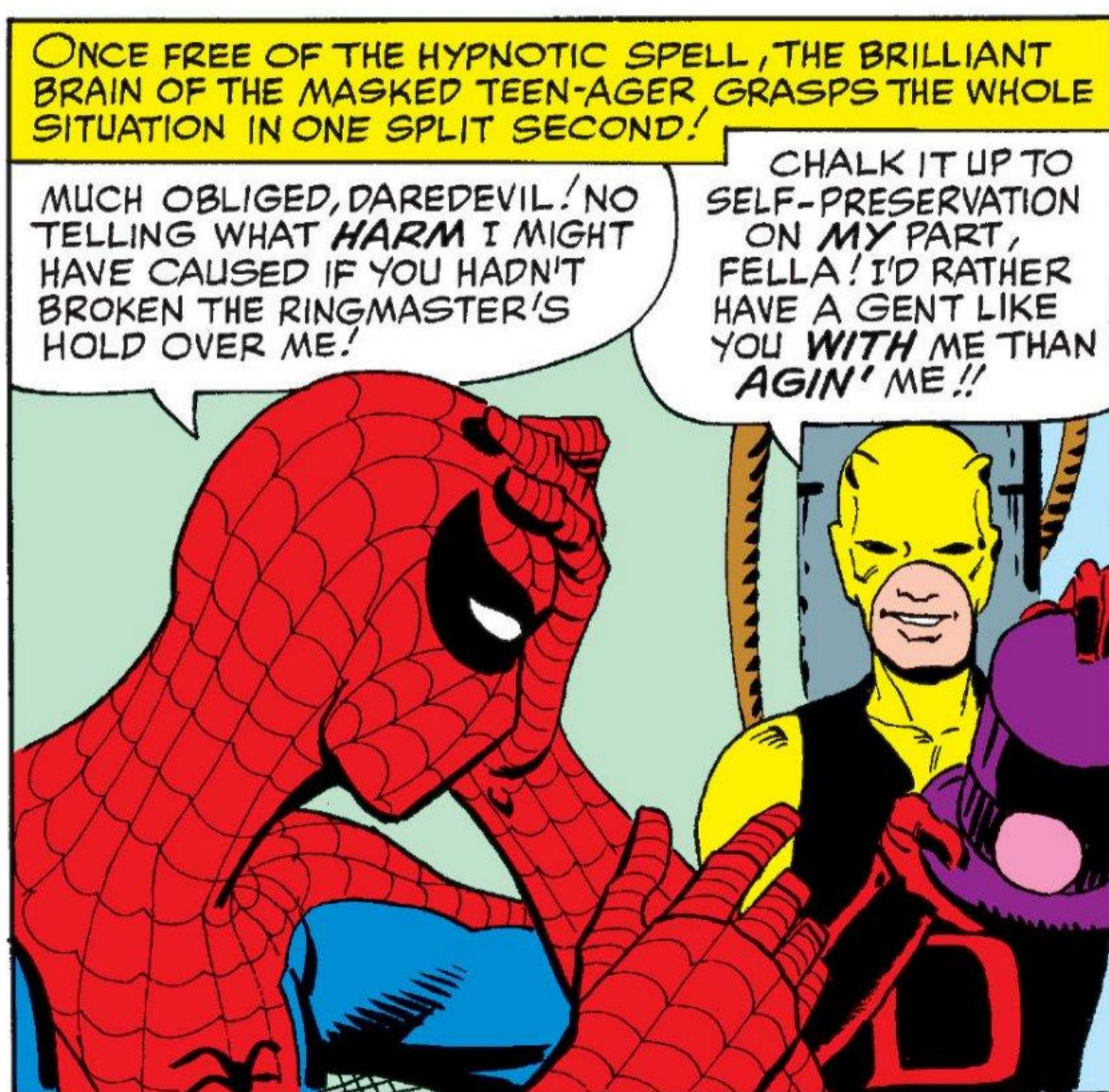
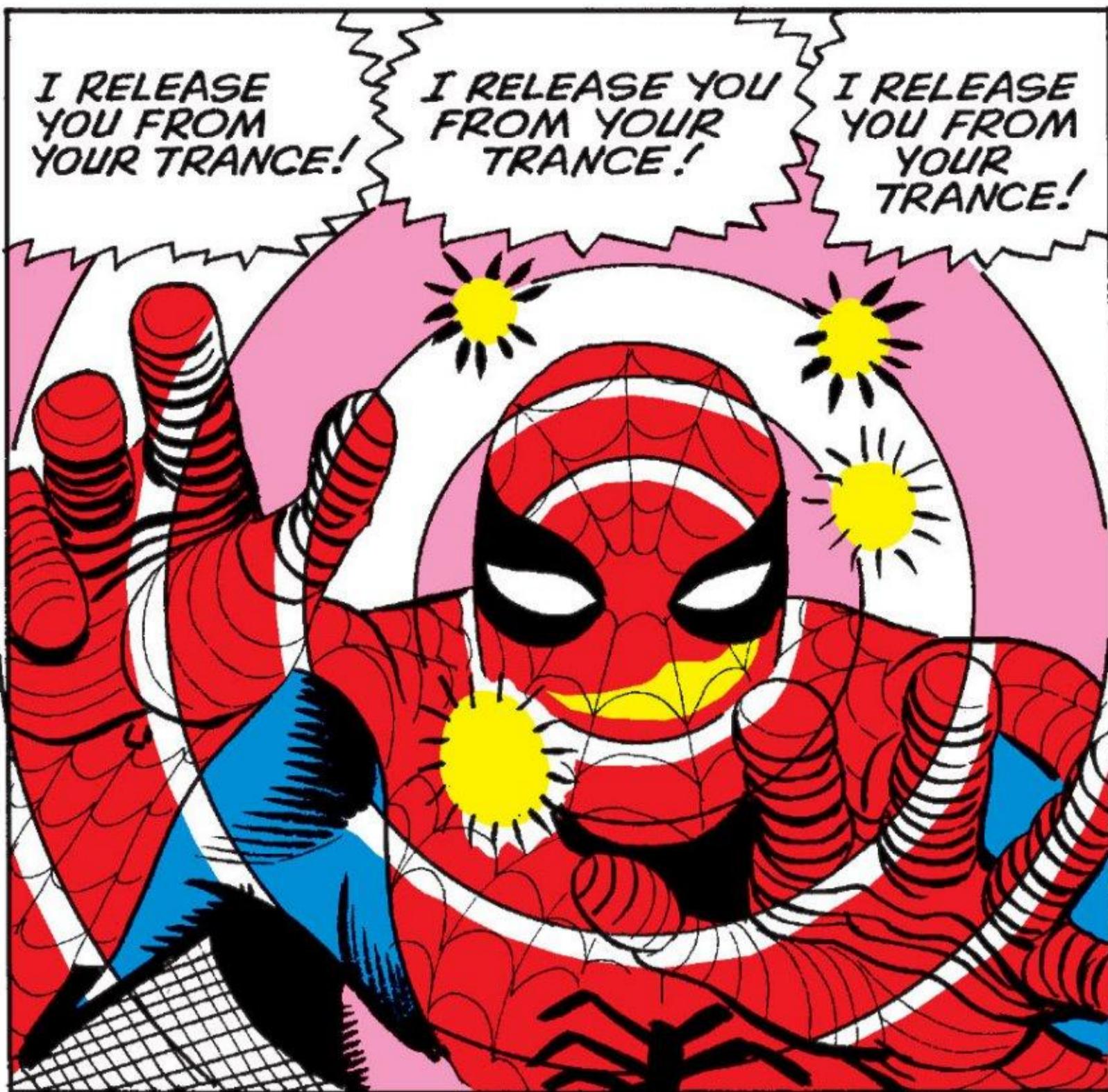












SUDDENLY, THE SIGHTLESS DAREDEVIL CLUTCHES HIS KNEES, AND IN ONE LIGHTNING-LIKE MANEUVER, SCATTERS THE TIGHTLY BUNCHED PERFORMERS LIKE TEN-PINS!

CLUNK!



UH-OH! THE SOUND OF SOMETHING LARGE AND LIGHT BEING GENTLY WAFTED DOWN TOWARDS ME! IT CAN ONLY BE A SAFETY NET!!



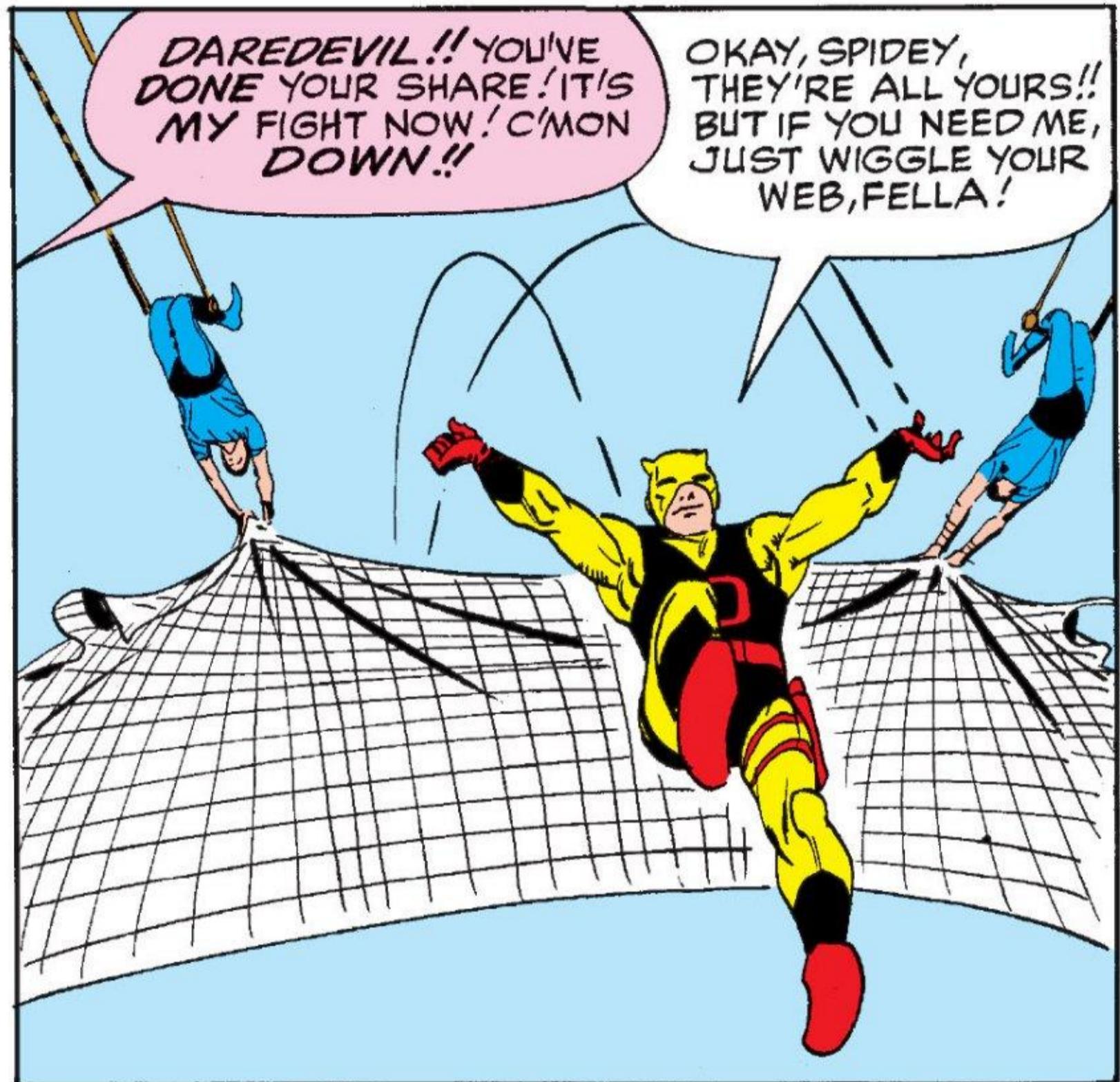
THERE'S TENSION AT BOTH ENDS ... TWO TRAPEZE ARTISTS ARE TRYING TO SNAG ME INSIDE THE NET! WELL, I'LL JUST GO ALONG FOR THE RIDE!

YOU AND YOUR CRUMMY IDEAS! HOW CAN WE WRAP HIM IN THE NET WHEN HE'S HOLDIN' ON TO ONE END OF IT!!!



DAREDEVIL!! YOU'VE DONE YOUR SHARE! IT'S MY FIGHT NOW! C'MON DOWN!!

OKAY, SPIDEY, THEY'RE ALL YOURS!! BUT IF YOU NEED ME, JUST WIGGLE YOUR WEB, FELLA!



AND NOW, BOYS AND GIRLS OF ALL AGES, WE PREEESENT THE MAIN ATTRACTION ... NAMELY, THAT LI'L OL' WEB-SPINNER, ME!

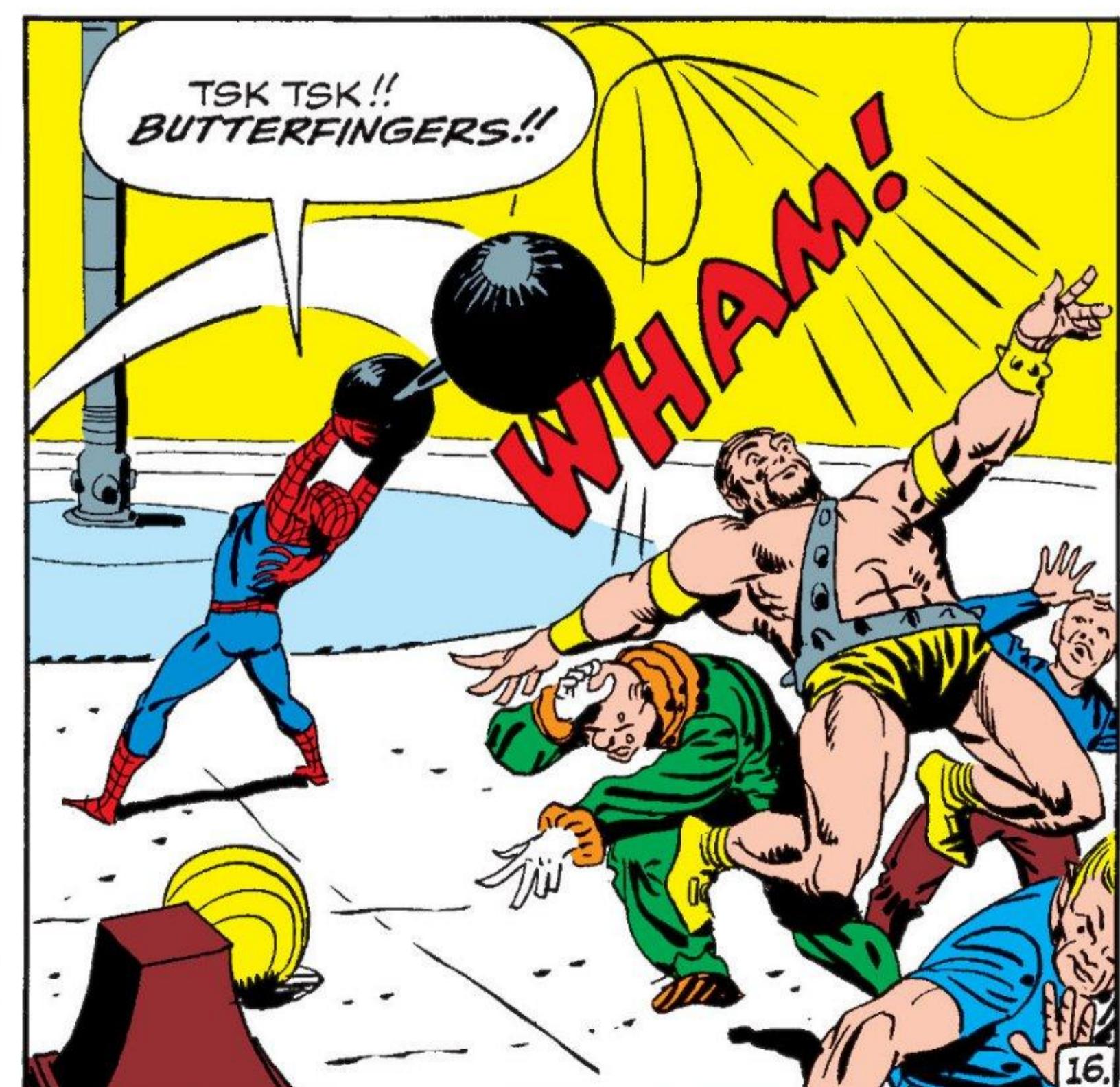
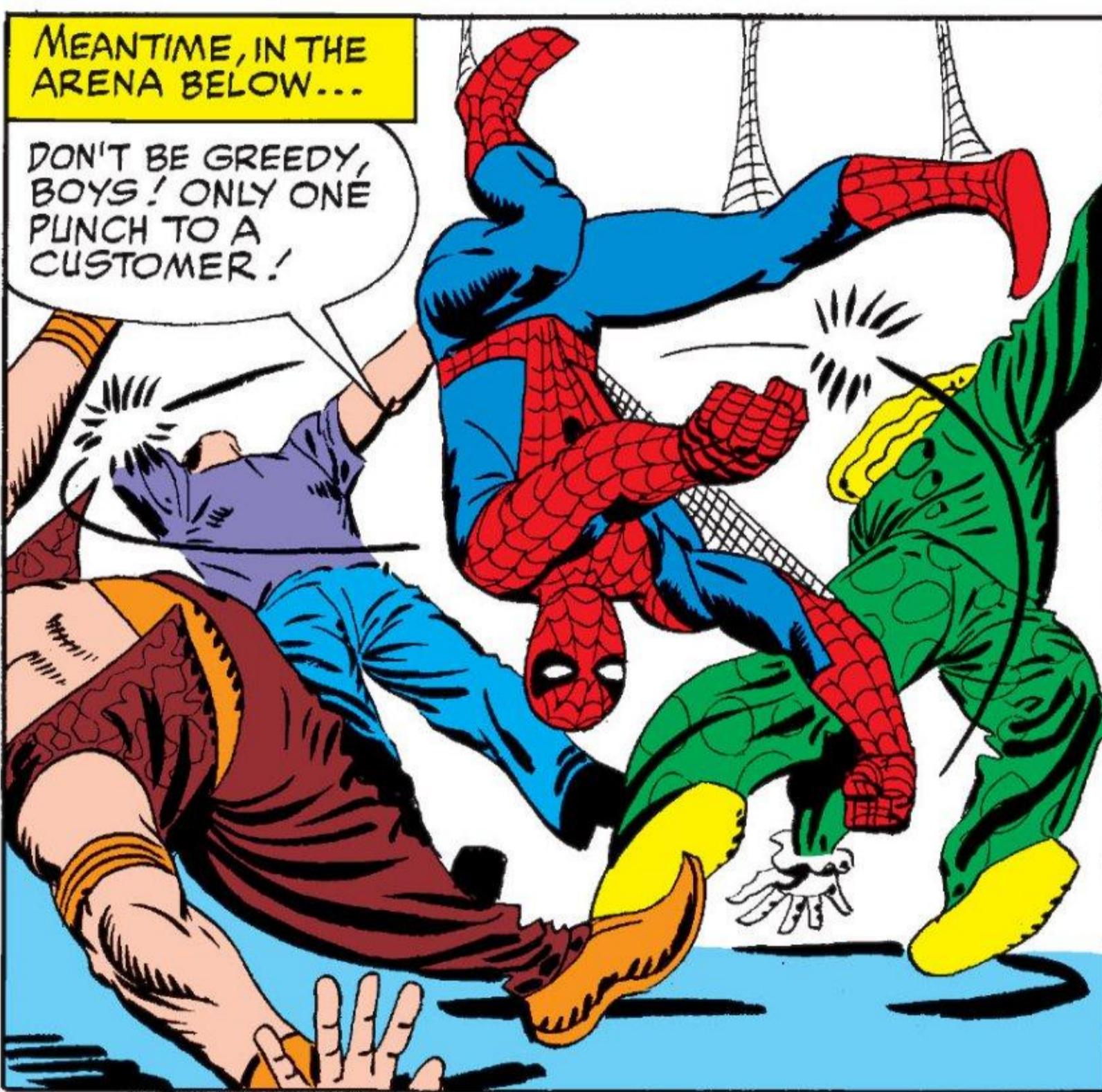
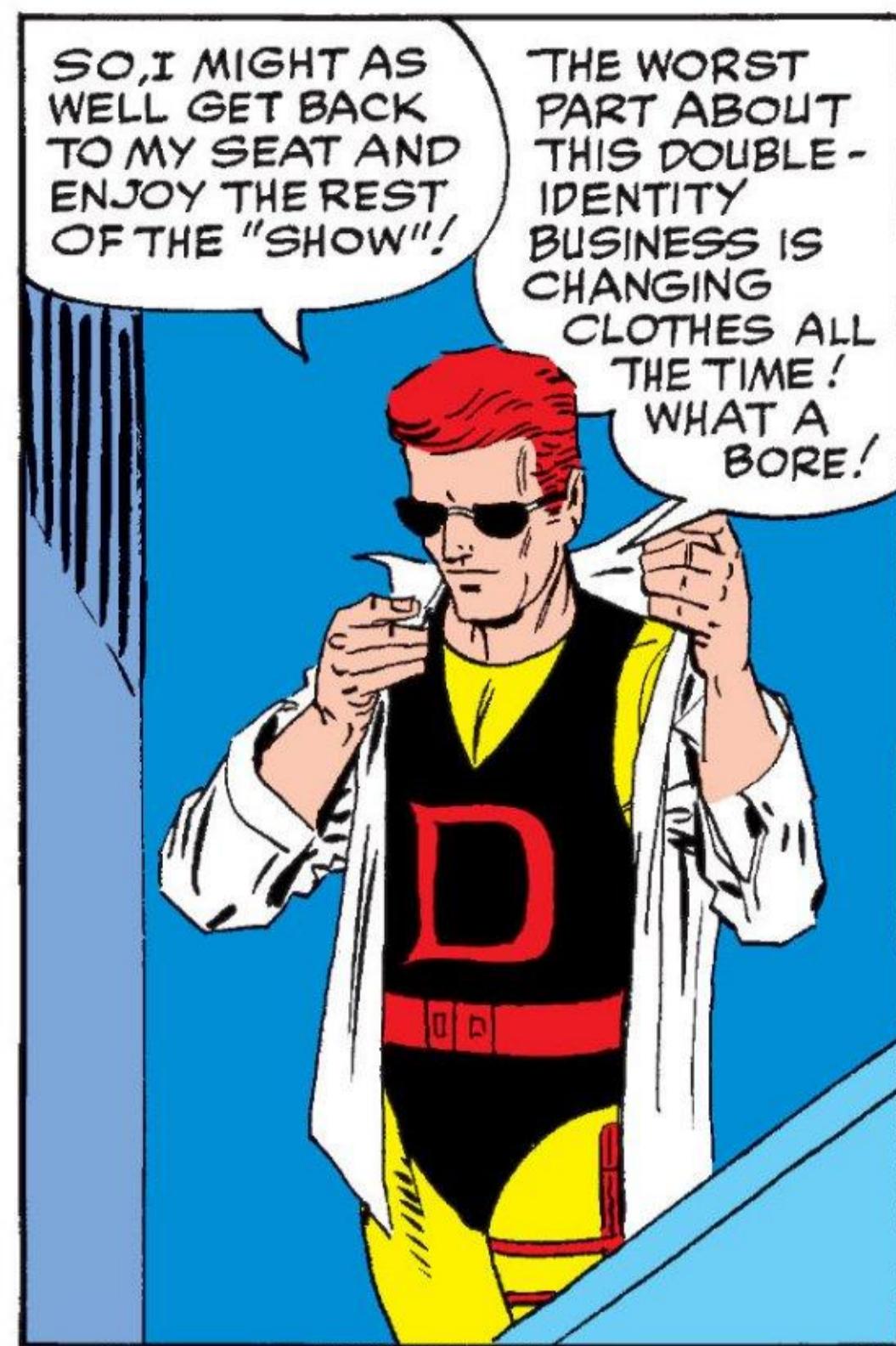
CAREFUL! DON'T BE OVER-EAGER! THERE'LL BE PLENTY OF ME TO GO AROUND!

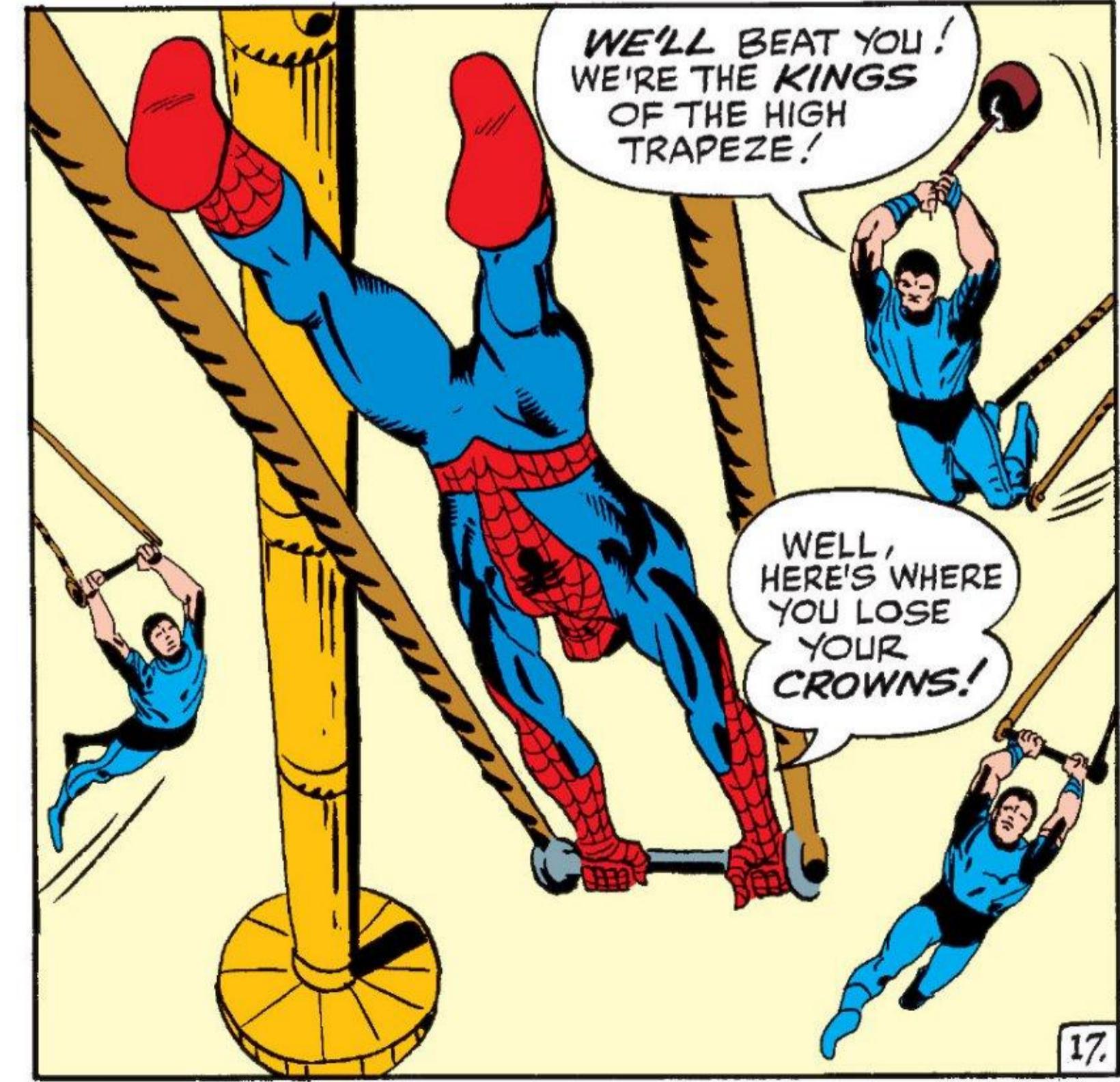
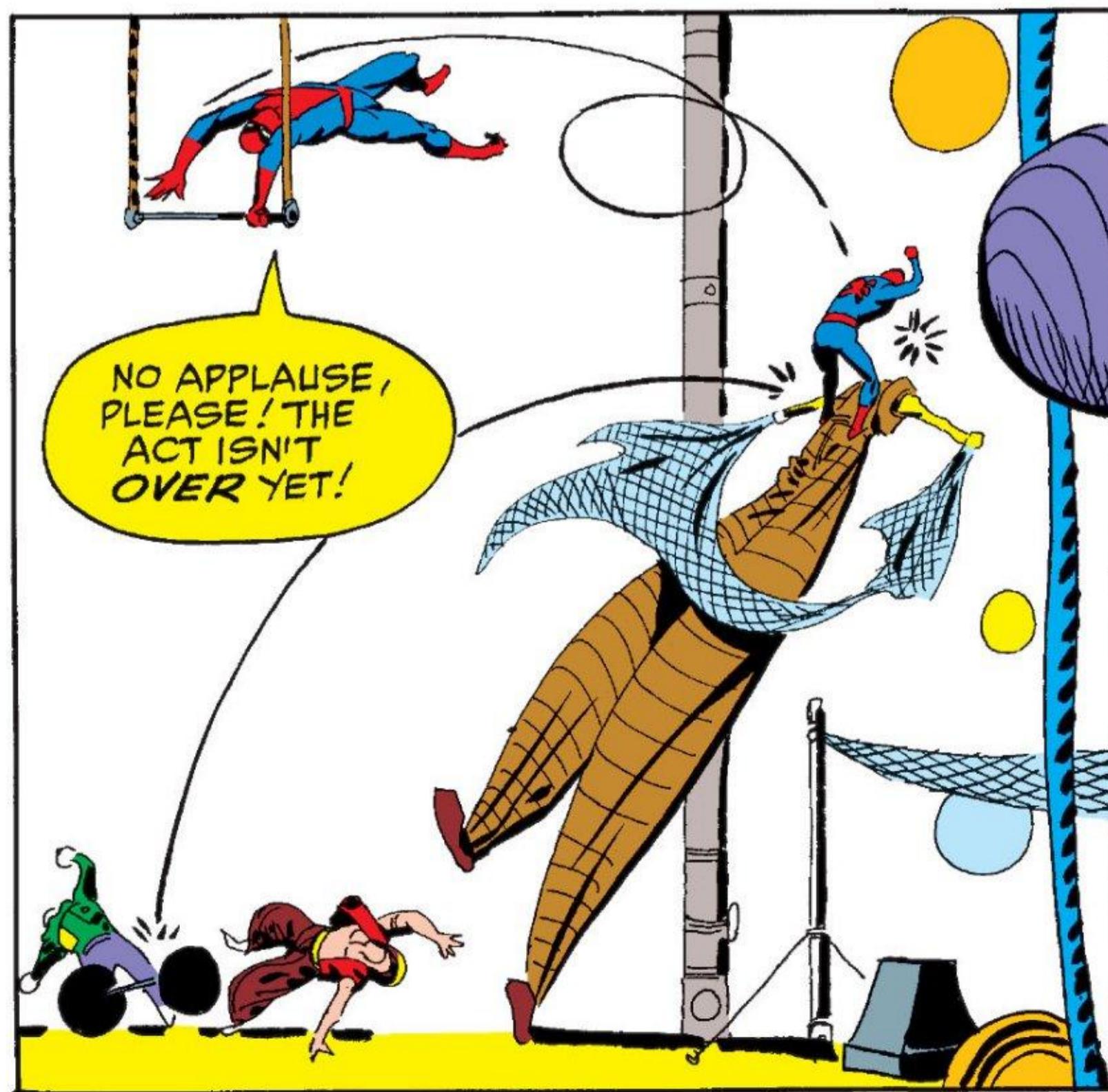
YOU'LL EACH GET A CHANCE TO BE SLAPPED SILLY BY SPIDEY!

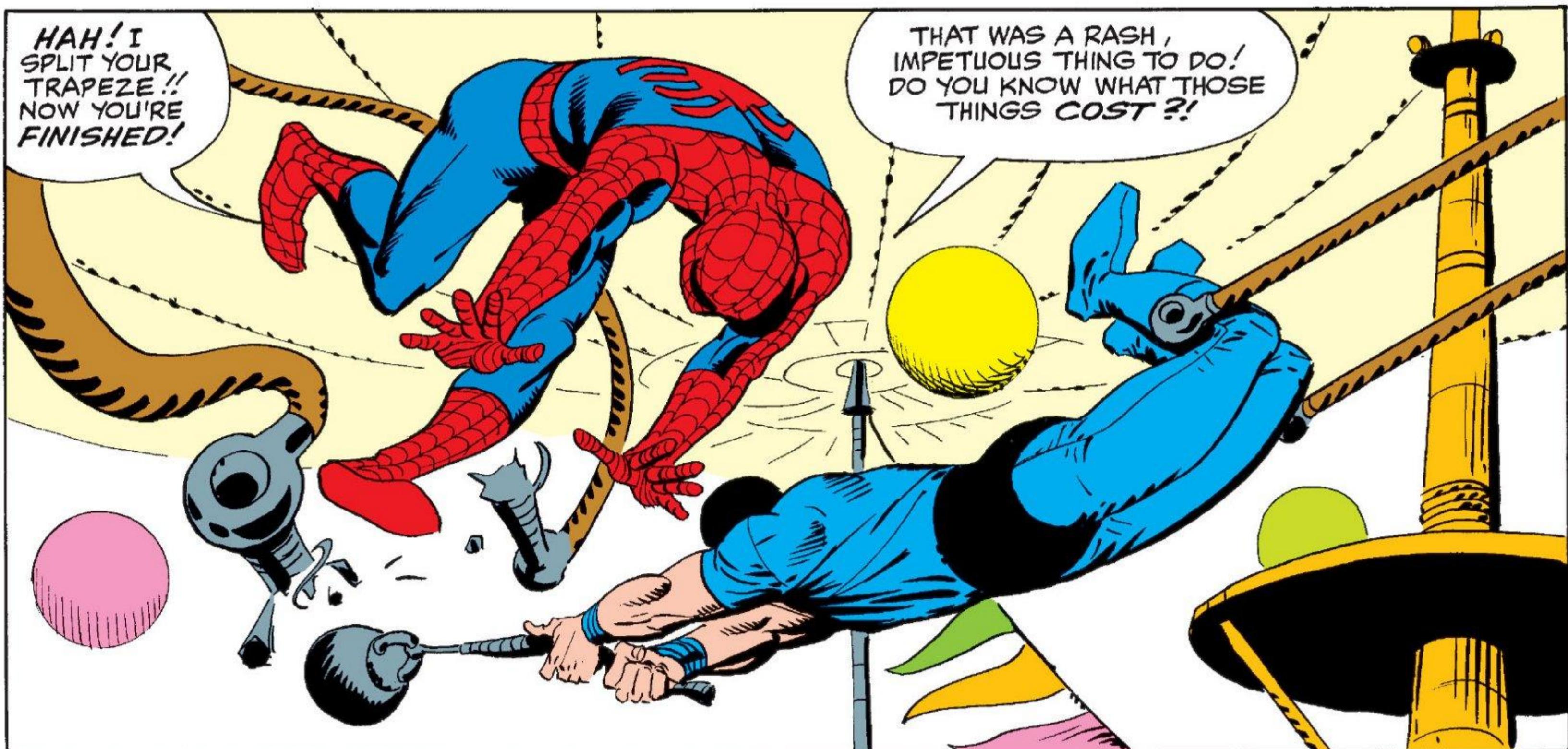


THUNK!

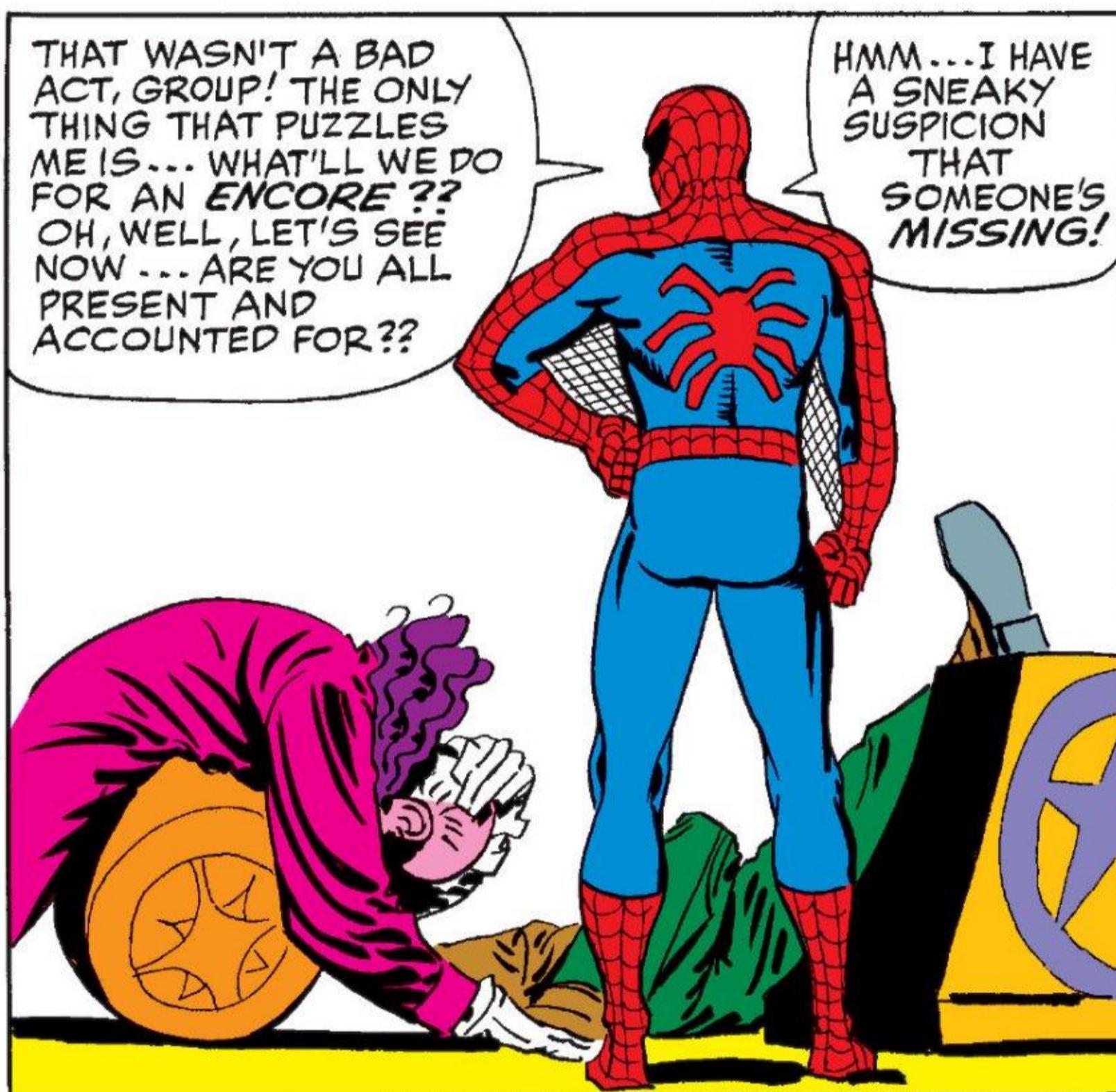
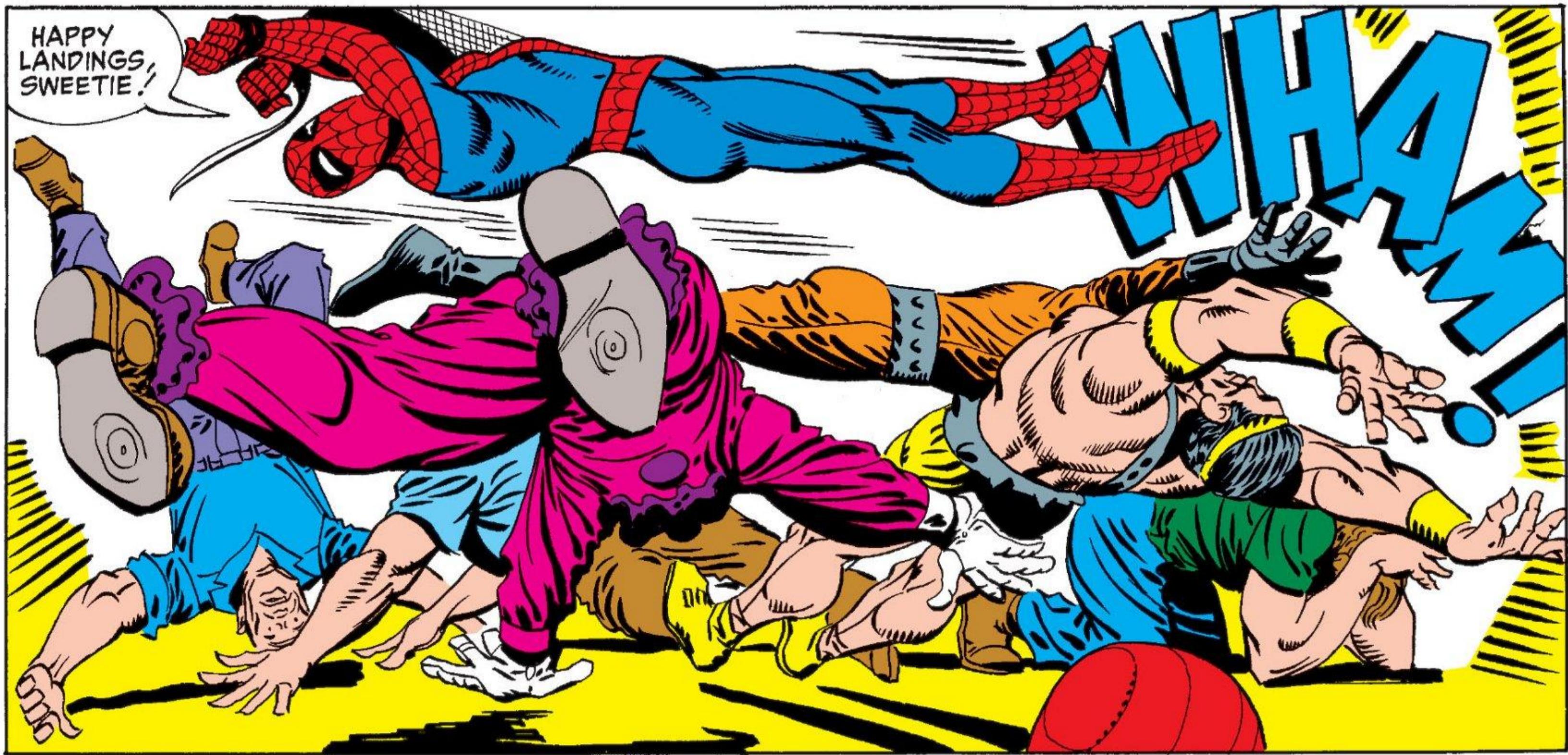




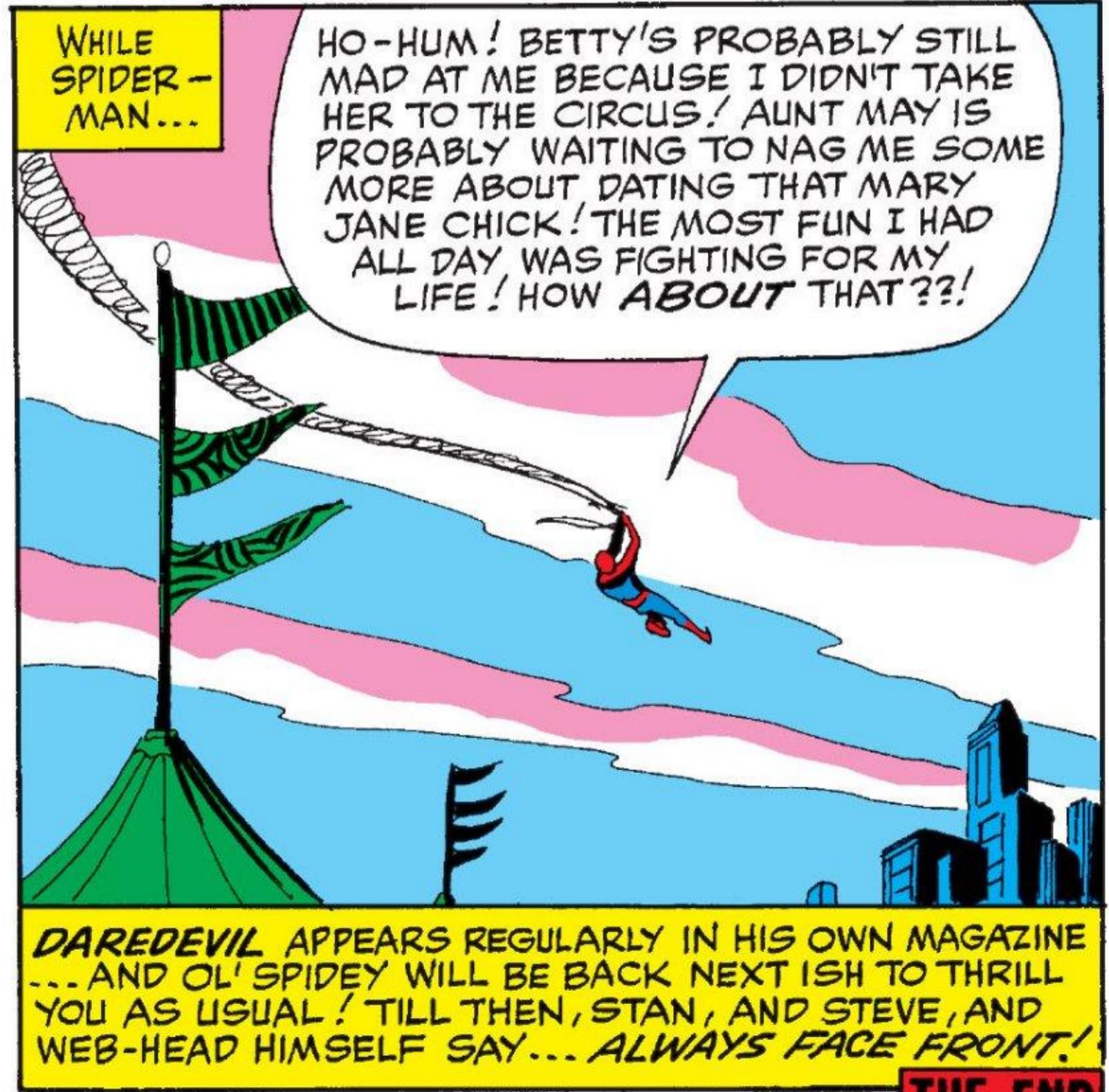
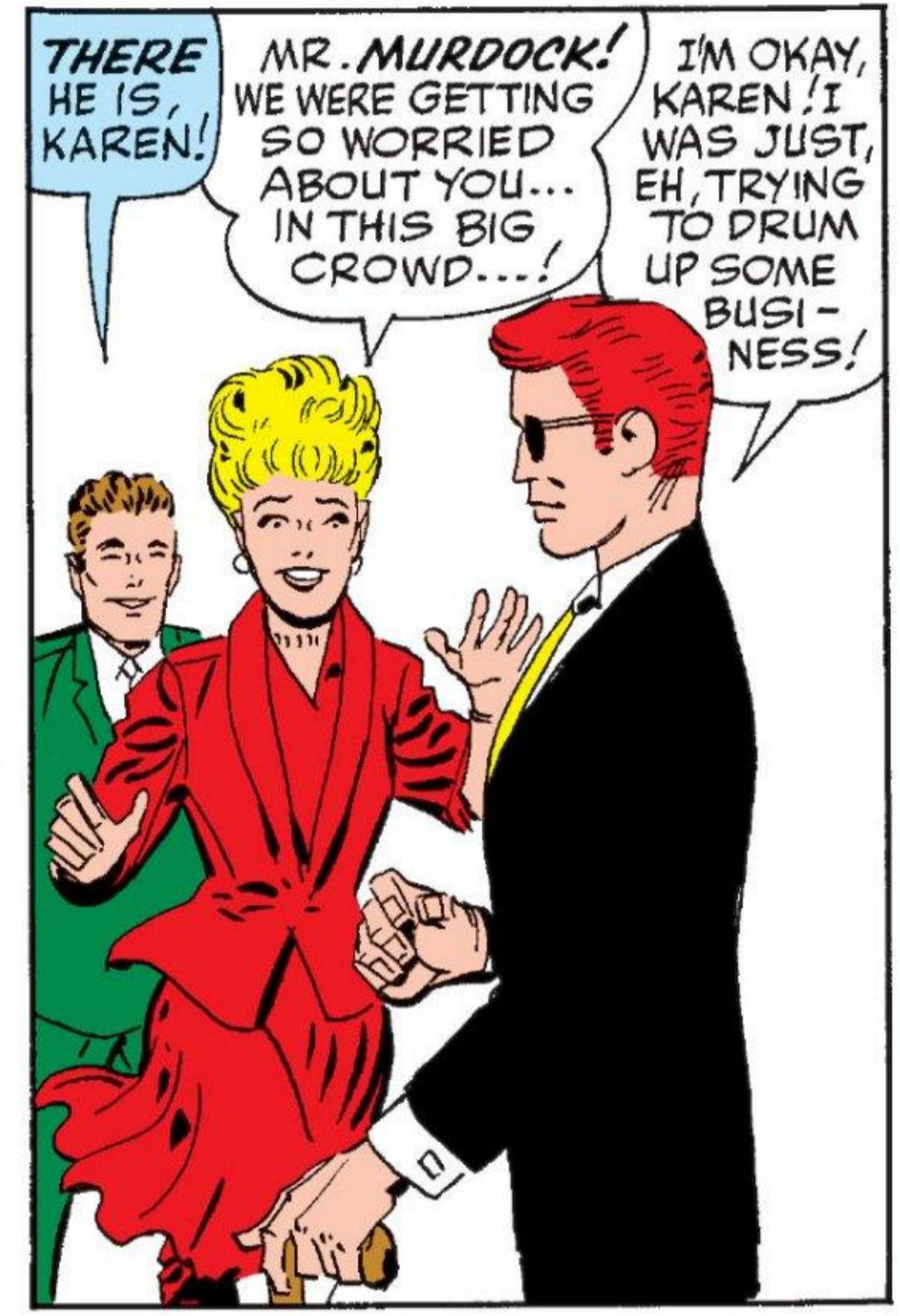
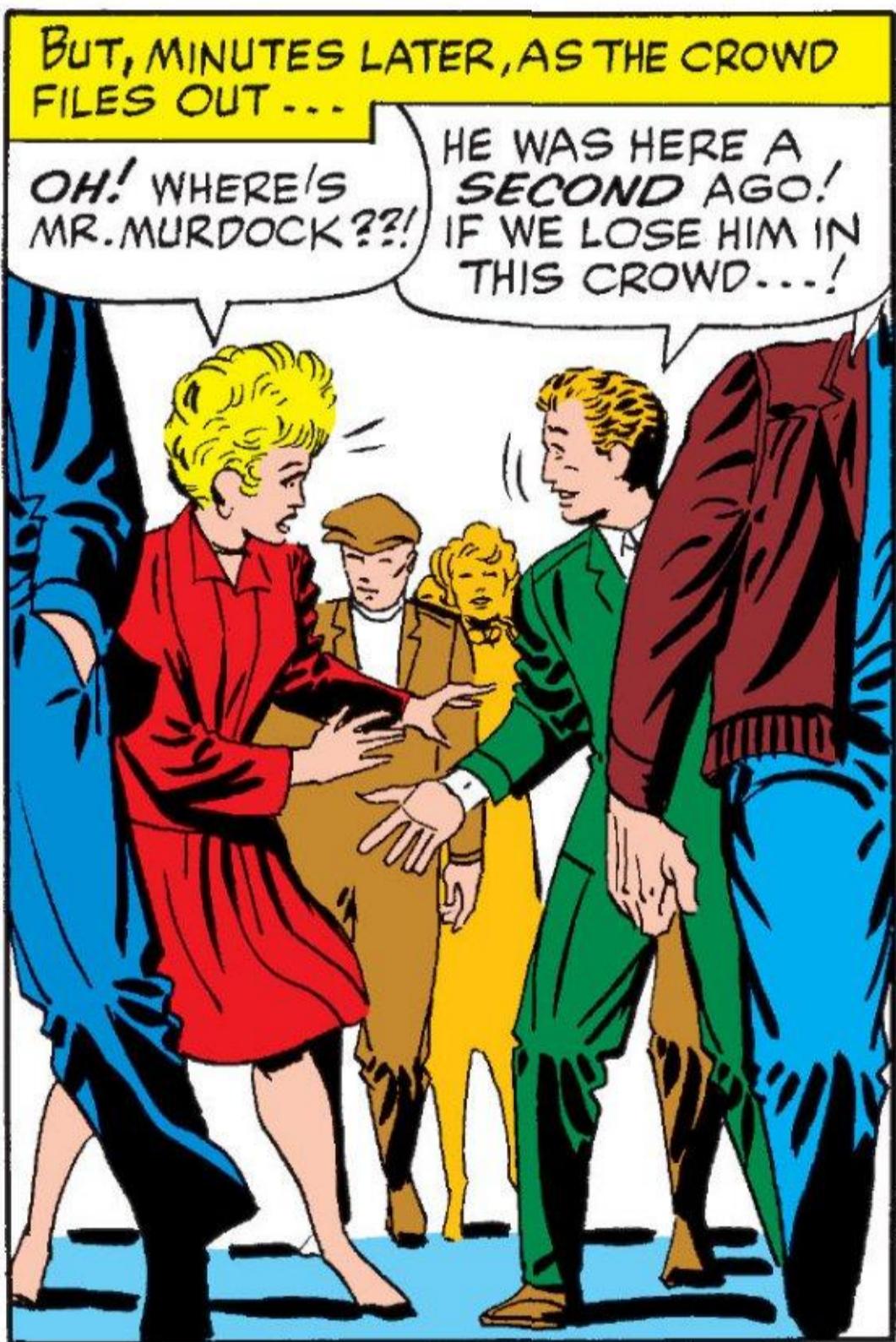
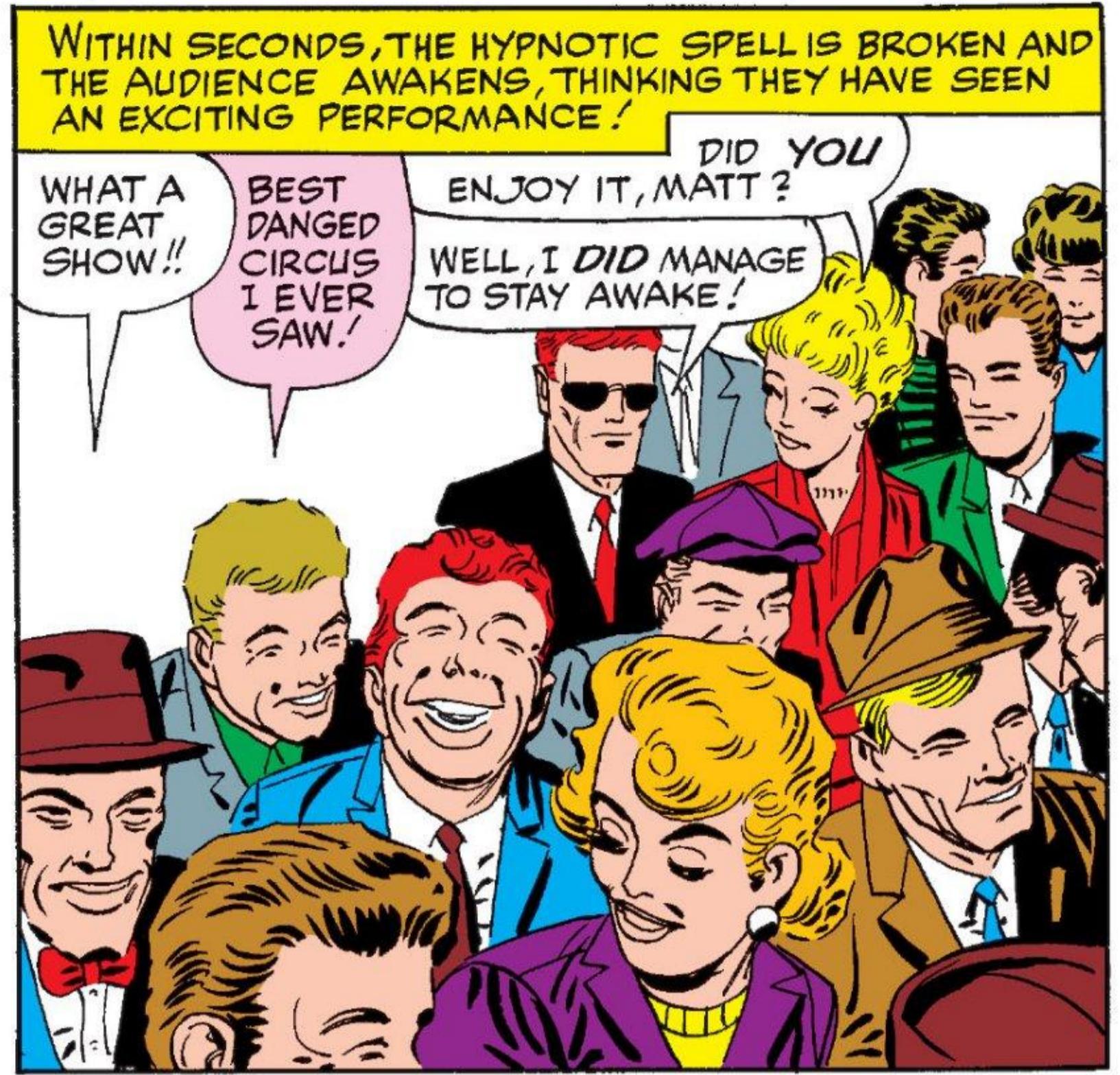
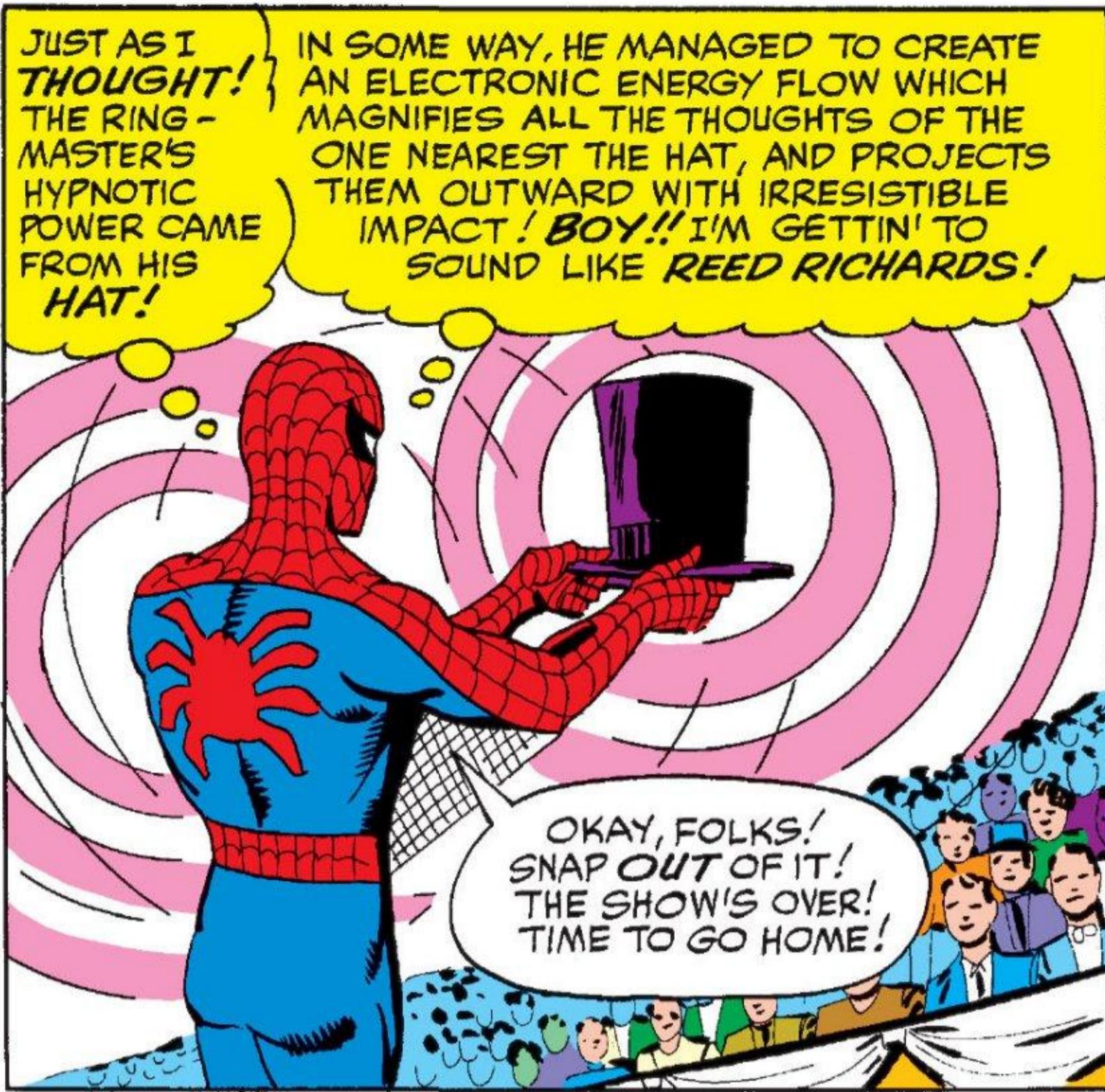














SPIDER'S WEB

Please address
your letters to:
THE SPIDER'S WEB
Third Floor
655 Madison Ave.
New York 21, N.Y.

Dear Stan and Steve,

Although I'm just a lowly college freshman I'm a great fan of all Marvel Comics, and I just had to write to tell you how much I appreciate them—especially SPIDER-MAN! I just finished reading your latest and your greatest Spider-Man, which is stupendous, to say the very least! Seconds after I finished reading I was so frenzied with enthusiasm that I picked up the first piece of paper and writing apparatus in sight. The way you bring your readers to the edge of a nervous breakdown by the thought of seeing the end of Spider-Man, and then slapping them in the face with the fact that our favorite hero is better off than ever, is unbelievable. My highest compliments to both of you. Stan did a really terrifyingly terrific job—the white-heat of his inspiration must be his genius showing through. Steve's drawings depicted every moment of emotion in outstanding fashion. I thank you very much!

Andy G. Nevares, 3911 Zephyr St.
Houston 21, Texas

Gee whiz, Andy, if you don't like our mags, why don't you just come right out 'n say so?!

Dear Stan and Steve,

We wish to have some information concerning Spider-Man's unique webbing. In issue #12 you showed Spider-Man reloading with cartridges of web fluid. Now, since we didn't get the first few issues of Spider-Man, we would like to know how he made or makes the fluid which he uses, the way the release works, and the method used in forcing the fluid out. Please do not tell us that it is a secret and it cannot be told!

Darrell Wade, Tony & Joe Muscatello
Rt. #1, Box 329, Bluefield, W. Va.

Not only do you ask tough questions, but then you tell us what we shouldn't tell you, eh? You'll find most of the answers you want in the Spidey Annual on sale in June! Anything you don't see there—forget it!

Dear Stan and Steve,

You know that a person who is addicted to cigarettes is likely to have a nicotine fit if he goes too long between smokes. Well, as of two days ago I am having a Spider-Man fit! My pupils are dilated (from lack of reading material), my pulse is rapid, I can't eat and I can't sleep. If the next issue doesn't come out soon I think I might start pulling my hair out by the roots. There is one thing about your mag which I simply can't stand—it only comes out once a month instead of every week! Please see if you can do anything about this intolerable situation.

Bill Payne, 2701 Portland Ave.
Louisville, Ky.

You think YOU'VE got trouble? You should see US when our pay checks arrive late!!

Dear Stan and Steve,

Today I read the latest issue of SPIDER-MAN and F.F. They were both okay except that in some parts of both magazines it got too mushy. Girls are okay in their own place, I always say. How would you like your magazines to be called "The Marvel Age of Henpecked Super-Heroes"? So please get Betty out of Spider-Man and keep Sue just the Invisible Girl—not Mrs. Reed Richards!

Jay Blackburn, 548 Inghram Ave.
Calumet City, Ill.

That might be okay with US, Jay—but we're not so sure Spidey and Reed would like your suggestion!

Dear Stan and Steve,

STRANGE TALES #120 was a very good issue but we think Iceman should have a girl friend just like everyone else. We also feel after reading issue #12 of SPIDER-MAN that he should reveal his identity to Betty; then he would be able to carry on a more normal life for he would have someone to talk to. We would appreciate an answer as we read your comic books when we take a coffee break while we study. Gail Schottenstein & Phyllis Schwartz

100 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.

Well, gals, it seems to us that it would be pretty tough to lead a normal life, even if you reveal your secret to your girl friend, if you happen to be a guy who runs around evenings in a Spider costume and swings thru the air on webs! But, to each his own!

Dear Stan and Steve,

I have just finished reading SPIDER-MAN #12 and it was pretty good. But the one boo-boo you made was on page 6 at the bottom of the page in the lower lefthand corner when you said, "... and atop the highest roller coaster at the Amusement Park." They were not on a roller coaster but on a ferris wheel! That was the only thing wrong with #12—otherwise it was one of the best!

Steve Keyes, 3077 Donny Brook
Costa Mesa, Calif.

You're right, Steve, and we're wrong—as usual! Apparently the blamed thing was so high that we couldn't tell WHAT it was from 'way down below!

Dear Stan and Steve,

I'd like to mention simply the question of realism which you are forever injecting into your Spider-Man stories: I've noticed that Spider-Man is the first comic in which the police have been given a bit of recognition. Too often police are ignored even though they do a good job of handling the necessary task of protecting law and order. (Of course this is understandable since some of their work would make dry comic reading and you'd probably have trouble convincing a reader that a cop was as effective as ol' Spidey, anyway!) At any rate, I was pleased to see your use of the police.

Richard Weingroff, 3231 Southgreen Rd.
Baltimore, Md.

A fat lot of GOOD it does us! Ol' Stan just got a parking ticket last week!

Dear Stan and Steve,

Lots of readers have complained that word balloons spoil your covers. Well, something else like that bugs me. I've been looking at your current Marvel issues and have seen the slogans about how great Marvel is. It spoils the whole cover! So how about cutting out all these words of praise so we can see the art? We readers know that this is the MARVEL AGE OF COMICS and if you don't, then for the love of Pete, read one of your mags sometime!

Dick North, 5962 N. Sheridan Rd.
Chicago 40, Ill.

What?? After WRITING them all day?? Have a heart, Dick!

Dear Stan and Steve,

Your Spider-Man magazine is really beginning to take hold here. The main reason is that Spider-Man is portrayed as such a natural guy. This makes the magazine very enjoyable to read and gives it humor in between the dramatic moments. In reference to Pete himself, we think that he should stick to dating high school girls. Although you have explained that Betty is Pete's age, there is some-

CONTINUED

thing about his dating a working girl that seems out of character. Dating her denotes a certain suave, man-of-the-world trait that we don't think he possesses. We hope that Spider-Man does not become incorporated into another magazine because then he would lose his significance. In short, your magazine is a very entertaining and original work. We hope to see a lot more of it!

Jim Frank & Pete Rabalais
St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas.

Thanks, guys. But maybe YOU have the nerve to tell Spidey whom he should date—WE sure don't!

Dear Stan and Steve,

Holy Toledo! In my opinion Spider-Man #12 was the best issue since #4 which featured the Sandman. However, the title of the story just didn't fit. Pete was unmasked, but it wasn't the main point of the story. Come to think of it, I don't know what the heck was the main point??!!

Gary Rafferty, 19 120th St.
Troy, N. Y.

Know something, Gary? We're with YOU! Half the time WE never can figure out the point of these stories either! But, we never knew they NEEDED one!

Dear Stan and Steve,

My husband and I buy all the Marvel magazines we can get our hands on. We think they are really great! By the way, we feel that sometimes using Communists as villains gives a story impact, and promotes an interest in world affairs. Keep up the good work and we'll do our part—buying!

Mrs. Danny Lee Moore
Leftwitch St., Gretna, Va.

We can't ask for more than THAT! As for the Communists—they haven't been bothering Spidey much lately. We don't know whether to be pleased or offended!

Dear Stan and Steve,

I have read enough of your boring hogwash! I hate your comics so much I always want the bad guys to win! You call them "mags"! They should be "rags"! Where do you get your jokes from... "Romper Room"? As far as I know the Marvel Age of Comics should have gone out with the Ice Age. And another thing... I hope Spider-Man gets swatted!!

Bruce Donehower, 47 Woodland Rd.
Short Hills, N. J.

Sorry, Bruce! No matter how you beg—you can't have our autographs!!

Dear Stan and Steve,

Our organization "Candid Opinions" feels that your periodical is one of the greatest to hit the stands today. The entire concept which you impose is incomparable. The art and plots are totally different in the sense that they have never before been attempted with such successful results. Keep up the good work—we wish you every success due your fine magazine!

Mark Laroe, President
Candid Opinions Organization
1537 S. Clarion, Philadelphia, Pa.

We're not quite sure what "Candid Opinions" IS, Mark—but considering the good taste you show in literature, we feel you're a FINE organization!

Dear Stan and Steve,

I'm sure that if everyone of us out here in Comicland, including spiders, took a poll for the top super-hero of the year, SPIDER-MAN would win hands down. Never... yes... never in the history of Comicedom has there been a character whose personality is played up as much as Peter Parker's! This has contributed to making Spider-Man your most realistic magazine. It seems that Peter always has something to say behind the backs of others unlike many heroes who are so good and wholesome that it's downright disgusting! Peter, being a teenager, is at an age when most young people think that they are being looked down upon, and even though he has superhuman powers, he is a human being, so naturally he would have a lot of rebuttal. Please continue the half Peter/Spider-Man pictures—I think this illuminates the inner conflict due to his dual identity. Because of his emotions and his exciting stories, you have made AMAZING SPIDER-MAN one of the top ranking heroes in the brief history of his comic. Many thanks!

Steve Jam, 949 Gretta Ave.
West Covina, Cal.

Wow! Another few flattering letters like yours, Steve, and we'll start believing our own publicity! Anyway, we still maintain that the best thing about ol' Spidey is his ever-lovin' FANS!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS SECTION:

—Well, how about that DAREDEVIL, eh?? No featured character we've ever presented, not even Spidey himself, has ever been greeted with so spontaneous a wave of enthusiasm from you fans as D.D.! And, if you haven't seen it yet, his new third ish is on sale now, featuring the macabre menace of the mysterious Owl, Overlord of Crime! ((Whew! Try saying THAT thru a mouthful of peanut butter!))

—The SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #1 should be going on sale just about now, and if you miss it, don't say we didn't warn you! Besides having an unbroken 41-page feature story—plus a million unexpected features and pin-ups—it also has the surprise sensation of the season: A novelty entitled "How Stan and Steve Create Spider-Man." We guarantee you'll get a real charge out of it!

—However, we didn't have room in the Spidey Annual to include the much-requested Origin story of our li'l web-head! But, in our usual mixed-up manner, we DID manage to squeeze it into MARVEL TALES ANNUAL #1, also on sale in June. This, too, will most likely be a sellout, for it features the origins of Spidey, Thor, Giant-Man, Sgt. Fury, Iron Man, and the incredible Hulk, together with photos of practically every member of the Marvel bullpen!

—Have you met Diablo yet? He's the FANTASTIC FOUR's newest villain and you might as well get to know him because, the way WE operate, Spidey will probably be battling him before long! F.F. #30—Another great one from the leader!

—Remember the Enchantress and the Executioner, from THOR #103?? Well, they both team up with Zemo to battle THE AVENGERS in the current ish! And wait'll you see the Thunder God battling his own allies in this one!

—BIG NEWS! Starting with ish #60, our jelly green giant, the Hulk, will be the co-feature of TALES TO ASTONISH, sharing the top billing with GIANT-MAN! And to start things off on the right foot, ol' high-pockets and the Wasp battle the Hulk in the issue preceding it—#59, now on sale! So, Hulk-lovers of the world, arise! TALES TO ASTONISH—Get it!

—Another item of earth-shattering import is the fact that the ever-lovin' Thing will be teamed up with the Human Torch in STRANGE TALES from now on, beginning with the current #124 ish! And Doc Strange will still be the back-up feature of that mag!

—By the way, don't dare miss SGT. FURY #9, now on sale! When Marvel decides to find a villain, we don't kid around! We get the MOST villain there is! Yep, you guessed it! Fury and his Howlers tackle Hitler himself in this ish! It's a corker!

—And while you're at it, you might as well make it a clean sweep and buy IRON MAN #57 to see what ol' shell-head is up to! He's battling a nut named Hawkeye this month and some of Don Heck's artwork will make your eyes pop! Meanwhile, back at the ranch, our hammer-swinging hero, Thor, is trying to figure out how to defeat a character who calls himself The Grey Gargoyle! You'll find all the sordid details in THOR #107!

—We still have a little space left, but we're gonna resist the temptation to tell you what MILLIE THE MODEL and PATSY WALKER are doing this month!! As for KID COLT OUTLAW, TWO-GUN KID, and RAWHIDE KID—we can't remember what's going on with them ourselves! But, if Westerns are your meat, you can be sure that they're a'ridin' and a'fightin' and a'shootin' with the best of 'em!

—There's no telling WHAT our next ish of SPIDER-MAN will be, because Stan and Steve are still in a fog from knocking themselves out on THIS one, as well as putting together the 72-page Annual! But, you can be sure they'll come up with SOMETHING—and, whether it's their best, or their worst, you know it'll STILL be worth reading! So, till then, face front!!



Tyrant
King

Lizard

EMPIRE