

EXILED Part 2 of 4

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
CARTOON
AUTHORITY

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

ONLY
\$1.50

\$2.05 CAN / £1.25

SEP • 405

MARVEL
SPIDER-MAN
GROUP

WIRED FOR DEATH!

STAN LEE
PRESENTS:

THE SPECTACULAR
SCARLET SPIDER!

THE WORTH OF A MAN

EXILED - PART 2

This was a lot easier
the FIRST time.

Five years ago, when I
LEFT, it was because
I believed myself a
CLONE-- who wasn't
WORTHY OF the LIFE--
the CITY--

--the DREAM...!

I was a NOBODY-- a NON-MAN--
running-- trying to find a PLACE
in this world, where I knew I
truly didn't belong!

But, I DID
dream...



...I dreamt of coming back--OF HAVING the life--OF having some kind OF FUTURE--any kind.

I RESENTED Peter--over the years--over the miles--

--hating him for having the life--for living my DREAM--but I had to do the RIGHT THING--and so I stayed away.

And so, when the TRUTH comes down--when we discover that I'm NOT the clone--that I'm the ORIGINAL--what do I do...?--

--I ACQUIESCE--I do the RIGHT THING--AGAIN!

I decide it's best for me to take to the road--to be the LONER--leaving Peter to the life I LONGED FOR--to the city--to SPIDER-MAN.

I did the right thing, but is that what I want?! I don't want PETER'S life, but I want A life! A...

...home?

Yet, even though I know that I'm the REAL Peter Parker, why do I still feel like a NON-PERSON? Like I'm not worthy of--

--huh? Spider-sense--!

EEEEEEERRRRRTTT!

Come on, Come on--!!

--no good--
I LOST IT!!

SO busy getting into
my own head that I
forgot to pay
attention to the
road!!

HOW COULD I...

...or did I do this
on PURPOSE?...

THOOOM

...subconsciously
wrecking the bike to
SABOTAGE my leav-
ing...? Great. Ben,
you're a MESS!! And
now, I'm sticking
to a wall out in the
open!

Gotta go--

--gotta clear
my head!

THWAM!



This is MY city--the
only HOME I've ever
really known-- it's
where I'm DRAWN--

--it's... it's...

THIS
IS WHERE I
BELONG!!

IT'S my
DREAM.





I tell myself I'm
doing this ONE
LAST TIME--



--that this is my
last chance to
hurl myself
through these
canyons--



--into these skies--



--where I
can soar
so HIGH--



--he deserves the DREAM.

huh?!

OH, MAN-- WHAT A NIGHTMARE!! IT WAS SO VIVID... SO REAL... SO...

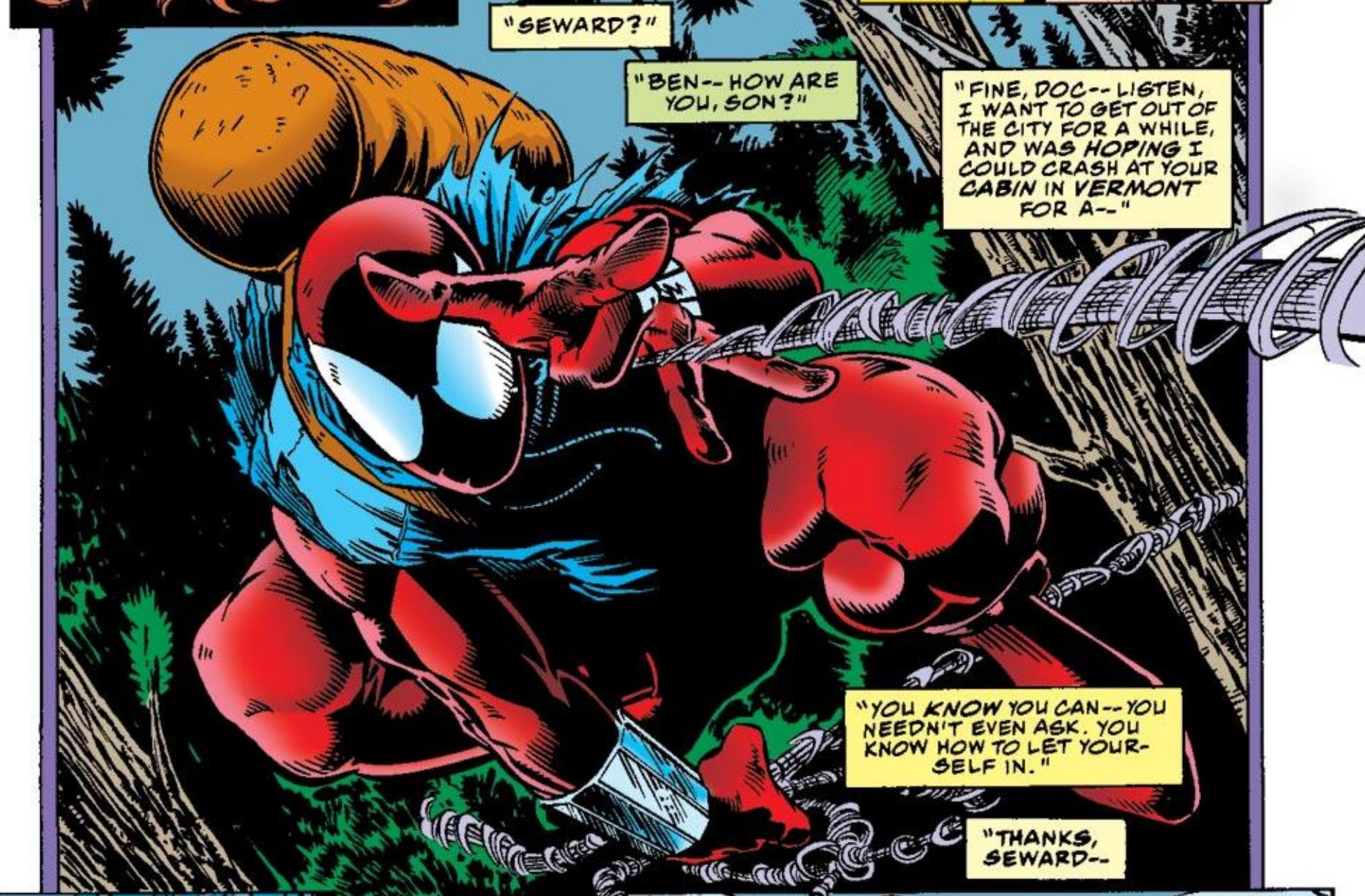
...HORRIFYING, AND... I CAN'T REMEMBER...

...I CAN'T REMEMBER ANY OF IT... ?!

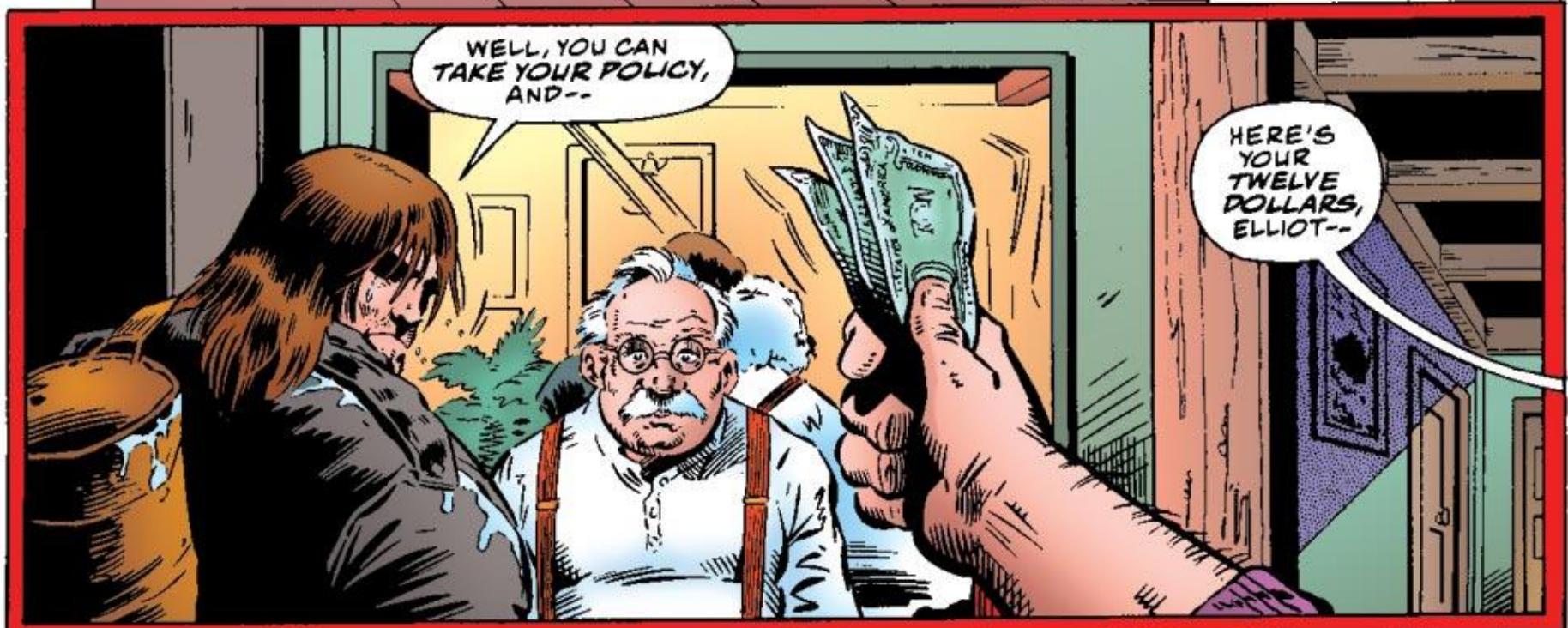
SEEMS LIKE THERE WAS SOMETHING I HAD TO KNOW... SOMETHING I NEEDED TO REMEMBER...

WHEW! MY HEART'S STILL RACING!! MUST'VE BEEN ONE HECKUVA SCARE...! WHAT WAS IT... ABOUT...?

AT LEAST I DIDN'T WAKE MJ. WITH EVERYTHING SHE'S BEEN THROUGH LATELY--













THA-CHOOOM!



--and whoever he
is, he's about to
find out just how
BIG OF A MISTAKE
HE'S MADE!!!



NEW YORK--

(WHAT'S LEFT OF)
SEWARD TRAINER'S
LAB--

MY GOD! THE WHOLE
PLACE looks like it's
been turned UPSIDE-
DOWN--by SOMETHING
OR SOMEONE--BIG!!

SEWARD!
SEWARD!!!

COME ON,
COME ON!
He's GOT
to be
here SOME-
WHERE!

Because if Seward
is BURIED
somewhere under
all THIS--

--there's a
good chance
he's probably...
DEAD...

And yet, I'm also
praying he ISN'T....

I CAN'T let that
happen! Gotta
Find some way to
Find him...

I owe him
so much...

...SO MUCH...

...SAVE
him!



THEN...



eh?
HOLD ON A
SECOND,
DAVE.

HEY...
HEY,
BARKEEP!

I...I'M...

...I'M HUNGRY!
I NEED SOME
FOOD!

I SAID--
I NEED
FOOD!!
WHAT PART
DIDN'T YOU
UNDER-
STAND?!

SORRY.
MARY'S
CLOSED
UP THE
KITCHEN.
WE'RE NOT
SERVING

NOW DO I
GET SOMETHING
TO EAT--OR DO I
BEAT YOU TO
WITHIN AN INCH
OF YOUR
LIFE?!?

KUNK!



--AND I
THINK YOU COULD
USE A FRIEND.

YOU DON'T
WANT TO DO THAT,
SON--YOU DON'T NEED
TO DO THAT.
I THINK YOU
NEED TO CALM
DOWN. YOU LOOK
HOT AND FEVERISH.
I THINK MAYBE YOU
COULD USE SOME
REST--

--YOU WANNA
BE MY FRIEND--



SO, IT'S MR.
CHARITY! IS
THAT WHAT YOU
THINK I
NEED?!

WUD!

YOU WANNA
BE MY
FRIEND?!



--ND?



YES.

I
DO.





WHAT THE--?!

Okay, THESE
are definitely
NOT Seward's
creations. Not
his STYLE--
too much
CHROME.

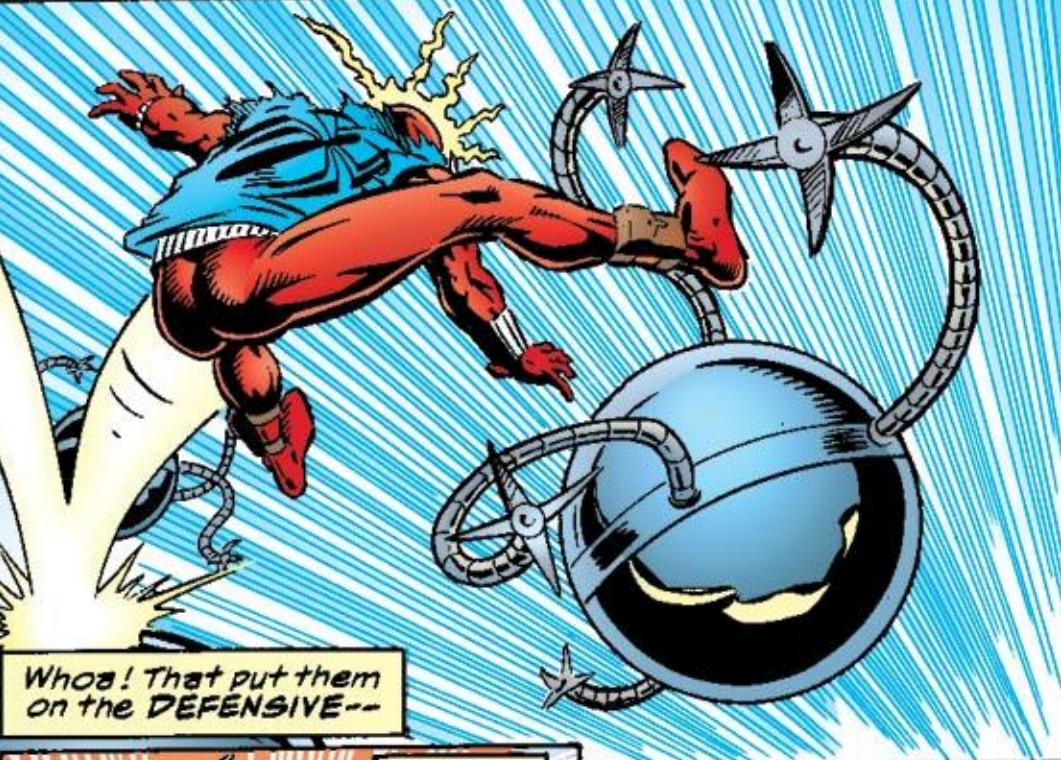
And, apparently,
they're tapping
into the
MAINFRAME OF
DOC's computer--

--And since much
about ME is in there,
THAT'S SOME DATA
RETRIEVAL that I
mean to put a STOP
to!

Whoa! That put them
on the DEFENSIVE--

--BIG
TIME!!

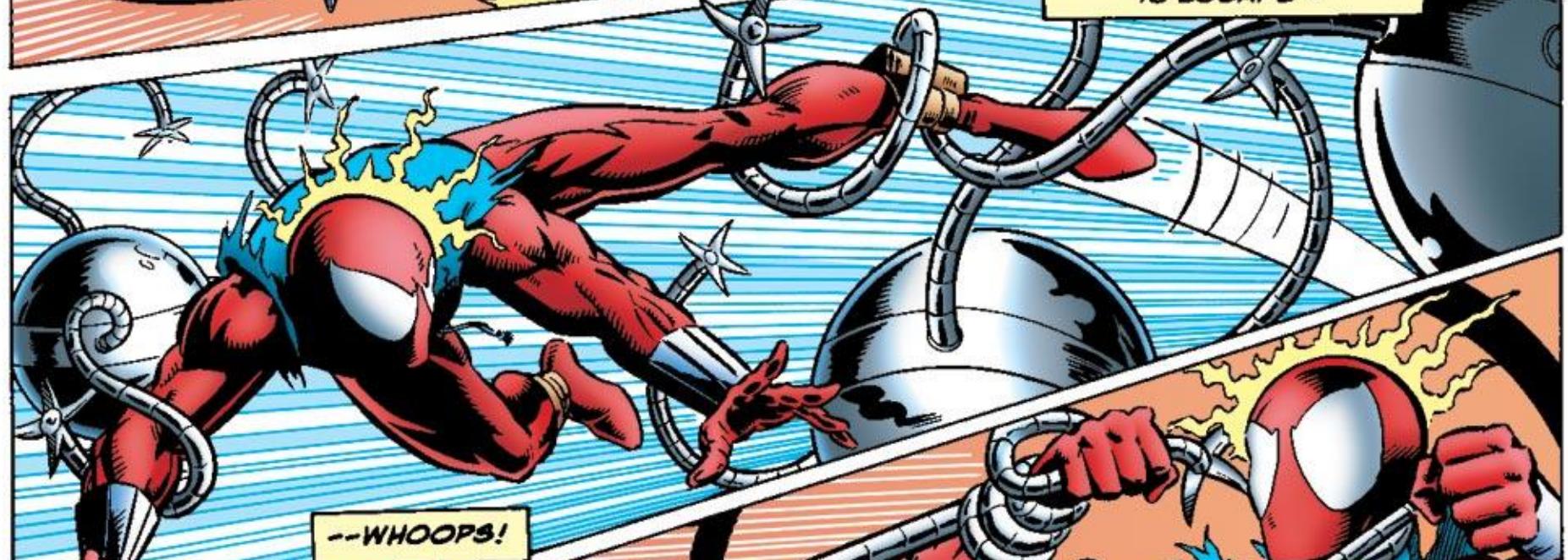
OF course, using
my REFLEXES--





--And some AMAZING
spider-like AGILITY--

--I can deFTly maneuver
to ESCAPE--



--WHOOPS!

BUSTED.



Oh, I got a BAD
FEELING about th--



G-ZZAATT!

YEEAAAARRGH!!

AAAAAAHHH!!!

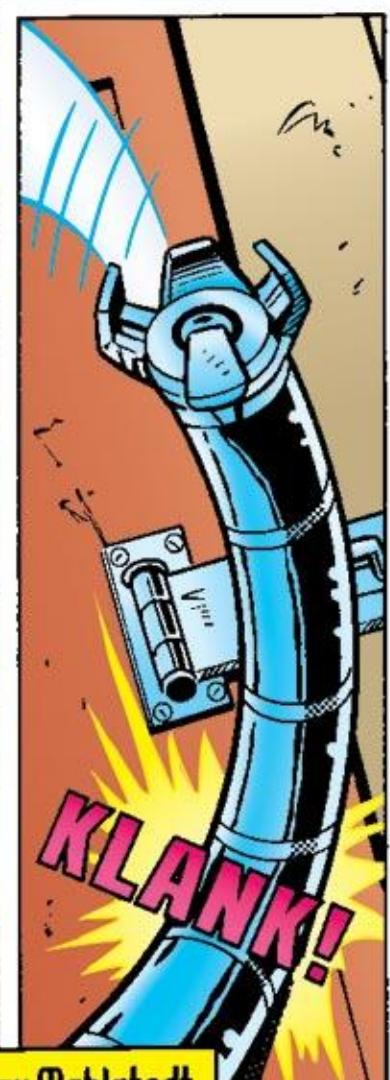
GZZZT!
GZZZT!

Can't...

...can't
Fight it...

...Seward...

...where
are...



J.M. DeMatteis • Todd DeZago • Darick Robertson • Larry Mahlstedt
plot script pencils inks
Bob Sharen • Bill Oakley • Danny Fingeroth • Bob Budiansky
colors letters • editors

THE SPIDER'S WEB

%MARVEL COMICS
387 PARK AVE. S.O.
NEW YORK, NY
10016

DANNY FINGEROTH,
EDITOR
MARK BERNARDO,
ASST. EDITOR

CORRESPONDENTS: IF YOU DON'T WANT YOUR FULL ADDRESS PRINTED, PLEASE LET US KNOW.

Dear Spider's Web,

I have been a Spider-Man fan for years and I can honestly say that nothing has been as good as the current saga in the Spider-Mags. The crossovers are great and the artwork is excellent. I just finished reading AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #399, and I'm stunned at Gwen Stacy's return at the end of the story. Mark Bagley's rendition of her was superb, by the way!

It's very strange to think that both Spider-Man and the Scarlet Spider could be clones. Personally, I think the Jackal is just messing with their minds. Keep up the good work, and until there's a whole army of Spider-Men, Make Mine Marvel!

Eric Rom

1247 Stearns Street
Brunswick, OH 44212

Gulp! We hope you're still with us, after the multitude of Spidey clones in "Maximum Clonage!" Somehow we think you are. Let us know what you think of our current crossovers, Eric! If you were stunned at Gwen's apparent resurrection, you're gonna be blown away by what's coming up!

Dear Marvel,

In AMAZING #399, you revealed that the Jackal didn't only make one Peter Parker clone, but he created several prototypes first that failed (Jack and the Guardian). You also revealed that the Jackal's failed clones have a nasty habit of degenerating.

From this evidence, I think that Kaine is another Peter Parker clone. I thought about this because Kaine has grey, vein-like tissue on his body. This tissue is similar to that on Jack and the Guardian. In addition, Peter Parker and Kaine have the same hair color.

I guess Kaine is undergoing a slow degeneration process. Since we have several Parker clones, could it be that Kaine is the Spider-Man clone featured in the original clone storyline many years ago?

Christopher Tate
(Address withheld by request)

A lot of your guesswork was pretty close to the mark, Chris! (You're the first correspondent we can recall to point out the hair color!) But make no mistake: As SPIDER-MAN #60 revealed, Kaine was indeed the very first prototype Parker clone, but he left Warren's care before the now-monumental

events of ASM #149. The Spider-Man clone in that story was indeed the fellow who's married to Mary Jane now.

Dear Spider's Web

The chance that Spider-Man and the Scarlet Spider could both be clones slowly raised an eyebrow. And the return of Gwen Stacy caused my other eyebrow to perk up and join the other one. The chance that the real Peter Parker could still be in some cryogenic water bed slowly brought a smiley curl to my lips. But as I finished ASM #399, I still felt greedy for just one more surprise to complete the ultimate expression of Spidey-shock on my face. I was really, really hoping the new and improved Jackal had one old and perfect Norman Osborn in a cryogenic tank, too, waiting to restore one of the greatest villains Spidey has ever fought! Venom who?

This issue has just replaced ASM #361 as the reigning, king of the hill, ultimate cool issue of this mag! Though with #400 on the horizon in just one month, it's already on shaky ground!

Brendan Walsh
1501 West Hood Avenue
Chicago, IL 60660

We do like to keep topping ourselves, don't we, Brendan? Almost as much as we like throwing in those spider-shocks that you mentioned!

But, sorry, dude... Norman's still dead. Why don't you check out the exploits of the newest Green Goblin in his own brand new mag, on sale next month? No true Goblin booster could possibly miss it!!

Dear Marvel,

I've been reading the current storyline with considerable interest, having read those original clone issues. However, the idea of Spidey being a clone leaves me asking, "So what?" If he's truly a clone of the original Peter Parker, with all of Parker's feelings, memories, and powers, he is, effectively, Peter Parker. Who cares if he's not the original? He's still human. Rumor has it that this is all going to have a drastic effect on Spider-Man, but I can't understand why.

All this is academic, anyway, because after the original clone story, Dr. Connors tested Spidey to check if

he was the original or the clone. I know that Spidey never looked at the results, but I'm sure that Connors would have had something to say if the results had revealed Peter to be a clone.

So, anyway, if Spider-Man isn't the real Peter Parker, who the heck is?! It's probably either Scarlet Spider or Kaine, but my latest wild theory is that it's really this new, improved Jackal. But now this Scrier connection's really thrown me! Here's hoping all this gets explained eventually.

Charles Williams
Manor House, Eton College
Windsor
ENGLAND

Charles, you've put into words exactly what Mary Jane, and others, have been trying to convince Peter of for a while: that humanity is a quality of soul, not biology. This month's storyline, as well as next month's crossovers, "Time Bomb" and "The Greatest Responsibility" will finally resolve Peter Parker's and Ben Reilly's inner conflicts over their humanity and worthiness to be Spider-Man, and after that, the stage is set for... let's just say, something *real big*.

NEXT WEEK: "Exiled" continues in SPIDER-MAN #62! Could it be?! Could Seward Trainer's captor really be that many-armed megalomaniac, Dr. Octopus?! Didn't we see him die?! Can Scarlet Spider save his mentor and unravel this mystery? Heck, he's gotta save himself first! And what's wrong with Peter Parker? Providing the arachnid action and intrigue are Howard Mackie, guest penciler Pat Broderick, and Chris Ivy and Tom Palmer!

NEXT ISSUE: "The Greatest Responsibility," Part One! The momentous saga putting an end to an era of Spider-Man begins here! It's Spidey and Scarlet Spider, together again for perhaps the last time... against the mysterious foe behind the tentacles! Is it someone we've seen before, or a decidedly different Ock? You'll kick yourself forever if you miss this issue, brought to you by J.M. DeMatteis, Larry Mahlstedt, and special guest penciler Angel Medina! 30 days and counting!