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# the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®



SPECIAL DOUBLE-SIZED ISSUE!

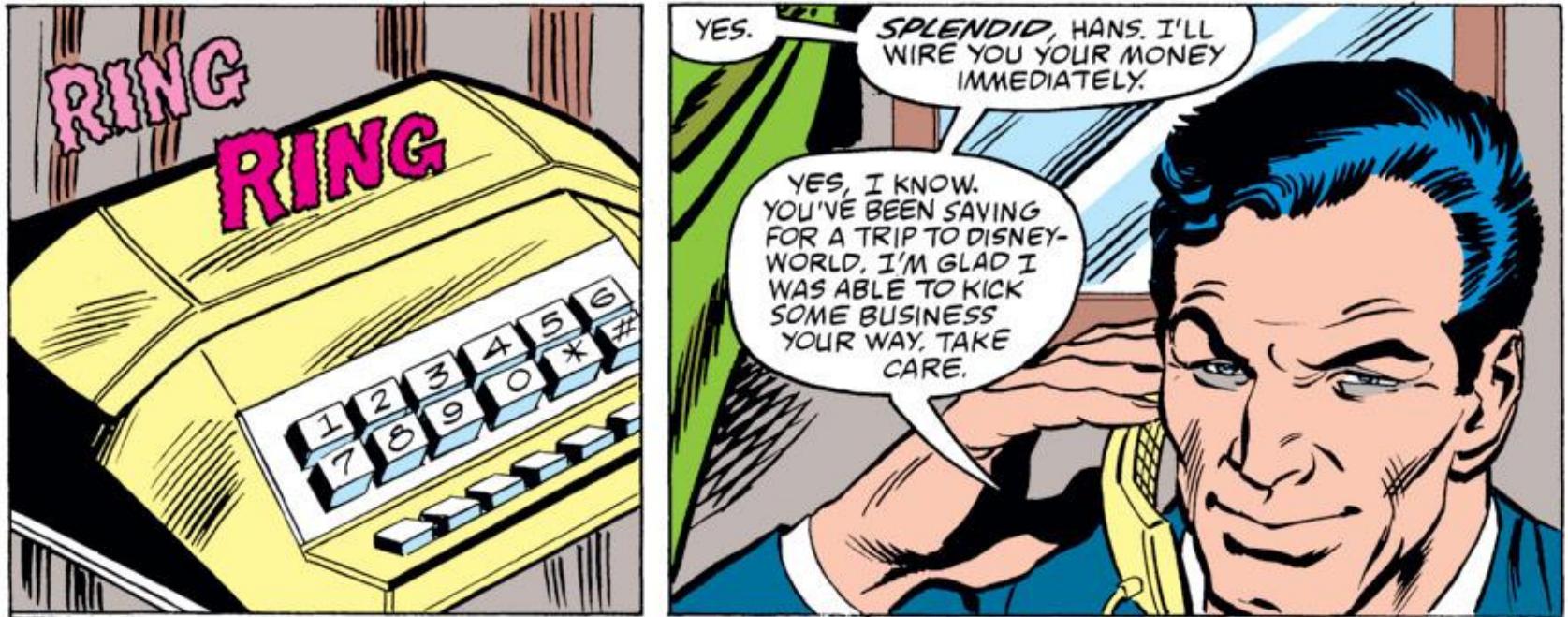
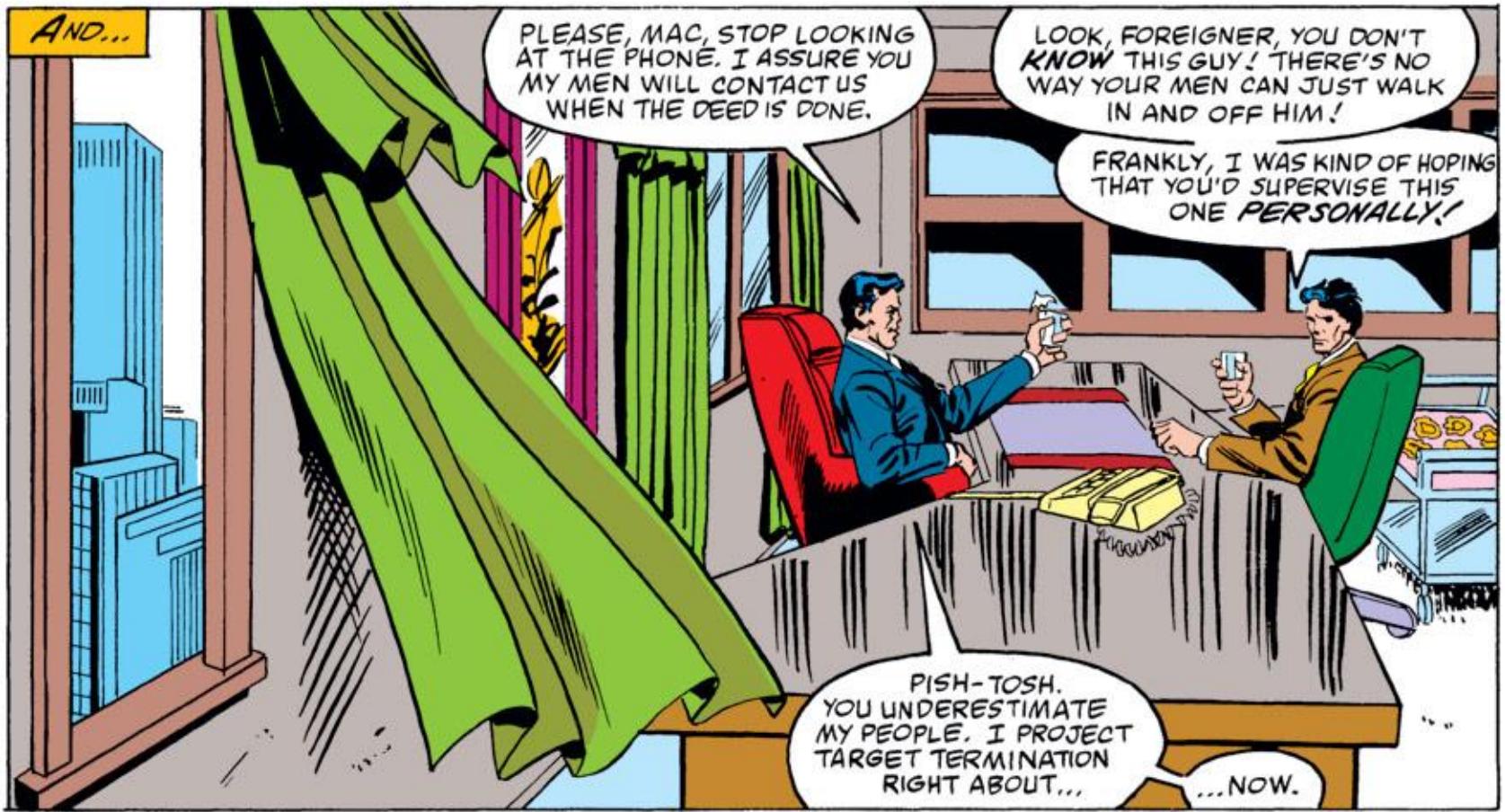
NOT A  
**TRICK!**  
THIS IS THE  
ISSUE YOU'VE  
BEEN WAITING  
FOR!

"THE  
**HOBGOBLIN**  
**REVEALED!**"

MURKIN & CO.

Stan Lee  
PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®





# THE HOBGOBLIN REVEALED!

"**M**Y NAME IS PETER PARKER, AND I THINK I'M GOING CRAZY."

"I'M STANDING HERE AT JFK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. MY SKIN IS NUMB FROM THE CHILL RAIN CUTTING THROUGH ME. MY MIND IS NUMB FROM WATCHING STRANGERS UNLOAD A DEAD FRIEND AS IF HE WERE LUGGAGE."

PETER DAVID  
ALAN STORY  
ALAN KUPPERBURG  
TOM MORGAN  
ART  
JIM FERN  
INKS

RICK PARKER  
LETTERS  
GEORGE ROUSSOS  
COLORS

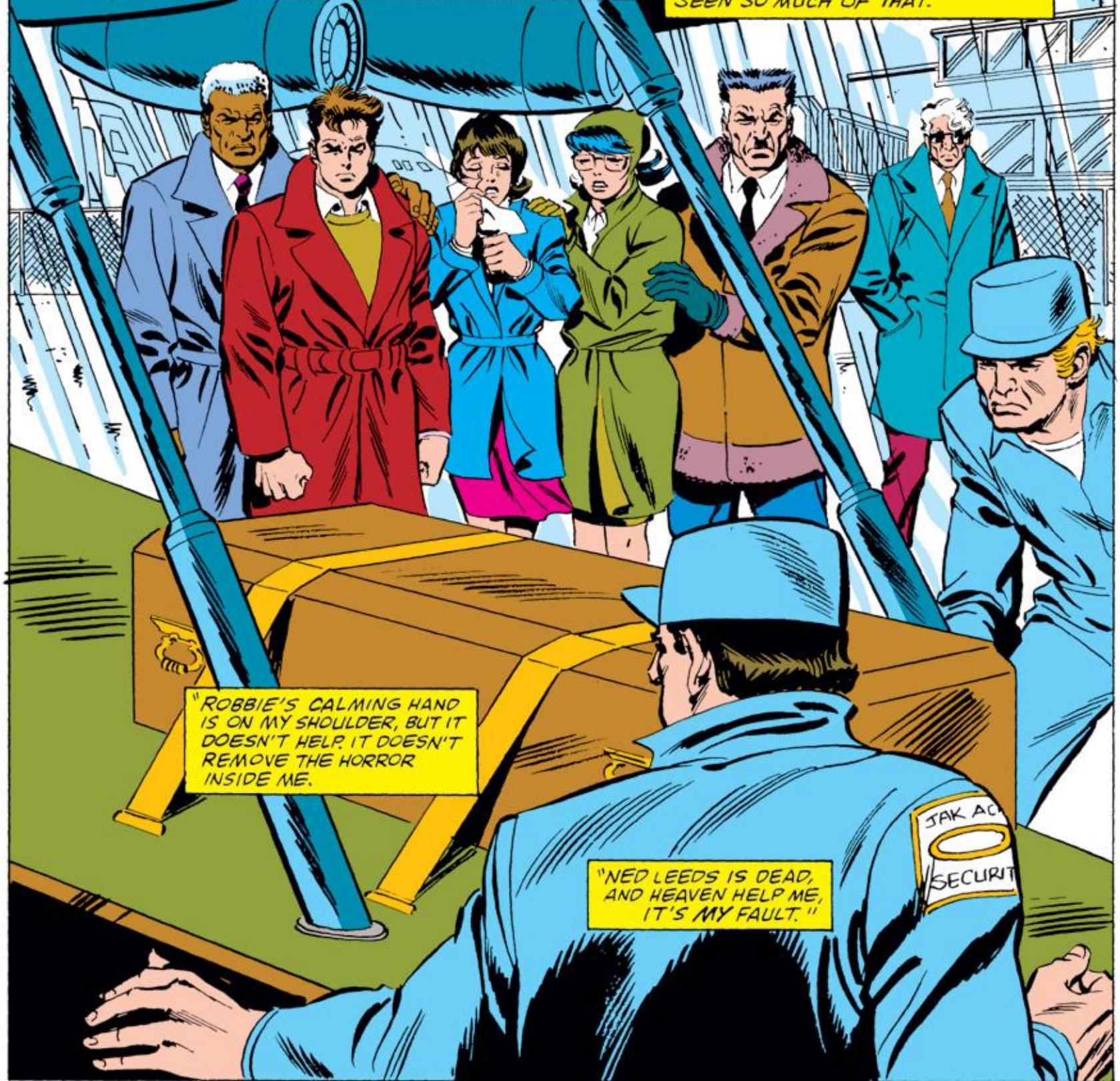
JIM SALICRUP  
EDITOR  
JIM SHOOTER  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

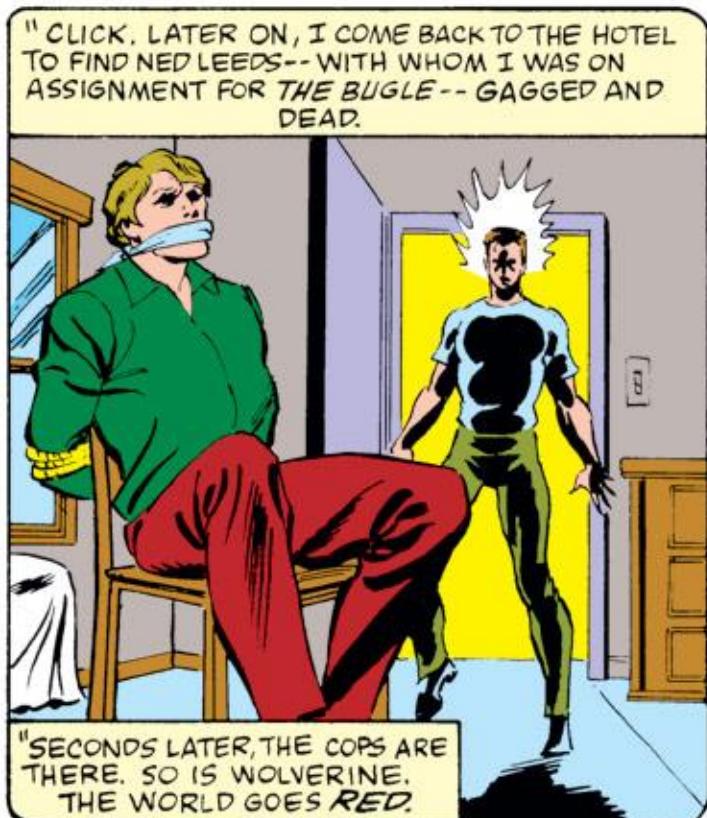
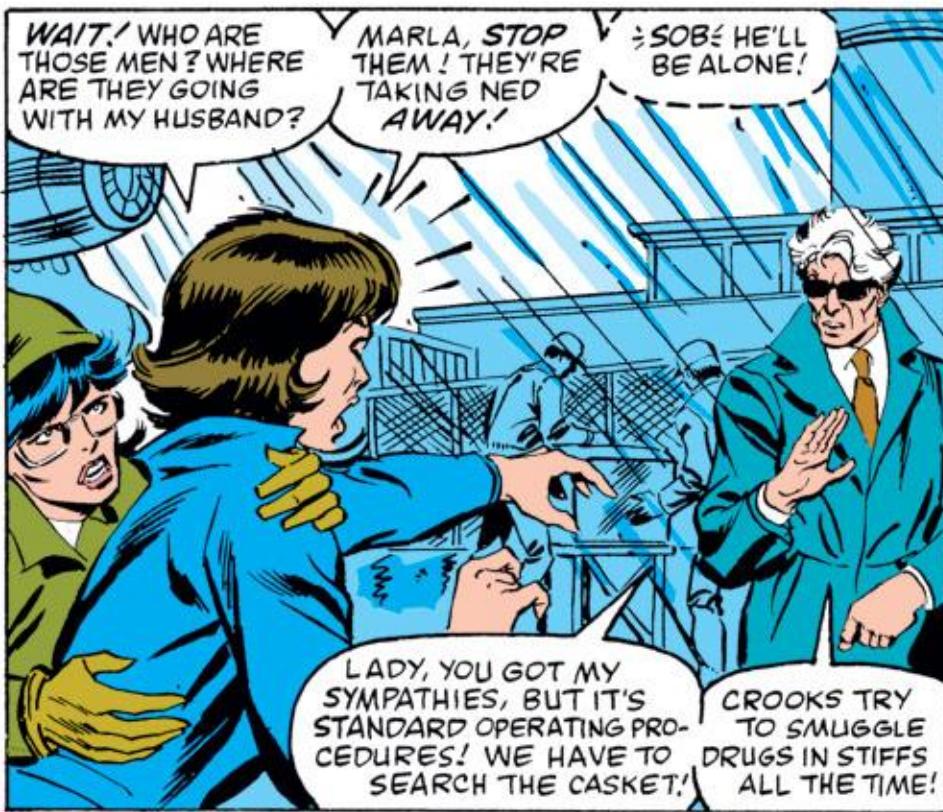
"NEO LEEDS IS IN THAT BOX. THEY CARTED HIM HERE ACROSS THE ATLANTIC IN THE BELLY OF THE PLANE, ALONG WITH SUITCASES AND OLD VALISES."

"AND I REALIZE THAT DEATH WITH DIGNITY IS A JOKE. THERE'S NEVER DIGNITY. JUST DEATH. AND I'VE SEEN SO MUCH OF THAT."

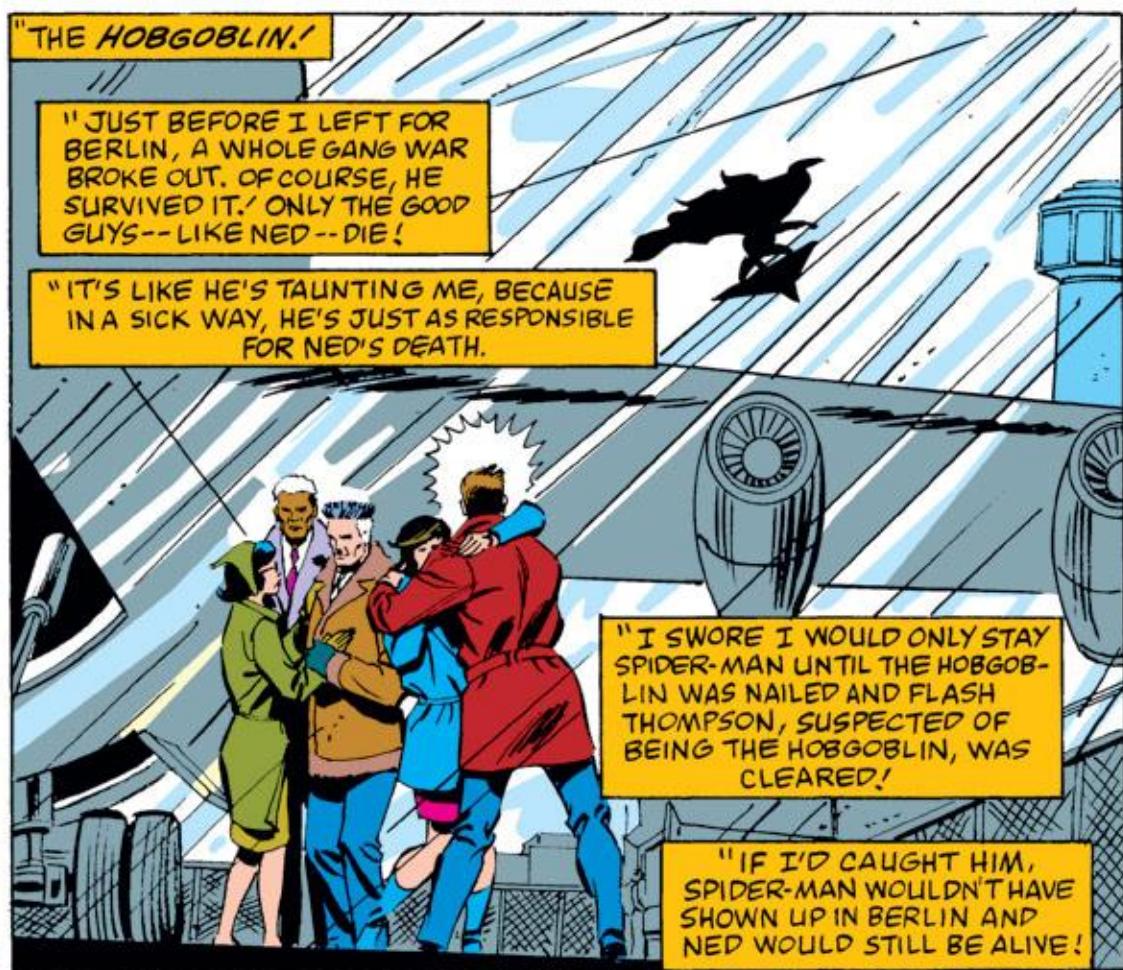
"ROBBIE'S CALMING HAND IS ON MY SHOULDER, BUT IT DOESN'T HELP. IT DOESN'T REMOVE THE HORROR INSIDE ME."

"NED LEEDS IS DEAD, AND HEAVEN HELP ME, IT'S MY FAULT."





"BUT IT WAS NED WHO REALLY COULDN'T COPE. COPE WITH THE GUYS WHO BUSTED IN, THEY UNDOUBTEDLY WANTED ME AND ONLY FOUND HIM-- UNABLE TO DEFEND HIMSELF. THEY MUST HAVE DISCOVERED I WAS SPIDER-MAN. IT'S THE ONLY THING THAT MAKES SENSE."

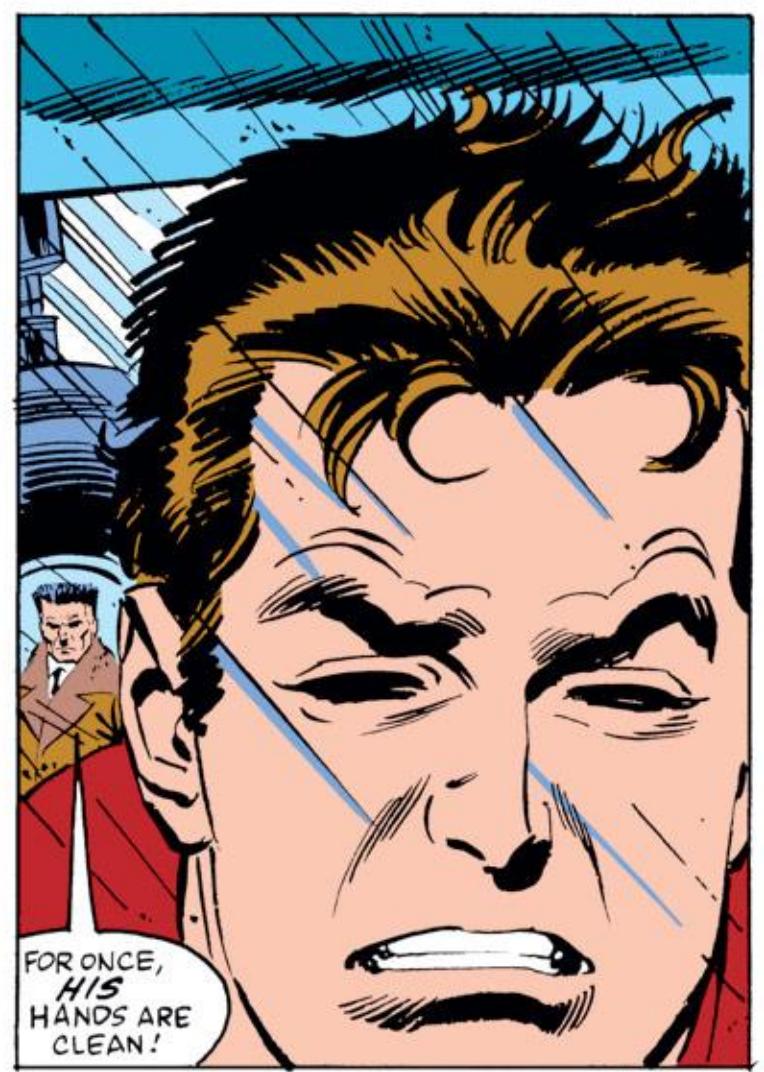
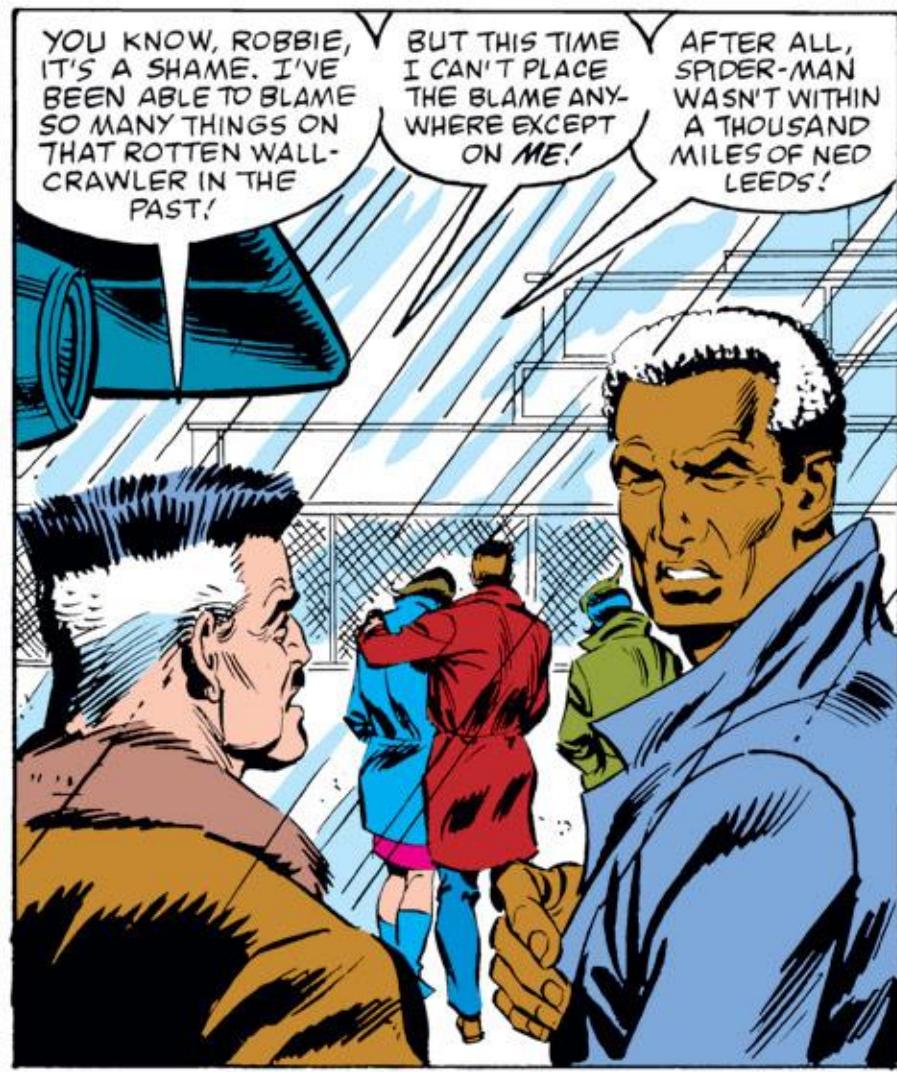


"OR IS THAT JUST AN EXCUSE? ARE THEY ALL EXCUSES? UNCLE BEN, HOBGOBLIN, ALL OF THEM?"



"HE'S LEAVING. I DIDN'T HAVE TO CHANGE TO SPIDER-MAN AND GO AFTER HIM."





LATER, WITHIN THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE KINGPIN...

I'M SORRY, WILLIE, I WASN'T LISTENING. WHAT DID YOU SAY?

I SAID, FOREIGNER, THAT I AM AWARE YOU HAVE HAD THE HOBGOBLIN KILLED. I AM NOT PLEASED.

YOU'RE NOT PLEASED? THINK HOW THE HOBGOBLIN FELT.

YOUR FLIPPANCY IS OUT OF PLACE. NORMALLY OUR PATHS CROSS ONLY IN FRIENDLY AFFAIRS SUCH AS OUR REGULAR CHESS GAMES...

YOUR ACTIVITIES AS AN ASSASSIN NEVER CONFLICT WITH MINE AS KINGPIN OF CRIME.

BUT BLAST IT, FOREIGNER, YOU SHOULD HAVE CONSULTED ME ON THE HOBGOBLIN KILLING. HE SERVED A PURPOSE TO ME, AS DO ALL ACTIVITIES IN MY CITY.

REALLY, WILLIE? HOW DO I FIT IN? COMEDY RELIEF?

YOU HAVE YOUR USES, FOREIGNER. AS FOR THE HOBGOBLIN, SPECIFICALLY, HIS BACK-STABBING ALLIANCES WITH THE ROSE KEPT THEM BOTH BUSY...



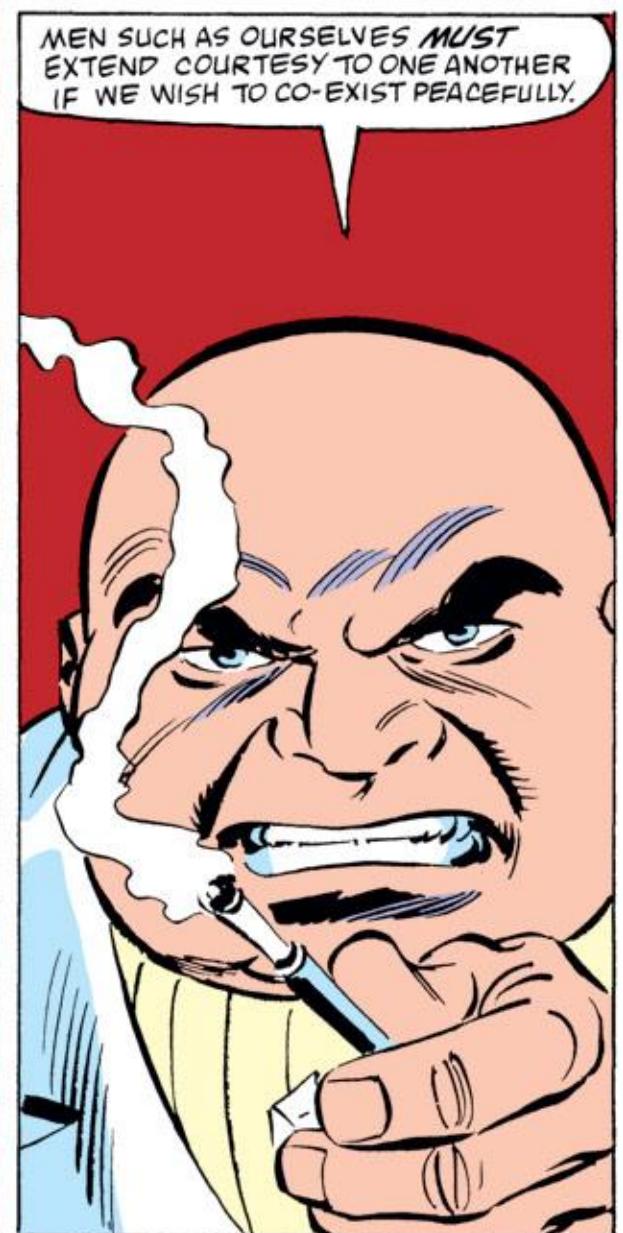
LEAVING ME FREE TO GO ON ABOUT MY BUSINESS.

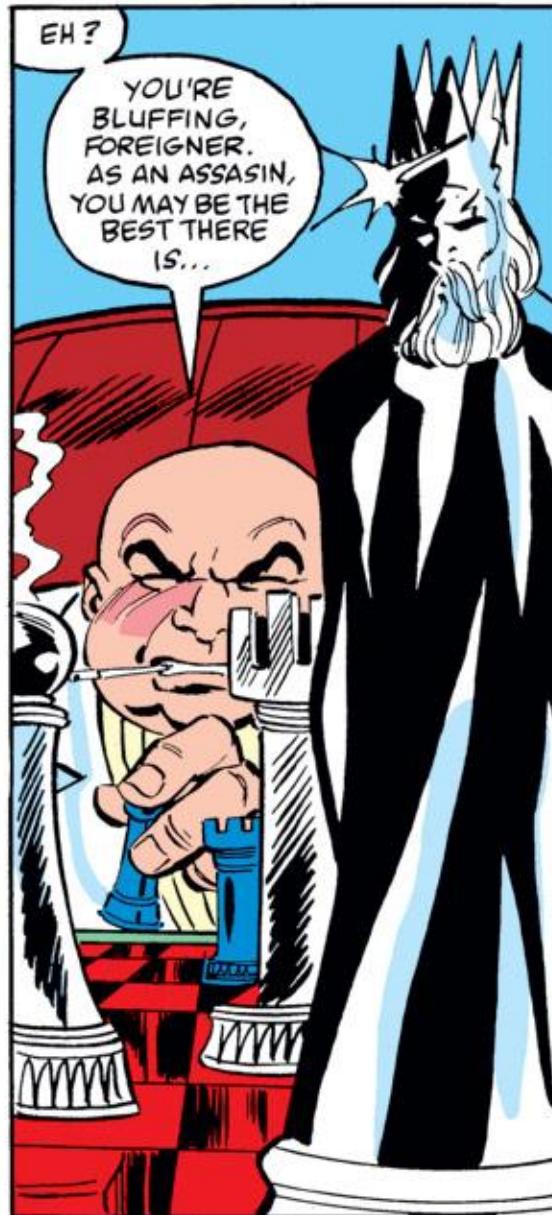
WHAT'S THE BOTTOM LINE HERE, OLD SPORT?

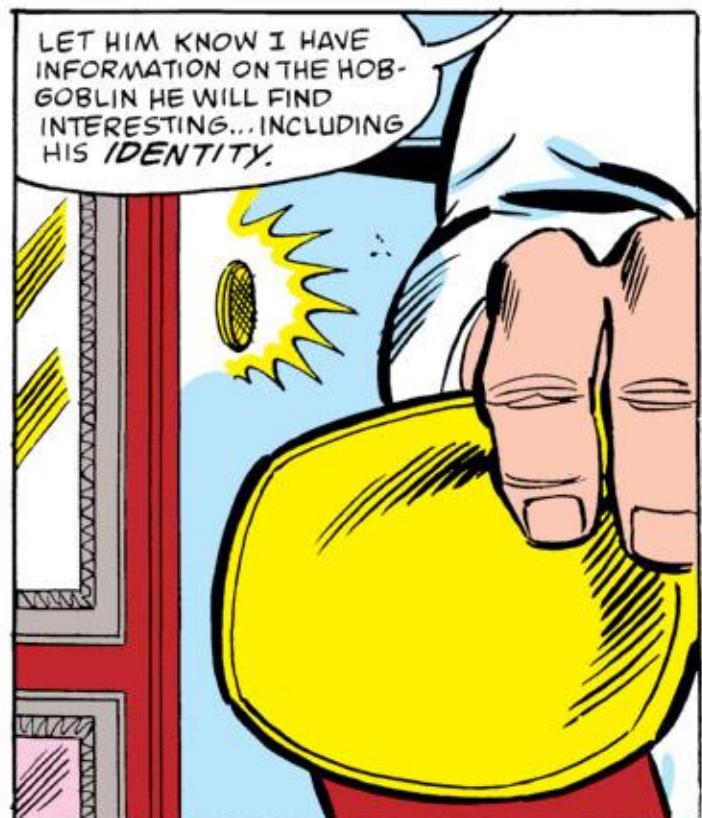
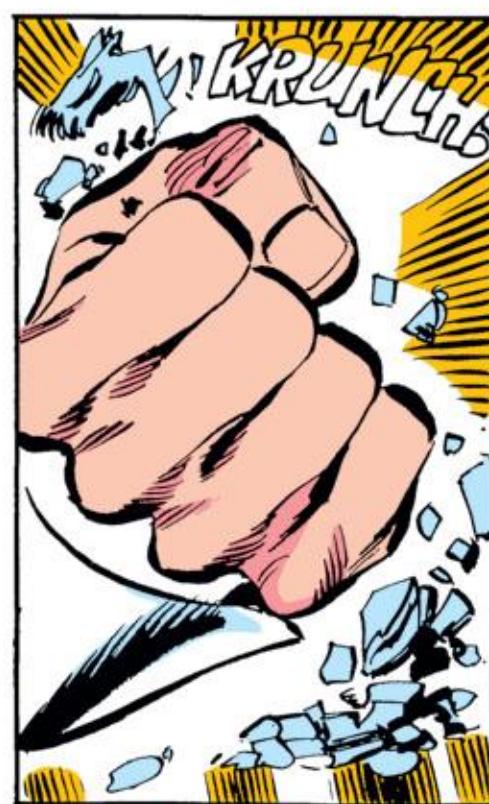
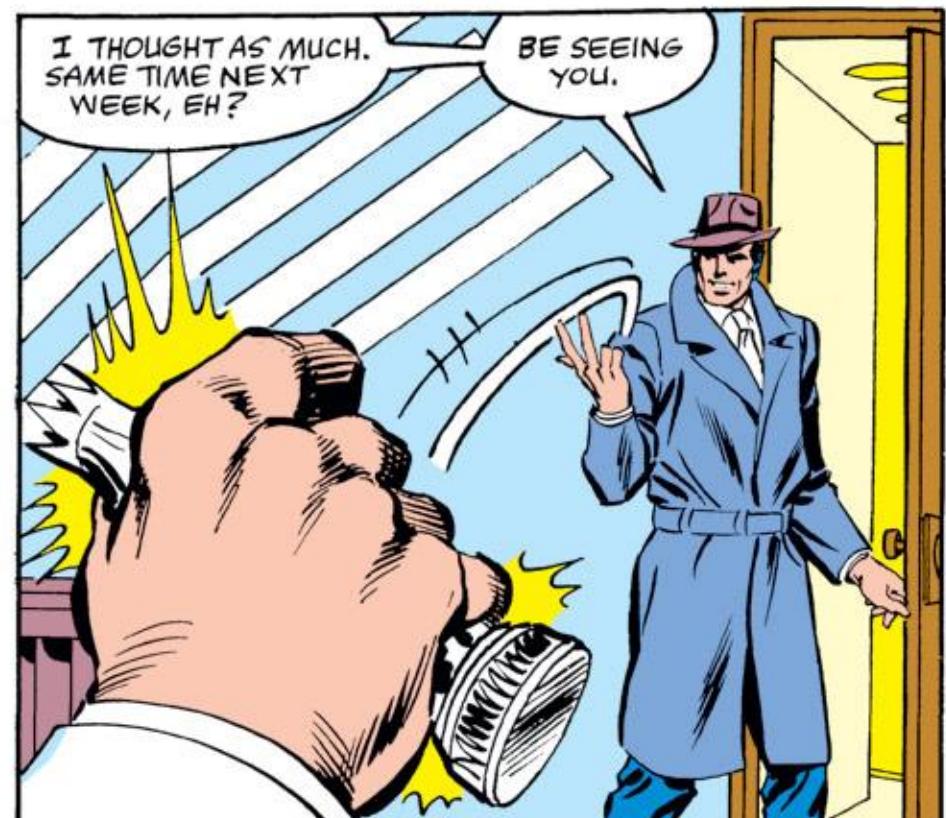
THE BOTTOM LINE IS THAT KILLING THE HOBGOBLIN WAS EXTREMELY DISCOURTEOUS TO ME. SUCH A MAJOR CHANGE IN THE STATUS QUO SHOULD HAVE BEEN CLEARED WITH THIS OFFICE.

SUCH A LACK OF RESPECT CAN BE EXTREMELY DANGEROUS.

MEN SUCH AS OURSELVES MUST EXTEND COURTESY TO ONE ANOTHER IF WE WISH TO CO-EXIST PEACEFULLY.







"YESTERDAY NED CAME HOME.., AT LEAST HIS BODY DID."

"TODAY WE'RE TAKING HIM AND PUTTING HIM UNDER THE EARTH."

"BETTY'S CALM TODAY. ALMOST UNNATURALLY SO."



FOR NED. I WANT TO MAKE SURE THERE'S NO SOUND OF MOVEMENT OR BREATHING FROM HIS COFFIN.



THAT'S IT. FOLLOW ME.

YOU KNOW, PETER, WHEN NED AND I GO DANCING... NED LEADS. HEE-HEE-HEE.



SHORTLY, AT BETTY'S APARTMENT.

SAY, BETT... SOME OF THE FURNITURE LOOKS A LITTLE BANGED-UP. WAS THERE SOME TROUBLE HERE?

NOT THAT I KNOW OF, PETER. THINGS LOOK FINE TO ME.

INCREDIBLE. SHE DOESN'T REMEMBER THAT FLASH IS A FUGITIVE, BELIEVED TO BE THE HOBGOBLIN.

I WISH FLASH HAD GOT-TEN ON BETTER WITH NED. I WISH EVERYONE COULD HAVE SEEN NED THE WAY I HAD.

BY THE WAY, FLASH STOPPED BY THE OTHER DAY. WE SPENT A NICE TIME TOGETHER, BUT THEN HE LEFT SO SUDDENLY, I WISH I COULD RECALL WHY.

HE WAS SUCH A COMPLICATED PERSON. THERE WERE SO MANY THINGS ABOUT HIM. THINGS I CAN'T EVEN SEEM TO RECALL NOW THAT HE'S NOT HERE.

OH, PETER, THIS IS SILLY. YOU HAVE MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO THAN LISTEN TO ME RAMBLE ON.

I'LL BE FINE. REALLY. MY MOM'S ON HER WAY OVER, AND SHE'LL BE STAYING ON WHILE.

I ADMIT THINGS HAVE BEEN STRAINED THE PAST FEW MONTHS, BUT MOM'S BEEN A ROCK FOR ME. I'VE TALKED WITH HER ON THE PHONE, WRITTEN HER LETTERS. I'LL BE FINE.

SO YOU HEAD ON HOME. THANK EVERYONE FOR ME.

OKAY, BETT, IF YOU'RE SURE.

POSITIVE. TAKE CARE.



"I SUPPOSE BETTY NEVER HAD MUCH LUCK WITH MEN. FIRST, THERE WAS THE HEARTBREAK KID HIMSELF, ME."

"THEN THE ONLY DECENT GUY SHE EVER HAD, NED, WAS KILLED BECAUSE OF ME."



"THEN THERE'S EVERYONE'S FAVORITE FUGITIVE, FLASH. IF ONLY I COULD FIND HIM."

I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY I'M STILL ALIVE.

ONE MOMENT THE HOBGOBLIN WAS CLEANING MY CLOCK, AND THE NEXT, I'M COMING TO AND HE'S NOWHERE IN SIGHT.

MJ,  
THIS IS PETE. I  
KNOW YOU JUST GOT  
BACK FROM THE  
FUNERAL, BUT--

WHAT COULD HAVE  
POSSESSED ME TO  
HIDE OUT AT BETTY'S?  
AND HOW DID THE HOB-  
GOBLIN **FIND** ME THERE?  
WHY HAS THAT GUY GOT  
IT IN FOR ME?

FACE IT, FLASH. HE KNOWS YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN SPIDER-MAN'S BIGGEST FAN, AND HE HATES SPIDEY, SO NATURALLY, HE HATES YOU.

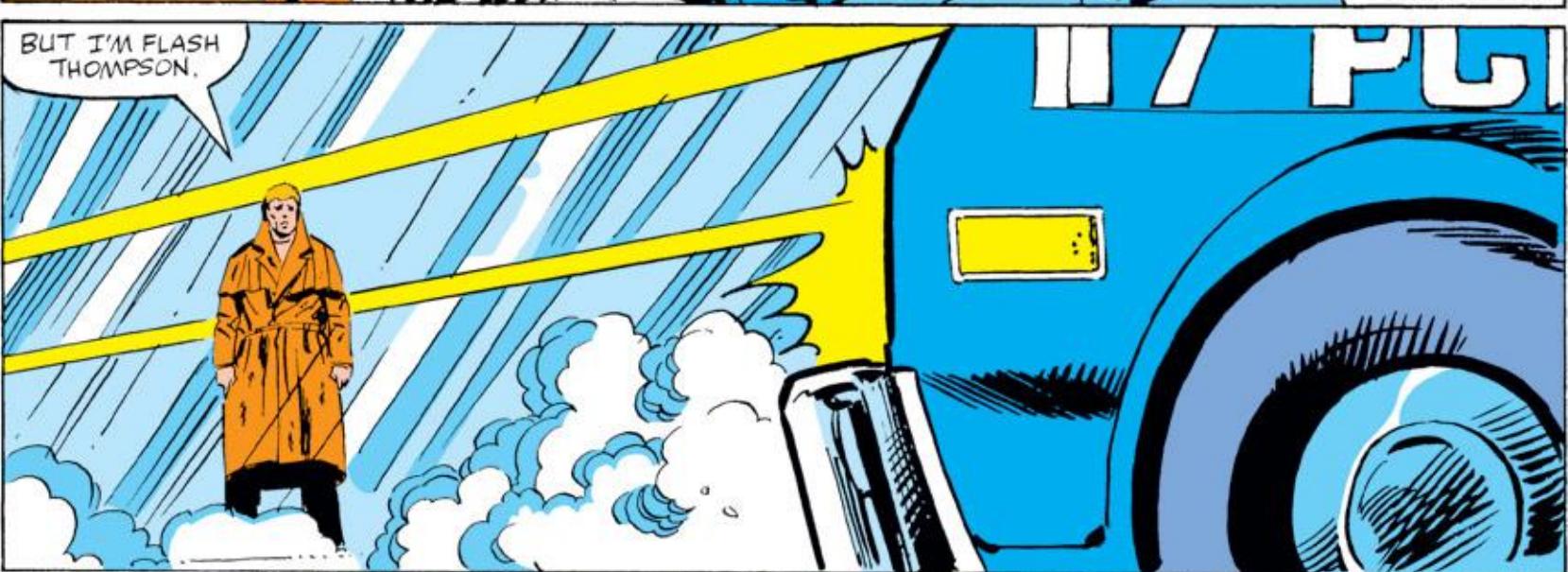
FUNNY. JUST WHEN THE HOBGOBLIN CLOBBERED ME, I THOUGHT I HEARD BETTY SCREAM. BUT WHEN I CAME TO, THERE WAS NO SIGN OF HER.

I STARTED TO WORRY ABOUT BETTY, BUT I JUST SAW HER THROUGH HER WINDOW AND SHE LOOKED FINE. WARM. COMFORTABLE.

SO I RAN OFF, AFRAID THAT HOBGOBLIN WOULD SHOW UP FOR ME AGAIN, AND THIS TIME BETTY WOULD BE THERE. THAT WAS A WEEK AGO... BUT I DON'T THINK I CAN **TAKE** THIS ANYMORE.

THAT'S HOW I WANT IT TO BE. EVEN JAIL HAS TO BE BETTER THAN THIS. EVER SINCE THAT LUNATIC JACK O'LANTERN BROKE ME OUT OF JAIL, I'VE BEEN ON THE RUN. BUT I'M FED UP.

I HAVE NOTHING TO EAT, NOWHERE TO GO. I PROBABLY STINK TO HIGH HEAVEN. SO I THINK I'LL MAKE THAT COP'S DAY.



LATER, WITHIN THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE ROSE...

JOHNSTON?

JOHNSTON, DON'T JUST SIT AROUND. WE HAVE BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO!

THE HOBGOBLIN SITUATION HAS REACHED A CRESCEDEO! IT'S TIME TO RE-THINK OUR OPTIONS!

AFTER THE GANG WAR, AND WITH THE KINGPIN BREATHING DOWN OUR NECKS, WE ARE WALKING A FINE LINE WITH RAZOR BLADES AS SAFETY NETS.

IF WE'RE NOT CAUTIOUS, WE'RE DEAD!



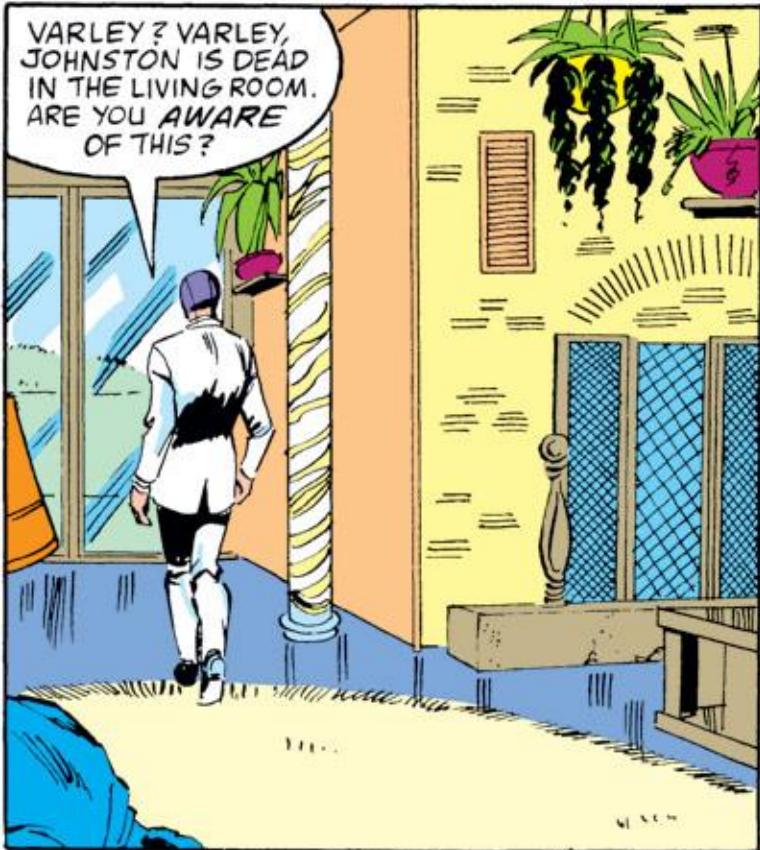
JOHNSTON?



HMM.



VARLEY? VARLEY, JOHNSTON IS DEAD IN THE LIVING ROOM. ARE YOU AWARE OF THIS?

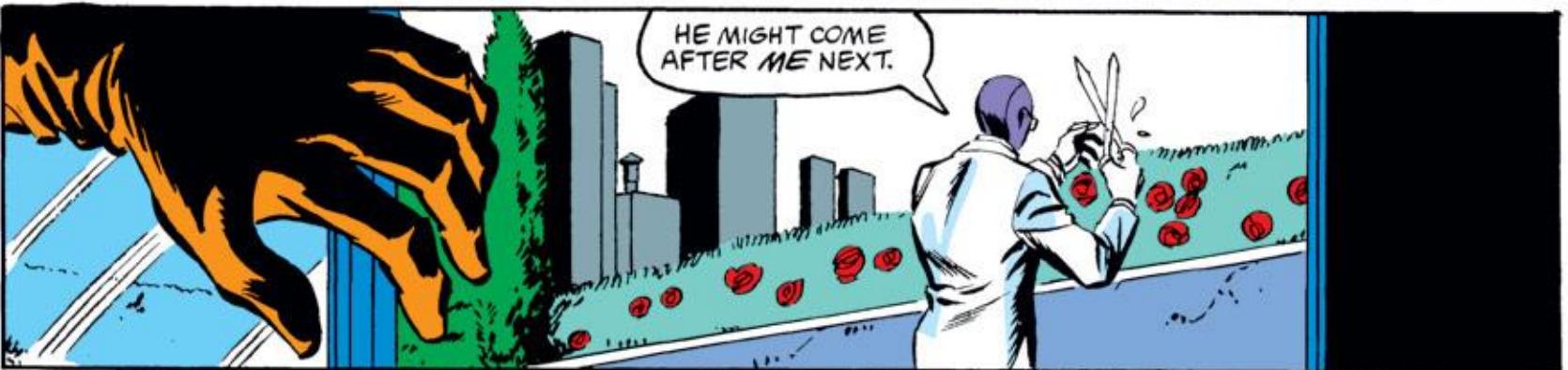


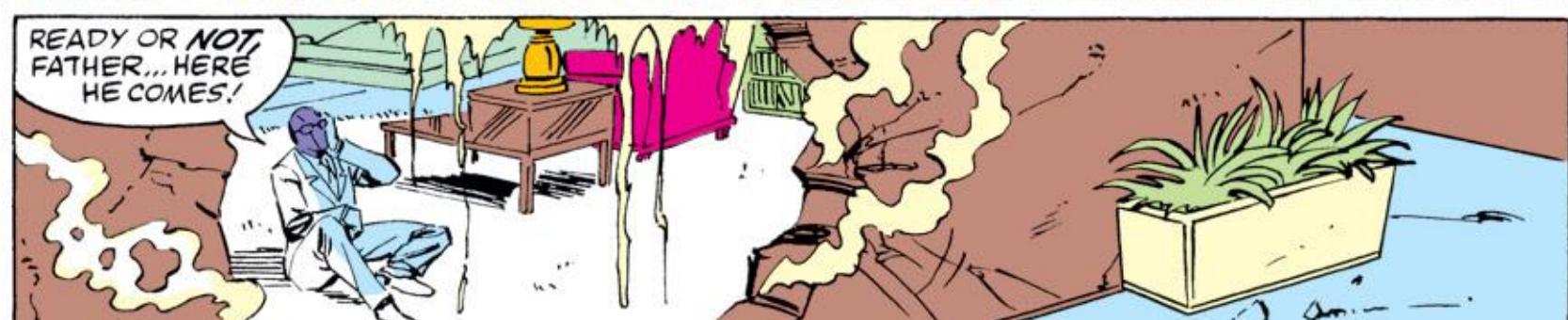
VAR--

HMM.



YES, WELL, I SHOULD HAVE EXPECTED THAT!





"HE SITS THERE, LIKE A GIANT SPIDER. HE CATCHES PEOPLE IN HIS WEB AND MAKES USE OF THEM HOWEVER HE WANTS.

"AND LIKE A SPIDER, ALL THE VIBRATIONS ON THE WEB COME BACK TO HIM, KEEPING HIM INFORMED."



"HE SENT A MESSAGE OUT FROM THE WEB, AND ANOTHER SPIDER PICKED IT UP. ME. I'M TEMPTED TO IGNORE IT, BUT I FIND EVEN I CAN'T IGNORE THE TUG, BUT UNLIKE HIS OTHER VICTIMS, IT TUG BACK.

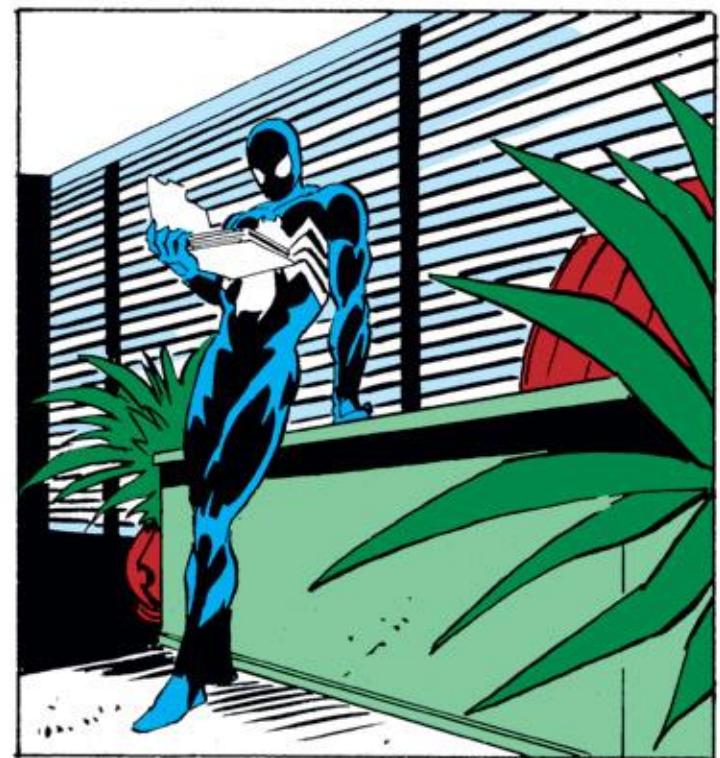
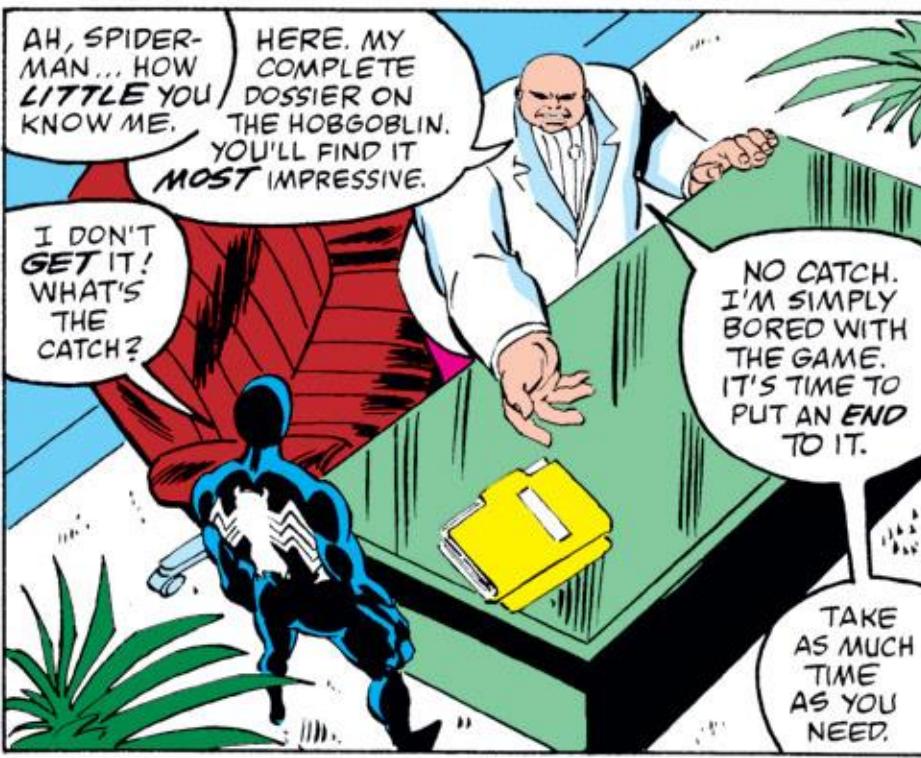


"ALL RIGHT, KINGPIN! WHAT'S SO IMPORTANT?"

"WHAT'S THIS, SPIDER-MAN? NO DRAMATIC CROUCHES OR ADHERING TO MY CEILING?"

"WORD IS, YOU HAVE INFO ON HOBGOBLIN! I WANT IT!"

"SO WHAT NOW? AM I SUPPOSED TO JUMP THROUGH HOOPS IN EXCHANGE FOR IT?"



I SHALL NOT MINCE WORDS! THIS BUGGING DEVICE, PLANTED UNDER MY DESK, TRANSMITS DIRECTLY TO THE ROSE! I AM QUITE AWARE THAT YOU PLACED IT THERE, AND THAT YOU ARE ON THE ROSE'S PAYROLL!



GEPPI, YOU OBVIOUSLY DO NOT KNOW ME WELL! I SHALL NOW INTRODUCE YOU TO MY METHODS OF NEGOTIATION!

ADMIT YOUR COMPLICITY LIKE A MAN, AND I SHALL LET YOU LIVE! PERSIST IN YOUR DENIALS AND I WILL ASSUREDLY KILL YOU!



"MY NAME IS PETER PARKER, AND THE OFFICE IS SPINNING. THE WORLD IS COLLAPSING AROUND ME."



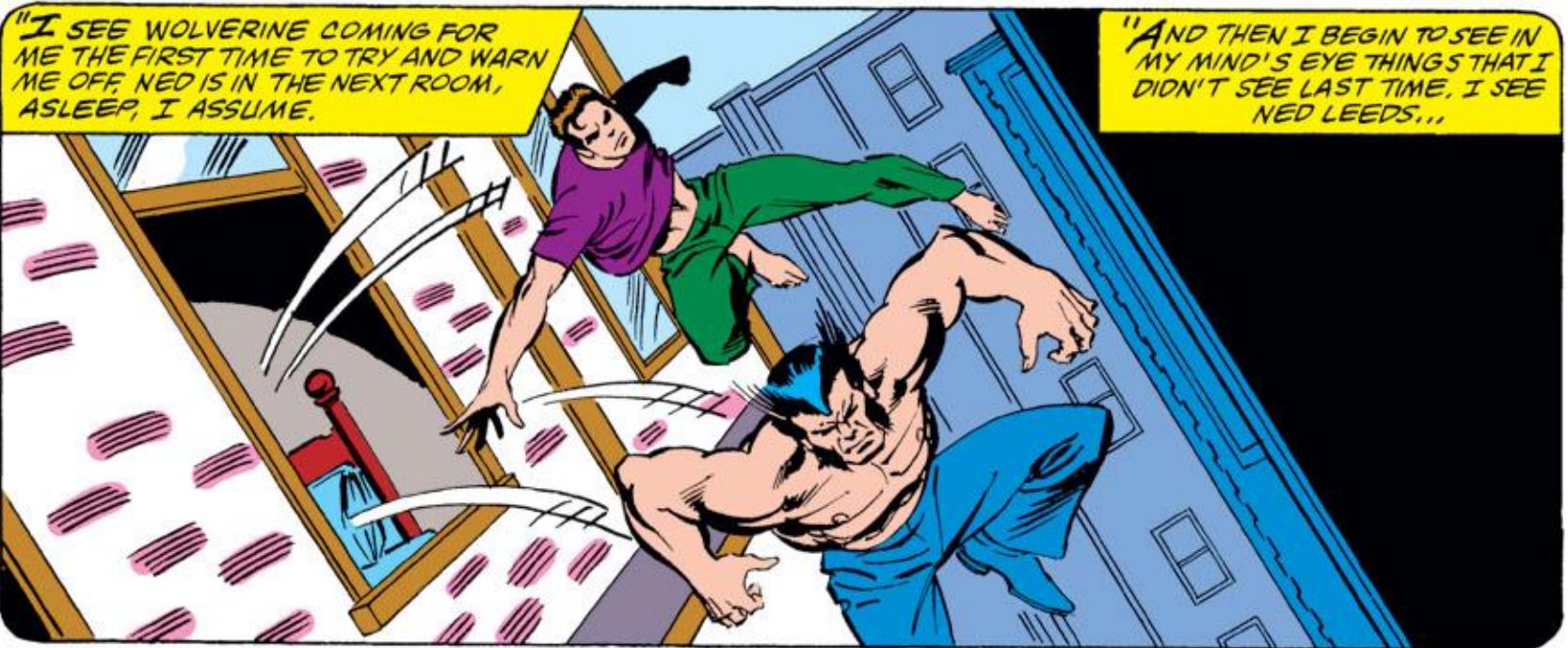
"IT CAN'T BE TRUE. DOZENS OF PIECES OF INCONTOVER- TIBLE EVIDENCE, AND MY MIND SCREAMS THAT IT CAN'T BE TRUE."



"AND THEN I'M BACK IN BERLIN. I SEE THE HOTEL WHERE NED AND I STAYED. WHERE NED DIED."



"I SEE WOLVERINE COMING FOR ME THE FIRST TIME TO TRY AND WARN ME OFF. NED IS IN THE NEXT ROOM, ASLEEP, I ASSUME."



"AND THEN I BEGIN TO SEE IN MY MIND'S EYE THINGS THAT I DIDN'T SEE LAST TIME. I SEE NED LEEDS..."

JOURNEY ENTRY # 53. EVERYTHING IS PROCEEDING BEAUTIFULLY. ALTHOUGH I HAD SOME TREPIDATION INITIALLY, THIS HAS PROVEN TO BE EXTREMELY BENEFICIAL ON ALL COUNTS.... NOT ONLY HAS THIS ASSIGNMENT PROVIDED ANOTHER CHALLENGE TO ME AS A REPORTER... BUT IT HAS GIVEN ME A CHANCE TO DISCOVER WHAT A DECENT GUY PETER PARKER IS...



BETTER BACK UP-- DON'T WANT TO KEEP OL' J. JONAH JAMESON WAITING! HA! KNOWING HIS AVERSIION TO COSTUMED TYPES LIKE SPIDER-MAN, HE'D HAVE A STROKE IF HE KNEW WHO WAS ON HIS PAYROLL!

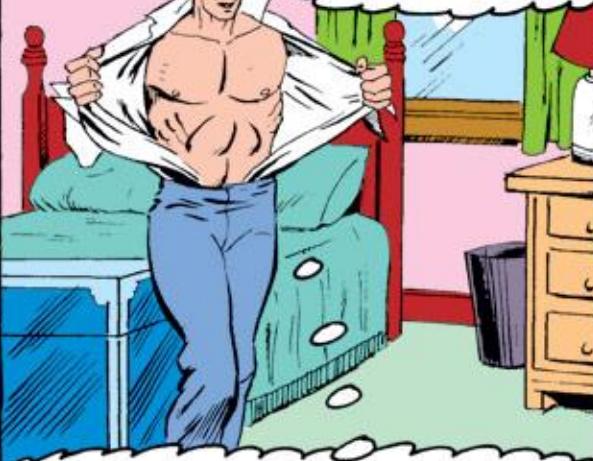


SPIDER-MAN! HOW THAT NAME HAS HAUNTED ME! HE AND PETER PARKER WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR SO MUCH MISERY IN BETTY'S LIFE.



I'VE SETTLED MY DIFFERENCES WITH PETER, BUT SPIDER-MAN--? NO, THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO DEAL WITH HIM. AND I WILL, I WILL! HE IS THE MAIN REASON I'VE DONE WHAT I'VE DONE!

EVERY TIME BETTY WOULD WAKE UP SCREAMING WITH ANOTHER NIGHTMARE ABOUT SPIDER-MAN... EVERY TIME SHE WOULD THINK ABOUT HER BROTHER, WHOSE DEATH SPIDER-MAN WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR...



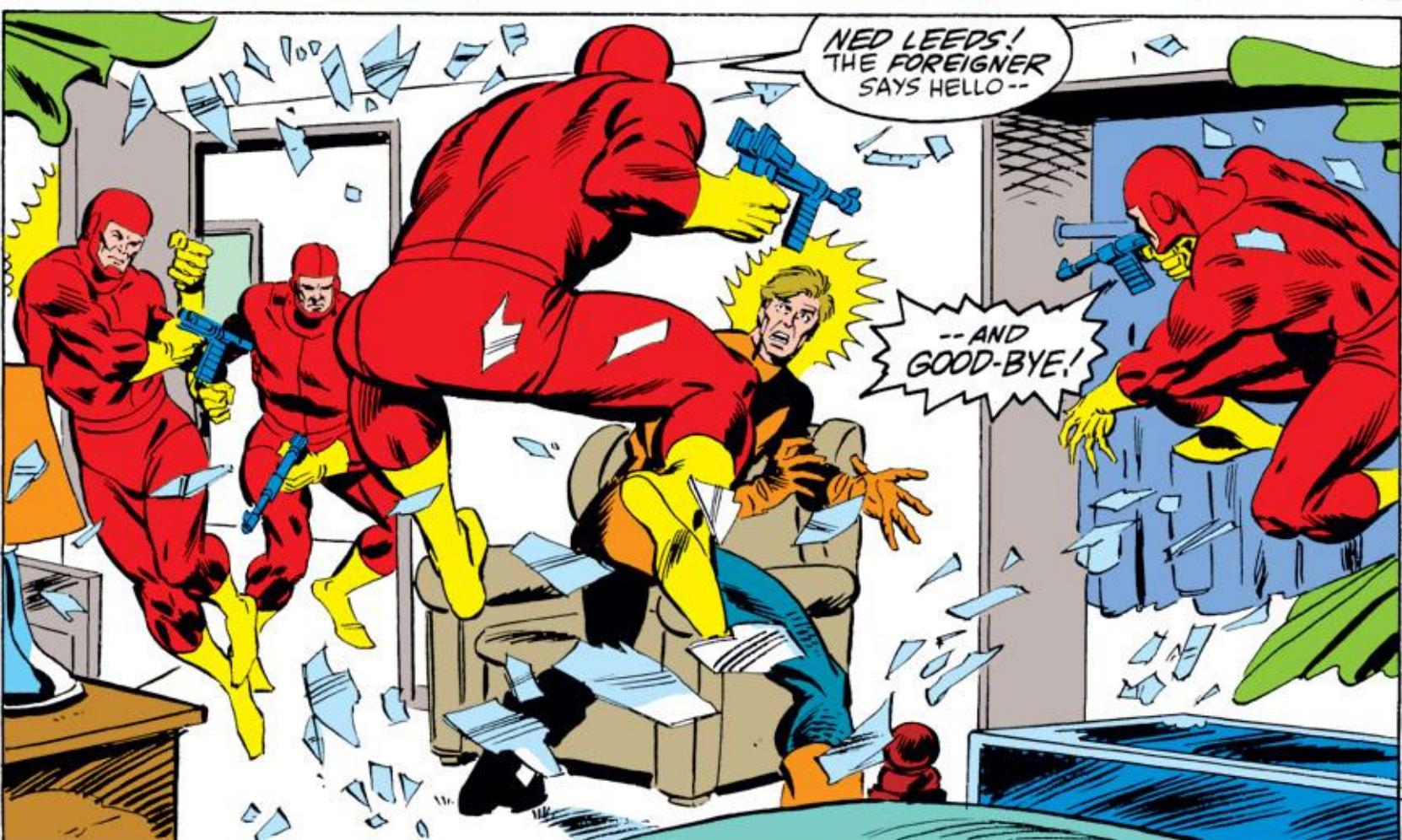
... EVERY SINGLE TIME I THOUGHT ABOUT HOW HE HAUNTED HER, I PRAYED FOR THE POWER TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT! TO RID THE WORLD OF HIM, SO THAT BETTY COULD REST EASILY.

AND SOMEONE UP THERE HEARD MY PRAYERS, GAVE ME THE POWER! AND BROTHER, HAVE I USED IT! AND I'LL KEEP ON USING IT, WHEREVER AND WHENEVER I WANT!



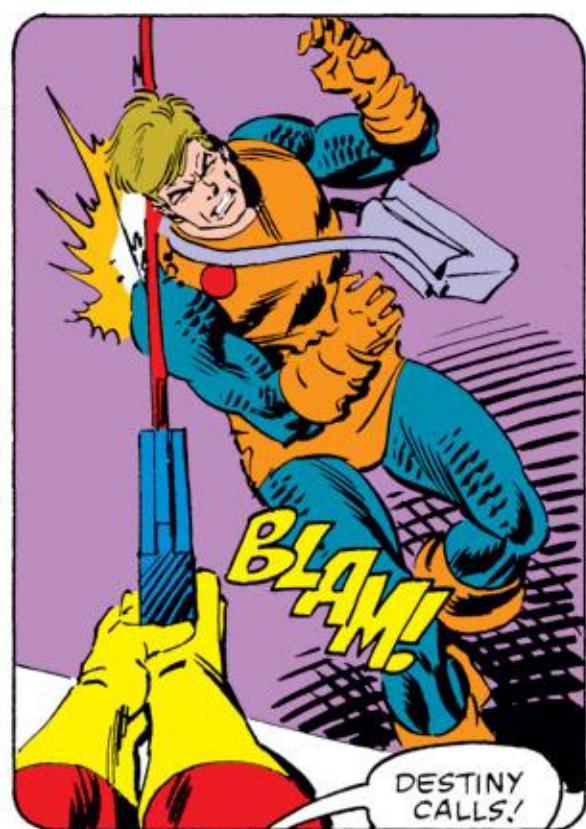
NED LEEDS!  
THE FOREIGNER  
SAYS HELLO--

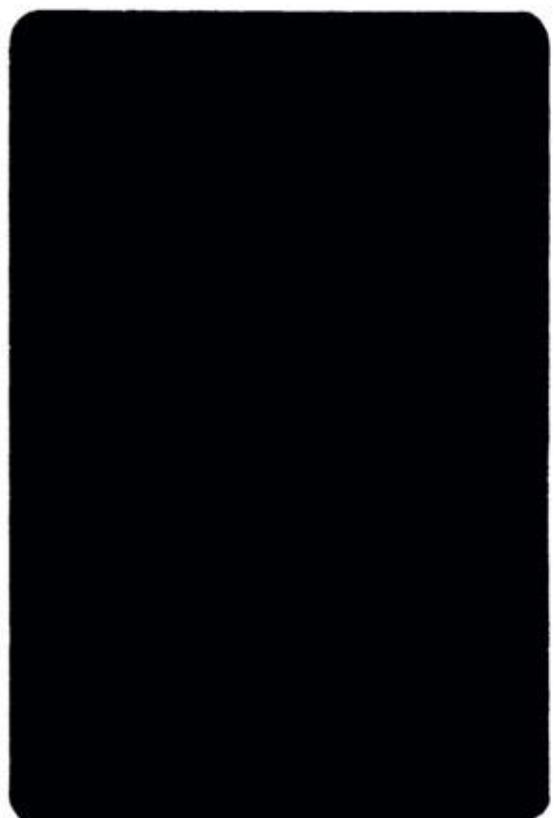
-- AND  
GOOD-BYE!

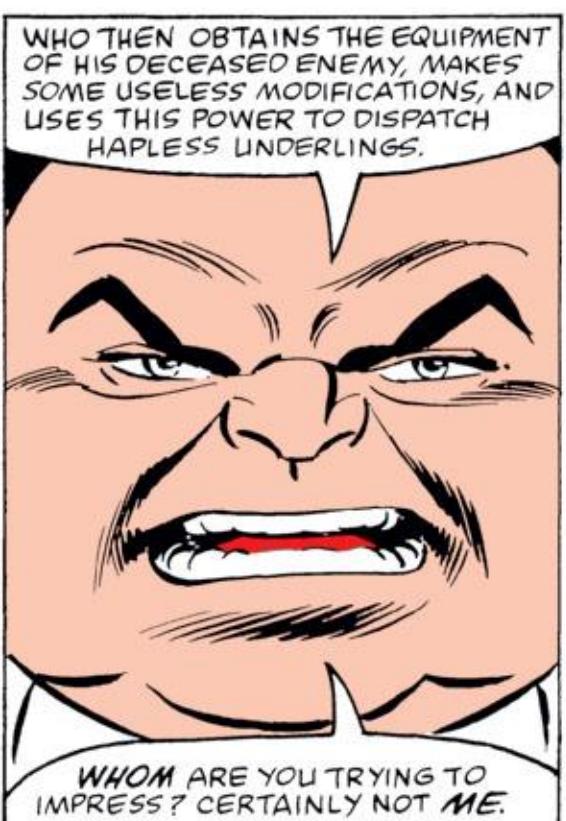


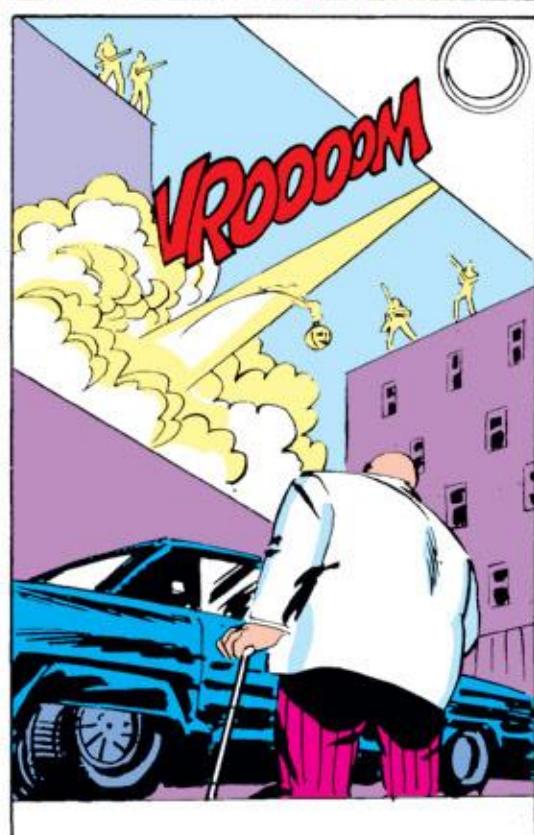
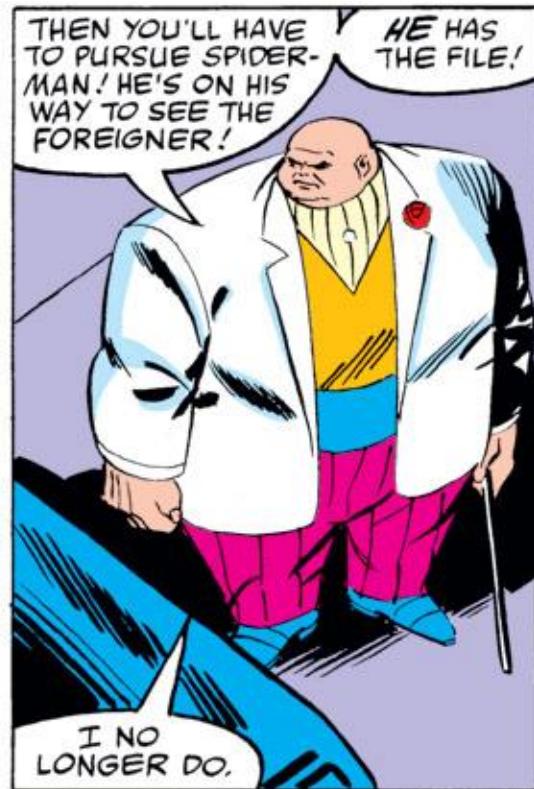
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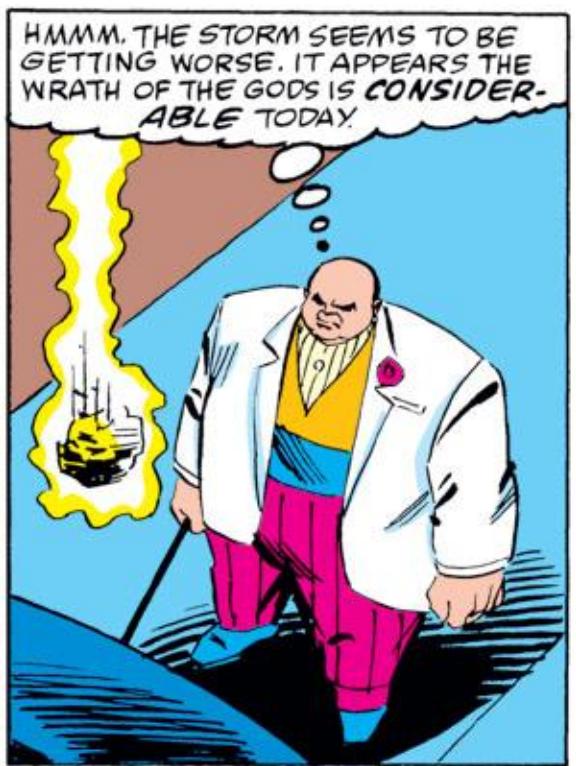












"MY NAME IS PETER PARKER AND A WEIGHT HAS JUST BEEN LIFTED FROM MY SHOULDERS. I'M RELIEVED THAT I'M NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR NED'S DEATH. I'M FURIOUS THAT FOREIGNER AND JACK O'LANTERN ARE."

"THEY COLD-BLOODEDLY MURDERED HIM, AND SENT ME SPINNING INTO A BLIND RAGE! EVEN WORSE, THEY'VE DESTROYED BETTY'S LIFE! IF NED HAD LIVED, MAYBE HE COULD HAVE BEEN CURED. BUT YOU CAN'T CURE DEATH."

"BETTY'S SLIPPING OFF THE DEEP END, I WAS WRACKED BY GUILT, AND IT WAS ALL THEIR FAULT! BUT I'M GOING TO DRAG THEM -- KICKING AND SCREAMING -- TO JAIL! MAKE THEM ADMIT WHAT THEY DID!"



"...SPIDER-MAN CAN FINALLY BE GOTTEN RID-OF, FOR GOOD!"

SPIDEY! FINALLY!

IF I CAN'T SURRENDER TO THE COPS, MAYBE I CAN GIVE UP TO SPIDER-MAN!

IT FIGURES THAT SPIDER-MAN'S NUMBER ONE FAN WOULD BE DRAGGED IN BY SPIDEY HIMSELF!

SPLASH

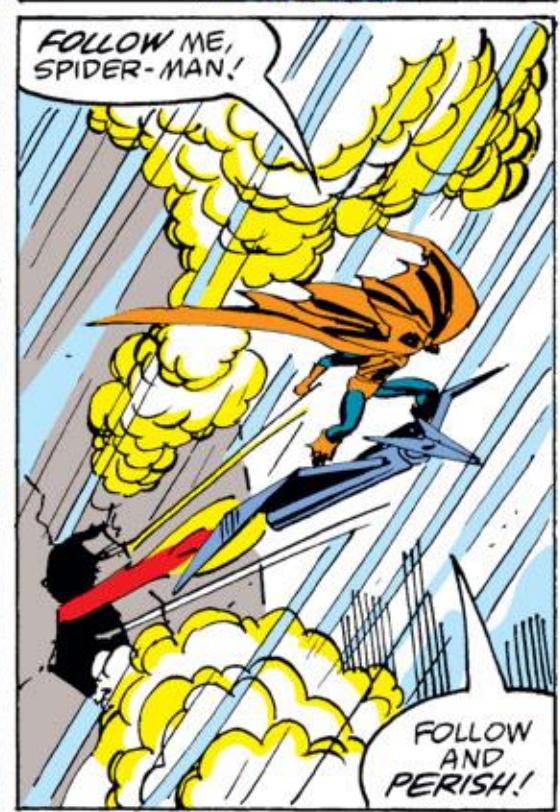
THERE'S THE FOREIGNER'S OFFICE BUILDING! BOY, THE BLACK CAT'S GOING TO BE STUNNED WHEN I TELL HER WHAT HER NICE FRIEND IN IMPORTS AND EXPORTS REALLY DOES!

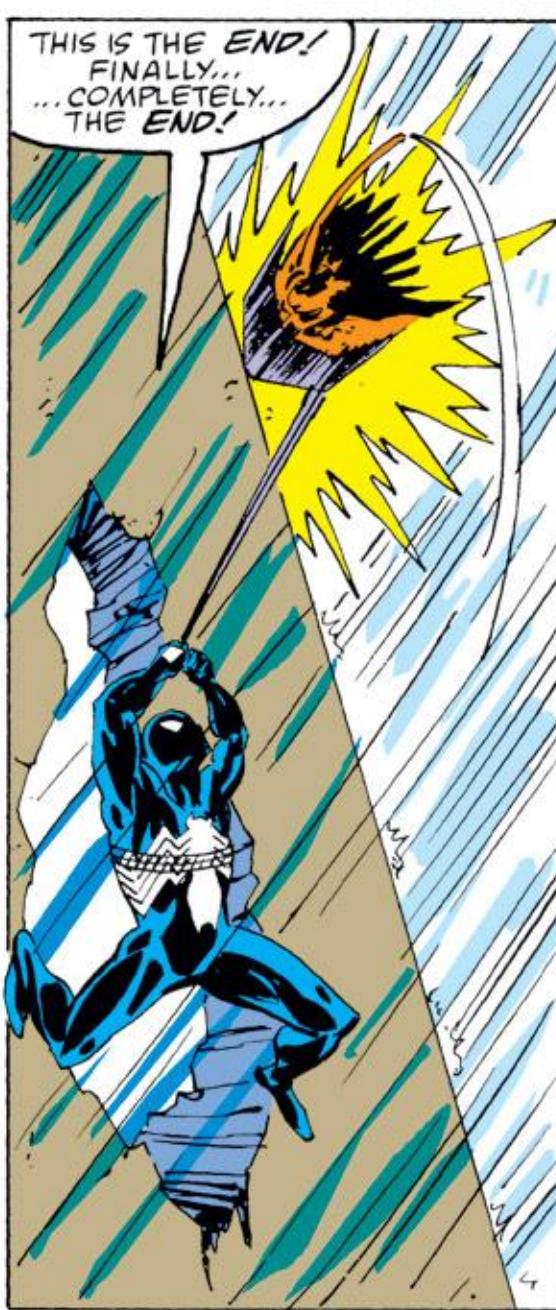
I WISH FELICIA WERE HERE, I WISH I WERE ANYWHERE ELSE!

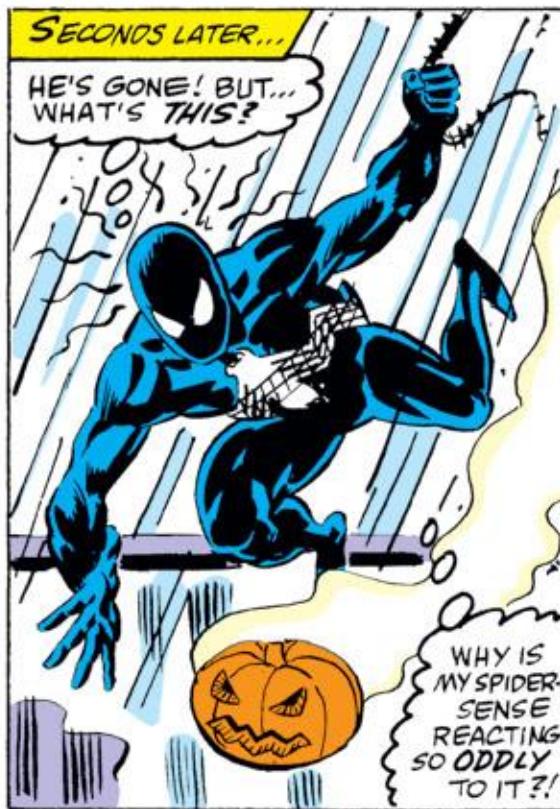
RAIN'S SLICKING THE WALLS. BETTER BE CAREFUL.

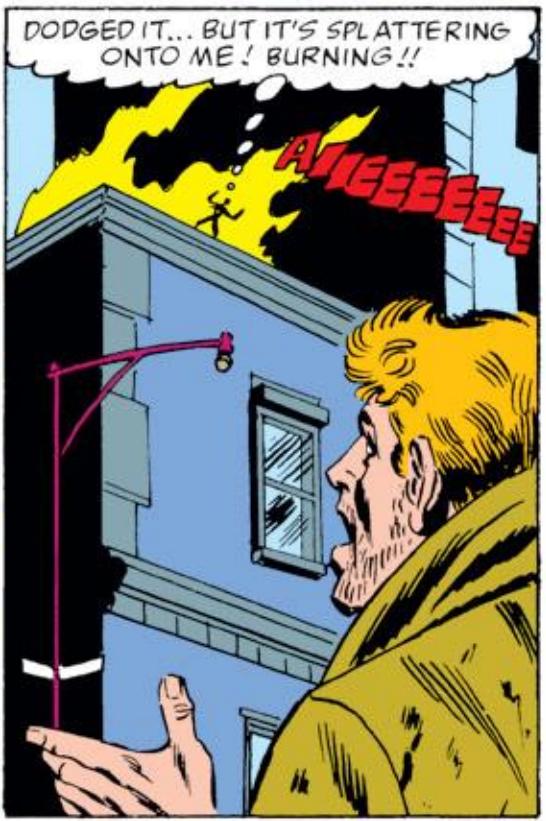
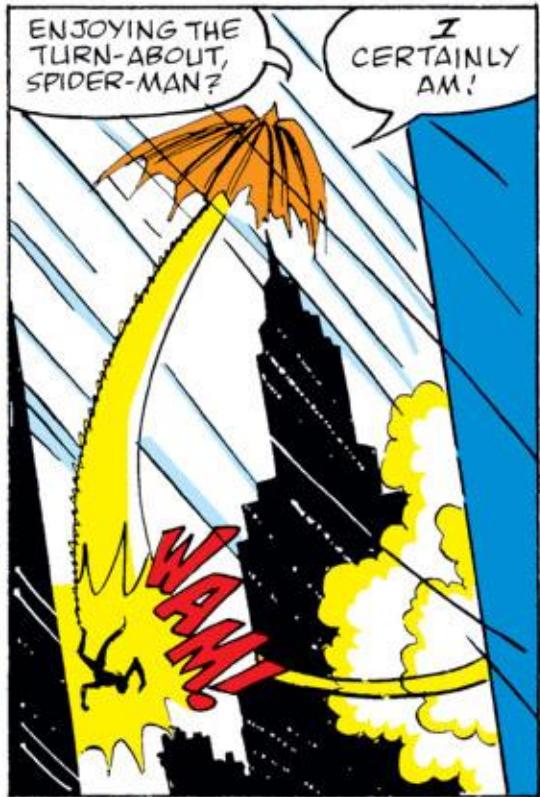
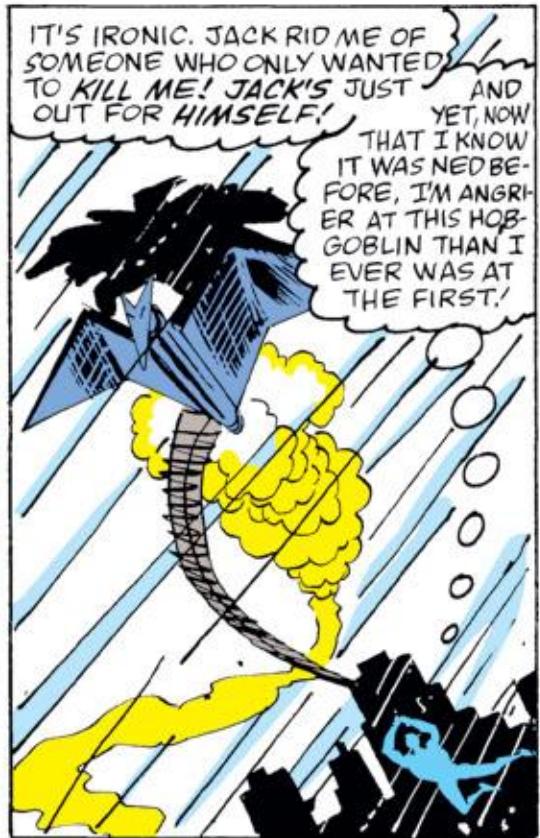


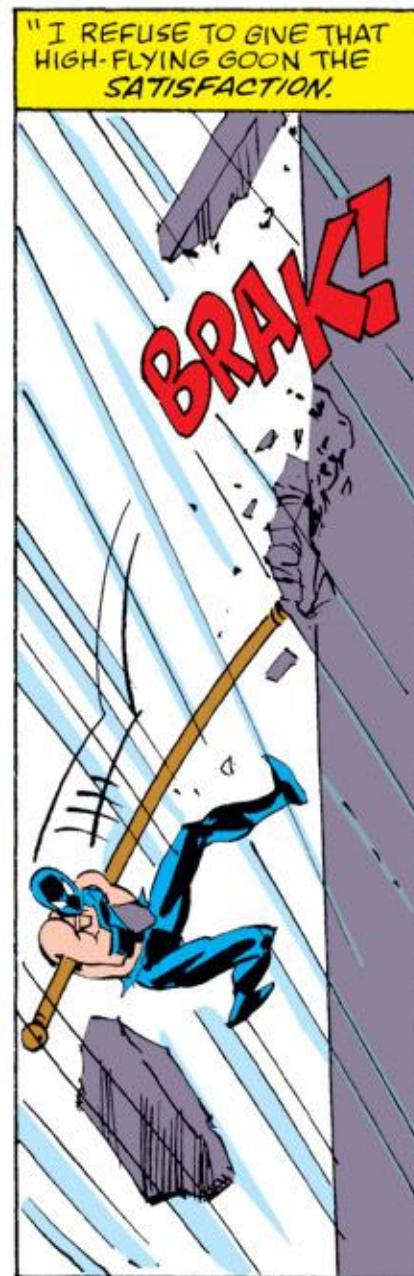


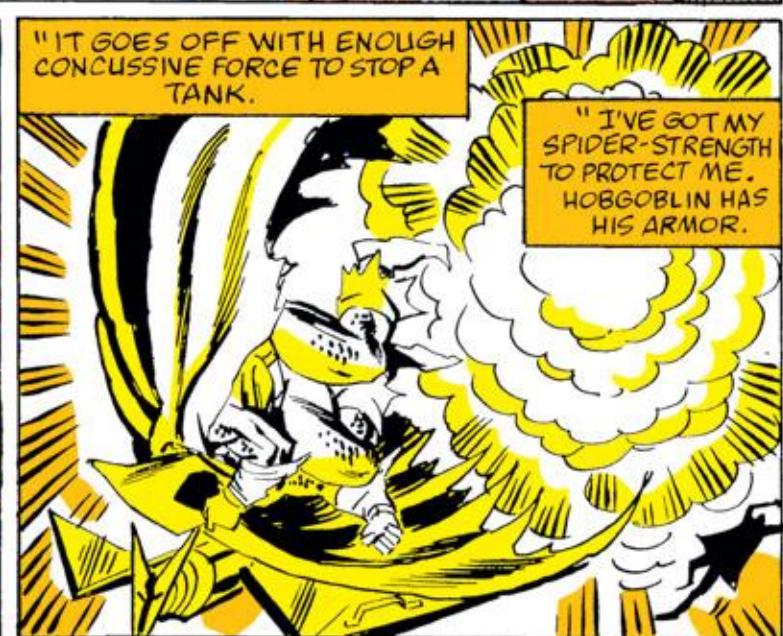
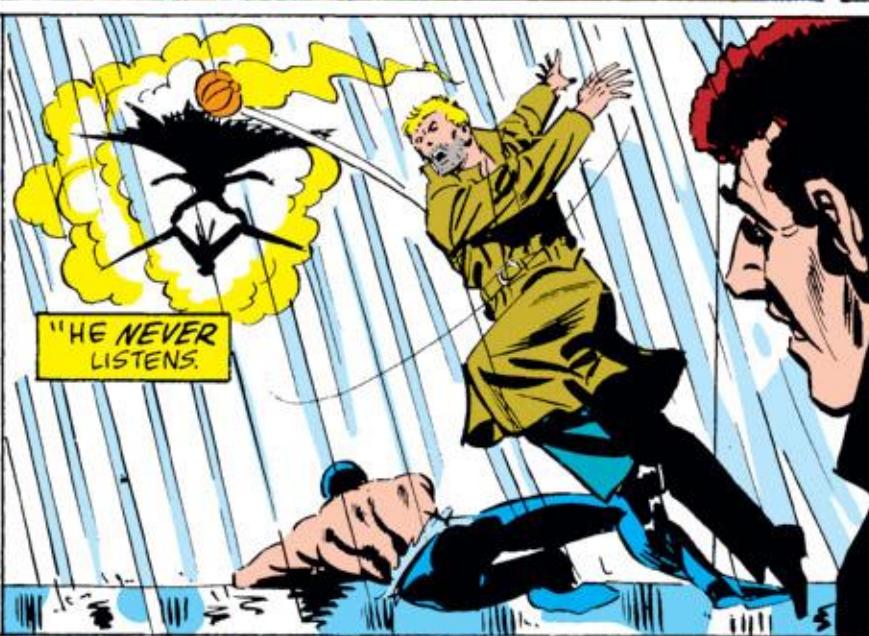
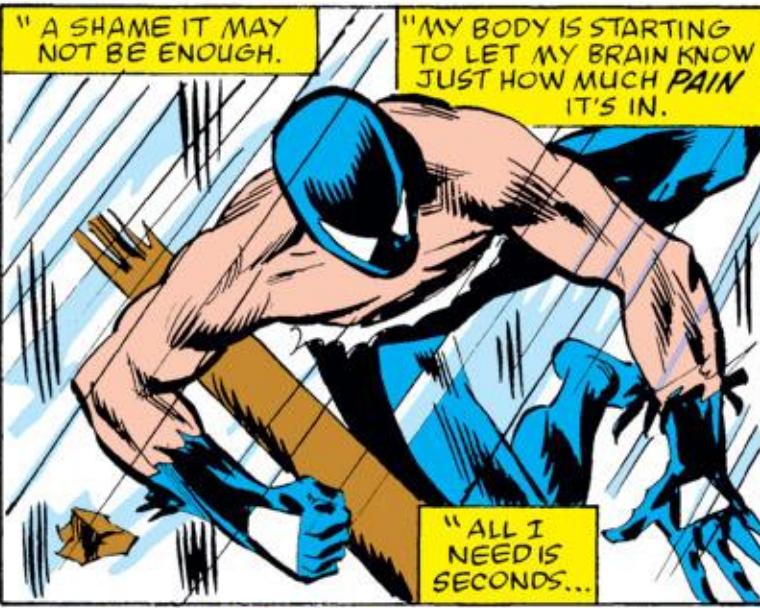


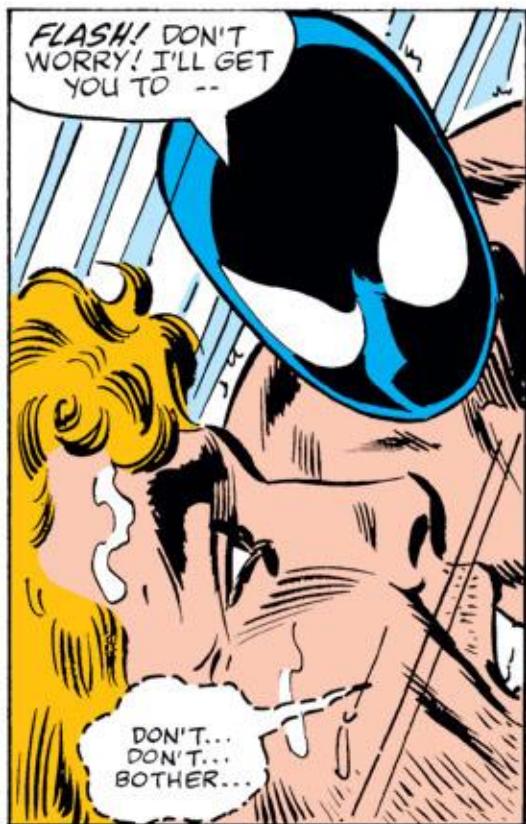
















LATER, AT PETER PARKER'S APARTMENT...

IT'S FUNNY, FELICIA. YEARS AGO, AUNT MAY LECTURED ME, AND TOLD ME THAT PARKERS WEREN'T QUITTERS. IT WAS GOOD ADVICE, AND IT SEEMS I FORGOT IT SOMEWHERE ALONG THE WAY.



IT'S IRONIC THAT IT TOOK TWO PEOPLE TO REMIND ME OF IT... TWO PEOPLE I'D ABOUT WRITTEN OFF.



FLASH THOMPSON, THE BIG JOCK WHO I ALWAYS THOUGHT WAS A COMPLETE NUMB-SKULL...



AND SPIDER-MAN HIMSELF. TOO BAD MY LAST COSTUME IS COMPLETELY TRASHED, OR I'D... I'D...

OH, THAT'S RIGHT. DUMP IT ON ME.

AS RESIDENT COSTUME MAKER, I SUPPOSE IT FALLS ON ME TO MAKE YOU ANOTHER SET OF FUNNY TIGHTS.

THE FATE OF SPIDER-MAN RESTS WITH ME? WELL, FORGET IT. NOT ANOTHER SUIT FROM ME.



AFTER ALL, YOU ALREADY HAVE THREE. HOW MANY DO YOU NEED, FOR PITY'S SAKE?



I ALREADY-- WHAT?!

HOLY CROW! WHEN? HOW?



I HAD TO DO SOMETHING TO KEEP MYSELF AMUSED WHILE YOU WERE IN BERLIN.

HEY! WATCH THE MERCHANDISE!

FELICIA, YOU'RE...



DON'T TELL ME, HOTSHOT. SHOW ME.

OH, I'LL SHOW YOU, ALL RIGHT.



"AND THEN I'M GONNA SHOW THE WHOLE WORLD!"

"MY NAME IS PETER PARKER, AND I MAY BE A LOT OF THINGS..."

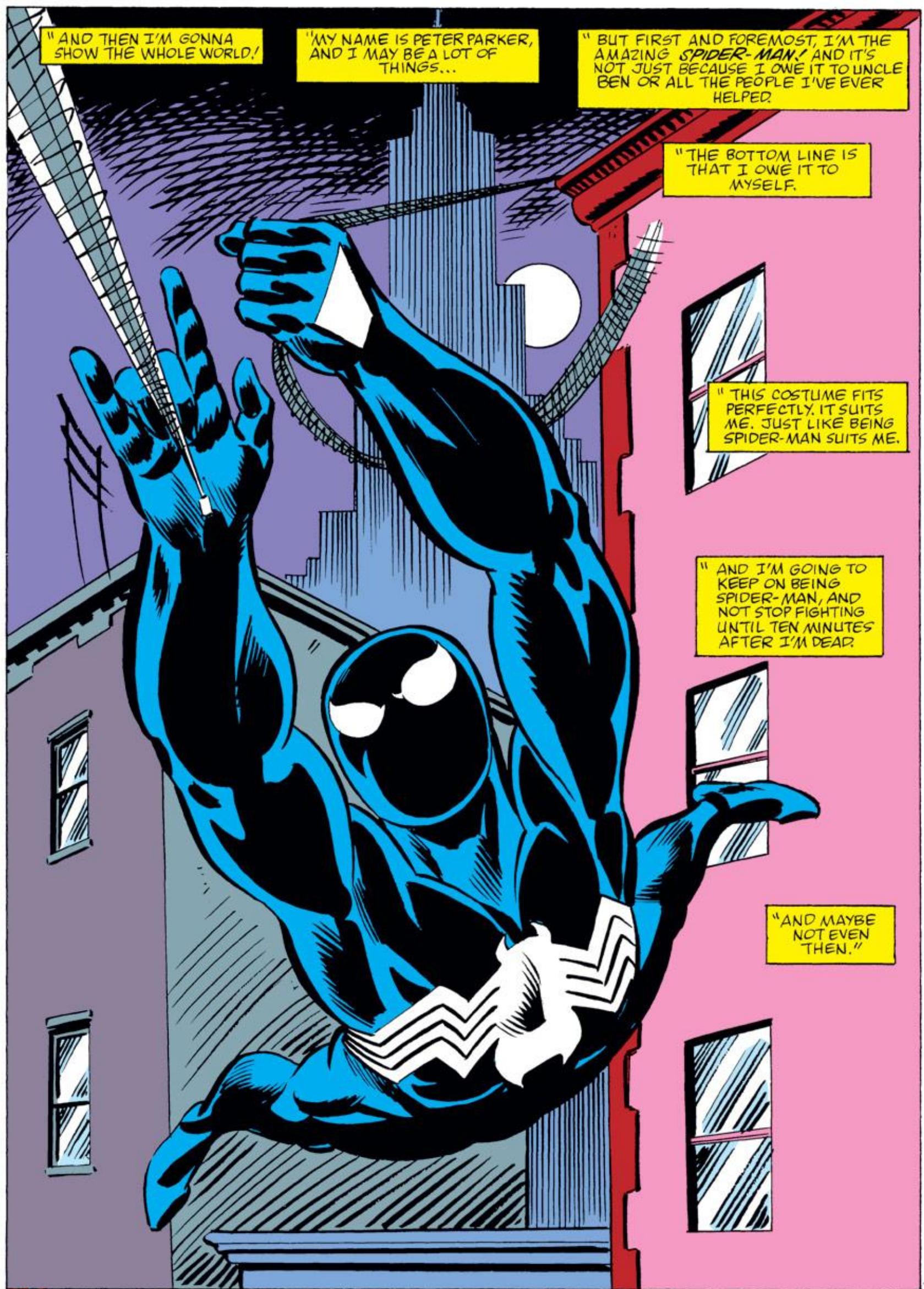
"BUT FIRST AND FOREMOST, I'M THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN! AND IT'S NOT JUST BECAUSE I OWE IT TO UNCLE BEN OR ALL THE PEOPLE I'VE EVER HELPED."

"THE BOTTOM LINE IS THAT I OWE IT TO MYSELF."

"THIS COSTUME FITS PERFECTLY. IT SUITS ME. JUST LIKE BEING SPIDER-MAN SUITS ME."

"AND I'M GOING TO KEEP ON BEING SPIDER-MAN, AND NOT STOP FIGHTING UNTIL TEN MINUTES AFTER I'M DEAD."

"AND MAYBE NOT EVEN THEN."



N  
W

# THE BIG QUESTION!