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comics



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COMICS
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RETURN
TO THE MAD DOG WARD

PART ONE

BEYOND VIDEO...
THE NEW DRAGON QUEST
GAME!
(Announcements to follow)

SPIDER-MAN®



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STAN LEE
PRESENTS:

HOPE

- AND OTHER LIARS

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NOCENTI
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MARRINAN
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DELAROSA
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CHRIS
ELIOPOULOS
LETTERS

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DANNY
FINGEROTH
EDITOR

TOM
DEFALCO
EDITOR
IN CHIEF

BYE
BYE!

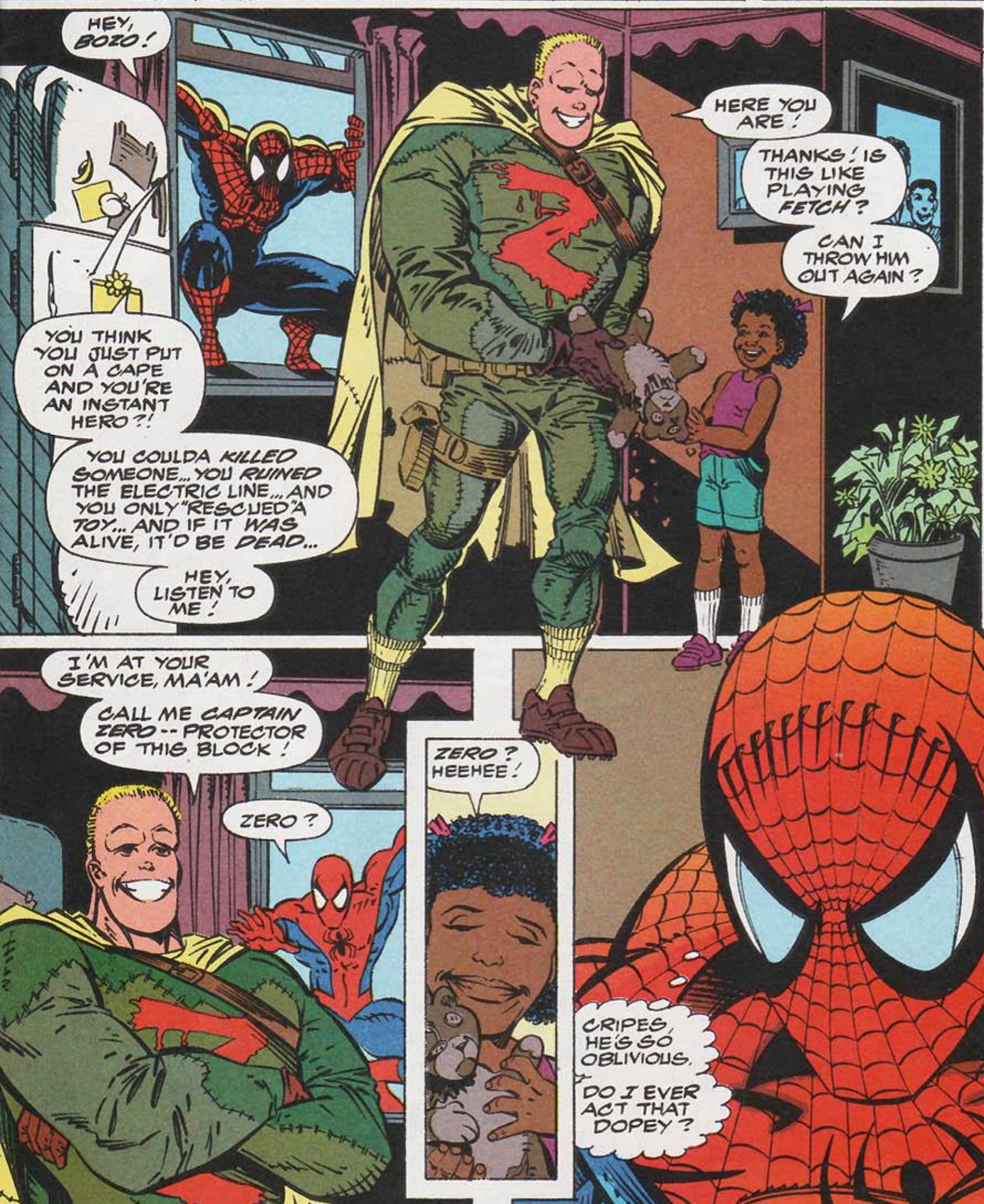
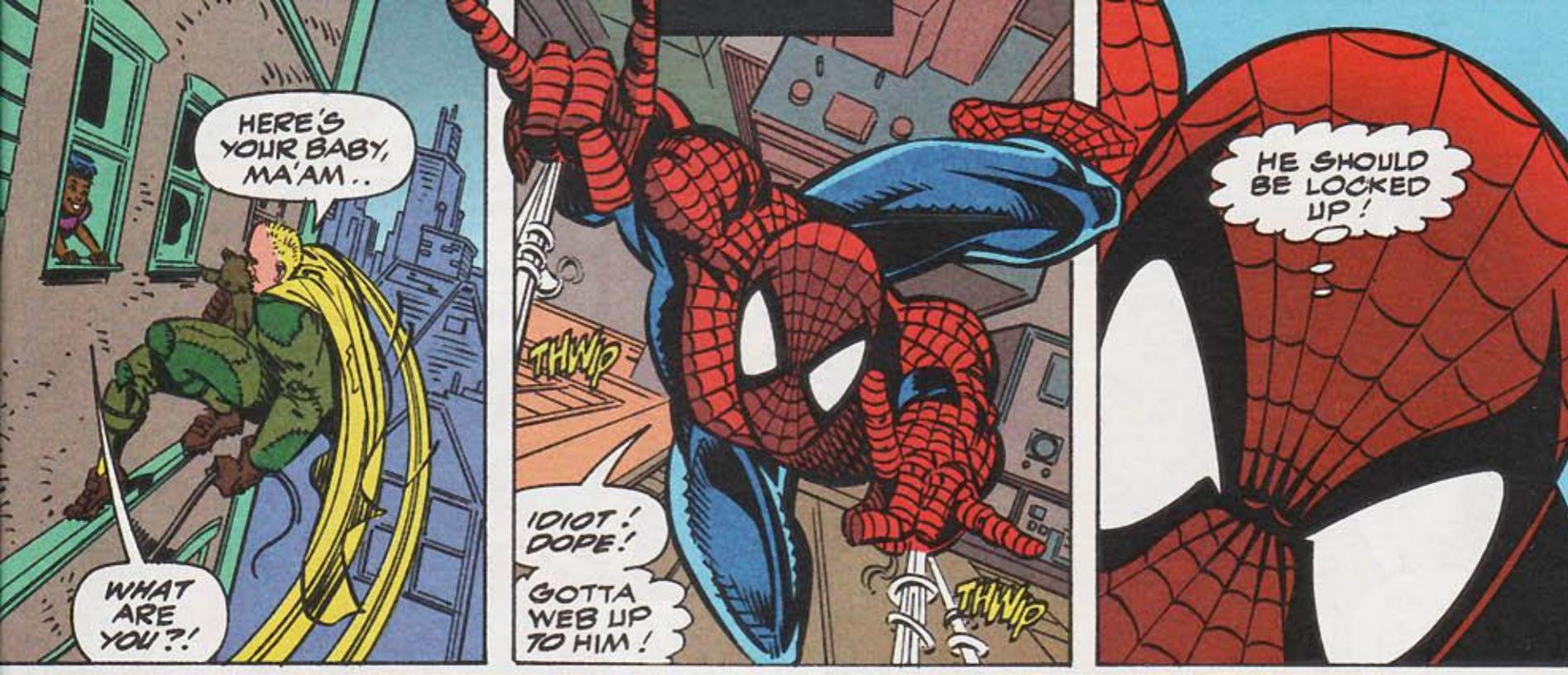
I'LL SAVE
YOU!

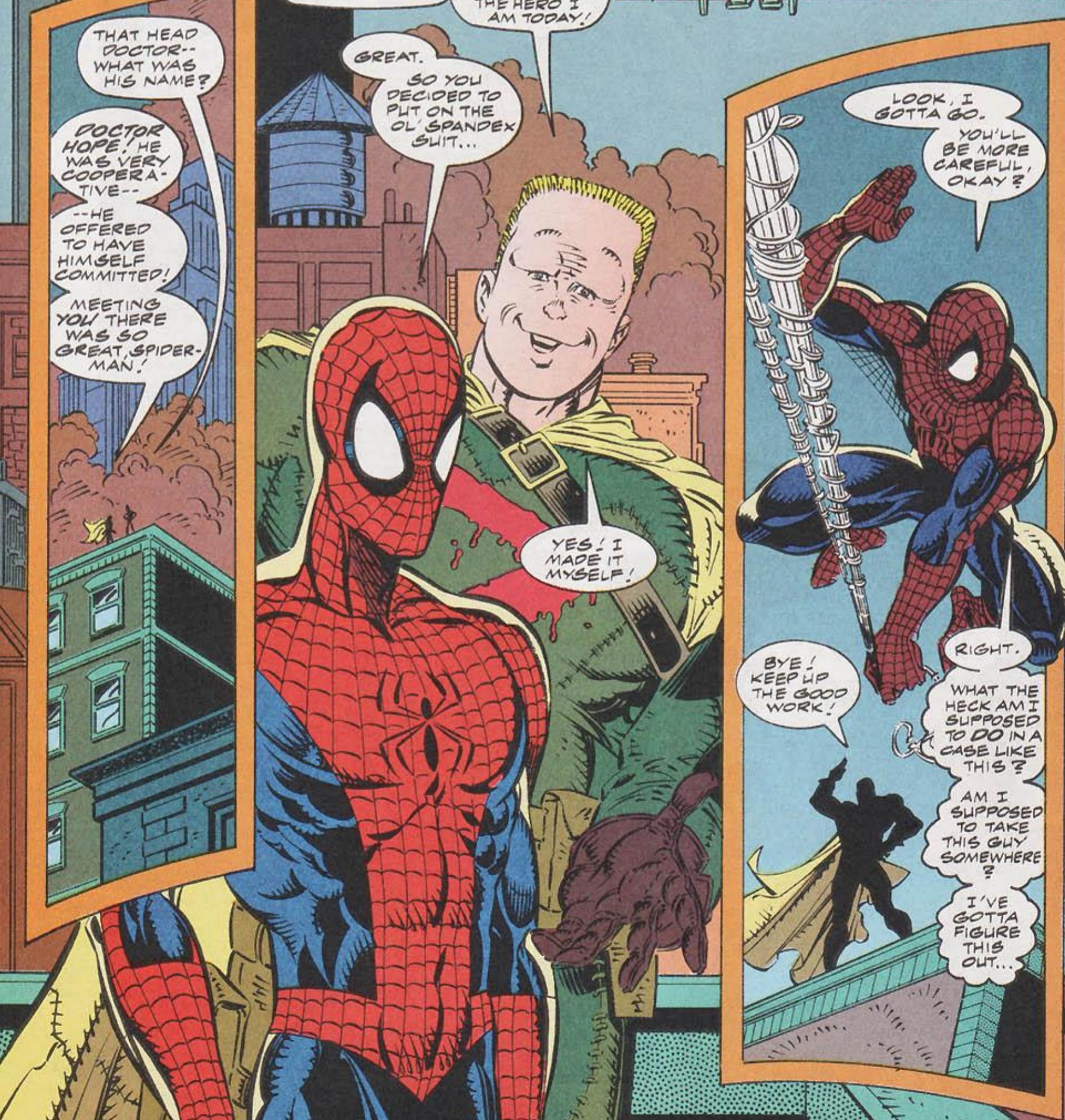
OH, NO -- NOT
ANOTHER BOZO
IN A SUPER-
SUIT!



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CITY HOSPITAL, THE PRIVATE WARD.

IT WOULD BE A MATTER OF FREEING THE REPTILIAN CORE... AND WHAT WOULD APPEAR AS A DEVOLUTION WOULD ACTUALLY BE AN EVOLUTIONARY LEAP...

MORNING, DOC!

THE TOUGHER FORE-BRAIN, ADAPTING TO THE ELECTROMAGNETIC POISONING THAT DISRUPTS THE MODERN ENGAGED BRAIN...

LISTEN TO HIM--ALWAYS WORKING!

COME ON, DOCTOR HOPE-- TIME FOR SURGERY!

SHORT-CIRCUITING MAN'S PSYCHIC DYSFUNCTIONING...

HE MAY BE RESOUNDINGLY INSANE--

--BUT PUT A SCALPEL IN HIS HAND AND HE'S AS BRILLIANT AS EVER.

...THE BRAIN REDUCTION TO THE PRIMAL CORE MUST BE DONE IN TANDEM WITH THE ISOLATION OF FORMATIVE TRAUMAS...

DR. BURROUGHS--DO YOU ALWAYS SPEAK ABOUT THE DOCTOR AS IF HE ISN'T HERE?

DON'T WORRY--HE'S OBLIVIOUS TO US.

...THROUGH HYPNOTICS ONE IS ABLE TO HARNESS PATHOS...

THIS IS OUR EXPERIMENTAL WARD, WHERE YOU WILL BE ASSISTING ME. THE HIGHEST SECURITY, OF COURSE.

NO PRYING EYES HERE!



AND NOW,
THE MAD DOG
WARD!

... CONTROL
BEHAVIOR... AND
YET, FOR A
KILLING RAGE
TO BECOME
OPERATIVE...

OH, MY
GOD... ARE
THEY... IN
PAIN?

... ONE MUST
CIRCUMVENT THE
INCONVENIENT
RESTRAINTS OF
CONSCIENCE...

OH, NO. THIS
IS A HUMANE
HOSPITAL, DR.
CRONENBURG.

... MORALITY IS
ELUDED BY
TRICKING THE
MIND INTO
BELIEVING ONE
IS ASLEEP...

BUT FOR MAN--
TO BEHAVE AS
ANIMALS?!

BY INSERTING MUTANT
GENES FROM VARIOUS
CANINES INTO THE HUMAN
BRAIN, DOCTOR HOPE WAS
ABLE TO ACCESS THE
PRE-BRAIN FUNCTIONS.

SOMETIMES I THINK
HOPE IS EVEN MORE
BRILLIANT NOW THAT
HE IS INSANE. HE IS
LEFT ALONE WITH HIS
PURE VISION--

--AIDED BY
OUR GUIDING
HAND, OF
COURSE.

UNTIL THE DAY
WHEN I CAN
DROP THIS
INSANITY ACT--
BEFORE IT
DRIVES ME
TRULY MAD!

... DREAMS BEING THE APPROPRIATE REALM TO EXORCISE THE MURDEROUS IMPULSE...

... HARDER MEN, FOR A HARDER WORLD, FORERUNNERS OF THE NEXT STAGE OF MAN'S EVOLUTION...

I HEARD ONE MAD DOG SAYING: "KILL YOUR NIGHTMARE... "?

YES, THEY BELIEVE THEY ARE IN A DREAM STATE.

IT IS IRONIC--DOCTOR HOPE LIES TO HIS PATIENTS, THEY LIE TO THEMSELVES, WE LIE TO HIM, HE LIES TO HIMSELF--

--THE PATIENTS BELIEVE THEY ARE ASLEEP DOCTOR HOPE BELIEVES HE IS CREATING HEROES, AND WE...

"WELL, WE ARE SUBSERVIENT TO SCIENCE."

THEY WILL PREPARE HIM FOR SURGERY NOW, I WILL SHOW YOU THE PATIENT.

THE MAD DOGS HAVE A TRIAL RUN TODAY--WITH OUR REMOTE-CONTROL ACCESS TO THEIR BIONIC IMPLANTS, THEY WILL BE COMMITTING A SIMPLE CRIME--ROBBING AN ARMORED TRUCK.

WHEN THEY ENCOUNTER RESISTANCE-- WE WILL RELEASE THEIR POTENTIAL MANIA.

AND THIS PATIENT?

MADDOD 2020-- AKA BRAINSTORM.

DOCTOR HOPE'S MASTERPIECE.

TODAY IS THE CULMINATION-- HIS LATENT MUTANT POTENTIAL IS BEING RELEASED--AND WE WILL VIEW HIS TRANSFORMATION.



LATE AS USUAL, PARKER!

DAILY BUGLE

WELL, YOU SEE...

SHUT UP! NO EXCUSES!

YES, JONAH.

NOW DON'T BE LATE FOR THIS AFTERNOON'S SHOOT, YOU GOT IT?

YES, SIR.

JUST WHAT IS IT I'M PHOTOGRAPHING?

MAGGIE LORCA, THE JOURNALIST YOU'LL BE WORKING WITH -- SHE'LL FILL YOU IN -- AH! HERE SHE IS...

THE STORY'S ON A NEW A.A. TYPE PROGRAM, CALLED THE LIARS ANONYMOUS CLINIC, OR L.A.C. FOR SHORT.

IT'S A METHOD OF CURING PATHOLOGICAL LIARS ...

HOW IRONIC.

WHAT DID YOU SAY? HOW IRONIC?

NO, NO -- I SAID HOW MORONIC.

WELL, SEE YOU AT FOUR O'CLOCK.

IT'LL BE NICE WORKING WITH YOU.

UH-HUH.

SOON...

MAYBE I SHOULD SWING BY THE OL' HOMESTEAD AND SURPRISE MARY JANE. KEEP THE HOME FIRES BURNING AND ALL--

--HEY! SCREAMS! ROBBERY IN PROGRESS!

FOUR GUYS... HMM... THEY WALK FUNNY, KINDA BENT.

WELL, NO PROBLEMO--FOUR REGULAR HUMANS VERSUS ME, THAT'S EASY ODDS.

WEB THE OLD AUTOMATIC MOTOR-DRIVE CAMERA IN PLACE, SET TO START SHOOTING IN TEN SECONDS...

WEB UP THOSE TIRES FOR AN ESTIMATED SKID STOP OF ONE HUNDRED FEET--

--SETTING THE ACTION DIRECTLY IN THE CAMERA'S EYE!

NOW, TIME TO MAKE SOME GOOD SPIDEY HEROIC PICS FOR THE BUGLE!

LOTTA GROWLING
AND HOWLING
WITH THIS BUNCH--

-- LIKE DOGS
OFF THEIR FEED.

HMM... GOOD FIGHTERS.

FEROCIOUS!

POSITIVELY
MANIC!

FAST!

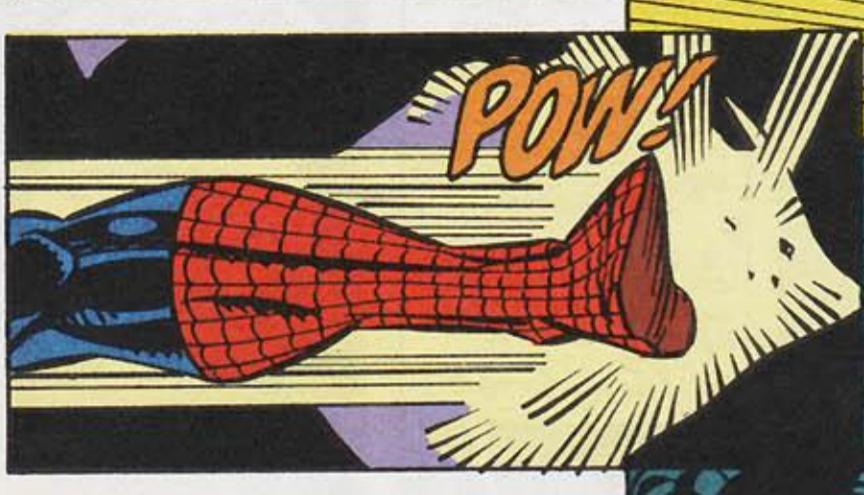
PRIMORDIAL
FIGHTING
STYLE...

IRRATIONAL...
CHAOTIC... AND
EFFECTIVE!

CRISES.

DARN.

UH-OH.

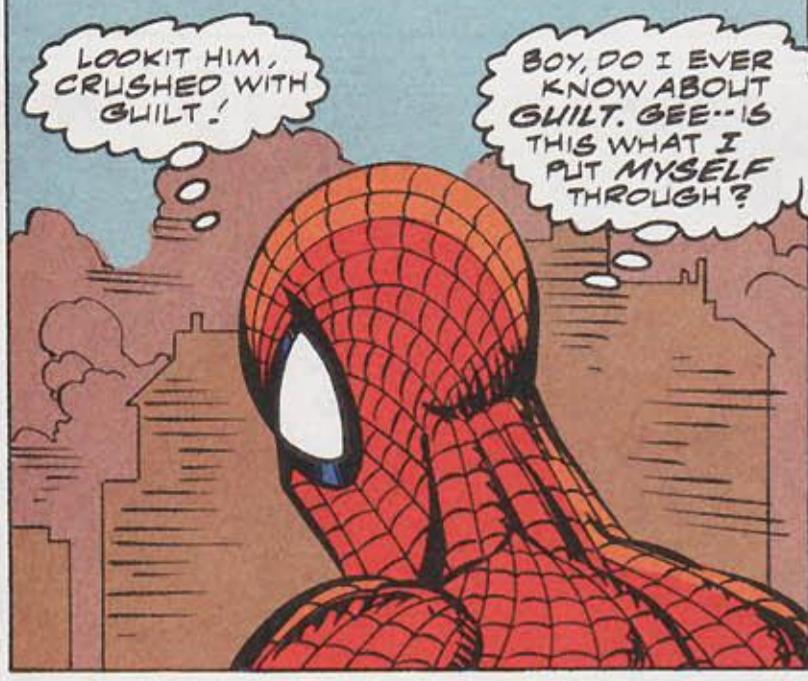


THINGS GOT
A LITTLE
SCARY THERE
FOR A FEW
SECONDS.



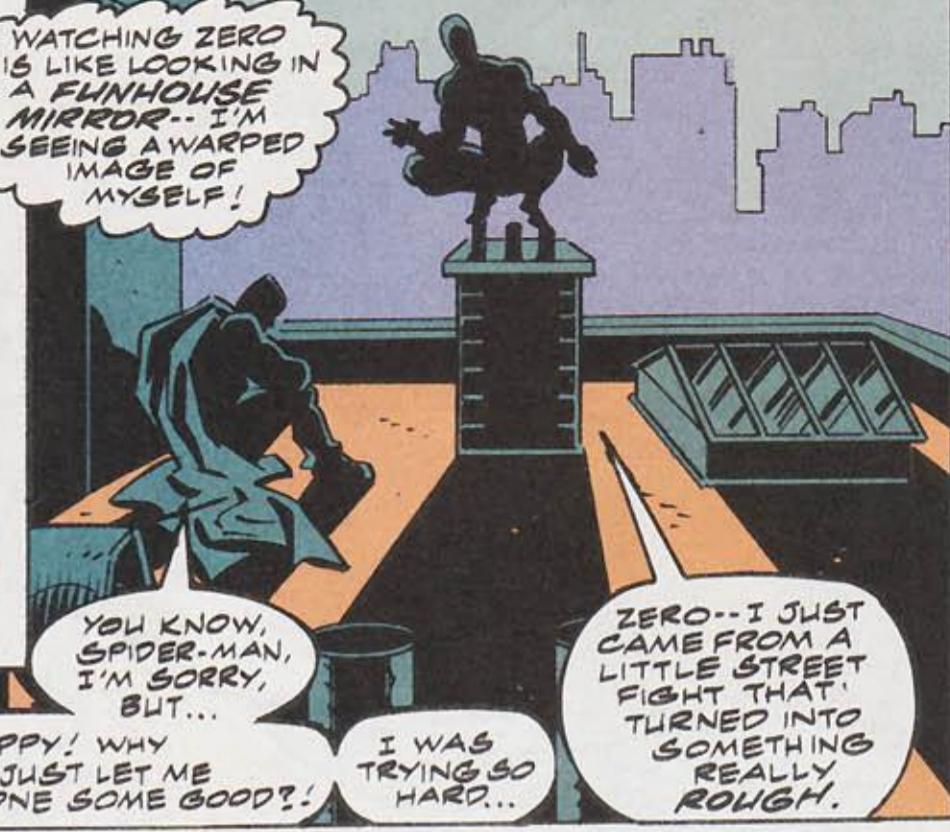


BEING A HERO IS NO GAME.
YOU GOTTA TRY HARDER!
YOU GOTTA DO BETTER!



BOY, DO I EVER
KNOW ABOUT
GUILT. GEE--IS
THIS WHAT I
PUT MYSELF
THROUGH?

WATCHING ZERO
IS LIKE LOOKING IN
A FUNHOUSE
MIRROR-- I'M
SEEING A warped
IMAGE OF
MYSELF!



THESE ROBBERS
I JUST FOUGHT
TURNED OUT TO BE
ANIMALS! KAMA-
KAZE PSYCHOS!

HOW DID HOPE PUT IT...?
"... TO FREE THE BRAIN
FROM BURDENOME
MORAL CONSTRAINTS..."?

YEAH! HE'D
HYPNOTIZE
THEM TO SLEEP
AND CHOP OUT
PARTS OF
THEIR BRAINS!

THANKS,
ZERO! I'LL
CHECK IT
OUT!

HEY--
DID I
DO GOOD?



HEY! THAT SOUNDS
FAMILAR!
IN PLEASANT VALLEY,
WHEN THEY TOOK
SOMEONE AWAY
FOR DOCTOR
HOPE TO WORK
ON, THEY'D COME
BACK WIRED-UP,
AND SAYIN'
THINGS LIKE THAT!



ELSEWHERE, AT
THE HOME PETER
PARKER SHARES
WITH HIS WIFE
MARY JANE...

OH, BARRY,
I LOVE
YOU! BUT...

MY HUSBAND--
HE COULD BE
HOME ANY
MOMENT!



I ADORE
HIM. I CAN'T
KEEP BE-
TRAYING HIM
LIKE THIS!

OH, WHO
AM I
KIDDING?

I CAN'T
STOP SEEING
YOU. I'D GO
MAD WITH-
OUT YOU!

I'M READY... I'M
READY TO DECLARE
OUR LOVE TO THE
WORLD!

TELL
EVERYONE
ABOUT
OUR...

--GARBAGE!

STUPID, SAPPY,
MELODRAMATIC
GARBAGE!



I'M SO SICK OF
HAVING TO PLAY
ALL THESE SOAP
OPERA ROLES!

JUST LEARNING
THE LINES MUST
BE CORRODING
MY BRAIN.

IF THE
PAY WASN'T
SO GOOD,
I'D...

I LOVE TO
ACT BUT THIS
STUFF IS
RIDICULOUS...

THE WOMEN
ROLE-MODELS
ON THESE
SOAP STINK!

"THE
ROOF.
TOP."

GEE, I
WONDER...
AM I JUST
LIKE A SOAP
GIRL; DO I
DEFINE
MYSELF
THROUGH
PETER...?

HEY!
WHO ARE
YOU?!

OOOPS!
SORRY,
LADY.

HOPE YOU DON'T
MIND ME BEIN'
ON YOUR ROOF--
BUT IT'S WAY
TALLER THAN
MINE!

SEE--MY DAD'S
AN ALIEN, AND
I'M WAITIN' FOR
A RADIO
TRANSMISSION
FROM HIM.

THAT'S
RIDICU-
LOUS.

IS
NOT!

OKAY, OKAY,
DON'T LOOK
SO GLUM, TELL
ME WHAT YOU
MEAN!

WELL, YOU SEE,
EVERYBODY ISN'T
BORN INTO THEIR
REAL FAMILY.

LIKE ME, I WAS
BORN INTO THE WRONG
FAMILY, SO I GOTTA WAIT
FOR MY REAL PARENTS
TO COME OUT OF THE SKY
AN' TAKE ME AWAY.

UH... IF YOU'RE AN
ORPHAN, DON'T YOU
HAVE FOSTER
PARENTS... OR... UH,
A SOCIAL
WORKER?

A WHAT?
NO, I'M HOME-
LESS.

DON'T PUT
ME ON, KID.

LADY, YOU WALK
THE STREETS WITH
YOUR EYES
CLOSED?

I... I GUESS
I KNOW THAT...

THERE'S LOTS OF
US HOMELESS KIDS
IN THIS CITY!

HEY, WHAT'S
YOUR NAME?

WHAT'S
YOURS?

MARY
JANE.

ARE YOU
HUNGRY?

YEAH,
WHO
ISN'T?

YOU WANNA COME
DOWN TO MY PLACE FOR
SOME LUNCH?

REALLY?
YEAH!

UH... YOU
CAN CALL ME
DANIEL.

OKAY.

BULLPEN BULLETINS

MARVEL COMICS

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Hi, Heroes!

You know the way our Chinese friends celebrate different years like "The Year of the Pig," or "The Year of the Dragon"? Well, for mighty Marvel, 1992 has most definitely been "The Year of the Spider," and what a great year it's been! Spider-Man's thirtieth anniversary has kept our whole blushing bullpen busy with special Hologram-Cover Issues, Spidey Conventions, Web-Slinger Parties and all sorts of arachnid-inspired fun 'n games!

Another, more subtle way that we've been celebrating everyone's favorite wall-crawler has been by introducing famous Marvel guest stars in Spidey's syndicated newspaper strip. Those of you who are lucky enough to have Spidey's daily strip in your local newspaper's comic section, have already seen the current episode which is just now zooming to a cataclysmic conclusion, the one featuring the ever dazzling and delightful Dr. Strange!

Well, here's a really sensational fol-

low-up to the Spidey/Dr. Strange adventure. Starting sometime in October, the peripatetic Peter Parker will welcome another guest star to what is arguably the most popular newspaper story-strip in all the world — Daredevil, the Man Without Fear! This will be Matt Murdock's first appearance in any newspaper and I can promise you it'll be a zingeroo! Can't tell you much without spoiling the surprises for you — but I can clue you in about some new artists coming on board!

Floro Dery, who has so brilliantly illustrated the Spidey Sunday pages for the past decade or so, has been forced to give up his chores because of an increased work load at the animation studio which is his home base. Although I was genuinely sorry to bid Floro adieu, wait'll you hear who his exciting replacements will be!

To pencil Spidey's Sunday pages, we were lucky to grab Rampagin' **Ron Frenz**, the demon illustrator who, together with the scripting of Titanic **Tom DeFalco**, has made MIGHTY THOR one of Marvel's most consistent "must read"

titles issue after issue! And, to ink Ron's awesome panels, we managed to lure one of Marvel's all-time greats out of semi-retirement — which means that the world once again will thrill to the exotic embellishments of the titanically talented Joltin' **Joe Sinnott**!

So, Ron and Joe now join forces with comicdom's own legendary **Larry Lieber**, who has been so pandemoniously pencilng and inking Spidey's daily pages for so many years, to form the most spectacular art team on any newspaper page! It's all yours, for free, in your local newspaper! (And if your paper is one of the few that doesn't carry **The Amazing Spider-Man**, never underestimate the power of a letter to the editor!)

Now, until Spidey's next anniversary — Larry, Ron, Joe, and I urge thee most humbly — Keep Thy Webs Untangled!

Excelsior!

Stan Lee

When we think of October, we think of those scary people who put on masks, play tricks, and try to frighten everyone. That's right, we're talking about politicians! This is the time of year when politicos are plentiful, frightening even Red Ghosts, Scarlet Witches, and Hobgoblins! As every Marveloid knows, we're just weeks away from the funniest holiday of the year — **Election Day**!

In his very first appearance, the Amazing Spider-Man learned that with great power must come great responsibility. Well, every Marveloid out there over the age of 18 has great power, too — the power to vote! This is a responsibility many of us take for granted if at all. Think about it — we actually have the opportunity to help decide who will hold the most important position in the nation! Why not exercise some of your great responsibility that comes with the great power to vote? To register, call your municipal government office or the local chapter of the League of Women Voters.

From the presidential race we move on to a footrace, as we track Marvel's standings in the 1992 Corporate Challenge. The Corporate Challenge is a series of 3 1/2-mile races held every June, in which companies all over New York compete to see who has the fastest workaholics. The big winner for Marvel this year was **Danny "Speedy" Gonzalez**, who finished one of the races in just 21 minutes. Other Marvel Quicksilvers were **Bernadette Ayala** of the Manufacturing Department, **Mary Sprows** of the Finance Department, and editors **Don (PUNISHER) Daley** and **Glenn (NOMAD) Herdling**. The apres-race parties held at the Senior Exec Ed's place were also a runaway success!

The Marvel softball season is also racing to a close as we write this. We all must have had our catcher's masks on in June (not to mention our batter's masks and our outfielder's masks),

because we had a three-game winning streak, including a victory over *Billboard* magazine — a team which we had never before beaten in Marvel history! We wore the masks of tragedy, however, as DC trick-or-treated us to a loss in our second game against their squadron of all-stars. The DC/Marvel retro-rivalry is now tied at one game apiece, with one more left to play between the two companies.

One thing is for sure — the ultra-athletic DC team sure knows how to get the most out of a bat! (Maybe it would help our chances if we all wore Adam West masks!)

Bullpen neo-cartoonist **Rick Parker** and assistant editor **Barry Dutter** have good reason to throw a masquerade party this month! Ricko the Sicko and "Big" Barry have a hyper-funny book of cartoons coming out. The book is called *Everything I Really Need to Know I Learned from Television*, and is on sale in bookstores all across America. (By a strange coincidence, that same creative team is also responsible for the cartoon that appears each month on this very page!) It's the perfect reading material for All Hallow's Eve! It will help you laugh away all your fears!

If you really want to treat your neighborhood monsters, don't give them candy this Halloween — give them the all-new Marvel Masterpiece trading cards! This 100 card set features all your favorite heroes and villains, beautifully painted by Joe Jusko. Each card is a true work of art! And if your preference is for pictures that move, we'd also like to mention that the Marvel Video Cassette *Pryde of the X-Men* is now available at video retailers everywhere. Get a copy now and receive a \$5 refund on other videos in MCV's catalog. No tricks here — just plenty of treats for everyone!

Till next time, remember, though Halloween comes but once a year, Marvel heroes wear masks and colorful costumes all year long! See you at the polls!

THE BULL'S EYE

by Rick Parker & Barry Dutter





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SOON...

HMM ?

LISTEN,
MAGGIE--
I'VE GOT
AN IDEA.

TODAY I GOT SOME PICTURES OF SPIDER-MAN STOPPING A ROBBERY, AND THE CROOKS WERE THESE WACKY ESCAPEES FROM SOME EXPERIMENTAL ASYLUM.

I GOT A FEW CLUES, AND A LEAD ABOUT A DOCTOR HOPE WHO USED TO DO SIMILAR WORK--WOULD YOU WANT TO INVESTIGATE A FREELANCE STORY WITH ME?

WHAT I MEAN IS--I LIKE WORKING WITH YOU!

YOU DO?

UH, YEAH!
I DO.

OKAY, I'LL TRACK DOWN YOUR LEADS WITH THE BUGLE'S COMPUTERS TOMORROW.

WE SEEM... COMPATIBLE.

I LOVE A GOOD COL-LABORATION.
BUT LISTEN, PETER, ONE REQUEST.

ANYTHING YOU WANT, MAGGIE.

IT'S A DEAL, I'LL NEVER MAKE YOU WAIT AGAIN!

WHO IS THAT WITH PETER?

TRY NOT TO BE SO LATE FOR OUR MEETINGS, OKAY?

I'M NOT THE GREATEST READER OF BODY LANGUAGE...

BUT IT SURE LOOKS LIKE THE TWO OF THEM ARE COZY!

PETER LOOKS SO HAPPY! HE'S GOT THE BOUNCY STEP OF A SCHOOLBOY IN LOVE! UH-OH...

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