



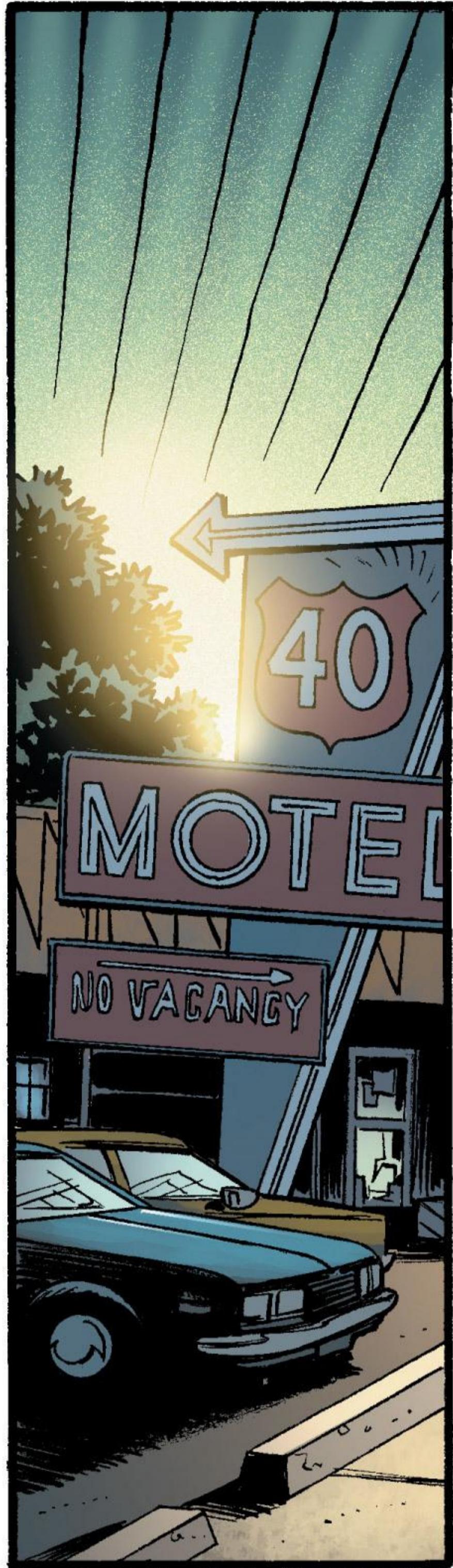
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

A MARVEL® COMICS EVENT

CIVIL WAR™

STRACZYNski

GARNEY



A large panel showing a man in a blue jacket with a 'MOTEL' patch on the sleeve. He is sitting on a bed, looking down at something in his hands. The background shows a window with blinds and some curtains.

THE WAR AT HOME

PART 6 OF 7

J. MICHAEL
STRACZYNSKI
WRITER

RON
GARNEY
PENCILER

BILL
REINHOLD
INKER

MATT
MILLA
COLORIST

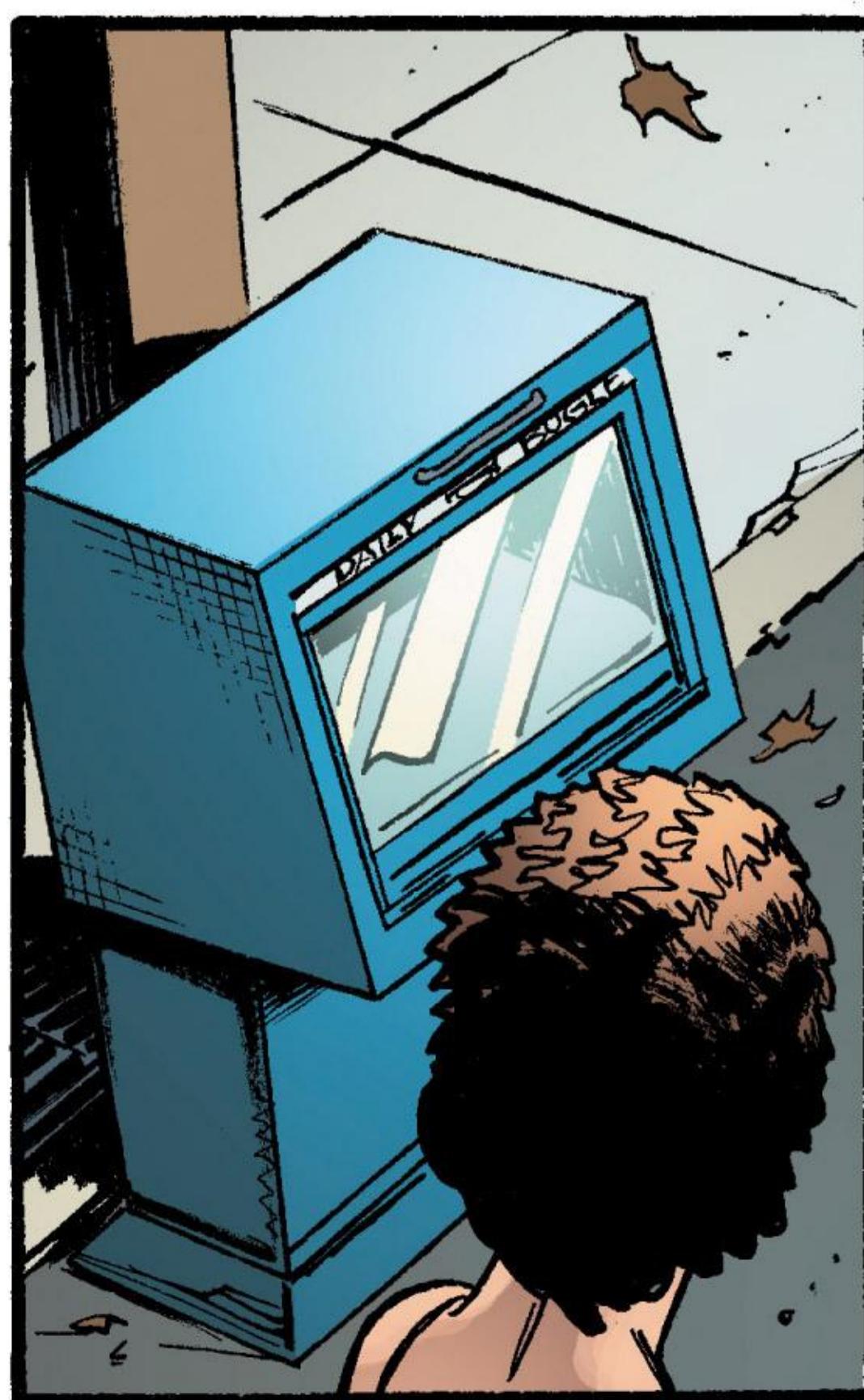
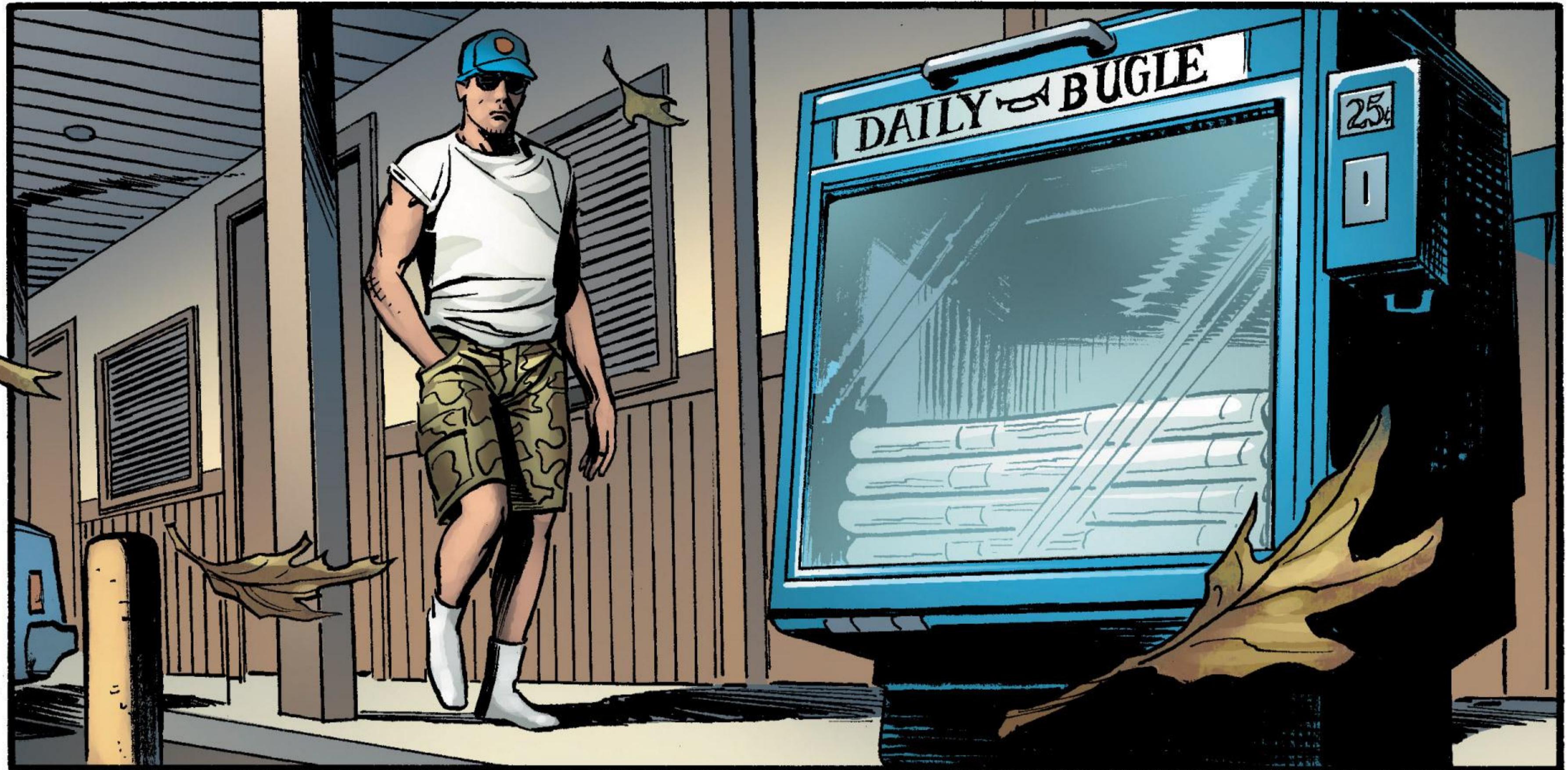
VC'S CORY
PETIT
LETTERER

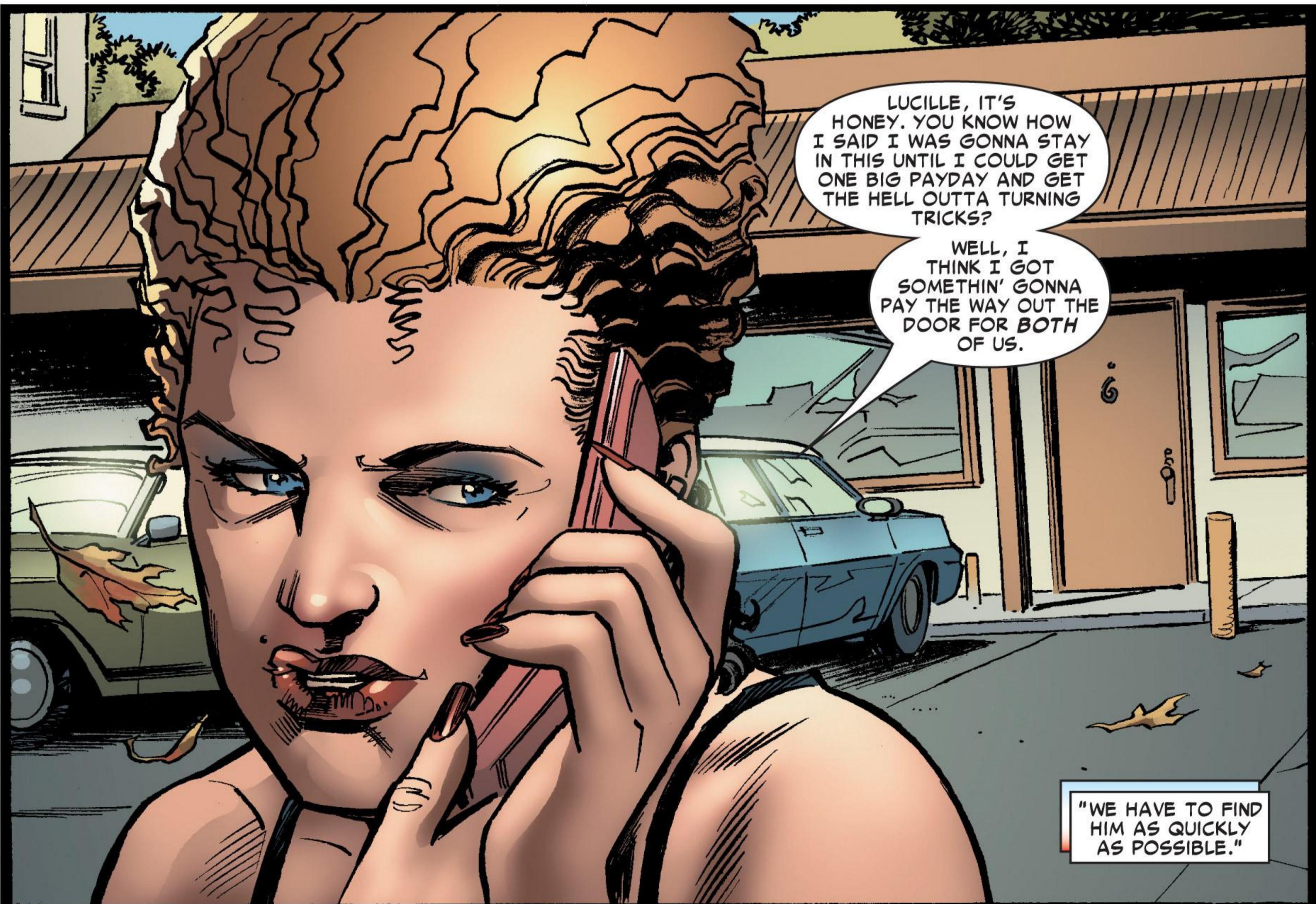
MICHAEL
O'CONNOR
ASST. EDITOR

AXEL
ALONSO
EDITOR

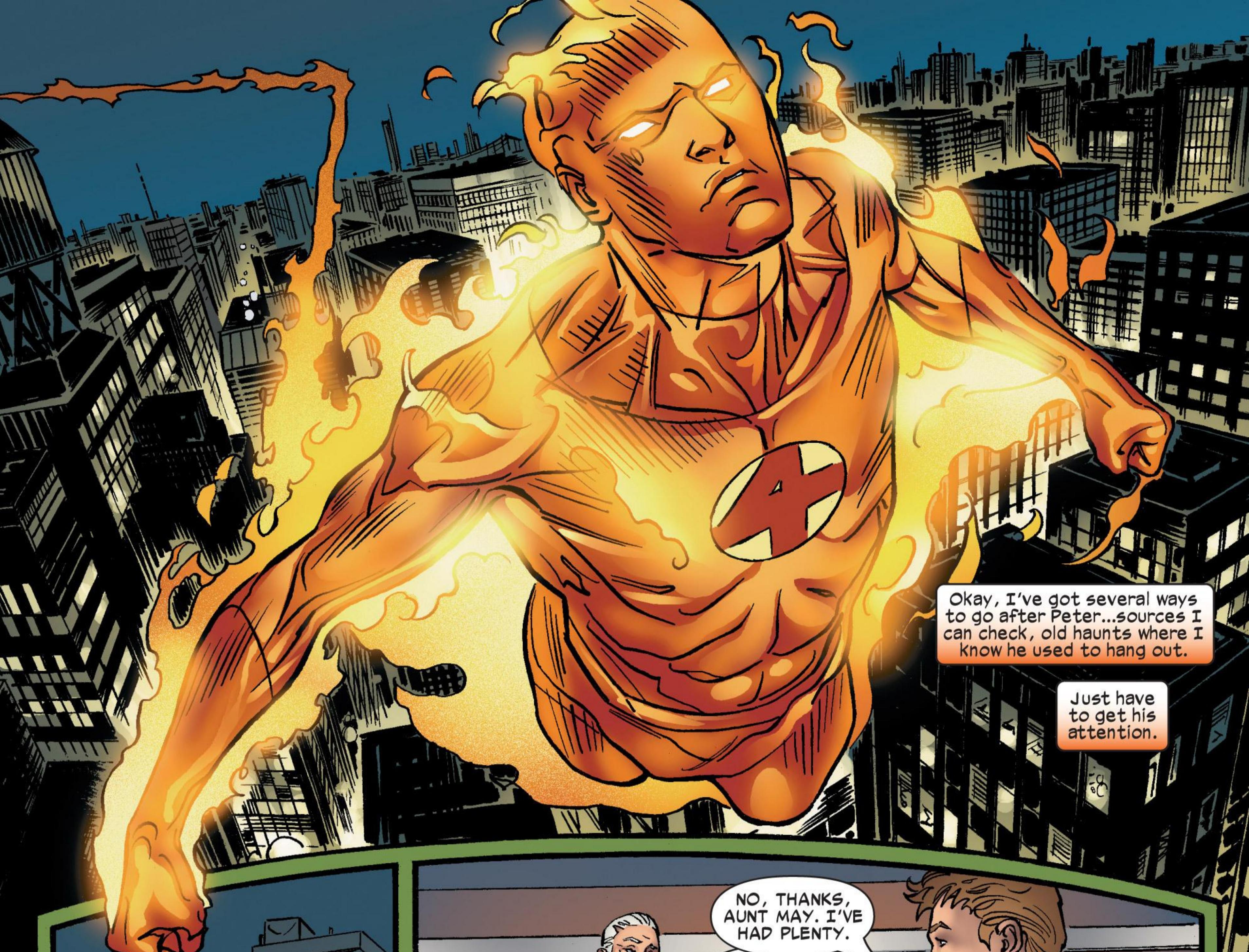
JOE
QUESADA
EDITOR IN CHIEF

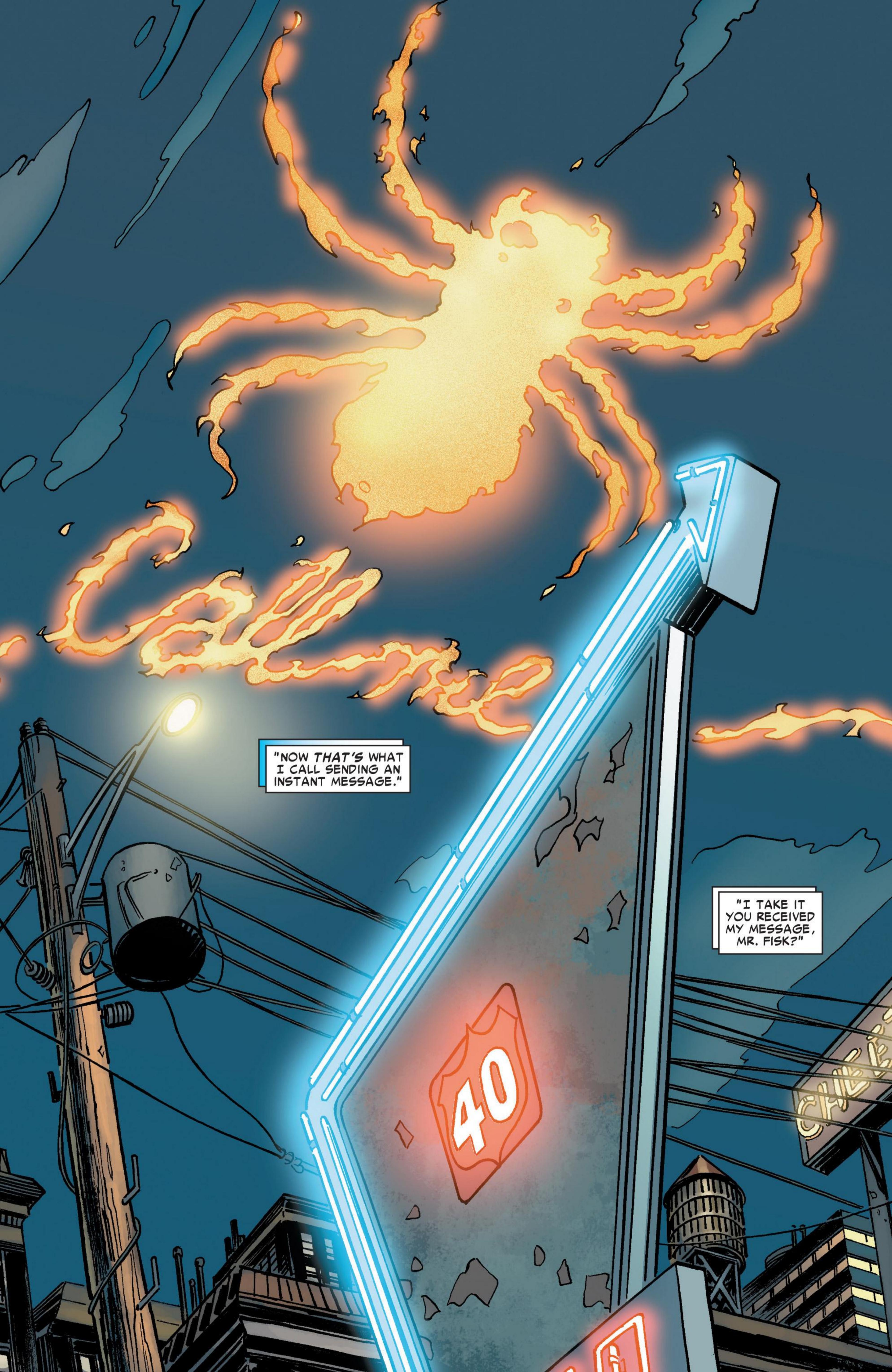
DAN
BUCKLEY
PUBLISHER







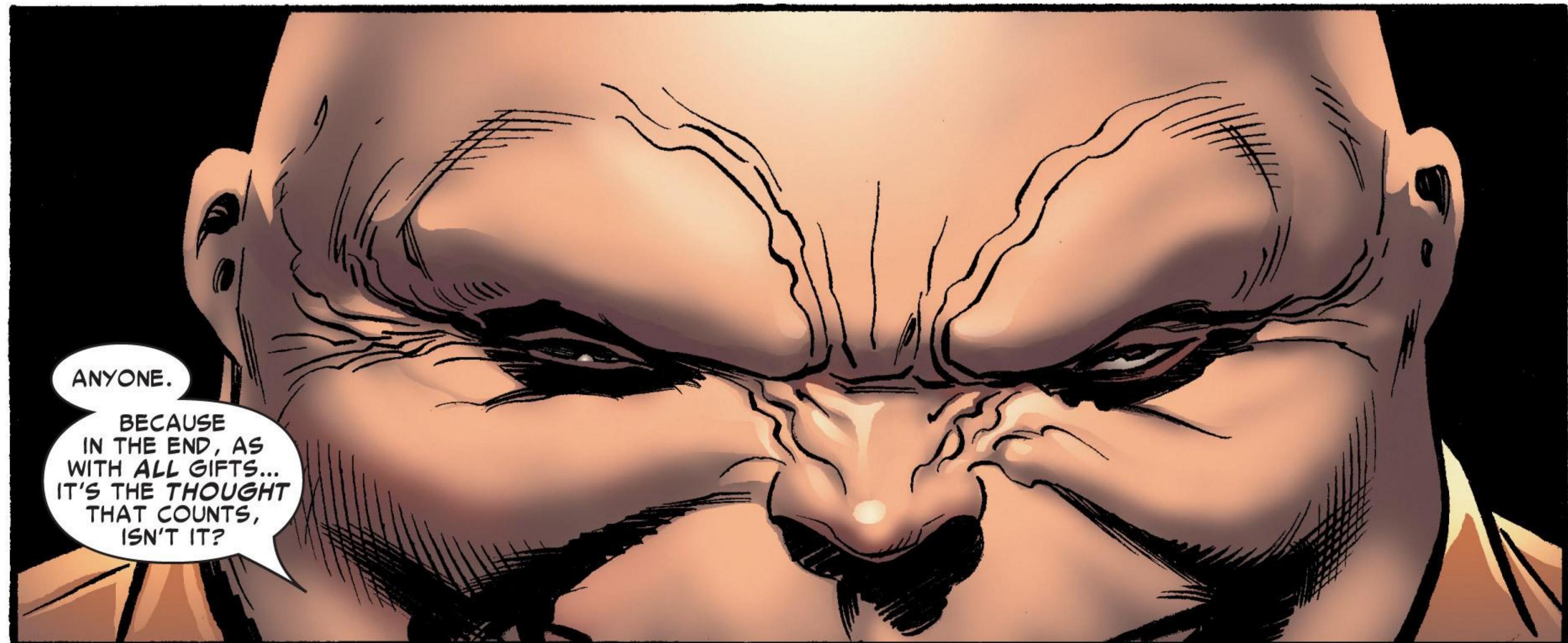




"NOW THAT'S WHAT
I CALL SENDING AN
INSTANT MESSAGE."

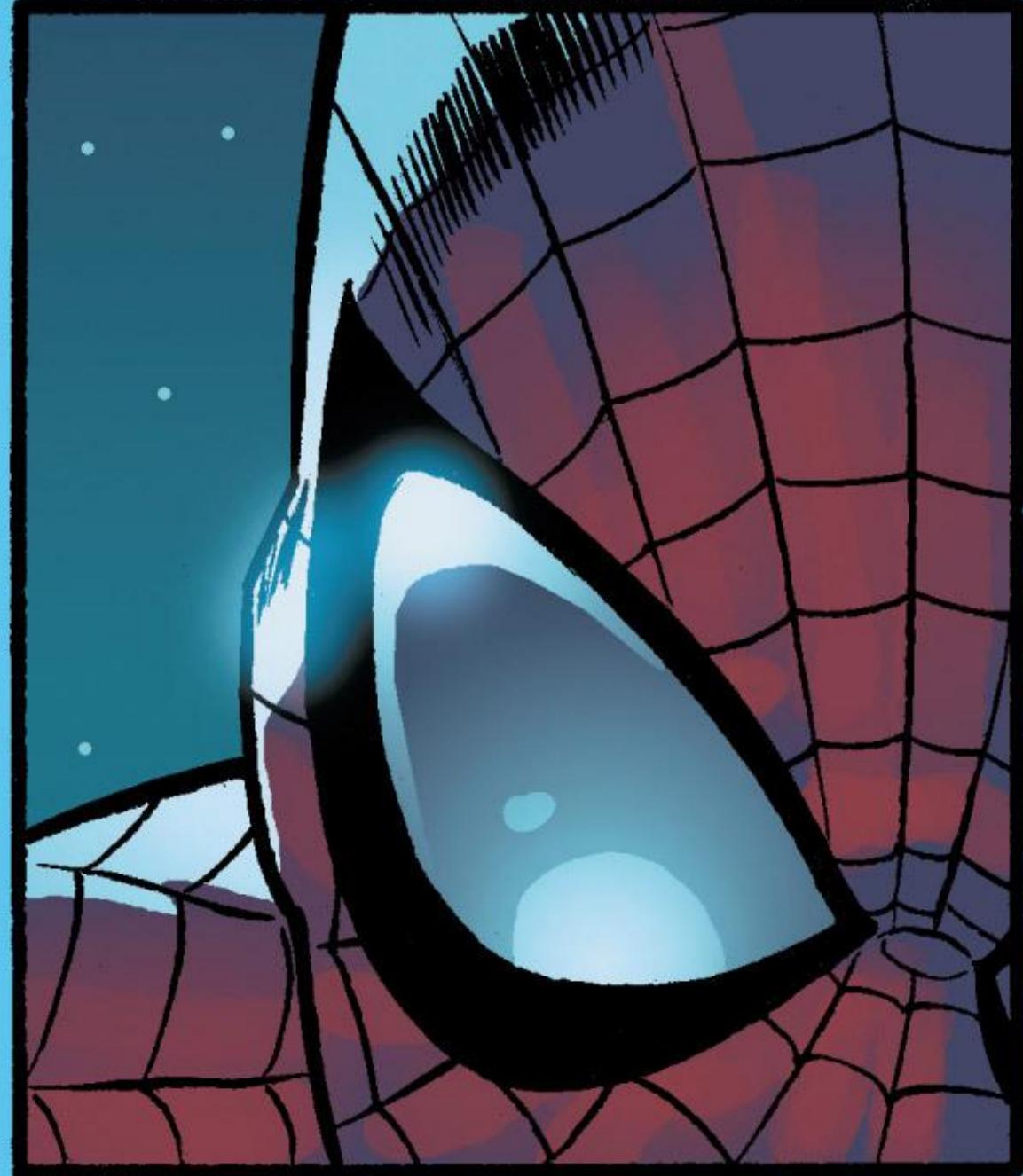
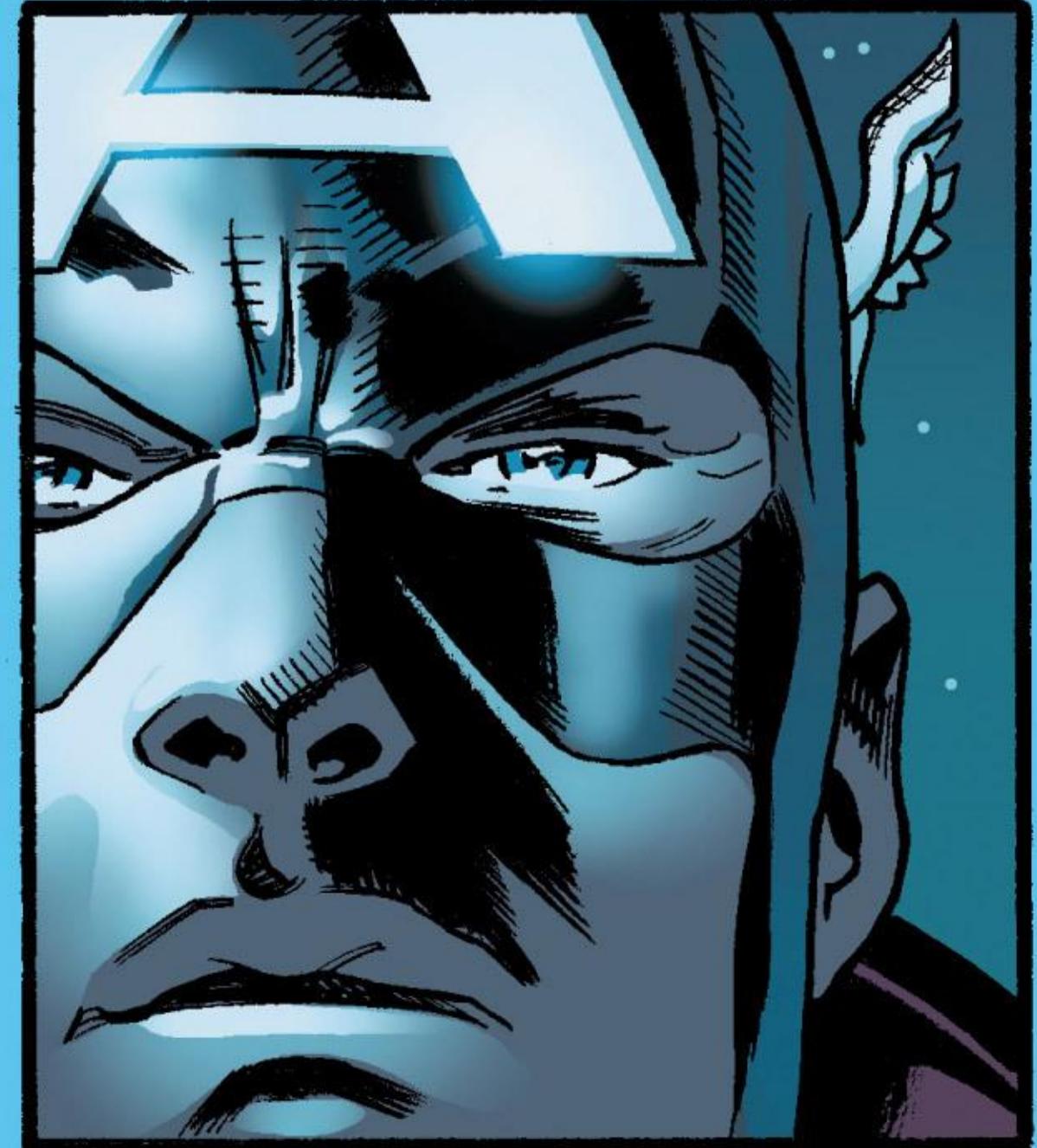
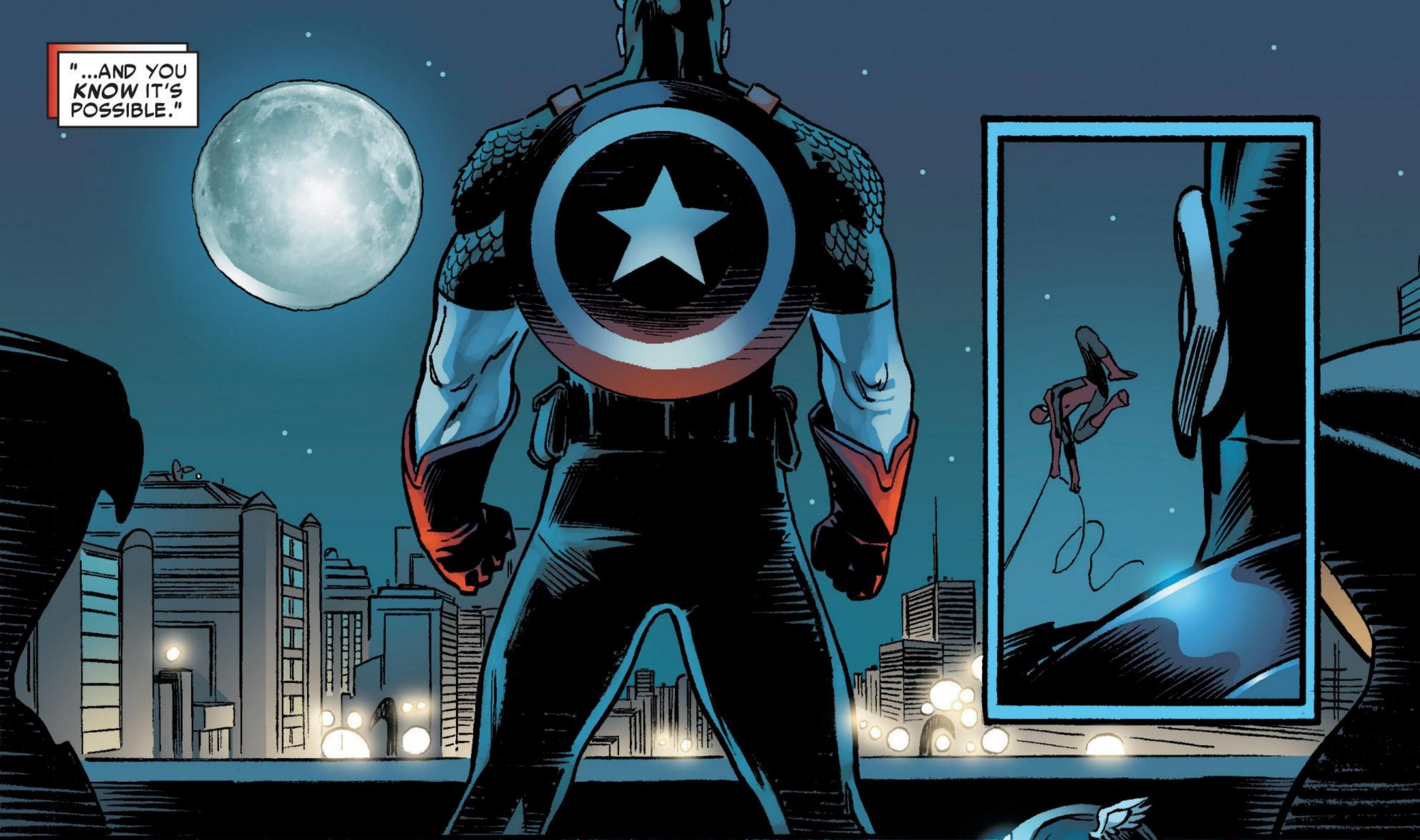
"I TAKE IT
YOU RECEIVED
MY MESSAGE,
MR. FISK?"







"...AND YOU
KNOW IT'S
POSSIBLE."



THAT
WAS A VERY
BRAVE THING
YOU DID.

THANKS.

FOOLISH,
BUT BRAVE.

SO IT
WAS THE
WRONG THING
TO DO?

I HAD TO GET
A MESSAGE OUT, TO
THE PEOPLE, SO THEY'D
UNDERSTAND WHAT'S
GOING ON.

EXCEPT, OF
COURSE, THAT THE
MEDIA IGNORED EVERY-
THING ABOUT THE PRISON,
AND SPENT ALL THEIR
TIME TALKING ABOUT HOW
YOU WERE CHALLENGING
THE GOVERNMENT.

THEY'VE GOT YOU
PEGGED AS A BENEDICT
ARNOLD AND A TRAITOR TO
THE AMERICAN CAUSE.

THEY'VE BEEN
SAYING WORSE ABOUT
YOU LATELY.

I
KNOW.

SO HOW
DO YOU DEAL
WITH IT?

I DIDN'T
SAY THAT. BUT IT
DOES PUT YOU
AT EVEN GREATER
RISK.

I'VE SEEN THAT
LOOK BEFORE...
YOU'VE GOT A
STORY, DON'T
YOU?

PETER--

C'MON,
GRAMPA
STEVE...
TELL US A
STORY.

WHEN THE WHOLE
COUNTRY IS AGAINST
YOU...WHEN IT'S ALL
BEARING DOWN ON YOU
LIKE SOME KIND OF TEN-
TON WEIGHT, AND YOU
DON'T KNOW YOUR OWN
HEART ANYMORE
SOMETIMES--

HOW DOES
THE MAN WHO IS THE
COUNTRY REACT WHEN
THE COUNTRY GOES A
DIFFERENT WAY?

YOU
REALLY WANT
TO KNOW?

I DON'T
WANT TO KNOW,
CAP--

I
NEED TO
KNOW.

--HOW DOES
SOMEONE LIKE YOU
DEAL WITH IT? I MEAN,
YOU PRACTICALLY
ARE THE COUNTRY.



I REMEMBER
THE FIRST TIME I
REALLY UNDERSTOOD
WHAT IT WAS TO BE AN
AMERICAN...WHAT IT
WAS TO BE A
Patriot.

"I WAS JUST A KID...A
MILLION YEARS AGO, IT
SEEMS SOMETIMES.
MAYBE TWELVE. I WAS
READING MARK TWAIN.

"AND HE WROTE SOMETHING
THAT STRUCK ME RIGHT
DOWN TO MY CORE...SOMETHING
SO POWERFUL, SO TRUE,
THAT IT CHANGED
MY LIFE. I MEMORIZED IT
SO I COULD REPEAT IT TO
MYSELF, OVER AND OVER
ACROSS THE YEARS. HE
WROTE--

"IN A REPUBLIC, WHO
IS 'THE COUNTRY?'



"IS IT THE GOVERNMENT
WHICH IS FOR THE MOMENT
IN THE SADDLE? WHY, THE
GOVERNMENT IS MERELY A
TEMPORARY SERVANT; IT
CANNOT BE ITS PREROGATIVE
TO DETERMINE WHAT IS RIGHT
AND WHAT IS WRONG, AND
DECIDE WHO IS A PATRIOT
AND WHO ISN'T. ITS FUNCTION
IS TO OBEY ORDERS, NOT
ORIGINATE THEM.

"WHO, THEN,
IS 'THE COUNTRY?'
IS IT THE NEWSPAPER?
IS IT THE PULPIT? WHY,
THESE ARE MERE PARTS
OF THE COUNTRY, NOT
THE WHOLE OF IT; THEY
HAVE NOT COMMAND,
THEY HAVE ONLY THEIR
LITTLE SHARE IN THE
COMMAND.



"IN A MONARCHY, THE KING AND HIS FAMILY ARE THE COUNTRY; IN A REPUBLIC, IT IS THE COMMON VOICE OF THE PEOPLE. EACH OF YOU, FOR HIMSELF, BY HIMSELF AND ON HIS OWN RESPONSIBILITY, MUST SPEAK."



"IT IS A SOLEMN AND WEIGHTY RESPONSIBILITY, AND NOT LIGHTLY TO BE FLUNG ASIDE AT THE BULLYING OF PULPIT, PRESS, GOVERNMENT, OR THE EMPTY CATCHPHRASES OF POLITICIANS."

"EACH MUST FOR HIMSELF ALONE DECIDE WHAT IS RIGHT AND WHAT IS WRONG, AND WHICH COURSE IS PATRIOTIC AND WHICH ISN'T. YOU CANNOT SHIRK THIS AND BE A MAN."



"TO DECIDE IT AGAINST YOUR CONVICTIONS IS TO BE AN UNQUALIFIED AND INEXCUSABLE TRAITOR, BOTH TO YOURSELF AND TO YOUR COUNTRY, LET MEN LABEL YOU AS THEY MAY."

"IF YOU ALONE OF ALL THE NATION SHALL DECIDE ONE WAY, AND THAT WAY BE THE RIGHT WAY ACCORDING TO YOUR CONVICTIONS OF THE RIGHT, YOU HAVE DONE YOUR DUTY BY YOURSELF AND BY YOUR COUNTRY. HOLD UP YOUR HEAD. YOU HAVE NOTHING TO BE ASHAMED OF."

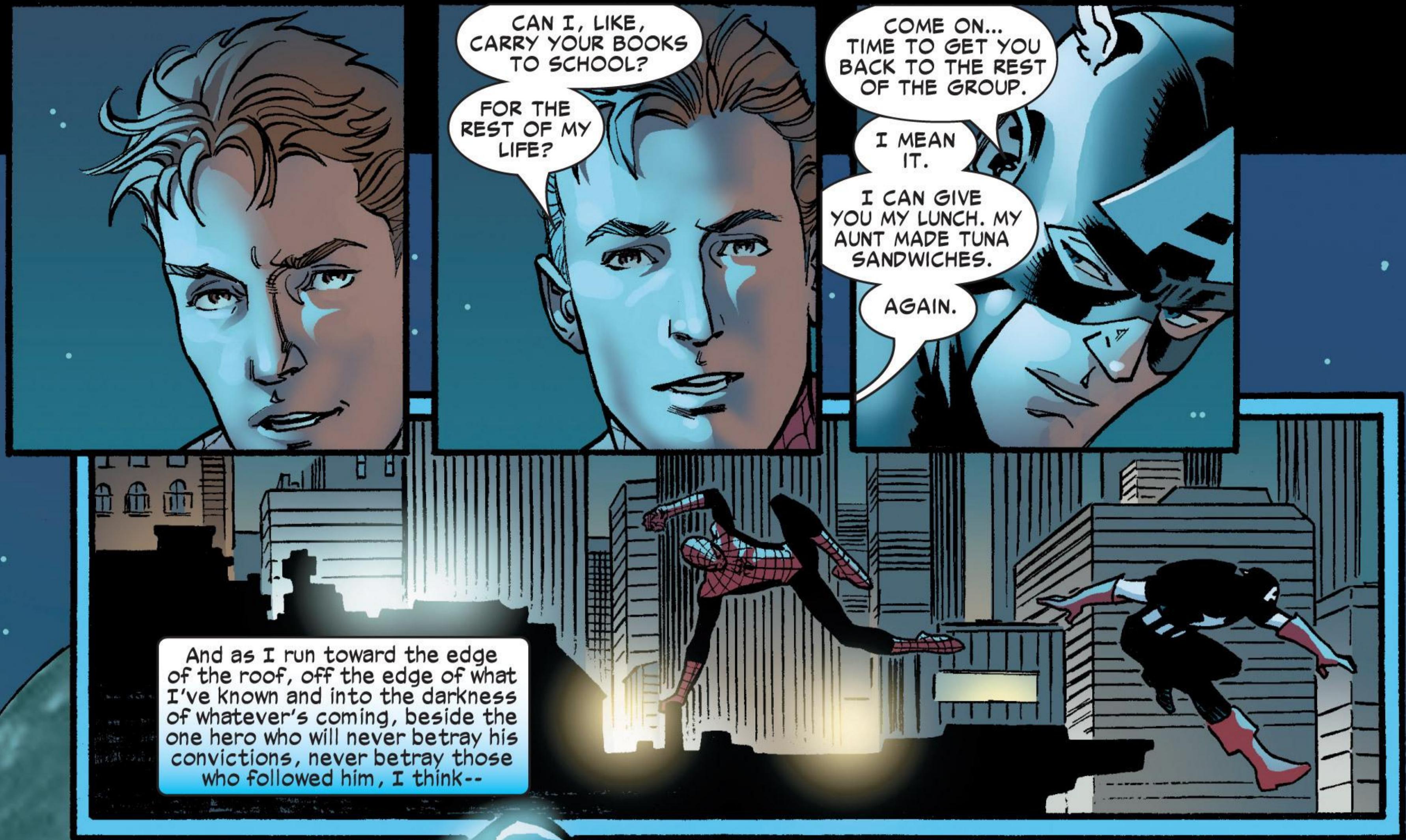
DOESN'T MATTER
WHAT THE PRESS SAYS.
DOESN'T MATTER WHAT THE
POLITICIANS OR THE MOBS SAY.
DOESN'T MATTER IF THE WHOLE
COUNTRY DECIDES THAT
SOMETHING WRONG IS
SOMETHING RIGHT.

THIS NATION
WAS FOUNDED ON ONE
PRINCIPLE ABOVE ALL ELSE:
THE REQUIREMENT THAT WE
STAND UP FOR WHAT WE
BELIEVE, NO MATTER THE
ODDS OR THE
CONSEQUENCES.

WHEN THE MOB
AND THE PRESS AND THE
WHOLE WORLD TELL YOU
TO MOVE, YOUR JOB IS TO
PLANT YOURSELF LIKE A TREE
BESIDE THE RIVER OF TRUTH,
AND TELL THE WHOLE
WORLD--

--"NO,
YOU MOVE."





YOU'VE GOT AN ADDRESS?



THE ADDRESS, AND YOUR FEE, ARE BOTH IN THE ENVELOPE.

MY CLIENT WISHES TO REINFORCE THAT YOU WILL ONLY HAVE, AT BEST, ONE SHOT AT THE PRIMARY TARGET, SO MAKE THE BEST OF IT.

AND THE SECONDARY TARGETS?



AMUSE YOURSELF.

DEALER'S CHOICE. IF HE'S GONE, THEY REALLY DON'T MATTER. BUT IF YOU CAN'T ACQUIRE THE PRIMARY--

UNDERSTOOD.

ONE OTHER THING. THE TARGET HAS A TENDENCY TO SENSE DANGER WHEN IT'S COMING. THIS MAY COMPLICATE THE JOB.

NOT A PROBLEM. I'VE COME ACROSS THAT SORT OF THING BEFORE. I HAVE A LITTLE SOLUTION TO THAT PROBLEM.

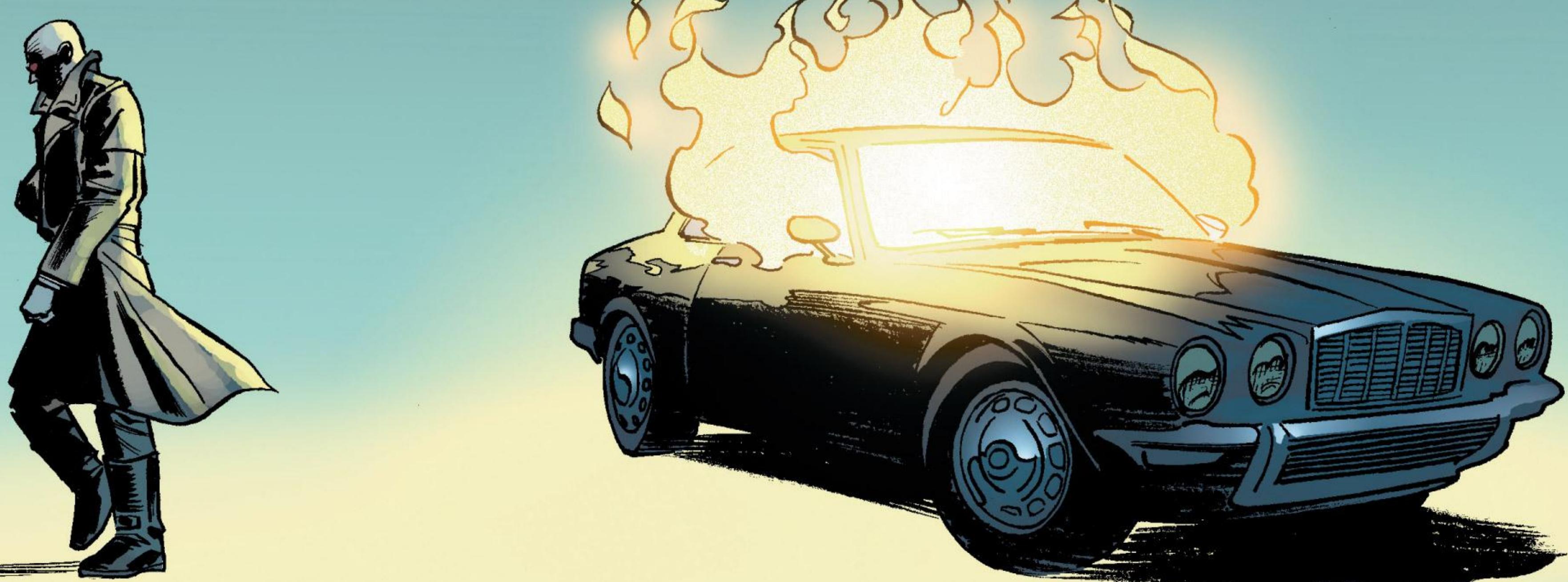
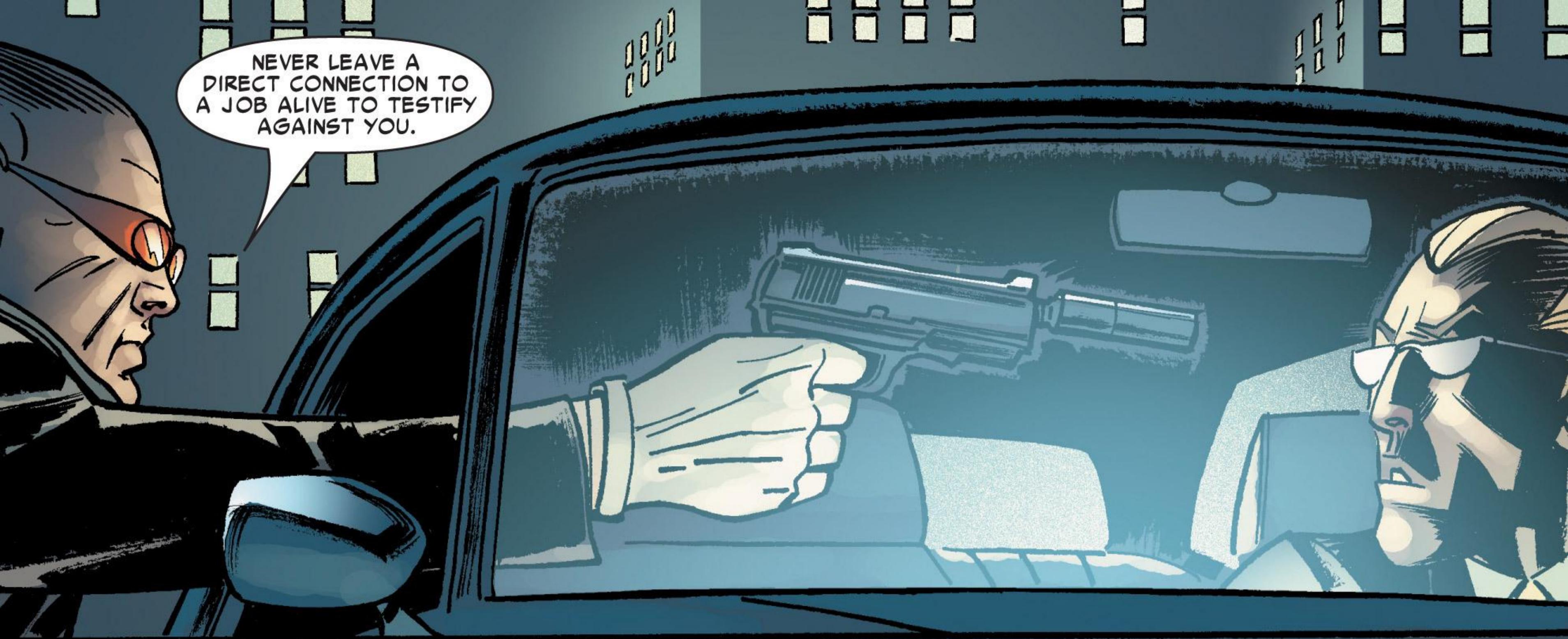


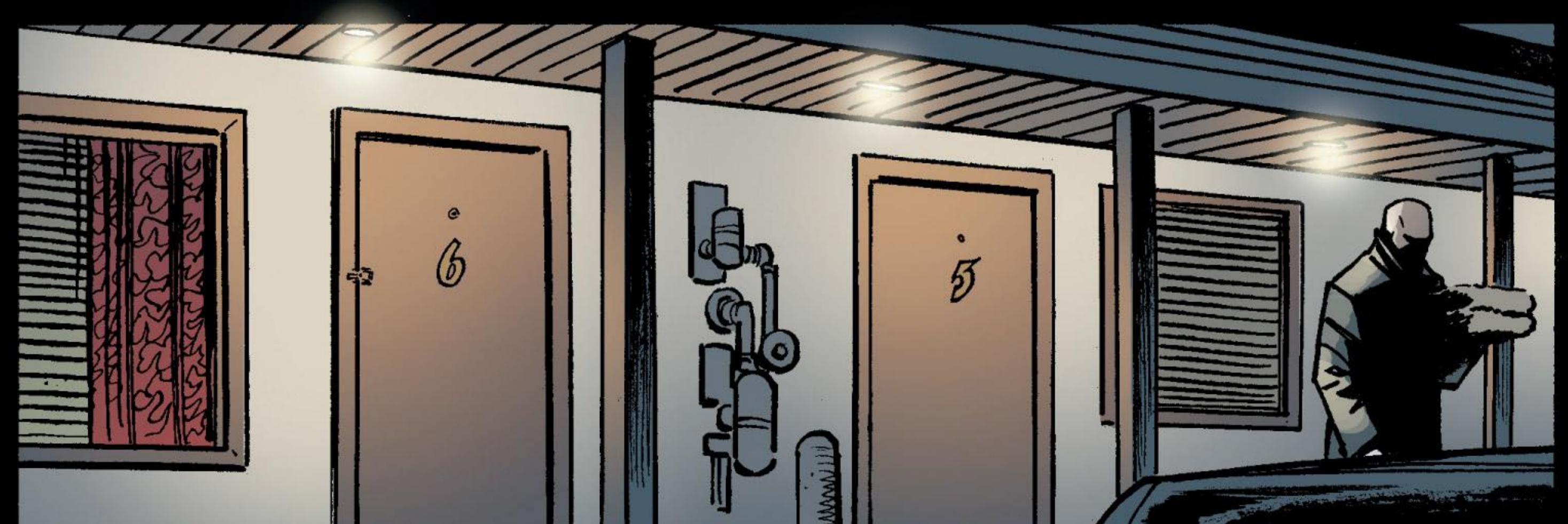
IT'S CALLED SLEEPING ON THE JOB. IT'S ONE OF MY TWO TRADE SECRETS.

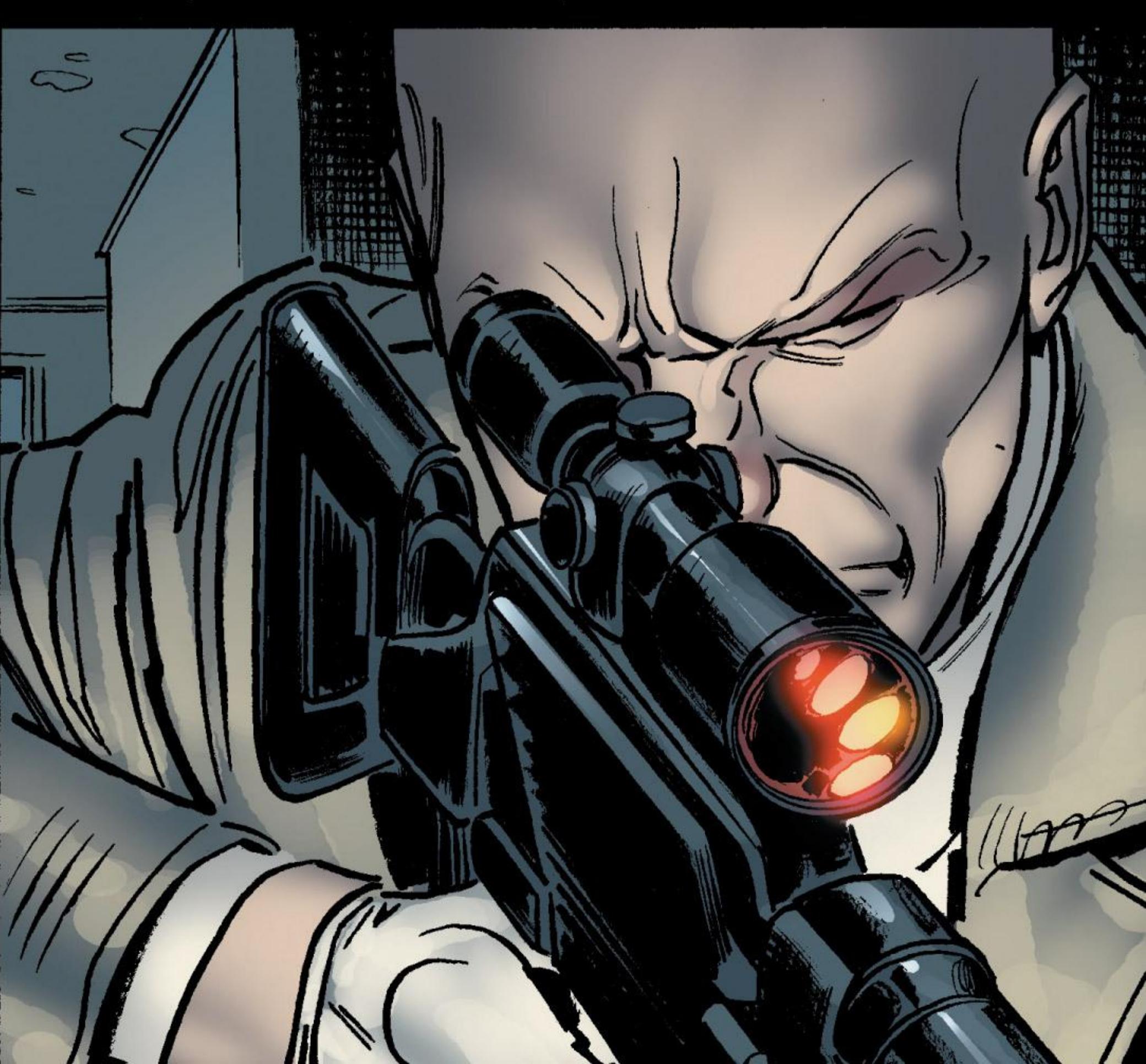
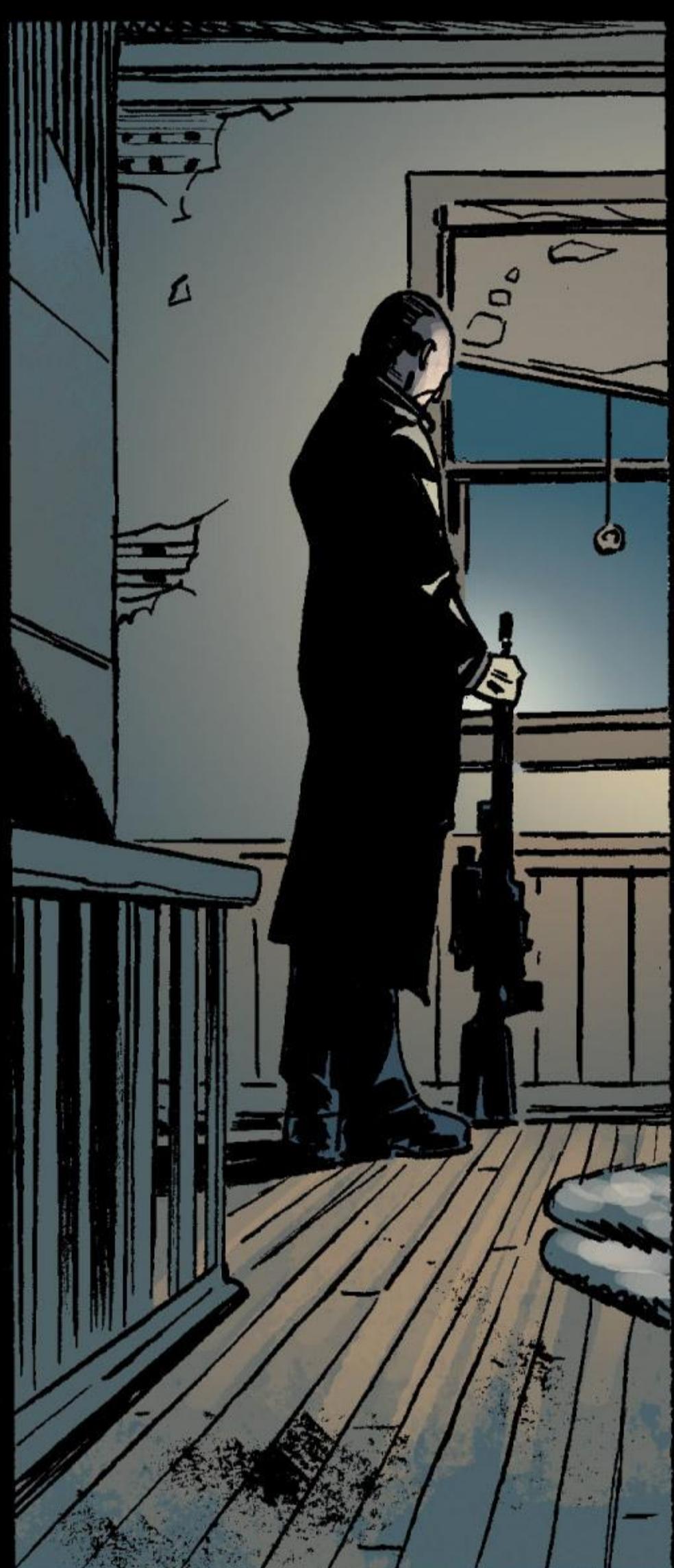
YEAH? WHAT'S THE OTHER?



NEVER LEAVE A
DIRECT CONNECTION TO
A JOB ALIVE TO TESTIFY
AGAINST YOU.







"YOU DID
A VERY BRAVE
THING, PETER."

I MEAN, IT TAKES A
LOT OF COURAGE TO CHANGE
YOUR MIND ABOUT SOMETHING
AFTER GOING SO FAR DOWN THE
ROAD. SAYING "I WAS WRONG,"
HAS TO BE THE HARDEST
SENTENCE IN THE ENGLISH
LANGUAGE.

ACTUALLY, THE
HARDEST SENTENCE IN THE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE IS,
"WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH
MY WIFE?" THERE'S NEVER A
REALLY GOOD ANSWER TO
THAT ONE.

YOU'VE COME
AT A GOOD TIME, PETER.
WE'RE MOVING TOWARD A
FINAL SHOWDOWN WITH
TONY'S FORCES. WE COULD
USE ALL THE HELP WE
CAN GET.

WELL, I'LL DO
WHATEVER I CAN.
BUT IT LOOKS TO ME
LIKE YOU'VE GOT
IT COVERED.

I HOPE SO. WHEN YOU GO INTO BATTLE, THERE ARE THREE ELEMENTS TO PLANNING OUT THE ENGAGEMENT. YOU HAVE TO BE SURE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU KNOW, AND YOU HAVE TO KNOW WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW.

SO
WHAT'S
NUMBER
THREE?

THREE'S THE DIFFICULT PART. BECAUSE THERE ARE ALWAYS SOME THINGS THAT YOU DON'T KNOW. YOU DON'T KNOW. AND THOSE ARE THE THINGS THAT CAN GET YOU KILLED.

"WE KNOW TONY'S RESOURCES, HIS NUMBERS, AND THANKS TO YOU, HIS STRATEGY. WE KNOW A LOT ABOUT WHAT'S COMING."

KNOWING SO MUCH JUST MAKES ME ALL THE MORE CONCERNED ABOUT TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT IT IS THAT WE DON'T KNOW.

I THINK YOU'RE WORRYING TOO MUCH. YOU'RE THE BEST TACTICAL BRAIN ON THE PLANET--

--I'M SURE THERE'S
NOTHING YOU LEFT OUT
OF THE EQUATION."



 TO BE CONTINUED...