

CHARACTER ASSASSINATION PART
2 OF 4

MARVEL®
585 .com

GUGGENHEIM
ROMITA JR.
JANSON
WHITE

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



JR
JR
+
JANSON
WHITE

THE DB! FOR EVERY BRAND NEWS DAY!

THE

DB

SHOCK POLL! CANDIDATE RANDALL CROWNE RUNNING DEAD EVEN IN COUNCILMAN BILL HOLLISTER'S HOME DISTRICT! SHIFT AFTER "WILD" BILL CALLED TAX HIKES OUR "DUTY AS NEW YORKERS!" MORE @ WWW.THEDBONLINE.COM!

FEBRUARY 4TH, 2009

• WEDNESDAY

MENACE OVER MANHATTAN



A mayoral election just days away. A spider-tracing serial killer on the streets. A glider-riding madman in the skies. A city under siege. The stakes couldn't get higher for Peter Parker right now.

Framed for murder, Spider-Man's already on the run from the cops, but he can't keep a low profile so long as the maniacal Menace keeps his crosshairs on the mayor's race, a mayor's race his friends Harry Osborn, Lily Hollister and Carlie Cooper are at the center of. But where does he start?

The Tracer Killer's latest victim, super-villain bet-taker the Bookie, had all but cracked the case when he met his demise. Menace, meanwhile, is pumped up and deadlier than ever – and Pete's already injured from a run-in with the police. Battered and beleaguered, Pete returns home, just as Carlie Cooper enters the apartment, having traced the trail of the Spider-Tracer Killer – but not to Pete, but to his roommate, Officer Vin Gonzales!

TRACER KILLER TRACED?

By Betty Brant

Is the NYPD close to capturing the Spider-Tracer Killer? The case's lead investigator, Sgt. Quentin Palone, isn't talking, but off-record conversations with NYPD officials have ceded some interesting info. It seems a young CSI agent, the name of whom is still undisclosed, may have gotten a lead on the signals these so-called tracers emit. Speaking on the condition of anonymity, CSI sources say this agent and her lab partner have fashioned a device to track these bionic bugs to their original source...

(more on page E14)

WE'RE BACK,
FOLKS.

THIS IS
TWO IN ONE, THE
SHOW THAT TAKES A
HARD-HITTING LOOK
AT THE ISSUES THAT
HIT HARDEST.

TWO
IN
ONE

I'M SAMARA
SAFFIAN.



AND I'M
MICHAEL
LEVIN.

IT'S LESS
THAN 35 HOURS 'TIL
ELECTION DAY AND ALL
OF NEW YORK IS
WAITING TO SEE IF ITS
NEXT MAYOR WILL BE
NAMED CROWNE OR
HOLLISTER...

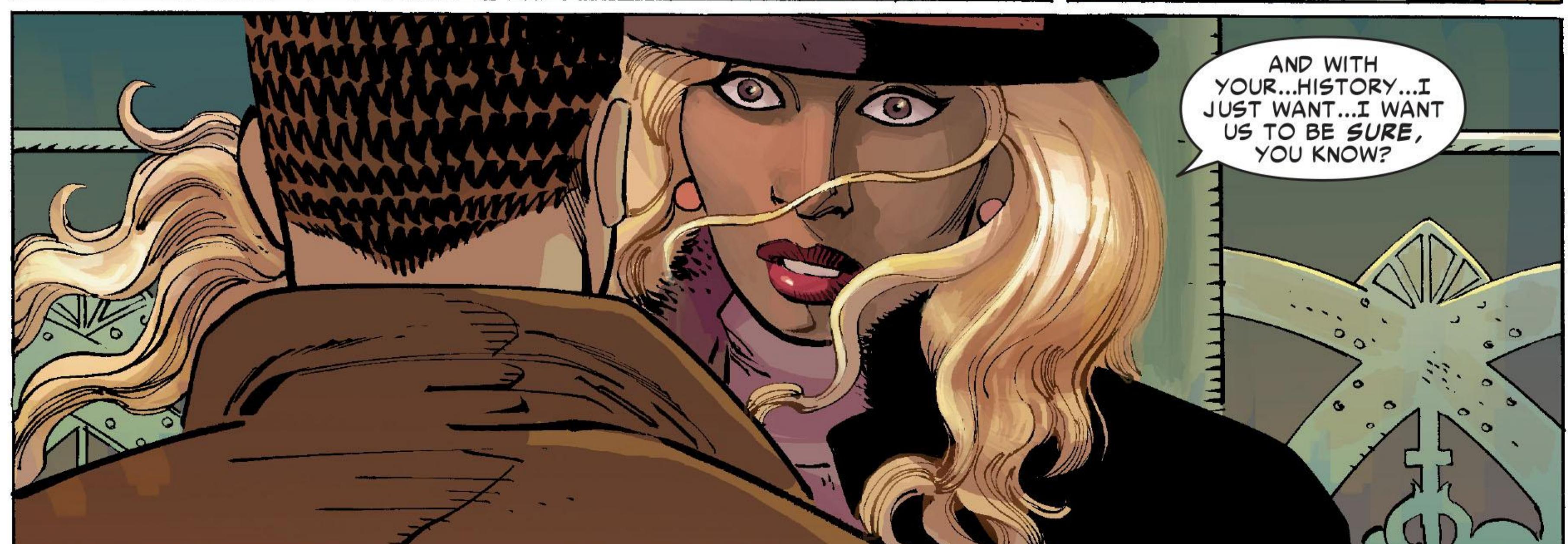
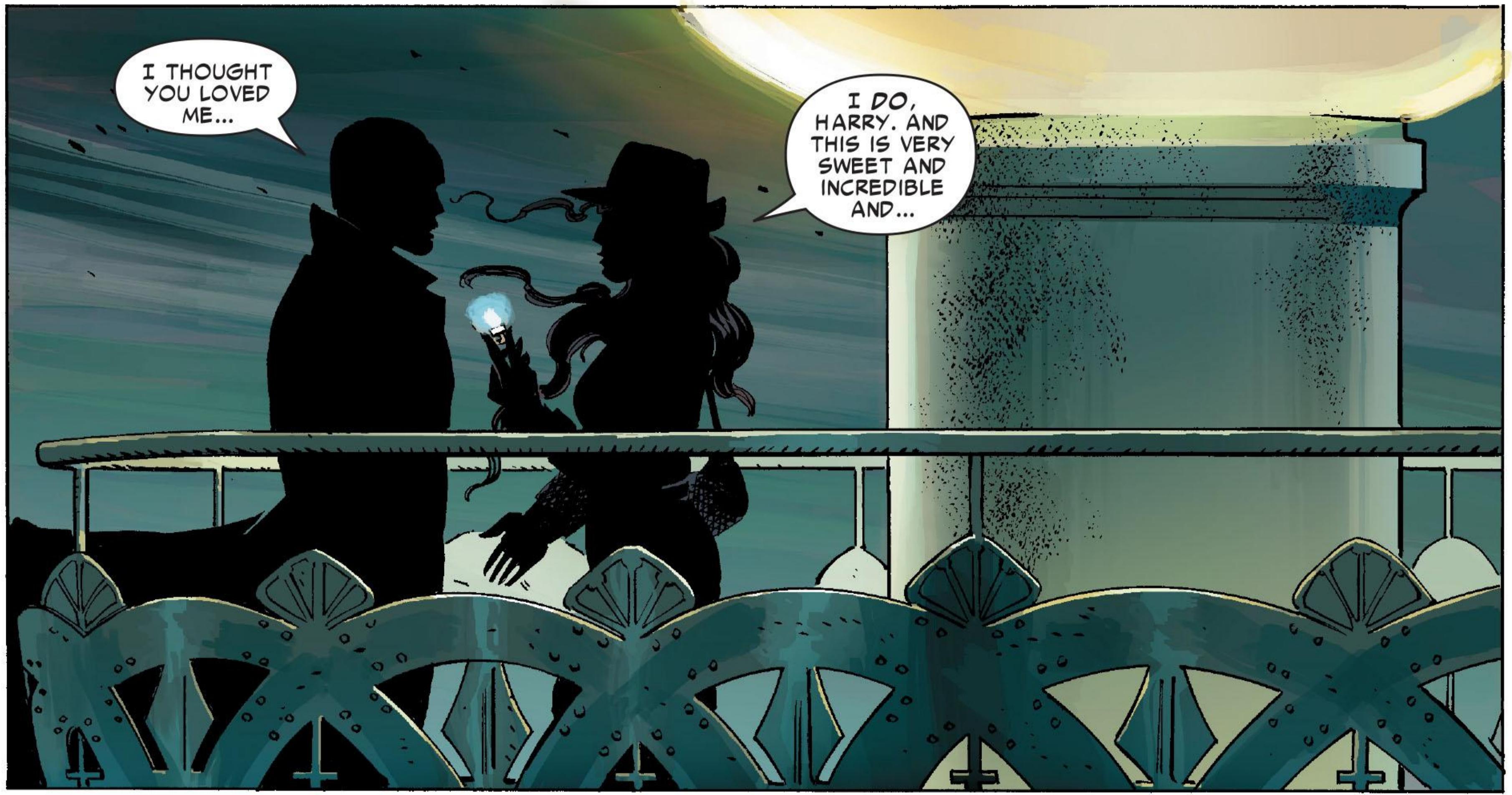


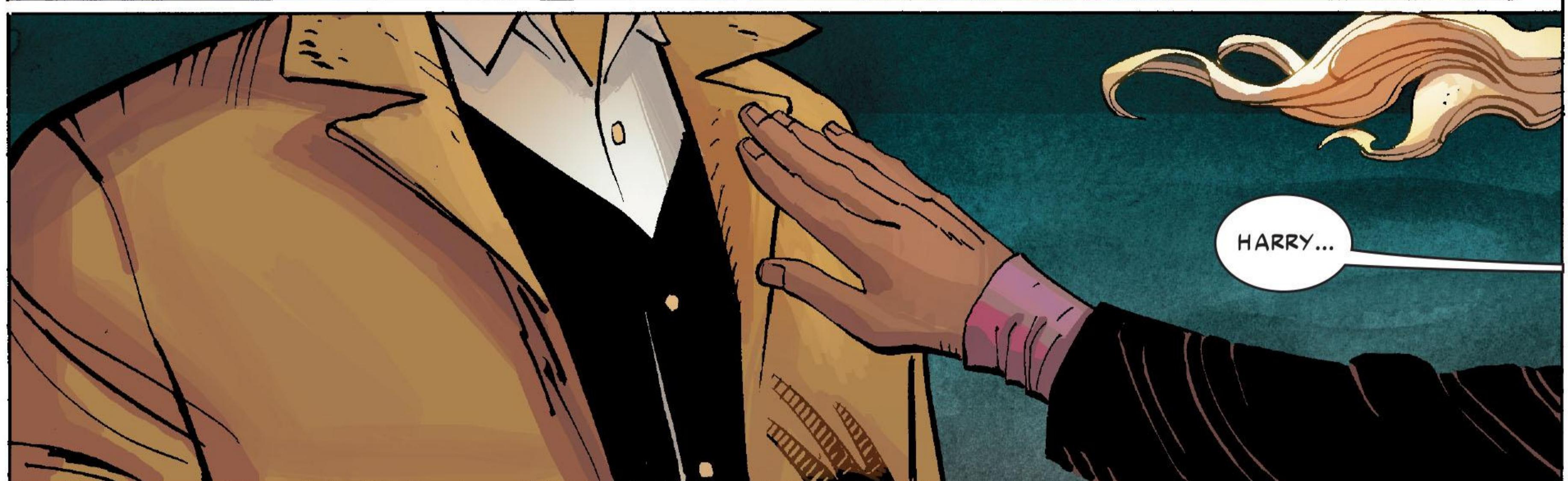
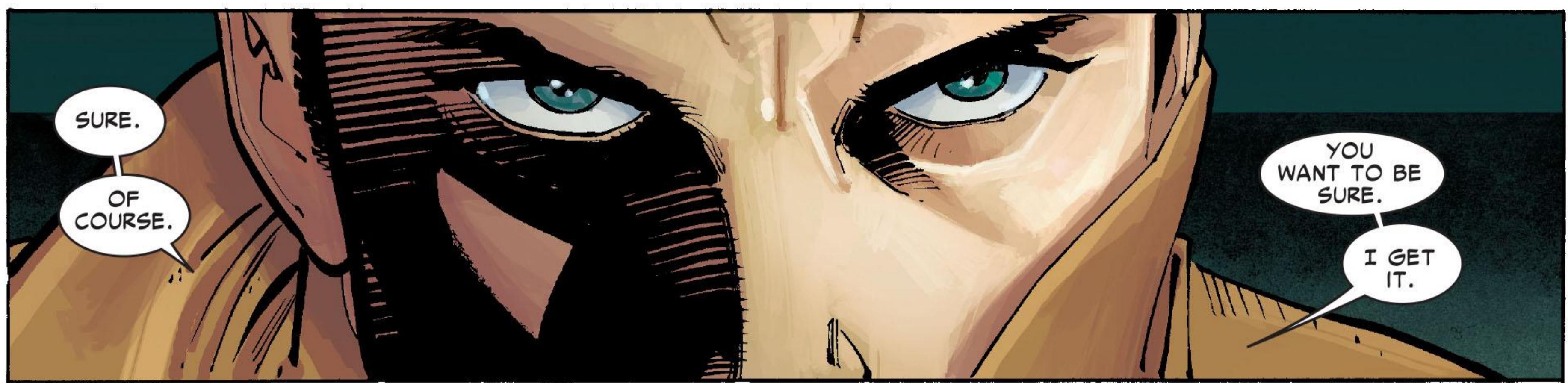
WE'LL BE WITH YOU
ALL THE WAY, PROVIDING
COMMENTARY AND DEBATE AS
NEW YORK CITY CHOOSES
ITS NEXT MAYOR.

STAY WITH US
BECAUSE WE'VE GOT
SOME GOOD STUFF
COMING UP FOR YOU,
INCLUDING A COMMENTARY
BY THE ALWAYS ERUDITE
J. JONAH JAMESON,
FORMER PUBLISHER OF
THE DAILY BUGLE.

"I DON'T
UNDERSTAND,
LILY..."









Alphabet City.

THE APARTMENT OF
PETER PARKER AND
VIN GONZALES.

CARLIE?

PETER,
THANK
GOD.

I CAN
EXPLAIN--

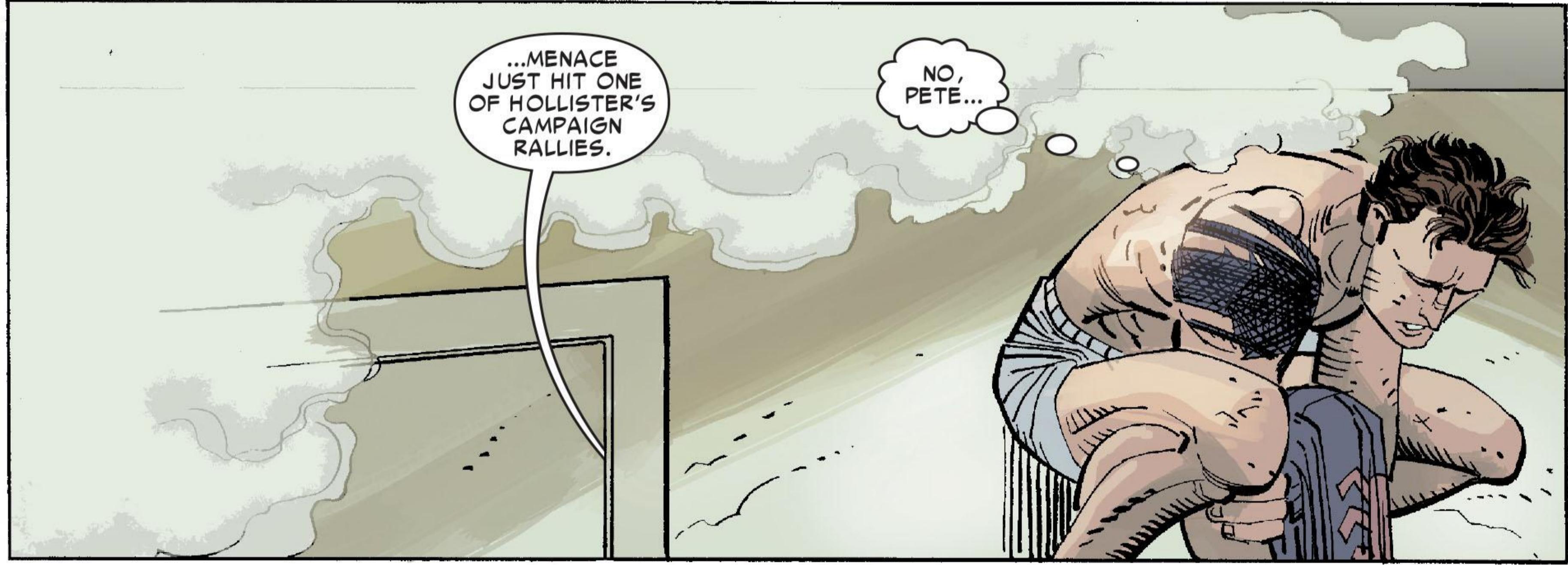
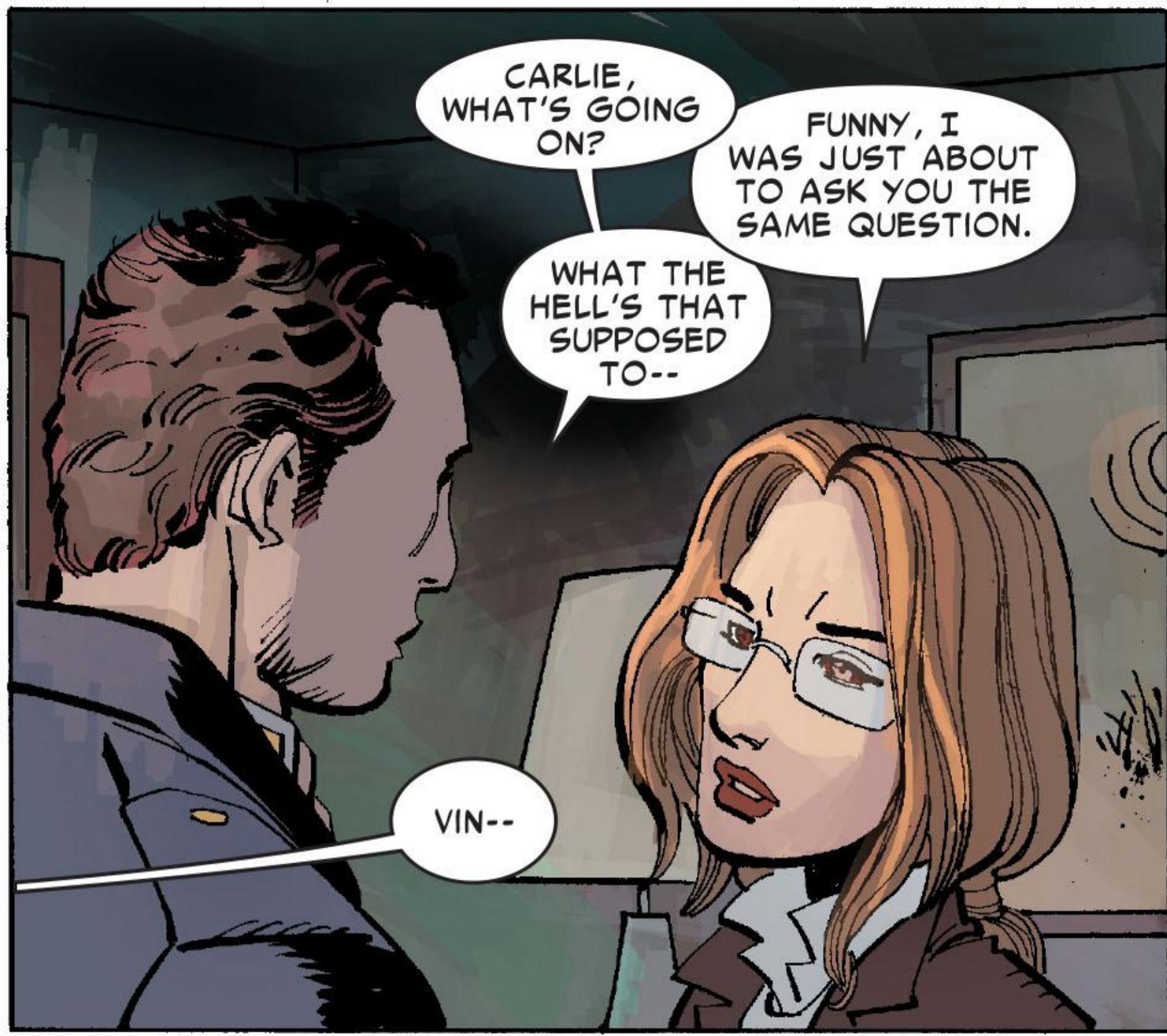
EXPLAIN
WHAT?

VIN! I
THOUGHT YOU
WERE WORKING
THE NIGHT
SHIFT...

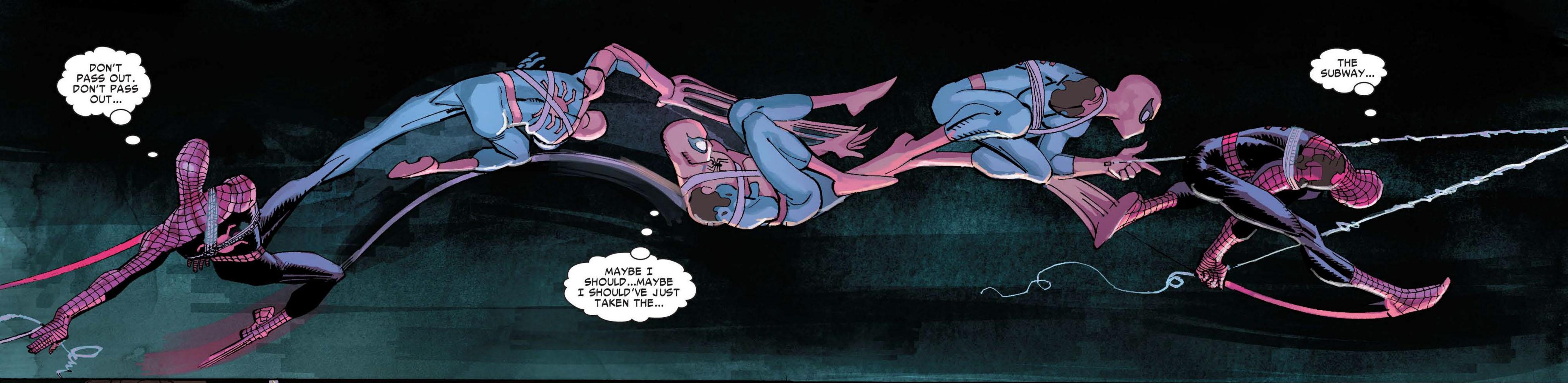
YEAH. O'NEIL'S
DOWNSTAIRS WAITING
FOR ME. I JUST FORGOT
MY LOCKER KEY.

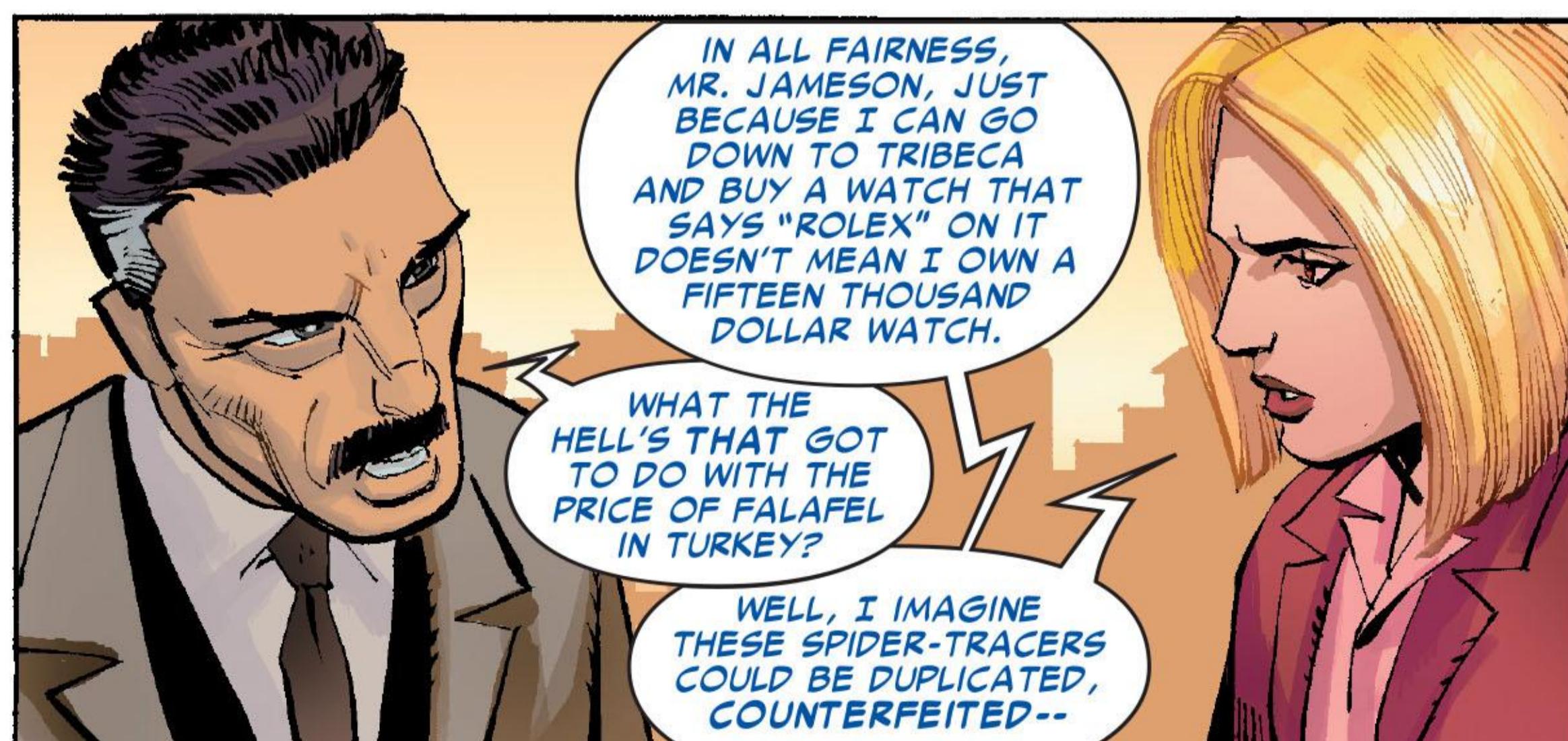
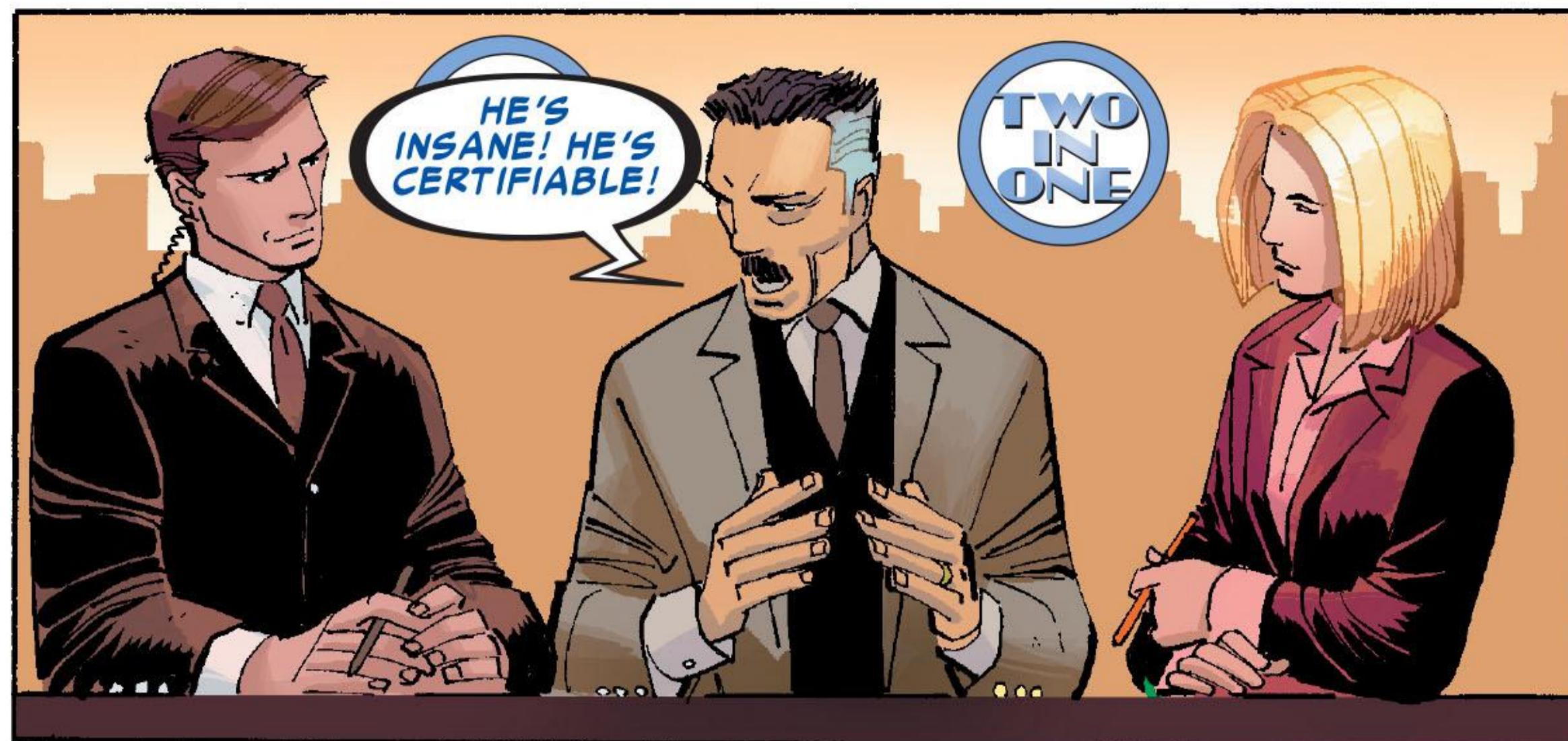
IS PETER
HERE?
NO.
WHY?

HE JUST--
I THOUGHT HE
WAS IN THE
BATHROOM.









I ALWAYS FIGURED YOU FOR A HOLLISTER GUY, MENNY.

THEN AGAIN, THIS IS A HOLLISTER RALLY AND YOU COULD JUST BE SHOWING YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE MAN.



NO, I JUST KNEW SHOWING UP HERE WOULD BE THE BEST WAY TO LURE YOU OUT INTO THE OPEN.

IS THAT RIGHT? THAT'S SWEET. YOU REALLY CARE ABOUT ME.

NO, I'M JUST HAVING A BAD DAY AND NEED SOMEONE TO TAKE IT OUT ON.



HAVE YOU TRIED MEDITATION INSTEAD? A LITTLE RETAIL THERAPY?

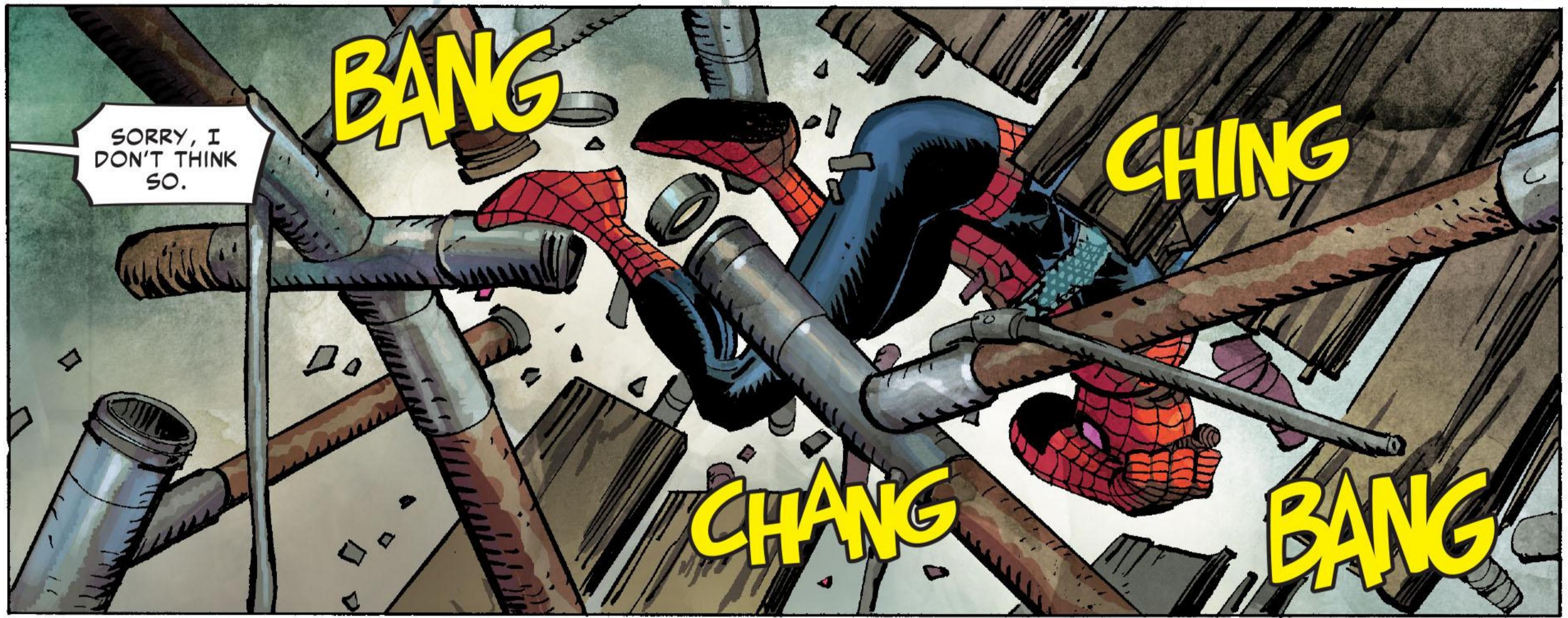
:OOF:

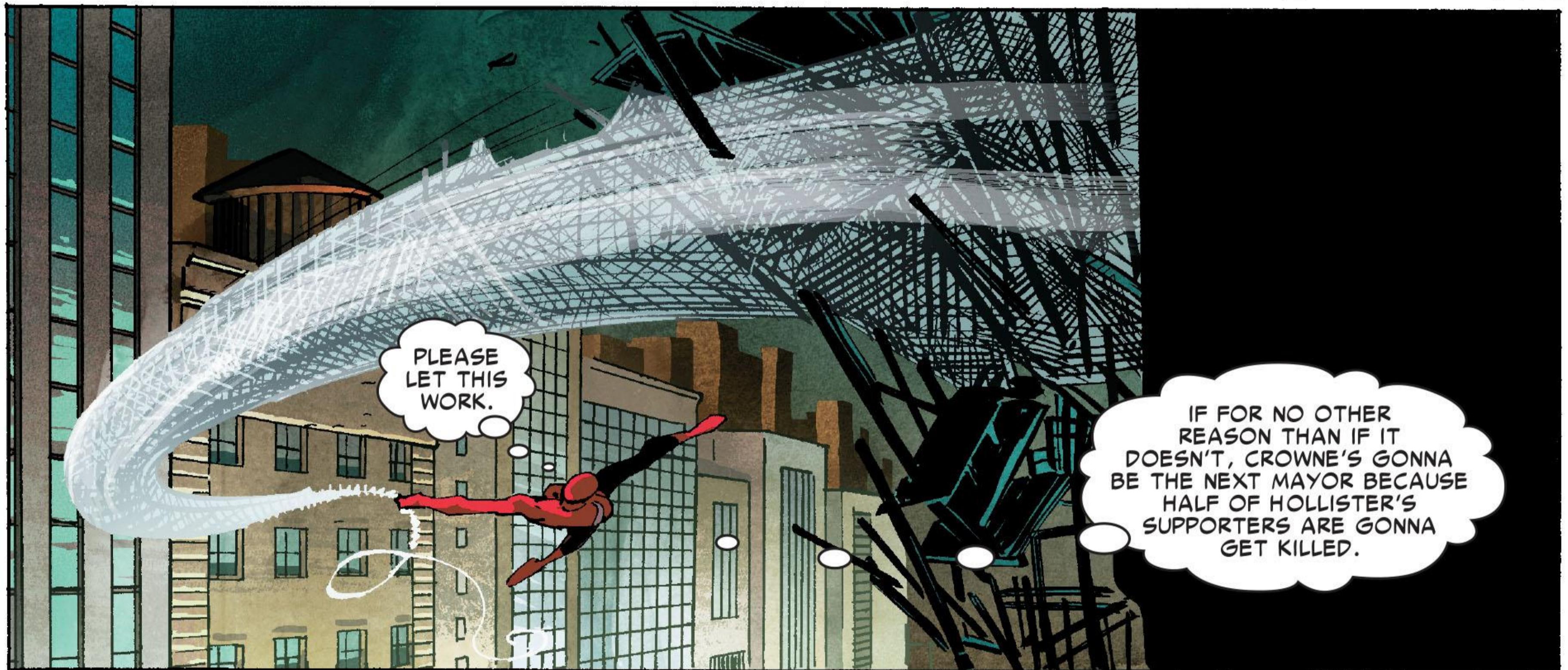
GUESS NOT.

GAAAHH!

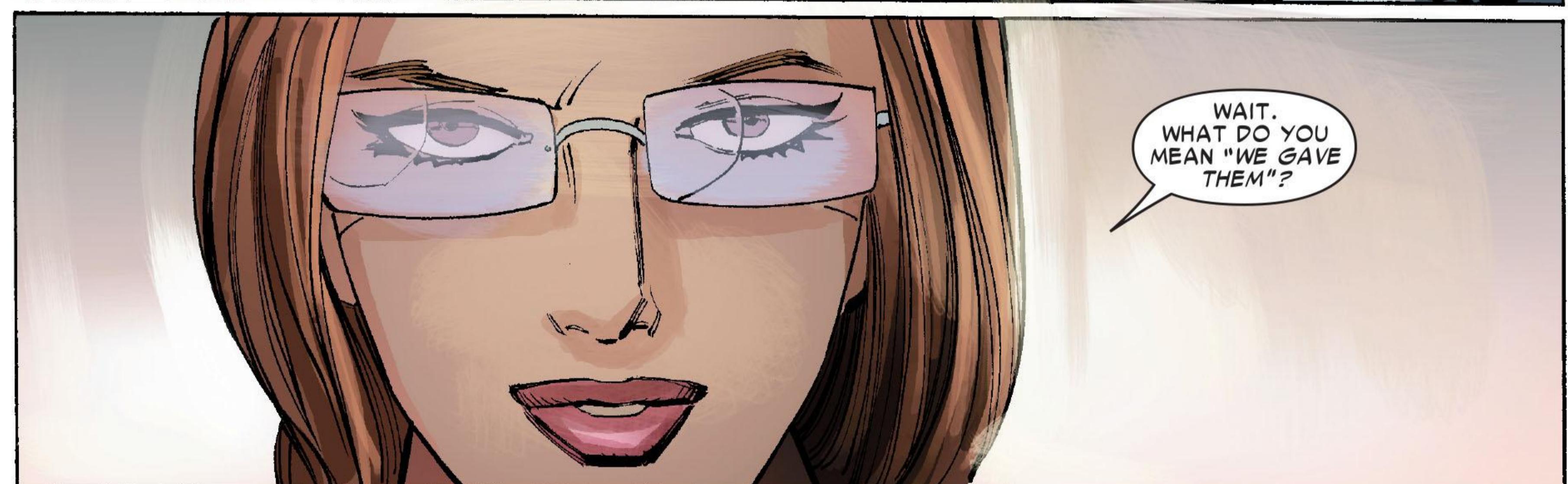
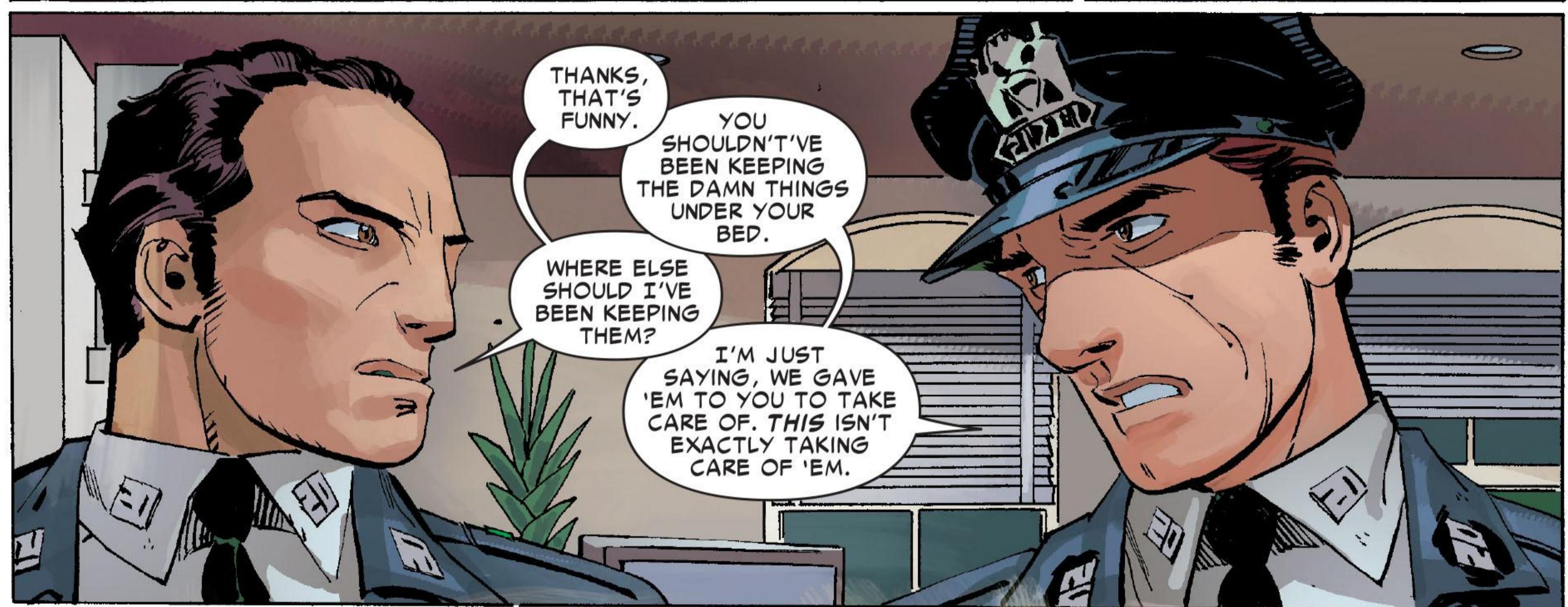
WHAT WAS THAT NOW? I COULDN'T HEAR YOU OVER THE SCREAMING.

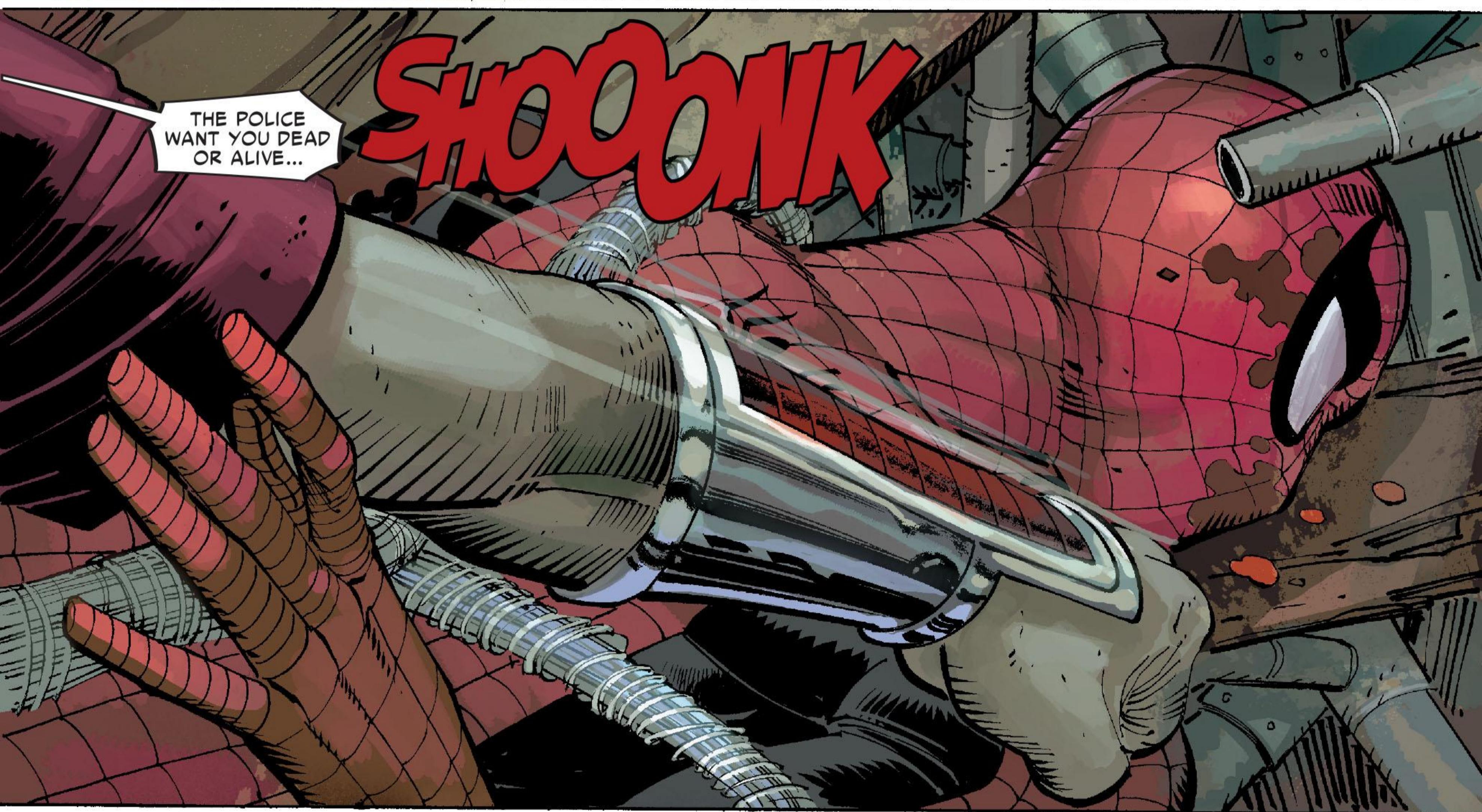
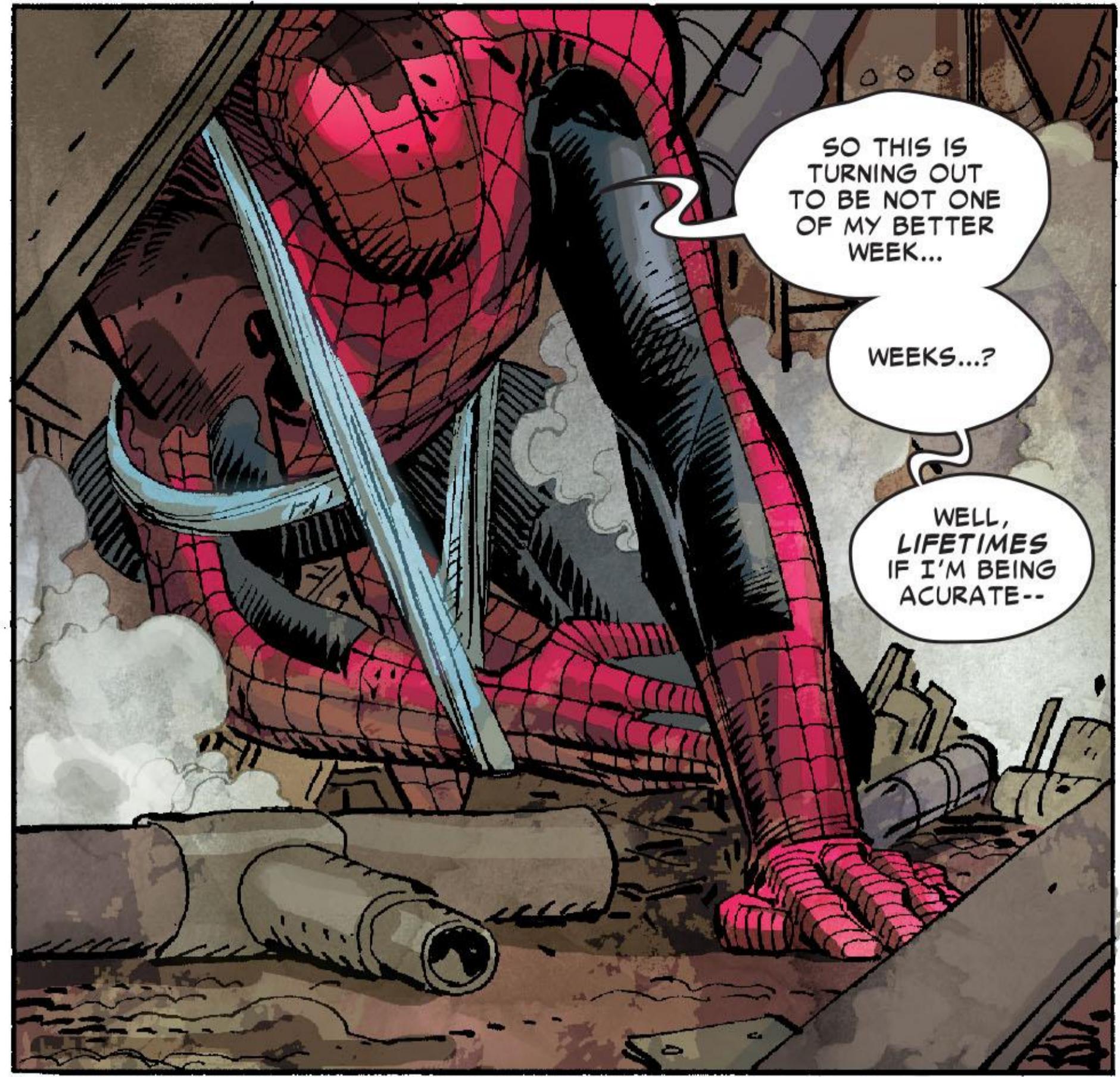


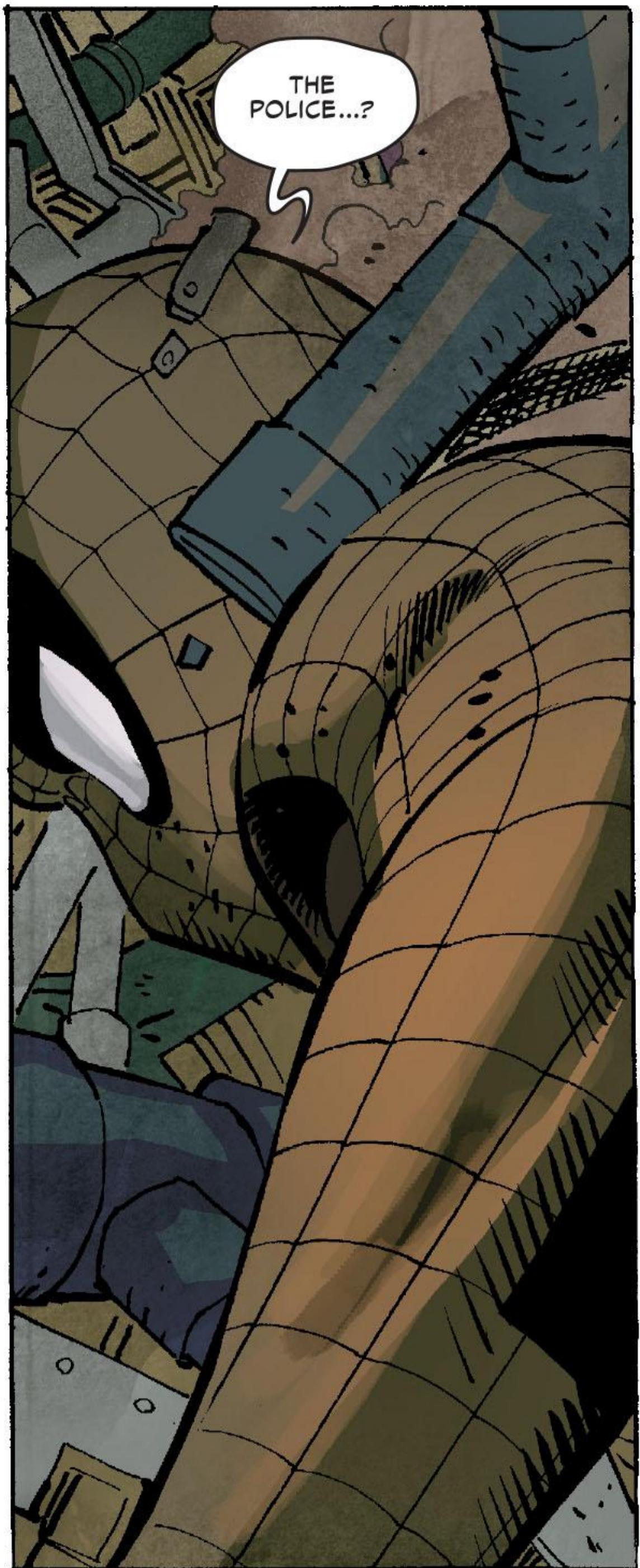


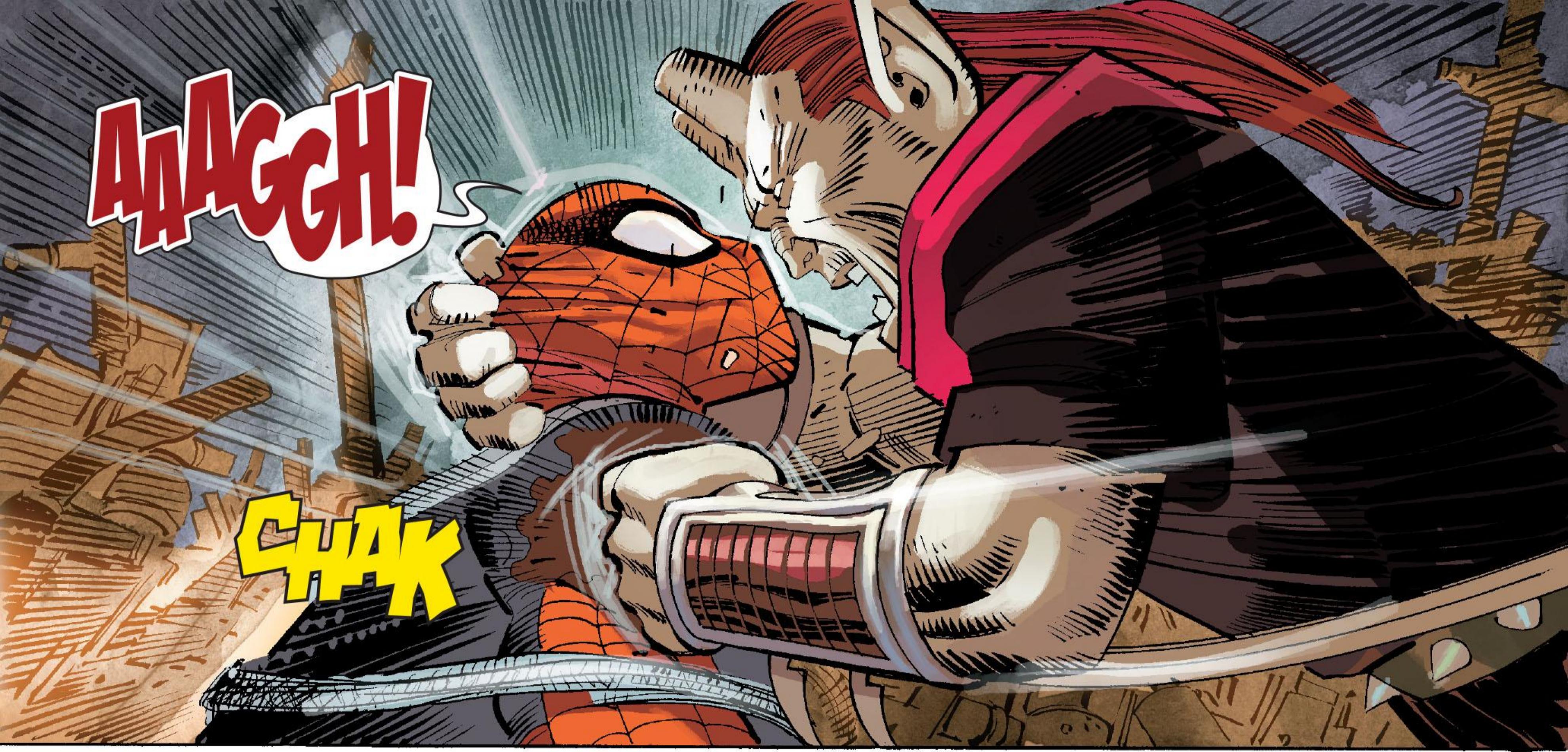


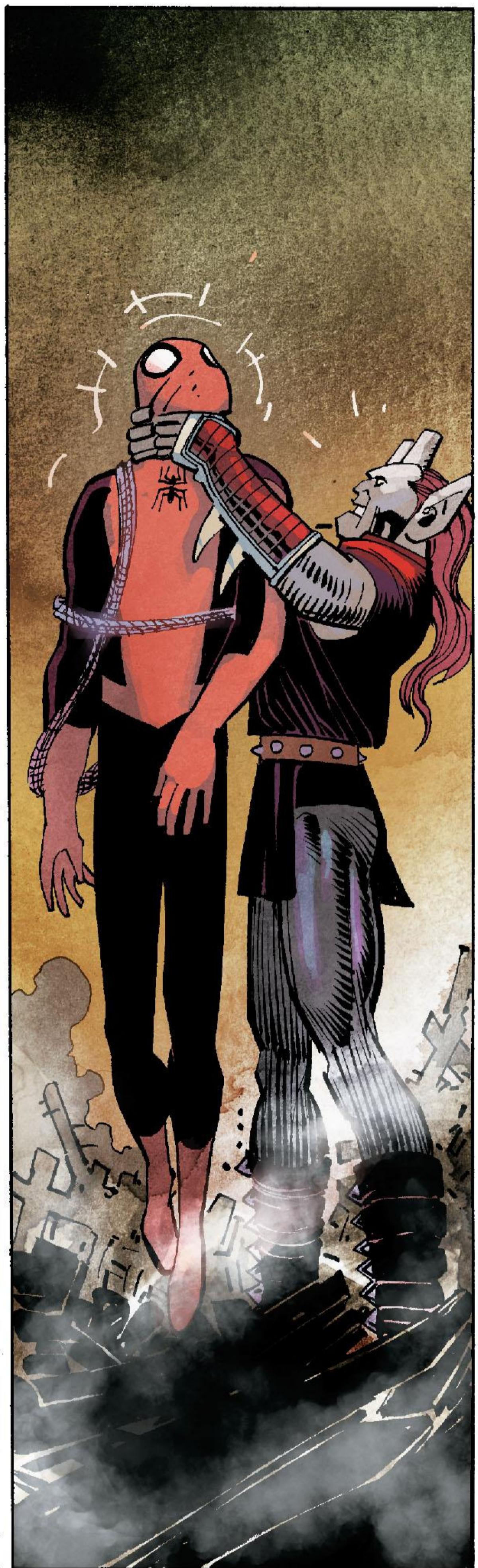
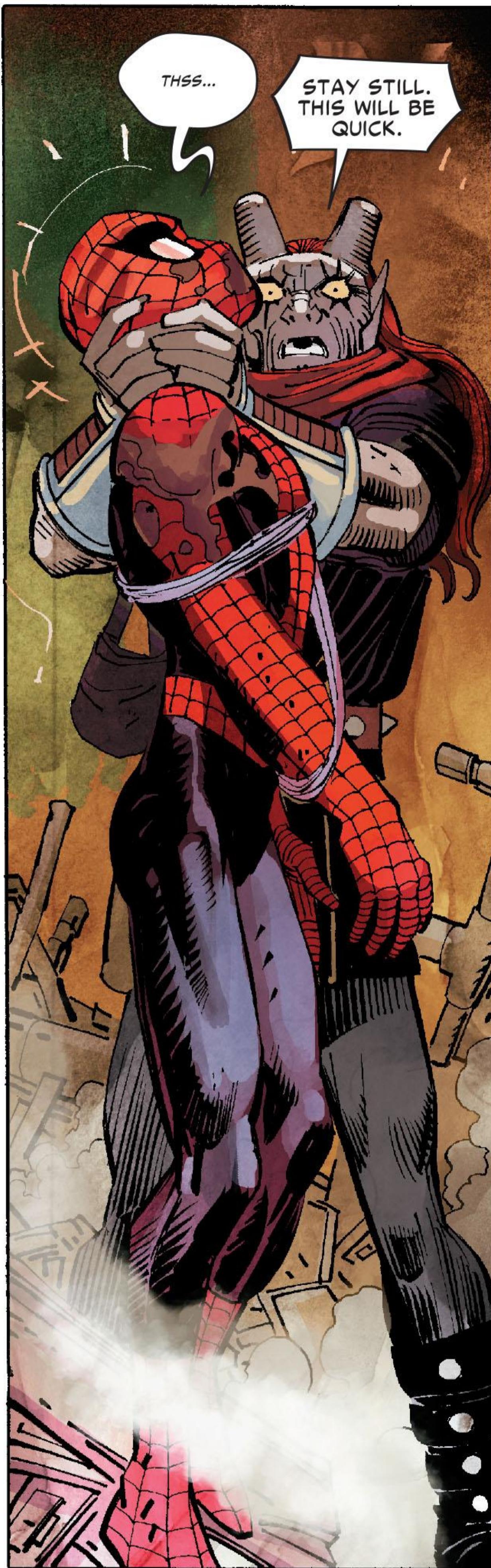
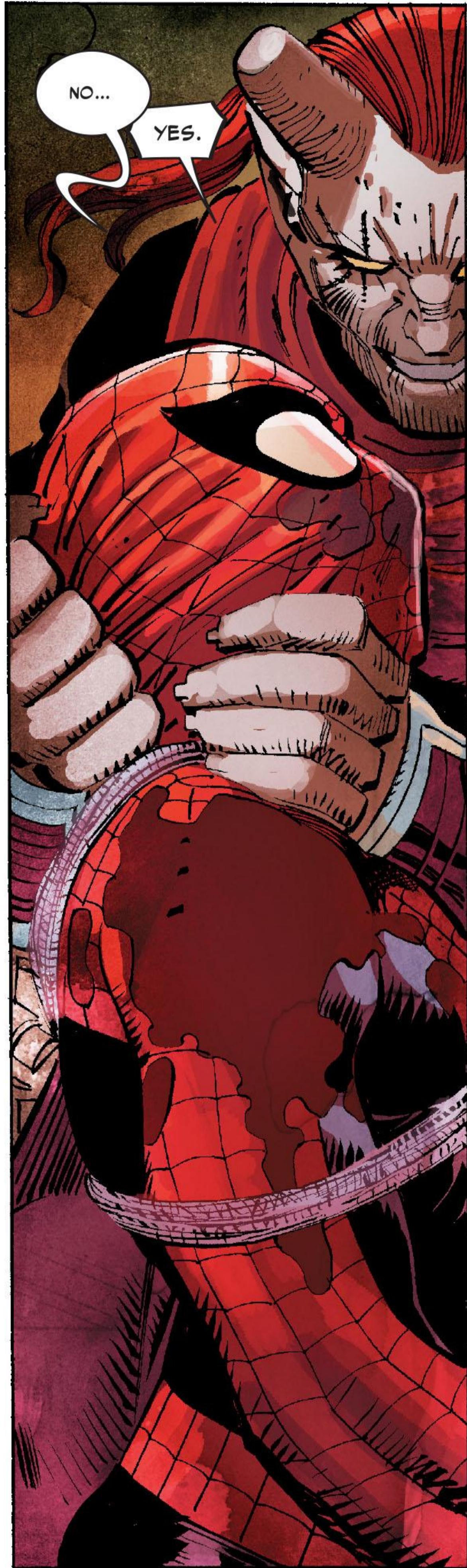




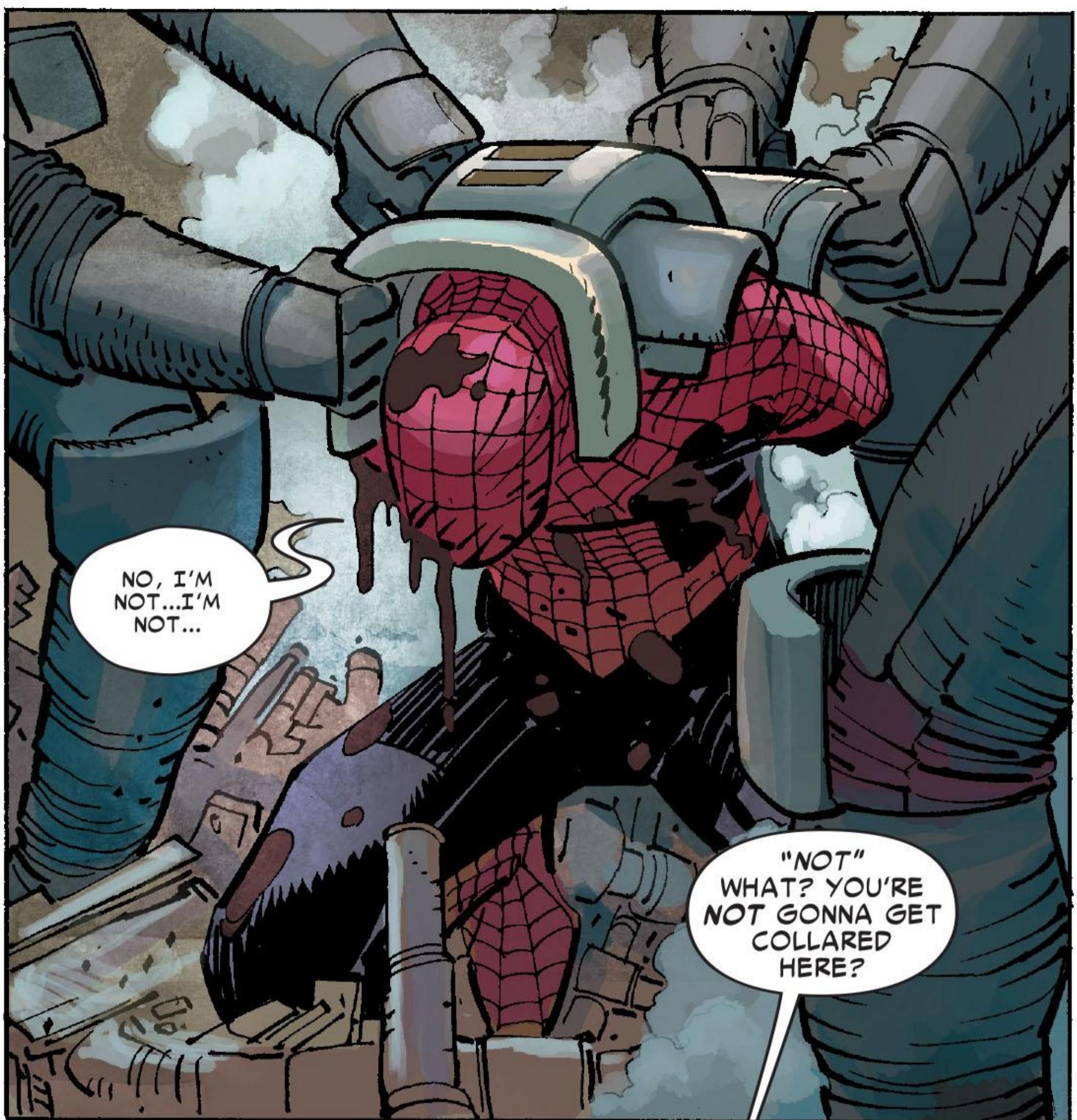




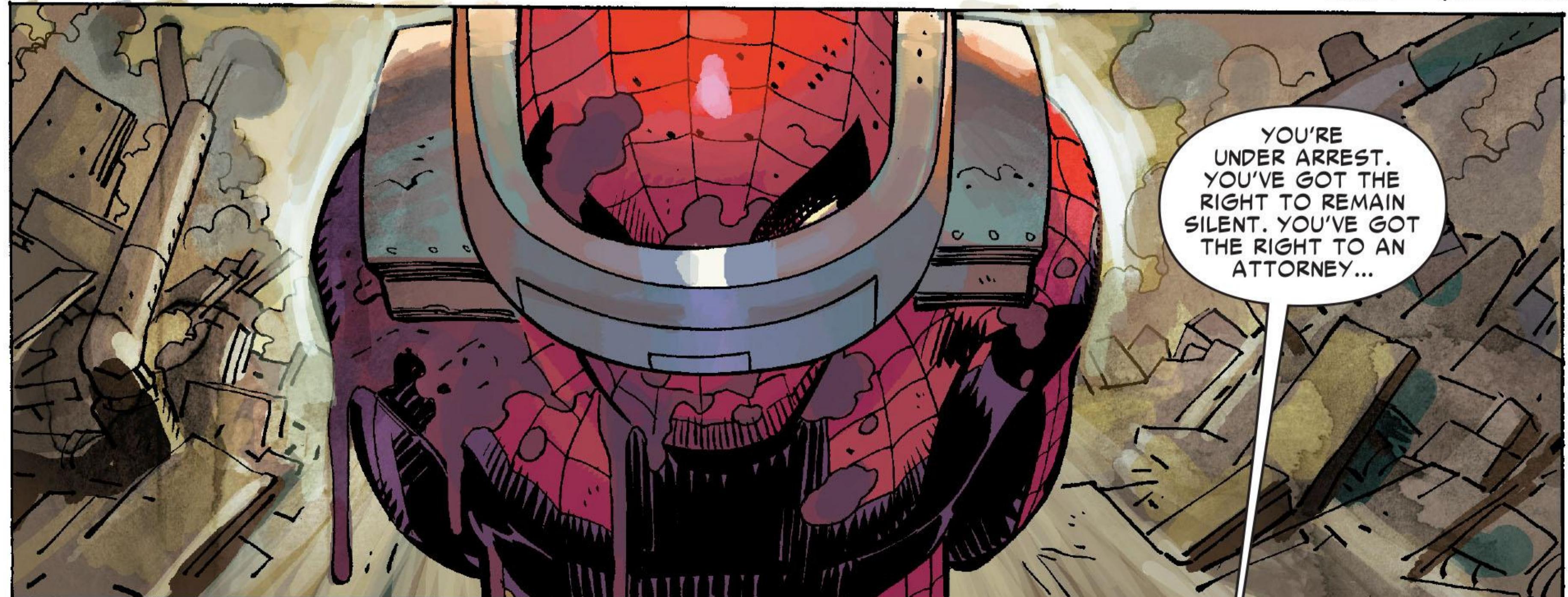
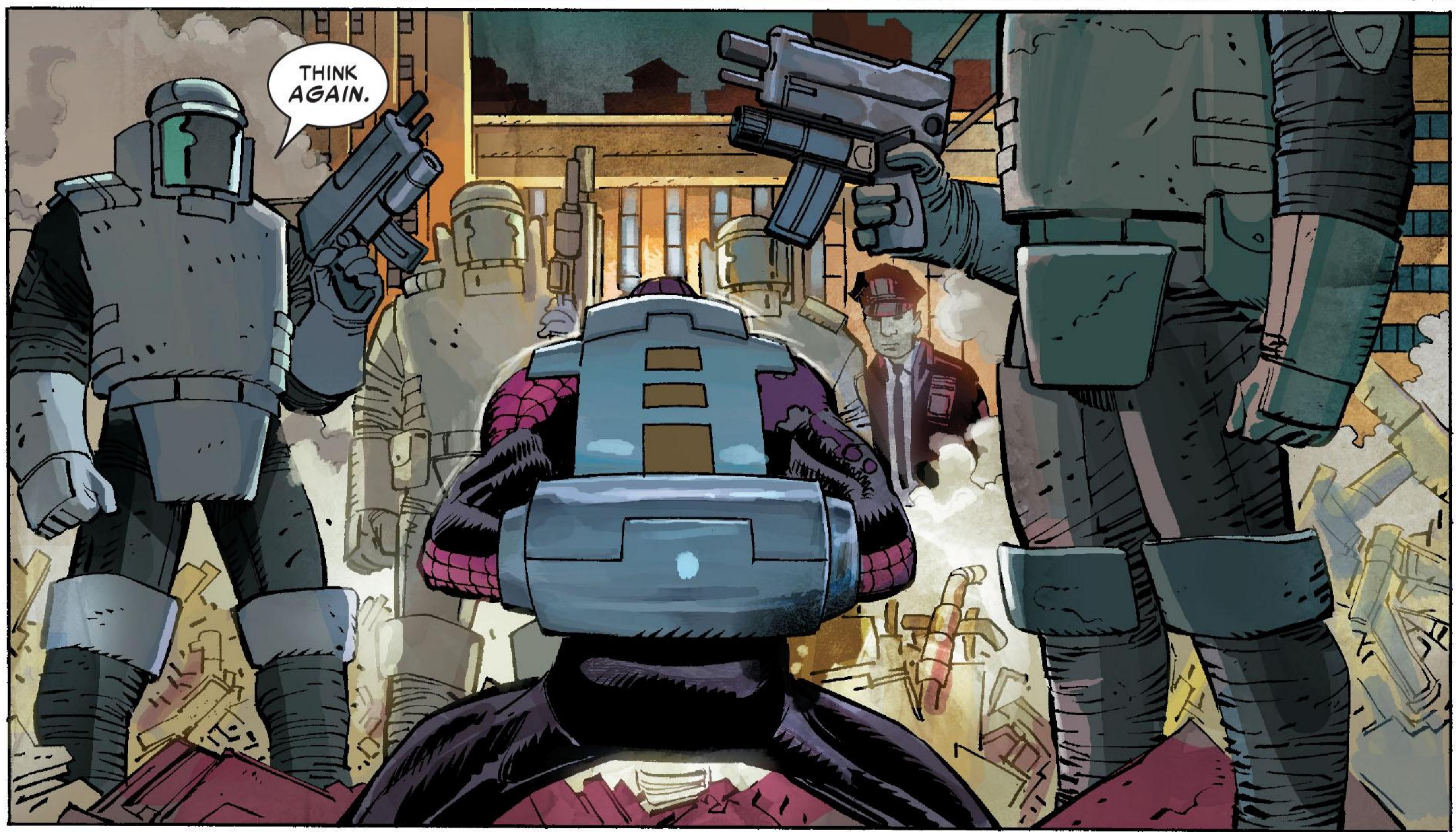


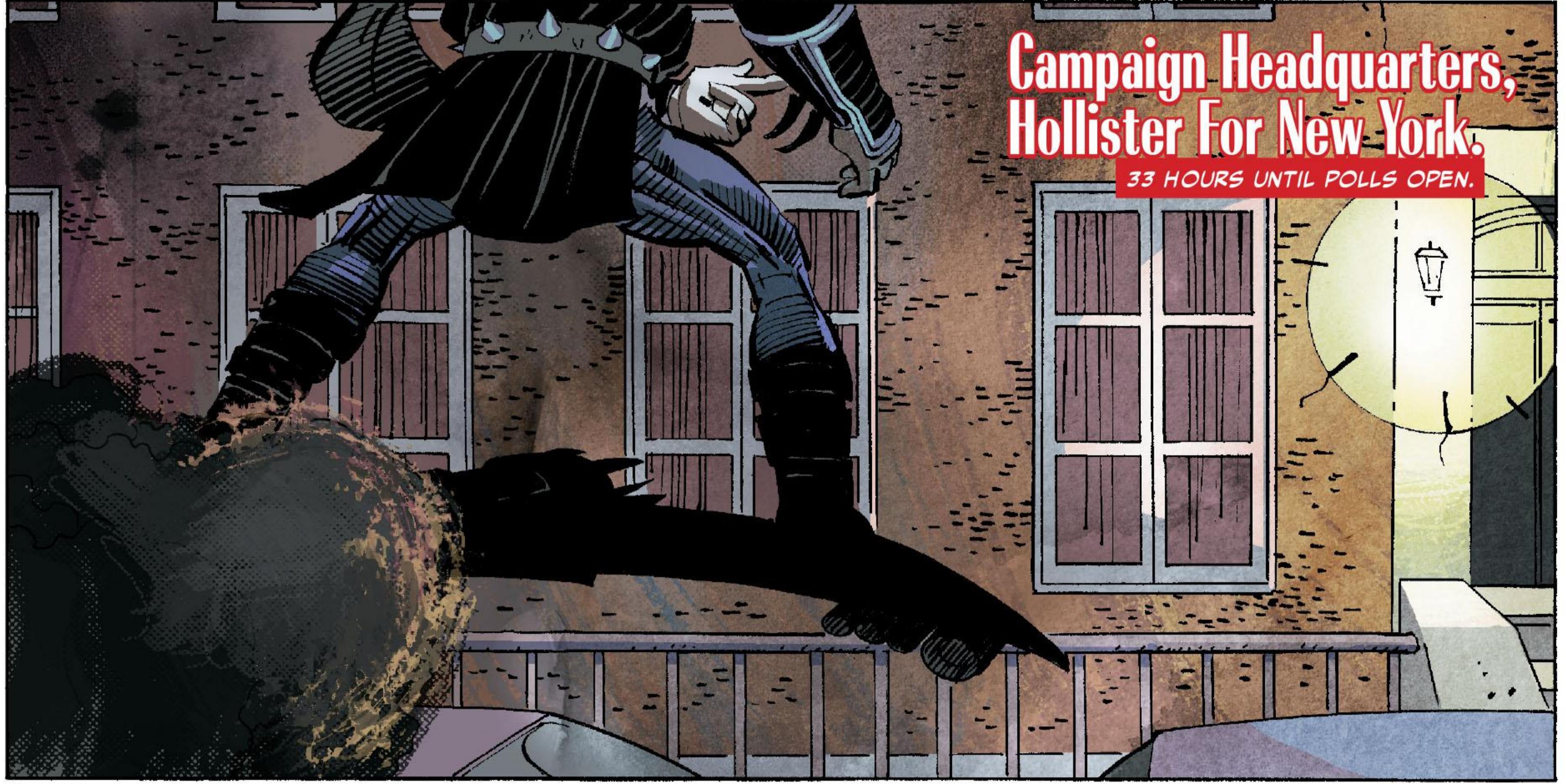






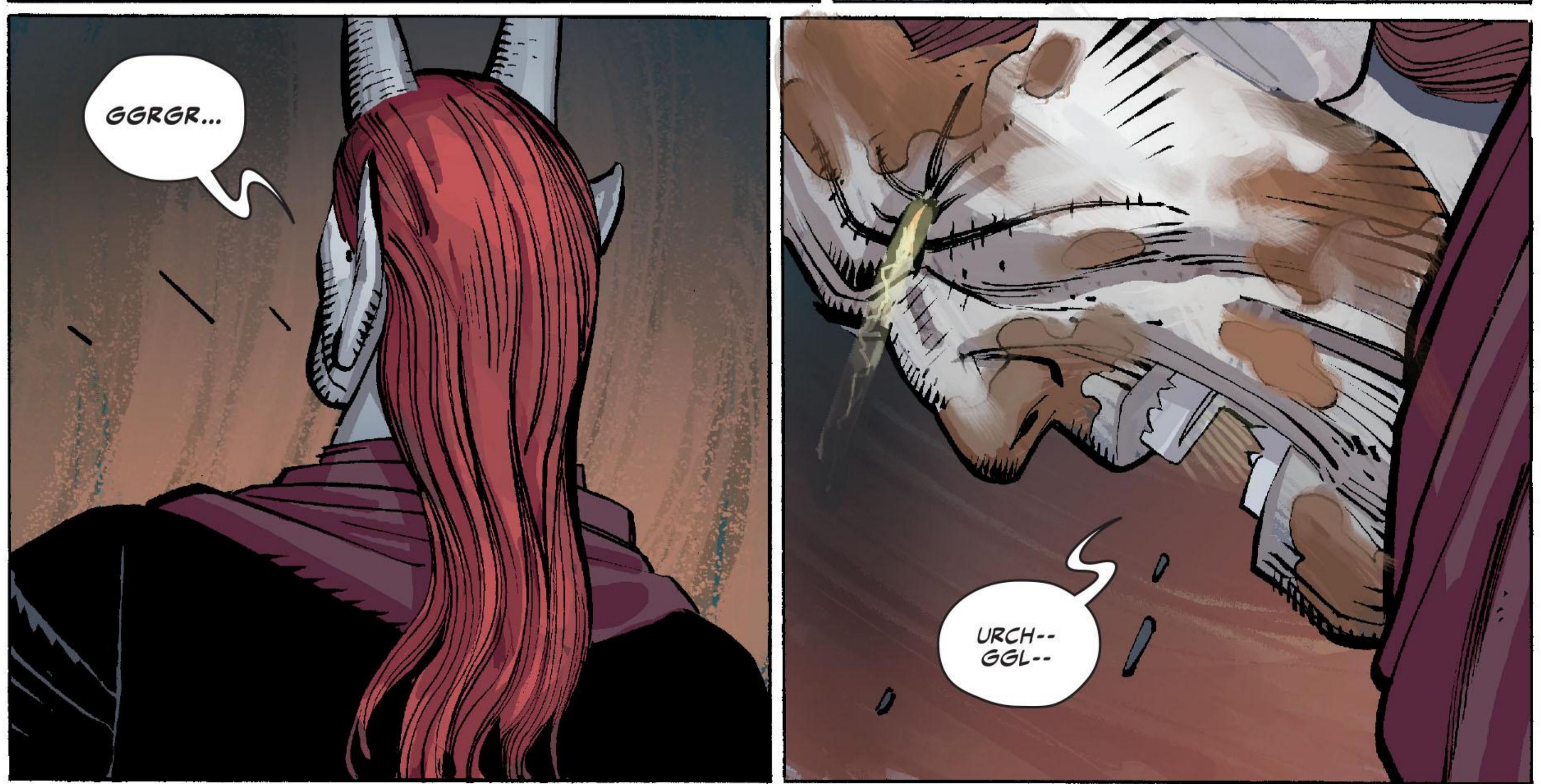
"NOT"
WHAT? YOU'RE
NOT GONNA GET
COLLARED
HERE?





Campaign Headquarters, Hollister For New York.

33 HOURS UNTIL POLLS OPEN.



Five Minutes Later.

SHE'LL BE
SURE. SHE IS SURE.
SHE JUST DOESN'T
REALIZE IT...

...I CAN
MAKE HER
REALIZE
IT...

...SHE
JUST NEEDS A
REMINDER.

SHE
JUST--

OH, MY
GOD.

...LILY?!

Next: Diary of a Mad Menace...

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL

Send e-mail to
SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM
(please mark as OKAY TO PRINT)

Bienvenidos, Arachno-philes! I'm writing you from January on the day after issue #583, the now historic issue of Spidey meeting President Obama, went on sale and it's a madhouse here. We've just announced our third printing about an hour ago and were thrilled about all the potential new readers that are taking a look at the most oft-published periodical we periodic out the door.

Unlucky Canadian readers may have seen my ugly mug on the CTV morning program and some American fans may have caught my boss Joe Quesada on CNN as well as me and cover artist Phil Jimenez on *Nightline* (if you looked fast).

All in all it's been a fun few days and I want to jump ahead in the mailbag a bit to show-off the very first letter we received about the issue:

Hey Spidey Scribes,

I've been a Spider-Man fan for over 20 years and well, I am also a Massachusetts Republican Party State Committeeman who was the McCain-Palin Coordinator for Bristol County, Massachusetts. All that being said, I want to congratulate Marvel Comics on a wonderful story featuring President-Elect Barack Obama. While I did not vote for our next President, I do wish him and our country all the best over the next four years. America has turned a fresh page in our history book with a historic election. The United States is a wonderful country where we can disagree profoundly yet move forward together. I also think that it's great that Barack Obama is a Spider-Man fan! Although he & I are of different parties and political ideologies, it's great that we can be Americans who share a common hobby!

Spider-Man saved the day so the Marvel Universe won't have to worry about uncovering the Chameleon in disguise, but I would like to note that Dmitri Smerdyakov, the Chameleon, is not a natural born American citizen but rather he was born in Russia. Therefore, even if the Chameleon successfully impersonated Barack Obama on Inauguration Day, the Chameleon's plan would have been technically foiled by Section 1 of Article II of the United States Constitution. I wonder, could even a super-villain have kept up the charade for an entire presidential term? Thanks to the super heroes who were our Founding Fathers that framed the Constitution (and Spidey, of course!) we will never have no know!

May the United States of America prosper with freedom and liberty over the coming years. Make Mine Marvel!

Brock N. Cordeiro
Dartmouth, MA

You've proved once again, Brock, that there's no greater super hero in the world than the United States Constitution! Thanks for keeping an open mind and writing in. Make yours Marvel? It already am, Brock. It...already...am.



Now onto your regular letters for the two-part Spidey sensation from #578 and #579 and the return of THE SHOCKER!

Spidey-Guys,

Thanks for bringing in the Shocker. I love the classic villains. But what is the point of jolly Jonah's father? All in all a good issue.

John Frikline
New Orleans LA

The point, John, is that JJJ Senior is going

Tom Brennan
Asst. Editor

Eliopoulos & Sabino
Production

to be a playing a big role in this book, so stay tuned.

Dear Steve,

I've been a faux longtime reader: Have read regularly since JMS' run but have also collected/read tons of old issues, from before I was born and/or had gotten into comics. To put it into perspective, I'm 31 but have issues going back to ASM #40 that I've read, framed and hung on my wall. That being said, I've never felt compelled to write to any publisher until now.

This comic experience started the same as any other: I perused the cover, the recap, even the "Spider Trackers" update (like I always do, to see if any copy changed) but then I hit the title page... and just started cracking up. I don't know why, because it's a pretty typical Spidey frame/panel. I think it's because it's the first time that I ever felt like I was reading a great Spidey moment (or to be) in real-time, so to speak.

It was awesome, I'm still giggling a little. I haven't even proceeded with the rest of the comic yet, I just skipped to the back page to grab your email address and let you know just how much I enjoyed the title page!

Whatever the reason(s): the umbrella (patched with webs), rain, mouth full of food/smirk, HAR, or combination of all... I just had to let you know that I think this page perfectly depicts the word "irony" and should be used henceforth as the actual Webster's Dictionary definition.

I always thought it would take a complaint to finally get me to write in, but I wanted you guys to know that it was actually one of the best pages I've ever seen that finally got me to do so. I'm gonna read the rest now. And if that complaint is between pages 3 and whichever, you'll get another email shortly...

You guys rock, keep up the awesome writing!

Brian Grohe
Vie e-mail

Brian, if you liked that wonderful splash page in #578 (and apparently a lot of you did) you not only have writer Mark Waid to thanks but artists Marcos Martin and Javier Rodriguez as well. As you clearly agree, these guys were simply meant to work on Spidey -- and don't worry I have them nailed down to the floor here.

Hey Wacker,

I'm a grizzled 34-year-old college professor and have been reading Amazing Spider-Man since they sold comics at grocery stores. I'm not sure I've ever enjoyed the book as much as this past year.

Although each creative team has been great, the Mark Waid/Marcos Martin story arc was just extraordinary. It's not often that I find myself reading a comic with the same wide-eyed wonder I felt as snot-nosed kid. It had as much explosive action, wittier banter, and more gorgeous art crammed into two issues than the rest of these teams seem to manage in three. Step up your game, Braintrust.

J. Walling
Cape Girardeau, MO

Dear Steve and everyone at Marvel,

I'm so excited to actually be writing you! It seems so weird after reading other letters all the time! I also wanted to say... I've read all 578 issues of the Amazing Spider-Man!! Adding that to the rest of the Spider-Man comic books I've read, I have read over 930 comic books. You guys have probably written that many, but I think it's

pretty impressive for a 15-year-old girl who lives in Florida and has only been reading comics for a year and a half. The only question is: how will I go on reading only one Spidey comic a week??

I always have to tell my friends that I'm not obsessed with Spider-Man. The real thing is that I've been studying the comics I read with hope of one day becoming a writer. My sister and I have created some new super heroes that I hope might make the Marvel grade one day. I really enjoy writing comics, because they have endless possibilities, and you can read them over and over and they're still great (and by the way, I only read Marvel comics).

And finally I move on to the part where I praise your work. I really enjoyed reading issue #578. I like the artists who have been drawing Peter Parker lately. When I saw the part with the man saying, "I apologize for my son," I actually thought, he couldn't be JJJ's father... could he? Then I turned the page and was shocked that I was actually right. And speaking of shocked, I was also surprised to see the Shocker. I don't really care for the Shocker, but you guys made him look good!

I'd also like to say that I never planned on reading the letters page, but now I look forward to it. Steve makes it fun and interesting, and now it's like a little bonus at the end of every great Spidey story.

I only have one question. Steve, have you always been an editor, or were you once a writer?

Spider-Man is the all-time greatest super hero, so thanks for all you guys do to deliver great stories!

So until all the super heroes invade Florida, make mine Marvel!

Selena Farkas
Clermont, FL

Selena, Marvel Super Heroes have already invaded the Sunshine State in the form of an Avengers: Initiative team, the Man-Thing, the famed Marvel Super hero Island at Universal Studios, and of course, the secretly mutant Dwyane Wade.

I've never written comics myself, though most of the ideas in Amazing that don't work out usually come from my stupid brain!

If you and your sister are really serious about creating comics, don't wait for us or any other comic company to come around. You have all the materials you need to start making your own comics now. Don't wait. One of the coolest things about comics is that anyone can make them ...and I hope you do!

That's all for another week, folks. See you in a couple weeks for a CHARACTER ASSASSINATION interlude – The Secret Origin of Menace!



**This week's cover by
Romita Jr.,
Janson & White**

**Viva Templar!
Simperin' Steve
1/15/09**

**Tom Brevoort
Executive Editor**
**Dan Buckley
Publisher**

**Stephen Wacker
Editor**
**Joe Quesada
Editor in Chief**