



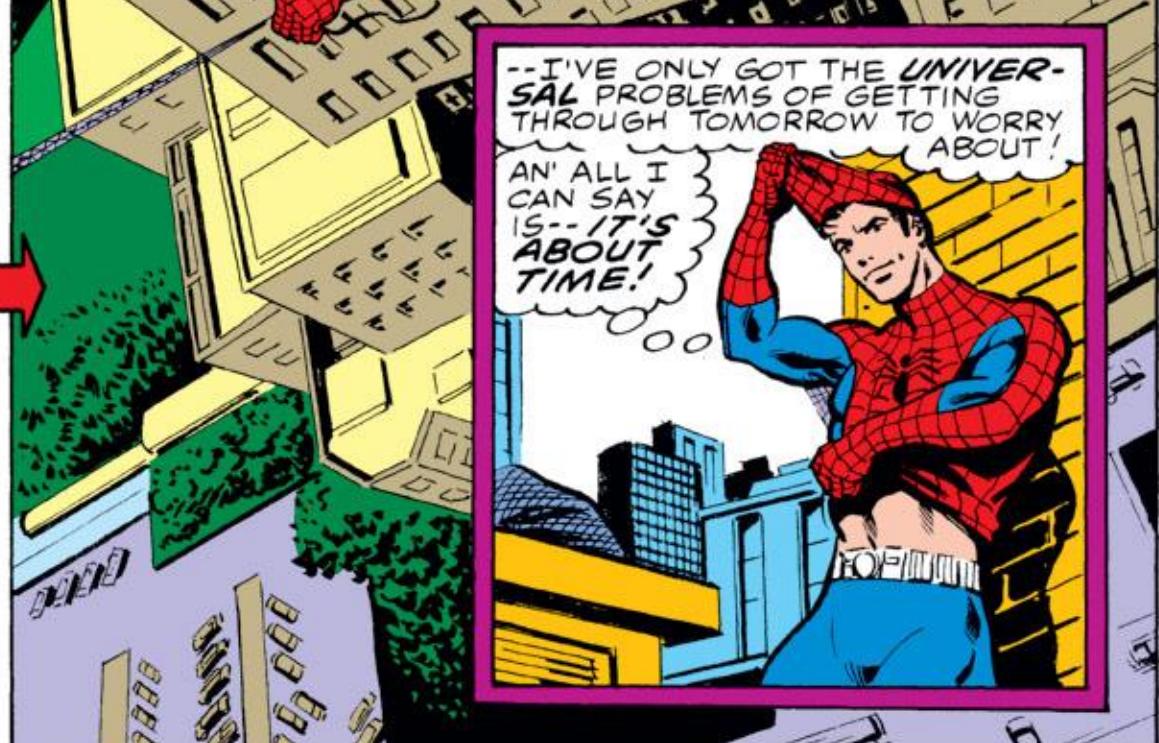
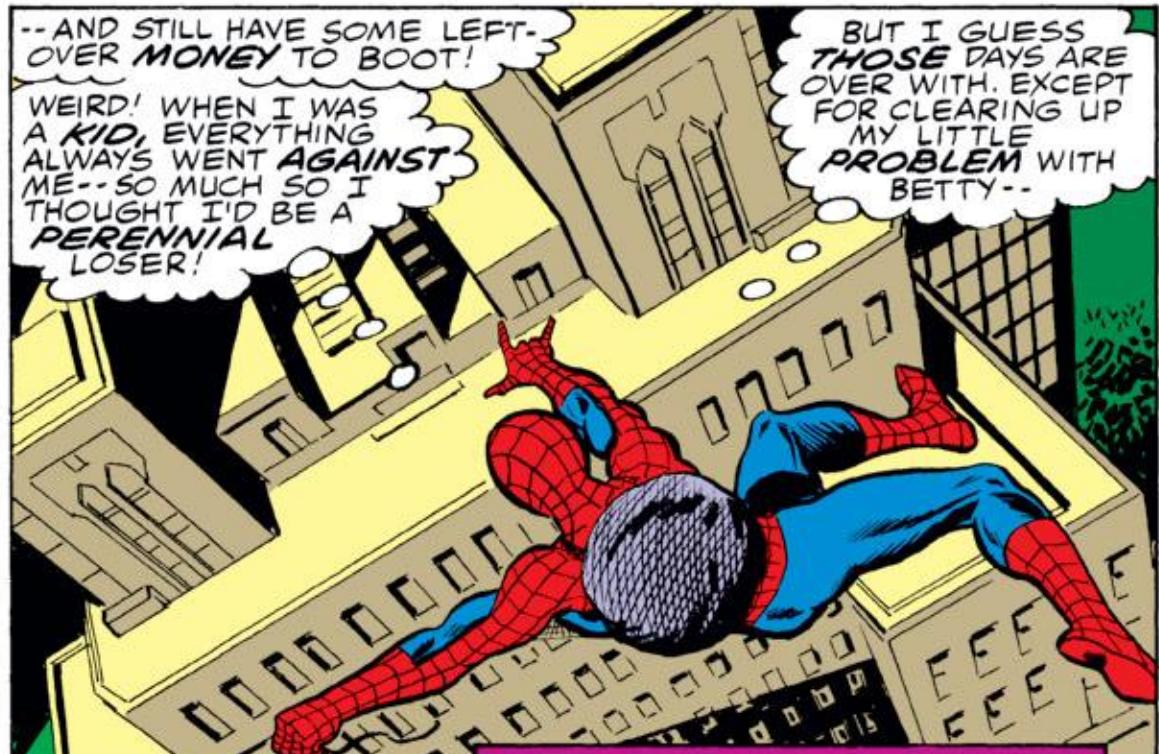
While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the insect's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

Stan Lee
PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

MARV WOLFMAN / JOHN BYRNE & JIM MOONEY / J. NOVAK, LETTERS / JIM SHOOTER
WRITER/EDITOR ILLUSTRATORS / G. WEIN, COLORS / CONSULTING EDITOR

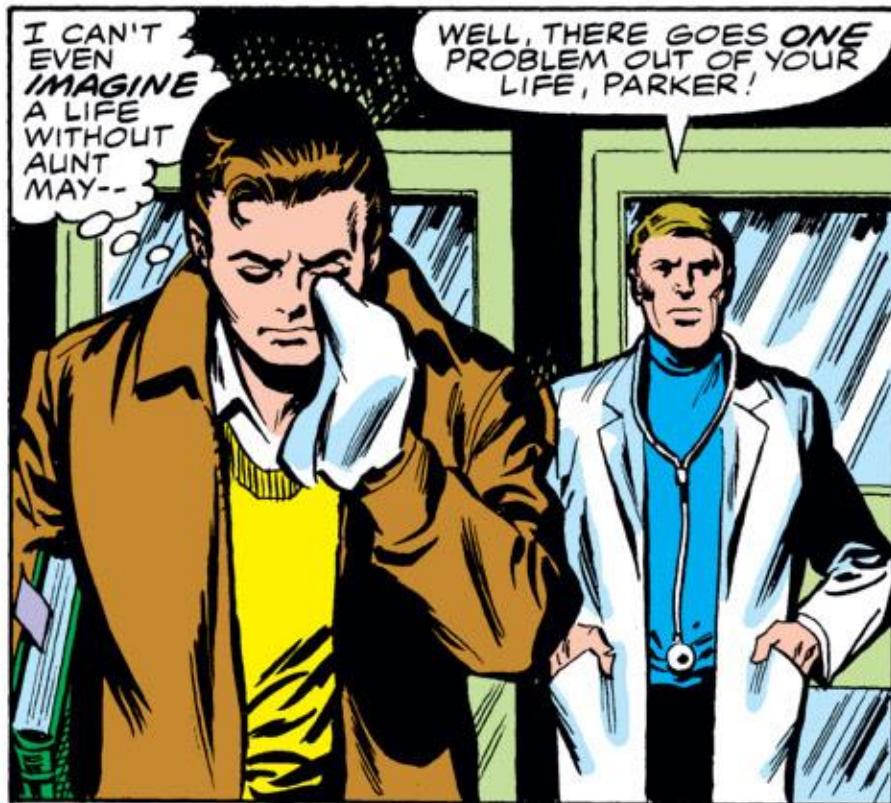


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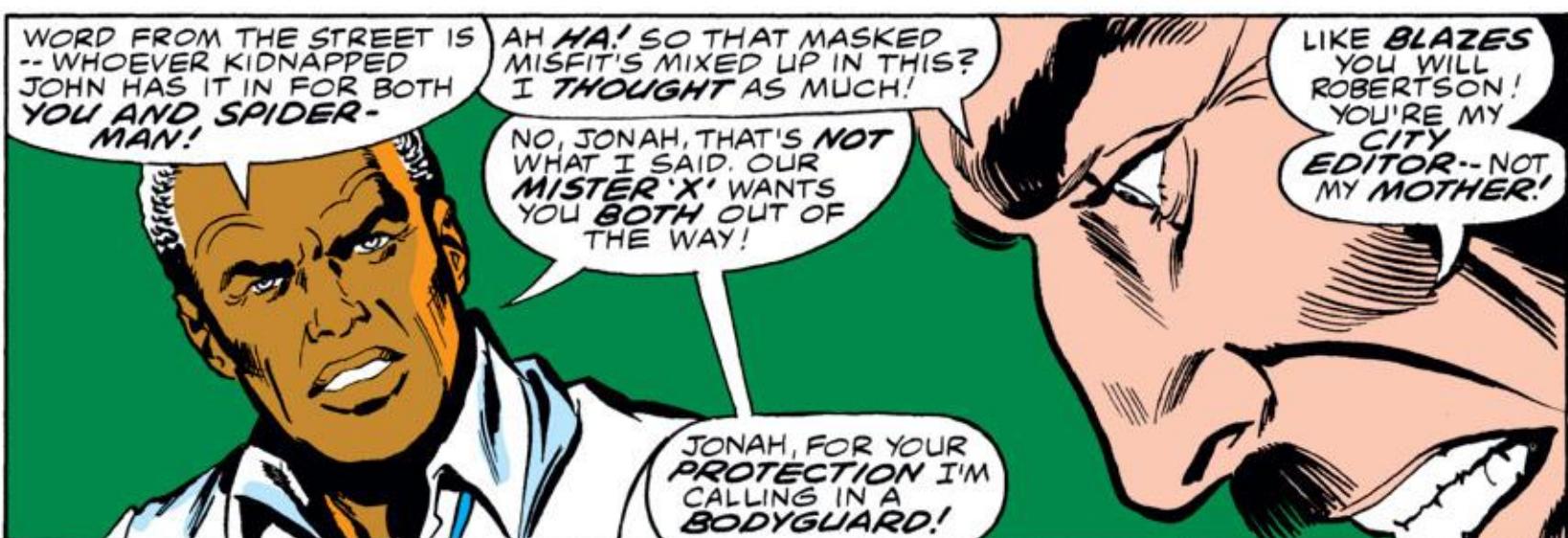
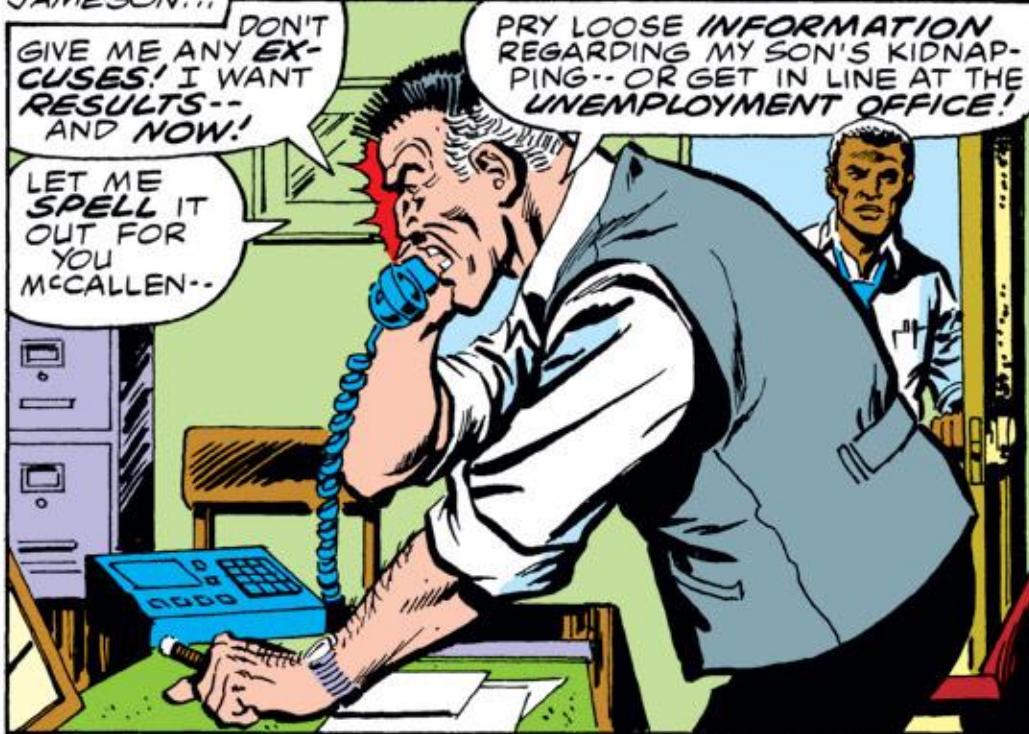


A FEW MINUTES LATER FINDS A PUFFING PETER PARKER MAKING HIS WAY THROUGH THE STERILE GREEN CORRIDORS OF NEWHOPE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL...





PERHAPS THIS IS THE **BEST** TIME TO LEAVE SPIDEY TO HIS PRIVATE THOUGHTS AND LOOK IN ON AN **ANGRY J. JONAH JAMESON...**



SOMETHING'S BEEN NAGGING AT ME FOR DAYS. THE CHAMELEON SAID HE WAS PAID 25 THOU TO HUMILIATE ME...*

AND ELECTRO INDICATED --AT PRECISELY HE GOT THE SAME TO THE MOMENT JOHN DEMOLISH THE INDIAN POINT POWER STATION-- **

WAS KIDNAPPED FROM THE CRYONICS HOSPITAL.***



*SPIDEY#18 **SPIDEY#187 ***#188--MARV W.

WHILE SPIDER-MAN FOLLOWS THE SPEEDING POLICE CAR, HIDDEN FAR BELOW HIM...

THERE HE IS-- REMEMBER WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE.

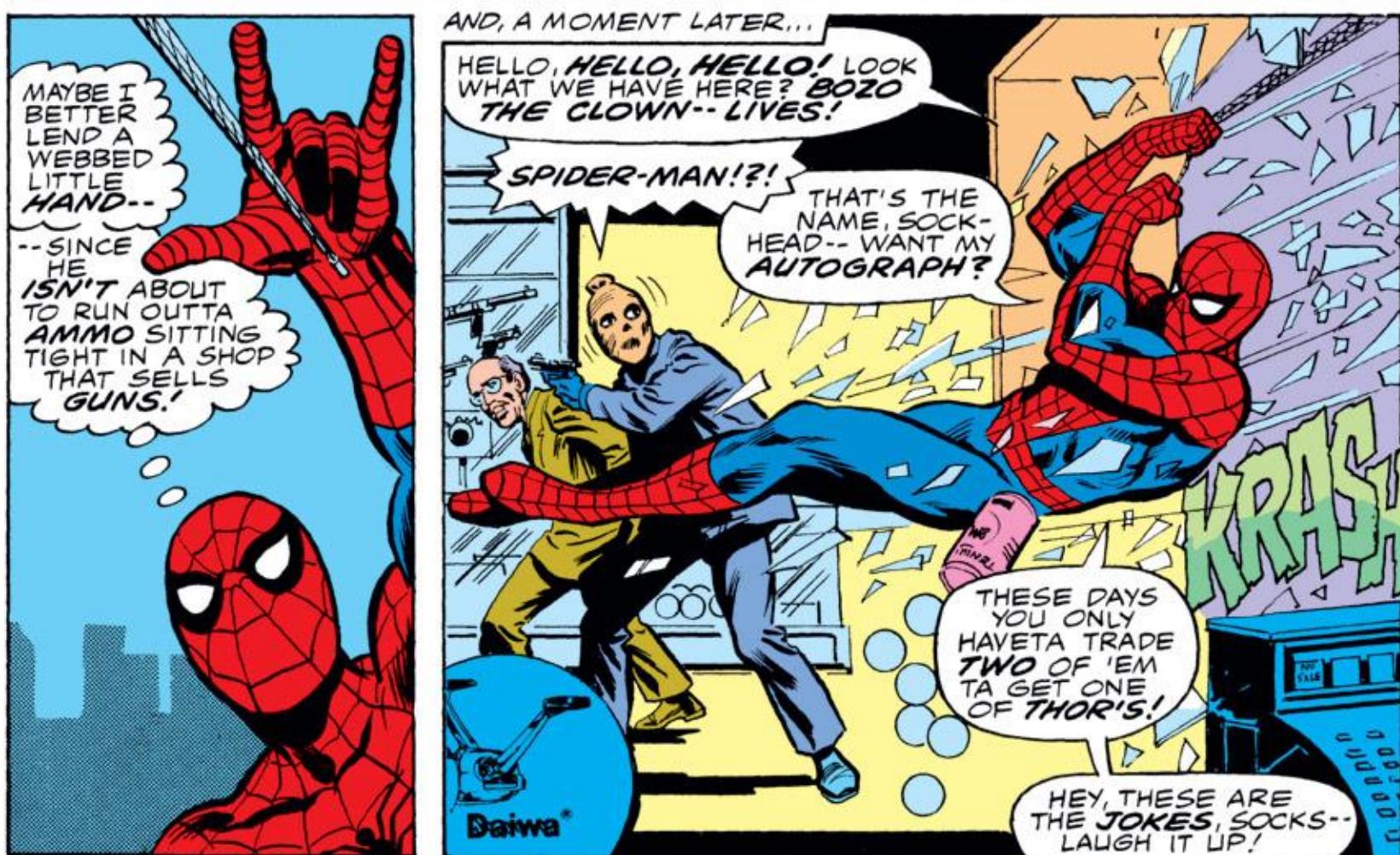
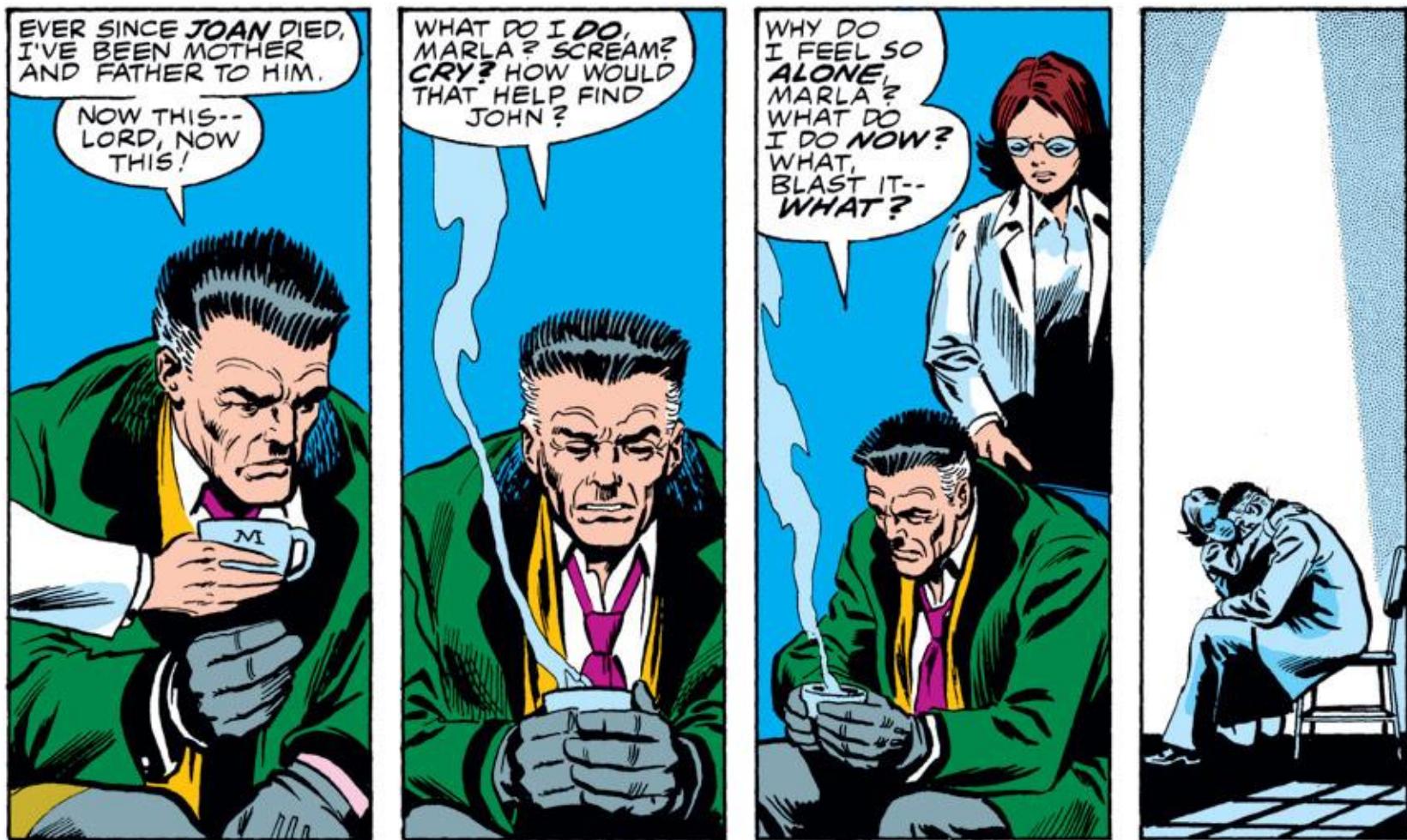
IT IS YOUR TASK TO SLAY SPIDER-MAN--

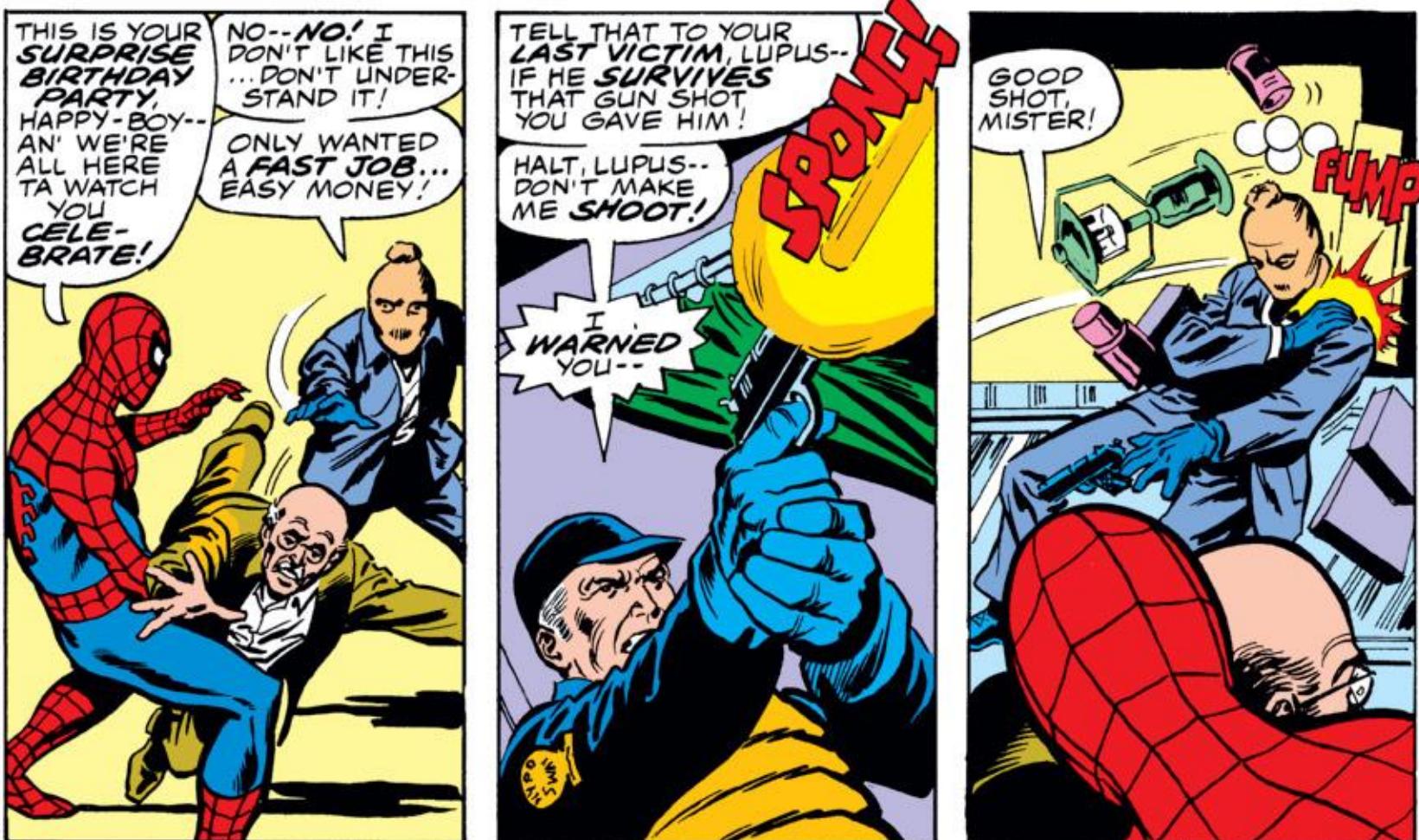
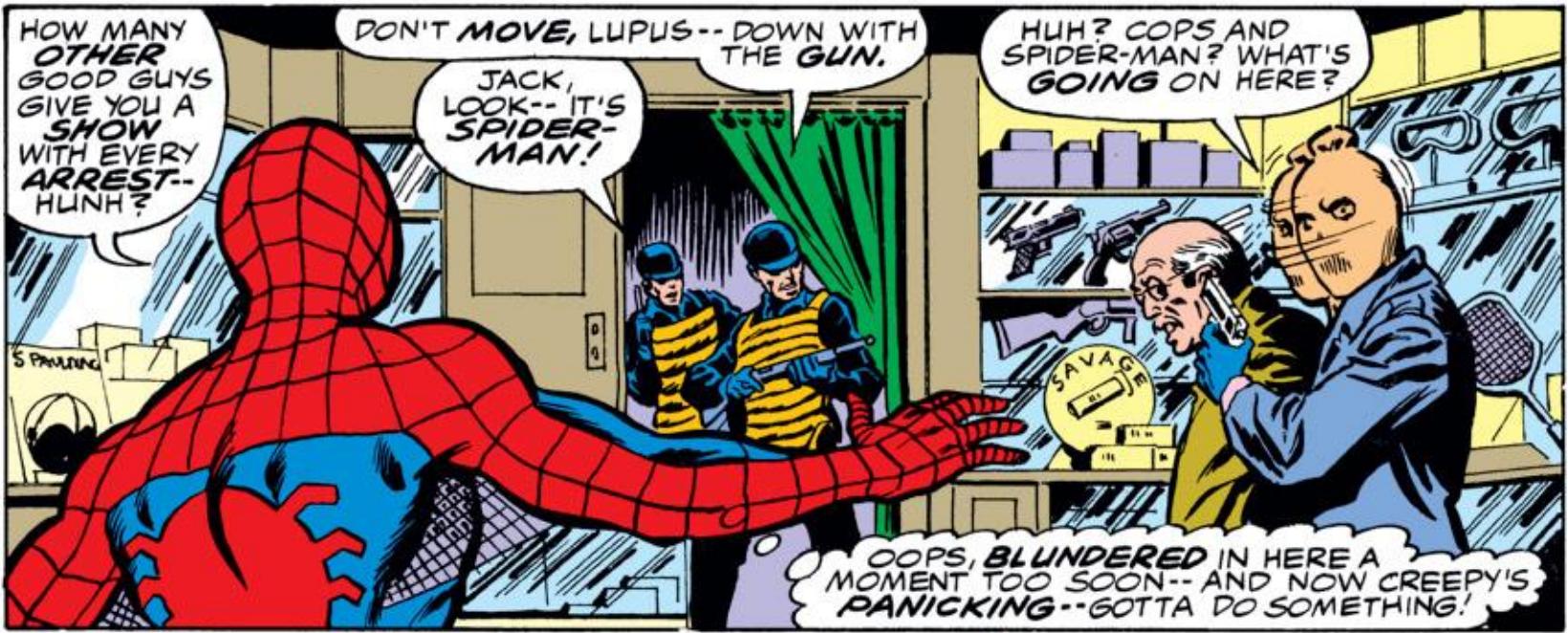


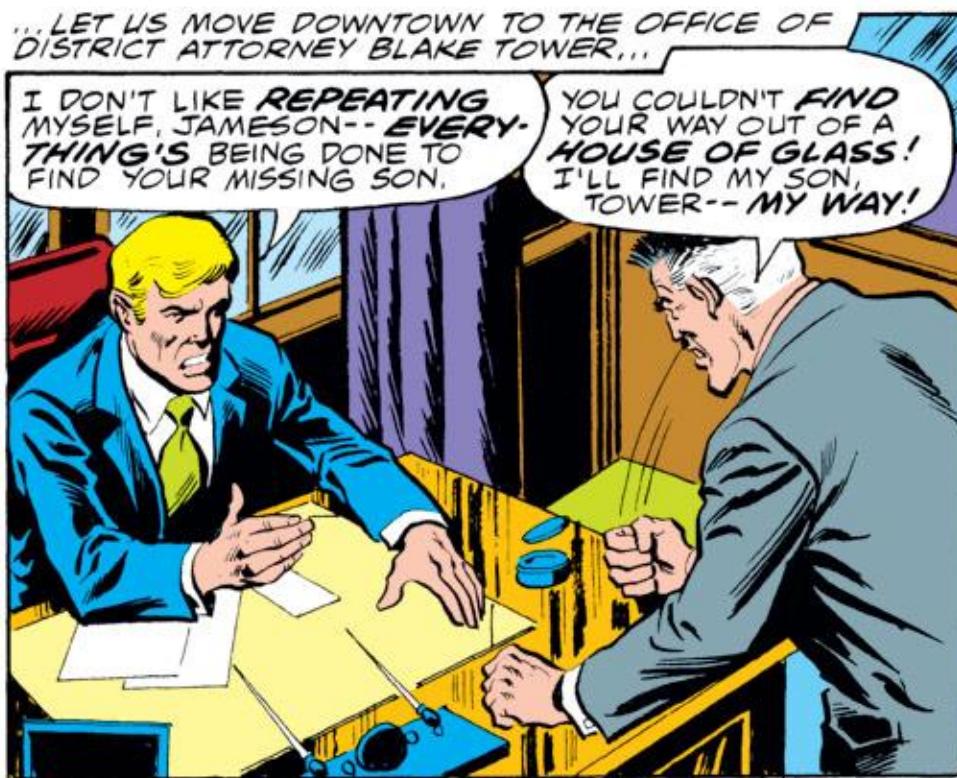
PUZZLED? KEEP READING, SPIDEYPHILE...

MARLA? MARLA MADISON?







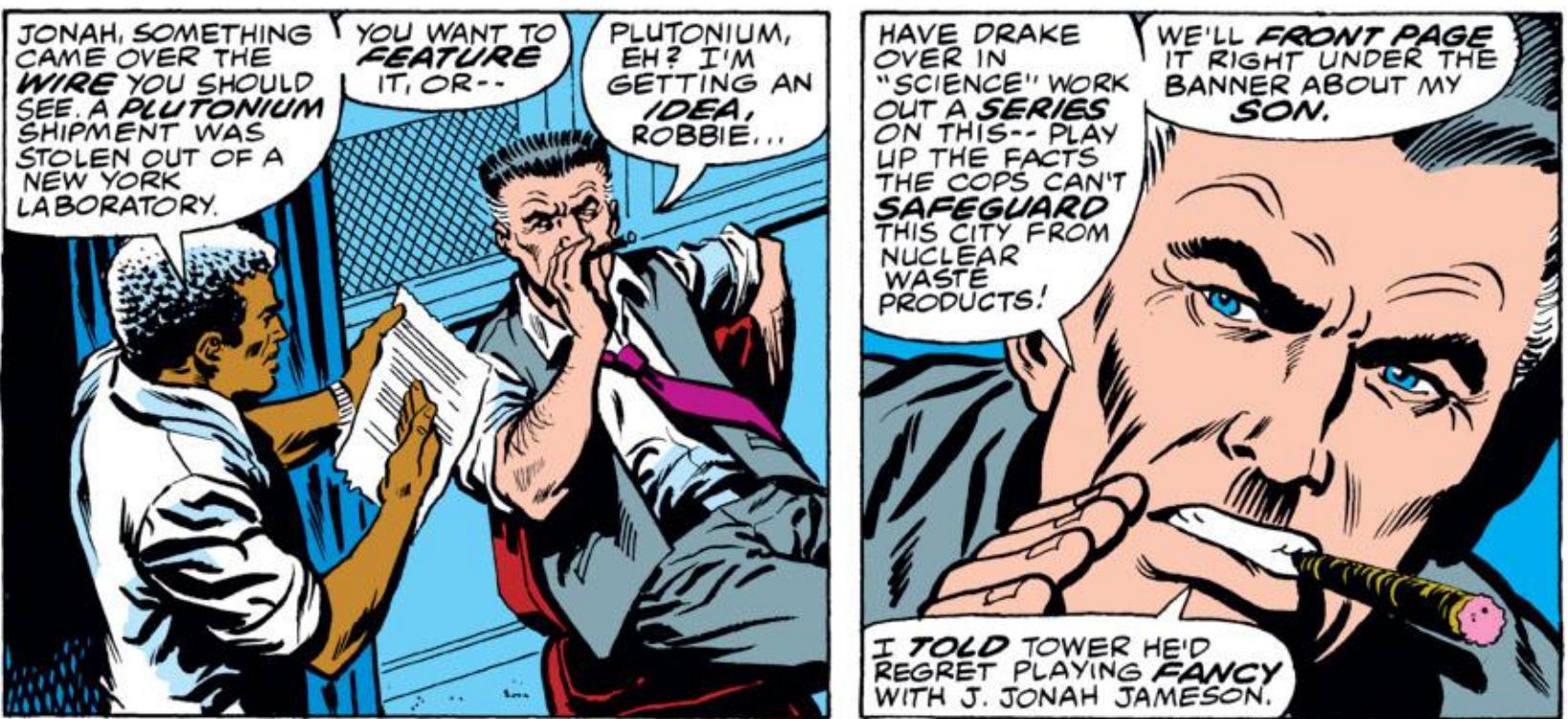


LATER THAT DAY JAMESON'S PLAN BECOMES APPARENT AS POSTERS ARE PASTED UP ALL OVER TOWN...



WITHIN HOURS TELEVISION SPOTS ARE PURCHASED...







INTRIGUED? WE HOPE SO. NOW LET'S FOCUS OUR ATTENTIONS ON THE CHELSEA APARTMENT OF EVERYONE'S FAVORITE SHUTTER-BUG...

PETER?

OH, HI BETTY! C'MON IN. HAVE YOUR BREAKFAST YET?

I'M ON A DIET. PETER, CAN WE TALK---? ABOUT US?

OBOY, WHAT AM I IN FOR NOW?

THE OTHER DAY YOU SAID YOU WEREN'T SURE IF STARTING OUR RELATIONSHIP OVER AGAIN WAS A GOOD IDEA.

BETTY, I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WANT. I THOUGHT I WANTED TO MARRY MARY JANE.

WHEN SHE TURNED ME DOWN I THOUGHT I WANTED TO BE ALONE... AND NOT TIED UP WITH ONE GIRL.

I THINK I CAN TELL YOU THIS, BETTY, CAUSE WE ARE SUCH GOOD FRIENDS, BUT I JUST DON'T KNOW HOW I FEEL ABOUT YOU THESE DAYS.

I DON'T KNOW IF WHAT WE ONCE HAD CAN BE REKINDLED--OR EVEN IF IT SHOULD BE.

WHEN NED LOOKS YOU UP--

NED AND I ARE THROUGH, PETER!

AND IF THIS DOESN'T CONVince you how much I CARE for you, I'll leave your life--FOREVER!

WE WERE CLOSE BECAUSE WE LOVED EACH OTHER. WE STILL CAN.

BETTY--

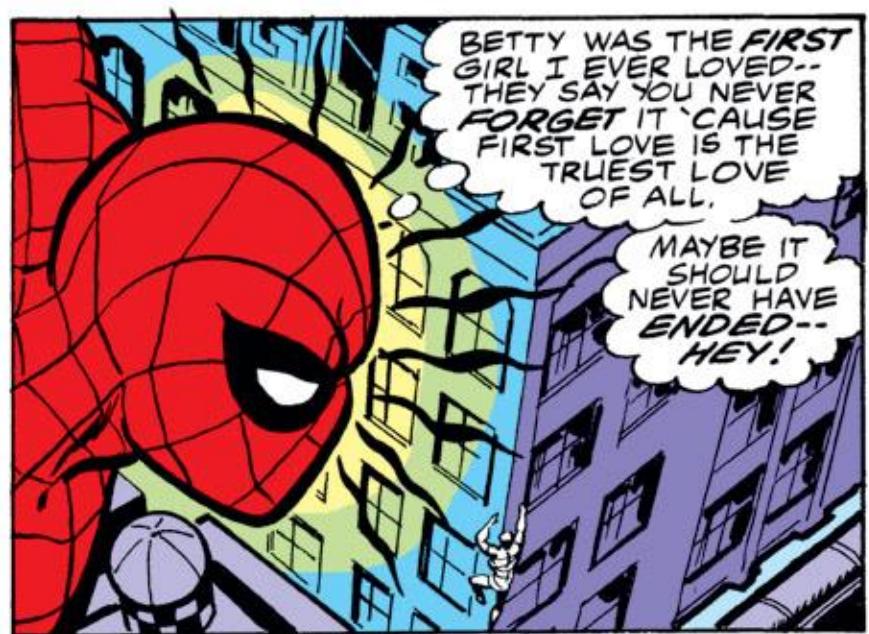
PLEASE, I-- UHHH... BETTY!

SHUT UP, DARLING! JUST KISS ME!

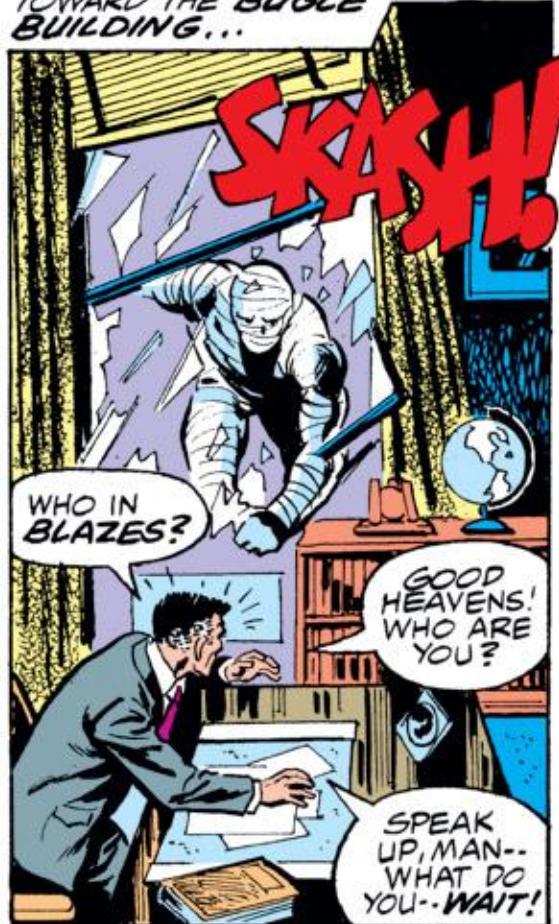
I... I... UHH...

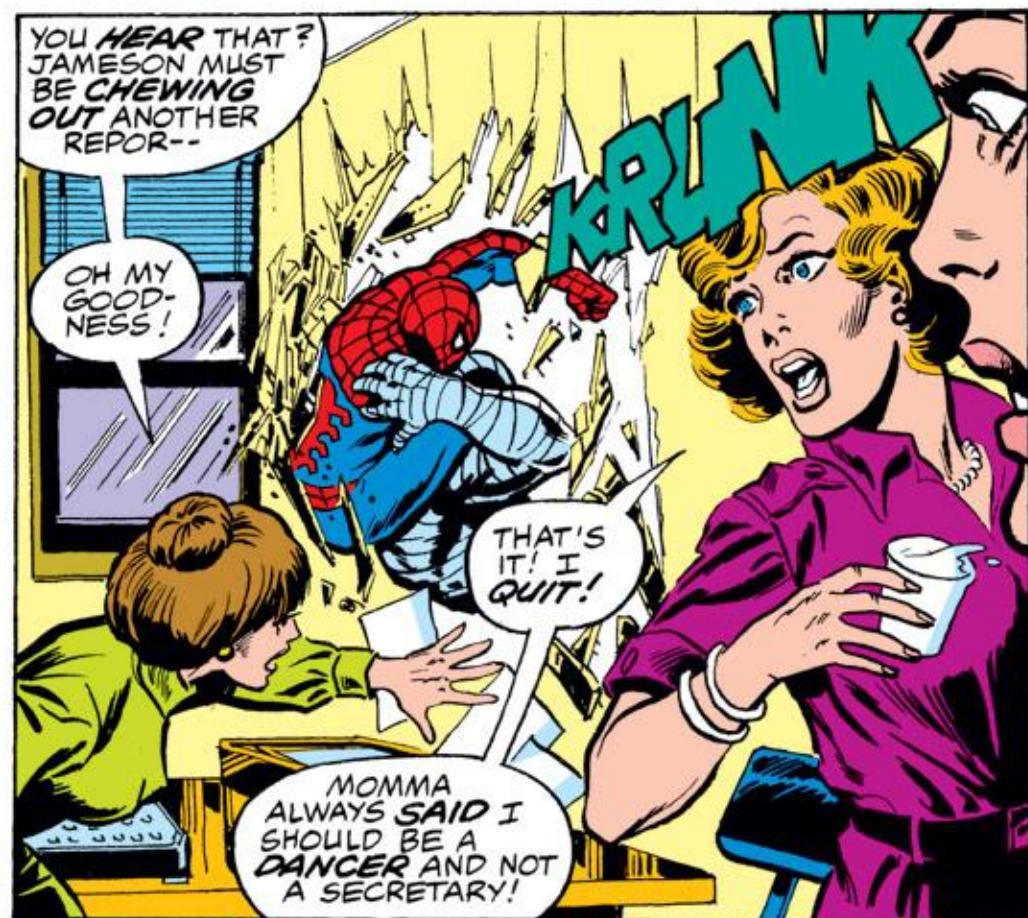
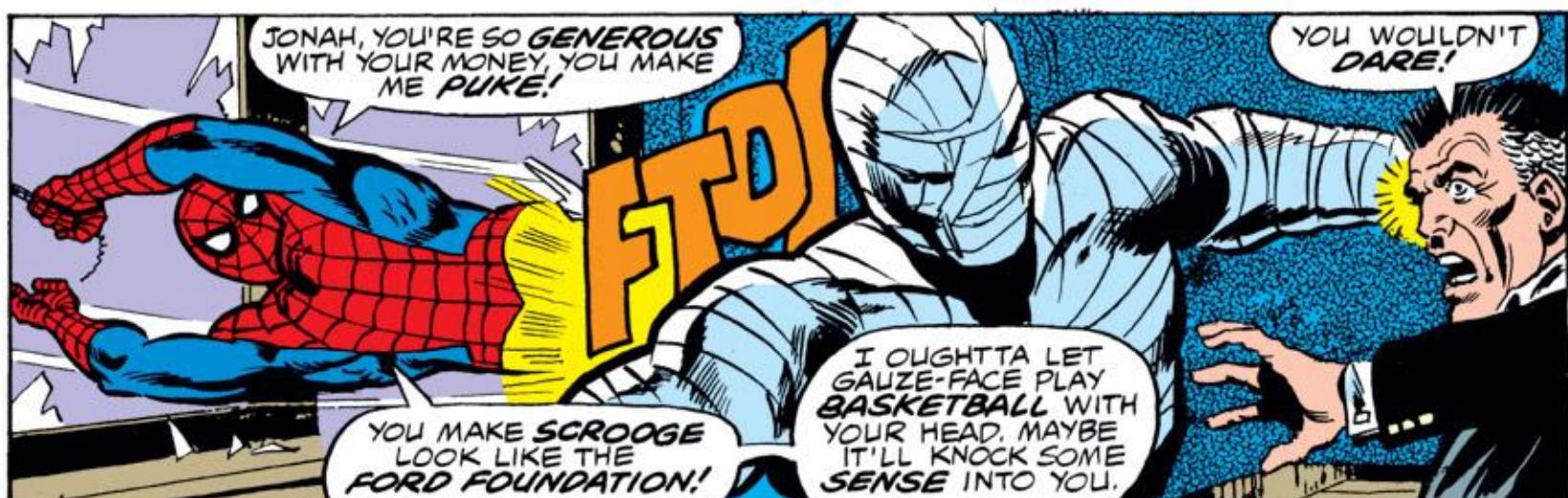
MMMMMMMMMM!!

THEY SAY DISCRETION IS THE BETTER PART OF VALOR. SO LET'S LEAVE OUR TWO-SOME AND PICK UP ON A SOMEWHAT AGITATED SPIDER-MAN SEVERAL HOURS LATER...

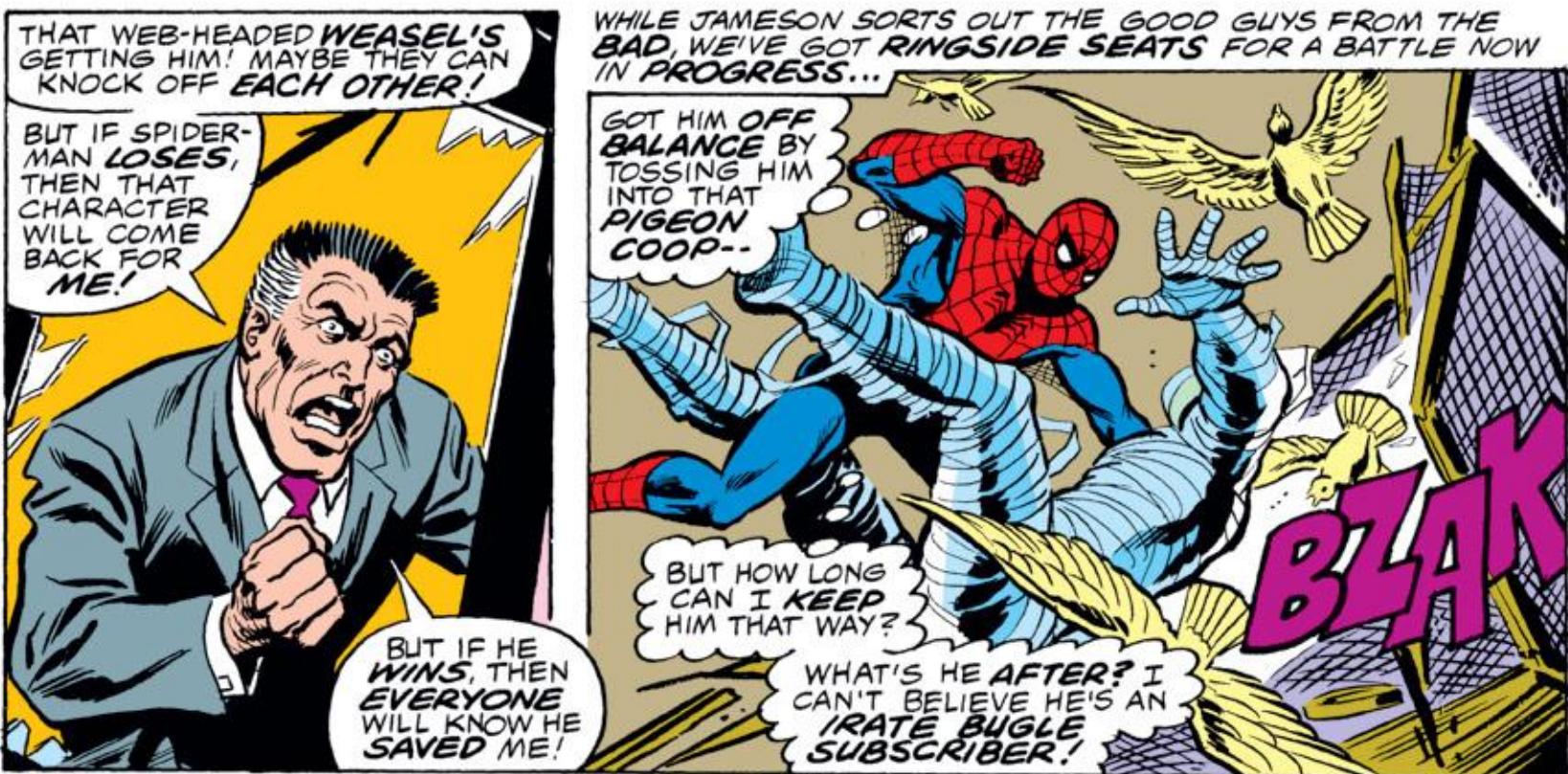


AS SPIDER-MAN MAKES HIS WAY TOWARD THE BUGLE BUILDING...





APPARENTLY NOT, FOR THE NEXT MOMENT THE MUMMIFIED MARAUDER LUNGES FORWARD, PUSHING A DAZED SPIDEY BROADSIDE INTO THE WALL...







WHILE THE WEBBED WONDER REACTS WITH SHOCK, HIS BANDAGED NEMESIS LUNGES FORWARD...



HIS LUPINE FOE BARELY NOTICES THE UNCONSCIOUS SPIDER-MAN AS HE SHAMBLES OFF TO HIS FIRST TARGET...



...THEN CARRY HIM LIMPLY OFF AS IF HE WERE NOTHING MORE THAN A RAG DOLL!

AND ALL THE WHILE J. JONAH JAMESON NEVER KNOWS THAT HIS ATTACKER HAPPENS TO BE-- JOHN JAMESON --HIS OWN SON...



NEXT ISSUE: A DEADLY CHASE THROUGH MANHATTAN, AND FOUR LIVES HANG IN THE BALANCE. YOU MUST BE HERE FOR--

ON THE TRAIL OF-- THE MAN-WOLF!

THE SPIDER'S WEB

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP
575 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

MARV WOLFMAN
EDITOR
MARK GRUENWALD
ASSISTANT EDITOR

SPECIAL NOTE: A goodly number of you faithful Marvel minions have been taking us to task for missing letters pages with greater frequency of late. Believe us, we are as dismayed about it as you are—especially since in 95% of the cases, a letters page has been assembled, typeset, and pasted up for the issue in which it made its non-appearance. You see, due to a shift in printing schedules, our printers have been getting the books on the presses without waiting for the letters pages. Well, we've straightened out that problem at last, and until some new problem comes along, you can look forward to regular page-loads of your priceless praise and pans. Keep writing, friends!

The near-graduation of Peter Parker in SPIDER-MAN #185 unleashed an avalanche of mail upon 575 Mad Av, as Marvdom Assembled let Spider-Writer Marv Wolfman know what they thought of his meticulous machinations. Although the final tally is not yet in, it seems as if the mail is running half and half—half of you thought that his missing graduation by one credit was a fitting addition to the arachnidian annals, half of you felt that we pulled another fast one to keep Mrs. Parker's boy in ivy sweaters for another ten years or so. (For those who felt the latter: come now, if it took him thirteen years our time to accrue the 120 or so credits to get a degree, how long do you think it'll take to make up one credit, huh?)

Before we get to your capricious comments, we'd like to acknowledge all of the alphabet afficianados, who noticed the slight mix-up in the alphabetization of graduate's names as read by the speaker at the ceremony. It must be admitted that neither Marvelous Marv nor his crack proofreader Mark Gruenwald caught the error. So a nit-picker's no-prize goes to: Mark Capella of Liverpool, NY; John Kelly of Levittown, NY; Bryan Kwong of Sacramento, CA; John Leon of Sacramento, CA; Jimmy Moore of Tampa, FL; Mike Oestreicher of Flagstaff, AZ; and John Yu of Sacramento, CA. (Say, you fellow Sacramento-ites wouldn't have learned your alphabet at the same school, would you?) However...since not one of your no-prizefighters caught that the first names of the roster of graduates corresponded to those of every writer and artist who worked regularly on SPIDER-MAN from Stan Lee and Steve Ditko to Marv and Keith Pollard, we're afraid we'll have to recall those no-prizes before we put them in the no-mail. Better luck next time, folks.

And now, enough of this yellow box—let's hear what you have to say...

Dear Marv,

Being a member of the high school class of '78, I bought SPIDER-MAN #185 so I could show people that I graduated the same year as Peter Parker. When I read the ish and found out he didn't graduate, I thought you were going to pull some really stupid excuse such as "Well, you missed too many classes, you can't graduate this year." Instead, you made a beautiful move. Missing the diploma by one lousy gym credit was the greatest excuse you could have pulled. The old Parker luck strikes again, thank you.

Joel D. Cochin
7 Partridge Rd.
Lexington, MA 02173

Dear Spider-Man People,

You really did it this time. Here you are, screaming on the cover: "The most demanded story of them all (untrue)—Peter Parker's Graduation!" I think to myself: "Have they really done it? This is fabulous! I've got to get this one!" Well you got your lousy 35 cents, but I didn't get his graduation. You had the audacity to make him miss it by one credit! Now that's indecent! If Parker had forgotten to take a phys ed course, he probably would have forgotten to sign up for graduation. What was the purpose of making him miss his credit requirements anyway? To keep him "offbeat"? Missing graduation is *not* offbeat—it's the usual style of writing you do. "Peter Parker, Born Loser." Nobody is that unlucky.

John Ferro
7 West 81st St.
New York, NY 10024

Would it have helped if we had written on the cover "Peter Parker's Graduation Ceremony"? After all, having been through it all once, ol' Pete is hardly apt to go through the whole rigamarole after making up his one credit at summer school.

Dear Marvel,

I figured you had something up your collective sleeves when they didn't have a cap and gown for Peter at graduation practice in SPIDER-MAN #184. Letting him graduate with his class would have been too simple. What you had happen seems to be true-to-form for poor Peter.

Mark Capella
Liverpool, NY 13088

Dear Marvel,

I think that it was a cheap trick not letting Peter graduate in SPIDER-MAN #185. If you didn't want him to get through college, you could have thought of a better reason than missing gym class. Everyone knows that physical education is not required in college.

Bob Steib
Pewaukee, WI

It was when this letters-page answerer was matriculating, Bob, not that many years ago.

Dear Marv,

Congratulations on coming up with a way to make Parker's college graduation different from his high school graduation way back in SPIDER-MAN #28 (oh, does that make me feel old to admit I've been around since *then*). What with our wondrous web-spinner active in two other magazines besides this, it is no wonder he wasn't able to zip through college as quickly as he did through high school. Now let's hope that graduate school is as eventful as Parker's undergrad days.

Dave Curtice
Rochester, NY 14617

Dear Marvel,

Upon closing SPIDER-MAN #185, my first reaction was: "After a hundred and fifty issues, this is Peter Parker's graduation?" He got no diploma, no degree, nothing but the shaft. Aunt May, who was watching the whole thing on TV, probably had another heart attack and died right there. Really, this six-page snoozer culminated with the most annoying trick ending in recent memory. It failed to deliver the goods when it counted most, and for that, the judgment of history will be quite severe...that is, if the issue isn't forgotten in two weeks.

Ed Via

1648 Dean Rd.
Roanoke, VA 24018

And so it goes.

NEXT: ON THE TRAIL OF THE

MAN-WOLF