



# the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

MARVEL  
COMICS GROUP 12¢



11 APR.

Featuring:  
**THE LONG-AWAITED  
"RETURN of  
DOCTOR  
OCTOPUS!"**

"TURNING POINT!"

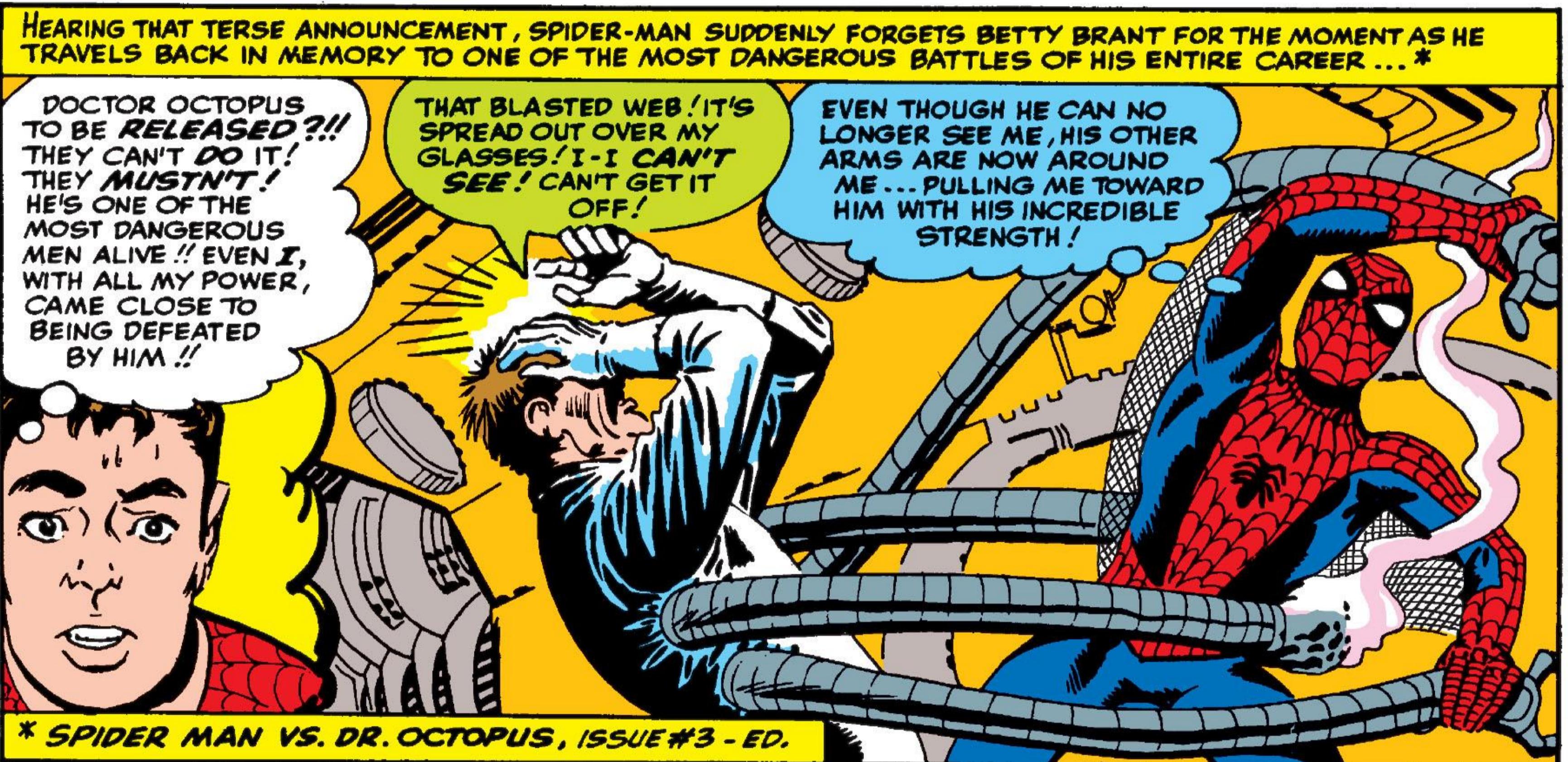
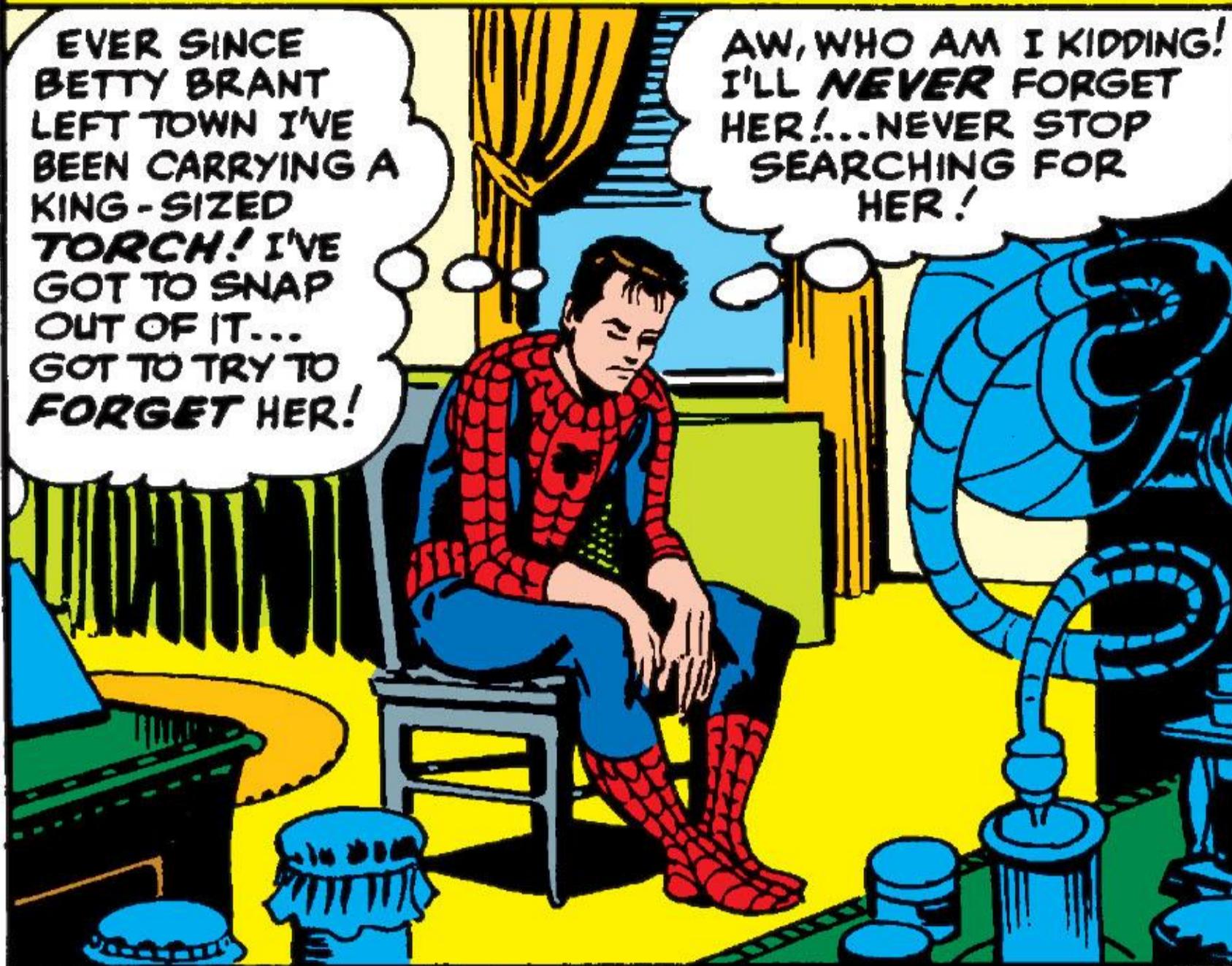
SEE WHAT HAPPENS  
WHEN SPIDER-MAN  
DECIDES TO REVEAL HIS  
SECRET IDENTITY TO  
SOMEONE ELSE! WILL  
HE REALLY DO IT?

WILL THIS BE THE  
TURNING POINT OF  
HIS AMAZING CAREER?  
OR--? BUT WHY NOT  
TURN THESE PAGES  
AND LEARN FOR  
YOURSELF, IN THIS  
CLASSIC TALE,  
TOLD IN THE  
MARVELOUS  
MARVEL MANNER!





A WORLD-FAMOUS SUPER-HERO DOESN'T SPEND ALL HIS TIME FIGHTING DEADLY MENACES! THERE ARE MOMENTS HE SPENDS ALONE, DEEP IN THOUGHT, MULLING OVER THE PAST AND PONDERING THE FUTURE! SUCH A SUPER-HERO IS SPIDER-MAN, AND SUCH A MOMENT IS THIS...



MOMENTS LATER, AT THE MUNICIPAL PRISON ...

I'LL BET I'M THE ONLY FELLA IN TOWN WHO EVER TRIED TO BREAK INTO A JAIL! HOPE I'M NOT TOO LATE!

NEXT, SPIDER-MAN'S AWESOME "CALLING CARD" SHINES ON THE WALL OF THE WARDEN'S OFFICE ...

WARDEN! YOU'VE GOT TO PREVENT DR. OCTOPUS' RELEASE! HE MUST NOT BE SET FREE!!

SPIDER-MAN!!

SORRY TO BREAK IN THIS WAY, BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO WASTE A MINUTE! IS HE STILL BEHIND BARS?

YES, BUT HE LEAVES TONIGHT! WE CAN'T HOLD HIM! HE'S SERVED HIS TIME! AS FOR YOU, I'LL GIVE YOU TEN SECONDS TO LEAVE THE WAY YOU ENTERED! NO MASKED ADVENTURER DICTATES THE LAW WHILE I'M WARDEN HERE!

AND, IN A SPECIALLY CONSTRUCTED CELL, WITH REINFORCED CEMENT WALLS AND BARS ...

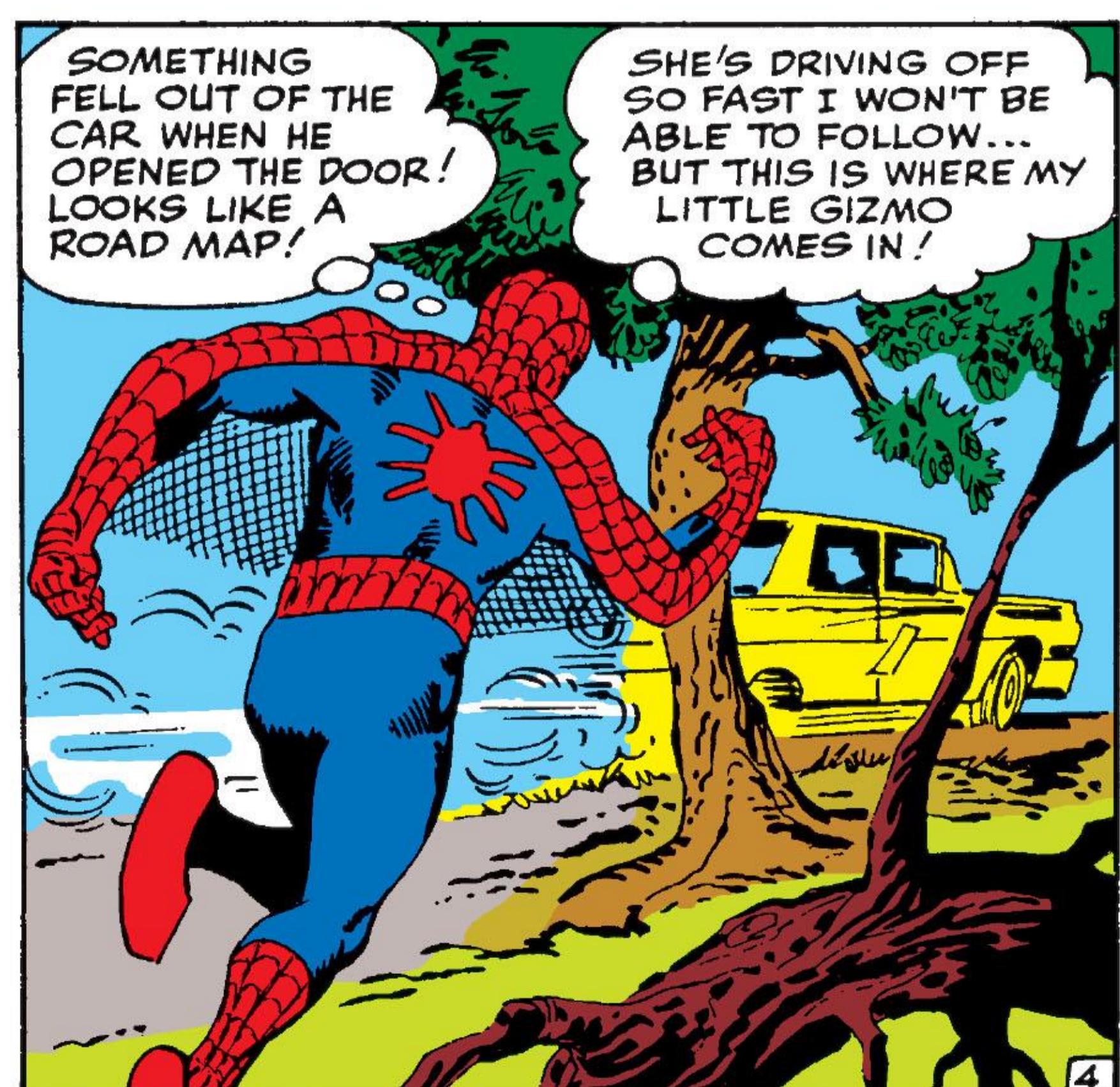
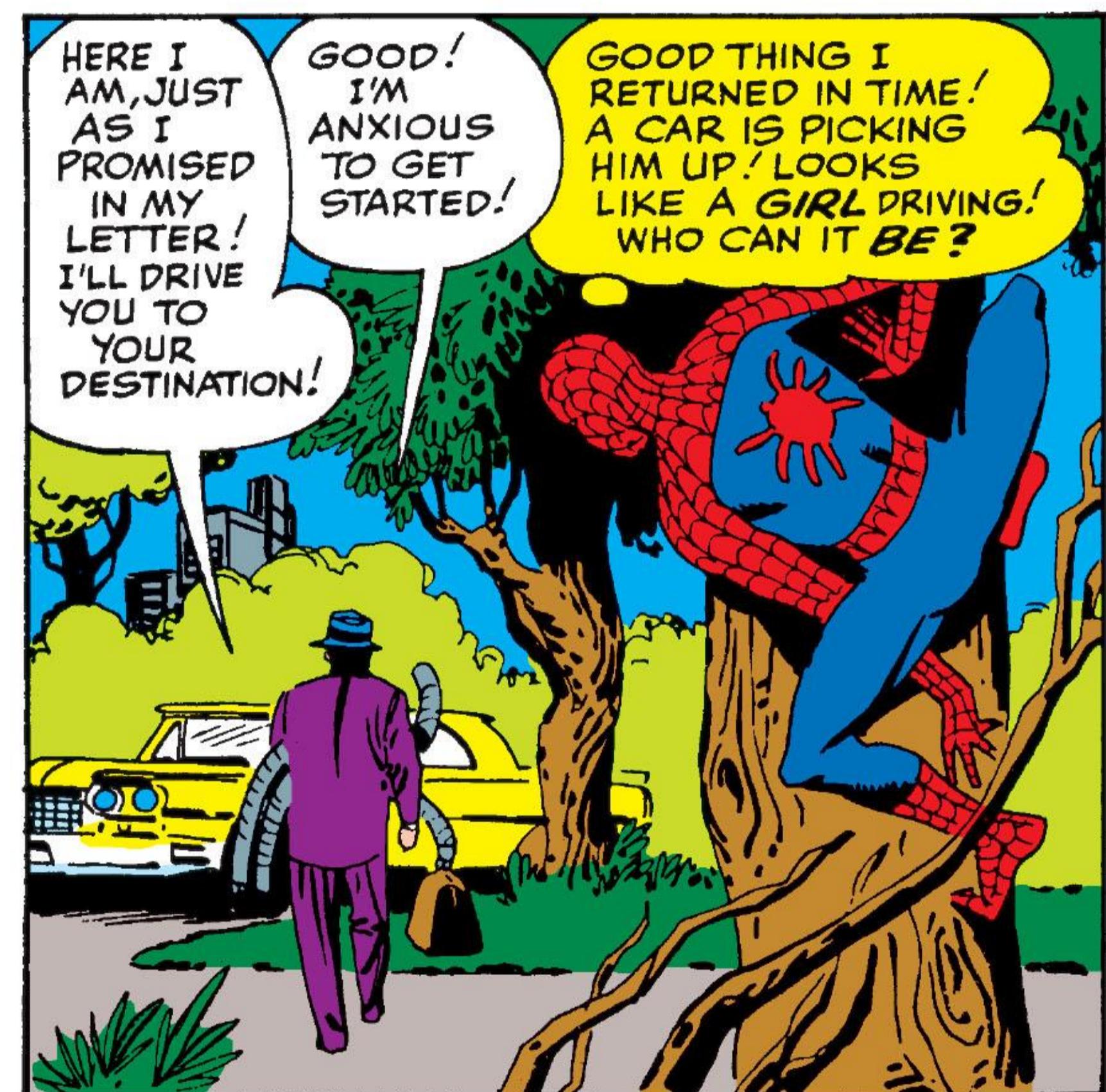
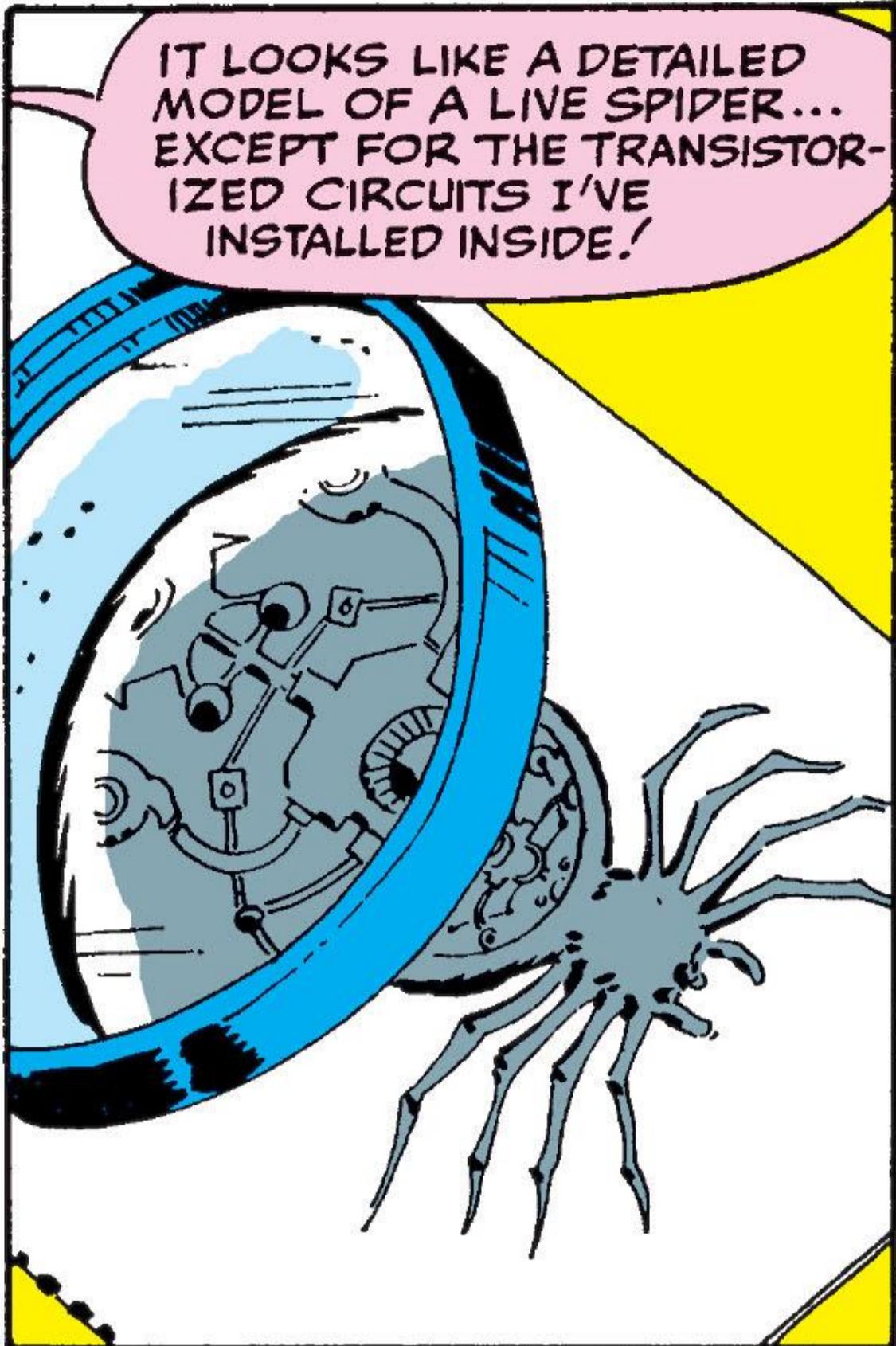
GLAD I WAS SMART ENOUGH NOT TO TRY TO ESCAPE! I KNEW I'D GET TIME OFF FOR GOOD BEHAVIOR! NOW THEY CAN'T HOLD ME ANY LONGER!

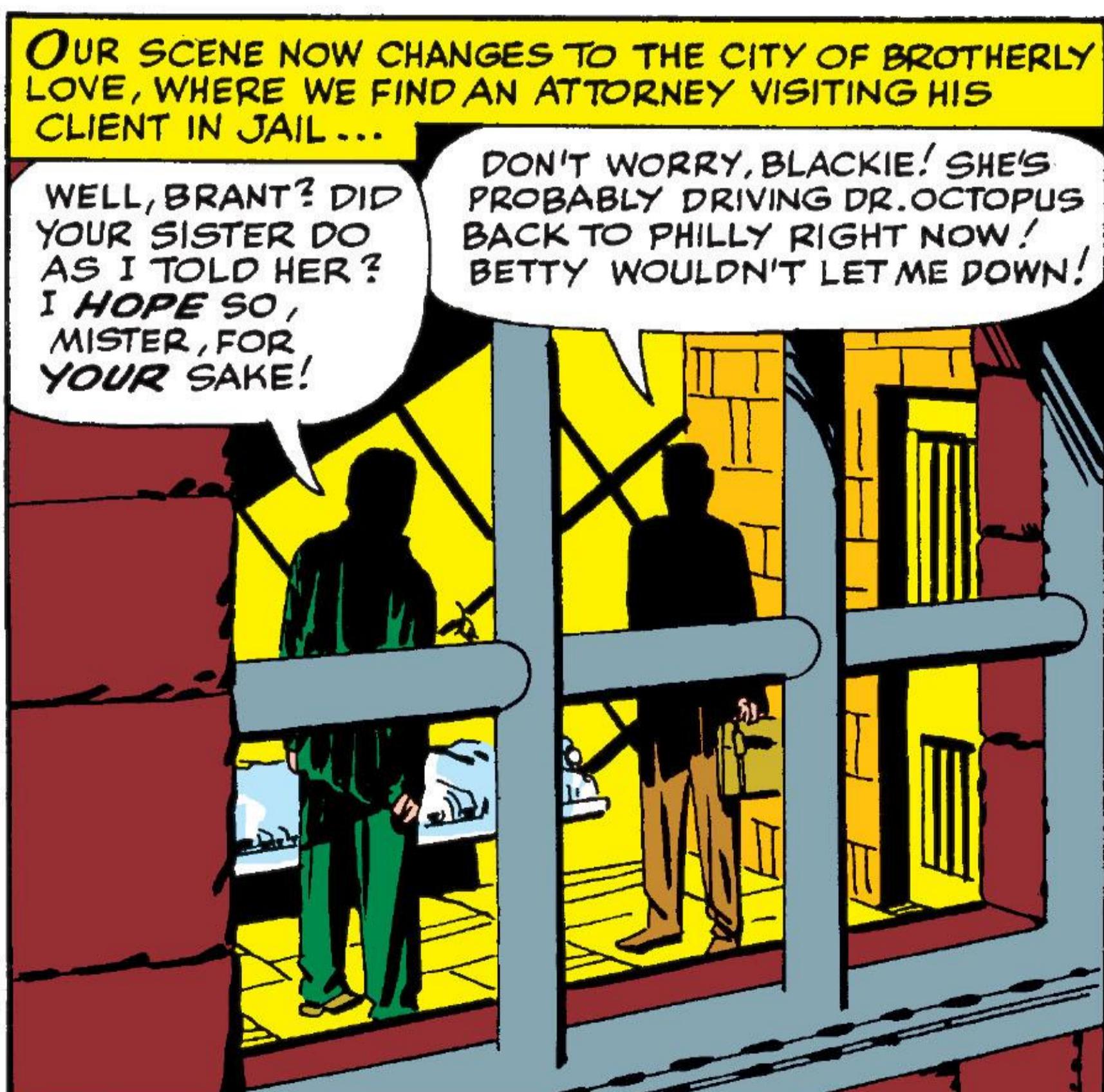
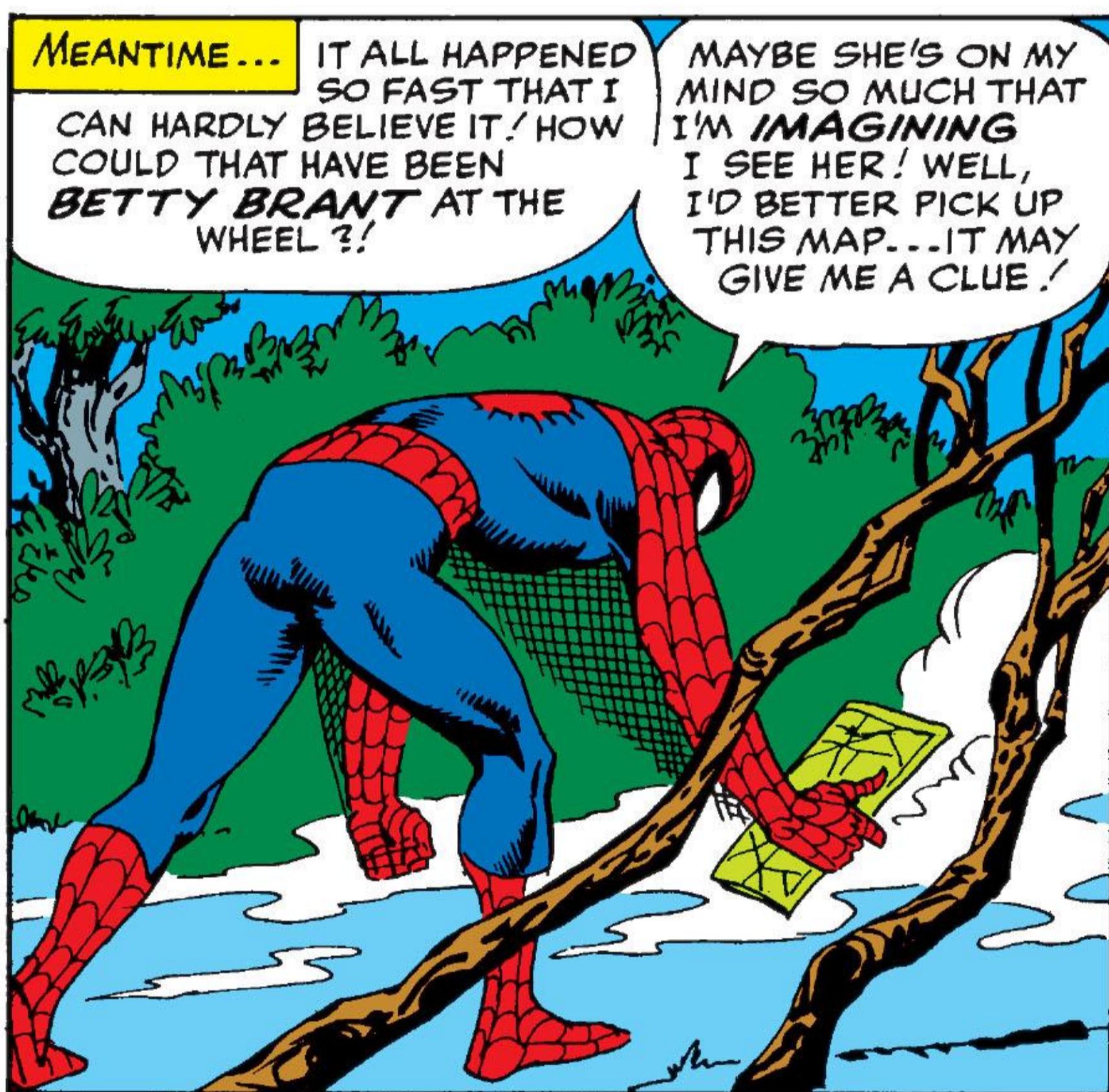
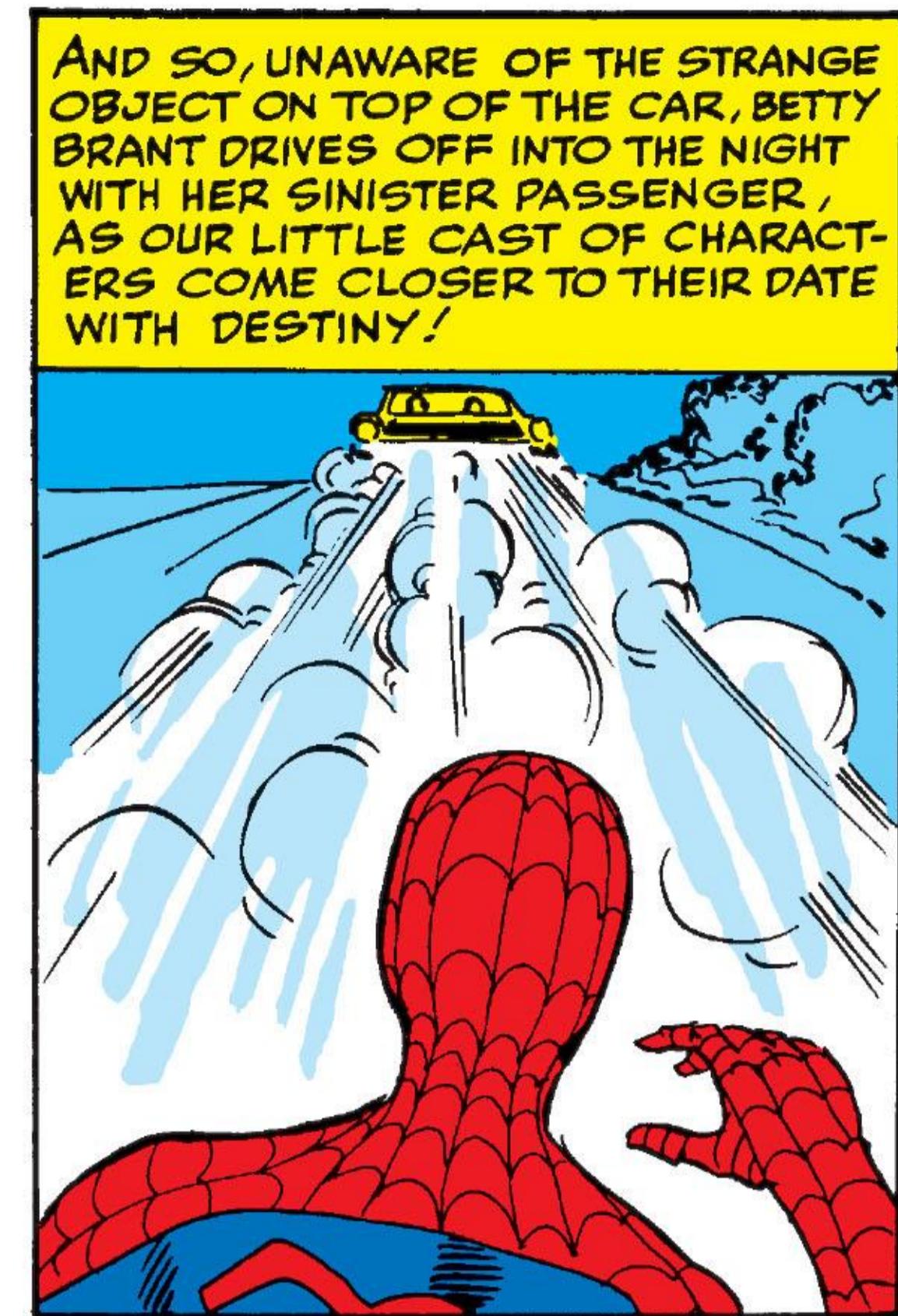
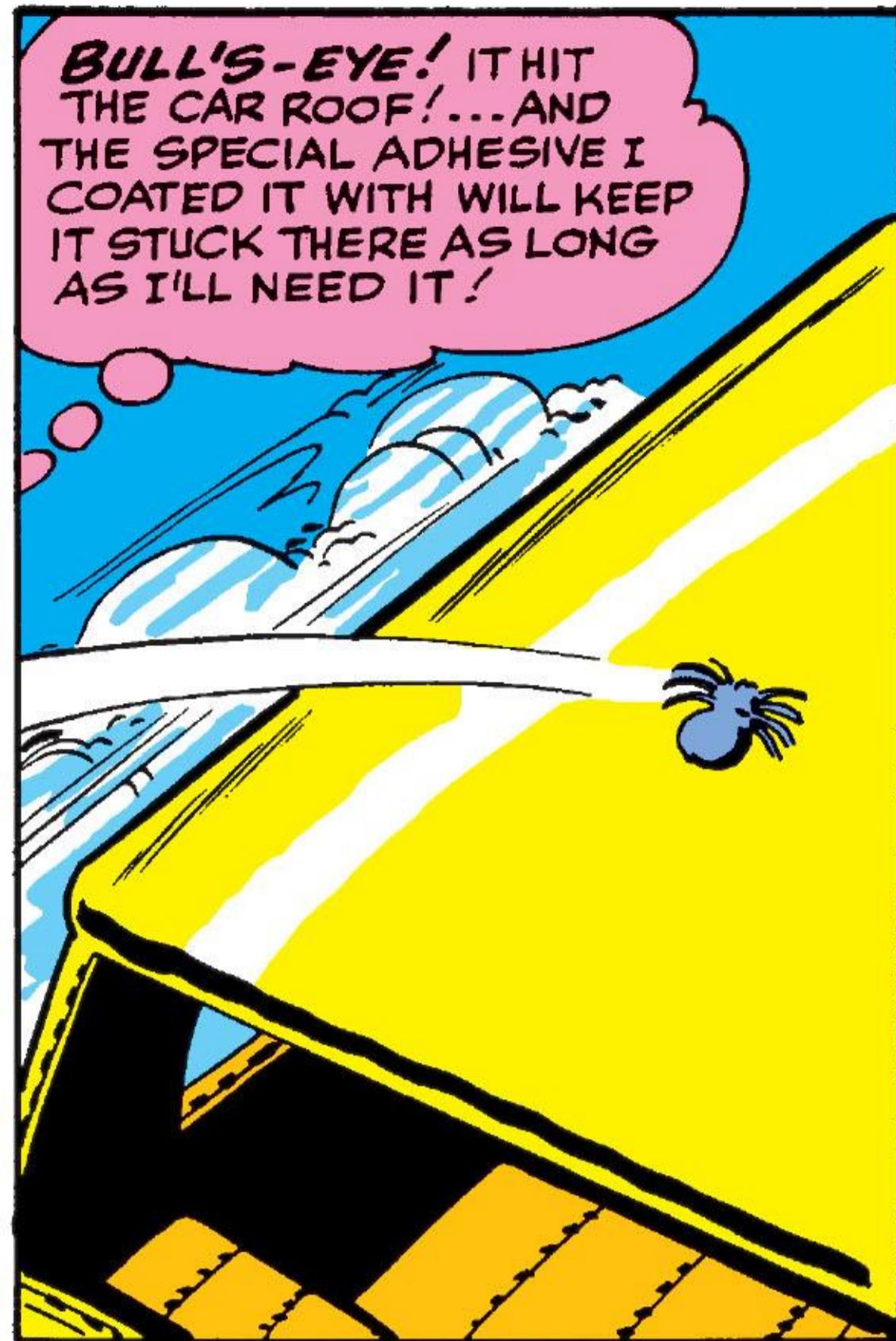
I WAS ABLE TO SPEND ALL MY TIME IMPROVING MY DEXTERITY WITH MY EXTRA ARMS! I CAN USE THEM SO WELL NOW, THAT I'LL NEVER BE CAPTURED AGAIN!

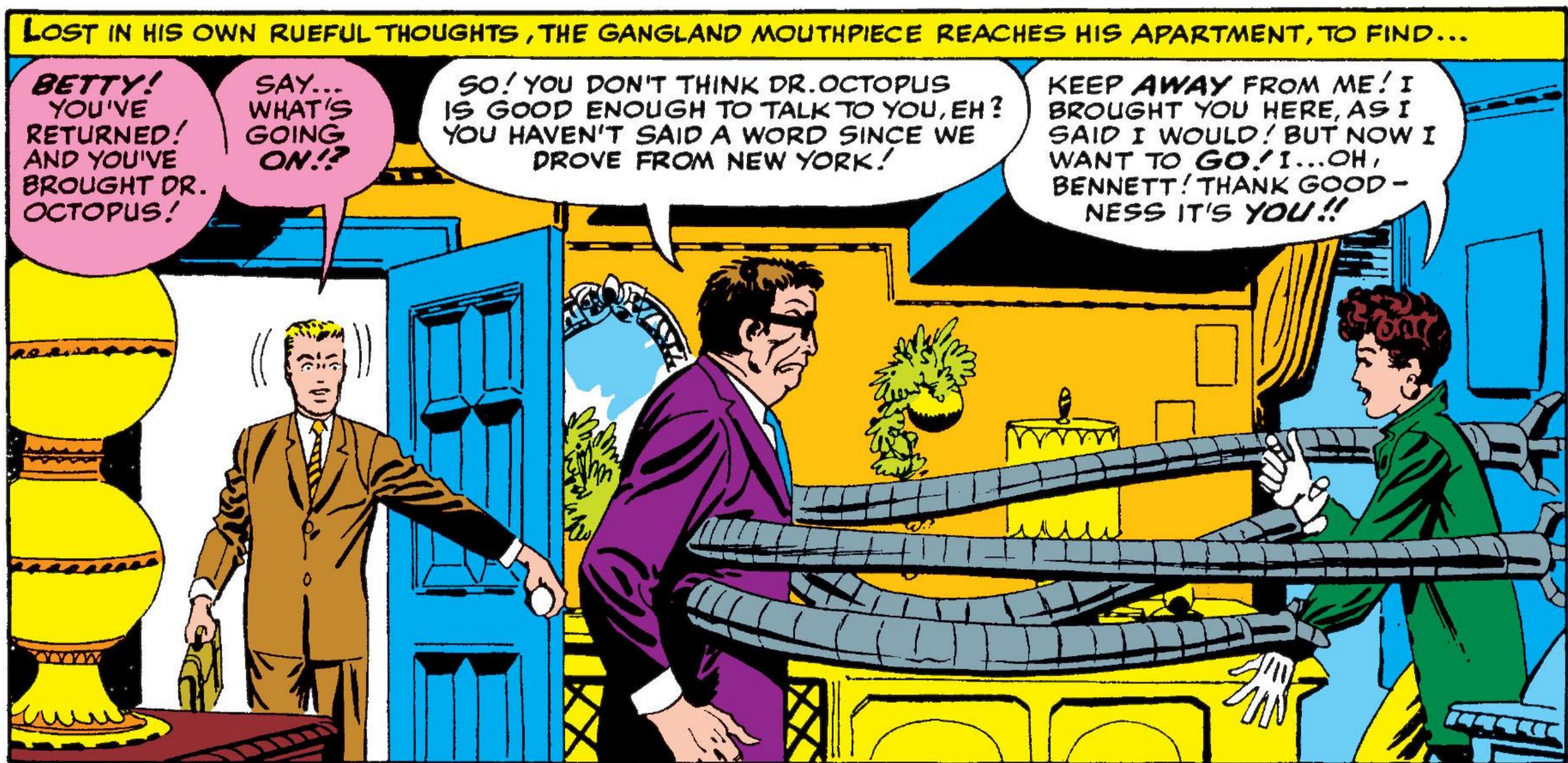
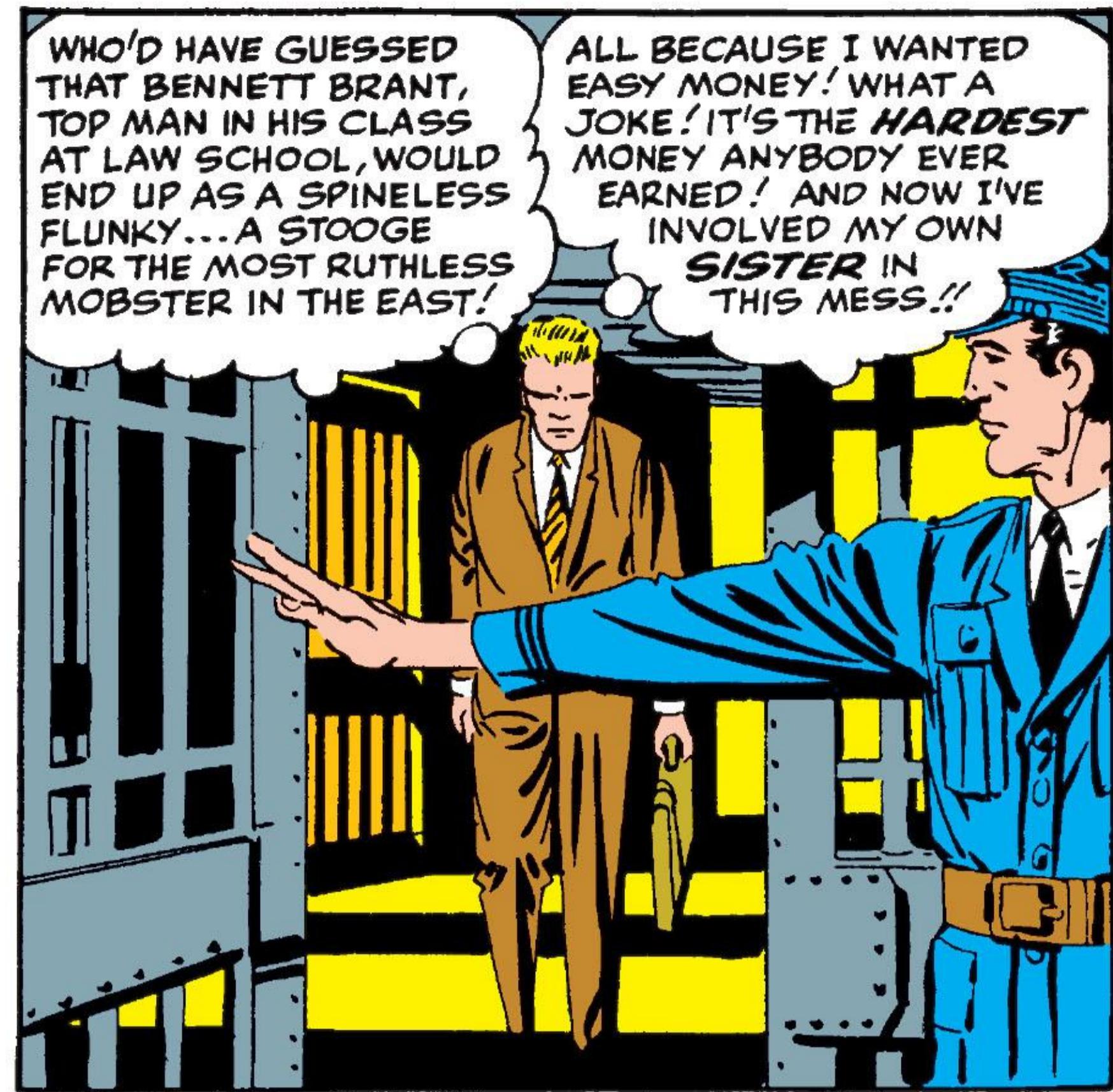
LATER, BACK HOME AGAIN, SPIDER-MAN CHANGES TO HIS EVERYDAY IDENTITY AS PETER PARKER, TEEN-AGE SCIENCE BUFF, AS HE WORKS ON A PECULIAR DEVICE...

I GUESS THE WARDEN WAS RIGHT! A MAN CAN'T BE KEPT IN JAIL LONGER THAN HIS SENTENCE! EVERYONE DESERVES A SECOND CHANCE!

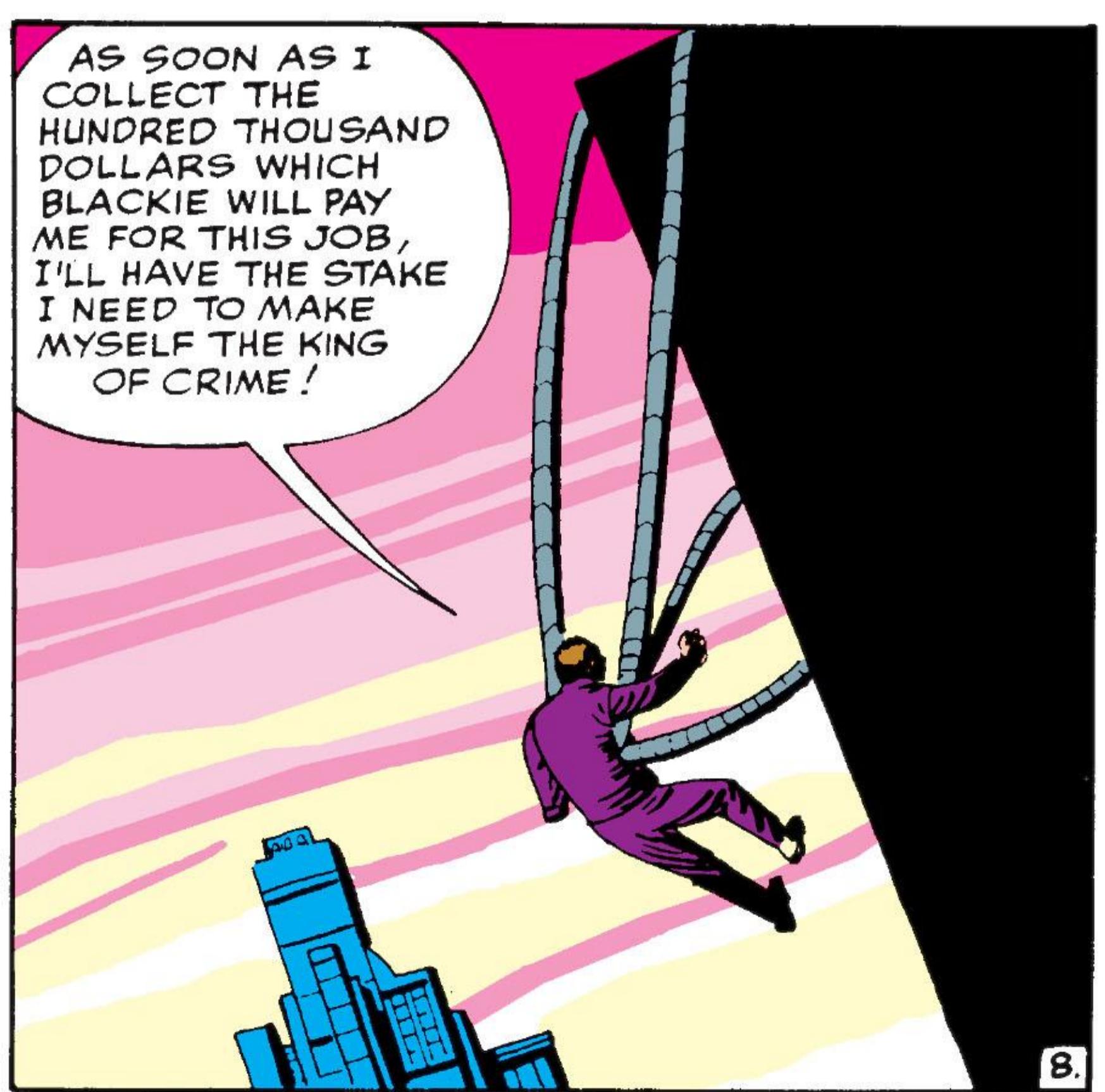
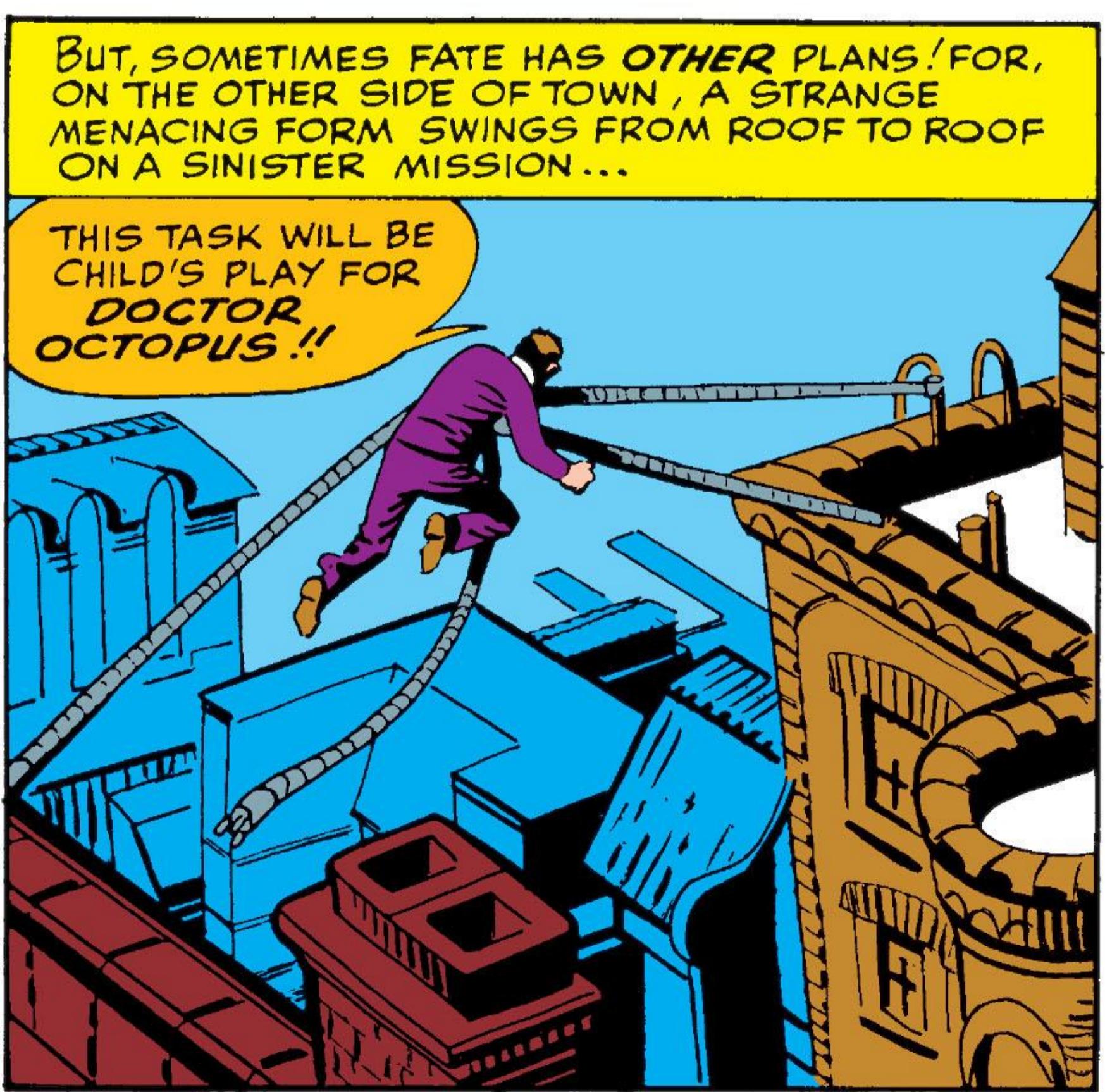
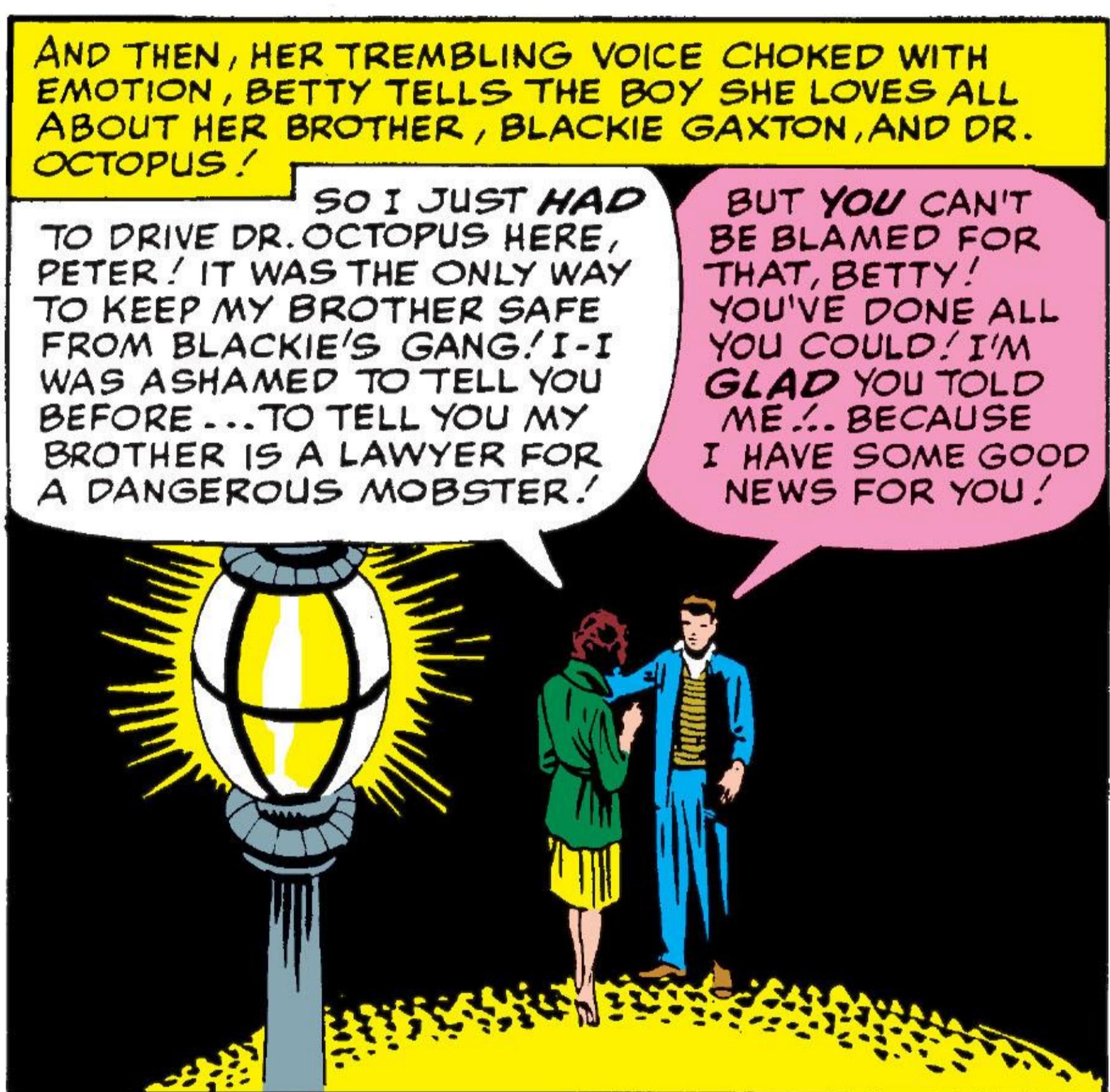
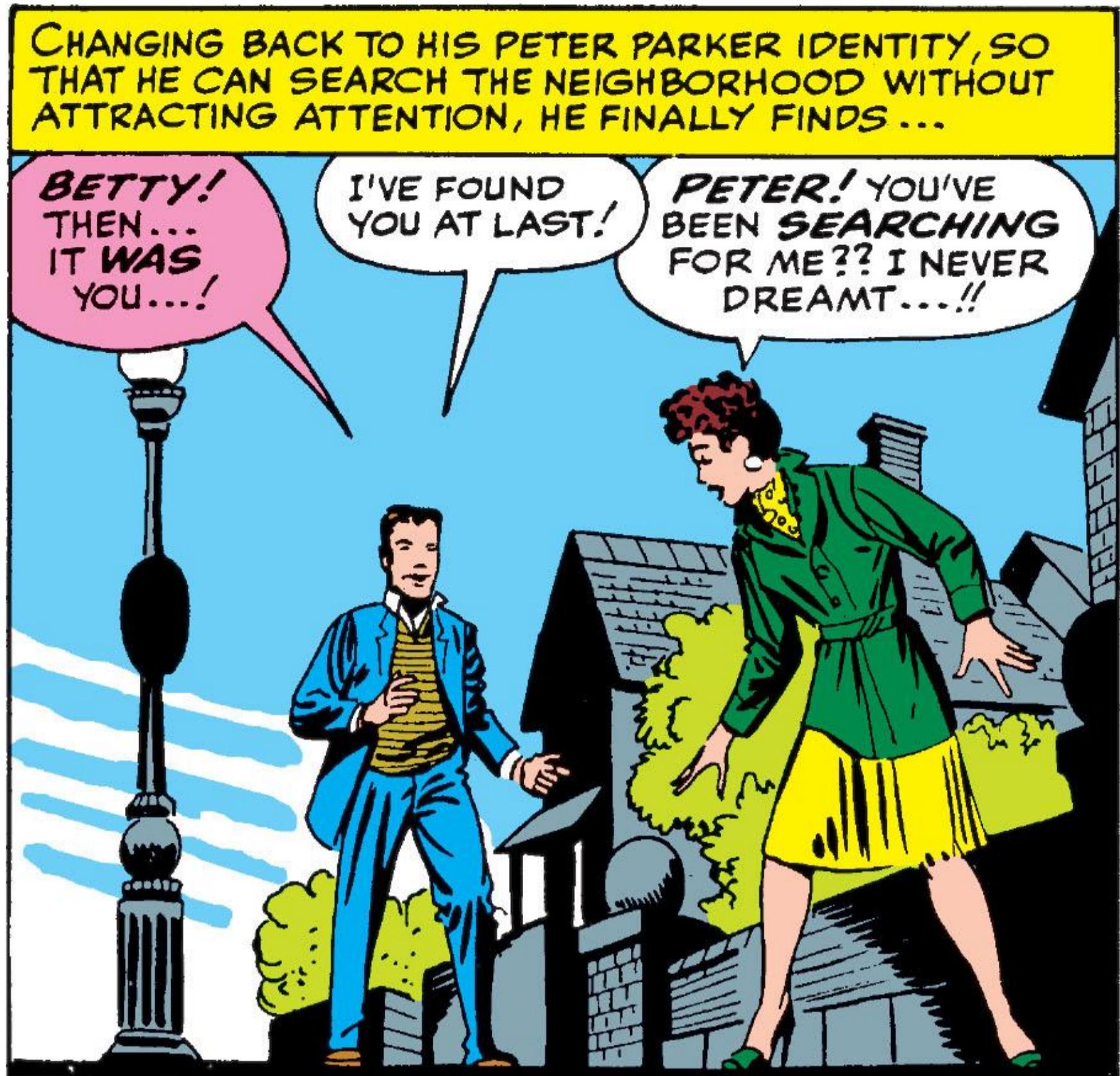
BUT JUST THE SAME, THIS LITTLE GIZMO I COOKED UP WILL HELP ME KEEP TABS ON DOC OCK... JUST IN CASE!

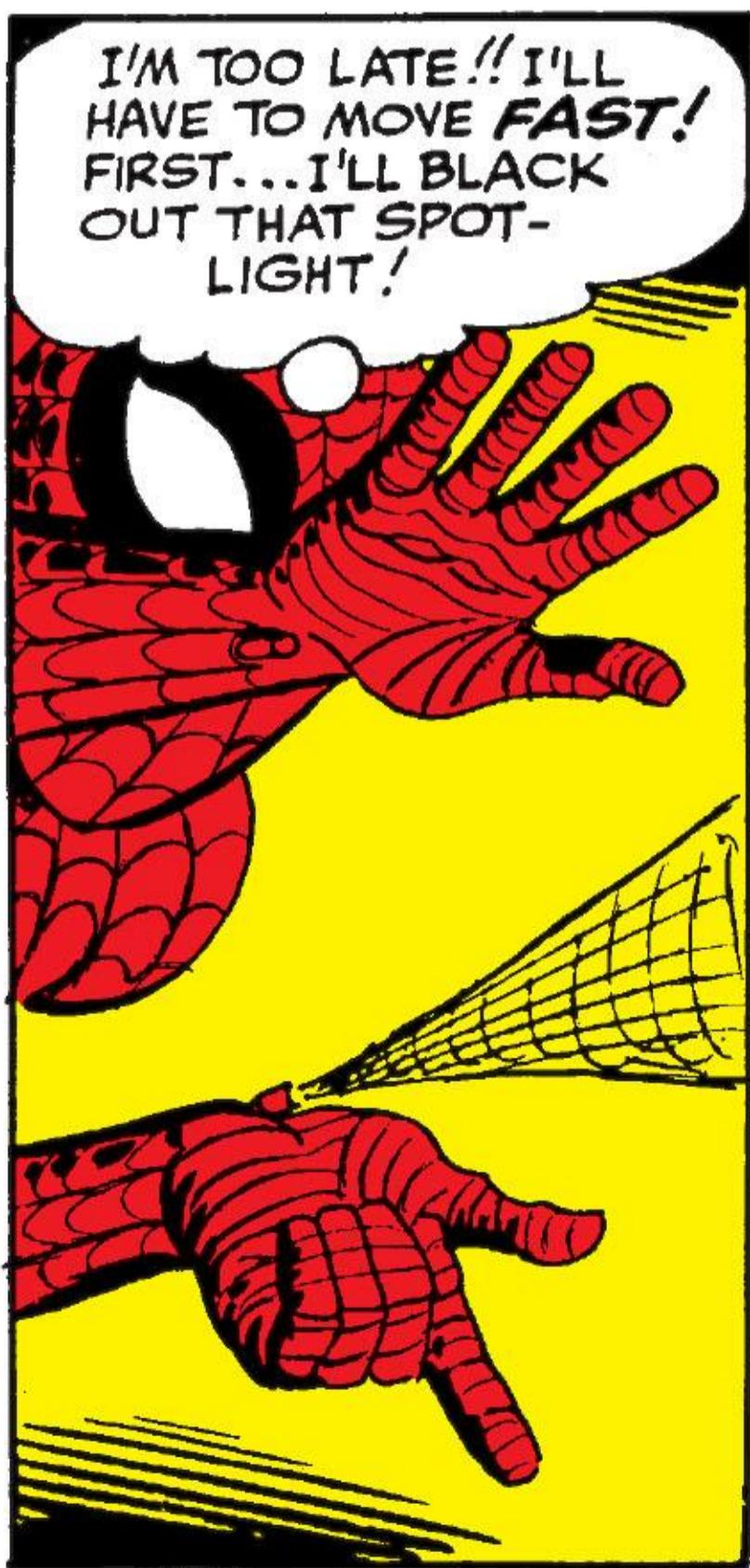
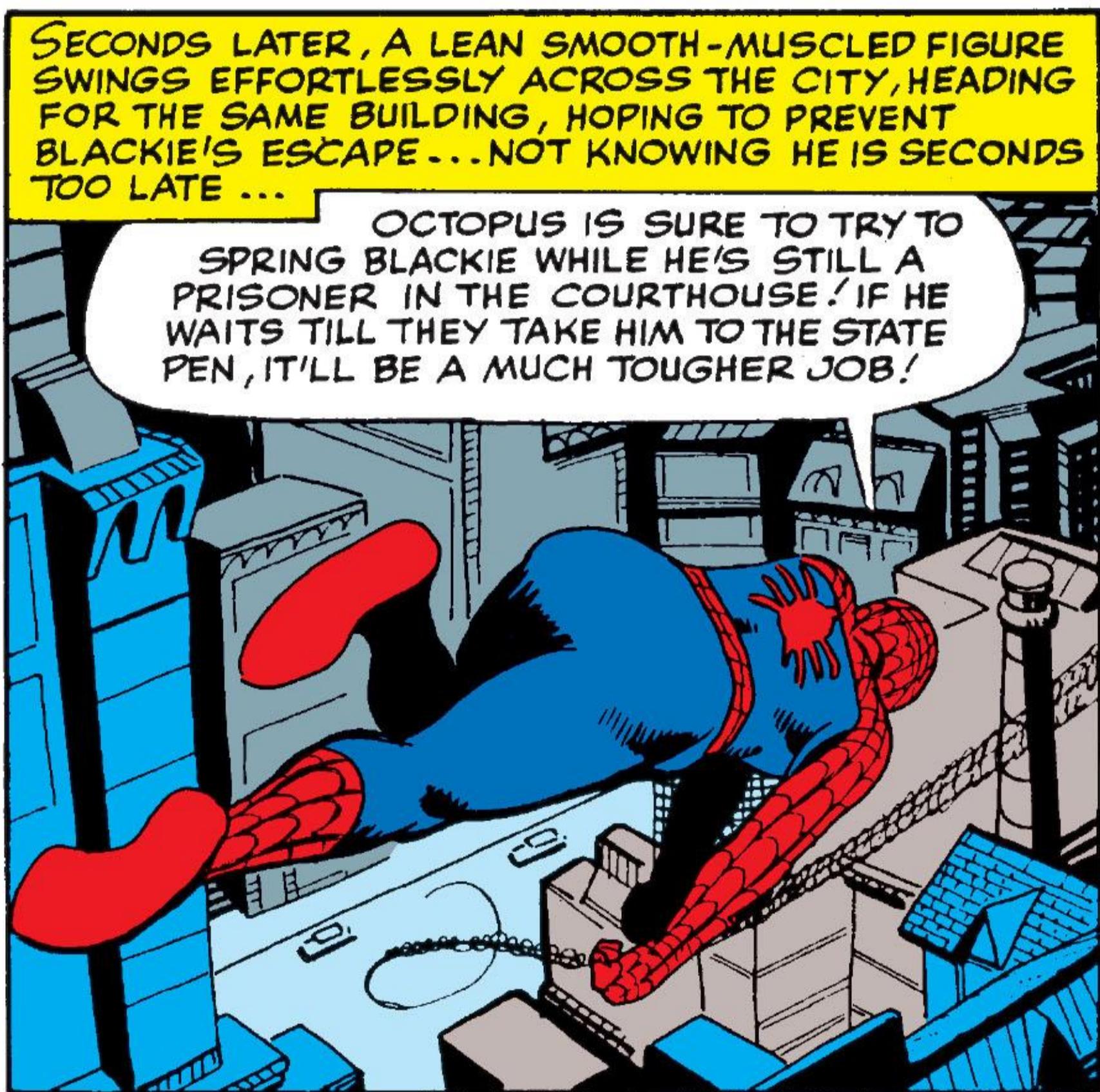
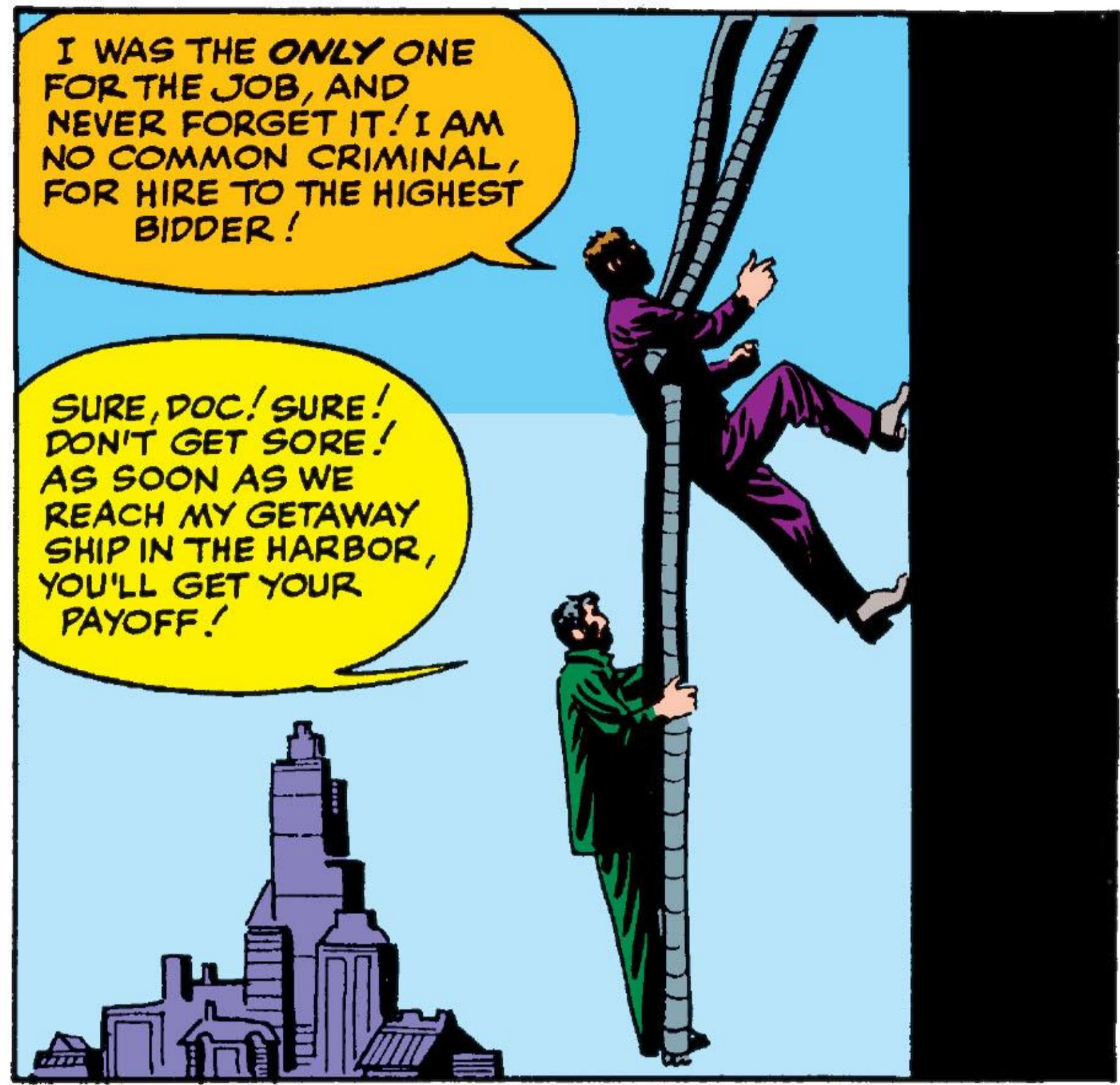


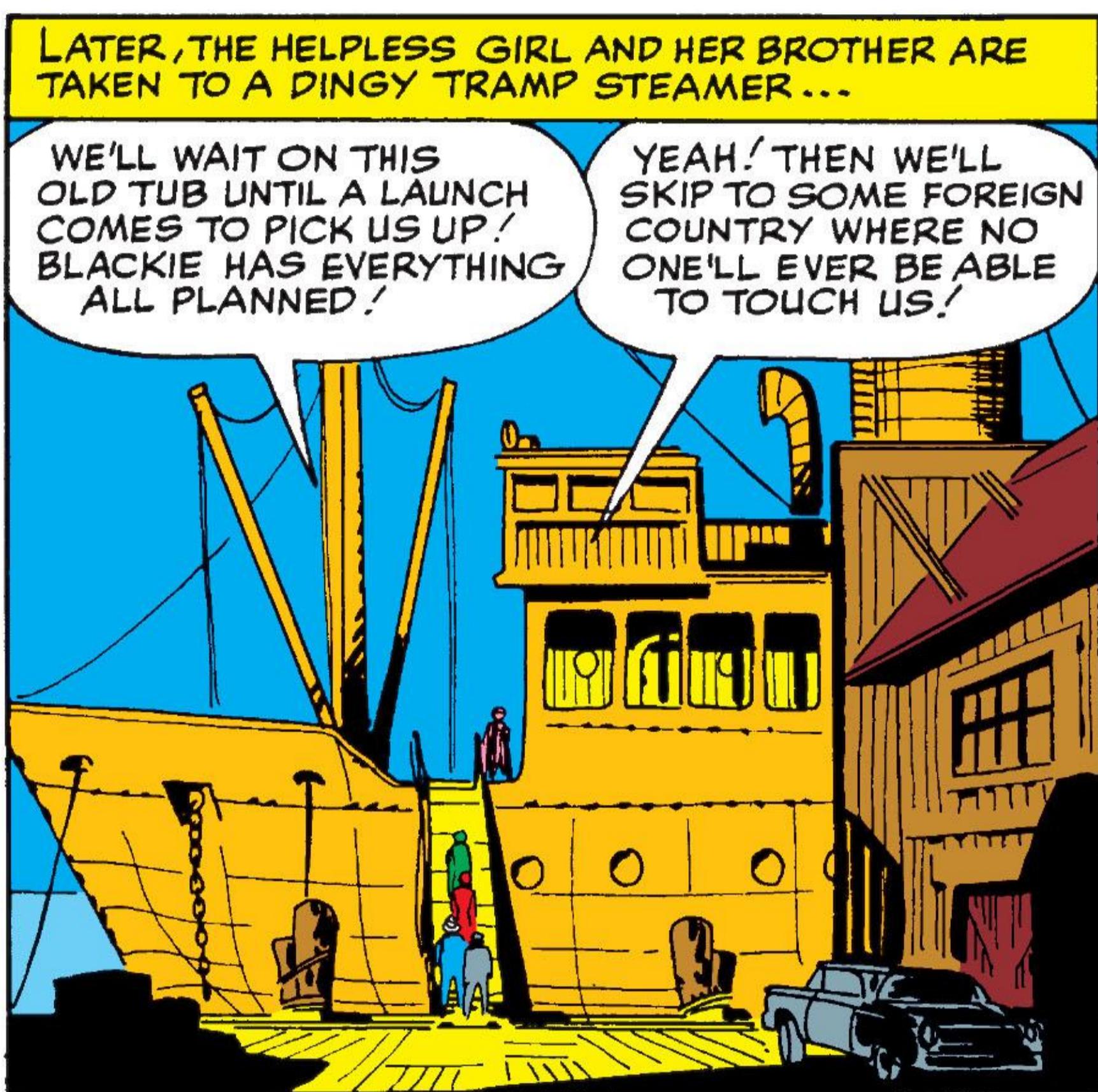
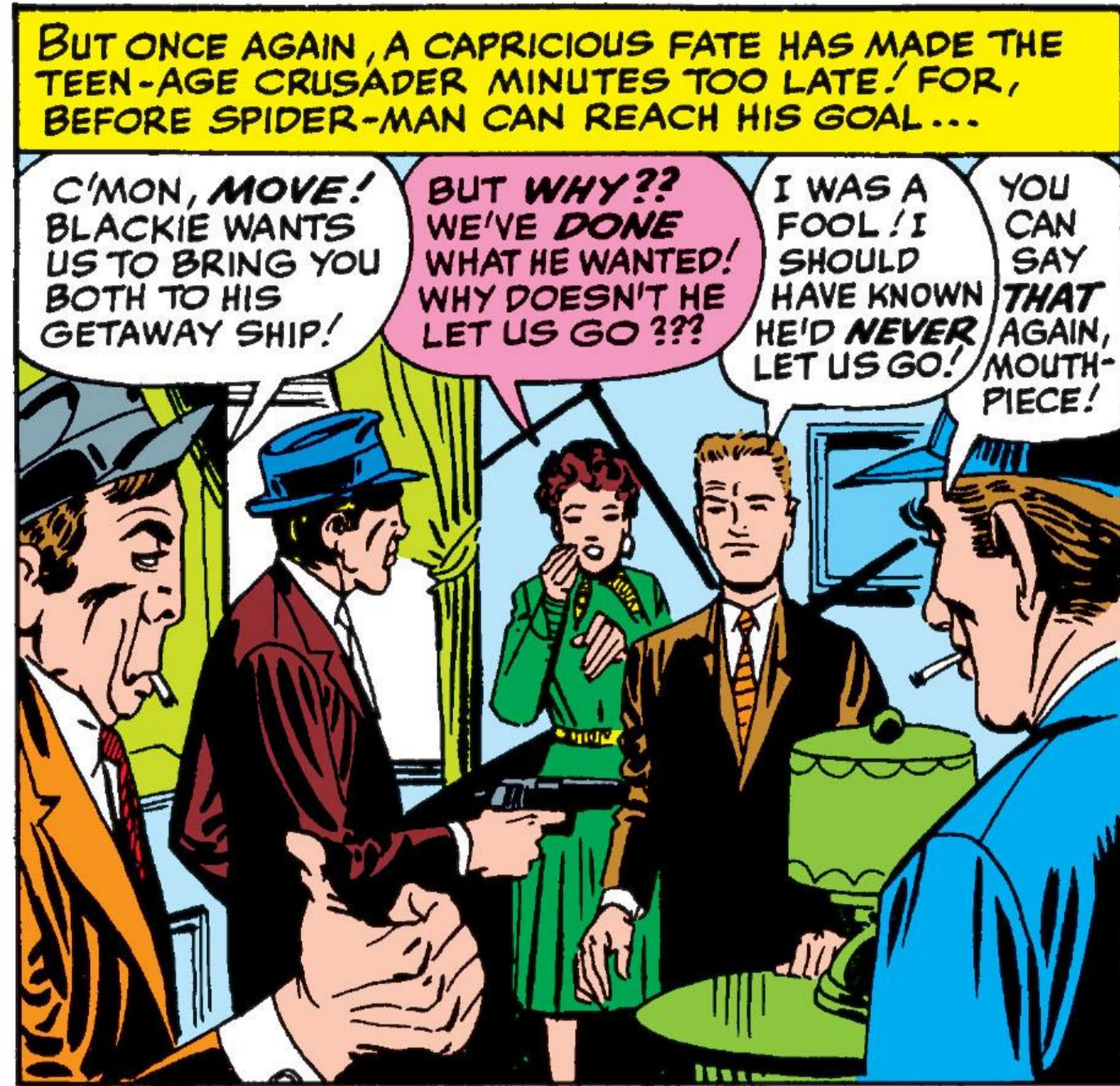


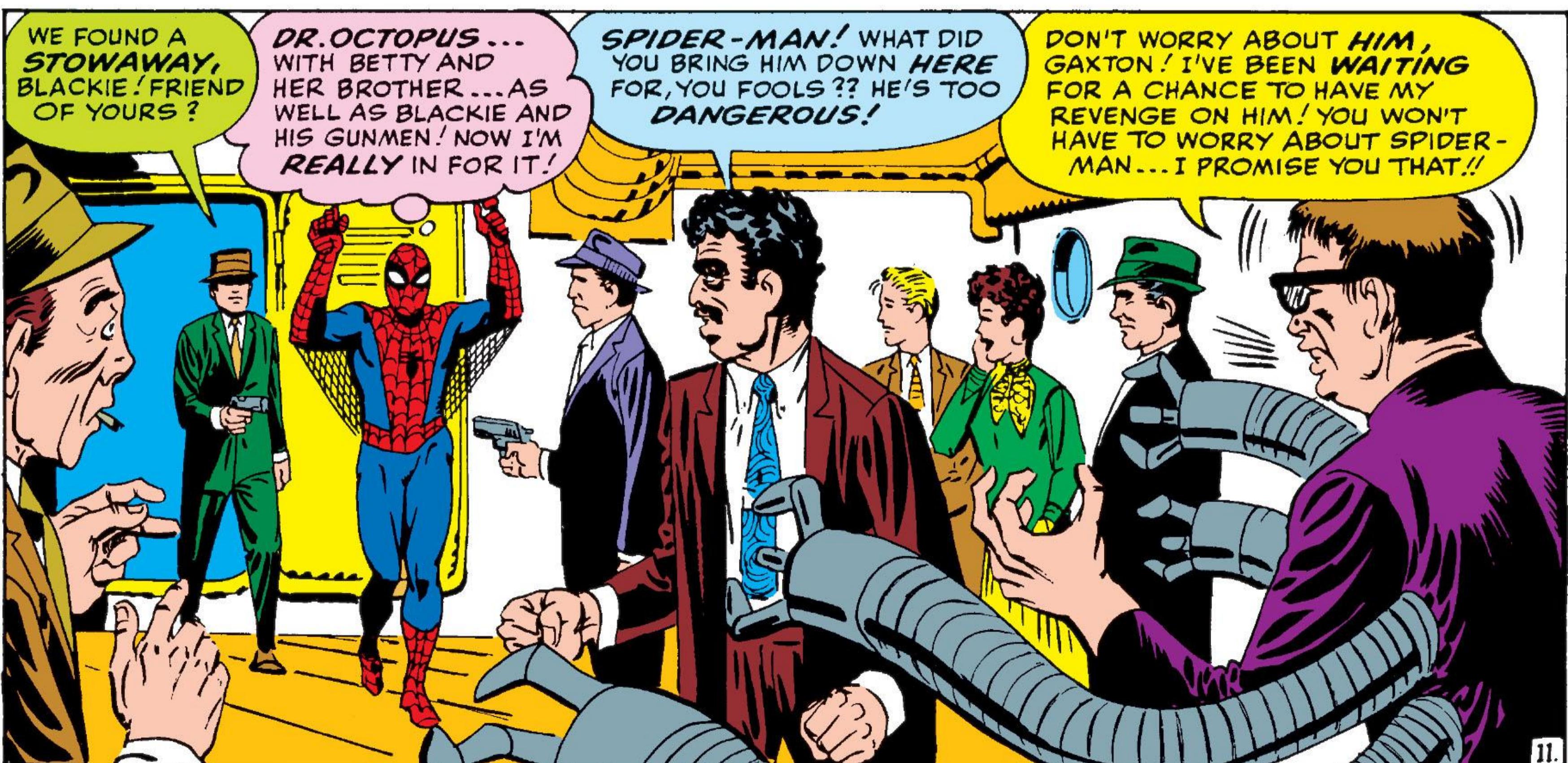


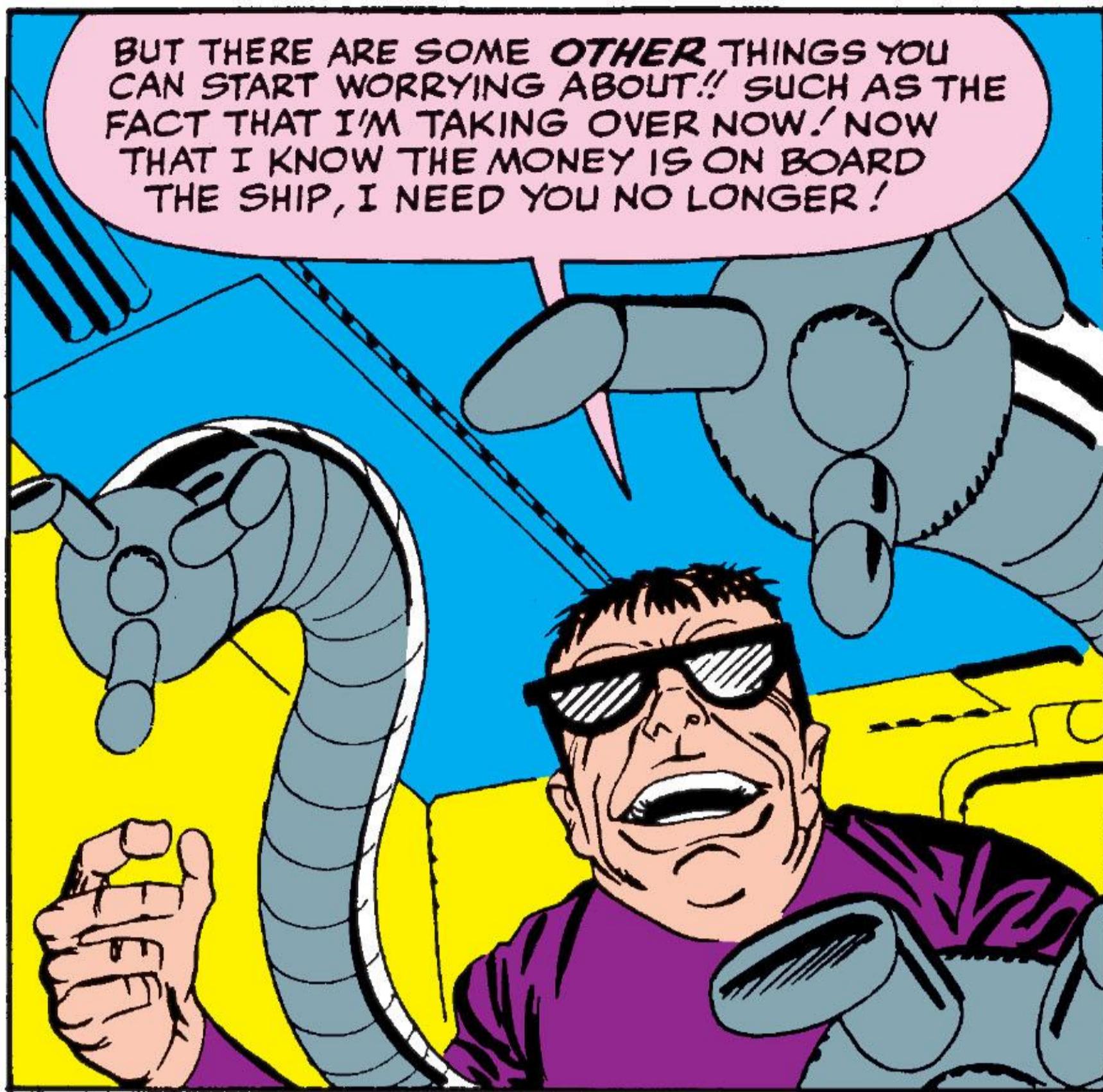


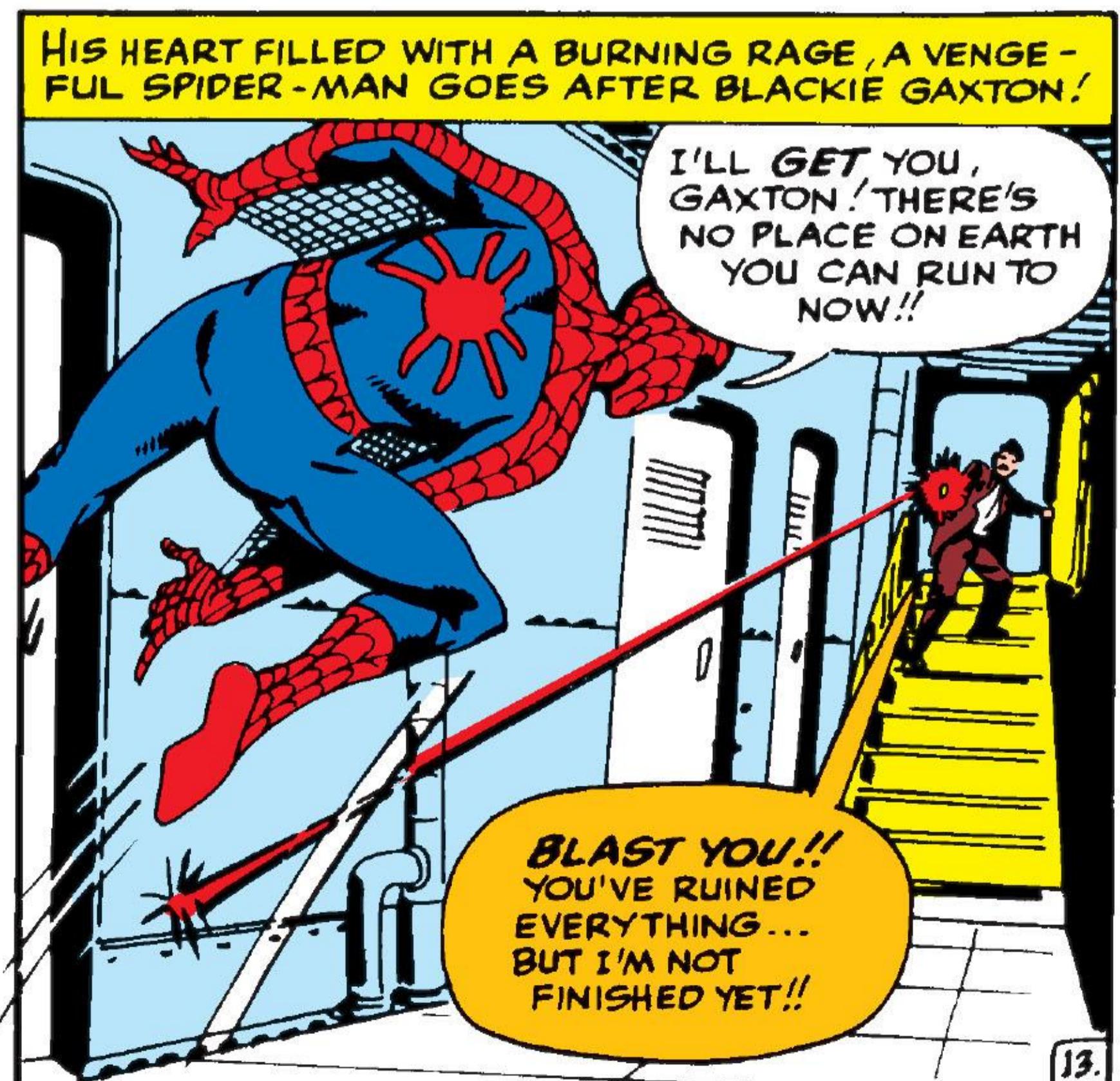


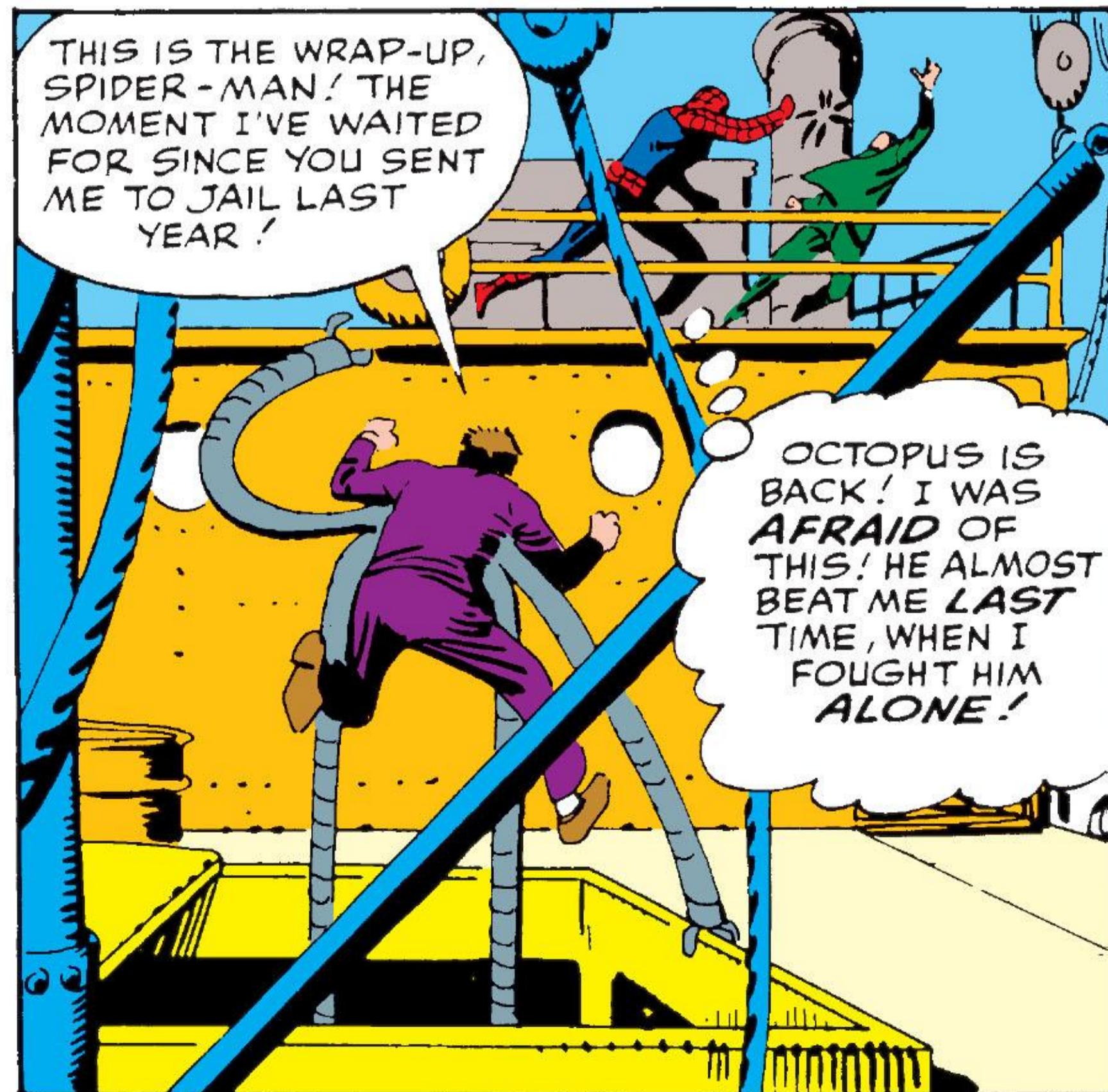
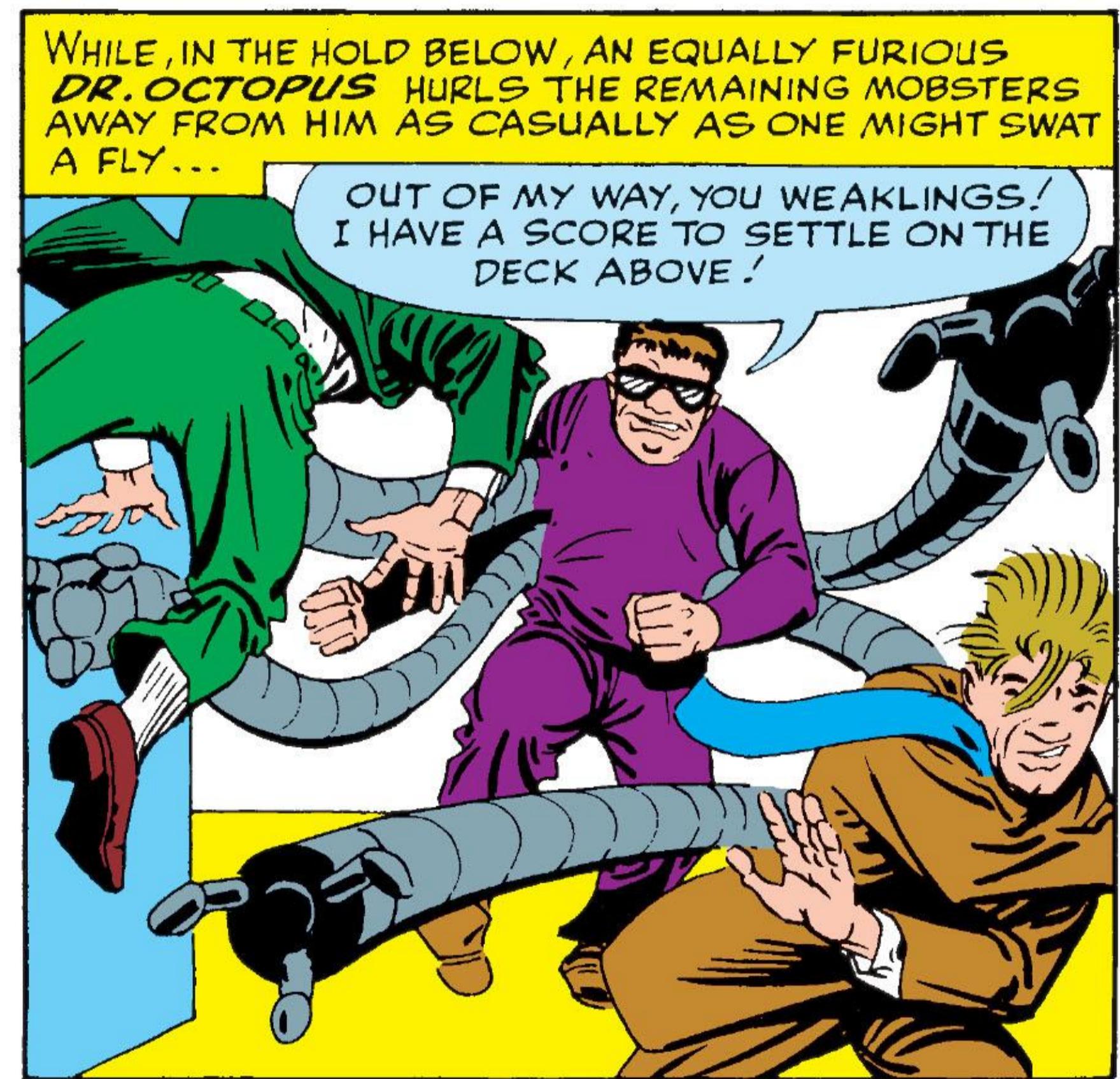
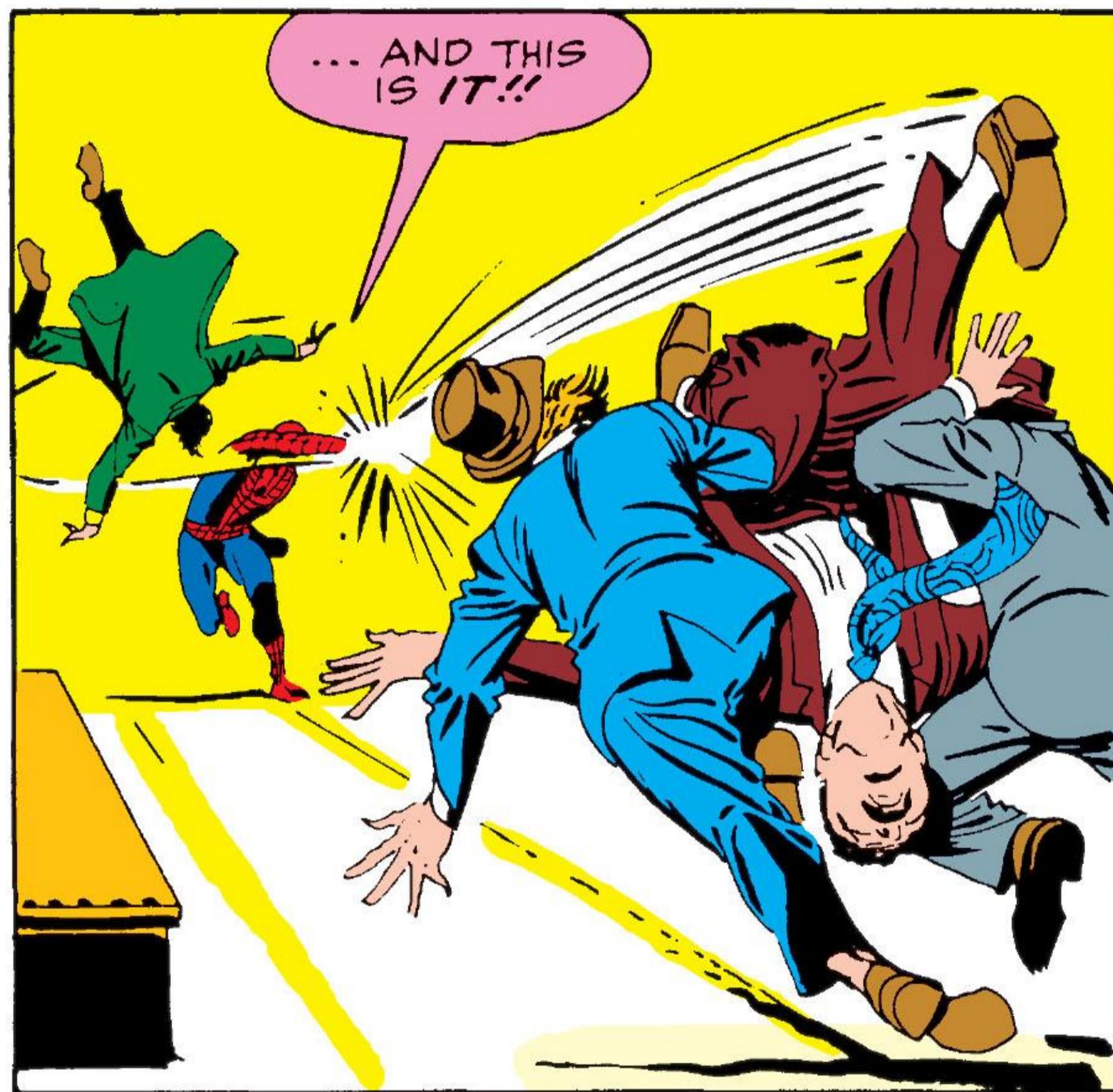


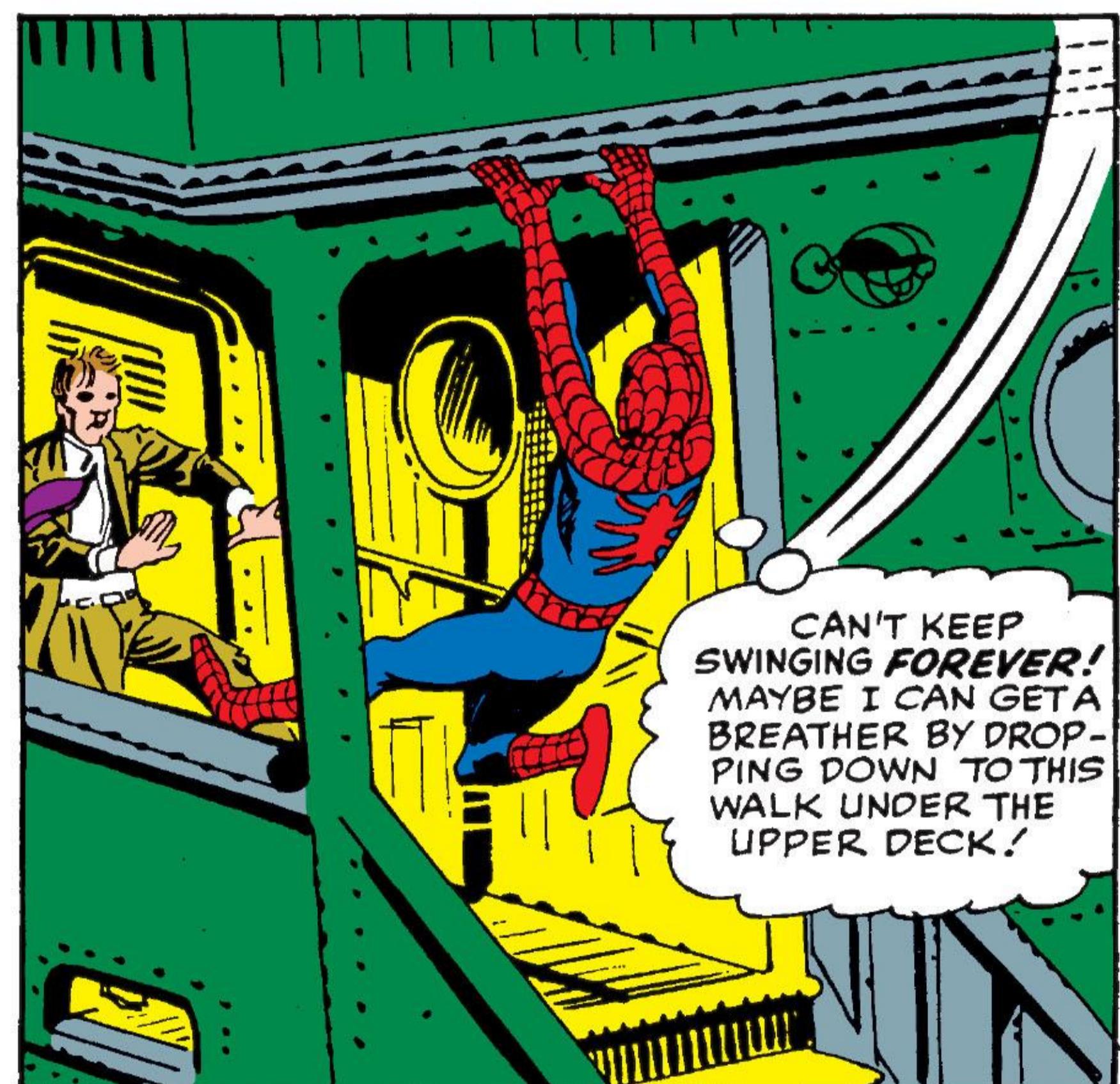
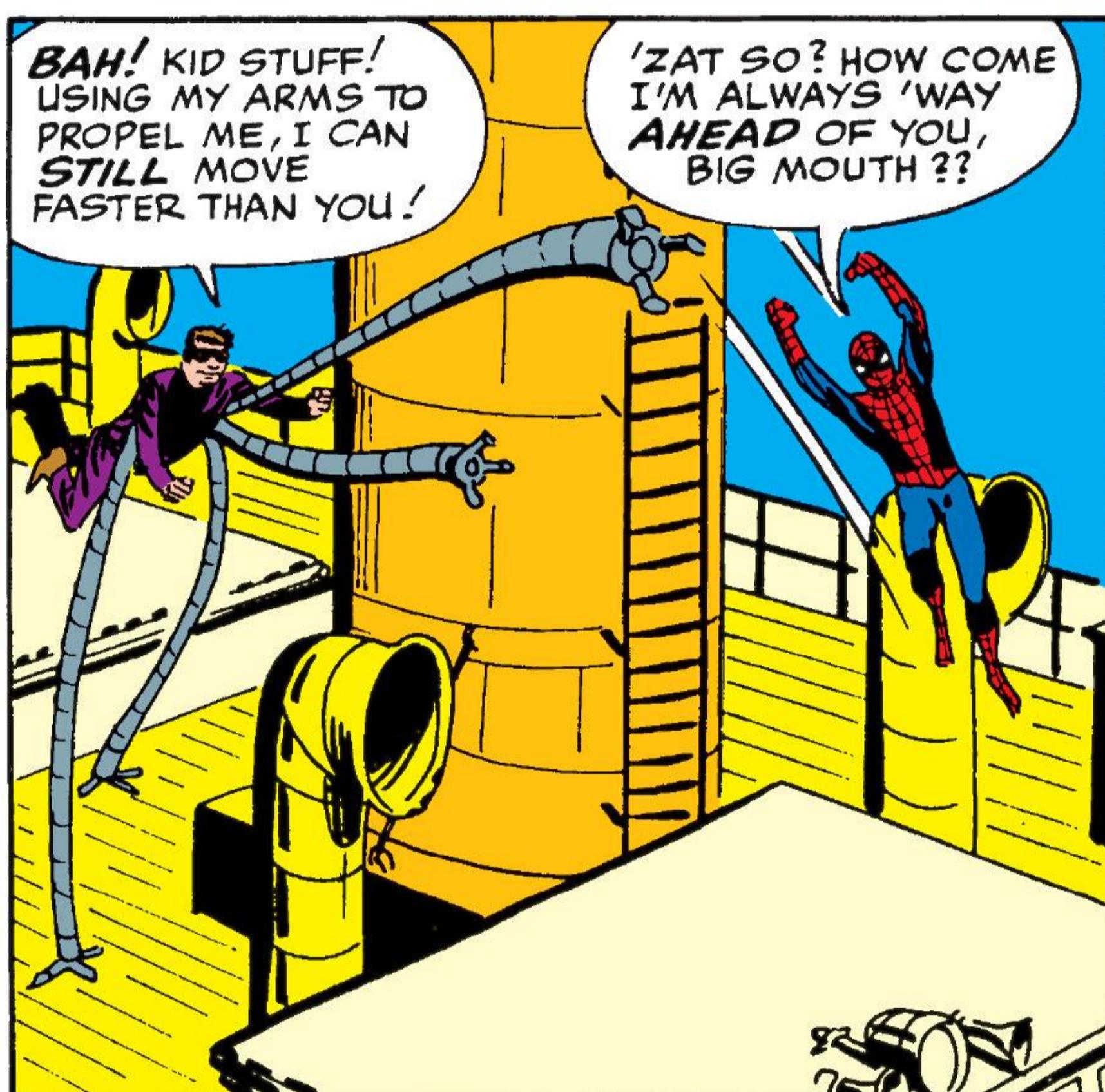
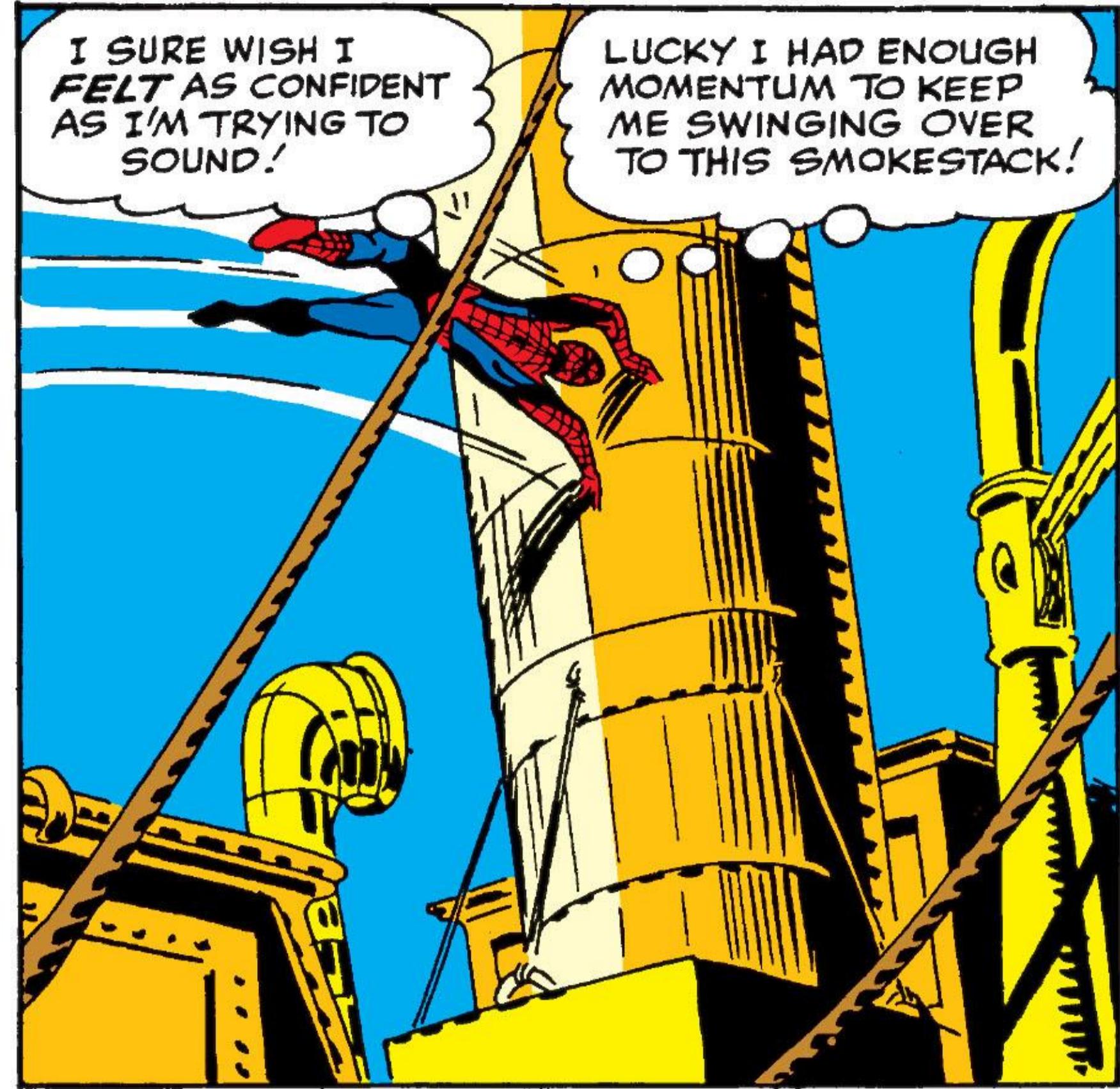


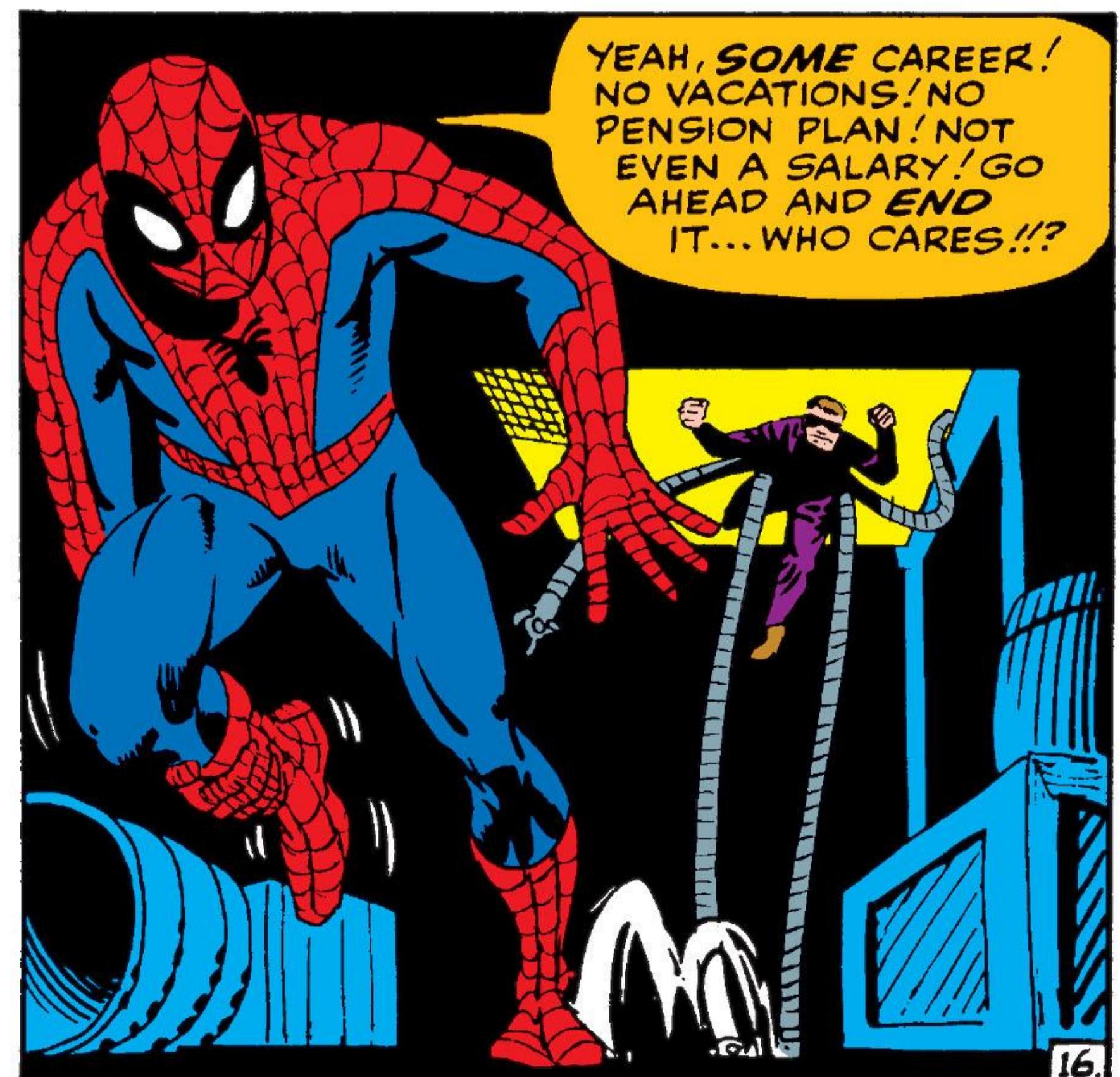
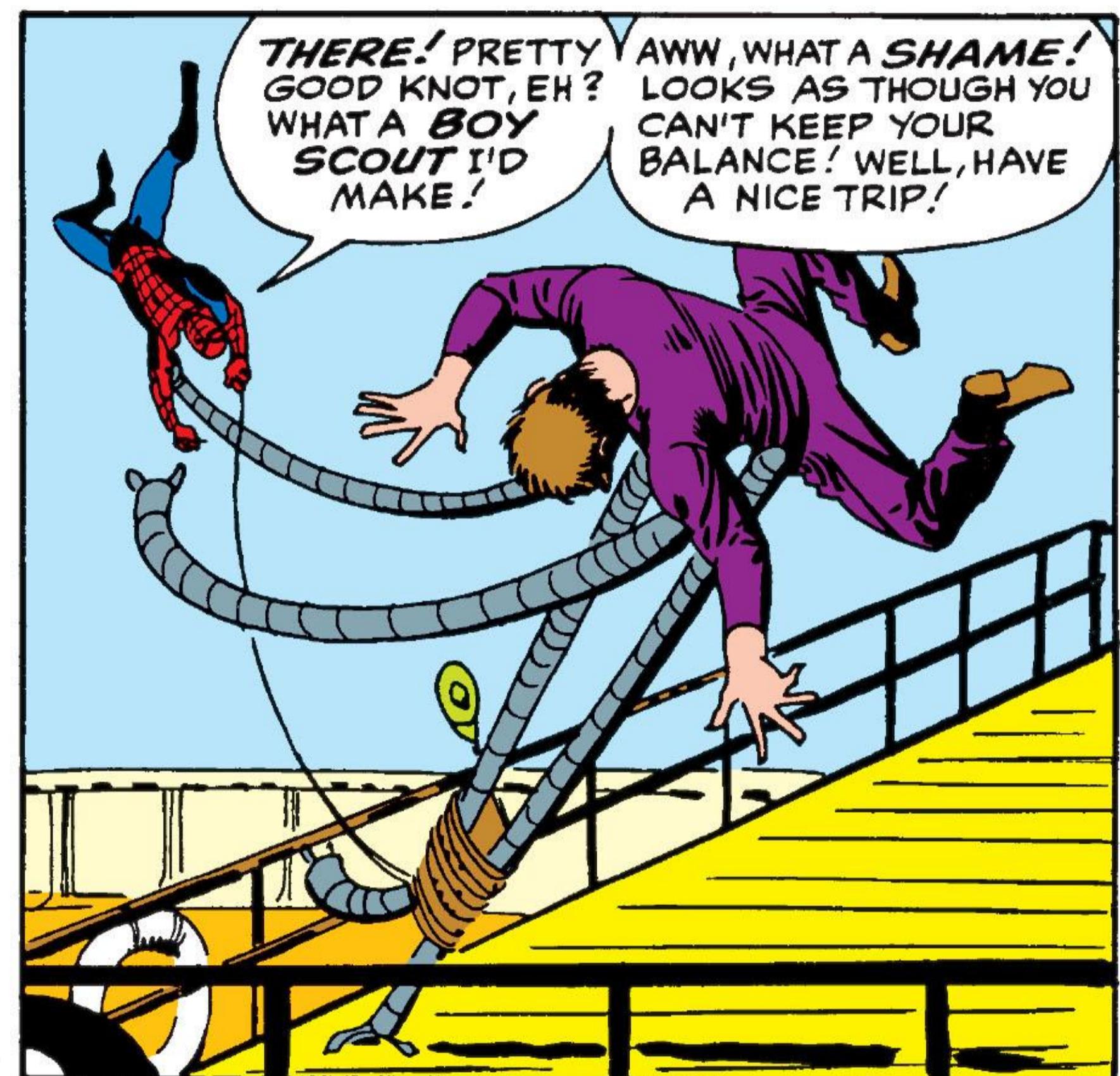
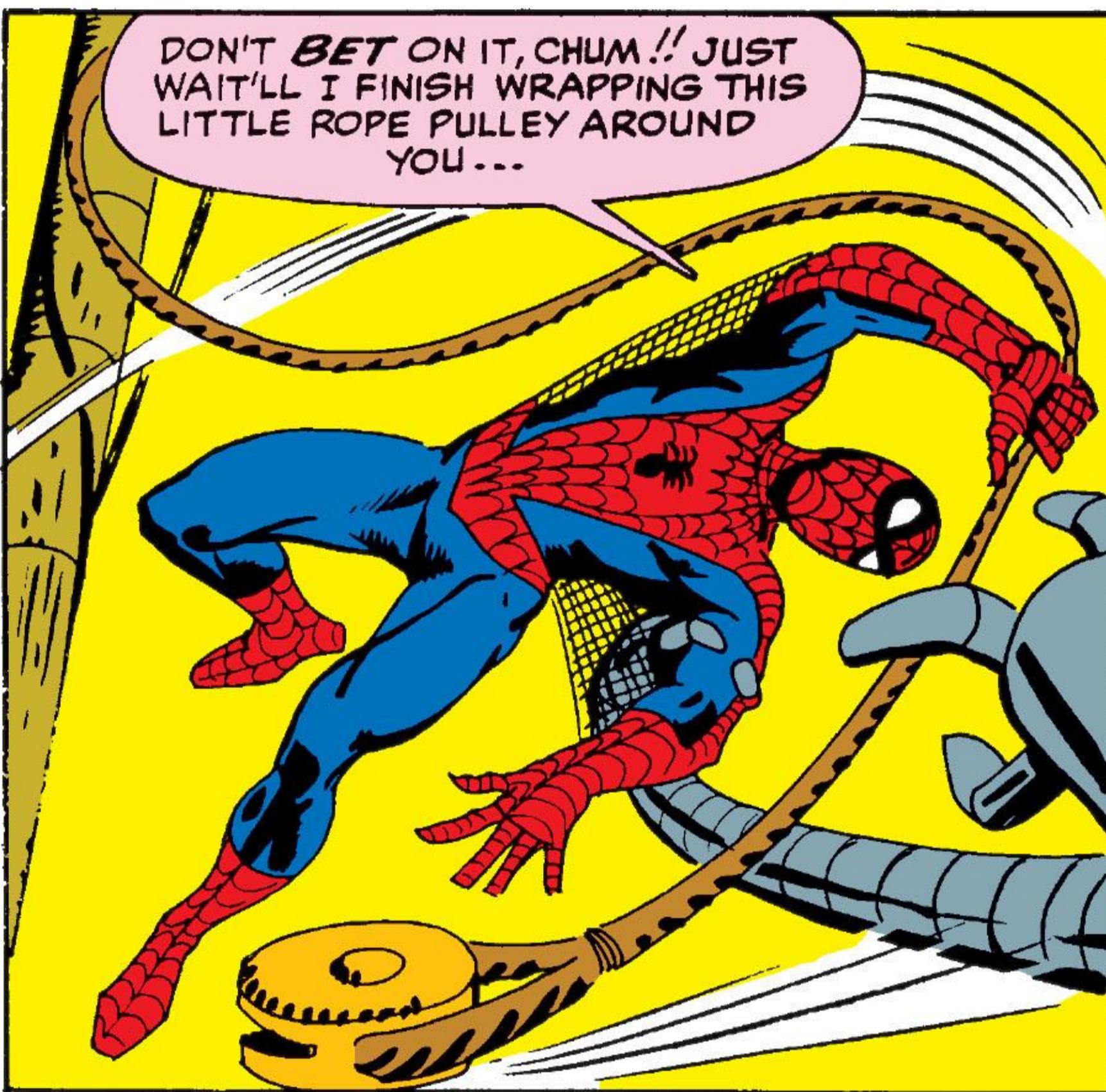
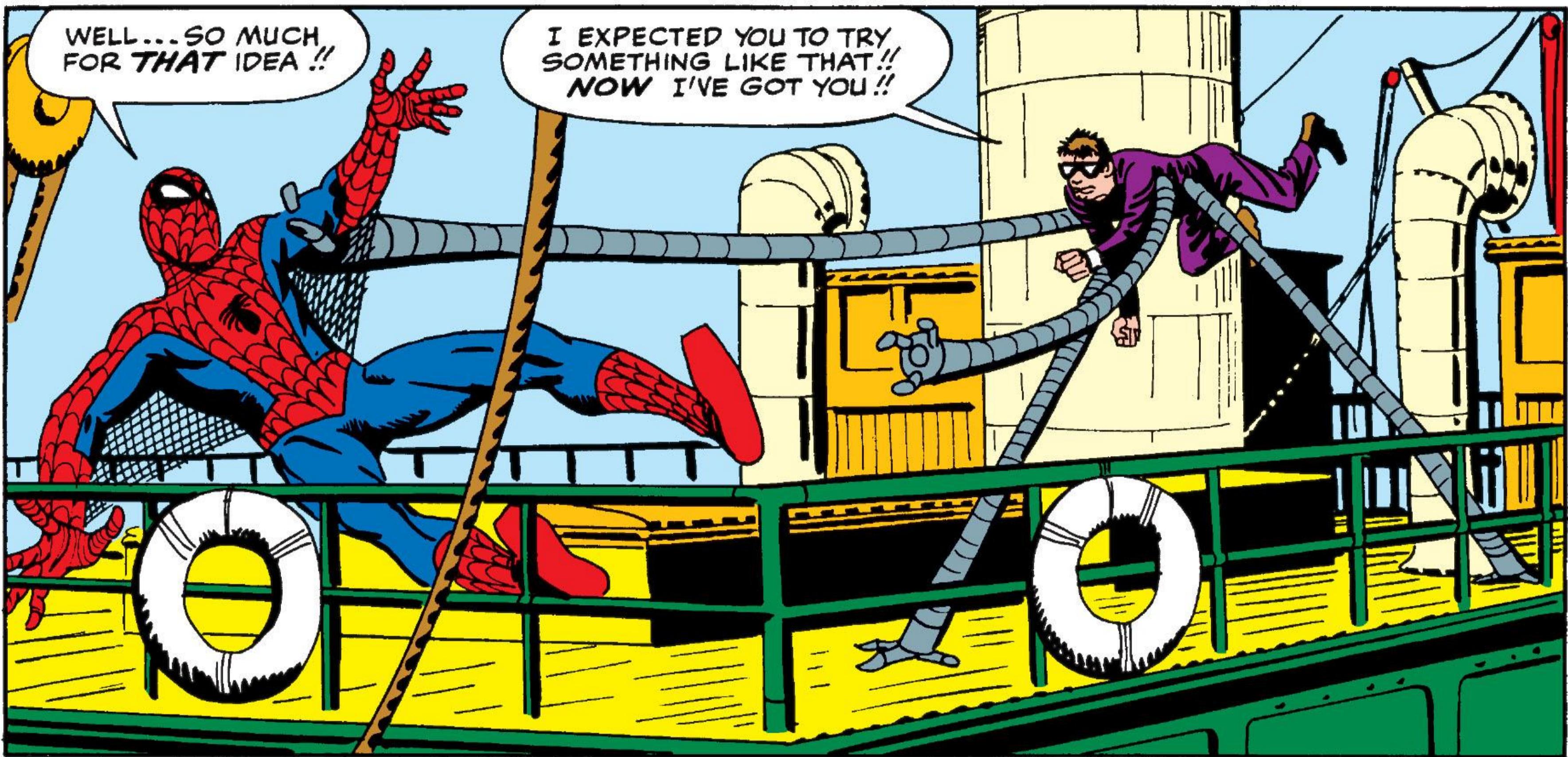


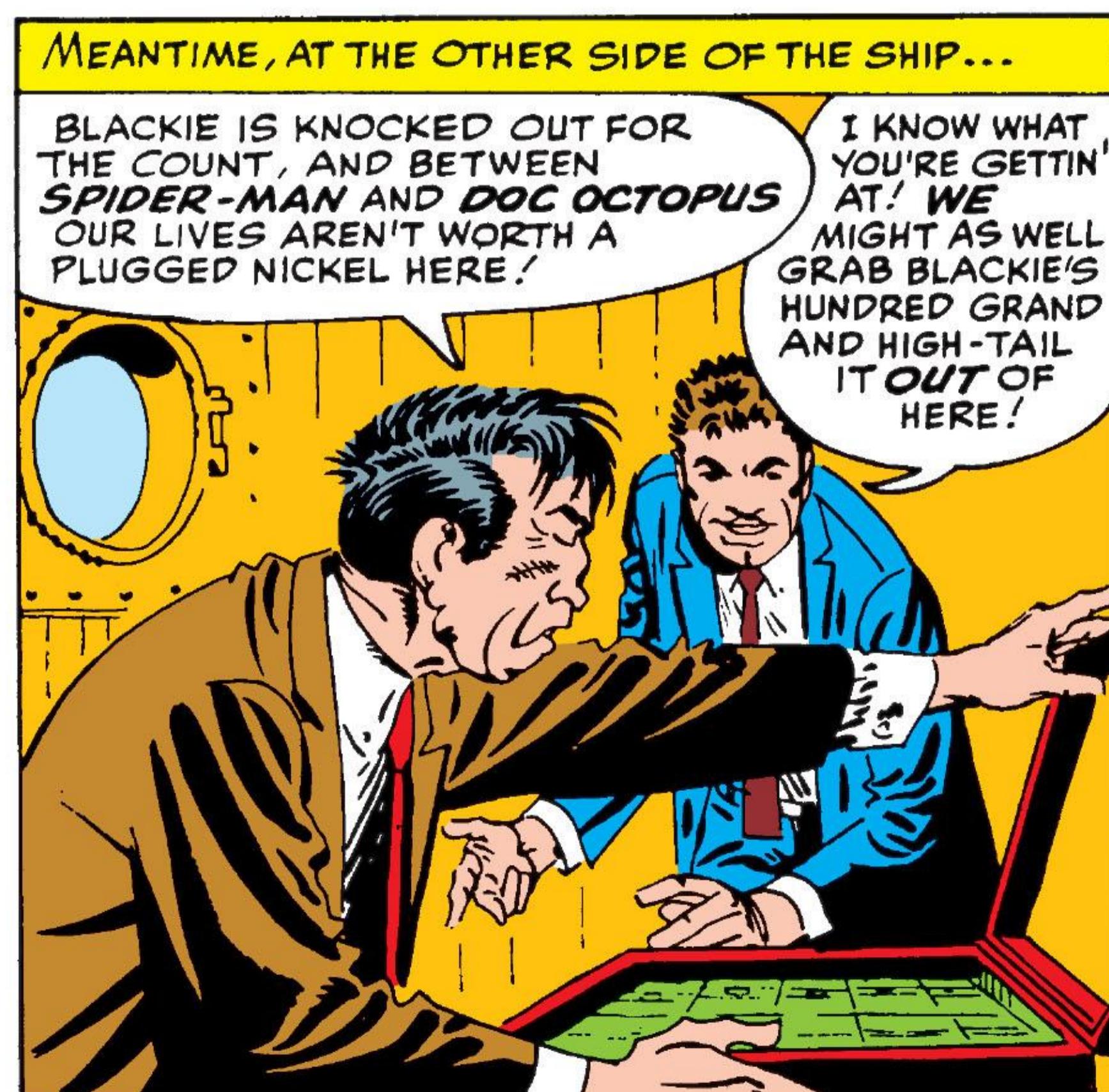
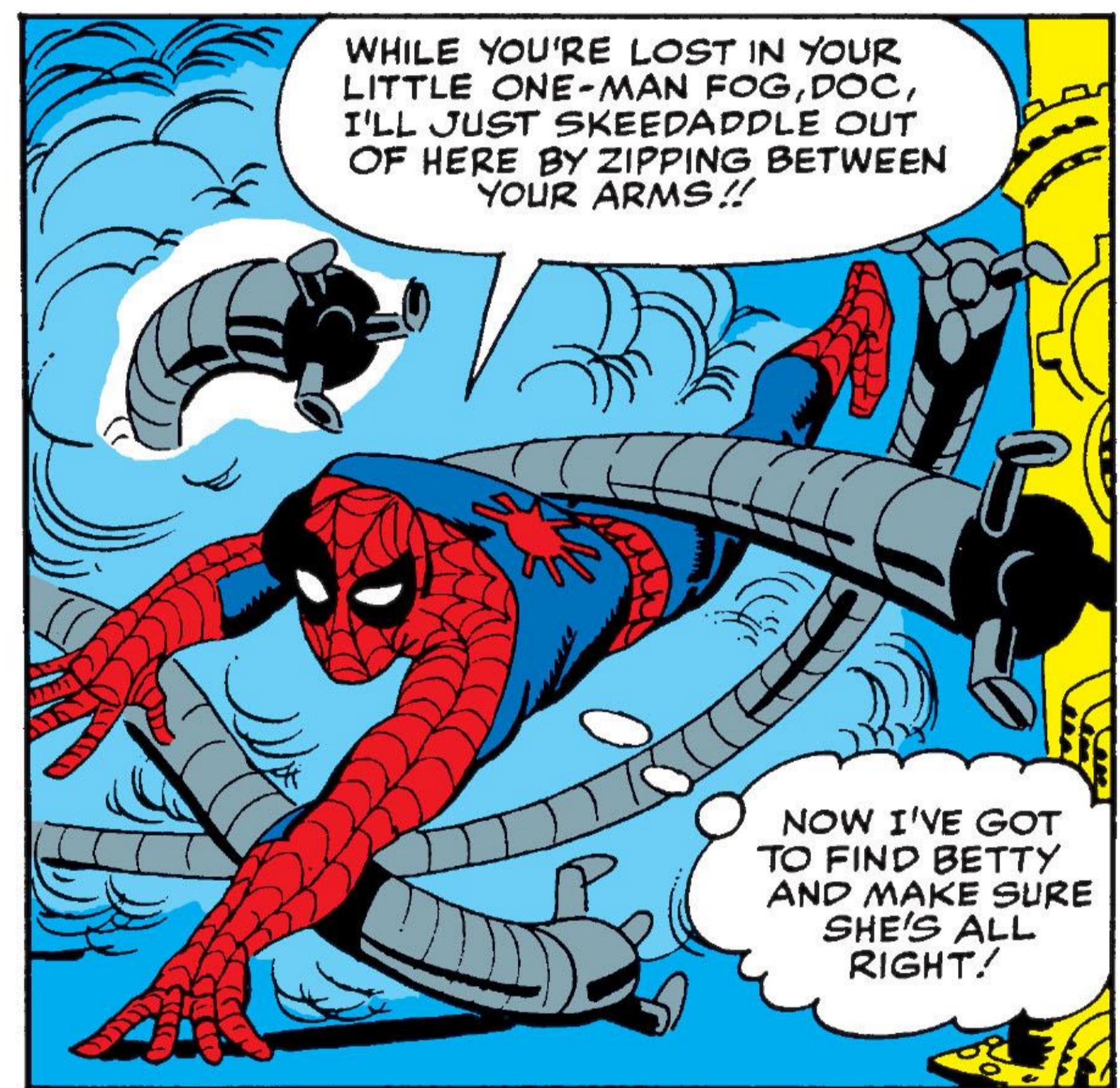
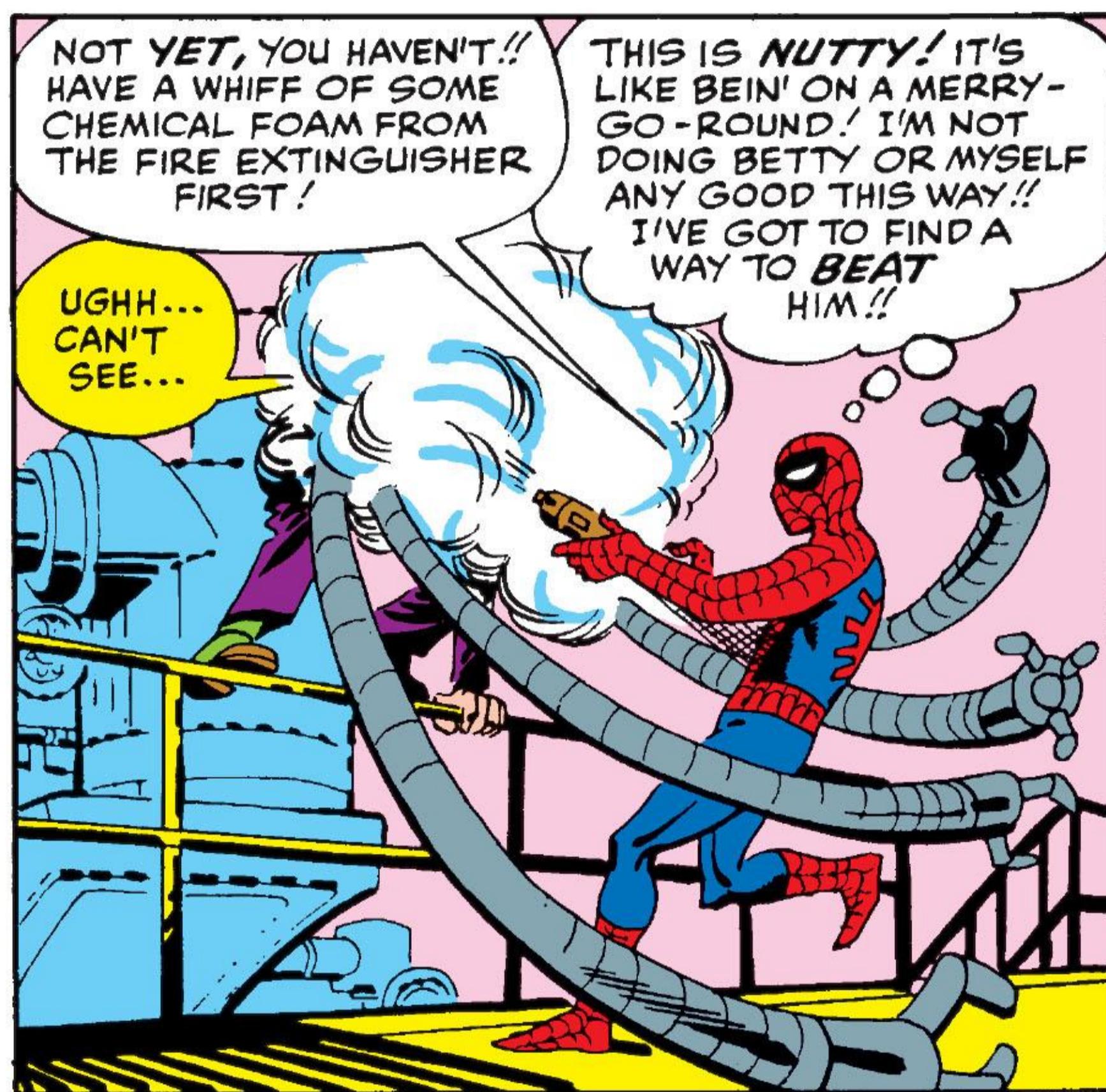
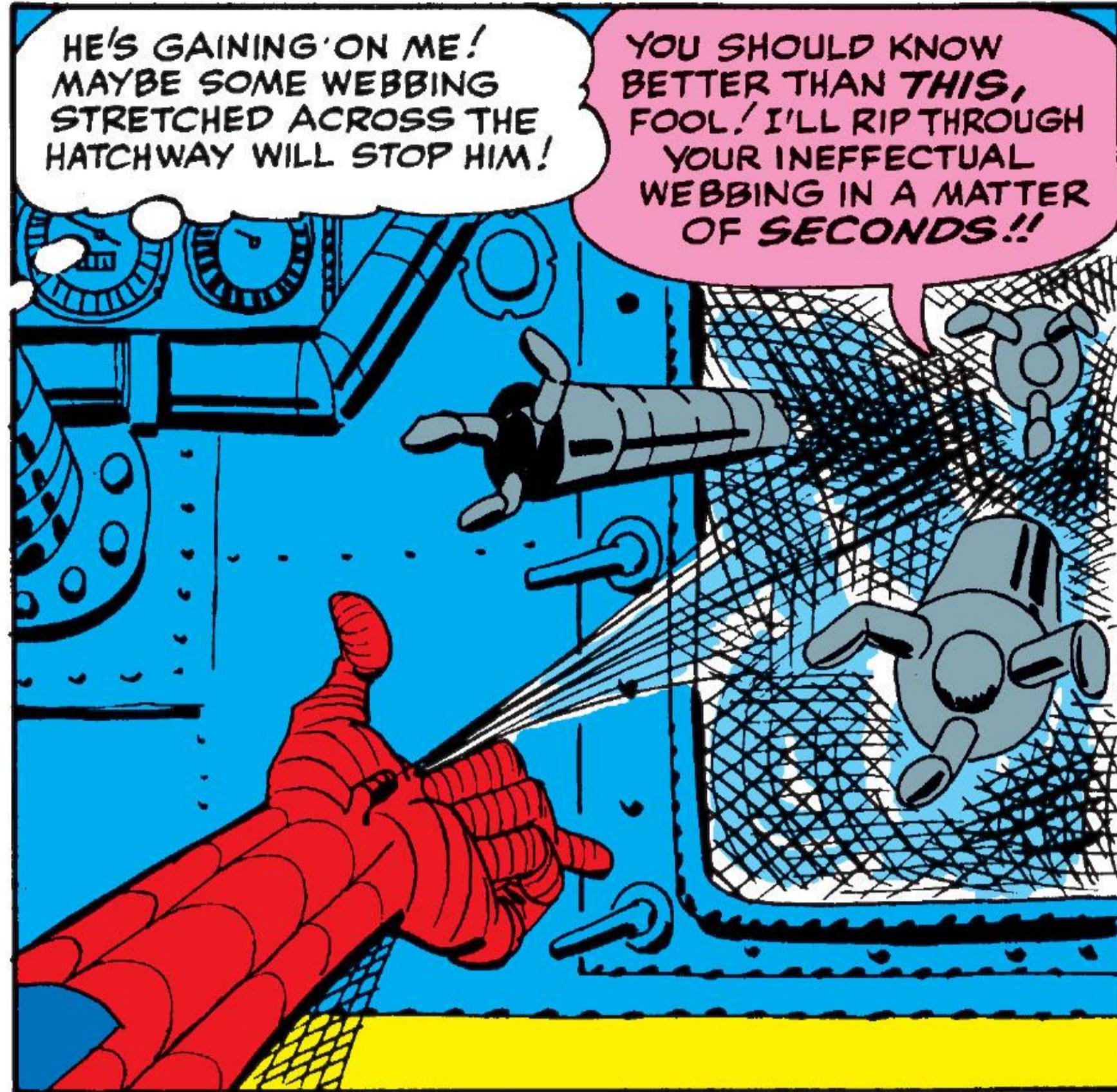


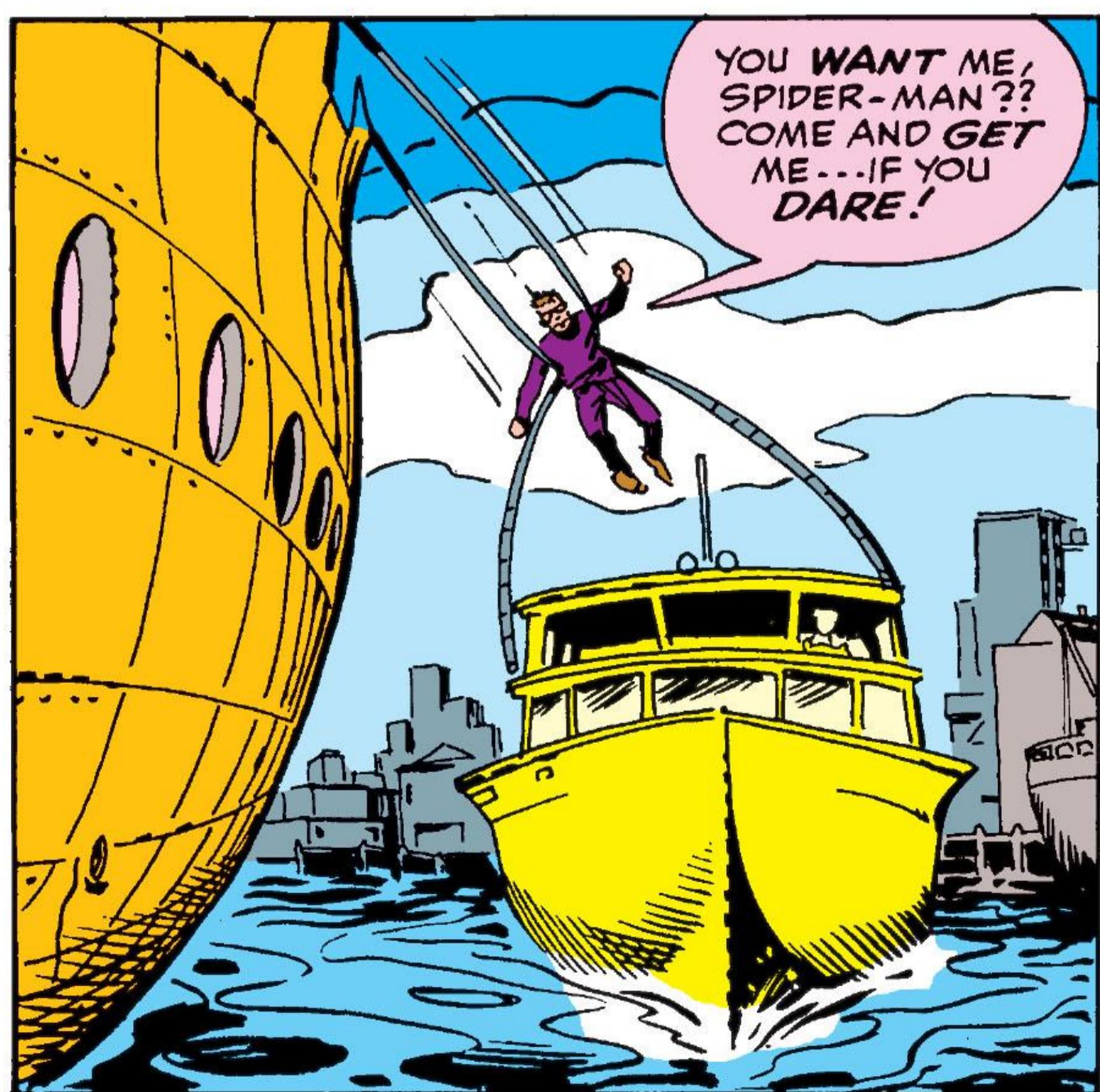


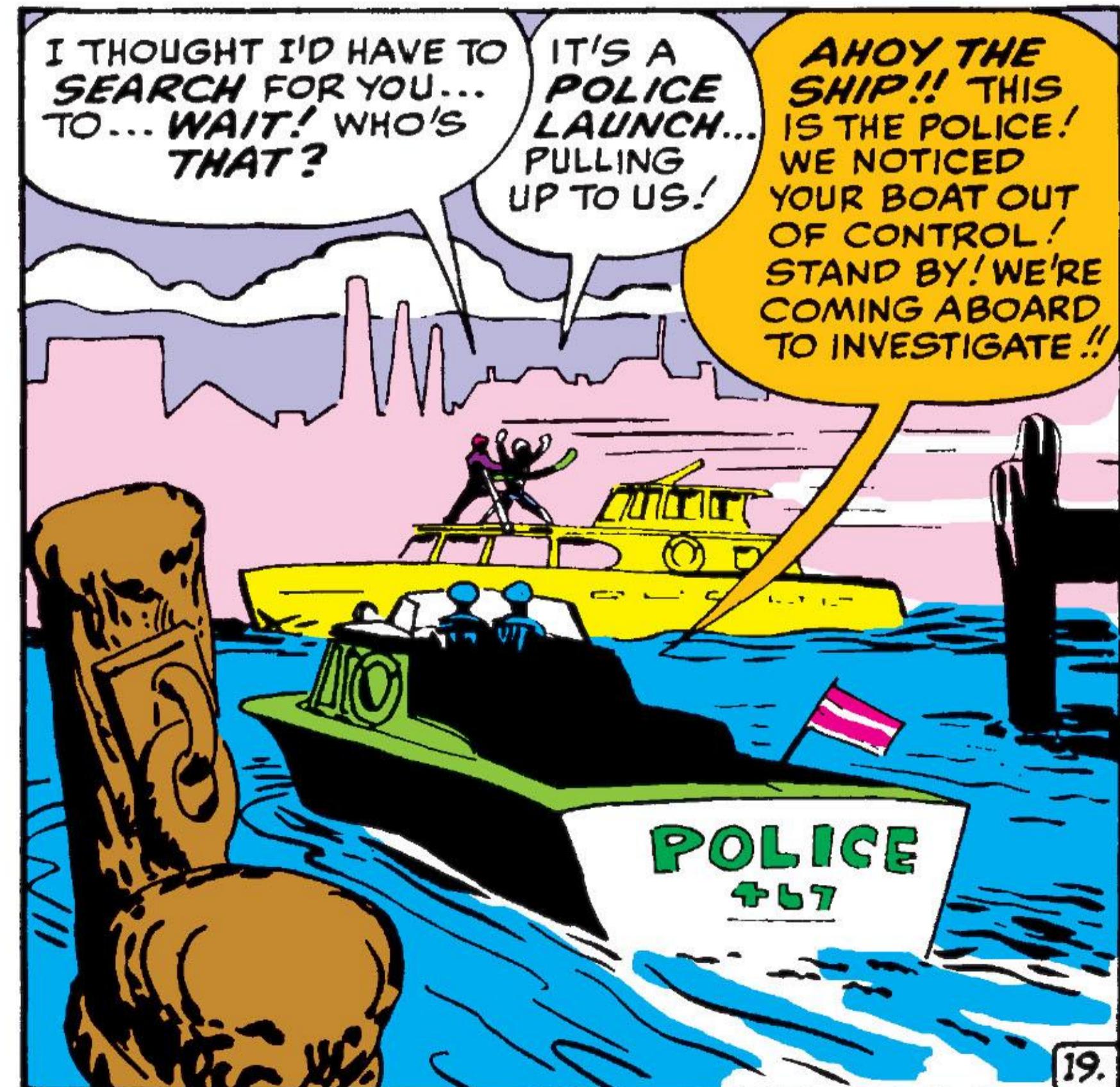
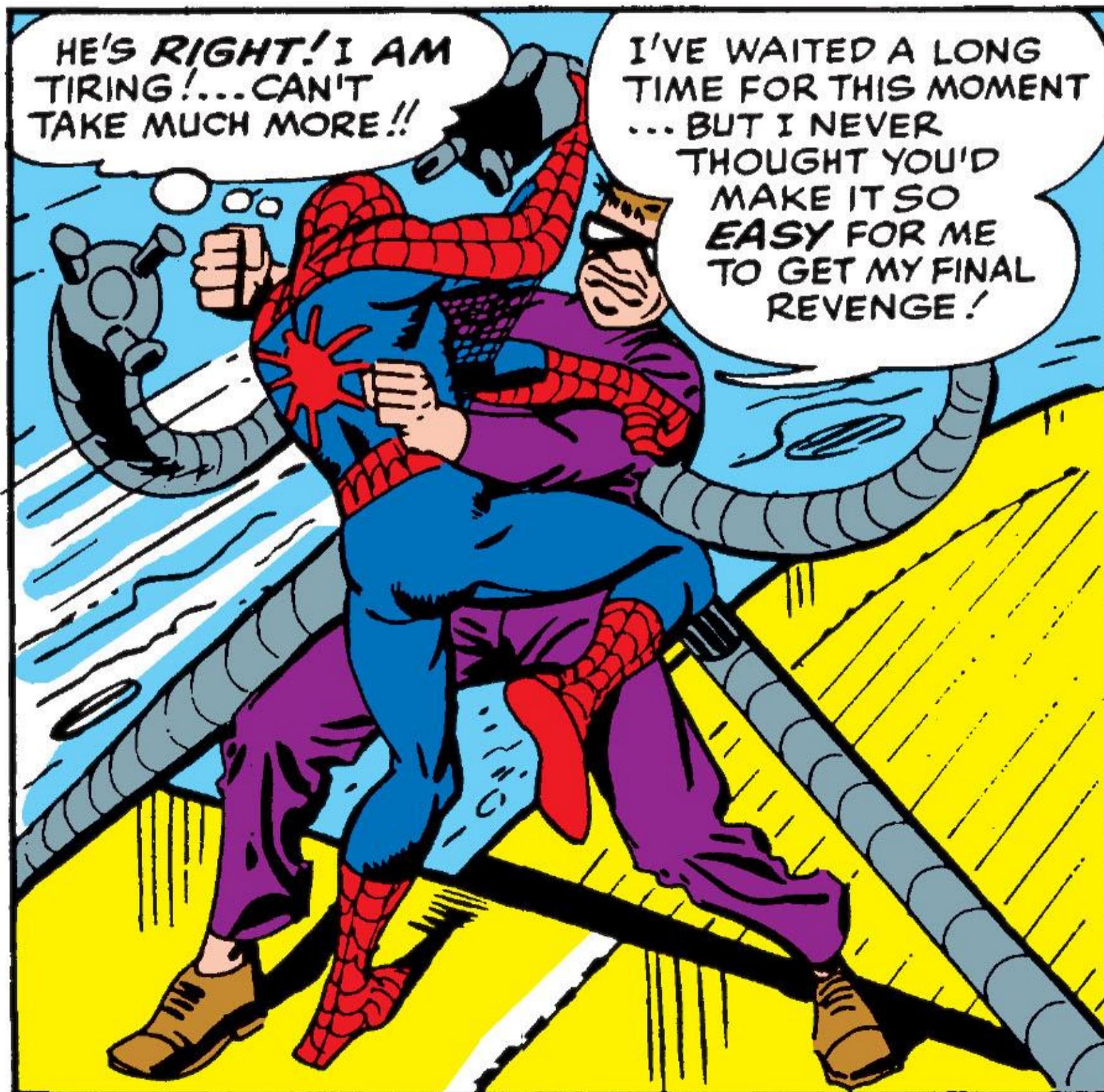
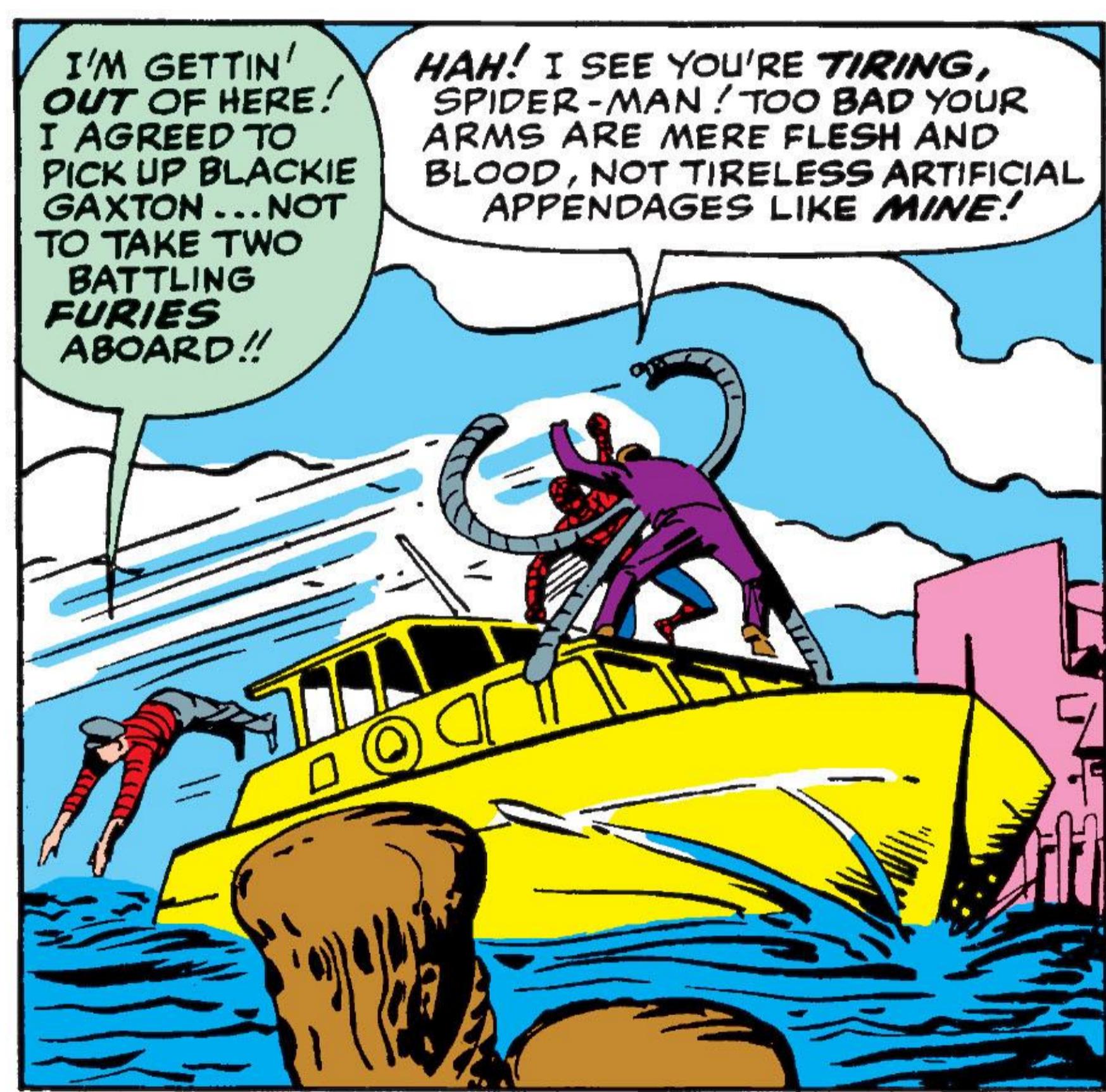
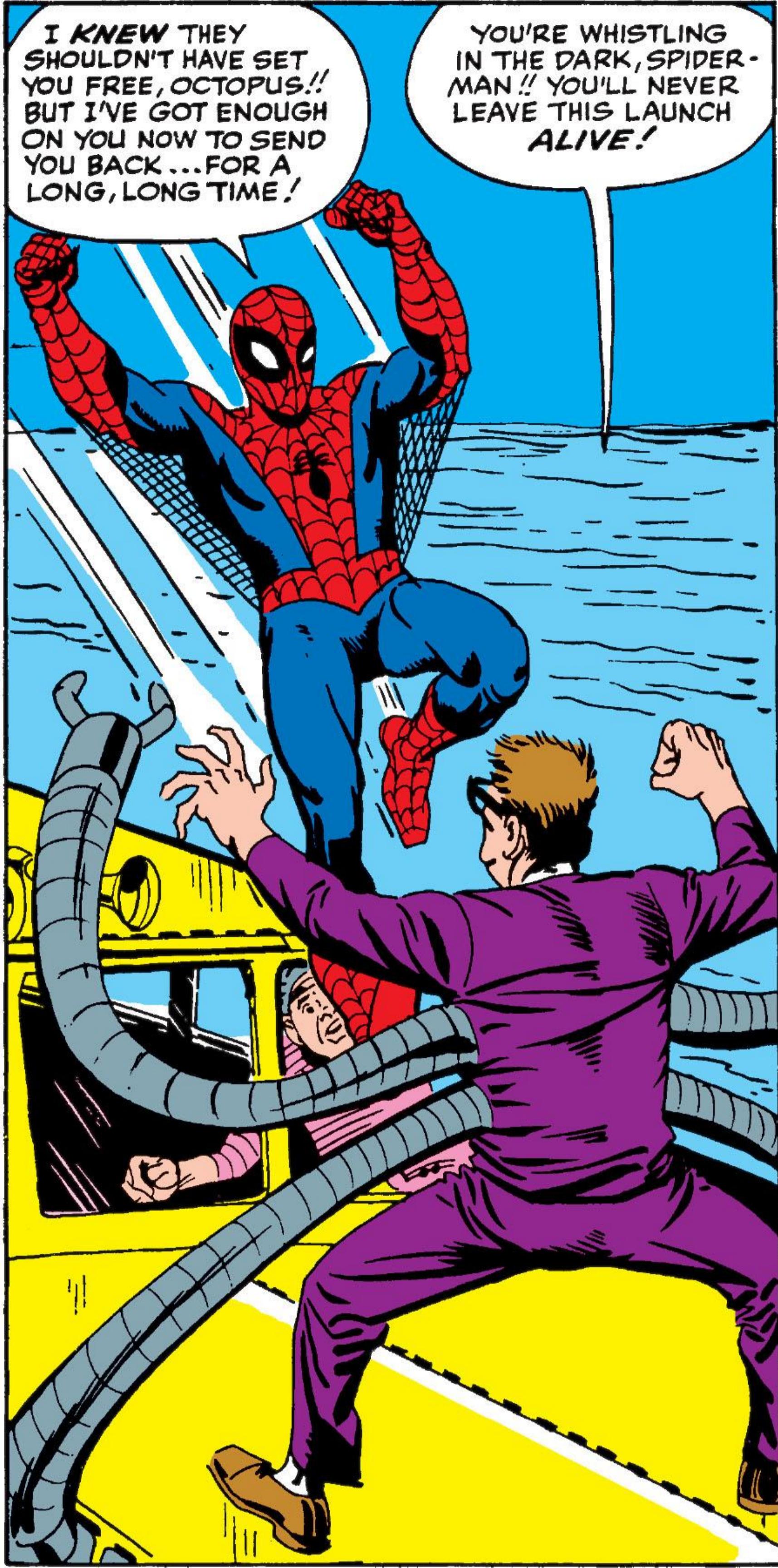


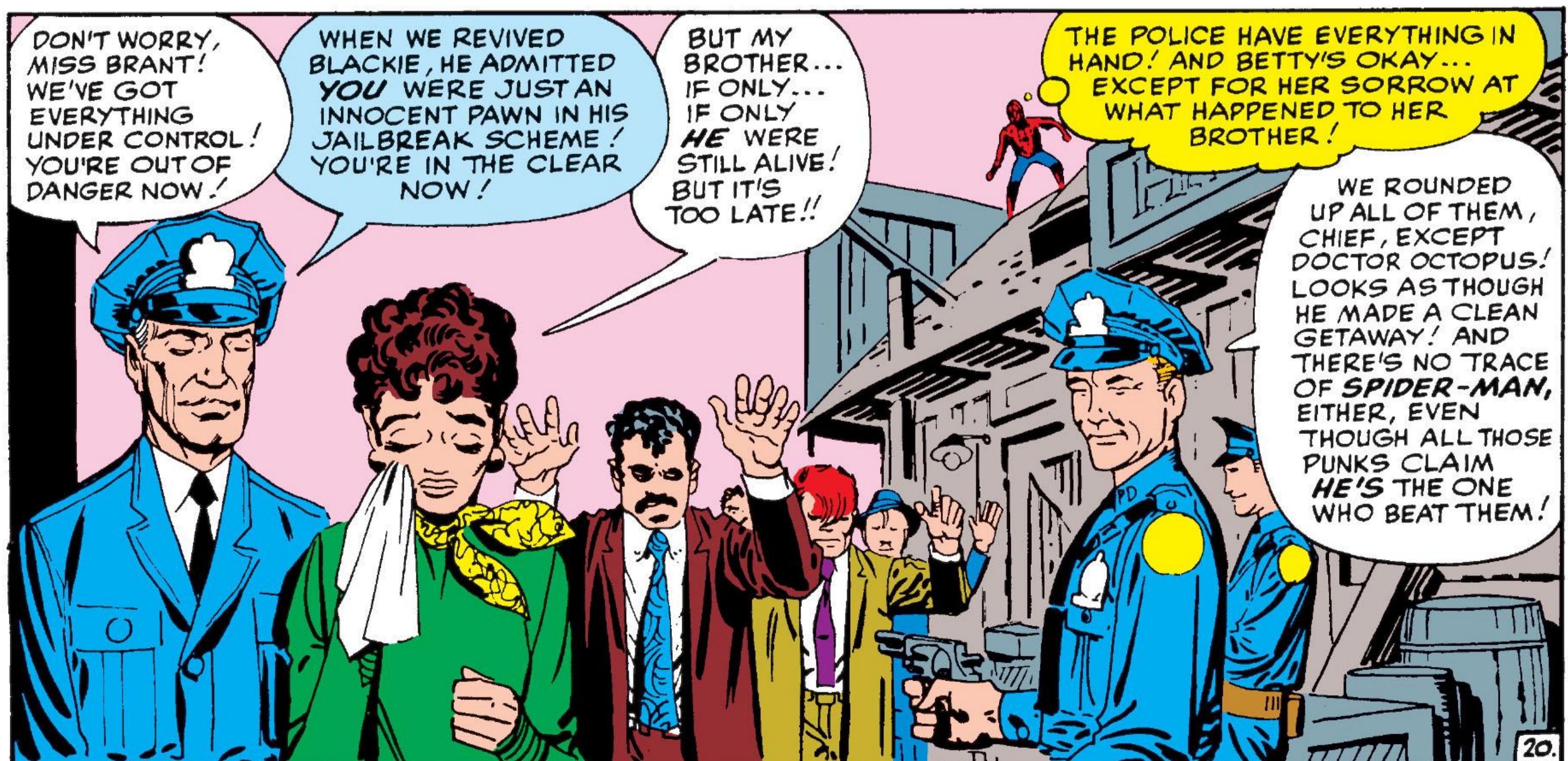
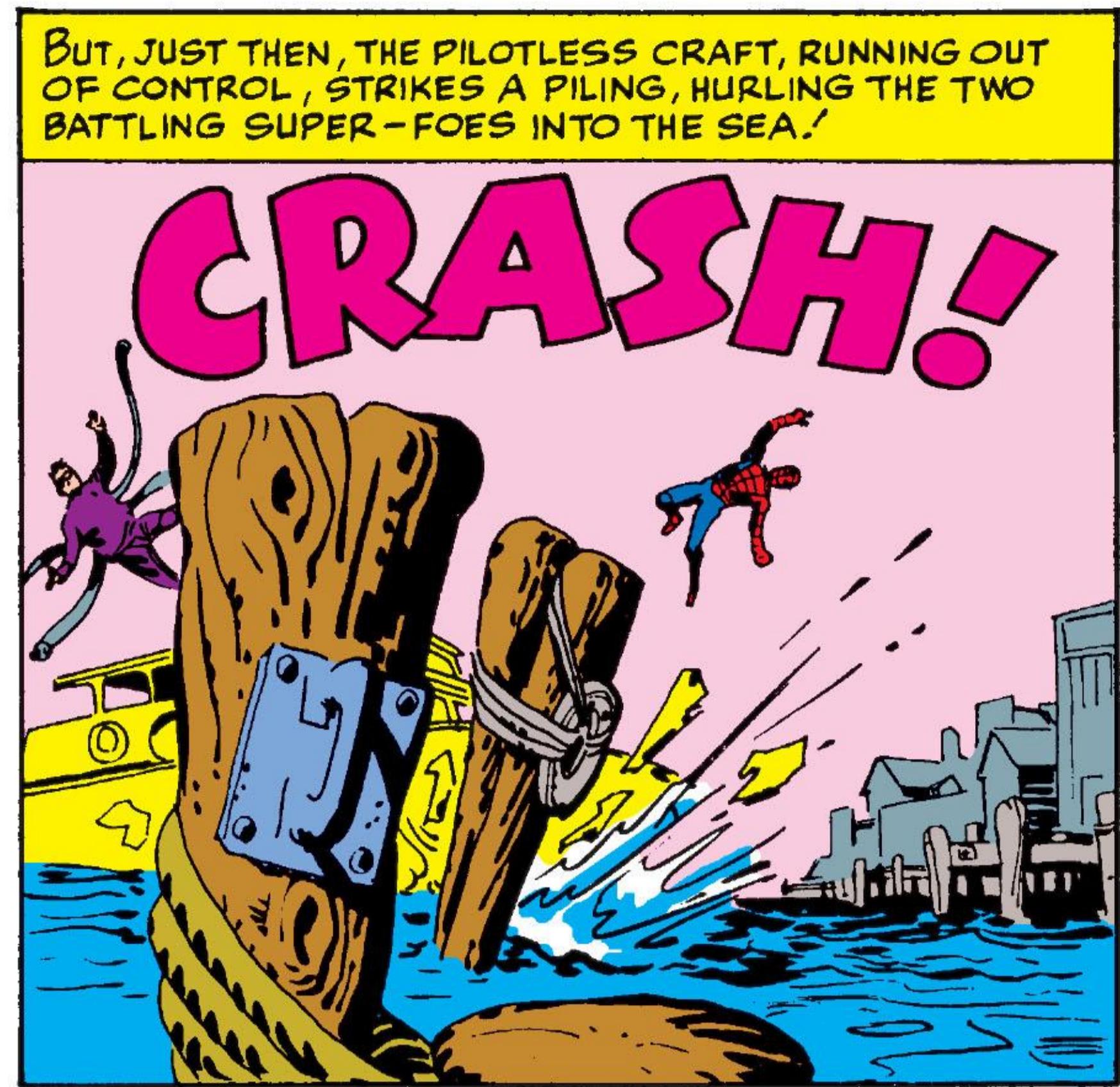
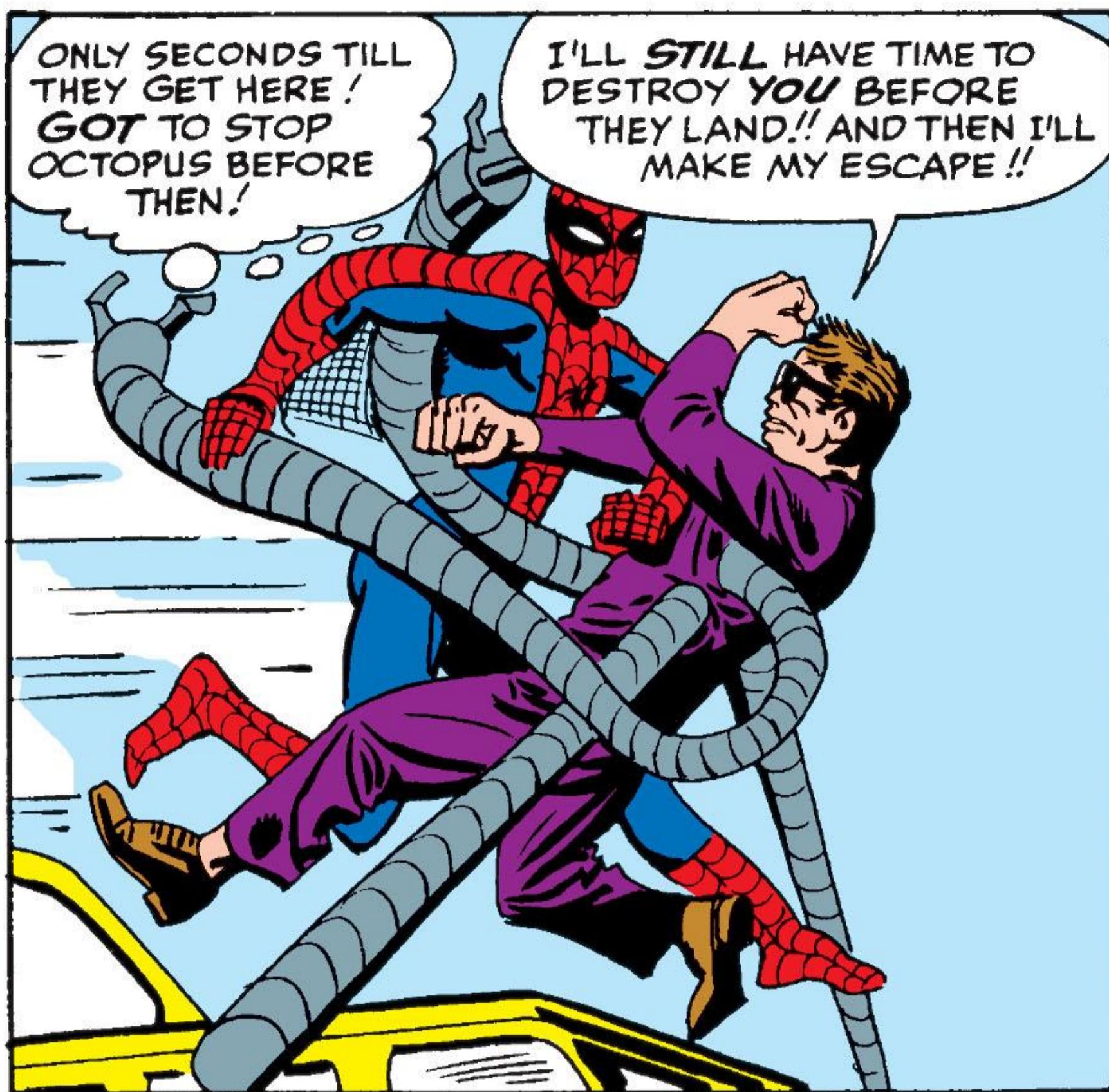


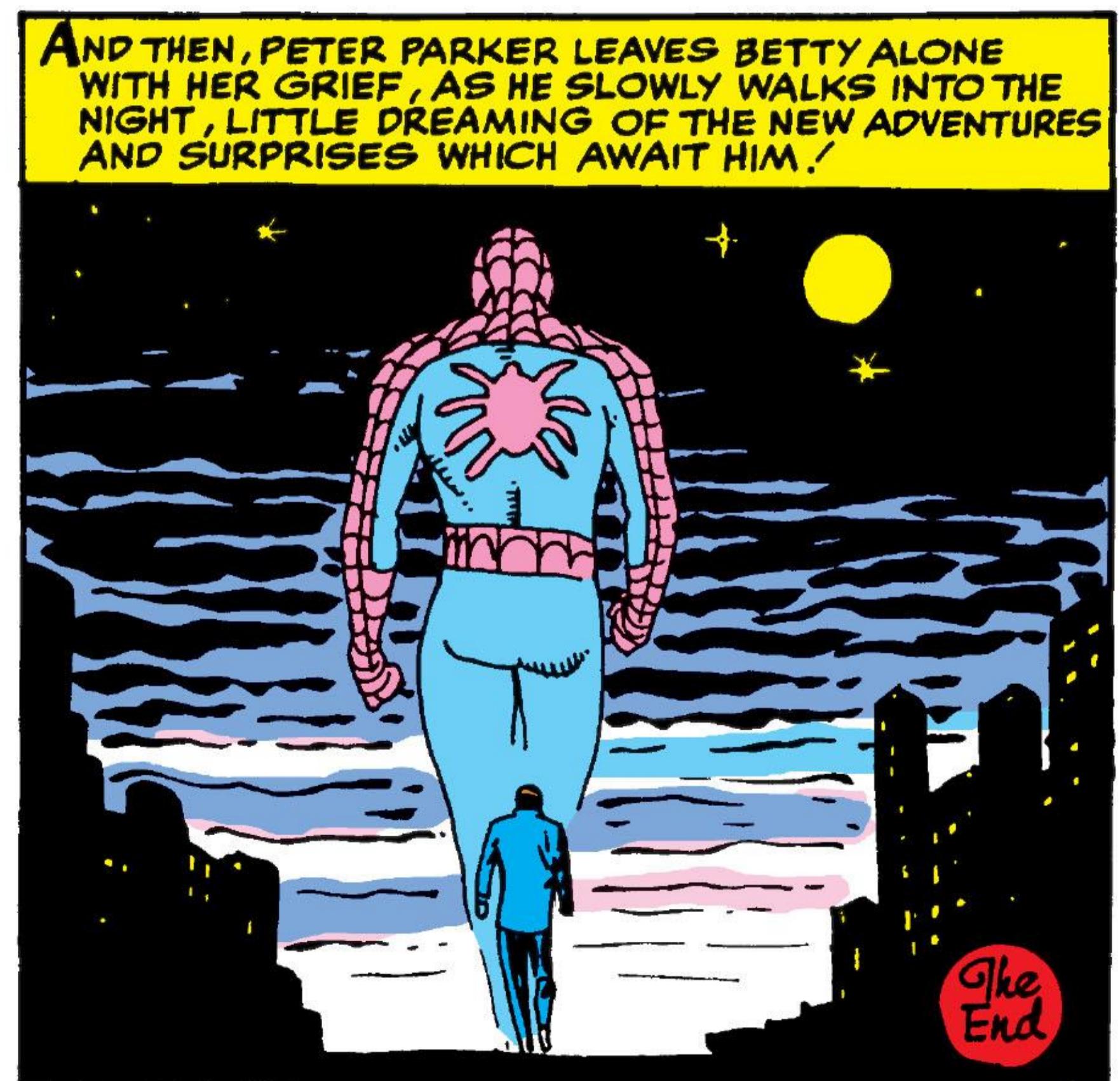
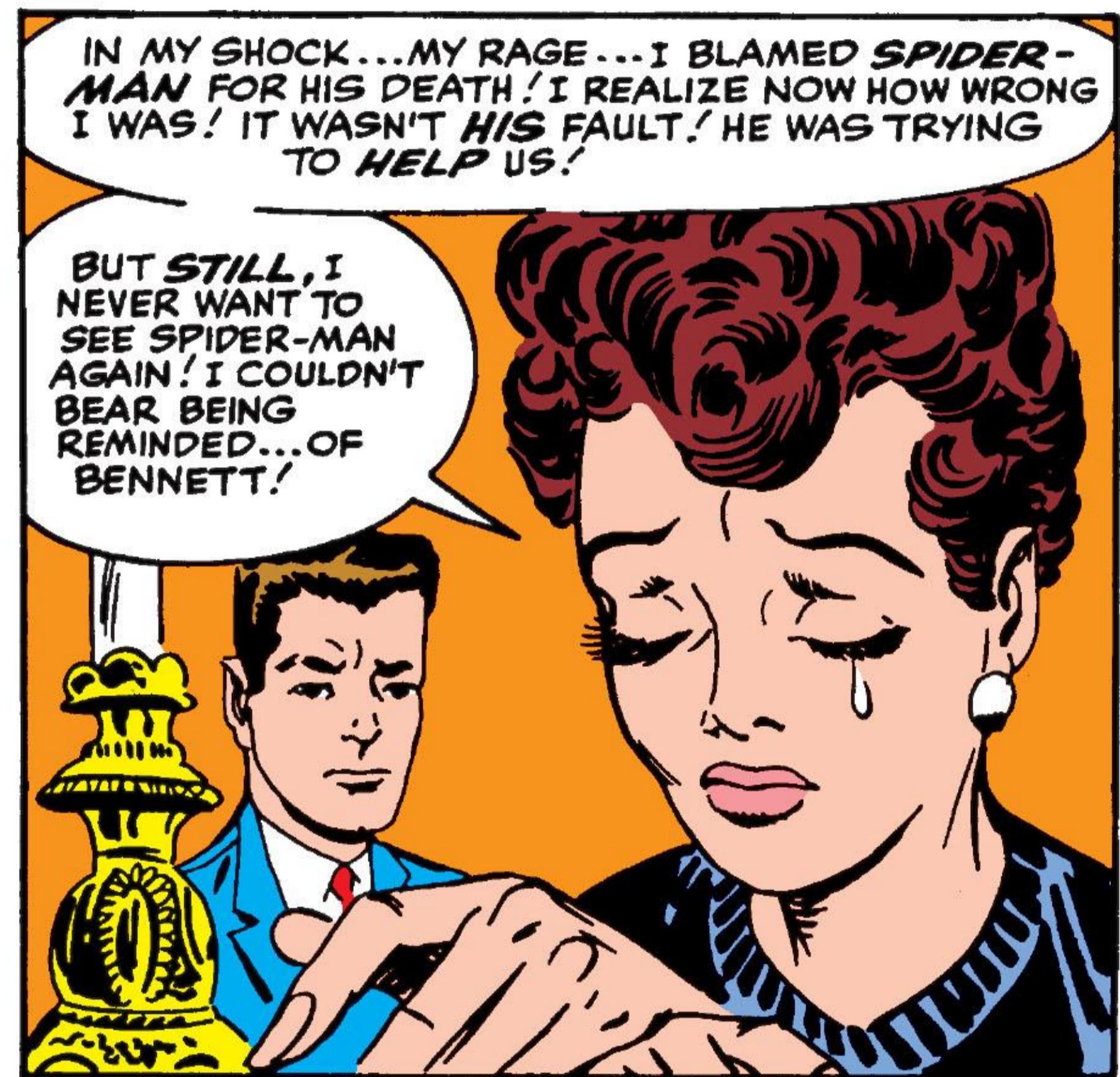
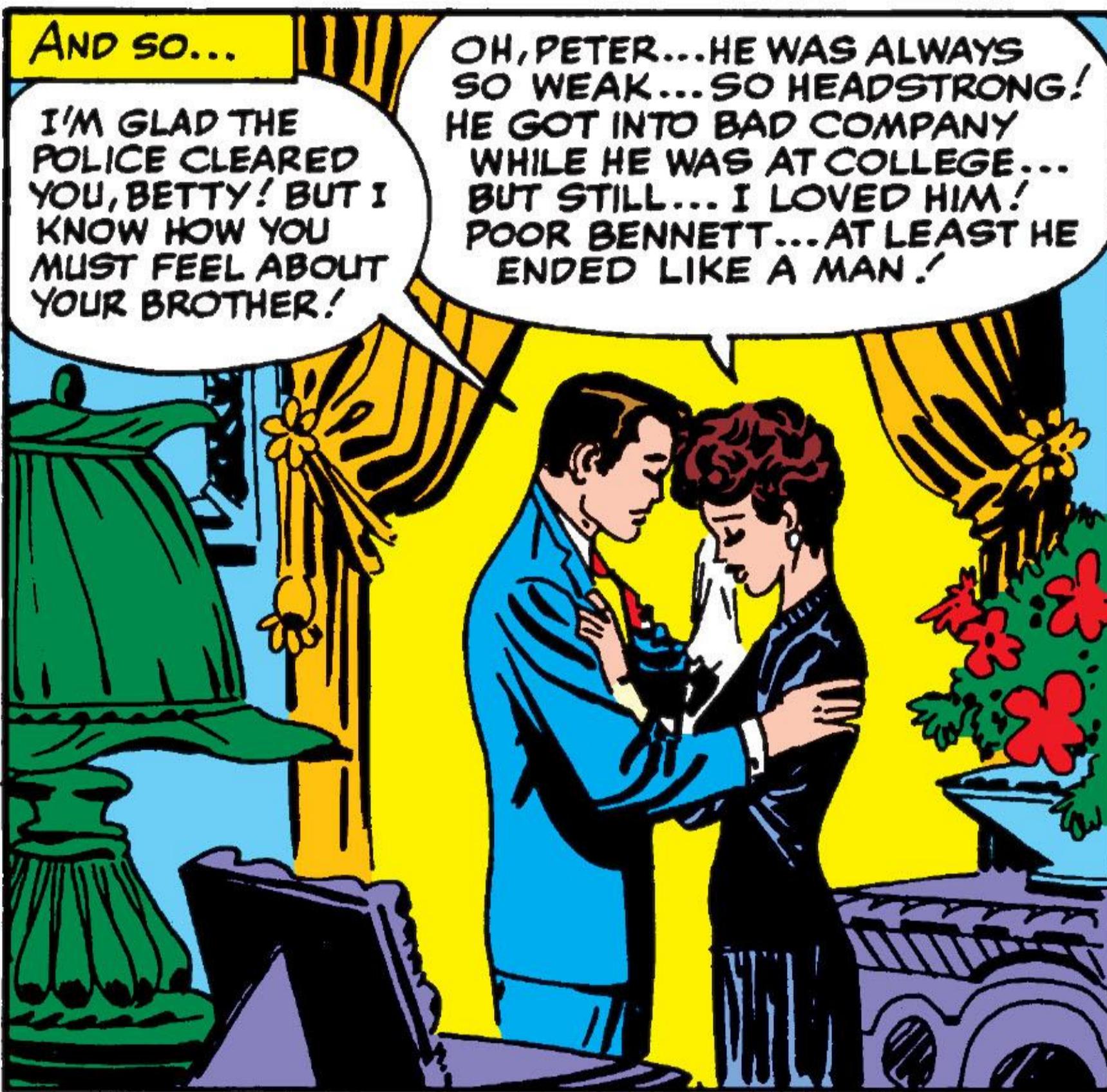
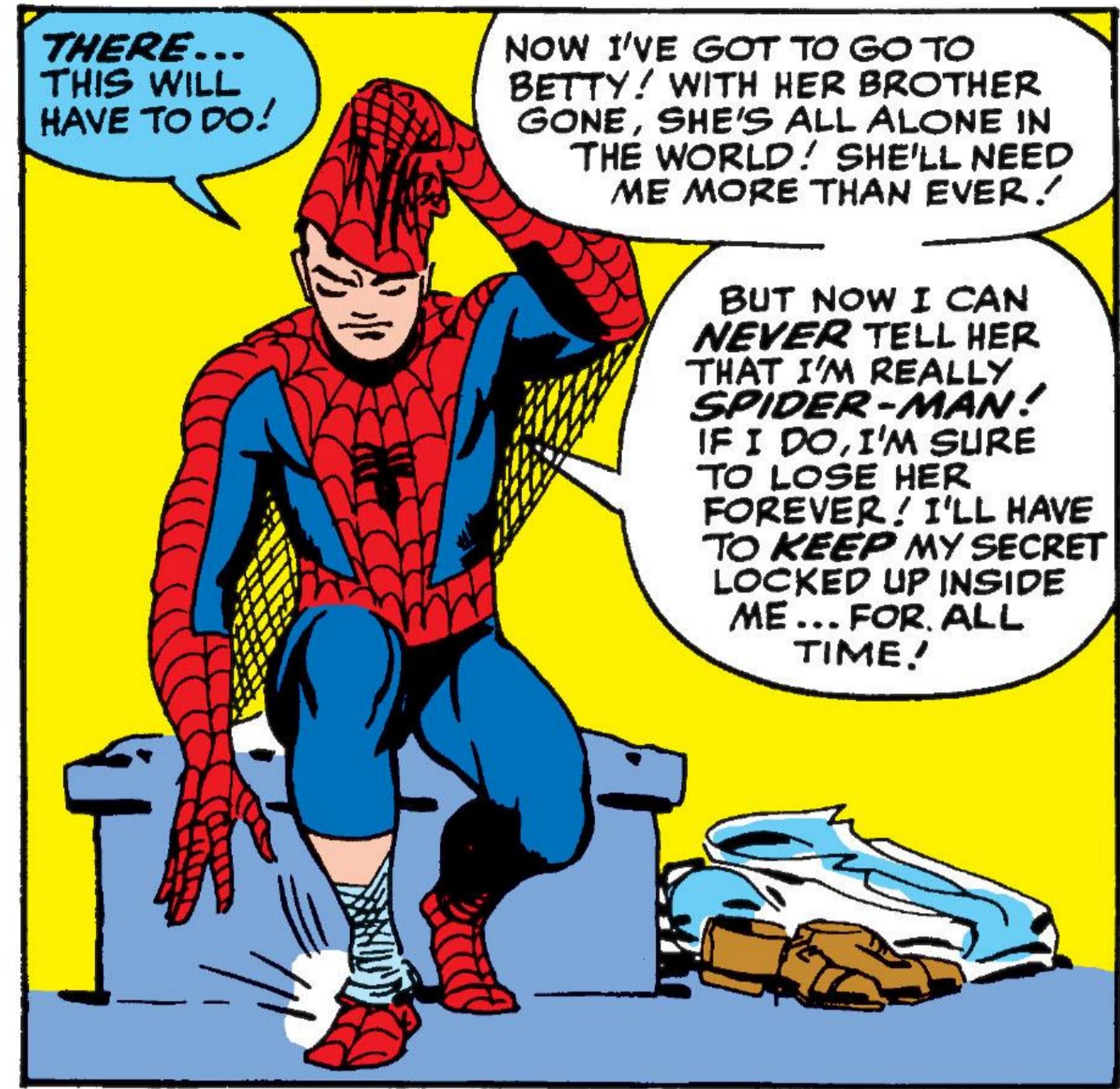














# SPIDER'S WEB

Please address  
your letters to:  
**THE SPIDER'S WEB**  
Third Floor  
655 Madison Ave.  
New York 21, N.Y.

Dear Stan and Steve,

In all my days of comic buying, I have never beheld a finer edition of any comic than SPIDER-MAN #8. Wow, what a way to kick off the 1964 season of comics. I can say that if all the rest of your different publications are at least half as good in story, plot, art and quality as this issue, then you can call all your mags what you call the FF... the greatest comic magazines in the world! What a list of surprises you've dumped on us poor unsuspecting fans. First we see Spider-Man battle a menace with no heart, feelings, or sense of justice. Just one mass of walking brain. You go on to present that classic event... the inevitable fight between Flash Thompson and Peter Parker. And while he didn't give his secret identity away, he still had the satisfaction of having beaten Flash. The way this was presented was brainpower... one thing that your company is famous for. But do you stop here? No! You go on with yet another shocker... another classic meeting between our hero and the Torch. Well, if this isn't the best issue you can come up with, I surely don't know what is. But as we all know, this issue is just another average example of why the MARVEL AGE OF COMICS is here!

Paul Feola  
1050 Waverly Ave.  
San Antonio 1, Texas

***Paul, you took the words right out of our mouths!***

Dear Stan and Steve,

I just bought SPIDER-MAN #7 and I find it greater than ever! My Mom and Dad do not approve of most comics sold today, but they heartily approve of all of your comics. Did you ever consider putting Spider-Man in the AVENGERS book?

Ricky Mastro  
329 Hamilton St  
Bound Brook, N.J.

***Sure! In fact, we've considered putting him everywhere from MODELING WITH MILLIE to THE BOOK OF KNOWLEDGE!***

Dear Stan and Steve,

How do you do it? I have just finished reading the latest SPIDER-MAN and I am puzzled. You guys keep going great. I have read every issue of SPIDER-MAN except #1 and this tops them all. It was absolutely great! The art has never been better; the plot of the story was one of the best I have ever read. How Stan thinks of a different plot for every story is beyond me.

Jeff Brenner  
8648 Balboa Drive  
Cincinnati 31, Ohio

***You say that Stan makes up these plots?? Good heavens! He almost had us convinced the stories were TRUE!***

Dear Stan and Steve,

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #8 was certainly a change (for the worse.) The whole story takes place in a school and I do not think that is fair, for the artist cannot show his talent. When I first saw Steve Ditko's art I did not like it, but now I think it's pretty good. But I still like Jack Kirby's art the best. The cover of SPIDER-MAN #8 was poorly done (but it was better than I could do!). The yellow color made it look cheap. I think the insignia of

Spider-Man at the top of the cover should show him standing. In my last letter to you I asked you if you would print my letter saying I wanted to start a Spider-Man Fan Club. In a nice round-about way you said "no" (but nicely). But I still want to start a club! I liked the F.F. #22 very much. I also liked the Invisible Girl's newly discovered powers. I would like to see the F.F. travel in time again soon (like they did in #19). TALES OF SUSPENSE #40 was pretty good, but I would like to see your heroes fighting villains—not themselves! JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #99 was good. But when Mr. Hyde pushed Dr. Blake out of the window and he stamped his hammer on the building wall, didn't anybody see him change into Thor? I do not like the two-part stories you have started publishing. If I wanted a continuous story, I would read the comics in the paper — for free! I do not like the Tales of Asgard. I cannot understand anything that is going on!

Joseph Shea  
114 Arbour Lane  
Buffalo 20, N.Y.

***So what else is new?***

Dear Stan and Steve,

The cover of #8 showed Ditko at his best with superb inking on Spider-Man. This cover is sure to sell extra copies. Action covers modified by sidelighted features are always good. I knew it was going to be excellent when I saw the ad in one of your other mags. The first story was Stan's best-written so far and Ditko was also above par. All the little trick surprises helped loads. Spider-Man's tackling the Human Torch was also good, though not as well planned as the other. In this second story, Spider-Man acted a little snobbish and somewhat of a fink. Don't get me wrong, I like all this "realistic" personality biz, but it can get out of hand if over-exaggerated. Spider-Man is in for trouble if he intends to date Sue. What with Namor, Reed and Parker dating her, or at least considering her a better-than-average friend, there's bound to be a rumble sooner or later (idea!). Glad to see you decided to keep the Spider's Web around. Every top-notch super-hero needs one. Each issue of SPIDER-MAN tops the last! Dr Strange, in STRANGE TALES, was above average this ish. Ditko at his best. The story came closer to giving me a weird feeling than any other S-F story has in years. I've been reading comics for about 10 years now and it takes a pretty good story to get a good rise from me. Your recent Doc Strange and Spider-Man did this. When I read Spider-Man it seems like I can't get to the next panel fast enough. It's so exciting that it's impossible to read slowly!

Dan Fleming  
430 Beach St.  
Ottawa, Kansas

***Good! The faster you read it, the sooner you'll be ready to buy another Marvel mag!***

Dear Stan and Steve,

I like the way you put two stories in one mag in your last issue of SPIDER-MAN — #8!

Harlan Reckner  
150 Hickory Rd.  
Akron 13, Ohio

***What do the rest of you web-spinners say? More issues with two stories, or keep the one book-length each month?***

**CONTINUED...**

Dear Stan and Steve,

Your issue #8 of the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN was simply priceless. I liked the part where Peter decked Flash. The ending to the second tale was very heartwarming. Yes, I would like to see similar issues appear from time to time. But you made a mistake in the Special Announcements section of the Amazing Spider-Man. You said that Iron Man, the Angel, the F.F., and Spider-Man are in issue #49 of TALES OF SUSPENSE. It should have been Iron Man, the Angel, the X-Men and the Avengers.

John F. Lebar  
305 N. Jordan St.  
Allentown, Pa.

*Our apologies, Johnny boy. We've got so many characters to keep track of that we must be getting groggy! But, we'll be more careful with names from now on, Joe—we mean, Tom—no—John!*

Dear Stan and Steve,

Can't you fellas do anything normal? SPIDER-MAN #7 is a wonderful example! Usually a sequel story's not supposed to be as good as the original, but "The Return of the Vulture" has surpassed the original as well as #s 3 through 6! As for this idea of Spider-Man's speaking spider lingo—don't do it! In the past 25 years or so, comics, science-fiction, and pulp magazines have hurled a horde of "something" controlling enemies of evil. Plants, cats, birds, fish, insects, mammals, and animals have all served as foils and stooges for various emirs of justice and freedom. In your comics, let Namor and Henry Pym talk to lower forms of life (fish and ants)—but keep Spider-Man away from spiders! Don't try to cheapen Spider-Man just to appease, what I believe is, a very small minority.

Leonard J. Tirado  
182½ Regent St.  
Saratoga, N. Y.

*Don't be silly, Len! Nobody can talk to spiders! Next, you'll be suggesting that Spider-Man swings thru the city by shooting out a web!*

Dear Stan and Steve,

I think that the first and second issue of the Vulture were the best ones out yet. I have a suggestion to make. I think that you should write an issue with a Spider-Man Jr. in it. If you did, I think that it would be an exciting issue. I'm looking forward to your next issue.

Gunter Nautsch  
676 Crawford Place  
Peterborough, Ontario  
Canada

*Holy smoke, fella—at least let Pete get married first!*

Dear Stan and Steve,

I'm glad that you finally let Peter give it to Flash in issue #8! The whole story was great—the way you had Spider-Man's identity threatened, the fight, the way the kids called Pete unfair, and especially the end. That was really a clever switch having the kids thinking Flash is Spider-Man. I'm glad he didn't brag that he was. Now get set. You ruined him in the other story. Aren't you getting Spider-Man and Torch mixed up? The party-crashing was what I'd expect from Torch. When you started, Spider-Man was nice and friendly. Now he acts too much like the Torch. You should keep him like he was. I think he should want to make friends with the Torch. Also, that web-heart at the end for Sue—really now, wasn't that silly! At least Torch sticks to flirting with girls his own age. Sue is too old for him, and how old is Jameson's secretary? Well, anyway, your good points still outnumber your bad ones in my book. You'll be hearing from me again soon.

Christine Cassello  
8017 S. Muskegon  
Chicago, Ill.

*Thanks for the warning!*

Dear Stan and Steve,

The Ditko art for years has been my favorite type of illustration. (The flat out-of-shape feet, the oversized glasses, and the unfilled-in ears.) This weird style that I

like above any artist makes him appear young. By his drawings I can imagine how he looks. He no doubt is rather thin and wears glasses. I'd like to see how close I came!

Ken Landgraf, Jr.  
1405 Geele Ave.  
Sheboygan, Wisc.

*Fairly close, Ken—but just between us, what's so unusual about flat, out-of-shape feet, oversized glasses, or unfilled-in ears?*



#### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS SECTION:

- We've got a surprise for you! Every so often we like to introduce a brand-new mag unexpectedly, without the usual fanfare! We do this when we feel that the new title is so terrific that it needs no previous ballyhoo! And so we proudly announce, for the first time, a great new super-hero whose off-beat exploits will hit the stands very soon (Feb. 4th, to be exact)! His name is DAREDEVIL, and we believe he will have the same human appeal that Spider-Man has! See if you don't agree! Written by the ol' master, Stan Lee, and drawn by the man who created Sub-Mariner in the Golden Age of Comics—Bill Everett! DAREDEVIL, on sale everywhere — Feb. 4th!

Now, back to the usual biz —

- Have you seen the latest issue of FANTASTIC FOUR yet? It features the precedent-shattering battle between THE THING and THE INCREDIBLE HULK! The demand for this one is sure to be heavy, as the word has gotten around that Jack "Action-King" Kirby really let himself go with the epic battle scenes! The whole Marvel bullpen is proud of FF #25, and we feel we can truthfully say that you've never before seen anything like it!
- For those of you who have thrilled to the meetings between Spider-Man and the Human Torch, we have another treat in store. STRANGE TALES #120 (on sale Feb. 11), features the first meeting between the Torch and one of the X-MEN's most popular characters—the frozen ICEMAN! This one's a beaut!
- And for two of the most thrilling new super-villains you've ever seen, don't dare miss JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #103 (at your stands Feb. 4), which has mighty THOR menaced by the ENCHANTRESS and the startling EXECUTIONER!
- Seen SGT. FURY #6?? (It's on sale now.) Besides the usual battle action, this story introduces one of the most daring new themes ever presented in a comic mag—as timely and provocative as today's headlines! We don't want to spoil your enjoyment by tipping it off in this column, but a 12¢ investment at your dealers will put you in the know! Dig?
- And now—what you've been waiting for! A hint of next month's SPIDER-MAN thriller! Wait'll you see it! Spider-Man actually gets UNMASKED—his identity revealed to J. Jonah Jameson—Betty Brant—the police—everyone! No, it's not an imaginary tale, or a dream episode! It happens! But wait'll you see the twist! And, as if that isn't enough, Doc Ock returns—more dangerous than ever! We won't say any more because as you know—we hate to brag!!! So, till we meet again, keep healthy, keep happy, keep watching for "National Be Kind To Spiders Week!"

# ÜBERSOLDIER



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