

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

Van Lente Kitson Ketcham Cox



the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



Mayor J. Jonah Jameson. Yes, THE J. Jonah Jameson is mayor of New York. How did it happen? When we last saw Jonah J., he was recovering from a heart attack and wondering what to do with his life now that his wife, Maria, sold the Daily Bugle out from under him to the king of slimeball journalism, Dexter Bennett. How did he turn it all around?

In the Macaverse, a dimension who's time stream so differs from our own that a short mission cost them two months on Earth! And everyone knows two months in the life of Peter Parker, ANYTHING can change –

Spidey couldn't tell you – he and the FF were busy quelling civil unrest in the Macaverse, a dimension who's time stream so differs from our own that a short mission cost them two months on Earth! And everyone

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Peter Parker's P.O.V.

J. Jonah Jameson's mayor, my Aunt got married to his dad (so we're family now!), and I slept with my roommate, sparking World War Three (seriously – she chained up our fridge). And yet – these are the least of my problems.

Mary Jane Watson, the woman I was a hop, skip and web-sling away from I-thee-wedding, is back in town. We haven't spoken much since she moved to LA, and then BAM! Right there, at the end of my Aunt's wedding, who's catching the bouquet? MJ. Sheesh.

Time to re-focus. I've been picking up freelance work for Front Line, but it's just barely covering the rent. I've got an in at City Hall now – my old pal from the Bugle, Glory Grant, is Jonah's new press secretary.

And my Spider-Sense is getting nervous – Doctor Octopus tentacled his way back into town. With that new Vulture a few weeks back and my scuffle with Hammerhead...maybe this is the start of a trend. Something's brewing on the horizon, I can feel it...

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ADI GRANOV
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ALAN FINE
Executive Producer

GALE, GUGGENHEIM,
KELLY, SLOTT,
VAN LENTE, WAID
& WELLS
Web-heads

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NOVEMBER 1997: AN EMPLOYEE OF A COMPANY OWNED BY OSAMA BIN LADEN WALKS INTO THE U.S. EMBASSY IN NAIROBI AND TELLS AUTHORITIES AL QAEDA IS GOING TO BLOW UP THE BUILDING.

NO ACTION IS TAKEN.

FEBRUARY 2001: AN ARIZONA FLIGHT SCHOOL REPORTS A SUSPICIOUS STUDENT, HANI HANJOUR, TO THE F.A.A. THEY BELIEVE HE MIGHT BE A TERRORIST.

NO ACTION IS TAKEN.

AUGUST 7, 1998: AL QAEDA BLOWS UP THE U.S. EMBASSY IN NAIROBI. 213 KILLED, MORE THAN 4,000 INJURED.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001: 9/11 TERRORIST ATTACKS. NEARLY 3,000 KILLED, MORE THAN 6,291 INJURED. HANJOUR PILOTS THE PLANE INTO THE PENTAGON.

OCTOBER 2008: THE U.S. WARNS INDIA TWICE ABOUT AN IMMINENT MARITIME ATTACK ON THE TAJ MAHAL HOTEL AND OTHER MAJOR LANDMARKS.

NO ACTION IS TAKEN.

NOVEMBER 26-29, 2008: TERRORISTS ATTACK THE TAJ AND OTHER TARGETS IN MUMBAI. 173 KILLED, 208 INJURED.

THERE ARE EYES EVERYWHERE.

AND ALL
OF THEM ARE
BLIND.

RRRRRIIIIP

WHO--
PLEASE--
I--

YEAH, I
GOT A CALLBACK
FOR THAT
IBSEN REVIVAL
I TOLD YOU
ABOUT.

"THAT
IB-SEN RE-VI-VAL
I TOLD YOU
A-BOUT."

NO, MA,
IT'S NOT A
MUSICAL, IT'S IBSEN.
"THE MASTER
BUILD-ER."

"THE
MAS-TER
BUILD-ER."

THAT'S--

THAT'S
MY VOICE!

CONVERSATIONS
I HAD ON THE
PHONE!

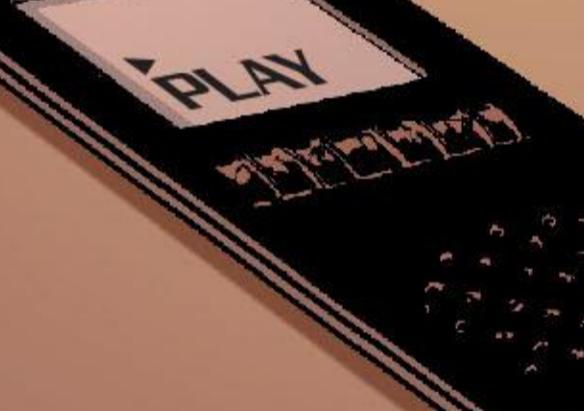
HOW DID
YOU GET THAT?!
YOU TAPING
MY--

MA!
C'MON...YOU
KNOW I DON'T
THINK YOU'RE
STUPID!

"YOU
KNOW I DON'T
THINK YOU'RE
STUPID!"

DON'T...
DON'T START
CRYING!

"DON'T...
DON'T START
CRYING!"



LOOK, I
DON'T...

I DON'T
HAVE ANY MONEY
TO GIVE YOU. I--I
BARELY GOT A POT
TO YOU-KNOW-
WHAT IN!

YOU EVEN
KNOW WHAT I DO
FOR A LIVING? IT'S
SO STUPID AND
MEANINGLESS--

WHY DO
YOU WANT
TO KILL ME,
MAN?

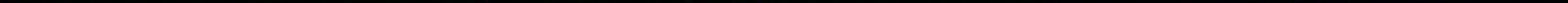
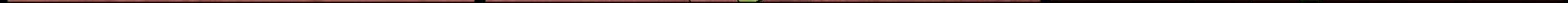
WHY DO
YOU WANT
TO KILL ME,
MAN?"

I'M
NOTHING! A
NOBODY!

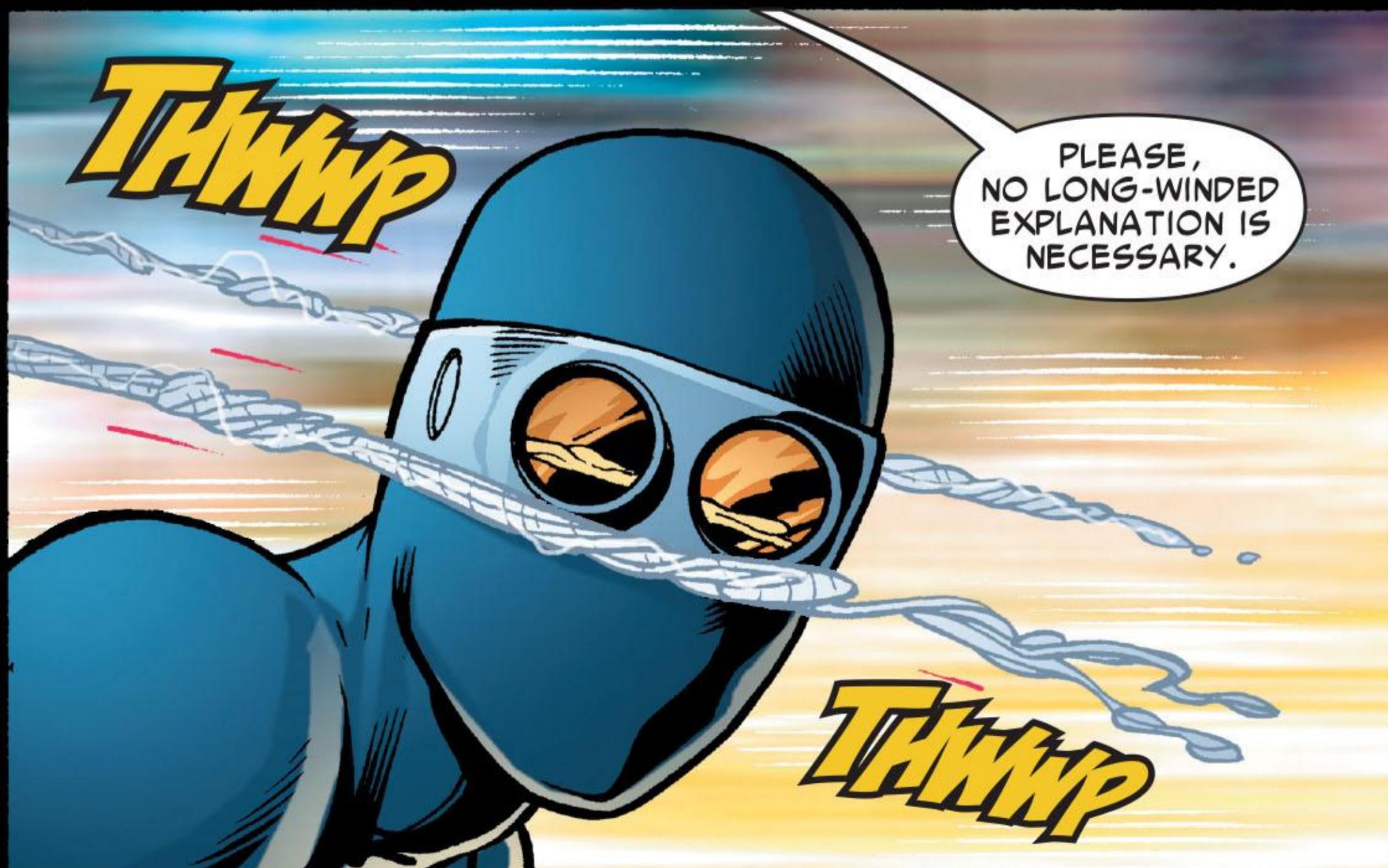
"I'M
NOTHING! A
NOBODY!"

STOP
COPYING
ME!



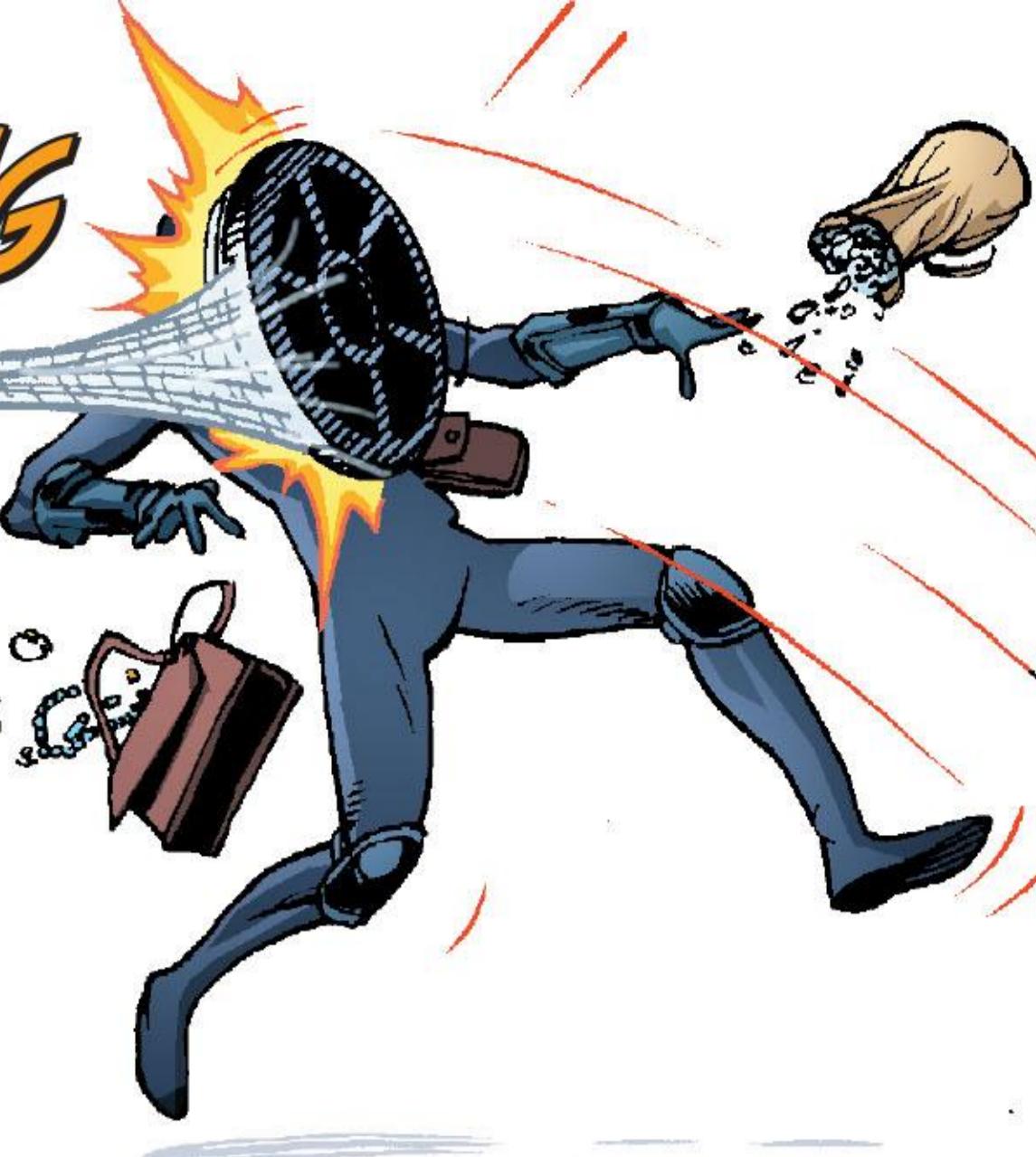


47th Street, The Diamond District.



I'M WAITING FOR TAXES TO GO ANY SECOND.

KLOOONG



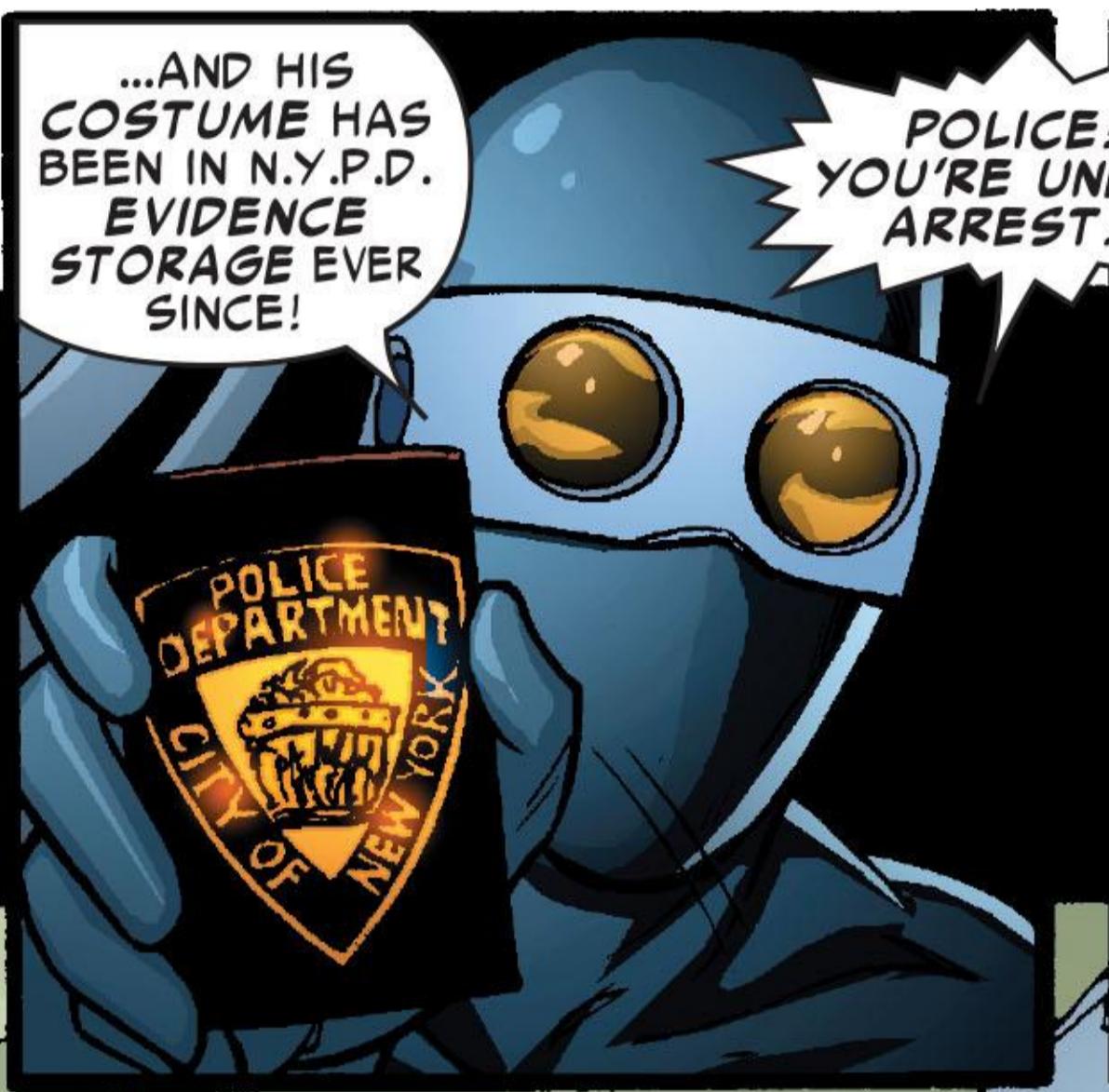
WAIT. DO YOU MEAN JALOME BEACHER, THE ORIGINAL SLYDE?

YEAH, HE WAS FOUND SHOT DEAD, EXECUTION STYLE...

...AND HIS COSTUME HAS BEEN IN N.Y.P.D. EVIDENCE STORAGE EVER SINCE!

POLICE! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!

OH, COME ON!! SERIOUSLY?!?

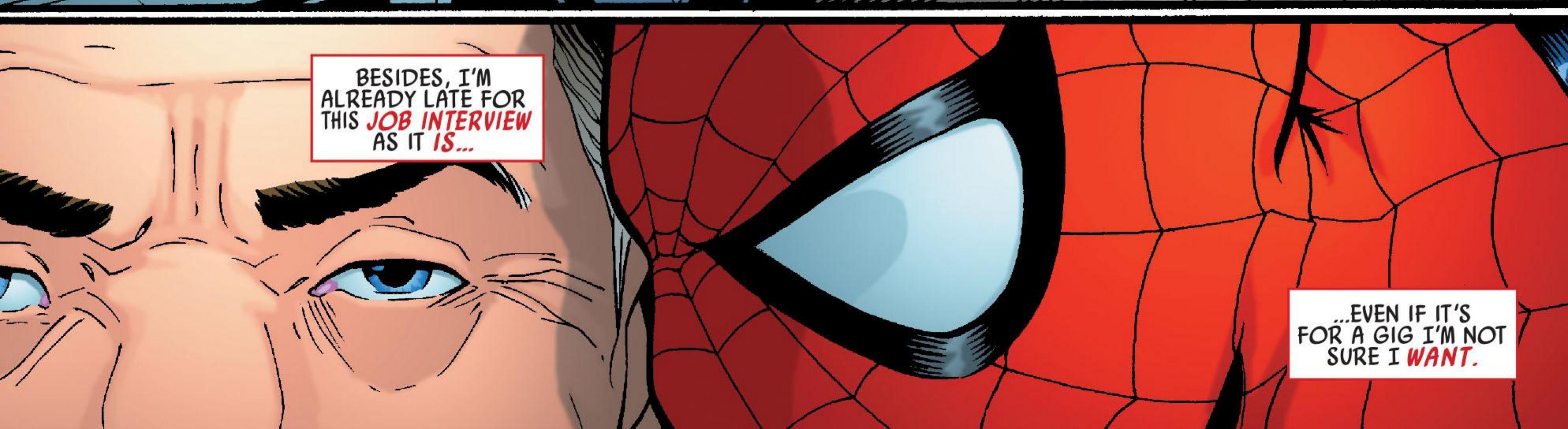


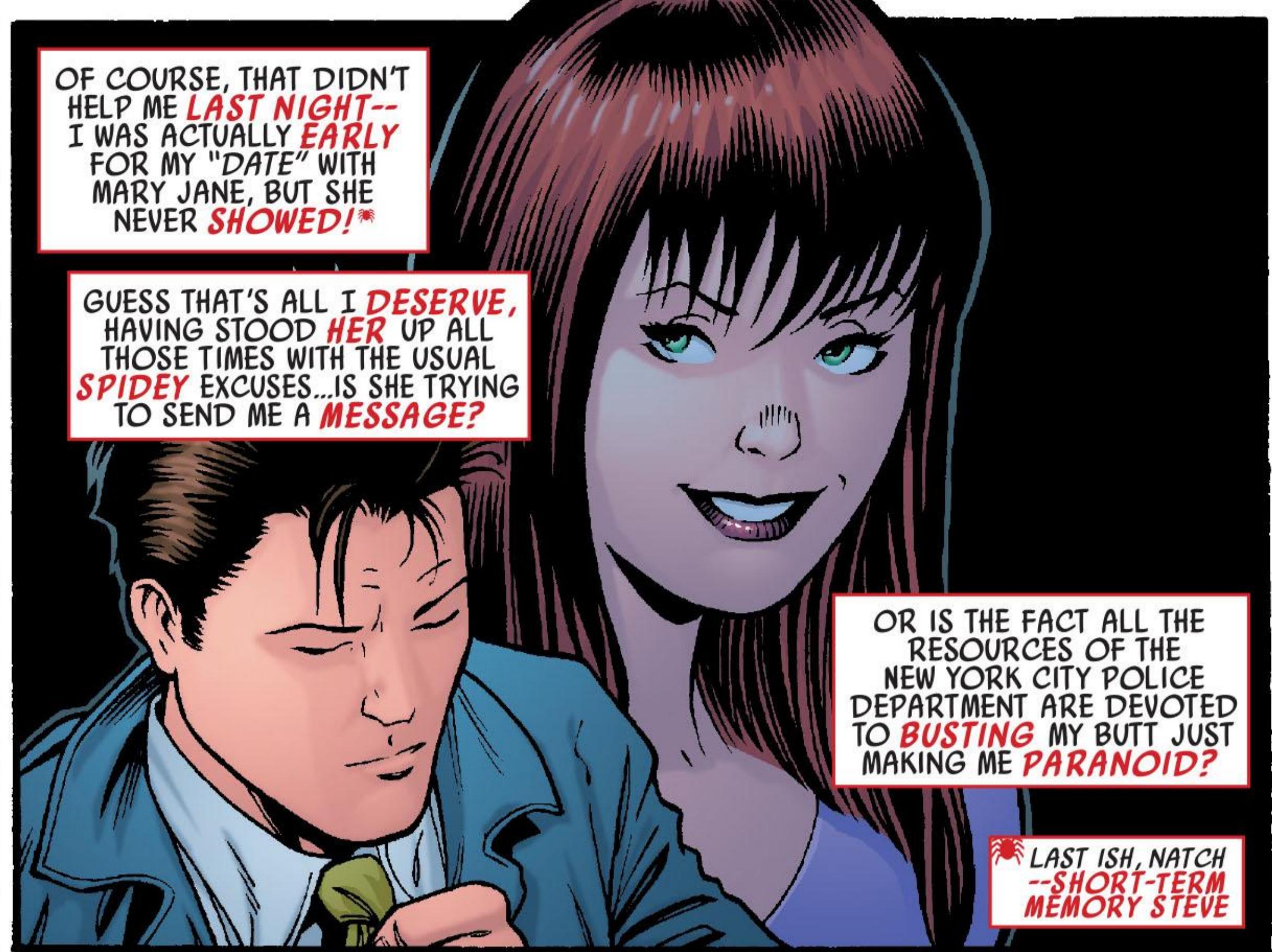
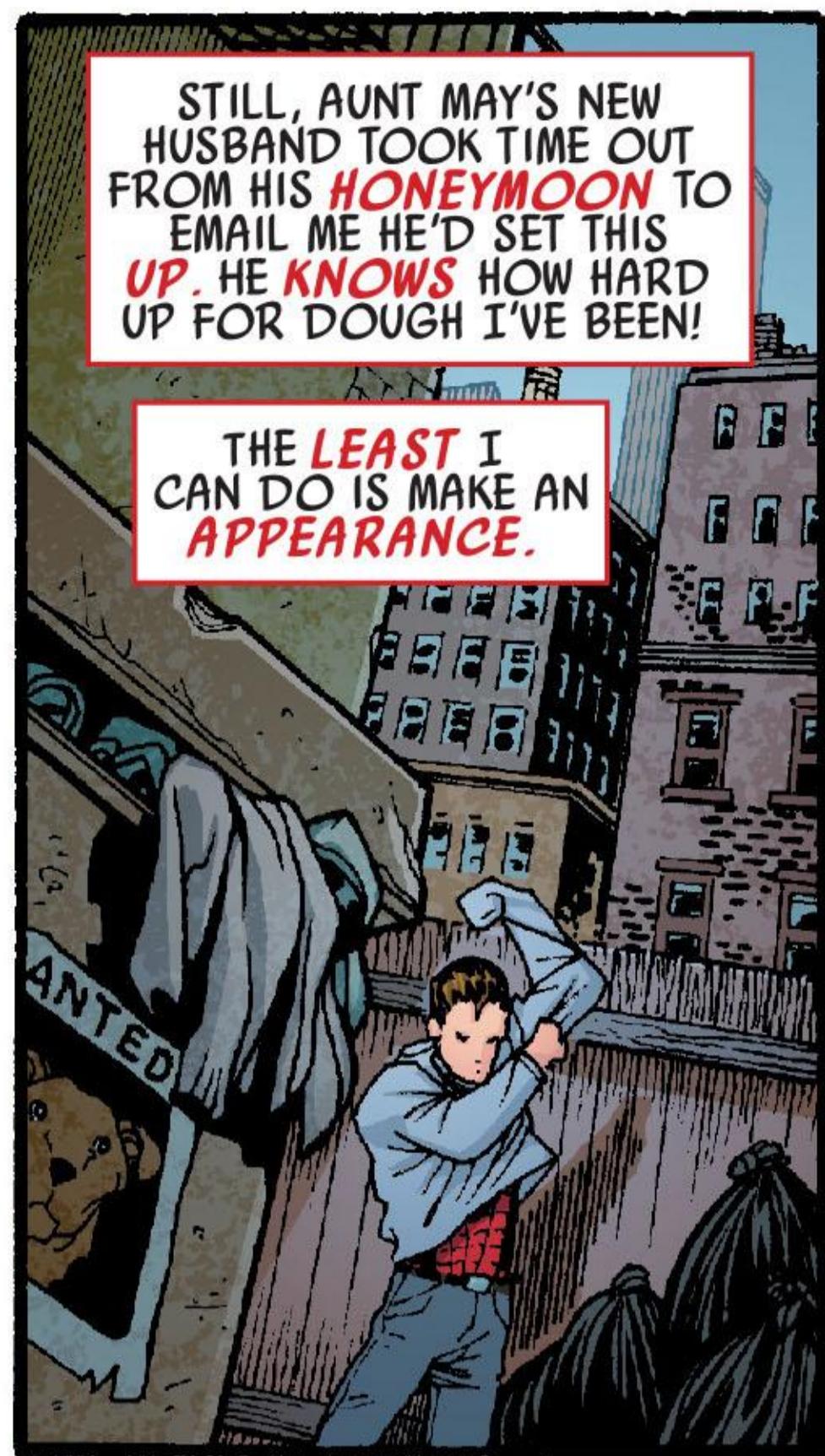
BUWHOOOM

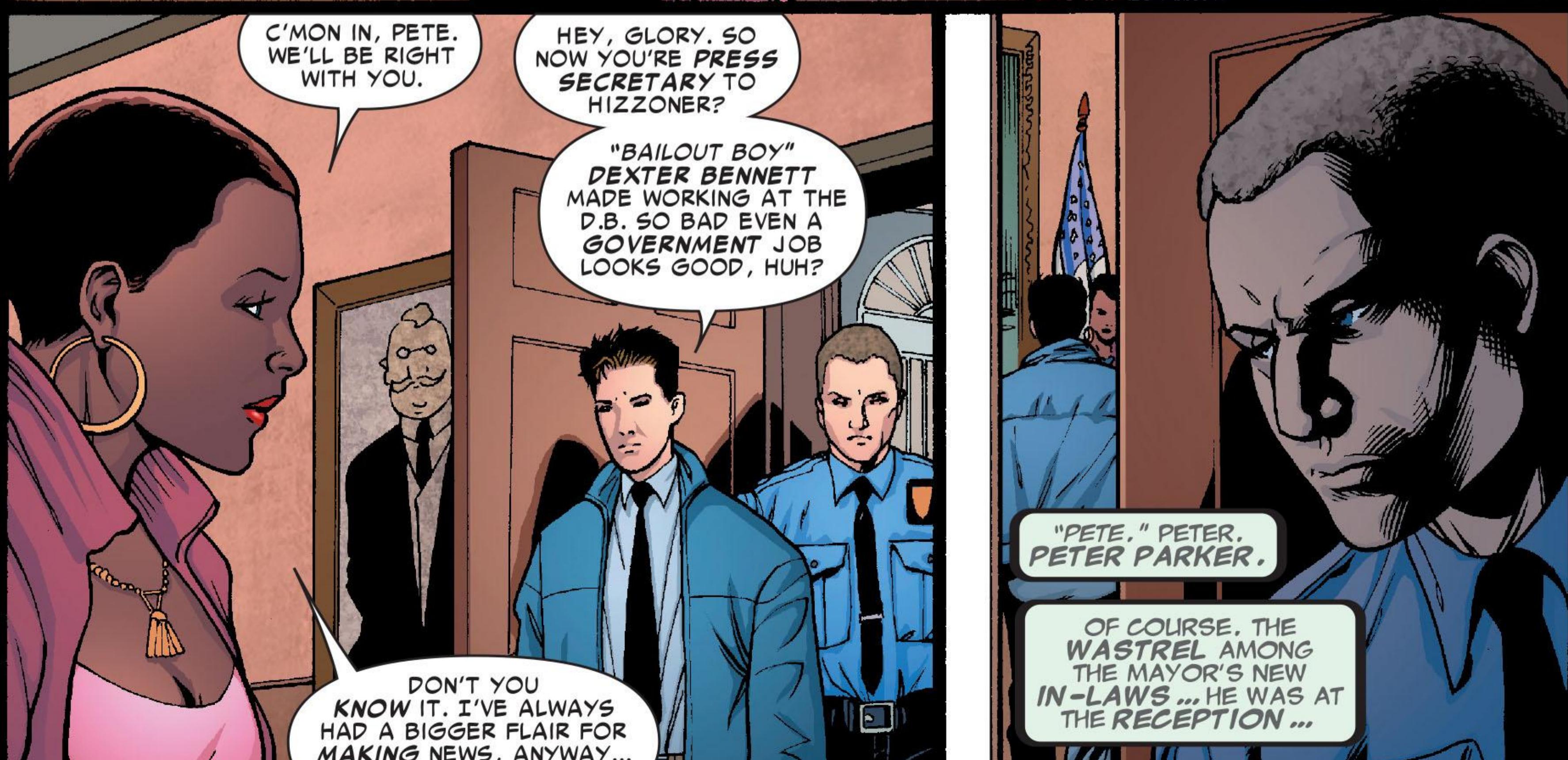
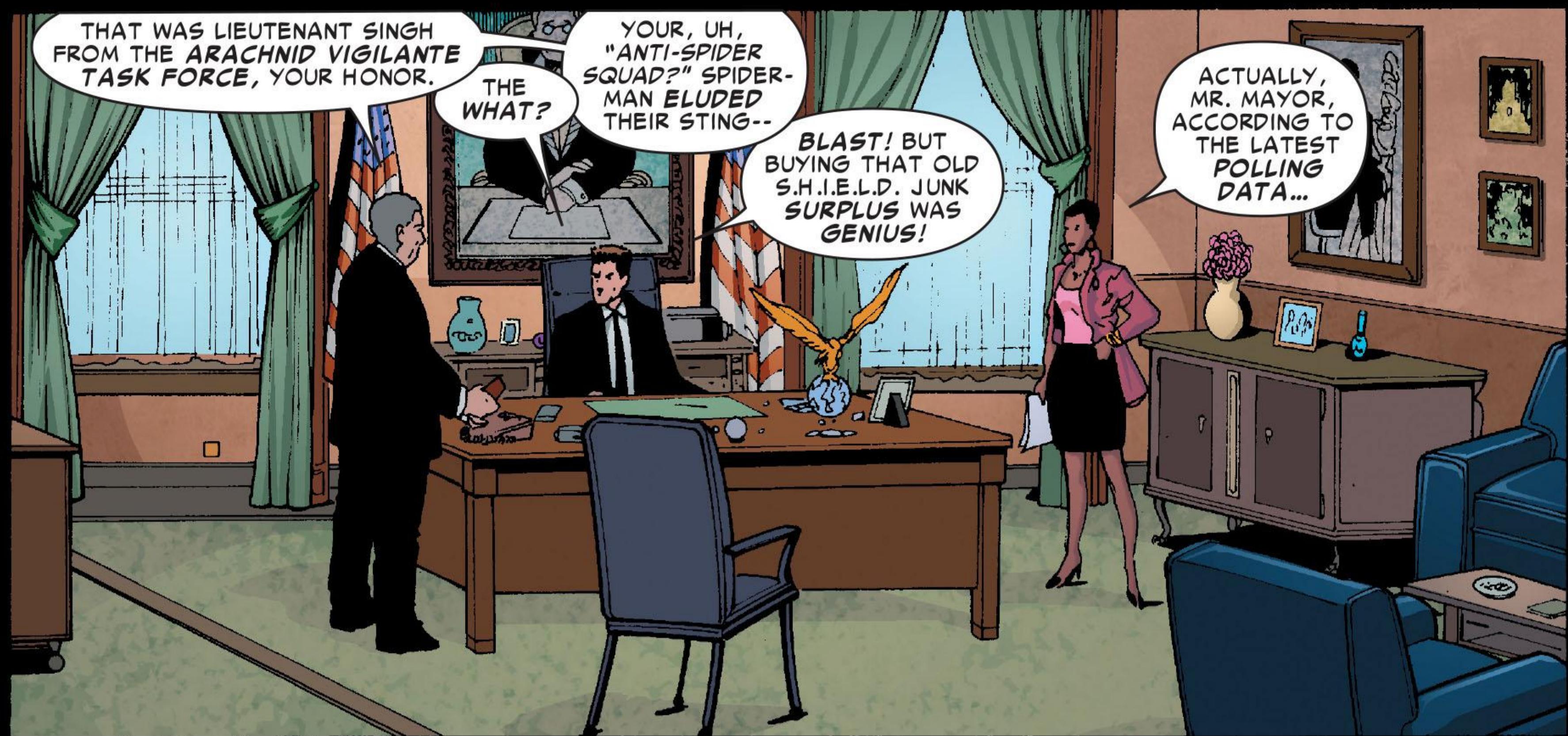
LIKE THIS CITY DOESN'T HAVE ENOUGH REAL CRIME ALREADY?!











PARKER!

LATE--AS USUAL!
IF YOU JOIN MY MAYORAL
PHOTO UNIT, YOU'LL HAVE
TO FIX THAT!

I WON'T BE
AS GENTLE AND
UNDERSTANDING
ABOUT YOUR WASTING
THE TAXPAYER'S
MONEY AS YOU
DID MINE!

MAYBE IF YOU
HADN'T CUT HALF
THE BUS ROUTES I
WOULDN'T HAVE HAD
TO WALK FROM CANAL
STREET, YOUR
CHEAPNESS.

GRRRRRRR...

ACTUALLY, YOUR HONOR,
IN SPEAKING OF THE PHOTO
UNIT...

THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT JUST WENT LIVE
WITH ITS "SHADOW"
COMMAND CENTER.

ITS LOCATION IS CLASSIFIED, AS IT'S
SUPPOSED TO REPLACE ONE POLICE PLAZA
IN THE EVENT OF A MASSIVE TERRORIST
ATTACK...

...BUT THAT SHOULDN'T PREVENT US
FROM TAKING PICTURES OF YOU
INSIDE, LOOKING ALL,
YOU KNOW...

...ANTI-
TERRORIST-Y"
AND SUCH...

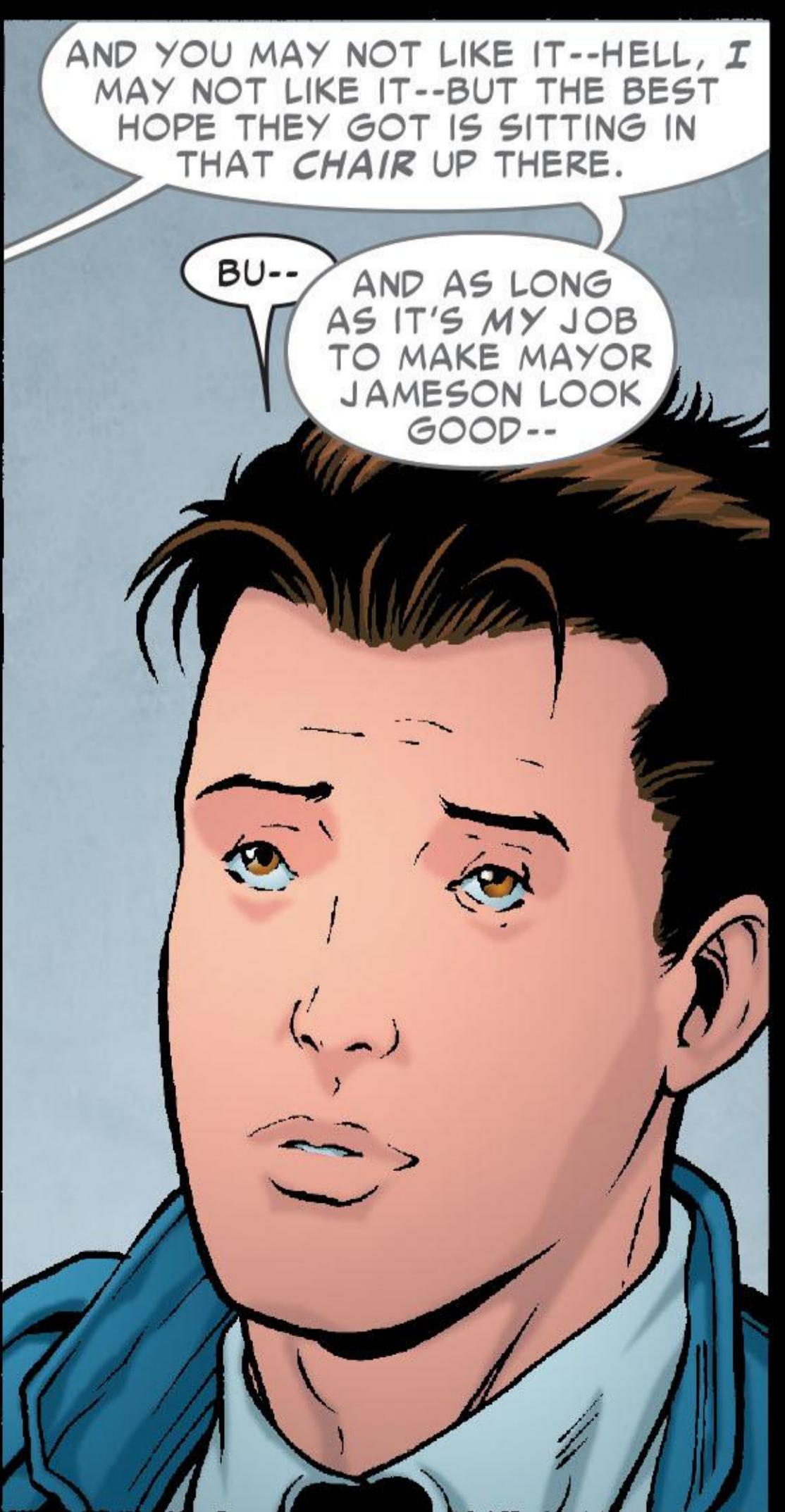
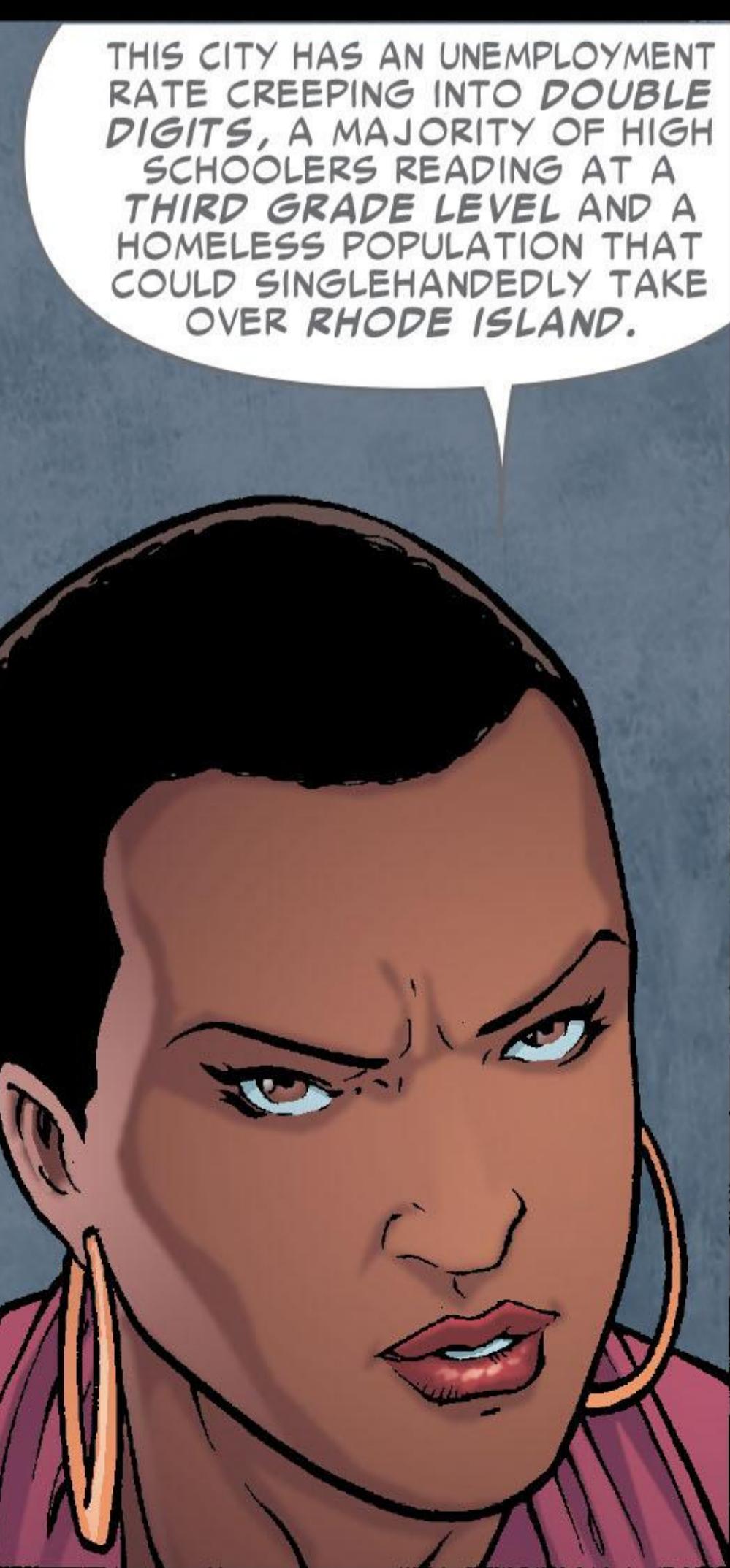
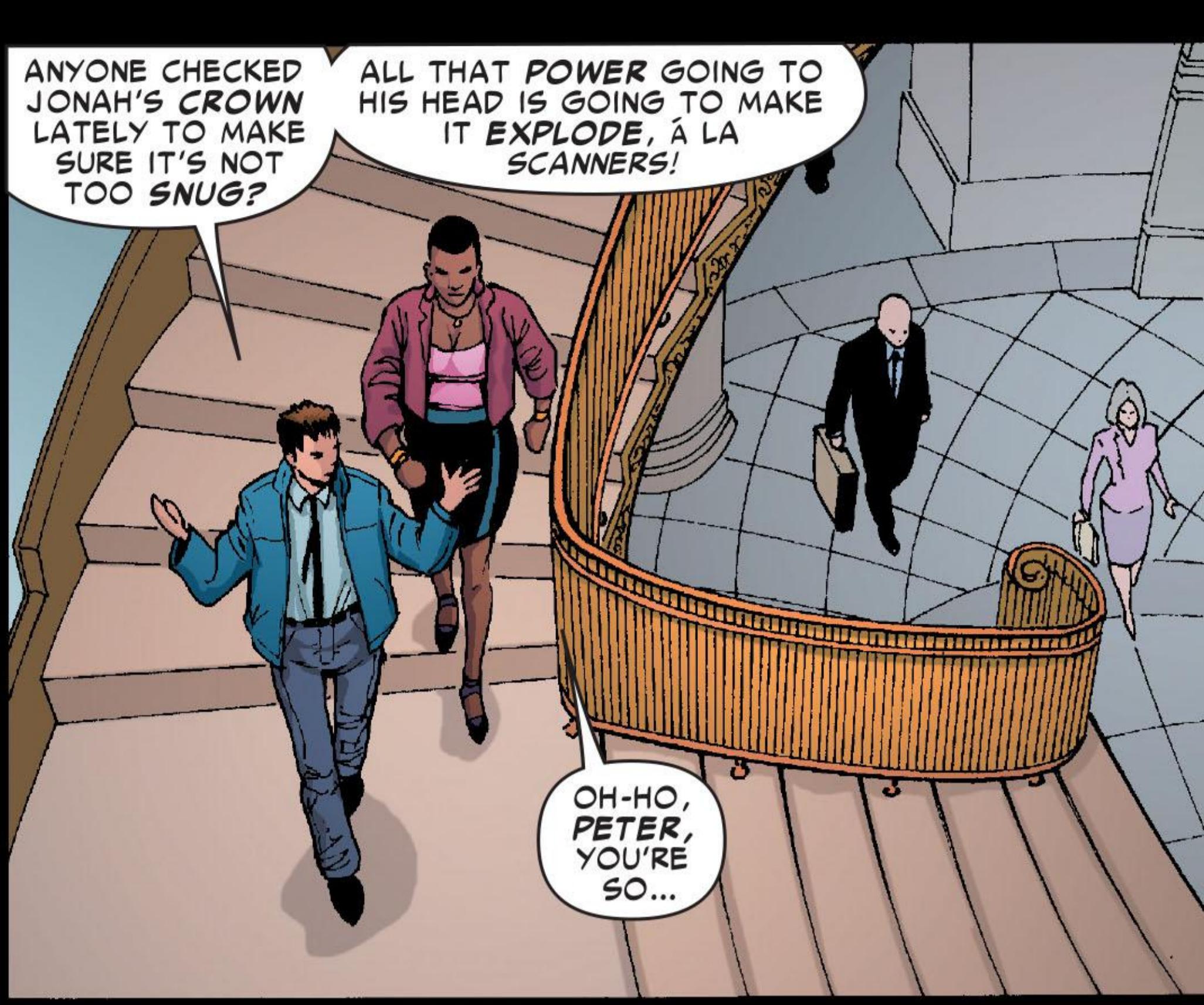
YES! THAT'LL
DRIVE MY NUMBERS
UP! I LOVE IT!

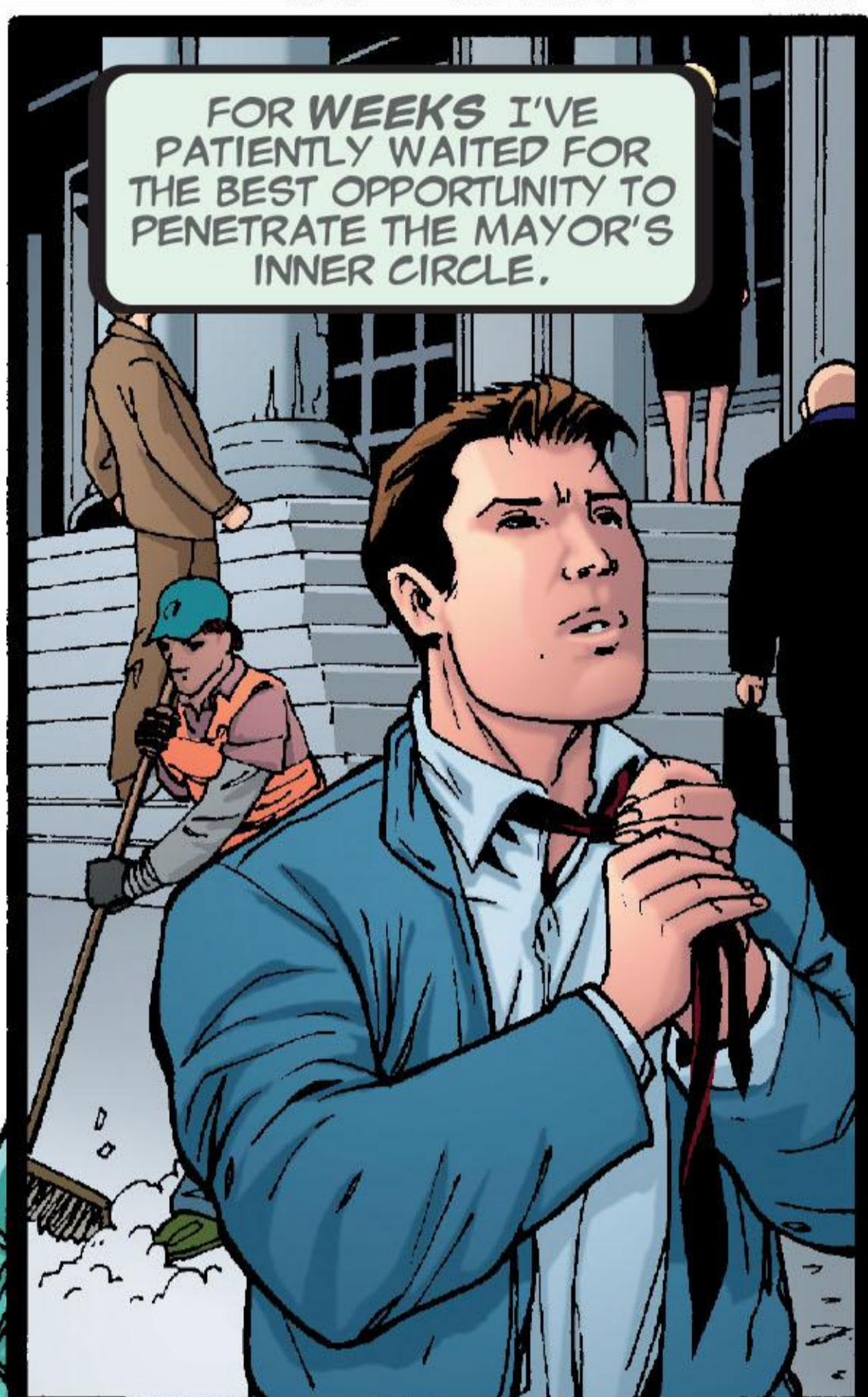
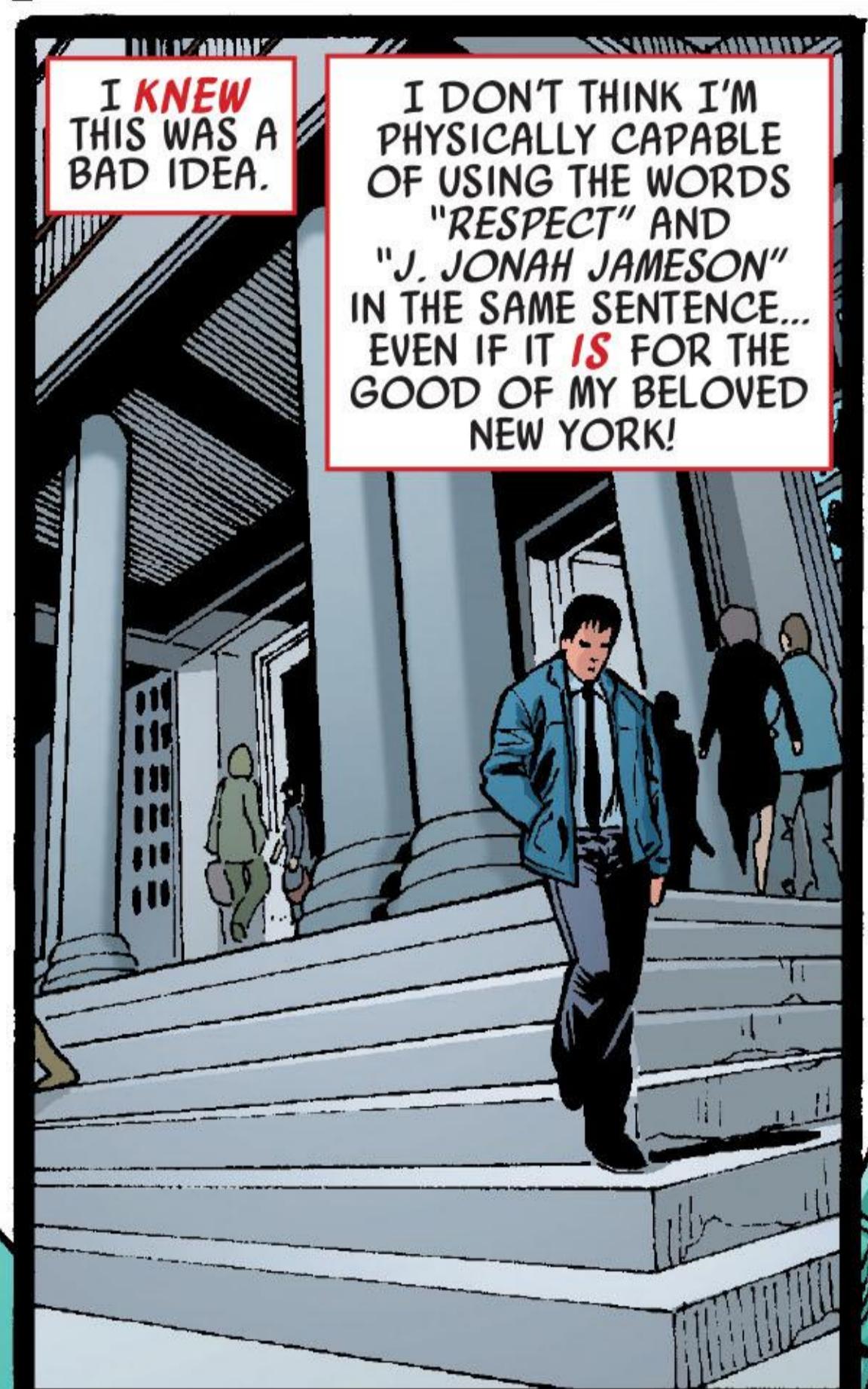
YOU'RE A
GENIUS!

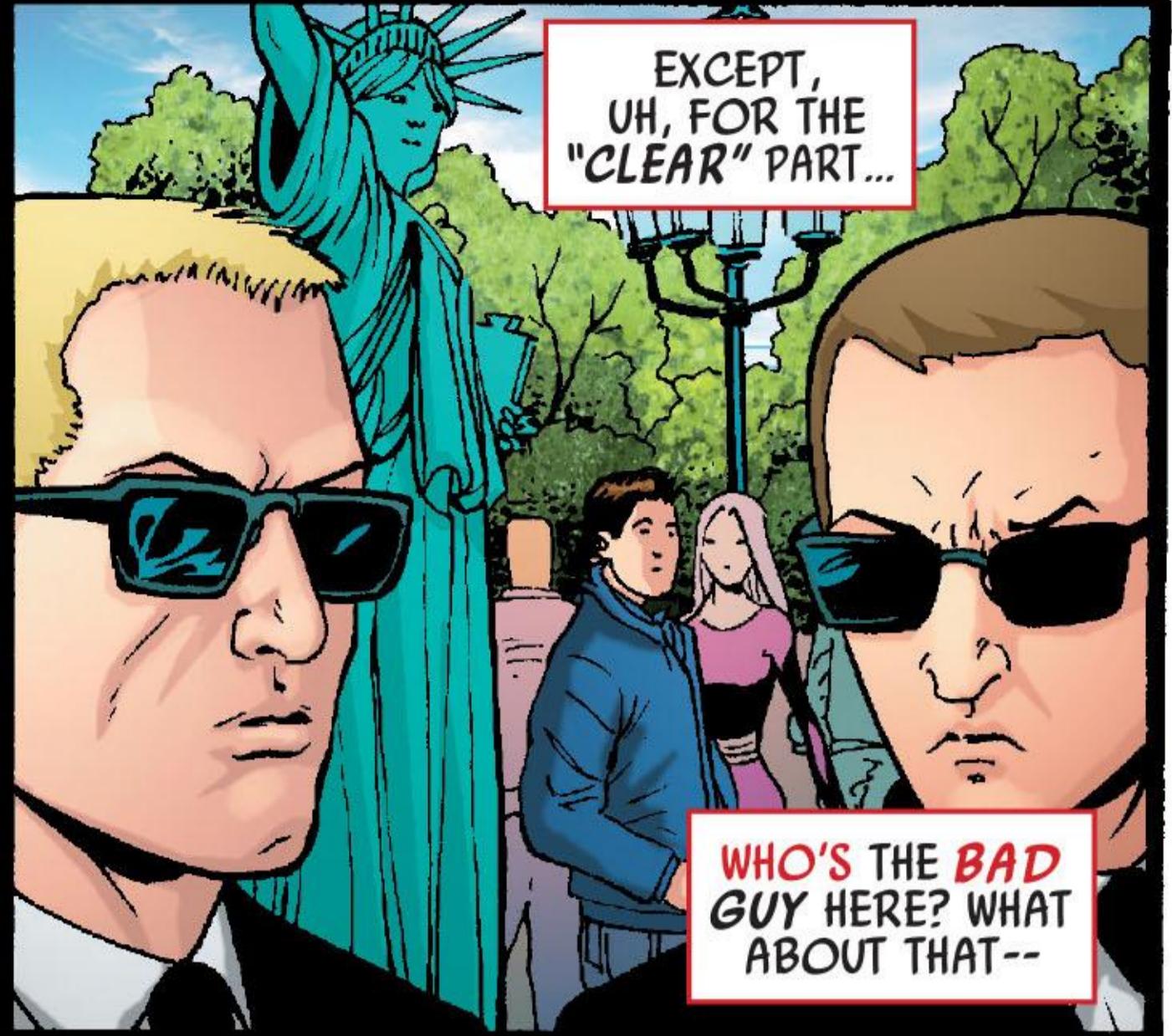
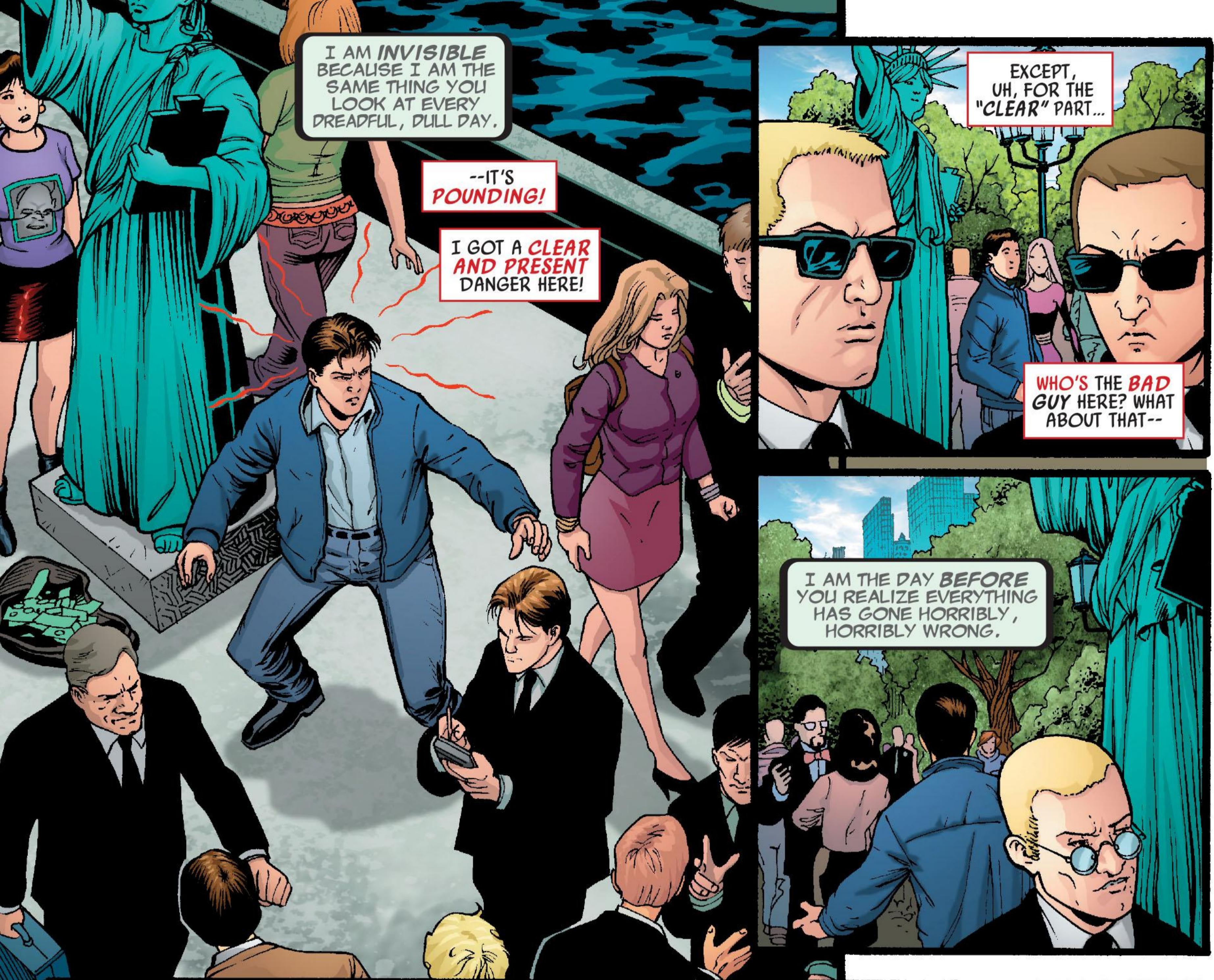
WHO ARE
YOU?

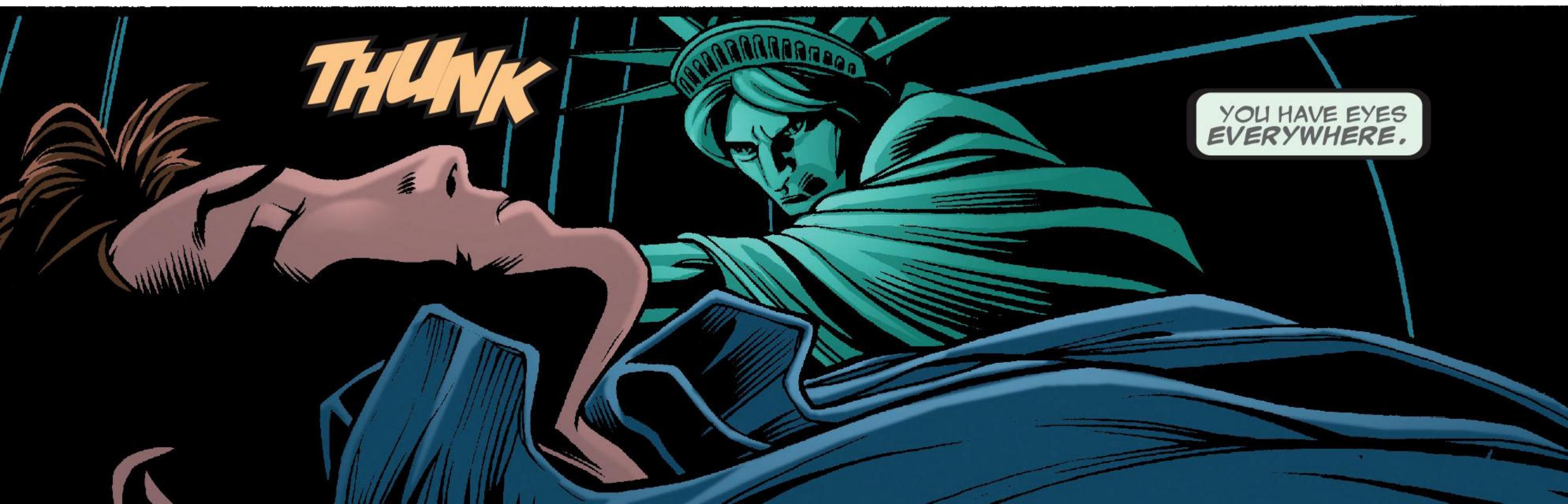
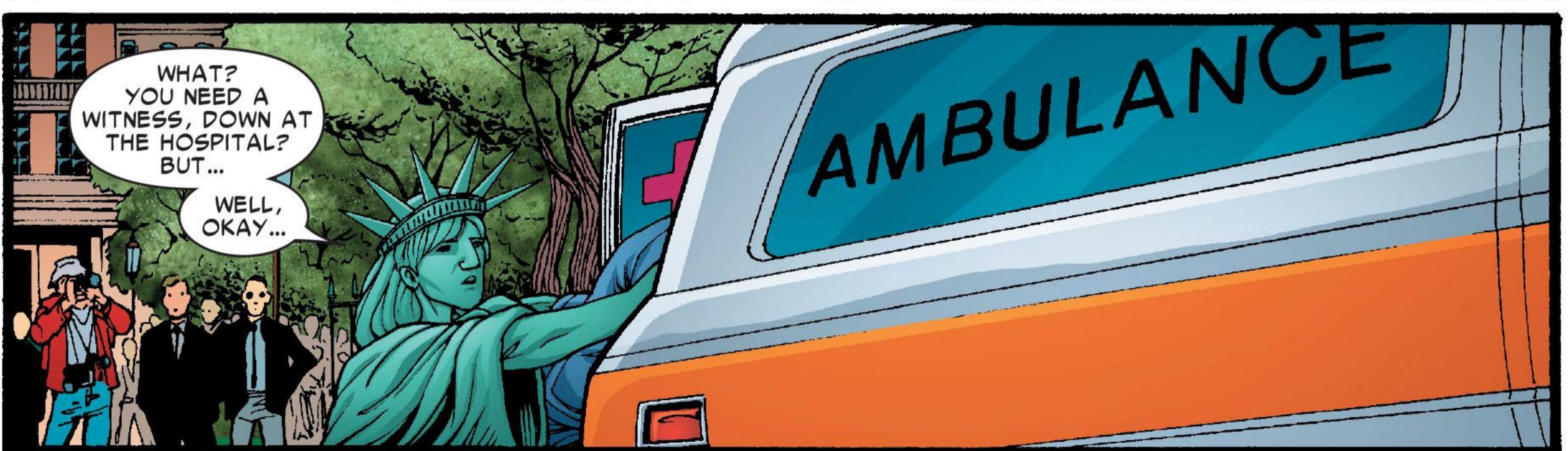
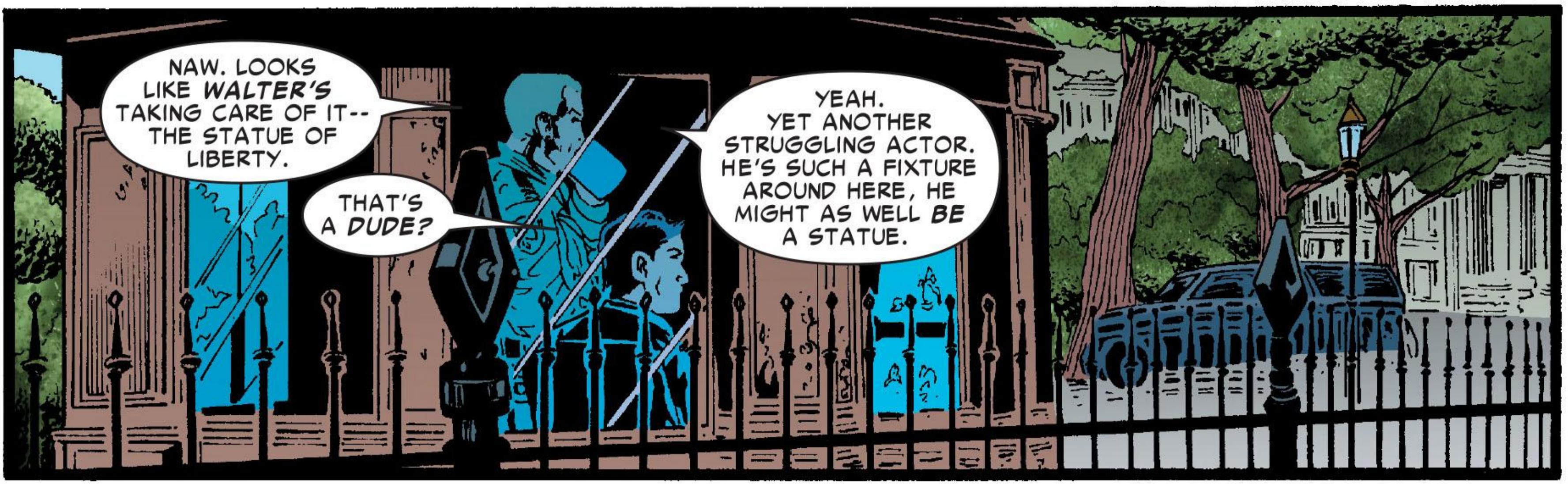
UM...THEODORE HASKELL, SIR?
THE...DEPUTY MAYOR FOR
OPERATIONS?

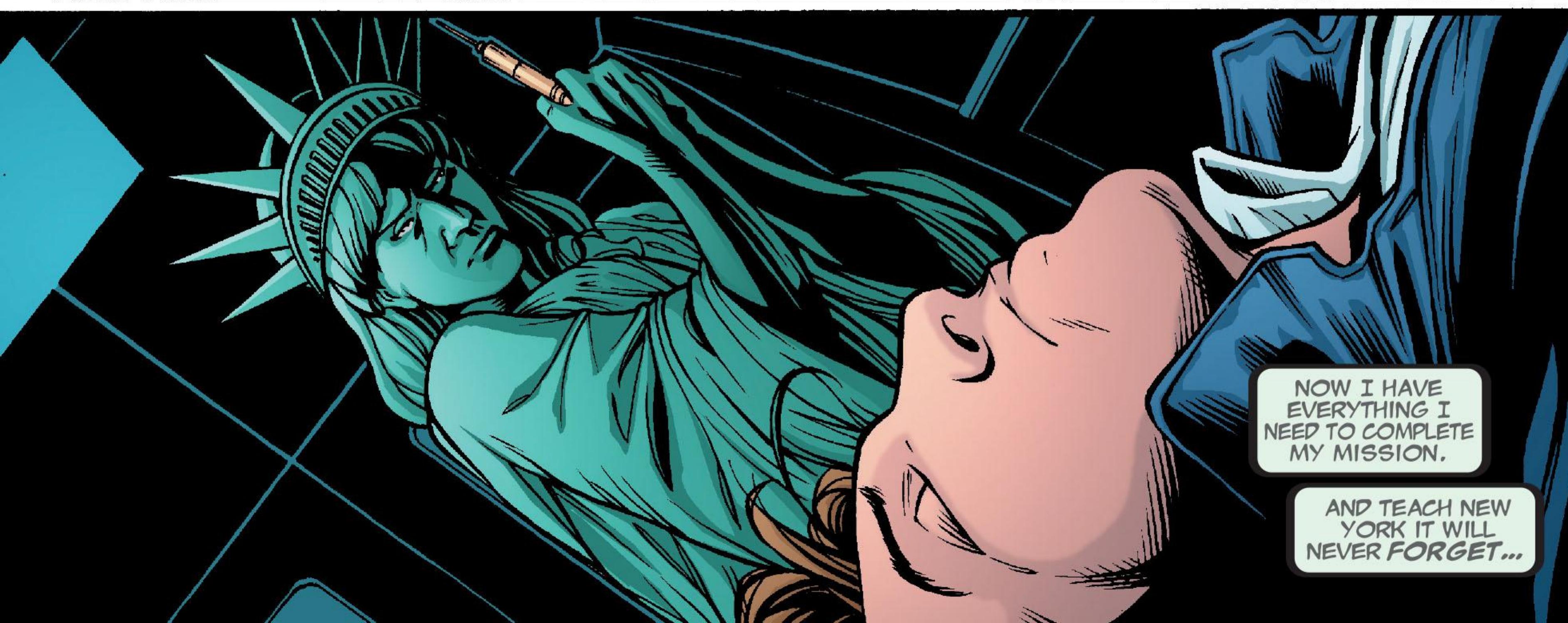
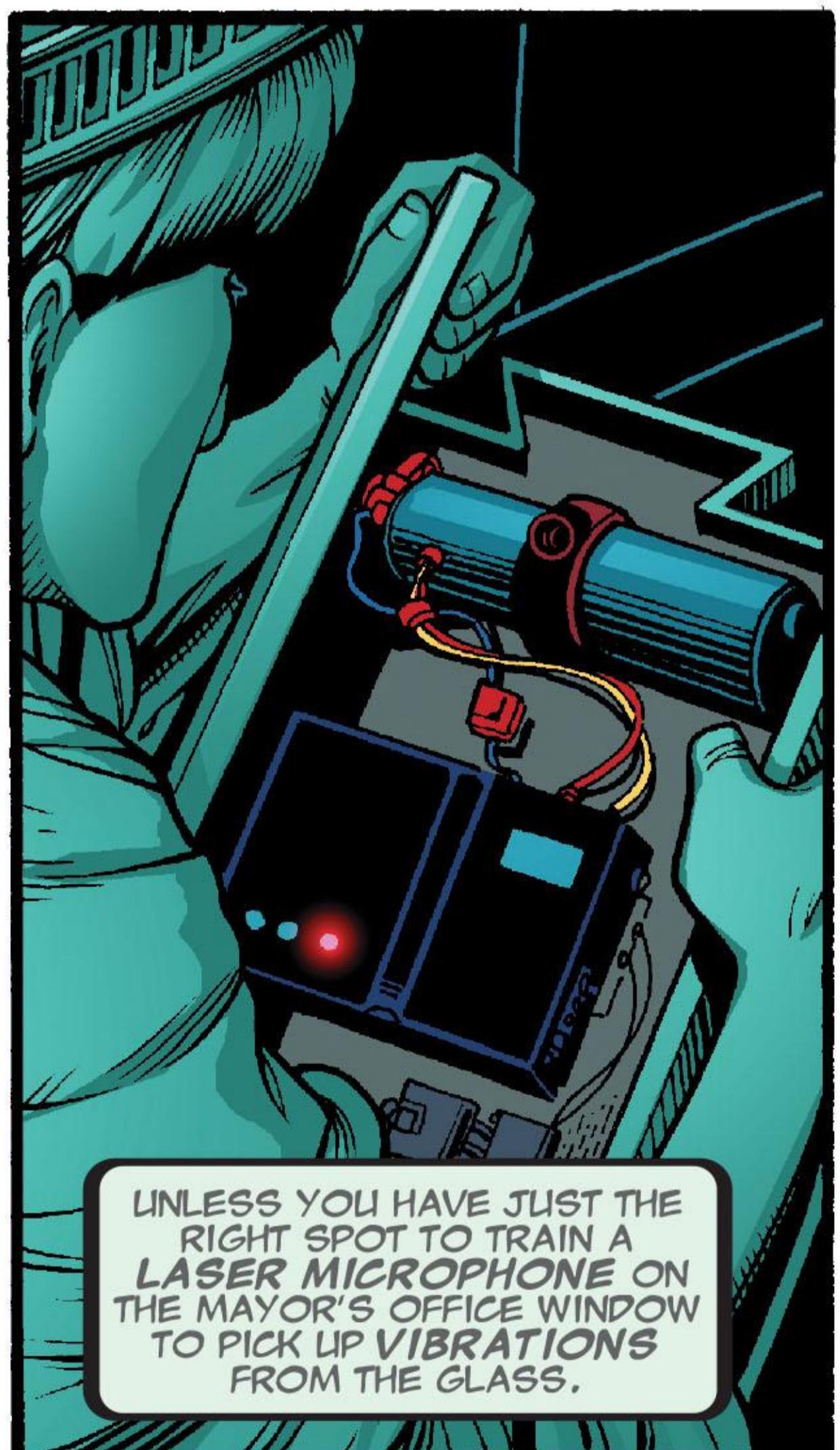
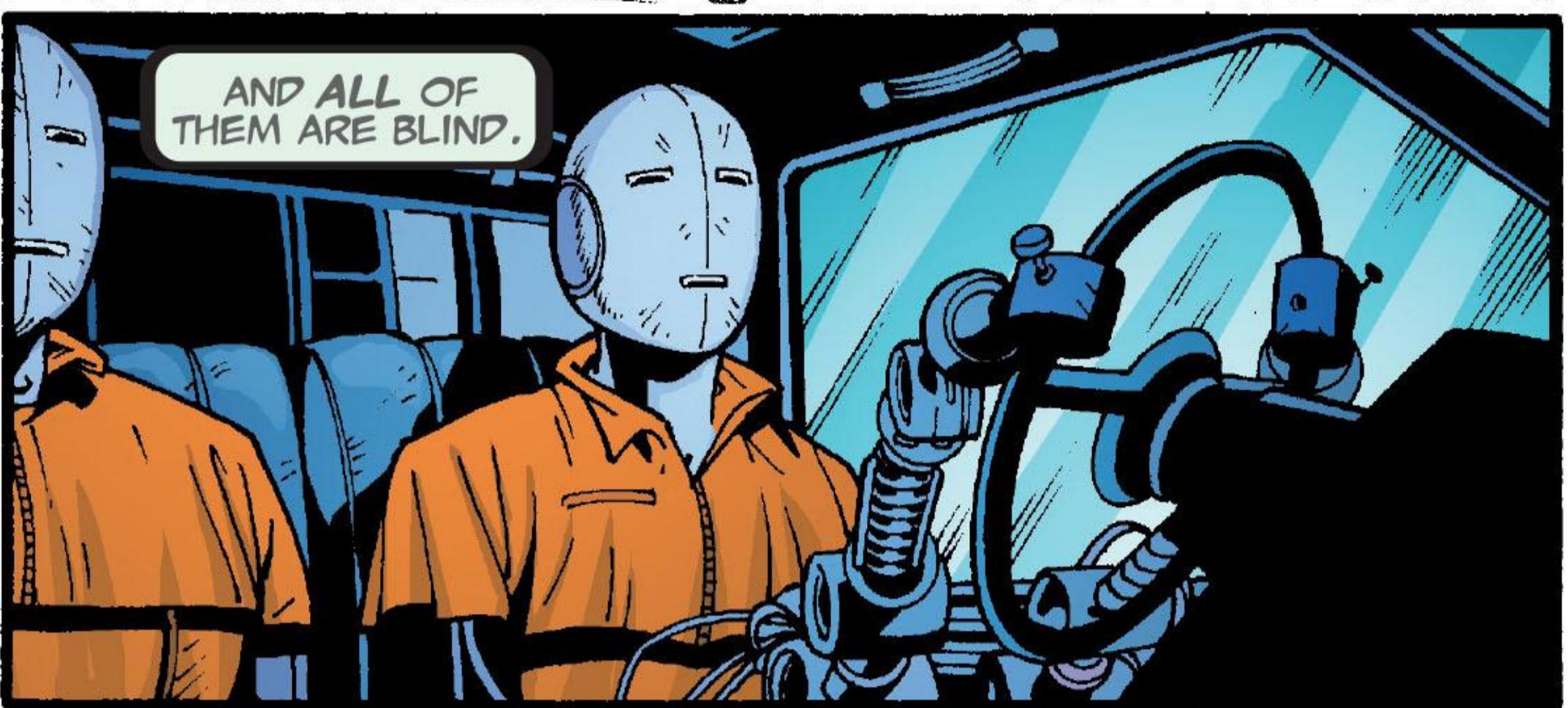
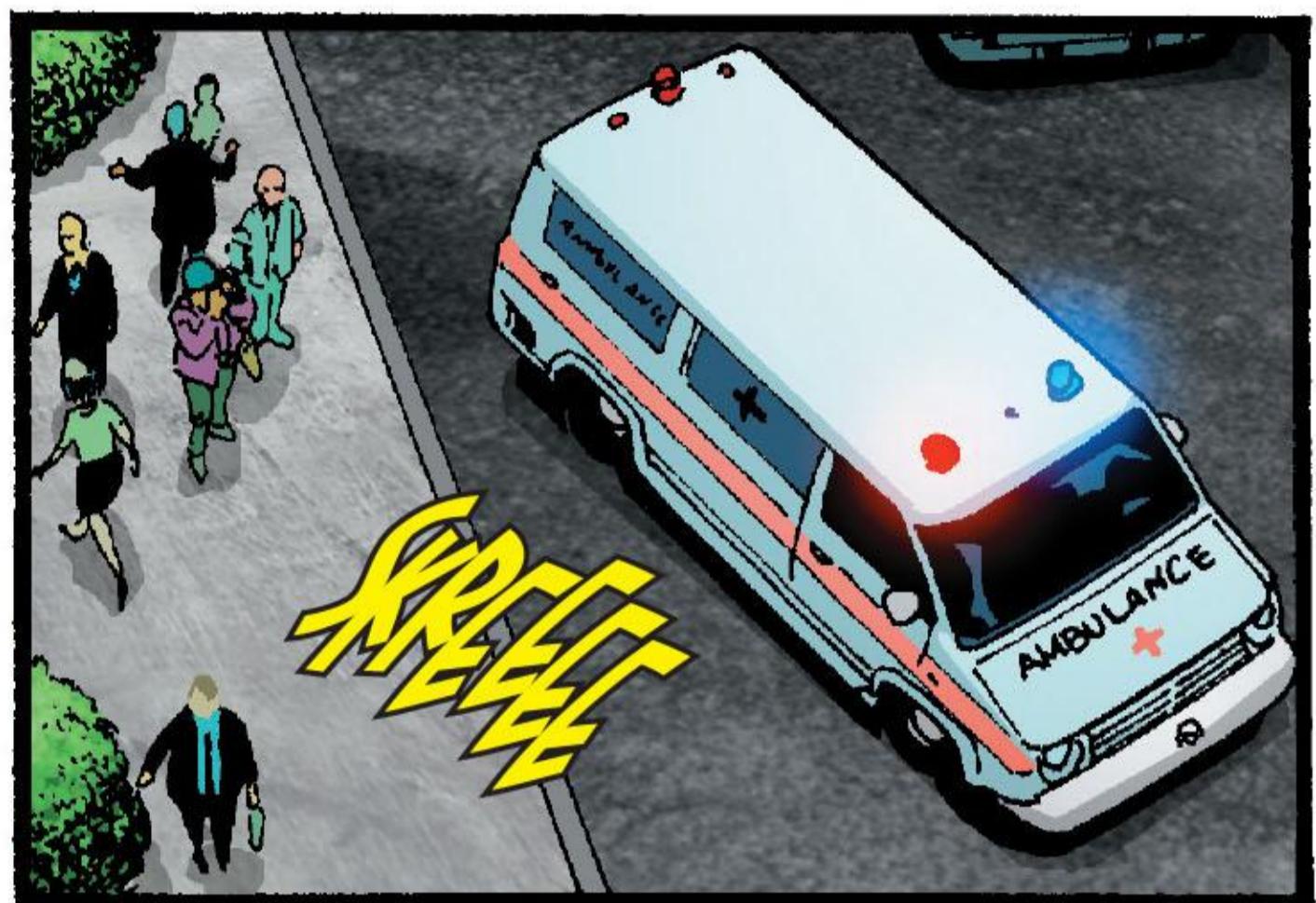
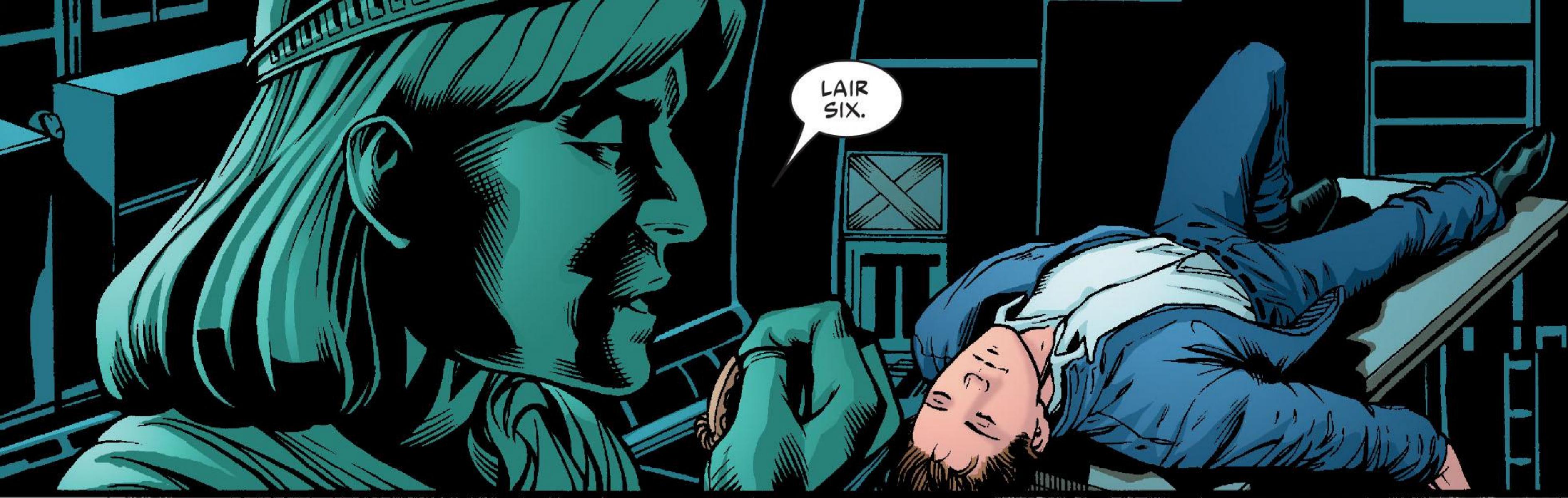
YOU...RETAINED
ME FROM THE PREVIOUS
ADMINISTRATION...?

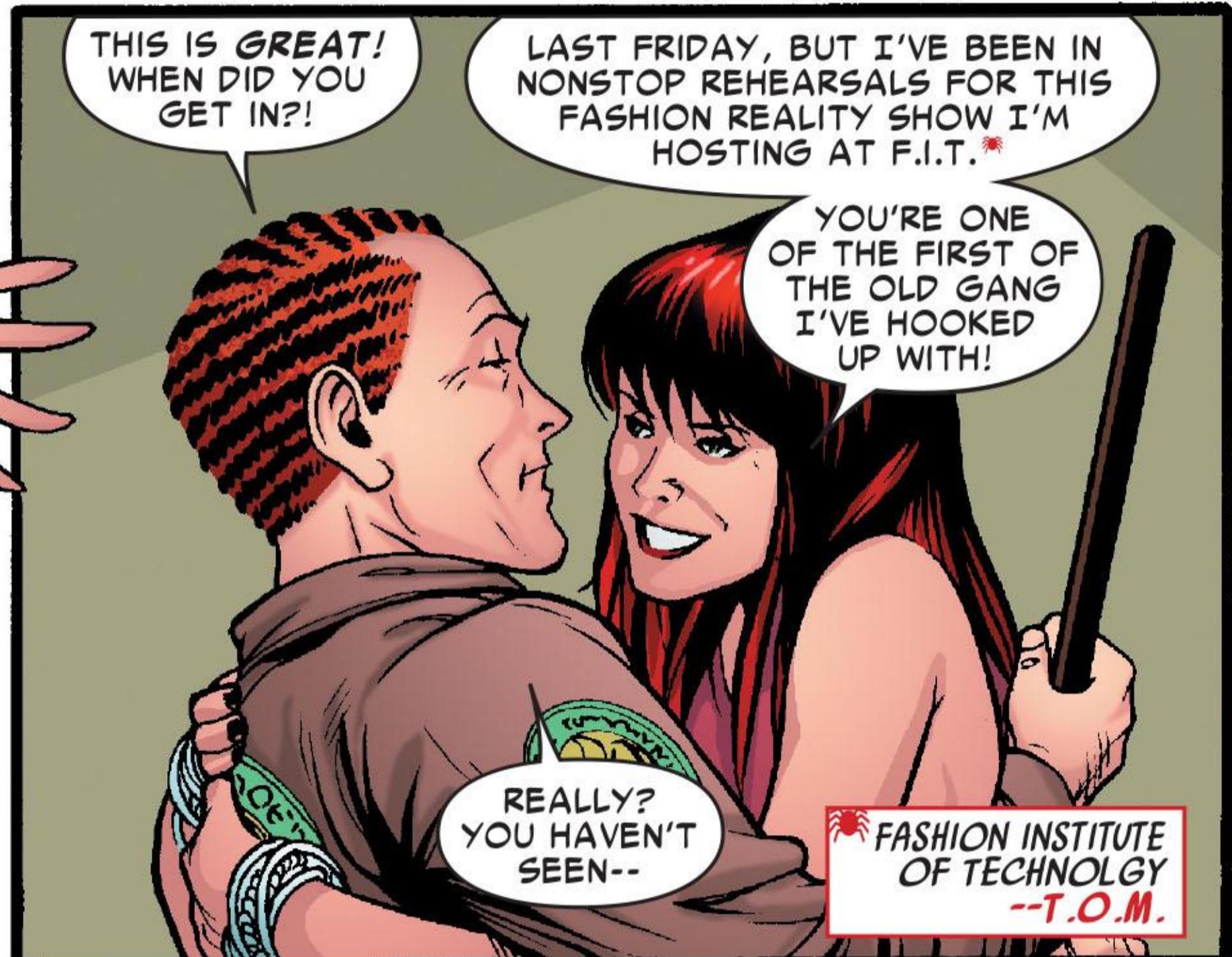
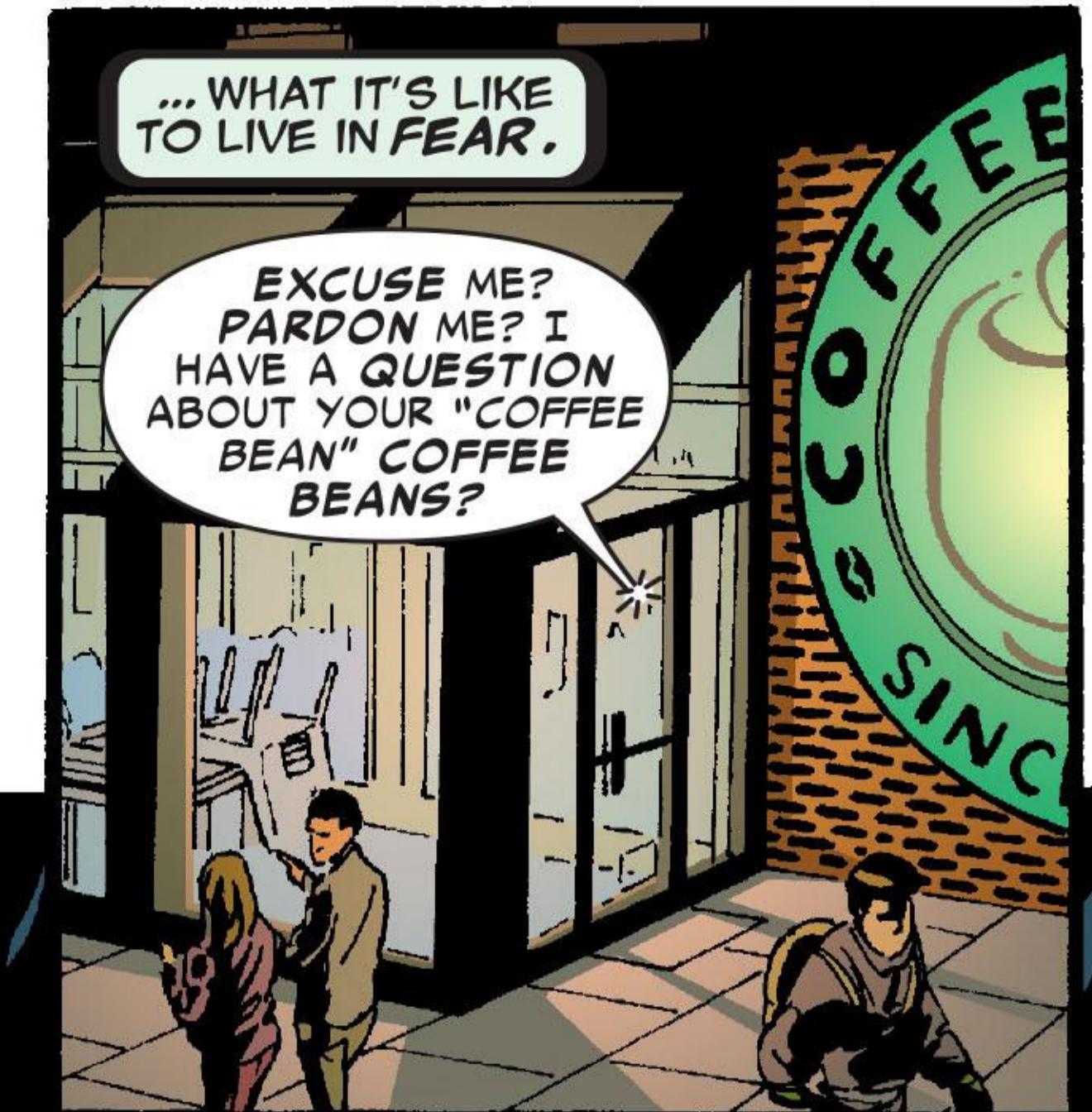














HEY, GLORY.
SO NOW YOU'RE
PRESS SECRETARY
TO HIZZONER?

HEY,
GLORY.

RRRRRRRR

SO NOW
YOU-ARE-PRESS
SEC-RE-TAR-Y TO
HIZ-ZON-NER?

"BAILOUT BOY"
DEXTER BENNETT
MADE WORKING AT THE
D.B. SO BAD EVEN A
GOVERNMENT JOB
LOOKS GOOD,
HUH?

"BAILOUT BOY"
DEXTER BENNETT
MADE WORKING AT THE
D.B. SO BAD EVEN A
GOVERNMENT JOB
LOOKS GOOD,
HUH?"

PARKER.

PETER
PARKER.

WHY DOES THAT
NAME SOUND
SO FAMILIAR
TO ME?

TCH.

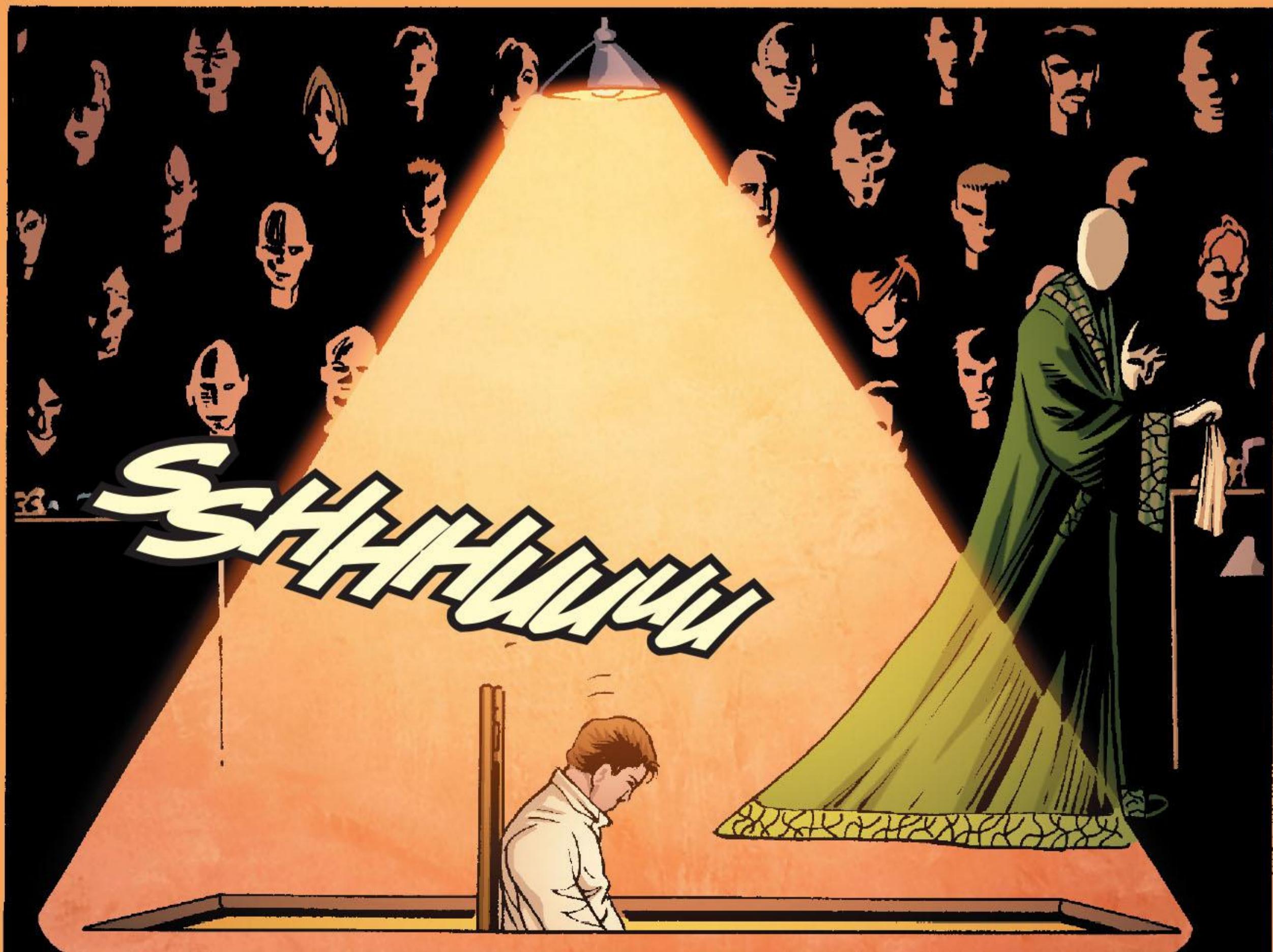
SO MANY
NAMES.

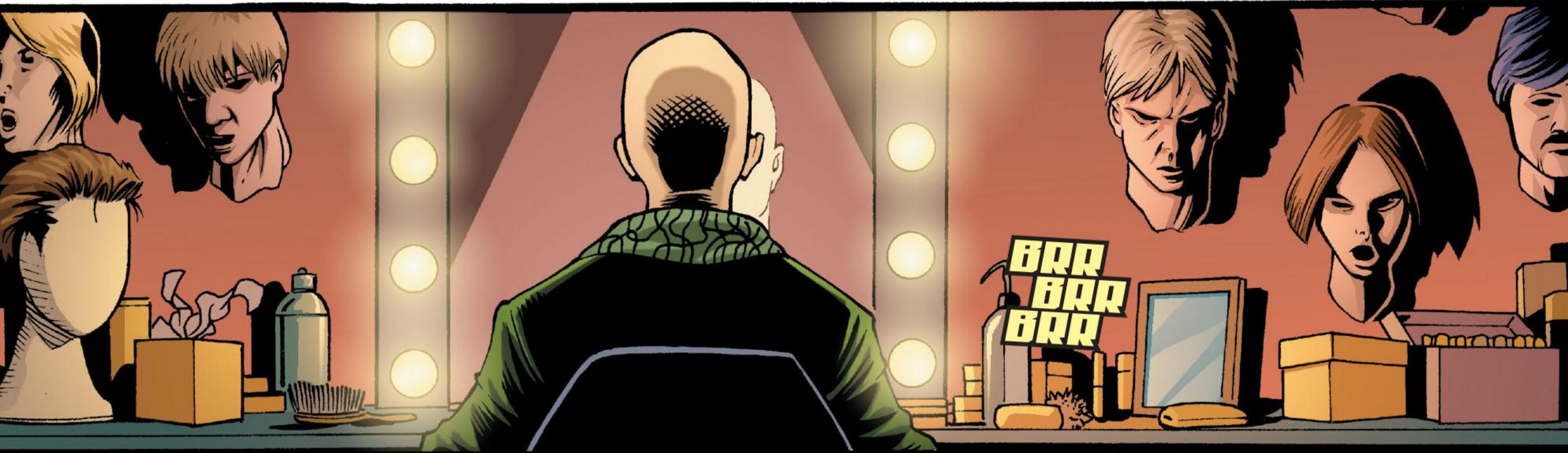
SO MANY
FACES.

AND I'VE
BEEN THEM
ALL.

GAAA-

FSSSSSSSSSS







RED-HEADED STRANGER: **TENTH OF SEPTEMBER**

FRED
VAN LENTE
WRITER

BARRY
KITSON
PENCILER

RICK KETCHAM
& BARRY KITSON
INKERS

JEREMY
COX
COLORIST

VC'S JOE
CARAMAGNA
LETTERER

TOM
BRENNAN
ASST. EDITOR

STEPHEN
WACKER
EDITOR

TOM
BREVOORT
EXEC. EDITOR

JOE
QUESADA
EDITOR IN CHIEF

DAN
BUCKLEY
PUBLISHER

ALAN
FINE
EXEC. PRODUCER

GALE, GUGGENHEIM, KELLY, SLOTT, VAN LENTE, WAID & WELLS WEB-HEADS

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL

Greetings, comic readers!

Stephen G. Wacker is in San Diego as of this writing, so I, the man humbly known as Brennan, am tackling your questions and queries this week. I know, it's a big moment for you all. I'm writing this up on a lovely, rainy evening in New York City, so to all you suckers in the palm tree and beach ridden wasteland of San Diego, I say: "HA!" I'm ruining an evening for my lovely ladyfriend Ms. Jennifer Treuting by attending to your questions, so please apologize to her in next week's letters. Say hi to the general comic populous, Jen!

Howdy! As we say at my part-time gig at the Prospect Park Zoo, two-finger touch at all times!

Well, I don't know what that means.

Cuz you never come to the zoo.

What is this, open mic night? Anyway, you all had such lovely, thoughtful and coherent things to say about ASM #600's 104 pages of brand new, never before seen material (take that, Hulk #600!), that I should just stop yammering and get to your letters.

I thought you said you wrote this letter column on Sunday and that's why you couldn't come see me teach at the zoo.

That sounds like something I'd say, yes. On to the mailbag!

Dear Web-heads,

Congrats on Issue 600. I have a lifelong love of Spider-Man. I have an entire room in my house devoted to Spider-Man. It helps to have an understanding wife. I must say that issue 600 was one of the best single issues ever published. Action, romance, bad Parker luck, and a great villain. I couldn't ask for more. Aunt May sure has come a long way from being an old lady in distress, to being a strong leading lady in Peter's life. The new take on Doc Ock is great. Someone who is trying to make up for his past sins, but failing in the end. I can't help to feel sorry for him, and I can't wait to see him again. Here's to the next 600 issues.

Sincerely,
Hariel O'Neal



Dear Spider-Office,

I've been a huge Spider-Man fan since I found a reprint of an old Cobra & Mr. Hyde team-up in a drug store and got hooked. I was 9. I've been reading Amazing ever since. Amazing Spider-Man #600 was everything I love about the character, its history and its future rolled into one giant page-turner. Here's to 600 more great installments!

Ryan Pike
Calgary, Alberta, Canada



Hey there!

Not sure if this is the right medium for spider-mail but I'll give it a try. Cracked open ASM #600 and I gotta say I loved it! First off, a tip of the hat to Mark Waid. "My Brother's Son" knew how to tug at the heart strings, good job Waid! Loved the art throughout the book (and those covers never meant to see the light of day? HILARIOUS!) and Slott powered through all those pages with

an amazing wit that's classic Spidey. "Last Legs" was genius. Maybe it's just me. Anyway, a more important question: Why hasn't Parker been on a real date since the start of BND? Seriously, if readers had to survive the imagery of the pruny two-backed beast, we should be rewarded with SOMETHING. It's not like there's a shortage of characters, between Norah, Carlie and even Michele Gonzales, I'm sure Petey can at least get a short dinner comically interrupted by Shocker. Look forward to answers. Thanks either way. Oh and "Fight at the Museum" made me laugh for a good ten minutes straight. "it's nice to see some good parenting" ha!

Mikie Acevedo
Chicago, IL

"Pruny two-backed beast" – oh, you've made my night, Mikie. As far as dates go, don't you worry. Pete's romantic life is going into overdrive, as you saw last month, while an old flame is just around the corner.



Dear Spidey Guys,

I gotta say, the lettering in this book for the past few months has been top-notch! It's much better than the lettering in *Daredevil* and *Thor* (though not quite as good as the lettering in *Uncanny X-Men* and *Captain America*).

Please give kudos to the letterer (Joe-something, is it?), and tell him that based on his great writing work on the "Iron Man & The Armor Wars" limited series (on sale NOW!) I look forward to the day he joins the Spidey Braintrust!

Regards,
Moe Maramagna
not from New Jersey

Thanks for the kind words, Moe. Our letterer is actually a composite name for seven robotic drones who tackle the work, so he can't particularly appreciate your thoughts as he has no soul. The Caramagna 3000 was designed in the late 90s as part of a Department of Defense initiative to feed information to our undercover agents overseas through appropriately placed letters on scattered correspondence. This was discontinued during the change of Presidential administration in 2000-2001, and we bought him surplus on the cheap. We nicknamed him "Joe" around the office to make him feel a bit more human. Also, "Iron Man & The Armor Wars" is a can't miss! Pick it up!



Dear Spider-Men,

I am appalled that you would call this the last letter column in an issue of ASM whose issue number begins with a 5. Let me tell you, sir, that I have faith that this series will one day make it to a starting digit of 5 again. Apparently you don't have the faith that I do in our beloved wall-crawler. Clearly you won't be around due to your lack of faith, but I'll write back to congratulate the team in charge of issue #5000 in about 122 years (assuming you continue to publish 3 per month).

--Steve Clinton

Thanks Steve (and Go Tigers!). Hmm... Spidey #5000, eh? Well if we went by your schedule, it would go on sale in 2131...what kind of stories would we tell? I can see it now... Spider-Man goes toe-to-toe with Twit-Tor, the AI sentient being born out of all the Tweets of the early 21st Century! As they fight high above the Wacker Memorial Rest Stop in Passaic, NJ,



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TOM BREVOORT EXECUTIVE EDITOR JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF

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will Spidey stop Twit-Tor from killing Senator Brennan? And what does the BrevBot 2000 have to do with it?! Edited by Ralph Macchio.

Didnt your Senator Brennan pitch get shot down twice?

::sigh:: One last letter and we'll call it a night, from stalwart fan Clint Brady. Take us home, Clint!

Hi Steve,

I just wanted to drop you a short note to say thanks for Spidey #600. I've been around since Amazing #25, back in 1965, and still enjoy reading the comic. I very seldom write to you guys (the last time was to clear up a little history on the Ultimate Nullifier, or some such gadget, in an issue of Marvel Team Up), however issue 600 prompted this note. I really don't care what events take place in the book, just as long as you guys entertain me; you did – for the 575th time I might add!

Speaking of history, please tell me you know Buddy Saunders, from the Amazing Spider-Man issue 3, letters page. If not Google "the Texas Trio", or ask Tom B. before every comic fan in Texas drops you a nasty note! Also, when addressing Ms Steinberg, remember she will always be "Fabulous Flo" to us old geezers.

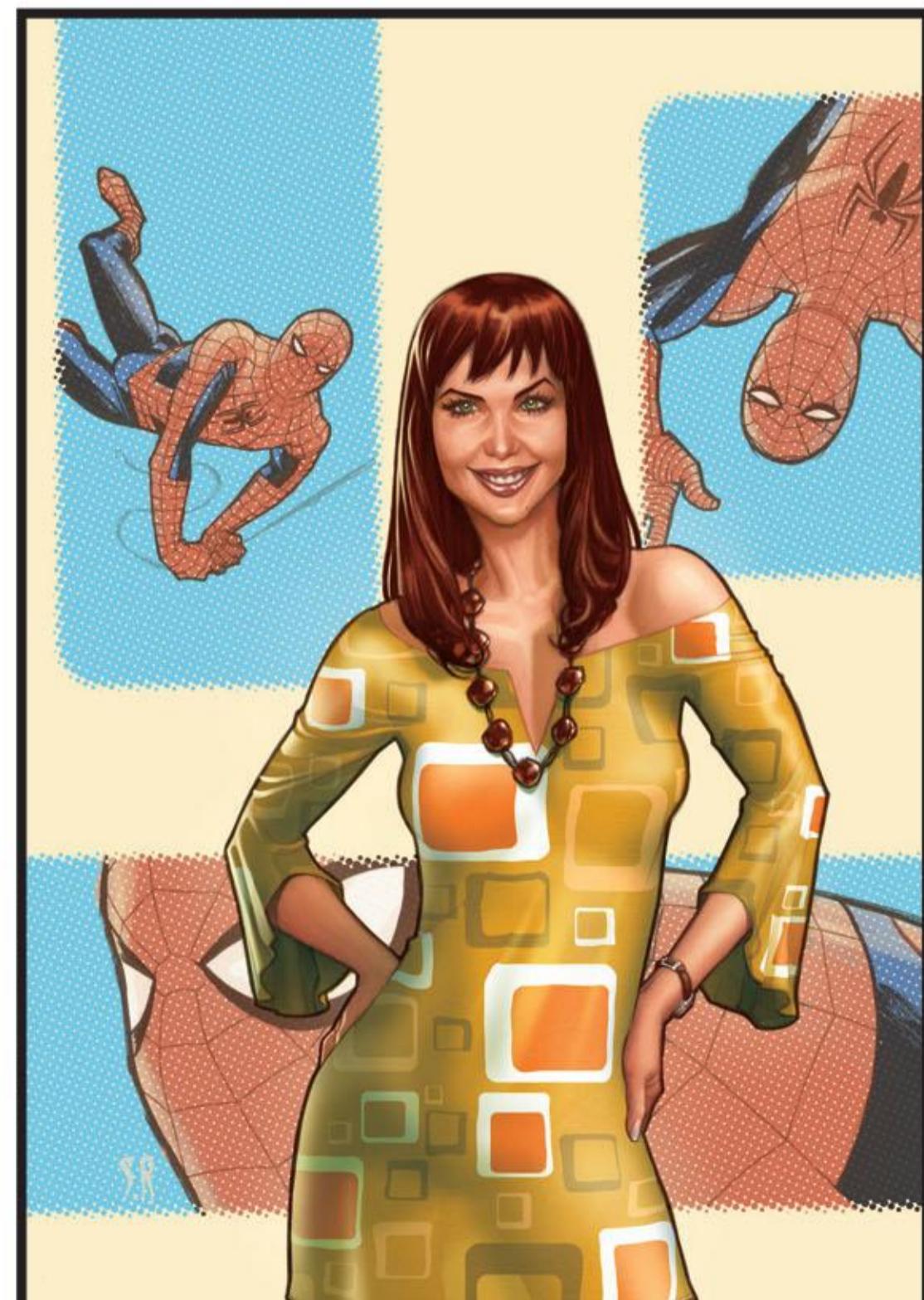
See you around issue #1200.

Best,
Clint Brady

Thank you so much for your support over the years, Clint! It was an honor to do the issue and we'd have never gotten that far without the support of the creators and fans that made him the hero we love today. Really, we should thank you, Clint. You're part of the reason we had a chance to work on #600, and it was an honor to do it. Thanks for reading, guys. Wacker's back next week, so until the next time I'm allowed out from under my desk, I'll see y'all at the back issue bins.

--Temerarious Tom

NEXT WEEK:



RED-HEADED DANGER!