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Stan Lee presents the stunning **SPIDER-GIRL!**

# SWINGIN' N' SLAMMIN' WITH **SPEEDBALL!**

NO ONE EVER SAID BEING A FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD WEB-SWINGER WOULD BE EASY.

NOR WAS THERE MENTION OF THE BUMPS, BRUISES AND BLACK EYES THAT ARE THE NATURAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE HERO TRADE.

YOUR NAME IS MAY "Mayday" PARKER.

YOU ARE THE DAUGHTER OF THE ORIGINAL SPIDER-MAN--

--AND YOU REAAAAAALLY HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO HIDE YOUR INJURIES FROM YOUR PARENTS!

TOM DEFALCO • PAT OLLIFFE • AL WILLIAMSON • JANICE CHIANG • CHRISTIE SCHEELE • BOB HARRAS  
WRITER • PENCILER • INKER • LETTERER • COLORIST • EDITOR IN CHIEF

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UH-OH! TOO LATE!

MORNING, HOTSHOT! I KNOW IT'S ONLY SATURDAY, BUT YOUR FATHER'S DOWNSTAIRS, STIRRING UP A BATCH OF HIS SPECIAL PANCAKE BATTER.

-- THEY DON'T KNOW THAT YOU'VE BEEN SECRETLY SLIPPING OUT AT NIGHT TO DO YOUR WEB THING.

WILL YOU BE JOINING US FOR --

Oh, god!



THOUGH YOUR PARENTS ARE AWARE OF THE FACT THAT YOU INHERITED YOUR DAD'S AMAZING SPIDER-LIKE POWERS --



AT LEAST THEY DIDN'T KNOW.

YOU EXPECT AN ANGRY STREAM OF I-told-you-sos.

A SELF-RIGHTEOUS CONDEMNATION FOR GOING BEHIND THEIR BACKS!

INSTEAD, YOU GET A TERRIBLE SILENCE --

-- AND A FACE FULL OF FEAR.



LISTEN, MOM.

IT'S REALLY NOT AS BAD AS IT LOOKS.

Z... I'LL TELL YOUR FATHER THAT YOU'RE SLEEPING IN.

Y-YOU'D BETTER STAY UP HERE UNTIL I CAN GET HIM OUT OF THE HOUSE.



Yeah.

Okay.

WITH ONLY YOUR GUILT FOR COMPANY, YOU SPEND THE NEXT FORTY-FIVE MINUTES TRYING TO DISGUISE YOUR EYE BEneath A TON OF MAKE-UP, AND THEN...

WHERE'D DAD GO?

THE STATION HOUSE.

THE WHOLE DEPARTMENT'S BEEN CALLED IN TO WORK ON A BIG CASE.

MOM... WE HAVE TO TALK.

NO.  
NOT NOW.

I'm not ready.

BUT I'M OKAY... REALLY!

THIS TIME!  
I KNOW WHAT'S COMING, MAY.

I'VE ALREADY LIVED THROUGH IT WITH YOUR FATHER.

I... I'VE TRIED TO PREPARE MYSELF.

S-BUT I'M JUST NOT READY.

SCREAMING WOULD BE EASIER TO HANDLE!

MUCH, MUCH EASIER!

YOUR FATHER RETIRED FROM  
THE WEB BIZ AFTER HE LOST  
HIS LEG.

HE NOW  
WORKS IN  
THE POLICE  
LAB.



THE VERY SAME KAIN WHO COMPLETELY OVERWHELMED YOU LAST NIGHT.



YOU ARE SO LUCKY TO BE ALIVE! THE GUY COULD HAVE KILLED YOU, AND--



H-HE'S GOT MY PURSE!

SHUT UP,  
YOU OLD BAG!

FOR A MOMENT,  
YOU STAND FROZEN--!

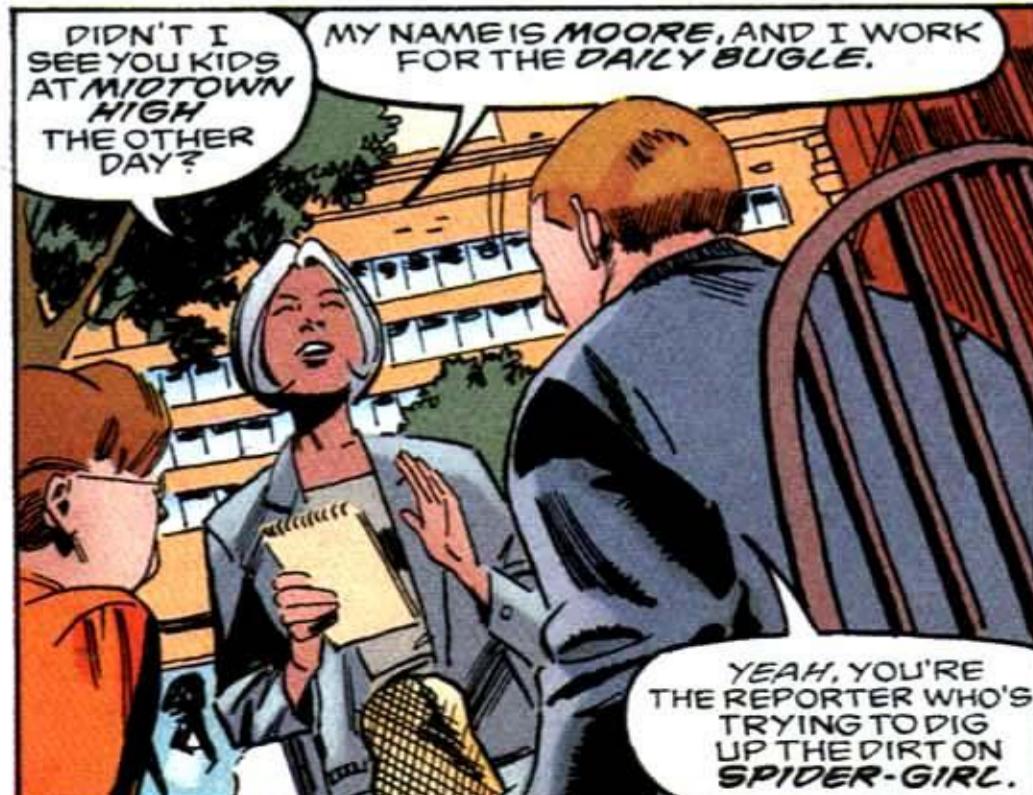
SHOULD YOU CHANGE INTO SPIDER-GIRL?



IS THIS THE ONLY TYPE OF CRIME YOU'RE CAPABLE OF STOPPING?

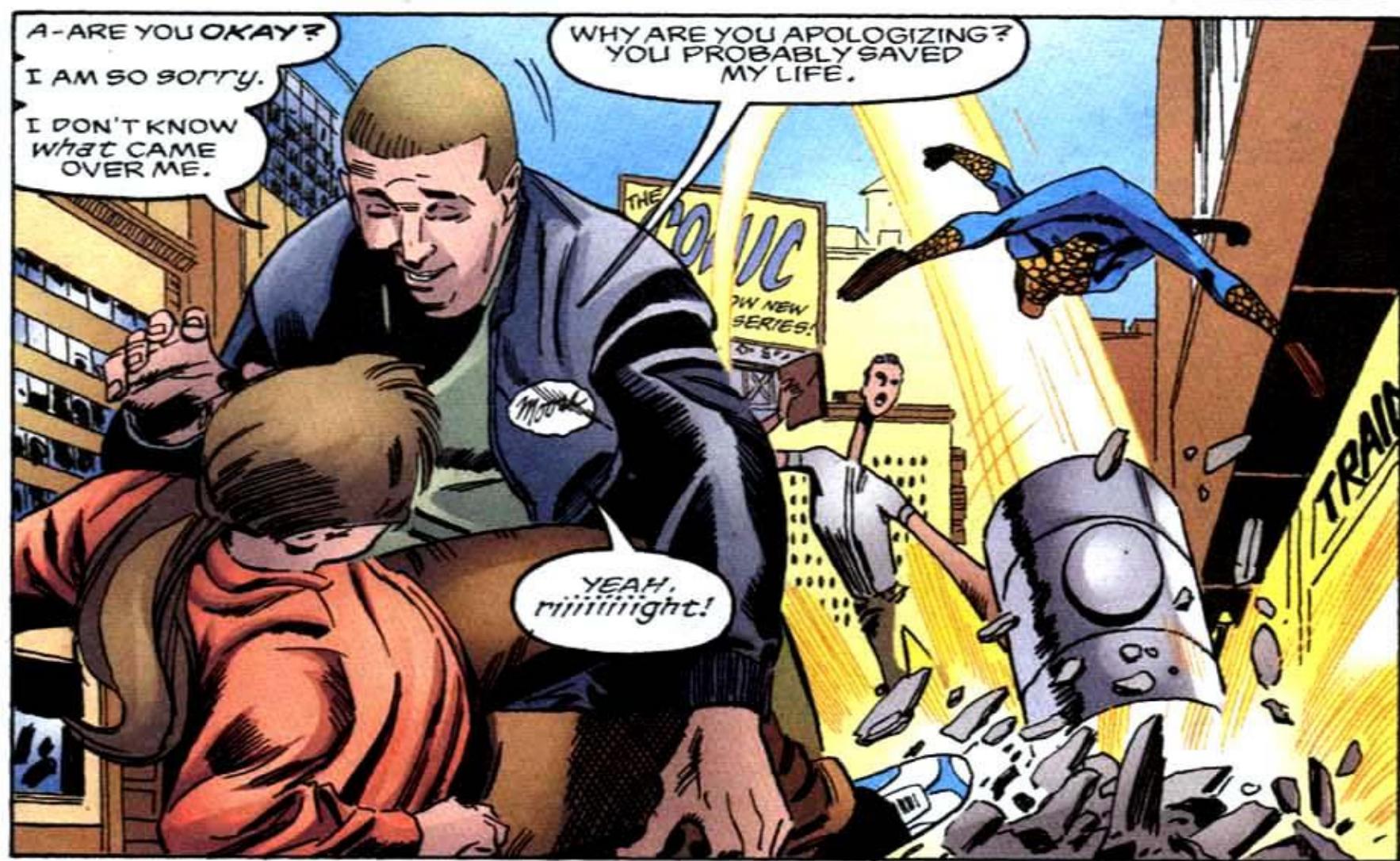
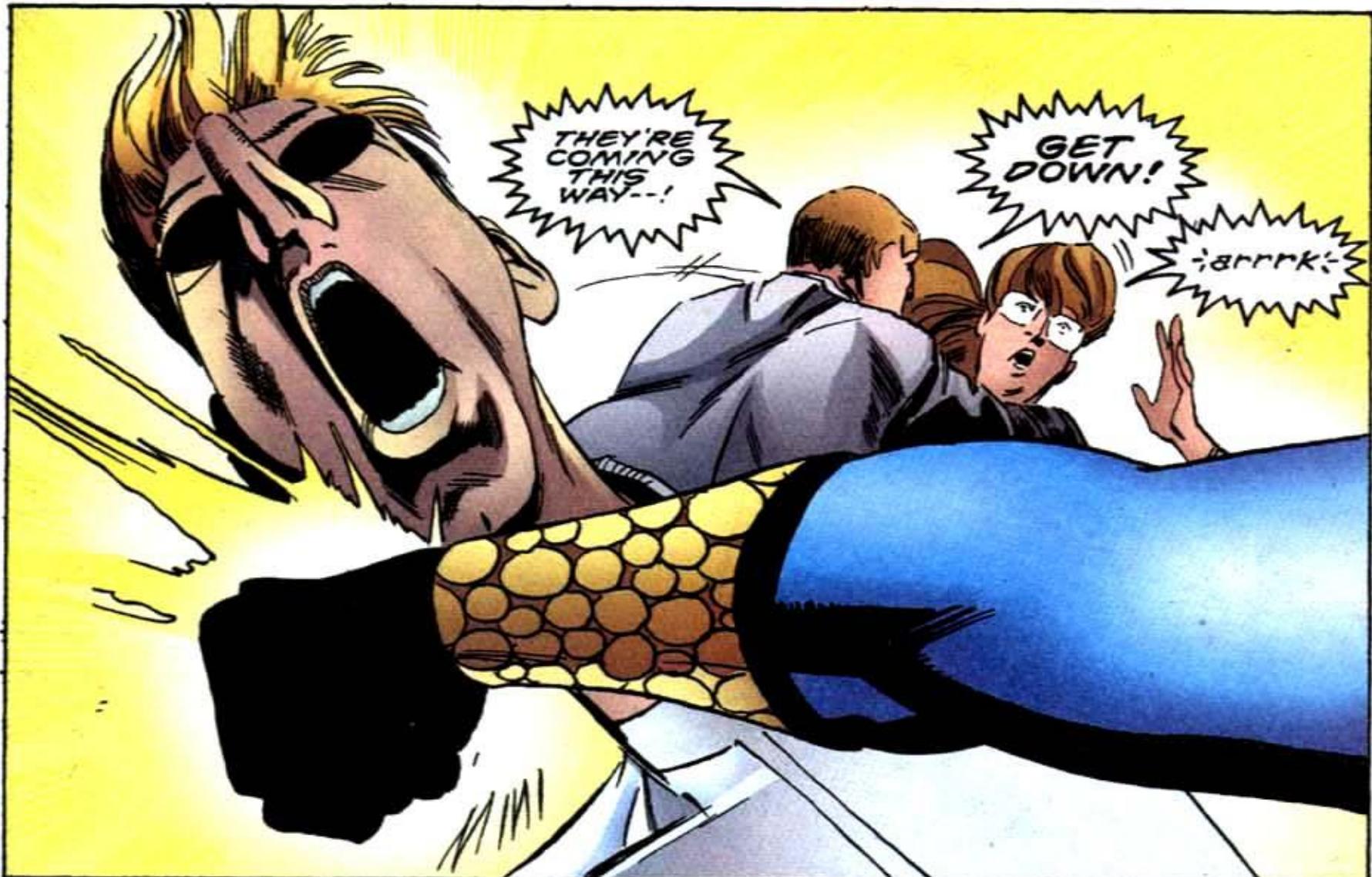












WHAT ARE YOU  
WAITING FOR?

GO, GIRL!  
GO!

Uhhhhh...

okay!

ANYBODY HEAR  
WHAT THE FIGHT'S  
ABOUT--?

Nyah! Nyah! MISSED AGAIN!

DO US BOTH A FAVOR,  
ABNORMAL--AND  
SURRENDER BEFORE  
SOMEONE GETS HURT!

FORGET IT, HERO!  
I'M HAVING  
A BLAST!

NOTHING  
STIMULATES  
THE HEART LIKE  
A GOOD, OLD-  
FASHIONED,  
GRATUITOUS  
FIGHT SCENE.

I'LL JUST STASH  
MY NEW COMICS  
IN A SAFE PLACE SO  
THAT WE CAN HAVE  
SOME REAL FUN!

BY THE WAY, I'M  
TRYING TO ESTABLISH  
A REGISTERED  
TRADEMARK.

IF YOU PROMISE TO CALL  
ME **MISTER ABNORMAL**,  
I'LL STOP REFERRING TO YOU AS  
**THE BOUNCING BOZO**.

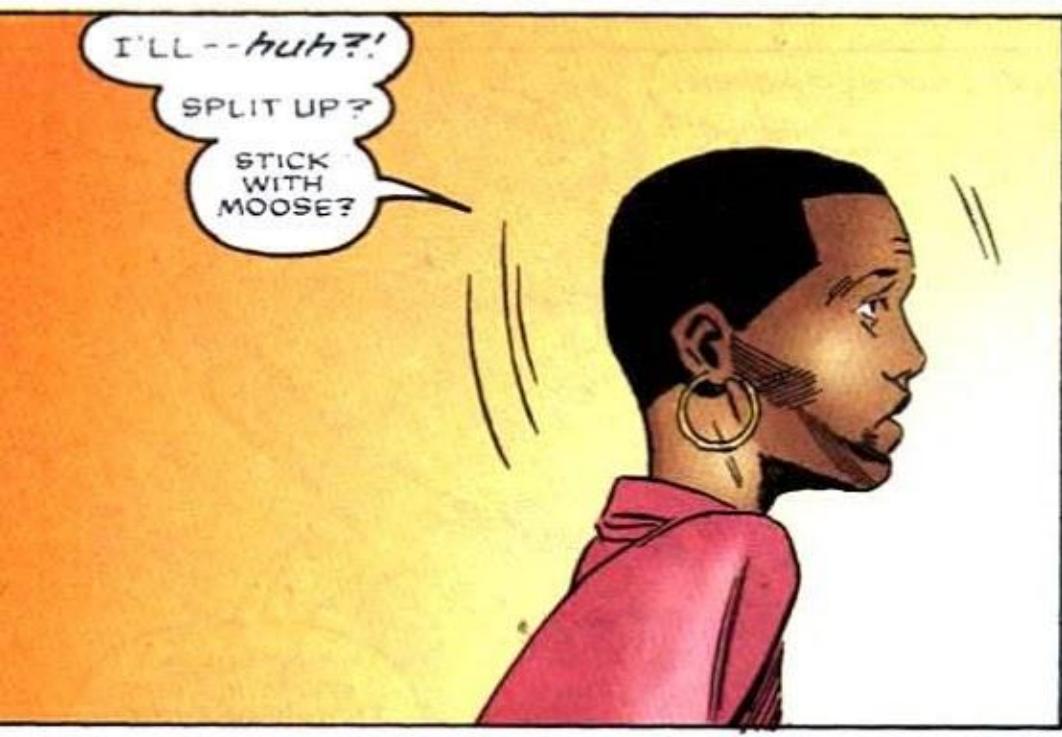
I'VE NEVER HEARD OF  
**MR. ABNORMAL**  
BEFORE, BUT HE MUST  
BE A MAJOR CREEP IF  
A WELL-RESPECTED  
SUPER-GUY LIKE  
**SPEEDBALL** IS  
AFTER HIM.

WE'D BETTER SPLIT UP,  
DAVIDA, YOU STICK  
WITH MOOSE--

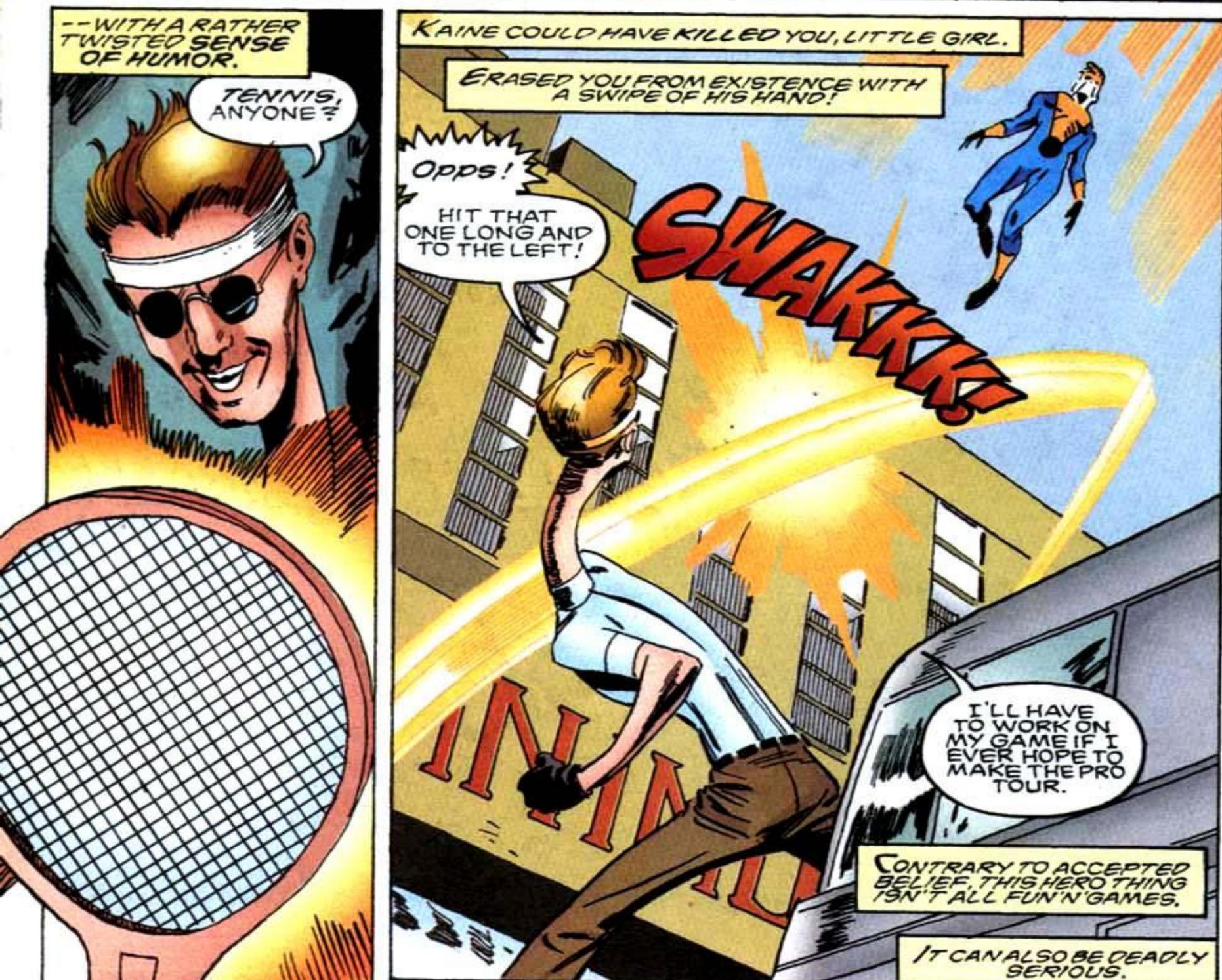
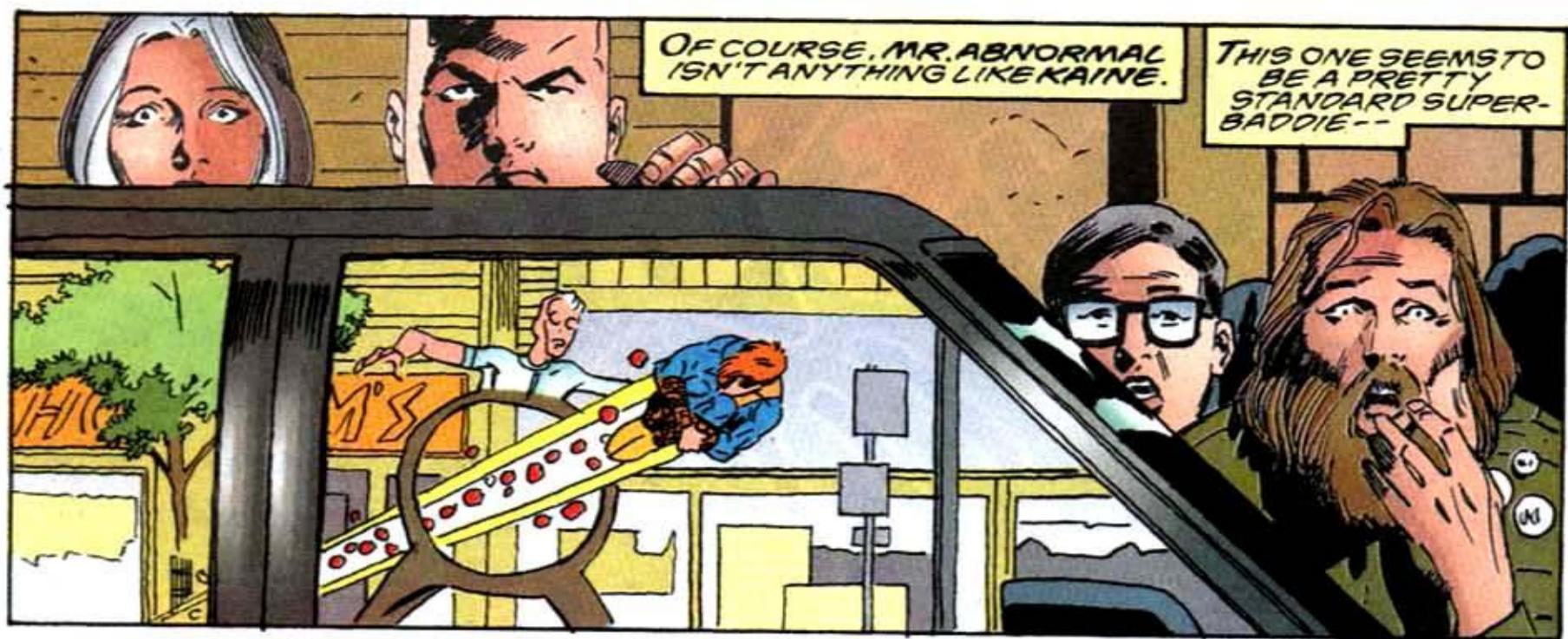
--AND I'LL TRY TO  
LINK UP WITH  
COURTNEY!

I HEAR YOU,  
GIRLFRIEND.

THE  
**TOMM**



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--HERE COMES SPIDER-GIRL!

BRAKK!

TO THE PUBLIC, THE WHOLE HERO/VILLAIN DYNAMIC IS KIND OF LIKE A WELL-CHOREOGRAPHED DANCE.

INSTEAD OF PIROUETTES AND DOUBLE SHUFFLES, YOU EMPLOY QUIPS AND PUNS.

IN LIEU OF RHYTHMS AND THEMES, STRENGTH AND POWER.

LIKE THE DANCER,  
YOU ALSO PLAY TO  
THE CROWD--

--HOPING FOR  
PRAISE AND  
APPROVAL--

--CONTENT WITH  
POLITE APPLAUSE--

--BUT OFTEN  
FORCED TO  
SETTLE FOR  
CRITICISM AND  
DERISION!

Hoo-boy! SOMEONE'S  
BECOME A REAL DRAMA  
QUEEN IN HER OLD AGE.

I DON'T KNOW WHERE  
YOU SUDDENLY  
POPPED UP FROM,  
LITTLE GIRL--

--BUT I'LL  
TEACH YOU  
TO INTERFERE IN  
A PRIVATE  
FIGHT!

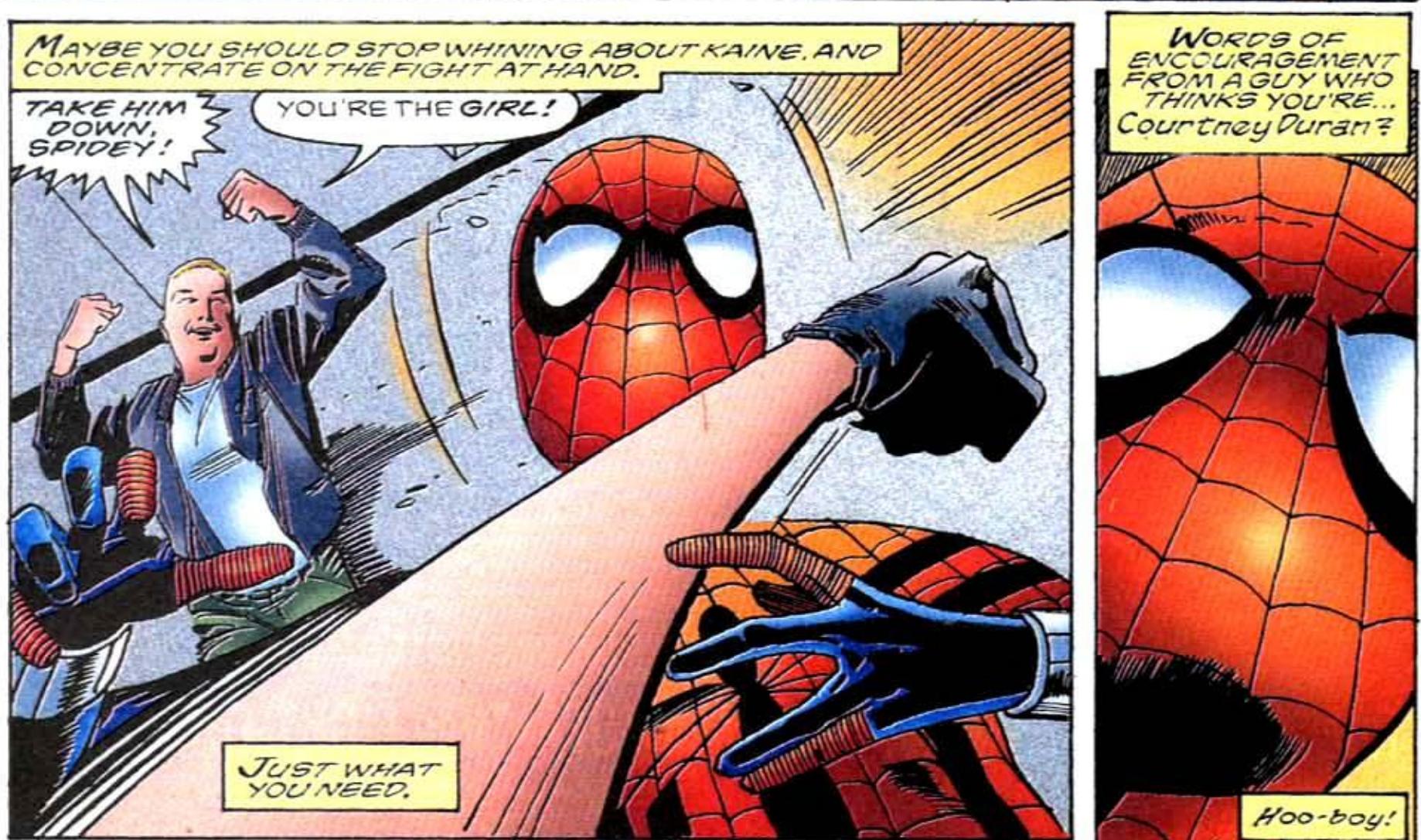
OR NOT!

NO  
FAIR!  
I JUST DEFEATED  
SOMEONE WHO  
SPECIALIZES IN  
DODGING AND  
BOUNCING OUT  
OF THE WAY.

IF YOU  
WANT TO HOLD  
MY ATTENTION,  
I EXPECT YOU  
TO BRING  
SOMETHING  
NEW TO  
THE TABLE.

TIME TO GET  
A GRIP, GIRL!

INSTEAD OF RHAPSODIZING  
PHILOSOPHIC, YOU SHOULD BE  
TOSSING PUNCHES--



HEY, ABBY! I HATE TO COME OFF SOUNDING LIKE A MEMBER OF THE MORAL MINORITY, BUT THE LADY'S YOUNG ENOUGH TO BE YOUR DAUGHTER.

YOU'D BETTER RELEASE HER BEFORE YOU'RE ACCUSED OF PULLING A CLINTON!

KER-

SPLANGG!

I'M SURE YOU COULD HAVE GOT TEN FREE ON YOUR OWN, SPIDER-GIRL --

-- BUT I'VE ALWAYS BEEN A SUCKER FOR A DRAMATIC ENTRANCE!

HEY! I'M NOT COMPLAINING!

We!!!!... I AM!

TOUGH!

TALK ABOUT *déjà vu*!  
I USED TO HANG WITH THE ORIGINAL SPIDEY.

ANY RELATION?

WHY DOES EVERYONE ASK THAT QUESTION?

PROBABLY HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH YOUR COSTUME... POWERS... AND ATTITUDE!

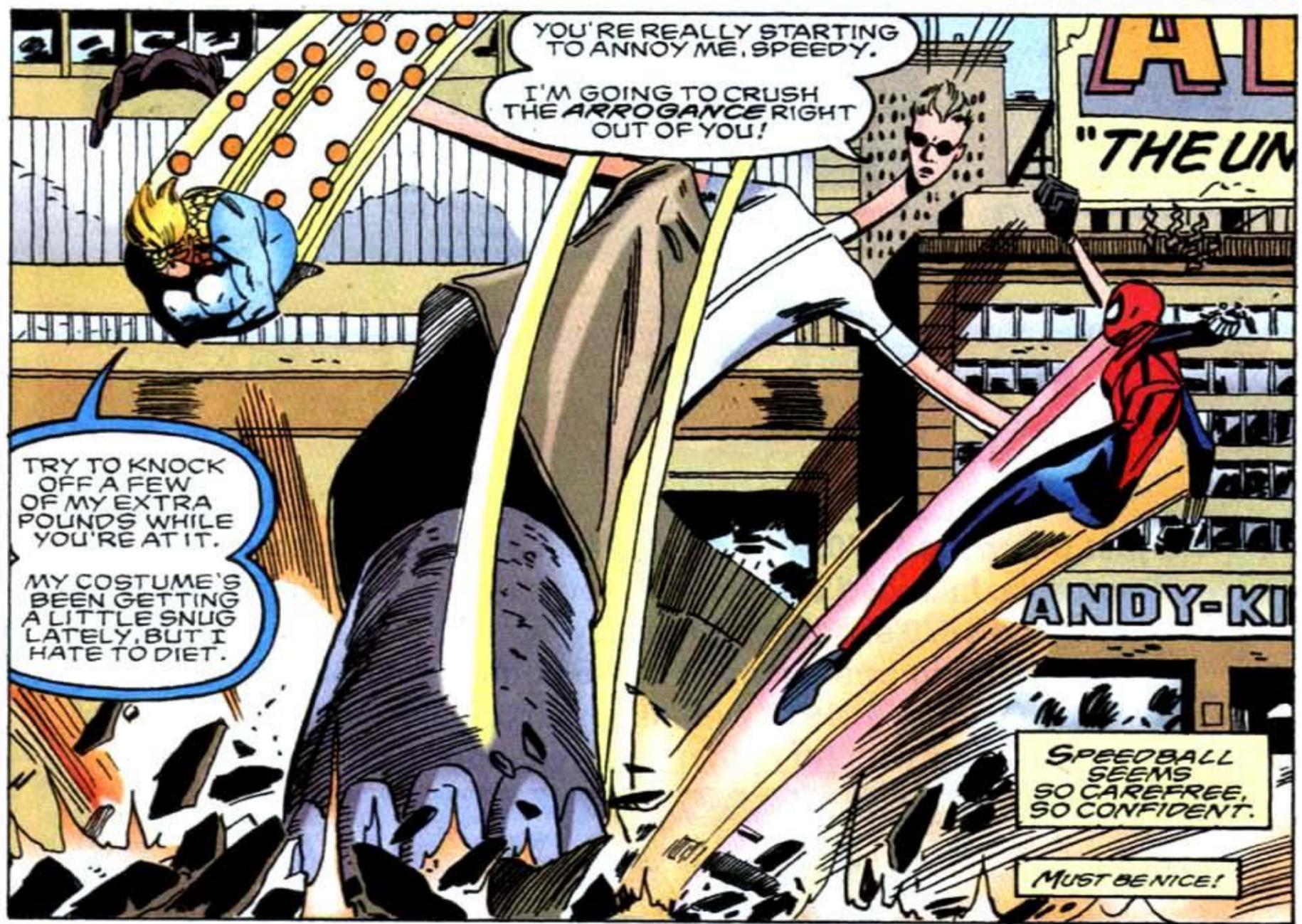
HOW'S ABOUT  
WE JUST FOCUS ON  
MR. ABNORMAL?

WHO IS HE?

HOW'D HE  
EVER MANAGE  
TO RIP OFF  
MR. FANTASTIC'S  
OLD STRETCHY  
POWERS?

A FEW WEEKS AGO HE SNEAKED  
INTO A TOY FACTORY, DETERMINED  
TO SNATCH SOME SPECIAL, LIMITED  
EDITION ACTION FIGURES.

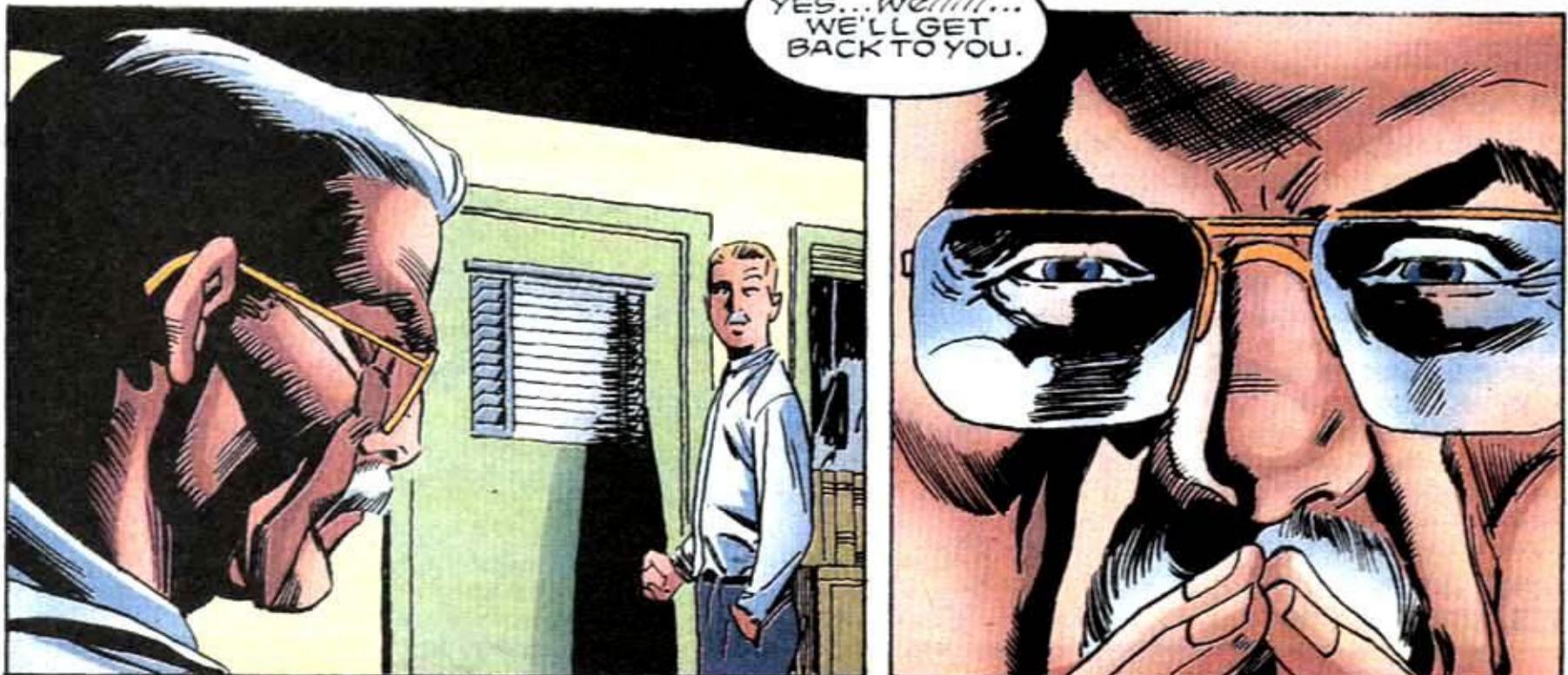
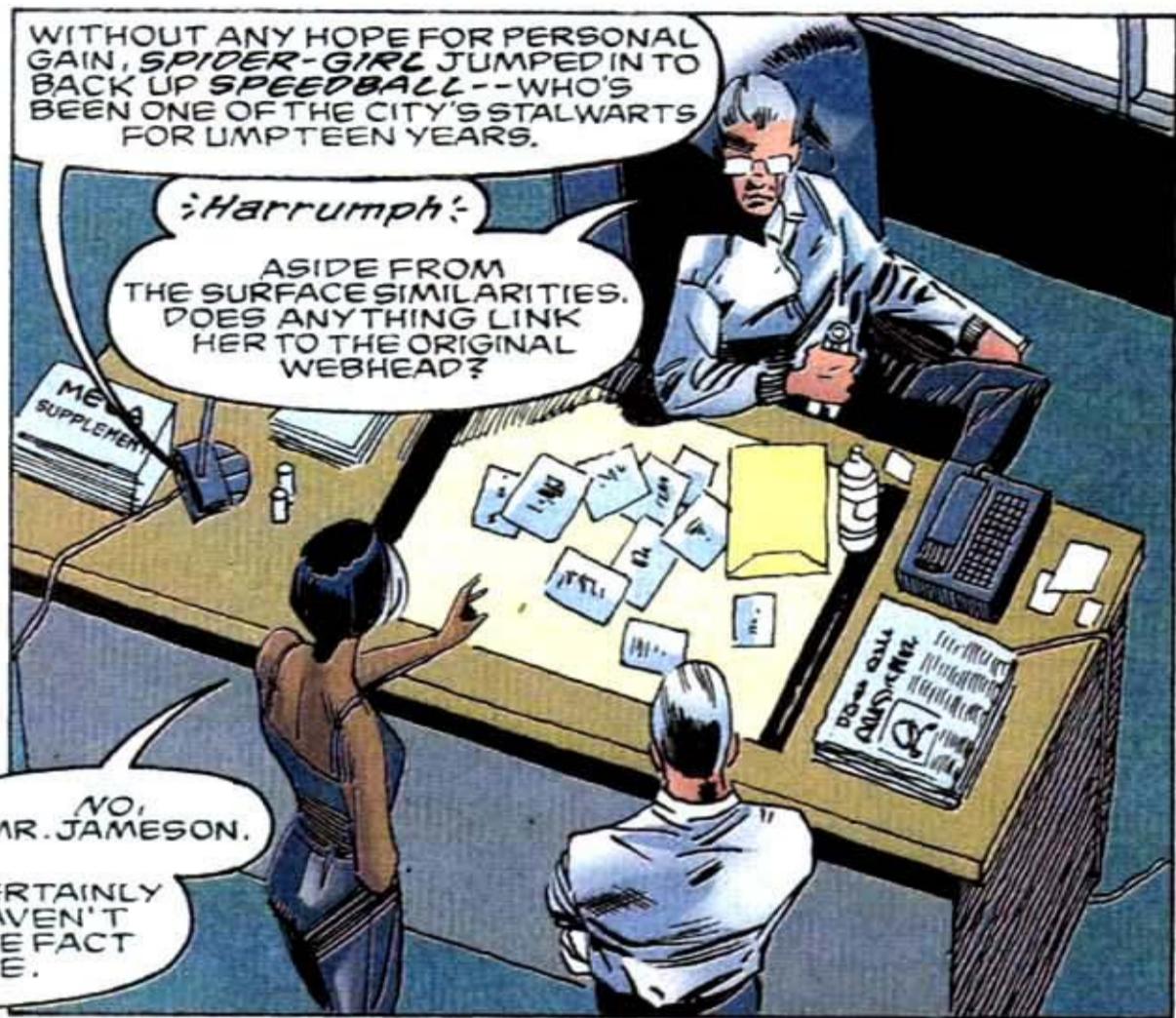
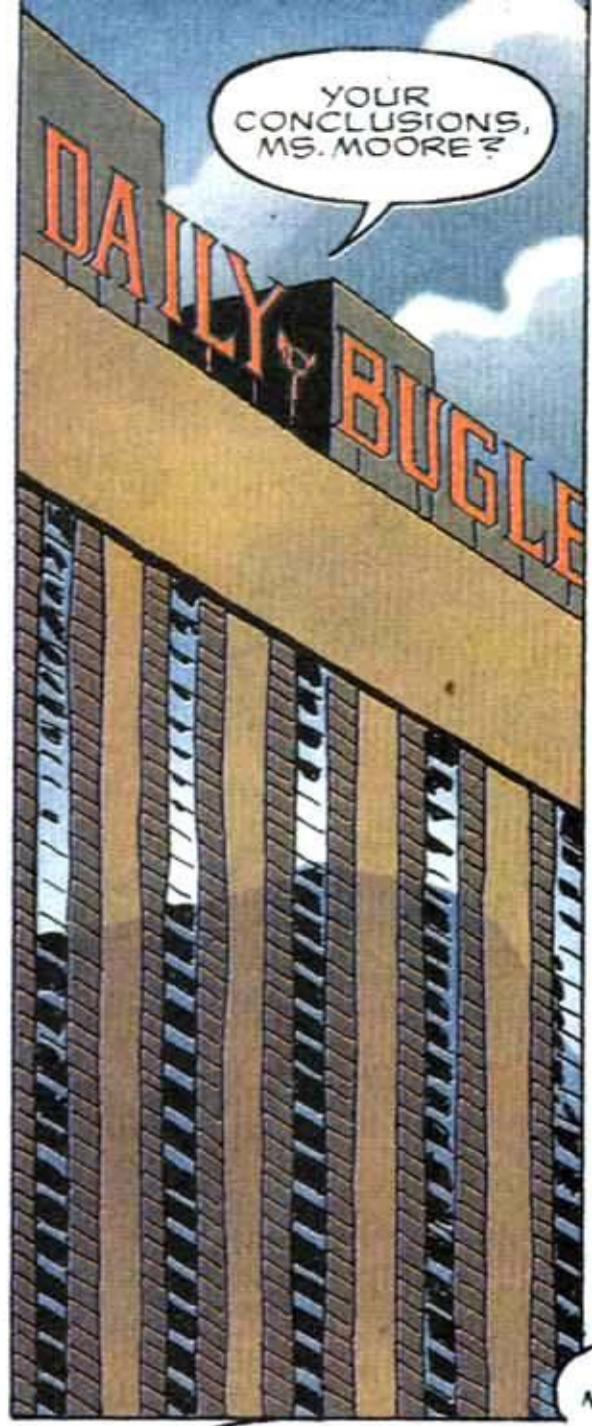


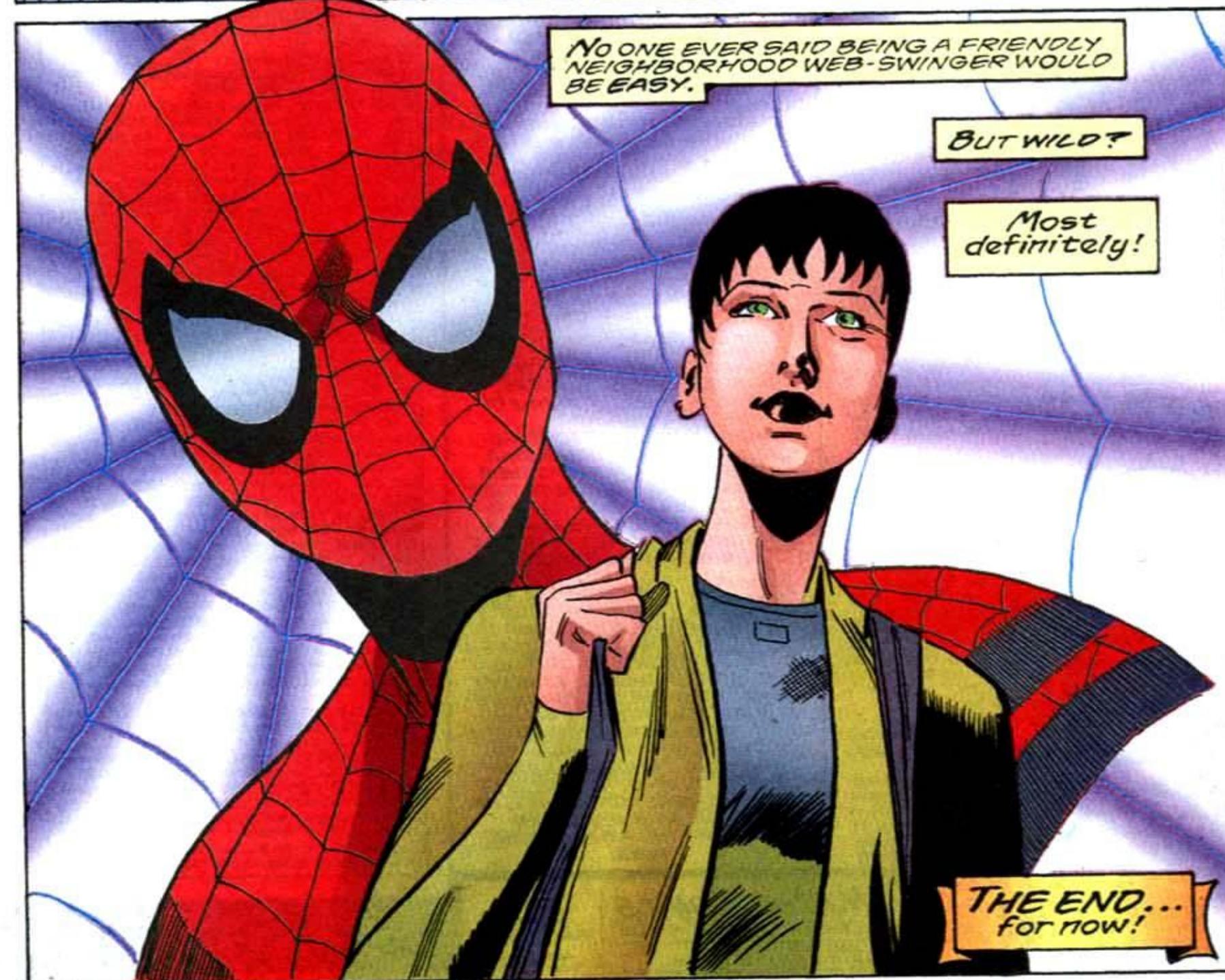




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# BULLPEN BULLETINS

AVAILABLE OCTOBER 20TH

## BISHOP: THE LAST X-MAN

The outlaw camp of refugees has been laid waste by the Chronomancer's army of time-warping automatons. Because Bishop didn't act, the blood of children has been spilled. But now the Last X-Man is going after his hated enemy — and he's not going alone! By JOSEPH HARRIS and GEORGES JEATTY!

#3

## CAPTAIN AMERICA

The evil organization known as Hydra is about to detonate a bomb that will obliterate half of New York City! And to stop the explosion, Captain America will have to go through both the Absorbing Man and his old enemy Crossbones! By TOM DEFALCO and RON FRENZ!

#24

## DAREDEVIL

Introducing ECHO, a new villain so strange you'll swear you're hearing her name over and over and over and...! Meanwhile Cupid slaps MATT MURDOCK upside the head as a new romantic interest enters his still shattered life. By DAVID MACK and JOE QUESADA!

#10

## FANTASTIC FIVE

Determined to solve the mysterious disappearance of Mr. Fantastic and the Invisible Woman, the wingless Wizard sends his Warriors to kidnap Franklin Richards! Unfortunately for the bad guys, the Richards' boy has a date with a certain web-spinning stunner! By TOM DEFALCO and PAUL RYAN!

#3

## GALACTUS THE DEVOURER

Earth's heroes witness the rebirth of one of the Devourer's former heralds... the Silver Surfer?! And things go from bad to worse as the Surfer leads the hungry Galactus straight for the homeworld inhabited by his former love, Mantis! By LOUISE SIMONSON and JOHN BUSCEMA!

#4 of 6

## HULK

Framed by Tyrannus for the deaths of hundreds of innocents, the jade giant has become the most hated — and hunted — figure in the Marvel Universe! First it was the Avengers; then it was Wolverine — now Bruce Banner's attempts to clear his name lead to a confrontation with the Thing! By RON GARNEY!

#9

## PETER PARKER SPIDER-MAN

Senator Stewart Ward frames Spider-Man as a criminal and strikes a secret deal with the Sinister Six (with new teammate Venom) to hunt down — and kill — the web-slinger! And our beloved and bedeviled hero may be a sitting duck as the Mary Jane and stalker scenario reaches its unbearable finale! By HOWARD MACKIE and JOHN ROMITA JR.!

#12

## THUNDERBOLTS

The mystery behind the Thunderbolts' new headquarters is unveiled! The truth behind Jolt's recent behavior comes to light! And two much-requested characters return to the series! By KURT BUSIEK and MARK BAGLEY!

#33

## X-51

M-Tech's mechanical mainstay goes for a round of "Rock 'Em Sock 'Em Robots" when he collides with the premier artificial being in the Marvel Universe — the amazing AVENGER known as the VISION! By MIKE HIGGINS, KARL BOLLERS and JOE BENNETT

#5

## X-MAN

Threnody's back — but she ain't quite what she used to be! The deadly mutant wants something from X-Man, but is it his love — or his life?! By TERRY KAVANAGH and MIKE MILLER!

#58

## X-MEN

What is his connection to the force that has been stalking the X-Men for months — and what is his interest in Polaris? And while our heroes deal with this crisis, elements from "The Shattering" begin to form a very frightening pattern — one that has dire implications for a group of mutants known only as... The Twelve! By ALAN DAVIS!

#95

## X-MEN: CHILDREN OF THE ATOM

While Charles Xavier makes contact with the young students who will become the X-Men, and the man called Magneto consolidates his own deadly team, a new hate group attacks the minority that the scientific community calls mutants. Their methods? Terrorism, destruction and murder! By JOE CASEY and STEVE RUDE!

#2 of 6

## BULLPEN BITS #23



## STAN'S SOAPBOX

my word for it — after all this writing, I'm just too tired to sit down and have to start counting them all over again.

I'm now gonna prove something you'll find hard to believe. I'll show that I can answer a letter briefly. Let's use this one from Jeffrey M. Judd of Centerville, OH for example...

*"Many writers have further developed the characters you, Jack Kirby and the rest of the original Marvel Bullpen have created. One development that always intrigued me is the revelation that Quicksilver and the Scarlet Witch are Magneto's children. Did that relationship ever occur to you while you were writing the X-Men and the Avengers?"*

No, Jeff.

How's that? Brief. Succinct. Efficient. Right to the point. Typical of my own economical nature. And now, the pièce de résistance, the moment you've been breathlessly awaiting — our emotion-charged mailing address: Soapbox, Marvel, 387 Park Ave S, NY NY 10016, plus our award-winning e-mail call letters: [stanzfanz@aol.com](mailto:stanzfanz@aol.com). I'm heartbroken. I suddenly realize we've come to the end. I've no room left to write any more. Alas, we have to leave each other when there's so much left to say. Well, I'll seek solace in the fact that there's always next ish. So, till then, I wish you a most heartfelt—

EXCELSIOR!

Stan Lee

### This week's chat schedule!

10/21 @ 9:30pm ET  
EARTH'S MIGHTIEST CHAT with Writer, KURT BUSIEK and Editor, TOM BREVOORT!

10/25 @ 8pm ET  
SPIDER-MAN and THOR Penciler -- JOHN ROMITA, JR.!

AOL Keyword: Marvel

All Chat schedules subject to change/cancellation

Refer to Keyword: Marvel > Astral Plane > Chat Schedule for latest schedule.

# SPIDER-GIRL

Dear Spider-Girl,

Awesome is how I describe SPIDER-GIRL.

#12 Mayday is the real reason why MC-2 is hot. Don't get me wrong—A-

NEXT, J2, FANTASTIC FIVE and WILD THING are also hot, but Spider-Girl always amazes me with Pat Olliffe's casual artwork and Tom DeFalco's storytelling.

I was one of the few fans who enjoyed the Clone saga when it came out, but felt that I was robbed of the way the Spider-Man books chose to leave a lot of "loose ends" of the story under the rug. To this day, I feel that little May was born and kidnapped. When I heard that DeFalco bringing out Spider-Girl as Spider-Man's future daughter, I told myself that I had to check it out.

I thank you because it gave me another title to collect. It also made me realize that it would be a better idea for Peter and Mary Jane to have a baby than to relaunch the Spider-Man titles.

Mayday is maturing into a responsible young woman. The idea of having three mentors is cool. Now that Peter is finally helping her, I feel she should cut down on the help from Phil Ulrich so that she doesn't tire herself out and end up too exhausted to battle the villains.

Darkdevil is cool. What's his connection between Peter, Kaine, and Darkdevil?

Pedro Vega Jr  
Bridgeport, CT

Wait and see!

Dear Spider-Girl,

I just wanted to say you did a great job on SPIDER-GIRL #13. I would like Spider-Girl to be an Avenger and also still have her monthly solo adventures.

Steve Angelucci  
Deptford, NJ

And she'd like an occasional evening off!

Dear Spider-People,

I am and have been fascinated with the future of Marvel, that is, the children of the present day heroes and villains. One that has stood out among the rest is May Parker AKA Spider-Girl. I am interested in finding out how she develops.

Is May the first or second child of Peter and MJ? After reading through current events, I have come to no conclusion to explain her existence. What happened to the baby that was taken from MJ? The baby that MJ believes is dead? Does May have a sister still out there? Or is May the original baby? If she is the original, how did her parents get her back from her captors?

MC-2 is too interesting to be just a "what if". It should be the actual future for the next generation of heroes.

Keith Hagebusch  
Oak Harbor, WA

Should, but ain't!

Dear Spider-Girl,

Well, I finally shelled out the cash and purchased a back issue of

WHAT IF #105. I finally got them all. Thanks for a great series! I am really glad that you decided to make Spider-Girl a reserve member of the new Avengers. I bet their comic never would have been discontinued if she had become a member earlier. Here's hoping that you bring them back now that she's around!

Brent Sweeting

You could have saved money by picking up a copy of SPIDER-GIRL #0...if you could find one. It reprints the first Spider-Girl story that originally appeared in WHAT IF #105.

**PETE FRANCO**  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

**TOM DEFALCO**  
EDITOR

**BOB HARRAS**  
CHIEF

Dear Spider-Girl,  
I must say that I enjoy this book very much. It is my favorite MC-2 book.  
But I'm afraid I have a problem. In the hype for the SPIDER-GIRL ANNUAL, you said that Peter and MJ would die. You said that this is not a dream, fantasy, or hoax. And yet, it was a dream—caused by Misery's dream machine!

Can you say, "someone lied to the faithful readers"? This was a really wrong thing to do, because you lied to the people that trust you. I really don't appreciate that.

Please avoid that in the future.

Jack Howard

(Address withheld by request)

We're sorry if you feel betrayed, Jack, but we wish you'd take another look at the way we advertised the annual. While we did say, "Not a hoax! Not an imag-

inary story!" We didn't say it wasn't a dream. (If you want to get technical, it was actually a hallucination!) Heck, we even called the story a nightmare on the cover! But, from the way you—and a lot of other readers—reacted, it's real obvious that we crossed the line! Okay, we admit it—WE WERE WRONG! WE MESSED UP! And we'll NEVER pull that same stunt, again!

Dear Spider-Girl,

I just bought SPIDER-GIRL #13, and I really enjoyed it! I was especially glad to see A-Next appear in this book! I was a big fan of the A-NEXT comic and I was quite angry when it got canceled. I really liked seeing May's tryout for the Avengers.

I thought Franklin's reaction to the A-Next team was more than a little unkind and it may be that the Fantastic Five will regret underestimating their competition.

I hope that J2, American Dream, Stinger, Freebooter, Mainframe, and Bluestreak make more appearances...especially Stinger and American Dream.

Scott McLean  
Universal City, TX

Stinger will return in SPIDER-GIRL #16...for a most unusual one-on-one with our friendly neighborhood web-stunner.

## HYPE SECTION!

**ON SALE NEXT WEEK!**

FANTASTIC FIVE #3  
"SIDE BY SIDE WITH SPIDER-GIRL!"  
DETERMINED TO UNRAVEL THE MYSTERY SURROUNDING THE DISAPPEARANCE OF REED AND SUE RICHARDS, THE WINGLESS WIZARD SENDS HIS WIZARD'S WARRIOR TO KIDNAP FRANKLIN. UNFORTUNATELY FOR THE BAD GUYS, THE RICHARDS BOY HAS A DATE WITH A CERTAIN WEB-SPINNING STUNNER. AND SO, IT'S SPIDER-GIRL AND PSILORD AGAINST FREEFALL, BULLET, IMPACT AND BINDER! (BY THE WAY, THE SURGEON GENERAL HAS ASKED US TO WARN ANYONE WITH A HEART CONDITION TO AVOID OUR SHOCKING LAST-PAGER CLIFFHANGER! IT COULD BE HAZARDOUS TO YOUR COMIC BOOK COMPLACENCY!)

**WILD THING #4  
"THE RELAY!"**  
EVER WONDER HOW WOLVERINE SPENDS HIS SPARE TIME?  
CURIOS HOW FATHERHOOD HAS AFFECTED THE AGING MUTANT? WATCH AS RINA BONDS WITH HER FATHER IN THEIR OWN UNIQUE FASHION...WHEN THEY BATTLE A DEADLY ALIEN INVADER! PLUS J2 OPENS HIS HEART IN "THE ONE YOU LOVE!", FEATURING STINGER AND BLUESTREAK.

**ON SALE IN TWO WEEKS!**

**ON SALE NEXT MONTH!**

SPIDER-GIRL #16  
"THE QUESTION!"  
GIRLS JUST WANT TO HAVE FUN...BUT BEING A SUPER HERO CAN REALLY CUT INTO YOUR SOCIAL LIFE! AS MAY "MAYDAY" PARKER STARTS TO QUESTION HER COMMITMENT TO THE WEB-THING, SHE SUDDENLY FINDS HERSELF IN A VERY OFFBEAT BATTLE WITH SENSATIONAL STINGER! A GREAT JUMPING ON POINT, THIS NOT TO BE MISSED TURNING POINT ISSUE ALSO FEATURES THE MYSTERIOUS LADYHAWK AND THE MAN CALLED NOVA!

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- E. Free Distribution outside the mail: Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 1,116. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 0.
- F. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15D and 15E): Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 1,716. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 600.
- G. Total Distribution (Sum of 15C, 15F): Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 82,237. Actual no. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 58,412.
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