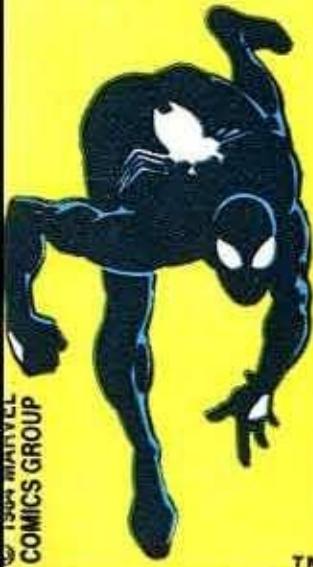


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the AMAZING **SPIDER-MAN** **ANNUAL**



THE SCORPION TAKES A BRIDE!

*BUT IT'S J. JONAH JAMESON'S!
SCRIPTED BY STAN (THE MAN) LEE!*

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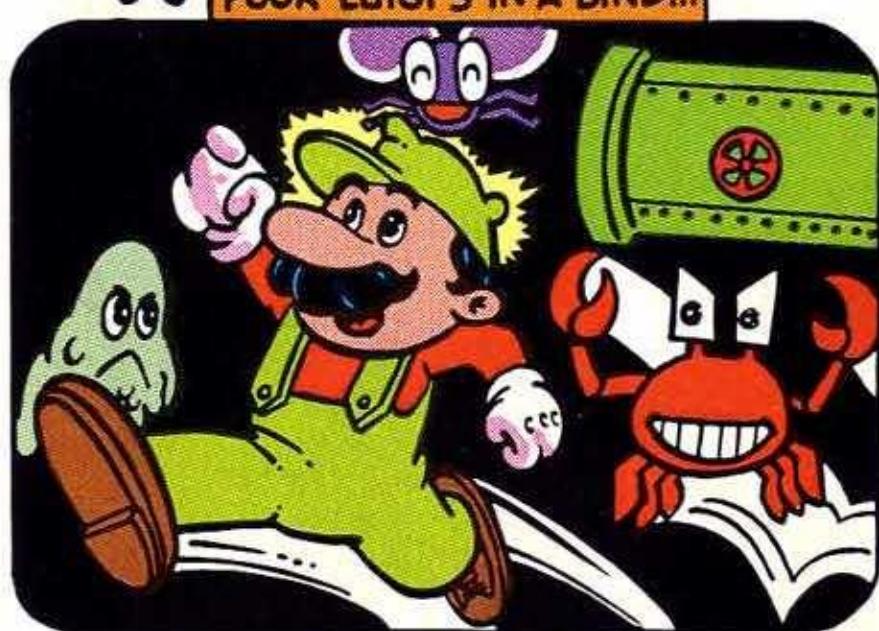
EXCITING 2
PLAYER ACTION!



SOMETHING'S GUMMING
UP THE PLUMBING...



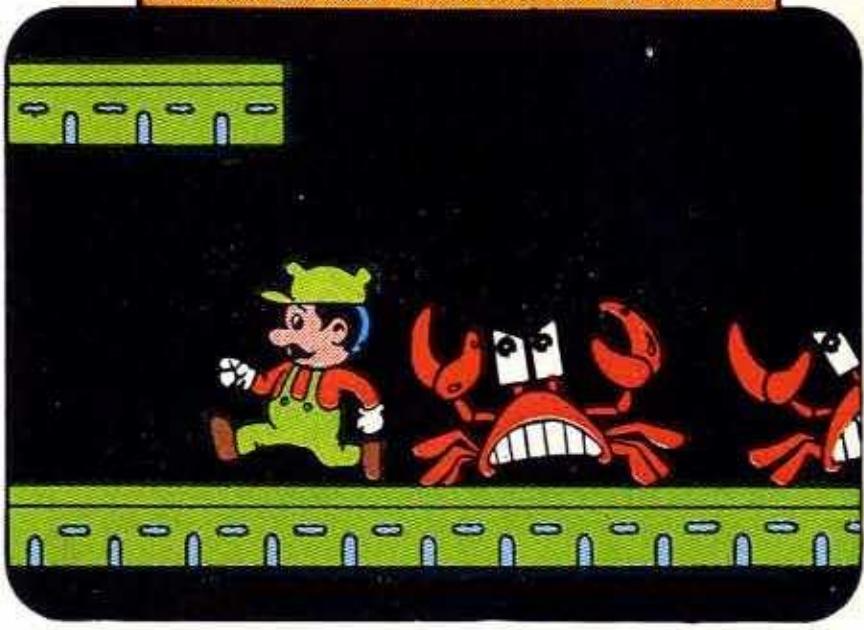
POOR LUIGI'S IN A BIND...



KILLER TURTLES OUT TO GET HIM...

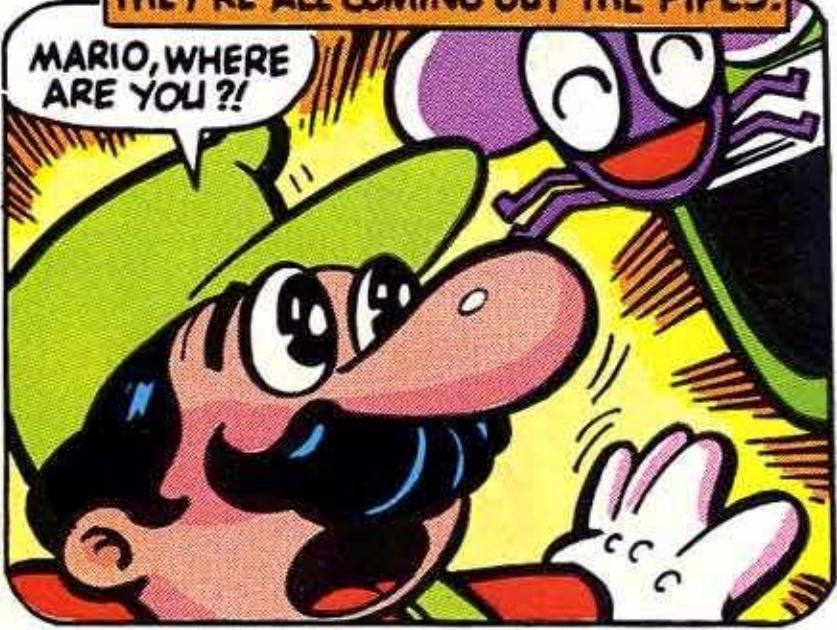


GIGANTIC CRABS ARE RIGHT BEHIND...



FIGHTER FLIES, HOLY CRIES!
THEY'RE ALL COMING OUT THE PIPES!

MARIO, WHERE
ARE YOU?!!



MARIO BROS.*

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Stan Lee PRESENTS:

THE SCORPION TAKES A BRIDE!

(BUT NOT THE WAY YOU THINK!)

I STILL REMEMBER
THE START OF IT.
I HEARD THE GUN-
SHOTS AS SOME BANK
ROBBERS TRIED TO
ESCAPE BY HELICOPTER.
I KNEW IT MEANT I'D
MISS THE A-TEAM
TONIGHT, BUT THAT'S
THE BREAKS WHEN YOUR
NAME IS—SPIDER-MAN!

WELL, WADDAYA
KNOW! THEY ROBBED
THE FIRST NATIONAL
AND THEY'RE TAKING
OFF IN A HIGH-TECH
WHIRLYBIRD.

WHAT
HAPPENED
TO THE GOOD
OL' DAYS WHEN
I ONLY HADDA
CHASE AFTER
SOUPED-UP
SEDANS?

PLOT BY:
TOM DEFALCO

BREAKDOWNS BY:
RON FRENZ

FINISHES BY:

BOB LAYTON and JACKSON GUICE
COLORS BY:
BOB SHAREN

LETTERS BY:
JOE ROSEN

EDITED BY:
DANNY FINGEROTH

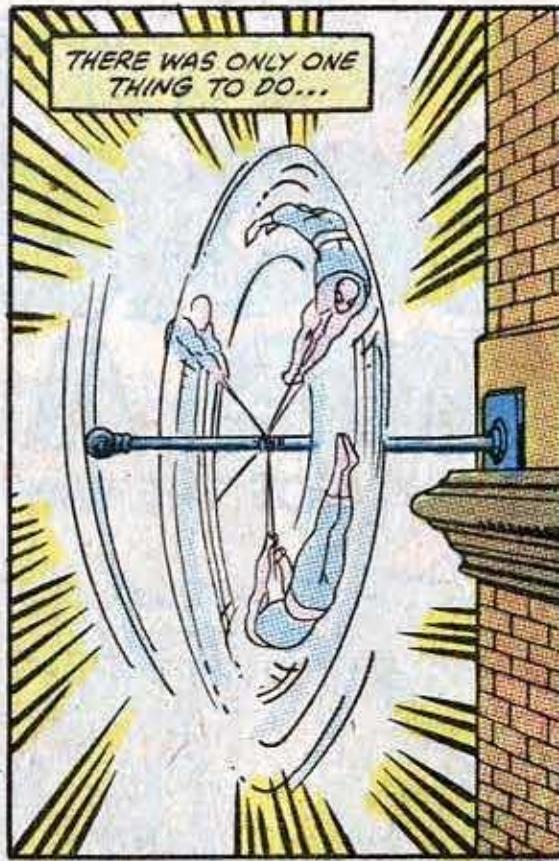
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:
JIM SHOOTER

SCRIPTED (FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 12 YEARS)
BY STAN LEE (THAT'S RIGHT--STAN LEE!)

THEY WERE TOO FAR
FOR MY WEBBING TO
REACH. ANY SANER
SUPER HERO WOULD
HAVE QUIETLY
WALTZED AWAY FROM
THIS LITTLE TABLEAU.

BUT I'VE NEVER
BEEN ACCUSED OF
TERMINAL SANITY.

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN® ANNUAL Vol. 1, No. 18, December, 1984. Published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP, James E. Galton, President, Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Vice-President, Publishing. Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Published annually. Copyright © 1984 by Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All rights reserved. Price \$1.00 per copy in the U.S. and \$1.25 in Canada. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. SPIDER-MAN (including all prominent characters featured in the issue), and the distinctive likenesses thereof, are trademarks of the MARVEL COMICS GROUP. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, MARVEL COMICS GROUP, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, 10TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016.

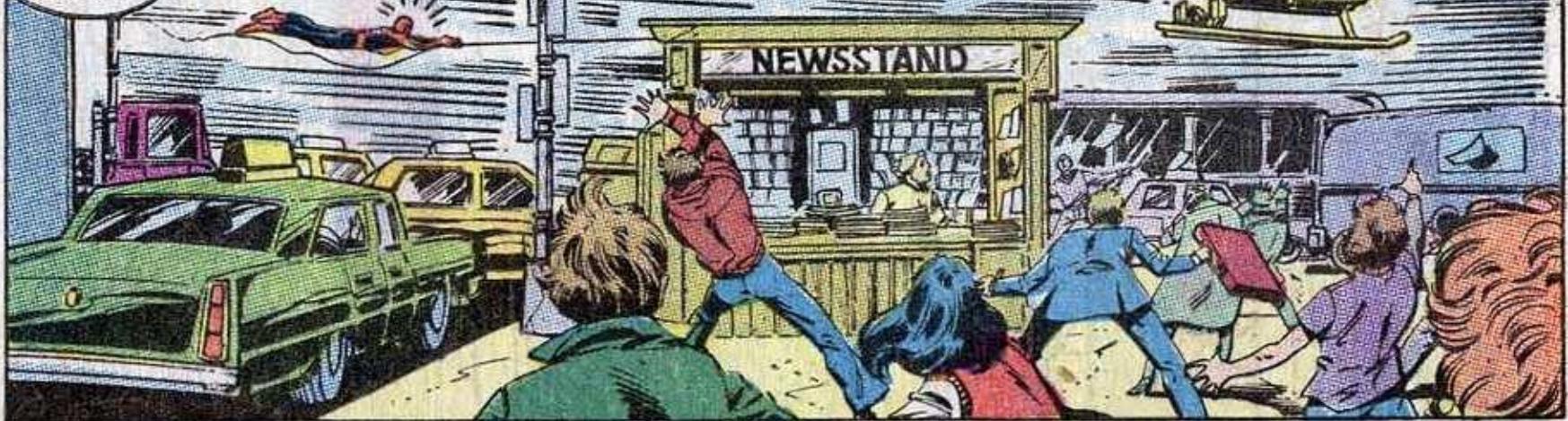


IF THE PILOT WASN'T A CERTIFIED LUNATIC HE WAS PUTTING ON A GREAT ACT.

THIS WASN'T A MOVIE, IT WAS REAL LIFE.

BUT IT WAS LOOKING MORE LIKE REAL DEATH!

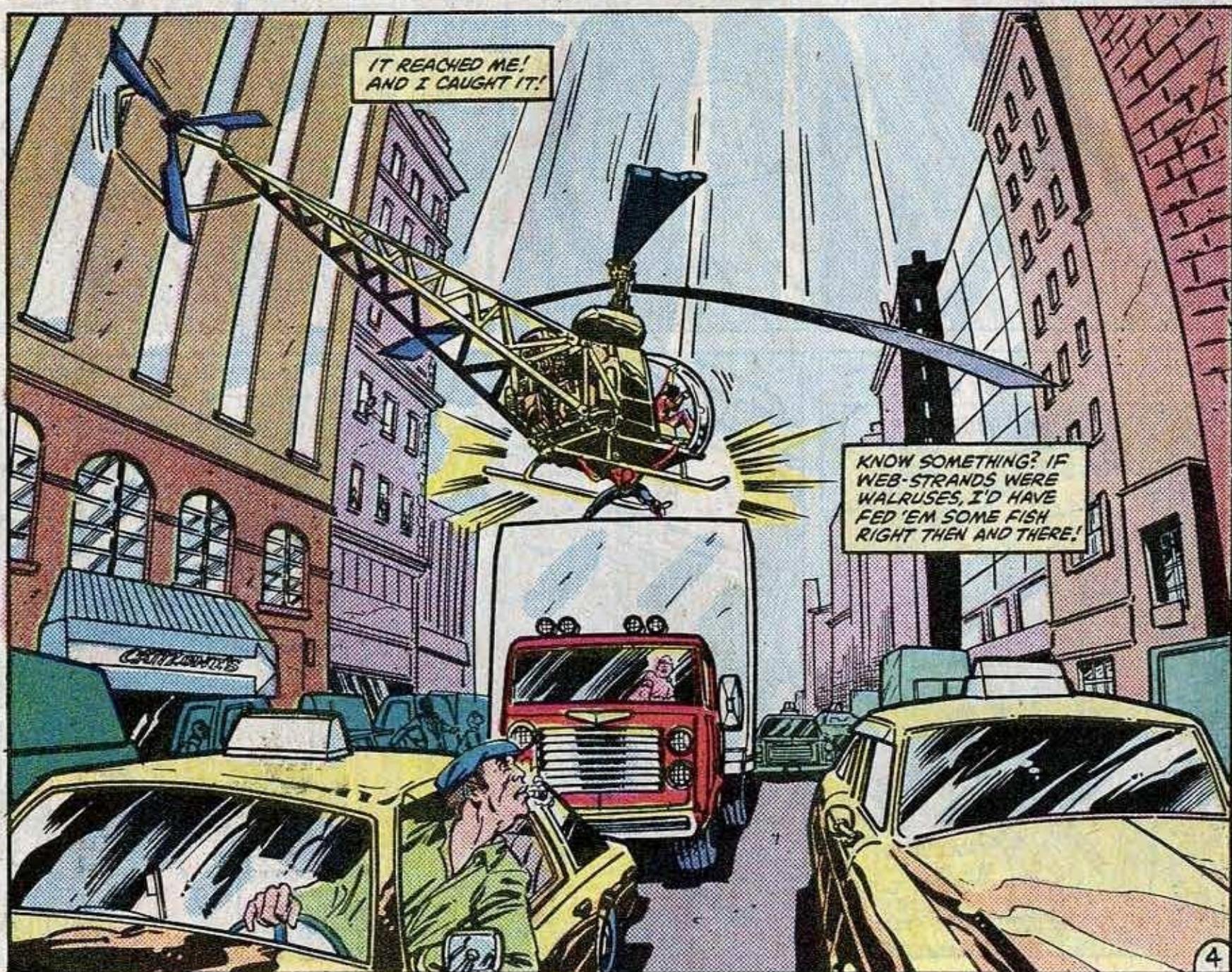
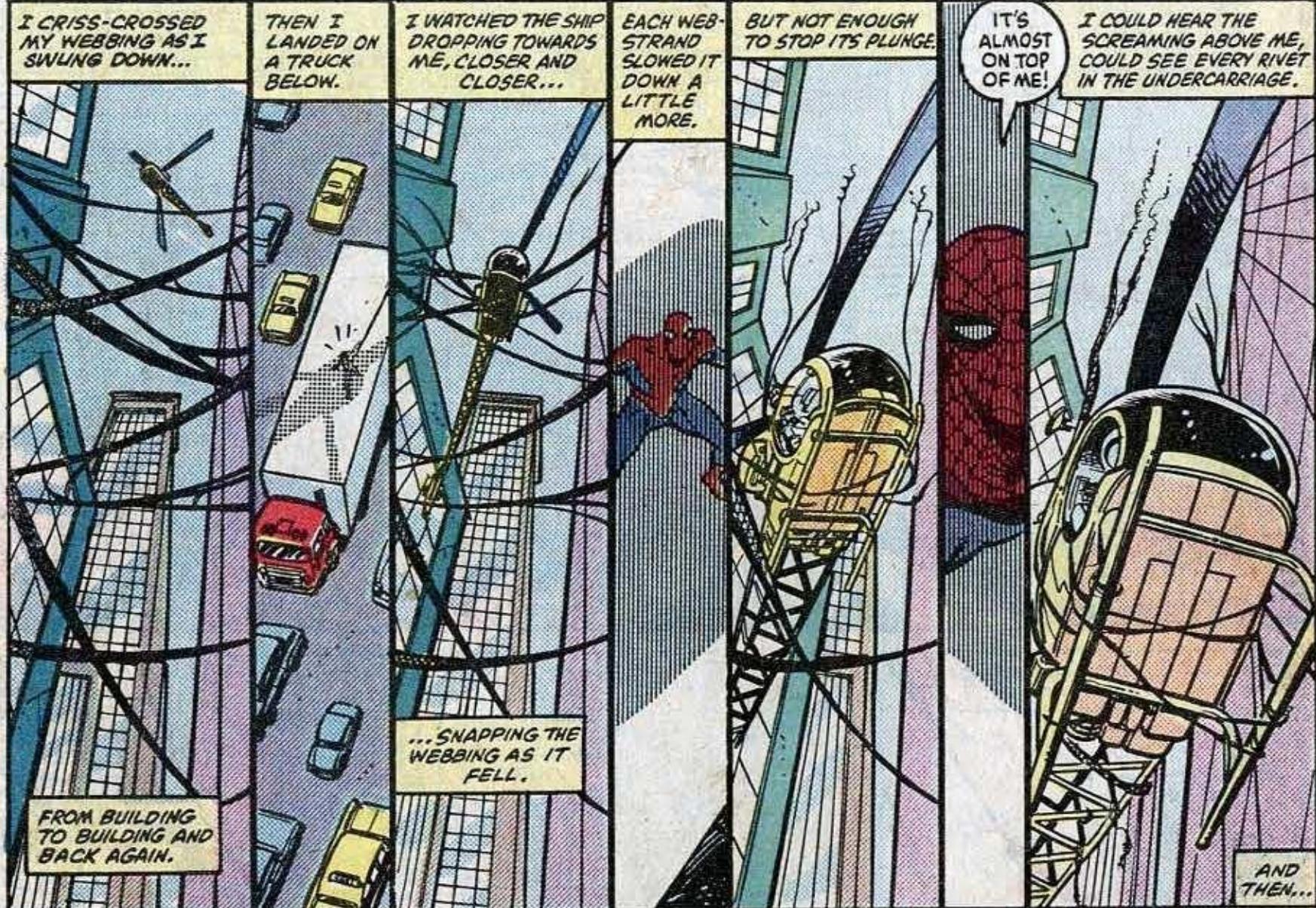
UP! GET UP! YOU'RE GONNA CRASH!



I NEVER REALIZED I WAS SO PERSUASIVE. SECONDS LATER...

HE'S GAINING ALTITUDE!

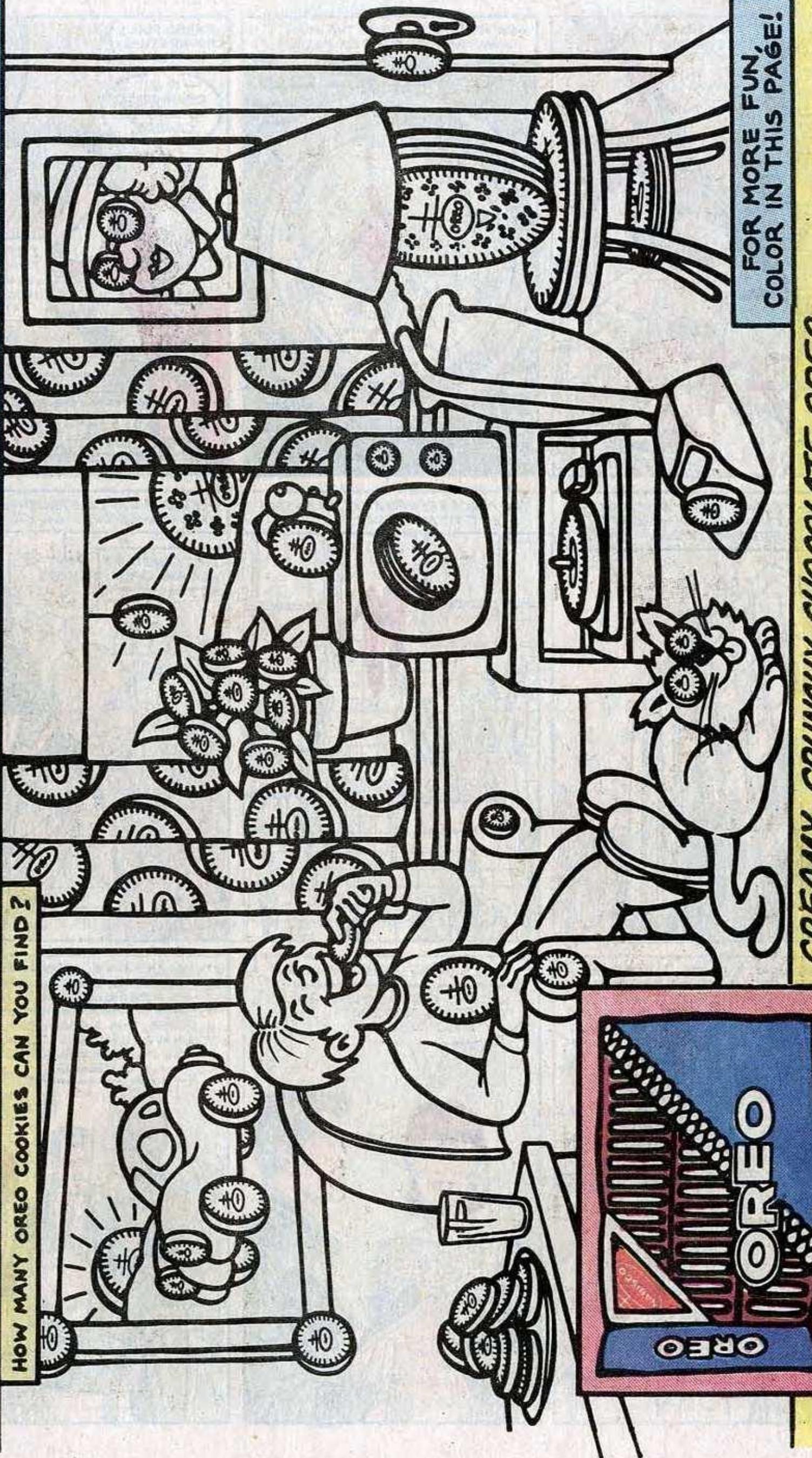




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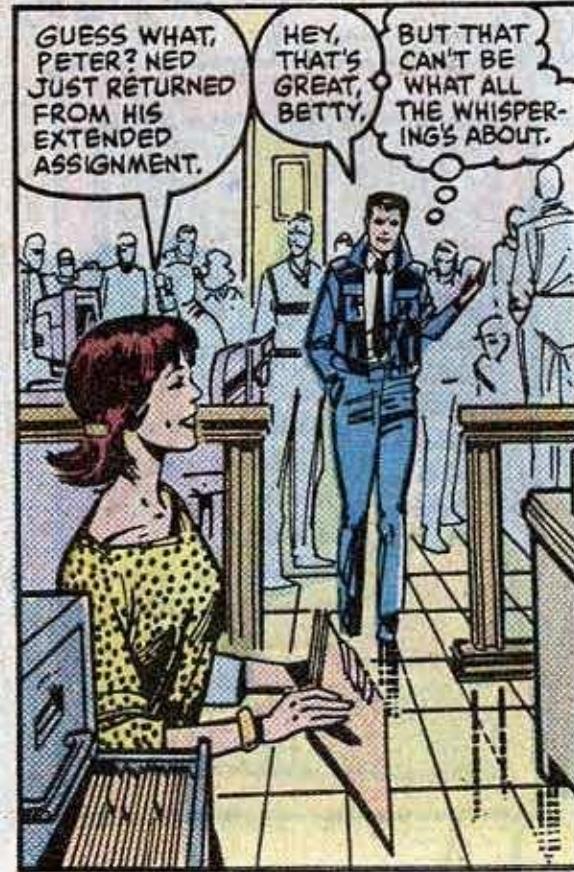
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IT'S REALLY NOTHING MUCH. JUST AN EXCLUSIVE SHOT OF SPIDER-MAN CATCHING A FALLING HELICOPTER IN HIS BARE HANDS IN THE MIDDLE OF A CROWDED STREET.

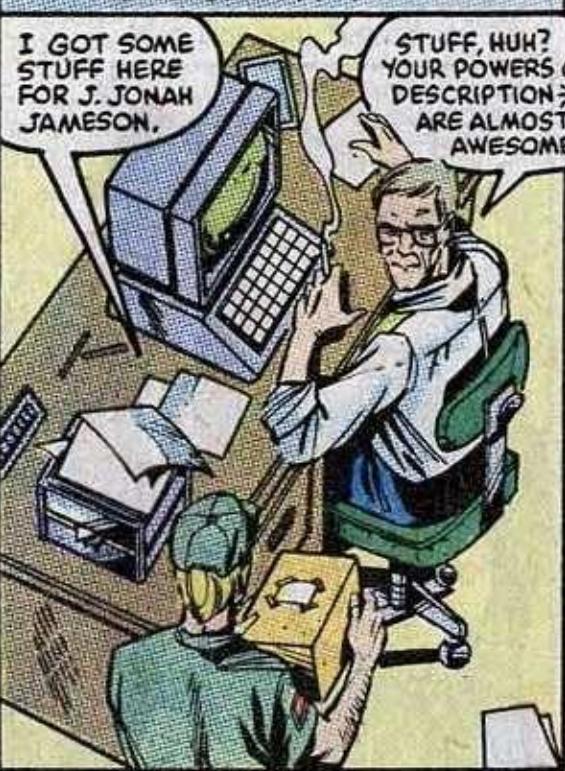
BUT I KNOW YOU'RE BORED WITH PIX OF SPIDEY...



WHILE I WAS BEARING, A PRINTER'S MESSENGER ARRIVED.

I GOT SOME STUFF HERE FOR J. JONAH JAMESON.

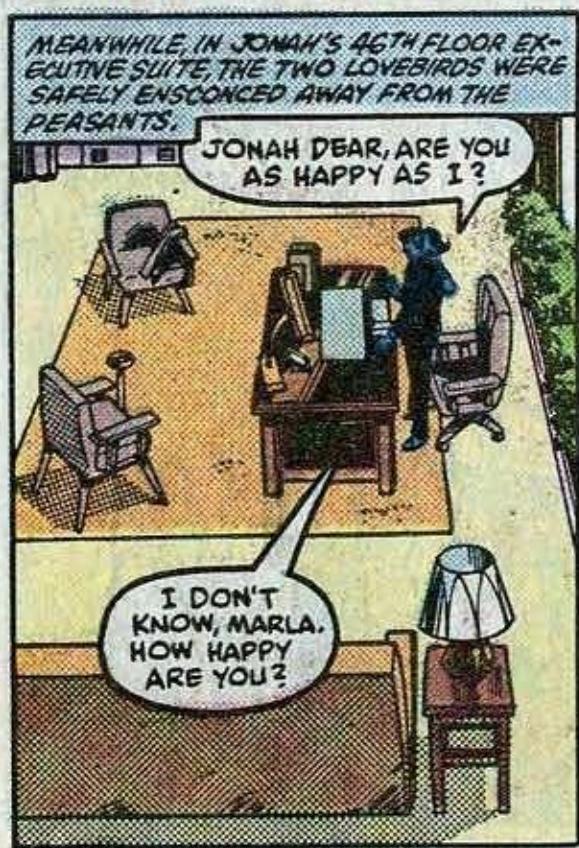
STUFF, HUH? YOUR POWERS OF DESCRIPTION-KAFF- ARE ALMOST AWESOME.



BY NOW, MY CURIOSITY WAS BIG ENOUGH TO CHOKE GODZILLA. I HEADED FOR WENDY THORNTON...

WHAT'S HAPPENING, WENDY? SOMEONE CATCH JAMESON WITH A SMILE ON HIS FACE?

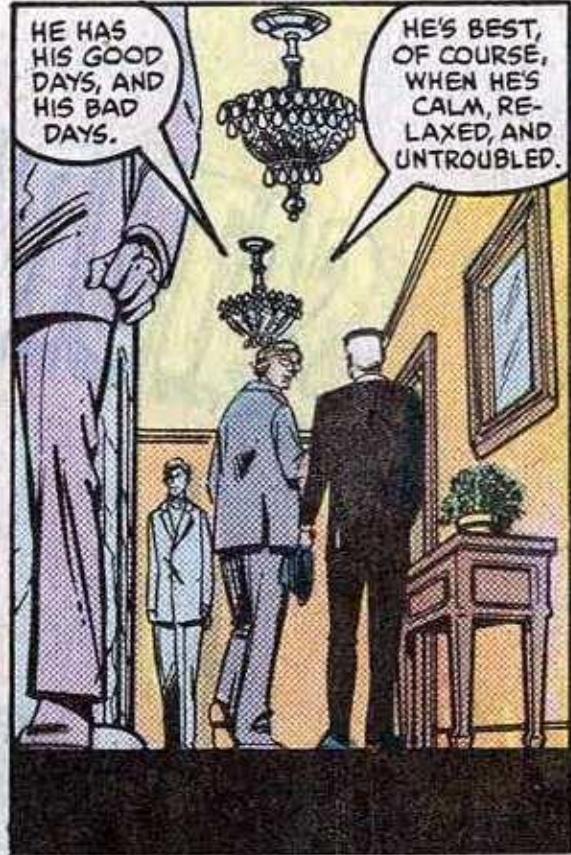








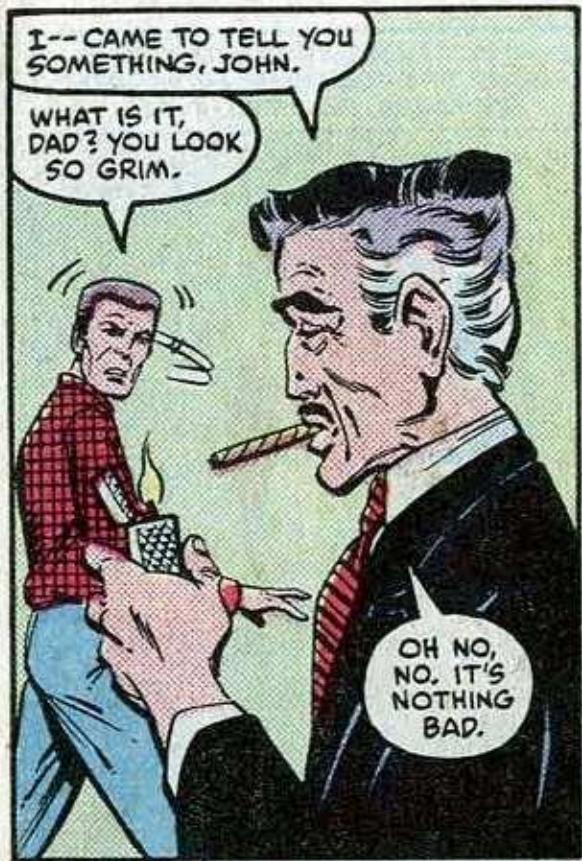
WHILE I WAS ROOF-HOPPING AROUND THE BIG APPLE, JONAH WAS HEADING FOR A SANITARIUM IN THE SUBURBS.



SATURDAY'S THE PLACE



STARTING
SEPT. 15 ON CBS!



IF HE SOUNDED SENTIMENTAL, DON'T LET IT FOOL YOU. IN A NEARBY CELL, ONE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS MEN IN THE WORLD WAS SCHEMING AND PLOTTING...

JAMESON'S SON PLAYS WITH PUZZLES WHILE MAC GARGAN WEARS A SOUPED-UP STRAIT JACKET.



BUT THAT'LL SOON CHANGE. OH YES, HOW IT WILL CHANGE.



I WASN'T THERE AT THE TIME, SO I PIECED THIS TOGETHER FROM LATER REPORTS. BUT TRUST ME.

IF NOT FOR JAMESON, I WOULDN'T BE HERE NOW.

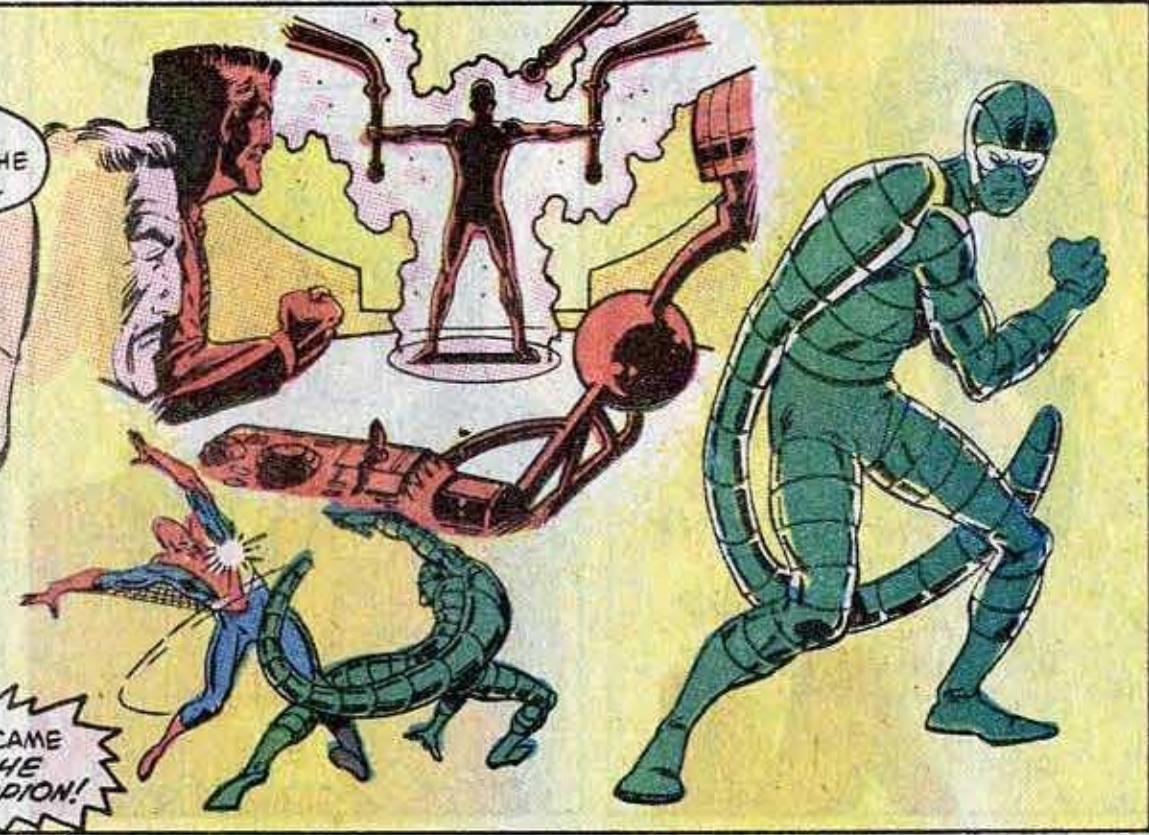


IT'S ALL HIS FAULT. THAT'S WHY HE'S GOT TO PAY.

HE'S THE ONE WHO HIRED ME FOR THAT EXPERIMENT, TO MAKE ME MORE POWERFUL THAN SPIDER-MAN.

HE WANTED ME TO RID HIM OF THE WEB-SPINNER.

BUT I BECAME TOO POWERFUL, TOO DEADLY.



AND NOW, IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR THE SCORPION TO STING AGAIN.

READY FOR YOUR SESSION, MAC?



BRING WHOEVER YOU WANT, DOC, LONG AS I AIN'T PAYIN' FOR IT.

NOW, YOU KNOW THE PAYMENTS ARE ALL TAKEN CARE OF.



SURE, THE MOST EXPENSIVE SANITARIUM AROUND, THE HIGHEST PRICED SHRINKS, ALL THE CARE I NEED.

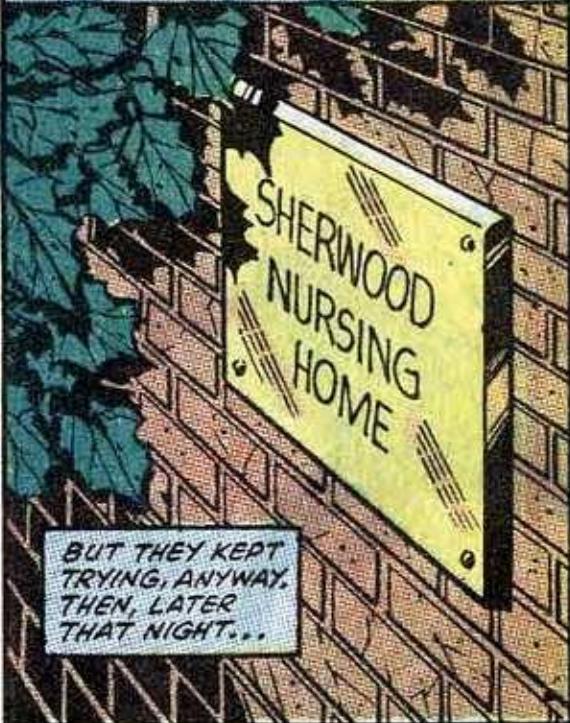
SOMEONE'S SURE TAKIN' A BIG INTEREST IN MAC GARGAN.

THERE'RE PEOPLE IN HIGH PLACES CONCERNED ABOUT YOU, MAC. YOU SHOULD APPRECIATE IT.

NOW LET'S GET ON WITH THE THERAPY.

I BROUGHT SOME CONSULTANTS TODAY.

THERAPY! THERE WAS AS MUCH CHANCE OF THAT HELPING THE SCORPION AS THERE WAS OF MILKSHAKES CURING DRACULA.



IT'S ALMOST TIME. I HEAR HIS FOOTSTEPS.



HI, MR. GARGAN. I BROUGHT YOU SOME COFFEE 'N SMOKES, AND A PAPER.



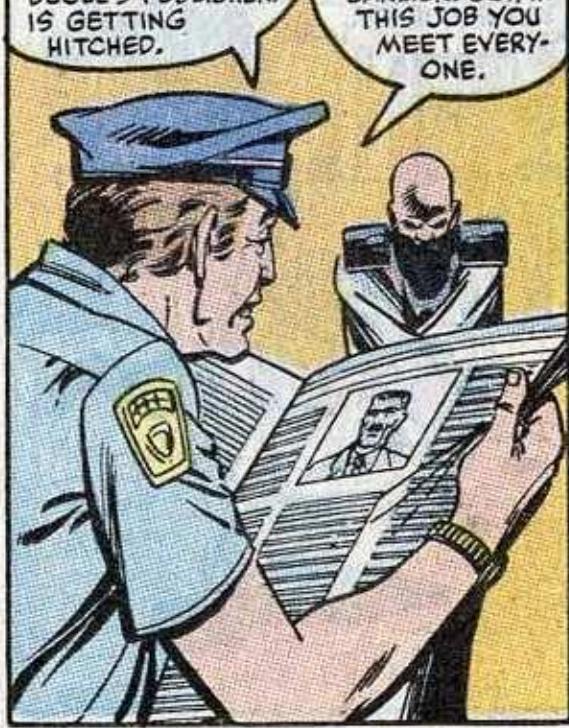
HEY, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S NICE, LETTIN' ME VISIT YOU LIKE THIS. IT'S MADE ME A REAL BIG SHOT WITH MY FRIENDS.



Y'KNOW, I TELL 'EM WHAT A GREAT GUY YOU ARE, AND HOW YOU LET ME COME VISIT YOU, AND THE WAY YOU TELL ME ALL THE FAR-OUT THINGS YOU'VE DONE.



HERE'S SOMETHING INTERESTING. JONAH JAMESON, THE BUGLE'S PUBLISHER, IS GETTING HITCHED.



SHUDDUP! I HEARD ENOUGH. THIS IS WHAT I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR.

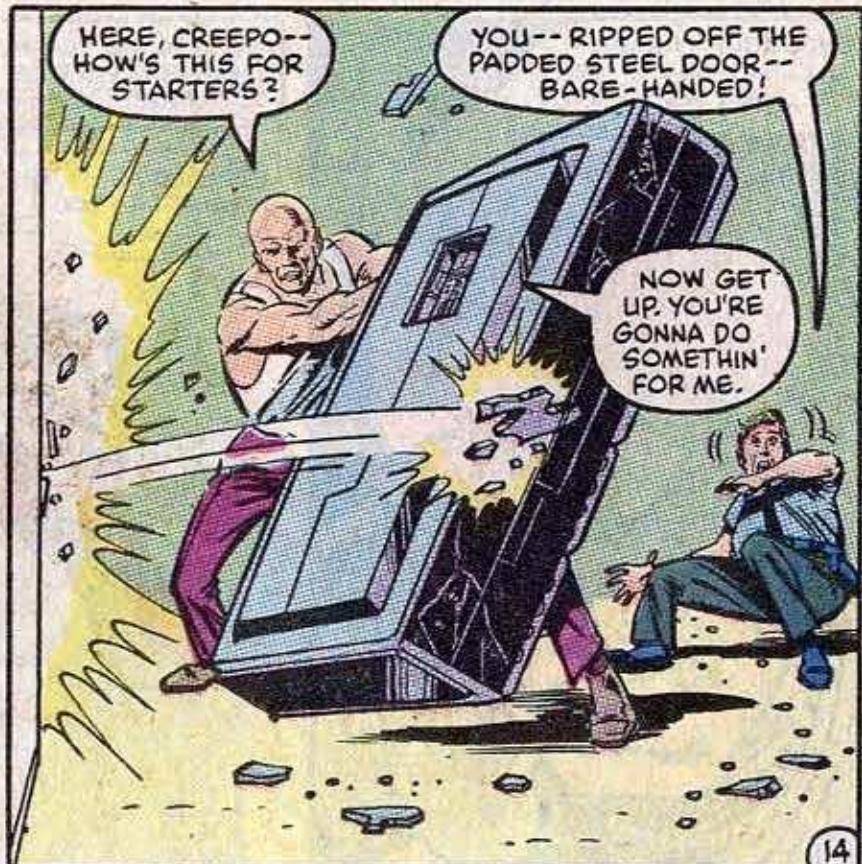
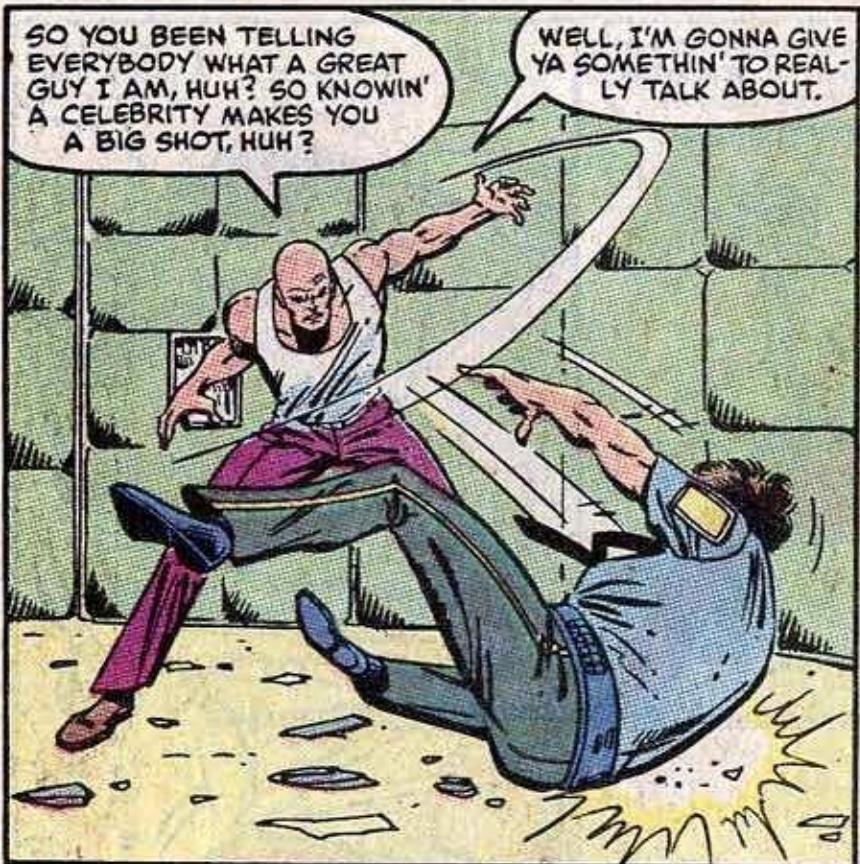


MR. GARGAN, YOU NEVER TALKED TO ME LIKE THAT BEFORE. WHAT DO YOU MEAN, IT'S WHAT YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR?



YOU'LL SOON FIND OUT.





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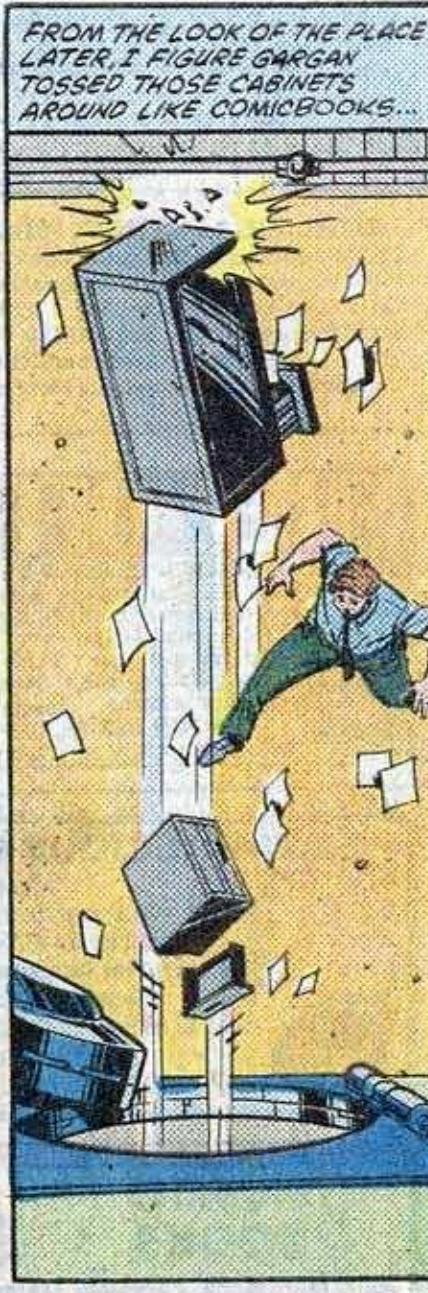
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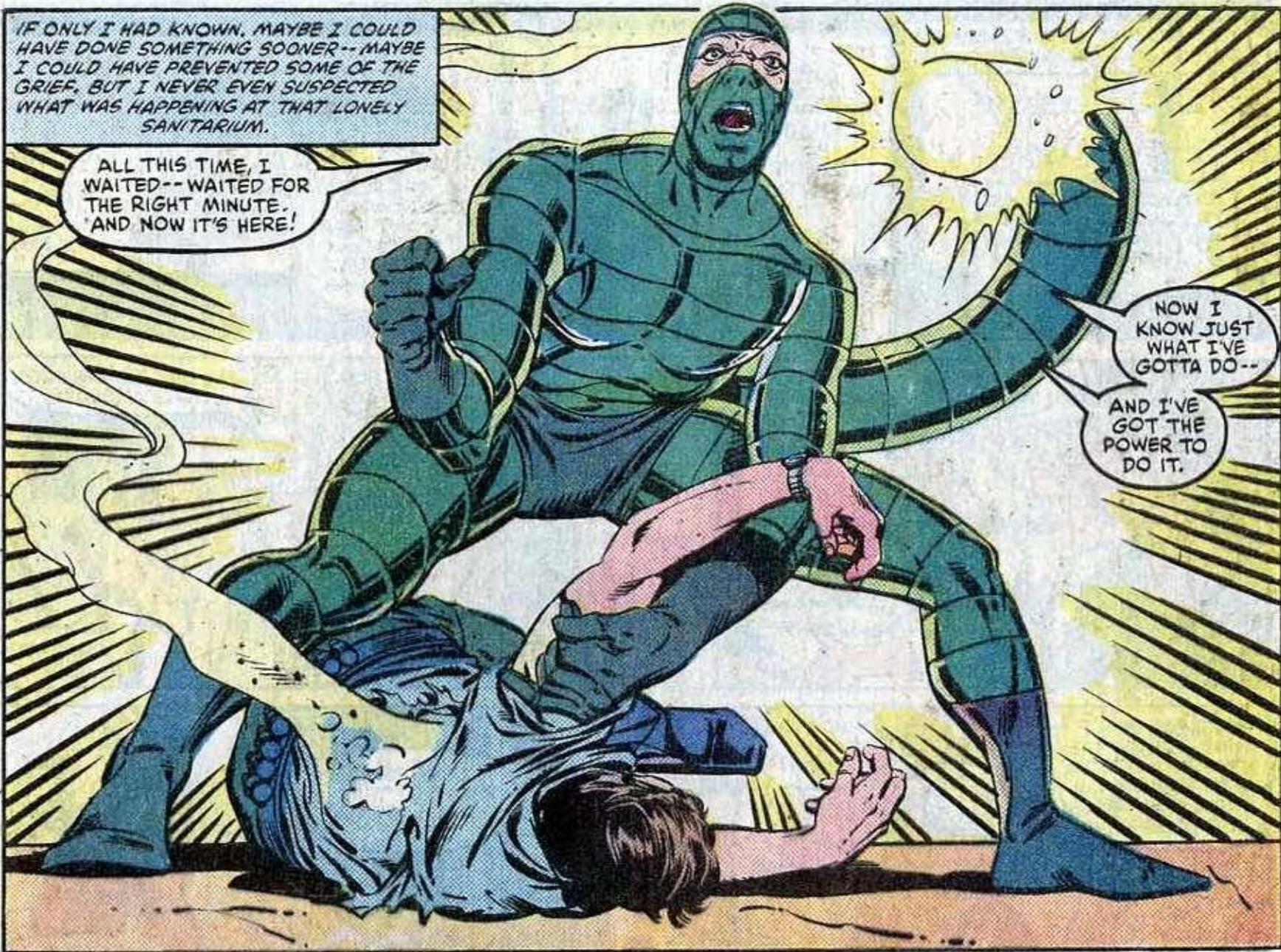


IF ONLY I HAD KNOWN. MAYBE I COULD HAVE DONE SOMETHING SOONER--MAYBE I COULD HAVE PREVENTED SOME OF THE GRIEF. BUT I NEVER EVEN SUSPECTED WHAT WAS HAPPENING AT THAT LONELY SANITARIUM.

ALL THIS TIME, I WAITED--WAITED FOR THE RIGHT MINUTE. AND NOW IT'S HERE!

NOW I KNOW JUST WHAT I'VE GOTTA DO--

AND I'VE GOT THE POWER TO DO IT.



YOU PROBABLY GUessed THAT JOHN JAMESON WAS THE SCORPION'S NEXT TARGET.

AND HE DIDN'T LET A LITTLE THING LIKE A DOOR STOP HIM.

SURPRISED, JAMESON?

THE EX-ASTRONAUT TRIED TO RESIST, BUT THERE WAS NO WAY. THE SCORPION COULDN'T BE STOPPED.

YOU'RE LUCKY. I MAY NOT KILL YOU -- YET.

YOU CAN'T DO IT. YOU'LL NEVER MAKE IT OVER THE WALL.

I WON'T, HUH?

--OF THE SCORPION'S CATAPULTING TAIL.

I GUESS YOU NEVER HEARD--





MINUTES LATER, THE BLUSHING BRIDE-GROOM HIMSELF AMBLED OVER...

ANYONE WITH DEADLINES IS WELCOME TO GET BACK TO WORK NOW.

I WON'T BE OFFENDED.

YOU'RE ALL HEART, MR. J.

THEN CAME THE BOMBSHELL...

PETER, MY BOY, I HOPE YOU DON'T THINK I'VE FORGOTTEN ABOUT YOU, IT WOULDN'T BE A WEDDING WITHOUT YOU.

IT WOULDN'T?

I INSIST THAT YOU COME, AND BRING YOUR CAMERA.

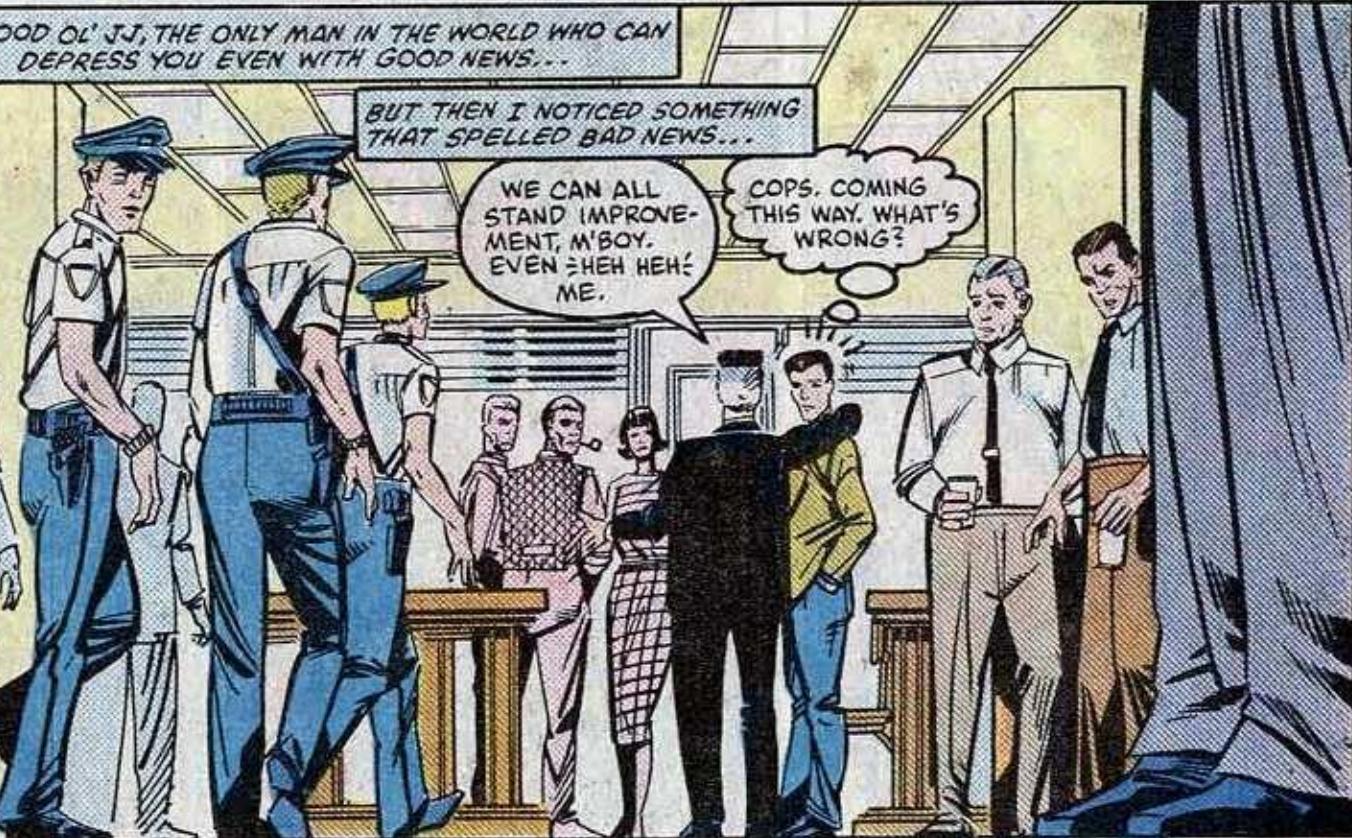
SHAME ON YOU, WOULD I SUGGEST ANYTHING SO CRASS?

NO, I JUST WANT YOU TO MEET MY PERSONAL PHOTOGRAPHER. PERHAPS YOU'LL LEARN SOMETHING.



GOOD OL' JJ, THE ONLY MAN IN THE WORLD WHO CAN DEPRESS YOU EVEN WITH GOOD NEWS...

BUT THEN I NOTICED SOMETHING THAT SPELLED BAD NEWS...



WE CAN ALL STAND IMPROVEMENT, M'BOY. EVEN HEH HEH! ME.

COPS. COMING THIS WAY. WHAT'S WRONG?



MR. JAMESON, I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO YOU FOR A MINUTE.

HEARD ABOUT THE WEDDING, HUH? SURE, I'LL SPRING FOR A FEW INVITATIONS. NOTHING'S TOO GOOD FOR OUR BOYS IN BLUE.



IT'S NOT THAT, SIR. THE SCORPION'S ESCAPED, AND HE'S CAPTURED YOUR SON.

JOHN!!!



SUDDENLY, I KNEW MY LITTLE BREAK WAS OVER. THERE WAS DANGER AHEAD, BIG DANGER--

--ESPECIALLY SINCE THE SCORPION WAS MORE POWERFUL THAN SPIDEY.



IT WASN'T HARD TO IMAGINE WHAT WAS TAKING PLACE IN JONAH'S APARTMENT...

DON'T WORRY, MARLA DEAR. NOTHING CAN HAPPEN-- NOT WITH ALL THESE POLICE AROUND.

BUT THE SCORPION'S A KILLER, HE'S SUPER STRONG-- AND HE HATES YOU SO.

I KNOW, BUT THERE'S NOTHING MORE WE CAN DO.

YOU COULD HIDE WHERE HE CAN'T FIND YOU.

HE'S SAFER HERE, MISS MADISON.

ALL OUR POLICE RESOURCES ARE AT YOUR DISPOSAL. IF YOU RUN AND HE FINDS YOU, YOU HAVEN'T A CHANCE.

A GNAT COULDN'T GET IN HERE UNSEEN.

HALF THE COPS IN THIS PRECINCT HAVE THIS PLACE STAKED OUT.

I CAN'T RUN, MARLA. THERE'S MY SON JOHN TO THINK ABOUT.

ANYWAY, THIS IS NO PLACE FOR YOU, DARLING. ISN'T THAT RIGHT, CAPTAIN?

YES. IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR YOU TO LEAVE, MISS MADISON. WE'VE A LOT OF PREPARATIONS TO MAKE.

I-- STILL FEEL I SHOULDN'T LEAVE HIM.

THERE'S NOTHING MORE YOU CAN DO, MA'AM.

HE'LL FEEL BETTER KNOWING YOU'RE SAFE.

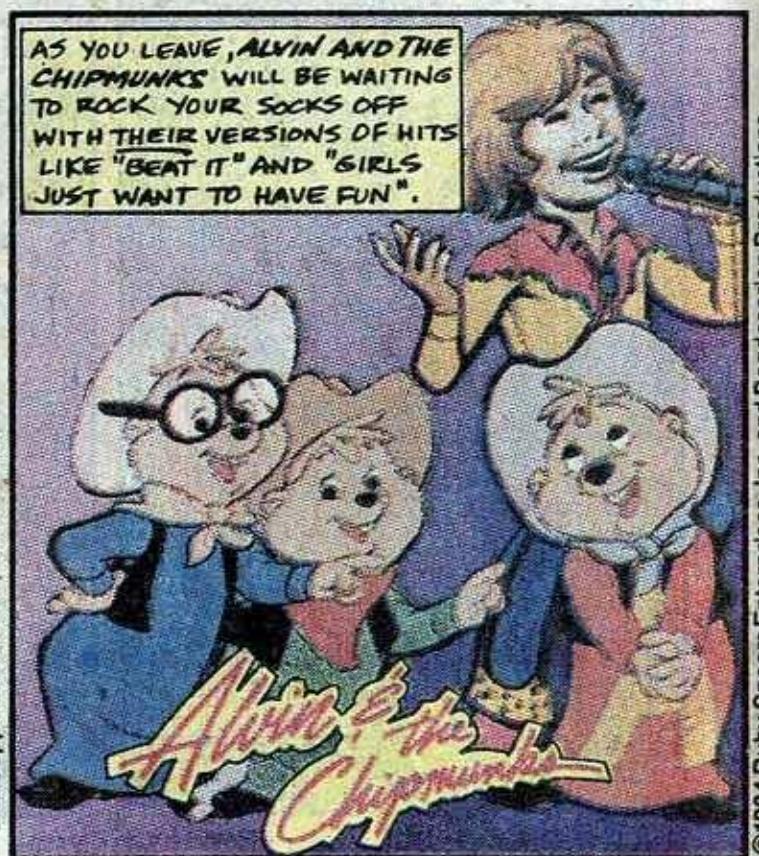
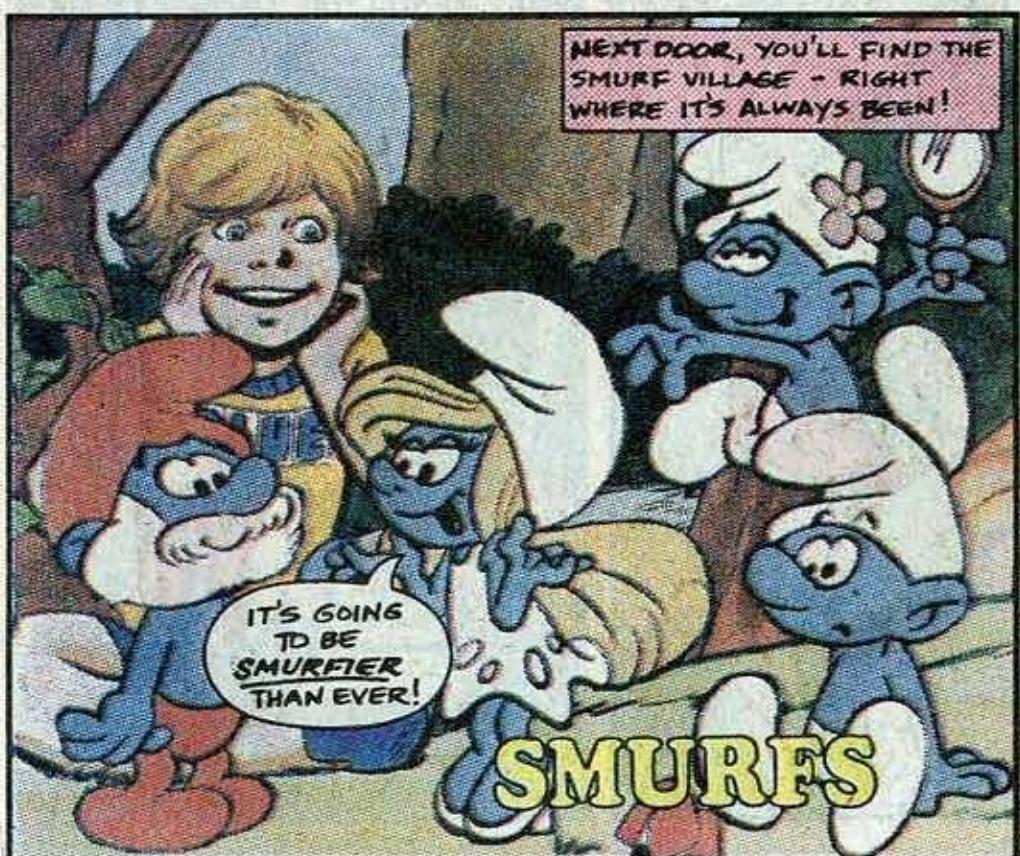
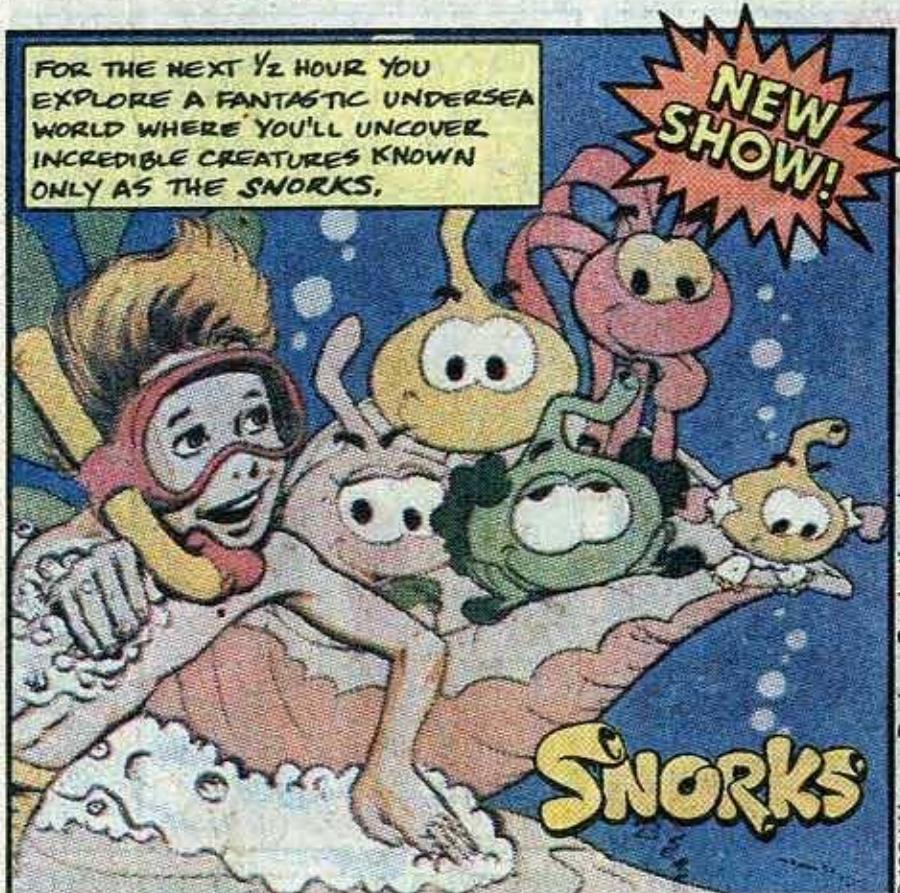
ARE YOU SURE SHE'LL BE ALL RIGHT?

OF COURSE SHE WILL...

...WE BOTH KNOW IT'S YOU THE SCORPION IS AFTER.



SATURDAY MORNING



NEXT, KIDD VIDEO WILL TAKE YOU TO THE FLIP SIDE OF THE UNIVERSE WHERE THE MASTER BLASTER IS WAGING A BATTLE TO RULE THE ENTIRE ROCK AND ROLL WORLD.

NEW SHOW!

KIDD VIDEO

BEFORE YOU KNOW IT,
MR. T WILL TAKE OVER.

PITY THE POOR
FOOL WHO MESSES
WITH THE CHANNEL
CHANGER!

RIGHT,
T!

MISTER T

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BY THE TIME HE'S DONE,
YOU'LL BE GOING BANANAS
WITH A REAL LIFE ORANGUTAN
NAMED ROXANNA BANANA.

NEW SHOW!

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AMAZING FRIENDS WILL JOIN
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SPECIALY ON YOUR BLOCK!

SPIDER-MAN
AND HIS AMAZING
FRIENDS

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THE MORNING YOUR FAVORITE
NBC STARS WILL GIVE YOU
ONE TO GROW ON!

IT ALL BEGINS
SEPTEMBER 15TH
ON NBC. SO...

LET'S
BE THERE

ONE TO
GROW ON™



MEANWHILE, NONE OF US KNEW, TILL LATER, THAT THE SCORPION WAS DRAGGING HIS CAPTIVE THRU THE Ooze AND SLIME OF THE CITY'S SEWERS...

STILL THINK I CAN'T GET AWAY WITH IT, MISTER?

THERE'S NOTHING MAC GARGAN CAN'T DO. NOTHING.

ONCE I'M IN MY SCORPION SUIT, I'M THE STRONGEST THERE IS. THE DEADLIEST THERE IS.

NO ONE CAN STOP ME. NO-THING CAN STAND IN MY WAY.

YOU'RE A MADMAN.

LOOK! YOU'RE THE ONE IN THE STRAITJACKET NOW.

I'M THE ONE WHO'S GOT IT ALL FIGURED OUT! I'M THE ONE WITH A PLAN!

A PLAN OF REVENGE.

I OWE SOMEONE A REAL BIG DEBT! AND THE SCORPION ALWAYS PAYS PEOPLE BACK --IN SPADES.

Y'KNOW WHO I MEAN, DON'T-CHA?

YOUR FATHER!

WAIT! YOU CAN'T--!

SAVE YER BREATH, SONNY! YOU'LL NEED IT WHEN I GET BACK!

ONE THING YOU HADDA SAY FOR THE GUY: HE WASN'T A TIME-WASTER.

THIS IS THE BUILDING! ALL I GOTTA DO IS REACH THE RIGHT FLOOR.

THE ELEVATOR'S NOT HERE.

BUT THAT WON'T STOP THE SCORPION.

I'VE WAITED TOO LONG TO LET ANYTHING SLOW ME DOWN NOW.

MEANWHILE, CAPT. DEWOLFF HAD NO MORE IDEA THAN I DID WHERE THE SCORPION WAS...

EVERYTHING'S QUIET AT THE MADISON APARTMENT? GOOD. NO, THERE'S BEEN NO TROUBLE HERE.

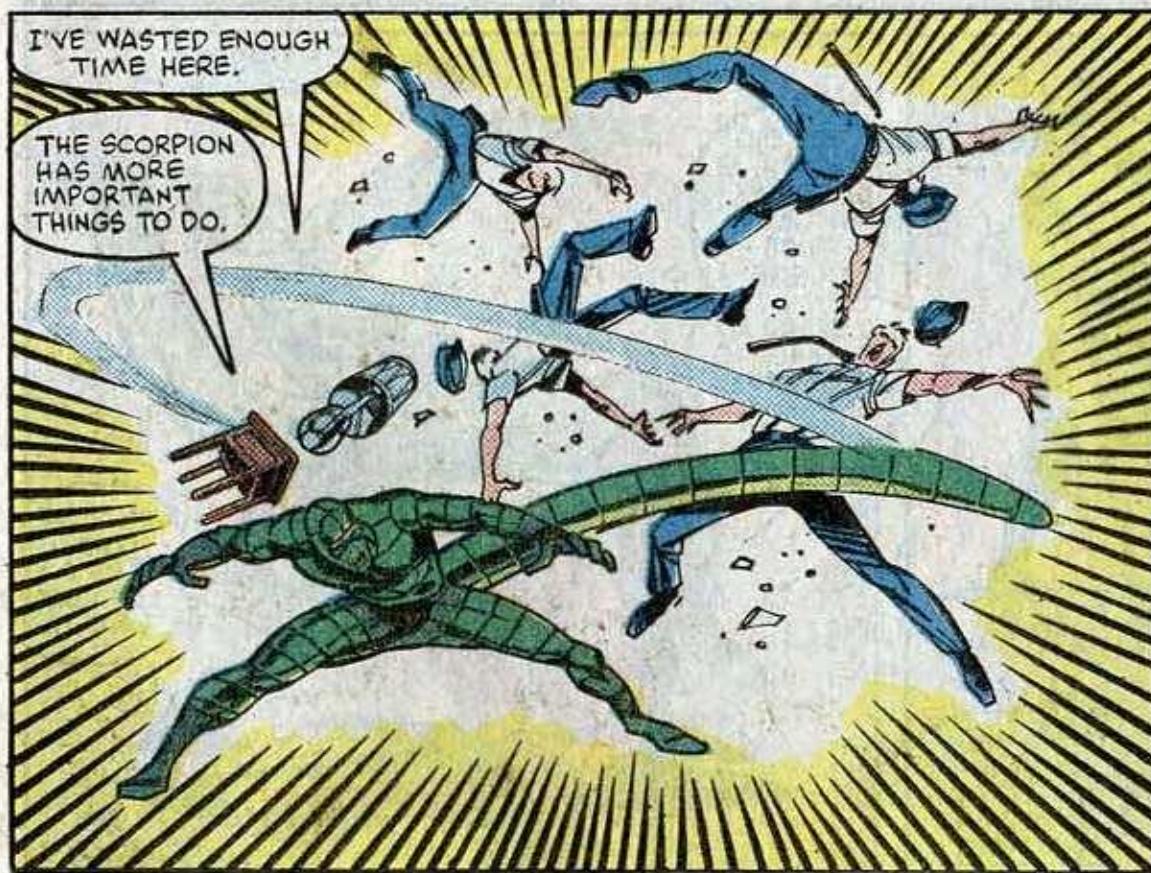
MARLA IS ALL RIGHT? THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS.

TO YOU, MAYBE, WE HAVE SOME OTHER CONCERN'S.

BUT, NO SOONER DID THE LADY LAWPERSON HANG UP THE PHONE...

THE SCORPION! HOW--?

NEVER MIND HOW. GRAB YOUR HARDWARE. WE GOTTA STOP 'IM.



HE NEVER
KNEW WHAT
HIT HIM.

I GUESS IT'S ONLY FAIR TO
TELL YOU WHAT I WAS DOING
ALL THIS TIME. I WAS WEB-
SWINGING MY WAY ACROSS
TOWN AT BREAKNECK SPEED.

KNOWING THAT MOST OF THE POLICE FIRE-
POWER WAS GUARDING JOLLY JONAH, I
FIGURED MARLA MADISON WOULD BE
VULNERABLE.

SO I PLAYED A HUNCH.



AND WADDAYA
KNOW, MY HUNCH
PAID OFF.

BACK OFF, SCORPIE.
THE LADY'S GOT
A HEADACHE.

SPIDER-
MA--
=UMMPHH=



YOU FOOL! YOU SAVED ME THE
TROUBLE OF HUNTING YOU DOWN!

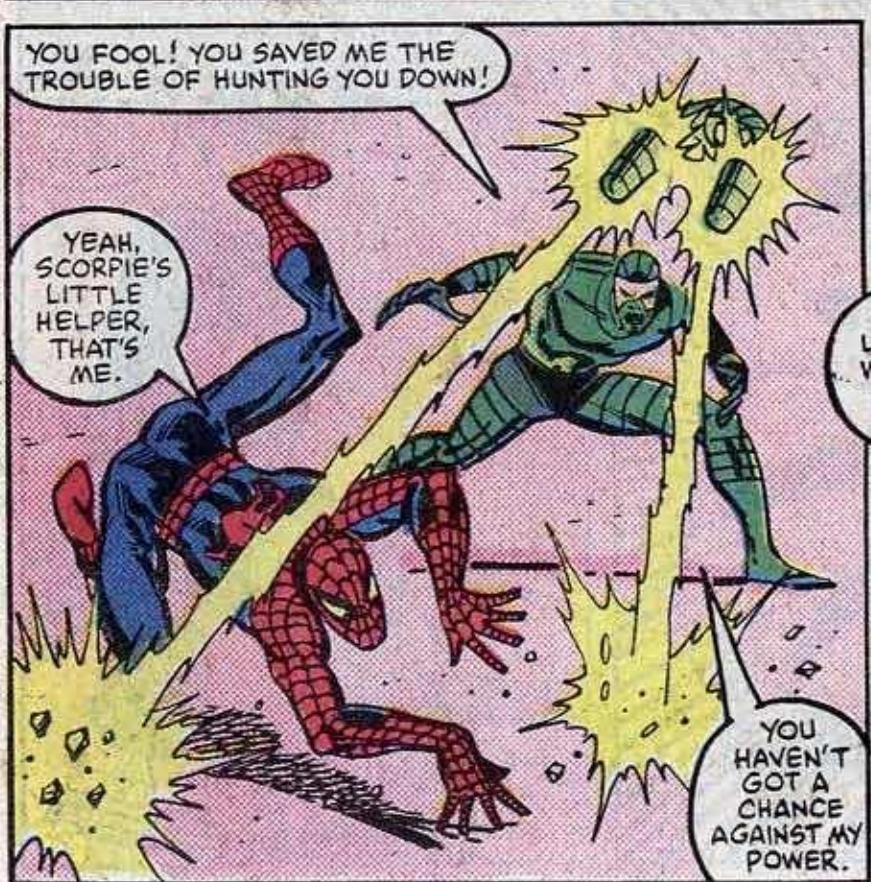
YEAH,
SCORPIE'S
LITTLE
HELPER,
THAT'S
ME.

YOU
HAVEN'T
GOT A
CHANCE
AGAINST
MY
POWER.

HEY, BIG
MOUTH, IF
I ONLY
BATTLED
SURE
THINGS--

I'D SPEND MY
LIFE TANGLING
WITH SNOOPY
OR THE
MUPPETS.

THOUGH
THEY
ARE A
LOT MORE
LAUGHS.





HE HAD HIS OWN UNIQUE WAY OF PUNCTUATING HIS COMMENTS

OKAY, OKAY.
YOU MADE
YOUR POINT.

THE ONLY TIME I GOT A BREATHER WAS WHEN HIS TAIL
STOPPED FOR A FEW SECONDS, AND THE LIGHTS WENT OUT.

THAT'S WHEN
MY SPIDEY
SENSE GAVE
ME THE AD-
VANTAGE.

BYONK!

SOME ADVANTAGE! EVEN
WHEN I NAILED 'IM HE
DIDN'T FEEL IT.

BUT I HAD MORE THAN MYSELF TO WORRY
ABOUT. MARLA MADISON SEEMED ROOTED
TO THE SPOT.

SPIDER-
MAN--
LOOK
OUT!

LADY, I APPRECIATE THE
ADVICE, BUT TAKE OFF
WHILE YOU CAN.

THIS IS NO PLACE
FOR A CHEERING
SECTION.

I SHOULDN'T HAVE CALLED TO HER. IN
THAT SPLIT-SECOND MY CONCENTRATION
WAVERED...

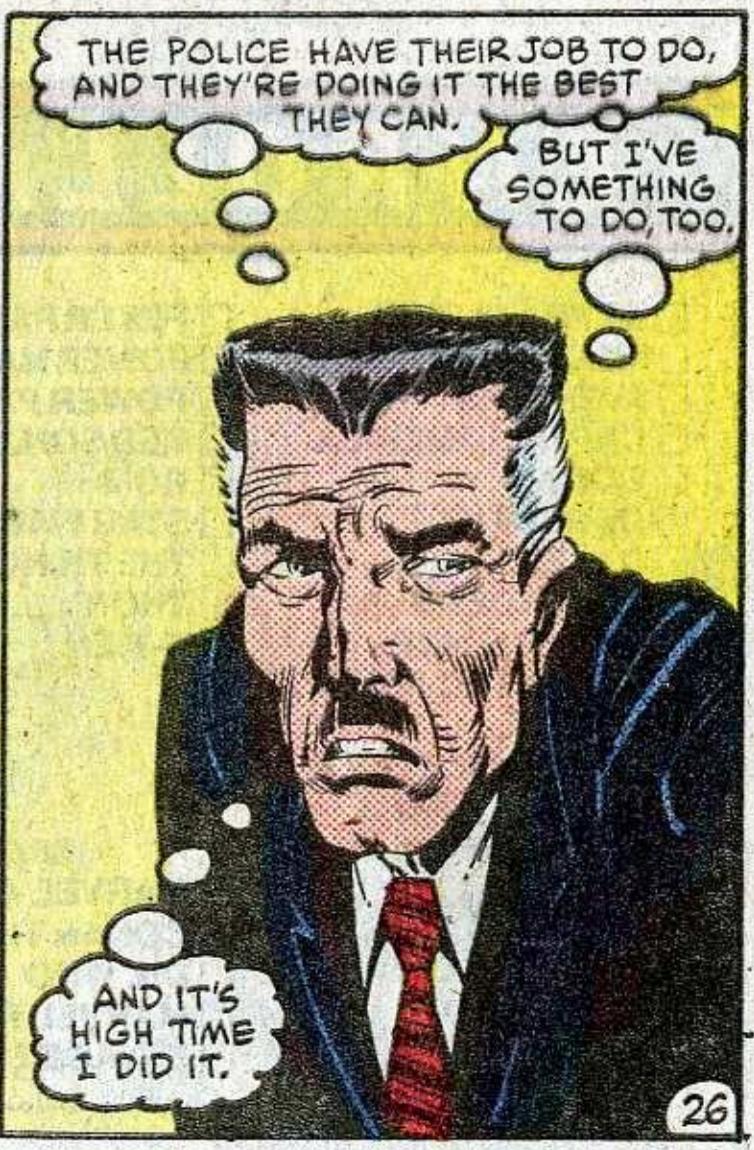
SPIDER STRENGTH OR NOT, I REALLY
FELT THAT ONE.

BOK!

AND THAT WAS ALL
THE OPENING THE
SCORPION NEEDED.



AND
THEN HE
CLOSED IN
FOR THE
KILL.





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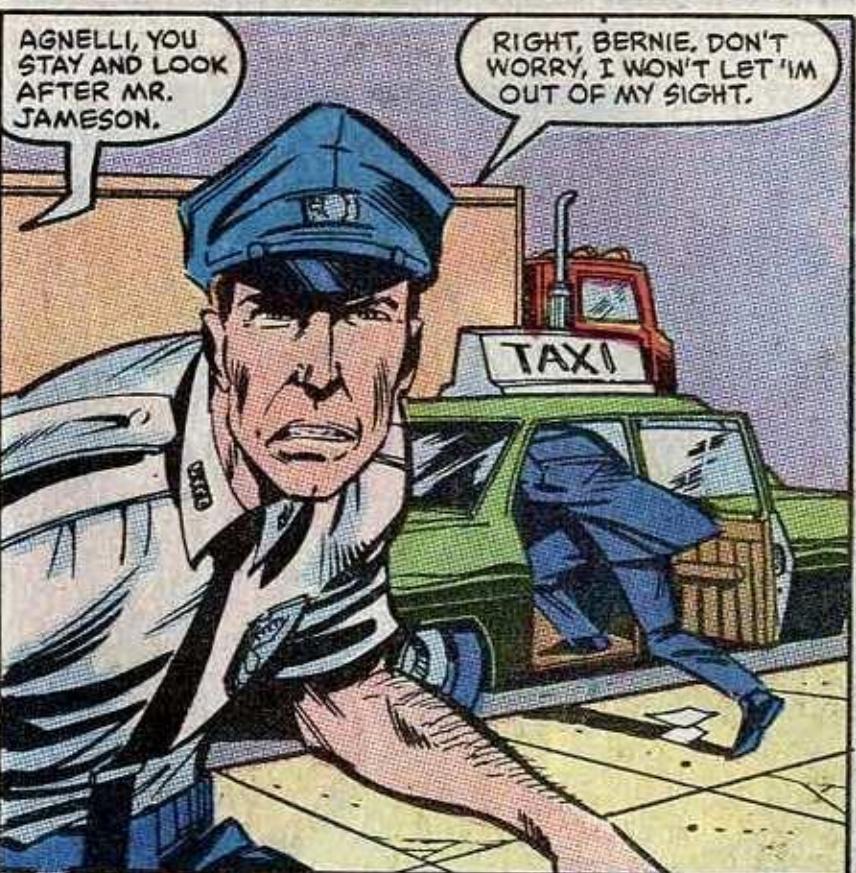
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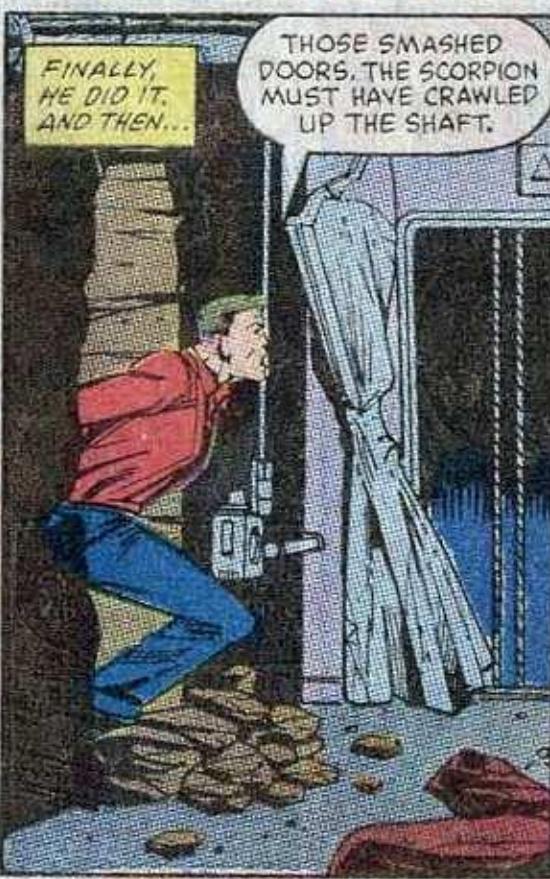
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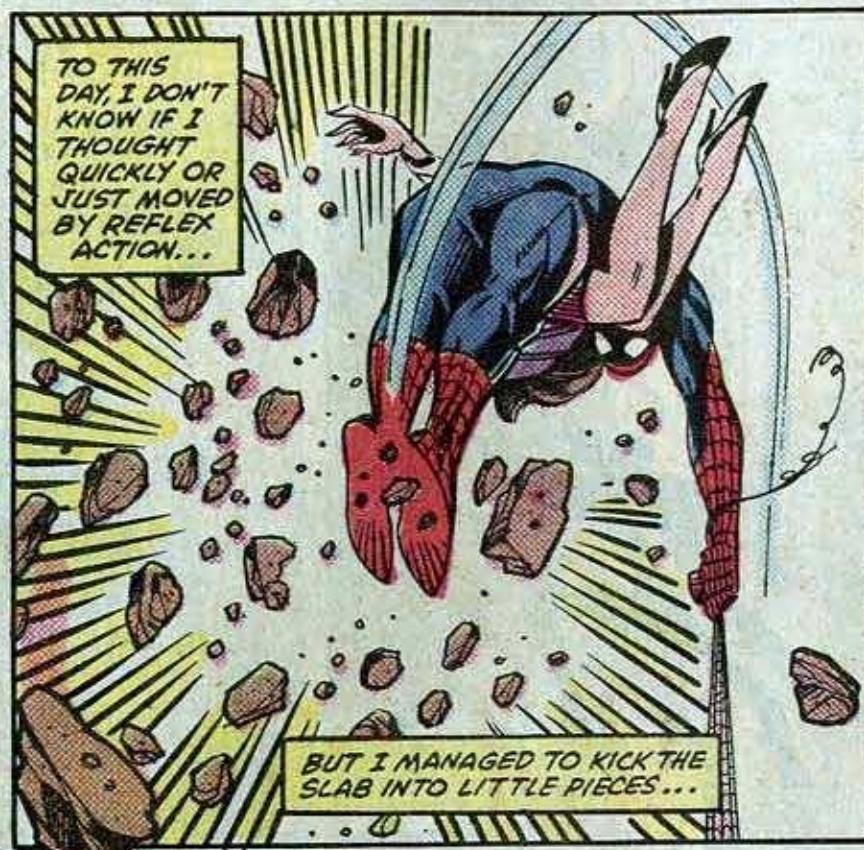
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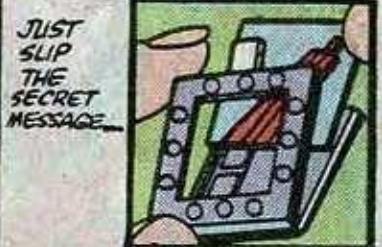
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OUR SECRET
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WHEN I HEARD ABOUT IT LATER, I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT. JJ SHELLING OUT HARD CASH JUST 'CAUSE THE LADY HE LOVED WAS IN DANGER!

NEXT THING YOU KNOW, HE'D START TIPPING CABBIES AND WAITERS.

MARLA! SHE'S WAKING UP!

AT LEAST I WON'T HAVE TO FIGHT THE SCORPION WITH MY ARMS FULL.

SPIDER-MAN! WHAT HAPPENED? HOW DID WE--?

NO TIME FOR AN INSTANT REPLAY, LADY.

JUST GET DOWN THESE STAIRS, FAST-- DON'T STOP FOR ANYTHING.

SURE, I COULD HAVE SPLIT, TOO. BUT I WAS THROUGH RUNNING.

HAH! I CAUGHT YA.

YOU'VE GOT THAT BACKWARDS, TURKEY.

THIS TIME I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT ANYONE ELSE GETTING HURT!

IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US-- AND THAT'S ONE TOO MANY FOR ME!

ZACK!

SO HERE'S WHERE I WHITTLE DOWN THE NUMBERS.

BUT IF I EXPECTED A FAIR FIGHT FROM SCORPY, I NEEDED A LOBOTOMY.

I CAN ALWAYS BEAT YOU. Y'KNOW WHY?

A SECOND LATER, HE SHOWED ME...

YOU CAN'T STAND BY AND SEE INNOCENT PEOPLE GET HURT.

ME, I COULDN'T CARE LESS.

HE WAS RIGHT. HE KNEW I'D BREAK OFF THE FIGHT TO SAVE THE PEOPLE BELOW AGAIN.

THE STREET'S AS CROWDED AS EVER. ONLY ONE WAY TO STOP THAT COR-NICE FROM FALL-ING...

CAN'T WORRY ABOUT THE SCORPION NOW-- AND HE KNOWS IT.

I'LL GET HER ON THE STREET BELOW, AND NO WAY YOU CAN HELP 'ER.

YOU CAN'T LET GO TILL YOU SHORE THAT UP.

SO THERE I WAS, STRAINING MY HEROIC LITTLE HEART OUT, WHILE THAT TAIL-WAVING TROGLODYTE GLOATED.

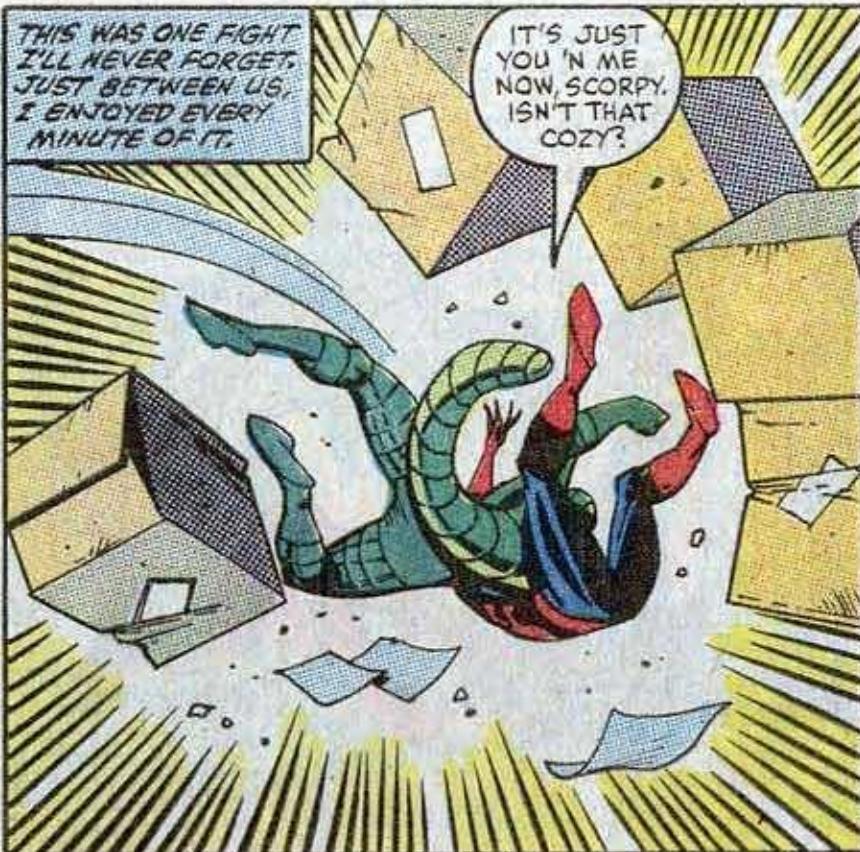
I COULD ONLY WATCH AS HE LEAPED DOWN TOWARDS MARLA...













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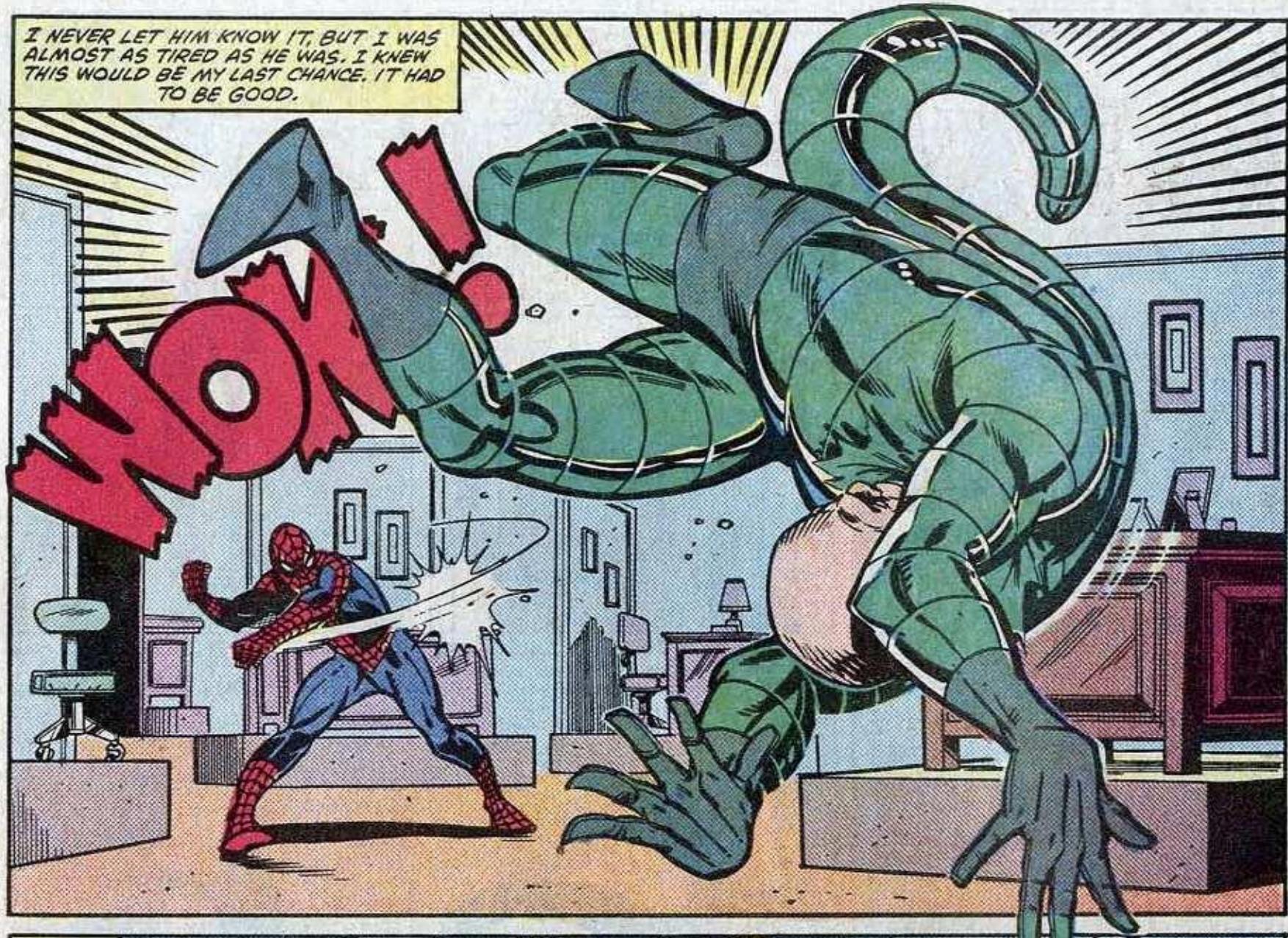
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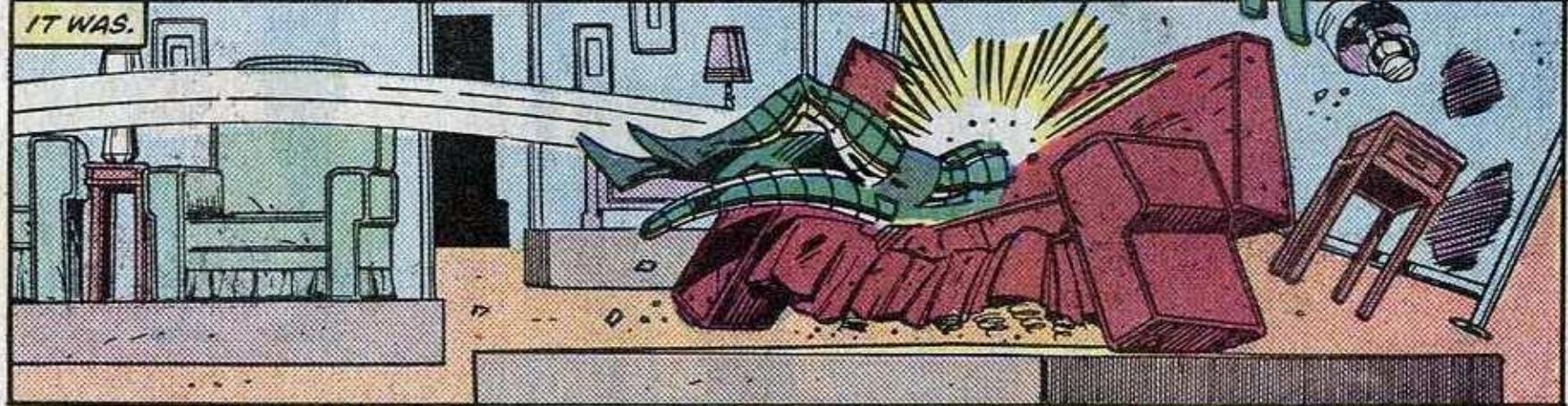
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I NEVER LET HIM KNOW IT, BUT I WAS ALMOST AS TIRED AS HE WAS. I KNEW THIS WOULD BE MY LAST CHANCE. IT HAD TO BE GOOD.



IT WAS.



SINCE WE HAD SHARED SO MANY INTIMATE MOMENTS TOGETHER, I FIGURED THE LEAST I COULD DO WAS LEAVE MY CALLING CARD.

I HATE TO FIGHT AND RUN, SKINHEAD, BUT YOU'VE TURNED INTO A REAL PARTY POOPER.

A FEW SECONDS LATER, THE LAW ARRIVED AND CARTED SCORPY AWAY. THEY DIDN'T SEE ME HIDING 'WAY UP ON THE CEILING. IT'S JUST AS WELL.

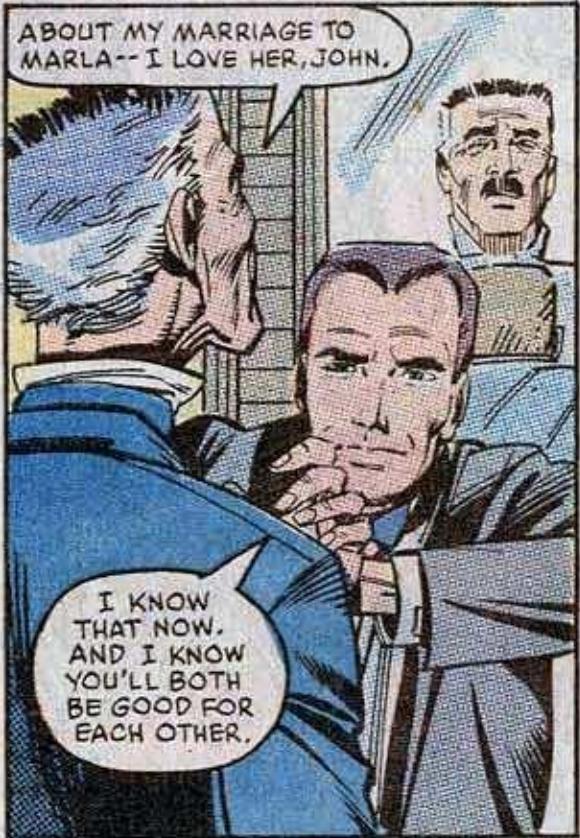
I'D PROBABLY HAVE BEEN STUCK WITH A BILL FOR THE BUSTED FURNITURE.

IT'S OVER, MARLA. WE'RE SAFE NOW.

JONAH, IF ANYTHING HAD HAPPENED TO YOU...

CONGRATULATIONS, MR. J. YOU'VE GOT ONE SPUNKY LADY.

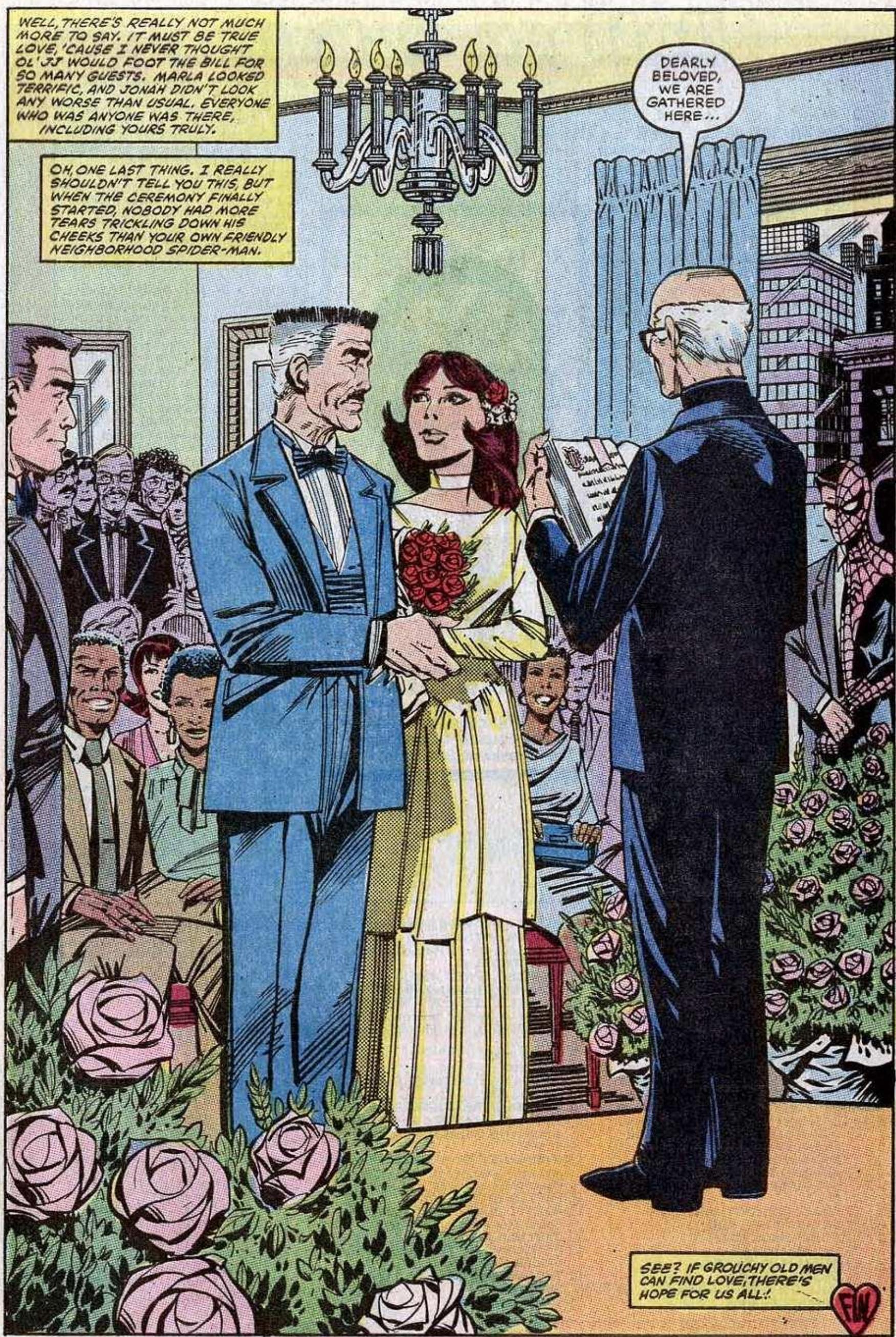




WELL, THERE'S REALLY NOT MUCH MORE TO SAY. IT MUST BE TRUE LOVE, 'CAUSE I NEVER THOUGHT OL' JJ WOULD FOOT THE BILL FOR SO MANY GUESTS. MARLA LOOKED TERRIFIC, AND JONAH DIDN'T LOOK ANY WORSE THAN USUAL. EVERYONE WHO WAS ANYONE WAS THERE, INCLUDING YOURS TRULY.

OH, ONE LAST THING. I REALLY SHOULDN'T TELL YOU THIS, BUT WHEN THE CEREMONY FINALLY STARTED, NOBODY HAD MORE TEARS TRICKLING DOWN HIS CHEEKS THAN YOUR OWN FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN.

DEARLY BELOVED,
WE ARE
GATHERED
HERE...



Bullpen Bulletins

On Monday, June 4, 1984, Sol Brodsky passed away.

Most of you probably never heard of him, or, if you did, very likely you didn't pay much attention. Sol didn't spend a lot of effort trying to get headlines, or fighting to get his name bigger in the credits. He was too busy getting things done, invariably on time and under budget, so that someone else could get the glory.

Typically, at this point in one of these things, the writer launches into a long and thoroughly boring list of the many behind-the-scenes contributions of the deceased. Forget it. There isn't enough room here, or in a thousand of these columns. Besides, I think Sol would want this short and sweet (and on time, and under budget). Suffice it to say, therefore, that he was one of the all-time biggies in this industry. Sure, he was Stan Lee's right hand during the early years here, but he was no mere backstage helper-outer / man-Friday, you understand. He was a force. A shaper. A builder.

He did a lot to help get us — the comics biz — this far.

Now he's gone. We'll remember him, of course, because of what he did — but more, because of the way he did it. He was a fine, fine man.



Jim Shooter



SOL BRODSKY
1923-1984
Production Manager
Vice-President, Operations
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THE HYPE BOX

ICEMAN (Limited Series) #1 — He was a charter member of the X-Men, and he currently belongs to the New Defenders. But in this four-issue limited series, he's on his own! And even with all his experience, he finds that being a super hero still isn't all that easy! Who are White Light and The Idiot, and why are they causing all that trouble? Will Iceman finally get a date with the beautiful and mysterious Marge? The answers to these questions and more are brought to you by writer J.M. DEMATTEIS, penciler ALAN KUPPERBERG, and inker MIKE GUSTOVICH.

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AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #18 — Face front, true believers! This amazing annual features the return of "The Man" readers around the world have been clamoring for! That's right, SMILING STAN LEE is back, scripting the tale of one of the most eventful days in Spidey's life! And when Dailey Bugle publisher J. Jonah Jameson gets married, you just know that this will be a wedding that no one will ever forget! Read "The Scorpion Takes a Bride!" Plot by TOM DEFALCO. Breakdowns by RON FRENZ. Finishes by BOB LAYTON and JACKSON "BUTCH" GUICE. Script by STAN LEE! Excelsior!

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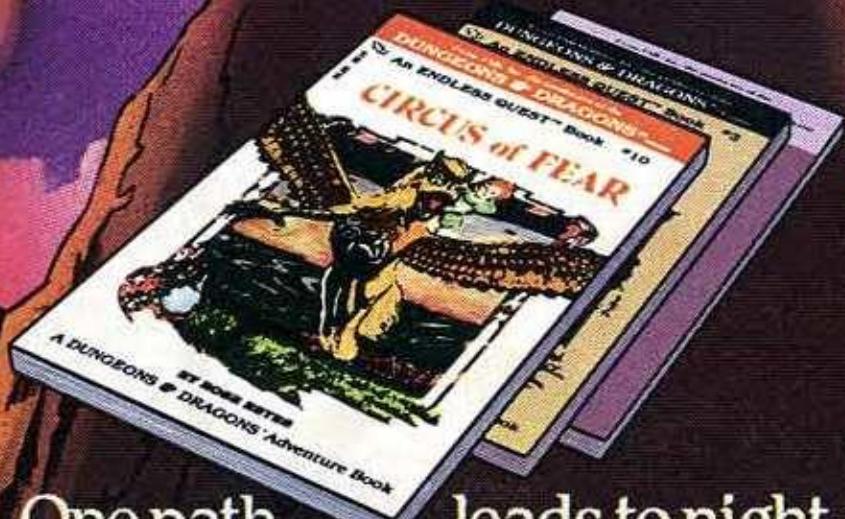
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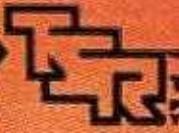
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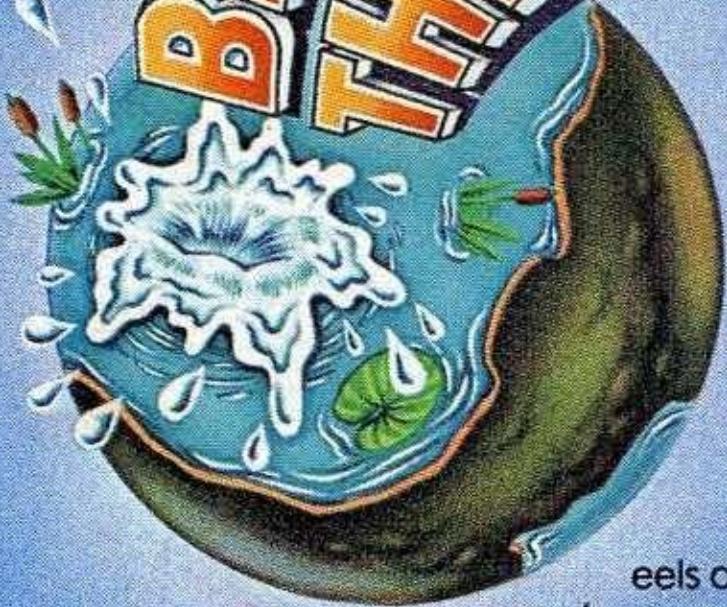


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And if you don't bounce high enough in the sky, a flying dragon named Clyde will zap you. Are you up to the challenge? Find out. New Frogger II Threedeep!

Get hopping on it.



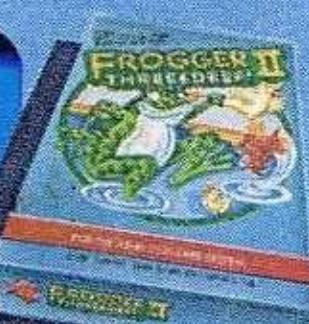
TREACHERY UNDERWATER*



VILLAINY ON THE SURFACE.



EVIL HI-JINKS IN THE SKY.



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