

MARVEL®  
Comics

THE DAUGHTER OF THE TRUE SPIDER-MAN!

# SPIDER-GIRL

APR  
#7



YOU MAY  
HAVE FOUND A  
WAY TO DEFEAT  
DARKDEVIL,  
YOUNG MISSY--

--BUT YOU'LL  
NEVER BEAT THE  
MAN CALLED

**NOVA!**

"YOUNG  
MISSY"--!  
WHAT A  
JERK!

BONUS FEATURE!  
"THE LAST  
DAYS OF  
SPIDER-MAN!"

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DEFALCO

OLLIFFE

WILLIAMSON

EVEN WITH YOUR AMAZING SPIDER-LIKE SPEED, YOU BARELY MANAGE TO DODGE THE FLAMING MISSILE --

--BUT THAT'S THE LEAST OF YOUR CURRENT PROBLEMS!

Stan Lee PRESENTS:

# SPIDER-GIRL

TOM DEFALCO WRITER  
PAT O'LEARY PENCILER  
AL WILLIAMSON INKER

CHARACTERS: JANICE  
SCHEELE LETTERER  
COLORIST: BOB RARRAS  
CHIEF

AS MUCH AS I LIVE FOR YOUR APPROVAL,  
I REALLY DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS NONSENSE.

AN INNOCENT BOY'S LIFE COULD BE AT STAKE!

BE AT EASE, FAITHFUL READER!  
THIS MAY LOOK LIKE THE MIDDLE OF A STORY, BUT WE PROMISE TO FILL IN THE NECESSARY DETAILS AS WE ROCKET ALONG!

TOUGH! YOU SHOULD HAVE ANTICIPATED SOME ADDITIONAL COMMUTING TIME WHEN YOU FIRST DONNED THAT STUPID OUTFIT.

WHAT KIND OF HERO WOULD I BE IF I DIDN'T STOP TO QUESTION A SUSPICIOUS-LOOKING CHARACTER LIKE YOU?

OKAY! OKAY! YOU STOPPED! YOU QUESTIONED! AND NOW YOU KNOW IT'S ME!

ARE YOU FINALLY SATISFIED?

CAN I GO?!

I'M AFRAID NOT.

WHILE YOUR INCESSANT WHINING DOES HAVE A FAMILIAR RING TO IT, I STILL DON'T PLACE THE MASK.

YOU SURE YOU DON'T WORK FOR THE KINGPIN OF CRIME?

I'M REAL SERIOUS ABOUT BEING IN A HURRY, AND I WON'T ALLOW YOU TO DELAY ME ANY LONG--

DID MY FLAMING CONSTRUCT STARTLE YOU, CHILD?

I CAN BE SUCH A DEVIL AT TIMES.

OOOOO! YOU'D BETTER LISTEN UP, DARKDEVIL!

YOUR NAME IS MAY "MAYDAY" PARKER.

AND YOUR ONCE AVERAGE EXISTENCE HAS GOTTEN SO VERY COMPLICATED EVER SINCE YOU LEARNED THAT YOUR FATHER WAS THE ORIGINAL SPIDER-MAN.

UNFORTUNATELY, DADDY DEAREST HASN'T QUITE ACCEPTED THE FACT THAT YOU INTEND TO CONTINUE THE FAMILY TRADITION.

I'M SORRY I ACCIDENTALLY WOKE YOU UP LAST NIGHT WHILE I WAS... UHHHHH...

CHECKING UP ON ME?

SUGAR SMACKED WHACKIES

WE NEED TO TALK, DAD.

IT'S OBVIOUS THAT YOU THINK I'M STILL SNEAKING OUT TO PLAY SPIDER-GIRL--

--EVEN THOUGH YOU TOOK MY COSTUME AWAY!

THIS IS RIDICULOUS, MOM! I INHERITED MY SPIDER POWERS FROM HIM--

--BUT HE ACTS LIKE THEY'LL GO AWAY IF HE JUST IGNORES THEM.

I... I CAN'T DISCUSS THIS NOW. I'M DUE AT WORK.

CAN'T YOU PERSUADE HIM TO SIT DOWN WITH ME?

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, HOTSHOT... I'VE TRIED!

BUT HE ISN'T READY TO ADMIT THAT HIS BABY IS GROWING UP, AND THAT HE CAN'T PROTECT YOU FOREVER.

H-HIS BABY?!

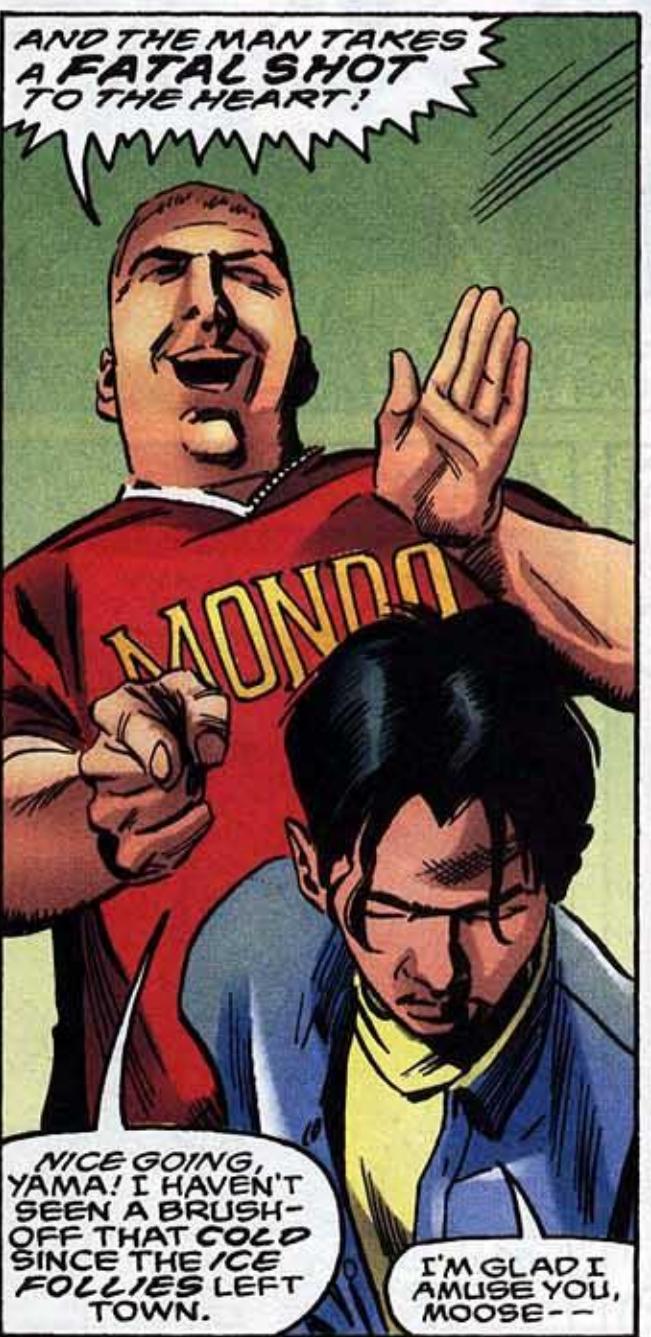
IS THAT HOW HE SEES ME?

WHAT NOW, LITTLE GIRL?

HOW DO YOU WIN YOUR FATHER OVER?

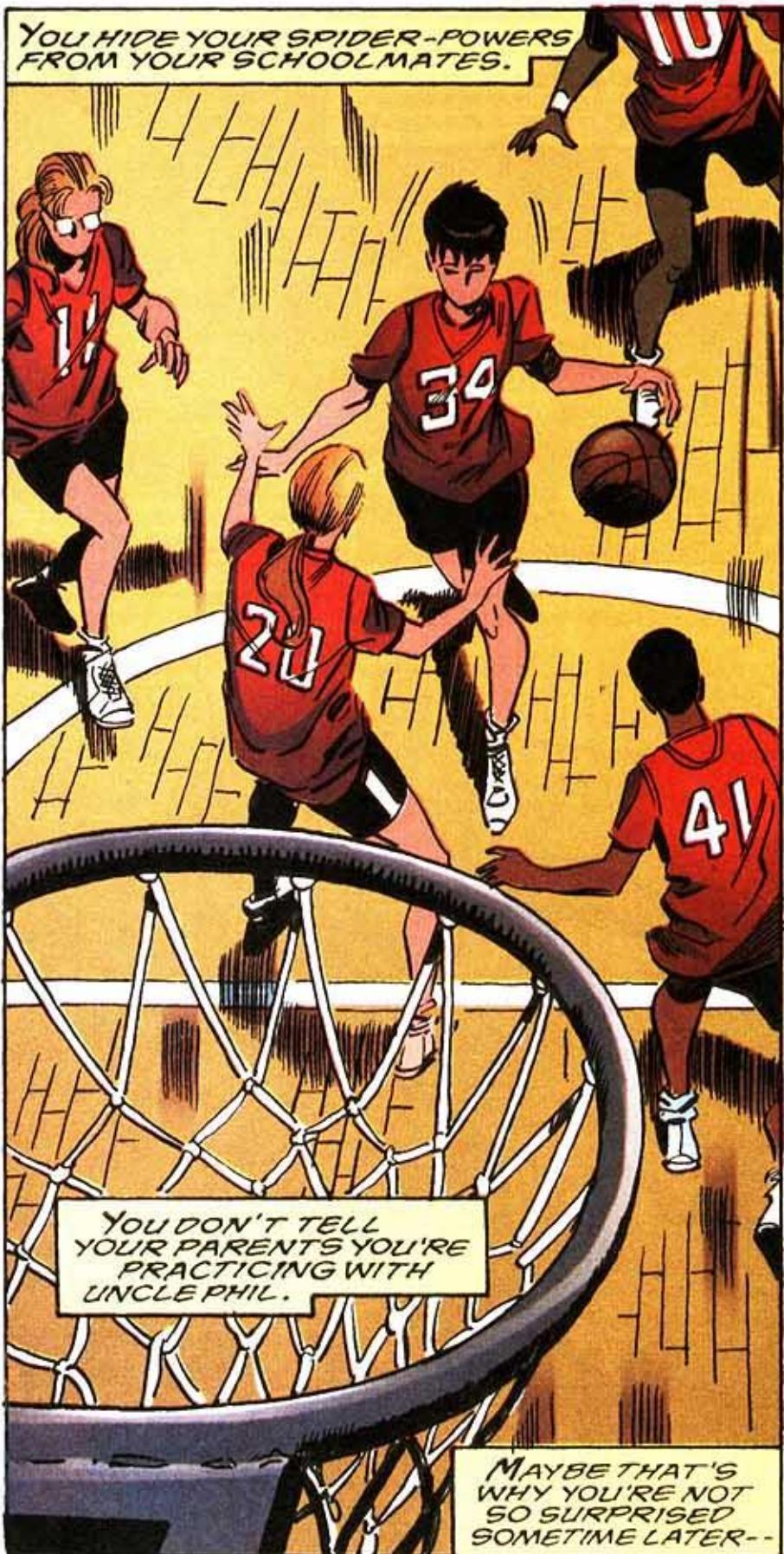
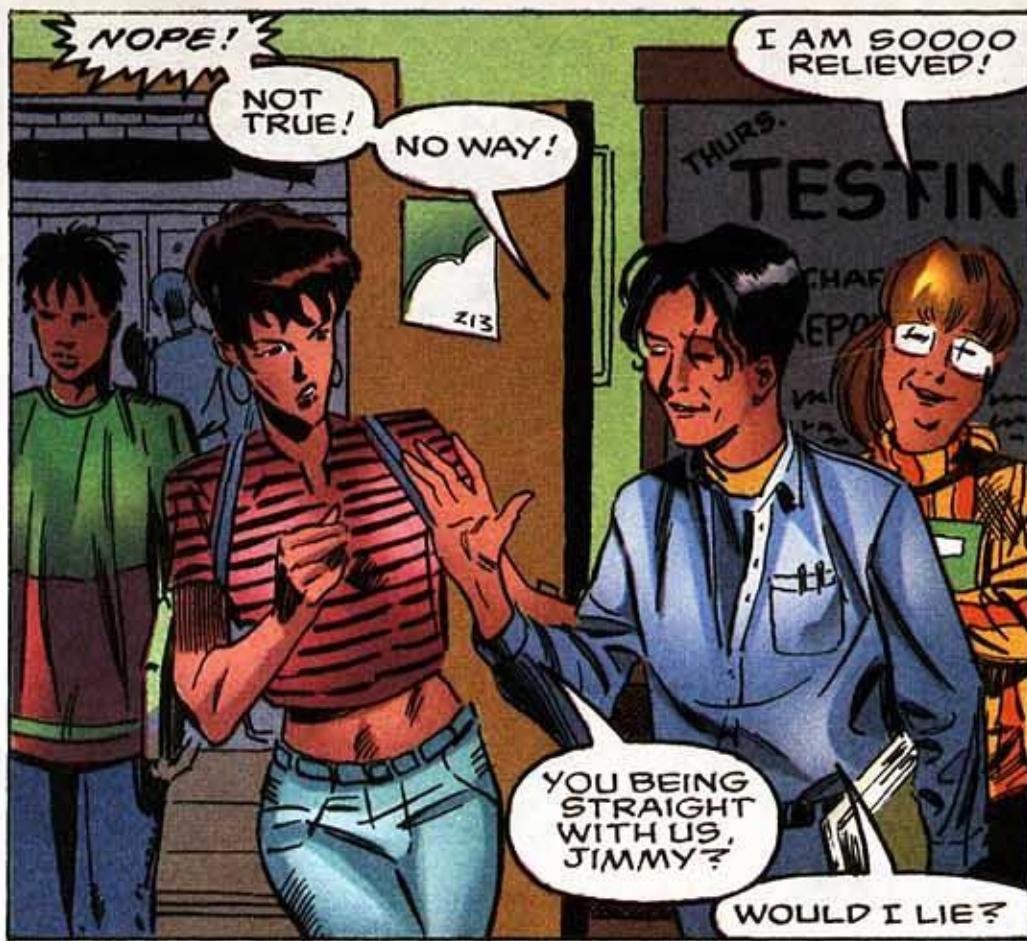
SWELL!!

HOW CAN YOU PROVE YOU'RE WORTHY OF YOUR WEBS?









-- WHICH, IN YOUR CASE, INVOLVES AN OLD SKI MASK --

-- (TO CONCEAL YOUR IDENTITY) --

-- AND SOME SPIDER-LIKE ROOF-HOPPING!

AT LEAST UNTIL YOUR SPIDER-SENSE SUDDENLY ROCKS YOUR WORLD --!

IT MAY NOT BE THE MOST DIGNIFIED WAY TO TRAVEL, BUT IT CERTAINLY BEATS THE BUS.

DID I FRIGHTEN YOU, CHILD?

TOO BAD!

YOU SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN TO PROWL THE ROOFTOPS DRESSED LIKE A COMMON BURGLAR!

ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING YOUR PREDECESSOR'S PARTICULAR FONDNESS FOR BURGLARS!

DARKDEVIL!

HI!

BASED ON THAT OH-SO-SUBTLE REMARK, YOU OBVIOUSLY RECOGNIZE ME. FINE! THAT MEANS WE CAN SKIP THE USUAL GRATUITOUS, IDENTITY-ESTABLISHING FIGHT.

LOOK, I HATE TO BANTER AND RUN... BUT I'M IN A REAL RUSH.

HOW'S ABOUT WE SAVE YOUR BRAND OF TOUGH-LOVE ENCOURAGEMENT FOR ANOTHER OCCASION?

YOU KNOW I WON'T LET YOU OFF THAT EASY.

BASED ON YOUR CURRENT ATTIRE, I'D SAY YOUR COMMITMENT TO THE HEROIC LIFE IS WAVERING.

THAT'S PROBABLY FOR THE BEST, LITTLE GIRL. I NEVER THOUGHT YOU HAD THE RIGHT STUFF, ANYWAY.

GET OFF MY BACK--

A FRIEND OF MINE COULD BE HOSPITALIZED IF I DON'T ARRIVE IN TIME!

ALMOST TOO EASY.

IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW BETTER, YOU'D ALMOST SUSPECT--

YOU SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF THAT BEFORE YOU ;UGNN:

WOW! THAT WAS EASY!

Noooo!



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--UNLESS YOU  
FORCE HIM!

I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT.  
I'M SURE WE CAN END THIS NONSENSE  
IF WE JUST TALK.

TALKING  
IS GOOD.

BUT--SILLY ME--I HAVE  
THIS THING ABOUT MASKED  
ASSAILANTS WHO THREATEN  
ME WITH CHUNKS  
OF DEBRIS!

FINE!

HOW DO YOU FEEL  
ABOUT GIRLS WITH  
THE PROPORTIONATE  
SPEED AND AGILITY  
OF A SPIDER?

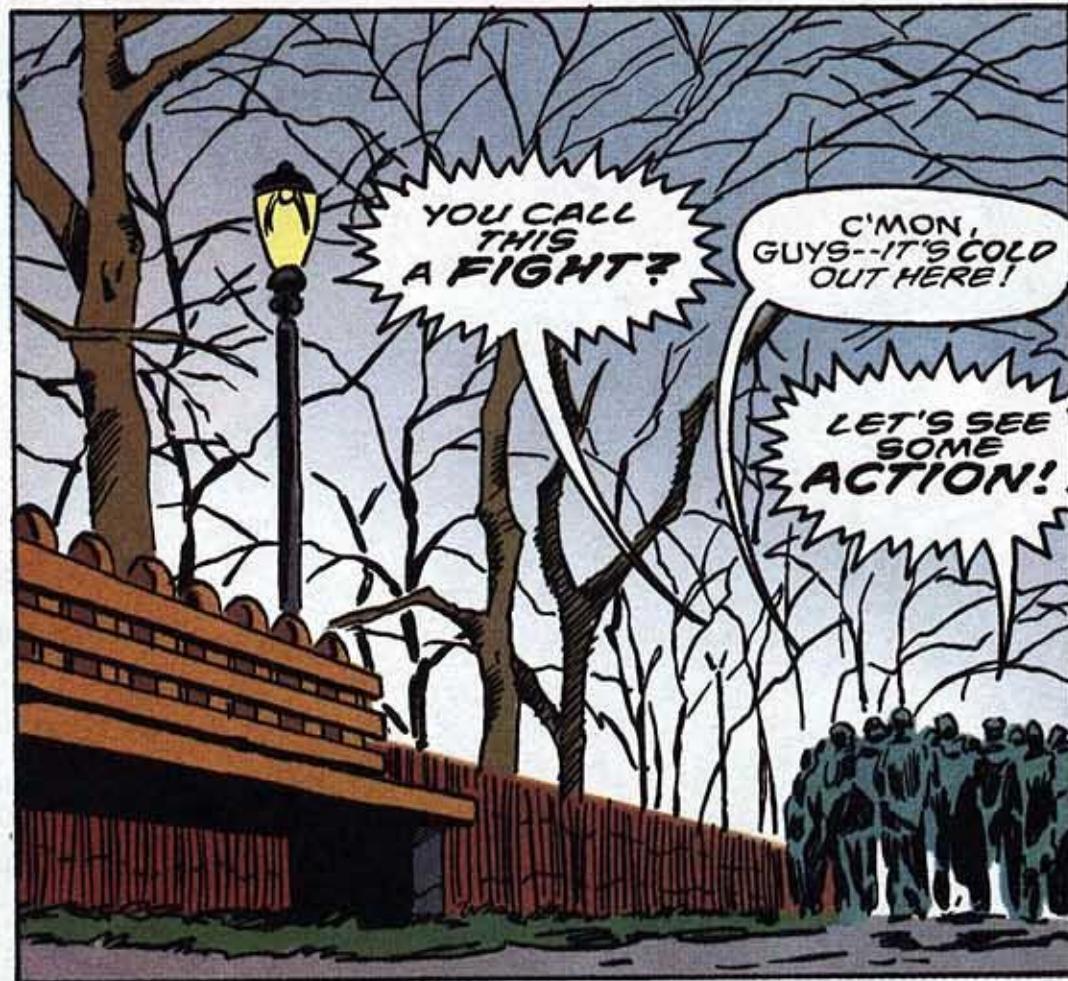
YOU FOR  
OR  
AGAINST?

W-WHAT ARE  
YOU DOING?!

ME, I'M JUST PLAYING  
PEEK-A-BOO WITH A CERTAIN  
HUMAN ROCKET.

DON'T  
TRUST 'EM!  
NEVER DID!  
  
IT'LL BE  
FUN UNTIL  
SOMEONE  
LOSES  
AN EYE--  
--A HEAD--  
--OR A  
SKYSCRAPER!

ESPECIALLY WHEN  
THEIR STRENGTH APPEARS  
TO RIVAL MY OWN!





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THANK YOU!  
THANK YOU! THANK YOU!  
YOUR ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE  
AND SPIRITED SUPPORT FOR  
OUR ALL-NEW  
*MC-2* UNIVERSE HAS MADE  
US A SOLID HIT!

SO MUCH SO THAT  
THE POWERS THAT BE AT  
MIGHTY *MARVEL* HAVE DECIDED  
TO EXPAND OUR EVER-HUMBLE  
LINE OF COMIC BOOKS. THERE'S  
ONLY ONE QUESTION--  
**WHO SHOULD STAR**  
IN THIS NEW TITLE?

THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN!  
SINCE YOU HELPED MAKE  
*MC-2* A REALITY, IT'S ONLY  
FITTING YOU HELP DECIDE  
WHICH CHARACTER OR SUPER-TEAM  
SHOULD GET HIS/HER/THEIR  
OWN COMIC BOOK.

YOU CAN SELECT  
ONE OF THE  
CANDIDATES WE'VE LISTED  
BELOW, OR WRITE  
IN YOUR OWN NOMINEE.

# VOTE

**MARVEL®**  
*Comics*  
*2*

I think the next MC-2 title should  
go to \_\_\_\_\_!

You can use this ballot, make a copy of it or just scribble us a note.  
All votes must be received by March 15, 1999 to be counted.  
So make your choice, and mail it to:

Vote MC-2 c/o Marvel Comics 387 Park Avenue South  
New York, NY 10016



Argo the Almighty



Coal Tiger



Darkdevil



Doc Magus



Ladyhawk



Mainframe



Thunderstrike



Wild Thing



Earth Sentry



Fantastic Five



Stinger



X-People



Magneta



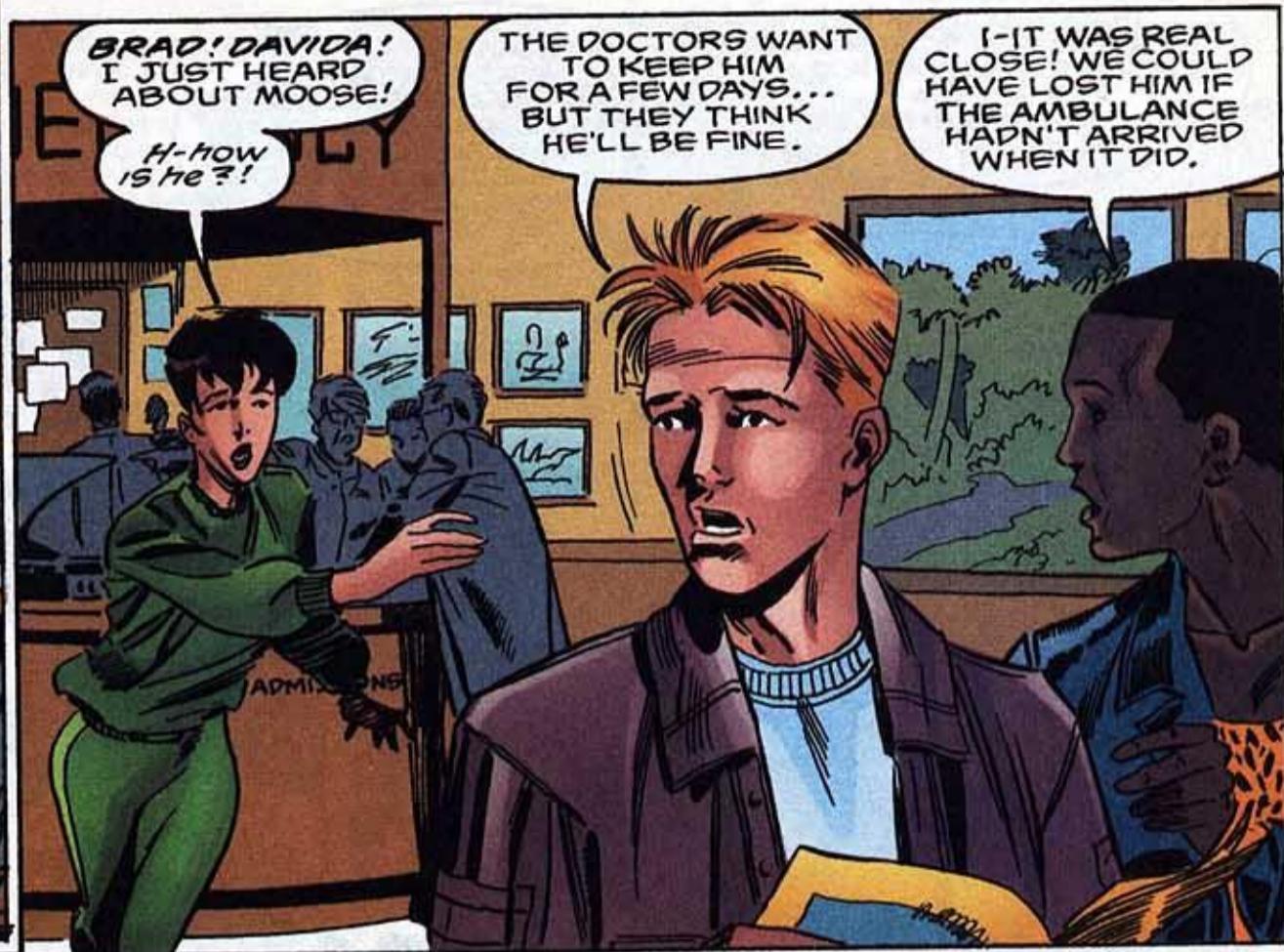
Freebooter



Bluestreak



American Dream



Stan Lee proudly presents a very special turning point in the life of  
the stunning SPIDER-GIRL!

# THE LAST DAYS OF SPIDER-MAN!

YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE BEING OH-SO-CLEVER, WAITING UNTIL THE HOUSE WAS APPARENTLY DESERTED BEFORE SURREPTITIOUSLY SLIPPING INTO THE ATTIC.

NOT QUITE.

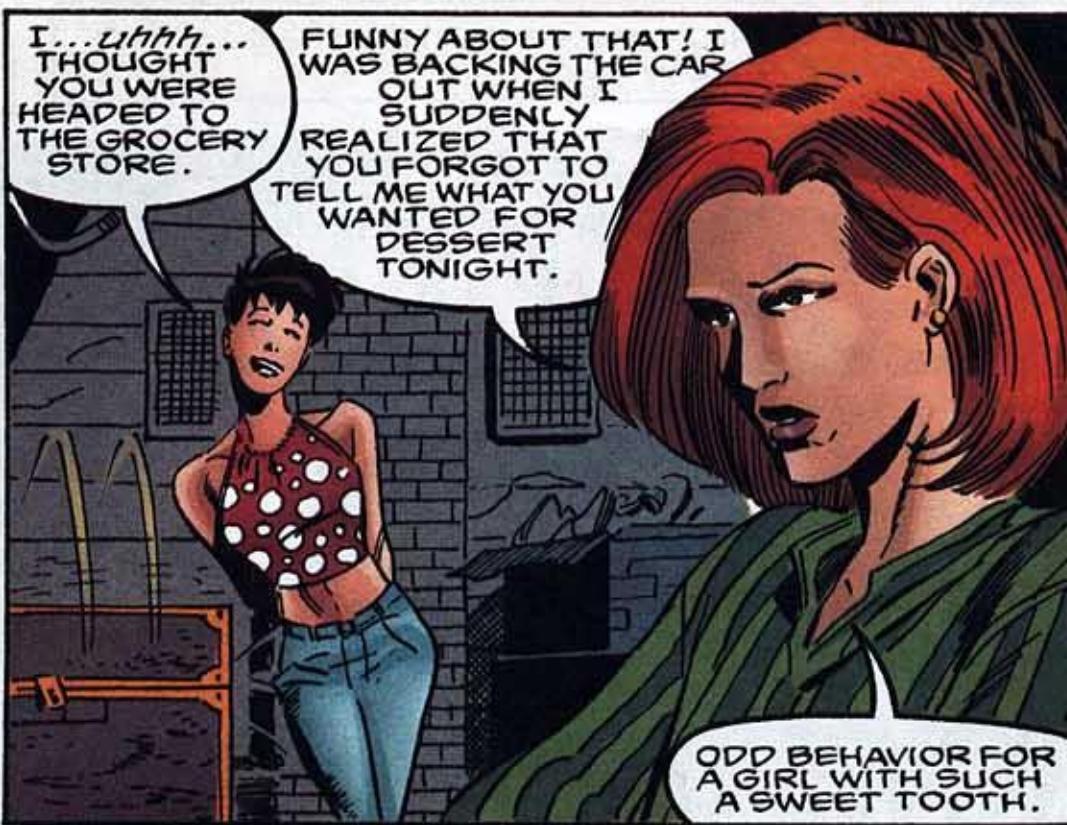
LOOKING FOR ANYTHING SPECIAL, HOTSHOT?

YOUR NAME IS MAY "MAYDAY" PARKER, AND YOU ARE THE DAUGHTER OF THE ORIGINAL SPIDER-MAN.

UPON LEARNING THAT YOU WERE ATTEMPTING TO FOLLOW IN HIS WEB-STEPS, YOUR DAD TOOK YOUR COSTUME AWAY.

HOWEVER, RECENT EVENTS HAVE CONVINCED YOU THAT YOU HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO REASSUME THE MANTLE OF SPIDER-GIRL.

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



"IT WAS AN AWESOME  
RESPONSIBILITY!"



"I CAN'T TELL  
YOU HOW MANY  
TIMES IT  
OVERWHELMED  
HIM--"

--AND HE  
TRIED TO  
WALK AWAY  
FROM IT!"

DAD KEPT  
QUITTING--?!

ALMOST SEEMED  
LIKE AN ANNUAL  
EVENT!

YOU SEE, ALL  
PETER EVER REALLY  
WANTED WAS  
A NORMAL, AVERAGE  
LIFE.

BUT, WHENEVER HE  
GOT CLOSE--



--SOME  
SUPER-  
MENACE  
EXPLODED ON  
THE SCENE --

--AND THAT OLD SENSE  
OF RESPONSIBILITY  
KICKED IN!

"WHEN WE FIRST DISCOVERED  
I WAS PREGNANT WITH YOU--



--WE BOTH  
BELIEVED THAT  
HIS NEW DUTIES  
AS A PARENT  
WOULD TAKE  
PRECEDENT OVER  
HIS SPIDER-THING.

"NO SUCH  
LUCK!"

"I KNOW HE  
HATED LEAVING  
US--



--BUT HE  
ALWAYS DID!"

"AT LEAST UNTIL HIS FINAL BATTLE WITH NORMAN OSBORN, THE ORIGINAL GREEN GOBLIN."



"T-THAT MONSTER HATED YOUR FATHER, AND WANTED TO DESTROY EVERYTHING HE CHERISHED!"

"I DON'T WANT TO GO INTO THE DETAILS-- BECAUSE THEY NO LONGER MATTER-- BUT IT WAS THE MOST HORRIFIC FIGHT OF PETER'S LIFE."

"I'LL NEVER FORGET THAT AWFUL NIGHT..."

"JOHNNY STORM, YOUR FATHER'S CLOSEST FRIEND IN THE SUPER HERO COMMUNITY, WAS THE ONE WHO MADE THE CALL THAT I ALWAYS KNEW WOULD COME."



1-15  
HE--?!

NO! HE'LL MAKE IT, BUT I--



I...uhhhh...BETTER LET REED EXPLAIN.



WE KEPT HIS FACE MASKED TO CONCEAL HIS IDENTITY.

IT WAS TOUCH AND GO FOR AWHILE. THE SURGEONS BELIEVE THEY'VE REPAIRED MOST OF THE DAMAGE, BUT THEY...

THEY COULDN'T SAVE HIS RIGHT LEG.

YOU MUSTN'T GIVE UP HOPE.

I BELIEVE WE CAN DESIGN A REPLACEMENT THAT WILL MAKE YOU STRONGER, FASTER, MORE POWERFUL THAN EVER.

YOU'LL BE BACK WALL-CRAWLING BEFORE YOU KNOW IT.



"BUT SPIDER-MAN WAS THE LAST THING ON YOUR FATHER'S MIND--!"

COME ON!  
ONE MORE SET OF EXERCISES BEFORE WE BREAK FOR LUNCH.



--AND CONCENTRATE ON THE IMPORTANT THINGS IN MY LIFE!

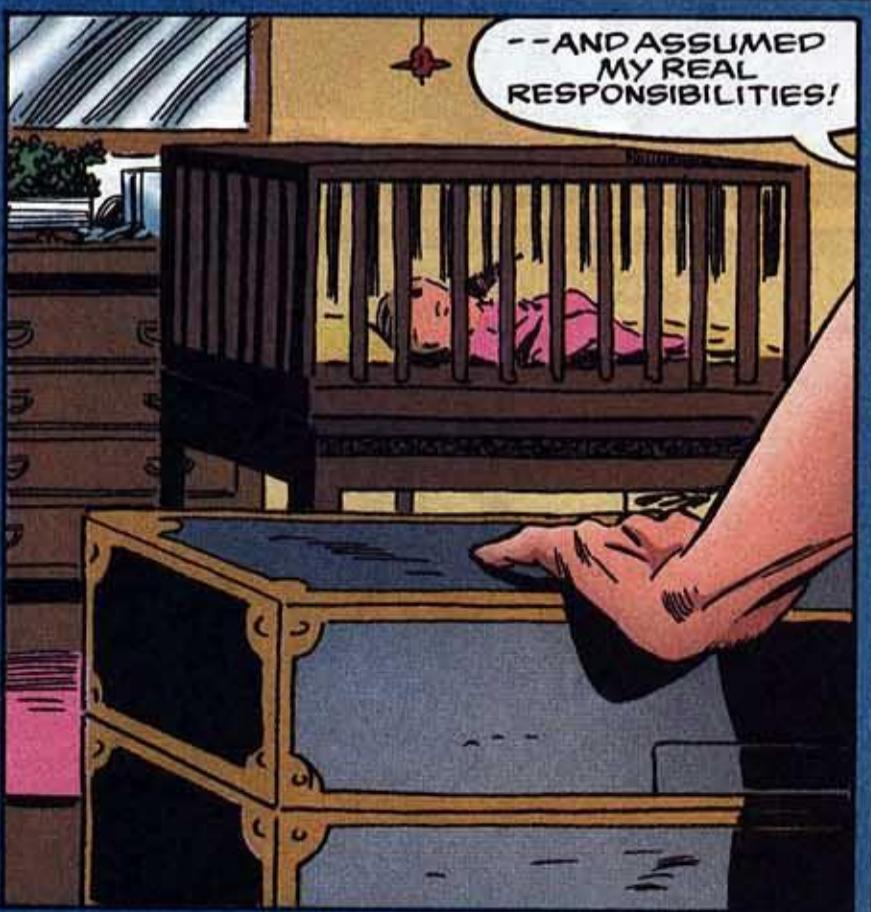


"A FEW DAYS LATER, PETER HAD MADE A CRUCIAL DECISION!"

REED RICHARDS CALLED ME AT WORK, SAID YOU TOLD HIM TO STOP WORK ON THE BIONIC LEG.

W-WHAT'S GOING ON, PETER?

I... I THINK I'M FINALLY GROWING UP.





# SPIDER-GIRL

Dear Mr. DeFalco  
SPIDER-GIRL #5 was nearly a perfect comic book story. My only objection was that Peter never got around to that heart-to-heart chat he intended to have with May. It seemed that after their encounter with Venom, both would have benefited from being able to discuss what had occurred. But Peter continues to be very close-minded about the subject of May's new career. And, because of this, May never got the chance to ask him if some of those things Venom said were just the symbiote trying to manipulate her, or whether they were actually Peter's very real doubts about her career coming to the surface.

I also enjoyed the miscommunication scene between Peter and Phil Urich. In addition to being a terrific set-up for the next chapter, it reminded me very much of some of the classic misunderstandings Stan The Man used to have Spidey falling into, where very often--like in real life--people heard exactly what they wanted to hear, and exciting new drama was born!

All of you are doing Stan Lee proud with MC-2!  
Mark J. Kiewlak  
Nanticoke, PA

Cut it out, Mark! You're making us blush!

Dear Spider-Girl,  
I love the fact that Spider-Girl wears the Sensational Spider-Man's costume design! Don't you dare change it! It's already different enough from the classic Spider-Man costumes. Yet, in a way, it's also a cherished family heirloom. It's completely in character for May to value this particular costume design, and it just looks great on Spider-Girl!

I also believe that you should keep the second person narration style. I'll admit that I found it a bit awkward at first. Now that I'm used to it, I feel it's part of the identity of the Spider-Girl title. I think that you should stick to your webs and keep it. It's a fresh approach that is another reason why Spider-Girl is different from other comics.

I do have a few suggestions that I would like to see...I think it's time for some two-issue storylines. You can go so much deeper with a plot that way.

I like the Jimmy Yama character. I think that he will make a good first boyfriend for May.

I'd like to see May grow her hair a little longer. (Maybe you could justify it as being the way Jimmy prefers...if the storyline goes toward Jimmy and May dating.)

We also might be able to use a J. Jonah Jameson type character to keep May climbing the walls.

And my last suggestion is a title for the letters page: CURSE OF THE SPIDER-GIRL! It works on several levels. The most obvious being that "Curse" is one of the classic words used in naming a movie sequel, and this title is a proud sequel to the Spider-Man books, after all.

Bryan E. Leed  
Dayton, OH

An interesting batch of suggestions, Bryan...although we think May looks real cute in that short hair! (Especially the way Passionate Pat Olliffe and Industrious Al Williamson depict her!)

Dear Spider-People,  
If the Dragon King is so deadly, why did Spider-Girl defeat him so easily?

David Bahart  
Baltimore, MD

Everyone has a weak-

ness.  
David...and she exploited his! (Just ask yourself how fast you'd cave if your comic book collection was at stake!)

Dear Spider-Girl,  
I agree with letterwriter Jacob Gilbert. May and J2 should get together!

David DeRose  
Kirkwood, MO

David, you and Jacob will almost--kind'a, sort'a--get your wish in our next issue.

Hey, Web-Stunners!  
Will the ever-stunning one have more titles?

Stephen Roberts  
Alberta, Canada

You mean like the SENSATIONAL, SPECTACULAR, WEB OF, or AMAZING SPIDER-GIRL? Oh, sure! We're, like, totally convinced our readers want that, Stephen! Riiiiight! (Although we are planning an annual for later this year!)

Dear Spider-People,  
What's a symbiote's average life span in earth years?

Rebecca Maidl  
Shawnee, WY

It's about equal to the IQ of the average comic book fan, Rebecca.

Dear Spider-Girl folk,  
Mayday Parker is what musicians refer to as a "variation on a theme." While the idea of retelling the Spider-Man myth from point A, using a female and thirty-five years of accrued Marvel history is interesting, the original remains the best. I like May Parker and I enjoy "What If" stories if for no other reason than to see a creative team reinterpret the fates of the Marvel heroes. But, to paraphrase what legions of fans said during the clone saga, there is only one true Spider-person. And he's sporting a cute little goatee in this tale.

I know this is May's story, but don't make Peter a wimp for her cause. May is an interesting character, but Spider-Girl is less so. If she is to become one, it is this reader's opinion that her power should not just ape her father's--he still has his.

Rarely in Marvel history has a second-generation super hero inherited the same abilities as the first. If May's powers were slightly altered, it would seem less like a variation on a theme, and more like a song written for her. And, as for her costume, it looks great on her. It also looked great on Ben Riley!

Sally Cutler  
Imlay City, MI

Be patient, Sally! May hasn't discovered all her powers...yet!

Hi, Tom!  
SPIDER-GIRL #5 was an enjoyable issue...though I found myself missing some of the High School supporting cast. Just goes to show that you've made them interesting...or why would I care, right?

You've got me curious who the publisher of the Bugle is...could it be retired Col. John Jameson? How about Randy Robertson? Best of all, it would still be JJJ...too ornery to retire, and laying in wait all these years to torture yet another generation of Parkers!

It's nice you found a home for your character Phil Urich. I honestly thought your GREEN GOBLIN series

was some of your best work, and was sad the book never seemed to find its audience. Ready for another time travel idea? How about an issue where May goes back to save Phil's life as a teenager when he was the Goblin? Since he almost lost his life a number of times through his daring and inexperience, it seems like he had a Guardian Angel.

Actually, I think Spider-Girl's costume is terrific. It seems simple and dynamic at first glance, but is quite complicated when I stop to take a closer look. Kudos to Pat Olliffe and Al Williamson for making it look natural and appealing.

Craig D. Smith  
Norwalk, CA

Thanks for noticing, Craig! Pat and Al are true masters of their craft.

## HYPE SECTION!

ON SALE  
NEXT  
WEEK!

AVENGERS NEXT #7

WHILE STINGER AND MAINFRAME ARE FORCED INTO AN UNEASY ALLIANCE AGAINST THE DEADLY ION MAN, AN ALL-NEW SUPER-VILLAIN, HE OTHER AVENGERS GATHER AROUND JARVIS TO HEAR HIS PAINFUL MEMORIES OF THE FINAL MISSION AND TRAGIC EVENTS THAT ULTIMATELY LED TO THE DISBANDING OF THE LAST TEAM. AND, AS IF THAT ISN'T ENOUGH, STINGER FINALLY DISCOVERS THE SECRET OF MAINFRAME!

ON SALE  
IN TWO  
WEEKS!

J2 #7  
DROPPING IN  
FOR A VISIT WITH THE UNCANNY X-PEOPLE, CYCLOPS MEETS ZANE, AND TELLS HIM ABOUT HIS FATHER'S LAST MISSION WITH THE X-MEN IN "THE LAST DAYS OF THE ORIGINAL JUGGERNAUT!"

JUGGIE EXPERIENCES A SUDDEN AND POSSIBLY FATAL WEIGHT LOSS WHEN HE CONFRONTS PARODY, AN ALL-NEW SUPER-VILLAIN, IN "THE DAY J2 LOST NEARLY 1,000 POUNDS!"

PLUS-RINA, THE DAUGHTER OF WOLVERINE, BONDS WITH HER MOTHER AS THEY GO CLOTHES SHOPPING, AND CROOK BOPPING IN "GIRLS NIGHT OUT"...A SPECIAL BONUS FEATURE WHICH GUEST-STARS MAYDAY AND MARY JANE PARKER!

ON SALE  
NEXT  
MONTH!

SPIDER-GIRL #8

WHEN JIMMY YAMA IS ARRESTED FOR ASSAULT, MAYDAY PARKER AND HER FRIENDS ATTEND HIS HEARING IN A SHOW OF MORAL SUPPORT. UNFORTUNATELY, CRAZY EIGHT FROM (SPIDER-GIRL #2) IS BEING ARRAIGNED IN THE NEXT COURTROOM WHEN MR. NOBODY (FROM SPIDER-GIRL #1) ARRIVES TO BREAK HIM FREE. DESPERATE TO RECAPTURE BOTH CRIMINALS, THE EVER-STUNNING SPIDER-GIRL SUDDENLY FINDS HERSELF FIGHTING SIDE BY SIDE WITH A CERTAIN FAMILIAR POLICE SCIENTIST--HER VERY OWN FATHER, PETER PARKER! AND, JUST TO ADD TO THE INSANITY TO THE MIX--AND TO THANK OUR WEB-STUNNER FOR APPEARING IN ISSUE #7 OF HIS BOOK--ZANE (J2) YAMA ALSO DROPS IN FOR A VISIT!

DESIGN BY COMICRAFT

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