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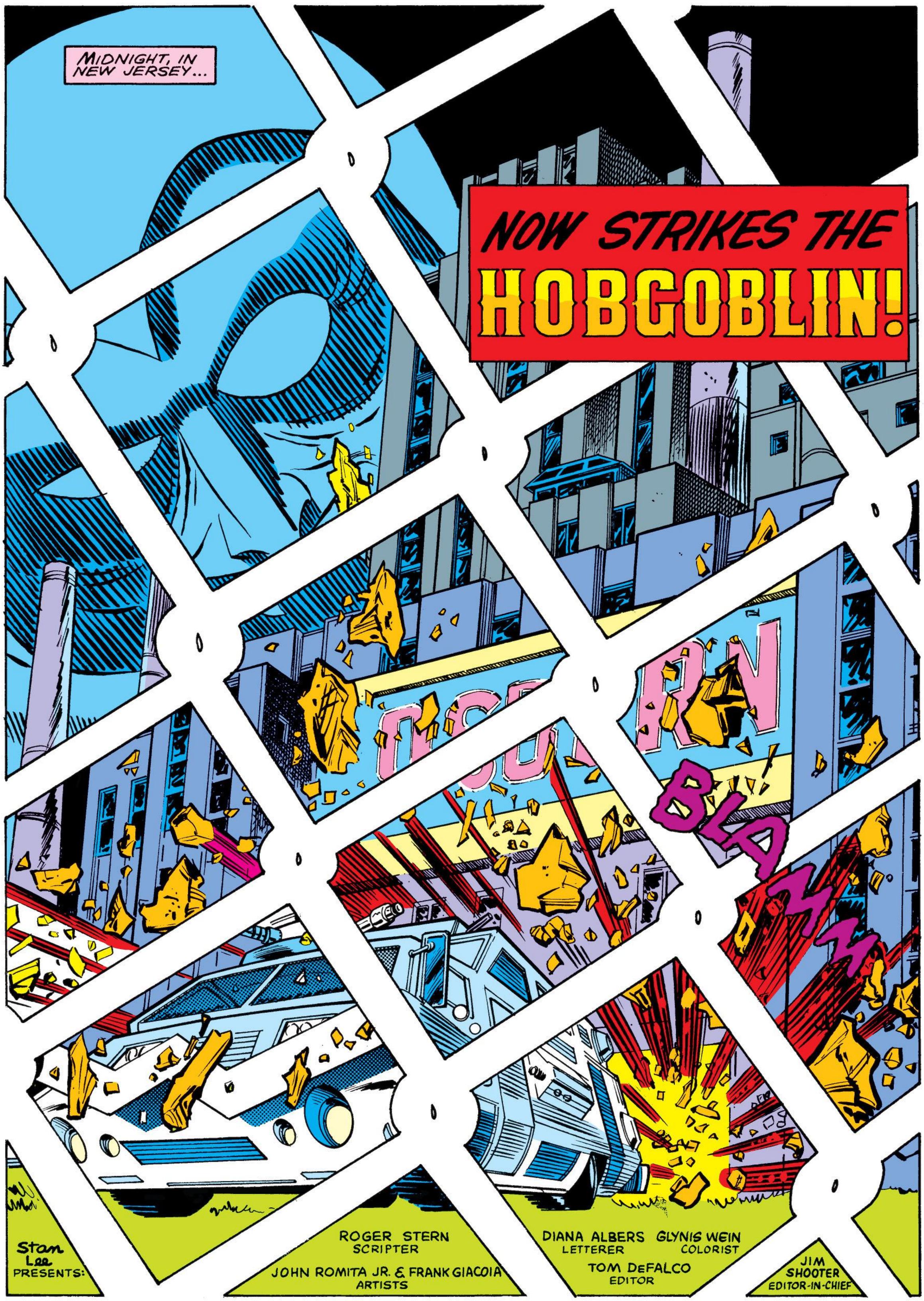
TM
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®
NOW STRIKES THE
HOBGOBLIN
J.R. Jr. + MILGROM



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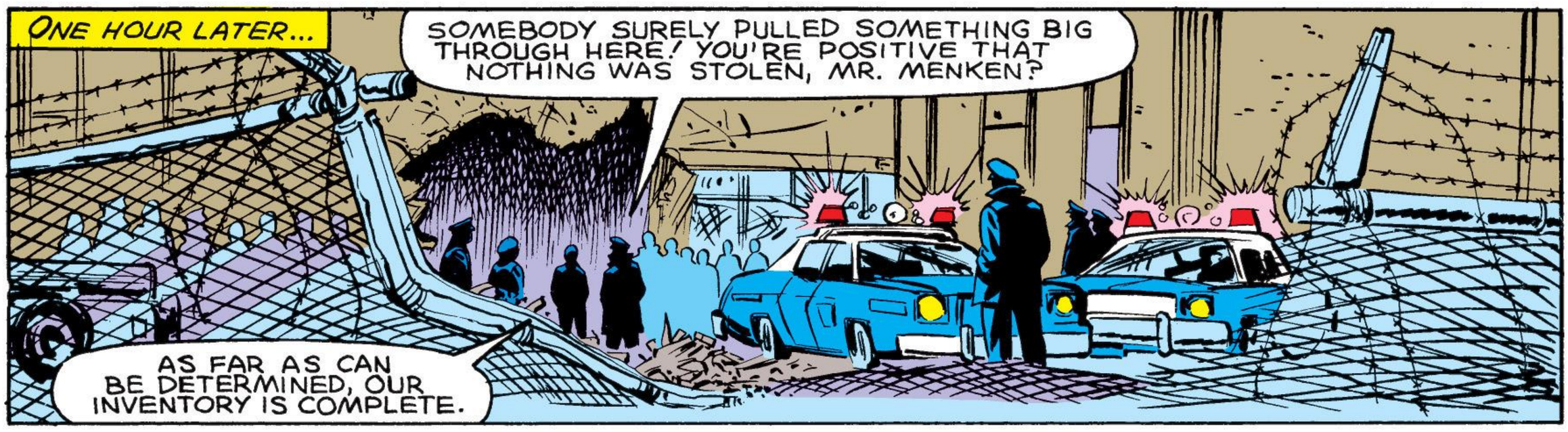
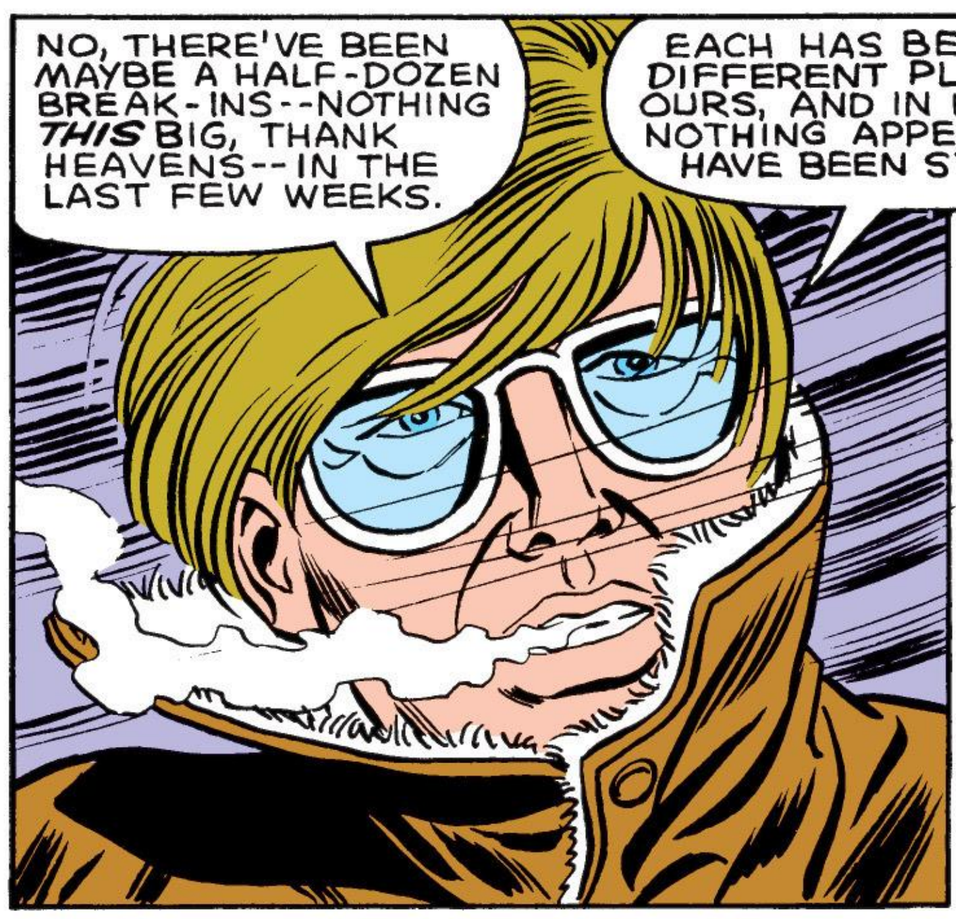
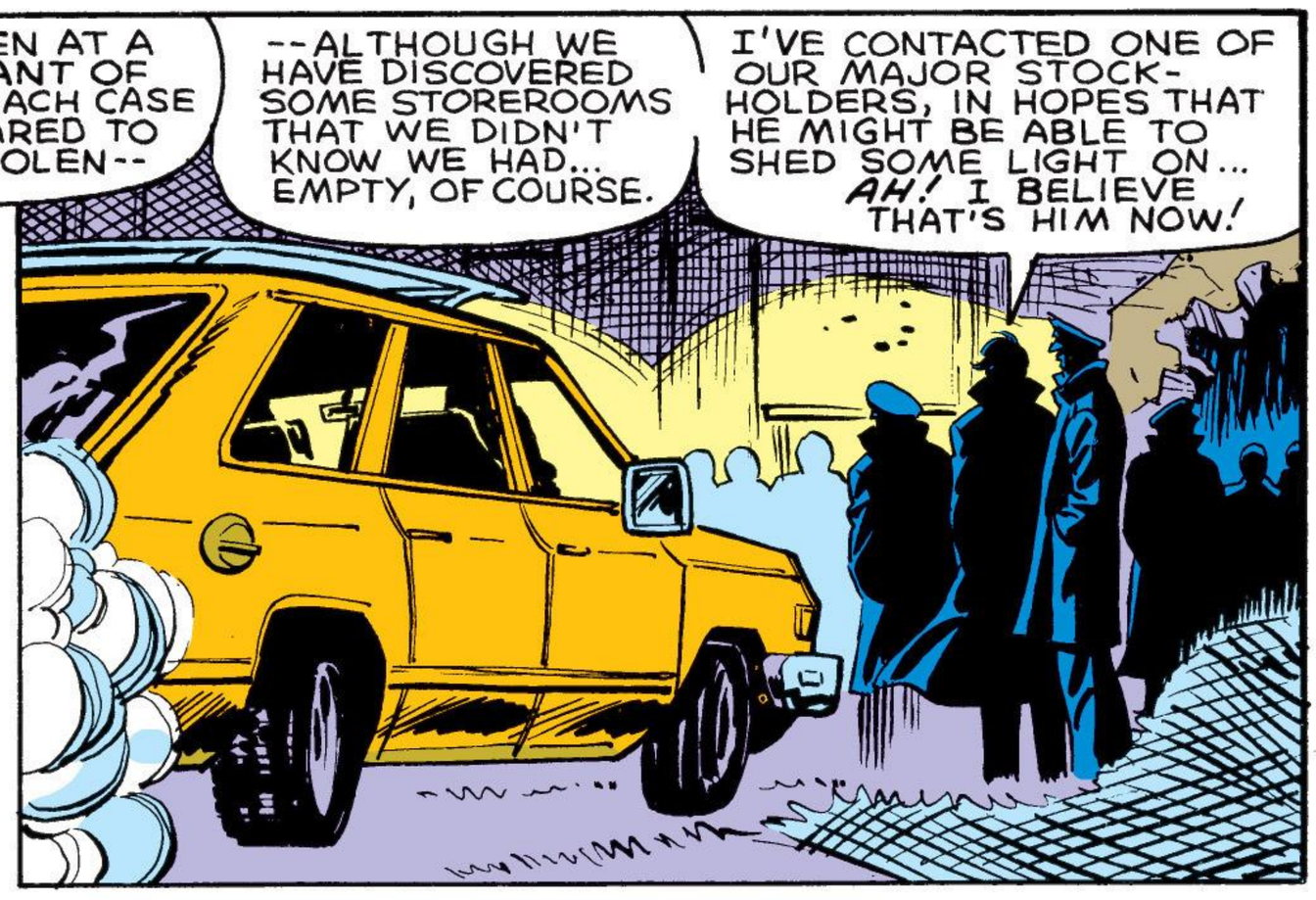
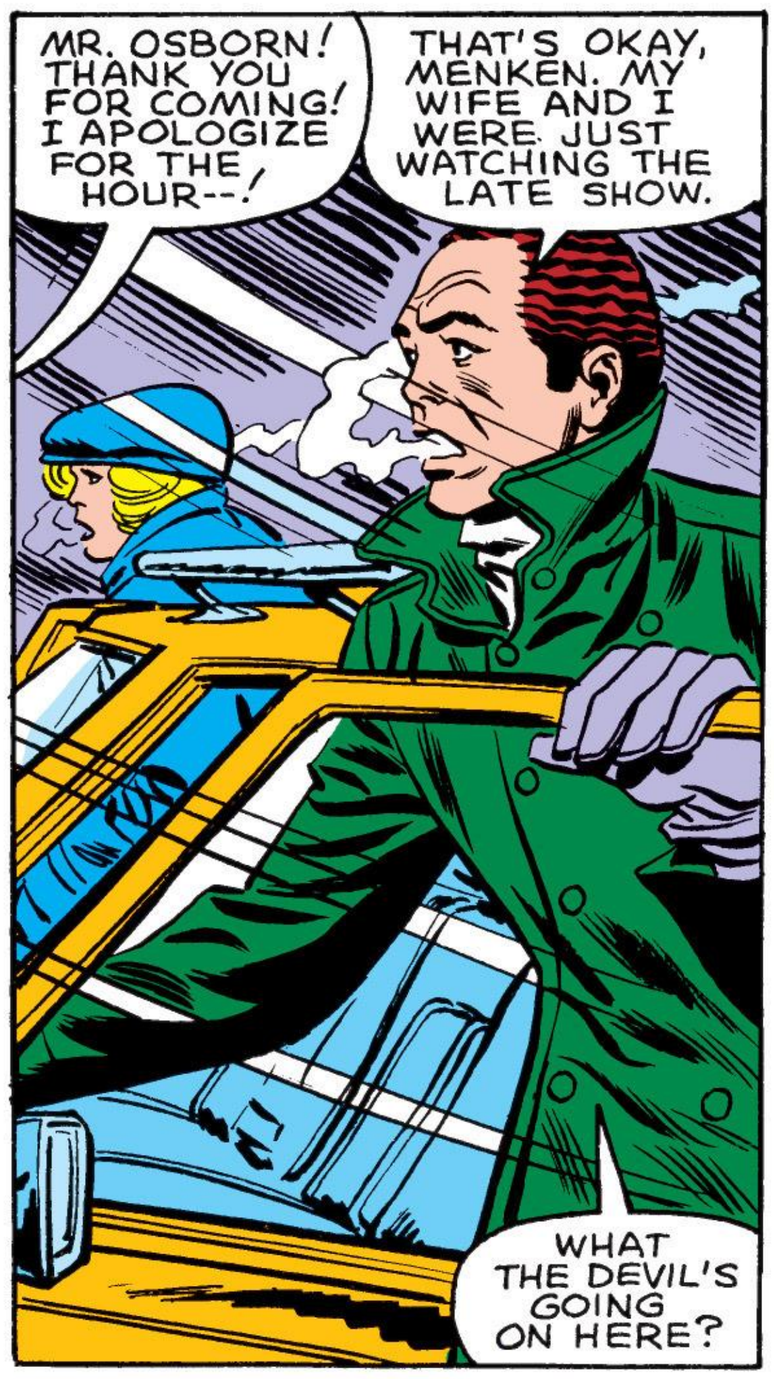

ONE HOUR LATER...
SOMEBODY SURELY PULLED SOMETHING BIG THROUGH HERE! YOU'RE POSITIVE THAT NOTHING WAS STOLEN, MR. MENKEN?
AS FAR AS CAN BE DETERMINED, OUR INVENTORY IS COMPLETE.

I TELL YOU, THOUGH, THE UPPER MANAGEMENT OF OSBORN MANUFACTURING IS BECOMING VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THESE BREAK-INS.
THIS WASN'T THE FIRST SUCH INCIDENT, THEN?


NO, THERE'VE BEEN MAYBE A HALF-DOZEN BREAK-INS--NOTHING THIS BIG, THANK HEAVENS--IN THE LAST FEW WEEKS.
EACH HAS BEEN AT A DIFFERENT PLANT OF OURS, AND IN EACH CASE NOTHING APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN STOLEN--

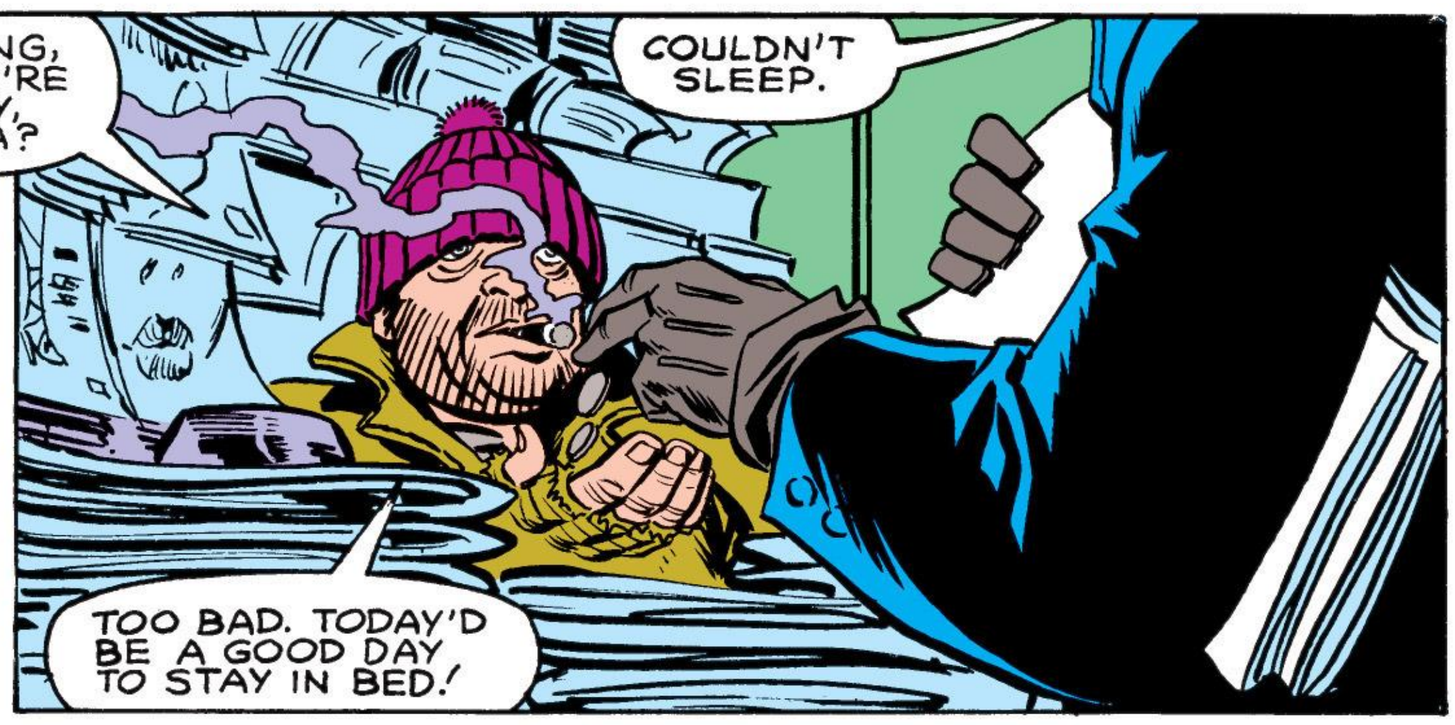

--ALTHOUGH WE HAVE DISCOVERED SOME STOREROOMS THAT WE DIDN'T KNOW WE HAD... EMPTY, OF COURSE.
I'VE CONTACTED ONE OF OUR MAJOR STOCKHOLDERS, IN HOPES THAT HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO SHED SOME LIGHT ON... AH! I BELIEVE THAT'S HIM NOW!


MR. OSBORN! THANK YOU FOR COMING! I APOLOGIZE FOR THE HOUR--!
THAT'S OKAY, MENKEN. MY WIFE AND I WERE JUST WATCHING THE LATE SHOW.
WHAT THE DEVIL'S GOING ON HERE?

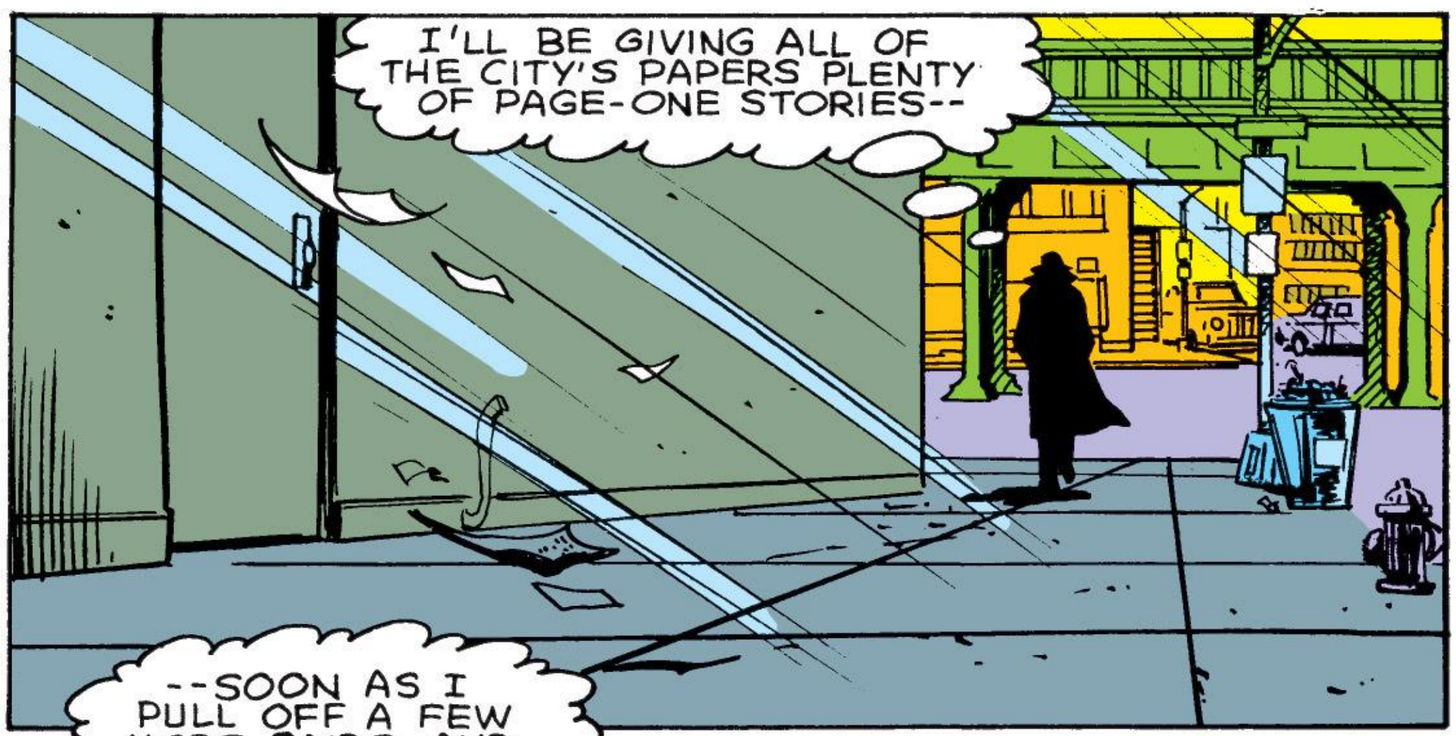
AND, AFTER THE POLICE TELL HARRY OSBORN WHAT LITTLE THEY KNOW...
WHEW! SOUNDS WEIRD, ALL RIGHT. YOU SAY YOU'VE FOUND A SERIES OF THESE... SECRET ROOMS, MENKEN?
YESSIR, AND THEY WEREN'T ON ANY FLOOR PLAN.
BUT... WELL... ALL THE BREAK-INS HAVE BEEN IN PROPERTIES WHICH YOUR LATE FATHER, NORMAN OSBORN, HAD A HAND IN BUILDING OR ACQUIRING. COULD HE HAVE POSSIBLY--?

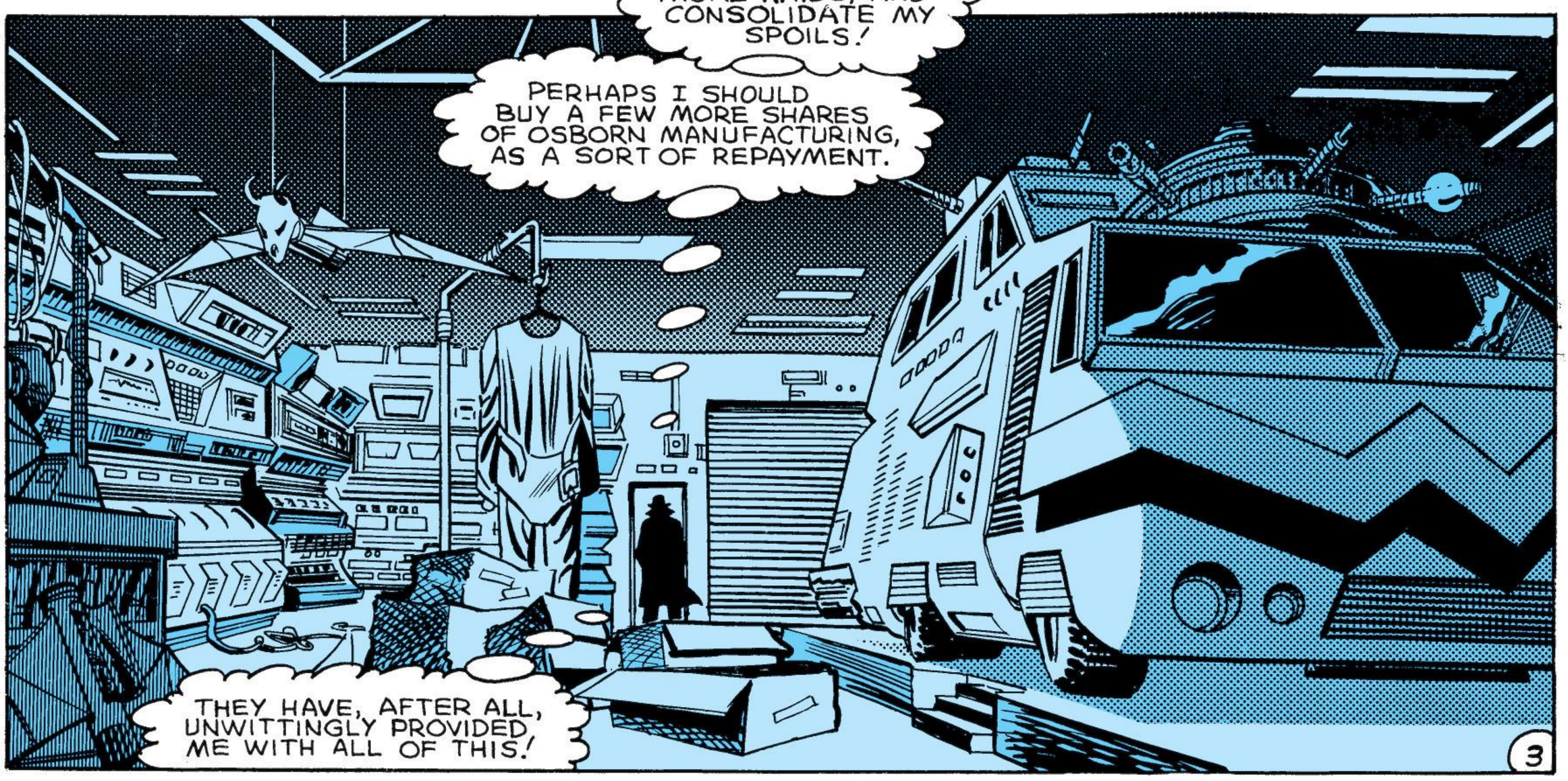
...HIDDEN SOMETHING THAT SOMEONE HAS DISCOVERED? IT'S NOT ONLY POSSIBLE, I'D SAY IT'S PROBABLE!
MY FATHER WAS A SECRETIVE MAN, MENKEN. IF HE HAD SOMETHING STASHED AWAY IN THERE, WE MAY NEVER KNOW WHAT IT WAS!

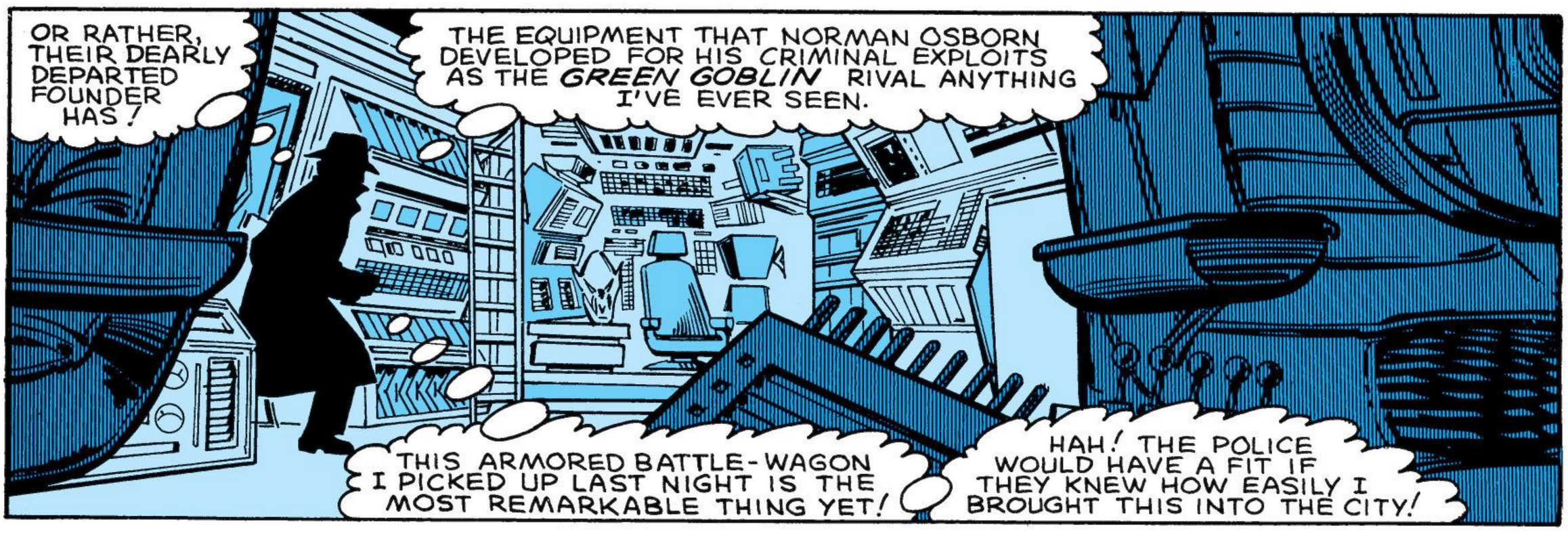
NEW YORK CITY, THE NEXT MORNING...


G'MORNING, SIR! YOU'RE UP EARLY, AIN'TCHA?
COULDN'T SLEEP.
TOO BAD. TODAY'D BE A GOOD DAY TO STAY IN BED!

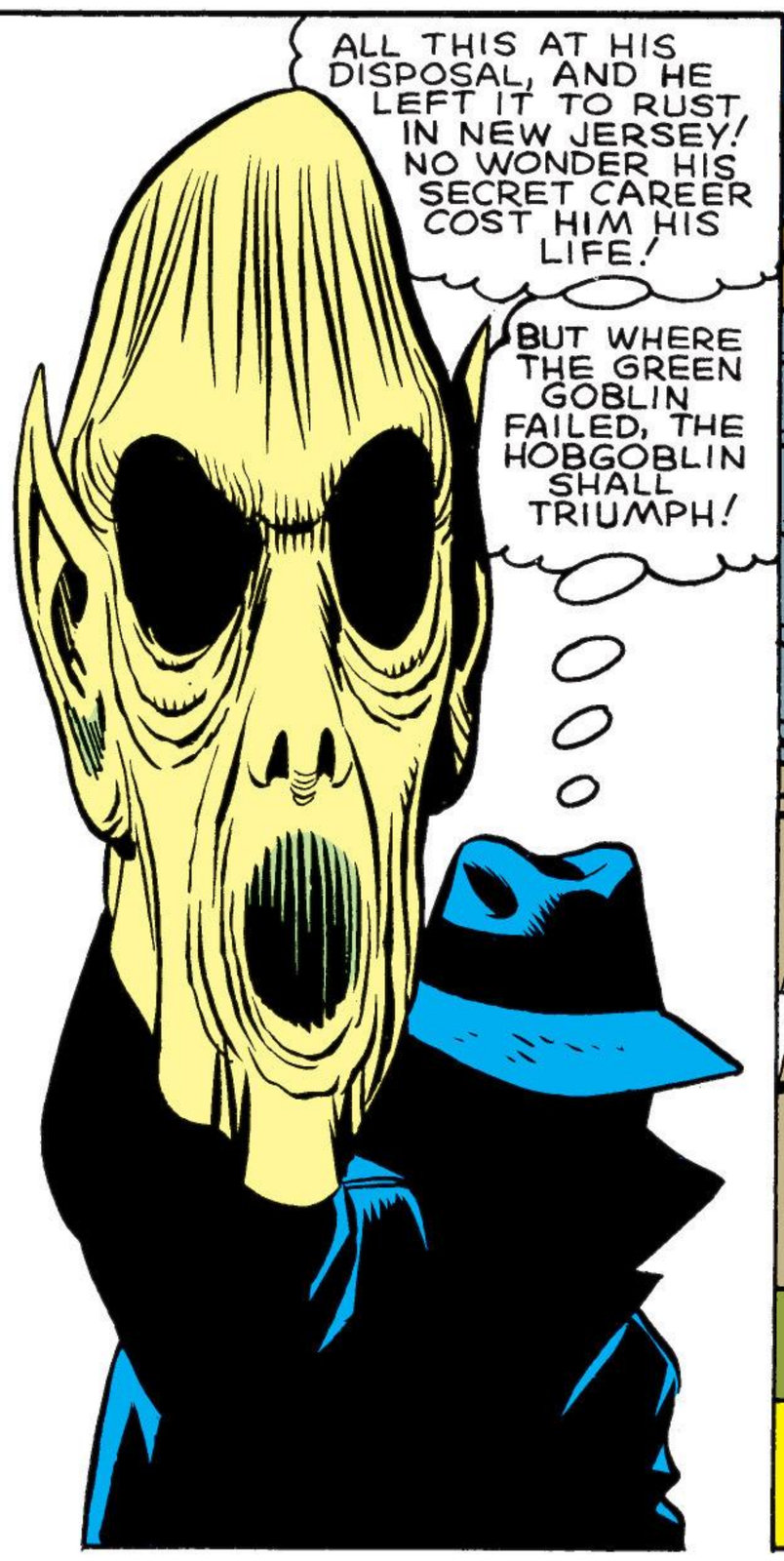
WELL, LOOK AT THIS... "MYSTERY BREAK-IN IN JERSEY"... MY LITTLE ESCAPADE MADE PAGE ONE! YOU CAN ALWAYS DEPEND ON THE DAILY BUGLE!
★★★★ DAILY BUGLE ★★
—SPORTS—


I'LL BE GIVING ALL OF THE CITY'S PAPERS PLENTY OF PAGE-ONE STORIES--
--SOON AS I PULL OFF A FEW MORE RAIDS, AND CONSOLIDATE MY SPOILS!

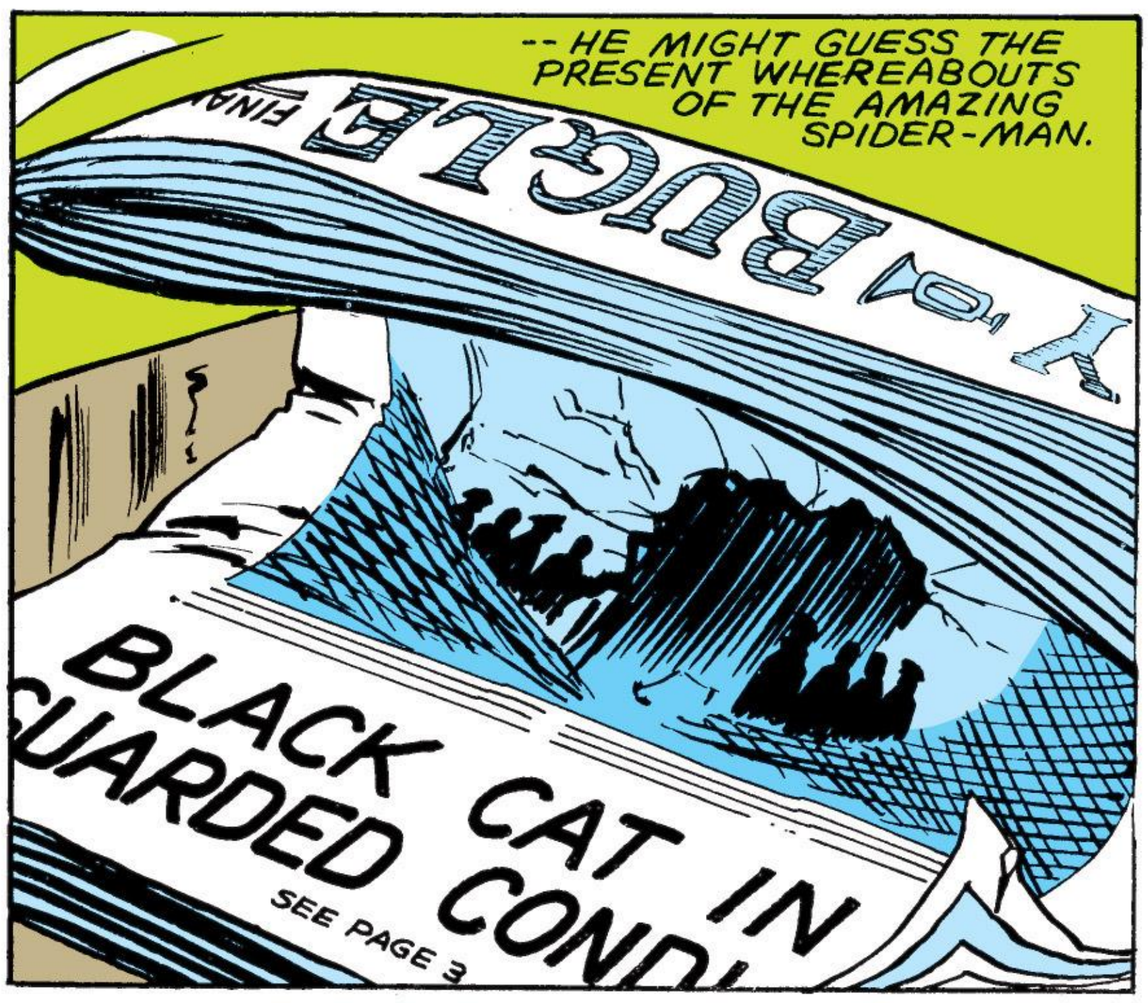

PERHAPS I SHOULD BUY A FEW MORE SHARES OF OSBORN MANUFACTURING, AS A SORT OF REPAYMENT.
THEY HAVE, AFTER ALL, UNWITTINGLY PROVIDED ME WITH ALL OF THIS!

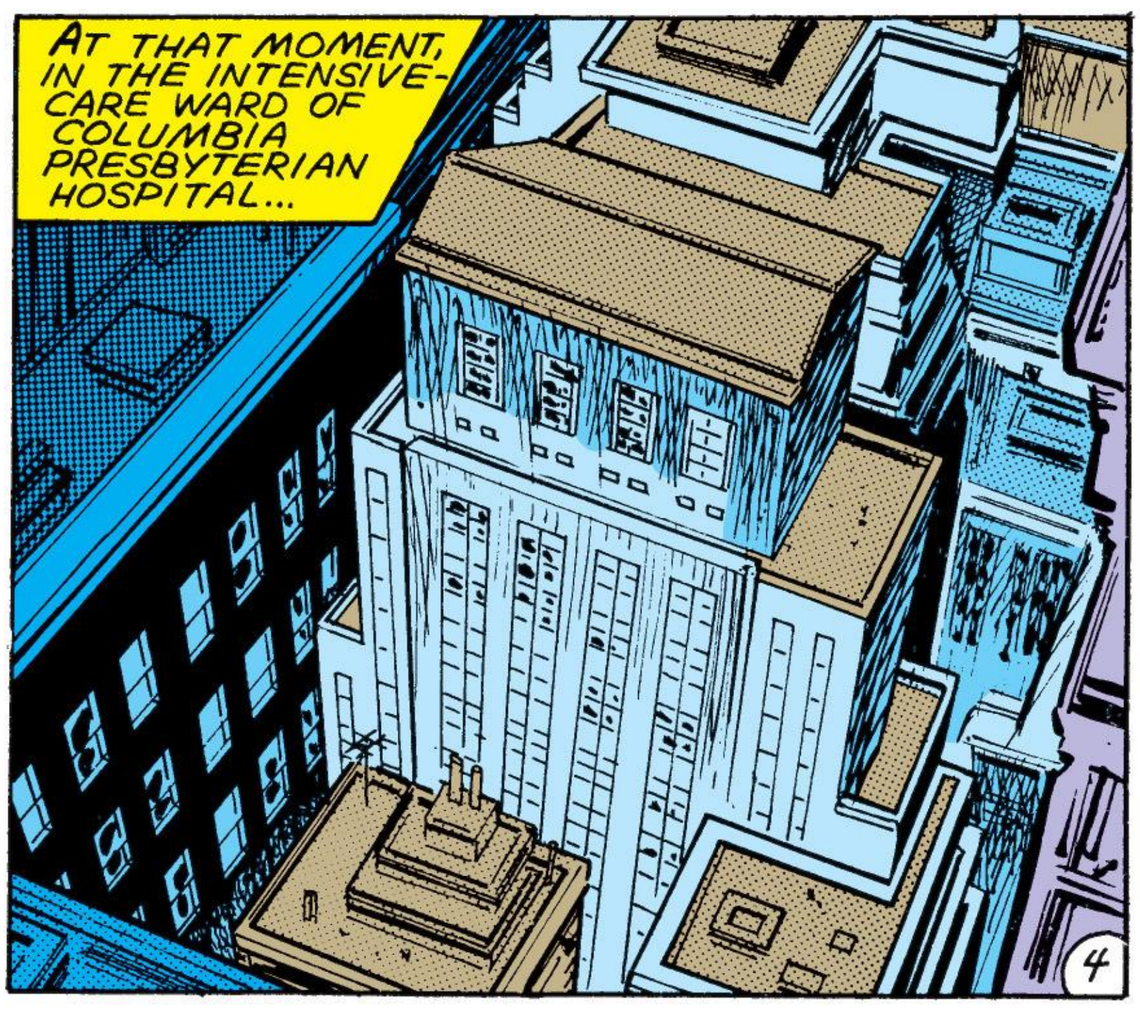

OR RATHER, THEIR DEARLY DEPARTED FOUNDER HAS!
THE EQUIPMENT THAT NORMAN OSBORN DEVELOPED FOR HIS CRIMINAL EXPLOITS AS THE GREEN GOBLIN RIVAL ANYTHING I'VE EVER SEEN.
THIS ARMORED BATTLE-WAGON I PICKED UP LAST NIGHT IS THE MOST REMARKABLE THING YET!
HAH! THE POLICE WOULD HAVE A FIT IF THEY KNEW HOW EASILY I BROUGHT THIS INTO THE CITY!

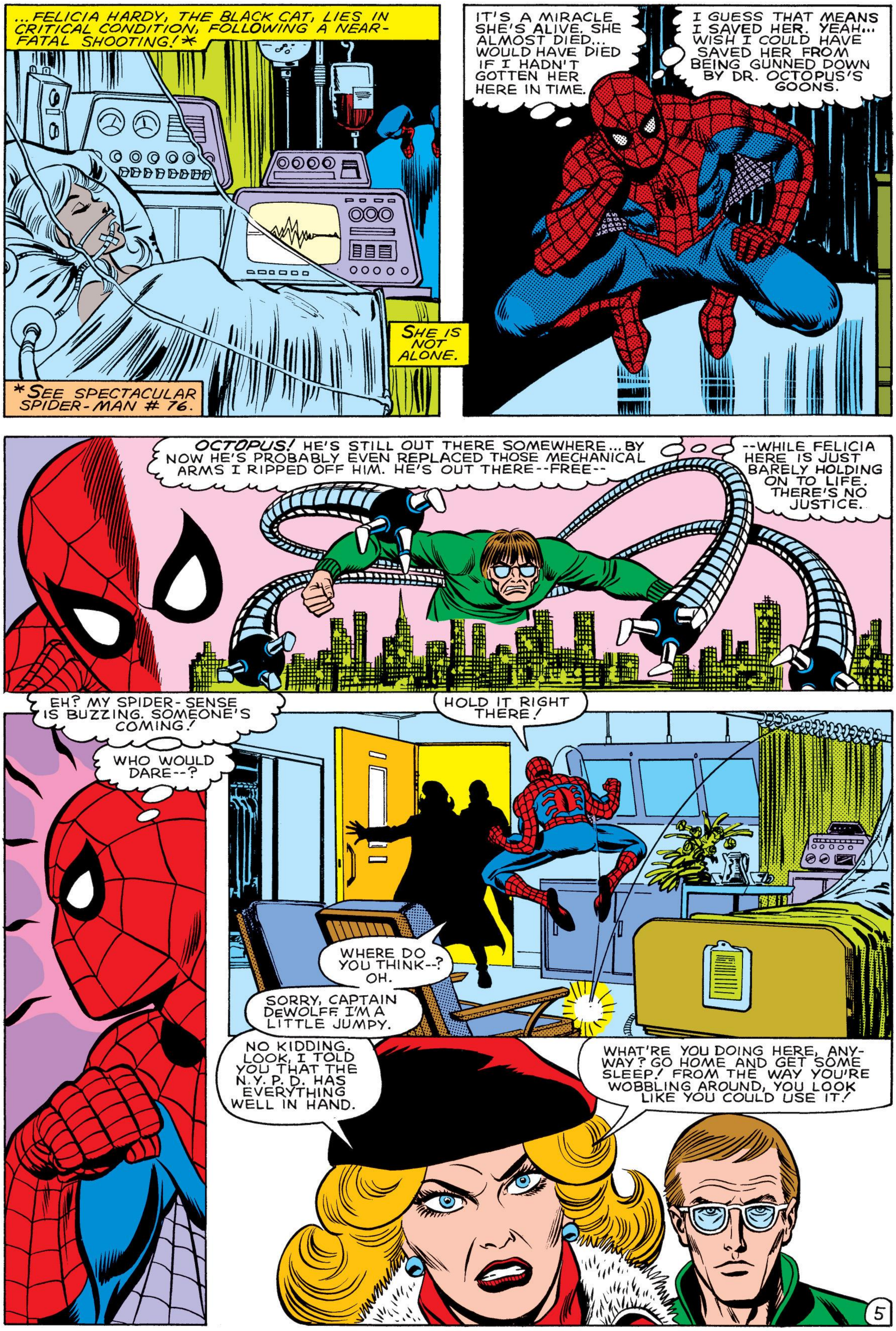
FROM THE JOURNALS I FOUND IN THE FIRST OF OSBORN'S LITTLE HIDEAWAYS, IT'S CLEAR THAT HE PLANNED TO USE THIS AS A MOBILE HEADQUARTERS.
BUT HE NEVER DID, THE POOR, MAD FOOL!


ALL THIS AT HIS DISPOSAL, AND HE LEFT IT TO RUST IN NEW JERSEY! NO WONDER HIS SECRET CAREER COST HIM HIS LIFE!
BUT WHERE THE GREEN GOBLIN FAILED, THE HOBGOBLIN SHALL TRIUMPH!

ONCE I RAID THE LAST OF OSBORN'S CACHES, I'LL DO THINGS HE NEVER DREAMED OF! PERHAPS I'LL EVEN SETTLE ACCOUNTS WITH HIS OLD ENEMY, SPIDER-MAN! YES, PERHAPS...
...ONCE I FIND HIM!
IF THE MYSTERIOUS HOB-GOBLIN HAD BOTHERED TO CHECK THE PAPER'S LOWER HEADLINE --

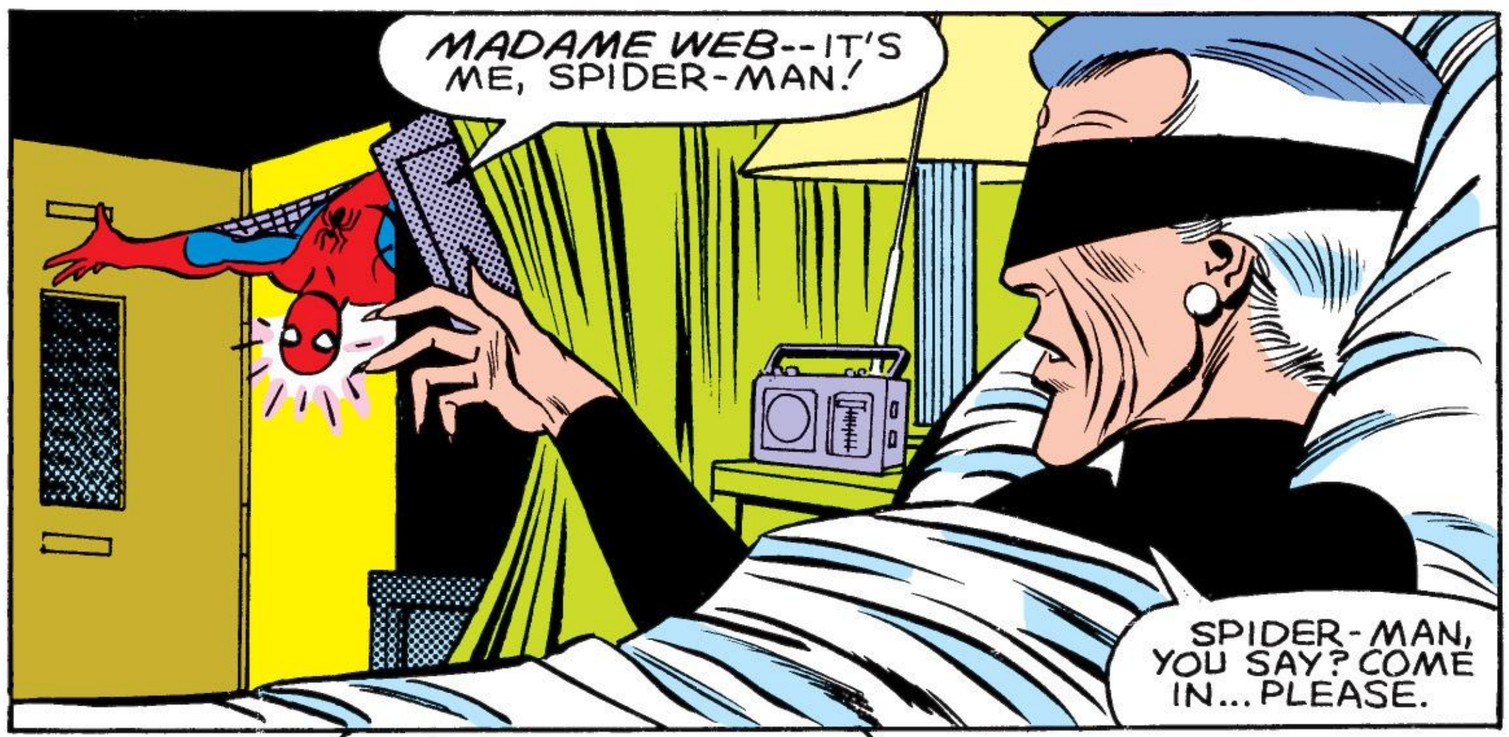

-- HE MIGHT GUESS THE PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OF THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN.
BLACK CAT IN
SEE PAGE 3

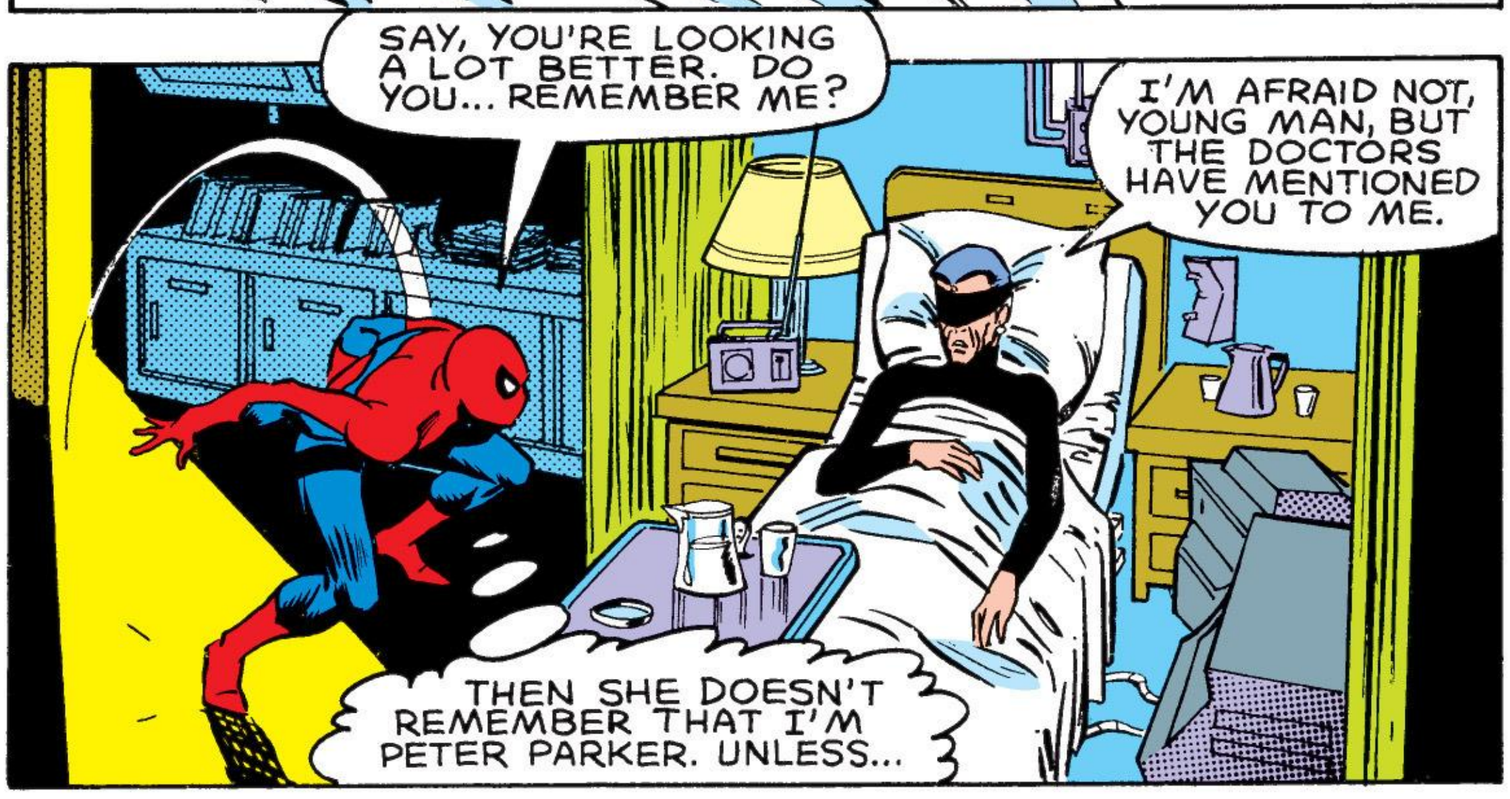

AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE INTENSIVE-CARE WARD OF COLUMBIA PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL...


...FELICIA HARDY, THE BLACK CAT, LIES IN CRITICAL CONDITION, FOLLOWING A NEAR-FATAL SHOOTING!*
*SEE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN # 76.
SHE IS NOT ALONE.
IT'S A MIRACLE SHE'S ALIVE. SHE ALMOST DIED... WOULD HAVE DIED IF I HADN'T GOTTEN HER HERE IN TIME.
I GUESS THAT MEANS I SAVED HER. YEAH... WISH I COULD HAVE SAVED HER FROM BEING GUNNED DOWN BY DR. OCTOPUS'S GOONS.
OCTOPUS! HE'S STILL OUT THERE SOMEWHERE... BY NOW HE'S PROBABLY EVEN REPLACED THOSE MECHANICAL ARMS I RIPPED OFF HIM. HE'S OUT THERE--FREE--
--WHILE FELICIA HERE IS JUST BARELY HOLDING ON TO LIFE. THERE'S NO JUSTICE.
EH? MY SPIDER-SENSE IS BUZZING. SOMEONE'S COMING!
WHO WOULD DARE--?
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
WHERE DO YOU THINK--? OH.
SORRY, CAPTAIN DEWOLFF. I'M A LITTLE JUMPY.
NO KIDDING. LOOK, I TOLD YOU THAT THE N.Y.P.D. HAS EVERYTHING WELL IN HAND.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE, ANYWAY? GO HOME AND GET SOME SLEEP! FROM THE WAY YOU'RE WOBBLING AROUND, YOU LOOK LIKE YOU COULD USE IT!

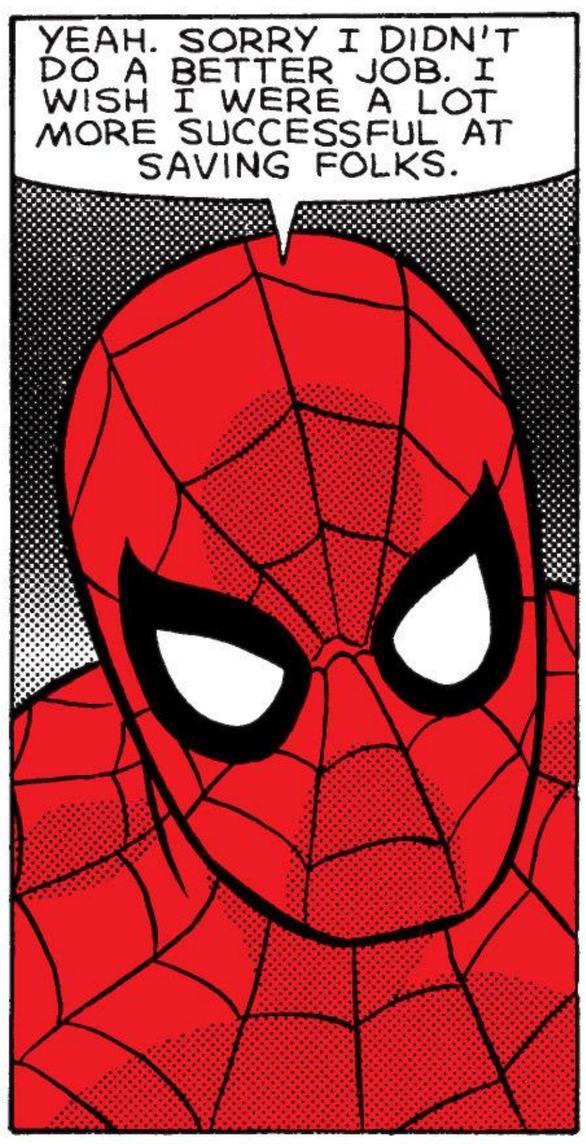
GUESS SHE'S RIGHT. I FEEL ABOUT HALF DEAD. IF DOC OCK TRIED ANYTHING NOW, I WOULDN'T BE IN ANY SHAPE TO STOP HIM.
HELLO! THERE'S A FAMILIAR DOOR.
INTENSIVE CARE

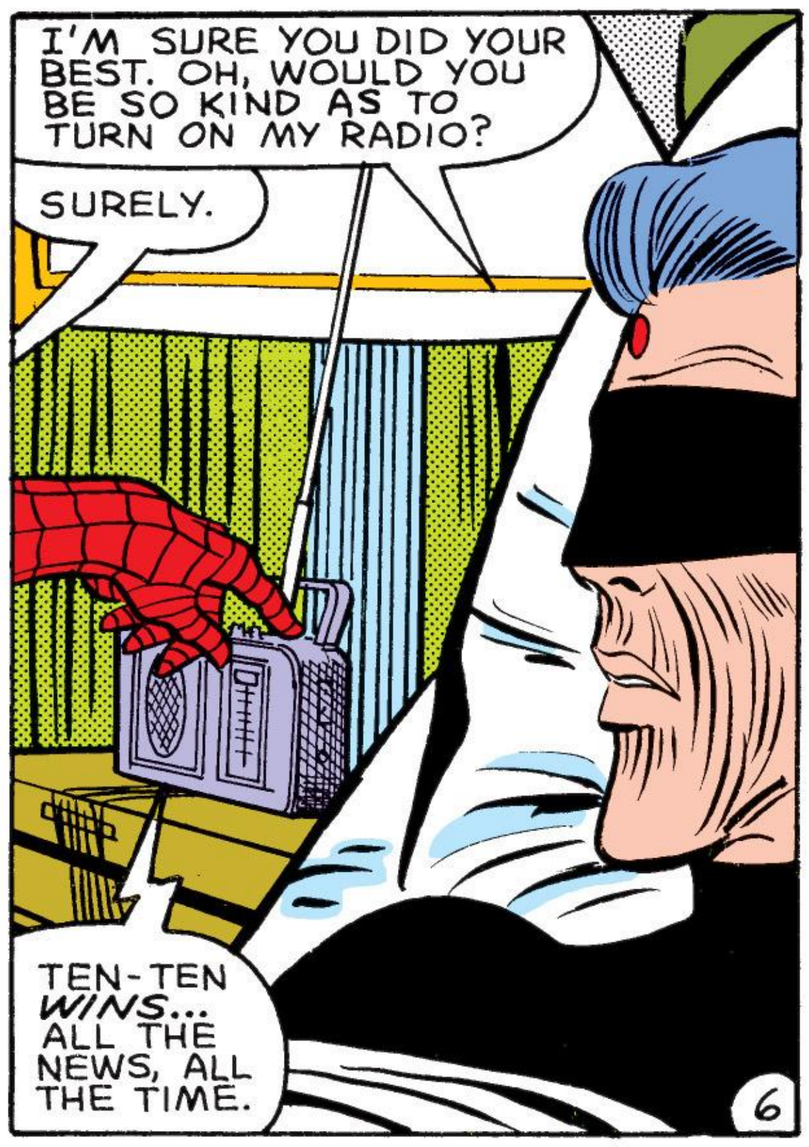
I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN THAT *SHE* WAS IN THIS HOSPITAL. I SHOULD PROBABLY SEE HOW SHE'S DOING.

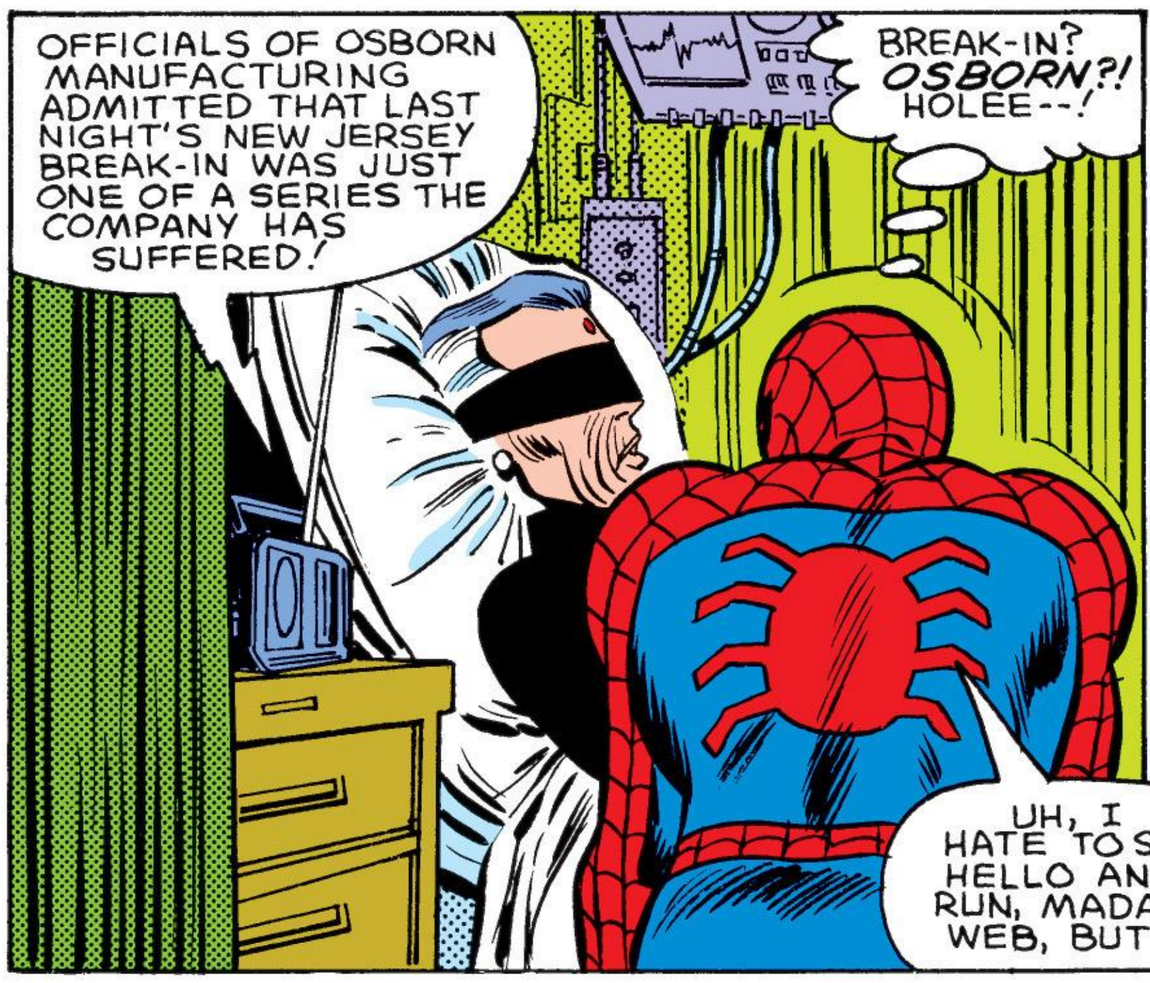

MADAME WEB--IT'S ME, SPIDER-MAN!
SPIDER-MAN, YOU SAY? COME IN... PLEASE.

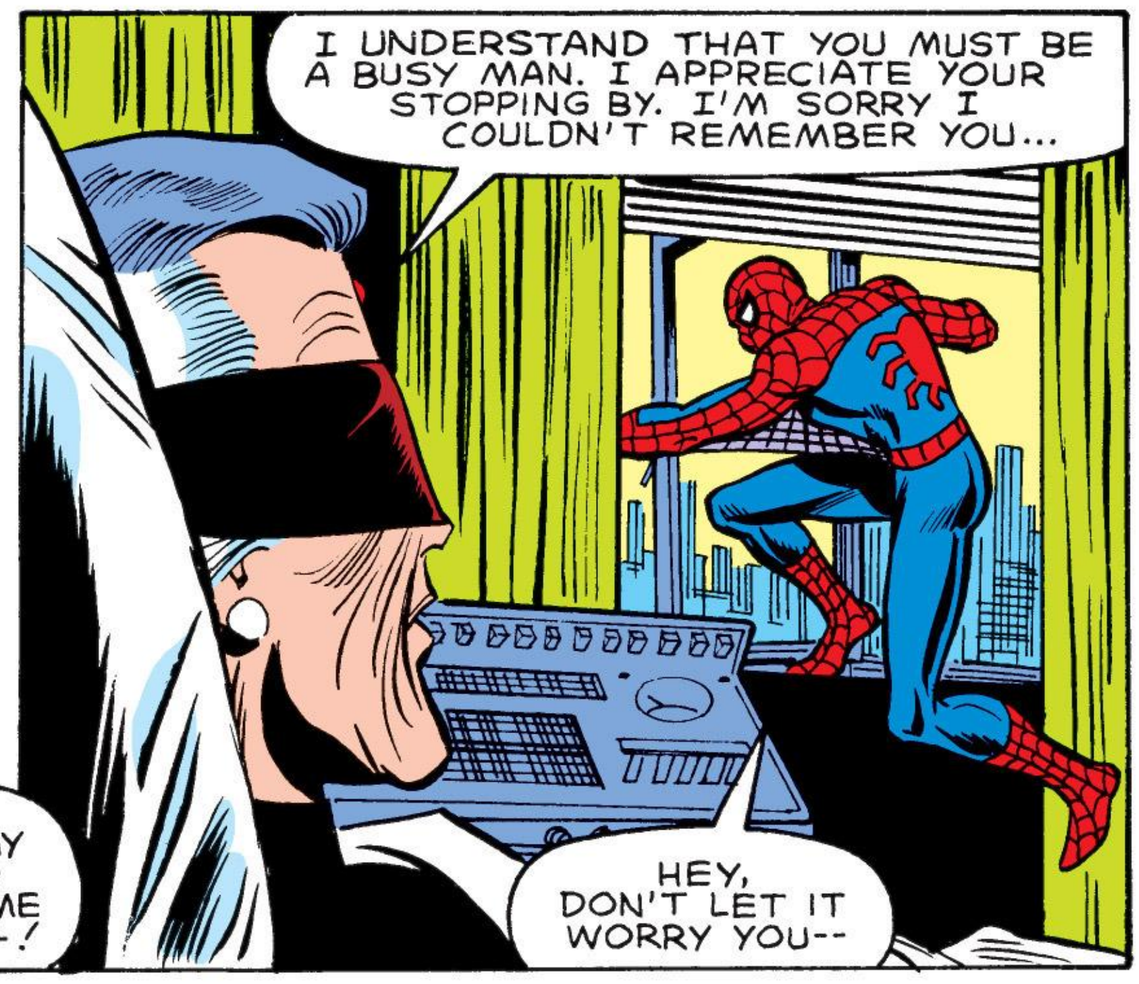

SAY, YOU'RE LOOKING A LOT BETTER. DO YOU... REMEMBER ME?
I'M AFRAID NOT, YOUNG MAN, BUT THE DOCTORS HAVE MENTIONED YOU TO ME.
THEN SHE DOESN'T REMEMBER THAT I'M PETER PARKER. UNLESS...

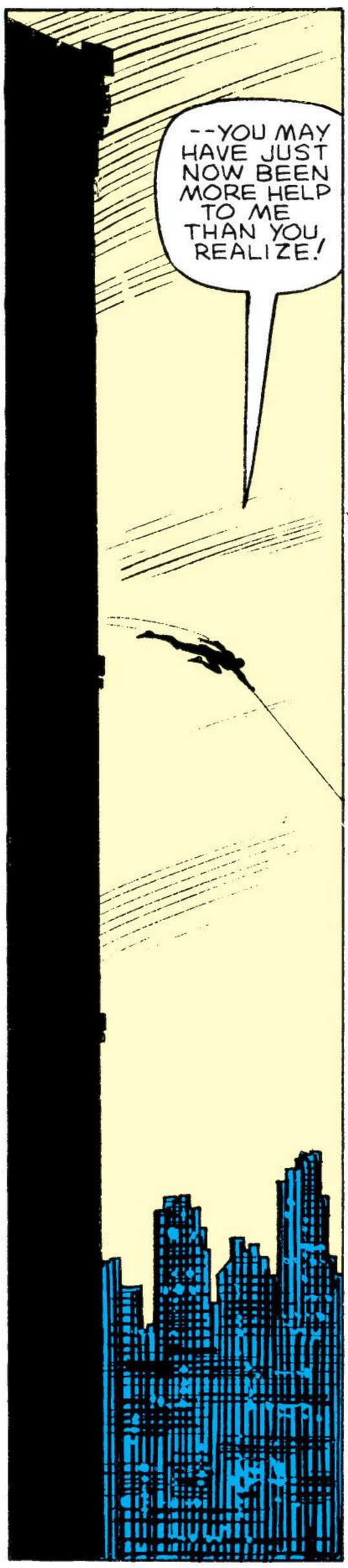
HAVE YOUR MENTAL POWERS RETURNED?
MY PSYCHIC ABILITIES APPEAR TO BE AS DEAD AS MY VISION. BUT THANK YOU FOR CARING TO ASK.
I'M TOLD THAT YOU RISKED YOUR LIFE TO DEFEND ME FROM THAT JUGGERNAUT CREATURE. *
* SEE ISSUES #229-230

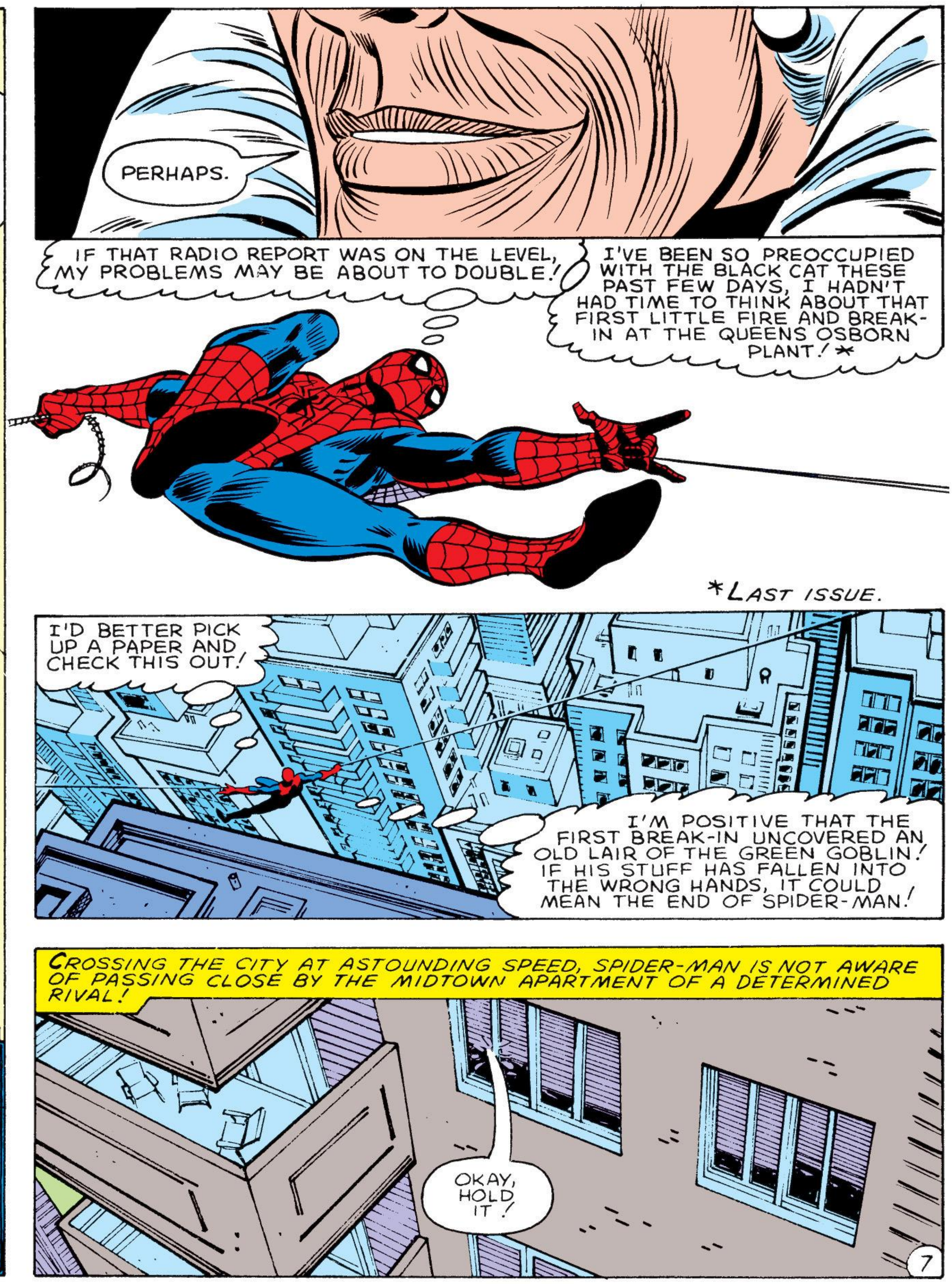

YEAH. SORRY I DIDN'T DO A BETTER JOB. I WISH I WERE A LOT MORE SUCCESSFUL AT SAVING FOLKS.

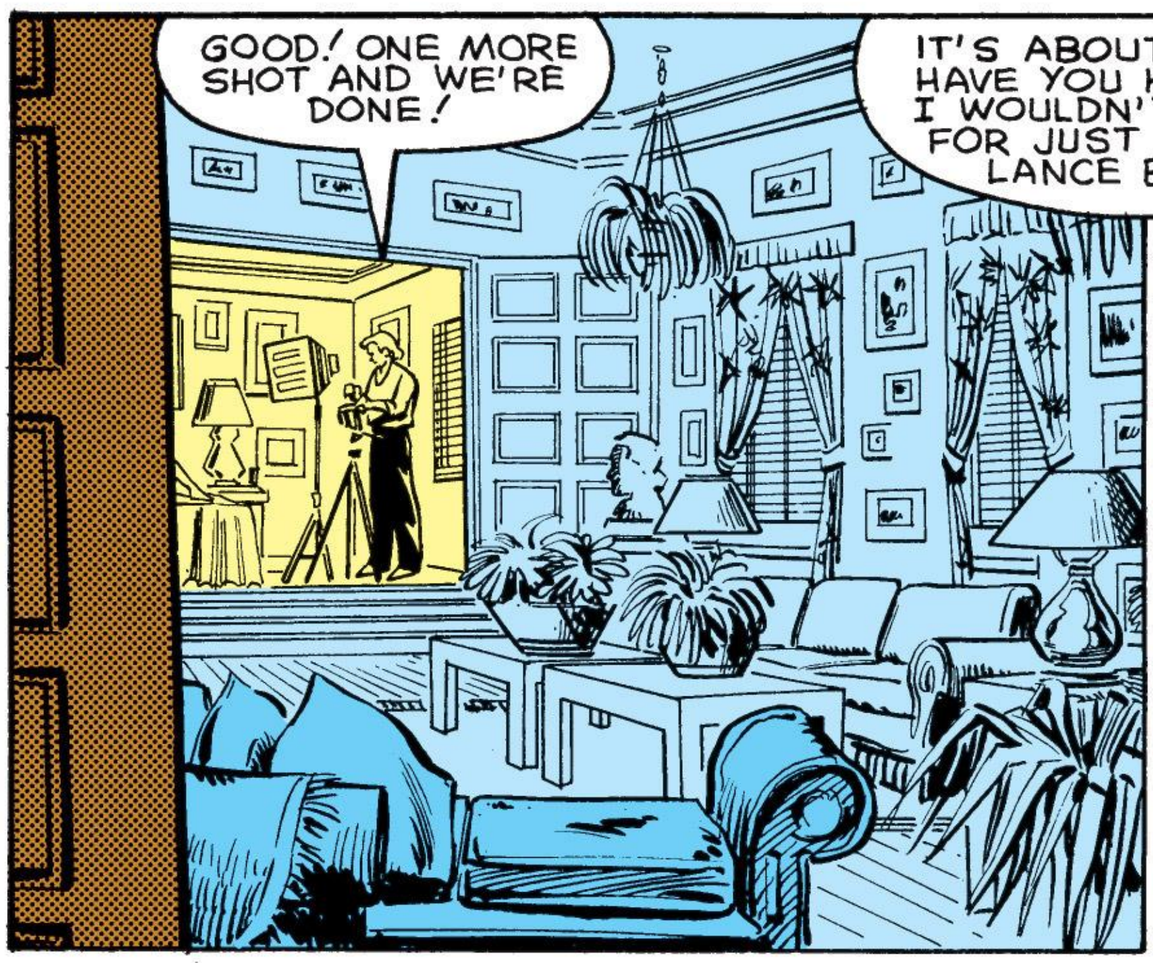

I'M SURE YOU DID YOUR BEST. OH, WOULD YOU BE SO KIND AS TO TURN ON MY RADIO?
SURELY.
TEN-TEN *WINS*... ALL THE NEWS, ALL THE TIME.

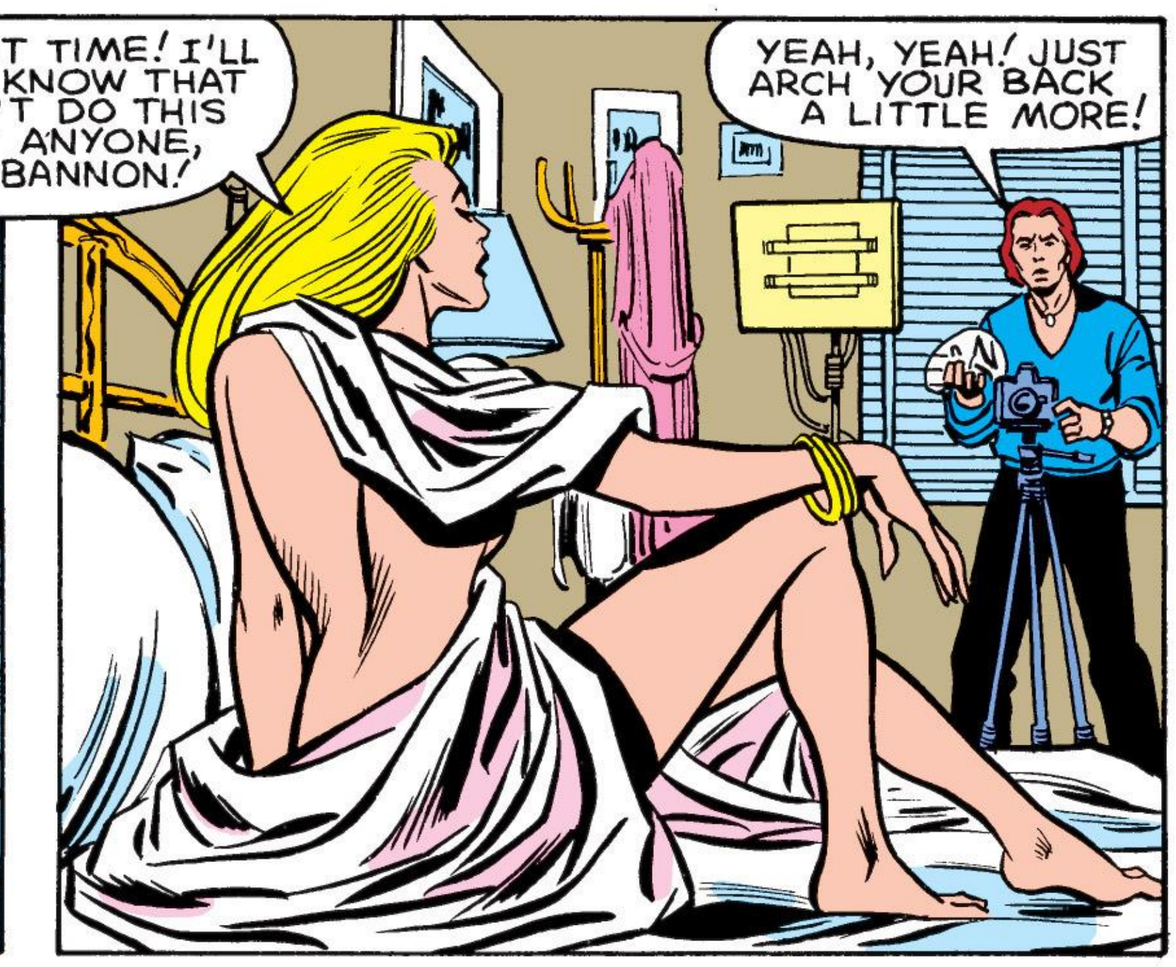

OFFICIALS OF OSBORN MANUFACTURING ADMITTED THAT LAST NIGHT'S NEW JERSEY BREAK-IN WAS JUST ONE OF A SERIES THE COMPANY HAS SUFFERED!
BREAK-IN? OSBORN?! HOLEE--!
UH, I HATE TO SAY HELLO AND RUN, MADAME WEB, BUT--!


I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU MUST BE A BUSY MAN. I APPRECIATE YOUR STOPPING BY. I'M SORRY I COULDN'T REMEMBER YOU...
HEY, DON'T LET IT WORRY YOU--


--YOU MAY HAVE JUST NOW BEEN MORE HELP TO ME THAN YOU REALIZE!

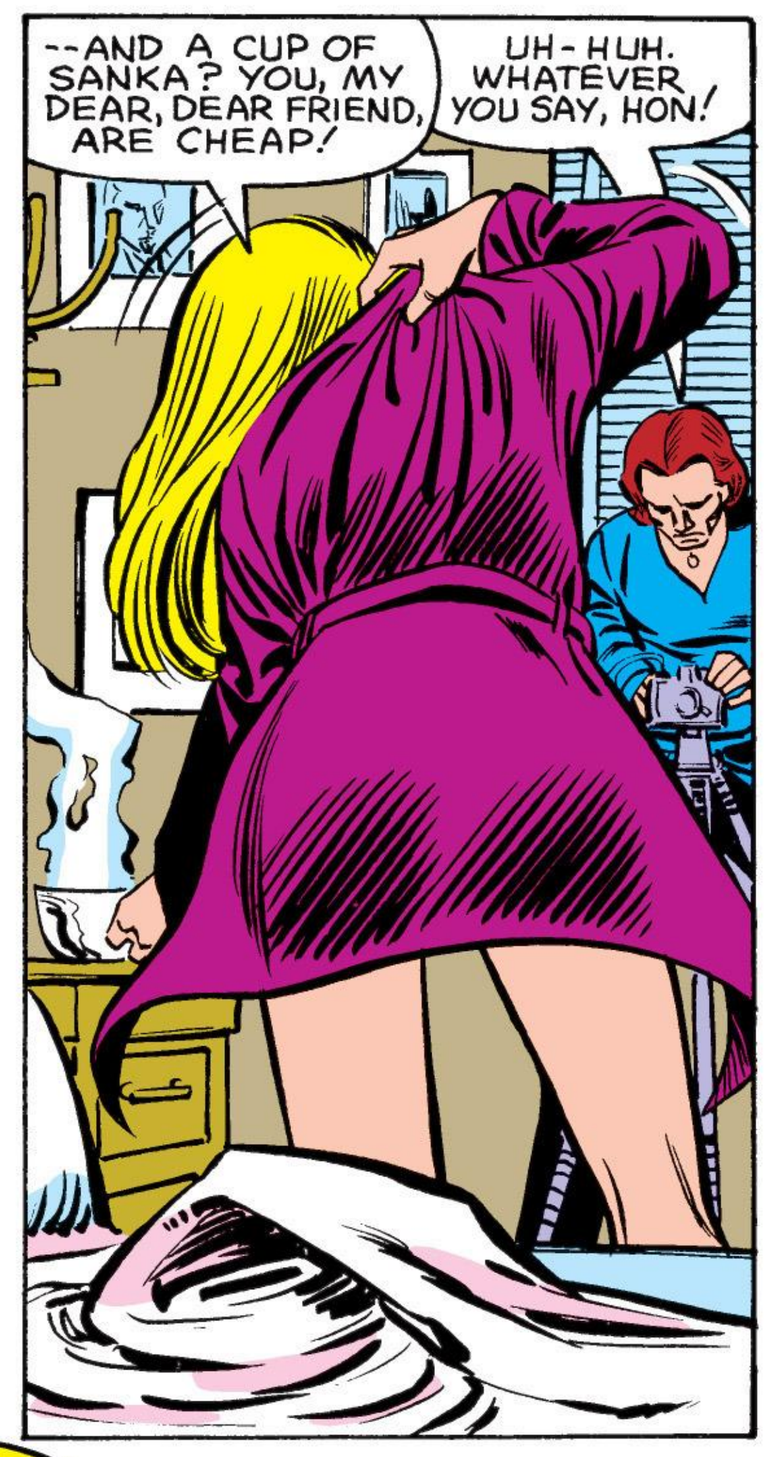

PERHAPS.
IF THAT RADIO REPORT WAS ON THE LEVEL, MY PROBLEMS MAY BE ABOUT TO DOUBLE!
I'VE BEEN SO PREOCCUPIED WITH THE BLACK CAT THESE PAST FEW DAYS, I HADN'T HAD TIME TO THINK ABOUT THAT FIRST LITTLE FIRE AND BREAK-IN AT THE QUEENS OSBORN PLANT!*
*LAST ISSUE.
I'D BETTER PICK UP A PAPER AND CHECK THIS OUT!
I'M POSITIVE THAT THE FIRST BREAK-IN UNCOVERED AN OLD LAIR OF THE GREEN GOBLIN! IF HIS STUFF HAS FALLEN INTO THE WRONG HANDS, IT COULD MEAN THE END OF SPIDER-MAN!
CROSSING THE CITY AT ASTOUNDING SPEED, SPIDER-MAN IS NOT AWARE OF PASSING CLOSE BY THE MIDTOWN APARTMENT OF A DETERMINED RIVAL!
OKAY, HOLD IT!

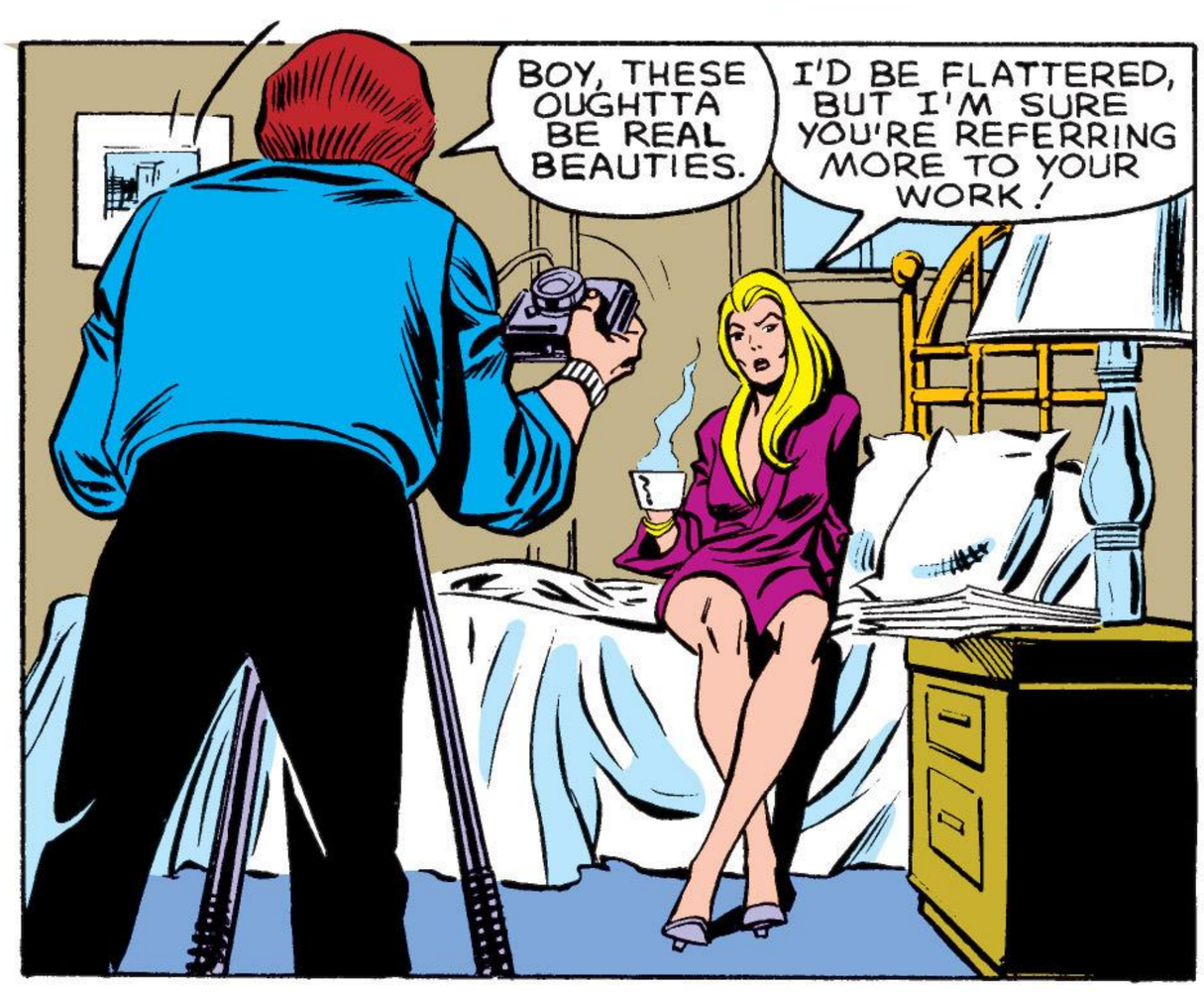

GOOD! ONE MORE SHOT AND WE'RE DONE!

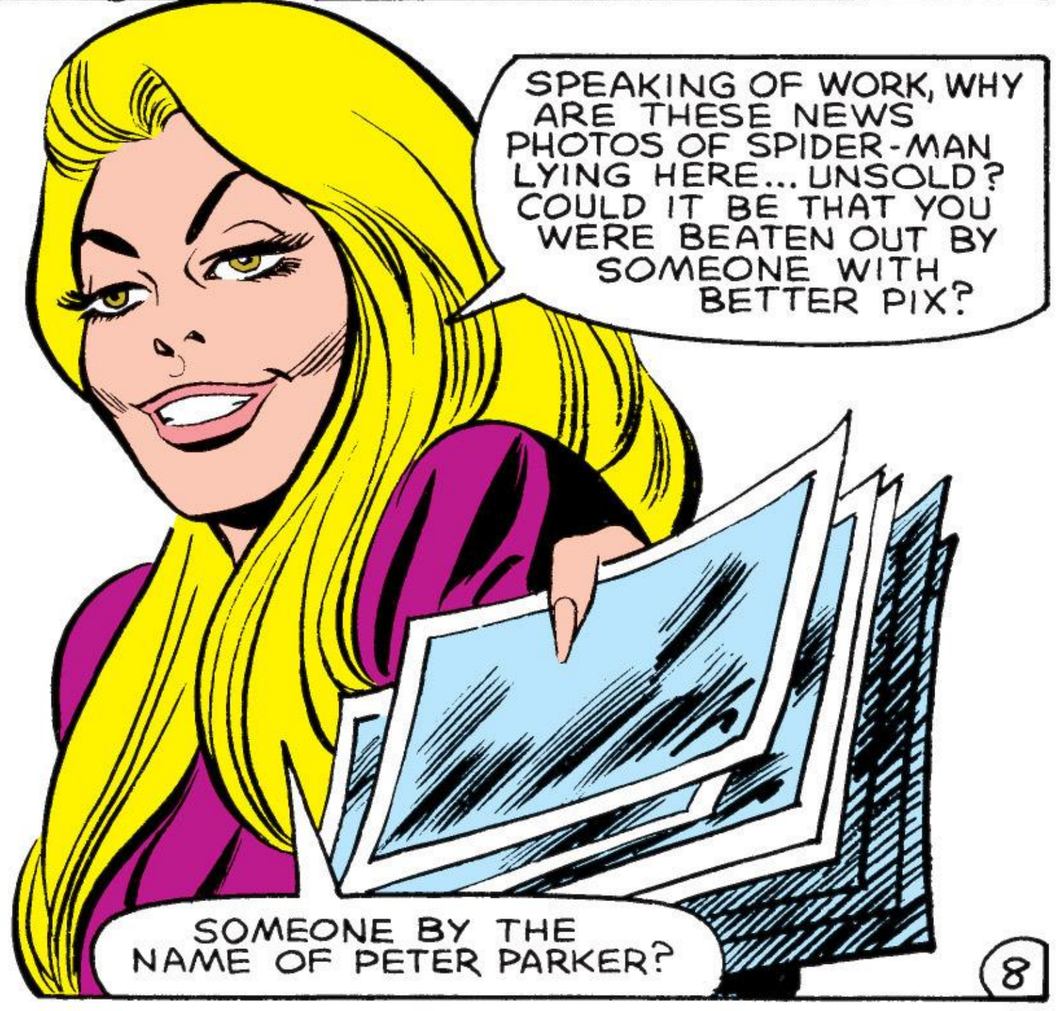

IT'S ABOUT TIME! I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW THAT I WOULDN'T DO THIS FOR JUST ANYONE, LANCE BANNON!
YEAH, YEAH! JUST ARCH YOUR BACK A LITTLE MORE!

I SAID YOUR BACK, AMY! THESE PHOTOS ARE FOR GALLERY EXHIBITION--NOT FOR SOME CHEAP SKIN MAG!
OH, POOH!
THERE, THAT'S BETTER!
KLIK

HERE'S YOUR ROBE!
IS THAT THE BEST YOU CAN OFFER ME? A FEW FEET OF COTTON--


--AND A CUP OF SANKA? YOU, MY DEAR, DEAR FRIEND, ARE CHEAP!
UH-HUH. WHATEVER YOU SAY, HON!

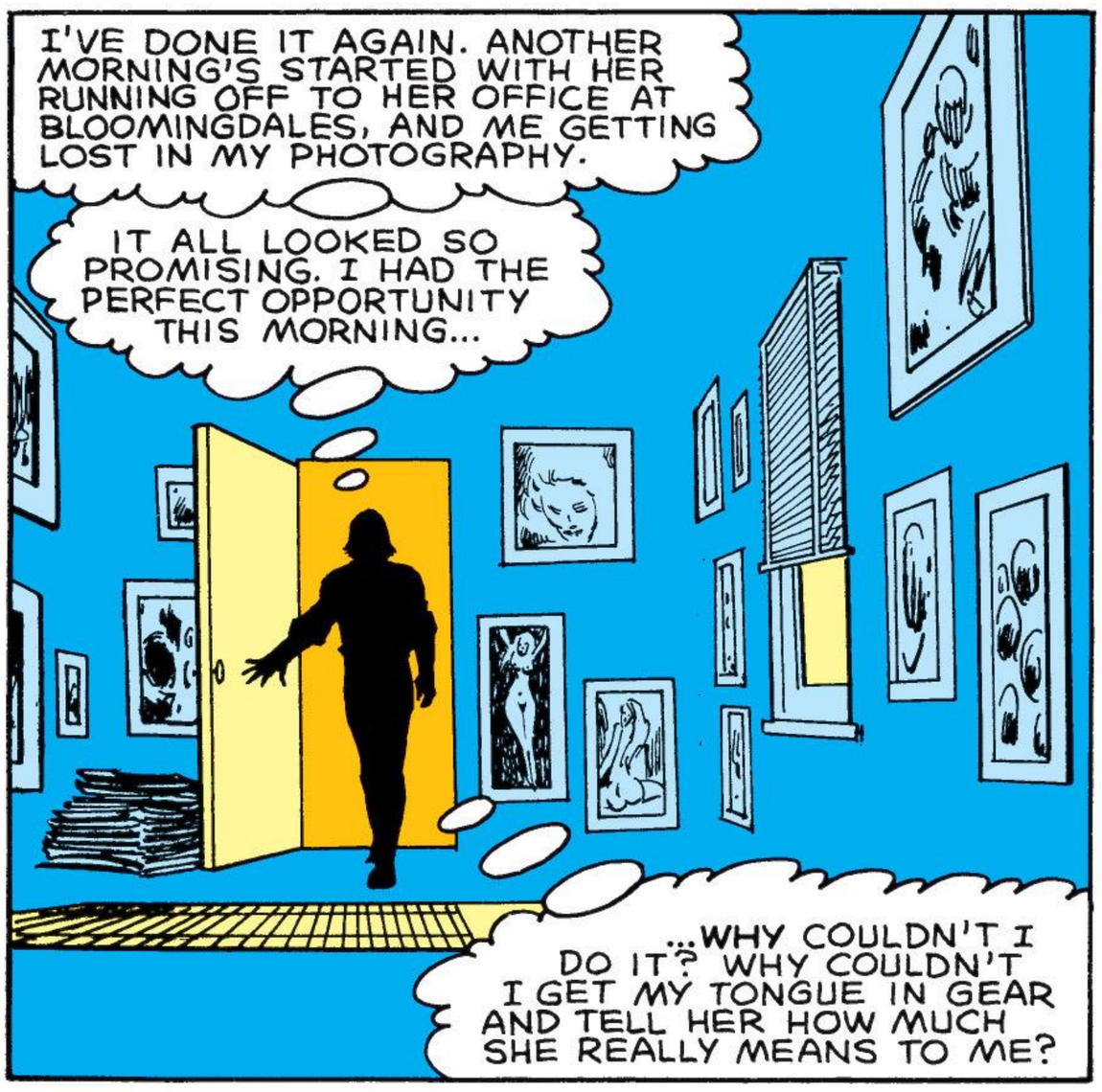

BOY, THESE OUGHTTA BE REAL BEAUTIES.
I'D BE FLATTERED, BUT I'M SURE YOU'RE REFERRING MORE TO YOUR WORK!

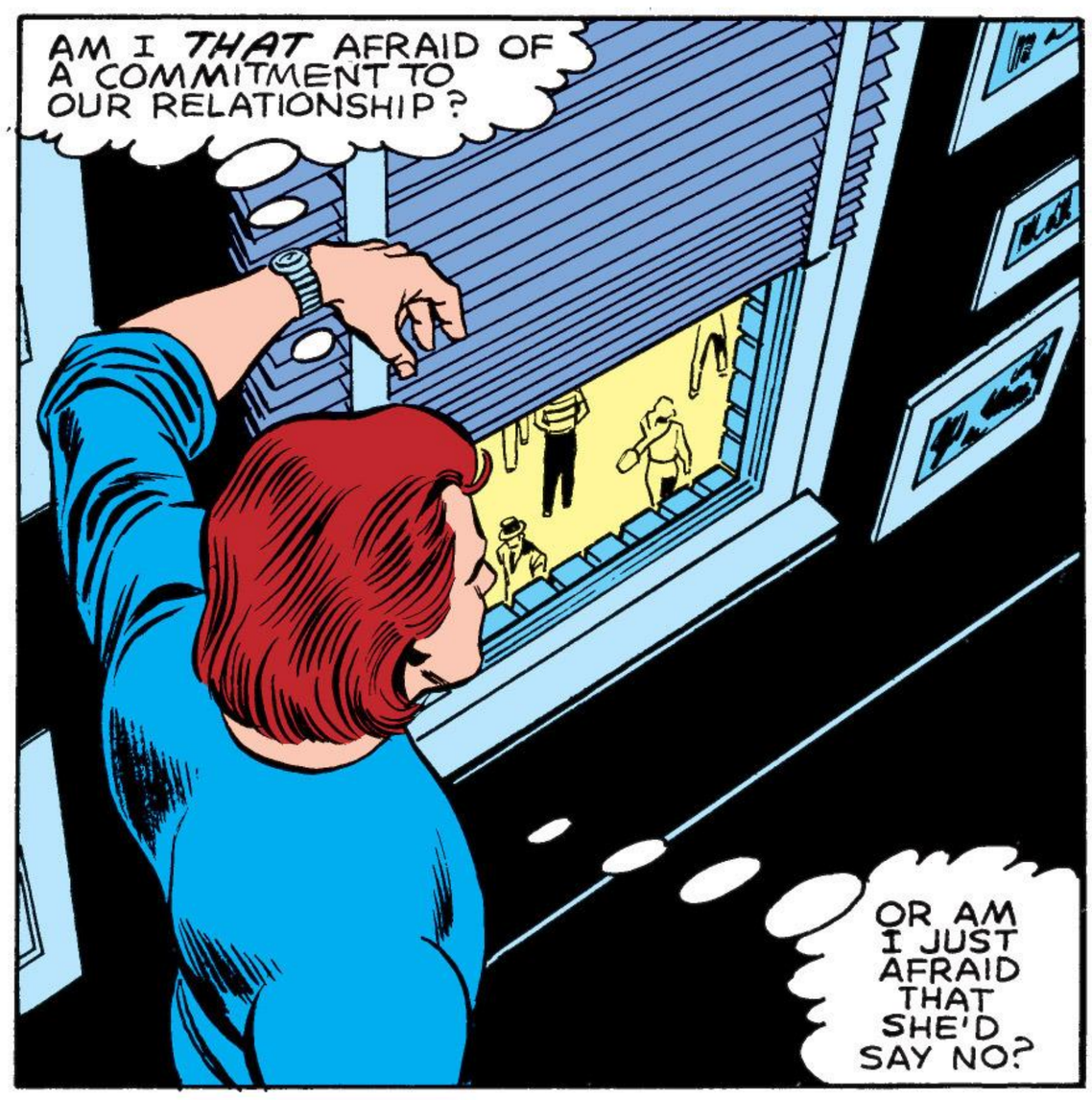

SPEAKING OF WORK, WHY ARE THESE NEWS PHOTOS OF SPIDER-MAN LYING HERE... UNSOLD? COULD IT BE THAT YOU WERE BEATEN OUT BY SOMEONE WITH BETTER PIX?
SOMEONE BY THE NAME OF PETER PARKER?

I TAKE THAT SILENCE TO MEAN "YES"!
BETTER WATCH OUT, LANCE--
NO WAY, BABE!
BY THE WAY, MS. POWELL -- YOU LOOK PRETTY GOOD IN CLOTHES, Y'KNOW THAT?
SEEMS TO ME I HAVE HEARD THAT...ONCE OR TWICE!
HOW ABOUT MEETING ME FOR DINNER TONIGHT AT MAXWELL'S PLUM?

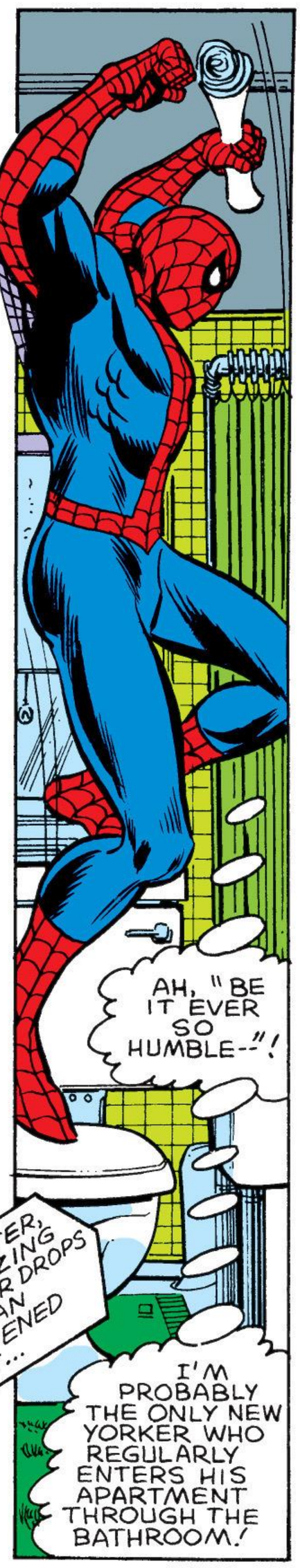
--OR THIS PARKER GENT COULD WIND UP BEATING YOUR TIME ALL THE WAY DOWN THE LINE!
I'D LOVE TO, IF I'M NOT BUSY.
BUSY?!
UH...YEAH. WANTED TO SNAP SOME TWILIGHT SKYSCAPES. JONAH JAMESON IS TALKING ABOUT STARTING A NEW PICTURE MAGAZINE, AND IF I COULD GET IN ON THE GROUND FLOOR--!

KNOW WHAT I MEAN?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO EXPLAIN. I UNDERSTAND. I HAVE TO GET TO WORK, TOO.
I'LL SEE YOU... WHENEVER.
SURE. SEE YOU.
SLAM


I'VE DONE IT AGAIN. ANOTHER MORNING'S STARTED WITH HER RUNNING OFF TO HER OFFICE AT BLOOMINGDALES, AND ME GETTING LOST IN MY PHOTOGRAPHY.
IT ALL LOOKED SO PROMISING. I HAD THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY THIS MORNING...
...WHY COULDN'T I DO IT? WHY COULDN'T I GET MY TONGUE IN GEAR AND TELL HER HOW MUCH SHE REALLY MEANS TO ME?

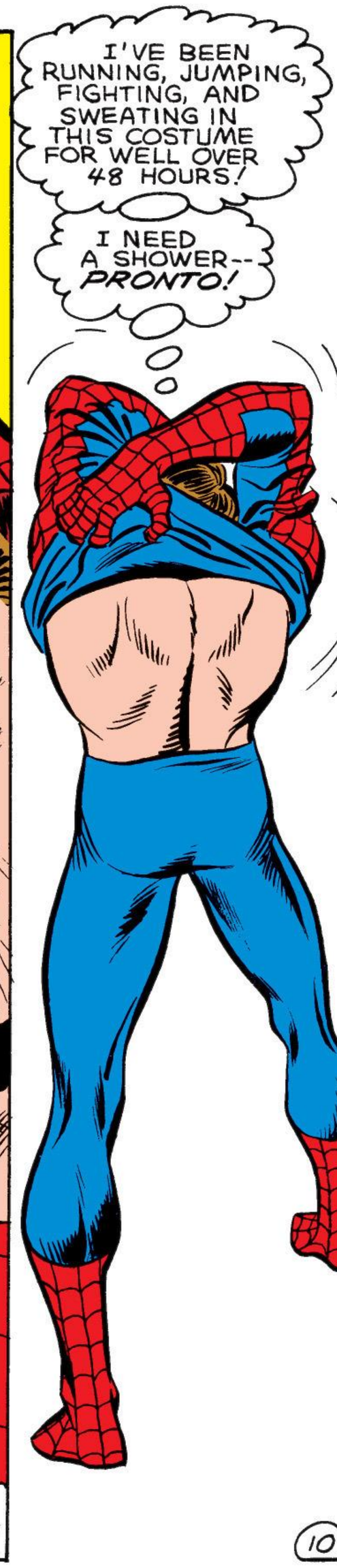

AM I THAT AFRAID OF A COMMITMENT TO OUR RELATIONSHIP?
OR AM I JUST AFRAID THAT SHE'D SAY NO?

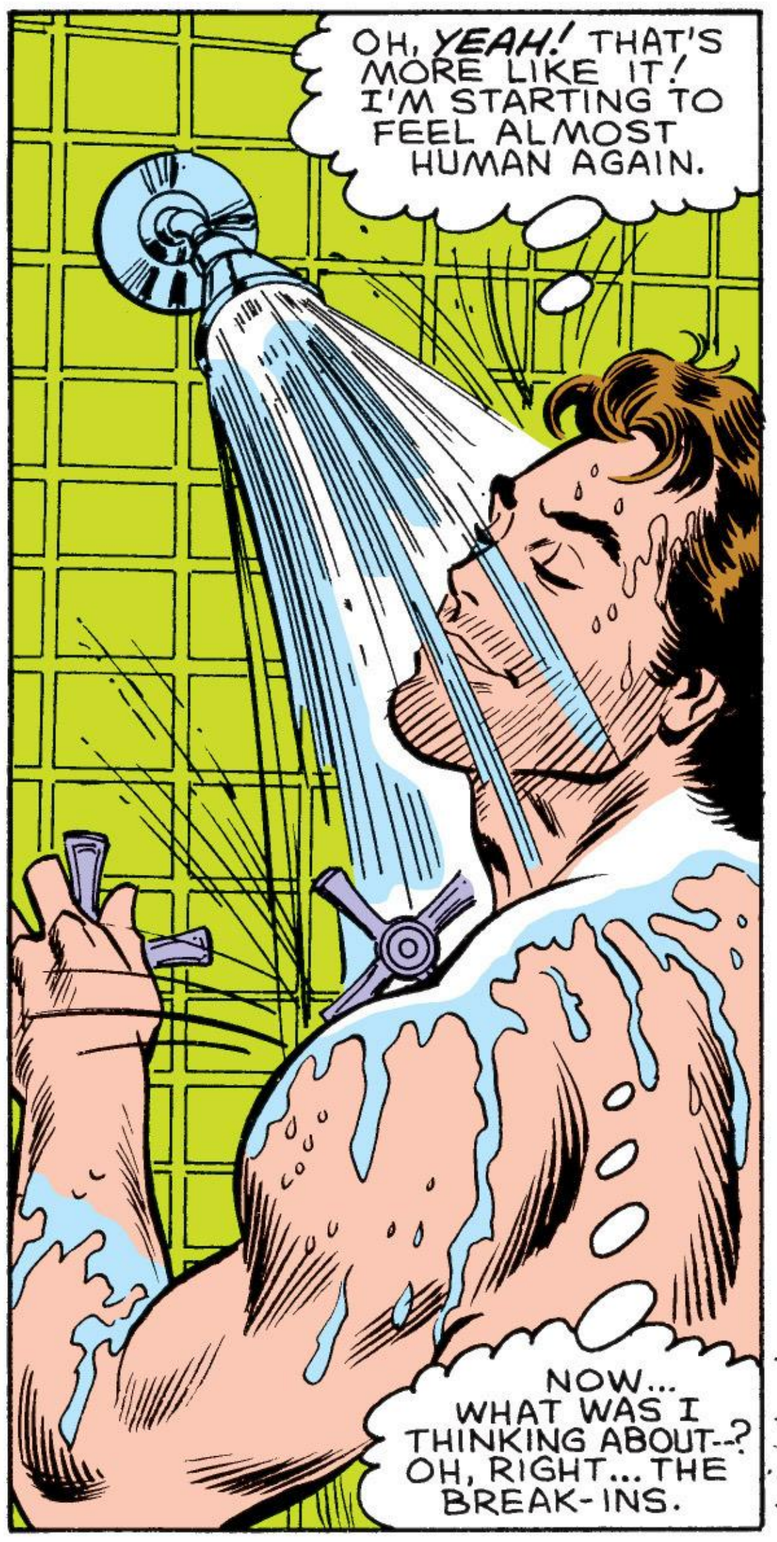
SHORTLY, DOWNDOWN...
I THOUGHT THAT NEWSIE WAS GONNA JUMP OUT OF HIS SOCKS WHEN I DROPPED DOWN AND ASKED HIM FOR A DAILY BUGLE!
NICE OF HIM TO GIVE ME ONE FOR FREE!
MOMENTS LATER, AS THE AMAZING WEB-SWINGER DROPS THROUGH AN EASILY OPENED SKYLIGHT...

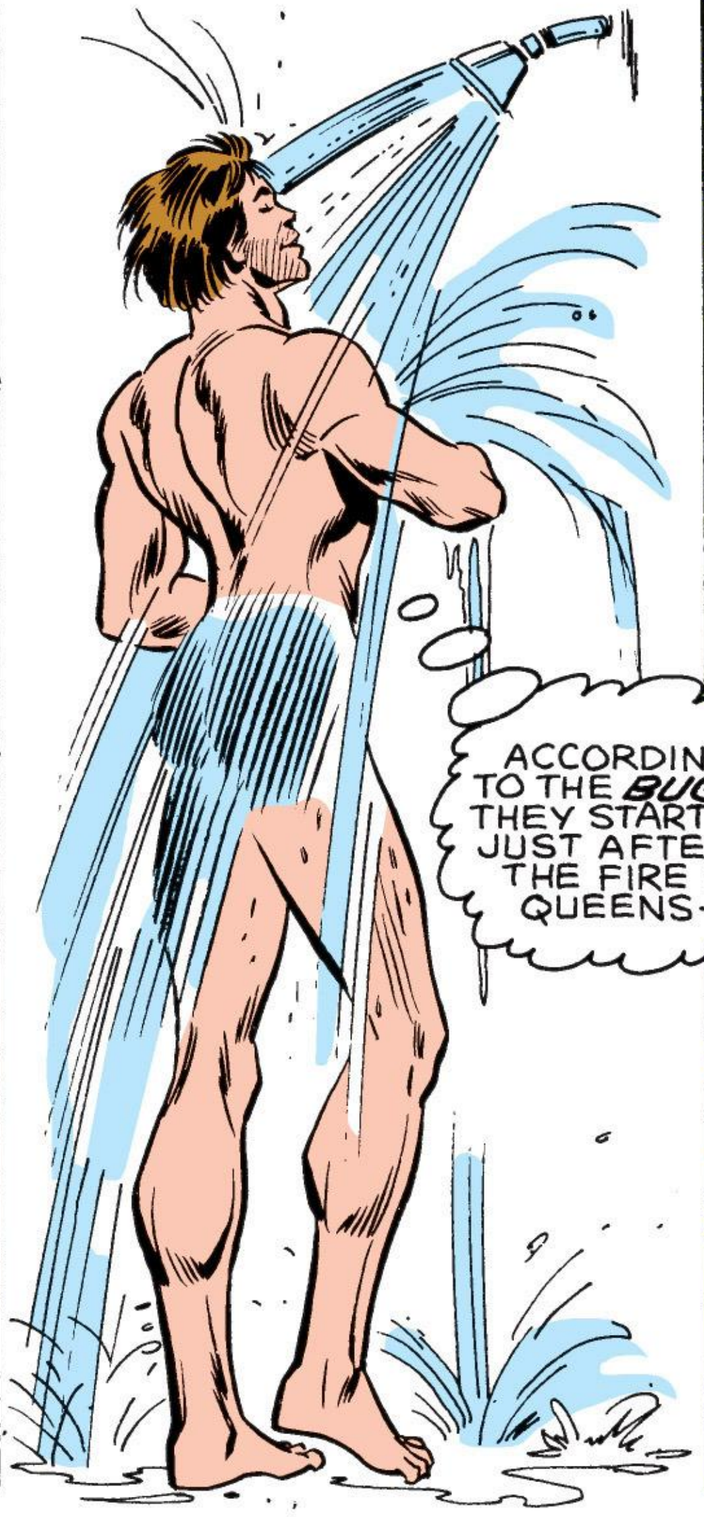

AH, "BE IT EVER SO HUMBLE--"!
I'M PROBABLY THE ONLY NEW YORKER WHO REGULARLY ENTERS HIS APARTMENT THROUGH THE BATHROOM!

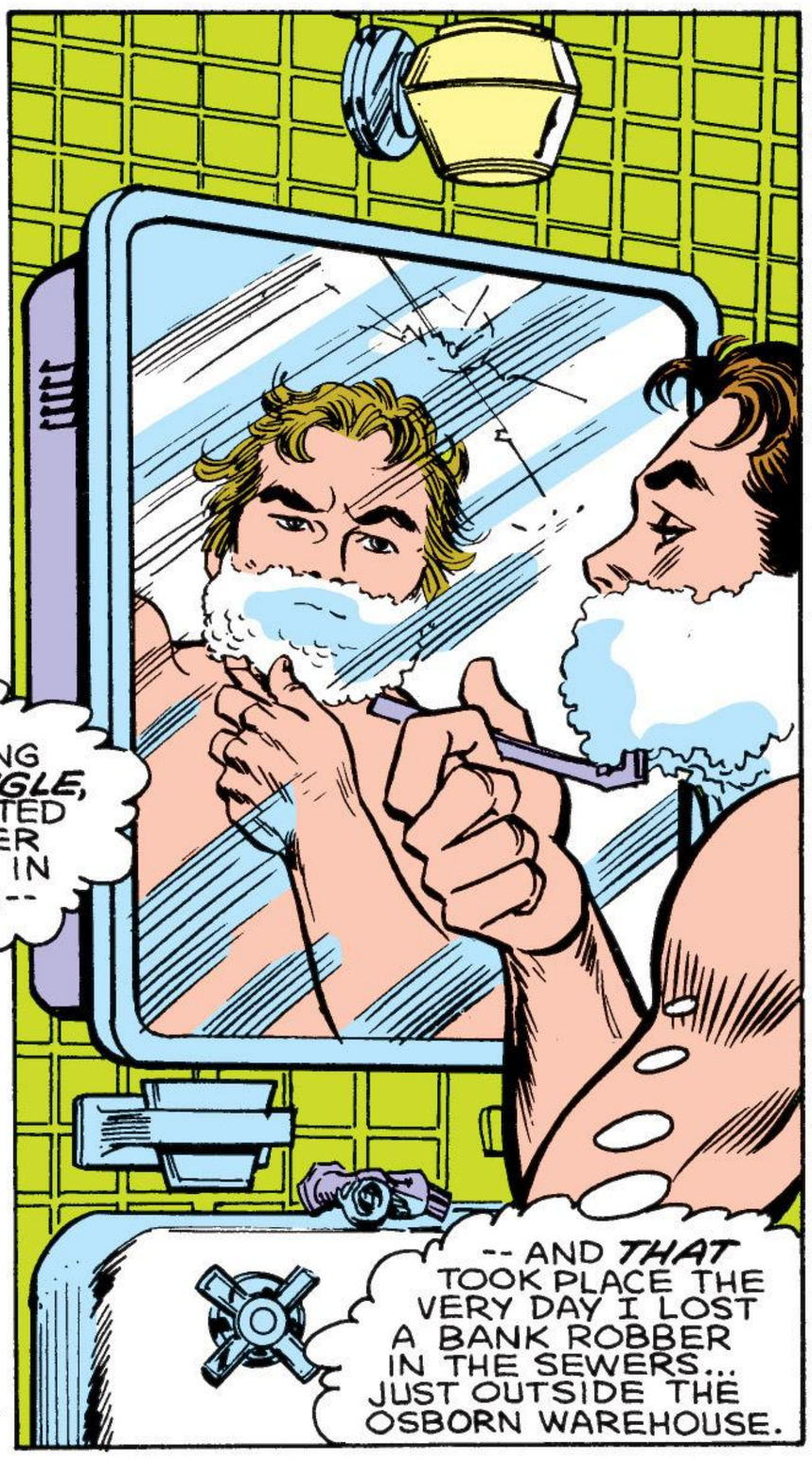
DAILY BUGLE
THIS WAS CERTAINLY INFORMATIVE! IT WAS GOOD TO GET THE WHOLE STORY-- EVEN IF IT DOES TEND TO FUEL MY PARANOIA!

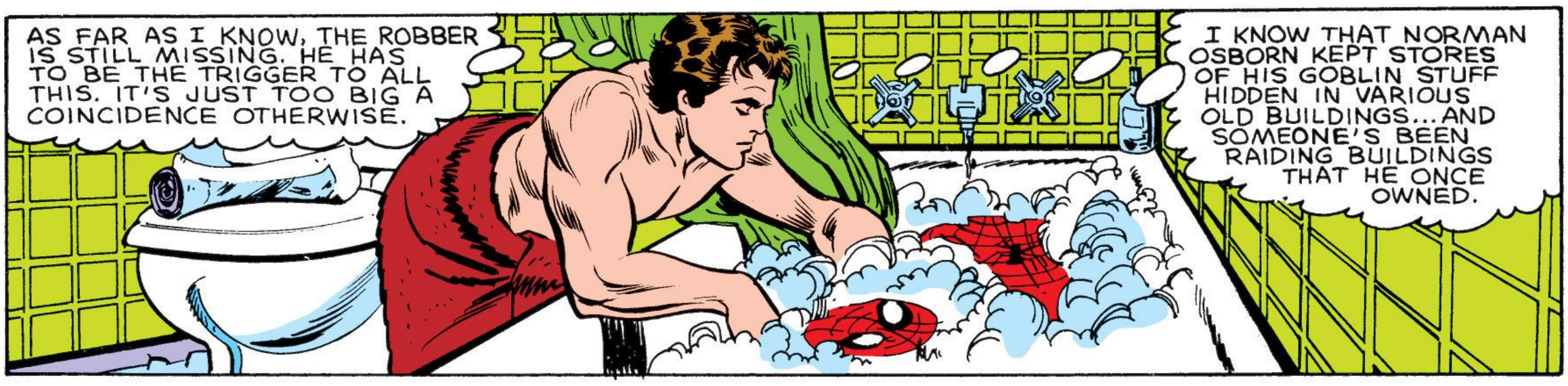
HEY, WHAT'S THAT SMELL?
PEE-YEW! I THINK IT'S ME! AND NO WONDER--!


I'VE BEEN RUNNING, JUMPING, FIGHTING, AND SWEATING IN THIS COSTUME FOR WELL OVER 48 HOURS!
I NEED A SHOWER-- PRONTO!

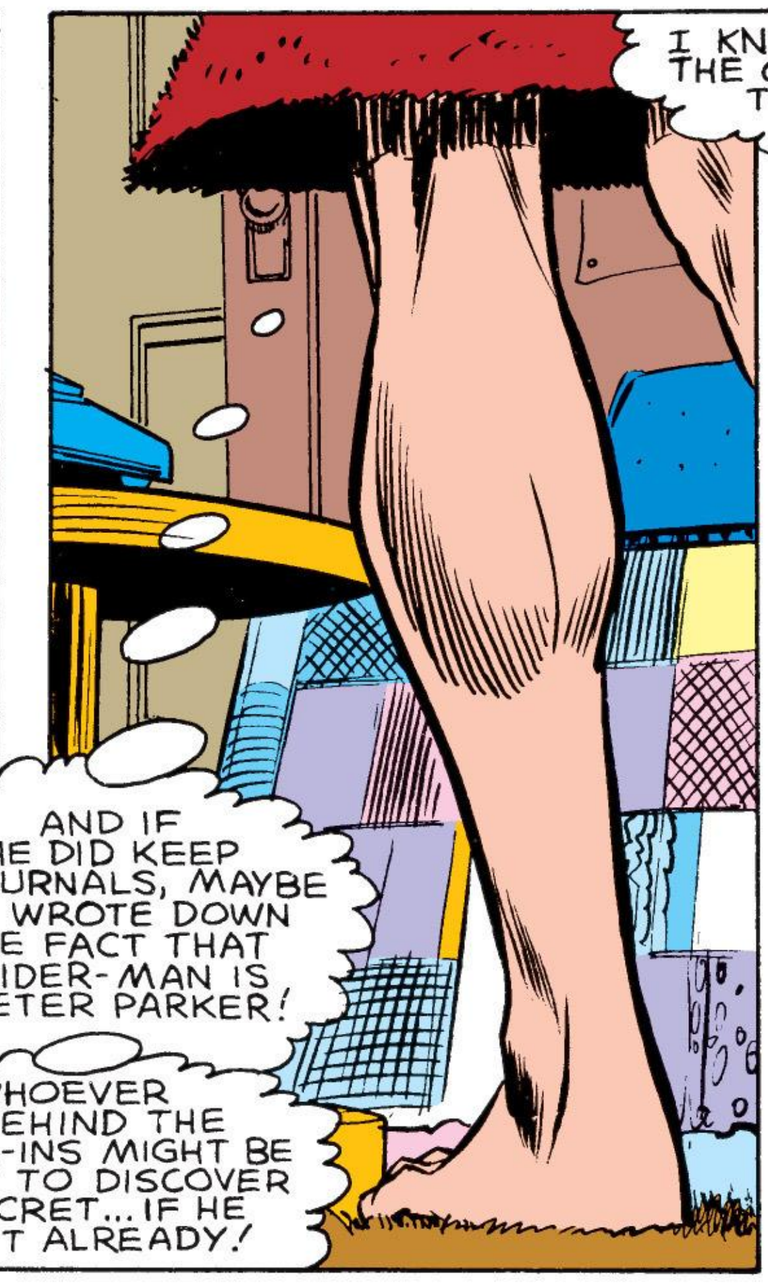

OH, YEAH! THAT'S MORE LIKE IT! I'M STARTING TO FEEL ALMOST HUMAN AGAIN.
NOW... WHAT WAS I THINKING ABOUT--? OH, RIGHT... THE BREAK-INS.

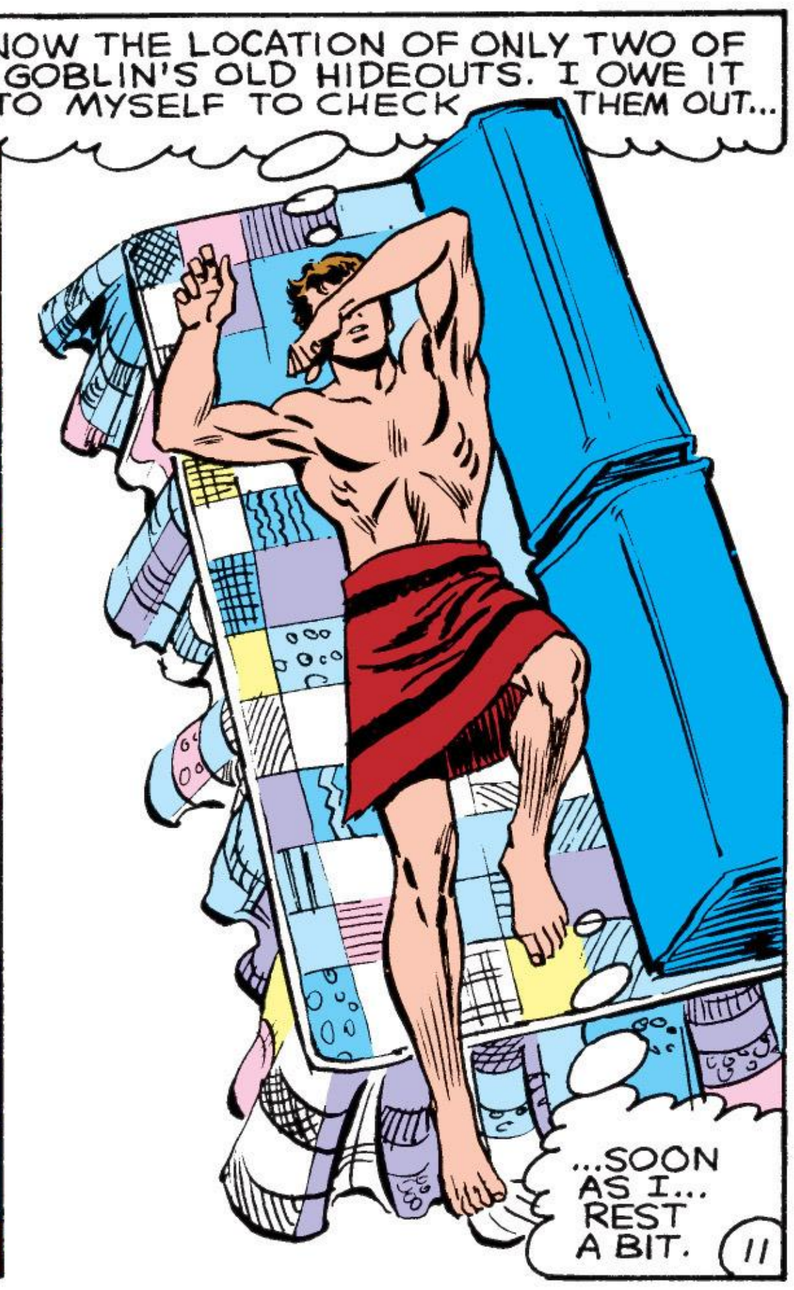

ACCORDING TO THE BUGLE, THEY STARTED JUST AFTER THE FIRE IN QUEENS--

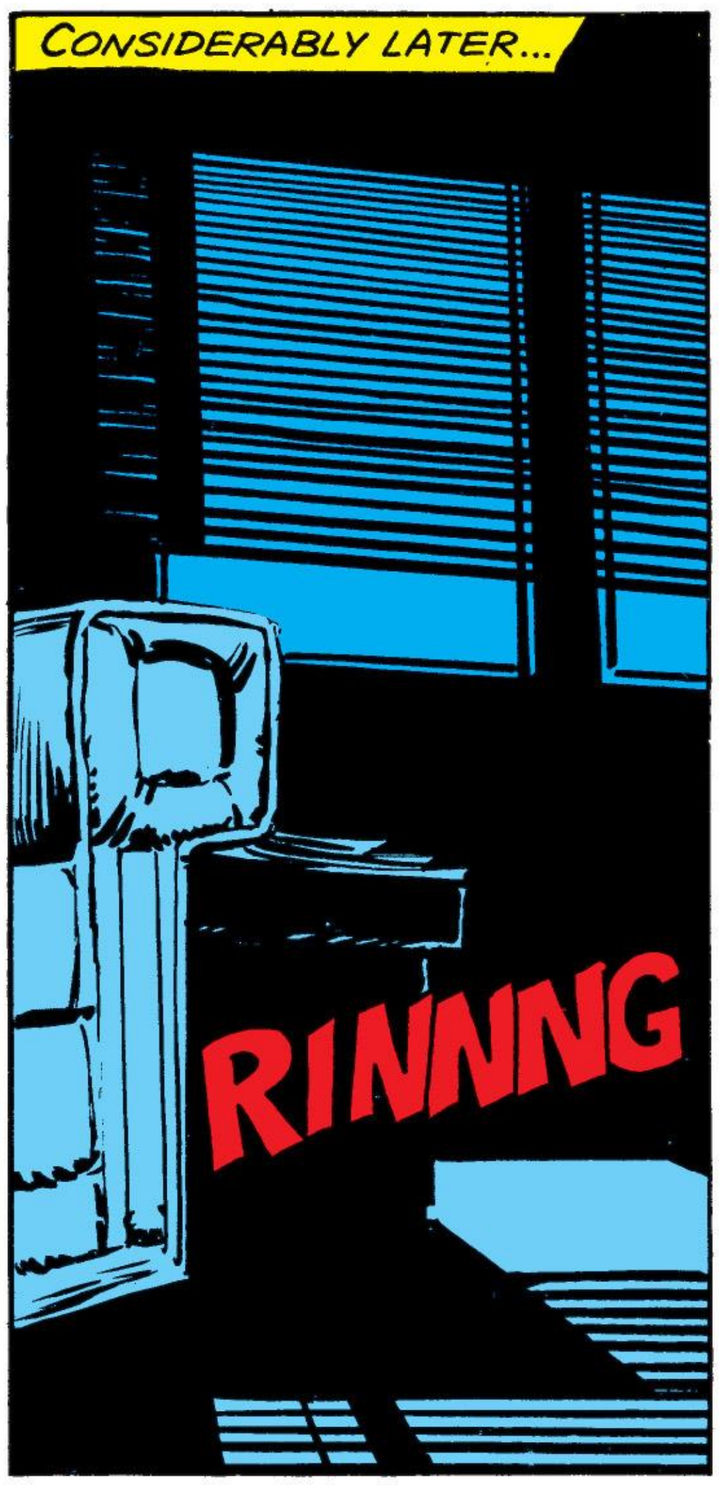

-- AND THAT TOOK PLACE THE VERY DAY I LOST A BANK ROBBER IN THE SEWERS... JUST OUTSIDE THE OSBORN WAREHOUSE.


AS FAR AS I KNOW, THE ROBBER IS STILL MISSING. HE HAS TO BE THE TRIGGER TO ALL THIS. IT'S JUST TOO BIG A COINCIDENCE OTHERWISE.
I KNOW THAT NORMAN OSBORN KEPT STORES OF HIS GOBLIN STUFF HIDDEN IN VARIOUS OLD BUILDINGS... AND SOMEONE'S BEEN RAIDING BUILDINGS THAT HE ONCE OWNED.

WHAT IF THE FIRST PLACE HAD A LIST OF THE GOBLIN'S LAIRS, AND THE ROBBER--OR SOMEBODY -- GOT HOLD OF IT? BUT WHY WOULD OSBORN HAVE WRITTEN INFORMATION LIKE THAT DOWN...
...UNLESS HE KEPT A JOURNAL! OSBORN WAS JUST CRAZY ENOUGH TO DO THAT!


AND IF HE DID KEEP JOURNALS, MAYBE HE WROTE DOWN THE FACT THAT SPIDER-MAN IS PETER PARKER!
WHOEVER IS BEHIND THE BREAK-INS MIGHT BE ABOUT TO DISCOVER MY SECRET... IF HE HASN'T ALREADY!

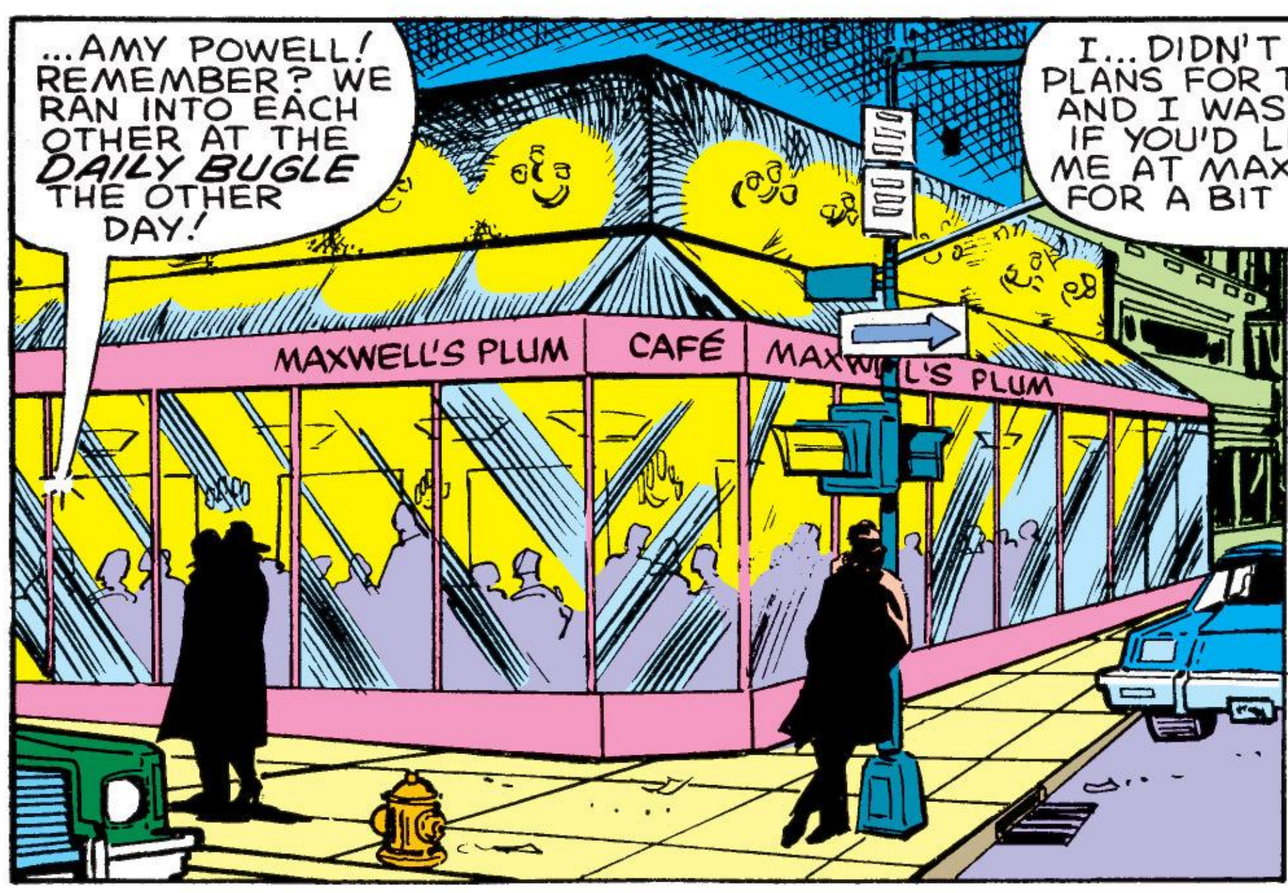

I KNOW THE LOCATION OF ONLY TWO OF THE GOBLIN'S OLD HIDEOUTS. I OWE IT TO MYSELF TO CHECK THEM OUT...
...SOON AS I... REST A BIT.

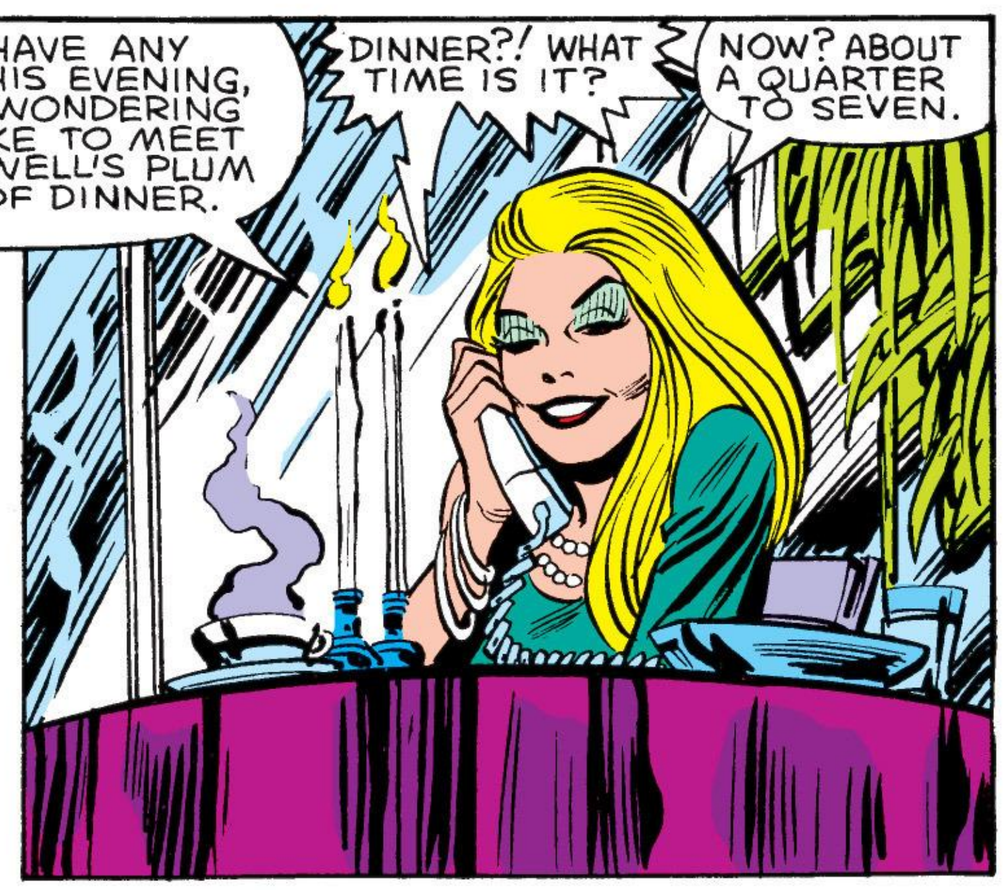

CONSIDERABLY LATER...
RINNNG

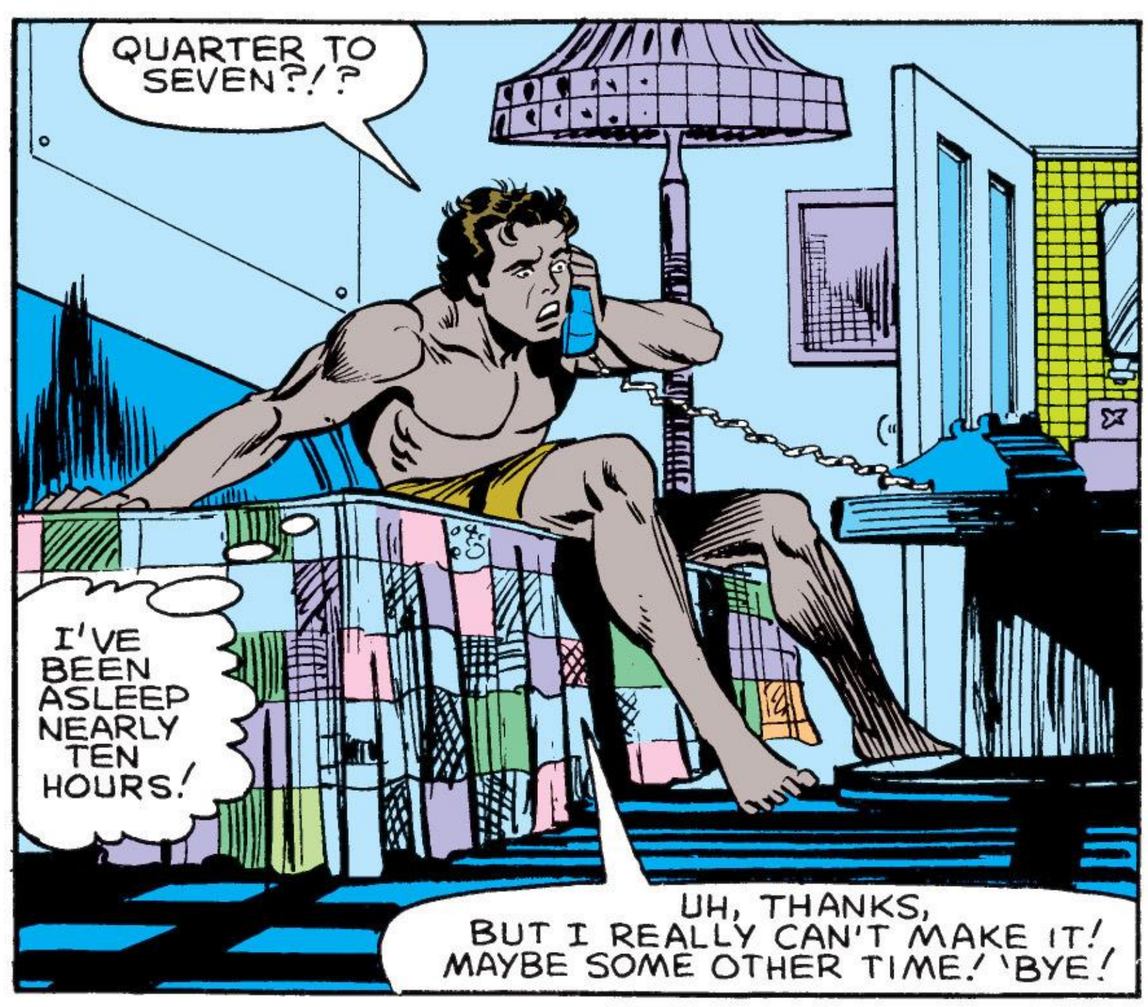
HUH?
RINNNG

OKAY, OKAY!

HULLO?
HELLO, PETER? THIS IS AMY...


...AMY POWELL! REMEMBER? WE RAN INTO EACH OTHER AT THE DAILY BUGLE THE OTHER DAY!
I... DIDN'T HAVE ANY PLANS FOR THIS EVENING, AND I WAS WONDERING IF YOU'D LIKE TO MEET ME AT MAXWELL'S PLUM FOR A BIT OF DINNER.
MAXWELL'S PLUM
CAFÉ
MAXWELL'S PLUM


DINNER?! WHAT TIME IS IT?
NOW? ABOUT A QUARTER TO SEVEN.

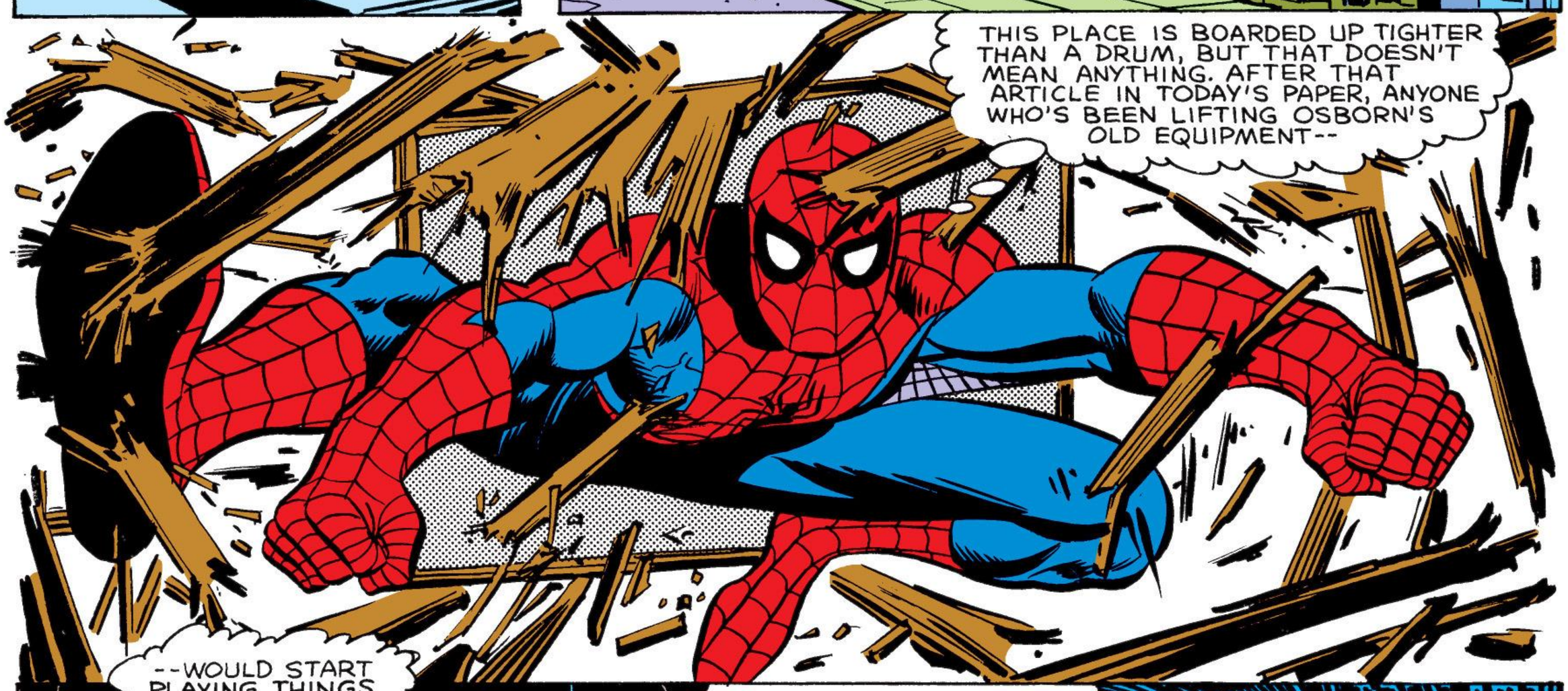

QUARTER TO SEVEN?!?
I'VE BEEN ASLEEP NEARLY TEN HOURS!
UH, THANKS, BUT I REALLY CAN'T MAKE IT! MAYBE SOME OTHER TIME! 'BYE!

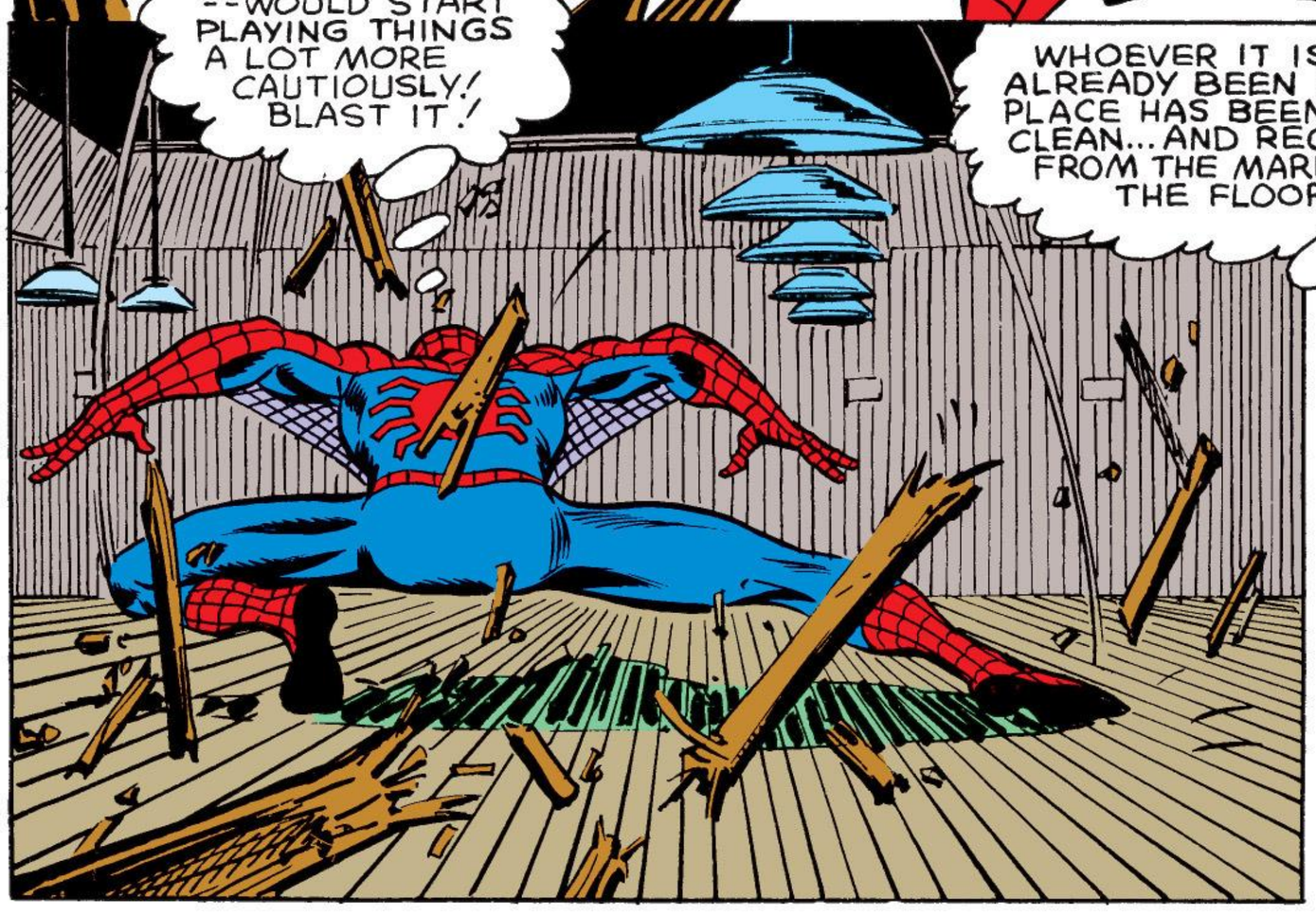
WHAT? HELLO?
KLIK
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! HE... HE HUNG UP ON ME!

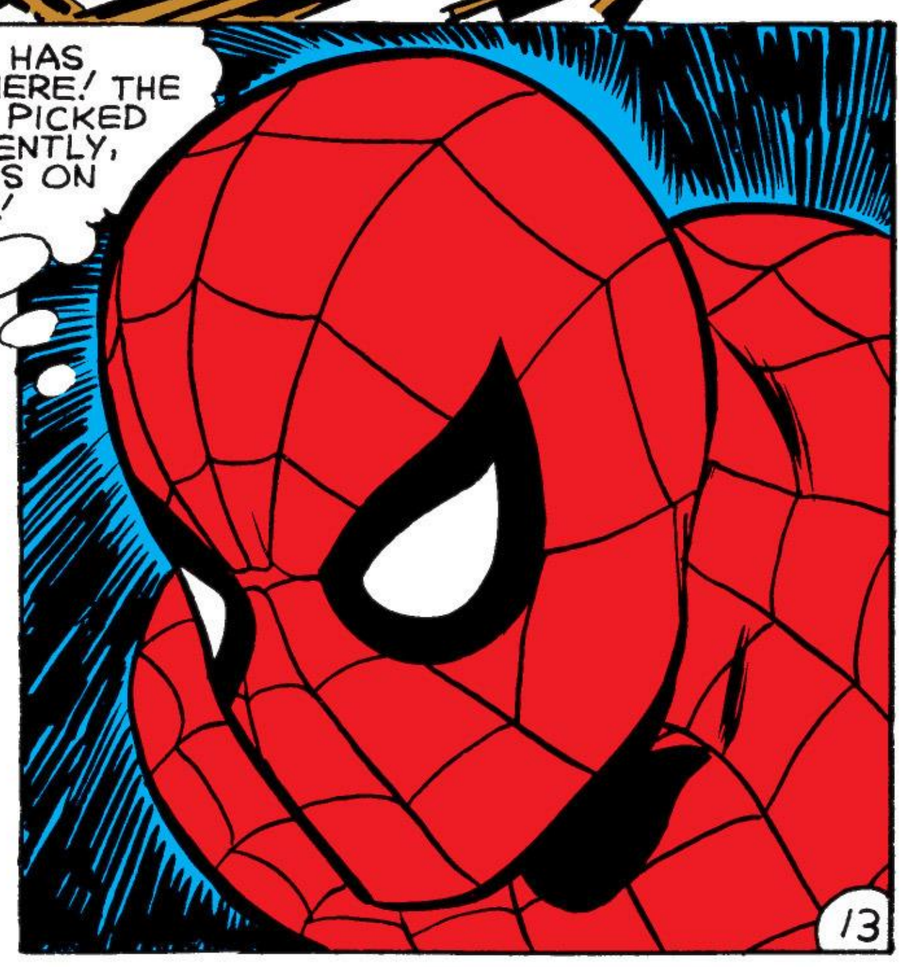
MUST'VE BEEN MORE WORN OUT THAN I THOUGHT! HEAD STILL FEELS LIKE BEES ARE LIVING IN IT!
AND MY STOMACH THINKS MY THROAT'S BEEN CUT!
I'LL HAVE TO GET BY WITH A SANDWICH AND A BLAST OF MILK... NO TIME FOR ANYTHING MORE!

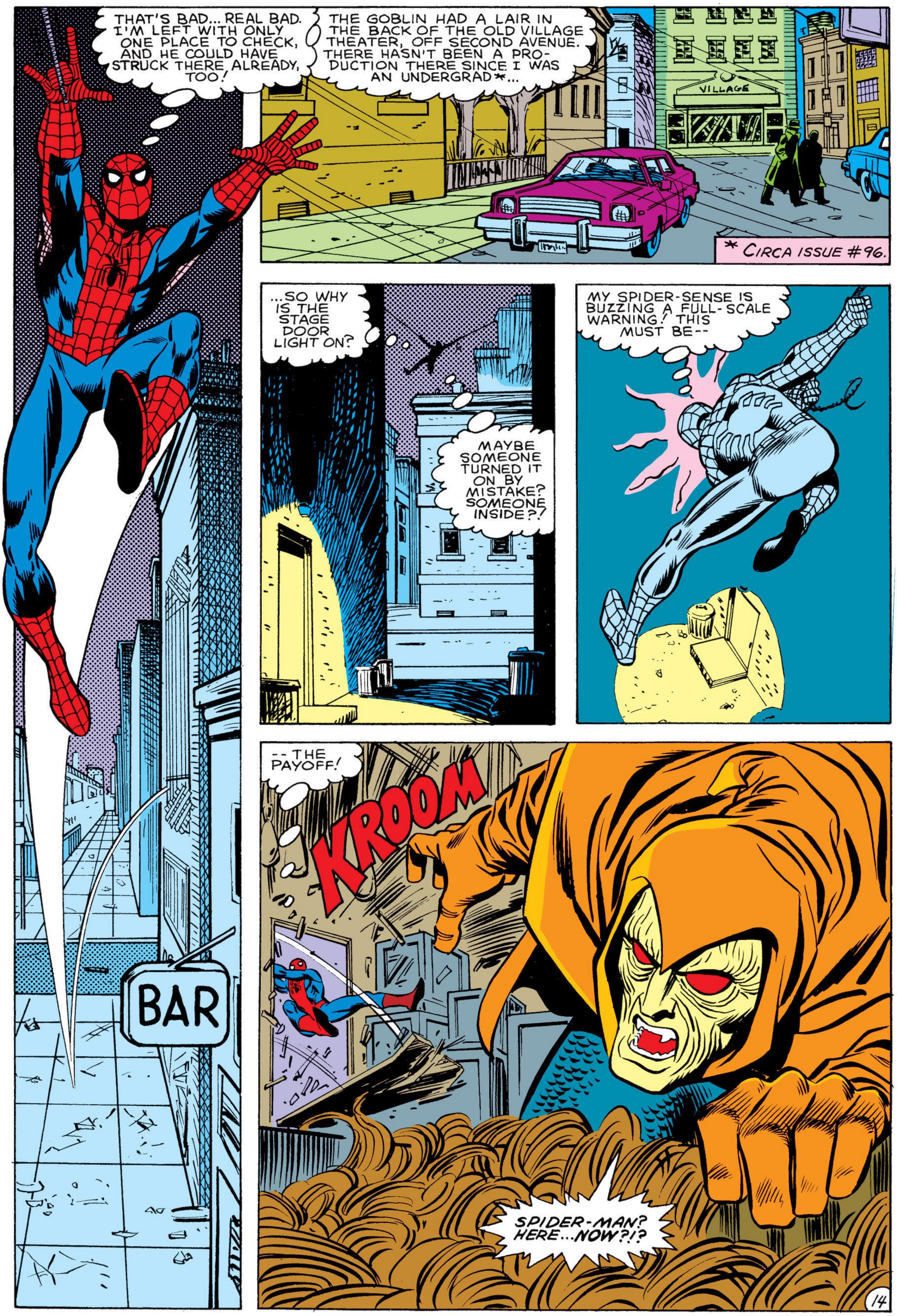
BOLTING DOWN HIS MAKE-DO DINNER, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN IS SOON SWINGING OVER THE CITY STREETS TO THE CLOSER OF HIS DESTINATIONS...

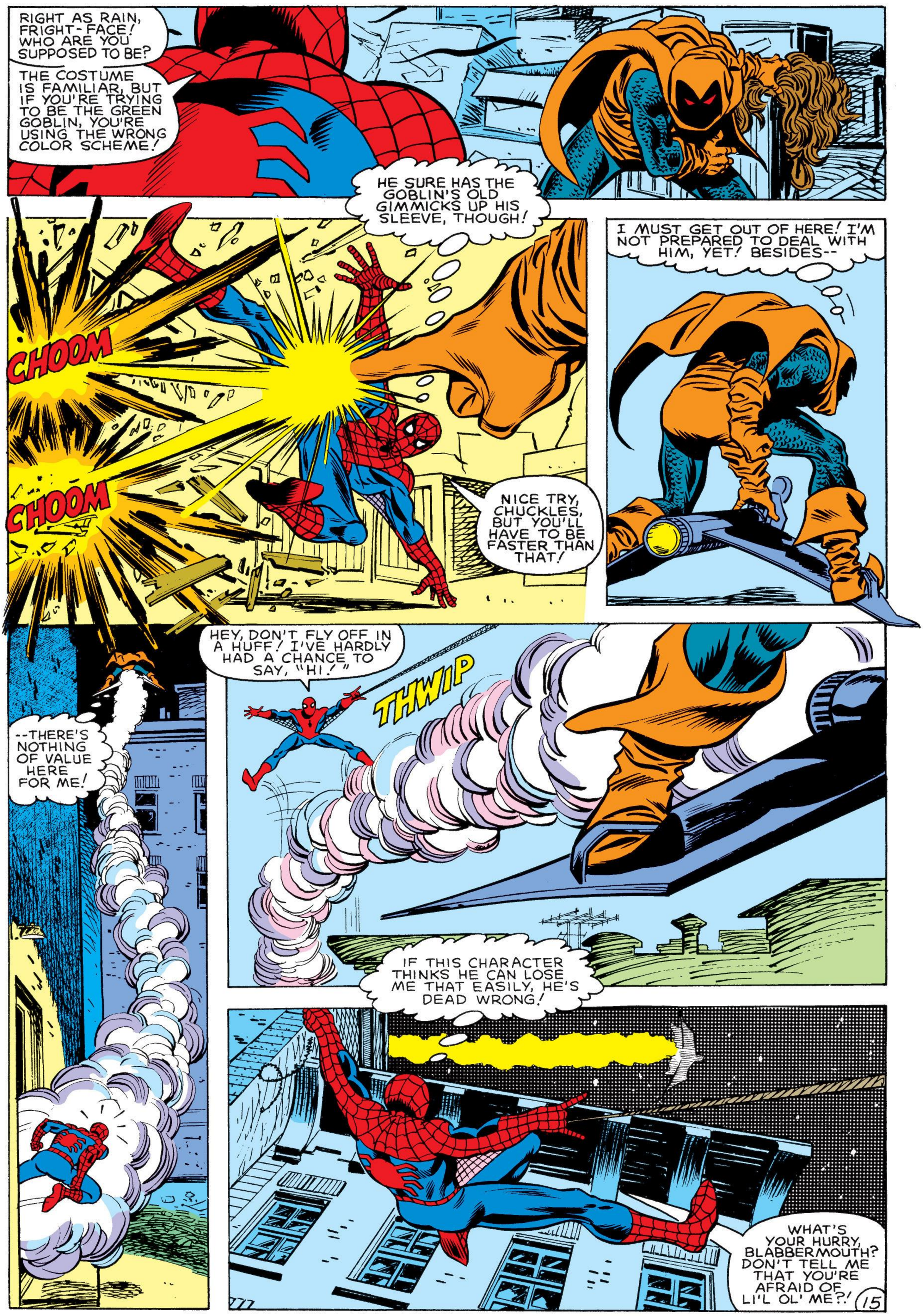
...AN OLD, ILL-KEPT WAREHOUSE JUST OFF 23rd STREET AND NINTH AVENUE.
WAREHOUSE 5
BAR


THIS PLACE IS BOARDED UP TIGHTER THAN A DRUM, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN ANYTHING. AFTER THAT ARTICLE IN TODAY'S PAPER, ANYONE WHO'S BEEN LIFTING OSBORN'S OLD EQUIPMENT--

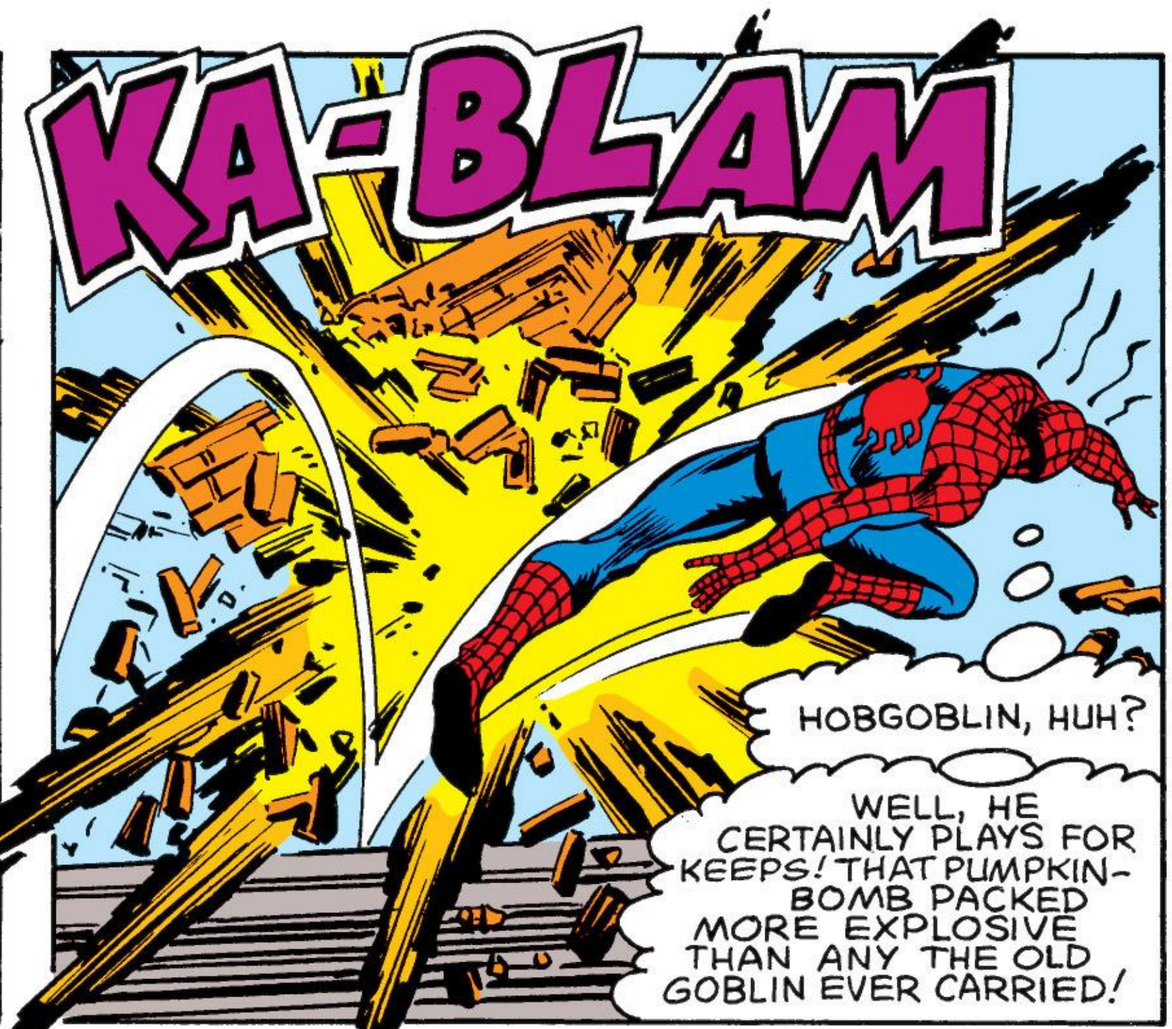

--WOULD START PLAYING THINGS A LOT MORE CAUTIOUSLY! BLAST IT!

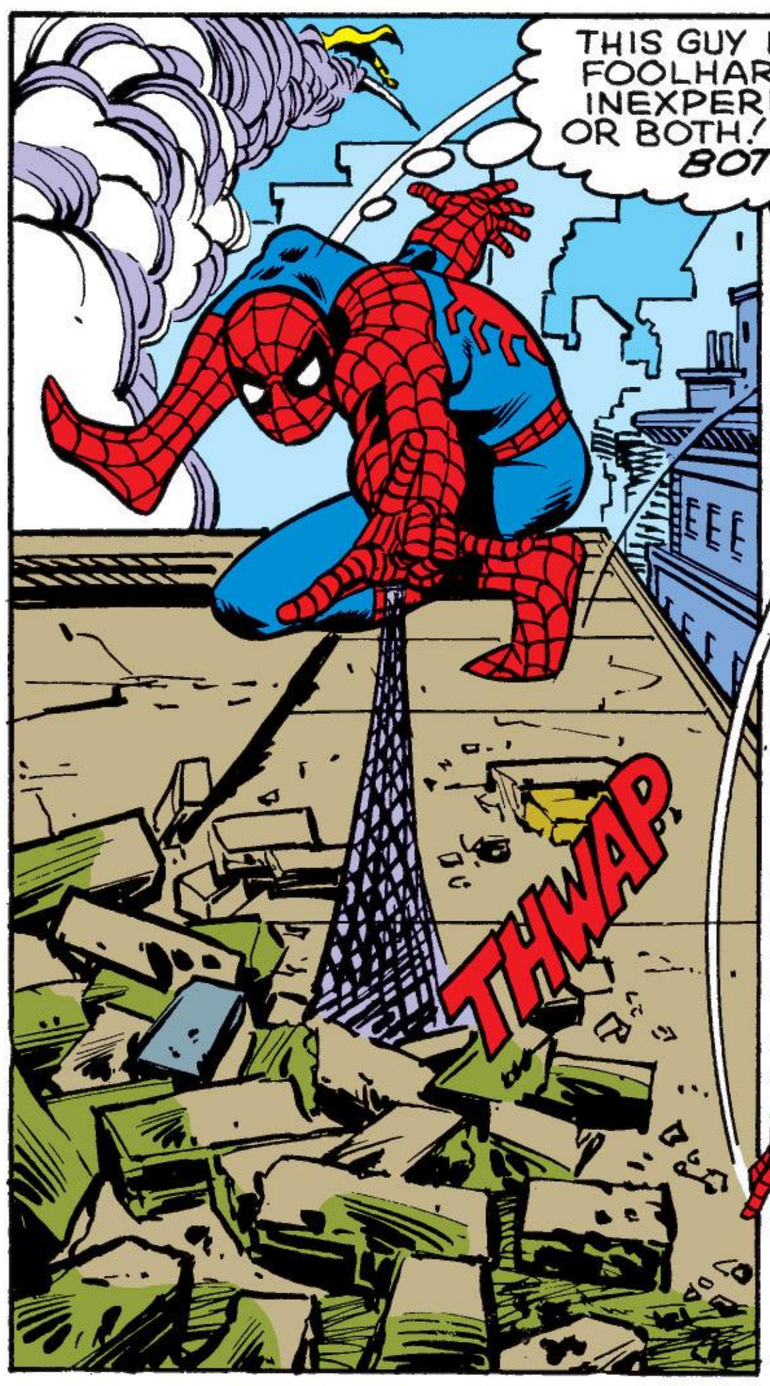

WHOEVER IT IS HAS ALREADY BEEN HERE! THE PLACE HAS BEEN PICKED CLEAN... AND RECENTLY, FROM THE MARKS ON THE FLOOR!

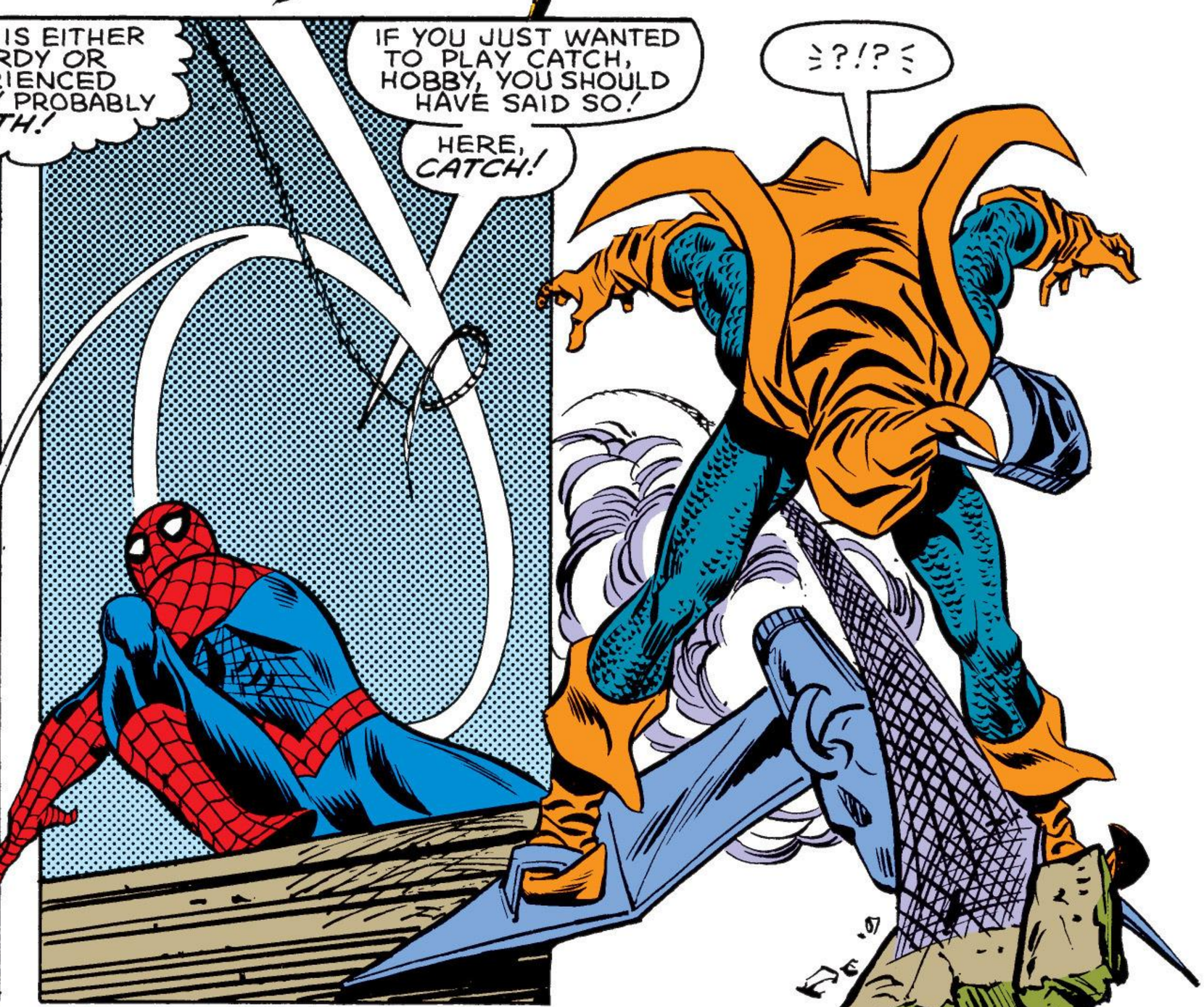

THAT'S BAD... REAL BAD. I'M LEFT WITH ONLY ONE PLACE TO CHECK, AND HE COULD HAVE STRUCK THERE ALREADY, TOO!
THE GOBLIN HAD A LAIR IN THE BACK OF THE OLD VILLAGE THEATER, OFF SECOND AVENUE. THERE HASN'T BEEN A PRODUCTION THERE SINCE I WAS AN UNDERGRAD*...
VILLAGE
* CIRCA ISSUE #96.
...SO WHY IS THE STAGE DOOR LIGHT ON?
MAYBE SOMEONE TURNED IT ON BY MISTAKE? SOMEONE INSIDE?!
MY SPIDER-SENSE IS BUZZING A FULL-SCALE WARNING! THIS MUST BE--
BAR
--THE PAYOFF!
KROOM
SPIDER-MAN? HERE...NOW?!?


RIGHT AS RAIN, FRIGHT-FACE! WHO ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE?
THE COSTUME IS FAMILIAR, BUT IF YOU'RE TRYING TO BE THE GREEN GOBLIN, YOU'RE USING THE WRONG COLOR SCHEME!
HE SURE HAS THE GOBLIN'S OLD GIMMICKS UP HIS SLEEVE, THOUGH!
CHOOM
CHOOM
NICE TRY, CHUCKLES, BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO BE FASTER THAN THAT!
I MUST GET OUT OF HERE! I'M NOT PREPARED TO DEAL WITH HIM, YET! BESIDES--
--THERE'S NOTHING OF VALUE HERE FOR ME!
HEY, DON'T FLY OFF IN A HUFF! I'VE HARDLY HAD A CHANCE TO SAY, "HI!"
THWIP
IF THIS CHARACTER THINKS HE CAN LOSE ME THAT EASILY, HE'S DEAD WRONG!
WHAT'S YOUR HURRY, BLABBERMOUTH? DON'T TELL ME THAT YOU'RE AFRAID OF LI'L OL' ME?!

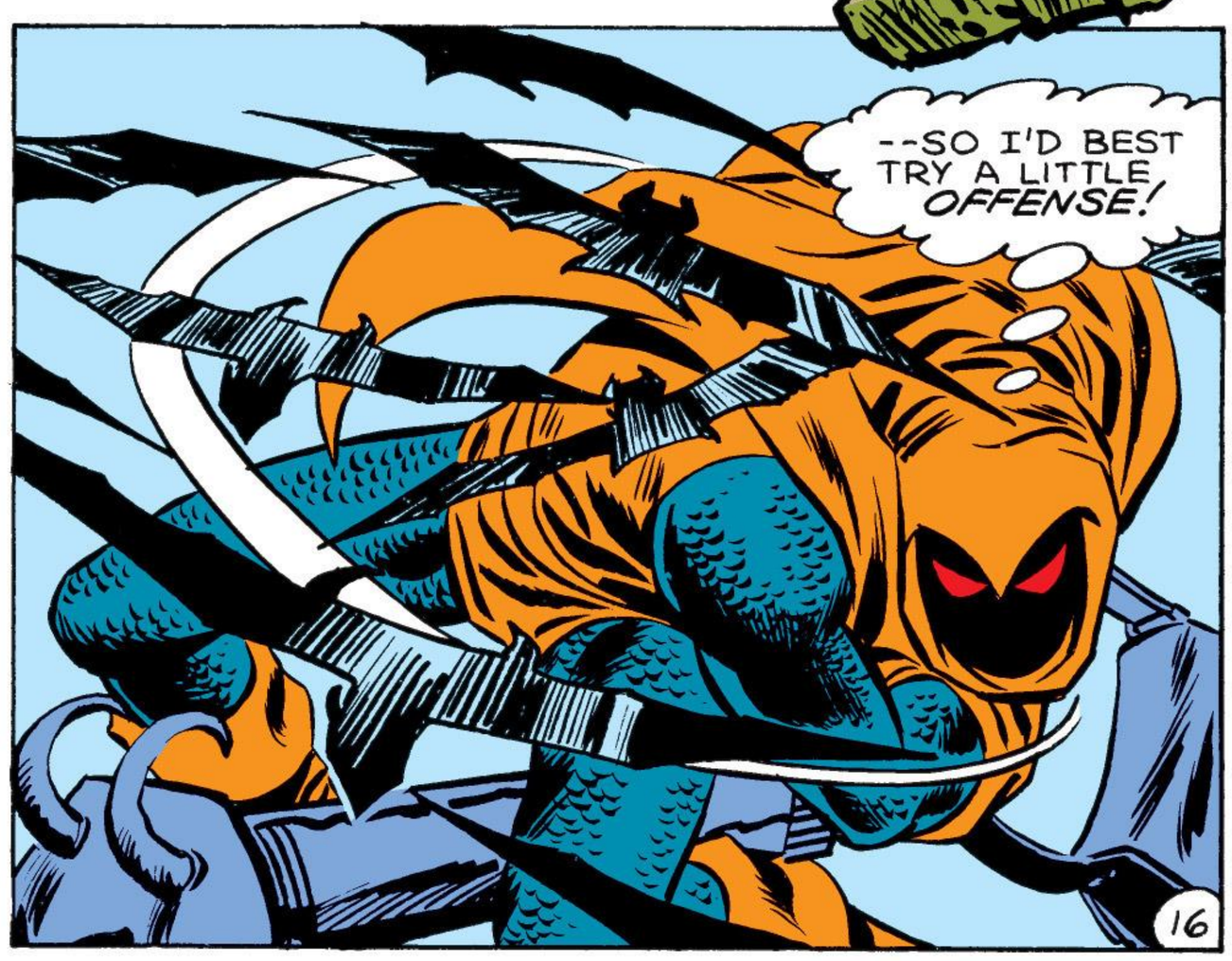
THE HOBGOBLIN FEARS NO ONE!

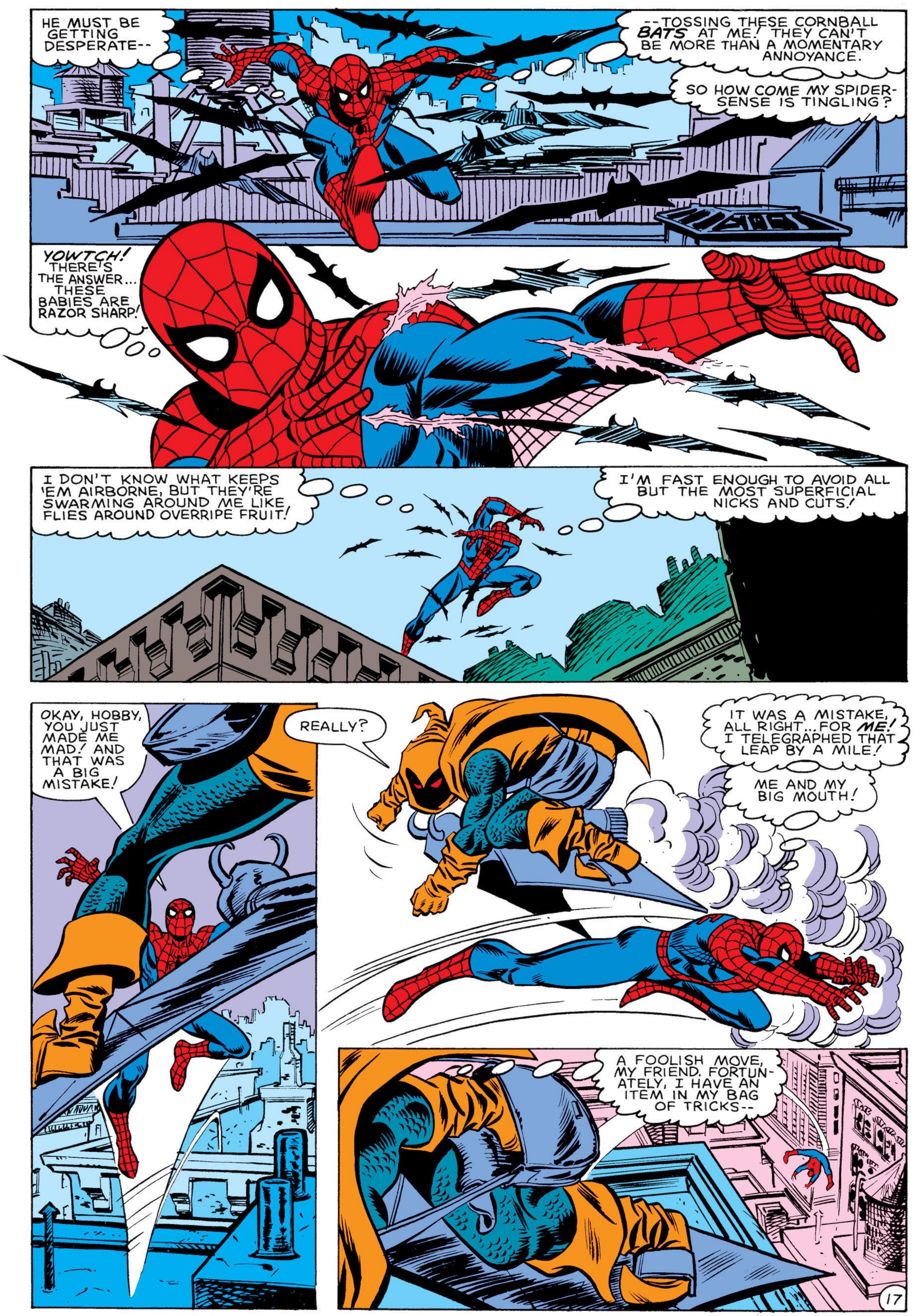

KA-BLAM
HOBGOBLIN, HUH?
WELL, HE CERTAINLY PLAYS FOR KEEPS! THAT PUMPKIN-BOMB PACKED MORE EXPLOSIVE THAN ANY THE OLD GOBLIN EVER CARRIED!


THIS GUY IS EITHER FOOLHARDY OR INEXPERIENCED OR BOTH! PROBABLY BOTH!
THWAP


IF YOU JUST WANTED TO PLAY CATCH, HOBBY, YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SO!
HERE, CATCH!
≥?!?≤

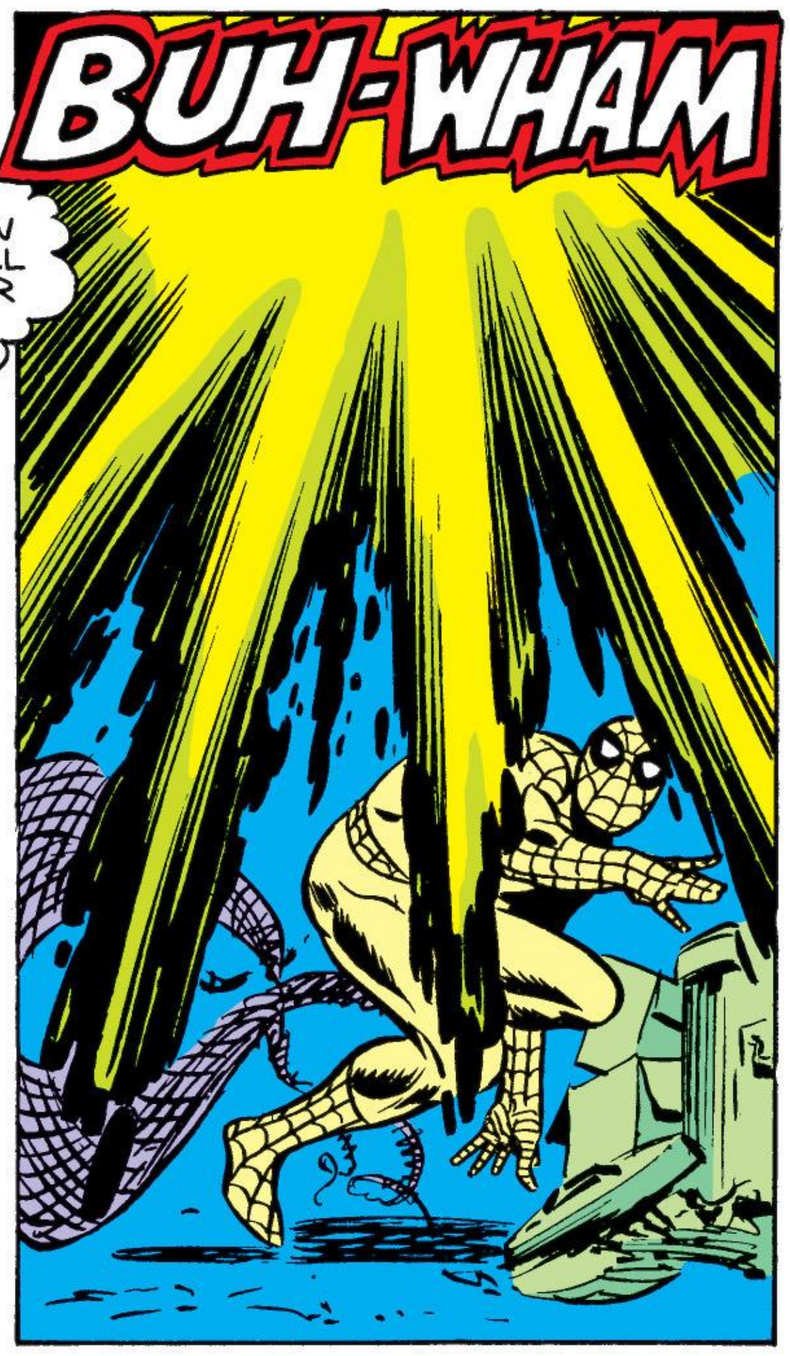
ALL THE STORIES-- ALL THE ACCOUNTS OF HIS EXPLOITS-- FAIL TO DO SPIDER-MAN JUSTICE. I CLEARLY CAN'T OUTRUN HIM--


--SO I'D BEST TRY A LITTLE OFFENSE!

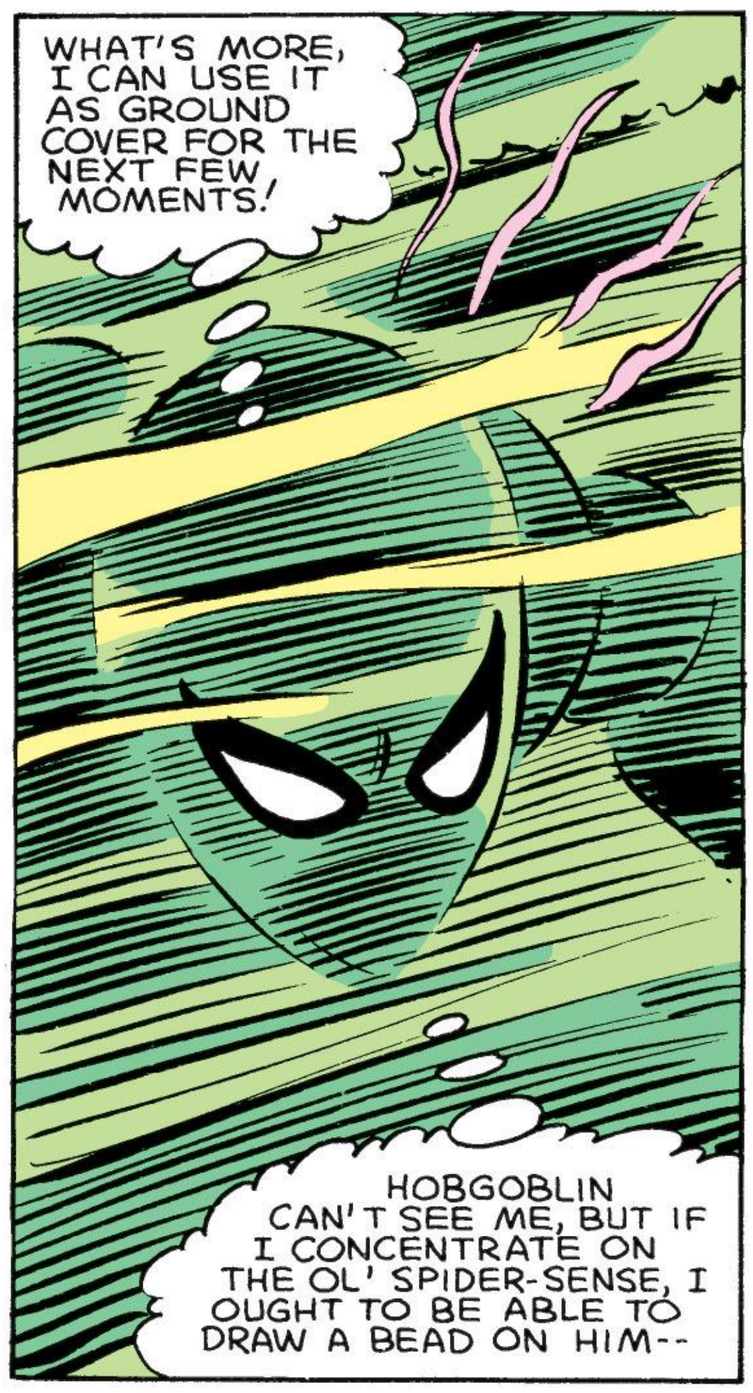

HE MUST BE GETTING DESPERATE--
--TOSSING THESE CORNBALL BATS AT ME! THEY CAN'T BE MORE THAN A MOMENTARY ANNOYANCE.
SO HOW COME MY SPIDER-SENSE IS TINGLING?
YOWTCH! THERE'S THE ANSWER... THESE BABIES ARE RAZOR SHARP!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT KEEPS 'EM AIRBORNE, BUT THEY'RE SWARMING AROUND ME LIKE FLIES AROUND OVERRIPE FRUIT!
I'M FAST ENOUGH TO AVOID ALL BUT THE MOST SUPERFICIAL NICKS AND CUTS!
OKAY, HOBBY, YOU JUST MADE ME MAD! AND THAT WAS A BIG MISTAKE!
REALLY?
IT WAS A MISTAKE, ALL RIGHT... FOR ME! I TELEGRAPHED THAT LEAP BY A MILE!
ME AND MY BIG MOUTH!
A FOOLISH MOVE, MY FRIEND. FORTUNATELY, I HAVE AN ITEM IN MY BAG OF TRICKS--
17

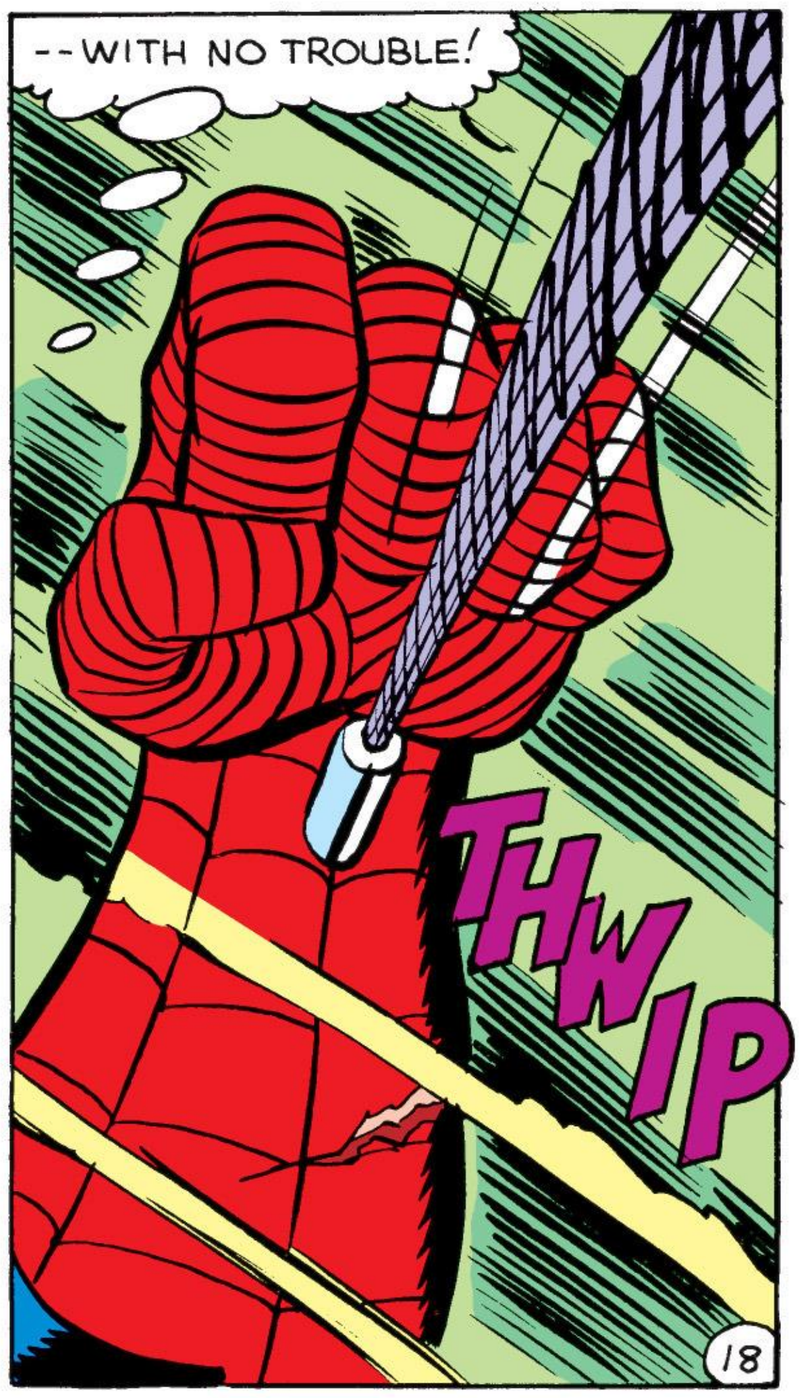
--WHICH WILL ENABLE ME TO TAKE GREATER ADVANTAGE OF YOUR ERROR!
WHOOSH

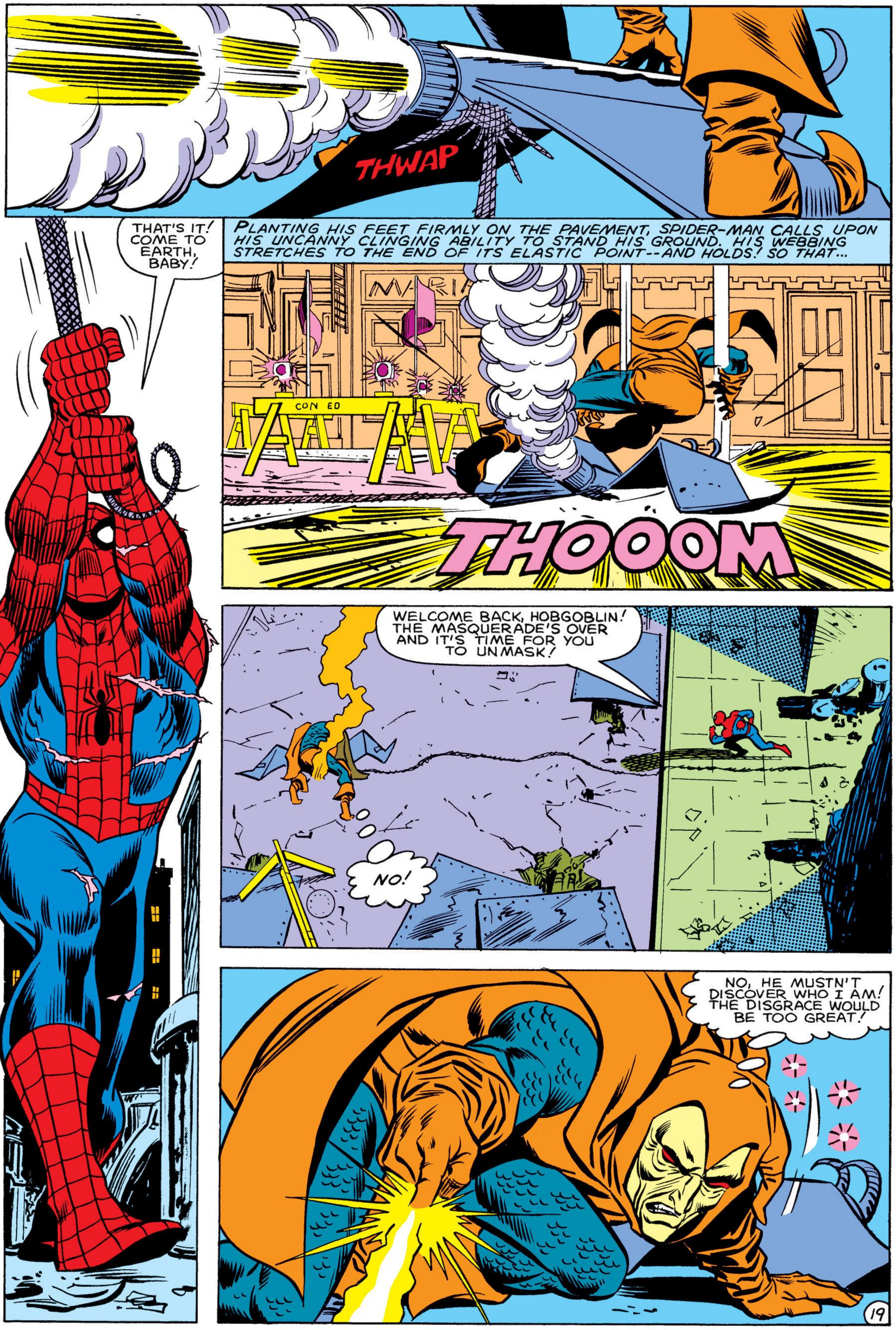
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN... BIG DEAL! RIGHT NOW I FEEL MORE LIKE THE AMAZING DOOFUS!
AFTER ALL I'VE BEEN THROUGH IN THE PAST FEW DAYS, MY MIND MUST STILL BE ON HOLD! I'D BETTER SNAP TO IT BEFORE--!
UH-OH, THERE GOES MY SPIDER-SENSE AGAIN! BUT IT'S SUCH A MILD BUZZ, WHAT COULD IT BE THIS TIME?

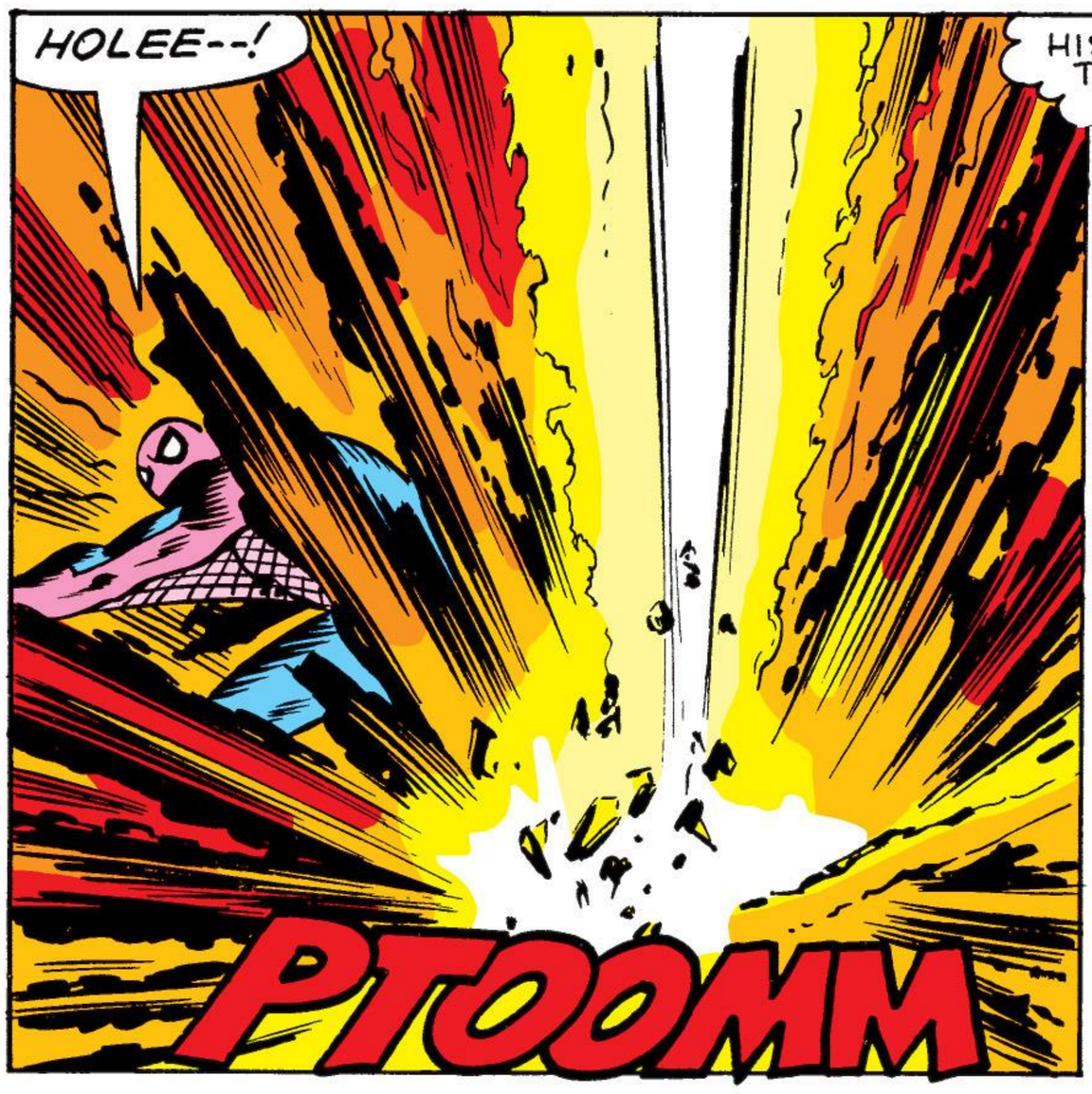

BUH-WHAM

GAS! THAT FIGURES. THE GREEN GOBLIN HAD A WHOLE RANGE OF GAS-BOMBS IN HIS ARSENAL.
UNFORTUNATELY FOR OL' HOBBY, I GOT MYSELF A GOOD LUNGFUL OF AIR BEFORE HIS LITTLE PARTY-FAVOR WENT OFF! THIS STUFF WON'T EVEN SLOW ME DOWN!


WHAT'S MORE, I CAN USE IT AS GROUND COVER FOR THE NEXT FEW MOMENTS!
HOBGOBLIN CAN'T SEE ME, BUT IF I CONCENTRATE ON THE OL' SPIDER-SENSE, I OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO DRAW A BEAD ON HIM--

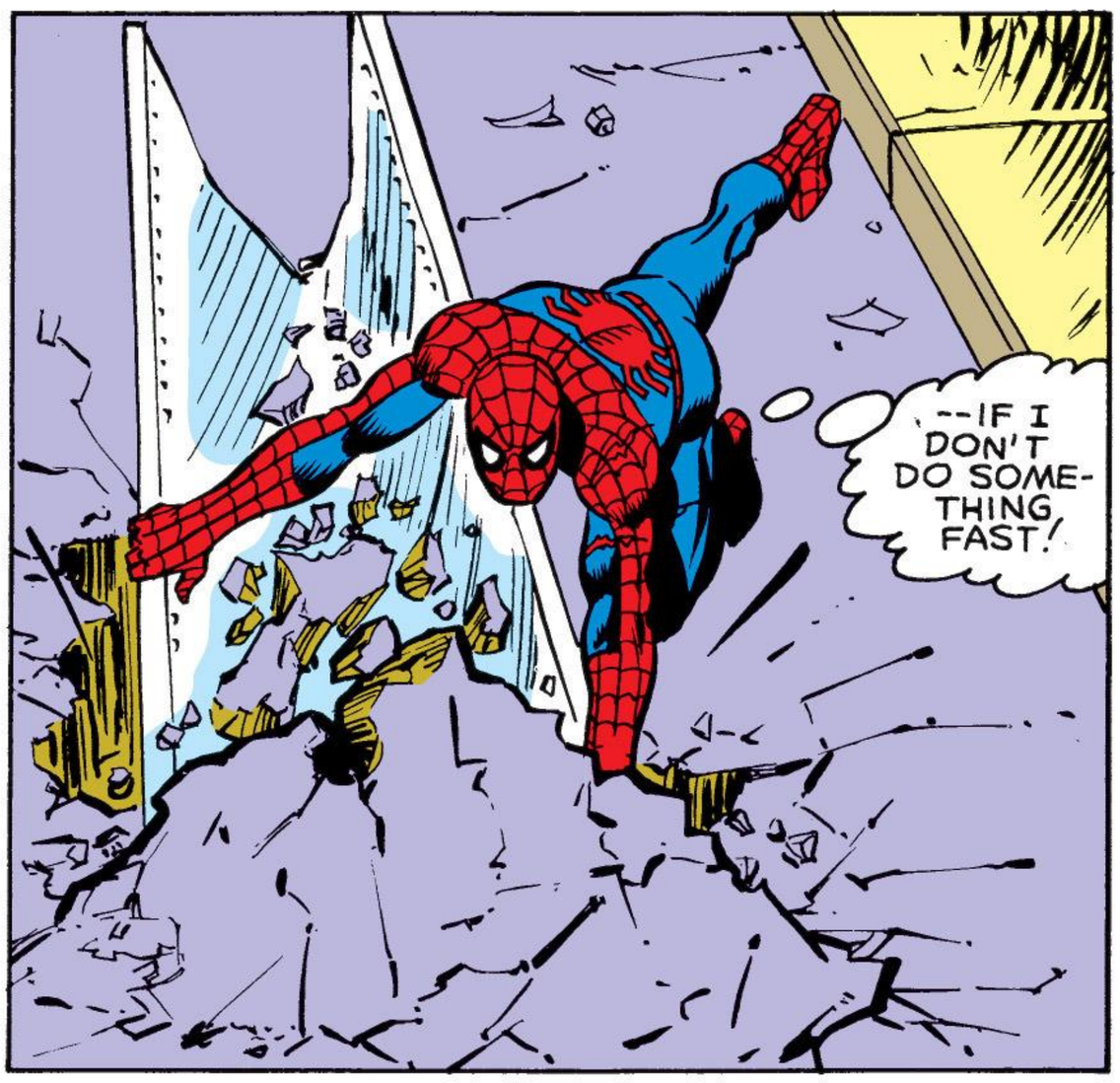

--WITH NO TROUBLE!
THWIP

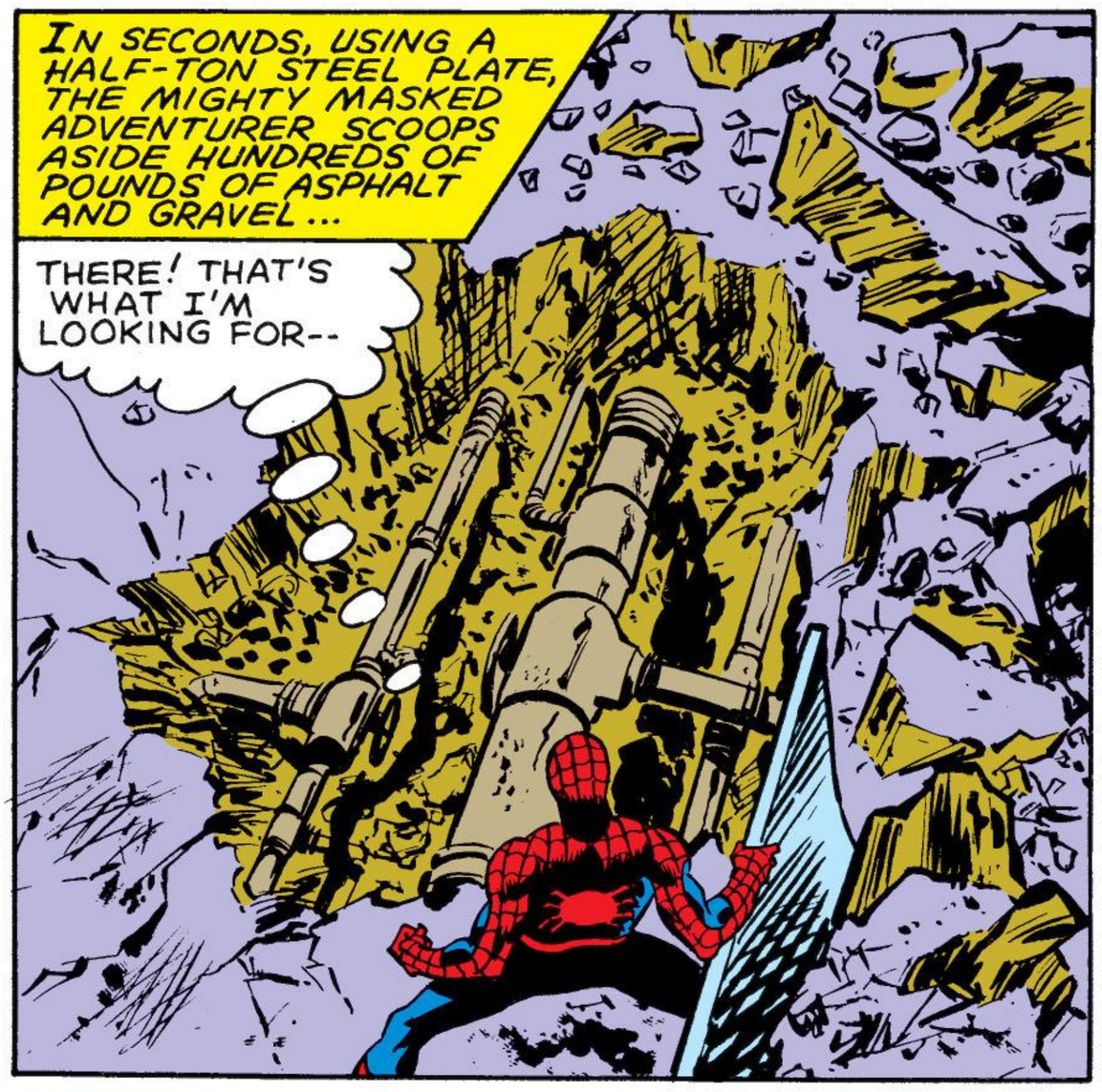

THWAP
THAT'S IT! COME TO EARTH, BABY!
PLANTING HIS FEET FIRMLY ON THE PAVEMENT, SPIDER-MAN CALLS UPON HIS UNCANNY CLINGING ABILITY TO STAND HIS GROUND. HIS WEBBING STRETCHES TO THE END OF ITS ELASTIC POINT--AND HOLDS! SO THAT...
CON ED
THOOOM
WELCOME BACK, HOBGOBLIN! THE MASQUERADE'S OVER AND IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO UNMASK!
NO!
NO, HE MUSTN'T DISCOVER WHO I AM! THE DISGRACE WOULD BE TOO GREAT!


HOLEE--!
PTOOMM

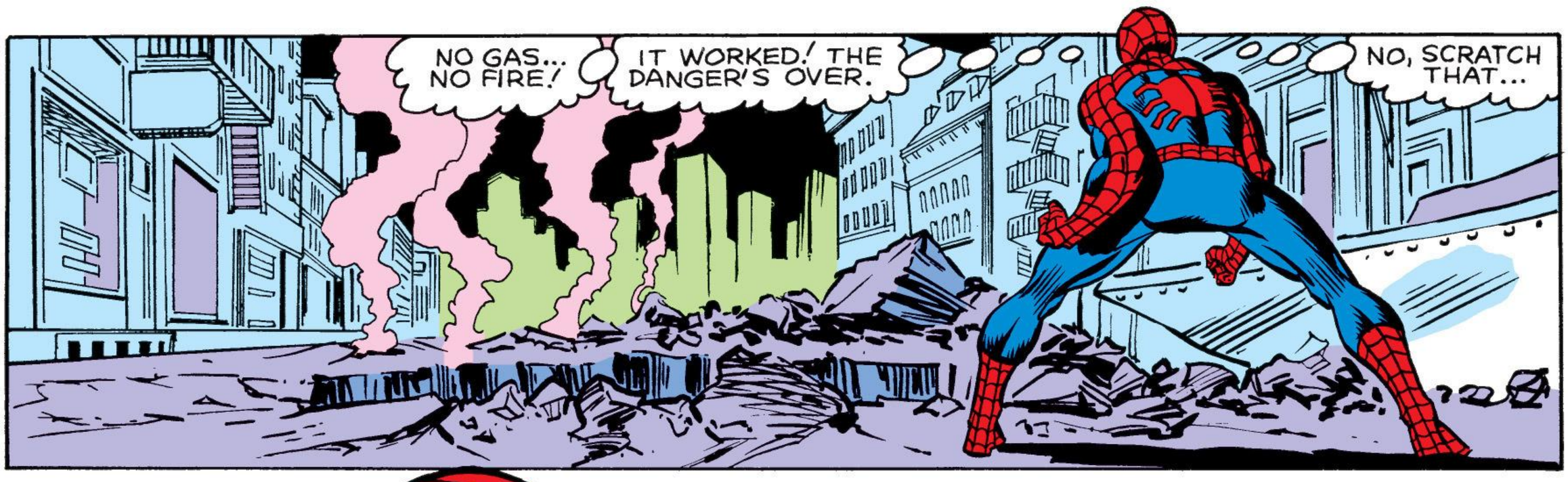
HIS HAND-BLASTER RIPPED INTO THE STREET EXCAVATION AND BLEW A GAS LINE!

AND THE EXPLOSION WEAKENED A SECOND LINE! THE FIRE IS SPREADING--THIS WHOLE NEIGHBORHOOD COULD GO UP IN FLAMES--


--IF I DON'T DO SOMETHING FAST!

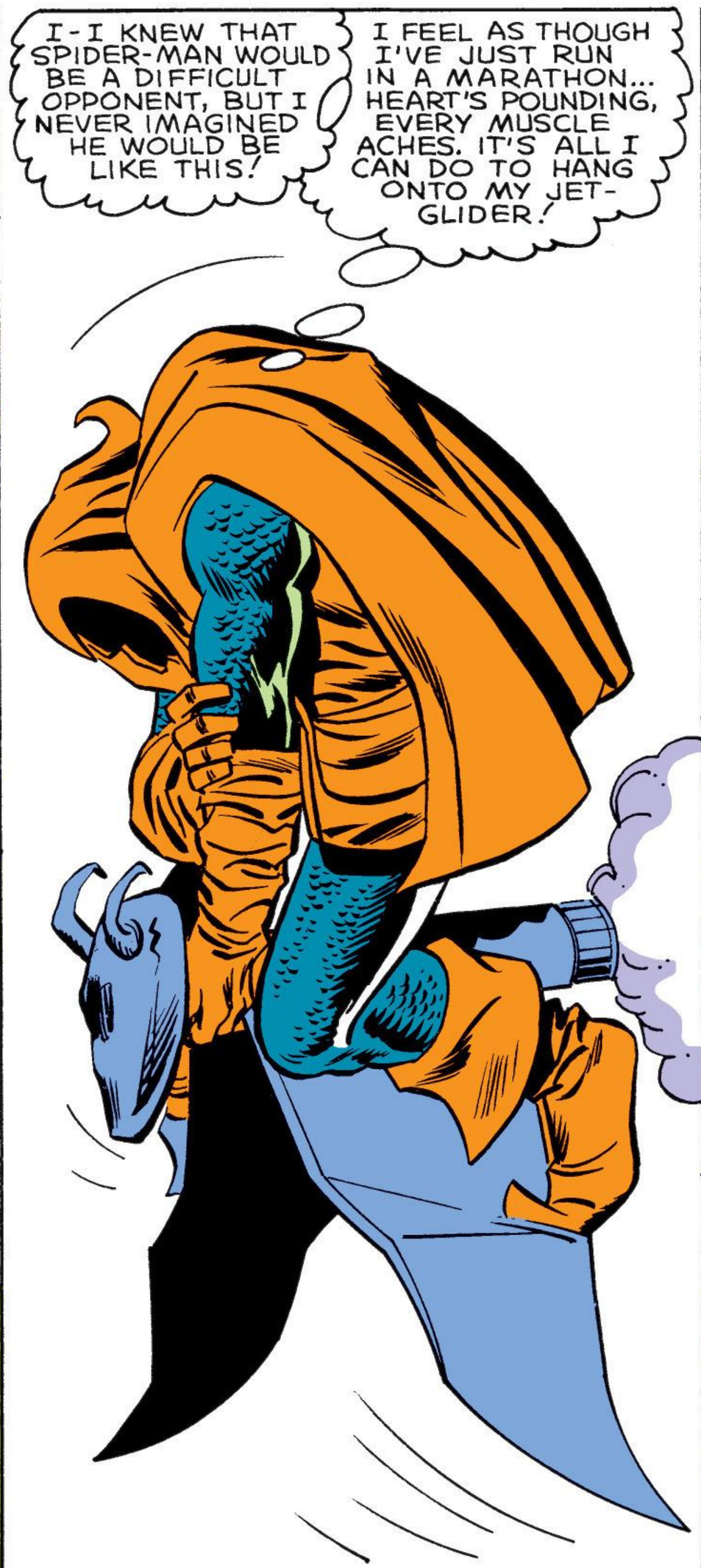

IN SECONDS, USING A HALF-TON STEEL PLATE, THE MIGHTY MASKED ADVENTURER SCOOPS ASIDE HUNDREDS OF POUNDS OF ASPHALT AND GRAVEL ...
THERE! THAT'S WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR--

--THE MAIN FEEDER LINE!
KER-RIMP

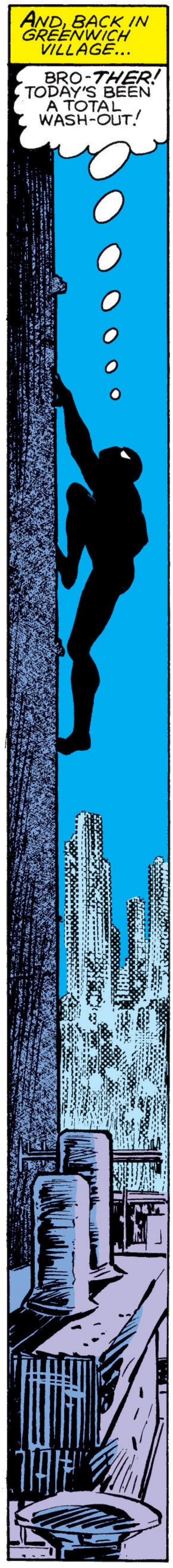

NO GAS... NO FIRE!
IT WORKED! THE DANGER'S OVER.
NO, SCRATCH THAT...

... THE FIRE IS OUT. THAT'S ALL.
HOBGOBLIN GOT AWAY.

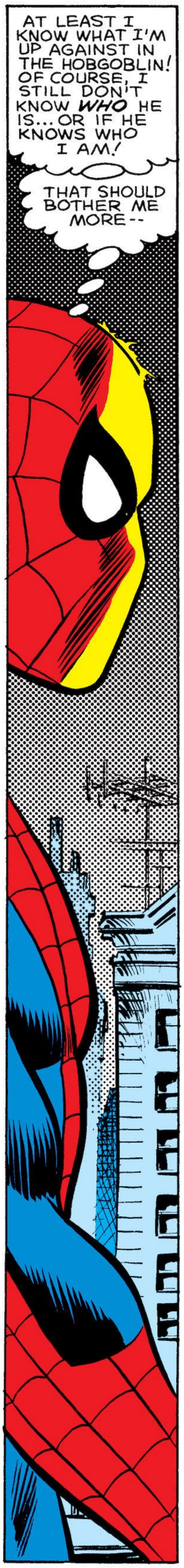
INDEED, AT THAT MOMENT, A SCORE OF BLOCKS AWAY...


I-I KNEW THAT SPIDER-MAN WOULD BE A DIFFICULT OPPONENT, BUT I NEVER IMAGINED HE WOULD BE LIKE THIS!
I FEEL AS THOUGH I'VE JUST RUN IN A MARATHON... HEART'S POUNDING, EVERY MUSCLE ACHES. IT'S ALL I CAN DO TO HANG ONTO MY JET-GLIDER!

HOW ON EARTH WAS THE GREEN GOBLIN ABLE TO STAND UP TO SPIDER-MAN AS MANY TIMES AS HE DID?
HE MUST HAVE HAD SOME SECRET... BUT WHAT? I MUST FIND OUT! I WILL FIND OUT!
AND WHEN I DO, I SHALL HUMBLE SPIDER-MAN AS HE'S NEVER BEEN HUMBLED BEFORE!


AND, BACK IN GREENWICH VILLAGE...
BRO-THER! TODAY'S BEEN A TOTAL WASH-OUT!

I SLEPT MOST OF THE DAY AWAY... I LET THE HOBGOBLIN GET AWAY FROM ME... AND I THINK I MAY HAVE BURNT MY HAND IN THE PROCESS! WONDERFUL!


AT LEAST I KNOW WHAT I'M UP AGAINST IN THE HOBGOBLIN! OF COURSE, I STILL DON'T KNOW WHO HE IS... OR IF HE KNOWS WHO I AM!
THAT SHOULD BOTHER ME MORE--

--BUT RIGHT NOW, WITH DR. OCTOPUS STILL ON THE LOOSE AND THE BLACK CAT ON THE CRITICAL LIST, I JUST CAN'T MUSTER ENOUGH ENERGY TO WORRY.

WHAT A LIFE!
THINK I'LL GO HOME, PUT ON MY SPARE COSTUME, AND GO SEE IF FELICIA'S IMPROVED ANY. YEAH... AND MAYBE GRAB A DONUT ON THE WAY.
THERE'S ONE GOOD POINT ABOUT ALL THIS... THINGS COULDN'T POSSIBLY GET ANY WORSE.
COULD THEY?
END?

THE SPIDER'S WEB

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

TOM DeFALCO
EDITOR
LANCE TOOKS
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Tom,

Being an unshakable collector of the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, I must congratulate Roger Stern, John Romita, Jr., and Dan Green for the job they did on issue #234. "Now Shall Will-O'-The Wisp Have His Revenge!" is probably the best Spider-yarn I've ever laid my eyes on.

I just knew that Peter Parker's run of good luck couldn't hold out through the entire story. I mean, he first meets a beautiful young woman, then he gets to harass J. Jonah Jameson, and then Mr. Pincus defrosts his refrigerator and gives Pete a complete meal! It had to end somewhere, right? And unfortunately for the ol' Web-head, it ended with the transformation of the Tarantula from man into monster. I can't wait to see how Spider-Man gets himself out of this mess!

Also, I wish to thank everyone involved for the Marvel Guide to Collecting Comics. It told me a few things about comics I never knew.

Brian Toms
3209 Jenks Avenue
Panama City, FL 32405

Me, too!

Dear Tom,

To tell the truth, the only reason I bought AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #234 was to get the Marvel Guide to Collecting Comics. The Guide shed some light on a number of things for me, but mostly — now — I'm glad that there was an issue of SPIDER-MAN attached to it.

I never read AMAZING SPIDER-MAN that much before, but you can bet I will from now on! From that great scene on page two, where the bullets passed right through Will-O'-The-Wisp, I knew that I'd picked up one action-packed issue. The story was so interesting and the art so fabulous, who else but Marvel could have done it?

Is Will-O'-The-Wisp a friend of Spider-Man's or an enemy? From the way he acted, it was a little hard to tell.

Finally, I hope that the Tarantula doesn't stay in that form for long, as that could mean big trouble for Spider-Man.

Matthew S. Flemming
4655 Monic Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80916

Is the Wisp a friend or foe? Good question, Matt, and it's one that Spider-Man has asked himself almost every time he's run into the glowing man! They've recently parted on good terms, though!

Dear Mr. DeFalco,

Congratulations on your new, more upbeat Spider-Man. You have replaced the dull, stagnant "Spidey" with a much more enjoyable Spider-Man. You have put much of the fun and spunk back into this book, and we applaud you.

Unfortunately, we cannot applaud the appearances herein of Nathan Lubensky. With his presence in the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, one can only assume that we will be seeing still more of the unhealthiest lady in comics — Aunt May. *You* may like Aunt May, but we feel that she has out-lived her usefulness to the series. After all her illnesses and heart attacks, it is simply amazing, not to mention very improbable, that she is still alive!

The AMAZING SPIDER-MAN has always been the magazine for change and innovative ideas. Well, let's reaffirm that tradition with the death of Aunt May. Aunt May has given us so many subplots that she has no more to give... alive. Her death, however, opens up infinite possibilities. What would Peter do without his aunt? What would he do with the windfall of money that would result from no more medical bills? Would Peter Parker finally become the happy-go-lucky Spider-Man?

So what do you say? Let's put it to Marveldom Assembled as to whether or not May Parker should live.

Mike and Doug Gessell
25 Anderson Avenue
Reginia, Saskatchewan
Canada S4S 4R3

Aw, gee, guys! Isn't that just a little on the bloodthirsty side? Do you really want me to condemn sweet old May Parker to death? Do you really think you know all there is to know about the lady? (If you do, you'd best think again!)

Besides, May's been the picture of health, ever since she had that coronary by-pass operation ('way back in ASM #179) ...and Nathan Lubensky entered her life. You might say the lady's started life anew... and that sounds pretty good to me! How about you?

Dear Tom, Roger, and John:

As I finish reading each issue of the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, I think that there's just no way you could top yourselves. Then, I read the next issue and find out that you can! I really can't believe how fantastic this book is becoming. Keep up the great work, guys!

And now, for some general question/comments:

1) Since Dr. Jonas Harrow created the Will-O'-The-Wisp, does that mean he worked for the Brand Corporation?

2) After the Tarantula reverts to normal, why not have him go to work for the Kingpin?

3) Bring back Doc Ock!

4) Have Spider-Man get a re-match with the Cyclone, Lightmaster, the Grizzly, the Shocker, Mysterio, the Prowler, or Belladonna.

5) Keep on producing top-notch entertainment like this, and I'll renew my subscription!

Andrew Krepela
6102 138th Street S.E.
Everett, WA 98204

Okay, Andy, taking them in order:

1) Nope! Jonas Harrow didn't create the Wisp, he only used him. It was the Wisp who had worked for Brand, as we saw in issue #235.

2) Since the Tarantula was on a one-way transformation, employment from the Kingpin has become an impossible option in this reality.

3) You got 'im! See recent issues of SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN.

4) Aside from Lightmaster — who lost his powers in MARVEL TEAM-UP #113 — and the Shocker (who recently was used by the Masters of Evil in the AVENGERS), anything is possible!

5) Deal!

Dear Tom,

The all-new, all-different, all-terrific Captain Marvel — in the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #16 — was just that.

Admittedly, when I heard that there was going to be a new Captain Marvel, I thought, "Oh, great! He's probably another Kree Warrior... here we go again!" Then I found out that *he* was a she. Well, I just read her origin... and, boy, was it different!

I have to say that Monica Rambeau is one of the best-looking women I have seen in comics... or real life, for that matter! I certainly don't blame Parker for wanting to follow her! I would have, too!

The story in this year's ANNUAL had one nifty scene after another. I laughed my head off when that kid at the Empire State Building wouldn't give Spider-Man a quarter for the viewer. And his parents' reaction to his "meeting" with Spider-Man was too much! The running chase was very exciting; it had me on the edge of my seat, right to the very end when Web-head and Iron Man managed to save Captain Marvel from her power overload. The Thing's difficulties with finding a cab contributed to another good laugh. And it was a joy to see Liz and Harry again. I hope we see more of them soon — and let's see this Brenda gal that Liz wanted to set Peter up with! I mean who knows– –?

Back to the lovely Captain Marvel, I hope enough fans like her and support her. (I for one would like to see the lady get her own book.) I am waiting with bated breath for AVENGERS #227 to hit the stands.

Mark Stanislawski
117 Cornflower Drive
Milford, CT 06460

NEXT ISSUE: Our story reaches from the heart of the Sun Belt to the less balmy climes of Forest Hills, as the high-flying *Vulture* returns to bedevil our amazing web-spinner! And wait'll you see their battle to the finish in the middle of the New York Coliseum... and we *do* mean finish! It all jumps off the pages of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #240, on sale in just thirty days! Reserve your copy now!

Bye for now...

Tom DeFalco