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SPIDER-GIRL®



DIRECT EDITION



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SPIDER-GIRL

PREVIOUSLY



#69



#70



#71

Spider-Girl is forced to accept help from known South American terrorist, the Black Tarantula.

After capturing Dr. Jade, Spider-Girl is defeated in her first battle with Lady Octopus.



#72



#73



#74

Spider-Girl accidentally shrinks her costume in a clothes drying mishap before being crushed by Lady Octopus in their second savage confrontation.

Lady Octopus breaks crime boss Canis out of jail and buries Spider-Girl alive in the New York sewers. After Darkdevil digs her out, Mayday decides to form an unholy alliance with the Black Tarantula.

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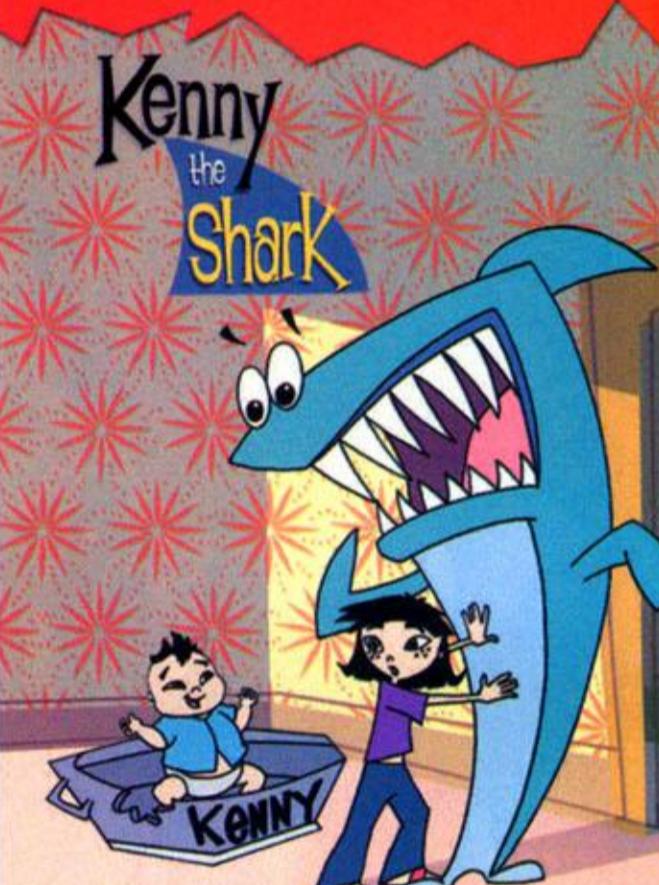
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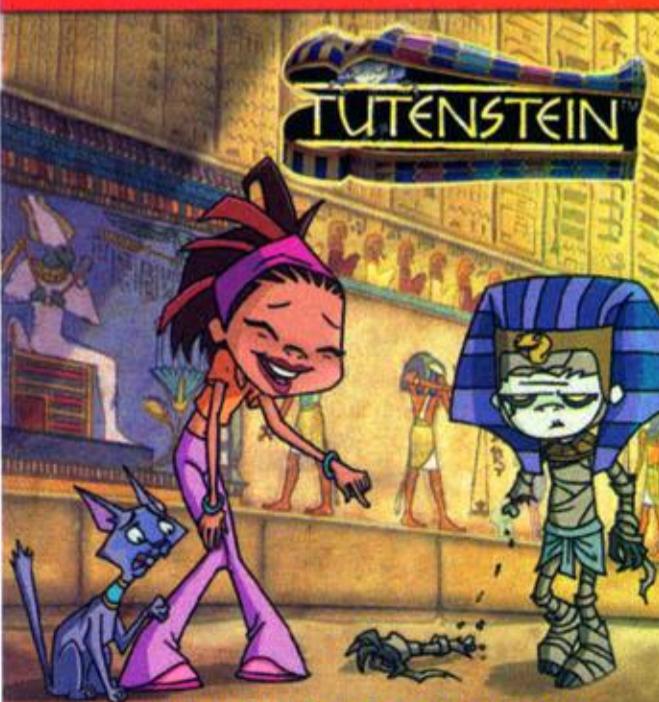
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Dan Buckley

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He's not your
ordinary household pet!



The little dead dude
with the huge attitude!



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After a nearly sleepless night, you pull yourself out of bed at 5:00 in the morning.

You made a big decision recently and today's the first day of the rest of your life.

A pity you can't dress for success.

Your costume's a mess--thanks to a series of unfortunate events!



Your mind's even worse--ditto!

Yeah, so what else is new!

Your name is *May "Mayday" Parker* and you are the daughter of *Spider-Man*.

Your tattered costume is easily hidden beneath a stylish sweatshirt.

Cleansing oil, concealer and toner cast an illusion of health on your face.

Nothing, however, can ease your doubts.

Did you make the right choice?

Are you truly committed to this new path?



You had hoped to sneak out of the house without running into your parents.

Yeah, riiiiight!

According to the last radio report I heard, the police are still searching for *Lady Octopus* and *Canis*.



--off campus!"

You need
to focus,
girl...

TEAM SPIDER

Time has not eroded
her mastery of the
martial arts--

--which is probably
why he hired her as
your tutor.

You turned to the *Tarantula*
for help when you learned that
Lady Octopus and *Canis* had
formed an alliance.

To defeat
an enemy, you
must become
the enemy.

Her name
is Elektra.

In her day, she was
one of the deadliest
mercenaries of all--

--just the type
to work for an
international
crime czar like
the *Black
Tarantula*.

It's a decision
you still question.



Then you're
in the **WRONG**
business!

THWACK!

Ughhh...

If you truly intend to battle a foe as formidable as *Lady Octopus*, you must be fully prepared to release the fire that rages within.

There can be no doubt.

No restraint.

No hesitation.

Uhhhh...
Okay.
Yeah.
Sure!

And how was our practice session?

Adequate, Chesbro.
She should be ready for real combat in a decade or two.

Thanks for the vote of confidence, teach.

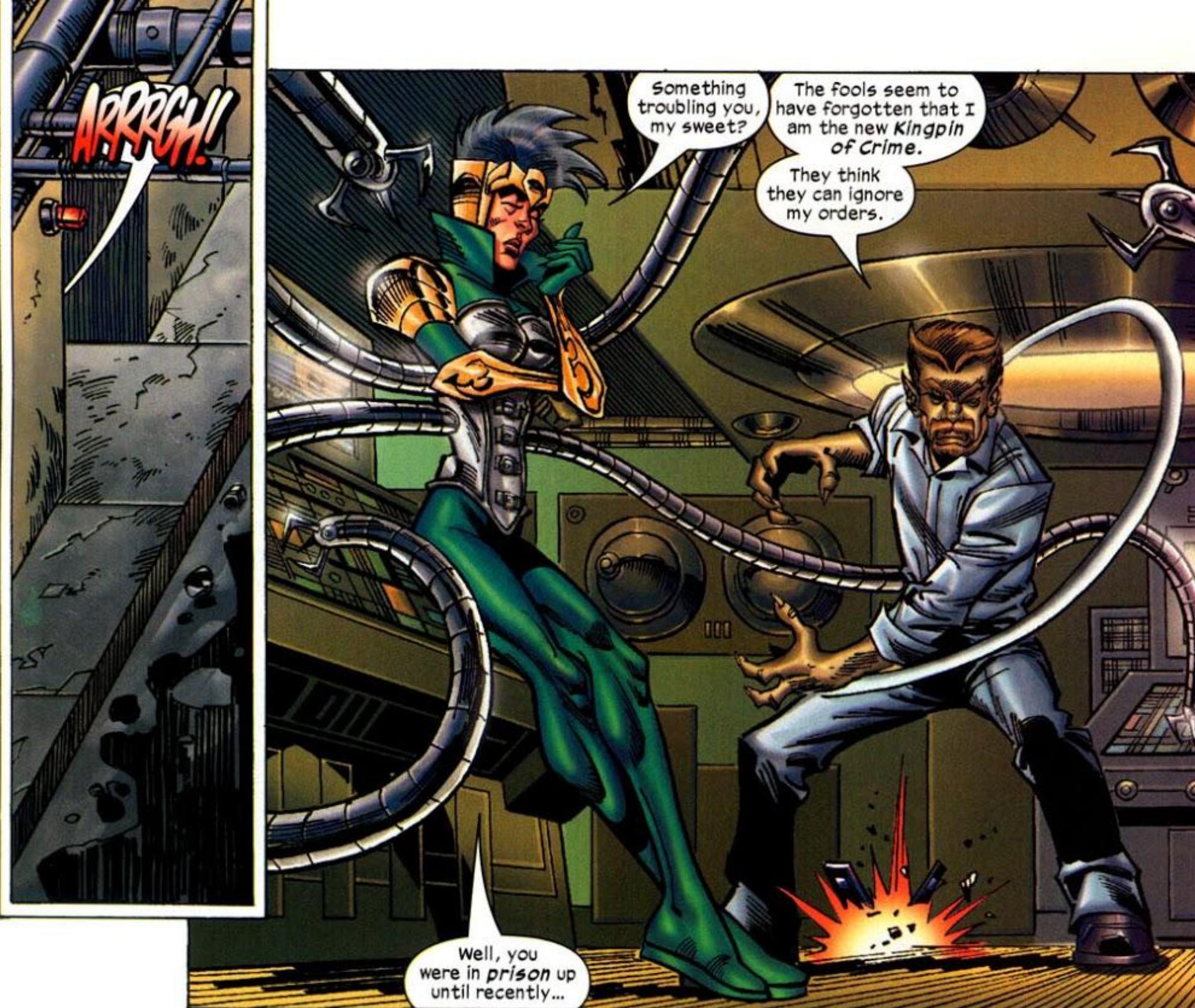
Chesbro is the Tarantula's right-hand man.

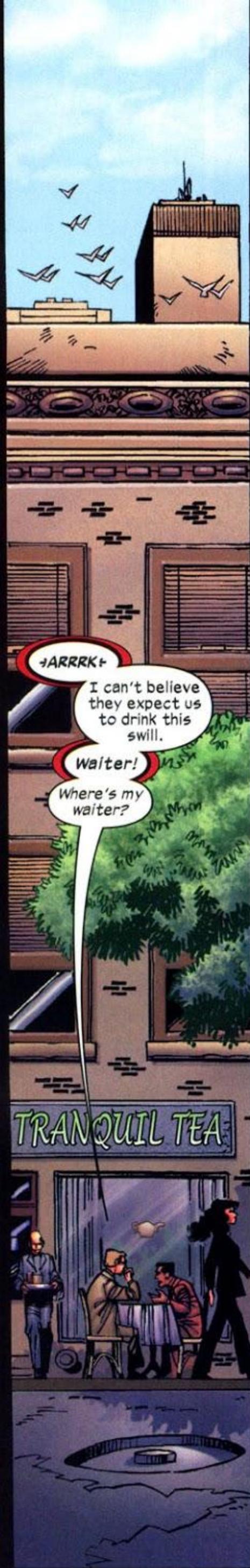
W-What the heck is all this stuff?

My master has agreed to help you apprehend *Lady Octopus* and *Canis*, has he not?
The Black Tarantula never skimps...













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A surprise quiz puts your science mark in jeopardy.

THE SPIDER SHOPPE

Your parents will freak if your spider thing starts hurting your grade point average.

You've come to the *Spider Shoppe* because you need a new costume.

Maybe *new* should be the operative word.

Elektra thinks that you need to get out from your dad's shadow--

--and Sandra told you to fix your own life.

What is it now?

June here.
Canis is apparently trying to re-establish his authority.

He just hit the Dockside Social Club.

Attend to the injured until the paramedics arrive. Then meet me at Valentine Motors.

Place looks like a hurricane tore through it.

Handsome Richie Valentine could be next.

Say again?
Why should we care about the wounded? We're soldiers, not doctors.

Are you questioning a direct order?

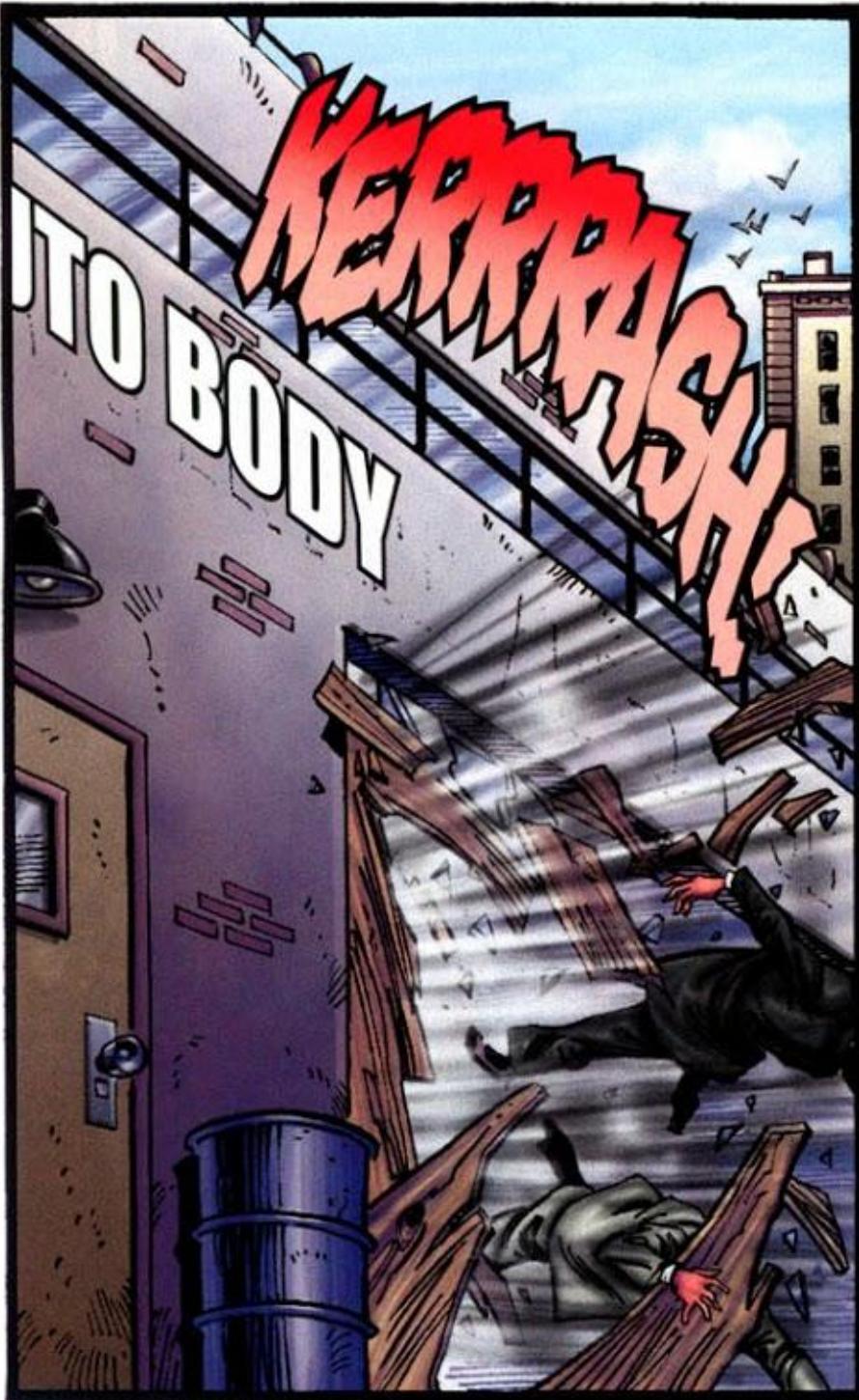
N-No, ma'am.

Just so we're clear.

CLIK

Have we made a decision?

Yes...
...we have.



Face it, Tiger!
You just hit the
jackpot!

The words come
from your mother.

They are part
of your heritage.

Your name is May
"Mayday" Parker...

--and you are the
daughter of *Spider-Man*!





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What have you done?

What are you willing to sacrifice to bring *Lady Octopus*, *Canis* and the *Black Tarantula* to justice?

"To defeat an enemy, you must become the enemy."

Must you become as cold and merciless as they are?

Or are you already a MONSTER?

The End
...for now!

WEEEEE!

MAYDAY'S MAILBOX

HOO-HA!

Cue the band and begin the parade! SPIDER-GIRL defied the odds and reached her 75th issue. The team and I would like to thank everyone who made this possible and that begins and ends with YOU—our loyal readers!

We would also like to publicly thank Jeffrey "Jeffers" Westoff who suggested the winning name for our letters page. We have to confess that we enjoyed almost all the suggestions and it wasn't an easy decision.

Give yourselves a great big hand, people and thanks for being there!

Tom D.

Dear Tom,

I was just as lost as Spider-Girl so I just followed her example and went with it! I'm referring to SPIDER-GIRL #71, which was my first introduction to Doc Magus, Deacon's Den and Nemesis. (Hey, at least I know J2 and Stinger!) I'm not a big fan of magical stories and have been somewhat critical of JMS's direction over in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, but I'm not totally against the mystical! A magical story is okay once in a while, it just shouldn't be overused! I hope next issue takes us back to business as usual!

Speaking of business as usual: the next issue box really grabbed me! I can't wait to see where things go with Lady Ock and The Black Tarantula!

John Wesley Dillon
Missouri

Neither can Mayday, John!

Dear Tom,

I want to know why May was stupid enough to put her costume in the clothes dryer when her mother usually dries it by air.

Catie Tesauro

Have you ever met a teenager, Catie?

Dear Tom, Ron, & the gang,

SPIDER-GIRL #72 was, as always for this title, a great read. Lots of action with Lady Ock and a few laughs as May's costume came to pieces and baby Ben used Pete's shirt as a canvas. Maybe he's an aspiring artist? The Black Tarantula plot is really starting to cook and now it seems that it could involve a Norman Osborn other than the one we're used to seeing in this book! I'm also interested to see what Normie is going to say in reaction to Raptor's proposal. It looks like some hidden feelings might finally surface!

I'd also like to give kudos on the MARVEL AGE SPIDER-GIRL: LEGACY trade paperback. Although I already own these issues, it's great to have them in a small, easy-to-carry format. Because of the low price, I've been able to convince a couple of longtime holdouts to start reading May's adventures! I myself had so much fun reading it that after I finished, I dug out all of

my back issues and read through the entire run again! Perfect for post-exam relaxation!

Shaun Musgrave
Winnipeg, MB

We hope you did well on your exams, Shaun, and thanks for spreading the word about Spider-Girl!

Dear Mr. DeFalco,

Boy, did SPIDER-GIRL #72 give me a sense of déjà vu. I just kept getting flashbacks to Spider-Man's store-bought costume that stretched and started falling off of him as Spidey fought a warehouse full of thugs from AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #26. May was a little embarrassed to tell her father about her costume mishaps. If she only knew! They could really bond over that one!

I'm on the edge of my seat to see what happens with Brenda and Normie. The European crime organization interested in Normie may well be the Brotherhood of Scriers seeking Normie to take control where his grandfather left off!

John Dillon
Sedalia, Missouri

Anything's possible, John.

Dear Spider-Girl,

So when is the second volume of the MARVEL AGE SPIDER-GIRL coming out?

Jason Randolph

You'll know as soon as we do, Jason.

Dear Tom, Ron, Sal, and, of course, Mayday,

I initially got into SPIDER-GIRL at issue 25, and have been hooked ever since. It's been a great series, though I still miss the A-NEXT title. SPIDER-GIRL is also my mom's favorite series! I look forward to seeing if anything will be done with Canis as the new Kingpin, and hope to see more of Agent Wheadon's little group (possibly called Project: Thunderbolts?).

Okay, so May's upset because Normie chose Raptor over her...WE GET IT! Stop making a big deal about it, and MOVE ON! There's plenty of fish in the sea! You just have to quit moping, and START FISHING! Is that SO HARD?

Gregory Cruikshank

Yes, Gregory, it really can be much harder for some people than others.

Dear Tom, Ron, Sal and the rest of the team,

I have heard of the current plans to pit SPIDER-GIRL against new competing title AMAZING FANTASY, also starring a young female protagonist in a spider costume. I would like to say I am with your Spider-Girl until the end, and will not participate in the new title. I sure hope others do the same as this title needs all the support it can get to fight off cancellation. This title is sooo worth fighting for. It has a huge, original and oh-so-well developed supporting cast, great plotting, fun adventures, great consistency, solid artwork and a style that's all its own. I've been buying

your SPIDER-GIRL since #36 and I, like so many loyal fans, would hate to see the book end before reaching the big 100!

James Mallone

We sincerely do appreciate your support, James. We also hope you'll give AMAZING FANTASY a try. There's a good chance you'll like it and want to buy it along with your monthly SPIDER-GIRL.

Dear Spider-Girl Crew,

Don't ever cancel this comic! A year and a half ago, I bought issue 45 of SPIDER-GIRL, along with the current issues of three other comic titles, so I could study the artwork. I read through each one, liking some more than others, but I must say that quite impressed by SPIDER-GIRL. Of the four issues I picked up, this one so intrigued me that I went back to my local comic shop and purchased as many back issues as I could find. Anyway, as I was saying, don't ever cancel this comic. There's something about this title that sets it apart from the rest. I lack the terminology to explain it. All I know is, I currently subscribe to five Marvel titles a month at my local comic shop, but SPIDER-GIRL is the only reason I come back. If this book is cancelled, I will most likely stop reading comics all together.

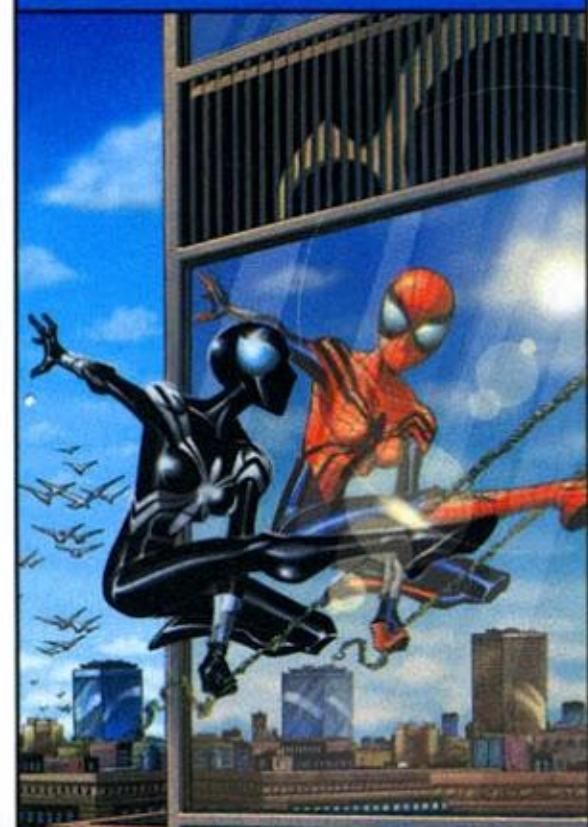
C. Dalman

YIKES! We would hate for you to give up comics, C., so I guess we're just going to have to keep publishing SPIDER-GIRL...at least for the foreseeable future!

--Thanks for being there!

Tom D.

NEXT ISSUE:



Not only are Canis and Lady Octopus still trying to kill her, but Mayday must also contend with irate parents in a little story we call, "Keeping the Faith!"

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