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DARK REIGN™

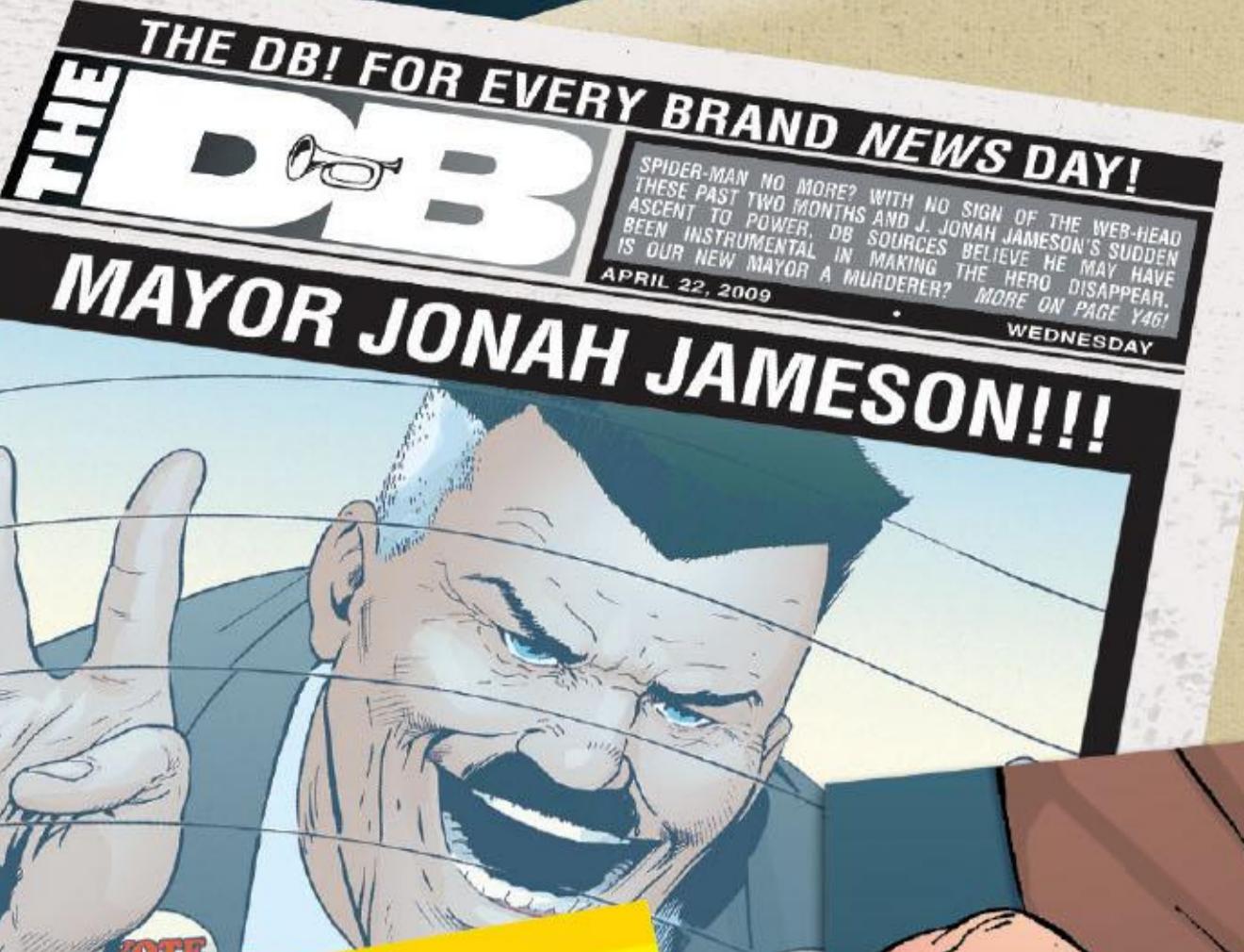
KELLY
SIQUEIRA
SANTOS
COX

the AMAZING
SPIDER-MAN



AMERICAN
SON 2 of 5

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



Parker! You better be
replacing my gallon of
milk in the fridge.
~Michelle

Peter Parker's P.O.V.

J. Jonah Jameson's the mayor of New York and Norman Osborn is America's top cop. Hiya folks, I'm Peter Parker, a.k.a. Spider-Man, and good fortune and I have a disagreement on how prevalent it should be in my life. So with the two men who want me most dead in charge, it's only a matter of time before it gets... well... messy.

So when the esteemed mayor had his newly engaged father, J. Jonah Jameson Sr. and his bride-to-be, my ever-lovin' Aunt May, to Gracie Mansion for dinner, I tagged along with my best pal, Norman's son Harry. Who else did Triple J invite? Stormin' Norman himself.

Norman offered Harry a job with his Avengers, but Harry blew him off. Still, Harry's been in trouble lately--his girlfriend Lily turned out to be the latest glider-riding freak, Menace, and that drove him back to drinking. He cleaned up but something else must be up cuz when Osborn and I last had words/webs/punches-to-the-face, Harry called Norman and took his offer....

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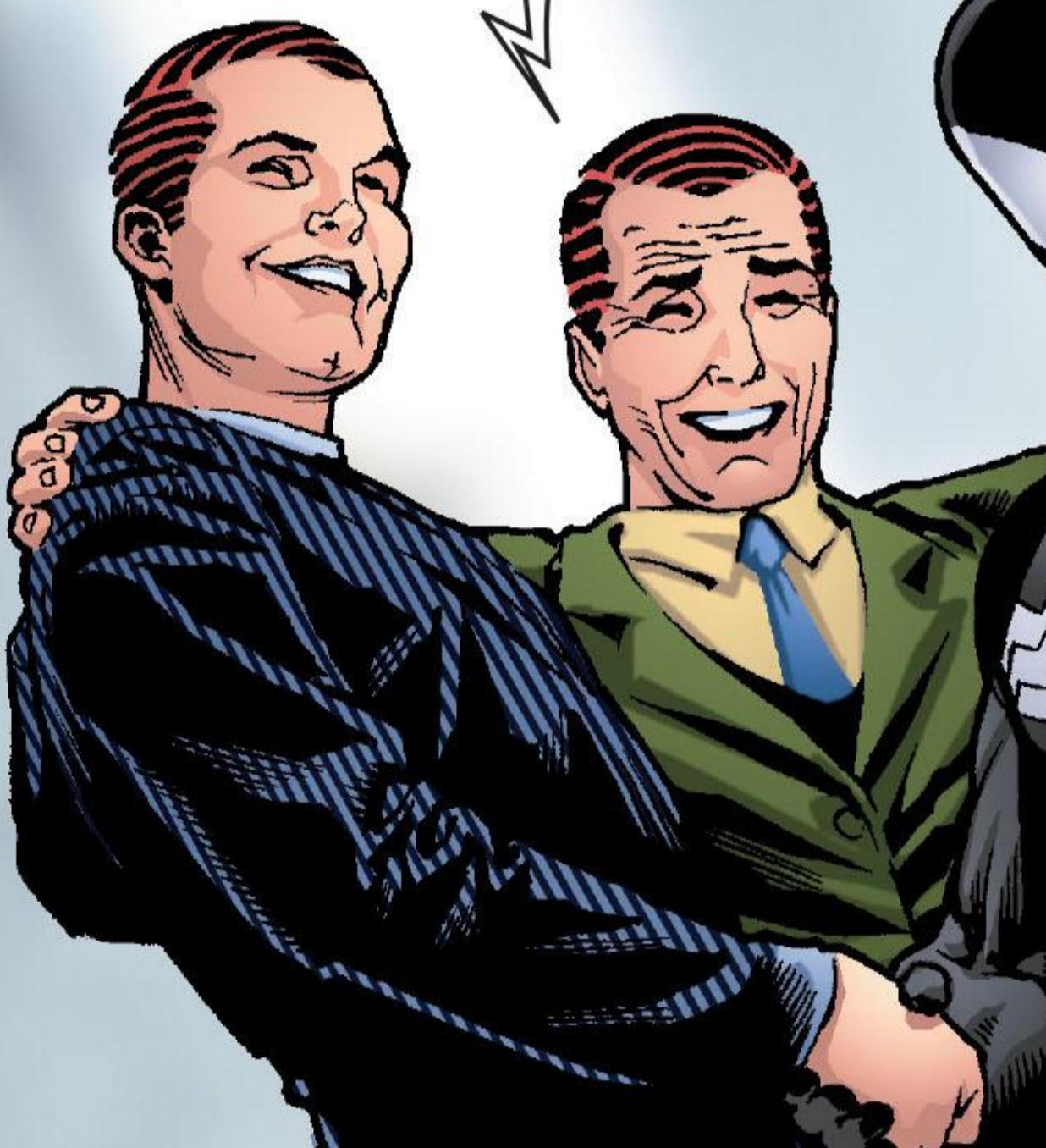
MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS

AMERICAN SON

PART 2

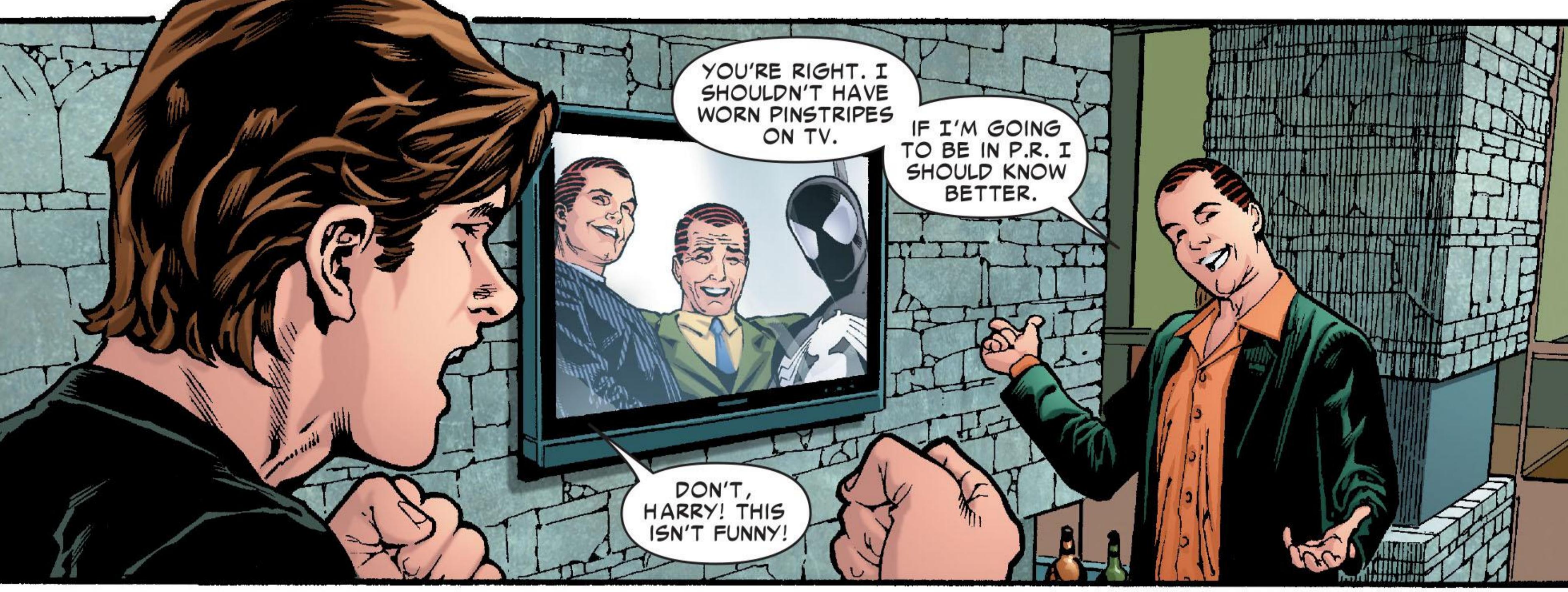
IT IS WITH GREAT
PRIDE THAT I ANNOUNCE
THE INDUCTION OF MY
SON INTO OUR ESTEEMED
ORGANIZATION.

HARRY OSBORN,
WELCOME TO THE
AVENGERS!



ARE YOU
OUT OF YOUR
BRILLO-HEADED
MIND?!

JOE KELLY PAULO SIQUEIRA AMILTON SANTOS JEREMY COX VC's CHRIS ELIOPOULOS
WRITER PENCILER INKER COLORS LETTERS
TOM BRENNAN STEPHEN WACKER TOM BREVOORT JOE QUESADA DAN BUCKLEY ALAN FINE
ASST. EDITOR EDITOR EXECUTIVE EDITOR EDITOR IN CHIEF PUBLISHER EXEC. PRODUCER
GALE, GUGGENHEIM, KELLY, SLOTT & WAID WEB-HEADS







DON'T
LET GO!!

HE SAID HE CAN HANDLE IT. HE'S A BIG BOY. IT'S HIS FATHER. BLOOD IS THICKER THAN WEBBING.

IT'S HIS LIFE TO THROW AWAY.

WHO CARES THAT NORMAN DARED TO TROT OUT SPIDER-NOT AT HIS LITTLE "I'M-GOING-TO-SUCK-THE-LIFE-OUT-OF-YOUR-BEST-FRIEND" ANNOUNCEMENT. HE'S JUST TRYING TO BAIT YOU...

SO WHAT THAT HARRY PUT ON THE GOBLIN GREENS AGAIN A FEW MONTHS AGO? IT WAS A ONE-SHOT DEAL...

SO WHAT THAT YOUR EVERY INSTINCT IS SCREAMING THAT YOU SHOULD WALK INTO THE LOBBY OF AVENGERS TOWER SAM JACKSON STYLE AND CALL OUT THE SLIMY S.O.B. FOR MANO A MANO BARE KNUCKLE FIST-TO-FACE RECONSTRUCTIVE--

THAT BUILDING IS ON FIRE.

HOLD
ON!

"THE DOSSIER INCLUDES LAYOUTS OF ALL THE OPERATIONAL LEVELS FROM THE THIRD SUBBASEMENT TO FLOOR FIFTEEN."

Avengers Tower.

STUDY THEM.
THEY'RE YOUR
PLAYGROUND.

DO I HAVE
ACCESS TO THE
RESTRICTED
FLOORS?

WALK
BEFORE RUN,
HARRY...

THERE WILL BE
ASPECTS OF THE
AVENGERS AND
H.A.M.M.E.R. THAT
YOU ARE NOT
PRIVY TO, YET.

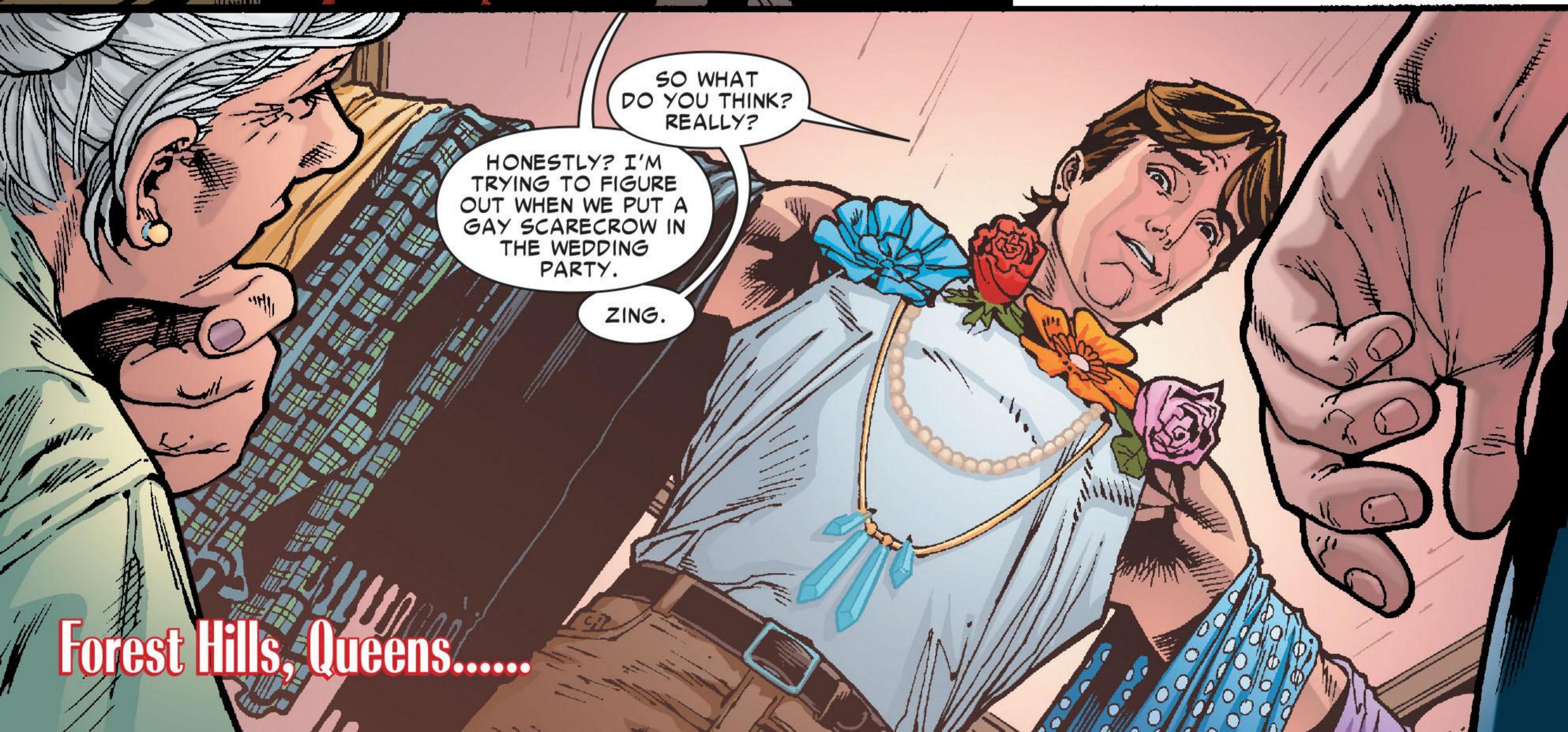
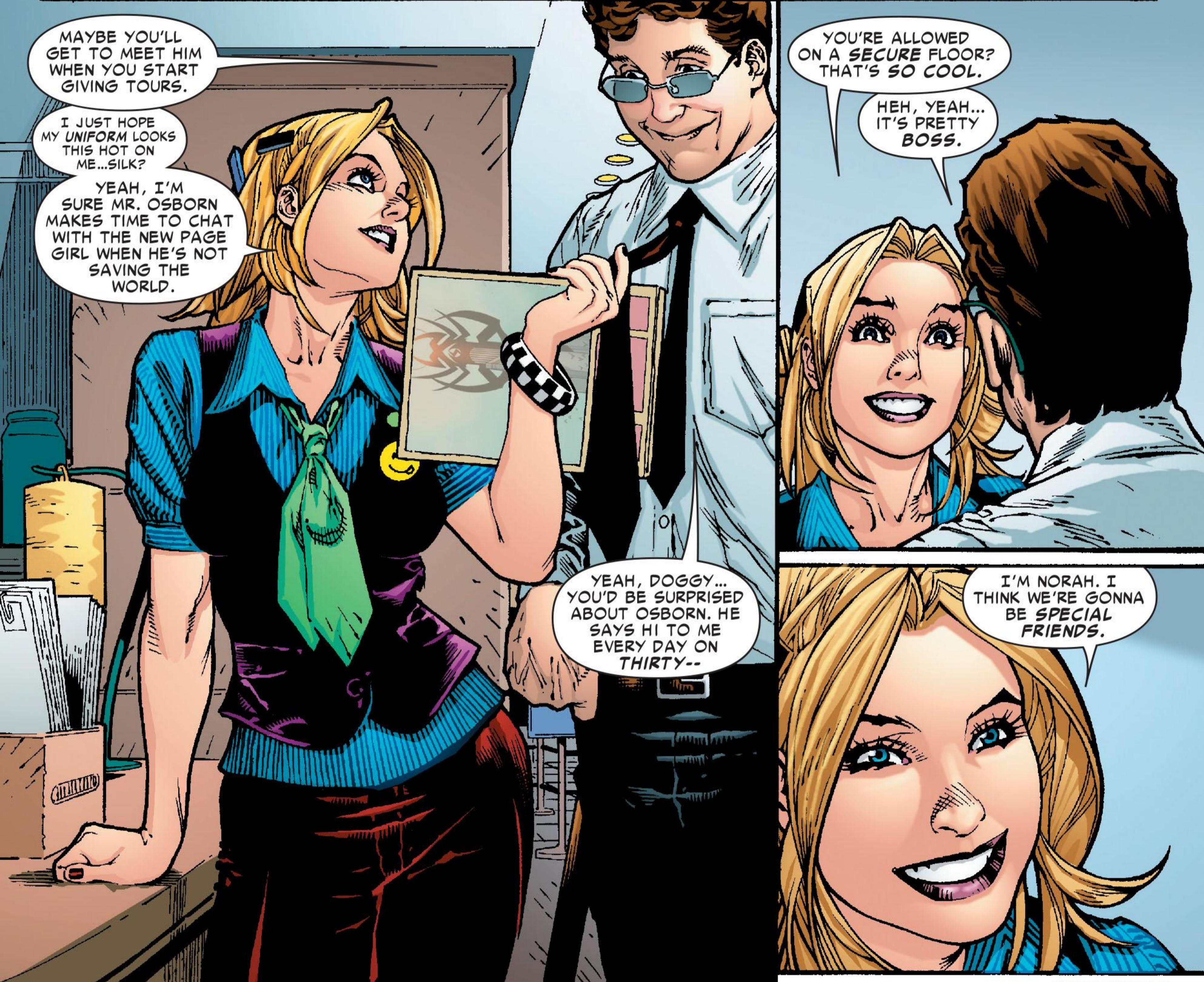
BUT THAT
DAY WILL COME,
I KNOW IT.

TODAY, MEET
YOUR STAFF, SHAKE
SOME HANDS AND MARK
YOUR TERRITORY...THEN
GET STARTED ON
YOUR APARTMENT.

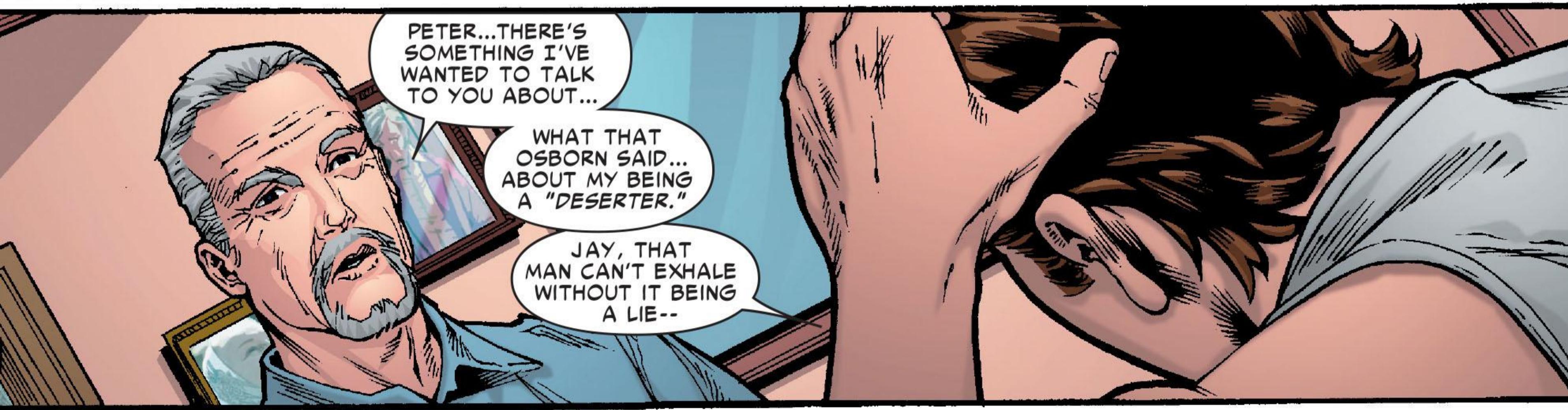
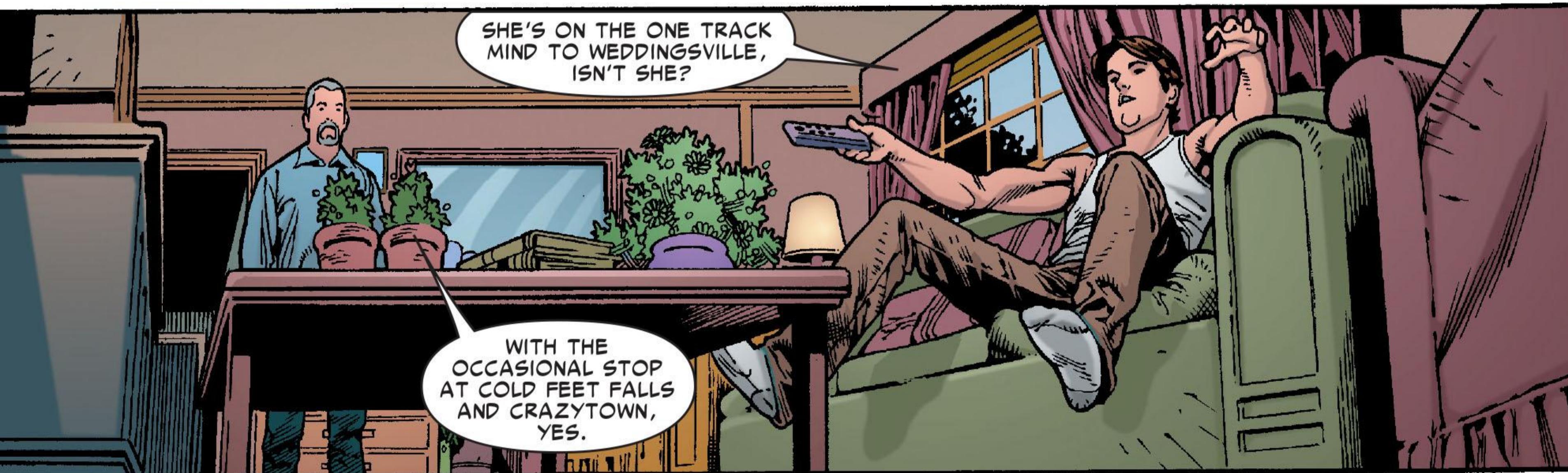
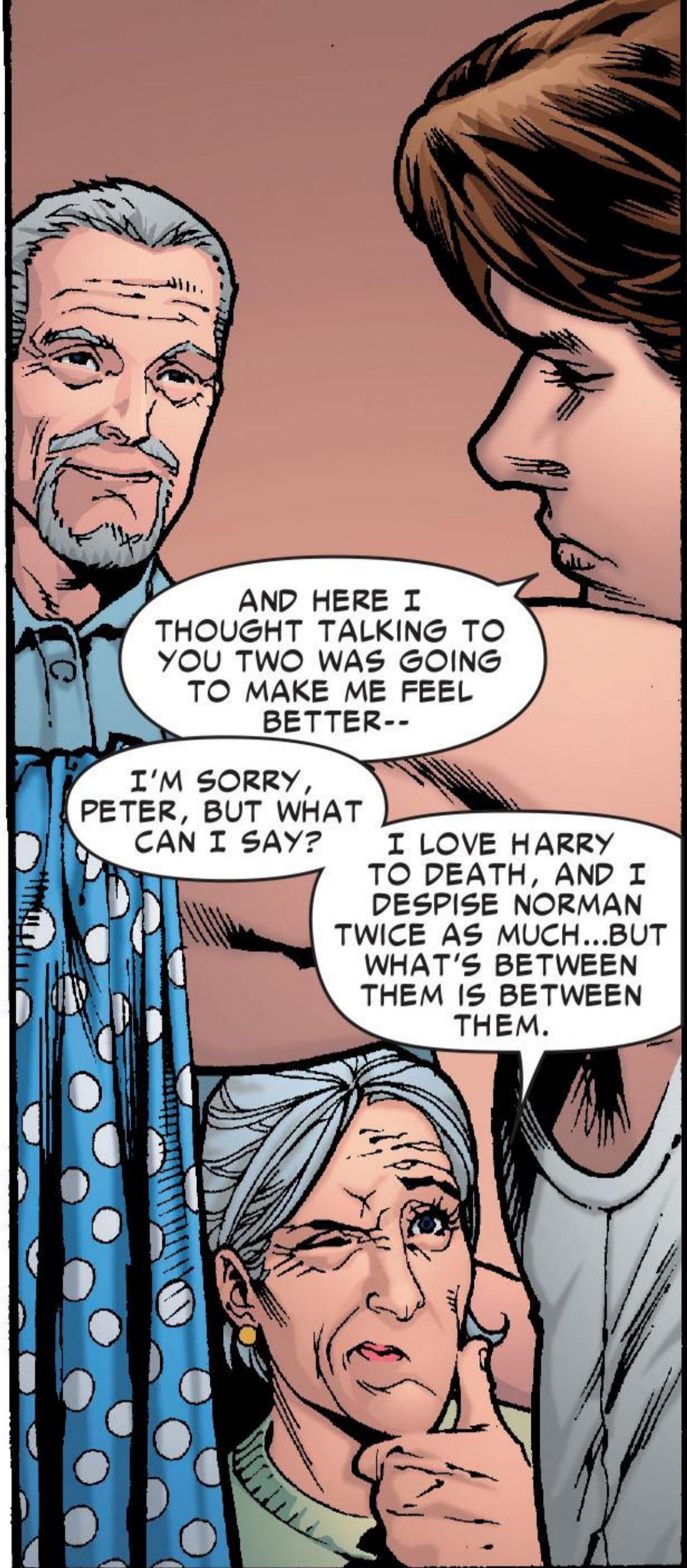
I'M NOT
MOVING IN
HERE.

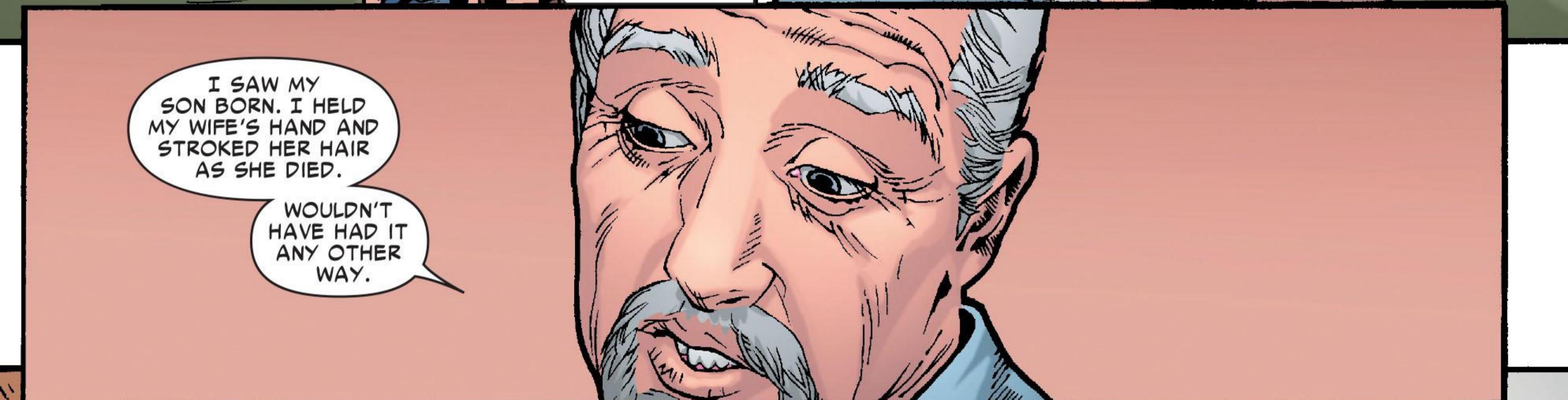
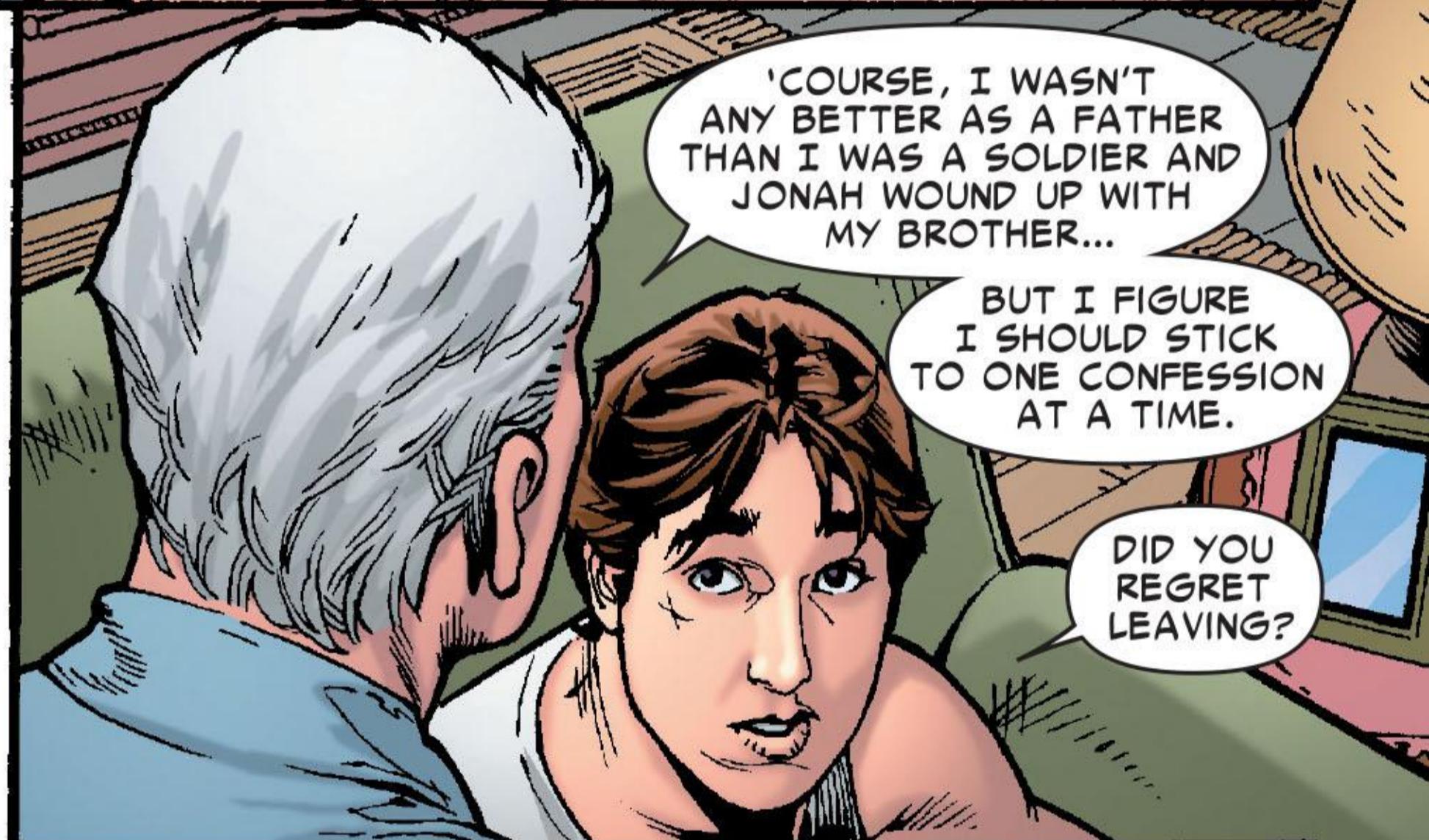
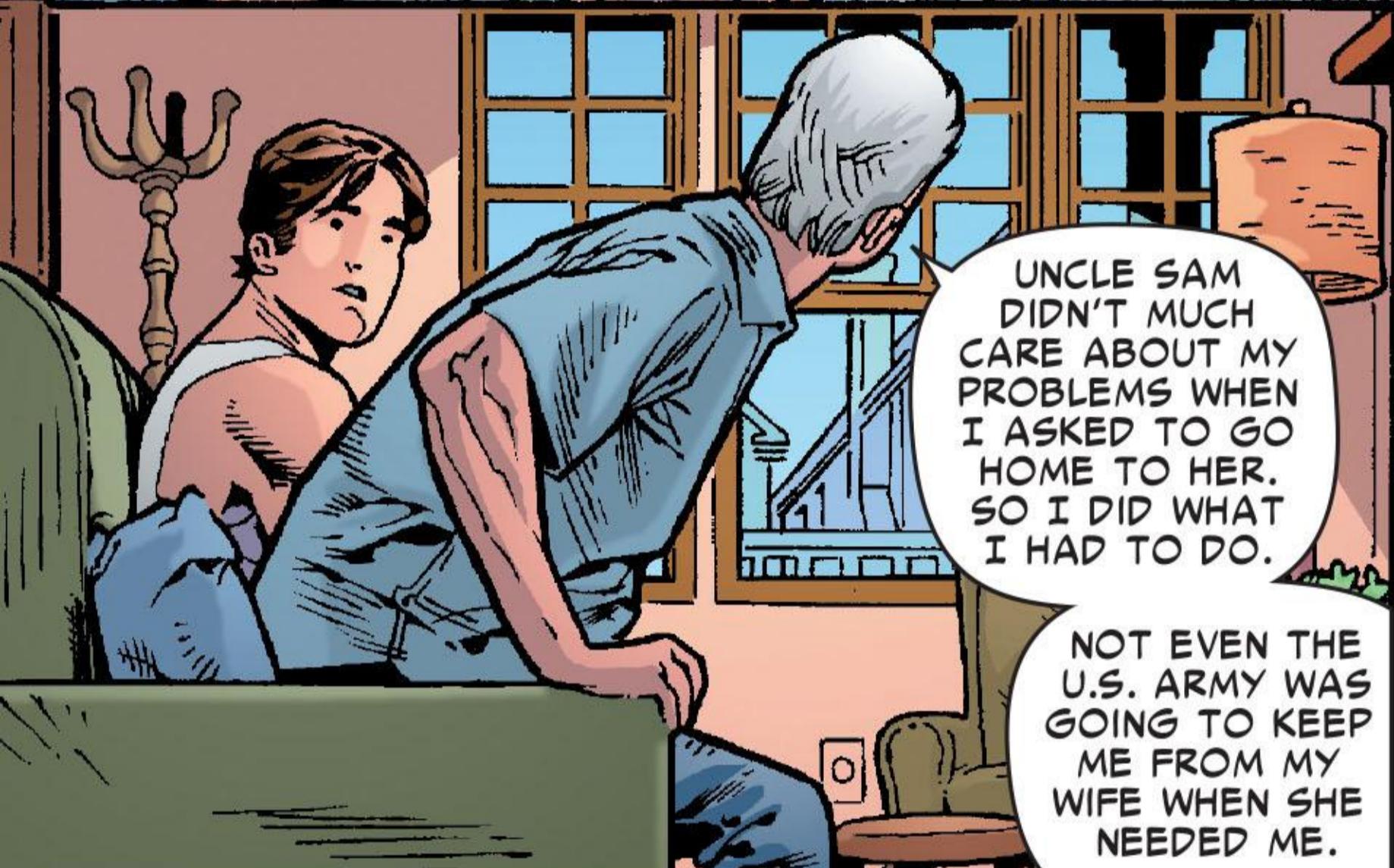
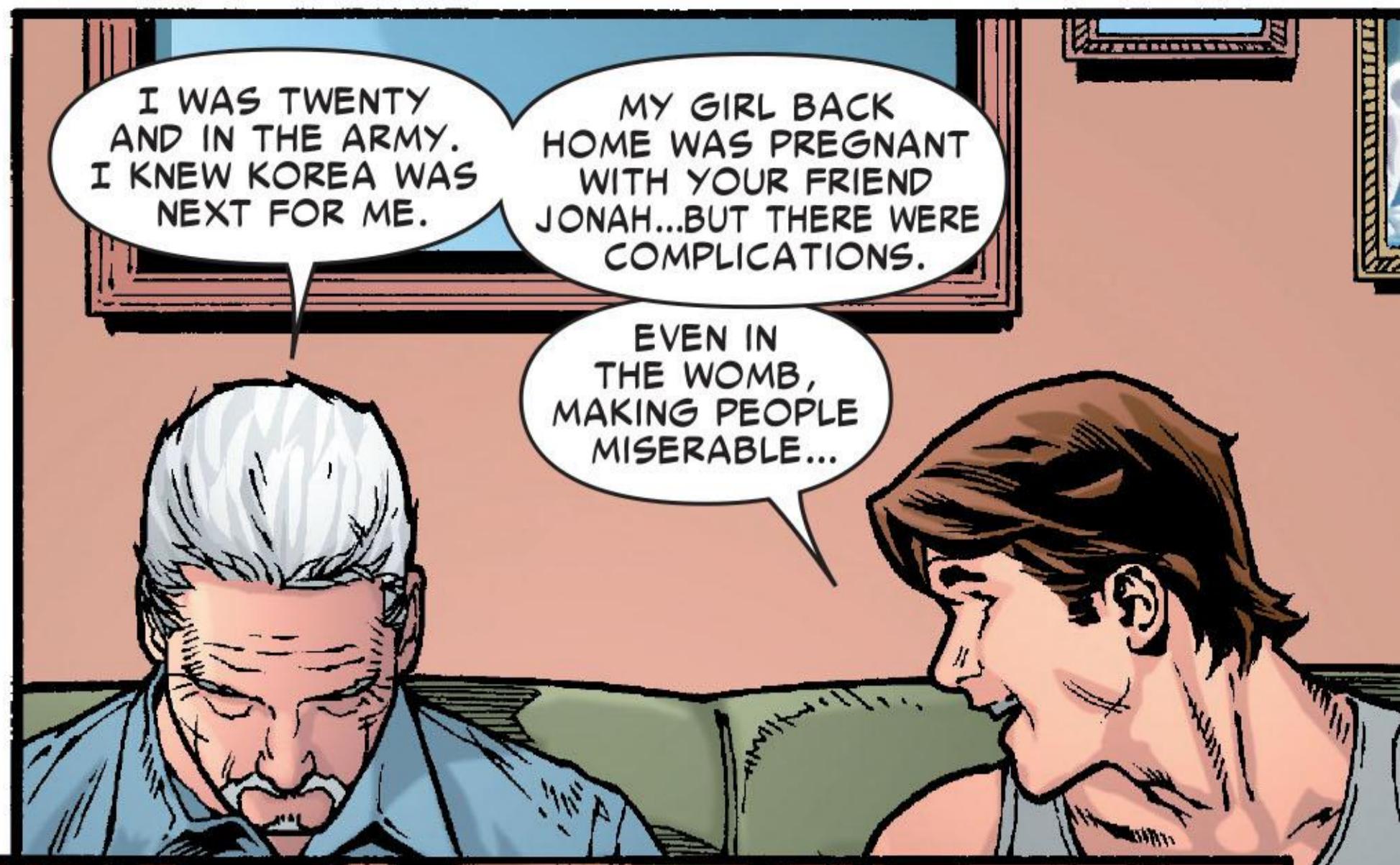
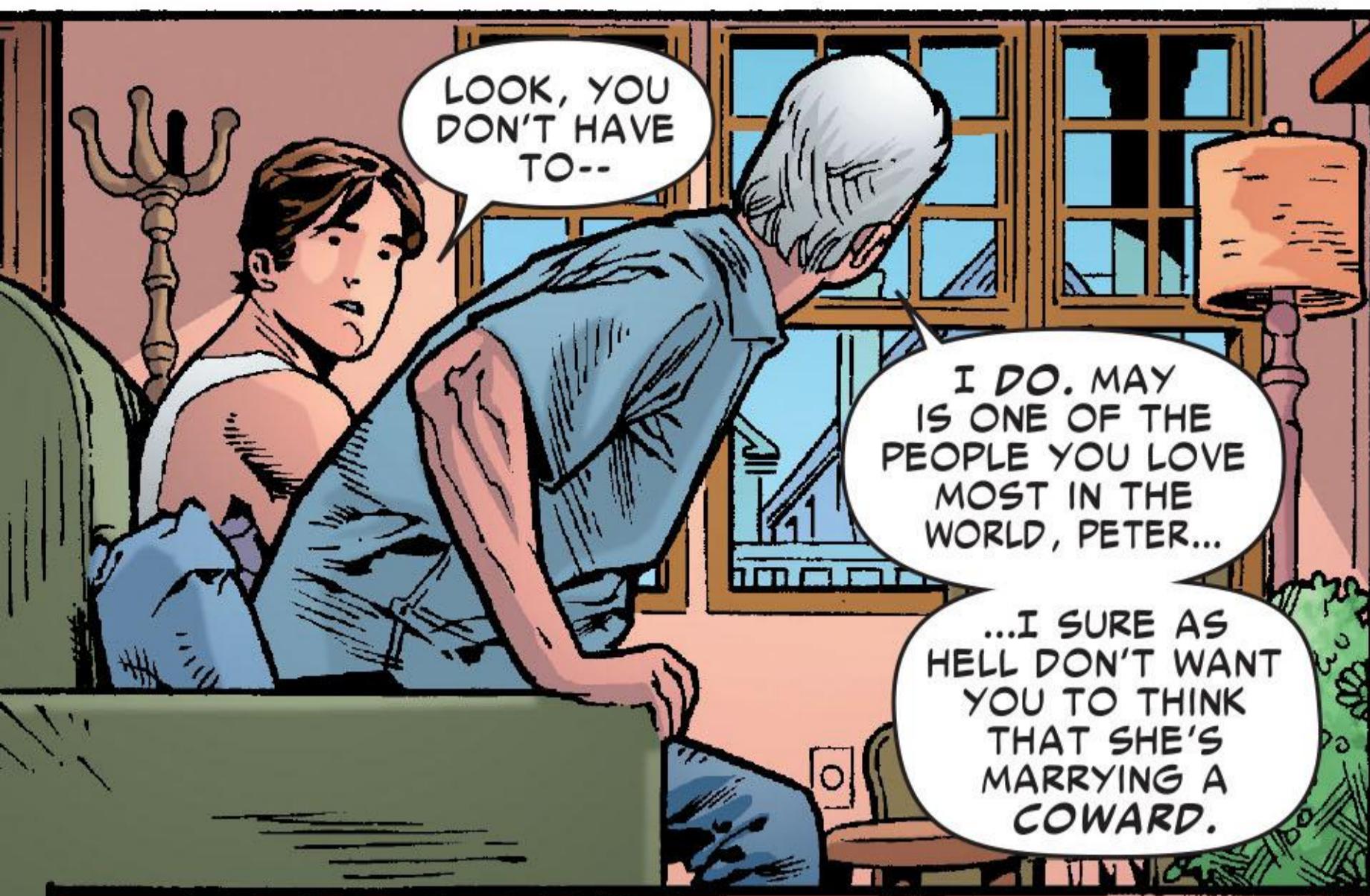
ALL
ESSENTIAL
PERSONNEL LIVE
IN THE TOWER,
HARRY.

IS LILY
"ESSENTIAL
PERSONNEL"?

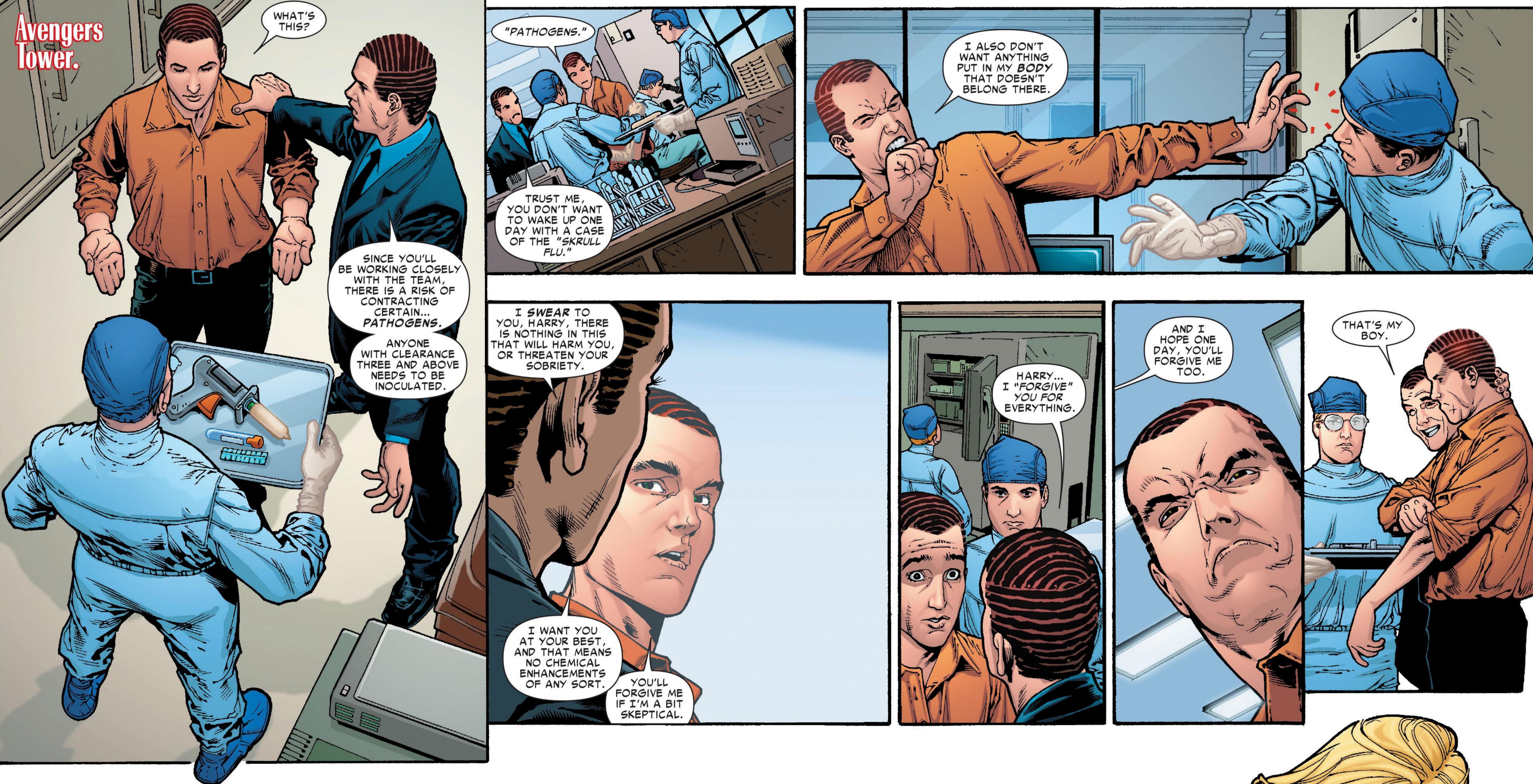


Forest Hills, Queens.....





Avengers
Tower.





Later.

MIDTOWN MANHATTAN.

HEY,
STALKER...STALK
MUCH?

YOU WAITING
TO THROW THOSE
IN STORMIN'
NORMAN'S
FACE?

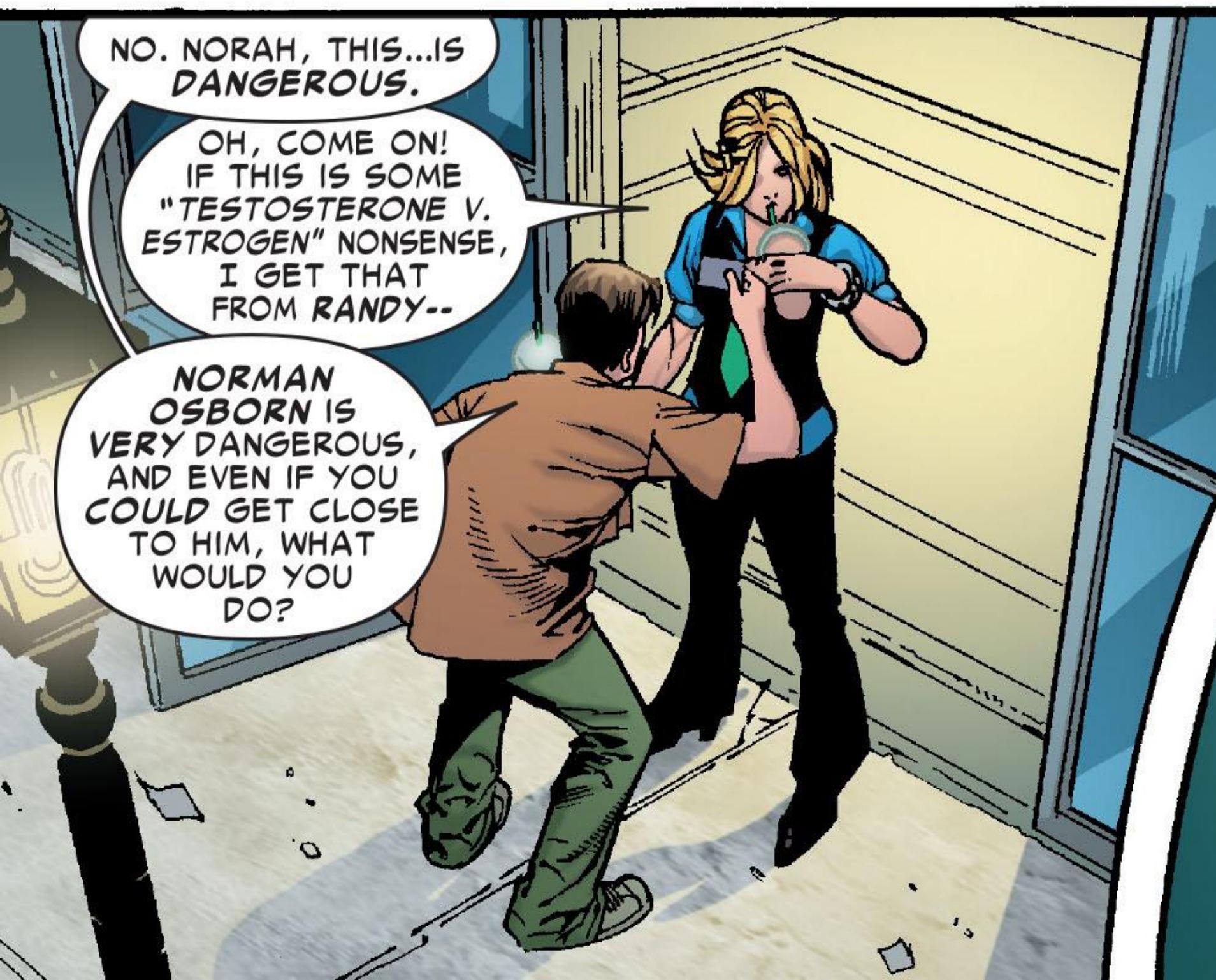
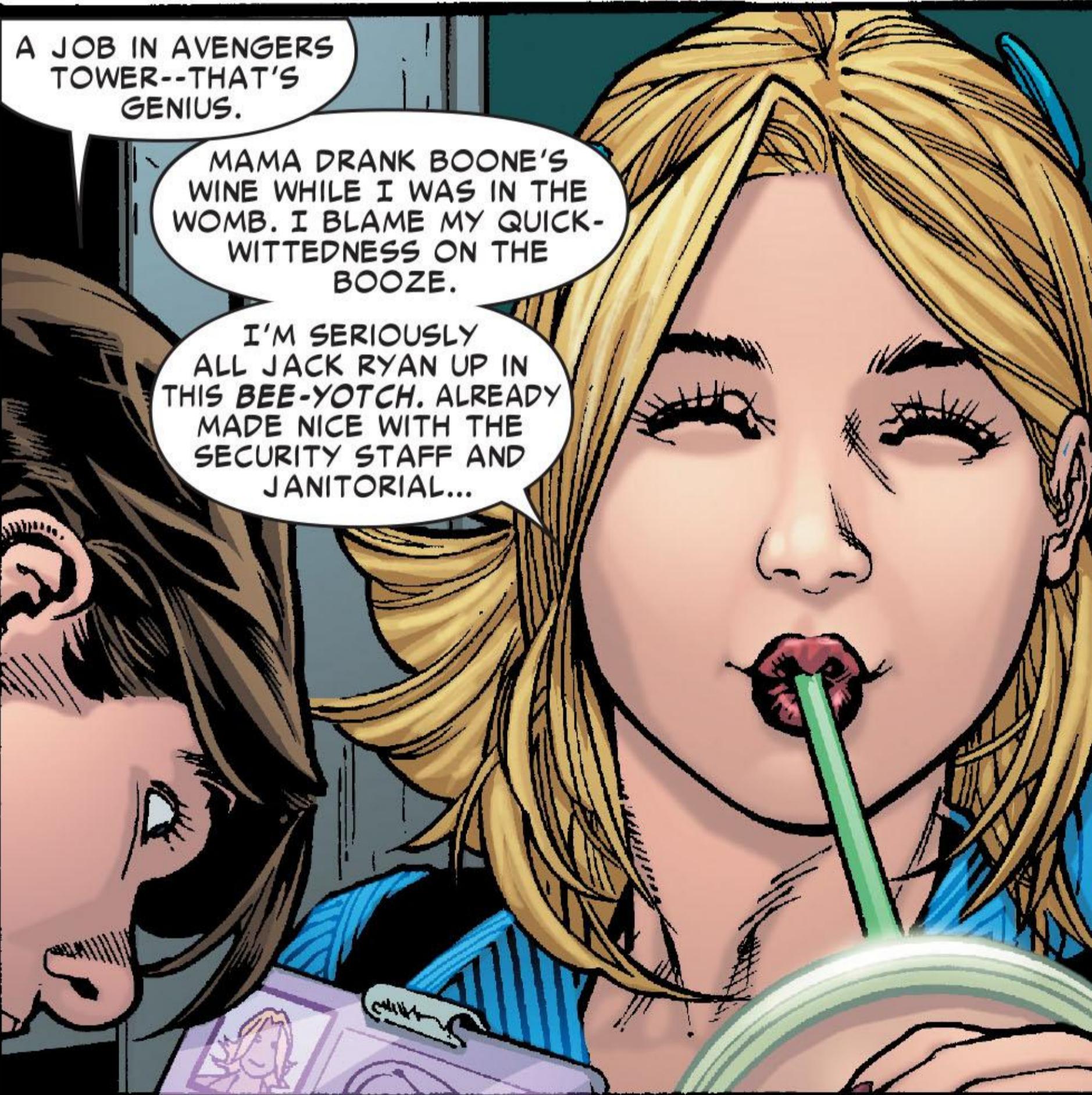
I WISH.
IT'S FOR HIS
SON.

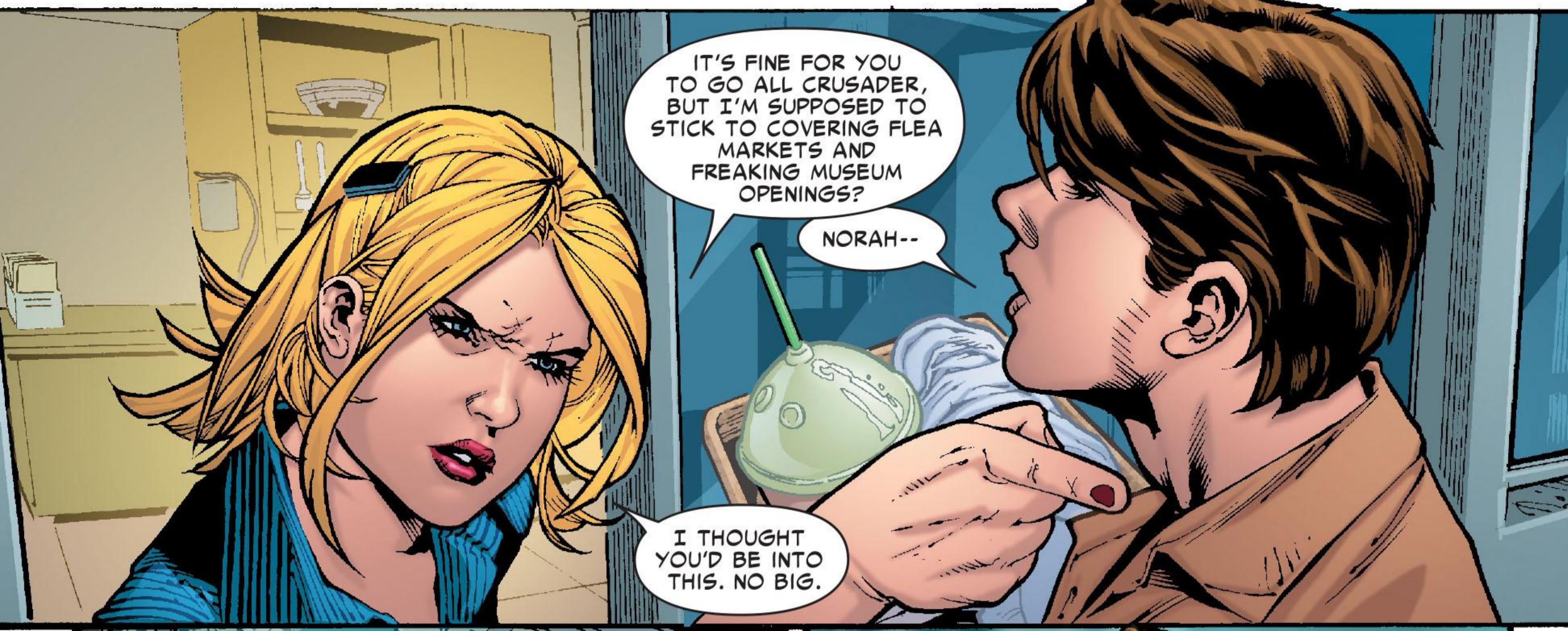
WOW, YOU'RE
GONNA CONFRONT
LI'L OZZY IN FRONT
OF DADDY'S BUILDING
WITH A CUP OF
COFFEE?

VERY
"INTERVENTION"
OF YOU.

SHUT UP,
NORAH. NOT IN
THE MOOD--

WOULD HEARING HOW I'M
UNDERCOVER AS PART OF
OSBORN'S OPERATION
PUT YOU IN "THE
MOOD"?





Kings Point, Bronx.
WAAAAY AFTER DARK.

YOU GOT DRUGS?

YOU SMELL PRETTY.

TAKE THAT AS A "NO." CASH?

NOW WE'RE TALKING.
YOU NEED ME TO GO DOWN THE WHOLE MENU, SUGAR?

NO, WE WANT IT ALL.

FRIENDS ARE TRIPLE.

YOU SMELL SO PRETTY...

HELL OF A CONVERSATIONALIST...

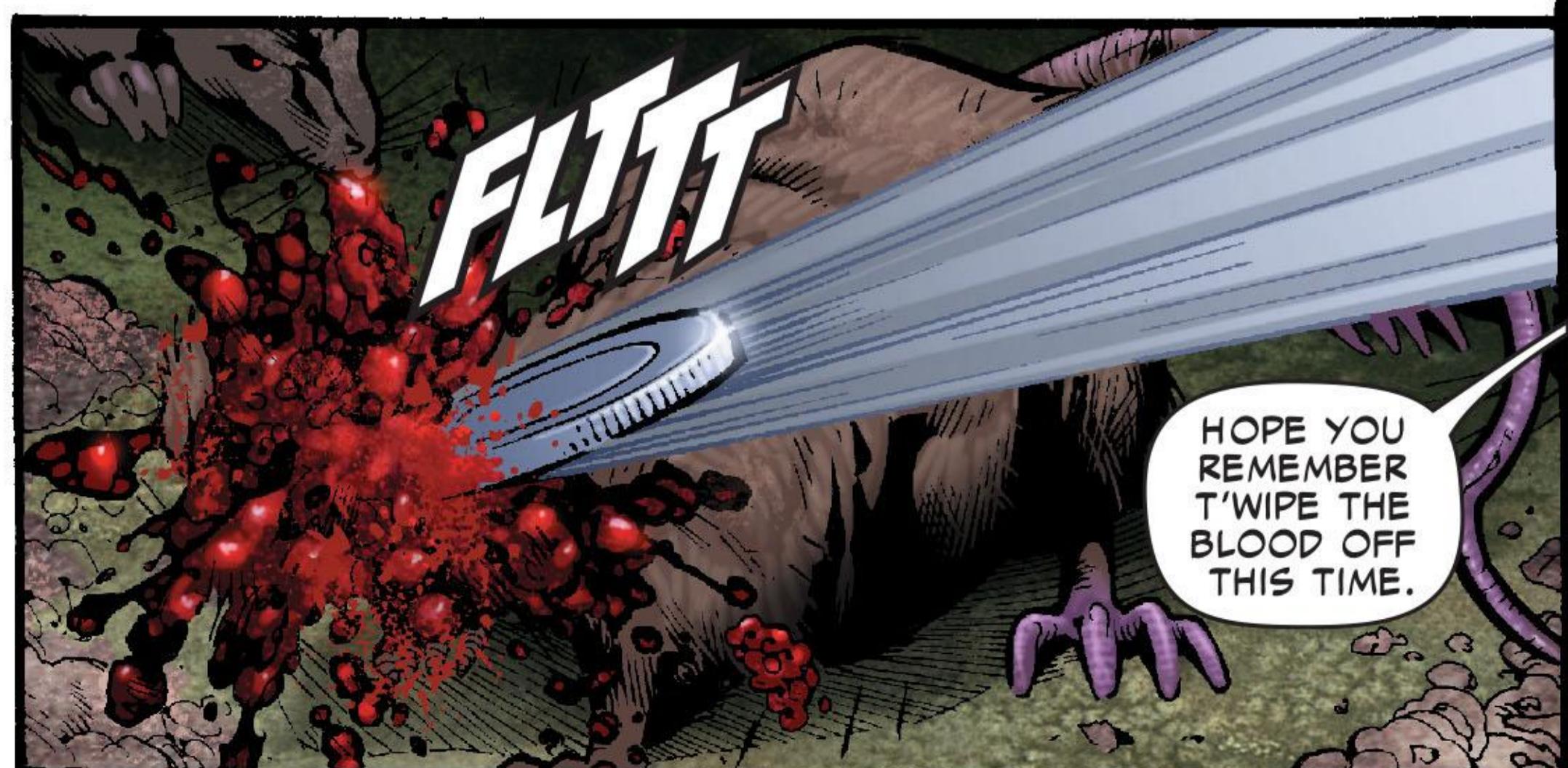
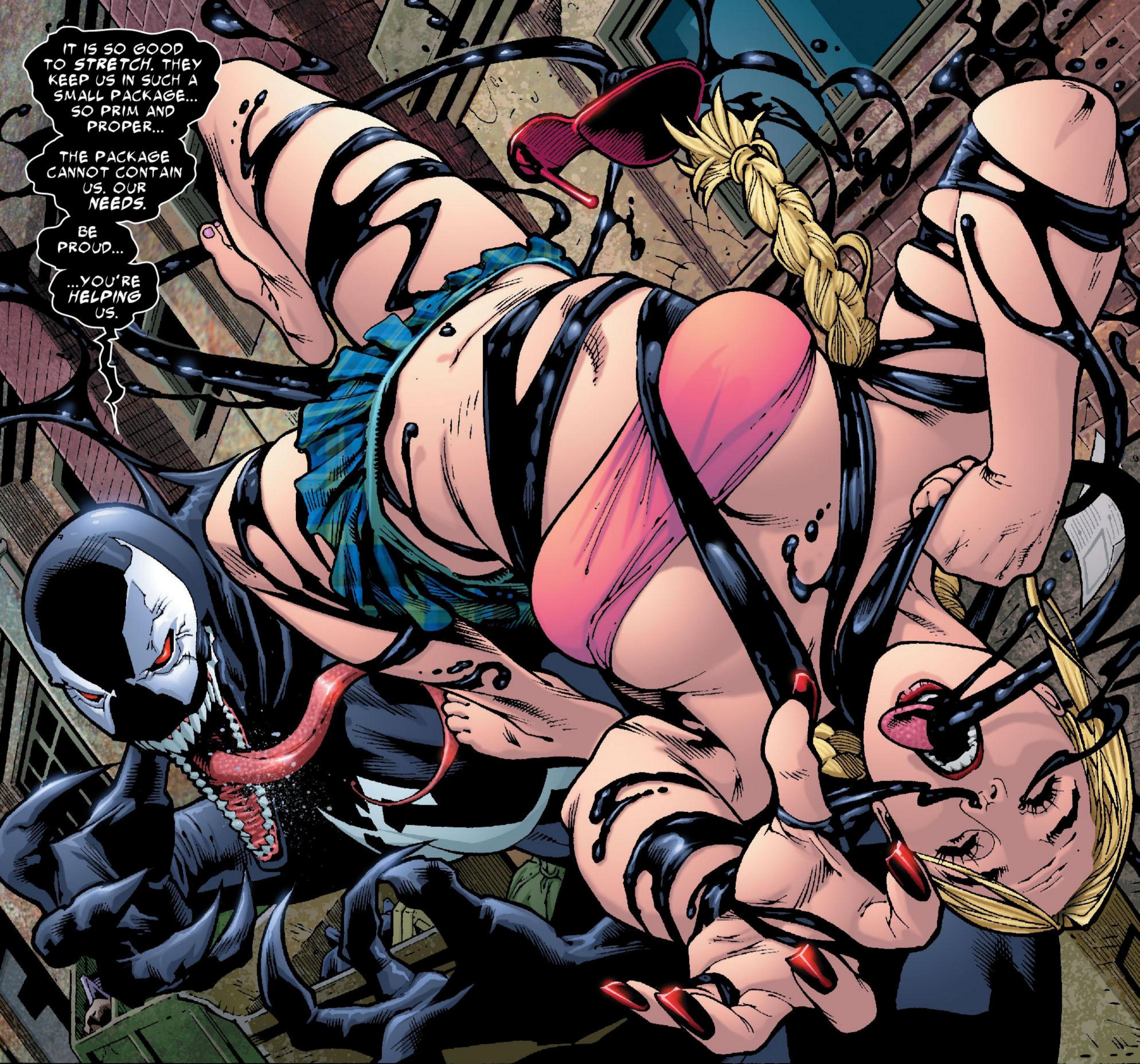
SMELL LIKE...

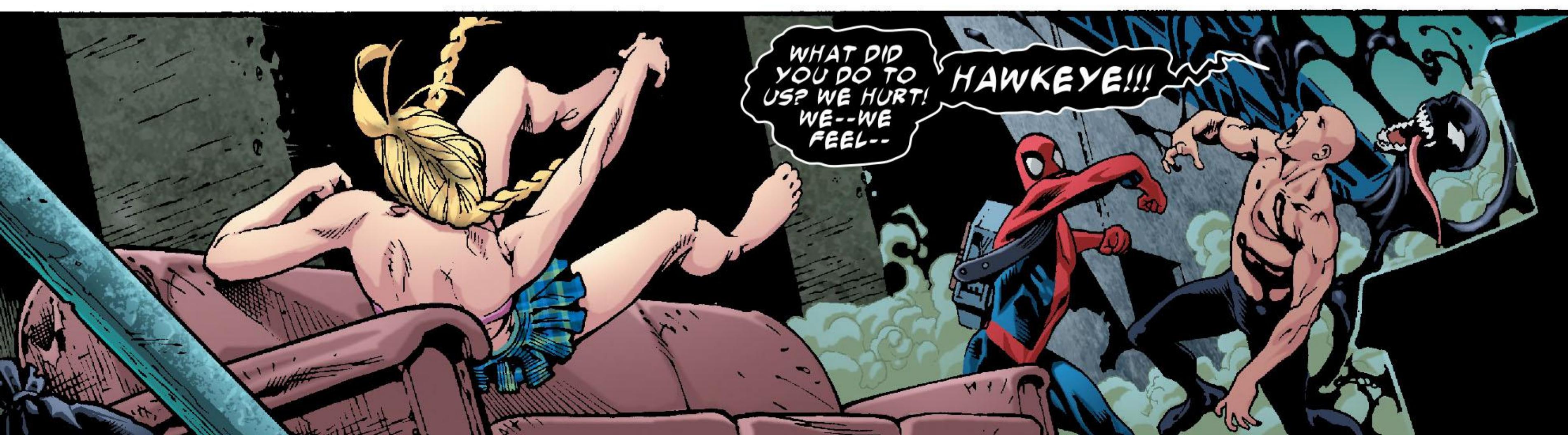
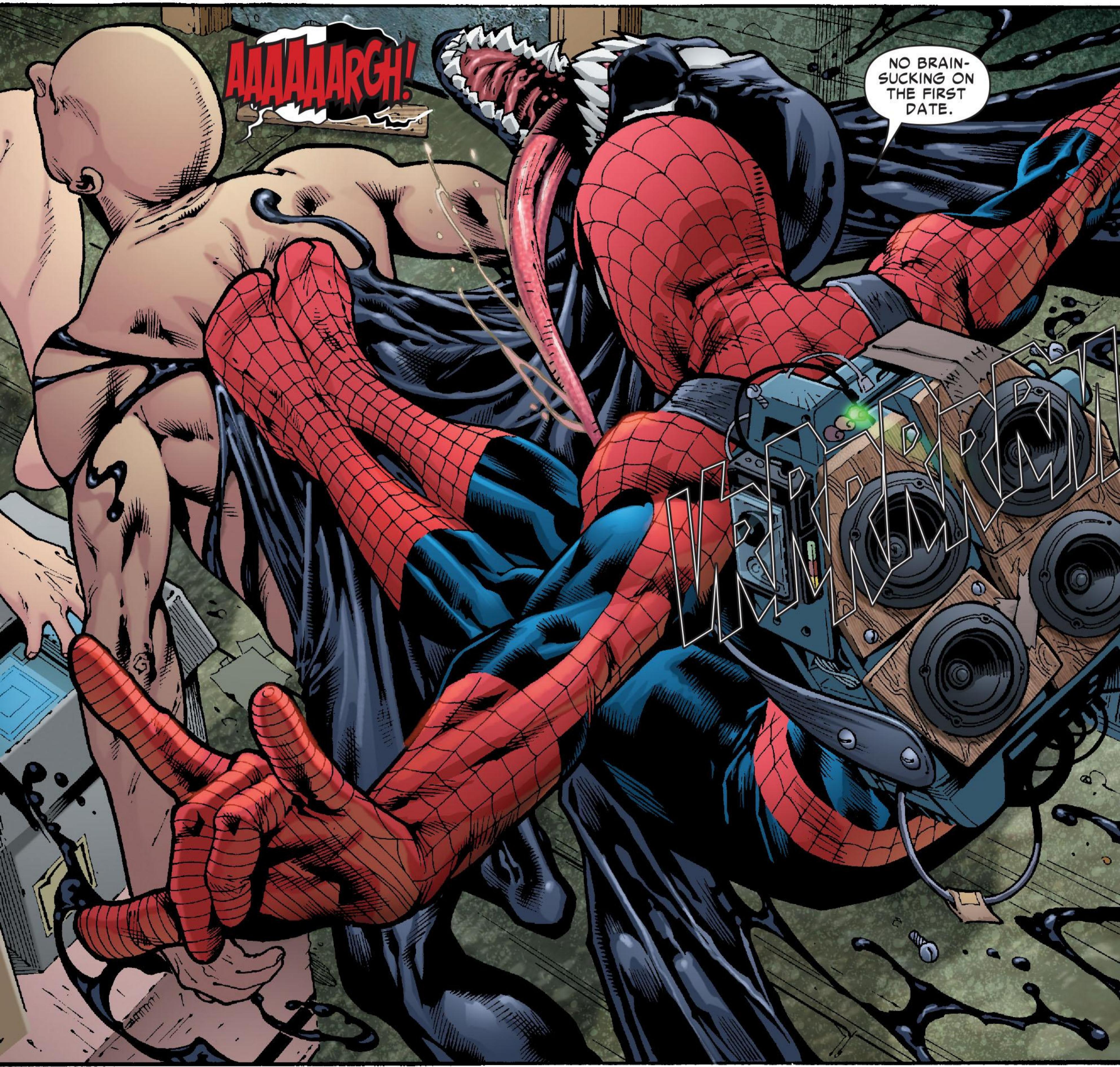
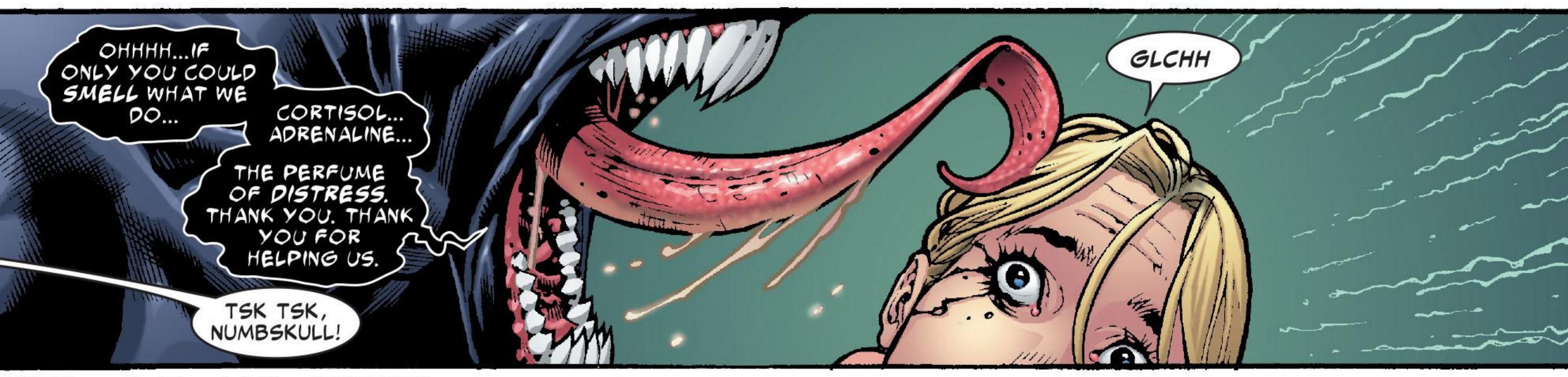
HANDS WHERE I CAN SEE THEM
TILL WE'RE DONE NEGOTIATING...

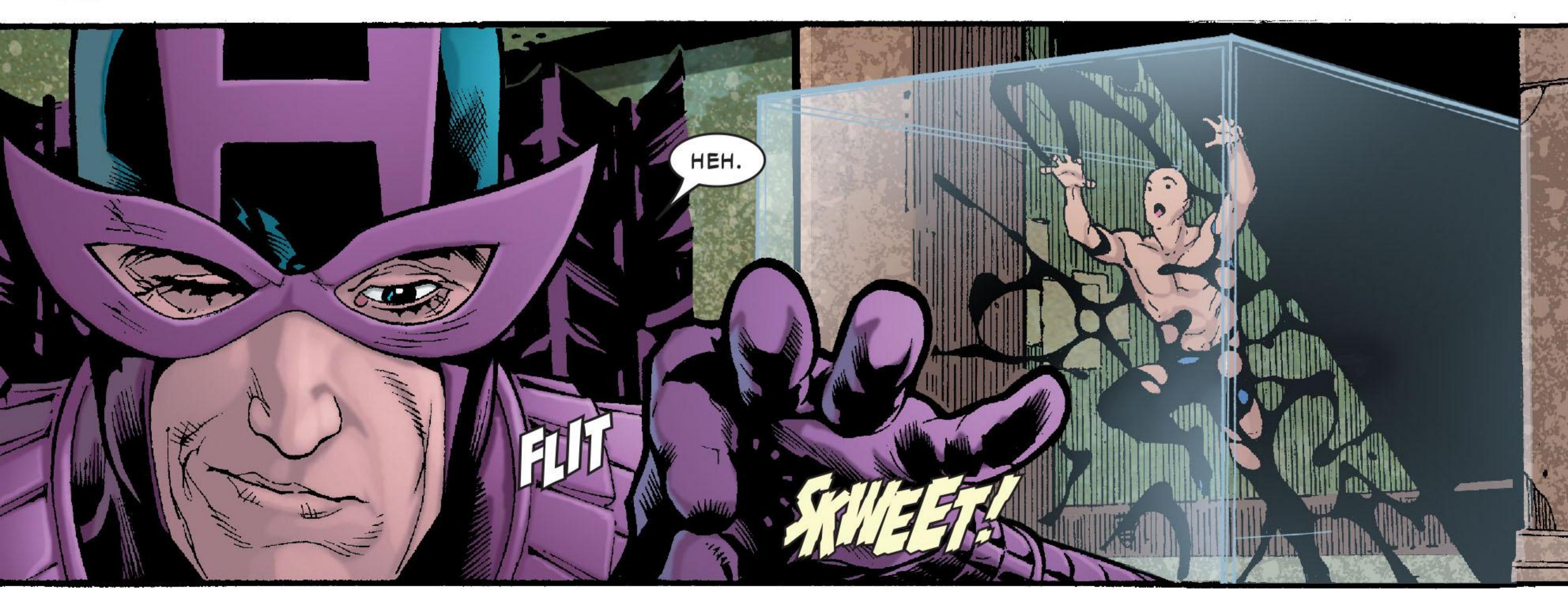
SO PRETTY...
LIKE...

WHAT THE HELL--? WHAT'S TOUCHING ME?

...LIKE BONE MARROW.



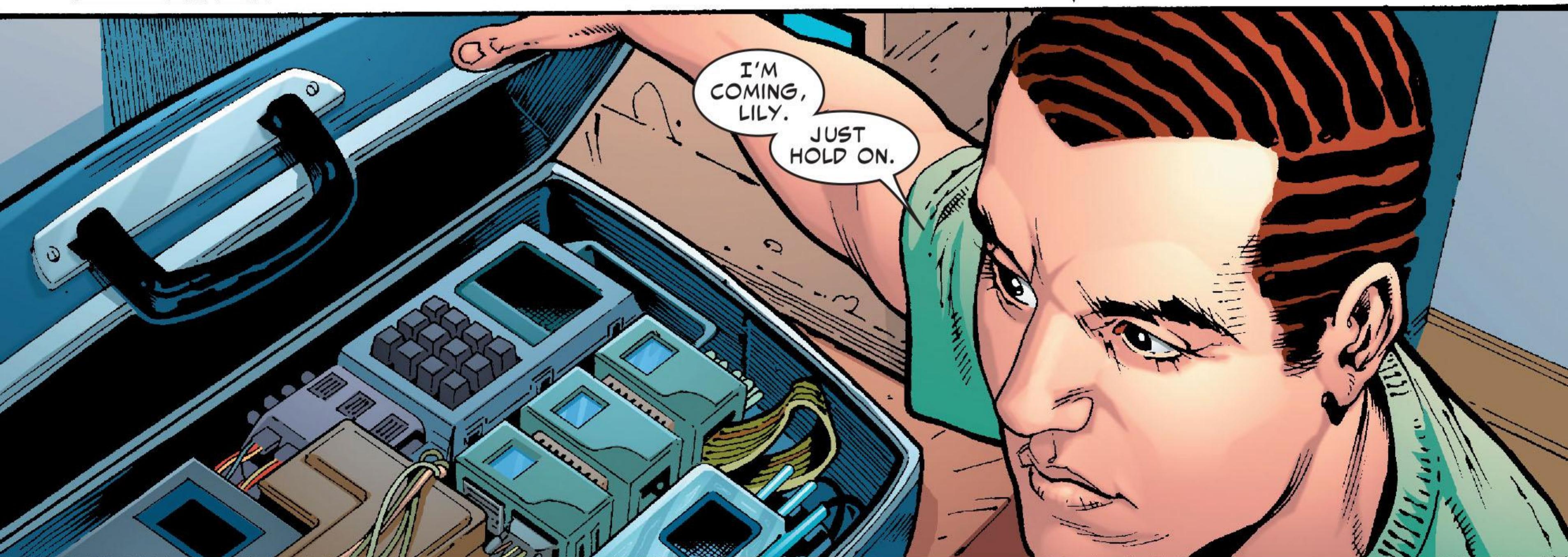
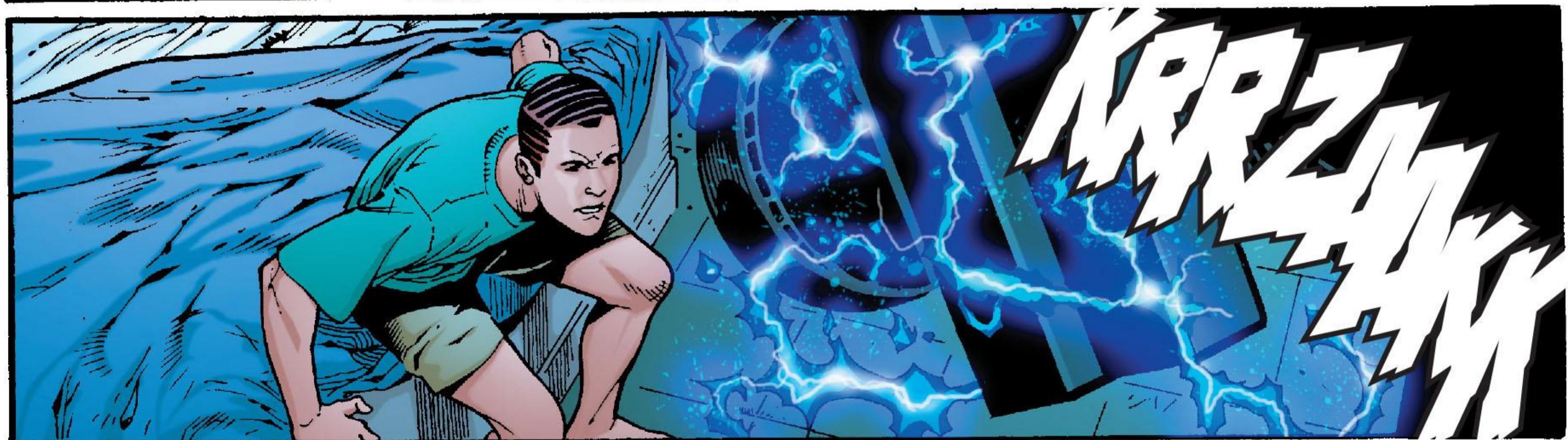
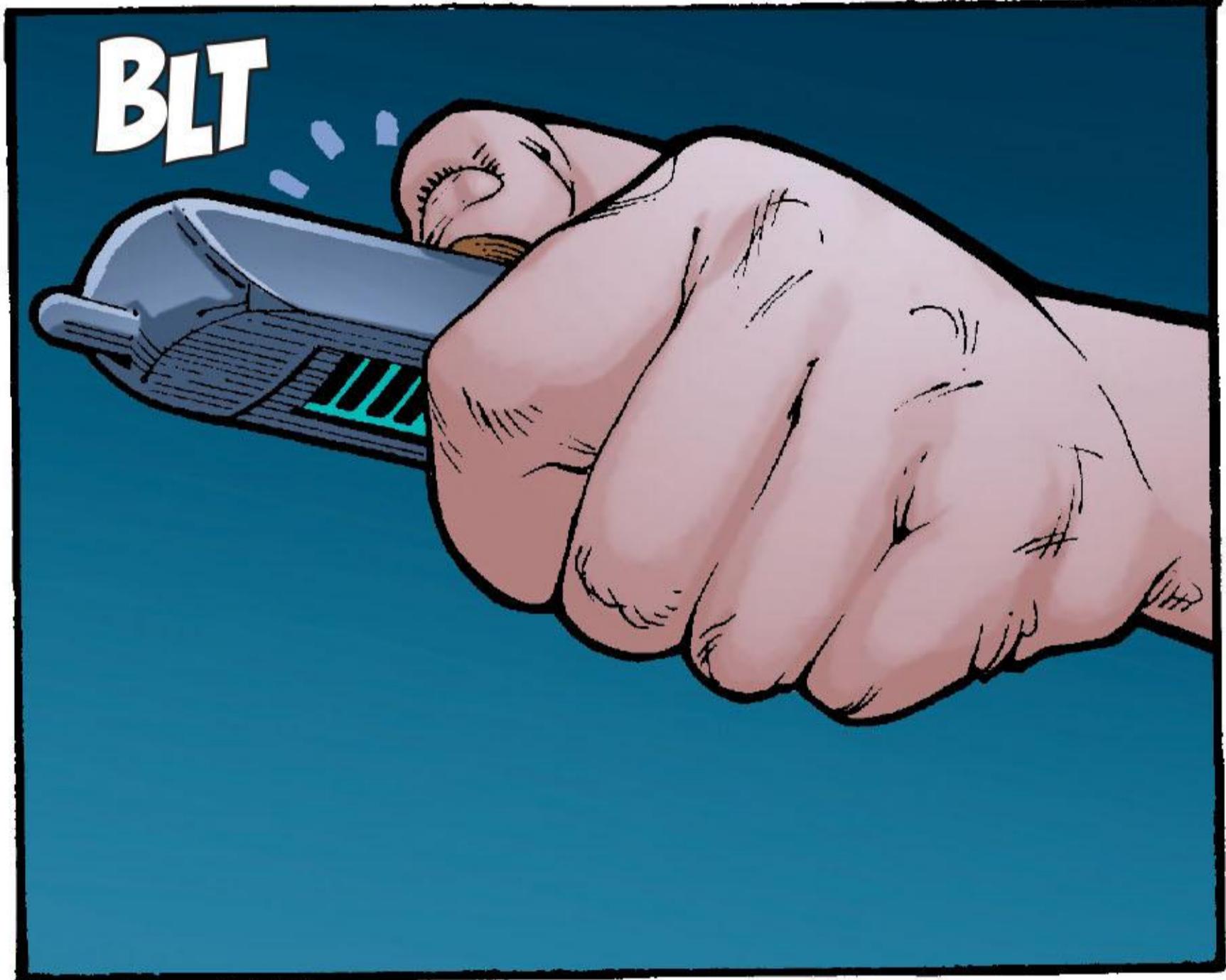
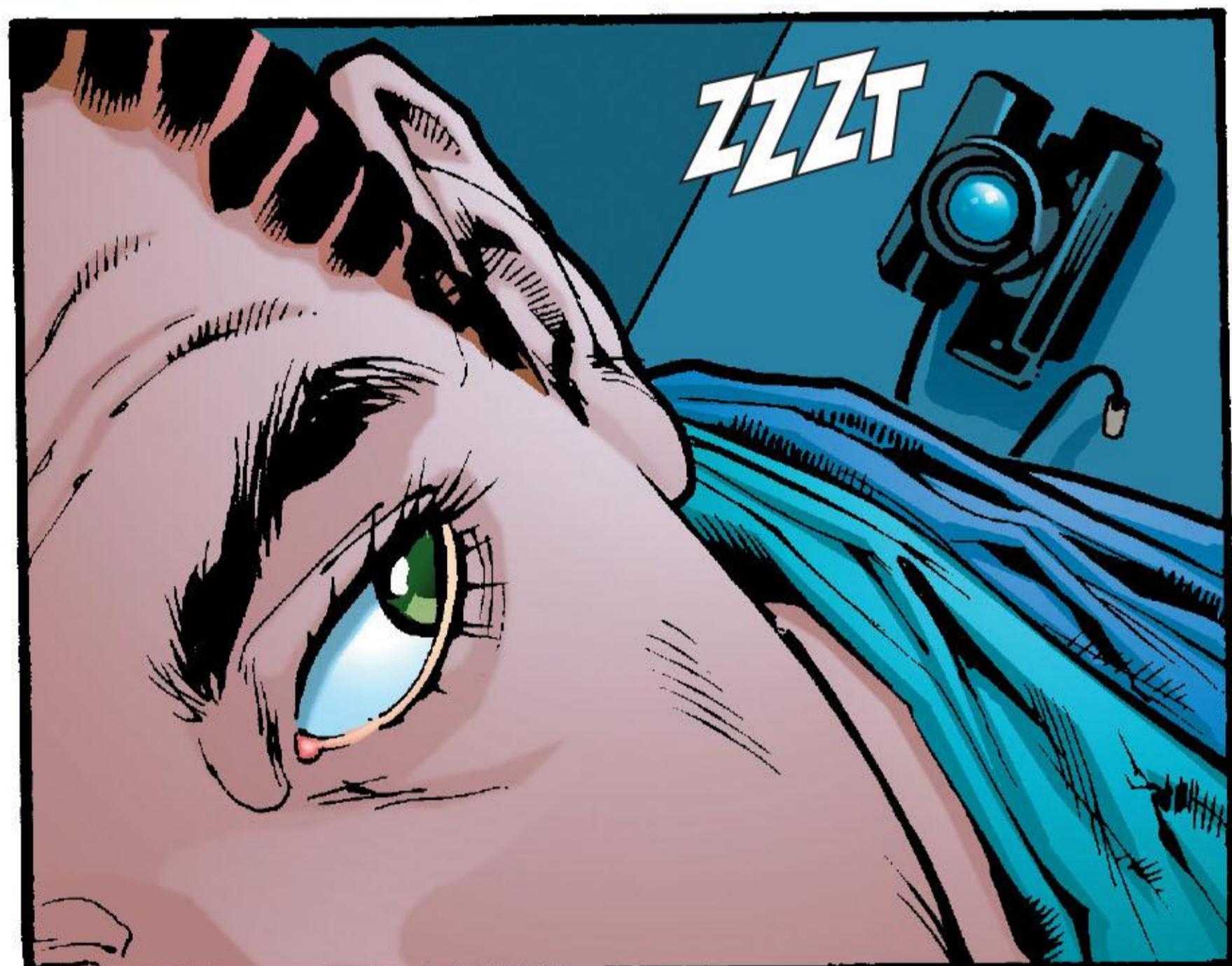


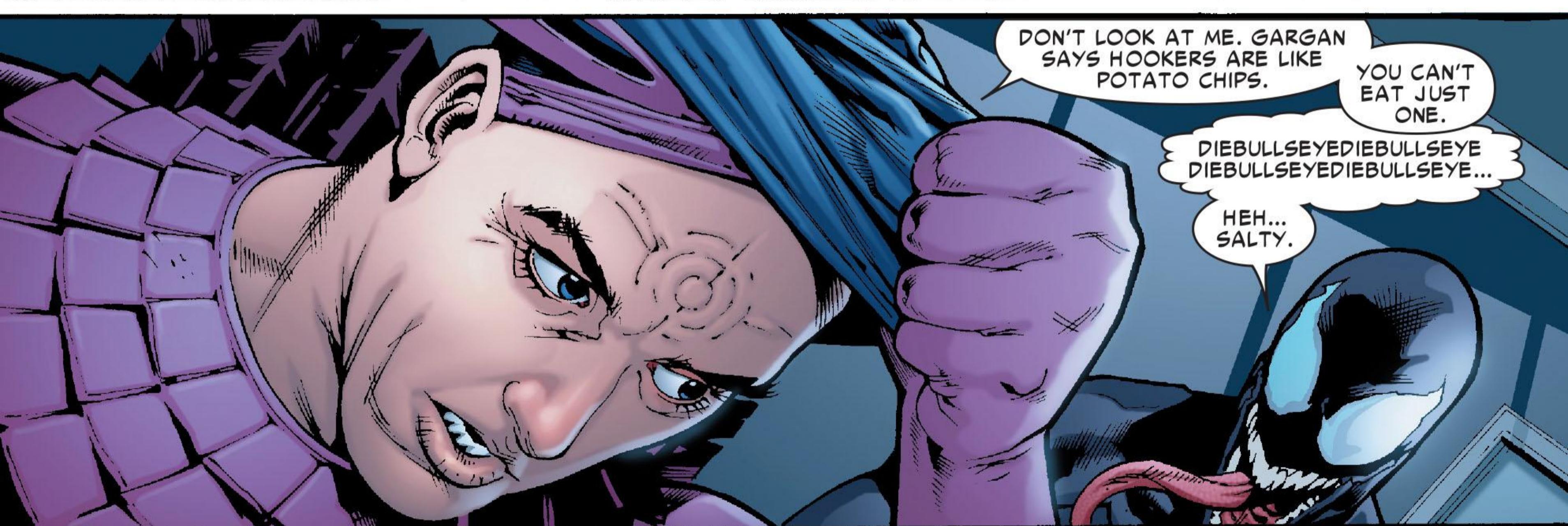






Avengers Tower.
HARRY OSBORN'S ROOM.





YOU HAVE
BLOOD ON
YOU.

OH,
YEAH.

OOPS.

SLURP!

IF YOU'RE
QUITE FINISHED
CARRYING ON LIKE
A PACK OF RETARDED
CHILDREN...THE TIME
HAS COME TO
DISCUSS MY
SON...

AND
HIS FUTURE IN OUR
ORGANIZATION.

THAT'S IT.
BOSS'S KID...
SOMEONE'S
GETTING
CANNED--

WILL
YOU SHUT
UP?

NO DOUBT YOU
UNDERESTIMATE
HARRY.

UNDERSTANDABLE, AS
HE'S GIVEN LITTLE CAUSE
TO BELIEVE HE'S MORE THAN
HIGH-CLASS TABLOID
TRASH...

BUT I CAN
ASSURE YOU THAT
THERE IS MORE TO
MY SON THAN MEETS
THE EYE, AND HIS
PRESENCE HERE
AVAILS A UNIQUE
OPPORTUNITY.

NOT JUST
FOR ME AS A
FATHER...BUT
FOR THE ENTIRE
TEAM.

I'VE BEEN
WORKING ON A
PROJECT...SOMETHING
SPECIAL...AND HARRY
IS THE KEY.

TONIGHT, I'M
PREPARED TO SHARE
WITH YOU MY VISION
OF THE FUTURE...

...I CALL IT
AMERICAN
SON.

OH BOY.

 To be continued...

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL



Let's start this week off the same way I begin all my weeks: with a semi-embarrassing picture of Brennan.



Ahhh...that's better. Ladies, if you're lucky enough, that self-conscious look of consumptive bemusement could be staring at you every night over dinner as he rashly (and handsomely) judges you by the books you happen to have on your shelves! If interested, just drop us a line in care of this page!



All right, let's get to your verbal harassment!!

To Executive Editor Tom Brevoort,

Over the past few months I have tried unsuccessfully to type letters for this page without resorting to griping about the unclear changes of OMD/BND. While I have swung with Spidey through thick & thin since Lee/Ditko [clones included] the uncertain extent of this new apparent history-wipe threatened to finally sever my cross-generational web.

Tom, printing in ASM #587 your answer to Andrew Dawe's letter was appreciated more than I can express, your encouragement was like moisture droplets to a sun-scorched plant in drought! I can't pretend that the marriage-erasure isn't still stuck in my throat, but reading your assurance that nearly nothing else has changed may have convinced me to stick it out a little longer. Your claim that all will eventually be explained has at least piqued my curiosity as to how Peter's post-Morlun new stingers and movie-esque organic webs were thankfully reversed.

Your little pep-talk was more needed and effective than you may know.

40+ year Spid-o-phile,
Rob Landfert,
Fairmount, IN

Dear Spider-People,

Amazing Spider-Man #584: fantastic. A lot of loose ends were tied up. The Bookie being killed, Vin appearing to be a serial killer, Spider-Man claiming to loan cereal, a good plot, and classic Romita Jr. art.

#585 was AWESOME!!!!!! Spidey getting arrested is something I never thought I'd see! I haven't seen Menace since New Ways To Die, and it was a real shocker to see him transform into Lily Hollister!

Overall #586 really made sense! Lily

Hollister was my least expected suspect, I thought that Randall Crowne was Menace until issue #571. Also, the ending was shocking. Is there to be another goblin war, like the one in the now classic Amazing Spider-Man #312?

ASM #587 was funny and like a movie: Matt Murdock, Black Cat stealing a web-shooter, the scene where Spidey almost hangs himself in his cell. My favorite panel was the second to last one with Spider-Man making his Parcheesi joke. I think that's the only time so far in Character Assassination that Spidey looked actually red and blue. He's been orange and blue with yellow and dark orange and black blood, but not his regular colors. I'm really happy and will definitely stick around until issue #600 and probably beyond that.

Until Anti-Venom renames himself "White-Blood-Cell Man" MAKE MINE MARVEL!!!!!!!

Sincerely,
James Zerilli
via email

Dear Spidey Crew,

I've loved Spidey ever since you guys started up this 3x-a-month enterprise. Character Assassination has been some of the best stuff so far. I really can't wait to see how you all up the ante.

But I have one small tiny thing that really bugged me in the conclusion. On the very first page of issue #588, Spidey's narration boxes claim that he has an IQ of 250. I find that to be pretty unbelievable.

Not that Peter Parker wouldn't have a genius level IQ, but according to The Guinness Book of World Records the highest IQ is 228, although this is untrue since William Sidis is supposed to have had one of around 250 (so that number is possible).

Also, I've heard varying reports on Stephen Hawking's IQ but in everything I've seen it always varies between 160 (which I doubt) and 205 (which is probably more accurate). If Spidey's IQ is 250 that means he's smarter than Goethe, Hawking, Einstein, Tom Wolfe, and so on, and I'm sorry but as much as I love Spidey he's just not smarter than most of those guys (maybe Einstein cause actually had a fairly low IQ score).

A score of 250 is given only because a person is "off the chart". If Spidey was that smart, it'd mean he would possibly be smarter than the top geniuses of the Marvel Universe: Tony Stark, Hank Pym, Reed Richards etc. It'd mean that Spidey would have to be included on that list that Amadeus is #7 on...I'm sorry but that's absolutely ridiculous Spidey isn't quite that smart.

A quick Google search would've helped out here, his IQ should probably be knocked down around 70 points or so. Keep in mind 140 is where one starts getting classified as genius. Sorry to nitpick such a tiny detail, but

Send e-mail to
SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM
(please mark as OKAY TO PRINT)

it was such an exaggeration that it bordered on being dumb.

Other than that keep up the great work.

Jason Vanderhaar, 26
Oregon

Look, Jason, I can't even count to 250, so I hesitate even getting involved in this controversy. However, I have instructed the Spidey writers a billionty times to stop using hyperbole.



And speaking of high IQs, several weeks before the publication of the now historic ASM #591, we received this little missive:

Dear Steve,

So after reading Amazing Spider-Man #589, I've come to suspect that in the very near future, J. Jonah Jameson will become the mayor of New York City. Don't ask me how I came to this conclusion; I just think it's going to happen. If it does, please print my letter. If not, you can print it vicously making fun of me.

Phil Deiner
Via e-mail

Can't I do both, Phil, you ONION-EYED MAMMET? Nice shoes. Does your mother know you borrowed them?*

*My apologies if you actually are "onion-eyed" and if those in fact are NOT your mother's shoes.

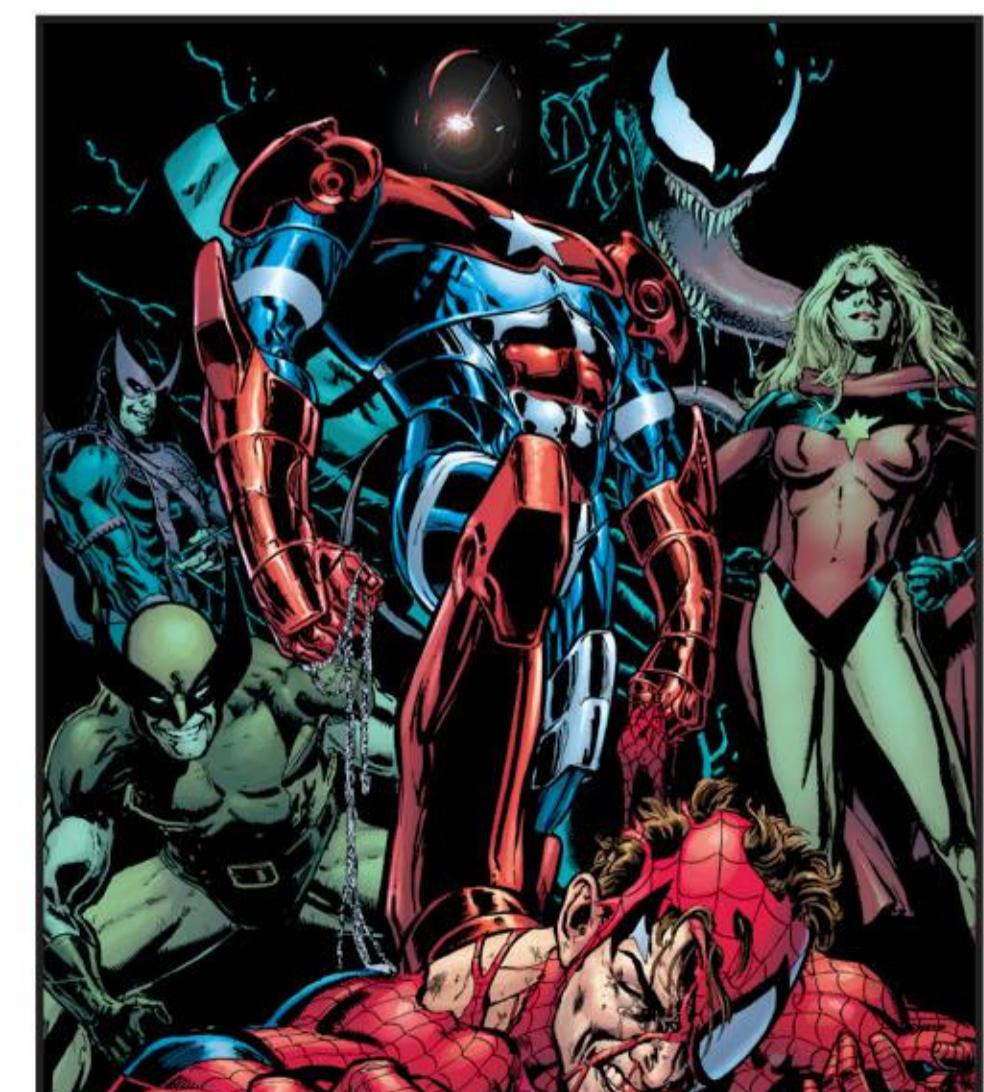


That wraps up another week here at Spidey-Sentral. See ya in 7!

Viva Templar!
Simperin' Steve

This week's cover was by Phil Jimenez and Chris Chuckry.

NEXT WEEK



AMERICAN SON: PART THREE
(and it hurts like heck!)

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