

MARVEL
COMICS

GUEST-
STARRING

THE PUNISHER

SPIDER-MAN

VENGEANCE
PART ONE

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BY THE
COMICS
CODE
A
AUTHORITY



WHAT'S THE MATTER
WITH YOU, MAN?! THERE'S
NO REASON TO BE
DOING THIS!

WE HEISTED THE
CHEMICALS YOU
WANTED! WE DID
EVERYTHING YOU
WANTED!

LEAVE US
ALONE!

DON'T MAKE
ME SHOOT YOU,
MAN.

I'LL
SHOOT
YOU.

THAT
SUPPOSED
TO SCARE
ME?

BLAM
BLAM

YOU KNOW
WHERE YOU
CAN GO, "MAN."

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STAN LEE
PRESENTS

VENGEANCE

Part

IN FACT, I
THINK I'LL
SEND YOU
THERE
MYSELF!

KRAK

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BOB McLEOD · ARTIST
CHRIS ELIOPoulos · LETTERS
KEVIN TINSLEY · COLORIST
DANNY FINGEROTH · EDITOR
TOM DEFALCO · EDITOR IN CHIEF





WELL?! WHAT'RE YOU MEATBALLS WAITIN' FOR?

CHECK THE PLACE OUT!

NOT HERE, BOSS.

THIS IS YOUR PLACE, BOSS. EVERYONE HERE LOVES YOU.

ice club

SKREEEE

I GOT ENEMIES, Y'KNOW!

YEAH, YEAH. THAT'S WHAT CAESAR THOUGHT.

CAESAR CICERO?

READ A BOOK, FER PETE'S SAKE.

MAN BUILDS SOME-
THIN', EVERYONE
WANTS TO TEAR IT
DOWN. COPS... FEDELS...
I CAN'T STAND IT...

NOW SOME FREAKA.
ZOIO WITH AN ASSAULT
RIFLE... THERE'S NO
JUSTICE...

PARASITES!
THAT'S WHAT'S
HERE!

KEEP IT DOWN
OR YOU'LL ALL
SEE WHERE HOFFA'S
BURIED!

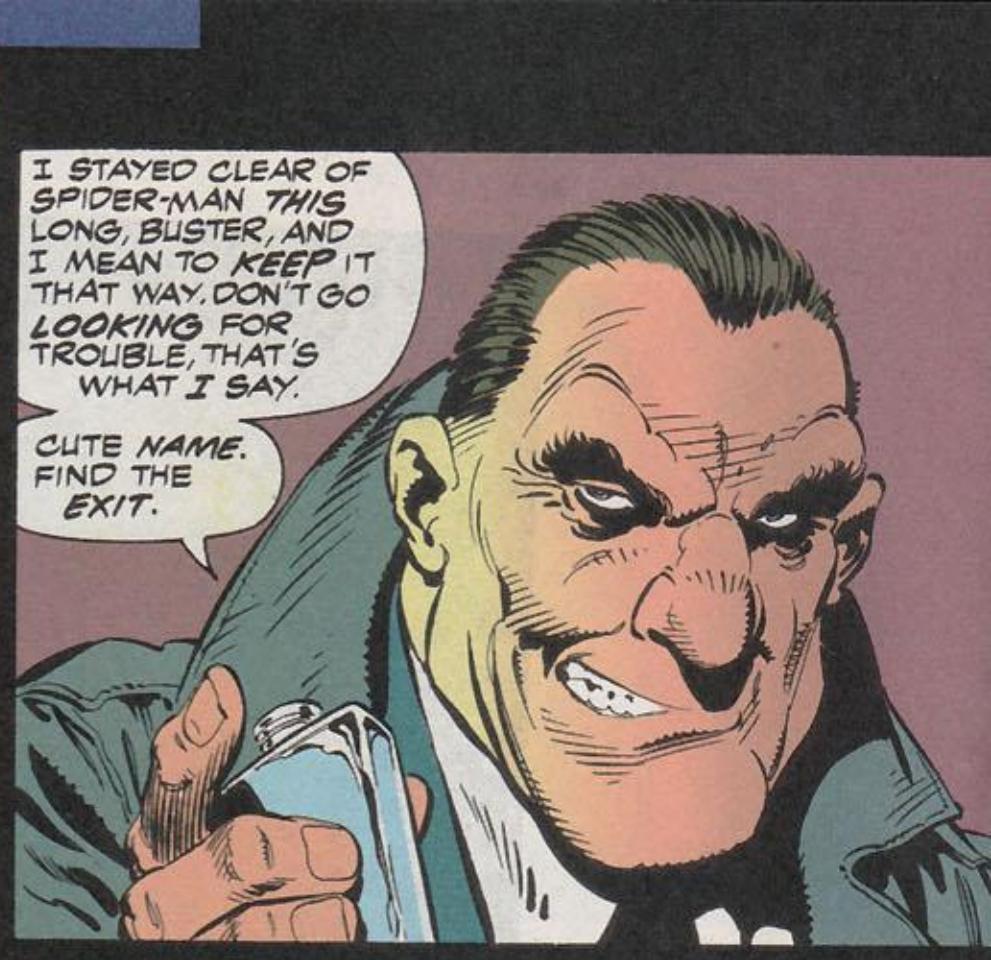
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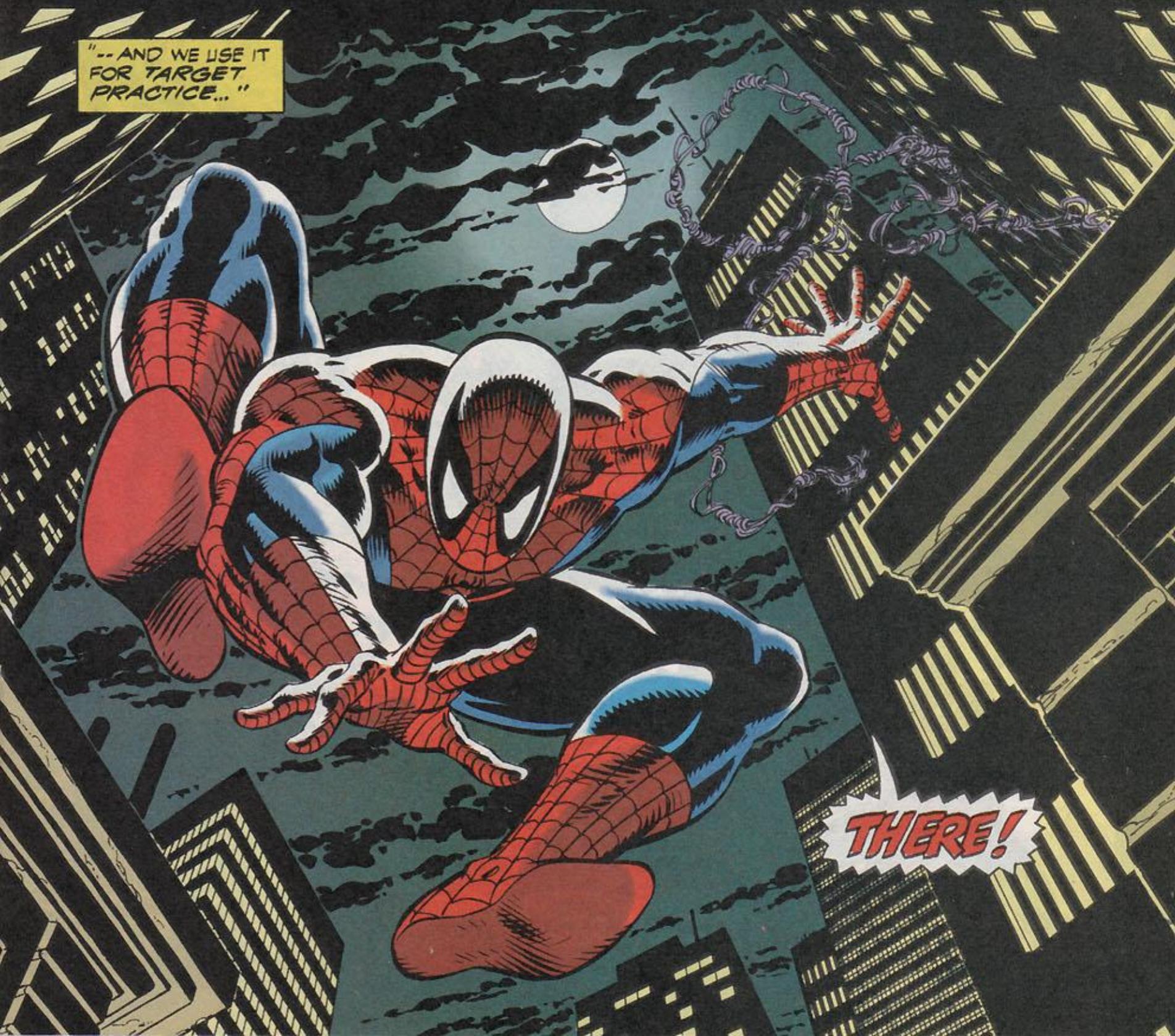
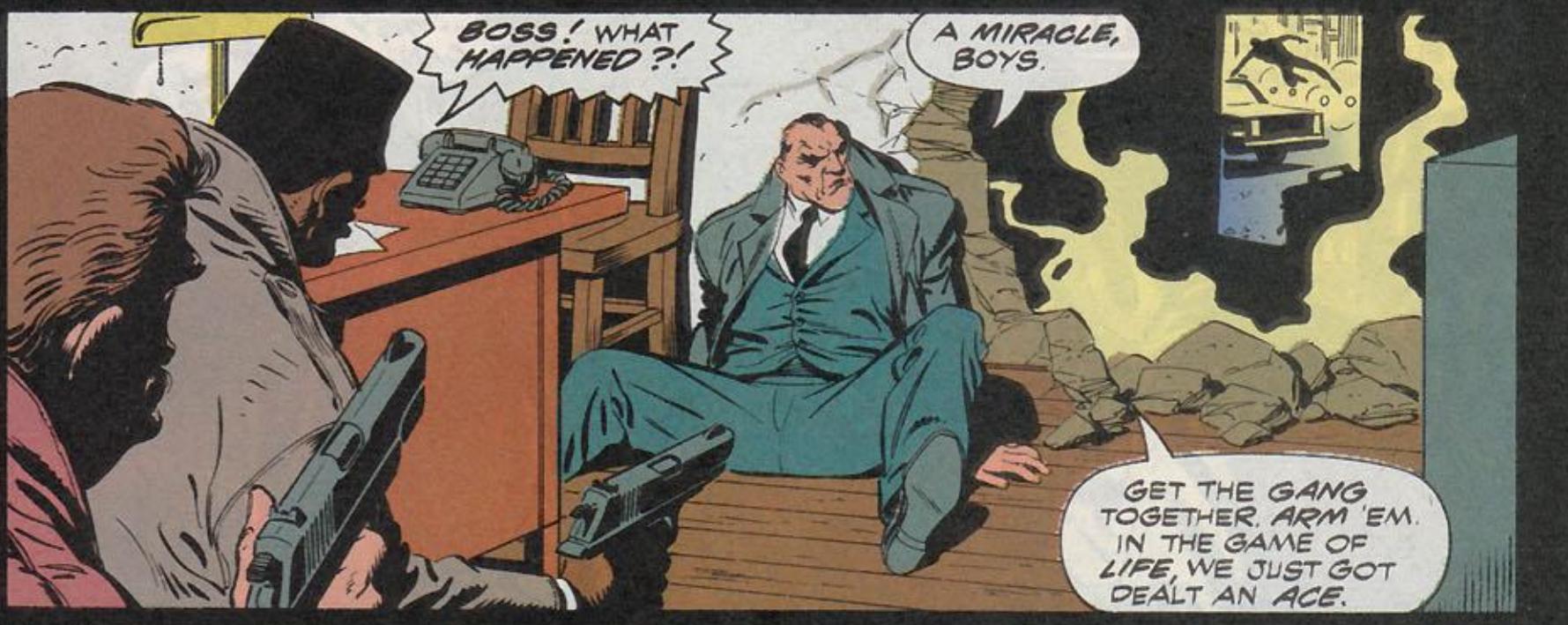
OFFICE

GEOFFREY
BARNETT?

EEP.

WHO WANTS
TO KNOW?





IF ANYONE CAN
TELL ME WHAT
HAPPENED HERE--

--THEY
CAN!

OH,
NO!

IT'S HIM
AGAIN!

IT WASN'T US
WHO TOLD 'IT
WASN'T US!'
STAY AWAY!

RUN FOR
YOUR
LIVES!

GREAT. I WANT
ANSWERS, I GET
LETTERMAN
LINES.

EASY... EASY
NOW... I JUST
WANT--

DON'T KILL
ME! DON'T
KILL ME!

WHAT CAN I
SAY? IT'S A
FASHION
STATEMENT.

OH,
RELAX.

LET'S
SCHMOOZ.



BULLPEN BULLETINS

MARVEL
COMICS

MARK'S REMARKS

"What's in a name?" asks Shakespeare. "A rose by any other name would still smell as sweet." Okay, Will, fine, but how about a super hero? Would a super hero by any other name be as popular?

I ask myself this question because part of my job as Senior Executive Editor of the mighty Marvel Comics Group is running a clearinghouse for superhero names. Whenever an editor receives a story idea or plot from a writer involving a new character, the editor has to run the name by me for approval. I've compiled Marvel's Master List of Character Names on my desktop computer to scan to see if that name is currently in use. By us, that is. As far as other publishers go, we do not as yet have (or are we even thinking about compiling at this time) a comparable list of all the other characters who've crossed the page of a comicbook somewhere. So when it comes to insuring that no other publisher has a character by a certain name, I have to resort to my memory. Although my memory's not bad, I don't read every single publication within this wonderful medium of ours (reading all the Marvels is time-consuming enough), so there are characters that escape my sensory input and memory filing.

And occasionally, names that I clear get shot down once our legal department conducts a trademark search. Case in point — *Paragon*, the new super hero title we're doing in conjunction with the religious publisher Thomas Nelson. I thought we would have had a clear claim to that name since we first used it back in '77 for the hero who was later named Her. But, it seems, two other publishers (who shall go nameless) also placed their bids on that name, and one of them managed to beat us out of our claim to it. Case closed.

All this is to say that the book (and character) we've been promoting as *Paragon* will henceforth be known as *ILLUMINATOR*. The legal search has been done, and we've got the new name nailed down. Everything about the character is the same as before except the name. Which leads me to my initial question: how much does a name have to do with a character's popularity? Fortunately, both *Paragon* and *ILLUMINATOR* are equally fitting names for our charismatic new hero, but who can say if one name would have made him more appealing than the other? What do you think?

Mark Gruenwald

Last week, we quizzed half our editors about the projects they're most worked up over for '93. This week, there's more!

Renee Witterstaetter: "Issue #50 of *SHE-HULK* is a potpourri of different artists doing their versions of She-Hulk. It features the work of John Byrne, Walt Simonson, Terry Austin, Dave Gibbons, Adam Hughes, and Howard Chaykin."

Chris Cooper: "I'm very excited about *CAGE*, and some of the new

(reprinting issues #41-50 and ANNUAL #3) is the quintessential Fantastic Four. It's the wedding of Reed and Sue — the first Galactus story, the first Inhumans."

Evan Skolnick: "I'm still excited about the Marvel 1992 YEAR IN REVIEW. It has a new, satirical format, and it's funny, funny, funny!"

David Wohl: "I'm excited about *G.I.JOE*, because the relaunch of the action figures offers a brand-new beginning. We're going to make *JOE* Marvel's definitive war title."

Richard Ashford: "The trade paperback, MARVEL'S BIG BAD BATTLE BOOK, which has stories chosen by Marveldom Assembled. The book features some of the most unforgettable free-for-alls in Marvel history."

Kelly Corvese: "It's a toss-up between *X-FAC-TOR* and the new *X-MEN UNLIMITED*, which guest-stars characters from all the X-Books."

Glenn Herdling: "THE UNTAMED. It's a three-issue Epic series taking place in the near future about a Japanese guy who works for the Japanese Secret Service but once worked for the Yakuza. It's written, pencilled, and inked by Neil Hansen, and the art is FAAAANTASTIC!"

Craig Anderson: "It's got to be the *INFINITY CRUSADE*, which is the sequel to the *INFINITY GAUNTLET*. It's a six-issue monthly crossover series running through the spring and summer."

Ralph Macchio: "The upcoming *DAREDEVIL* graphic novel by Frank Miller and John Romita Jr. It's the real origin of DD, told complete for the first time. It's like *Daredevil Year One*."

Danny Fingeroth: "We have a big multi-part cross-over coming up in all the *Spider-Man* books, featuring Venom and Carnage."

THE BULL'S EYE

by Barry Dutter & Rick Parker



exciting directions we've got planned for the book."

Terry Kavanagh: "The new IRON FIST series. We've got Marc DeMatteis writing it, and Jae Lee is pencils and inking it."

Mike Rockwitz: "THE SECRET DEFENDERS. It's an opportunity to team up any character with any other character, with Dr. Strange in every issue."

Suzanne Gaffney: "It's a tie between the DEADPOOL Limited Series and the X-MEN TECHNICAL GUIDE TO THE X-MANSION by a funky Eliot R. Brown."

Tom Brevoort: "Next year's FANTASTIC FOUR MASTERWORKS

HYPELINE: ON SALE THIS WEEK:

- **AVENGERS #360:** The Avengers are seeing double Vision as another of their members is replaced with an impostor! Foil cover, double-sized 30th anniversary excitement!
- **CONAN THE BARBARIAN #266:** Conan the Renegade, Part One of Four!
- **CONAN SAGA #72:** A tale of Conan's juvenile delinquent days as a young thief!
- **DARK ANGEL #9:** It's all-out Marvel action, with a British accent!
- **DOCTOR WHO #195:** When the Sontarans need a genetics expert, they see the doctor!
- **DOOM 2099 #3:** Doom sings, "Don't Cry For Me, Latveria," as he tries to win his country back!

- **EXCALIBUR #63:** Rachel Summers returns, like a Phoenix ... ah, you know the rest!
- **FANTASTIC FOUR UNLIMITED #1:** Wakanda Black Panther do to wrest his country from Klaw's grasp?
- **G.I. JOE #134:** The climactic conclusion to the Cobra Island Saga! The end of an era!
- **INCREDIBLE HULK #403:** The Avengers want to take down the Red Skull — but the Hulk has a few bones to pick! With new art team Gary Frank & Cam Smith!
- **IRON MANUAL:** The cover is by Bill Sienkiewicz, and the interiors are 100% Eliot R. Brown!
- **MARVEL AGE #122:** 30th Anniversaries of X-MEN, AVENGERS, and FORBUSH MAN!

- **MARVEL COMICS #124:** Ghost Rider! Wolverine! She-Hulk! Professor! And Mary Ann!
- **MARVEL TALES #271:** The first-ever battle between Spidey and Puma!
- **MORBIUS #7:** Versus Vic Slaughter and the Hardcases!
- **NIGHTBREED #25:** How do you love a Porcupine Woman? Very carefully!
- **PUNISHER #76:** Remember, the body count equals the issue number each month!
- **SHIELD #45:** Featuring G.W. Bridge from X-Force, Siege from DEATHLOK, and the final fate of the Super Agents!
- **SILVER SURFER/ WARLOCK: RESURRECTION #1 of 4:** It's written and drawn by Jim Starlin!

- What else do you need to know?
- **SPIDER-MAN #32:** A Spidey impostor is on a killing spree! Guest-starring Punisher!
- **WARLOCK & THE INFINITY WATCH #14:** Warlock's in a coma, and the U.N. seizes Monster Isle!
- **WHAT IF #47:** "What If Magneto Took Over the USA?" Talk about your sales magnets!
- **X-FACTOR #88:** The X-Patriots guest star! And we're not talking about former New England football players!
- **X-MEN #118:** Omega Red returns! That's all well and good, but when is Omega the Unknown coming back?

DWIGHT! FOR
THE LOVE OF--
I NEED SOME-
THING.

PLEASE!

DON'T BEG,
VICARY, AND
DON'T TALK
ABOUT LOVE.

LOOK AT YOU!
YOU'RE YOUNGER
THAN I AM!
YOU'VE DESTROYED
YOURSELF!

PLEASE...
WE'RE
FRIENDS...

YES. I
REMEMBER.

HOW LONG
AGO WAS IT?
FIVE YEARS?

YOU HAD A
FUTURE IN
ELECTRONICS.
BUT YOU COULDN'T
STAY OFF THE
DRUGS.

DESIGNER DRUGS, YOU
SAID. BIG CASH AND NO
RISK, YOU SAID.

AND
YOU WERE
WRONG--

ARRGH!

SO MUCH MONEY
YOU OWED THE MOBS.
THEY OFFERED YOU
A WAY OUT. ALL YOU
NEEDED WAS A
CHEMIST.

MY JOB PAID
NOTHING. I HAD
A WIFE, AND
CHILD, AND BILLS.
SO I THREW IN
WITH YOU.

DWIGHT!

KEEP
AWAY
FROM
ME!



WELL, WELL... WHADDAYA GOT HERE? DIDN'T WE WARN YOU PLAINCLOTHES FLATFEET TO STAY OUT OF OUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

SHOULD HAVE TURNED UP YOUR HEARING AIDS, BOYS. NOW WE HAVE TO CLEAN OUT YOUR EARS THE HARD WAY...



FRANKLY, I
DON'T KNOW
WHAT TO
DO NEXT--

WHOOPS! SOMETHING
JUST CAME TO
MIND. LOVE
YOU.

HALT!

YOU'RE UNDER
ARREST! STOP
OR WE'LL SHOOT!



SPIDER-MAN!

UM... YOU
WANT TO
SHOOT HIM,
MERV?

GEE, HE'S SUCH
A LONG WAY
OFF...

NOW
WHAT?

SHARON
MUNRO HERE,
SPIDER-MAN--

YEAH, YEAH.
I REMEMBER.

TOO BAD YOU
DIDN'T REMEMBER
YOU'RE NOT ABOVE
THE LAW.

NEW YORK
WANTS YOUR
STORY-- IN
ALL THE GORY
DETAILS.

IF IT'S
STARDOM
YOU WANT,
LADY--

A REAL
GERALDO,
HUH?

-- DON'T LET THE
LIGHT GET IN
YOUR EYES!

HIS BELT
SIGNAL--!

WE BLINK AND HE'S GONE. I HEARD HE WAS FAST.

WE'RE NEVER GOING TO GET THIS STORY, ARE WE?

HERE'S A STORY FOR YOU, SHARON.

SPIDER-MAN'S BEEN SIGHTED CLIMBING THE WORLD TRADE TOWERS-- WITH A HOSTAGE!

ALL THE WAY DOWNTOWN? HE'S NOT THAT FAST.

GET DOWN THERE, NOW! THIS STORY JUST BLEW WIDE OPEN--AND WE'RE THE ONLY ONES WHO KNOW IT!

I WASN'T PLANNING TO HITCH A RIDE, BUT SINCE WE'RE ALL GOING IN THE SAME DIRECTION ANYWAY--!

SO THIS IS WHAT CARPOOLING IS LIKE...

WAKE UP, VICARY, YOU'RE MISSING YOUR FINEST MOMENT. WITHOUT YOUR RESEARCH IN ELECTROSTATICS, I'D NEVER HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DUPLICATE THAT WALLCRAWLER'S POWERS.

WATCHING ME CLIMB WITH THE HELP OF AMPLIFIED STATIC ELECTRICITY, WHO WOULDN'T BELIEVE I'M SPIDER-MAN?

NOT HARDLY, THANKS TO YOUR BELLOWING PARTNER-- BUT FAR BE IT FROM ME TO STEP ON YOUR JOURNALISTIC PRIDE.

OH, I DON'T KNOW--

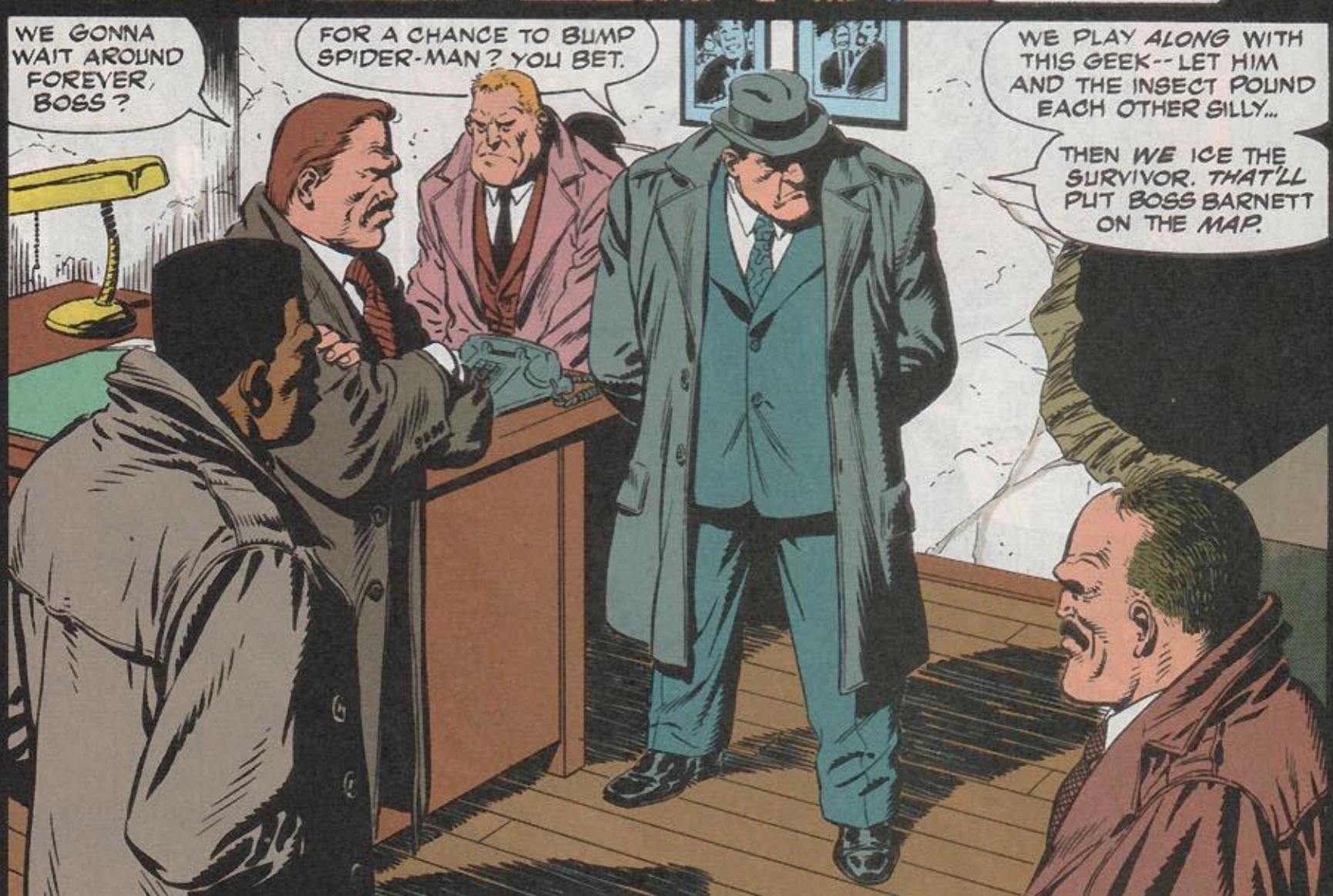


HIS SPEED--
HIS STRENGTH--
I NEVER
DREAMED--!
IF I HADN'T
BLASTED THAT
WINDOW IN--!

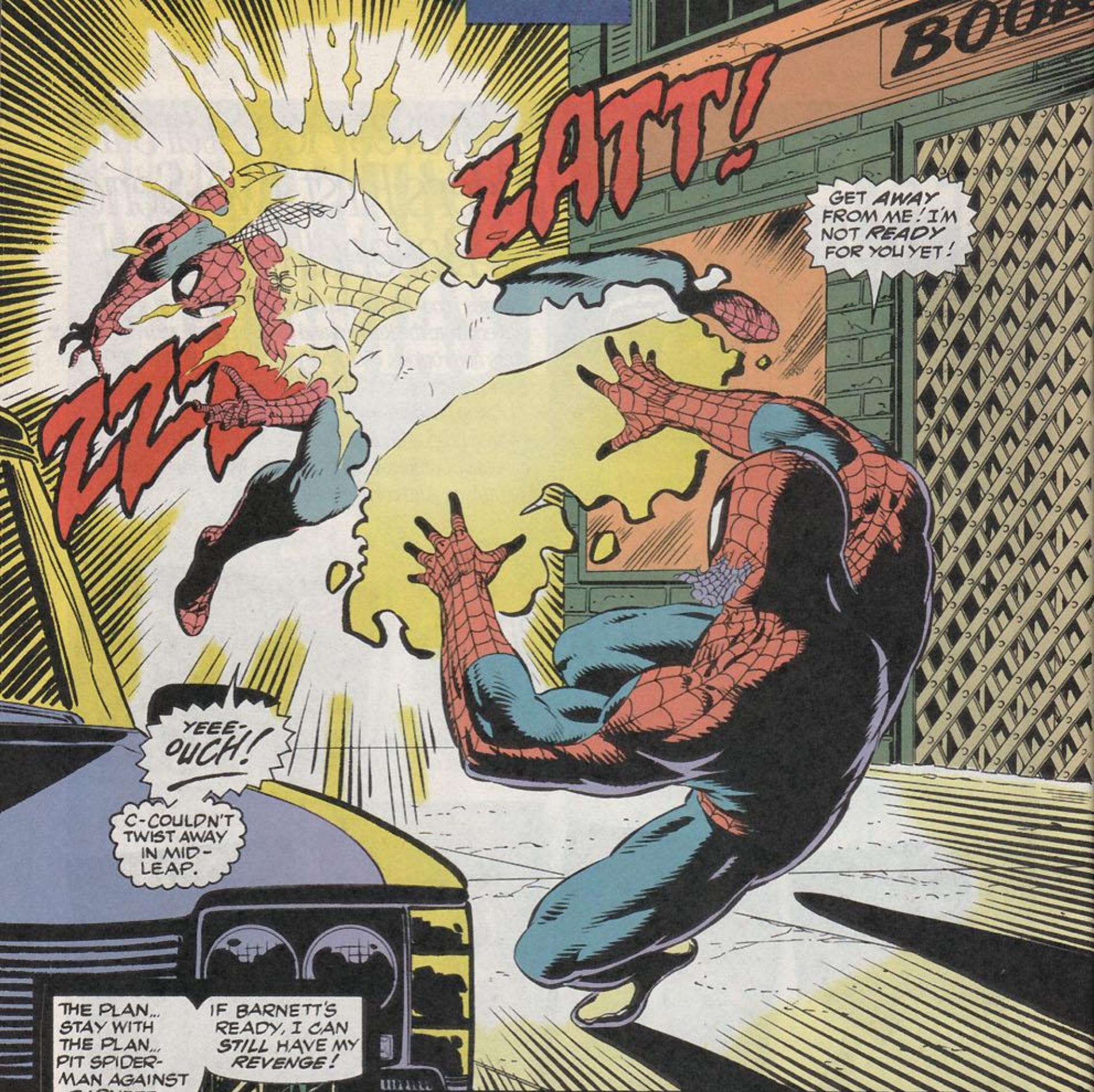
EVEN CHEMICAL-
LY AUGMENTED,
I'M NO MATCH
FOR HIM. I
NEED MORE
POWER!

EASY, SPIDER-MAN.
PUT HIM DOWN.
THERE'S NO NEED TO
HURT HIM.

WERE YOU ON A
COFFEE BREAK
OR SOMETHING? I
JUST SAVED
HIM!







THE PLAN... STAY WITH THE PLAN... PIT SPIDER-MAN AGAINST BARNETT...

IF BARNETT'S READY, I CAN STILL HAVE MY REVENGE!

THIS GUY'S GOT THE POWER TO WALLOP MY HEAD OFF--AND HE'S TOO FREAKED TO FINISH THE JOB ?!

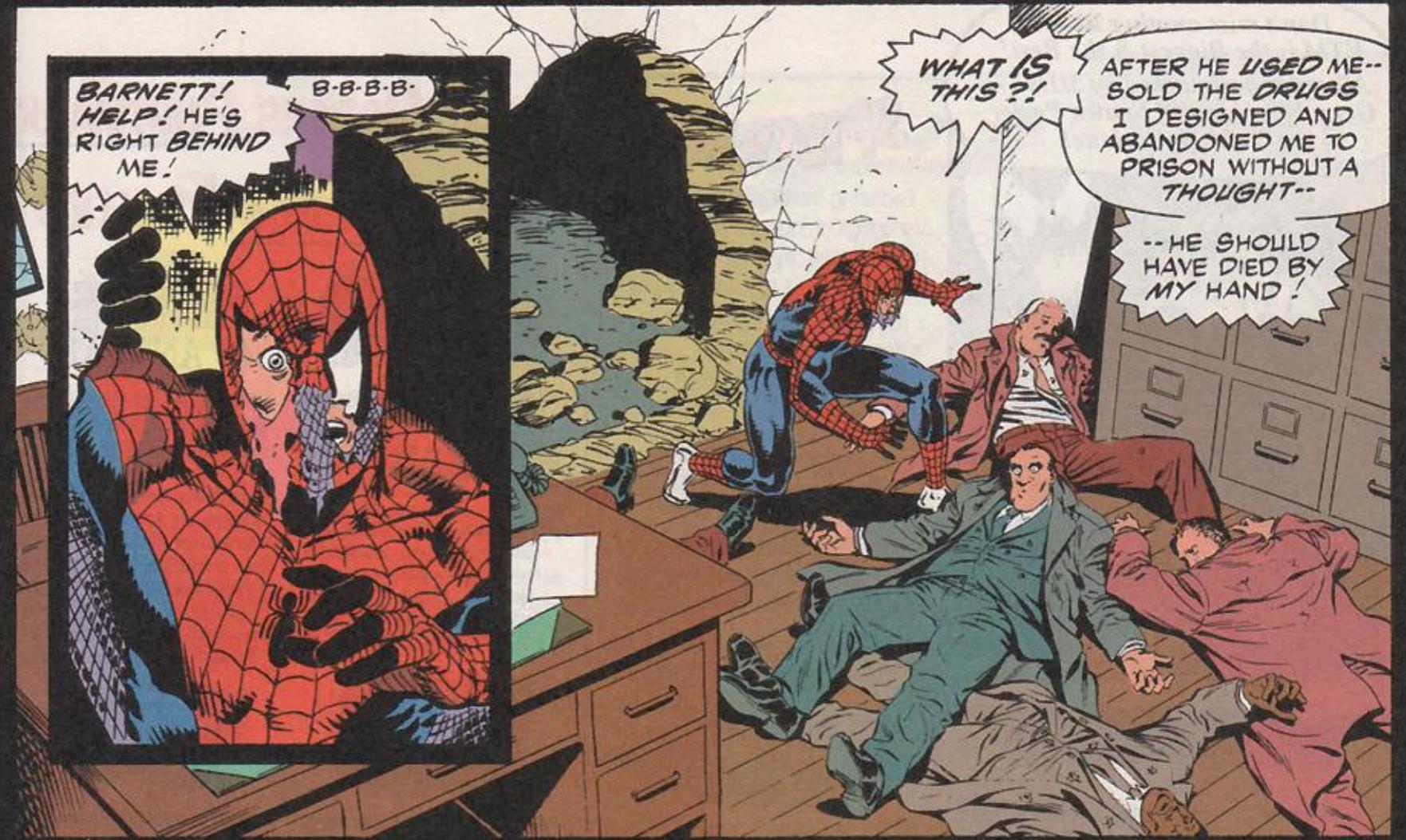
HE'S NOT EXACTLY STABLE, EITHER... WHICH EXPLAINS A LOT.

THAT LETS OUT MY OLD ENEMIES.

SO WHAT'S HE GOT AGAINST ME?

REVENGE?!







I'LL TEACH YOU
TO MEDdle IN
MY BUSINESS!

I... I TOOK
HIM... LIKE HE
WAS NOTHING...

I FORGET I
HAD THE
POWER--SHEER,
RAW POWER!
ENOUGH
POWER TO--

--DARE I SAY
IT? --RULE THE
WORLD!

GEE, I
ALWAYS
WANTED
TO SAY
THAT.

SPIDER-
MAN
AGAIN?!

SINCE WHEN
ARE WE ON A
FIRST NAME
BASIS?

WHAT, SUDDENLY
I NEED LESSONS?

YIKES!

THAT'S
MISTER
SPIDER-
MAN TO
YOU!

THWIP

AM!

OKAY--OKAY!
WHAT'S THE
TUITION FEE?

STOP IT!
I'VE GIVEN
MYSELF
SPEED--
STRENGTH!

I HAVE
THE POWER
TO CRUSH
YOU!

YEAH?

SO HIT
SOMETHING
WITH IT.

IF YOU'D
STAND STILL
FOR THREE
SECONDS--!

WHOOPS!
TIME'S UP!

DON'T GET
RILED! THREE
FREE SECONDS,
JUST FOR
YOU.

WHAM!
BY THE WAY, I
KNOW A THING
OR TWO ABOUT
SPEED AND STRENGTH
MYSELF!

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BLOOD STINGS MY MOUTH.
SPARKS DANCE ACROSS MY
EYES. THE BLAST CAUGHT
ME OFF GUARD.

ISN'T MY HEART PURE?
DON'T I SAY MY
PRAYERS AT NIGHT?
WHY ME?

AW, NO!

WHY **THE
PUNISHER?!**

WON'T HAPPEN
AGAIN. I KNOW
MY ENEMY NOW.

WHEN HE TEAMED WITH
BARNETT, HE SIGNED
HIS LIFE AWAY.

NEXT: PUNISHED!!!