

MAXIMUM CLONAGE

PART 4 OF 6

SPIDER-MAN

ONLY \$1.50
\$2.05 CAN / UK £1.25
AUG • 61
MARVEL
SPIDER-MAN GROUP

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
COP
AUTHORITY

A
THOUSAND
CLONES!



E 01321

You wake up in
the morning and
think...

... "Things could be worse!
I've got my life back, I
know I'm not a CLONE
anymore...things could
definitely be worse!"

You go through the day
expecting it to be better
than every one of the
other mornings over the
past five years.

No more doubts...
no self-loathing...
life is GOOD!

And then, just when you're
starting to feel UNIQUE...
DIFFERENT... ONE OF A KIND...



...someone's got to come along and prove you **WRONG!**

So much for feeling **SPECIAL!**

STAN LEE
PRESENTS

MAXIMUM CLONAGE PART IV

HEADING TOWARD OMEGA

HOWARD MACKIE & TOM LYLE STORY & ART
CHRIS RICHARD STARKINGS KEVIN DANNY
IVY INKS AND HIS COMICLONES TINSLEY FINGEROTH
LETTERING COLORS ONE IN A MILLION
BOB BUDIANSKY REMAINS UNCLONED

I've got to get away...
got to RUN AWAY!

Even under the BEST of
circumstances I wouldn't
be able to take on a
hundred clones of myself.

And right now I've got
enough of the drugs the
JACKAL sent coursing
through my system...

...so that I don't feel
like STANDING, much less
FIGHTING guys who are
as strong as I am.

Running away, clearing my head,
finding my clone...SPIDER-MAN...
the man who has been Peter
Parker for the past five years...
and pounding some sense into
his head seems like the safest bet.

I can't believe he's
gone over to the
Jackal's side...*

...can't believe he's willing to simply walk
away from the LIFE he's built for himself --
on the word of a MADMAN!

* See AMAZING SPIDER
#404 - Departing Dr

I wouldn't...

I DID.

I've got to FIND him!
I can't let him make the
same mistake I did!

I WON'T!

THE HOME OF
PETER AND MARY
JANE PARKER.

THE PAST MONTHS
HAVE NOT BEEN EASY
FOR MARY JANE.

PETER, THE MAN SHE
HAS KNOWN AND LOVED
FOR FIVE YEARS... THE
MAN SHE MARRIED...
THE MAN WHO IS THE
FATHER OF HER
UNBORN CHILD...

...HAS BEEN PROVEN
TO BE NOT A MAN,
BUT A CLONE.

AND NOW SHE
IS WITHOUT HIM.

SHE HAS BEEN ALONE
BEFORE. BEING THE WIFE
OF SPIDER-MAN HAS
COME WITH ITS FAIR
SHARE OF LONELINESS.

BUT THROUGH ALL THE
ANXIOUS NIGHTS OF
WAITING... PRAYING...
THAT PETER WOULD
COME TO NO HARM...

...DEEP DOWN IN
HER SOUL MARY
JANE HAD FAITH
THAT HE WOULD
RETURN TO HER.

NOW SHE
HAS NO
SUCH
FAITH.

BUT SHE WILL NOT
WAIT ANXIOLITIC
FOR THINGS TO TURN
OUT FOR THE BEST.

TONIGHT MARY JANE
PLANS ON ACTING... ON
BRINGING PETER, HER
HUSBAND, HOME WHERE
HE BELONGS.

K
K
K

KAIN!

WHY?
WHY DID
HE DO
IT?





ELSEWHERE...

HOW
YOU FEELING,
PETER, MY
BOY?

GOOD?

NO...
YOU'RE NOT.
I CAN TELL
JUST BY
LOOKING AT
YOU.

I
KNOW THIS
IS PAINFUL,
PETER... THE
TRUTH
ALWAYS
IS!

BUT
YOU'RE A
PART OF A
FAMILY NOW,
PETER... OUR
FAMILY!

GIVE IT
A LITTLE TIME
AND YOU'LL
FORGET ALL
ABOUT YOUR
FORMER
LIFE.

AND
NO MATTER
WHAT HAPPENS
IN THE
FUTURE...



... YOU'LL
ALWAYS
HAVE ME,
SON!

I CAN SEE YOU'RE
HAVING TROUBLE
FOCUSING, BOY...
AND THAT'S
UNDER-
STANDABLE.

BUT WHAT WE'VE
GOT TO DO IS FIND
YOU SOMETHING
TO DO...



... SOMETHING
TO TAKE YOUR MIND
OFF OF THINGS...
SOMETHING TO PUT A
SMILE BACK ON YOUR FACE.











I WAS THE FIRST OF PROFESSOR MILES WARREN'S CLONES...

...AND I WAS TO BE THE BEST.

ON THE DAY I EMERGED FROM HIS CLONING TANK WARREN GREETED ME LIKE A NEW-BORN SON.

HE WAS PROUD OF WHAT HE HAD CREATED...

...HE WAS PROUD OF ME!

THE MONTHS OF TRAINING... THE LEARNING TO BECOME PETER... TO BECOME SPIDER-MAN... WERE THE ONLY HAPPY MOMENTS OF MY LIFE...

...FOR WARREN... WHO HAD BEEN LIKE A FATHER TO ME... TO CAST ME ASIDE.

TO HIM, I WAS NOW NOTHING MORE THAN A FAILED EXPERIMENT.

BUT I COULDN'T BRING MYSELF TO GO FAR. WARREN... HIS LAB... IT WAS THE ONLY LIFE I KNEW.

I WATCHED FROM THE SHADOWS THE DAY PETER EMERGED FROM THE TANKS.

...AND WERE TO BE SHORT-LIVED.

THE FIRST TIME ONE OF MY PRECOGNITIVE FLASHES TORE THROUGH MY HEAD, I HAD NO IDEA WHAT IT WAS... OR WHAT IT FORETOLD.

AND THEN I SAW IT... THE FIRST SIGN OF MY CELLULAR DEGENERATION.

IT WAS A SCAR... SO SMALL... AND YET ENOUGH TO SET ME APART FROM PETER AND ENOLIGH FOR...

ONE WHICH MUST BE DESTROYED.

IT WAS AT THAT MOMENT THAT I CAME TO UNDERSTAND THE PRECOGNITIVE FLASH FOR WHAT IT WAS.

THE DEGENERATION DESTROYED MY LIFE AND...

...SAVED ME FROM DEATH.

I RAN.

I WATCHED AS HE BECAME THE FAVORED SON.

I WATCHED AS HE BECAME SPIDER-MAN.

I TRIED TO HATE PETER... IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN EASY... BUT INSTEAD, IN HIM I BEGAN TO SEE A BROTHER.

A BROTHER WHO COULD LIVE THE FULL AND RICH LIFE THAT WAS TO BE DENIED ME FOREVER.

PETER GOT IT ALL... ALL THAT I COULD NEVER HAVE... BUT IT WAS ENOUGH FOR ME... ENOUGH TO HAVE BEN SLIFTER.

I HOUNDED BEN THROUGH THE YEARS... DISRUPTED HIS LIFE... KEPT HIM OFF BALANCE AND ALWAYS AWAY FROM THIS CITY... AWAY FROM PETER.

AND MY LOVE FOR PETER GREW AS, EVERY DAY, HE PROVED HIMSELF THE HERO I COULD NEVER BE...

... SUCCEEDING WHERE I COULD NOT... HIS LIFE... THIS HOME... WAS ALL A SYMBOL FOR ME.

I'VE SEEN HIM... HE'S WORKING WITH THE JACKAL... WITH WARREN!

AND BEN, PLAYING THE FOOLHARDY HERO, TRIED TO STOP HIM!

AND YOU KNOW WHAT THAT WILL GET HIM?

THE DEATH HE HAS ALWAYS DESERVED! KILLED AT THE HANDS OF HIS OWN CLONES.

AND YOU...

YOU WERE ONLY IMPORTANT TO ME WHEN YOU WERE PART OF PETER'S LIFE.

NOW THAT HE IS GONE...

... YOU ARE
NOTHING!

AND NOW HE'S THROWING IT ALL AWAY!

WHY?

MEANWHILE...

I'M
HERE, MY
DARLINGS.

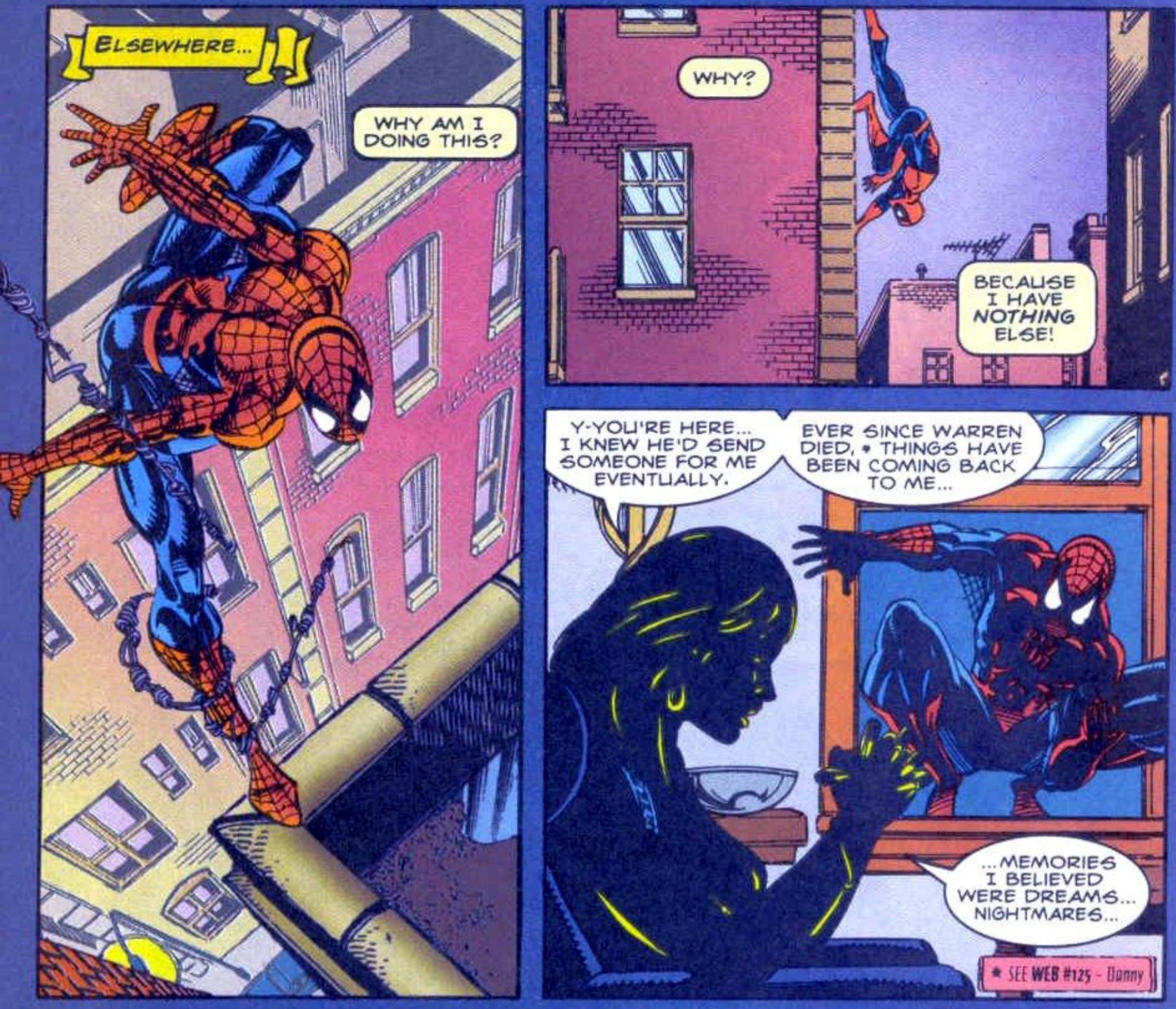
AREN'T
WE ALL
LOOKING
LOVELY
TONIGHT?

ALL SO
PERFECT
AND YET...

...NONE
GOOD ENOUGH
TO COMPARE TO
MY... THE TRUE...
GWEN.

NONE
EXCEPT FOR
THE ONE.

AND
SOON SHE
WILL BE
MINE
AGAIN.



PLEASE...
DON'T... IT'S
HARD ENOUGH FOR
ME TO LOOK AT YOU
WITH THE MASK ON.
I DON'T THINK I
COULD BEAR TO...
TO...

I
UNDERSTAND.

DO YOU? I
DON'T THINK
SO.

HOW
COULD YOU KNOW
WHAT IT'S LIKE TO
HAVE A FAMILY... A
LIFE... A LIFETIME OF
MEMORIES...

...RIPPED AWAY
FROM YOU IN AN
INSTANT... TO LEARN
THAT EVERYTHING YOU
BELIEVED WAS A LIE?

I DO KNOW.
I REALLY
DO.

MAYBE, BUT IT
DOESN'T REALLY
MATTER
ANYMORE...
DOES IT?

WE
HARDLY HAVE
CONTROL OF OUR
OWN LIVES
ANYMORE...
DO WE?

WE'D BEST
GE GOING...
BACK TO
HIM.

THE
JACKAL AND
I HAVE QUITE
A BIT OF
UNFINISHED
BUSINESS.





KTASH

...THANK
YOU SO
MUCH!

I BELIEVE YOU WILL
DO THE RIGHT
THING, KAIN,
BUT...

...THAT'S
NOT GOING
TO STOP ME
FROM TRYING
TO REACH
PETER.

HE'S
GOT TO
KNOW I AM
STILL HERE
FOR HIM.

HE'S
GOT TO
KNOW.

A SHORT TIME LATER...

I was HERE.

HERE all along.

THE smokestack...the factory in which my supposedly dead body was dumped.

THIS is the Jackal's lair?

How much MORE can he play with my life?

WOA!

Looks like I've got company!

Too many of them for me to even move...

...much less get a good shot in.

But there's no way I'm going to let the Jackal do this to me AGAIN!



