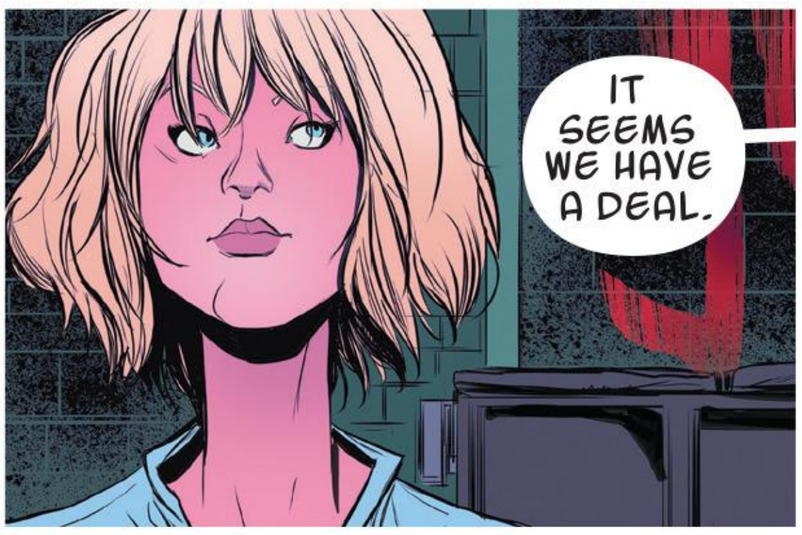
SPIDER-GWEN™
#15
LATOUR
RODRIGUEZ
RENZI
MARVEL

AS A TEENAGER, GWEN STACY WAS BITTEN BY A MUTATED SPIDER. THE BITE TRANSFORMED HER, GRANTING HER AMAZING POWERS: A PRECOGNITIVE AWARENESS OF DANGER, ADHESIVE FINGERTIPS AND TOES, AND THE PROPORTIONAL SPEED AND STRENGTH OF A SPIDER. TO THE RESIDENTS OF NEW YORK, SHE IS THE DANGEROUS VIGILANTE CALLED SPIDER-WOMAN, BUT YOU KNOW HER AS...

SPIDER-GWEN

PREVIOUSLY...



JASON LATOUR WRITER
ROBBI RODRIGUEZ ARTIST
RICO RENZI COLOR ARTIST
TRAVIS LANHAM LETTERER
ROBBI RODRIGUEZ COVER ARTIST

JOE FRONTIRRE HANDBOOK ENTRY PRODUCTION
ALLISON STOCK ASSISTANT EDITOR
DEVIN LEWIS ASSOCIATE EDITOR
NICK LOWE EDITOR
AXEL ALONSO EDITOR IN CHIEF
JOE QUESADA CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER
DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER
ALAN FINE EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

© 2016 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or insititution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.WWW.MARVEL.COM

SECRET S.H.I.E.L.D. PRISON, EARTH-65.

JINGLE BELL, JINGLE BELL, JINGLE BELL ROCK...

RRRGH. SICK.

SO SICK OF THIS STUPID #$%@&^ CHRISTMAS MUSIC, MAN.

JINGLE BELL SWING AND JINGLE BELLS RING...

AW, CMON, THEY PLAY THIS ONE AT THE START OF "DAD COP 2," REMEMBER?

THAT'S A GREAT CHRISTMAS MOVIE.

"CHRISTMAS MOVIE"? HEH.

SNOWING AND BLOWING UP BUSHELS OF FUN...

YOU MEAN SEASONAL BRAIN PROGRAMMING, RIGHT?

THAT SHODDILY MADE COMMERCIAL FOR THE DISPOSABLE GARBAGE WE CALL WESTERN MORALITY?

ARTLESS LARD WE SPACKLE ACROSS THE POTHOLES OF OUR BANKRUPT SOULS!

NOW THE JINGLE HOP HAS BEGUN...

YEESH, MAN.

YOU BEEN TALKING TO OUR PRISONER WHILE I'M IN THE CAN AGAIN?

IT'S JUST AN ACTION--

SKRK

--FLICK?

BLNNGH!
KA-WAK
WAIT...WAIT.. I REALLY DO @#$%@&^ HATE CHRISTMAS!
I CAN HELP YOU! I CAN--
THAW-KA
HRGNH!
WELL, WELL...
TALK ABOUT YOUR SECRET SANTAS.
WHO SENT YOU, ASSASSIN? YAKUZA?
NO. CERTAINLY, THE HAND. AND YET...
THAT AWFUL COLOGNE.

MATT MURDOCK.
HEY, GURL.
DAMN, CINDY. LEAVE ME SOME LIP NEXT TIME?
HEH. TRUST ME, HOT STUFF--
--NO ONE NEEDS YOU TO TALK.
BESIDES, TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE, NO?
OBVIOUSLY, THIS ISN'T SOME ILL-CONCEIVED BREAKOUT ATTEMPT BY S.I.L.K.'S CHIEF UNDERWORLD RIVAL.
YOU'RE HERE FOR SOMETHING BEYOND FRENEMIES WITH BENEFITS...
...SO, MATT MURDOCK, WESTERN SUN OF THE HAND. KINGPIN OF CRIME.
DO TELL ME...

I DON'T WANNA FIGHT TONIGHT! (WITH YOOOUU!)

LATOUR writer | RODRIGUEZ artist | RENZI colorist | LANHAM letterer

♪♪ WHERE IS SANTA AND HIS SLEIGH? ♪♪

PLINK PLINK PLINK

♪♪ TELL ME WHY IS IT ALWAYS THIS 'A--

HRRRRMM...

--WAY?! ♪♪

YOINK

HEY!

SOMEBODY, STOP THAT JERK!

THAT'S OUR RENT MONEY!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! YOU GOTTA STOP HIM!

WHAT? ME?

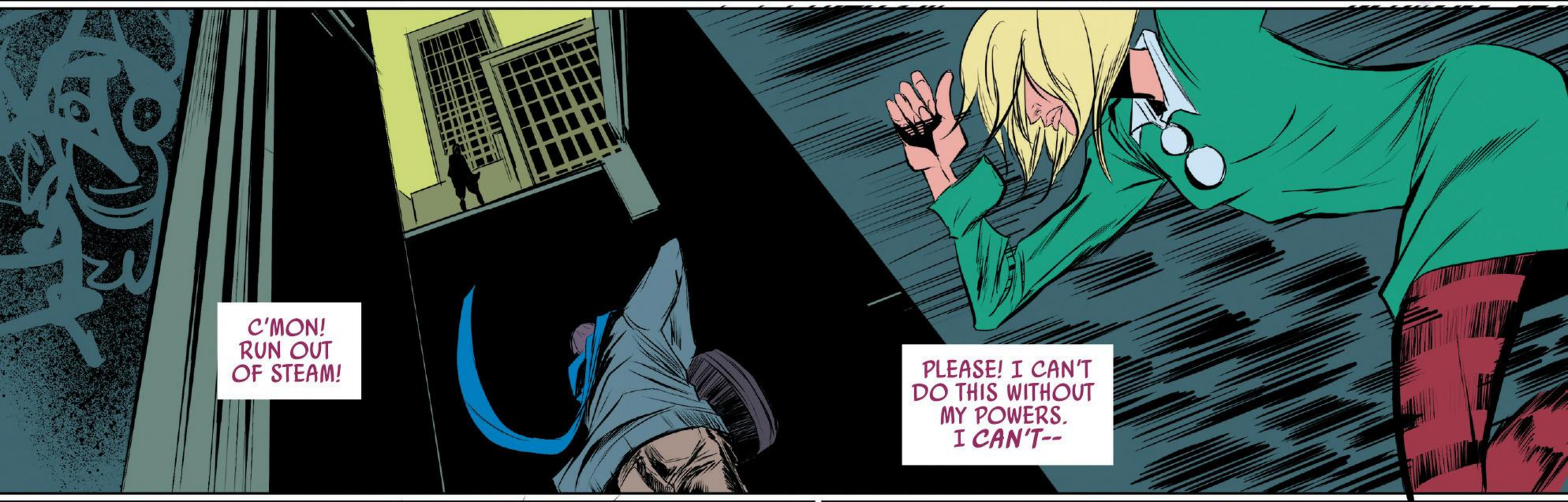
OH MY GOD! DON'T DO THIS NOW, GWEN--

WE NEED SPIDER-WOMAN!

SPIDER-POWER-UPS

HUNNNF... HUNNFF... HNNFF...
SLSSSHH
HEY! WATCH IT, WILL YA!?
THERE'S A HOT BEVERAGE HERE, YA--

KRASH


C'MON! RUN OUT OF STEAM!
PLEASE! I CAN'T DO THIS WITHOUT MY POWERS. I CAN'T--

HUNGF!
THUNK
YAGH! NO!
SRIP

CAN'T WASTE A POWER-UP. NOT WORTH IT FOR THIS.
IT'S JUST RENT MONEY. GROCERY MONEY.
OH GOD, IT'S OUR RENT. PLEASE, SOMEBODY--

H-H-HAAAALLLLLLLLLPPP?

GWEN STACY.

I AM OTOMO. FIRST BLADE OF THE KINGPIN.

SERVANT OF THE HAND.

THE MASTER SEEKS AN AUDIENCE WITH SPIDER-WOMAN.

THIS ROOFTOP. MIDNIGHT.

MURDOCK? WHAT? HAVE YOU-- HAVE YOU BEEN *FOLLOWING* ME?!

BONK

BOOF

BAH. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS...

THE PRIVILEGES OF INNOCENCE. THE COMMODITIES OF YOUTH

MIDNIGHT, GWEN STACY.

IT IS TIME TO LIFT THE VEIL.

TO REVEAL YOUR *TRUE* FACE.

NNNGH.

SO LOOK, I KNOW THE ANSWER, BUT OFFICIALLY--DO YOU WANT TO PRESS CHARGES, MISS... UH...

STACY. GWEN STACY.

REALLY? NO FOOLIN'? AS IN, LIKE--

YEAH.

HE'S MY DAD.

LISTEN, OFFICER BOYLE...IT'S COLD OUT HERE AND I REALLY SHOULD BE WORKING...

OH YEAH, SORRY--I--

HEY LOOK, I DON'T MEAN TO HIJACK YOU, BUT--

GREAT. HERE WE GO.

I NEED YOU AND YOUR OLD MAN TO ***KNOW*** THAT I THINK CAPTAIN CASTLE WAS WAY OUT OF BOUNDS, OKAY?

I MEAN, WHAT HE PUT YOUR FAMILY THROUGH... GOD.

YEAH. WELL, THANK YOU, OFFICER, BUT--

LOOK-- A LOT OF US WERE PRETTY UPSET TO LEARN YOUR DAD WAS HELPING SPIDER-WOMAN...

AND NOW, HE'S ON TRIAL AND SAYING THE ***DEPARTMENT*** SCREWED ALL THIS UP...

I JUST--I'M JUST TRYING TO DO ***MY JOB***, TO HELP PEOPLE, OKAY?

OFFICER-- MY DAD WAS IN CHARGE OF CATCHING SPIDER-WOMAN, REMEMBER?

AND BELIEVE ME, HE TRIED HIS BEST...

...TRIED UNTIL THE ***FACTS*** FINALLY SHOWED HIM WHAT ***HIS JOB*** DIDN'T--

--THAT SPIDER-WOMAN IS JUST TRYING TO HELP PEOPLE, TOO.

BUT HIS BOSSES? *THEY* DIDN'T CARE. IT WAS TOO LATE, TOO *COSTLY* TO ADMIT THEIR MISTAKES.

SO DAD QUIT HIS JOB. BUT HE *DIDN'T* QUIT THE CASE.

EVEN WITH NO ONE LISTENING, HE KEPT TALKING, KEPT SEARCHING...

...AND THIS TRIAL IS THE STAGE, THE SOAPBOX HE'S BEEN LOOKING FOR.

OFFICER-- UGLY AND HARD AS IT SEEMS--MY DAD ISN'T TRYING TO HURT ANYONE.

HE'S TRYING TO RESPECT THE DIGNITY OF *YOUR* JOB.

TO PROTECT US ALL FROM A WORLD WHERE THE TRUTH DOESN'T MATTER.

YEAH. WELL...THAT... THAT'S A LOT TO PROCESS.

MAN, HOW'S A KID LIKE YOU GET SO GROWN-UP?

I DUNNO. IT'S BEEN A TOUGH 19 YEARS, I GUESS.

HEY, LOOK...SO, NEXT TIME YOU SEE YOUR DAD...

...WILL YOU TELL HIM OFFICER BOYLE SAID--

NO. SORRY, OFFICER, I CAN'T...

...BUT *YOU* TOTALLY SHOULD.

I MEAN, IT'S THE HOLIDAYS, RIGHT--

"--SOMETIMES SURPRISES ARE THE BEST GIFTS."

C-C-C'MON. P-P-PULL IT TOGETHER...

YOU'RE A NEW YORKER, FOR #$% S-S-SAKE--

IT'S NOT *THAT* COLD UP HERE. JUST...JUST NERVOUS, MAYBE?

SO IT'S A CLANDESTINE MIDNIGHT NINJA MEET-UP. NO BIG WHUP.

YOU'RE SPIDER-WOMAN...

...EXCEPT YOU'RE NOT, ARE YOU?

AND MURDOCK KNOWS IT.

SOMEHOW HE KNOWS *EVERYTHING.*

SPIDER-POWER-UPS

WHEN MY POWER-UPS ARE GONE, SO IS SPIDER-WOMAN.

ALONG WITH MURDOCK'S USE FOR ME...

...AND ALL HIS REASONS TO HELP DAD.

RRRGH. WHAT DOES MURDOCK WANT WITH ME?

WHY IS HE *TOYING* WITH--

PAF

HUH?!

BZZZ

OH MY GOD. THAT--
THAT COULD HAVE BEEN MY HEAD! WHY?! WHAT IS--
OH, NO.
MURDOCK... THE KINGPIN...
HE REALLY DOES KNOW!
SH-SHING
KNOWS I'M POWERLESS. I'M USELESS TO HIM.
HE'S CUTTING HIS LOSSES... COVERING HIS TRACKS...
HE'S TRYING TO...
NO! NO WAY!
SPIDER-POWER-UPS
TING

WHAT DO WE SAY TO THE GOD OF DEATH?
WE SAY--
"NOT TO-FREAKIN'-DAY!
YOINK
"NOT TO-FRICKIN'-MORROW!
BOOOF
"NOT EVEN ON GARFIELD'S WORST MONDAY!"

BE ALONE. PLEASE BE ALONE.

PLEASE BE--

UNBEARABLY MAD

HO BOY.

WELL, OTOMO? WHAT DO YOU THINK?

HONESTLY, MASTER MURDOCK?

SURE. RIP THE BAND-AID OFF...

I THINK THAT I COULD PIERCE THE VEIL OF TIME...

...SPEND A THOUSAND YEARS WATERING THE ROOTS OF HER FAMILY'S TREE, PRUNING ITS KNOTTY BRANCHES...

...COMMIT A DOZEN LIFETIMES TO TRAINING HER ANCESTORS. AND STILL...

...AND STILL-- THIS WHITE GIRL?

COULD ***NEVER*** BECOME NINJA.

HEH.

"YES, HER POWER IS IMPRESSIVE, MASTER.

"BUT IT IS NO NOVELTY. SURELY THERE ARE BETTER--"

"YES. YES. BUT IT'S NOT WHAT MS. STACY CAN *DO* THAT INTERESTS ME, OTOMO...

WHAM

"...IT'S WHAT SHE CAN REPRESENT."

Y'KNOW... MURDOCK...I HOPE...HOPE YOU *CAN* HEAR ME...

'CAUSE... I THINK...I THINK MY DAD IS RIGHT...

WHO NEEDS YOU? I'M OUT, MAN. I'M--

--OUT.

SO YOU THINK YOURSELF SPECIAL, GIRL?

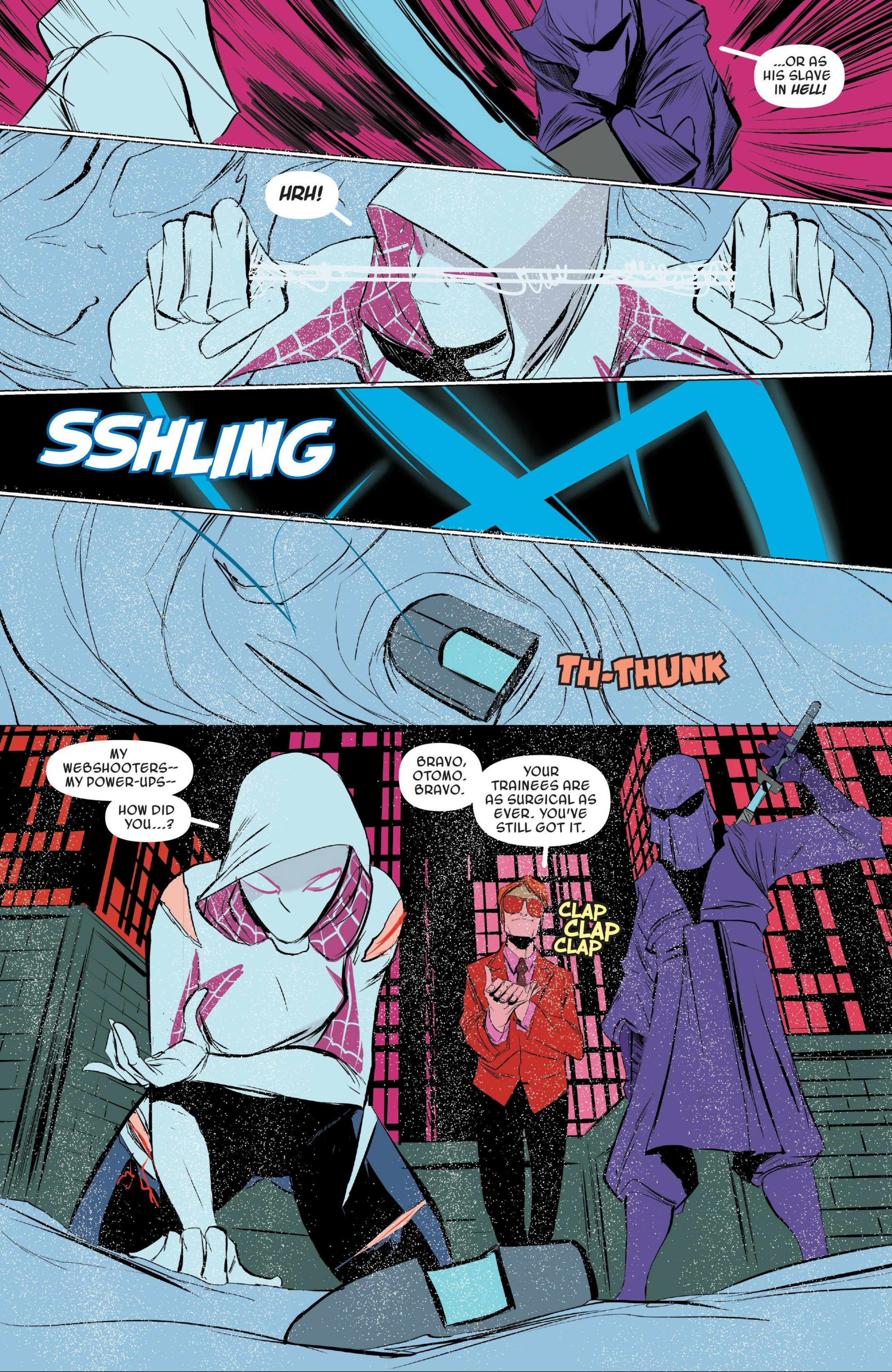
SH-SHING

THE FIRST TO SURRENDER HER HONOR FOR SOME GREATER CAUSE?

THE FIRST TO DEAL WITH DEVILS?

FSCCCHZZZZZ

HOLYCRAPHOLYCRAPHOLYCRAP
SLSHHH
YRRGGH!
HUNGH!
SLSHHH
YOU'VE SWORN A BLOOD OATH TO THE KINGPIN, CHILD.
TO THE HAND.
AND YOU WILL PAY YOUR DEBT...
...BE IT AS HIS SOLDIER ON THIS EARTH...
THWIP



Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

...OH, GWENNIE... I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S MORE DISAPPOINTING.

THIS PERFORMANCE--

--OR ALL THAT TALK OF QUITTING ME.

I DON'T KNOW. MAYBE I'M JUST BEING SELFISH.

MAYBE YOU SHOULD QUIT.

WE BOTH KNEW YOU WEREN'T GOING TO LAST VERY LONG ANYWAY.

POWER-UPS. HEH. LIKE SOME SILLY VIDEO GAME.

VICIOUS LITTLE SENSE OF HUMOR MS. MOON HAS, DOESN'T SHE?

YES. I KNOW ALL ABOUT YOUR POWER LOSS.

I'VE *ALWAYS* KNOWN.

CINDY MOON AND I HAVE HAD A... WELL, LET'S SAY "A RELATIONSHIP" FOR YEARS, GWEN.

AS KINGPIN, I LEAD THE HAND HERE IN THE WEST. AND S.I.L.K. IS OUR ONLY TRUE "RIVAL."

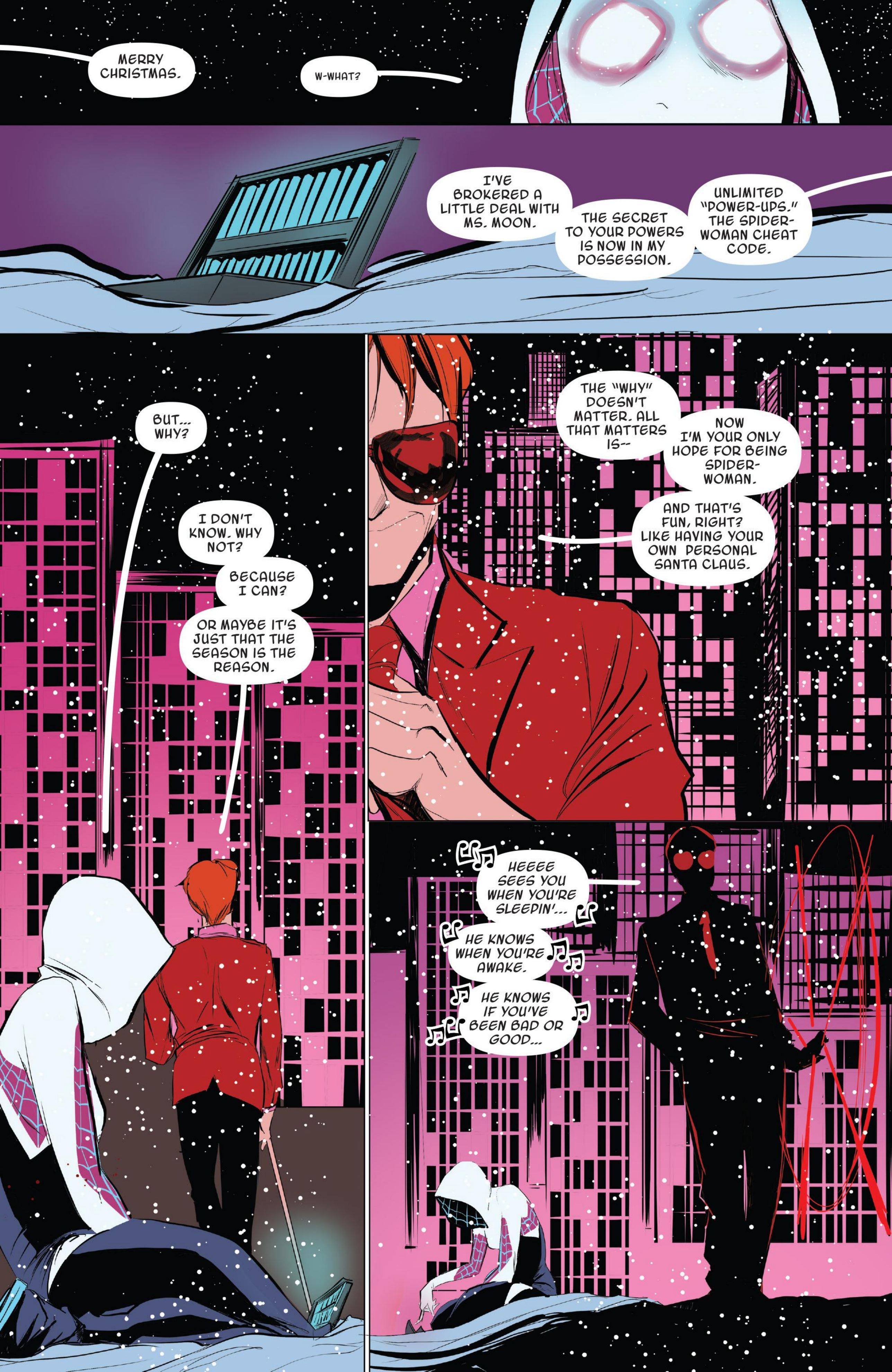
Y'KNOW? KEEP YOUR ENEMIES CLOSE. YADDA, YADDA, YADDA...

IT'S GOOD ADVICE.

AND I'M BEGINNING TO BELIEVE IT EXTENDS TO YOU, MS. STACY.

SO IN THAT SPIRIT...

Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline


MERRY CHRISTMAS.
W-WHAT?
I'VE BROKERED A LITTLE DEAL WITH MS. MOON.
THE SECRET TO YOUR POWERS IS NOW IN MY POSSESSION.
UNLIMITED "POWER-UPS." THE SPIDER-WOMAN CHEAT CODE.
BUT... WHY?
I DON'T KNOW. WHY NOT?
BECAUSE I CAN?
OR MAYBE IT'S JUST THAT THE SEASON IS THE REASON.
THE "WHY" DOESN'T MATTER. ALL THAT MATTERS IS--
NOW I'M YOUR ONLY HOPE FOR BEING SPIDER-WOMAN.
AND THAT'S FUN, RIGHT? LIKE HAVING YOUR OWN PERSONAL SANTA CLAUS.
HEEEE SEES YOU WHEN YOU'RE SLEEPIN'...
HE KNOWS WHEN YOU'RE AWAKE.
HE KNOWS IF YOU'VE BEEN BAD OR GOOD...

"...SO BE GOOD FOR GOODNESS' SAKE."

I GOTTA SAY, BOYLE...

YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T HAVE.

I NEVER EXPECTED THIS...

I KNOW, SIR. BUT I RAN INTO YOUR DAUGHTER AND SHE REMINDED ME THAT...

WELL, PLEASE. JUST OPEN IT, SIR.

THE OFFICIAL NOVELIZATION OF THE BLOCKBUSTER MOVIE

DAD COP!

BY EDUARDO FISTICUERVO

YOU'VE BEEN LIKE A FATHER TO US ALL, CAPTAIN.

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, YOU JUST NEEDED TO KNOW THAT.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS, SIR.

MERRY CHRISTMAS, BOYLE.

NEXT: MILES MORALES--SPIDER-MAN!!

S.I.L.K.

OCCUPATION: Global
FIRST APPEARANCE: *Spider-Women Alpha*
MOTTO: "The veil that covers the world."

PARTIAL HISTORY: The origins of the extra-governmental agency called S.I.L.K. began when high school student Cindy Moon of Earth-65 (a.k.a. Cindy-65) attended a science exhibition at OSCORP LABS and was nearly bitten by a radioactive spider used in the demonstration. Unbitten and without the gift of spider-powers, Moon's modest life suddenly seemed torturously insignificant. In the years that followed, she attended the best schools and trained herself to become a world-class geneticist seeking to recreate and improve upon the radioactive spider.

Meanwhile, a S.H.I.E.L.D. agent and astronaut by the name of Jesse Drew found his blood infected with a seemingly-lethal parasite after a strange alien spider attack. Enlisted by the agency for her genetic expertise, it was Moon's experiments that ultimately saved his life with the unexpected side effect of granting him enhanced spider-powers. In order to keep his biology stabilized, Drew would have to report regularly to Cindy Moon for treatments. Though inconvenient, these treatments were the only thing keeping Drew alive, and as a result he was forever in her debt—a debt he would make the first steps towards repaying by stealing Moon's research from the S.H.I.E.L.D. scientists who oversaw the experiment.

The time immediately following the theft is buried in redacted and unreliable intel, but Moon and Drew soon re-emerged, joined by a brilliant but unstable scientist named Doctor Otto Octavius. Together, they called themselves S.I.L.K. and positioned their organization as a countermeasure to S.H.I.E.L.D. or any other organization Moon deemed "secret masters seeking to stamp out individual human potential."

Soon after crossing paths with a disgruntled young S.H.I.E.L.D. agent named Harry Osborn, S.I.L.K. brokered a deal for the secret formula to a powerful mutagen that turns those who take it into dangerous lizard-like creatures. Seeking weapons for their growing super-science arena, S.I.L.K. recreated the formula so that Osborn could use it to carry out his personal revenge on Spider-Woman. Their early experiments created a group of Lizardmen that ran amok in the sewers and tunnels beneath New York before being brought in by the combined forces of S.H.I.E.L.D.'s Captain America and the vigilante and adventurer known as Spider-Woman (see GWEN STACY, SPIDER-GWEN).

This encounter was revealed to be part of a larger and ongoing S.I.L.K. operation to gather data on Spider-Woman, who seemed to owe her own origins to Moon and her organization. Despite having gained profound influence in the world's affairs, Moon remained deeply and profoundly obsessed with the path the OSCORP's spider's radioactive bite could have led her down. Having continued her research, she claimed to have released her own irradiated, genetically modified spider into the world as part of an effort to study and refine the effects of its mutagenic bite. A bite which in turn sets Gwen Stacy on the path to becoming Spider-Woman.

Years later, S.I.L.K. discovered that Spider-Woman was in possession of an interdimensional teleportation device which she often used to visit parallel realities. Moon stole the teleporter from Spider-Woman and traveled to the modern Marvel Universe for the purpose of looting its vast abundance of powerful and weaponized technologies. Confronted there by Silk (all lowercase, see CINDY MOON) and Stacy, Moon stripped Gwen of her powers and returned home with her newfound arsenal.

However, intel gathered by Silk and Jessica Drew (see JESSICA DREW, SPIDER-WOMAN) revealed that Moon had, in fact, cured Jesse Drew long ago and has been falsely "treating" his affliction to keep him loyal to S.I.L.K. As retribution, Jesse Drew gave Jessica the location of and entry codes for Cindy's secret weapons bunker. There the Spider-Women confronted and defeated Moon.

With Moon in the custody of S.H.I.E.L.D., it seems that S.I.L.K. is fractured. Hunted for his betrayal, Agent Drew and his family are currently on the run. Doctor Octavius' attempts to rebrand and restructure the organization under the title S.Q.U.I.D. were met with a resounding: "A squid? But aren't you Doctor Octopus?" As part of an effort to keep S.I.L.K. under her influence while incarcerated, Moon has brokered a deal with her rival and her casual romantic interest, Matt Murdock, a.k.a. New York City's Kingpin of Crime.

Presently S.I.L.K. is at both literal and existential war with itself, but a front-runner for regime change seems to be emerging under the leadership of the mysterious Scorpion. ■

SUPERIOR SILK
REAL NAME: Cindy Moon
Superior of S.I.L.K. (Deposed)

DOCTOR "OCTOPUS"
REAL NAME: Otto Octavius
Chief Science Officer

AGENT 77
REAL NAME: Jesse Drew
Former Field Agent

SCORPION
REAL NAME: Unknown
Field Agent, Current Faction Head

FUN FACT(S): Could the acronym S.I.L.K. possibly stand for "Secret International Lady Killer"? Or maybe it's "Super Intelligent and Lovable Kittens"? Maybe "Santa Is Looking, Kids"? Really, though, who cares?

Art by Robbi Rodriguez

NEXT

Tour
THE SEVEN SEAS
With
BLACK MANTA
EMPIRE
Call 555-FISH