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THE DAUGHTER OF SPIDER-MAN®

# SPIDER-GIRL®

FRESH  
DROWNED  
WOMEN  
KIDS

ALL AGES



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The daughter of the original Spider-Man, May "Mayday" Parker has inherited her father's amazing powers. Possessing the proportionate strength, speed, and agility of a spider, as well as the ability to cling to walls, she now follows in his web-lines! Stan Lee presents...

# SPIDER-GIRL

## PREVIOUSLY

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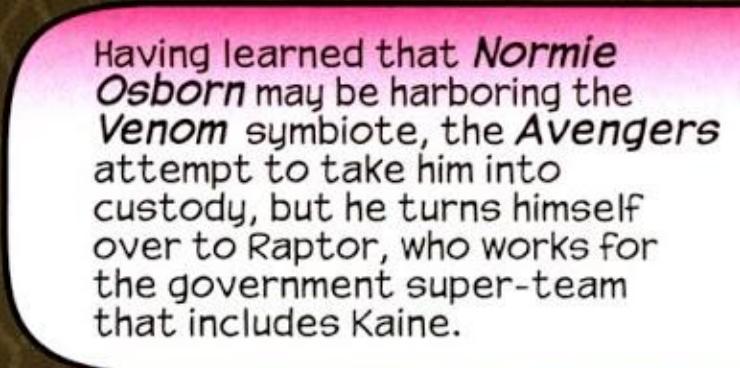
Publisher  
Dan Buckley



During an encounter with *Kaine*, *Spider-Girl* experiences one of his precognitive flashes and sees herself being murdered by a member of the crime cult called the *Scriers*.



When she instinctively avoids a concussive blast in a later battle, her friend Moose's dad suffers collateral damage.



Having learned that *Normie Osborn* may be harboring the *Venom* symbiote, the *Avengers* attempt to take him into custody, but he turns himself over to Raptor, who works for the government super-team that includes *Kaine*.

# SHADOWS FROM THE PAST!

You're yawning beneath your mask as you race to school--

--having spent most of the previous night doing the *sleepless shuffle*.

A fireman, the father of your friend *Moose Mansfield*, was seriously injured yesterday--

--because you dodged a blast during a fight, and he was hit by the resulting debris.

You could--no!--you should have saved him, but...

An insistent tingle at the back of your skull suddenly jolts you out of your guiltfest--

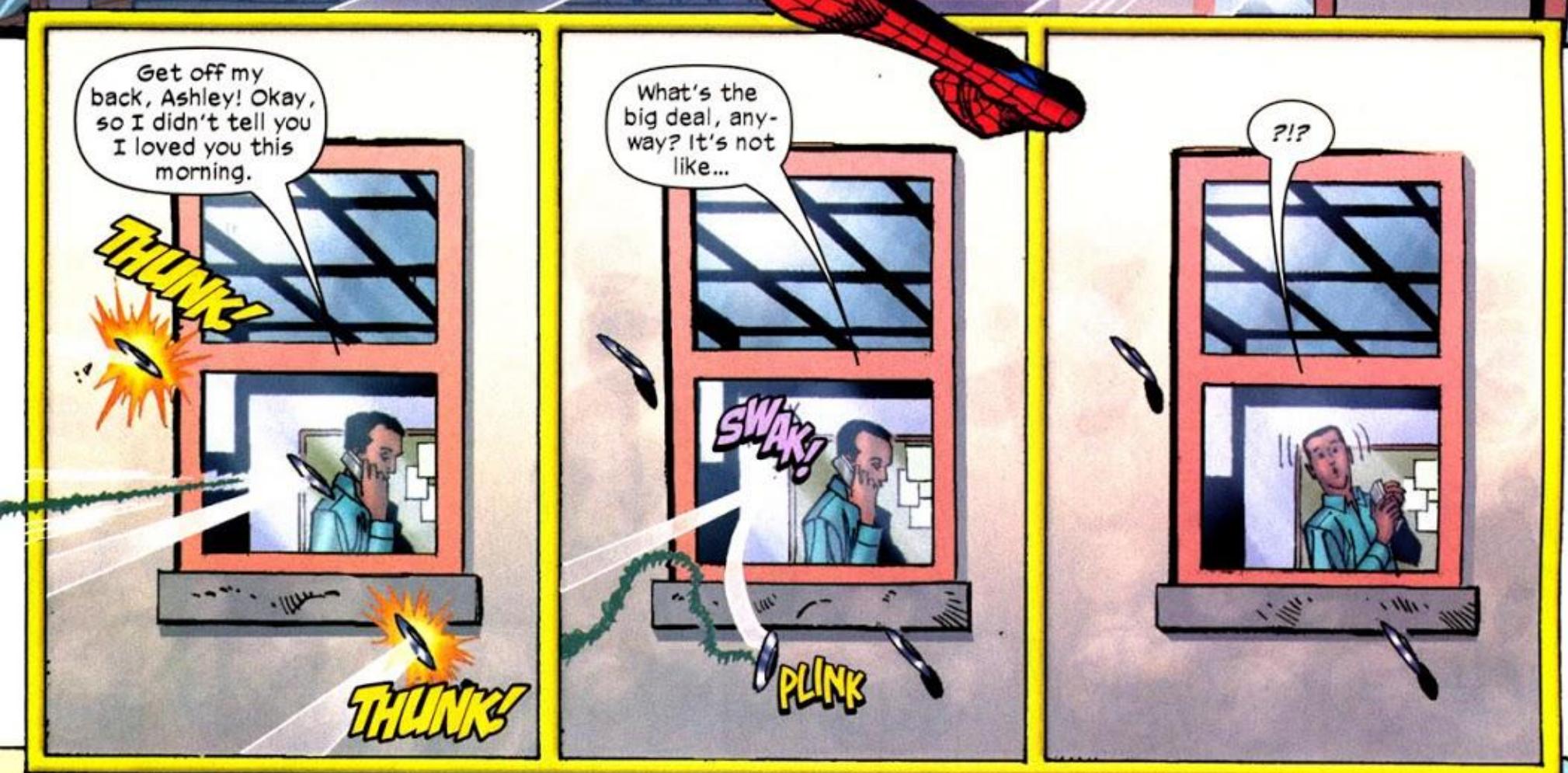
--and, even before your mind registers the fact that your *spider-sense* is warning you of danger--

--you instinctively find yourself avoiding it.

WHAT THE-?

Just another day in paradise when your name is May "Mayday" Parker--

--and you are the daughter of Spider-Man.





Hoping to get a lead on your would-be assassin, you take a quick spin around the neighborhood.

--and get ready for class.

Even as you slip into your civies, you keep seeing Moose's dad.

It's your responsibility to protect people like him.

But you failed--!

YOU FAILED!

When that fails to produce a single tingle, you veer toward Midtown High--

And heroes aren't supposed to fail.

You sure there isn't anything Heather and I can do?

No, but thanks for offering.

We'll meet you at the hospital after school, Courtney.

C'mon, Jimmy! I've got to get to my locker before the bell rings.

What's the story with Moose's dad, Court?

All I know is that he's still in intensive care and visits are restricted to the immediate family.

Who's taking care of Moose and his brothers?

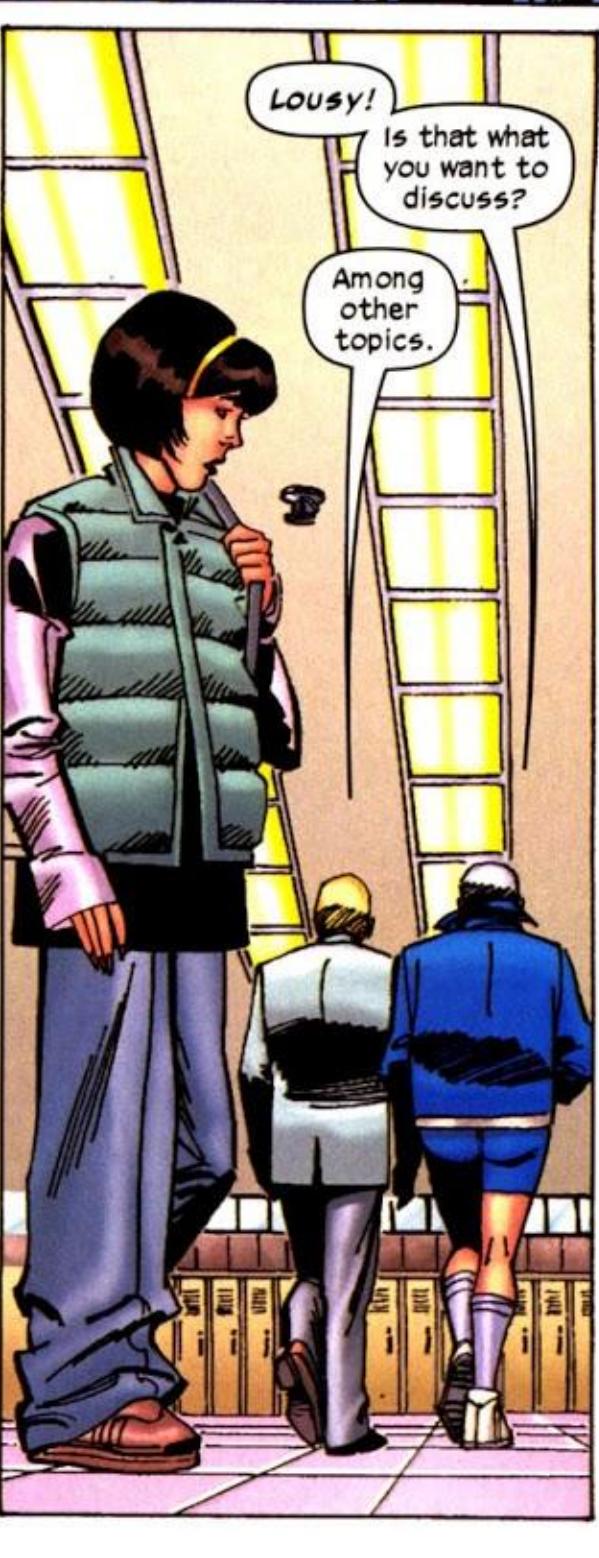
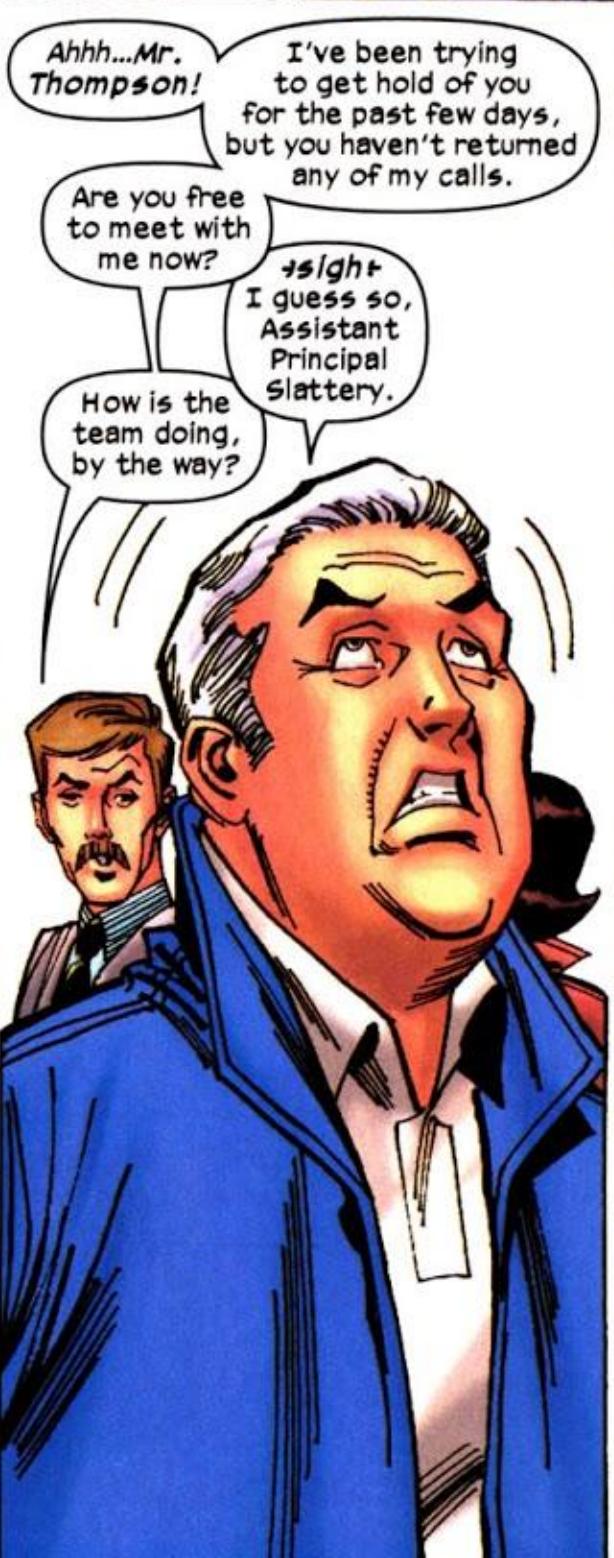
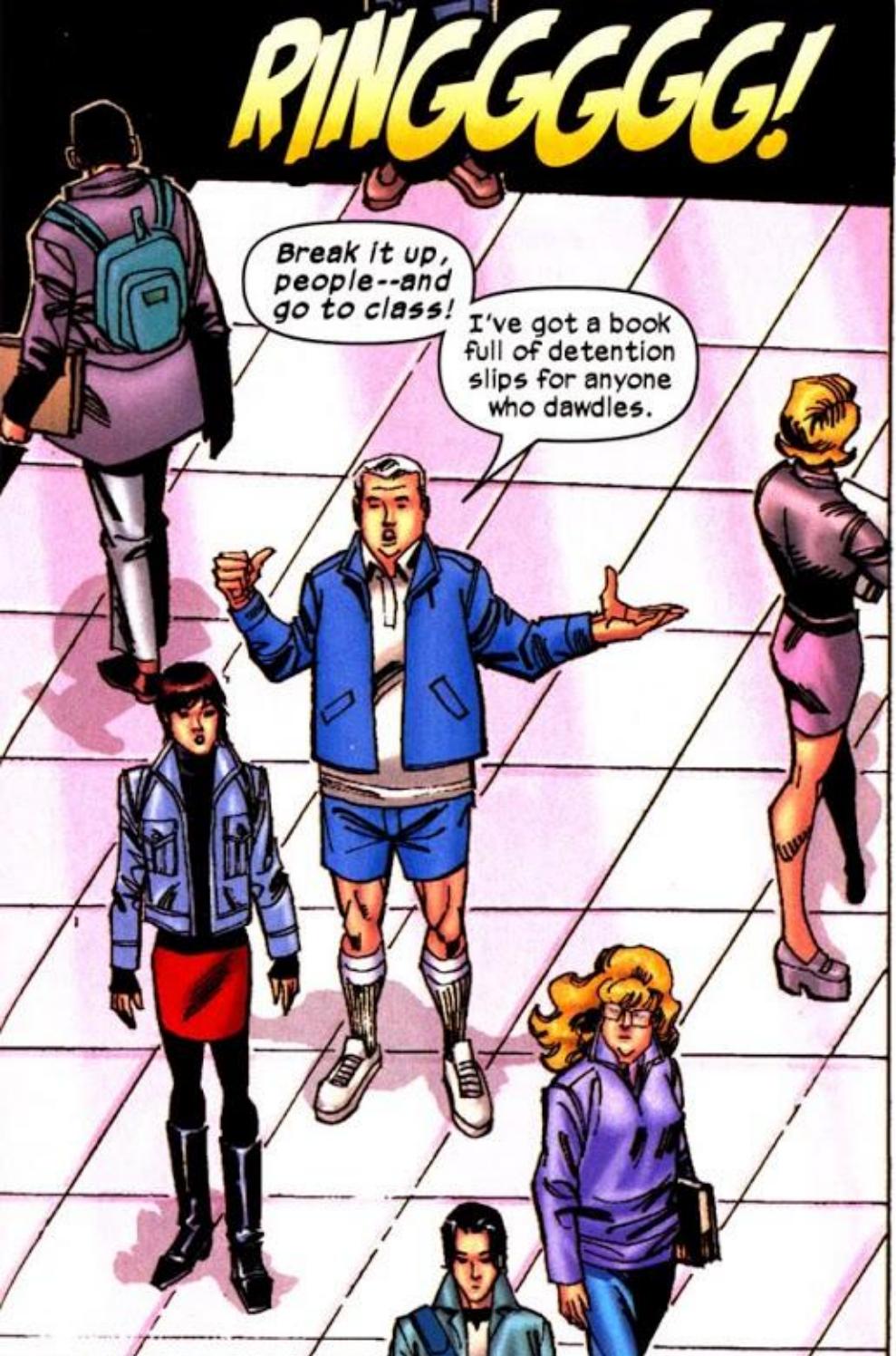
I think his Uncle Billy is coming in from New Jersey.

I'm really worried, May...

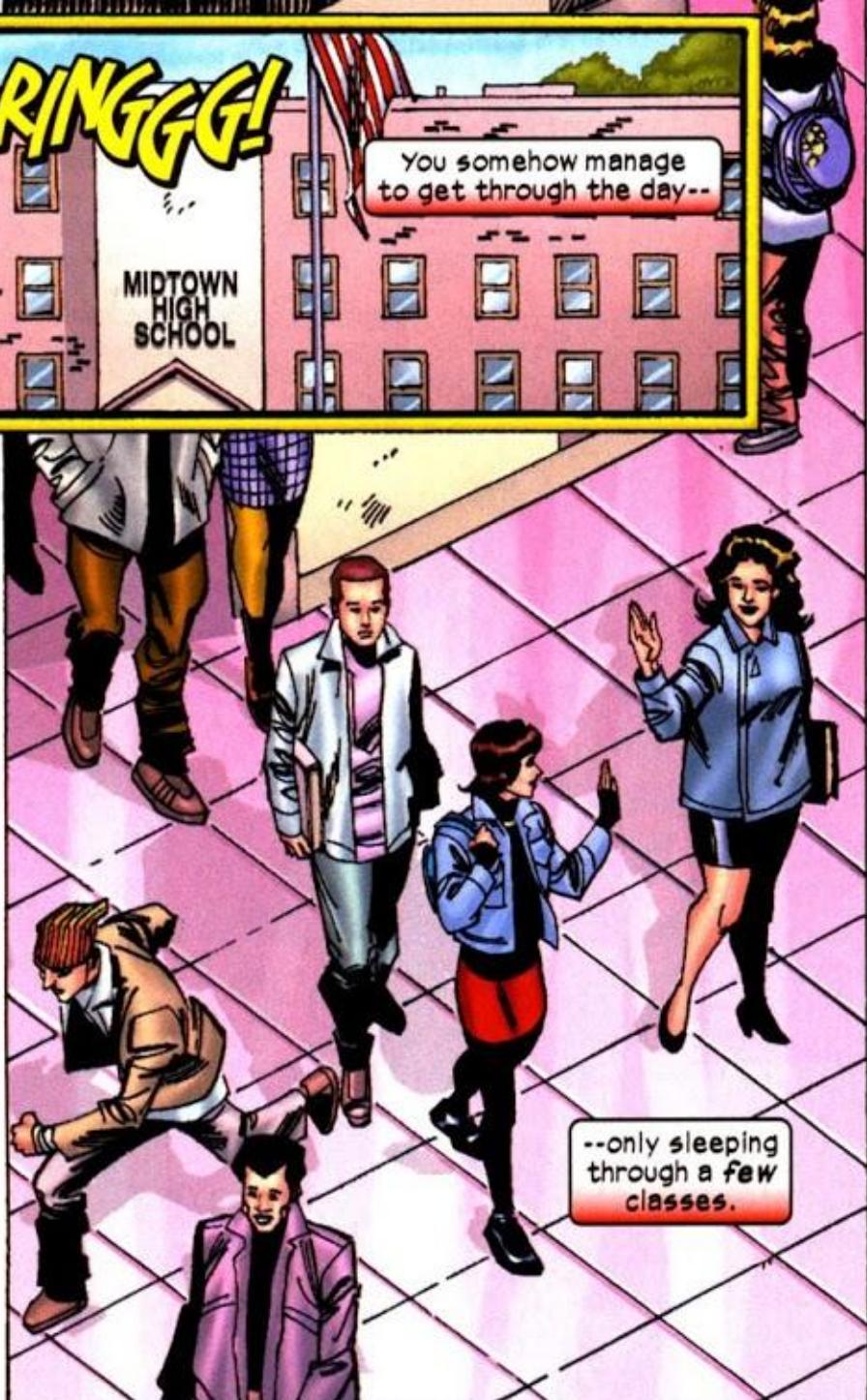
Moose blames himself for what happened.

He should have convinced his father to go out on sick leave when the poor man was diagnosed with cancer.

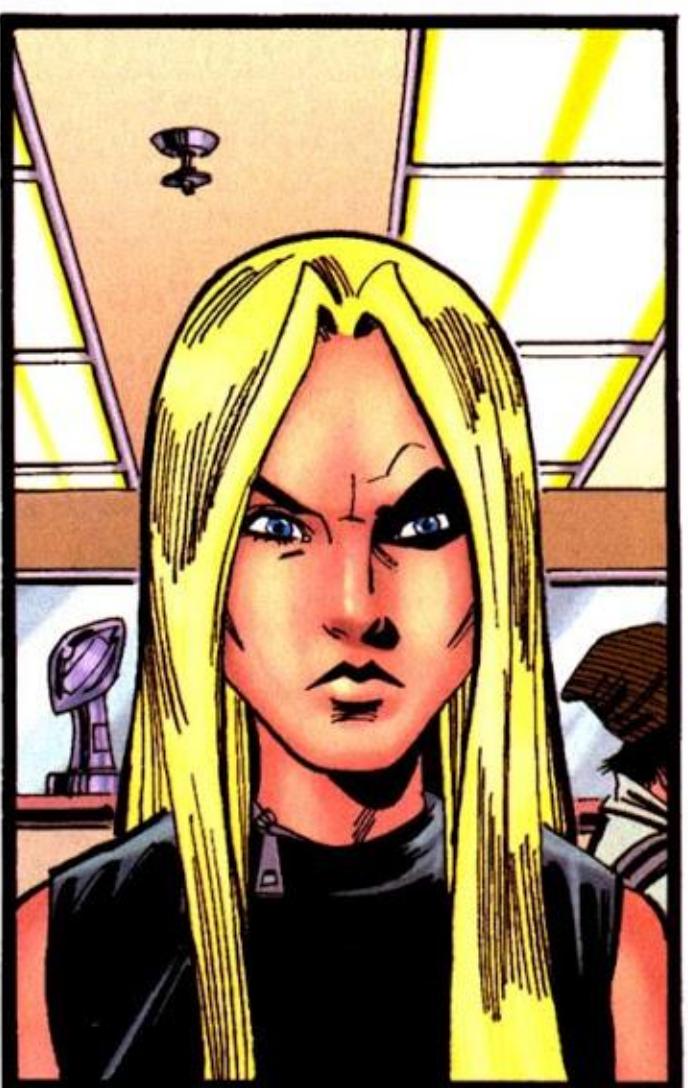
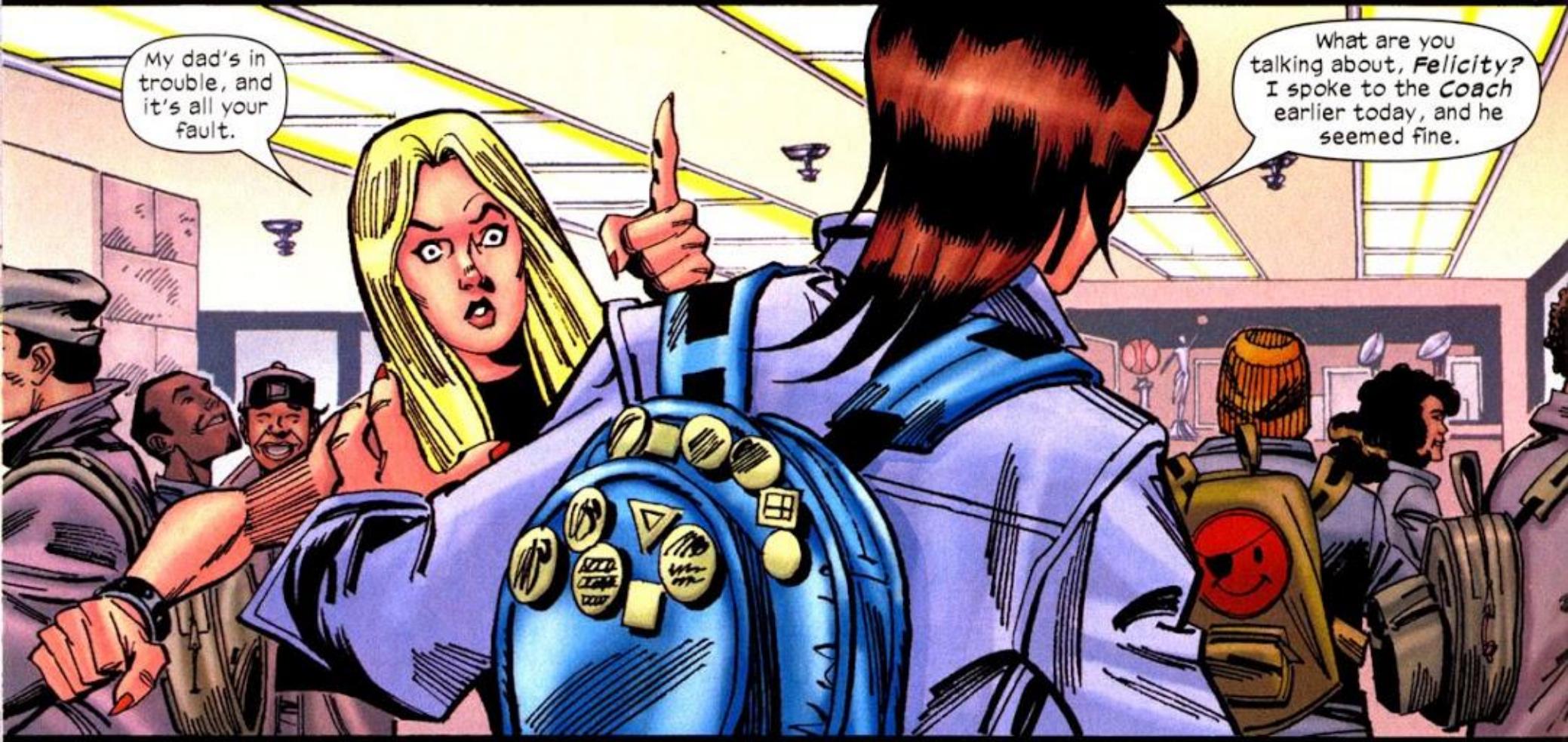
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**RINGGG!**



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Great! First, Moose's dad gets hurt.

Then Felicity's dad is in trouble.

And just wait until your dad learns that Normie Osborn has been secretly sheltering the *Venom Symbiote*--

--and you've been keeping his secret.

You need to focus, girl!

You have to find out who attacked you earlier--

--and you must find Kaine.

He disappeared right after he dropped that vision on you.

It's time he opened up and started dishing all the dirt he knows about...

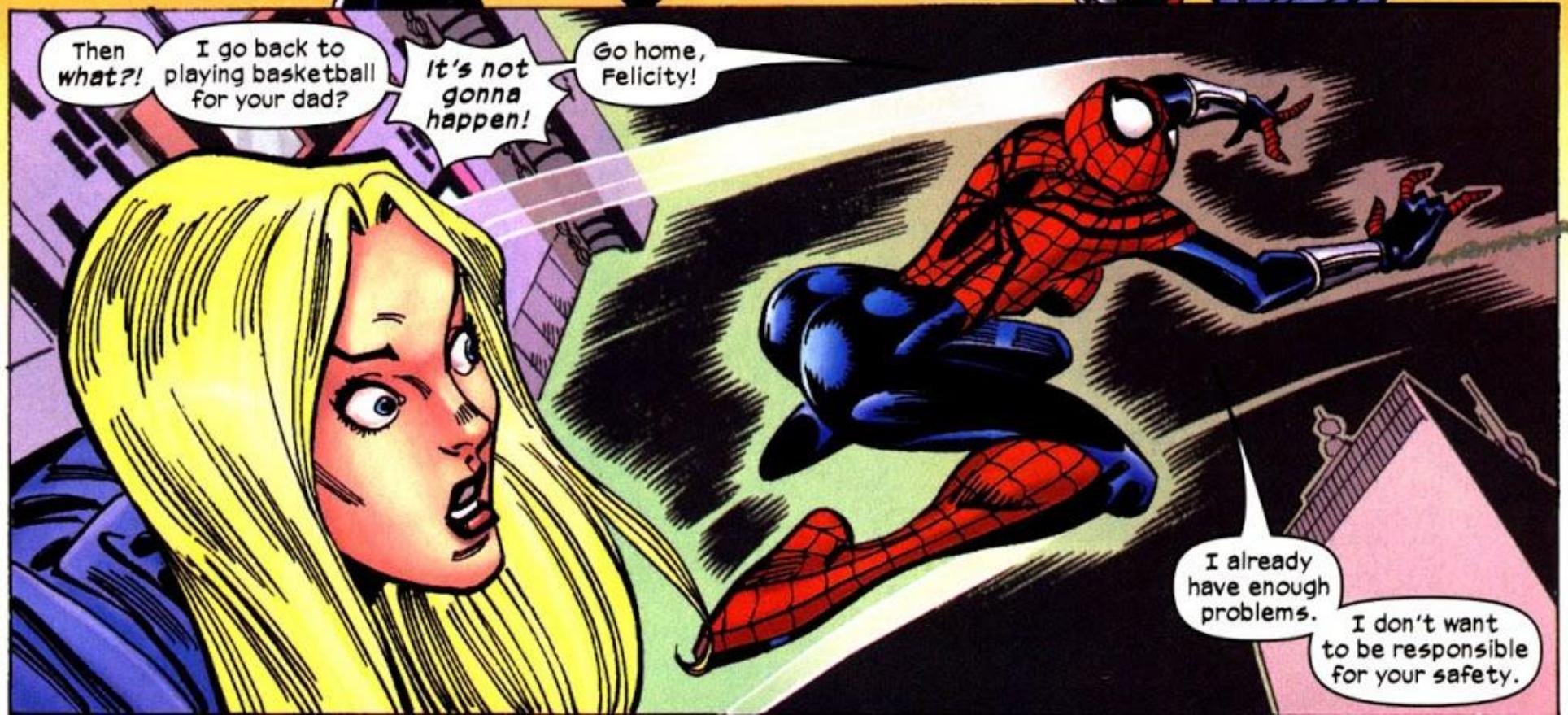
...Scriers!

Someone seems to be shadowing you, girl.

Thanks to this convenient water tower, you can pull the old switcheroo and--

I've got you now, you--

Oh, no!



**ARRGH!**

Felicity might be annoying, but she is right.

You are stressed.

Between your guilt over Moose's dad and this thing with the Scriers, you're getting a pretty clear message...

Maybe you really can't handle the responsibility of being a hotshot super hero.

Maybe the time has finally come for you to admit that you're in way over your head and...

What's wrong with Felicity?

Doesn't she realize that it's impossible to sneak up on someone with a spider-sense?

Maybe you should just web her up, take her home and--

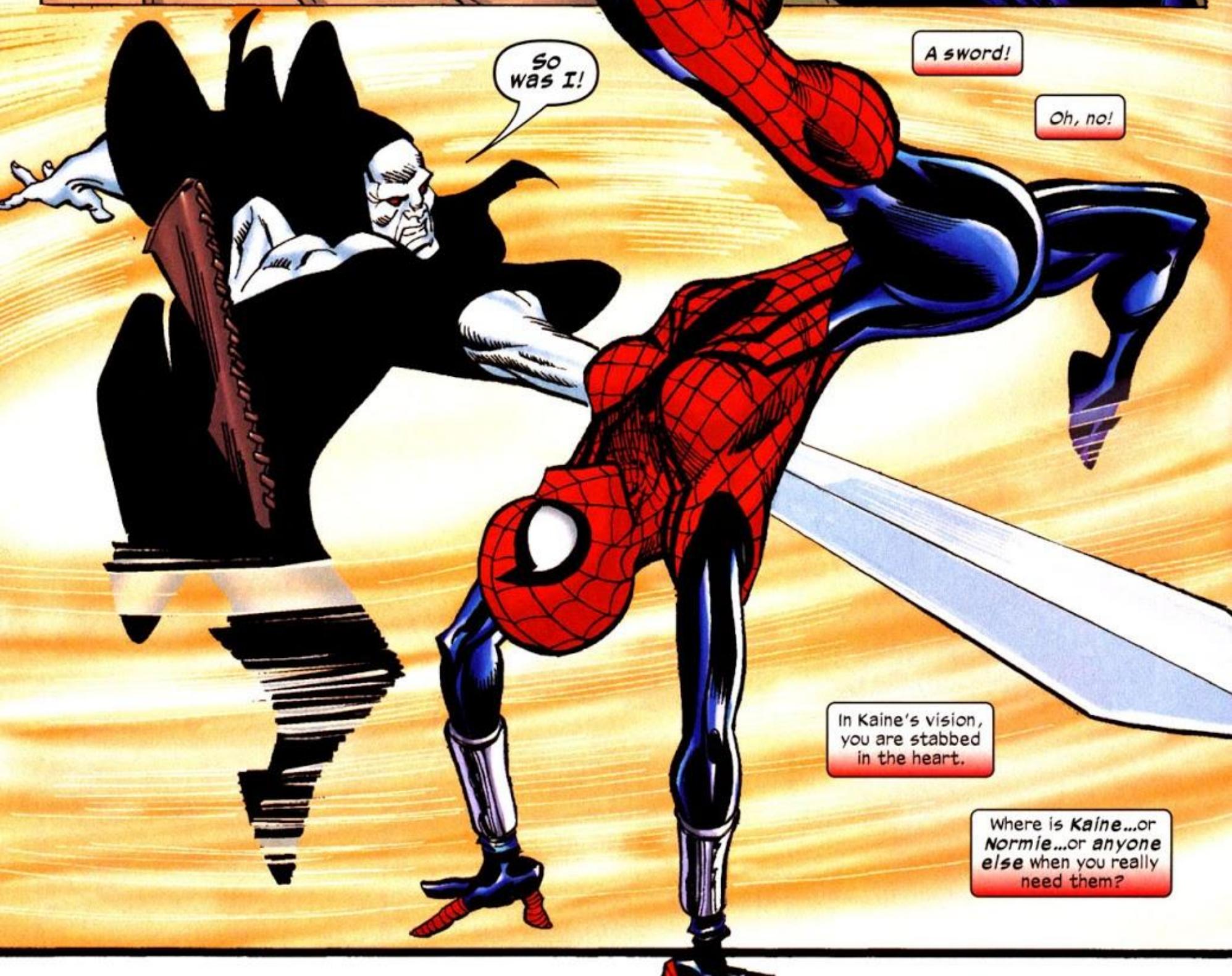
--oops!

You are far more agile and resourceful than I anticipated.

My orders were only to observe you.

Really? Is that why you tossed a handful of razor-sharp things at me earlier today?





At a supposedly abandoned amusement park that serves as the cover for a top secret government installation...



This is Norman Osborn--

--and his personal assistant, Kristy Watson.

Normie, please meet **Special Agent Weadon**. He runs this place. Of course, you already know Kaine.

What's your secretary doing here, Osborn?



This isn't a country club.

I'm well aware of that, Kaine.

Kristy, this coffee pot and hot plate are strictly government issue. Please order a deluxe cappuccino machine and microwave.

What's the big idea, Raptor? I told you to spy on this clown, not bring him to our **top secret facility**.

I...I thought you wanted to recruit him, sir.

That's a laugh!



We're all former criminals who got shanghaied here to avoid prison.

What did this dandy do--park his limo in a towing zone?

While I concede that I am not a convicted felon like you, Quickwire--





You mustn't panic!

This is no time to surrender to fear!

You're fighting for your life, girl!

So fight!

FIGHT like you've never fought before!

Surprise! Surprise! Here I come to save the day--

--the SCARLET SPIDER is on her way!

WAKK!

KWOOOM!

Get out of here, Felicity! Run! This man's a stone killer!

Like we haven't faced that before!

C'mon, Spider-Girl! We're the team supreme.

Nobody can beat the two of us.

You set 'im up and I'll knock 'im down.

Ahhhh...the arrogance of youth!

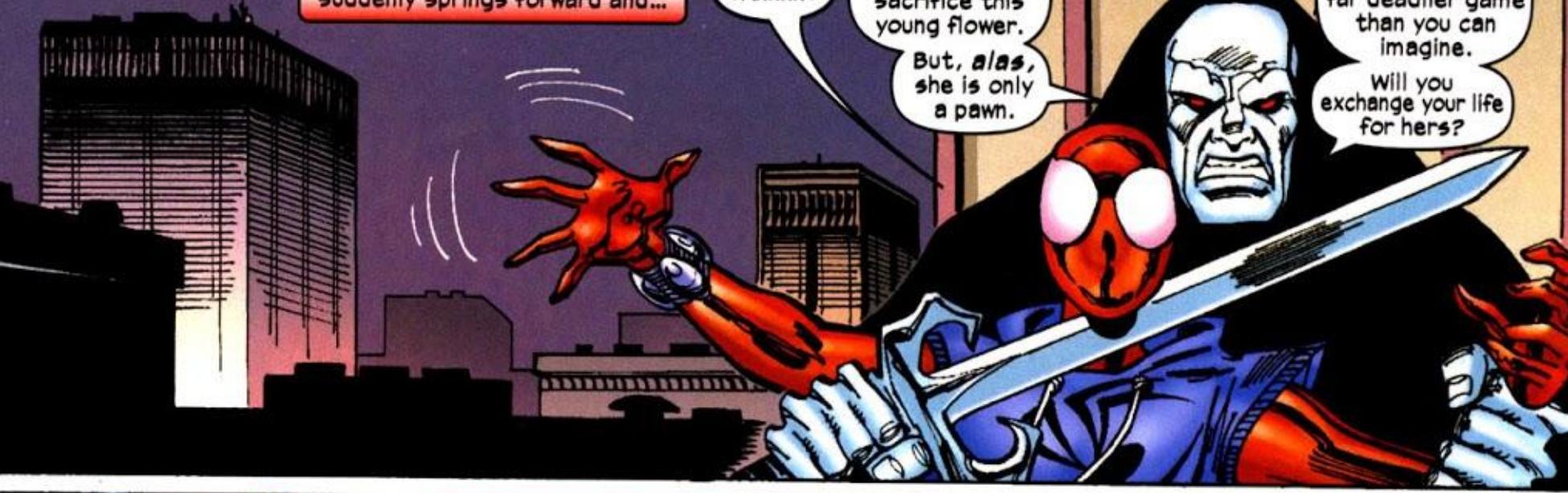
Your heart practically leaps out of your throat as the Scrier suddenly springs forward and...

AKKKK!

It would be a great pity to sacrifice this young flower. But, alas, she is only a pawn.

As are you, Spider-Girl...in a far deadlier game than you can imagine.

Will you exchange your life for hers?



Time slows.

Seconds seem like hours.

You have no doubt that he intends to kill you both--

--and an icy calm slowly washes over you.

You concentrate, surrendering fully to your instincts!



Then, without a conscious thought, you explode into motion...





Not so tough anymore, are you?

I hope you enjoy this moment, you young fool--

--but it is only a hollow victory.

Others will follow me.

No one can stop the *Brotherhood of Scribes*.

Our numbers are greater than the stars in the heavens.

We will keep coming and coming until you and everyone you love is DEAD!

You will struggle against us, but you are doomed to fall.

Just as you failed today.

Someone will die on your watch.

Whaa-what's happening to you?

What are you doing?  
Spider-Girl--get back!

There is only one punishment for failure and it is--

FWOOOOOOOOSH!





# MARVEL HEROES HOTSPOT

"An Oasis of Hope in a Dangerous World"

## TOM SEZ

We got our first Hotspot question out of the mailbag the other day. In addition to expressing his elation at seeing the page, and imploring us to save SPIDER-GIRL from cancellation (we're trying!), reader Azor Cigelske asked:

*Will we ever see a day when, in addition to comic shops, we will go back to comics in gas stations and grocery stores? Or is the next step the end of comic shops and ten years from now all comics will be on-demand online? I'm hoping for a future where comics are available digitally, at specialty stores, and at the old-fashioned distribution points as well. Am I dreaming?*

Azor, I think the answer is both yes and no. I don't think that we'll ever have the same level of mainstream penetration the standard comics format used to enjoy back in the '40s or the '60s. Still, my local Stop & Shop has a comic book spinner rack, as does the local Borders bookstore, so we've probably got better availability of the monthly comic book outside of specialty retailers than we've had in close to a decade.

But it's the collected format that's really making inroads these days. Everything from the special albums we've been producing for Wal-Mart and Target, to the digest volumes we've been offering through Scholastic and other direct booksellers, to the programs that David Gabriel (Marvel's sales sensation) has set up with libraries, comics are seemingly available in a greater variety of places than was the case in recent memory. And, of course, the Trade Paperback and Hardcover formats continue to be a mainstay of booksellers coast-to-coast and beyond! Not to mention our online Dot Comics, or the recent DVD collections of the complete runs of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN and FANTASTIC FOUR.

I think as we continue to stride into the future, the delivery system for comics material is going to change. It's anybody's guess as to precisely what the nature of that change is going to be. But with respect for the medium at an all-time high and still increasing, and the penetration of comic book characters and stories further and further towards the center of popular culture, that future still looks bright.

Good question, Azor. Next batter?

Tom B  
2

**ITEM!** Well, the responses are in, and it seems that the Hotspot is a hit! Here's a quick rundown of some of the folks we heard from.

Ace retailer and chief windmill-tiller Brian Hibbs wrote, "I very much approve of the new Bullpen Bulletins page in your books--we need more specific-to-the-periodicals stuff like that to help encourage people to not 'wait for the trade.'"

The easily-amused Adrian Watts said, "Seeing the Hotspot has really made my week."

James Beckett Lawrence Jr. enthused, "This is exactly what we true-believing Marvel Zombies needed! A place to communicate back and forth in the comics themselves."

Dallan Baumgarten inquired, "What took you so long?" Coming up with the name, Dallan.

Martin Grey requested, "It's especially great to see the founding fathers panel. I was going to suggest you add a mother, fabulous Flo Steinberg, but she joined in 1963 or something--she just sticks in my mind as a constant presence at early Marvel." We did our shout-out to Flo just last month, Martin!

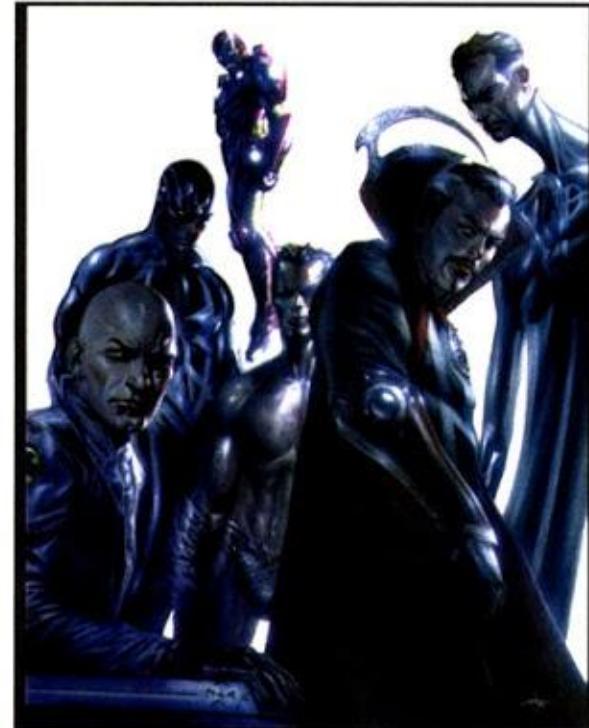
The seldom-satisfied Shane Luttrell said, "Now if I could just convince you guys to number the pages again..."

The enigmatic lamthemasteroftheuniverse stated, "I was especially touched, Tom, by The Patron Saint of Marveldom (we will never forget Da Gru). I would not mind seeing a mention that Mr. Don Perlin is feeling better these days after a bit of sickness and that Marvel wishes him well." So mentioned.

And just because we're feeling cruel, Nik Baldwin claimed, "If I see this in print I'll probably mess myself." Time to change those shorts, Nik.

Thanks to everybody who took the time to communicate this month, and keep those missives coming in to mheroes@marvel.com.

**ITEM!** We've been blathering on about the upcoming CIVIL WAR series for a month or two now. You've seen the portents starting to bubble up in titles such as HULK, AMAZING SPIDER-MAN and FANTASTIC FOUR. But this month, the road to CIVIL WAR really starts to travel, with the release of the NEW AVENGERS ILLUMINATI SPECIAL. Carefully crafted by Brian Michael Bendis and Alex Maleev, the team behind the recently-concluded award-winning run on DAREDEVIL, the ILLUMINATI SPECIAL not only lets you in on the origins of this mysterious cabal, first glimpsed in NEW AVENGERS #7, but will also divulge the choice that splits them asunder, and sends us all hurtling headlong into CIVIL WAR! Look for the jaw-dropping painted cover by Gabriele Dell'Otto, pictured below!



**ITEM!** We don't want this page to turn into just a mindless shillfest, but we've got a bunch of milestones coming up this month that we wouldn't want you to miss. First off, in commemoration of 65 years of Captain America (congrats to Joe Simon and Jack Kirby), Ed Brubaker, Javier Pulido and Marcos Martin are producing the CAPTAIN AMERICA 65<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL, which will be must-reading for anybody who's been following Ed's run on the main CAPTAIN AMERICA series. Also celebrating an anniversary is the no-longer-new THUNDERBOLTS, which has miraculously reached issue #100, an extra-sized milestone by Fabian Nicieza and Tom Grummett similar to our recent SHE-HULK #100 (though T-BOLTS got there the honest way!). And finally, Brian Bendis and Michael Gaydos bring the story of Jessica Jones to a momentary close in PULSE #14, which sets up next month's NEW AVENGERS ANNUAL! Not to mention the launch of the MS. MARVEL ongoing series, and the initial installment of FANTASTIC FOUR: FIRST FAMILY, exploring the earliest days of the FF as a team! Whew! We'd throw a party if we weren't so tired from all that work!

**MEET YOUR EDITORIAL CREW!** Tom Brevoort rarely eats fruits or vegetables. Andy Schmidt seldom goes skydiving. Molly Lazer rarely eats red meat. Aubrey Sitterson never writes his piece for the Hotspot page.

ON SALE  
MARCH 2006

**ANNIHILATION: PROLOGUE:** The galaxy-spanning Annihilation Wave launches into the biggest Marvel cosmic event since INFINITY GAUNTLET!

**BOOKS OF DOOM #5:** Doom begins his conquest of Latveria!

**CAPTAIN AMERICA #16:** Cap and Sharon Carter--in pursuit of the Winter Soldier!

**CAPTAIN AMERICA 65<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL:** Cap, Bucky and the Commandos in WWII action!

**FANTASTIC FOUR #536:** Reed investigates a familiar object that has fallen from the heavens.

**FANTASTIC FOUR: FIRST FAMILY #1:** The secret story of FF's earliest days!

**I ♥ MARVEL: MASKED INTENTIONS:** Young love in the Marvel U. with Justice, Firestar, Squirrel Girl and Speedball!

**IRON MAN #6:** The Extremis-enhanced Iron Man in a final battle with Mallen!

**IRON MAN: THE INEVITABLE #4:** The return of a classic Iron Man foe!

**MARVEL TEAM-UP #18:** Trapped in the future, the League of Losers must make the ultimate sacrifice!

**MS. MARVEL #1:** Kicking off an all-new ongoing series--straight out of HOUSE OF M and NEW AVENGERS!

**NEW AVENGERS #17:** Who or what is the Collective?

**NEW AVENGERS ILLUMINATI:** Witness the history of Marvel's most mysterious team--how they came together and how they are ripped apart.

**PULSE #14:** Will Jessica Jones accept Luke Cage's proposal of marriage?

**SENTINEL #5:** Juston faces his most dangerous threat--the truth about his own family!

**SENTRY #7:** Is the Sentry really just a lunatic in an insane asylum?

**SHE-HULK #6:** Starfox on the stand equals love run amok!

**SON OF M #4:** Quicksilver returns to Genosha, with the Inhumans in pursuit!

**SPIDER-GIRL #96:** Spider-Girl and the Scarlet Spider seek the truth behind the vision of her death at the hands of the Scriers.

**SPIDER-MAN UNLIMITED #14:** David Finch, Ron Garney, and Dr. Doom!

**SPIDER-WOMAN: ORIGIN #4:** Jessica Drew's quest takes a sudden twist as a figure from her past returns!

**THING #5:** The well-to-do Ben Grimm returns to Yancy Street!

**THUNDERBOLTS #100:** A giant-sized extravaganza featuring Zemo vs. Photon! And the winner will save the universe.

**X-FACTOR #5:** Siryn is captured by a ruthless serial killer!

**X-MEN: THE END--MEN AND X-MEN #3:** The rise of Cassandra Nova!

**YOUNG AVENGERS #11:** Guest-starring the New Avengers as the Kree/Skrull War heats up!

**TOM BREVOORT**  
**ANDY SCHMIDT**  
**MOLLY LAZER**  
**AUBREY SITTERTSON**  
**EDITORIAL TEAM**

**JOE QUESADA**  
**DAN BUCKLEY**  
**TOP MEN**

**STAN LEE**  
**JACK KIRBY**  
**STEVE DITKO**  
**DON HECK**  
**JOE SIMON**  
**DICK AYERS**  
**FOUNDING FATHERS**

**MARK GRUENWALD**  
**PATRON SAINT OF MARVELDOM**

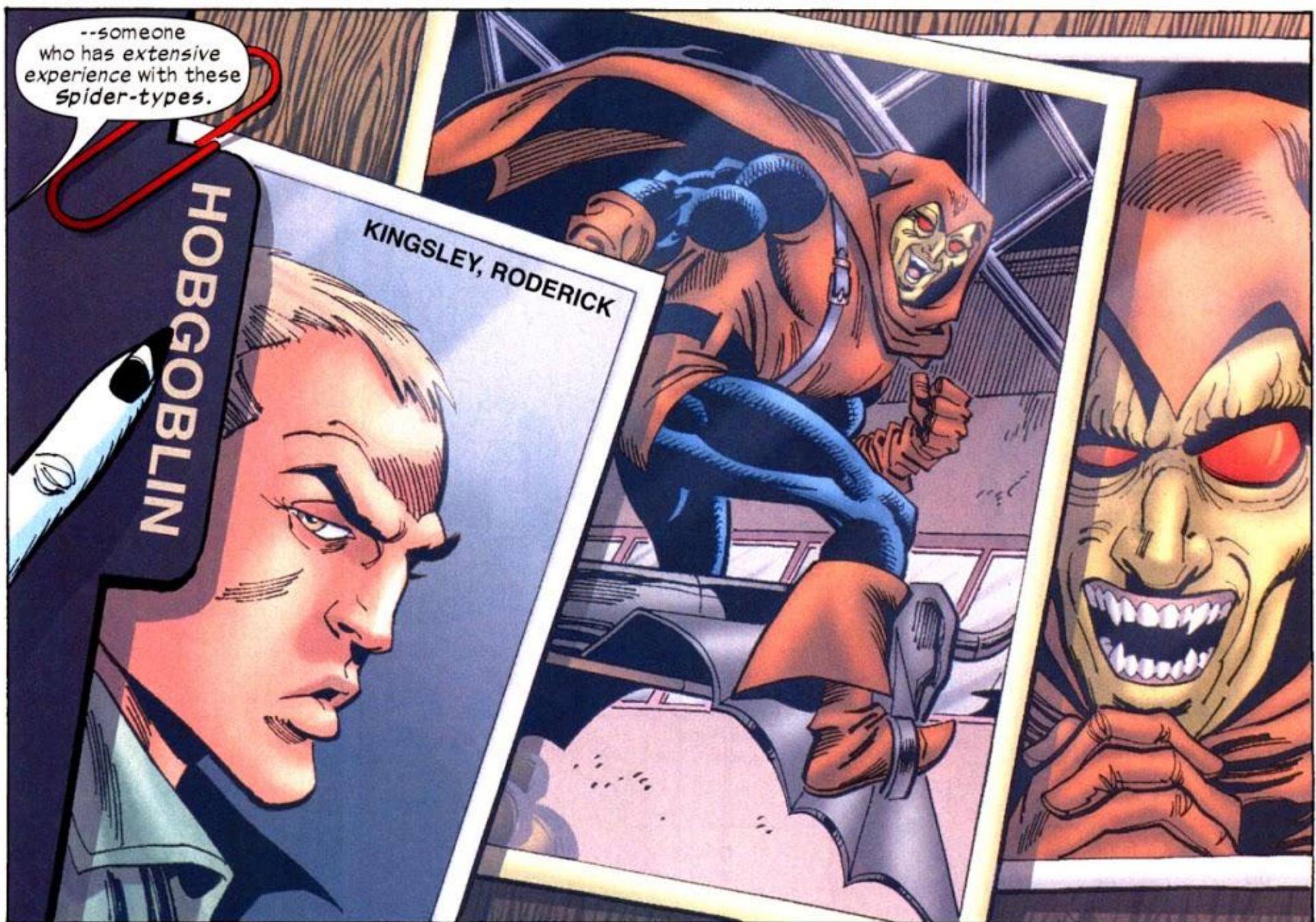
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"OKAY TO PRINT"



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Meanwhile...

I just received word from New York.



NEXT ISSUE: By popular demand! HERE COMES HOBGOBLIN! 'Nuff said!



# DC Babes

Another fine DCP scan