MARVEL

83

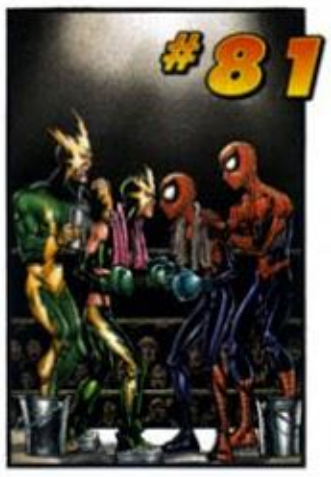
THE DAUGHTER OF SPIDER-MAN!

DEFALCO
FRENZ
BUSCEMA

SPIDER-GIRL®

BACK IN BLACK!

PREVIOUSLY in SPIDER-GIRL



While at the engagement party of her friends Normie Osborn and Brenda "Raptor" Drago, Mayday watches in horror as Fury, the Goblin Queen, attaches the Venom symbiote to Normie. Desperate to rescue him, Mayday changes to Spider-Girl but is soon attacked by Fury and the new Venom. When Darkdevil comes to her rescue, he is skewered and left for dead.

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Why bring him here?! He belongs in a hospital.
Y-you didn't see him, Bluestreak.
Flames were shooting out of his chest.
I doubt a regular doctor would know how to treat him.
You're right, Spider-Girl. Darkdevil needs a specialist.
Based on your description, he may be a lot more demon than man.
D-Doc Magus--!
W-what are you doing here?!
Since I am the major mystic in these parts--
--the Avengers keep me on speed-dial for occasions like this!

I don't mean to be rude, but I need everyone to clear out while I examine the patient.
Even a demon vigilante deserves some privacy.

You heard the man, people. Let's move! We're not doing any good here, and Mainframe is waiting for us in the conference room.
I'm soooo glad you rejoined the team, Thunderstrike. I missed being ordered around.
Zip it, Bluestreak.
C-can't I stay with Darkdevil?
Let Magus do his work.
Besides, we need to discuss this Venom thing.

What's to discuss, Stinger? Fury is behind this whole mess. Her real name is Elan DeJunae.
She's some kind of Green Goblin groupie who's been trying to corrupt Normie Osborn...and may have finally succeeded.
We just have to find a way to separate him from the Venom symbiote.
It sounds so simple when you say it--

--but you usually work *solo*. ***The Avengers*** are still getting organized fifteen minutes later, and you find yourself gazing at them in frustration.

Stinger.

Thunderstrike.

Mainframe.

J2.

Bluestreak.

American Dream.

Freebooter.

And, of course, ***Mr. Jarvis*** and his civilian helpers.

Speaking of which...

Good evening, Spider-Girl. My name is ***Kiana Moran*** and I've been assigned to attend you.

Would you like a cold beverage? We also have a nice selection of sandwiches and herb teas.

I recommend the cranberry pecan muffins. They're to die for.

Uhhhh...no thanks. I'm fine.

Sandwiches and ***herb teas--?!?***

How's about a little ***Avengering--?***

Settle down, everyone! We need to get started.

According to our files, the creature known as ***Venom*** is an alien symbiote that can graft itself to and gain total control over a human host.

It possesses superhuman strength and can instantly morph its body into an assortment of lethal weapons.

Alleged to have committed more than ***a hundred*** murders, it was being held at the S.H.I.E.L.D. Maximum Security Facility at Mount Athena until earlier this afternoon.

FILE 066

It appears this woman--who has been tentatively identified as a European criminal called **Fury, the Goblin Queen**--freed the creature and gave it a new host.

Our primary mission is to neutralize the symbiote before innocent lives can be lost.

We will also attempt to capture Fury and secure the host...if possible.

If possible--?!

In case you didn't know, the "**host**" has a name.

He is **Normie Osborn** and he happens to be a friend of mine.

Osborn--?

Didn't his father or some other close relative have a connection to the original **Green Goblin?**

How do we know he isn't a willing participant?

This could be some sort of **power play.**

Slow down, Zorro!

Normie's the **victim** here.

Fury and the symbiote are **using** him.

We have a responsibility to save him.

Yeah, but we also have to protect the public.

It isn't an **either/or** situation, people. We might be able to do both.

What if we **can't?**

It's our job to **find** a way!

Oh, no! They're **debating** again.

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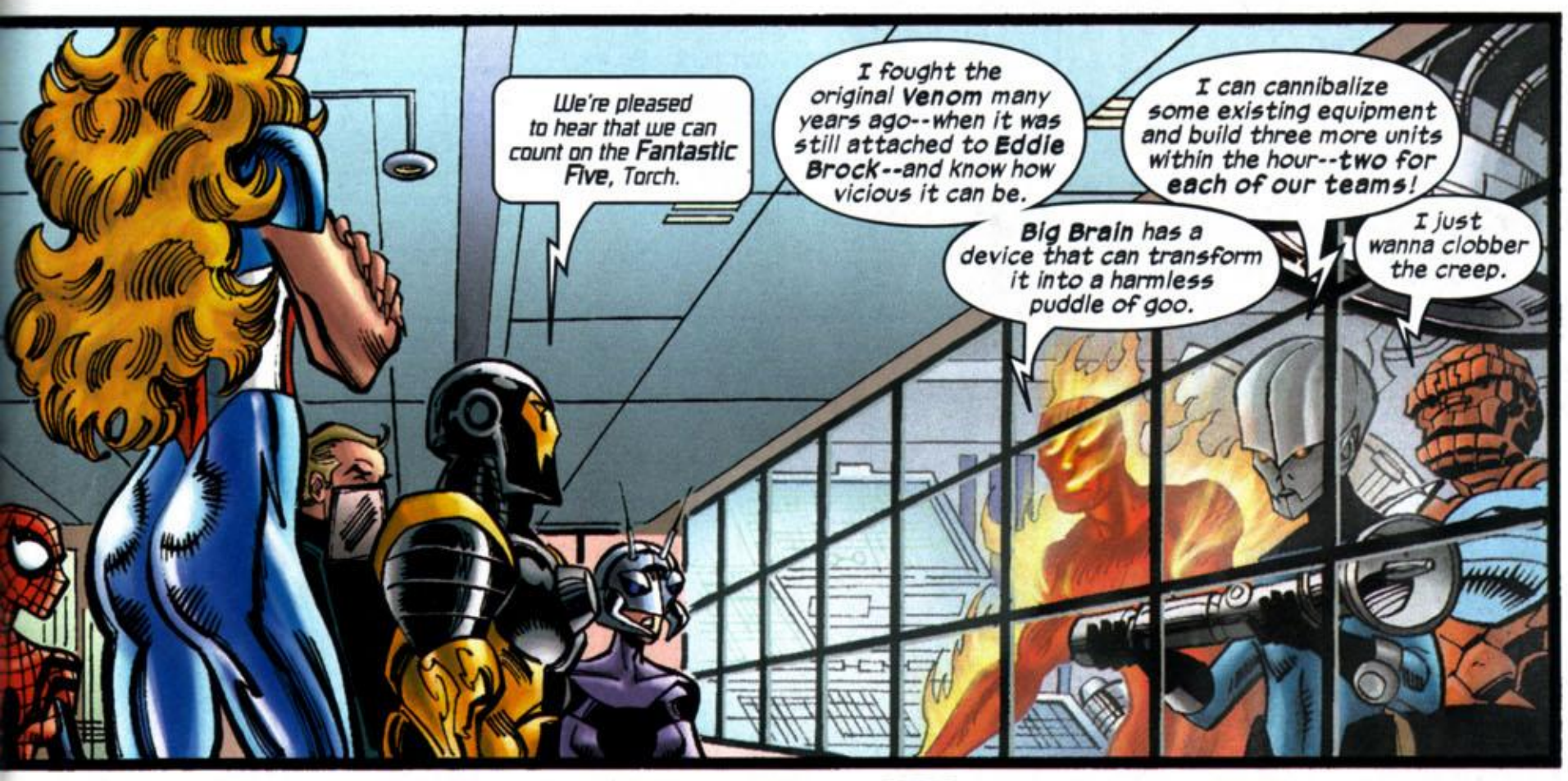
You seem rather agitated, Dormagus.
Perhaps I can be of assistance.
D-Dr. Strange--?!?
I hope you don't mind, but I took the liberty of contacting him.
Not at all, Mr. Jarvis.
You keep showing that kind of initiative and the Avengers'll *never* let you retire.

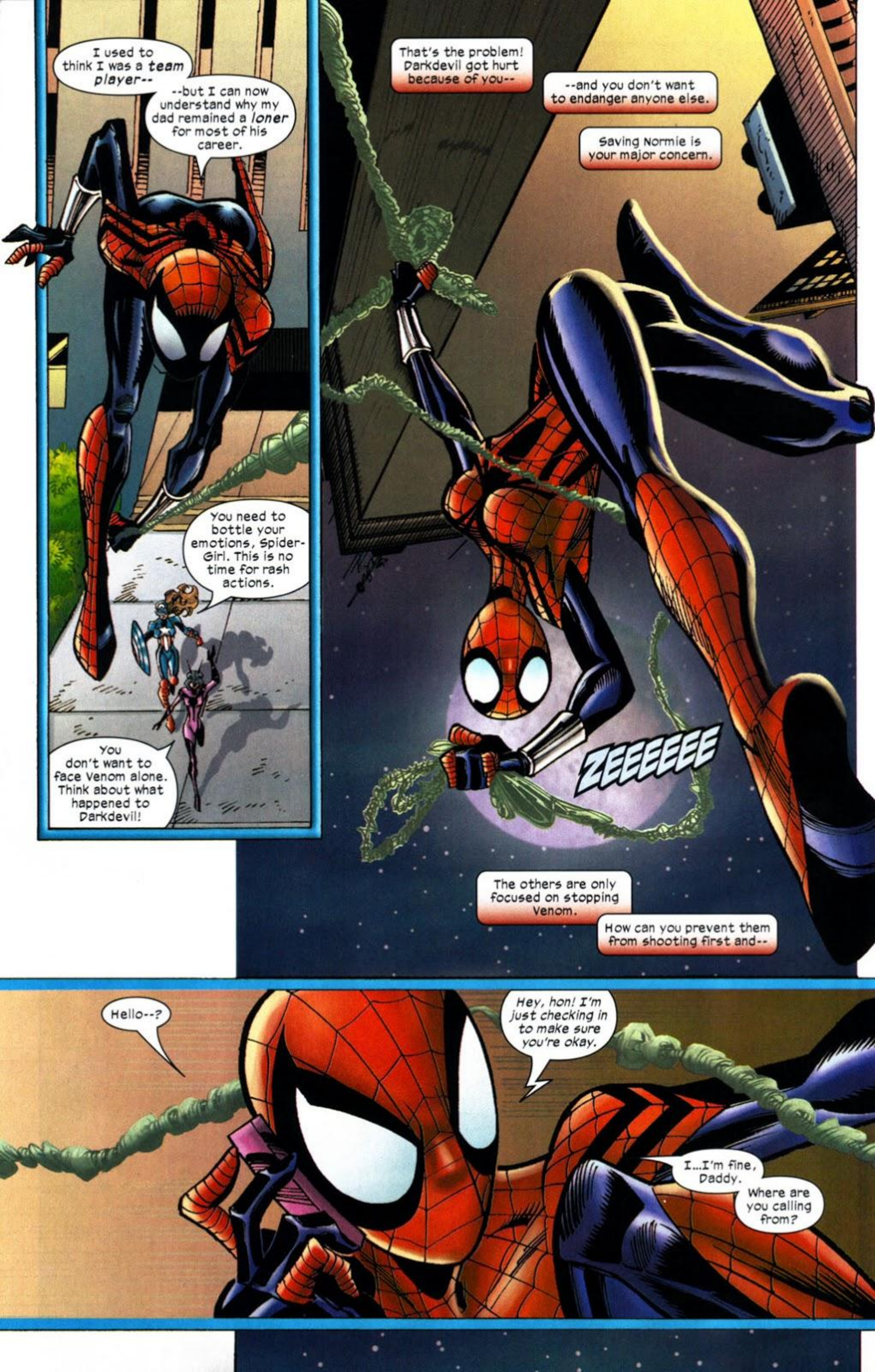
I cannot believe that you are actually pleased to see me, Dormagus. You usually greet me with childish sarcasm and resentment.
We don't have time for our standard pleasantries, old man. Darkdevil's hanging by a thread.
I've managed to seal his physical wounds with a binding spell, but he's also suffering from severe psychic trauma and I...
...I'm a little out of my depth here.
I need your help, Strange.
And you shall have it, my boy!


We're pleased to hear that we can count on the Fantastic Five, Torch.
I fought the original Venom many years ago--when it was still attached to Eddie Brock--and know how vicious it can be.
I can cannibalize some existing equipment and build three more units within the hour--two for each of our teams!
Big Brain has a device that can transform it into a harmless puddle of goo.
I just wanna clobber the creep.

Thunderstrike, you, J2 and American Dream will take one of Big Brain's devices.
Stinger, Freebooter and I will employ the other.
Hey, what about me?
I hate to interrupt, but I have a federal officer on the phone who claims jurisdiction over Venom.

I am Special Agent Arthur Weadon.
Since the symbiote is a known terrorist, my agency shall direct any attempt to apprehend it.
And the hits just keep on coming!
Maybe we should call the X-People and ask them to join the fun.

I know you're anxious to get started, Spider-Girl, but Venom is a major menace and we need to coordinate our efforts.
Try to be patient just a little while longer.
No, Stinger.
You be patient.
Me, I'm out of here.


I used to think I was a *team player*--
--but I can now understand why my dad remained a *loner* for most of his career.
You need to bottle your emotions, Spider-Girl. This is no time for rash actions.
You don't want to face Venom alone. Think about what happened to Darkdevil!
That's the problem! Darkdevil got hurt because of you--
--and you don't want to endanger anyone else.
Saving Normie is your major concern.
ZEEEEEE
The others are only focused on stopping Venom.
How can you prevent them from shooting first and--
Hello--?
Hey, hon! I'm just checking in to make sure you're okay.
I...I'm fine, Daddy.
Where are you calling from?

I took your advice and brought the family over to FS headquarters.
55
You should see the way the Thing is gooing over your little brother.
I...uhhhh... understand the Avengers will be stopping by in an hour or so.
Will you be with them?
--
No...but I promise to head your way as soon as I can.
I know how you feel about Normie, hon... but I really wish you'd let the Fantastic Five and Avengers handle Venom.
Is that what you'd do?
Absolutely--!
Daddy, you're a big fat liar...and I say that with love.
+sigh+
At least you're wearing your red and blue costume instead of that black monstrosity.
Daddy... you're a genius!
W-what are you--Oh, no! No! May, please tell me you're not going to--
I love you, Daddy.
Give Mom and Benjy a kiss for me!

Hey, Uncle Phil. Sorry to drop in without calling.
You still have those crates I asked you to store?
I'm real glad to see you, May.
I have the greatest news.

The *Avengers* called earlier. They want me and the rest of the *Warriors* in on a big operation.
Can you believe it--*the AVENGERS, May!*
My super-team has finally hit the big time.
I've already contacted the *Buzz* and *Ladyhawk*, but can't seem to reach *Darkdevil*.

You realize the Avengers are planning to hunt Normie?
You remember Normie--*your friend!*
Don't be such a drama queen, May!
I'll protect his interests.
Heck, I wouldn't be the current *Green Goblin* if it hadn't been for him.
By the way, your crates are in the corner.

You haven't run across *Darkdevil*, have you?
He isn't answering his cell for some reason.
Uhhh...
Y-you should really talk to the Avengers--

--and please tell them I'll be wearing *this!*

Are you OUT of your ever-loving mind?
What if someone mistakes you for--
Oh, nooo!
This is absolutely the *dumbest* plan you've ever had.

I might as well save my breath.
I know how stubborn you get.
Just do me a favor and don't get killed.
I just want people to *think* before they *shoot.*
Yeah.
Yeah.

Save the rationalizations.
You're exactly like your dad!
ZEEEEEE
ZEEEEEE
ZEEEEEE

H-how's it going, May? I hope I'm not calling too late.
You okay, Chris?
You sound a little weird.
I gotta be honest, May. I'm still a little freaked over what happened today.
Small wonder.
Chris Jarkoer is a friend from high school and you took him to Normie's engagement party.
Great choice!
You put this poor guy at risk. He could have been killed, and it would have been your fault.
I...I've been listening to the radio...and they're calling this Venom creature a serial killer.
W-we c-could h-have b-been--
You mustn't think like that, Chris. We've both survived and we're going to be fine.
You have to get past this.
H-how do I do that?
C-can I come over tonight?
I...I really need to talk.
I...
I can't...not tonight.
Some friend you are!
The guy's a basket case and you're blowing him off.
You never should have gotten involved with a normal guy. It just isn't fair to--
Uhhhhh... Chris?
Something just came up and I've really gotta go.
May--?!
May--?!

Wasss that Chrisss Jarkoer?
Ssseeemsss like a nice boy.
Sssuch a ssshame that Normie wantsss to eat hisss brainsss.
I...I don't believe you.
Sssilly girl! Normie and I are one.
We ssshare all our thoughtsss, emotionsss and sssecretsss.
We know everything about each other--
--including hisss friendship with Phil Urich.
P-Phil--?!
W-What about Phil?

ARRRGH!
I can't believe that girl.
She's about to ruin everything.
The Avengers want me.
I'm finally being accepted as a real super hero.
But can I enjoy my big moment?
NOOOO!

I've got to make sure nobody accidentally blows her fool head off and--
YIKES!
BWOOM!
BWOOM!

W-what the heck's going on here?
Why would anyone attack me?
I don't have a rogues' gallery or anything.

Oh!

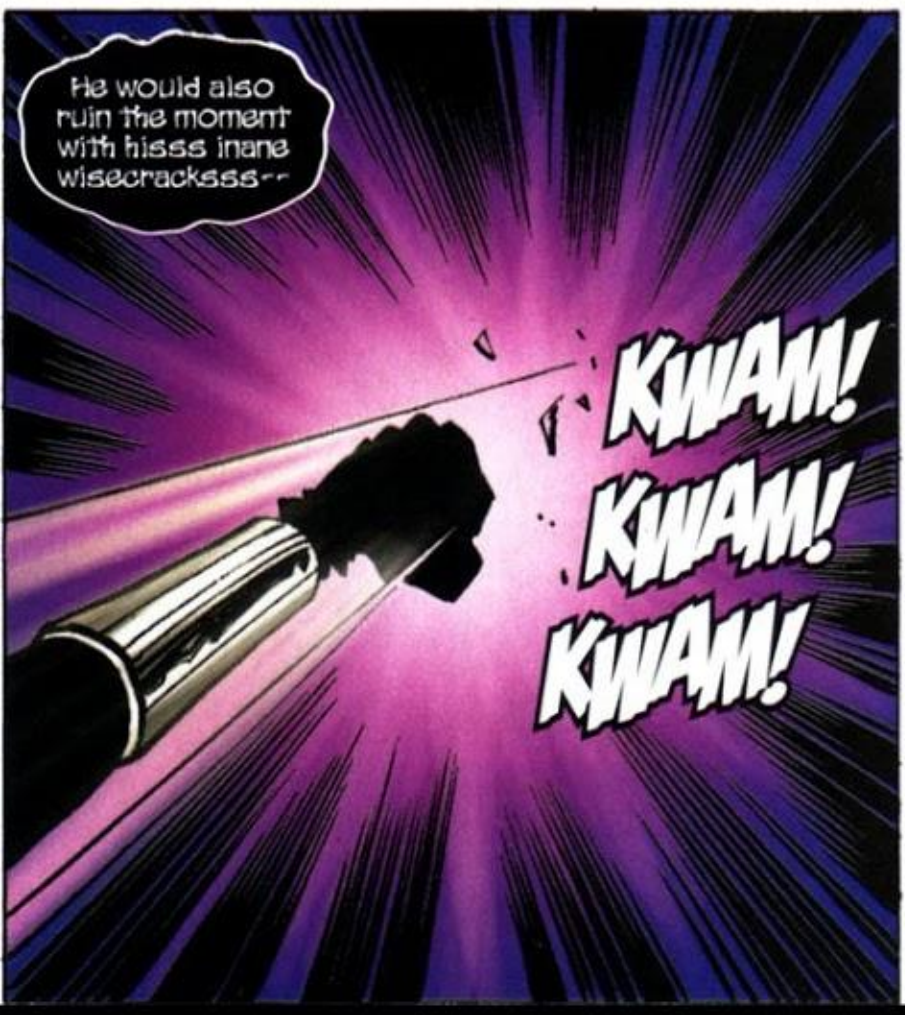
I don't make a habit of introducing myself to strange men, but I am *Fury, the Goblin Queen*--
--a proud follower of the legacy established by *Norman Osborn*, the original *Green Goblin*.
A legacy which you have chosen to *dishonor*.
Say *whaaaa*--?!
You are not an *Osborn* and have no right to the *green*.
Such heresy cannot go unpunished.
Your death will serve as a warning to others. It will be slow and painfully nasty.

Foolish little girl!

While othersss were hunting usss, we were ssstalking you.

Fury hasss probably sssplattered urich by now.

She knows his real name?



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sHRRRRRRRRRRRRAK!
--and there are timesss when ACTIONSSS ssssspeak louder than wordsss!
Hoo-boy!

ENOUGH!
--
P-please tell me that was *you*.
I sincerely wish I could.
LEAVE THIS BODY AT ONCE!
I CLAIM IT FOR MY OWN!

You may be stronger, faster and better at aerobatics than me, but I'll still find a way to win.
I love the fact that men are so delusional.
You're so easy to manipulate.
I have been trained to fight like a Goblin since birth.
You have no chance against me.
Really?
Then I have nothing to lose by taking a leap of faith--!
A-are you suicidal? You knocked me off my glider and may have doomed us both!
Geeeee--!
Hope not.
I was really counting on this skylight and your super-strength to cushion our fall.
You can't intimidate me, Venom. No matter what you say, I know that you could never defeat my father--
--and you won't beat ME!
KWAM! KWAM!
K-keep fighting, May!
D-don't ever stop!
I need you, May. Together we can--
Bwaaaa-Haaa!
You alwaysss fall for that trick.
You're almost as bad as poor Normie--
--who ssstill believes he can free himself.

I may have underestimated you, so I'm going to dispense with my usual preliminary torture--
--and the time has come for you to DIE!
To Be Concluded!

Hi, everybody. It's time to pull out one of my favorite snapshots from the old photo album to illustrate another installment of...
SPIDER-GIRL
AND HER AMAZING FRIENDS
PHIL URICH
AKA: Uncle Phil
HOMETOWN: Forest Hills, Queens, NY
KNOWN RELATIVES: Meredith "Aunt Merry" Urich (his wife), Kenny and Nancy (his older brother and sister-in-law) and Tommy, Stephen, Andrew and Carolyn (three nephews and a niece). His parents are also still alive, but I only know them as Mr. and Mrs. Urich.
DISTINGUISHING MARKS: He has a small, manly scar under his left eye. (A souvenir from a battle he has never discussed with me.)
OCCUPATION: A forensic scientist who works for the New York City Police Department. (He actually works in the same lab as my dad!)
CURRENT ALIAS: The Green Goblin
FORMER ALIASES: Uncle Phil has been trying to be a super hero ever since he briefly became the Green Goblin while taking a break from college. He's had a bunch of other identities--like the Blue Wail and Golden Goblin--that are best forgotten.
GROUP AFFILIATION: As the Green Goblin, Uncle Phil is currently a member of the Warriors, a team that also includes Darkdevil, the Buzz and the Ladyhawk twins.
FAVORITE MOVIES: *The Rock*, *The Mummy* and *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*. (He also collects DVDs that start Abbott & Costello, The Marx Brothers and The Three Stooges.)
FAVORITE AUTHORS: Nelson DeMille and Michael Connelly.
FIRST MEETING: Uncle Phil has been a friend of the family for as long as I can remember.
HIS BEST FEATURE: Uncle Phil is an eternal optimist and he believes that the good guys are always destined to win. He's the first one who supported me when I decided to become Spider-Girl, and I'll always love him for that.
HIS WORST FEATURE: He tends to bite off a lot more than he can chew, and I'm afraid that he's going to get himself killed someday.

DC Babes

Another fine DCP scan