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MACKE
ROMITA JR
HANNA

PETER PARKER

SPIDER-MAN



DIRECT EDITION



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Stan Lee
Presents

WHO DID JOEY Z?

OUR STORY BEGINS IN
NEW YORK CITY, ON A
WINTER'S EVE, OUTSIDE
A MIDTOWN MANHATTAN
POLICE PRECINCT.

IT ENDS —

WELL, YOU'LL JUST HAVE
TO STICK AROUND TO SEE
WHERE IT ENDS.

WILL YOU
LOOK AT THIS,
JACK. ANOTHER
ONE COURTESY
OF OUR FRIENDLY
NEIGHBORHOOD
SPIDER-MAN.

YOU'D
THINK THE
WALL-CRAWLER'D
BE BUSY ENOUGH
WITH HALF THE CITY
TRYING TO COLLECT
THE ONE MIL THAT
OSBORN'S PUT
ON HIS HEAD.

GIVE
ME A HAND
CUTTING THIS
POOR SLOB
DOWN?

NAH! LET'S
GET DETECTIVE SNIPES
TO SUPERVISE THIS
BOOKING...

HOWARD MACKIE
JOHN ROMITA JR.
SCOTT HANNA
STORY/ART

RS & COMICRAFT'S
KIFF SCHOLL
LETTERS

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WRIGHT
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"HE HASN'T GOTTEN HIS HANDS DIRTY SINCE GETTING PROMOTED OUT OF UNIFORM."

"I THINK HE MAY BE STARTING TO COP AN ATTITUDE NOW THAT HE'S WEARING A SUIT AND RIDING A DESK INSTEAD OF A PATROL CAR."

"TIME TO REMIND HIM OF WHERE HE CAME FROM."

Oh, **DETECTIVE!** WE'VE GOT A SITUATION OUTSIDE THAT REQUIRES THE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION OF A SUPERVISING OFFICER.

YOU MIGHT WANT TO BRING A PAIR OF SCISSORS... AND A BLOWTORCH.

Huh?

A FEW MINUTES LATER...

JEEZ! YUCK!

YOU SAY THIS IS NORMAL? IT HAPPENS ALL THE TIME?

THAT'S RIGHT, DETECTIVE.

THREE, SOMETIMES FOUR TIMES A WEEK.

THEY DON'T CALL HIM THE WEB-SLINGER FOR NOTHING.

WONDERFUL.

ONE OF YOU OFFICERS WANT TO GIVE ME A HAND HERE? THIS GUY IS PRETTY MUCH DEAD WEIGHT.

NAH, DETECTIVE, YOU'VE GOT IT ALL UNDER CONTROL.

YEAH. WE'RE SURPRISED YOU GOT HIM DOWN THIS QUICKLY, DETECTIVE. IT USUALLY TAKES MUCH LONGER!

LUCKY ME.



WHAT
DO WE DO
NOW?

OPEN IT UP,
DETECTIVE, CLEAN
HIM UP AND RUN HIM
THROUGH FINGER-
PRINTS.

YOU
CAN USUALLY
COUNT ON A LIST
OF PRIORS AS LONG
AS YOUR RIGHT
ARM.

SPIDEY
ONLY DROPS
OFF THE MOST
SERIOUS
SKILLS.

OPEN
IT UP
HOW?

WONDERFUL.

YOU
HEAR THAT,
BUDDY? I
NEED YOUR
HELP IF WE'RE
GOING TO GET
YOU OUT OF
THERE BEFORE
SPRING
THAW.

YOU
LISTENING
TO ME?

TO THE BEST
OF MY KNOWLEDGE, AT THIS
STAGE, YOUR BARE HANDS WORK BEST.
OF COURSE IT HELPS IF THE SUBJECT IS
COOPERATIVE. WHICH THEY USUALLY ARE.
ANYTHING TO GET OUT OF THAT GUNK!

YOU MIGHT WANT
TO SPEAK UP, DETECTIVE.
THE STUFF GETS IN
THEIR EARS SOME-
TIMES.

YOU MIGHT
WANT TO
TRY --

SHUT
UP!

SOMEONE
CALL A MEDICAL
EXAMINER.
NOW!

WHATTA
YOU TALKIN'
ABOUT, DETECTIVE?
HE'S JUST --

JOKE'S OVER,
JACK...

...THIS
MAN IS
DEAD.

"SPIDER-MAN
KILLED HIM."

A SHORT TIME LATER AT
THE HOME OF PETER AND
MARY JANE PARKER...

RRRRRING

I'VE
GOT IT...
HERO.

THANKS,
M.J...

...I'M
A LUCKY
GUY.

HELLO?

WHAT?

ARE YOU
SURE?
YEAH.
HE'S RIGHT
HERE.

PETER,
IT'S THE BUGLE.
YOU'RE GOING TO
WANT TO TAKE
THIS.



MINUTES
LATER...

THE
VICTIM'S NAME WAS
JOEY Z., MR. URICH.
A STREET CRIMINAL.
PLENTY OF PRIORS,
BUT NOTHING
MAJOR.

THE M.E. IS
GIVING THE APPARENT
CAUSE OF DEATH AS
ASPHYXIATION, MR. URICH,
THOUGH AN OFFICIAL CAUSE
WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL
AFTER AN AUTOPSY.
YOU KNOW THE
ROUTINE.

YEAH...
I DO.

ANY
SUSPECTS YET,
DETECTIVE
SNIPES?

YOU
JOKING?
THERE'S ONLY
ONE.

I DON'T
NEED THIS.

BAD
ENOUGH THAT
OSBORN HAS GOT
EVERYONE BELIEVING
THAT SPIDER-MAN
IS THE BAD GUY
FOR BEATING
HIM UP.

HIM...
THE GREEN
GOBLIN!

BUT HE'S
BEEN HIDING
BEHIND HIS NEW
PUBLIC RELATIONS
CAMPAIGN, HIDING
BEHIND HIS
MONEY.

A
TRAGEDY, WHICH,
UNFORTUNATELY, WAS
INEVITABLE.

IF ONLY
PEOPLE HAD
HEEDED YOUR
WARNINGS
LONG AGO,
JONAH...

...PERHAPS THIS
COULD HAVE BEEN
AVOIDED.

I DO HOPE, JONAH, THAT THE BUGLE WILL BE THROWING EVERY RESOURCE IT HAS AT THIS STORY.

THIS TYPE OF RECKLESS VIGILANTISM CANNOT BE TOLERATED.

MIGHT I SUGGEST THAT YOU BEGIN WITH --

IF YOU DON'T MIND, NORMAN, I'LL HANDLE IT MY WAY

FOR NOW, I'M STILL THE PUBLISHER OF THE BUGLE.

YOU ARE INDEED, JONAH. I SIMPLY OWN HALF OF OUR ILLUSTRIOUS BASTION OF JOURNALISTIC INTEGRITY. RUN WITH THE STORY AS YOU SEE FIT.

IT JUST EATS ME UP INSIDE TO KNOW THAT SOMEONE LIKE SPIDER-MAN IS RUNNING FREE TONIGHT.

THAT AT THIS VERY MINUTE, WITHOUT HIS COSTUME TO HIDE BEHIND, HE COULD BE WALKING AMONGST US, UNDETECTED AND PLANNING HIS NEXT ASSAULT.

I JUST WANT YOUR ASSURANCE, JONAH, THAT YOU WILL DO ALL IN YOUR POWER TO ASSURE THAT SPIDER-MAN NEVER SHOWS HIS FACE IN THIS CITY AGAIN.

I KNOW THAT I CAN COUNT ON YOU, JONAH.

NORMAN'S GOT TO HAVE SOMETHING ON JONAH.

THE JONAH I KNOW WOULD *NEVER* TAKE HALF OF WHAT NORMAN'S BEEN THROWING AT HIM. AND HE WOULD HAVE *NEVER* FREELY GIVEN OVER HALF OF THE BUGLE.

NOT TO NORMAN OSBORN.

JONAH KNOWS.

WE ALL KNOW. AND YET WE ALL LET NORMAN LEAD US THROUGH HIS CAREFULLY ORCHESTRATED GAME.

I WANT HIM BROUGHT IN, BOYS.

I'VE JUST GOTTEN WORD FROM THE MAYOR...

...THE APPREHENSION OF SPIDER-MAN IS NOW THE TOP PRIORITY OF THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE FORCE.

I'VE GOT ALL THE PICTURES I CAN GET, JONAH. I'LL DROP THEM OFF ON MY WAY HOME.

A SHORT
TIME LATER...

IT'S
NORMAN.

IT'S
GOT TO
BE.

WHO
ELSE WOULD
WANT TO SET
SPIDER-MAN
UP LIKE
THIS?

SHOULD
I START WITH
THE SHORT LIST
OF TWO DOZEN, OR
JUST GO STRAIGHT
TO THE FORTUNE FIVE-
HUNDRED OF MOST
WANTED SUPER-
VILLAINS?

WHO AM
I KIDDING?
IT COULD BE
ANYONE!



SPIDER-SENSE
IS TINGLING.



ON
TOP OF THE
BUILDING/
IT'S...



...THE
GREEN
GOBLIN!



FWAM

THAT'S
IT!

WE'RE
GOING TO
FINISH THIS
TONIGHT,
NORMAN!



WHY COULDN'T HE
JUST HAVE **STAYED**
DEAD?

HE TOOK
A GOBLIN GLIDER
THROUGH HIS HEART,
FOR CRYING OUT
LOUD!

EVEN A
VAMPIRE HAS THE
DECENCY TO STAY
DEAD AFTER THE
EQUIVALENT.



AND HE'S WORSE
THAN ANY VAMPIRE
I'VE EVER RUN
INTO.

HE SUCKS
THE LIFE'S BLOOD
FROM EVERYONE AND
EVERYTHING HE'S
EVER RUN
INTO.

MY
GIRLFRIEND
GWEN, HIS OWN
SON, HARRY...

...THE
MADNESS
HAS GOT TO
END.



GOBLIN!

YOU
WANTED
ME!

I'M
HERE!



GONE.



PLAYING HEAD
GAMES.



I'M
NOT GOING
TO PLAY,
GOBLIN!



NOT AGAIN,
GOBLIN!

I WON'T
PLAY ON YOUR
TERMS!

NOT
AGAIN!



UNDER NORMAL
CIRCUMSTANCES I'D
MAKE SOME COMMENT
ABOUT THE WEATHER
AND THE RELATIVE
LACK OF INSULATING
PROPERTIES OF
SPANDEX, BUT...

...I'M
NOT IN
THE MOOD
TONIGHT!



SHUT UP! AND
KEEP YOUR HANDS
IN THE AIR!

EASY,
McDONALD.

WE'LL HANDLE
THIS BY THE
NUMBERS.

JUST LIKE
THEY TAUGHT
YOU IN THE
ACADEMY.

JUST
BECAUSE YOUR
FIRST COLLAR IS
WEARING A RED AND
BLUE BODY SUIT
IS NOTHING TO GET
NERVOUS ABOUT.

SPIDEY, DO ME
A FAVOR AND
COOPERATE.

WE NEED TO TAKE YOU
IN FOR QUESTIONING AND
MY PARTNER HERE
IS A ROOKIE.

A VERY
SCARED ROOKIE
FROM THE LOOKS
OF THE WAY
HIS GUN IS
SHAKING.

AND
I'VE GOT
TO ADMIT I'M
A LITTLE
ANXIOUS
MYSELF.

BEEN
ON THE JOB
FIFTEEN YEARS
AND ONLY HAD
TO FIRE MY
WEAPON
TWICE.

I'D
RATHER
NOT GO FOR
NUMBER
THREE.

I'M MIGHTY GLAD TO
HEAR THAT, OFFICER,
BUT YOU SEE THERE
HAS BEEN A SERIOUS
MISTAKE --

SHUT UP!
WE DON'T WANT
TO HEAR IT!

DROP
TO THE
GROUND
NOW, OR...

HE'S
GOING
TO --

PTOOM

IN CIRCUMSTANCES LIKE
THIS I THANK THE DAY I
WAS BITTEN BY THAT
LITTLE IRRADIATED
ARACHNID.

I'M
ASSUMING,
OFFICERS, BY THE
LEAD WHICH IS FILLING
THE AIR, THAT WE ARE AT
THE END OF THE *NEGOTIATING*
PHASE OF OUR MEETING... SO...

...I
BID YOU
ADIEU!

EARLY THE NEXT MORNING AT THE DAILY GRIND COFFEE SHOP.

DO YOU THINK PEOPLE WILL REALLY BELIEVE YOU DID IT, PETER? AFTER ALL YOU'VE DONE FOR THIS CITY?

WHY NOT? REMEMBER HOW QUICKLY PEOPLE TURNED ON SPIDER-MAN WHEN THE KINGPIN FRAMED ME RECENTLY FOR MURDER? *

I WAS ABLE TO PROVE MY INNOCENCE THEN, BUT A SECOND TIME...

I'M NO CAPTAIN AMERICA, OR REED RICHARDS.

I COULD VERY EASILY SEE PEOPLE BELIEVING THAT SPIDER-MAN IS CAPABLE OF MURDER, BECAUSE THEY WANT TO BECAUSE THEY'VE BEEN CONDITIONED TO BELIEVE IT.

I JUST WISH I HAD MORE FOLKS LIKE SHIRLEY'S SON, DEVON, ON MY SIDE.

* SEE THE SPIDER-MAN/KINGPIN ONE-SHOT, ON SALE NOW! - Hardsell Ruff.

I DON'T CARE WHAT THE PAPERS SAY, BUZZ! THERE IS NO WAY SPIDER-MAN DID IT!

I KNOW HIM, MAMA! HE WOULD NEVER!

UNFORTUNATELY, SON, HE DOES HIDE BEHIND A MASK. IT MAKES ONE WONDER...

SO WHAT'S THE PLAN?

PLAN? WHAT PLAN?

FOR CLEARING YOUR NAME AND FOR FINDING THE REAL KILLER.

I HAVE NO IDEA, M.J.

I'M NOT THE WORLD'S GREATEST DETECTIVE. I DON'T KNOW HOW TO PROVE IT WASN'T ME.

MAYBE YOU NEED SOME HELP, PETER. YOU KNOW JILL'S DAD IS A PRIVATE INVEST --

DON'T GO THERE.

WHAT THE --?






THE EXECUTIVE
OFFICES OF
OSBORN
INDUSTRIES...

A Mr.
PETER PARKER
IS HERE TO SEE YOU,
Mr. OSBORN. HE IS NOT
IN THE APPOINTMENT
BOOK, SIR, BUT INSISTS
THAT HE IS AN OLD
FRIEND OF YOUR
FAMILY.

HE IS
INDEED.
SEND
HIM RIGHT IN,
LUCILLE.





HAVING TROUBLE KEEPING
THAT TEMPER OF YOURS
UNDER CONTROL,
PETER?

CAN'T
AFFORD TO LET
LOOSE WITHOUT
THE MASK TO
HIDE BEHIND,
CAN YOU?

WHAT
DO YOU
WANT?



THAT
WHICH I'VE
ALWAYS
WANTED,
PETER.

I WANT
YOU TO KNOW
THAT THERE IS
NOTHING YOU
CAN DO TO
STOP ME.




I WANT YOU
RUINED. I WANT
YOUR FAMILY
RUINED. AS YOU
RUINED MY BOY...
AND AS YOU
RUINED MY GOOD
NAME.

NOTHING
ELSE WILL
DO.



WE
ARE DONE
HERE, PARKER.
YOU KNOW
THE WAY
OUT.

A SHORT
TIME LATER...



LIGHTS OUT,
ELEVATOR'S COME
TO A STOP...HOW
UNORIGINAL.

PREPARE
YOURSELF,
MEN.

**ANYTHING
COULD
HAPPEN --**



MISTER
OSBORN --?



WE
WEREN'T
THROUGH,
NORMAN!



AND I *DO*
PREFER OUR
CONVERSATIONS
TAKE PLACE AWAY
FROM THE PRYING
EYES OF YOUR
VIDEO CAMERAS.



HOPE
YOU DON'T
MIND THE
COLD.



YOU ARE
SO EASY,
PARKER.

YOU
ALMOST
TAKE THE FUN
OUT OF IT
ALL.

ALL
YOUR LITTLE
BUTTONS JUST
LIGHT RIGHT UP
AND BEG TO BE
PUSHED.



LOOK --
I'VE GONE AND
MADE YOU
ANGRY.

YOU
WANT TO
BEAT ME AGAIN,
DON'T YOU?
KILL ME
PERHAPS?



YOU HAD
TO HAVE TAKEN
SOME SATISFACTION
IN OUR LAST ENCOUNTER
DESPITE THE PUBLIC
RELATIONS
COST.

YOU
JUST MAKE
IT **SO**
EASY.

I AM A BUSY
MAN, PETER. LET'S
RUSH THIS ALONG TO ITS
INEVITABLE CONCLUSION.



WITHOUT
A WORTHY
OPPONENT...

...LIFE
IS SIMPLY
NOT WORTH
LIVING FOR
A MAN LIKE
ME.

AND
YOU WERE
NEVER A WORTHY
OPPONENT...



GOOD-BYE,
PETER.



NO!

THWAP



I'M
NOT GOING
TO LET YOU
DIE ON ME,
NORMAN!



SEE, PARKER!
YOU ARE SO
PREDICTABLE.

THIS
IS WHY YOU
WILL NEVER
WIN!



I WOULD
HAVE ALLOWED
YOU TO FALL.

YOU
ARE A BORN
LOSER, PARKER.
ALWAYS
WERE.



HE'S
GOT Mr.
OSBORN!



NO!
NO MORE!
NOT AGAIN!
WHAT DO YOU
WANT FROM
ME?



PLOOM
PLOOM



GREAT! COPS ARE ARRIVING JUST IN TIME TO SEE ME RUNNING AFTER **ANOTHER** ATTACK ON NORMAN. SPIDER-MAN IS FORCED TO SWING OFF INTO THE STORM.

WEEOOOOOOOO



LOOK AT HIM DOWN THERE.

HAMMING IT UP FOR THE POLICE. I'M SURE THE MEDIA WON'T BE FAR BEHIND.



HE IS PLAYING ME LIKE A --

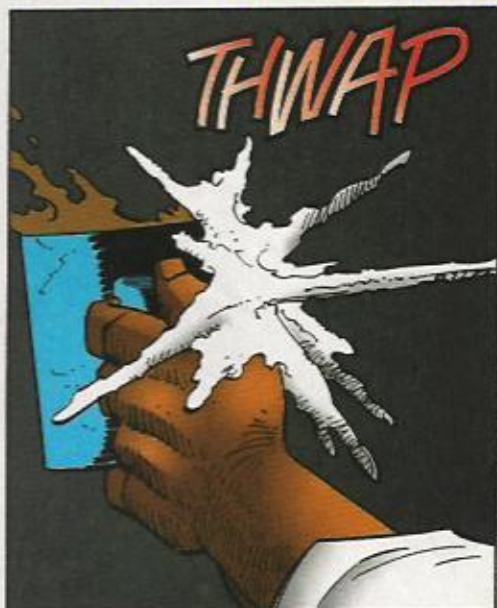
WHAT THE --?



THE GOBLIN!

BUT HOW? IF IT'S NOT NORMAN...

WHO?



LATER, AT
THE HOME
OF ARTHUR
STACY.

HE IS THE OPERATOR
OF AN INTERNATIONALLY
RENOWNED PRIVATE
INVESTIGATION FIRM.

HIS FAMILY HAS
HAD DEALINGS
WITH SPIDER-MAN
IN THE PAST.

HIS BROTHER, CAPTAIN GEORGE
STACY, AND HIS NIECE GWEN
BOTH DIED UNDER SUSPICIOUS
CIRCUMSTANCES INVOLVING
THE WEB-SLINGER.

STILL, ARTHUR
BEARS NO
MALICE TOWARD
SPIDER-MAN.

HE'S NOT A MAN
TO SEEK REVENGE,
OR TO PLACE
BLAME UNTIL HE
HAS THOROUGHLY
INVESTIGATED THE
FACTS.

ALL HE SEEKS
IS THE TRUTH.

A TRUTH WHICH
LIES WITH A MAN
BEHIND A MASK.

A TRUTH
WHICH WILL
BE PRESENTED
TO HIM IN TIME.

THE TIME
IS NOW.

THE MAN
IS HERE.

I
NEED YOUR
HELP.

LET'S
SEE WHAT WE
CAN DO, YOUNG
MAN. I'VE BEEN
WANTING TO
SPEAK TO YOU
FOR SOME
TIME.

THE
END