

MARVEL

68

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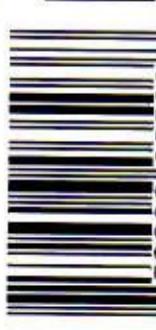
# SPIDER-GUY



DIRECT EDITION



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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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A noted biophysicist, Dr. Sonja Jade is hired by Daily Bugle publisher J. Jonah Jameson to help design a super-powered battle-suit for a new costumed hero who will answer only to him--

--but she secretly plans to turn Project: Human Fly over to Spider-Man's arch-foe Dr. Otto Octavius.



When Jade's underlings murder Buzz Bannon, the man chosen to become the Human Fly, Jameson's grandson Jack secretly dons the battle-suit and calls himself The Buzz in honor of his fallen friend.



After Davida Kirby accidentally "outs" a closet mutant named Nancy Lu, May Parker learns that her former boyfriend Brad Miller has been harassing Nancy.



Though The Buzz and Spider-Girl try to convince her to stay at Midtown High, Nancy eventually decides to go off with the X-People to learn how to control her powers.



After seeing the way her teammates react to having a mutant among them, May decides to quit the school basketball team.

# THE RULES!

A cold wind rips through your costume fifteen stories above the streets of *Forest Hills* as you hurtle your body from one silken strand of webbing to the next.

You've never felt so alive--*so free!*

Of course, that changes the instant you catch sight of a *ball* bouncing between two parked cars--

--and the *figure* darting behind it.

You react immediately, moving without conscious thought.

It's what you do whenever an innocent life is threatened.

Your name is *May "Mayday" Parker* and you are the daughter of the one true *Spider-Man*.

W-What the--!?

No need to panic!

You've just been rescued by your friendly, neighborhood web-slinger.



I don't want to sound like an after-school special--

--but you'd be a road stain right now if I hadn't snagged you.

## The DAILY BRIEFE

I assume you know about looking both ways before stepping into the street.

Besides, we both know the *real* reason you tackled me.

What the heck are you talking about?

Don't fight it, baby. You know you want me.

Give me some sugar!

Hoo-Boy!

Stupid, rude and crude--you're a prize all right!

You need to learn some manners, you ungrateful little snot.

I'm almost sorry I saved you.

What? You think you're my mother?

Quit harassin' me!

You're still steaming a few city blocks later when you suddenly hear...

BOAM!

BOAM!

BOAM!

Sounds like trouble.

Hmm, maybe it's someone who'll appreciate your help.

Either way, you've got a responsibility to check it out...

Oh, happy day!

It's Mr. Rude'n Crude himself.

You losers chose the **wrong** day to shoot at me.

Not that there's ever a **right** day.

ZAKKKK!

ARRRK

If you're willing to put all that work into stealing a truck, the least you could do is mount a decent struggle when I try to stop you.

I mean--c'mon, guys--you outnumber me eight to one and I'm starting to look like a bully.

I've never been particularly fond of attempts on my life.

They make me angry--**real** angry!

He calls himself the *Buzz*, but his real name is **Jack Jameson** and he's one of your classmates.

Excuse me--was that supposed to be a **threat**?

You can't threaten me.

Just like you can't sneak up on me.

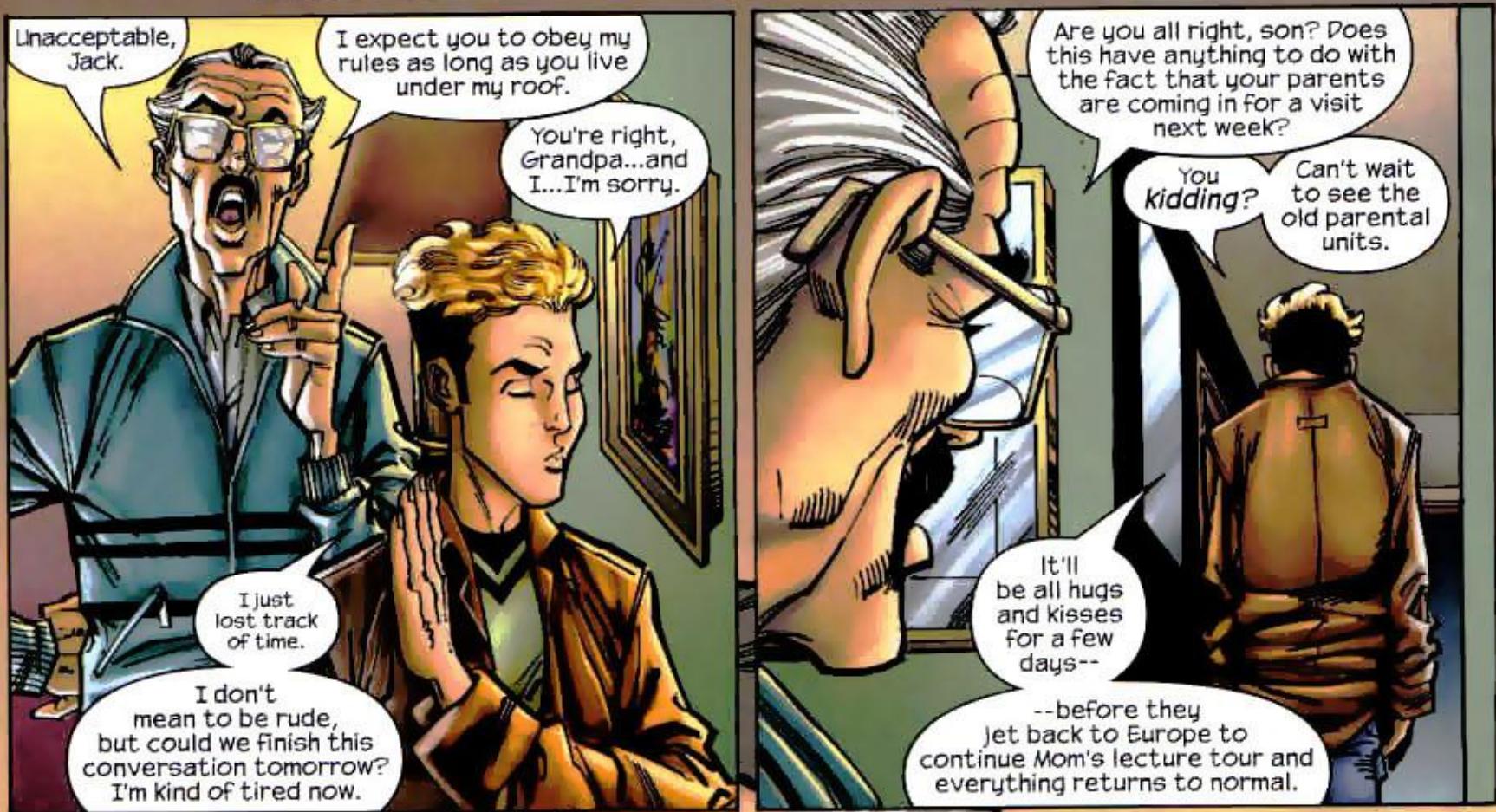
My helmet gives me 360-degree vision--

Maybe you'd rather look dead!

PTH EEE!

--and my fly-paper is perfect for clogging guns.





The night passes all too quickly and early the next morning...

PARKER!

What's up, Coach Thompson?

You and I need to talk.

Courtney and I have an English class in a few minutes. Would you like me to drop by your office later?

Nah! This can't wait. I'm sure Duran won't mind-- Will you?

Uhhhh...be my guest, Coach.

Look, Parker, I know you're upset by the way the school bungled the whole situation with Nancy Lu. What can I say? We messed up.

The district basketball league was giving us a lot of heat for letting a mutant play against normal kids.

But things are finally starting to cool off.

We need to put our basketball program back together and move on.

I want you to reconsider your decision to quit the team.

I... I can't, Coach.

My decision is final.

Where's your school spirit? Your sense of responsibility?

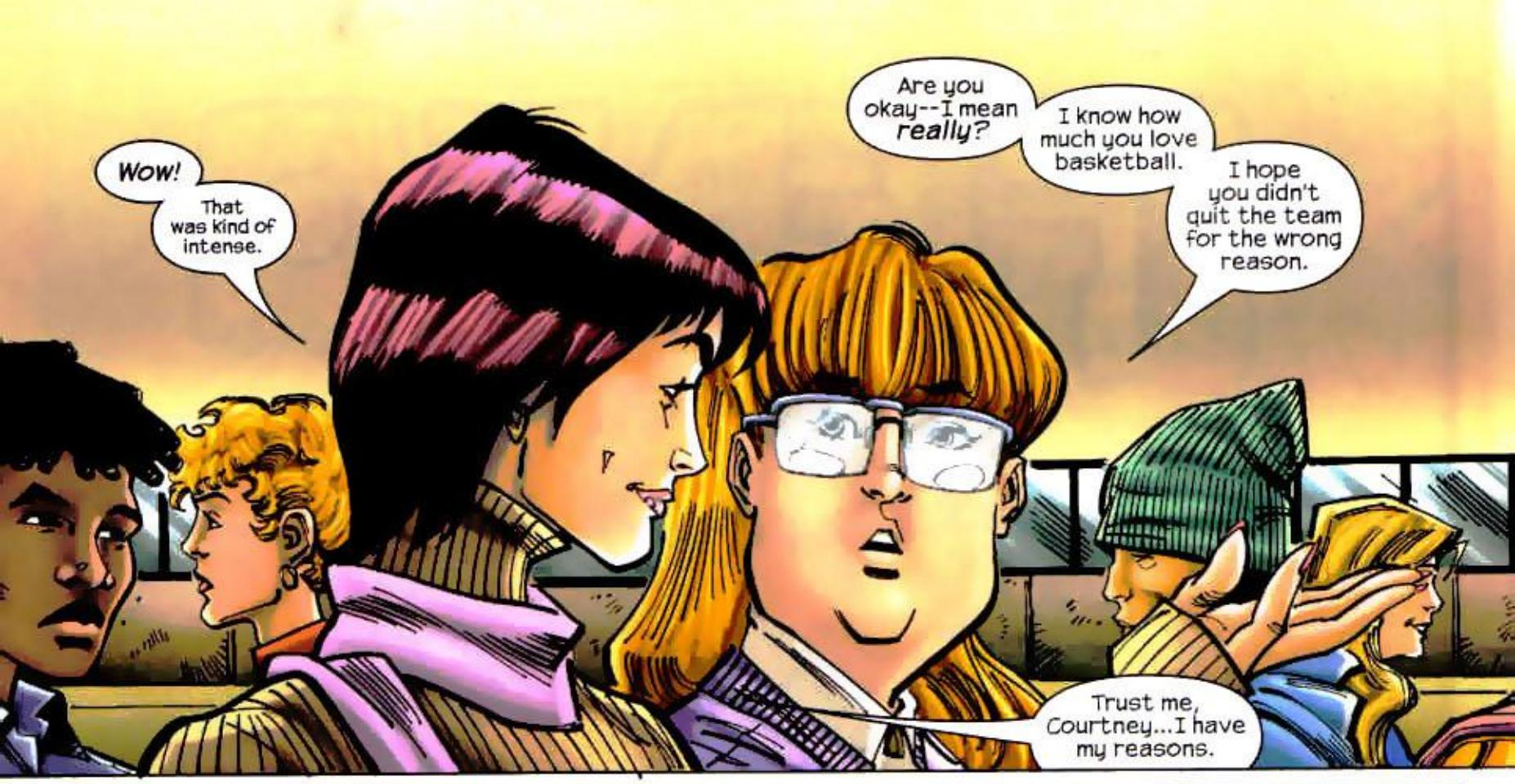
The other girls on the team are your friends, Parker.

They're counting on you.

I...

I have to get to class, Coach.

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The rest of the school day passes slowly and without incident--

--although you do catch the Tarzan twins eying each other during lunch.

Face it, they're headed for disaster and that's not your only problem.



Considering your history, shouldn't you give Brad the benefit of the doubt?

Don't you owe him a chance to explain himself?

Then there's JJ...

...as sweet as a puppy one minute...

...and a raging tiger the next.

And of course, there's the *third* man in your life--

--the one who got away!

Hi, Spider-Girl!

MIDTOWN MEDICAL C

Oh, isn't this wonderful? Raptor is here--

--the woman Normie Osborn chose over you.

Normie and I were hoping you'd visit today.

The doctors say his recent wounds are healing nicely and he should be discharged soon.

Come on in and help us celebrate the great news!

Why does she have to be so warm and friendly--

--when you just want to tear her hair out--

--and steal her boyfriend?



You spend an awkward half-hour making supportive small talk like a two-faced little witch, and then you web back into the soap opera you laughingly call your life...



Using your handy dandy tracking gizmo, you zero on the *spider-tracer* you slipped under JJ's collar, arriving just in time to watch him sidle up to an old delivery van.



What's with this boy?

Hey, Richie--you waiting long?

Long enough. Come on in.



You get a line on Jade?

Been tryin'. She's been trying to kill us both and steal your super-suit.



Since her people seem to be hitting high tech facilities that specialize in bio-research, I made a computer model that projects a number of likely targets.

And I suppose you want me to check out these places.



JJ enters the van--

--and the Buzz exits it!

Unless you want to switch jobs and stay in the van, providing tech support--

--while I fly around and make like a hero.

Nah, no sense messing with a winning formula.

Interesting...

PARKER,  
over here!

Hope you  
don't mind, I  
started with-  
out you.

Still  
wearing those  
geek sweaters,  
I see.

What can I say,  
Flash? The chicks  
love 'em.

Can't argue  
with your success  
on that end. How are  
Mary Jane and the  
new baby?

They're  
both great  
and MJ sends  
her love.

It's been way  
too long since  
we've hung out  
together, Pete.

I was  
surprised to  
hear from  
you--

--until I realized  
that you probably called  
to discuss May's decision  
to quit your basketball  
team.

I could  
really use  
your help,  
Pete.

What do you  
think? Can you  
convince her  
to change her  
mind?

You have a  
teenage daughter,  
Flash--how often  
does she listen  
to you?

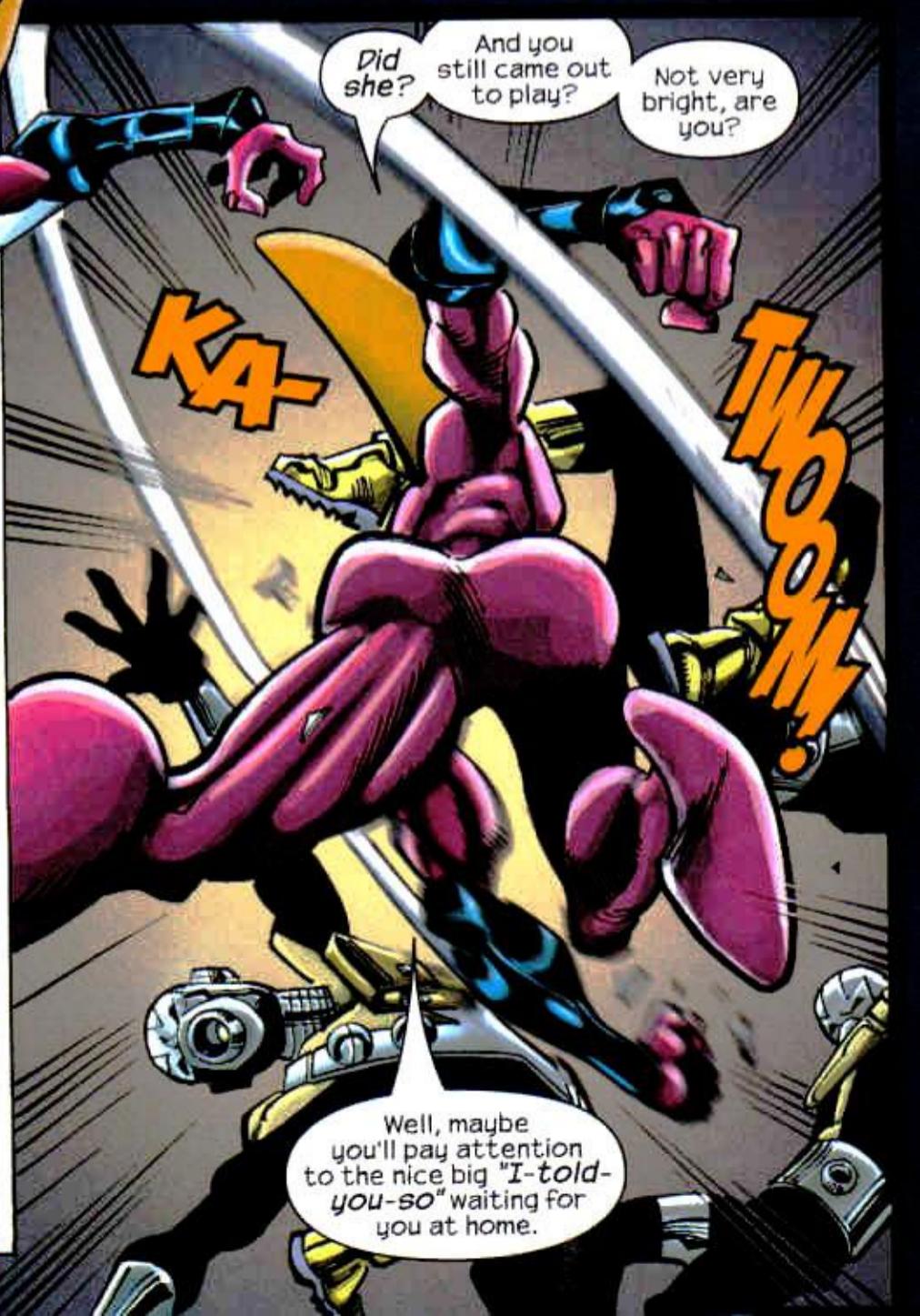
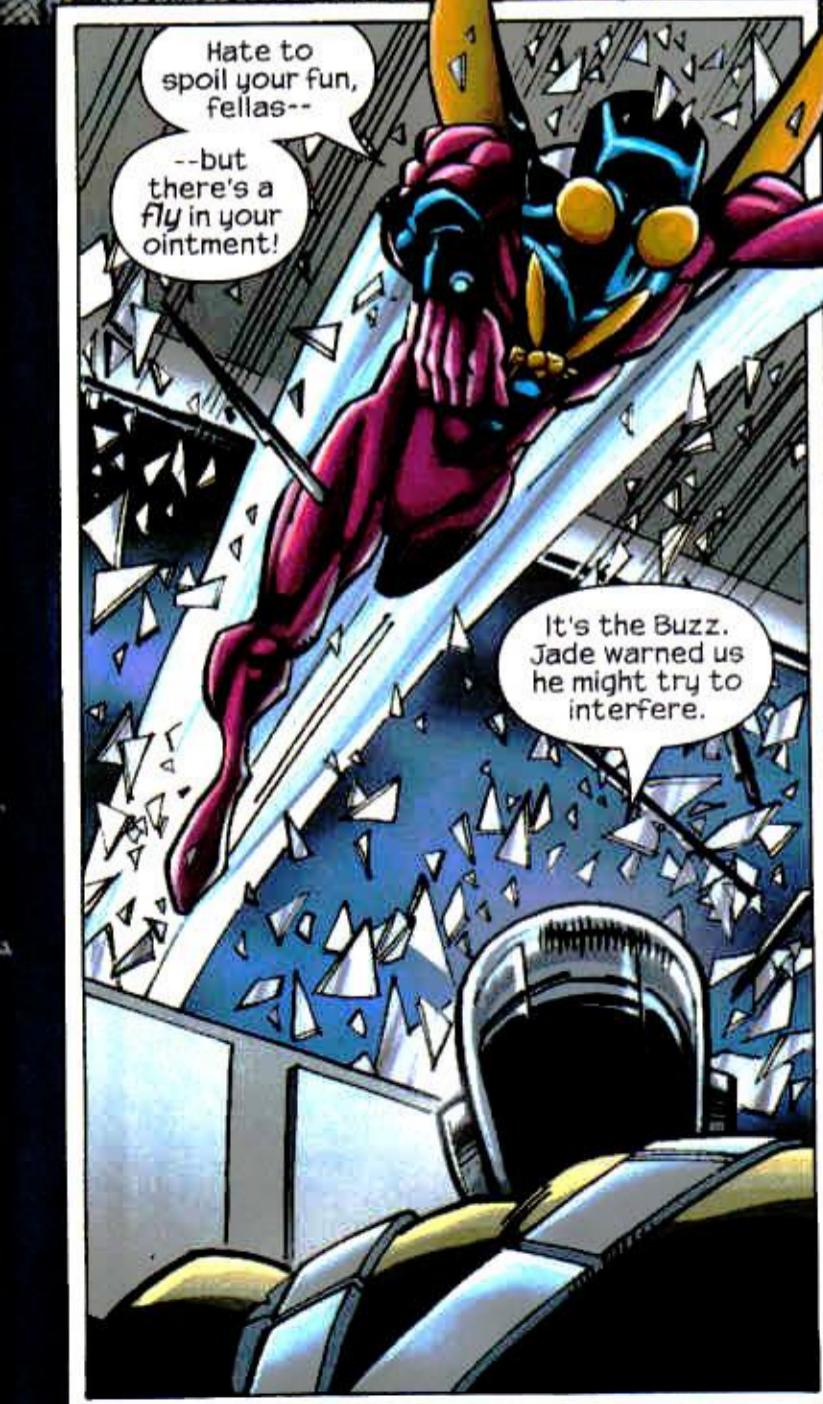
This is serious,  
Pete. I could lose my  
job. The league's talking  
about suspending me for  
allowing a mutant on  
my team.

Like I had  
any idea!

May's my top  
scorer and I need  
to prove that I can  
still field a winning  
team.

I wish I  
could help you,  
Flash--

--I  
really  
do.



Whoa! What the heck's going on here?

Could this crew be working for JJ's mysterious Dr. Jade?

You barely remember her--

--but she's got to be a major player if she can afford a ride like *that*.

Whatever! JJ's your primary concern.

You're just here to watch his back--

--and prevent him from doing something he'll regret!

Where is JADE?

Uh-oh! Sounds like JJ's on the verge of a total meltdown.

With the power the Buzz possesses, lives could easily be lost if he goes ballistic!

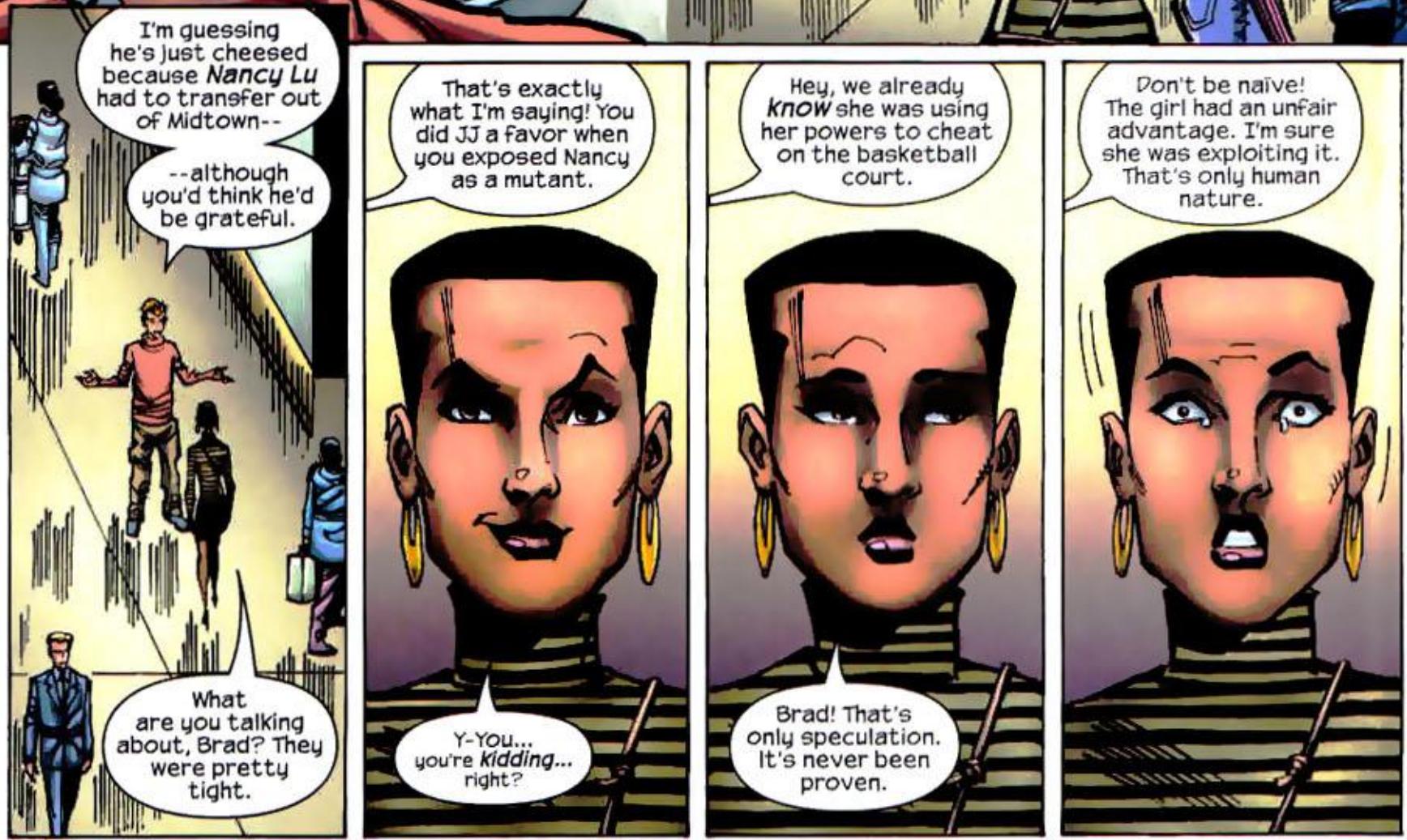
T-This can't be happening. He's got to calm down. He can't afford to lose his temper.

Tell me what she WANTS!

TELL ME!



WHY has she returned?



Jade must pay you clowns real well to instill such blind loyalty.

I assume she also covers medical expenses.

Here's hoping you also get a bonus for each broken bone.

PTWAM!

UGNNN

We can't-- we won't betray her--no matter what you do to us.

I admire your commitment--

--especially since you're risking permanent injury or worse!

B-But Jade'll kill us if we talk.

SKWAMM!

And what do you think will happen if you don't?

That's enough, Buzz! These men are already down. I won't let you beat on them anymore.

Get out of my way, Spider-Girl. I know what I'm doing.

You need to get hold of yourself.

You're supposed to be the good guy, remember?

He sounds so rational--so self-assured!

Could you have misjudged him? Is it possible that he was only faking and trying to bluff these--

Buzz, it's a trap!

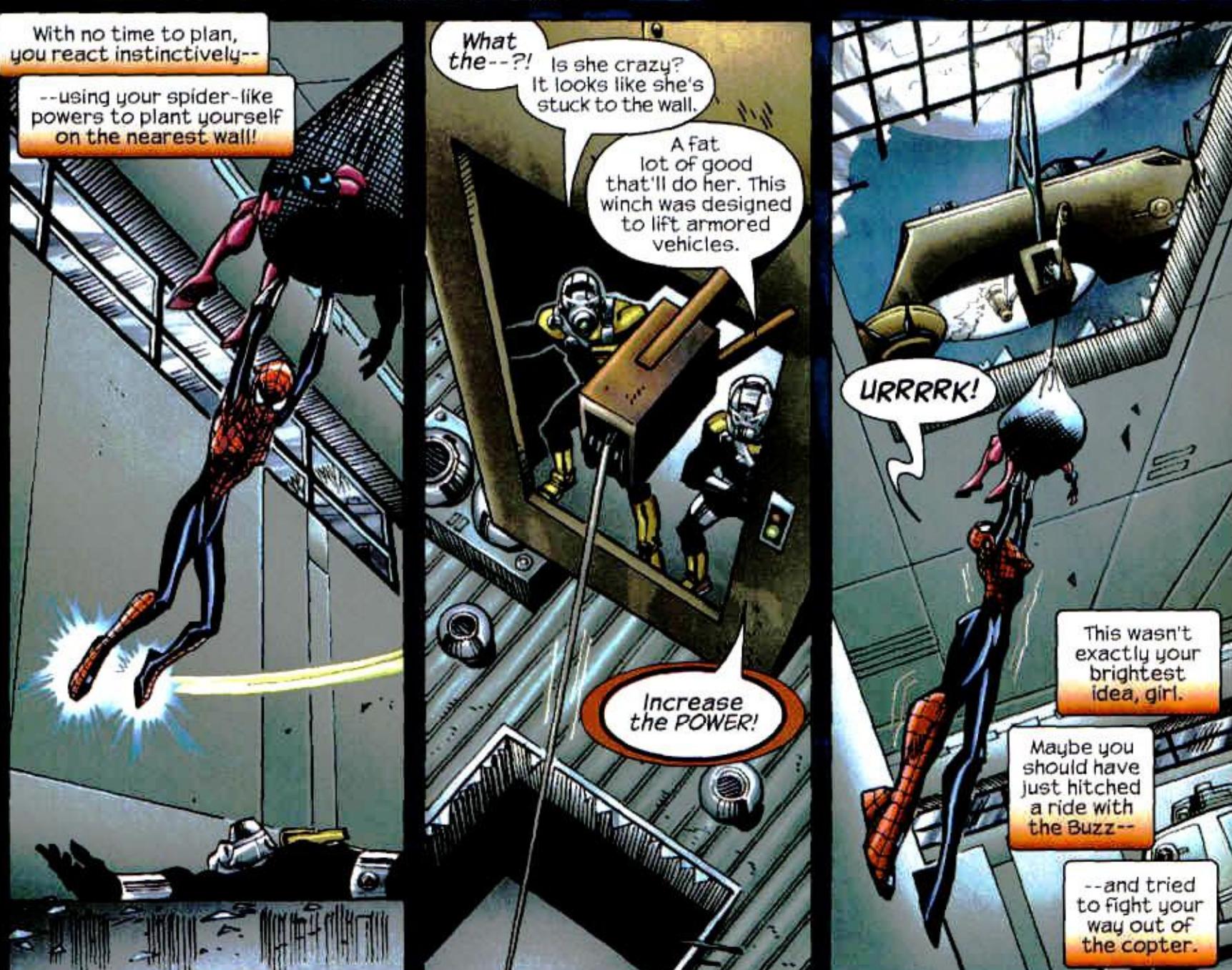
Please don't hit me again!

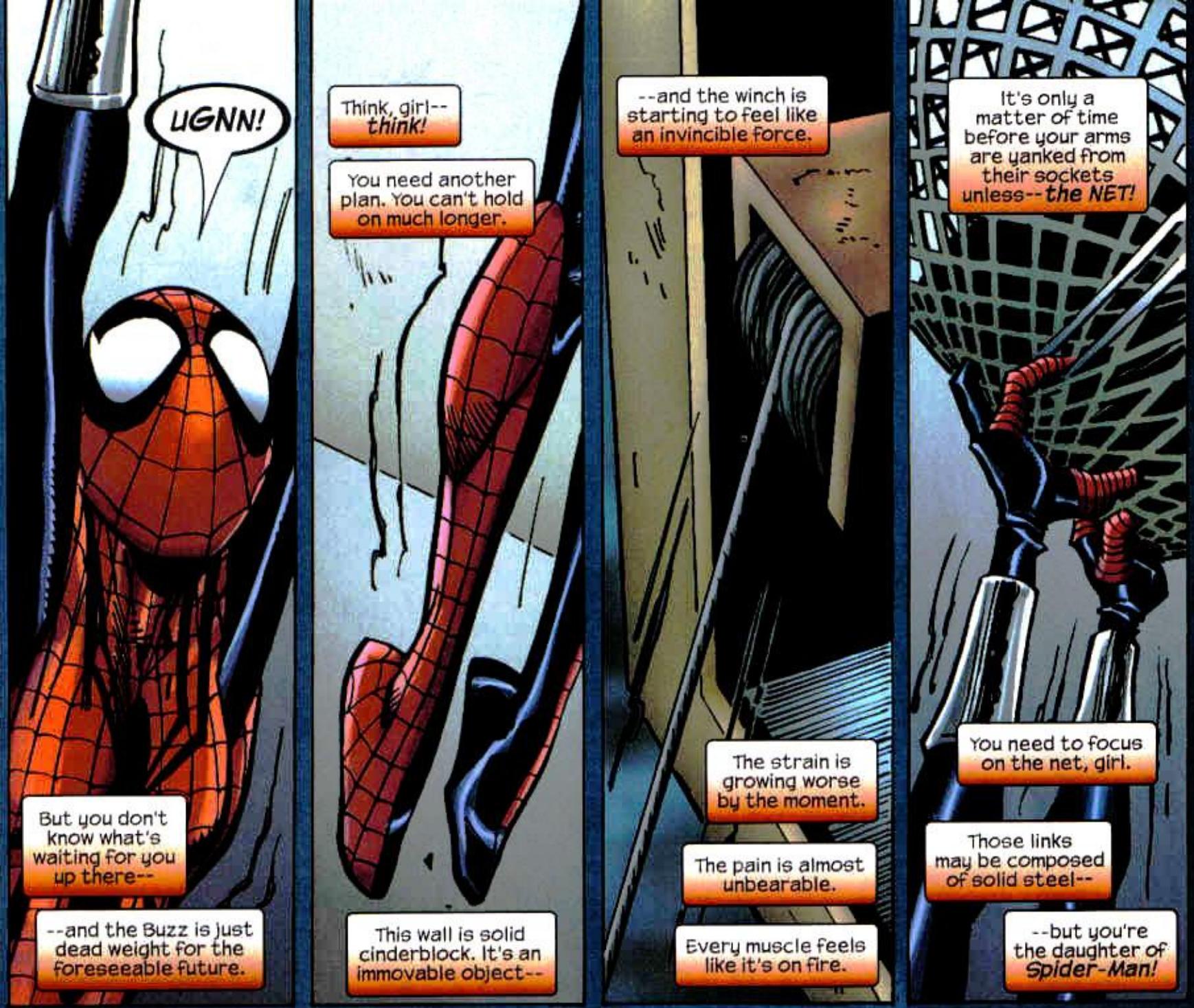
Back off, Spider-Girl! You're going to ruin everything.

The situation is under control.



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I regret to inform you that the mission failed on all counts.

We lost nearly a dozen operatives--

--and did not acquire the Buzz or the apparatus you desired.

How do you justify such utter incompetence?

I cannot, Dr. Jade. I have no defense...other than to say that we did not factor Spider-Girl into the mission profile.

Return to base at once.

We will continue this conversation when you arrive.

I hate to see you in such a state, my sweet.

There is no need to be so upset. These things happen. I am certain your plans will eventually come to fruition.

In fact, I will personally guarantee that you will soon obtain the Buzz's battle-suit--

--as well as a suitable revenge on that annoying little web-swinging.

**THE END**  
...FOR NOW!

# SPIDER-GIRL

Dear Spider-Fans!

Your dear old editor here, and I'd like to announce our **BOLD NEW LETTERS PAGE!** But there's one problem, we don't have a name for it. This is your chance to make SPIDER-GIRL history! You can become an ongoing, essential part of this very magazine by mailing your suggestions to:

Spider-Girl  
c/o Marvel Comics  
10 East 40th Street  
New York, NY 10016

Or you can just send an email to [mheroes@marvel.com](mailto:mheroes@marvel.com) (Make sure you put "SPIDER-GIRL" in the subject line or it won't get to us.)

I'm glad that you have been enjoying the monthly adventures of our sensational little web-stunner, but the best is yet to come. You wouldn't believe the action, thrills and chills we've got planned for you over the next few months.

And now, without further ado, I'd like to introduce the man himself, the maker of myths, the writer of words, the spinner of tales (and webs)...the legendary Tom DeFalco!

He will personally answer your letters and emails from here on out. Please remember to mark your letters "okay to print" if you want us to publish them.

Take care,  
--Andy

Dear Tom,

I had to tell you that Mayday has a fan (or two) on the other side of the world. I only discovered her comparatively recently; SPIDER-GIRL #53 was the first one I read, and I was hooked! I love the idea of Peter Parker having a child to continue the spider legacy and having that child be a girl is an added bonus, especially with so few excellent female role-models in comics.

My husband couldn't understand my comics-reading habit, and was of the opinion that comics were all super-powered soap opera tragedies until I, uh, nagged him into reading SPIDER-GIRL.

Now he not only reads SPIDER-GIRL too, but even understands my excitement when I get the next issue. Well done, the SPIDER-GIRL creative team!

Heather "Maddie" Buchanan  
Wellington, New Zealand

**Well done, Heather--thanks for convincing your husband to join the fun! Since we could always use a few more readers, maybe you could also try nagging...uhhh...employing your form of gentle persuasion on all your friends, relatives, neighbors and co-workers.**

Dear Marvel,

I keep hearing rumors that SPIDER-GIRL may end. Please, please, keep this comic. I'm 12, a daughter of a comic book addict and this is my favorite Marvel comic. We need more comics like this.

Amy Page  
London

We agree, Amy, and we're doing everything we can to make sure that SPIDER-GIRL never gets cancelled.

Dear Tom and May,

I heard y'all decided to answer fan mail, again. I have been a big fan of SPIDER-GIRL. Actually, it's the only current comic book I read on a regular basis because I live in a small town. I am currently in college and it's hard to go to a comic book store within the month. When I do, I make sure to get SPIDER-GIRL. It's the only comic I care about and I think that is due in large part to you and your talented team.

I thank you and expect Spider-Girl to make large headlines one day when she gets a cartoon, a movie or even a video game. Hey, we live in *The Marvel Age of Entertainment* so it has to happen.

Sean Foley  
Humble, TX

That's true, Sean—but it will only happen if we all band together and tell the entire world about our spectacular web-stunner! Tell everyone you meet about Spider-Girl and, hopefully, they'll tell everyone they meet!

Dear SPIDER-GIRL Team,

I had not expected SPIDER-GIRL to be as good as it is. A series that is in

an alternate universe with a spin-off of an original super hero isn't expected to be fantastic. I was wrong.

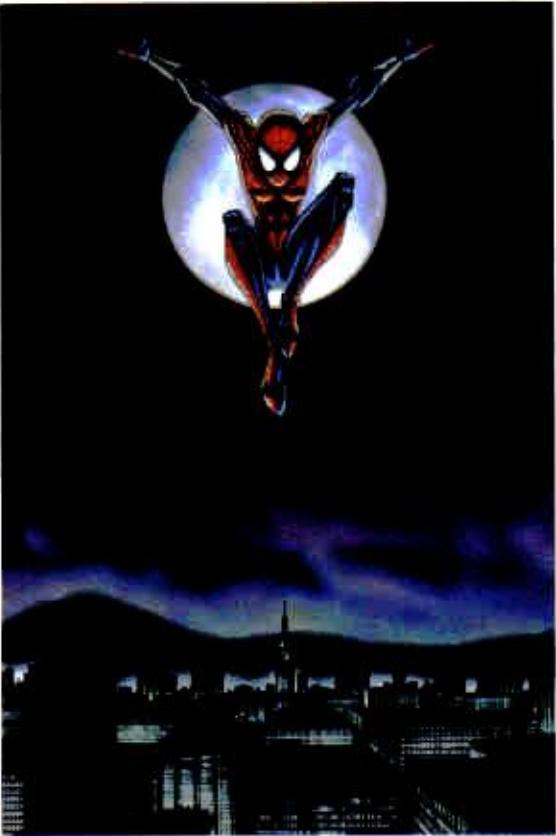
I first noticed this series thanks to reviews on Spider-Man related websites that had given SPIDER-GIRL such good ratings that I felt I had to try it. The series was as good as the reviews said, with each issue being wonderfully written with many twists and relations to incidents of Spider-Man's past.

Luckily for me, once I started reading, it didn't take long for the latest storyline, "Marked For Death" to come out. I made sure to get all of the back issues of SPIDER-GIRL due to how great a title it is. This current storyline has had the best surprises of the series yet, with a large variety of characters and stunning revelations. "Marked For Death" is the best storyline so far in my opinion, and I hope to see more stories like this in the future.

Jason Walker  
Greenwich, CT

As you have already learned, Jason--always expect the unexpected when it comes to Spider-Girl!

--Tom DeFalco



## NEXT ISSUE

PART ONE OF A  
TWO-PART STORY.  
DOCTOR OCTOPUS  
IS BACK!

SPIDER-GIRL

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