A comic book cover featuring Spider-Man climbing a wall composed of many people's faces. The city skyline of New York is visible in the background.

# the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

**MARVEL**  
www.marvel.com  
615

VAN LENTE

PULIDO

RODRIGUEZ

EVERY BRAND NEWS DAY!



ARMS RACE? WITH A REVAMPED MAGGIA AND HAMMERHEAD ENFORCER FOR AN UNKNOWN CHINESE CRIME SYNDICATE, SOURCES SAY THE RUSSIAN MOB IS WORKING WITH "SOMEONE BIG" - MORE ON PAGE MM49

DECEMBER 16, 2009

WEDNESDAY

# LIGHTS OUT



FRONT LINE

TAPS FOR THE BUGLE

Landmark Felle  
Owner/Publish  
Critically la

# CAUTION

# KEEP OUT!

THIS AREA HAS BEEN QUARANTINED BY  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK.



City to turn over...  
needed to bring down The DB and

Mayor JJJ  
lead rescue  
operations  
on the scene!

Although taken into custody, Max "Electro" Dillon, responsible for the attack on the DB Building, has escaped! Whereabouts unknown!

RISE IN BE  
TESTS IN  
OF U.S.

MY NAME IS  
KEEMIA.

MAMA SAYS  
THAT MEANS  
"ALCHEMY" IN  
PERSIAN.

THERE ISN'T REALLY A  
PERSIA ANYMORE. I MEAN  
THERE IS, BUT THEY CALL  
IT SOMETHING DIFFERENT  
NOW AND I DON'T REMEMBER  
WHAT ITS NEW NAME IS.

I AM A  
PRINCESS.

FROM CARTOONS AND PICTURE  
BOOKS YOU'D THINK I GET  
WAITED ON BY SERVANTS AND  
PICK OUT FANCY DRESSES AND SIT  
IN BATHS AND THAT'S ALL I DO.

BUT THAT  
IS NOT  
TRUE!!!

YOU MIGHT THINK THAT  
BECAUSE THERE AREN'T  
ANY OTHER KIDS AROUND,  
I'D GET LONELY.

'CEPT THAT'S  
NOT TRUE.

THERE WERE LOTS AND  
LOTS OF KIDS THE LAST  
PLACE I LIVED, WITH MAMA  
AND ABUELA, BUT THIS IS  
SOOOOO MUCH BETTER.

BEING A  
PRINCESS IS  
A LOT OF  
**HARD!!**  
**WORK!!**

MY KINGDOM IS REAL  
(NOT LIKE PERSIA) AND I  
HAVE TO WALK UP AND  
DOWN IT EACH DAY MAKING  
SURE MY SUBJECTS ARE  
HAPPY AND BEHAVING  
THEMSELVES.

THE KING TAKES  
CARE OF EVERYTHING.  
DADDY.

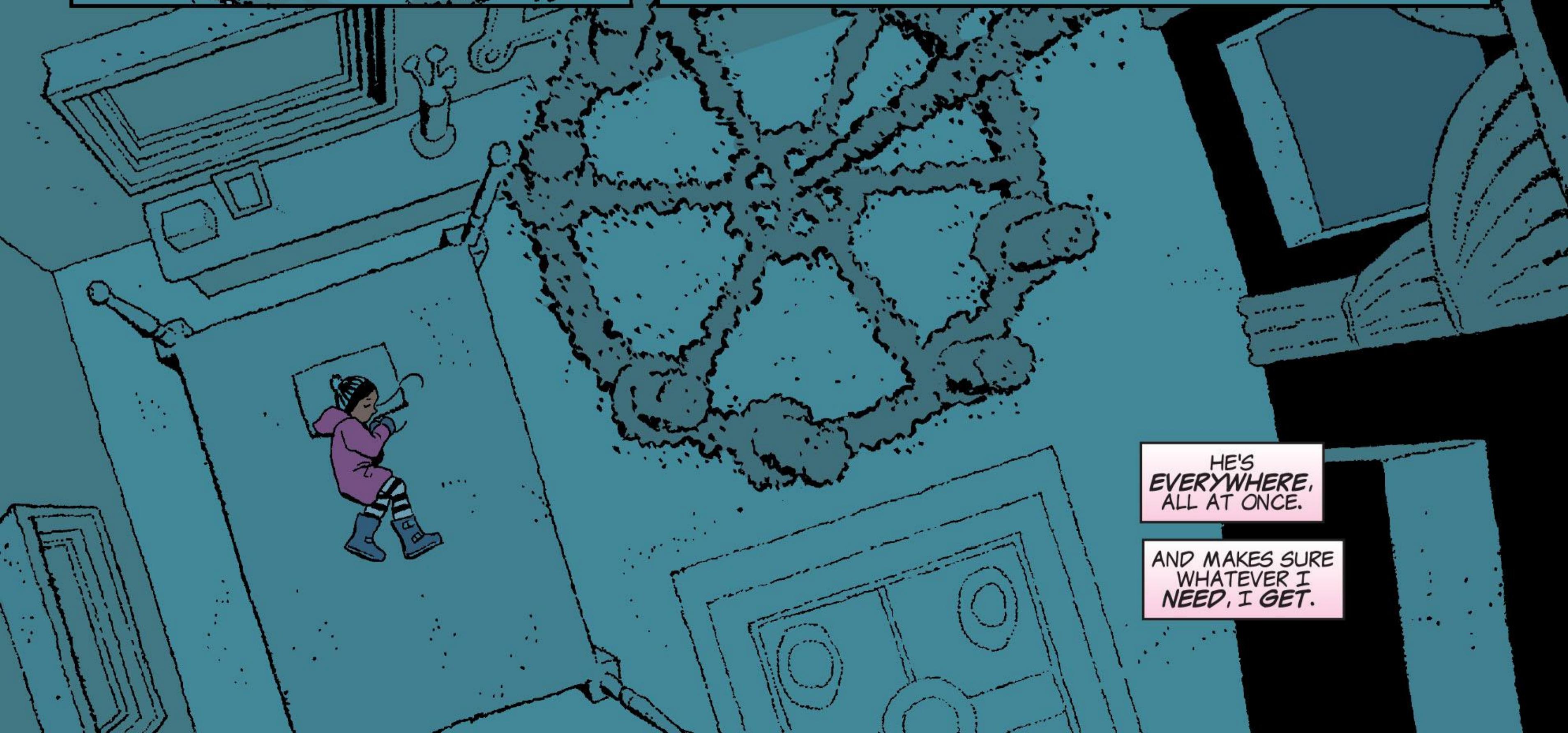
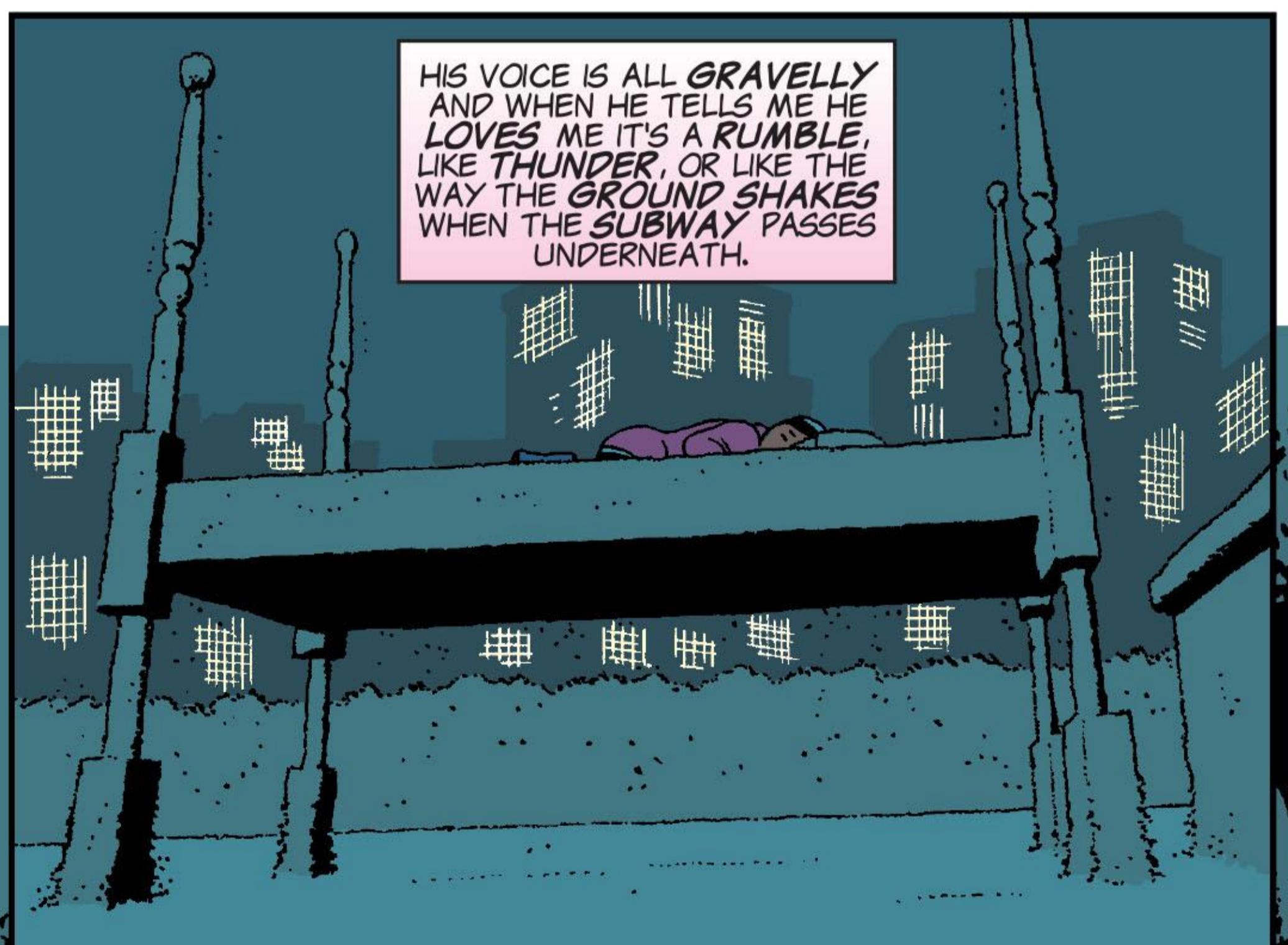
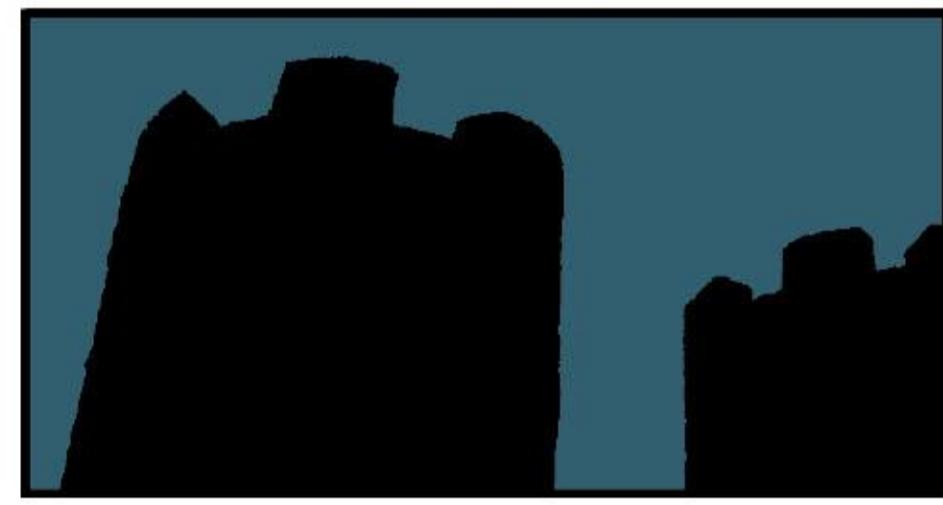
HE MAKES SURE  
THERE'S MOVIES  
IN THE THEATER.

THAT THERE'S  
FOOD IN THE  
RESTAURANT.



SOMETIMES  
I MISS MAMA  
AND ABUELA.

BUT DADDY  
SAYS HE'S GOING  
TO BRING THEM  
TO COME LIVE  
WITH US REAL  
SOON.



AND THAT'S WHAT  
MAKES HIM THE  
**BEST DADDY IN THE**  
WHOLE, WIDE WORLD.



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN IN  
**KEEMIA'S  
CASTLE**

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COLORIST

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EXEC. EDITOR

**JOE  
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**DAN  
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PUBLISHER

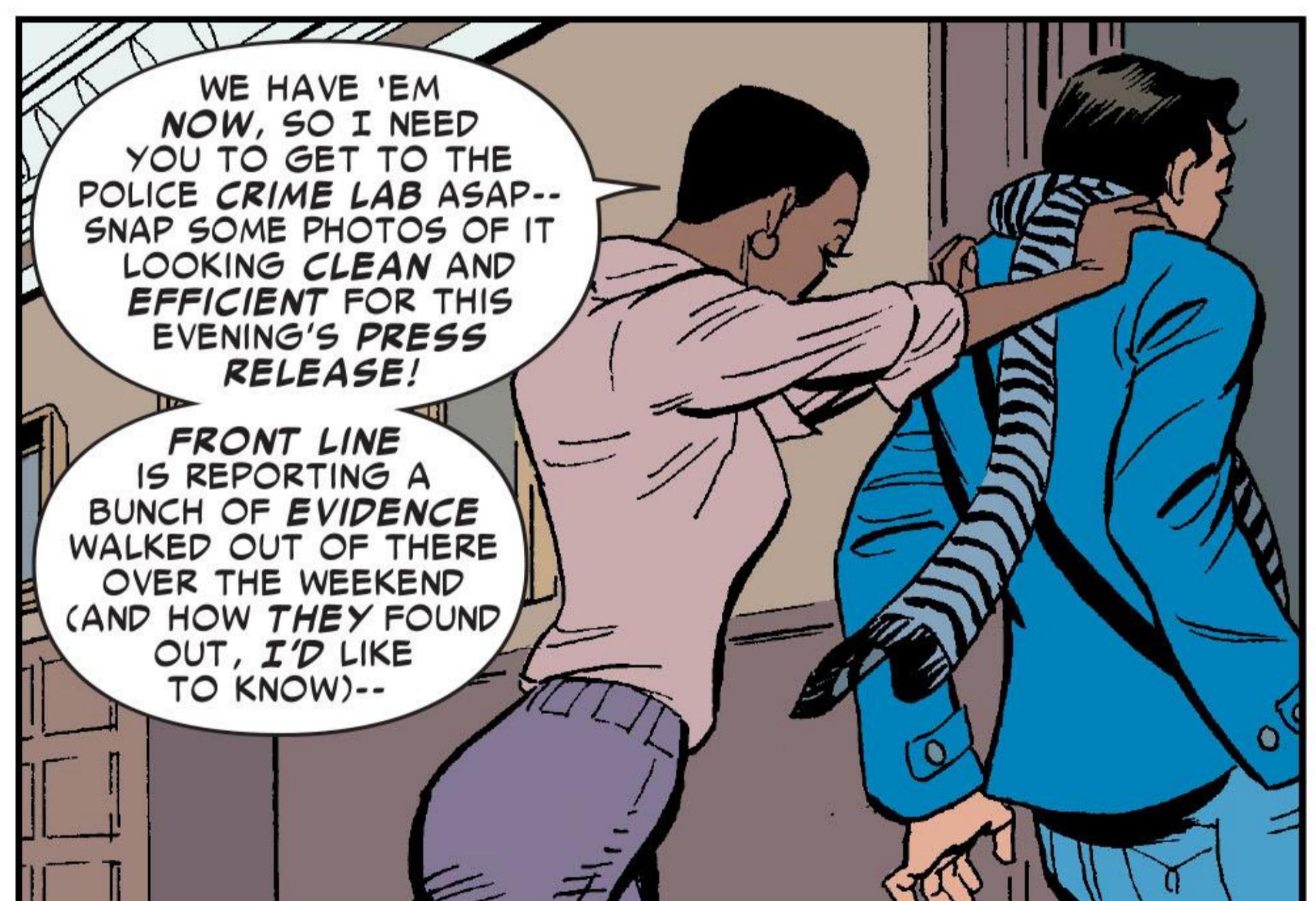
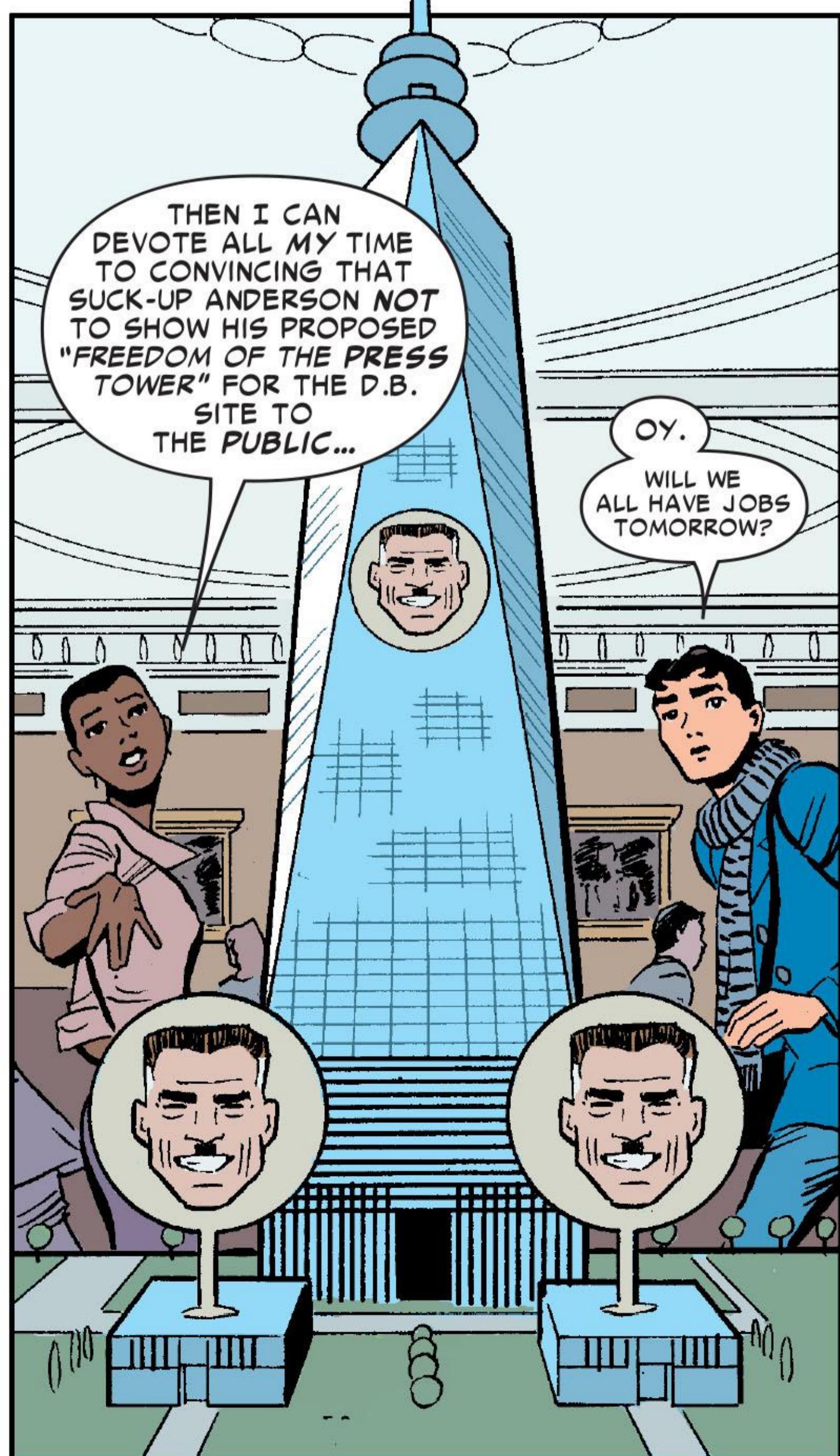
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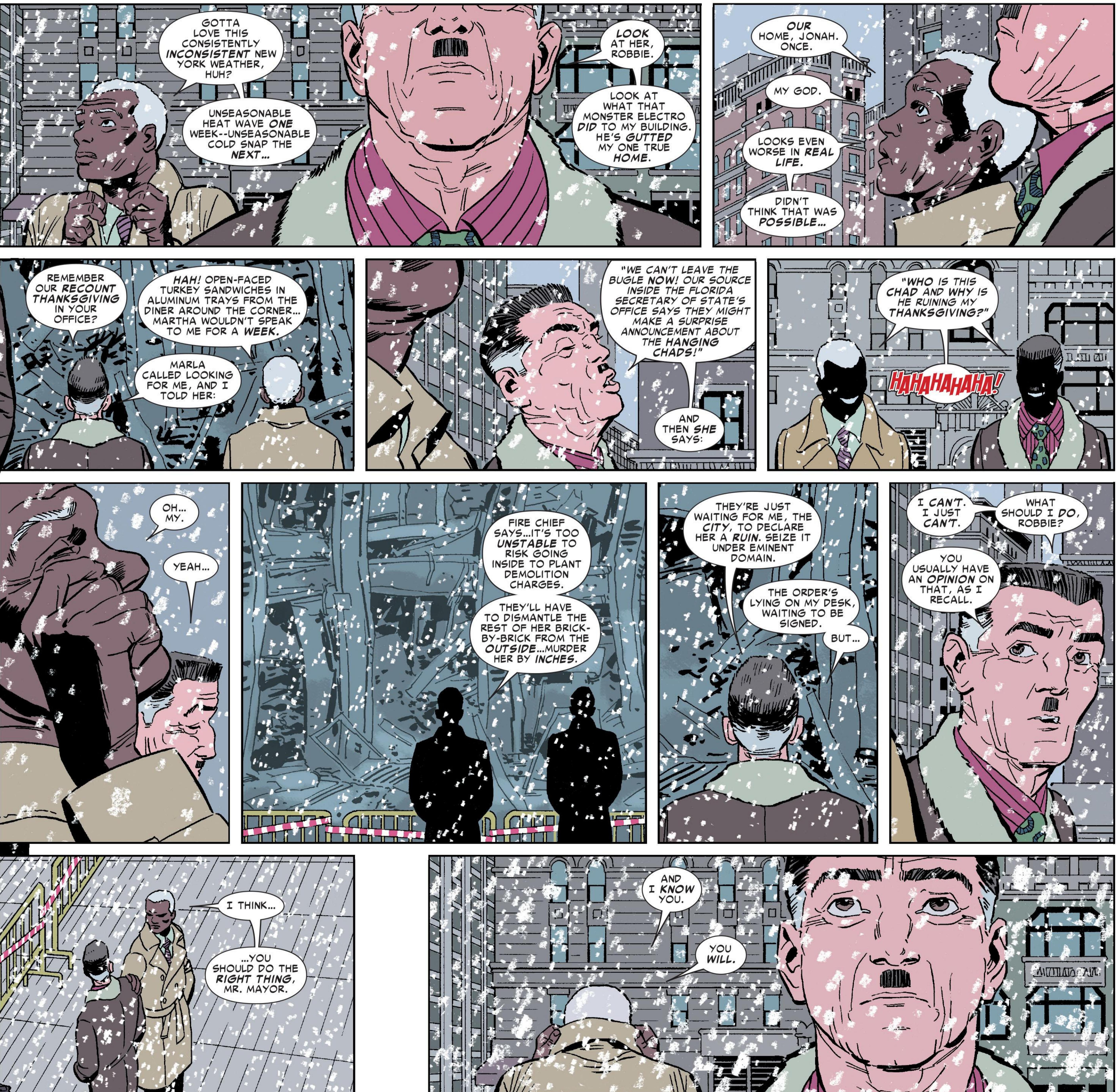
**STEPHEN  
WACKER**  
EDITOR

**ALAN  
FINE**  
EXEC. PRODUCER

**GALE, KELLY, SLOTT, VAN LENTE,  
WAID & WELLS** WEB-HEADS

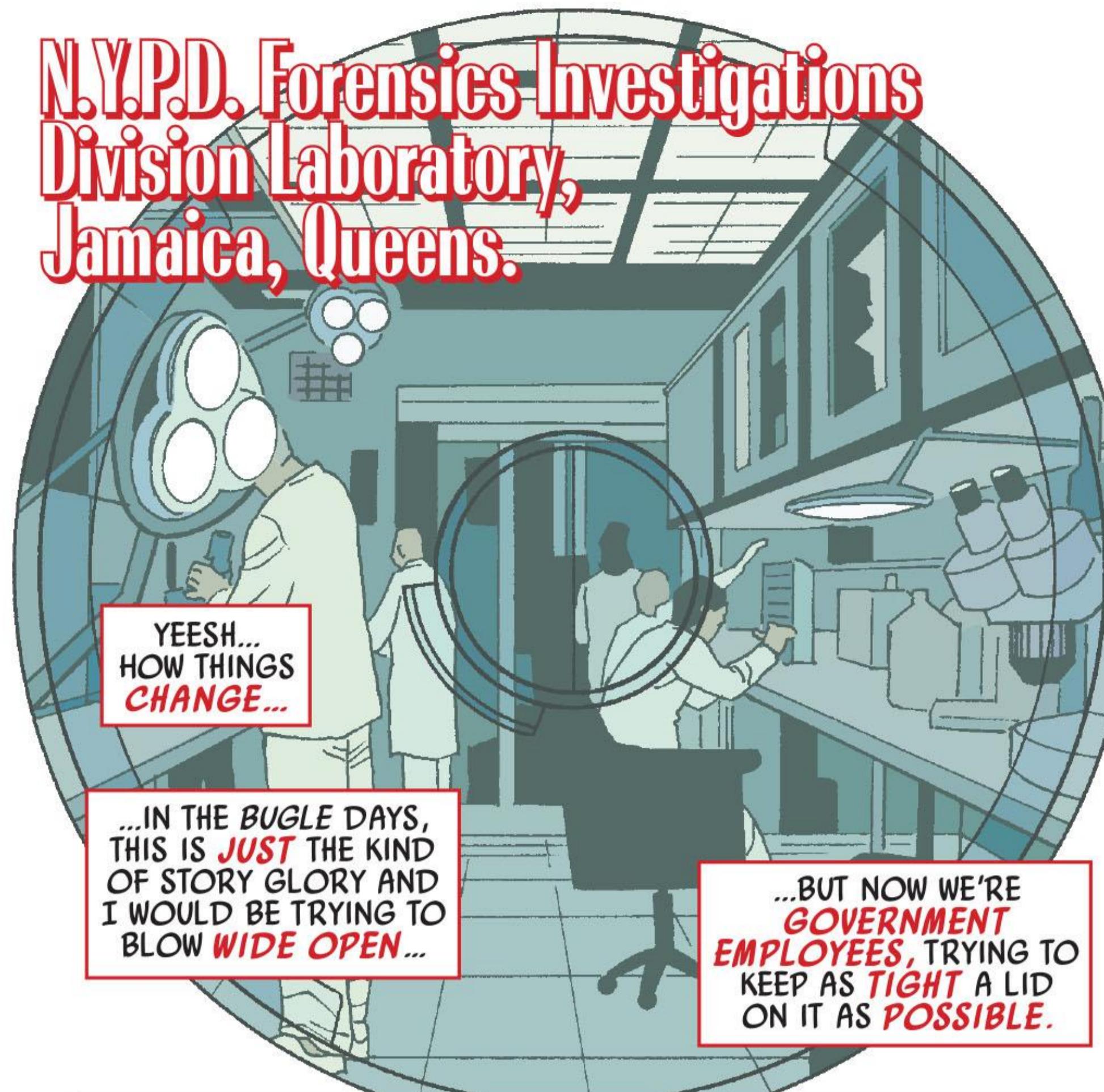


# The DB Building.



# N.Y.P.D. Forensics Investigations

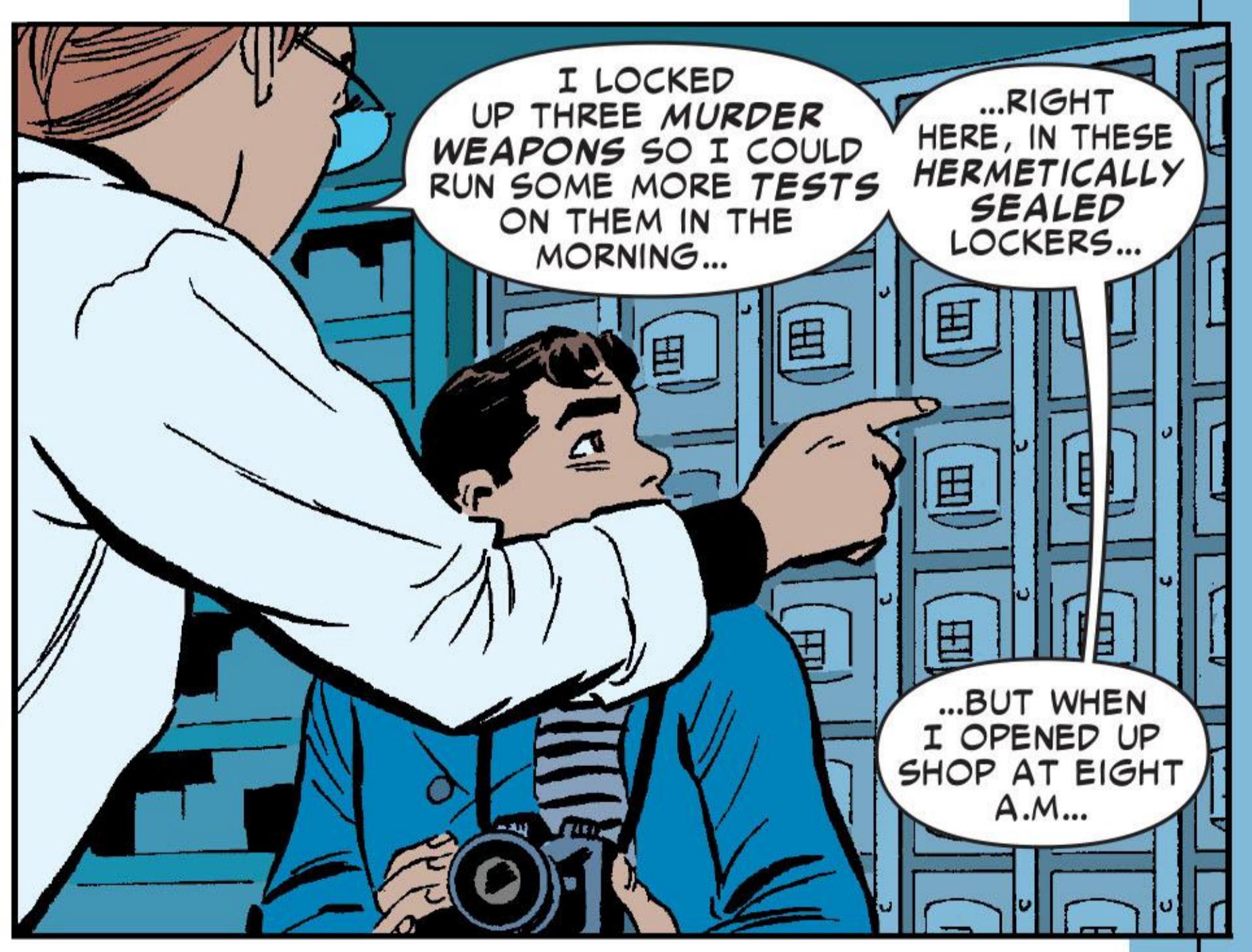
## Division Laboratory, Jamaica, Queens.



...BUT NOW WE'RE  
**GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES**, TRYING TO  
KEEP AS **TIGHT** A LID  
ON IT AS **Possible**.

IN **BOTH** CASES,  
WE'RE DOING WHAT  
WE THINK IS **BEST**  
FOR THE CITY.

THIS ONE'S A LITTLE  
MORE **COMPLICATED**,  
THOUGH...CARLIE'S BEEN  
A **GREAT FRIEND**  
TO MY BEST BUD, HARRY  
OSBORN, AND ME.



"FIRST ONE, HERMAN COHEN, LAWYER. 67. CAUCASIAN MALE. FOUND IN A DUMPSTER BEHIND HIS OFFICE AT 11:45, FRIDAY NIGHT."

"STABBED TO DEATH WITH AN ICE PICK. TIME OF DEATH APPROXIMATELY 10:30PM."

"ALMA ALVARADO, 31. HISPANIC FEMALE. EMPLOYEES DISCOVERED HER BODY IN THE CELL PHONE STORE SHE MANAGED AT ABOUT TEN A.M. SUNDAY MORNING."

"BLUDGEONED TO DEATH WITH BALL-PEEN HAMMER. TIME OF DEATH APPROXIMATELY HALF-PAST ELEVEN THE PREVIOUS SATURDAY NIGHT."

"DESHAWN PRICE, 26. AFRICAN-AMERICAN MALE. CONCERT PROMOTER. GIRLFRIEND FOUND HIS BODY IN THE BATHTUB OF HIS APARTMENT AROUND DUSK ON SUNDAY."

"HUNTING KNIFE WAS STILL LODGED IN HIS HEART. BY TIME OF DEATH...SHE MUST HAVE JUST MISSED THE KILLER BY MINUTES."

WOW.  
THAT'S SOME  
RECALL  
YOU GOT  
THERE...

C'MON,  
COOPER,  
TIME'S  
UP.

YOU SEE?  
I'M GOOD AT MY  
JOB, PETER! THEY SAY  
CITY HALL IS GOING TO TRY  
AND PIN ALL THIS ON ME,  
BUT I KNOW I FOLLOWED  
PROPER PROCEDURE!

YOU'RE  
SUSPENDED  
WITHOUT PAY  
PENDING A FULL  
INVESTIGATION...

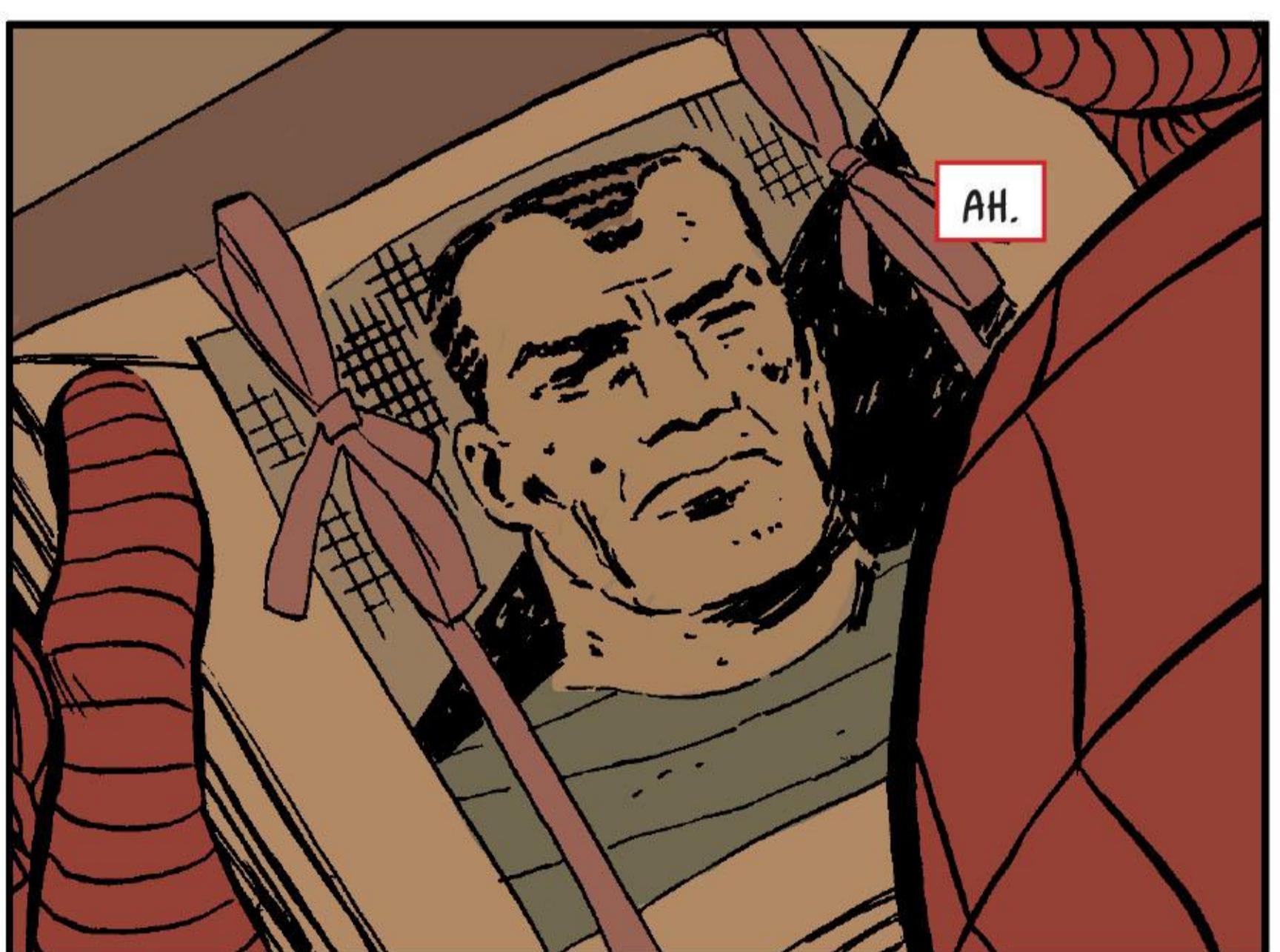
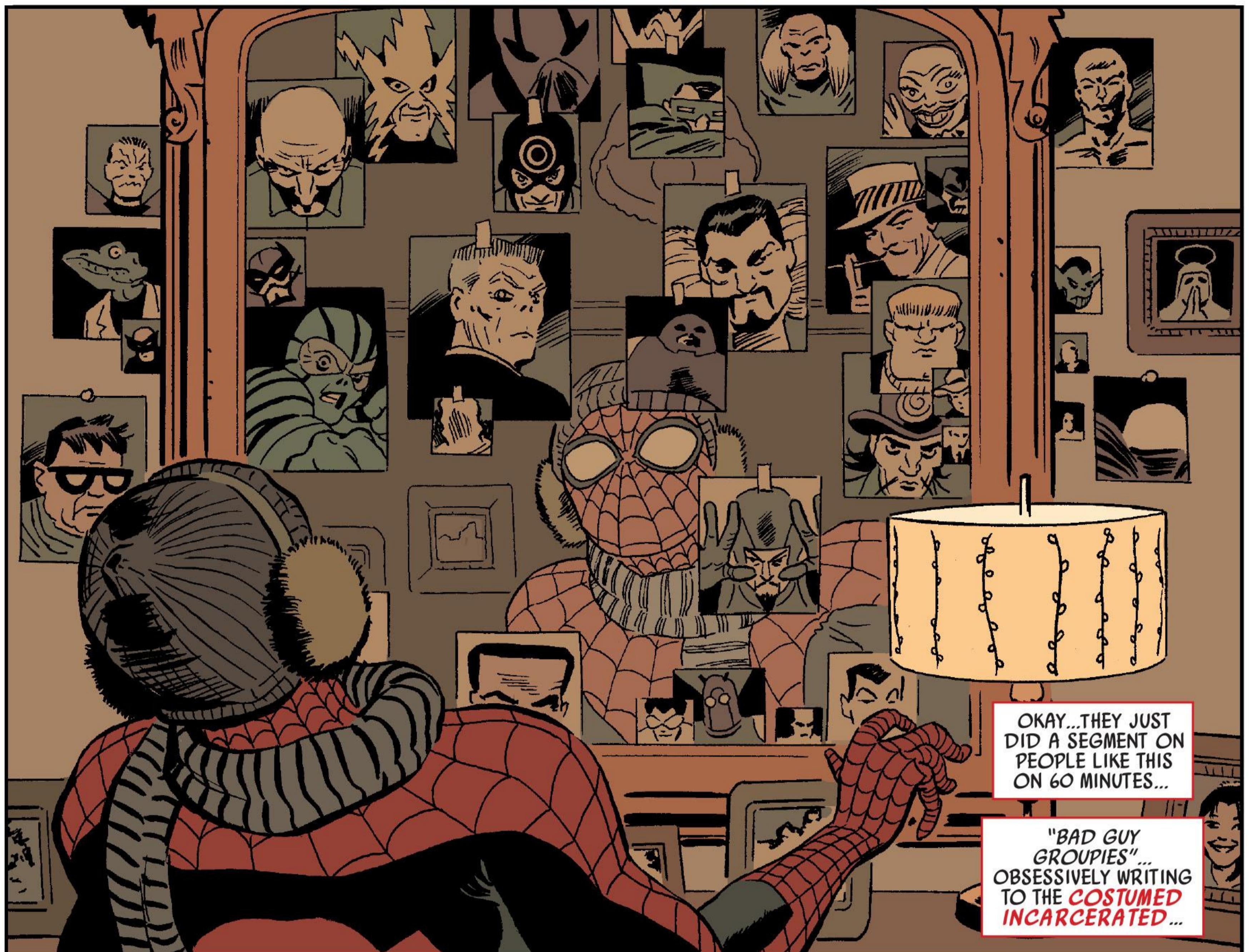
DON'T  
WORRY,  
CARLIE.

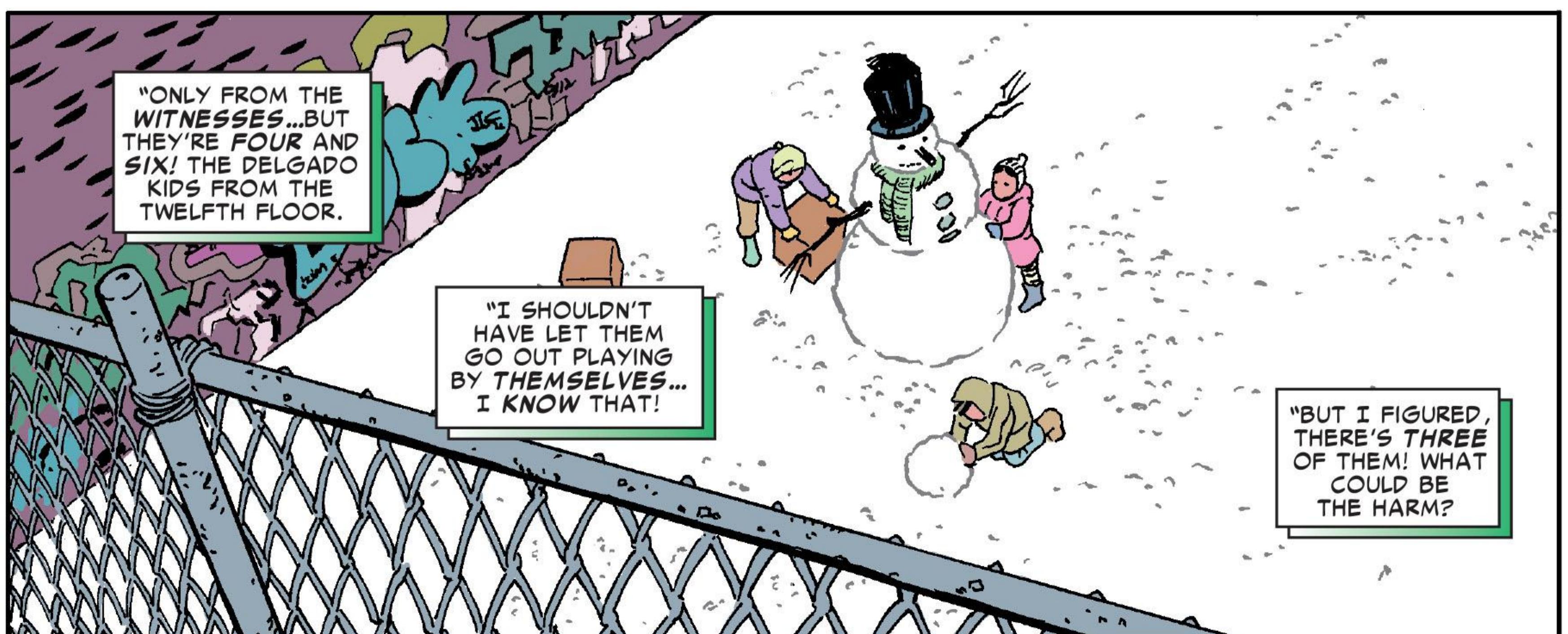
YOU CAN'T  
LET THE MAYOR  
PIN THIS ON ME,  
PETE! YOU  
CAN'T!

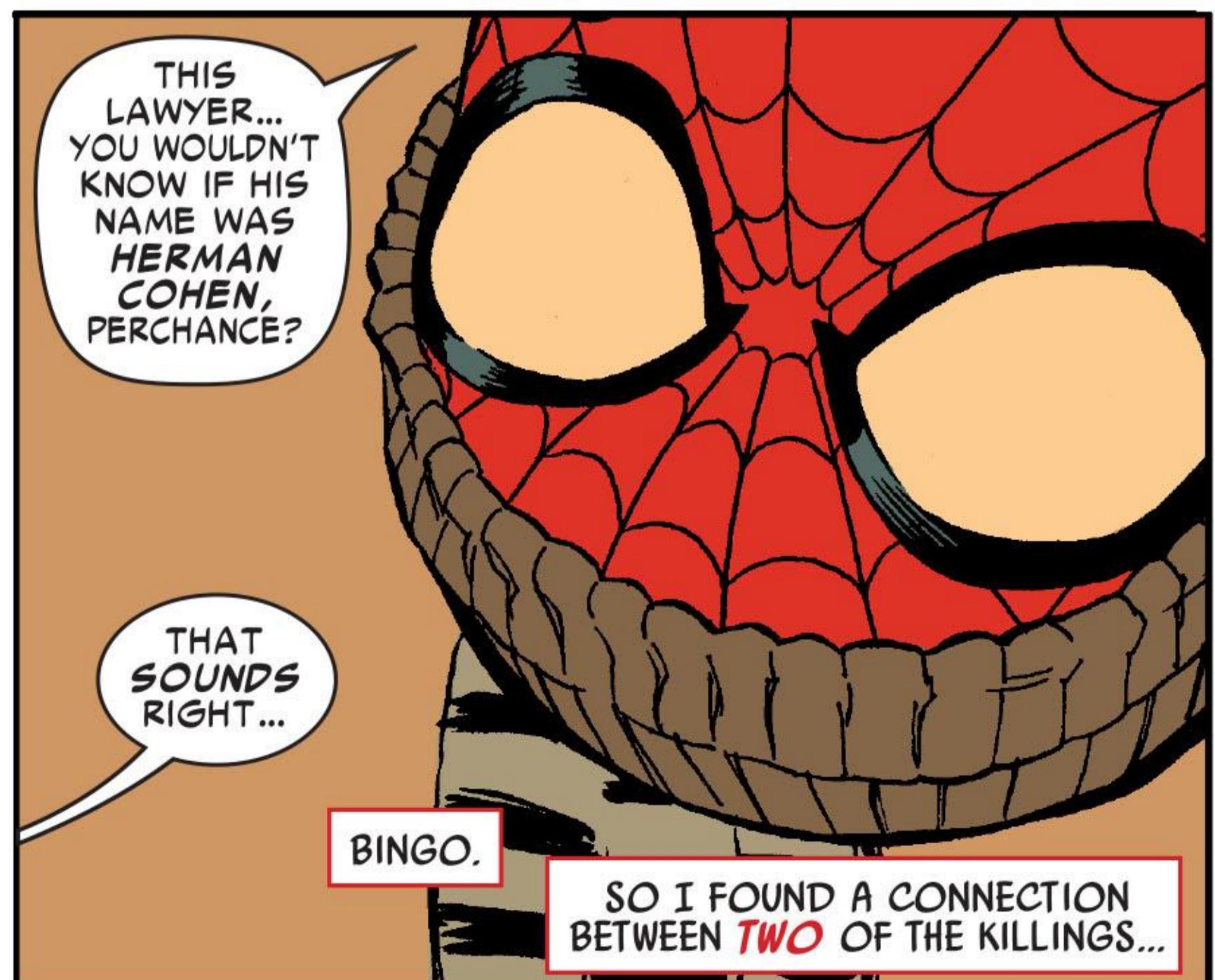
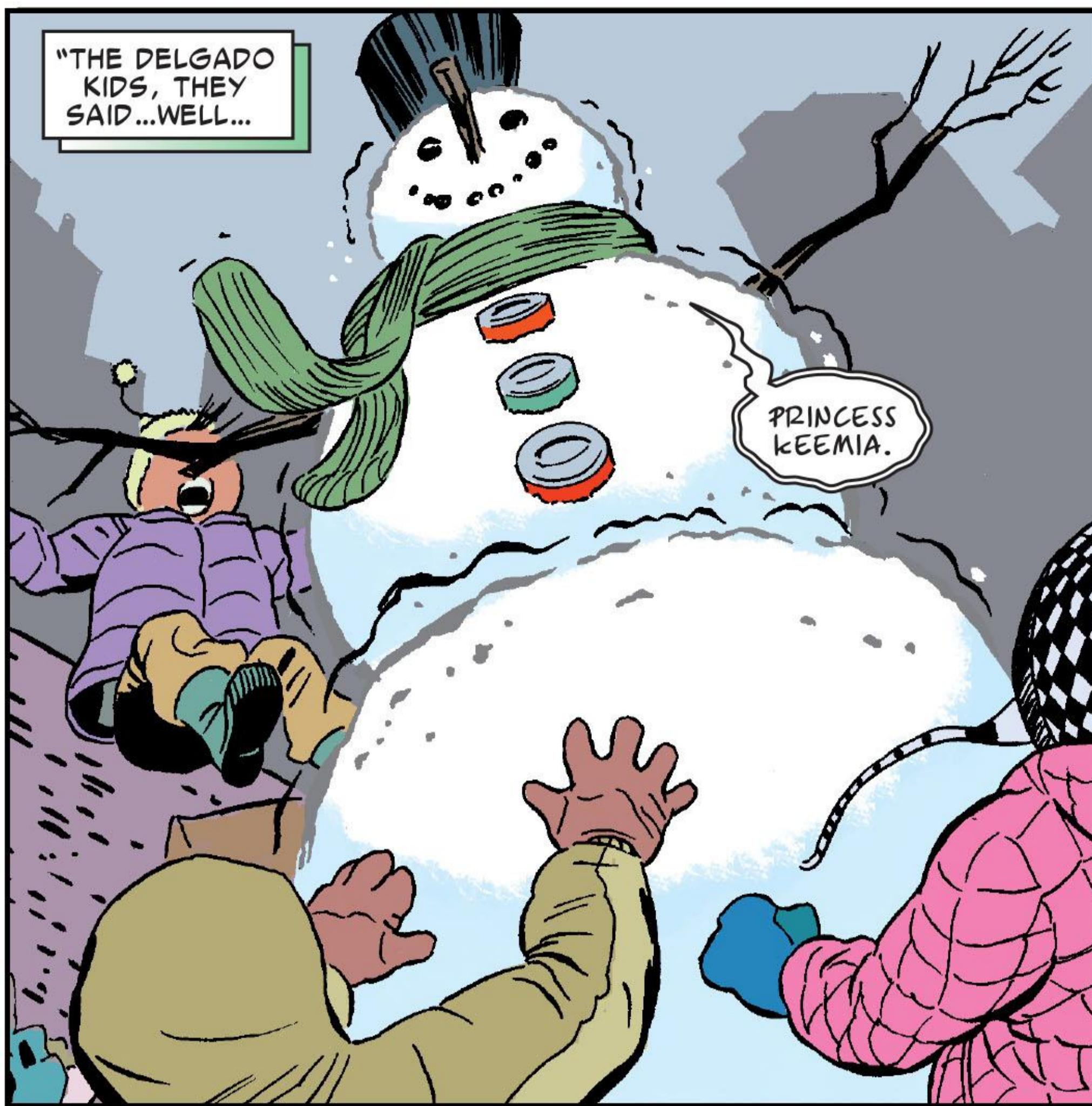
WE  
WON'T.

# South Bronx. That Night.









...LET'S SEE IF  
WE CAN MAKE IT  
**THREE-FOR-  
THREE!**

WELL,  
WELL,  
WELL.

TO  
WHAT DO  
I OWE THE  
PLEASURE?

A RECENTLY  
WHACKED CONCERT  
PROMOTER NAMED  
DESHAWN PRICE...WHAT  
CAN YOU TELL ME  
ABOUT HIM,  
BETTY?

WHY COME  
TO A LI'L OL'  
EX-D.B. REPORTER  
LIKE ME?

RUMOR HAS  
IT YOU USE FRONT  
LINE FOR ALL YOUR  
"INSIDE JOURNALISM"  
NEEDS THESE  
DAYS...

WELL...  
GIVEN THE  
SUBJECT  
MATTER...

RIGHT. THE  
D.B. IS...WAS...  
MORE LOCKED-IN TO  
THE **CELEBRITY**  
SET...

...WITH SUCH  
CLASSIC FRONT-  
PAGE HEADLINES AS  
"SOAP STAR DISCOVERED  
IN LOVE NEST WITH  
GOAT AND  
MIDGETS".

SOMETHING  
LIKE THAT...  
...ALTHOUGH  
I BELIEVE THEY  
PREFER TO BE  
CALLED "LITTLE  
PEOPLE."  
TOUCHE.

DESHAWN  
PRICE? YEAH...I  
THOUGHT THE  
NAME SOUNDED  
FAMILIAR...

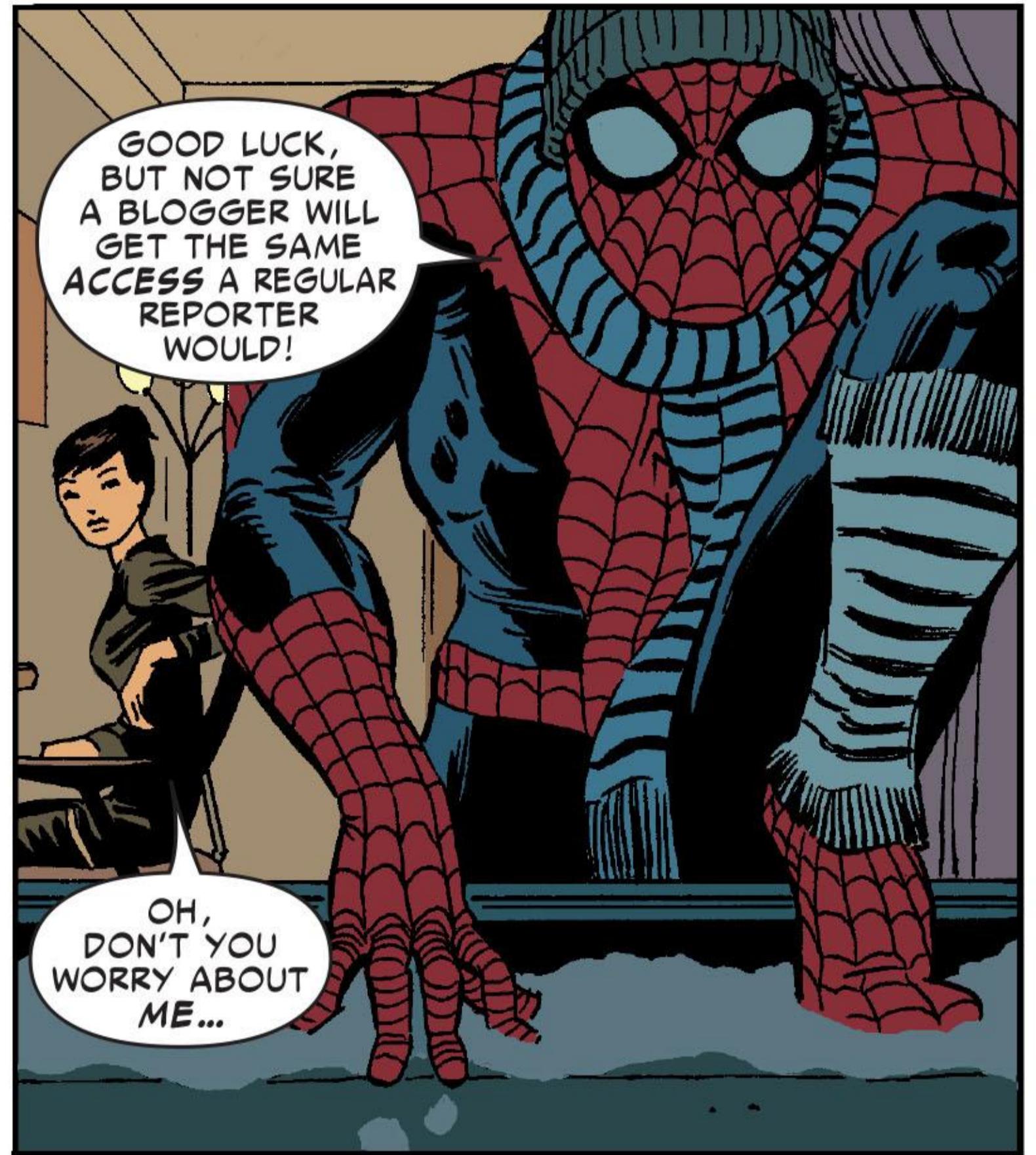
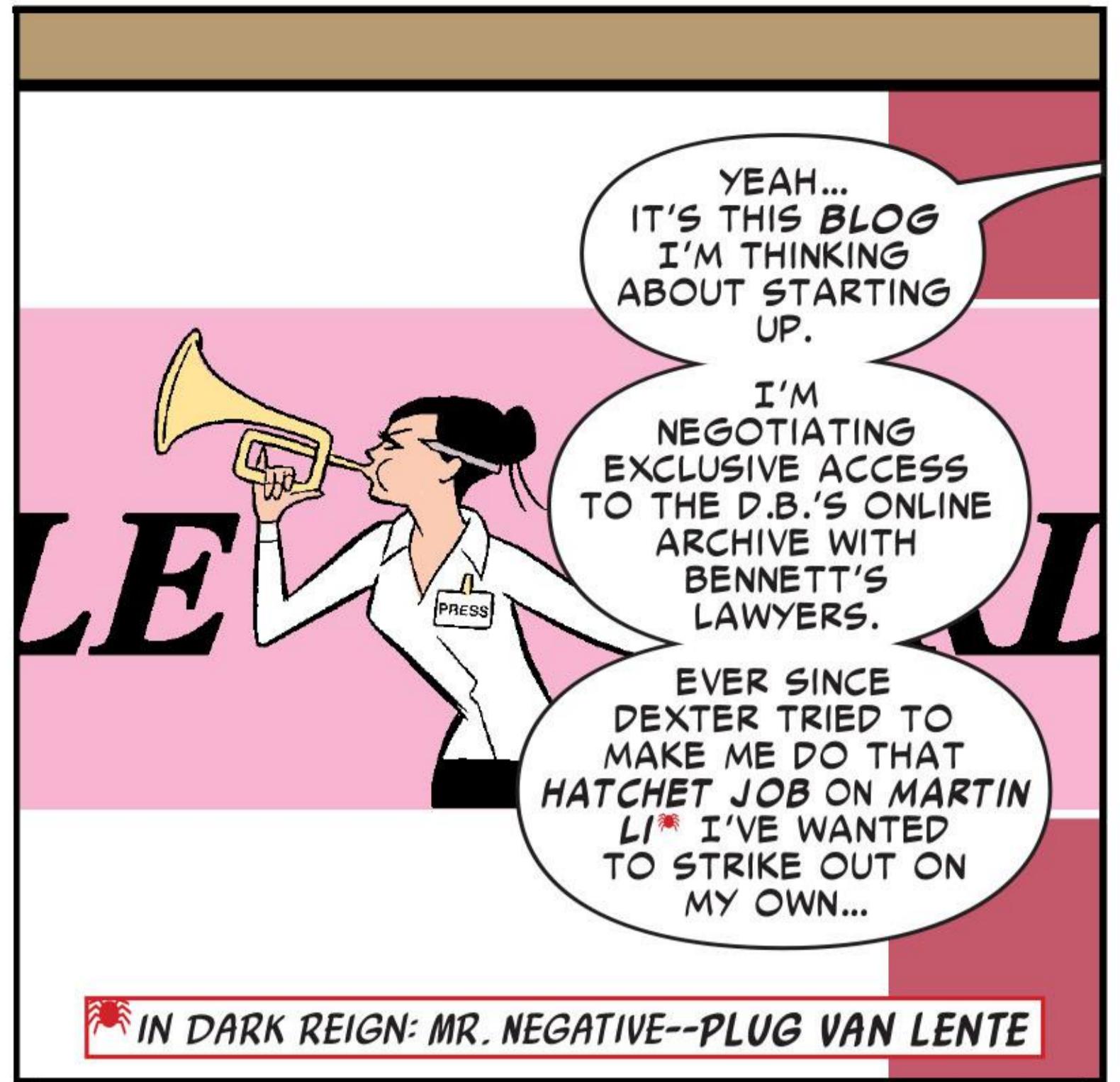
HE WAS  
NEGOTIATING  
WITH THE MAYOR'S  
OFFICE TO SET UP A  
WINTER CONCERT  
SERIES ON  
GOVERNORS  
ISLAND...

...HELP  
THE CITY  
GENERATE SOME  
OFF-SEASON  
REVENUE.

**BUGLE GIRL**

BUT  
PRICE'S DEATH  
PROBABLY PUTS  
THE KIBOSH  
ON--

SPIDER-MAN?





GOVERNORS ISLAND  
IS ONE OF THE BIGGER  
LANDMASSES IN NEW  
YORK HARBOR...

...IT WAS THE MAIN **ARMY**  
**BASE** IN THE BIG APPLE  
FOR OVER A CENTURY,  
BEFORE THE **COAST**  
**GUARD** TOOK IT OVER...

...BUT THEY ABANDONED  
IT, TOO. THE PARK SERVICE  
HAS BEEN RUNNING IT AS  
A LANDMARK SITE.

SINCE THIS IS  
THE **OFF-SEASON**,  
IT SHOULD BE  
CLOSED TO THE  
PUBLIC, THOUGH.

THAT WOULD MAKE IT  
THE IDEAL PLACE TO  
STASH A **KIDNAPPED**  
**GIRL**, I GUESS.

IT'S NOT LIKE MY  
CUP OVERFLOWETH  
WITH **LEADS**, HERE...

THIS PLACE IS A **MAZE**  
OF ABANDONED  
BARRACKS, FORTS,  
AND OTHER MILITARY  
BUILDINGS.

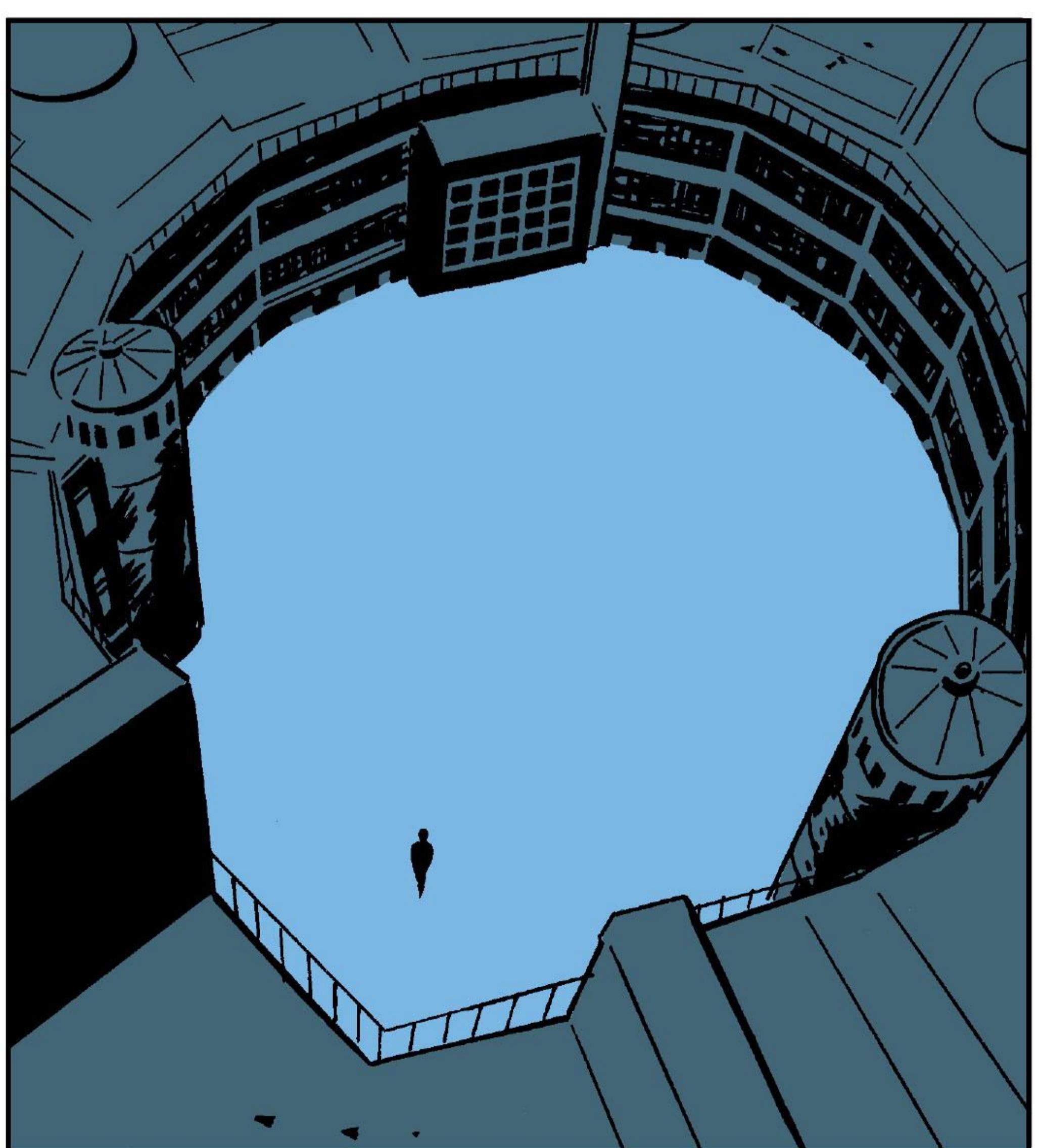
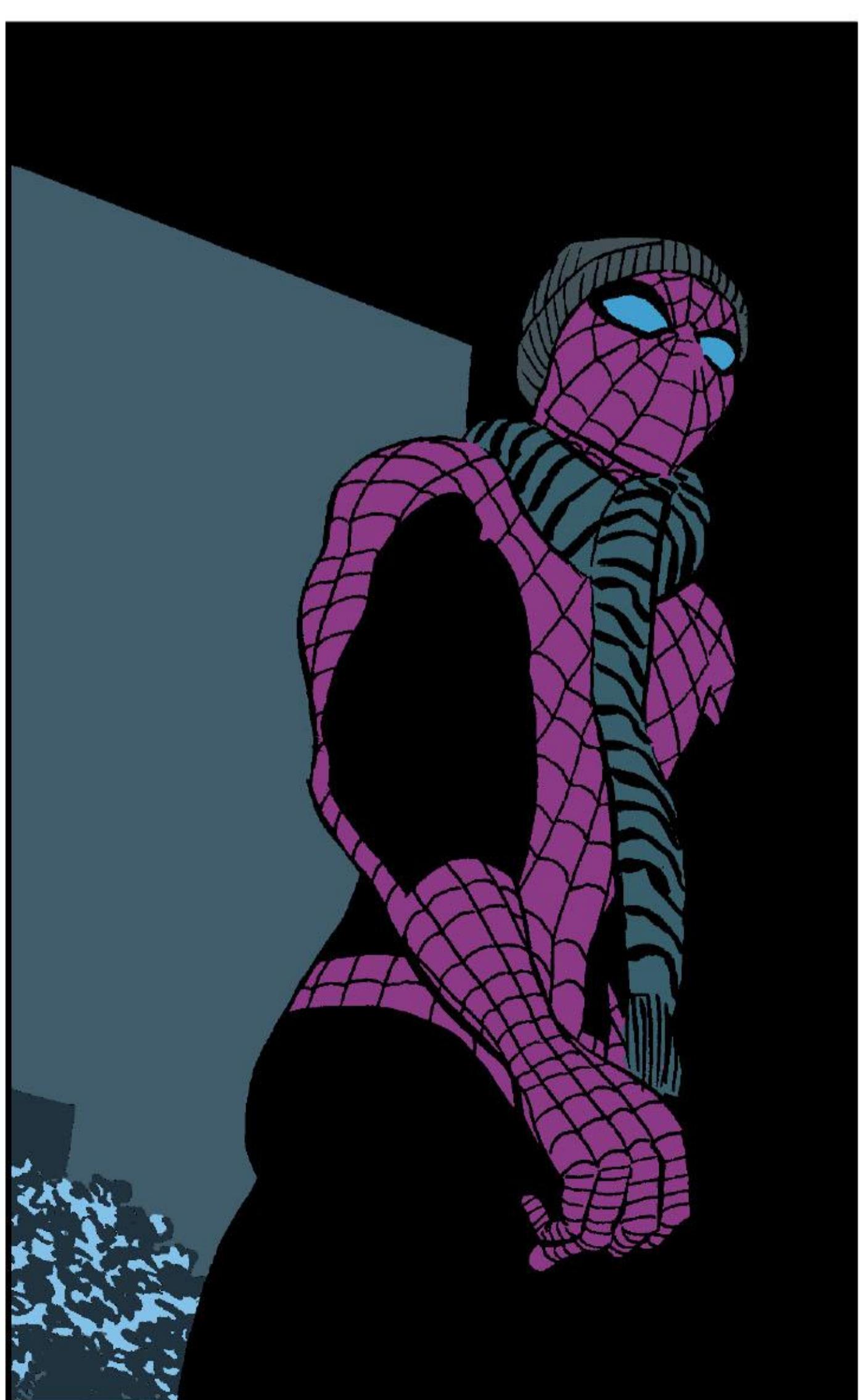
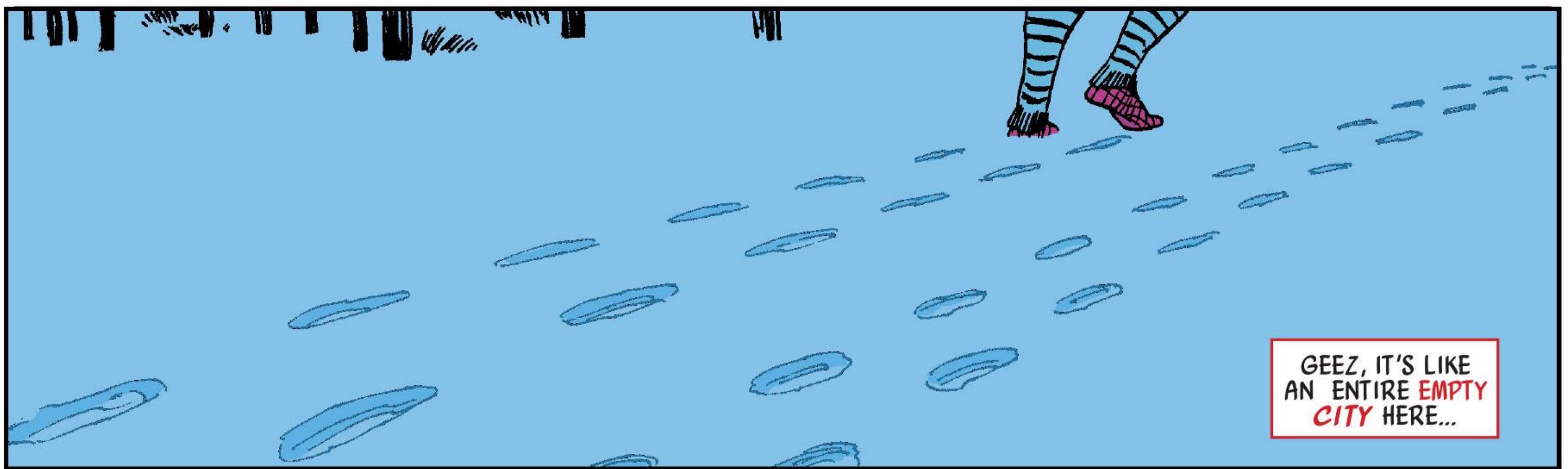
DON'T EVEN KNOW  
WHERE TO BEGIN  
**LOOKING...**

...BUT METHINKS  
SPIDEY BE ON THE  
RIGHT TRACK.

"FRIENDS, ROMANS,  
**ICICLES**, LEND ME  
YOUR EARS..."

SOMEBODY'S  
BEEN BUSY.

COULD IT  
BE YOU?





OKAY,  
MARKO.



YOU LED  
ME WHERE  
YOU WANTED  
ME TO GO.



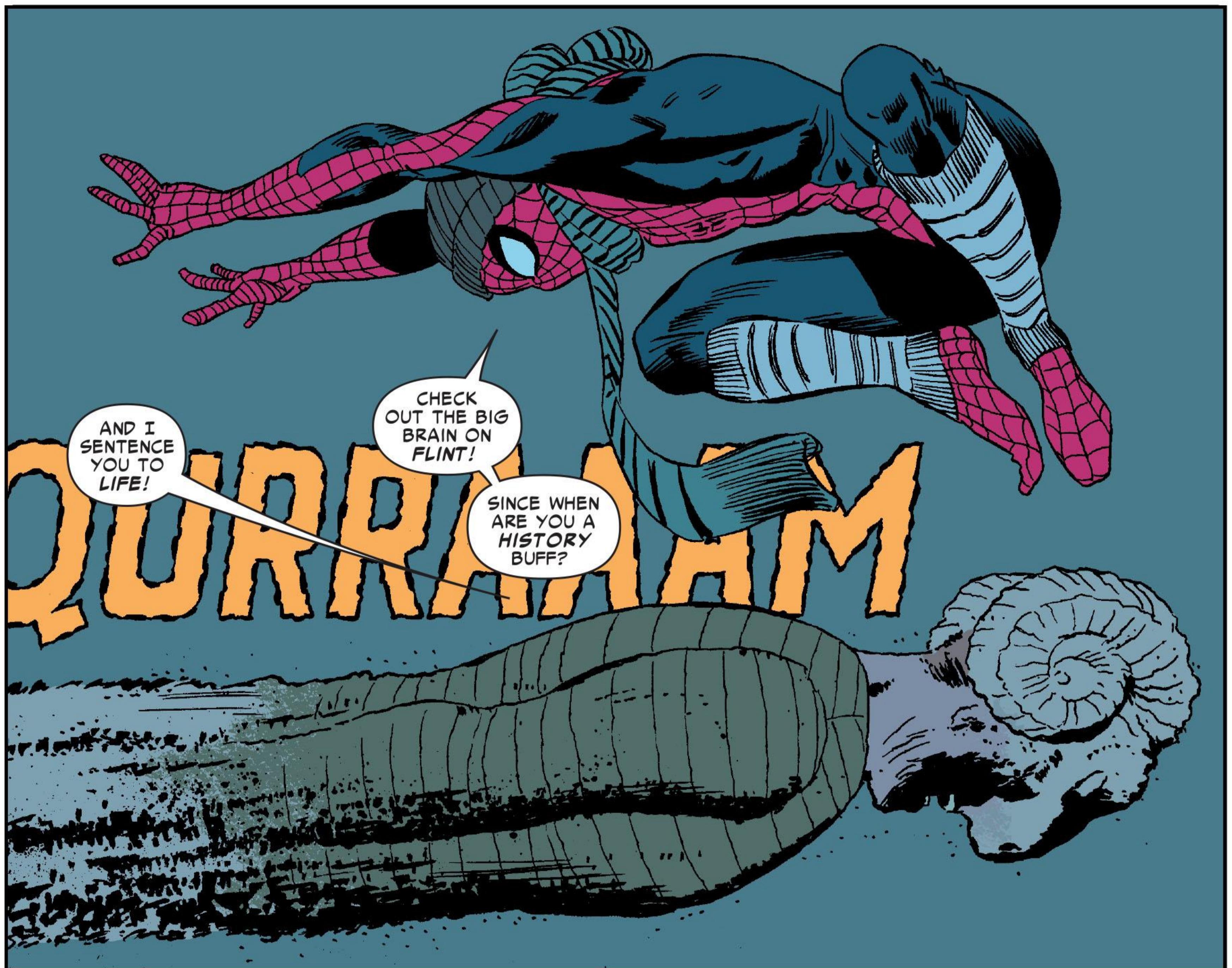
TIME TO  
COME OUT  
NOW.



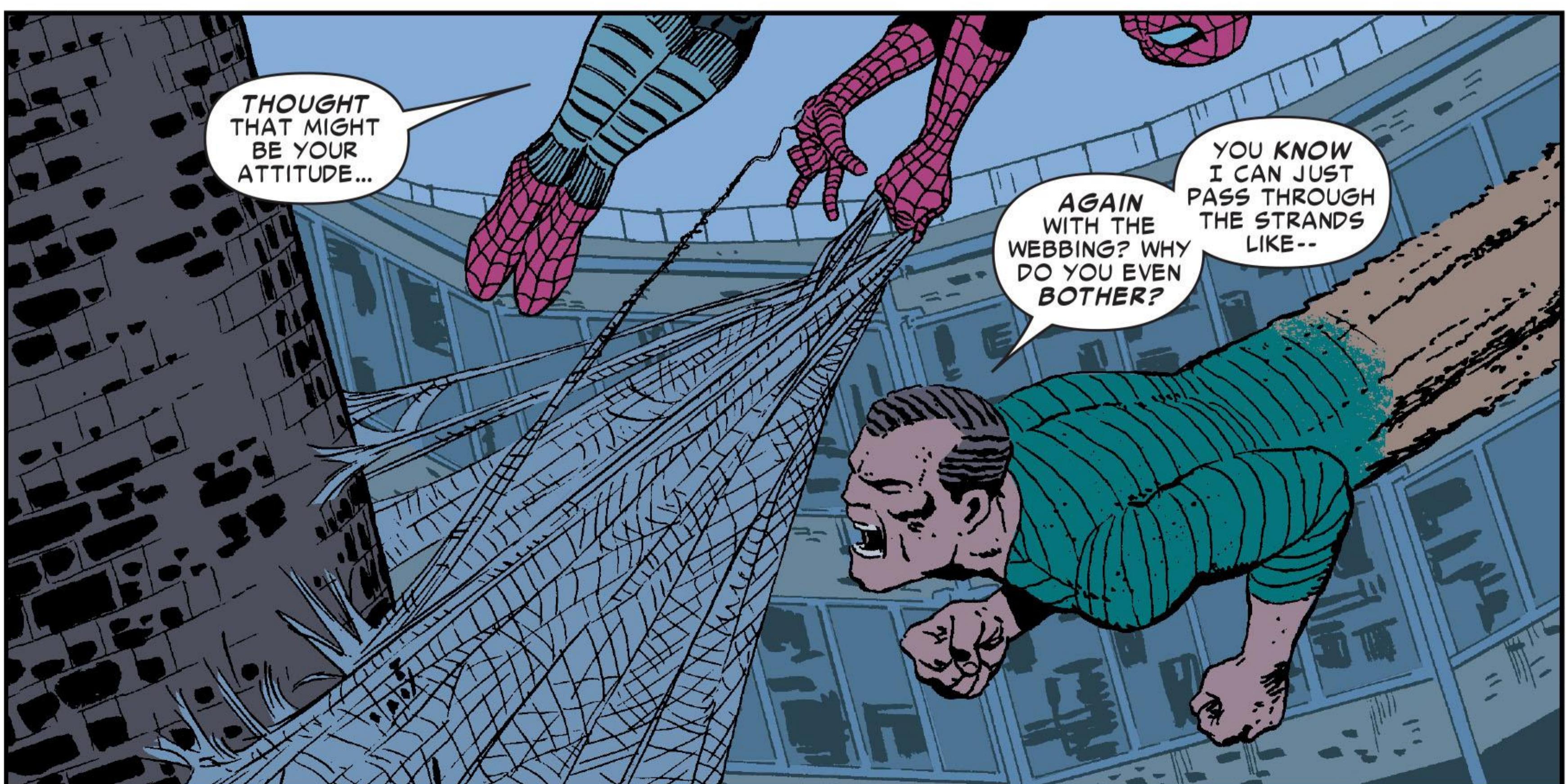
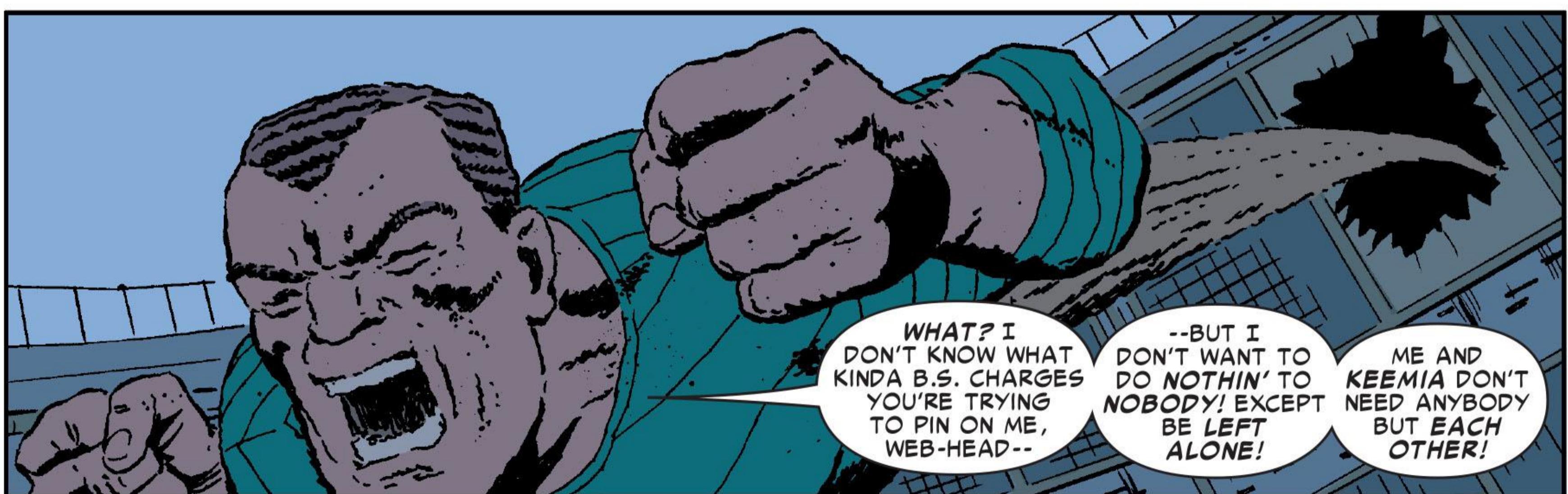
CAREFUL  
WHAT YOU WISH  
FOR, WALL-  
CRAWLER.

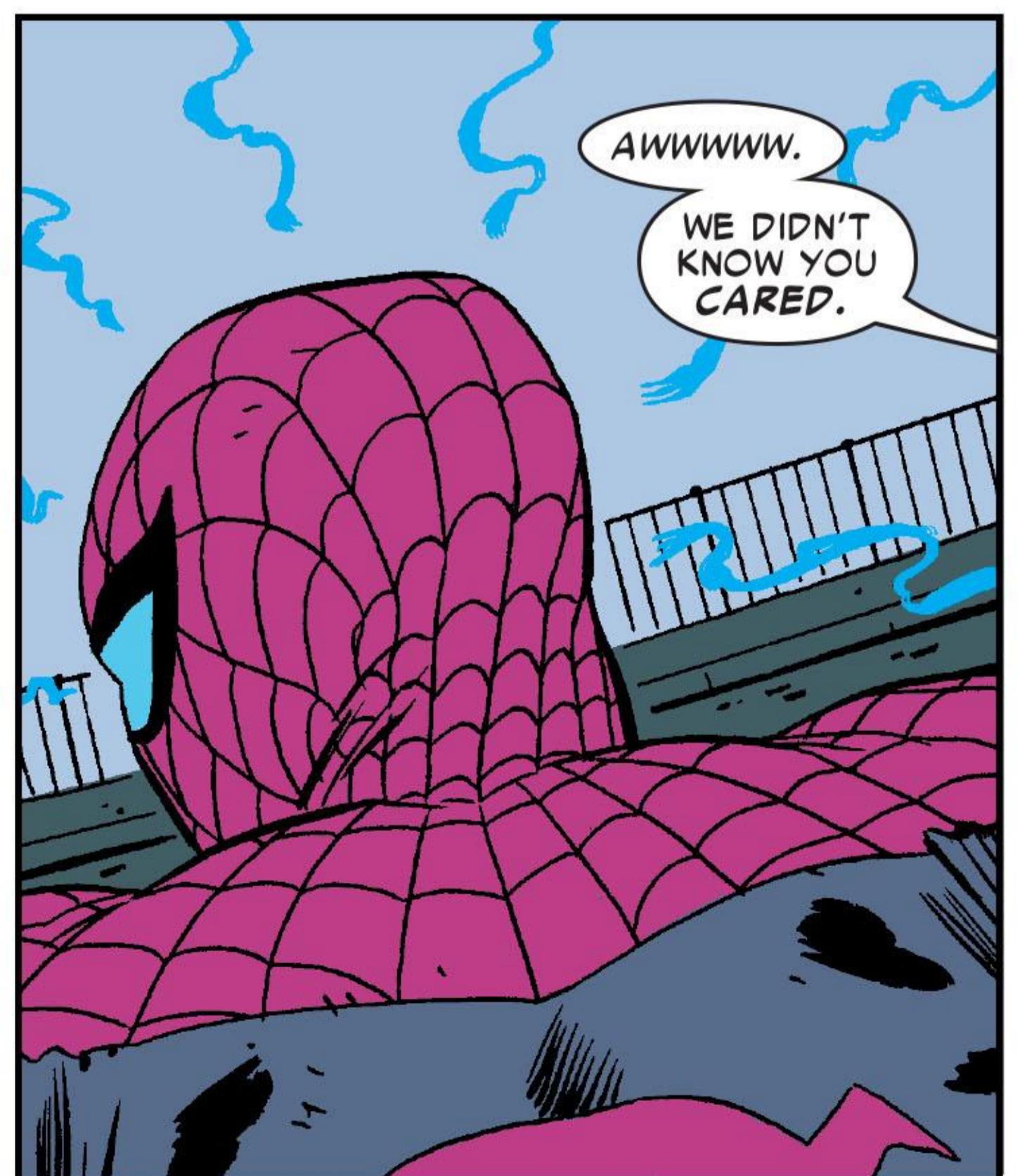
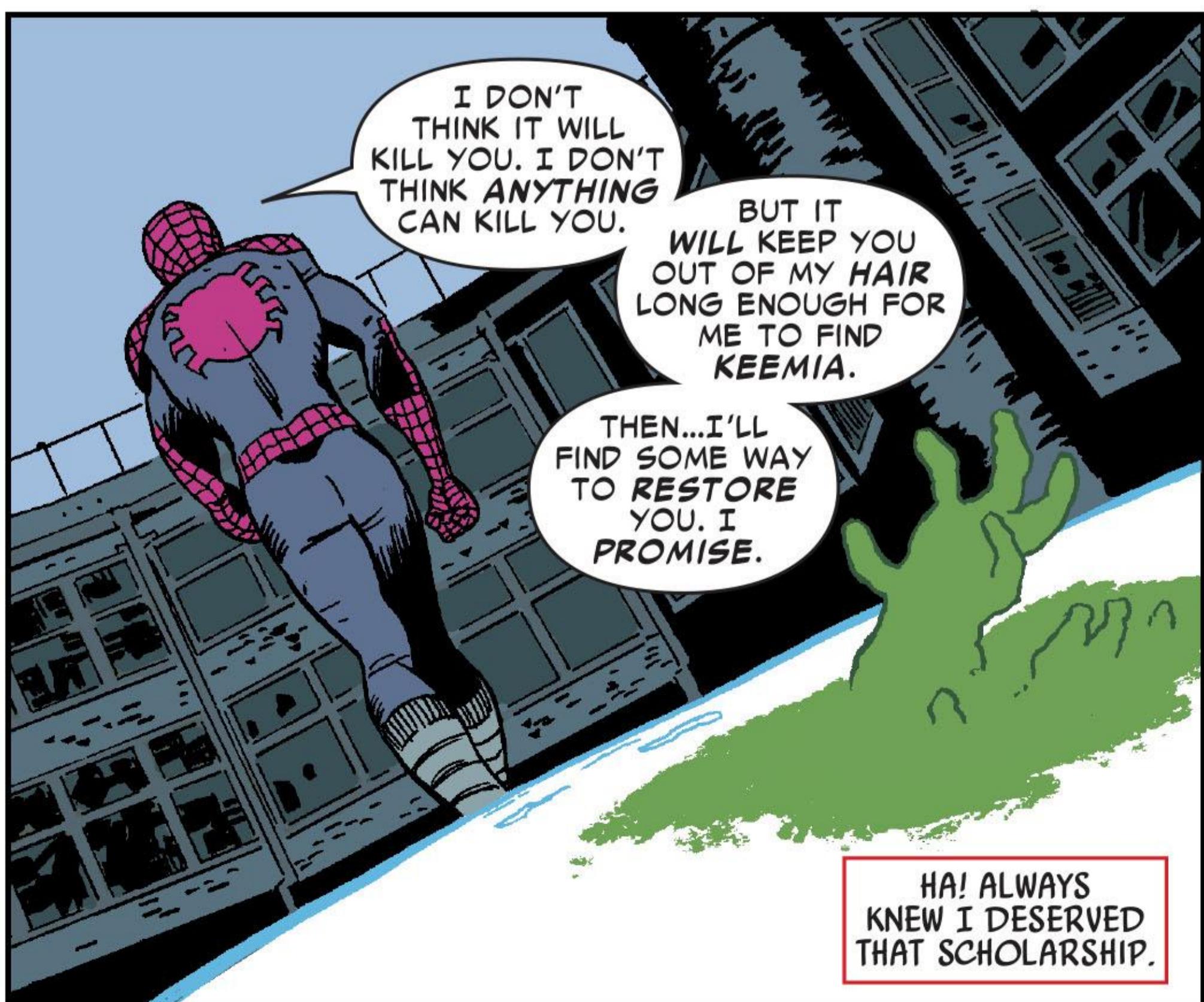
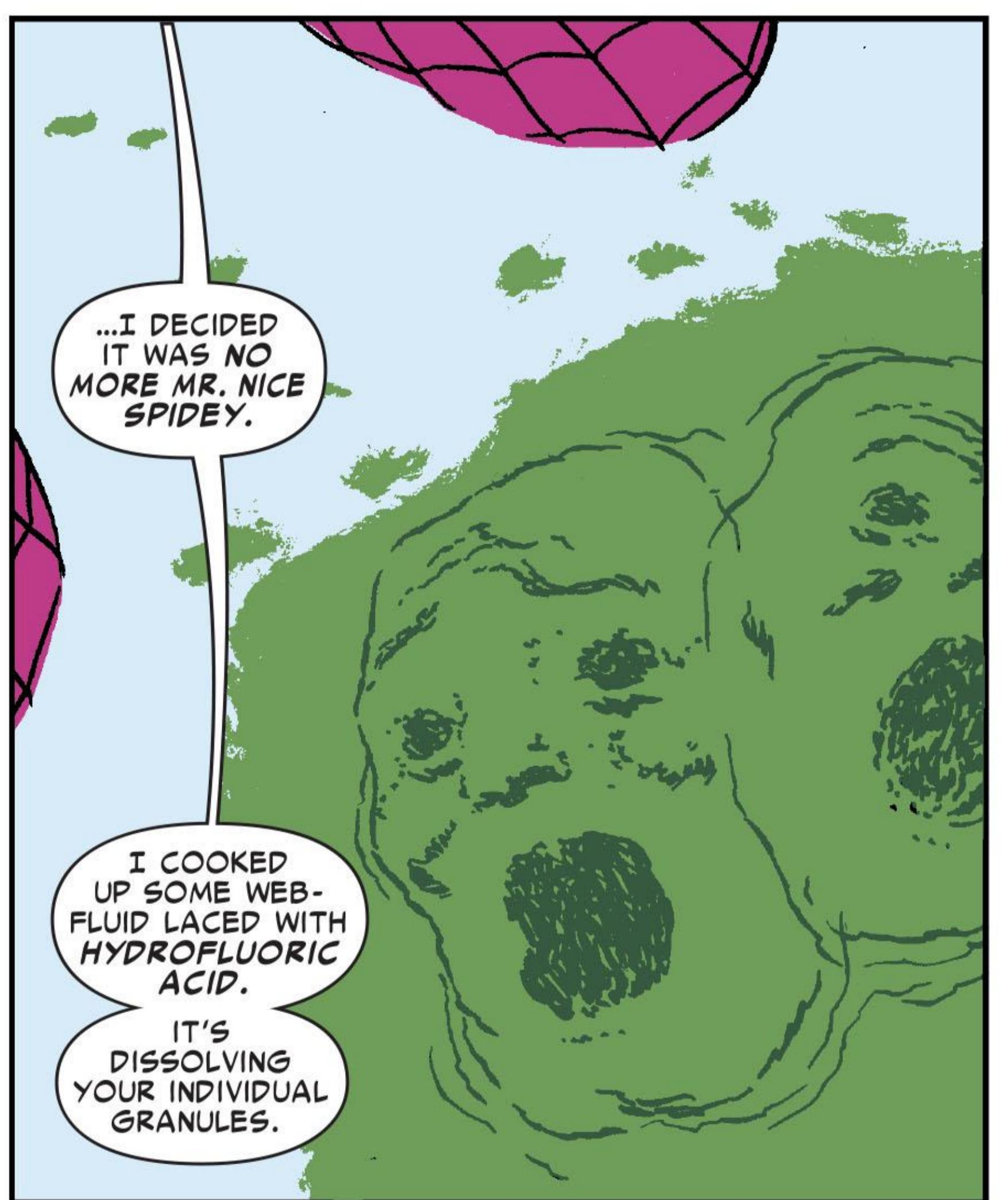
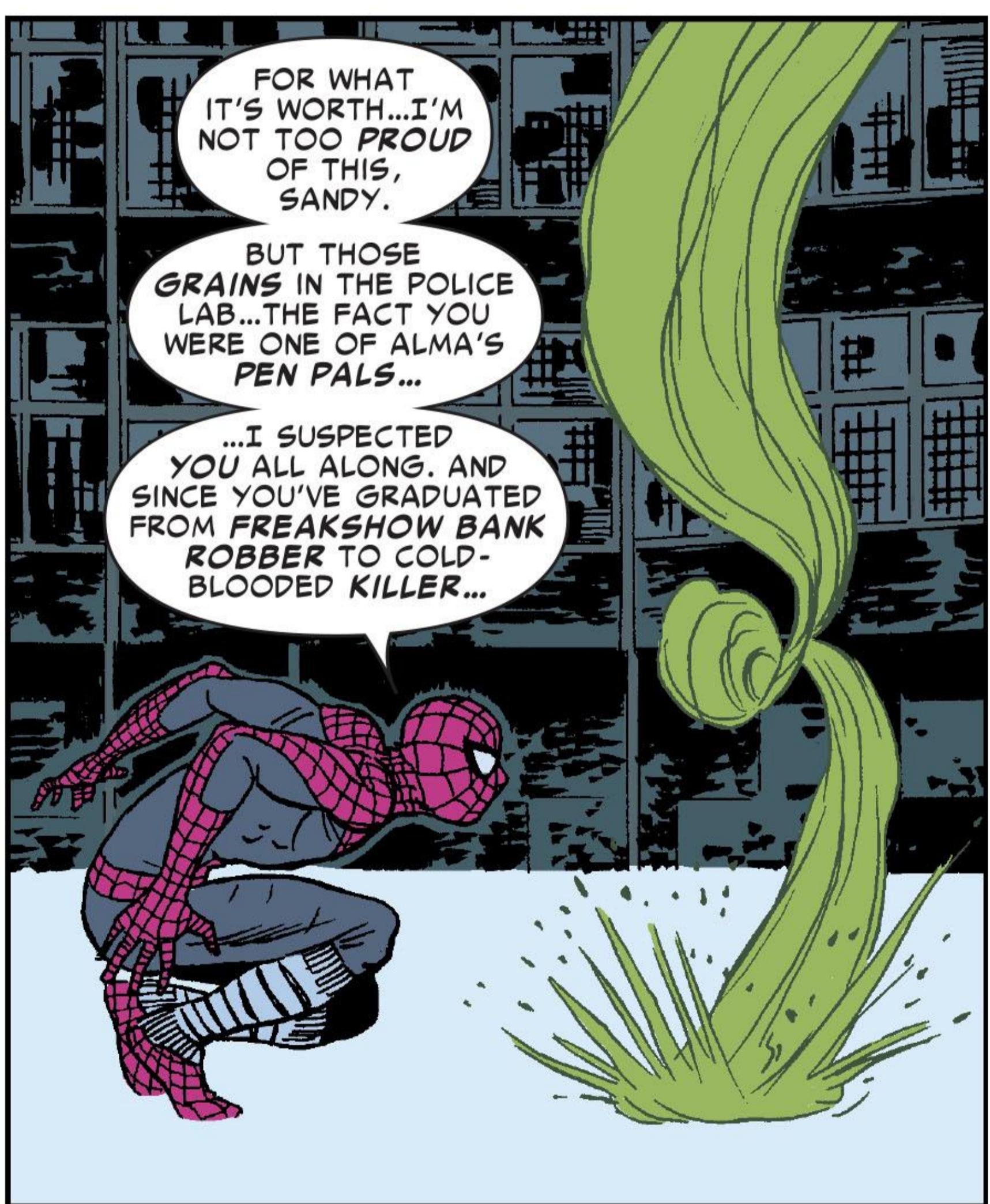


THIS  
CASTLE  
USED TO BE  
A MILITARY  
PRISON.











To Be Continued!

# the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL



I'm writing this just two days before the Thanksgiving holiday here in the U.S.A. and like everyone who has to fill dead space, I thought it'd be a good time to list some of the things I am grateful for after almost two years delivering Spidey three times a month to a chorus of eternally grateful readers.

-All the great creators who have not only kept the book on schedule (mostly, anyway) but have gone above and beyond into making Amazing the best book on the stands.

-All the production folks who have helped on the book including this week's Recap page designer Joe Sabino of Virtual Calligraphy.

-NL MVP Albert Pujols.

-My bosses Tom Brevoort and Joe Quesada. It's end of the year performance review time, but that has nothing to do with me saying that these two men are two of the bravest, most creative people--no Geniuses--on the planet. I regret this planet has only one of each of them as they are two of the last warriors--in both spirit and mind--left on earth.

If you have sons, pray they turn out like them. If you have daughters pray, they marry husbands like them. They are true giants, making the world liquid and even. The kind of men who would never bring up the many mistakes and personal peccadilloes that have hindered me through the year--and that have been mostly caused by Brennan.

-John Romita Senior.

-Stan's work on #600.

-My new officemate CB Cebulski and former and current members of Marvel's talent management department (David Bogart, Bon Almagno, George Beliard, and Chris Allo).

-My iPod loaded with my favorite podcasts: *The Ethicist*; *On The Media*; *Wait, Wait Don't Tell Me*; and *Awesomed by Comics*. Before you get too excited, it also has the new Adam Lambert album and the complete Wham!--so you may not even WANT to be on my iPod.

-My friends at the websites Newsarama, IGN, and Comic Book Resources for covering news surrounding the book.

-Egg nog.

-Adi Granov's Gauntlet teaser.

-Pepsi Natural. Please, sodas...go back to using real sugar!

-My Palm Pre for allowing me to bugged by artists and writers 24 hours a day.

-My interns...Andy, Janna and Dan.

-ASM #583's success which allowed me to leave an hour early one Tuesday last February.

-My Keurig one-cup coffee maker and pumpkin coffee.

-Grease on Blu-Ray.

-The Spider-Woman motion comic by Bendis and Maleev.

-Cons that are NOT in New York City causing work to stop for a week as every freelancer known to man runs the halls and I am forced to work for free all weekend entertaining these nudnicks!

-Circus Peanuts.

-My Kindle 2.

-Taking over editorial reins on Daredevil.

-Brennan's girlfriend, Jennifer, and her endless patience for our man-boy. I would have sued for his inheritance after what he did...but not Jen.

-Liz Lemon.

-The very neat and tidy Marvel cosmic editor Bill Rosemann for not realizing I lay my naked belly on top of his keyboard every morning before he gets in.

-DC Comics writer Geoff Johns for allowing us to tease him in issue #611.

-Twitter...for making sure absolutely no actual work was done by anyone in comics over thirty years old. (Is that too many characters?)

-All my friends at the Thought Balloon Con in Leeds, England and the great fans who had a lot of constructive things to say about the book.

-My wife and two kids for allowing me to answer those middle of the night e-mails and stay late when necessary.

-Brennan—not only for the hard work, but for taking the time to dress and live as me from time to time...with my wife and kids none the wiser (and in some cases happier).

-Glee.

-Marvel.com for running our brand new all-original ASM digital comic online now by web-head Bob Gale and Spidey fan-favorite Patrick Olliffe.

-The new giant Reese's Peanut Butter Cups (Full disclosure: Brevoort made me put that).

-George Takei.

TOM BRENNAN STEPHEN WACKER  
ASST. EDITOR EDITOR

TOM BREVOORT JOE QUESADA  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR EDITOR IN CHIEF

DAN BUCKLEY ALAN FINE  
PUBLISHER EXEC. PRODUCER

-ASM letterer Joe Caramagna for never, ever, EVER complaining when he gets letter columns the morning a book is due at the printer. Really...he NEVER complains!

-Sushi.

-And finally...you, the fans, for writing great letters like this all year around:

OK TO PRINT...  
WACKER,

YOU SUCK! PLEASE PUT AN EDITOR ON THIS BOOK THAT KNOWS WHEN TO SHUT UP! YOU THINK YOU ARE SO FUNNY BUT YOU NEVER ARE. I KNOW MANY PEOPLE IN THE "INDUSTRY" AND THEY DON'T HAVE MANY GOOD THINGS TO SAY ABOUT YOU. BETTER GET YOUR RESUME TOGETHER.

YOU MAKE FUN OF BRENNAN BUT THEN YOU SAY HE DOES ALL THE WORK! DUH! THINK ABOUT IT!.

NOW MAKE LIKE A TREE AND FALL DOWN AND GET TOWED AWAY!

IF YOU PRINT THIS (YOU WON'T) YOU WILL PROBABLY JUST MAKE A JOKE OUT OF IT.

EVERYONE AT MARVEL IS GREAT... EXCEPT FOR YOU.

PETE VASCONCELLOS  
BOSTON, MASS.

Couldn't have said it better myself,  
Pete.

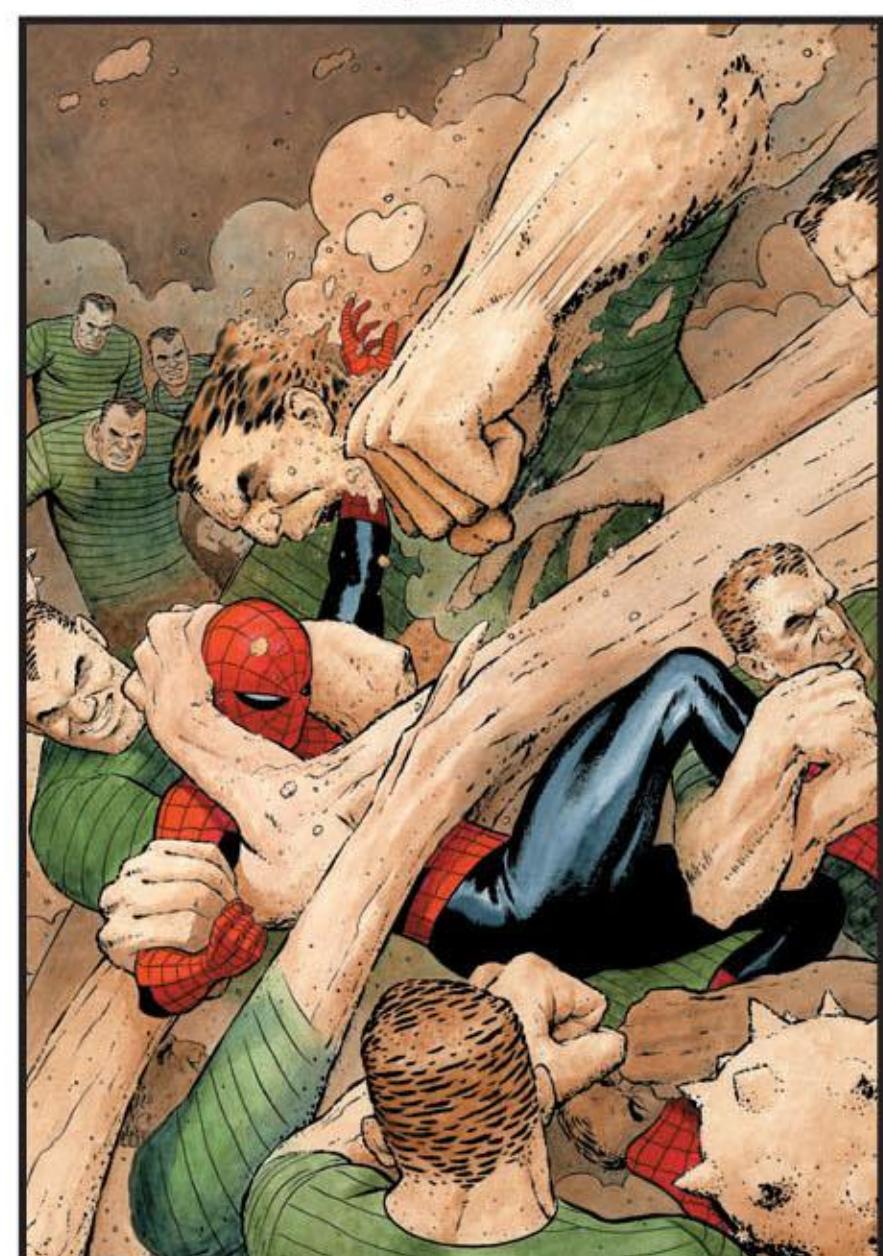


Hope you had a happy Thanksgiving everyone. See you in one week for the conclusion of Keemia's Castle!

Viva Vasconcellos!  
Simperin' Steve  
11/24/09

Cover by Paolo Rivera.  
Variant cover by Joe Quinones.

NEXT:



DIRT NAP!

Send e-mail to  
[SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM](mailto:SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM)  
(please mark as OKAY TO PRINT)