



MARVEL
COMICS GROUP 12¢

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
C.C.
AUTHORITY

23
APR.

IND.

DON'T WASTE A MINUTE! YOU'VE GOT TO SEE SPIDEY IN ACTION AGAINST:
"The GOBLIN And The GANGSTERS!"



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"THE GOBLIN AND THE GANGSTERS"



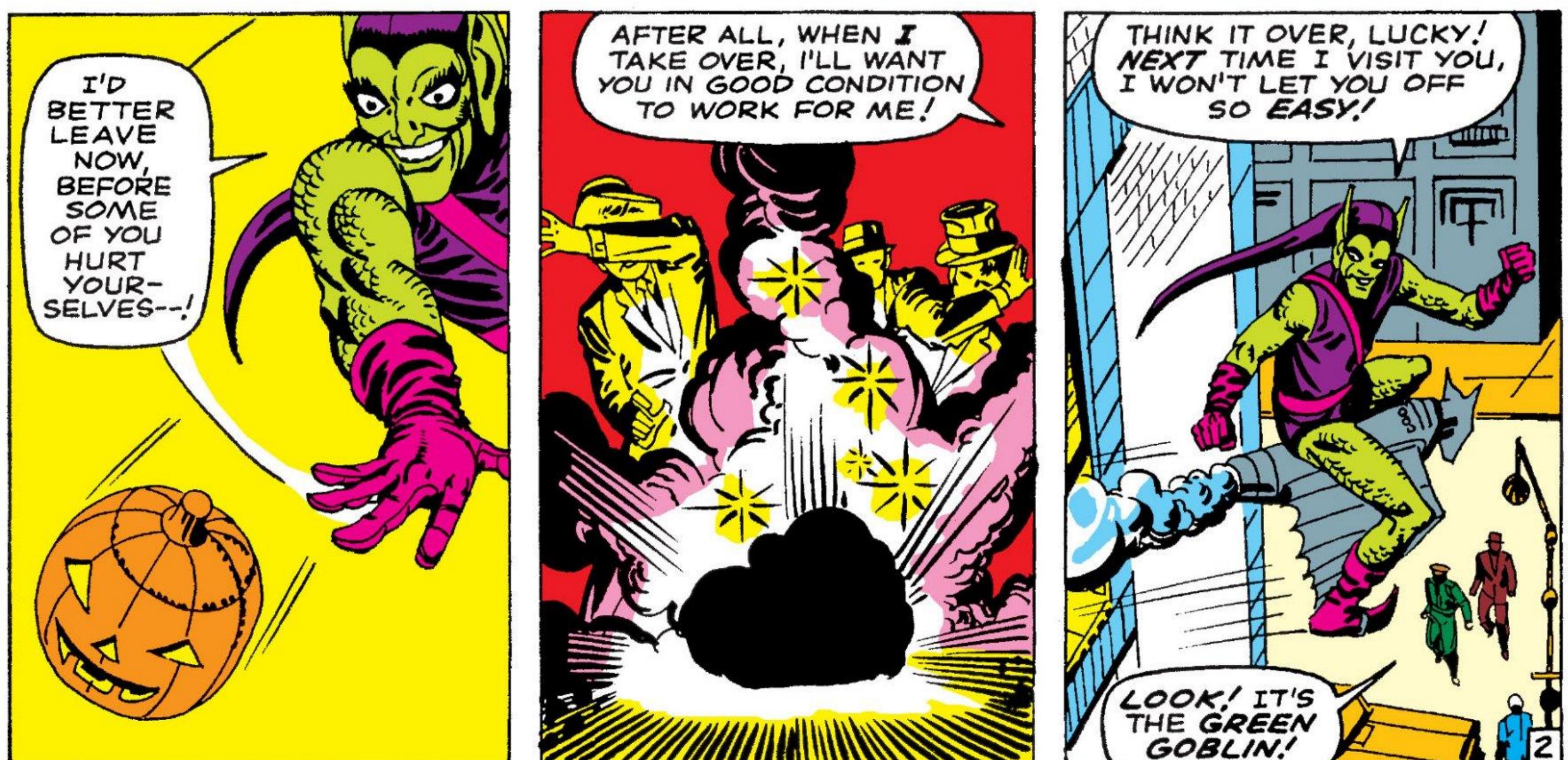
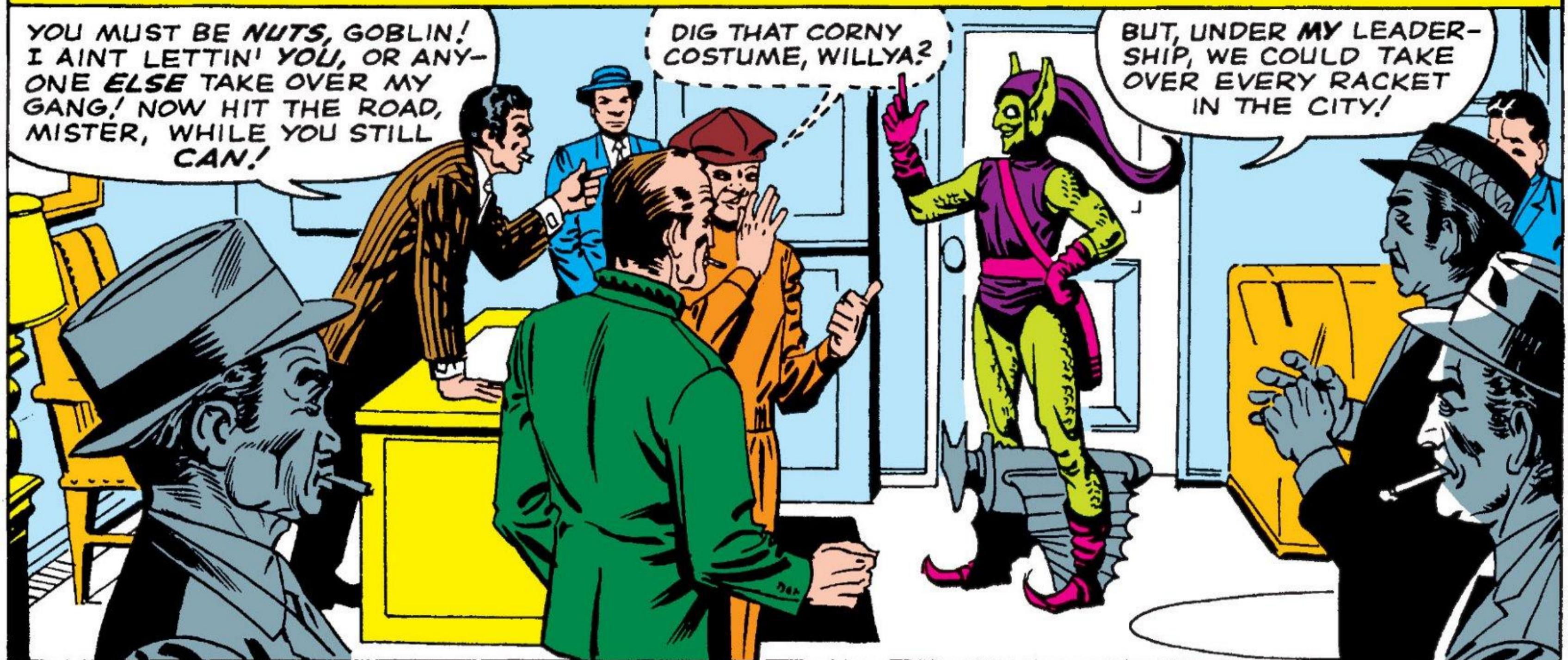
WRITTEN IN THE SPELL-BINDING
STYLE OF **STAN LEE**

ILLUSTRATED IN THE MAGNIFICENT
MANNER OF **STEVE DITKO**

LETTERED IN THE FRENZIED
FASHION OF **ARTIE SIMEK**

DEDICATED TO THE NEW BREED OF
COMICS MAGAZINE READER -- TO YOU,
THE MODERN MARVEL FAN, WHO
WILL ACCEPT NOTHING LESS THAN
THE **BEST** IN STORY AND ART!

EVERYONE ENJOYS A FAST-MOVING COPS AND ROBBERS STORY! AND, WHEN YOU THROW IN A COSTUMED SUPER-HERO, A COLORFUL SUPER-VILLAIN, AND THE MARVELOUS MARVEL MANNER, IT'S GOT TO BE GOOD! WANT PROOF? JUST TAKE A LOOK---



SECONDS LATER, ACCOMPANIED BY A REPORTER, THE POLICE OFFICER ENTERS THE OFFICE OF LUCKY LOBO...

I SAW THE GOBLIN FLY OUT OF YOUR WINDOW, LUCKY! WHAT'S COMING OFF HERE?

NOTHIN'! WE'RE CLEAN, SEE? WE GOT RID OF HIM!



LOOKS LIKE THERE WAS A FIGHT HERE! WHAT A STORY! "GREEN GOBLIN RAID MOBSTERS!"

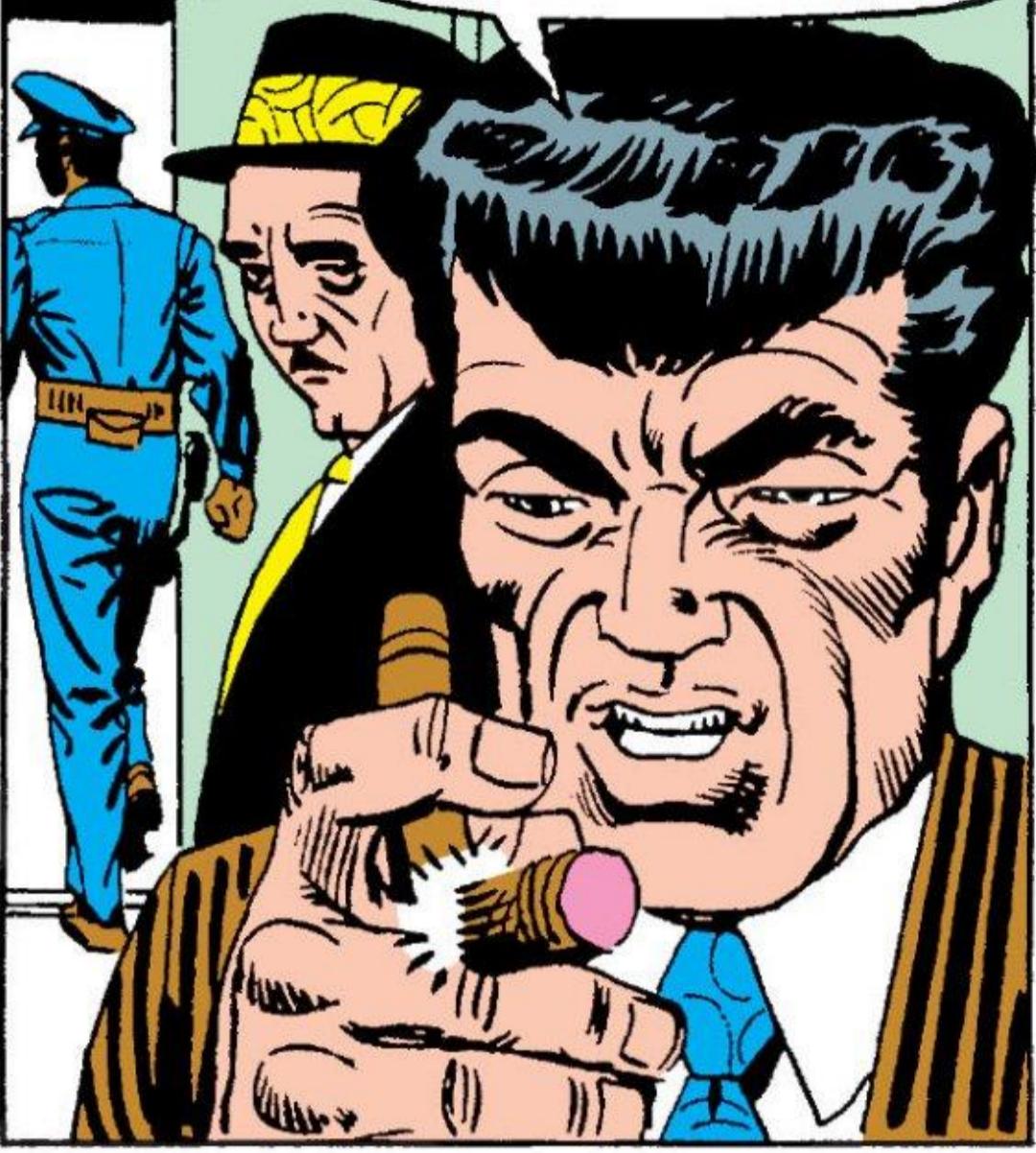
WE'LL GET YOU YET, LUCKY! YOU'LL SLIP UP, SOONER OR LATER!

ME? I'M INNOCENT AS A NEW-BORN BABE!



IT'S GETTIN' TOO HOT IN TOWN, LUCKY! THE COPS KEEP WATCHIN' US LIKE HAWKS!

IT'S ON ACCOUNTA THE GOBLIN! HE'S TRYIN' TO CUT ME OUT, SO HE CAN TAKE OVER!



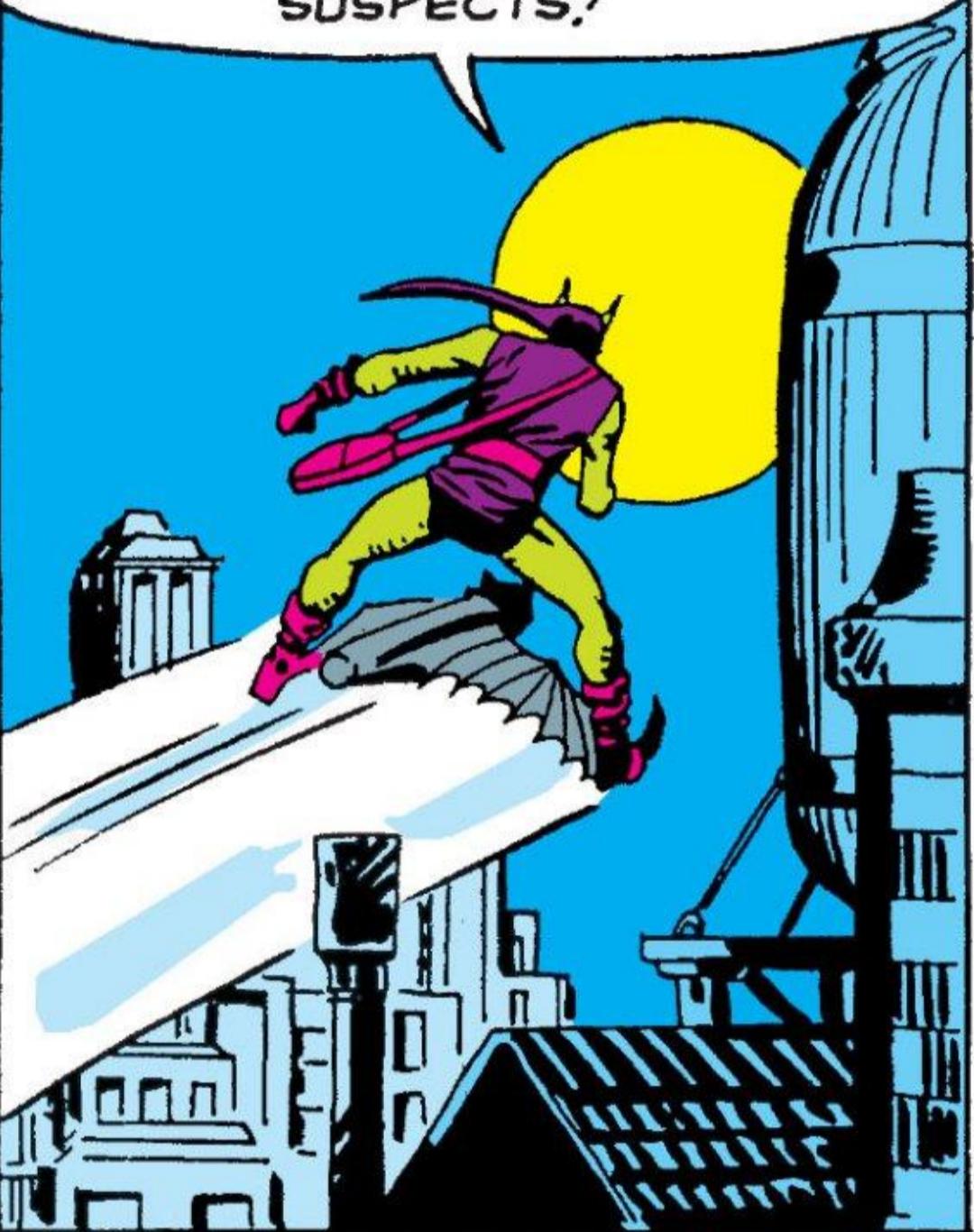
SO FAR, SO GOOD! BUT, NOW I'VE GOT TO SPEED UP MY PLAN! I'M TOO IMPATIENT TO WAIT ANY LONGER!



TAKING OVER LUCKY LOBO'S GANG IS ONLY THE FIRST STEP! AFTER THAT, ALL THE MOBS IN THE CITY WILL FALL INTO LINE! I'LL CONTROL THE ENTIRE UNDERWORLD!



"THE GREEN GOBLIN, KING OF CRIME!" I LIKE THAT! IT HAS A NICE RING TO IT! AND IT'LL HAPPEN SOONER THAN ANYONE SUSPECTS!



BUT NOW, LET US BRIEFLY TURN AWAY FROM SUCH SORDID MATTERS, AND VISIT THE QUIET SUBURBAN HOME OF PETER PARKER, THE NEXT MORNING, WHERE WE FIND...

I'M SURE GLAD IT'S SATURDAY! IT'S A PLEASURE TO SLEEP LATE!

I'LL WASH UP NOW, AND THEN GO DOWN FOR BREAKFAST!



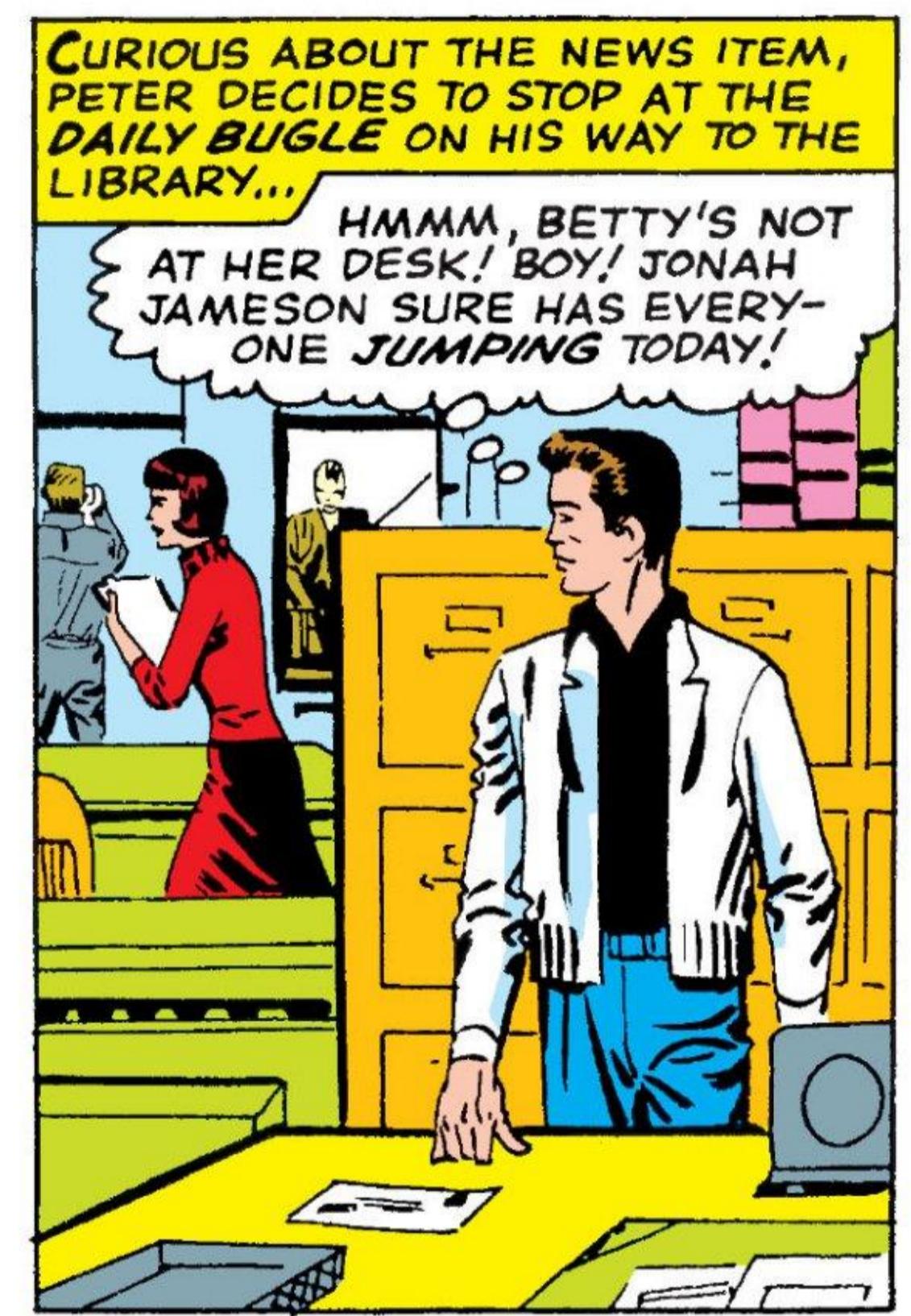
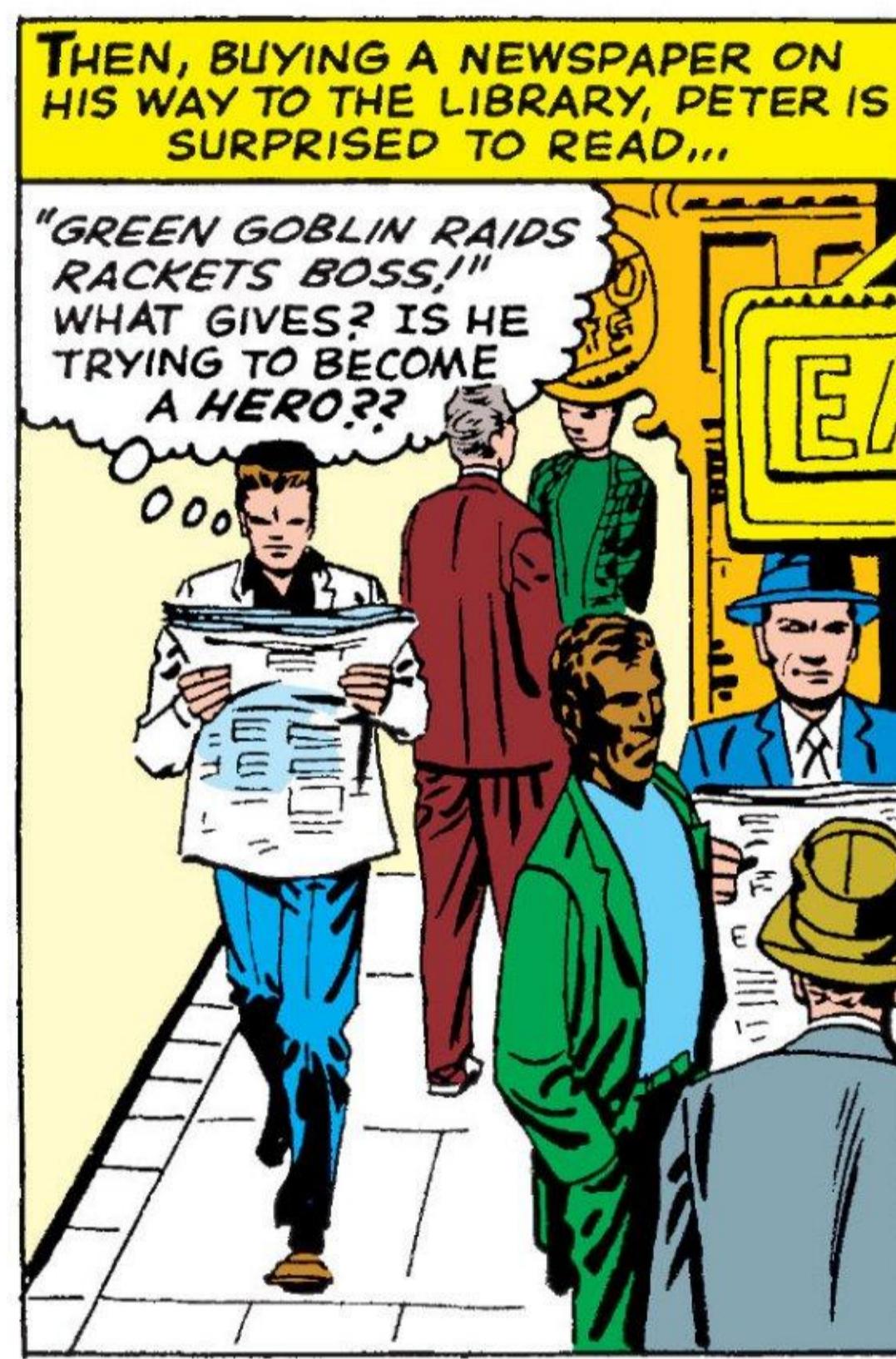
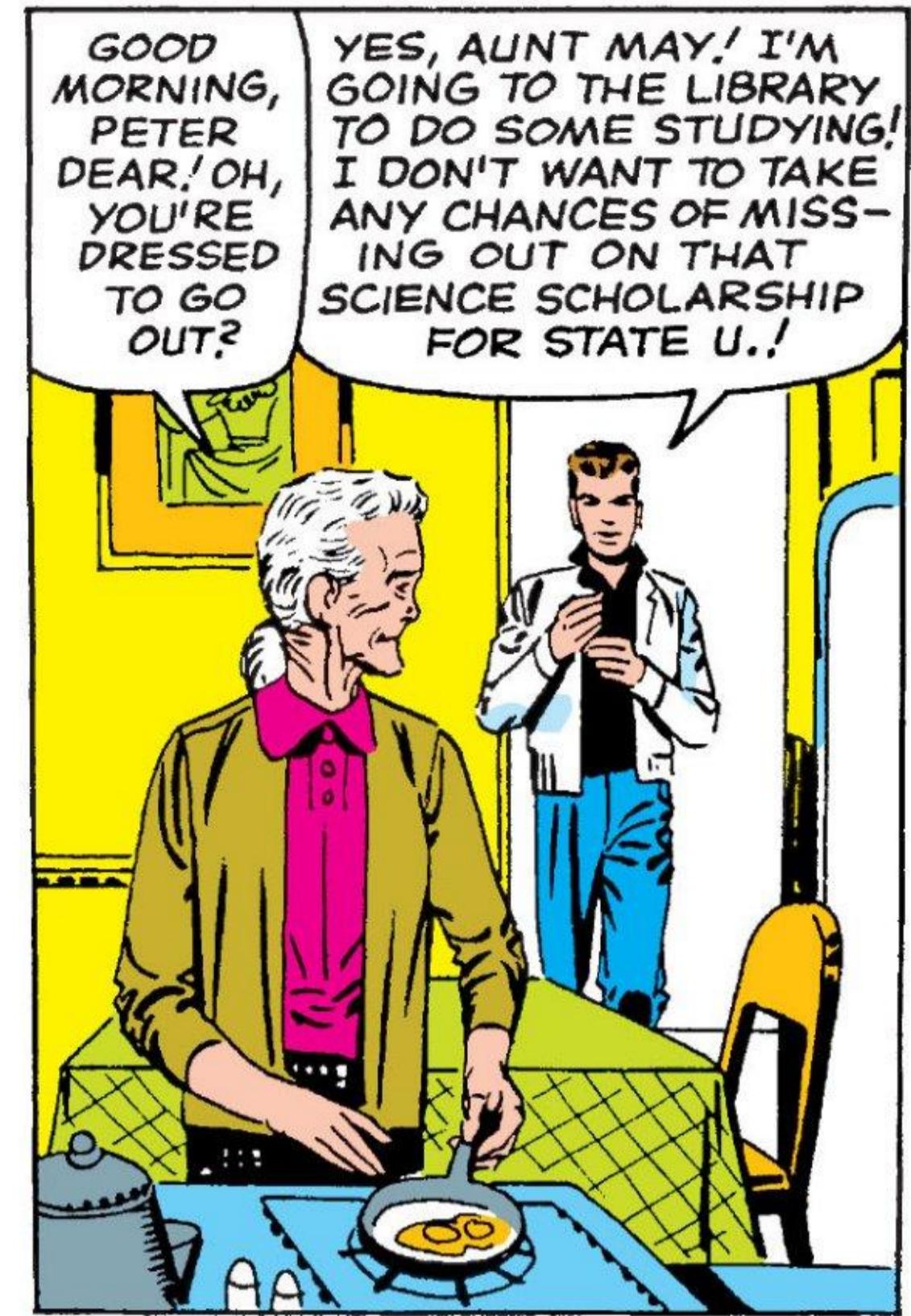
MMMM! I CAN SMELL THE BACON FRYING! WHILE AUNT MAY'S IN THE KITCHEN, I'LL SLIP MY SPIDER-MAN DUDS ON UNDER MY CLOTHES!

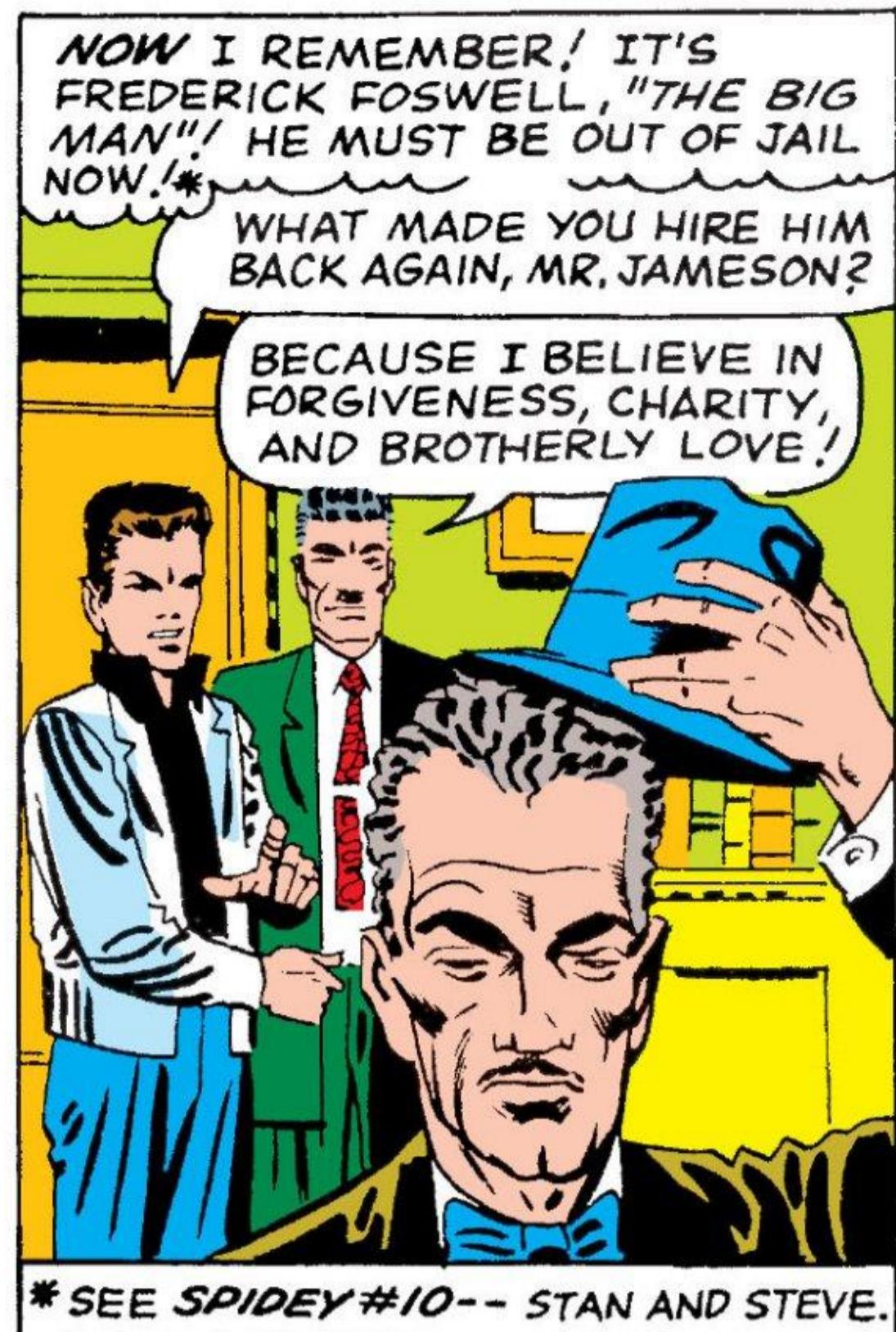


I WASHED MY COSTUME LAST NIGHT, WHILE SHE WAS ASLEEP! IT OUGHT TO BE DRY BY NOW!

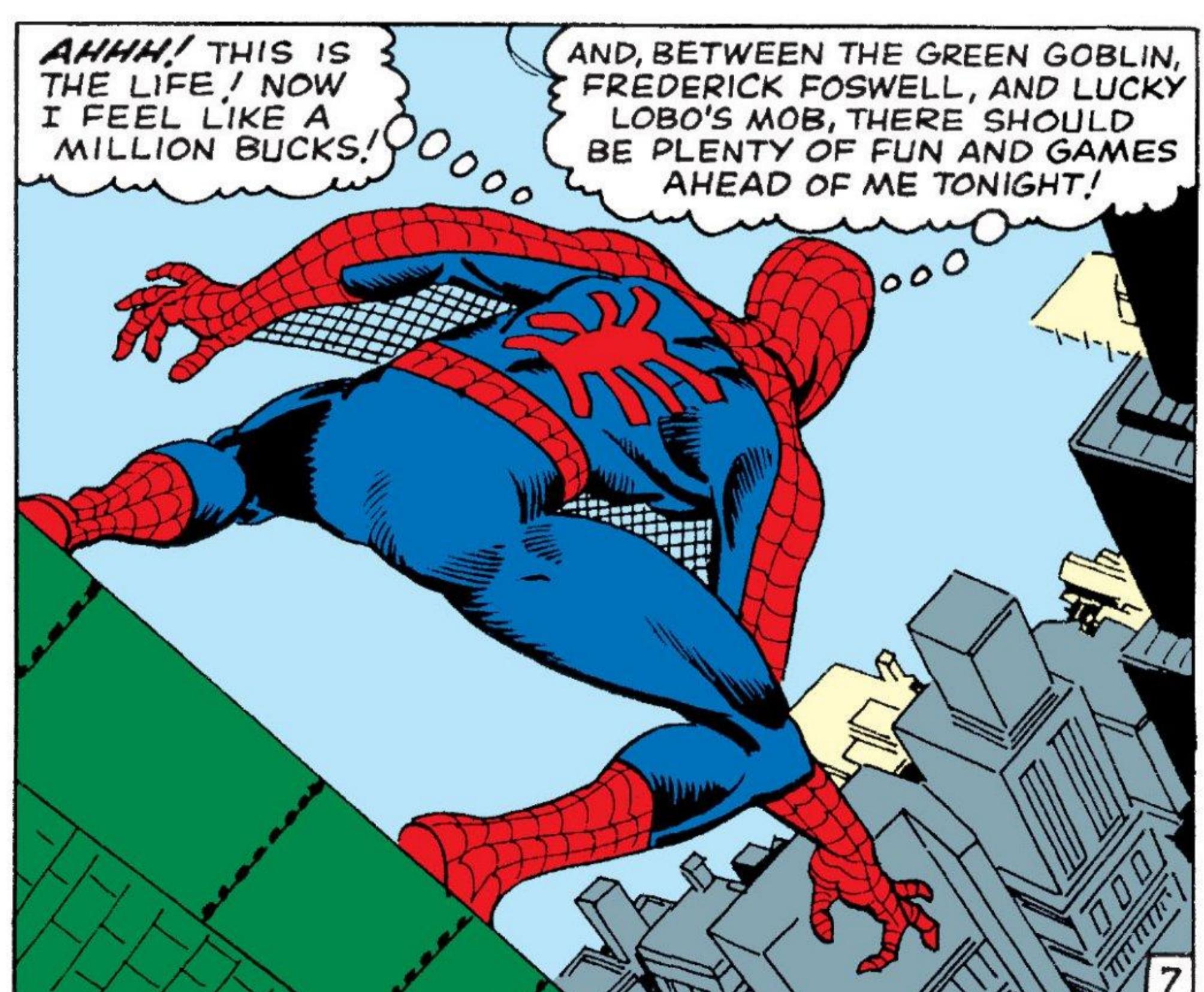
GOOD THING WE HAVE AN ATTIC WHERE I CAN HIDE THESE THINGS WITHOUT AUNT MAY FINDING THEM!











THEN, BEFORE VERY LONG, THE SOUND OF WAILING SIRENS ATTRACTS OUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN...



IT'S A RAID! MAYBE I CAN GET SOME GOOD PHOTOS TO SELL TO JAMESON!



UH OH! THOSE JOKERS ARE TRYING TO MAKE A GETAWAY THRU THAT CONCEALED EMERGENCY EXIT!



BUT, INSTEAD OF ELLIOT NESS, THEY'LL HAVE THAT LOVEABLE OL' WEB-SPINNER TO WALTZ AROUND WITH!

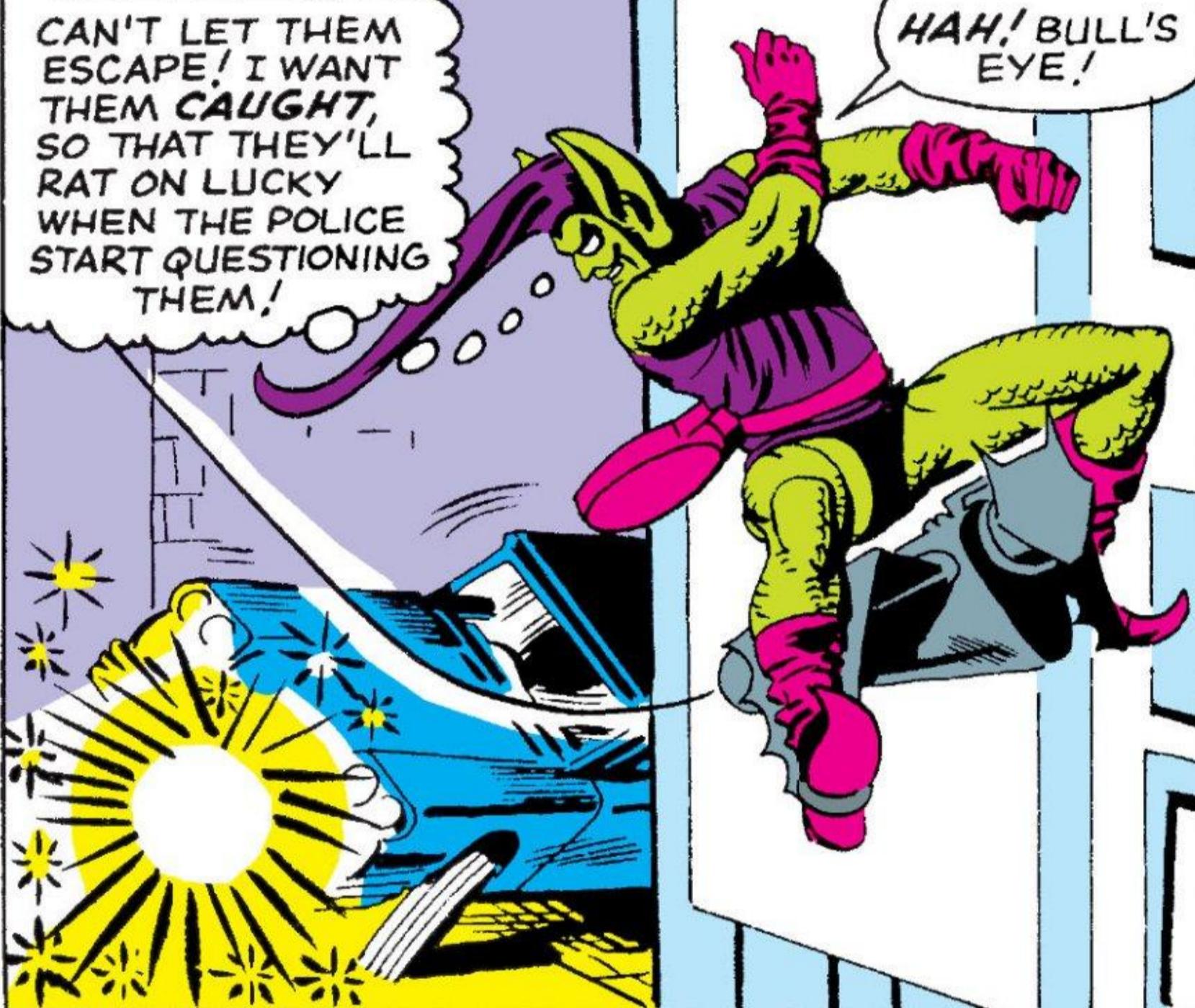
I'M REALLY GONNA ENJOY THIS!



BUT, BEFORE THE EAGER TEEN-AGER CAN LEAP INTO ACTION, ANOTHER COSTUMED FIGURE WHIZZES BY, STOPPING THE GETAWAY CAR IN ITS TRACKS!

CAN'T LET THEM ESCAPE! I WANT THEM CAUGHT, SO THAT THEY'LL RAT ON LUCKY WHEN THE POLICE START QUESTIONING THEM!

HAH! BULL'S EYE!



THE GREEN GOBLIN BEAT ME TO THE PUNCH! I DON'T GET IT!!

WHAT WOULD MAKE A CHARACTER LIKE HIM SUDDENLY START HELPING THE POLICE??



WELL, THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT!

IT'S TIME FOR FOLLOW THE LEADER AGAIN! AND, READY OR NOT, HERE I COME!



BUT, THE WILY GOBLIN, EVER ALERT, GLIMPSES THE GRACEFUL, FAST-MOVING FIGURE WHO FLITS ACROSS THE ROOFTOPS BEHIND HIM....!



IT SHOULDN'T BE DIFFICULT FOR ME TO GET THE BUMB-LING COSTUMED FOOL TO DO MY DIRTY WORK FOR ME!



I'LL JUST LEAD HIM TO LUCKY LOBO'S HEAD-QUARTERS-- THEN I'LL DUCK OUT! { I'LL GIVE SPIDER-MAN AND LUCKY A CHANCE TO ELIMINATE EACH OTHER BEFORE I RETURN TO AND GATHER UP THE SPOILS!



AND, A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY, THE GANG LEADER BARKS FRENZIED ORDERS TO HIS LIEUTENANTS...



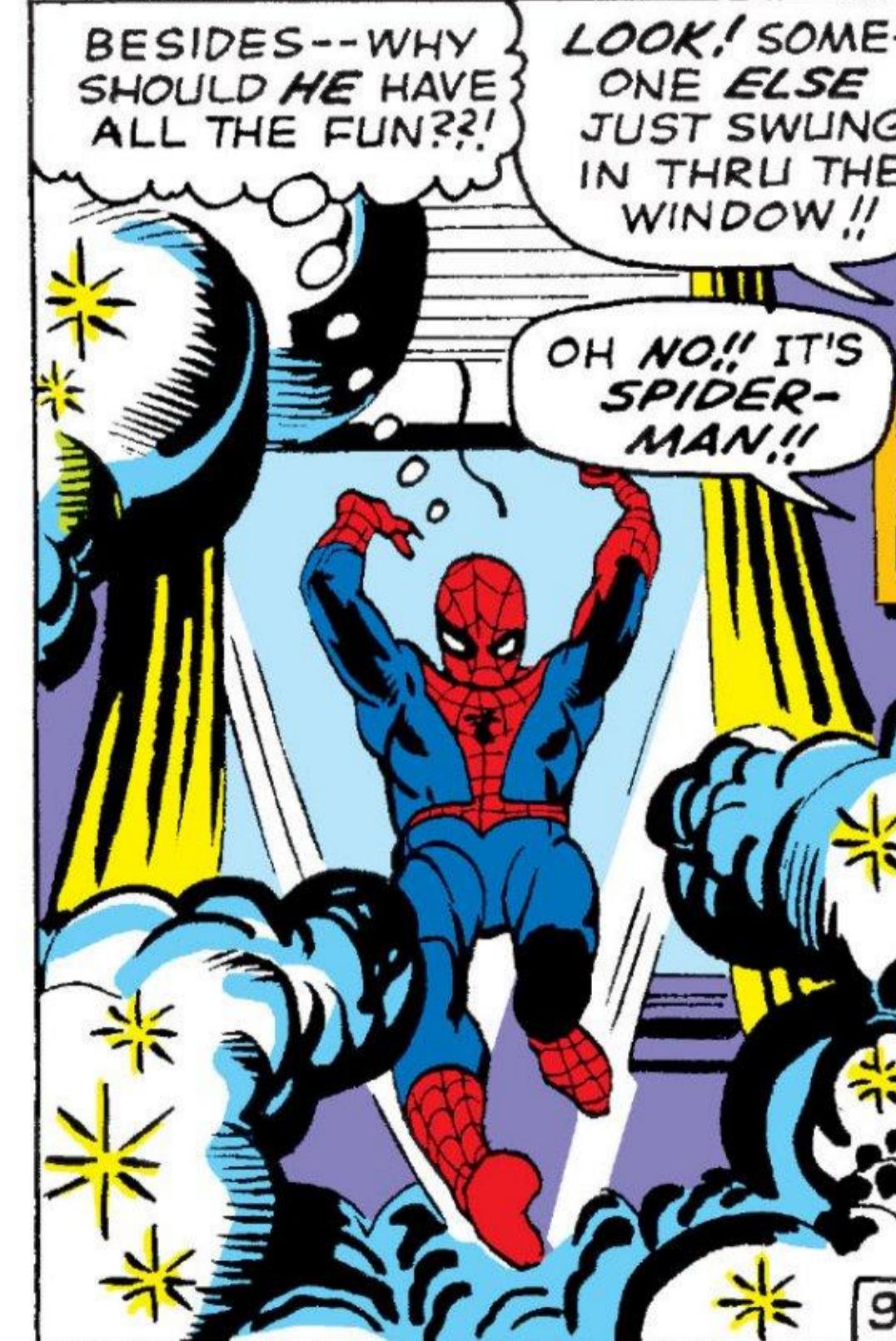
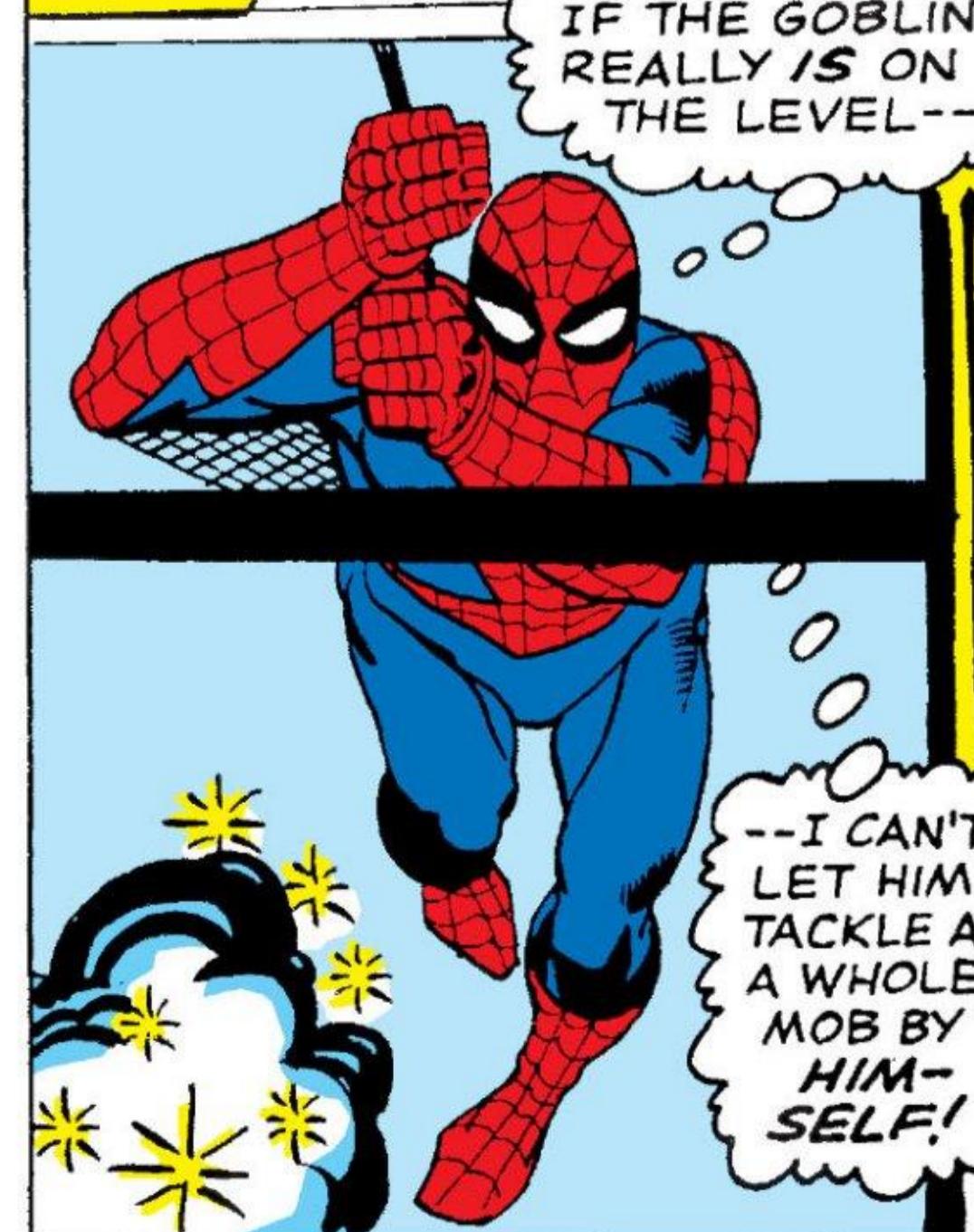
BUT, NO SOONER DOES LUCKY HANG UP THE PHONE, WHEN...



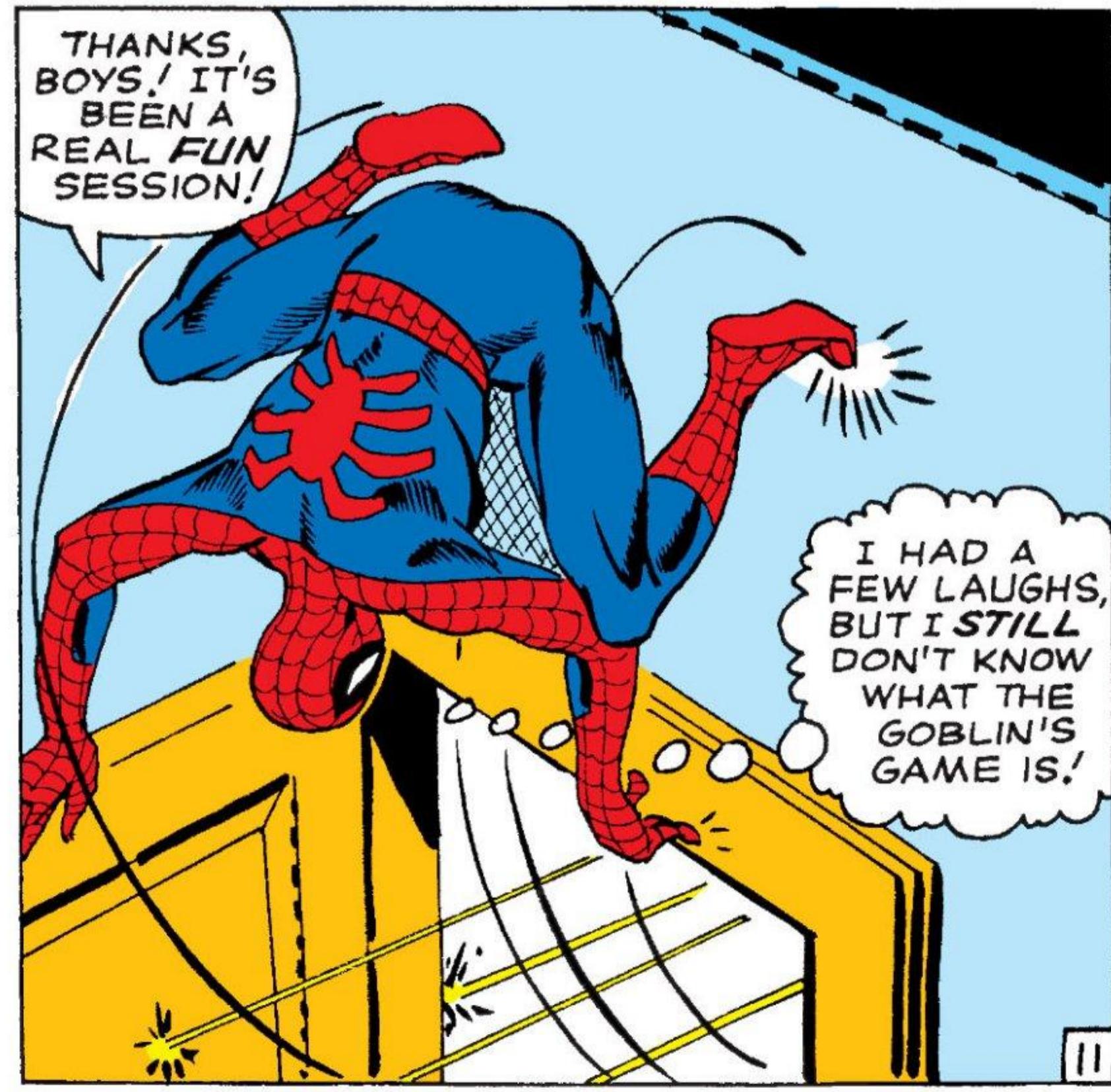
IT'S NOT GAS, YOU FOOL! IT'S JUST SMOKE, TO CONFUSE US! TURN ON THE AIR CONDITIONER --QUICK! DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!

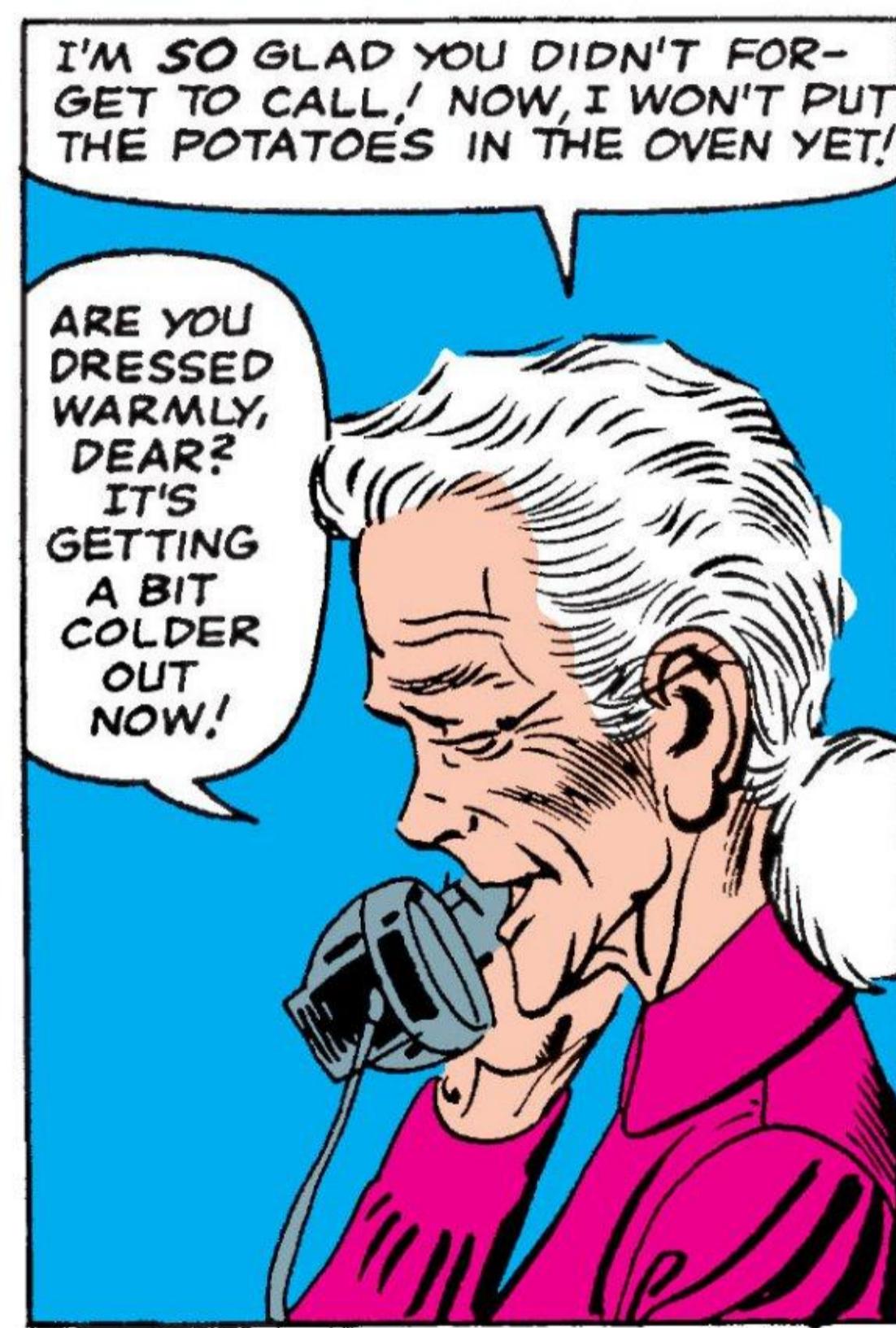


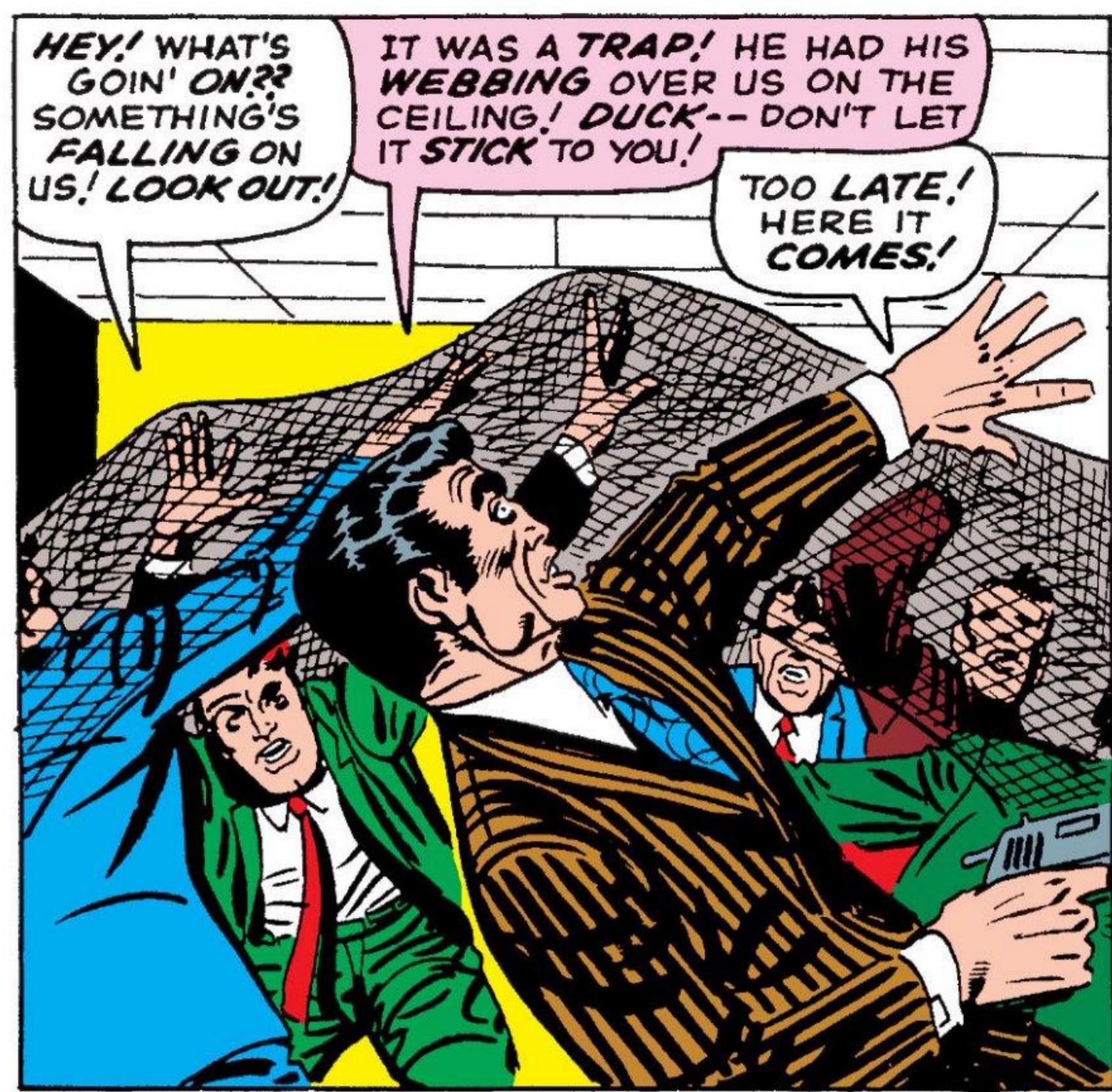
BUT, BEFORE THE SMOKE CAN CLEAR, ANOTHER COLORFUL FIGURE MAKES A NEIGHBORLY CALL...



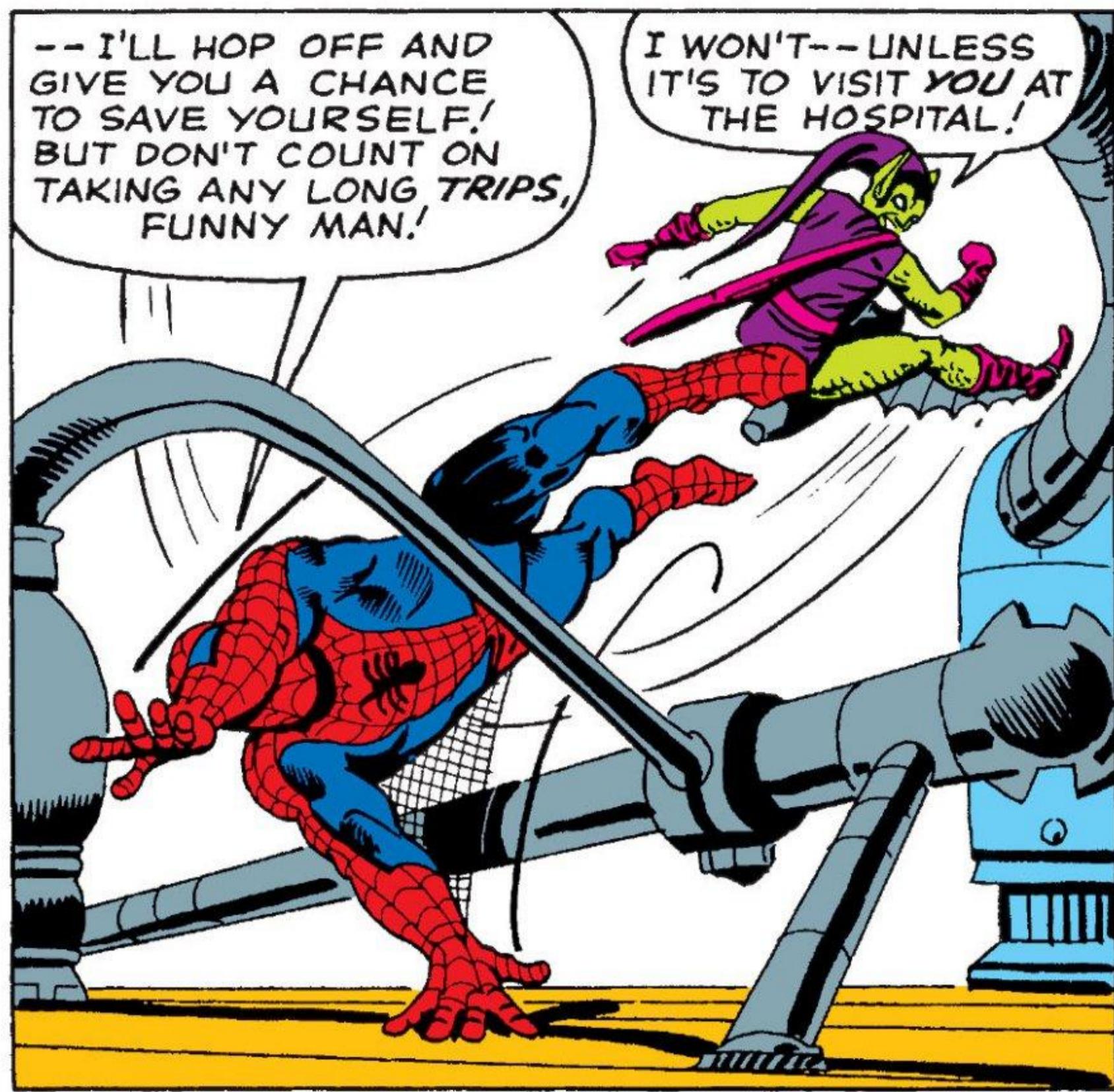


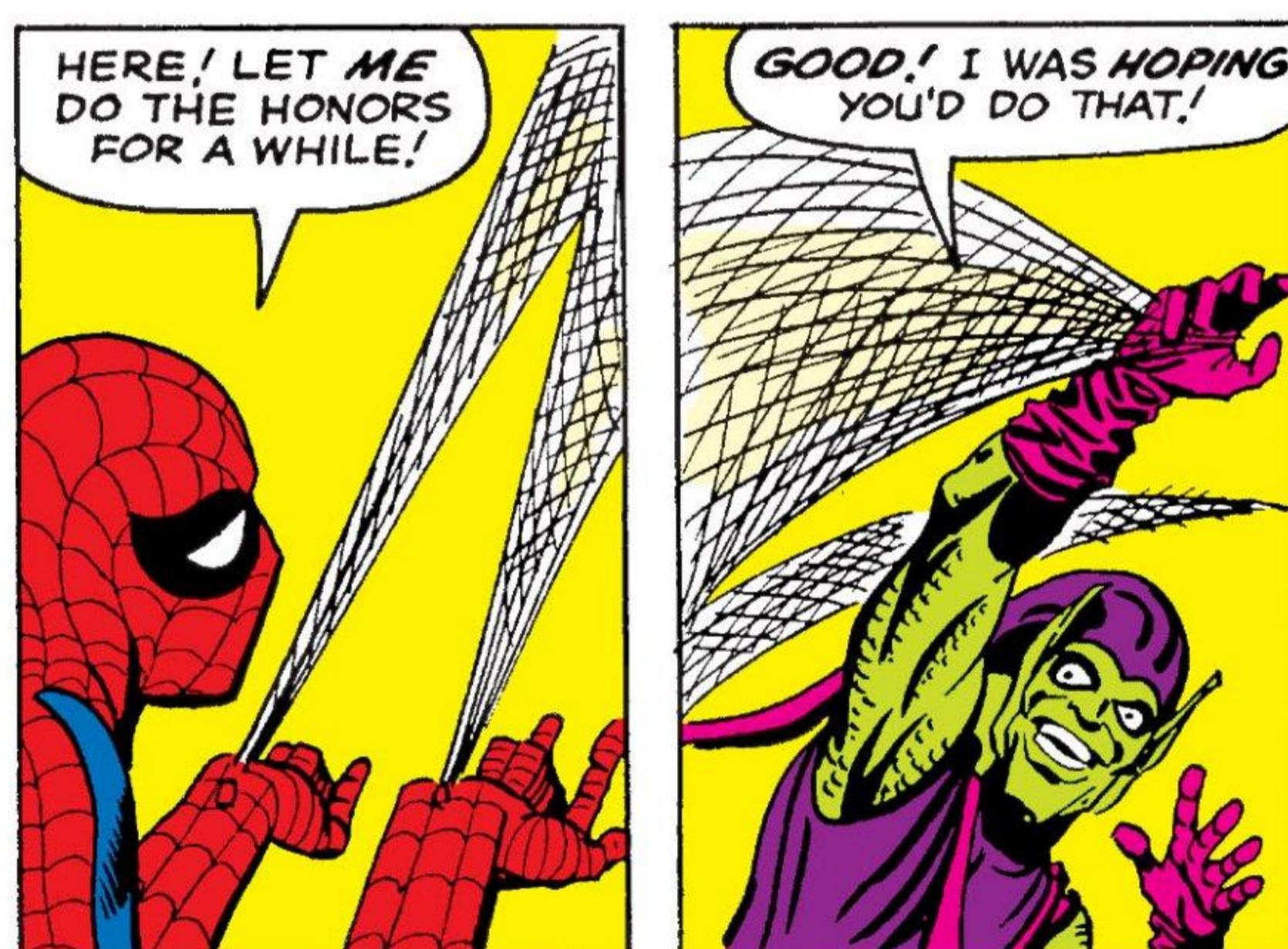
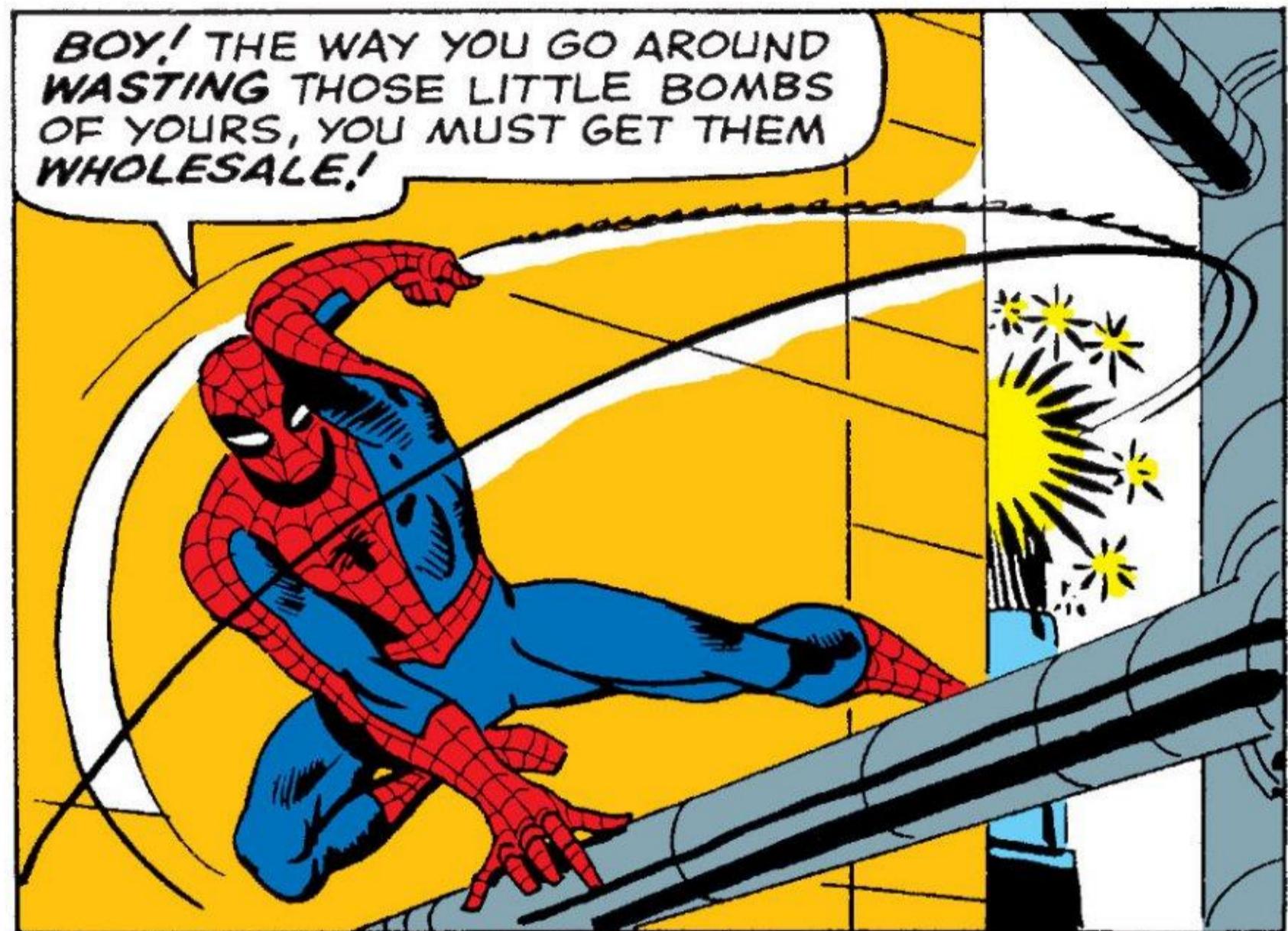
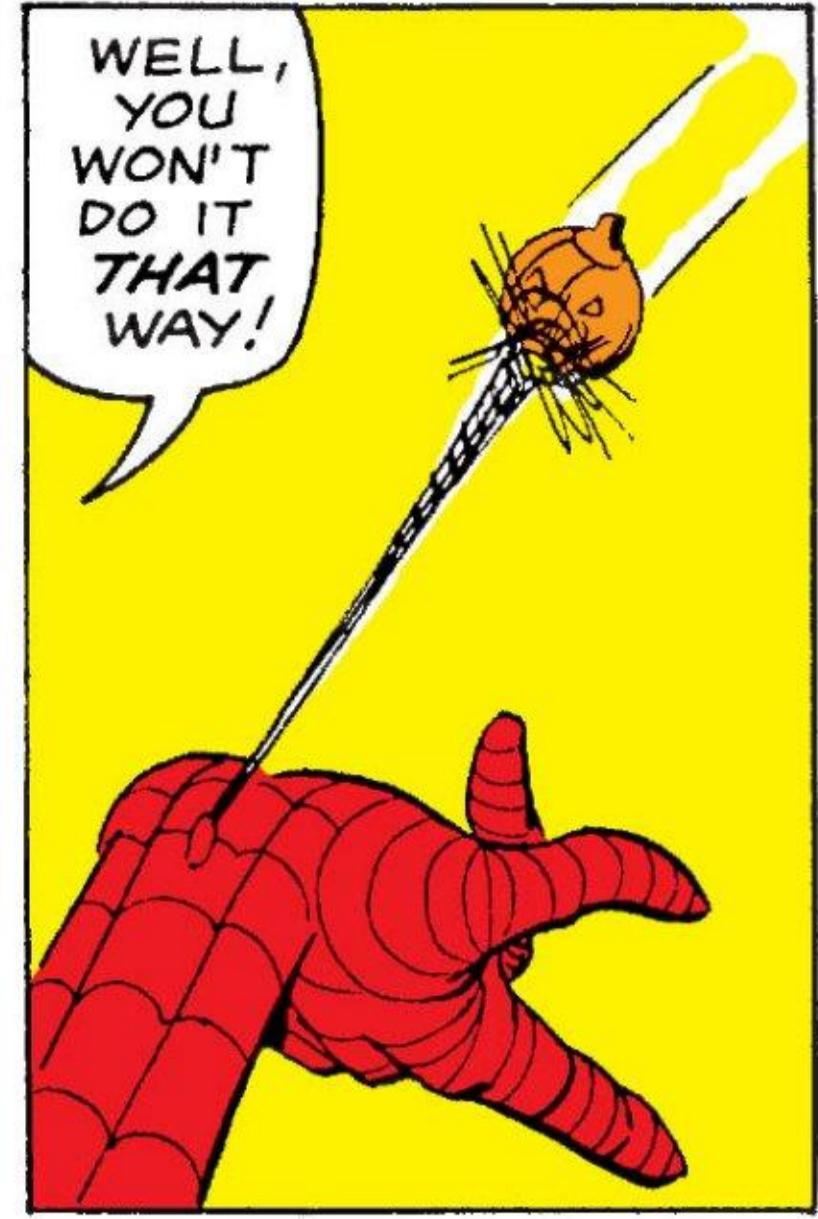


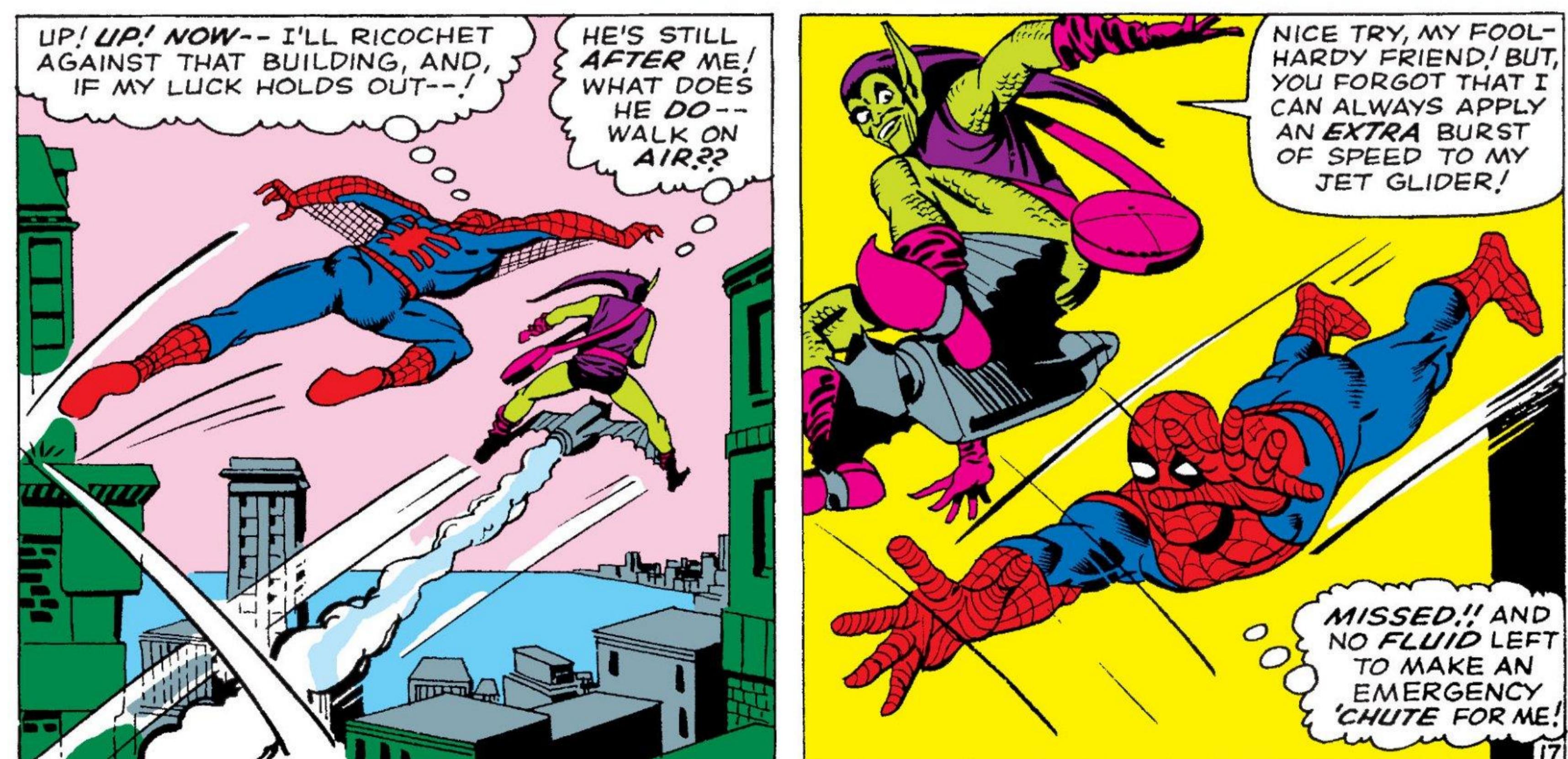
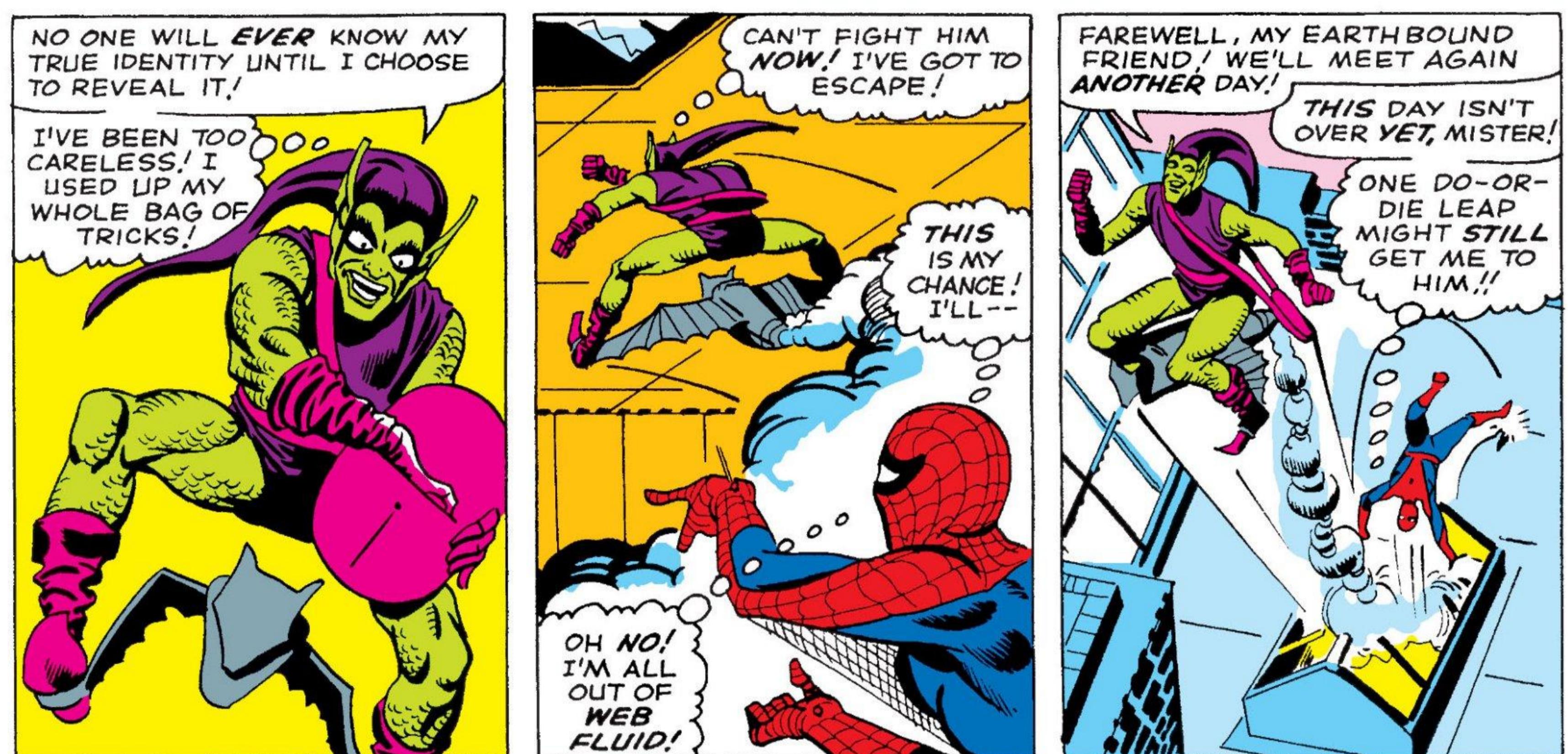
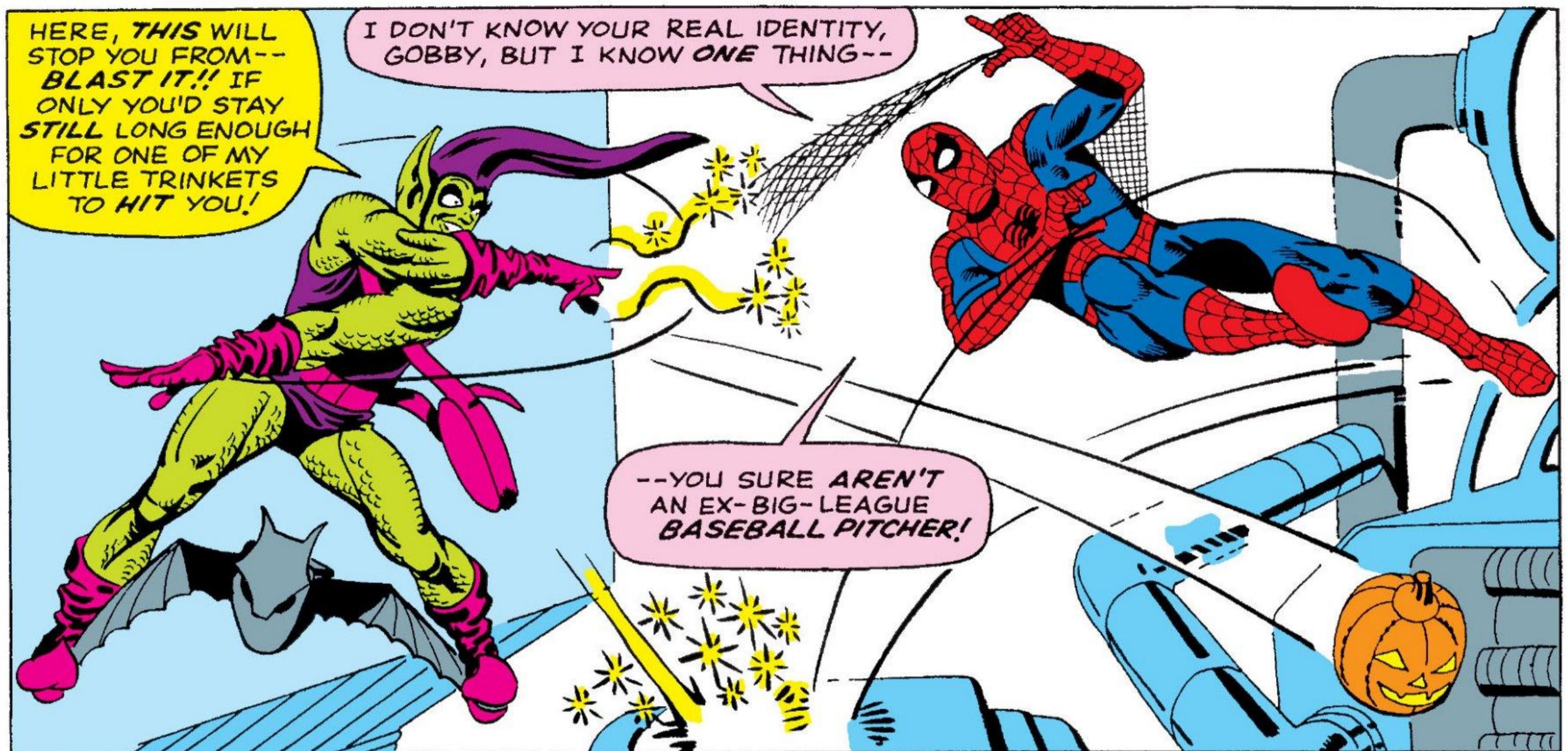




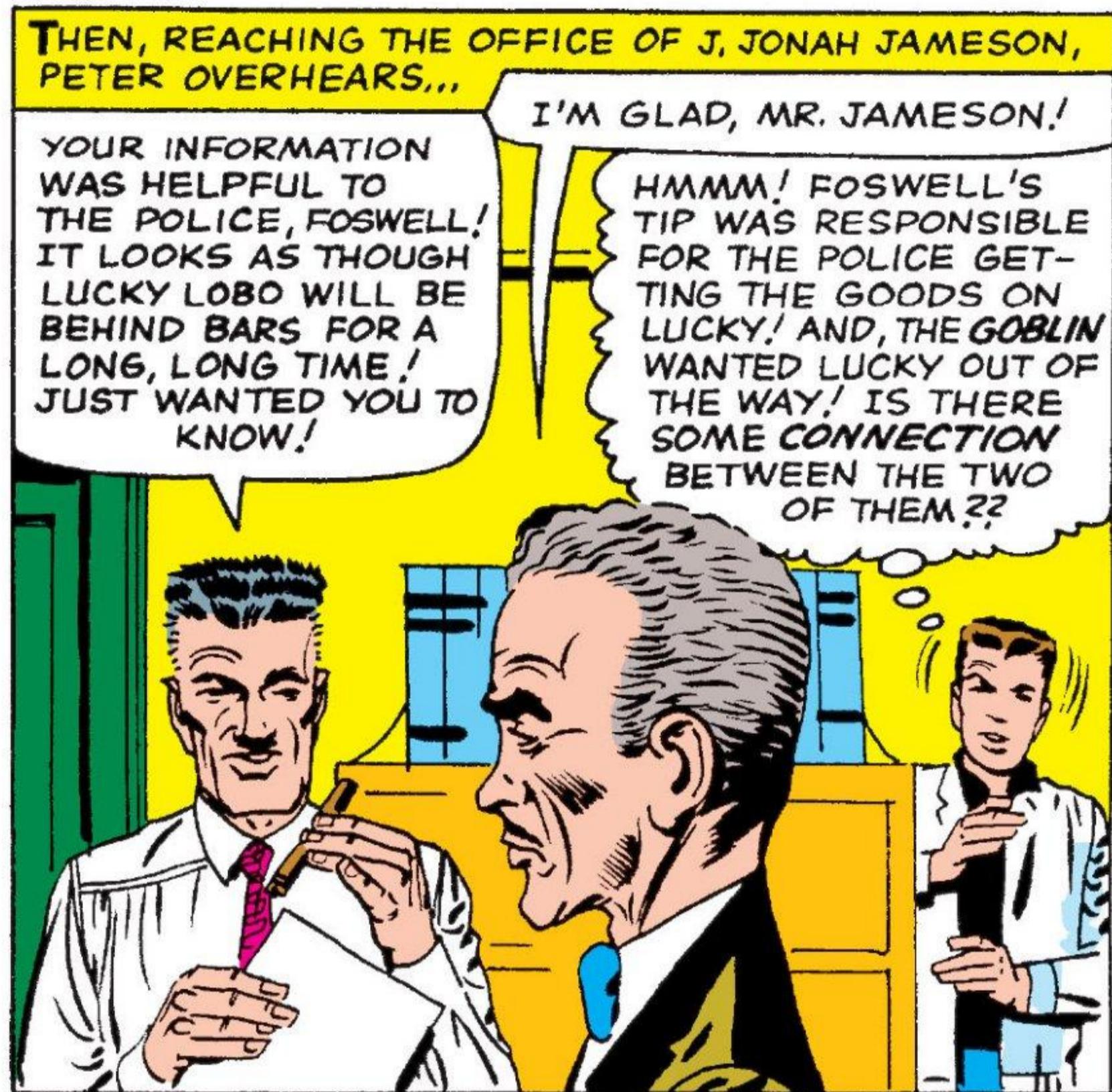












MISS BRANT! HAVE YOU NOTHING BETTER TO DO THAN TALK TO THAT HAS-BEEN PHOTOGRAPHER?? WE STILL HAVE A NEWSPAPER TO PUBLISH AROUND HERE!

OH--YES SIR, MISTER JAMESON! I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!

I'VE GOT TO GO, ANYWAY!

WHEN WILL YOU CALL ME, PETER?

SOON AS I GET A CHANCE!

SHE STILL HASN'T MENTIONED THAT LETTER FROM NED LEEDS!

THERE'S FOSWELL, WAITING OUTSIDE THE BUILDING AGAIN! WHAT AM I SO JUMPY ABOUT? WHY DO I GET NERVOUS EVERY TIME I SEE HIM?!!

OH--YES SIR, MISTER JAMESON! I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!

I'VE GOT TO GO, ANYWAY!

SHE STILL HASN'T MENTIONED THAT LETTER FROM NED LEEDS!

THERE'S FOSWELL, WAITING OUTSIDE THE BUILDING AGAIN! WHAT AM I SO JUMPY ABOUT? WHY DO I GET NERVOUS EVERY TIME I SEE HIM?!!

HOPE AUNT MAY WASN'T WORRIED ABOUT ME! I THOUGHT I'D GET HOME EARLIER!

I'M HOME, AUNT MAY! AND I'M HUNGRY AS A BEAR!

IT ALWAYS MAKES HER HAPPY WHEN I'M HUNGRY! SHE LOVES TO SEE ME EAT!

I WONDER WHERE SHE IS? SHE WASN'T DOWN-STAIRS!

MAYBE SHE'S LYING DOWN! I HOPE SHE DOESN'T FEEL ILL!



BUT THEN, MINUTES LATER, TO PETE'S RELIEF...

HELLO, PETER DEAR! DIDN'T YOU SEE MY NOTE? I LEFT A T.V. DINNER FOR YOU IN THE REFRIGERATOR!

I WENT NEXT DOOR TO MRS. WATSON'S FOR A VISIT! DO YOU FEEL ALL RIGHT, DEAR? YOU LOOK A BIT PEAKED!

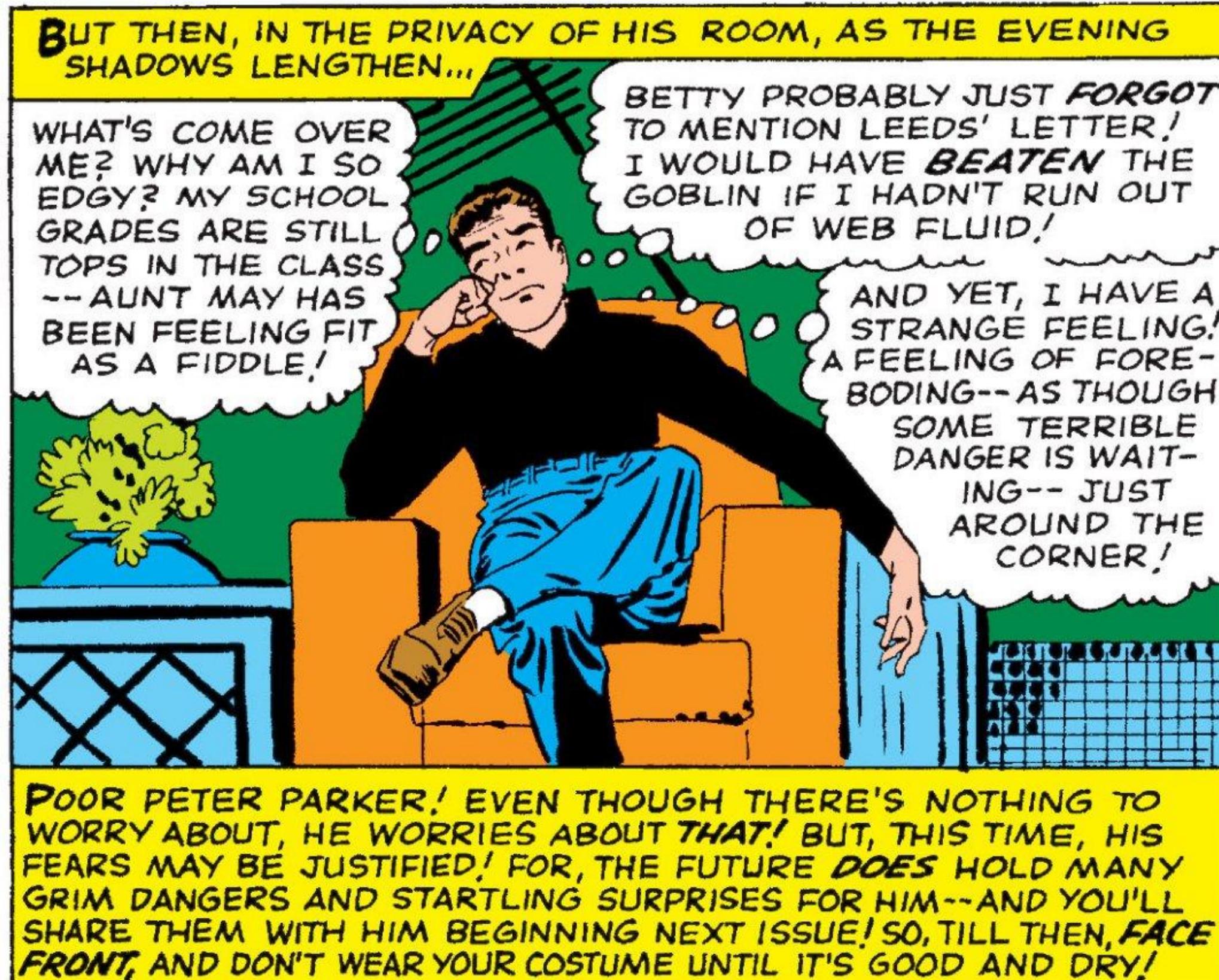
OH, NO-- I'M FINE, AUNT MAY-- JUST FINE!

BUT THEN, IN THE PRIVACY OF HIS ROOM, AS THE EVENING SHADOWS LENGTHEN...

WHAT'S COME OVER ME? WHY AM I SO EDGY? MY SCHOOL GRADES ARE STILL TOPS IN THE CLASS -- AUNT MAY HAS BEEN FEELING FIT AS A FIDDLE!

BETTY PROBABLY JUST FORGOT TO MENTION LEEDS' LETTER! I WOULD HAVE BEATEN THE GOBLIN IF I HADN'T RUN OUT OF WEB FLUID!

AND YET, I HAVE A STRANGE FEELING! A FEELING OF FOREBODING-- AS THOUGH SOME TERRIBLE DANGER IS WAITING-- JUST AROUND THE CORNER!



A MARVEL MASTERWORK

"SPIDEY"



...AND THOSE
WHO'VE BEEN
"CAUGHT"
IN HIS
WONDERFUL
WEB!





SPIDER'S WEB

Please address
your letters to:
**THE MARVEL
COMICS GROUP
SECOND FLOOR
625 MADISON AV.
NEW YORK 10022
N.Y.**

Dear Stan and Steve,

Why do you ever-loving, pen-pushing, ink-slopping boys down at Marvel comics hate Spider Man? In all my life I have never read any magazine which, like yours, makes things tough for its own hero. I have hundreds of comics at home and most of them are Marvel, 'cause they're the best. Every time I get a new SPIDER MAN comic, he's in worse trouble with the public. Why don't you let him finish at least one fight without being hampered by a sprained ankle, or numb arms and legs? Why can't he just have minor problems like fighting for his life, or simple things like that? Artwork: Probably the greatest and most explicitly enticing bit of workmanship in the world today. Stories: Without a doubt the most original, clever, miraculously offbeat and great in the country's history. Coloring: Found only in the great surging rainbows in the galaxy. Spelling: More than likely done with one of the hands of the legendary Gods of Asgard. Editor's Notes: Without a doubt the most informative tid-bits since the invention of the encyclopedia.

Tip Daniels, 971 Bonneville Way
Tooele, Utah

And—Fans: Wonderful enough to warm an editor's jaded heart!

Dear Stan and Steve,

SPIDER-MAN is the best mag you put out, next to the F.F. The art is so bad, it's good! #17 and #18 were very good. I have an idea for you. Put Spidey in College now. Please don't keep him in high school for twenty years for it would take the realism out. After he finished college, give him a job in Tony Stark's weapons factory, or give him the job now instead of having him sell pictures all his life. This job would be the supreme irony for which your mags are so famous. I think that once villains are beaten they really should never come back, because they are interested in more than just Spidey's defeat. I liked the villain in #17 and #18 because he was a civ-villain (civilian, get it?). Don't give Iceman the cold shoulder—let him get beat by Spidey. And Steve, please don't draw your heads so square!

Lenert Olson, 1129 Clarence
Oak Park, Ill. 60304

Look, Len—Steve's drawings have helped make Spidey one of Marvel's biggest sellers! So, if sturdy Stevey wants to draw square heads, why stop him? He may even make them fashionable!

Dear Stan and Steve,

You may be surprised to receive a letter from a parent, but I feel that some comments on your magazines are in order. First, my two children, 5½ and 10½, read most of the comics in the Marvel group and like them. I read them also, in order to have the information with which to answer any questions that might arise. I have found that most of them are intellectually stimulating to my older one since the story lines, while occasionally fantastic, are packed full of facts and ideas that lead on to other lines of inquiry. (Such as a study of Norse mythology, hypnosis, biology—to explain Spider-Man, radiation, history—Sgt. Fury who is still fighting World War II, and others.) When used with discretion, along with other books, plays, movies, and TV, your magazines fill a useful niche. My son is learning to read from them as well as other books. I was particularly impressed by SGT. FURY #6 in which bigotry and discrimination were discussed. It led to a greater explanation of anti-Semitism, the reasons why Kennedy was concerned over the fact that his election might have been affected by his being a Catholic, the current prominence of Freedom Riders, CORE, demonstrations for

Negro rights, etc. Again I say, your group seems to maintain a high standard of creativity, and while I am not an indiscriminate purchaser of only comics, they seem to be good with much that is useful, pleasurable and entertaining.

Mrs. Rhoda Katerinsky, 1210 Sutter Ave.
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11208

Many thanks, Ma'am, and we hope that SGT. FURY will reciprocate by printing a letter saying something nice about SPIDER-MAN, the way we just printed your letter which seems to be mostly about the sarge!

Dear Stan and Steve,

We are Boy Scouts, and old fans of yours. We would like to rename our patrol the "Amazing Spider-Man Patrol"—with your permission, of course. We are in the American troop 184, London, England.

Woody Walker, U.K. Comm. RGN. Box 541
APO 09125, New York, N.Y.

Permission granted, Woody! We're very flattered! And, we suppose while most troops are practicing slip knots and rubbing sticks together, you guys will be studying your ceiling-walking, and web-spinning!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

A Line-Up Of Some Of The Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

FANTASTIC FOUR #37: For sheer spectacle and imaginative fantasy, you won't want to miss "Behold! A Distant Star!" in which the world's top super-team finds undreamed-of dangers on a faraway star! It's sheer Marvel magic!

AVENGERS #14: Another off-beat sensation for the world's mightiest costumed heroes! This one takes them to the farthest reaches of earth, pitting them against a menace like none they have ever fought before! You'll love it!

X-MEN #10: Possibly the greatest X-MEN saga of all time, introducing a fabulous character who will take your breath away! This one is so terrific that it'll make you realize why we simply can't produce an issue faster than every two months!

THOR #114: The mighty Thunder God finally battles a foe who is every bit as powerful as Thor himself! In fact, in some ways, our newest villain actually has the advantage! This one's a shocker!

STRANGE TALES #131: See why all of comicdom is talking about Bob Powell's takeover of the Torch/Thing strip. This talented whiz really makes them live! And Doctor Strange is still on the run! Two action-packed thrillers!

SUSPENSE #64: Wait till you see the new Black Widow, a new super-power and a captivating costume! Then, add the ever-popular Hawkeye, and put them both against the dramatic Iron Man! You'll also see Captain America and Bucky battling two menaces from the past! What more can we say!

ASTONISH #66: A real surprise is in store for you when Giant-Man is trapped by the awesome Madam Macabre! And wait till you see the Wasp fighting for their lives; Top it all off with the latest Hulk rampage behind the iron curtain! Wow-EEE!

SGT. FURY #16: This one will clearly demonstrate why the Howling Commandos are the most popular, most talked-about war mag heroes in the world today! It features our own brand of batty battling action in the mysterious tinderbox of North Africa! It's got everything!

Dear Stan and Steve,

Most of the letters I've read in Spider-Man's mag have been from boys. I thought I'd write to give you my point of view from the female angle. I don't think you are

giving Betty true-to-life female characteristics. Sooner or later she will have to admit that she's in love with Peter Parker! If she doesn't, he will never know that she feels the same way about him as he feels about her. As for blonde Liz Allen, if she wants to flirt with Pete, shouldn't she wait until Flash and Betty aren't around? Flash could beat Pete up and she will find herself without any girl friends if her attitude doesn't change. Pete's aunt needs to be a little more understanding if she's to reflect gracefully on our senior citizens. Of course, Peter will also have to learn to say "no" to his aunt unless he desires to remain tied to her apron strings. I'd love to hear from other fans, even those who disagree with my ideas on the characters in SPIDER-MAN. I should add that the comic is well illustrated and that I enjoy Spider-Man performing his feats.

Sandee Griffith, 4391 Byesville Blvd.
Dayton, Ohio 45431

Glad to have you with us, Sandee! And, as Harry Golden would say—Enjoy, enjoy!

Dear Stan and Steve,

The SPIDER-MAN stories you print always have the same theme. In issue 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 15, and 17 the plots were the same. Spider-Man would fight the villain, be seemingly defeated, go and attend to his Peter Parker activities for awhile, and go back to beat the villain. The thing I don't understand is why the stories seem so new and entertaining with the same old plots?! I guess it's because they're written by Stan Lee. By the way, I read a magazine called MONSTERS TO LAUGH WITH containing various photos from different monster movies each with its own hilarious caption. It was written by our own Stan Lee, and is a must for any loyal Marvel madman!

Pete von Sholly, Qtrs. 34
Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. 21005

And that means everybody, eh Pete? Well, ish #3 of M.T.L.W. is on sale now, and that's all we're gonna say about that clever, rib-tickling, original, exciting, fast-selling mag — because you know us — we never boast!

Dear Stan and Steve,

I have just read SPIDER-MAN #20 and it was the best mag I've ever read! The Scorpion was a good villain and I hope to see him back again. I think it was good for Spidey to fight a foe who was stronger than he. After issue #18 I had just about quit on ol' Spidey, but when I read #19 I was back in business again! I'm sure only the mighty Marvel staff could do something like that and come out all right. Bill Miller, 718 S. Woodington Rd. Baltimore, Md.

At least, we hope we came out all right, Billy! We haven't seen the final sales figures yet!

Dear Stan and Steve,

I've been reading the letters that have been written about having Spider-Man join a team. I say that having Spidey join a team is like having the Mandarin join the X-Men!

Sandy Loomis, Rt. #2, Box 252
Roswell, New Mex.

But you still haven't told us—should he join a team??

Dear Stan and Steve,

I would like to mention one thing that appeared in SPIDER-MAN #17—"The Return of the Green Goblin." On page 17, panel 1 you showed Peter Parker running into the Spidey Fan Club without any shoes on—thus revealing Spidey's boots. Then on page 18, panel 1 you showed Peter Parker running out with his boots still on. I am sure that anybody with their eyes open would have noticed that, especially in a large crowd!

John Waler, 32-A Maxwell A.F.B.
Montgomery, Ala.

But who said their eyes were open, Johnny? (We figure when we're caught dead to rights, the best thing to do is give any answer and run for the hills!)

Dear Stan and Steve,

I enjoy SPIDER-MAN very much. He is the best of your super-heroes. However, I have a few suggestions that I think would improve him considerably. 1) Lately you have been making him too powerful. Make him lose sometimes—this goes for all your Marvel heroes, especially that arrogant Thor. 2) Since you have made him popular

with the public, things have been a little too rosy for my hero. His problems were what made him different. Now that they are gone, he is slowly becoming (ugh) normal. Do you know Spidey is wanted by the F.B.I., has been charged with arson twice, is wanted on several damages charges and is suspected of springing Blackie Barker! With all these counts against him, I hardly see why the public likes him. 3) Keep his life as Peter Parker an important part of each book. In all sincerity, I think these suggestions would improve Spider-Man to the highest degree.

James Shooter, 3247 Thornwood, Dr. Bethel Park, Pa.

We'll kick your ideas around for a while, Jimmy. However, you've got a better memory than ol' Stan! He's busy hunting for sunny Steve Ditko to ask him if he remembers who the dickens Blackie Barker is??

Dear Stan and Steve,

I just read SPIDER-MAN #18 and I didn't like it. How do you think Spidey feels about it? A mag like that can give a guy a bad name. I'll admit it kept me on the edge of my seat with suspense, but I felt sorry for my idol, losing his girl and all. As for Flash Thompson, I think he is an absolute dope—not for sticking with Spidey when the chips are down, but for running around town losing fights and making Spider-Man look like a nut! In your Special Announcements Section in DAREDEVIL you asked our opinions on who he should fight. I think he should fight super-villains because why should a superhero waste time on villains like the Enforcers or the Fixer? I don't think you should put one story into two mags because most of the time someone gets the first one but misses the second one. Then they start to complain. I have solved that problem—for all Spidey's fans that have that problem, I can tell you how to solve it in three words—get a subscription!

Doug Bunker, 6847 Weller Dr.
Rockford, Mich.

How about that? You start out writing what seems to be a pan letter, Doug, and then it ends up as a subscription ad for us! Y'know something? We think our pals out there in Marveland must be as mixed-up as we are!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS SECTION:

—Looks as though ol' Spidey's been goofing off lately! He isn't guest-starred in a single, solitary Marvel mag this month! And that's the way the rest of our bullpen likes it! Nobody but Steve can think of drawing all those millions of pieces of webbing over and over again without shuddering! (In fact, we suspect that Steve does his share of shuddering, too—but he hides in his web, where no one can see!)

—We've received a zillion letters during the past six months, with all sorts of guesses about who the Green Goblin really is! And, after the yarn you've just read in this ish, we're sure to be receiving zillions more! Well, we're not about to reveal Gobby's true identity for quite a while, but we'll give you this little hint—Stan and Steve are much too tricky to let him turn out to be anyone that you'd easily suspect! There! Chew on that for a while!

—We hate to insert big globs of advertising copy in these paragraphs, so we'll go easy on the M.M.M.S. this ish! All we want to say is that early returns so far indicate that it's gonna be the most successful club anyone can have—with bunnies, that is! So, if you're one of the misguided few who haven't joined up yet, you might as well break down and send in your buck—if only to stop us from repeating this sales pitch all the time! And don't be surprised if you see Spidey himself at our next meeting or march!

—Well, we can't hold it back any longer! We've jus' got to give you a hint of what you'll find in our next great issue! It had to happen! Poor Spidey actually begins to crack up! He goes off the deep end! He pops his cork! And, as if that isn't enough to make SPIDER-MAN #24 an instant sellout, you'll also see some guest villains in that same sensational ish! Plus, more excitement and surprises than you can shake a web at! Remember, Spidey is for that new breed of reader—the reader who wants a mag to talk his language after plunking down 12¢ for it! In other words, as if you don't already know, Spidey is for you!—But don't tell Jonah we said so!



Tyrant
King

Lizard

EMPIRE