

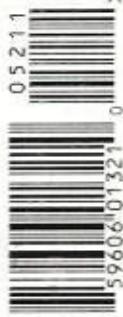
MARVEL
COMICS



SPIDER-MAN

THE EXILE RETURN! PART 2 OF 4

DIRECT EDITION



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52 NOV

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

THE CLONE
AGAINST SPIDER-
MAN'S MOST
LETHAL FOE!



VENOM IS BACK--AND HE SURE
AIN'T A GOOD GUY!



TONIGHT
I GET MY
INTERVIEW.



TOMORROW
I BURY
URICH.

MAYBE
THE DAY
AFTER, I'LL
SHOOT
FOR A
PULITZER!

THAT IS,
IF I CAN
GRAB A
CAB IN
THIS RAIN!

GOING
TO HAVE
TO TRY AROUND
THE CORNER.
MAYBE I CAN
SNAG ONE ON
THEIR
BREAK.

I
HATE
THIS
CITY.

THAT'S
TOO BAD,
MISTER
ELLIS.

WHO
ARE YOU
SUPPOSED
TO BE?

NOBODY.

NOBODY
IMPORTANT
AT ALL.

STAN LEE
PRESENTS
~~SPIDER-MAN~~
BEN REILLY

DEADLINE

MACKIE-LYLE-HARRIS-COMICRAFT-TINSLEY-FINGEROTH-DEFALCO

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GOT
NO TIME
FOR THIS
RIGHT
NOW.

CALL
ME. WE
CAN
TALK
LATER.

I'D
APPRECIATE
IT IF YOU WOULD
MAKE TIME,
MISTER
ELLIS.

THE
NAME'S
KEN,
AND...

...WHO
DO YOU
THINK YOU
ARE?
SPIDER-
MAN?

NO...
I'D NEVER
THINK
THAT!

BUT
I DO NEED
YOUR
HELP!

I NEED
TO FIND
VENOM...
TO
STOP HIM...
I'VE
BEEN AWAY
FROM THE CITY
FOR TOO LONG
...I CAN'T
GET A BEAD
ON HIM.



THEN I READ YOUR ARTICLE. YOU SEEM TO HAVE THE INSIDE TRACK ON VENOM. YOU CLAIM TO HAVE SEEN HIM LAST NIGHT... AT THE CHURCH... I NEED YOUR HELP FINDING HIM.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME, HERO?

I'M NO HERO. THIS IS JUST SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO.

AND I WANT AN INTERVIEW WITH VENOM... AND NOW... MAYBE... WITH YOU!

I HAVE NOTHING INTERESTING TO SAY!

YOU NEVER KNOW. I'VE GOT A LEAD ON WHERE VENOM IS RIGHT NOW. I GIVE IT TO YOU AND YOU CATCH HIM... I WANT AN EXCLUSIVE FROM BOTH OF YOU.

I DON'T KNOW...

GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME. YOU SEEM LIKE A MAN OF YOUR WORD.

HE'S BEEN SPOTTED OVER AT THE ROOSEVELT ISLAND TRAM TERMINAL. I'M HEADING OVER THERE MYSELF.

WANT TO SPLIT A CAB?

SEE YOU THERE... HERO!



MEANWHILE, AT THE
ROOSEVELT ISLAND
TRAM TERMINAL...

COME
ON IN,
MISTER
OPERATOR
MAN.

DON'T
BE AFRAID
OF LITTLE
OL' US!

WE
DON'T
BITE...

...MUCH!

Tsk!
Tsk! Tsk!
SUCH CHAOS
IN THE
STREETS
BELOW.

ALL
THIS FLISS
OVER LITTLE
OLD US?

HASN'T
ANYONE HEARD
WERE THE
GOOD GUYS
NOW?

WE
PROTECT
THE INNOCENT
FROM THE
LIKES OF...
OF... OF...

... THOSE
THAT ACT
THE WAY WE
USED TO!

RIGHT,
BOYS?

EXCUSE
THEM...
THEY'RE
NOT IN THE
TALKING
MOOD!

SWEPT
THE STREETS
AROUND HERE
CLEAN OF
MUGGERS,
THIEVES AND
KILLERS OF ALL
TYPES.

I
DON'T HEAR
ANY "THANK
YOU, MISTER
VENOM!"

NO.
INSTEAD,
NEW YORK'S
FINEST APPEAR
ON THE SCENE
TO TRY AND
KILL ME!

WERE
THE VILLAIN...
RIGHT?

MAYBE
WE ARE.

MAYBE
WE DESERVE
TO DIE... TO
PAY FOR OUR
SINS!

HOW
MANY TIMES
HAVE WE
ENDANGERED
INNOCENT
LIVES?

IT
WAS US
WHO
SPAWNED
CARNAGE!

IT WAS
THE CHANCE
TO KILL HIM, ONCE
AND FOR ALL,
HIM THAT
BROUGHT US
BACK TO NEW
YORK.

SHOULD
WE BE LAYING
AMONGST THE
BODIES OF
OUR OWN
VICTIMS?

NAH!

MEANWHILE...

AN UNSEEN
OBSERVER SITS ATOP
A NEARBY
SKYSCRAPER.

WATCHING.

WAITING.

NEARBY...



I HAVE MEMORIES OF PAST FIGHTS AGAINST FOES NOT HALF AS VICIOUS AS VENOM, BUT...

...THEY'RE ALL IMPLANTED... FALSE. I'M FALSE... A FAKE... A CLONE... A NOBODY!

HOLD UP, MEN! I THINK HELP MAY HAVE ARRIVED.

SPIDER-MAN?

LET'S LET THE TWO COSTUMES DUKE IT OUT.

WE CAN PICK UP THE PIECES.

WHAT IS THIS, SPIDEY-OLD-PAL, A NEW COSTUME?





WHAT
AM I
DOING
HERE?

BAD MOVE!

HE'S GOT HOLD OF MY LEG --

-- WE'RE BOTH GOING DOWN!

THWIP

DID IT!

THANKS FOR BREAKING OUR FALL, PAL!

NOW WE HOPE YOU WON'T MIND IF WE RETURN THE FAVOR AND...

...BREAK YOUR SPINE!

HE'S FASTER THAN I THOUGHT; AND TWICE AS INSANE!

I SHOULD HAVE LEFT THIS TO SOMEONE WHO COULD HANDLE IT!





YES...

...I
AM A
FAKE.

THEN...

... TIME
TO
DIE,
BLINKY!

YOU'VE
GOT TO GET
OUT OF HERE,
VENOM!
NOW!

WHO ?

THE POLICE KNOW HOW TO DEFEAT YOU... US... THEY'LL HAVE GUARDSMEN HERE IN NO TIME! COME, I'LL HELP YOU ESCAPE FROM HERE.

YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE SYMBIOTIC SPAWN OF MY OTHER -- CREATED BY THE LIFE FOUNDATION TO KILL ME!

WE THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD!*



*SEE VENOM: LETHAL PROTECTOR #5. --DANNY



THIS WOUND IS BAD... LOSING A LOT OF BLOOD.

AND NOW THERE ARE TWO OF THEM.

ES-477

I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE.



MEANWHILE...

THIS IS IT.

ALL I'VE GOT TO DO
IS GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO
THE FIGHT.

NOT SO CLOSE THAT I
GET MY HEAD
RIPPED OFF, BUT
JUST CLOSE ENOUGH
TO BE THERE WHEN
IT'S OVER.

ONE OF
THEM HAS TO
SURVIVE.

AND THAT'S
THE ONE I
WANT TO
INTERVIEW.

MEANWHILE,
I'VE GOT TO TAKE
NOTES. FILE THE
STORY. THIS IS A
START.

GEEZ!
CAN'T BELIEVE
I DIDN'T BRING
A CAMERA!

"The costumed criminal known as Venom appeared to have met his match in the female, who bore more than a passing resemblance to him.



"It was then that the super-powered battle began in earnest.

"Venom's rage soon increased exponentially.



"He displayed a total disregard for all innocent bystanders trapped within their cars.

"Quickly, the street was turned into a war zone.

"Cars torn to shreds.

"Occupants of others trapped...



"...helpless and exposed to the rage of the battle.

"How many would die before someone... anyone... came to their rescue - ?"

"YECCH! WHAT IS THIS PROSE I'M WRITING? THE FACTS, ELLIS. JUST REPORT THE FACTS! WATCH AND WRITE!"









...I'LL PROBABLY BLEED TO DEATH BEFORE THINGS GET TOO HEATED!

OKAY, VENOM...

...THE PARTY'S OVER!

NO!
DON'T DO THIS!

I NEED TO TALK TO HIM! LEARN HOW HE CONTROLS HIS OTHER!

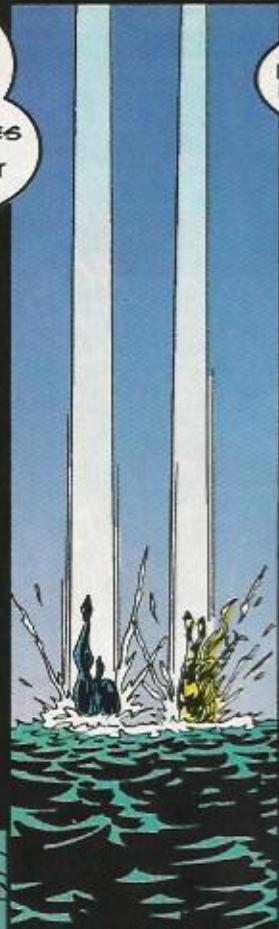
TALK TO HIM? ABOUT CONTROL?

I DON'T THINK SO!

YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT A GUY WHO GIVES IN TO EVERY INNER VOICE.

JUST BECAUSE THEY TALK...

...DOESN'T MEAN YOU BELIEVE THEM!





AT THAT
MOMENT ...

...IN THE MIDDLE
OF THE MURKY
RIVER WATERS...

VENOM
EMERGES
IN A RAGE.

TONIGHT VENOM
HAS MADE TWO
NEW ENEMIES.

THE FEMALE
SYMBIOTE...

...AND
THE FAKE
SPIDER-MAN.

BEFORE
THE NIGHT'S
END ...

...HE VOWS
TO SEE THEM
BOTH DEAD!

TO BE
CONTINUED IN
**WEB OF
SPIDER-MAN**
#119