

## In the battle over Spider-Man, everyone may lose

Peter Parker has a long history as a loveable loser throughout his adventures as Spider-Man, the comic book superhero who pioneered the **notion** that the good guy might win the day against the **supervillain**, but still come up short paying the rent or inadvertently standing up a date.

notion 概念

villain 坏人; 罪犯

Now, the movie **incarnation** of Spider-Man faces his biggest **losing proposition** yet, caught in a creative divorce between Sony, the studio that has long controlled his film rights, and Disney and its **subsidiary** Marvel Studios, the film wing of the comic book company that launched Stan Lee and Steve Ditko's creation back in 1962 and the creative team who helped turn the character back into a billion-dollar film property after a decade of missteps.

incarnation 化身; 典型

losing proposition 亏本生意

subsidiary 子公司

But while the audiences who've embraced the wall-**crawler** of the Marvel Cinematic Universe — as played by Tom Holland — may be the ones who stand to miss out on the most if Sony and Disney do walk away from their landmark pact that allowed for **synergistic** sharing, there's plenty at risk for the two Hollywood **colossuses** as well.

crawler 爬行者; 爬虫

synergistic 协同的; 协作的

colossus 巨人; 伟人

Sony may be massively underestimating both Marvel Studios' ability to "get" Spider-Man, and the studio may not fully understand just how important his appearances in the MCU were to bringing ticket buyers into his solo films.

Of course, things looked pretty **grim** for Spider-Man at the end of "Avengers: Infinity War," too, and look how that turned out. Here's hoping that, as with Peter Parker, the **demoralizing** dusting of the Sony-Marvel deal can be undone, and Spider-Man comes back on top again.

grim 糟糕的；冷酷的

demoralizing 令人泄气的