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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN[®] ANNUAL



**THE SCORPION
TAKES A BRIDE!**
BUT IT'S J. JONAH JAMESON'S!
SCRIPTED BY **STAN^(THE MAN) LEE!**



ATARI® PRESENTS MARIO BROS.*

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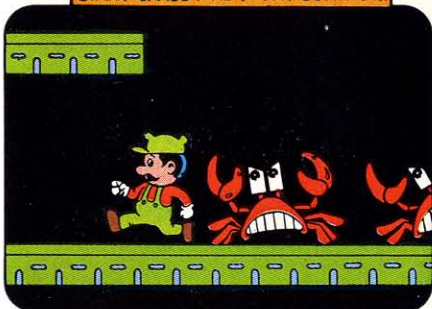
EXCITING 2
PLAYER ACTION!



POOR LUIGI'S IN A BIND...



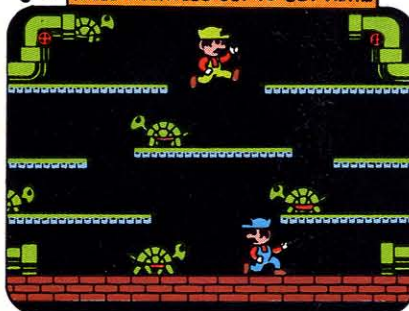
GIANT CRABS ARE RIGHT BEHIND...



SOMETHING'S GUMMING
UP THE PLUMBING...



KILLER TURTLES OUT TO GET HIM...



MARIO BROS.*

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Stan Lee PRESENTS:

THE SCORPION TAKES A BRIDE! (BUT NOT THE WAY YOU THINK!)

I STILL REMEMBER
THE START OF IT.
I HEARD THE GUN-
SHOTS AS SOME BANK
ROBBERS TRIED TO
ESCAPE BY HELICOPTER.
I KNEW IT MEANT I'D
MISS THE A-TEAM
TONIGHT. BUT THAT'S
THE BREAKS WHEN YOUR
NAME IS—SPIDER-MAN!

WELL, WADDYA
KNOW! THEY ROBBED
THE FIRST NATIONAL
AND THEY'RE TAKING
OFF IN A HIGH-TECH
WHIRLYBIRD.

WHAT
HAPPENED
TO THE GOOD
OL' DAYS WHEN
I ONLY HADDA
CHASE AFTER
SOUPED-UP
SEDANS?

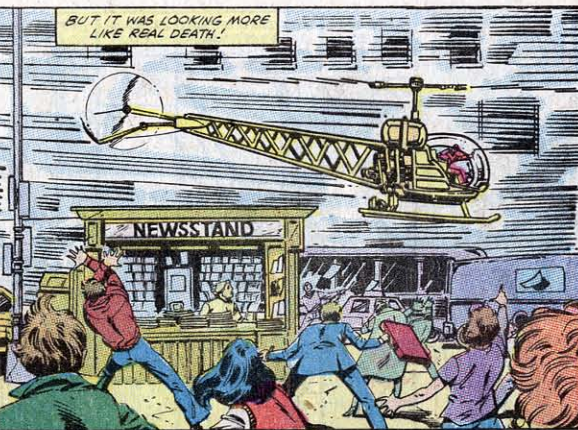
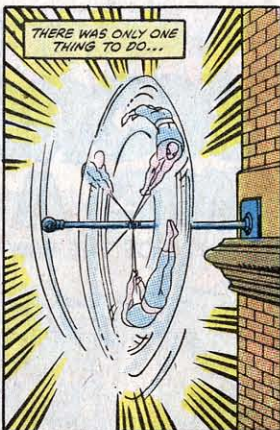
THEY WERE TOO FAR
FOR MY WEBBING TO
REACH. ANY SANE
SUPER HERO WOULD
HAVE QUIETLY
WALTZED AWAY FROM
THIS LITTLE TABLEAU.

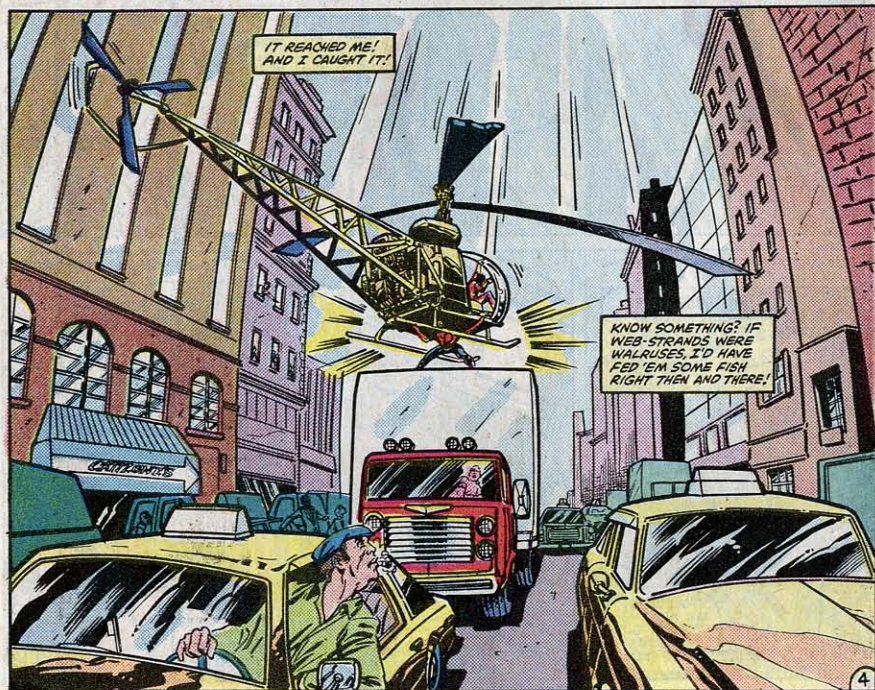
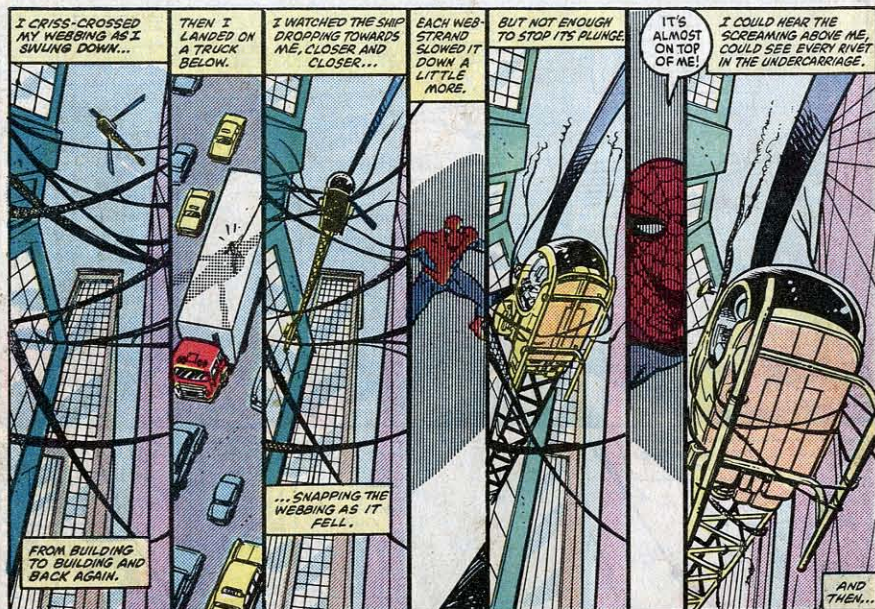
BUT I'VE NEVER
BEEN ACCUSED OF
TERMINAL SANITY.

PLOT BY: TOM DEPALCO
FINISHES BY: BOB LAYTON and JACKSON GUICE
COLORS BY: BOB SHAREN
EDITED BY: DANNY FINGEROTH
BREAKDOWNS BY: RON FRENZ
LETTERS BY: JOE ROSEN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: JIM SHOOTER
SCRIPTED (FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 12 YEARS)
BY STAN LEE (THAT'S RIGHT—STAN LEE!)

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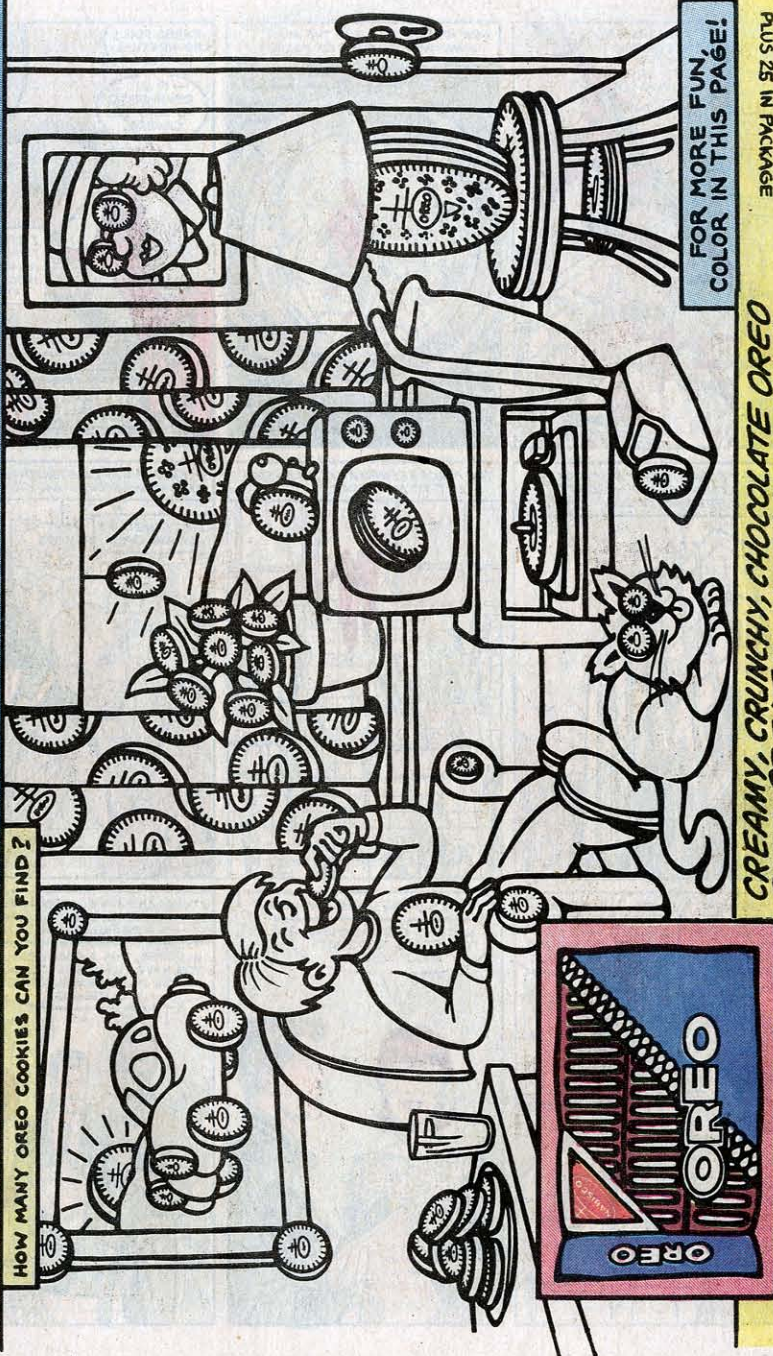
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WELL, THAT WRAPPED IT FOR ME.

SURE HOPE I CATCH THIS ON THE LATE-NITE NEWS.



NOW IT WAS TIME FOR THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF ALL.



THESE PIX'LL BE WORTH A BUNDLE--

--IF I REMEMBERED TO LOAD THE CAMERA.

I REMEMBERED! THINGS DON'T ALWAYS GO WRONG--IT SAYS HERE.



MY NEXT STOP WAS THAT BEST-SELLING BASTION OF TRUTH AND INTEGRITY, THE DAILY BUGLE.



THE PLACE SEEMED A LITTLE DIFFERENT TO ME TODAY.



EVERYONE WAS CLUSTERED AROUND IN GROUPS, WHISPERING AND GRINNING...

LIKE SOMEONE'S FLY WAS OPEN.

HOPE IT'S NOT MINE.



GUESS WHAT, PETER? NEED JUST RETURNED FROM HIS EXTENDED ASSIGNMENT.

HEY, THAT'S GREAT, BETTY.

BUT THAT CAN'T BE WHAT ALL THE WHISPERING'S ABOUT.



WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND HERE?

NOTHING EARTH-SHAKING. IT JUST HAS TO DO WITH MR. JAMESON.



IT WAS LIKE PRYING GOSSIP FROM THE SPHINX. BUT BEFORE I COULD ASK ANY MORE QUESTIONS...

HI, PETER. THIS A SOCIAL CALL, OR DO YOU HAVE THE ANSWER TO AN EDITOR'S PRAYER IN THAT ENVELOPE YOU'RE CLUTCHING?

YOU'RE A MIND-READER, MR. R. WAIT-- YOU SEE...



IT'S REALLY NOTHING MUCH. JUST AN EXCLUSIVE SHOT OF SPIDER-MAN CATCHING A FALLING HELICOPTER IN HIS BARE HANDS IN THE MIDDLE OF A CROWDED STREET.

BUT I KNOW YOU'RE BORED WITH PIX OF SPIDEY...



TELL YOU WHAT, SON-- I'LL OVERLOOK MY BOREDOM JUST THIS ONCE. YOUR SHOT'S A SENSATION. GOT PAGE-ONE WRITTEN ALL OVER IT.

LET'S REMEMBER THAT WHEN YOU WRITE OUT MY CHECK, HUH?



I'D BE LYING IF I SAID I WASN'T PLEASED WITH MYSELF. AND YOU KNOW MY PARKER NEPHEW NEVER EVER LIES.

PETER, YOU'RE JUST TOO MUCH.

IT SURE BEATS NOT ENOUGH.



WHILE I WAS BEAMING, A PRINTER'S MESSENGER ARRIVED.

I GOT SOME STUFF HERE FOR J. JONAH JAMESON.

STUFF, HUH? YOUR POWERS OF DESCRIPTION, KAFFE, ARE ALMOST AWESOME.



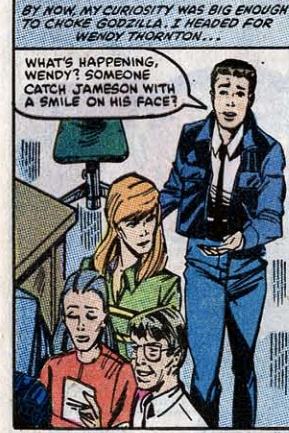
EVERYONE'S A COCKAMAMIE COMEDIAN AROUND HERE.

HIS PRINTING SAMPLE'S FALLING OFF THE BOX. I'LL JUST-- HEY! WHAT'S THIS?



GATHER 'ROUND, LADS AND LASSIES. SKAFF-KAFFE OL' BEN URICH'S GOT AN ITEM FOR YE NEWS-HUNGRY NASSES.

NOBODY'S SCOOPIN' THE BUGLE ON THIS ONE!



BY NOW, MY CURIOSITY WAS BIG ENOUGH TO CHOKO GODZILLA. I HEADED FOR WENDY THORNTON...

WHAT'S HAPPENING, WENDY? SOMEONE CATCH JAMESON WITH A SMILE ON HIS FACE?



COULD BE, ESPECIALLY IF THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IS TRUE. HERE, BE MY GUEST.

LOOKS LIKE A WEDDING INVITATION.



IT WAS.

HOW ABOUT THAT? THE OL' CUR-AUDGEON IS FINALLY TAKING THE PLUNGE.

MARLA MADISON REQUESTS THE HONOR OF YOUR PRESENCE AT THE WEDDING OF J. JONAH JAMESON AND MARLA MADISON.

JOLLY JONAH AND MARLA MADISON WERE GETTING MARRIED!





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I-- CAME TO TELL YOU SOMETHING, JOHN.

WHAT IS IT, DAD? YOU LOOK SO GRIM.

OH NO, NO. IT'S NOTHING BAD.

IT'S GOOD NEWS. GREAT NEWS. I'M GETTING MARRIED-- TO MARLA MADISON.

JOHN, WAIT. WHAT'S THE MATTER?

YOU KNOW WHAT'S THE MATTER.

SHE'LL COME BETWEEN US! I KNOW SHE WILL!

JUST LIKE SOMETHING ALWAYS COMES BETWEEN US!

YOU-- RUINED YOUR PUZZLE.

I TOLD YOU, IT REMINDS ME OF MY LIFE.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY, JOHN.

THEN DON'T SAY ANYTHING. I DON'T TALK MUCH ANYMORE.

I'M SORRY IT DIDN'T GO TOO WELL THIS TIME.

IT WAS MY FAULT. HE WASN'T READY FOR THE NEWS YET.

I SHOULD HAVE REALIZED THAT.

BUT YOU MUSTN'T FEEL GUILTY ABOUT YOUR WEDDING, MR. JAMESON. YOU HAVE YOUR OWN LIFE TO LEAD.

I KNOW, BUT I CAN'T BEAR TO SEE HIM THAT WAY.

I'LL BE BACK. I'LL THINK OF SOMETHING I HAVE TO.

IN THE MEANTIME, WE'LL LOOK AFTER HIM. DON'T WORRY.

WORRY? JONAH WOULD HAVE A CONVICTION FIT IF HE KNEW WHAT WAS IN STORE.

HE CAME TO VISIT HIS SON. DID HE? HOW TOUCHING.

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IF HE SOUNDED SENTIMENTAL, DON'T LET IT FOOL YOU. IN A NEARBY CELL, ONE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS MEN IN THE WORLD WAS SCHEMING AND PLOTTING...

JAMESON'S SON PLAYS WITH PUZZLES WHILE MAC GARGAN WEARS A SOUPED-UP STRAIT JACKET.

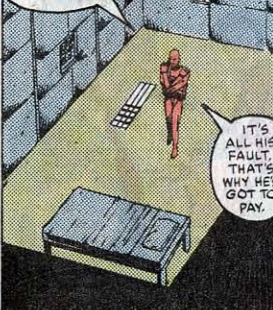


BUT THAT'LL SOON CHANGE. OH YES, HOW IT WILL CHANGE.



I WASN'T THERE AT THE TIME, SO I PIECED THIS TOGETHER FROM LATER REPORTS. BUT TRUST ME.

IF NOT FOR JAMESON, I WOULDN'T BE HERE NOW.



IT'S ALL HIS FAULT. THAT'S WHY HE'S GOT TO PAY.

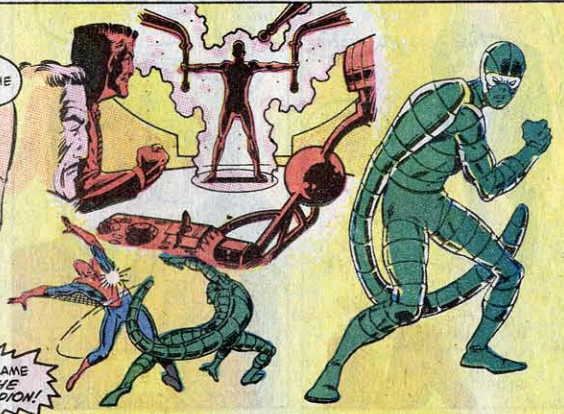
HE'S THE ONE WHO HIRED ME FOR THAT EXPERIMENT, TO MAKE ME MORE POWERFUL THAN SPIDER-MAN.

HE WANTED ME TO RID HIM OF THE WEB-SPINNER.



BUT I BECAME TOO POWERFUL, TOO DEADLY.

I BECAME... THE SCORPION!



AND NOW, IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR THE SCORPION TO STING AGAIN.



READY FOR YOUR SESSION, MAC?

BRING WHOEVER YOU WANT. LONG AS I AIN'T PAYIN' FOR IT.



NOW, YOU KNOW THE PAYMENTS ARE ALL TAKEN CARE OF.

SURE. THE MOST EXPENSIVE SANITARI-UM AROUND, THE HIGHEST PRICED SHRINKS, ALL THE CARE I NEED.



SOMEONE'S SURE TAKIN' A BIG INTEREST IN MAC GARGAN.

THERE'RE PEOPLE IN HIGH PLACES CONCERNED ABOUT YOU, MAC. YOU SHOULD APPRECIATE IT.

NOW LET'S GET ON WITH THE THERAPY.

12

THERAPY! THERE WAS AS MUCH CHANCE OF THAT HELPING THE SCORPION, AS THERE WAS OF MILKSHAKES CURING DRACULA.



BUT THEY KEPT TRYING, ANYWAY. THEN, LATER THAT NIGHT...

IT'S ALMOST TIME. I HEAR HIS FOOTSTEPS.



NOW, IN RETROSPECT, IT'S ALL SO PAINFULLY CLEAR HOW IT MUST HAVE HAPPENED...

HI, MR. GARGAN. I BROUGHT YOU SOME COFFEE 'N SMOCKES, AND A PAPER.



THAT'S NICE OF YOU, FRANK.

HEY, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S NICE, LETTIN' ME VISIT YOU LIKE THIS. IT'S MADE ME A REAL BIG SHOT WITH MY FRIENDS.



THEY'RE ALWAYS ASKIN' ME ABOUT THE FAMOUS SCORPION.

AND WHAT DO YOU TELL THEM?

Y'KNOW, I TELL 'EM WHAT A GREAT GUY YOU ARE, AND HOW YOU LET ME COME VISIT YOU, AND THE WAY YOU TELL ME ALL THE FAR-OUT THINGS YOU'VE DONE.



AND HOW I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO'S ALLOWED TO COME 'N READ YOU THE PAPER.

AND WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TONIGHT?

HERE'S SOMETHING INTERESTING. JONAH JAMESON, THE BUGLE'S PUBLISHER, IS GETTING HITCHED.



I'VE SEEN HIM BEFORE, IN FACT, HE WAS HERE EARLIER. BOY, IN THIS JOB YOU MEET EVERY-ONE.

SHUDDUP! I HEARD ENOUGH. THIS IS WHAT I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR.



MR. GARGAN, YOU NEVER TALKED TO ME LIKE THAT BEFORE. WHAT DO YOU MEAN, IT'S WHAT YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR?

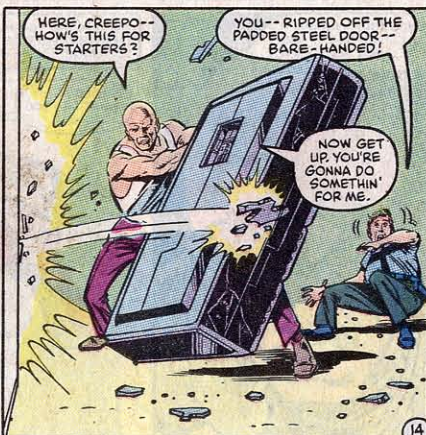


HOLD IT. WHAT ARE YOU DOING?



YOU'LL SOON FIND OUT.

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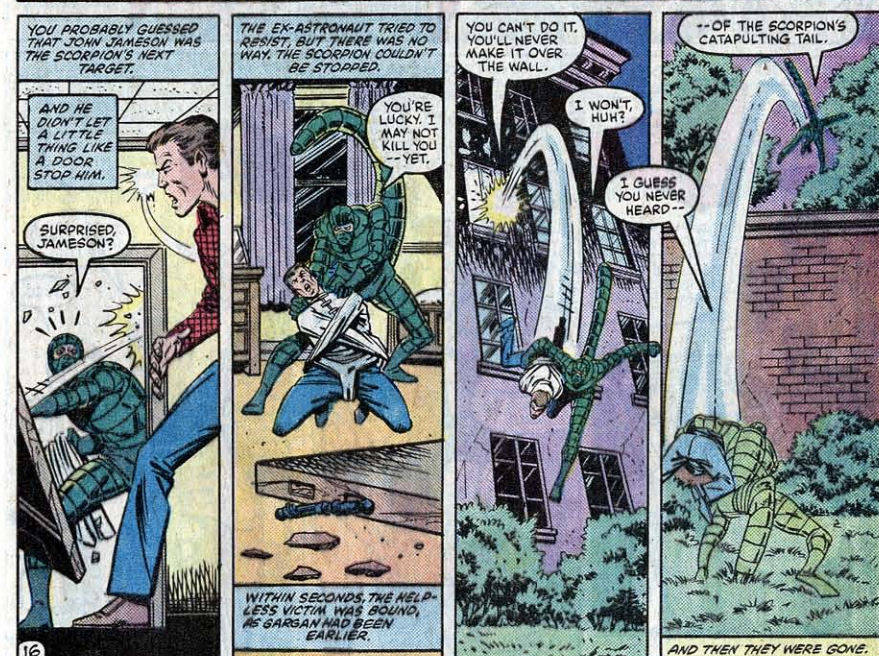
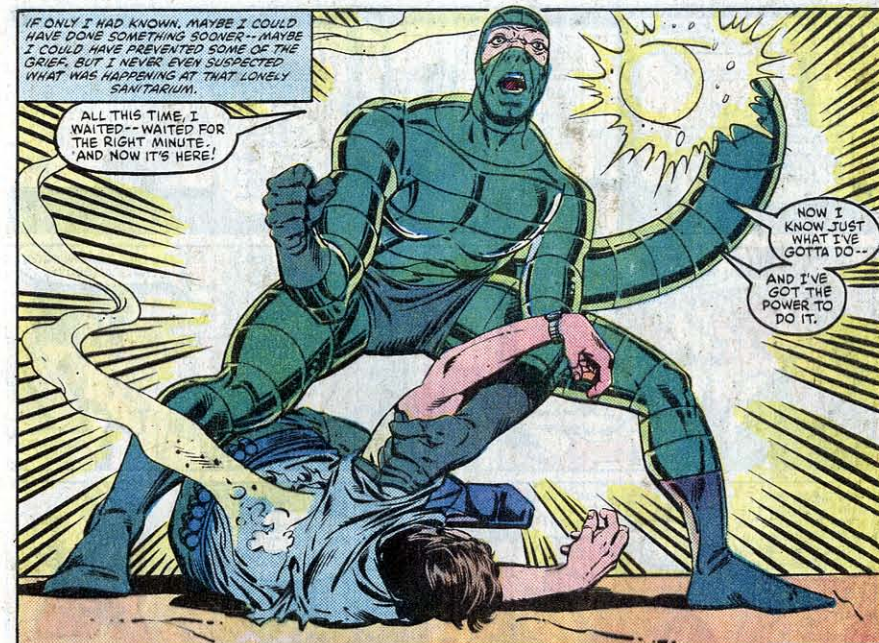
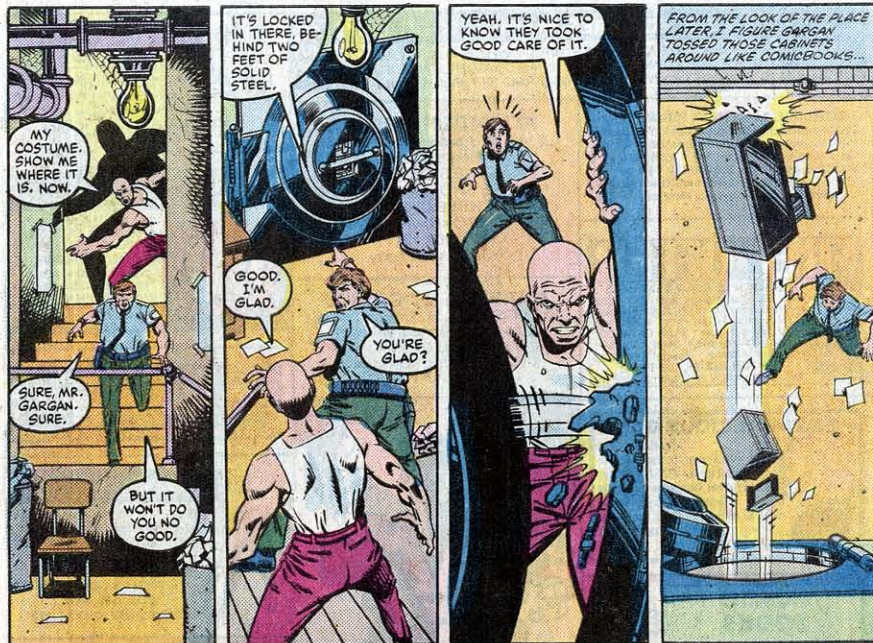
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SATURDAY MORNING



CONSIDER, FOR A MOMENT, THE SURPRISE IN STORE FOR YOU ON SATURDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 15TH, AS YOU LAY SLEEPING. YOUR TELEVISION SUDDENLY COMES ALIVE!

HEY, WAKE UP. WAK'LL YOU SEE WHAT'S COMING ON NBC.



IT'S A WHOLE NEW SEASON!

NEXT, KIDD VIDEO WILL TAKE YOU TO THE FLIP SIDE OF THE UNIVERSE WHERE THE MASTER BLASTER IS WAGING A BATTLE TO RULE THE ENTIRE ROCK AND ROLL WORLD.



NEW SHOW!

BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, MR. T WILL TAKE OVER...



PITY THE POOR FOOL WHO MESSES WITH THE CHANNEL CHANGER!

RIGHT, T!

FOR THE NEXT 1/2 HOUR YOU EXPLORE A FANTASTIC UNDERSEA WORLD WHERE YOU'LL UNCOVER INCREDIBLE CREATURES KNOWN ONLY AS THE SNORKS.

NEW SHOW!



SNORKS

NEXT, YOU'LL SURFACE IN THE PINK PANTHER'S BACKYARD AND MEET HIS KIDS, PINKY AND PANKY, AND THEIR RIVALS - A PACK OF LIONS KNOWN AS "HOWL'S ANGELS".

NEW SHOW!



THE PINK PANTHER AND SONS

BY THE TIME HE'S DONE, YOU'LL BE GOING BANANAS WITH A REAL LIFE ORANGUTAN NAMED ROXANNA BANANA.

NEW SHOW!



GOING BANANAS

THEN SPIDER-MAN AND HIS AMAZING FRIENDS WILL JOIN FORCES TO MAKE THE WHOLE WORLD SAFE FOR DEMOCRACY... ESPECIALLY ON YOUR BLOCK!



SPIDER-MAN AND HIS AMAZING FRIENDS



NEXT DOOR, YOU'LL FIND THE SMURF VILLAGE - RIGHT WHERE IT'S ALWAYS BEEN!

IT'S GOING TO BE SMURFIER THAN EVER!

SMURFS

AS YOU LEAVE, ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS WILL BE WAITING TO ROCK YOUR SOCKS OFF WITH THEIR VERSIONS OF HITS LIKE "BEAT IT" AND "GIRLS JUST WANT TO HAVE FUN".



Alvin & the Chipmunks

AND FIVE TIMES DURING THE MORNING YOUR FAVORITE NBC STARS WILL GIVE YOU ONE TO GROW ON!



ONE TO GROW ON™

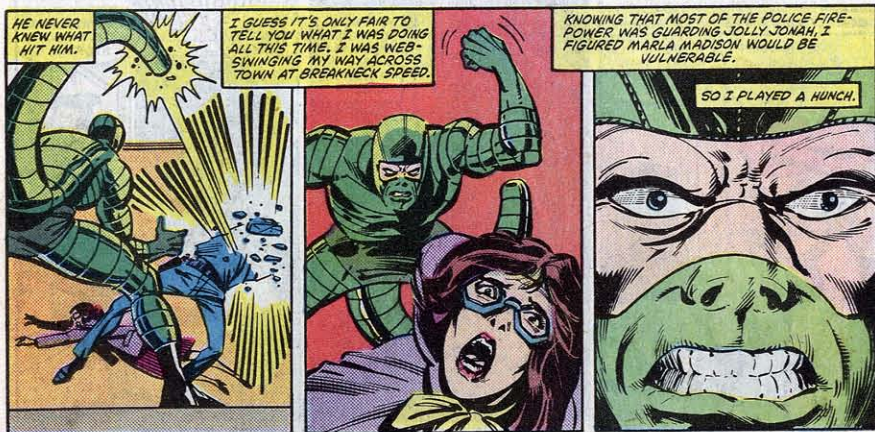
IT ALL BEGINS SEPTEMBER 15TH ON NBC, SO...



LET'S ALL BE THERE



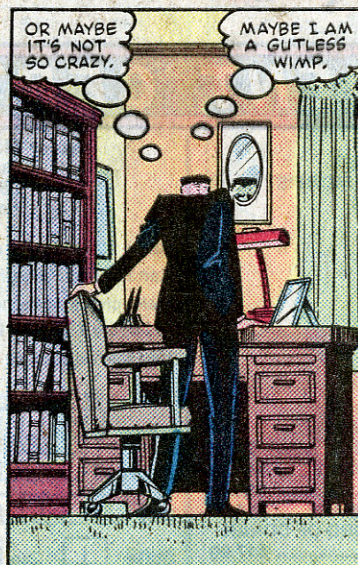
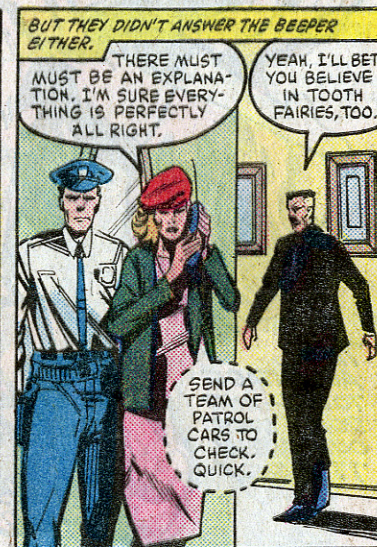
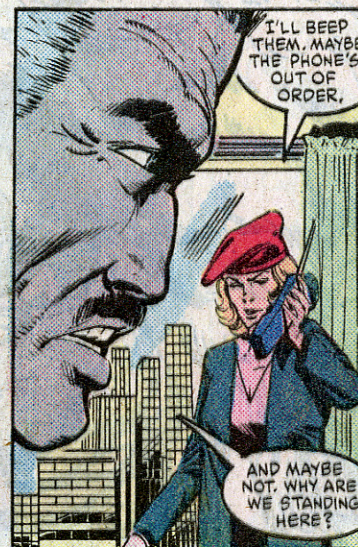
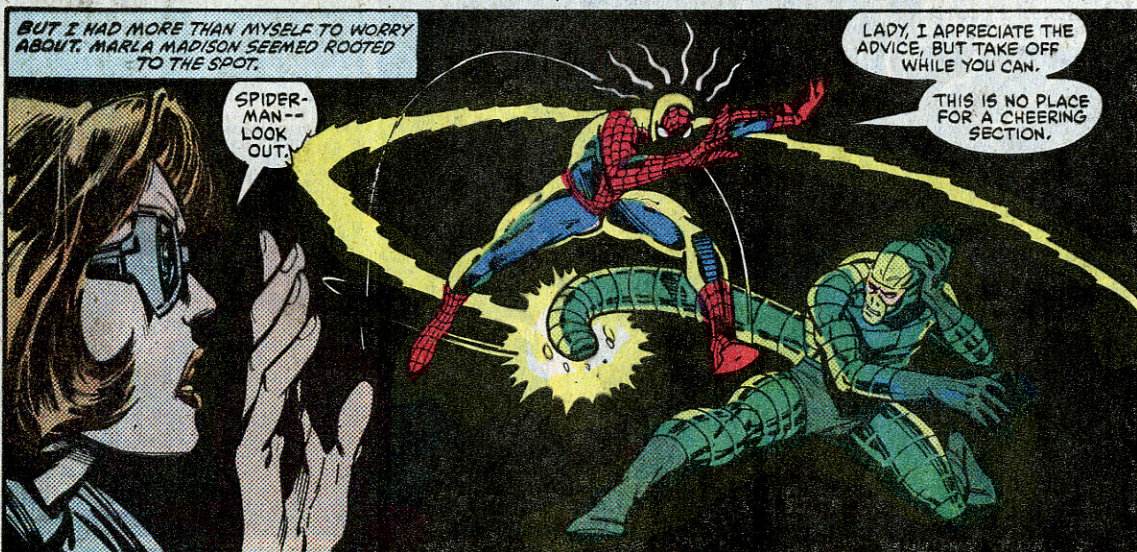
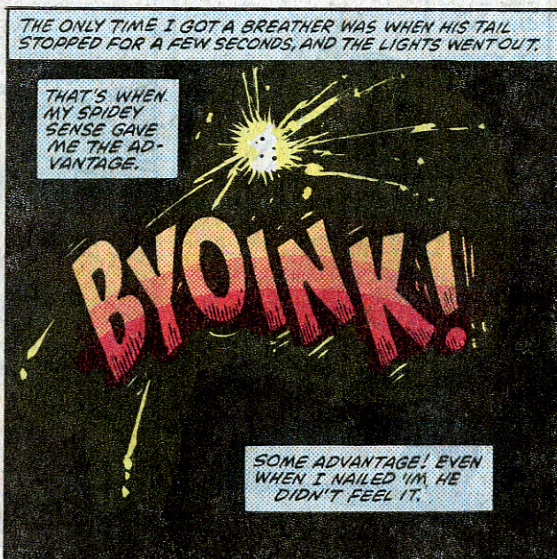




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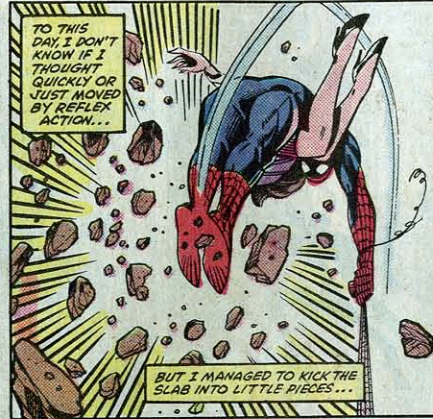
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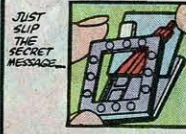
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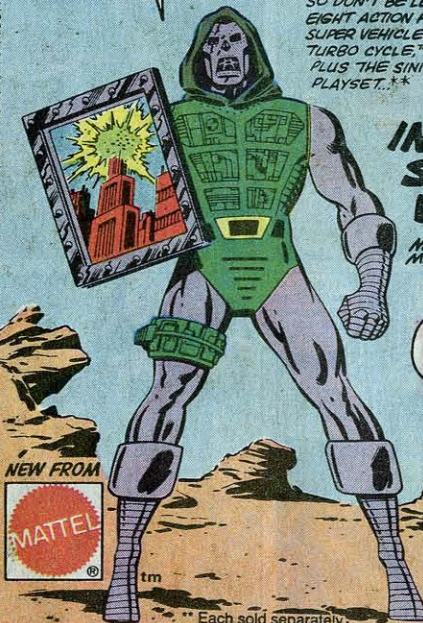
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WHEN I HEARD ABOUT IT LATER, I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT. JJ SHELLING OUT HARD CASH JUST CAUSE THE LADY HE LOVED WAS IN DANGER!

NEXT THING YOU KNOW, HE'D START TIPPING CABBIES AND WAITERS.

MARLA! SHE'S WAKING UP!

AT LEAST I WON'T HAVE TO FIGHT THE SCORPION WITH MY ARMS FULL.



SPIDER-MAN! WHAT HAPPENED? HOW DID WE--?

NO TIME FOR AN INSTANT REPLAY, LADY.

JUST GET DOWN THESE STAIRS, FAST-- DON'T STOP FOR ANYTHING.



SURE, I COULD HAVE SPLIT, TOO. BUT I WAS THROUGH RUNNING.

HAH! I CAUGHT YA.

YOU'VE GOT THAT BACKWARDS, TURKEY.



THIS TIME I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT ANYONE ELSE GETTING HURT!

IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US-- AND THAT'S ONE TOO MANY FOR ME!

ZAKK!

SO HERE'S WHERE I WHITTLE DOWN THE NUMBERS.



BUT IF I EXPECTED A FAIR FIGHT FROM SCORPY, I NEEDED A LOBOTOMY.

I CAN ALWAYS BEAT YOU. Y'KNOW WHY?



A SECOND LATER, HE SHOWED ME...

YOU CAN'T STAND BY AND SEE INNOCENT PEOPLE GET HURT.

ME, I COULDN'T CARE LESS.



HE WAS RIGHT. HE KNEW I'D BREAK OFF THE FIGHT TO SAVE THE PEOPLE BELOW AGAIN.

THE STREET'S AS CROWDED AS EVER. ONLY ONE WAY TO STOP THAT CAR. NICE FROM FALLING...

CAN'T WORRY ABOUT THE SCORPION NOW--AND HE KNOWS IT.



I'LL GET HER ON THE STREET BELOW, AND NO WAY YOU CAN HELP 'ER.

YOU CAN'T LET GO TILL YOU SHORE THAT UP.

SO THERE I WAS, STRAINING MY HEROIC LITTLE HEART OUT WHILE THAT TAIL-WAVING TROGLDYTE GLOATED.



I COULD ONLY WATCH AS HE LEAPED DOWN TOWARDS MARLA...



I SAW WHAT WAS HAPPENING, BUT THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO.



NOTHING! HE'LL DO NOTHING. I'M HERE NOW. IT'S ME HE WANTS, NOT YOU.

JAMESON!



FINALLY JUST AS I WEBBED THE WALL BACK IN PLACE, JAMESON'S TAKI REACHED THE SCENE...

MARLA! IT'S ME, JONAH! I'M HERE! I'LL SAVE YOU!



BUT THE LADY NEEDED A LOT OF SAVING.

IT'S OVER. THERE'S NO PLACE YOU CAN RUN.

WHAT-- ARE YOU GOING TO DO?



LET HER GO. SHE'S DONE NOTHING. YOU MUSTN'T HURT HER-- YOU CAN'T!

I CAN DO ANYTHING. I'M THE SCORPION. BUT YOU-- YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TURNED ME INTO A FREAK.

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S GONNA PAY FIRST.



PAY? I'VE BEEN PAYING FOR YEARS. WHO DO YOU THINK PAID FOR YOUR DOCTORS. FOR THE SANITARIUM?

I'VE EVEN SET UP A FUND TO REPAY YOUR VICTIMS.

SO, IT WAS YOU!



I KNOW I WAS RESPONSIBLE YEARS AGO. THAT'S WHY I'LL PAY YOU WHATEVER IT TAKES--

YOU FOOL! DO YOU THINK MONEY ALONE CAN GET YOU OFF THE HOOK?

YOU MADE ME A FREAK! WHAT'S THE PRICE FOR THAT, JAMESON?!!



MONEY MEANS NOTHING. WITH MY STRENGTH, MY POWER, I CAN TAKE WHAT I NEED. THE ONLY PAYMENT I WANT FROM YOU IS--

YOUR LIFE!

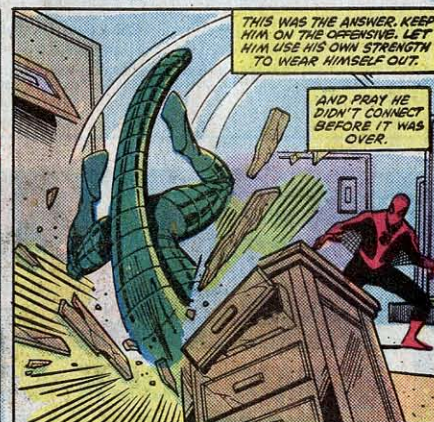
DAD!



AND THE LIFE OF ANYONE YOU CARE ABOUT-- STARTING WITH HER.

RUN, JONAH! LEAVE ME, DARLING! YOU CAN STILL GET AWAY!





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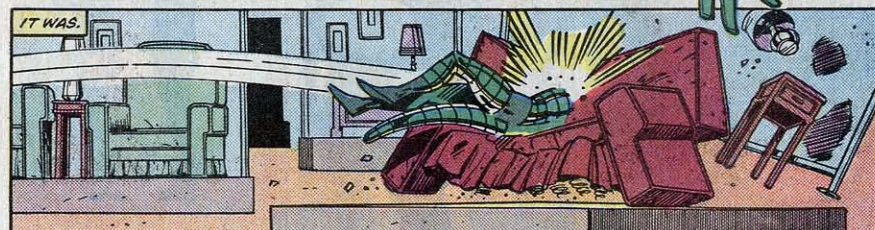
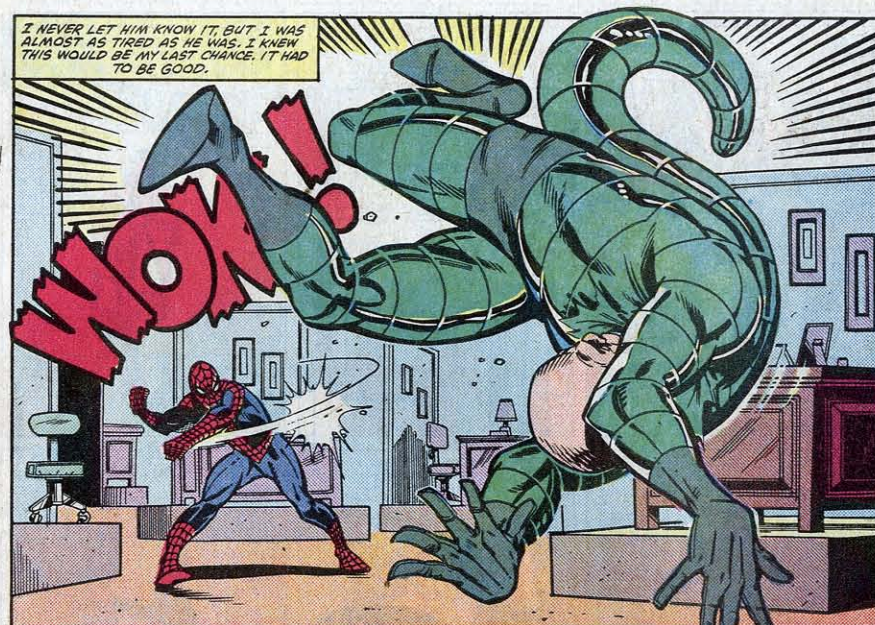
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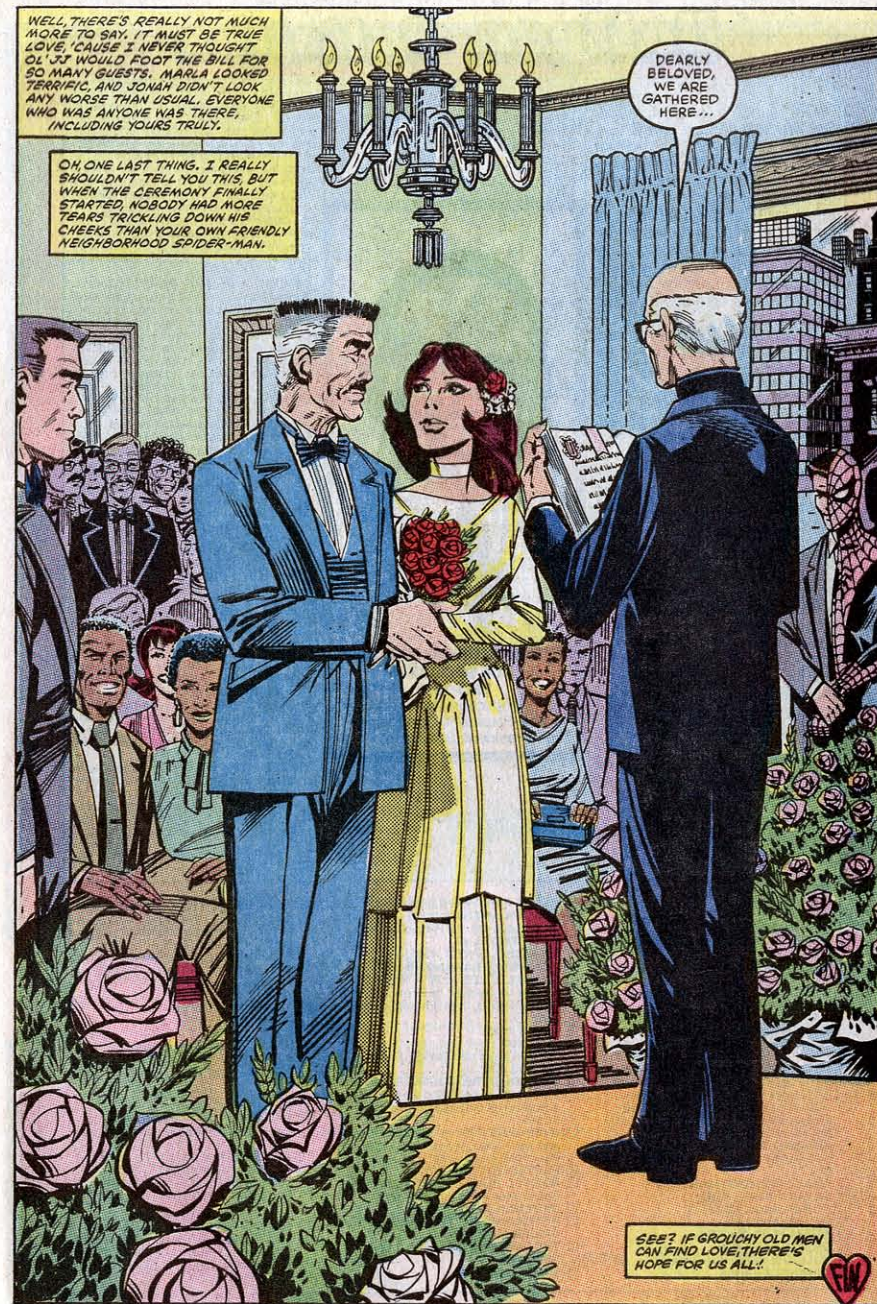
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Bullpen Bulletins

On Monday, June 4, 1984, Sol Brodsky passed away.

Most of you probably never heard of him, or, if you did, very likely you didn't pay much attention. Sol didn't spend a lot of effort trying to get headlines, or fighting to get his name bigger in the credits. He was too busy getting things done, invariably on time and under budget, so that someone else could get the glory.

Typically, at this point in one of these things, the writer launches into a long and thoroughly boring list of the many behind-the-scenes contributions of the deceased. Forget it. There isn't enough room here, or in a thousand of these columns. Besides, I think Sol would want this short and sweet (and on time, and under budget). Suffice it to say, therefore, that he was one of the all-time biggies in this industry. Sure, he was Stan Lee's right hand during the early years here, but he was no mere backstage helper-outer / man-Friday, you understand. He was a force. A shaper. A builder.

He did a lot to help get us — the comics biz — this far.

Now he's gone. We'll remember him, of course, because of what he did — but more, because of the way he did it. He was a fine, fine man.



SOL BRODSKY
1923-1984
Production Manager
Vice-President, Operations
Vice-President, Special Projects

Jim Shooter
Jim Shooter

THE HYPE BOX
ICEMAN (Limited Series) #1 — He was a charter member of the X-Men, and he currently belongs to the New Defenders. But in this four-issue limited series, he's on his own! And even with all his experience, he finds that being a super hero still isn't all that easy! Who are White Light and The Ick, and why are they causing all that trouble? Will Iceman finally get a date with the beautiful and mysterious Marge? The answers to these questions and more are brought to you by writer J.M. DEMATTEIS, penciler ALAN KUPPERBERG, and inker MIKE GUSTOVICH.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (Limited Series) #1 — This thrilling four-issue limited series follows right on the heels of the incredible events presented in the Dazzler Graphic Novel! Dazzler's powers are out of control! Anti-mutant hysteria is sweeping the country! Will the Beast be able to help her before something horrible happens? This impossible love story is written by ANN NOCENTI, penciled by DON PERLIN, and inked by KIM DEMULDER.

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #18 — Face front, true believers! This amazing annual features the return of "The Man" readers around the world have been clamoring for! That's right, SMILING STAN LEE is back, scripting the tale of one of the most eventful days in Spider-Man's life! And when Dailey Bugle publisher J. Jonah Jameson gets married, you just know that this will be a wedding that no one will ever forget! Read "The Scorpion Takes a Bride" Plot by TOM DEFALCO, Breakdowns by RON FRENZ, Finishes by BOB LAYTON and JACKSON "BUTCH" GUICE. Script by STAN LEE! Excelsior!

CRASH RYAN (Limited Series) #1 — A new four-issue limited series with full process color from EPIC COMICS! Crash Ryan is introduced to the members of the United Airmen, who are battling the menace of The Doom! They use ultra-modern airships and futuristic technology in an age that never was but might have been. This unusual combination of pulp-fiction adventure and high-tech intrigue is brought to you by writer/artist RON HARRIS.

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- ☐ WEST COAST AVENGERS (Limited Series) #4
- ☐ MACHINE MAN (Limited Series) #3
- ☐ ICEMAN (Limited Series) #1 — The former X-Man gets his own series! See Hype Box.
- ☐ BUCKEROO BANZAI (Limited Series) #1 — Beginning Marvel's adaptation of the science fiction adventure movie!
- ☐ BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (Limited Series) #1 — A mutant romance as only Marvel could do it! See Hype Box.
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #18 — Stan (the Man) Lee is back! See Hype Box.
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #259
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