

Stan Lee PRESENTS: **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™**

LEN WEIN * SAL BUSCEMA * MIKE ESPOSITO * GLYNIS WEIN * JOHN COSTANZA
WRITER/EDITOR * GUEST ARTIST * EMBELLISHER * COLORIST * LETTERER

THE SANDMAN ALWAYS STRIKES TWICE

IT HASN'T EXACTLY BEEN THE BEST OF ALL POSSIBLE DAYS FOR EVERYBODY'S FAVORITE WEB-SLINGER. A FEW SHORT HOURS AGO, A MAN PETER PARKER HAD COME TO KNOW AND ADMIRE WAS RUTHLESSLY MURDERED-- BECAUSE SPIDER-MAN ARRIVED TOO LATE TO SAVE HIM!

NOW THE WALL-CRAWLER SWINGS SOMBERLY THROUGH THE NIGHT-LIT CITY STREETS, FEELING SINGLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT DEATH, TRYING DESPERATELY TO FORGIVE HIMSELF--

-- AND WOE BE UNTO ANYONE WHO GETS IN HIS WAY!

C'MON, FOXY LADY-- HAND OVER YER CASH-- OR WE HURT YA!

ROCKY LOVES SELMA



BAR

HEY, FORGET THE CHICK, HARRY-- WE GOT TROUBLE!

IT'S SPIDER-MAN!





CAN'T I, FUNK? JUST WATCH ME!

SLAP!

A FRIEND OF MINE WAS KILLED TONIGHT--

THAP!

--MURDERED BY TRASH LIKE YOU--

WHAP!

--AND I WON'T LET IT HAPPEN AGAIN, DO YOU HEAR ME?

FTAP!

I WON'T LET IT HAPPEN AGAIN!!

SWAP!

SPIDER-MAN-- STOP! DON'T YOU SEE WHAT YOU'RE DOING?

HUH?

OH... MY... LORD.

YOU'RE BEATING THAT MAN TO DEATH!

I--I DIDN'T MEAN TO-- MUST'VE LOST CONTROL--!

THANKS FOR SNAPPING ME OUT OF IT, LADY.

THAT'S ONE I OWE YOU--

--AND SPIDER-MAN ALWAYS PAYS HIS DEBTS!

THEN JUST CONSIDER US EVEN, SPIDER-MAN--

--AND THANK YOU.

CONGRATULATIONS, WALL-CRAWLER-- YOU JUST CAME THAT CLOSE TO BECOMING THE EXACT SAME GARBAGE YOU SET OUT TO STOP!

BETTER JUST RECLAIM YOUR TRUSTY CAMERA AND CUT OUT OF HERE.

WELL, THAT'S ONE SET OF PHOTOS I CAN'T SELL ANYONE.

THESE SNAP-SHOTS ARE ALL J. JONAH JAMESON WOULD NEED TO PROVE I'M THE LUNATIC HE CLAIMS I AM.

SO IT'S EITHER GO HOME AND SLEEP THIS OFF-- OR GO FIND SOMEBODY WORTH TAKING OUT MY MAD ON.

IF I HAD ANY BRAINS, I'D GO HOME.

SO I THINK I'LL GO FIND SOMEBODY TO HIT!

AND IF THAT'S NOT A CLUE TO SWITCH SCENES, THIS ISN'T THE MAG WE THINK IT IS--



--SO WHAT SAY WE CUT ACROSS TOWN AND PICK UP ON A RATHER COMMON-LOCKING ARMORED CAR--

--CARRYING A MOST UNCOMMON CARGO!

I STILL DON'T SEE WHY THEY NEED US ALONG FOR THIS.

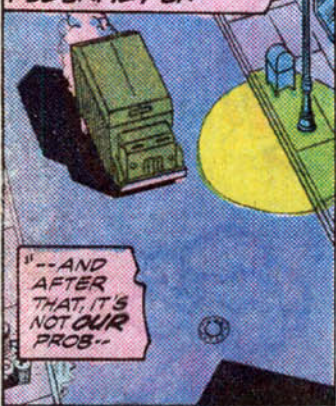
THERE'S NO WAY MARKO IS GONNA BREAK OUT OF THAT SPECIAL PLEXI-GLASS TUBE!

YOU KNOW THAT AND I KNOW IT--

--BUT THIS GUY'S BUSTED JAIL TOO MANY TIMES FOR THE BOYS UPSTAIRS TO TAKE ANY CHANCES!



ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS TRANSPORT PRISONER #443572--FLINT MARKO, ALIAS WILLIAM BAKER-- FROM THE CITY JAIL TO THE FEDERAL PEN--



--AND AFTER THAT, IT'S NOT OUR PROB--



MOVE IT, NUMBER 32-- WHILE THAT MEAT WAGON'S STILL OUTTA COMMISSION!

WE BLOW THIS OPERATION--AND THE BOSS IS GONNA EAT US ALIVE!

SOMETHING'S GOING ON OUT THERE!

THAT SHOCK-BOMB MUST'VE BLOWN OUT THE ENGINE--! AND THAT'S NOT ALL IT DID!

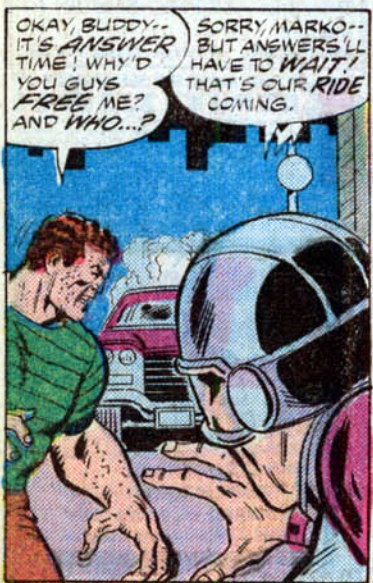
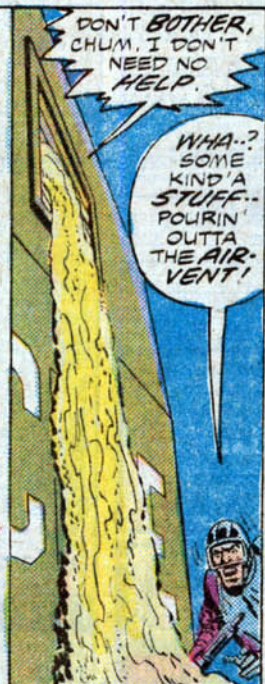


IT ALSO CRACKED THE PLEXI-GLASS TUBE! MARKO IS TRYING TO...



NOT "TRYING" BLUE-BOY--I'M DOIN' IT!

I'M SMASHIN' OUT!!



OKAY, NOW THAT WE'VE INTRODUCED THE MAJOR CHARACTERS FOR THIS ISSUE, LET'S LOOK IN ON A MINOR ONE.

WE FIRST MET THIS MYSTERIOUS BOWERY DERELICT BACK IN SPIDER-MAN #152.



HE WAS IN DESPERATE STRAITS THEN--

--AND HIS SITUATION DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE IMPROVED MUCH.

THIS IS MY CHANCE. THERE'S NOBODY ELSE IN SIGHT--

--AND HERE COMES MY UNWITTING VICTIM!



I'VE GOT TO TIME THIS CAREFULLY-- WAIT UNTIL HE'S ALMOST UPON ME-- THEN--

PERFECT! I TRIPPED HIM PRECISELY AS PLANNED!

HEY...!?!



MUST MAKE MY MOVE SWIFTLY-- WHILE HE'S STILL STUNNED BY THE FALL!

I'LL STEAL HIS WALLET-- THEN ESCAPE BEFORE HE CAN SUMMON THE POLICE!



IT CURDLES MY VERY SOUL TO SEE MYSELF REDUCED TO THIS--

--MUGGING HAPLESS STROLLERS FOR THE MONEY IN THEIR POCKETS--



--BUT WHAT OTHER CHOICE HAVE I?

ONLY MONEY CAN PROVIDE ME WITH THE ALCOHOL I CRAVE--

--AND ONLY IN THE BOTTLE CAN I ESCAPE THE NIGHTMARES!



ONLY IN THE BOTTLE CAN I...

HE CAN'T HAVE FOUND ME AGAIN!

NO--NOT AGAIN!



HAVE TO GET AWAY-- HAVE TO FLEE!

HAVE TO GO SOMEWHERE HE CAN'T FIND ME!

LORD, THERE MUST BE SOMEWHERE HE CAN'T FIND ME!

WH-WHAT HAPPENED--?!



SOMEONE KNOCKED ME DOWN-- TRIED TO ROB ME!

BUT HE'S RUNNING OFF-- WITHOUT MY WALLET!

I TELL YA-- THIS CITY GETS CRAZIER EVERY DAY!



AND, HAVING WHETTED YOUR CURIOSITY REGARDING OUR THREADBARE FUGITIVE AND HIS MYSTERIOUS PURSUER, LET'S SHIFT ONCE AGAIN--

--TO A LOCATION SO SECRET EVEN WE DON'T KNOW WHERE IT IS.

MAN, I AIN'T WORN THESE THREADS IN A WHILE. *

WHERE'D YA GET 'EM?



* SINCE MARVEL TEAM-UP #2, TO BE PRECISE. --LEN.

THAT SHOULD NOT CONCERN YOU, SANDMAN. ALL THAT MATTERS IS THAT THEY'LL BE REQUIRED--

--TO ACCOMPLISH THE LITTLE TASK I HAVE PLANNED FOR YOU!

HEY, I DON'T REMEMBER VOLLUN-TEERIN' FER NOTHIN'.



PERHAPS NOT, SANDMAN-- BUT SHOULD YOU BE SO UNWISE AS TO REFUSE ME--

YOU WILL FORCE ME TO ELIMINATE YOU-- INSTANTLY!
HUH? LASER-RIFLES-- POPPIN' RIGHT OUTTA THE WALL--!



OKAY, BIGSHOT-- I'LL DO YER LITTLE JOB FER YA.

GUESS I OWE YA THAT MUCH FER SPRINGIN' ME.

BUT AFTER THIS, WE'RE EVEN! GOT ME?

AGREED! NOW LISTEN CLOSELY, SANDMAN-- I DISLIKE HAVING TO REPEAT MYSELF.

I REQUIRE A PARTICULAR MECHANISM STORED AT A CERTAIN RE-SEARCH FACILITY ACROSS TOWN.

IT IS YOUR JOB TO BRING ME THAT MECHANISM-- BY WHATEVER MEANS NECESSARY!

THAT'S ALL, HUH?

OKAY, BIGSHOT-- YA GOT YER-SELF A MESSENGER BOY! I'LL BRING YA YER GIZMO--

--AN' MAYBE BAG MYSELF A LITTLE BONUS TOO!



I GOT ME A SCORE TA SETTLE WITH THE CREEPS THAT NABBED ME-- AND NOW'S AS GOOD A TIME AS ANY TA START!



A HALF HOUR LATER, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF TOWN...

WELL, WEBHEAD-- YOU'VE BEEN SWINGING AROUND FOR HOURS-- AND YOU'VE TURNED UP ZERO!

WHY DON'T YOU CALL IT A NIGHT?

MAYBE YOU DIDN'T SAVE BOLTON-- BUT YOU CAUGHT THE ANIMALS THAT KILLED HIM-- AND YOU EVEN MANAGED TO PATCHED THINGS UP WITH MARY JANE FOR THE UMPTEENTH TIME.

ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, THAT'S A PRETTY GOOD AVERAGE FOR ONE DAY!



YEAH. SURE. WIN A FEW, LOSE A FEW, RIGHT?

WRONG!

YOU DON'T USE A SCORECARD WHEN YOU'RE PLAYING WITH PEOPLE'S LIVES!



WHEN YOU START THINKING OF THOSE POOR SUCKERS DOWN THERE ONLY AS STATISTICS--

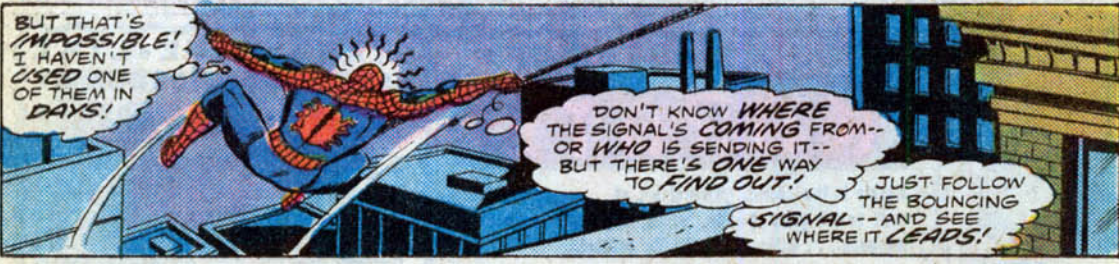
THUMP!

--THEN BROTHER, IT'S TIME TO HANG UP THE FUNNY RED MASK AND...



HUH? MY SPIDER-SENSE-- TINGLING AGAIN!

IT'S PICKING UP ONE OF MY SPIDER-TRACERS!



BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! I HAVEN'T USED ONE OF THEM IN DAYS!

DON'T KNOW WHERE THE SIGNAL'S COMING FROM-- OR WHO IS SENDING IT-- BUT THERE'S ONE WAY TO FIND OUT!

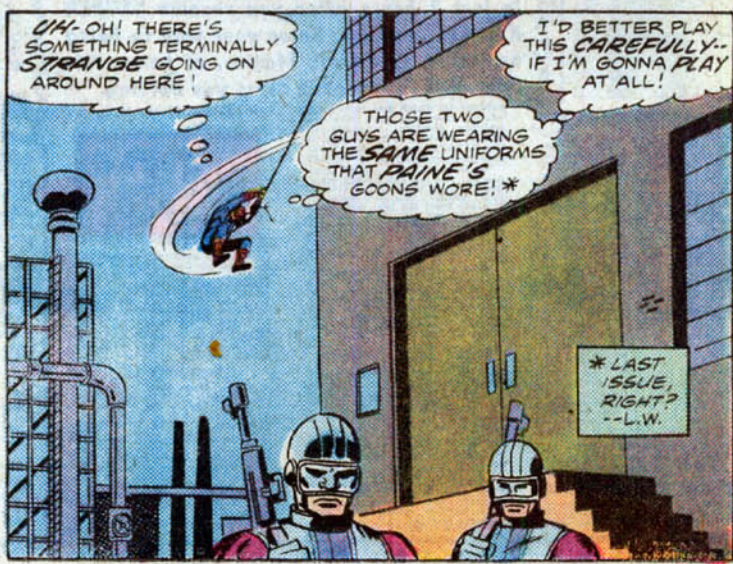
JUST FOLLOW THE BOUNCING SIGNAL-- AND SEE WHERE IT LEADS!



THERE-- I'M ALMOST ON TOP OF IT NOW!

IT'S COMING FROM THAT RESEARCH COMPLEX RIGHT BELOW ME!

BETTER SWING IN FOR A CLOSER LOOK AND...



UH-OH! THERE'S SOMETHING TERMINALLY STRANGE GOING ON AROUND HERE!

THOSE TWO GUYS ARE WEARING THE SAME UNIFORMS THAT PAINE'S GOONS WORE! *

I'D BETTER PLAY THIS CAREFULLY-- IF I'M GONNA PLAY AT ALL!

* LAST ISSUE RIGHT? --L.W.



I TELL YA, JOEY-- THAT GUY IN THERE GIVES ME THE *CREEPS!* IT JUST AIN'T NATURAL TO DO WHAT HE CAN!

THE BOSS TRUSTS HIM, HOWIE-- AND THAT'S ALL THAT COUNTS.



AND HOW MANY TIMES I GOTTA TELL YA TO CALL ME NUMBER 23?

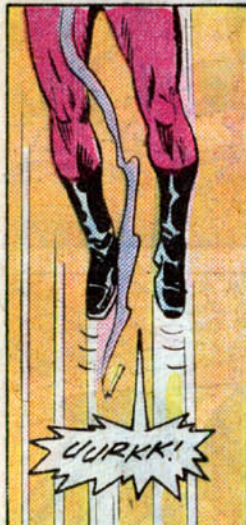
IF YER GONNA PLAY IN THE *BIG LEAGUES*, YA GOTTA LEARN TO TALK LIKE IT!



KNOW WHAT I MEAN, NUMBER 34?

NUMBER 34?

HEY-- HOWIE?



UURKK!



HATE TO LEAVE YOU FELLAS JUST HANGING AROUND--

-- BUT FROM WHAT YOU WERE SAYING, I'VE GOT SOME BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO INSIDE!



BETTER SET UP MY AUTOMATIC CAMERA FIRST. IF THERE'S ANYTHING WORTH PHOTOGRAPHING IN HERE, I CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS IT!

I'VE ALREADY BLOWN ONE ROLL TO FILM TONIGHT!



DON'T KNOW WHO THOSE PUNKS WERE TALKING ABOUT-- BUT I'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH!

ALL I HAVE TO DO IS TRACK THE SPIDER-SIGNAL TO IT'S SOURCE AND...



WHA--? THE SPIDER-TRACER--!?!

THAK!

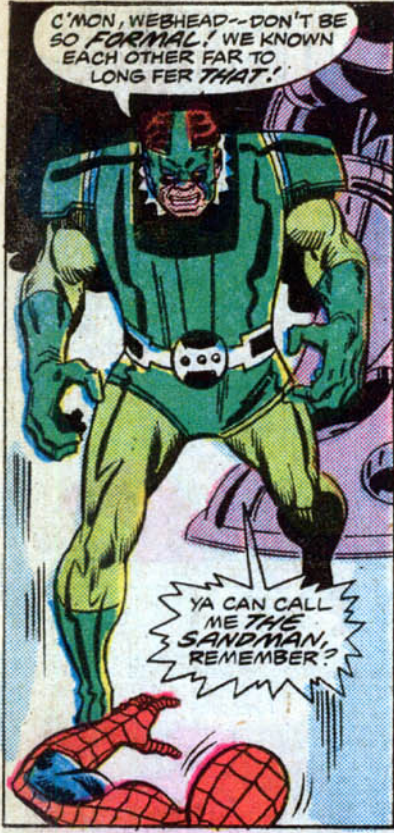
LOOKIN' FER THIS, WALL-CRAWLER?



IT COST ME A BUNDLE TA BUY THAT DOODAD FROM A FENCE I KNOW-- BUT IT WAS WORTH IT!

IT LURED YOU HERE-- JUST LIKE I PLANNED!

YOU--!?!



C'MON, WEBHEAD--DON'T BE SO FORMAL! WE KNOW EACH OTHER FAR TO LONG FER THAT!

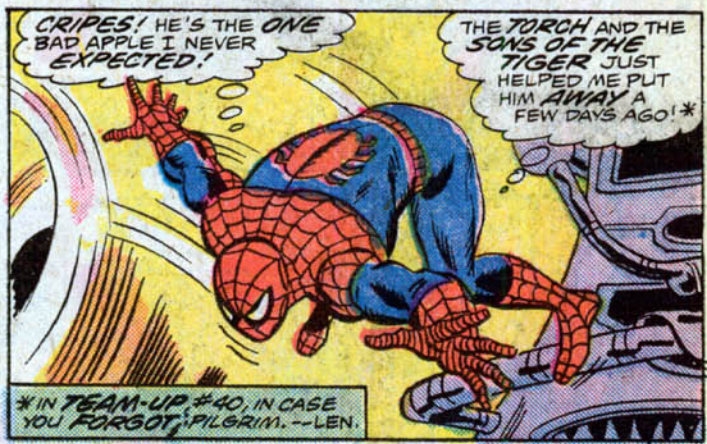
YA CAN CALL ME THE SANDMAN, REMEMBER?



THAT IS, IF YA CAN TALK THRU A MOUTH FULL 'A BUSTED TEETH!

PWHAM!

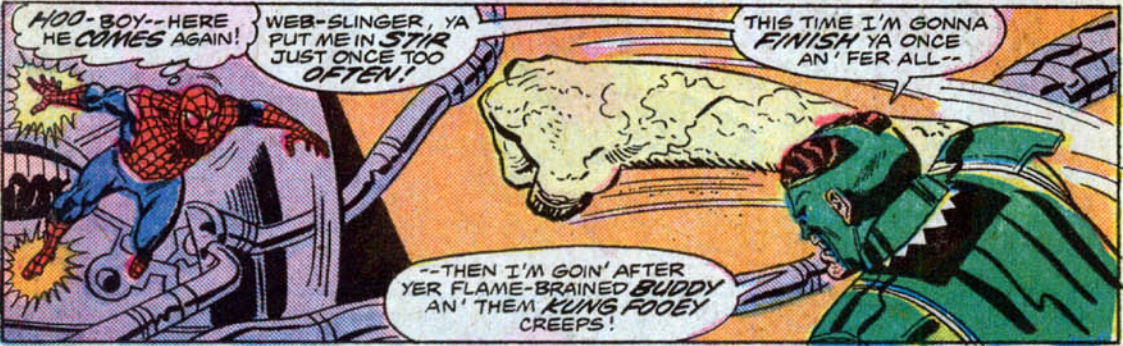
HUMNN!



CRIPES! HE'S THE ONE BAD APPLE I NEVER EXPECTED!

THE TORCH AND THE SONS OF THE TIGER JUST HELPED ME PUT HIM AWAY A FEW DAYS AGO!*

*IN TEAM-UP #40, IN CASE YOU FORGOT, PILGRIM.--LEN.

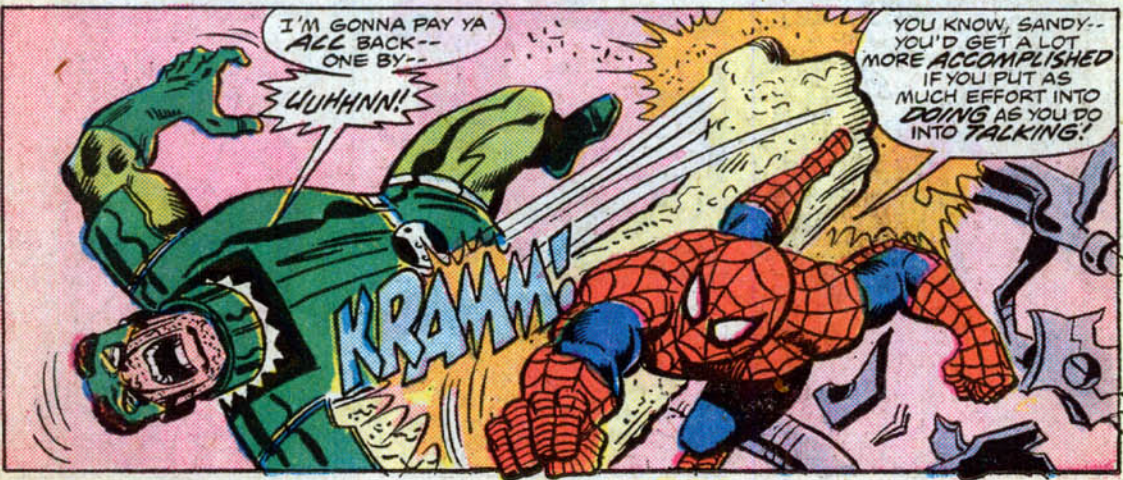


HOO-BOY--HERE HE COMES AGAIN!

WEB-SLINGER, YA PUT ME IN STIR JUST ONCE TOO OFTEN!

THIS TIME I'M GONNA FINISH YA ONCE AN' FER ALL--

--THEN I'M GOIN' AFTER YER FLAME-BRAINED BUDDY AN' THEM KUNG FOOEY CREEPS!



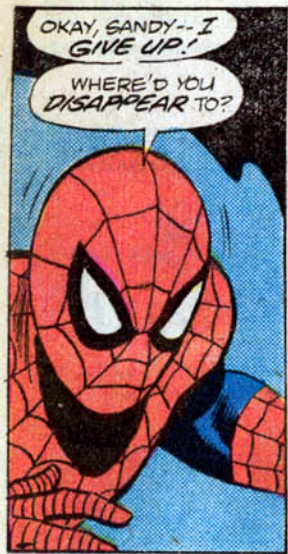
I'M GONNA PAY YA ALL BACK-- ONE BY--

HUMNN!

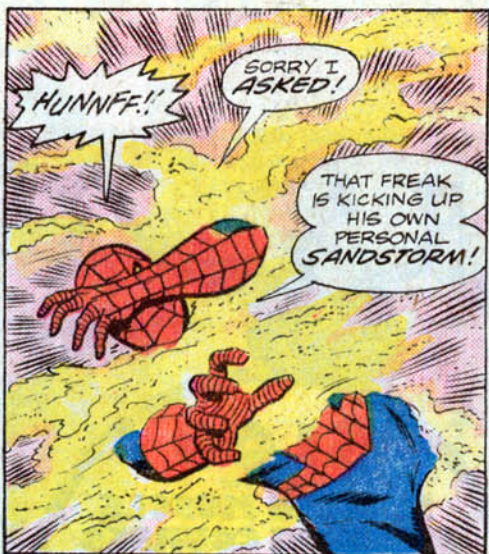
KRAWWW!

YOU KNOW, SANDY-- YOU'D GET A LOT MORE ACCOMPLISHED IF YOU PUT AS MUCH EFFORT INTO DOING AS YOU DO INTO TALKING!





OKAY, SANDY-- I GIVE UP!
WHERE'D YOU DISAPPEAR TO?



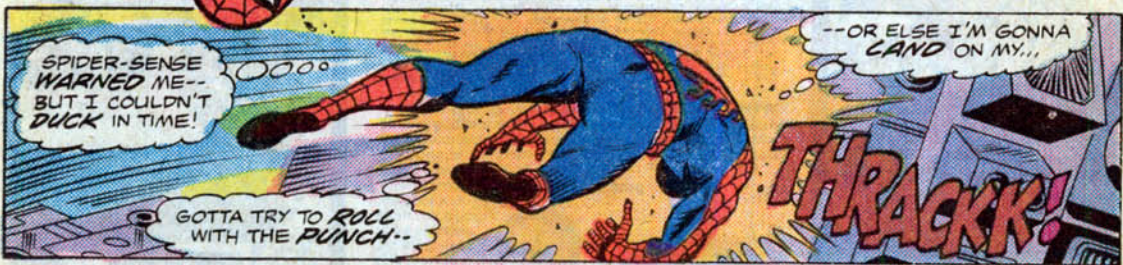
HUNNFF!!
SORRY I ASKED!
THAT FREAK IS KICKING UP HIS OWN PERSONAL SANDSTORM!



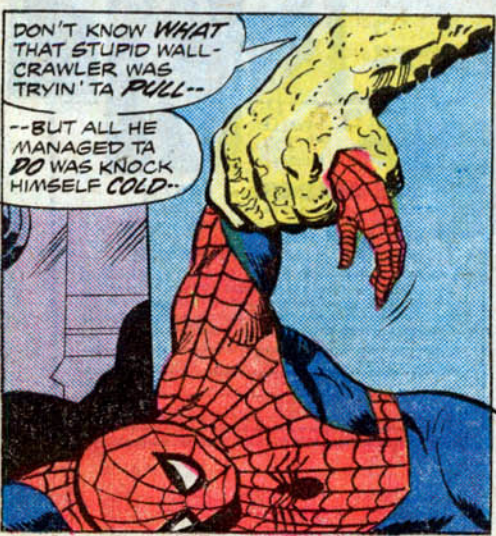
THE MIRROR LENSES IN MY MASK KEPT ME FROM BEING BLINDED--
--BUT WHILE I WAS OFF-BALANCE, SANDY PULLED ANOTHER FAST FADE!



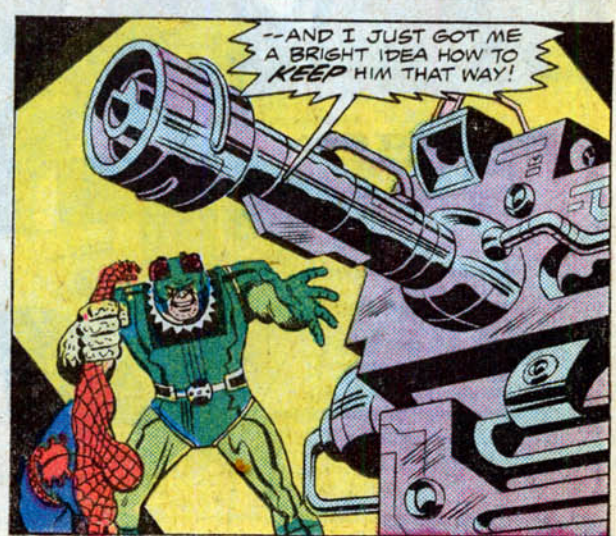
THE QUESTION NOW IS WHERE HE FADED TO...
HEY!?!
THAM!



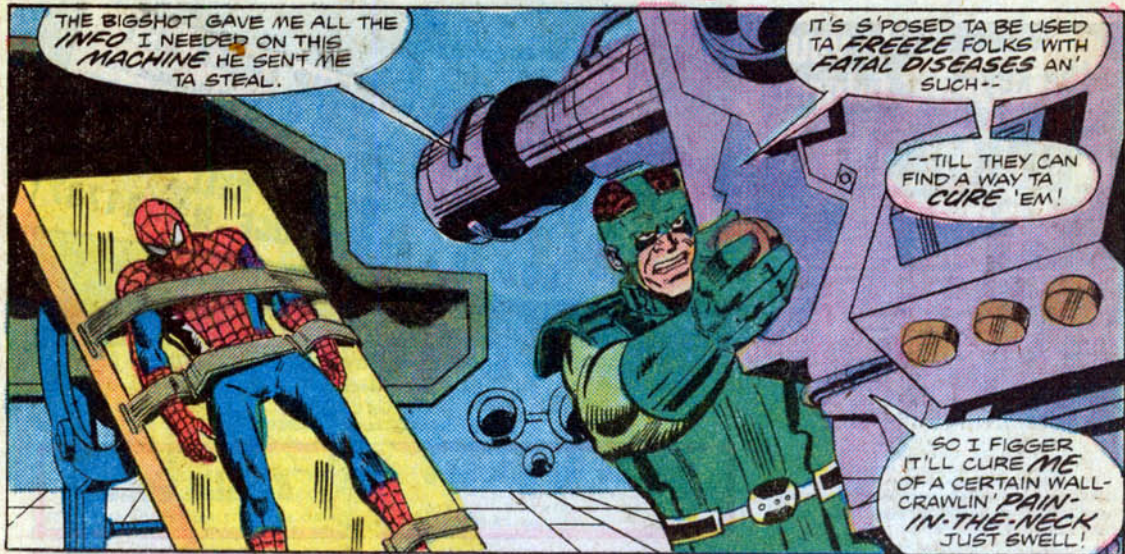
SPIDER-SENSE WARNED ME-- BUT I COULDN'T DUCK IN TIME!
--OR ELSE I'M GONNA LAND ON MY...
GOTTA TRY TO ROLL WITH THE PUNCH--
THRACKK!



DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT STUPID WALL-CRAWLER WAS TRYIN' TA PULL--
--BUT ALL HE MANAGED TA DO WAS KNOCK HIMSELF COLD--



--AND I JUST GOT ME A BRIGHT IDEA HOW TO KEEP HIM THAT WAY!



THE BIGSHOT GAVE ME ALL THE INFO I NEEDED ON THIS MACHINE HE SENT ME TA STEAL.

IT'S S'POSED TA BE USED TA FREEZE FOLKS WITH FATAL DISEASES AN' SUCH--

--TILL THEY CAN FIND A WAY TA CURE 'EM!

SO I FIGGER IT'LL CURE ME OF A CERTAIN WALL-CRAWLIN' PAIN-IN-THE-NECK JUST SWELL!



HUH? WH-WHERE AM I?

WH-WHAT'S SANDY JABBERING ABOUT NOW?



ANOTHER FEW SECONDS TILL IT WARMS UP--

--THEN THIS GIZMO'S GONNA PUT SPIDER-MAN ON ICE!

AND THAT'S NOT JUST A FIGURE OF SPEECH!

I RECOGNIZE THAT DEVICE--



--IT'S AN EXPERIMENTAL CRYOGENIC CONVERTER!



THAT CREEP 'LL QUICK-FREEZE ME UNLESS I CAN BREAK FREE --BUT I CAN'T!

THESE STRAPS ARE WOVEN FROM ONE OF THOSE NEW POLYMER PLASTICS-- STRONGER THAN STEEL!

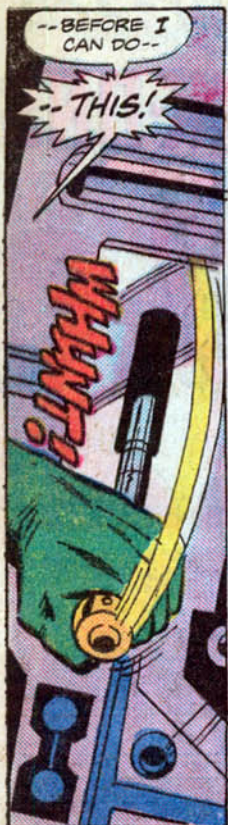
I'D HAVE A BETTER CHANCE TRYING TO TUNNEL THRU THIS TABLE...

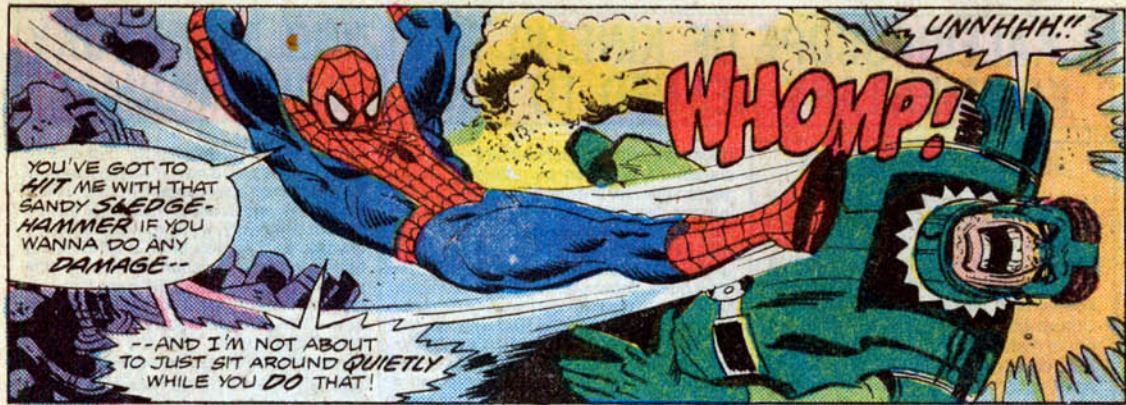
...WHICH ISN'T A BAD IDEA!



GOOD, WEB-SLINGER-- YER AWAKE! NOW YA CAN SEE WHAT YA GOT COMIN'!

GO ON, SUCKER-- STRUGGLE ALL YA WANT! YA AIN'T EVER GONNA BE ABLE TA BUST THEM STRAPS--





UNNNHHH!!

WHOMP!

YOU'VE GOT TO HIT ME WITH THAT SANDY SLEDGE-HAMMER IF YOU WANNA DO ANY DAMAGE--

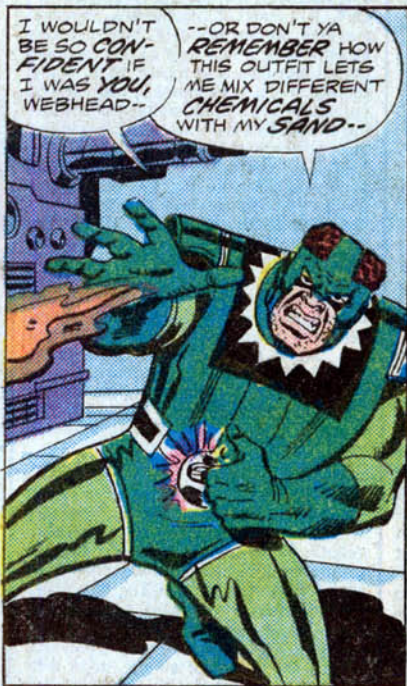
--AND I'M NOT ABOUT TO JUST SIT AROUND QUIETLY WHILE YOU DO THAT!



C'MON, CHUCKLES-- GET UP!

I'VE GOT A TWO-TON CHIP ON MY SHOULDER TONIGHT--

--AND I'M JUST ITCHING TO DROP IT ON YOU!



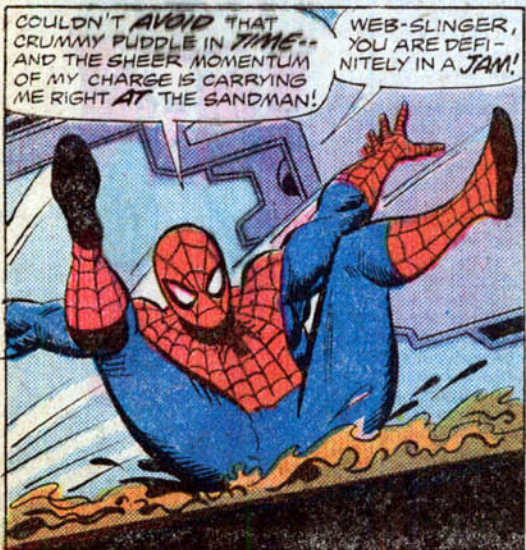
I WOULDN'T BE SO CONFIDENT IF I WAS YOU, WEBHEAD--

--OR DON'T YA REMEMBER HOW THIS OUTFIT LETS ME MIX DIFFERENT CHEMICALS WITH MY SAND--



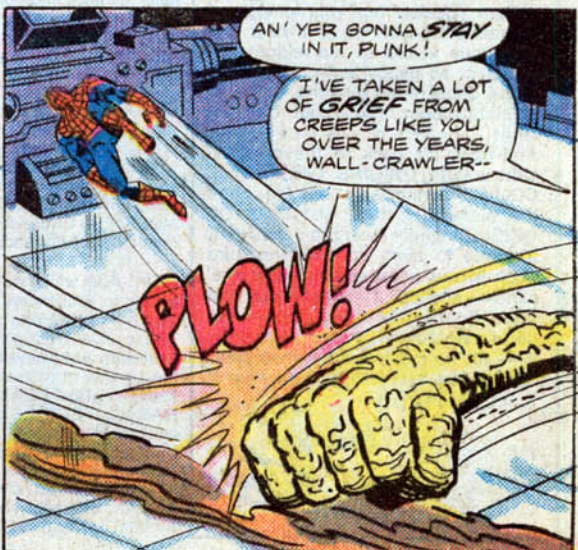
--SO'S I CAN CREATE THINGS LIKE MY VERY OWN OIL SLICK!"

WHA--?!"



COULDN'T AVOID THAT CRUMMY PUDDLE IN TIME-- AND THE SHEER MOMENTUM OF MY CHARGE IS CARRYING ME RIGHT AT THE SANDMAN!

WEB-SLINGER, YOU ARE DEFINITELY IN A JAM!

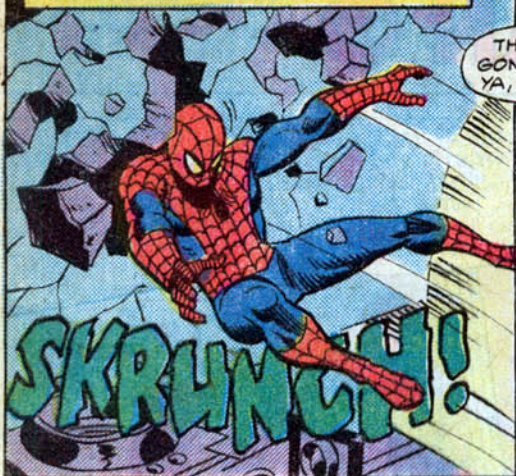


AN' YER GONNA STAY IN IT, PUNK!

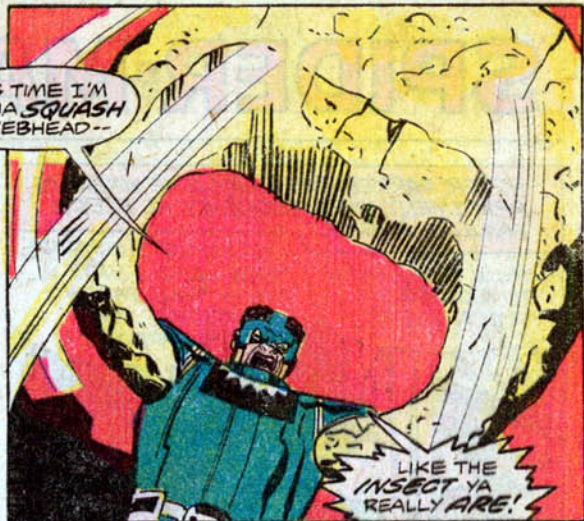
I'VE TAKEN A LOT OF GRIEF FROM CREEPS LIKE YOU OVER THE YEARS, WALL-CRAWLER--

PLOW!

"--BUT I'M NOT TAKIN' ANY MORE!"



THIS TIME I'M
GONNA SQUASH
YA, WEBHEAD--



LIKE THE
INSECT YA
REALLY ARE!

SANDY, YOU'VE GOT A WAY WITH
WORDS THAT IS POSITIVELY
UNPLEASANT!

NOW BACK OFF,
BUSTER-- BEFORE
I BREAK
YOU!



KR-OOM!

THWANN!

AND AS THE SANDMAN
HURTLER BACK FROM
THE FORCE OF SPIDEY'S
BLOW...

HUH? I'M
SLIPPIN' ON MY
OWN BLASTED
OIL SLICK!



LET'S HEAR
IT FOR LIFE'S
LITTLE IRONIES!

OH, AND ONE OTHER THING...

NO! I FERGOT TA
TURN OFF THAT
FREAKIN' FREEZE-
RAY!



I'M SLIDIN' RIGHT
FOR IT-- AN' THERE'S
NO WAY I CAN STOP!

IF THAT RAY HITS
SANDY, HE'S HAD IT!

GOT TO SHUT
THE CONVERTER
OFF BEFORE
IT'S...





"...TOO LATE!"

NOOOOOOO

ZZKAKK!



I TRIED MY BEST -- BUT THERE WAS NO WAY I COULD MAKE IT!

LOOKS LIKE OL' GRIT-GRIN HAS SUFFERED THE FATE HE PLANNED FOR ME!

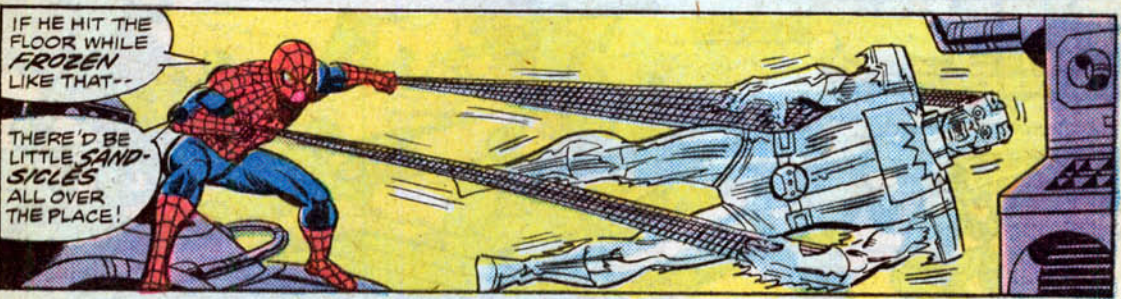


"ANYBODY INTERESTED IN SANDMAN-ON-A-STICK?"



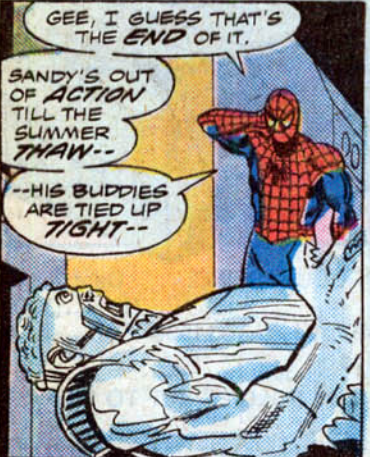
WHOA, NELLIE-- CAN'T LET SANDY KEEL OVER NOW!

GOT TO LET HIM DOWN GENTLY!!



IF HE HIT THE FLOOR WHILE FROZEN LIKE THAT--

THERE'D BE LITTLE SAND-SICLES ALL OVER THE PLACE!



GEE, I GUESS THAT'S THE END OF IT.

SANDY'S OUT OF ACTION TILL THE SUMMER THAW--

--HIS BUDDIES ARE TIED UP TIGHT--



--AND I STILL DON'T KNOW WHO'S BEHIND IT ALL!

ALL I GOT OUT OF THIS MESS IS ANOTHER ROLL OF FILM TO SELL J. JONAH--

--ASSUMING, OF COURSE, ANY OF THE PICTURES CAME OUT!



BUT THE WAY MY LUCK'S BEEN RUNNING LATELY--

--I DOUBT IT!

NEXT ISSUE

MOVE OVER, COLUMBO! WATCH OUT, ELLERY QUEEN! THERE'S A BRAND-NEW MASTER DETECTIVE ON THE SCENE-- AND HE'S AFTER THE MOST INCREDIBLE KILLER OF ALL! BE HERE FOR...

"WHODUNIT!"