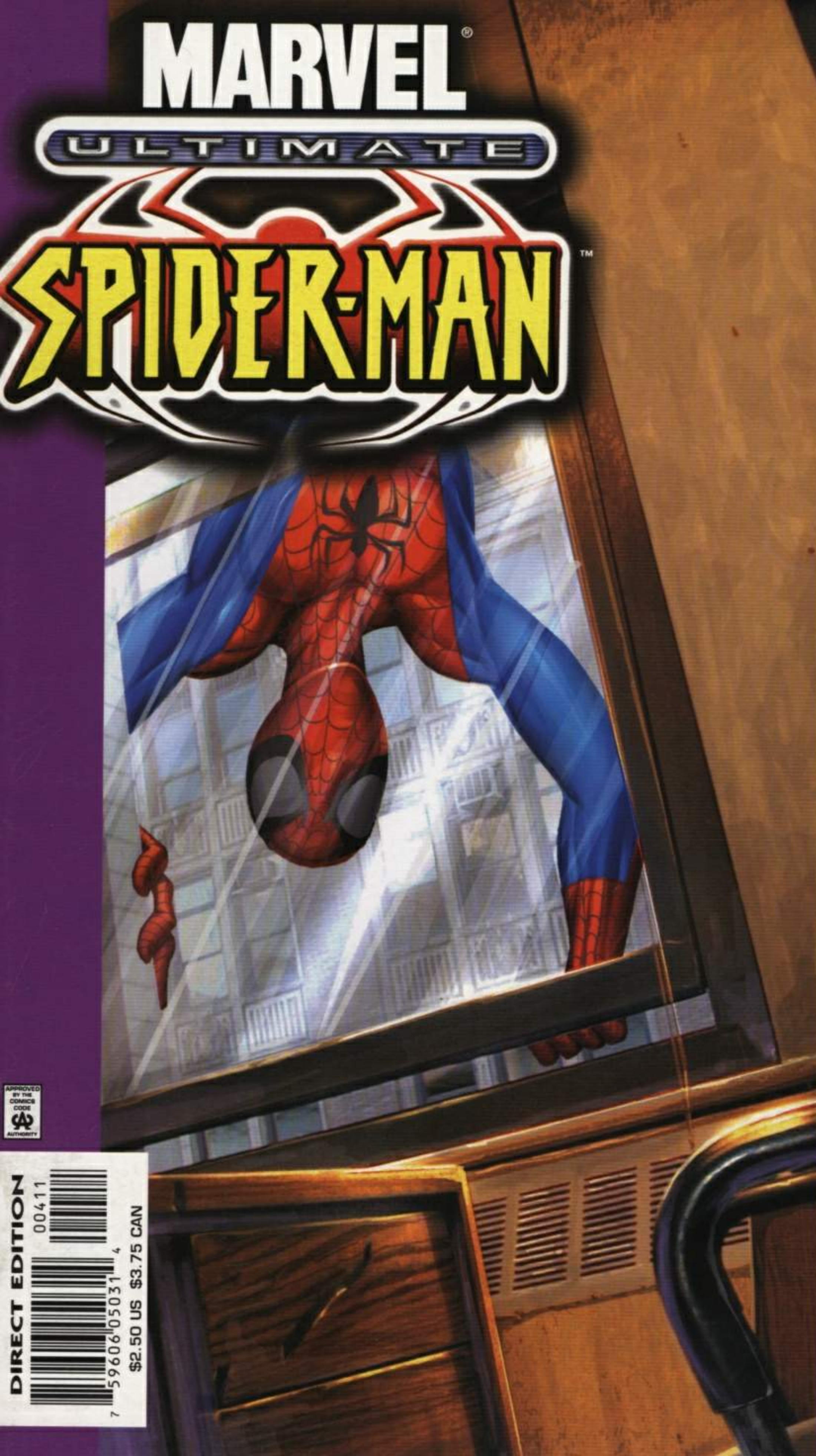


ISSUE

4

WITH GREAT POWER



APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

DIRECT EDITION



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FOR
THOSE OF
YOU JUST
TUNING
IN...

THERE
HAS BEEN A
MAJOR ACCIDENT AT
THE MAIN LABORATORY
FACILITIES OF
OSBORN INDUSTRIES
EARLIER THIS
EVENING.



DETAILS ARE
STILL SKETCHY,
BUT WE HAVE
CONFIRMATION
THAT THERE ARE
FATALITIES
INVOLVED.



OSBORN
INDUSTRIES HAS
WIDELY BEEN CONSIDERED
A WORLD LEADER IN
SCIENTIFIC AND MEDICAL
BREAKTHROUGHS
OVER THE LAST
DECADE --

-- EMPLOYING
MANY OF THE
GREATEST SCIENTIFIC
MINDS OF OUR
GENERATION.

A COMPANY
STILL RUN BY
COMPANY FOUNDER
AND LOCAL NEW
YORKER NORMAN
OSBORN.

UUGGH...



THERE HAS
BEEN MUCH
SPECULATION
IN THE MEDICAL
COMMUNITY ABOUT
THE COMPANY'S
FUTURE.

SOURCES
TELL US THAT
THERE HAS BEEN
INDUSTRY TALK OF
SOME REVOLUTIONARY
NEW PRODUCT BEING
DEVELOPED BY
OSBORN.

WHETHER
OR NOT WHAT
HAS HAPPENED
TONIGHT HAS
ANYTHING TO DO
WITH SUCH A
PRODUCT IS
UNCLEAR.

AUTHORITIES
ARE ASKING RESIDENTS
AND TRAVELERS TO STAY
CLEAR OF THE AREA OF
OSBORN INDUSTRIES UNTIL
SUCH TIME AS THE SAFETY
OF THE AREA CAN BE
DECLARED SECURE.

DAD...

AGAIN, FOR
THOSE OF YOU
JUST TUNING
IN...

THERE HAS
BEEN A MAJOR
ACCIDENT AT THE
MAIN LABORATORY
FACILITIES OF
OSBORN INDUSTRIES
EARLIER THIS
EVENING.

WHETHER
OR NOT LOCAL
BUSINESSMAN AND
ENTREPRENEUR
NORMAN OSBORN WAS
ON THE SCENE DURING
THE ACCIDENT IS
STILL UNCLEAR.

WITH

GREAT POWER



PLEASE
STAY TUNED TO
US, YOUR LOCAL
TWENTY-FOUR HOUR
NEWS CHANNEL, FOR
DEVELOPMENTS AS
THEY HAPPEN.

**BILL JEMAS AND
BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS**
STORY

**BRIAN MICHAEL
BENDIS**
SCRIPT

**MARK
BAGLEY**
PENCILS

**ART THIBERT AND
DAN PANOSIAN**
INKS

JC COLORS RICHARD STARKINGS AND COMICRAFT'S TROY PETERI LETTERS
LARA CASTLE ASSISTANT EDITOR RALPH MACCHIO EDITOR JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF







AND IF YOU'LL JUST PONY UP THE BUCKS, I'LL BE ON MY WAY.



UH... HELLO?

WHERE'S THE PETTY CASH?

I GIVE UP. WHERE'S THE PETTY CASH?



THE MONEY!

WHERE IS THE MONEY THAT WE KEEP FROM THE BOX OFFICE RECEIPTS RIGHT HERE IN THIS OFFICE?!



WELL, HOW ON EARTH WOULD I KNOW?

WELL, YOU KNEW IT WAS IN HERE!

SO DID THEY.



WELL, YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE HERE I DON'T KNOW.

I DON'T KNOW YOU! TAKE OFF THAT MASK OR I'M CALLING THE COPS.

ARE YOU SERIOUS?



NOW WHY ON EARTH WOULD I --?

THAT WHY ALL THE MYSTERY?

AND I FELL RIGHT FOR IT, DIDN'T I? YOU LOUSY SACK OF --

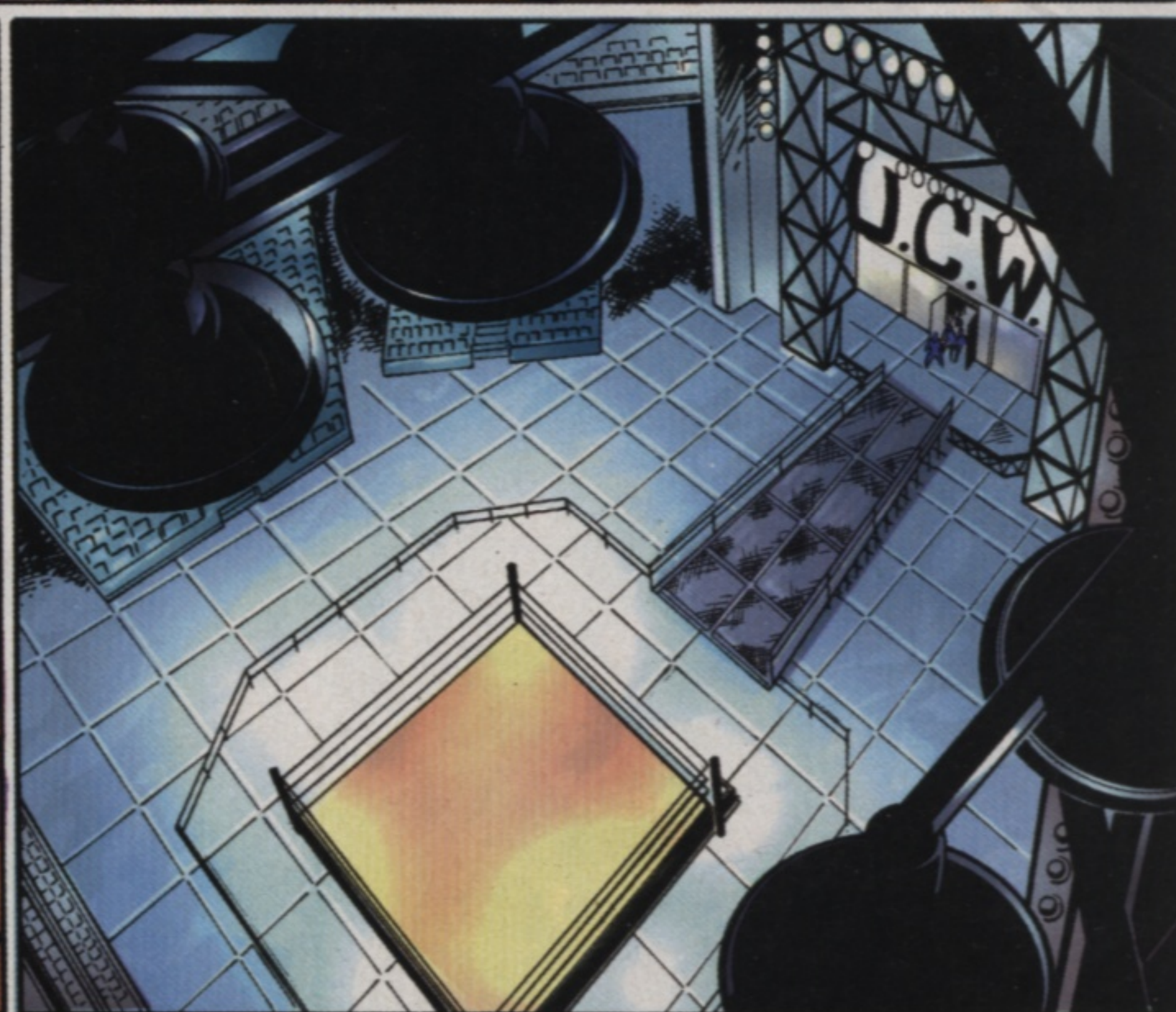
PLEASE -- IF I WANTED TO ROB THE PLACE, I CERTAINLY WOULDN'T NEED TO --



WHY DON'T WE TALK TO THE POLICE ABOUT IT?

I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME THAT MASK CAME OFF.

AND I MEAN RIGHT NOW.





WELL, THERE GOES
MY WRESTLING
CAREER.

BUNCH O'
MANIACS.

I COULD'A MOPPED
THE FLOOR WITH THE
BUNCH OF THEM.

THEY'RE SO LUCKY I'VE
GOT A HEART OF GOLD.

SURE, THERE'S THE
TAINTED BLOOD OF
A SPIDER RUNNING
THROUGH IT, BUT
IT'S STILL A HEART
OF GOLD.

SO, I'LL GET A NORMAL
JOB LIKE A NORMAL
TEENAGER -- HELP
CHIP IN FOR UNCLE
BEN AND AUNT MAY.

WONDER IF THESE
SPIDER-POWERS
WILL BE AN ASSET
CHANGING THE GREASE
TRAPS AT THE CORNER
WENDY'S.

NO, I GOTTA GET A
JOB WITH COMPUTERS
OR AT A LAB OR
SOMETHING.



CAN'T BELIEVE THOSE
GUYS WERE GOING TO
RIP MY HEAD OFF LIKE
THAT. I BET THAT
MANAGER RIPPED THE
PLACE OFF HIMSELF.

WHY ARE PEOPLE ALWAYS
SO QUICK TO JUMP DOWN
MY THROAT? I TELL YOU --
I AM SO SICK OF IT.

HELP!
WE'VE BEEN
ROBBED.

FIGURES HE CAN PIN
IT ON ME LIKE THAT.

REALLY BURNS MY BUTT.

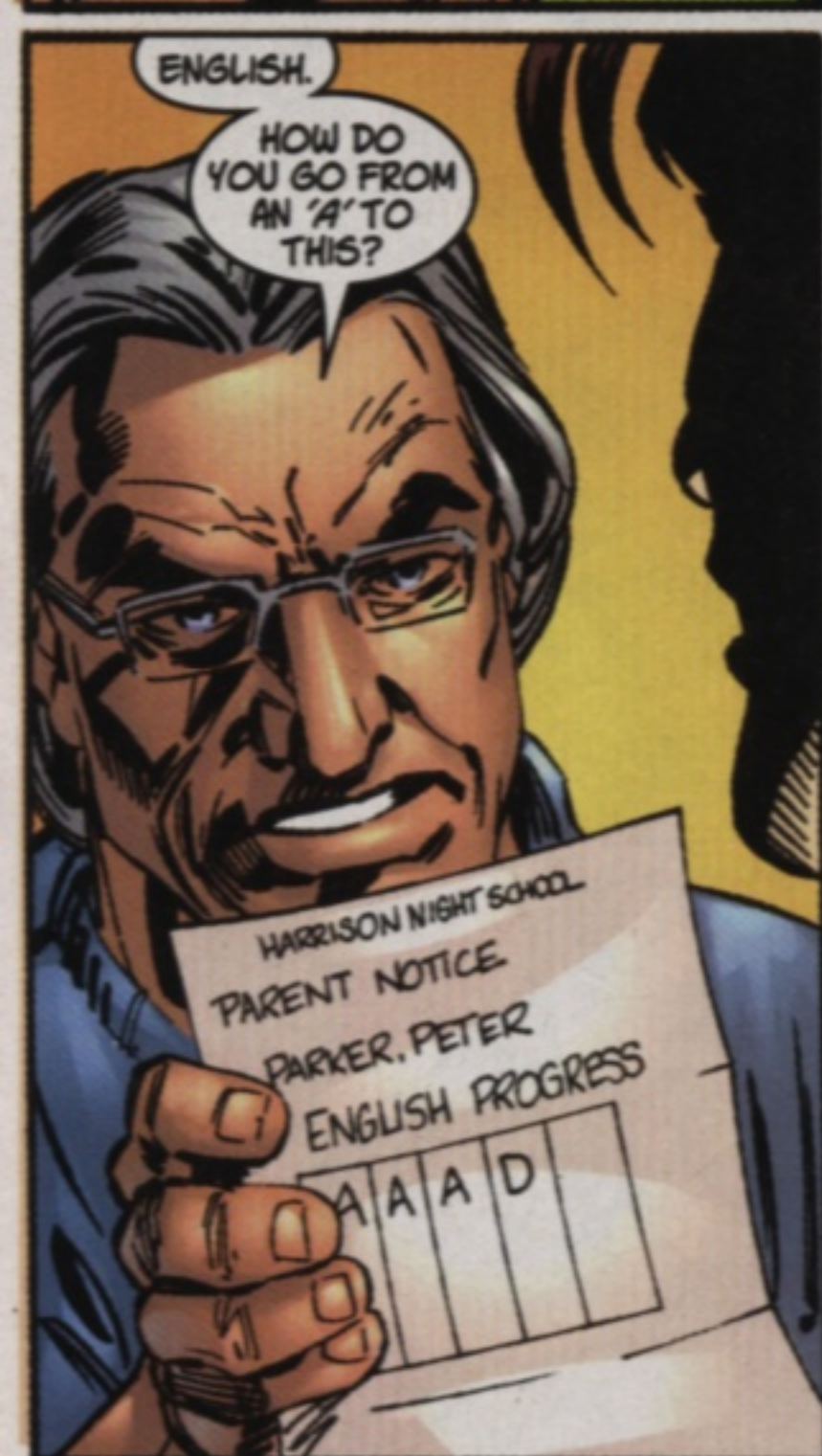
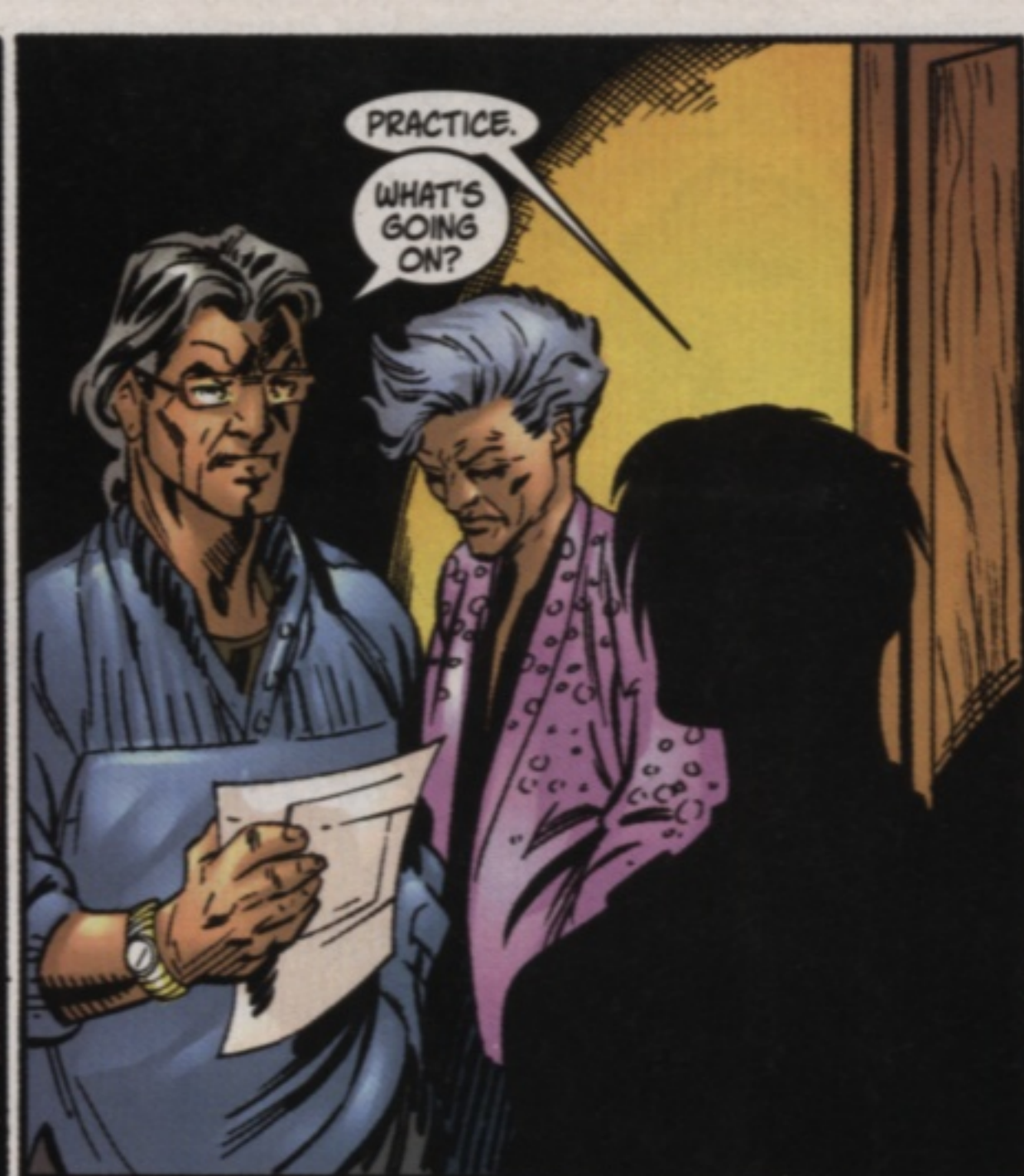


HE ROBBED
THE DELI!
MY DELI!
HE ROBBED US!
SOMEBODY...

I MEAN, IS IT ME? OR IS
IT THAT EVERYWHERE
I GO SOMEONE'S
GETTING IN MY FACE
ABOUT SOMETHING?

OH!







I HATE THIS.

WHY CAN'T I JUST
TELL THEM?

JUST TELL THEM WHAT
I CAN DO NOW. TELL
THEM THAT I'M OKAY.

THAT I'M SO MUCH
BETTER THAN OKAY.

IT'S LIKE SOMETHING IS
HOLDING ME BACK -- LIKE
I SHOULDN'T TELL THEM.

EVERYTHING IS SO
DIFFERENT NOW AND
I HAVEN'T EVEN HAD,
LIKE, A SECOND TO
FIGURE IT ALL OUT.

ONE MINUTE I'M PETER
PARKER, KING OF THE
DWEBBS, AND THEN ALL OF
A SUDDEN I CAN DO THIS.

AND I DON'T EVEN
KNOW WHAT THIS IS.

NOW I'M PLAYING BASKETBALL
AND I DON'T EVEN LIKE IT.
I'M WRESTLING AND I DON'T
EVEN LIKE IT.

IT ISN'T ME. I DON'T CARE
ABOUT ANY OF THIS STUFF.
BUT WHAT DO I DO NOW? WHY
HAS THIS HAPPENED TO ME?

MAYBE I SHOULD JUST BITE
THE BULLET AND TALK TO
HARRY'S CREEPY DAD. COME
CLEAN WITH WHAT HAPPENED
AT THE LAB WITH THE SPIDER
AND WHATNOT.

IT WAS ALL A
MISTAKE, HE
CAN SEE THAT.

ONE THING'S FOR SURE,
I'M NOT GOING BACK HOME
TONIGHT.

BUT WHERE CAN I
GO? IF I GO TO
MARY JANE'S, THE
WATSONS WILL CALL
MY HOUSE. HARRY'S
IN THE HILLS.

WHERE ELSE CAN
I --? OH, MAN.

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M
EVEN THINKING THIS.





HE
CRASHED
HERE?

HE
DID.

IN
YOUR
PAD?

RIGHT
THERE
ON THAT
COUCH.

AND
YOU LET
HIM.

SURE.

PUNY
PARKER?

WHAT
ARE YOU --
SIX YEARS
OLD?

YOU
GUYS HEAR
WHAT HAPPENED
TO HARRY'S
DAD?

WHERE'S
BRAINY JANE
TONIGHT?

DON'T
CALL HER
THAT.

AND I
DON'T KNOW
WHERE MARY IS,
LIZ. I HAVEN'T
REALLY TALKED
TO HER TODAY.

AAAWW... I
THOUGHT YOU
GUYS WERE, LIKE,
AN ITEM.

AN ITEM?
I DON'T -- NOT
EXACTLY.

THE LITTLE DUDE HAD A FIGHT WITH
HIS FOLKS OR WHOEVER IT IS HE
LIVES WITH AND ASKED TO
CRASH.

AND
YOU LET
HIM?

SO WHAT?
GUYS ON THE TEAM.
WE GOTTA LOOK
OUT FOR EACH
OTHER.

UNBELIEVABLE.

HATE TO
BREAK IT TO
YOU -- THAT GUY
MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN
US INTO THE
STATE FINALS,
SO...

OH,
PLEASE!

DID YOU
GUYS HEAR
ABOUT
HARRY?



SO YOU GUYS AREN'T DATING?

NO.

DO -- DO YOU LIKE GIRLS?

YEAH. UH -- WHAT?

HEY, YOU CAN NEVER BE TOO SURE, MR. PARKER.

MY MOM WAS DATING A GAY GUY FOR LIKE A YEAR, NEVER KNEW IT.

SOUNDS LIKE A FASCINATING WOMAN, BUT --

YEAH, WHERE WAS HARRY TODAY?

DUDE, I'M TELLING YOU. THE MAN'S DAD WAS BLOWN UP OR SUMPTIN'.

WHAT?

WHAT I HEARD.

WOULDN'T THAT, LIKE, BE ON THE NEWS OR SOMETHIN'?

I CALLED HIM. HE WASN'T HOME.

LOOK AT THAT LIZ. SUCH A SLUT.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF ME, PETER?

I THINK YOU'RE JUST A LITTLE DRUNK, LIZ.

LITTLE BIT.

THINK YOU SHOULD BE DRINKING?

LITTLE BIT.







OH, PETER. YOU'RE SUCH -- REALLY, YOU'RE SUCH A GOOD KID.

SUCH A BRIGHT -- NO, MORE THAN BRIGHT. YOU'RE AS SMART AS THEY COME.

AND THIS -- THIS IS JUST STUPID.

YOU KNOW, YOUR FATHER, GOD REST HIS SOUL...



YOUR FATHER HAD A PHILOSOPHY THAT HE HELD TO PRETTY STRONGLY.

AND IT'S ONE THAT SERVED HIM VERY, VERY WELL...



HE BELIEVED THAT IF THERE WERE THINGS IN THIS WORLD THAT YOU HAD TO OFFER, THINGS THAT YOU DID WELL -- BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE...

... THINGS THAT YOU COULD DO THAT HELPED PEOPLE OR MADE PEOPLE FEEL BETTER ABOUT THEMSELVES...

... WELL, HE BELIEVED THAT IT WASN'T JUST A GOOD IDEA TO DO THOSE THINGS...

... HE BELIEVED IT WAS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO DO THOSE THINGS.



DON'T TRY TO BE SOMETHING ELSE. DON'T TRY TO BE LESS.


GREAT THINGS ARE GOING TO HAPPEN TO YOU AND YOUR LIFE, PETER. GREAT THINGS.

AND WITH THAT WILL COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?








A wide shot of Spider-Man standing on a rooftop at night. He is looking out over a city skyline with a river in the foreground. The sky is dark with several bright lightning bolts striking down. Birds are flying in the air. The scene is dramatic and atmospheric.

SO STUPID.

CRYING LIKE A GIRL. HE
DIDN'T DESERVE THAT.
HE DOESN'T KNOW.

HE DOESN'T KNOW THAT
EVER SINCE THIS WHOLE
SPIDER-MAN THING BEGAN
ALL I CAN THINK IS THAT
THE ONE PERSON WHO
WOULD KNOW WHAT TO
DO WAS MY DAD.

MY DAD WOULD HAVE KNOWN
WHAT TO MAKE OF ALL THIS --
MY POWERS -- WHAT THEY MEAN.


A close-up of Peter Parker's face. He has a pained and determined expression, with sweat or tears on his forehead. His hair is messy and he is looking slightly down and to the side.

BUT I'M WRONG. AND I'M
SICK OF BEING WRONG.

UNCLE BEN AND AUNT MAY
ARE MY FAMILY AND IT'S
WAY PAST TIME FOR ME
TO GROW UP.

IT'S TIME I TOLD THEM WHAT
IS GOING ON WITH ME AND
WHATEVER HAPPENS, HAPPENS.

IF I'M A FREAK --
I'M A FREAK.

A full-page illustration of Spider-Man in mid-air, surrounded by bright blue lightning. He is in a dynamic pose, with his arms outstretched and his body angled. The background is a dark, stormy sky with heavy rain or falling debris. The lighting is dramatic, with the lightning providing the main source of illumination.

THEY LOVE ME NO
MATTER WHAT.

