

Stan Lee PRESENTS: **SPIDEY AND THE BEAST**... TOGETHER!™

# NIGHT OF THE GRIFFIN

IT'S MIDNIGHT OVER MANHATTAN--AND IF ONE WERE TO LOOK UP THRU THE SHEETS OF RAIN THAT THREATEN TO FLOOD THIS MIGHTY METROPOLIS--

--ONE MIGHT PEEK OUT FROM UNDER ONE'S UMBRELLA LONG ENOUGH TO THRILL AT THE SIGHT OF A CERTAIN FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD WEB-SLINGER CUTTING THRU THE DARK BLANKET OF SKY, ON HIS WAY...WHERE?

HOME! THAT'S WHERE THIS SOGGY SPIDER-MAN IS HEADING!

AND THAT SMILING WEATHER-CASTER ON ABC NEWS IS GONNA GET ONE HECK OF AN ANGRY FAN-LETTER FOR PREDICTING CLEAR SKIES!

AS SOON AS I CAN DRY OUT ENOUGH TO WRITE HIM ONE WITH-OUT SOAKING THE PAPER!

A MILD ENOUGH BEGINNING, FERVENT ONES? READ ON! THE ACTION STARTS NOW!

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WHOOOPS! HOLD ON, PARKER OLD BOY!

THAT OL' SPIDEY-SENSE THE GOOD LORD AND ONE RADIOACTIVE ARACHNID GAVE YOU IS TINGLING LIKE CRAZY!

BUT WHAT COULD BE CAUSING IT AT THIS HEIGHT?

I DON'T SEE ANYTHING! MAYBE THE STORM SHORT-CIRCUITED MY BUILT-IN ANTENNA SOMEHOW!

NAH! THAT'S SO RIDICULOUS I'M EMBARRASSED I EVEN THOUGHT OF IT!

AND IT STILL DOESN'T SOLVE--

-- HOLD ON, WALLCRAWLER!

WHAT THE--OR SHOULD I SAY WHO THE HECK IS THAT??

I'VE HEARD OF IT RAINING CATS AND DOGS -- BUT THIS IS ABSURD!

CUT THE COMEDY SPIDEY! IF YOUR EYES TELL YOU THERE'S A MAN FALLING OUT OF THE SKY--

-- YOU EITHER BELIEVE 'EM OR GET 'EM CHECKED! AND WHO EVER HEARD OF A SPIDER-MAN WEARING GLASSES?

SO GET THE LEAD OUT, HERO! YOU'RE THE ONE THING BETWEEN THAT GUY AND MESSY OBLIVION--

AND IT'S A LONG WAY DOWN!

ALL THINGS CONSIDERED-- IT COULD BE WORSE!

IT COULD BE SNOWING!



**GOT HIM!**

UH-OH!  
SUDDEN STRAIN  
SNAPPED MY  
WEBBING!

LOOKS LIKE  
WE'RE BOTH HEADED  
FOR AN APPOINTMENT  
WITH THE PAVEMENT!



THIS BIRD'S OUT FOR THE  
COUNT-- WHICH IS JUST AS  
WELL!

IF I WERE HIM I  
SURE WOULDN'T WANT  
TO SEE WHAT'S NEXT!

COME ON,  
WEBBING!  
TRY AGAIN!  
LATCH ON TO  
SOMETHING!



**MISSED!**

THAT'S WORSE  
THAN HAVING IT  
BREAK! MISSING  
IS THE KIND OF  
THING THAT CAN  
REALLY RUIN A  
GUY'S REPUTATION!



TWO STRIKES, WEB-SPINNER!  
GOT TO TRY TO TWIST AWAY  
FROM THE DOCKS-- GET  
US OUT OVER THE RIVER!

THAT  
WAY WE  
AT LEAST  
STAND A  
CHANCE!

SOME CHANCE!  
IF IT'S A TOSS-UP  
BETWEEN WINDING UP A BLOT  
ON THE MAP OR DRONED--



-- I THINK  
I'D RATHER PLAY  
MONOPOLY!

WAIT  
A SEC!  
YOU'RE NOT  
USING YOUR  
BRAIN,  
PARKER!

IF I CAN CATCH  
MY WEB ONTO  
THE SMOKE-STACK  
OF THAT  
TANKER--

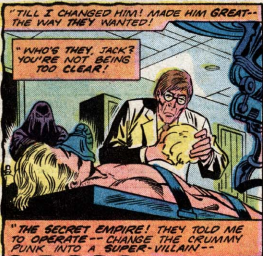
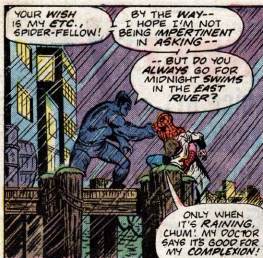


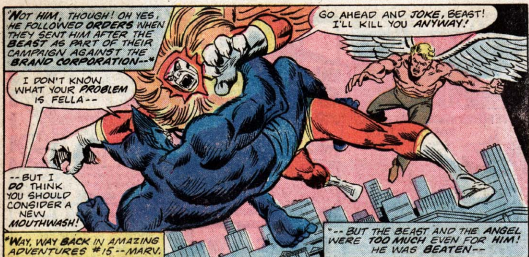
-- MAYBE I CAN  
MINIMIZE OUR  
RATE OF  
DESCENT!

AND IF I  
KEEP TALKING LONG  
ENOUGH-- MAYBE I'LL  
EVEN MAKE MYSELF BELIEVE  
WHAT I JUST SAID!









"NOT HIM, THOUGH! OH YES, HE FOLLOWED ORDERS WHEN THEY SENT HIM AFTER THE BEAST AS PART OF THEIR CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE BRAND CORPORATION--"

GO AHEAD AND JOKE, BEAST! I'LL KILL YOU ANYWAY!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOUR PROBLEM IS FELLA--

-- BUT I DO THINK YOU SHOULD CONSIDER A NEW MOUTHWASH!

\*WAY BACK IN AMAZING ADVENTURES #15--MARV.

"-- BUT THE BEAST AND THE ANGEL WERE TOO MUCH EVEN FOR HIM! HE WAS BEATEN--"



"-- AND ALL BUT FORGOTTEN AS THE SECRET EMPIRE WAS DESTROYED! THE GRIFFIN KEPT CHANGING, HOWEVER--"

"-- MY SERUM APPARENTLY HAD LONG-TERM EFFECTS!"

YOU'LL PAY FOR CAGING ME!

YOU'LL ALL PAY!

"HIS MIND WENT FIRST!"



" THEN NEW ELEMENTS WERE ADDED -- AN ENORMOUSLY POWERFUL TAIL -- "

"-- AND MANIACAL SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH -- "



"-- THAT SHOULD HAVE ALERTED THE PRISON MEDICS THAT THEY COULDN'T IMPRISON HIM FOR LONG! "

HAH! I KNEW IF I FAKED ILLNESS YOU'D ATTEMPT TO OPERATE ON ME--!

-TRY TO MAKE ME HUMAN AGAIN!



BUT I HAVE NO WISH TO BE HUMAN!

I AM THE GRIFFIN-- AND ALL MANKIND IS MY PREY!

"THEY COULDN'T STOP HIM! AT THAT POINT I DON'T THINK ANYBODY COULD!"

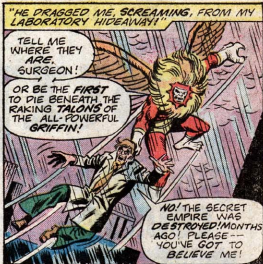


"AND THAT'S WHEN HE CAME FOR ME!"

YOU!  
JOHNNY HORTON!

AND YOU ARE  
THE SURGEON WHO  
CHANGED ME INTO  
A MONSTER!

YOU AND  
MY FORMER  
MASTERS!



"HE DRAGGED ME, SCREAMING, FROM MY LABORATORY HIDEAWAY!"

TELL ME  
WHERE THEY  
ARE,  
SURGEON!

OR BE THE FIRST  
TO DIE BENEATH THE  
RAKING TALONS OF  
THE ALL-POWERFUL  
GRIFFIN!

NO! THE SECRET  
EMPIRE WAS  
DESTROYED MONTHS  
AGO! PLEASE--  
YOU'VE GOT TO  
BELIEVE ME!

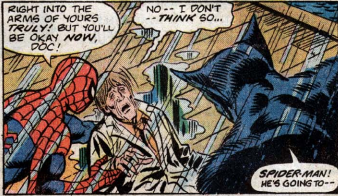


BAH! I SHOULD HAVE  
KNOWN THAT YOU WERE  
MERELY A SPINELESS  
UNDERLING!

I HAVE  
NO MORE  
TIME TO  
WASTE ON  
THE LIKES  
OF YOU,  
SURGEON!

SO FALL!  
FALL TO  
YOUR  
WRETCHED  
DEATH!

"AND I FELL! OH LORD--HOW I FELL!"



RIGHT INTO THE  
ARMS OF YOURS  
TRULY! BUT YOU'LL  
BE OKAY NOW,  
DOC!

NO-- I DON'T  
-- THINK SO...

SPIDER-MAN!  
HE'S GOING TO--

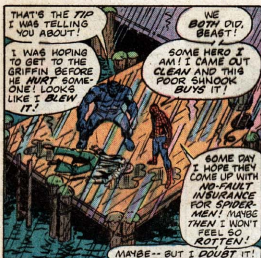


CORRECTION,  
HAIRY! HE HAS!

DEAD AS THE  
PROVERBIAL  
DOORNAIL!

AND THE  
GRIFFIN IS  
RESPONSIBLE!





THAT'S THE TIP I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT!

I WAS HOPING TO GET TO THE GRIFFIN BEFORE HE HURT SOME-ONE! LOOKS LIKE I BLEW IT!

WE BOTH DID, BEAST!

SOME HERO I AM! I CAME OUT CLEAN AND THIS POOR SHNOOK BUYS IT!

SOME DAY I HOPE THEY COME UP WITH NO-FAULT INSURANCE FOR SPIDER-MEN! MAYBE THEN I WON'T FEEL SO ROTTEN!

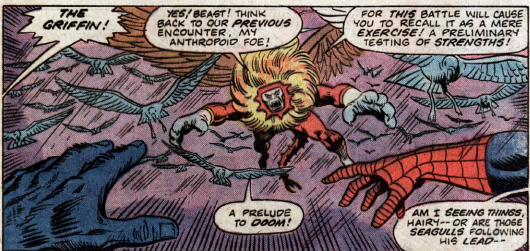
MAYBE-- BUT I DOUBT IT!



THE FUTURE SHOULD BE THE LEAST OF YOUR CONCERNS HUMANS!

UH OH, FUR-FACE! I GOT A FEELING I KNOW WHO THAT VOICE BELONGS TO!

IT'S HIM, WEB-HEAD!



THE GRIFFIN!

YES! BEAST! THINK BACK TO OUR PREVIOUS ENCOUNTER. MY ANTHROPOID FOE!

FOR THIS BATTLE WILL CAUSE YOU TO RECALL IT AS A MERE EXERCISE! A PRELIMINARY TESTING OF STRENGTHS!

A PRELUDE TO DOOM!

AM I SEEING THINGS, HAIRY-- OR ARE THOSE SEAGULLS FOLLOWING HIS LEAD--



-- AND ATTACKING US??

NOT US, MY WEBBED COMPATRIOT!

ME! I'M THE ONE THE GRIFFIN'S AFTER!

BUT YOU SCORE ON ONE POINT, HERO! THEY MOST DEFINITELY ARE ATTACKING!



AND THEY WILL CONTINUE TO ATTACK UNTIL THE FLESH IS TORN FROM YOUR BONES, MUTANT!

FOR THE SERUM THAT COURSES THRU MY VEINS HAS MADE THE GRIFFIN MASTER OF ALL THAT FLY!



YOU SAID IT, GRIFFIN! THIS WHOLE ACT IS STRICTLY FOR THE BIRDS-- IF YOU'LL PARDON THE OBVIOUS CLICHE!

LET'S SEE HOW YOUR FEATHERED FRIENDS LIKE A TASTE OF BIRD CAGE A LA WEBBING!

AS FOR YOU, CORNBALL-- AH FORGET IT! THE FUN I HAD IN MIND WAS WORSE THAN YOUR IDIOTIC SPEECHES!



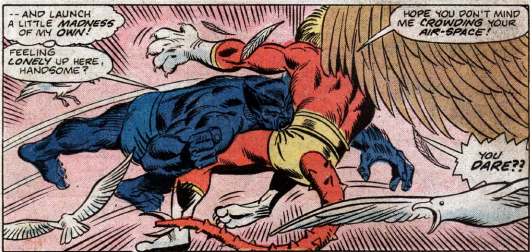
THAT'S ONE WALL-CRAWLER THAT DEFINITELY KNOWS HIS JOB, MC COY!

HIS NON-STOP INSANITY HAS THE GRIFFIN'S ATTENTION FIRMLY RIVETED ON HIM--



SLASH THE COSTUMED BUFFOON, MY PETS! TEAR HIS MOCKING WORDS FROM HIS THROAT!

--WHICH GIVES THIS EX-X-MAN HIS CHANCE TO SHAKE THESE SCREAMING SEA-FOWL--



-- AND LAUNCH A LITTLE MADNESS OF MY OWN!

FEELING LONELY UP HERE, HANDSOME?

HOPE YOU DON'T MIND ME CROWDING YOUR AIR-SPACE!

YOU DARE??



WHY NOT? IT WAS A SLOW NIGHT ANYWAY!

YOU'RE GOING TO DIE FOR THAT, BEAST!

YOUR SCREAMS WILL FILL THE SKIES!

YEAH YEAH-- I KNOW!

I'VE CAUGHT THE SAME OLD MOVIES YOU MUST HAVE SEEN IN PRISON, FRUITCAKE--

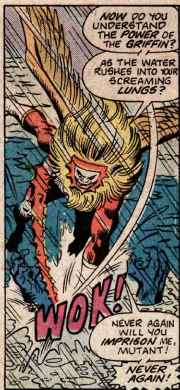
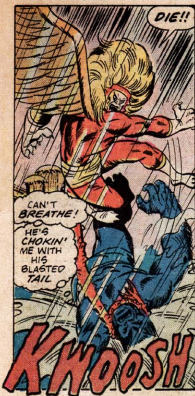


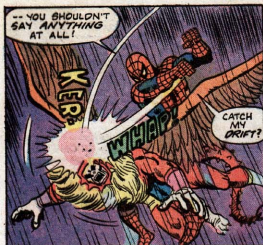
-- THO' I ADMIT RATHBONE DID IT BETTER!

URRKKK!

YOU FORGOT ABOUT MY TAIL, MONSTER!

BUT IT WILL BE THE LAST THING YOU EVER FORGET! DIE, BEAST!





-- YOU SHOULDN'T SAY ANYTHING AT ALL!

KEE!

WHAP!

CATCH MY DRIFT?



IDIOT! YOU'VE MADE ME LOSE MY HOLD ON THE BEAST!

THERE YOU GO WITH NAMES AGAIN, SUGAR-PLUM!

NO WONDER PEOPLE DON'T LIKE YOU!



A WEB-HEAD DOESN'T KNOW WHAT HE'S LETTING HIMSELF IN FOR!

THE GRIFFIN'S STRONGER-- STRONGER THAN THE LAST TIME WE FOUGHT!

AND IF HE TAKES TO THE AIR WITH SPIDEY STILL HANGING ON--



BITE YOUR TONGUE, HANK OLD BOY!

THERE THEY GO!

GOT TO LEAP! TRY AND REACH THEM!

HI-YO FRUITCAKE! UP, UP AND AWAY!

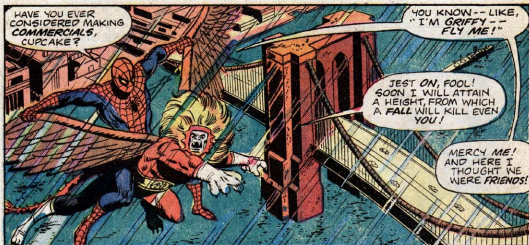


MISSED!

AND THEY'RE TOO HIGH NOW FOR ME TO TRY ANOTHER JUMP!

THIS JUST AIN'T YOUR NIGHT, BEAST! NOT A BIT!

SPLASHHHH!



HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED MAKING COMMERCIALS, CUPCAKE?

YOU KNOW-- LIKE, "I'M GRIFFY-- FLY ME!"

JEST ON, FOOL! SOON I WILL ATTAIN A HEIGHT FROM WHICH A FALL WILL KILL EVEN YOU!

MERCY ME! AND HERE I THOUGHT WE WERE FRIENDS!



MEANWHILE, TO THE ASTONISHMENT OF THE MOTORISTS STUCK ALONG THE PARKING LOT NEW YORKERS FONDLY REFER TO AS FIRST AVENUE...

LOST SIGHT OF THEM A WAY'S BACK-- BUT THEY WERE HEADED TOWARDS THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE!

AND IF I KNOW MY WALL-CRAWLERS, SPIDEY'S PROBABLY ALREADY TRIED TO SELL IT TO THE GRIFFIN!

ANOTHER ONE! PFAH!

THIS TOWN'S JUST CRAWLIN' WITH SPIDER-POWERED SHOW-OFFS! ME I'M HEADIN' BACK TO AKKRON!



HEADS UP, HOTSHOT!

THERE THEY ARE!

AND IT LOOKS LIKE I MADE IT JUST IN TIME! SPIDEY'S GOT--



"--TROUBLES!"

HEY! NO FAIR!

YOU DON'T SEE ME USIN' MY TAIL, DO YOU?

I HAVE TAKEN ENOUGH OF YOUR ANNOYING PRATTLE, COSTUMED CLOWN!



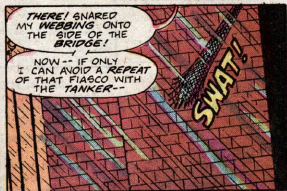
MY TAIL DRAGS YOU BACK--

TWAM!

-- AWAY FROM MY WINGS, SO THAT I MAY SOAR UNHAMPERED AGAIN!

FREE TO SMASH AT YOU! TO STRIKE!

I HAVE NO MORE PATIENCE WITH YOUR MINPLESS TAUNTS, INSECT!





AH! MY FANS RESPOND!

YOU WEBBED MENACE YOU'VE BLOCKED UP TRAFFIC ALL THE WAY TO FLATBUSH!

GET OUT OF THE WAY, IDIOT!

JAMESON IS RIGHT! YOU ARE A NUT!

HONK!

HONK!

BEEEP!

OH WELL! AT LEAST I DON'T CHARGE FOR IT!



MADE IT!

I WONDER IF ALL THIS BOUNCING IS AS HARD ON THE HULK'S FEET AS IT IS ON MINE?



HEY, HEY-- WHADDA YA SAY, WEBHEAD?

YOU POLISH OFF OUR LITTLE NIGHTMARE WITHOUT ME?

NOPE, FURRY! I FIGURED YOU'D WANT ANOTHER SHOT AT HIM--

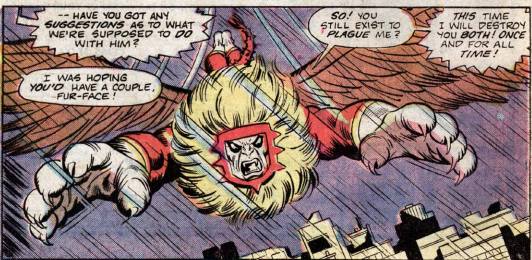


-- SO I ASKED HIM TO CIRCLE THE PARK A COUPLE OF TIMES AND DROP BACK WHEN YOU FINALLY GOT HERE!

SEE? HERE HE COMES NOW!

A MOST ASTUTE OBSERVATION, MY FRIEND!

BUT NOW THAT HE'S BACK--

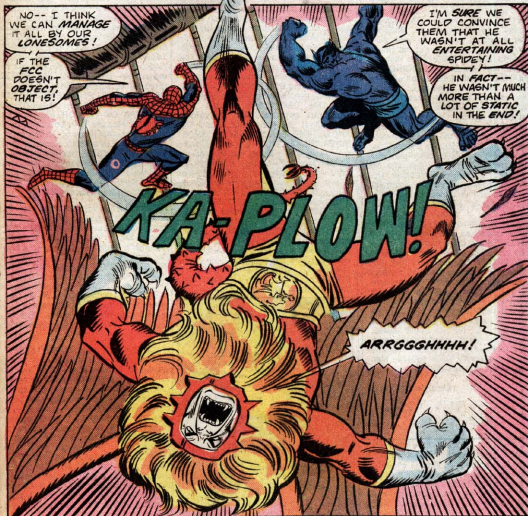
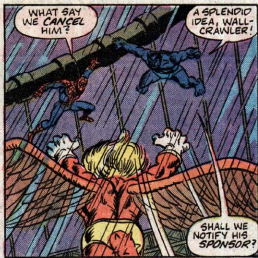


-- HAVE YOU GOT ANY SUGGESTIONS AS TO WHAT WE'RE SUPPOSED TO DO WITH HIM?

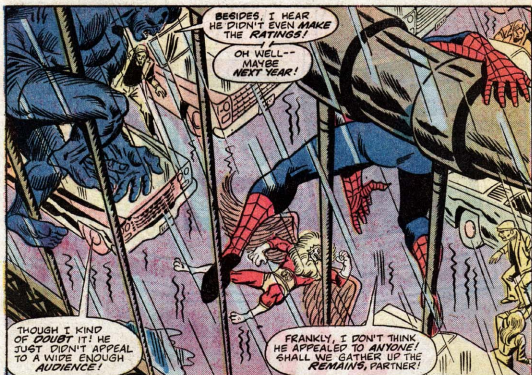
I WAS HOPING YOU'D HAVE A COUPLE, FUR-FACE!

SO! YOU STILL EXIST TO PLAGUE ME?

THIS TIME I WILL DESTROY YOU BOTH! ONCE AND FOR ALL TIME!







BESIDES, I HEAR HE DIDN'T EVEN MAKE THE RATINGS!

OH WELL-- MAYBE NEXT YEAR!

THOUGH I KIND OF DOUBT IT! HE JUST DIDN'T APPEAL TO A WIDE ENOUGH AUDIENCE!

FRANKLY, I DON'T THINK HE APPEALED TO ANYONE! SHALL WE GATHER UP THE REMAINS, PARTNER!



OH, BY ALL MEANS, WEBHEAD! AFTER YOU!

PHEW! EVER SINCE BEAME GOT ELECTED MAYOR--

-- TRASH COLLECTING IN THIS CITY HAS BEEN HORRENDOUS!

PERHAPS THEY DIDN'T REALIZE THAT HE WAS GARBAGE!



WE REALIZED IT, HERO!

AND I'D LIKE TO THANK YOU GUYS FOR GETTING HIM BACK FOR US!

AH! NEW YORK'S FINEST!

WE WEREN'T REALLY GETTING HIM FOR ANYONE, OFFICER!

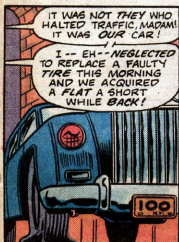


IT WAS MORE A MATTER OF MAKING SURE HE DIDN'T GET US!

BUT HE'S ALL YOURS-- THOUGH I CAN'T SEE WHY IN THE WORLD YOU'D WANT HIM!

PART OF THE JOB-- WEB-SLINGER! YOU GOTTA TAKE THE BAD WITH THE GOOD!

-- HE MIGHT MAKE A GOOD PLANTER!



**NEXT: SPIDEY AND THE HUMAN TORCH BATTLE TOGETHER AGAINST MORE OLD VILLAINS THAN YOU CAN SHAKE A SNAKE AT IN... ANY NUMBER CAN SLAY!**