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MARVEL TEAM-UP SPIDER-MAN AND WEREWOLF



NO VILLAIN IS
MORE VILE THAN... **TATTERDEMATION!**



STORY BY **SPIDER-MAN** and **WEREWOLF BY NIGHT!**

STEVEN GRANT ★ TOM SUTTON ★ CARMINE INFANTINO ★ JIM MOONEY ★ RICK PARKER ★ BEN SEAN ★ DENNIS O'NEIL ★ JAMES SHOOTER
WRITER PENCILERS INKER LETTERER COLORIST EDITOR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

RAGS TO RICHES!

CAT'S JAZZ CLUB IS HAVING
IT'S GALA OPENING IN LOS ANGELES
THIS NIGHT— AND AMONG THE THROG
IS PETER PARKER, ENJOYING
HIS LAST NIGHT ON THE WEST COAST...



HEY! THAT'S
JACK RUSSELL—
THE WEREWOLF—
AT THE NEXT
TABLE! I REMEMBER
THE LAST TIME
WE MET... BET HE
DOESN'T GUESS HE'S
SITTING NEXT TO
SPIDER-MAN...

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Y'KNOW, ALL THINGS CONSIDERED---THIS HAS BEEN A PRETTY GOOD DAY...



I DID A BANG-UP JOB ON THE PHOTOS THE GLOBE WANTED AND I GOT THE CHANCE TO TALK SOME WOMAN* OUT OF TURNING TO A LIFE OF CRIME. THAT FELT GOOD!



*NAMELY, SPIDER-WOMAN, THOUGH PETER NEVER LEARNED HER NAME--D.

AND, TO TOP IT ALL OFF, I GET TO HAVE SOME FUN FOR A CHANGE!



I KNOW REPORTERS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE SERIOUS, BUCK-- BUT LIGHTEN UP, HUH? THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE FUN!



I'M SORRY, JACK! IT'S JUST THAT... I DON'T LIKE THE IDEA OF HAVING SOMEBODY TRY TO KILL ME-- AND I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY!



BUCK... FORGET ABOUT IT! THAT WAS TWO DAYS AGO-- AND WE CAUGHT HIM!



"I KNOW IT'S UPSETTING WHEN SOMEBODY-- ESPECIALLY A HOODLUM LIKE THE ENFORCER-- BREAKS INTO YOUR APARTMENT AND SHOOTS YOU! * BUT HE WASN'T TRYING TO KILL YOU!"



* SPIDER-WOMAN #19-- DENNIS.

"BESIDES, SPIDER-WOMAN AND I-- OR THE WEREWOLF-- RATHER-- CAUGHT HIM! THE POLICE HAVE HIM IN CUSTODY!"



"AND THEY CHECKED YOU OUT AT THE HOSPITAL! THE ENFORCER'S BULLET DIDN'T DO ANYTHING BUT DRUG YOU-- AND IT TOOK NO MORE THAN A DAY OF TREATMENT TO COUNTERACT THE EFFECTS! YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT!"





DON'T I, JACK? I KNOW THE ENFORCER'S HISTORY-- HE HAS TO BE WORKING FOR SOMEONE!

BLAST! I HOPED THAT COMING TO THE CLUB WOULD RELAX BUCK... HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW CLOSE HE CAME TO DYING...



ANYWAY, THERE WERE NO CLUES, AND THE ENFORCER ISN'T TALKING-- SO BUCK WILL JUST HAVE TO GET USED TO THE IDEA THAT THE CASE IS CLOSED!

I DO WISH I KNEW WHAT HAPPENED TO SPIDER-WOMAN, THOUGH. WE WERE GOING TO DO THE FOLLOW-UP ON THE ENFORCER, BUT SHE NEVER SHOWED UP.



HEY! THESE MUSICIANS ARE PRETTY GOOD. MAYBE I COULD DO A STORY ABOUT THIS CLUB.

THAT'S THE SPIRIT, COHEN! EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY FOR TOMORROW, WE MAY--

SNIFF! WHAT'S THAT AWFUL SMELL?



I HAVEN'T GOTTEN A WHIFF LIKE THAT SINCE--!

BUCK! OVER THERE! IT'S HIM!

UH-OH! RUSSELL'S RECOGNIZED ME! BUT HE ONLY KNEW ME AS SPIDER-MAN, SO HOW--?

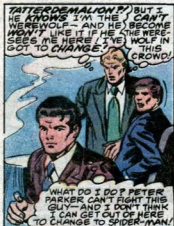
WAIT! HE'S NOT TALKING ABOUT ME!



RUSSELL'S REFERRING TO--THAT!

GREETINGS, MY WEALTHY, REFINED FRIENDS!

DOES MY FRAGRANCE DISTRESS YOU? SPARE ME YOUR HORROR--YOUR OFFENDED SENSIBILITIES! YOUR KIND MADE ME WHAT I AM--AND TONIGHT THE TATTERDEMATION TAKES HIS REVENGE!





MEANWHILE, ON THE STAGE, THE DESCENDED DARKNESS TRIGGERS AN ABRUPT CHANGE IN THE PERFORMERS!

THAT'S THE BOSS! SIGNAL, CAT!

ABOUT TIME, TOO! LET'S CLEAN UP WITH THIS TATTERDEMATION DUDE, MOUSE!

WAIT!

B-BOSS?!

THE COVER OF DARKNESS WAS NOT FOR YOU! THERE ARE TWO IN THE AUDIENCE WHO CAN HANDLE THE INTRUDER...

WE HAVE OTHER BUSINESS TO TAKE CARE OF TONIGHT!

WITHOUT ANOTHER WORD, THE MYSTERY MAN DISAPPEARS INTO THE GLOOM, TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE TWO MUSICIANS...UNTIL NEXT ISSUE...

WHILE, ON THE FLOOR...

HA! THAT WAS CLOSE, RUSSELL-- BUT THIS BLACK-OUT HINDERS YOU AS MUCH AS IT DOES ME!

AS THE WEREWOLF ABLE TO SEE IN THE DARK, YOU MIGHT TURN THE TABLES-- BUT MY POWERS GIVE ME THE UPPER HAND.

AND, NEARBY, JACK RUSSELL HAS A SIMILAR IDEA...

TATTERDEMATION'S GOT A POINT! I DON'T STAND A CHANCE IF I DON'T BECOME THE WEREWOLF!

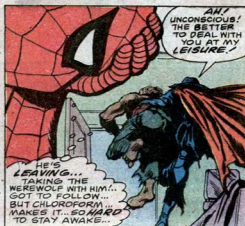
FORTUNATELY THAT'S SOMETHING I CAN DO...

HE'S RIGHT! MY SPIDER-SENSES TELL ME THAT JACK'S PUTTING UP A GOOD FIGHT-- BUT HE'S NOPELESSLY OUTCLASSED!

GOT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE DARKNESS-- AND CHANGE TO SPIDER-MAN!

RUSSELL'S TRANSFORMATION IS BARELY COMPLETED WHEN THE LIGHTS COME UP.







AS SPIDER-MAN PICKS UP TATTERDEMALION'S TRAIL, THE WEREWOLF WAKES A MILE AWAY...



OOOON...
MUST'VE
PASSED OUT...
WHERE--?

NOW I
REMEMBER!
TATTERDEMALION
HIT ME WITH
SOMETHING,
AND THEN...

OH, YES,
RUSSELL!
YOU ARE
IN MY HANDS,
NOW!
MY FRIENDS
ARE INTENT ON
HAVING SOME
SPORT
WITH YOU!

YOUR
FRIENDS?
THESE
GUYS ARE
SKID ROW
BUMS!



ALWAYS THE RICH SPIT ON
THE POOR! THOUGH YOU ARE
THE SON OF A WEALTHY
BARON, STILL YOU SHOULD
HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT!



LIKE US, YOU HAVE
BEEN FORCED TO LIVE LIKE
AN ANIMAL--AGAINST YOUR
WILL! LIKE US, YOU ONCE HAD
NO CONTROL OVER YOUR LIFE!



YES--THAT'S TRUE! BUT I
STRUGGLED AGAINST THE
ODDS AND AGAINST MYSELF--
AND I TOOK CONTROL!

YES... UNDER
CONTROL...
NO LONGER
AN OBJECT OF
PITY AND
FEAR...



FOR
THAT, JACK
RUSSELL,
YOU SHALL
PERISH!



YOU HELD A
SYMBOLIC
VALUE FOR US
ONCE-- NO
LONGER!
NOW...

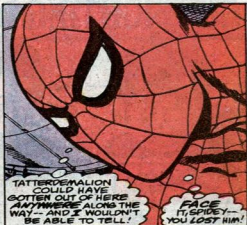
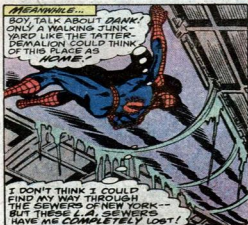
ENP! THE
ALARM FROM
THE SEWERS!

SOMEONE IS SEARCHING
FOR US--AND WE CAN'T
LET HIM GO AWAY
DISAPPOINTED!



CLOSE THIS
TRAPDOOR BEHIND ME,
BROTHERS...AND GUARD
THE WOLF-MAN, BUT
DO NOT HARM HIM!

AFTER ALL,
I DON'T WANT TO
MISS ANY OF THE FUN!













BULPEN BULLETS

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Big news, Believers! You long-time Marvel maniacs who keep track of who's who among our editorial staff will get a real charge outta this! For reasons too complicated to explain, (which is, of course, a shameless euphemism for "we haven't got the time!") we've done another editorial flip-flop and come up with a real treat for you! I'm delighted to announce that none other than good ol' Archie Goodwin has been given the position of Executive Editor of our soon-to-be-unwieldy magazine masterpiece, the much-heralded, long-awaited EPIC ILLUSTRATED! Yep, it means I'll once again be working with Artful Archie, just as I did when he was Editor-in-Chief of all our Marvel color comicbooks! Of course, that was before Jolly Jim Shooter replaced him when Archie resigned to devote himself to free-lance writing. And, if thou hast managed to follow the twisted and tortuous peripatetics of this convoluted little paragraph, thou mayest most assuredly here-with consider thyself thrice No-Prized!

But, all kidding aside, ("I didn't know he was kidding!") "It sure didn't sound funny to me!" "If that's his idea of kidding, I'd hate to read 'im when he's

serious!") (Okay, okay, shaddup already!) —It's really a kick to welcome one of our favorite alumni aboard once again. Archibald, who sports the craziest and most colorful collection of funky sneakers you've ever seen, is justifiably considered one of the finest writers and editors in the field, (not indoors, just in the field!) not to mention the fact that he's one of the nicest guys we know. Of course, next to the rest of the staff, even Doc Doom would seem nice! It's one way to find out if anyone's actually reading this mishmash!

Well, let's call it a day now, 'cause I know how emotional and choked-up this announcement has made you. But try to keep cool — don't be too impatient — a month isn't really that long a time, and before you know it I'll be back with you again to continue bestowing these words of wisdom and comfort to help guide you through the savage and stormy seas of life! (NOW do you see why they don't ask me to write any more stories?)

Till next ish then, keep well, keep happy, and most of all — keep in touch, hear?

Excelsior!

Stan

Marvel Masterpieces on sale this month!

- ❑ **MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #83** — "Suffer Not A Warlock To Live!" The return (?) of Adam Warlock as the Thing teams up with Moondragon and Starhawk!
- ❑ **SHOGUN WARRIORS #16** — Shogun Sanctuary is destroyed by a mysterious alien intelligence!
- ❑ **SPIDER-WOMAN #28** — Spider-Woman menaced by the macabre White Gardener!
- ❑ **STAR TREK #2** — The tension mounts as Marvel's adaptation of the Paramount Pictures stellar spectacular continues.
- ❑ **SPIDEY SUPER STORIES #46** — Spidey teams up with the Fantastic Four, checks out the Winter Olympics in Lake Placid, and generally has more adventures than you can shake a web at.
- ❑ **DAREDEVIL #164** — Daredevil is confronted by a reporter who knows the secret of his dual identity!
- ❑ **MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #88** — Re-presenting Incredible Hulk #138. Hulk vs. Sandman for the life of Betty Ross!
- ❑ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #204** — The return of the beautiful Black Cat.
- ❑ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #246** — Cap teams up with Aaron Hunter, stalker of Nazi war criminals.
- ❑ **MARVEL TEAM-UP #93** — Spider-Man and Werewolf By Night in spine-tingling duo action against the terrifying Tatterdemalion!
- ❑ **MAN-THING #4** — Guest-starring the Master of the Mystic Arts... Doctor Strange!
- ❑ **MICRONAUTS #17** — Climax of the Micronauts/Fantastic Four team-up against the mind-boggling menace of Psycho-Man!

- ❑ **GHOST RIDER #44** — The battle that couldn't happen — Johnny Blaze vs. Ghost Rider... To The Death!
- ❑ **BATTLESTAR GALACTICA #15** — Who is the mysterious passenger on the monster-menaced "Space Lifeboat"?
- ❑ **SAVAGE SHE-HULK #4** — She-Hulk fights for her life against a foe she must not defeat — her father!
- ❑ **MARVEL FUN AND GAMES #9** — Enough riddles, puzzles, mazes and games to keep any Marvelite amused and bemused for hours.
- ❑ **INCREDIBLE HULK #247** — In the sub-atomic world where he is hailed a hero, the Green Goliath is pitted against the power of the Grim Gardener!
- ❑ **AVENGERS #195** — Ant-Man, Yellowjacket and the Wasp on a suicide rescue mission into the lair of... Task-Master!
- ❑ **MARVEL SPOTLIGHT #6** — "The Saga of Star-Lord!" All new! The space-master's origin — and his color comic debut.
- ❑ **SUPER-VILLAIN TEAM-UP #17** — The world trembles in horror as the Red Skull, the Hate Monger and Arnim Zola attempt to re-create the dreaded Cosmic Cube!
- ❑ **CONAN #116** — Part II of the adaptation of "Sons of the Bear God!" by Norvell Page. Marvel's foremost barbarian in blood-tingling action!
- ❑ **THOR #295** — Thor, Loki, and Odin in pitched battle against the Storm Giants and Alberich the Troll as the quest for the Ring of Power begins.
- ❑ **MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS #68** — Reprising Fantastic Four #106. The incredible secret of... Janus!

- ❑ **MARVEL TALES #115** — Originally presented in Amazing Spider-Man #138. Enter: The Mindworm!
- ❑ **X-MEN #133** — Wolverine in solo action against the Hellfire Club.
- ❑ **TALES TO ASTONISH #6** — From the Mighty Marvel Archives: Sub-Mariner #6. Showdown with Tiger Shark!
- ❑ **ROM #6** — Rom vs. the telepathic bloodhounds of the Dire Wraiths. Plus: more on the fate of Firefall!
- ❑ **FANTASY MASTERPIECES #6** — Re-presenting Silver Surfer #6. The Surfer vs. the Overlord in "Worlds Without End!"
- ❑ **FANTASTIC FOUR #218** — The far-out finale to the story begun in Peter Parker #42. Showdown with the Frightful Four!
- ❑ **IRON MAN #134** — "The Strange Secret of... the Other!"
- ❑ **PETER PARKER #42** — The Spectacular Spider-Man fights for his life against the Wizard, Electro, the Sandman, and the Trapper — aka: The Frightful Four!
- ❑ **DEFENDERS #83** — Lol! Thera shall come and ending to the Tunnelworld saga! And what an ending it is! Featuring a due to the death in the mind of the Hulk!
- ❑ **MARVEL SUPER-ACTION #19** — Reprising Avengers #68; the classic "Even an Android Can Cry!" The origin of the amazing Vision!
- ❑ **AMAZING ADVENTURES #6** — Re-presenting X-Men #3 "In Final Battle With the Blob!" Plus: a special feature on the powers of Cyclops.
- ❑ **STAR WARS #35** — At last! Luke stands face-to-face with Darth Vader! Plus: the mystery of Sister Dima!
- ❑ **MASTER OF KUNG FU #88** — "The Legend of the Dove!" Fu Manchu's plot to blow up New York!

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ❑ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #51** — "Satan's Blood!" Part III of Marvel's adaptation of "Conan the Liberator!" by DeCamp & Carter.
- ❑ **MARVEL PREVIEW #21** — Featuring the mysterious Moon Knight. What a title like "Mindthieves!" you know it's gotta be weird! Plus a solo tale of the sensational Stroud, drawn by Steve Ditko!
- ❑ **TOMB OF DRACULA #4** — "Angelical!" A moody, window-seat saga of human failure and inhuman horror as Dracula chooses for his victims... two small children! Plus: "Death Vow!" Also: interviews, features, and more!
- ❑ **THE HULK #20** — "Power Unchained!" Torn from tomorrow's headlines — the Hulk is caught in the middle of a crisis at a nuclear power plant. Plus: the women in the Hulk's life. And just cause we don't fool around, there's also an exclusive interview with Ken Johnson, producer/director of the Hulk TV show! On yeah — Moon Knight'll be there, too.
- ❑ **CRAZY #61** — SUPER-SPECIAL! Choice classics featuring the work of ADAMS, SEVERIN, WOLFMAN, VAUGH BODE, and other greats. Plus: the ALL-NEW Idaho Test Parody by STEVE SKATES!



WEB-ZINGERS

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP
575 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

DENNIS O'NEIL
EDITOR
MARK GRUENWALD
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Chris, Al, Sal, Jo, Steve, Clem & Ben,

"And by touching that unique corner of her soul... she finally, truly, knows who she is."

Chris's words seem to say far better than I can what this issue was really about. It was an affirmation of humanity. An affirmation of human individuality and personal values set against all forms of demands and pressures.

Most of what we have within life is externally gained and externally dependent. Neither people, possessions, or events can truly be said to be our own. Even our life is dependent upon the whims of fate and the choices of others. Thus, without the human soul, we become something less than pawns in a game we don't understand.

During these issues, we watched Natasha Romanoff stripped of her individuality and given a new personality that was her in all but that one essential core, her soul. We watched a struggle between the real Natasha Romanoff and Nancy Rushman. A struggle balanced in a very bitter-sweet way by Chris. For Nancy Rushman was a very attractive and likeable person. She was someone we, like Peter, would have grown to love and care for. The Black Widow is a different and more complex character. A character who will find it more difficult to find peace and love than Nancy. A character born in pain and who must accept a world whose chief coin is pain and isolation.

We see these two characters through the eyes of Peter Parker. He is our entry into the story; he is the ordinary, fallible human we all are. To a degree we understand and accept his judgments. For when he sees, he sees as we would see. Thus, we have our own view of the values of Nancy and Natasha from outside the story. Also we have Peter's view, which is also ours from within the story.

Yet by the end of the story, Nancy Rushman becomes the woman who never was. The only true reality is that of the Black Widow, of Natasha Romanoff. Yet this end is not one of sadness, not one of acceptance or mere acquiescence. It is one of joy, one of a new faith in life. Later will come the pain, the realization of what life and the battles it entails mean. For now we must celebrate the human spirit. For ultimately, that is the only value, that which gives life and purpose to all else. To deny or to subvert that is to deny all value.

The human soul is us, the core of our being. It may be shaped and developed, but always it grows and remains us. So the Black Widow is Natasha Romanoff. The pain, the joy, the love and the despair that she has known, all these are hers and no one else's. Through much that she has suffered, one value has remained. Her ability to look at herself and be aware of herself.

Easy as it is to say from a comfortable existence, mutilation, even death, is preferable to the death of the soul. Throughout this issue, the parallel that comes to mind is Robert Bolt's "A Man For All Seasons." A play in which Thomas More will give everything — even ultimately his life — rather than betray his soul.

The crime of the Viper is that she has denied and even sought to destroy this. She has twisted the identity of Natasha Romanoff and, as such, she has committed the ultimate violation. Throughout the three previous issues, we have seen and gained insight into this violation and the new character of Nancy Rushman.

In this issue, we have all the threads drawn together

and the personality conflict is played out against a background of characters who all play off and reflect Nancy/Natasha. Finally, we see the rebirth of Natasha. She rises above the brainwashing and the horror. We see, in all its positive qualities, the affirmation of human life.

Mark Greenwood
8, The Greenway
Uxbridge, Middlesex, U.K.

Firstly, Mark, we're sorry to have cut your excellent letter so severely (we wanted to print it all, but, unfortunately, that would have taken two full intercolos — and that without an answer!) Suffice it to say that all concerned with TEAM-UP #85 — and, most of all, the five flyin' fools who stuck with it from the very beginning: Chris, Sal, Steve, Al and Jo — thank you very much for your kind comments. They enjoyed working on the story a heckuva lot; it's nice to see that their work was appreciated.

— cc.

Messers. Claremont, Buscema and Leialoha:

Nice work all around on the Spidey/Widow/Fury/Shang-Chi four-parter. Just a few specific comments —

The emotional interplay between "Nancy Rushman" and Our Hero was nicely done throughout. Especially to the point where the kiss two miles up on the side of the Hell-Carrier in #84, and the final scene in #85 where the Widow hits right on Spidey's disappointment that the Nancy Rushman persona got lost in the shuffle.

Sal does nice layouts, and has done so for years. But his work tends to be pretty basic and straightforward. His work comes off best when fleshed out by an inker like Sam Grainger or Steve Leialoha, who adds his own touch. I haven't enjoyed Sal's work this much in years — thank you, Steve.

"Lead on, MacFury"? (#83, p. 17, spoken by Boomerang.) Uh-uh, Chris. The actual line (check it out, it's in the last scene of *MacBeth*) is "Lay on, MacDuff!", where MacBeth is suggesting that MacDuff begin to lay blows on him, as with a sword. Not at all applicable here. I am not going to embarrass you by asking for a no-prize at this point, though it's probably applicable. I know that you could simply reply that most "literate" people, not having actually read the play, corrupt the line this was and so it's a natural mistake for a person or character to make. (This, of course, begs the questions of how you can call a person literate who hasn't read *MacBeth* two or three times; or why David Michelinie like the Beast making this mistake in AVENGERS, when David and the Beast should both know better.)

But hey, like I said, an excellent piece of work overall. MTU has been a lot better over the last couple of years than in its first five or six. Keep it up, guys!

Kirk Messmer
The Lawyer's Club
551 S. State St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48109

Ouch! Consider yourself no-prized, Kirk, whether you ask for it or not. Cheerful Chris — who fondly remembers his years as a professional actor (doling, among other things, Shakespeare — though never *MacBeth*) — should have known better than to foul up that line. Truth to tell, as you yourself suggest, we resorted to the corrupt, popular version of the line — his mistake. We'll make sure he never does it again.

— Chris.

MOON KNIGHT

IF YOU MEET HIM YOU'RE EITHER IN TROUBLE...
OR YOU'RE GOING TO BE

