

YEARS AGO, PETER PARKER (A.K.A. THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN) ACCIDENTALLY BONDED WITH AN ALIEN BEING CALLED A SYMBIOTE. WHEN PETER REALIZED THE COSTUME WAS ACTUALLY AN AGGRESSIVE LIVING ORGANISM, HE REJECTED IT. BUT DURING THEIR TIME TOGETHER, THE SYMBIOTE HAD ACCESS TO SPIDER-MAN'S GENETIC CODE, AND NOW GRANTS WHOMEVER IT BONDS WITH SKILLS SIMILAR TO HIS: WALL-CRAWLING, THE POWER TO GENERATE BIOORGANIC WEBBING, AND UNIQUE ABILITIES TO SHAPE-SHIFT AND BECOME INVISIBLE, TURNING THEM INTO...

VENOM



FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MONTHS, THE VENOM SYMBIOTE HAS RETURNED TO EARTH, BUT WAS SEPARATED FROM ITS HOST, FLASH THOMPSON, IN THE PROCESS.

THE SYMBIOTE, SCARED AND WEAKENED, BONDED WITH LEE PRICE, A FORMER ARMY RANGER. THANKS TO HIS RANGER TRAINING, LEE CAN CONTROL THE SYMBIOTE, AND HAS USED IT TO TRY AND COURT THE FAVOR OF THE BLACK CAT, NEW YORK'S LATEST KINGPIN OF CRIME.

THOUGH HE TRIED TO KEEP THE FACT THAT HE HAS THE SYMBIOTE QUIET, TWO FBI AGENTS HAVE FIGURED OUT LEE'S SECRET AND MADE HIM AN OFFER: HE CAN EITHER WORK FOR THEM AS AN INFORMANT AND FEED THEM INTEL ON NEW YORK'S SUPERHUMANS, OR HE CAN GO TO PRISON.

TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, ONE OF BLACK CAT'S LOYAL STOOGES, *THE SCORPION*, DOUBLE-CROSSED LEE AND ATTACKED HIM DURING A ROUTINE JOB. TO SAVE HIMSELF, LEE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO TRANSFORM INTO *VENOM*--REVEALING HIS SECRET TO THE WORLD!

MIKE COSTA
WRITER

GERARDO SANDOVAL & IBAN COELLO
ARTISTS

DONO SANCHEZ-ALMARA, ISRAEL SILVA, AND ANDRES MOSSA
COLOR ARTISTS

VC'S CLAYTON COWLES
LETTERER

GERARDO SANDOVAL
COVER ARTIST

ALLISON STOCK
ASST. EDITOR

DEVIN LEWIS
EDITOR

NICK LOWE
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

AXEL ALONSO
EDITOR IN CHIEF

JOE QUESADA
CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER

DAN BUCKLEY
PRESIDENT

ALAN FINE
EXEC. PRODUCER

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AH, SWEET AND SOUR CHICKEN. EVEN WHEN YOU'RE **BAD**, YOU'RE **GOOD**.



NOW FOR THE BEST PART OF THE DAY: CYBER-STALKING ALL MY OLD FRENEMIES FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO SEE HOW MUCH COOLER I AM THAN THEM.



HM. SOCIAL JUSTICE WARRIOR. RACIST. PICTURE OF KIDS. KIDS. KIDS. AW! WEDDING PHOTOS! GOOD FOR DAVE! KIDS. WAIT A SECOND...



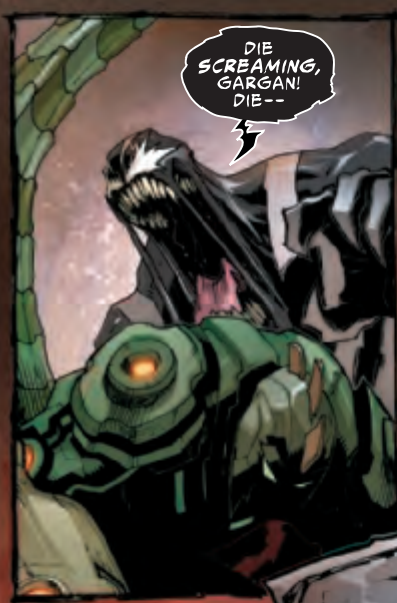
LIVE

YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME.

I HAVE GOT TO STAY OFF SOCIAL MEDIA.



I'LL CRACK YOU OUT OF THAT SUIT AND EAT YOU LIKE AN OYSTER, GARGAN.



DIE SCREAMING, GARGAN! DIE--



THWIP



GAK!



NO...



FLASH,
YOU'VE GOT SOME
SERIOUS 'SPLAINING
TO DO.



STAY
AWAY FROM
US!



YOW!



T
H
W
I
P

"SAVE ANY
LIVES TODAY,
SPIDEYS?"



"OH, YEAH,
I SAVED
A PSYCHOTIC
MURDERER IN
A NUCLEAR-
POWERED
SCORPION
SUIT."



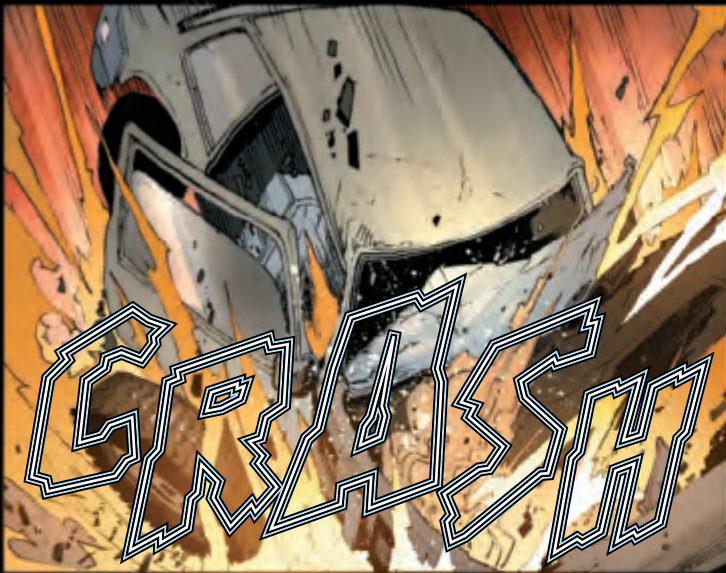
"JUST
DOING MY
'PART."



WHAT THE
#&%^ DO YOU
THINK YOU'RE
DOING?



PLEASE,
HOLD YOUR
APPLAUSE.



UH...
...THANKS.



I WANT THAT SUIT!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

SPIDER-MAN IS HERE!
SPIDER-MAN!



SPIDER-MAN!

YOU'RE BEING CRAZY!

SCORPION! STOP!



WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE!

WE CAN'T HURT SPIDER-MAN!