



THE WEB

2
DEC '09



ANGELA
ROBINSON
ROGER
ROBINSON
HILARY
BARTA

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SECOND FEATURE **The Hangman**



THE THING IS...

...THE DECK IS STACKED AGAINST YOU. MY FATHER TAUGHT ME THAT.

THE HOUSE ALWAYS WINS.

I'M SORRY, MR. WEB, TRULY. IT'S NOTHING PERSONAL. I'M JUST FULFILLING MY END OF THE BARGAIN, YOU UNDERSTAND.

IT'S NOT MY FAULT, REALLY. CIRCUMSTANCES BEING WHAT THEY ARE.

WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?

WHY DIDN'T YOU ASK THE GIRL?

I BELIEVE HER NAME IS APRIL.



IT'S FUNNY WHAT YOU THINK OF WHEN YOU'RE GOING TO DIE.



"WHY DIDN'T YOU ASK THE GIRL?" HE SAYS.



INDEED. WHY DIDN'T I ASK THE GIRL?

MONTAUK,
1999.

APRIL!
COME BACK!



SAW



I'M
SORRY!



IT'S
OVER,
JOHN.



SHE
CHOSE DAVID
OVER ME.



I KNOW WHY. APRIL
ALWAYS KNEW HOW
TO PLAY THE ODDS.



AND I
WAS A
LOSING
BET.



IN 1984, DR. ROBERT DICKERING MADE A DEAL THAT SPARED HIM FROM THE NOOSE. SINCE THAT TIME, HE HAS LIVED A DIVIDED LIFE. BY DAY, HE SAVES LIVES AS A TRAUMA SURGEON. BY NIGHT, HE SAVES THE INNOCENT AND CONDEMS THE GUILTY AS THE SUPERNATURAL AVENGER—

THE HARBINGER

THE DARKNESS CARRIES ME HOME

JOHN ROZUM • Writer
TOM DERENICK • Penciller
BILL SIENKIEWICZ • Inker
TRAVIS LANHAM • Letterer
GUY MAJOR • Colorist
RACHEL GLUCKSTERN • Editor



THIS CAN'T CONTINUE.



"HOW CAN ONE MAN SEEMINGLY BE EVERYWHERE AT ONCE?"



HOW CAN HE KNOW WHERE OUR OPERATIONS WILL GO DOWN?

HOW CAN HE KNOW WHEN?



"THIS HANGMAN IS AFRAID OF NOTHING."

"BULLETS DON'T STOP HIM."



SO FAR, NOTHING HAS EVEN SLOWED HIM DOWN.

SAN FRANCISCO WAS SUPPOSED TO BE CLEAN. IF I HAD WANTED HIS TYPE OF AGGRAVATION, I WOULD HAVE SET UP SHOP IN GOTHAM CITY.

"HOW CAN OUR BUSINESS SUCCEED WITH HIM OUT THERE, WORKING HIS WAY THROUGH THE HIRED HELP?"

WE CAN'T MAKE ANY MONEY IF WE CAN'T KEEP ANY MEN ON THE STREET.

IF WE CAN'T STOP HIM DIRECTLY, THEN FIND OUT WHO HE REALLY IS.



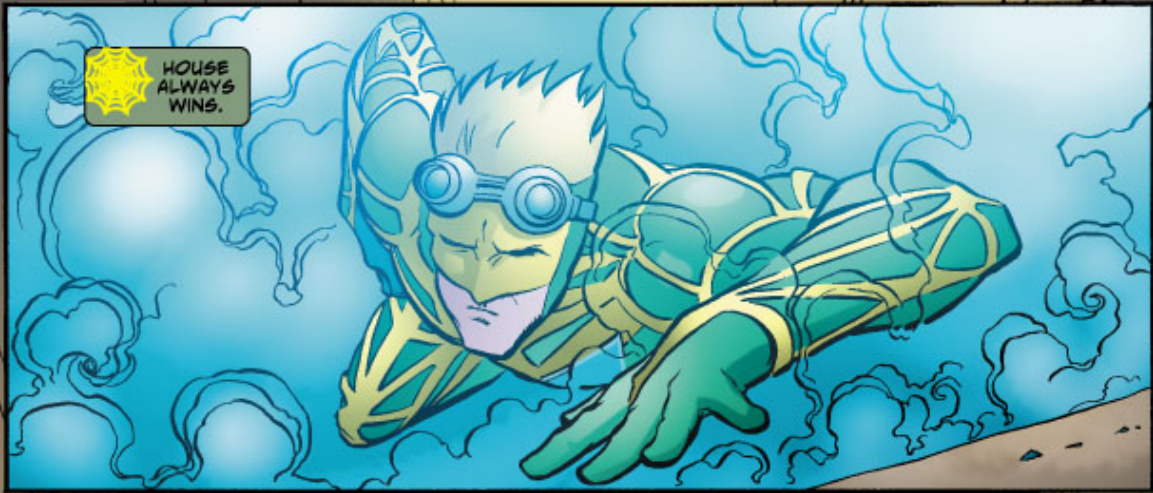
MAYBE IF WE GO AFTER THE PEOPLE HE CARES ABOUT--



MY POWERS ARE WASTED ON MEN LIKE THESE.



HOUSE
ALWAYS
WINS.



MONEY?
PLEASE, MR. WEB.
I CAN'T BE BOUGHT
THAT EASILY.

YOU'LL
HAVE TO TRY
HARDER--



BOOM



YOU WOULDN'T HIT A CRIPPLE, WOULD YOU, MR. WEB?

YOU DON'T KNOW ME VERY WELL.

SPINNING THE FUTURE PART 2

JOHN RAYMOND WAS BORN RICH AND SPOILED BUT SPURNED BY HIS FATHER WHO ADMIRER HIS SELFLESS BROTHER INSTEAD. WHEN JOHN'S INACTION LED TO HIS BROTHER'S DEATH, JOHN DETERMINED TO BECOME THE MAN HIS FATHER HAD ALWAYS THOUGHT OF HIS BROTHER AS, SEEKING TO REDEEM HIMSELF AS THE HIGH-TECH HERO KNOWN ONLY AS...

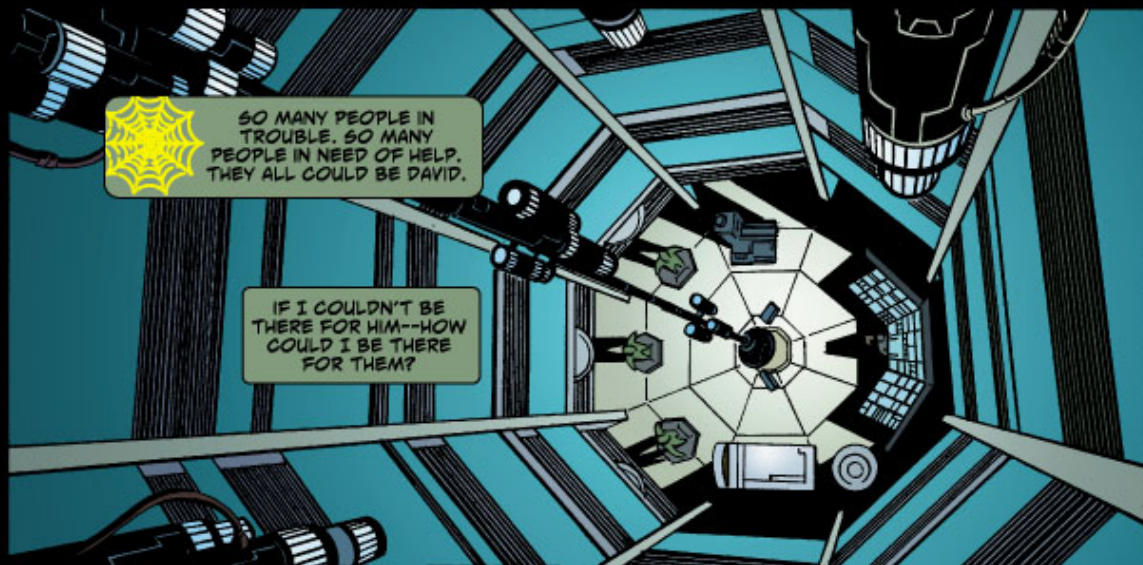
THE WEB

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SO MANY PEOPLE IN TROUBLE. SO MANY PEOPLE IN NEED OF HELP. THEY ALL COULD BE DAVID.

IF I COULDN'T BE THERE FOR HIM--HOW COULD I BE THERE FOR THEM?



IT WAS FOOLHARDY TO THINK I COULD EVER BE A SUPERHERO.

THE SHEER NUMBERS WERE UNWORKABLE. FOR EVERY ONE PERSON YOU HELPED, THERE WERE THOUSANDS MORE YOU FAILED. IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO BE IN MORE THAN ONE PLACE AT A TIME.



BUT INSPIRATION COMES IN UNLIKELY PLACES.



TO EXPAND ONE'S INFLUENCE...



...ONE'S BRAND...

...IT SOMETIMES BECOMES NECESSARY TO BECOME A FRANCHISE.

THE INTERNET REACHES INTO EVERY CORNER OF THE GLOBE. SO WOULD I.

THIS IS THE WEB.

AS INJUSTICE CONTINUES TO PLAGUE OUR PLANET, I FIND THE SUPERHERO COMMUNITY HAS COME UP SHORT.

AND I ASK MYSELF--WHY SHOULD SOMEBODY NEED BILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO BE A SUPERHERO?



OR WAIT UNTIL THEY STUMBLE UPON A TOXIC ACCIDENT?

IF YOU DON'T HAPPEN TO COME FROM ANOTHER PLANET--

--YOU CAN COME TO ME.



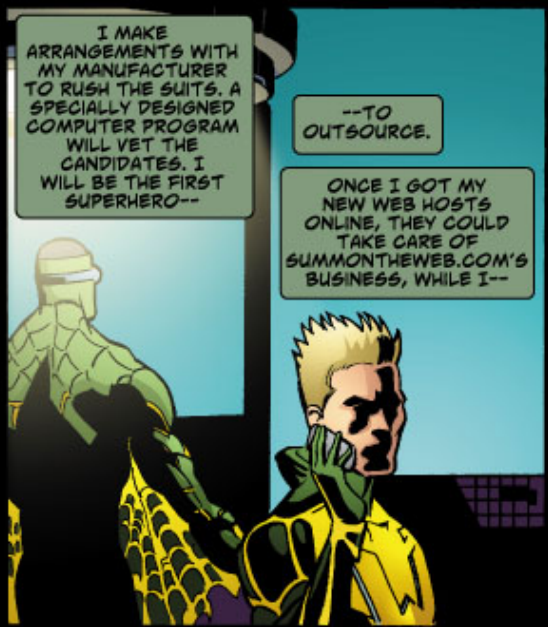
TODAY, I AM LAUNCHING A PILOT PROGRAM WHERE I WILL LICENSE MY WEB TECHNOLOGY TO NINETY-NINE WORTHY WANNABE-SUPERHEROES AROUND THE GLOBE. GOOD SAMARITANS. PEOPLE WHO WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



WRITE IN TO WWW.SUMMONTHEWEB.COM AND TELL ME WHY YOU WANT TO BE A SUPERHERO. IF YOU PASS THE STRINGENT VETTING PROCESS, I LOOK FORWARD TO SAYING--



--YOUR SUIT IS IN THE MAIL.



I MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH MY MANUFACTURER TO RUSH THE SUITS. A SPECIALLY DESIGNED COMPUTER PROGRAM WILL VET THE CANDIDATES. I WILL BE THE FIRST SUPERHERO--

--TO OUTSOURCE.

ONCE I GOT MY NEW WEB HOSTS ONLINE, THEY COULD TAKE CARE OF SUMMONTHEWEB.COM'S BUSINESS, WHILE I--