



## The Superior Spider-Man, Vol. 5: The Superior Venom

*Dan Slott , Christos Gage , Humberto Ramos (Illustrator) , Javier Rodriguez (Illustrator)*

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Venom is back in town! Will his first run-in with the Superior Spider-Man be a friendly one, or will he sense something perilous about Peter Parker's presence? And as Otto Octavius takes another big step in his life as Peter Parker, could a big part of Flash Thompson's life be coming to a close? Will he be Venom no more? As Cardiac returns, MJ faces her fears, and a new Goblin is born, the one question everyone will be asking is, "Who is the Superior Venom?!" And after half a century, don't miss one of the most cringe-worthy moments in all of Spidey-history! Guest-starring the Avengers! Plus: Blackout wants to re-establish his reputation by killing the Superior Spider-Man--and to do so, he targets Aunt May! **COLLECTING: SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN #22-26, ANNUAL #1**

## **The Superior Spider-Man, Vol. 5: The Superior Venom Details**

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# From Reader Review The Superior Spider-Man, Vol. 5: The Superior Venom for online ebook

Alejandro says

## Not 100% superior, but still amazing reading!

*This TPB edition collects issues #22-26 + Annual #1 from the title of “Superior Spider-Man”.*

Creative Team:

Writers: Dan Slott & Christos Gage

Illustrators: Humberto Ramos, Javier Rodríguez & Marcos Martin

## SUPER-HERO 2.0

*Everything is going exactly exactly according to plan.*

Dr. Otto Octavius' mind is still in control of the body of Peter Parker, therefore he is the Superior Spider-Man! However he doesn't only got Peter's powers but also in the package came along Peter's sense of responsibility, and due that Otto understood why heroes exist and he keeps the role of super-hero, but once villain mastermind, always villain mastermind, so while Otto will honestly play the role of super-hero, really doing his best to keep safe his city, he will do it making tactical improvements in the act that only a true mastermind can conceive...

...with thousands of small spider-bots patrolling New York for any crime or emergency, having his own private army of foot soldiers and manned mecha to back him up in battles, and his own island serving as headquarters, certainly the good ol' Otto **IS** the Superior Spider-Man!

Even, thanks to Otto, finally Peter Parker got his college doctorate and starting his own technological company, Parker Industries! Yep, Otto is also the Superior Peter Parker!

## AVENGERS, GOBLINS AND...VENOM!

*This city has a protector... a lethal protector.*

However, even a villain mastermind and superior hero has limits about how much can handle at once...

The Goblin King's Underground Domain is thriving thanks that he tampered spider-bots' protocols and now anyone with a Goblin-like costume is “invisible” to their sensors, allowing to happen “secret” Goblin Wars, between the Goblin King and the original Hobgoblin.

The Avengers aren't happy with the now not-so-Friendly Superior-hood and his methods.

And whaddayaknow...

...VENOM is back in town!!!

But now he is “Agent Venom” (da frak?) and the lethal symbiote is in control of Flash Thompson (yep, him), and even is a covert-ops Avenger!!!

Bummer that nobody told to good ol’ Otto...

...so yes... **LEEEEET'S GET READY TOOOOO RUMBLE!!!**

### **FAMILY ISSUES**

Otto Octavius not only got Peter Parker’s life but also his family.

Otto is a man with different taste in women than Peter, so he already terminated any chance of a romantic relationship with Mary Jane Watson and now Anna Maria Marconi is the lucky girl in the heart of the Superior Spider-Man.

Anna Maria is a small person (she has a medical condition of dwarfism) and believe it or not, good ol’ Aunt May, one of the sweetest characters ever conceived in comic books’ history, will show having the finesse of a bulldozer approaching the topic in the face of the very Anna Maria.

J. Jonah Jameson is now part of Peter Parker’s family due that Aunt May married Jay Jameson (J. Jonah’s dad) and while he initially showed genuine intention of supporting the Superior Spider-Man, now due a little itsy bitsy teenie weenie blackmailing thing, J. Jonah now is scheming a slaying plan to literally destroy that public menace known as the Superior Spider-Man.

Family, mmh? We can’t live with them and without them.

### **ART ATTACK**

I am grateful that, in this saga of *Superior Spider-Man*, there is the artistic talent of Humberto Ramos. I am fan of his art style for many years and I’ve been lucky to get most of his Indy works (*Crimson*, *Out There*, *Revelations*). So definitely, it’s a plus having him as one of the illustrators in this saga, and thank goodness he did most of the illustrations in the volume.

However, one bad thing in this particular trade paperback was that they had also Javier Rodríguez drawing some pages in the issue #26 and the whole Annual #1, since honestly I can’t believe that Marvel Comics wouldn’t have any other illustrator around to work in the project, since I don’t like to be offensive but I found Javier Rodríguez’s art style totally lame and unworthy to be published in comic books published by of one of the two biggest comic books’ houses. Easily was the key factor to take away one star of the general rating of the story.

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## **Michael Church says**

This was my favorite volume of the series by far. Partly because I'm a big Venom fan and was really excited to see Agent Venom in action for the first time. It was a nice tie in and made me really interested in reading the Venom standalone book. I also think it fit in a lot better than some other cameos. It was a little forced at first, and I think I appreciate the intro more if I was already following Venom's book, but it had a great payoff.

I'm also a sucker for hero against hero stuff. While SpOck was a jerk at first, eventually it just became part of the story and it really worked with the way it ended. The symbiote just works perfectly for all of the little plot points that Slott needed to accomplish with this volume. It doesn't hurt that it serves up a nice helping of fan service at the same time.

The build to Goblin Nation in this volume is also epic. I was intensely invested in the escalation of that situation and what's happening to those characters. It's going to be a really interesting battle and, honestly, this volume is the biggest reason so far that I'm excited for it.

The art continues to shine. Ramos has such a distinctive style. His look works most of the time, but there were a couple of times that Aunt May or MJ looked a little weird. What I thought really stood out was the last issue in the arc that had 3 artists being used for 3 completely separate story threads. It was great and each art style fit extremely well. The annual was also a real treat. Rodriguez gives a great look and as a standalone story, it really fits in well and works on its own.

I'm excited to see the rest of this series now. This might be the volume that actually sold me on the Superior Spider-Man.

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## **Gavin says**

Venom! What would a Spider-Man be without a run in with an alien symbiote?

This is the Flash Thompson version of Venom (my favourite I think). Check out Rick Remender's great work on that title: *Venom, Vol. 1*

Here, Spidey gets a little too full of himself, and in trying to help Flash walk by repairing his legs, accidentally frees the Venom symbiote, which of course, takes over Otto.

This plot has moments where it meanders, but I think that's more to Christos Gage than to Slott.

The really important developments are as follows, to me at least: 1 - Otto's love for Anna Maria is shown when Aunt May makes an inappropriate remark, showing how good a person Otto actually is under it all.

2 - Carlie Cooper will never be the same after her capture by the Goblin King and his minions...

3 - The Goblin reveals himself to a longtime rival, who might not live to tell another soul about it.

4 - Otto-Venom goes nuts, and only the combined forces of the Avengers and Flash are able to combat it.

5 - Even then, Otto isn't able to free himself from the alien symbiote...but is someone else able to?

There's some very cool stuff here if you ignore the ho-hum bits. They're building to a huge Goblin/Spidey Showdown, and I cannot wait for that to arrive at the library!

I have a sneaking suspicion there's not much more for Otto to do, but I sure hope that doesn't mean the end of Superior, as it's been a fantastic series, and great way to bring new life to old characters.

This is also a great book for elevating Flash's status in the Marvel world, before, it seems only Captain America knows him (that being soldier thing helps) and Iron Man and Spidey both comment about having no idea who he is.

If you're invested in Flash Thompson at all (I am, thanks to Dan Slott actually, and Rick Remender, but mostly with the Flash Thompson ASM issue where he goes overseas and serves. That one was a rather well done one to me, so I like that he's moved on with his life and upwards) this is a great result.

If you just want to see more of Otto Parker, this is great too, but if you miss Peter...well, you're not alone, and don't fret...

This seems like the closest we've seen Otto go to returning to his evil ways, and that was only due to the Venom impact. Otto is able to convince the Avengers that it was Venom affecting him the whole time - way back to their first concern after he killed Massacre way back in Vol. 1. However, Iron Man, in all his paranoia, discovers something that Otto cannot talk his way out of, and it might spell the end of Spider-Man's membership with the Avengers!

All in all, a good recovery from a lacking Vol. 4 (NOTE - A lacking volume 4 of this series is better than the majority of volumes from many other series out there.) Cannot wait to get Vol. 6 from the library (assuming it's in before next year!!!)

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## **Lono says**

The Superior Spider-Man, Vol. 5: The Superior Venom

by Dan Slott, Christos Gage, Humberto Ramos (Illustrator), Javier Rodriguez (Illustrator)

My Review: 4 out of 5 stars

Ramos's art in this volume was so **DAMN** good I've gotta start there. Humberto OWN'S Spider-man. His illustrations are the only reason I liked this collection a little more than the last one. (The Superior Spider-Man, Vol.4 Necessary Evil ). He just keeps getting better on this title. I've picked up Spidey stuff in the past based solely on his artwork, but *this* is him at his best. No mistaking his cartoony style for anyone else's because it's so distinctly recognizable, his layouts are so crazy good, and his characters are so uniquely

drawn it just doesn't get any better for me. Ramos conveys emotion so well with his facial expressions. You can tell by just looking at his work that he is so ridiculously enthusiastic about the characters and story. He is just, quite simply, **THE SHIT**. Now that I've got that out.

Slott picks up where he left off with the last volume and pretty much maintains the status quo. Not as great as the earliest volumes, but I can only hope he is building towards what will be the mother of all showdowns with the Goblin King in the next collection. But, don't get me wrong, it's still pretty kick ass. Agent Venom comes to NYC and crosses paths with Spidey in an encounter that's reminiscent of his run in with the Black Cat in the last collection. I really like this version of Venom more than most of the previous editions of the character. Flash Thompson's history with Peter (and Octo-Pete's inability to recall any of them) really makes their interactions more interesting than the drooling "must kill Spider-Man" Venom from years past. The Avengers show up again to make good on their promise to keep Spidey in line. This, of course, leads to another all-out brawl. A ton of action in this one kids. All the while the Goblin King lurks about, putting his pieces in place for what is sure to be a toe-curling climax in the next collection.

Aunt May, MJ, Anna Marie, Jay and the rest of the crew are all back for this one. Enjoyed the dinner with Anna Maria and Aunt May. The maniacal Peter is still friggin funny. Hearing Otto's voice coming out of Parker's mouth just doesn't get old for me. The Superior Spider-Man Annual that was included at the end was *sorta* alright. Not sure it really did anything significant for the story that wasn't done already and the art was eh. And the villain, Blackout, lame. Otherwise, still a much better collection than most of the stuff out there and definitely worth a read. Bring on Goblin Nation. You should check out my pal's "Superior" reviews at ( [Sam's review](#) , [Gavin's review](#) ) and

Get this review and more at:

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### **Jesse A says**

This series was once so promising but it's really gone off the rails. Super disappointing. 2.5 stars.

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### **Dan Schwent says**

**22** - Agent Venom takes on the Crimemaster and Spidey wants them both! Parker Industries is up and running!

Not a lot actually happened in this other than my one line summary. Spider-Otto reminds me of Darth Vader at times. While I'm enjoying the Superior Spider-Man quite a bit, I'll be glad when Petey eventually takes back control.

**23** - Venom escapes and Spidey is furious! Meanwhile, J. Jonah Jameson goes to Alchemax for help to get a certain Spider-monkey off his back and Aunt May finally meets Anna-Maria.

Things really kicked up a notch in this volume. Otto's single-mindedness when it comes to fighting crime is getting even more out of hand. I'm curious about where the whole Flash Thompson angle is going.

**24** - The Superior Venom is on the rampage! Can Otto get the symbiote under control or will he be a bigger monster than ever?

Yeah, the shit has really hit the fan. Flash Thompson is dying and Otto is way out of control. To top it off, the Avengers are on their way. This run must have been hell waiting for month to month.

**25** - The shitstorm is now an F5 as The Avengers show up to take down The Superior Venom! Also, the Hobgoblin doesn't like what the Green Goblin is doing. And what's going to happen with Carlie Cooper?

Now that was some carnage. To top it off, Menace and Monster are set to go on a rampage and the Hobgoblin and Green Goblin are about to war on each other. How much longer will Otto be able to maintain the charade?

**26** - The Avengers have come for Spidey and the Goblins are gunning for him. What's a super-villain in a webslinger's body to do?

Spidey quits the Avengers in dramatic fashion and the Goblin King reigns over his Goblin Nation. The war for Spider-Island is coming fast! And Peter Parker survives in Spidey's head after all!

**Annual 1** - The vampire Blackout comes for Aunt May as a way to strike at Peter Parker, the man the mob thinks makes Spider-Man's gadgets!

Nice cameo by Danny Ketch in this one. Spider-Man and Blackout have a surprisingly good fight. It does not end well for Blackout. And it finally looks like the big Spider-Man vs. Green Goblin gang war has arrived!

**Closing Thoughts:** Dan Slott's examination of what it means to be a hero is coming to an end soon as Otto continues to unravel. While it's been a very interesting and enjoyable road, I'm glad the destination is finally in sight. Four out of five stars.

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### Roy says

Great fun with the goblin battle.

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### Sesana says

For me, this was the least successful of the Superior Spider-Man books. Don't get me wrong, I still think that Slott is doing a great job on this book. This just kind of felt like filler. If I cared about Venom more, I probably would have been much more invested. But I don't, not really. In fact, I've cared so little about Venom that I didn't even know that Flash Thompson is now hosting the symbiote. (I actually think that's an interesting idea, and maybe I'll look up when and where it happened.) But this isn't a skippable volume, despite being mostly filler. A few important things happen, including Peter finally introducing his aunt to his girlfriend, which doesn't go terribly well. Aunt May's cringe-inducing, condescending reaction to finding out her nephew is dating a little person is horribly realistic, and it allows Otto to display his single more redeeming feature, his love for Anna Maria. There's also some lead-in to the storyline that we've all been waiting for, Superior Spider-Man vs. Green Goblin. This is going to be interesting.

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### **Callie Rose Tyler says**

As much as I enjoy this Octavius story line it is time for it to come to a close. I think they have gotten all that they can out of the premise and it is time to move on and give Parker his body back. Still this comic continues to be entertaining and well produced. I highly enjoyed seeing SpideyOCK on symbiote and seeing practically nothing of Miguel O'Hara. However, I really could care less about the growing 'Goblin problem' so something tells me I might not enjoy the next volume...The Superior Spider-Man, Vol. 6: Goblin Nation, we shall see.

One thing that really bothered me was Aunt May's treatment of Anna Maria she really came across as quite the bitch. If they wanted tension and a chance for Ock to get mad they could have gone another route beyond Aunt May being height insensitive.

This volume closes out with the Spider-man annual which was a high point, I loved the change up in the art department and was fascinated with how Ock handled Aunt May being kidnapped by Blackout.

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### **Sam Quixote says**

If you haven't been keeping up with the Spidey news, Peter Parker's coming back after being "dead" for a year and a half which ISN'T a spoiler because a) superhero comics and b) duh (and if you're reading this in the future, this isn't news at all – in fact, they've probably killed him off again and put Pastepot Pete in Spidey's body – The Pasty Spider-Man!).

What the news underlines is something I've noticed about this series which is the episodic nature of Superior Spider-Man where each book deals with a certain stage in Otto's time as Spidey before moving on to the next. It might seem overly efficient but I quite like it. This time around it's Venom's turn as Flash Thompson/Venom shows up in NYC and Spidey takes him down, separating the symbiote from him, and absorbing it himself, believing he can control it – which of course he can't.

I want to say that this is an amazing book like the first three but it's not. It's what you'd expect from a Superior Venom book and doesn't really surprise the reader with any flourishes. Dan Slott's usual brilliance is somewhat dimmed in this book by Christos Gage, the hack he's co-written the series with, and Gage

brings his slapdash style to the story where you find yourself caring less about the characters and find your attention drifting at times with the story.

Which isn't to say it's all bad as there are still some great moments like when Peter invites Anna Maria to meet May and Jay and May kinda patronises Anna Maria for being a small person - it's awkward in a slightly funny "she's from an older generation" way. Parker Industries is up and running which I'm sure will be cool to see grow and develop in future stories and it's nice to see MJ make an appearance in the story. The Superior Venom fights are ok too, and Flash has some interesting character moments, separated from the super-powered side of his personality.

But the ending? That's the big payoff. Peter comes back in a big way, characters die, old characters change, NYC changes, and the Goblin King takes centre stage for the final part of Superior Spider-Man. It's a great ending that really props the book up.

Humberto Ramos continues to kill it with the art. His action scenes are dynamic and crazy looking, his layouts are amazing, and I love the emotion he gives all of the characters with their facial expressions and body language. His design for the Superior Venom is awesome too.

Like the last book, I wasn't as in love with it as much as I was the first three volumes of the series, but it's still a really enjoyable, inventive and fun book in a great series. Sad to see it winding down, but all good things etc., eh? Superior Spider-Man continues to be a must-read comic for all Marvel zombies and Spidey aficionados out there.

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### **Jeff says**

Dr. Octopus is still inhabiting the body of Peter Parker and still making superior tweaks to the Spider-Man business, but that doesn't detract from the fact that he's also an unbalanced "superior" (read: smug, insufferable) jerk.

"Hey, Ock, eating five plates of Aunt May's wheatcakes won't erase the fact that you've been an ass to practically everyone. I hope the wheatcakes give you the squirts while you're swinging around New York."

This volume: Venom, now a crime stopper (and super-secret Avenger) is in town and because Ock has laid waste to Parker's memories, he sees him as not only a threat but also something to be exploited. It doesn't quite work out that way (see gif below).

The Superior Annual, at the end of this collection, has Spider-Man/Ock running up against half-demon Blackout, who's threatened Parker's family. (view spoiler)

**Bottom line:** So far, this is the lesser of the Superior Spider volumes. (view spoiler) Still it beats the clone saga by a million miles.

*Face it, Tiger, you're going off the deep end!*

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## Anne says

### Say hello to your Friendly Neighborhood **Spider-Man** Venom!

So, as many of you already know, Venom is actually Flash Thompson, one of (the real) Peter Parker's best friends, and war vet who lost his legs in combat. He's been working with S.H.I.E.L.D. as an agent and is in control of the Venom-symbiote, which allows him to have his legs back during his time as *Agent Venom*. Of course, since Otto purged Parker's memories, he has no idea who Flash is, or that he's a friend. He only knows the old Venom.

And the *old* Venom was a threat...

This is the volume where you really start to see the flaws in Doc Ock's way of doing things. His hubris starts to cause major problems when dealing with Flash, and his ego gets in the way of a peaceful resolution to their problems. Instead of hugging it out, and having an **Amazing** team-up?

The *Superior* Spider-man ends up getting taken over by the symbiote.

And what happens when Doctor Octopus is under the influence of a parasitic...sorry, *symbiotic* evil alien?

Ok, *no*, he doesn't dance. But there's quite a bit of douchebaggery, nonetheless.

I love this title! Superior or not, Dan Slott has made Doc Ock one of my favorite characters in the Marvel universe. I'm going to be sad to see him go...

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## Chris says

An excellent Annual and a strong build towards the series finale narrowly prevents The Superior Venom from being a disappointment. It does fall slightly short of the standard set by the previous volumes, but overall it's still a solid read.

It starts promisingly, with an Annual that's reminiscent of the quality of the first two books. Artist Javier Rodriguez joins the series, providing pencils and striking colours for the issue, with inks by Alvaro Lopez. Otto steps into full-on villain territory here, (view spoiler). The eye-catching artwork and gripping story are a winning combination, one used to serve as a chilling reminder that Otto is *not* Spider-Man.

Christos Gage then returns to assist Dan Slott with writing duties, this time for the four-issue Darkest Hours storyline. Things get out of control for Otto as he becomes more maniacal in his attempts to keep his life as Spider-Man and Peter Parker in order. At times it's great stuff, but the issue that introduces the Superior Venom is a mess and there are some decidedly average moments amongst the usual quality storytelling.

On the flipside, the relationship between Peter and Anna Maria is still a highlight. I loved seeing MJ confront Peter (view spoiler) and Flash Thompson was much more interesting and likeable here than he was in Guardians Of The Galaxy. Although i'm still not impressed with the messy action scenes drawn by Humberto Ramos and Victor Olazaba, the detail they put into their artwork in general makes up for it.

Superior Spider-Man may have lost some of it's spark with this outing, but the steady build of the Goblin Nation is about to pay off and with the Avengers also on the scene, Slott and Gage have set the stage for a potentially explosive ending to the series.

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## **Peter Derk says**

If you want to talk like a villain, I have some handy hints for you.

1. Never call someone an "asshole."

If you use a word like Asshole, you're missing an opportunity to use a far more villainous word. Dummies aren't dummies, they're imbeciles. Or dolts. Even if someone is really acting like an asshole, make sure to call them simpleton instead.

2. Never call Robots "Robots".

They are automatons. Or auto-men. Or your army of robo-centric humanoids. Never, ever robots.

3. Never miss a chance to insult.

Classic Darth Vader line, "Then he is as clumsy as he is stupid." Haha, I always wish I could go in the movie and high-five him for that one. Nothing like taking a mistake and using it to point out TWO flaws about a person.

4. Never be below the absolute boiling point of rage.

Let's say you're Doctor Doom, and you're impersonating Daredevil's alter-ego, Matt Murdock. And let's say Foggy Nelson, your lifelong friend and confidant, comes into your office to deliver very important and relevant news. On the way in, he trips and spills a coffee cup on some papers.

Incorrect Response: Haha, oh, Foggy. Are you alright? No worries. That's why they make copy machines, right buddy?

Correct Response: You pig-headed dolt! Your imbecilic mincing about has ruined the plans for my new robonautics. You and your simpleton ways have spoiled the plans of Doctor D- Matt Murdock for the last time!

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## **Mike says**

Blast you Gage, you insufferable buffoon! Which incompetent fool thought you could even hold the incomparable Slott's pen for him, let alone co-script any of this run alongside that incomparable genius, that master of the divine scripted word?

I see that if I want anything done right, I'll have to send one of my minions to have you dispatched to a place where your disastrous intellect can do no further harm to this world. Perhaps your kind can be tolerated among the Muppet Babies?

No one should be allowed to put second-rate exposition in the mouth of the superlative Otto Octavius! Why, it's an insult to science! And a terrific inconvenience, when I have a whole city to patrol - and a freshly-peeled alien symbiote to command! If only I didn't have to suffer utter imbeciles, I would have already discovered the secret to fulfilling every one of that inferior Parker's failed ambitions!

All I need is one or two additional opportunities to prove my superiority over the police, the Avengers, and those scientific degenerates, and my precarious and crumbling plans will finally bear the fruit that is deserving of my vast intellect and impossible willpower.

At a minimum, it is acceptable that Humberto Ramos knows how to execute portraiture of my exquisite form in battle, and allows the plebeians to enjoy with "fun" their passive and respectful admiration of my exploits.

[Mike here, while Otto has his head turned: Not even gonna pretend to read Gage's Annual. Annuals are usually disposable, sometimes a chance for up-and-comers to try some wild ideas and tryout for the majors. Other times they're just filler by "reliable" creators who are there at a moment's notice to do whatever shit job editorial needs done fast and on time.]

...

[Hilarious, at least to me - I discovered \*another\* bilous review of this book - it pissed me off so much, I slammed it twice! Read on...]

Christos Gage. They should publish his writings under a pseudonym, so guys like me with a full-on hatred of his writing "style" don't despise it immediately. Then again, there must be fans - or maybe just one fan among Marvel's editorial staff.

This is just the usual sins. Monologuing. Over-announcing the stuff we know, could infer, or can actually see drawn in the panels. Stiff writing like having Otto talk about re-evaluating his brutal ways on one page, and then threaten "by any means necessary" a few pages later. Leave nothing to the imagination eh Mr. Gage? Seems your only writing teacher was 60's Stan Lee.

Where we see Slott's influence is less on the dialogue (which I assume he left far too much of to Gage, while he was off launching Silver Surfer) and all on the fun romp through the tottering shambles that is the life of both Parker \*and\* Spidey.

In previous volumes, I've been pretty pissed at Slott for creating the house of cards of future pain and misery that Otto is building for Parker (who \*will\* eventually regain his body, we know). Somehow in this volume, I've been secretly enjoying just how much Otto is wrecking things - not deliberately, but more as a slow, inevitable consequence of his own attempts to be better than Parker ever was. Whether it's launching a new tech company, helping his Aunt May, building a relationship with Anna, or keeping crime at bay (and running a gang of henchmen in the process), I'm believing the "pride cometh before the fall" underpinnings

of this patchwork of good-that-goes-awry.

It's all the more a crime that Ramos and Slott have to suffer at the hands of the master of mediocre. In purer hands, this book would have been another masterwork in the Superior run.

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