THE SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN

Written by

Michael Ludwig

The Superior Spider-Man comics

INT. DOC OCK'S LAB, HALLWAY - NIGHT

GUARDS line the hallway. They're armed to the teeth and ready for anything. One guard stands away from the pack. He glances around, then pulls out his PHONE. He quickly types something out.

SPIDER-MAN/PETER PARKER (20s), a glass half full kind of guy, lowers down from the ceiling on a web. He watches the guard type.

SPIDER-MAN

That's the wrong form of your.

The guard jumps and spins around, but Spider-Man webs his mouth before he can call for help. He pulls the guard up to the ceiling and webs him in place.

SPIDER-MAN (CONT.) (CONT'D) It's a very common mistake actually. I have a masters degree and still do it from time to time. Don't beat yourself up over it.

He pats the guard's shoulder and climbs along the ceiling. He crawls until he's above two guards.

OTTO'S GUARD 1

I'm telling you, Spider-Man ain't shit! He got his ass beat by Sandman! How do you lose to sand?

OTTO'S GUARD 2

I don't know, Sandman seems pretty dangerous. Plus he can read your mind!

OTTO'S GUARD 1

No you dumbass! Spider-Man can't read your mind! He just has that sixth sense thing.

Spider-Man webs their backs and pulls them up, slamming their heads into each other. He webs them to the ceiling.

SPIDER-MAN

For the record, I can totally read minds. Right now you're thinking that you should tell somebody I'm here. And your favorite color is green.

Spider-Man lands gracefully and takes a glance around the halls. A guard holding a RIFLE stares blankly at him.

Spider-Man slowly claps.

SPIDER-MAN (CONT.) (CONT'D) Good job! This was a drill to make sure you guys are ready in case Spider-Man appeared.

The guard points his gun at Spider-Man.

SPIDER-MAN (CONT.) (CONT'D) Come on man, I already told you this is just a drill! You can go back to patrolling now.

One of the guards webbed on the ceiling falls with a loud thud. Spider-Man nervously chuckles.

Red lights. Alarms.

A giant robot stomps down the hall followed by smaller ones. The big one is made of a white metal and shines in a different way than the others. A few more guards rush to the scene.

SPIDER-MAN (CONT.) (CONT'D) Really? Giant robots? You're better than that, Doc! Make em shoot lasers or something at least!

He bounces off the walls and webs the robots. They're no match for him. The human guards are quickly disarmed and webbed to the walls.

Spider-Man kicks off the wall and slams the big robot into the ground. A small, black ball falls out of its torso. The metal begins to snap to the ball like magnets, taking the form of a lion.

SPIDER-MAN (CONT.) (CONT'D) I stand corrected.

The lion snarls and lunges at him.

INT. DOC OCK'S LAB, MAIN ROOM - CONTINUOUS

A quiet lab. DOC OCK/OTTO OCTAVIUS (late 30s), a beaten down mad scientist, clicks away at a computer. He stands next to a giant machine aiming towards the sky. Four metal arms attached to his back solder a protective plate onto the machine.

He listens to the chaos outside. He focuses further.

INT. DOC OCK'S LAB, HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

The lion has Spider-Man pinned and chomps at him. He holds its jaw open before flipping it into the wall.

Once again the metal reforms around the black ball, taking the shape of Spider-Man.

They punch, hitting each other's fists. They're evenly matched. Every move Spider-Man makes, the robot matches.

He goes for its legs with a kick. The machine rearranges itself to land on its feet. It responds with a strong hook to his ribs.

Spider-Man moves with the hit and goes for a spin kick to the head. The robot changes its head into a hand and catches his foot. It throws him against the wall.

Spider-Man gets up and rushes into a barrage of punches. The machine opens holes where he's punching to prevent damage. He keeps punching as fast as he can until the machine clamps down and catches his fist.

SPIDER-MAN

Gotcha.

A cracking noise can be heard inside the robot. It falls apart as Spider-Man reveals the black orb, crushed in his palm.

He looks down at the circuitry inside the orb and at the sparking pieces of metal at his feet, then at the doors at the end of the hall.

INT. DOC OCK'S LAB, MAIN ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The door creaks open. Spider-Man leans against the opening.

SPIDER-MAN

You know, my horoscope for today said I was supposed to have aches and pains. Funny how these things work out.

Doc Ock spins around, fire in his eyes.

DOC OCK

PARKERRRR!!!

Spider-Man webs at Doc Ock. His metal arms quickly defend him, then throw Spider-Man to the walls.

He runs along the walls and slingshots himself down at Doc Ock landing a hard kick on his chest.

DOC OCK

No more games!

He presses a button on the computer. A blue flash covers the room. Spider-Man's webshooters spark and smoke.

SPIDER-MAN

Seems a little desperate. Frying everything around you just to get rid of some webs?

DOC OCK

Please. I'm no amateur, Parker. My technology is far beyond a simple EMP, unlike your pathetic toys.

Doc Ock's metal arms rush at Spider-Man. He dodges the best he can but without webbing he can only move so much. He grabs one of the arms and deflects it into another. He fights into a corner until an arm slams him into the wall.

The arm crushes him. He screams and reaches out desperately for the computer across the room. Doc Ock steps between them.

SPIDER-MAN

Otto, please! This is insanity! If you open a hole in the Ozone layer you're going to wipe out all life on Earth!

DOC OCK

Insanity? No Peter. Insanity is what Osborn has done to me. What everyone has. Even you.

SPIDER-MAN

I know you've suffered, but we have to keep trying! You have a gift, Doc. It's not too late to do the right thing!

Doc Ock processes his words. The arm maintains its pressure.

SPIDER-MAN (CONT.) (CONT'D) Doing this will kill Norman, but think of how many other people will die too! Kids on the other side of the world who had no idea about you or Oscorp! Is that really what you want?!

He looks down, thinking about his words. The arms slowly releases Spider-Man. He gasps for air and slowly rises to his feet. Doc Ock turns towards the machine.

DOC OCK

Despite it all, you still try to save me. This world is a cruel place, Peter.

An arm slams down on Spider-Man's head. Ears ringing. Vision blurred. The strikes just keep coming as Doc Ock beats Spider-Man into the ground.

He looks down at Spider-Man. His suit is shredded, he's bleeding profusely and wheezing. He heads back to the computer.

SPIDER-MAN

You monster.

Doc Ock turns around. Spider-Man stands staring him down, eyes focused like a beast. He stares back, in a mix of admiration and disbelief.

DOC OCK

Then stop me.

An arm flies at Spider-Man. Time slows down. Right before it knocks his head off, he calmly raises his hands. On his back is the circuitry of the black orb.

Doc Ock watches in shock as the white metal covers his body. He put his hands up and deflects the arm.

SPIDER-MAN

EMP-proof and all, right?

The white metal begins to shimmer and change color to red and black. The spider symbol appears on his chest.

Doc Ock slowly begins to laugh. It grows from a small giggle to a booming roar.

DOC OCK

Bravo, Parker! I mean truly, well done.

SPIDER-MAN

Come on Otto! Just shut the machine down!

DOC OCK

SILENCE!!!

The impressed look on his face has shifted to twisted hate. He trembles with anger and breathes in short bursts.

DOC OCK (CONT'D)

Every time. You. It's always YOU! For years you have ruined me! Every night I dream of your death and pray to some merciless god that I'm the one to kill you. You think I'm scared of a new suit?

He takes off his goggles. The scars surrounding his eyes dance like shadows to the volcanic hatred in his eyes.

DOC OCK (CONT) (CONT'D)
I will rip you apart. Beat you into
a puddle of blood until your
pathetic remains beg for mercy! I
hope Gwen is watching when I rip
your heart out!

Spider-Man raises his fists.

The arms fly at him. He narrowly dodges. Sparks fly off his armor as they scrape by. He counter punches one of them, leaving a large dent in it. His rage flows through the echo.

SPIDER-MAN

You don't get to say her name.

He lunges at Ock. The arms hit him but do little to stop his rush. He lands some good punches on Ock before getting thrown away. The armor chips.

Another arm comes at him. He catches it. Small cracks appear on his forearm. He bends the metal with his fingers and rips the arm apart.

SPIDER-MAN (CONT.) (CONT'D)

Three to go.

Ock panics for a split second, then sends two more at him. He catches Spider-Man in a coil. The armor cracks more. Ock gets closer.

DOC OCK

Under that mask you're still the same boy from Queens who couldn't save a damn thing.

Spider-Man headbutts Ock hard in the nose. The break is audible. He reels back and loosens his grip enough to let Spider-Man slip out. As soon as his feet touch the floor an arm comes back to hit his head. Spider-Man blocks the hit but is pushed to his knees under the pressure.

Ock presses harder. Peter strains to keep the arm off him. He chuckles and heads to the computer while Peter is kept down.

The machine comes alive and fires a red beam into the sky.

SPIDER-MAN

No!

The world turns red. The sky seems to burn where the beam hits.

Spider-Man tries to move but another arm crashes down on him. Ock approaches with the last arm at the ready to finish him off.

DOC OCK

You lose, Parker.

Spider-Man pushes up. He begins to scream a battle cry and rises under the arms. He rolls forward, escaping the arms and dodging underneath the incoming third. He punches Ock and rushes for the computer.

He brings up the shutdown sequence but gets pulled back before he can shut it off.

DOC OCK (CONT) (CONT'D)

No! Not this time!

The arm constricts around Peter's throat.

SPIDER-MAN

Sorry Doc, but this is kind of life or death.

Spider-Man kicks Ock between the legs. He falls to the ground and Spider-Man leaps for the shutdown button.

He hits the button but the machine keeps going. He rips off one of the panels on the machine and starts tearing apart the insides. He exposes the core of the machine and is about to rip it out when an arm sucker punches him and sends him to the wall across the room. He gets up and goes for the machine but Doc Ock stands between them. All the arms fly at Peter.

Spider sense takes over. He dodges between the arms but is still too far. Spider-Man extends his hand like he's about to websling. The armor begins to flow up to his hand and extends out like a web to the machine. Peter is unarmored as an arm slams into him, but the armor web hits the machine and pulls it apart.

Explosion.

INT. DESTROYED LAB - MOMENTS LATER

Doc Ock groans and coughs as he struggles under the rubble. The sky has retuned to normal.

His hair has been burnt off and skin melted. The metal arms are fried. He looks like a living corpse.

From a different pile of rubble Spider-Man appears. His suit, now unarmored, is ripped. His body is bloody and covered in bruises. He grunts and groans as he stumbles around the lap.

Helicopters can be heard approaching.

Spider-Man coughs and struggles to hold himself together. He keeps walking around, searching in the rubble.

A helicopter lands. Two medics rush out. One of them tries to help Spider-Man to medical lift but he waves them away.

He finally reaches the pile of the machine's remains.

The rubble begins to shift as Spider-Man appears. He picks up Doc Ock and carries him out of the lab.

DOC OCK

Why...

SPIDER-MAN

Because I'm a kid from Queens who can't save a damn thing.

Peter carries Otto to the medics. One of them gasps and covers their mouth in shock. Spider-Man falls to his knees, still holding up Doc Ock.

SPIDER-MAN (CONT.) (CONT'D)

Please...

The medics hesitate, but eventually put him on a stretcher and get him in the helicopter.

INT. THE RAFT, OTTO'S CELL - MORNING, 6 MONTHS LATER

The Raft, a prison for the most dangerous supervillains New York has to offer. It sits in the middle of the water and resembles more of a fortress.

Doc Ock, lays in an iron lung with wires attached everywhere.

OTTO

Peter Parker...

INT. THE RAFT, HALLWAYS - MOMENTS LATER

GUARDS flood the halls, guns all drawn. They rush past supervillains in cells. SPIDER-SLAYER, MORBIUS, and THE LIZARD.

GUARD

They're all secure! That means it's Doctor Octopus!

INT. THE RAFT, OTTO'S CELL - MOMENTS LATER

The guards fill the room with all guns pointed at Otto. Two DOCTORS stand back.

GUARD

Who hit the alarm?

DOCTOR

I did. He...he just...

GUARD

What?! What happened?

DOCTOR

He hasn't shown any activity in weeks! He only has a few hours left and out of nowhere he started saying something.

He gasps and mumbles in a raspy voice. His speech drips with venom.