

1: The Spider's Thread - Wikipedia

A children's story about how Silk the Spider got lost from her family. Can she get back?

In , the new age of a cohesive Marvel Universe was still in its infancy, with characters such as the Fantastic Four, the Hulk, and Ant-Man running around. Spider-Man was a new type of hero, a teenager who was not a sidekick nor did he belong to a team of similar heroes who supported him. His personality and backstory won over many fans, prompting Marvel to give him his own series, "The Amazing Spider-Man," in . But over the past five decades, there have been many adaptations and reinterpretations of just how he got his powers and what motivated him to become a hero. Attending a demonstration on radiation, Peter is bitten by a glowing, radioactive spider that promptly dies. Feeling ill, Peter wanders out onto the street and narrowly avoids an oncoming car by making a superhuman leap into the air. On instinct, he lands on the side of a building and clings to it. Peter discovers he has gained the "proportionate speed, strength and agility of a spider. Fantastic later calls "bio-magnetism" an enhanced version of spiders clinging to surfaces by tiny claws and electro-static force. Peter quickly beats pro wrestler Crusher Hogan and wins the competition prize money. He suggests Peter keep the "mask angle" since a secret identity is "great showmanship. Later stories name the liquid cement "web-fluid" and reveal that it dissolves after about an hour. Minutes after his television debut as the "Amazing" Spider-Man, the web-spinner sees and ignores a thief that runs past him and escapes the building. For days or weeks , Spider-Man continues to impress studio audiences and play to packed rooms. But one night, Peter finds police at the Parker home. They explain his Uncle Ben surprised a burglar who then shot and killed him. The burglar got away but police have cornered him at the old Acme warehouse at the waterfront. Enraged, Peter dons his Spider-Man outfit and confronts the burglar directly. His guilt evolves into a sense of true altruism and responsibility, and he becomes the wisecracking "friendly neighborhood Spider-Man" rather than a cynical vigilante. In his next comic book appearance, "Amazing Spider-Man" 1, he displays a "spider-sense" that detects certain transmissions and warns him of incoming danger and nearby enemies. Along with his agility and reflexes, it makes him incredibly tough to hit in battle. He later even creates special "spider-tracer" homing devices that his spider-sense can detect and lock onto, helping him track down enemies. Suspicious of Spider-Man, publisher J. Jonah Jameson begins a smear campaign. A few issues later, Peter loses his glasses and never replaces them. Decades later, it is said that Peter never truly needed his glasses, which were a very weak prescription, and only wore them because Aunt May feared his constant studying would strain his eyes. The years go on. Gwen Stacy and Mary Jane Watson. A later story adds that Richard and Mary worked under Nick Fury and even encountered the mutant called Wolverine on one mission. The episode "The Origin of Spiderman" they forgot the hyphen revealed a story very similar to the classic tale by Lee and Ditko, with minor differences. Peter is already in college before he gets his powers. The radiation demonstration is now actually part of a class. After being bitten -- but before he avoids the oncoming car that prompts a superhuman leap -- Peter runs into a couple of thugs and displays his new powers. The next few days are spent creating web-shooters and a flashy costume. Moments after he arrives at a TV studio to audition, he sees and ignores a thief being pursued. That very night, he returns home and finds police outside his home where a burglar struck with deadly results. Another difference is that Peter does not first meet J. Jonah Jameson as an amateur photographer. Instead, he originally takes a job as a copyboy at the Daily Bugle in order to make ends meet, musing that he might become a star reporter. For reasons never explained, he switches to being a photographer. Despite his youth, Yu is gifted in science and is allowed to conduct his own private experiment with radioactive materials to help study for a test?!? While working, Yu is bitten by a spider irradiated by his experiments. He quickly realizes his newfound abilities and then creates a costume and web-shooters seemingly just for the heck of it. Time and time again, however, he dons his costume to deal with another strange menace, although his battles tend to end in more loss of life. Yu was not a wisecracking hero and was prone to periods of depression and cynical musings. The pilot features Peter Parker as a college student who works part-time as a photographer for the Daily Bugle. In the college lab, Peter is conducting his own experiment when a spider wanders in and is irradiated. Thus, like Yu, Peter is

indirectly responsible for his own powers when the spider then bites him. Minutes later, Peter discovers his wall-crawling ability when he narrowly dodges a car heading toward him at about 10 mph, driven by a hypnotized driver just stay with me. Realizing what happened, Peter experiments with his new powers, first at home and then on the side of a building in broad daylight. Later, Peter is at the Daily Bugle and claims he also saw the mysterious "Spider-Man" that people are talking about. Jonah demands proof and Peter promises to bring in photographs that he took of the strange figure. Peter then goes home, quickly sews a red and blue costume, and then invents a web-shooter with alarming speed, all in order to verify his earlier lies at the Bugle obviously, he never saw a single sitcom where kids learn that fibbing only leads to further complications. And what about the spider-sense? Rather than a buzzing or reflexive alarm to oncoming attacks and nearby foes, this show has Peter receive brief psychic visions revealing the presence and actions of nearby threats. After making his costume and weapon, Peter discovers a plot by a new age guru who is using hypnotism to hold the city for ransom hence the not-at-all dramatic near car collision earlier. Despite the fact that he was hired as a consultant, Stan Lee stated he did not care for this interpretation of the wall-crawler. Starring Shinji Todo, this show featured Takuya Yamashiro, a popular motorcycle racer in his 20s. Takuya meets the warrior Garia, last survivor of Planet Spider, a world destroyed by Prof. Monster and his evil Iron Cross army. Now, Takuya must continue the fight against the villain. Garia injects Takuya with his blood, granting him the super-powers of a man from Spider or a "Spider-Man," if you will. Takuya gains spider-powers and a psychic sense keyed to warn him about the actions of his enemies, but unfortunately is now also sensitive to cold temperatures just as some spiders are. As a superhero, Spidey who sometimes introduces himself as a "messenger from Hell" becomes quite popular among the public and inspires hit songs such as the "Spider-Man Boogie. When his heroic activities lead to repeated absences from motorcycle races, he decides to earn some extra cash by assisting his girlfriend Hitomi, a freelance photographer. The cartoon starred Ted Schwartz, and displayed Peter as a college student who has also been a superhero for more three years. Peter lives with his Aunt May, balancing classes with his activities as Spider-Man and his work as a freelance photographer for the Daily Bugle. The cartoon gave Spidey greater resources. Peter finally explained his origin to his teammates during the second season which was convenient, since that was also when they each had episodes explaining their own backstories. He explained that he was raised by Ben and May after the loss of his parents. Similar to previous TV adaptations, this version of Peter never wore glasses and seemed a little bit older when he got his powers. There were still a few differences from the comics. In this animated series, the first power Peter discovers is his spider-sense, which alerts him to avoid the famous oncoming car. This TV show also had Norman Osborn physically transform into a green-skinned creature when he became the villainous Green Goblin, whereas the comics always had him wearing a goblin mask and costume. This transformation idea would appear again nearly two decades later in the "Ultimate Spider-Man" comic books. Unlike previous cartoons, this show dealt with new standards of censorship. For one thing, Spider-Man was generally not allowed to directly punch an enemy. And when a version of the super-villain team the Sinister Six was scheduled to show up, the name had to be altered to the Insidious Six because the word "sinister" was too violent. For various reasons, that film never materialized. The machine was seen irradiating and mutating a spider during the opening theme song, the same spider that bit Peter. The machine was the creation of Dr. Farley Stillwell, who in the comics was responsible for creating the villain Scorpion. The machine was also used in experiments by Dr. Curt Connors, who in the comics experimented on himself and became the monstrous Lizard. After attending a demonstration of the neogenic recombinator and being bitten by the mutated spider, he has a bizarre waking dream of transforming into a giant spider with a human face. After the dream passes, Peter leaps out of the way of an oncoming car, blah blah. After realizing his powers, Peter immediately makes a costume and web-shooters to become a TV performer. After his debut, he gets an offer to become a professional wrestler and takes it. Weeks later, a thief robs the wrestling arena and Spidey dismisses a chance to stop him. You know the rest. There were several other differences from the comics. Here, the lesson "with great power comes great responsibility" is not one Peter comes up with himself but is something Ben told him. Another difference is that Peter credits his web-shooters to the spider. Most of the elements were familiar, but this story shows that the spider which bit Peter becomes radioactive thanks to the

experiments of Dr. Otto Octavius, the very same experiment that turns him into Doctor Octopus. Doc Ock blames the spider for the explosion that fuses his metal arm harness to his body and mind, and by extension holds Spider-Man responsible. When he later decides to become Spider-Man, this design flaw suddenly becomes an advantage. In this case, Peter is watching Dr. Octavius conduct a demonstration on how to control radiation.

2: The Many Origins of Spider-Man: A History | CBR

Obviously, this story is fictitious and plays on our fear of spiders and physical deformities. While there are a few nasty creatures that like to play Alien, there aren't any spiders that lay eggs in human fleshâ€”not that we know of anyway.

A spider made a net on the beams. As time went by, the spider was edified and received wisdom. All of a sudden, one day, the Buddha came to the temple. Inadvertently he saw the spider. After a thousand years, the Buddha came and asked the spider the same question. The spider gave the same answer also. The dew was glistening and translucent, spider liked it very much and she was happy looking at the drop of dew everyday. But after a few days, the wind rolled the dew away from her. The spider felt lost. Then the Buddha came again. One day, the emperor rewarded the champion of the country who was named Dew. All of the girls in the capital were attracted to Dew. But Spider believed that Dew will fall in love with her because of the Buddha. She knew this and was extremely disappointed. Then Prince Grass came hurriedly, and talked about his feeling of love for Spider. Just then, the Buddha came. He said to Spider: The Wind does this. And at last, the Wind will take it back. Dew belongs to Wind, not to you. But have you thought of Grass? He was the grass living in front of the temple. He was looking at you for three thousand years and loving you for three thousand years, but you never took any notice of him. Now, Spider, what do you think is the most precious in the world? She woke up, stopped Grass and gave Grass a deep hug. She said to the Buddha:

3: The Spider And The Fly By Mary Howitt, Famous Children Poem

Jimmy The Spider: A Children's Story. August 20, pm | by Stuart | Posted in Bugs and Crawly Things. A few days ago I discovered a spider in my back garden that had spun a web over my bicycle.

Norman also wants to reward Jefferson for his bravery for capturing some of The Inner Demons with the help of Spider-Man. Osborn gets a threat and leaves off. Peter goes out of consciousness due to the explosion as Miles loses his father. Peter blames himself for not being able to save everyone and tells Yuri that Martin Li is the leader of the Inner Demons. Miles then starts working at F. Mary Jane goes to meet Mr. Charles tells MJ about Dr. Charles falls and Spidey takes her from the place. Otto Octavius is able to make his work a success and makes his four arms controlled by his mind. Peter tells him that this is affecting his mind completely and is driving him crazy, Otto then tells Peter that he will stop. Peter tells Otto not to lose hope as they will find another way. Doc Ock leaves Spider-Man and warns him not to interfere with his plans and sends off the team to their places their assigned to. Spider-Man now fights off The Sinister Six. After defeating Electro and Vulture, he goes after Scorpion but Scorpion hits him with a poison making Spider-Man go a bit crazy and see a lot of illusions. After healing himself, he goes after Scorpion who is with Rhino and defeats them. That is why Otto and Martin were after Norman. Spidey then defeats Martin Li. Otto beats Spidey and abducts Norman along with the cure. Spidey is now injured and is taken to F. MJ gives him the advice of taking help from Peter, not Spidey. Peter builds a new suit and goes after Otto. Into The Spider-Verse releases new sneak peek Spidey saves Norman and goes after Otto to take the cure and save the lives of everyone. The two fight off and Peter learns that Otto knew his secret identity for a long time. May dies and lives are saved. Insomniac is able to give us a great Spider-Man and Peter Parker story.

4: The Nervous Spider - Short Kid Stories

Venemous spiders prompted the shutdown of four east London schools as officials relayed news of the infestations to parents, British media outlets reported. The schools, all within two miles of.

Stories[edit] Anansi tales are some of the best-known amongst the Ashanti people of Ghana. Anansi is able to turn the tables on his powerful oppressors by using his cunning and trickery, a model of behaviour utilised by slaves to gain the upper hand within the confines of the plantation power structure. As historian Lawrence W. One of the few studies that examine the role of Anansi folktales among the Ashanti of Ghana is R. For Africans in the diaspora, the Jamaican versions of these stories are the most well preserved, because Jamaica had the largest concentration of enslaved Asante in the Americas. All Anansi stories in Jamaica have a proverb at the end. Kwaku Anansi or simply as Kwaku interchangeably with Anansi. The target of revenge and destruction, even killing, will be anyone very close to the intended, such as loved ones and family members. This section does not cite any sources. Please help improve this section by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. January Learn how and when to remove this template message There is an Anansi story that explains the phenomenon of how his name became attached to the whole corpus of tales: Once there were no stories in the world. The Sky-God, Nyame , had them all. Anansi went to Nyame and asked how much they would cost to buy. Nyame set a high price: Anansi set about capturing these. First he went to where Python lived and debated out loud whether Python was really longer than the palm branch or not as his wife Aso says. Python overheard and, when Anansi explained the debate, agreed to lie along the palm branch. Because he cannot easily make himself completely straight a true impression of his actual length is difficult to obtain, so Python agreed to be tied to the branch. When he was completely tied, Anansi took him to Nyame. To catch the leopard, Anansi dug a deep hole in the ground. When the leopard fell in the hole Anansi offered to help him out with his webs. To catch the hornets, Anansi filled a calabash with water and poured some over a banana leaf he held over his head and some over the nest, calling out that it was raining. He suggested the hornets get into the empty calabash, and when they obliged, he quickly sealed the opening. Anansi handed his captives over to Nyame. Nyame rewarded him by making him the god of all stories. Variants of this story[edit] There are many variants of this tale, both recorded from oral sources and published. The summary above is of an illustrated book version Anansi Does the Impossible, an Ashanti tale retold by Verna Aardema and illustrated by Lisa Desimini. Haley , [10] which takes its title from a traditional Ashanti way of beginning such tales: "A story, a story; let it come, let it go" and finishes traditionally with: "If it be sweet, or if it be not sweet, take some elsewhere, and let some come back to me. An Akan Legend by Deborah M. Newton Chocolate [16] Anancy and the Sky God: Anansi was already very clever, but he decided to gather together all the wisdom he could find and keep it in a safe place. With all the wisdom sealed in a pot, he was still concerned that it was not safe enough, so he secretly took the pot to a tall thorny tree in the forest in some versions the silk cotton tree. His young son, Ntikuma, saw him go and followed him at some distance to see what he was doing. The pot was too big for Anansi to hold while he climbed the tree, so he tied it in front of him. Like this, the pot was in the way and Anansi kept slipping down, getting more and more frustrated and angry with each attempt. Ntikuma laughed when he saw what Anansi was doing. Anansi was so annoyed by his failed attempts and the realization that his child was right that he let the pot slip. It smashed and all the wisdom fell out. Just at this moment, a storm arrived and the rain washed the wisdom into the stream. It was taken out to sea and spread all around the world so that there is now a little of it in everyone. Though Anansi chased his son home through the rain, he was reconciled to the loss, for, he says: "These were derived from African-American folktales in the Southern United States , that had part of their origin in African folktales preserved in oral storytelling by African Americans. Elements of the African Anansi tale were combined by African-American storytellers with elements from Native American tales, such as the Cherokee story of the "Tar Wolf", [24] which had a similar theme, but often had a trickster rabbit as a protagonist. The Native American trickster rabbit appears to have resonated with African-American story-tellers and was adopted as a cognate of the Anansi character with which they were familiar. Mythology[

edit] In the Ashanti culture, Anansi is a mere folklore character, like Sasabonsam. Anansi is thus neither a deity nor worshiped as a god contrary to widespread erroneous information. Neither Ashanti oral tradition nor confirmed documentary evidence, list Anansi as a deity. For example, in some popular tales, transmitted through oral tradition, Anansi is temporarily bestowed with powers to bring rain or to have other duties performed for him. Nancy living in America among several other mythological characters. In the television adaptation , he is portrayed by Orlando Jones. A later Gaiman novel, *Anansi Boys* , follows the sons of Anansi as they discover each other and their heritage. In the science fiction novel *The Descent of Anansi* , by Larry Niven and Steven Barnes , the main characters manage to land a damaged spacecraft on Earth with the aid of a very strong cable made of crystalline iron and the "force" generated by tidal effects. The title is based on the image of the spacecraft hanging from the cable like a spider on a thread. *Clean Sweep*, a novel by Ilona Andrews , includes a reference to Anansi mythology when the characters purchase Anansi bombs that release a spider horde. He admits to being an African Trickster God, appears as an elderly human male who loves to eat, is frequently referred to as "spider", claims to have invented the World-wide-web, and makes frequent reference to using his magic web to travel. The character was first mentioned in *Justice League of America* No. According to Vixen, he is the West African trickster god and "owns all stories". Anansi appears in several forms, the most common form being a large, other-worldly spider with supernatural powers. He has been manipulating the powers of Vixen and Animal Man. He initially appears to be villainous, but then reveals after he is "defeated" that his machinations were in fact intended to teach Vixen a lesson and prepare her for some coming disaster. Anansi sold himself to Nyame the sky-god in return for wisdom, and passed his knowledge on to spiders. He is on a quest to gain more power after feeling unappreciated. After encountering elemental aspects the *Fantastic Four* , and a guardian of a sacred garden *Swarm* , he realizes the greatest power is friendship. Nancy appears several times as a traveling storyteller. He then promptly disappears. Anancy appears in *Fables* crossover *Cinderella: Fables Are Forever* issue 3, where he is shown as a trickier figure and is related to the spider. Music[edit] The English rock band *Skunk Anansie* , present took the name of the spider man of the West African folk tales, but with a slightly different spelling, and added "Skunk" to the name, in order to make the name nastier. The song describes Anansi as a spider and a man. It tells a story about Anansi being lazy yet clever, using flattery to trick some crows into shaking loose ripe mangoes from his mango tree for Anansi to enjoy without having to pick them himself. Television and film[edit] Prior to writing the book of the same name referenced above , filmmaker and author Gerald McDermott created the animated short *Anansi the Spider* in Narrated by Athmani Magoma, it briefly explains the function of folklore, introduces the Ashanti people , and retells two tales about Anansi and his six sons. Anansi is part of a lineage of heroes whose powers stem from an ancient amulet, which grants powers of illusion and the ability to adhere to any surface. He first appears in "Static in Africa", where Static visits Africa, and the two join forces to fight the villain Oseba the Leopard. He was voiced by Ossie Davis. These cartoon segments by Fred Garbers were introduced by Sonia Manzano , who plays Maria on that show. *Anancy the Spider* premiered in *Kwaku Ananse* is a short film by Akosua Adoma Owusu. Video games[edit] In the PC game *Shivers* , Anansi appears in a music box that tells the tale of the spider tricking a lizard and the gods. In *The Secret World* , Anansi is one of the eight divisions of the Orochi group, a global corporation whose units are frequently encountered in the game.

5: Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse -- Who are all these Spider-people? - CNET

Parents and Teachers: Join my Facebook page to download FREE reading comprehension passages daily (Starting August 13) in my new Reading Comprehension-A-Day program.. Perfect for morning work, integrated comprehension practice with science and social studies, and for use as asse.

Share Shares Sure, spiders are fascinating. In Western society alone, 55 percent of women and 18 percent of men are terrified of spiders. They show up in ancient mythology, urban legends and newspapers around the world. Take the Tsuchigumo for example, a nasty arachnid with a thing for human blood. It shows up on scrolls, in plays, and in works of art, and it was usually pitted against Raiko, a fabled samurai from the 10th and 11th centuries. There are several variations on the Tsuchigumo legend, but according to one tale, Raiko and his retainer were chasing a flying skull because what else are you going to do with a flying skull? Lust-struck, they followed her deeper into the cavern, and Raiko found himself caught in a web. Realizing it was a trap, the bodyguard snapped out of his spell and lashed out at the woman with his sword. She scurried away, leaving trails of white blood, and when the two samurai found her again, they discovered a giant spider writhing in pain. After the swordsmen chopped her head off, thousands of skulls poured out onto the floor, followed by spiders the size of children. In other tales, Tsuchigumo showed up as a servant boy or a monk, but each time, the samurai squashed itâ€”which is what should happen to all demon spiders. They covered telephone poles and scurried from wire to wire, forcing all rational people to run for cover. These tiny terrors were members of the species *Anelosimus eximus*, a rare kind of social spider which congregates in groups up to 50, strong, which is too many spiders for any one place. In early , Wagga Wagga, Australia was also the site of a spider invasion. When flooding forced 8, people from their homes, it also drove millions of wolf spiders into trees and fields surrounding the town, where they covered everything in sight with spider silk. The wind carries them away from the water and towards civilization, much to the dread of Australian arachnophobes. All three suffered from high fever and nausea before succumbing to paralysis and death. Despite their similar symptoms, the women were strangers and had nothing in common except for two creepy things. They each had high levels of toxicity in their bloodstreams, and all three had eaten at a local Olive Garden. But when they inspected the restroom, they discovered a little red spiderâ€”the two-striped *telamonia*â€”lurking in the toilet. Of course, this email was a hoax and had been circulating the Internet since , when a prankster decided to see how gullible people really were. However, all you Australians should look out for the infamous redback spider, a deadly arachnid that really does hide in restrooms. Better check the dunny, or you might get bitten in the land down under. Tania was just your average receptionist, working at an electrical firm in Bloemfontein, South Africa, and as she parked her car in the company lot that day, she was totally unaware of the Lovecraftian horror awaiting her inside. There was a five-inch Aurora house snake in the corner of her office, hanging limply from the web of a brown button spider. While Tania spent all day Tuesday trying to find someone brave enough to take on Shelob, the spider kept an eye eyes? It spun a web around the snake and began dragging it farther off the ground, all the while pigging out on its legless prey. Fortunately for Tania, she eventually found an arachnologist willing to capture the spider and dispose of the serpent. Hopefully, he also figured out how the snake got in there in the first place. Despite their long legs and frightening fangs, these spiders are mostly harmless â€”mostly. The tarantula has a devious trick up its sleeve, all eight of them, and in , an arachnophile from Leeds found that out the hard way. After three weeks of medication, not only was his eye still inflamed, but now he was overly sensitive to light. These bristles are a common tarantula defense mechanism, and every time the owner blinked, he pushed the hairs further and further into his eye. Fortunately, the doctor prescribed steroids to force the hairs out, and hopefully the man bought himself a pair of safety goggles. These spiders are spreading across Britain at an alarming rate, and are some of the most dangerous arachnids on the planetâ€”if the tabloids are to be believed. The panic started when a London man found fang marks on the back of his hand. Soon after, a footballer awoke to find a hole on his back, where something had bitten him in his sleep. A teenage girl wound up in a hospital, a decorator had to have surgery to save his leg, and an elderly grandfather found himself on the verge of deathâ€”all thanks to the false widow

scourge. Things got really crazy when the principal of Dean Academy closed and fumigated the school after discovering a spider infestation. The false widow population is definitely on the rise, probably thanks to climate change. As the earth warms up, the spiders multiply, and encounters are becoming more frequent. But are they really as dangerous as the tabloids say? According to scientists, false widows are pretty timid, and spider bites are less frequent than bee stings. Looks like mistaken identity and mass hysteria are the real culprits here, but you might want to keep a rolled up newspaper handy just in case. It sounds like an urban legend, but it really happened to a Londoner named Consi Taylor. According to Guinness World Records, the Brazilian wandering spider is the most venomous spider on the planet. In , a Brazilian wandering spider shut down an entire supermarket in Bexbach, Germany. An employee was unloading a shipment of bananas when he saw something way too big and hairy dart under a shelf. Concerned, the stocker searched for spider images online, trying to identify the mystery creature and found a match: The store was immediately evacuated, and after police and a spider expert arrived on the scene, 30 nervous people started carefully searching for the spider. They even turned off all the lights in hopes of drawing the night-loving spider out of its hiding place. Exterminators assumed it crawled into a hiding place and died, and the store reopened a few days later. Brazilian wandering spiders have shown up in stores in Manitoba , the Netherlands, and possibly Oklahoma. A few facts like dates and locations change from time to time, but the basic premise is always the same. In , a young English woman took a vacation to sunny Guatemala. Not content spending her days idling on the beach, this gutsy lady armed herself with a machete and set out into the jungle. As she hacked her way through the underbrush, she came across all kinds of creepy crawlies that would send most of us running in terror. She just brushed it away and kept exploring. When she finally flew home, she noticed the spider bite was red, and it was starting to itch like crazy. She tried creams, but the bite grew worse and worse, and soon her whole cheek was a swollen, pulsating cyst. Her nails ripped through the boil, splitting her cheek wide open, and hundreds of baby spiders spilled out, scurrying all over her face. Obviously, this story is fictitious and plays on our fear of spiders and physical deformities. A Kansas family recently discovered their home was infested with over 2, brown recluses, but no one was ever bitten. Having said that, when recluses do bite, the results can be pretty nasty. A year-old Dutch woman vacationing in Italy woke up one night with a stinging sensation in her ear. Her face began to swell, and her ear slowly turned black. In a similar horror story, a year-old Mexican girl was bitten on the leg by a brown recluse, and what started as two puncture wounds decayed into a two-inch lesion of rancid skin and pus, which doctors had to surgically remove. The police are called to investigate a mysterious death in a bad spot of town. A man was found slumped in an elevator, very much dead with two holes in his neck. Things take another bizarre turn when, one month later, a teenage girl is found dead in the same elevator with two identical puncture wounds in her throat, minus a liter or two of blood. What other explanation makes sense? The police are getting desperate so they stake out the apartment, posting a detective and a sergeant inside the elevator. The men ride the lift up and down for hours and hours, which turn into days and days. On the third day, the elevator suddenly shakes and comes to a halt. The detective shines his light toward the gap and has to fight back sheer terror as he sees a small, hairy head the size of a fist, covered in eight shiny eyes. Wounded, the creature rushes past the detective and escapes out the hatch, leaving one more corpse and a traumatized detective. Is the story true? Nolan Moore has been freaked out by spiders ever since he saw Arachnophobia as a kid.

6: Spider-Man PS4: A breakdown of the game's story - Page 3

North black widow spiders are also venomous, and dangerously so. The venom of a widow spider is 15 times more toxic than that of a rattlesnake.

August 20, 6: Over the next two weeks I am going to be taking a short break from blogging while I am on holiday in the UK. Jimmy lived with lots of other young spiders in a small garden, behind a small house in a small town. Just like all the other young spiders Jimmy had eight little spider legs and lots of little spider eyes too many to count but at a guess, about nine, the kind that follow you around the room where ever you go. However, unlike the other young spiders Jimmy was a little clumsy and he had great difficulty making spider webs. Jimmy tried his hardest but all of the webs he made looked strange and did not follow the regulation EU web spinning guide lines. This caused the other spiders to be very mean to Jimmy and make cruel jokes about him. This made Jimmy very sad but not in an emo way. The insects simply breathed a sigh of relief on the other hand. Jimmy decided that he would study as hard as he could to become a better web builder. He studied all through the day. He studied all through the night. He studied for many, many weeks while the other young spiders played. The other spiders gathered to watch as Jimmy started to make a new web using all the knowledge he had learned. They watched as Jimmy swung gracefully from branch to branch laying his web. When he had finished he stopped to catch his breath and marvel at his work. However, he suddenly realized he had cocooned himself in the centre of his own web by accident. The other young spiders roared with laughter. Even the insects laughed but they still kept their distance to be on the safe side. Several hours later when Jimmy finally pulled himself free he decided to move to the other side of the garden where he could not hear the mocking laughter of the other young spiders. Jimmy found an old rusty bicycle that looked as lonely and unwanted as he felt. Jimmy climbed up to its highest point where he spun one of his clumsy webs between the handle bars and went to sleep. Jimmy stayed there for the rest of the winter, all by himself on the old rusty bicycle in the old garden, behind the old house, in the old town. None of the other spiders bothered Jimmy. One morning at the start of summer Jimmy was woken up by a loud sound. When he opened all of his little spider eyes he saw a small human boy with red hair coming out of the small house into the small garden. The small boy walked over to the bicycle and started to look closely at the broken parts on it. Jimmy was very scared. Jimmy had heard stories about naughty little boys with psychological problems who like to destroy webs and pull the legs off spiders. It is not as boring as all the other webs which are all the same. In fact, I like it so much that I think you should stay. The little boy cleaned every part of the bicycle so it shined like new but he left Jimmy and his oddly shaped web where it was. Would you like that Mr Spider? Even though Jimmy did this with all eight of his little spider legs the small boy did not notice the tiny gesture and they went out for a bicycle ride. Every day the little boy rode his bicycle through the fields and meadows of Holland with Jimmy sitting on his oddly shaped web on the handle bars of the bicycle. Jimmy was able to catch lot and lots of insects and bugs during their adventures in the mid day sun. Jimmy and the little boy with red hair became best friends. Jimmy was very happy. A few months later the parents of the little boy with red hair became very concerned at his claims that his best friend was a spider. Eventually they sent him to a child psychologist. For many years the insects told the stories of El Arachniablo and the devil bicycle upon which he rode with his servant who has hair redder then the fires of hell. Jimmy went on to teach his aerodynamic web building skills to other spiders. Jimmy was very famous and happy.

7: The Myth of the Spider

The spiders had made non-sticky webs for use as trampolines for the baby-flies. They seemed to really love it and bounced on it all day long. Adrian could see the spiders giving them spider-back rides too.

He always hated this moment, when an insect trapped itself in his web. He knew he was expected to rush over and finish them off. A quick bite to paralyse them and then wrap them in silk. And of course he was hungry. Adrian sat in the centre of his web and hesitated. Meanwhile, the web shook more and more violently. He started to worry. He looked back and across to his neighbour, Biffer, the nasty spider that lived next to him in his web on a nearby branch. He was about three times the size of Adrian. He was always teasing him and calling him names. It was as if he was delighted that Adrian was uncomfortable. He stopped, puffed up his chest and looked around to make sure the other spiders all around were listening. That was of course the last thing Adrian wanted. He decided to go over and just do what nature intended. To get it over with. The sooner he did it, the sooner he could get some peace again. From the insect and from Biffer. He dashed off, his legs expertly dancing over the non-sticky parts of the web towards his prey. When he arrived at the far side of the web, he found there was a large fly thrashing around, trying to escape. It was only getting itself more stuck in the silk of the web. When it saw Adrian, its huge eyes bulged in panic. He was quite shocked, as none of his victims had ever spoken to him before. He thought he might be hearing things. You should be ashamed. You do have a funny accent, but perfectly understandable. It stared its big eyes at Adrian, awaiting his next move. Adrian stared back at the fly. It will be over very quickly, I promise. How do you mean? Then you suck it all out, like drinking from a straw. Surely you know that? I mean, you must do it all the time. You are not being very sensitive. The fly smiled a dreamy smile through the tears. She got trapped by the stickiness and I managed to get her out. We fell in love. He is such fun. When tries to fly he keeps bumping off the ground before he takes off. He makes us so proud. He was still watching from the edge of his web. Silly name I know. Then he looked back again. I can honest say I have never, ever held a conversation with my lunch before. After a while I started to understand what they were saying to one another. I used to keep well away, but one night I started to try to speak to them. They were laughing at me and kept inviting me over to their webs so that I could speak some more to them, but of course I never did. But I kept listening and speaking from a distance. I like you, you are nice. You have a wife, a little kid. I feel guilty eating you. No, sorry, drinking you. But on the other hand, I am a spider. Spiders have to eat. I get hungry and in spite of how I like you personally, you look delicious. Use that big brain of yours. What should I do? What would you do in my situation? Brainfly looked away, torn. He looked back at Adrian. And what and where is this Splyderville? Not all spiders in the world eat flies or insects, in fact. The clever young spiders of Splyderville also go. Instead you would be eating the most delicious plant-buds all day long as you live in harmony and fun with us flies. After leaving his home in Mexico, he travelled the world as a performing acrobat in a circus, met Lucy, his wife, had forty seven children and ended up staying here. When the other spiders around noticed that none of his family ever ate flies or insects, they were curious. He taught them how to survive without needing to trap and eat insects. The flies moved in a short time later, as they felt so safe there. Before long a whole community was established. I only moved in with Margie and Damian last month when I heard about it. You can try it before you abdicate. And I never said I would do this so-called abdicate thingy. All the spiders are allowed try out the food before they move in. To find out if they will like it or not in advance. I can go there and bring back some food for you. I can even call out the abdication team and we can take you out of here forever. Adrian sat and thought to himself. This was getting more ridiculous by the minute. A place where spiders and flies live in harmony together? It really must be a made-up place just so this devious fly can escape his web. Here was a brainy fly, the brainiest he had ever met, that was for sure. He could talk, he was friendly. He had a wife. He was claiming that there existed a place where spiders and flies could live together? Without the spiders eating them? But what if such a place really did exist? A tiny spark of hope lit up inside him. He realised he wanted to believe it could be true. He could eat or drink Brainfly for a quick snack and that would be that. Or, he could give him a chance. If he came back, then it might be a solution to his problem.

If not, then what had he lost? Finally Adrian turned back to Brainfly, who was waiting with a strained look of patience on his face. Cross your wings and hope to die. Adrian got busy untangling Brainfly from the silk. It was hard work, as he was more used to wrapping up his victims in silk rather than releasing them. It was all he could do to stop himself biting his venom into the now calm insect in his web. We have our reputation to think of. The punishment is very hard! He buzzed his wings and hovered in the air above Adrian.

8: Chicago Tribune - We are currently unavailable in your region

"*The Spider's Thread*" (蜘蛛の糸, *Kumo no Ito*) is a short story by Ryūnosuke Akutagawa, first published in the children's magazine *Akai Tori*.

9: A Boy, a Mouse, and a Spider: The Story of E.B. White Book Review

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