



"HELP WANTED"

A Short by
Jay Everington

Based on *Spider-Man*,
created by Stan Lee and Steve Ditko

Short #4
Originally Released: October 31st, 2007

Spider-Man and all related names are registered trademarks of Marvel Comics. This work of fiction was written for non-profit purposes. No copyright infringement is intended.

© 2007 Monster Zero Productions.

All Rights Reserved.

www.MZP-TV.co.uk

mzP

Monster Zero Productions

"HELP WANTED"

FADE IN:

EXT. QUEENS - DANTE'S - AFTERNOON

Establishing shot of the diner.

FADE TO:

INT. DANTE'S

A few CUSTOMERS are eating, but the place isn't all that busy. Standing by the register is MARY JANE. She looks around the restaurant nervously. In her hands is a sheet of paper.

A WAITRESS approaches. She looks to be in her 40's.

WAITRESS

Can I help you?

Mary Jane hands her the paper.

MARY JANE

Oh, I picked up this application yesterday.

The waitress gives it a once over.

WAITRESS

Looks good to me.

(then)

Hey, Dante! Got another one!

Mary Jane jumps as she shouts.

DANTE (O.S.)

This one got potential?!

The waitress rolls her eyes.

WAITRESS

It's a hostess job! You're not gonna get a Nobel Prize winner!

After a beat DANTE ZANELLA emerges from the back. He's a towering man, with a certain presence about him.

DANTE

Lemme see.

He takes the resume and begins scanning it, looking up every once in a while at Mary Jane, who looks uncertain.

DANTE
Midtown, yadda, yadda. Sixteen,
Watson. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

He tears the application in half. Mary Jane looks on sheepishly. Dante folds his arms and looks over her.

DANTE
So, what's your story, honey?

MARY JANE
My... uh... it was on the
application.

DANTE
No, no, no. Your real story. I
don't care what your social
security number is, or if you agree
to submit to a drug test. You know
why? Because if you show up to work
for me high, you're ass is fired.

Mary Jane blinks.

MARY JANE
I don't use...

DANTE
Of course you don't.
(beat)
You're a student?

MARY JANE
Yeah.

DANTE
High school, eh? You sure you can
handle a job on the side?

MARY JANE
I know I can.

DANTE
No you don't. Says here you've
never even had a job before.

Mary Jane searches for a response.

MARY JANE
I haven't. I just think...

DANTE

Nobody pays you to think, darling.
People who think don't take jobs at
local diners.

WAITRESS (O.S.)

She's just a kid, Dante!

DANTE

Keep it up and I'll be giving her
your job!

WAITRESS (O.S.)

Just you try it!

MARY JANE

I'm just looking to make some extra
cash, you know? Nothing full-time.

DANTE

Your folks alright with this?

Mary Jane looks away.

MARY JANE

I talked to my dad about it.

DANTE

Lemme guess, daddy doesn't know
you're here, does he?

No response from Mary Jane.

DANTE

I see where this is going...

MARY JANE

No, wait! He doesn't know, but I'll
tell him. If he knows I have a job,
he's not going to make me quit.

DANTE

You sure about that? How do I know
he won't show up on the busiest
night of the week and take my
hostess? I ain't in the habit of
hiring scabs.

MARY JANE

It won't be like that, I promise!

DANTE

I don't want promises, girly, I want work. Hard, back-breaking work. And I want someone who's gonna show up on time. All the time. No excuses.

MARY JANE

I'll be here.

Dante balls up the application, tossing it in the trash. He begins walking away. Mary Jane frowns, hanging her head low.

DANTE

Here...

She looks up, and is hit in the face by an APRON.

DANTE

Welcome to paradise.

Mary Jane looks down at the apron, which has the Dante's logo screenprinted on it. She smiles.

MARY JANE

I got the job?

DANTE

Looks that way, now get to work.

MARY JANE

What? Now?!

DANTE

Yes, now. That a problem?

She hesitates.

MARY JANE

I just... have this project thing, and I figured...

DANTE

You said you could handle it. Look, if there's a problem, hand that apron back in and I'll...

MARY JANE

No! No, there's no problem!

Dante eyes her carefully.

DANTE

Good.

He walks back toward the back of the restaurant.

FADE TO:

INT. DANTE'S - LATER

We see through the windows that night has fallen. Mary Jane carefully straightens a few menus and removes her apron. She walks to a booth and takes a seat, lying her head down.

WAITRESS (O.S.)

Tired already?

MARY JANE

I wasn't expecting to work tonight.

WAITRESS

You'll get used to it, don't worry.

Dante storms out from the back, mop in hand. He walks over to the table and presents Mary Jane with the mop.

DANTE

Floor is filthy.

Mary Jane sits up slowly, taking the mop. Dante walks away as she stands and begins to mop.

MARY JANE

How long have been working here?

WAITRESS

Since the beginning.

MARY JANE

Wow. How did you put up with him for that long?

WAITRESS

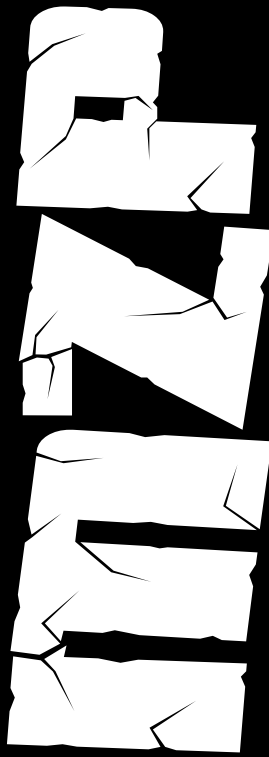
I married him.

She walks away with a smile, leaving a baffled Mary Jane.

She continues to mop as we:

FADE OUT.

THE END



spider-man
GIFTS & CURSES

Based on Spider-Man
Created by Stan Lee & Steve Ditko

Developed for MZP by
Jay Everington

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
Jay Everington

CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
J.B. Gibson

SUPERVISING PRODUCER
Shannon Hardy

SUPERVISING PRODUCER
Robert Kenneth

SUPERVISING PRODUCER
Bobby Torres

STAFF WRITER
Jamel Baker

STAFF WRITER
Harrison Cartwright

STAFF WRITER
Rich Gentile

CREATIVE CONSULTANT
Tom East

CREATIVE CONSULTANT
Colby Pryor

STAFF EDITOR
Britney Gray

MEDIA PRODUCER
Mike Weiss

BETA-READERS
Sam Anderson
Paul Francis
Aaron Percival

SPECIAL THANKS
Lee A. Chrimes
Joshua Maley
Kyle West
Waylon Wyche