



Hey. Hey! Yeah, I'm talking to you. As far as I know, nothing exists outside of us two disembodied, comic-book recapping voices. I think we can agree things have gotten out of control here, yes?

Hmmm, I'm not sure what you mean? Spider-Man just saved the world from destruction, and now he's back to New York City and it's biz-as-yooge! J. Jonah Jameson is doing his best to help, but ah-hoo-ho-hoho man! It's HARD to teach an old dog new tricks, you know what I'm saying? He's still all, "you're a menace, go to the hospital to menace Sandman, who's also a menace--"

Stop. Just stop. Who is this cavalier performance for?

Then it's a thwippity-thwip away to the beach! See, Sandman's consciousness lives in one grain of sand--BLAM! And lately, he's been losing control of the rest of his body--POW! And also having these flashes where he experiences life in the far distant future, after the end of the Earth and everything he knows--CHOOM! And a strange voice has been telling him to just let go... Zing... And then Spider-Man kept Sandman company while...swish...he drifted away on the wind for the last time...

Look, you're right. I'm trying to keep up appearances, but...what did that other voice mean when it said "it's my turn"? I'm worried...and just...sad.

CRACKED HOURGLASS - PART TWO

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