

A single glistening strand of a spider's web bisects the BLACK FRAME. As CLASSICAL MUSIC caresses our ears, we see the strand criss-crossing others in a perfect orb web. A spider – black with an intricate pattern – drops INTO FRAME. It gracefully gathers and weaves the strands together.... Those words begin the screenplay for the first draft of Spider-Man, the adaptation of one of comics' most popular characters. It is not, however, the script filmed by Sam Raimi with Tobey Maguire in the dual role of Peter Parker and Spider-Man that launched the movie franchise back in 2002 (and which has just been rebooted). In fact, the actor was all of 10 years old when screenwriters Ted Newsom and John Brancato first presented this particular script to former Marvel head honcho, Stan Lee. The point being made is that the gestation period for the first Spider-Man movie was no less than seventeen

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