

MARVEL
PSR 458

CLAREMONT
DAVIS
FARMER

UNCANNY X-MEN



DIRECT EDITION



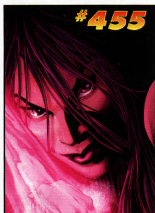
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CHANGE IS COMING. A NEW BREED OF MAN HAS EMERGED. THEY ARE THE CHILDREN OF THE ATOM, HOMO SUPERIOR, INDIVIDUALS GIFTED WITH STRANGE AND FANTASTIC ABILITIES SIMPLY BY VIRTUE OF THEIR GENETIC MAKEUP.

PREVIOUSLY

"WORLD'S END"



Months ago, PSYLOCKE (BETSY BRADDOCK), one of the mainstays of the X-MEN, was killed in action. Then, seemingly out of nowhere, she mysteriously reappears with no memories beyond the moment of her death and no clue as to the reason or manner of her resurrection. Local authorities turn her over to the X-Men.

At the same time, WOLVERINE leaves on a personal mission to Western Canada, accompanied (apparently without his knowledge) by X-23. Responding to a distress beacon from Logan's aircraft, the X-Men hurry to his aid—only to find the plane wrecked and X-23 the sole survivor. She lashes out, responding to the presence of the beings truly responsible—who are now poised to ambush them all.



The X-Men are attacked by the evolved Saurians who call themselves the HAU'KA. Not only are they on a technological par with human society, but some of them have super-powers, as well. One of the Saurians (KAIDAN) uses telepathy to suborn MARVEL GIRL'S mind so that she believes she too is a Hau'ka, turning her against the X-Men. With her aid, STORM, NIGHTCRAWLER, and BISHOP are captured. X-23, once again, escapes. She joins forces with Psylocke and together they set out to rescue their companions!



The captured X-Men are transported to the Hau'ka City. Following their trail, Psylocke and X-23 are attacked by unknown assailants. Kaidan presents a plan to the Ruling Council to use Rachel's powers to amplify and sustain Storm's powers, thereby creating a global hyper-storm that will have the same devastating effect on human civilization that the Nemesis Meteor did on the Hau'ka's saurian ancestors. Bishop and Nightcrawler manage to escape their captors, ultimately to discover that Psylocke is not only safe, but she's encountered unexpected allies as well.

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⊗ THE SAVAGE LAND

PSYLOCKE:

ACCORDING TO WHAT THE X-MEN TOLD ME, THIS IS ESSENTIALLY WHAT HAPPENED THE LAST TIME THEY ENCOUNTERED THE SAVAGE LAND MUTATES.

BRAINCHILD, AS USUAL, SOUGHT TO CONQUER THE REALM.

SOMEHOW, HE ESTABLISHED A MEASURE OF MIND-CONTROL OVER THE X-MEN...

...AND SET THEM AGAINST ONE ANOTHER.

WORST AFFECTED WAS STORM, WHOM HE REGRESSED TO AN ANCESTRAL INCARNATION WHO WAS LITTLE MORE THAN A PRIMAL SLAYER.

AS USUAL, THOUGH, THE X-MEN FOUND A WAY TO WIN. THEY THOUGHT THAT WAS THE END OF HIM.

THEY REALLY SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER.

THE REST OF YOU TAKE A GIANT-STEP BACK.

BRAINCHILD IS MINE!

STAN LEE PROUDLY PRESENTS THE UNCANNY X-MEN!

WORLD'S END

PART 4 OF 5

THE ENEMY OF MY ENEMY

BY CHRIS CLAREMONT & ALAN DAVIS

BISHOP--
STOP!

PRECISELY.
WHAT KA-ZAR
SAID.

YOU GOT
HIM UNDER
YOUR THUMB,
BRANCHILD.
LIKE YOU
TRIED WITH
US?

HEAVEN
FORFEND,
DEAR BOY,
PERISH THE
THOUGHT.

THIS TIME,
X-MEN, MY
ASSOCIATES AND
I TRULY ARE
ON THE SIDE OF
THE ANGELS.

LUCAS--ANY
OTHER TIME, WHERE
THIS SMARTY LITTLE
TOERAG IS CONCERNED,
I'M HAPPILY ON
YOUR SIDE.

BUT THIS ONCE--
I'M AFRAID WE HAVE
TO GIVE HIM THE
BENEFIT OF THE
DOUBT.

MARK
FARMER
INKER

DEAN
WHITE
COLORS

VC'S RUS
WOOTON
LETTERS

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DAN
BUCKLEY
PUBLISHER

CONVINCE US.

AH, BUT THERE'S THE RUB--WOULD YOU BELIEVE A WORD I SAY?

MR. NIGHTCRAWLER, SIR, THIS'S MAYBE KIND'A OUR FAULT.

WE DIDN'T QUITE TELL YOU EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED.

AFTER ALL YOU DID FOR US, WE WERE... ASHAMED.

BUT WE DIDN'T HAVE THE WEAPONS OR POWERS TO FIGHT THESE HAU'KA AND THEIR MUTANT FIGHTERS... WE WERE BEING SLAUGHTERED.

SO--WHAT, M'KAI--YOU CUT A DEAL WITH THIS DEVIL?

C'REL, THEIR LEADER, PROVED HERSELF EVER THE STATESWOMAN, BY PUTTING ASIDE PAST ANIMOSITIES AND TURNING TO ME FOR HELP.

DON'T WORRY. MY MOTIVES ARE HARDLY AL TRUISTIC. BY THESE ACTIONS, WE EARN A FULL PARDON FOR ALL PAST OFFENSES.

MORE TO THE POINT, SINCE THE HAU'KA POLICY IS TO EXTERMINATE ALL POTENTIAL RIVALS, WE'RE ALSO FIGHTING FOR OUR LIVES.

I KNOW THIS IS A HARD THING TO SWALLOW, X-MEN--

BY THE FIRST EGG--

--LOOK--UP IN THE SKY!

--ESPECIALLY GIVEN OUR HISTORY WITH THESE CREEPS.

BUT SOMETIMES, OUT OF NECESSITY, FOR THE GOOD OF ALL, THE ENEMY OF OUR ENEMY BECOMES OUR FRIEND.

FAMOUS LAST WORDS, KA-ZAR, I EXPECTED--



BLACKWING
SQUADRON FROM
COMMAND, INITIATE
SEARCH AND
DESTROY SWEEP.
GRID REFERENCES
ALPHA THREE
THROUGH NINE.

FUGITIVE TARGETS
INCLUDE TWO MALE
HOMINID MAMMALS,
AND FOUR SAURIDS,
THREE MALE, ONE
FEMALE.

SCUTTLEBUTT
SAYS THEY TOOK
DOWN AN ENTIRE
HUNTING PARTY.

FIRST SQUAD
PRIME YOUR
WEAPONS, LOCK
AND LOAD.

THIS IS
MY FIRST
CLUTCH.

GUYS, HAVE
YOU SEEN MORE
PERFECT
EGGS?

WE'LL ESTABLISH
THE PRIMARY ELL-
ZEE AT THE TREE-
LINE.

THE FUGITIVES ARE
ON FOOT, THEY HAVEN'T
MUCH OF A HEAD START,
THEY CAN'T BE FAR.

EVEN WITH TRACKERS,
FINDING THEM IN THAT
JUNGLE WON'T BE
EASY.



SAY THE
WORD, WE
SEARCH-EARTH
THE JUNGLE—
GWUH!

PILOT,
WHAT'S
WRONG?!

THE WORLD'S
SPINNING!

I'M LOSING
THE HORIZON,
I CAN'T SEE
STRAIGHT!

AND
NEITHER
CAN MY
PTEROSAUR

THE WHOLE
SQUADRON'S
GONE CRAZY!

**WE'RE
GOIN'
DOWN!**

TROOPERS—
BAIL OUT!

SPLENDID
WORK,
VERTIGO.

YOU'VE
TOTALLY
NEUTRALIZED
THEIR AIR
POWER.

THE BRIEFING
SAID THE FUGITIVES
HAD NO WEAPONS,
NO POWERS!

NEWS FLASH,
TROOPER—OUR
INTEL WAS
BOGUS!

FORM BY
SQUADS, YOU
MUD-SLINGERS—
ESTABLISH A COMBAT
PERIMETER—ON
THE DOUBLE!

LOOKS
LIKE WE GOT
OURSELVES A
REAL RAPTOR-
FIGHT!

NOW'S
OUR CHANCE,
PEOPLE--

--BEFORE
THEY CAN
REGROUP!

WAY
TO GO,
ZABU!

TEACH THESE
LIZARDS SOME
RESPECT FOR A
SABRE-TOOTH
TIGER!

AS BATTLE
PLANS GO,
THIS WASN'T
HALF-BAD.

RIGHT BEHIND
KA-ZAR CAME
LUPO AND HIS
PACK OF DIRE
WOLVES.

AT THE SAME TIME,
FROM THE OPPOSITE
FLANK, THE HAU'KA
WERE HIT BY BLIND
GAZA, FOUR-ARMED
BARBARUS AND ONE
OF C'REL'S SAURUS.

THE IDEA WAS TO MAKE
THE FIGHT AS CHAOTIC
AS POSSIBLE, SO THAT
THE SOLDIERS COULDN'T
SHOOT WITHOUT RISK
OF HITTING THEIR OWN.

THEY MAY HAVE US
OUTNUMBERED AND
OUTGUNNED, BUT THESE
TACTICS, PLUS OUR
POWERS, MADE THINGS
PRETTY MUCH EVEN.

MAGNIFICENT.

REST EASY,
X-MEN. MY MUTATES
HAVE THE BATTLE
WELL IN HAND.

AND BESIDES,
LACKING YOUR
POWERS, THERE'S
LITTLE YOU CAN
DO TO HELP.

I DON'T KNOW
WHICH IS WORSE.
WHAT HE
ACTUALLY
SAYS.

...OR THAT
HORRIBLY
AFFECTED
ENGLISH
ACCENT.

WHATEVER.

WATCHING
THE BATTLE?

YUP.

WHAT
DO YOU
SEE?

MAKES YOU
WONDER WHY
NOBODY BACK
HOME'S
NOTICED.

WOULD THEY
WILLINGLY
SACRIFICE THEIR
PEOPLE JUST TO
DRAW US INTO THE
OPEN AND ASSESS
OUR NUMBERS AND
CAPABILITIES?

WHAT, YOU
THINK THESE
TROOPS ARE
JUST SOME
KIND OF
STALKING
HORSE?

AREN'T WE
WINNING?

KICKING MAJOR
HAUK'KA BUTT, MY
FRIEND, AND RIGHT
ON THEIR DOOR-
STEP.

NOTHING
I LIKE.

I
WOULD.

WHICH MEANS
WE BETTER FIGURE
OUT WHAT TO DO
WHEN THEY DECIDE
TO DROP THE
HAMMER.

YOU
HAVE AN
IDEA?

WORKIN'
ON IT.

YOU KIDS
MIND THOSE
TERROR-
BIRDS.

WHEN IT
COMES TIME
TO RUN, WE'RE
GONNA HAVE
TO MOVE
FAST.

BUT, MR.
BISHOP--
THEY
BITE!



SO BITE YEM BACK.

THOUGHT YOU'D BE IN THE THICK OF THINGS, BETSY.

WASN'T ASKED, DIDN'T VOLUNTEER.

SOMETHING I CAN DO FOR YOU, LUCAS?

YES. WHEN RACHEL WENT DINO...

...SHE USED HER TELEPATHY TO LOCK US OUT FROM OUR POWERS.

I'M THINKING IF YOU STILL HAVE YOUR PSYCHIC KNIFE, YOU COULD USE IT TO SHATTER THOSE INHIBITORS AND RESTORE US FULL ACCESS.



I HAVE NO TELEPATHY ANYMORE, ONLY TELEKINESIS.

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THIS WILL WORK, THAT I HAVE SUFFICIENT CONTROL TO DO WHAT YOU ASK AND NOT FRY YOUR BRAIN?

WE'RE DESPERATE?

AT LEAST YOU'RE HONEST, KURT.

AND WE TRUST YOU. HOW SWEET.



BISHOP FIRST. THEN HE'S BUILT STRONGER.

AND NO OFFENSE, I GET TO SAVE THE BEST FOR LAST.

NOW, I'M REALLY JEALOUS.

THE BANTER COVERS MY OWN VERY REAL ANXIETY.

IN THEORY, THIS SHOULD WORK.

BUT WITHOUT TELEPATHY TO GAUGE THE BLOW, WITH ONLY INSTINCT TO GUIDE ME, I COULD EASILY DO FAR MORE HARM THAN GOOD.

MEANWHILE...

INCOMING!

WAAHNO!

I AM
RAINA!

THOSE
WHO WOULD
THREATEN
THE HAU'KA
MUST FIRST
DEAL WITH
ME!

NOTHING LIKE
THE SENSATION
OF A WHITE-HOT
POKER BEING
SHOVED THROUGH
YOUR HEAD--!

I'M SORRY
I'VE NO MEANS
TO TAKE AWAY
THE PAIN.

THANK GOD
I'VE GOT
ASPIRIN IN MY
BELT-PACK.

THAT'S FOR MY
BENEFIT. TO MAKE
ME FEEL BETTER.

AND SUDDENLY,
I FEEL A GREAT
KNOT BASE
INSIDE MY CHEST.

THERE'S NO MORE
SUSPICION. HE AND
NIGHTCRAWLER BOTH
ARE TREATING ME AS
A COMRADE, A
FRIEND--

--A FELLOW
X-MAN.

?

I MAY HAVE
DIED.

I STILL DON'T
KNOW WHY OR
HOW I WAS
RESURRECTED.

BUT THINGS
DON'T SEEM
QUITE SO
TERRIBLE
ANYMORE.

IN THE WAYS THAT
TRULY MATTER,
I'VE JUST BEEN
WELCOMED
HOME.

SOUNDS LIKE
THE BATTLE'S
PICKED UP IN
INTENSITY.

PROBABLY IN
TIME TO DIE ALL
OVER AGAIN.

WAIT--
WHERE'S
X-23?

WHERE ARE
YOU GOING,
PSYLOCKE?

TO KEEP
THAT FOOLISH
CHILD OUT OF
TROUBLE.

BELIEVE ME,
SHE CAN TAKE
CARE OF
HERSELF.

I'LL COVER
HER BACK, YOUR
PRIORITY IS
KURT.

WHEN DID
HE BECOME
BOSS?

HE'S SIMPLY
GROWING INTO
HIS POTENTIAL,
AS ARE WE
ALL.

I'M
IMPRESSED.

YOUR TURN,
ELF.

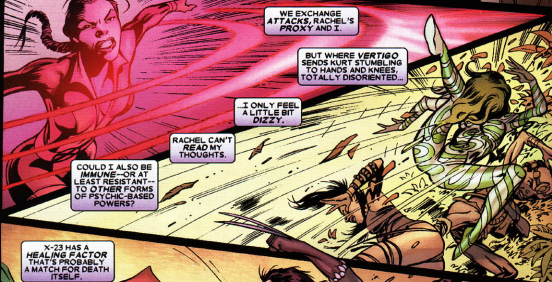
ASPIRIN
WON'T HELP,
WILL IT?

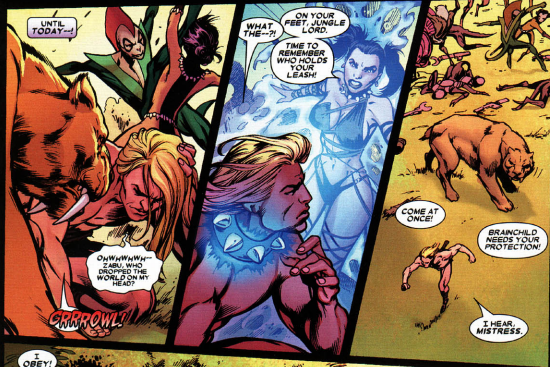
I AM TRULY
SORRY, MY
FRIEND.

LET'S
DO IT,
THEN.

BETSY--I
WONDER WHY
WE HAVEN'T
HEARD YET FROM
RACHEL?

I HIT HER
PRETTY
HARD.







GANGWAY!

COMIN' THROUGH!

I DON'T CARE WHAT X-23 WAS TRAINED FOR--

--I'M NOT ALLOWING A KID TO KILL.



BISHOP'S DOWN!

SHOCK



BLESS YOU, R'CHEL!

I GOT GAZA!

AND BARBARUS, TOO.

THE MUTATES ARE ON THE ROPES.

HOPEFULLY, I CAN ADD THIS LITTLE RAPTOR TO THE PILE.

I'VE NEVER FACED THE LIKE!





DOESN'T THIS CHILD KNOW WHEN SHE'S BEATEN?

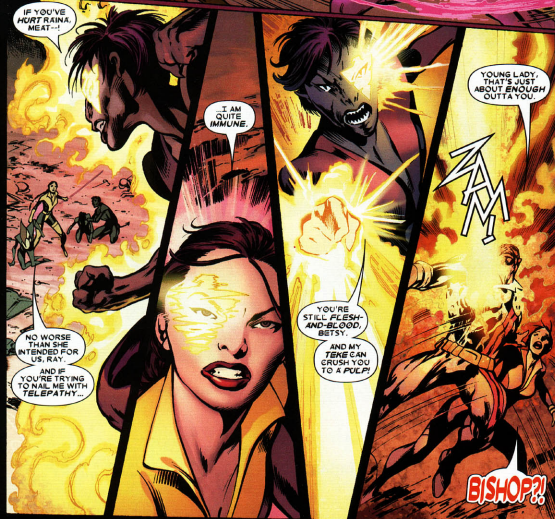
NO MATTER HOW HARD I HIT HER, SHE STILL BOUNCES BACK!

WE X-MEN ARE STUBBORN LIKE THAT.

OCCASIONALLY, WE MAY LOSE--

--BUT WE NEVER QUIT!

YAGH!!



IF YOU'VE HURT RAINA, MEAT--!!

I AM QUITE IMMUNE.

YOUNG LADY, THAT'S JUST ABOUT ENOUGH OUTTA YOU.

ZAM!

NO WORSE THAN SHE INTENDED FOR US, RAY. AND IF YOU'RE TRYING TO NAIL ME WITH TELEPATHY...

YOU'RE STILL FLESH-AND-BLOOD, BETSY. AND MY TEKE CAN CRUSH YOU TO A PULP!

BISHOP?!

FORGET
YOUR TEAM
PLAYBOOK,
RACHEL--

--OR DID YOU
FIGURE I WAS
STILL MINUS MY
POWERS?

WELL,
HERE'S YOUR
ANSWER!

THAT SHOT
YOU GAVE ME
PLUS THIS ONE
SUPER-CHARGED
MY RESERVES TO
CAPACITY.

YOU'RE GREAT
AT DISHING OUT
PUNISHMENT,
GIRL.

LESSEE
HOW WELL
YOU TAKE
IT!

NIGHTCRAWLER,
STAND DOWN!

THE
HAWK'NA
TAKE CARE OF
THEIR OWN.

KURT,
PORT
AFTER
HER!

SHE'S
UNCONSCIOUS!
FALL FROM
THIS HEIGHT--!

BISHOP,
WE COULD
HAVE--!

NO,
PSYLOCKE,
WE COULDN'T.

IT WOULD
HAVE TAKEN KURT
TWO STAGES TO
REACH HER, AND A
FEW SECONDS TO
ORIENT HIMSELF
ONCE HE
ARRIVED.

PLENTY OF
TIME FOR THAT
FLIER TO NAIL
HIM, OR RAY
HERSELF, IF
SHE WAS
FAKING.



MASANO!

BY WHAT
RIGHT DO YOU
ENDANGER OUR
NEW WEAPONS
PLATFORM?

IT WAS A
HUNT, KAIDAN.
WE HAD THINGS
UNDER
CONTROL.

BUT THE
MAMMAL
PRISONERS HAVE
REGAINED THEIR
POWERS, THEY'VE
CAPTURED
RAINA!

I UNDERSTAND
YOUR CONCERN,
MASANO, RAINA
IS MY FRIEND
ALSO...



"...BUT YOUR
PRIORITY
MUST BE
R'CHEL!"

WE'RE
CLEAR!



KURT,
ARE YOU
ALL
RIGHT?

WE DON'T
HAVE A
MINUTE!

START
TELEPORTING
PEOPLE TO THAT
ESCAPMENT!

AFTER THE LAST
ENGAGEMENT, THE
HAUK'KA WON'T
ATTACK WITH TROOPS.
THEY'LL START BY
CARPET-BOMBING
THIS JUNGLE.

BRAINCHILD'S
RIGHT.

BUT KURT,
CAN YOU
DO IT?

JUST A
LITTLE
WEAK...

...NEED A
MINUTE TO
CATCH MY
BREATH.

EX-
CUSE
ME?

OUR BIRDS
CAN'T OUTHUN
THEIR FLIERS.
NIGHTCRAWLER'S
OUR ONLY HOPE.
BUT THE LONGER
WE STAND HERE
ARGUING...

...THE
FEWER
OF US WILL
SURVIVE!

I'LL
HAVE TO,
WON'T
I?

WHO'S
FIRST?

BOOM! BARABOOM! BARABOOM! BOOM!

WE CAN
HEAR THE
DETONATIONS
IN THE CITY.

LIKE
ROLLING
THUNDER.

I'M SORRY
ABOUT RAINA.
BUT IF THERE'S ANY
WAY TO SURVIVE--
NOT TO MENTION
WIN--SHE'LL FIND
IT.

KAIKAN,
NIGHTCRAWLER'S
A TELEPORTER.
OUR PREY COULD
BE MILES AWAY.

DO YOU
HAVE A TRACK
ON THEM,
R'CHEL?

I WISH!
SOMETHING'S
DISTORTING MY
PERCEPTIONS. I
HAVE NO SENSE
OF THEIR
THOUGHTS.

IN THAT CASE,
MASANO, THIS
DISCUSSION IS
CLOSED.

R'CHEL IS
TOO IMPORTANT TO
GO GALLIVANTING
ABOUT THE BUSH
TO SALVE HER
WOUNDED PRIDE
AT THE PRISONERS'
ESCAPE.

AT THE
COUNCIL'S
COMMAND,
RETURN HER
TO THE
CITADEL.

MASANO--!

DON'T GO
THERE, RED,
DON'T EVEN
TRY.

THIS ONCE,
IN RAINA'S
MEMORY, I'M
DOING WHAT
I'M TOLD.

AND Y'KNOW,
IF KAIKAN'S PLAN
WINS US BACK
OUR WORLD...

...IT'LL BE
WORTH HER
SACRIFICE.



GOOD CALL, BRAINCHILD.

EVEN I HAVE MY MOMENTS.

AWFULLY CONVENIENT KNOWING ABOUT THIS CAVE, TO HIDE US FROM ANY AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE.

THERE'S NOTHING "CONVENIENT" ABOUT IT.

I'VE SPENT YEARS MAPPING THE SAVAGE LAND.

HOW CAN I PUT MY PHENOMENAL INTELLECT TO THE BEST POSSIBLE USE WITHOUT A COMPREHENSIVE CATALOGUE OF ALL THE REALM'S ASSETS, NO MATTER HOW SEEMINGLY INCONSEQUENTIAL?

I PLAN FOR EVERYTHING--

--HENCE, THIS DISTORTER, TO MASK OUR PSYCHIC SIGNATURES FROM YOUR TURNCOAT MARVEL GIRL.

WITH APPROPRIATE MODIFICATIONS, IT MAY ALSO DEFEAT HER.

KURT, YOU WERE WONDERFUL.

IF YOU SAY SO.

RIGHT NOW, ALL I WANT TO DO IS SLEEP.

BUT I KEEP THINKING ABOUT RACHEL.

SHE DOESN'T JUST BELIEVE SHE'S A SAURID. BETSY, SHE'S BECOMING ONE.



GENETIC CASCADE.

I BEG YOUR PARDON?

THE REASON FOR HER TRANSFORMATION.

QUITE ELEMENTARY, GIVEN THE POTENTIAL MAGNITUDE OF HER ABILITIES.



IN LAYMAN'S TERMS, HER POWER'S FINDING A WAY TO FULFILL HER VISION OF HERSELF, IN THIS CASE BY LITERALLY REBUILDING HER GENOME.

QUITE FASCINATING REALLY, SINCE THIS IS OCCURRING ON A WHOLLY SUBCONSCIOUS LEVEL. HER ACTIVE MIND ISN'T EVEN AWARE IT'S HAPPENING.

CONCEPTION EQUALS REALITY. AS SHE IMAGINES HERSELF SO DOES SHE BECOME.

WHY, BISHOP, DO YOU STILL BEAR A GRUDGE ABOUT WHAT I DID TO STORM MONTHS AGO?

CAN WE REVERSE THE PROCESS?

IF ANYBODY KNOWS ABOUT MANIPULATING GENOMES, BRAINCHILD, IT'S YOU.

MY FEELINGS ARE NOTHING COMPARED TO HERS.



HOW UNENLIGHTENED. IT SEEMED TO ME SHE RATHER ENJOYED THE EXPERIENCE.

TRY TELLING THAT TO HER FACE.

SO YOU CAN WATCH HER BEAT ME BLOODY, YOU MEAN?

WORKS FOR ME.

ALL IN GOOD TIME. MEANWHILE, WE MUST PLAN--!

WHATEVER WE DO, IT BETTER BE FAST.

WHY?

BECAUSE IF I POSSESSED A WEAPON LIKE RACHEL...

...I WOULDN'T WASTE ALL THAT "POTENTIAL MAGNITUDE" TO WIN A BATTLE.

"I'D USE HER
TO WIN THE
WAR."

CAN'T
MOVE.

CAN'T GET
THE SLIGHTEST
RESPONSE FROM
MY POWERS.

LAST TIME,
I'D ALMOST
BROKEN
FREE.

COULD HAVE
SWORN IT WAS
RACHEL WHO
SHUT ME
DOWN.

AT
LAST--A
VISITOR!

!GASP!-

R-RACHEL--
WHAT'S
HAPPENED
TO YOU?!

IF YOU HAVE
A DEITY, STORM,
NOW'S THE TIME TO
SAY YOUR FINAL
PRAYERS.

SEAL
THE
VAULT!

I WISH
RAINA WERE
HERE.

TO
WITNESS
OUR
TRIUMPH?

TO MAKE
THE CALL,
KAIDAN!

YOU STAND
OBEDIENT, KAIDAN,
EVEN WHEN YOU
SHOULD KNOW
BETTER.

THE COUNCIL
HAS DECIDED.
MASANO, WE STAND
OBEDIENT TO
ITS WILL.

RAINA HAD
DOUBTS.

RAINA'S NOT
HERE, MASANO.
SHE'S PROBABLY
DEAD.

BUT SHE
WILL NOT GO
UNAVENGED!



RACHEL,
DON'T DO
THIS!



YOU CAN'T
STOP ME,
GROR.



I'VE ESTABLISHED
PSYCHIC LINKAGES
DIRECTLY TO YOUR
POWER, BYPASSING
YOUR CONSCIOUSNESS
COMPLETELY.



THOUGH
COOPERATION
WILL MAKE THIS
PLEASANTER FOR
BOTH OF US.



I--
WILL--
FIGHT--
YOU!

KNOCK
YOURSELF
OUT,
STORM.



YOU'LL
STILL
LOSE.



MASANO--IT'S
WORKING!

MAY THE
MAKER HAVE
MERCY ON
US ALL!

WE'RE
OUTTA TIME,
PEOPLE.

AN' I'M
THINKIN' MAYBE
SO IS THE
WORLD.

UNGLAUBLICH!

Ⓢ NEXT: BAD COMPANY!

X-MAIL

Yo yo yo, welcome to X-Mail. My name is Nick Lowe, and I'm new to the X-Office. After toiling away on the terrible Ultimate books (what's worse than THE ULTIMATES, right?) I've moved to the big leagues. We're trying something a little new here. Assistant Editor extraordinaire Sean Ryan and I are joining forces to answer your mail. I'm in blue.

And I, Sean Ryan, am in red.

Hey, ya'll at X-Office.

I just wanted to write and say thank you for bringing Psylocke back. I've been a loyal fan since I was able to read. I'm only 21 now but that's still a long time. And I know that guys are supposed to like Wolverine the best, but Psylocke has long been my favorite. Her and Rogue, anyway. So I just wanted to say thanks for bringing her back and hurry up and bring Rogue back, too.

Ben
Denver, CO

Thanks Ben—from Denver. You're not alone in your love of Psylocke. It seems like just about everyone loves that British/Asian minx.

Psylocke reminds me of a girlfriend I once had.

And by "once had," you mean "never".

Caught me.

Oh, and Ben--Rogue never died. She's over in X-MEN right now! And you will not want to miss what Pete Milligan and Salvador Larroca have in store for her!

X-MAIL,

Yes! The X-Men back in the Savage Land...fantastic! You guys have got me hooked. Who can get enough of feral X-23 and the return of Psylocke? I can't wait to witness their team-up as they take on Dino-Rachel.

At least evolution can still be taught in comics...unlike Kansas.

Having the creatures being evolved forms of dinosaurs is ingenious. Darwin would be proud.

Until we have a Wombat-Rachel, you got me hooked and hoping for some Wolverine berserker rage. Keep up the fantastic work!

Adam Schlagman

Ouch. Take that, Kansas.

Lay off, Kansas, yo--it's cool with the X-Office. Mostly because it's the birthplace of such great Americans like Susan B. Anthony, George Washington Carver, and one-time U.S. President, Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Little-known fact about Sean Ryan—he also works for the Kansas Chamber of Commerce.

Not anymore, unfortunately. Kansas apparently frowns upon extortion. I wish I knew that before I took the oath.

Anyway, we're glad you like the return to the Savage Land. Dinosaurs rule!

Dear X-Mail,

When did X-23 join the team? I haven't read everything she's been in (I missed NYX), but it seems I've missed an important moment, "You want to join the team? Can I come to the school?" Or would she just say "Grrrrr!!!" I don't read all of the X-titles so did it happen in another book, was it off-panel or will it be addressed in the future? I would hate to think I missed something.

Tim Duncan

Wow. Tim Duncan, a real-life basketball player reading UNCANNY X-MEN! Is this for reals?

Sorry about that ankle, Tim. Hope you feel better. (Though, this does improve the chances of my Cavs winning the title!)

Cavs? Don't you mean the Cleveland LeBron Jameses? Anyway,

Tim, there was no official scene showing X-23 joining the team, but they met up in UNCANNY X-MEN #450 and she's been hanging with the team ever since. And word is she might even be enrolling at Xavier's and joining up with those kooky New X-Men kids! Keep your eyes open. Do it!

And come back next month the slam-bang conclusion of "World's End." You will not believe what happens! Chris and Alan rise to new heights!

And maybe next month Nick will say more stupid things like, "rise to new heights!"

Go back to Kansas, Ryne. See ya in thirty!

[A quick word from editor Mike Marts here, folks--please be advised that the expressions, opinions and lame jokes made by my staff above in no way reflect those of Marvel Comics, myself, or anyone with any decent amount of good taste in their body. That's all.]

NEXT ISSUE:



**STORMIN'
STORM
STORMS!**

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SEAN RYAN
ASSISTANT EDITOR

MIKE MARTS
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JOE QUESADA
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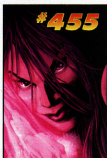
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CHANGE IS COMING. A NEW BREED OF MAN HAS EMERGED. THEY ARE THE CHILDREN OF THE ATOM, HOMO SUPERIOR, INDIVIDUALS BIFTED WITH STRANGE AND FANTASTIC ABILITIES SIMPLY BY VIRTUE OF THEIR GENETIC MAKEUP.

PREVIOUSLY



Months ago, **PSYLOCKE** (**BETSY BRADDOCK**), one of the mainstays of the **X-MEN**, was killed in action. Then, seemingly out of nowhere, she mysteriously reappears with no memories beyond the moment of her death and no clue as to the reason or manner of her resurrection. Local authorities turn her over to the **X-Men**.

At the same time, **WOLVERINE** leaves on a personal mission to Western Canada, accompanied (apparently without his knowledge) by **X-23**. Responding to a distress beacon from Logan's aircraft, the **X-Men** hurry to his aid—only to find the plane wrecked and **X-23** the sole survivor. She lashes out, responding to the presence of the beings truly responsible—who are now poised to ambush them all.



The **X-Men** are attacked by the evolved **Saurians** who call themselves the **HAUK'KA**. Not only are they on a technological par with human society, but some of them have super-powers, as well. One of the **Saurians** (**K Aidan**) uses telepathy to suborn **MARVEL GIRL**'s mind so that she believes she too is a **Hauk'ka**, turning her against the **X-Men**. With her aid, **STORM**, **NIGHTCRAWLER**, and **BISHOP** are captured. **X-23**, once again, escapes. She joins forces with **Psylocke** and together they set out to rescue their companions!



The captured **X-Men** are transported to the **Hauk'ka City**. Following their trail, **Psylocke** and **X-23** are attacked by unknown assailants. **Kaidan** presents a plan to the **Ruling Council** to use **Rachel**'s powers to amplify and sustain **Storm**'s powers, thereby creating a global hyper-storm that will have the same devastating effect on human civilization that the **Nemesis Meteor** did on the **Hauk'ka**'s saurian ancestors. **Bishop** and **Nightcrawler** manage to escape their captors, ultimately to discover that **Psylocke** is not only safe, but she's encountered unexpected allies as well.



Psylocke's allies turn out to be long-standing adversaries of the **X-Men**, **BRAINCHILD** and his **MUTATES**. Mutual survival, it seems, makes very strange bedfellows. Together, they capture the leader of the **Hauk'ka** mutant heroes, **RAINa**. However, despite the misgivings of **MASANO**, another **Hauk'ka**, **Kaidan** sets his plan in motion. And now, for the first time in the history of the **Savage Land**, it has begun to snow!

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GOOD EVENING,
THIS IS WORLD EDITION.
I'M MANOLI WETHERELL.
TONIGHT'S TOP STORY
IS THE WEATHER.

FROM EVERY CONTINENT
ON THE GLOBE COME REPORTS
OF UNSEASONABLE CONDITIONS AND
INCREASINGLY VIOLENT STORMS. THE
LIKE OF WHICH HAVE NO PARALLEL IN
HUMAN HISTORY AND WHOSE POTENTIAL
IMPACT ON OUR CIVILIZATION CAN
ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS
CATACLYSMIC.



IN LONDON, THE
THAMES RIVER HAS FROZEN TO
AN EXTENT NOT SEEN SINCE
THE REIGN OF ELIZABETH I. AND
SIMILAR CONDITIONS THREATEN
THE CLOSING OF THE BALTIC
SEA TO ALL SHIPPING.



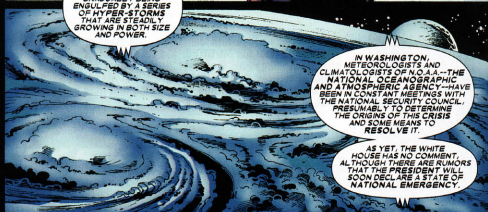
UPPER
ATMOSPHERE
WIND SHEAR HAS
SEVERELY IMPACTED
COMMERCIAL AIR
TRAFFIC, GROUNDING
ALMOST ALL LONG-
HAUL FLIGHTS.

THE CITY
OF SAN DIEGO
REPORTS SUDDEN
AND SIGNIFICANT
SNOWFALL...



WHILE THE
SAHARA HAS BEEN
SWEEPED BY FIERCE
BLIZZARDS THAT MIX
BOTH SAND AND ICE,
TO DEVASTATING
EFFECT.

AS CAN BE SEEN
IN THIS SATELLITE
IMAGE, THE PLANET IS
GRADUALLY BEING
ENGULFED BY A SERIES
OF HYPER-STORMS
THAT ARE STEADILY
GROWING IN BOTH SIZE
AND POWER.



IN WASHINGTON,
METEOROLOGISTS AND
CLIMATOLOGISTS OF N.O.A.--THE
NATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC
AND ATMOSPHERIC AGENCY--HAVE
BEEN IN CONSTANT MEETINGS WITH
THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL,
PRESUMABLY TO DETERMINE
THE ORIGINS OF THIS CRISIS
AND SOME MEANS TO
RESOLVE IT.

AS YET, THE WHITE
HOUSE HAS NO COMMENT,
ALTHOUGH THERE ARE RUMORS
THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL
SOON DECLARE A STATE OF
NATIONAL EMERGENCY.

THE XAVIER INSTITUTE

HEY--NO
FAIR USING
POWERS!

STOP ACTING
LIKE SUCH A
FLATSCAN!

CYCLOPS--
WE HAVE
MAJOR
TROUBLE!

MY
GOD!

FROM THE
RADIO, I GOT
THE SENSE
THINGS WERE
SERIOUS--

--BUT IT
LOOKS LIKE
WE'RE WAY
BEYOND
THAT.

STAN LEE PROUDLY PRESENTS THE UNCANNY X-MEN!

WORLD'S END
CONCLUSION

BAD COMPANY

BY CHRIS CLAREMONT & ALAN DAVIS

MARK
FARMER
INKER

AVANT
MATT
MILLA
COLORS

VC'S RUS
WOOTON
LETTERS

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RYAN
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QUESADA
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DAN
BUCKLEY
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WHAT CAN YOU TELL ME, HANK?

BAD NEWS, AND WORSE.

I'VE BEEN ANALYZING THE TELEMETRY AND WE'VE FOUND A PERFECT MATCH IN OUR ARCHIVES...

...FROM BACK WHEN ARCADE TEAMED UP WITH DOCTOR DOOM.

STORM WAS PETRIFIED INTO A STATUE OF LIVING CHROME, WHICH KICKED HER INNATE CLAUSTROPHOBIA INTO OVERDRIVE



YEAH, SHE TOTALLY FREAKED, AND THE WEATHER BEGAN TO REFLECT HER EMOTIONS.

WITHIN HOURS, SHE GENERATED A HYPER-STORM THAT COVERED MOST OF THE EASTERN SEABOARD.

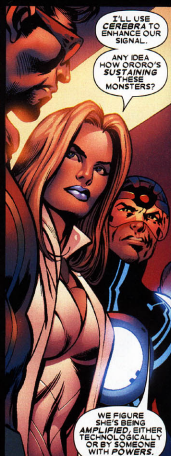
DIFFERENCE IS, SHE SHUT DOWN THAT STORM BEFORE DOING ANY SERIOUS DAMAGE.



DO WE HAVE A FIX ON HER POSITION, BOBBY?

LOCATOR BEACON ON HER BLACKBIRD, IN THE CANADIAN ROCKIES.

BUT NO CONTACT WITH HER OR ANY OF HER SQUAD BY RADIO OR TELEPATHY.



I'LL USE CEREBRA TO ENHANCE OUR SIGNAL.

ANY IDEA HOW ORORO'S SUSTAINING THESE MONSTERS?

WE FIGURE SHE'S BEING AMPLIFIED, EITHER TECHNOLOGICALLY OR BY SOMEONE WITH POWERS.



GUYS, THE CELLS ARE MERGING!



WITHIN A WEEK, THEY'LL COVER THE PLANET...

...BUT LONG BEFORE THAT, THE SYSTEMS WILL BECOME SELF-SUSTAINING. AFTER THAT, EVEN IF STORM CHOSE TO SHUT THEM DOWN, IT'D BE IMPOSSIBLE.

THE SAVAGE LAND
ANTARCTICA

"HANK, WHAT
ABOUT
HUMANITY?"

"WE'RE LOOKING
AT A PLANETARY
ICE AGE."

"SOME MUTANTS
MAY SURVIVE, FOR
WHAT THAT'S
WORTH."

"BECAUSE JUST ABOUT
EVERYTHING ELSE WON'T
HAVE A CHANCE EVOLVED
LIFE ON EARTH WILL BE
ALL BUT EXTINCT."

"RACHEL--
I BEG YOU, IN
THE NAME OF THE
GODDESS--"

"THE WORLD
ISN'T BIG ENOUGH
FOR BOTH OUR
SPECIES TO SHARE,
ORORO."

"YOU ARE
HUMAN, RACHEL.
YOU'RE AN
X-MAN!"

"LIAR!"

"I AM
HAAK'KA!"

"IS THIS
YOUR PLAN,
KAIDAN?"

"HOW DO
WE RECLAIM
THE PLANET IF
WE'RE BURIED
UNDER THE SAME
ICE AGE THAT
CLAIMS THE
MAMMALS?"

"THIS WAS
A BAD IDEA,
MY FRIEND."

"HOW DO
YOU CONTROL
FORCES YOU
BARELY
COMPREHEND?"

"*(SIGH)*"

"STOP THIS--
BEFORE IT'S
TOO LATE!"

"RELAX,
MASANO--
EVERYTHING
IS UNDER
CONTROL."

"I WISH RAINA
WAS HERE. SHE'D
KNOW WHAT TO
DO. AND SHE'D
MAKE YOU
LISTEN."

MEANWHILE...

A MIRACLE,
I SUPPOSE.

THAT OROO
WILL BREAK FREE,
OR RACHEL
COME TO HER
SENSES.

WEATHER
LIKE THIS, I
THINK OF
SKIING.

I COME FROM
HARDY STOCK,
PSYLOCKE, AND
MY UNIFORM IS
INSULATED. I'LL
LAST A WHILE
LONGER.

WHAT ARE
YOU LOOKING
FOR?

A WORLD-CLASS
DOWNHILL RUN, A
CHALET WITH A
ROARING FIRE, FUR
RUGS, HOT WINE AND
A SWEETIE TO SHARE
THEM WITH. NOT A
HALF-BAD HINT OF
HEAVEN.

YOU DON'T
SKI?

CAN'T
FIND ANY
THAT FIT?

MY FEET
HATE FEELING
CRAMPED.
DON'T MUCH
DO SHOES,
EITHER.

THE
STORM'S
GETTING
WORSE.

IT'S NOT
GOING TO
STOP.

I ALWAYS
WANTED TO TRY.
THE PROBLEM
WAS ALWAYS
FINDING DECENT
BOOTS.

FOR
EVERYTHING
PAST THE SKIS,
I'M THERE.

UNLESS
WE DO
SOMETHING.

GOT ANY
IDEAS?

I JUST
DON'T LIKE
WHERE THEY
LEAD ME, IS
ALL.

I HAVE FAITH
IN YOU, KURT. JUST
MAKE SURE TO HAVE
A LITTLE IN
YOURSELF.

THERE ARE LINES AROUND KURT'S EYES I DON'T REMEMBER... AND HIS SMILE, THAT COULD LIGHT UP EVEN THE HARDEST HEART, IS JUST A LITTLE BIT HAUNTED.

HE'S ALWAYS BEEN CAPABLE ENOUGH TO LEAD THE X-MEN.

BUT IT'S COST HIM DEARLY.

OUR PRISONER, RAINA, IS A LEADER AMONG THE HAU'KA, THEIR VERY OWN SUPER HERO.

CAN YOU GUESS WHAT I'M THINKING, LEASH?

SOMETHING VERY NASTY.

AND SINCE THERE ARE NO TELEPATHS TO SENSE WHAT I'M DOING...

...WHO'S TO STOP ME?

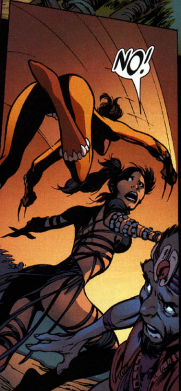
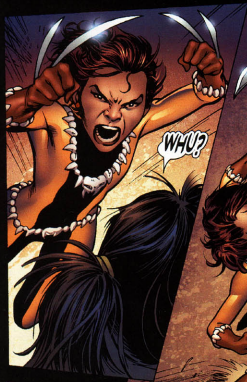
MY ASTRAL FORM GRANTS CONTROL OF RAINA'S...

...AND JUST LIKE THAT, I SNAP MY COLLAR 'ROUND HER NECK!

...YOU HAVE HER, LEASH?

SHE'S TOTALLY MINE TO COMMAND, BRAINCHILD...

--JUST LIKE KA-ZAR.





X, AN
EXPLANATION,
PLEASE.

THE LIZARD'S
SCENT CHANGED--
IT BECAME MORE
LIKE THIS ONE'S.

SHE'S
CRAZY.
I'VE DONE
NOTHING!

THE MAN
KA-ZAR'S
SCENT, IT'S
THE SAME.

SAME AS
BEFORE.

SHE'S ALL
YOURS, GIRL.
DO WHATEVER
YOU THINK IS
RIGHT.

!GASP!+

LITTLE
FOOL, YOU'VE
SEALED OUR
DOOM!

KRONK!

SORRY ABOUT
THIS, KURT. I DIDN'T
MEAN TO STEP ON
YOUR TOES.

YOU
MADE THE
RIGHT CALL,
LUCAS.

I SHOULD
HAVE
PUT THINGS
TOGETHER
SOONER.

BUT I NEVER
EXPERIENCED
LEASH'S POWER
DIRECTLY. I
ONLY HEARD
THE STORIES.

NOBODY'S
PERFECT.
NOT EVEN
YOU.

EXCUSE ME,
X-MEN, BUT--
WHAT'S TO
BECOME OF
US?

TODAY'S
YOUR DAY,
BRANCHILD.

YOU, WE
HAPPEN TO
NEED.

FOR THE
MOMENT.

BUT FROM HERE
ON, I REALLY
WOULDN'T PUSH
YOUR LUCK.

AS KURT SAID, OUR X-MEN
UNIFORMS ARE SUPERBLY
INSULATED--BUT THE
BODIES THAT WEAR THEM
HAVE LIMITS.

WE'RE FAST APPROACHING
THE OUTER MARGINS OF
SURVIVAL. WHERE AN UNWARY
BREATH CAN QUICKLY FREEZE
THE MOISTURE IN OUR LUNGS.

RAINA STILL CONSIDERS US
ENEMIES, BUT SHE ALSO
DOESN'T TRY TO HIDE THE
FEAR IN HER EYES AS THE
WEATHER WORSENS.

K Aidan
PROMISED
WE'D BE IN
THE EYE
OF THE
STORM.

YOU EVER
CONSIDER
THIS IS THE
EYE?

THERE'S AN
OLD SAYING
AMONG OUR
KIND, RAINA,
ABOUT SOWING
WINDS AND
REAPING
WHIRLWINDS.

IF WE
DON'T ACT
NOW, AND
TOGETHER...

...THERE
WON'T BE A
FUTURE FOR
ANY OF
US.

WHY
SHOULD I
TRUST
YOU?

FOR THE
SAME REASON
WE MUST
TRUST YOU...

...WE
HAVE NO
CHOICE.

THE
ALTERNATIVE
LIES BEFORE
US.

YOU
HAVE A
PLAN?

STORM WIELDS THE
ELEMENTS BY APPLYING
HER STRENGTH OF BODY
AND WILL TO THE NATURAL
FORCES OF THE BIOSPHERE.
SHE DOESN'T COMMAND
SO MUCH AS GUIDE
THEM.

WHAT TAKES
TIME AND EFFORT IS
TO CREATE DEMANDS,
LIKEWISE TO
BANISH.

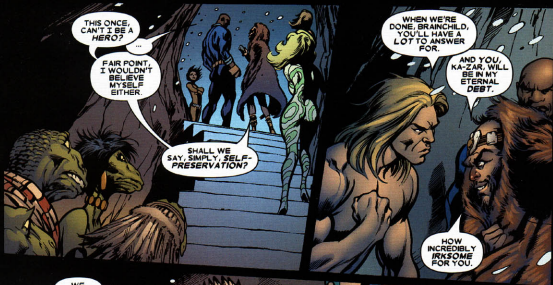
ALL THE WHILE,
YOU MUST KEEP YOUR
RENEGADE MARVEL
GIRL LINKED TO HER,
AND TRACTABLE, TO
SUSTAIN THE
AMPLIFICATION
PROCESS.

OTHERWISE,
STORM WILL DIE,
AND THIS WILD
WEATHER WILL
CONTINUE
UNABATED.

FROM OUR
PREVIOUS
ENCOUNTERS,
I HAVE A
COMPREHENSIVE
MAP OF HER
GENOME.

WITH THIS
MODULE, I--
AND ONLY I--
CAN EFFECTIVELY
MANAGE THE
PROCESS.

WHAT'S
IN IT FOR
YOU?



THIS ONCE,
CAN'T I BE A
HERO?

FAIR POINT,
I WOULDN'T
BELIEVE
MYSELF
EITHER.

SHALL WE
SAY, SIMPLY, SELF-
PRESERVATION?

WHEN WE'RE
DONE, BRANCHCHILD,
YOU'LL HAVE A
LOT TO ANSWER
FOR.

AND YOU,
KA-ZAR, WILL
BE IN MY
ETERNAL
DEBT.

HOW
INCREDIBLY
IRKSOME
FOR YOU.



WE
GOTTA
GO, KIDS.

STAY DEEP
IN THESE CAVES.
AWAY FROM
THE COLD.

KEEP THE
FIRES BURNING
HIGH, YOU'VE GOT
PLENTY OF
SUPPLIES AND
FUEL.

DO YOUR
BEST TO
OUTLAST THE
STORM.

WHAT'RE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT, MR.
BISHOP?

YOU'LL
BE BACK IN
NO TIME.

X-MEN
RULE!

THEY
NEVER
LOSE.

SHOW THESE
SLAGS WHAT
REAL HEROES
ARE MADE OF.



THEY--
RESPECT
YOU.

AND YOU
CARE FOR
THEM?

THEY'RE
FRIENDS.

BECAUSE
OF THE
NUMBERS
AND THE
DISTANCE...

THIS IS
GOING TO
BE A VERY
ROUGH
RIDE.

BAMF

TIGHT
TOGETHER,
EVERYONE,
PLEASE.

THEY'RE
GONE.

VIRI, I'M
REALLY
COLD.

THEY'LL BE
BACK, JIMI,
YOU'LL
SEE.

THEY'RE
THE X-MEN.
THEY'LL FIND
A WAY TO
WIN.



KURT WASN'T
KIDDING.

WE MATERIALIZED
SICK AS DOGS AND
BARELY ABLE TO
STAND.

THE WRETCHED
WEATHER DIDN'T
MAKE US FEEL
ANY BETTER.

SHOULD'A
SEEN THAT
ONE
COMING.

THE DOOR
WON'T OPEN!
MY ACCESS
CODE TO THE
CITADEL HAS BEEN
CANCELLED!

TIME
FOR PLAN
"B."

GUYS,
WE GO
COMPANY!

TAKE
'EM DOWN--
HARD!

NOTHING
LIKE A LITTLE
EXERCISE...

...TO WARM
THE BODY, AND
GET THE OLD
HEART PUMPING
ON A WINTER'S
MORNING.

NO
COMPLAINTS,
JUNGLE
LORD.

WE
OFFERED
YOU A
UNIFORM.



THE MAMMALS
ARE TRYING TO
BREACH THE
CONTAINMENT
DOME!

THE
CIRCUITS ARE
FROZEN.

IT WON'T
ACCEPT THE
OVER-
RIDE!

LET ME END
THEIR TROUBLES,
MASANO, WITH
A DISCRETE
MINDBLAST!

K Aidan--
MASANO--
STOP!

COMMAND
THE GUARD TO
STAND DOWN AND
CEASE ALL
HOSTILITIES!

SORRY, KAIDAN, BUT
MENTAL
POWERS DON'T
WORK ON ME
ANYMORE.

AND WHEN
IT COMES
TO THE
PHYSICAL...

...YOU'RE
NOT IN MY
LEAGUE.

IGNORE HER,
TROOPERS! THE
MAMMALS MUST
BE CONTROLLING
HER MIND!

MASANO,
IT'S A
TRICK!

YOU
FOLLOW
YOUR TECH,
KAIDAN. I
USE MY
INSTINCTS.

ONE OF
THEM TRIED.
THE OTHERS
SET ME
FREE.

I HAVE FAITH
IN RAINA. I'LL
FOLLOW HER
LEAD.

WE BACK
TO PLAN A, GUYS,
OR ARE WE
IMPROVISING?

I COULD
USE MY
TELEKINESIS
TO OPEN THE
DOOR.

AND
HAVE NO
STRENGTH
LEFT TO
DEAL WITH
RACHEL?

I'LL
TELEPORT
YOU IN.

YOU'D BE
JAUNTING
BLIND.

THE
WALLS ARE
FIVE METERS
THICK...

...BUT THE
CHAMBER
ITSELF IS
EMPTY.

I EXTEND MY PERSONAL
TEKE FIELD TO COVER
US BOTH BUT IT'S A
STOPGAP MEASURE.

AGAINST RACHEL, I
SUSPECT I'LL NEED
ALL MY RESERVES.

SO IF I GO
TWENTY--?

BAMF

YOU'LL
BE FINE.

AHH--
THE
COLD!

IT'S WORSE THAN
DEEP SPACE. AT
LEAST OUT THERE,
THERE'S NO WIND.

CLEAR
OUT, KURT.

WE'RE SO USED TO
BEING RESPONSIBLE
AND HOLDING BACK ON
OUR POWER, IT'S EASY
TO FORGET JUST HOW
MUCH SOME OF US
WIELD.

THIS IS THE KIND OF
PRIMAL STORM THAT
SCULPTED THE FACE OF
THE PLANET WHEN IT WAS
YOUNG. AND ORORO'S
JUST GETTING STARTED.

I'M
STAYING!

I'LL
BE YOUR
DECOY.

BETSY MAY
BE INVISIBLE
TO MY
TELEPATHY,
KURT--

--BUT I
CAN STILL
"SEE" HER
THROUGH
YOUR EYES.

UNTIL STORM
REMINDS US THE
X-MEN ARE A
TEAM.

STOP
FIGHTING!

NEVER!

THAT'S WHAT
I WAS AFRAID
OF.

DEAD-
BRILLIANT!

MAKE RACHEL DEVOTE
EVERYTHING SHE'S
GOT TO KEEPING YOU
IN LINE.

I ONLY NEED
A SECOND.

NO!

CHOOM

PROBLEM IS, NOW I'M
STUCK WITH HER THE
SAME WAY SHE WAS WITH
STORM.

HERE'S WHERE
WE HAVE TO TRUST
BRAINCHILD.

AS ORORO REGAINS
ENOUGH CONTROL
TO MODERATE THE
WEATHER WITHIN THE
CONTAINMENT...

HE MAKES
HIS MOVE.

CREDULOUS
FOOLS!

WILL
YOU NEVER
LEARN?

NOW THAT
I HAVE CONTROL,
HER WINDS WILL
KEEP YOU AT
BAY...

...UNTIL YOU
FREEZE!

BETSY,
KURT'S
STUNNED--
HE CAN'T
PORT!

CAN YOU
REACH
BRAINCHILD?

GOT MY
HANDS
FULL,
LUCAS.

UTTERLY
DELICIOUS.

I HAVE
ACCOUNTED
FOR EVERY
VARIABLE,
X-MEN.

THANKS TO
YOU, I CAN
CONQUER NOT
ONLY THE
SAVAGE LAND--

--BUT THE
ENTIRE
PLANET!

I NEVER HAD
ANY INTENTION
OF SAVING STORM--
MY MODULE WILL
FORCE HER TO
SUSTAIN THIS
WEATHER AT THE
ULTIMATE LIMITS
OF HER
CAPABILITIES--

--UNTIL
SHE DIES!

LIKE WE
HAVEN'T HEARD
IT ALL
BEFORE.

LIKE WE DIDN'T
KNOW WHAT TO
EXPECT.

LIKE WE DON'T
HAVE A WILD
CARD OF OUR
OWN TO PLAY.

SHIT!

!GULP?!

BLAH BLAH
BLAH

AND WHAT TO
DO ABOUT IT.

GOOD
MOVES.

IN A LOT OF
RESPECTS, SHE'S
BETTER AT THE
COMMANDO
GAME THAN
WOLVERINE

IT'S LIKE
HE WAS
TRAINED IN
THAT LIFE.

X-23
WAS BORN
TO IT.

HOORAY FOR
US, BRAINCHILD'S
CLOBBERS.



THE BAD NEWS--
AND IT'S VERY BAD--
IS THAT WE STILL
HAVE ORORO'S
HYPER-STORM
TO DEAL WITH.

X-23--I CAN'T
STOP THIS! SO
LONG AS I'M ALIVE,
THIS STORM WILL
GET WORSE.

IN A MATTER
OF SECONDS,
EVERYONE IN
THIS ROOM--
INCLUDING YOU--
WILL BE FLASH-
FROZEN.

ORORO--

NO!

X, DON'T
YOU LISTEN
TO HER!

IF I DIE,
THE STORM
DIES WITH
ME.

WE'RE OUT
OF TIME. WHILE
YOU HAVE THE
CHANCE, YOU
MUST STRIKE!

WE'RE
IN THIS
TOGETHER,
RAY.

HAUK'KA
AND HUMAN.

YOU'RE
OUR BEST
HOPE.

WANT TO
HELP--OR
JOIN US IN
EXTINCTION?

PSYLOCKE--
CUT HER
LOOSE!

LET HER
MAKE A FREE
CHOICE!

LOVELY NOTION, KURT.
UNFORTUNATELY, SHE
MAY HAVE CHANGED
SPECIES, BUT THE RED-
HEAD'S CERTAINLY KEPT
HER TEMPER.

FOR WHAT
YOU'VE DONE
TO ME, MAMMAL,
I WILL FEAST--!

THAT'S A
PROBLEM.



QUICKLY--
SURPRISINGLY--
SOLVED.

R'CHEL--
BE STILL!

DON'T
QUESTION,
DON'T ARGUE--
JUST OBEY!

YOU MUST
WORK WITH
THE X-MEN AS
ALLIES!

OUR
THOUGHTS,
OUR WILLS,
MUST BE
ONE.

FOR RACHEL AND
ORORO, THIS IS AS
SCARY AS IT GETS--

--THE ULTIMATE
INTIMACY--

THE ONLY
WAY THIS WILL
WORK IS IF
WE MERGE.

--GRANTING TOTAL
ACCESS TO EVERY
CORNER OF THEIR
PSYCHES.

BETWEEN THEM,
THERE ARE NO
MORE SECRETS.

NOR ANY
GUARANTEE
OF SUCCESS.

WHAT IS
HAPPENING?

THE HYPER-
STORM'S GROWN
SO HUGE, SYNCED
TOGETHER LIKE
THIS THE STRAIN
COULD KILL
THEM BOTH!

THEY KNOW
WHAT'S AT STAKE,
THEY KNOW WHAT'S
DEMANDED OF
THEM.

BUT THEY DIDN'T
EVEN HESITATE,
LUCAS. THEY HOLD
NOTHING BACK.

I'VE NEVER
BEEN MORE
PROUD TO BE
THEIR FRIEND.



IT'S
WORKING!

ICE CAP TO
JUNGLE IN A
HEARTBEAT.
THAT'S A NEAT
TRICK.

LATER, WE LEARN
THE EFFECTS ARE
TOTALLY GLOBAL.

AS SUDDENLY--AND
FOR THE GENERAL
PUBLIC, AS INEXPLICABLY
AS THEY FORMED--THE
PLANETARY HYPER-
STORMS VANISHED.

AND THE WORLD
RETURNED TO WHAT
LAUGHINGLY PASSES
FOR NORMAL.

WE WEREN'T
THINKING ABOUT
THAT. OUR
CONCERNS WERE
MORE IMMEDIATE,
AND PERSONAL.

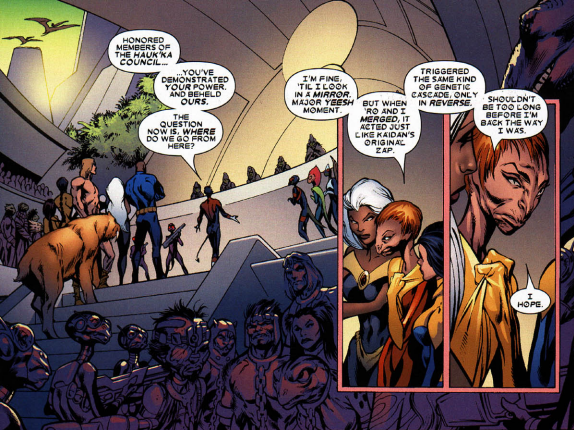


ORORO!

RACHEL!







HONORED MEMBERS OF THE HAUUK'KA COUNCIL...

...YOU'VE DEMONSTRATED YOUR POWER, AND BEHELD OURS.

THE QUESTION NOW IS, WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

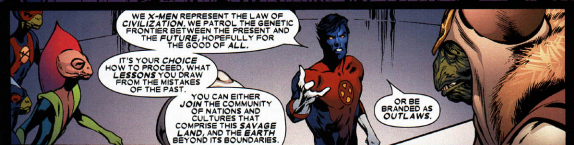
I'M FINE, TIL I LOOK IN A MIRROR. MAJOR YEESH MOMENT.

BUT WHEN 'RO AND I MERGED, IT ACTED JUST LIKE K Aidan's ORIGINAL ZAP.

TRIGGERED THE SAME KIND OF GENETIC CASCADE, ONLY IN REVERSE.

SHOULDN'T BE TOO LONG BEFORE I'M BACK THE WAY I WAS.

I HOPE.



WE X-MEN REPRESENT THE LAW OF CIVILIZATION. WE PATROL THE GENETIC FRONTIER BETWEEN THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE, HOPEFULLY FOR THE GOOD OF ALL.

IT'S YOUR CHOICE HOW TO PROCEED, WHAT LESSONS YOU DRAW FROM THE MISTAKES OF THE PAST.

YOU CAN EITHER JOIN THE COMMUNITY OF NATIONS AND CULTURES THAT COMPRISE THIS SAVAGE LAND, AND THE EARTH BEYOND ITS BOUNDARIES.

OR BE BRANDED AS OUTLAWS.



YOU ARE WORTHY AND NOBLE ADVERSARIES.

I'D RATHER WE WERE GOOD NEIGHBORS.

IT'S UP TO YOU.

✪ NEXT: A FATHER AND CHILD REUNION!

X-MAIL

Well, here we are again...It's another zany Uncanny X-Men Letters Page with Nick Lowe and Sean Ryan.

Sean is actually clothed this time. Just so you know. On with the letters!

Dear X-Mail,

I am a huge fan of the X-Men! I love the way that you guys reloaded the teams! Every month, I can't wait to see what happens in UNCANNY, ASTONISHING, PHOENIX: ENDSOON, X-MEN, and X-MEN: THE END. Kudos to everyone that works on these titles!

Can you please take a few moments to answer the following questions?

1. Will Wolverine and Storm be romantically involved? I like them together!

2. Please don't let Ororo fall in love with Nightcrawler because I like Kurt with Rachel much better!

3. I noticed that in some X-books, I see that Emma is giving Rachel, Kitty, Storm, and Alex a hard time! Will there be a huge confrontation between those five anytime soon?

Thanks for your time! And until Cyclops gets eye surgery, Make Mine Marvel!

Jacob Elyachar
Overland Park, KS

Kansas represent!

Enough of your jibber-jabber, Ryney. Answer the man's questions.

Wow, Nick sure hates Kansas...and therefore wheal. That's not cool.

I'm on the Atkins diet, Sean. Wheat products are no-no's. I'll start answering Jacob's questions, then.

1. We've seen a little lip-locking between Logan and Ororo. Now I can't talk about it much, Jacob, but let me tell you this--there's a lot of romantic stuff coming up! Wow, thanks, Nick. That wasn't vague at all!

2. Who Ororo falls in love with is completely up to Ororo, Jacob! Aren't you being a little selfish?

3. Yeah, you're right--Emma's been cruisin' for a serious bruise these days. But when your boyfriend is Scott Summers', you're kind of "off-limits" where throwdowns are concerned. You know a little thing about that, right, Nick? I know plenty about being Scott Summers' girlfriend--I MEAN--

Dear X-Mail,

To start off, I wanted to say I am enjoying having Alan Davis back as artist of UNCANNY X-MEN. I've been a fan of his work since I first came across it in the "Magneto War" storyline and continue to appreciate it in his current stint on this title. I just have a couple of quick questions I wanted to ask...

1. Did Jesse Bedlam die in the crucifixion that occurred on the X-Men's lawn? I'm still not clear on that one.

2. Will we be seeing Maggott anytime in the near future? He's one of my favorite characters, and we haven't seen him for ages!

Thanks! You guys do great work!
C. McGrannachan
Wellington, New Zealand

Hi, C. Now let's "C" if we can't answer those questions? Nick?

I'm going to choose to ignore that joke, Ryney. C has some really difficult questions, especially since I'm new to the X-Office. When I read this letter, I saw a great opportunity to go back and do some research. So after the intern refused to do it, I forced Sean to do it (over the phone pretending to be Joe Quesada, of course). The conversation went a little like this:

Me: Hey, Sean.

Sean: Is this Nick?

Me: No, Sean, it's Joe Quesada. The boss.

Sean: Nick, we share an office. I can see you on the phone.

Me: What are you talking about, Sean? It's Joe. I'm down the hall.

Sean: You're covering up your mouth and the receiver on the phone. That doesn't mean I can't hear you.

This went on for quite some time. I eventually gave in to Nick, mostly because I hadn't eaten in about three days, and I was starting to hallucinate.

Anyway C, let's answer those questions.

1. Yes, I'm afraid Jesse Bedlam did die. Unfortunately the X-Men weren't able to save him, and he passed away in UNCANNY X-MEN #423.

2. Well, here's more bad news. You won't be seeing Maggott anytime soon, either--mostly because he died, as well, in WEAPON X #5.

Wow--that's two for two, C...not much luck with your favorite characters, huh? Who else are your favorites? Hope Cyclops isn't one of your--WHOOOPS! Guess I let that cat out of the bag.

Well, that's all the time we have to waste this month.

See ya in thirty!

Nick and Sean. But mostly Nick.

[Mike Marts here, folks. Again, I have to apologize for the...blather above. I promise to contain these two for next month's installment. I promise.]

NEXT ISSUE:



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