

MARVEL
COMICS

MAY #1

THE EVOLUTION OF THE X-UNIVERSE BEGINS **HERE!**

MAGNETO REX



ALL NEW
X-MEN
SPECIAL
EVENT



DIRECT EDITION

00111



7 59606-04750 5

\$2.50 US \$3.75 CAN

LONG LIVE THE KING!

GOOD EVENING FROM GENOSHA.

TODAY WE MAY BE WITNESS TO A TURNING POINT IN HUMAN CIVILIZATION.

THE WORLD HAS LIVED FOR YEARS IN FEAR OF THAT SMALL, SHADOWED MINORITY KNOWN AS MUTANT-KIND-- THOSE PEOPLE BORN WITH SUPER-HUMAN POWERS.

NOW, THOSE FEARS HAVE BEEN STOKED AS NEVER BEFORE. MAGNETO-- THE TERRORIST AND SO-CALLED MASTER OF MAGNETISM--

--HAS BROKERED A DEAL WITH THE UNITED NATIONS THAT HAS LEFT HIM AS THE RECOGNIZED RULER OF THE EAST AFRICAN ISLAND OF GENOSHA.

OUR REFUGEE CAMPS ARE ALREADY FILLED BEYOND CAPACITY. WAKANDA URGES OUR SISTER NATIONS TO OPEN THEIR HEARTS AND BORDERS TO THESE MISPLACED SOULS IN THEIR HOUR OF NEED.

T'CHALLA, THE BLACK PANTHER, REGENT OF WAKANDA.

THIS HEARKENS BACK TO THE INSANITY OF APPEASING HITLER BEFORE THE SECOND WORLD WAR--

--AND YOU SEE WHAT THAT GOT US.

I'VE CALLED AN EMERGENCY SESSION OF THE AVENGERS TO DISCUSS WHAT OUR OPTIONS ARE.

CAPTAIN AMERICA, AVENGERS' CHAIRPERSON.

I HAVE DEALT W/ MAGNUS PERSONALLY AN' COUNT MYSELF FORTUNATE T' HAVE ESCAPED WITH MY LIFE.

DARK TIMES ARE COMING, MARK MY WORDS.

DR. MOIRA MACTAGGERT, NOBEL PRIZE LAUREATE IN HUMAN GENETIC MUTATION.

I DON'T THINK IT'S AN EXAGGERATION TO SAY THAT MAGNETO'S CRUSADE IS OFFICIALLY OVER, AND THE WAR FOR DOMINANCE OF THIS PLANET HAS BEGUN.

WILL MAGNETO BE PACIFIED WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF GENOSHA--

--OR IS THIS JUST A HARBINGER OF THINGS TO COME?

TIME WILL TELL.

THIS IS TRISH TILBY FOR CBNC, REPORTING LIVE FROM HAMMER BAY.

GABRIELLE HALLER, ISRAELI AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS.

Stan Lee PRESENTS

ASCENDANCE

MARK POWERS EDITOR

BOB HARRAS CHIEF

JOE PRUETT WRITER

BRANDON PETERSON PENCILER

MATT BANNING INKER

JON BABCOCK LETTERER

RICHARD ISANOVE & LIQUID! COLORISTS

MAGNETO™/REX Vol. 1, No. 1, April, 1999. Published by MARVEL COMICS, a division of MARVEL ENTERPRISES, INC. Eric Ellenbogen, President; Avi Arad, Chief Creative Officer; J. Winston Fowlkes, Publisher; Stan Lee, Chairman Emeritus. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Copyright © 1999 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. Price \$2.50 per copy in the U.S. and \$3.75 in Canada. GST #R127032852. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. MAGNETO (and all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL CHARACTERS, INC. Printed in the U.S.A.



HAMMER BAY, THE DEVASTATED CAPITAL CITY OF THE ONCE PROUD NATION OF GENOSHA.

FORMERLY A TECHNOLOGICAL MARVEL WITHOUT PEER, FOR MONTHS IT HAS BEEN TORN APART BY A FURIOUS CIVIL WAR BETWEEN THE HUMAN RULING CLASS AND ITS MUTATE SLAVE CASTE--

--A CONFLICT WHICH MANY BELIEVE IS MERELY THE FIRST OF COUNTLESS BATTLES TO COME IN THE INEVITABLE WAR BETWEEN MAN AND MUTANTKIND.

HE SEES THE MAKINGS OF AN EMPIRE.

HAMMER BAY WILL BE HIS ROME, THE JEWEL OF HIS DOMINION.



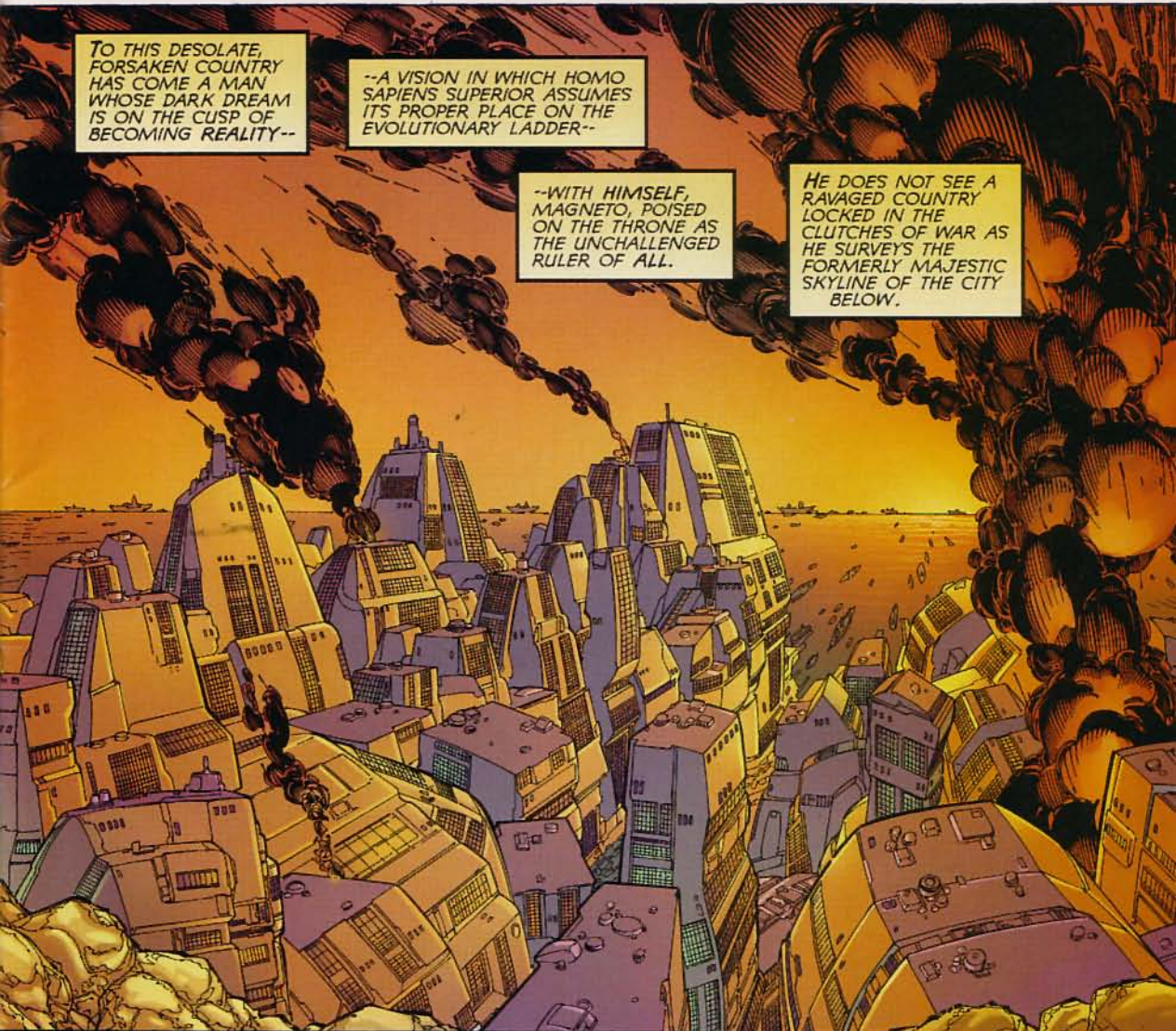
Ek? WHO WOULD DARE?

TO THIS DESOLATE, FORSAKEN COUNTRY HAS COME A MAN WHOSE DARK DREAM IS ON THE CUSP OF BECOMING REALITY--

--A VISION IN WHICH HOMO SAPIENS SUPERIOR ASSUMES ITS PROPER PLACE ON THE EVOLUTIONARY LADDER--

--WITH HIMSELF, MAGNETO, POISED ON THE THRONE AS THE UNCHALLENGED RULER OF ALL.

HE DOES NOT SEE A RAVAGED COUNTRY LOCKED IN THE CLUTCHES OF WAR AS HE SURVEYS THE FORMERLY MAJESTIC SKYLINE OF THE CITY BELOW.



MAGISTRATES!!

DEATH TO MAGNETO!

THOOM!



THOOM!
THOOM!



I HAVE BEEN CARELESS.

STILL WEAKENED FROM MY BATTLE WITH THE X-MEN, I ALLOWED MYSELF TO BECOME LOST IN THOUGHTS OF THE FUTURE.

I MUST END THIS QUICKLY.

COMPELLED BY A SLIGHT MAGNETIC FORCE--

THE RESULTS ARE DESTRUCTIVE, TO SAY THE LEAST.

--THE TWIN ENGINES OF THE HOVERCYCLE ABRUPTLY STOP THEIR ROTATION IN MID-CYCLE.

KRASH

A NEW DAY IS DAWNING HERE, HUMANS.

SURELY YOU KNOW THAT THE UNITED NATIONS HAS ANOINTED ME TO RULE THIS LAND.

PERHAPS I SHOULD OFFER YOU THE SAME CHOICE YOU GAVE YOUR MUTATE SLAVES--

--A LIFE OF SERVITUDE OR DEATH.

IT TAKES BUT A THOUGHT FOR ME TO SLOW THE FLOW OF OXYGEN TO YOUR BRAINS THROUGH SIMPLE MANIPULATION OF YOUR BLOOD'S IRON CONTENT. IT WILL BE A QUICK DEATH, YES--

--BUT IT WILL ALSO BE EXCRUCIATING. IS THIS WHAT YOU TRULY DESIRE?

AAAAHHHH!!

WHAT--? MY HEAD... THE PAIN...

MY ENTIRE BODY... SCREAMS IN ANGUISH...

I'LL NEVER BOW DOWN OR TAKE ORDERS FROM SOME STINKIN' GENE FREAK.

I'D RATHER DIE FIRST!

SO BE IT, IF THAT IS YOUR MOST FERVENT WISH.

WHAT THE BLOODY...?!

THAT'S JUST TOO BAD, "MY LIEGE."

SEE YOU IN HELL!



MY LORD, YOU HAVE COME AT LONG LAST! WE HAVE OFTEN PRAYED AND HOPED...



...BUT WORDS CANNOT DESCRIBE THE JOY I FEEL AT THIS MOMENT.

YOUR ENEMIES HAVE PAID THE PRICE FOR HAVING DARED TOUCH YOUR PERSON. PLEASE COME WITH ME.



IF NOT FOR THIS FORMER MUTATE SLAVE, I WOULD NOW IN ALL PROBABILITY BE DEAD!

MY BODY NEEDS PRECIOUS TIME TO REENERGIZE ITSELF.



THE OTHERS EAGERLY AWAIT YOUR PRESENCE.

YES, MUTATE, TAKE ME TO THEM.



MAGNETO IS COMING.

FEAR GRIPS THE PANICKED POPULACE AS THE NEWS SPREADS LIKE WILDFIRE THROUGH A PARCHED FOREST.

RIOTS FILL THE STREETS AS MAN'S BASER INSTINCTS RISE SHAMELESSLY TO THE SURFACE.

INSTINCTS BECOME PRIMAL... PREDATORY.

MORALITY... LAWS... ORDER--

--MEANINGLESS WORDS AS TERROR BECOMES THE ONLY COIN OF EXCHANGE--

--WITH SURVIVAL THE ONLY THOUGHT.

AMBASSADOR HUXLEY! LAST SHUTTLE LEAVES IN TEN MINUTES! GET WHAT YOU NEED AND I'LL MEET YOU TOPSIDE!

DOCTOR ALDA HUXLEY'S METEORIC RISE TO BECOMING GENOSHA'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS HAS BEEN BOTH IMPRESSIVE AND UNCELEBRATED.

SHE IS A WOMAN WHO COMMANDS BOTH RESPECT AND FEAR AMONGST HER PEERS.

A REALIST IN A WORLD OF ILLUSIONS, SHE KNOWS THAT MANKIND'S DAY IN THE SUN IS OVER.

INEVITABLY, MUTANTS WILL PREVAIL AS THE DOMINANT SPECIES ON THIS EARTH.

PERHAPS MAGNETO WILL BE THE ONE TO FORCE THIS CHANGE ALONG.

PERHAPS NOT.

BUT SHE WILL BE PREPARED.

HAROLD, WE'VE DISCUSSED THIS BEFORE. I HAVE NO INTENTIONS OF LEAVING JUST YET. YOU GO AHEAD AND I'LL SEE YOU SHORTLY.

BLIND FOOL.

IF YOU THINK I'M GOING TO WALK AWAY FROM THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME, THEN YOU'RE A BIGGER IDIOT THAN I PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT.

I'VE GOT PLANS FOR US, MY DEAR MAGNETO.

BIG PLANS INDEED.

THE AMERICAN
MIDWEST.

AMELIA VOUGHT STANDS ALONE
WITH HER THOUGHTS. MORE
FREQUENTLY, SHE FINDS THAT
SHE ENJOYS THESE TIMES--

--AN OPPORTUNITY TO
REFLECT ON WHERE
SHE'S BEEN AND WHERE
SHE MIGHT BE GOING.

AS A YOUNG
WOMAN, SHE
WAS FULL OF
LIFE'S POTENTIAL.

SHE WAS
A NURSE--

--A HEALER--

--AND PASSIONATELY
IN LOVE WITH THE MAN
SHE THOUGHT WOULD
BE HERS FOR BETTER
OR FOR WORSE--

--CHARLES XAVIER.

BUT DREAMS, LIKE
MEMORIES, FADE AS
THE YEARS PASS--

--HER ONETIME
ENTHUSIASM RE-
PLACED BY THE
BITTER REALITIES
OF DEATH,
DESTRUCTION
AND HATRED.

--PIETRO
MAXIMOFF,
THE FORMER
AVENGER
KNOWN AS
QUICKSILVER!

A FOUNDING
MEMBER OF THE
BROTHERHOOD OF
EVIL MUTANTS WHEN
HE WAS IGNORANT
OF MAGNETO'S
PATERNAL RELATION-
SHIP TO HIMSELF--

--PIETRO SAW THE
ERROR OF HIS
WAYS AND WAS
GIVEN THE CHANCE
TO REFORM AS
AN AVENGER.

TIME HAS PASSED, AS HAVE
THE AFFILIATIONS, BUT ONE
THING HAS REMAINED A
CONSTANT--

--THE MUTANT
SPEEDSTER IS
A HERO.

TODAY HER ROLE--
UNLIKE HER LIFE
CHOICES-- IS
CLEARLY DEFINED.
SHE IS TO KEEP
A SURVEILLANCE
ON THE SON OF
MAGNETO--

YET FOR THE
HEAVY BURDEN
OF MAGNETO'S
LEGACY THAT
HE CARRIES, HE
CONTINUES TO
PUSH AHEAD--

--TO MOVE FORWARD.

PERHAPS FOR THE
FIRST TIME IN HIS
TURBULENT LIFE,
PIETRO MAXIMOFF
IS COMFORTABLE
WITH WHO AND
WHAT HE TRULY IS.

"YOU'VE INHERITED MORE OF YOUR FATHER THAN YOU KNOW, PIETRO-- HIS POISE, HIS CONFIDENCE, HIS **STRENGTH**--

"--HAVE YOU INHERITED HIS WEAKNESSES, AS WELL?"

"PUT IN THE WRONG SITUATION WOULD YOU, TOO, GIVE IN TO DARKNESS?"

I PRAY NOT, PIETRO. YOU ARE AND ALWAYS HAVE BEEN YOUR OWN MAN.

GOT TO SAY I ADMIRE YOU FOR THAT.

YOU'VE SPENT YOUR ENTIRE LIFE TRYING TO ESCAPE THE SHADOW OF YOUR FATHER'S LEGACY.

AND WHAT AM I DOING HERE, IF NOT TRYING TO LURE YOU RIGHT BACK INTO IT?

I'VE FREELY MADE MY CHOICES. SHOULDN'T YOU BE GIVEN THE SAME OPPORTUNITY?

WHY HAVE YOU BEEN WATCHING ME, AMELIA VOHGT? DOES MAGNETO HAVE YOU ON SOME FOOL'S ERRAND?

HOW SAD YOUR LIFE HAS BECOME WHEN YOU ARE AT THE BECK AND CALL OF A MADMAN.

IF YOU DIDN'T SICKEN ME, I MIGHT EVEN PITY YOU.

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND--

YOU ARE THE ONE WHO IS IGNORANT!

MY FATHER IS NOT SOME MESSIAH PUT ON THIS EARTH TO SAVE THE MUTANT RACE!

HE'S A HOMICIDAL TYRANT WHO'LL DO ANYTHING-- OR SACRIFICE ANYONE-- TO ACHIEVE HIS DESIRES!

I TIRE OF THIS NEVERENDING CAROUSEL OF INSANITY.

I HAVE IGNORED HIS ACTIONS FOR FAR TOO LONG.

I WILL NEVER BE TRULY AT PEACE UNTIL I PUT AN END TO THIS REOCCURRING NIGHTMARE.

IT IS TIME I CONFRONTED HIM FACE TO FACE... MAN TO MAN.

PIETRO, IT WOULD BE FOOLISH OF YOU TO OPPOSE MAGNETO ALONE. YOU CAN'T WIN.

WE MAY BE BEYOND THE POINT WHERE HE CAN BE DEFEATED.

IT IS NOT OPEN FOR DISCUSSION.

USE YOUR TELEPORTATIONAL POWERS TO TAKE ME TO HIM, AMELIA VOHGT.

NOW!



HAMMER BAY,
MOMENTS LATER.

WHERE--?

GENOSHA.
DON'T YOU
EVER LISTEN
TO THE
NEWS?

YOUR
FATHER GAVE
THE WORLD JUST A TASTE OF
WHAT HE COULD DO BY
DISRUPTING THE EARTH'S
MAGNETIC SPHERE--

--AND THE UNITED NATIONS, FEARING
WORLDWIDE UPEHAVAL, CAPITULATED.

THIS CESS-
POOL WAS THEIR
CONCESSION.*

I'M SURE
THEY THOUGHT
THE CIVIL UNREST
AND LEGACY VIRUS
EPIDEMIC WOULD
OVERWHELM
HIM--

*X-MEN#87.

--KEEP HIM TUCKED
AWAY IN A SMALL,
NASTY CORNER OF
THE WORLD--

--BUT YOU
AND I BOTH
KNOW HIM
BETTER THAN
THAT.

MY GOD--
THE FOOLS--
WHAT HAVE
THEY DONE?

PIETRO HAS BEEN TO GENOSHA
ONCE BEFORE-- TO SAVE HIS
DAUGHTER, LUNA, FROM THE
MADMAN FABIAN CORTEZ.

AT THAT TIME
THE CONDITIONS
WERE HORRID--

--BUT THE SIGHTS PIETRO BEHOLDS AS HE
SPEEDS THROUGH THIS ONCE-GREAT CITY--

--LEAVE HIM,
FOR PERHAPS
THE FIRST TIME
IN HIS LIFE,
SPEECHLESS.

THE SOUNDS OF COMMERCE
AND THE LAUGHTER OF
CHILDREN ARE NOW GONE
FROM ITS STREETS--

SO PREOCCUPIED
IS HE WITH THE
DEVASTATION
AROUND HIM--

--REPLACED BY THE
WAILING GHOSTS OF
THE DEAD WHISTLING
THROUGH THE
CRUMBLING RUINS
OF ITS SHATTERED
BUILDINGS.

--THAT QUICKSILVER
FAILS TO NOTICE
A STRATEGICALLY-
PLACED SURVEIL-
LANCE CAMERA
AS IT WHIRS TO
LIFE.

UNBELIEVABLE.



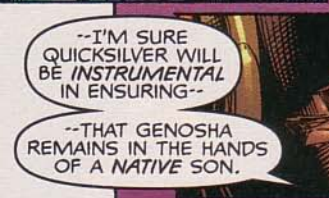
SON OF MAGNETO IS ON GENOSHA SOIL.



MAGNUSON HAS COME TO US IN OUR TIME OF ASCENSION.

THE ROLE WHICH I HAVE DEVISED FOR HIM--

OUR TEAM IS IN POSITION.



--I'M SURE QUICKSILVER WILL BE INSTRUMENTAL IN ENSURING--

--THAT GENOSHA REMAINS IN THE HANDS OF A NATIVE SON.



NAMELY, MYSELF.



DID YOU SEE WHAT YOU WANTED? WAS IT WORTH THE CHANCE YOU TOOK BY VENTURING OFF ALONE?

THE CONDITIONS ARE REPULSIVE. HOW COULD A SO-CALLED CIVILIZED SOCIETY DO THIS TO ITSELF?

THIS IS EXACTLY WHY MAGNETO IS NEEDED HERE.

YOU MAY NOT AGREE WITH HIS METHODS, BUT YOU CAN'T IGNORE HIS RESULTS.



HE MAY NOT BE THE BEST MAN TO LEAD MUTANTS OUT FROM UNDER THE HEELS OF OPPRESSION, BUT HE'S THE BEST CHANCE WE HAVE.



DO YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT SINCERELY FRIGHTENS ME, MS. VOGHT?

THE POSSIBILITY THAT YOU ARE RIGHT.

THE LADY'S NAME IS ROGUE--

--AND SHE HAS A LOT ON HER MIND.



THE X-MEN ARE MISSIN'*

JOSEPH'S DEAD.**

MAGNETO'S THE RULER OF GENOSHA.

FACE IT, DARLIN'-- WHEN IT RAINS, IT POURS.

THERE'S NOT MUCH AH CAN DO 'BOUT THE OTHER THINGS, BUT AH CAN DO SOMETHIN' 'BOUT MAGNETO.

THINGS ARE GETTIN' OUT OF HAND, AND AH OWE IT TO WHAT WE ONCE SHARED TO STOP IT FROM GETTIN' WORSE.

AH DON'T KNOW WHY AH'M DOIN' THIS. MAYBE IT'S 'CAUSE AH'VE BEEN WHERE HE'S AT--

--AN' MAYBE... JUST *MAYBE*... THERE'S ENOUGH OF THE MAN I ONCE KNEW TO SAVE...

...BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE FOR ALL OF US.



*UNCANNY X-MEN#368 AND **X-MEN#87, RESPECTIVELY.



CONTROL, I'VE GOT THE UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT IN MY VISUAL AND...

...YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BELIEVE IT...

IT'S A... FLYING... WOMAN?!!



ATTENTION, UNIDENTIFIED... PERSON... YOU ARE OVER RESTRICTED AIRSPACE.

ABORT YOUR FLIGHT PATTERN OR I WILL BE FORCED TO TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES.

MY, BUT HE'S A SWEET-TALKER, AIN'T HE?



SORRY, SUGAH, BUT AH JUST DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS.


Uh... I JUST LOST THE BOGEY IN A CLOUD BANK.

DID YOU GET A FIX ON ITS PROJECTED FLIGHT PATTERN?




TEN-FOUR. THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT...





"...SHE'S ON A
DIRECT COURSE
FOR GENOSHA."



SIR, ALMOST
IMMEDIATELY UPON
THE ANNOUNCEMENT
OF YOUR IMMINENT
ARRIVAL--


--THE PANICKED HUMAN
POPULACE *ABANDONED*
GENOSHA IN DROVES.

THE WAR
WAS *FORGOTTEN*
AS FAMILIES
HASTILY GATHERED
BELONGINGS--

--FORSAKING THEIR
HOMES AND COUNTRY
IN THE PROCESS.

THE MAGISTRATES WERE
FORCED TO PULL BACK TO
PROTECT THEIR FLEEING
COUNTRYMEN.

THIS
ALLOWED
OUR FORCES TO
ADVANCE AND
UNCOVER THIS
CLANDESTINE
MAGISTRATE
CENTER.



WITHIN DAYS
OUR CODEBREAKERS
WERE ABLE TO SOLVE
THE ENCRYPTION
CODES--

--SALVAGING DATA
THE MAGISTRATES HAD
THOUGHT ERASED
AND DESTROYED.

THEN, USING THEIR
OWN COMPUTERS AGAINST
THEM, WE DISRUPTED THEIR
COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS
AND MEMORY BANKS--

--ELIMINATING
MUCH OF THEIR
TECHNOLOGICAL
SUPERIORITY.

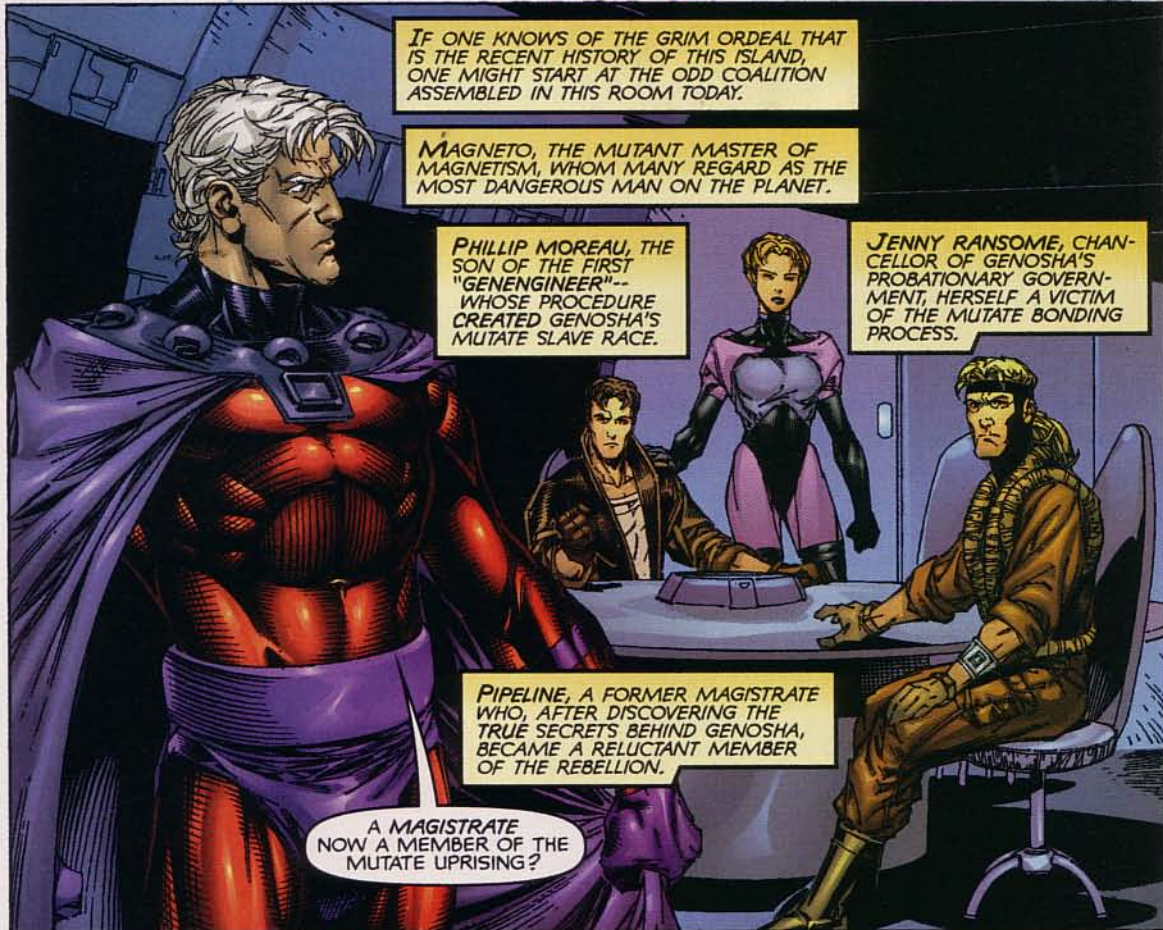
NOW WITH
YOU AT OUR SIDE,
VICTORY IS ALL
BUT ASSURED.

MOST
IMPRESSIVE.



THIS IS WHERE I MUST LEAVE YOU, MY LORD. THE COUNCIL AWAITS YOUR PRESENCE INSIDE.

IF YOU HAVE NEED OF ANYTHING, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO ASK.



IF ONE KNOWS OF THE GRIM ORDEAL THAT IS THE RECENT HISTORY OF THIS ISLAND, ONE MIGHT START AT THE ODD COALITION ASSEMBLED IN THIS ROOM TODAY.

MAGNETO, THE MUTANT MASTER OF MAGNETISM, WHOM MANY REGARD AS THE MOST DANGEROUS MAN ON THE PLANET.

PHILLIP MOREAU, THE SON OF THE FIRST "GENENGINEER"-- WHOSE PROCEDURE CREATED GENOSHA'S MUTATE SLAVE RACE.

JENNY RANSOME, CHANCELLOR OF GENOSHA'S PROBATIONARY GOVERNMENT, HERSELF A VICTIM OF THE MUTATE BONDING PROCESS.

PIPELINE, A FORMER MAGISTRATE WHO, AFTER DISCOVERING THE TRUE SECRETS BEHIND GENOSHA, BECAME A RELUCTANT MEMBER OF THE REBELLION.

A MAGISTRATE NOW A MEMBER OF THE MUTATE UPRISING?



HOW IRONIC IT MUST BE FOR YOU TO SIDE WITH THOSE YOU SO DESPISED SUCH A SHORT TIME AGO.

OR PERHAPS YOU DESPISE THEM STILL?



LOOK, YOU AIN'T NO GOD TO ME, SO KEEP YOUR SNIDE COMMENTS TO YOURSELF, OR--



PIPELINE! SIT DOWN AND SHUT UP!

Uh, MAGNETO, ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE GENOSHA'S VOICE IN THE UNITED NATIONS, ALDA HUXLEY.



MAGNETO IS NOT ONLY OUR GUEST, BUT WITH THE UNITED NATIONS ACCORD, HE'S NOW OUR DIGNITARY--

--AND I, FOR ONE, WELCOME HIM.

I MUST APOLOGIZE FOR MY LATE ARRIVAL, BUT I HAD *DETAILS* THAT DEMANDED MY ATTENTION.

NOT TO MENTION AN OVERPROTECTIVE ASSISTANT TO DISPATCH BEFORE I COULD MAKE MY WAY HERE.

I'M GLAD TO SEE THAT OUR REPORTS OF YOUR ARRIVAL WEREN'T EXAGGERATED, MAGNETO.

WELCOME TO GENOSHA.

PARDON MY IGNORANCE, MADAM, BUT AM I TO BELIEVE THAT, LIKE PIPELINE--

--YOU HAVE TURNED YOUR BACK ON YOUR FORMER COLLEAGUES AND NOW ARE FIGHTING FOR THE MUTANT CAUSE?

HOW CONVENIENT FOR ALL INVOLVED.

I BROKERED THE DEAL THAT BROUGHT YOU HERE, MAGNETO.

YOU MIGHT BE THE *BEST* CHANCE WE HAVE TO RESTORE GENOSHA TO SOME *SEMBLANCE* OF ITS FORMER SELF.

I'M TIRED OF THE FIGHTING... TIRED OF SEEING MY HOMETLAND REDUCED TO A SMOLDERING RUIN.

IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN I'M WILLING TO PUT ASIDE *WHAT-EVER* PREJUDICE I MAY HAVE.

THE QUESTION IS, ARE YOU WILLING TO DO THE SAME?

PREJUDICE ISN'T SOMETHING ONE CAN TURN ON AND OFF AS EASILY AS A LIGHT SWITCH, DR. HUXLEY.

BE THAT AS IT MAY, THIS IDIOSYNCRATIC COALITION OF YOURS HAS PIQUED MY CURIOSITY.

TELL ME THEN, DEAR DOCTOR, HOW DO YOU PROPOSE WE ACCOMPLISH OUR MUTUAL GOALS CONCERNING GENOSHA?

AMBASSADOR, IF I MAY?

WHILE IT'S *TRUE* THAT MANY MAGISTRATES HAVE FLED THE COUNTRY, WE STILL HAVE A *FORMIDABLE* ADVERSARY IN THIS MAN HERE--

--A FORMER MUTATE, A *ZEALOT* IF YOU WILL, WHO HAS ORGANIZED A FANATICAL BAND WITH ONE *PURPOSE* AND ONE *PURPOSE* ONLY--

--TO STOP MAGNETO FROM ASSUMING CONTROL OF OUR COUNTRY.



EVERYONE ISN'T PREPARED TO JUST TURN THE COUNTRY OVER TO YOU, MAGNETO.

I ADMIT MY OWN RESERVATIONS, BUT THE TRUTH OF THE MATTER IS, MOST OF THE MUTATES THINK OF YOU AS THEIR SAVIOR--

--THE GREAT MUTANT LEADER COME DOWN FROM THE HEAVENS TO SAVE THEM.

THIS ZEALOT DOESN'T SHARE THIS POINT OF VIEW. HE ASKS "WHERE WAS THE MIGHTY MAGNETO WHILE THE MUTATES SUFFERED YEARS OF ABUSE AS SLAVES?"

"WHERE WAS HE WHEN MUTATES DIED FIGHTING FOR THEIR FREEDOM? WHY ONLY NOW DOES MAGNETO INTERVENE?"



WHILE NOT A LARGE CONTINGENT, HIS FOLLOWERS ARE WELL ORGANIZED AND EFFICIENT.

THEY'VE BEEN USING GUERRILLA WARFARE AGAINST US EFFECTIVELY SINCE YOUR "REIGN" WAS ANNOUNCED.

WE DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT HIS CAPABILITIES, SINCE MOST MUTATE RECORDS WERE DESTROYED OR LOST DURING THE WAR.

BUT WE DO KNOW HE'S A FORMIDABLE OPPONENT, AS THE EVER-INCREASING NUMBER OF HIS FOLLOWERS WOULD ATTEST.



WE HAVE UNCOVERED ANOTHER FACT... SOMETHING I DIDN'T THINK WAS POSSIBLE, BUT...

TELL HIM, PHILLIP. HE HAS A RIGHT TO KNOW.

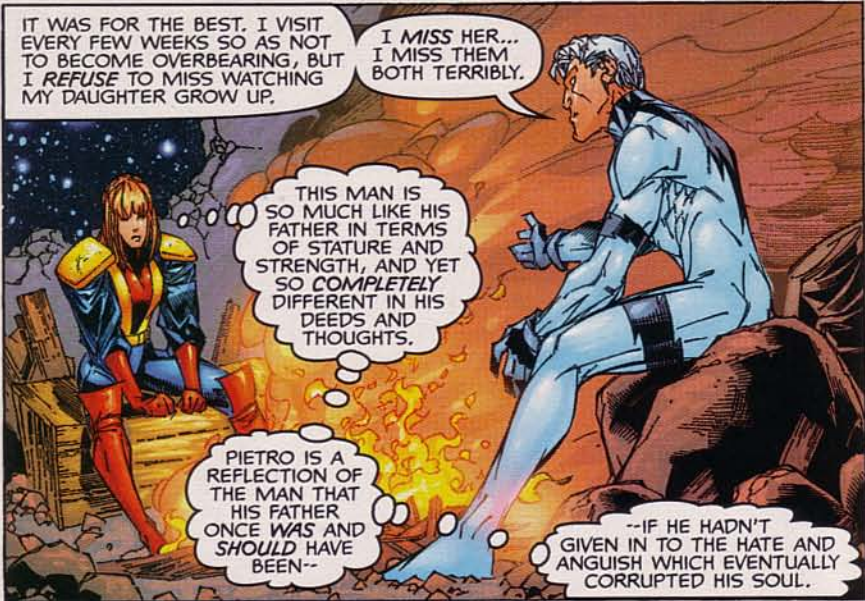
THE ZEALOT...
...HE'S MY BROTHER.



YES, PHILLIP, PLEASE CONTINUE.



...AND SO I LEFT LUNA WITH MY WIFE, CRYSTAL.



IT WAS FOR THE BEST. I VISIT EVERY FEW WEEKS SO AS NOT TO BECOME OVERBEARING, BUT I REFUSE TO MISS WATCHING MY DAUGHTER GROW UP.

I MISS HER... I MISS THEM BOTH TERRIBLY.

THIS MAN IS SO MUCH LIKE HIS FATHER IN TERMS OF STATURE AND STRENGTH, AND YET SO COMPLETELY DIFFERENT IN HIS DEEDS AND THOUGHTS.

PIETRO IS A REFLECTION OF THE MAN THAT HIS FATHER ONCE WAS AND SHOULD HAVE BEEN--

--IF HE HADN'T GIVEN IN TO THE HATE AND ANGUISH WHICH EVENTUALLY CORRUPTED HIS SOUL.



NOOOO!

PIETRO! NO, WAIT!

DON'T RUSH INTO A SITUATION YOU KNOW NOTHING ABOUT!



STAY AWAY FROM ME! I'VE DONE NO HARM TO ANYONE!



AAH--!



Oh?



OVER HERE!
I THINK I GOT A
MAKE ON OUR TARGET.
FUN TIME'S ABOUT TO
BEGIN.

SAVE SOME
FOR ME THIS
TIME, OKAY?



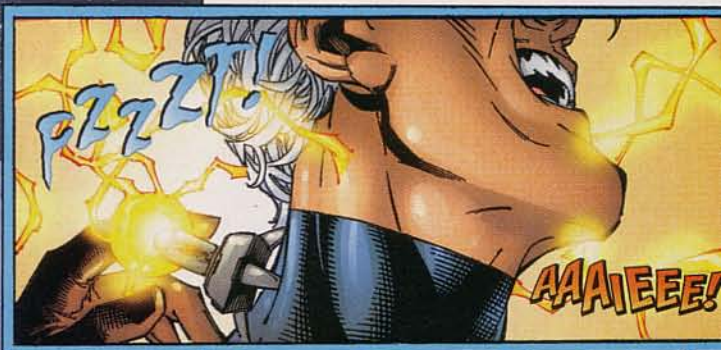
HEY! WHAT
HAPPENED TO
MY GUN?!



I
HAPPENED
TO THEM.

YOU HAVE
THREE SECONDS
TO THROW DOWN
ANY OTHER
WEAPONS YOU
MAY HAVE--

--OR I
PROMISE TO BE
MORE CREATIVE
WHEN I REMOVE
THEM THE NEXT
TIME.





BLAST--! PIETRO, YOU OVERCONFIDENT, HEADSTRONG FOOL.

RUSHING BLINDLY INTO A SITUATION WITHOUT THINKING HAS ALWAYS BEEN YOUR ACHILLES HEEL.

DIDN'T THEY TEACH YOU ANYTHING IN THE AVENGERS ABOUT CAUTION?

GREAT-- THEY'RE TOO WELL ARMED FOR A DIRECT CONFRONTATION, AND IF I GO TO MAGNETO I'LL JUST BE ADMITTING I FAILED HIM.

HELLO-- WHAT'S THIS?

AMELIA VOGHT, THIS IS YOUR LUCKY DAY.

THE MUTATE REBELLION COMMAND CENTER.

A SOMBER MAGNETO CONTEMPLATES THE DECISION HE HAS DEEMED AS NECESSARY AND, NOT FOR THE FIRST TIME, WONDERS IF HE HAS MADE A WISE CHOICE.

MY MUTANT POWERS ARE IN A CRITICAL STATE OF DECAY-- PERHAPS DIMINISHED FOREVER.

I HAVE NO REAL CHOICE.

NO ONE CAN BE ALLOWED TO KNOW MY TRUE CONDITION, FOR IT WOULD ALLOW MY ENEMIES THE OPPORTUNITY THEY SO DESPERATELY SEEK.

MOST IMPORTANTLY, I HAVE NO INTENTION OF ALLOWING HUXLEY TO PERCEIVE ME AS WEAK.

SHE'S CERTAINLY BLATANT IN HER AMBITION AND MAY PROVE A WORTHY OPPONENT AT A LATER DATE, BUT FOR NOW SHE IS USEFUL TO ME.



YOU CALLED, YOUR EMINENCE?



ALTHOUGH WE DESPISE EACH OTHER, IT IS TO BOTH OUR ADVANTAGES TO TEMPORARILY PUT ASIDE OUR DIFFERENCES--

--AND FOCUS ON THE COURSE OF ACTION REQUIRED TO RESTORE GENOSHA TO ITS PROPER PLACE.

AGREED.



THAT BEING SAID, I HAVE A NEED FOR YOU AND YOUR UNIQUE ABILITIES AT THIS TIME.

WE STILL HAVE A MISSING MEMBER TO OUR COALITION.

TAKE ME TO HIM.



HIS NAME IS FABIAN CORTEZ--

--A MUTANT WITH THE ABILITY TO AUGMENT THE POWER OF OTHERS.


ONCE, HE STOOD AT MAGNETO'S RIGHT SIDE-- THE GENERAL OF HIS MUTANT ARMY OF ACOLYTES.

THAT IS... UNTIL CORTEZ UNSUCCESSFULLY TRIED TO MURDER HIM.


HE NOW FINDS HIMSELF ISOLATED, A DICTATOR WITH NO DISCIPLES--

--HAVING ABANDONED HIS FELLOW ACOLYTES IN THE WAKE OF THEIR RECENT DEFEAT AT THE HANDS OF THE X-MEN.

ALONE AND UNSURE OF HIMSELF, HE PONDERES WHAT THE FUTURE MAY HOLD--



--LITTLE REALIZING THAT HIS DESTINY HAS ALREADY BEEN DECIDED FOR HIM.




WHILE YOU HAVE EVERY REASON TO FEAR ME FOR YOUR PAST DEEDS, CORTEZ--

--I COME TODAY NOT AS AN EXECUTIONER, BUT AS AN EMISSARY OF MERCY.


OF COURSE, THAT MAY CHANGE IF I FIND YOUR REPLY TO MY PROPOSITION UNSATISFACTORY.

YOU WILL AGREE TO SERVE ME FAITHFULLY, IN WHATEVER MANNER I MAY ASK, WITHOUT QUESTION AND WITHOUT PAUSE--



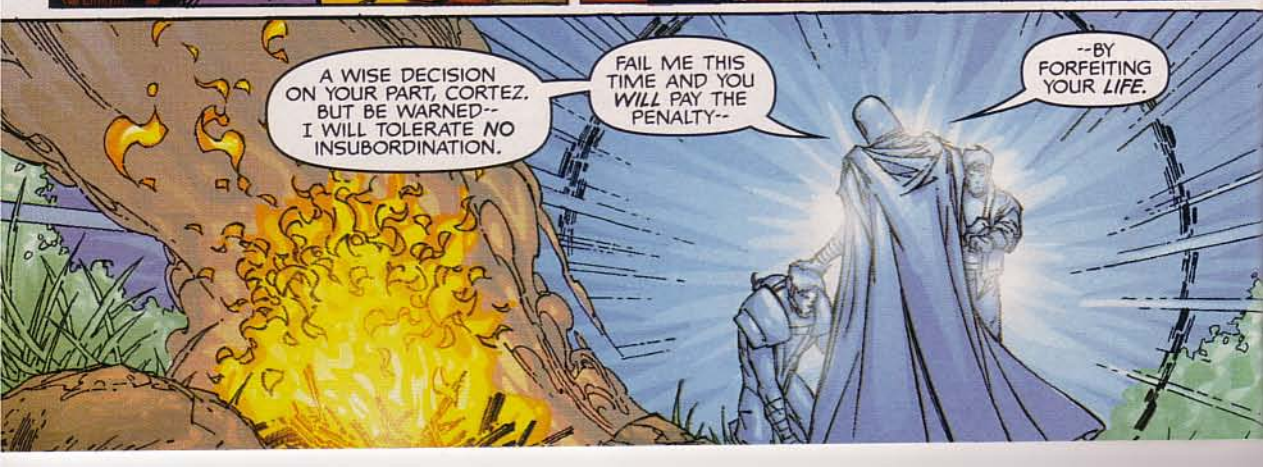
--AND I WILL GRANT YOU FORGIVENESS.

MAGNETO--?!



LOOKS LIKE I DON'T HAVE MUCH OF A CHOICE. SO BE IT, THEN...

...I SWEAR MY ALLEGIANCE TO YOU.



A WISE DECISION ON YOUR PART, CORTEZ. BUT BE WARNED-- I WILL TOLERATE NO INSUBORDINATION.

FAIL ME THIS TIME AND YOU WILL PAY THE PENALTY--

--BY FORFEITING YOUR LIFE.

THE BATTERED, ONCE-PROUD STREETS OF GENOSHA, WHERE A MISPLACED X-MAN PAUSES TO CONSIDER HER NEXT MOVE.

LOOK AT THEM!

LAST TIME THE X-MEN WERE HERE, ANY MUTATE ROAMIN' THE STREETS WAS FAIR GAME FOR THE MAGISTRATES, X-MEN, TOO.

'CURSE, IT'S BEEN THAT WAY FOR A LONG TIME.

WHY SHOULDN'T THESE PEOPLE BE FREE? WHY SHOULDN'T THEY HAVE A LEADER WHO SEES THEM AS MORE THAN JUST SLAVES?

QUESTION IS, IS MAGNETO THAT LEADER? IN THE SAVAGE LAND, AH SAW A NOBLE MAN OF STRENGTH AN' CONVICTION...

...BUT AH ALSO SAW HIM MURDER IN COLD BLOOD, WHICH IS THE REAL MAGNETO?



SOMETHIN'S GOIN' ON HERE, THAT'S FOR SURE. THEY'RE ALL HEADIN' IN THE SAME DIRECTION, AN' THEY'RE MOVIN' WITH A PURPOSE.

AH JUST HOPE THIS AIN'T ONE OF THOSE TIMES WHERE CURIOSITY KILLS THE CAT.



I KNOW YOU ALL HAVE HEARD THE RUMORS, THE WHISPERS.

I ASSURE YOU YOUR QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED MOMENTARILY.



LORD, THEY EAGERLY AWAIT YOUR TEACHINGS.



MY CHILDREN, TODAY I BRING YOU THE FULFILLMENT OF A PROPHECY.

THE FALSE MESSIAH, MAGNETO, HAS BROUGHT HIS UNHOLY LEGACY TO OUR VERY DOORSTEP.

AS HAS BEEN PREORDAINED, HE WILL SEEK TO WREST OUR HOMELAND AWAY FROM US, THE CHOSEN PEOPLE.

MAGNETO HAS IGNORED THE PLIGHT OF OUR PEOPLE FOR FAR TOO LONG.

ONLY NOW THAT IT IS *EXPEDIENT* FOR HIM DOES HE MOCKINGLY *FEIGN* CONCERN FOR US.



AH DON'T KNOW THIS GUY, BUT ONE THING'S FER SURE, HE'S A *GRADE-A* PSYCHO.

WHO IS HE? AH DON'T REMEMBER HIM FROM ANY OF THE X-MEN'S MISSION FILES...



HE IS NO BETTER THAN THE FORMER *TYRANTS* WHO CHAINED US IN THE *SHACKLES* OF SLAVERY!



HE HAS NO *RIGHT* TO BE HERE AND WE WILL NOT ALLOW IT!

SHOULD AN *OUTSIDER* LORD OVER OUR LAND?! SHOULD A FOREIGN BODY DICTATE TO US WHO SHOULD BE OUR *KING*?!?



I TELL YOU NO! WE WILL NOT SIT IDLE WHILE OUR FATES ARE DECIDED FOR US!

MAGNETO WILL *SUFFER* FOR HIS *ARROGANCE*-- FOR ALLOWING OUR AGONY TO CONTINUE UNCHECKED!



WE WHO HAVE BEEN MADE TO SACRIFICE OUR *FUTURE*... OUR FAMILIES... OUR VERY LIVES...

...WE SHALL TEACH HIM THE *TRUE MEANING* OF SACRIFICE BY TAKING FROM HIM WHAT WAS TAKEN FROM US!





BEHOLD!

**QUICKSILVER,
THE SON OF
MAGNETO!**

THE WAR OF
RETRIBUTION HAS
BEGUN, AND FIRST
BLOOD SHALL BE
OURS!

N E X T:
**THE FATHER, THE SON,
AND THE HOLY WAR!**