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THE UNCANNY

# X-MEN

ALPHA FLIGHT ATTACKS!



THE X-MEN BATTLE TO SAVE WOLVERINE FROM CANADA'S FIGHTING-MAD SUPERHEROES!

Cook/Reilly/Boyer



# SHOOT-OUT at the STAMPEDE!

CALGARY--ONE OF THE PREMIER CITIES OF WESTERN CANADA--GATEWAY TO THE NORTHERN ROCKIES, ARCH-RIVAL OF ALBERTA'S PROVINCIAL CAPITAL, EDMONTON (183 MILES FURTHER UP RTE.2)--A BIG, BRASH, BOOMING FRONTIER METROPOLIS, AND PROUD OF IT.

THE CALGARY STAMPEDE IS CALLED THE GREATEST OUTDOOR SHOW ON EARTH, AND DURING THE YEAR, WELL OVER A MILLION PEOPLE VISIT THE VAST RECREATIONAL COMPLEX SURROUNDING THE FAIRGROUND.

IT'S WINTER NOW, THE CITY OF CALGARY BRACED FOR THE ONSLAUGHT OF A VICIOUS ARCTIC BLIZZARD, AND THE PARK IS EMPTY, ITS GATES CLOSED AND LOCKED.

CALGARY  
HIBITION  
GARDEN

KTHAM!

ZARK!

BUT WHEN THE X-MEN COME CALLING, THEY MIGHT AS WELL HAVE BEEN LEFT WIDE OPEN.

CYCLOPS--LEADER OF THIS BAND OF OUTLAW HERO MUTANTS--STRIKES WITH HIS OPTIC FORCE BEAMS, WHILE COLOSSUS USES THE AWESOME STRENGTH OF HIS ARMORED BODY.

THEY AND THEIR COMPANION, STORM, SOARING OVERHEAD--HAVE COME SEEKING A PAIR OF KIDNAPED TEAM-MATES, WOLVERINE AND NIGHT-CRAWLER, AND THEY'RE NOT ABOUT TO LET ANYTHING--OR ANYONE STAND IN THEIR WAY.





CYCLOPS, DID WE HAVE TO BREAK THOSE DOORS DOWN? COULD NOT STORM HAVE FLOWN US INSIDE?

TOO RISKY, COLOSSUS. CARRYING BOTH OF US, SHE'D BE A SITTING DUCK.

BESIDES, AFTER WHAT WE'VE BEEN THROUGH, I'M IN NO MOOD TO BE GENTLE.



WHICH WAY, CYCLOPS?

YOU SCOUT AHEAD, STORM--SEE IF YOU CAN SPOT ANYTHING FROM THE AIR. COLOSSUS AND I WILL SEARCH ON FOOT.

BE CAREFUL BOTH OF YOU.

WE DON'T KNOW YET PRECISELY WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST. WE CAN'T AFFORD TO TAKE ANY CHANCES.

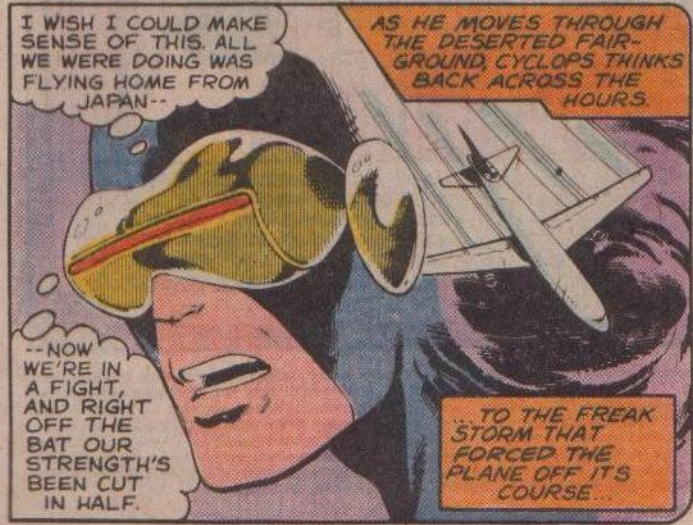


NOT GOOD. THE X-MEN OBVIOUSLY DON'T INTEND GIVING UP WOLVERINE WITHOUT A FIGHT.



AT LEAST, I CAN ENSURE NO INNOCENTS GET INVOLVED. ONCE I SCATTER SOME "MAGIC DUST" ACROSS THE ENTRANCE...

THE ENTIRE STAMPEDE GROUNDS WILL BE SEALED.



I WISH I COULD MAKE SENSE OF THIS. ALL WE WERE DOING WAS FLYING HOME FROM JAPAN--

AS HE MOVES THROUGH THE DESERTED FAIR-GROUND, CYCLOPS THINKS BACK ACROSS THE HOURS.

--NOW WE'RE IN A FIGHT, AND RIGHT OFF THE BAT OUR STRENGTH'S BEEN CUT IN HALF.

...TO THE FREAK STORM THAT FORCED THE PLANE OFF ITS COURSE...



...TO LAND AT CALGARY--IN THE WESTERN CANADIAN PROVINCE OF ALBERTA THEY WERE EXPECTED

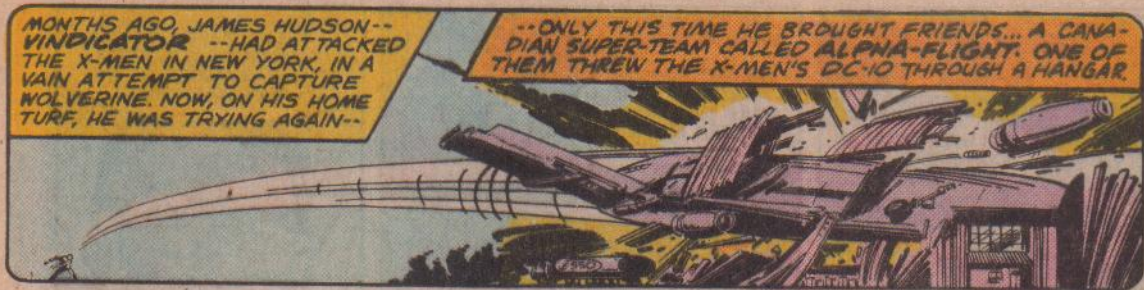
WOLVERINE! YOU KNOW WHO THIS IS, AND WHY I'M HERE! SURRENDER--

--OR I WON'T BE RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT HAPPENS!



MONTHS AGO, JAMES HUDSON--  
VINDICATOR --HAD ATTACKED  
THE X-MEN IN NEW YORK, IN A  
VAIN ATTEMPT TO CAPTURE  
WOLVERINE. NOW, ON HIS HOME  
TURF, HE WAS TRYING AGAIN--

--ONLY THIS TIME HE BROUGHT FRIENDS... A CANA-  
DIAN SUPER-TEAM CALLED ALPHA-FLIGHT. ONE OF  
THEM THREW THE X-MEN'S DC-10 THROUGH A HANGAR.



BUT WHEN VINDICATOR SEARCHED  
THE WRECKAGE, HE CAME  
UP EMPTY-  
HANDED. HIS  
PREY HAD  
ESCAPED.

WITH HER ELEMENTAL POWERS STORM PULLED THE  
BLIZZARD DOWN ON TOP OF THE AIRPORT  
AND, USING IT FOR  
COVER, THE X-MEN  
MADE THEIR  
WAY INTO  
CALGARY...



...THE CANADIAN HEROES  
HOT ON THEIR  
HEELS.

VINDICATOR  
CORNERED  
STORM AND  
BANSHEE IN  
THE TORONTO  
DOMINION  
MALL.

THE  
BATTLE  
WAS BRIEF--  
AND NO-  
CONTEST



OTHER X-MEN DIDN'T  
FARE SO WELL. WOLVERINE  
AND NIGHTCRAWLER  
BOTH DIS-  
APPEARED--

--PRESUMED-  
LY TAKEN  
PRISONER.

CYCLOPS SWORE TO  
RESCUE THEM.



BUT FIRST, THEY HAD TO BE  
FOUND.

WHEN PETER AND I  
SAW HIM, HUDSON  
WAS HEADING SOUTH-  
EAST.

HIS POWER CREATES  
A DISTINCTIVE  
ENERGY TRAIL, A  
DISRUPTION IN THE  
AIR I BELIEVE I  
CAN FOLLOW.

THEN  
WHAT'RE  
WE  
WAITING  
FOR?



IT WAS HARD WORK--STORM LOST  
THAT FAINT TRAIL MORE THAN ONCE--  
BUT FINALLY IT LED THEM TO THE  
STAMPEDE GROUNDS.

AND THEN...

I HAVE  
FOUND THEM!





BEYOND THAT BUILDING! NIGHT-CRAWLER AND WOLVERINE ARE ALONE IN THE CENTER OF SOME HUGE FIELD. THEY APPEAR UNCONSCIOUS.

CYCLOPS, SHOULD WE BE THIS DIRECT? SUPPOSE IT IS A TRAP?

I'M SURE IT'S A TRAP--

--BUT WITH JUST THE THREE OF US AGAINST LORD KNOWS HOW MANY, WE DON'T DARE SPLIT OUR FORCES.

GET THE GATE, COLOSSUS.

AS YOU WISH, COMRADE.

CYCLOPS, ARE WE DOING THE RIGHT THING? IF WOLVERINE IS WANTED BY HIS GOVERNMENT...

HE'S NO CRIMINAL, OR PROFESSOR X WOULD NEVER HAVE TAPPED HIM FOR THE X-MEN.

WOLVERINE SAID HE RESIGNED FROM HIS GOVERNMENT'S SERVICE, STORM. HIS PEOPLE HAVE NO MORE HOLD ON HIM.

SEE ANYONE AROUND?

NO ONE, BUT THEY COULD EASILY BE HIDDEN.

LET'S I GUESS THE BOTTOM LINE, STORM, IS THAT WOLVERINE IS OUR FRIEND...

...AND WHATEVER THE COST, THE X-MEN TAKE CARE OF THEIR OWN.

AN ADMIRABLE SENTIMENT, CYCLOPS, BUT THIS TIME THE COST MAY BE MORE THAN YOU CAN BEAR.

WHAT--?!

BY THE WHITE WOLF!



THIS IS ALPHA FLIGHT-- CANADA'S FIRST TEAM OF SUPERHEROES-- THE CULMINATION OF A DECADE OF INTENSIVE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. THEY THINK THEY'RE THE EQUAL OF ANY SUPER-GROUP ON EARTH!

THIS IS WHERE THEY GET A CHANCE TO PROVE IT.

SASQUATCH!

SHAMAN!

AURORA!

NORTHSTAR!

SNOWBIRD!

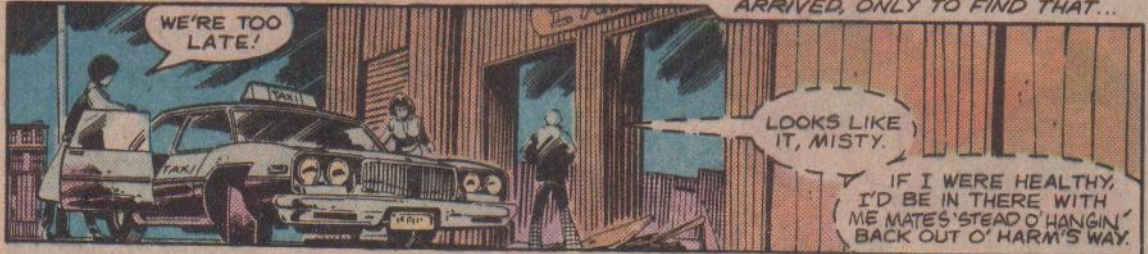
VINDICATOR!

WE'VE NO QUARREL WITH YOU, X-MEN. YOU CAN TAKE YOUR BLUE-FURRED FRIEND AND GO-- WE'LL GUARANTEE YOU SAFE CONDUCT INTO THE STATES--

--BUT WOLVERINE STAYS!



MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE MAIN GATE, MISTY KNIGHT, COLLEEN WING AND BANSHEE HAVE ARRIVED, ONLY TO FIND THAT...



WE'RE TOO LATE!

LOOKS LIKE IT, MISTY.

IF I WERE HEALTHY, I'D BE IN THERE WITH ME MATE'S STEAD O' HANGIN' BACK OUT O' HARM'S WAY.



I'M TAKIN' A LOOK AROUND. SEAN--DON'T!

RELAX, COLLEEN. PERHAPS CAN'T USE ME SONIC SCREAM ANY LONGER \*...

\* DUE TO INJURIES SUFFERED IN X-MEN #119/CLASSIC #16 ---BOB



... BUT I'VE OTHER SKILLS--! WHOAFF!

THUMP!



YOU OKAY? LITTLE..WINDED! A WALL! WHAT DID I HIT?

LIKE THE AIR ITSELF HAS TURNED SOLID!



AND INSIDE THAT "WALL"...

...LAST TIME YOU ALMOST KILLED MOIRA MAC TAGGART\*... NOT TO MENTION US AND OUR FLIGHT CREW A FEW HOURS AGO WHEN SASQUATCH WRECKED OUR PLANE!

THOSE WERE ACCIDENTS.

YOU SEEM TO HAVE A LOT OF THEM.

THAT CHANGES NOTHING. OUR ORDERS ARE TO TAKE WOLVERINE INTO CUSTODY...

\* X-MEN #109/CLASSIC #16 ---BOB



WHAT IS NORTHSTAR DOING?

WHETHER HE WANTS TO GO OR NOT? THAT STINKS, MISTER!

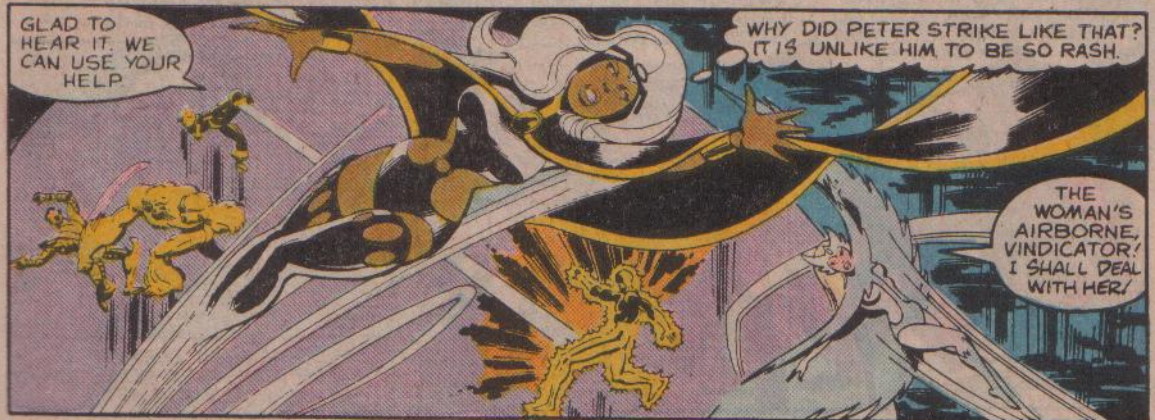
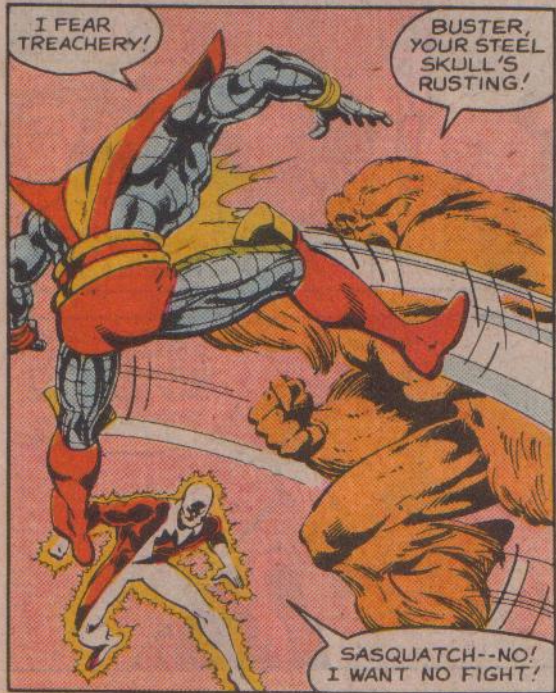
CONSIDERING THE ODDS, CYCLOPS, PERHAPS YOU'D BETTER GET USED TO THE SMELL.

SUSPICIONS FLARE IN THE YOUNG RUSSIAN'S BRAIN...

HE IS MOVING BEHIND CYCLOPS!

... AND WHETHER THEY'RE JUSTIFIED OR NOT, WE'LL NEVER KNOW, FOR AN INSTANT LATER...



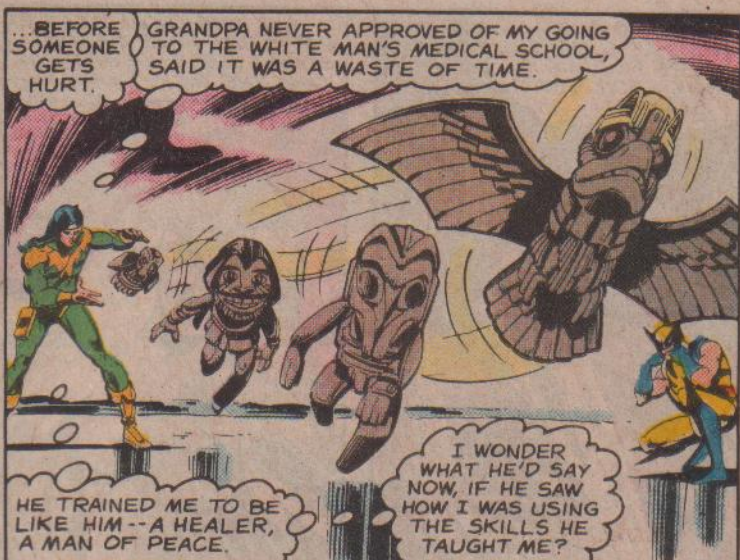






MAY THE GREAT SPIRIT FLY WITH YOU, SNOWBIRD.

MEANTIME, LET'S SEE WHAT I CAN DO TO END THIS MADNESS...



...BEFORE SOMEONE GETS HURT.

GRANDPA NEVER APPROVED OF MY GOING TO THE WHITE MAN'S MEDICAL SCHOOL, SAID IT WAS A WASTE OF TIME.

HE TRAINED ME TO BE LIKE HIM -- A HEALER, A MAN OF PEACE.

I WONDER WHAT HE'D SAY NOW, IF HE SAW HOW I WAS USING THE SKILLS HE TAUGHT ME?



FORM ON ME X-MEN!

WE CAN'T LET THEM SPLIT US APART, PICK US OFF ONE AT A TIME!

**SPARKOW!**



YOU'RE PRETTY HANDY WITH THOSE EYE-BEAMS, X-MAN.

UNNNGNH'S

**SHOK!**

IT'S A PITY YOU CAN'T SHOOT THEM EVERYWHERE AT ONCE!



CYCLOPS IS DOWN!

GUTEN ABEND, FRAULEIN. WE MEET AGAIN.

HO! A TELEPORTER, EH?



I THINK THE TIME HAS COME TO START EVENING THE ODDS IN THIS FIGHT, NICHT WHAR?

TO DO THAT, M'SIEU NIGHTCRAWLER, YOU'LL HAVE TO CATCH ME.

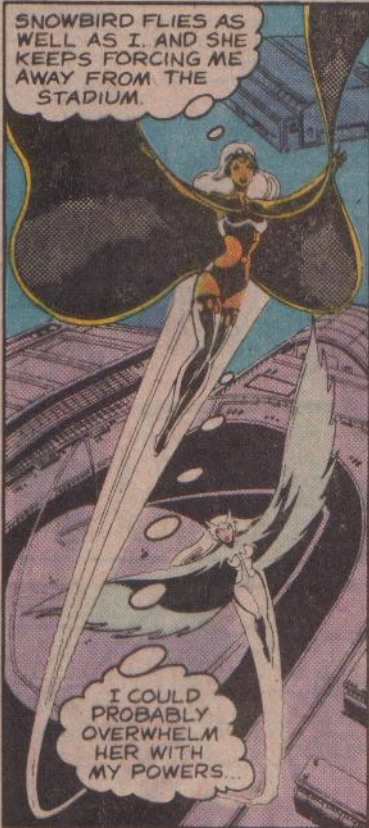


AND THAT'S FAR EASIER SAID THAN DONE.

WANNA BET?

**BANG!**





SNOWBIRD FLIES AS WELL AS I, AND SHE KEEPS FORCING ME AWAY FROM THE STADIUM.

I COULD PROBABLY OVERWHELM HER WITH MY POWERS...



"... BUT THE LOCAL WEATHER PATTERNS HAVE BECOME SO UNSTABLE, I DARE NOT TAKE THE RISK. "

YOU MAY BE A MATCH FOR MY HUMAN FORM, WOMAN.

BUT CAN EVEN YOU STAND AGAINST--



--A GIANT ARCTIC OWL!

SHE'S A SHAPE-CHANGER!



WE'RE GETTIN' CREAMED! AFTER MONTHS O' BEATIN' SOME OF THE ROUGHEST CHARACTERS ON EARTH...

**SKCHOX!**

...ALL OF A SUDDEN, WE'RE COMIN' APART LIKE FLAMIN' AMATEURS.



THE KEY IS TEAMWORK, WOLVERINE.

WE HAVE IT, YOU DON'T.

CRIPES!

IT'S A LITTLE WIND, SUMMONED BY A PINCH OF POWDER AND AN ANCIENT, WHISPERED INCANTATION...

... BUT, AS THE SAYING GOES, IT'S THE STRAW THAT BREAKS THE CAMEL'S BACK.



TO BRING THE X-MEN TO CALGARY, SHAMAN WARPED WEATHER SYSTEMS FROM HERE TO THE NORTH POLE, CREATING A CYCLONIC BLIZZARD...

...AND THEN SHUNTING IT THIS WAY AND THAT IN DEFIANCE OF PRIMAL NATURAL FORCES. HE STILL THINKS HE'S IN CONTROL, UNAWARE THAT THE STORM HAS DEVELOPED A LIFE OF ITS OWN.

NOW, ITS POWER BUILDS GEOMETRICALLY WITH EVERY PASSING SECOND, TURNING IN ON ITSELF LIKE AN EVER MORE TIGHTLY COILED SPRING.

SOONER OR LATER, THE SPRING HAS TO SNAP, THE ELEMENTAL PRESSURE COOKER TO BURST.

ME, TOO. I...



LOOKS PRETTY ROUGH OUTSIDE, JOHN.

OH, NOTHING TO WRITE HOME ABOUT, DARICE.



DID YOU ENJOY NEW YORK?

YOU KNOW I DID. AND I LOVED SEEING A SHOW ON BROADWAY.



DARICE-- DUCK!!

OOOHHHHH!

EL SEWHERE...



THAT YOUR BEST SHOT, RUSTY? I'VE TAKEN WORSE FROM THE GIANTS FRONT LINE!



MY TURN, FELLA! LET'S SEE IF YOU TAKE AS GOOD AS YOU GIVE.



FLAMIN' WEATHER'S STARTIN' TO MATCH THIS FIGHT-- IT STINKS!

SHAMAN'S RIDIN' AIR CURRENTS OUTTA MY REACH-- HE MUST FIGURE I'M FINISHED. THAT'S HIS MISTAKE.

AND BACK IN OTTONA...



I SHOULD'A KNOWN MAC WOULDN'T LET ME GO. I PROBABLY COST TOO FLAMIN' MUCH MONEY!

I JUST WISH I WAS GOIN' THIS ROUTE ALONE.

I DON'T WANT THE X-MEN HURT ON MY ACCOUNT.

MAC---

VINDICATOR TO YOU, MISTER!

QUIT BEING STUBBORN, WOLVERINE.

SAY THE WORD AND THIS BATTLE'S OVER!

NORTHSTAR'S AS FAST A SUPER-SPEEDSTER AS QUICK SILVER--ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO HIT. 'SPECIALLY WITH MY HEAD STILL RINGING FROM THAT PUNCH HE GAVE ME.

COLOSSUS! YOU DON'T WIN A FIGHT WITH YOUR FISTS ALONE! YOU'VE GOT A BRAIN, MAN--USE IT!

WHOOOPS!

HA! IT IS AS CYCLOPS SAID WHEN HE STARTED TEACHING ME JUDO-- THE BIGGER THEY ARE, THE HARDER THEY FALL!

**KAM!**

THE EYE OF THE BLIZZARD IS CENTERED OVER THE SPELL-SEALED STAMPEDE GROUNDS, AND THE WEATHER WITHIN THAT EYE IS RELATIVELY CALM, BUT OUTSIDE...

WIND'S PICKING UP, PAUL!

COLD, TOO.

JIM, COREY-- WE GOTTA GET PEOPLE OFF THE STREET BEFORE THIS STORM FREEZES 'EM WHERE THEY STAND!



NO SIGN OF NIGHT-CRAWLER. STRANGE, I THOUGHT HE WAS RIGHT BEHIND ME.

IF TIMES WERE DIFFERENT, THIS WOULD BE FUN.

BUT THEY AREN'T. I WISH I WAS MORE LIKE MY BROTHER, JEAN-PAUL.

HE'S BEEN A SCRAPPER FROM THE DAY HE WAS BORN.

MYSELF--AT HEART, I'M A LOVER.

FRAÜLEIN...  
...BOO!

YOU--ELF!!

TALLY-HO!

AT THAT MOMENT HIGH ABOVE THE 'INFIELD'.

SHAMAN--WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!

JUS' LIKE OLD TIMES, EH, MAC? YOU NEVER GAVE ME A CHOICE ABOUT JOININ' YER TIN-POT YUKON AVENGER'S.

WHY SHOULD YA START NOW?

UH-UH, LOGAN--IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE.

HEATHER AND I GAVE YOU A HOME, A CHANCE TO BE HUMAN INSTEAD OF THE FERAL WILD-MAN YOU'D BEEN. IF YOU'RE ANYTHING TODAY, IT'S BECAUSE OF ME!

MODEST, MAC, AS ALWAYS.

WHAT I AM, BUB IS FREE.

AN' I'M GONNA STAY FREE--OR DIE!

SUDDENLY, THE CORE OF THE STORM EXPLODES, WINDS OF OVER 200 MPH THUNDERING OUT ACROSS THE PLAINS...

ITS SNOW TURNING TO ICE AND FALLING LIKE KNIVES--OR RIFLE BULLETS.

IF ONLY MY NEXT PROBLEM COULD BE HANDLED SO EASILY.

I ONLY TRIED ONCE TO SHAPE A STORM LIKE THIS.

THUMP!

AND EVEN THOUGH MUCH OF THE BLIZZARD'S FORCE IS BLUNTED BY SHAMAN'S MYSTICAL FORCE FIELD

... ENOUGH OF ITS FURY GETS THROUGH TO BRING THE BATTLE TO A SCREECHING HALT.

HOLY--!

SHAMAN--WHAT'S HAPPENING?!

I... I... DO NOT KNOW





AT THAT MOMENT, HIGH ABOVE THE "INFIELD"...

SNOWBIRD COMES CLOSER WITH EVERY PASS--YET I DARE NOT USE MY POWERS...

GODDESS! THE STORM--IT IS OUT OF CONTROL!



SHAMAN--WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!



...ASSUMING THAT IT COULD BE AS EASILY TURNED OFF AS A LIGHT SWITCH.

I CANNOT WASTE ANY TIME--IT MAY ALREADY BE TOO LATE.

FIRST, I MUST DEAL WITH SNOWBIRD.



I SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF THIS BEFORE.

WITH THE STRETCHING CAPACITY OF THE UNSTABLE MOLECULES OF MY CAPE, SNOWBIRD SHOULD NOT BE ABLE TO CLAW FREE.



IF ONLY MY NEXT PROBLEM COULD BE HANDLED SO EASILY.

I ONLY TRIED ONCE TO SHAPE A STORM LIKE THIS.

**THUMP!**

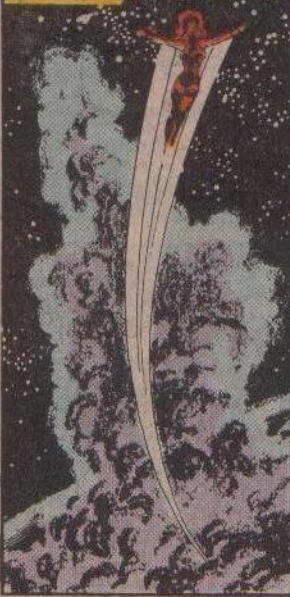


I FAILED--AND THE EFFORT NEARLY KILLED ME. BUT I DARE NOT FAIL NOW.

THE BLIZZARD'S CORE REACHED A FRIGHTENING INTENSITY BEFORE IT STARTED EXPANDING. IF UNCHECKED, IT MAY NOT BLOW ITSELF OUT UNTIL NEXT SUMMER-- IF THEN.



ARMS OUTSTRETCHED, SHE SOARS PAST THE CLOUDS, INTO AIR SO THIN AND COLD THAT A NORMAL HUMAN WOULD PERISH IN SECONDS.



HER PERCEPTIONS WIDEN UNTIL SHE SEES AND FEELS THE STORM--NOT AS CLOUDS AND WIND AND SNOW--BUT AS PATTERNS OF ENERGY.



SHE REACHES OUT-- WITH MIND AND BODY AND SOUL-- BECOMING ONE WITH THE TEMPEST...

AND THEN, GENTLY AT FIRST, SHE DRAWS IT TO HER, CHANNELING IT THROUGH HER BODY, INTO THE UPPER ATMOSPHERE...

...SPREADING ITS FURY ACROSS AN ENTIRE CONTINENT--CREATING SURPRISE SNOW-FALLS FROM THE ROCKIES TO THE ATLANTIC COAST.



A MISERY, TO BE SURE, AS SHE SLOWLY DIFFUSES THE STORM'S CORE, BUT FAR BETTER THAN WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN.

SHE FINISHES A LITTLE BEFORE DAWN...



THE STORM WAS MORE POWERFUL THAN I THOUGHT...

FORCED ME TO TAP INTO THE ELECTRICAL POTENTIAL ENERGY OF THE EARTH ITSELF...

I NEVER WANT TO TRY THIS. AGAIN.

STRAIN WAS... ALMOST UNENDURABLE. I FEEL LIKE... I COULD SLEEP FOR A WHOLE YEAR...

--RNNNGNH!



YOU'RE OBVIOUSLY THE MOST POWERFUL X-MAN, MY DEAR. WITH YOU DOWN, THE REST WON'T BE ANY TROUBLE.



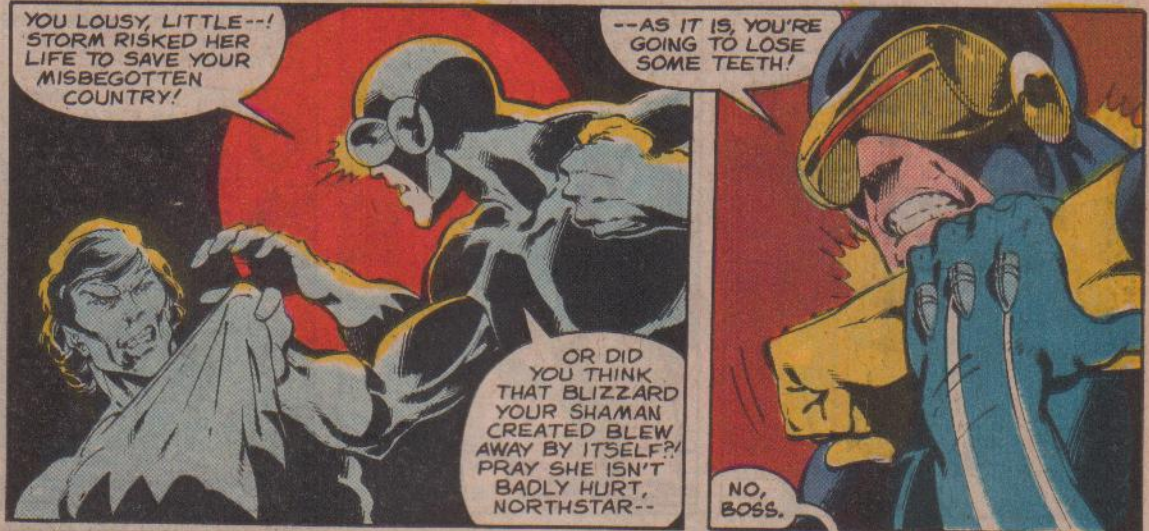
ORORO!



CRASH!

JEANPAUL!!





YOU LOUSY, LITTLE--! STORM RISKED HER LIFE TO SAVE YOUR MISBEGOTTEN COUNTRY!

--AS IT IS, YOU'RE GOING TO LOSE SOME TEETH!

OR DID YOU THINK THAT BLIZZARD YOUR SHAMAN CREATED BLEW AWAY BY ITSELF? PRAY SHE ISN'T BADLY HURT, NORTHSTAR--

NO, BOSS.



WHAT GIVES, WOLVERINE? I THOUGHT I'D BE THE ONE HOLDING YOU BACK.

YEAH--WELL, LIFE'S FUNNY LIKE THAT, THROWIN' YOU CURVES WHEN YOU LEAST EXPECT 'EM.

I CHECKED ORORO. SHE'S OKAY--ONLY A LITTLE STUNNED. AN' AS OF NOW, THIS FRACAS IS FINISHED.



IT'S MY SCRAP, CYKE--I TOLD YOU THAT. IT'S ME THEY WANT. THEY COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT THE X-MEN.

IF I'D HAD A CHANCE, IF THINGS HADN'T GOTTEN OUTTA HAND SO FAST--IF I HADN'T STARTED... ENJOYING THE ROUGH-HOUSE--

--I WOULD'VE CALLED IT QUITS LONG AGO, AN' SAVED EVERYONE A LOT OF GRIEF.



YOU'RE AN X-MAN, WOLVERINE. YOUR FIGHTS ARE OURS.

I APPRECIATE THAT, BOSS--MORE'N YOU KNOW. BUT I AIN'T GONNA SEE MY FRIENDS CHEWED UP ON MY ACCOUNT.

YOU WANT ME, MAC I'M YOURS



YOU MADE THE RIGHT DECISION, WOLVERINE.

TELL ME ABOUT IT AN' THE X-MEN GO FREE, RIGHT? NO MATTER WHAT.

YOU HAVE MY WORD ON IT.

I'D BETTER, BUB.



MINUTES LATER, AT THE MAIN GATE...

WHAT A STORM! IF WE HADN'T FOUND SHELTER, THAT WIND WOULD HAVE FLAYED US ALIVE.

I THINK WE'VE ORORO TO THANK FOR ITS QUICK EXIT.



Y'KNOW, IF I HAD ME SONIC POWERS BACK, I BET I COULD VIBRATE THROUGH THIS BARRIER.



I'D BETTER GIVE IT A TAP, MAKE SURE IT'S STILL--

--HEE-EERRE!!

BANSHEE, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

THE BARRIER, COLLEEN! I FELT IT FOR AN INSTANT, FIRM AS EVER, AN' THEN--POOF--IT VANISHED!



SAINTS, I HOPE IT WAS FOR ALL THE RIGHT REASONS, IF THE X-MEN HAVE BEEN BEATEN...

WHAT'S THAT?! AN ARMORED CAR?

THIS CAGE WAS SPECIALLY-DESIGNED FOR YOU, SHORTY. YOU COULDN'T BUST LOOSE IN A MILLION YEARS.

'COURSE, YOU'RE SO DUMB YOU'LL PROBABLY TRY.

YOU ALWAYS HAD A BIG MOUTH, GARSON. KEEP FLAPPIN' IT AROUND ME...



...AN' YER WIFE'LL BE A WIDOW BEFORE HER TIME.

WOLVERINE IS NOT AN ANIMAL, CYCLOPS. THAT MAN DID NOT HAVE TO TREAT HIM SO.

I KNOW.

THEY ARE NOT AS LUCKY AS WE, COLOSSUS. THEY SEE ONLY THE "SURFACE" WOLVERINE.

THEY KNOW NOTHING OF HIS TRUE SELF.



HOURS LATER



--THEIR PLANE ESCORTED TO THE U.S. BORDER BY A FLIGHT OF CANADIAN AIR FORCE FIGHTERS

THE X-MEN ARE FINALLY HEADING HOME--



