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THE UNCANNY

# X-MEN



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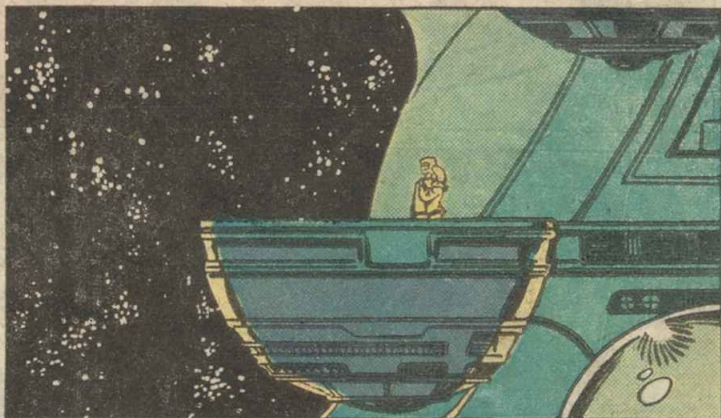
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**A Stan Lee  
PRESENTATION  
STARRING  
THE UNCANNY  
X-Men**

THERE IT IS,  
MADELYNE... AN  
EARTHRISE.



Oh, SCOTT--

-- IT'S SO...  
BEAUTIFUL!

# Romances

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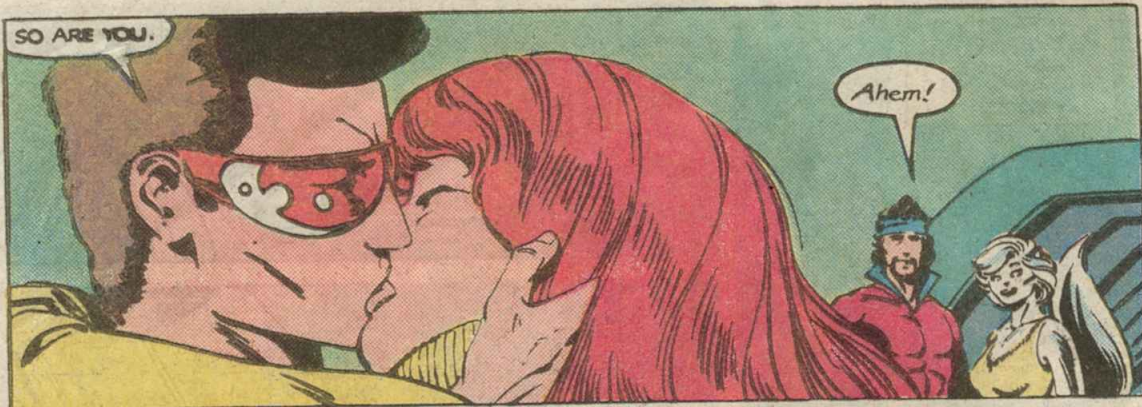
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SO ARE YOU.

Ahem!



MR. SUMMERS!

HI, DAD, MAM SELLE HEPZIBAH.

WE, ah, DIDN'T REALIZE ANY-ONE ELSE WAS AROUND.



SHAME TO QUIT ON OUR ACCOUNT, KITLINGS-- 'SPECIALLY WHEN YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE HAVING SO MUCH FUN.

SPARKS IDEAS, eh, CORSAIR?

LATER..)

YAH! CAN'T WAIT!



SCOTT WAS SHOWING ME THE VIEW.

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON-- YUM!

HEPZIBAH!

I'VE BEEN AROUND PLANES ALL MY LIFE-- I LEARNED TO FLY BEFORE I COULD DRIVE. AS A KID, I FANTASIZED ABOUT SOARING TO THE STARS. BUT I NEVER IMAGINED I'D ACTUALLY SEE IT HAPPEN.



THIS SHIP, YOU AND YOUR FELLOW STAR-JAMMERS-- THEY'RE A DREAM COME TRUE.

WOULD YOU LIKE THE NICKLE TOUR, Ms. PRYOR?

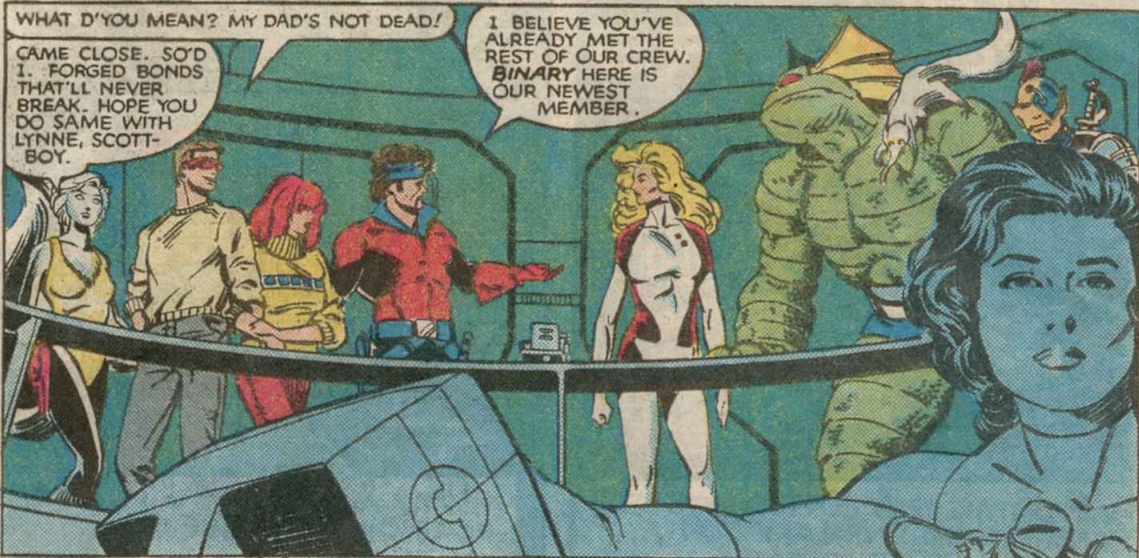
YOU BET!

MADELYNE'S MY DREAM COME TRUE, HEPZIBAH.

OH? SO WHY I HEAR DOUBT IN VOICE, SCOTT-BOY?

EASY TO TALK CARING, LOVING-- FAR HARDER TO SHARE BLOOD. YOU DIE FOR HER, SCOTT-BOY-- OR SHE FOR YOU-- LIKE CORSAIR DID LONGAGO FOR ME?

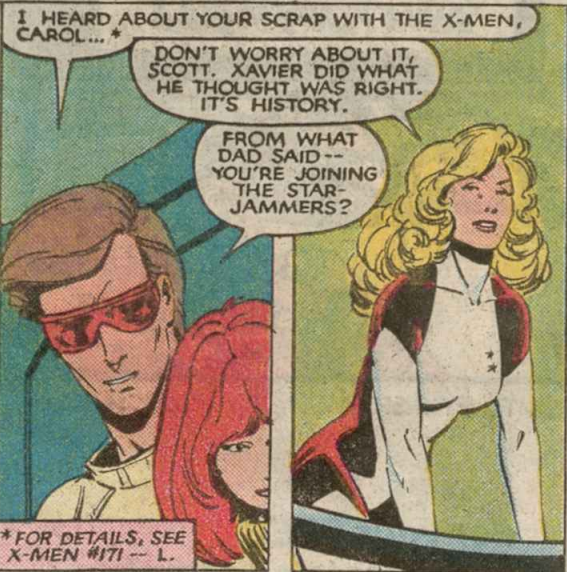




WHAT D'YOU MEAN? MY DAD'S NOT DEAD!

CAME CLOSE. SO'D I. FORGED BONDS THAT'LL NEVER BREAK. HOPE YOU DO SAME WITH LYNNE, SCOTT-BOY.

I BELIEVE YOU'VE ALREADY MET THE REST OF OUR CREW. BINARY HERE IS OUR NEWEST MEMBER.



I HEARD ABOUT YOUR SCRAP WITH THE X-MEN, CAROL...\*

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, SCOTT. XAVIER DID WHAT HE THOUGHT WAS RIGHT. IT'S HISTORY.

FROM WHAT DAD SAID-- YOU'RE JOINING THE STAR-JAMMERS?

\*FOR DETAILS, SEE X-MEN #171--L.



LIKE YOUR LADY, I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO ROAM THE GALAXIES. NOW I'VE GOT THE CHANCE.

ALSO-- MUCH AS I'D WISH OTHERWISE-- THERE'S NO PLACE LEFT FOR ME ON EARTH, NO ONE I TRULY CARE FOR. DEEP SPACE IS WHERE BINARY WAS BORN.

THAT'S WHERE SHE'LL MAKE HER HOME.



WHEN DO YOU LEAVE?

FAIRLY SOON, I'M AFRAID. AND I CAN'T SAY WHEN--OR EVEN IF-- WE'LL BE BACK.

WHEN LAST WE SPOKE, YOU MENTIONED COMING WITH US. STILL INTERESTED?



I...

... I DON'T KNOW.



AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE STARSHIP'S INFIRMARY, AN EXPATRIATE EMPRESS IS DOING HER BEST TO DETERMINE WHY HER TRUE LOVE'S LEGS, WHICH SHOULD WORK, DO NOT.

IRONIC, IS IT NOT, LILANDRA, THAT THE STRONGEST MUTANT MIND ON EARTH SHOULD BE LAID LOW BY A PSYCHOSOMATIC PAIN WHENEVER I TRY TO WALK.

AND THE PAIN IS SO SEVERE, IT DISRUPTS MY PSI-POWERS.

I FEEL SO LUTTERLY NAKED-- AND HELPLESS-- WITHOUT THEM...

IF IT'S ANY CONSOLATION, MY HEART ...

... THIS FINAL SCAN CONFIRMS MY SUSPICIONS. THE PROBLEM IS PHYSICAL IN ORIGIN.

... EVEN THOUGH I KNOW THE LOSS IS ONLY TEMPORARY.

CAN IT BE CORRECTED? WILL I AT LAST BE ABLE TO WALK?!

YES, I BELIEVE SO.

I ONLY WISH I COULD STAND BESIDE YOU ON THAT HAPPY DAY.

WHAT'S WRONG, LIL? WHAT'S HAPPENED?!

WE'VE RECEIVED FURTHER WORD FROM SHI'AR. SINCE MY SISTER SEIZED MY THRONE, CIVIL WAR NOW SEEMS INEVITABLE.

DEATHBIRD IS QUITE MAD. I CANNOT LEAVE THE EMPIRE IN HER HANDS-- ANY MORE THAN I CAN ABANDON THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY RAISED MY STANDARD AGAINST HER.

I MUST RETURN, CHARLES, AND SOON.

WHAT CHANCE DO YOU HAVE OF VICTORY?

IF YOU CAN WALK, BELOVED, MY REBELLION CAN SURELY SUCCEED.

COME WITH ME, CHARLES. FIGHT BY MY SIDE.

AND IF I SAID, STAY, AS I HAVE OFTEN?

I WISH I COULD. IT WILL BREAK MY HEART TO LEAVE YOU.

MINE, TOO. BUT MY DUTY-- MY RESPONSIBILITY TO BOTH X-MEN AND NEW MUTANTS-- IS AS STRONG AS YOURS TO YOUR EMPIRE.

THEY ARE SO YOUNG, LIL ...



... AND THE DANGERS THEY FACE GROW MORE TERRIBLE WITH EACH PASSING DAY.

IN ADDITION, I'M CONCERNED ABOUT SCOTT.

AND MADELYNE.

I NEARLY KILLED HER WHEN FIRST WE MET, MISTAKING HER FOR PHOENIX, THE DEADLIEST THREAT OUR UNIVERSE HAS EVER KNOWN. I FEEL LIKE SUCH A FOOL.

THE RESEMBLANCE IS UNCANNY.

SURELY YOU'VE READ HER MIND, CHARLES, TO LEARN THE TRUTH?

MADELYNE'S IS ONE OF THOSE RARE BRAINS WHOSE THOUGHTS ARE CLOSED TO ME.

IT'S A NATURAL PHENOMENON -- THOUGH MOST UNUSUAL IN A NORMAL HUMAN.

SCOTT'S THOUGHTS, HOWEVER, HAVE OF LATE BECOME THE PROVERBIAL OPEN BOOK.

HE IS DEEPLY TROUBLED-- AND EVEN MORE DEEPLY IN LOVE.

COULD MADELYNE BE JEAN GREY-- PHOENIX--REBORN? IS SUCH A THING POSSIBLE?!

WHO KNOWS? CAN A LOVE AS TRUE AS HERS AND SCOTT'S SURVIVE DEATH? INDEED, WHAT IS DEATH TO A CREATURE SUCH AS PHOENIX?

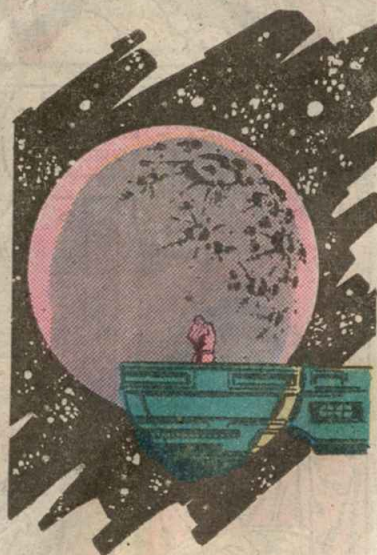
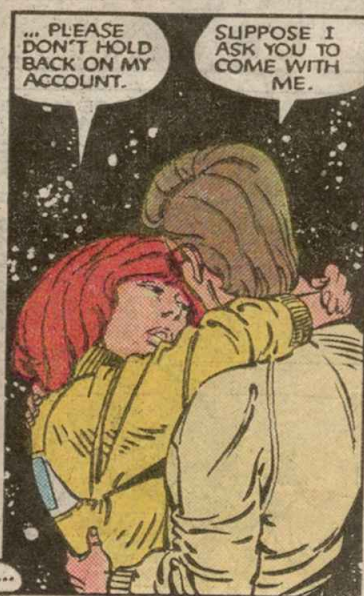
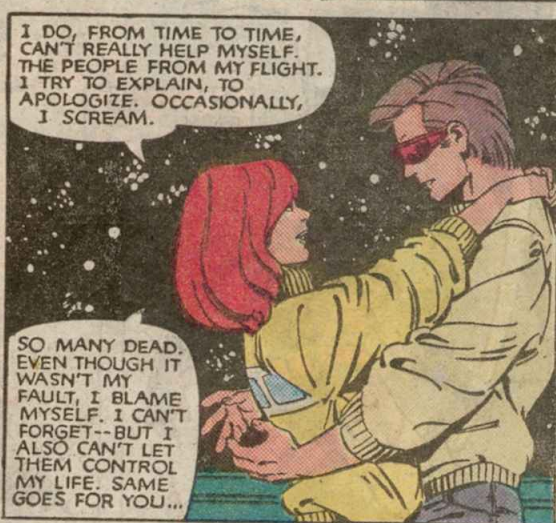
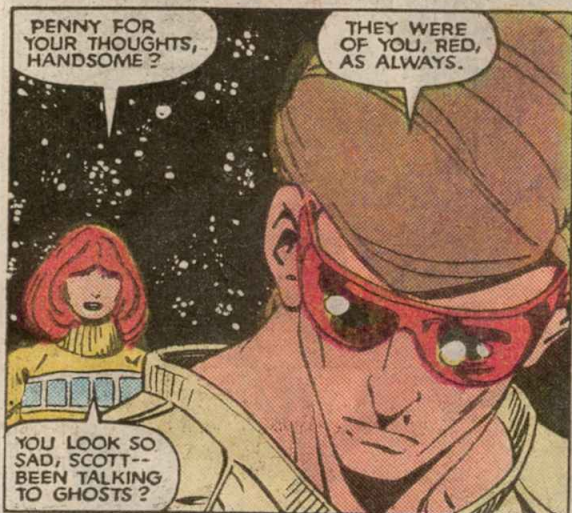
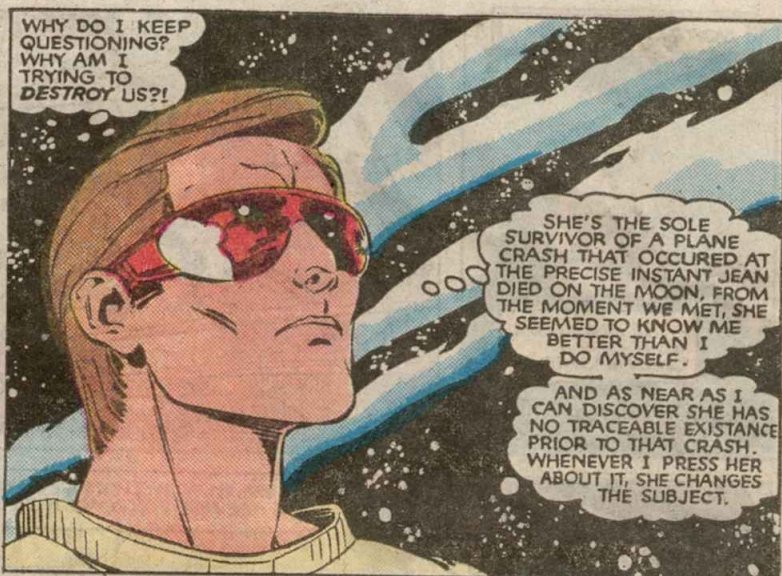
THIS PHYSICAL LIKENESS MAY BE NO MORE THAN CRUEL COINCIDENCE COMPOUNDED BY OUR OWN FEARS AND FANTASIES.

I PRAY IT IS.

SO DO I. SCOTT DESERVES THE HAPPINESS MADELYNE HAS BROUGHT HIM.

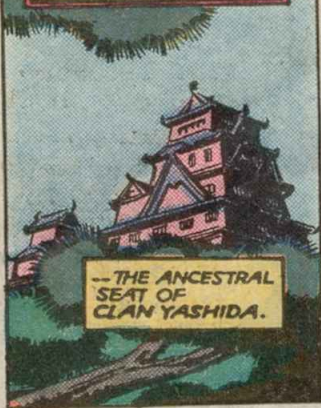
AND WE DESERVE OURS.







NORTHERN JAPAN--



--THE ANCESTRAL SEAT OF CLAN YASHIDA.

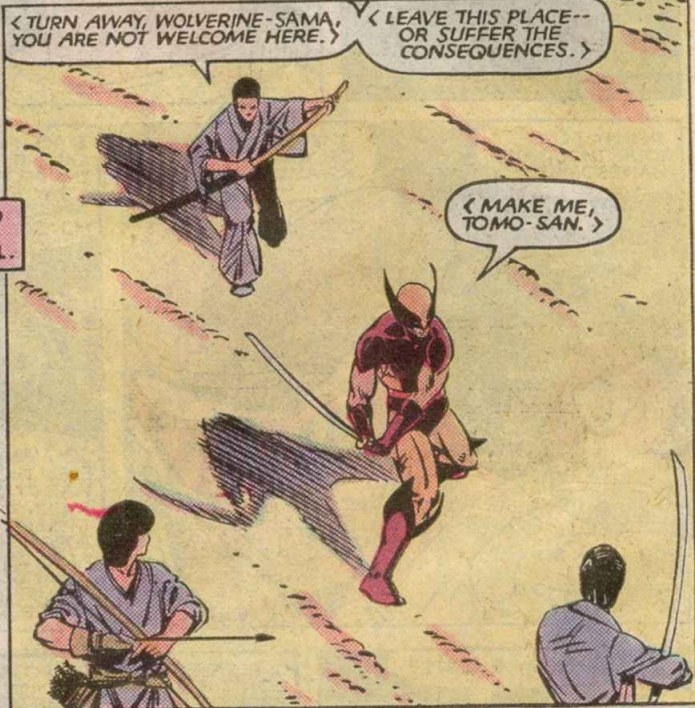


< TURN AWAY, WOLVERINE-SAMA, YOU ARE NOT WELCOME HERE. >

< LEAVE THIS PLACE-- OR SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES. >

< MARIKO! >\*

\*TRANSLATED FROM THE JAPANESE --L.



< MAKE ME, TOMO-SAN. >



< JIE! > < AS LORD OF CLAN YASHIDA, I COMMAND YOU ALL TO LAY DOWN YOUR WEAPONS. >

< I WILL HAVE NO BLOOD SHED IN MY HOUSE. >

< THAT, DARLIN', REMAINS TO BE SEEN. >

< WE WERE TO BE MARRIED, MARIKO-- YOU SWORE YOU LOVED ME, WITH ALL YOUR HEART-- BUT ON OUR WEDDING DAY, YOU CALLED IT OFF-- WHY?! >

< AS I TOLD YOU THEN, YOU ARE NOT WORTHY. >

< THAT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH! >





< IT IS THE ONLY ANSWER YOU DESERVE, MURDERER OF MY FATHER. >

< DO YOU REMEMBER THIS BLADE, MARIKO-- YOU GAVE IT TO ME-- THE "HONOR SWORD" OF CLAN YASHIDA. FOR 800 YEARS, IT HAS REPRESENTED ALL YOU ARE AND WISH TO BE-- THE SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL PERFECTION WE STRIVE FOR-- TO BE WORN, NOT BY THE LORD OF THE CLAN-- >

<-- BUT BY THE SAMURAI WHO BEST EXEMPLIFIES THOSE QUALITIES. >

< IF I'M NOT WORTHY OF YOU, LADY... >



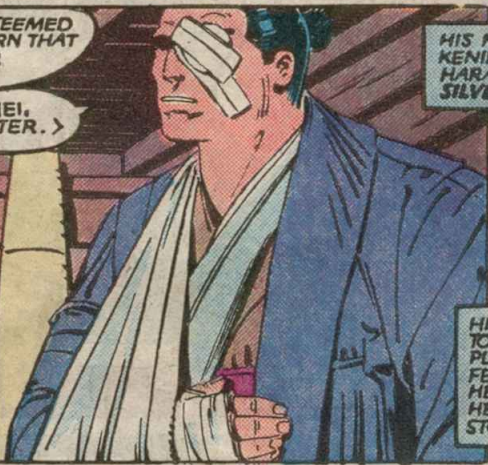
<... I'M NOT WORTHY OF IT! >

< KENIUCHIO-SAN-- MOST ESTEEMED BROTHER-- WOULD YOU RETURN THAT SACRED BLADE TO ITS PROPER RESTING PLACE. >

< HEI, SISTER. >

HIS NAME IS KENIUCHIO HARADA, THE SILVER SAMURAI.

HIS AMBITION WAS TO TAKE MARIKO'S PLACE AS LORD. A FEW WEEKS AGO, HE TRIED TO KILL HER. WOLVERINE STOPPED HIM.



< I HAVE WON, LITTLE GAIGIN. ALL MY PAST CRIMES ARE FORGIVEN. MARIKO HAS NAMED ME HER HEIR. YOU HAVE NOTHING. >

< YOU ARE NOTHING. >

< WOLVERINE, MY LOVE IS FOR A MAN, NOT A BEAST CLAD IN HUMAN FORM. >

< LEAVE MY SIGHT... >

<... MY HOUSE, MY LAND... >

< FOREVER. >





PROFESSOR CHARLES XAVIER'S SCHOOL FOR GIFTED YOUNGSTERS-- AN HOUR'S DRIVE FROM NEW YORK CITY--

-- WHEREIN RESIDES THE TEAM OF MUTANT SUPER-HEROES FOUNDED BY HIM, THE UNCANNY X-MEN...



... ONE OF WHOSE MEMBERS, KITTY PRYDE, IS SNEAKING A MID-AFTERNOON BREAK FROM HER ACADEMIC STUDIES.

THAT'S TELLING LUKE AND LEIA, THREEPIO!

BOY, LOCKHEED, THESE LAHSBEES SURE HAVE A WAY WITH WORDS, Y' KNOW?

MNEH!



Oh, YOU'RE JUST AS ELOQUENT, DRAGON, AND JUST AS CUTE!

I'VE GOTTA SHOW THIS STORY TO PETER, HE'LL LOVE IT--

WHAT'RE YOU DOING?! LEGGO MY HAIR!



LOCKHEED-- YOU'RE JEALOUS!

CcoOOOoo!

JUST 'CAUSE I LIKE PETER A LOT DOESN'T MEAN I LIKE YOU ANY LESS. I'VE GOT MORE THAN ONE FRIEND, YOU'LL HAVE TO ACCEPT THAT.

THAT'S THE NICEST COMPLIMENT I'VE HAD IN DAYS. THANK YOU, LOCKHEED.

PFUI!

NOW STAY HERE AND BEHAVE YOURSELF--



-- I'LL BE BACK SOON.



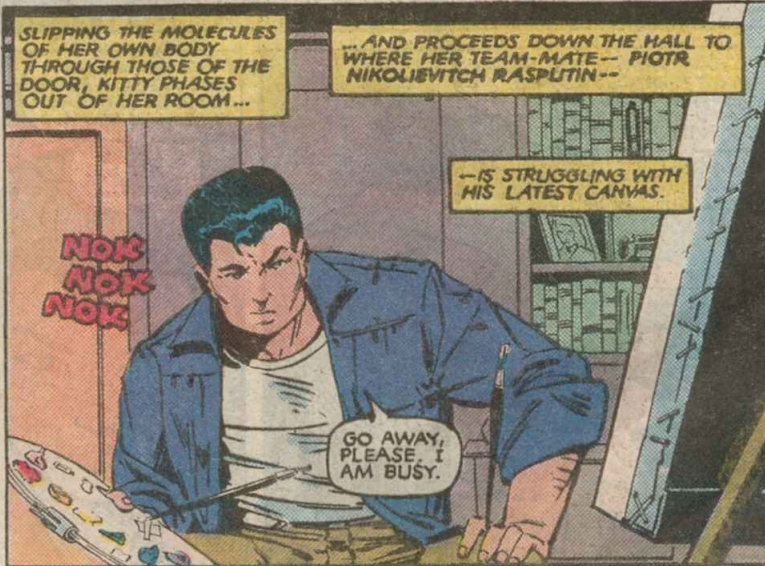
SLIPPING THE MOLECULES OF HER OWN BODY THROUGH THOSE OF THE DOOR, KITTY PHASES OUT OF HER ROOM...

... AND PROCEEDS DOWN THE HALL TO WHERE HER TEAM-MATE-- PIOTR NIKOLIEVITCH RASPLUTIN--

-- IS STRUGGLING WITH HIS LATEST CANVAS.

NOK NOK NOK

GO AWAY, PLEASE I AM BUSY.







SO TAKE A BREAK, THAT'S WHAT I'M DOING.

I SHOULD HAVE LOCKED THE DOOR.

WOULDN'T HAVE HELPED. I CAN WALK THROUGH WALLS.

PAINTING GIVING YOU TROUBLE?

DA.



FOR A DIVERSION YOU INSIST IS SUPPOSED TO RELAX YOU, THIS SURE MAKES YOU AWFUL GRUMPY.

ONLY WHEN IT DOES NOT WORK, KATYA.

LOOKS FINE TO ME.

Umhh. IT IS NOT... RIGHT. THERE ARE FEELINGS-- PERCEPTIONS-- I WANTED SO BADLY TO CONVEY. THEY ARE IN MY HEAD, CLEAR AS CRYSTAL. BUT, HARD AS I TRY, I CANNOT GET THEM...



... INTO MY HANDS OR ONTO THIS CANVAS. IT IS VERY FRUSTRATING-- KATYA!

WHAT YOU NEED, SIR, IS A CHANGE OF SCENE.

I WOULD PREFER BEING LEFT ALONE.



TOUGH LUCK, I WON'T TAKE "NO" FOR AN ANSWER.

C'MON-- SOME PLAYTIME'LL DO US BOTH GOOD.

WHERE ARE WE GOING?



UPSTAIRS, TO ORORO'S ATTIC. I WAS GOING TO SHOW YOU THE LATEST "STAR WARS" COMIC, BUT THAT CAN WAIT. THIS IS IMPORTANT.

AND WHAT, PRAY TELL, IS "THIS"?

I CAN'T TELL YOU, IT'LL SPOIL THE SURPRISE. C'MON, PETER, STOP BEING SUCH AN OLD STICK IN THE MUD!

SORRY. MERELY A SENSE OF SELF-PRESERVATION.





HA, HA, HA-- VERY FUNNY.

FOR CERTAIN.

THE PHRASE, DUNCE, IS "FER SHURE."

STAND RIGHT HERE...



... AND CLOSE YOUR EYES.

I AM GOING TO REGRET THIS.



'CLOSE 'EM, BUSTER!

AN' COOL IT WITH THE WISECRACKS!

WHATEVER YOU SAY.



PERFECT.

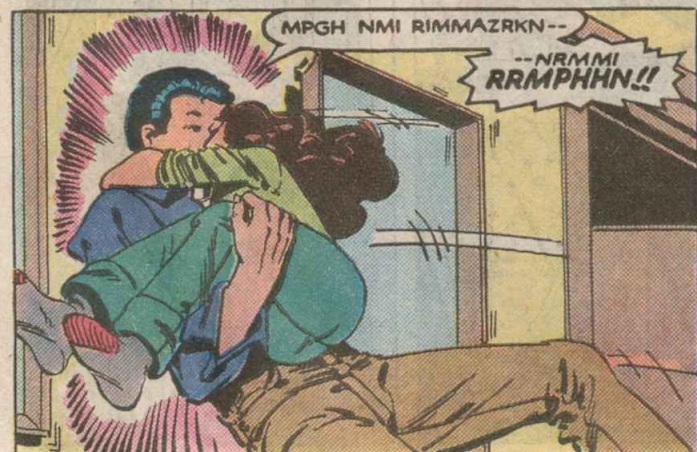
WHAT A MAROON!



**SURPRISE!!**



?!?



MPGH NMI RIMMAZRKN--

--NRMMI RRRPHHN!!



KITTY!?!

I'M ANGRY!

YOU'RE BLUSHING!

IT WAS WORTH IT!

BUT DON'T BE ANGRY, IT WASN'T INTENTIONAL. SPUR OF THE MOMENT IMPULSE, I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF, HONEST!





THAT WASN'T THE REAL SURPRISE, THOUGH.

SO YOU SAY.

OKAY, OKAY-- DON'T GET HYPER, AND DON'T DROP ME!

START WALKING FORWARD, AT A NICE, EASY PACE.



IT'S WORKING! WHEN I'M HOLDING ONTO SOMETHING OR SOMEONE, I CAN EXTEND MY PHASING POWER TO AFFECT THEM, TOO! I'VE GOT PETER WALKING ON AIR...



...AND THROUGH THE FLOOR OF ORORO'S ATTIC, THIS IS FANTASTIC!

CAN'T LET ANYTHING BREAK MY CONCENTRATION. IF WE SOLIDIFY NOW, THINGS COULD GET MESSY.

ARE WE NOT NEAR THE END OF THE HALL YET, KATYA?

SHUSH!

KEEP WALKING, PETER. THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT. TRUST ME.



FAMOUS LAST WORDS. I THINK I'D BEST SNEAK A PEEK ...

BY THE WHITE WOLF!



YOU KLUTZ !!

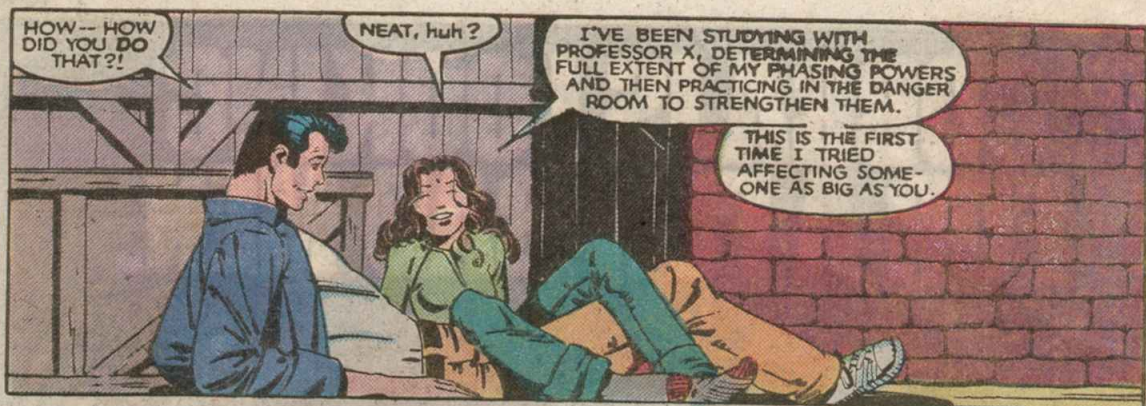
I TOLD YOU NOT TO OPEN YOUR--



EEYEEES!

THUMP!









ORORO!

OMIGOSH!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE???

I LIVE HERE.

I WOULD ASK THE SAME OF YOU, KITTEN, BUT THE ANSWER SEEMS OBVIOUS.



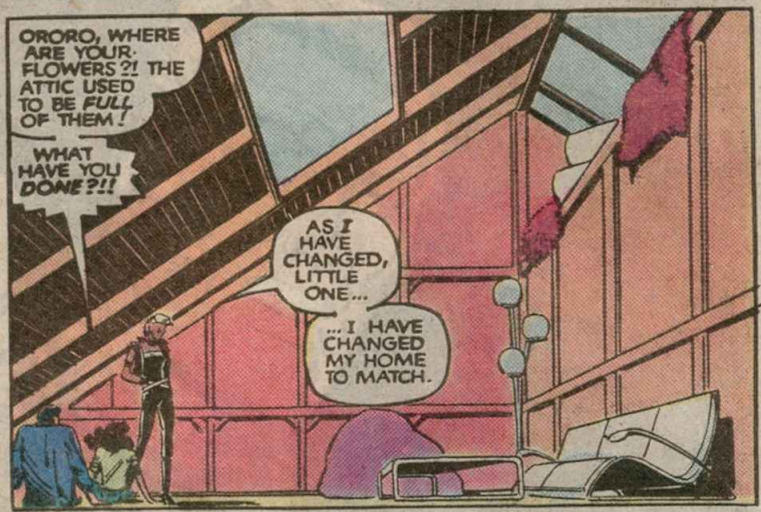
I'M SO EMBARRASSED, I COULD DIE! MAYBE IF I PHASE AND RUN...

DON'T YOU DARE!

WE DIDN'T EXPECT YOU BACK SO SOON.



I FIGURED WE'D TAKE CARE OF YOUR...  
... PLANTS.



ORORO, WHERE ARE YOUR FLOWERS?! THE ATTIC USED TO BE FULL OF THEM!

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE??!

AS I HAVE CHANGED, LITTLE ONE...

... I HAVE CHANGED MY HOME TO MATCH.

ELSEWHERE IN THE SPRAWLING MANSION...

... THE X-MEN'S MEDIC, KURT WAGNER-- NIGHTCRAWLER-- TENDS TO THEIR NEWEST MEMBER, ROGUE. \*

\* RECOVERING FROM INJURIES SUFFERED LAST ISH -- LOUISE.



YOU'RE DOING FINE. ANOTHER FORTNIGHT SHOULD SEE YOU UP AND ABOUT.

WHAT'S THE POINT? NONE OF YOU TRUST ME-- YOU NEVER WILL, EITHER-- 'CAUSE AH WAS AN EVIL MUTANT.

IT WOULD'A SOLVED A LOTTA HASSLES IF WOLVERINE'D SIMPLY LET ME DIE, 'STEAD O' SAVIN' ME



THAT WAS HIS CHOICE, ROGUE. IF HE THOUGHT YOU DESERVED DEATH, HE WOULD HAVE LET YOU DIE, WITHOUT HESITATION.

BUT HE EVIDENTLY CONSIDERED YOU WORTH SAVING. WHY NOT GIVE YOURSELF A CHANCE TO PROVE HIM RIGHT?

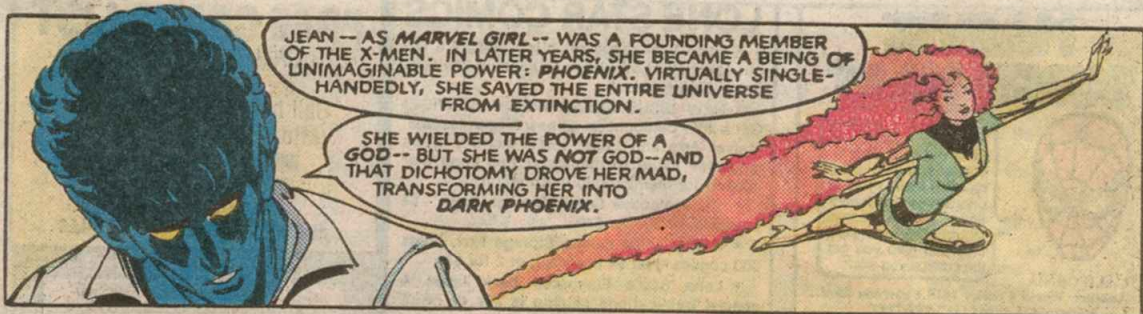


THIS USED T'BE JEAN GREY'S ROOM, RIGHT?

JA.

WHO WAS SHE, KURT? WHY'RE Y'ALL SO SKITTISH WHENEVER YOU TALK ABOUT SCOTT'S NEW GIRL FRIEND, JUST 'CAUSE SHE LOOKS LIKE JEAN?





JEAN -- AS **MARVEL GIRL**-- WAS A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE X-MEN. IN LATER YEARS, SHE BECAME A BEING OF UNIMAGINABLE POWER: **PHOENIX**. VIRTUALLY SINGLE-HANDEDLY, SHE SAVED THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE FROM EXTINCTION.

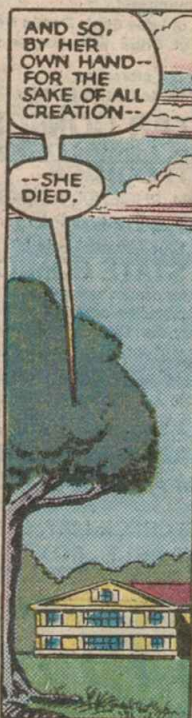
SHE WIELDED THE POWER OF A GOD-- BUT SHE WAS NOT GOD--AND THAT DICHOTOMY DROVE HER MAD, TRANSFORMING HER INTO **DARK PHOENIX**.



"IN HER RAMPAGE, SHE DESTROYED AN INHABITED STAR SYSTEM-- FIVE BILLION LIVES.

"AFTER THAT, IN A BURST OF SANITY, SHE REALIZED THERE WAS BUT ONE WAY OUT...

"... TO STOP THIS EVIL SIDE OF HERSELF."



AND SO, BY HER OWN HAND-- FOR THE SAKE OF ALL CREATION--

-- SHE DIED.



BUT WAS THAT THE STORY'S END?

PHOENIX WAS BORN WHEN JEAN DIED AND THEN RESURRECTED HERSELF. IF DONE ONCE, WHY NOT AGAIN?

STORM SAW THE PHOENIX EFFECT-- A GIANT BIRD OF FIRE-- IN TOKYO. ON THE EVE OF OUR INTRODUCTION TO MADELYNE. COINCIDENCE-- OR PORTENT?

SUPPOSE SHE IS PHOENIX REBORN-- WHAT THEN? DO SHE AND SCOTT NOT DESERVE A SECOND CHANCE AT HAPPINESS? AND IF IT CAME TO A FIGHT-- EVEN WITH EVERY X-MAN AGAINST HER--



-- I TRULY DOUBT WE'D WIN.

ACH, I HAVE NEVER FELT SO ALONE.

I WISH AMANDA WERE HERE.



I COULD USE HER LAUGHTER-- eh?



WAS IST?

HA!!





LATER...

... ABOARD A NORTHSTAR AIRWAYS FLIGHT, BOUND FOR ANCHORAGE...



NOT QUITE THE VIEW FROM YOUR DAD'S STARJAMMER, SCOTT, BUT IT SUITS ME JUST FINE.



STILL THINKING?

MADE YOUR DECISION YET?

I GUESS THIS RING COMPLICATES MATTERS.

WHATEVER HAPPENS, I WANTED YOU TO KNOW HOW I FELT.



IT'S MUTUAL, SWEETHEART-- 'TIL DEATH DO US PART.

THAT'S THE IDEA.



HOLD THE FORT, RED. I'LL CHECK ON THE PASSENGERS.

RIGHT TO THE END, I WAS POSITIVE I'D CHICKEN OUT-- BUT I DID IT, I ACTUALLY PROPOSED.



AND MADELYNE ACCEPTED.

I DON'T KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT HER--

--PERHAPS I NEVER WILL-- BUT THAT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER. I'LL LOVE HER JUST THE SAME.

WE'LL BE LANDING SOON, GENTS. PLEASE FASTEN YOUR SEATBELTS...



... AND MAKE SURE YOUR PERSONAL GEAR IS SAFELY STOWED.



YOUNG MAN? PILOT!



YESSIR?

SORRY T' BOTHER YE, LAD, BUT I B' LIEVE YE DROPPED THIS AS YE PASSED.







THANKS, FATHER. I HADN'T NOTICED.

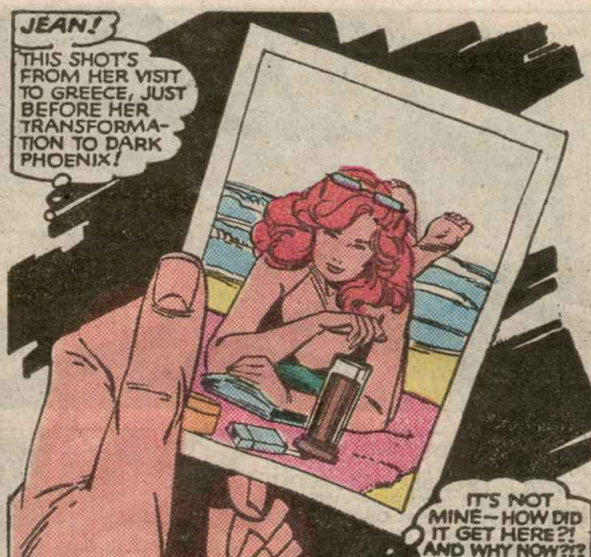
'TIS A FINE, LOVELY FIGURE OF A WOMAN--

--OUR CAPTAIN, IS IT NOT?



Uh... NO.

IT'S... SOMEONE WHO LOOKS LIKE HER.



JEAN!

THIS SHOT'S FROM HER VISIT TO GREECE, JUST BEFORE HER TRANSFORMATION TO DARK PHOENIX!

IT'S NOT MINE-- HOW DID IT GET HERE?? AND WHY NOW???



ARE YE WELL, LAD? YE'VE GONE SO PALE!

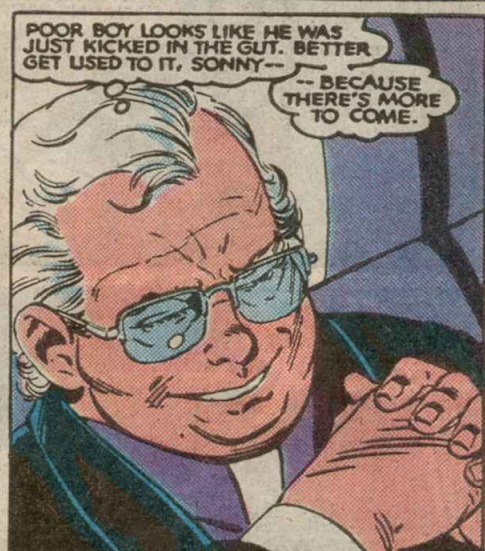
IT'S BEEN A LONG TRIP, FATHER. I'M TIRED.

IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME--



-- I'M NEEDED ON THE FLIGHT DECK.

HAS THE WORLD GONE CRAZY-- OR IS IT ONLY ME? I THOUGHT I HAD THINGS ALL SORTED OUT, BUT NOW I'M MORE CONFUSED--AND SCARED--THAN EVER!



POOR BOY LOOKS LIKE HE WAS JUST KICKED IN THE GUT. BETTER GET USED TO IT, SONNY--

-- BECAUSE THERE'S MORE TO COME.

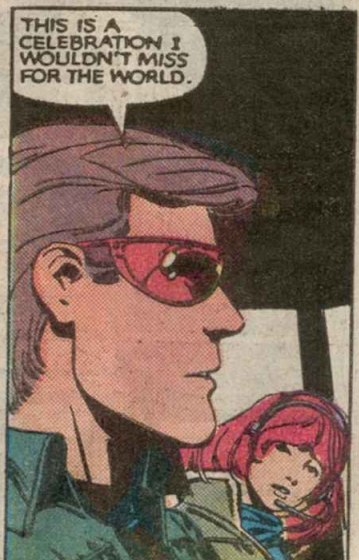


YOU OKAY, SCOTT?

SOMETHING I ATE-- IT'S MAKING ME FEEL A BIT WEIRD.

YOU STILL WANT TO GET TOGETHER TONIGHT?

ARE YOU KIDDING?



THIS IS A CELEBRATION I WOULDN'T MISS FOR THE WORLD.



THAT EVENING...

... MADELYNE HEADS HOME FROM THE MARKET, WONDERING ABOUT SCOTT'S INEXPLICABLE MOOD-SHIFT.

HE TRIED TO COVER IT, BUT I KNOW HIM TOO WELL. HE'S WITHDRAWN INTO HIMSELF, SHUTTING ME OUT.

SOMETHING'S WRONG, BUT HE WON'T TELL ME WHAT.

ON THE OTHER HAND, WHO AM I TO COMPLAIN ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE BEING SECRETIVE? OLD HABITS DIE HARD -- AND YOU PAY FOR THEM DEARLY.

IT'S PROBABLY NERVES, ON BOTH OUR PARTS.

ENGAGED, CAN YOU BELIEVE IT? AND SOON TO BE MARRIED. WILL WONDERS NEVER CEASE?

I HOPE SCOTT'S READY -- AND HE'S AS GOOD A COOK AS HE SAYS -- 'CAUSE I AM STARVED!

THE DEAR BOY IS QUITE READY, MADELYNE...

... BUT, REGRETTABLY, NOT IN THE WAY YOU THINK.

LAUGHTER -- MALEVOLENT, TRIUMPHANT -- FOLLOWS HER UP THE STAIRS...

... BUT SHE DOESN'T HEAR IT.





I'M HOME, SWEETHEART!



BUBBLY'S NICE AND CHILLED, LOVER-- WANT TO GET BLITZED AND FOOL AROUND?

SCOTT? IS ANYTHING THE MATTER? HAS SOMETHING HAPPENED TO YOUR DAD OR THE X-MEN?!



NO, NOTHING LIKE THAT.

I'VE BEEN THINKING.



I NEED AN ANSWER TO A VERY IMPORTANT QUESTION.

WE PLAYED THIS SCENE THIS MORNING, REMEMBER?

I SAID, YES.



MADELYNE, I'M SERIOUS!

I'VE BEEN WRESTLING WITH THIS ALL DAY, TRYING TO EXPLAIN AWAY MY DOUBTS-- AND FEARS-- TELLING MYSELF I'M BEING A FOOL, BUT IT'S NO GOOD. I CAN'T. I HAVE TO KNOW.



ARE YOU THE REINCARNATION OF JEAN GREY?

ARE YOU PHOENIX?





MADELYNE--  
MY  
GLASSES!

MY OPTIC BLASTS FIRE WHENEVER I OPEN MY EYES. THOSE RUBY QUARTZ LENSES ARE THE ONLY MEANS I HAVE TO CONTROL THEM. WITHOUT THE GLASSES, I HAVE TO KEEP MY EYES SHUT TIGHT.

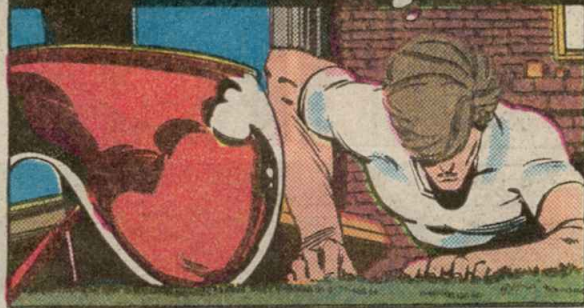
THAT WAS SOME PUNCH-- AND I DESERVED IT.

HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SUCH A JERK?! WHAT COULD HAVE POSSESSED ME?!? I HURT MADELYNE AS DEEPLY AS A PERSON CAN BE HURT-- I AS MUCH AS TOLD HER OUR LOVE IS A LIE, THAT I DON'T CARE FOR HER, ONLY FOR THE GHOST SHE REPRESENTS.

CAN'T FEEL MY GLASSES ANYWHERE IN REACH.



I'M BLIND-  
HELPLESS!



CAN'T WASTE TIME LOOKING FOR THEM, EITHER.



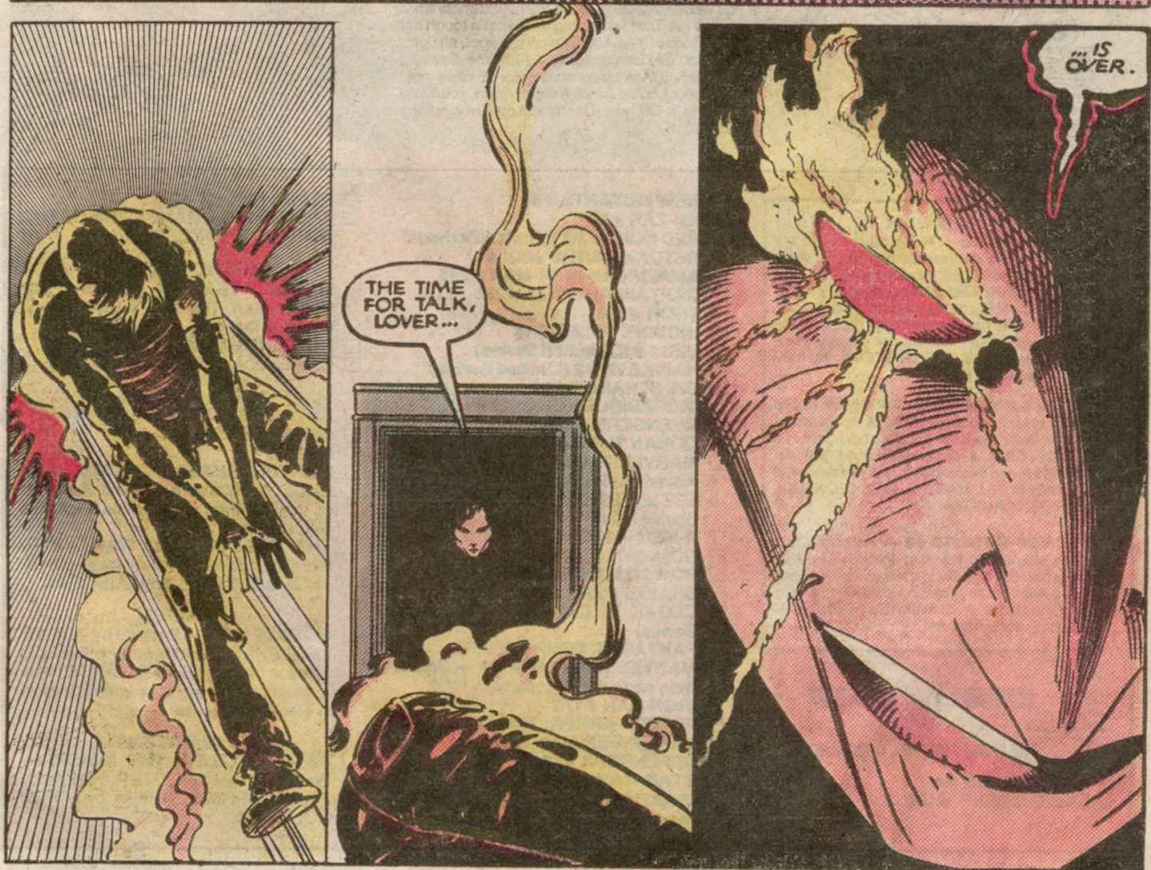
GOOD THING I ALWAYS CARRY AN EMERGENCY SET OF SPARES. I'VE GOT TO MAKE SURE THEY'RE IN PLACE BEFORE I OPEN MY EYES, EVEN A FRACTION...



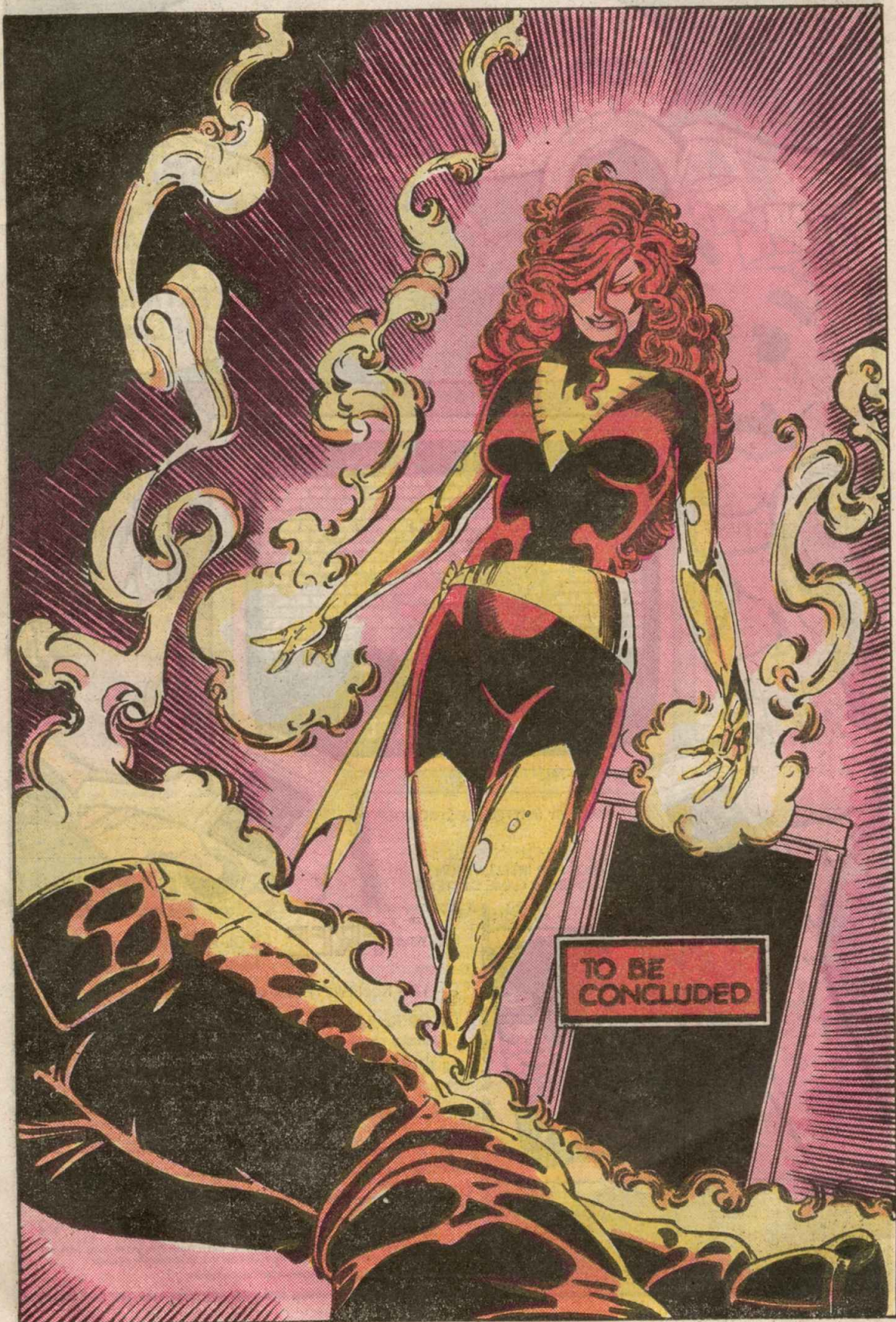
... OR I COULD WRECK MADELYNE'S HOUSE...

AS EASILY AS I HAVE HER LIFE.











# Bullpen Bulletins

## AL MILGROM QUILTS!

Sort of. Al's been thinking for a long time about giving up his editor's job and going back to working full-time as a writer/artist, which he loves doing. The trouble was that he also loves editing — being at the center of things, being in charge of exciting projects, and working closely with Marvel's superstar creators. Let's face it, once you've worked here in the wild, wonderful, strange-but-weird Marvel Bullpen for a while, it gets in your blood! The fact that Al wanted to spend more time at home with his lovely wife, Judy, and their new baby Rachel decided the matter. Al's back at the typewriter/drawing board again, as I write this (working exclusively for Marvel, of course!) but — happy ending! I arranged for Al to continue editing *Marvel Fanfare*, just so he could keep his hand in editorially! He's happy and we're thrilled. The place wouldn't be the same without Al's smiling face and rotten puns.

HI! I'M CARL POTTS!

WHO CRAZY-GLUED MY ELBOW TO THE DESK?!



## CARL POTTS FOLLOWS MILGROM!

...as editor of *The Defenders*, *Doctor Strange* and *The Hulk*. Carl, a writer and artist best known for his work for Marvel's own *EPIC Illustrated Magazine* as well as his stellar stint as inker on *Power Man* and *Iron Fist* brings an impressive creative background and a ton of new ideas with him. Like what? Well, watch for a startling new-and-different title called *Alien Legion* which will be coming out later this year — the first, but not, by a long shot, the last of the great stuff Carl has planned.

Would you believe that some crazed assistant editor promptly christened Carl's office "Carl's Bad Cavern"? And I thought Al's puns were awful!

## TOM DeFALCO BOOTED OUT OF EDITOR'S JOB!

Sort of. We made up a new, fancy title for Tom — *Executive Editor* — and put him in charge of ...um ...well ...stuff. What stuff? Hmm. There's so much and it's so varied, it's kind of hard to nail down. He'll be doing some editing, mostly of our prestigious movie adaptations and important special projects — you know, things like *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and our *The Life of Pope John Paul II* (which, incidentally, were two of the best-selling comics of the last two decades). He'll be developing some outrageous new titles and series, including possibly a line of comics for young kids. Hey, they need entertainment too, right? And, besides that, he'll be helping me out a lot. I might even get him to write this column sometimes. Watch!

## DANNY FINGEROTH IN BIG TROUBLE!

Former assistant editor Danny Fingeroth has been moved up to replace Tom DeFalco as editor of *The Amazing Spider-Man*, *The Spectacular Spider-Man*, *Marvel Team-Up*, and *Marvel Tales*. If you've been reading those titles, you know what a superb job Tom was doing and what a tough act his is to follow. Yes, Danny's on the spot, all right. But, if you've been reading *Ke-Zar the Savage*, which Danny has been editing for a while now under editor Louise Jones's supervision, you know he's up to it. Oh, yes, Danny will continue editing *Ke-Zar*, too!

## ASSISTANT EDITORS CONSPIRE!

As you may have heard, all of the editors here are going to be away at conventions for practically the entire month of August! That means that the assistant editors will be in charge of all the comics produced that month for sale in September! For that month, they're in full control of the entire Universe as we know it!

Big deal. So, they caretake the comics for a month. They're all smart cookies, and they all know their jobs very well. No problem.

Or is there?

The other day, Nancy Murphy, the nice lady who handles subscriptions, was out having lunch in the nearby Abbey Tavern when she noticed, huddled at a large table in the corner, all eight assistant editors! Mike Carlin, who assists editor Mark Gruenwald, seemed to be the ringleader — but all of them were there — Bob Harras (Ralph Macchio's assistant), Linda Grant (Dennis O'Neil's assistant), Elliot Brown (Louise Jones'), Jim Owsley (Larry Hama's), Mike Higgins (Bob Budiansky's), Ann Nocenti (Carl Potts'), and even Bob DeNatalis, brand-new assistant to Danny Fingeroth! Nancy said she couldn't hear exactly what they were saying, but that, clearly, they're up to something!

Good grief! This can only mean — THERE'S A CONSPIRACY AFOOT HERE!

What are they planning? These untried assistants are absolutely IN CHARGE of all the Marvel comics on sale in September — and I, for one, am worried!

None of them are talking — except to each other, and of course, the artists and writers. What is it? What's the scam?

I suspect that September is going to be... strange.

I have a bad feeling about this...

*Jim Shooter*  
Jim Shooter

### THE HYPE BOX

**AVENGERS #235** — A special twentieth anniversary issue! For years he has adamantly refused their offer. But now, at long last, the amazing *Spider-Man* wants desperately to join the Avengers! But do they still want him? Whatever the outcome, the team will never be the same again! Plus: five special guest villains! Brought to you by ROGER STERN, AL MILGROM, and JOE SINNOTT.

**CLOAK & DAGGER #1** — In their own limited series at last! From the pages of *Spectacular Spider-Man*, the most popular characters in a decade: *Cloak & Dagger*! Because you demanded it, and demanded it, and demanded it! Courtesy of BILL MANTLO, RICK LEONARDI, and TERRY AUSTIN.

**THE NEW MUTANTS #8** — An outing with mom was never like this! Roberto's mother leads the New Mutants to a lost civilization deep in the heart of the Amazon jungle. But can she lead them out? A CLAREMONT-BUSCEMA-McLEOD extravaganza!



### THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

- THE THING #4
- DAREDEVIL #198

- NEW MUTANTS #8
- KA-ZAR #28
- RED SONJA #2 (Limited Series)
- RETURN OF THE JEDI #1
- AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #245
- CAPTAIN AMERICA #295
- THOR #336
- INDIANA JONES #10
- U.S. 1 #6 (Limited Series)
- HAWKEYE #2 (Limited Series)
- DR. STRANGE #61
- INCREDIBLE HULK #288
- AVENGERS #235
- CONAN THE BARBARIAN #151
- MARVEL TALES #166 — Reprinting *Amazing Spider-Man* #18 by STAN LEE and STEVE DITKO, "The End of Spider-Man!"
- X-MEN #174
- ROM #47
- POWER MAN/IRON FIST #98
- G.I. JOE #16
- CLOAK & DAGGER #1 (Limited Series)
- FANTASTIC FOUR #259
- MARVEL TEAM-UP #134 — *Spider-Man* and *Jack of Hearts*
- IRON MAN #175
- PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #83
- DEFENDERS #124
- STAR WARS #78
- WHAT IF #41 — "What if the Sub-Mariner Had Not Lost His Memory?"

- ALPHA FLIGHT #3
- THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE #10

### MARVEL ANNUALS

- MARVEL TEAM-UP ANNUAL #6 *Spider-Man*, *The New Mutants*, and *Cloak & Dagger*.
- ROM ANNUAL #2
- CAPTAIN AMERICA ANNUAL #7

### MARVEL MAGAZINES

- SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #92
- MARVEL AGE #7
- BLIP #7
- MARVEL SUPER SPECIAL #25: KRULL — Marvel's movie adaptation of this summer's Columbia Pictures' block buster.
- THE KREE/SKRULL WAR #2 — More classic *Avengers* from THOMAS, ADAMS and BUSCEMA.

### EPIC COMICS

- COYOTE #3 — Written by STEVE ENGLEHART, and featuring the Epic Comics debut of BUTCH GUICE, who is stunning the world every sixty days in *The Microneuts*.

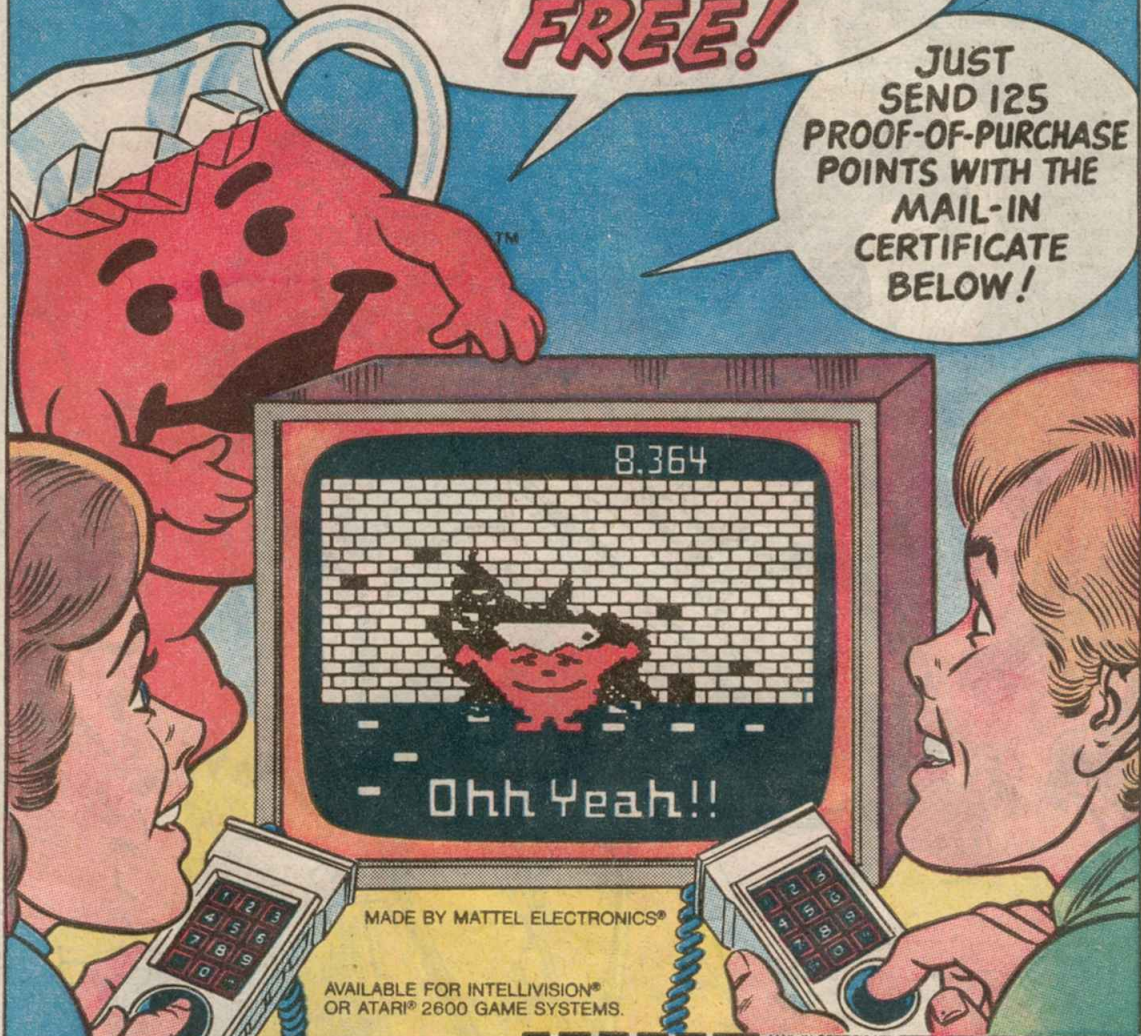
### MARVEL GRAPHIC NOVELS

- #8 — DAZZLER: THE MOVIE! — Written by JIM SHOOTER. Pencils by FRANK SPRINGER. Inks by VINCE COLLETTA.



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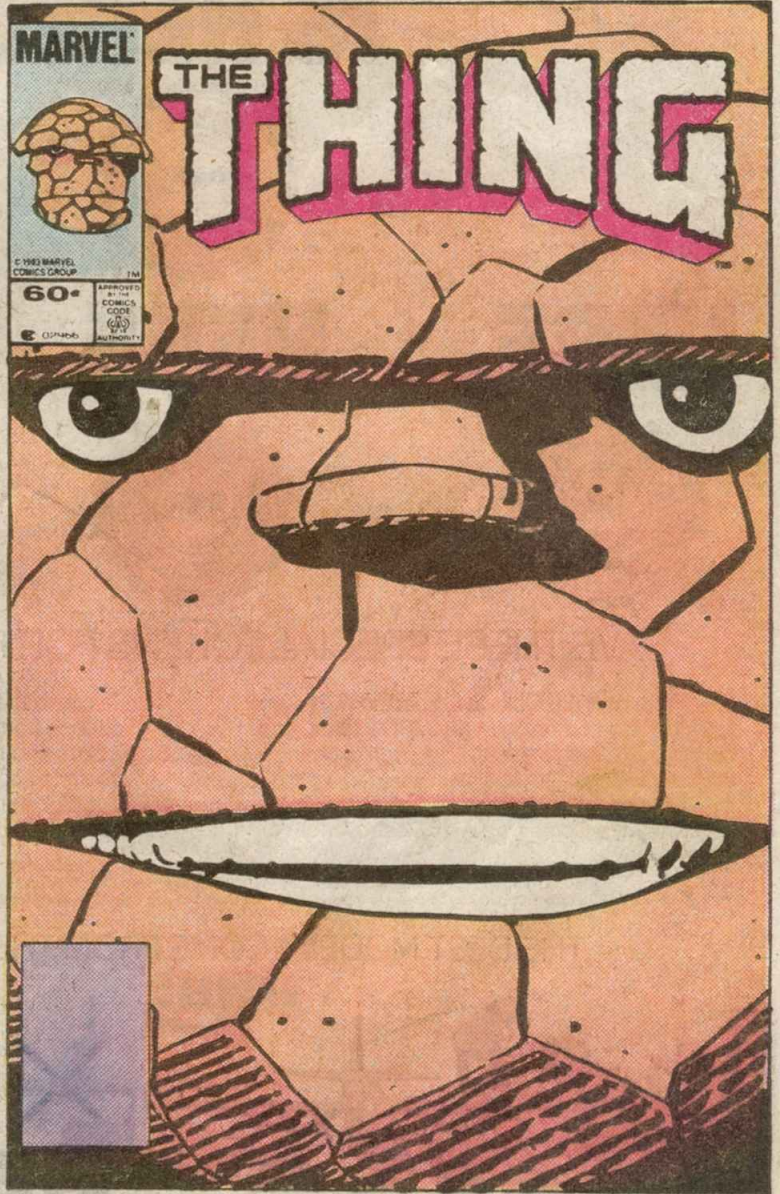
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