

MARVEL

THE UNCANNY



# X-MEN

65¢  
U.K. 30p  
CAN. 75c

201  
JAN

WHO WILL  
LEAD THEM?



**W**HEN THE X-MEN RETURNED HOME FROM PARIS, THEY FOUND A BIG SURPRISE WAITING FOR THEM.

MADELYNE--  
YOU HAD  
YOUR BABY!

CYCLOPS--  
YOU'RE A  
FATHER!!

# DUEL

A STAN LEE  
PRESENTATION  
STARRING THE  
UNCANNY  
X-MEN

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TRULY, A CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOCK. TELL ME, IS IT A BOY OR A GIRL?

A BOY, SILLY MAN.

CAN'T YOU TELL, NIGHT-CRAWLER?

BIG FLAMIN' DEAL YOU SEEN ONE BRAY, YOU SEEN 'EM ALL.



TO THINK, WOLVERINE-YOU, ALSO, ONCE LOOKED LIKE THAT.

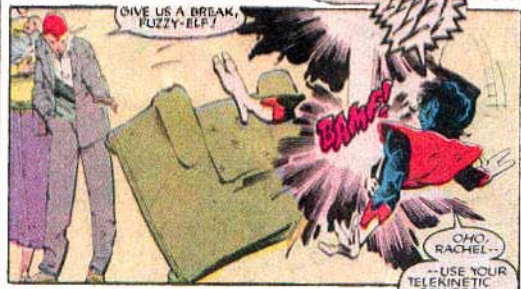
I WONDER, COMRADES, HOW HE WILL FEEL, GROWING UP WITH SUCH AS WE FOR GODPARENTS?



BLESSED OF COURSE, COLOSSUS!

THE DEAR LAD COULD DO A LOT WORSE--

--IN BOTH LOOKS AND MANNERS--  
--THAN TAKE AFTER MEE!



GIVE US A BREAK, FUZZY-BLP!

OH, RACHEL--

--USE YOUR TELEKINETIC POWERS AGAINST ME, WILL YOU?!



THAT, LEICHEN, MEANS WAR!

NIGHT-CRAWLER, NO FAIR!

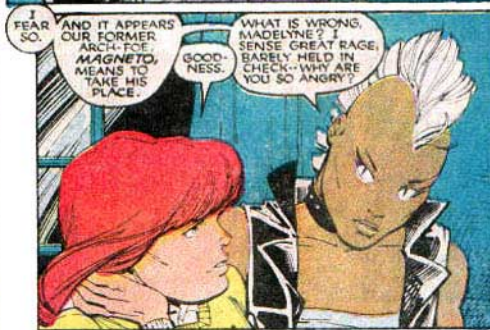
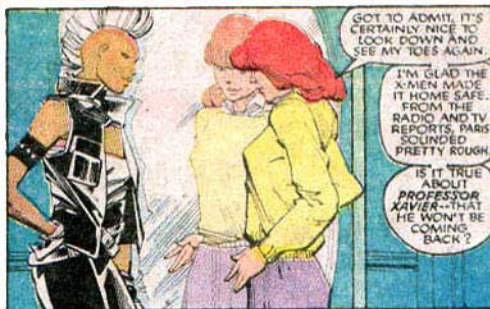
OH PLEASE MA WA-MA, DON'T TICKLE *her* I CAN'T STAND IT  
**HO HO**  
I'LL GET YOU *for me* FOR THIS **NEEKAMO**  
I MEAN IT BEAST CREEP *NOT THE TAIL* ROTTEN MEAN **BRUTE!!!**



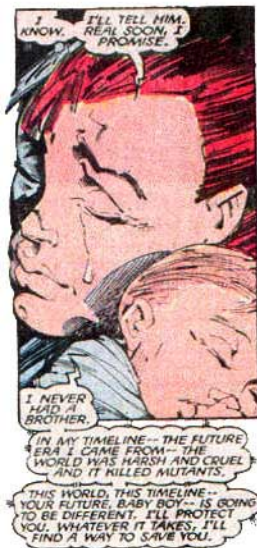
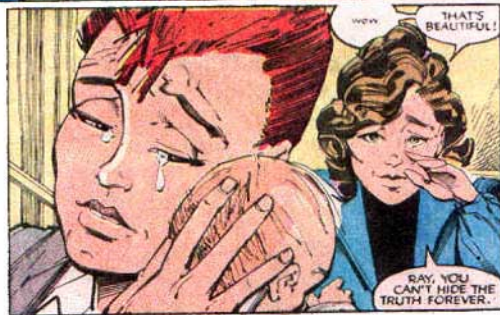
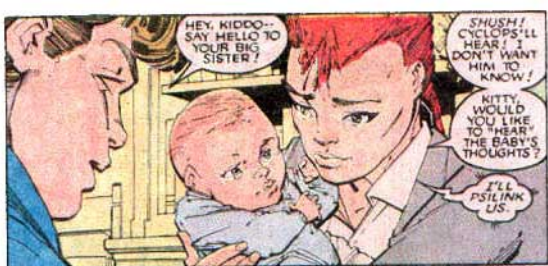
SHOULD WE INTERFERE?

RAY'S A BIG GIRL, COLOSSUS

SHE CAN TAKE CARE OF HERSELF.







Far Away...

...A GREAT  
RENEGADE  
STARSHIP  
FLEES FOR  
HER LIFE.

THIS IS THEIR NEWEST  
RECRUIT, AN  
EXPATRIATE  
TERRAIN, BORN  
CAROL  
DANVERS

NOW, THOUGH,  
SHE PREFERS  
TO BE KNOWN  
AS BINARY!

WELCOME, BINARY-- HOW WENT YOUR  
RECONNAISSANCE?

LOUSY,  
OH'OD.

I'VE COVERED THE HULL  
FROM STEM TO STERN,  
CORSAIR, I'M SORRY, BUT  
EVERYTHING I'VE SEEN  
ONLY BEARS OUT  
WALDO'S ASSESSMENT.

WE'RE NOT JUST  
CRIPPLED...

...WE'RE  
LUCKY  
WE'RE  
STILL  
WHOLE!

TOLD  
YOU.

VESSEL INTEGRITY: 45%.

POWER SYSTEMS: 6%  
OPERATIONAL  
LIFESYSTEMS: 47%  
WARSYSTEMS: 11%  
-- MAIN ENERGY  
WEAPONS  
COMPLETELY  
DYSFUNCTIONAL.

ENOUGH,  
WALDO--  
I GET THE  
PICTURE.

SHE AND HER  
LEGENDARY  
CREW SHARE THE  
SAME NAME--  
STARJAMMER!





WHAT A MAGNIFICENT SIGHT.

I NEVER BEFORE REALIZED HOW BEAUTIFUL-- HOW SERENELY MAJESTIC-- SPACE IS.

IT HAS ALWAYS SEEMED MORE MY HOME THAN ANY WORLD OF THE IMPERIUM.

I THINK THAT IS TRUE OF EVERY STARJAMMER. WE ARE ALL OF US, IN A SENSE, LOST SOULS.

CORSAIR TOLD ME WHERE TO LOOK, BUT, TRY AS I MIGHT, I CAN'T SEE THE MILKY WAY GALAXY. IT'S TOO FAR AWAY. ALL THE STARS I SEE ARE... ALIEN.

AS AM I.

I KEEP THINKING OF MY STUDENTS-- THE X-MEN AND THE NEW MUTANTS--

-- WHAT WILL BECOME OF THEM?!

DID I MAKE A MISTAKE, LILANDRA, ENTRUSTING THEM TO THE MAN WHO WAS ONCE MY DEADLIEST FOE-- MAGNETO? AND YET, IN THOSE LONG AGO DAYS WHEN HE AND I WERE FRIENDS, HE WAS A GOOD MAN. I BELIEVE HE CAN BE SO AGAIN.

BUT HAD I THE RIGHT TO GAMBLE WITH THE LIVES AND FUTURES OF MY CHILDREN?!

PERHAPS NOT-- BUT THAT DECISION CANNOT BE CHANGED.

TO DWELL ON IT-- TO TORTURE YOURSELF WITH THOUGHTS...

...OF "WHAT IF" OR "WHAT MIGHT BE" ...

...IS A WASTE OF TIME AND EFFORT.

YOU ARE HERE, YOU STILL LIVE-- AND YOU ARE NEEDED. LET THAT BE ENOUGH TO SUSTAIN YOU--

-- AS YOUR PRESENCE DOES ME.

Oh, CHARLES-- LIGHT OF MY HEART-- I COULD NOT HAVE BORN ME LOSING YOU!

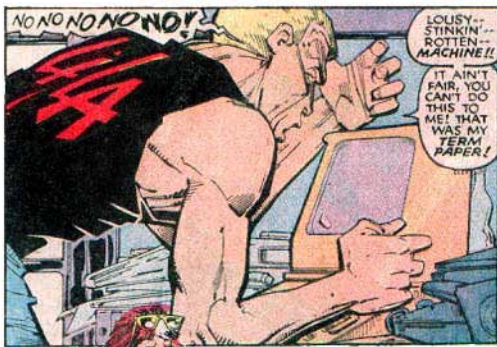
NOR I, YOU, BELOVED.

**THE SCHOOL...**

TO RECONCILE THESE TWO  
WASTELY DIFFERING VIEWS OF  
THE EXPERIENCE OF NATIONAL  
MINORITIES UNDER SOVIET  
RULE? WHAT MOWAT SEES  
AS A VIGOROUS GOVERNMENT  
PROGRAM AIMED AT  
PRESERVING NATIVE  
TRADITIONS, METHODS AND  
LANGUAGES, AND DEDICATED  
TO AVOIDING THE ALIENATION  
AND UNEMPLOYMENT  
HE SEES IN CANADA AND



THE U.S., SHIMLER SEES AS A  
SUBTLE BUT RELENTLESS  
POLICY OF ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION  
AND CULTURAL CO-  
OPERATION WITH THE  
EVENTUAL AIO:  
- COMPILATION ERROR  
CORE DUMP / DUMP / DUMP  
EAV AT M44P23CB8 (JPE)!!!  
LOBRT 4113 2 224 402 0 7  
M44P23CB8



**NO NO NO NO NO!**

LOUSY...  
STINKIN'...  
ROTTEN...  
MACHINE!!

IT AIN'T  
FAIR, YOU  
CAN'T DO  
THIS TO  
ME! THAT  
WAS MY  
TERM  
PAPER!



A MONTH'S WORK  
DOWN THE DRAIN!

AN' AH  
AIN'T GOT  
A CLUE  
HOW TO  
GET IT  
BACK.

AH  
WAN'T A  
CRY!

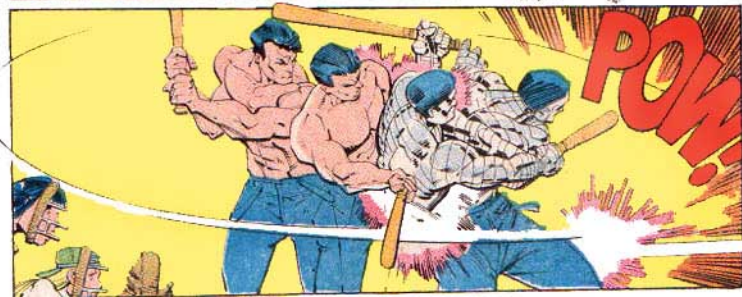
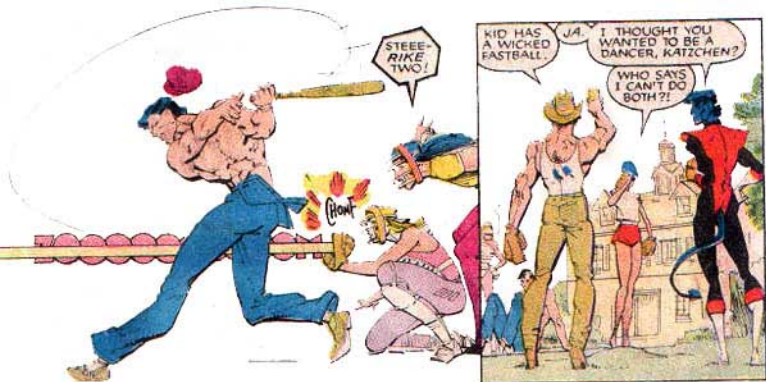
**MEANWHILE...**

**...OBLIVIOUS TO THEIR  
SCHOOL-MATE'S MISERY...**



SWING  
BATTA,  
SWING  
BATTA!

EASY OUT,  
KITTY, YOU  
CAN DO IT!





A LITTLE BIT LATER...

SO MUCH FOR MY PERFECT CAREER



I'M TOO BUSHED TO GO THE LONG WAY 'ROUND. MY SHOULDER'S KILLING ME-- THE SOONER I GIVE IT A GOOD, HOT SOAK, THE BETTER-- SO I'LL TAKE A SHORTCUT TO MY ROOM...

BY PHASING THROUGH THE CLASSROOM--

OH, HI, SAM! WE MISSED YOU AT THE GAME.



AH WANTED TO PLAY, KITTY, BUT AM HADDA FINISH MAH PAPER

AW! NOW THIS INTERNAL MACHINE'S GONE AN EATEN IT?

NO PROBLEMO, M'MAN!

I'M YOUR BONA-FIDE, GRADE-A NUMBER ONE CUTE-AS-CAN-BE COMPUTER WHIZ!

I'LL HAVE THE SUCKER UP AND RUNNING IN A JIFF!



MUCH, MUCH LATER...



ME AND MY BIG MOUTH!

I SURPRISED MYSELF BY SORTING OUT THAT MESS.

KITTY, YOUR OPTHAMOLOGY APPOINTMENT HAS BEEN SCHEDULED.

YUCK, GLASSES--YUCK!



YOU NEED THEM.

I KNOW, ORORO, BUT I DON'T HAVE TO LIKE IT.

DO ME A FAVOR, PLEASE, CAT, AND TAKE YOUR SHOWER IN THE GYM...?



WHY CAN'T I USE MY ROOM--WHAT'S THAT?!

WHO'S YELLING?

ORORO, IT'S COMING FROM YOUR ATTIC!



I LOANED THE LOFT TO SCOTT AND MADELYNE.

A FIGHT?

A BAD ONE?!

AW, CRUMBS!

I HAVE TO STAY. TO LEAD THE TEAM.

WHY?!

BECAUSE I'M NEEDED. PROFESSOR XAVIER'S GONE! AND MAGNETO-- THE X-MEN'S OLDEST, DEADLIEST FOE-- IS IN CHARGE OF THE SCHOOL. HE SAYS HE'S REFORMED. THAT HE PROMISED THE PROFESSOR HE'D TAKE GOOD CARE OF THE NEW MUTANTS.

I'LL JUST BET HE WILL.

YOU DON'T BELIEVE MAGNETO?

NOT FOR AN INSTANT. FOR ALL WE KNOW...

... HE MAY HAVE MURDERED PROFESSOR X HIMSELF.

WHAT ABOUT ME? I HAVE A LIFE OF MY OWN-- A CAREER-- DO YOU EXPECT ME TO CHUCK IT?!

I THOUGHT THE BABY CHANGED ALL THAT.

IT'S OUR CHILD, CHUM. OUR RESPONSIBILITY! I HAVE SKILLS. I CAN EARN A LIVING-- CAN YOU SAY THE SAME?!

I HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO THE X-MEN, MADELYNE...

THERE'S NO ONE ELSE TO DO THE JOB-- NOT ORORO--?!

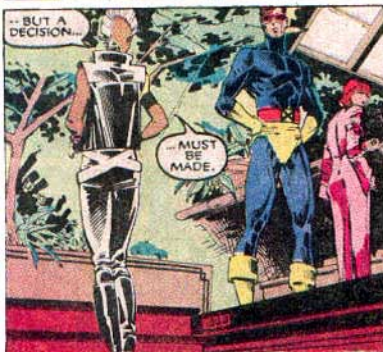
STORM HAS NO POWERS. SHE'D BE A LIABILITY IN A COMBAT SITUATION.

LISTEN TO YOURSELF, SCOTT! ARE YOU SAYING YOU-- AND YOU ALONE-- ARE ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL TO THE X-MEN'S SURVIVAL?!

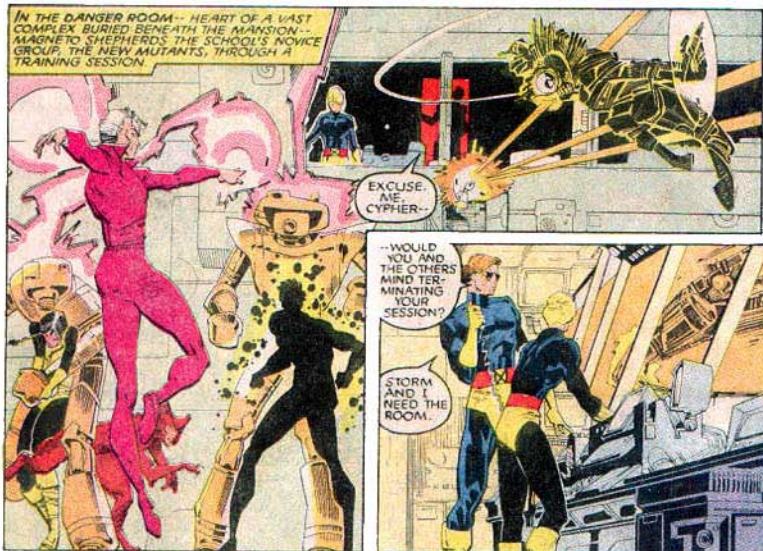
OR-- ARE YOU AFRAID...

... THEY REALLY CAN GET ALONG WITHOUT YOU?!

IS YOUR LIFE SO HOLLOW-- YOUR SENSE OF SELF-WORTH SO FRAGILE-- THAT YOU BELIEVE YOU'RE NOTHING WITHOUT THEM? WHAT ABOUT ME. WHAT ABOUT US?! MY COMMITMENT TO YOU PRECLUDES EVERYTHING-- ARE YOU TELLING ME THE SAME DOESN'T HOLD TRUE IN REVERSE?!



IN THE DANGER ROOM-- HEART OF A VAST COMPLEX BURIED BENEATH THE MANSION-- MAGNETO SHEPHERDS THE SCHOOL'S NOVICE GROUP, THE NEW MUTANTS, THROUGH A TRAINING SESSION.



EXCUSE ME, CYPHER--

--WOULD YOU AID THE OTHERS' MIND TERMINATING YOUR SESSION?

STORM AND I NEED THE ROOM.

QUERY?

WHO KNOWS, WARLOCK.

AND WHO CARES?! THE X-MEN ARE THE SENIOR TEAM-- THEY CAN PULL RANK AND HOG THE FACILITIES WHENEVER THEY LIKE.

CYCLOPS WOULD NOT DO SO, SUN-SPOT, WITHOUT GOOD REASON.

CYPHER, CAN YOU PROGRAM US AN APPROPRIATE ENVIRONMENT, PLEASE?

SURE, DORO.

A SINGLE FALL STORM, WINNER-TAKE-ALL? I'LL KEEP MY OPTIC BLASTS ON ULTRA LOW POWER.

AS YOU WISH.

A DUEL?!

D4, ILLYANA-- CYCLOPS VERSUS STORM!

THIS IS CRAZY!

HADDA HAPPEN.

MY MONEY'S ON THE LADY -- ANY TAKERS?





-- AND RUNNING!

SPLENDID, DOUGLAS.

CYCLOPS'S OPTIC BLASTS ARE HIS ADVANTAGE. THIS ENVIRONMENT YOU CREATED IS MINE. WE ARE EVENLY MATCHED.

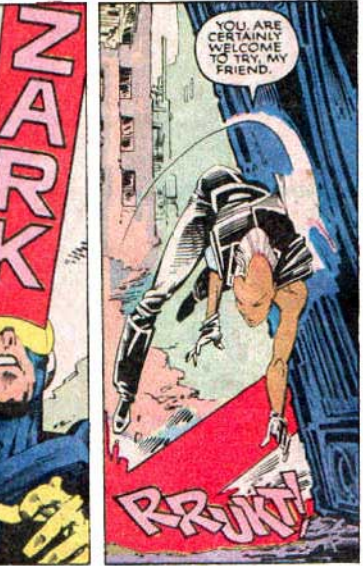
GOOD LORD! I KNOW THIS IS THE DANGER ROOM-- THAT THIS SETTING IS A MIX OF ILLUSION AND REALITY, THREE-DIMENSIONAL HOLOGRAMS AND PHYSICAL PROPS--

-- BUT IT SEEMS SO... LIFELIKE!

THERE'S SIGHT, SOUND-- EVEN SMELLS-- THE DECEPTION IS PERFECT!



I'LL MAKE THIS SHORT AND SWEET, STORM...



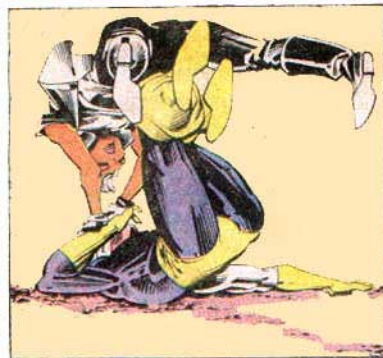
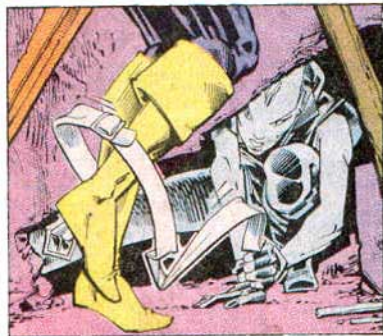
YOU ARE CERTAINLY WELCOME TO TRY, MY FRIEND.

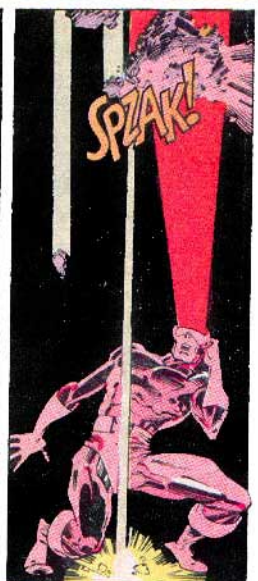
RRUK!

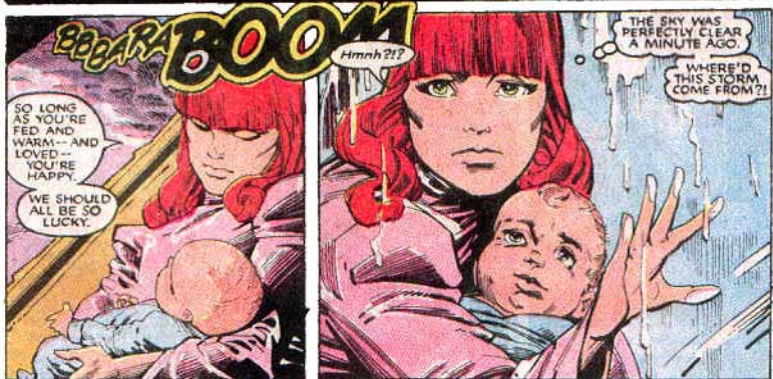
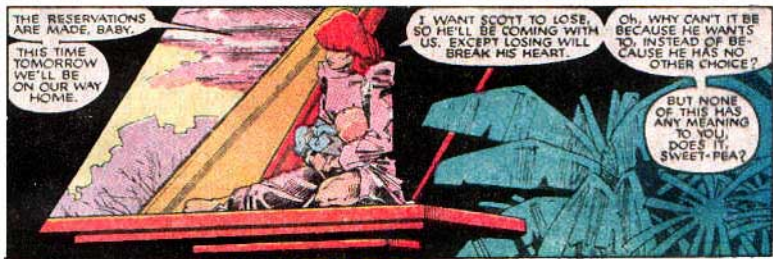


SHE'S SO FAST--!

AND AS AGILE AS A CAT! THE WAY SHE'S MOVING-- USING EVERY SCRAP OF COVER-- I CAN'T GET A DECENT SHOT!









SHE'S BEHIND ME--

--MISSED!

ZPAM!



MY VISOR!

GOT IT!



HAVE TO KEEP MY EYES CLOSED-- AND COVERED! THE RUBY QUARTZ LENS IN MY VISOR IS MY SOLE MEANS OF CONTROLLING MY OPTIC BLASTS! WITHOUT IT...

YOU ARE EFFECTIVELY HELPLESS, CYCLOPS-- YOU DARE NOT UNLEASH YOUR EYE-BEAMS WITHOUT RISKING KILLING EVERYONE AROUND YOU!



OUR DUEL IS OVER.



THE BEST X-MAN WON, STORM.

CONGRATULATIONS.



AND GOOD LUCK.

I DON'T BELIEVE IT. I'M DREAMING! THIS ISN'T HAPPENING! I LOST.

I DON'T LIKE IT-- BUT I'LL HAVE TO LEARN TO LIVE WITH IT.



THERE'S NO MORE PLACE FOR ME HERE.

I WONDER, AFTER ALL I'VE SAID AND DONE, IF THERE'S ANY NOW WITH MADELYNE?

# Epilogue

... VISITED  
TONIGHT BY  
A GRAND-  
DAUGHTER...

... THEY DO NOT EVEN KNOW EXISTS...

I DIDN'T  
MEAN TO BREAK  
THE MEMORY  
CRYSTAL.

BUT I  
THINK-- I  
PRAY--

-- I CAN REPAIR IT. ALL I HAVE TO DO IS  
REALIGN THE ENERGY MATRICES-- ah, THE  
HOLOGRAPHIC IMAGE IS REFORMING, AND THE  
EMPATHIC RESONANCES ARE STILL INTACT,  
UNAFFECTED BY THE DAMAGE.

IT'S LIKE I WAS HOLDING MOM IN  
PERSON, AS IF SHE WAS REALLY  
HERE WITH ME!

...THE HOME  
OF JOHN  
AND ELAINE  
GREY...

BUT I'M NOT DONE.

THERE'S  
ONE MORE  
ELEMENT...

...TO  
ADD.

SHE'S NEVER  
HEARD HER  
POWER...

SING  
WITHIN  
HER  
BEFORE.

IT'S A  
GLORIOUS  
MOMENT...

... AS SHE POURS  
HER HEART AND  
SOUL INTO THE  
CRYSTAL SPHERE  
SHE HOLDS.

A MOMENT--  
A SONG--

--WHOSE REPERCUSSIONS  
ARE FELT A QUARTER-  
MILLION MILES AWAY--

...IN A BACK-  
ALLEY ON  
THE MOON...

...WHERE  
JEAN GREY  
SACRIFICED  
HERSELF TO  
SAVE THE  
UNIVERSE...

IT  
BEGINS.

BUT AS TO  
THE ENDING--  
WHO CAN SAY?  
AS BEFORE  
I MAY NOT  
ACT.

MY CHARGE  
IS EVER TO  
OBSERVE...

FOR I  
AM-- THE  
WATCHER.

I HOPE,  
MOM...

...YOU DON'T  
MIND THE  
COMPANY.

I'VE ADDED A PIECE OF MY  
ESSENCE TO SHARE THE  
HOLEMPATHIC MATRIX  
CRYSTAL WITH YOURS.

G'BYE, GRAN'PA.  
GOOD-BY, GRAN'!

MAYBE THE WORLD  
OF MY FATHER--  
AND THE RACHEL  
SUMMERS WHO LIVED  
IN IT-- WILL NEVER  
BE. BUT I EXIST!

AND NOW, I  
HOPE, I'LL BE  
REMEMBERED!

NEXT  
TO SLAY THE  
**BEYONDER!**