

MARVEL
COMICS



THE MAGNETO WAR™

THE
UNCANNY

X-MEN®

APR
#367



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UNHOLY TRINITY

THEY WHISPER
A PRAYER TO
THEIR GOD.

THEY ASK THAT HIS MASTERY
OVER MAGNETISM EXTEND TO
THE GRAVIMETRIC SHIELDS
AROUND THEIR SHIP.

THESE ACOLYTES ARE
DEVOUT FOLLOWERS OF
THE MUTANT CALLED
MAGNETO.

KAMAL

CARGILL

SCANNER

VINDALOO

MELLENCAMP

UNUSCIONE

SHIELD'S HOLDING --
WE WILL SURVIVE!

NEOPHYTE

KATH

AND THE NUCLEAR STORM
WHICH BUFFETS THEM
ABOUT --

-- WAS CAUSED WHEN THEIR
MESSIAH DEFENDED HIMSELF
FROM A RUSSIAN ATTACK.



BUT WHAT
ABOUT THE
X-MEN,
KATH?

THEY WERE
ON THE
SURFACE!



THE ELECTROMAGNETIC
PULSE HAS MADE
OUR SCANNERS
USELESS.

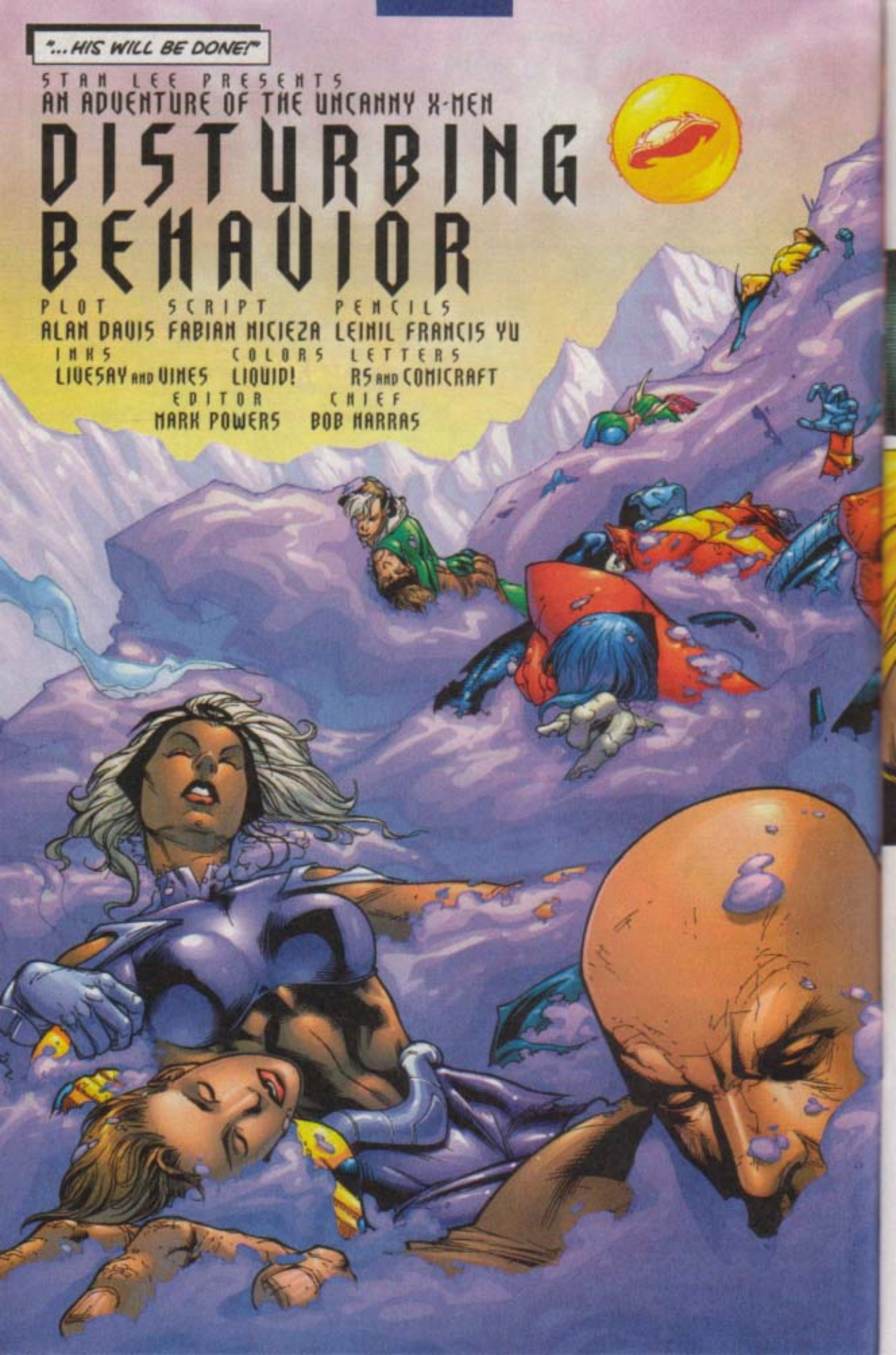
I CAN
ONLY SAY,
BOY...

"... HIS WILL BE DONE!"

STAN LEE PRESENTS
AN ADVENTURE OF THE UNCANNY X-MEN

DISTURBING BEHAVIOR

PLOT SCRIPT PENCILS
ALAN DAVIS FABIAN NICIEZA LEINIL FRANCIS YU
INKS COLORS LETTERS
LIVESAY AND VINES LIQUID! R5 AND COMICRAFT
EDITOR CHIEF
MARK POWERS BOB HARRAS





OUR HOLY MISSION WAS TO DETAIN THE X-MEN, NOT KILL THEM!

WEAK, LITTLE NEOPHYTE, STARTING TO SOUND LIKE SCANNER.

WATCH YOUR TONE, MELLENCAMP!

HEY, HOW ARE WE NOT FOLLOWING ORDERS HERE?

WE DIDN'T CAUSE THE EXPLOSION --

-- SO IF THE X-MEN CROAKED, IT AIN'T OUR FAULT!



BUT IF THEY DID SURVIVE, WE ARE BEHOLDEN TO --



...



-- MAKE SURE THE ACOLYTES FINISH THE JOB!

AS THE WORDS ESCAPE HER LIPS, SCANNER WONDERS WHY SHE SAID THEM.

AS DO SOME OF THE LESS BLOODTHIRSTY AMONG THEM...



...

SEVENTY-FIVE MILES TO THE NORTH, AT MAGNETO'S POLAR TOWER —

— GROUND ZERO STILL REVERBERATES WITH THE HURRICANE FORCE OF ELECTRO-MAGNETIC FURY!

THE MUTANT MASTER OF MAGNETISM REACHES OUT —

— FEELING THE MAGNETOSPHERE SURROUNDING THE PLANET IS VIOLENTLY OFF-KILTER.

AS HE STRIVES TO REALIGN THE ENERGY SHEATH'S LAYER BY LAYER, THE STRAIN IS ENORMOUS.

THROUGH IT ALL, HE FEELS THE HUMANS FRANTICALLY TRYING TO WORK THEIR SPUTTERING MACHINES.

FEELS THE CONFUSION IN THE ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELD.

FEELS... SOMETHING... SLICING THROUGH THAT CONFUSION — ?

NO — IT MUST BE HIS IMAGINATION — DUE TO THE STRAIN...

...FOR NO ONE HAS THE CONTROL OVER MAGNETIC FORCES NEEDED TO FOOL HIM...

JOSEPH, DEAR BOY, THOUGH I APOLOGIZE FOR THE TUMMYACHE THIS IS CAUSING YOU --

-- I AM DELIGHTED IN SEEING THAT ALL MY HARD WORK IN CREATING YOU HAS BEEN WORTH SOMETHING!

ASTRA -- I WOULD APPRECIATE -- YOU STOP DISTRACTING ME!

AND I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND -- WHY -- THIS SUBTERFUGE IS NECESSARY.

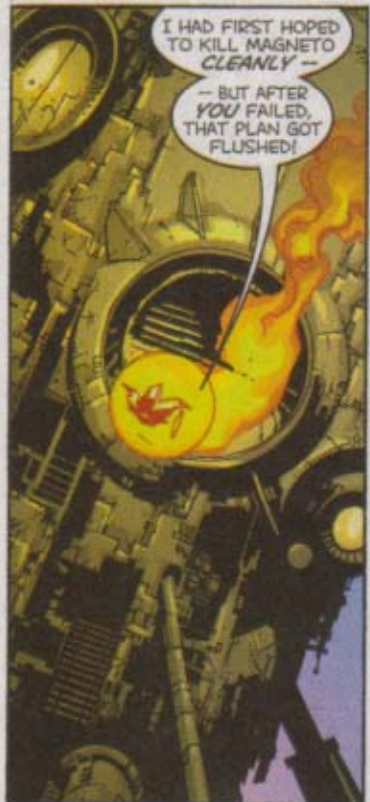


SHOULD WE SIMPLY KNOCK AND ASK MAGNUS TO LET US IN?

I DID NOT MAKE YOU TO THINK!

QUESTION ME AGAIN AND I WILL TAKE YOU APART LIKE A DEFECTIVE TOASTER!

AAAH!



I HAD FIRST HOPED TO KILL MAGNETO CLEANLY --

-- BUT AFTER YOU FAILED, THAT PLAN GOT FLUSHED!



SO THEN I THOUGHT, OKAY, FINE, MY LITTLE DUPLICATE WILL FOLLOW HIS BIONEUMONIC PROGRAMMING --

-- AND KEEP FIGHTING MAGNUS WHILE I GO OFF "SHOPPING" FOR MORE GOODIES TO FULFILL MY GOALS!



LET MY BRUMMAGEN KILL HIM SLOWLY -- THAT WOULD SERVE HIM RIGHT FOR HOW MAGNUS WRONGED ME!

BUT NOOO, YOU GO AND GET A MIND OF OUR OWN -- JOIN THE X-MEN --

-- GIVE MAGNUS THE TIME HE NEEDS TO RECONSOLIDATE HIS POWER BASE --



MUST STINK THAT SUCH A SICK PUPPY COMPLETELY CONTROLS EVERY SINGLE STRAND OF YOUR DNA IN YOUR ENTIRE WORTHLESS BODY, HUH?!



UNDERSTAND THIS, "JOSEPH --"

-- I HAVE AS MUCH RESPECT FOR YOUR FEELINGS, NEEDS AND DESIRES AS I WOULD THOSE OF MY VCR!

YOU ARE A *PRODUCT* -- AN EXTRAPOLATION OF MAGNETO'S GENETIC ENCODING PLACED WITHIN AN ALIEN TRANSPORTATION BUFFER --

-- THEN DUPLICATED, MANIPULATED AND DOWNLOADED INTO A BIONUTRIENT BATH THAT SERVED AS YOUR "WOMB."

YOU WERE CREATED FOR ONE REASON ONLY --

-- TO ENABLE ME TO GAIN VENGEANCE ON THE MAN WHO WRONGED ME WHEN I WAS YOUNGER!

THE TIME HAS COME TO FULFILL YOUR CREATOR'S DESIRES --

-- AND KILL MAGNETO!





ARISE, MY X-MEN...
...AND MAINTAIN TELEPATHIC COMMUNICATION ONLY.



CHARLES, YOUR MESSAGE RIGHT BEFORE THE SHOCKWAVE HIT US --?

"PRETEND TO BE DEAD" --?
NICE THING TO SAY BEFORE A NUCLEAR WASH ENGLUFS YOU, PROFESSOR.

CHARLES XAVIER WATCHES HIS SOLDIERS IN THE FIGHT FOR PEACE -- HIS MUTANTS -- HIS X-MEN RISE.

STORM AND SHADOWCAT ARE FIRST.



THEN ROGUE AND GAMBIT.

MIND TELLIN' US WHAT KINDA TRICK YOU PULLED THIS TIME, PROFF?

OH, TH' PAIN.

HUSH, CAJUN, AN' GET UP!

MUS' BE PARALYZED

CONVENIENT POSITION.

NIGHTCRAWLER AND COLOSSUS.

PETER, MEIN FREUND

DAP

YOUR FOOT.

DAP

REMOVE IT FROM MY SPLEEN.



WOLVERINE AND MARROW.

SMOOTH, CHUCK, YOU MADE 'EM SHIELD US?

WHY IS EVERYONE TALKING IN MY HEAD?

SHSHSH!

PREPARE FOR AN ACOLYTE ATTACK!





THEY ARE ALIVE!

NOT FOR LONG, VINDY!



KITTY

-- ALREADY PHASING THE PROFESSOR, ORORO -- THIS STUFF WILL HARMLESSLY PASS THROUGH US.



HIS NAME IS VINDALOO. HE IS A RECENT ADDITION TO THE ACOLYTES --

-- WITH THE MUTANT ABILITY TO EMIT A GEL-LIKE LIQUID WHICH HE IGNITES INTO A FIERY JETSTREAM OF NAPALM!



IT IS GOOD TO HAVE SUCH AN EXPERIENCED TEAM OF X-MEN. IT MAKES MY LEADERSHIP ROLE THAT MUCH LESS BURDENSOME.

UNUSCIONE IS BELOW YOU, ORORO. SHE HAS THE ABILITY TO PROJECT A PSYCHOKINETIC FORCE FIELD.

HOW FAR, I WONDER?



KRAC

UHM... THAT FAR...

HEY!
HEY! NO
ONE'S ALLOWED
TO HURT THE
WIND-RIDER
BUT ME!

A SURVIVOR OF THE UNDERGROUND
MUTANT SOCIETY OF MORLOCKS,
Marrow IS A RELUCTANT MEMBER
OF THE X-MEN.

HER ENTIRE LIFE HAD
BEEN A STRUGGLE
FOR SURVIVAL --

-- SO TO HER, USING HER
BONE-EXTRUSIONS TO
FIGHT FOR A DREAM OF
COEXISTENCE BETWEEN
HUMANS AND MUTANTS
SEEMS ALMOST... TRITE.

BUT WHETHER SHE
AGREES WITH THEIR
GOALS OR NOT, FOR
NOW, THE X-MEN
ARE HER FAMILY --



-- AND SHE'LL
LET NO ONE
TAKE THAT
AWAY!

WHAT
ZOO DID YOU
SPRING THIS
ONE OUT OF?



SLOW
DOWN,
SARAH

WOLVIE --
WHY'D
YOU --



WE NEED
TO KEEP THE
FIGHT GOING
UNTIL THEY ALL
CLEAR THEIR SHIP!



WHICH
THEY BETTER DO
SOON --



-- OR
THE PLAN CAN
TAKE A HIKE.
THE CLAWS 'RE
COMIN' OUT --

-- AN' DR. PAIN
WILL START FILLIN' OUT
PRESCRIPTIONS!

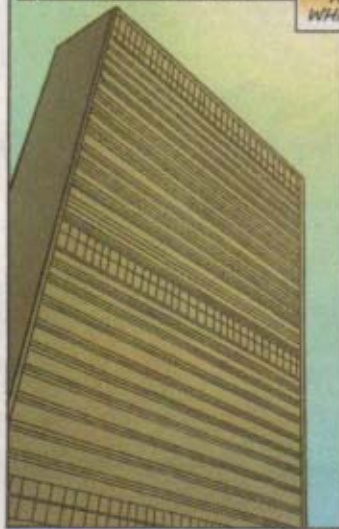
W HILE ON THE FLOOR OF THE UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY --

-- HEATED DEBATE RAGES REGARDING
WHAT ACTIONS --

-- IF ANY --

-- CAN BE TAKEN TO STOP
MAGNETO'S LATEST ATTACK...



THE ATOMIC
DISCHARGE
DID HAVE A
TEMPORARY
EFFECT.

SATELLITE TELEMETRY
INDICATES THE FISSURE IN THE
MAGNETOSPHERE CONTINUES
TO GROW.



MR. SECRETARY, WE NEED TO
ATTACK *NOW* -- BEFORE HE
CONTROLS THE ENTIRE
PLANET!

HOW? STANDARD
MILITARY CRAFT ARE
USELESS IN THIS
ELECTROMAGNETIC
SOUP, GENERAL!

AS IS THE
S.H.I.E.L.D.
HELICARRIER --
EVEN THE
AVENGERS'
CRAFT.



WITH THE
*FANTASTIC
FOUR* OFF-PLANET,
ARE THERE ANY
OTHER HUMAN
OPTIONS
LEFT? •

WE HAVE TO
PROVE WE DON'T
NEED SO-CALLED
SUPER HEROES
TO CONTROL
THIS MUTANT
THREAT.

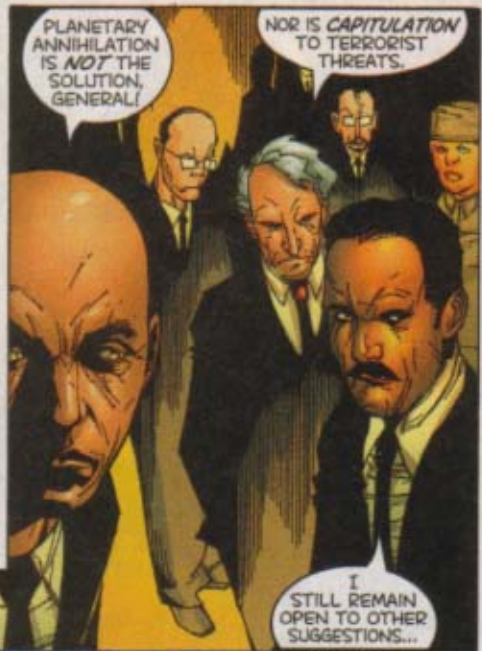
SINCE THAT
NUCLEAR STRIKE
SEEMED TO SLOW
IT DOWN --

-- WE SHOULD
SATURATE THE
AREA WITH *NUKES!*



PLANETARY
ANNIHILATION
IS *NOT* THE
SOLUTION,
GENERAL!

NOR IS *CAPITULATION*
TO TERRORIST
THREATS.



I
STILL REMAIN
OPEN TO OTHER
SUGGESTIONS...

THE POLAR TOWER.

A RIPPLE IN THE SURROUNDING AURA. A BIOELECTRIC INCURSION.

SOMEONE HAS PENETRATED HIS CITADEL!

DIDN'T I SEE THIS EPISODE ALREADY?

YOU?!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, ASTRA?

WHY, DUH -- WHAT DO YOU THINK?

WOULDN'T LETTING YOU RULE THE WORLD GET IN THE WAY OF WHAT I HAVE PLANNED?

NAMELY, ME RULING THE WORLD?

THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH "RULING THE WORLD" -- THOUGH I DOUBT AN HONORLESS TRAITOR LIKE YOU COULD BE MADE TO UNDERSTAND.

YEAH, YOU'VE LEARNED TO MANAGE STRESS.

AT LEAST YOU'RE CONSISTENT.

I LEFT YOUR SILLY LITTLE BROTHERHOOD OF MUTANTS BECAUSE I KNEW YOUR BELIEFS WERE IDIOTIC!

LET'S RECAP...

...YOU SHOW THEM WHY IT'S IN THEIR BEST INTEREST TO LET YOU RULE THEM.

SURPRISE -- THE CATTLE DISAGREE AND FIGHT BACK!

OH, LOOK, YOU GET OFFENDED AND ALL RIGHTEOUS!

YOU'LL SHOW THEM -- YOU'LL TAKE AWAY THEIR ELECTRIC RAZORS!

YUP, I HAVE SEEN THIS BEFORE.

YOU DISGUST ME, ASTRA...

...THE RIGHTS OF YOUR GENETIC BRETHREN MEAN NOTHING TO YOU!

AND YOU BORE ME!



IN MY BOOK, THAT'S AN UNPARDONABLE SIN!

I SHOULD HAVE KILLED YOU WHEN I HAD THE CHANCE.



YOU DIDN'T HAVE THE GUTS FOR IT THEN -- AND YOU DON'T NOW!

FACE IT, I MADE YOU HOT!

DO NOT DELUDE YOURSELF, ASTRA.

OKAY, MAYBE IT WAS THE OTHER WAY AROUND -- ANYWAYS --

-- YOU'RE ACTING PRETTY TOUGH CONSIDERING THE LAST TIME I SAW YOU --

-- YOU WERE BUSY RUNNING FOR YOUR LIFE FROM MY BOY, JOEY!



THE ABOMINATION YOU CREATED COULD HAVE BEEN EASILY DISPATCHED.

IT HAD POWER, BUT NO SKILL.

THEN WHY DIDN'T YOU KILL IT?

IT SUITED MY PURPOSE TO LET THE WORLD THINK IT WAS ME WHILE I PREPARED FOR THIS GAMBIT.

FAIR ENOUGH. TALK IS CHEAP, LET'S PARTY...



YOU CANNOT USE YOUR TELEPORTATION POWERS IN THIS CHAMBER --



-- THE CONVERSION OF ENERGIES WOULD RUPTURE YOUR "JAUNT RIP" --!



WHO SAID I WAS GOING ANYWHERE?

POW! THWOM!

AAARRHHH!

SHE KNOWS IT IS BENEATH HIM TO SCREAM IN PAIN.

SO WHEN ASTRA RUPTURED THE FILTERS ON MAGNETO'S MACHINE --

-- CAUSING THE COLLAPSE OF THE E-M GENERATOR'S DIFFUSION SCREENS --

-- AND FORCING MAGNETO'S BODY TO ACT AS A LIGHTNING ROD FOR ALL THE UNCHECKED ATMOSPHERIC ENERGIES SWIRLING AROUND --

-- SHE WAS HOPING, AT MOST, FOR A GRUNT OR GROAN.

THE PIERCING, TORTURED HOWL SHE GETS IN RETURN --

-- PULLED FROM THE VERY DEPTHS OF MAGNETO'S TORTURED SOUL --

-- IS WELL WORTH --

-- THE OUTRIGHT DESTRUCTION OF EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE!

WAVE STRIKE AT T-MINUS TEN SECONDS.
FIVE...
...TWO...
...ONE.

DO I KNOW HOW TO TIME AN ENTRANCE, OR WHAT?

SORRY I'M LATE, BUT THAT S.H.I.E.L.D. SKIMMER YOU SENT FOR ME --
-- HAD A DEVIL OF A TIME MAKING THE TRANSATLANTIC TRIP IN THIS MESS!

DR. ALDA HUXLEY? YOUR EXPERTISE IN *MUTANT SOCIO POLITICS* IS REGRETTABLY NO LONGER NEEDED.
WE MUST FOLLOW GENERAL WINSTON'S COURSE OF ACTION.

ON THE CONTRARY, MR. SECRETARY.

I'M JUST IN TIME TO STOP YOU ALL FROM MAKING A HORRENDOUS MISTAKE.

I HAVE A SOLUTION TO YOUR PROBLEM, AND ALL IT WILL TAKE --

-- IS YOUR DECISION TO SACRIFICE ONE FINGER IN ORDER TO SAVE THE ENTIRE BODY!







WHY WAS I ABLE TO RESIST THE BATTLE-LUST?
IF XAVIER DID THIS, PERHAPS HE COULD NOT AFFECT MY BIOCYBERNETIC SYNAPTIC SYSTEMS?

CHECKING THE INTERNAL SCANNER PROVES THAT CARGILL DID EXTEND THE GRAVIMETRIC SHIELDS TO PROTECT THE X-MEN FROM THE FULL BRUNT OF THE NUCLEAR WASH.

THEY SEEK TO LURE US FROM THE SHIP. SHOULD I ABANDON MY COMRADES?



THEY ARE BEGINNING TO SUSPECT OUR INTENTIONS!

PETER -- YOU CAN'T FIGHT IN YOUR HUMAN FORM!

I KNOW WHAT I AM DOING, ROGUE!



WHAT YER DOIN' IS SUICIDE!
CAJUN, YOU'RE THE CLOSEST -- HELP 'IM!

NON, THAT WOULD REALLY BE SUICIDE.

'BOUT TIME EVERYONE ON THIS TEAM STARTED TRUSTIN' THAT EVERYONE ELSE ON THIS TEAM KNOWS WHAT THEY'RE DOIN'



I RECOMMEND YOU SHIELD YOUR EYES, MY FRIENDS...

PIOTR NIKOLAEVITCH RASPUTIN ACTIVATES HIS MUTANT POWERS --

-- AND HIS SKIN TURNS INTO A SHEATH OF ORGANIC STEEL!

A POWER WHICH, UNTIL NOW, HAD PROVEN A LIABILITY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ELECTRO-MAGNETIC STORM WHICH RAGED AROUND THE ARCTIC CIRCLE!



SCORE ONE FOR THE RUSSKIE!

HE ACTED LIKE A LIGHTNING ROD -- TOOK THE BRUNT OF THE BLAST -- AND TOOK OUT MOST OF THE ACOLYTES!

HE'S OKAY, KITTY -- AH CAN SEE 'IM GETTING' UP.

NO NEED T'GET ALL GAGA OVER PETEY. READY?

LET 'ER RIPP! AND I DO NOT GET "GAGA" OVER ANYONE, ANYMORE.



MODIFIED "FASTBALL SPECIAL" COMIN' UP!



NOT SURE HOW MANY ACOLYTES THE PROFESSOR COULDN'T COERCE --



-- SO I BETTER PHASE THROUGH THE AFT SECTION OF THE SHIP --



-- MAKE MY WAY FORWARD --



-- AND SCRAMBLE THEIR SYSTEMS WHEN THEY LEAST EXPECT IT!

POW!

THE ACOLYTES' GRAVIMETRIC PULSE SHIP WAS PROTECTED FROM EXTERNAL FORMS OF ELECTROMAGNETIC DISRUPTIONS --

-- BUT NOT AN INTERNAL ATTACK!

IN A MATTER OF MOMENTS, KATH IS RUDELY ESCORTED OUT --



-- AND THE X-MEN HAVE COMMANDEERED THE SHIP!

I TAKE IT THIS SORT OF THING HAPPENS TO US OFTEN?

WHAT, GETTING STRANDED IN THE NORTH POLE? FIRST TIME.

BUT LOSING TO THE X-MEN? HAPPENS ALL THE TIME...



INSIDE THE POLAR TOWER...

FOOL! YOUR ACTIONS ENDANGER THE ENTIRE PLANET!

AS OPPOSED TO WHAT YOU WERE DOING?

ENOUGH, ASTRA!

YOUR TECHNOLOGICALLY-CRAFTED FORCE FIELD WILL NOT PROTECT YOU FROM MY WRATH!

NOR WILL YOUR TAUNTING DETER ME FROM MY CAREFULLY HONED PLANS!

WHAM!

KREZZAK

HOW DID YOU --

-- OOOH LAME KREE SCIENTISTS -- EVOLUTIONARY DEAD-ENDS!

DO NOT BLAME OTHERS FOR YOUR RELIANCE ON TRINKETS AND TOYS!

BUT THAT HAS ALWAYS BEEN YOUR WAY, WOMAN --

-- UNABLE TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR OWN FAILURES!

UNABLE TO CREATE, ONLY TO PLUNDER!

UNWILLING TO BUILD, ONLY TO PILLAGE THE WORK OF OTHERS!

BY DESTROYING MY EQUIPMENT, YOU HAVE FORCED ME TO ABSORB MORE ENERGY THAN I AM CAPABLE OF WIELDING!

BUT IF I DO NOT CONTROL IT, THE PLANET'S ATMOSPHERE WILL BE PERMANENTLY RAVAGED!

AND THOUGH IT WOUNDS ME, I WILL STOMACH IT -- CHANNEL IT -- AND WHEN BEST ABLE TO DIRECT IT...



...I SHALL AIM IT AT YOU!

I CANNOT ALLOW YOU TO DO THAT, MAGNUS...

?



JOSEPH?!


I MUST OPPOSE YOU, MAGNETO --
-- AS MUCH FOR MY OWN DESTINY, WHICH MY DEMENTED "MOTHER" UNFORTUNATELY CONTROLS --
-- AS FOR THE HUMANS AND MUTANTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD!



OH, SO MY DUPLICATE HAS OPINIONS OF ITS OWN?

I BELIEVE IN CHARLES XAVIER'S DREAM!

I AM WHAT YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN, HAD YOU NOT BEEN BLINDED BY LOSS AND ANGER.

A full-page comic book illustration showing Magneto and Cyclops in a physical struggle. Magneto, on the right, is wearing his red and blue armor with a blue helmet and a cape. He is lunging forward, with his right arm extended towards Cyclops. Cyclops, on the left, is wearing his yellow and blue X-Men uniform with a red 'X' on his chest. He has a pained expression, his mouth open as if shouting. His hair is blowing in the wind, and blue energy bolts are visible around him. The background is a bright yellow and orange gradient with black diagonal streaks, suggesting a high-speed or intense action scene.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW OF MY SUFFERINGS?!

ALLOW ME TO SHOW YOU REAL PAIN AND ANGER!

ALLOW ME TO SHARE WITH YOU MY DREAM FOR THIS WORLD!

BUT FORGIVE ME, JOSEPH, IF I DO NOT ALLOW YOU TO LIVE LONG ENOUGH --

-- TO SEE THAT DREAM BECOME A REALITY!

NEXT
FOR A NEW WORLD ORDER TO BEGIN, ONE MUST DIE!

THE
**MAGNETO
WAR**

CONCLUDES IN
X-MEN #87!