

MARVEL
PSR 439

UNCANNY X-MEN



AUSTEN
LARROCA
MIKI

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*SHE LIES
WITH
ANGELS*
3 OF 5

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DIRECT EDITION



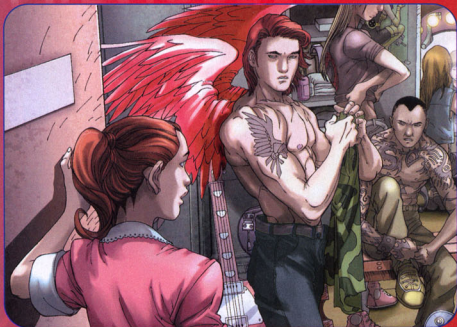
Change is coming. A new breed of man has emerged. They are the Children of the Atom, Homo superior, individuals gifted with strange and fantastic abilities simply by virtue of their genetic makeup.

Stan Lee presents...

UNCANNY X-MEN

SHE LIES WITH ANGELS part 3 of 5

PREVIOUSLY



In the quiet Kentucky town of Cumberland, the GUTHRIE FAMILY makes their way like most others—through hard labor and hard times. But unlike most Kentucky families, the Guthrie children begin to manifest strange and bizarre mutant powers after reaching puberty. The Cumberland townspeople have always reacted fearfully to their Guthrie neighbors...and the CABOT FAMILY, the Guthries' long-standing rivals, are no exception.

After the Guthrie/Cabot feud is suddenly and violently rekindled, Paige Guthrie (the X-Man known as HUSK) returns to Kentucky to be with her family. And as tension between the two Cumberland clans dramatically escalates, her X-MEN teammates join her to protect the mutant Guthrie family from the Cabots' threat of further violence.

Meanwhile, Paige's younger brother JOSH has found love of the forbidden variety with Chester Cabot's beautiful daughter, JULIA. And unbeknownst to them all, Chester has struck a deal with the town law that will put an end to the mutant presence of the Guthries once and for all...



JOSH GUTHRIE
Rock 'n' Roll
Heartthrob



JULIA CABOT
Lovestruck Teen



HUSK
Paige Guthrie
Skin Manipulation



ARCHANGEL
Warren Worthington III
Flight & Healing



LUCINDA GUTHRIE
Guthrie Family
Matriarch



CHESTER CABOT
Guthrie Family Adversary



SHERIFF PETE
Crawford County Lawman

Writer CHUCK AUSTEN	Penciler & Cover SALVADOR LARROCA	Inker DANNY MIKI	Colorist UOON	Letterer VIRTUAL CALLIGRAPHY'S RUS WOOTON
Assistant Editors CORY SEDLMEIER & STEPHANIE MOORE		Editor MIKE MARTS	Editor in Chief JOE QUOSSA	Publisher DAN BUCKLEY

⊗ CUMBERLAND, KENTUCKY

I still say your loyalties are *confused*, Pete.

Makes me wonder if you're really *up* for this.

And I say *you're* the one who's compromising things, Cabot. Mutants are essentially *second-class* citizens...



...but killing them is still *illegal*.

This ain't *Birmingham* in the Sixties where you could kill a black man in broad daylight and be *acquitted* by a jury of white men.



Damn shame about that, ain't it?

Why don't you just tell me what we're *doin'* here?

Well, you said the *X-Men* were likely to get involved in this, and if they do, I want to be *prepared*.

And this is as prepared as you can *get* with them.



What... what *is* this place?

This place is *power*, Pete.





The power to
Kill just about
anything.





Come on, Julia, it ain't that hard to see!

It is to me...

...don't get all testy.



I mean, come on! It's a *sunburn*, Abraham.

You're raisin' all this fuss over a *sunburn*?

I-I coulda died, Julia!

I was **ELECTROCUTED!**



I can't believe you scared me half to death over *this*, Grandma.

But your father said--



I can't believe you dragged me away from *Josh* for this.

Who's *Josh*?



Julia?

Leave me alone, Grandma.

SLAMM



**KNOCK
KNOCK**

Go
away.

Sweetie?


Talk to me,
please?

I remembered every
moment with him,
Grandma.

Every look.
Every laugh. Every
accidental touch...
and I never dared
dream that he would
remember them,
too.

But he
did.

And he
sang them
to me.



I realize now that I fell *in love* with him at ten and I've never fallen *out*.

Even when Daddy sent me away to boarding school, I was *miserable* for missing him.

"Missing his silly attempts at *poetry* as he stumbled with words both of us were too *young* to understand.

"It's years later... I'm *eighteen* now, and pretty, I know.

"But no love I've come across has ever been so *pure* and *intense* as what I felt with Josh."



That "*young Guthrie*," as you called him.

My only love has sprung from my family's only *hate*.

Julia.

You know your father would *never* allow it.



You think I don't *know* that?

How my father tried to teach *us* to hate the Guthries as much as *he* did?

And for reasons I don't even *remember*. For reasons that *he* probably doesn't even remember!



Julia.
They're all
mutants...



That's not
a **reason**.

That's an
excuse.

An excuse to turn inner pain into
anger and focus it on someone
other than yourself.

An excuse
for those whose
own inadequacies
are so **immense**--

--that they
can only feel **less**
deficient by dominating
and controlling others
who must be categorized
as "**beneath**" them.




But,
Julia...



...the things
they've **done**
to us...

Things **anyone**
would do were they
as mistreated and
attacked as we have
mistreated and
attacked the
Guthries.


First because
they were **poor**, and
then because they
were **mutant**.



I missed Josh so much after I was
sent away, and I dismissed it
as a silly, girlish **crush**.

But now that
I've **seen** him again,
and understand how
deeply he's been
thinking of **me**,
as well--

--my heart
aches for him,
Grandma.



I've never felt such **passion** and
intensity in my life, and
I **want** to feel it.

I **deserve**
to feel it.

I can't give it
up because of a
father's stunted,
emotional growth,
Grandma.



What can
I **do**? What
if Josh --

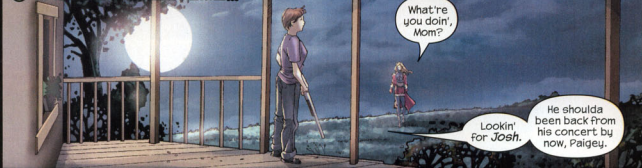
Grandma?

Grandma, are
you **listening**
to me?



What are you looking at?

Jeez!



What're you doin', Mom?

He shoulda been back from his concert by now, Paigey. Lookin' for Josh.



Mommy worries.

Ever since Sam and I left to join Xavier's, Josh's been the caretaker of the family.

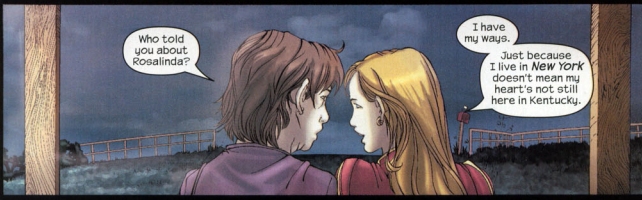
If there were ever anyone you *didn't* have to be concerned about, it's Josh.

Any other night, I'd agree with you, honey.



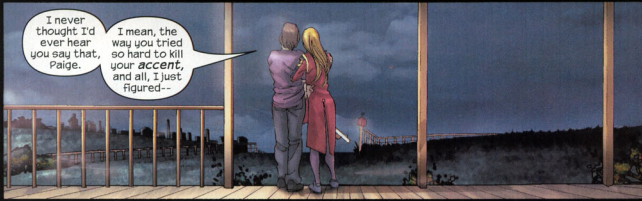
Aaaah.

He's probably just out with Rosalinda.



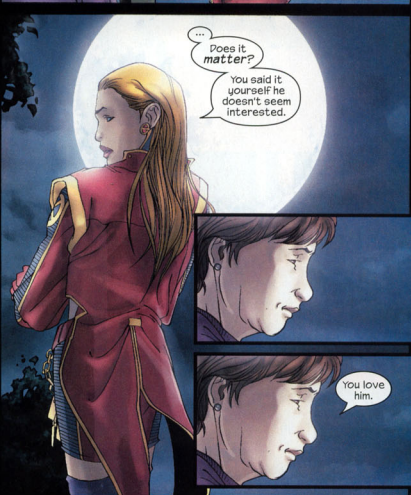
Who told you about Rosalinda?

I have my ways. Just because I live in New York doesn't mean my heart's not still here in Kentucky.



I never thought I'd ever hear you say that, Paige.

I mean, the way you tried so hard to kill your accent, and all, I just figured--



So you think this **police officer** is somehow connected to it all, Warren?

Perhaps **crooked**?

I don't know, Kurt. This is a lot of **speculation** on my part based on some intuitive judgments.

I know **all about** your intuitive judgments, Wings.





⊗ MEANWHILE...

We upgraded the designs somewhat, and removed the flight modes in order to make them more *durable*.

As advanced as they were, there was still room for *improvement*.

We found all this buried under tons of rubble. Can you *believe* it?

Abe came across some exposed pieces wandering around up here with his pals, shooting squirrels.

Just *lyin'* around like it was nothin'?



Pretty much.

Apparently it's some *leftovers* from a big fight the X-Men had up here with some kind of religious cult.

Don't know much about it.



Don't really *need* to in the long run. Just another *mess* the mutants made for us normal humans.

Once again, it's them *mutant monsters* messin' things up for us *normal folk*.



Point is, finders keepers, losers weepers.



And there will be a *lot* of weeping in the Guthrie household tomorrow night.




Josh, I'm
so glad you
came!

How did
you find me?
And at night,
even?



I followed
the light you
radiate...



...there was
so much light, the
birds were *singing*
as I flew here...

...confused by
your brilliance
into thinking the
sun had already
risen.



Oh...

...oh, my...

...



Say
something,
my angel.

Tell me you've
thought of *me* as
warmly and intently
as I've thought of
you these last
few years.



As warmly
and intently
as I think of
you *now*.



Joshua.

Oh,
Joshua,
I...

You're
like a winged
messenger
from heaven.

I've thought of
you so often, and
so *passionately*,
and I'm so *glad*
to see you...



...but I'm
overwhelmed.
Awed, and
afraid.

Struck by
lightning, and
yet the power
of the strike
never seems
to *fade*.

And it's
all so *sudden*,
and so...

...so
wrong...



I feel so much for
you, but I'm a *Cabot*,
Joshua, and my
family--

Hates
Guthries.
So what?

Hate is a
choice. Love
is a *gift*. An *edict*.
A *command*. Love
doesn't understand
names or labels.

It doesn't
ask permission. It
*demand*s obedience.
Hate can change.
Love cannot.



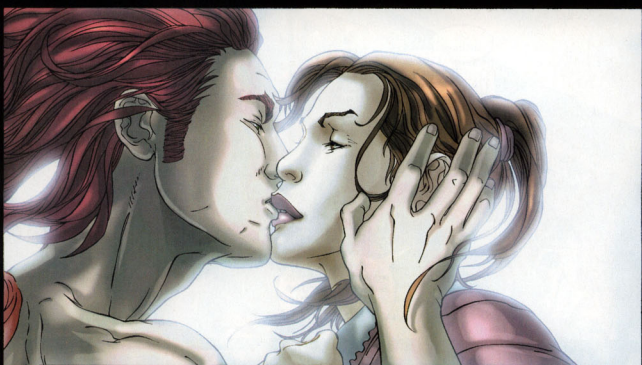
It's only
your *name*
that's my
enemy.

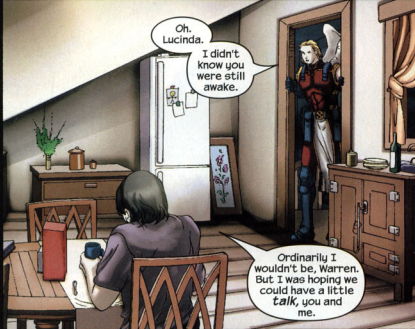
It's
you that
I love.



And it's
you...

...who I
have *always*
loved.





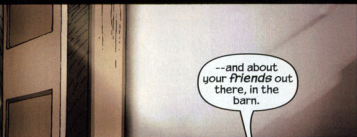
Oh, Lucinda.

I didn't know you were still awake.

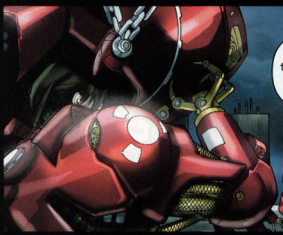
Ordinarily I wouldn't be, Warren. But I was hoping we could have a little talk, you and me.



About Paige--



--and about your friends out there, in the barn.

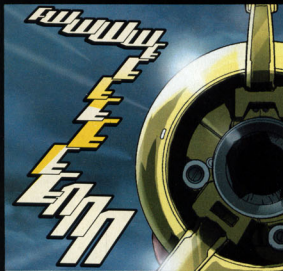


Why do you need to do all this, anyway, Cabot?

See, it's *that* kind of question that makes me feel as if you're not committed to the cause, Pete.

It's more a question of this being a lot of money you're spending on a bunch of weapons that can take on an army--

--just to take out *one family* that would normally fall with a few bullets.



Well, it may not have been my original intent, but I'm doing this to protect my children, Pete.

You saw what that *brat* did to my boy this morning, and he's one of Lucinda's *less* dangerous mutie offspring.

And when you're protecting your children--



--no expense is too great.

SHBOOM



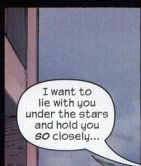
Come on.
Come with me.

What? Where?



To the pond where we met.

I want to swim with you there again. Now.



I want to lie with you under the stars and hold you so closely...



Oh, Josh...
...I want to.



But you're a *Guthrie*, and my father--



Forget your father.

Forget your *name*.

I feel like I've waited my *entire life* for this moment--

--for this time to be with you--

--to be with a part of *me* that I didn't even know was missing.



Please don't leave me unfulfilled in this, Julia.

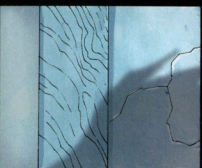
Incomplete. *Un-whole*.

I don't want to, but...

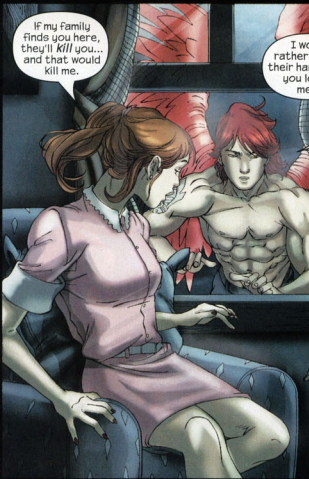


...but...I've never wanted anything *more* in my life than to give you everything you're asking, but...

...but I...



Please. You have to leave.



If my family finds you here, they'll *kill* you... and that would kill me.

I would rather *die* at their hands with you loving me...

...than face the *horror* of a life without you beside me.





I've never heard such beautiful, loving words in my long life.



Go to him.

Now.

Because if you don't marry him, I will.



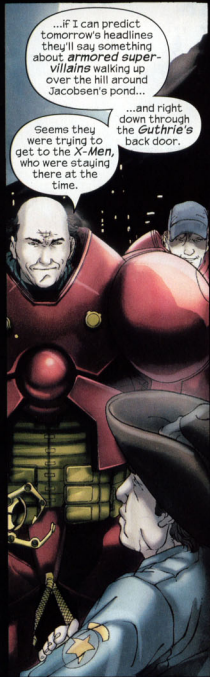
"We'll find a way to make your *father* understand."

Go back down to the jail, Pete. You've unintentionally given us all the *perfect alibi*.

Me and the boys will have been in *jail* all night, and through tomorrow.

And what are you going to do?

Well, once the boys and I have practiced a little with the *suits*...



...if I can predict tomorrow's headlines they'll say something about *armored super-villains* walking up over the hill around Jacobsen's pond...

...and right down through the *Guthrie's* back door.

Seems they were trying to get to the *X-Men*, who were staying there at the time.



But unfortunately for the poor Guthries...

...they were all *killed* in the attack.





⊗ CONTINUED...

X-MAIL

Dear X-Mail,

What can I say? "Wow!" is about all I can think of. From Chuck Austen's writing to Salvador "Lightning" Larroca's amazing and beautiful artwork, #437 was an amazing issue.

I am wondering about something though. Josh Guthrie has wings just like Warren (a different color but wings just the same.) Is the reason Paige is always fawning over Warren because he reminds her of a brother and family she left behind, a family that she desperately wants to return to?

I have to compliment Salvador Larroca again for making this awesome issue about 100 times better. It would not have had the same effect or emotion if it had been anybody else—perfect choice.

Well, until Professor X walks again...MAKE MINE MARVEL.

Chris Crilley
Wantagh, New York

Thanks for the good words, Chris. You can expect much, much more from the talented Mr. Larroca in the pages of X-Men. I can't imagine that Paige doesn't feel a distinct fondness for the two oh-so-angelic guys in her life. I mean guys with wings, what girl wouldn't go for that?

Uncanny Crew,

Great magazine...love reading the comic book every month! Hang on to Chuck Austen! Great wit and dialogue, and finding out about Nightcrawler's past was awesome...please don't just let that drop. Let's see some more exploration of his character and the effects all this will have on

him! It's great to have other minor characters really developed instead of simply dropped (like the new nurse and Nils)...mark of a great writer! I'm an English teacher, and I use your magazines to teach reading to my middle school kids who lack motivation to read "normal" books—thanks a ton! I don't envy the position y'all have of trying to satisfy people with such a wide variety of tastes, convictions, and opinions. In the meanwhile, thanks, and keep up the good work!

Zack Shaffer
Lake City, CO

Chuck's facility with the X-Men's wide array of characters and their distinct personalities is one of the reasons we love him so! And thank YOU for your invaluable work out there in the trenches teaching the art of reading.

House of Ideas,

I just want to send my praise to cover artist Salvador Larroca. I think that he is an exceptional artist who deserves much more credit than he gets. I have been trying to follow his work ever since HEROES REBORN: THE RETURN. I find the quality of his work to be absolutely amazing, and he is able to maintain a monthly schedule unlike some other artists (I'm not sure, but I don't think he missed a single issue of FANTASTIC FOUR or X-TREME X-MEN when he was penciling them). I especially enjoy his depictions of Gambit (being my favorite character) and Rogue. I am very excited about his upcoming stint on UNCANNY X-MEN, and look forward to any

other future work the House of Ideas may have in store for him. I am hoping for Salvador Larroca to return to a monthly book for more than six months. I enjoy his art and think that he is the best out there.

Thank you for reading this and I hope it got through.

Lucas Allende

Well, Lucas, you know how we love to please, so because you demanded it—Salva will be here with us and the X-Men, not just once a month, but because we're such nice guys, very often he'll be coming at you with X-Men action twice a month! That makes for many a triple Salva fix in just six weeks! Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus.

—Cory



NEXT ISSUE:

CUE THE THEME FROM DELIVERANCE, 'CAUSE IT'S GONNA GET NASTY!

"SHE LIES WITH ANGELS" PART 4 OF 5 IN TWO WEEKS!

DORY SEDLMEIER
STEPHANIE MOORE
ASST. EDITORS

MIKE MARTS
EDITOR

JOE QUESADA
CHIEF

X-MAIL c/o MARVEL COMICS

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