

MARVEL
PSR 442

AUSTEN
LARROCA
MIKI

UNCANNY X-MEN[®]

OF
DARKEST
NIGHTS
1 OF 2

Sambo
AR7.03



DIRECT EDITION
7 59606 02461 2 44211
\$2.25 US \$3.25 CAN



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

OF DARKEST NIGHTS 1 of 2

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PREVIOUSLY



PROFESSOR X
Charles Xavier
Telepathy



WOLVERINE
Logan
Admantium Claws/
Healing



EMMA FROST
Telepathy/
Diamond Skin



POLARIS
Lorna Dane
Magnetic Control



JUGGERNAUT
Cain Marko
Super-Strength/
Invulnerability



The X-MEN are reeling from the worst blow in their history. Their home, the XAVIER INSTITUTE FOR HIGHER LEARNING, has been reduced to rubble. The city of New York and its many famous landmarks are in ruins, with hundreds of people killed in the destruction. And one of the most beloved of their numbers, JEAN GREY, is dead. All of this was done by the X-Men's greatest foe, the mutant master of magnetism, MAGNETO.

Magneto himself was killed in the battle with the X-Men by WOLVERINE. But the damage Magneto has inflicted upon the Earth remains. PROFESSOR CHARLES XAVIER, once Magneto's closest friend, finds himself lost and disillusioned in the wake of such violence. Torn between disgust at Magneto's actions and the desire to honor his dead friend, Xavier has brought Magneto's body to the island nation of Genosha, a land that Magneto once ruled, to give the man a proper burial...

TARA DAKIDES

Tara Dakides
5 time X Games medalist

SoupatHand
Soup

Great taste you take with you.
Just heat, sip and go.



Uncanny X-Men (ISSN #1083-401X) No. 442, June, 2004. Published Monthly except semi-monthly in February, March, April, June, November and December by MARVEL COMICS, a division of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION, 10 East 40th Street, New York, NY 10016. PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. © 2004 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. \$2.25 per copy in the U.S. and \$3.25 in Canada (GST #R127032859) in the direct market and \$2.99 per copy in the U.S. and \$4.25 in Canada (GST #R127032859) through the newsstand. Canadian Agreement #40668537. Printed in the USA. Subscription rate (U.S. dollars) for 12 issues: U.S. \$37.00, Canada \$37.00, Foreign \$39.00. POSTMASTER: SEND ALL ADDRESS CHANGES TO Uncanny X-Men, C/O MARVEL SUBSCRIPTION DEPT., P.O. BOX 32 NEWBURGH, NY 12551. TELEPHONE # (800) 217-9158. FAX # (845) 566-7020. subscriptions@marvel.com. ALLEN LIPSON, Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel. AVI ARAD, Chief Creative Officer. GUI KARVO, President of Publishing and CIO. DAVID BOGART, Managing Editor. STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Russell Brown, Executive Vice President, Consumer Products, Promotions and Media Sales at rbrown@marvel.com or 212-576-8561.

⊗ OVER THE INDIAN OCEAN...

S.H.I.E.L.D.
AIR TRANSPORT



FWWWEEEEEEEEEE



Anything I could say, you need to figure out on your own.

OF DARKEST NIGHTS

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Logan!

I value your opinion!
I want to *hear* what you have to say!

Then read my mind, Chuck!



You know I'd rather not use my psychic gifts to *intrude* like that!

You don't need *mental powers* to know what I'm thinking.



I'm afraid I *do*, Logan. I really can't understand the *attitude* you've given me all the way here--

Then you're *dumber* than everyone keeps telling me, Xavier!

Colonel Fury?



You've returned a *terrorist* to his Island nation, one he built and ruled with tyranny and oppression--

--to *bury* him-- bury a *murderer*, who just days ago killed *many, many* Americans.



If you didn't have friends in high places, I would have never even brought you here for this little *insult* to humanity.



I understand what Magneto did, Colonel Fury...but in the name of humanity, he was still a *man*-- a human being--



You can't convince me he was a human being.

You can't convince me he was even human excrement--

--to use a highfalutin' word a *braniac* like yourself might understand better than the word I usually throw around.



WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP

Terrorists like Magneto don't deserve a funeral!

They deserve to be cut up and fed to dogs!



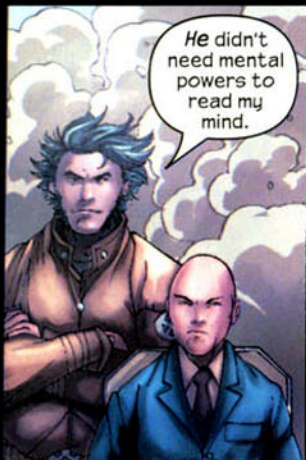
My orders were to bring you here! Didn't say anything about a return trip!

My little form of protest!

Good luck gettin' home!



WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP



⊗ LIBERTY ISLAND,
NEW YORK HARBOR...



A few more feet down, Juggernaut.

Her name is *Medik*, and she's becoming less scared as her heartbeat weakens.

Where's *Nightcrawler*, Emma? Couldn't he just *teleport in* and--



For the **third** time, Cain--

--he is in Midtown, helping find people trapped in a subway collapse.

Well, ain't you got any **more** teleporters or walk-through-wall types who can--

They're all **busy**. The Avengers are busy, the other X-Men... you need to stop asking, Cain.



Yeah, well it's **frustrating**, okay, She-Hulk?!

I can't dig fast enough, and if I move something the wrong way I might crush--



Big talk for a man who used to **cause** this kind of destruction on a weekly basis.

HEY!
I see her hand!



Can you reach her?

Yeah. Just hold me so I don't slip...



Is she--?

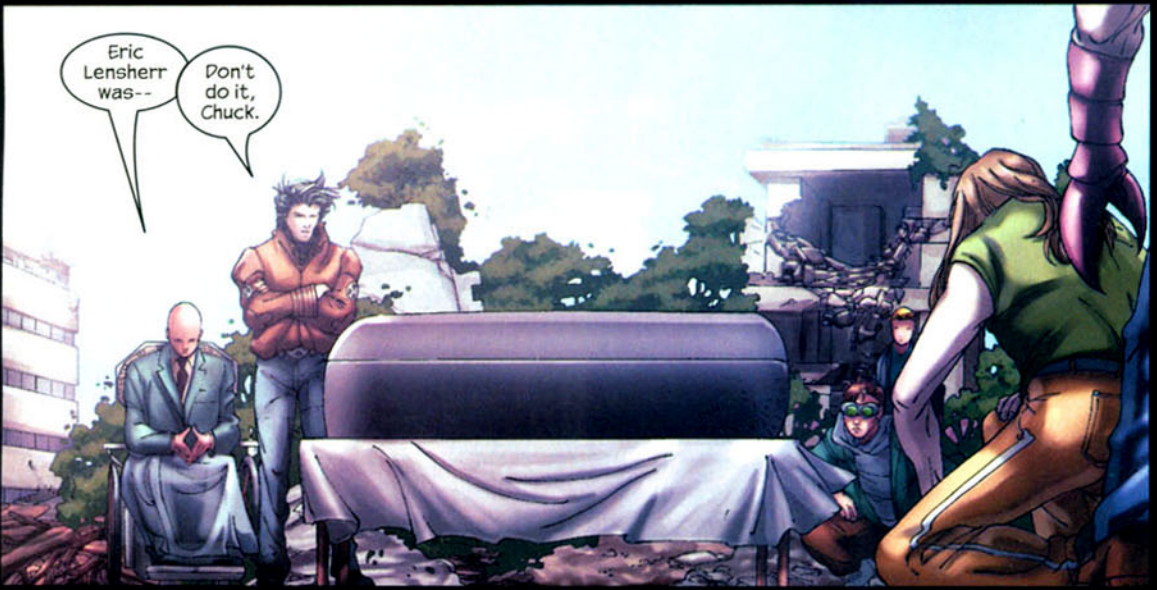
No.



She's dead.



Well.



Eric Lensherr was--

Don't do it, Chuck.



Erik Lensherr was a difficult--

Dooooon't do it.



I thought you weren't going to say anything while I gave this eulogy.

And I thought you were *smarter* than this.

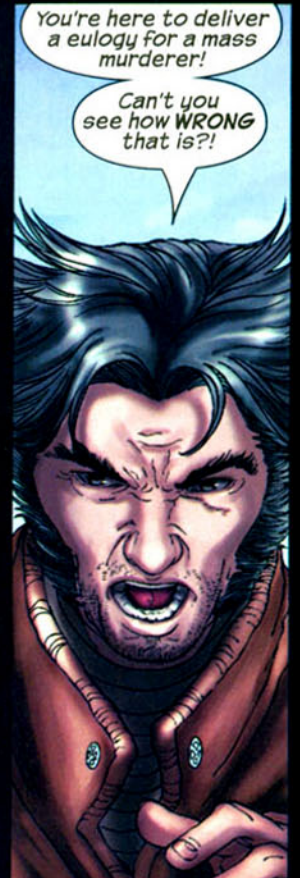
After what this man-- --this *filth* did--



This isn't the time or the place, Logan--

This is exactly the time and the place!

LOOK AT YOU!



You're here to deliver a eulogy for a mass murderer!

Can't you see how **WRONG** that is?!



What do you *want* me to say, Logan?

You want me to say you were *right*?

You want me to say we should have killed him *years* ago? In Scotland? In the Atlantic? On Asteroid "M"?



Can't we even show respect to the *dead*?



Not *this* dead.



Logan, we need to *rise above* our petty, human vindictiveness, and--

No, you're *wrong*.

I won't say that often, but I will *now*.

This has *always* been both your greatest strength--and your greatest weakness, Chuck.

Your sensitivity and compassion.



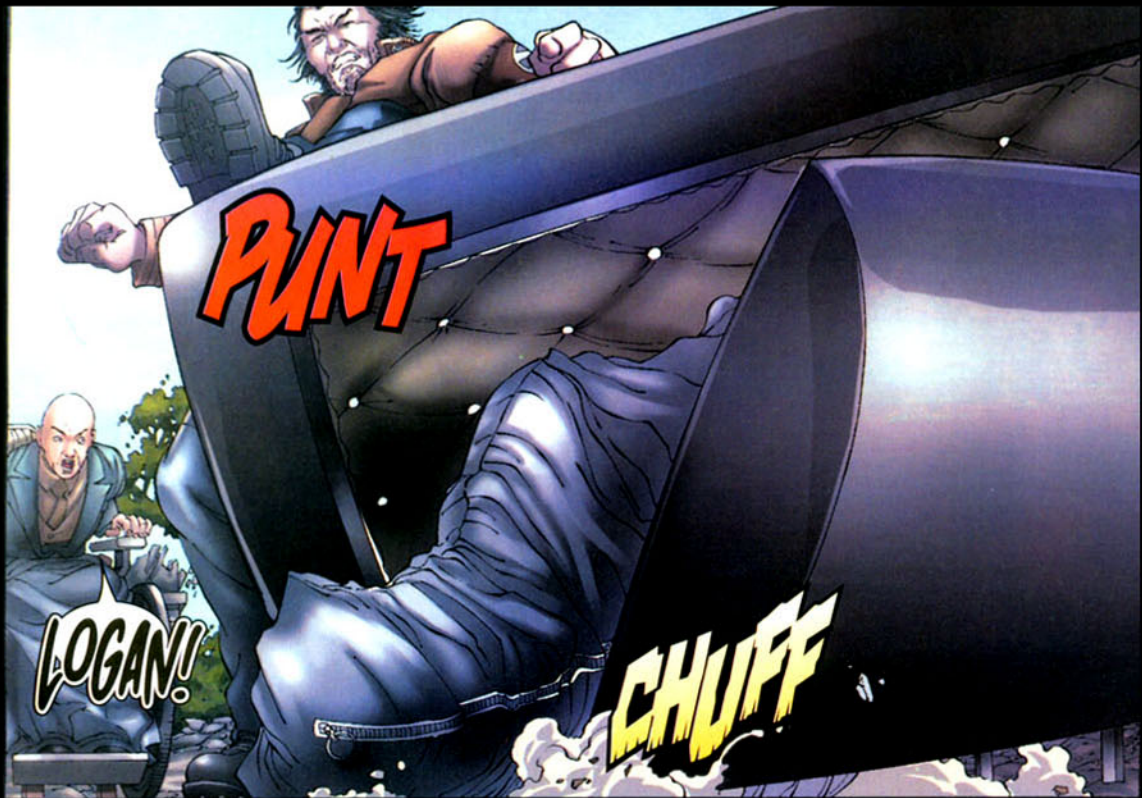
This man just murdered--

--in cold blood--

--hundreds of innocent people.

Just because they were *different* than what he considered superior.

SOUND FAMILIAR?!



Yeah, let's just leave aside the fact that he killed *hundreds* of New Yorkers.

SNKT

SNKT



Let's forget that he tried to kill Hank, and Scottie, and Emma, and me, and every other mutant who's ever had lunch at your school.



That same school--

--your pride and joy-- a haven and place of *hope* for people like me from all over the world--



--that same school that he burned to the **GROUND**.



But most importantly--

--let's rise above the fact that he killed JEANNIE.



I don't think so.

CHUFF



Is that Magneto's body?



I asked you a question, hairball.

Are you standing--
--on Magneto's body?



You bet I am, bub.

Got a problem with it?



AVENGERS MANSION,
DOWNTOWN MANHATTAN

I can't believe you'd even *ask* me that, Polaris.

At this point, I can't imagine anything *worse* than having Magneto as a father--

--let alone willingly attending a *service* for him in Genosha with Charles Xavier.

Many of the people he murdered--still have yet to be found.

It's the worst nightmare you can *possibly* imagine, having the same blood in your veins as that *madman*.



Believe me, Quicksilver--

--Scarlet Witch--

--I *can* relate.



With all due respect, Polaris, I don't think you *can*.

We are the children of one of the worst mass-murderers this planet has *ever seen*.

With all due respect to *you*, dear sister, our father did his *OWN* killing--



And again, with all due respect to *you both*, Quicksilver, I *do* understand your feelings.

You see, I have recently learned through genetic testing--



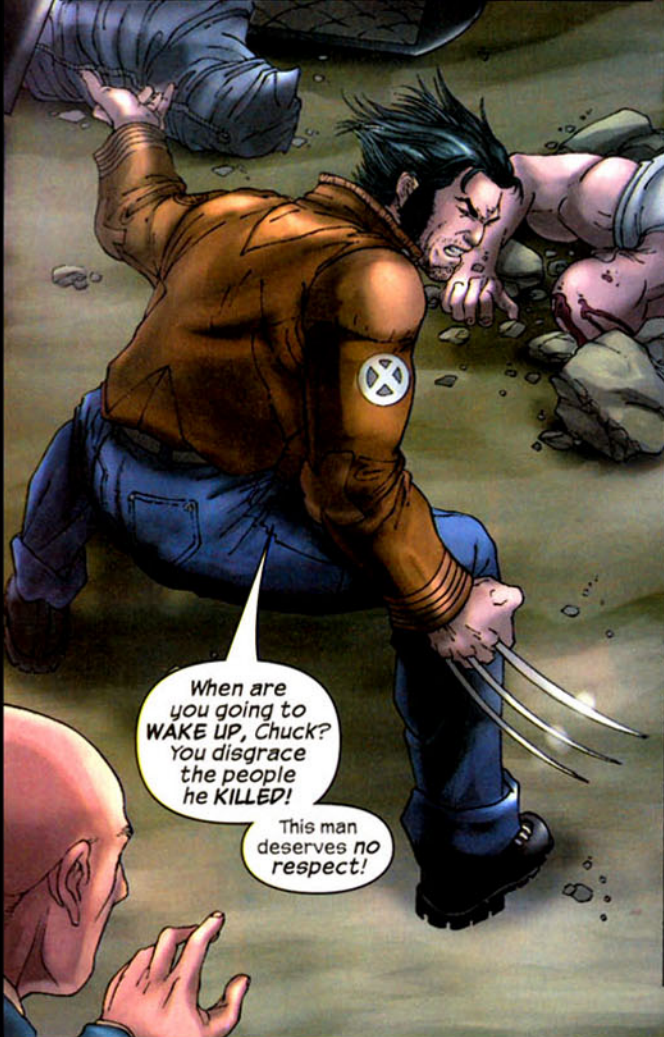
--that we three *share* that mass-murderer as a father.

GET WOLVERINE!
KILL HIM!

Oh,
PLEASE.

stop
this, all
of you!





When are you going to **WAKE UP, Chuck?** You disgrace the people he **KILLED!**

This man deserves **no respect!**



Let me try to make this **CLEARER.**



I--
--have--
--no--
--respect--
--for--
Magneto.



And--
--I --
--NEVER--
--DID!



MAGNETO
WAS A
TERRORIST.
A BULLY
AND A
HYPOCRITE!

A MURDERER
OF WOMEN AND
CHILDREN WHO
LAUGHED OVER
THEIR DEAD
BODIES WHILE
DEMANDING
TRIBUTE.



I'LL SHOW
YOU THE ONLY
TRIBUTE HE
DESERVES.



CHUNK



What
the--?!

HOW
DARE
YOU?!



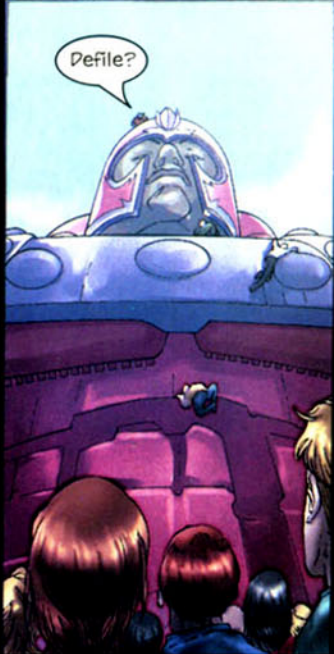


Is it true?
Did Magneto
kill women and
children?

I can't
believe
it.

We just
wanted
to live in
peace.

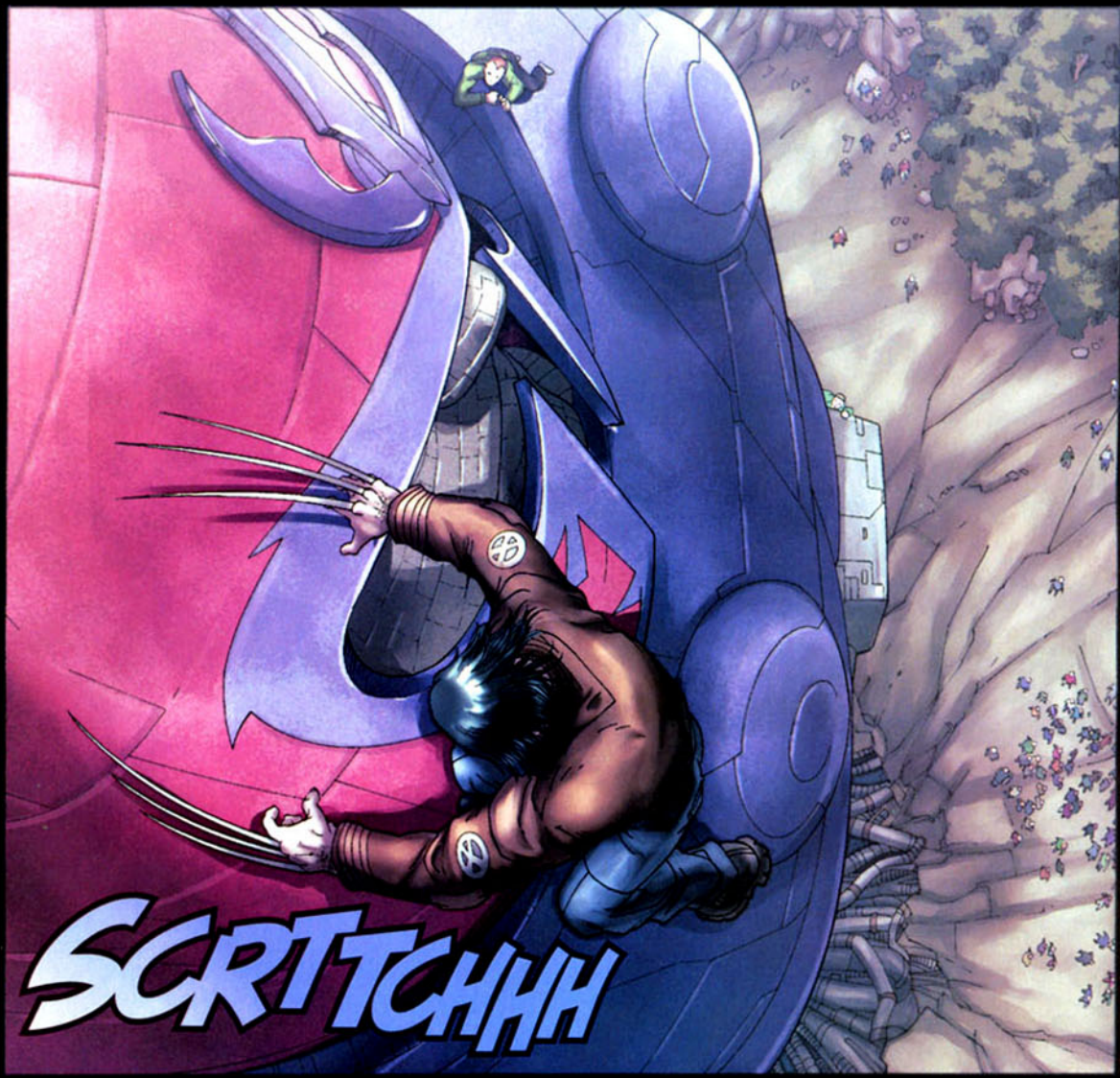
How dare
you
defile the memory
of our master!



Defile?

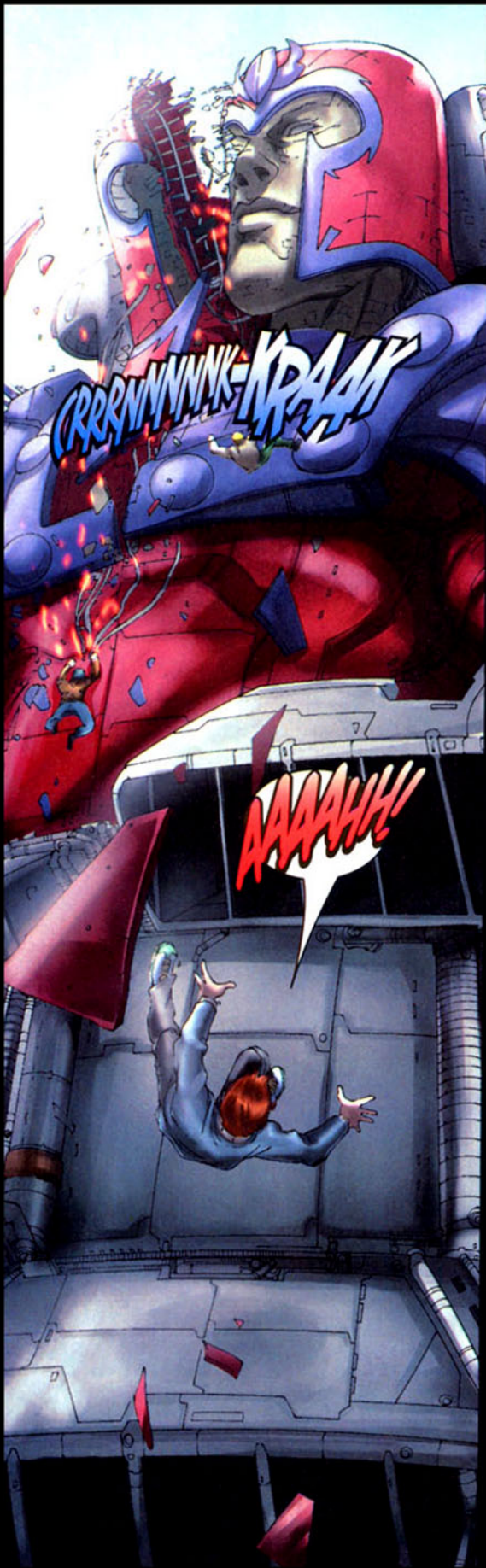


Lady, I
ain't even
begun to
defile!



SCRITCHHHH







Have I made my point yet?





'O' 'ur' 'e!
'O' 'ur' 'e.
Eeeeeazhe!



"Don't hurt me?
Don't hurt me,
please?"
Is that
what you
said?



You think
maybe the
people in those
cars said
something
like that--
--JUST BEFORE
MAGNETO DUMPED
THEM INTO THE
OCEAN?!

Logan,
Logan,
Logan...



...really.
Get a
hold of
yourself.
Once again,
you're all fists
and fury, and not
seeing the bigger
picture here.



Allow me to
be the "devil's
advocate."

⊗ TO BE CONTINUED...

X-MAIL

Welcome back to X-Mail. After last month's packed-to-the-gills conclusion of "She Lies With Angels" we're back with your most favoritest, uncanniest letters page.

Hello,

I'm a fan of the X-Men comics you guys produce. I would like to say "good work and keep em comin'." You see, I am currently deployed in the Middle East, and my sister sends me comics, at least what she can find, in care packages. She reads them before she sends them—you've got her hooked on UNCANNY X-MEN right now. Anyway, the comics she sends are my release from the reality I'm in. Even though it is a temporary getaway, it is greatly appreciated. Thank you,

Ace Sinosky

Thanks, Ace! It's an honor to each and every one of us on the UNCANNY team to know that we're making life a little easier for the guys and girls stationed throughout the world.

We'll keep those comics coming your way. You keep safe.

Hey guys,

I've just been rereading my UNCANNY X-MEN collection from the beginning (#94 and up) and those early issues made me realize how much I missed the letters page. Then a few issues ago you guys brought it back, so I figured I'd better write in while I have the chance.

First off, Salvador Larroca belongs on the X-titles. I've missed him since he left X-TREME X-MEN. He draws the most expressive faces since the great John Buscema. Also, the current "She Lies With Angels" arc is one of the best in a long time! Although it was cool to learn about Kurt's past, that whole "Draco" thing was starting to lose me. Just one question before I sign off: Is Juggernaut coming back? He was a great addition to the team and I'd love to see him in Larroca's hands.

Well, that's it, so until Logan falls in love and doesn't have to finish off the poor girl with his claws, Make Mine Marvel.

Jesse McIlveen

Juggy won't be going anywhere, Jesse. Heck, we just gave ya an eyeful of the Cytorrak-totin' wrecking ball himself in this very issue!

Drawn by Salvador Larroca even! Can we deliver or can we deliver?

Dear X-Mail,

I just recently started reading comics again after a two-year hiatus. What got me interested was my old favorites, the X-Men. The particular issue was the one where Northstar joins the team, with him on the front cover alone. I have always liked his character, and was hoping more would be done with him. He's had a few brief moments, and I would like to see more of him, and some of the other characters.

Polaris has always been underused, and you have more characters wandering around the mansion than ever before. We don't have to see Angel, Wolverine, and Nightcrawler dominate every story every issue. Having a diverse group of characters could make for some interesting stories and interaction. Since you have brought in nurse Annie, whatever happened to Cecilia? Wouldn't a doctor with a force field fit in to help with all of the children and new mutants coming and going? Didn't Iceman like her a little when he first met her? Are we ever going to find out if he's now just frozen water or human also? Did Professor X cure Lorna of her strange behavior?

Will Alex and Annie get more involved? Will Northstar ever get a boyfriend? There has to be more gay super heroes out there. And finally, will someone kill off the entire Guthrie clan? They are all too annoying. I'm from the South, and would hate to have them as neighbors. Maybe Polaris can go crazy one more time and wipe them all out! That would be an epic story. I'm back for now. Keep me interested, and I will stay around for a long time.

Roger Scaggs
Brookpark, Ohio

Keep you interested? No problem, Rog. I majored in keeping people interested at my alma mater, B.G.S.U.

The Guthries are still alive and well down in Cumberland. They're a tough bunch to knock off as we've seen in "She Lies With Angels."

The future may well hold a little more romantic drama including a certain quartet of characters. Even a magnetic personality won't get you far when you're as friendly as an iceberg.

In just a few short weeks we're spelling "interested" X-M-E-N-R-E-L-O-A-D.

Don't miss out, because that laundry list of questions is gonna get a lot shorter come May.

Dear X-Mail,

I've been collecting UNCANNY X-MEN since the "Dominant Species" arc. It's amazing! Austen brings such emotion into his writing. After every ish, I'm stuck waiting impatiently for the next one. I loved "The Draco" arc. I certainly hope Austen does something else with Mystique, since she's my favorite X-female.

Salvador Larroca is such an awesome artist! He's done some of the best work I've seen in UNCANNY. It's not too cartoony like some. It's perfect.

So, here's hoping Chuck and Salva will be sticking around the UNCANNY crew for a long time. Keep up the fantastic work!

Jeff De Haan
Pembroke, Ontario

That Salva's quite a talent isn't he? And just because we know you all love him, we're giving you FOUR Salva issues this month! That's right—check out the craft of the man with the lightning pencil in NEW X-MEN #155 and #156 and then join us back here in two weeks for UNCANNY X-MEN #443 and some very, very big news!



NEXT ISSUE:

**A REVELATION THAT
CHANGES THE X-MEN
FOREVER!**

**BE HERE IN TWO WEEKS
FOR THE STUNNING
CONCLUSION OF
"IN DARKEST NIGHTS"!**

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