

# THE WOLVERINE IS DEAD. HIS LEGACY REMAINS.

LOGAN MET HIS END WHILE DESTROYING A REVAMPED VERSION OF THE WEAPON X PROJECT LOCATED IN A FACILITY KNOWN AS PARADISE.

LOGAN COULD NOT ESCAPE, BUT OTHERS DID--FIVE TEST SUBJECTS, ALL GRANTED STRANGE NEW POWERS. NONE WERE EVER INTENDED TO SURVIVE OUTSIDE THE PROGRAM, AND ALL HAVE BEEN INFUSED WITH A TICKING CLOCK IN THEIR DNA THAT WILL KILL THEM UNLESS IT CAN BE DEACTIVATED.

THESE LOST WEAPONS KIDNAPPED A GROUP OF FIVE OF WOLVERINE'S DEADLIEST ASSOCIATES IN THE HOPE THAT THEIR HEALING FACTORS MIGHT HOLD THE ANSWER TO SAVING THE TEST SUBJECTS' LIVES. THE REFUGEES FROM PARADISE HOLD SIGNIFICANT LEVERAGE OVER THE FIVE KILLERS--SECRET "CONTROL WORDS" THAT CAN MANIPULATE, SEDATE OR EVEN KILL EACH OF THEM.

HAVING NOW TEAMED UP WITH ANOTHER PARADISE SURVIVOR, FANTOMELLE, AND HER PSYCHICALLY LINKED FOX CULPEPPER, THE TWO TEAMS PLAN TO STORM MR. SINISTER'S FINLANDIAN LAIR IN HOPES TO RETRIEVE THE POTENTIAL KEY TO THEIR SALVATION--THE REMAINS OF WOLVERINE! BUT UNBEKNOWNST TO OUR HEROES, MR. SINISTER HAS BEEN PATIENTLY WAITING FOR THEIR ARRIVAL...

## PARADISE



SHOGUN



NEURO



ENDO



SKEL



JUNK



FANTOMELLE

## THE WOLVERINES



MYSTIQUE



SABRETOOTH



LADY  
DEATHSTRIKE



DAKEN



X-23

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FINLAND.

DO WE  
HAVE A  
PLAN?

WE DON'T  
KNOW WHAT  
MR. SINISTER'S GOT  
WAITING FOR US,  
DEATHSTRIKE. OUR  
ONE ADVANTAGE IS  
*SURPRISE.*

NEURO'S  
RIGHT. WE'LL TAKE  
STOCK AND FIGURE  
OUT OUR NEXT  
MOVE ONCE WE  
HIT THE...

...THE...



...WHY HAVE WE STOPPED FALLING?







HELLO!  
WELCOME, ALL  
OF YOU...

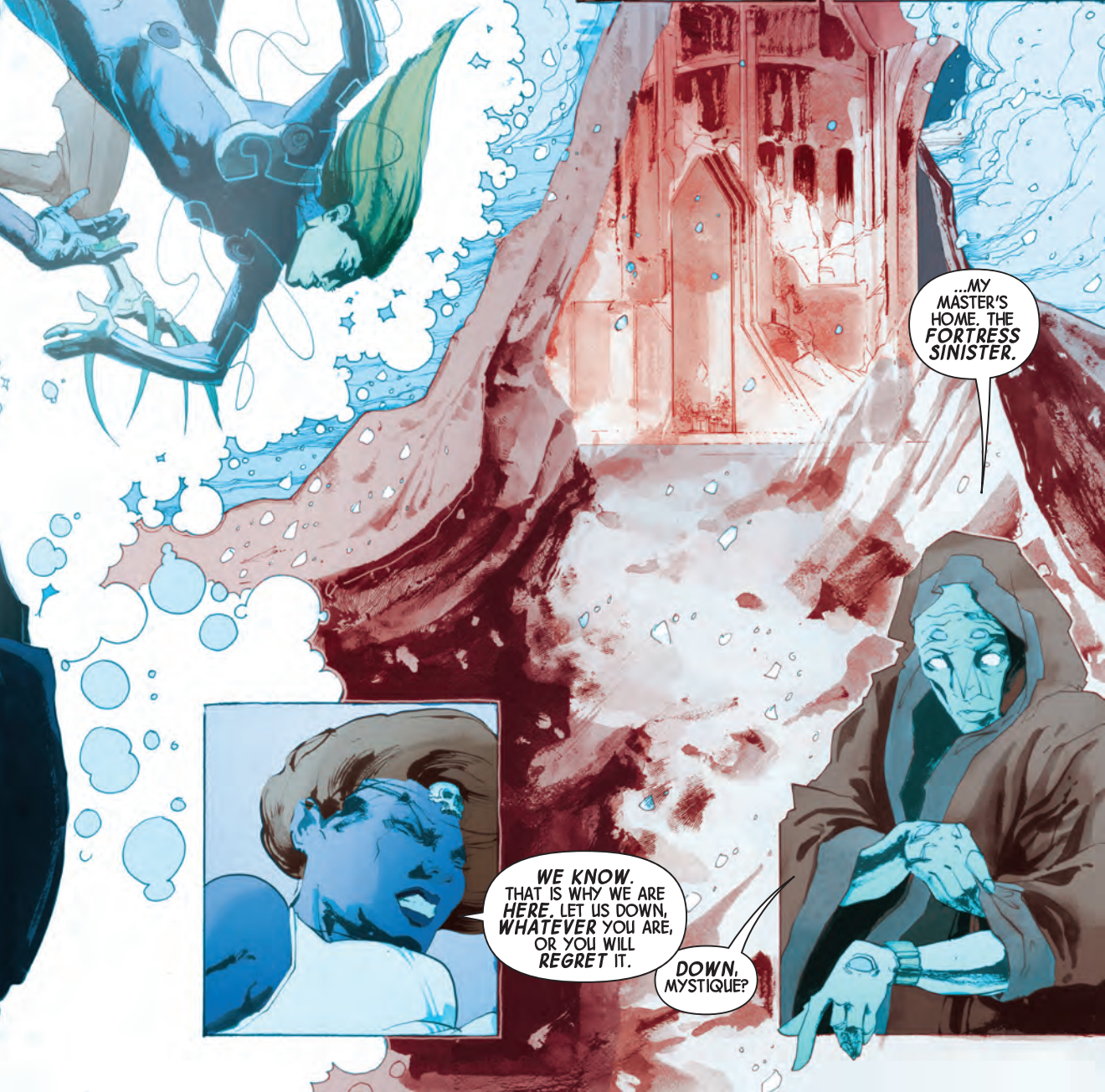


...MY  
NAME IS  
STARKY  
GRIPES.

I SERVE  
MR. SINISTER,  
WHICH YOU HAVE  
PROBABLY GUESSED  
BY THIS POINT.  
HE SENT ME TO  
GREET YOU, AND  
TO EXPLAIN A  
FEW THINGS.



FIRST,  
ALLOW ME TO  
REVEAL...



...MY  
MASTER'S  
HOME. THE  
FORTRESS  
SINISTER.

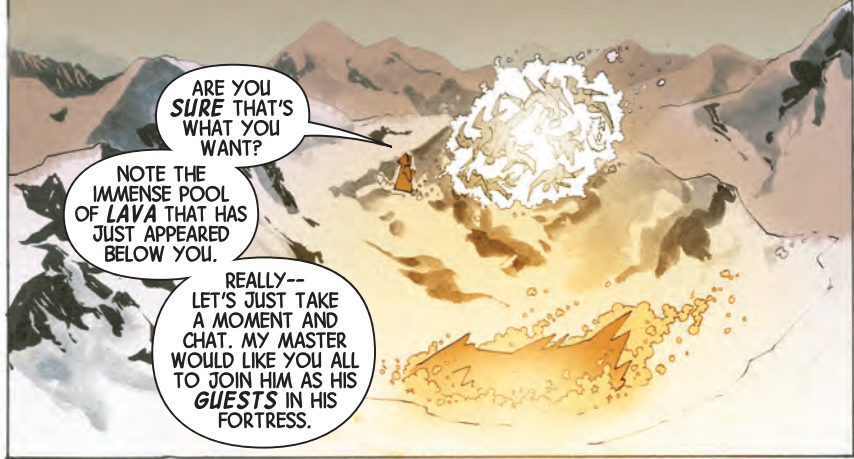


WE KNOW,  
THAT IS WHY WE ARE  
HERE. LET US DOWN,  
WHATEVER YOU ARE,  
OR YOU WILL  
REGRET IT.

DOWN,  
MYSTIQUE?







ARE YOU SURE THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT?

NOTE THE IMMENSE POOL OF LAVA THAT HAS JUST APPEARED BELOW YOU.

REALLY-- LET'S JUST TAKE A MOMENT AND CHAT. MY MASTER WOULD LIKE YOU ALL TO JOIN HIM AS HIS GUESTS IN HIS FORTRESS.



SOME OF YOU, HE ALREADY KNOWS, OF COURSE.

HELLO THERE, YURIKO. A PLEASURE TO SEE YOU.

SINISTER DOES NOT KNOW ME. NO ONE KNOWS ME. I WILL TEAR YOU AND YOUR MASTER APART.

DELIGHTFUL.



BUT OF COURSE, SOME OF YOU HE DOES NOT YET KNOW. FANTOMELLE, ISN'T IT? AND CULPEPPER?

THIS IS BAD, 'ELLE. NO SCORE IS WORTH THIS.

WE CAN STILL MAKE IT WORK, PEP. DON'T BE SCARED. WE'RE GOING AFTER THE WOLVERINE.

ACCEPTABLE RISK, BUDDY.

THIS IS JUST A JOB, ER, MR. GRIPES. WE'RE HAPPY TO BEG OFF, IF YOU'LL JUST LET US GO.

WHY, THAT'S THE IDEA!

"MY LORD SINISTER JUST WISHES TO LEARN MORE ABOUT YOU. HE IS A SCIENTIST, AFTER ALL. HE IS ALWAYS SEARCHING FOR NEW...AH...MATERIAL.

"THE DOORS OF HIS FORTRESS ARE OPEN TO YOU. YOU ARE FREE TO GO WHEREVER YOU WISH INSIDE."



AND IF WE SAY NO?

WELL, THAT'S WHAT THE LAVA'S FOR, X-23.