



E IS FOR EXTINCTION

THE MULTIVERSE WAS DESTROYED...ALL THAT REMAINS...IS BATTLEWORLD!

CHARLES XAVIER IS DEAD, AND TO THE PUBLIC, MAGNETO APPEARS TO CARRY ON HIS FELLOW MUTANT'S LIFEWORSHIP: HEADING BOTH THE ATOM INSTITUTE--A SCHOOL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN, HUMANS AND MUTANTS ALIKE--AND THE NEW X-MEN TEAM. BUT MAGNETO HAS BEEN HIDING AN OBJECT OF INCREDIBLE POWER: A PHOENIX EGG CONTAINING UNTOLD AMOUNTS OF PSYCHIC ENERGY.

DISTURBED BY THIS NEWS, CYCLOPS, EMMA FROST, XORN AND WOLVERINE RAIDED THE ATOM INSTITUTE. IN THE ENSUING CHAOS, MAGNETO KILLED QUENTIN QUIRE, XORN VANISHED IN A FLASH OF LIGHT, MAGNETO HIMSELF WAS KILLED--AND THEN THINGS GOT WEIRD.

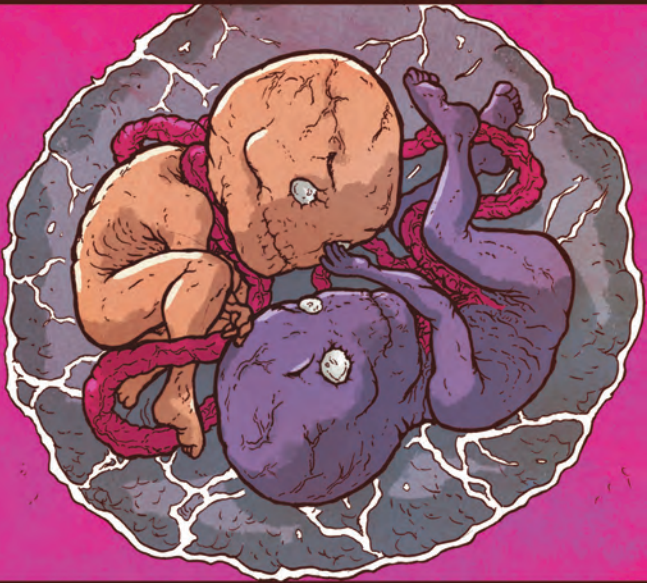
AN ARMY OF BEASTS, FROM ALL OVER BATTLEWORLD, ATTACKED THE INSTITUTE UNDER ORDERS THAT SEEMED TO COME FROM THE PHOENIX EGG ITSELF. THE X-MEN, OLD AND NEW, INCLUDING THE REAL HANK McCOY, RALLIED TO FIGHT THE LEGION OF BEASTS. THERE WERE CASUALTIES. STEPFORD CUCKOO ESME WAS KILLED IN THE ALTERCATION.

JUST AS ALL HOPE SEEMED LOST, QUENTIN QUIRE'S DEAD BODY ROSE WITH THE MIND OF CHARLES XAVIER AND HE RALLIED HIS X-MEN. AFTER STERILIZING THE SUBLIME INFECTION WITH HIS VAST MENTAL POWER, XAVIER ANNOUNCED THAT THE BATTLE HAD ONLY BEGUN!

THE PHOENIX EGG HAS HATCHED! THE X-MEN'S FINAL FOE HAS EMERGED!

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ARE THESE WORDS FROM THE PAST?



THIS IS ONLY HOW IT STARTED...

ARE YOU OKAY, JEAN?

I'M FINE, HANK. MY ALARM DIDN'T GO OFF THIS MORNING. THE WHOLE DAY HAS FELT... OFF.



CASSANDRA, GET OUT OF MY HEAD OR I FIRE.



PROFESSOR?



JEAN! GET OUT OF MY MIND!

TOO LATE.



JEAN!



CHARLES!

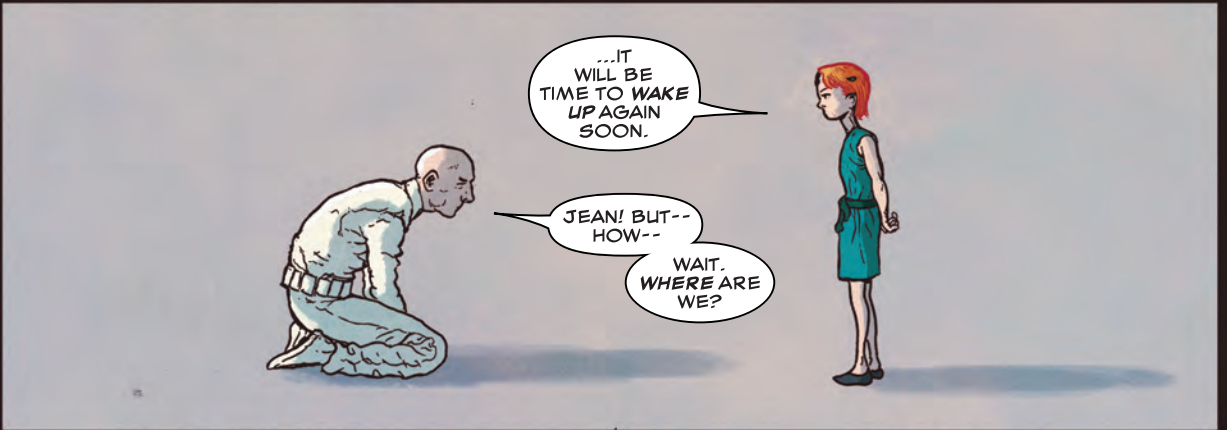
SUPERNOVA

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OH, JEAN, I'M SO SORRY.
NOT AGAIN.

IT'S OKAY, PROFESSOR...

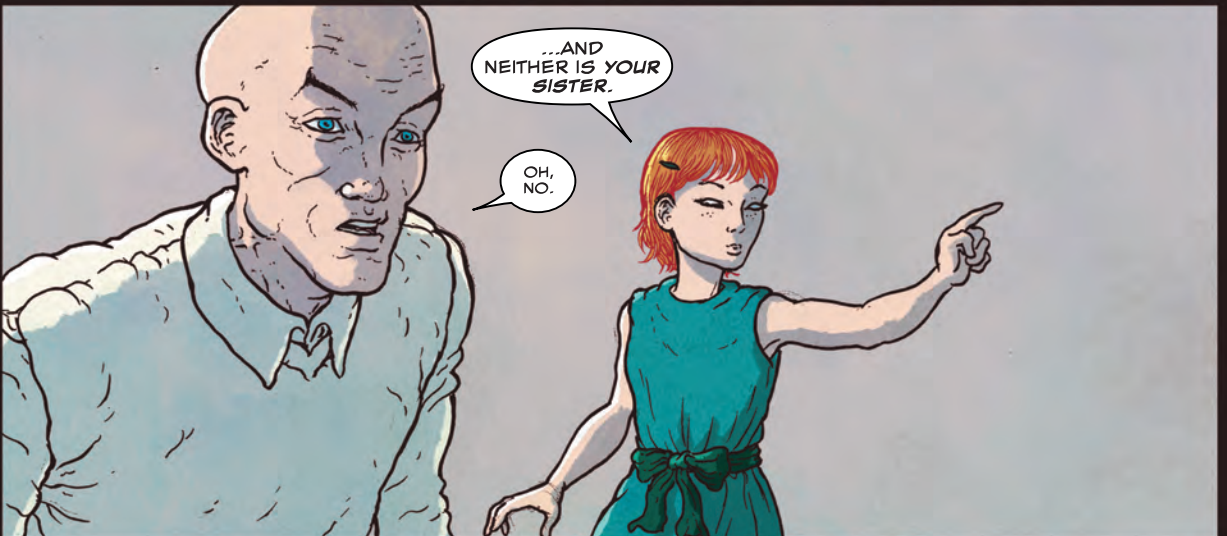


...IT WILL BE TIME TO WAKE UP AGAIN SOON.

JEAN! BUT-- HOW--
WAIT. WHERE ARE WE?



A COSMIC EGG! IT'S WHERE PHOENIXES ALWAYS GO WHEN THEY DIE. BUT YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE HERE...



...AND NEITHER IS YOUR SISTER.

OH, NO.



HELLO, CHILD. MY NAME IS CASSANDRA NOVA AND YOU SHOULD BE VERY AFRAID.



STAY BEHIND ME, JEAN.

IT'S OVER, CASSANDRA, OUR BODIES ARE DEAD. WE'RE JUST PSYCHIC GHOSTS NOW.



OH, CHARLES, I'VE ALWAYS BEEN A PSYCHIC GHOST. MY BODY WAS JUST A FORMALITY. I DID PLAN TO TAKE OVER YOURS TO RUIN YOUR PRECIOUS DREAM OF HUMAN AND MUTANT HARMONY, BUT THIS?

THIS IS SO MUCH BETTER!