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SAY WHAT YOU WILL ABOUT THE X-MEN.

THEY FIGHT.

WELCOME, WELCOME. SO GLAD YOU COULD JOIN US.

BEFORE WE BEGIN, A WORD. THE STORY YOU ARE ABOUT TO SEE IS NOT ONE...



THEY WIN.



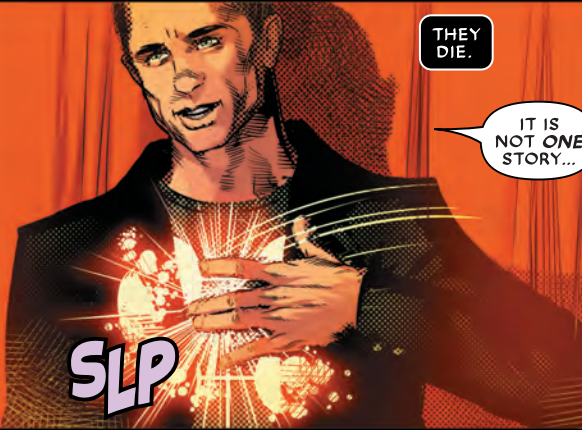
THEY LOSE.

...BUT MANY. A TALE OF HEROES AND VILLAINS, OF POWER, OF SACRIFICE, OF GREAT LOVE AND GREAT LOSS.



THEY DIE.

IT IS NOT ONE STORY...



...BUT MANY. IT IS THE STORY...

SAY THIS FOR THE MUTANTS...



...THEY PUT ON QUITE A SHOW.

...OF THE  
**X-MEN**

MM, HAVEN'T WE ALREADY SEEN THIS PLAY?

**THE LIFE OF X**

*-DRAMATIS PERSONAE-*

THE OLD MAN.....	LOGAN
IRON IN VELVET.....	ROGUE
ROGUE.....	ROGUE
THE CONTINENTAL.....	FAN
THE BLUE ONE.....	"B"
CHORUS.....	JAMES MAD
THE MARTYR.....	CYCLOP
THE RISEN PHOENIX.....	JEAN GREY
DOC MYSTERY.....	PROF. CHARLES XAVIER

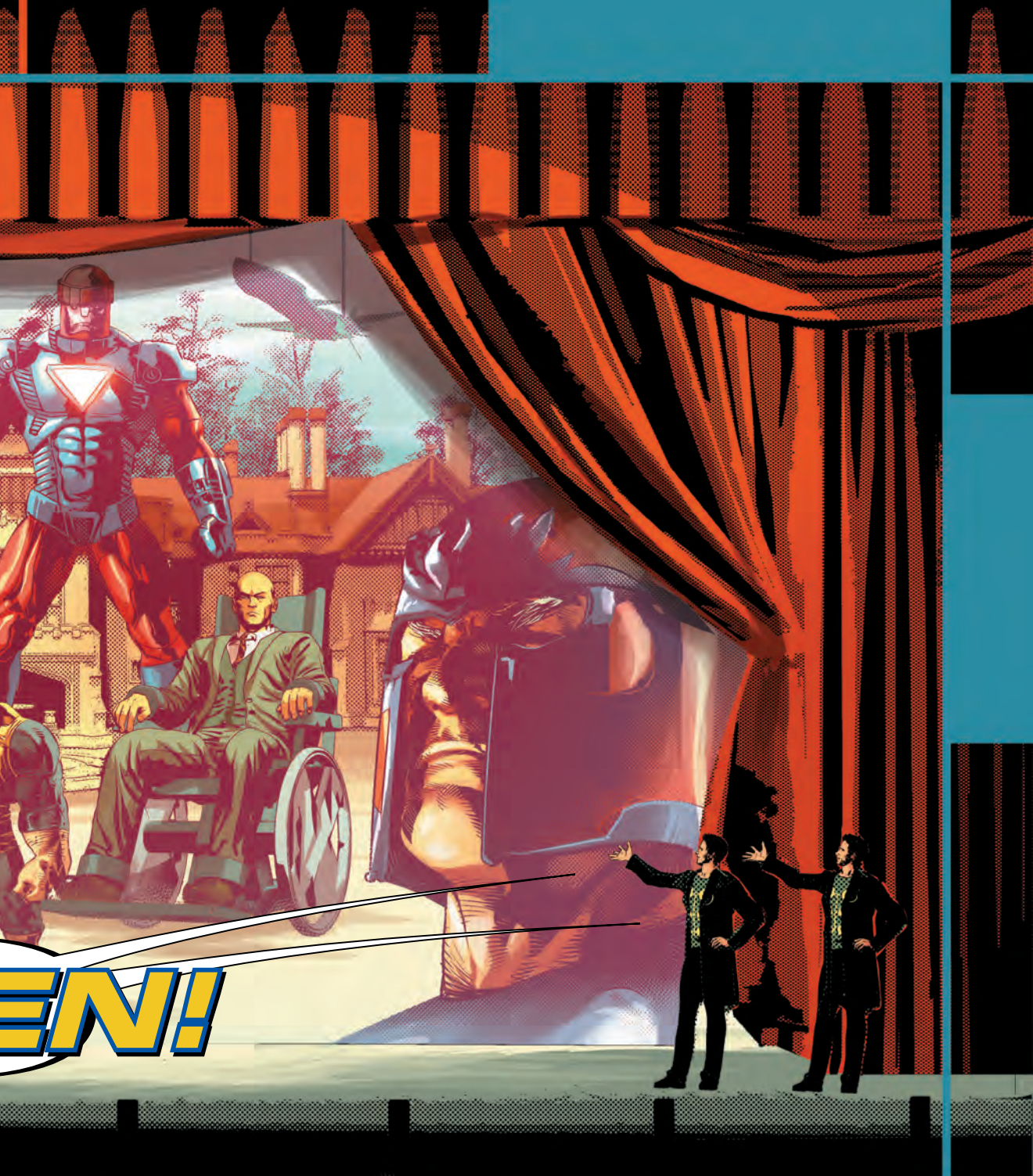
MAKING SOMETHING NEW IS RISKY. SAFER TO GO WITH WHAT'S FAMILIAR. COMFORT FOOD.

IF SOMETHING WORKS, DO IT AGAIN...UNTIL IT DOESN'T.

DON'T CARE IF IT'S NEW, ME. JUST HOPE IT'S GOOD. FOUR DOLLARS A TICKET!

AH, THAT'S CHEAP, REMY. I BET THEY'RE BARELY BREAKING EVEN.

YOU PAID FULL PRICE? HA! I **SNUCK** IN--AND I'M GLAD I DID.



**EN!**



BUT IT DOES LOOK A BIT FAKE, NO?

I MEAN... IS THAT A VAMPIRE?

EH, COME ON, MCCOY. YOU EXPECT TOO MUCH.



LET'S JUST TRY TO ENJOY OURSELVES.

**ACT I**



A SERIES OF BRUTAL ATTACKS ON THE WORLD'S PSYCHICS HAS BEEN TRACED BACK TO ITS SOURCE--THE HORRIBLE MIND-DEMON AMAHL FAROUK, THE SHADOW KING. POWERFUL MUTANT TELEPATH PSYLOCKE HAS GATHERED A GROUP OF MUTANTS TOGETHER IN LONDON IN HOPES OF BRINGING THE ATTACKS TO AN END BEFORE FAROUK IS ABLE TO POSSESS A PSYCHIC SUFFICIENTLY POWERFUL FOR HIM TO PLUNGE OUR WORLD INTO DARKNESS.

PSYLOCKE SENDS LOGAN, BEAST, ROGUE, GAMBIT AND FANTOMEX TO THE ASTRAL PLANE--REALITY-WARPING HOME OF THE SHADOW KING--TO FIND AND DEFEAT HIM, WHILE SHE REMAINS IN LONDON TO MAINTAIN THE NECESSARY MENTAL LINK BACK TO OUR WORLD. BISHOP AND ANGEL STAY BEHIND TO GUARD HER, PARTICULARLY IN THE WAKE OF SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE DONE TO THE CITY IN THE COURSE OF FENDING OFF THE SHADOW KING'S FIRST ATTACK. AND ON THE ASTRAL PLANE, THE EVIL FAROUK REVEALS THAT THERE IS YET ANOTHER PLAYER IN THIS GAME...LONG-DEAD FOUNDER OF THE X-MEN, PROFESSOR CHARLES XAVIER.





# ASTONISHING

# X-MEN

## **LIFE OF X** *PART TWO*

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**X-MEN CREATED BY STAN LEE & JACK KIRBY**

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