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6

THE NEW MUTANTS

DEAD SOULS



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BONUS DIGITAL EDITION — DETAILS INSIDE!

THE NEW MUTANTS

DEAD SOULS

BORN WITH AN X-GENE THAT GRANTS THEM WEIRD AND UNCANNY ABILITIES, MUTANTS ARE THOUGHT TO BE THE NEXT STEP IN HUMAN EVOLUTION. XI'AN COY MANH, A DISCIPLE OF THE MUTANT ACTIVIST CHARLES XAVIER, HAS ASSEMBLED A TEAM OF UNIQUELY QUALIFIED MUTANTS LED BY ILLYANA RASPUTIN (A.K.A. MAGIK) TO INVESTIGATE WEIRD AND UNCANNY PHENOMENA.

ILLYANA RECENTLY DISCOVERED THAT XI'AN'S UNDEAD BROTHER, TRAN, WAS BEHIND A STRING OF SUPERNATURAL INCIDENTS AROUND THE WORLD. TRACKING HIM TO DOCTOR STRANGE'S SANCTUM SANCTORUM, STRONG GUY RESTRAINED TRAN UNTIL ILLYANA BANISHED THEM BOTH TO LIMBO.

MEANWHILE IN CONNECTICUT, THE TECHNO-ORGANIC EXTRATERRESTRIAL KNOWN AS WARLOCK, HIMSELF A FORMER ASSOCIATE OF XI'AN'S, WAS ATTACKED BY A GROUP OF KIDS AND EXPLODED INTO DUST. ONE OF THE CHILDREN WAS INFECTED AND EXPLODED A SHORT TIME LATER...

CHAPTER 6: SOMETHING MUST BREAK

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**CANTERBURY,
CONNECTICUT.**

ICE LINE DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS POLICE

I'VE BEEN OVER THE WHOLE THING. THERE'S NO SIGN OF HIM.



**THREE MONTHS
AGO.**

NO, YOU WERE RIGHT TO SEND ME. I CAN'T QUITE PUT MY FINGER ON IT, BUT SOMETHING UNUSUAL HAPPENED HERE.

I JUST DON'T SENSE YOUR BROTHER'S INVOLVEMENT.

**DANIELLE
MOONSTAR.**

...
NOBODY BUT YOU CALLS IT "VALKYRIE SENSE," BUT YES, SHAN. IF TRAN'S SOUL WAS HERE I WOULD HAVE **SENSED** HIM.

YEAH, I'M DONE HERE. I'LL HEAD BACK IN A BIT AND WE CAN GRAB DINNER AND FIGURE OUT WHERE TO GO NEXT.



WHAT IS THIS?



SNIFF



HAAACHK!
HUACH!



~GASP~
PLEASE HELP...
~GASP~
SELF...
FRIEND...

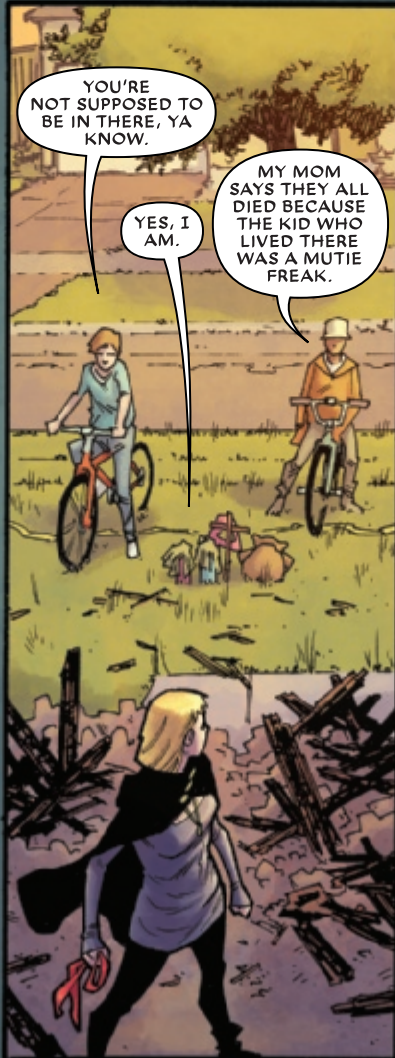
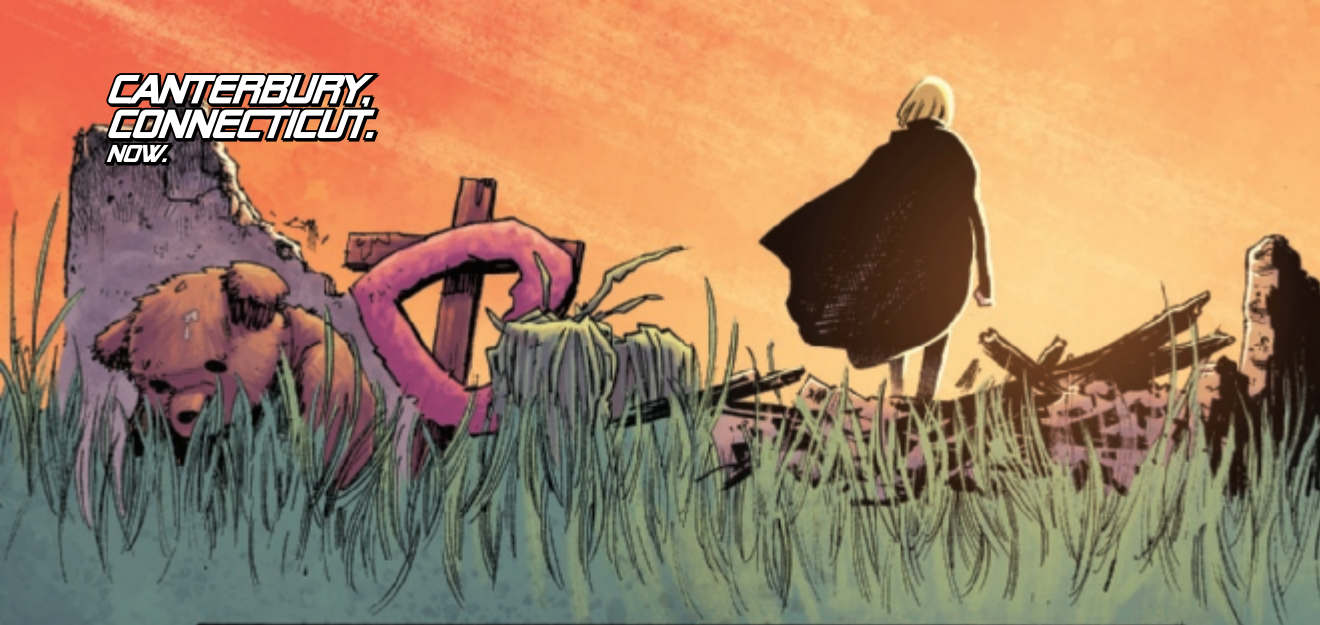


XI'AN COY MANH
calling...

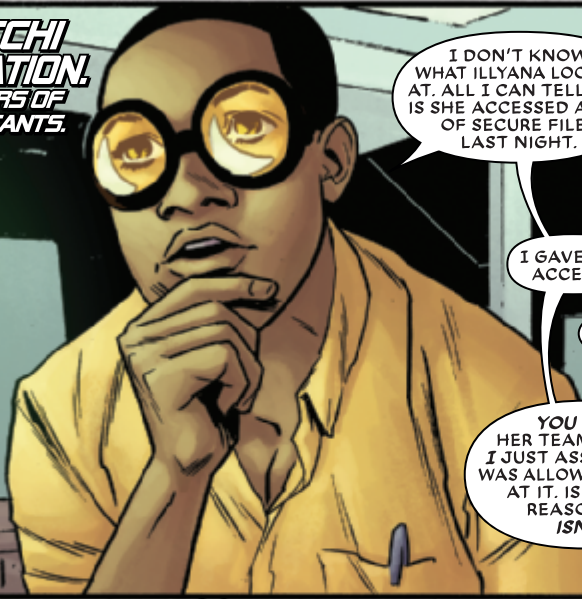


DANI...?
HELLO?

**CANTERBURY,
CONNECTICUT.
NOW.**



THE HATCHI CORPORATION.
HEADQUARTERS OF
THE NEW MUTANTS.



I DON'T KNOW WHAT ILLYANA LOOKED AT. ALL I CAN TELL YOU IS SHE ACCESSED A LOT OF SECURE FILES LAST NIGHT.

HOW WAS SHE ABLE TO DO THAT?

I GAVE HER ACCESS.

WHAT?

YOU MADE HER TEAM LEADER. I JUST ASSUMED SHE WAS ALLOWED TO LOOK AT IT. IS THERE A REASON SHE ISN'T?



"DAMMIT. I HAVE TO FIND HER."

WHERE IS ILLYANA?

AH HAVENAE SEEN HER IN A COUPLE AH DAYS. WHY?



GO AWAY! HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU I DON'T WORK EARLY MORNINGS!

IT'S NOON, TABBY. WHY DID YOU GO ON A MISSION THAT I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT? AND WHY DID ILLYANA NEVER FILE A FIELD REPORT ABOUT THAT MISSION?

WHAT THE \$#@ IS A FIELD REPORT?!



WHERE IS GUIDO?

VACATION?

I KNOW YOU ALL ARE COVERING FOR ILLYANA! I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE UP TO, BUT WHEN I FIND OUT...

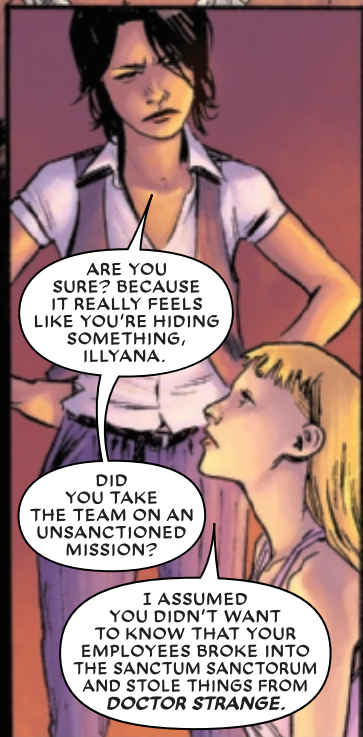
AND TELL SHATTERSTAR TO PUT SOME DAMN CLOTHES ON.

NO.



HA!
FOUND
YOU!

I WASN'T
HIDING FROM
YOU, SHAN. I
WAS JUST
OUT.



ARE YOU
SURE? BECAUSE
IT REALLY FEELS
LIKE YOU'RE HIDING
SOMETHING,
ILLYANA.

DID
YOU TAKE
THE TEAM ON AN
UNSANCTIONED
MISSION?

I ASSUMED
YOU DIDN'T WANT
TO KNOW THAT YOUR
EMPLOYEES BROKE INTO
THE SANCTUM SANCTORUM
AND STOLE THINGS FROM
DOCTOR STRANGE.



WHY
WOULD YOU DO
THAT?!

BECAUSE
I AM NOT THE
ONLY ONE NOT BEING
FORTHCOMING,
SHAN.



WHAT HAS THE
HATCHI CORPORATION
BEEN WORKING ON? WHAT WAS
THE MISSION IN THE ARCTIC? WHY
WERE YOU SO INTERESTED
IN HURRICANE
CLEANUP?

THIS
COMPANY HAS
MANY DIFFERENT
FACETS. YOU KNOW THIS.
WHY ARE WE EVEN
DISCUSSING--

YOU WERE
WEAPONIZING
MAGIC, SHAN. YOU
KNOW THAT'S
NOT A GOOD
IDEA.