

THE X-MEN HAVE ALWAYS PROTECTED A WORLD THAT HATES AND FEARS THEM. BUT AS ANTI-MUTANT SENTIMENT REACHES A FEVER PITCH, THE EARTH'S REMAINING MUTANTS FIND THEMSELVES NOT JUST FIGHTING FOR PEACE, BUT FIGHTING FOR THEIR LIVES. AS THE SITUATION BECOMES INCREASINGLY DIRE, THE TRUTH BECOMES EVIDENT: BIGGER THREATS REQUIRE MORE THREATENING X-MEN...

WOLFGANG UNCANNY X-MEN



MAGNETO



PSYLOCKE



SABRETOOTH



M



ARCHANGEL

TERRIGEN MISTS CIRCLE THE GLOBE, WHITTLING DOWN MUTANTKIND'S NUMBERS AND SUPPRESSING ANY NEW MUTANT MANIFESTATIONS. TO STEM THE THREAT OF EXTINCTION, MAGNETO IS JOINED BY A TEAM OF THE MOST RUTHLESS MUTANTS ALIVE.

TOGETHER, THEY INTERCEPTED A SOMEDAY CORPORATION TRANSPORT CARRYING MUTANTS WHO HAD PAID TO ENTER A STATE OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION. MAGNETO REFUSED TO ALLOW THESE MUTANTS TO REMAIN IN STASIS. ONE MUTANT WITH THE ABILITY TO HEAL WAS QUICKLY MET BY A GRUESOME FATE: THE DARK RIDERS HAVE RETURNED, AND THEY'RE GUNNING FOR MUTANT HEALERS.

SABRETOOTH AND M WERE TASKED WITH PROTECTING ELIXIR—A YOUNG MUTANT HEALER—BUT DESPITE THEIR EFFORTS HE, TOO, WAS MURDERED BY THE DARK RIDERS. MEANWHILE, MYSTIQUE IS INVOLVED WITH HER OWN INVESTIGATION INTO THE SOMEDAY CORPORATION AND ITS NEFARIOUS MOTIVES...

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SEATTLE,
WASHINGTON.
M-FOX CRISIS
CENTER.

MUTANTS=
DISEASE

DON'T BRING
SICKNESS

I KNOW
WHAT YOU'RE
THINKING, MAGNETO,
BUT TRY TO KEEP
YOURSELF IN
CHECK.

NO MUTANTS!
NO M-FOX!

WE DON'T
NEED THE
ATTENTION
RIGHT NOW.

I CAN
TWEAK THE
SURFACE THOUGHTS
OF EVERYONE IN THE
CROWD AS LONG AS
THEY'RE
Distracted.

THEY
CAN'T SEE
US.

QUARANTINES
SAVE LIVES!

DON'T BRING
SICKNESS

SHIP
THEM
AWAY



MAYBE
THEY SHOULD,
ELIZABETH.

MAYBE.
BUT WE'RE
NOT HERE TO
TERRORIZE
THESE
PEOPLE.



I HAVEN'T
ABANDONED
THOSE IDEALS.

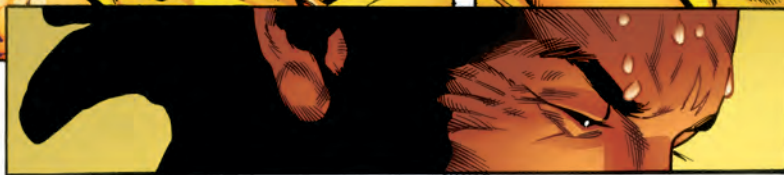
IT'S
MORE LIKE
I'VE PUT
THEM ON
HOLD.

PLEASE,
DON'T TRY
TO JOKE.

IT ONLY
MAKES YOU
SOUND EVEN
BARRIAR THAN
USUAL.

WHO'S
JOKING?







DON'T BE TOO IMPRESSED.

IT'S TEMPORARY.

I CAN HEAL THE SYMPTOMS... BUT EVENTUALLY THEY COME BACK.



MAGNETO...

...I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD OR SOMETHING.

BUT HERE YOU ARE.



LISTEN... I...DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WANT WITH ME.

BUT I'M DONE, ALL RIGHT?

I'M DONE WITH THE X-MEN.

I'M ALL FOR HELPING MUTANTS...



...BUT I'LL DO IT IN MY OWN WAY.

I THINK YOU CAN BOTH SEE THAT THIS IS WHERE SOMEONE WITH MY *GIFTS* IS NEEDED.



WE'RE NOT HERE TO RECRUIT YOU...

...BUT YOU WILL COME WITH US.

WHAT? YOU'RE KIDNAPPING ME?

THAT IS AN OPTION.

MAGNETO...



...THEY'RE HERE.

I'M PICKING UP THREE OF THEM...

"...THE DARK RIDERS!"



WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHO ARE THE DARK RIDERS?



DIDN'T WE TELL YOU?
ALL MUTANT HEALERS HAVE BEEN MARKED FOR DEATH.
YOU'RE NEXT.



I'LL DEAL WITH THE RIDERS.

REMEMBER...
...I NEED YOU TO KEEP THEM ALIVE... AT LEAST FOR A BIT.

I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO...