MARVEL
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018
DUGGAN
VILLA
MILLA
X
MEN

[x-men_[0.00]
[x-men_[0.18]

That's the job. Save as many lives as you can and live to do it again tomorrow.

-- JEAN,
OR WAS IT SCOTT?
(IT'S BOTH)

[x-men_[0.00]
[x-men_[0.18]

*Just to be clear: Laura Kinney, A.K.A. *Wolverine*, was thought to have perished covering Synch's escape from the Vault.

*Then she was prioritized for the resurrection protocols.

*Now the Children of the Vault--an existential threat not just to mutantdom but perhaps all life on Earth--have just spit out the *original* Laura Kinney whom we thought was dead...

...and instead of doing our due diligence on a...'too good to be true'* tale, she is instead ensconced on the current X-Men roster."

¡Chuckle!
You rubes.
Where is she right now?
Presumably...

"...out doing X-Men things."
I synced with Jean Grey to get us here, but you sure you want me to stick around for this?
I've been alone long enough, Everett.
So...what's "Baby Laura" doing in Detroit?
Uh, you know yourself better than anyone...
...and I wouldn't let your younger self hear you call her that.
Heh.
You didn't think we were gonna be able to sneak up on her, did you?

The wind just shifted.
She knows I'm here. Her mind is already reeling from what it means.
She's been helping Dazzler and Jubilee with some kind of vampire situation.
Hey, kiddo.
We got a lot to talk about.
Kiddo? Who am I now? Gabby?
I've lost count of how old I am. You're all Gabbys to me.
SNIFF SNIFF
Now's kind of not a great time to chat.
AARGH!

X-MEN

REALITY AFTER THE RESCUE

Some time ago, Synch, Darwin and Wolverine were sent on a mission to infiltrate the Vault, a highly secure temporal stasis sphere that houses the post-human Children of the Vault -- one of the biggest threats to continued mutant survival. After thousands of years within the Vault, Synch escaped but at the cost of Laura's life -- or so they thought.

However, upon returning to the Vault, Forge discovered both Darwin and the body of Wolverine, comatose but still alive. Reuniting with Synch, this post-Vault Laura intends to make the most of her life back on Krakoa -- the only issue is that, having been presumed dead, Laura has already been brought back via the resurrection process, using her pre-Vault Cerebro upload.

Now two versions of Laura walk the island -- but is there really room on Krakoa for both of them?

[JEAN GREY]

[SYNCH]

[ICEMAN]

[FIRESTAR]

[DAZZLER]

[JUBILEE]

[CYCLOPS]

[MAGIK]

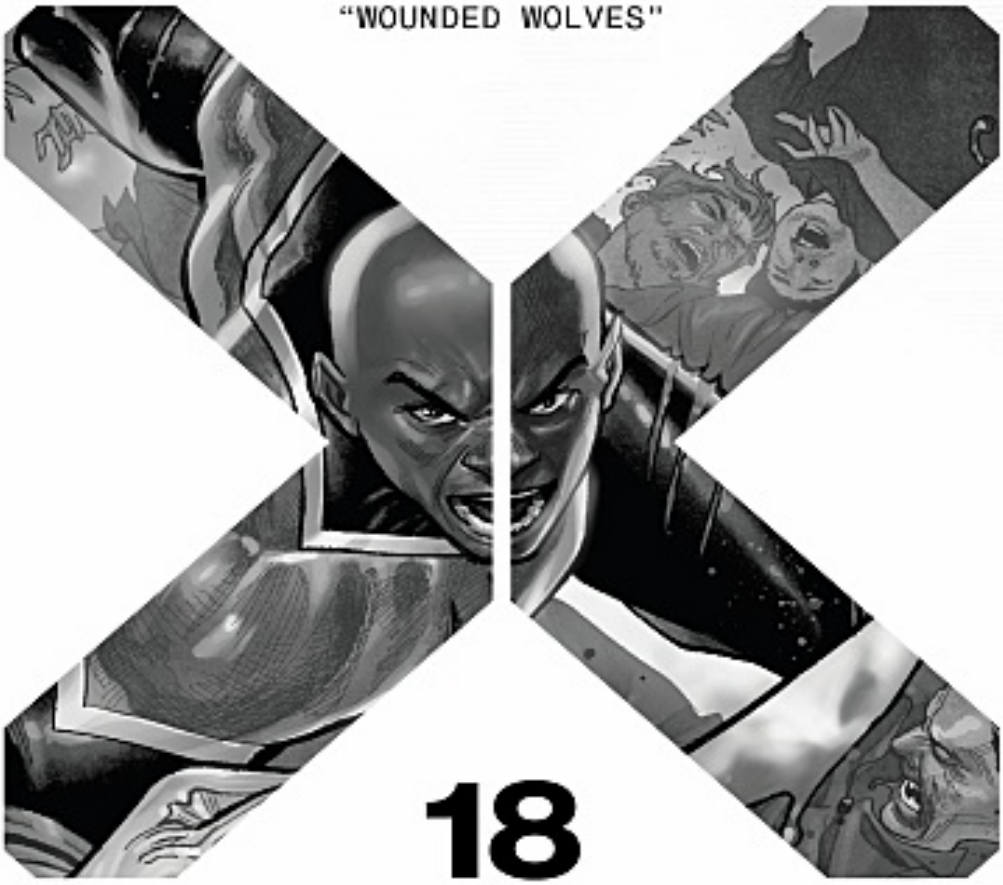
[FORGE]

[WOLVERINE]

[WOLVERINE]

[BOOM-BOOM]

"WOUNDED WOLVES"



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X-Men created by
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I've never been to a Dazzler concert. Is this what they're normally like?
Hnnh.
AEEIII!
Sorry, vamp. If you didn't want to explode from the inside out, maybe you shouldn't have attacked my fans before a concert.*
Yeah, Dazzler needs fans--each one is precious.
Just kidding!
BOOM-BOOM
POP
POP
*To find out how these women became vampires' worst nightmares, check out the X-Terminators miniseries, on sale now! --JPW

Hey, Dazzler!

Alley-oop!

SPLAKK
Another vampire-- Dazzled.

Dazzler was on tour, and some of her fans went missing. She asked for help, and the main nest is beneath our feet.
We won't slow you down, but I thought you and I should talk.
Your cap fell off, Laura.

HEY, BOOM-BOOM!
Load up a big one. We'll fire it down the tunnel ahead of us.
I guess we're not sneaking up on them.
You two are a trip.
Hologram-helmet-girl is obviously from the future. More X-Men time-travel shenanigans?
SNIKT
POP
SNAKT
Uggh.
Future Laura is feral.

They're in every direction.
Three tunnels.
We already rinsed *so* many vamps.
Yeah, how many of them could be left?

Dozens.
I'm still synced with Jean Grey.
Well, *la-di-da.*
Okay, we stay together and--

No.
You all stay together...

...we have business.

Mayday, Mayday! Can anybody read us?
This is Orchis Station declaring an emergency.
We have a plasma fire on the deck and it's spreading to the welding equipment--if it ignites--
--we could lose the entire station!
GET CLEAR-- IT'S GONNA BLOW!
FOOM
MAYDAY!
WE'RE BEING VENTED INTO SPACE!

Orchis Station, this is the X-Men...

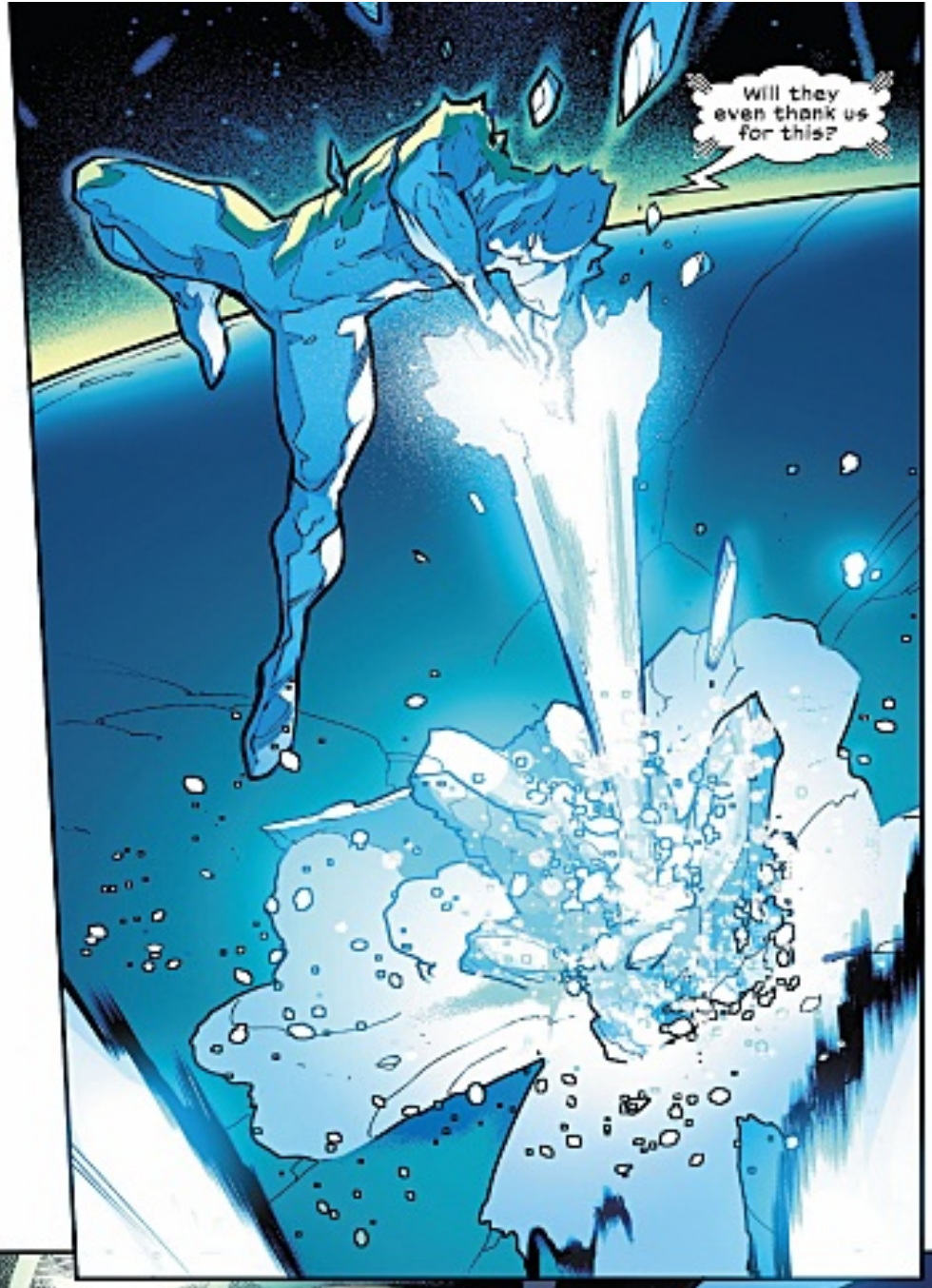
...we'll be saving the fascists you just vented into space.
Careful on the thrusters, Firestar. They're more responsive than you think.
You're not kidding. Okay, Jean and Iceman...

...the air lock is closed and the ramp is down for you to deploy.

I'll grab their soldiers.
I'll see about the hull breach. Are we gonna regret saving these goons?

Probably. But you know the job...

...save as many lives as we can every time out.
Even the ones who wish us harm.


Will they even thank us for this?

You're very welcome, by the way!
Good luck with your doomsday nonsense.
You guys need an O.S.H.A. up here.

Control, the crew that was vented into space has been rescued...by the X-Men. So don't, uh...fire on their ship.

Luckily, we were in transit below when we heard the Mayday.
So...what's that facility for?
Uh... it's--
Don't say anything.
Well, we'll leave you on your orbital death trap. Good luck, and I hope you remember...

"...they were mutant hands that caught you when you fell today."

FAO: SENIOR LEADERSHIP

From: X-Force
Subject: Orchis

"The Bloom," as it's known, is the newest space station around Earth. It is being marketed as "humanity's best defense" by Orchis, but for a defensive array it is stuffed with all kinds of weapons. We also know that the super-intelligent apes in their sway have several laboratories and even operating rooms up on the station. The imagination reels as to what they might be up to.

The station has several Thorium nuclear reactors, and most of the station is effectively a black site with the latest in anti-snooping technology. Wolverine (Kinney) managed to infiltrate the organization's Phobos base, and we've obviously breached their Mother Mold Foundry multiple times, and at great loss of life. Mostly Wolverine's (Logan).

Recommendation:
The Bloom should be fully reconnoitered as it seems Orchis is intent on being a permanent and long-term opponent of the free mutant state.

Suggest we grow a clone of an operative that doesn't have an X-Gene for the purposes of having a walk around the place.

-- Beast

Well, we put ourselves right where these vamps want us.
SNIKT
SNIKT
You sure there isn't another way?
We tried. Even consulted with the healers on Krakoa. But for these vampires...it's kill or starve to death.
SKREEEEE!
So...what'd you want to discuss?
It'd be rude not to talk.
Set up a few rules.

That's good. We wouldn't want our lives to get weird, right?
Never. You don't seem surprised to see me.
I'm not.
You know what my first thought was after I was resurrected?
I wanted to see the body.

We'd already been used so much--
KLANK
They resurrected you with a full adamantium skeleton, *huh?*
Does *everyone* get one now?
Proteus isn't exactly strong on details.
Or he is, but he has ADHD.
KRAK

You know if something... goes bad for one of us, they'll only bring one of us back.
Hadn't thought about it...
...but I figure I've got seniority.
Tell you what, you keep it. I don't plan on dying.
That's the spirit.
The women had at least one thing in common: They didn't ask for any of it.
The X-Gene, the claws or the metal.
They're down in the tunnels fighting vampires so their friends don't have to.
Wolverines are like that.

I'm claiming the name. *Wolverine is mine.*
Fair enough.
I've been Wolverine long enough.

One more thing.
I'm happy you get to live a different life, and this isn't personal...but I don't want to be your friend...
...I don't even want to see you.

I wasn't asking to hang out.

What do you think of the name X-Terminators?
If we make this official, that's what we think we're calling ourselves.
Maybe we'll vote in new members at the Gala.
Cool.

Think you got what it takes to be one of us?

POP
I'd be the star of the show, Jubilee.

That's cheating, Everett.
We're done here.

It was good to hang with you. You guys off to do X-Men stuff?
You know it.
See ya around.

"You wanted to know where Wolverine is now?
"Presumably doing X-Men things."

Ah. What fortuitous timing. Jean is here. Perhaps she can shed some light on the current inquiries.
And thanks for the heads-up, Emma.
We women must stick together, darling.
I can't be the only one who thinks this is simply too good to be true.
Yes, Hank, you are.
I am clearing her, and even if she could fool me, could she fool Synch? They spent hundreds of years together, every day simply fighting to survive.
Perhaps you think Laura's return is "too good to be true" because you no longer believe that *good* things can happen. You've spent too long in the dark and it's... damaged your heart.
Laura Kinney was sent on an impossible mission, and she did what a Wolverine does: ***She survived.*** Now she is back where she belongs.
I ask you with love in my heart: Are you where you belong, Hank?
If I'm as... *lost* as you clearly think I am, I might tell you that the X-Men were fools to provide assistance to Orchis today.
Those are souls who will never forget who was responsible for saving their lives. That *cannot* be a bad thing.

"Well, this is *bad*. Captain Corsair's log...
"To my dear sons...
"...the ones I know about and the ones I never did...
"...I know I wasn't always there for you. Or really there for you *at all*. I know you know it wasn't always my fault, but I still carry that guilt.

"And you Summers boys always forgave my failings...

"I'm so proud of you. I want you to know I adore the big swings you've taken. Joining you for those Sunday dinners on our old moon. They were a joy."

I won't be able to make them anymore. We engaged the enemy...and they kicked ten shades out of us.
I'm down to my last round...

...and it's for me.
Protect your families-- THE BROOD are coming!
Next: Lord of the Brood, Part 1!

CARLOS PACHECO
1961-2022

"My friend Carlos Pacheco was a sweetheart of a guy who loved comics, the Marvel comics that he read as a child most of all. He brought an enthusiasm to his work that went beyond the drive of the professional — he was truly invested in the characters and their fictitious lives. His work combined the dynamics of John Byrne with the realism of Neal Adams, creating a synthesis that captured the essence of American super hero comics — a form that was exotic to Carlos as he first read the translated stories but which he absorbed and came to embody like a native. A citizen of Spain, the Marvel Universe was his true home."

— TOM BREVOORT

"Carlos was a dream collaborator who made every story better with his ideas, his brilliant storytelling and his beautiful art. But more, he was warmhearted, enthusiastic and a wonderful person. I was thrilled to work with him but happier still to have him as a friend. He will be enormously missed."

— KURT BUSIEK

NEXT

"ENTER THE BROOD"

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