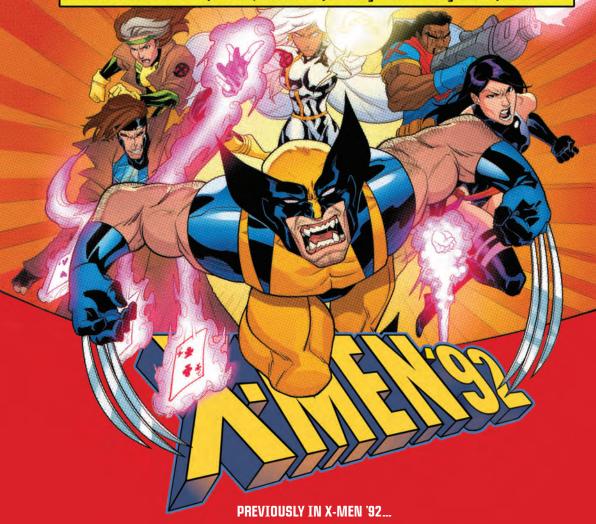
Storm. Wolverine. Psylocke. Bishop. Jubilee. Rogue. Gambit. Mutants all, Children of the Atom that have banded together to defend their kind from prejudice and persecution. United, they form the world's most famous super-team, dedicated to protecting all of humanity. Marvel presents...



The Upstarts — a group of power-mad, evil young mutants — are entangled in a deadly game to see who among them can hurt the X-Men most. First blood goes to the Von Strucker twins, when they release the evil vampire Alpha Red, whose first act of aggression is to attack and seemingly kill the voungest X-Man, Jubilee.

Recognizing the bite of a vampire, Storm takes Bishop, Psylocke, and the young X-student U-Go Girl to Transylvania to get help from the Lord of the Vampires, Dracula. Dracula reveals that Alpha Red is his son, and agrees to help the X-Men cure their young charge of his own dark disease.

While away, Jubilee awakens as Alpha Red's vampiric disciple, and turns most of the Xavier School's student body into bloodsuckers like herself. Beast, Professor X, and a handful of uninfected students do their best to survive a mansion under siege, but when Alpha Red arrives with a small vampire army, including a newly afflicted Wolverine, Rogue, and Gambit, all hope seems lost.

As Storm's team returns to find a decimated mansion, and Alpha Red, greeting them, unaffected by the sun's light. A stolen copy of the arcane Darkhold has infected the X-Men's mutant detecting supercomputer, Cerebro, and Alpha Red uses it to cast a spell that changes the very nature of vampires. Alpha Red is truly free of any master for the first time in his life, and prepares to take his father's place as lord of the vampires, and oversee vampires replacing mutants as the heir apparent to mankind!

CHAD BOWERS & CHRIS SIMS	ALTI FIRMANSYAH	MATT MILLA	VC'S TRAVIS LANHAM	
WRITERS	ART	COLOR ART	LETTERING	
DAVID NAKAYAMA	CARLOS LAO	HEATHER ANTOS	JORDAN D. WHITE	
COVER ART	PRODUCTION	ASSISTANT EDITOR	Editor	

EDITOR IN CHIEF AXEL ALONSO CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER JOE OUESADA PUBLISHER DAN BUCKLEY EXECUTIVE PRODUCER ALAN FINE

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