

MARVEL

12

**SOULE
SANDOVAL
ARCINIEGA**

**BONUS
DIGITAL
CONTENT**
see inside for details

ASTONISHING X-MEN

**A MAN
CALLED X
FINALE**



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delgado

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I AM X...AND I AM PAST ALL THIS NOW.



THIS WORLD...

...IT'S SO REAL.

EVIL...



...AND GOOD.

THE SHADOW KING? BUT...WE KILLED HIM, BACK ON THE ASTRAL PLANE.

MAYBE WE DID, ROGUE, BUT YOU'RE FORGETTING THE FIRST RULE OF THAT DAMN PLACE.

NOTHING ON THE ASTRAL PLANE IS REAL.

THIS IS OUR WORLD, AND THAT DEMON'S LOOSE IN IT, WITH ALL THAT POWER. HE KILLED X, AND X KNEW MORE ABOUT HIM THAN ANY OF US. HOW WE GONNA BEAT HIM?

NOT SURE YET, GAMBIT.

BUT I GOT A PRETTY GOOD IDEA HOW WE START.

SNIKT

NO LONGER MY CONCERN.

AND YET... I
CANNOT
TURN AWAY.

THINGS HAVE
CONSEQUENCES.
IF IT HAPPENS IN
THIS WORLD...

...IT
MATTERS.

BUT IT
FEELS DARKER HERE
THAN THE LAST TIME I
VISITED. SO MUCH
PAIN.

FERTILE
SOIL.

I WATCH AS IT HITS THEM, DESPAIR
LANDING ON PEOPLE WHO REFUSE
TO EVEN ACKNOWLEDGE DESPAIR.

TAKE HIM DOWN!

I'D FORGOTTEN WHAT IT FEELS LIKE HERE.

BLLGGH

THE SHADOW KING SPEWS HIS VILE POISON, HIS SOUL, HIS TRUEST SELF, TOWARD MY X-MEN.

THE X-MEN DO NOT GIVE UP.

THEY STAND UP.

BUT NOW...



...THEY
KNEEL.

KILLED
'EM ALL.

I KILLED
'EM ALL.

AIN'T NO
COMIN' BACK FROM
THAT. AIN'T NO
REDEMPTION.

LETTIN'
MYSELF PRETEND
I'M SOME KINDA
HERO AGAIN...
JUST A LIE.

NONE OF
'EM SEE IT,
AND I BEEN TOO
WEAK TO TELL
THEM HOW IT
REALLY IS
WITH ME.

I DON'T
DESERVE THIS.
DON'T DESERVE A
SECOND CHANCE. GOD
ALMIGHTY--ONLY
ONE THING I
DESERVE.

SHOULDA
DONE THIS A
LONG TIME
AGO.

WOLF

ONLY
PSYLOCKE
STILL STANDS.

THE FOCUSED
TOTALITY OF HER
MENTAL POWERS
ALLOWED HER TO
RESIST THE
SHADOW KING'S
ONSLAUGHT.

WHAT DID
YOU DO TO THEM,
FAROUK?

YOU
ALREADY KNOW,
MS. BRADDOCK,
IN YOUR OWN SMALL
WAY, YOU'RE NOT
AN UNTALENTED
PSYCHIC.

DARKNESS.
YOU GAVE
THEM DARKNESS.
DROWNED THEM
IN IT.

I GAVE
THEM NOTHING,
MY DEAR. I SIMPLY
OPENED THEIR EYES
TO WHAT WAS
ALREADY
THERE.

HAPPINESS IS A
LIE. LIFE IS HORROR.
THE LIGHT IS ALWAYS
DYING, ALL ACROSS
THE UNIVERSE.

THE LAST
STAR WILL FLICKER
OUT SOMEDAY. WHEN
IT DOES, ALL THAT
REMAINS...
SHADOW.

AND I
WILL BE ITS
KING.

NOW, PSYLOCKE
WILL FIGHT, ALONE,
AGAINST THE END
OF HOPE.

FOR ALL THE
GOOD IT
DOES HER.

ACT III



ONCE UPON A TIME, CHARLES XAVIER DIED. THEN HE CAME BACK TO LIFE. THEN HE DIED AGAIN. THEN HE CAME BACK TO LIFE. THEN HE DIED. THEN HE CAME BACK. THEN HE DIED, WHEN THE SHADOW KING HATCHED OUT OF HIS HEAD.

THE KING IS DEAD. LONG LIVE THE KING.

THIS IS THE END.

ASTONISHING

X-MEN

MINDKILLER

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