

X-MEN BLACK

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MAGNETO

X-MEN BLACK

HAVING WITNESSED BIGOTED GENOCIDE FIRSTHAND, ERIK LEHNSHERR BECAME AN OUTSPOKEN LEADER FOR MUTANT RIGHTS WITH A SEVERE ANTI-HUMAN STREAK. USING HIS INNATE ABILITY TO GENERATE AND MANIPULATE MAGNETIC FIELDS, HE WAS BRANDED A TERRORIST FOR HIS RADICAL DEMONSTRATIONS OF MUTANT SUPERIORITY. TO SOME HE IS AN EXTREMIST, TO OTHERS AN ICON, BUT TO ALL HE IS THE MASTER OF MAGNETISM... HE IS

MAGNETO

"THE STARS, OUR DESTINATION?"

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APOCALYPSE "DEGENERATION" part one

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WHEN I WAS A BOY,
TO ESCAPE THE DULL
AND BORING WORLD
OF REALITY--

--I WOULD READ THE
WORDS OF JULES VERNE
AND TRAVEL FROM THE
BOTTOM OF THE OCEANS
TO THE MOON.

I WOULD
FOLLOW EDGAR RICE
BURROUGHS TO THE
ANCIENT PLAINS OF
BARSOOM.

MY IMAGINATION LET ME
EXPLORE LOST WORLDS FROM
THE CENTER OF THE EARTH
TO THE HIGHEST OF ANDEAN
PEAKS, LIVING A LIFE OF
HEROIC ADVENTURE.

THOSE WERE
MY DREAMS.



THIS IS
MY REALITY.



THE WORLD IS
SO BEAUTIFUL.



THE PEOPLE
WHO INHABIT
IT--



--LESS
SO.



THOSE SKETCHES ARE GREAT!

THAT REALLY LOOKS LIKE MY AUNT LOUISE AN' UNCLE PHIL.



JUST SOMETHING I DO TO PASS THE TIME.

PARDON MY ASKING--

--BUT AREN'T YOU A LITTLE YOUNG TO BE WAITING TABLES?

FAMILY BUSINESS, SO EVERYONE PITCHES IN.

WHAT'S SO FUNNY?

JUST REMEMBERING.



MY PARENTS FELT MUCH THE SAME WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE.

I'M KATE.

CALL ME ERIK.

I KNEW A "KATE" ONCE, ABOUT YOUR AGE WHEN FIRST WE MET. FORGIVE MY PRESUMPTION BUT YOU REMIND ME OF HER.

HAVEN'T SEEN YOU HERE BEFORE--ARE YOU NEW IN TOWN?



JUST PASSING THROUGH, I'M AFRAID.

THE CAFE'S NAME CAUGHT MY ATTENTION.



THE GOLD STAR? MY GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT'S IDEA, I THINK.

THIS COUNTRY MEANS EVERYTHING TO MY FAMILY. WE'VE FOUGHT FOR IT PRETTY MUCH AS LONG AS IT'S EXISTED.

THAT WALL IS OUR WAY OF HONORING--REMEMBERING--THOSE WHO DIED TO KEEP IT SAFE.



THAT ONE LOOKS LIKE YOU.



MY MOM.



THAT'S WHY YOUR BOOK CAUGHT MY EYE. MOM WAS READING IT TO ME RIGHT BEFORE SHE WAS DEPLOYED.

HER FAVORITE CHARACTER WAS STRIDER. I ALWAYS THOUGHT HE AND MOM WERE A WHOLE LOT ALIKE--



--EXCEPT ARAGORN CAME HOME FROM HIS ADVENTURES.



DID YOU KEEP READING THE BOOK, AND THE REST OF THE TRILOGY?

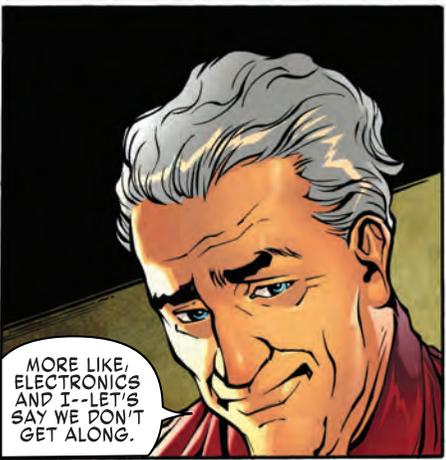
SAW THE MOVIES. THEY WERE COOL.



HOW COME YOU STILL READ BOOKS? I DO ALL MY READING ON MY PHONE.

OF COURSE YOU DO.

YOU DON'T LIKE COMPUTERS?



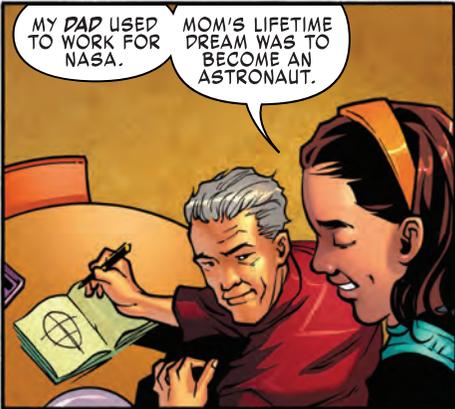
MORE LIKE, ELECTRONICS AND I--LET'S SAY WE DON'T GET ALONG.



IT'S OFTEN EASIER TO LIGHT A CANDLE OR START A FIRE THAN TURN ON AN ELECTRIC LIGHT.

THEN YOU SHOULD BE HAPPY HERE, 'CAUSE THIS CAFE DOESN'T RELY ON ANY POWER GRID.

WE MAKE OUR OWN.



MY DAD USED TO WORK FOR NASA.

MOM'S LIFETIME DREAM WAS TO BECOME AN ASTRONAUT.



SHE WAS GONNA REPORT FOR TRAINING RIGHT AFTER HER LAST DEPLOYMENT.

TOGETHER, THEY DESIGNED THE CAFE'S POWER SYSTEM. IT MIXES SOLAR AND WIND POWER.



THEIR SYSTEM WORKS SO WELL, THE FAMILY EVEN FEEDS THE LOCAL GRID, TO HELP OUR NEIGHBORS.

HEY, THAT'S ME!

PERHAPS NOT AS ACCURATE AN IMAGE AS A PHOTOGRAPH, I KNOW--



--BUT TO MY EYE, FAR MORE TRUTHFUL.

YOUR ARM.

KATE--WHAT'S WRONG?



YOU KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS?

THE HOLOCAUST.

WERE YOU--IN A CAMP?



YES-- AUSCHWITZ.

I WAS YOUR AGE.

MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER HELPED LIBERATE ONE OF THOSE CAMPS, IN GERMANY. THOSE MEMORIES NEVER LEFT HIM.



YOU SO REMIND ME OF MY DAUGHTER, BUT SHE DIED--

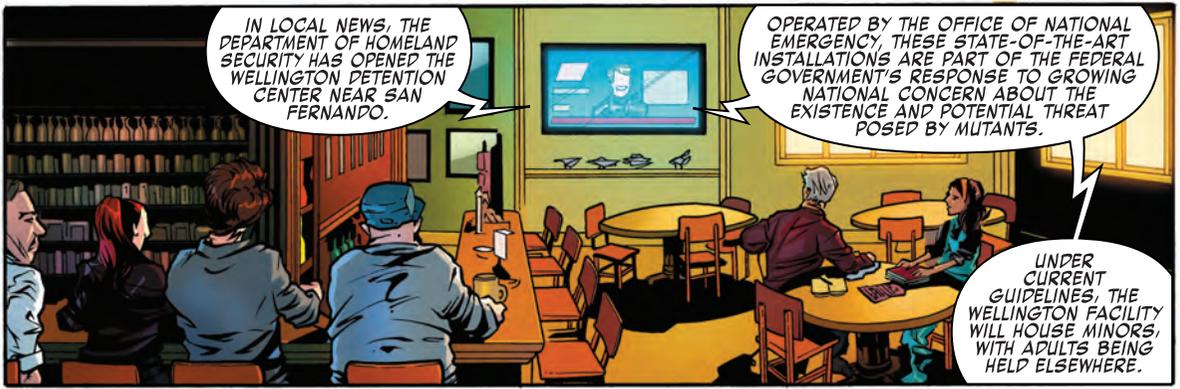
--A LONG, LONG TIME AGO.



FOR SOME, UNFAIRLY, LIFE ENDS FAR TOO SOON.



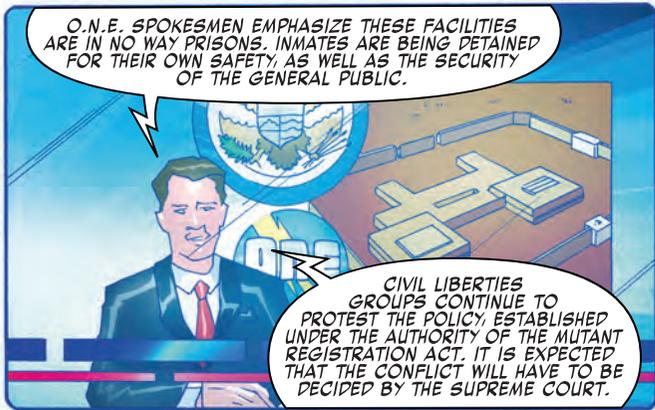
WHILE FOR OTHERS, IT GOES ON SEEMINGLY FOREVER.



IN LOCAL NEWS, THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY HAS OPENED THE WELLINGTON DETENTION CENTER NEAR SAN FERNANDO.

OPERATED BY THE OFFICE OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY, THESE STATE-OF-THE-ART INSTALLATIONS ARE PART OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO GROWING NATIONAL CONCERN ABOUT THE EXISTENCE AND POTENTIAL THREAT POSED BY MUTANTS.

UNDER CURRENT GUIDELINES, THE WELLINGTON FACILITY WILL HOUSE MINORS, WITH ADULTS BEING HELD ELSEWHERE.



O.N.E. SPOKESMEN EMPHASIZE THESE FACILITIES ARE IN NO WAY PRISONS. INMATES ARE BEING DETAINED FOR THEIR OWN SAFETY, AS WELL AS THE SECURITY OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

CIVIL LIBERTIES GROUPS CONTINUE TO PROTEST THE POLICY, ESTABLISHED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE MUTANT REGISTRATION ACT. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE CONFLICT WILL HAVE TO BE DECIDED BY THE SUPREME COURT.



THIS ISN'T RIGHT. WHY IS THE GOVERNMENT PUTTING KIDS IN JAIL?



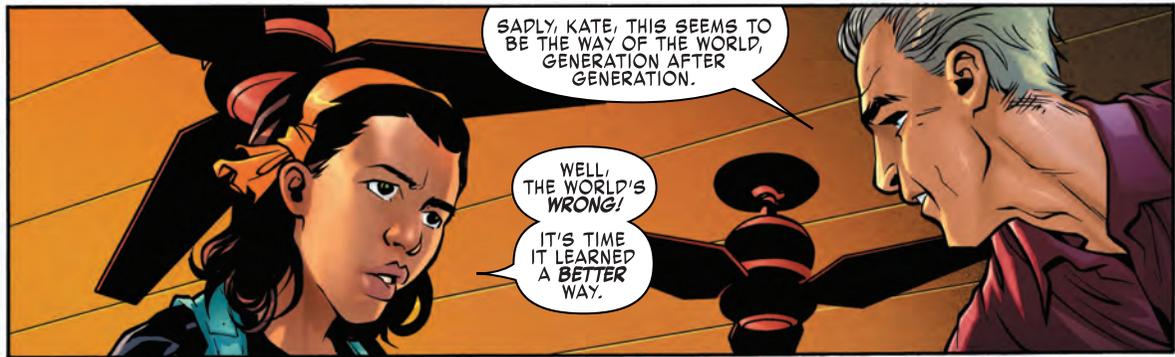
AREN'T YOU SCARED? THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT MUTANTS.



THAT'S JUST A LABEL. WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THESE KIDS, IT ISN'T FAIR-- --IT ISN'T RIGHT!



NOT FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLE, THE NATIVE AMERICANS, NOT FOR JAPANESE AMERICANS, NOT FOR ANYONE! THEY'RE KIDS! THEY HAVEN'T COMMITTED ANY CRIME-- --THIS IS HAPPENING TO THEM JUST BECAUSE THEY EXIST!



SADLY, KATE, THIS SEEMS TO BE THE WAY OF THE WORLD, GENERATION AFTER GENERATION.

WELL, THE WORLD'S WRONG! IT'S TIME IT LEARNED A BETTER WAY.