

X-MEN BLACK

MARVEL
1

**WILLIAMS
BACHALO**

PLUS:

APOCALYPSE

**THOMPSON
NADLER
BORGES
ROSENBERG**



Emma Frost
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Emma Frost

X-MEN BLACK

HEIRESS. EDUCATOR. WORLD-CLASS TELEPATH. A DIAMOND SHINING AMONGST THE DREARY...

Emma Frost

"HUNGER IS PRODUCTIVE"

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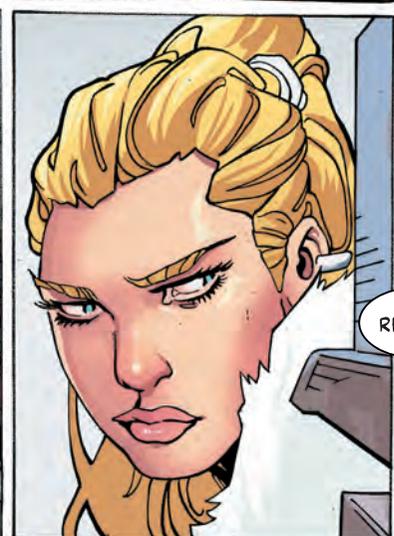
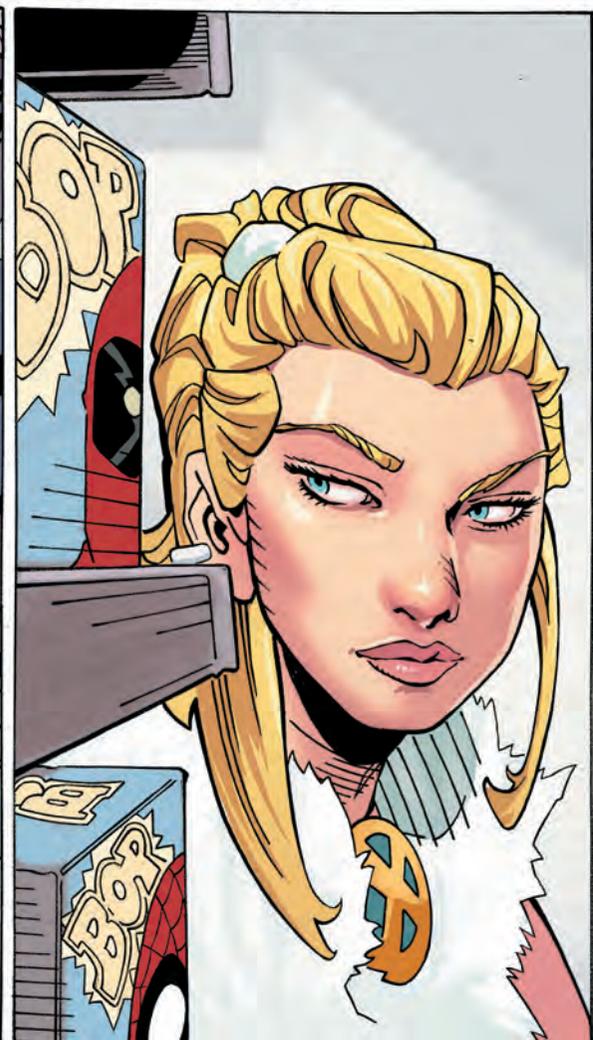
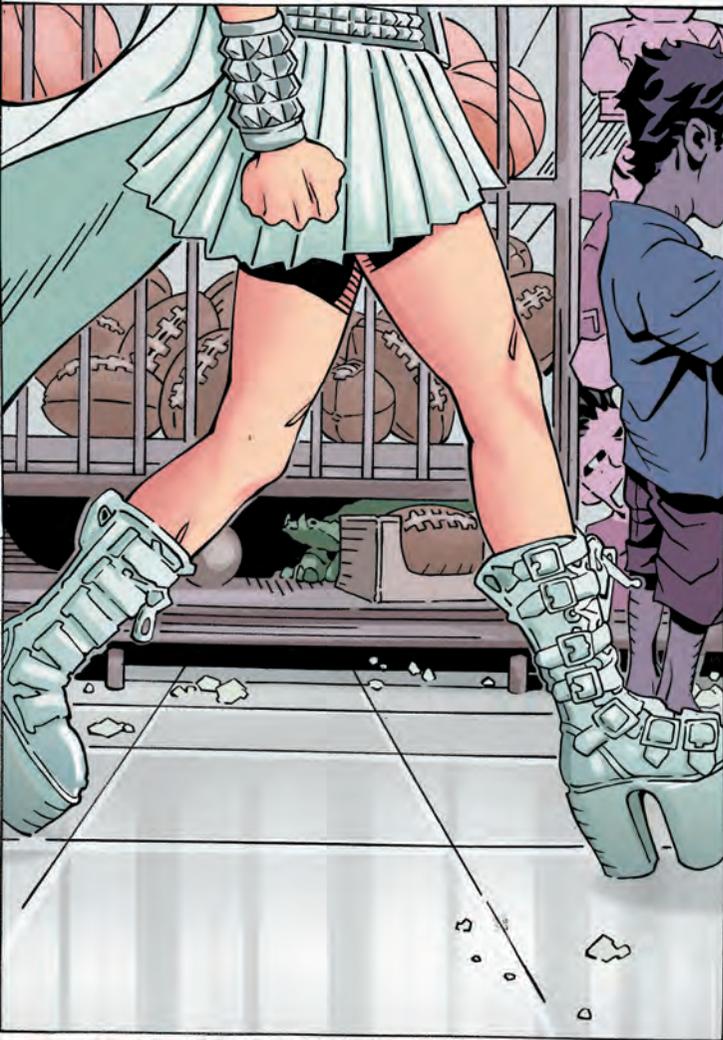
APOCALYPSE "DEGENERATION" conclusion

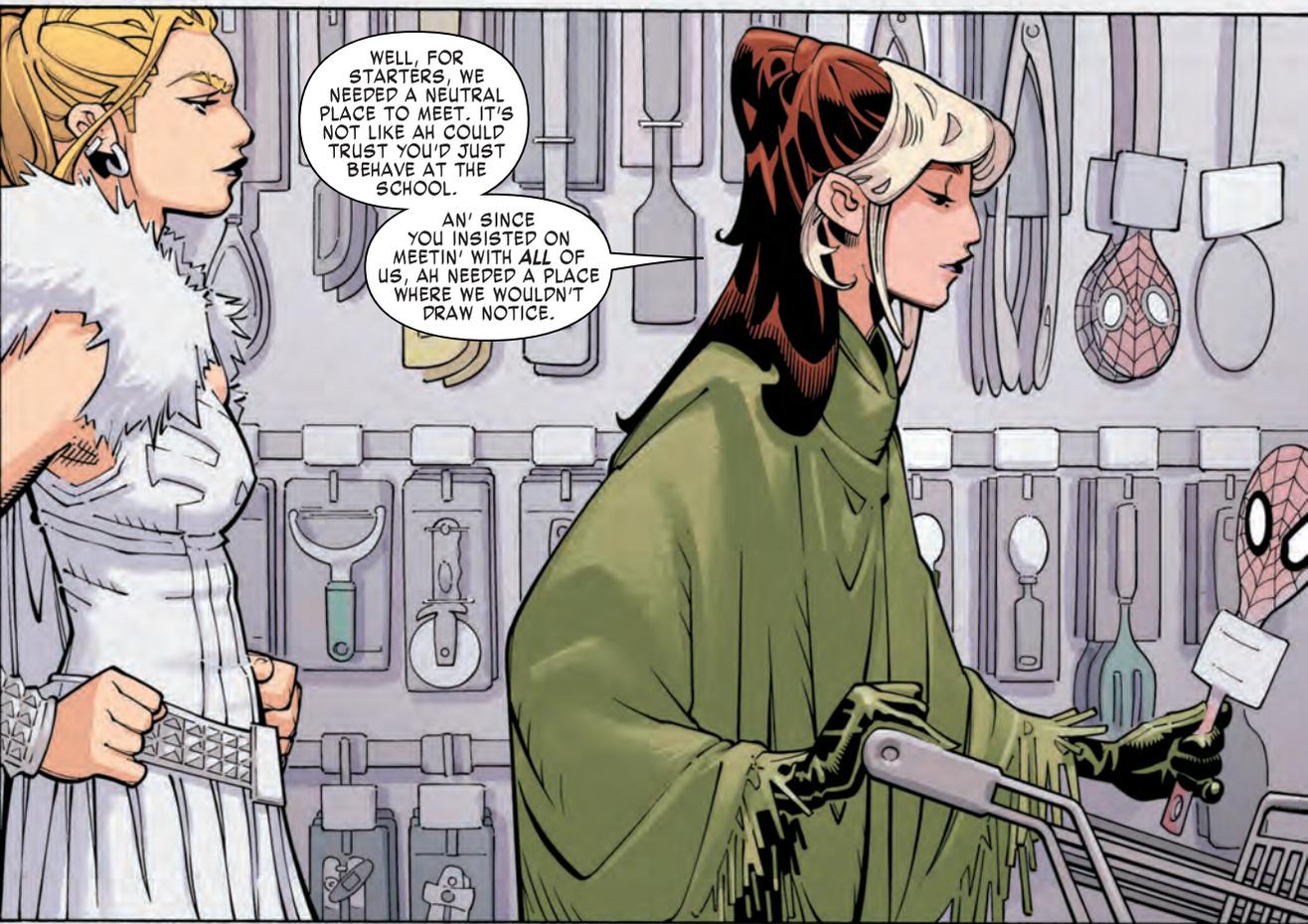
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WELL, FOR STARTERS, WE NEEDED A NEUTRAL PLACE TO MEET. IT'S NOT LIKE AH COULD TRUST YOU'D JUST BEHAVE AT THE SCHOOL.

AN' SINCE YOU INSISTED ON MEETIN' WITH ALL OF US, AH NEEDED A PLACE WHERE WE WOULDN'T DRAW NOTICE.



SEE, WE FIT RIGHT IN HERE.



AND, SUGAR, LISTEN--



--AH JUST THOUGHT IT WOULD BE FUNNY.



FINE.



I HAVE AN IDEA. BUT I--I NEED YOUR HELP TO PULL IT OFF.

→SNORT←



IF YOU-- IF YOU LOOK AT EVERYTHING THAT'S GONE WRONG FOR MUTANTS LATELY, EVEN IF THE MOTIVES AND MEANS WERE DIFFERENT, IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER IT CAN ALL BE CONNECTED TO ONE ORGANIZATION.



I WANT THE X-MEN TO HELP ME DESTROY THE HELLFIRE CLUB.



FOR GOOD.



I...DO REALIZE HOW RIDICULOUS THIS MUST SOUND COMING FROM ME OF ALL PEOPLE, BUT THAT'S EXACTLY WHY YOU SHOULD LISTEN TO ME.

WE CANNOT ALLOW THE WHIMS OF A FEW RICH MEN TO CONTINUE THROTTLING THE WELL-BEING OF MILLIONS.

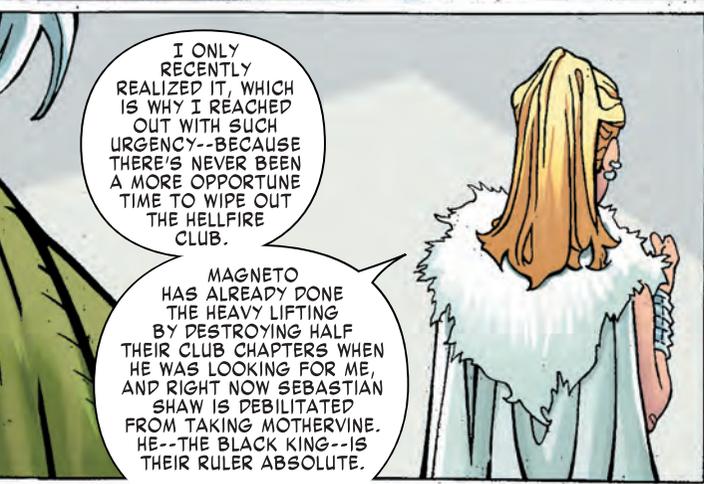


AND I DO MEAN **EVERYTHING**. TRACE THE MONEY BACK FROM WHO BANKROLLED THE RECENT MOTHERVINE CATASTROPHE, OR WHO COMMISSIONED THE SENTINELS, OR EVEN WHO FANNED THE FLAMES OF NEARLY EVERY HUMAN AND MUTANT WAR IN THE LAST FEW YEARS, AND YOU WILL FIND THAT ONE SOURCE.

UH-HUH...

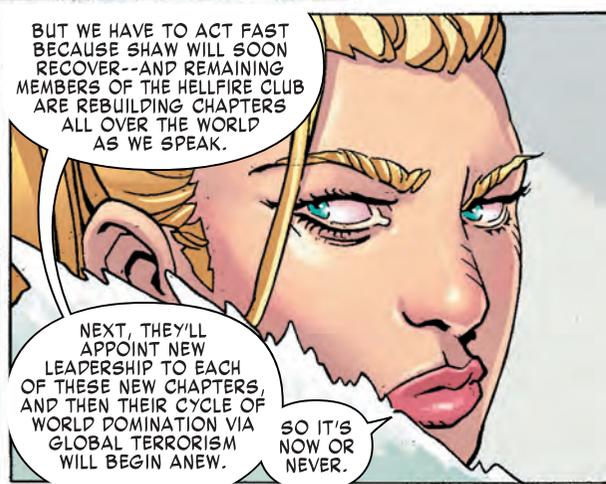
WITH ALL OF THAT IN MIND--IT LOOKS LIKE THE WORK OF A TERRORIST GROUP, YES?

WELL, THAT'S BECAUSE IT IS. **THE HELLFIRE CLUB.**



I ONLY RECENTLY REALIZED IT, WHICH IS WHY I REACHED OUT WITH SUCH URGENCY--BECAUSE THERE'S NEVER BEEN A MORE OPPORTUNE TIME TO WIPE OUT THE HELLFIRE CLUB.

MAGNETO HAS ALREADY DONE THE HEAVY LIFTING BY DESTROYING HALF THEIR CLUB CHAPTERS WHEN HE WAS LOOKING FOR ME, AND RIGHT NOW SEBASTIAN SHAW IS DEBILITATED FROM TAKING MOTHERVINE. HE--THE BLACK KING--IS THEIR RULER ABSOLUTE.



BUT WE HAVE TO ACT FAST BECAUSE SHAW WILL SOON RECOVER--AND REMAINING MEMBERS OF THE HELLFIRE CLUB ARE REBUILDING CHAPTERS ALL OVER THE WORLD AS WE SPEAK.

NEXT, THEY'LL APPOINT NEW LEADERSHIP TO EACH OF THESE NEW CHAPTERS, AND THEN THEIR CYCLE OF WORLD DOMINATION VIA GLOBAL TERRORISM WILL BEGIN ANEW.

SO IT'S NOW OR NEVER.



THEY **MUST** BE STOPPED.



GO WAIT OVER THERE.

AH NEED TO DISCUSS THIS WITH THE TEAM.



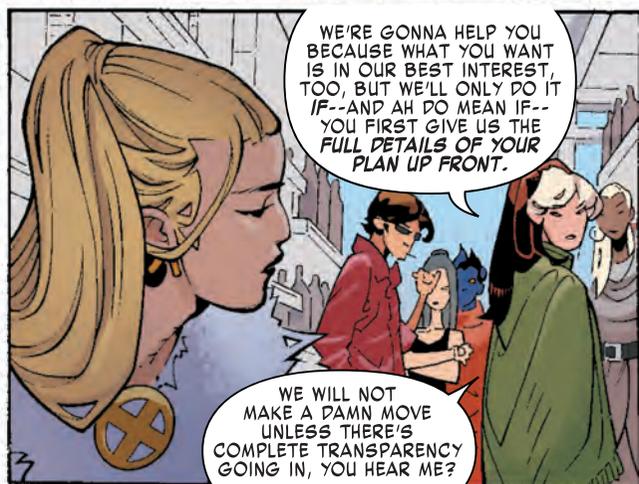
"WELL AH DO DECLARE, IT SURE SEEMS LIKE A GOOD OL' PLAN TA LI'L OL' ME!"



"JA, ZE REDNECK TART IST RIGHT. VE MUST HELP ZE POWERFUL, BEAUTIFUL TELEPATH WHO IST KIND ENOUGH NOT TO LISTEN TO WHAT VE'RE SAYING ABOUT HER--"

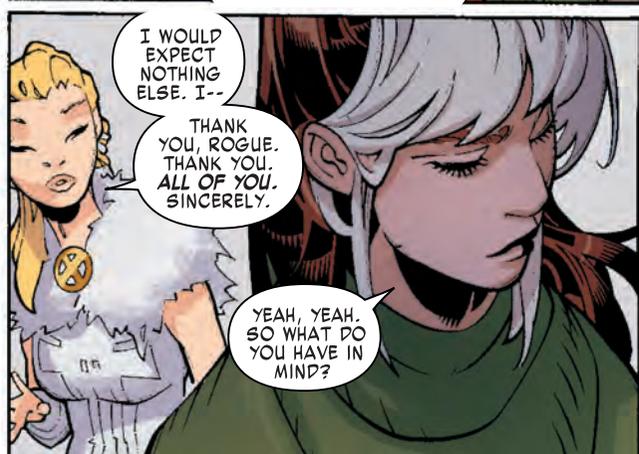
FROST!

COME ON BACK, GIRL. WE'VE DECIDED.



WE'RE GONNA HELP YOU BECAUSE WHAT YOU WANT IS IN OUR BEST INTEREST, TOO, BUT WE'LL ONLY DO IT IF--AND AH DO MEAN IF-- YOU FIRST GIVE US THE FULL DETAILS OF YOUR PLAN UP FRONT.

WE WILL NOT MAKE A DAMN MOVE UNLESS THERE'S COMPLETE TRANSPARENCY GOING IN, YOU HEAR ME?



I WOULD EXPECT NOTHING ELSE. I--

THANK YOU, ROGUE. THANK YOU. ALL OF YOU. SINCERELY.

YEAH, YEAH. SO WHAT DO YOU HAVE IN MIND?



MY PLAN IS TEDIOUSLY SIMPLE.



"DIVIDE AND CONQUER."



"ALL OF THE REMAINING HELLFIRE CLUB LEADERSHIP HAS DEFECTED OR GONE TO GROUND FOLLOWING MAGNETO'S ATTACK."

"RECENTLY I CONTACTED EACH OF THE SURVIVING FAMILIES WHO LOST LOVED ONES DUE TO MAGNETO'S SEARCH FOR ME. I ONLY INTENDED TO OFFER THEM RESTITUTION. IT SEEMED RIGHT."



"BUT THESE FAMILIES--HELLFIRE CLUB MEMBERS THEMSELVES--ARE JUST MUTINIOUS IN THEIR GRIEF. POOR THINGS..."

"...WITH HOWLING MINDS, THEY SHOWED ME HOW TO FIND ALL THE EVIDENCE WE'D EVER NEED TO PROVE THE HELLFIRE CLUB'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE MOST ILLICIT EVENTS OF THE PAST DECADE."



"BUT TO BE FAIR, THEY ALSO VOLUNTARILY GAVE ME LOCATIONS FOR THE LAST INNER SANCTUM SAFE HOUSES."

"YOU ALL ARE THE MOST POWERFUL MUTANTS ALIVE, WHICH IS WHY I ASKED FOR YOUR HELP, SPECIFICALLY. I NEED ONLY THE BEST FOR THIS TO WORK."



BAMF

BRATATATA

TATATATATA



"A SYNCHRONOUS ATTACK. WE WIPE OUT EVERY LAST LEADER OF THE HELLFIRE CLUB IN ONE GO, DOING WHATEVER IT TAKES TO DETAIN THEM ALL AT ONCE."

"AS FOR MY PART IN THIS PLAN..."