

WHAT IF?

MARVEL

1

HILL
MILONOGIANNIS
EDWARDS
ROSENBERG

THE

X-MEN

WERE 01100011
01111001 01100010
01100101 01110010
01110000 01110101
01101110 01101011

```
** //SYS.ERROR
<C> EXIT.APP
** //SYS.UPDATE
<C> RUN
EXE/SUBROUTINE
```

RATED T+
\$3.99 US



BONUS DIGITAL EDITION — DETAILS INSIDE!

.EXE/men



ERROR
ERROR
ERROR
ERROR
ERROR
UNRECOGNIZED COMMAND IN CONFIG.SYS
ERROR IN CONFIG.SYS LINE X
C:\> DISK REFORMATTING
C:\> DISK REBOOTING
LOGINS SUCCESSFUL
.EXE/GENE CONFIGURED AT A220 IS D1 H1

IN THE EARLY 21ST CENTURY, AN INTERCONNECTED NEURAL NETWORK WAS DEVELOPED THAT ALLOWED MENTAL COMMUNICATION BETWEEN BIO-MODIFIED USERS IN A NEUTRAL SIMULATED ENVIRONMENT CALLED "CYBERSPACE"

AS MORE AND MORE OF DAILY COMMERCE AND COMMUNICATION MOVED TO DIGITAL AVENUES, THE USE OF CYBERSPACE GREW EXPONENTIALLY WHILE REAL-WORLD ENVIRONMENTS LANGUISHED. CYBERSPACE WAS COMMODIFIED AT EVERY LEVEL THROUGH THE USE OF SECURITY PROTOCOLS THAT PREVENTED USER MODIFICATIONS AND BRAIN DEATH

EVENTUALLY, SOME CYBERSPACE USERS DISCOVERED THEY HAD THE ABILITY TO BREAK THESE PROTOCOLS AT WILL. THEY POSSESSED SPECIAL GENETICS DUBBED THE EXE GENE

```
0B20:0000 CD 20 FF 9F 00 9A EE FE-1D F0 4F 03 84 05 8A 03 .....0.....
0B20:0010 84 05 17 03 84 05 25 04-01 01 01 00 02 FF FF FF .....%.....
0B20:0020 FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF-FF FF FF FF 28 05 4E 01 .....C.N.
0B20:0030 44 0A 14 00 18 00 20 0B-FF FF FF FF 00 00 00 00 .....D.....
0B20:0040 05 00 00 00 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
0B20:0000 CD 20 FF 9F 00 9A EE FE-1D F0 4F 03 84 05 8A 03 .....0.....
0B20:0010 84 05 17 03 84 05 25 04-01 01 01 00 02 FF FF FF .....%.....
0B20:0020 FF FF FF FF FF FF FF FF-FF FF FF FF 28 05 4E 01 .....C.N.
0B20:0030 44 0A 14 00 18 00 20 0B-FF FF FF FF 00 00 00 00 .....D.....
0B20:0040 05 00 00 00 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
0B20:0050 CD 21 CB 00 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00 00 20 20 20 .....J.....
0B20:0060 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20-.....
0B20:0050 CD 21 CB 00 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00 00 20 20 20 .....J.....
0B20:0060 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20-00 00 00 00 00 20 20 20 .....
0B20:0070 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20-00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
0B20:0080 00 00 20 20 20 53 45 54-20 42 4C 41 53 54 45 52 .. SET BLASTER
0B20:0090 3D 4130 0D 64 64 72 65-73 73 2E 20 20 46 6F 72 =AD.DDRESS. FOR
0B20:00A0 20 65 78 61 6D 70 6C 65-3A 0D 20 6F 6E 20 4E 54 EXAMPLE.. ON AT
0B20:00B0 56 44 4D 2C 20 73 70 65-63 69 66 79 20 61 6E 20 UDM, SPECIFY AN
0B20:00C0 69 6E 76 61 6C 69 64 0D-20 6F 6E 6C 79 2E 0D 00 INVALID. ONLY...
```

SOURCE CODE///BRYAN EDWARD HILL

GRAPHICS///NEIL EDWARDS & GIANNIS MILONOGIANNIS

HEXCODE///RACHELLE ROSENBERG

SYS.ADMIN///UC'S CLAYTON COWLES

COV.JPG///RAHZZAH

UARCov.JPG///JOHN TYLER CHRISTOPHER

SYS.ICONS///ANTHONY GAMBINO

MALWARE DETECTED///CHRIS ROBINSON

UKE.MP3///JORDAN D. WHITE

ADMINCONTROLLER.EIC///C.B. CEBULSKI

ADMINCONTROLLER.CCO///JOE QUESADA

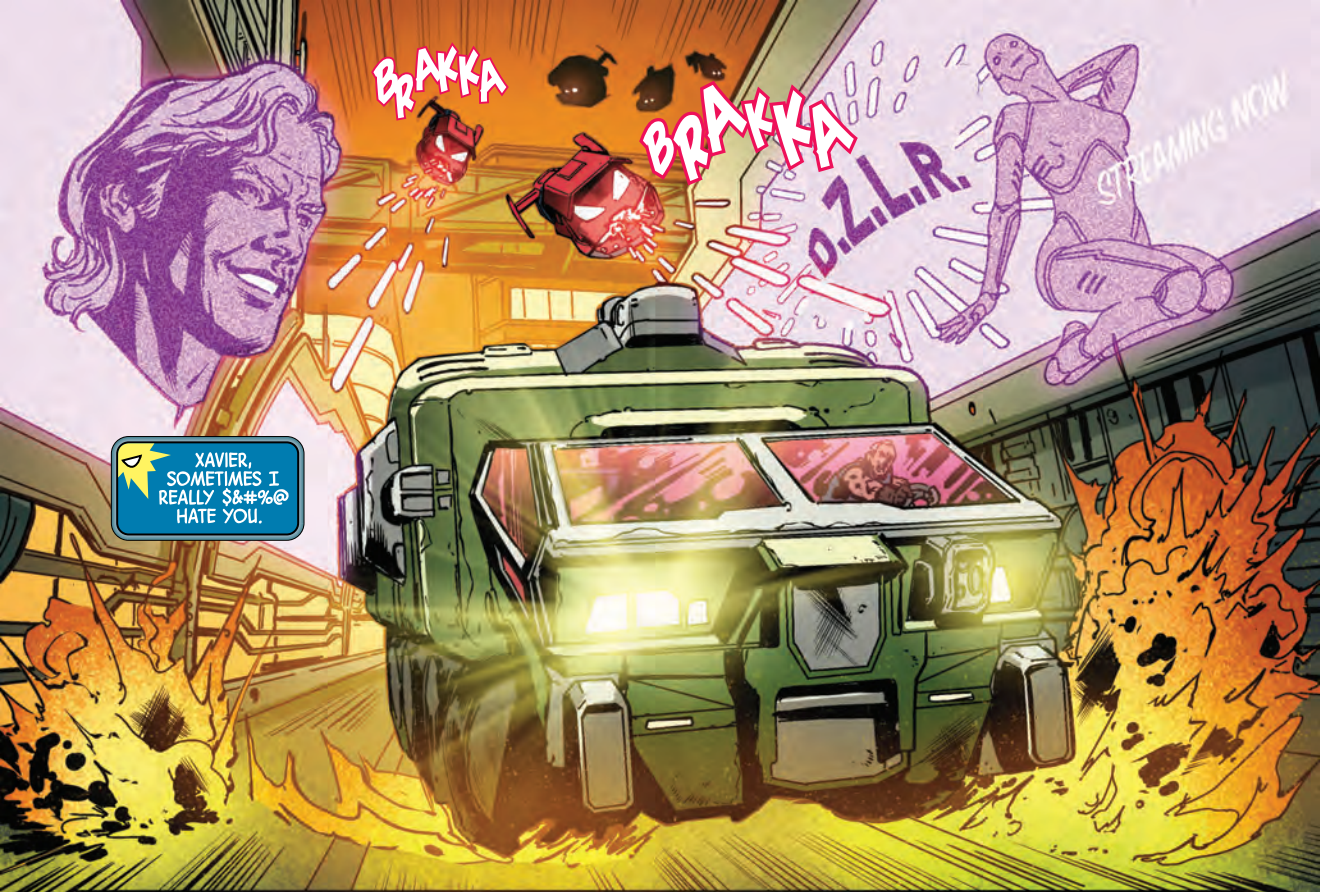
ADMINCONTROLLER.PREZ///DAN BUCKLEY

ADMINCONTROLLER.EXECPROD///ALAN FINE

SPEC.THX///ABE ERSKINE

X-MEN CREATED BY STAN LEE & JACK KIRBY

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BRAKKA

BRAKKA

O.Z.L.R.

STREAMING NOW

XAVIER,
SOMETIMES I
REALLY \$&##%@
HATE YOU.



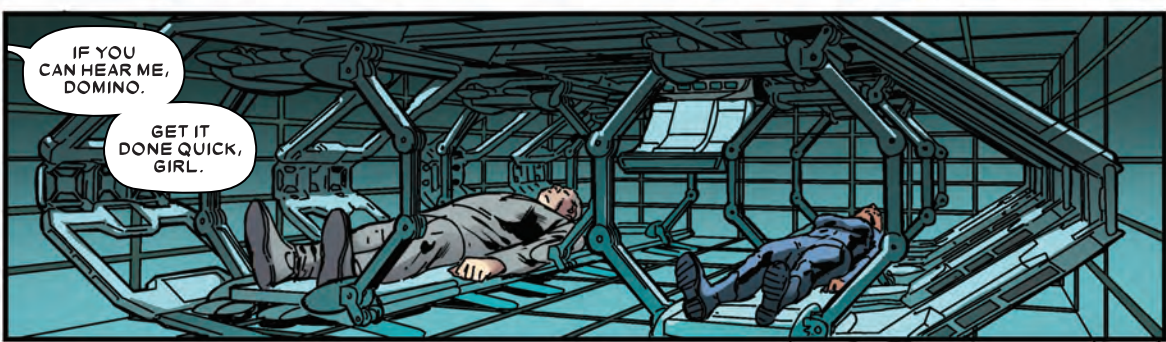
SCRATCH
THAT.

I HATE MYSELF
FOR LISTENING
TO YOU.

ENGAGE
AUTO-DRIVE.

OF COURSE,
NATHAN.

MAKE YOURSELF
COMFORTABLE.



IF YOU
CAN HEAR ME,
DOMINO.

GET IT
DONE QUICK,
GIRL.



THIS JOB'S A
PSYCHO RUN.

ALL RISK.
NO REWARD.

THE NEXT TIME CHARLES
XAVIER TELLS ME HE NEEDS
TO SAVE THE WORLD...



...I'M GONNA
REMINDE HIM THIS
WORLD ISN'T
\$#@%#@
WORTH IT.

THOOM

THOOM

THOOM

HOURS AGO...

YOU WANT US TO DO WHAT?

SOMEONE CREATED A NIMROD VIRUS TO TARGET ERIK IN CYBERSPACE. HE'S HIDING FROM IT. TRAPPED THERE NOW.

I NEED YOU TO INTERFACE. DESTROY NIMROD AND SAVE ERIK'S MIND.

WHY?

ERIK IS THE MOST FAMOUS PERSON BORN WITH THE EXE GENE. HIS TECHNOLOGY POWERS 90% OF CYBERSPACE. HE'S A SYMBOL OF HOW WE CAN HELP THE WORLD, HOW WE CAN LEAD IT.

IF CORRUPTED, HE BECOMES A SYMBOL OF WHY THEY SHOULD FEAR US.

THEY SHOULD FEAR US. WE CAN CHANGE CYBERSPACE. WE CAN MAKE WEAPONS. WE CAN USE THOSE WEAPONS AND BREAK THROUGH ALL THE PROTOCOLS.

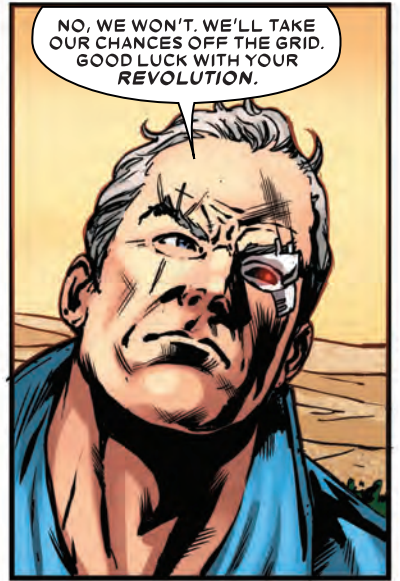
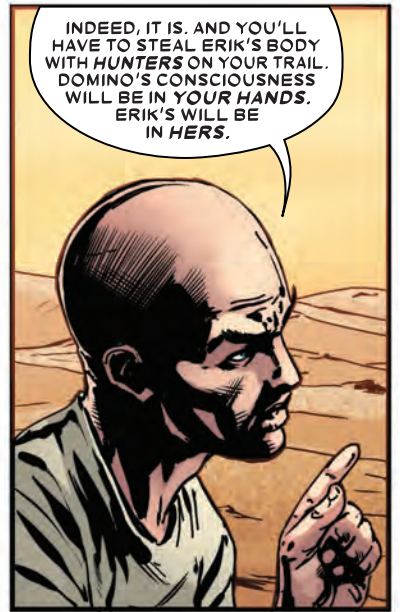
WE ARE DANGEROUS, XAVIER. THAT'S WHY CABLE AND I ARE MERCENARIES.

NIMROD WAS CREATED BY A GOVERNMENT THAT WANTS TO EXTERMINATE US. IT WON'T JUST KILL ERIK. IT'LL CHANGE HIM. CORRUPT HIM. WHATEVER CRIMES THEY WANT TO USE HIM TO COMMIT, WE'LL ALL BE BLAMED FOR IT.

WE'RE ILLEGAL NOW. IF NIMROD IS SUCCESSFUL, WE'LL BE HUNTED.

THEN WE'LL HUNT THEM BACK.

THE WAY THE WORLD IS TURNING, ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO FIGHT. AND BY FIGHT, I MEAN KILL.





XAVIER IS RIGHT, CABLE!

WE'RE MERCENARIES. THIEVES. KILLERS. WE DO THINGS FOR MONEY.

YOU WANT TO BE A HERO WITH HIM? STAY HERE AND HIDE IN THE DESERT. I'M GOING BACK TO L.A., GETTING A BOWL OF RAMEN. I'LL SAVE YOU A BEER.

NATHAN, I WOULD DO THIS MYSELF--

--BUT I'M DYING.



WHAT DID YOU JUST DO, XAVIER?

WAIT. DYING HOW?



MY MUTATION HAS EVOLVED. I CAN ENTER A NEURAL INTERFACE WITHOUT CYBERSPACE, BUT IT'S BREAKING DOWN MY NERVOUS SYSTEM. THE PRICE OF EVOLUTION.

MY LEGS HAVE GONE. IT WILL ONLY GET WORSE. I NEED YOUR STRENGTH, NATHAN.



XAVIER, A DYING MAN SHOULDN'T WASTE HIS TIME TRYING TO SAVE THE WORLD.

BUT I GUESS WE ALL OWE YOU AT LEAST ONE FAVOR, DON'T WE?



I'LL GET IT DONE.

THEN YOU AND ME ARE EVEN.

AND DON'T EVER PUT WORDS IN MY MIND AGAIN.