

MARVEL

THE WEDDING SPECIAL

#1

X-MEN

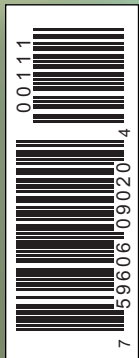
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**TALES OF
MUTANT
MATRIMONY
IN THE
MAKING!**



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DIGITAL
CONTENT
see inside for details



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GENETICALLY GIFTED WITH UNCANNY ABILITIES, MUTANTS ARE BELIEVED TO BE THE NEXT STAGE OF HUMAN EVOLUTION. WHILE THE WORLD HATES AND FEARS THEM, KITTY PRYDE HAS RE-FORMED THE TEAM OF MUTANT HEROES KNOWN AS THE X-MEN TO USE THEIR POWERS FOR GOOD AND SPREAD A POSITIVE IMAGE OF MUTANTKIND.

WHEN KITTY PRYDE RECONNECTED WITH THE X-MEN, SHE ALSO RECONNECTED WITH FORMER LOVER PIOTR RASPUTIN, A.K.A. THE METALLIC MUTANT NAMED COLOSSUS! THEIR REVIVED ROMANCE QUICKLY BLOSSOMED INTO AN ENGAGEMENT. BUT WHAT'S A WEDDING WITHOUT THE RESPECTIVE BACHELOR AND BACHELORETTE PARTIES...

X-MEN

THE WEDDING SPECIAL

THE DREAM BEFORE

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I HAVE THIS NIGHTMARE.

I'VE NEVER TOLD ANYONE ABOUT IT, WHICH IS A NEAT TRICK WHEN TWO OF MY VERY BEST FRIENDS ARE TELEPATHS.

BACK IN THE DAY, I FOUND MYSELF TRAPPED INSIDE WHAT WAS BASICALLY A GIANT SPACE BULLET.

I SACRIFICED MYSELF TO SAVE MY FRIENDS, MY WORLD. DIDN'T MIND PAYING FOR IT WITH MY LIFE.

ONLY IT WASN'T THAT SIMPLE.

I DIDN'T DIE. I WENT INTO A KIND OF FUGUE STATE. I WAS GOING TO STAY LOCKED IN THIS PROJECTILE PRISON, CONSCIOUS AND ALIVE, LIKELY 'TIL THE END OF TIME.

BUT THEN, RESCUE CAME. ALMOST ALWAYS DOES. MY LIFE AS AN X-MAN WENT ON.

EXCEPT--

--I STILL FIND MYSELF HAUNTED BY THE FEAR...

...THAT I NEVER ESCAPED.

I'M STILL STUCK HERE.

FORGOTTEN.

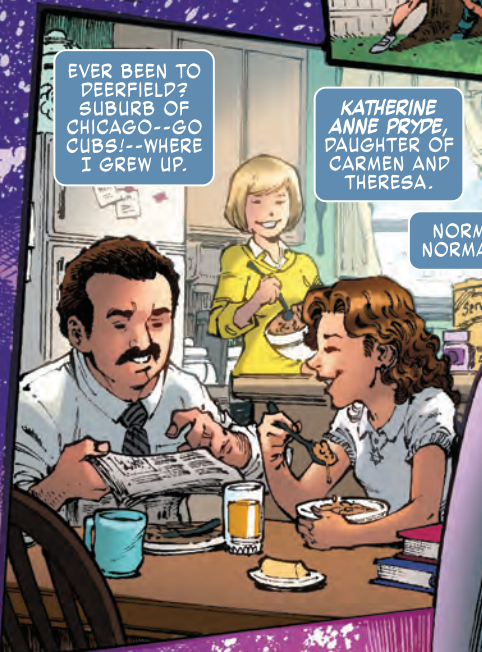
FOREVER LOST IN SPACE.

ALONE.



BUT THE JOKE IS,
I'M NEVER ALONE.

I HAVE
MEMORIES.



EVER BEEN TO
DEERFIELD?
SUBURB OF
CHICAGO--GO
CUBS!--WHERE
I GREW UP.

KATHERINE
ANNE PRYDE,
DAUGHTER OF
CARMEN AND
THERESA.

NORMAL KID,
NORMAL LIFE--



--WELL, OKAY, SO I'M WAY SMARTER
THAN ANY KID HAS A RIGHT TO BE
AND MAYBE I TEND TO SHOW OFF
ABOUT IT JUST A TAD.




MY SMARTS GET ME INTO
TROUBLE ALMOST AS
MUCH AS MY HEART--

--BUT THEY'VE ALSO
HELPED ME SAVE
PEOPLE, AND PLANETS,
AND A WHOLE LOT
MORE BESIDES.



LIFE WAS SO SIMPLE BACK THEN,
SO--NORMAL. I WAS GONNA GO TO
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, MEET
A GUY, SAVE THE WORLD.



FUNNY HOW
FATE LIKES TO
PLAY TRICKS.

THAT WAS BEFORE
I LEARNED I
COULD WALK
THROUGH WALLS.

I'M WHAT FOLKS CALL A **MUTANT**, WHICH MEANS I'M BORN WITH ABILITIES--THEY CALL THEM **SUPER-POWERS**--THAT SET ME APART FROM EVERYONE ELSE.

THAT SEEMS TO SCARE MOST PEOPLE.

AVENGERS, THEY'RE HEROES--THEY'RE COOL.

X-MEN, WE'RE MONSTERS.

AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT I LEARNED THE DAY WE MET.

WE WERE HAVING SUCH A GREAT TIME--

--UNTIL WE GOT AMBUSHED BY THE **HELLFIRE CLUB**.

THEY WERE **BILLIONAIRES**, AND **MUTANTS** WERE VALUABLE ASSETS THEY WERE DETERMINED TO CONTROL.

OR, IF YOU DEFIED THEM, **ELIMINATE**.

THE **X-MEN** STAND FOR SOMETHING BETTER--AS PEOPLE AND WHAT THEY FIGHT FOR.

THAT DAY, THEY FOUGHT FOR ME--AND BECAME MY LIFELONG FRIENDS.

I BECAME A STUDENT AT PROFESSOR CHARLES XAVIER'S SCHOOL FOR GIFTED YOUNGSTERS.

AND A MEMBER-IN-TRAINING OF THE **X-MEN**.

I WAS 13, AND I WAS GONNA BE A SUPER HERO!



I WONDER, IF I'D KNOWN WHAT WAS TO COME, WOULD I HAVE GONE ON REGARDLESS...

WHEN I ALMOST LOST MY SOUL.

UNLESS YOU DRIVE HIM OUT.

OGUN'S INSIDE YOUR SOUL. EVENTUALLY, HE'LL OVERWHELM YOU COMPLETELY.

I-- CAN'T!

IF YOU CAN'T EVEN TRY, GIRL, YOU DON'T BELONG HERE.

BETTER YOU GO HOME BEFORE SOMEONE DEPENDS ON YOU--

--AN' YOU GET 'EM KILLED.

...OR RUN SCREAMING BACK HOME TO MOM AND DAD?

I WAS STILL A KID WHEN I FOUGHT A DEMON SINGLE-HANDED...

...WHEN I HELPED THE X-MEN SAVE THE WORLD--

--WHEN WE SAVED A WHOLE ALIEN GALAXY.

08:27:43

I WON THAT BATTLE, BUT THERE WAS WAY WORSE TO COME.

MR. AND MRS. PRYDE, YOU'LL HAVE TO GO INTO WITNESS PROTECTION.

AS PER YOUR WISHES--AND HERS-- YOUR DAUGHTER KATHERINE WILL RETURN TO XAVIER'S SCHOOL TO COMPLETE HER EDUCATION.

NEXT THING I KNEW, MY PARENTS WERE GETTING DIVORCED.

BUT LIFE WASN'T ALL BAD.

I HAD A BOYFRIEND.

OKAY, WE WERE FROM TWO DIFFERENT WORLDS; HE WAS RUSSIAN, I'M FROM CHICAGO-- BUT THE LOVE WE FELT WAS REAL.

OR SO I THOUGHT.

I MET SOMEONE ELSE. WE FELL IN LOVE.

SHE DIED.

OH.

