



## **Wolverine and the X-Men, Volume 8**

*Jason Aaron (Writer) , Nick Bradshaw (Illustrator) , Pepe Larraz (Illustrator) , Walden Wong (Illustrator) ,  
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Infinity hits the X-universe as the spacebound Avengers find an unlikely ally against the forces of the Builders: Kid Gladiator! Meanwhile on Earth, the Battle of the Atom is over - but the battle for mutankind's future has just begun! For months, S.H.I.E.L.D. has had designs on the Jean Grey school, and now they've made their presence known! Wolverine takes on S.H.I.E.L.D.'s secret stockpile of Sentinels...but so does the renegade Cyclops, and it's a toss-up as to who Wolverine hates more! And it all leads up to the end of the school year...but is the Jean Grey School really out forever?! Where do our graduates go from here? And who will have survived the experience? Jason Aaron brings the story of the Jean Grey School to a close!

**Collecting:** *Wolverine and the X-Men* 38-42, Annual 1

## **Wolverine and the X-Men, Volume 8 Details**

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Author : Jason Aaron (Writer) , Nick Bradshaw (Illustrator) , Pepe Larraz (Illustrator) , Walden Wong (Illustrator) , Karl Kesel (Illustrator) , Victor Olazaba (Illustrator)

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## **From Reader Review Wolverine and the X-Men, Volume 8 for online ebook**

### **Keith says**

A bit irrelevant by the end, but still irreverent. Pretty rad.

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### **Colleen says**

3.5

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### **Gavin says**

Well...the time had to come...nothing lasts forever, and one of the brightest, fun-loving, yet still important titles of the last few years has come to a close.

Jason Aaron's run on Wolverine and the X-Men should serve as a how-to guide for DC to reinvent themselves, and re-embrace the idea that you can have fun and still kick ass, laugh and still be taken seriously, and not have to be grey, dark, and gritty to be a great series.

Wolverine leaves the X-Men of Utopia after a philosophical disagreement with Cyclops, and founds a school on the grounds of the old Xavier School. Wolverine as a headmaster and administrator just wrote it's own jokes.

There was so much to love about this series, both from the fun, and the actual important parts too. One of the factors that I HOPE gets carried forward, is that Jason Aaron created some new teenaged mutant characters that I actually ENJOYED reading about. Usually I skim the shit out of that stuff, but here, between Quentin Quire (Kid Omega), Kid Gladiator, Broo, Kid Apocalypse, Shark Girl, Eye Boy, Irie, and the new Hellfire Kids, Aaron has created some characters that have the potential to grow into bigger players in the Marvel U. He even showed us this, by having a couple issues shoot forward in time to see them as the future X-Men, directors of SWORD, Phoenix Entities, Avengers, and educators themselves.

As to the book itself, we start with the return of Kid Gladiator, who was removed from the school by his father a number of volumes back. It was a bit of a loss, as he seemed like an important figure. Here, we get the entire Annual issue focused on him, his time away from the school, fighting in space alongside the Avengers (which he made sure to mention to anyone who'd listen - including Arm-Wrestling Thor, Punching Hulk, and having a blast of a time.) There's also some good (ie. non-sappy) stuff between him and his father about responsibility and growing up, that Aaron is able to actually write very well, which doesn't make it as lame as many lesser writers would.

When we jump back to the series itself, S.H.I.E.L.D. Director Maria Hill and her Mutant Liason Officer Dazzler (actually Mystique in disguise, and NO this isn't a spoiler, as the editing staff tell us right away) arrive to tell Logan and co. that they're being watched. This is a perfect example of combining humour with serious storytelling, which Aaron does perfectly in this whole series:

Wolverine: Nobody does Nothing. Unless I give the signal.

Warbird: And what is the signal?

Iceman: I'm guessing it's "SNIKT, SNIKT, Stab."

See? FUNNY! In a tense situation! And not out of character, trying too hard to be funny either. Using Bobby Drake, a known smartass, works perfectly here. I wish more writers knew that it was OK to be funny, and that the readers will still get the situation is tense, but that jokes are GOOD in COMIC BOOKS!

Back to the plot: S.H.I.E.L.D. has Sentinels, which is NOT cool with mutants of any sort, so Wolverine goes off to investigate on his own. Meanwhile, 2 new students enroll in the Jean Grey School...

At the same time Wolverine goes off, his counterpart gets the same info, and then run into each other in a secret S.H.I.E.L.D. base...of course, they've both been set up, to take each other out (thanks to Mystique) which gives us a long awaited showdown between Cyclops and Wolverine.

This may be the best interactions between Scott and Logan since the days of Grant Morrison's New X-Men. The tension is done right, but so is the long long long history between the two, even down to the nearly unspoken mention of Jean herself.

Artist Pepe Larraz deserves a shout out here, as the 2 page spread of Cyclops and Wolverine coming face to face is done beautifully...

(And once my geek support helps me out, I'll get that pasted here...)

The next few issues follow the rest of their tete-a-tete, as well as the experiences of the new "students" at the Jean Grey School, and what exactly they get up to. It's also another chance for the students to kick some ass.

I don't want to spoil any of the great stuff here, so I'll leave it to you all to read.

The last 2 issues, 1 is all about resolving Toad's dangling plotline, which involves Husk, Hellfire Kids, and Janitorial Services. It's done well considering he's supposed to be a semi-joke most of the time, Aaron gives him a lot of gravitas.

The final issue (of Aaron's run - they continued the series with a Vol. 2, but who knows about that) involves Graduation Day, as well as flash forwards in time to see where people are down the road. It also features an Old, Grizzled Wolverine, who Aaron has featured before. I think he's itching to write his own Old Man Logan (which I would buy sight unseen). It also features a cameo from Aaron himself, in a subtle way...(Roll Tide indeed)

The final few pages are focused on humour, with Doop defeating 2 D-list villains from the past of the series, on the morning after graduation...Using "The Power of the Funk". Yes. Quentin Quire also plays one last trick on Wolverine, and we get to see the venerable Headmaster with a smile on his face at the end.

It's a fitting ending for a great run, a smiling Wolverine, giving advice to kids, but not made entirely toothless, which was important.

The best part for me, is Aaron's letter at the end, which gives us his mantra for the series:

**FUN IS NOT A DIRTY WORD.**

Take note DC, take note.

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## Mike says

Aaron's still got a talent for the repartee. I can't wait to see his take on Spider-Man someday:

He just populates the school with such fun side-character moments:

But more importantly, he writes one of the most meaningful, heartfelt, authentic moments between Wolverine and Cyclops I've read in a long time.

Cool to see Quentin Quire calm down a bit - now he only looks like Spider Jerusalem, not like Lex Luthor:

And thankfully, the graduation/farewell issue was suitably ridiculous and touching.

(Plus a cameo by Hope Summers, the long-lost X-person!)

[Where the hell have you been, Hope? You don't call, you don't write...it's like you don't love us]

Soooo grateful that Aaron gave 3.5 years of his career to these ridiculous adventures. No one would've predicted that he was so good and funny at a team-up/mash-up book like this, and dammit if I'll be mad when he doesn't keep writing stuff like this.

Thanks for the warped memories Jason. Here's to you, ya greying old buzzard:

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## ???? ???? says

In the aftermath of the *Battle of the Atom* (crossover issues of this title are #36-37), both factions of the X-Men (Cyclops' revolutionary team under the New Xavier School for the Gifted, and Wolverine's more lenient team for the Jean Grey School of Higher Learning) may have endured the crisis it brought, but they didn't accomplish this together at all. After Hank McCoy brought back the very first five X-Men from the sixties who then decided to stay in the current timeline (Bendis' *All-New X-Men*), so many events have been escalating left and right, and certain relationships between each other and with human government agencies, such as S.H.I.E.L.D, have reached a breaking point that trust is hardly something both parties have earned.

While Scott tries to maintain his recruits' faith in their revolution cause (Bendis' *The Uncanny X-Men*), Logan, on the other hand, as headmaster of JGS, butts heads with head of S.H.I.E.L.D Special Agent Maria Hill who happened to hire a liaison, the mutant previously known as Dazzler, much to the discomfort of her peers.

Of course, the real Dazzler has been abducted midway and was actually replaced by shape-shifter and long-time villainess Mystique who infiltrated S.H.I.E.L.D herself to gather intel and steal finances from corporations to fund her place of conquest in Madripoor which she acquired from Hydra. This is where she opened an asylum for all mutants who refuse to integrate to human society and live according to their rules. This story mostly plays out on Bendis' *The Uncanny X-Men*, so you can follow that plotline in said title instead.

For the eighth and final volume of Jason Aaron's run of *Wolverine and the X-Men*, issue #38 opens with JGS and S.H.I.E.L.D meeting on school grounds to discuss about boundaries unresolved issues, and Maria Hill expresses her sentiments as a public servant and human being who has to deal with the bad publicity and growing infamy of mutantkind, particularly towards the X-Men. Her exchange with Logan is very important at this point in the game, arguing well-founded criticisms, reservations and fears:

[CLICK FOR LARGER IMAGES]

Meanwhile, issues #39-40 gave us more amazing scenes and plot concerning the new students who just enrolled in JGS; the Brickmore twins known as Tri-Joey and Squidface. After their initiation to the school where Tri-Joey (Joseph) actually enjoyed becoming friends with a lot of the students, the twins were revealed to be moles for S.H.I.E.L.D., and Squidface (Josephine) was adamant in having JGS closed for good. The siblings were actually normal humans who just took mutant growth serum so they can masquerade inside JGS. As they plan their uprising, it turned out that they have been discovered from the start and everyone was simply trying to give them a chance to change their mind about JGS. Quentin, Broo, Idie, Eyeboy, Genesis, Kid Gladiator, Shark Girl and Sprite all agree that they are all strange and weird and odd and although their school has a sentient lawn and a murdering bathroom, and a lot of people are trying to kill them on a weekly if not daily basis...

### ***THEY LOVE THE DAMN PLACE ANYWAY!***

It's the one place they are free to be themselves and be accepted no matter what!

The following exchanges are some of my favorites:

As the kids take control of the situation, Wolverine and Cyclops manage to run onto each other when they

both decided to kill some Sentinels by their lonesome. It's funny how these so-called opposites often manage to decide on doing the same thing. It didn't go so well and they almost died (especially when Wolverine has been losing his healing factor), but by the end of the day, these two *are* friends. And they have a lot to talk about. It's gonna get brutal but eventually for the best.

Wolverine finds a medical kit (and some booze) so the two of them decided to hang out a bit as they rest.

*Everyone knows alcohol is the best social lubricant!*

This was great because, in return, they had their most honest and hurtful but also cathartic exchange:

I would like to thank Jason Aaron for writing down the insecurities that these two have about each other and how he managed to get them out in the open during a grueling discussion. The highlights there have to be the Professor X-Magneto analogy which was something a lot of people started using after Wolverine and Cyclops had a grand falling-out; and the mentions of Jean Grey and the fact that they ended their conversation with a meaningful nod to her memory because even though they have different views and methods of doing things, what will forever bind Logan and Scott is that they love (and were loved) by the same amazing woman who has inspired them to be who they are and commit to the principles they believe in no matter what. Reading about this dialogue gives me hope for reconciliation between these two!

The issues #41-42 and Annual were all character-centric. #41 has Mortimer a.k.a Toad who had been working as the janitor for JGS since this title started. However, he also sided with the Hellfire Club all because of his girlfriend Husk who unfortunately suffered a nervous breakdown and henceforth turned rotten for a while. He eventually did change his mind and assisted Quentin and the others to bring down Hellfire Academy from within, but this just wasn't enough to absolve him of his earlier crimes. Wolverine and the rest of the faculty had to let him go, much to Krakoa's sadness. Husk (Paige) wasn't crazy anymore but she also doesn't remember her relationship with Toad. She was willing to find out why she loved him in the first place, though, and asked to get some coffee with him. Tragically, Toad helped Enrique and Max, former Hellfire Club members, to escape although he did beat up Enrique and left him back in JGS. He and Max then went together, probably to form their own new evil team. AND IT'S HEARTBREAKING! Toad has been reformed villain for a while so it makes me a little angry that he decided that being a villain is all he could ever be so instead of dating Paige again, he returned to his former life of crime. So disheartening, guys!

Meanwhile, #42 is all about graduation and Quentin Quire wasn't happy about this. There are also flash-forward scenes with an old Logan and a grown-up Idie Okonkwo as they discuss about closing down JGS for good. Back in present day, Quentin bemoans how he is officially turned into the good guy while proudly wearing his Dark Phoenix-at-Training shirt around campus where everyone is happy and celebratory. He had a nice conversation with Captain America who was proud of him for changing, and then Wolverine handed him a diploma, much to his depression and shame. Try as he might to deny that he has earned his place as an X-Man, Quentin is actually more afraid of growing up and actually making the right choices as well as being surrounded by friends who deeply care about him and believe in him. It's all nice and fluffy and sweet and Q keeps complaining in his typical fashion how this makes him sick!

Meanwhile, Logan and Ororo are still a couple and she cheers him up by saying this:

I think Wolverine and Quentin Quire have a lot of things in common which was why it was natural for Logan to take him under his wing. Both were considered outsiders who challenged authority and are eager to prove to the world that they must be feared and will never be loved or belong anywhere. Ultimately, both are proven wrong and find themselves on the same side, both grown-up and ready to take on more tomorrows. This is also the last issue of Jason Aaron's run for *Wolverine and the X-Men* and I love it so much! Logan is finally happy and content, and Quentin has found his place in an unlikely home and with the best people he can be surrounded with!

Lastly, the Annual issue focused on Kubark a.k.a Kid Gladiator who may like to punch his way through galaxies but is a real softie underneath it all. He was sent back to Shi'ar in his old academy during the Phoenix Force crossover event, but he quickly realized that he misses JGS and Earth after all, but is too proud to admit it to himself, especially in front of his classmates and father.

Fortunately for him, Majestor Gladiator, his old dad, is very supportive and understands that his son finally found a place where he can thrive and be exceptional so he agrees to let Kubark return to Earth--but after he punched his way through multiple fights again and earned the respect of his peers. He even got to fight alongside the Avengers! These experiences had been enjoyable for him but he much rather come back to JGS where he is warmly welcomed in, of course. I really found this Annual issue so adorable and unexpectedly touching!

This was a really amazing finale volume! I'm glad everyone got their happy endings!

**RECOMMENDED: 9/10**

**DO READ MY REVIEWS AT:**

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## 47Time says

Surprisingly, the volume looks and feels amazing. I don't know what happened since the train wreck from before, but it was worth it. I won't be left with a sour taste in my mouth.

Hill from SHIELD brings a warning to the X-Men to cut down on the destructive behavior. The X-Men complain about the SHIELD sentinels that attacked them. Hill claims they weren't responsible for the sentinel attack, but the two parties are understandably wary of each other. Wolverine moves against a SHIELD sentinel base and meets Cyclops who also wants to destroy the sentinels. (view spoiler)

Two new students, nicknamed Squidface and Tri-Joey, are admitted to the school which has never looked more impressive. The two are in reality SHIELD agents using mutant growth hormone. They are tasked with infiltrating the school to gather information. (view spoiler)

Toad is asked to leave the school, even though the teachers do this reluctantly. Husk offers him the chance to reexplore what made them love each other. His departure is interrupted by news that the Hellfire kids escaped the school. (view spoiler)

Quentin refuses to get into a festive mood on graduation day. He can't tell when he became one of the good guys. Years in the future Wolverine regretfully shuts down the school due to not having students any more. Before he can finish, Quentin brings in students from a Negative Zone school. This act breathes new life into Wolverine who continues his duties as headmaster.

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## Lono says

Aaron really pulled off something a little different with this series. Consistently enjoyable right up to the end. After all of the heavy story lines in the X-titles in recent years, this book has a significantly different tone. It's fun. Something Aaron set out to do from the beginning of his run. Mr. Aaron has helped several other recent authors in giving me a new appreciation for the light-hearted. Even with teenage characters (which I typically detest) this book (as well as the 7 preceding volumes) was satisfactorily captivating from start to finish. This volume wraps up the lingering plotlines and even gives us a glimpse into a potential future for the Jean Grey School for Higher Learning. Nick Bradshaw and Pepe Larraz share all of the heavy lifting in terms of the beautiful artwork provided and are joined by several others in the final issue. A great series that I'm sad to see come to an end. Thanks Mr. Aaron. Whiskey!

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## Quentin Wallace says

The final volume in this series wasn't bad, but it wasn't really good either. We had a solo story focusing on Kid Gladiator and then we had some issues that mainly focused on SHIELD trying to spy on the X-Men. The final issue flashes forward to the future, showing the future of the school.

Overall not the best ending of the series but not the worst either.

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## **James says**

A bit of a victory lap for Jason Aaron's solid "Wolverine and the X-Men" run. The heroes took out their main antagonists in the last volume, so this installment is dedicated to clearing up loose ends and having some fun with the theme as several of the junior X-men "graduate" to unknown futures.

Frustratingly, the series picks up in the aftermath of an X-men crossover, "Battle of the Atom" that jumbles the cast Aaron has been working with. Several of the X-faculty have headed over to Cyclops' rival mutant operation, and it's a little confusing at first if you haven't read the crossover in question.

Still, the big picture hasn't really changed, and Aaron kicks off the volume with two parallel storylines. In one, a brother-and-sister mutant pair arrives at the school to learn how to control their powers...only to be revealed as spies assigned to keep tabs on the school. The brother grows to love the weird institution Aaron has created, though, and agrees for the pair to be mind-wiped and expelled so as not to put it in jeopardy.

In another plot, Wolverine and Cyclops unwittingly team up to destroy a new Sentinel threat, trash-talking each other and sharing a few brews in the process. The interplay gives us some nice lines--and a good tribute to Jean Grey--but the conflict between the two heroes always feels forced by the plot. (Given the damage that mutants have inflicted on the planet over the years, it also seems a little disingenuous for Wolverine to be so upset that the government is keeping a few Sentinels in reserve.)

The last issues of the series are the strongest, though, as several of the young X-men graduate, one to his surprise. We then flash forward to the finale, which sees the Jean Grey school in its twilight years, offering a quick vision of what its students have accomplished as well as a nice coda where one of the most obnoxious alumni revitalizes the place in the brattiest way possible.

Over his run, Aaron did a great job establishing the Jean Grey school as a weird, living, fantastical institution. He also did nice work building a juvenile cast of X-men, something that's proven to be a bit of a Sisyphean task over the years. The entanglements with various crossovers were frustrating, and I was never fully behind the core group of villains, but I did enjoy the energy and personality he brought to the series.

Read digital issues.

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## **Bradley says**

Last comic, page 30. I saw the writer. He's kinda hard to miss with that beard and bald head.

This volume was sweet and bitter-ish. What can I say? I like Quentin. He easily beats out Eyeboy or Idie. Maybe not Broo, or not by much.

Wolverine, on the other hand, is one character I can't really see growing old. It definitely beat seeing an island bawl tears of lava at seeing Toad leave.

What a trip this was. I can honestly say I feel nostalgic, and wasn't that the whole point of this volume? Absolutely. It wins!

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## Michael Church says

This whole series has just been so good. The strongest thing about it is the cast. You can't help but be a fan of the new class of X-Men that is Idie, Quentin, Broo, Eye Boy, Shark Girl, Evan, Sprite, Kid Gladiator, and the others. What's really great about this volume is that we actually get to see all of them in action again. More than that, we see them talking and interacting and being students and awesome and lovable.

The plot was good too, though the annual was a little weak in my opinion. It tied into Infinity, which I haven't read, and was very much removed from what had been happening at the school. Plus the panels were hard to follow with little dialogue and some abrupt transitions.

When it gets to the meat of the volume, though, the run in with SHIELD and then graduation, it hits a home run. The story is set up in a way that gives enough action to keep you satisfied while also really zeroing in on those characters we like so much. Logan and Scott run into each other to break out of some of their monotonous grumbling finally, though not entirely. It was a nice closure to where they were with the Schism at the beginning of this series. Then graduation was just a blast. It's a great way to close out this volume of the title.

The art was mostly on, but had a couple of hiccups. Primarily, there were EIGHT artists on the final issue. Some were fine, but others created a very jarring change. Bradshaw still does a great job. His look has become what I think of as the standard for this series now, but Bachalo got to do the last 2 pages and they were the perfect ending. I won't lie, I may have been a little misty-eyed when I read the letter from Jason Aaron and closed the book. I'll definitely remember this title and it's one I highly recommend to any fan of the X-Men.

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## Anne says

Pretty good ending to this run!

*Although, it looks like it continues? Gonna have to check into that...*

This doesn't exactly tie off a lot of loose threads, but it still felt like it had that *wrapped up* vibe going for it. One of the highlights (for me) was the tentative reconciliation between Cyclops and Wolverine.

That whole thing just made my day! Guess I'm just sappy like that, but I thought it was great.

Also, Quentin.

**Love that kid!** He's quickly become one of my favorite mutants, which made it a pleasure to see him graduate.

Oh, and I loved that Kid Gladiator was back! Hope we continue to see more of him in the future, as well. The way he secretly *loves* being at the school, but won't admit it? Good stuff.

You know, I never thought I'd say this, but...*poor Toad!* I think he coulda been a good guy if that woman hadn't done him wrong. \*sniffle\*

Who knows, maybe in the future?

There's another tug-my-heartstrings glimpse of the future issue at the end, but I felt like I'd read it (or something like it) before. It kind of had a generic feel to it, if you know what I mean?

Whatever. It was mostly great, and I'm not sorry I finished this title out. Looking forward to seeing what they come up with for these kids next!

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### **Sesana says**

This is how you end a series. You tie up all the loose ends, bring the characters to a relatively stable place, leave a few threads dangling for later writers, and, above all, you do it in the style to which your readers have become accustomed. And Aaron sums that up beautifully in his author's note at the end: Fun is not a dirty word. That's the formula that's made Wolverine and the X-Men (mostly) such fun to read: these are mostly serious stories with characters that the writer takes seriously, but he isn't afraid to have fun with them, or to let us, the readers, have fun with them, either.

And there are so, so many individual things to love in this volume. Yes, there's fun and jokes and glorious homework, but I think it's the serious moments that will really stick with me. Captain America standing with Quire at graduation. Toad's exit from the book. (And who ever thought that I'd be moved by Toad?) There's the single best and most insightfully written conversation between Wolverine and Cyclops that I've read since AvX, at least. And there's a future scene with a somewhat elderly Logan that's sweet without getting soppy.

I've greatly enjoyed Aaron's run on this series. I understand that it got rebooted with a volume two, with a different writer. I don't know if I'm ready for that, especially if the new series has a different feel.

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### **Ryan says**

It seems bad to say this but I kind of missed how X-Men was in the mid 80's. Before Jim Lee started his own series, there was just Uncanny X-Men. And occasionally, readers could get excited because they published twice a month. But it was just one title and the stories had to count. Now there are so many titles that you cannot keep track of them all. A rational reader has to latch on to a couple of titles and hope we don't have to purchase a lot of other stuff to fill in narrative gaps. Anyway, this title is one of my favorites because it keeps the tone light and the art its usually pretty nice. Unfortunately, this volume had some throwaway material about characters that no one had anything invested in. It's too bad that not all of the stories really matter, like

in the good old days of Uncanny. Anyway, that was my nerd vent. Other nerds might disagree, but it's just an opinion. I'll miss Bradshaw's art (he did most of this book), because I don't think he is doing X-titles anymore. But a part of me is relieved that I have one less title to follow.

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## **Zack! Empire says**

With this volume we reach the end of this series. It might be a bit hard to do, since I've read every volume so far, but I'm going to try and simply review this book, and not look at the series overall.

First, I don't usually talk about the covers, but in this case I'm making a exception, because i think the cover is pretty awesome. It's not a cover done just for the collection (anyone remember when they used to do that? Or am I showing my age there?) it's the cover from issue number 38. Boy, does Wolverine look badass on this cover or what? A huge draw for me on this series was the Nick Bradshaw art and this cover will tell you why. Not only does he have an almost Arthur Adams like level of detail, but he just knows how to draw a very powerful and angry Wolverine.

The book starts out with an Annual, which I would say is the best part of the book. It's also the only issue completely drawn by Bradshaw. Kid Gladitor is back in outerspace going to Superguardian school. However, he really wants to get back to the Jean Grey School, though he won't admit it to anyone. This issue takes place during the whole Builders event from the Avengers titles, so we get to see the Sh'iar Empire, which Kid Gladitor belongs to, fighting along side the Avengers to defeat them. However, Kid Gladitor's father, (Papa) Gladitor doesn't want Kid Gladitor joining in the fight. But we all know how much Kid Gladitor loves to punch things and he uses the skills he picked up at the Jean Grey School to defy his father and join the Avengers in battle. When all is said and done, Kid Gladitor is allowed to rejoin the Jean Grey School, though he tells everyone it's a punishment.

I just really loved the characterazation of Kid Gladitor in this issue. He's always just seemed like the guy who punches things, so it was great to see him given some depth. I also liked how we got to see Bradshaw doing some characters outside of the X-Universe. I paticular liked his version of Thor.

After that we get some issues dealing with the aftermath of the Battle of the Atom event. Mainly it deals with the X-Men being pissed at S.H.I.E.L.D for having sentianels, and Shield (You didn't really think I'd write it out the right way the whole time did you?((Though i did take the time to write out this whole part and that's actually taken longer so maybe i should have just done it?))) dealing with the fact that the X-Men are basically a huge time bomb. It was funny to read Mariah Hill telling the X-Men about how they are always fighting each other. I don't know if they meant for it to be a bit Meta, but it made me laugh. It seemed to me like Jason Aaron making a little in joke, but maybe that's just me.

One thing I did not like during this part of the story was the meeting between Wolverine and Cyclops.

During this title's run we have gotten some glimpses of the future, and we say Scott and Logan hanging out and not wanting to kill each other. So we can assume that this happens sometime (if Marvel sticks to the timeline they are working on here, which we all know they won't do) but how many times have they actually seen each other since Scott killed Charles? A handful, maybe? And Logan was dead set on killing Scott everytime. So now that Wolverine finally has Scott alone, with no one there to stop him from stabbing Scott in the everywhere, he deciedes to...have a few drinks with him? What? Okay, I'll admit, I don't like the idea that they are making Logan the new Professor X, and Scott the new Magneto, but to just have them start to get along that easy? Seems like a cop out to me.

The graduation issue was really nice. It was cool to see them try and wrap up some of the stories to give the series a sense of closer. It was also just a great way to end the series. It was really funny to see Quentin pissed off because he doesn't want to graduate. He wants to be a rebel, and rebels don't graduate. There was also some more teases about the future of the X-Men, which I really liked. Those were some of the most

enjoyable parts of the story.

Overall, this series has just been tons of fun. At times I was a little bit bored with it, and thought some of the stories were lame, but when I look back at it I will always have fond memories. It was really cool to see how they develop not just the regular X-Men, like Wolverine, Storm, or Iceman, but also the students. Hopefully all of them stay in the X-Universe for awhile and now that they are active X-Men, we get to see them on some of the other teams.

~ JGS forever.

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