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37

WOLVERINE



DIRECT EDITION

PARENTAL ADVISORY



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PART II OF V
ORIGINS & ENDINGS
WAY • TEXEIRA • SALTARES



WOLVERINE



"ORIGINS AND ENDINGS" PART II OF V

The word is out:
Wolverine remembers... everything.

The tests, the lies, the subversions...
the cruel experiments and torture...
injustices too numerous to count,
too disturbing to mention.

Wolverine has lived many lives,
fought many evils, and been
subject to more pain and suffering
than anyone should ever have to
experience.

But previously, he had only vague
recollections of this traumatic past—
a by-product of the brainwashing
inflicted upon him by sinister
government agents. Now that the
murky past has transformed into
crystal clarity, Wolverine has two
more things he didn't previously
have: a collection of terrifying
memories... and a mission.

In Tokyo, Japan, Wolverine
reappeared after weeks of hiding
and attacked the Prime Minister of
Japan's convoy. Though many feared
he was after the prime minister
himself, Wolverine was actually
seeking the prime minister's head
of security—an individual he has
crossed blades with more than
once—the Silver Samurai!

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⊕ S.H.I.E.L.D. HEADQUARTERS.



...ASSURED
THAT WE WILL
PASS ON ANY AND
ALL INFORMATION AS
SOON AS IT BECOMES
AVAILABLE.

GENERAL
ANNATO? IF YOU
WOULD PLEASE
REMAIN ON THE
LINE...?



CAP?
WE
SHOULD
TALK.

ABOUT WHAT, DUGAN? WE
WERE SOLDIERS... WHATEVER
WE DID BACK THEN, WE DID
UNDER ORDERS.

I WASN'T
AFRAID OF THE
CONSEQUENCES THEN,
AND I'M NOT AFRAID
OF THEM NOW.



TEN!

SORRY FOR
THE DELAY,
GENERAL.

NOW,
THEN:





ORIGINS & ENDINGS CHAPTER TWO



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HE'S SO
GOOD, IT
MAKES
ME SMILE.



HE KEEPS HIS
DISTANCE.

HE KNOWS HE
CAN'T GET IN
CLOSE BECAUSE
OF MY CLAWS.



SO HE STICKS TO
HIS ADVANTAGE--
HIS REACH.

HE KEEPS HIS
DISTANCE, I
KEEP MINE.



EVENTUALLY,
WE START
TALKING.

NOT TOO LONG
AGO, I GOT ALL MY
MEMORIES BACK.

LONG
STORY.

ALWAYS THOUGHT
HAVIN' 'EM BACK
WOULD GIMME
SOME ANSWERS.

TURNS OUT
IT JUST GAVE
ME MORE
QUESTIONS.

SO THAT'S
WHAT I'M
DOIN' HERE--
I'M ASKIN'
QUESTIONS.

IN MY
OWN
WAY.

THE SAMURAI
KEEPS DODGIN'
'EM, THOUGH.

...AND MY
KICKS.





IT'S A
STALEMATE.

SO THE
SAMURAI
CHANGES
TACTICS:



HE STARTS
ANSWERIN'.

HE OPENS
WITH A REAL
SHOWSTOPPER.



DAMN, HE'S
GOOD.



BUT I'M
THE BEST.



MUCH AS I REGRET
DOIN' IT, THERE'S
ONLY ONE WAY TO
DISARM A SAMURAI:



PERMANENTLY.

I ASK A FEW MORE
QUESTIONS. HE
ANSWERS 'EM.

HE TELLS
THE TRUTH.

I CAN
TELL.

NINGGUH

I LEAVE HIM
WITH HIS HONOR.



I GOT NO
USE FOR IT.

NO WAY I CAN GO UP TO THE SURFACE--AFTER THE STUNT I JUST PULLED, IT'S PROBABLY A CIRCUS UP THERE.

I'M PRETTY SURE S.H.I.E.L.D. WILL LEAVE ME AT LEAST A COUPLE OF HOLES WHERE I CAN SLIP OUT, THOUGH--IT'S IN THEIR BEST INTERESTS.

THEY SURE AS HELL AIN'T GONNA TRY TO BRING ME IN--NOT AFTER WHAT HAPPENED A COUPLE MONTHS AGO--BUT THEY CAN'T HAVE ME ENDIN' UP IN SOME JAPANESE MILITARY PRISON, EITHER.



'CAUSE I MIGHT SPILL MY GUTS.

HEH...

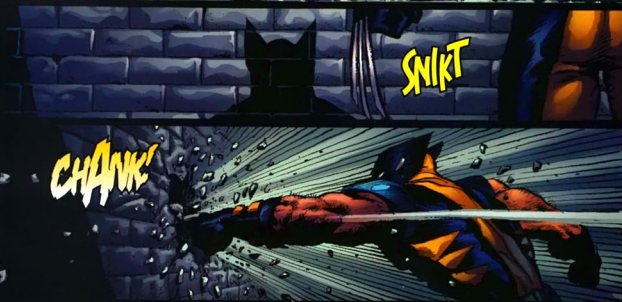


DON'T MATTER, ANYWAY...I ALREADY MADE GETAWAY PLANS.




SNIKT

CHUNK!



A close-up of Wolverine's head and shoulders as he swims in dark, churning water. His orange and blue mask is visible, and his right hand is extended forward. The water is depicted with dynamic, swirling lines and a blue-green color palette.

THE COLD WATER
HELPS ME STAY
CONSCIOUS.

Wolverine is shown from the chest up, floating on his back in the water. He is looking towards the viewer with a slight smile. His yellow and blue suit is clearly visible. The water around him is dark with some greenish highlights.

THE SAMURAI REALLY
STUCK IT TO ME GOOD--
HE KNEW RIGHT
WHERE TO GET ME.

IN MORE
WAYS THAN
ONE.

A wide shot of Wolverine swimming underwater. He is in a horizontal position, moving towards the right. The water is dark green and blue, with some light reflecting off his suit. In the background, a city skyline is visible through the water.

SHOULDN'T'VE LET WHAT
HE TOLD ME RATTLE
ME SO MUCH, THOUGH--
SHOULDN'T'VE BEEN
SURPRISED AT ALL.

IT WAS
INEVITABLE.


A large, dramatic shot of Wolverine swimming towards a city at night. The city skyline is illuminated with red lights, and the water is dark. In the foreground, there are large, white, cloud-like structures that look like waves or smoke. The overall scene is dark and atmospheric.

AS INEVITABLE AS
THE RAIN RETURNIN'
TO THE SEA.

A large, dark ship is at sea at night. In the foreground, a blue buoy with the number '05' in red is partially submerged, creating a splash. The ship's lights are visible on its upper decks.

BLEEDIN'S ALMOST
STOPPED--LEAST I
WON'T HAVE TO WORRY
ABOUT SHARKS.

BODY'S BEAT,
THOUGH...FEELS
LIKE I'M HARDLY
MOVIN'.

A close-up of a person's face, likely Wolverine, emerging from the water. Only his eyes and part of his nose and mouth are visible above the surface. He has a determined expression.

HALFWAY ACROSS AN' MY MIND
STARTS DRIFTIN', THINKIN' OF HOW
GOOD IT WOULD FEEL TO JUST
STOP TRYIN' ...JUST LET MYSELF
SINK DOWN INTO THE DARKNESS.

IT'S
TEMPTIN'.

BUT LIES
ALWAYS
ARE.

Wolverine is shown from the chest up, swimming in the water. He is holding onto a piece of debris, possibly a piece of the ship. The city skyline is visible in the background under a dark sky.

EVENTUALLY,
I MAKE IT.

Wolverine is on a rooftop at night, looking down. The city lights are visible in the background. He is wearing his signature orange and black costume.

EVENTUALLY, I
ALWAYS MAKE IT.



NOT OUTTA THE
WOODS JUST YET---
THIS FREIGHTER
DOESN'T LEAVE FOR
ANOTHER TWELVE
HOURS OR SO.

FIGURE I'LL
USE THE TIME TO
REST UP--CAN'T
REMEMBER THE
LAST TIME I...



HUNGRY...
SHOULD'A...

CAR
SURE
IS...



BLUE...



FUMP!

DON'T KNOW HOW
LONG I WAS OUT.

DON'T KNOW
HOW LONG
I'VE BEEN
AWAKE.

GUESS I DON'T
KNOW HOW LONG
I'VE BEEN IN
HERE AT ALL.

I DO KNOW THAT
I'VE HELD OUT
AS LONG AS I
CAN, THOUGH.

SWIFT!

I START WITH MY
LEFT FOREARM.

UHPPP

ONCE I GET
STARTED, I
REALIZE THAT MY
LEFT BICEP'S
GONNA HAVE TA
GO, TOO.

I'M THAT
HUNGRY.


IT'S EASIER
THAN I
THOUGHT
IT'D BE.

PRETTY SOON, THE
PAIN IN MY ARM GETS
WORSE THAN THE PAIN
IN MY BELLY AN' I
START TO LOSE
CONSCIOUSNESS.

I LET GO.

FFFFUMP!

I WELCOME IT.



I SLIP IN AN' OUTTA
CONSCIOUSNESS.

THE NIGHTMARES
COME AN' GO.



ALWAYS
DIFFERENT...

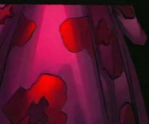


...ALWAYS
THE SAME.



THE PANIC
STARTS TO
SET IN.

I TRY TO
FIGHT IT.



I TRY TO
FOCUS.



I TRY TO
SEE HER
FACE.



I ALMOST
PULL IT OFF.




THEN I SEE
THE BLOOD...





...AN' THE KILL
LIGHT GOES ON,
BLINDING ME.



THE LIGHT FILLS
MY BRAIN, WIPING
OUT MY THOUGHTS.

MY LUNGS CONSTRICT,
NOT EVEN GIVING ME
ENOUGH AIR TO SCREAM.



THEY
GOT ME.

THEY
SUCKERED
ME IN.

THEY KNEW
EXACTLY
WHAT TO DO TO
GET ME HERE.



BLIND.

UNPREPARED.



UNARMED.



IN THE DREAM,
I BEGIN TO FALL
ASLEEP KNOWING
THAT, WHEN
I WAKE...



...THIS WILL
ALL BE A
DREAM.



SHIP
STOPPED
MOVIN'.



TIME
TO GO.



YES, SIR--
A TREE FELL
ON IT. LOOKS LIKE
AN ANIMAL DUG
UP THE ROOTS...
PROBABLY A
BEAR.

I'VE ALREADY
PUT IN A CALL TO
HAVE IT FIXED--THEY
SHOULD BE OUT HERE
IN ABOUT TWENTY
MINUTES.



ROGER
THAT.

MAINTAIN
WATCH UNTIL
RELIEVED.

IT'S
EASY.

IT'S
ALWAYS
EASY.



'SPECIALLY IN A
PLACE LIKE THIS--
A PLACE BUILT
TO KEEP YOU IN.



I GET A WHIFF OF THE OLD
SMELLS AN' MY SKIN STARTS
CRAWLIN'. A CHUNK OF ICE
FORMS IN MY GUT. TELLIN'
ME I SHOULDN'T BE HERE.
THAT I SHOULD RUN LIKE
HELL AN' NOT LOOK BACK.

I IGNORE IT.
THIS IS SOMETHIN'
I GOTTA DO.

AN' LIKE I SAID
BEFORE--IT WAS
INEVITABLE.

DEPARTMENT

K

ONE WAY OR ANOTHER,
I ALWAYS KNEW I'D
END UP BACK HERE.



TO BE CONTINUED

WOLVERINE

NEXT MONTH in Wolverine #38:

"Origins and Endings" part 3 of 5



In thirty days, Wolverine returns to where it all started—Weapon X. But when he uncovers the skeletons of the men he killed, he also discovers a ghostly past best left forgotten. Plus, a special guest-star makes a surprise appearance!

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A
BIG BLUE
SCAN



2005

