



X-Factor, Vol. 21: The End of X-Factor

Peter David (Text) , Neil Edwards (Illustrations) , Leonard Kirk (Illustrations)

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Peter David's epic tale, nearly a decade in the telling, draws to its close!

As the members of X-Factor recover from the Hell on Earth War, and Wolfsbane makes a life-changing decision, one of X-Factor's longest-held secrets is revealed: the truth about Longshot and Shatt erstar!

Plus, sibling rivalry erupts between Polaris and Quicksilver...and it's time to lock the doors and turn off the lights, as Jamie Madrox's detecti ve agency shuts down for good. Bid a fond farewell to Layla Miller, Strong Guy, M, Rictor and the rest. Believe it or not, it's the end of X-Factor!

COLLECTING: X-FACTOR 257-262

X-Factor, Vol. 21: The End of X-Factor Details

Date : Published January 7th 2014 by Marvel

ISBN : 9780785167013

Author : Peter David (Text) , Neil Edwards (Illustrations) , Leonard Kirk (Illustrations)

Format : Paperback 136 pages

Genre : Sequential Art, Comics, Superheroes, Marvel, Graphic Novels, X Men

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From Reader Review X-Factor, Vol. 21: The End of X-Factor for online ebook

Chantaal says

I bought the final issue of X-Factor the day it came out, but didn't touch it for months, because I was in denial.

Denial that it was actually over. Denial that my favorite character, Siryn/Banshee, would most likely be relegated to Marvel limbo despite her being a god now. Denial that the book was ending after a run of stories I didn't enjoy as much as I have past X-Factor runs.

This version of X-Factor was my gateway drug into the Marvel universe, and it will always hold a special place in my heart, but not even nostalgia could get me to rate it higher than three stars. I disliked the way the team worked after Lorna and Alex joined it, I disliked the way some of the relationships evolved, and I especially disliked (view spoiler). Just thinking about it makes me angry on so many levels.

I will probably re-read the earlier volumes when I'm missing Siryn something fierce, and also to wash away the taste of later volumes. (Shatterstar was the last and best addition to the team, end of discussion. And we do not speak of Darwin. Ever.)

Christina Nightengale says

Great art! I enjoyed the end of this series I loved! It is now one of my all time favorite runs! <3 Poor Wolfsbane! Her, Layla and Jamie's story felt done and wrapped up well! I want more Rictor and Shatterstar! They are a wonderful couple! I want more Longshot too! Love how Polaris gave it to Quicksilver! Hehehe! Poor Monet! I want her to find some happiness. Darwin's ending is fascinating. I want more of Terry as the Goddess of the Banshees! That look is AMAZING! It'd be cool to see more Guido too, especially given his ending.

Tomás says

Esperaba un final un poco más épico, pero de todas maneras me convenció. David termina de atar un par de cabos sueltos y nos cuenta que pasa con cada uno de los integrantes luego de la batalla con Mefisto. En un momento de la historia tira el pie para el excelente pero cortito "All New X-Factor" y cierra la historia de Madrox, personaje que va a estar caracterizado por David indefectiblemente en mi imaginario si me lo encuentro en algún otro libro mutante.

Disfruté mucho de esta serie, a pesar de haberla leído de manera desordenada, comprando los tomos cada tanto y tratando de ser lo más regular posible cuando el tiempo me lo permitía.

Serie que nunca tuvo la repercusión que debería haber tenido pero que vale la pena cada una de sus páginas. Peter David nos demuestra que sus épocas de gloria no quedaron a fines de los 80-transcurso de los 90.

Shannon Appelcline says

An excellent finale for X-Factor. It doesn't have the big scope of many of X-Factor's stories, but these personal tales show off how well David knows his characters.

The Rahne story is terrific and leaves her in a great, totally appropriate place; I hope it's respected by future writers.

The Shatterstar and Rictor story is a fun take on Longshot and Shatterstar's origins.

The Polaris story is one of my favorites, because it shows off how deranged and villainous she really is.

The Monet and Darwin story was the most "meh", but at least David corrects some of the damage to Darwin's character.

The book-end Layla and Madrox stories are terrific. This is another one where I love the ending and I hope future writers respect it.

Matthew Ledrew says

A lot of short one-off stories cluing up all the different storylines remaining from the X-Factor crew. Some are better than others but each is good, with special props to the chapters starring Madrox and Layla, and the chapter on Mojoworld (we finally have some concrete answers we've been looking for!)

David shows off his done-in-one skills show off here and shows that he can survive in the old-school single issue-based stories AND in the more modern, drawn-out style. But while each story is good, they don't mix into much of significance.

Alan says

In the afterword author Peter David says his editors and he spoke about how many issues he would need to conclude the series as it was being cancelled. He asked for six issues, and for once Marvel gave the creative staff the chance to wrap up a title. David does lead into the newly resurrected X-Factor title but more importantly...

Everyone's stories are wrapped up in, I think, a satisfying manner. Not just Madrox and Layla, but Rhane, Rictor, Shatterstar, Monet, and a pleasant return by John Madrox. A writer whom David has expressed admiration for is Joss Whedon, a man who himself is very good at concluding a series. David emulates Whedon in many ways in this finale.

Eric Mikols says

All done. After a long run that took me even longer to read, one of the most consistent mutant-titles that was the least concerned with mutants is over. As a whole, the series is great and an instant recommendation. The final volume wraps things up too quickly for my tastes and it's a bit unsatisfying, but, again, there's more than a hundred issues in this run and I can't remember a time I wasn't entertained throughout. So long, X-Factor!

Tundextra says

6 stories telling where the X-Factor team members ended up after the Hell on Earth War. A systematic closing storylines after 10 years of Peter David playing with these characters. Sorry, mundane dialogue spoils this final arc, after so many years of great stuff. 5 out of 12.

Craig says

Continuing the great x-read of 2017/18...

I am so sad to see this series go. Peter David is absolutely one of the best writers that the x-books have ever had and despite some problems here and there, I freaking loved this series.

The ending is a little unsatisfying (as these kinds of things often are) but PAD got a chance to give each character a little bit of closure.

I sort of hate where a couple of characters' arcs went (Guido and Siryn) but I am happy with where the rest were left for the most part.

It's bittersweet and I'm not sure if I would rather leave these characters where they are or immediately see them in other books so that I won't miss them so.

Fugo Feedback says

Se me terminó nomás una de mis series mutantes favoritas de todos los tiempos y cierra con un final satisfactorio pero que está lejos de los picos de calidad que supo alcanzar. En parte es culpa del mediocre dibujo, eso seguro, pero así como el tomo anterior se me hizo largo, este se me hizo corto y algo ligerito. La mayoría de los personajes se despiden con la frente en alto y la dignidad casi intacta, y eso me sirve de consuelo hasta que los agarren otros guionistas menos empáticos, pero eso es otro tema.

Ahora, a esperar el todo-nuevo pero enseguida-cancelado Factor-X, que al menos en cuanto a la premisa y estética general me llama bastante la atención.

Emmett Spain says

A lukewarm ending for this X-Factor fan.

It was great how Peter David took 5 issues to really try and tie up the major character moments, but for every nice moment there was a lingering feeling that major elements were left untended, and the resolutions didn't really resolve anything.

Like Longshot and Shatterstar and Rictor. They've been sent into the past on Mojoworld, and they have to travel into the future because of cloning and unexplained weirdness, and then that's it? What happens to

them after that? Never explained or even hinted at.

And then there's the nice tie up to Rahne, but Guido doesn't even get a mention? And Madrox & Layla get a nice tie up, but Polaris is an insane drunk now and starting up a new X-Factor outfit? What the hell is this?

I put this down and felt very lukewarm at what I had just been presented. It was an average end to a series which has been a great read, but given how it petered out in the final furlong, it was probably time for it to end.

I'm grateful for the experience that was the entire 21 volume run. It was weird, wonderful, funny, heartfelt, ridiculous, witty, and like nothing else on the stands. Occasionally it faltered, but in the great looking back, I'll remember this long run quite fondly.

Tokio Myers says

This is a whole series review soooooo.....

All in all I would give X-Factor four stars. I loved almost all of the characters and what became of them. The series just felt slow in parts or rushed especially at the end. The ending felt like "oh Snapple we got to end this ride" which is okay but not in a series that started off so strong and X-factor did start out strong. The best part for me was the beginning when everything was fun and Layla Miller wasn't fighting her fate. The end of the series wasn't bad by any means, come on Shatterstar and Longshot joined the team, its bound to be an awesome adventure and it was. I couldn't stop laughing when these guys were in the same panel.

All in all would recommend to the Marvel fan.

Martin says

Since I started reading this X-Factor run years ago, I'd always looked forward to the *next* collected edition. I didn't always love the storylines, but I liked them enough to hang on and keep coming back. The last few trade paperbacks were up and down, with X-Factor: Hell on Earth War really not hitting the mark for me. So it was with a mixture of anticipation and... a little sadness maybe, that I dove into this last volume, aptly named 'The End Of X-Factor'.

It's never easy to end a series, whether it's a book or a TV show, because it will never be good enough to please everybody, and there will always be criticisms that some things could've been done better. Try as I might to not fall into that trap, I know it's just as impossible, but I'll try and be positive about it.

The individual stories at least all have something in common, and that is that the 'endings' they provide for the different characters are appropriate. Rahne's ending, especially, was touching. The Shatterstar/Longshot/Rictor story was way out there, but was a natural fit with the X-Universe's convoluted (and sometimes laughably ridiculous) time-travel stories. The very last story gave us a nice ending for Madrox and Layla, who will soon be parents. Aw shucks!

Now for the things this collection *didn't* do: [1] Strong Guy is still 'Lord of Hell' (or something), and there's no way Marvel will leave it like that; [2] there are still some questions Peter David didn't answer in regards to his run (and I'd mentioned this in my review of X-Factor: Hell on Earth War), such as « Who/What is

Mr. Tryp », « If Madrox isn't really a mutant, then what is he? »; there are quite a few more things that could've been cleared up, and if/when I re-read the whole run, I might keep a list of 'plot points/questions' and check off the ones that get explained.

All in all, as far as endings go, this one's alright. I will miss this series.

Mina MacLeod says

I have to admit, I feel a bit cheated: the impending End of X-Factor tripped all kinds of emotional sensors in me. I loved this run, and had been invested in it almost since the beginning. So when PAD announced it was ending, for good, I was very disappointed. When it was all over--and everyone was given closure--it took, what, a month before they announced X-Factor was returning in 2014? With PAD.

Playing with my heartstrings aside, I'm really happy we got the ending arc we did. The team got closure, questions were answered, and overall it was a happy ending. Confession: in all these years, I never decided if I liked Layla or not. I don't even know why I'm so undecided about her.

I'm looking forward to seeing where the next run takes us.

Gayle Francis Moffet says

I've been putting off this last arc for months because X-Factor was one of my favorite monthlies, and when it was announced it was going to stop, I couldn't bring myself to read the end.

I have, finally, and the end is pretty damned good. David was smart to split it issues between the X-Factor members, and every issue provides a good sense of closure (even if a couple open up what I can only assume are the original start points for the new volume currently being published.)

The Shatterstar and Richtor issue is delightfully brain-breaking. Rhane's issue was not what I expected but exactly where she needed to be. Darwin and Monet's issue felt a little off-the-wall, but not in a bad way, and in the end, the story closes on Jamie and Layla, as it should, and it's a nice, soft ending to a book that was consistently very enjoyable.
