



The New Phoenix Force (1 of 1)

Featuring the X-men

Previously

The X-men have their work cut out, with a full on breakout of mutant prisoners Charles Xavier and the X-men are hard at work controlling the chaos. But all is not well, as Jean Grey has been experiencing bad headaches, which can affect her psychic powers, can the X-men keep everything under control?

Scene 1

New York Harbour, 23rd October 05:00 EDT

Nightcrawler, Wolverine, Cyclops, Shadowcat and Iceman are fighting against Quicksilver, Toad, Blob, Domino and Avalanche, Quicksilver runs at Nightcrawler, but he shifts out of the way, Domino fires at Shadowcat, but her shots continue to go straight through her

Shadowcat: And I heard you never miss (she punches Domino backwards, meanwhile Wolverine fights against Avalanche, who manages to knock him backwards by creating a seismic wave that knocks all of the X-men down, with the exception of Shadowcat, who was shifting, the other X-men quickly recover, Cyclops blasts at Toad, but does nothing)

Cyclops: Logan, how about we switch? (He blasts Avalanche backwards whilst Wolverine jumps and kicks the Blob in the face, knocking him to the ground, Wolverine has his claws right up against his head)

Wolverine: Are you gonna surrender, or are there gonna be 3 holes in your head? (Domino is knocked to the ground by Shadowcat, Quicksilver charges at Nightcrawler, but Nightcrawler disappears and a sheet of ice, laid by Iceman during his fight with the Toad trips him up and knocks him to the ground, Nightcrawler appears in front of him and punches him unconscious, Toad is running away but Iceman is pursuing on a sheet of ice)

Iceman: Seriously, I could do this all day

Toad: But I can't (he opens a manhole with his tongue, but before he can throw it away, Iceman freezes him to it, a band of police arrive)
Wolverine: Where do you think they're being taken? Way I hear it, no prison on the planet is operational yet.
<Professor X>: That is the least of your concerns right now, return to the mansion, quickly

Scene 2

Xavier Institute, 05:35 EDT

The team arrive back at the mansion, and are greeted by Beast

Cyclops: How is she?
Beast: She may well be getting worse but she's being kind of shy about it, which is unusual for her. Perhaps if you talk to her... (Cyclops nods and walks away) her psychic abilities are getting out of control. I know it's not nice to think about this but she could present a danger
Wolverine: And if it comes to that we'll have to take her out
Shadowcat: Come on, she's our friend, she'll never try and hurt us, how could we be thinking of such an option?
Beast: You've not seen what I have

<Flashback>

1 hour ago

Professor X is trying to calm Jean telepathically, but she is struggling

<Charles>: Jean, you need to calm down (her eyes begin to set on fire)
Jean: (With the voice of Surtur) she is beyond your help, Xavier; she will soon be in my total control. Her connection to the Phoenix force made it easy.
<Charles>: Jean, you are not beyond help, help me help you, fight it
Jean: (Her eyes return to normal, and she talks in her own voice) I'm trying Professor, he's just too strong (tears begin to fall down her face) tell Scott I love him, please.

<End of Flashback>

Iceman: What's a Phoenix force?
Beast: I've been trying to research it, but the only thing I've found is a reference to the 'Hellfire club'
Nightcrawler: And the 'Hellfire club' is
Beast: I'm not sure, all I found is a name (Logan begins snarling) you've heard of them?
Wolverine: Yeah, I've heard of them, they're a group of rich mutants who try and manipulate events to satisfy their own goals.
Beast: Maybe we should pay them a visit.

Scene 3

The Hellfire club, 07:00 EDT

4 members of the Hellfire club are having breakfast together

Emma Frost: We're about to have company (there is a knock at the door)

<Emma>: Come in, X-men (the X-men enter)

Emma: Welcome, what do we owe this... unexpected pleasure?

Beast: What do you know about the Phoenix force?

Sebastian: Has the next host been discovered?

Wolverine: Just tell us what you know, bub

Sebastian: When our reality merged with this one, it was believed that all of the beings on our world that were copies of beings from the reality we merged with were killed. That is not the case with the Phoenix

Wolverine: You mean to say that there are two of them?

Emma: They were so vastly different in nature; I don't think they were recognised as one of the same.

Nightcrawler: What happened to them?

Sebastian: The Phoenix of their Earth was a creature formed of fire that could exist outside a human body but had a parasitic relationship with a human body. It was absorbed into a human that could contain it; I'm not even sure his name. The Phoenix of our Earth has existed throughout history, manifesting itself through telepaths of the ages, enhancing their powers until it's strong enough to release itself. When it releases itself, it causes the death of hundreds.

Wolverine: How do we stop it?

Sebastian: Your only chance is to kill the host, before the Phoenix matures (the Earth begins to shudder, they look out the window and see the Xavier institute go up in a mushroom cloud) and I'd hurry, time is running out (Nightcrawler grabs each of the team and transports them away) this will play out exactly as we planned

Scene 4

Xavier institute, 07:50 EDT

They return to the burning cinders of the mansion, Wolverine tries to find a scent

Wolverine: Charles and Scott, they're gone, I can smell their burning flesh. Can't smell Jean, she must've gotten out.

Shadowcat: How did anyone get out of that?

Jean: With the Phoenix, of course

Shadowcat: Jean? This isn't you, fight it

Jean: It's not me. It's the new and improved me. I am the Phoenix (she unleashes a wave of fire at the X-men, Wolverine is knocked backwards, Shadowcat allows the fire to pass straight through her, Iceman creates an ice shield

around himself to block the attack, and Nightcrawler shifts past the blast but Beast is hit)

Shadowcat: Hank! (Wolverine quickly recovers, as Shadowcat tries to do chest compressions) he's not breathing

Wolverine: He's dead, Kitty but we have bigger things to worry about (they look on as Nightcrawler and Iceman battle the Phoenix) if there's any chance of saving her, we need to stop her first (he draws out his claws and charges in)

Shadowcat: Goodbye Hank (she looks to Jean angrily as she easily knocks Wolverine back again, she phases through the ground, she comes back through the ground close to Jean but as she's about to lay down her hit, Jean levitates her into the air) look around you, we're your friends, Jean, you're killing us!

Jean: (In Surtur's voice) Jean Grey is gone (she holds her telepathically whilst forcing fire into her veins, she lets Shadowcat go, dead)

Iceman: KITTY! (Iceman throws a bunch of ice daggers at Jean but none of them touch her, Jean summons fire demons, and they attack, as Iceman and Nightcrawler struggle to fight them, Wolverine slices through them with his claws easily, he approaches, Jean tries to force him away with telekinesis)

Wolverine: It's becoming difficult, isn't it, trying to force this girl to use all her powers at once, must be taking a toll (he manages to power forward in spite of being pushed back by telekinesis) you haven't even got the strength to lift me in the air, she is fighting you (he pushes forward and puts his claws around her neck) Jean, listen to me, you are not a killer, you're not to blame for the bodies that have dropped but if you can't help us help you, these won't be the last. Charles, Hank, Kitty, Scott (Jean looks at him) help us and fight it (her eyes begin to return to their normal selves)

Jean: Logan (Wolverine releases his grip) listen, I can't fight him much longer, there's only one way this can end and you're the only one of them that would do it (the fire demons smash through Iceman's shield) do it, please

Wolverine: You've been a brave soldier (he drives his claws through Jean's chest, killing her) rest well. (The fire demons disappear)

Iceman: Jean?

Wolverine: I'll did what I had to do, I can live with that, which is unlike 4 of us are, can you? (The Phoenix force ejects itself from Jean's body and burns up)

Scene 5

The Hellfire Club, 09:00 EDT

Sebastian: As we predicted, the X-men took out the Phoenix and lost a number of good men in the process.

Emma: They're vulnerable, we should make our move against them

Sebastian: No, the X-men may be vulnerable but we'd be up against it with all the escaped convicts running around. We wait out this war and once it is over, we will find the prime time to strike.