



## X-Men Origins

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Witness the very first adventures of your favorite mutants! From the moment Professor Xavier arrived on her doorstep, young Jean Grey knew things would change forever. But she was never prepared for how strange life at the Xavier Institute could be - or just how dangerous she truly was. Will she be able to harness her budding powers in time to prove herself a hero? Or will the ghosts of her past haunt her forever? Then, Hank McCoy never wanted to be different - and for a young mutant with a genius-level brain, camouflage comes easy. But only until a psychopathic terrorist with a god delusion kidnaps his father, and his life is brought into irrevocable confrontation with Charles Xavier and the X-Men. Also, the origin of fan-favorite X-Man Colossus is finally revealed. Deep in the wastes of Siberia, young Piotr Rasputin discovers his mutant abilities - and becomes the newest target of the ruthless KGB! Plus, Wolverine! Collects X-Men Origins: Colossus, Jean Grey, Beast, Wolverine, Sabretooth, and Gambit.

## X-Men Origins Details

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Mike Carey (Text) , Sean McKeever (Text) , Christopher Yost , Craig Kyle , Trevor Hairsine ,  
Author : J.K. Woodward , Mike Mayhew , David Yardin (Illustrator) , more... Hraim Roberson  
(Illustrator) ...less

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# From Reader Review X-Men Origins for online ebook

## KK says

grrrrr i really hate this "every comic must have different artwork"

Colosus, Wolverine and Gambit had awesome artwork. Jean and Beast were like repainted photographs so they look like comics. Beside the two uglies, i really enjoyed them all. Wolverine and Gambit will forever be my favorite characters.

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## Eman says

The book contains 6 characters' Origin stories, namely Wolverine, Jean Grey, Colossus, Sabretooth, Gambit, and Beast (not necessarily in that order).

The artworks are good, but what I don't get is the different costume designs for each story even though they are all part of a same book (I know they are done by different artists and writers and all but you know what I mean). And the stories are somewhat confusing, you can't even tell if they are all in the same continuity, or just randomly written with no connection whatsoever to each other and then combined in a book.

The most confusing Origin story in my opinion is Gambit's. I can't even tell what is happening and why. I might try rereading this book again but I'm not sure if I want to pick it up again. Lucky I got this book at a bargain price (less than 3 dollars).

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## Jedi Sunni says

I thought that this was definitely a book worth reading with some stories better than others. I loved the Colossus story, Jean Grey was good as well. The Beast was above average. Sabretooth story was kind of weak to me not much depth to the character. The Wolverine was pretty good as well with some good plot points. The Gambit story was just weird and uninteresting to me. Lastly the variety of art work is what makes book, I love when comics give us versatility. My rating for this issue is a 3.9 out of 5.0.

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## May says

Like any anthology, you will have some strong stories and some weak stories. Unfortunately, this volume had weak ones (Beast and Sabretooth), really weak ones (Wolverine and Gambit) and some potentials (Colossus and Jean Grey). Part of the problem stems from the fact that the stories were allotted only so much space that in a few cases, the storyline wasn't very well developed and too confusing to put together (Wolverine). Character development was also a problem for a few of them, especially Sabretooth. Other than having his parents chaining him up for most of his childhood, I'm not really sure where all of Sabretooth's anger stems from. Seems to me, there is more there that could have been explored by the writer but the focus in this story was Sabretooth's complex nature with Wolverine. Frankly, the way that the two stories merged got a little confusing and would only make some sense if you saw the *X-Men Origins: Wolverine* movie. The

Beast storyline was interesting but didn't explain to me how he became the blue furry guy we have come to know and love. In the story, McCoy is simply portrayed as a really beefy guy. Gambit's story had some potential but similar to the Beast's story, was lacking in its execution. In my opinion, only Colossus' and Jean Grey's stories were better developed than the others. You get a sense of things to come with these characters especially Jean's where she is portrayed as a youngster struggling to control her incredible powers but there is a tiny part of her that seems to crave the dark side.

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### **Sandra says**

Jean Grey have always been my favorite XMEN character! The way they showed her story made me love her more. :) The graphics were amazing and so are the dialogues. I REALLY REALLY LOVED IT!

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### **J. says**

About half of these are solid or add some interesting bits of background. The other half are basically just retelling things we already know. A so-so collection.

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### **Daniel Perlino says**

I liked this, but I didn't love it. In other words, I enjoyed reading it, but I wouldn't say it was profound. My favorite inclusion was Jean Grey's origin story mainly because I liked the artwork a lot. Although we've seen and/or heard of all of these stories before, it was nice to have them retold and collected in this volume. Additionally, I liked that they had different art styles because it served to further the notion that the same story can be told in many different ways. Overall, this is a nice comic to have in one's collection, but I wouldn't say its a landmark addition to the X-Men universe.

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### **Nicolo Yu says**

I never thought I'd have the chance to scope out a Booksale branch in Davao City. I've exhausted all the bargain graphic novels in all the Booksale branches in Cagayan de Oro; I wanted a chance to try other branches beyond my city. A recent training tri sponsored by my school came at the right time. I found a few trades and this is my first review of a book from my haul.

**X-Men Origins** is a collection of one shots featuring the back stories of six X-Men characters who figure prominently in the X-Men movie trilogy. The stories are self-contained, so having a different creative team for every issue works for it, giving each origin story a unique visual sense that more or less fit the character on the spotlight. It picks a modern setting for its stories, yet still picks up on the stories from its decades long continuity.

For this collection I'll do a bunch of mini-reviews, done in the order they appear in the book.

**Colossus.** Trevor Hairsine's art reminds of Bryan Hitch's style, especially the way he renders his figures.

Hairsine's has an edgier feel to it that makes it appropriate for a story set in bleak, rural Siberia.

**Jean Grey.** This is the best story in this collection. Though the story is similar to the one I read in a collection of X-Men First Class one-shots, it is Mike Mayhew's art that puts it over the top. Mayhew has an Alex Ross-like gift of rendering photorealistic characters on paper and pencil. But the best skill Mayhew is drawing beautiful women and he tops Ross in that department. His rendition of Jean Grey makes it easy to believe that the original X-Men were falling head over heels trying to catch her attention and win her heart.

**Beast.** J.K. Woodward handled the art in this issue and his colors give it a painted look and a period feel. His art manages to make Beast dynamic which fits the character since aside from his genius intellect; Hank McCoy's mutant power of strength and agility is very physical.

**Sabretooth.** I thought this would be the weakest story, since it has art from 90's stalwart Dan Panosian, but it works surprisingly well, as his art is raw and action-packed, suited to the feral nature of Victor Creed.

**Wolverine.** I thought this could have been done better. It has Mark Texeira, a former regular *Wolverine* artist on board. Taken as it is, it is just a rehash of old Wolverine stories before he joined the X-Men.

**Gambit.** David Yardin and Ibraim Roberson work well together as a tandem on this chapter. I am familiar with Gambit's origin and I really like how writer Mike Carey fleshes out his origin, especially those tales that were referred to, but I've never actually read before in an X-Men book.

This is a great book to have for reference on these characters. It has solid stories and fits in well with the established continuity of the characters.

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## Greta is Erikasbuddy says

This probably wasn't the best X-men book for me to read because quite frankly even though I was learning about their ORIGINS I still got confused about what on earth was happening.

I figured this book would be the BEGINNING of everyone and while it kinda sorta was it wasn't really.

The reason I gave this book 2 stars and not 1 (it's not bad! It just confused me) is because Sabertooth's story was awesome.

Wolverine's is ok but it didn't go into the detail that I wanted.

Although, I'll always be with JD on this one:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z8XAzi...>

Sure, it's probably not a good reason to love him but lolz... ummm... yeah... it's a good reason. Don't judge me.

That's also the reason I requested this book from the library. My hubz and I saw the latest X-men movie and he said something about Wolverine and I thought something else and I thought this book would clear it up.

While it did (he was right) it still left me with many questions. I probably need to get an Origins book that focuses solely on Wolverine.

Also, OMG... what the HECKLES was the GAMBIT story. He's like my favy fav and it just left me going "WHAT WAS THAT?"

I do however have a couple of comic books from the 90s that were like this Origins book that just focused on him. I think I'll stick with those. I kinda wish that Rogue was in here but I'm sure she's in another.

In my opinion I didn't dig this but you might like it. It was missing lots of OOMPH to make me happy :)

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## **Joe says**

A fun look back at some of our favorites.

A change in some, yet a interesting look.

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## **Xavier Guillaume says**

I'll review *X-Men Origins* and *X-Men Origins II* together since they're so similar.

*X-Men Origins* covers a wide array of X-Men characters, but don't expect it to be like the movie versions of *X-Men Origins*, which follows a continuous story. No, these are short vignettes that only give a small dose of the origins of these characters. Each character might have many different kinds of powers, from the ability to turn into steel or the ability to kill a person by giving them a massive migraine, but they all have one thing in common: they are all persecuted by man and driven to do things they don't want to do.

It's ironic that man deems himself better than mutants because he is human, and yet man displays the least amount of humaneness in these books. So we have mutants who are tortured, persecuted, ostracized, and hated simply because they are different.

The only mutant in these books who doesn't show an inkling of humanity is Sabretooth, who has a psychotic urge to kill anyone he deems worth killing. Of course, we learn his story of how he was badly abused by his father, but yet it is obvious that there is nothing worth saving in him. This makes him an intriguing character indeed, and I feel like that's why a lot of the other reviewers loved his story the most; but the idea of Sabretooth goes against the ideas of the rest of the story that try to portray humans as worse than mutants. In Sabretooth's story I feel that he goes against this idea because he is worse than humans, and although I can sympathize with his past, it's simply impossible to see any salvageable piece of humanity left in him. He is pure animal, which does make an interesting foil to Wolverine, who also has many animalistic qualities, but also has the sense of mind to hold back.

Some might argue that Emma Frost is another mutant in these books that go against the X-Men idea that humans are not better than mutants; however, I find it a lot easier to sympathize with her character than Sabretooth, and I definitely cannot cast her to the side as a simple animal. The fact of the matter is that Emma Frost could possibly be redeemed by Charles Xavier. The opportunity is out there. This seems unlikely with Sabretooth; however, with Emma Frost, it seems she cannot get over her past with her father,

so it is difficult for her to move on and become a healthy, loving, humane mutant.

Overall, with Emma Frost I greatly appreciated her story, especially since the publishers of this book decided to include the original *The Uncanny X-Men* (1963) #131. I loved, loved, loved this as it shows part of Emma Frost's character as seen in the original comic. I almost wish they decided to add some more issues like this that covers the origins of some of the other characters, so that it follows something like a new adaptation, original issue, new adaptation, original issue format.

The only other original issue they added in these books is the one of Nightcrawler; however, I greatly liked the new adaptation 100 times more than the original issue (*Giant-Size X-Men* #1), which was lackluster at best. Perhaps this shows the amazingness of the new version of Nightcrawler's origin, which I absolutely loved, and might be my favorite of all of them, or it might be because the original issue, *Giant-Size X-Men* #1, is simply not that great. Regardless, I loved, loved, loved Nightcrawler's story in these books. Perhaps I am biased because Nightcrawler was always my favorite character growing up, and I would almost always play as Nightcrawler in the 1989 NES game *The Uncanny X-men*, but I most definitely loved Nightcrawler's story and his relationship with his foster mother and the priest. I have to admit that I was getting a little emotional while reading it.

As for other honorable mentions, I absolutely loved the style of Jean Grey's Origins. I believe the writer and artists did a fantastic job delving into Jean Grey's mind because the art style felt very much like a dream, so I as a reader felt like I was in her head seeing what she was seeing and experiencing what she was experiencing. Perhaps the only flaw is a very discombobulating image of Jean Grey's sister's head, which seems very detached and freakishly ginormous.

And last but not least there is Deadpool's origins. I find this story most intriguing because I didn't grow up reading or watching Deadpool, so I knew close to nothing about his character. In fact, I had no idea what his powers even entailed except that he was some sort of ninja/assassin/murderer. All in all, I think the way they set up his character as being a premise to a new Deadpool movie is fantastic! This literary technique really gives me a taste of his character, and it works remarkably well for him to be able to tell his story with flashbacks in an interview fashion.

I'll have to say that Deadpool is definitely one of the most interesting X-Men villains whom I've come across. I think it's because, when I read his story, I was left wondering if he was a villain or a hero. In a way, Deadpool is very similar to Dexter who loses his humanity, but still decides to do good along the way, even if that good in his head is through killing. In Dungeons and Dragons terms, Deadpool seems like he would be Chaotic Neutral, which makes an interesting change of pace from the typical villains, such as Sabretooth, who are simply Chaotic Evil, or Magneto's character who is Lawful Evil.

I do recommend this book to fans of the X-Men series who are interested in learning more about these characters. I believe the author takes some creative licensing for some of the characters, which might confuse some readers, who are used to the original story line; however, I must say I find the stories very appealing, especially due to their emotional content. The only story I am not too fond of is Wolverine's but that is only because I have heard his story a half a dozen times in different comics, TV shows, and movies, so it feels a tad bit tiresome. Other than that, I greatly like these books.

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**Mark says**

As the title suggests, this book collects stories of the X-men before they were X-men. Included are Sabretooth, Wolverine, Beast, Jean Grey and others.

Fans will be familiar with most of the stories but there are few minor surprises. While the art is good, the stories might be best suited for new readers.

Notes

Professor X is kinda...creepy.

Learning Curve

Low: Good for new readers

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### **Steven Shinder says**

This is a fascinating collection of X-Men origin stories. The story of Colossus shows how much he wishes to protect those whom he loves. Then we see how Jean Grey feels like she is missing a component of herself after a tragic accident and before joining the X-Men. In a sad tale, Hank McCoy (Beast) tries to be normal, but ends up giving in to his abnormalities to save his parents, who, along with everyone else Hank knows, lose their memories of him thanks to Professor Xavier, who recruits Hank. Sabertooth is shown to have been a sadist since he was a minor, even killing his own family and getting in many fights with Wolverine later on. This is a good segue for Wolverine's story. His origin had already been told in Origin, which is glimpsed briefly in a flashback. Wolverine is shown working for Department H until he meets Professor Xavier, who helps him realize that he is not just an animal. The final story is about Gambit and a conflict with assassins. The artwork is very astonishing, adding an attractive layer to this compilation of informative stories.

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### **Adrián Yoguez says**

Me gustaron mucho las historias de Emma y de Jean, la de Deadpool fue muy divertida y la de Cíclope fue muy interesante.

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### **Emelie says**

Because this graphic novel takes a form where each chapter is a different story, it's a little hard to get into the flow of it. Every chapter explains the origin of one of the members of the X-Men series, but cuts off quiet abruptly after a couple of pages, moving on to the next superhero. However, I enjoyed that every chapter is illustrated in a different style. Some characters are drawn in a relatively realistic fashion while others are drawn in a more traditional manga-style. Though it was hard to follow the story when the novel would jump from one hero to another, I think it might have been a good thing as it kept the story fresh and fun, and it was hard to get bored when you were being introduced to new characters and environments every couple of pages. I really enjoyed this graphic novel, however I wouldn't recommend it to somebody who doesn't plan on reading any other X-Men comics. Because we are only briefly introduced to the background of each hero, it's almost essential to continue reading future graphic novels involving the X-Men to truly appreciate 'X-Men Origins'.



