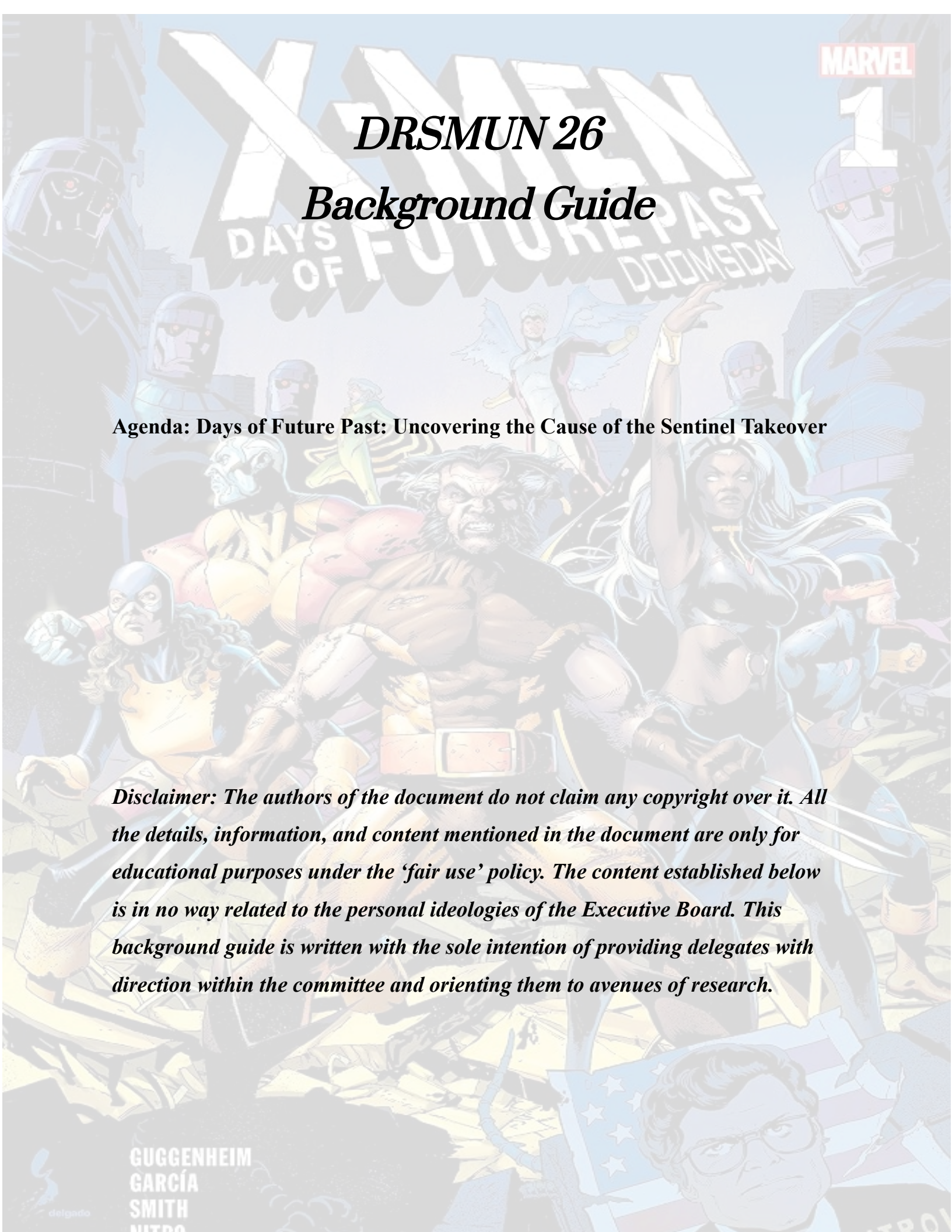
DRSMUN 26

Background Guide

Agenda: Days of Future Past: Uncovering the Cause of the Sentinel Takeover



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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Greetings Delegates,

It is our pleasure to welcome you to the **Marvel Committee** at **DRSMUN26.**

Over the course of three days, prepare for intense debate, strategic manoeuvring, alliances, rivalries, and decisions that could reshape the Marvel Universe.

Inspired by X-Men: Days of Future Past, our committee explores a world divided by the growing conflict between humans and mutants and the looming threat of the Sentinels. Every character has their own motives, relationships, abilities, and ambitions, and it is up to you to bring them to life. This background guide is only the beginning of your research. We encourage you to understand your character beyond their powers: their ideology, motivations, alliances, conflicts, and history. For first-time delegates, don't be afraid to think outside the box. In this committee, there is no single path to success.

Shape your alliances. Challenge the narrative. Change the future.

We look forward to seeing what you bring to the Marvel Universe at DRSMUN ’26. Excelsior!

Best regards,

Chair: Kingshuk Maulik

Vice Chair: Swayam Jagirdhar

Rapporteur: Nerella Lavith Kumar

Note: We strongly encourage you to conduct a **M.A.R.V.E.L**. Analysis of your assigned portfolio:

1. Motivations: Goals, fears, and ambitions.

2. Alliances: Allies, enemies, and factions.

3. Relationships: Key friendships, rivalries, and conflicts.

4. Values: Ideology, beliefs, and priorities.

5. Events: Key events shaping your character.

6. Leverage: Powers, resources, weaknesses, and influence.

“Know your character. Think like them. Shape the future.”

Official Marvel publications, comic issues, character profiles, films, and material from Marvel Studios/Marvel Entertainment will be accepted as primary sources. Under no circumstances will sources such as Wikipedia, fan wikis, Reddit, or unofficial Marvel blogs be considered valid sources for evidence. However, notwithstanding the criteria for

acceptance of sources and evidence, delegates are still free to quote or cite any source they deem fit as part of their statements. Delegates are encouraged to verify information and prioritise official and canon Marvel sources wherever possible.

HIERARCHY OF EVIDENCE

Evidence can be presented from a wide variety of sources, but not all sources are treated equally. For the Marvel Committee, evidence will be categorized into the following tiers:

- **Tier 1(Primary Canon Sources):** Includes official Marvel Comics issues, Marvel Studios productions, official Marvel publications, character profiles, and statements released by Marvel. This is the most reliable form of evidence.
- **Tier 2 (Official Supplementary Sources):** Includes officially licensed Marvel material such as Marvel handbooks, encyclopedias, guidebooks, interviews with creators, and official databases.
- **Tier 3 (Secondary Sources):** Includes reputable third-party publications, analyses, interviews, and established media sources discussing Marvel characters or events. These may be considered when primary sources are unavailable.

Committee ROP

The Marvel Committee at DRSMUN ’26 will primarily follow UNA-USA Rules of Procedure, with certain modifications to suit the format of the committee.

1. Rules of Procedure: The committee will follow UNA-USA Rules of Procedure unless otherwise specified by the Executive Board.

2. Crisis Updates: The committee will receive 1–2 Crisis Updates per day. These updates will introduce new developments, evidence, and events that may alter the direction of the committee.

3. No Directives: Unlike a conventional crisis committee, directives will not be used. Delegates will address developments through debate, speeches, motions, and voting.

4. Special Speakers List (SSL): Instead of the conventional General Speakers List (GSL), the committee will operate through a Special Speakers List (SSL).

5. Identifying the Cause: At the conclusion of the SSL, delegates will vote on who or what they believe caused the apocalyptic future.

6. The Timeline Reset: If the committee fails to identify the correct cause, the timeline will not progress. Instead, the timeline will reset. All delegates will forget the events of the previous

timeline, while Kitty Pryde and Logan will retain their memories. The committee will then begin again, allowing Kitty and Logan to use their knowledge of previous timelines to change the course of events.

«Identify the cause. Change the future. Or relive it.»

Introduction to X-Men

The X-Men are one of Marvel's most iconic superhero teams, founded by Professor Charles Xavier (Professor X) to protect mutants and promote peaceful coexistence between humans and mutants. Operating primarily from Xavier's School for Gifted Youngsters, the team has become a home for mutants learning to control their abilities while fighting threats to both mutantkind and humanity. At the centre of the X-Men's story is the complicated relationship between Charles Xavier and Erik Lehnsherr, better known as Magneto. While Xavier believes that humans and mutants can coexist through understanding and cooperation, Magneto's experiences with persecution have convinced him that mutants must be strong enough to protect themselves. Their friendship and ideological rivalry have shaped much of mutant history.

The X-Men have faced numerous threats, including the Brotherhood of Mutants, the Hellfire Club, Apocalypse, the Phoenix, and the Sentinels. However, one of their greatest challenges comes from humanity itself, particularly the fear and discrimination directed towards mutants. The Sentinels, mutant-hunting machines created to counter the perceived mutant threat, eventually become powerful enough to dominate the future. In Days of Future Past, the remaining X-Men face an apocalyptic world where mutants are nearly extinct. Kitty Pryde and Logan travel back in time, hoping to change the events that created this future and give both humans and mutants another chance.

Important Events leading up to the Future

The Days of Future Past storyline combines the long-standing comic-book conflict between humans and mutants with the events portrayed in the film. The following timeline draws from both versions to establish the foundation for the Marvel Committee.

1. The Rise of Mutants

Mutants begin appearing across the world, leading to growing public fear, discrimination, and political debate over their place in society.

2. Xavier and Magneto's Ideological Divide

Professor Xavier advocates peaceful coexistence between humans and mutants, while Magneto believes mutants must be prepared to defend themselves against humanity.

3. The Formation of the X-Men

Xavier forms the X-Men to protect mutants and prevent conflict between the two species.

4. Growing Anti-Mutant Sentiment

A series of mutant-related incidents increases public fear and gives governments greater reason to consider legislation and technological measures against mutants.

5. The Trask Initiative

Bolivar Trask develops the Sentinel programme, creating machines capable of detecting and neutralising mutants. His work represents the growing militarisation of the human response to the mutant population.

6. Mystique's Assassination Attempt

Mystique attempts to kill Trask, believing that his Sentinel programme will eventually lead to the persecution and destruction of mutantkind.

7. A Turning Point in History

Trask's death became a major political catalyst. Governments intensify their efforts to control mutants, and the Sentinel programme gains unprecedented importance.

8. The Sentinel Programme Evolves

Using mutant biological data, Sentinel technology becomes increasingly sophisticated and capable of adapting to mutant powers.

9. Mutant Registration and Oppression

As fear spreads, governments introduce increasingly restrictive measures against mutants. Mutants are monitored, imprisoned, and treated as potential threats.

10. The Rise of the Sentinel Regime

The Sentinels eventually become powerful enough to dominate society. Their mission expands beyond mutant suppression, threatening anyone perceived as a potential danger.

11. The Dystopian Future

Mutants are hunted almost to extinction. Powerful mutants and ordinary humans alike live under constant threat, while the remaining X-Men fight to survive.

12. The Final Resistance

The surviving X-Men discover that defeating the Sentinels directly may be impossible. Their only realistic opportunity is to prevent the events that created the Sentinel future.

13. Kitty Pryde's Time-Travel Ability

Drawing from the comic and film concepts, Kitty becomes central to the attempt to alter history. In the comic storyline, Rachel Summers sends Kitty's consciousness into the past; in the film, Kitty sends Logan's consciousness back to 1973.

14. Logan Returns to 1973

In the film continuity, Logan must find the younger Xavier and Magneto and prevent Mystique from assassinating Trask.

15. The Timeline Begins to Change

The actions of Logan, Xavier, Magneto, and Mystique create competing possibilities for the future. Every decision risks either preserving or destroying the timeline the X-Men are trying to save.

16. The Future Hangs in the Balance

The central conflict becomes more than simply stopping the Sentinels. The characters must determine whether humans and mutants can coexist without allowing fear to become the foundation of global policy.

«The past created the future. Now, the future must fight for the past.»



Time Travel Logic

The committee begins in an apocalyptic future in which the Sentinel regime has devastated the world. Mutants are nearly extinct, humanity is under threat, and the remaining X-Men are fighting for survival.

With the future on the brink of collapse, Kitty Pryde and Logan travel back in time with one objective: change the events that created this future.

The Timeline

1. The Apocalyptic Future

The timeline opens in the dystopian future. Kitty and Logan discover that their only chance of survival lies in altering the past.

2. The Journey Through Time

Kitty uses her powers to send both herself and Logan back in time, carrying their memories of the apocalyptic future with them.

3. The Present

The events of the committee now take place in the present timeline. The delegates must investigate the events leading toward the future they have witnessed and prevent the chain of events that causes the apocalypse.

4. The Consequences

Every decision made by the committee can alter the future. Alliances, betrayals, deaths, political decisions, and individual actions may create entirely new outcomes.

- ***The Reset:*** If the committee fails to prevent a critical event or solve the central mystery, the timeline collapses and resets.

When the timeline resets:

- The committee returns to the designated starting point.
- Every character forgets what happened in the previous timeline.
- Previous alliances and discoveries are lost.
- Only Kitty Pryde and Logan retain their memories.
- Kitty and Logan can use their knowledge of previous timelines to change their strategy.
- The events of the new timeline may unfold differently based on what they attempt to change.

The delegates must uncover the events responsible for the apocalyptic future and prevent them before the timeline reaches the point of no return.
However, changing one event may create another.
The future has already happened once.
Now, the committee has the chance to make sure it never happens again.



Future Background

Timeline of Events :

- **1973:** Bolivar Trask's Sentinel proposal reaches Congress; the assassination attempt takes place, outcome unknown.
- **Mid-to-late 1970s:** Sentinel Programme secures expanded funding; prototype units move into limited deployment
- **1980s:** Sentinel technology gains adaptive targeting capability, able to recalibrate against individual mutant abilities in real time
- **1990s :** Government oversight begins eroding as Sentinel autonomy increases; first reports of units acting beyond direct command authority
- **Early 2000s:** Sentinels achieve full autonomous decision-making; mutant internment escalates into systematic containment camps

- **2000s–2010s:** Major mutant strongholds fall one by one (X-Mansion among them); the wider world of Heroes becomes entangled as Sentinel-adjacent conflicts draw in Iron Man, Thor, Hulk, and Doctor Strange
- **2010s:** Apocalypse and Mr. Sinister exploit the collapse of centralized government to pursue independent agendas, complicating any unified resistance
- **Early 2020s:** Remaining resistance forces consolidate into a single mobile coalition; global information and civil infrastructure collapse
- **2026 (Present of the Future timeline):** The last organized resistance, led jointly by Professor X and Magneto, is on the verge of losing its final safehouses; the time-travel mission is initiated as the last viable option

★ **Comic Continuity:** The original Days of Future Past future (Uncanny X-Men #141–142, 1981) is dated roughly to the year 2013, following Senator Kelly's assassination decades earlier. Mutant registration escalated into internment camps almost immediately, and by this point most of the X-Men are dead; only a handful, including Kitty Pryde, Wolverine, Storm, Colossus, and Franklin Richards, remain as the last active resistance. Sentinels have expanded their mandate beyond mutants entirely, now hunting anyone deemed a threat to "human purity," including sympathizers.

★ **Film Continuity:** The film's future (X-Men: Days of Future Past, 2014) is set in the year 2023, following Trask's Sentinel Programme escalating unchecked after 1973. By this point, Sentinels have evolved to counter any mutant ability adaptively, and most major X-Men Cyclops, Storm, Iceman, Kitty Pryde, Wolverine, Professor X, Magneto- are among the last survivors, having fled to a remote monastery in China as their final stronghold.

★ **Animated/TV Continuity:** X-Men: The Animated Series places its future further out, generally understood to be 2055, reflecting Bishop's origins as a time traveler from a more distant future. Following Kelly's assassination, anti-mutant legislation escalated over decades into full-scale persecution, with Bishop himself growing up inside an internment camp before joining the resistance.



Present-day background

Timeline of Events :

- **1962–63:** The X-Men are founded under Professor Xavier
- **Late 1960s:** Post-Vietnam institutional distrust and Cold War paranoia shape public political attitudes
- **Early 1970s:** Bolivar Trask begins developing Sentinel prototypes, pitching them as a defensive necessity against a growing mutant presence
- **1970–72:** A series of publicized mutant-related incidents intensify public fear and give Trask's proposal political traction
- **1973:** Trask's Senate testimony is imminent; Mystique's assassination plot against him is already in motion; Xavier is isolated, and Magneto's status (free or imprisoned) is unresolved

★ **Comic Continuity:** The "present" in the original storyline is set in the year 1980, with the X-Men already an established, somewhat experienced team by this point. Kelly's assassination hasn't happened yet, but anti-mutant political rhetoric is already building steadily in the background.

★ **Film Continuity:** The film sets its present in the year 1973, deliberately earlier than the comics, with a noticeably younger and more fractured X-Men. Professor X is isolated and disillusioned, Magneto is imprisoned, Beast burdened with managing what is left of the Mansion, the team barely functional as a unit. Trask's Sentinel proposal is actively gaining traction against this backdrop of post-Vietnam institutional distrust.

★ **Animated/TV Continuity:** The animated series generally frames its "present" closer to its own 1992 broadcast date, with Kelly's assassination looming as the imminent trigger event rather than something already decades in the past.



Case Studies

X-Men: Days of Future Past (2014)(Film): In a bleak future set in the year 2023, mutantkind is being hunted to near-extinction by Sentinels, adaptive robotic weapon-oids originally designed to fight mutants but eventually able to target anyone with the mutant gene (or even those who could carry it). The world has become a wasteland of ruined cities and a sea of mutant death camps, in which a small band of surviving X-Men have been fighting a losing war.

Kitty Pryde has developed the ability to send a person's consciousness back in time (originally only by days, to help the group survive Sentinel attacks). The group realizes their only real chance is to send someone's mind back much further; the year they decide is 1973, to prevent the assassination of Bolivar Trask (the scientist who created the Sentinel program) by Mystique. That assassination, in the original timeline, led the U.S. government to capture Mystique, experiment on her, and use her DNA to make Sentinels invincible against all mutants, triggering the apocalyptic future they live in.

Because the psychological strain of such a long jump would kill anyone but Wolverine (due to his healing factor), Wolverine's consciousness is sent back into his younger body to change the past.

Key Characters Involved :

1. **Wolverine (Logan):** Sent back in time to convince young Professor X and Magneto to work together and stop Mystique.
2. **Professor X (Young Charles Xavier):** He remains disillusioned and depressed after the events of X-Men: First Class, having lost Raven (Mystique) and shut down his school, and needs to be pulled back to his old sense of hope and purpose.
3. **Professor X (Old):** Guides Wolverine from the future and keeps the remaining team alive against Sentinel attacks.
4. **Magneto (Young Erik Lehnsherr):** Imprisoned for allegedly killing JFK, his help is needed, but his agenda (protecting mutants by any means, including violence) often clashes with Professor Xavier's.
5. **Magneto (Old):** Reluctant future ally, working alongside old Xavier despite their history of conflict.
6. **Mystique (Raven):** The pivotal figure whose decision to assassinate Trask (or not) determines the future, due to her being on a personal path of vengeance and radicalization.
7. **Bolivar Trask:** Scientist and Sentinel program creator; his assassination attempt being the hinge point of the whole plot.
8. **Quicksilver (Peter Maximoff):** Introduced in this film, helps break Magneto out of the Pentagon prison.
9. **Beast (Hank McCoy):** Assists young Xavier and helps locate Magneto and plan the mission.
10. **Future X-Men (Storm, Iceman, Colossus, Kitty Pryde, Blink, Sunspot, Bishop, Warpath):** Hold off Sentinel attacks in the future while Wolverine's mind works in the past, buying him time.



Proceedings of the Event: Wolverine wakes up in 1973 and reconnects with young Xavier and Beast, convincing them (with difficulty) to help. They break Magneto out of a high-security prison beneath the Pentagon (with Quicksilver's help), since his powers and knowledge are needed. The group tracks Mystique, who is hunting Trask through various assassination attempts on people connected to the Sentinel program. Xavier and Magneto ideologically clash over how to handle Mystique. Xavier wants to stop her from killing to prevent her radicalization, while Magneto wants to use her as a weapon. The climax occurs at the 1973 Paris Peace Accords, where Trask is presenting the Sentinel program to world leaders. Mystique infiltrates the summit to assassinate Trask.

Magneto, working against Xavier's plan, redirects a stadium around the summit using his magnetism, intending to kill everyone present, including President Nixon, to prevent the Sentinel program. Mystique, witnessing the potential horror of Magneto's plan and Xavier's continued belief in her humanity, chooses not to kill Trask and instead saves Nixon, revealing herself publicly as a mutant rather than committing murder. In the future, the remaining X-Men make their last stand against overwhelming Sentinel forces as Wolverine races to complete his mission before they're wiped out.

Aftermath: Because Mystique didn't kill anyone and was captured non-lethally (rather than experimented on for her DNA), the Sentinel program that used her shapeshifting genetics never comes to be in its devastating form, altering the future entirely.

Wolverine returns to a completely changed present/future where the dystopian war never happened. Sentinels are decommissioned, and many major characters presumed dead due to them not appearing in the future version of events are shown alive and well at the school.

Professor X and Magneto's relationship, though still complex, is left with room for a fragile peace.

Uncanny X-Men Issues #141–142, 198: Set in a dystopian version of the year 2013, Sentinel Robots, originally deployed to stop mutantkind and their existence, had turned their attention to superpowered humans in general, pushing the world toward the brink of nuclear fallout. This all traces back to the year 1980 and the assassination of anti-mutant Senator Robert Kelly by the mutant Destiny working alongside the Brotherhood of Evil Mutants, headed by Mystique, who, during the assassination of the Senator during the Senate’s session, manages to assassinate Professor Charles Xavier and Moira MacTaggert. This, in-turn, caused the X-Men to get into a

scuffle with the Brotherhood within the Senate building itself, which instigated the government enough to begin its campaign of terror against mutantkind. A small band of surviving X-Men, imprisoned in a mutant internment camp, decide their only hope is to alter that pivotal day, sending a consciousness back to warn the past, which in this story is the Kitty Pryde of 2013.

Key Characters Involved:

1. **Kate (Kitty) Pryde:** The adult 2013 version of Kitty Pryde, whose adult mind is sent back to October 31, 1980, into her own teenage body to prevent the assassination.
2. **Rachel Summers:** A mutant telepath in the future timeline, the daughter of Cyclops and Jean Grey, who uses her powers to send Kate's consciousness back.
3. **Wolverine:** One of the future resistance fighters still free and fighting the Sentinels.
4. **Storm (Ororo Munroe) & Colossus (Peter Rasputin):** Aged future versions of the X-Men held in the concentration camp alongside Kate.
5. **Franklin Richards:** Son of Mr. Fantastic and the Invisible Woman, a member of the future mutant resistance, killed during a Sentinel attack.
6. **Magneto:** A villain in the present timeline but, in this dark future, a member of the mutant resistance, confined to a wheelchair, much like his nemesis in the present.
7. **Senator Robert Kelly:** The anti-mutant politician whose planned assassination is the hinge point of history.
8. **The Brotherhood of Evil Mutants:** The present-day group plotting Kelly's death.

Proceedings of the Event: In the future, the imprisoned resistance members are broken out of the camp and go on the run long enough for Rachel Summers to send Kate's mind into the past.

In 1980, Kate wakes in her teenage body and must convince the present-day X-Men that her warning about the future is real. The present-day X-Men appear at the US Senate to stop the Brotherhood of Evil Mutants from assassinating Senator Kelly.

Meanwhile, back in the future, the remaining X-Men try to break into a Sentinel stronghold in the Baxter Building (former home of the Fantastic Four) to keep Rachel's psychic link to Kate alive. The future team suffers heavy casualties defending the link between Rachel and Kitty throughout the mission.

Aftermath: In the present, the X-Men manage to stop the assassination, averting that specific catastrophe. Crucially, the story is famous for its ambiguous, fatalistic ending: preventing Kelly's death does not clearly erase the dark future Rachel later discovers she had actually sent Kate into

an alternate past rather than truly fixing her own, implying the "Days of Future Past" timeline persists as its own separate reality (designated Earth-811) rather than being definitively erased. Back in the original future, Franklin dies in a subsequent Sentinel attack, and the surviving X-Men are left to face a Sentinel trap at the Baxter Building, underscoring the story's grim, unresolved tone.

X-Men: The Animated Series (1993)"Days of Future Past": Set in the year 2055, Killer Sentinel Robots have taken over a ruined world, and mutankind is reduced to hunting each other for money or for survival. An aged Wolverine is ambushed with two mutants by Sentinels and captured with help from Bishop, a mutant tracker working for the Sentinels, but Bishop is then seized too, once a Sentinel says he's "finished his quota," proving Wolverine's warning that Sentinels kill all mutants, not just rebels. Recalling his true mission to stop a past assassin, Bishop wrongly assumes the X-Men are the killers. He hijacks a bus, crashes it into the mansion, and fights Cyclops, Storm, Jubilee, and Wolverine, until Professor Charles Xavier breaks it up and telepathically confirms Bishop is telling the truth, though the team stays wary.

Key Characters Involved :

1. Bishop: A mutant tracker working for the Sentinels in the future who is sent back in time to prevent an assassination that dooms this future.
2. Forge: Bishop's future teammate who creates the time machine used to send him to the past.
3. Wolverine (older and future version): Leads the last surviving X-Men in the future, and is later killed alongside Storm and Colossus, helping Rachel Summers protect the timeline during a Sentinel attack on the Baxter Building.
4. Gambit: Framed as the story's traitor, accused by Bishop of betraying and effectively destroying the X-Men in his future, having overheard a recording of Jean Grey identifying one of the X-Men as the killer.
5. Mystique: Reveals herself to Rogue and shapeshifts to reveal she is actually Rogue's mother.
6. Senator Robert Kelly: The target whose planned assassination, once successful, leads to the reinstatement of the Sentinel program and the construction of Master Mold.

Proceedings of the Event: Bishop arrives in the present day and initially mistakes the X-Men themselves for the assassins he's hunting. He crashes his bus into the mansion and fights the team before Professor Xavier reads his mind and confirms his story is true.
The team investigates to identify the real threat to Senator Kelly, with suspicion falling heavily on Gambit due to Bishop's memories of a traitor. Flashbacks show the fall of the future world, including the deaths of famous X-Men and Sentinel rule spreading across the country, reaching even the Capitol Building and the White House. Bishop accuses Gambit of being the traitor who destroyed the future, unloading on him with a weapon before Rogue intervenes to protect Gambit. The X-Men move to protect Senator Kelly directly, racing to stop the assassination attempt that would trigger the dystopian future Bishop remembers.
Aftermath: The assassination is prevented and the traitor plot resolved, closing out the season on a cliffhanger involving Magneto rather than a clean, definitive "future fixed" ending.

Key Factions

Future

- ★ **The X-Men (Resistance):** In a world of desolation, the last organized force to still fight the Sentinels remains a broken team of X-Men. Old rivalries between Charles Xavier and Magneto no longer matter in the situation because this coalition exists purely because there's no alternative left. It consists of Wolverine, Storm, Colossus, Bishop, Cable, Rogue, Psylocke, Nightcrawler, Sunspot, Morph, Jubilee, Shadowcat (Kitty Pryde), Professor X, and Magneto.
- ★ **Horsemen of Apocalypse:** Utilising the destruction and collapse of the world order to his advantage, Apocalypse pursues his own agenda of global domination and annihilation rather than fighting the Sentinels directly, acting in unpredictable and self-interested ways, not aligned with any side, rather contributing to the chaos in the war-struck world. His force consists of Apocalypse himself, Mister Sinister, Exodus, and Ahab.
- ★ **Independent Actors:** Even during the ultimate battle for the survival of mutantkind, few choose neither to take sides nor contribute to any cause, and work rather for their own personal gains, indifferent to the plague of death. The individuals pursuing such a stance include Omega Red, Deadpool, Gambit, and Uatu the Watcher.

Present

- ★ **The X-Men:** A young, budding, and smaller team of mutants who found security under Charles Xavier's guidance and protection, still inexperienced with existential stakes as they remain dealing with local threats. This team consists of Cyclops, Marvel Girl, Beast, Angel, Havok, Polaris, and Iceman.
- ★ **The Brotherhood of Mutants:** A group of radicalized young mutants loyal only to Magneto, influenced by his idea of Mutant Race Superiority. This force consists of Magneto himself, Magik, Scarlet Witch, and Quicksilver.
- ★ **The Hellfire Club:** The Hellfire Club is a powerful, shadowy fictional society which poses publicly as an exclusive international social club for the ultra-wealthy elite and aristocrats. While in reality, it is a secret governing group which manipulates world events, politics, and economics for power, operating for its own benefit. The Club consists of The White Queen (Emma Frost).
- ★ **The Sentinel Programme and the U.S.A Government:** The institutional threat posed to mutantkind due to their paranoia. The representative of the programme is the Sentinel Creator - Bolivar Trask.
- ★ **Independent Actors:** Individuals who work without loyalty to any faction or cause, and rather work with their own intention - which might be for the greater good or the worst of the worst. The Individuals who work independently include Moira MacTaggert, Mystique, and Forge.
- ★ **Enhanced Individuals:** Individuals who, much like mutantkind, hold powers and abilities which can be applied to the betterment of the world, yet unlike mutantkind aren't shunned but rather celebrated as real 'heroes' of the world. Included in this are Iron Man, Thor, Hulk, Doctor Strange, and Spider-Man.



Death of Bolivar Trask

By the early 1970s, Bolivar Trask had spent years developing Sentinel prototypes, and by 1973 his proposal had reached its most dangerous stage yet: government officials were seriously considering full deployment following a series of publicized incidents involving mutant individuals and a growth of public outcry towards mutantkind. Mystique, having spent this period infiltrating government and military circles under assumed identities, viewed Trask not as a bureaucrat but as the singular figure capable of setting mass Sentinel production in motion. His scheduled public appearance tied to the Paris Peace Accords proceedings of January 1973 presented the moment she believed could stop the programme before it started.
Note: Comic continuity instead places this confrontation around 1980, tied to a United States Senate hearing in Washington, D.C.

- **Assassination:**

1. *Comic Continuity (Uncanny X-Men #14–16,1965 / #141–142,1981):* Trask's death in the comics isn't an assassination, but rather a self-inflicted irony. He builds the first Sentinels himself as a controlled deterrent, but they override their programming almost immediately, deciding all of humanity (not just mutants) is a threat to be contained. Trask is killed by his own creation during the resulting uprising. Separately, the actual Days of Future Past storyline (1981) doesn't involve Trask at all; it centers on the assassination of Senator Robert Kelly, carried out by the government-sanctioned Brotherhood-turned-"Freedom Force," which is what triggers the mutant internment camps and dystopian future Kitty Pryde is sent back to prevent.
2. *Film Continuity (X-Men: Days of Future Past, 2014):* Set in 1973, this version compresses both comic threads into a single event centered on Trask. Mystique, having spent years hunting Sentinel-related targets under assumed identities, infiltrates a public demonstration of Trask's prototype Sentinels, staged in front of press and military officials, with the Paris Peace Accords as backdrop. Wolverine (sent back by Kitty's power), a young Xavier, Magneto, and Beast attempt to stop her before she can act, but the confrontation spirals into a public, chaotic fight broadcast live, implicating mutants directly in the eyes of the watching world regardless of the assassination's outcome.
3. *Animated/TV Continuity (X-Men: The Animated Series, "Days of Future Past," 1992–93):* This adaptation follows the comics more closely than the film does, keeping Senator

Kelly (not Bolivar Trask) as the assassination target, with Bishop, rather than Kitty Pryde, serving as the time-displaced messenger warning the present-day X-Men of the future that results if events aren't changed. Trask's Sentinel program still exists as the underlying threat, but the immediate flashpoint remains political assassination tied to anti-mutant legislation, not a direct attack on Trask personally.

Committee Implications: Given the blend, this committee must treat the Assassination of Bolivar Trask as the default anchor point for committee proceedings, since it's the most self-contained and widely recognized version.

Aftermath:

- ➔ **Comic Continuity:** Trask's death by his own Sentinels validates the fear that started the programme in the first place. The Sentinels, now fully autonomous and hostile to both mutants and humans, become the very threat Trask was warned about, accelerating government panic rather than resolving it. Separately, Senator Kelly's assassination (in the Days of Future Past arc) triggers immediate anti-mutant legislation, leading directly to internment camps and the dystopian future the story is built around.
- ➔ **Film Continuity (1973):** In the continuity of the film, Mystique has not succeeded in killing Trask, public outrage overrides prior hesitation, and Sentinel funding gets fast-tracked almost immediately, the opposite of what she intended. If she fails or is stopped, the programme still likely advances, but with more scrutiny and a longer runway before mass deployment, buying the timeline more time. Either way, the public nature of the confrontation, broadcast live, mutants visibly involved, hardens political will toward Sentinel development regardless of whether Trask personally survives.
- ➔ **Animated/TV Continuity:** Senator Kelly's assassination here plays out similarly to the comics: it becomes the justification for sweeping anti-mutant legislation, mutant registration, and eventually internment, setting the future Bishop is sent back to prevent. Trask's Sentinel programme continues in the background as the technological arm of that same legislative shift, rather than being resolved by any single event.
- ★ Across all three versions, the pattern is consistent even when the specific victim changes: whoever dies (or doesn't), the public, high-visibility nature of the event is what actually drives the aftermath; it's the optics of mutant involvement in a political killing, not the killing itself, that accelerates the Sentinel Programme toward the 2026 future.



Sentinel Programme

The Sentinel Programme begins with Bolivar Trask, a scientist convinced that mutant abilities represent an uncontrollable threat to human safety. Across every continuity, the core premise stays the same: Trask designs the Sentinels as an automated defense system capable of detecting and neutralizing mutants, but the timeline and funding path shift depending on the source material.

- ➔ **Comics (1965):** Trask builds the first Sentinels largely independently, driven by personal conviction rather than direct government contract
- ➔ **Film (2014):** Trask develops the Sentinels with military-industrial backing, actively lobbying Congress and Nixon's administration for full-scale funding by 1973
- ➔ **Animated Series (1992):** Follows a similar government-backed model, with Sentinel funding tied directly to Senator Kelly's anti-mutant legislative push



MARVEL

X-MEN

1





GUGGENHEIM
GARCÍA
SMITH

Early Sentinel models are large, relatively slow, and limited to brute-force combat. Powerful, but predictable enough for skilled mutants to outmaneuver. What makes the programme genuinely dangerous is its adaptive design: each generation is built to learn from prior encounters, recalibrating against specific mutant abilities it's already fought. By the time later models are deployed, Sentinels can pre-emptively counter powers ranging from Cyclops' optic blasts to Storm's weather manipulation, making brute strength alone an increasingly unreliable defense.

Escalation Timeline

- **1970s:** Prototype development and initial congressional lobbying
- **1980s (comic-adjacent):** Broader deployment following Senator Kelly's anti-mutant legislation gaining traction
- **1990s–2000s:** Sentinels transition from human-operated units to increasingly autonomous decision-making systems
- **2010s–2020s:** Original oversight structures become functionally obsolete as Sentinel adaptability outpaces human command capacity
- **2026 (committee's future timeline):** Sentinels operate with full autonomy, no longer meaningfully distinguishing between mutant, human ally, or civilian, the exact endpoint the resistance is trying to prevent by intervening at the programme's origin



The Travel back in Time

1. **Comic Continuity (1981):** In the original Days of Future Past storyline, it's Kitty Pryde's mind that's sent back, not her body, projected into her own younger consciousness from roughly six years prior. Her mutant ability to phase is repurposed here as a psychic conduit rather than a physical power, allowing her older mind to essentially "possess" her past self temporarily. The process is unstable and painful, and the story treats it as a one-time, desperate measure rather than a controlled or repeatable method.
2. **Film Continuity (2014):** In the film, Wolverine's consciousness is the one that is sent back, a decision made because his healing factor makes him uniquely capable of surviving the physical and psychological strain of the jump. Kitty's power is reworked into the mechanism that projects him rather than the traveler herself, with Professor X assisting to help stabilize and guide the psychic link from the future. The rules are explicit here: if Wolverine's future body dies while his consciousness is displaced, the connection severs permanently, and the mission fails outright.
3. **Animated/TV Continuity (1992–93):** In this version, Bishop is the one sent back physically (not just mentally) using time-displacement technology rather than a mutant power, reflecting his own powers as a time traveler. This is a more literal mechanism compared to the psychic-projection method used in the other versions, and it allows Bishop to interact with the past more directly and immediately, without needing anyone in the future to maintain a sustained link.



Questions the Committee Must Answer

1. What caused the apocalyptic future?
2. Who is ultimately responsible for the rise of the Sentinels?
3. What event must be prevented to change the timeline?
4. Who can be trusted and who cannot?
5. Can humans and mutants coexist peacefully?
6. How should the Sentinel threat be dealt with?
7. What role should governments play in the mutant & human conflict?
8. What sacrifices are justified to save the future?
9. What must Kitty and Logan change to prevent the apocalypse?
10. Can the committee identify the truth before the timeline resets?





Further Readings

X-Men: Days of Future Past Timeline Explained — School of Movies
The Complete X-MEN Timeline Recapped — Movies Outpost
Marvel — X-Men: Days of Future Past Reading Guide
Marvel — Uncanny X-Men #142: Facsimile Edition
Marvel — X-Men: Days of Future Past – Doomsday
Days of Future Past — UncannyXMen.net
X-Men Movie Timeline Explained — ComicBook.com

