

Tab 1

X-MEN

Director: Jake Schreier

Genre: Superhero • Science Fiction • Coming-of-Age • Political Thriller

Tone: *X-Men: First Class* meets *The Breakfast Club* with the grounded emotional character work of *Logan*

ACT I — THE MUTANT THREAT

~0–40 minutes

1. Opening — "The World Is Changing"

The movie opens with a television news report.

Mutant sightings are becoming increasingly common.

Governments are investigating unexplained incidents. Scientists are debating the existence of the X-gene. Social media is filled with conspiracy theories.

Then the broadcast turns to the events of *Spider-Man: Brand New Day*.

We see footage of the destruction caused by **Jean Grey**.

The public doesn't know her story.

They don't know Sarah.

They don't know about her manipulation.

They don't know that Spider-Man reached her.

All they know is:

A mutant girl froze part of New York with her mind.

Damage Control labels Jean an extremely dangerous enhanced individual.

The incident becomes the catalyst for a national anti-mutant movement.

2. Jean After *Brand New Day*

Jean has disappeared.

She's traumatized by everything she did and terrified that Peter's faith in her was misplaced.

But then she hears something.

A voice.

Charles Xavier.

When Jean unleashed her powers, Charles sensed her presence.

He tells Jean that she's not the only person like this.

He offers her somewhere safe to go.

Jean eventually accepts.

3. Xavier's School

Jean arrives at the Xavier Institute.

It's not a superhero headquarters.

It's a school.

Charles has gathered a handful of young mutants:

- Scott Summers
- Ororo Munroe
- Hank McCoy
- Bobby Drake

Charles teaches them how to control their powers.

But he refuses to turn them into soldiers.

His philosophy is simple:

"You are not weapons. You are children."

Jean begins helping the younger students.

For the first time, she realizes that she can use what happened to her to help others.

4. Scott Summers

Scott becomes Jean's closest friend.

Like Jean, he's isolated.

Like Jean, he's afraid of himself.

His optic blasts are uncontrollable unless he wears his visor.

One mistake could kill someone.

Charles recognizes Scott's discipline and leadership potential.

Jean, meanwhile, sees something familiar in him.

Peter.

Scott has the same instinct to protect people despite being terrified himself.

5. Rogue Arrives

The school receives another young mutant:

Rogue.

She's terrified of touching anyone.

Her powers have already hurt people.

She doesn't trust Charles.

She doesn't trust Jean.

She especially doesn't believe she deserves a place at the school.

Jean recognizes herself in Rogue.

But Rogue rejects her.

ROGUE: "You're not me."

JEAN: "I know."

ROGUE: "Then stop pretending you understand."

Jean doesn't push her.

She simply tells Rogue:

"I don't have to understand everything you've done to know you deserve another chance."

6. The Inciting Incident

Another mutant disappears.

Then another.

Damage Control claims they're apprehending dangerous mutants.

Charles discovers something disturbing:

Someone is deliberately hunting mutants.

Meanwhile, wealthy businessmen and politicians meet secretly inside the **Hellfire Club**.

At the center is **Nathaniel Essex**.

Mr. Sinister.

He watches footage of Jean.

Then Scott.

He smiles.

SINISTER: "The future is finally beginning."

ACT I ENDS.

ACT II — THE X-MEN

~40–95 minutes

7. The Mutant Underground

Mutant disappearances increase.

The school begins receiving frightened young mutants from across the country.

But Charles refuses to let his students intervene.

He believes doing so will only validate humanity's fears.

Jean disagrees.

She remembers Peter.

If Spider-Man had stayed hidden, she might have become a murderer.

She tells Charles:

"Someone has to show them what we can be."

Charles responds:

"And if they hate you anyway?"

Jean:

"Then we keep showing them."

8. The First X-Men

A mutant is attacked by an anti-mutant mob.

The students want to help.

Charles refuses.

Jean goes anyway.

Scott follows her.

Then Storm.

Then Beast.

Then Bobby.

They rescue the mutant.

But their actions are caught on camera.

For the first time, the world sees the **X-Men**.

Unfortunately, the footage is edited to make them look violent.

The team has accidentally become a political symbol.

9. Emma Frost

Jean encounters **Emma Frost**.

Emma immediately recognizes Jean's potential.

Their telepathic confrontation becomes one of the movie's most important scenes.

Emma forces Jean to experience her own memories.

Jean sees:

- Sarah
- her rage
- the people she hurt
- Peter
- May's memory
- the moment she chose compassion

Emma tells Jean:

"You didn't become better. You simply found someone who made you feel better about what you'd done."

Jean responds:

"Maybe that's what people are supposed to do."

Emma doesn't understand.

10. Sinister's Plan

The X-Men discover that the missing mutants are being taken to laboratories.

They're being experimented on.

Sinister has been studying the X-gene for centuries.

He's been manipulating governments, corporations, Damage Control and the Hellfire Club.

His goal is to artificially accelerate mutant evolution.

And Jean is his greatest success.

He deliberately pushed her toward her breaking point because trauma unlocked extraordinary abilities.

Now he wants to replicate the process.

But he needs **Jean and Scott**.

Their genetic combination could create the ultimate mutant.

11. Rogue's Breaking Point

Rogue discovers that Sinister has been studying her.

She panics.

She believes everyone around her is simply another person waiting to be hurt.

She leaves the school.

Sinister's people find her.

Rogue is captured.

Jean wants to rescue her.

Charles tells her they're not ready.

Jean refuses to accept that.

Scott agrees with Jean.

This creates the first major disagreement between Xavier and his students.

Scott says:

"You taught us to protect people."

Charles responds:

"I taught you to survive."

Scott:

"Then maybe it's time you taught us how to live."

12. The X-Men Become Heroes

The students officially become a team.

Scott takes command.

Jean becomes the team's emotional center.

Storm, Beast, Iceman and Gambit join them.

Emma secretly helps them locate Sinister's facility.

The X-Men discover that Sinister isn't merely experimenting on mutants.

He's **weaponizing their trauma**.

He's intentionally creating conditions that make mutants hate humanity.

Because he believes persecution will force mutantkind to evolve.

This makes him the exact opposite of Xavier.

Charles believes suffering should be overcome.

Sinister believes suffering should be exploited.

ACT II ENDS

The X-Men infiltrate Sinister's facility.

They discover dozens of imprisoned mutants.

Jean sees the machinery being used to extract and manipulate mutant DNA.

Then Sinister appears.

He reveals the truth:

Jean wasn't merely a test subject.

She was his greatest experiment.

And Scott is the missing piece.

Sinister activates his machine.

Jean loses control.

Her powers begin consuming the facility.

Scott screams for her to stop.

She can't.

The X-Men barely escape.

Jean is beginning to become exactly what Sinister wanted.

ACT III — CHOOSE WHO YOU ARE

~95–130 minutes

13. The Fall

The X-Men are defeated.

The public sees footage of Jean's powers destroying Sinister's facility.

The anti-mutant movement explodes.

Politicians call the X-Men terrorists.

Charles realizes that his students have become symbols whether he likes it or not.

Jean believes she has failed everyone.

She tells Scott:

"Maybe he was right."

Scott refuses.

"No. He was right about what you could become. He was wrong about who gets to decide."

14. Emma Turns Against Sinister

Emma confronts Sinister.

She finally discovers the full extent of his experiments.

He doesn't see mutants as people.

He sees them as genetic material.

Emma realizes that if she does nothing, Sinister will eventually destroy the very mutant society she wants to build.

She betrays him.

And she contacts Xavier.

For the first time, Emma and Charles cooperate.

15. The Final Assault

The X-Men return to Sinister's facility.

This time, they're not students.

They're a team.

Scott leads.

Storm controls the battlefield.

Beast disables the machinery.

Bobby freezes the facility's systems.

Gambit destroys Sinister's genetic samples.

Emma protects the team telepathically.

Jean searches for Rogue.

She finds her trapped inside Sinister's machine.

Rogue is terrified.

She tells Jean:

"I can't control it."

Jean responds:

"Neither could I."

16. Jean and Rogue

Sinister tries to convince Rogue that they're the same.

That people like them can only hurt others.

Jean enters Rogue's mind.

But instead of controlling her, Jean **shows her everything**.

Her childhood.

Her loneliness.

Her anger.

Sarah.

Peter.

May.

The moment Jean realized she could choose something different.

Rogue finally understands.

Her powers don't make her a monster.

Her choices define her.

Rogue breaks free.

17. Jean vs. Sinister

Sinister attempts to force Jean to unleash her full power.

Jean finally understands his weakness.

He's spent centuries trying to understand mutants scientifically.

But he doesn't understand **why they fight**.

Jean doesn't defeat him by becoming more powerful.

She defeats him by refusing to give him control.

Scott joins her.

Jean and Scott combine their powers against Sinister's machine, destroying the genetic database.

Sinister survives—but his empire is destroyed.

He escapes.

18. Xavier's Dream

The world sees the X-Men saving the mutants Sinister imprisoned.

More importantly, they see them saving **humans too**.

The reaction isn't magically positive.

Some people applaud them.

Others hate them even more.

Charles realizes the dream of peaceful coexistence won't happen overnight.

But now he has something he didn't have before.

Hope.

He tells the students:

"We cannot force humanity to accept us. We can only show them who we are."

Scott asks:

"And if they never accept us?"

Charles looks at Jean.

"Then we keep trying."

EPILOGUE

The Xavier Institute is now officially a school.

The students train together.

Scott has fully accepted his role as leader.

Storm is becoming more confident.

Beast is embracing his identity.

Bobby is finally comfortable being himself.

Gambit and Rogue are beginning their relationship.

Emma remains at the school—but she's still very much Emma Frost.

Jean walks through the halls.

A frightened new mutant arrives.

The girl asks:

"Am I a monster?"

Jean smiles.

"No."

She takes her hand.

"You're a mutant."

Jean brings her inside.

The camera pulls away from the mansion.

We see the X-Men training.

Then we see the world outside.

Protesters gather at the gates.

News reports discuss the "mutant problem."

The conflict is only beginning.

But inside the mansion, seven young mutants stand together.

CUT TO BLACK.

X-MEN