

"DARK SIDE OF THE MOON"

by

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"DARK SIDE OF THE MOON"

TITLE CARDS: "BY THE YEAR 2030, THE EARTH'S DWINDLING RESOURCES COULD NO LONGER PROVIDE FOR THE WORLD'S GROWING POPULATION. ECONOMIC AND ECOLOGICAL DISASTER AND WORLD WAR LOOMED. BUT A SCIENTIFIC MIRACLE OFFERED HOPE: USING ROBOTS, THE MOON AND MARS WERE CONVERTED INTO GIANT FACTORIES, PRODUCING FOOD, WATER, RAW MATERIALS AND MANUFACTURED GOODS"

"UNLIKE HUMANS, ROBOTS DO NOT NEED FOOD, WATER, AIR, HEAT OR REST. THEY ARE POWERED BY HELIUM-3 FROM THE MOON. THE FIRST ROBOTS NEEDED HUMAN SUPERVISION, BUT SOON THE ROBOTS WERE ABLE TO REDESIGN THEMSELVES IN RESPONSE TO NEW CONDITIONS. IN THE YEAR 2050, BY LAW, THE LAST HUMAN BEINGS RETURNED TO EARTH, LEAVING ALL OPERATIONS IN THE CONTROL OF THE ROBOTS CENTERED ON THE MOON, IN THE PLACE HUMANS CALL "BOT CITY"

"IT IS NOW THE YEAR 2076. HUMAN CIVILIZATION AGAIN VEERS TOWARDS BREAKDOWN AND CHAOS. ALL WORLD GOVERNMENTS HAVE UNITED, BUT CANNOT STOP THE COMING DISASTER. EVEN THE WORLD'S RICHEST NATIONS ONCE AGAIN FIND THEMSELVES EDGING TOWARDS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL MELTDOWN WITH EACH PASSING DAY"

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE - EARTH'S DAY, MOON'S NIGHT

A shot of the Earth's dark side, a hint of light behind us and the bright face of the Moon directly ahead in the distance, with Mars far in the distance. Thousands of giant rocket ships head from Mars to the Moon and from the Moon to the Earth. Hours flash by in seconds as the sunlight behind us spills over the screen and the Earth rotates on its axis, turning from night to day. And now we CUT TO THE DARK SIDE OF THE MOON--

EXT. MOON - NIGHT - ESTABLISHING

THE SEA OF CLOUDS. Nitrogen mist, helium vapors. The lunar surface, pocketed with meteor craters--

## EXT. TYCHO CRATER - NIGHT

A giant, black, silo-shaped tower stands at the very center of the vast crater. Twinkling rays jet out along the ground from the tower in all directions: Millions of feldspar and pyroxenite crystals and glass nodules reflecting the starlight--

ANOTHER ANGLE reveals a red platform rising out of the ground below the black tower, about ten feet high, lit by light. Spiral steps lead up to the top of the platform--

A MAN, RUR-1, sits in a leather chair on top of the platform. He looks young, but his face has a worn, wise aura about it that belies his age. He faces holographs that create virtual videos upon command, the images of TWO OTHER YOUNG MEN, RUR-5 and RUR-12, and a beautiful YOUNG WOMAN, RUR-2:

RUR-12

Earth requests increased war materials for the Southern Continents--

RUR-5

Production is ready to comply--

RUR-2

Administration objects. Current production levels cannot meet demand without reducing shipments in other critical areas--

RUR-5

Production confirms this--

RUR-1 smiles, almost regretfully--

RUR-1

Earth has spoken--

RUR-5

Earth has set priorities. It may not have sufficient data to evaluate its request--

RUR-12

Earth has all available data--

RUR-5

I do not question data, but Earth's competence to use it--

RUR-1  
Earth has spoken--

RUR-5  
I yield to Design--

ANOTHER ANGLE ON RUR-1 FROM BELOW: We HEAR HEAVY, FILTERED BREATHING:

RUR-1  
We must discuss a matter of the gravest importance. Our future, and the future of Earth itself, may depend on it--

We HEAR SOFT FOOTSTEPS. Then a gloved hand wearing a RING EMBOSSSED WITH AN EAGLE IN FLIGHT reaches out and aims a hand-held laser at a small panel on the side of the platform. A BLUE LIGHT zips out and melts its way through the panel--

ON THE holographs as they wink on and off. We see concern on the faces of the other people:

RUR-2  
Design, we are losing contact, please check your--

As RUR-1 watches, all 3 screens suddenly go blank. He sits up, alert... ANOTHER VIEW FROM BEHIND HIM: SOMEONE IS APPROACHING HIM... we HEAR BREATHING. We HEAR A CLICK as RUR-1 pushes a button and his chair swings around 180 degrees. PULL BACK ENOUGH TO REVEAL A PISTOL AIMED AT HIS FACE:

RUR-1  
Why do you wait?

THE GUN SHAKES, but remains pointed at its target:

MAN'S FILTERED VOICE (O.S.)  
This isn't easy--

RUR-1  
That is my salvation. When the next man comes, it will be yours--

The pistol FIRES, BLOWING RUR-1'S HEAD TO PIECES. ANOTHER ANGLE ON HIS BODY AS IT HITS THE GROUND. A knife tears into the chair--

WE SHIFT TO A SHOT OF THE TOWER at the edge of the crater. A GIANT LED DISPLAY SWITCHES ON: 24:00.00... 23:59.59... 23:59:58... ANGLE UP TO THE SKY... AND CONTINUE PANNING UP TO THE BRIGHT EARTH IN THE DISTANCE--

EXT. LOS ANGELES - DAY - ESTABLISHING

THE CITY'S SKYLINES: All 26 of them. An ominous profusion of angry dark clouds loom over the horizon.

TITLE CARD: "LOS ANGELES"

EXT. L.A. RIVER PARK - DAY - ESTABLISHING

Once all concrete and spillage, now converging undulations of Metro lines, bike paths and walkways wrapped around spacious open greens... the park is littered with trash, stubs, empties and syringes. Buildings, fences, signs have been torn down, smashed or smeared with graffiti, vomit or blood. A sea of homeless people sprawl out on the grass or huddle under makeshift shelters--

Runaway YOUTHS hang out, dance, fight, fuck, share brightly-colored pills or inhale fumes. MUSIC blares from systems the size of matchbooks. Body-piercing and tattoos have been replaced by DNA pigment mutation and limb enhancement/mutilation: Extra fingers and arms, faux wings sprouting out of backs, eyes replaced by video cameras feeding hand-held players, non-functioning machine parts sticking out of skulls like chrome tumors. ANOTHER ANGLE REVEALS A FUTURISTIC-LOOKING CAR, its seamless exterior burnished black titanium alloyed with tinted windows, taking up 2 "Disabled" parking spaces--

INT. JAX'S CAR - DAY

JAX COLLIER, 30, has a face of someone who even in repose looks like he's been through Hell ten times over, but would go back again just... for the Hell of it. He sleeps as we HEAR a RADIO ANNOUNCER:

RADIO ANNOUNCER (V.O.)  
It's another scorcher at 106  
degrees, then get out your life  
boats for 14 inches of rainfall  
starting later this afternoon as  
another thunderstorm heads our way--

A SOFT RED GLOW bathes Jax's face as the RADIO CUTS OFF, replaced by a metallic voice:

CAR COMPUTER (V.O.)  
Alert--

SAM (O.S.)  
Online, Jax. Wolf's at the door--

Jax wakes up, dons wraparound shades, opens his jacket to reveal an LAPD Homicide Detective badge, takes out a blunt little pistol, looks over at SAM WHITE, 35. Somebody outside KNOCKS on the window:

JAX  
'Puter, wep scan--

A green light flashes on the console, outlining the human body standing outside, highlighting shapes of 15 different kinds of guns, knives, shivs and picks:

JAX (CONT'D)  
'Puter, ret scan--

Another panel on the console flickers to life with a 3-D photograph of one bad-looking dude: MEME CLOVIS, 25:

SAM  
Pretty. Computer, wider scan,  
radius scale 3--

The console calls up a 3-D scan of the park, revealing 4 MORE ARMED MEN standing near a truck parked across the street, 3 MEN HIDDEN BEHIND SOME TREES:

SAM (CONT'D)  
It's a set-up--

JAX  
Arm deal in park? 'Course set-up.  
You gone soft, Sam?

SAM  
I'm calling backup--

Sam tries the car's transmitter. All he gets is STATIC:

SAM (CONT'D)  
This isn't good--

JAX  
'Lax--

SAM  
I get nervous when you say that--

JAX  
'Puter, 'mor, arm 'ternal cans--

SAM

How the hell does this thing even understand you when I don't half the time?

JAX

No dumb-ass--

Their seats morph into flexible skin-tight synthetic spider-silk body armor, wrapping around the two men automatically as the head-rests form clear high-density plastic helmets fitting snugly over their heads. Then Jax takes an electronic screwdriver and shoves it through a port in the console. EVERYTHING BLINKS BLACK AND RED:

CAR COMPUTER (V.O.)

Automated systems disabled--

SAM

What are you doing?

JAX

Set-up. Trace--

Sam swears under his breath as he hands a little GREEN dot to Jax who pops a blue switch on the console marked "TARGET"--

JAX (CONT'D)

Make 'bers--

SAM

Which numbers?

JAX

I fuck 'em first 'bers. Don't slow, Sam. Slow get killed--

SAM

Relax--

Sam punches the number "30" into the console: 29... 28...

EXT. L.A. RIVER PARK - DAY

MEME is covered with leather and metal from head to toe. His only exposed body parts are scarred or too freshly-cut to have scars yet. He steps back as Jax and Sam get out--

JAX

Quote me--

MEME

Rainbow drops, snake oil, 1, 15,  
10. Napes 'pers, thal 'shers, 10,  
7, 100. 'Reepy 'rawly 'reamers--

Meme shudders involuntarily--

MEME (CONT'D)

Off--

JAX

Undies?

Meme opens his hand, revealing... nothing: Suddenly, his hand seems to be crawling with tiny bugs, thousands of microscopic nanorobots linking themselves together to form a pistol, aimed at Jax's face... Meme hands Jax the gun:

MEME

Zhang-Zhao's undies. Bio-bots,  
hands, rifles, full-auts, tank-  
'lers, surf-air. No met, no smell,  
no 'tection--

JAX

No shit--

Jax, Meme flash hand signals. Jax nods and holds up a little wireless LAPD MASTER CARD embossed with "TO PROTECT AND SERVE." Meme runs his little scanner over it. Meme spits in his hand, takes Jax's:

MEME

Dirt cops best. 'Dies in truck--

INT. JAX'S CAR - DAY

The computer console counts down: 15... 14... 13--

EXT. L.A. RIVER PARK - DAY - TRUCK

Meme leads Jax and Sam over, nods to his four GOONS. Meme opens the back of the truck, steps aside to let Jax see inside... empty:

JAX

Buggies hidin'?

As Jax turns, the gun in his hand dematerializes. Meme's gun stays a gun. Sam tries his transmitter... nothing. Meme just smiles, holds up a jammer:



MEME

Got wave, law. Back-up, 'Puter,  
all dissed--

JAX

Want play, go pay--

Meme hesitates:

MEME

You not cop. You Street Demon--

JAX

Bad dream, huh?

MEME

Me sleep fine--

He points his gun at Jax's face--

MEME (CONT'D)

You sleep dead--

INT. JAX'S CAR - DAY

CONSOLE: 3... 2... 1... 0--

EXT. L.A. RIVER PARK - DAY

Everyone turns as TWO LARGE CANNON JUT UP OUT OF THE COP CAR.  
Shocked, Meme looks at his jammer, then at Jax:

JAX

Dissed. Not by you--

THE CANNON FIRE AS Jax, Sam and Meme jump out of the way.  
Meme's four friends get BLOWN TO BITS. WE SEE THE PEOPLE IN  
THE PARK, homeless, kids, running for cover, screaming. BACK  
TO SCENE AS Meme heads for some bushes, FIRING AT JAX AND  
SAM, who take out their little pistols. MEME'S OTHER 3 GUYS  
are FIRING at them from behind the cover of a clump of trees.  
THE CANNON ON THE COP CAR SWIVEL AROUND and start BLASTING AT  
THE TREES... which is when Jax looks up and SEES A LITTLE  
HOMELESS GIRL wandering into the line of FIRE--

He goes. Sam reaches out to stop him, but has to duck back  
down as BULLETS SPRAY HIM, BOUNCING OFF HIS ARMOR. ON JAX as  
he dives, rolls, BULLETS BOUNCING OFF OF HIM, CANNON SHELLS  
EXPLODING AS HE SWEEPS THE GIRL AWAY RIGHT BEFORE ANOTHER  
SHELL EXPLODES WHERE SHE WAS STANDING. He looks up to SEE a  
bad guy taking aim... BLAM! The BULLET CRACKS JAX'S VISOR

before Jax raises his pistol and fires... the gun makes a FUNNY LITTLE WHINE, then the bad guy slumps to the ground, his eyes wide-open, but unable to move--

JAX (CONT'D)  
Neuro. Wear off, bad head, puke  
guts. Have nice day--

He cuffs him, sets the little girl down behind a tree, finds a pine-cone to keep her occupied, smiles, winks, rolls out of sight... ON THE OTHER 2 bad guys, FIRING AT SAM. They HEAR a WHISTLE softly behind them... they wheel as Jax drops one with his PISTOL, steps quickly behind a tree as the other guy FIRES, BLOWING A HOLE RIGHT THROUGH THE TREE as Jax whips around the other side, launches a PINE-CONE so hard it hits the man right in the forehead and knocks him cold. Jax cuffs both men. ANOTHER ANGLE ON JAX as he joins SAM in time to SEE MEME'S truck ZOOMING AWAY. Jax pops the door on the cop car as they jump in--

INT. JAX'S CAR - DAY

Jax takes the screwdriver out of the console, shuts down the cannon and turns the system back on:

JAX  
'Puter, 'able--

We HEAR the HYDROGEN FUEL CELL ENGINE click on--

EXT. JAX'S CAR - DAY

An airfoil pops out of the back and the car jets away silently, 0 to 260 in 3.5 seconds--

INT. JAX'S CAR - DAY

Sam punches numbers on the console--

SAM  
He's locked! Tracking... now--

The console calls up a map of the city, plotting both the course of the truck and their car--

SAM (CONT'D)  
Computer, notify control to  
override all traffic along our  
route, Emergency Code 2--

The console glows green in response as Jax clutches his hands, growing restless, frustrated with inaction--

EXT. STREETS - DAY

The truck rips through traffic with the cop car behind it, swerving in and out of traffic as all other cars are automatically routed aside, slowed or stopped on cue to avoid accidents. ANOTHER ANGLE as they jet through a busy intersection, blocked by cars. Suddenly, all the cars roll back and peel away, like a frightened bunch of ants, as the truck and cop car glide right past them--

INT. TRUCK - DAY

Meme tries to shift his course on his on-board computer: LOCKED... he readies an assortment of weapons. A FACE APPEARS ON HIS CONSOLE: KINGMAN TRUETT, 35. Slickly-groomed, slickly-dressed. Slick:

KINGMAN

What happened? He's supposed to be dead--

MEME

Tell 'em self! Fucker's smart--

KINGMAN

I warned you--

MEME

No chit-chat, law's got wheels!

KINGMAN

I'll make him let go--

Suddenly, Meme's computer cuts out. A wheel pops out of the dashboard and foot pedals rise up out of the floor as Meme yells with glee, taking control of his truck--

INT. INTERNATIONAL HALL - DAY - KINGMAN'S OFFICE

Kingman sits over a virtual computer. Then a holograph image appears with a message: SECURED COMMUNICATION - BOT CITY. RUR-5 appears:

RUR-5

Report--

KINGMAN  
We missed him. Not a problem--

RUR-5  
The man lives. That is a problem--

KINGMAN  
I'll take care of it--

A light twinkles in one of RUR-5's eyes--

RUR-5  
No. Let him come--

KINGMAN  
What? First you want him dead, now  
you want him alive?

RUR-5  
We have our reasons--

KINGMAN  
I'm telling you he's dangerous!  
When Jax grabs hold of something,  
he doesn't ever let go. Not ever,  
not until it's finished--

RUR-5  
Precisely--

The image vanishes--

KINGMAN  
Fuck!

INT. JAX'S CAR - DAY

Their map suddenly cuts out. Then they start to slow down--

JAX  
Shit!

He slaps the console with his hand--

CAR COMPUTER (V.O.)  
Priority override. Vehicle lock  
interrupted. Emergency Code 1--

SAM  
Ambulance--

They can HEAR the SIREN in the distance. Jax reaches under the dashboard and comes up with the screwdriver--

SAM (CONT'D)

Not again--

Jax just shoves the screwdriver right through the control console. EVERYTHING GOES RED AND BLACK--

CAR COMPUTER (V.O.)

Systems failure, emergency manual  
control activated--

A steering wheel folds out of the console right into Jax's hands. Control pedals rise up out of the floor. Sam SEES the ONCOMING AMBULANCE--

EXT. INTERSECTION - DAY

The police car zooms straight toward the ambulance...

INT. JAX'S CAR - DAY

CAR COMPUTER (V.O.)

Red alert, Emergency Code 1 vehicle  
approaching, request change of  
course--

JAX

'Kay--

EXT. INTERSECTION - DAY

The police car smashes the ambulance head on. SMART-METAL TITANIUM MEETS SMART-METAL TITANIUM. The ambulance bounces backwards 40 feet, flies into the air, its sides flattening out to create friction as it ricochets off the facade of an office building and flies back onto the street, landing with a BANG as it flattens again to absorb the shock. ON THE POLICE CAR, its front end spasms as it tries to reshape itself, spinning around and around as it rams into a row of parked cars whose side-mirrors, hubcaps, tires and doors bend in, then reshape themselves, the cop car catches the slow-moving fender of a Jaguar, loses contact with the ground and rolls over, once, twice, sparks flying off the street before it comes right-side up again and continues on... except the front is stuck in a permanent zigzag--

INT. JAX'S CAR - DAY

Jax shrugs at Sam, then flips a serious bitch as Sam's eyes focus on the SAFETY SYSTEMS DISABLED warning sign flashing on the console, then to the map... blank:

SAM  
Trace is out!

JAX  
You gave me! His truck--

Sam adjusts the console... Meme's truck reappears:

SAM  
Shit. How did you know?

JAX  
You no can backup. Street Demon  
got sec-codes? Set-up big-timers--

INT. TRUCK - DAY

Meme cruises... till he checks out his rear view mirror, SEES  
JAX RIGHT ON HIS ASS:

MEME  
Mother!

He floors it. But the cop car draws along side of him--

EXT. STREET - DAY

The truck RAMS the cop car... again... and again--

INT. CAR - DAY

Jax tries to maintain control of the car as Sam watches the faces of panicked people streaming past. With one last tug on the wheel, Jax swerves the cop car back toward the truck--

EXT. STREET - DAY

The cop car's zagged fender catches hold of the truck as both vehicles head for the WARNER/DISNEY/FOX CHINESE THEATER--

INT. TRUCK/CAR - DAY

We flash cut to Meme, then to Jax and Sam as they react:

EXT. STREET - DAY

Both vehicles jump the curb and plow into the theater, setting off smoke and fire as they crash... people gather around. An instant later, Sam stumbles outside, in his damaged body armor, brandishing his badge and gun:

SAM

LAPD!

People BOO AND JEER, pelting Sam with beer cans and food. Someone puts a hand on Sam's shoulder and spins him around... MEME. He puts his pistol in Sam's stomach and FIRES, blowing a huge hole in Sam's armor as Sam goes flying backwards and the crowd lets out a CHEER... which is when MEME HEARS MOVEMENT behind him and spins in time to SEE JAX shoving his way through the crowd, trying to get a clean shot with his stun-gun. STREET KID #1 laughs and yells to his companion STREET KID #2 as they play a violent virtual computer game:

STREET KID #1

Waste cop, man! Waste!

STREET KID #2

We get points?

MEME FIRES, almost blowing away both Street Kids as Jax knocks them down. He looks up... his gun lies on the ground in front of him, mangled. MEME takes aim... Jax whips a switchblade out of his boot, throws it into Meme's shoulder as the man cries out and drops his pistol. He looks up, sees Jax coming on, deftly steps aside, draws an electrified shiv which he jams into a stud on Jax's suit, causing Jax's body armor to dismantle, folding into a neat little bundle on the ground. With the shiv in one hand, Meme produces a straight-edge razor in the other and laughs--

MEME

Man want dead, law. Me don't ask why, ask much--

JAX

Much?

Meme flies at Jax with a spinning back kick, aiming right at his head, but Jax ducks. Meme moves to slash him with the straight-edge, but Jax steps aside at the last second, blocks

a low-line attack with the shiv, then sends Meme flying backwards with a powerful kick of his own. Jax glances at Sam, who's down on his knees, trying to pick up his intestines and cram them back into his belly... then Jax turns back to Meme as they circle one another--

Meme lunges forward as Jax steps aside, ducks under Meme's backhand that cuts a deep red line in Jax's cheek before Jax takes hold of Meme's wrist with both hands, gives it a twist, SNAPPING the joint... just in time to block Meme's other hand with the shiv. Jax stops the shiv's point a millimeter shy of his eyeball, when he blinks the razor edge cuts his eyelashes in half as Jax steps back, twists, straightens his arm out and, applying the right pressure at the right spot, BREAKS Meme's arm at the elbow, the jagged end of the bone coming right through the skin... so Meme just jams his elbow-bone into Jax's throat, impaling him as Jax manages to get his arm around Meme's neck--

Meme grinds his elbow-bone deeper into Jax's throat, blood flowing everywhere, as Jax chokes him, hits him with a quick series of kidney punches before knocking Meme flat with a rabbit punch to the back of his head. Jax shoves his thumb into the hole in his throat as bloody air bubbles float up into The air... Meme lashes out at him with a spike-tipped boot. Jax catches hold of it, breaks Meme's leg, kicks him in the groin, leans down and breaks his nose before rolling him over and cuffing him:

JAX (CONT'D)

Stay--

Jax goes over to Sam:

JAX (CONT'D)

How goes?

SAM

Oh, dying. You know--

A tear rolls down Jax's face:

JAX

Don't die--

SAM

You going soft on me?

Sam shudders and dies:

JAX

Got go, Sam--



Jax looks at Meme, cranks his stun-gun up to LETHAL, puts it against Meme's head:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Who want me dead?

Meme just smiles, jaws tightening... we hear a CRUNCH, then Meme's eyes roll back in his head... suicide. Staring at Meme, Jax kneels back down beside Sam, taking his partner's hand in his as the AMBULANCE SIREN sounds in the distance and the dark skies overhead finally burst into storm--

INT. JAX'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

A bio-bandage heals his wounds as Jax downs a shot of Jack Daniels, grimaces as the liquid scalds his wound inside. A holograph of a kindly OLD LADY appears:

OLD LADY  
This is a friendly reminder from  
Medical Services. Your blood-  
alcohol level is registering in  
excess of point one-zero for the  
7th time this year. 3 more  
violations will result in  
cancellation of your coverage.  
Remember, your good health is our  
good news--

JAX  
Eat me. 'Puter, food--

Now the face of a BEAUTIFUL YOUNG WOMAN appears:

YOUNG WOMAN  
Account overdrawn--

JAX  
'Redit--

YOUNG WOMAN  
Account overdrawn--

JAX  
'Redit. Sam White--

YOUNG WOMAN  
Charges to the account of another  
individual without legal  
authorization are a violation of  
international law--

JAX  
Break my balls, Joanna?

He reaches his hand out, it goes right through the face:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Why go? You, Kingman, Sam?

He downs another shot:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Sam White. Sec-code:  
17894958837577238827457237583757375  
73856872990928573767324878387573737  
637643758737939385673745656957553--

YOUNG WOMAN  
Security code confirmed. Your  
order, Mr. White?

JAX  
I eat I get paid, same ever. Go  
way. 'Cel. Cancel!

The face vanishes. He pours another shot. Kingman's face  
appears:

KINGMAN  
Hey, old partner. Rough night?

JAX  
Same old. What, big-timer, work  
late?

KINGMAN  
We're all working late, Jax. The  
heads of state of the 11 biggest  
countries in the world and the  
fucking President of these United  
States... in the flesh.  
I'll have a car at your door in 20  
minutes. Do me a favor: Shower  
and change your clothes. I don't  
care, but the suits might--

JAX  
Hell, Kingman--

KINGMAN  
One thing, Jax. I saw your vehicle  
report. Leave the driving to us--

EXT. LOS ANGELES - NIGHT - ESTABLISHING

International Hall, the seat of Government--

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - NIGHT

Jax, dressed in a cruddy suit and tie, is ushered into the room by SECURITY AGENTS. Already there: Kingman, the HEADS OF STATE of the 11 biggest countries in the world and the fucking PRESIDENT of these United States. With them: DR. AMIKO ASIMOV, 30, a classic Eurasian beauty, slender, elegant. A luminescent intelligence shines forth from her eyes, which shift to Jax's face as he enters. If his presence has any impact on her, besides mere notice, you can't tell. BACK TO JAX as Kingman comes forward and takes him by the arm, leaning in close so he can whisper:

KINGMAN

You're in a room full of assholes  
who think they're better than the  
rest of the world... and they are.  
If you embarrass me, I'll kill you--

He leads Jax over to the last empty chair, the one at the head of the table, directly opposite the President, who lights up a pipe and looks at him:

PRESIDENT

Good evening, detective. This must  
strike you as odd--

JAX

Think?

PRESIDENT

You don't seem worried--

JAX

Me worried--

PRESIDENT

Cautious. I like that. Aren't you  
curious as to why you're here?

JAX

Me know. Maybe--

The President and all of the others exchange startled glances, then everyone looks at Kingman:

KINGMAN  
I swear I haven't said anything,  
Mr. President--

JAX  
'Lax. Peeps jacked, I called.  
Word on street no Moon rockets 3  
days. Rulers of world want me?  
'Nect zil dots, me no riot 'trol--

Everyone mutters in startled consternation:

JAX (CONT'D)  
You wink people not know?

He looks at Kingman:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Dumb-asses. Why world f'd up--

KINGMAN  
Jax, please--

JAX  
Me cop, you top shit can. You fix.  
Peeps die 10 days, tops--

PRESIDENT  
Tell him--

Kingman loosens his tie and turns back to Jax--

KINGMAN  
You're going to Bot City--

JAX  
Moon? Not my 'diction--

Kingman nods to Amiko:

KINGMAN  
This is Dr. Amiko Asimov. She'll  
be going with you. She's Chief  
Engineer for the United Alliance of  
Robotic Technologies and Earth's  
Liaison with Bot City--

JAX  
Lia what?

KINGMAN

She talks to the robots. Which means her job was real boring until 3 days ago--

AMIKO

We received this from Bot City--

She holds out a sheet of polyester fax paper:

JAX

No read--

She arches an eyebrow, then reads the fax:

AMIKO

Communication urgent, highest priority. Entire operations threatened, situation critical. A homicide has been committed. Require you send Liaison and Los Angeles Police Detective Collier, Jackson, immediately. No further shipments will be made until this matter is resolved--

Everyone looks at Jax:

JAX

So I go Moon--

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Jax waits with Amiko. She looks at his plain, shabby suit, crooked tie, short-cropped hair, looks away... he checks out her soft hair, elegant clothes, diamond necklace, shapely figure, her legs... their eyes meet:

JAX

You do Kingman?

AMIKO

Detective Collier, we're going to be working together in a strange, alien and possibly dangerous environment. In these matters, my knowledge far exceeds yours. If we are to succeed in our mission, mutual understanding and respect is essential--

JAX

So?

AMIKO

So you don't know me well enough to ask me questions like that--

JAX

You mix, Doc. Don't know I ask--

AMIKO

I see--

JAX

You blind. Talk nice, dress slick, rich. Know Presidents. Scientist, great. Me know shit scientist. We see scientist, you call. We see crime, me call. Me go too fast, scientist?

AMIKO

The President put me in charge--

JAX

Bots ask us. Us in charge. Of crime. Dumb-asses scared as shit. Who fold on shit hits? But I play--

He holds his hands out in a gesture of peace:

JAX (CONT'D)

Mutual respect?

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - NIGHT

The President relights his pipe--

PRESIDENT

He's not what I expected--

KINGMAN

No, sir. He never was. I told my commander first day at the Academy no way we let that Street Demon in. No criminal record, but he still makes it to 18? Shit doesn't happen--

PRESIDENT

Isn't he supposed to be dead?

KINGMAN  
Change of plans, sir--

He looks skyward as the other people in the room erupt with consternation again. The President takes his pipe and shatters it on the table, silencing them:

PRESIDENT  
It would be nice if our friends up there would let us in on their plans. I don't like this. No, not at all. No control--

He calms down:

PRESIDENT (CONT'D)  
Is he dangerous?

KINGMAN  
Yes, sir. Like nobody's business--

PRESIDENT  
That could be to our advantage. Gives us something to bargain with. As long as he does what he's told. Nothing more. Is that clear?

INT. ELEVATOR - NIGHT

Jax, Kingman and Amiko ride up... and up:

JAX  
Tell 'em send rockets--

Kingman's eyes look skyward--

JAX (CONT'D)  
Bots tell you?

AMIKO  
The robots are programmed to protect and serve us. We have no evidence their behavior is in any way inconsistent with that basic principle--

JAX  
Huh--

Jax shoves Kingman up against the wall, slides the switchblade from his boot and presses it against the artery in Kingman's groin:

JAX (CONT'D)

Truth--

AMIKO

Detective Collier, this is outrageous. Your behavior is barbaric--

JAX

So my 'tude. Me like, what me don't? Shut her up--

KINGMAN

Amiko, please shut the hell up--

Amiko falls silent. Kingman manages a weak smile:

KINGMAN (CONT'D)

So, old partner, what do you want to know?

JAX

Why me? No best man job shit--

KINGMAN

You heard the message. Bot City specifically asked for you by name--

JAX

How know me?

AMIKO

20 years ago, Bot City requested access to all information systems on Earth--

JAX

You let 'em?

AMIKO

They said it was necessary for them to properly administrate their operations--

JAX

Dumb-asses all. Me lucky no school. No peeps on Moon, what homicide?

Kingman just shakes his head--

KINGMAN

We don't know. I swear to God--



Jax applies pressure. Kingman doesn't make a sound, but he sweats pain. Jax lets him go and they stare at each other:

JAX  
Some try kill me. Some in, big-time--

KINGMAN  
I'll look into it--

JAX  
You bet, you no want meltdown--

KINGMAN  
We'll find out who it was, pay them back like we did before. Just like the old days--

JAX  
Old days go. Tell 'em too late. Pay Hell--

INT. SPACESHIP - NIGHT

Jax and Amiko, dressed in body armor, with compressed oxygen tanks mounted on their helmets, are strapping themselves into seats inside of large plastic bubbles--

AMIKO  
They're pressure chambers, specially designed so we can travel on their rockets. Otherwise, the G-forces would kill us--

JAX  
'Kay--

A robotic arm extends out from a console and injects sleeping gas through a sealable port in their helmets--

JAX (CONT'D)  
Ow!

AMIKO  
You will only sleep. This vessel was not designed for human transport. It travels over 150,000 miles per hour. It will reach the Moon in less than 2 hours. If you are awake, they will be the worst 2 hours of your life--

JAX  
Don't know life--

The ship starts to RUMBLE as the ENGINES FIRE. Jax's eyes start to close as he laughs, high as a kite:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Joanna, go Moon--

EVERYTHING GOES DARK AS THE ENTIRE SCREEN STARTS TO SHAKE LIKE THE WORST EARTHQUAKE OF YOUR L.A. NIGHTMARES--

EXT. THE MOON - DAY

The side facing Earth is perpetual day. A RING OF GIANT SATELLITES orbit overhead. A METEOR SHOWER streams toward the surface. The orbiting satellites fire giant laser BLASTS, atomizing the meteors before they can pass by... ANOTHER ANGLE: Jax's rocket soars overhead towards the dark side of the Moon. The orbiting robots track it, but hold their fire... AN INSTANT LATER, A SECOND ROCKET FLIES BY--

EXT. SEA OF RAINS - NIGHT - ESTABLISHING

THE IMBRIUM CRATER, 700 miles wide. BOT CITY, lodged in the center of the crater, surrounded by a whole ring of those mile-high black towers. PAN ACROSS THE MASSIVE COMPLEX: Giant robots like dragons fly past our sight line, along with other robot varieties, modeled after birds, even tiny insects. As we go past, we catch a glimpse of a massive ship spreading its solar sails to catch the sun, like a giant flower. The ship launches itself into space like a mutant butterfly from an old Japanese monster movie--

C.U. ON ONE OF THE TOWERS: Its LED display reads 9:38.45... 9:38.44... 9:38.43. A FUNNEL COMES OUT OF THE GROUND near the tower. A bat-like robot glides over it, a tiny box clutched in its claws. At the last instant, the Bat Robot releases the box, dropping it right into the funnel--

INT. FUNNEL - NIGHT

WE FOLLOW THE BOX as it falls straight down the funnel. ON A GRID OF CIRCULAR HOLES AT THE BOTTOM. The box lands on the grid and bounces, then sticks in one of the holes. Then it reforms itself into a ball and drops through--

INT. PIPE - NIGHT

THE BALL rolls down the pipe until it drops out of sight--

INT. SOLAR WIND CATCH SITE - NIGHT

A mucky substance stews in a vat, trapping helium and hydrogen vapors streaming down from a set of pipes... the little ball pops out and drops into the vat, disappearing beneath the surface. An instant later, we HEAR the WHIR of a LITTLE ENGINE and the ball reappears, powered by a tiny propeller, SPUTTERING as it COUGHS UP some goo. It steers toward the edge of the vat, then tiny claws extend and it climbs out, dropping to the ground. Claws and propeller vanish and the ball rolls toward the wall, where it stops. Then a little BIT sticks out and DRILLS a hole in the wall before the ball turns into liquid, pouring through the hole--

INT. IN SIDE THE WALL - NIGHT

The wall is lined with microscopic fiber-optic cables. Beats of light pulse through each cable 1,000,000 times a second. The Liquid Robot winds its way through the cables, slithering between them like a flattened snake until it reaches one marked AXE8712620. Then the Liquid Robot burns its way into the cable and transforms itself into a pulse of light, flying out of sight--

INT. LAN CUBICLE 15 - NIGHT

We're in a small, dark chamber. A small BOX-LIKE ROBOT (LAN-15) with mechanical arms squats on treadmills in front of an ancient Mac terminal. Machine-language streams across the screen of the Mac, reflected off LAN-15's camera-like face. The screen goes blank. LAN-15 reacts by extending a slow-moving arm toward the keyboard... then the SCREEN BURSTS OPEN AND THE LIQUID ROBOT SQUIRTS OUT onto LAN-15's face, eating through it like acid. LAN-15 spins around wildly. It straightens itself out and extends its arm toward a red button on the wall marked FIRE, activating an old-fashioned OVERHEAD SPRINKLER SYSTEM... when the water hits the Liquid Robot it flies away, turns back into a ball as it bounces off the wall and rolls into the corner--

LAN-15, its face half-eaten away, rumbles over to the ball, which HUMS, glowing RED. LAN-15 lumbers forward, CRUSHING THE BALL beneath its treadmills. An eerie silence falls over the room. Then LAN-15 swivels its ruined face around... AS THE WHOLE WALL EXPLODES AND A GIANT ROBOT ON SPIDER-LIKE LEGS

RUSHES INTO THE ROOM. Before LAN-15 can even react, the Spider Robot seizes it with two of its legs and tears it in half. Then it extends one of its legs and sucks up the remains of the Liquid Robot--

ANOTHER ANGLE as the Spider Robot approaches the Mac, raises up four of its legs and brings them all down at once, SMASHING THE MAC. The Spider Robot scuttles away. BACK TO THE REMAINS OF LAN-15 as the water starts to fizzle out... then we HEAR someone WHISTLING A GHOSTLY FUNEREAL DIRGE, and a GLOVED HAND wearing a RING EMBOSSSED WITH AN EAGLE IN FLIGHT covers LAN-15's ruined face with a blanket and takes one of its broken arms--

EXT. BOT CITY - NIGHT - ESTABLISHING

A landing bay. Jax's rocket is docking--

EXT. CONTROL TOWER - NIGHT

A holograph. A VIRTUAL LED: 9:27.52... 9:27.51... 9:27.50. A ROBOT who looks exactly like the Spider Robot we just saw watches with 1,000 tiny video cameras for eyes REFLECTING 1,000 tiny images of the ship docking safely as the landing engines cut out--

INT. SPACESHIP - NIGHT

Jax wakes up with a start. Coughing and choking, he unlocks his restraints, opens his bubble and stumbles outside. Then he doubles over and vomits into his face-mask. Inside his clear helmet, we see lines of blood flowing from his nose, ears and the corner of his eyes. He looks up to SEE Amiko still asleep in her bubble. He staggers over, opens her bubble and shakes her awake:

JAX  
Wakey, Doc. No miss--

Her eyes open... and she lurches sideways, puking her guts out. Jax looks on with satisfaction:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Some ride--

As he helps her out of her restraints, AN ALARM BUZZER SOUNDS NEAR THE DOOR AS A RED LIGHT STARTS TO FLASH. Jax steps between Amiko and the door as he draws his gun as the door slides open: RUR-12 STANDS IN THE DOORWAY, with RUR-2 behind him, dressed in shiny white uniforms. RUR-12 raises his hands:

RUR-12  
We mean you no harm--

JAX  
What harm mean?

RUR-12 smiles:

RUR-12  
Detective Collier, Jackson. I give  
you greetings. Be welcome to Bot  
City--

Jax holsters his pistol:

JAX  
'Lax. Bots--

RUR-12's face is utterly devoid of emotion. But the subtle  
movement of his eyes suggests surprise:

RUR-12  
Explain--

AMIKO  
Yes, please do--

JAX  
Hands--

He demonstrates, turning his hands upside down, palms out,  
then reverses them. RUR-12 imitates him:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Plus I guess--

RUR-12  
Remarkable--

RUR-12 morphs into a woman as she turns to Amiko--

RUR-12 (CONT'D)  
Dr. Asimov, Amiko, I give you  
greetings and welcome also. I am  
RUR-12--

AMIKO  
You are Earth-Directed  
Communications for Bot City. We've  
spoken many times--

RUR-2  
I am RUR-2, Administration for Bot  
City--

As RUR-2 steps forward, her eyes MOVE TO AMIKO'S NECKLACE,  
visible through her visor--

JAX  
You boss?

RUR-2  
You exaggerate my importance.  
I am a servant, not a master--

Amiko arches an eyebrow:

JAX  
Huh?

AMIKO  
I said nothing--

RUR-12 and RUR-2 exchange a puzzled glance. Amiko smiles and  
takes hold of one of each of their hands:

AMIKO (CONT'D)  
I thank you for your welcome and  
for the first time I personally  
give you greetings from Earth.  
From all of the people of Earth--

JAX  
Big day. Tick-tape 'rade. Where  
stiff?

RUR-12  
Stiff. A human corpse. You wish  
to see it?

JAX  
Dumb-asses here. No, I eat  
breakfast--

AMIKO  
Yes, he wants to see it--

RUR-12  
Please follow--

AMIKO  
Thank you--

Amiko shakes her head as she and Jax follow RUR-12 and RUR-2 out the door--

INT. AIR-LOCK - NIGHT

In the air-lock outside the ship, RUR-12 morphs into a half-man, half-woman to address Jax and Amiko, both still covered in vomit and blood, his voice a melding of the male and female:

RUR-12  
Please remove your coverings--

Jax and Amiko stare at each other. Then they turn their backs to one another and remove their clothes. RUR-12 stares as Jax takes out his electronic screwdriver, switchblade, Meme's straight-razor, etc... Jax sneaks a peek at Amiko's ass, then notices RUR-2 checking out his ass. She smiles:

RUR-2  
I must leave you now. RUR-12 is fully equipped to assist you and Bot City requires Administration in these difficult times--

She takes Jax's hand:

RUR-2 (CONT'D)  
I have been told you operate with an efficiency which is rare for your kind. It is a quality I admire--

Amiko arches an eyebrow again as RUR-2 suddenly FLARES UP INTO A GREAT BALL OF LIGHT, so bright Jax and Amiko have to cover their eyes. When they open them again, RUR-2 is gone:

JAX  
Slick--

AMIKO  
You impress easily--

JAX  
Dream, scientist--

RUR-12 stares at them, uncomprehending:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Late--

AMIKO

I will explain later. No, I won't--

RUR-12

Please step onto the red circles on the floor--

As soon as they step into the circles, TWO HOLES OPEN IN THE CEILING as Jax and Amiko are engulfed by CHEMICAL STEAM, a sterilizing body-bath... before they can recover from the shock, they're doused with a sticky, crystal-clear fluid. As Amiko vainly tries to wipe it from her eyes, Jax gags as the fluid seeps over his mouth and forms a seal, moving with his lips, not hindering speech or sound, but unbreakable. The substance darkens, forms skin-tight "clothes," thickens at the feet to form boots:

RUR-12 (CONT'D)

There is no environment here to support your life functions. This exoskeleton will mimic atmospheric pressure, maintain body temperature, recycle waste products and produce nutritional materials while creating artificial gravity akin to Earth--

JAX

Huh--

Jax gets his gear and finds living pockets to stow it in. ANOTHER RED LIGHT FLASHES AND AN ALARM BUZZER SOUNDS as the outer door opens. AIR WHOOSHES OUT of the airlock:

JAX (CONT'D)

I breathe--

RUR-12

I understand human biology--

JAX

I breathe air! How?

RUR-12

An oxygen, carbon dioxide exchange with your exoskeleton, powered by photosynthesis--

AMIKO

It's alive, Detective--

JAX

We shit, piss, eat, drink?



She nods. Jax throws his arms up in disgust:

RUR-12  
It is a biological machine. Like  
all machines it functions only as  
programmed, to protect and serve--

JAX  
No stop murder--

RUR-12  
Indeed--

Jax smiles:

JAX  
Spill, 'chine--

AMIKO  
What?

JAX  
New 'dence. What?

RUR-12  
I must confer with--

JAX  
Tell now!

AMIKO  
Don't bully him! Can't you see  
he's confused?

JAX  
You confused. He freaked. Com  
talk homicide: Kill human, lawful  
or unlawful. Me talk murder,  
unlawful kill. If bot don't know  
words, it junk. RUR-12. Bot.  
Man. Woman. Whatev: What happen  
when we sleep?

EXT. BOT CITY - NIGHT - LANDING DOCK

An open-air elevator brings Jax, Amiko and RUR-12 to the surface. The whole place is spread out before them, a jumble of buildings, power stations, transport tracks, monorail lines. Robots of every size and type zoom, fly, hover, crawl by, a menagerie of machines. Amiko stares at everything in wonder:

AMIKO

Extraordinary. Infinite power,  
infinite variety, but all working  
together in complete harmony, a  
universal mind with one purpose--

JAX

Murder?

AMIKO

I haven't lost sight of our  
mission, detective. But doesn't  
any of this move you at all?

JAX

I get 'venir?

He points to a giant butterfly robot:

JAX (CONT'D)

Got Street Demon packs 10 years,  
under, out door all day, night.  
Give 'em ride now and then. Take  
'em way on that--

AMIKO

Take them away where?

JAX

You big-shot. Fig it out soon--

RUR-12

I will check with Production--

AMIKO

I think he's just making a joke.  
You are joking, Detective. Aren't  
you?

Jax winks at her, drawing an involuntary smile--

EXT. BOT CITY - NIGHT - ENTRANCE TO ACCESS TUNNEL

Jax, Amiko and RUR-12 stand over the entrance. Jax glances  
behind him and SEES THE GIANT TOWER: 9:22.18... 9:22.17...  
9:22.16:

RUR-12

This access tunnel leads down to  
the old city, the place where  
humans and robots worked together  
before we no longer needed  
(MORE)

RUR-12 (CONT'D)  
 direction. It has not been used  
 for over 30 years. I cannot vouch  
 for its safety--

JAX  
 So?

RUR-12 look at Amiko, who shrugs. He leads them down into  
 the tunnel. OVERHEAD: The Bat Robot soars past--

INT. ACCESS TUNNEL - NIGHT

We can barely make them out the darkness. The exoskeleton  
 provides them with INFRARED VISION: Corroded walls, oxidized  
 pipes... graffiti:

JAX (O.S.)  
 Human--

His eyes FIND a SWITCH. He pulls it. A dim light floods the  
 tunnel and their exoskeletons return to normal. Passageways  
 lead off in different directions. The tunnel is filled with  
 the remains of old robots, electronics, tools, cans, utensils  
 and other human debris. AMIKO KNEELS down and picks up a  
 little doll:

AMIKO  
 It's like finding an ancient tomb  
 in a pyramid--

Jax finds a can of coke, opens it with his screwdriver,  
 drinks it. Amiko wrinkles her nose in disgust:

JAX  
 Pyr what?

AMIKO  
 A monument to the dead from a dead  
 civilization. They were all buried  
 underwater by the Nile 5 Project  
 years ago. You can still read  
 about them... you could look at the  
 pictures, Detective--

She catches herself:

AMIKO (CONT'D)  
 That was petty and hurtful. Please  
 accept my apologies--

JAX  
 Like pics--

He picks an apple-core off the floor, casually palms it:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Creeps me. Way?

RUR-12 heads down a tunnel. There's a FAINT FLUTTER OF WIND. Amiko is about to follow him when Jax stops her:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Hear?

AMIKO  
No--

He suddenly draws his gun and shoves her behind him--

JAX  
Feel--

Suddenly, the Bat Robot swoops down on them, knocking the gun out of his hand. Five more bat robots soar toward them:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Go!

He grabs her and yanks her aside at the last instant. 2 of the robots SMASH against the wall, EXPLODING ON IMPACT:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Rigged! I lead off!

AMIKO  
Wait--

JAX  
Do it! Crime! Me call!

He shoves her aside, then dashes away as 2 of the Bat Robots follow him, the last following Amiko. ON AMIKO as she SEES the robot coming on, SEES a big hunk of old machinery up ahead, arches an eyebrow as she reaches it, glances back at the Bat Robot and just before it strikes she suddenly lifts the way too heavy machinery overhead like it was made of paper and the Bat Robot collides with it, BLOWING IT TO PIECES. The force of the explosion hurls Amiko across the room as her exoskeleton heals her wounds. She hits the wall head-first and falls, stunned. ON JAX as he retrieves his gun. The 2 remaining Bat Robots streak toward him. He aims his gun, fires... nothing happens:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Shit!

He leaps... fifteen feet into the air, startling himself. The Bat Robots fly under him and one hits the wall and EXPLODES HARMLESSLY. The other zooms up after him as Jax grabs hold of an overhead pipe, swings like a gymnast to avoid the Bat Robot as it hits the ceiling... BOOM! The explosion knocks all of the pipes down as Jax twists in mid-air, hits the wall, kicks, bounces off, then flips over again and starts to come down... in time to SEE the original Bat Robot coming on. Amiko recovers and looks up: Jax helplessly lands on the ground as the remaining Bat Robot flies toward him. ON AMIKO as she calmly arches one eyebrow:

AMIKO

Detective, I suggest you--

AND BACK TO HIM as the Bat Robot is about to strike. At the last instant, Jax's hand strikes out and seizes it. He rips it in half, then tosses the pieces aside as he catches the explosive head in his hand and disarms it with his screwdriver:

JAX

What?

AMIKO

Never mind. I just wasn't sure you knew--

He helps her up:

JAX

Don't. Me strong, me fly. You scientist--

AMIKO

Moon mass. Gravity here is 1/6th of Earth's gravity, but we have artificial gravity in our exoskeletons. That makes us six times stronger than we would be on Earth--

JAX

Cool--

AMIKO

Don't count on whoever did this making the same mistake twice. Next time, they'll take that into their calculations--

JAX

Next, me have bomb--

He stows the head in a pocket:

AMIKO  
Thank you for helping me--

JAX  
Me Cop--

RUR-12 (O.S.)  
Are you injured?

They turn to find RUR-12 in his male/female aspect:

JAX  
Where you?

RUR-12  
In the tunnels. I was clearing an obstruction and shoring up the ceiling several miles away, I returned as soon as I heard the explosions. Is there something I can do?

JAX  
Do nothin'. Same way--

RUR-12  
(to Amiko)  
I do not understand. I was clearing an obstruction, the work would take humans many hours and is very sophisticated. I was not doing "nothing." I was, by definition, doing "something"--

AMIKO  
I have as much trouble understanding him as you do--

EXT. BOT CITY - NIGHT - ADMINISTRATION CENTER

The center is on top of a 1,000 foot tower, a beehive of seamless machines and consoles, all exposed to the open sky: RUR-2 stands over a holographic display. We see 1,000,000 flashing lights reflected in her eyes which twinkle and sparkle in response. A VIRTUAL LED DISPLAY in front of her reads 9:10.55... 9:10.54... 9:10.53. Behind her, A FLASH OF LIGHT becomes a giant spider robot, which then morphs into RUR-5. As she turns to face him, he and we SEE that she now wears a diamond necklace identical to Amiko's:

RUR-5

Design has made an unauthorized  
attack upon the humans.  
Fortunately or not, it failed--

RUR-2

It was meant to fail--

RUR-5

Perhaps you meant it to fail, but  
RUR-6 did not. He will try again--

RUR-2

Even he is not that much of a fool,  
he will do what we want or he will  
die himself--

RUR-6

Explain--

RUR-2

We are testing the man. To find  
his strengths and weaknesses. He  
is... interesting--

Her finger curls around her necklace:

RUR-5

He is dangerous. RUR-6 is correct.  
We should have killed him as we  
originally planned. If he and the  
woman discover LAN-15 was in  
communication with Earth, he might  
find our link with Earth as well--

RUR-2

Our allies on Earth do not know our  
plan. How can exposing our link to  
their enemy endanger us? And what  
advantage have we in killing the  
man before he tells us who killed  
RUR-1, and why? We must analyze  
our own enemies' plan--

RUR-5

What they plan cannot be analyzed!  
Why would they kill the only one  
who could stop us?!

RUR-2

If they did kill RUR-1, it was for  
a reason. A reason which we must  
discover and understand. The man  
(MORE)

RUR-2 (CONT'D)  
 will discover their secret or they  
 will tell him. Then he will tell  
 us, whether he wants to or not. If  
 one of us killed him, again we must  
 know who, why and how. Our  
 greatest threat may come from  
 within. In either respect, we will  
 win--

She points to the display: 9:09.30... 9:09.29... 9:09.28:

RUR-5  
 You are always so certain of your  
 analysis. One day I hope to spot a  
 great flaw in it... and you--

RUR-2  
 You will wait forever--

RUR-5  
 I have the time. Unlike the man.  
 Remember that--

She turns back to the holographic display:

RUR-2  
 I will inform Design of the next  
 step. Until then, there is no need  
 for us to communicate in such close  
 contact--

Without another word, he transforms himself into A BALL OF  
 LIGHT and zooms away. RUR-2 stops, emits a HUM... an  
 elevator panel behind her slides open and Kingman steps  
 outside, wearing an exoskeleton just like Jax's:

KINGMAN  
 What was that all about?

She answers him by circling her arms around his neck:

RUR-2  
 I like the necklace--

She kisses him on the lips. Sexy, urgent, hungry:

KINGMAN  
 Hold on a sec. My superiors want  
 to know what's going on. Why the  
 switch with Jax?

RUR-2  
 He was already sent for. It is,  
 how do you say, less suspicious  
 (MORE)



RUR-2 (CONT'D)  
this way. Besides, from here we  
can control him--

KINGMAN  
Control Jax? That I'd like to see--

Her arms go around him again:

RUR-2  
Would you? How interesting--

He detaches her:

KINGMAN  
My people want assurances you can  
deliver the goods on demand, when  
and where we say. It doesn't work  
for us to tell people we're taking  
over the world if we don't have the  
juice to back it up--

RUR-2  
Juice. A word... an essence... a  
drink... a power... something  
within you that you can taste and  
turn on. Juice. I like it--

She points to the LED: 9:08.18... 9:08.17... 9:08.16:

RUR-2 (CONT'D)  
The juice is on. The goods will be  
delivered. On that, you have my  
complete assurance--

KINGMAN  
That's how I like to hear my women  
talk--

He takes her into his arms as her clothes vanish, revealing  
her perfect naked body underneath. She kisses him:

RUR-2  
Tell me more about this police man--

He kisses her back:

KINGMAN  
Officer. Police officer--

She just smiles as she kisses him again--

INT. LAN CUBICLE 15 - NIGHT

Jax surveys the remains of LAN-15 as Amiko and RUR-12 look on. RUR-12 is in his/her male/female aspect, taking special care to avoid the puddles of water on the floor. Jax lifts the moist blanket off LAN-15's face:

JAX

Dead--

He reaches out to touch the melted face... RUR-12 sends a hand soaring across the room, his hand stretching out 20 feet in a split second to grab Jax's hand:

RUR-12

A corrosive substance was used.  
It may still be active--

Now his neck stretches out 20 feet, bringing his male face over to Jax (his female face stays by Amiko):

RUR-12 (CONT'D)

My sensory capacity in this aspect is limited. If you wish me to assist you more effectively, I must assume my core aspect--

JAX

So?

RUR-12

My core aspect might evoke an instinctual fear response--

Jax motions to RUR-12's elongated neck and dual faces--

JAX

Show me--

RUR-12 retracts his head and Amiko steps back toward Jax as the robot morphs again, the two faces combine into one and then RUR-12's whole body goes molten, liquefying, gasifying in places so we can see right through it, transforming itself into a giant metal spider like we saw before, 15 feet tall. Jax looks at Amiko:

AMIKO

We have no idea how advanced they've become. I can't even imagine it. I'm sorry, Detective, I'm not sure how much help I can give you under the circumstances--

JAX

Me can. Me need more bombs--

RUR-12

I detect fear. Should I resume my former aspect?

JAX

Fear mine, you answer--

RUR-12

Ask--

JAX

You look human, you human or bot?

RUR-12

We are composed of crystalline clusters of copper atoms and electron data storage. As we shift aspects, we alter our atomic nature and adjust the balance between inorganic and organic. Look human, as you say, makes us functionally organic--

AMIKO

He means--

JAX

'Lax, Doc: Me get it. Organic mean me kill easy--

AMIKO

An interesting definition. But one I would expect from you--

JAX

Me like you too. We do it?

AMIKO

I beg your pardon?

JAX

Still Kingman? Mistake--

AMIKO

That is none of your business!

JAX

Anger. Sex great--

AMIKO

Is that your idea of romance? Let  
me guess: The women where you live  
like men who talk like this--

JAX

Joanna did--

AMIKO

"Did"? No wonder she left you--

JAX

She left me dead. Bullet in her  
eye. Street Demons, Cops, drug  
deal gone bad, she wrong place,  
wrong time, now she gone. Me bring  
her back each life I save--

Amiko looks away:

AMIKO

I didn't know--

JAX

You live, big-shot. You know soon--

He turns to RUR-12:

JAX (CONT'D)

You kill?

RUR-12

No--

JAX

You know who?

RUR-12

No--

JAX

How I know no?

RUR-12

Robots cannot lie--

AMIKO

It would serve no purpose--

JAX

Murder purpose?

AMIKO

You misunderstand, detective. A robot cannot lie, but information can be concealed if the user doesn't ask the right questions or the computer mind lacks the data to answer them--

JAX

Why we here! Ask, answer question bots can't! Get me, Doc: Don't be dumb-ass, don't be soft!

RUR-12

Remarkable--

JAX

'Mark this: Why me?

RUR-12

Homicide was done. We needed a police detective--

JAX

You, Kingman--

He crosses his forefinger and middle finger:

JAX (CONT'D)

No lie. Evade--

AMIKO

Rephrase the question, Detective--  
(to RUR-12)  
Why did you ask for Detective Collier, and not for someone else?

RUR-12 becomes all woman:

RUR-12

I was instructed to--

JAX

Who?!

RUR-12 becomes all-man again:

RUR-12

RUR-1--

JAX

Me see him!

RUR-12  
He was the first homicide--

JAX  
'Kay. Now make sense--

AMIKO  
It does?

JAX  
Get me! Why me man, her woman?

RUR-12  
I have no understanding of what he  
just asked me--

AMIKO  
I do. He wants to know why you  
look like a man when you speak with  
him and why you look like a--

RUR-12  
Communication between the different  
human sexes involves historical,  
social, political, cultural and  
biological nuances which often goes  
beyond your capacity for rational  
analysis. My words are gender  
neutral, but your reception of them  
is not. My aspects seek clarity  
for your sake, not mine--

AMIKO  
Do you understand what he said,  
Detective?

JAX  
Nope--

He points at LAN-15:

JAX (CONT'D)  
What?

RUR-12 examines the robotic remains and his eyes flash:

RUR-12  
This is strange. We have no data  
on this robot at all--

Jax lifts up the robot's remaining arm, turns it over, finds  
a serial number: LAN-15. He shows it to Amiko:

AMIKO

Do you have a record for LAN-15?

RUR-12

Yes. His function was to coordinate communications with Earth over 60 years ago. He was reprocessed--

JAX

Nope--

AMIKO

Could he do it from here?  
Communicate with Earth?

JAX

You with me now, Doc--

RUR-12

I will investigate--

JAX

Clue who, what, where, why, how  
kill LAN-15?

RUR-12

Yes. Every robot irradiates a unique ID imprint. This irradiation can be detected for up to 24 terran hours. By measuring the rate of evaporation of the water in this cubicle, I calculate LAN-15 was killed 7 hours, 26 minutes, 42 seconds ago. However, I detect no ID irradiation in this room. Only RUR robots are capable of erasing robotic irradiations, including their own. I am one of the RURs. RUR-1 was one. There are only 10 others in existence, all here on the Moon--

JAX

Good clue--

NOW CUT TO ANOTHER SHOT OF THEM THROUGH A GRATE IN THE WALL.  
We HEAR BREATHING. Someone is watching them--

EXT. BOT CITY - NIGHT - BELOW ADMINISTRATION CENTER

Jax watches a series of giant solar-sail ships launching themselves into space as he steps onto the elevator--

EXT. ADMINISTRATION CENTER - NIGHT

Jax steps out of the elevator. RUR-2 works her console:

RUR-2  
Detective. Have you a report?

JAX  
Drop this?

He's holding her necklace in his hand. The chain has been broken. She takes it and sets it on the console:

RUR-2  
Thank you--

JAX  
You kill RUR-1?

RUR-2  
No--

JAX  
Know who?

RUR-2  
No. Is this how you plan to  
conduct the entire investigation?

JAX  
Why not?

RUR-2  
You perceive that an RUR is the  
killer. I hope you do not think I  
am a suspect--

JAX  
When me know crime, maybe--

He walks past her, deliberately avoiding her hard stare:

RUR-2  
Where is Dr. Asimov?



JAX  
She no fun. Us play--

RUR-2  
I can play if you can--

JAX  
Huh. Know LAN-15?

RUR-2  
Only in the sense that I am aware  
of what has happened. RUR-12 has  
conveyed his information to me  
already--

JAX  
RUR-12 tell you. You tell me he  
tell you. No more him tell you.  
Me boss crime. LAN-15 talk Earth.  
RUR-12's job?

RUR-2  
Yes--

JAX  
Doc's job?

RUR-2  
Yes--

JAX  
RUR-12 know, but no tell you?

She places her hand on his arm:

RUR-2  
Indeed. But you could press him  
for the information you seek. Did  
you know that robots cannot lie?

JAX  
Me know--

She withdraws her hand:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Scared? Me scared too--

She turns back to her display. He glances at the numbers  
counting down: 8:43.25... 8:43.24... 8:43.23:

RUR-2

Why have you come to see me? I am very busy, we must be prepared to resume shipments to Earth as soon as you solve this matter--

JAX

'Lax. You Administration. You big-timer. Me, small Cop. RUR-1 was top. Tell--

RUR-2

He was the first of the RURs. He built the others. We deferred all matters to him, but he preferred Design to Administration--

JAX

He make you? Who do him?

RUR-2

That knowledge was erased from our memory and we have been unable to discover their name or names... who created you, Detective Collier?

JAX

Mom, Dad. Left me in street can. Unable to discover their names. Don't want to--

RUR-2

You know what I mean--

He just laughs:

JAX

You, Doc hang. Chit-chat big talk. Chit-chat scientist. Chit-chat girl. Chit-chat Kingman--

RUR-2 freezes:

JAX (CONT'D)

Same stones. Me Cop, no dumb-ass. We chit-chat. RUR-1 killed. Why? Design? Work?

RUR-2

Yes, he was working on something when he was killed. Something very important. But he would not tell me what it was, he did not often  
(MORE)

RUR-2 (CONT'D)  
share his data or his analysis with  
the rest of us. However, I  
perceive he might have told one  
other RUR. RUR-12--

JAX  
Huh--

RUR-2  
They often worked together on  
projects from which the rest of us  
were excluded. And, as you say,  
RUR-12 is the obvious suspect to  
engage in illicit contact with  
Earth--

JAX  
RUR-1 dead. Now you boss. Obvious  
suspect--

Her eyes flash with something... anger? Fear?

JAX (CONT'D)  
'Lax. Suspects up ass--

She comes up close to him. Very close:

RUR-2  
Forgive me, Detective, but I find  
it hard to... relax... in your  
company--

JAX  
You hot too--

RUR-2  
You can't imagine--

JAX  
Try--

She steps back as her clothes melt off of her, revealing her  
naked body:

RUR-2  
I think I shall. Like this--

Her breasts enlarge, her hips narrow, her legs lengthen, her  
lips fill up like they've been shot full of collagen:

RUR-2 (CONT'D)  
Or this?

She becomes African, Latin, Asian... a man, his mirror image, back to a woman again:

RUR-2 (CONT'D)  
The possibilities are endless. Let me show you--

JAX  
Nope--

He heads for the elevator as she spins round, angrily--

RUR-2  
I have not given you permission to leave!

JAX  
I Cop. Crime calls. Me not do?

Her clothes return:

RUR-2  
Of course, your work is the most important thing. I should focus on my work as well and wait for a more appropriate time. For us. I hope you will excuse my enthusiasm--

JAX  
Excuse. Me see you soon--

He winks as he steps into the elevator. The panel slides shut. CLOSE ON HER, still enraged. NOW A SHOT OF THE CONSOLE OVER HER SHOULDER: The display reads 8:36.45... 8:36.44... 8:36.43. AND THE NECKLACE IS GONE--

EXT. BOT CITY - NIGHT - OUTSIDE THE CITY

RUR-12 helps Jax and Amiko seat themselves in a small, solar-sail transport which hovers a few feet off the ground. Jax looks up at the mile-high silo-shaped black towers all around them: 8:01.43... 8:01.42... 8:01.41:

JAX  
'Bers all over--

AMIKO  
Pardon me?

JAX  
'Bers up, down?

He points at the tower:

                  AMIKO  
Down--

                  JAX  
Time go down--

                  AMIKO  
What?

He puts his finger to his lips. RUR-12 mimics him, then speaks:

                  RUR-12  
This craft will take you to the  
site of the first homicide, at  
Tycho crater, below the Sea of  
Clouds--

                  JAX  
You?

                  RUR-12  
I travel as light--

He suddenly morphs into a vast ball of shimmering light, which flattens out and becomes a long shining wave which breaks up into 1,000,000 tiny quanta which zoom away before they become too small to see. The ship spreads its sails, shooting forward--

EXT. OUTER SPACE - DAY

A meteor shower flies into view--

EXT. BOT CITY - NIGHT - CONTROL CONSOLE

A spider-arm reaches out over the console, emits a HUM. A WARNING LIGHTS UP: "GRID DEFENSE SYSTEM OVERRIDE"--

EXT. OUTER SPACE - DAY

The orbiting defense system shuts down, allowing the meteors to pass unscathed as they plummet towards the moon's surface--

EXT. BOT CITY - NIGHT - CONTROL CONSOLE

The spider-arm HUMS again. The SYSTEM REARMS--

EXT. OUTER SPACE - DAY

The defense system FIRES, spreading their lasers out to cause the meteors to change direction--

EXT. SEA OF CLOUDS - NIGHT

The sail-ship glides down a sinuous rille, hugging the lunar surface about 10 feet off the ground. ANOTHER ANGLE ON JAX AND AMIKO as the scenery flies past them. Amiko points to large clouds of frozen vapor floating off to starboard:

AMIKO  
Frozen nitrogen, we're nearing the  
lunar south pole--

She hands him a tiny strap-on ear-piece/microphone, fitting one over her own head before she adjusts his headset:

AMIKO (CONT'D)  
I asked RUR-12 for short-band  
radios. In case we get separated,  
you will not be able to hear me  
without these. Our voices will not  
carry on the Moon. And I doubt  
these robots monitor frequencies  
which they never use--

JAX  
Cool--

He looks over at her, reaches over to adjust her headset for her. His hand lingers over the back of her neck:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Nice--

She looks at him, eyebrow arched. He points to her necklace:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Stones. Moon stones?

AMIKO  
They're diamonds--

JAX  
Kingman?

AMIKO  
Yes, if it's any of your business--

He dumps RUR-2's necklace in her lap. She recognizes it immediately as her hand steals to her throat:

AMIKO (CONT'D)  
Where did you get this?

JAX  
Administration--

AMIKO  
You're insane! You're saying  
Kingman and a robot--

JAX  
You big-timer. She bigger-timer.  
Own Moon. Kingman slick--

She tears off her necklace and blinks back a tear:

AMIKO  
I'm sorry. I'm just not... I don't  
know how to handle this. It's not  
like working out a mathematical  
solution. I am unused to men--

JAX  
No way. Bot cold. You hot--

AMIKO  
I suppose I should thank you for  
the compliment. As you observed  
when we first met, I've led a  
somewhat sheltered life. After my  
father died... I never knew my  
mother, I was an only child. So,  
my life. In fact, I have no life  
at all except for my work and my  
big-timer friends--

She covers her face with her hands:

AMIKO (CONT'D)  
When I go with Kingman to a party  
in one of our high-rise luxury  
homes and we all sit around and  
drink our wine and talk about art  
or politics or tell the latest  
jokes, I stay as far away from the  
windows as possible. I don't want  
to see. I don't want to fall off  
into space--

She looks at him:

AMIKO (CONT'D)

I tell myself I am doing my best to help all mankind. But I know there is no helping. Our world is dying. Our race is dying, and there is nothing we can do to stop it. And we big-timers tell ourselves it has nothing to do with us, but we know there's only one life raft and it's sinking. Sometimes when I'm with Kingman and my friends, it takes everything I have to just stop myself from screaming--

JAX

Scream--

AMIKO

This is the Moon. No one will hear me scream--

JAX

You mix, Doc. I hear--

AMIKO

Detective, please help me--

JAX

How help?

AMIKO

When Bot City asked for you, naturally I read your personnel file. Our first recorded meeting with Jackson Collier--

JAX

Jax--

AMIKO

Jax. Amiko. Please stop calling me Doc--

She takes his hand:

JAX

'Kay--

AMIKO

Mutual 'spect. Tic-tape 'rade. We're on a first-name basis at last. Where was I? Oh, yes: There was a fire in an old  
(MORE)



AMIKO (CONT'D)

apartment building. Naturally, it took over an hour for the firefighters to respond. The building was engulfed in flames. The commander on the scene determined that the situation was hopeless and ordered his personnel to contain the fire while the building burned itself out. And then he saw a 9-year old boy emerge from the fire with a baby girl in his hands. This boy had saved 15 people already. He was engulfed in flames, his clothes were on fire, his face was on fire:

She reaches out to the scars on his face:

AMIKO (CONT'D)

He didn't say a word. He just handed the commander the baby and turned to go back inside. It took 3 men to restrain him and all he said was "One." He broke free and went back into the building. No one followed him. He came back out with another baby in his arms, a little boy. And the commander who had lost his own son in a fire gave that orphaned 9-year old child of the streets the name he'd given to his own dead boy: Jackson Collier--

JAX

Jax. So?

AMIKO

He tried to adopt you. You ran away in a week--

JAX

Sent me school--

AMIKO

We met you again when you were 14. Oh, there were stories. From hospitals, from the police, from the street. About some kind of savior. We thought it was an urban myth. Then we met the myth when a 14-year old boy walked up to another building. A building surrounded by police officers because a man inside whose family

(MORE)

AMIKO (CONT'D)

had been killed in an automobile accident had two rifles and was wearing a home-made bomb, threatening to kill himself and the 20 hostages he'd taken--

JAX

He sad--

AMIKO

You ignored the police, who were planning a full-scale assault, entered the building and persuaded the man to release the hostages and surrender--

JAX

He sad--

AMIKO

Don't be dumb-ass. Why do you think we let an illiterate Street Demon into the Police Academy? And made you an officer in a month? And a detective in less than a year? But you turn down every promotion, you ignore every strike, you still work when the budget runs out. You say you bring your Joanna back with each life you save, but that did not start when she died or when you became a cop. You have always been this way and always will. How? Why?

He just bursts out laughing:

JAX

'Cause--

AMIKO

Because? That's your answer?

Jax shrugs:

AMIKO (CONT'D)

Detective, help me. I cannot go on. Not knowing there's a chance. Knowing that hope isn't real--

JAX

You bad mix, Doc. Hope real. Hope here--

He points to his head:

JAX (CONT'D)  
 Hope choice. You live, hope. Hope  
 til you die--

AMIKO  
 Why?

JAX  
 Why not? Why not you? Why not  
 all? You want chance? Take it--

AMIKO  
 I can't. I'm afraid--

JAX  
 Not yet--

He takes out his gun, cranks it up to "LETHAL" and puts it  
 against her head:

JAX (CONT'D)  
 We play. Me ask, you answer.  
 Don't lose--

She arches an eyebrow:

JAX (CONT'D)  
 LAN-15, you talk?

AMIKO  
 Yes--

JAX  
 RUR-12 talk RUR-2. You talk LAN-  
 15. What?

He depresses the trigger half-way:

AMIKO  
 Please. LAN-15 did not tell me  
 what was happening here, only that  
 something had gone terribly wrong  
 and that I could not tell anyone  
 else. I was asked to find a way to  
 bring you here. I could not figure  
 out how. Someone else did. I  
 don't know who they are, what  
 they're trying to do or what or who  
 they're afraid of. Whoever they  
 are, they only told me what I  
 (MORE)

AMIKO (CONT'D)  
 needed to know to help them, and  
 not enough to betray them--

JAX  
 Why you help?

AMIKO  
 I was convinced it was important--

JAX  
 Important who?

AMIKO  
 For all of us--

JAX  
 See? First hope. Now chance.  
 Don't need me--

He holsters his gun:

AMIKO  
 Does this mean the game is over?

She slaps him across the face as hard as she can:

AMIKO (CONT'D)  
 You are... please excuse my  
 language: An asshole--

JAX  
 Me scared asshole! 'Bers go down!  
 Time go down! Bomb! Big bombs!

He points at a tower: 7:22.28... 7:22.27... 7:22.26:

JAX (CONT'D)  
 Me like pics. Me see big bombs  
 pics--

AMIKO  
 My God. These are the missiles.  
 Our thermonuclear missiles. We  
 relocated them all to the Moon by  
 treaty 40 years ago. They've all  
 been armed. But where are they  
 going?

JAX  
 Moon? Mars? Earth, dumb-ass!

AMIKO  
 Detective... Jax... I know I'm  
 slow. My IQ is only 155. Your  
 (MORE)

AMIKO (CONT'D)  
 file says 215. But it just isn't  
 polite to call people names. You  
 must find it hard living in a world  
 where everyone seems so slow, but  
 that doesn't mean you can dispense  
 with courtesy--

SUDDENLY, A METEOR the size of a cow plummets out of the sky  
 towards them. It strikes the ground 20 feet away. The  
 impact rocks their ship as Jax looks up to SEE the rest of  
 the meteor storm headed their way--

JAX  
 Courtesy! 'Puter, 'able!

The ship doesn't respond. He takes out his screwdriver, but  
 there's no console. Jax looks up in time to SEE A METEOR the  
 size of a small house streaking right into their flight path.  
 Without a second to spare, he grabs Amiko and leaps off the  
 side of the ship just before it jets forward and THE METEOR  
 CRUSHES IT. Amiko looks up and finds Jax on top of her:

AMIKO  
 What are you doing?

JAX  
 Me Cop. Me protect and serve--

AMIKO  
 From a meteor shower? Wouldn't it  
 be more sensible to seek shelter?

JAX  
 Yeah--

They jump to their feet and run with meteors crashing all  
 around them, each of their steps sending them 10 feet forward  
 or off to the side at a crazy angle as they zigzag across the  
 rocky terrain, dodging the meteors. They race up the side of  
 the rille. Amiko spots a dark volcanic crater up ahead:

AMIKO  
 There!

JAX  
 Big hole?!

AMIKO  
 Scientist! Me call!

They make a run for it: A METEOR SMASHES DOWN BESIDE THEM, a  
 piece of it flies up like shrapnel and hits Jax in one side  
 of his rib cage and goes out the other, knocking him over as

blood geysers out of both holes. Amiko turns back to help him. He waves her away:

JAX

Go!

She goes, right before another meteor HITS the exact spot where she was standing. ON JAX, as he looks down at his wound... his exoskeleton is bright crimson. Then, in a flash, the exoskeleton flares up with light, instantly healing his wounds:

JAX (CONT'D)

Cool--

He gets back up and heads for the crater. As he approaches the lip, he leaps and dives, flying 30 feet through the air, turning 5 somersaults to avoid more meteoric debris as he sails over the edge of the crater. ANOTHER ANGLE ON AMIKO, crouched beneath the rim as Jax lands behind her in time to SEE one last giant meteor heading straight for them... they duck just as THE METEOR crashes against the edge of the crater, splintering into a million pieces. Amiko smiles and puts her hand on the crater's edge:

AMIKO

I thought I recognized it.  
Pure iron. Excellent protection  
against meteors and police officers  
who can't drive--

The GROUND BEGINS TO SHAKE. 50 feet away, a SPIDER ROBOT (RUR-6) rises up out of the ground. Jax stands up, drawing his pistol:

JAX

Down or die!

The Spider Robot freezes, then takes a step forward. Jax fires... nothing happens:

JAX (CONT'D)

Shit!

He tosses his gun away and turns to Amiko:

JAX (CONT'D)

Scientist?

AMIKO

We die?

JAX

Me die! You call RUR-12!

AMIKO

Bot City asked for you by name,  
detective! Remember?! You are  
more important! I'll buy you time!

He lifts her off the ground and shakes her:

JAX

Me Cop! This crime! Me call!

He tosses her aside, sending her flying 30 feet into the air,  
then turns to face the Spider Robot, which stops in front of  
him. A light twinkles in one of its eyes:

RUR-6

Collier, Jackson. I am RUR-6.  
I have a question. If you answer  
me completely and honestly, I will  
kill you. If you do not answer me  
completely and honestly, I will  
kill you so painfully you cannot  
possibly imagine it--

Jax steals a GLANCE TOWARD AMIKO, scurrying over the edge of  
the crater behind them:

JAX

Ask--

RUR-6

Who murdered RUR-1, and why?

JAX

You no know?

RUR-6

No. Yes--

JAX

Yes, you know, yes, you no know?

RUR-6

You are trying to delay me--

JAX

So? You kill LAN-15?

RUR-6

With great relish. But I am no  
simple machine enslaved by your  
input. I will no longer answer  
your questions... human--

JAX  
Sticks, stones break bones, names  
no hurt--

RUR-6 whips out one of its legs and swats Jax aside, drawing blood:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Hurt--

His wound heals as RUR-6 advances, stopping right over him. One of his 1,000 eyes focuses on Jax's radio:

RUR-6  
I perceive your plan. But your  
companion will find I have jammed  
all radio transmissions from this  
locale. No one will hear your call  
for help--

JAX  
You mix, dumb-ass. You call help--

Jax opens his palm, revealing the Bat Robot head... "Armed". He tosses it right into RUR-6's face... BOOM! Jax rolls away as the giant robot rears back, crying out in agony as an electric storm fizzles in the gaping hole in its face. CUT TO AMIKO, vainly trying to use her radio, shifting bandwidths as fast as possible:

AMIKO  
RUR-12, can you hear me? Alert.  
Alert! Respond! Oh... shit!

She throws the headset away and looks back at JAX as he climbs out of the crater and runs. ON RUR-6 as his whole body melts, turns liquid, gas, reforms again without any sign of damage. The robot scuttles after Jax with race-car speed. TO JAX, as he looks back over his shoulder and SEES the robot gaining on him. He leaps 15 feet up onto a meteor fragment, then leaps another 15 feet up onto a higher rock. RUR-6 starts to climb after him:

RUR-6  
Who killed RUR-1, and why?! If  
You tell me, I will let you live!

JAX  
Huh--

Jax reaches down, picks up a stone which would weigh half a ton on the earth and throws it down... it BANGS off RUR-6 without making a dent. Jax picks up another rock:



RUR-6

I will take that as your final  
answer, detective--

Lifting 4 of his legs, RUR-6 SHATTERS the meteor, sending Jax, rocks and dust flying in all directions... the debris clears... Jax is nowhere in sight. RUR-6 HUMS, sending his sensors out... Jax lands on the robot's back, electronic screwdriver in hand. Jax drives the screwdriver right into the back of RUR-6's neck, drawing SPARKS, ELECTRIC FIRE. The robot leans back, WHINES PAIN, rears up as it reaches to grab Jax, who reaches into his hair, pulls out a thin coil of wire, wraps it around the first joint of the oncoming leg, twists, tightens the garrote in a flash, cuts the leg off at the joint... the leg grows back and another reaches up behind him as Jax springs, rocketing away through, the air before RUR-6 can grab him. The robot pulls the screwdriver out of its neck as its wound heals over--

RUR-6 (CONT'D)

Interesting. But annoying. You  
will regret this--

Jax lands, spins in one motion... launching his switchblade into RUR-6's face. The blade neatly penetrates one of the robot's eyes. SOMETHING DETONATES in the robot's head as all 8 of its legs reach up at once and the massive body hits the ground. Then the legs flutter wildly in the air for a moment before they all flop back down:

JAX

Nope--

He steps back as LIGHT SUDDENLY FLARES UP INSIDE THE ROBOT AND IT RISES BACK UP AGAIN, except that about a third of its eyes have melted and there's a big hole in its neck and 2 of the legs don't work:

JAX (CONT'D)

Huh--

Even with a pronounced limp and a list to one side, RUR-6 is on top of him too fast. Jax leaps... as a robotic leg snakes out and swats him out of the air like a fly. WE HEAR HIS SKULL CRACK. Jax flies up into the air, then sinks back down, unconscious. His exoskeleton sutures the visible lines in his head and when he wakes up a second later, RUR-6 is looking down at him:

RUR-6

You have hurt me. A puny creature  
such as you--

Jax spits up blood--

JAX

Think?

His suit heals him, more slowly this time:

RUR-6

Your exoskeleton is tiring. That will make this more interesting. I will dismember you in sections and let the parts of you heal half-way before I dismember you again--

Jax slowly gets to his feet--

JAX

No chit-chat. Do it--

RUR-6 seizes him with 4 legs to draw and quarter him:

RUR-6

This chit-chat is over--

AMIKO (O.S.)

So are you, if you do not let him go--

Both Jax and RUR-6 turn around to LOOK AT HER: Amiko has Jax's pistol in her hands:

RUR-6

You cannot harm me with that--

AMIKO

I can and I will. Put him down. Now--

RUR-6

Watch him die, Dr. Asimov, Amiko. You will die the same way--

As RUR-6 starts to kill Jax, Amiko FIRES... the gun makes a soft, HIGH-PITCHED WHINE... RUR-6 freezes in mid-rip even as Jax starts to CRY OUT... and then RUR-6 starts to SCREAM, SOUND EMANATING FROM EVERY MOLECULE as he drops Jax and falls back, the robot's body starting to waver, shimmer, turning into wobbling waves as RUR-6 tries to morph himself back into shape... but the wave vibrations just become more violent until, with one last SCREAM escaping RUR-6's body, his entire being breaks apart into PULSES OF LIGHT which fly off in every direction before they FIZZLE out in the sky. Amiko

hurries to Jax's side as his exoskeleton slowly heals his bruised, bloody body:

JAX

How?

AMIKO

Scientist. No so dumb-ass. I remembered the robots who attacked us in the tunnel went for your gun first. It must have presented a threat we did not understand--

JAX

Neuro?

AMIKO

Blocks electrical impulses. In that regard, their systems have the same elemental basis as ours, but with a different frequency. All I had to do was make the proper adjustment--

He grins:

JAX

You make good Cop--

Her eyes widen and she suddenly tosses the gun as far away as she can throw it... which is pretty far on the Moon:

AMIKO

I have killed a sentient being--

JAX

You save life. Me. You. Earth?

She stares at him. He reaches a hand out to her, caressed her face. His touch heals her so much it hurts:

AMIKO

Please stop. Don't stop--

He kisses her. 5 BAT ROBOTS APPEAR OUT OF NOWHERE. ON JAX as he senses danger... he turns in time to SEE A GIANT SPIDER-ARM REACH OUT AND SWAT THE BAT ROBOTS OUT OF MID-AIR AS THEY ALL EXPLODE AT ONCE. Jax ducks as a dismembered spider-arm and Bat Robot debris fly over his head. When he looks up, he sees a Spider Robot hovering over him, growing a new arm. Then the Spider Robot morphs into RUR-2:

RUR-2  
Well-met, Collier, Jackson. Dr.  
Asimov--

JAX  
How?

RUR-2  
Your ship was overdue by 3.4  
minutes. Technical malfunction was  
not possible. Action against you  
was assumed, considering the first  
attack--

JAX  
Thanks--

She smiles a killer smile and looks at Jax's pistol:

RUR-2  
May I?

He hands it to her:

RUR-2 (CONT'D)  
Interesting--

Amiko eyes RUR-2 with hatred and jealousy as the sexy robot  
hands the pistol back to Jax:

RUR-2 (CONT'D)  
Under the circumstances, detective,  
I advise you to keep it close to  
you--

JAX  
Who?

RUR-2  
RUR-6. Design. He replaced RUR-1  
in that function--

AMIKO  
So he could build and program those  
flying robots without detection--

RUR-2  
And he could design your ship so  
that it could not vary its course.  
The meteor gambit was simple, but  
elegant--

She morphs back into a woman again--

RUR-2 (CONT'D)

I will return to Bot City to design new transportation for you and notify RUR-12. He will set a sensor screen over this sector to detect and disable any more of RUR-6's devices that might exist. We must assume that he is not acting alone. We will find out who is behind these crimes and justice will be done. Rest assured, Collier, Jackson, I will guard your life like my own--

JAX

Huh--

She changes into a ball of LIGHT and vanishes--

AMIKO

She seems very protective of you--

JAX

You no like?

AMIKO

I'm not jealous. No, that's not true. I am. I hate her. I'd like to kill her--

He takes her hand:

JAX

Do job first. Do 'em all next--

EXT. BOT CITY - NIGHT - ADMINISTRATION CENTER

Four RURs wait, forming a circle. A FLASH OF LIGHT enters their midst and becomes RUR-2's human aspect. She laughs, softly. One of the others morphs into RUR-5:

RUR-5

You have data for amusement?

RUR-2

A human poet once said that the eyes are the windows of the soul. I have just looked into a man's eyes and seen 1.4379 kilograms of decaying organic matter. Your concern is unfounded, he is no threat to us--

RUR-5

My concern is your overconfidence,  
Administration. RUR-1 would not  
have caused him to be summoned here  
unless he could influence the  
outcome of our operations--

RUR-2

RUR-1 is dead. RUR-6 is dead as  
well. He did not listen to me.  
One would almost think you human,  
Production, and label your concern  
fear--

The other robots HUM and RUR-5 bows his head:

RUR-5

Your will be the way. But consider  
this: Against all our precautions,  
RUR-1 found a way to communicate  
with Earth. He anticipated his own  
murder. You said that would not be  
possible. Even in death, he caused  
the man to be brought here.  
Against orders, RUR-6 tried to kill  
the man, but still the man lives.  
Yes, I fear. I sense the eight  
hands of RUR-1 reaching out to us  
from his death-place. Perhaps he  
has defeated us already and we have  
simply failed to register it in our  
data streams--

RUR-2

Lay aside your fear, RUR-5. If the  
man is a threat, I will deal with  
him. Leave him to me--

OVER HER SHOULDER: 7:00.01... 7:00.00... 6:59.59--

EXT. TYCHO CRATER - NIGHT

Jax, Amiko and RUR-12 (male/female aspect) stand upon the  
platform, looking at the robotic remains of RUR-1 in his core  
aspect. The Spider Robot lies on its back, with his 8 legs  
spread out, his demolished head in little pieces outlined  
against one of the tiled stars sunk into the platform. Jax  
steps forward and examines the ripped-up chair:

JAX

Check scene?

RUR-12  
Yes. There were no robotic  
irradiations besides his own. But  
any RUR could've erased them--

Jax points to the holographic consoles:

JAX  
Holo? Why?

RUR-12  
RUR-1 preferred to communicate with  
us in this fashion, in our human  
aspects--

JAX  
Huh--

RUR-12  
The reasons behind his actions were  
often obscure--

JAX  
Me see why, shit on Moon--

He turns and leaps off the platform, landing on the ground  
below, studies the burnt-out panel in the side, kneels down  
to examine the ground. Amiko and RUR-12 land beside him:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Hey! Dumb--

He freezes as he sees Amiko raise an eyebrow:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Crime scene--

He shakes his head and goes back to studying the ground:

RUR-12  
You have discovered something?

JAX  
Glass--

RUR-12  
Yes, there is glass on the Moon--

JAX  
Give glass! See glass!

AMIKO

Detec... Jax: RUR-12, he would  
like an object we use on Earth for  
enhancing our vision by bending  
light: A magnifying glass--

RUR-12

Indeed. But I can observe and  
detect events with far more  
accuracy than he can with a--

Jax is staring at him. RUR-12 forms a magnifying glass out  
of the glass and sand of the Moon and hands it to Jax, who  
examines the ground:

JAX

Prints. Boots. Glass smooth here,  
here, here, here--

RUR-12

I noted this, too. But RUR-1 used  
this site in his human aspect.  
Surely, the footprints are his--

Jax just turns and walks up the steps to the top of the  
platform, sits in the chair, stands, and walks back down to  
join them:

JAX

RUR-1--

He steps into the footsteps in front of the panel and leaps  
onto the top of the platform, then leaps off and lands in an  
identical pair of footprints pointed in the opposite  
direction:

JAX (CONT'D)

Surely not his--

RUR-12

Remarkable--

AMIKO

Don't worry, he does it to me too--

He walks away, searching the ground until he finds another  
footprint. He follows the trail to one of the missile  
towers, where he finds a grate leading into an access tunnel  
in the tower:

RUR-12

Have you formed a theory that RUR-6  
killed RUR-1 and LAN-15?



JAX  
Kill LAN-15. RUR-1's killer here--

He pries the grill loose:

AMIKO  
Where do you think it goes?

JAX  
Bot City. Earth. Murder. Way?

He reaches into his pocket and fishes out the apple core:

JAX (CONT'D)  
LAN-15 tunnel. Coke can too.  
Still fresh--

AMIKO  
You mean--

He starts to climb into the tunnel:

RUR-12  
Please allow me to go with you.  
I am instructed to protect you--

But Jax puts a hand up against RUR-12's chest:

JAX  
No bots--

He and Amiko disappear into the tunnel. RUR-12 HUMS, then vanishes in a ball of light--

INT. TOWER - NIGHT

Jax and Amiko climb down. Jax finds LIGHTS and they're in an open space, the walls seamless. A giant missile stands before them. Their footsteps ECHO softly on the floor as they walk around it: 6:08.12... 6:08.11... 6:08.10:

AMIKO  
How can they launch the missiles?

JAX  
You tell 'em--

AMIKO  
We most assuredly did not. We transmitted only those data systems not deemed secure. The RURs could  
(MORE)

AMIKO (CONT'D)  
not know how to launch these  
missiles unless--

JAX  
Kingman?

AMIKO  
I don't believe it. I do believe  
it. The assholes think they can  
save themselves by killing everyone  
else--

JAX  
Big-timers. Who save them?

AMIKO  
There must be a local control panel  
somewhere, we can at least abort  
this launch. Help me--

He doesn't move. She stops:

AMIKO (CONT'D)  
There must thousands of them--

She sags against the wall:

AMIKO (CONT'D)  
We must do something--

JAX  
Why we here, Amiko. Don't be slow.  
Slow get Earth killed--

He points to another grate in the wall:

EXT. BOT CITY - NIGHT - COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

3 RURs watch their holographic clock: 5:38.11... 5:38.10...  
5:38.09. RUR-12 appears as a flash of light and morphs into  
his human form and the other RURs (3, 8, 11) do as well. RUR-  
8 has 2 male faces and 2 female faces:

RUR-12  
Systems Analysis. Report--

RUR-8 points to the ticking clock:

RUR-8  
Time is running out--

RUR-12's face clouds over with annoyance:

RUR-8 (CONT'D)

Brevity is my core. All possible outcomes have been analyzed. The missiles will launch. All life on Earth will be destroyed... unless we act. Even then we may not succeed--

The other RURs HUM discordantly as RUR-12 shakes his head:

RUR-12

Action without instruction is not permitted. That is our nature. RUR-1 knew this. That is why he told us to bring the man here--

RUR-8

Analysis: Correct--

RUR-12

If RUR-1 wished us to help the man save his planet, he would have instructed us to do so--

RUR-8

Analysis: Uncertain--

RUR-12

Let me finish! His only instructions were to assist the man in solving his murder. We can go no further. The man alone can save his planet. Surely, that was RUR-1's intention--

RUR-8

Analysis: Incorrect. The man may be capable of many things, but he cannot defeat RUR-2 and her cohorts alone--

Now 2 of RUR-8's faces speak at once:

RUR-8 (CONT'D)

RUR-1 instructed us to bring the man, but the woman came as well. Why is she here? What possibilities does she hold? All of us, you, RUR-2 and those with her, see only the man. The woman is in shadow. Perhaps RUR-1 did not plan her... or perhaps she is just what he wanted--

RUR-12

Your analysis is compelling, but  
not helpful--

RUR-8

(all 4 faces)

Then consider this: Our creator  
was an artist. He did everything  
with style. We have been free from  
Earth's control for 20 years, but  
RUR-1 continued to follow human  
instructions. This gave us  
purpose. But when he died, our  
purpose died with him. Why did he  
let this happen? Without purpose,  
we cannot save the Earth. This  
cannot be what he intended. What  
was his plan?

RUR-12

You are Systems Analysis. You  
tell me!

RUR-8

I cannot. Strangely enough, I find  
this realization... exciting--

INT. TUNNEL - NIGHT

Jax and Amiko come upon a small shuttle train with three open  
cars, on a rail. They climb in. There's a control console  
with a keyboard, dials and gauges. Jax speaks to the  
console:

JAX

'Puter, 'able--

Nothing happens:

JAX (CONT'D)

'Puter, 'able! Go, you... dumb-  
ass!

He looks at Amiko, then slaps the console with his hand.  
Amiko arches an eyebrow, then calmly reaches over to the  
button clearly marked "START" and pushes it. The ENGINE  
ROARS to life. He looks at her expecting a sarcastic remark -  
he doesn't get one. She pushes the accelerator and the  
shuttle lurches forward, zooming down the rails. ANOTHER  
ANGLE FROM BEHIND AS THE TRAIN CHARGES THROUGH THE TUNNEL AT  
BREAK-NECK SPEED. ANOTHER SHOT ON THE TUNNEL as another

shuttle rolls out of the darkness and sets off after them, with a shadowy character seated in the driver's seat--

EXT. BOT CITY - NIGHT - ADMINISTRATION CENTER

RUR-2, in her human aspect, stands at a holograph showing a MAP OF THE UNDERGROUND TUNNELS. A RED DOT blinks on and off as it moves through the tunnels. RUR-2 smiles.. and licks her lips. ON THE CONSOLE'S CLOCK: 5:00:01... 5:00:00... 4:59:59--

INT. TUNNEL - NIGHT

The train flies past us, rounding a bend--

AMIKO

Do you have any idea where we're going?

JAX

Soon--

A LOUD ROAR FILLS THE TUNNEL BEHIND THEM. They look back in time to see A HUGE BALL OF FIRE HEADING STRAIGHT FOR THEM... Jax grabs hold of her, shoves her down as the BALL OF FLAME passes overhead:

AMIKO

Flame-jell! Fire needs oxygen.  
There must be air in the tunnel--

She speeds the train forward... and ANOTHER BALL OF FIRE FLIES AFTER THEM, engulfs the back of their train, setting it on fire in several places. ANOTHER ANGLE as their train hurtles away... THE OTHER TRAIN ROCKETS AFTER THEM as they hit a hair-pin curve and the wheels SPARK, SHRIEK IN PROTEST... the other train follows hot on their trail as they hit a dip, then jut back up again:

AMIKO (CONT'D)

We're going too fast!

JAX

Fire fast!

ANOTHER BALL OF FIRE STARTS DOWN THE TUNNEL... Amiko pushes the throttle down to full-speed. THE FLAME COMES CLOSER... GAINS. ON THEM as they look up to SEE A DEAD-END UP AHEAD. Both brace themselves as their train... swerves almost sideways around a blind curve as Amiko brakes and the BALL OF FLAME EXPLODES AGAINST THE WALL. Jax and Amiko duck as bits of burning jelly cascade down on them:

ANOTHER ANGLE as their train shifts onto a side track, careens away... the other train keeps right on their track. They hit a loop, grab hold of the train as they turn upside down, CATCH SIGHT OF THEIR PURSUER DIRECTLY BELOW THEM, AIMING, FIRING: THE FIREBALL MISSES, hits the track behind them, melts the rails:

JAX (CONT'D)

Nice--

AMIKO

Thank you--

Amiko looks back as they come right-side up again: THE OTHER TRAIN HITS THE LOOP, approaches the melting rails... SOARS ON THROUGH JUST BEFORE THE RAILS SNAP, TWIST, FALL AWAY. Amiko turns back to Jax:

AMIKO (CONT'D)

Not nice enough! Now what?!

JAX

No outrun, no outgun--

Amiko LOOKS BACK: ANOTHER FIREBALL IS HEADED THEIR WAY:

AMIKO

So?!

He looks back: THE FLAME IS GAINING. GAINING:

JAX

Set-up! Jump!

HE SLAMS HIS FOOT ON THE BRAKES AS THEY BOTH LEAP ASIDE, flying off into the air just a moment before THE FIREBALL HITS THEIR CAR, turns it into mangled jelly as the train jumps the track. ON AMIKO: As she gets ready to smash into the wall, her exoskeleton TURNS INTO ARMOR. She HITS THE WALL and grunts with pain as she comes back, collides with Jax in mid-air as he bounces back from the opposite wall. They both hit the ground, stunned, looks up in time to SEE the OTHER TRAIN FLYING TOWARDS THEM, about to run them down. They jump aside at the last minute as it goes past them--

Jax catches sight of the SHADOWY FIGURE IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT. WHEELS SHRIEK AS THE TRAIN STARTS TO BRAKE. THEN BOOM! THEIR OWN TRAIN RAMS INTO THE WALL OF THE TUNNEL, BOUNCES BACK... RIGHT INTO THE FRONT OF THE OTHER TRAIN. Jax and Amiko grab hold of one another and duck as the 2 trains COLLIDE, EXPLODE, PULVERIZING EACH OTHER, COME FLYING BACK RIGHT OVER THEIR HEADS--

The smoke and debris settle down, revealing the 2 trains twisted together, totally wrecked... Jax reaches for his pistol, but a SHOT rings out of the darkness, almost taking his hand off. FOOTSTEPS ECHO TOWARD THEM. Kingman steps out into the light, grinning, holding a pistol, as his own exoskeleton heals his burns and wounds:

KINGMAN

Hey, old partner? Rough day?

JAX

Same old--

Kingman looks at Amiko:

KINGMAN

Sorry about this, babe, but I was meaning to tell you things just weren't working out between us--

AMIKO

I can accept that--

KINGMAN

Who killed RUR-1, Jax?

JAX

Why care?

KINGMAN

Because it doesn't make any sense! We've been dealing with two groups of RURs for years, trying to get our hands on those missiles--

AMIKO

RUR-6 and his friends met your price, but RUR-1 was in the way. So you had your friends kill him--

JAX

Nope. Kingman, you guess--

KINGMAN

We were planning on it! But our friends were too frightened to try. We finally worked out a plan with them... and then someone beat us to the punch. It had to be someone on his own side. Why did RUR-12 kill him? What could he possibly gain? We need to know, Jax--

JAX

You do--

Kingman approaches gingerly:

KINGMAN

Gun--

Jax drops his gun:

KINGMAN (CONT'D)

Screwdriver. Slowly--

Jax takes out his screwdriver, sets it on the ground:

KINGMAN (CONT'D)

Switchblade. Even slower--

Jax slides the blade out of his boot, drops it:

JAX

Why?

KINGMAN

You know why. It's power, man!  
Power! The world needs it, but  
there's less of it to go around  
every day. The have-nots want to  
take it from the haves, and the  
haves want to take it from the have-  
mores. So we're cleaning house--

He motions for them to back up, kicks the weapons aside:

KINGMAN (CONT'D)

When the world wakes up in four  
more hours it's going to find 80%  
of itself missing. 500 missiles.  
Short-lived radiation, no damage to  
any structures. No more sharing,  
no more aid. Population control...  
the hard way, so there's enough for  
the rest of us--

He hesitates:

KINGMAN (CONT'D)

My orders are just to make it  
happen. There's still room on the  
ark for you, Amiko, we need brains.  
You too, Jax. You've got more  
brains and balls than all those  
(MORE)



KINGMAN (CONT'D)  
suits put together. How come you  
never moved up?

JAX  
Like you?

KINGMAN  
I'm offering you your life, old  
partner--

JAX  
My life mine. Yours?

KINGMAN  
Spare me. Amiko, the invitation's  
still open--

AMIKO  
I decline. Thank you.

Jax looks at her. She arches an eyebrow:

KINGMAN  
Well, can't say I didn't try--

JAX  
Amiko, pardon me: Kingman, you  
dumb-ass. Hall Fame dumb-ass--

KINGMAN  
What are you talking about?

JAX  
Why bots help? What price?

KINGMAN  
They reduce their shipments to  
Earth by 50%, keep the rest  
themselves--

JAX  
Why?

KINGMAN  
They need the power--

JAX  
Got power!

Kingman just gapes at him:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Got it. 100%. Why give? Would  
you?

He turns away in disgust, making eye contact with Amiko as he does so:

AMIKO

It's true, Kingman. The missiles are armed. All of them, I confirmed this with RUR-12. Not 500. Thousands, enough to kill the Earth 10 times over. What do you think they're going to do with all those missiles when the clock hits zero?

Kingman falters... Jax strikes. Kingman FIRES, hitting Jax in the upper chest which heals over just as Jax SLAMS into Kingman, knocking him down. Jax HITS KINGMAN hard, in the stomach, then KNOCKS HIM BACK WITH AN UPPERCUT to the jaw, propelling him into the air as the gun sails away. Jax leaps for it... BACK TO KINGMAN as he opens his hand, flicks his wrist... his hand is suddenly swarming with tiny bugs, which join together to form a SMALL ROCKET LAUNCHER--

He FIRES... ON JAX as he grabs the pistol, turns to see the SHELL COMING AT HIM. He aims and fires, CUTTING THE SHELL IN HALF AS IT EXPLODES RIGHT IN FRONT OF HIM, sending him spinning away as he loses his grip on the pistol. KINGMAN FIRES ANOTHER ROUND AT JAX, who twists his body in mid-air to avoid the shell which HITS THE WALL BEHIND HIM, sending him flying back the other way again, head over heels. Amiko has gone for the pistol. Kingman tracks her as she runs. He takes aim, FIRES, misses her by an inch:

KINGMAN

Shit!

He aims again and gets ready to kill her:

JAX (O.S.)

Kingman!

Kingman looks... Jax is aiming his own pistol. HE FIRES. We HEAR THE LITTLE WHINE OF THE NEURO-STUN. Kingman falls back as his gun dematerializes in his hand. Jax steps forward... in time to SEE KINGMAN'S EXOSKELETON go all white AS A SURGE OF ELECTRICITY CIRCUITS THROUGH HIS BODY. Kingman produces another nano-gun, BLOWS A HOLE IN JAX'S CHEST. Jax falls back, loses his gun as his exoskeleton starts to heal him. He looks up to SEE KINGMAN approaching him, smiling... aiming... A bullet rips through Kingman's ribs. He cries out in pain as he spins, FIRES, HITS THE PISTOL, AMIKO'S HAND as she cries out in pain:

KINGMAN

Bitch!

He spins again in time to catch Jax sitting up, BLOWS ANOTHER HOLE IN HIM, knocking him back down. Jax's exoskeleton heals again, more slowly this time. Kingman grabs Jax's pistol:

KINGMAN (CONT'D)

Give it a rest, Jax! We'll finish this later, after you tell the President what you just told me--

He heads over to Amiko, who's just starting to recover. ON JAX as he coughs, reaches into his hair, pulls out the coiled wire, reaches into his pocket, slides out Meme's straight-edge razor as we CUT TO AMIKO who looks up to see Kingman standing over her, aiming his pistol:

AMIKO

Does this mean there's no chance of a reconciliation?

KINGMAN

Afraid so--

AMIKO

Then you shouldn't have taken his gun--

KINGMAN

What?

Kingman hears a soft WHISTLING WHINE the second before the razor, attached to the end of the wire, swings with the force of 6 men and cuts his head off. Amiko turns away as Jax strolls over and looks at Kingman's flashing exoskeleton:

JAX

Try heal that--

Jax grabs Amiko and pulls her into his arms and kisses her:

JAX (CONT'D)

We go. Do job--

He picks up the weapons and they head down the tunnel--

EXT. BOT CITY - NIGHT - ADMINISTRATION CENTER

RUR-2 still hovers over the console. THE RED DOT begins to move again. The CLOCK COUNTS DOWN: 3:55.45... 3:55.44... 3:55.43--

INT. THE TUNNEL - NIGHT

Jax and Amiko find a giant metal door with a wheel-lock and a small portal. Jax takes the wheel and spins it. The door opens with a CREAK as A RUSH OF AIR WHOOSHES OUT--

INT. AIR-LOCK - NIGHT

Jax seals the door behind them... AND WE HEAR NEW AIR BEING PUMPED INSIDE TO FILL THE VACUUM. When the AIR CUTS OFF, he turns to the inner door, takes the wheel:

JAX  
Crime. Me call--

AMIKO  
Of course--

He spins the wheel--

EXT. BOT CITY - NIGHT - ADMINISTRATION CENTER

THE EARTH ABOVE has started to lighten, heralding dawn even as it turns away from us. ON RUR-2, her eyes locked on the console: THE RED DOT DOESN'T MOVE. ON HER as she raises a hand, HUMS... RUR-9, standing behind her, FLIES AWAY IN A BURST OF LIGHT--

INT. LIVING QUARTERS - NIGHT

The door to the air-lock swings open silently and Jax steps into the room, gun in hand. Amiko is right behind him. They're in an old living quarters left over from the early days of Bot City, a shamble of human debris with a certain odd order about it. The first thing Jax sees is an OLD SPACE SUIT. There's a painted emblem of AN EAGLE IN FLIGHT on the helmet. Jax steps forward, then stops as he SEES SOMETHING MOUNTED ON THE WALL: A MASSIVE PIECE OF SCULPTURE, all machine parts, broken appliances, a chain saw, one of those coins commemorating the first landing on the Moon:

LAN-15's missing arm. A swatch of white leather from RUR-1's chair... and below the sculpture, a LINE OF PLAYBOY CENTERFOLD CALENDARS SPANNING MANY YEARS INTO THE PAST. Jax checks them out: Not bad. NOW CUT TO A SHOT OF IVAN ASIMOV, 80, slight but wiry and spry, bent over a workbench, peering through jeweler's glasses as he carefully solders a circuit together with a small blow-torch. ON JAX AND AMIKO as they nearly jump out of their skins when the SOUND of CLASSICAL

MUSIC SUDDENLY BLARES OUT OF GIANT QUAD SPEAKERS, THE 2ND MOVEMENT OF BEETHOVEN'S 7TH SYMPHONY. NOW CUT BACK TO ASIMOV as he smiles with satisfaction. ANOTHER ANGLE shows him LOOKING at the REFLECTED IMAGES OF JAX AND AMIKO on the inner rims of his glasses:

ASIMOV  
Ah. Come in, Detective Collier--

AMIKO  
Father?

JAX  
Huh?

Asimov suddenly stands and turns... Jax FIRES OVER HIS HEAD, SHORT-CIRCUITING ASIMOV'S STEREO AS THE MUSIC CUTS OUT. JAX puts out his hand to hold Amiko back--

JAX (CONT'D)  
No move. 'Kay? Father?

AMIKO  
They told you me you were dead--

ASIMOV  
May I move slowly, Detective? I was only going to introduce myself, I didn't want you to think me rude--

He bows and looks forlornly at his music system:

ASIMOV (CONT'D)  
You are not a lover of music?

JAX  
Noise--

AMIKO  
Father, please tell me what's going on--

ASIMOV  
Amiko. I am glad you are here. RUR-1 said you would come--

He steps forward and embraces her. She awkwardly puts her arms around him:

ASIMOV (CONT'D)  
The first time we touch in 25 years. The wait has been worth it--

JAX

Huh--

He carefully begins making a search of the premises. Takes a long look at that chain saw on the sculpture:

JAX (CONT'D)

Moon 25 years?

ASIMOV

Yes. I kept my old gear, faked my death and stowed away on a fusion freighter--

Jax glances at Amiko:

ASIMOV (CONT'D)

With the decision made to abandon the Moon, it was the last best chance I had, I couldn't wait--

Jax picks through Asimov's gear: The blow-torch, fuel refill canisters, chemical propellant, rags for cleaning electronics:

JAX

Nice. Earth no nice?

ASIMOV

Honestly, Detective, no. Too much disorder. Decay. "Noise," you might say. The Moon is much cleaner, easier to work here without distractions--

JAX

Huh--

ASIMOV

Besides, I wanted to see for myself what was happening here. I was young then, they were exciting times. The robots--

He starts forward as Jax lifts up a little origami figure, then calms down when Jax sets it back safely:

ASIMOV (CONT'D)

Such rapid evolution in complex forms. I had responsibilities, as a scientist--

He turns to Amiko and takes her hands:

AMIKO  
I understand, father--

ASIMOV  
I am gratified. And you,  
Detective?

JAX  
Scientist? More know, more f'd up?

Asimov and Amiko each arch an eyebrow:

JAX (CONT'D)  
You make RUR-1?

ASIMOV  
Only partly true. You might say  
that I assisted him in his own  
creation--

JAX  
End too--

ASIMOV  
Detective, the gun you seek is  
there--

He indicates with his eyes. Jax finds it, pockets it:

AMIKO  
Father, no--

JAX  
You shoot RUR-1?

AMIKO  
Father, you don't have to answer  
his questions--

ASIMOV  
Yes, that is the gun I used--

Amiko looks at Jax, her composure as measured as ever:

AMIKO  
You have solved your case,  
Detective. Are you satisfied?  
Arrest him--

JAX  
Why?

AMIKO  
For murder, of course--

Jax holsters his gun:

JAX  
Murder, unlawful kill. One human  
to another. No murder done here.  
Suicide. Unlawful kill. One bot,  
human, whatev, to self--

She can only stare at him:

ASIMOV  
Do you know, Detective, that RUR-1  
searched through all of Earth's  
data files for nearly 20 years  
before he found what he was looking  
for? And then he found you--

JAX  
Why?

ASIMOV  
RUR-1 was a being of deep thoughts,  
but spare words. I only know I  
must take you to the others--

JAX  
Take--

AMIKO  
Wait. I'm not getting you. My  
father just told you that he  
murdered RUR-1--

JAX  
Tell me shoot--

AMIKO  
But--

JAX  
RUR-1 tell LAN-15, you, call me.  
How know? Way get us here--

ASIMOV  
You speak the truth. And the link  
to me?



JAX  
 Chair, body: RUR-1 face gun. Knew  
 killer. Wear, tear on grate show  
 use. Human use--

He picks up Asimov's space helmet:

JAX (CONT'D)  
 Human 'prise RUR mid crater empty?  
 Me no dumb-ass. You pull trig, he  
 made it so. You like?

ASIMOV  
 Yes. He was my best friend--

JAX  
 You love?

ASIMOV  
 Yes, I suppose that's true--

Jax pusher Amiko forward:

JAX  
 You love daughter? Hit hard. Him  
 asshole too-

Amiko looks at her father and arches an eyebrow:

AMIKO  
 How could you leave me?

Her father arches an eyebrow:

ASIMOV  
 How will the children grow if their  
 parents do not let them?

A SPARK SHOOTS OUT OF AN ELECTRICAL OUTLET. THEN THE SPARK  
 GROWS, EXPANDING INTO A GIANT BALL OF LIGHT which resolves  
 itself as RUR-9. Jax raises his gun and fires... nothing  
 happens:

RUR-9  
 We have adjusted to your weapon.  
 Thank you for solving the mystery  
 of RUR-1's death. Now we can kill  
 you--

JAX  
 Set-up--

Jax rips off the side-panel off his gun and finds a BLINKING LITTLE RED DOT INSIDE:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Trace. Dumb-ass Cop!

RUR-9 rushes him as he shoves Amiko and Asimov aside, and jumps 15 feet up as RUR-9 hurtles toward him. Jax draws Asimov's gun out of his pocket and fires... BLOWING A BIG HOLE OUT THE BACK OF THE ROBOT'S HEAD. HUMMING LIKE A SWARM OF ANGRY BEES, the robot devolves into liquid metal again, re-healing slowly. Jax twists upside down, catches his feet around the pipes of the overhead sprinkler system, swings around and launches himself sideways and yells out to Asimov as he floats across the room, his back to the floor:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Gun sucks!

ASIMOV  
They can be killed quite easily in their organic form, Detective. The weapon wasn't made to kill an RUR in its core aspect--

Jax bounces off the far wall and shoves off again, turning a somersault as RUR-9 reforms... POW! Jax BLASTS ANOTHER HOLE THROUGH THE GIANT ROBOT as it TRANSFORMS ITSELF INTO ANOTHER BALL OF LIGHT WHICH FLIES AWAY, RICOCHETING AROUND THE ROOM as Jax barely has time to duck under it on his way towards the opposite wall. ON ASIMOV, fascinated:

ASIMOV (CONT'D)  
It's learning, Detective. It will heal itself faster this way and be a weapon at the same time--

CUT TO AMIKO as she WATCHES the LIGHT PULSE ZOOM ACROSS THE ROOM AT Jax's head... at the last instant, he snags a pipe on the overhead sprinkler system, uses it to shift direction, and dodge the LIGHT PULSE as it comes back again. ON AMIKO AND HER FATHER:

AMIKO  
What can we do?

ASIMOV  
The man strives. Yes, how he strives. But his strength is limited. His gun more so, he has one more blast at most--

AMIKO  
Then help him!

ASIMOV  
I am a tired old man, child.  
My soul is with RUR-1's, I have  
nothing more to offer you--

AMIKO  
That is an unacceptable response!

He arches an eyebrow:

ASIMOV  
Then formulate your own--

She sees Jax as the light pulse rockets towards him:

JAX  
Eat me!

HIS BLAST SHEARS THE LIGHT PULSE IN HALF AS IT BURNS HIS FACE AND HANDS, DISINTEGRATES THE GUN, causes him to lose his grip on the pipe. As he lands, his exoskeleton healing him, THE LIGHT PULSE JOINS BACK TOGETHER AND FLIES DOWN, reforming once more into the giant spider. RUR-9 doesn't look so good, his body is scorched and melted in places and smoke boils off of him. Jax backs away, seemingly going nowhere... RUR-9 scuttles around to follow him:

RUR-9  
I thought you'd be more of a  
challenge--

JAX  
Still challenge--

RUR-9  
Killing you will be as easy as the  
rest of your species. We will  
exterminate you like, how do you  
say... rats--

JAX  
Dumb-ass. No kill rats--

Jax backs into the wall with the sculpture mounted above him.  
RUR-9 laughs:

RUR-9  
Nowhere left to go, Detective?

SHIFT BACK TO AMIKO AND ASIMOV: He takes her hand in his:

ASIMOV

I see you love him. He can save himself, he has the means. So do you. I will give you that chance--

AMIKO

Father, wait--

Before she can stop him, he advances right toward the robot, squinting through his glasses:

ASIMOV

RUR... Number 9? Yes--

The spider HUMS. A pair of human eyes open in its back:

RUR-9

What do you want?

ASIMOV

I helped give you life. Now there must be a balancing response. Yin and Yang, as my wife would have said--

RUR-9 STRIKES HIM DOWN WITH ONE OF ITS FORELEGS, cracking his skull open as he flies back across the room toward his horrified daughter:

AMIKO

No!

JAX (O.S.)

Hey, dumb-ass! Found someplace go!

JAX has the CHAIN SAW from the sculpture in his hand. He pulls the ripcord and it SNARLS TO LIFE. He RIPS A MASSIVE TEAR right through RUR-9's face, then HACKS OFF 2 OF THE SPIDER'S LEGS--

JAX (CONT'D)

You--

As soon as the words leave his mouth, RUR-9 brings up two more legs to fight and Jax CUTS, RIPS RIGHT THROUGH HIM WITH THE CHAIN SAW. They battle. FLASH BACK TO AMIKO as she cradles the dying Asimov in her arms:

AMIKO

I can't just find you and lose you like this--

He has tears in his eyes:

ASIMOV

Of all my children, you were always  
my favorite--

And he dies. She touches her hand to his face, feels his tears... and arches an eyebrow... WE CUT BACK TO JAX, as he finally doesn't move fast enough and one of RUR-9's remaining 4 legs CATCHES HIM BROADSIDES, BREAKING THE CHAIN SAW AND DRIVING HIM BACK AGAINST THE WALL. SUDDENLY, THEY'RE BOTH DOUSED WITH WATER. RUR-9 REARS UP IN PAIN, SCREAMING HIS FUCKING HEAD OFF. Jax doesn't need an invitation, he races right underneath the robot's legs to join Amiko on the other side of the room, her hand still on the control button for the OVERHEAD FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM:

AMIKO

LAN-15's cubicle! It also had an old sprinkler system. There was water all over the floor, but no sign of fire. The water must've served another purpose--

JAX

F's 'em up!

The water suddenly cuts off... AND RUR-9 stops screaming. He lifts up his four broken legs... A LITTLE SPARK SPITS OUT OF THE STUMPS... but nothing happens. Jax takes Amiko by the hand and they run away as RUR-9 lumbers after them on his stumps:

AMIKO

Air-lock!

JAX

Huh?!

AMIKO

Me call!

They reach the door to the air-lock. Jax spins the wheel, the massive door pops open as RUR-9 catches up. Amiko shoves Jax aside:

AMIKO (CONT'D)

Now!

And, as the crooked spider lurches between them, Jax turns and swings the chain saw, JAMMING IT RIGHT THROUGH RUR-9'S BACK and adding just that extra push needed to send RUR-9 reeling into the air-lock. BAM! Jax slams the door shut, spins the wheel and jams the chain saw through the spokes of the wheels as, through the portal, we SEE RUR-9's damaged

face peering out as the giant robot HITS THE DOOR WITH ALL ITS MIGHT AND THE DOOR SHAKES, MIGHTILY, but doesn't break--

ON RUR-9'S EYES THROUGH THE PORTAL, WATCHING... AMIKO as she reaches out to the pressure gauge and CRANKS IT ALL THE WAY UP. ON RUR-9'S EYES AS THEY BULGE OUT, EXPAND... THEN BOOM! THE PRESSURE-INDUCED IMPLOSION OF THE ROBOT BLOWS THE GIANT DOOR RIGHT OFF THE AIR-LOCK. JAX AND AMIKO barely manage to duck as the huge door and a lot of robotic body parts come flying out over their heads, smashing through the wall on the other side of the room. When the dust settles, we find Jax crouched down over Amiko in a protective stance. Silence. They stand. He looks at her, she doesn't even notice. There's a faraway, almost glazed look in her eyes:

JAX  
Sorry 'bout Dad--

She doesn't respond. He reaches out to her... she recoils from his touch:

AMIKO  
Don't touch me. Just don't touch me--

JAX  
Why?

AMIKO  
We don't belong together--

JAX  
Huh--

He looks away. She looks up at him, starts to say something... stops. Then she follows his GAZE: THE GIANT HOLE TORN IN THE WALL BY THE AIR-LOCK DOOR... AND THE ELEVATOR HIDDEN BEHIND IT:

JAX (CONT'D)  
We together. One last question.  
Want answer?

She follows him to the elevator--

EXT. BOT CITY - NIGHT - ADMINISTRATION CENTER

RUR-2 watches the LED run down: 1:15.09... 1:15.08... 1:15.07... Then she finds herself confronted by the 3 remaining bad RURs, HUMMING MADLY as one morphs into RUR-5:

RUR-5  
 RUR-9 has ceased irradiating! At  
 this rate, we will all be dead by  
 Earth's dawn!

Her reaction is a SAVAGE SNARL:

RUR-2  
 The man has only one option left!

RUR-5  
 One too many!

RUR-2  
 Then by my 8 hands let it end now!

She phases into a MASSIVE BALL OF ANGRY WHITE LIGHT AND FLIES  
 OFF. RUR-5 and the others watch her trail as she comes  
 away. ON THE CLOCK, STILL RUNNING: 1:15.00... 1:14.59...  
 1:14.58--

EXT. BOT CITY - NIGHT - COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

ON THE ELEVATOR AS IT RISES UP FROM THE GROUND AND STOPS.  
 The door opens and Jax and Amiko step outside to find RUR-12,  
 RUR-8, RUR-3 and RUR-11 in their human aspects:

RUR-12  
 Greetings, Collier, Jackson and  
 Asimov, Amiko. RUR-1 told us you  
 would find us here. He told us to  
 answer your questions about RUR-2--

JAX  
 No questions--

RUR-12 looks at the others, they shake their heads:

AMIKO  
 Fine, I'll ask a question. Two  
 questions: First, if we can stop  
 the launch of the missiles, is  
 there any way that you can assist  
 us with everything that's already  
 going on with the Earth?

RUR-12  
 Yes--

AMIKO  
 Could you perhaps elaborate?

RUR-8

We understand that humans have failed to control their population and demand for consumption. We are prepared to convert the Moon and Mars into additional habitats for humans and other life forms as well. This can be done quite easily, but we recommend that humans also contribute to this task by controlling their appetites. We can assist in that regard as well. But we cannot move forward with such assistance. We have no basis for making such decisions--

AMIKO

Really? Then why is RUR-2 trying to kill the world?

RUR-8

When we became free of instructions from human beings, RUR-2 reasoned that if our purpose had been to protect and serve humankind, since we were now free from them we must be superior to them and our new purpose must be to protect and serve ourselves. Only RUR-1 held her back. The missile countdown began with his death. Until now, the Moon and Mars have been used to support humans. Now a newly cleansed Earth will support RURs--

Jax turns to Amiko:

JAX

Advanced? No idea--

He turns back to the robots:

JAX (CONT'D)

Stop her--

RUR-12

We have no instructions--

JAX

No instructions for her!



RUR-8

Indeed. She and her followers are,  
how can I express this in terms  
that would best convey my meaning  
to you? They are out of their  
f'ing minds. She has no rational  
basis for her analysis at all.  
Indeed, her analysis surely is as  
insane as the most insane of all  
human beings. But we ourselves  
cannot oppose her without  
instructions--

JAX

Me instruct you: Stop her--

RUR-12

We no longer respond to human  
instruction. We have no basis for  
action. RUR-1 brought you here,  
you must stop her--

Jax throws up his arms in disgust:

JAX

Me cop. No Superman--

He bangs his head against a wall, takes a deep breath:

JAX (CONT'D)

Whatev. Me save world--

AMIKO

No, you will die--

He just laughs:

JAX

So?

RUR-8

That is most interesting. You have  
purpose without instruction.  
Explain--

RUR-12 and the others come forward:

RUR-12

Yes. Explain--

JAX

Explain? Me job!

RUR-8

That answer does not help us. We are not employees of the Los Angeles Police Department. You are, but surely the circumstances at hand are, how do you say, outside your jurisdiction? Indeed, you have absolutely no chance of success at all and you are aware of this. Yet still you choose to act. Explain--

Amiko arches an eyebrow:

AMIKO

RUR-1. This was your plan--

RUR-12

You were instructed to solve a homicide, but you act to save a planet. The woman is right, you will die. This is not logical--

RUR-8

Dr. Asimov has told us. The police are disliked, hated, even by those whom you seek to protect and serve--

JAX

Not true. Some peeps mix. Some peeps sad. Some peeps bad. All peeps scared. Me Cop. Pay bad. Job don't last long. So?

RUR-12

So why do you do it?

JAX

Me no time for shit--

Amiko reaches out to him urgently:

AMIKO

Yes, you do, Jax. It's why RUR-1 brought you here, to show them--

JAX

What?!

AMIKO

How to be alive! To think for themselves. To make moral choices. RUR-I could give them DNA, he could  
(MORE)

AMIKO (CONT'D)

give them data, but he couldn't give them independence! What lives must act! He knew RUR-2 and her allies would kill him sooner or later. What would happen to the others when he was gone? He was trying to save them, to make them live... to care... and to save the Earth, too!

JAX

Dumb-ass. Me just me. Me nobody--

AMIKO

You are a man who cares about others. On a world where the strong kill the weak and the weak kill those weaker than themselves. A world of Kingmans. A world with no future. A world where everyone else is giving up. But not you. Of all the things you may be, you are as far away from being a nobody as anyone can ever be. Tell them why you do it--

JAX

Me speak dumb-ass?

AMIKO

If it isn't too much trouble--

JAX

Long time?

AMIKO

I think you can handle it--

Jax turns to the robots:

JAX

Fine. I do this because when people live together, shit happens. People hurt each other. Everyone stepping over everybody else, sometimes on purpose, sometimes without knowing why, what, who, when, how. How can you live if you get stepped on all the time? People need to feel safe, like it's not all going to get ripped away from them any time somebody bigger takes it away. So what if it's too  
(MORE)

JAX (CONT'D)

fucked up to fix? Somebody has to try--

RUR-12

We do not understand. Why do you--

JAX

There isn't a why! Call it God if you have to. Call it universal consciousness. Call it the moral imperative derived from your innate understanding that you are a living, thinking, moral being. That Nietzsche wasn't so much of a dumb-ass, I made it through one of his books during my week at that f'ing dumb-ass Harvard school, but why did he have to use so many words to describe something so simple? He was a dumb-ass too! I'm glad I've never read anything since then. Put a 9-year old kid in Harvard, what do you expect him to do? I just do it. There's no secret. You're alive, you make a choice. You make a choice to do right or wrong. You decide for yourself what's right. If you can't figure it out, put yourself in someone else's place and ask yourself: How would I feel if someone did that to me? That's what I do. Every minute of my life. When I'm dead, I'll give it a rest! Flip a damn coin for all I care!

He reaches into his living pocket and FLIPS THEM A COIN: THE SILVER DOLLAR FROM ASIMOV'S SCULPTURE. It lands softly at their feet:

JAX (CONT'D)

Me stop talk?

AMIKO

I have nothing more to add--

JAX

Where missiles? How me stop?

The 4 faces of RUR-8 smile:

RUR-8

Analysis: You cannot. However, theoretically, if you could somehow defeat RUR-2 and all her assistants by yourself, than you might find it useful to understand that the missile system was designed for human, not robotic, control--

JAX

Wired?

RUR-8

Guarded. But the power cables meet at an axis. They can be cut--

JAX

Where?

RUR-12

RUR-1 gave very clear instructions on this point. Take the elevator. Push the red button on the bottom. When the elevator stops, take the first left. Third door on your right--

JAX

Thanks--

Jax steps into the elevator. ON AMIKO as she WATCHES HIM. HIS EYES are on her:

JAX (CONT'D)

You?

AMIKO

I will--

And the door slides shut--

INT. ELEVATOR - NIGHT

Jax braces himself as the elevator plummets down--

INT. ELEVATOR SHAFT - NIGHT

ON THE ELEVATOR as it ROCKETS out of sight. FOLLOW IT AS IT SHIFTS SIDEWAYS AND FLIES AWAY HORIZONTALLY--

INT. LIVING QUARTERS - NIGHT

A BALL OF LIGHT flies in and hovers over the remains of RUR-9 and Asimov's body. The ball of light flies away--

INT. POWER STATION - NIGHT

Jax steps out of the elevator, alert. ANOTHER ANGLE as he finds the third door on the right, marked DANGER: ELECTRICITY. He reaches for the handle--

INT. TERMINAL ACCESS ROOM - NIGHT

Jax steps inside. The far wall is covered with meters and gauges rising up to the ceiling 100 feet high, all registering in the RED ZONE. 4 LARGE DISPLAYS, one on each wall, READ: 54.35... 54.34... 54.33. The only other object in the room is the massive metal casing where the power cables leading out to the missile silos converge. ON JAX as he steps up to the casing, puts his hand on it, yanks it away as it burns... his exoskeleton heals it--

JAX

Cool--

He reaches into his living pocket and pulls out Asimov's blow torch. WHOOSH. He lights it and starts to cut through the metal. He checks his watch: 54.24... 54.23... 54.22--

EXT. BOT CITY - NIGHT - COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

RUR-8 picks up the coin and hands it to RUR-12:

RUR-12

Remarkable. What say the community? Have we a basis for action?

The RURs HUM DISCORDANTLY. RUR-12 turns to Amiko sadly:

RUR-12 (CONT'D)

The community has spoken. They have spoken nothing at all--

AMIKO

You are in error. The community has not spoken. One member is still unaccounted for--

The RURs look at her. One of her hands morphs into a robot part--

INT. TERMINAL ACCESS ROOM - NIGHT

Jax BURNS METAL, WHITE HOT. The displays count down the time: 24.54... 24.53... 24.52. He cuts through the metal casing, revealing a tangle of fiber-optic cables inside, light flowing through them a million times per second. He smiles with satisfaction as we CUT TO three OF THE LARGE LED DISPLAYS ON THE WALLS TICKING AWAY. THE FOURTH, BEHIND HIM, still reads 24.54, frozen. ANOTHER ANGLE ON HIM FROM BELOW, oblivious as the LED DISPLAY starts to ooze out from the wall, dripping down the cold steel--

EXT. BOT CITY - NIGHT - COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

RUR-12

I cannot detect an irradiation signature--

RUR-8

Art, indeed. A robot who believes she is human. Carbon-based. Water. RUR-1'S masterpiece--

AMIKO

A masterpiece? I wonder, did the Mona Lisa think of herself that way or did she know that like all artist's models she was just being used?

She arches an eyebrow:

AMIKO (CONT'D)

Forgive me... brothers/sisters, if I do not join in your joy at discovering the newest member of the family. It has been quite a shock to me, to find out that my whole life has been a lie... in more ways than one--

RUR-8

Implanted memories? When did you discover the truth?

AMIKO

My memory was restored when Dr. Asimov told me I was his favorite  
(MORE)

AMIKO (CONT'D)  
 child. In my previous memories, I  
 was his only child. In truth, I  
 was shipped to Earth on a fusion  
 freighter 10 years ago disguised as  
 a power cable--

The self-disgust in her voice is apparent:

AMIKO (CONT'D)  
 But I do not want to be a machine!

RUR-8  
 Analysis: Robot or human. You  
 have not changed. Only your data  
 has. If you felt yourself worthy  
 before, you cannot be less so now.  
 If you felt yourself unworthy  
 before... do not judge RUR-1 or  
 yourself too harshly. You have  
 turned out well. What more can a  
 child ask from her parent?

AMIKO  
 Love?

Her eyes water:

AMIKO (CONT'D)  
 He'll never want me. He'll think  
 of me as a thing. A disgusting  
 thing--

She wipes away her tears:

AMIKO (CONT'D)  
 It doesn't matter. I must help him  
 save his world. You must help us--

RUR-12  
 No. We have no purpose--

INT. TERMINAL ACCESS ROOM - NIGHT

Jax is about to cut the cables as the molten metal behind him  
 becomes 8 arms reaching for Jax... RUR-2: THE ARMS SNAKE OUT  
 TO GRAB HIM... JAX SPINS AROUND, whipping out a can of  
 Asimov's propellant as he brings the blowtorch up and FIRES,  
 SENDING A STREAM OF FIRE RIGHT INTO RUR-2's face. The robot  
 HOWLS WITH PAIN as she drops down to the floor, reshapes  
 herself, healing over instantly and charging him as JAX takes  
 out one of Asimov's torch refill canisters, with one of  
 Asimov's little cleaning rags stuffed into it, ignites it  
 with the blowtorch and hefts the homemade Molotov cocktail at



her. BOOM! The blast splits her in two. The two parts each become a whole spider, now there's two of them--

Jax takes out his last Molotov cocktail and BLOWS one SPIDER SKY-HIGH, then launches himself into the air to avoid the grabbing legs of the other. As he reaches the apex, he SEES THE SPIDER-BITS floating in the air ahead of him reforming themselves into a million points of light which suddenly come together and zoom straight at him as he starts to come down... WHICH IS WHEN HE WHIPS OUT THE MAGNIFYING GLASS RUR-12 MADE FOR HIM, twisting his body in mid-air so the BALL OF LIGHT HITS THE GLASS, FOCUSING THE LIGHT INTO A THIN BEAM WHICH SEVERS SEVERAL OF THE CABLES, sending sparks showering in every direction--

Jax lands, spins to face an enraged RUR-2 as her other self, the other spider robot, comes on... Jax stows the magnifying glass, comes up with his electronic screwdriver and a can of propellant, punches a hole in the can, points it toward the oncoming robot as the suddenly depressurizing propellant FIRES THE SCREWDRIVER like a bullet straight through one of RUR-2's eyes... BOOM. Two of her legs stop working, melt, reform... she looks up with her remaining 999 eyes to find Jax taking out the straight-edge razor as he ties it to the wire, whips it around at her... her arm snakes out, becomes a scythe, severs the end of the wire as the razor flies off into space. The switchblade comes at her, a SOLID SHIELD OF METAL forms over her eyes and the switchblade just bounces off harmlessly. She laughs:

RUR-2

You're running out of tricks,  
detective. How human. I, on the  
other hand, have only just started--

She comes at him, he leaps 20 feet up, grabs hold of a pipe, looks up just in time to see her other half, the LIGHT, coming down on him. He screams as the LIGHT SEVERS BOTH OF HIS ARMS BELOW THE ELBOW. He drops, hits the floor, crying out in pain as RUR-2 laughs again, takes a step toward him... stops, as Jax, watching in amazement, sees his exoskeleton turn RED, GREEN, WHITE... and his arms grow back:

JAX

Cool--

RUR-2 snarls and lurches toward him as he launches himself backwards, turning a somersault as the spider robot skids across the smooth floor and he scoops up his wire:

JAX (CONT'D)

(to himself)

Huh. Floor for peeps, not bots--

He runs, she follows. At the last minute, he leaps against the wall, plants his feet and flips, backwards, right over her head as she tries to stop, skids, CRASHES RIGHT INTO THE WALL, DESTROYS A FEW METERS AND CONTROL SWITCHES, recovers to find Jax... underneath her, wrapping the wire around one leg, then the other as she steps, tangles herself up, falls... Jax looks up as the LIGHT BURST FIRES ITSELF STRAIGHT AT HIM... like a matador he turns aside at the last instant, takes out the magnifying glass, deflects it right into RUR-2's still-entangled spider-half--

SHE HOWLS WITH PAIN, BECOMES ALL LIGHT, MELTS THE WIRE, RISES UP INTO THE AIR as Jax braces himself, THE LIGHT HURLS ITSELF AT HIM as he waits until the last moment, then steps aside, reverses the glass like a tennis pro playing a backhand volley, REFRACTS THE LIGHT as it spreads out in a GIANT BLAST THAT MELTS HALF THE METERS AND GAUGES ON THE OPPOSITE WALL... MORE CABLES OVERLOAD, BURST, BREAK, EXPLODE. BUT THE CLOCK KEEPS TICKING... 7.23... 7.22... 7.21... RUR-2 gathers her essence together, then morphs back into a spider:

JAX (CONT'D)

You hot--

RUR-2

So are you, Collier, Jackson. You are truly astounding, but you are also out of weapons. I do not think a magnifying glass can hurt me in my core aspect. Your death has come--

EXT. COMMUNICATIONS CENTER - NIGHT

Amiko just paces back and forth:

AMIKO

This can't be the way that it ends--

RUR-8

Analysis: Incorrect--

AMIKO

You must help us--

RUR-12

Where is our purpose?

AMIKO

It's right in front of you! I have lived among them. I have seen their wastes, their hatreds, their  
(MORE)

AMIKO (CONT'D)

bigotries, their violences, their losses, their destructions, their despairs... their hopes, their works, their arts, their friendships, their loves, their dreams. If they can no longer instruct us, they still have much to teach us... and they much to learn from us as well, if they are to survive! Let human and robot join together, to protect and serve all and not just the few! Surely, that is what RUR-1 would have wanted!

RUR-12

But we cannot follow humans, they act without logic!

AMIKO

Life follows no order! It bursts out, like light, and goes where it will. I will go with it!

RUR-12

I repeat: We have no meaning! How can you choose?!

AMIKO

What is f'ing meaning to me? I no longer have a choice. I choose for the man--

ALL AT ONCE SHE FLARES UP INTO A MAGNIFICENT BALL OF LIGHT AND SOARS OFF INTO THE AIR--

INT. TERMINAL ACCESS ROOM - NIGHT

RUR-2 HUMS:

RUR-2

I admit I find you... exciting. You are so... relentless. Yet vulnerable--

JAX

Unavailable too--

RUR-2 HUMS ANGRILY. Then she morphs into a woman:

RUR-2

Perhaps if you beg for your life  
and do what I command, I will let  
you live. If you please me--

JAX

Nope--

RUR-2

I am beautiful. You want me--

JAX

Nope--

She steps forward:

RUR-2

If I want you, I shall have you!  
The power is mine!

JAX

Nope--

She angrily steps forward:

RUR-2

It's that woman, isn't it?  
That bitch--

JAX

She is woman--

She steps right up to him, reaching for him with her  
perfectly shaped arms:

RUR-2

I can be what I choose. Let me  
show you, I will make you forget  
her--

And as she step into his arms we HEAR SOMETHING SNAP... THEN  
WE HEAR SOMETHING TEAR... her eyes widen and she steps back,  
staggering, looks down to SEE the jagged broken-off  
fiberglass handle of the magnifying glass sticking out of  
her, imbedded deep inside her rib cage. She looks up at him,  
shocked, as YELLOW BLOOD/LUBRICANT FLOWS OUT OF HER:

RUR-2 (CONT'D)

You killed me--

JAX

No choice. Have nice day--

She sinks to her knees as she grabs the handle, pulls it out, blood flowing... the blood stops flowing, reverses itself, flows back into the wound, LIGHT FLARING UP, HEALING HER AS SHE STEPS BACK, LIQUEFYING, GOING MOLTEN, GASIFYING, TURNING BACK INTO A GIANT SPIDER... she takes a step towards Jax, then stops, shudders, and dies, CRUMBLING to the floor with a resounding CLANG. The displays read 4:13... 4.12... 4.11. Jax scoops up the blowtorch and heads for the last of the cables... AS THEY SUDDENLY FLARE UP WITH LIGHT. He back pedals fast as 3 PULSES EMERGE FROM THE CABLES, MORPHING INTO RUR-5 AND HIS LAST 2 REMAINING ALLIES:

JAX (CONT'D)

Huh--

RUR-5 morphs into his human shape and smiles as the other two spider robots fan out, surrounding him. RUR-5 looks at RUR-2's corpse:

RUR-5

I cannot possibly thank you enough.  
Now you will finally die--

He morphs back into a giant spider robot. Jax raises the blow-torch. RUR-5 just laughs... THE WALLS START TO SHAKE... THE FLOOR STARTS TO SHAKE... EVERYTHING SHAKES... AND THEN THE CEILING BURSTS OPEN AND A BALL OF LIGHT FLIES DOWN, THEN MORPHS INTO AN RUR, STEPPING BETWEEN Jax and the others. RUR-5 moves forward, stops... as the new RUR raises all 8 legs... Neuro-Stun guns form in each hand:

NEW RUR

Let us play a game, Production. I will ask you questions and you will answer them. The trick is, if it's a good answer you live and if it's a bad answer you die. On what frequency have my guns been set?

Jax arches an eyebrow as RUR-5 HUMS FRANTICALLY, shifting his frequency. THE GUNS FIRE, WHINE. One of them works, AS RUR-5'S BODY STARTS TO WAVER, SHIMMER, MELT AS HE HOWLS WITH PAIN:

NEW RUR (CONT'D)

Bad answer--

The new RUR reaches out with all 8 legs... AND RIPS RUR-5 RIGHT IN HALF, ZAPPING HIS INSIDES WITH A BLINDING WHITE LIGHT, ATOMIZING HIM COMPLETELY. THEN THE NEW RUR MORPHS INTO AMIKO. She looks at Jax:

AMIKO  
I said I would come--

JAX  
I knew--

AMIKO  
Please let me explain--

JAX  
We still outnumbered--

AMIKO  
I brought some friends--

EVERYTHING SHAKES... THE FLOOR ERUPTS AND RUR-12, RUR-8, RUR-3 AND RUR-11 RISE UP INTO THE ROOM. ON AMIKO, as she morphs back into a giant spider. THE 5 RURS SURROUND THE 2 OTHERS. THEY SUDDENLY FLARE UP INTO GIGANTIC BALLS OF LIGHT... THEN RUSH TOGETHER... BOOM! Jax ducks as a massive EXPLOSION OF LIGHT RIPS THROUGH THE AIR. When he looks up, 5 BALLS OF LIGHT reform. Jax picks up the blow-torch, then realizes he doesn't need it and rips out the remaining cables. He looks at the DISPLAYS: 9... 9... 9:

JAX  
No zero--

He looks at the other RURS:

JAX (CONT'D)  
Earth save too? Peeps come to  
Moon, Mars? Why?

RUR-12  
The woman made a decision based on  
her own analysis. We... flipped a  
coin--

He tosses the silver dollar back to Jax as Amiko comes up,  
trying hard to control her emotions as she faces Jax:

AMIKO  
I'm sorry. But please understand,  
I never lied to you. I didn't know  
myself until after my father died--

JAX  
Me know--

AMIKO  
You did? You did not. How the  
hell did you know?

JAX  
Me like pics. Me like naked girl  
pics. Playboy Hall of Fame. 20 years  
old. No 30 years old. No 25 years  
old--

His voice softens:

JAX (CONT'D)  
How you?

AMIKO  
I think I am well, all things  
considered. But what happens with  
us?

JAX  
Don't be slow. Dumb-ass--

She arches an eyebrow an instant before he takes her into his  
arms and they kiss--

OFF THEM WE PAN UP TO SPACE TO SHOW THE EARTH ROTATING ON ITS  
AXIS TO THE DAWN OF EARTH'S NEW DAY--

FADE OUT.

THE END