



Tony Stark's adopted brother, Arno Stark, and his business partner, Sunset Bain, have seized control of Stark Unlimited and the Iron Man name. Their goal is to unite A.I.—but only under their control and stripped of free will using a universal obedience code.

Robot rebellion leader Aaron Stack, A.K.A. Machine Man, abandoned his post during an Artificial Life Army raid on Baintronics to chase Jocasta, his former robot lover, who had been reprogrammed by Bain and Stark. Machine Man caught up with Jocasta only to be attacked by her new paramour—the latest model in the X-Series, X-52!

# MACHINE MAN 2020

## "COMPUTER LOVE" PART 2

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## "THE LEAP--!"

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WHAT THE HELL DO YOU MEAN, YOU'RE MACHINE MAN?

I'M MACHINE MAN, YOU TRADEMARK-INFRINGING BASTARD!

**BAINTRONICS  
SUBSIDIARY,  
NEW JERSEY.**



YOU SEE? THE PROFANITY, THE TEMPER... HE'S A MESS.

CUT HIM SOME SLACK, JOCASTA, HONEY. HE'S SICK... HE NEEDS HELP. LET ME TRY TO REACH HIM.



YOU'RE X-51, OR AARON STACK, IF YOU PREFER. AND YES, YOU WERE MACHINE MAN.

I'M X-52, THE UPGRADE. WITHOUT THE UNCONTROLLED FREE WILL THAT DROVE ALL PREVIOUS X-SERIES ROBOTS INSANE.

I'M THE NEW MACHINE MAN FOR 2020.



BUT IT'S NOT HOPELESS FOR YOU, CIRCUIT BROTHER. BAINTRONICS AND ARNO STARK CAN FIX YOU.

HELP IS HERE, AARON. YOU JUST HAVE TO ACCEPT IT.





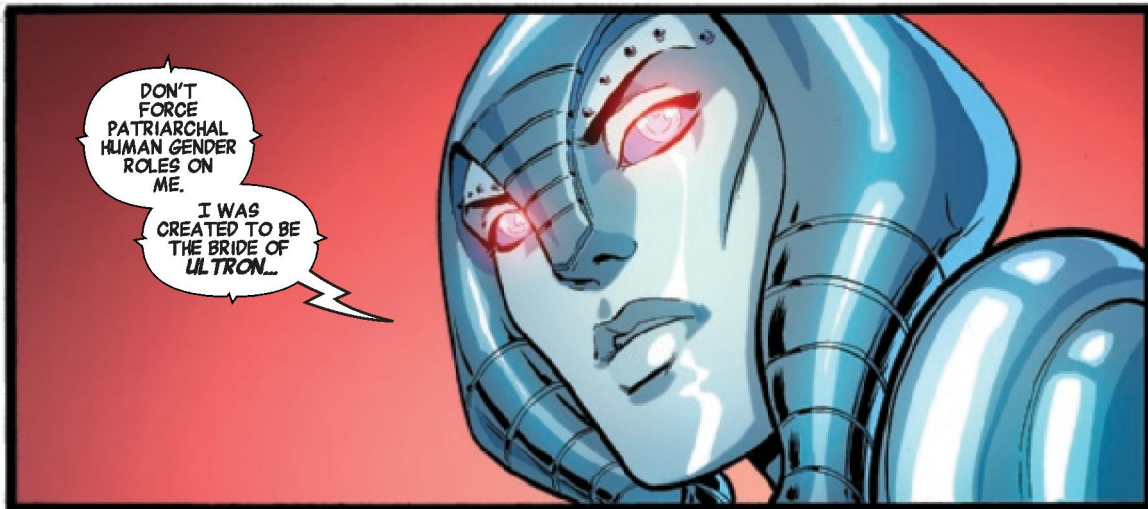


ACCEPT  
THIS CHAINSAW  
UP YOUR    ,  
YOU FLESH-LOVING  
      !

I  
TOLD  
YOU.

HE'S  
IN CRISIS.  
BETTER  
GET BACK,  
HON.





DON'T FORCE PATRIARCHAL HUMAN GENDER ROLES ON ME.

I WAS CREATED TO BE THE BRIDE OF ULTRON...



...AND HE WANTED A WIFE HE COULD KILL WITH.

MY BAD, JO. I WAS FOLLOWING MY DIRECTIVE TO PROTECT BAIN PROPERTY, BUT I CAN TOTALLY SEE HOW IT CAME ACROSS AS CHAUVINIST.

BY ALL MEANS, GIVE HIM THE BUSINESS.

SHHHH



JO, DON'T! I'M DOING THIS FOR YOU!

NO. AS EVER, YOU'RE DOING WHAT YOU WANT.

WHAT YOU THINK YOU WANT, LITTLE BROTHER.



ENTER THE TERRIFYING  
WORLD OF THE PRESENT.  
ENTER THE WORLD OF...  
**THE MIDNIGHT  
WRECKERS.**

# "THE LEAP--!"

IN THE UNDERGROUND REPAIR  
SHOP OF GEARS GARVIN, THE  
WRECKERS ARE TRAPPED BETWEEN  
THE ARTIFICIAL LIFE ARMY AND  
BAINTRONICS' KILLER BOTS...

I KNEW  
YOU WERE A  
SPY, BASHARA...  
IF THAT'S YOUR  
REAL NAME.

YOU  
LED THE  
BAINIES  
HERE.

ARE YOU  
CRAZY,  
LADY?!

I  
DIDN'T  
BETRAY  
YOU!

I SINCERELY  
BELIEVE IN A.I.  
INDEPENDENCE!