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

Writer: CHRISTOS GAGE
Artist: ANDY MACDONALD
Colorist: DONO SÁNCHEZ-ALMARA

"THE LEAP--!"

Writer: TOM DEFALCO
Penciler: MIKE HAWTHORNE
Inker: ADRIANO DI BENEDETTO
Colorist: ERICK ARCINIEGA

Letterer: VC's TRAVIS LANHAM
Cover: NICK ROCHE & MIKE SPICER
Variant Cover: JUAN JOSÉ RYP & JESUS ABURTOV

Graphic Designer: CARLOS LAO
Assistant Editor: LAUREN AMARO
Editor: DARREN SHAN
Executive Editor: TOM BREVOORT
Editor in Chief: C.B. CEBULSKI

Machine Man
Created by JACK KIRBY

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WHAT THE ::::: DO YOU MEAN, YOU'RE MACHINE MAN?
I'M MACHINE MAN, YOU TRADEMARK-INFRINGING :::::!
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.
SHHZZZ
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!