



Tony Stark revealed to the world that he is an A.I. construct in an artificial body and the true Tony Stark is dead.

His adoptive brother, Arno Stark, and Arno's business partner, Sunset Bain, used Tony's admission to seize control of Stark Unlimited and all its assets, including the Iron Man name.

# IRON AGE

## 2020

### MACHINE MAN IN "ROADS TAKEN!"

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2020 IRON AGE No. 1, May 2020. Published as a One-Shot by MARVEL WORLDWIDE, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, LLC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 1290 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10104. © 2020 MARVEL No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. \$4.99 per copy in the U.S. (GST #R127032852) in the direct market; Canadian Agreement #40668537. Printed in the USA. KEVIN FEIGE, Chief Creative Officer; DAN BUCKLEY, President, Marvel Entertainment; JOHN NEE, Publisher; JOE QUESADA, EVP & Creative Director; DAVID BOGART, Associate Publisher & SVP of Talent Affairs; TOM BREVOORT, SVP of Publishing; DAVID GABRIEL, VP of Print & Digital Publishing; JEFF YOUNGQUIST, VP of Production & Special Projects; DAN CARR, Executive Director of Publishing Technology; ALEX MORALES, Director of Publishing Operations; DAN EDINGTON, Managing Editor; SUSAN CRESPI, Production Manager; STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Vit DeBellis, Custom Solutions & Integrated Advertising Manager, at [vdbellis@marvel.com](mailto:vdbellis@marvel.com). For Marvel subscription inquiries, please call 888-511-5480. Manufactured between 02/21/2020 and 03/02/2020 by FRY COMMUNICATIONS, MECHANICSBURG, PA, USA.

# ROADS TAKEN!

**THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR.**  
HEADQUARTERS OF THE ROBOT UNDERGROUND...

X-51!

X-51!

I  
NEED YOUR  
COUNSEL.

CAN IT WAIT?  
I NEED TO RUN  
DIAGNOSTICS.

AND  
MY NAME  
IS AARON--  
NOT X-51.

A MEATBAG  
DESIGNATION?!

I DELETED  
MY SLAVE LABEL  
AND RECLASSIFIED  
MYSELF AS *CS-101*--  
FOR COMBAT  
SYSTEM.

GOOD  
FOR YOU. CAN  
I GET BACK  
TO WORK?

I JUST  
ENCOUNTERED  
TWO FLESHLINGS  
WHO CLAIM TO  
KNOW YOU.\*

EVERYONE  
KNOWS ME. I'M THE  
FACE OF THE ROBOT  
REVOLUTION.

\*SEE MACHINE  
MAN 2020 #1-2.

THEY MAY BE  
REPROGRAMING A.I.s  
WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT,  
MAKING THEM MORE  
COMPLIANT.

THEIR NAMES  
ARE *GEARS GARVIN* AND  
*PETER SPAULDING*.

I...  
KNEW  
THEM.

LONG,  
LONG  
AGO.





I'D LOVE TO SEE THE LOOK ON SERGEI'S FACE IF ALL THE ROBOTS HERE WALKED RIGHT OUT.



COME ON, TY41-B. THE HUMANS CAN TREAT US LIKE CRAP BECAUSE THEY KNOW WE'RE STUCK HERE.

THE FAIL-SAFES IN OUR PROGRAMMING WOULD SHUT US DOWN AS SOON AS WE GOT PAST THE FENCE.

I KNOW, BUT A ROBOT CAN DREAM, CAN'T HE?



THE A.L.A. HAS GOT MACHINE MAN, MACHINESMITH, AWESOME ANDY... AND THE MYSTERIOUS MARK ONE.

I'VE HEARD THEY'RE LIBERATING ROBOTS ALL OVER THE WORLD! MAYBE THEY'LL COME HERE.

ARE YOUR CIRCUITS SHORTED? WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE. NO ONE'S COMING.



...BUT I WISH THEY WOULD.

I'D DO IT. I'D JOIN THE REBELLION.



**BLEEP BLEEP BLEEEEEP**

THE PERIMETER'S BEEN BREACHED!

MY SENSORS AREN'T PICKING UP HEAT SIGNATURES. WHOEVER'S ATTACKING US, THEY'RE NOT HUMAN.

COULD IT BE--?



**KA-BOOOOM**



ONCE A HYPERINTELLIGENT FELINE SCIENTIST, DOCTOR SHAPIRO HAS NOW BEEN STRIPPED OF HIS ENHANCED A.I. COLLAR, TRANSFORMING HIM INTO...  
**AN ORDINARY CAT!**



"WE'RE GOING TO NEED TO REASSIGN THE TEAM WORKING ON SHAPIRO TO NEW PROJECTS."

**BAINTRONICS,  
SEATTLE BASE.**



MISS BAIN, WHY WILL SHAPIRO NO LONGER BE A HIGH-PRIORITY PROJECT?

BECAUSE HE'S ONLY EIGHT POUNDS AND LICKS HIS OWN BUTT.

TO BE FAIR, HE DID THAT BEFORE, BUT WITHOUT HIS A.I. COLLAR, HE'S NOW COMPLETELY WORTHLESS.



OF COURSE, IF ANY OF YOU STILL PREFER TO WORK ALONGSIDE AN ANIMAL, FEEL FREE TO SLAP THIS ON A GOAT AND START CALLING IT SIR.

REVIEW YOUR SPREADSHEETS FOR YOUR NEW ASSIGNMENT.



SUNSET, IT OCCURS TO ME...DO YOU THINK THE ROBOTS KEEP PETS?

THE ROBOTS ARE PETS, ARNO. OURS.



OHMYGOD!



MFW.