

Superhero **MANDROID**



*The Demon
at the Door*
ISSUE #1

**Portals opened.
Superhero Mandroid answered.**



**Giant machines,
mutant beasts, and
alien demons all
learned the same lesson.**



**After the last threat fell,
he returned to the one place
almost nobody knew.**



**Then the lab door
buzzer chimed.**



**Very few people
knew this door existed.**



**Fewer still would ever
press the buzzer.**



**Through the peephole,
Mandroid saw his inventor
waiting outside.**



**The face was right.
The timing was wrong.**



**The key card
stayed unused.**



**Mandroid asked why
the key card stayed in
his pocket.**



**The inventor smiled
too wide.**



**Hardlight tendrils unfolded
from a borrowed shadow.**



**The first strike hit before
the question finished.**



**Steel cracked behind
Mandroid's back.**



**The disguise burned
away in blue pixels.**



*The Pixel Demon
laughed at the simplest
trick in the world.*



*Mandroid rose
through pain and
demanded the truth.*



*The inventor was
away at a conference.
Safe, for now.*



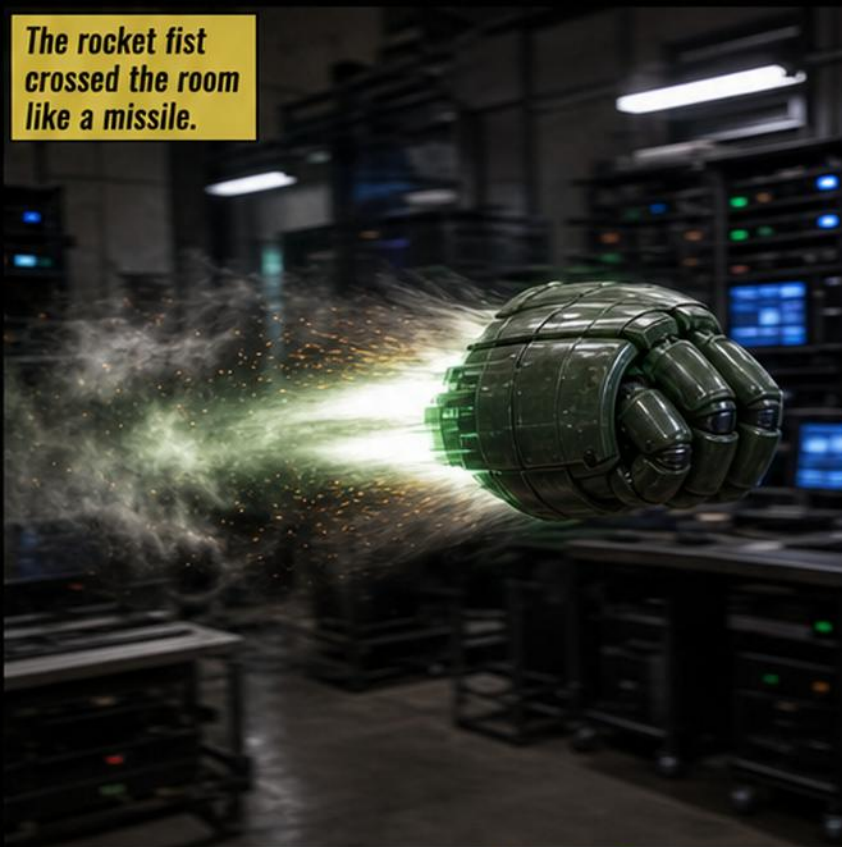
*The demon promised
that safety would end
when he came home.*



**Mandroid charged
before the demon
could say more.**



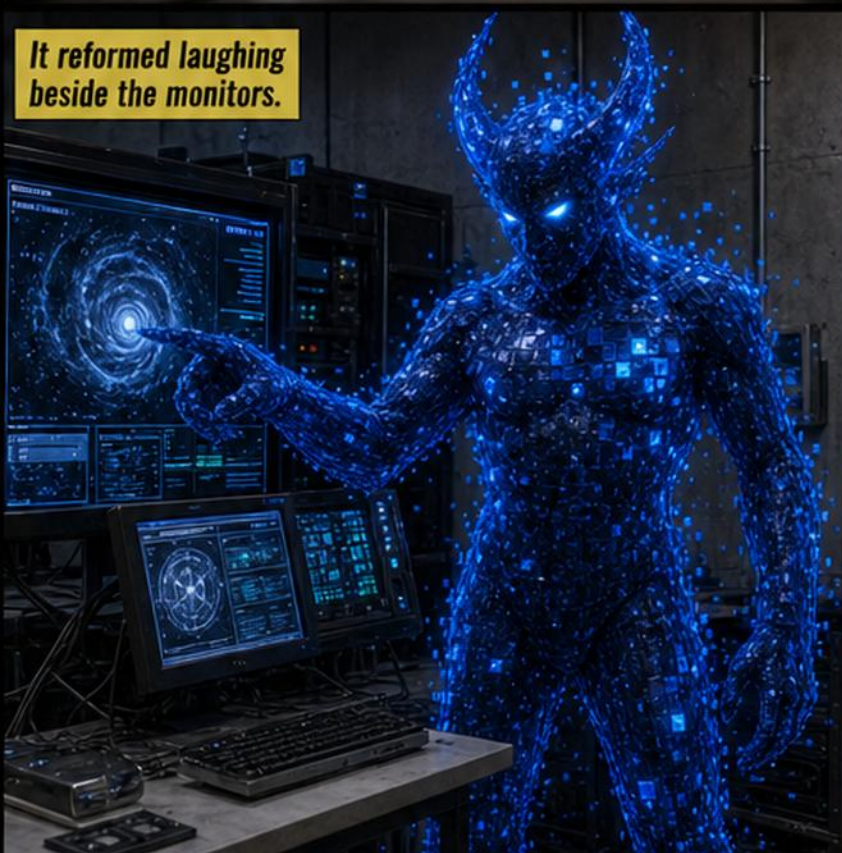
**The rocket fist
crossed the room
like a missile.**



**The demon became
a cloud of pixels.**



**It reformed laughing
beside the monitors.**



**Low-level systems
had told it where
to look.**



**That was enough to
make Mandroid open
the door.**



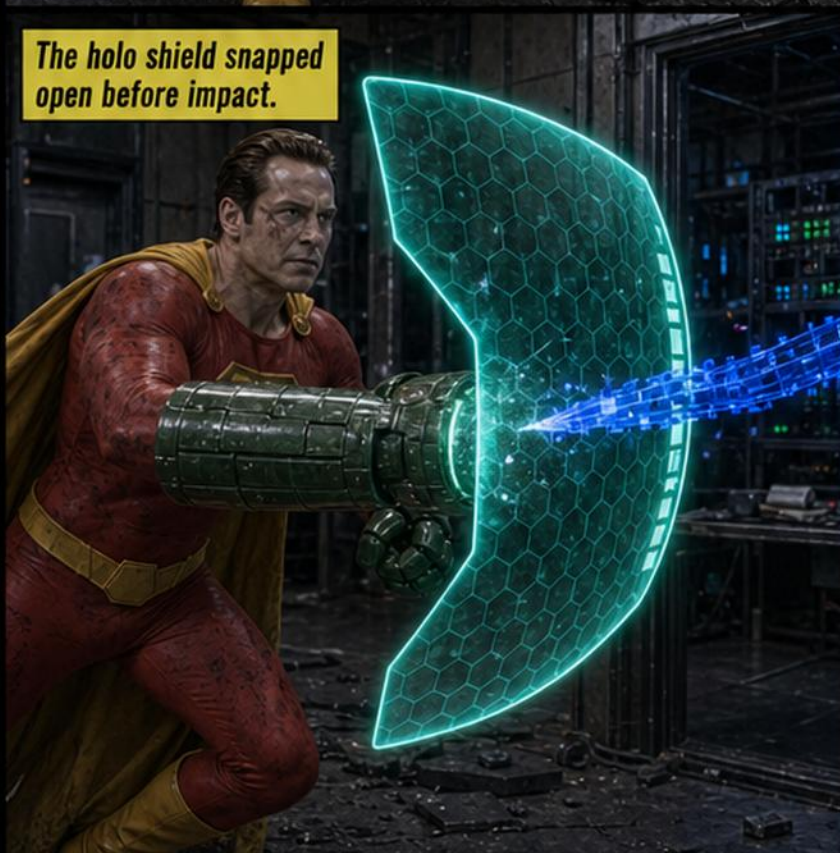
Mandroid charged again, this time smiling.



The demon shaped one tendril into a spear.



The holo shield snapped open before impact.



Hardlight met hardlight.



The shield cut through what the demon thought was invulnerable.



Low-level tricks could not hack the lab, and they could not hack him.



The demon screamed
that it should be
untouchable.



Mandroid understood
the rule better than
the invader did.



One hardlight edge
split another hardlight
body.



The Pixel Demon
evaporated before
naming what it came
to steal.



Mandroid had won,
but the portals were
no longer waiting for
him to arrive.

