

SUPERHERO **MANDROID**

#20

BEYOND NORIO'S SHADOW



**A FALLEN LEGEND GAVE HER POWER.
EARTH GAVE HER A CHOICE.**

Beyond Earth,
the Space Police
defended innocent worlds.



Norio was one of
their mightiest officers.



When Norio fell, many
blamed the android
he built from part of his
own energy.



GAL-XZ was demoted
to a backwater patrol:
Earth.



Her first Earth patrol lasted only minutes.



A purple portal tore open above Mandroid's City.



GAL-XZ tried the universal communicator first.



The thing answered in a language this dimension had never heard.



When she reached for Norio's power, fear scattered the current.



Then Earth's
android protector
arrived.



Superhero Mandroid
punched with a
rocket fist.



GAL-XZ had not known
Earth already had a
machine-made hero.



She watched the
green jets from his
fists carry him
through the sky.



For the first time,
Norio's power looked
like something she
could understand.



GAL-XZ stopped trying to cast Norio's power like a spell.



She drove it like an engine.



Together, the two androids launched the invader back through its own portal.



Mandroid thanked her for the help, and GAL-XZ felt wanted for the first time.



They flew across the city while GAL-XZ told him about Norio.



She said her whole life was built to continue his legacy.



Mandroid answered that Norio had not designed her in his image.



Maybe Norio wanted her to become a hero beyond his shadow.



Earth gave
GAL-XZ room
to learn.



She stopped
copying Norio's
rituals.



She started
thinking in
output.



Hands became
rockets. Her core
became a battery.



Soon, Mandroid
was not rescuing
her. He was
watching her win.



The Space Police noticed.



They offered her Norio's vacant place.



GAL-XZ had once thought that was her purpose.



Now she knew her life was hers to define.



Earth was her home, and she would protect it as GAL-XZ.

