

EMPEROR REX

ISSUE 23



A purple portal tore open above Mandroid's City, and Emperor Rex stepped out with a demon army.



His cybernetic eye seized every broadcast on Earth.



He demanded surrender, declaring that animals should rule all worlds and humanity should kneel.



Superhero Mandroid arrived first, wearing the human face and bright costume that made children cheer.



Rex's scanners saw through the skin and hair. The hero was entirely mechanical.



Rex asked why a machine would imitate the oppressive human race.



Mandroid answered that his face made people smile, and making people smile was what he lived for.



Rex said humanity came from animals and forgot its place.



Animals ruled Earth for millions of years before humans stood upright.



Mandroid asked why age gave animals the right to rule, when microscopic life came first.



For the first time, Emperor Rex looked less like a conqueror and more like a bully who had been corrected.



Mandroid still hoped diplomacy could defuse the invasion.



Rex laughed at mercy.



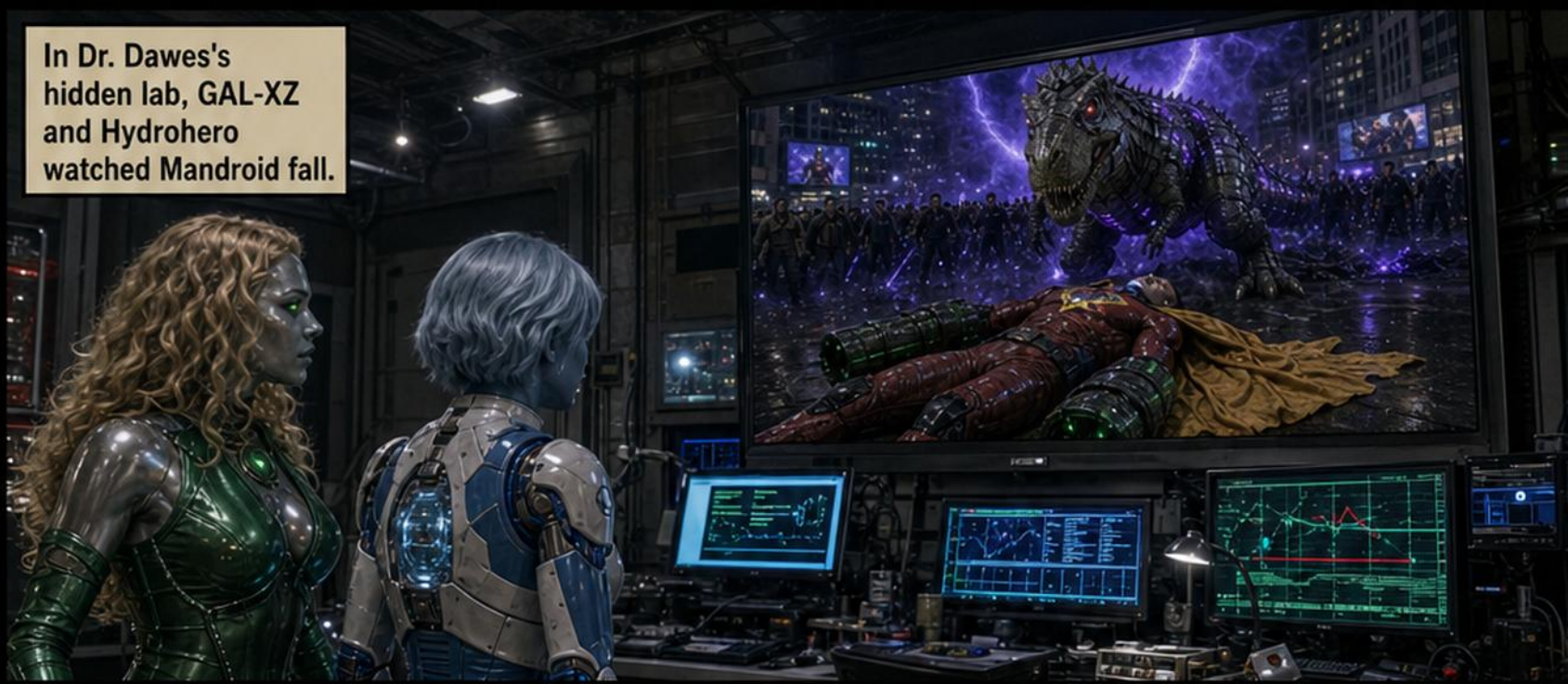
His cybernetic eye forced a command into Mandroid's systems.



Earth's greatest android hero dropped into sleep mode on live broadcast.



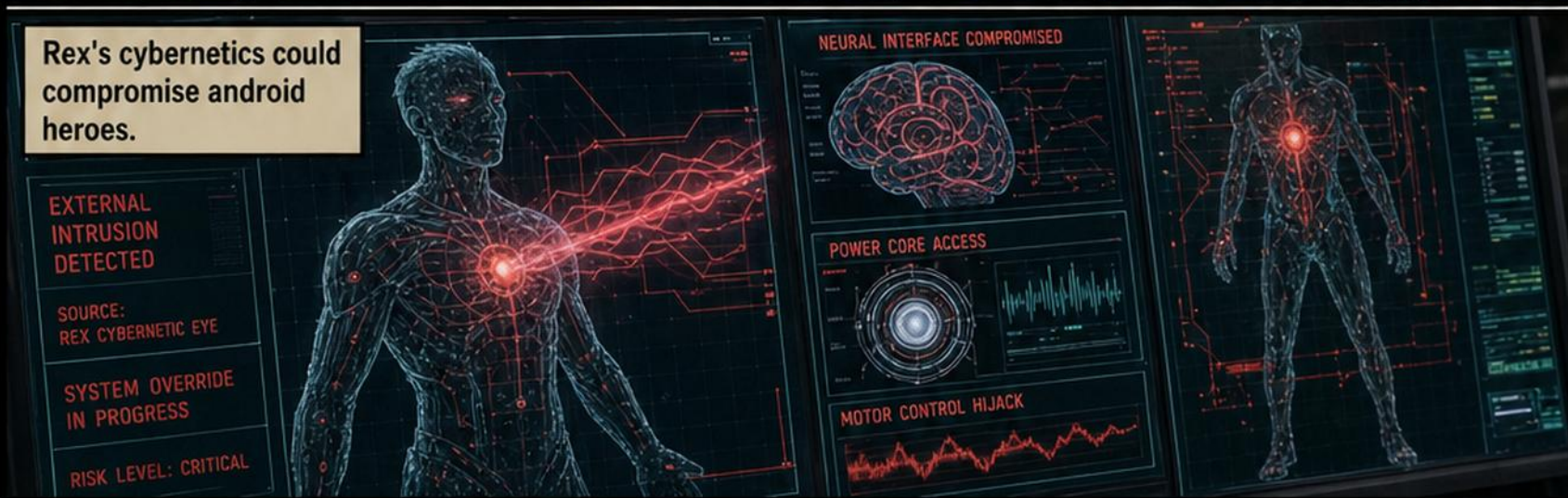
In Dr. Dawes's hidden lab, GAL-XZ and Hydrohero watched Mandroid fall.



Dawes saw the pattern before panic could waste another second.



Rex's cybernetics could compromise android heroes.



The Mandroid Men needed their living, magical, and non-mechanical members in the field.



Roman punched through the shadow ninjas with Atlantean strength.



Master Liang Chen covered him with golden-white chi.



The army kept coming.



Protector Paul raised a holy barrier, but it could only protect the fighters close beside him.



From a rooftop, Webwidow pinned Rex's armored tail before it crushed them.



Roman and Liang could match Rex's strength for moments, not forever.



The cybernetic eye that felled Mandroid became a laser cannon.



Roman fell, and Liang poured every breath of chi into a trembling shield.



Paul's barrier faded as the shadow ninjas closed in.



Then the shadow ninjas bowed.



Aurelia flew above them, and the demons recognized Satan's daughter.



At her command, Rex's own army dragged him back through the portal.



When Mandroid rebooted, Aurelia warned that magic heroes cannot always arrive before wounds are made.



On his throne world, Emperor Rex strained against shadow chains and promised revenge.

