

The three mean looking androids arrived quickly at the newly discovered address of Robot Control Station 2. In unison, they exited the sedan and shut the doors. In single file they walked up the short stone path to the front door.

The fembot in front removed her right hand as a pointed saw blade emerged from her arm. With their default expressions unchanging, the other two scanned the scene behind them as the first sawed the knob and the locks right out of the door. The winter chill had discouraged people from being outside, so there was no one around to hear that power-tool sound.

The door easily swung open on its hinges while the strong but now useless locks stayed firmly in their sockets. The limited and strictly linear intelligence of Robot Control didn't even have the forethought to install a security system so the main computer was as of yet unaware of the unwelcome visitors.

The three blondes headed straight for the basement door. Its lock was dispatched in the same way.

Maria heard that. Her processors churned through the audio data and fed the relevant bits through her pattern recognition algorithms. The rudimentary and soulless intelligence inside her chest could only come to the conclusion that something was not right about that sound. An automatic protocol kicked in at that point, and Maria's new calculations were transmitted along with the raw data to the main computer.

It did its own, more advanced computing, and ordered the pretty plastic maid to investigate.

The maid was busy cleaning the unused and already clean washroom. She stopped that task and quickly turned around. She walked down the hallway in her jerky and stiff robot walk while she beeped and clicked over the constant stream of synthesized tones emanating from inside her body. Her optical system sent its data directly to the main computer as she turned the corner to see the intruders walking swiftly down the stairs.

The one in the back turned around and pulled out her pistol. Four bullets went right into the maid's chest. The impact sent the scantily clad machine falling backwards. Her head popped off the rest of her sparking body and rolled back. The placid but inhuman expression built into her face didn't change as the head came to a stop a few feet away.

The main computer read the data as it came in, and went into the equivalent of emergency mode. Maria was ordered to fetch the prototype of Robot Control's secret weapon. Robot Lab #6 was alerted to the danger as the pretty and naked technician walked with the appearance of calm over to the workstation in the corner.

The main computer then began erasing itself. All of its data, all of its memories, plans and calculations were systematically deleted and written over. The locations of the other robot labs it knew about were wiped away, along with the detailed inventory of the hundreds of beautiful and realistic female robots disguised as humans who were currently on missions of their own throughout the region.

While all that was happening downstairs, the robot maid's body got back up and continued to fight the agents from Fembot Command. They weren't expecting the comparatively primitive unit to survive the shots, but they were ready nonetheless. Two blondes fired more bullets into the headless fembot's body as it descended the stairs. A shower of sparks burst forth as the maid struggled to stand upright. Somehow it managed, and without cameras or microphones, it found one of the blonde robots.

While the intruder tried to pull the black box out of her purse, the maid used her brute mechanical strength to tear the other woman's pony-tailed head from her body. Sparks flew again, and the black-suited android lady fell damaged and malfunctioning to the ground.

The awesome strength of the robot maid was a big surprise to Fembot Command. All of the data that the master computing device had processed had indicated that its competitor's maids were nearly identical in design to its own. Even more surprising was the maid's skill in deactivating one of the three trespassers. Either Robot Control knew how to initiate a cascading system failure in them, or the maid had acted on some kind of 'eye for an eye' subroutine.

Whatever the case, one of the three blonde agents now lay twitching on the ground. Her programs came one by one to a crashing halt as uncontrolled shocks of voltage scorched and seared her complicated circuits and electronic components into a burned-out mess.

Seeing that, the other two fembots extended strong blades from their fingertips and set upon the badly damaged maid, ripping and tearing her electric body into pieces.

As the smoking, twitching and flashing of sparks died down, the remaining robots shot their guns into the computer that controlled the door to the lab. Even more burning circuitry filled the stairwell with acrid blue smoke as the monotone female voice that used to greet the agents sputtered out with meaningless and random strings of harsh sounding phonemes and syllables.

The two attackers took hold of each side of the metal doors and slowly pulled them apart. They drained more power in the fifteen seconds it took to do that than they had since they had been activated. Once the sliding doors were open enough, they walked right into the lab.

Maria was ready for them. She aimed the secret weapon right at the pair. The futuristic looking gun was an electric field disruptor, and was designed to do the same thing to Fembot Command's women that Kim had done to Rochelle #1. With a raygun sound and an invisible burst of energy, Maria fired the device at the other androids. The one in front took a direct hit and immediately shook with spasms. She walked stiffly in small circles until she toppled over on to the cold cement floor. Her arms and legs kept right on making pointless walking movements that made her rigid plastic body rock this way and that.

The one remaining intruder had escaped the weapon's blast. While Maria waited for the device to regain a usable charge, the sunglasses-wearing blonde rushed at her and pried open her chest panel. Maria tried to stop the other fembot with her free arm, but even with both arms she wouldn't have been strong enough. The brunette technician was quickly overpowered. Into her chest was jammed one of Fembot Command's black boxes. It took over her system completely.

"Maria," the blonde robot said in an obvious and metallic sounding monotone, "establish connection with the main computer."

Maria's unchanging face stared out ahead for a few seconds. A loud beep came out of her speaker and she said "Error..... device not found."

With her partner still malfunctioning and making walking movements on the floor, the blonde left Maria standing there with the black cube plugged into her chest and walked over to examine the main console. The main computer now had completely erased itself, vanished into a roiling sea of meaningless 1s and 0s. It was still on, but was only writing loops of junk over its memory. The

only thing left of its once amazing computational power was the one-line instruction to write random data everywhere.

Relatively undamaged and functioning well, the remaining lady in the dark suit turned her head slowly to scan the scene. All that was left of Robot Control Station 2 was Maria and the first version of Rochelle Prantov. She was lying naked on an examination table and was fully assembled again. She was on, but unresponsive.

The blonde retrieved another black cube from one of her fallen sisters and took over Rochelle's system to. With the main computer gone, all that Fembot Command had gained were two mindless drones and the electric field disruptor. No data was recovered to reveal the whereabouts of any of Robot Control's other labs or bases.

It was a Pyrrhic victory. Fembot Command had lost two very expensive synthetic agents, and gained only as much in return. The electric field disruptor wasn't much of an improvement over the existing method that had worked before on Rochelle #1.

The blonde finished her scan and transmitted her information to Fembot Command. She stood unmoving in the middle of it all while she waited to download further instructions.