

ROBOCOP 2

Story Outline

18 May 1989

**FOR EDUCATIONAL
PURPOSES ONLY**

ROBUCOP II " OUTLINE

LER/GREEN May 18, 1989

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EROTECH COMMERCIAL

featuring a full-sized, beautiful erotic female robot that offers the ultimate in safe sex.

MEDIABREAK

describes a city in chaos because of a police strike. Whole sections of the city are in a state of anarchy without garbage pick up or public transport while OCP and the City government hurl charge and counter charge.

Exacerbating an already bad situation is the NUKE epidemic. NUKE, a new designer drug, addicting from the first hit, has brought drug dependency to nearly twenty percent of the city's population. Marketed by a mystery figure known in the streets only as Kong, Nuke threatens to undo the basic fabric of society. Where are we going? How will we deal with it? More on news at eleven.

IN THE CITY

Two thieves nuke up before robbing a gun shop. As they escape fully armed, a squad car approaches. They blast it with antitank weapons and totally demolish it. They blast the wreckage until Robo emerges phoenix-like from an enormous fireball and comes after them.

In quick interrogation on the heels of action, Robo learns the location of a Nuke distribution center. He goes through a nuke neighborhood. Robo is no hero in this place. He stalks the street under verbal and physical assault from a nuked-out population.

The Nuke distribution center is a sweat shop of Nuke packaging. In a Dickensian setting women and children labor in a basement. Robo arrives and a shoot out begins with innocents ducking the cross fire.

A Nuke gangster uses children as a human shield. In his Strategic Mode, Robo's vectoring program designs a kill with a bullet fired and ricocheted around the room like a three bank pool shot.

Encountering HOB, a ten year old survivor of the shootout, Robo sees for an instant a flashback image--the face of his own son. In the split second he fails to cover himself Hob draws a 357 magnum. Stating "This is for Kong" he blasts Robo in the helmet and gets away. Temporarily shaken Robo recovers as Lewis arrives.

Having been on duty for sixty hours Robo is ordered back to the station for rest and recharge. Lewis concern for him is immediate. His disturbed state is beyond simple exhaustion.

Lewis presses and he tells her about the image of his son over the gangster youth. He concern for the current status of his child is obvious. Lewis tries to cheer him with some vestiges of background...She's heard there's a new father, a new home, outside the city.

Robo believes that unless Kong is stopped no youth anywhere will be safe from NUKE. He must get him.

STATION HOUSE

Robo and Lewis cross a picket line to enter the station house. Inside the chaos caused by the strike and Nuke epidemic. The holding tank is filled with juveniles shouting obscenities. They are deliberately chosen for the work of pushers and assassins because they cannot be tried as adults.

Robo leaves his helmet with a TECHIE for repair and goes to the computer file room. Patching in to the system he begins a search for his son. When the face comes up he studies it and after moments of contemplation, he indicates "seek contact".

OCP HEADQUARTERS

DR. JULIET FAXX, SECURITY CONCEPTS Marketing Director, presents a range of her division's products, including the latest in family car and home defense as well as the ED209 and military materials. Her audience is a high-powered group of Pentagon representatives and international corporate purchasers. Incongruous in the audience is KONG, a mystery figure not yet identified as the drug lord he is.

(ROBO's raid on his distribution net has made KONG want a RoboCop of his own.) KONG dismisses FAXX's attempt to sell him an ED209 and startles her by demonstrating extensive knowledge about the RoboCop project--including the very classified fact that a human was used to make ROBO. FAXX is left intrigued by KONG's obvious intellect and amoral personality. She notes Kong's admiration of Robo's physical perfection, a sharp contrast to Kong's unattractive, unimpressive physique. With her background in behavioral sciences she detects something in Kong that could later be useful.

ON THE STREET

LEWIS and Robo on a stake out. they see a cop scoring Nuke. Robo goes after the Nukers and Lewis after the cop. She gives him a pretty good beating when he resists arrest.

STATION HOUSE

Robo takes his perp to the tank. ESTEVEZ helps LEWIS conceal the arrested cop in the men's room. Here she faces him down in his beginning withdrawal. There will be no drugs until he tells what he knows about Kong's empire. The Nuked cop reveals the location of GROUND ZERO--the laboratory where NUKE was developed and is produced. Lewis then sends him to rehab.

Hearing Lewis' information, SERGEANT REED orders the cops to hold back on their assault into nuke territory. Kong's headquarters are in a part of the city they cannot even patrol with their strike-reduced numbers. They can't afford the men for an immediate raid. ROBO overhears the angry exchange between LEWIS and REED. It's clear that as long as there's a strike, Reed will not order a police action against Kong.

OCP HEADQUARTERS

FAXX attends a meeting held by the OLD MAN and SELTZ, VP of SECURITY CONCEPTS. (ROBO2 suicide tape here.) They're giving up on continuing the ROBO line due to successive failures. FAXX makes her pitch: cops are a physical, macho, horny bunch, and making them into robots makes them crazy. Only a stroke of luck--Murphy's head wound--somehow altered the functioning of Murphy's limbic system in a way that allowed him to survive the trauma of total body prosthesis. Science's understanding of the limbic system is too limited for OCP to imitate--or even understand--what happened to Murphy's brain. But FAXX proposes another course: to find a personality that will be able to cope. FAXX secures research and development money from the OLD MAN.

Alone with the OLD MAN, SELTZ alerts him to the public relations damage caused by the OCP-engineered POLICE STRIKE. The OLD MAN gives a visionary talk. The chaos, the dilemma of the city caving in under a police strike is part of his strategic planning. He has long held the dream of raiding a city, secretly acquiring its debts and undermining its assets. Under the existing contracts OCP will soon have the right of foreclosure. The OLD MAN'S dreams of a city run by responsible private enterprise will come true when they take Detroit private.

THE NETHER WORLD OF THE NUKE AREA

Robo goes alone in pursuit of Kong. He knows that Robo's arrival was just a matter of time.

KONG monitors ROBO's approach, lets him through defenses, even shows him the laboratory. Through trickery, a trap made of modified industrial robots, KONG catches Robo and begins his systematic destruction.

STATION HOUSE

The dismembered torso of ROBO is tossed from a limo onto the street in front of the station house, a clear signal from KONG that he can't be beaten. PICKETING COPS react with a mixture of guilt and rage. At the sight of him a cop exclaims "Christ, he's been stripped."

ACT 2

MEDIABREAK

Is ROBO dead, killed by the phantom drug lord Kong? Are the feeble resources of the police now defeated by rampant crime as OCP's FORECLOSURE DEADLINE for the city draws near? The mayor has a plan to force OCP to end the strike. More at ten.

ROBO CHAMBER

As Rob lies semi-conscious and Techies examine him word comes that OCP will not accept him for repair. He is over the warrantee period and they are not currently under obligation to their contract because the of the city's default. There is immediate rage among the rank and file cops. Lewis asks the techie if he could fix him. It's possible but he doesn't have the parts. Lewis demands he inspect him and find out what is needed.

As Robo is brought back on line, LEWIS sees a BLIP of the PREMONITION on a monitor. The scene is a junkyard. A more complete premonition is seen by Robocop himself. It is a dark premonition of his death.

OCP EXECUTIVE OFFICES

With Seltz and FAXX present the old man is presented a dilemma by his PR people. Public sympathy for Robo runs so high that with word out that OCP won't repair him there is a public outcry, even from major OCP stockholders. But clearly the less useful Robo is to the police the quicker the city will collapse and Detroit will be delivered to their hands.

The loyal non-striking police are making every effort to restore him. If OCP refuses to aid them, their image will be shattered beyond repair.

SELTZ suggests that ROBO remain off-line to hurry the collapse of Detroit and public opinion be damned. The OLD MAN regretfully concurs, despite his "special fondness" for ROBO--Faxe however claims to have a solution that will cover all their bases.

In the aftermath of the meeting Seltz confronts Faxx and warns her of trying to exceed her position in the company. Her screening of candidates for Robo 11 has resulted in nothing. She is simply a name and a title on a door that can easily be changed. But Faxx seems un-intimidated. When she leaves Seltz tells Johnson, an ever-eager Black executive, to keep him informed about what she's doing.

TV INTERVIEW

NIGHTLINE-style interview with KONG. His face hidden by shadows, KONG talks about Nuke's export potential at a time when America needs exports. Moving the drug out of the Ghetto. Employment opportunities for every American. Kong has moved to bigger and better quarters, and is ready to expand wildly. He presents new merchandising plans for Nuke. Packaging in a way that a child could do it in the room with his parents and they would never know. Nuke will move from local designer drug of great promise to world wide acceptance. (See in this sequence Kong's affection for Angie.)

OCP HEADQUARTERS

With a huge print-out list of parts, and money collected from rank and file cops, Lewis arrives at OCP. She is ready to punch out anyone who stands in the way of saving Robo. The OCP employees tell her no parts can be given. But Faxx appears and offers full cooperation. She has persuaded the higher ups to change policy. She takes the print-out and tells Lewis that by the following day repairs on Robo can begin. OCP will provide an expert technical staff to assist. They will at the same time update his programs. (He's after all OCP's greatest achievement) With a relief that borders on tears Lewis thanks her. FAXX mocks LEWIS' affection for ROBO in the kindest terms possible. Blue collar LEWIS is tongue tied and subtly humiliated.

FAXX holds a meeting of department heads to gather "input" for Robo's program update. Every OCP Public Relations jerk has an opinion ("He must relate to women better." "He must be a role model for our children."). FAXX promises to accommodate each and every one of them in the reprogramming.

UNDER WORLD MEETING

Kong addresses the troops, glorying in the destruction of ROBO and his rapidly expanded empire of Mom and Pop NUKE dealers. A new brand of NUKE--purer, with fewer side effects--is introduced for the burgeoning market in the upper class ("We are breaking the blue collar barrier.")

Raging KONG galvanizes his Nukehead following to invade non-nuke territory and demolish a police force weakened and demoralized by the strike. Cops trying to make it on short supplies, no health and welfare, no pensions and one half pay will be refuse to patrol streets where they are systematically assassinated. Until the strike ends, Kong and the forces of crime are superior to the cops in firepower and numbers. In the climax of the meeting Kong's henchman brutally kills Carlin, who earlier betrayed Kong to Robo. (got to add this in first act)

ROBOCHAMBER

MURPHY'S WIFE appears as OCP TECHNICIANS repair ROBO. She is in shock, driven to tears as her ATTORNEY and an OCP ATTORNEY debate the situation in utterly confusing legalese: WIFE'S ATTORNEY demands a DEPOSITION from ROBO releasing MURPHY'S WIFE from the marriage, and promising no further contact. ROBO nods his agreement. Upon his repair a taped statement will be taken in which he will foreswear all interest in all custody with regard to his child. OCP ATTORNEY defends OCP'S right to use "certain neurological matter" of Murphy's corpse. LEWIS arrives to kick the pack of them out.

FAXX COMES TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS TO SEE ROBO GO BACK ON LINE

Some of his new shielding has not yet come, and he still wears scars and burns on his armor. But in a hurried scene of last minute chaos, Robo is put back on his feet and sent out to fight crime.

DOUGHNUT SHOP - KONG'S ATTACK BEGINS

A COP purchases doughnuts while his PARTNER outside lies to REED via car phone, saying they're handling a domestic disturbance. KONG FOOTSOLDIERS disguised as a BOY SCOUT TROOP and their TROOP LEADER murder the cop inside. His PARTNER calls for back-up.

ROBO and LEWIS arrive to save the day--but ROBO, after saving the PARTNER and nailing the TROOP LEADER, malfunctions, arresting the troop leader's corpse.

THE STREETS

ROBO, LEWIS, and the COPS barely hold their own against an onslaught of attacks by organized, well-armed NUKEHEADS. Peculiar things go wrong with ROBO (comedy montage); LEWIS deduces that FAXX has deliberately corrupted Robo's program.

KONG'S LIVING QUARTERS

Kong and Angie howl with laughter as Hob, wearing a toy Robo helmet and armor mimics Robo in his pro-social mode.

MEDIA BREAK

ROBOCOP has been removed from action for what are referred to as technical failures. With the threatened foreclosure of the city growing closer every day, the mayor announces a secret plan to bail the city out.

STATION HOUSE

Word spreads among the striking cops that ROBO has failed again, gone crazy.

As KONG'S FORCES gain the advantage on the streets, LEWIS tries to get the TECHIE to fix ROBO'S problem: three hundred committee-written DIRECTIVES. TECHIE explains that all he could do is wipe Robo's command program away--which would probably leave ROBO a complete zombie. LEWIS is torn. Realizing that innocent people are dying, ROBO takes the initiative--and the risk, de-programming himself.

ROBO survives the de-programming. Emerging totally fit in his new and shining armor, he inspires the striking COPS to throw down their placards and get back to work--to join him in the war on Kong.

RAID ON KONG

Kong's new headquarters in an elaborate new industrial complex draws on the full tactical strength of the cops. First encountering suicide squads of nuke-heads, they come to Kong's headquarters.

Not having expected the return of the cops in force and unaware of Robo's return to full strength, there is panic in Kong's quarters as the cops surround them and Robo prepares to go in after them.

Kong's henchmen begin breaking away from him. They climb into a huge Pittson armored truck filled with money and fully armed with the latest defense weapons and desert him. HOB joins the deserters.

Only Angie, who is still intensely loyal to Kong, remains.

Successfully blasting through the police line, Kong is surrounded and forced to flee with Angie to a an assault Helicopter. As they leave, the sight of Robocop is too tempting. The ship is armed for combat and Kong wants revenge. Angie begs him to forget Robo, to get away with her to someplace safe. But Kong sets the ship down and pushes her out. He goes back after Robo as she screams for him to stop.

Kong comes at Robo with everything the chopper's got. Robo is blasted across the ground and has to seek shelter in a huge sewer pipe.

Kong pumps flame and rockets from the chopper into the pipe as it hovers in front of the opening. He fails to see the great robot cop emerging from another opening in the pipe. Kong sees him, but before he can maneuver the chopper around Robo fires series of blasts into the gas tank of the chopper. It explodes and falls out of the air.

Seeing this from a distance, Ahgie screams with sorrow.

Robo pulls a mortally wounded from the crash. Kong's eyes burn with hate as he lapses into unconsciousness.

ACT 3

MEDIABREAK

Celebration of the victory over Kong and the report of his death. Elation for Robo cop and the police. The mayor's announcement that the city's financial needs will be solved with a telethon. Robocop once again the hero of the day.

STATION HOUSE

Reporters clamor to meet Robo cop, but he's in taped deposition on personal business.

Even while his achievements are celebrated, Robocop's humanity is questioned. He is deprived of basic human rights by virtue of the fact that he is not in fact human. Only wishing to have some knowledge of his son is a violation of the law. Sadly and wearily he turns away from the legal arguments as to what he actually is and begins the statement that his wife's attorney demanded. Effectively that he is not a human and therefore without human rights.

OCP HEADQUARTERS

KONG wakes, alive, his face a horrifying COMPUTER-GENERATED IMAGE on a MONITOR that forms the face of ROBOCOP 2. FAXX plays evil mother to ROBO2, keeping him under her control by manipulating his pain centers and controlling small, periodic doses of NUKE to his brain.

FAXX demonstrates her power over KONG by bringing in a captured ANGIE and ordering KONG to kill the woman he loves. KONG, in agony, complies.

MAYOR'S TELETHON

His honor is making a fool of himself amidst performing seals and other props of the telethon when a call comes from HOB and the remnants of Kong's empire. The money to bail out the city--and more--is available. The mayor lights up at the proposition.

ON THE STREET

Robo and Lewis are on the street. His function is perfect but he has become cold and distant. Lewis tries to warm him up but his response reveals the darkness of his mood. "Stop calling me Murphy. You heard the lawyers, Murphy is dead."

AT OCP

FAXX is harangued by SELTZ for the failure of her program update ploy to disable ROBO. FAXX turns everything around for herself by unveiling ROBOCOP 2. The OLD MAN is charmed, thrilled. Word comes to SELTZ that the MAYOR is meeting with gangsters to arrange a city BAIL OUT just under the deadline. The OLD MAN gives vague orders that this must not happen.

MAYOR MEETS GANGSTERS

at their hideout. MAYOR brings a host of ATTORNEYS. GANGSTERS bring attorneys of their own, as well as assault rifles. HOB lays out the deal: NUKE MONEY will re-finance the city, thwarting OCP. Nuke money will pay the cops back salaries, pensions, ect. In return, the city will leave well enough alone and allow nationwide NUKE traffic to be the staple of Detroit's economy. Motor Town will become Nuke Town. A KING'S FORTUNE of nuke money is unveiled.

MAYOR

I think we can do business.
(to attorney)
Why do we call it "crime"? I
don't believe in labels.

The monster KONG attacks, using all its weapons systems to slaughter almost everyone there. The MAYOR crawls away unnoticed as KONG takes special pleasure in ripping HOB to pieces.

AFTERMATH - THE COPS ARRIVE

including ROBO and LEWIS, to investigate the scene of the massacre. BULLET and CANNON fire was obviously used. ROBO scans the scene, using projected SCHEMATICS of trajectories based on the holes in walls and bodies to form a rough image of what did all the damage: a single, multi-weaponed unit. Only one place could have produced such a thing...

OCP HEADQUARTERS

ROBO charges into FAXX's lab, pulls files from the computer that reveal the designs of ROBO 2--and who they made it from. ROBO realizes that he has yet to get KONG. LEWIS puts herself in a good mood by flattening FAXX with a punch.

FAXX composes herself in time for SELTZ to enter and cheerfully inform her that, while her contribution to "his" RoboCop 2 project is appreciated, Security Concepts is now moving from development to production. FAXX is to return to Marketing. As FAXX seethes, SELTZ reminds her that ROBO 2 must be brought back on-line in time for the day's celebration of OCP's takeover of Detroit at

DELTA TOWERS

An unfinished skyscraper eighty stories tall, bare girders at the top. Here the MAYOR arrives to officially turn the reins of government over to OCP's OLD MAN amidst massive publicity as DELTA CITY is at last to be christened.

The mayor, now a nervous wreck, facing scandal and ruin, orders a crack police unit to surround him for the occasion. Lewis--in dress blues--will be part of his honor guard.

A humiliated, battered FAXX targets KONG at LEWIS--and increases his NUKE dose tenfold. KONG goes berserk, casually cleaving SELTZ' head from his shoulders. Then it moves on Lewis.

As the NUKE continues to kick in, KONG briefly mistakes LEWIS for ANGIE and obliterates FAXX. LEWIS flees to

GIRDERS

high above the city. KONG pursues LEWIS, taking his time. ROBO rides a GIRDER up the building's side, and the battle is joined (rework of girder fight from previous draft). Using his wits and experience as a human cop, ROBO destroys KONG.

MEDIABREAK

Now the city and OCP have the goods on each other, so they've no choice but to come to terms. A friendly reconciliation is reported: OCP will aid the city in its recovery; Detroit will not be taken private.

STATION HOUSE

REPORTERS await ROBO as LEWIS brings him a piece of FAN MAIL-- from Murphy's own son, who has no idea that Murphy is ROBO.

Whether Robo is legally human or not, the letter from his son has restored his faith in humanity. There is a warm moment with Lewis before they leave the station house.

Outside a crowd of fans and Robo scans the faces of the jubilant crowd, pausing to look at each child. Abruptly, a DISPATCHER signals ROBO: hostages are in danger across town.

STREETS

ROBO drives toward danger.