

ROBOCOP 2

Story Outline

Revised by Walon Green

17-24 April 1989

**FOR EDUCATIONAL
PURPOSES ONLY**

*Terrible: Kang must be formidable
will be relativized.
right now clean to me. -
Watch it for it to see
forming Memphis
parties. 1*

4/26/89

"ROBOCOP 2" STORY OUTLINE: revised by Walon Green, 4/17-24/89

1 LUKE SPINDLE

Establishes POLICE STRIKE.

2 OCP - LABOR MEETING

The City is in default and OCP won't pay the cops. They've cut back on other public services they've been contracted to provide (garbage, public transport etc.) and the City is approaching a total breakdown -- and in a panic.

With the City broke, OCP attorneys reveal that they've quietly bought up the city's bonds and debt and now feel they're in a position to dictate terms.

With Seltz, a battery of attorneys, and an ED209 standing by, the Old Man drops a bombshell: they're foreclosing on the entire city government: taking Detroit private.

The OCP hard-liners announce their deadline for vacating City Hall and stage a grand walk-out from the council meeting. Stunned, the bankrupt MAYOR and his group vow to fight it in the courts but fear the power of the corporate monolith.

3 OCP BEHIND THE SCENES (LIMO)

The Old Man and Seltz congratulate themselves on attempting the Greatest Corporate Raid in the history of the world. "It's the first time a corporation has ever raided an entire city," the Old Man intones. By forcing the Cops to strike, by having the streets fill with garbage and other services failing every day, they've weakened the City government's position as the city edges toward chaos.

They have a pure vision -- of a major American city run Efficiently by Responsible Private Enterprise.

4 POLICE SQUAD ROOM

The STRIKE is broken down into the majority of police on strike over the pay cut -- and a small skeleton force of cops, good guys desperately trying to stop the epidemic of crime on the streets while opposing OCP.

Reed is the precinct's rep from the PBA, monitoring the labor situation.

OCP's cutting and non-maintenance of property and equipment has worsened an already bad environment. Old lady VOLUNTEERS and TEMP DISPATCHERS deal frantically with the deluge of crime calls. The basement and Robo room is flooded with backed up sewage; brownouts occur frequently. The Motor pool is gone -- the mechanics are off-duty and there's no car pool. The JAILS overflow with raunchy low-life PERFS, WHORES and PUSHERS.

An OCP robot-service TECHIE working without salary is complaining about the basement flooding: "I'm supposed to get him back in shape and get him out! Where is he? He's been on the street with 60 hours!"

5 CRIME IN THE STREETS

ROBO'S ENTRANCE. "Peace officer." (Revision of introductory action sequence pages 7 - 11)

Lewis arrives.

The scene is "buttoned" with a funny crime scene that relates to NUKE.

6 INT. POLICE STATION

POLICE LIFE. Robo comes back to the squadroom from the field. The cops are bitching and moaning about the strike. "Robots don't strike." There's a camaraderie between Murphy and his fellow cops.

7 INT. ROBO ROOM - MURPHY ALONE

Exhausted and in pain, Murphy seeks escape from the chaos until he can be serviced. He turns on the computer and starts searching for his wife and kid. "Seek contact."

In the SQUAD ROOM, Lewis, Reed and the other COPS talk strategy. They figure that they could just about keep the lid on the city's crime if it weren't for the nuke epidemic. If they could bust Kong and crack down on NUKE, the police would regain some moral authority and respect. But with Robocop overtired (and OCP not providing service and spare parts) they worry about going up against the NUKE GANG and its enormous network of STREET CRIMINALS outgunned and under-staffed.

8 EXT./INT. BANK - INTRO KONG- DAY

A venerable downtown Savings-and-Loan institution.

Kong and entourage enter, get royal reception. Kong had ordered the transfer of a large amount of dope money to his Swiss account -- he's gotten a phone call from his Swiss

banker that the transfer never arrived. He's even more troubled because he wants to make a large deposit. Kong is street brilliant, obese, and psychotic.

The Bank President tells him nervously that they couldn't make the transfer because OCP owns the bank and has instituted a new 30-day hold policy. OCP's frozen the bank's outgoing assets because they need the bank's bulk assets and cash to underwrite a hostile takeover.

The Bank President apologizes for the temporary holdup, says, however, he will be happy to accommodate Kong's deposit. Kong gets psychotic. Gratuitously kills an innocent.

9 EXT. BANK ALLEY

Outside, we reveal that Kong is stuck with a truckload of dope money that he has to get out of town.

10 SQUAD ROOM

They bust a cop on nuke. Busted COP give them a tip on the location of one of the labs.

11 ROBO BACK ON THE STREET

Robo, Lewis and the Cops plan a RAID into Nuke territory. He is showing signs of malfunction and wear.

Robo is attacked by the gang and under Kong's direction severely beaten. The gang escape for their secret headquarters, leaving Robo for dead. The Cops cart away the damaged cyborg. Lewis is worried about Robo.

12 OCP - ROBOCOP 2 SCENE

The Robocop program proved that physically a robot cop is better than his human contemporary. OCP now wants a Robocop with less free will and even higher efficiency. Since being a cop on the street -- facing criminals with assault weapons, etc. -- is like fighting a war, they need a robot weapons system! "We're beyond the cop with the gun, we need military options," says SELTZ, the Old Man's Chief of Staff. When OCP takes over Detroit, they need the new enforcer to put an end of crime as only OCP can.

We meet DR. HANS FLECK, OCP's reigning roboticist, with theories of robot evolution and dreams of a Nobel prize. The problem is, he can't get the new robots on line: they're all self-destructing. The Old Man introduces DR. LOVE from Attitude Adjustment (with a background in psychology and computers).

After the FUNNY SUICIDE TAPES are run, Love opines that OCP needs as a subject someone who wants to be a Robocop. Fleck, who's been culling his specimens from the ranks of good-cops-shot-while on duty, challenges her: "Who the hell would volunteer to be turned into a robot?!"

Love's theory is that psycho-cybernetics and mind control can help the robotics department succeed the next time they have a body to work on. But whose body? -- that is the question ...

13 KONG ARRIVES AT OCP

He's mad at OCP for freezing up the bank with his money in it. He's sussed it out: "I know you want to take the city private but it's my money" If they're going to use his money, he wants to be a partner. It seems logical to KONG. He and OCP are a twin headed dragon, he can match them in wealth and with his new wonder narcotic NUKE he can soon match them in wealth and world wide enterprise.

Only DR. Love seems to be impressed by KONG. The OCP executives are condescending. Their position is " We don't have any partners. You have a problem with the bank, see a banker." They tell him to go fuck himself, and show him out.

14 LOVE MEETS KONG

Love is waiting for Kong when he comes out. Love flatters him, She tells him cyptically there's a way to be part of OCP and in fact very powerful. Kong turns her down.

Love reveals to Seltz that Kong, were he willing, would have been the ideal candidate for a cyborg. Seltz reminds her of her mid-level position and the restricted area of her decision making. The higher echelons of OCP are closed to her unless she's willing to make a physical connection with a board member. Namely him. The consummate Ice Queen, Love spurns his advance.

15 START REBUILD - POLICE HQ

Robo is much more broken than they thought. The OCP warranty has expired and they are refusing to service him or even provide parts. It's up to the squad room Techie to fix him. They go to work on him (Techie: "We need a G-258 S-1 spare part...there's a Korean one but it's too big...I guess we could weld it to his back..."). Lewis tells him to give her a list of what they need.

16 LEWIS GOES TO OCP

Lewis gets in and meets Love. Love is a psychologist; Lewis is a woman with a crush on a robot (LEWIS: "We'll pay you (for the parts. We know how you people are about money, we've taken a collection in the squad room").

Love reveals the existence of the memory disks ("Funny you call him Murphy, there's no Murphy there. Here's the man, Murphy."), all the memory that Lewis knows Robo yearns for ("Why is this here? Why doesn't he have it?!") Love tells her it doesn't matter now, he's terminal. ("They didn't build him to last, like a car he's only supposed to work until there's a newer better model which should be soon.") Lewis threatens to go public with OCP's attitude, Love calms her and gives her some parts claiming others are no longer being stocked. Lewis leaves with the terrible feeling that Murphy is terminal.

After Lewis leaves, an eavesdropping Dr. Fleck tells Love that Murphy's circuits are not able to contain the full load of his human memory. If Murphy did upload his old life as contained on the disks, the overload would kill him.

The scene is buttoned with an OCP internal sequence that once again reminds Love that at OCP she is among the servants and not the masters.

17 MURPHY TAKEN APART

WIFE comes in with horrendous attorney. Since ROBO (MURPHY) is alive (or at least some of him is) and has attempted to contact her, there must be an immediate divorce and injunctions preventing him from ever seeing or contacting his child. Murphy has no choice but to sadly accede.

18 JEWELRY EXCHANGE - KONG IN HIS WORLD

Kong and Gang dig into their office building HQ fronting as the Jewelry Exchange. Hassids, gold & diamonds downstairs. Upstairs, nuke money pouring in.

The truckful of cash is locked up in the basement.

Kong makes plans to ship the money out of the city. He talks of even bigger plans. An OPEC style drug meeting to be held soon in Detroit in which NUKE will go international.

19 LEWIS AND ROBOCOP INVESTIGATING NUKE GANG

Economy of city and parts of town are indebted to Nuke -- and its network of pushers and hit men, including kids.

Robo's function is somewhat restored, but he is demoralized. His own feelings about himself reflect what Lewis learned

from Love. His time is limited, Lewis lies. She tells him he isn't dying. "Cops don't let their partners die."

Talk turns to why he put the search on for his wife which led to her appearance with the attorney. Robo reveals that he hoped there would be some way he might see his boy, now age nine, before his life is over. But he understands the reaction and the injunction. Lewis criticizes the wife and says that the boy would think Robo was neat if he knew who his dad had become. She mentions the thousands of fan letters that Robo receives from kids his son's age. "When it does end for me, tell my son I loved him."

20 ENCOUNTER NUKE MADNESS AMONG CHILDREN

Underway Robo and Lewis encounter a street crime. One assailant is a nuke-crazed youth about eleven years old. He nearly kills Lewis before Robo captures him. He is a reminder of what Nuke is doing to the city's youth.

Robo is now more driven than ever in the the pursuit of Kong.

(21 ROBO & LEWIS BUST DOPE HEADQUARTERS

A clue from the busted Nukester send them investigating a diamond bracelet. It takes them to the old downtown JEWELRY EXCHANGE.

They walk into the hornet's nest, discover the building is Kong gang headquarters. It's a two-man RAID.

The FIGHT sees Murphy and Lewis cornered in the garage with the TRUCK full of unlaundered CASH: \$500,000 worth.

Murphy and Lewis bust out of the downtown hideout in the truck. KONG and his ENFORCERS pursue them and call out their STREET TROOPS to stop the runaway COPS.

22 GAUNTLET

Robo and the cops fight off a gauntlet of Nukers trying to kill them. (Revised action of pages 47 - 61)

They corner Kong and the COPS get the MONEY. Lewis stays in charge of it as Robo goes alone after Kong. --

23 ROBO PURSUES KONG

He mortally wounds Kong.

Robo sends for paramedics who take KONG, barely clinging to life, to the HOSPITAL.

24 HOSPITAL

As Kong hovers on the edge of life Love shows up. This is his chance to survive and much more. The chance to couple his brilliance with a body of absolute perfection. The chance to live, with the goal of destroying Robocop and enforcing the plan which OCP ridiculed. Only instead of being the partner of OCP, Kong, with Love's guidance, can rule OCP.

25 CITY - LEWIS AND REED

The Cops decide to circumvent the forfeiture laws and turn the money directly over to the Mayor to bail themselves out of the OCP foreclosure and end the strike.

26 OCP - ROBO TRACKS KONG'S TRAIL TO OCP HQ

Robo learns from the Hospital that Kong isn't dead and OCP took him.

He goes to OCP to uphold the law. There, he discovers that the Nukelord is being turned into OCP's new robot enforcer. In the process Robo is captured and shut-down. There is a dilemma. Robo cannot be released with this knowledge. Love moves to destroy him but Seltz calls in the Old Man.

27 OLD MAN AND ROBO

The Old Man won't allow them to terminate Robo. Wistful scene between them: two old soldiers who won't live to see their dreams come true. Love offers an alternative to dismantling: erasure and reprogramming. The Old Man agrees.

Love erases Robo's memory from Kong's death onward and gives him a pro-social program.

Robo's agony of being reprogrammed is intercut with the DEVELOPMENT OF KONG.

28 TELETHON

Mayor on TV desperately trying to raise money. He gets call from Lewis and Reed, comes out with aides and SEES --

29 MAYOR GETS CASH

-- a TRUCKFUL of money stacked up to the ceiling.

Lewis goes to find Murphy.

30 ROBO ON THE STREET

Reprogrammed, Robo is asked for his prime directives. Instead of the Big 3, there are hundreds of PRO-SOCIAL commands. Funny PRO-SOCIAL Robo sequence.

Lewis shows up and realizes that Robo is completely fucked up. "Your hair is really pretty." "Oh no," thinks Lewis. He's hit rock-bottom -- this is the nadir for this robot sucker. Lewis knows that Love has reprogrammed him.

31 CITY HALL - MAYOR

on the speakerphone having a private conversation with the Old Man, both groups surrounded by their attorneys. The Mayor announces he has the cash to pay their debt and prevent OCP's foreclosure. The Old Man appears to be playing along. He sets up a rendezvous with the Mayor to receive the cash.

Using info from Kong's memory, they are able to lure the Mayor to Kong's Appalachia-style meeting with international drug dealers.

Old Man hangs up the phone. He wants Kong on line for this event. KONG LIVES as a robot.

A press announcement is planned wherein it will be stated that the mayor, in final desperation, met with leading figures of the drug world in an effort to save his corruption ridden regime by selling out to drug interests.

32 RENDEZVOUS

The mayor, his body guards and city officials show up at the shadowy rendezvous find themselves facing a Nuke convention.

On OCP assignment, Kong kills Mayor and City officials as well as drug world rivals.

But when the OCP heavies plant nuke paraphernalia to frame the mayor, Kong engorges himself on nuke, goes crazy and takes off after the cop who killed him: Robocop.

33 ROBOCOP

is still in pro-social mode when Kong appears and attacks.

Kong-Robocop encounter. Robo SHOCKED during action. Loses pro-social commands.

Fight is a draw, with Kong temporarily out of commission -- but Murphy is in bad shape. Without his program or his humanity, Murphy shows signs of self-terminating.

34 OCP - LEWIS GOES TO OCP

to get Murphy's memory. She threatens Love -- and Love, who wants Robo dead, willingly gives Lewis the memory knowing it will kill ROBO when he uploads it.

We HEAR, in the wake of the "scandalous" death of the Mayor with the Drug Chiefs, OCP announcing its triumph. They're going to fill the void in city government by occupying City Hall immediately.

35 LEWIS AND ROBOCOP

Lewis gives the human disks to him as a kindness. Robo uploads -- a flood of memories start. He recovers his senses but is nearly dead. The sympathetic Techie tells her that the memory upload has crashed his function chips...whoever gave her the disks at OCP had to know that the upload would probably kill him.

While Robo sits exhausted in his room (on the walls of which are drawings and fan letters from kids) his wife comes to the station house and hand-delivers a manila envelope... She doesn't reveal her identity, saying only that she's brought a letter for Robocop.

Robo tries to use his most basic commands unsuccessfully. It looks like it's over and Robo asks to be left alone. He unplugs himself from his charger and his mainframe. Lewis obliges.

In the squad room Lewis is given the envelope. Opening it she glances at the contents then rushes to Robo's side. It's a fan letter from Robo's son, unaware that Robo is his father. ("I've read that other cops call you Murphy. My name's Murphy. My father was a cop and he's dead. But if he was alive I'm sure he'd be as great a cop as you are")

Lewis reads it to him and the "Murphy" left in Robo finds new strength. Instead of dying, he evolves into all-man/all-robot hero. He plugs back into his recharger with a will to come out fighting. He will try to replace the mechanical function with what he has of Murphy's function, but even if he can pull it off, it will be hours until he is up to power.

36 LEWIS GOES TO OCP TO ARREST LOVE

for Robo's attempted murder. Love escapes with Kong's help and Lewis is nearly killed. But before she leaves she finds a tracker for Kong. They are headed for city hall.

Love and Kong. The moment she promised is coming. The moment when the special program that she gave him will work for them together.

Lewis makes it to her unit and calls for back up.

Robo sees cops heading for City Hall, but he is still not up to power.

37 CITY HALL

The old building is dwarfed in a maze of scaffolding and unfinished construction towering above it: the renovation that stopped-dead when the city went bankrupt.

The Old Man and Co. have occupied City Hall and putting over their takeover with a stirring corporate speech.

KONG comes in, kills the Old Man and announces he and Love are taking over. Total CHAOS. Lewis arrives with task force and begins shoot out. She takes out Love and Kong goes wild. The cops are beaten back when:

38 MURPHY ARRIVES

Murphy takes Kong and they fight to the death on the high-rise scaffolding. Kong loses.

Seltz, the only survivor of OCP, facing a string of charges and indictments that would reach from here to the moon, announces that the new management of OCP will immediately restore all city services. And to show that public service must come before corporate gain, OCP will immediately cancel the city's debt. "The very idea that a city should belong to a corporation was a tragic delusion of the old man and a dead regime."

Strike is over. Government "of the people, by the people, for the people!"

As Robo leaves and walks toward his unit with Lewis he scans the faces of children in the cheering crowd. he freezes on one, and Lewis speaks. "Murphy". He turns and faces her. She says in his style "There are crimes being committed" Murphy smiles as he gets into the car beside her and they speed away.