

The Sidestep Mission

Summary: C'est l'histoire d'Amelia et Dean Mclean, mariés depuis peu. Dean trouve un job chez « *Android & Cie* » une toute nouvelle entreprise mais qui avait déjà une grande notoriété. A première vue le travail semblait parfait; une paye qui leur permettait de vivre aisément, et il créait des robots qui permettaient de sauver la planète de la pollution. Quoi de mieux ? Cette entreprise semblait parfaite pour le bien être de l'humanité... enfin ça c'était avant que les robots ne se rendent compte que la principale cause de pollution venait des être humains. A compter de ce jour, rien n'était pareil pour Dean.

My bottle of whisky in my right hand, the glock in the other. Sitting on my couch, looking at nothing. Well... I have nothing to look at anymore so it is easier. You know... life looks like a good diner; we love eating it but we're happy when we ate it all... I did eat all of my dinner and I'm not hungry anymore. But I will explain to you what I ate before I die.

« - *Amelia Brown, do you promise faithfulness and happiness to Dean Mclean?* asked the priest mine while everyone was listening intently

« - *I will.* she answers with tears in her eyes

« - *Dean Mclean, do you promise to cherish Amelia Brown all along her life?* the priest reiterated his words for me this time

« - *I will.* reply in the most honest way

« - *I now pronounce you united by the bonds of marriage!* declared the churchman »

It was the most beautiful day of my life. After this a lot of changes in our lives happened.

Soonly after the marriage I found a job in the famous robot's industry « Android & Cie » it has been created to clean the Earth from global warming. It has been programmed to erase all of the pollutants that caused global warming. But I would never expect that the robot discovered that the principal pollutant is human. In fact, one day all of our screens published the same disclaimer, "*Sidestep mission*". At first, we thought that it was the government but when we saw robots killing people in the streets, we understood that it was not the government.

The disclaimer was informing about the "*Sidestep Mission*" and that humans have to be erased from Earth. My wife and I were watching the disclaimer on the tv and we didn't understand at first, we were shocked and then we panicked. A loud alarm was ringing in the city, everyone was hysterical. We took a look from the window and saw people

crying. Begging God to help us. Running for their lives. Robots were shooting everywhere. And bodies on the floor, with a lot of blood. But then we saw androids get in the house. Amelia looked at me with horror and fear on her face, so I covertly told her that we needed to hide.

We barely had time to move from the window, then suddenly one of the robots broke down the door and knocked me down with one punch. I cannot move anymore, all I was seeing was my wife being kidnapped by the robot. It was a common model that we usually found cleaning the street, but he was here, grabbing my wife. I tried to wake up but I couldn't move an inch, I was like paralyzed. I was shouting all over the house, swearing at the robot, but...I couldn't do anything, my body wouldn't respond. The cries of my beloved were the last thing I heard from her, with my name being screamed. Her face, her face shows only sadness et fearness. I couldn't help her. The android took her outside and left. I screamed in the house, I cried so hard until my eyes became dry, I was screaming her name and begging to take me instead of her.

I did pass out at one time and woke up hours later, late at night. I finally could move my body, and stood up. My house was empty, no sound, no light on, nobody. I was feeling so weak, so vulnerable, they took Amelia. I headed towards my bathroom and looked in the mirror, I was a mess, my eyes were swollen and red, my dark circles were huge and my body was numb. After watering my face, I headed to my front door, and the city was a chaos. Most of the Skyscrapers were burning, dead bodies were all over the place, the cars, the bus, the cabs were crashed and some were burning. It was a real apocalypse, the terror reigned. There was empty police car crushed against the wall and the sirens were still on. The street was empty too, nobody alive, the only sounds I could hear were the sound of the siren and the fire burning the remains of the cars. I took a few steps outside, and realized, the androids killed what caused global warming, they

killed the most important pollutant, they killed they're creator, humans. But then, why did they kidnap Amelia? Why would they let her live and kill all the others, why her...But, this kind of comfort me, she may be still alive, somewhere. I knew at this moment what to do, I had to find her and save her.

A few days passed since the Sidestep, I was hiding in the house searching for a way to find a solution and the only way to find her is to go outside. I knew that there was still robot outside and it was dangerous but I had to. I took my biggest bag and filled it with cans, water...And, I grabbed, hidden in the drawer of my room, my glock that I kept after my military service. I headed to the door, and went outside, I was determined to save her. I walked, determined to find my Amelia, but after walking a few meters, I realized that I didn't even know where I had to go, where I could find her, where I could get help. I didn't even think of where she could be. But I didn't care and kept going, walking until I found a better idea.

I walked until night came. I found an empty supermarket and walked towards the door "staff only". I blocked the door and set a shakedown. But I couldn't find sleep. All I was thinking was of all the dead bodies I met today, the empty streets...And Amelia, it was my first night without her, of course I couldn't find sleep but I was tired, after watching the selling for an hour, my eyes finally closed.

A few weeks passed and I still didn't meet anyone, not even a child, not even an android, it was because I lived in a little town and the androids didn't lose, they're time here. But now I am at the entrance of Timestone, it's the biggest city in the entire state. I kept close my glock, I knew that I would meet someone here and I didn't even have time to finish my thought that a thing rushed on me. The thing made me fall. When I grabbed him but instead of touching something warm and soft like skin, my hand was touching something hard and cold. I pushed him and stood up, it was an android, but an old one. His skin was white but he was dirty, the mark "Android & Cie" was

visible on his forearm, he was really damaged and he didn't look like the one who took Amelia. I aimed for his head but suddenly, he raised his hands in front of his head to protect his face. I took a few steps back and I asked him:

« - Why you're not trying to kill me”

He slowly put down his hands and looked at me.

«- I am... I don't know what I am... My program died; I don't know what I have to do... He whispered.

«- ...You're an android who kills people, that's what you are. I replied.

«- No..no no I'm not, I clean, that what I do...You, who are you

«- Shut up, I am the one asking questions here...Did you see this woman?”

I showed him a picture of my wife.

«- ...Yes, I know where she is”

To be continued ...