

The Techni-Crusader #10 - "Nemetek"

Written by Steven Bland

On the planet Zartron, inside his own laboratory, a renegade Zartronian scientist named Oliquen was finishing his work on his own gauntlet-like symbiotic techno-organic device. Soon, the device was complete.

At last, Oliquen thought. My Antitronix is now complete! All that remains is to find a suitable pawn.

And the best place to find that pawn - - is the planet called 'Earth', he thought, before heading toward a powerful telescope in his lab.

Zimbor and Barylen sent their Zeotronix to this mudball, where it was found by a young Earthling boy, he thought as he aimed the telescope at Earth. The Zeotronix transformed the stripling into this 'Techni-Crusader', who became Zimbor and Barylen's agent.

But, I will soon have my own agent, he thought as he looked through the telescope. And I will use him, or her, to destroy, not only Zimbor and Barylen, but the Techni-Crusader as well.

On Earth, one night, in a New York City parking lot, a young teenage boy named Skyler Hunt was attempting to steal a luxury car that was parked. Skyler had light brown hair and wore baggy black pants, white sneakers, a gray hooded sweatshirt, a dark red jacket, and black fingerless gloves. During the attempted theft, he was caught red-handed by an undercover police officer.

Steven

Bland

The Techni-Crusader #10 - "Nemetek"

"Well, well, Skyler Hunt," the undercover cop said. "I knew I'd bust you sooner or later. You've been a very busy boy."

"But, you'll be taking a rest soon," he added as he cuffed Skyler. "In a cell in Juvie."

Unbeknownst to the undercover police officer and Skyler, Oliquen was watching them from his laboratory on Zartron.

This Skyler Hunt person is perfect, Oliquen thought as the undercover police officer escorted Skyler into the police car, which soon drove off.

Once the police car arrived at the Juvenile Detention Center, the undercover cop took Skyler to and then inside the building.

Once inside the building, the undercover officer left Skyler in the hands of the Detention Center's guards, who escorted the young criminal to a cell that was reserved for him.

Once they arrived at the cell, the guards put Skyler inside, closed the cell behind him, and locked it.

Minutes later, Oliquen materialized in front of Skyler and presented him with the Antitronix.

"What's this?" Skyler asked.

"It's a gift," Oliquen replied. "It will bestow great power upon you at your mental command. All you have to do is wear it."

Steven

Bland

The Techni-Crusader #10 - "Nemetek"

Skyler reached out for the Antitronix with his right hand and the device attached itself to his wrist.

Skyler then mentally commanded the device to bestow him the great power Oliquen promised him. The Antitronix sheathed the young criminal in a streamlined suit of high-tech powered armor.

"Oh, *yeeeahh*," the transformed Skyler said. "*This* is what I'm *talkin'* about!"

Guards quickly and soon rushed upon the scene.

"What's going on here?" One of the guards asked.

"A *BREAKOUT*," the armored Skyler said. "*THAT'S WHAT!*"

Skyler made short work of the guards and then fired a powerful disintegrator blast from his palms, making a large hole in the wall of his cell.

"This cell may have been made to hold Skyler Hunt," the armored Skyler said as he flew out of the hole via his boot jets.

"But, it's not gonna hold - - NEMETEK," he added as he flew off.

The downed guards put in a call to the police station.

"You know that kid Skyler Hunt, whom we busted for attempting to steal that luxury car just now?" One of them asked.

There was a pause.

Somehow, he got himself a suit of high-tech powered armor, pulverized us, and broke out of his cell.

Steven

Bland

The Techni-Crusader #10 - "Nemetek"

Over at police headquarters, Noah Spenser overheard the report.

The forensic scientist immediately dialed Kevin Chases's phone number and Kevin himself, answered it.

"Kevin," Dr. Spenser said. "We have a problem that we think you can help us with."

"What's that?" Kevin asked.

"Earlier tonight, an undercover police officer busted a kid who was attempting to steal a car," Dr. Spenser said. "The kid's name was Skyler Hunt. After he was put in his cell, Skyler somehow got a suit of high-tech powered armor like the Techni-Crusader's and used it to break out of prison."

"Okay," Kevin said. "I'll see what I can do."

After hanging up the phone, Kevin quietly left his house and headed for a secluded spot. At his mental command, the Zeotronix sheathed him in his streamlined green and silver powered armor. Once the transformation was complete, the Techni-Crusader flew off via his boot jets to search for Skyler Hunt.

After a few minutes, the Techni-Crusader found Nemetek.

"Skyler Hunt?" The Techni-Crusader asked. "You're coming with me."

"I don't think so," Nemetek said defiantly.

"AND THE NAME'S - - *NEMETEK*," he exclaimed as he fired a disintegrator beam from his right palm at the Techni-Crusader who instinctively put up his energy shield to try and block the Hunt's beam. However, the disintegrator beam shattered the superhero's energy shield.

Steven

Bland

The Techni-Crusader #10 - "Nemetek"

No, this is *impossible*, a stunned Techni-Crusader thought as he looked at his left gauntlet.

Suddenly, Nemetek lunged toward the superhero at incredible speed and gave him a bear hug.

"GAAAHHHH," the Techni-Crusader exclaimed.

He's - - *crushing* me, he thought. Can't - - take much - - more - - of this, he thought.

The Techni-Crusader fired a laser from the small projector in his helmet's forehead at Nemetek's eye slits, blinding him.

"AAAAAAHHHH," Nemetek screamed as he released his grip on the Techni-Crusader.

Have to get away, the Techni-Crusader thought. His armor's much stronger than mine. I have to retreat and regroup.

The armored superhero took the opportunity to jet away from his opponent.

"Zimbor, Barylen," the Techni-Crusader called out through this helmet's communications system.

"What is it, Kevin?" Zimbor asked.

"I just went up against an armored guy who called himself 'Nemetek'," the superhero answered.

"And I lost."

"He fired a disintegrator blast at me, but I blocked it with my energy shield," he continued.

"Only it got destroyed by the blast."

"Then, he propelled himself at me and gave me a bear hug, crushing the Zeotronix armor with me still in it," he added. "Luckily, I managed to free myself."

Steven

Bland

The Techni-Crusader #10 - "Nemetek"

Soon, a portal opened up to receive the Techni-Crusader and the superhero went through it.

In an instant, the Techni-Crusader was inside Zimbora and Barylen's laboratory on Zartron. The alien scientists got a good look at the bruised superhero in his damaged suit of powered armor.

"My word," a stunned Barylen said.

"Can you unsheathe your armor?" Zimbora asked.

"I'll try," the Techni-Crusader answered.

He concentrated, but the Zeotronix armor could not respond to his mental command.

"The Zeotronix armor is badly damaged, Zimbora," Barylen said.

"You're right, Barylen," Zimbora said. "Let's get our young friend on the table."

With the aid of special anti-gravity gloves which they put on, Zimbora and Barylen easily picked up the Techni-Crusader and placed him on the table.

Zimbora then covered the superhero's armor with a special solution which contained special nanobots, which got to work repairing the damaged suit.

In minutes, the armor was repaired.

"Kevin, try to unsheathe your armor now," Zimbora said.

Kevin complied and the armor unsheathed his body.

"Now, we must heal your bruises," Barylen told the young man.

"But, what about Nemetek?" Kevin asked. "He's still out there."

Steven

Bland

The Techni-Crusader #10 - "Nemetek"

"We must focus on getting you healed first," Zimbor said. "In the meantime, I would like to take the Zeotronix from you so that I can make some improvements."

"Okay," Kevin said.

Zimbor caused the Zeotronix to detach itself from Kevin's wrist.

"Barylen and I will place you in our healing chamber first," Zimbor told Kevin. "While its energies heal you from your wounds, we will work on the Zeotronix."

"By the time you're better, the Zeotronix should be better as well," the alien scientist added.

"Okay," Kevin agreed. "Let's do it."

Zimbor and Barylen took Kevin to the healing chamber and placed him inside of it.

Once the chamber was activated, Zimbor and Barylen began their work to improve the Zeotronix.

Meanwhile, Nemetek was surveying everything.

No sign of the Techni-Crusader, he thought. I sent him running with his tail between his legs.

With him out of the way, this city is mine for the taking, Nemetek thought as he flew through the air.

Then, he got a clever idea.

There's gonna be a subway train full of money coming in tonight, he thought as he headed for the subway system.

Steven

Bland

The Techni-Crusader #10 - "Nemetek"

Upon arriving at his destination, Nemetek entered the station and blasted the lights inside, making it go dark. Then, he headed for the track system.

Back on Zartron, Zimbora and Barylen finished their work on the Zeotronix as Kevin finished his recovery in the healing chamber.

Zimbora and Barylen opened the chamber's door and Kevin stepped outside.

"How are you feeling, Kevin?" Zimbora asked.

"I'm better," Kevin answered. "Much better."

"Good," Barylen said. "The improvements to the Zeotronix have been finished."

"Great," Kevin said.

The Zartronian scientists presented the improved Zeotronix to Kevin, who moved his right hand toward it. The device once again attached itself to his right wrist.

"Now to look for Nemetek," Kevin said.

Zimbora directed Kevin toward a viewing screen which showed Nemetek inside the New York City subway.

Responding to Kevin's mental command, the Zeotronix sheathed Kevin in his improved green and silver powered armor.

"This will speed you on your way," Zimbora said as he used the Omni-Key to open a portal near the entrance to the New York City subway.

Steven

Bland

The Techni-Crusader #10 - "Nemetek"

"Thanks, Zimbor," the Techni-Crusader said. "You too, Barylen."

The armored superhero quickly entered through the portal.

In seconds, he was at the entrance to the subway and soon entered it.

Using the light from his helmet projector, the Techni-Crusader was able to see in the dark as he moved through the interior of the system. He soon saw that Nemetek had switched the subway tracks.

"What have you done?" The armored superhero asked.

"I just switched the tracks so that a money train loaded with cash will be coming down this track and crash into the oncoming passenger train," Nemetek answered. "And, when it does, - - BOOM! Instant big score!"

"Then, I'm gonna grab all that cash and be gone," he added.

"But, hundreds of innocent people will die," the Techni-Crusader said.

"Not my problem," Nemetek said.

"I won't let you get away with this," the Techni-Crusader said.

"Try and stop me," Nemetek dared.

"I'll do *more* than *try*, - -" the Techni-Crusader said as he charged toward his opponent.

"- - I'LL DO IT," the armored superhero exclaimed as he delivered a powerful punch to Nemetek, staggering him.

"I really felt that punch," Nemetek said as he regained his footing. "Either you've been working out or your armor has gotten some upgrades."

Steven

Bland

The Techni-Crusader #10 - "Nemetek"

"No matter, I just reduce it to scrap and you to a lifeless corpse," the armored villain added as he fired disintegrator blasts from his palms at his opponent, who quickly put up his energy shield, which was much more powerful than it was before.

The improvements Zimbora and Barylen made into the Zeotronix armor are incredible, the armored superhero thought. My new energy shield is holding up, but I can't keep this up forever. I've got to take care of this guy once and for all so that I can switch the tracks back and save those hundreds of innocent people on the passenger train.

If only I could find a weak spot, - - a chink in Nemetek's armor, he thought.

Soon, the heads-up display inside the Techni-Crusader's helmet revealed a feature that allowed him to scan and analyze anything for a weak point.

That's new, the armored superhero thought. Better use it quickly.

The Techni-Crusader's helmet scanned and analyzed Nemetek's armor for a weak point and found one,

I have to make this count, the Techni-Crusader thought as he targeted the weak point in Nemetek's armor. I won't get a second chance.

With his target in sight, the armored superhero fired a powerful laser beam from his helmet at the weak point, causing Nemetek's armor to fall apart, leaving only Skyler Hunt with a destroyed Antitronix fallen from his wrist to his side on the floor. With a poke of his armored finger, the Techni-Crusader quickly rendered the young delinquent unconscious.

Steven

Bland

The Techni-Crusader #10 - "Nemetek"

I'll take care of Skyler later, the armored superhero thought as he raced for the switches. Right now, my first priority is to switch the tracks back.

Grabbing one of the levers, the Techni-Crusader pulled it in the nick of time. The money train narrowly missed colliding with the passenger car full of innocent passengers.

Whew! That was close, the relieved superhero thought before turning his attention back to Skyler.

Grabbing the wayward youth, the Techni-Crusader flew through the station until he was outside. Then, the superhero flew to the Juvenile Detention Center with his captive. At the same time, the destroyed Antitronix was teleported away from the scene by Zimbor and Barylen and into their laboratory on Zartron.

"Oliquen must have created this," Barylen said as he and Zimbor examined the Antitronix.

"Yes," Zimbor said. "He has *much* to answer for."

Upon arriving at his destination, the armored superhero entered and walked in with his young captive toward the main desk, where they were greeted by the man in charge.

"Techni-Crusader," the officer said. "You've brought back Skyler Hunt. And he's not wearing his armor anymore."

"I took care of his armor," the Techni-Crusader said. "So Skyler shouldn't be any trouble now. Not anymore."

Steven

Bland

The Techni-Crusader #10 - "Nemetek"

The armored superhero turned Skyler over to the guards who escorted him to his cell.

After leaving the building, the Techni-Crusader flew off.

Inside his laboratory on Zartron, Oliquen, who had been watching Skyler from afar, was incensed at the defeat of his pawn.

"BLAST," Oliquen exclaimed. "THE EARTHLING CALLED SKYLER HUNT HAS FAILED ME! AND MY BEAUTIFUL ANTITRONIX WAS DESTROYED - - BY THAT ACCURSED TECHNI-CRUSADER!"

"BUT NEMETEK WILL BE BACK," Oliquen vowed. "ONCE I CREATE A *NEW* AND *BETTER* ANTITRONIX!"

However, a portal opened near him. Zimbora and Barylen emerged from it, attracting Oliquen's attention.

"ZIMBORA! BARYLEN," the renegade Zartronian exclaimed..

"You won't have the chance, Oliquen," Zimbora told the renegade Zartronian.

"And your agent Nemetek will not menace Earth again," Barylen added.

"For your evil act, you will be banished to the Wraith Dimension," Zimbora said as he took out his hand-held projector, aimed, and fired its beam at Oliquen. The renegade scientist disappeared.

"Earth is safe, now," Zimbora said.

"As is the rest of the universe," Barylen added.

Steven

Bland

The Techni-Crusader #10 - "Nemetek"

Activating their Omni-Key, the two benevolent alien scientists opened up a portal, which they stepped through. In an instant, the portal took them back to their own laboratory.

At police headquarters, Noah Spenser received a visit from the Techni-Crusader.

"I think you'll be pleased to know that Nemetek has been taken care of and won't menace the world again for a good long while," the armored superhero said. "And, now that he's plain old Skyler Hunt, he shouldn't be any trouble for the guards at the Juvenile Detention Center."

"Good work," Noah said. "But I think you'd better get home," Noah said. "It *is* a school night."

"Sure thing," the superhero said before he left.

A few minutes later, Noah Spenser looked out his window to watch the Techni-Crusader fly off. He smiled.

THE END

- 13 -

Copyright © Steven Bland.

All rights reserved.

**The information on this website may not be reproduced,
republished, or mirrored on another web page or website.**

Do not link to this website without my permission.

*Steven
Bland*