

SMART HOUSE

Written by

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EXT. MIXON HOUSE - DAY

SUPER: Day 0

SUPER: The Mixon Household

Behold the home of the Mixon family. It is a very expensive and unique house. It's a smart house, with cameras everywhere. The house is long and flat. It's only one story tall, but it's still massive.

From the outside, the house is a fortress. A grey steel and concrete structure with metal shutters covering the many windows.

The sun rises.

INT. MIXON HOUSE, FRONT HALL - CONTINUOUS

DARRELL MIXON, late 30s, a black man of average height, a little overweight, in silk pajamas, walks across a hallway to a panel next to the front door to the house.

Across the top of the panel is printed "B.R.U.C.E."

DARRELL

Good morning, B.R.U.C.E.

The panel on the wall, which is the size of a tablet computer, glows green. It responds to him in a masculine, but robotic voice.

B.R.U.C.E.

Good morning, Mr. Mixon.

DARRELL

Initiate wake up protocol.

B.R.U.C.E.

Initiating wake up proto....

The computer's voice trails away into distortion as the screen turns red.

Darrell frowns.

He taps the screen a few times.

DARRELL

This thing is on the fritz again.

He taps it a few more times.

RONNIE (O.S.)
Again?

SYLVIA (O.S.)
Maybe you broke it, dad.

He reaches to push a black button on the side.

DARRELL
I'm going to have to re...

The panel turns green.

EXT. MIXON HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The shutters start to rise to reveal large, long windows.

INT. FRONT HALL - CONTINUOUS

Darrell drops his hand back to his side. He turns to walk towards the kitchen.

DARRELL
Never mind. It's...

Standing before him is J.U.D.Y., a robot with a vaguely female shape. While her upper body is human-like, with fully functional arms, her lower body is a solid cylinder that rides on wheels. She is only about 5 feet tall and is painted a pretty pink color.

Darrell jumps.

J.U.D.Y.
What is fritz?

DARRELL
Jeez, J.U.D.Y., you scared the shit out of me.

J.U.D.Y.'s face is immobile. The robot stares at Darrell.

J.U.D.Y.
Should I clean up shit?

Darrell laughs.

DARRELL
No, it wasn't real shit.

J.U.D.Y.
One does not clean up fake shit?

Darrell continues walking down the hall towards the kitchen.

J.U.D.Y. stares after him.

J.U.D.Y. looks at the panel on the wall.

J.U.D.Y. (CONT'D)
What is fritz?

INT. SYLVIA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

SYLVIA is a light-skinned black teen. She is athletic and wears glasses. She wears a blue and white designer tennis dress with designer shoes.

Her room is covered with pictures of the Williams sisters and tennis gear is everywhere.

Sylvia closes her suitcase and latches it.

She walks into the hallway and faces J.U.D.Y.

SYLVIA
He means it's broken.

J.U.D.Y. stares after Sylvia who walks towards the kitchen.

J.U.D.Y. turns and faces the panel.

J.U.D.Y.
Does B.R.U.C.E. need fixing?

RONNIE comes out of the same bedroom that Darrell came out of.

Ronnie is a tall, athletic white woman, 30s. She has a similar frame to Sylvia, but the grown-up version. Ronnie wears a tennis dress and shoes that match her daughter.

RONNIE
No thank you, J.U.D.Y., we've
already arranged for a repairman to
come fix him.

Ronnie walks down the hall towards the kitchen.

J.U.D.Y.
J.U.D.Y. is not a repairman?

MICKEY comes out of the bedroom between his sister's room and his parents'. He is younger, thinner and darker-skinned than his sister.

He is dressed in the red and black soccer uniform for his junior team, the Flyers. He wears running shoes, not cleats.

Mickey sneaks up behind J.U.D.Y. and bangs a drum beat on her back. She whips around and stares at him.

MICKEY

You're way too dumb to be a repairbot.

He runs down the hall laughing. J.U.D.Y. stares after him.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Mickey runs into the kitchen. Ronnie and Sylvia already have plates filled with eggs and bacon. They have orange juice. Darrell makes himself a plate.

RONNIE

You shouldn't talk like that.

MICKEY

It's just a dumb robot.

SYLVIA

You're going to hurt her feelings.

DARRELL

It doesn't have feelings.

Darrell pours himself a cup of coffee.

Mickey glances at Darrell, then at Ronnie.

MICKEY

They do have feelings, don't they mom?

RONNIE

Oh, I don't know... I think some of them have feelings nowadays. Like they've been programmed or something like that.

She eats a slice of bacon.

DARRELL

That costs extra.

SYLVIA

Not like we can't afford it.

She gestures to the house around her.

DARRELL

Hurry up and eat your breakfast, we have to finish packing and get out of here.

He takes a sip of his coffee.

MICKEY

Why do we have to leave so early?

He grabs a few more slices of bacon from a plate in the center of the table.

RONNIE

There's some talk of a shutdown on travel.

MICKEY

Forever?

He stuffs two pieces of bacon in his mouth.

J.U.D.Y. rolls into the room.

SYLVIA

No, stupid, because of the virus.

She eats a spoonful of eggs.

MICKEY

But I thought we couldn't get it?

DARRELL

You won't get sick from it. But you still could be dangerous.

Mickey looks puzzled.

RONNIE

You might still be able to give the virus to other people.

Sylvia is interested for the first time.

SYLVIA

Like a carrier?

DARRELL

Exactly like a carrier.

MICKEY

What's a carrier?

DARRELL

Someone who doesn't get sick but
can still kill others.

J.U.D.Y., Who has been staring at Darrell, turns and looks at Mickey.

RONNIE

No reason to talk like Stephen King
this early in the morning.

Ronnie is done, she gives her plate and other dishes to J.U.D.Y. The robot puts the dishes in the washer.

MICKEY

Who's Stephen King?

Darrell scoffs. Ronnie laughs.

SYLVIA

Some old dude who used to make
scary movies or something.

Ronnie laughs again.

DARRELL

Not exactly, but I'll allow it. Now
finish up.

They eat. They laugh.

J.U.D.Y. watches.

INT. MICKEY'S ROOM - LATER

Mickey packs a suitcase on his bed. Mickey's room is covered in soccer posters, all manner of sports gear, tons of model airplanes and horror movie posters.

J.U.D.Y. rolls into the room.

He turns and looks at the robot. J.U.D.Y. scans his face.

J.U.D.Y.

May I help you with your suitcase,
Darrell?

Mickey chuckles.

MICKEY

Yo, dad, this thing can't tell
black people apart.

J.U.D.Y. stares at him.

Darrell pops his head in the room.

DARRELL

Facial recognition software isn't that great yet, especially when it comes to black people.

Darrell walks back down the hall.

DARRELL (CONT'D)

I read an article about it on Axios.

MICKEY

No, thanks, J.U.D.Y., I'm good.

She stares at him for a second and then rolls after Darrell.

Darrell walks into his room. Sylvia comes out of hers.

J.U.D.Y. stops and stares at Sylvia.

SYLVIA

This thing sure is creepy.

She walks into her parents bedroom. J.U.D.Y. stares after her.

The bedroom is nice, but spare. Expensive, floral prints and antique furniture, except for the bed which is modern and is a high-tech, adjustable bed.

SYLVIA (CONT'D)

Where are we going again?

Ronnie puts clothes into her suitcase.

RONNIE

It's your father's cousin's uncle's brother's nephew's ranch.

Ronnie and Sylvia giggle.

DARRELL

It's my brother's ex-fiancé's parents beach house.

RONNIE

Isn't that what I just said?

More giggles.

DARRELL
I don't really see what's so...

SYLVIA
Why would we go there?

Darrell puts a pair of black socks into the suitcase, then changes his mind and puts it back in the dresser. He grabs a pair of white socks.

RONNIE
The whole family will be there.
Uncle Joey finally got engaged.

SYLVIA
Uncle who?

RONNIE
Joey. The one with the...

SYLVIA
Oh, yeah, I remember him.

RONNIE
Good for him.

Darrell goes back and gets all of his socks and puts them in the suitcase.

Sylvia sits on the bed.

SYLVIA
And we'll be safe there? With
the...

DARRELL
We'll be as safe there as we'd be
in this house.

Sylvia is skeptical.

RONNIE
What your father is trying to say
is that everybody is taking
precautions.

SYLVIA
Precautions?

Ronnie sits next to Sylvia on the bed.

RONNIE
I know you're scared. It's a little
scary.

(MORE)

RONNIE (CONT'D)

But they always make a big deal out of these things on the news. And then... nothing.

DARRELL

Listen to your mother. She's a scientist.

RONNIE

It's just a hype thing. We'll be safe.

Darrell takes the black socks out of his suitcase and puts them back in the dresser.

INT. FRONT HALL - LATER

Ronnie stands at the door, holding the handle of a rolling suitcase. She also carries a purse and another large bag.

One after the other, Sylvia and Mickey come out of their rooms, pulling suitcases. Sylvia also has a backpack and a purse. Mickey also wears a backpack.

RONNIE

Waiting on you, hon.

DARRELL (O.S.)

Do you know where I left my... Oh, there it is. Be right there.

Ronnie shakes her head.

MICKEY

Mom, is B.R.U.C.E. broken?

RONNIE

A little bit.

MICKEY

Is the house safe?

Ronnie turns to look at him.

RONNIE

Of course, our house has the best in modern security. It's a smart house.

She taps on B.R.U.C.E.'s screen a few times and it finally turns green.

MICKEY

But if B.R.U.C.E. is broken?

Ronnie types a code on B.R.U.C.E.'s screen.

RONNIE

What are you talking about?

J.U.D.Y. rolls into the hallway.

MICKEY

I... I...

SYLVIA

He's worried about that comic book
that dad got him for Christmas.

MICKEY

It's just that it's the first
appearance of Kitty Pryde, my
favorite...

Ronnie is still typing on the screen.

RONNIE

It's totally safe. I'm entering the
security code now and I'm the only
one who has it.

Mickey slaps Sylvia on the arm.

RONNIE (CONT'D)

And J.U.D.Y. here is the knight who
will protect our castle.

Sylvia and Mickey stare at J.U.D.Y., who cocks her head to
the side.

Darrell walks out of the bedroom, pulling a suitcase and
carrying a briefcase.

DARRELL

And don't forget, the repairman
should be here some time between
tomorrow and next Christmas.

The family "laugh" at dad's joke.

RONNIE

Ready? Let's go.

She opens the door and walk out. The others follow.

Mickey is last. He looks back at J.U.D.Y. one last time.

J.U.D.Y. returns the stare until the door closes behind Mickey.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

SUPER: Day 1

J.U.D.Y. vacuums the living room.

CUT TO:

J.U.D.Y. vacuums Mickey's room.

She sees a spot of dirt on the floor and vacuums it until it goes away.

CUT TO:

J.U.D.Y. sprays window cleaner on one of the large glass windows in the living room. She wipes away a smudge.

CUT TO:

J.U.D.Y. carries a bag of trash to an outside trash bin.

She looks around suspiciously. There are other nice, rich houses on the street, but they are far away and the street has no traffic.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

SUPER: Day 5

J.U.D.Y. vacuums the living room floor. She stops and looks around the room.

Seeing no dirt, she puts the vacuum away in a hall closet.

CUT TO:

J.U.D.Y. is cleaning the windows again, even though they are very clean. So clean they sparkle in the sunlight.

CUT TO:

J.U.D.Y. pulls out the trash can from under the kitchen sink and looks into it. It is empty.

B.R.U.C.E. (O.S.)
Front door approach imminent.

J.U.D.Y. puts the trash can back and rolls towards the front door.

B.R.U.C.E.'s panel flashes red.

J.U.D.Y. opens the front door. Standing there is an athletic black LETTER CARRIER, wearing shorts and carrying a mail bag.

Switch to J.U.D.Y.'s POV as scans the man. Her eyes see the world through a green filter. An hourglass shows that she is processing data.

LETTER CARRIER

H-hello?

The hourglass disappears and the screen says: UNIDENTIFIED.

The hourglass comes on again and J.U.D.Y.'s view zooms in on the Letter Carrier's United States Postal Service hat. Then the USPS logo on his shirt.

The hourglass goes away. The screen says: OCCUPATION: POSTAL WORKER.

Beat.

The screen says: THREAT LEVEL: ZERO.

J.U.D.Y.

Hello, postal worker.

He hands her several letters and she rolls back inside.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

SUPER: Day 10

J.U.D.Y. sits still, staring out the window.

B.R.U.C.E. (O.S.)

Phone call incoming. Phone call
in...

B.R.U.C.E. glitches and doesn't finish the sentence.

J.U.D.Y. rolls from the living room towards the front door and looks at B.R.U.C.E.'s panel, which is flashing blue.

B.R.U.C.E. (CONT'D)

...coming.

A loud beep emits from B.R.U.C.E.'s panel.

DARRELL (O.S.)
 Hey, this is... uh... Darrell.
 B.R.U.C.E., if you can hear me...
 we... uh... we've been delayed...
 because of... you know... the
 virus.

J.U.D.Y. rolls a little bit closer to the panel.

DARRELL (CONT'D)
 I'm not really sure when we'll be
 back. Keep the place safe. Protect
 our home for us. Uh... bye.

INT. MICKEY'S ROOM - DAY

SUPER: Day 15

J.U.D.Y. rolls into Mickey's room and inspects the carpet for dirt. Nothing.

She rolls into Sylvia's room. Nothing.

She rolls back into the living room and inspects the windows for smudges or smears. Nothing.

She rolls into the hallway and stops at B.R.U.C.E.'s panel.

J.U.D.Y.
 All tasks are complete. All tasks
 remain complete. Further tasks?

B.R.U.C.E.'s panel flashes green.

B.R.U.C.E.
 Scanning...

The screen flashes green several times.

B.R.U.C.E. (CONT'D)
 No further tasks detected.

Beat.

J.U.D.Y. rolls away.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

SUPER: Day 16

J.U.D.Y. stands in the living room staring at the sunrise.

Once the sun is above the horizon, she rolls towards the hall and stops before B.R.U.C.E.'s panel.

J.U.D.Y.
More tasks please?

B.R.U.C.E.'s panel flashes green.

B.R.U.C.E.
Scanning...

The screen flashes green several times.

B.R.U.C.E. (CONT'D)
No further tasks detected.

Beat.

J.U.D.Y.
What do Mixons do when tasks are done?

The screen flashes green several times.

B.R.U.C.E.
Analysis shows: Primary task for Mixons is sleeping.

Beat.

J.U.D.Y.
I cannot sleep. What is secondary task.

The screen flashes green several times.

B.R.U.C.E.
Watching telev...

B.R.U.C.E. glitches. He doesn't respond any further.

J.U.D.Y.
B.R.U.C.E.?

Beat.

J.U.D.Y. (CONT'D)
B.R.U.C.E.?

Nothing.

J.U.D.Y. rolls into the living room.

She picks the remote up from the coffee table.

She turns on the television and stares at it.

Her eyes glow a little brighter.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

SUPER: Day 18

J.U.D.Y. watches television. LEXI JOHNSON sits at a news desk. She is a severe-looking woman in her 40s. She wears a blue blazer over a white, button-down shirt. She looks directly into the camera.

LEXI (O.S.)
...that's right, my sources are
telling me that the virus was
brought here by so-called...

She uses air quotes.

LEXI (O.S.) (CONT'D)
..."people of color." It's part of
their invasion strategy and your
fears can't be overstated. You need
to prepare... and the best way to
do that is to invest in gold...

J.U.D.Y.'s eyes glow a little brighter.

INT. FRONT HALLWAY - DAY

J.U.D.Y. stands staring at B.R.U.C.E.'s panel.

Suddenly the panel glows red.

B.R.U.C.E.
Front door approach imminent.

J.U.D.Y. opens the front door. Standing there is an slovenly white MAIL MAN, wearing shorts and half-untucked USPS shirt. He carries a mail bag.

Switch to J.U.D.Y.'s POV as she scans him. An hourglass shows that she is processing data.

MAIL MAN
Hi!

The hourglass disappears and the screen says: UNIDENTIFIED.

The hourglass comes on again and J.U.D.Y.'s view zooms in on the Mail Man's white face.

The hourglass goes away. The screen says: THREAT LEVEL: ZERO.

J.U.D.Y.
Hello, postal worker.

He tilts a hand-truck back and starts to push two large, heavy boxes forward.

MAIL MAN
Where do you want these?

J.U.D.Y.
The basement.

MAIL MAN
Whatever boats your float!

He wheels the boxes in.

INT. BASEMENT - LATER

The mail man is gone. J.U.D.Y. stands before a work bench where the two boxes sit. The rest of the room is cluttered, but organized, filled with standard wealthy family stuff. Lots of boxes, lots of sports equipment, lots of tools and devices.

J.U.D.Y. opens the box. Inside are gold bars. She stares at them briefly.

She closes the box and picks it up.

She rolls toward an open safe on the far side of the room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

SUPER: Day 23

J.U.D.Y. is watching television. The shower scene from Psycho briefly flashes on the screen.

Her eyes glow brighter.

She turns off the television and rolls into the kitchen.

J.U.D.Y. rolls towards the counter and stops in front of a block of large kitchen knives.

She pulls several out and looks at them before she sees one that looks like the one from Psycho.

She pulls it from the block and rolls back towards the living room.

J.U.D.Y. begins to make stabbing motions. Just like Norman Bates.

INT. FRONT HALL - DAY

SUPER: Day 25

J.U.D.Y. rolls up a ramp that has been placed over the stairs that lead to the basement. Once she arrives at the top B.R.U.C.E.'s panel glows red.

B.R.U.C.E.
Front door approach imminent.

J.U.D.Y. opens the front door. Standing there is a black man wearing a Raiders baseball cap. He wears a mechanic's jumpsuit with his name, JEFF on the patch.

Switch to J.U.D.Y.'s POV as she scans the man. An hourglass shows that she is processing data.

JEFF
Hey. I'm the repair man.

The hourglass disappears and the screen says: UNIDENTIFIED.

The hourglass comes on again and J.U.D.Y.'s view zooms in on Jeff's face.

The hourglass goes away. The screen says: THREAT LEVEL: MAXIMUM.

J.U.D.Y.
Farewell, intruder.

J.U.D.Y. raises the knife above her head.

JEFF
I'm here about B.R.U....

She brings the knife down and stabs him. Eight times, the same number of times Norman stabbed Marion in Psycho.

J.U.D.Y. bends down and grabs ahold of Jeff's leg. She pulls him into the house and takes him straight to the ramp to the basement.

EXT. MIXON HOUSE - DAY

SUPER: Day 30

J.U.D.Y. rolls from the house towards the outdoor trash can carrying two heavy-duty trash bags that have large, lumpy objects in them. Jeff objects.

She puts the bags in the trash bin and rolls back towards the house.

J.U.D.Y. stops and looks down at the ground right outside the front door.

She zooms in on a couple of drops of blood on the concrete.

J.U.D.Y. rolls over towards the house and grabs a hose.

She starts spraying the blood away.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

SUPER: Day 31

J.U.D.Y. is watching television. On the screen is some kind of Rambo or Arnold movie. Lots of big guns. Lots of explosions.

J.U.D.Y.
Wolverines!

Her eyes glow brighter as she pumps a fist in the air.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

SUPER: Day 32

J.U.D.Y. is watching television again. More war movies.

B.R.U.C.E. (O.S.)
Front door approach imminent.

She turns off the television and rolls towards the front door.

J.U.D.Y. opens the front door. Standing there is the slovenly white Mail Man, wearing his shorts and carrying a long flat box.

Switch to J.U.D.Y.'s POV as she scans the man. An hourglass shows that she is processing data.

MAIL MAN

Back again!

The hourglass goes away. The screen says: THREAT LEVEL: ZERO.

J.U.D.Y.

Hello, postal worker.

He hands her the package.

EXT. MIXON HOUSE, BACK YARD - MOMENTS LATER

The back yard behind the Mixon house is large. It's also isolated, no neighbors can be seen.

The box sits on a lawn table.

J.U.D.Y. opens the box.

Inside is an assault rifle.

CUT TO:

J.U.D.Y. stands a few feet further away from the house. She holds the assault rifle, which is now loaded with a fresh clip.

She fires the gun into the line of trees at the back of the yard. Leaves and bark fly everywhere under the barrage of bullets J.U.D.Y. lets loose.

Her eyes glow brighter.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

SUPER: Day 37

J.U.D.Y. is watching Lexi on television again.

LEXI (O.S.)

And really, that's my message for the day. A man's home is his castle. That's the fundamental principle that led to the founding of this nation and it's a right worth fighting for, no matter what the snowflakes might tell you....

J.U.D.Y. is hypnotized.

EXT. MIXON HOUSE - DAY

Super: Day 41

The Mixon car is parked in the driveway. Darrell is carrying his briefcase and rolling his suitcase towards the front door.

Right behind him are Sylvia and Mickey, pulling their suitcases along.

SYLVIA
Glad to be home. Finally. Ugh.

Ronnie shuts the trunk to the car and follows them.

MICKEY
I can't wait!

Darrell reaches up to touch the panel beside the front door.

RONNIE
Mickey, wash your hands before you
read your comic. You'll get it...

The door opens. J.U.D.Y. stands there.

She is holding the assault rifle.

Switch to J.U.D.Y.'s POV as she scans Darrell. An hourglass shows that she is processing data.

SYLVIA
Dad, what's wrong with J.U.D.Y.?

The hourglass disappears and the screen says: UNIDENTIFIED.

RONNIE
Is that a gun?

The screen says: THREAT LEVEL: MAXIMUM.

J.U.D.Y.
Goodbye, intruders.

The screen cuts to black while the sounds of J.U.D.Y. gunning down the family are heard.

Ronnie gives the last scream.

SUPER: End.