

AKCHO MARK II

APRIL 2020 REQUEST STORY

BY CHALDEACHANGE



“Professor Croix? Professor CROOOOOOIX!?” Akko, real name Atsuko Kagari, wandered through the futuristic rooms of the lab run by one of her dear professors at Luna Nova Academy. She’d been called there with promise of ‘a cool toy to play with’, and the innocent young witch didn’t have much cause to doubt the invitation. She didn’t think Croix would hurt her -- that whole situation was long behind them now.

And she was right! There was no way Croix would lie now, and there was no way she’d get hurt either! The reasons she was called there satisfied both of those requests. Whether or not Akko would be happy with the end result though? That was something a little more questionable.

All of the lights were out in the various rooms until she came to one with a light radiating from the floor itself. The glow was pale blue and shot up like a beam, and the every curious witch couldn’t help but skip over to it to check things out. **“Hmm... There isn’t anything around it, so it probably isn’t dangerous.”** If it *was*, wouldn’t there be like a gate or glass around it? Like a sci-fi movie! So she stuck just the very tip of her finger into the light.

That was a mistake.

A force she couldn’t identify seemingly took the finger and yanked her fully into the light, and once her feet had settled she found she couldn’t move from that spot. Everything was frozen in place! **“Uh... Uhhhhh...”** Wasn’t this kind of bad? If Professor Croix didn’t come back until later she might not get found! So many additions had been made to the structure itself that this room was pretty deep in!
“PROFESSOR CROIX!?”

There wasn't any response however. The rest of the room was dark and she could only barely make out the edges of desks and shelves by squinting while stuck in place. It was absolutely awful, and it didn't help that she'd come here on an empty stomach! The reason for that being... she totally thought Croix would have snacks!

“Hey! My hat!” The fact that she was glued in place brought conspiracy to the fact that she could feel her Luna Nova hat beginning to tilt to one side like it was falling off. Was someone pulling it? She couldn't really think of any other possibility since it always fit so snugly. At least snugly enough that it wouldn't fall off while she was still!

It kept sliding and sliding until it eventually tumbled down the side of her view and onto the ground. It was just... it looked like something else had fallen along with it. A bunch of long, stringy brown stuff that looked suspiciously like **“MY HAIR!?”** That was definitely the case. She could feel it falling down from all around her, and even her bangs suddenly dropped in front of her very eyes. The cold air of the lab tickled a bare scalp, but that wasn't all that was falling off here.

Akko's point of view suddenly fell to the ground.

“Oof!” Distracted by her hat and hair she'd been ignorant to the sensation of the flesh at her shoulders and thighs earning depressions that had ultimately severed her limbs, and when her dizzied vision was restored against the freezing cold floor she found herself staring at one of her legs... *not attached to her body at all*. A loud buzzing filled her ears. No... this buzzing was from the light, right? She thought it was just background noise at first, but now that she was so close to the light source itself she could feel the phenomenon reverberating through her body. Was it the cause? Was this some kind of weird device Croix had fashioned that hadn't been tested yet?

The little witch wanted to call out for help again but as much as she strained she couldn't find her voice. She'd actually been forced to start breathing out of her nose since the back of her mouth felt heavy. She couldn't move her tongue, and what she tasted was probably something like iron or steel. She couldn't really see, but her mouth had filled to the brim with black metal with lips sealed shut.

She was left stunned and mute, gaze left stuck looking at the length of a leg that was no longer attached to her body. It was weird in the sense that she couldn't see any blood or gore like one might expect or that there was no real pain associated -- but wasn't the end stump actually looking weirdly rounded? She could also make strands of her hair

vibrating on the ground a short ways after, reverberation from the light still seemingly running through those as well.

Akko wasn't really sure if it was the effect of her vision blurring, but the knee of her leg that was pointed at her face was looking unusually white. Her skin tone was usually pretty light compared to some Japanese people, sure, but this white was different somehow. Sleek? She couldn't decide if that was a good word for it. Maybe shiny was better because of how the blue light shone off of it. Things almost seemed metallic, and the same could be said of the thigh above and the lower leg below. Did they look a little *longer* too?

But this was *only* what she could see. Behind knees that somehow looked more pointed, rounded joints hardened from the knee itself as flesh darkened to cold, black steel, gold accessories poking out from just above. On the sides of thighs that seemed broader in design, some of the steel rose and darkened into plates on either side, a line of blue light flickering on down each thigh while the insides hollowed into dark, rounded plates with an internal gold trim. These plates seemed to, strangely enough, begin to vibrate and Akko was pretty sure she could feel them doing so despite not being attached to her body. But it wasn't like she could make any remarks about it!

The lower half of her leg (*which was likewise reflected in the other*) shifted far more supernaturally than the upper section. By the time her toes had crunched together into a single black point, and a sharp heel made of the same light blue energy that was seemingly running through from the thigh shot out, it was hardly recognizable as even having a foot. Instead her steel shin had an agile arch with a white guard that wrapped around the upper portion of her 'foot'. It was enough to make the witch's stomach churn, or at least it should have.

Except she didn't feel sick. Nor did her stomach feel empty. There was just no sensation.

She might have yelled about the fact that her torso had begun to lift off the ground as if enchanted if she'd still possessed a means to talk. As said torso corrected itself into an upwards position, she couldn't really feel the cool air against her bare scalp anymore. Instead her head just felt *way* too heavy. Which was of course thanks to the fact that her head could barely pass as a human one anymore. Bone had erupted from the back and hardened into black metal with several indentations only for a more forward piece to have turned white with a gold trim. It was like Akko's face had been plastered onto an unusually designed mannequin head, especially with the outer perimeter turning to white too, keeping her motionless face contained as flesh neck blackened.

The mystery of why she'd returned to floating in place was soon solved as the legs she thought she'd lost likewise stood erect and slowly hovered towards her hips, ultimately connecting without bindings as a rapid vibration ran from the inner plates of her mechanical thighs to where her hips should have been, but the vibrations shredded the sections of her skirt that hid these hips to reveal plates of similar design to the ones in her thighs with sky blue energy circles emitting what could only be a magnetic pulse to keep the legs in place.

Arms floated up soon after, but unlike her legs that had changed on the ground they were very evidently shifting mid-flight. Where the arms would normally connect to her shoulders had already flattened and hollowed to become a small magnetic receiver, but the platinum chrome quickly expanded across the length of the arms as the well, length of the arms elongated to suit a torso bigger than Akko's own.

Even her legs looked comically huge when magnetized to her hips. Silver ball joints that replaced her functional elbows were far more obvious in the arms than the ones in her knees, as was the fact that her forearm and upper arms were different pieces of machinery all together. Where nothing could be felt in the witch's cold fingers came a sudden warmth, a pressure building up at their bases as palms became black plating instead of flesh and bone, and that pressure ultimately bubbled over as her real fingers were incinerated by sky blue energy digits that matched the points that had shot out of her feet.

It was weird. Akko couldn't really feel her face anymore? Her senses just seemed to be dulling all over, though it would be obvious to any onlooker while her arms locked into their magnetic holds at her sides. Her ears had been erased by her chrome skull, so she couldn't hear anything. Her mouth had filled in ages ago, so she couldn't see anything. Much of her body was inanimate, so there was no real feeling of touch. And her sight and smell? Her face pressed inward until it was little more than a flat blue plate that seemed to be a not yet activated, digital surface.

“FWAH!?! I CAN TALK AGAIN!?” But that digital surface suddenly came alight with Akko's face. Her face wasn't really there, but it was something like a bright blue projection made with the same energy that seemed to be running through her body. With the face came all of her senses returned, though her touch was a little off, but this body seemed to be perfectly emulating the other four. She didn't even need to breathe! Which was pretty *weird* honestly.

Unfortunately it was also just in time for her uniform to meet its final demise. Atsuko's chest, which she didn't exactly perceive as much of an attention grabber considering its small nature, suddenly burst forth

from the cloth and sent her snapped brassiere flying to the ground where her old hair still rested. It wasn't breasts that had emerged though, and it had been accompanied by the failing of her heartbeat. It was just more chrome plating with a narrow, pointed design in the front that was merely acting as a shell for the technology that buzzed within the black steel beneath. This plagued her entire torso, wiping any sexual characteristics from Akko's body while filling any crevices like her stomach and internal organs with the electronics meant to keep her moving, although her pelvis did extend forward strangely.

"I guess you really did walk into it. Well, it's nice to see that the machine works at least!" Akko's sensors immediately picked up movement in the door behind her, data being processed through an electronic brain that was more powerful than her human one but wasn't a substitute for intelligence. She definitely recognized it as Professor Croix, and turning around-- Wait!? She could move! The movement was really weird too. Her body was stiff and inflexible, it was more like she was just skating on the air with those blue points that shot from her feet.

"Huh!? Professor Croix!? What is... what did you do to me!?" Now that she could look round, she stared down at her mechanical body. Her energy fingers flexed curiously before the sound of them thudding against her inanimate torso, larger than the tiny body she was used to, echoed relentlessly thanks to her constant touching. She could feel things... vaguely. And she could tell whatever was powering herself was creating a *lot* of heat.

"Should I name you after the machine I plugged in? Echo, right... It sounds a little like Akko." Croix didn't really seem interested in answering any questions though. **"Oh, what about the Akcho Mk II? That is your new designation!"** She shot a glance at Akko, and the robot girl froze. Her mind reeled at Croix's words as something told her she had to acknowledge this.

"Yes, I'm the Akcho Mk II! Professor Croix's personal robot! Uh... Wait!? No, I'm not! I'm the Akcho Mk-- GWAH!?" Her personality and memories were all in tact, but she couldn't seem to resist any orders Croix was giving her!

"Good. Now stop asking what happened. I'll explain in due time. I'm also fine with you acting like yourself around me, but around others you will only move when asked to move and speak when asked to speak, got it?"

NO!? That was completely unreasonable! She still didn't even know what was happening! She still... **"Yes, Professor Croix!"** Oh no.