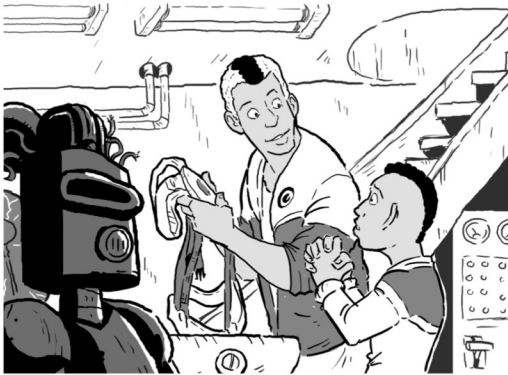


“Sorry mate,” replied Sky, “but it’s no.”



That night Mac waited until Sky had gone to bed. Fifteen minutes later he crept downstairs. The Ultra 1 was on the table in Sky’s lab. Mac picked it up and stepped out of the house.

The sky was black with a deep cover of stars. He strapped the Ultra 1 onto his back and flicked the ‘ON’ switch. The jet pack powered up with almost no sound.