MAX STEEL 9: EXTREME PURSUIT

PART FIVE

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written by Al Schwartz

FADE IN:

EXT. CHILEAN JUNGLE - DAY

Max, Jet and Cytro race through the jungle. They dodge trees and jump over fallen logs.

1	MAX My hunch says that Toxzon's already got control of The Warden.	1	* * *
2	JET The world's most evil villain at the helm of the world's most powerful ship? That spells trouble.	2	* * * *
	They stomp through a stream and leap over some huge boulder	s.	*
3	CYTRO Actually, the correct spelling of trouble is T-R-O	3	* * *
4	MAX Thanks, Cytro. But it's just an expression. Point is, if we're gonna take back the Warden, we'll need some serious fire power.	4	* * * *
	Emerging into a clearing, they come to a stop.		
5	MAX And I know where to find it.	5	*
	Max pulls back some thick VINES revealing a MASSIVE, RUSTED SHUT, DOOR.		* *
6 3	JET We learned about this place at the academy! It's an old NTEK armory! But this door looks like it hasn't been opened in a million years!	6 3	* * * *

	<pre><kaboom> the door gets blasted off its hinges. Jet jumps back in surprise. She looks back at Cytro, who lowers his BLASTER.</kaboom></pre>		* *
7	MAX Good thing Cytro brought the keys. (then) Come on!	7	* * *
	Following Max, they race through the smoke filled entrance	•	*
	INT. ARMORY - CONTINUOUS		
	Coming out of the smoke, Max, Cytro and Jet creep down a dimly lit hallway. They pass by a room filled with compute tracking equipment.	er	
8	MAX (cont'd) You two see if you can track the Warden. I'll go gear up.	8	*
	Jet and Cytro enter the room as Max races off down the hal	1.	
	EXT. THE WARDEN - ESTABLISHING		
	INT. WARDEN - BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS		
	A few AGENTS sit at their stations, monitoring and controlling the huge ship. Everything seems normal. Suddenly, FORGE FERRUS appears on their video monitors.		*
9	FORGE Attention! All agents evacuate the bridge at once!	9	
	The agents exchange puzzled glances.		*
10	AGENT 1 But WHY?	10	*
	Suddenly, the monitors that Forge are on EXPLODE, sending agents jumping back.	the	*
11	AGENTS (screams)	11	*
	Now massive ELECTRICAL CURRENTS coruscate across ALL the control panels, sending the agents scrambling for cover.		*
	Then Makino bursts through the door. He grabs a startled agent and holds him high in the air.		*

12	MAKINO Don't you know curiosity killed the cat?	12 * * * * *
	Makino hurls the agent into a corner. Then he blasts the others with energy bolts, depositing them into a heap near their comrade.	* *
	As the smoke settles, Toxzon marches in, looks around the bridge.	*
13	TOXZON Think you can control it?	13
14	MAKINO (sneers) I already am!	14
	As Makino waves his arms and electricity dances across the panels	
	INT. ARMORY - SCANNER ROOM - CONT.	
	Cytro and Jet scan a series of images.	
15	JET Berto did a pretty good job designing The Warden's cloaking system. But there was one thing he wasn't counting on.	15
16	CYTRO Advanced binary encryption?	16
17	JET No. Me.	17
	Her fingers fly across the panel.	
18	JET (cont'd) Instead of looking for something that IS there time to start looking for something that ISN'T.	18
	A whole new set of images and charts scroll across the screens.	

JET (cont'd) 19
Given the size of The Warden, I'm
figuring an approximate Oh-2
displacement of 21,000 cubic
meters...

ON SCREEN: Images of the Earth... rotating... scanning... Jet keeps typing.

JET (cont'd) 20
Factoring in a 2.78% margin for
error... and implementing a reverse
imaging plethysmograph... I'd say
we're looking... right... THERE.

ON THE COMPUTER: A digitally rendered image of The Warden materializes.

Just then, Max enters, all geared up. He sees the image on the screen.

21 MAX 21 Nice work. Let's roll.

EXT. CHILEAN JUNGLE - MOMENTS LATER

All is silent just above the tree canopy of the jungle. Suddenly, a loud <RUMBLING> noise... then a TEK JET carrying Max, Cytro and Jet blasts up and out of the trees, roaring off towards the horizon.

EXT. CITY SQUARE - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

It's a bustling metropolis. Pedestrians hustle down the sidewalk. Cars <HONK>. Street vendors hawk their wares. Just then, a DARK SHADOW falls over the city.

ANGLE UP TO REVEAL: The Warden, seemingly materializing out of thin air. The massive vessel blocks out the sun, and runs the length of 20 city blocks.

Several cars <SCREECH> and slam into each other. Traffic grinds to a halt. Nervous mothers shield their children's eyes. Puzzled pedestrians point up toward the sky.

PEDESTRIAN 22
What is that?

PEDESTRIAN 2 23
Some sorta weather balloon?

Just then, a large JUMBOTRON screen mounted on the side of a building flickers to life. And on it, TOXZON.

24	TOXZON 2 Greetings, humble servants!	4 *
	An audible GASP from the streets as people start gravitating toward the screen.	g
25	TOXZON (cont'd) As new de facto leader of planet earth, my first order of business will be to address the issue of pollution!	5 * *
	A hopeful murmur in the crowd. Maybe this guy's not so bad	?
26	TOXZON (cont'd) 2 We need MORE OF IT!!!	6 *
	With that, a series of CANISTERS jettison from The Warden, exploding above the city, unleashing massive clouds of TOXIC FUMES.	C *
	INT. WARDEN - BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS	*
	The disabled crew members, now bound in a corner, watch helplessly.	*
	EXT. CITY STREET - CONTINUOUS	*
	People race through the streets, COUGHING uncontrollably as the toxic fumes descend on them.	*
27	TOXZON (cont'd) 2 From this moment forward, all industry will be directed to create poisons or pollutants!	7 * *
	EXT. CITY STREET - CONTINUOUS	
	A bank of TV'S in a store window all show Toxzon's image. People run through the streets as panic spreads.	*
28	TOXZON 2 I assure you, people. This is not a drill. Behold, a taste of what happens to those who dare disobey me!	8 * *
	QUICK SHOTS: The Warden fires a series of QUANTUM LASER BEAMS down on the outskirts of the city	*

CUT TO:

AN AIRPORT RUNWAY is hit by a beam, slicing a CRATER across the middle of the runaway. An approaching plane has to swerve crazily, crashing into some trees at the side of the runway.

CUT TO:

A TRAINYARD on the edge of the city. A bridge heading out of the city crosses 6 tracks running perpendicular to and under the bridge. A beam enters frame and bisects the bridge span. Cars screech to a halt on the edges of what is now two bridge halves as debris rains down on the tracks below.

CUT TO:

A passenger train approaches the fallen debris. The engineer reacts, pulling a lever - too late! The train will never stop in time. Camera PULLS BACK to reveal Max Steel on his HOVER BIKE gaining into frame along the ground beside the train. Accelerating ahead of the train, Max fires a missile, blasting the debris off of the tracks - the train narrowly avoids a collision. As Max peels off...

CUT TO:

An OIL TANKER is heading for the bridge from the city. A laser beam cuts the tanker free from the cab. As the driver steers the cab off to the side of the road, the tanker slides along the ground, kicking up sparks and slamming into a concrete median. It EXPLODES up into the air. The spinning, flaming tonnes of steel fly toward the people on the bridge, who are now standing outside of their cars, vulnerable. Suddenly, Max Steel comes speeding up the far side of the bridge (non-city side) and jumps up into the air - as he does he fires a missile and blasts the tanker into tiny pieces. Slo-mo as Max flies thru the fireball/debris cloud and flies up past cam (this is also the Hover-Bike reveal as he never "lands" this jump).

CUT TO:

Relieved drivers cheer beside their cars as small, harmless pieces of debris rain down behind and around them.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE WARDEN - CONTINUOUS

Flying in formation, SIX MILITARY JETS swoop down toward The Warden.

Guns blazing, the jets come in hot, but their weapons barely dent the surface of the super fortress.

29	PILOT 1 (V.O.) What the heck is that thing?	29	*
30	PILOT 2 (V.O.) I don't know! It's like trying to bring down an elephant with a pea shooter!	30	* * *
	And now anti-aircraft LASER CANNONS emerge from the surface of The Warden and return fire, hitting three jets and send them spiralling out of control.		*
	As the remaining THREE JETS swoop back for another attack run, we now see a FOURTH JET moving into position behind t The Tek Jet.	them	
	INT. TEK JET - CONTINUOUS		
	Cytro and Jet watch the action through the cockpit windshield. The fighter jets are clearly overmatched by Twarden. Max races in and leaps into his seat.	T he	
31	MAX How's it look?	31	
	Another plane gets BLOWN UP outside the window.		*
32	JET (dry) Could be better.	32	* *
33	MAX If we don't do something quick, Toxzon's gonna fry the entire city with those Quantum LASERS.	33	* * *
	Cytro scans the surface of The Warden.		
	CYTRO POV: Googs and telemetry scroll across his vision field. A small area on the far side of The Warden's hull FLASHES.		
34	CYTRO Data indicates a manual tech access panel on the port side. A direct hit should temporarily disable the Quantum lasers.	34	* * *
	The target flashes on their display screen.		*
35	JET Looks like our only chance.	35	*

Max locks in his targeting system.		*
MAX Almost in range and FIRE!	36	*
KABOOM! An explosion erupts on the surface of The Warden		*
EXT. CITY STREETS - CONTINUOUS		*
A LASER BEAM slices toward a HOSPITAL. Suddenly, it FRITZ and fizzles out. An AMBULANCE DRIVER looks skyward and CHEERS.	ZES,	*
INT. WARDEN - BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS		*
The Bridge is rocked by the explosion.		*
TOXZON What is the meaning of this??? (then, looking out the window) Steel!	37	* * *
INT. TEK-JET - CONTINUOUS		*
Max turns to Cytro.		*
MAX Cytro, how long until the Quantum Lasers come back on-line?	38	* *
CYTRO Approximately six minutes, Max.	39	*
Max sets a TIMER on his wrist.		*
MAX Plenty of time to get what we came for Toxzon!	40	* *
Pushing the Tek Jet into a dive, Max plunges toward The Warden. But they're strafed with anti-aircraft laser fire	∍.	
JET On the right! I've got it!	41	
ON Jet: She mans a secondary weapons station. The Warder cannon comes into the crosshairs on her display and <kaboo bits.<="" blows="" it="" she="" td="" to=""><td></td><td></td></kaboo>		
MAX Nice shot!	42	

But the onslaught continues. A nearby military jet gets hit and clips the side of the Tek Jet as it goes down. Fuel sprays from one of the wings.

MAX (cont'd) 43
Clipped a fuel line!

Now a shot from The Warden ignites the fuel spray, sending a plume of fire and smoke trailing behind the Tek Jet.

MAX (CONT'D) 44 *
Everybody hold on!

Max hits a button and all three seats EJECT, blasting out through the roof of the Tek Jet.

EXT. SURFACE OF THE WARDEN - SECONDS LATER

The Tek Jet spirals and <CRASHES> on the surface of The Warden in a ball of fire. A beat, then we see Max, Cytro and Jet peek out from behind a barrier.

45 CYTRO 45
The bridge is located over there.

ANGLE ON: The Bridge. A large tower with floor to ceiling windows -- about 300 meters away. Even from this distance, we can clearly see Makino framed in thick tempered glass.

46 MAX 46
And look who's at the controls. Our *
old friend, Makino. Are we ready to *

Cytro and Jet take quick stock of their gear. They both nod.

EXT. WARDEN - "GAUNTLET" - CONTINUOUS

do this?

Max, Jet and Cytro leap out from behind their cover and race toward The Bridge. But first, they must cross a deadly gauntlet of The Warden.

Max leads the way with Cytro and Jet in formation behind him. In unison, the group parkours their way across the surface, leaping over trenches, vaulting across obstacles, and sliding to avoid low pipes and valves.

Now, a surface mounted LASER CANNON swerves toward them and opens fire. The blasts barely miss, but throw up explosions and deadly shrapnel around them. Lowering an arm blaster, Cytro plants his feet and <KABOOM> eliminates the laser cannon.

47	JET Can Makino really control all these weapons?	47	* *
	Suddenly, DOZENS of LASER CANNONS emerge from the surface all swing around to aim at them.	and	*
48	MAX I'm thinking YES.	48	*
	The cannons open fire.		*
49	MAX (cont'd) Keep moving!	49	
	Blasts rain down around the group, but they soldier on, diving and dodging to avoid.		
50	JET Over there!	50	
	Max blasts a cannon before it can hit them.		
51	MAX Get down!	51	
	Jet dives clear as a cannon on her right unloads its deadle payload. The blast misses Jet, and slams right into anoth cannon on the other side. KABOOM! They're showered in debris.		*
	As the barrage intensifies		
	INT. THE WARDEN - BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS		
	Makino waves his arms like a conductor, controlling the shand the weapons. Toxzon gazes out the window, enjoying the spectacle before him.		* * *
52	TOXZON Max Steel? Trapped like a rat in a cage? They don't make N-Tek agents like they used to!	52	* *
	Makino looks at Toxzon, confused.		*
53	TOXZON (cont'd) I'm talking about ME!	53	*
54	MAKINO Why am I not surprised. (then) Time to dispose of our visitors!	54	* * *

* * * * * *

*

55	TOXZON Wait! I want to savor moment! Bask in the glory! Taste the sweet nectar of victory! (then) Okay, I'm good. You can kill them now.	55
	As Makino grins diabolically	
	EXT. THE WARDEN - "GAUNTLET" - CONTINUOUS	
	As the group forges on, <boom!> a blast sends them scattering. Jet goes flying and lands hard in a trench.</boom!>	
56	MAX Jet!	56
	Jet looks around her blaster has been knocked out of he hand and lies a few feet away.	r
57	JET I'm okay! Keep going!	57
	Max gives a "thumbs up" and races on ahead with Cytro.	
	ON JET: Staying low to avoid the blaster fire, she crawls toward her blaster. She snags the weapon and is about to up when she notices something else out of the corner of he eye.	get
	THE VIAL. The same vial that we've seen her with earlier (the "real" vial). It's several meters away, teetering on the edge of a deep shaft. Stunned, Jet feels her pocket. Empty. The vial must been knocked out in the blast. She starts crawling toward the vial when, suddenly, the ship lurches and the vial topples over the edge, disappearing it the dark shaft.	
58	JET (cont'd) (GASPS!)	58
	EXT. THE WARDEN - OUTSIDE THE BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS	
	Having evaded the laser cannon gauntlet, Max races toward glassed-in bridge. Makino grins down at him through the window.	the
59	MAX Hey, Makino! Looks a little stuffy in there! How about some fresh air!!!	59

	Max lowers his blaster, about to fire at the glass, when <boom!> something hits Max from behind, sending him sprawling forward. Leaping back to his feet, Max is shocked to see</boom!>	d
60	MAX (cont'd) 6 Cytro?!?!	0
61	MAKINO 6 Like a puppet on a string!	1 *
	As Cytro closes in on Max	
	EXT. THE WARDEN - THERMAL EXHAUST VENT - CONTINUOUS	
	It's a dark shaft, extending deep into the core of The Wards to dissipate heat and energy from its core. Jet's vial teeters on a narrow ledge, about 10 meters below the surface	
	Jet peers over the edge, sees her vial. Steeling herself, she swings her legs over the ledge, scrambles to find a toe hold and slowly starts climbing down.	
	EXT. THE WARDEN - OUTSIDE THE BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS	
	Cytro and Max square off, toe to toe. Makino controls Cytro from his position above them on the bridge.	> *
62	MAX Dude??? I know we've had our differences, but come on!	2
	Cytro lunges at Max, but Max ducks to avoid.	*
63	CYTRO 6 I am sorry, Max. But I can not help it.	3 *
64	MAX I know, buddy. Just messin' with ya.	4 * *
	WHAM! - Cytro lands a powerful blow sending Max toppling backward.	*
65	CYTRO 6 That one hurt me more than it hurt you.	5
66	MAX 6 I seriously doubt that!	6 *
	Cytro leaps toward Max and delivers another series of blows	. *

67	CYTRO Oops! Sorry! Duck!	67	*
	Max ducks in time to avoid a head shot.		*
68	MAX Thanks for the tip! You got any other bright ideas?	68	*
	As Cytro and Max continue to spar		*
69	CYTRO I suggest you try to hit my lower left quadrant. The circuits in that region were damaged in the crash landing.	69	
70	MAX Don't mind if I do.	70	
	Max winds up and delivers a mighty BASH to Cytro's lower abdomen. The big robot goes flying backwards, with SPARK flying from the area. He hits the ground with a THUD, un to move. Max races over and bends down.		
71	CYTRO Thank you, Max Steel.	71	
72	MAX $_{ extstyle extstyl$	72	*
	Max quickly drags Cytro to a sheltered area.		
73	MAX (cont'd) You just lay low, pal. I'll be back for ya.	73	
	Max waves to Makino who scowls then races off acros	S	
	EXT. THE WARDEN - THERMAL EXHAUST VENT - CONTINUOUS		
	.Tet has nearly made it down to her vial But it's far fr	∩m	

Jet has nearly made it down to her vial. But it's far from easy, even for her. The toe holds and hand holds are virtually non existent. And blasts of hot, acrid air rush up through the vent, burning her eyes and throat.

She reaches down... stretching... holding on by only one hand and one foot... and snatches the vial, stuffing it back in her pocket.

But, just then, the ship lurches and Jet loses her grip.

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	Aaaah!	
	She flails, trying desperately to get a grip, but there's nothing to grab. She's about to fall when WHOOSH a panel slides open just beside her, Max Steel appears, and yanks her in.	
	INT. THE WARDEN - CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS	
	The door shuts - WHOOSH - and Jet is safely inside with Ma	ıX•
75	MAX Looked like you were in a bit of trouble out there.	75
76	JET Nothing I couldn't handle.	76
	Brushing past Max, Jet inserts a FLASH DRIVE into a panel the wall.	in *
77	MAX Come on! (checking watch) Only three minutes 'til the Quantum Lasers are back online!	77 * * * *
78	JET We need updated schematics if you want to get to Toxzon.	78 * * *
	TIGHT ON: Jet's wrist display. Warden schematics. A BLIF flashes in a nearby corridor. Jet takes note. A mischiev glint in her eye.	
79	<pre>JET (cont'd) (sotto) Or rather, if <u>I</u> want to get to Toxzon</pre>	79 * * *
	The download complete, Jet races off, with Max following.	*
	QUICK CUTS: Jet and Max race through the corridors of The Warden on their way to the bridge. Each time they approach trap, an alarm <beeps> on Jet's wrist device, giving them advance warning.</beeps>	
	BEEEP. Two cannons emerge from the ceiling, but Jet and Mare ready for them. Jet blasts one, Max blasts the other. They race on.	

JET

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	BEEEP. A trap door slides open in the floor. But, forewarned, Max and Jet leap over it.		
	BEEEP. A series of waist-level LASERS fire in rapid succession. But Max and Jet slide underneath them, pop up and race on.	,	*
	ON JET'S WRIST DISPLAY: A graphic tracker shows Jet and M nearing the "BLIP" noted earlier.	ax	*
80	JET (cont'd)	80	* * *
	Jet races around a corner, just ahead of Max. BEEEP. A blast door starts to shut in front of her (separate partitions closing up from the floor and down from the ceiling, meeting in the middle, right about eye level).		
	Jet leaps through, as the blast door closes. She stops an turns to see Max approaching.	d	
81	JET (cont'd) Sorry, Max. There's something I need to do. Alone.	81	
	MAX'S POV: The VIAL, partially sticking out of Jet's pock	et.	
	<clang> the door slams shut.</clang>		
82	MAX Jet! Wait! Toxzon is too strong!!!	82	*
	Enraged, Max SLAMS his fist against the thick steel door.		*
	A COMPUTER VOICE from a nearby speaker.		*
83	COMPUTER VOICE (V.O.) Quantum Laser reboot complete in two minutes	83	* *
84	MAX It goes from bad to worse.	84	*
	Just then, Berto's face appears on Max's wrist device.		*
85	BERTO (loud whisper) Max!	85	* *

86	MAX Berto! Where are you?	* *
87	BERTO 87 It doesn't matter! Just listen. There's an auxiliary shut down switch on level 3. You can still make it!	* * * *
	Just then, Berto's image fritzes and goes black.	*
88	MAX Berto! Can you hear me? Berto!	*
89	TOXZON (V.O.) Don't you just this new technology dropped calls can be soooo annoying!	* * *
	Spinning around, Max sees Toxzon's diabolical face on a video screen behind him.	*
90	MAX 90 Doesn't matter, Toxzon. Berto already told me how to shut you down!	* * *
91	TOXZON (cont'd) 91 And that is exactly what you should do!	* * *
	CAMERA WIDENS to reveal a group of HOSTAGES tied up behind Toxzon. They include several NTEK agents, as well as FORGE and BERTO. Now TANK MAKINO rolls into frame.	
92	TOXZON (cont'd) 92 Unless, of course, you'd rather come say goodbye to your friends	* *
	Toxzon snatches BERTO by the scruff of his neck and hoists him into the air. TANK MAKINO lowers his cannon arm toward Berto.	* *
93	BERTO 93 Don't listen to him, Max! It's a trap!	* * *
94	TOXZON 94 Maybe it is, maybe it isn't. Only	* *
	one way to find out!	*

	ON MAX: He's faced with an epic decision.		*
95	COMPUTER VOICE (V.O.) Quantum laser reboot in ONE minute	95	* * *
	No time to stand around. Max spins and races off down th corridor as we	e	*