

The Why, and How, of Control Collar Mishaps

By [JaneDoe-2010](#), Monday, March 02, 2020

I wrote this letter to you, the reader, because I was asked, by a reader, for my opinion on how I thought that this issue could occur. To address the issue I came up with a simple back-story to help me explain my answer which is near the bottom. But before I get into that, I have a **favor to ask** of my fellow writers.

I would love to see our collective stories become more cohesive, creating a shared 'universe' in which these things happen. By doing so I believe that, the stories, as a whole, would become more believable. I think fans would get used to the basic ideas presented and soon tend to forget that it is fiction. Also some common keywords would make searching for these stories easier.

When it comes to shared story believability, it seems to me that this has been demonstrated in movies and TV over the years when they do crossover shows and stories. Heck, look at the Marvel cinematic universe! So here is what I am asking,

- 1- Basic standards like "Trade Names." I believe some standard trade names such as, NanoPaste, MaidBot, HookerBot, etc. Would exist in the future. Even though we as readers, or authors, may realize these things, don't exist in our world. If we all followed a basic idea and began using some basic conventions when spelling these trade names, I believe that the reader would start to believe, at least subconsciously, that these are real things.

I personally think that the best way to combine two functions into a single name, such as, Butler + Robot OR Android, etc. is by using the style, ButlerBot, or ButlerDroid. Spelling the name like this works well, since, when written in this way, the name could be copyrighted by the company making the product.

In my stories, I also use some shared names for the companies producing the products, MaidBots, Inc., and MidNight Entertainment are two fictional companies that occur in more than one of my stories, in that way a reader may recognize the company name and remember another story.

If Apple Corp. had changed the way, they spelled iPhone every time they wrote it down, (i.e. Iphone, IPhone, I Phone, I-Phone, etc.) The brand would be much less recognizable, but they were smart!

- 2- Some simple common sense used regarding the abilities of the android. Just because a body is driven using a control device, which may, or may not, be able to overcome certain neural impulses, like pain, this does not allow the person to do inhuman feats. Something which I always found funny, if not stupid, when I was a child was the Six-Million Dollar Man TV series. OK, so Steve Austin had

some mechanical replacement parts. He still could not lift a car, unless his entire skeleton had been replaced. Even if his arm had that much power, it would simply rip his arm off when he tried, since the rest of his body could not handle that kind of load.

- 3- Control device location, for the device to be able to override the person's nervous system it would need to either be located, ideally, in the brain, or less effectively on, or in, the neck. Basically, the farther out the control device sits from the brain, the less control it could have. Even though I admit that I have made this mistake in a few of my stories, a person who is wearing a collar mounted, or even had a neck implanted, device could not have their speech, vision, or hearing overridden since the nerves controlling these functions are closer to the brain. The author needs to consider these things when writing their story.
- 4- And finally, PLEASE! SHARE ideas! Some of the best ideas I have had were inspired by other writer's creations, well at least I believe that they were their creations. For example, I use NanoPaste in several of my stories. I did not create it; to be honest I am not sure who first coined the term. But I do try to standardize the spelling in all my stories and refer to it because, in my mind, it makes my story and the other writer's stories more believable since I have heard of this product before. If we share concepts, our fictional universe becomes more believable each time another story is created.

So now to get on with my explanation:

In my mind, here is how these control collars came to be, and how they could accidentally, or intentionally, act on a normal human being. In the future engineers trying to develop human assistance robotics systems realized that the weight and power requirements of metal robots made them impractical. Then, one day, a creative person realized that the medical field was producing genetically engineered human bodies intended for use as exact replacement organ donors, for those with failing organs.

The genetic code in these cloned bodies was modified so that the brain would not develop during the growth process. This eliminated the issue of "Killing" a human being when they removed the needed parts from the "Donor" body. This creative entrepreneur thought to themselves, "Why not grow one of these bodies for use as a maid, cook, gardener, etc."

The problem to be overcome with this plan was the body had no brain; therefore, these workers would not be very motivated, kind of like carrots with a face and limbs. So the developer created a neural stimulator that could interface to the, essentially unused, nerve bundle at the bottom of the head, or in the neck. This Bioelectrical interface, control device, could be used to 'drive' the body using an integrated AI based system.

Since the bodies were essentially just, mindless, human beings, these bodies could be used to replace a costly and hard to power mechanical solution. Other advantages to this approach, was weight and mobility, these units could go where any real person could go.

An added bonus to using these cloned bodies was completely normal appearance which helped with acceptance. And the ability to be sustained using NanoPaste, water, and an occasional recharge for the collar power pack. These assistants didn't weigh many hundreds of pounds like a mechanical robot, and were the weight of a normal human. And finally, if the host body became damaged or worn out, the collar could simply be moved to a new body and the 'assistant' would continue to function for the owner without any tiresome reprogramming, or relearning, of skills and preferences.

But, if that stimulator was attached to a normal human being, it could override the person's brain and take control of their body. Since this was not the intended use of the control collars, few scientists worried about the possibility, and even fewer people realized this was even a possibility.

This was the basis for my MaidBot, HookerBot, etc. stories which helped me overcome any internal conflict as to how this could ever happen. I do believe that after a while, and a few of these cases occurring, that eventually, more safeguards would be put into effect to prevent this from accidentally occurring. But initially, someone who found their way into an automated factory, put the collar on themselves, or was collared with the 'help' of another, would likely be taken over.

I hope this helps my fellow writers be inspired to write more of these kinds of stories as, while I have written a few of my own, I am foremost a rabid reader of these kinds of stories. So, PLEASE, keep writing folks! I look forward to reading your work, and hope that you will let me know when you have created a new story for me to read.

[Jane](#)