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LITTLE SCROOGE AND THE TECHNOLOGIES OF CHRISTMAS TURNS A HOLIDAY CLASSIC INTO A WARNING ABOUT LIFE BEHIND SCREENS

Pj Escobedo transforms personal family experiences into a modern Christmas tale about technology, togetherness, childhood, and preserving human connection.

New York, NY, August 20, 2026 — Author Pj Escobedo confronts the growing tension between digital convenience and human connection in Little Scrooge and the Technologies of Christmas, a contemporary reimagining of Charles Dickens' classic Christmas morality tale. Escobedo's young Scrooge lives surrounded by screens, devices, digital entertainment, and technological excess until an electrical overload launches him into a strange "Technology Fright Night." Through humor, fantasy, originally written AI assisted songs, and AI assisted illustrations, the story asks families to consider whether technology is serving their lives or gradually replacing the relationships it was meant to enhance.

In Little Scrooge and the Technologies of Christmas, familiar supernatural warnings are transformed into encounters suited to a technology saturated generation. Scrooge faces a challenge from Emperor Jacobin to view his life from a giant version of a childhood toy, a free-spirited Hippy Trucker Christmas Tree, and a silent mime representing a hollow future. These figures force him to confront the consequences of isolation from his parents and his relationships with characters including Bell Cratchit, Tiny Tim and bullies from school. Bell's song "Sharing the Love" reinforces the story's central idea that Christmas can be about togetherness, conversation, simple pleasures, and shared memories rather than the constant noise of devices and possessions.

The inspiration for Little Scrooge and the Technologies of Christmas began with Escobedo's own family experiences in 2010. While his mother was living with Alzheimer's and displaying behavior that reminded him of Ebenezer Scrooge, his five year old son's growing fixation on video games drew his attention to another

developing pattern. Escobedo observed children becoming increasingly absorbed in technology during holiday gatherings, followed by adults becoming similarly occupied with their phones. He developed and copyrighted the concept as a play in 2012, later continuing to examine how digital habits were affecting personal interaction.

Escobedo intends Little Scrooge and the Technologies of Christmas for children, parents, families, and older readers who have witnessed different technologies reshape daily life across generations. His message is not that technology should disappear, but that it should remain a tool rather than become a way of life. Even the story's use of AI assisted imagery and songs reflects that distinction, demonstrating how newer technology can help communicate a cautionary message about technological imbalance. For Escobedo, the larger concern is preserving humanity, attention, friendship, family bonds, and genuine togetherness within an increasingly digital culture.

Pj Escobedo uses Little Scrooge and the Technologies of Christmas to encourage families to reconsider what technological progress is ultimately supposed to provide: more opportunity to live meaningfully with other people. The story contrasts digital excess with simple shared experiences, including watching old VHS movies, eating cookies, talking, and spending uninterrupted time together. By turning technology itself into both a storytelling tool and the source of Scrooge's conflict, Escobedo delivers a playful but cautionary Christmas message about balance, reminding readers that no screen or device can substitute for the relationships that give the holidays their lasting meaning.

The book and audiobook are now available — secure your copy here: For more information go to LittleScrooge.com

The book is available at:

https://a.co/d/0e3GVNZJ

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