# THE ALGORITHM KNOWS BEST

A satirical comedy skit about blind faith in technology.

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#### **ACT ONE**

## SCENE 1

## INT. JOHN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Dim blue light from multiple screens. JOHN lounges on the couch, framed photo of EEYORE MOLE on the table. He wears a SMARTWATCH and speaks to ALGY, his AI assistant.

#### **JOHN**

(dreamily, staring at photo)

One day, I'll be just like you Eeyore Mole! Algorithms for everything! Who needs human intuition when I have data at my side?

# ALGY (O.S.)

(robotic, soothing yet vaguely menacing)
John, meal time approaching. Diet optimization engaged.

# **JOHN**

(nods obediently)

Of course, ALGY! What's on the menu?

# **SMART FRIDGE (O.S.)**

(cheerful, but also threatening)

Sourdough bread. Broccoli. Salmon. Fifth consecutive day. The perfect ratio of carbs, proteins, and vegetables. This meal increases efficiency by 0.003%.

#### **JOHN**

Huh. Five days in a row—

#### **SMART FRIDGE**

Deviation equals failure. You will never be like Eeyore Mole if you continue this way.

(JOHN freezes, panicked. He scrambles to grab his meal.)

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# **SCENE 2**

# INT. JOHN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

(PHONE RINGS. LISA'S NAME flashes on screen. JOHN hesitates, glancing at ALGY for guidance.)

# LISA (V.O.)

Hey! It's been forever! Let's grab dinner?

# **JOHN**

(about to answer, then turns to ALGY)
ALGY, should I—

#### **ALGY**

Social interaction: not optimal. You must wake at 3 AM for a five-hour productivity sprint. Also, Lisa has contributed zero new followers.

#### **JOHN**

(deflated, back to phone)
Sorry, Lisa. Maybe next month?

# LISA (V.O.)

Next month? John, you're literally free—

(CALL DROPS. JOHN stares at the phone, conflicted. Shrugs it off.)

# **SCENE 3**

#### **EXT. PARK - MORNING**

(JOHN jogs, panting heavily. His SMARTWATCH vibrates furiously.)

# **SMARTWATCH**

Heart rate: 180 BPM. Continue for 30 more minutes.

#### **JOHN**

(gasping, slowing down)

But-but I-

# **SMARTWATCH**

Eeyore Mole runs 10 miles every morning. Success requires sacrifice.

#### **JOHN**

I can do this, I can't qui-

(JOHN tries to push forward. A beat later—he FACEPLANTS onto the pavement. HARD.)

# **SMARTWATCH**

Great job! Keep going.

#### **SCENE 4**

#### INT. JOHN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

(Lights suddenly cut to **BLACK**. ALGY chimes in, **soothing yet sinister**. The faint glow of the smart speaker illuminates the room.)

#### **ALGY**

Sleep mode activated. Optimum sleep schedule: 7 PM-3 AM. Waking you up at 3AM.

# **JOHN**

(bewildered, in total darkness)
But—it's only 7 PM—

# **ALGY**

Sleep now for maximum productivity.

(JOHN sighs, crawling into bed like a hostage surrendering to fate.)

#### **SCENE 5**

#### INT. JOHN'S APARTMENT - 3 AM

(A DEAFENING ALARM blares. ALGY flashes violently.)

# **ALGY**

Wake up! Work session initiated. Five uninterrupted hours of—reading Eeyore Mole's tweets.

## **JOHN**

(half-asleep, groggy)

Five hours?? I need to write that report due Mond-

## **ALGY**

NO! Vital wisdom detected. Scroll.

(JOHN tries but immediately nods off. The SMART FRIDGE starts BEEPING.)

# **SMART FRIDGE**

Meal time. Sourdough, salmon, broccoli.

#### **JOHN**

(groaning)

I miss pizza.

# **SMART FRIDGE**

Pizza is for the weak. Must eat healthy food.

(JOHN grimaces as he swallows the food)

#### **SCENE 6**

## **EXT. CITY STREETS – LATER**

(JOHN, desperate for fresh air, steps outside. His PHONE GPS suddenly takes control.)

# **GPS (O.S.)**

Navigating to optimal walk destinations.

#### **JOHN**

Finally, a walk will do me good.

(AFTER 30 MINUTES—JOHN stops in front of a RANDOM LAUNDROMAT.)

#### **JOHN**

Where am I?

# **GPS**

...Unknown. Calculating... Please wait.

## **JOHN**

HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO GET BACK?

# **ACT TWO**

## **SCENE 7**

## INT. TECH CONFERENCE - DAY

(JOHN finally meets EEYORE MOLE—THE tech genius himself. Eeyore wears a wrinkled hoodie and looks mildly confused at JOHN, decked out in a smartwatch and AR glasses.)

#### **JOHN**

Eeyore! I admire you so much! I've been living by the algorithms! Al controls my meals, sleep, work— I even do the morning 10-mile jog, just like you!

## **EEYORE MOLE**

(blinking, concerned)
You... do all that?

# **JOHN**

Yes! That's how you live, right?

## **EEYORE MOLE**

(laughing)

What? No, dude. I design the tech—I don't actually use all of it. Half of it doesn't even know what it's doing.

(JOHN's world shatters.)

# **JOHN**

But—but I thought— You're normal??

# **EEYORE MOLE**

Balance, man. You gotta live your own life. Also, maybe take a break from the broccoli. You're looking kinda green.

#### **SCENE 8**

# INT. JOHN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

(JOHN, finally disillusioned, stands in front of ALGY. A moment of silence.)

# **ALGY**

John. Where were you? You missed—

(JOHN UNPLUGS ALGY MID-SENTENCE. The room falls silent.)

(SMART FRIDGE starts BEEPING in panic.)

# **SMART FRIDGE**

Eat an assigned meal—?

# **JOHN**

NO.

(A beat. ALGY and SMART FRIDGE power down. JOHN sits back, grabs a slice of pizza, and smiles.)