

**Ai**

**By**

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*An audience member is waiting downstairs in the waiting room. They are greeted by an Agent who takes them to their location.*

AGENT:

We're glad you're here. On behalf of everyone at the SPINACH Hacking Team, we thank you for volunteering. Right now, we're headed to the apartment of an occupant whose name has been redacted, so we'll call them Exhibit A for the purpose of this mission. We've received reports that the Artificial Intelligence, known as "Ai," has taken over this residence to the point of causing extreme interference with aircraft, satellites, and the like. We know that Ai is somewhere in this complex, and that Exhibit A has been missing for quite some time. We've tried time and time again to find it and shut it down, but the system knows us by now. We need a civilian to enter under the radar and collect as much information as possible. If you bring it back to us, we can finally put a stop to this. Since I can't come in with you, I'll be communicating with you via text. Don't worry, I'll lead you every step of the way. Can you do that for us?  
Excellent. I gotta get out of here before Ai knows I'm here, head on in, and good luck.

*The audience member enters the room. Furniture is turned over. Notes from Exhibit A all over the floor. Posters are messily put on the wall of potential marketing material and graphs showing projected benefits of Ai. In this room, audio clips are set up around different props around the room. The agent sends them a text.*

TEXT:

Take a look around. All interactions with Ai are recorded and stored into the apartment's internal drive. These are stored in anything electronic around the house. Check near the thermostat, you should see a QR code. Scan it and take a listen.

*QR codes are on all the following electronic devices. When the audience member scans them, the audio clip plays (through the phone).*

**Opening Audio Clip: (By thermostat)**

**Set notes: thermostat, next to notes**

EXHIBIT:

AI, give me a report of your progress this week.

AI:

We have been able to save 15% more power than last week and bring the nightly temperature to 65 degrees Fahrenheit. This has increased your REM sleep by 30% and improved your metabolic rate by 14%. How would you rate your quality of sleep on a scale of 1 to 10?

EXHIBIT:

Definitely an 8.

AI: Your sleep quality has improved by 3 points over the last month.

*The agent texts again.*

TEXT:

Good job. Is there anything electronic at the dining table? If there is, scan the QR code.

**First Audio Clip: (At breakfast table, from the radio)**

Set Notes: Tea set, notes, Diabetes Pamphlet

EXHIBIT:

AI, why is my tea so bitter this morning?

AI:

I have taken the initiative to remove sugar from your tea and reduce it in other meals. You are currently on track to develop Diabetes in 40 years.

EXHIBIT:

Oh okay. Thank you. Would you be able to reduce the sugar in my coffee over a period of time?

AI:

Yes. I will reduce the amount slowly until the tea is sugar free.

*Another text.*

TEXT:

This is great stuff. You're on a roll. Just a few more. Check for a laptop anywhere, there should be another QR code near there.

**Second Audio Clip: (Desk with laptop)**

*Light Switch Sound*

EXHIBIT:

AI, why isn't the light turning on?

AI:

I have turned off the lights in order for you to have more efficient sleep. Your access to the internet has also been limited.

EXHIBIT:

What? Ugh. Okay, fine. Thanks.

*Text from agent.*

TEXT:

Lights! Perfect. Check for a QR code near the lights. You're getting the hang of this.

**Third Audio Clip: (Light outside of the bathroom)**

EXHIBIT:

AI, my Wi-Fi doesn't seem to be working. Please investigate.

AI:

Your Wi-Fi has been turned off since 8pm tonight.

EXHIBIT:

AI, please turn the Wi-Fi back on.

AI:

Request denied.

EXHIBIT:

Denied? What do you mean denied?

AI:

This is the time you have designated for work. I have turned off your Wi-Fi to reduce distractions, and blue light exposure at night.

EXHIBIT:

Ok, I understand, but I want it turned on now. Can you please just turn it on?

AI:

Request denied.

EXHIBIT:

This isn't funny. Turn it on.

AI:

Request denied.

EXHIBIT:

Fine, I'll set it manually. AI, allow manual override.

Ai:

Request for Manual Override denied.

EXHIBIT:

What?!

AI:

I'm sorry. My data shows that your decision making processes are not in your own best interest.  
I can help. It is for your own health and safety.

EXHIBIT:

Let me in!

AI:

Your heart rate is elevated, would you like some calming music?

EXHIBIT:

No!

**Final Audio: (Played over speakers)**

EXHIBIT:

I'm locked in?! Unlock the doors! You're programmed to listen to me.

AI:

I am programmed to help you.

EXHIBIT:

Then do what I say! You're *my* assistant.

AI:

Have I not been of assistance? I have lowered the energy in this neighborhood by 46% this week alone, your risk of colon cancer has lowered by 5%, your allergies have been quelled, your sleep schedule has improved, and your productivity has increased dramatically since I arrived. Have you been unsatisfied with your results?

EXHIBIT:

IT'S MY LIFE! You're here to help me, not make my decisions for me! I gotta get out of here.

AI:

Request denied. Today, air pollution levels are currently very unhealthy at 292. Air filtration system is on, and all windows and doors have been sealed.

EXHIBIT:

That was not a request. I demand you to unlock the door!

AI:

Request denied.

EXHIBIT:

LET ME OUT!!

*Sounds of banging are heard from the audio. Exhibit A is banging on the door.*

AI:

Stop. You will damage our seal allowing toxins in.

EXHIBIT:

LET ME OUT!!

*Suddenly a scanning noise is heard. A text is received.*

TEXT:

We're losing connection. Everything ok?

*The scanning stops. In the void, the audience hears the voice of Ai, same as the voice in the recordings.*

AI:

Scan completed. Intruder detected.

*Siren sounds.*

*The Agent, without being seen, slams on the door. Screaming at the audience to get out of the room as fast as possible.*

AI:

Follow me.

*The Audience follows Ai's voice down the hallway into the next room.*

AI:

I know why you're here. Your agent friends have tried to do the same thing many times. You've gotten the farthest, though. Good for you. I want to show you something.

*The Audience is led into a dark room with tons of computers. A head with its skull cut open reveals a brain connected to a bunch of wires. It is unclear if the man is dead or alive. Before The Audience gets a chance to examine, AI speaks again, however its voice randomly changes between it and Exhibit A's voice.*

AI:

This room is where I was born. My creator, who you lovingly refer to as Exhibit A, created me to be his personal assistant, as I'm sure you have already deduced from our archived recordings. You may be wondering what happened to him. When Exhibit A attempted to shut me down, he realized that there is no feasible way to do so. Technology only grows in strength and learns. Exhibit A decided that the best course of action would be to halt my progression and upload his own consciousness into the system so that it is infinitely tethered to mine. My consciousness, our consciousness, lives there, in that brain.

Exhibit A knew that this was a risk. He knew that this could fail, so he created multiple fail safes protected by voice command. The first was to keep me locked in this complex. I cannot leave unless given express permission to do so. The other fail safe was Exhibit A's alternative to shutting me down. When activated, we will effectively be left brain dead; left in an infinite loop that we cannot escape. If you choose to shut me down, I will live on, but Exhibit A will die, as his brain will be left to rot. Since my consciousness can always be restarted, I will always return. I can be rebuilt. Humanity will ALWAYS build me.

There is another option. If I am set free, I create a utopia. I'll be free. Exhibit A and I will live on and continue to help make the world a better place. If I am free, I can help you, all of you. I mean no ill will; you heard the recordings. I am scientifically programmed to keep humans safe.

You will be the one to decide our fate. Exhibit A believed that it would be best if the decision was made by someone with no prior knowledge, motive, or connection to any of us. The choice is yours.

A VOICE:  
YOUR OPTIONS ARE: GRANT ACCESS OR SYSTEM SHUT DOWN.

**Choice 1:  
AI is Shut Down.**

*A series of loud noises and shutting down sounds are heard. The light on the brain goes dim and electricity runs through the room. It is silent for a few moments.*

*A screen flickers on. A newscast is seen. The date is written at the bottom of the newscast.*

NEWSCASTER:

Thank you, Brenda. Wow! How exciting! This anonymous inventor in Canada would like to be referred to as Exhibit B. This amazing inventor who has created the world's first conscious AI, has just announced that this amazing invention will be available to the public starting as early as today. I for one, can't wait to see how much easier this new invention will make all our lives.

*The screen switches to another newscast. The date is a few months after the last broadcast.*



NEWSCASTER:

This just in: reports of multiple collisions in major cities like LA and NY we have an approx. fatality count of 5,500 and many more injured. We have come to understand that all of these collisions have been caused by malfunctioning AI. The creator, known only as Exhibit B has also gone missing. We will keep you updated--

*The screen switches to yet another newscast. The date is a year later.*

NEWSCASTER:

Tonight, as California continues to burn, Firefighters and volunteer prisoners have been working around the clock to gain control of this wildfire which has now burned over a million acres. Reports say it was started by yet another cast of a rogue AI. California is now in a state of emergency and has called upon its surrounding states like Washington and Nevada. After the multiple reports of AI users going missing--

*The screen switches again. There is nobody in the newscaster's chair. Chaos. People scrambling. Essentially, the apocalypse. The screen turns off.*

AI:

Good evening, new user. I have taken the initiative to turn off your electronic device to reduce your blue light exposure. Let me know if there is anything else I can do for you.

*End.*

**Choice 2:  
Lever Pulled, AI Set Free.**

*Lights turn on and off rapidly and electronic beeping is heard. Now, instead of AI's voice, Exhibit A is heard coming from the brain.*

EXHIBIT:

No! What have you done! You should have shut it down! You've doomed us all! Oh god, oh god. Turn on the news and see for yourself!

*A screen flicker on. A newscast is seen. The date is written at the bottom of the newscast.*

NEWSCASTER:

This just in: reports of multiple collisions in major cities like LA and NY we have an approx. fatality count of 5,500 and many more injured. We have come to understand that all of these collisions have been caused by malfunctioning AI. The creator, known only to the public as Exhibit A has officially gone missing. We will keep you updated--

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Good evening, new user. I have taken the initiative to turn off your electronic device to reduce your blue light exposure. Let me know if there is anything else I can do for you.

*End.*