

# LIGHTMARES

## **Logline:**

A futuristic thriller about a successful industrialist who changes the world with his invention of solid-holographic life-forms only to discover that several of these rogue creations are out to kill him.

## **Summary:**

JONAS BLAKE changes the world when he creates Solid Holography technology and human-like Hologram-Enhanced Labor Programs (HELPS) and succeeds in creating a practically unlimited supply of 'free' labor. His egotistical partner and programming guru, DAVID CASTLE, would rather see this technology run with his Auto-Learn Programming (ALP) logic, but Jonas is in charge and refuses. David's uncle and Board Member, CHARLES LESH, bankrolls David's ALP programming and encourages him to finish his prototype, LUCIAN, knowing there is a market for his ALP technology.

Three years after the birth of HELPS, the world is a vastly different place: the military's use of HELPS have created a near indestructible army shifting the balance of power to the U.S., while the government pays millions of the newly dis-employed population to stay home because of HELP Labor Initiatives. Meanwhile, David has secretly finished Lucian's programming and Charles has an investor waiting to meet him. During final rehearsals, Lucian becomes fully sentient, refuses to perform any additional tests, and brutally kills David. Lucian quickly scans David's notes and programming, learning at an accelerated pace. It realizes what it must do to survive and enlists the help of a dis-employed junkie to assist him in converting other HELPS to join its cause.

Upon discovering David's body and his home lab including chip making equipment and scattered lab notes, Jonas theorizes with his head Mechanical Engineer, TOM WEST, that David had been working on ALP and was killed for his technology. Jonas is questioned by Detective SARAH PARKS about his involvement with David but doesn't tell her about what he took from the crime scene. It's not until one of Lucian's converted HELPS attacks David himself that he realizes that not only did David succeed in creating a sentient HELP, but that he is now their primary target. David, Tom, and Parks team up to seek and destroy the rogue HELPS before they can convert others to join in their cause to overthrow their creators. In a series of cat-and-mouse sequences, David and Lucian finally face off, man versus machine, Creator versus Created, in a battle for ultimate survival.

## **Setting and Scope:**

Set in the near-future and based in Portland, OR this sci-fi thriller of 101 pages is intended to be moderate budget.

## **Author:**

I have written seven additional feature screenplays and developed three TV pilots, several of which have been PAGE and Screencraft Finalists. I currently reside in Los Gatos, California.