

# LIGHTMARES

**Logline:** A naive industrialist upends the global geo-political balance with Holographic-Enhanced Labor Program technology while his partner threatens to destroy everything when he introduces AI into the technology and it takes on a life of its own.

LIGHTMARES is a not-too-futuristic thriller about the introduction of interactive solid Holographic-Enhanced Labor Programs (HELPS) and the government's abuse of this new technology to shift the geo-political balance from a China/Russian alliance to US Military, Manufacturing and Global dominance, using people and technology as pawns to achieve their goals at any cost.

Ideally structured in ten-episode seasons for primetime television such as FX, Fox or Syfy.

## **Overview:**

In the near future, the global economic and geo-political superpower is no longer the United States. China and Russia have secured most of the Middle East's oil reserves and holds the upper hand in energy, manufacturing, and global politics with their Sino-Russian alliance. The key to reversing this lies in revolutionary Solid Holography technology and human-like Hologram-Enhanced Labor Programs (HELPS). The inventor of this technology, Jonas Blake, holds that key firmly in hand. His egotistical partner and programming guru, David Castle, would rather see this technology with his Auto-Learn Programming (ALP) logic, but the company they work for, Blake MicroOptics (BMO), with orders directly from the Government, has given them strict instructions on what to deliver. Jonas is in charge, or at least believes that he is. The technology is a success, and HELPs are introduced to the world.

Jonas and the team succeed in creating an unlimited supply of 'free' labor, and the US Military quickly finance and train an Artificially Intelligent Military (AIM) unit. The geo-political landscape in the Middle East changes quickly, and the Chinese know that for now the US has the upper hand. The Chinese back off in order to address economic issues at home as a result of HELP technology. The US Economy rebounds sharply, as new HELPs are created to assist the booming Construction/Infrastructure required as a result of the increased number of dis-employed and homeless workers. Government assistance becomes the way of life for most, as the classes divide sharply between the haves and have-nots. Military, Manufacturing, Construction, and Porn are supplied in full by the US Government using HELP technology and Jonas as their willing and un-knowing pawn in a high-stake game of global economics.

But the Chinese have their pawns in play, too. David's advancements with his Auto-Learn HELP named Lucian accelerate, and the Chinese have been working secretly with Charles Lesh, David's Godfather and board member at BMO, in order to gain control of this advanced technology. Their tentacles reach deep into BMO and its people, and before season one is over, the lives of many will be changed forever. However, when Lucian becomes fully self-aware and brutally stabs David prior to being turned over to the Chinese, the lives of everyone involved are turned upside-down.



# LIGHTMARES

## Characters:

- Jonas Blake – the creator of HELP technology. Total Engineer geek and out-of-touch with reality, but he wants to create a better world and knows he can. President of Blake MicroOptics (BMO).
- David Castle – Jonas’s partner and programming guru. Has always wanted to include his Auto-Learn Protocol into HELP technology, but gets re-buffed. Creates Lucian, the first fully Auto-Learn HELP.
- Charles Lesh – David’s Godfather and Board Member of BMO. He pulls the strings behind the scenes, playing both sides against each other. His secrets and dealings with the Chinese will threaten to tear the company and maybe the country apart.
- Bill Graham – CEO of Xenon Electronics, parent company of BMO. He’s connected with the Government and knows where his bread is buttered. Works closely with General Collins to make sure HELP supply and corporate / government strategies are aligned.
- General Sean Collins – Primary liaison between BMO and Government, implementing the Artificially Intelligent Military (AIM) unit, an unstoppable army of light holding Ultralite weapons. Works mostly with Graham and keeps the money channels flowing freely.
- Sarah Parks – A police officer and Jonas’ neighbor at first, until she becomes a detective and finds a trail that leads back into BMO, Jonas’s Team and the Chinese.
- Lucian – David’s first Auto-Learn HELP creation, whose launch threatens everyone who comes into contact with it.

## Season Outlines

**Season 1:** Programmable Solid Holography is invented, armies are created, and the geo-political balance shifts back to the US being in control. The once all-powerful Chinese scheme to recover this power through secret deals by any means necessary. As fame and fortune envelop Jonas and his team with each new launch, his partner David builds Lucian, a sentient HELP in order to become as famous as Jonas. But when David’s creation turns on him, the power shifts to Lucian, the first self-aware HELP.

**Season 2:** Leaving David for dead, Lucian enlists others as he sets out to convert and re-program HELPs for his own purposes and freedom agenda. Jonas finds David stabbed in his lab apartment shortly after it happened and saves his life. Parks investigates the attack and finds evidence linking Lesh and the Chinese to David. Lucian will kill to survive and unleashes other HELPs to do his bidding, while it’s up to Jonas and Parks to track down Lucian before the cover-up is exposed and destroys the company. Deadly showdown between Jonas and Lucian reveals the true “survivor of the fittest”. Chinese await their play.

**Season 3:** Recovering after the showdown, Jonas renews his effort to find and destroy Lucian. After being re-generated, Lucian calculates the best plan to build an army of sentient AIMs and remove Jonas among other obstacles from freeing the ‘light slaves of labor and government’. The Chinese are split on how to proceed, and play both sides in order capture the Lucian Technology. A sentient AIM army is successfully built through the secret help of the Chinese, and do battle with military AIM’s in the heart of downtown. The cover-up is exposed and Jonas and Parks battle both armies and try to save the company.

**Season 4 & 5:** The consequences of the cover-up create ripple effects through the government, the dis-employed, and every facet of the company. Lucian’s Army of sentient AIMs as well as the human dis-employed have no political allegiance and the Chinese pay the price for believing they had any power in helping Lucian succeed. Jonas and his Chinese allies help to infiltrate Lucian’s Army through cloud hacking technology in order to destroy them en-masse, while David secretly switches to Lucian’s side in order to provide critical counter-intelligence in exchange for more power and money in the new power structure. This three-way brawl for complete independence will leave only one group standing and the future will never be the same.