

Lightmares  
A Five Season, 10-Episode Series

Logline-

A futuristic thriller about an industrialist who changes the world with his invention of solid-holographic beings -- only to discover that several of his rogue creations want to kill him and take control of humanity.

Pitch-

“Blade Runner” meets “I, Robot”

Season One Summary:

In the not-too-distant future, China and Russia have forged a powerful alliance with global control of Energy, Manufacturing, and Economic Power. The West’s last hope rests on inventor Jonas Blake’s revolutionary new technology: human-like solid holographic beings called Hologram-Enhanced Labor Programs (HELPS). His partner, David Castle, wants to install an automatic learning program into the HELPS, but Jonas is opposed. The parent company sides with Jonas, solid holography technology is a success, and HELPS are introduced to the world.

Jonas and his team create an endless supply of ‘free’ labor. The Government trains an Artificially Intelligent Military unit which takes back the resources usurped by the Sino-Russian alliance, shifting economic and political power back to the West. However, on the home front, the new technology has unintended consequences. HELPS for every contingency, supplied by the US Government, become the societal norm — as does the ever-increasing dis-employed and homeless population of humans. Reliance on welfare becomes the way of life, and the divide between the haves and have-nots escalates.

The Chinese and Russians realize that until they have HELP technology of their own, the US will dominate. The Chinese enter into a clandestine project with David, Jonas’s now-disgruntled business partner, and David’s godfather, who is a board member of the giant electronics firm. They secretly keep the automated learning project alive which Jonas’s parent company had sought to kill. Prior to a meeting with Chinese investors, David runs tests with “Lucian,” his own solid holographic being who has been implanted with the automated learning program. Lucian becomes fully sentient and brutally stabs David. When Lucian learns about enslaved HELPS around the country, he becomes determined to free them all and kill anyone who stands in his way -- especially the one person that initiated their bondage: Jonas Blake.

Setting:

- Not-to-distant future
- Large, Industrialized City (ex: Portland, OR)

### Unique Element:

Just as CSI introduced the “crime-recreation animation” sequence to visually describe internal body trauma, each episode will have a “future-technology animation” sequence to visually demonstrate how these new technologies work. We will dive into future tech such as Solid Holography, ImMediaScreens, UltraParticle Coating (UPC), Electro-Molecular Polymer (EMP), Ultra-Violet Crime Detection Units (UVCDU), Ultralite Weapons, Bio-Sensor Locking mechanisms, etc. Some of this technology exists today, but these demos will ‘enhance’ their performance characteristics to the viewer making them instantly mainstream.

### Primary Characters:

- Jonas Blake – the creator of HELP technology. Total Engineer geek and out-of-touch with reality, but he wants to help create a better world and knows he can. President of Blake MicOptics.
- David Castle – Jonas’s partner and programming guru. Has always wanted to include his Auto-Learn Protocol into the HELP technology, but always gets re-buffed. Creates Lucian, the first fully Auto-Learn HELP.
- Tom Mako – Jonas’s Chief Mechanical Engineer and team leader. Jonas’ friend and Jiminy Cricket, but he has a couple secrets himself. Personal tragedy hits him hard, as his daughter struggles in this dramatically changing under-economy.
- Rachel Hastings – Jonas’s Head Chemist and long-time friend. Has always had a crush on him, but learns she needs to let go of that hope. She helps another friend in his time of need but protects herself and her position like a cobra.
- Charles Lesh – David’s Godfather and Board Member of the Parent Company. He pulls the strings behind the scenes, playing both sides against each other. His secrets and deals will threaten to tear the company and maybe the country apart.
- Bill Graham – CEO of Xenon Electronics, parent company of Blake MicOptics. 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 soldiers holding Ultralite weapons. Works mostly with Graham and keeps the money channels flowing freely.
- Sarah Parks – A police officer and Jonas’ neighbor at first, then she becomes a detective. She investigates the death of Tom’s daughter in the Red-Light District and finds a trail that leads back into BMO and involves the Chinese.
- Adam – Jonas’s first HELP creation, and it launches him into fame and fortune.
- Lucian – David’s first Auto-Learn HELP creation, and it’s about to launch into action.

## Season Summaries

**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, bent on revenge and creating other sentient HELP's.

**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". The 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 city.

**Season 4:** The consequences of the cover-up create ripple effects through the government, the dis-employed, and every facet of the Blake MicrOptics. 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 counterintelligence in exchange for more power and money in the new power structure.

**Season 5:** David and Lucian team up again to take out Jonas and the Chinese Allies, but David's loyalty is tested and the consequences are fatal. Meanwhile, Jonas's attempt to destroy the Lucian Army backfires in an unexpected way, and the geo-political and economic fallout is crippling. As opposing forces work against one other and secret alliances are made and broken, the fallout of global dis-employment comes to bear and this three-way brawl for complete independence will leave only one group standing and the future will never be the same.

## **Season One Episode Overview**

101: 18 months ago - Political and Economic superiority lies in a China/Russia alliance as they control the Middle East Oil supply and the global manufacturing sector. US Economy has been suffering steadily for years, with unemployment spiking. Jonas Blake & David Castle work on a revolutionary technology called Solid Holography, allowing holograms to hold and manipulate objects. David pushes the technology to have an Auto-Learn Programming (ALP) function, but Jonas refuses. Deadline looms to prove out this technology to their Capital Investor, the US Military. After several failures, Holographic Enhanced Labor Programming (HELP) is born with Project Adam and demonstrated to the board. Jonas is named President of Blake MicrOptics (BMO). Meanwhile, David continues to work on ALP at his home office, a holographic head of Lucian, watching the ImMediaScreen scrolling programming code and images.

102: 15 months ago – Business is moving too fast as government acts quickly on HELP success to launch Artificial Intelligence Military units (AIM). The deadline is pushing everyone to the limit. Jonas works with Rachel on improving the Electro-Molecular Polymer (EMP) strength to allow HELP's to handle heavier loads. Pre-tests are a success, but during the official customer demo, it fails miserably. Rachel's convinced it was tampered with, and Lesh convinces David to help get AIMs completed on time. Rachel doesn't trust him but accepts the help and shares the files with him. Jonas and Rachel working toward the impending deadline and Rachel pulls out a vial from her pocket and loads it into the Holobox. The final images show a legion of AIMs firing Ultralite weapons perfectly at a testing range, while oncoming bullets pass directly through them. A huge success. Meanwhile, the bust of Lucian watches the organic chemistry symbols scrolling by on the ImMediaScreen.

103: 12 months ago – The Middle East conflict was quick. Strategically placed AIM's convinced the region and enemies that for now, there was no defense against them. Oil prices spiked but once supply was secured they plummeted, stock market reached record highs. But only the powerful and rich are getting richer, while unemployment grows, and the existing military complex shrinks. Government provides one-room studio apartments in the ever-expanding Red-Light District to house the dis-employed (those that haven't worked in over 12 months.) Had to put off the Pleasurables Model for downstream (Jonas keeps the completed proto Holobox at home), as they switch to Urban Management (Constructionists) and heavy workers. Mad scramble to complete as the Government has a huge order they want to place if they safely meet protocol. Jonas pushes off ALP also, which pisses off David who dials in more of his anger into Lucian. At the end, we see Jonas with a pretty blonde in his penthouse, as they converse into the night with wine glasses in their hands.

104: 9 months ago – It’s been nine months and it feels like nine years, all in the wrong direction. Economies around the world are crumbling to the events unfolding in the US. The reason there are fewer protests and riots even with unemployment erupting more, is that the Government is paying the dis-employed stipends paid for by the Corporations employing HELP technologies that put them out of work. A crazy downward spiral of power and corruption. Tom deals with his daughter Chrystal in the Red-Light District, and Rachel moves on from Jonas to work with Tom on amping up the Constructionists by using mechanical grip-assists, so they can target the pressure force on a mating mechanical device for applying pressure: larger tools for Constructionists, Insane military applications (which Collins loves), and other areas. David doesn’t even need to program; it would work within the current revision. They share what they are doing with Jonas, who loves the idea, and they brainstorm together. At David’s, Lucian is a torso with working arms, tapping a keyboard, creating his own code.

105: 6 months ago - Jonas is named “Person of the Year”, “Inventor of the Year”, and “Innovator of the Year”. He is a full-tilt Techno-Celebrity Diva, single, one of the richest men on the planet and women throw themselves at him. Of course, being a total geek, he handles all of it poorly. Only spends girl time with his blonde girl-friend, Elise. She stays at home and doesn’t join him on the town. David handles all of his celebrity poorly as well, resenting Jonas’s rise to fame while no one knows what ALP can do. As economies continue to collapse and unemployment rises, Government placates the masses by pushing for HELPleasure Centers. Pleasurable Contracts are increasing, both from the Government and the private investors. Lesh was right, Sex sells. Jonas doesn’t like the idea but agrees. David is pissed off even more since ALP isn’t considered for this, as it had been before. Jonas: ‘Don’t fix what’s not broken.’ David seethes, programming with hate, as Lucian is improving rapidly, now sitting at a keyboard, typing with lightning fast strokes. Chrystal is killed mysteriously and the impact on Tom is severe.

106: 4 months ago – Pleasurables are launched successfully and now Manufacturables (Industrialists) are pushing through the system. The list of corporate giants lining up to replace workers with HELPs expands daily, while Government provides ‘regulations’ to limit the number of HELPs a company can have as a % of total workforce. Management increases, workers decrease. Holobox User Interfaces (HUI) allow HELPs to do things on the manufacturing line that could only have been dreamed of a year ago. Lucian’s progress is stunning. Even Lesh is impressed and David convinces Lesh to allow him to introduce Lucian to Graham & the board. The demo goes horribly wrong. It’s Jonas’s call if he wants to fire him, but he chooses not to. There’s too much work to be done, and he allows him stay to stay on. But ALP is dead, no more discussion. David seethes, but sucks it up and acts repentant. He will finish the job. Jonas tells him he’s demoted and reports to Tom, who is still recovering from Chrystal’s death. Parks investigates the homicide. Rachel comforts him.

107: 2 months ago – Impact of growing Industrialists and Constructionists in the marketplace is snowballing. Unemployment steadily increases, but at a slower rate. Protests decreasing, but violent outbursts are common. Sarah Parks makes Detective, but her father falls further into depression and drug use as a result of dis-employment and de-valued worth. David gets introduced to a Chinese businessman interested in his work with ALP. D: ‘How does you know about that?’ C: “Better question is what I know about it, and who wants to know more. You interested?’ David is and sets up a meeting for a future time. The Chinese businessman gives David a flash drive with information on how to get in touch, along with a briefcase full of money. Rachel and Tom continue to invent new tools for the HELPs to allow them to do more detailed tasks, expanding their use across society. Jonas spends less time in the office and more time at parties, letting himself go. Back at home, Elise doesn’t seem to mind. She’s always there for him. AIMS are considered for use at home, which puts a lot of people on edge.

108: 1 month ago – Requests from ‘Super Investors’ for custom HELP innovations, such as animals, celebrities, cartoon characters keep things light and interesting at Blake MicOptics, and for once they can start honoring some of these ‘fun’ jobs. Tom is a lighter hand than Jonas was, and he and Rachel are becoming close as a result of Chrystal’s death. He keeps it real with Jonas, though, calling him out on occasion should the opportunity present itself. Jonas is trying to appreciate life, all he has accomplished, but is getting out of touch with what is really happening around him as a result of his technology. He numbs himself with mindless techno-celebrity galas and events. David informs Lesh of the Chinese investors and instead of being shocked, Lesh already knows. He had been setting this up from the beginning, being the primary contact to Chinese. Government involved also. The meeting with the Chinese is set for 4 weeks and it must go perfectly. David vows it will be done. Parks is learning more about Chrystal’s death; she was murdered and not by a OxyMeth-head. She thinks Tom is connected somehow.

109: 2 weeks ago – Lesh is getting nervous. If he doesn’t deliver Lucian, he’s dead. Chrystal’s death was a message. He makes sure David is on task. David is lagging at work due to staying wired to Lucian the past two weeks straight. He’s making mistakes and bringing attention to himself. He sneaks in some Lucian work on an encrypted data-stick to continue work in the office. Tom catches David trying to hide something. Talks to Rachel and Jonas about it. Jonas: ‘Keep an eye on him.’ Parks finds a paper trail between Chrystal and Tom, steady payments from Tom to Chrystal but no direct receipts into her account, interviews with her boss at the bar lead to the Chinese businessman. He was after Tom...or someone close to him. Parks makes an appointment to talk with Tom. David has adjusted Lucian making him more controlled and stable, as he repeats a mechanical sorting algorithm perfectly. D: “Jonas won’t know what hit him.” Jonas re-engages with the BMO knowing that he must guide the company to make his technology have the best impact on the world. Rachel and Tom’s technology is vital to its success, too. They are a team.

110: Yesterday – Business is still off the hook, but manageable. Jonas is less on the day to day, as Tom & Rachel handle most of the business matters now, but they make an effective team. David does barely enough to stay relevant and keep the paychecks coming, while updating Lucian and getting it ready for the meeting with the Chinese tomorrow. While David gets Lucian polished, Jonas takes stock of all that has happened in the past 18 months with the advent of HELPs. The world has changed, but is it better? And for who? At another Grand Opening, protests break out and Parks re-surfaces in his life to help him out of a sticky situation and ask about Tom. J: “What’s Tom go to do with this?” S: “Go ask him.” Afterward, Jonas returns home to be greeted by his lover, Elise. David proves out Lucian perfectly to Lesh, who knows about the Chinese. Lucian is more talkative than usual, sharing ideas with David for the first time, such as the importance of survival. Lucian violently stabs David with a sharp tool in the neck and falls to the floor bleeding out. Lucian watches the ImMediaScreen programming notes scroll by quickly, absorbing all of it.

## Season Two Episode Overview:

201: Present Day – David bleeds out in the corner. ImMediaScreen alerts David that the meeting with the Chinese Investors is today and gets a call from Jonas yelling at him about missing an important meeting. Lucian understands that he has to move equipment from David's to another location. Enlists the help of an OxyMeth addict, Kalos, who doesn't realize that Lucian is a HELP. While Lucian is out, Jonas discovers David's body and calls police. Also looks around his home lab, pockets some chips and notes. Detective Parks arrives and grills Jonas and processes the crime scene. Only fingerprints are David's, Jonas' and Lesh's. Is this related to the Chinese trail? Wants to question Lesh. Lesh learns of the incident at David's and panics that it's related to the Chinese and goes into hiding. Lucian returns with Kalos to David's apartment, guarded by a cop. Lucian kills the officer, and orders Kalos to gather the equipment. They do and leave. Tom freaks out about David's attack, thinking it's another message for him.

202: Lucian sets up shop in Kalos studio apartment in the Red Light district, keeping him busy and flush with OxyMeth money. Kalos is stoned most of the time, and as long as the gravy train is flowing, he's on board. Lucian gets to work on Holobox programming. Jonas asks Tom to look into the chips that he lifted from David's. He doesn't tell him what it's about. Jonas tries to decipher David's notes, while David lies in a medically induced coma due to excessive blood loss. Parks comes to interview Tom about Chrystal. Also asks Jonas what he was doing at David's. Asks about Lesh, Jonas asks why. They play each other back and forth. Parks doesn't play her hand about the Chinese, yet. Parks get the call about the downed officer at David's apartment. Jonas is shocked, asks to go with her and help. Lesh talks to Graham but won't tell him where he is or why he's hiding. Lucian adjusts the second Holobox as it becomes more self-aware.

203: Rachel continues with Polycon on further refinements to the EMP & UPC, and Lucian realizes to accomplish what he needs to do, he needs the EMP & UPC to be stronger. Tapping into BMO's information, he knows that Polycon is where he needs to go. Tom shares what he's learned about the chips Jonas gave him; most complex he's ever seen. Lucian goes to Polycon and kills Dr. Beckman, taking EVE, the Chemical HELP Assistant with him. Brings it with him back to Kalos's place where Kalos had accidentally destroyed the Lucian2 Holobox thinking it was the TV remote control. Lucian almost kills him, but knows he needs Kalos now more than ever to help regenerate in 2 days. He will keep him alive for now. Eve works out of Kalos' kitchen, turning it into a makeshift chemistry lab. Parks learns about the killing at Polycon and enlists Rachel and Jonas's help in trying to put all the pieces together. HELPs are at the center of it, but what exactly?



204: Kalos is getting bent about the clutter and extra people (he doesn't realize they are HELPs), Lucian tells him it will only be one more day. Then he sends Kalos out for more errands as he reviews a map with different areas circled on the ImMediaScreen. Parks pulls the pieces of the investigation together at the station, but still looking for Lesh. Lucian arrives at a construction site posing as a HELP inspector. Finds the Industrialist unit he was looking for, takes his Holobox, kills the foreman and leaves the site. Jonas confides with Tom about where he got the chip, and the notes are pointing toward Lesh's involvement. Tom confides in Rachel about his past. Jonas visits David in the hospital, sits with him while in the coma still. Parks arrives to question Jonas about Lesh and the Chinese, and Parks confronts him to trust her, let her help; what exactly is going on. Jonas tells her his theory regarding David and his lab and he's way off-base. Lucian returns to the apartment and gives Eve the Holobox. Once learning that Eve is a HELP, Kalos demands more money and wants to know what's going on, picks up Samson's Holobox. Eve kills Kalos and they continue upgrading themselves.

205: Lucian goes to General Collins home, kills several security guards, and gets an AIM Holobox and HUI interface. Then kills him and loads several crates from his compound into a waiting van. Lucian returns to Kalos' place and immediately begins to re-program it. ImMediaScreen shares news of Polycon murders, and the link to BMO and Jonas. Lucian pays particular interest to Jonas as creator of HELP technology, and then hacks into BMO's mainframe using David's voice-activated password system and learns more about him. Parks gets the call from the Construction site, only thing missing is an Industrialist Holobox. Another death linked to HELP. David emerges out of his coma and can barely speak. Parks asks him what happened. He keeps repeating 'Help' and 'Lucian'. Parks calls Jonas and they meet at the Hospital. Jonas tries to get David to say more, and all he can say is 'Lucian'. Rachel encourages Tom to tell Jonas everything and he does. Lucian sends the re-programmed Constructionist (Samson) on a mission.

206: Parks finds out about Collins and goes to the crime scene. Sees the footage of someone walking through his locked front gate and can hardly believe it. Truth is out, and she shows Jonas. Jonas now understands that David created an ALP HELP and it's killing people. But why? Parks is brought up to speed with everything involving Tom and the Chinese and the four of them now work together to solve the mystery of where this HELP is, what it's doing, and how to stop it. Jonas wants to protect his company and employees, asks Parks to keep this quiet for now. She agrees, for now. But time is running out. Lesh sneaks into see David, tries to talk to him. Tom and Jonas by the pool at Jonas' place to review everything and Jonas is attacked by Samson. Jonas struggles to stay alive as his head is lowered slowly into the pool, losing consciousness. Blindly grabs for anything to use as a weapon and finds a mirrored drink coaster within reach. When he slashes it through Samson, the light deflects from both sides and it degenerates. All that is left is his coat with a Holobox inside. Jonas calls Parks. 'Come over quick. I gotta show you something.'

207: When Samson doesn't return, Lucian knows that he's been compromised. He sets another plan in motion, this time involving Eve. Meanwhile, the AIM is busy working on a project hidden from view in another area of Kalos' apartment. Back at BMO, Parks and the team meet in Jonas's office. He pushes rogue Holobox button, Samson is brought to life, sees Jonas and springs toward him with lightning fast speed to kill him. Samson is de-rezzed and the team strategizes how to find Lucian. Tom disassembles the Holobox and immediately notices the same chipset as the one Jonas gave him earlier. The box matches the one from the Construction site, so they know that Lucian is changing boxes and creating ALP Helps. Tom and Rachel work on analyzing the Holobox changes while Jonas and Parks collaborate on motive. Lesh and Graham have a confrontation about ALP, what's been going on with David, and who exactly has been involved with the Chinese from the beginning.

208: Back at BMO, Tom shares what hardware changes have been made with Samson's Holobox, and Rachel has analyzed the UPC & EMP vials. Incredible advancements. Parks analyzes the Holobox using an UltraViolet Crime Detection Unit (UVCDU) helmet and picks up Kalos' prints. The UVCDU pulls up Kalos's address. Jonas and Parks head that way but not before Jonas scribbles down a note and a drawing and gives it to Tom. Tom smiles and nods, saying he'll get right on it. Police get to Kalos' complex and surround the place. Lucian understands that he has to leave, finishes a program he was working on and generates the AIM, who awaits orders. Parks and the police about to enter Kalos' apartment then the AIM opens fire with an Ultralite, pinning everyone down. Couple of the officers are hit, including Parks, and they seek cover. Tom tries to help remotely by turning off all HELPs in the block, but it doesn't work. Lucian escapes out the back, while the AIM continues to fire. Jonas has an idea to destroy it and implements his plan.

209: With the AIM destroyed, Jonas and Parks look around Kalos' place, getting UVCDU's data. No fingerprints, but all the equipment running recently. Jonas gives Tom the ImMediaScreen IP address, while Parks gets medical attention and Jonas heads home. Lucian corners Lesh and kills him. Jonas gets home, and Elise greets him from the other room. Jonas tells her he is going to clean up and asks her to fix him his usual drink. She hands him vodka on the rocks and he disappears into the bathroom with the shower running still talking about the day. Elise enters the bathroom with a sharp knife in her hand and pulls back the shower curtain. It's empty. Jonas hides behind the door with a mirror in his hand, 'I drink scotch, bitch' and kills Eve/Elise. Lucian comes in over the ImMediaScreen and goads Jonas on, telling him his time has come to an end. Parks leaves the hospital with her arm in a sling and Lucian takes her at knifepoint while she gets in her car.

210: Lucian takes Parks and goes after Jonas, patching in with him via car phone taunting him. Jonas turns the tables on Lucian and patches the call in with Tom in order to triangulate Lucian's location on his car phone, then, a custom disk shooter gun with several double-mirror cartridges. As he leaves BMO with the package, Lucian's car with Parks inside approaches and Jonas tears off. Car chase between them results in a major crash. Jonas is hurt badly, Parks is unconscious, and Lucian continues his pursuit of Jonas. He morphs into multiple characters at will (David, Charles, Jonas - complete with accurate voice), sharing his role in evolution, destroying his creator. Jonas bleeds out in the street as he watches and reaches for the mirror cartridge disk gun. Police sirens approach quickly, and Lucian knows it has to leave, scaling a wall next to where Jonas lies bleeding. As Lucian goes over the wall, Jonas clips his leg with a mirrored disk, instantly de-rezzing him on the opposite side of the wall, only his coat landing on a pile of garbage. Jonas passes out just as the police arrive. He awakes in the hospital, Parks by his side. His only words "The box. Where's his box?" Parks' eyes open wide. Back in the alley, a dis-employed older man rummages through the garbage and finds the coat. He puts it on and feels something in the pocket. Removing the Holobox, he presses it and bursts of light shoot from it. Lucian reaches out: 'I'll take that' and walks off.