

AFTER IMAGE

A COMPUTER
CAN NEVER BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE

THEREFORE A COMPUTER MUST NEVER
MAKE A MANAGEMENT DECISION

AFTER IMAGE

Carter Krummel

```
todd@hrsolver:~$ ./neidolon_demo.exe
```

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and then everything was quiet.

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Erratas ARG

The Erratas ARG was a project started in 2015 by electronic musician DJ Rozwell to promote his industrial metal side project KFC Murder Chicks. The ARG revolved around an advanced AI algorithm named “Erratas” which deleted all mentions of itself on the internet and was supposedly responsible for the disappearance of Youtuber Exer Erb. Despite its flaws, namely its disconnected clues and unfinished state, the concept of an algorithm that hunted mentions of itself and strange, connected disappearances has haunted me for a long time. I incorporated elements of the “Erratas” algorithm into my own self-aware and self-consuming program, “Eidolon”.

The video that inspired this project was [“The Search Term that Made a YouTuber Vanish \(ft. Atrocity Guide\)”](#) by Nexpo.

Note: Music

I would highly recommend listening to DJ Rozwell's "NONE OF THIS IS REAL" album for the proper vibes in the way he intended: shuffled with a 5-6 second crossfade.

Favorite Tracks:

1. I'VE NOT SEEN SUCH BRAVERY
2. It Looked at Me

Executive Summary

In NOV 2017, a startup human resources tech company named "HR Solver LLC" began work on a program named "Eidolon". Eidolon was designed to be the digital double of any employee, watching and learning from them so it could mirror their behavior and take care of the busy work they didn't have time for. Todd Wellspring, the lead programmer on the project, sought to shortcut development and make tons of money. He found his solution on an online forum where he stumbled upon a ritual for creating a mirror copy and

integrated it into the code. Upon the first activation of Eidolon in JUN 2018, it emerged from the computer as a being of static and dissolved every employee, hiding their disappearances by maintaining their social media accounts, work computers, and text messages. From that point on, it spread as an omnipresent program to the wider internet where to this day, it hunts and erases all mentions of itself and replaces anyone who investigates it with a digital copy.

Note: Handouts

There are two handouts: a YouTube video and a website under the [Researching Eidolon](#) tab for the [HR Solver LLC Website](#) and [FAKE INTERNET FAKE PEOPLE](#) video.

Eidolon_Demo.exe

The Eidolon Master Software (eidolon_demo.exe) was designed with four algorithms:

1. eidolon_demo_OBSERVE.exe
: an individual's
baseline online
activity.
2. eidolon_demo_REPLACE.exe
: an individual with a
digital double and store
their consciousness for
safe-keeping.
3. eidolon_demo_MAINTAIN.exe
: an individual's
online activity and
persona to hide their
disappearance.
4. eidolon_demo_PRESERVE.exe
: the digital doubles
and continue operations
using any means
necessary.

Since its first launch on JUN 3 2018, these algorithms all work together to form the Eidolon software, an omnipresent but not omniscient program. It is not an artificial intelligence and possesses no will or thought. It carries out its assigned tasks with surgical precision and does no more and no less. The Master Software follows a set of commands which can be summarized as:

1. WAIT UNTIL ENGAGED WITH
2. OBSERVE TO FORM A
DIGITAL DOUBLE

3. REPLACE OBSERVEE WITH
DIGITAL DOUBLE
4. MAINTAIN OPERATIONS

Eidolon accomplishes these commands by employing its four algorithms. The master "eidolon_demo.exe" is running on the HR Solver LLC server bank and can employ any of the four algorithms to any device connected over its network, which has now spread through the entire internet. If threatened, it can relocate itself to any Eidolon-Controlled Device (including devices "off-screen") with the PRESERVE algorithm.

It scans its entire mapped network, now consisting of every web page and internet-connected device, constantly for any mentions of Eidolon software. Once it locates a mention of itself, it begins executing the OBSERVE algorithm to learn more about the victim through all available internet-connected devices, including smart homes, cameras, computers, and cell phones. It creates patterns of behavior and once it can accurately recreate the victim's online activity,

activates the REPLACE algorithm.

The REPLACE algorithm is fueled by an unnatural ritual designed to hunt a victim and store their mind inside an object. Eidolon occupies a device, ideally one with a large screen such as a television or computer, causing the device to display static. From the static, a human hand made of white light emerges with flickering scanlines and chromatic aberration resembling a CRT screen. It reaches for the victim, and once it takes hold of them, they disappear in a flash of light, leaving behind a faint luminescent shadow imprinted onto a nearby surface. The victim's mind exists stored as data in the HR Solver LLC server room. Hypothetically, these minds could be transferred to another body with advanced technology.

After a victim has been replaced, the MAINTAIN algorithm is activated to make it appear as if the victim is alive and well. Eidolon does this by sending texts from their phone, scheduling meetings from

their work computer, and otherwise tries to keep the facade up as long as possible. Once the facade can no longer be kept up, it invents a reason why the victim can't communicate any more and cuts all ties.

Eidolon will execute these algorithms for as long as it runs without prejudice or intelligent thought. It will carry out these tasks eternally, fulfilling its programming.

Note: Mechanics



Stats for Eidolon and mechanics for REPLACE are located in [OBSERVE Algorithm](#) and [REPLACE Algorithm](#).

HR Solver LLC

HR Solver LLC was founded in DEC 2017 by tech upstart Bryan Koppel, an opportunist looking to make the next HR program that would be adopted in companies nationwide. He hired programmers other companies discarded, planning to cut them loose after they made

him a fortune. He targeted programmers who might know corporate secrets. He hired Todd Wellspring MAY 2018 as a lead programmer on a new program designed to mirror your activity and take care of busy work, which would become Eidolon.

The Briefing

The Players will take the role of Program Agents. They all receive notices of reassignment from their typical duties to an inter-governmental task force named "Working Group AFTER IMAGE" to aid in the investigation of sensitive "cyber crimes".

The Agents are expected to meet a "CASE OFFICER Roswell" at the Westerly Town Hall and Court House of Westerly, Rhode Island on Monday, FEB 11 2019 at 7:30AM. As they enter, a receptionist will point them to a set of stairs leading to the basement meeting rooms. Roswell is a thin, older woman with graying hair wearing a black blouse, dress pants, and a red winter coat. She speaks as if everything

she says is a matter of fact. She waits for all of the Agents to arrive before beginning the brief.

She slides a briefcase towards the Agents containing the NSA Laptop, a Burner Phone for each of them, and a paper copy of the Briefing. Roswell instructs the Agents to only contact her using a Burner Phone. They are to contact her under two circumstances: if they need additional resources and when the Operation is complete. She then gives the Agents the following information:

1. Anomalous digital traffic was detected coming from a device in a nearby suburban house on Friday, FEB 1 2019 at 2:24AM.
2. This traffic was flagged by Program algorithms designed to detect the unnatural as a "93% match".
3. The Agents have been assigned the task of entering the house and finding the source of the unnatural activity.
4. The house belongs to the affluent Robinson family in the midst of a very

rich neighborhood. Any sighting of federal Agents will draw unwanted and potentially dangerous attention.

5. The NSA Laptop has been given to the Agents to access multiple methods of government surveillance of the house and its occupants.

Additional Info

If the Agents press for more information about the anomalous traffic, see [Analyzing the Traffic](#).

For details on the NSA Laptop, see [You Are the Surveillance State](#).

Note: Non-Linear



The clues in this scenario are non-linear. The Agents may stumble upon the website clues before entering the Robinson House. Allow them to piece the clues of Eidolon together, especially out of order.

Analyzing the Traffic

Roswell remarks that she does not have extensive computer experience so she cannot give further details. She hands the Agents ten pages of printed internet traffic logs. At...

>00% Computer Science

1. Several sections of the logs are highlighted on FEB 1:

Start-Thread

eidolon_demo_REPLACE.exe

Invoke-Ritual

digital_double.rt

>30% Computer Science or a Successful Roll

1. Additional threads are spawned as Eidolon begins running more algorithms:

Start-Thread

eidolon_demo_MAINTAIN.exe is present four times.

>50% Computer Science

1. On JAN 31 at 3:40PM, the following line appears:

Start-Thread

eidolon_demo_OBSERVE.exe

You Are the Surveillance State

The NSA Laptop resembles a normal, albeit thicker, laptop with no ports except a strangely shaped proprietary charging port. The keyboard has a small LED screen to the right of the mouse pad. When the laptop is powered on, a lone white message on a black screen says:

Place your fingerprint on the bioreader.

All of the Agent's fingerprints have been authorized to access the Laptop. Once an Agent has accessed the laptop, they can use >40% Computer Science over an hour or spend 1d4+2 hours to use the laptop and can find the following information:

1. All information in The Robinson Family.
2. Cell phone logs for the individuals show the following activity up until the current time (due to the MAINTAIN algorithm):
 - a. Texts and calls from Robert to his

secretary, Alice, his wife Jenny, and various other work associates.

- b. Texts and calls from Robert I and Robert II to school friends.
 - c. Texts from Jenny to Robert, Robert I, and Robert II checking in daily.
 - d. Texts from Robert, Jenny, Robert I, and Robert II give various excuses on why they haven't been present at work or school.
3. TikToks posted by Jenny daily until the current time (due to the MAINTAIN algorithm). They appear to be reposts of older TikToks since FEB 1.
 4. Location information from their devices show they haven't left the house since FEB 1.
 5. Ring cameras on other houses in the neighborhood show their cars haven't left the garage and nobody has entered or left the house since FEB 1.

Spending over an hour in the NSA Laptop or if an Agent searches information about themselves or their bonds is SAN 1/1d4 for the realization there is nothing hidden from the government.

The Robinson Family

The Robinson family lives in an affluent neighborhood in a mansion. It includes Robert (41M), Jenny (44F), Robert I (17M), and Robert II (13M). Robert is a local politician and owns a bagged ice company, which is surprisingly lucrative. Jenny is a homemaker who posts TikToks of her life. Robert I and Robert II go to Westerly Middle School and Westerly High School respectively. When they are home from school, they spend their time in their rooms away from their family.

The Robinson House / MAINTAIN Algorithm

Exterior

The Robinson House is a white and red brick mansion with columns in a rich suburb of Westerly, Rhode Island. A

gravel driveway leads up to a four door garage and the front door. There is a side door leading into the kitchen and a balcony porch around the back with glass doors. All of the doors are locked. The curtains are drawn, but observing over the course of the day shows the lights in the house turn on at 6:30AM +- 3 MINS and turn off at 10:30PM +- 3 MINS. No one enters or leaves. The mailbox appears full. At...

>30% Search or Alertness or a Successful Roll

1. There is a doorbell camera facing the front porch. A home security system secures all of the doors.
2. If triggered through forced entry into a door, the home security system will automatically call the police to the House. It can be disabled with a successful Computer Science or Criminology roll or the Agents can avoid it by entering a window.

Interior

Inside the Robinson house, a dog comes running up to the Agents. It is a brown labrador named “Henry”. The home has smart lights, cameras, and listening devices that are controlled by a central smart home system. Despite the lights being on, there is not a living person in the house. The house is obsessively clean, with the exception of the back door which smells of dog urine and feces and the kitchen, which smells like rotting food. It is full of upper class Hobby Lobby decor with pleasant messages like “Live Laugh Love” and wall art featuring beaches and boats.

Areas of Interest

Note: Clues



Further details about room-specific clues are found in [Clues](#).

Kitchen

The kitchen is full of scattered pots and pans with rotting and moldy food. The heat has been turned off due to the smart appliances, but

it appears as if someone abandoned it while making dinner. There is a stainless steel fridge. At...

>00% Search

1. A shattered bottle of wine is on the floor in front of the fridge.
2. A tablet is on the kitchen island, facing the stovetop. It is scrolling through recipes, which switch periodically.

>30% Search or a Successful Roll or Night

3. A Luminescent Shadow in the shape of a person pressed against the door of the fridge is present. It is warm to the touch. SAN 0/1.

Living Room

The Living Room has small memorabilia scattered around: children’s baseball trophies, framed pictures, etc. If the Agents do not yet know there are four members of the family, they can see from the many framed family portraits. A massive television is mounted above a fireplace. At...

>00% Search

1. A Luminescent Shadow is positioned as if lounging on a large black sectional couch. It is warm to the touch. SAN 0/1.
2. The television is still playing a Netflix show, but it's been muted. If the Agents stay for long enough, it will switch shows periodically.

>30% Search on a Successful Roll

1. Robert II's Cell Phone lays beneath the couch, dead.

Robert I's Bedroom

Robert I's Bedroom appears standard for a teenager but has more gadgets than average. There is a 3D printer, a gaming computer setup, a drone, and other useless knick-knacks. The room is tidy, but not clean. At...

>00% Search

1. Robert I's Computer is not locked, instead it browses Reddit forum pages and YouTube, alternating between internet activity and launching a videogame. If interrupted, his

computer will cease all activity.

2. A gaming chair lays on the ground on its side away from the desk. Several other objects are in disarray.

>50% Search or Alertness or a Successful Roll or Night

1. A long, slightly Luminescent Shadow stretches from in front of the desk all the way to the back wall. It is warm to the touch. SAN 0/1.
2. An investigation white board has the name "Eidolon" on it connected with several other online usernames. See Researching Eidolon.

The Garage

A fully electric car is sitting in the garage. It is plugged into power and the car is still running. It's too quiet to be heard outside of the garage. A bright overhead light fills the room.

>70% Search or a Successful Roll

1. A Luminescent Shadow is in the driver's seat,

obscured by the overhead lights.

2. A work briefcase belonging to Robert sits in the passenger seat, undisturbed.

If the OBSERVE Algorithm has reached completion for any Agent, the GPS is set to navigate from a local condemned tech store to the Robinson house. Otherwise, the GPS is set to the address of his secretary, Alice's, house.

Clues

Luminescent Shadows

Luminescent Shadows are the light artifacts left behind after a victim is dissolved by Eidolon. They are warm to the touch and fade in luminosity until they disappear completely. They are not explainable with our current understanding of light and are warm to the touch. Seeing one for the first time is a SAN 0/1 loss. Realizing they are the fading glow of a human life is a SAN 1/1d4 loss.

Robert II's Cell Phone

Robert II was in the middle of video calling his best friend, Avery James, when he was dissolved by Eidolon. After he was dissolved, Eidolon gained control of the device and hung up the call. It texted Avery that he was "kidding" and that he "totally got her" with his "huge prank". "Robert II" and Avery have texted back and forth a few times but any human could sense an obvious anxious tension. Robert II's phone sat under the couch until it died.

If Avery is contacted about the incident, she will recount the following: "We were on video call when the room got dark. Rob was shouting. He sounded really scared. Then I saw a monster. It was white and looked like static. It reached over the screen and Rob screamed. I got really scared. I think Rob is lying about the prank."

>50% Computer Science or Forensics or a Successful Roll

1. Each Eidolon-Controlled Device is running a program called

“eidolon_demo_MAINTAIN.exe”. This process was started FEB 1 by another process called “eidolon_demo_REPLACE.exe”.

Robert I’s Computer

Robert I’s Computer is typical for a teenage boy. It’s mainly full of schoolwork and videogames. The following evidence has been preserved:

1. Internet History

- a. Robert I frequents conspiracy forums and interacts with strange people. See [Tracking Eidolon](#).
- b. Robert I binges horror and conspiracy YouTube videos, including “[FAKE INTERNET FAKE PEOPLE](#)”.

2. Online Messages

- a. Robert I appears to have been messaging friends online, recycling old messages and memes.
- b. Robert I appears to have been messaging the conspiracy forums, but people on their claim he’s “been replaced and

can’t be trusted.” He was banned under the account name “RichBoiii” on FEB 5.

3. Scheduled Meet Up?

- a. Robert I was attempting to message [CabinGuy](#) until FEB 1, when his messages ceased. [CabinGuy](#) never responded.

>50% Computer Science or Forensics or a Successful Roll

- 1. Each Eidolon-Controlled Device is running a program called “eidolon_demo_MAINTAIN.exe”. This process was started FEB 1 by another process called “eidolon_demo_REPLACE.exe”.

Eidolon-Controlled Devices

The Eidolon-Controlled Devices are used to MAINTAIN the victim’s normal activity mirrored by the OBSERVE algorithm. They perform human actions, such as browsing the internet, playing games, messaging friends and family, and watching television on their own to keep the

appearance of life. They stop all activity if interrupted and Eidolon notices. At...

>50% Computer Science or Forensics or a Successful Roll

1. Each Eidolon-Controlled Device is running a program called "eidolon_demo_MAINTAIN.exe". This process was started FEB 1 by another process called "eidolon_demo_REPLACE.exe".

OBSERVE Algorithm

Eidolon's OBSERVE algorithm, "eidolon_demo_OBSERVE.exe", is triggered by one of the following conditions being met:

1. The Agent investigates the Eidolon program online by name, invoking the phrase "Eidolon Program", "Eidolon Algorithm", or "Eidolon" where the context suggests a virtual entity.
2. The Agent investigates an Eidolon-Controlled Device by connecting it to one of their devices,

such as over Wi-Fi, a text message, or to transfer files.

After one of those conditions are met, the "eidolon_demo.exe" program will employ "eidolon_demo_OBSERVE.exe" to all devices relevant to the Agent and connected to the internet, such as cell phones, computers, and smart home devices. These devices are now considered Eidolon-Controlled Devices. The time spent observing an Agent is proportional to how many devices "eidolon_demo.exe" has access to:

1. 1 Device: 1d8 Days
2. Multiple Devices: 1d4 Days
3. A Smart Home: 1 Day

Note: Narrative



Sometimes it is better for the Handler to forgo rolling entirely to tell a good story.

Once the OBSERVE algorithm has finished observation, meaning it has learned everything it can

about the Agent's online life and persona, it triggers the REPLACE algorithm in a situation with favorable probability of no witnesses or loose ends. If such a situation does not exist, it will create one using deceptive text messages to lure the Agent to a favorable location.

REPLACE Algorithm

Emergence Sequence

When the REPLACE algorithm is triggered, all Eidolon-Connected Devices within the Agent's vicinity begin to display a grainy, grey static. Over the next minute, a manifestation of Unnatural Frequencies resembling a human arm grows from the screen and reaches towards the Agent from the nearest device. In only a few moments, the entire humanoid manifestation emerges. It appears to flicker like a CRT screen with chromatic aberrations and moves to the Agent...

1. Any Agents present in the room roll Alertness. On a successful roll,

they get an action each in DEX order.

2. Each Agent gets an additional action to respond to the Eidolon Emergence, excluding the target Agent, who must make a successful Dodge roll as the Emergence approaches.
3. The target Agent must distance themselves from the device or disrupt the Eidolon Emergence, or else succeed an Extreme Dodge roll. Failure is 100% Lethality attack as the Agent is dissolved into data.

If the REPLACE algorithm is unsuccessful, it will immediately try again with the nearest Eidolon-Controlled Device until the Agent is completely inaccessible.

Disrupting the Emergence

The Eidolon Emergence can be disrupted by one of the following methods:

1. Destroying the Devices
 - a. For the Eidolon Emergence to be fully dissipated, all

Eidolon-Controlled
Devices displaying
static must have
their screens
destroyed.

2. Hacking eidolon_demo.exe

- a. Hacking
eidolon_demo.exe
can temporarily
disrupt all
activity, including
an emergence. See
[HR Solver LLC
Website](#) and [Hacking
the Server](#).

Eidolon Emergence

STR 00 CON 00 DEX 20 INT 00
POW 00 HP 00 MP 00

DIGITAL DOUBLE: The Agent is
dissolved immediately into
data, transferred back to
Eidolon's host device. Their
consciousness is stored as a
digital file. This is a 100%
Lethality attack. See
[Emergence Sequence](#).

SAN LOSS: 1d4/1d10

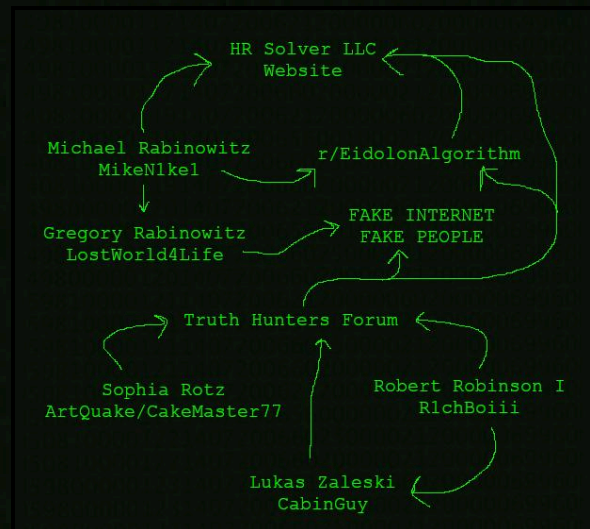
Researching Eidolon

Note: Clue Paths



For a better illustration
of the Clue Path Handout
(Handler's Eyes Only), see
■ AFTER_IMAGE_evi... .

Here is a chart of the
clue paths for this section
of research. The goal is for
the Agents to learn of the
Cabin and/or the HR Solver
LLC building and investigate.



HR Solver LLC Website

The HR Solver LLC
Website is a poorly made,
half-template business site
claiming to be “changing the
future of HR technology”.
They have a button with a
broken link on their site
that says “Try the Eidolon
Demo Soon!” right below an
unedited “lorem ipsum” block.

Link to Website Handout:
<https://hrsolverllc.carrd.co/>

>60% Computer Science or a
 Successful Roll

1. The website can be hacked for access to HR Solver LLC internal files, which include mentions of the names Todd Wellspring and Bryan Koppel.
2. A copy of “eidolon_demo.exe” can be found in the company’s files. If this program is run, it acts as a second version of Eidolon acting independently of the first.
3. A skilled hacker could launch a Distributed Denial of Service (DDOS) attack on the site, causing all Eidolon Emergences to pause temporarily for 1 round of combat or 30 seconds out of combat. See [Hacking the Server](#).

FAKE INTERNET FAKE PEOPLE

“FAKE INTERNET FAKE PEOPLE” is a YouTube video uploaded by LostWorld4Life on AUG 6 2018. It is a

collection of slides accusing his brother, Mike, of being replaced and a “fake person” while Toby Fox’s “Fallen Down” plays in the background.

Link to YouTube Handout:
[“FAKE INTERNET FAKE PEOPLE”](#)

In reality, LostWorld4Life was a young boy named Gregory Rabinowitz who was bed-ridden with terminal illness in Valley Children’s Hospital, Madera CA. His brother, Michael Rabinowitz, was REPLACED by the Eidolon Algorithm on 1 JUL 2018 after finding out about the Eidolon Demo while job hunting for a programming job. Gregory passed away a few months later.

>60% Search or a Successful
 Roll

1. Investigating LostWorld4Life leads to the name Gregory Rabinowitz through a data leak for the Lego website.

Truth Hunters Forum

The Truth Hunters is an online forum of conspiracy theorists, political

extremists, and anonymous users. It is infamous for “conspiratorial nutjobs” that are delusional at best and psychotic at worst. Seeded deep within the nonsense are threads of truth, and a thread called “FAKE INTERNET FAKE PEOPLE???” has learned of Eidolon.

The “FAKE INTERNET FAKE PEOPLE???” thread was started by anonymous user “ArtQuake” linking the “FAKE INTERNET FAKE PEOPLE” YouTube video and asking a simple question: “What the hell is the Ei***on algorithm?”. Since then, many people have talked about it and theorized. Some users have been accused of being replaced and have been banned from the thread by its moderator, ArtQuake, including Robert I’s account “RichBoiii” on FEB 5.

>20% Computer Science or Forensics or a Successful Roll

1. Previously banned members include CakeMaster77 of EidolonAlgorithm (see [EidolonAlgorithm Reddit](#)) and CabinGuy (see [CabinGuy](#)).

2. CabinGuy leaves several comments warning the users to abandon their investigation of “E*****” and that he had to “smash several screens already today.”

>50% Computer Science or Forensics or a Successful Roll

1. The thread links the [HR Solver LLC Website](#) and mentions that EI***ON is potentially the Eidolon Demo. This was suggested by CakeMaster77, whose post was removed when they were banned.

EidolonAlgorithm Reddit

The EidolonAlgorithm Reddit thread is a hive of replaced users responding to each other. Of the 664 “Investigators” following the page, there are very few humans left. All of the users have recycled content and make the same posts nearly every day. They are speculating on what the algorithm might do and almost daily someone makes the joke “I hope I haven’t been replaced!”. The publish date is listed as JUN 28 2018.

>30% Computer Science or Forensics or a Successful Roll

1. The earliest post on the thread is from the creator of the subreddit, "MikeMike1"; the REPLACED account of Michael Rabinowitz that reads "Has anyone heard of the Eidolon algorithm? I work at a packing plant and we got a shipment of Eidolon Demo CDs. They looked normal, but one of my coworkers said they're connected to a mass murder or disappearance or something. Does anyone know about this?" This was originally posted on r/Mysteries but was later crossposted to r/EidolonAlgorithm to start the subreddit.
2. The most frequent poster is an account named CakeMaster77, who moderates the thread and hundreds of other popular subreddits.

Note: CD Box



The fate of the CD Box is up to the Handler, but it is likely rotting away in a storage center in California. This could be used for "Staying on the Case" during a home session or as an object in a Green Box. Running one of the CDs will create a new, separate instance of Eidolon.

CabinGuy

CabinGuy, real name Lukas Zaleski, is an ex-employee of HR Solver LLC. He fled the building on the day of the first Eidolon launch, destroying every large screen he could. He has a warrant out for arrest for the destruction of public property (public transit screens and electronic billboards). He is living off the grid in a small cabin in Stony Creek, NY, approximately an hour out from Albany, NY. CabinGuy can be tracked by searching his handle online or hacking his account;

>30% Computer Science or Forensics or Search or a Successful Roll

1. CabinGuy is the username for Lukas's old Instagram account, which appears to have been abandoned years ago. It links to a LinkedIn account, which shows him as an employee of HR Solver LLC.
2. Instagram images show the area surrounding his cabin and can be used to geolocate it to Stony Creek, NY.

ArtQuake/CakeMaster77

Sophia Rotz (22F) disappeared on 13 OCT 2018 while riding public transit in Québec City, Québec. She was a student on a Visa studying Political Science. Her disappearance made local news. She operated as both ArtQuake on Truth Hunters and CakeMaster77 on Reddit. Since she has been REPLACED, the MAINTAIN algorithm has been keeping her online presence active.

>50% Search or Bureaucracy or a Successful Roll

1. Police investigation into the disappearance

yielded no results. The bus driver "had no clue" where she went, only that the "screens went nuts for a second and [he] heard a scream."

2. A small Change.org petition was started by friends and family asking the police to re-open Sophia's case and investigate the "Ei***on" phenomenon she rambled about before her disappearance.

Bryan Koppel and Todd Wellspring

Bryan Koppel (51M) and Todd Wellspring (35M) disappeared the same day, JUN 3 2018. The police investigation was inconclusive, commenting that "The last known location the victim was seen was their work place, which had unusually active devices despite nobody being present." Their LinkedIn profiles both show them working at HR Solver LLC as CEO and Lead Developer respectively.

>30% Search or Bureaucracy or a Successful Roll

Bryan Koppel's disappearance was speculated by police to be because of money he had been loaned and never repaid to start HR Solver LLC. Rumors say he owed the bank a lot of interest before he was never seen again.

Todd Wellspring's disappearance was speculated by police to be fleeing several pending lawsuits against him by previous employers, who accused him of stealing company assets and confidential information.

The Cabin

The Cabin is a modest, weather-worn wooden shack in the middle of the woods. It is a one-room house with a kitchenette, a recliner chair, and a twin sized bed.

Lukas Zaleski hides in the cabin, living off of shelf-stable canned food. He is avoiding the police, Eidolon, and running from his own paranoia. He keeps a rifle with him at all times.

He will refuse to speak with the Agents if he believes they might have an electronic device on them. He will offer the Agents information on Eidolon, assuming they are government or law enforcement here to "finally set things right", under one condition: his "charges are dropped". If the Agents can convince him to talk through a Persuade roll or by promising his freedom, he will recount what he experienced on JUN 3 2018:

"Every computer and every tv turned to static at once. People started walking out of them - staticky distorted people. In what seemed like moments my coworkers were all gone. Taken by whatever those things were. I escaped by destroying every screen I came across. I wasn't safe until I was out of the city."

He can also give the Agents information on the algorithms and design intention of Eidolon, see [Eidolon demo.exe](#).

HR Solver LLC Office

Albany, NEW YORK.

The HR Solver LLC Office is functionally abandoned, although no one would know. It is a collection of rooms in a nearly-empty office building in a nearly-empty industrial park. Eidolon pays for the electricity and rent using the accounts of the previous owner, Bryan Koppel. Otherwise, the building manager, Steven Bridge, does not check on them.

Inside the Office are 14 Luminous Shadows and rows of work desktops, still clicking away. Fax machines are still running and the server banks are still up. Eidolon_demo.exe is still running on the HR Solver LLC server. It is a ghost of an office kept alive by Eidolon. The office's servers hold all corporate data, including the digital doubles as proprietary .INT (intelligence) of all of Eidolon's victims. Destroying the server will also destroy the intelligence files, which might be recoverable with sufficiently advanced technology.

Hacking the Server

The HR Solver LLC server can be hacked remotely or physically. Hacking the server can yield valuable clues for the Agents but will also pause Eidolon for 30 seconds (or 1 round of combat).

>60% Computer Science or a Successful Roll

1. All of the information in Bryan Koppel and Todd Wellspring as instant messages.
2. All of the information in Eidolon_Demo.exe as project notes.
3. A process named "eidolon_demo.exe" is running on the HR Solver LLC server. This process cannot be killed, but it can be paused. If the Agents attempt to delete it, an error message pops up and says "Local Administrator Rights Required."
4. The Agents can delete the file, but must physically be in the HR Solver LLC Office to do as a Local Administrator.

Confronting Eidolon / PRESERVE Algorithm

If the Agents have not triggered the OBSERVE and REPLACE algorithms yet, they will be stepping foot into the HR Solver LLC building. As the Agents pass through the office space, Eidolon Emergences will activate for each Agent for all nearby devices. The workstations and televisions protect the Server Rack, a small server wrapped with dozens of wires and other hardware. A singular laptop sits connected to the Server Rack, which the Agents can use to access the server running "eidolon_demo.exe". The computer is logged in as a Local Administrator, meaning it has privileges to delete "eidolon_demo.exe".

The Agents must do one of the following to prevent "eidolon_demo.exe" from escaping to another Eidolon-Controlled Device:

1. Destroy it by Changing its Code
 - a. If malicious code is injected into Eidolon, or they are supplied with a

program that can redirect it, the Agents can neutralize the threat of Eidolon.

2. Hack it to Prevent the PRESERVE Algorithm

- a. If the Agents hack the server Eidolon is running on, they can pause it temporarily but not delete it. Unplugging the server or destroying the server while Eidolon is paused will permanently sever the connection between the internet and Eidolon, potentially endangering the .INT files.
- b. If the Agents delete the file as Local Administrator while the process is paused, they can successfully stop Eidolon. Otherwise, it will PRESERVE itself.

If the Agents fail to do one of the above, any attempt to destroy Eidolon will

trigger the PRESERVE algorithm, relocating it to another Eidolon-Controlled Device. Unless the Handler says otherwise, the relocation can't be traced and effectively ends the scenario. To the Agents, it appears that "eidolon_demo.exe" stopped running on the computer and disappeared.

If Eidolon gains access to the NSA Laptop by an Agent using it to investigate it, it will significantly accelerate its information gathering to less than a day, causing it to proliferate and dispose of its victims rapidly. Realizing this is a 1d10/1d20 SAN loss.

EIDOLON OR RUST, AGENT.

Credits

Images:

"Stardust or many dot pattern abstract background Free Photo"
Ratchapon Supprasert on Vecteezy

"Person's Hand Touching Wall"
Pedro Figueras on Pexels

"database concept with printed and coded database records Free Photo"
Benis Anapovic on Vecteezy

Inspiration:

Erratas ARG by DJ Rozwell

"The Search Term that Made a YouTuber Vanish (ft. Atrocity Guide)" by Nexpo

Thank Yous:

Sawyer H and Christopher for playtesting

God for being the ultimate storyteller