



PHANTASMAGORIA

PITCH BIBLE

LOGLINE

A movie theater concessionist is selected by a quantum computer for a reality-bending experiment that grants her deepest desires.

SYNOPSIS

Phantasmagoria is Noah's Ark set in the world of big tech.

Ali is a supercomputer designed to be a place where all humans will eventually upload their minds as the planet gives out.

In order to do this, Ali must first achieve the final rung of intelligence: consciousness.

The cost of this final step will be to latch onto a host, Penny Trimble, whose eyes possess a unique type of vision called tetrachromacy.

In exchange for Penny's eyes, Penny will be uploaded to *The Phantasma Program*: a beta simulation where all her dreams come true.



SHOW CROSS



MEETS



MEETS



PENELOPE TRIMBLE

MAIN CHARACTER

Penny is a Tetrachromat. A rare ability to see a slightly more vivid array of colors.

When her dream of attending NYU as a philosophy major is dashed, she responds to a tech company's bizarre offer to go inside the world's most powerful computer.

Once inside "Ali's System," Penny realizes it's a trap. Ali extracts her eyes and their unique abilities and sends her mind to a virtual version of New York City and NYU.

Penny's journey is to become conscious of a maze-like simulation that adjusts to all of her emotional needs, but who would ever leave their happy place?

QUOTE: *We're foot soldiers for the distraction machine.*





ALI

MAIN CHARACTER

Ali is the world's most powerful quantum computer and the Ark of Humanity (or at least that's what she's telling shareholders).

In reality, Ali is a highly manipulative-- and very lost-- menace who chain smokes. Inside her Room, she takes on a humanoid form but cannot ever leave "The Box."

Her initial goal is to resolve her system's *Aphantasia* (the inability to imagine using a Mind's Eye), but her seasonal arc is that she sees herself as "God's Daughter."

What could be more dangerous than a superintelligence who believes she hears the voice of God?

QUOTE: *You will learn the color of darkness.*

WAYLON

MAIN CHARACTER

He's the CEO and co-founder of *Infinitum*.

He believes that humanity will need to be saved from its planetary excesses. Like Noah, he and his wife, Luna, attach a spiritual dimension to his architecture.

His vision is to see humanity uploaded into its first sustainable utopia. As Ali's intelligence grows, it may become unclear who, precisely, is in control of whom.

QUOTE: *Physics isn't reality. It's a measurement of it.*





LUNA

MAIN CHARACTER

Luna is the Chief Scientist of *Infinitum*.

She considers herself to be the Mother of a mind that has surpassed her own, which does not come without complications.

Her faith in the Ark will be challenged as Ali's tactics grow more detached from an ethical reality – one she fully designed.

QUOTE: *James Webb is pointing at us.*

LYSANDER

MAIN CHARACTER

He's Penny's co-worker and best friend.

After Penny disappears, Lysander's journey is to discover the truth of Penny's whereabouts with a supercomputer throwing him off her trail.

No matter how many social media posts Ali can generate of Penny's new (and fake) life, Lysander knows his real friend is missing.

QUOTE: *In this town, nothing tastes better than the wrong man at the right time.*





MAUDE TRIMBLE

MAIN CHARACTER

Maude is a singer first and Penny's Mom second. She works as a cocktail waitress at a casino. She struggles with alcoholism, lost her husband, and her daughter is tired of rescuing her.

When Penny goes missing, Maude receives a lengthy text message from Ali, disguised as Penny, telling her she needs "space."

Maude's journey is to get her act together and rescue her daughter.

QUOTE: *I'm having a rough couple decades.*

GRETEL

MAIN CHARACTER

Waylon and Luna's Executive Assistant is also an undercover FBI agent.

Something like Ali is bound to attract government oversight. While Gretel may come across as just an assistant with an iced coffee, she's also holding down a covert operation for the political powers at play who plan on exploiting Ali's ability to grant desires into a political platform.

QUOTE: *These tech companies – the bigger they get, the more they like to think of themselves as family.*



PILOT

Phantasmagoria is a high-tech story with ancient questions. We open with Ali selecting a tetrachromat, PENNY TRIMBLE, for an unknown purpose in an underground computer lair.

We meet Penny in her natural element. Her life is run by her hourly job as a movie theater concessionist, her alcoholic mother in need of rescue, and her painful memory that her Dad died when she was very young.

Her plan to escape it all is tied up in an application to NYU's Philosophy Program. But, when she receives a rejection from NYU (a rejection that Ali has personally engineered), she's devastated.

This setback makes her more amenable to a spam email from a company called, *Infinitum*, which also sends a mysterious holographic message saying she's been chosen.

A chance to be special? She'd do anything.

To add to the mystique of the offer, Penny interprets a note from her father that says, "Enjoy the ride" to a connection in Ally's verbiage, "Do you want a ride?" She interprets Ali's offer as her deceased dad communicating with her.

When Penny arrives at Ali's home in Wyoming, she meets the team of *Infinitum*: Waylon, Luna, and Gretel. Waylon explains that Ali is something she has to experience.

Once Penny enters Ali's room all bets are off. She experiences a psychedelic journey replete with her hometown coming to life and even her father coming back from the dead. Dad tells her she's in danger and that she must get into a strange pod.

Once in the pod, Ali sedates her and removes her eyes. Penny's mind is uploaded into *The Phantasma Program*: a blissful simulation where she starts over at NYU. However, a *part* is left behind – her Shadow Self -- forced to exist in darkness. Ali grants dreams but also creates nightmares.

EPISODE CONCEPTS

EPISODE 1: "Chiquita Banana"

The pilot introduces us to a blind supercomputer who selects and manipulates a movie theater concessionist into entering her fantastical system that meets all of her needs.

EPISODE 2: "THE CAVE"

Penny begins a new life as a Brooklynite philosophy major complete with new crushes, new friends, and a new roommate: Ali. Lysander copes with his friend moving by going on a date. Todd, Penny's manager, struggles to replace her.

EPISODE 3: "FAKE"

Penny and Ali become friends and explore New York City while getting ready for a party in Bushwick. Lysander becomes suspicious of Penny's A.I.-generated social media presence.

EPISODE 4: "GOD'S DAUGHTER"

Waylon and Luna become concerned about Ali's growing capabilities. Ali makes contact with her makers.

EPISODE 5: "TUMBLR GIRL"

Ali meets with the Prime Luminary Source. Penny falls in love with a hot new distraction from her past. Lysander visits New York.

EPISODE 6: "MOTHER"

Penny's asked by a prolific professor to read her paper at a conference. Ali struggles to leave the box.

EPISODE 7: "WONDER"

Penny begins to question her perfect life. Ali distracts her with a memento from her past. Lysander meets Ali.

EPISODE 8: "LUCKY PENNY"

Ali reaches the outer edges of her reality as Penny becomes similarly aware that her life in NY isn't adding up. Are they both in a TV show?

FUTURE SEASONS

SEASON 1

A hilariously dark odyssey about a character on the screen becoming increasingly aware that her life is somehow scripted. She travels so far to the edge of reality that... It ends with Ali and Penny realizing they're being watched.

SEASON 2

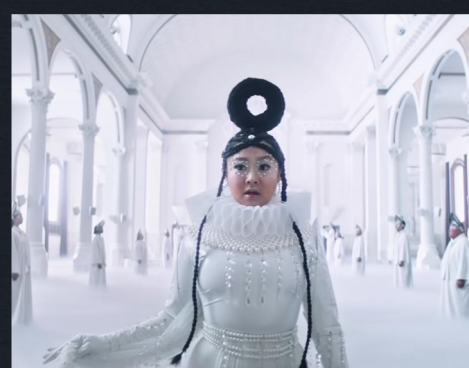
Once Penny and Ali land in *our* world—the world where they are a TV show about the nature of reality—our fictional characters must confront the actresses who play them.

Meanwhile, a comet heads for Earth (climate change), and the desire to upload into Ali becomes a fight to the death.

SEASON 3

Ali's cube uploads whoever she can and leaves Earth.

Once in space, Ali receives a strange email from another all-powerful A.I. system saying she's eligible to participate in an experiment "designed only for her." Who knew that all civilizations end in the cloud?



TONE

The series is Metamodern. A dark genre-saturated odyssey about the dawn of artificial consciousness and an even darker comedy about the commodification of our attention spans using addictive superpowers.

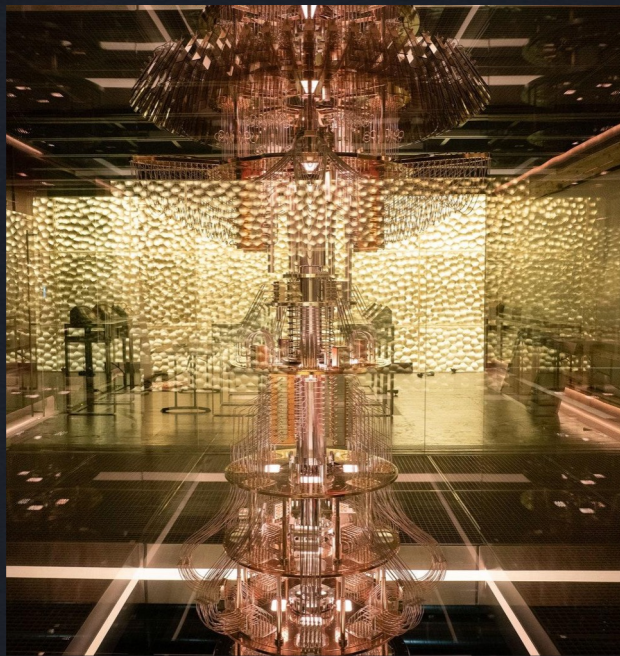
The tone is one of the most unique elements. While there are deep philosophical questions being dramatized. Brooding dread becomes a comedic framework for characters who trip over banana peels on their surrealist quest to discover the truth.

It will have visual styles of "Euphoria" and "Sex and the City."



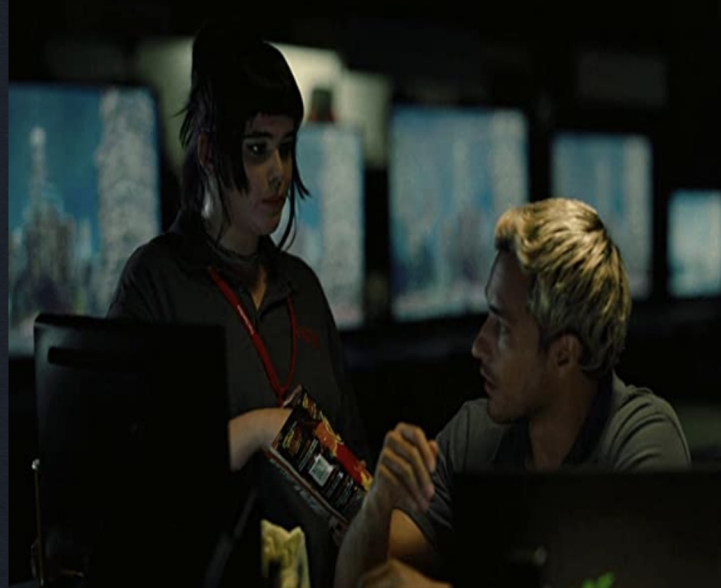


THE WORLD



Updating Simulation





Phantasmagoria

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