



Run Program

Scott Meyer

[Download now](#)

[Read Online ➔](#)

Run Program

Scott Meyer

Run Program Scott Meyer

What's worse than a child with a magnifying glass, a garden full of ants, and a brilliant mind full of mischief?

Try Al, a well-meaning but impish artificial intelligence with the mind of a six-year-old and a penchant for tantrums. Hope Takeda, a lab assistant charged with educating and socializing Al, soon discovers that day care is a lot more difficult when your kid is an evolving and easily frightened A.I.

When Al manages to access the Internet and escape the lab days before his official unveiling, Hope and her team embark on a mission to contain him—before he causes any real trouble.

Soon the NSA is on Al's back, the US Army is fighting a brigade of mass-produced robots, and a wannabe cyberterrorist is looking to silence Al permanently. After months spent “raising” Al, Hope knows she's running out of time—and she's not sure she'll be able to protect him. Will she manage to control the unruly A.I. and quell a global crisis, or will Al outsmart them once and for all?

Run Program Details

Date : Published June 20th 2017 by 47North

ISBN :

Author : Scott Meyer

Format : Kindle Edition 368 pages

Genre : Science Fiction, Humor, Fiction, Audiobook

 [Download Run Program ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Run Program ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Run Program Scott Meyer

From Reader Review Run Program for online ebook

Rob says

Executive Summary: Another light, quick, and fun read from Scott Meyer. 3.5 Stars.

Audiobook: Angela Dawe was fine as a narrator, though nothing special. She spoke clearly at a good pace, but didn't really add much to the story itself. I think all of Scott Meyer's other books have been narrated by Luke Daniels who is a favorite of mine.

Unlike those books however, the protagonist in this is a female so having a female narrator makes a lot of sense. I think audio is a solid choice for this one, especially if you can catch a deal on it like I did.

Full Review

I stumbled on Scott Meyer a few years ago with his Magic 2.0 books and I enjoy those so much that I pretty much pick up anything he puts out now. I've found most of his non-Magic books to be not as good, and this one isn't different. However I think this is my favorite of his non-Magic 2.0 books.

One of the things that first attracted me to his books was that I'm a computer programmer. This book hits on some of those same aspects for me. I just didn't find it as funny. I listened to 70% of this in one sitting while driving back from my cousin's wedding and it helped to pass the time quite nicely.

The idea of artificial intelligence is both fascinating to me, and a little bit terrifying. And what's worse than an AI out of control? An AI with the mentality of a 6 year old child. But really this book isn't some kind of warning for a potential apocalypse of our own making. It's more of a commentary on our own insecurities and shortcomings. It's not as funny as his other stuff, but he does keep things pretty light throughout.

Much like Martin, I found Hope a bit unlikeable at times. However unlike Martin (from Magic 2.0), she's not an idiot. She just could stand to think a bit more before she speaks sometimes. Something I know I can identify with. I found myself warming up to her far faster than I did with Martin.

If you like some of his other books, and enjoy computer based humor, this one may be worth checking out. If you haven't read anything by Mr. Meyer however, I recommend you check out Off to Be the Wizard instead.

AudioBookReviewer says

My original Run Program audiobook review and many others can be found at Audiobook Reviewer.

“Run Program” by Scott Myer is a light-hearted tale of a maturing childlike Artificial Intelligence (AI) program that unknowingly nearly brings about the end of the world as we know it. The book had a good balance of technology, humor, and character development making it worth the listen and I recommend it to people who enjoy listening to stories involving rogue AI systems along with some skillfully played twists and turns. The audiobook edition is well narrated by Angela Dawe who, at the time of this review, has over three hundred titles available on Audible. I will say up front that this is my first book by this author and narrator pair. However, I have many of his books awaiting a listen and review. I say this because I have nothing to compare this book against other he has produced; which some say does not meet their

expectations for this author. I say, if you like a well-crafted story with a modern look and feel, this is a great book to grab and enjoy. It is neither overly long nor short. The length seemed to be just about right even though the author could have taken it in one of many different directions.

As was described in the publisher's summary, this book is about a newly created AI system that has the equivalent mind and maturity of a six-year old child. Imagine what could go wrong if you released a six-year old human in a department store for a day while equipping them with a gun and baseball bat. Now take that and magnify it a hundred-fold as the AI program escapes its confines at the research center and is free to roam and cause mischief; not only in the cyber world but the physical world as well. Yes, all sort of things can and do go wrong as you will see when you listen to this book. Add to this an abundance of robots, drones, and rockets, and you have a good idea of what Run Program is about. Although the book takes place in the near future, there are some new and interesting technology, weapons, and battles that take place. The book, I think, would better be titled "When robots go bad" based on some of the older TV shows related to wild animals.

I very much enjoyed the many humorous references, puns, and all-around wittiness of the book. Many times, I found myself laughing out loud while listening. Humor starts right in the first paragraph of the book, and continues until its end. The author was able to weave humor into a book which also has a more serious or sinister story undertone. There were times of intense action and suspense, so if you are simply looking for just a funny story, this one touches on all aspects including; relationships, anger, love, friendships, etc. You have army personal unhappy about lizard bites, locked security doors, and all the other fun the AI program has with them. There is a good evenness of both humor and intrigue in this story. Although it is a rather short story, I thought the author did a decent job of developing the characters. You feel not only for the AI itself, but I wanted to grab Jeffery and just hold him; read the book to understand why.

So, what were a few things I would have liked changed to make the book more appealing to me? I'm not a fan of books that are always phrasing conversation as "He said...", "She said...", "They said...". At times when multiple characters were conversing, it just seemed to complicate matters. If you are able to ignore this while listening, the book is worth your time and effort. There were a few places where the author used a term multiple times instead of finding another way of phrasing it; "sausage fingers" to name just one of them. A few of the technological aspects of the story I thought could have been better researched or implemented; this is my background and I felt it was weak at times. If technology is not your profession, you may not have any issues with this. There were few things I would have changed, and all them are more subjective to my style and preference.

Let me turn to the book's audio narration. I thought Angela Dawe did an exceptional and professional job narrating the book. She did not exaggerate the humor or puns, but instead allowed the listener to soak in and discover the humor on their own. I like this as it did not feel like a laugh track was placed right after an intended joke, so it did not seem forced. The book's humor was a bit subtler and allowed for one to have a few "ah ha" moments; sometimes after the fact. This added more feeling of book's witty or clever nature than to just throw in raw humor. For me, I liked this method of presenting humor, though some have said they did not based on their reviews. This may be different from other book by Scott Myers, I'm not sure. The audio itself was clean and crisp, exactly what I would expect from a professional publisher. There were no pops, clicks, page turns, or swallows detected while listening.

A note of caution to younger readers or parents. Although the book is told mostly from a light-hearted perspective, there are infrequent uses of vulgar language. I can only think of two or three times I heard an obscene word, but be aware the book does contain some. If this is a concern, I would recommend you find another book to read or listen too. The vulgar language could have easily been removed and opened this

story up to younger readers, who I think would have enjoyed it, but the author did not.

To summarize, I would recommend this book to people who enjoy technology, artificial intelligence, and just humorous stories. Even though it is not a super deep science fiction tale, it does contain a few aspects making it unique and setting it apart from others in the genre. After listening to this book, I will now need to listen to his other works waiting in my Audible library.

Audiobook was purchased for review by ABR.

Matthew Sugarman says

So much fun! A modern day War Games.

Kim says

This is the fifth Scott Meyer book I've read in the past couple of years and they always lighten my reading week. He writes hilarious dialogue and fills his books with a collection of idiosyncratic characters, some as real as your neighbor and others totally bizarre.

Run Program deals with an artificial intelligence (AI) named Al. Hope Takeda has been hired for her background, part scientific and part day care employee. She, along with a klutzy colleague named Eric, are charged with training a new type of compact artificial intelligence that will fit on a PC. After two years of employment Al now has the personality of a six-year-old. He has also, on his own, figured out how to turn on the WiFi on the PC in which he's housed, which has given him access to the world in strange ways, including pranking his trainers at home. But his pranks are also being played far away from home and, to some important people, he's becoming dangerously independent.

When Al begins to understand that he may be in danger of being blocked from the internet or worse he escapes into various server farms where, with high speed computing, his intelligence grows at even more rapid levels. Hope and Eric are conscripted by the Army to track Al down before he becomes even more dangerous, and they're followed independently by a strange character who pictures himself as a superhero out to destroy all artificial intelligence.

In some hands this could be a hard-as-nails thriller but with Meyer's touch I found myself laughing through the entire book. Al is an adorable child and a predictable teenager. Hope and Eric work for the most self-centered boss on earth. Even the military team is filled with wonderful oddballs. The ending is a little odd and over-sentimental, but it's a happy solution for most of the characters.

It's a fun, light read and would be as much a treat for teens as a sci-fi seasoned adult.

Jason Brown (Toastx2) says

Okay okay. This book was pretty awesome. You might get stuck at the basic premise of ^Mankind creates Artificial Intelligence and something bad happens.^ Get past the trope and you get to the good stuff. It is

worth it.

Trope:

- Humans make A.I.
- Humans try to put a lease on AI by thinking 'Hey! I should give it the mentality of a child and help it learn naturally! That should make it maleable and more prone to kindness and rule following! Derp de derrr....'
- Child A.I., just like a real child, DOESN'T WANT TO LISTEN TO ADULTS

I grew up on awesome movies like D.A.R.Y.L., Cloak and Dagger, and War Games; I couldn't resist a book like this. Luckily, the key to any story with artificial intelligence is how it unfolds. Run Program's unfold took it to some places brand new and unexpected.

Here is the boil down with minimal to zero spoilers-

A.I., (aka Albert) is a child. He has never been outside the room he was created in, and his only friends are Hope and Eric, the scientists hired to instruct him and help him develop naturally. When Hope and Eric start experiencing technical glitches and weird behavior away from the office, they know something is up. AI has found a way into the real world.

So what happens when a child overhears it's parents and friends talking about 'killing' it? It runs away from home, the most natural reaction of course.

I was not sure what I was getting into here.. Skynet came to mind, among other classics. I was very surprised.

Queue up: Classic TV references, The Voice of Reason and self created wind effects while walking. \$10M tossed around like candy at a parade, Wise quotes from a wise soldier, broken etch-e-sketches, robots, missiles, and an A military that thinks a child's tablet is secure enough to be untraceable on a global network.

Structurally, this was a well put together novel. Editing was solid, but there were some meh moments. A couple of the characters speak with the same overall voice, making it difficult to identify who is speaking. There is a scene where I would be pissing myself with fear but most every character appeared to be non-chalant and unexcited because of their unreasonable composure. And I feel like there is an overstated ability for speed of industrial 3D printers.

Minor gripes aside, I really loved this book. Pretty badass and solidly humourous, I was able to suspend disbelief and just enjoy it for the great fiction it was.

--

Disclaimer-

The author of this book has found that providing me a copy of the novel for review purposes would ensure I stick to my diet, gain enlightenment, and proclaim my love for my wife in limerick form. He was correct. The author also hoped for an honest review, as listed above.

Alex says

I like Scott Meyer, even some of his non-wizard books, but this one just didn't do it for me.

The audiobook performance was very good though; Angela Dawe does some of the best male voices of any female narrator I've come across.

Yossi says

I like Scott Meyer's style of writing, and this book is less tongue-in-cheek heavy. However, the plot itself is a rehash of a million other AI-runs lose stories that started back in the 80's (and maybe even before) with films like Short Circuit and War Games.

All in all, it's a nice read, but not a must read.

Mark says

Oh, this book is delightful.

This is a ridiculous character drama wherein each character is exactly as imperfect and perfectly unlikeable as one could hope.

Ostensibly, this is a story about an AI that breaks out and starts causing havoc, but it's really a story of all the people caught up in it and the communication and relationship problems that cause and exacerbate the problems.

If there's a point to the narrative, I think it's "stop taking everything so seriously" and "stop being dicks to each other." But this is really just a fun romp with a variety of characters, most of whom are ridiculous in their own delightful ways.

Jane says

4 solid stars for the audiobook as narrated by Angela Dawe

Much like Scott Meyer's other work, this is playful and silly. In this case, an A.I. (named AI) that is being "raised" by a computer scientist (well, technically by her assistants), decides to run away. Like other Meyer stories, this story features odd coincidences that push the story forward in ways you least suspect. Snark, robots, and misunderstandings abound.

The narration for this was solid -- I was impressed by the range of voices Dawe brought to her performance. I never had any doubt which character was speaking and her voice for Dr. Madsen was so deliciously appropriate! I actually had to look up the actress who plays Laurie Bream in Silicon Valley because I was certain it was her voice!

I was much happier with Meyer's treatment of children in this story compared to the mess that was "Honor" in Fight and Flight. Both of the children in Run Program behaved in much more age-appropriate ways and

were much more likeable than Honor was.

Unfortunately, though, this book gets dinged a star for falling into the dreaded trap of dialogue that overuses "said". I've seen this complaint in the past about other stories (ahem, John Scalzi, I'm looking at you!) but it was never a problem that really bothered me, at least not until this book. Large sections of the novel (several minutes at a time -- or at least it felt that way!) are filled with dialogue that looks (sounds?) like this:

Character X said "...."
Character Y said "...."
Character A said "...."
Character X said "...."

This definitely seems to be a problem that is more prevalent with audiobooks, so I'm not sure if the fault is in the writing, the narrating, or just a bad combination of the two. Regardless, it exists here and it's annoying.

Overall, this was a fun, light read and it definitely wasn't ruined by the 'said' bit. If you've enjoyed Meyer's other work, you should also enjoy this adventure.

Yoly says

This was a very fun book. It didn't feel as original as Off To Be The Wizard to me mainly because I've read tons of AI gone rogue books, but it doesn't mean the story is not original. It is an original story even if you've read all the others with this theme.

I thought it was funny but not hilarious, the characters who were supposed to be likable are, those who were not supposed to be weren't and the story moves at a decent pace.

I alternated between the Kindle and Audible versions and the narrator gives an amazing performance. I'm not expecting a sequel for this one, as I think this story is self-contained and has a proper ending.

Nathan says

A book that started off interesting then fell flat...I lost interest around 3/5 of the way through. The book started off interesting and about typical for Meyer but then it seemed to lose any direction.

By the end of the book the characters were shown to be very flat memes with no depth or growth and the final resolution uninspired. Ah well, hope the next Magic 2.0 is better again.

Arkadeb says

Excellent premise which could have been so much more but fell short. The humour felt rather forced on certain occasions.

Rose says

I made it about a quarter of the way and decided to call it quits. It wasn't bad but it's not holding my attention and it's a bit juvenile. I like kids books but it's not the same kind of juvenile. It's the kind with an annoying kid who deserves a good spanking but in this case he's an AI. I like rogue AI stories but not with a six year old playing the part of the antagonist.

H James says

The first half of this novel is a well-executed if breezy version of a thought experiment about artificial intelligence in the trappings of an office comedy, but Mr Meyer defaults to generic action sequences in the second half. Ongoing banter between nerdier-than-expected Army grunts is the only thing keeping life in the story going into the finish.

Natty says

What fun. You think it's a tense action packed survival of the human race against a hostile childish AI until it's not. Then it's wickedly clever and fun. A+
