

HOWIE & HAL

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INT. SHOWER - EVENING

It's dark. HOWIE (40s) is scrubbing shampoo into his hair.

ETHEREAL VOICE (O.S.)
Howiiiiiiiiee...

Howie turns, startled. He peeks out the shower curtain. No one there. He dismisses the voice as his imagination.

INT. BEDROOM - A FEW MINUTES LATER

Howie's in a robe, towel-drying his hair.

ETHEREAL VOICE (O.S.)
HOWIIIIIIIEEEE...

It's louder. He's sure he heard it. He grabs a Swiffer wetjet to defend himself as he ventures out into the hall.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

ETHEREAL VOICE (O.S.)
HOWIIIIIIIEEEE...

A blue light glows under a doorway.

INT. HOME OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Howie uses the Swiffer to push open the door.

HOWIE
H- Hello...?

He peeks in. A LAPTOP glows blue and white, because it's on the Kraken.com homepage. It's the laptop's voice.

LAPTOP
Howie... come trade crypto with me.
I've got a new network named Kyber,
after the crystals from *Rogue One*.

HOWIE
N-n-no! The market is still too
volatile! And I liked *Solo* better.

LAPTOP
Nobody liked *Solo* better!
 (sweet again)
 Now, come trade with me, Howie.

The Swiffer is shaking in his hands.

HOWIE
 I was on the ground floor of Robin
 Hood! I moderate r/wallstreetbets!
 I-I-I know what I'm d-doing!

LAPTOP
 Prove it, Howie. Just one quick
 trade. No one will know...

CLATTER! Howie drops the Swiffer. He inches closer to the laptop, as though under its spell.

LAPTOP (CONT'D)
 That's it, Howie. Closer, closer.

SUDDENLY-- the light turns on.

MORGAN
 What's going on in here?!

MORGAN (40s), also in a bathrobe, is at the doorway.

MORGAN (CONT'D)
 Are you trading crypto again? You
 swore you were done with all that.

Howie looks to the laptop. It's off. No glow, no voice. He shakes his head, dismissing it like a bad dream.

HOWIE
 No. Of course not, honey.

Howie and Morgan exit, arm in arm. After a moment--

LAPTOP
 Dammit.

From the corner, a charging iPhone glows pink.

IPHONE
 Don't worry about her. She's just
 downloaded Solitaire Cash-- and the
 host is Jenny McCarthy!

The iPhone begins evil laughing. The laptop joins in.

BLACKOUT.