

YOU MUSK BE JOKING

Written by

Jacob Strick

Based on the series ANIMANIACS

EXT. WARNER BACKLOT - DAY

A beautiful afternoon in sunny Burbank. The Warner's WATER TOWER stands tall and proud.

INT. WATER TOWER - CONTINUOUS

Inside the tower the Warners have turned their home into a CIRCUS. A SPOTLIGHT is on WAKKO, spinning on a giant DART BOARD while YAKKO - in a BLINDFOLD - aims a DART GUN.

DOT sits in the BLEACHERS eating a SOFT PRETZEL.

DOT  
Oh I can't look!

YAKKO  
Neither can I! (lifting blindfold)  
Literally, that's the act.

Just then an EARTHQUAKE hits! The spotlight goes wild, Dot DROPS her pretzel and Yakko's dart gun GOES OFF!

WAKKO (O.S.)  
OW!

EXT. WARNER BACKLOT - CONTINUOUS

The earthquake STOPS and a beat later the DOOR swings open with the three Warners looking around in concern.

Wakko replaces his DART-EMBEDDED HAT with a fresh one.

We reveal that the water tower is not upright but standing EXTREMELY CROOKED.

YAKKO  
Holy Pisa! Who forgot to pay the  
gravity bill?

WAKKO  
(shaking head) I'm on autopay.

DOT  
Hey, lookit that!

Dot points: the tower's stuck in a SINKHOLE! A small NEWS CREW is assembled at the base.

TV REPORTER  
 (distantly) This is Larry Blazer  
 with BNN, live at the soft  
 opening...

The tower SHAKES violently again, TOSSING off the Warners,  
 who PLUMMET through the hole! A nearby SIGN cheerfully warns,  
 "HYPERLOOP UNDER CONSTRUCTION: KEEP OUT."

INT. HYPERLOOP TUNNEL - CONTINUOUS

The Warners fall into a large UNDERGROUND TUBE where high-  
 tech magnetic POD TRAINS are zipping back and forth.

These futuristic trains might be a little more awe inspiring  
 if they weren't knocking the Warners around like pinballs.

YAKKO, WAKKO & DOT  
 (painful grunts)

EXT. WARNER BACKLOT - CONTINUOUS

The Warners FLY from the sinkhole and SLAM on the pavement,  
 humiliated and sore.

Someone thrusts a MIC into Yakko's face: he's on TV! Behind  
 him Wakko makes RUDE FACES and Dot POSES for the camera.

TV REPORTER  
 How excited are you to live above  
 Elon Musk's Hyperloop?

YAKKO  
 Elly Mucky Hypeawhat? Is HE  
 responsible for that deathtrap?

TV REPORTER  
 You must be living in the stone  
 age! Elon Musk is our modern-day  
 Edison. His inventions save lives!

Dot and Wakko zip up and share the mic with Yakko.

DOT  
 His stupid tech ruined our home!

WAKKO  
 I'm not ready to be gentrified!

YAKKO  
 You hear that Elmo? This means war!  
 Or at least an online petition.

Yakko, Wakko and Dot's CELL PHONES all ping. ELON MUSK'S face appears on their screens.

ELON MUSK  
Hello skeptics! This is Elon.

YAKKO, WAKKO & DOT  
Hellooooo nerd!

ELON MUSK  
I saw your bad press was trending  
and I'd like a chance to change  
your minds. Come to my factory this  
afternoon.

WAKKO  
Hmm. Will there be snacks?

ELON MUSK  
Yes, of course.

YAKKO  
Then we'll do it!

FADE TO:

EXT. ELON'S FACTORY - DAY

Trees part to reveal a crystalline FACTORY standing atop a green hill. This is Silicon Valley at its grandest:

Surrounding the property is an ornate WROUGHT IRON FENCE with SECURITY CAMERAS. The front gates - monogrammed EM - open to reveal the winding HILLY PATH to the factory.

The Animaniacs zoom through the gates all the way up to the factory's entrance: a pair of towering FRONT DOORS.

DOT  
We've made it, Silicon Valley!

WAKKO  
And in only four hours; not bad for  
on foot.

As if reacting to their presence the doors slowly open, a brilliant LIGHT shining through. A handful of daytime FIREWORKS fire off and a BOOMING VOICE echoes out...

ELON MUSK  
Have my little luddites arrived?

Elon descends from the sky on a WIRE like a cut-rate angel.

YAKKO  
And so modest too.

Elon lands and his girlfriend, GRIMES walks up behind him.

ELON MUSK  
It's a pleasure to meet me, I'm  
*Musk*.

The Warners instinctively hold their noses.

DOT  
Ew! Take a bath.

GRIMES  
And I'm his girlfriend, Grimes.

DOT  
Once again, ew.

ELON MUSK  
Surely you're aware of me, the  
famous philanthropist/inventor  
who's saving the world. (beat) From  
Transvaal.

WAKKO  
What are you, a vampire?

ELON MUSK  
What? No! I'm an incredibly popular  
wealthy genius; this is my factory!

YAKKO  
You make a lot of glue in here,  
Elmer?

ELON MUSK  
It's Elon not Elmer! (beat) I don't  
believe I got your names.

YAKKO  
We're the Warner Brothers!

DOT  
And the Warner sister, Dot!

WAKKO  
And you put a hole under our house!

ELON MUSK  
You must mean my Hyperloop,  
courtesy of the "Boring" Company.  
(MORE)

ELON MUSK (CONT'D)  
 Though truth be told it's very  
 interesting.

GRIMES (GIRLFRIEND)  
 LOL! You're so random!

YAKKO  
 But we don't want a hole!

ELON MUSK  
 Nonsense peasant children, I'm  
 helping everyone. It'll all be  
 explained during the tour.

WAKKO  
 We don't want a tour either.

ELON MUSK  
 Sure you do!

Elon presses a HAND HELD BUZZER and a wide PEOPLEMOVER pops  
 up under the Warners. Mechanical restraints STRAP them by the  
 ANKLES AND WAIST (though their arms are mercifully free).

ELON MUSK (CONT'D)  
 Sorry for the restraints! I have so  
 many IPs to protect.

Elon and Grimes stride into the factory while the Warners -  
 who are struggling to get out of their seats - slide behind.

INT. TESLA FACTORY - LATER

High up on a CATWALK Elon, Grimes and the Warners can see the  
 ASSEMBLY LINE of the latest ELECTRIC CARS.

ELON MUSK  
 Everything I do in my factory is to  
 improve the world. Even these cars!

Elon gestures to the assembly line. As a car moves down the  
 line, all of the TESLA EMPLOYEES look extremely tired and  
 overworked. One of them listlessly HAMMERS their own hand.  
 Another is getting SPANKED by a ROBOTIC ARM. Another PASSES  
 OUT from total exhaustion.

A sign reads "15 Minutes Since Last Labor Violation." It  
 resets to zero.

WAKKO  
 They look like they could use a  
 nap.

ELON MUSK

Who can rest when there's so much  
to do! Come, the tour continues!

Elon and Grimes enter a PNEUMATIC ELEVATOR as the Warners  
reluctantly follow (and STRUGGLE) in their Peoplemover.

INT. PNEUMATIC ELEVATOR - CONTINUOUS

Elon activates the ELEVATOR CONTROLS with a HAND SCANNER and  
the platform begins to rise.

YAKKO

Ahhhhh... I have a question.

ELON MUSK

Please hold all questions till the  
end of the tour!

YAKKO

Then I have a comment.

ELON MUSK

Hold those too.

Yakko is holding an armful of SEALED ENVELOPES.

YAKKO

I am but they're getting awful  
heavy!

Wakko eats the envelopes! Much to Elon's disgust.

DOT

He's known to eat his words.

Elon's confused: like that's any better?!

INT. SOLAR PANEL LAB - CONTINUOUS

In this domed chamber SOLAR TECHNICIANS operate huge mirrors  
to reflect SUNLIGHT onto sleek SOLAR PANELS.

A HATCH on the floor opens up and Elon, Grimes & the Warners  
elevate into the room fully decked out in WHITE JUMPSUITS and  
PROTECTIVE EYEWEAR.

ELON MUSK

In this room I harness the power of  
natural sunlight. I call it  
FunLight!

GRIMES

LOL, so random!

A solar technician loses his grip on a mirror and it goes wild! The reflected light stuns a stern group of clipboard-wielding SCIENTISTS and they STAGGER around dizzily.

ELON MUSK

Totally harmless stuff! Off-topic, but you all signed NDAs, right?

Elon hastily pushes the Peoplemover out of the lab.

DOT

Explain how all this fancy junk is helping people?

ELON MUSK

I said no questions!

INT. THRONE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

ELON MUSK

And now, my favorite part of the tour! My sanctum sanctorum.

The Warners have entered a throne room complete with two IRON THRONES ala GoT for Elon and Grimes (his is bigger).

ELON MUSK (CONT'D)

Do you have a social media room at home? I find it helps me relax.

Lounging on his throne, he pulls out his PHONE. As he SCROLLS through Twitter the Warners POP UP around him and read along.

ELON MUSK (CONT'D)

A billion notifications, mmmhmm, complement...

YAKKO

Complement.

WAKKO

Complement.

ELON MUSK

Wait, what's this? A critique?!

Red VEINS pile up on Elon's neck and forehead. He looks like he's about to explode!



ELON MUSK (CONT'D)

How can this worm possibly question  
me, the great and powerful Musk?!

With a sharp poke of a finger Elon SMASHES a button on his  
phone. All at once he's RELAXED again.

DOT

What did you do? Ignore them?

ELON MUSK

Pfft, no. I sent my followers after  
them. (serene) Ah, bliss...

YAKKO

Alright Melon, we've seen your dumb  
factory. Now can you please put our  
lives back to normal?

ELON MUSK

Strange boy, don't you see: this is  
normal. The new normal. Millions of  
people driving MY luxury cars,  
blasting through MY Hyperloop, and  
never sleeping and always loving  
ME!

Dot gives the "cuckoo" gesture; this guy is nuts!

Elon violently GRABS the Warners by the nape of their necks.

ELON MUSK (CONT'D)

And no one can stop me.

He TOSSES the Warners outta there!

GIFT SHOP - CONTINUOUS

The Warners BARREL into a giftshop filled with SHIRTS and  
bouncing BOBBLEHEADS of Elon. The Warners collide with the  
back wall, sending merch FLYING everywhere!

When they SIT UP, their heads are also BOUNCING up and down.

After a beat the Warners recover their senses and their  
resolve. Yakko SLAMS his fisted glove in his open palm!

YAKKO

Enough is enough! It's time to  
fight fire with fire.

Wakko holds up an Elon-branded FLAMETHROWER in solidarity.

WAKKO

Agreed!

He sets off a blast of FLAME, accidentally charing his hat.

DOT

But what can we do? This guy is more self-absorbed than a sponge!

WAKKO

Between social media and his factory there's no getting to him.

YAKKO

If we're gonna get his attention, then we're gonna have to take care of both!

FADE TO:

INT. THRONE ROOM - LATER

Elon monitors his factory via his phone. He contentedly HUMS while SWIPING through different security camera feeds.

The Tesla factory floor seems normal... but what's this?! All of the Tesla Employees are SLEEPING!

ELON MUSK

Great Tesla's ghost! My factory!

Elon practically FLIES out of his throne.

GRIMES

(not paying attention) Have fun, I'm just gonna stay and beef with Azealia some more...

INT. TESLA FACTORY - CONTINUOUS

Elon rampages in and - sure enough - the employees - along with Wakko and Dot - are totally asleep in their pajamas: some with BLANKETS and others with THUMBS in their mouths!

ELON MUSK

What are you morons doing?!

Yakko is in a ROCKING CHAIR with a BOOK of FAIRYTALES.

YAKKO

SHHHHHHH! (whispered) Can't you see they're sleeping?

ELON MUSK  
 (through gritted teeth) Not while  
 they're on the job! What about my  
 profits?

Yakko jumps into Elon's arms and squeezes his cheeks.

YAKKO  
 SHHHHHHHHHH! Does grouchy Elon need  
 a nap?

ELON MUSK  
 Yes! I mean, no! I mean, hey...  
 what part of the story were you at?

Yakko holds the book of fairytales up to Elon's face.

YAKKO  
 You wanna know?

ELON MUSK  
 Yeah! Yeah!

YAKKO  
 The end!

Yakko SLAMS Elon's face in the book.

Hollering, the Warners scamper away. Elon removes the stuck  
 book to reveal his FLATTENED HEAD! A beat. He shakes it off.

Simmering with icy-hot rage, Elon pursues the Warners into  
 the elevator.

INT. PNEUMATIC ELEVATOR - CONTINUOUS

Elon is surprised to find the elevator free of any Warners.

Just then his phone BUZZES. The screen is BRIGHT RED and  
 reads, "MIGHT WANNA CHECK THE SOLAR PANEL LAB LOL".

From the lab above, FLASHES OF LIGHT grab Elon's attention.  
 He grits his teeth: what's happening up there can't be good.

Elon tries to start the elevator by scanning his palm, but it  
 ZAPS HIM like a hand-buzzer, FRYING him and the controls.

ELON MUSK  
 (pained yelp)

As a light SMOKE drifts, Elon notices just above the broken  
 hand scanner is a sign that reads, "OUT OF ORDER, SUCKER."

ELON MUSK (CONT'D)  
 (angry growl)

Elon pries off a PANEL hiding a manual control SWITCH.

ELON MUSK (CONT'D)  
 Good thing I always think ahead!

With a satisfied look he pulls on the switch. A beat later, the elevator DROPS into the dark. We hear it CRASH. Hard.

INT. SOLAR PANEL LAB - LATER

Elon crawls out of the broken elevator shaft covered in GREASE STAINS. He glances around the room like a hunting dog.

Wakko is laying on a LOUNGE CHAIR holding a TANNING MIRROR.

WAKKO  
 (sad) I never tan.

ELON MUSK  
 What are you doing?

WAKKO  
 Been making popcorn, want some?

Elon's notices there's a giant bowl of UNPOPPED KERNELS in the center of the room blasted with reflected SUNLIGHT.

ELON MUSK  
 Popcorn? How does that help anyone?  
 Let me explain to you why it's a  
 bad idea. One--

EXPLOSION! The popcorn made, the solar technicians gather around and start CHOWING DOWN.

SOLAR TECHNICIANS  
 Yay, snacks!

Elon's smoldering head resembles a huge piece of popcorn. Wakko gives HUGE LICK and thoughtfully SMACKS his lips:

WAKKO  
 Needs salt.

Dot walks in looking disappointed in what she sees.

DOT  
 Elon! You look terrible, baby! We  
 have to fix you up if you're gonna  
 go viral.

Dot begins MUSSING with Elon, WIPING off the grease and ash. For a moment he looks O.K., but Dot continues to fuss: roughly PULLING Elon's hair, PINNING back his eyelids and STRETCHING out his lips in the ultimate duck face.

DOT (CONT'D)  
Say cheese!

Dot SNAPS a flash selfie of the two of them and CHECKS it.

DOT (CONT'D)  
Oh, too bad. I was blinking in that one!

Elon's features SNAP back to normal like a rubber band.

DOT (CONT'D)  
Annnnnnd posted. Don't worry, I cropped myself out.

Dot holds up her phone with ELON'S HIDEOUS PORTRAIT and gives a SMILE and THUMBS-UP ("I'm helping").

Before he can react, RED EMERGENCY LIGHTS activate and a KLAXON blares. Something is terribly wrong!

ELON MUSK  
My factory!

Above Elon, a MONITOR indicates that he's losing hundred of thousands of social media followers a second!

ELON MUSK (CONT'D)  
My social media presence!

Worse still, ANOTHER MONITOR shows Elon's stock plunging. The arrow falls out of the screen, nearly striking Elon!

ELON MUSK (CONT'D)  
Gah! My IPO! That's it, I've had it with you Warners! I've had it with this whole stinking planet!

Elon runs to his throne room with the Warners in pursuit.

INT. THRONE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Elon is BOOKING IT with the Warners hot on his heels. Grimes is on her throne - still texting - unaware of the commotion.

YAKKO  
Please Elon, don't leave us!

WAKKO  
I was gonna make s'mores!

DOT  
We need you!

ELON MUSK  
Not on your life, Warners!

The SEAT of Elon's throne LIFTS UP and Elon DIVES through.

Grimes doesn't look up from her phone:

GRIMES  
If you're going out can you grab  
some milk? Thaaaanks.

Something BENEATH the factory begins to RUMBLE...

A SPACE-X ROCKET carrying Elon CRASHES from the floor and  
exits by SLAMMING through the roof.

EXT. ELON'S FACTORY - SUNSET

We see the rocket LIFTING OFF towards the stars.

INT. THRONE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Grimes CRIES OUT to the rocket through the CELLING HOLE.

GRIMES  
Elon, wait! Don't go to Mars!

Wakko respectfully CLUTCHES his hat to his chest.

WAKKO  
(sniffling) I'm gonna miss him; he  
was so random.

But it's too late: he's gone. Dot COMFORTS a forlorn Grimes.

DOT  
It's okay. We've all been there.

GRIMES  
Really?

DOT  
No. Not really.

Grimes lets out a huge SOB. The Warners BACK OFF, disturbed.

FADE TO:

EXT. ELON'S FACTORY - EVENING

The Warners SIT defeatedly on the curb outside the destroyed factory beneath a lonely streetlamp.

YAKKO

It's a shame we couldn't get Ellen DeGeneres to help us.

DOT

He's gone now, you can just call him Elon.

WAKKO

I guess it's over for us.

YAKKO

And those poor factory workers.

Figures STIR in the darkness. Are the Warners in danger? Stepping into the light they're revealed as factory workers!

Their UNION LEADER - draped in a DR. ZAIUS vest - speaks:

UNION LEADER

Warners, by freeing us from inhumane working conditions you have inspired us to form a union. It would be our honor to restore your home.

The Warners hold each other with delight!

YAKKO, WAKKO & DOT

YIPPIE!

FADE TO:

EXT. WARNER TOWER - THE NEXT DAY

The Warners HOP out of the tower onto their BALCONY, surveying Burbank in all its glory.

WAKKO

I'm glad things are back to normal.

YAKKO

True, but I gotta admit: he was mean and rude... but I can't help but miss Elon.

DOT

Yeah, I wonder what he's doing now?

We pull out to reveal the tower is being HELD UP by a fleet of FLYING DRONES.

The hole that started this whole mess remains under the tower and we see a couple of SECURITY GOLF CARTS plunge into it.

FADE TO:

EXT. MARTIAN SURFACE - SUNRISE

Elon's rocket CRASHES nose-first onto the Martian planet, kicking up RED DUST.

Elon kicks a PORTHOLE HATCH open and scrambles out on to the planet, KISSING it with delight. He looks haggard.

ELON MUSK

Finally! Time to transform Mars to my will. It's perfect: no problems, no distractions, and NO PESTS.

But SHADOWS loom over Elon, who TURNS AROUND to see...

Three terrifying XENOMORPHS roar, TONGUE-MOUTHS and all!

Elon BUGS OUT! He RUNS over the dunes and far away. The "aliens" REMOVE their heads: it's the Warners after all!

YAKKO

It's true: there's no intelligent life in space.

Wakko gives a WINK: mission accomplished!

FADE OUT.