

**FIRST SOLO**

Chad Moore

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AIR CONTROL (Off Stage)

TOM

IMPOSTER SYNDROME

DUNNING-KRUGER

LIGHTS UP on TOM sitting in the cockpit of a small plane.

AIR CONTROL (off-stage)  
You're number three to launch,  
Tom. We're boarding your  
passengers now. Over.

TOM  
Roger Control. The passengers are  
arriving now. Over.

IMPOSTER SYNDROME and DUNNING-KRUGER enter and take their seat

TOM  
Welcome aboard! Wait, the  
passengers on my first solo flight  
are my Imposter Syndrome, the  
cognitive bias that makes me feel  
like I'm a heartbeat away from  
being exposed as the fraud that I  
am!

IMPOSTER SYNDROME  
It's only a matter of time, Tom.  
I'm not sure we can do this whole  
flying thing.

TOM  
And my Dunning-Kruger effect, the  
cognitive bias that makes me feel  
like I'm way better than everyone  
at everything!

DUNNING-KRUGER  
Number one, all time champ baby!  
Make this bird fly!

TOM  
Ugg. You guys always fight. Don't  
start, OK? I need to focus.

AIR CONTROL (O.S.)

Alright Tom, you're number two for take off. Expect some chop on take off, a storm just blew in. Over.

TOM

Roger control. Over.

IMPOSTER SYNDROME

I don't even remember talking about bad weather in flight school. Are we sure we passed that course? I keep having that dream where they tell me that we actually failed, and we have to retake the entire thing!

DUNNING-KRUGER

Dude, we're naturally gifted. We were best-in-class, and likely will be the top rated student there for a hundred years.

TOM

GUYS! Please...

IMPOSTER SYNDROME

Oh why did we even try this. We're going to die on a crappy small plane. Well, if I am dead, I guess I can stop asking why was I even born.

DUNNING-KRUGER

Bro, flying is easy, millions of birds do it all the time, and they have tiny brains. We're people with big brains. And I've got the biggest brain of them all!

AIR CONTROL (off-stage)

You're next up for takeoff, Tom. Standby. Over.

TOM

Roger. Thank you control. Over.

DUNNING-KRUGER

Here we go Tom! Just close your eyes and put one hand behind your back. You got this!

IMPOSTER SYNDROME

Oh my God no!

(MORE)

IMPOSTER SYNDROME (CONT'D)  
Keep your eyes open and hands on  
the wheel! Stick! Whatever it's  
called! Oh crap, we're going down!

TOM  
GUYS SHUT UP! I have to focus and  
you two suck. Can't you meet me in  
the middle here?

IMPOSTER SYNDROME  
I don't think I'm capable of  
growing like that, Tom. I'm sorry.

DUNNING-KRUGER  
Why should I meet anyone,  
anywhere? All you sucka chumps  
should rise to my level!

TOM  
Wait! I get it now! He can't do  
anything, he's worthless. And you  
will never ever budge, you giant  
asshat. I'm the one that has to  
meet in the middle.

AIR CONTROL  
You're clear for take off, Tom.  
Have a great flight! Over.

TOM  
Roger, control. I'm looking  
forward to this! Over.

Blackout