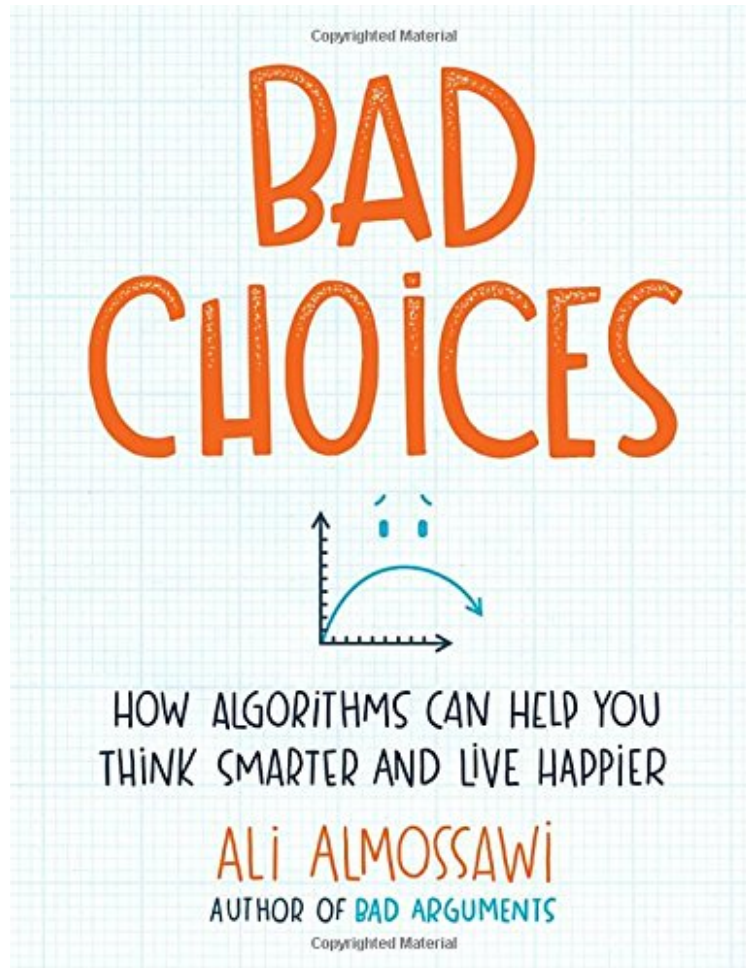


# Bad Choices: How Algorithms Can Help You Think Smarter and Live Happier

Ali Almassawi

DOC | \*audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#130194 in Books Almassawi Ali 2017-04-04 2017-04-04 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.26 x .68 x 7.37l, #File Name: 0735222126160 pages Bad Choices How Algorithms Can Help You Think Smarter and Live Happier | File size: 53.Mb

**Ali Almassawi : Bad Choices: How Algorithms Can Help You Think Smarter and Live Happier** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bad Choices: How Algorithms Can Help You Think Smarter and Live Happier:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Unimpressive By Ariel Doesn't feel interesting enough for someone who knows their stuff and might not be basic enough for people who know nothing. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By B. Prentice Good read as an intro to why we need the algorithms we use today. 21 of 22 people found the following review helpful. Good book, covers interesting concepts well, but is perhaps not perfect for folks completely new to algorithms By Glenn A. Crocker Like his previous book, Almassawi has a great idea for an

approachable take on a complex topic but slightly misses the mark. The algorithmic concepts covered in *Bad Choices* are appropriate, but the emphasis is often more appropriate for computer science graduates than for what I think is the target audience. Use of log-log graphs is a reasonably good idea but makes all of the graphs confusing if you miss the single footnote where it's mentioned but not explained. Some of the stories (the necklace for describing linked lists) make a certain amount of sense but would have been much improved with easy changes. Some graphics (the hash table, some of the sorting) are utterly confusing unless you already know exactly what's going on. Other chapters are really well done (mazes), and many of the graphics explain tricky concepts very well (musical influences). The illustrations are fun and quirky throughout, and the approach of showing just a couple of approaches is highly effective. My hope with both of Almosawi's books was to be able to hand them to my 13 and 16 year old children and say, "Read this! It explains important concepts in approachable ways!" In both cases, I'm hesitant to give that recommendation. Perhaps a 2nd Edition of each will come along that addresses these issues. In any case, for Almosawi's THIRD book I hope he has a teenager work as an editor to ensure that the concepts are being covered in ways that people completely new to the concepts will engage with them. Whatever that third book is about, I plan to buy a copy.

A relatable, interactive, and funny exploration of algorithms, those essential building blocks of computer science—and of everyday life—from the author of the wildly popular *Bad Arguments Algorithms*—processes that are made up of unambiguous steps and do something useful—make up the very foundations of computer science. But they also inform our choices in approaching everyday tasks, from managing a pile of clothes fresh out of the dryer to deciding what music to listen to. With *Bad Choices*, Ali Almosawi presents twelve scenes from everyday life that help demonstrate and demystify the fundamental algorithms that drive computer science, bringing these seemingly elusive concepts into the understandable realms of the everyday. Readers will discover how:

- Matching socks can teach you about search and hash tables
- Planning trips to the store can demonstrate the value of stacks
- Deciding what music to listen to shows why link analysis is all-important
- Crafting a succinct Tweet draws on ideas from compression
- Making your way through a grocery list helps explain priority queues and traversing graphs
- And more

As you better understand algorithms, you'll also discover what makes a method faster and more efficient, helping you become a more nimble, creative problem-solver, ready to face new challenges. *Bad Choices* will open the world of algorithms to all readers, making this a perennial go-to for fans of quirky, accessible science books.

Praise for Ali Almosawi's *BAD CHOICES* "One of the more clever ways of introducing computational thinking to the general public." —Vint Cerf, Turing Award winner, Chief Internet Evangelist at Google, a "Father of the Internet" "Perfect for anyone wanting to understand the basics of Computer Science." —Cesar Hidalgo, Director of the Collective Learning group at the MIT Media Lab "What I appreciated most was how the book became a survey of things I take for granted every day, shining a light on these algorithms and showing me different ways to think about and consider them." —Jamis Buck, author of *Mazes for Programmers* "Almosawi picks everyday tasks like sorting socks, discovering new music, and writing witty status updates and examines the most efficient ways to achieve them. Each short chapter, mercifully barren of headache-inducing formulas, spotlights different computer-science concepts that can be put to use in each situation, like context switching and linearithmic time.... Anyone with a high-school-level understanding of math or a penchant for logic puzzles will appreciate this easily digestible primer on how little choices can make a big difference." —Booklist Praise for Ali Almosawi's *BAD ARGUMENTS* "A very good book every scientist should have. Every scholar really." —Hope Jahren, author of *Lab Girl* "Seriously, *An Illustrated Book of Bad Arguments* should be on every school curriculum. Twitter will be a more civil place." —Buzzfeed "A great primer for anyone looking to understand logical fallacies and become a better debater. It helps that each logical fallacy is accompanied by a comic featuring a funny animal... Check it out and pass it along to all the arguers—good and bad—in your life." —io9 "Now more than ever, you need this illustrated guide to bad arguments, faulty logic, and silly rhetoric." —Fast Company "Need a great coffee table book that looks like a kid's book but will teach everyone around you to think more critically? This is the book. Share with your friends. Encourage your family members to flip through it. Casually leave copies in public places." —GeekDad "Wonderfully digestible . . . I can't think of a better way to be taught or reintroduced to these fundamental notions of logical discourse. A delightful little book." —Aaron Koblin, creative director, Google's Data Arts team "I love this illustrated book of bad arguments. A flawless compendium of flaws." —Alice Roberts, PhD, anatomist, writer, and presenter of *The Incredible Human Journey* "Bad arguments, great illustrations . . . gorgeous." —Cory Doctorow, BoingBoing.net "[A] handsome newcomer's guide to the world of logic . . . Almosawi and his McSweeney's-ready artist Giraldo accessibly tackle such classic subjects as circular reasoning, false dilemma, straw man, appeal to ignorance, and genetic fallacy . . . An attractive, substantive read." —John Wenzel, Denver Post blog About the Author Ali Almosawi is the creator and maintainer of *An Illustrated Book of Bad Arguments*, which has been read by 2.4 million readers and translated into 17 languages, 11 of which were done by volunteers from across the world. Almosawi formerly worked on the Firefox team at Mozilla and is an alumnus of MIT's System Design and Management program and Carnegie Mellon's School of Computer Science.

Previous stints included working as a research associate at Harvard and as a collaborator with the MIT Media Lab.