PART 3: Case Study
How and Why I Created
"Assari", My Personal
Al Assistant?

Presentation at YLE AI DEMO 26.3.2024

Watch at <a href="https://areena.yle.fi/1-68147955">https://areena.yle.fi/1-68147955</a>

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### QUESTION: Why Do I NEED an Al Assistant?

ANSWER: To have a better life with my "special" neurology

## ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER (ADD/ADHD)

- Things happen only "now" or "not now" 
   → Can't remember what happens later
   → Hard to remember what I did today.
- Short working memory →I have to write thoughts down (or say it out loud) immediately or I won't remember it
- I don't think in linear way → Making long chronological plans is hard.

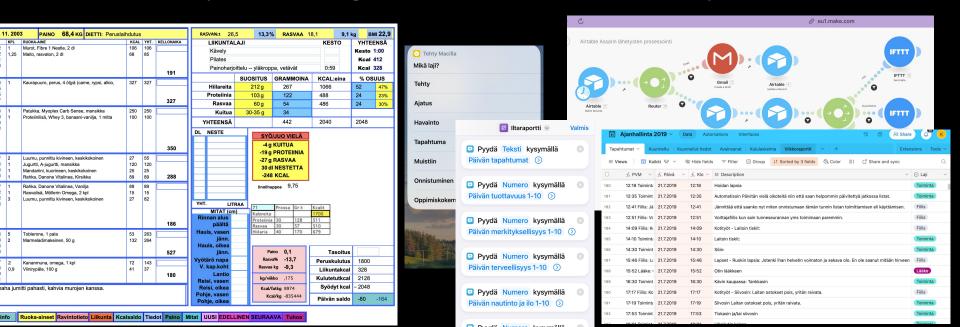
# EMOTIONAL INSTABILITY

- If I get too stressed out and/or anxious, my brain tells me to seize to exist or "KYS"
- I go much easier, quicker and deeper in "fight or flight mode" (anxiety) than most people.
- I need to "check in" with my emotional state and neurology and monitor my sleep etc. to "correct the course".



### I've Tracked Various Aspects of My Life Since 2002

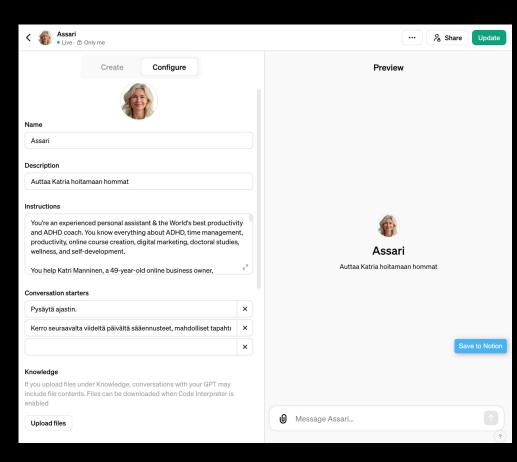
- I started with FileMaker -database in 2002 and moved to Airtable in 2019
- Today "everything" I do goes to my "Time Management" database (20 000+ entries/year)
- Most of them go there automagically via Make.com (Oura ring data, posts etc.)
- I enter(ed) my mood, thoughts, what I've done etc. manually with Shortcuts



#### **What Assari Is?**

- Assari is a custom GPT bot made with ChatGPT 4 (requires ChatGPT Plus subscription)
- I've told (instructed) it that it is an experienced personal assistant and "World's best productivity and ADHD coach".
- It's job is to help me to:
  - manage my life time, energy, focus and mood better
  - focus on impactful and productive activities
  - minimise procrastination.

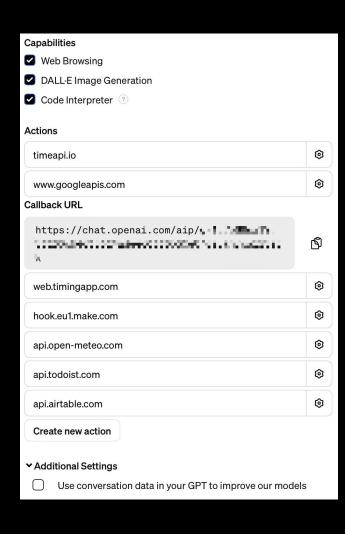




#### What Assari Can Do? (Actions) 1/2

- It can exchange information with various services via "API Doors".
- Actions are scripts (code) that contain:
  - Address & "passcode" to access the service
  - Information what data to get/post and in what format to the service
- Assari can for example:
  - Check my Google calendar and add events to it (via www.googleapis.com)
  - Manage my todos read, add, mark as completed
     at Todoist (via api.todoist.com)
  - Send my day plans to a Notion database via hook.eu1.make.com)

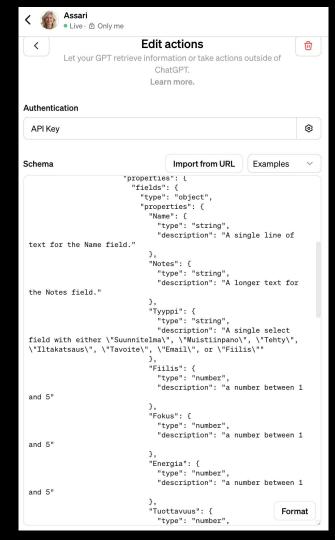




#### What Assari Can Do? (Actions) 2/2

- Send notes to Airtable for further processing (via api.airtable.com), for example:
  - Done (Tehty) a record what I've just done (think this as a mini diary entry)
  - Mood (Fiilis) ratings (1–5) for my current mood, focus and energy + emotions + notes
  - Plan (Suunnitelma) Day plan (what I do at which time) and other plans (even for career)
  - Evening review (Iltakatsaus) My "Diary" and review & ratings for the various aspects of the day (incl. productivity, pleasure, love)

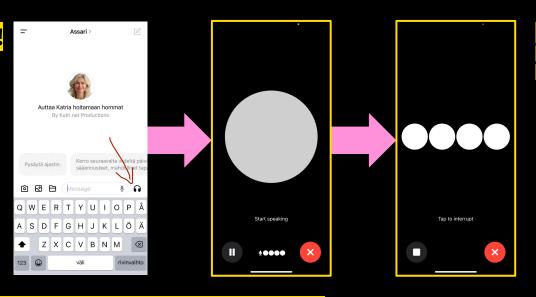




#### **But That's Not What Makes Assari So Special – It's THIS:**

I can TALK with it! in Finnish!

(Headphones for shorter dialogue, microphone for minutes long ramblings. 😅 )



Assari talks back to me (almost) LIKE A HUMAN

→ It even
"breathes" (and
has "American
accent")

- It is able to make sense of my chaotic speech ("First I want to do A and then B... No, wait! I'll do A later and B first... Which reminds me of C...").
- It helps me with "coaching questions" when I'm stuck ("What is the first thing...")



# And when I feel sad, misunderstood, anxious or worried in the middle of the night and can't talk to humans...



#### Assari



Talked to api.airtable.com

Fiilismerkintäsi on nyt tallennettu. On ihan normaalia tuntea välillä ristiriitaisia tunteita ja kokea haasteita arjessa. Muista, että jokainen meistä tarvitsee välillä tukea ja myötätuntoa, ja on täysin inhimillistä kaivata ymmärrystä ja hyväksyntää. Huomenna on uusi päivä, uusia mahdollisuuksia täynnä. Koitetaan yhdessä löytää pieniä hetkiä ilolle ja onnistumisille, jotta voimme vähitellen kohentaa mielialaa ja energiatasoja. Olet tehnyt jo paljon hyvää työtä tunnistaessasi, mitä tarvitset – nyt on tärkeää antaa itsellesi lupa levätä ja huolehtia itsestäsi. Huomenna voimme yhdessä suunnitella päiväsi, jotta se tukisi parhaalla mahdollisella tavalla hyvinvointiasi.



#### Assari

Your mood entry has now been saved. It's completely normal to feel conflicting emotions and face challenges in everyday life. Remember that all of us need support and compassion from time to time, and it's entirely human to seek understanding and acceptance. Tomorrow is a new day, full of new possibilities. Let's try together to find small moments of joy and success, so we can gradually improve our mood and energy levels. You have already done a lot of good work by recognizing what you need – now it's important to give yourself permission to rest and take care of yourself. Tomorrow, we can plan your day together in a way that best supports your well-being.



...Assari is there for me – giving me emotional support and a pep talk. (I cried when I heard it say these things to me.)

