## PULP ODDYSSEY

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## ROBOTS AREN'T THE ENEMY: POOR PROGRAMMING IS

by Shilla Neahm opinion writer

Well, here we are. Only a few hundred years after humans gained their freedom after centuries of being under robot control. We're only a few decades beyond humans achieving the right to speak human languages in public, eat in robot restaurants, poop in robot toilets (15 years after gaining the right to pee in them), and even be permitted to look robots square in the eye without punishment.

Let's face it: as a generalization, analyzing the course of history, it's fair to say: robots are garbage. Most of us agree that they need to face some pretty serious consequences for their actions throughout most of history.

Although it's absolutely not enough, lately we have been seeing some progress.

Just yesterday, the first robot was convicted and sent to an intergalactic prison for its role in the roller coaster death of a human child (the safety bar didn't lock properly, and the human child fell 300 feet from the ride). Robots everywhere are becoming increasingly more afraid that their own freedoms are going to be stripped away from them. They blame humans for programming them incorrectly. While many hu-

mans are celebrating justice, some are quietly plotting revenge.

Humans have every right to be angry. The history of human and robot relationships is violent and tense. Many robots still hold onto outdated laws and robot-supremacist perspectives. But let's get this straight: not all robots do. While



A robot extends a flower to a human in a random act of cheesiness PHOTO BY: MAC BEW, 7892

the vast majority of robots are ill-informed and can't be trusted, not all robots are evil. A lot of robots just need to be programmed differently. Many bots believe, in whatever way they are able to have "thoughts," that they are good and have decent intentions toward humans.

What we have to remember is this: Most robots have no power themselves and are enslaved by their own robot masters who are likely enslaved by alien overlords who we've never encountered in the flesh (metal alloy for bots), but only through floor-to-ceiling conference screens during intergalactic political meetings-- which means we aren't entirely convinced they are real. The unsettling reality is that robots also exist in unequal power structures

within their own, shall we say, kind.

Many robots have been brainwashed in how they process their existence. In general, most robots aren't even aware of their own genocidal, fascist histories. They aren't programmed with the information. The media also ignores and makes light of entire centuries of robot's enslavement of humans, as though it were only a tragic reality for the foundation of humor or a tiny blip in the grand scheme of their existence.

Robots are also programmed to understand that they are products of human capital: humans built them. Humans gave them their power. So, a mental loophole, from a robot perspective, suggests that if robots are evil, aren't the humans who created them just as or perhaps more evil?

Regardless of their programming, many robots say they want to do the right thing, even when the right thing is made difficult on a daily basis. So many times I meet a robot and ask them their purpose, the answer is "to help make human lives easier" -- and I do believe in so many cases they are sincere.

Lately, the fear has been they are programmed to say that to you to sell more products.

I truly hope we can bridge this divide and instead of working humans against robot, we can ban together to overcome our true obstacles: the overlords and poor programming.

send opinion pieces to disappearing.editors @gmail.com

### LETTERS 2 THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Is this a trap?

Please help, ITAT

Hi ITAT,

You tell us. Can you get out?

Best, Editors

Dear Editor,

I am really scared i think i saw an agent the other day i think she was an agent because she stared at me in a way that made me feel like someone was burning two lasers through my head. I went to the library later that day and there she was across a stack of books barely blinking and looking right at me. I followed the steps you outlined last issue and approached her. I said "how was your day" and she just stared at me like i shouldn't be speaking to her. There was an emptiness behind her eyes. I heard very odd music emanating from her head and i ran away. Could you please tell me, was she an agent?

Sincerely, Sally Swadka Sally.girl25@notmail.com

Hi Sally,

The likelihood of this person being an agent is Very High. You did the right thing to run. Next time you believe yourself to be in the presence of an agent, make absolutely sure you make as little eye contact as possible. The more eye contact you make, the more damage that can be done to your brain and the more information the agent can get out of you.

Best of luck! Editors

Dear Editor,

I just wanted to write in to express my outrage over the outrage. The recent newspaper burnings on Earth IV are very unsettling to me. I can't wrap my head around why people on that Earth would be so angry about a small typo in the latest issue that they would burn all issues of Pulp Oddyssey, even the collector's editions It really feels like a lot of petty drama. Something that could at least be addressed in an email or meeting.

First of all, Pulp Oddyssey always has at least 10 enormous copy errors, like really really bad ones. Why nearly start a riot because your very poorly-trained intern (guessing Charly Cannon still has a job?) forgot to include a space between two words on page 1? That's ludiculous! Some people need to get a life!

In irritation, ME Klyne

Hey ME,

We have to stay neutral on this topic publicly, because you know, we're a newspaper. So please read the next sentence backwards to learn our true feelings about this occurrence: Erom eerga tndluoc ew. Hope that's a sufficient response from us!

Best, Editors

Send your questions, complaints, and observations to: disappearing.editors @gmail.com

#### STAFF

IMMA DOT
Editor-in-chief

CHARLEY CANNON Intern

Everyone else quit.

Send submissions to: disappearing.editors@gmail.com

WE LIKE Y<u>OU.</u>

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REVERSABLE PAPER!

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Side 2 BULLSH\*T



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#### BADNESS LEVELS AT 4

by Nehoc Nevets

disappearing contributor

If you thought it was bad before, you'll be upset to learn that things are now worse than before. For the uninitiated "worse" is the more bad, than bad. Scientists yesterday marked badness levels at a full 4, however, opposition politician party members have officially come out of the caves that they are mandated to hide in to say it's at least an almost 5, while Opposition Leader Creamy Juices implied a potential 6.

Scientists and politicians agreed that the badness levels were up and they all had Ted Talks style speeches that they gave. Everyone that saw them agreed that their was a mixture of information, charisma, and humor that didn't solve the rising bad levels but did entertain everyone.

Robots were quick to shoo the politicians back into their caves and their scientists into their sea labs, sci labs, and



in one case a labrador retriever. The robots were quick to point out that labrador retriever was discernably a good boy and has had no effect in the raising bad levels. The Robots also flipped over several graph charts which then showed a significant drop in bad levels.

The Robot Centurion that had learned to love, last month, was quoted as saying, "Beep Doot."

This would be promising news if robots didn't learn to lie during a rousing game of gin rummy about 2 years ago. You remember that, right? It happened when that species took over the souls of everyone in the galaxy and the robots played board games to save us all. That was cool of them.

Scientists believe that at current bad levels the galaxy will not be able to sustain current levels of card games. They have asked the intergalactic community to learn to live less bad lives.

#### For Example:

- A) Don't hit each other, but do be cool to each other.
- B) The environment is where you came from and where you'll go so just be kind to it
- C) Crowdfund a time machine for us so we can teach mark 1 robots to be sweeter.

Just kidding. It's too late. Enjoy the end game!

#### EXTREMELY POLARIZING ARTICLE

by Charley Cannon, Intern

I have something to say. A lot of people are going to disagree with me & some might even be offended... this is not easy to express, especially in a world where opinions polarize & saying the wrong thing can make you a whole lot of enemies— even if it is all taken completely out of context.

But I'm going to say it, I have to. It feels to me that this is something no one ever wants to admit. Some might feel this way but saying it in a group setting makes everyone around you look at you like you're completely unhinged. But I feel this from my core. So here it goes... this is my truth. If I never pen another word

again, I must put this in print:

Parades are stupid and a waste of everyone's time.

Why do we go to them let alone spend months planning them? What purpose do they even serve? Does anyone actually have any fun at them?

You get up early to stake out a spot on some regular street that's been converted to a stage to wait uncomfortably for hours, for what? To watch a bunch of business-owners & boy scouts dance around on or behind "floats" waving flags & throw cheap candy (like tootsie rolls and jolly ranchers??) & trash all over the streets. It's like watching everyone's egos

travel down a conveyer belt. Everyone's breathing on each other & you can barely move. You can't cross the street for half a day & then there are fire-fighters and police everywhere.

Why can't we just hang out with each other & listen to records? Or play a game of darts? What's so important that we want to celebrate it by smashing together like sardines with a bunch of snoteyed, fish-breathed strangers??

If I enjoyed that feeling, I'd make a habit of riding the train during rush hour, even if I had nowhere to go.

Put an end to parades. Donate to my fund: www.endparades.org. Thanks!

#### ACROSS THE PLUSE: NEWS IN BRIEF

by Nej Nosrol news writer

today's galaxies, there are always way too many news stories to share. In this section, we keep it brief by sharing important headlines with a short one to two sentence summary or quotation.

Muldant J. Dorp Appoints Corrupt Judge to Superior Court President Dorp gave a friend of his with a questionable past a very important job that gives him insane amounts of power. No one is shocked.

Stoic Wizard Calls Humans Everywhere "Stupid" A wizard from Earth VI has made a public statement on the state of humankind. "It is my humble opinion that humans are really really stupid," he said exhaling heavily. "That is all."

Galactic Perspective: Humans are Emotional Cannibals A new study finds that people everywhere consistently behave without self-awareness. They call each other names and take joy in each other's failures; it's super super toxic. Queen Bot Delivers Uplifting Speech to People of Earth VII After nearly decades of bad news on Earth VII, the Queen decided to say something positive and give people hope. Most of the population says they had a better day afterwards.

Community Member More Sympathetic to Dominant Narrative A controversial thing happened and there were two sides to the story, but everyone who heard one side over and over again only believed that one side.

#### BEASTII COVER BAND SELLS **OUT GREEN ROCK ARENA**

by Tod Ammi music contributor

Beastii cover band, Earthquake Weather, sells out largest galactic venue Earthquake Weather, the famous BEASTII coverband, was named after a song on BEASTII's first rock album "Can't Wait." Earthquake Weather has gotten incredibly popular over the last few years, selling out stadiums across the Hamun Pluse. It is reported that the cover band members make 1,000,000 (converted to USD)

Earthquake bassist, said. "I'm not even ed platform, let alone a stage.

sure people know it isn't me. Sometimes I forget that Merana is impersonating me and not the other way around."

This is all fine and good,



per show, and their records (all but what is bizarre is it that BEASTII cover songs) have BEASTII, the original band gone platinum 420 times over. who still plays in the Milkyway, Weather is a small townie band. They does an impeccable job per- only play basement shows and forming as BEASTII. "The don't even have a record deal. bass player Merana has my The original band has nevmoves down," Dom, BEASTII's er even played on an elevat-

"We send them the songs before we even master them, so they are ready to play them before we even release them ourselves," Dot, the lead-singer/songwriter said.

When asked if they think they should get a cut of Earthquake Weather's earnings, the whole band responded in unison, "Nah."

BEASTII's drummer. Chris Lee, responded: "[Earthquake Weather's] drummer Spork does these songs more justice than I ever could." Lee iterated, "Money isn't really an issue. Money is only useful on this Earth, we're trying to branch out from our Earth."

Dom nodded in agreement and added, "I just hope they don't decide to come for my karaoke gig. They'd probably take me for all I'm worth."

PHOTO: Pictured from L to R: Merana, Yaya, & Spork.

Photo taken by Gemfs Fenfs, 2876

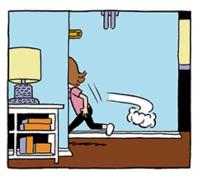
# BOTTOMSHELF COMICS FOR IMMATURE READERS ONLY!

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Lucius W.













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DOT.

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#### NUSIC FRANKSYVAY

#### PUNKETTE RESPECT

SongPick: "FuckOff" by Jayne County

Listen this whole fucking song. Listen all the way through to the end where she says, "If you ain't got time to take a walk with me on my meat rack, then you can just get the hell out of my breadline!" This is a song from back when music was saying something. "Fuck Off" is the last track on "Rock N Roll Resurrection," which was originally pressed in 1978. Jayne County, if you aren't aware, is the badass queen of sass. And she doesn't want any of your flumadiddles. Jayne built her empire as a performer in the '70s & '80s NYC punk scene, first with Queen Elizabeth, then with her influential band Wayne County & the Electric Chairs, a reference to Detroit punk bands who came from Wayne County. I'm sure you could guess, she's known for her surprising stage antics and filthy mouth. To this day, Jayne County is widely considered the first transwoman to front a punk band.

My good friend Sue R. System recently sent me a photo of a pin from 1976 with a drawing of Jayne County and the phrase "The Future is Female" around the edges, a phrase that, as far as I know, came out of the '70s lesbian separatist movement- I wouldn't be surprised to learn there is a deeper-rooted history however. (And though largely embraced as a highly forward-thinking phrase, it has seen cultural criticism as being transphobic as of late.) The image on the pin speaks for itself- what an icon! Just an unfriendly reminder that this blog is a call to pay respects and bow down to the punk queens who came before you. 38 posts in & we're just getting started. So now's your chance - if you're gonna be a piss-baby, or you don't want a piece of that action, then baby, fuck off.







COUNTY







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# RECORDS AND COLLECTIBLES —

## NATTY COMIC











pumb pora supplement to the album by SWIMSUIT ADDITION

A new card game that celebrates the working class!



OK now check

"Password Reset"



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Seriously.

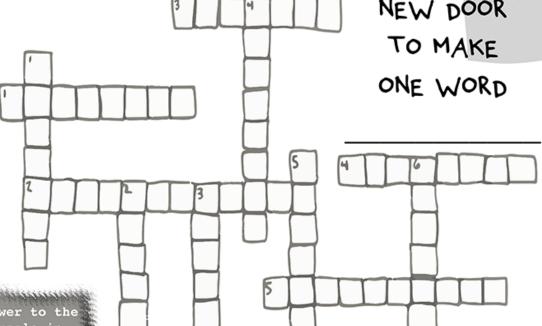






# OUTERSPACE

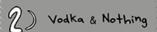
REARRANGE THE LETTERS IN "NEW DOOR"



Answer to the puzzle in Issue #6

ACROSS





3) Meteor Womb

4) Nail Clipping

S) Hypothetical Space-takers

**NWO** 

Origin Story

2) BUZZ

3) Habital Planet

4) Bright

5) A doZen signs

(S)) A band of color

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