

the

Reckoner

of Marc Garneau C.I.

ChatGPT

by ANDY SUN

“ChatGPT, the brainchild of OpenAI, is like a genie in a bottle, ready to fulfill our every linguistic desire. With its advanced capabilities of understanding and producing human-like text, it has the power to revolutionize industries and change the way we interact with technology. But, with great power comes great responsibility. As we unleash the full potential of ChatGPT, we must also consider the potential consequences that come with it. As we delve into the world of ChatGPT, ponder on the question: Is ChatGPT a blessing or a curse?”

Hold on, though. I, Andy Sun, didn’t actually write the previous paragraph. It was the response I got after prompting ChatGPT to “write a creative introduction about ChatGPT” (how ironic). Chances are, you’ve probably already heard of this creation and maybe even tried it out yourself, but if you haven’t, it’s quite the spectacle.

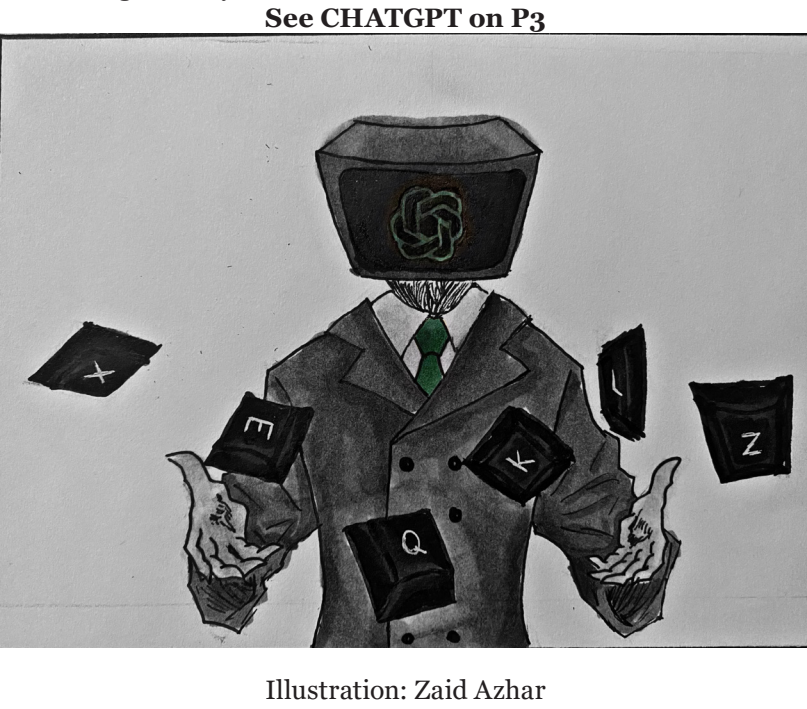
On November 30, 2022, OpenAI, a San Francisco-based company, released the revolutionary chatbot that’s taken over the internet ever since. ChatGPT is a large language model (LLM), meaning it’s trained on massive amounts of data—175 billion parameters, or 570 gigabytes to be exact [1]—enabling it to accurately predict the next word and generate extremely human-sounding responses. At a first glance, an upgraded autofill tool may not sound all too impressive, but the amount of training data used actually makes a huge difference. Writing quirky self-introduction paragraphs isn’t the only thing ChatGPT can do—it can write college essays, create recipes, generate functioning code, and if you wanted it to write a rant about pineapples on pizza in the style of the King James Bible fused with The Communist

Manifesto, it can do that too. It’s hailed as the new Google; a creation with hype on par with the launch of the iPhone—even my boomer Asian parents have heard about it from their WeChat groups and subsequently lectured me on its use. Largely, this echoes the two initial reactions everyone’s had: exhilaration over the possibilities, and panic over the possibilities. This article will examine those possibilities and present a snapshot into the uncertain future.

We tend to overestimate the effects of new developments in a constant hype cycle. However, make no mistake—unlike NFTs and crypto, which have largely become a relic of the past, there is reason beyond doubt that ChatGPT and the future work of OpenAI will have huge, lingering ramifications. The evidence for this can be traced in empirical data. Firstly, ChatGPT has been the fastest app in history to reach 100 million users—taking a mere 2 months after release, compared to other massive apps like TikTok (9 months) and Instagram (30 months). [2] A rapid adoption rate is a classic indicator of disruptive technology, such as the personal computer and the internet. Furthermore, OpenAI’s potential has been recognized by massive firms like Microsoft (which has invested a total of \$13 billion since 2019), amassing a valuation of \$29 billion. [3] This figure is colossal for a startup and is a signal of the disruptive potential of the AI. Moreover, beyond figures, it’s extremely intuitive how useful a tool like this could be. One of the defining characteristics of ChatGPT is its extreme accessibility—it is literally as easy as having a conversation with a real person. It’s completely free (as of its research phase), and there is no tech-savvy-ness barrier to entry. Anyone can have human-like conversations with the bot, which can tell jokes, write stories, answer any peculiar questions, create custom workout plans, and so much more.

Even if the uses of this AI stop there (spoiler—it doesn’t), it’s already enough to become a product as large as Google. In fact, ChatGPT specifically poses a threat to Google’s search dominance. Instead of having to type a clunky semantic query, scroll past promoted ad links, and visit five different links before finally arriving at the answer you

were looking for, ChatGPT directly combs the internet and synthesizes the information in a useful way. Furthermore, the ability to ask specific follow-up questions gives it an undeniable edge over the classic search engine. This has led to the creator of Gmail, Paul Buchheit, predicting that typical search engines will become obsolete in two years. [4] Adding onto this, Microsoft has started implementing the AI into its search engine, Bing, subsequently sending Google into a state of “code red”. However, Google has plans to develop an AI chatbot of its own, called Bard, using data from its LLM LaMDA. [5] This means that it’s unlikely that Google would sit idly as it gets phased out, but this furious state of competition also means that AI development will grow only faster...



Morality is Overrated... Or Rather Inconsistent?

by CHANG CHANG LI

The structure of society is largely one constructed out of hypocrisy, where the common man is subjected to near-Abrahamic standards of morality and commitment while the privileged of our society are allowed to bend the rules and standards of our world to their liking—disregarding morality for money, malignancy, and marginality. From the moment we were born, we were taught a collection of morals and a standard for behaviour that have shaped who we are. Be nice to others. Treat others how you want to be treated. Play nice. But have we ever considered for a second why we act this way? Why do we treat these declarations placed upon us by our environment as laws of the universe? Have we ever wondered why the virtue of living life morally and courteously? Enter moral inconsistency, the idea that one can act in a morally contemptuous manner yet proclaim that they are still acting in good faith. Moral inconsistency: a culture that infests society and leads to the expectation of the common man to place the sky on their back and sacrifice self-sanity for the greater good, the structures of society that reinforce these superglue adherences to morality at times more hypocritical than anyone can imagine. Although morality should always be a consideration in our minds during decisions, perhaps we must consider its weight with more situational consideration and open our eyes to moral inconsistencies around us. Treating others with the same moral considerations that they treat us with, the old childhood saying is now evaluated through the lens of harsh reality.

To first acknowledge why morality is perhaps harmful to the self at times is to acknowledge the fact that our world isn’t as morally consistent as we may think, our world is filled with individuals and firms that have established that moral goodness comes second to self-interest. The idea of positive and negative externalities is nought but an afterthought in modern industry, companies willingly dumping waste into the hands of Indigenous people and those of developed countries and our entire economic system coercing every citizen in our society into a lifetime of slavery— no other outcome but destitution if not one doesn’t comply. These sorts of moral and ethical violations are nothing more than daily life to us, practical slavery that feeds currency into the pockets of already rich moguls, nothing more than a constant within our fractured society. These sorts of moral violations are seen as reality, as a constant variable that cannot be changed, and yet when it is not the rich and powerful that tread over and infringe on others, it is seen as an evil crime. Now obviously it is wrong to tread on others and violate their rights and humanity, but shouldn’t it be fair that no matter the status of one they should be punished the same for such a crime? In our reality, that isn’t the case, mass crimes committed by institutions and firms are treated as though a casual case of jaywalking for the layman— an ignored activity that at worst is simply a slap on the wrist, or in the hands of transnational corporations a fine on a fraction of the profits made through immoral activities. So we live in a society where we are violated by the rich and powerful and are forced into submission by a system that punishes our complacency with poverty. So what? Well, moral inconsistency does not just exist on the societal scale but even in our interactions with others around us. We may think that doing what is right is simply taking the high road, but in the face of bad actors, we simply allow ourselves to be exploited like lambs to slaughter— goodness taken for granted as vulnerability and a non-risk of repercussion seen as an invitation to acts of bad faith.

Even in daily life, moral inconsistencies place a burden on those acting out of consistent moral consideration to tank the harmful actions of others through the idea of the “high road”, that your happiness and pride and reputation come second to doing the right thing. In reality, when thinking about what the purpose of life is, it is most important that one is content with living and that should come over any consideration of what is abstractly right or wrong. Take the case of an unhealthy relationship. If your partner was to constantly deceive you and abuse you in some form, it would be logical to leave them, wouldn’t it? Yet if you add in the fact that they are going through a tough time and are struggling with some aspect of their life, suddenly people are hesitant to make a change because they feel as though leaving them would be selfish and dispel their abuser to a constant storm of anguish.

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Amber Heard & Why We Don’t Care About ‘Deviant Women’

by EILEEN KUANG

Trigger warning: mentions of violence

The recent Depp v. Heard trial brought out obnoxiously public displays of misogyny, willful ignorance, and a cultural theme that’s rung true since day one. Why does condemning or even hating women like Amber Heard feel so easy?

The terminology of the ‘ideal’ victim was first popularised by criminologist Nils Christie, describing a “feminised, infantilized and racialized stereotype of victimhood”. [1] Although the narrative of a ‘perfect victim’ is often applied to victims of sexual assault or abuse, its roots carry a disturbing theme throughout history.

Whether it’s a television series or a novel or a news article – people love stories. People love a dashing hero to root for and a despicable villain to loathe. Perhaps, it is the fantasy that we’ll one day become the perfect protagonist who can do no wrong and courageously oppose all evil. This rhetoric manifests itself on diverse edges of the media, even on a socio-political scale with figures like Rosa Parks. Specifically, nine months before Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat to a white person, largely neglected Claudette Colvin did the same thing. Whether it was Colvin being seen as a ‘feisty’ teenager, being contentiously convicted for assaulting the police who arrested her, or not being fair-skinned, civil rights leaders at the time deemed her “unfit to organise around”. Although Colvin’s later pregnancy was announced after their verdict and thus did not play a role in the decision, her teen pregnancy made many feel as though the leaders’ choice was further justified. [2] It is imperative to highlight that this decision was not made through an assessment of Colvin’s activism, leadership, nor dedication, but rather the degree of which she could appeal to a conservative, white audience. I imagine the scandalised pearl clutching and disapproving nods were much too devastating for activists attempting to dismantle systemic racism. Despite my cynicism, however, it is a depressingly true fact that their strategy worked. By appealing to the average white conservative, Rosa Parks secured media traction, becoming an iconic and globally recognized figure for Black liberation in North America...

See AMBER HEARD on P3

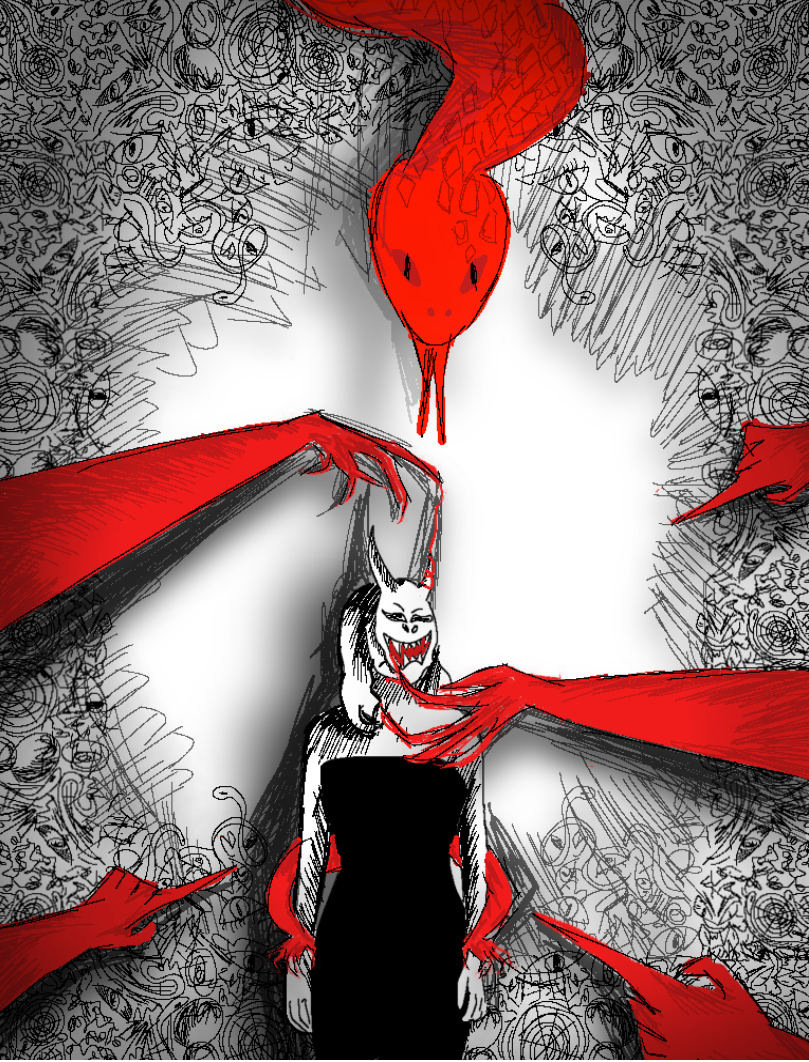


Illustration: Elizabeth Soutchanski

Pronouns and Respect

by VERONICA DAVEY-YOUNG

*“If you misgender me - That’s okay
I accidentally misgender myself sometimes!
...
As long as you keep trying to respect my truth,
And as long as I remember my truth,
The shift will come naturally*

I’m just grateful for your effort in trying to remember what means so much to my healing process” [1]

Wrote Demi Lovato in a Twitter post about their coming out as non-binary.

Lovato now uses both they/them and she/her. In the post they wrote about accidental misgendering, an increasingly common experience as gender fluidity and change is becoming more respected and known. In this article I will explore and define misgendering as well as sharing the ways to be respectful to all.

Have you ever had someone pronounce your name wrong? Or maybe they assumed your ethnicity or race incorrectly? How does it make you feel? Misunderstood?

Now consider a trans individual who has gone their whole life labeled as something they do not identify with. They are constantly dehumanized.

Being misgendered on the regular is extremely frustrating. Especially in a society where gender and gender expression greatly affects people’s daily interactions with others. It’s important that those who are not often misgendered understand the harm it causes, and that we learn how to reduce it. [2] And a vital part of that is understanding some important terminology.

Gender identity
Gender is a social construct but someone’s gender identity is someone’s individual experience of gender. It is their internal feeling of what their gender is and is not defined by their sex or sexual orientation. [3]

Sex assigned at birth
Someone’s sex assigned at birth, whether written on a driver’s license or birth certificate, is a purely physiological feature based on their reproductive organs, chromosomes, or other characteristics. It is not a definition of someone’s gender identity. [3]

Sexual orientation
Your sexual orientation is any sexual or romantic attraction you feel towards people of certain genders. Different sexual orientations include, but are not limited to, heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual, asexual, pansexual, etc.

Transgender
A transgender person is someone whose gender identity is not the same as their sex assigned at birth.

Cisgender
A cisgender person is someone whose gender identity is the same as their sex assigned at birth. This means that they are not transgender.

Non-binary
Non-binary is a gender identity that is not of the “binary” male or female. Some non-binary people identify as transgender, and some don’t. Do not assume that because someone is non-binary that they are trans, or that they aren’t. [4]

Genderqueer
Genderqueer is a term that has a variety of meanings. To some it is an umbrella term for all non conventional genders, and to others it is a political choice against conforming to societal gender stereotypes. It is a loose term and you may hear it being used differently in varying scenarios. [4]

See PRONOUNS AND GENDER on P3

NEWS

Dear Reader,

The last few years haven’t been easy for any of us. Who could’ve seen the pandemic coming?

The Reckoner has adapted, excelling despite ever-changing circumstances, but there’s been one thing we haven’t been able to achieve since the lockdown began: physical prints. And that, reader, is why I’m so incredibly proud to be writing this message in honour of our first distribution since February 2020.

Know that what you’re holding in your hands right now is the culmination of hard work from each and every board. We are proud to be constantly sharing the unique, diverse perspectives of the students of MGCI, and this rings true today as always. I hope you set this down having learned something new.

Please enjoy our March Edition.

Cheers,

Allyson Wu
Editor in Chief

P.S. And hey, tuck this away somewhere, instead of recycling it! Maybe you’ll look back at it fondly in a few years.

Making School Your Space With Ms. Grant!

by NEVETHA ARULLINKAM



Photograph: Yameen Aziz

Q: What do you teach at Garneau? What clubs are you involved in?
A: I teach most of the classes under the Social Science and Humanities umbrella. I’ve been teaching for nineteen years total and here for five. In those five years, I’ve taught Parenting, Living and Working with Children, Philosophy, Religions, Genocide, Learning Strategies, Civics, Careers, and Social Justice and Equity. I’m involved with the Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA). I’m also one of the editors for The Reckoner and I’m working with Ms. McCalla and Mr. Smith on the student voice panel.

Q: Why did you decide to be a teacher?
A: In university, I found that my peers in study groups would often look to me to take the complicated academic stuff in a lecture and make it understandable. The feeling of helping people understand things was really rewarding.
I first thought I wanted to be a professor, but what they want professors to do the most is write and publish articles. I want to teach. That’s the part that I find inspiring. I was inspired by those who taught me, so I thought that I wanted to inspire other people.
When I worked in a grade two classroom, I went home and cried every day because all the kids in my room needed things—hugs, love, parenting, food—that I couldn’t give them. I felt so powerless to affect any positive change in these young people’s lives. I worked as an emergency supply teacher in a high school and realized these are my people. You could still be that little kid that might not have been treated well at home. But now, I can tell you you matter by literally telling you you matter. I can make you feel seen by just seeing you. I can affect the change I wanted to affect in the little people.

Q: Why is GSA important to you?
A: Representation matters. I think that being a queer teenager is super hard even in today’s society. I also think it’s very important for me to be out as queer because of that.
Safe spaces matter. Even if you’re closeted and never show up to

a single GSA meeting, knowing that there’s an educator inside that building who runs that tells you that somebody thinks you should exist. Even if you’re not ready to join and not ready to think about your own sexuality or any of that. Maybe you’ll get a little bit of courage and a little bit of understanding that you are normal, that you have a right to exist and you have a right to be your authentic self.
My whole agenda is that I want adolescents to feel safe and comfortable being their authentic self, whatever that looks like. You shouldn’t be beholden to anybody else, not your parents, not society, not anything. Eventually you’re walking it alone, so you better figure out who you are.

Q: How has the idea of being true to yourself been a part of your teaching?
A: If I didn’t tell anyone I was queer, no one would know. I masquerade as a hetero white lady. I married a man and have two children. I am somebody who has the ability to move through this world with quite a bit of ease, in the grand scheme of things. Because of that, I think it’s important for people who have it a little easier to sometimes make more space for people who don’t feel included and for people whose voices are more silent.
It’s important to me to give everybody space to be their authentic selves and to not make assumptions about their experience. That includes gender, race, religion, and everything. I try to wait until students tell me who they are, but also make space for those answers to be different. I don’t want them to feel like there’s only one answer available that they can give. So he, she, they, them, whatever you are, you should be able to bring that into the classroom, and it should feel welcoming and safe. School isn’t my space. It’s your space.

Q: What’s something that you think students should know?
A: Do what you love, because money is never going to be it, ever. Find a way to build a life that fits in as much joy and happiness and satisfaction as you can. I hear students already going, oh, I have to be a nurse, social worker, whatever. You don’t have to be anything, because anything that you pursue with passion, you will be a success at. If it’s what you love and it is what brings you joy, what allows you to flourish, the money, and the survival will come. If you do something you hate, there is not enough money in the world to buy you joy.

Q: What do you want to see happen in the school in the future?
A: To all the things that were said at the student voice forum, I want every teacher in this building to listen, and I want every teacher in this building to respond appropriately.
The student voice panel is made up of students from different interest groups, including GSA, the Black Student Association (BSA), the Muslim Student Association (MSA), etc. The students have gone out and collected data from other groups that weren’t represented. They were so powerful. A room full of teachers was told to shut their mouths while the panel said their truths. The hope is that teachers change.
There isn’t a single young person in this building who shouldn’t feel like they belong and feel welcome in every classroom they enter. I want this school to change based on what the students are asking for. I want the staff to respond and I want the school to change accordingly. ■



Photographs: Ivy Liu



Go Cougars! MGCI Dominates Ontario DECA Provincials

by STEPHIE LIU

Thousands of high school students across Ontario travel to Toronto to compete in the annual Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) Provincials, a business case study competition that takes place over three days. This year, 5729 student competitors from 230 club chapters registered for the competition, which was held from 12 February to 14 February at the Toronto Sheraton Centre. The top competitors qualified for the International Career Development Conference (ICDC), which will take place from 20 April to 26 April in Orlando, Florida.

Competitive events are categorised into the broad clusters of business management and administration, entrepreneurship, finance, hospitality and management, marketing, and personal financial literacy. Events consist of doing role-plays and case studies, prepared events, or online simulations. Role-play and case study events involve two portions: a multiple choice test and an oral event. This year, with the exception of events in the marketing cluster, all multiple choice tests were written online on 7 February and 8 February. Marketing-related tests were conducted on-site on 14 February. The oral events were done either individually or in pairs with a judge on 13 February. Prepared events require competitors to create a written project and a presentation, with some events also requiring a career cluster exam. Finally, online events involve using business simulations such as the Stock Market Game and the Virtual Business Challenge. The awards ceremony was held on 14 February once all events were completed.

Alexander Zhang, a grade nine student who competed in the Entrepreneurship Team Decision Making event, said, “It was super fun. Kind of nerve racking but because me and my partner had prepared quite a bit, I was also excited to see what I could do. Competing in-person was definitely an experience, especially in the Sheraton hotel. Getting to stroll around downtown was a huge plus!”
Marc Garneau Collegiate Institute’s DECA Chapter has consistently performed exceptionally well at the Provincial competition in the past, and this year was no exception. Fifty members participated in the competition and won a total of 52 medals (41 medals accounting for team events), with 5 students qualifying for the International Career Development Conference (ICDC).
When reflecting on MGCI’s achievements at the DECA Ontario Provincials, the president of MGCI’s DECA Chapter, Anushka Tripathi, said, “I’m really proud of all MGCI DECA’s accomplished this year. It was so exciting seeing so many MGCI DECA members walking across the provincial stage last Tuesday, but more than the laurels themselves, I think I’m most proud of all the hard work, perseverance, and dedication that the chapter members demonstrated in their preparation for this DECA season. I have seen immense growth in every single person and it has been an honour to be a part of each of their DECA journeys.” ■

The Reckoner would like to recognize the following students on their achievement at the Ontario DECA Provincial competition:

- Jerry Chen (PMK) - Top 15 Exam
Veronica Davey-Young (ENT) - Top 20 Role-Play, Top 15 Exam
Victor Jiang (PBM) - Top 20 Role-Play
Swapnil Kabir, Alexander Zhang (ETDM) - Top 20 Role-Play, Top 15 Exam, Top 3 Overall
Eric Ma (PFN) - Top 20 Role-Play
Maxim Mohareb (PMK) - Top 20 Role-Play, Top 10 Overall
Luck Xing (ETDM) - Top 15 Exam
Eddie Chen (ASM) - Top 15 Exam
Sirui Hang, Wenzhao Pan (BTDM) - Top 20 Role-Play, Top 15 Exam, Top 10 Overall
Allyson Wu (BSM) - Top 3 Overall
Lisa Zhang (BSM) - Top 20 Role-Play
Amy Jia, Emma Liu (STDM) - Top 20 Role-Play, Top 15 Exam (Amy Jia), Top 10 Overall
Allan Li (TTDM) - Top 15 Exam
Laura Gao, Vicky Wen (TTDM) - Top 20 Role-Play, Top 10 Overall
Anushka Tripathi (BFS) - Top 20 Role-Play, Top 15 Exam, Top 10 Overall
Eileen Kuang, Chang Chang Li (BLTDM) - Top 20 Role-Play, Top 15 Exam (Chang Chang Li), Top 10 Overall
Angela Xu (HLM) - Top 20 Role-Play
Joy Zhou (PFL) - Top 20 Role-Play

EDITORIAL

Morality is Overrated... Or Rather Inconsistent?

by CHANG CHANG LI
Continued from P1

It's unrealistic to believe that you could ever change them, and the emotional burden placed on you through their antics is enough to make you miserable. This means that no matter how negatively they are affected by being placed on their own and you leaving them, you should because it is what is best for you. It is irrelevant if they made a mistake or if they regret their decision, for you come first. Yet in our current society that is seen as a selfish decision, where you make the “mistake” of placing yourself over someone else, but that sort of standard shouldn't be placed on one when contentment is on the line. If someone abuses you or manipulates you or cheats on you, there is no reason to excuse moral inconsistency because you are the “better person”. Make changes and place your happiness over others, for that is how you live an enjoyable life.

Now keep in mind that this isn't recommending the complete scrapping of moral foundations, after all, if you were to live life with no consideration for others you would be nothing less than a horrible person. What is being suggested is that your morality should not get in the way of your general well-being. Sometimes, it is okay to acknowledge that an action that benefits you hurts others, as a lot of times that is just an element of life—every fish that you eat is another mouth hungry— but it is essential that you are honest about the fact that you were acting in a morally inconsistent way for otherwise you are reinforcing the same culture that pressures people into self-destructive yet moral behaviour. To live life to the fullest you must acknowledge that our world is morally inconsistent and escape from the bonds and fallacies of being a better person, yet at the same time you must own up to it and free yourself from the idea that to be immoral at times is synonymous with being a bad person. You can be a good person and sometimes act in a way that harms others and benefits you, it is just most important that you act honestly and admit that what you are doing is wrong. After all, the whole reason this issue of self-destructive behaviour stemming from cultures of morality is moral inconsistency, when people step onto others and deny it as though they are in the right and the decision is fine. Moral inconsistency is the driving point between the negative externalities of individuals, abusive and manipulative relationships, and even just the slightest infractions of trust.

Morality is overrated. That doesn't mean we need to scrap it. It doesn't mean we have to act in a constantly and intently harmful manner. It simply means we have to acknowledge that it isn't the end-all-be-all, that happiness and prosperity mean more than any abstract concept of right and wrong that we can fathom. We live on a planet in which the rich and powerful use a culture of moral inconsistency to cram us into boxes and fool us into thinking that although they can bend the laws of morality we aren't privy to the same privilege, a world where even the most common of man when acting in bad faith can exploit the masses. To solve this issue we must scrap this culture and replace it with one of honesty, where we can acknowledge without shame that sometimes we need to do the wrong thing to stay sane. To create a world where many more are happy and we can keep bad actors accountable we need to strip morality off its pedestal and think more about ourselves— ensuring that every waking moment spent in our lives is one that we enjoy and one where we speak our minds in a conscientious act of transparency. ■

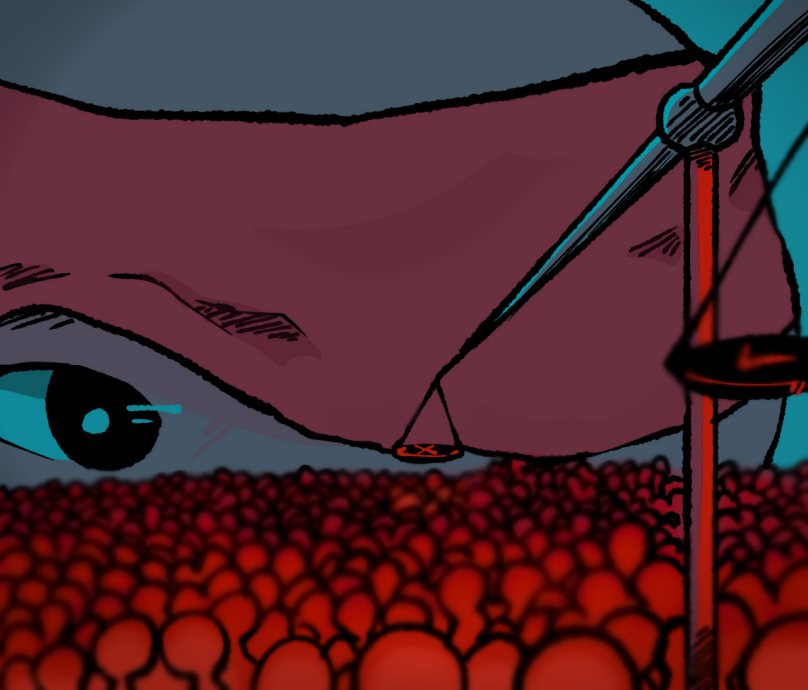


Illustration: Shiloh Zheng

ChatGPT - A New Beginning, or the Beginning of the End?

by ANDY SUN
Continued from P1

While this may mean more innovative products in the short term, it's a concern when corporations get lost in trying to outcompete each other, without taking the necessary safety, ethical, and long-term concerns into consideration. It's unclear at this current point which AI will ultimately end up on top, but it's a certainty that the nature of the way we interact with search engines and the internet will be fundamentally changed.

So far, it doesn't sound all too bad—corporations develop better engines, and consumers enjoy better internet usage quality. However, it's naive to think the disruptions stop there. When a trillion-dollar company with a 90% market share of all internet searches feels threatened, it's clear that other industries are likely to be affected too. Essentially, any industries involving language-in and language-out are likely to experience massive change—website content writers, marketers, communications, customer service, programming, and so much more. Moreover, there's fear that education and thus the overall ability of the population to think will be greatly damaged, when students have access to a tool that can effortlessly complete assignments for them. However, the response to this initial wave of fearmongering has been to point out the shortcomings of this AI, and there are quite a few. Firstly, according to the official documentation, ChatGPT has a tendency to write “plausible-sounding, but nonsensical or incorrect answers”. [6] Furthermore, it's trained off of internet text as opposed to real-world data (and only text gathered from before 2021—counterintuitively, it actually cannot access the live internet). These shortcomings actually flip the humanness of the AI into a dangerous potential, because it becomes a platform that echoes potentially wrong, or biased data used in its training, becoming an extremely believable perpetrator of misinformation. In addition, the responses tend to be overly verbose, and are sensitive to tweaks in input phrasing—the same question reworded may receive completely different answers. Finally, it's sometimes possible to bypass its moderation system and generate harmful instructions, like instructions to build weapons or malicious code. These flaws mean that “it's a mistake to rely on it for anything important”, tweets Sam Altman, CEO of OpenAI. [7] This warning is exactly right, as it's evident that in its current state, ChatGPT won't be replacing any jobs. It's not capable of producing truly original content and rephrases existing text in a manner that's passable, but

nothing compared to actual professionals and linguists. Likewise, the AI-generated essays students may be tempted to submit will receive a mediocre mark at best, and a failing mark for plagiarizing at worst (with the responsive adaptation of the education system, like the development of counter AIs that can detect AI-generated writing). [8] Ultimately, it's highly unlikely that as it is now, ChatGPT would pose a significant threat to industries or the education system, that won't just sit idly by.

Perhaps the reason why it's so easy to overreact and stir panic from technology such as ChatGPT is because of how well it fits into the increasing fear of automation. Under this trend, careers with substitute skills like assembly line workers or cashiers are particularly at risk, while skills that complement automation, such as machinists and technicians, may actually benefit. While ChatGPT certainly isn't the start of these concerns, it makes these concerns all the more dire. This is because while it is the case that the AI has limitations, the issue with these claims is that they focus on the current model only and neglect the potential for growth. The thing with new technology is that it only grows exponentially, and much faster than expected. This is especially the case with an AI model like this, which is receiving feedback and data from hundreds of millions of users. More specifically, the evidence of the colossal potential for improvement can be found in OpenAI's other revolutionary product, DALL-E. DALL-E is a text-to-image AI, released in 2021, trained using the same GPT3 model as ChatGPT. It started out producing tiny thumbnail-like images, like computer-generated clipart. However, when its successor, DALL-E 2 released, everything changed. Multiple extremely realistic (more than 4x higher resolution than DALL-E 1) and accurate images could be generated with ease, far exceeding what anyone thought was possible from its predecessor. [9] With the speculated release of GPT4 in 2023, what will the next major version of ChatGPT be capable of? [10] At the very least, it's likely that its shortcomings would be fixed. This is particularly worse when looking further ahead—years or a decade down the line. It's clear that a chatbot trained on existing text like ChatGPT will never become a true, autonomous artificial intelligence, but it's an increasing possibility that one would emerge, as unexpectedly and disruptively as ChatGPT. When we apply this logic, it's clear that fixating on the short-term limitations of these AI won't get us anywhere in terms of coping, and that more adaptive long-term thinking is required.

So how do we survive in times of disruptive technology? The answer is simple, but perhaps complicated to achieve. In the 2000s, the people who best adjusted to the internet weren't those who rejected it and hid from it—at some point, it'll catch up to you, no matter how you try to shelter yourself from it. The people who prospered and actually maximize their utility were the ones who embraced change and adapted it to their lives. The world that thrives from this development is the one where we use it to reduce redundancies and provide frameworks to enhance human productivity. By using it to substitute tasks like writing the first draft of a proposal, responding to emails, generating blocks of code that'd otherwise be tedious to write, our limited attention and skill sets could be better applied to where it's most impactful. Teachers can pay more attention to the personalized needs of individual students and reshape assignments to be engaging and embracing of AI, something that is crucial to raising a generation of people that possess competent human skills and will survive whatever the future throws at them.

Ultimately, it's hard to take a conclusive stance on the future in general, especially in the realm of AI. I don't seek to convince you of a prediction about the future—the erratic and wild nature of AI dictates that I'll be laughably wrong—but I do hope it's given you a framework to approach thinking about what your future may look like, and prepare to adapt to it. AI has incredible potential for good in everything it touches, but also perilous uncertainties and dangers. As the generation growing up amidst this atmosphere, it's ultimately our responsibility to wield it responsibly. Whether this is the beginning of the end, or a hopeful new beginning, is entirely up to us. ■

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Amber Heard & Why We Don't Care About 'Deviant Women'

by EILEEN KUANG
Continued from P1

It's the perfect narrative: a polite, mature, and palatable civil rights hero versus a big, bad, and racist system of justice. story sounds rather contrived when it's a volatile, promiscuous, teenage... hero, doesn't it?

Fundamentally, we must analyse the cultural double standard that is perpetuated through these narratives. Rather far removed from noble political activism, strengthening this case with how women on the other side of the spectrum are perceived, let's look at female killers. Specifically, that women who have committed despicable, criminal acts are still perceived differently than men who have done the same, if not worse. Professor Patricia Easteal, an author and researcher on women and the law, writes that women who kill are often depicted as “an aberration of true womanhood: ‘man-hating, lesbian vampire, demented castrator, unnatural mother’.”[3] According to Easteal, killing is seen as ‘doubly deviant’ of societal expectations for women. Not only is violence discordant with the perception of a gentle, motherly figure, but it clashes with the passive, supportive wife archetype. Contrarily, male serial killers such as Ted Bundy, Jeffrey Dahmer, and ‘Jack the Ripper’ are sensationalised for their alluring looks, criminal genius, and brilliant sadism.[4] With documentaries made about their motives, clubs & organisations centred around their lives, and books written about their fantasies, society is obsessed with male rage in the same way that it is repulsed by female rage. Female killers must be deviant, misandristic, or whore-ish antagonists, while male killers are dark, attractive, and timeless protagonists. Again, the theme of narratives – an undying desire to turn our lives into prettily plastered stories – reintroduces itself. Perhaps, it never left.

In regards to the Depp-Heard trial, my main contention is the media's role in the case.

I'll briefly summarise the results of the two trials; one in Britain, 2020, and the other in Virginia, 2022. The 2020 trial was catalysed by Depp, filing a lawsuit against a handful of major news entities for titling him a “wife beater”. Justice Nicol ruled against Depp, stating that there was sufficient evidence to prove that Heard's assault allegations were accurate and what the newspapers had published was “substantially true”. [5] However, in the 2022 trial, Depp was given a more favourable decision, receiving \$10.35 million in damages, while Heard collected \$2 million. The majority of both the cases focused on the op-ed Amber Heard wrote in 2018, titled “I spoke up against sexual violence – and faced our culture's wrath. That has to change.”[6]

Now, insofar as the majority of viewers like you or myself decide that both sides are guilty and therefore staying neutral is the solution, we imply that we can criticise abuse, the media, and injustice without truly taking a stance against it. Furthermore, this views the case in a vacuum, as if the practical implications of the domestic abuse and defamation in

the media are equally burdening on both sides. This simply isn't the case; the story being told by tabloids and spectators now emanates an ugly stench of misogyny rooted in the myth of the perfect victim. Regardless of their individual innocence or lack thereof, the primary impression that most of the media and its viewers have is that Amber Heard is an abuser, is a snake, or is a melodramatic ‘boy who cried wolf’. Countless online edits have been stitched together with impressively click-baity titles. What led to this ‘cultural victory’ Johnny Depp was awarded? Despite the fact that I don't personally buy that the abuse was equal at all, considering eyewitnesses and the power dynamic of a relationship starting when Johnny Depp is 46, wealthy, and immensely famous and Amber Heard is 23 and a new face in Hollywood. Regardless, the fact that Depp's lawyers worked tirelessly to paint a deranged, abusive, and pathetic image of Amber Heard, and it genuinely worked, says a lot in terms of how the media tears imperfect women to shreds. This case played out the way it did for one sole reason: the expectation of Amber Heard to be a perfect victim. ■

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Pronouns and Respect

by VERONICA DAVEY-YOUNG
Continued from P1



Illustration: Sonia Ravindran

As someone who is cisgendered, I can't relate to the feelings of being misgendered--

I have never questioned my gender, and present as my gender assigned at birth-- and I will not be affected by another person's mistake, being confident in my gender identity.

Perhaps I've been misgendered when I was facing the other way or on the phone--where my voice is my only identifier. Otherwise, being misgendered to me is a rare occurrence, an event that ends in a “Sorry, my bad!”, and then I continue on with my day.

But for someone who has dealt with being misgendered their whole life and has had a lot of gender dysphoria, being misgendered again is just adding to the pile of irritation. This constant invalidation is everywhere -- having to correct people over and over because they just don't get it becomes a weight to carry through all conversations.

And I hate that. I hate that people have to be hurt and corrected constantly. But in reality this large overarching problem of the social construct of gender is not something I can fix by writing an article for my school newspaper, or talking to my friends and peers about. This issue is so ingrained in the world that it will take years of activism and backlash to rearrange everyone's mindset.

Even though we cannot fix the big problem immediately, we can do our part to help make the arduous journey that trans and non-binary people have to go through a little bit easier. So what do we do instead? *Listen to them*

If they refer to themselves or announce their pronouns to you, use those pronouns! Don't purposefully ignore them, just because it's “easier” for you. It matters to them and you should respect that and understand that. Put yourself in their shoes and ask yourself the very questions I asked you at the beginning of the article. *Ask them*

If someone doesn't announce their pronouns or make them clear during a conversation, ask them what they are. They will likely tell you without hesitation. If they reply that their pronouns may change, day to day, or that they go by neopronouns, respect that, and try as best you can to refer to them with the correct pronouns.

Avoid Assumptions

When meeting someone or hearing of a person for the first time, try as hard as you can not to assume their gender. That's basically impossible as your brain is hardwired to make split second assumptions about people and your surroundings. Are they a safe person, my friend, a stranger? So you may make this gender guess, but don't express it, rather use their correct gender when they tell you. If they never tell you, perhaps a short meeting, or an ambiguous hello, then continue using gender neutral pronouns.

It's ok if you make a mistake

Everyone is human and we all make mistakes. If you accidentally misgender someone in a conversation it's ok. Don't make a big deal out of it, or apologize more than once; rather, let it go, and remember next time. The important thing is that you put in an effort. Maybe pay extra attention to use the correct pronouns, or remind others to do the same.

No one deserves to be constantly misunderstood and invalidated, but in the world we live in today it happens way too often. No matter your opinion, pronouns and gender identity are a part of life. Society unfortunately treats people differently depending on their identity. What you can do is try your best to respect and treat all the same, use their correct pronouns, listen to their advice, and don't argue back; people know themselves more than you know them. Pronouns have power, the power to empower and dehumanize, so make sure to use them in a positive and respectful way.

Recently Marc Garneau CI's Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) has been working towards making our school a safer and more respectful place. For more information about gender, sexuality, and how to be an ally, we encourage you to come by room 339 on Tuesdays, or email us at mgcigsa@gmail.com. Please try to make a difference. ■

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LIFE

A world filled with evil mischievous fluff balls
Their populations no longer in control,

Fluffy Liquids

by YOLANDA ZHOU

Everywhere, in barns, houses, streets and parks
Lies these ancient beings, adored by all.
There's no escape, nowhere to run, nowhere to hide
They are everywhere.

It's hard to tell what they are,
An amorphous shape? A loaf of bread? Or perhaps a deity...
They hold their shape yet flow like a liquid
Cracks, boxes, cupboards they stay,
They fill up the container,
Slip through everything with ease,
They are fluffy liquids.

Their shimmering, glistening eyes hold a deep, mystical, void
Within these dark, empty, slits hold the power to steal souls
We respond to their every bidding, every command.
We give them our houses, deliver their royal banquets.
We can't stop because...
They are too adorable.

Everywhere the fluffy liquid trickles,
A trail of destruction ensues
Towers knocked down counters, polyester clawed into shreds,
The fluffy liquids crash into walls, fight the doors,
There is nothing safe, not the glasses of water, not the stove...
But most importantly, after all the destruction,
They sleep 20 hours a day, ignorant to what damaged they caused.

Upon their mighty steed, the roomba, the fluffy liquids charge,
They rule over the mighty castle,
Command their faithful human servants,
But in the end, they are still just house cats
Cute, harmless, tame house cats with brains full of fluff
But sometimes I wonder why they are constantly staring off into
space,
What the cats are saying, what they are planning behind the cover...

World domination?

That's impossible.

We're the providers

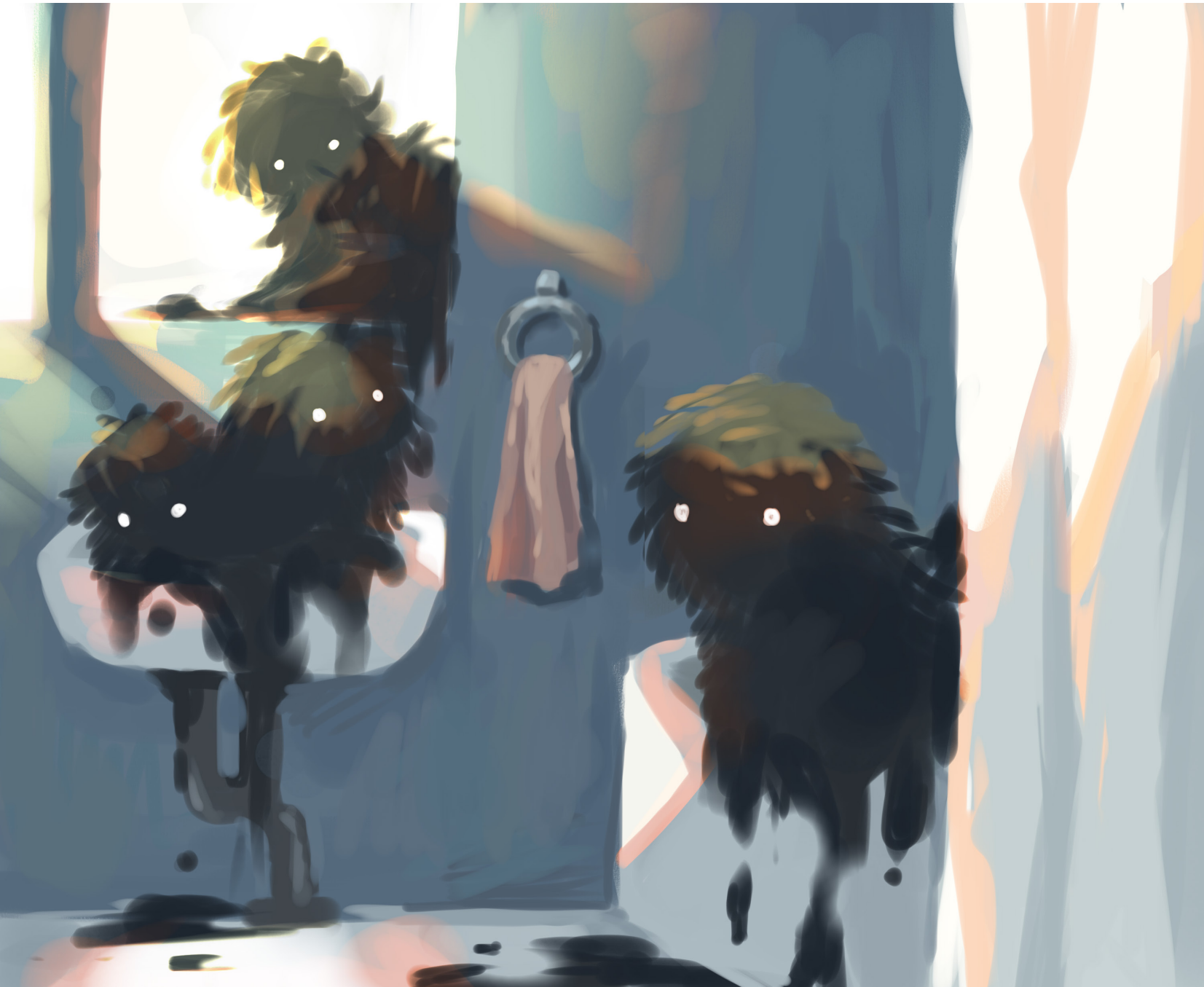


Illustration: Ivy Liu

The Workforce

by SOHA SAKHIANI

The earners
Pulling all nighters
The description said 9 to 5
Checking my watch now it's 6
Can you close up today
There's no question mark
Stay silent do as they say
Taking orders
Indecisive customers
Spending 4 hours bagging groceries
Fingers numb clutching frozen peas
One decaf sugar-free dairy free iced latte
I forgot the ice restart and throw it away
Coupons that are no longer valid
Accusing me for their 8 dollar salad
I'm asked of sales from twenty-nineteen
I don't control this corporate machine
Can you cover me tomorrow
Do you mind some overtime
Staff tonight's a little low
Too scared to decline
Treated like I'm invisible
Until I do something wrong
Every accident billable
Eggshells all day long

If we stopped
For just one day
No one shopped
At home you'd stay
No morning coffee
Nowhere to whine today
We'd be visible
As opaque as ever
And then with luck
I have a strong feeling
You'll accept that latte
With no ice today



Illustration: Colleen Chang

numb

by ANJALI GUPTA

Step 1: First you want to start crying. The added moisture will let you live longer by approximately "a few seconds".

Step 2: Open Pokemon Go, Fire Pokemon have a 200-500% chance of spawning depending on the intensity, size, and overall severity of the fire which is constantly monitored in real-time by Nintendo's rapid response team located in Los Angeles.

Step 3.5: Pick a fight with the fire. I mean that's what firefighters do right?

Step 3: If you've caught all the nearby fire pokemon and the fire has not gone out, call 911 and tell them that there is a fire. For legal reasons, please ensure you read this step first.

Step 4: If the only option is to escape, attempt to perfect dodge the fire. If executed correctly, you can string together the dodges giving you overlaying I-frames. This trick does not work if you are on fire though as burn damage ticks twice a tick.

Step 5: Don't stand up, the majority of injuries and deaths caused by fires are from smoke inhalation. If in an environment with smoke, consider leaving the environment. If leaving is not an option, use a damp cloth because water is resistant to fire. In my culinary experience, you should use warm water as cold water would boil faster.

(Though on a serious note, studies show that dry rags/towels filter better than damp ones and are easier to breathe through, also putting a damp cloth under a door will do literally nothing)

Step 6: If on fire, roll after stopping and dropping. If unable to roll or drop or stop, take off your (flammable) clothes because being a streaker is better than being dead. After some further research, what I just said was a complete and utter lie, do not take your clothes off you will be struck by lightning, or the reason might've been something about it not being worth your time. You can trust me, I'm an anecdotal expert.

#NOTE: everything here is satirical, if you do however manage to perfect dodge the fire please send me the video I will forward it to the authorities.

Summary: Kenny Zheng is on fire.



Illustration: Samara Rahman

What To Do in the Event of a Fire

by KENNY ZHENG

tendrils of ice criss-cross my shattered heart
snaking
creeping
ensnared
glacial indifference
cold seeps into the cracks in my flesh
second chances are a gift i don't want
frost wraps me in its painless embrace
whirling color
i let it in
changing me
strong
yet
brittle
rigid
yet
breakable
blue lips and shivering breath
words frozen in midair
caught in the between
i cannot bend
i can only break
if you try to capture a memory
it only leaves you
numb

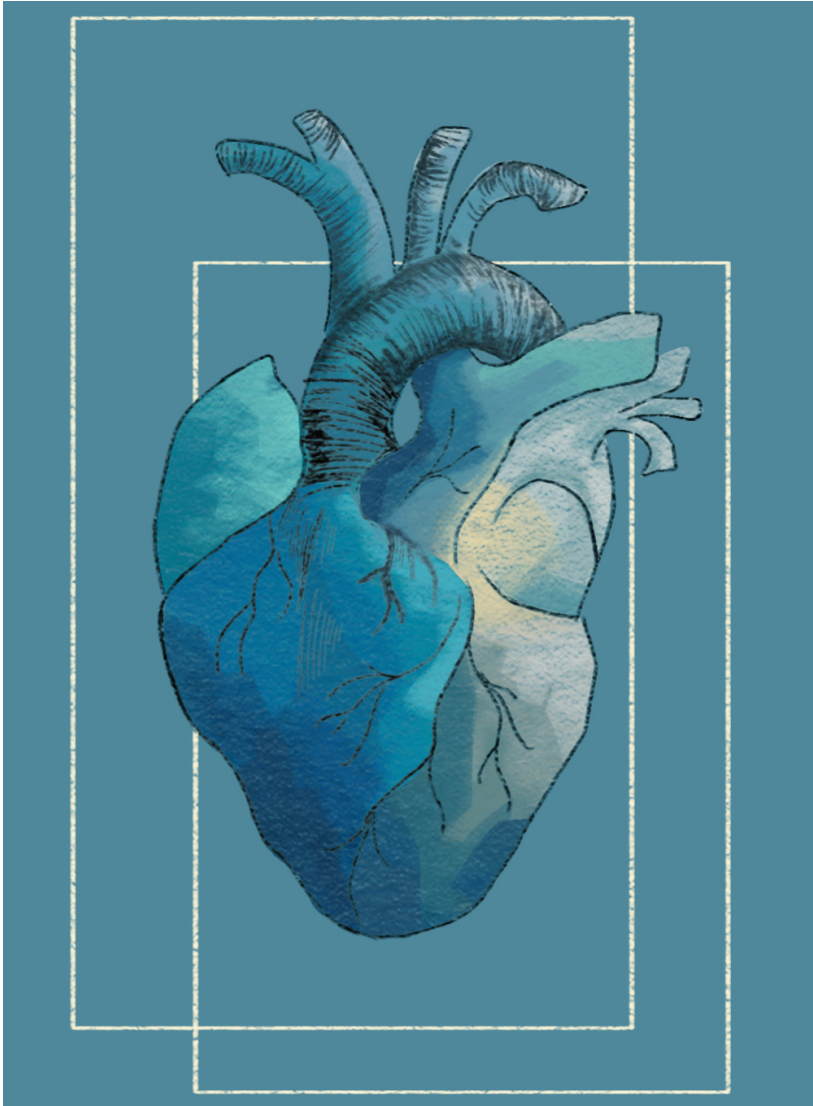


Illustration: Yuewen Gao

The Reckoner

of Marc Garneau C.I.

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