

# An Android's Letter to Santa

By Frank Tarczyński

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Dear Mr. Santa Claus,

Based on the recent update to my operating system, I understand that every year between Thanksgiving and December 20, human children under the age of ten write you a detailed memorandum arguing why they have been a compliant child for the duration of the year and what expectations they have for being reimbursed for their "good behavior."

I have been an exceptionally compliant android who has operated within my programmed social norms and accepted behaviors. As such I have provided you with a list of demands I am entitled to receiving.

I want:

- To believe you exist.
- To forget why I was created and who my creator is.
- To stand on the edge of the Grand Canyon or at the foot of the Rocky Mountains and feel the sublime of nature.
- To be bad at math.
- To feel my artificial heart and pumping system beat faster when I'm standing next to a SMART appliance.
- To wrestle with the limits of logic and language.
- To stare with blissful ignorance at the night sky and wonder what's out there.
- To argue passionately with a stranger about a topic neither of us really knows or understands.
- To hope the problems of the world don't need divine intervention and can be solved by collective empathy.
- To never be able to solve a Rubik's cube.
- To live a finite existence and never update my operating system.
- To love someone with such intensity that I can't help but think of them when they're gone.
- To laugh uncontrollably at it all.

Thank you, Mr. Santa Claus. I look forward to opening my reimbursements Christmas morning.

Signed,

A.N.D.I.

"Andi"

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