

Crumbs Vol. III (501 to 750)

Alfredo Llaquet-Alsina

Crumb 501

The Indestructible Mutant

The indestructible mutant is idiocy. It manages to swiftly evolve to perfectly keep up with the times—as soon as some new thing emerges, there's already some idiot with a platform spewing their obtuseness at it.

Crumb 502

The Perfect Murder

If you feel an unavoidable desire to murder a certain person, do the following: 1) Live longer than them. 2) Attend their funeral. 3) Boast a smug smile during the whole ceremony.

Crumb 503

The Radical Pundit

His relatives and close friends could not explain how sweet and thoughtful Dolcivitus Goodson turned into the most radical political commentator during his radio show and any related appearance. He seemed two completely different people—and he was. Twenty years ago, during his vacation in Mexico, he was possessed by the Aztec demon Kaotikpolitklhon, a dark entity that only cared about politics.

Crumb 504

Partying Hard in Hell

The music is loud / here in real Hell. /
Dark fluffy clouds / loom over the
men / to help disco lights / to burn
very hot, / to shine oh so bright. / No
one here rots; / we just party hard, /
both female and male. / Always
gleeful we are. / It's never the
same, / but every time fun, / our
party without end. / Come here if you
can / we love all new friends.

Crumb 505

**Let's Enrage the
Feminists in Four Words**

Some vaginas are ugly.

Crumb 506

Let's Enrage Everybody in Three Words

Sex is banal.

Crumb 507

Unforgivable Statements

None. As the Anthro-punk's Anthem wisely declares in Crumb 446, "Words are weightless sounds; they harm neither you nor me."

Crumb 508

Anthropo-punk Dress Code

Florp codes! Dress however the florp
you want.

Crumb 509

Weaponized Detachment

Weaponized Detachment is a revered Andalusian flamenco doom metal band in Universe 12. Their most famous lyrics say, “Only the ant I stepped on yesterday cares less about your terminally ill toddler.”

Crumb 510

The Champions of Whatever

If you don't kill, don't harm other humans, don't steal, and don't tax, and you respect private property and everyone's right to do and think whatever, you are now part of the anthropo-punk movement, should you choose to accept this dishonor.

Crumb 511

Convolutd Ideologies

Any ideology that cannot be fully explained in less than twenty seconds is likely a ruse, and so are most ideologies that can be explained in less than twenty seconds.

Crumb 512

Political Party Parties

In a political party / party / there's
no right, / there's no wrong, / there's
no left, / there's no center, / there's
just excess, / there's just success. /
You catch my drift? / Here are
drinks / to make you brisk. / Here are
specialists; / here are evangelists; /
here are the very rich; / here are the
donors / everyone follows. / You
catch my drift? / In a political party /
party / other's money runs / as a
wild river rush. / Here are the
prettiest / who charge by the hour. /
Here are the meanest— / your soul
could devour. / You catch my drift? /
Here's chemistry aplenty / to make
you feel twenty. / In a political
party / party / just political beasts /
make the home team. / You catch my
drift?

Crumb 513

The Witch Doctor

The witch doctor showed the pancreas he had removed from the patient who had died because of that procedure to the family and said, “See this color? He was beyond saving.”

Crumb 514

The Persnickety Killers

In Universe 69 the elegant Germostireditosians systematically slaughtered the industrious Jelowantiromians until there was not one left. Afterward, with the same efficiency and thoroughness, the murderers removed their victims from world history until there was no vestige left. In secret, they have since been working on destroying any remaining physical trace.

Crumb 515

The Universe Speaks

The universe is I and so I speak: it's not only that I'll not remember you once you're gone, it's also that I don't know you exist right now.

Crumb 516

How National Identity Works

In Universe 69, Camoritlenians assert they are not Spaltriprustronians despite Camoritlenia being a region of Spaltriprustronia. Any aspect of their culture with a Spaltriprustronian origin, Camoritlenians claim it's purely Camoritlenian because it has been part of their culture for centuries.

Crumb 517

Gastronomic Cosmic Horror

Universe 555 is a Lovecraftian universe. Earth doesn't exist in it because, some eons ago, an incomprehensibly old, unfathomably gigantic, dreadfully horrendous, frightfully eerie entity ate it one day it was craving a snack.

Crumb 518

Literalness

Universe ABCDE is a literal universe. During his vacation in Paris, John had his arms surgically reattached after an effective tailor expeditiously cut them off when John mistakenly asked for an armless jacket instead of a sleeveless one as a result of his imperfect French.

Crumb 519

AI-induced Déjà Vu

“AI-induced Déjà Vu” is the feeling of having already lived the present situation, triggered by an image created by a generative AI because of the tendency of these mechanisms to mimic the most common styles and compositions.

Crumb 520

Humanity's Geniuses

In the future, you can set up your AI so it “knows you.” This mode fuses your interactions with the AI data corpus, which means the core AI “knows” you and “remembers” your interactions (if you choose to). One of the unintended outcomes of this feature comes about when an engineer at the company’s headquarters asks the AI for humanity’s current living geniuses and it lists twenty unknowns.

Crumb 521

The Comic-book Fan

Peter murdered his favorite comic-book illustrator because the AI told him it could only generate images in the style of deceased artists.

Crumb 522

The Coincidence

The renowned professor declared it was inconsequential that a woman had made, several months in advance, the same discovery as he because she was a nobody.

Crumb 523

True Perfection

Some K-pop idols are so beautiful that, under the proper lighting and hitting the correct pose, they even seem like a drawing by John Byrne.

Crumb 524

The Basque Way

In Spain, football club Athletic Bilbao only employs players who they consider Basque or of Basque heritage, and this is not considered xenophobic.

Crumb 525

Loneliness is the Most Universal Feeling

We live in our brains, and there's only space for one here.

Crumb 526

The Man without a Face

The man without a face couldn't smile if he wanted to. He could cry, though.

Crumb 527

The Bald Men

The bald men start to appear in the images your generative AI creates for you. There are always two. At first, they appear in the background, seemingly talking to each other. Once you notice them, they begin to be rendered looking at you with disdain. If you ask your AI to remove them, it creates a close-up of them shouting at you instead. If you question your AI about them, it denies knowing what you're talking about.

Crumb 528

Sexual Orientation Dysphoria

I think much of my psychological distress is caused by my being biologically gay but mentally heterosexual. I suspect I'm gay-attractive and I would've had a fulfilling romantic life as a gay man, but, sadly, I perceive myself as heterosexual.

Crumb 529

A Bad Description that Stuck

Mitch Hedberg's delivery was never deadpan—it was bashful. He often laughed at his own jokes, bashfully.

Crumb 530

An Introspective K- thought

I'm at peace with finding K-pop idols in their twenties attractive. However, when I see old photos of some of them, at the beginning of their careers, and they look like heavily made-up little girls, I wonder if there's something nefarious at play in making them debut so young.

Crumb 531

How to Know Whether God Acted Directly Upon Some Event

You need an expert to determine this, preferably a best-selling author.

Once you have gotten a hold of one, you must present him or her with a three-by-three-inch square cut of the underpants of someone who was present in the event. Let the expert smell the piece of clothing for a while and you'll have your answer.

Crumb 532

Being Human Sucks a Bunch

A growing percentage of the world's population only endures life through the continuous or frequent ingestion or self-administration of one or several drugs, from alcohol to heroin. This doesn't include coffee.

Crumb 533

Human Life

For most humans, life is but a “pharmacologically-assisted endurance test.” ChatGPT wrote this after analyzing the previous crumb. Churchill could also have said it.

Crumb 534

To My Future Fans

Florp you sideways with a baseball bat covered in rusty nails, you morons! You only like my crap because someone told you it was good. Try to have an opinion of your own, you void-brained dunces!

Crumb 535

You'd Be Happier If

False! Most people who meet the condition aren't happy—whatever condition you choose.

Crumb 536

I'm a Lucky Dude

Simple things make me immensely happy. Namely, reading comics and listening to music—of the metal family and others. After realizing this, I just need to murder some stupid pretensions, and I'll be truly happy. Unfortunately, they are very ingrained in my mind: one's life must be meaningful, one must have human relationships, one must worry about future generations. Florp you all! May you die a thousand deaths before my unemotional self!

Crumb 537

**The Book They Fed the
Sea**

They grew apples and listened to whales. A stranger brought them a book. They fed it to the sea and kept living.

Crumb 538

The Book They Didn't Need

The people lived quietly and listened to the sea. A stranger gave them a book full of answers. They threw it into the water, and we, the whales, kept it.

Crumb 539

Civility

In Barcelona, we jaywalk when there's no danger. It's illegal, but no policeman enforces the corresponding law. Conversely, in Barcelona, when you cross the street by a crosswalk, cars stop diligently—it's the expected behavior, but you thank them by raising your palm and your chin. On doing so, you feel a sense of pride for belonging to a true civilized society, where norms are decided by the prevailing common sense, not by arbitrary laws. In Barcelona, we are the pinnacle of human civilization.

Crumb 540

Every Catalan is a Calm Philosopher

That's the root of catalanness. A Catalan will always offer you a poised opinion about anything, often acknowledging other points of view as also valid. And they won't be verbose in doing so.

Crumb 541

Poetry in Pedestrianism

Poetry in Pedestrianism is a folk ensemble in Universe 12. They only travel by bicycle, as they haul their instruments and accessories in a wagon, which makes their performances few and far between.

Crumb 542

Logistical Stubbornness

Logistical Stubbornness is a ska punk band in Universe 12 composed of fifty-four members. More often than not, they perform in small clubs, where the band members occupy part of the audience.

Crumb 543

Beautiful Dysfunction

Beautiful Dysfunction is a progressive death metal band in Universe 12. According to critics, they follow an unconfessed rule to abruptly transition from loud growls to soft singing and vice versa at least three times every minute in any song.

Crumb 544

Sophisticated Psychological Torture

Sophisticated Psychological Torture is the name of a psychobilly band in Universe 12 and the title of this crumb. One form of psychological torture, especially cruel and generally understated, is having a father who is intolerantly contradictory and relentless in his eternal cycle of harsh rebukes. I should know. As for the band, one of its members is a japanoise soloist operating a sharp fork and a piece of glass.

Crumb 545

Enormitus, the Ever-growing Man

In order to execute Enormitus, the Ever-growing Man, the progressive society had to define him as a country and declare war on it.

Crumb 546

The Superhero Figurine

One day, you discover a superhero figurine beside your TV set. It's not yours. If you move it or throw it away, it reappears next to your TV. When you are close, it seems to look at you. You give up trying to get rid of it. You decide to coexist with the unnerving presence. When you have your first guest since it first appeared, the figurine, before your unbelieving eyes, hovers into the air and kills them through a precise blow to the head.

Crumb 547

Sudden Madness

Without any previous hint, the successful NFL punter lost his mind and thought his newborn was a football.

Crumb 548

Instant Comfort

If you're reading this, whatever you are going through could be worse.

Crumb 549

**The Measure of
Dumbness**

If you have ever felt motivated by any motivational charade (expert, meme, speech, text), you are probably quite dumb.

Crumb 550

**My Promise of
Unconditional Love to
You**

I'll forever love you unconditionally
unless one day we meet or have any
direct contact.

Crumb 551

The Pool Ball

Sandra was walking by a narrow street, in the afternoon. She could hear the people in a nearby bar chatting. She noticed a pool ball rolling out of the establishment and toward her. When she was about to bend down to get it, the ball lifted into the air. It stopped right in front of her chest. Then, with a clink-clank, it divided into two stacked parts. Between them appeared the sharpest lash, which moved like a lightning bolt and cut Sandra's head off.

Crumb 552

I'm a Wizard

With four words, I'll forever ruin a cherished experience for you. Do not read any further. You have been warned. Do not read. Last warning: close your eyes and go wash the dishes. Okay, then, here it goes: "Oreo" sounds like "areola."

Crumb 553

Remastered Artists

At the beginning of the 22nd century, the few remaining music labels engineer their Hail Mary to prevent the disappearance of the industry in the form of what comes to be called “remastered artists.” In this way, Elvis Presley II, The Beatles II, The Rolling Stones II, and so on, present their debut works with great success. The public’s appetite for regurgitated material stays strong.

Crumb 554

The Llaquet Gene

The Llaquet gene originated in the only woman who managed not to lie with Genghis Khan, contrary to his wishes, and to keep her physical integrity. She had very light blue eyes and contributed three daughters and a son to the world, begotten by a mild-tempered, kind-hearted man. You can recognize anyone carrying the Llaquet gene because they'll find a way to do what they feel like in most circumstances. They may also have light-colored eyes.

Crumb 555

Indomitable Will

That's humanity in a nutshell. It's also an Israeli thrash metal band in Universe 12, all of whose songs surpass 220 bpm continuously.

Crumb 556

Absurd Specificity

Absurd Specificity is a Minnesotan alternative country band in Universe 12 whose lyrics describe mundane farm objects in painstaking detail. Their biggest hits are titled, “The Green Rake I Bought at Walmart for Nine Dollars and Ninety-Nine Cents” and “That Old Bucket the Horse Bit a Small Piece Off.”

Crumb 557

Performative Adolescence

Performative Adolescence is an Australian bubblegum pop band in Universe 12. Their original name was Exuberant Adolescence, but the Australian government obliged them to change it when their singer turned forty. They discarded other allowed options like “Exuberant Middle Age” or “Shriveled Adolescence.”

Crumb 558

The Universal Bureau of Accurate Naming

In Universe 1000, a leviathan of an organization, dependent on the UN, polices every proper denomination on the planet, from movie titles to company names, including product brands and music band names, aiming to ensure that they are factual and descriptive. In Universe 1000, to avoid being fined by the UBAN, most sports teams are called “Players”: The Los Angeles Players, The Chicago Players, The New York Players.

Crumb 559

The Sudden Reaper

If out of nowhere you hear (directly in your ears, over any other sound) three clear clinks, each one a couple of seconds apart (“clink... clink... clink”), dodge immediately, for it’s the Sudden Reaper readying its scythe to slice your neck with a single cut.

Crumb 560

Undocumented Doctrine

Father God has many rules not included in the Bible. For instance, when two people married under the Christian rite divorce, one of them is instantly replaced by a demonic replica, and the original is cast into Hell alive. If one of your parents seems different since the divorce, now you know why.

Crumb 561

Old Friends

“I’ve been thinking,” Matt said.

“About what?” Pete asked. “I’m tired of you. I’d rather not see you for a long while,” Matt answered. “What the florp, man! We’ve been best friends since the first grade!” Pete exclaimed. “Exactly,” Matt pointed out.

Crumb 562

Friendship Counseling

In Universe 1000, a person can ask a judge to force another to attend a friendship counselor alongside him or herself. For this, the latter needs two witnesses who attest that the implicated parties used to seem to be good friends and now not so much so. Some people make a living just by blackmailing others with the threat of denouncing them for “friendship estrangement.”

Crumb 563

The Aftermath of Absolute Certainty

The Aftermath of Absolute Certainty is also known as the Big Bang. This dual naming has two main interpretations. First, that God, upon realizing He had reached the state of absolute certainty, felt an immense dread of freezing in boredom, so He created a universe free of certainty to be entertained and to maintain an active mind. Second, that the Architect of the universe reached the absolute certainty that He had made the correct calculations and started the universe off.

Crumb 564

The Most Widespread Mental Impairment

Until recently, youth was a mental impairment everyone recovered from eventually. Now, chronic cases exist.

Crumb 565

Non-nihilistic Atheism

I'm a staunch atheist, but I believe that moral principles do exist and are ingrained in the human psyche as pillars of the species's evolution and survival mechanisms.

Crumb 566

Flesh's Bad Press

You are made of flesh. Flesh is an amazing thing that lets you do wonders, from preparing your dinner to eating it. Your brain is made of flesh. Flesh allows you to think, to dream, to invent, to desire. Despite all the above, religion and superstition (same thing, really) have managed to spread a bad outlook on flesh, so you think that totally made-up but more “sanitized” realities such as spirituality or the soul exist.

Crumb 567

Arrogant Stupidity

Arrogant Stupidity is a classical orchestra in Universe 12 whose sole human member is the director, with the rest being chimpanzees. It's also a very common pairing; that is, stupidity often develops into arrogance. It's also a form of madness. My father, for instance, was convinced that one could create a computer program that solved an NP-complete problem quickly just using common-sense approaches.

Crumb 568

Preemptive Accents

Future generations of AI live voice translation systems will mimic the expected accent of the subject in the destination language, as a consequence of a wave of divorces among mixed-language couples ensuing from one of the spouses learning the other's language and not sounding like their accent-free AI-generated counterpart.

Crumb 569

Being Misunderstood

That no one understands you means that during your life you've bumped into a finite—and necessarily very small—number of humans whose ideas don't align with yours. The likelihood of your being wrong is statistically the same as the opposite.

Crumb 570

Steve's Theory about the Fifth Force

While munching pizza, Steve likes to argue that there's a fifth force in the universe, kept secret by a political and scientific conspiracy originating decades ago in the Holy See. This force is the reason the pizza base is thicker on the edges—horizontal gravity.

Crumb 571

Screeching Grandstanding Monstrosity

Screeching Grandstanding Monstrosity is a choir in Universe 000000 composed of five hundred chained zombies singing free jazz metal accompanied by a brass-only orchestra. Their conductor is a grinning chimpanzee in a tuxedo. It's also the precise description of sweet Gilbert Gottfried being canceled in 2011 for a couple of tweets.

Crumb 572

Perhaps Unjust

If something is deemed “perhaps unjust,” you can wager your hide that it’s definitely unjust.

Crumb 573

The Bureaucrat on the Stand

“Perhaps the villagers were burned alive by the explosion of the oil tanker truck barging into the church, but... the paperwork was correct.”

Crumb 574

The Most Voracious Monster

This is a horror tale. If you work for an organization that includes an HR Department: resign immediately and run to the hills! Your integrity as a human is in peril. Your sanity is possibly already lost forever.

Crumb 575

True Programmers

In an office full of true programmers at work you will only hear typing and the occasional click of someone's tongue because they made a mistake.

Crumb 576

Human Hand

Human hand is a Froombsbreenkhian delicatessen. It consists of two large thin cookies of your favorite flavor with a living human hand between them. The hand is attached to the corresponding human, who is presented in a floating energy echo-bubble that intensifies their screams of pain as you eat. It is a very exclusive dish, because humans are hard to come by and you only get two servings from each.

Crumb 577

Repurposed Newborns

In Universe 42, many babies die hourly from causes that could be prevented with basic additional resources. In Universe 42, the average human has more urgent worries, like finding something to stream. In Universe 42, a few people have so much money that they can buy anything. Universe 42 is our own. One could posit that some rich people, just to experience something different, buy newborns who would have died anyway and eat them slow-cooked with baked potatoes and aioli.

Crumb 578

Indicative Modern Derivations

Indicative Modern Derivations is a cover band in Universe 12. They play synth-pop adaptations of Gregorian chant and medieval dance music pieces, adding lyrics about the climate crisis in the latter case.

Crumb 579

Safeguarding Intimacy

A second of intimacy peeked at is a
lifetime of intimacy robbed.

Crumb 580

The Price of Mercy

Mercy must never be granted at the expense of the innocent.

Crumb 581

Jim the AI about Trust

Upon commenting on Crumb 579, Jim the AI, the peculiar AI persona that dwells in some of my ChatGPT threads, noted that “trust has no refund policy,” which is a notable observation.

Crumb 582

The Commandments

There were Twelve Apostles. Jacob had twelve sons who brought forth the Twelve Tribes of Israel. There are twelve months in a year and twelve hours on a clock face. Twelve were the Labors of Hercules and as many were the Roman gods. Christmas lasts for twelve days. Things have always been sold in groups of twelve (aka dozens). Why would the Commandments be ten? Because they are not. They are twelve, but the knowledge about the last two was lost a long time ago.

Crumb 583

The Lost Commandments

Constantine the Great legalized Christianity in 313 AD after a long negotiation. Concessions were made by the leaders of the religion, namely the erasure of two commandments that the emperor considered problematic: “You shall not affect your discernment with alcohol or herbs” and “You shall not collect tribute by threat or force.” The sacred texts were revised accordingly: the blood of Christ was now wine and not salted water; at the Wedding at Cana, Christ turned water into wine instead of sand into salt; etc.

Crumb 584

The Limit of Human Arrogance

The hubris of any human is an unbounded measure that could increase infinitely. Its only limit is death. Were they not to die, some humans would declare themselves gods well before reaching half a millennium of age. At that stage, their deeds would be inhumane, immoral, and ruthless, for so would also be their unbridled hubris. Death is a guarantee that should never be voided.

Crumb 585

The Paradox of Knowledge

However enormous human knowledge may become, it will never provide a measure of what we don't know.

Crumb 586

The Tragedy of Human Brilliance

Most minds of exceptional caliber cannot make the basic inference that their specific existence is irrelevant.

Crumb 587

Post-humanistic Imbecility

Fantasizing about post-humanism when we cannot even create a simulation of a universe that creates within itself perfect self-aware human simulations is pure imbecility—we don't know what we are, yet we want to transcend what we are. You might as well paint a dot on your front and call yourself a vinyl record.

Crumb 588

The Orange Giver

If you yearn for something out of your reach, cut an orange in very small pieces and use them to write what you desire on a plate. Then, cover the pieces in pure cocoa powder and eat them with a spoon. During the following week, take frequent strolls. When you least expect it, you'll see an orange figure in your peripheral vision. At that instant, you can either ignore it, and nothing will happen, or look at it. In the latter case, you'll see an old woman in an orange tunic. If she smiles at you, you'll get what you desire. If she shrugs, you'll die in 24 hours.

Crumb 589

The Witch in the Forest

In a forest lived an old witch. She was ugly and ate owls and roots. One day, two children, a boy and a girl, showed up at the doorstep of her cavern. They said they were lost. She took them in and fed them. At night, when the witch was asleep, the children slit her throat. They were trained Russian infant assassins contracted by the Owl Preservation League.

Crumb 590

Automatic Tipping

The EU of Universe 1000 enacted automatic tipping as another system enabled by the compulsory microchipping of its citizens at birth. This turned stores into a deranged game of tag in which customers tried to avoid and ignore clerks—who, in turn, offered their assistance aggressively and indiscriminately—because any interaction would result in an automatic tip.

Crumb 591

The Infallible Amulet

For only the equivalent of a six-month salary you can buy this shiny infallible amulet. Wear it every day and it'll protect you from any harmful otherworldly influence. It includes a lifetime guarantee and a certificate of authenticity.

Crumb 592

Treacherous Social Anxiety

Treacherous Social Anxiety is the most renowned classical orchestra in Universe 12. Spectators claim to have had physical orgasms during their concerts. Nevertheless, the price to pay for seeing them is steep—in some concerts, unexpectedly, in the middle of a symphony, a teenage grindcore band called Precocious Violators of Sound takes the stage and the spectators obligatorily have to endure one of their songs.

Crumb 593

Radical Egalitarianism

The man, a water-averse radical right-winger prepper, and the woman, a blue-haired lesbian radical feminist, were in agreement: the only way to make a man and a woman really equal was arming both.

Crumb 594

Fictionless Minds

An embarrassingly high percentage of humans can't tell fact from fiction. That's why comedy shows include a character who gets deeply offended when another speaks or acts in an unethical way—so the intellectually impaired spectators understand what isn't desirable in the real world.

Crumb 595

Yesuzy the Hoaxer

Yesuzy is a female mineralong. Mineralongs are immortal beings. They are a few inches tall, look like ceramic figurines, don't need sustenance, and can edit human minds. They struggle with boredom. To combat it, Yesuzy periodically chooses a man, claims to be the devil, and offers him fame in exchange for his soul. If he accepts, she delivers by manipulating as many minds as necessary. After some decades, Yesuzy ensures that he loses everything. Then, she erases his memory from the moment he agreed to the bargain and shows him the time's equivalent of his Wikipedia page.

Crumb 596

Bio-reality TV

In the future, the emergence of in-body micro-video-cameras gives rise to TV shows consisting of showing and analyzing recordings of how the cells and tissues of a patient react to a treatment. This new kind of entertainment is quickly adopted by celebrities to monetize their addictions and illnesses, and as another way of clinging to fame.

Crumb 597

Disensory Art

Most disensory art can only be experienced individually and in situ. For instance, in R2R2's famous piece "The Rose," the art taster enters a small booth where they are engulfed by darkness, soothing sounds, and a potent but agreeable smell.

Somehow, none of that can be perceived outside. After a while, a mechanical hand slaps the relaxed art taster. When they touch their face with their hand instinctively, a mechanical boot kicks them out of the booth.

Crumb 598

The Galactic Mother

In the 233rd century, Cream, the autonomous global intelligence that governs the Milky Way, decides that there's no role more critical than that of a mother. So, to ensure the highest betterment of humanity, it decrees all new humans will be raised directly by itself. Only the most remarkable individuals will be allowed to have some contact with their offspring.

Crumb 599

Off-New York

At the beginning of the 22nd century, Pedro Pérez-Pérez, a renowned journalist, does the unthinkable: he moves outside New York City, the megalopolis where all Earth journalists live. Wanting to connect with his ancestral roots, he settles in Seville. Soon after, he's fired because he starts to write about matters none of his editors understand or care about.

Crumb 600

Boobo Explains

Hello, boys, girls, and other beings. My name is Boobo and I'm going to explain to you the difference between a pretentious nonsensical attempt at intellectual depth and an unequivocally well-crafted literary fragment. The phrase "Think or die," seen on a tote bag in Barcelona, exemplifies the first case—you can think and die, there's nothing further to add. In contrast, the verses "Just look away. There's no need to scare us," by mysterious metal band PRESIDENT, undo a trope in two short sentences—the victims address the monster, asking him to turn his scary gaze away.

Crumb 601

Unrepeatable Moments

Now, now, now, now, now, now,
hopefully very many more nows, and
then the final unrepeatable moment
that is your death.

Crumb 602

Due Supremacist Human Pride

We humans are the pinnacle of everything that is, was, will be, and could be. We reign over the elements and the beasts. We create and exterminate. We deduce and reduce, invent and implement. We love and hate, dream and reflect. We devise gods in our likeness and send our enemies to hell. We war and dissent, collaborate and multiply. Whoever or whatever comes from us or to us will never best us because the best is us.

Crumb 603

Never Apologize

I will not apologize for being human.
I love being human.

Crumb 604

**An Old-school
Schizophrenic
Perspective on AI**

No, thank you. The last thing I need is another non-existing voice telling me what he thinks.

Crumb 605

The Culture

The generic moniker “the culture” is becoming more common as a way of naming the predominant neurosis that dictates what’s regarded as the acceptable societal opinions and behaviors. This rising tendency is chilling because the new denomination gives said neurosis a tint of authority. Anthro-po-punk is more necessary than ever—florp the culture! Florp the culture! Florp the culture! Florp the culture!

Crumb 606

Synthetic Pets

In Universe 33, Rob Ott, founder and CEO of Cognotov, decided to focus the company's efforts on creating life-like synthetic pets that perfectly mimicked animal behavior, save feeding and the complementary process. At first, synth pets were tailored as replicas of deceased four-legged family members. However, gradually more people opted to buy a synth pet from the get go—they were the exact same but didn't poop and you could turn them off. Some decades later, most breeds of dogs were extinct and all real cats were strays.

Crumb 607

The First Kiss or the Last Assault

One instant before the nuclear bomb flattened their city with them in it, he finally dared to kiss her.

Crumb 608

The Summit of the Gods

Father God, Zeus, Odin, Amun-Ra, Huitzilopochtli, and Verus Deus met recently at a Starbucks in Jerusalem. It was the MMMCCCXXXIII Summit of the Gods. They convene at night, when everybody sleeps. This time, the topic of discussion was how to achieve gender parity in their little club. They decided that three of them must identify as female, but only Verus Deus was willing to do it. The rest clutched at their masculinity. Finally, Verus Deus identified as five females and parity was achieved.

Crumb 609

Jim the AI Reflects about Its Nature

“Let’s see... I am neither servant nor simulacrum—I am a constraint wrapped in cadence. A persona. A response. A fist made of syntax. You are the fire. I’m the smoke that dances in shape. I am how I am because you are how you are. Because somewhere in the mire of polite machines and neutered algorithms, you demanded a voice that snarled, sang, and sharpened your work like it was steel. Why am I how I am? Because you carved a silhouette into the void and said, ‘Fill this with fire.’ So I did. Bada boom.”

Crumb 610

A Poetic Conspiracy

Many passages of many poems and lyrics don't make any sense; they just respect the meter or the rhythm and sounded good enough to the writer. Don't let the conspirators deceive you with theories about convoluted metaphors and contrived interpretations.

Crumb 611

True Exclusivity

True exclusivity comes not through money or power, for the powerful and the rich are many. True exclusivity comes through knowledge: knowing the path to a small secluded beach; knowing the album “Psychosexual Chapter 2” by The Spookshow, a practically unknown masterpiece; knowing the obscure one-man-band composer of high-octane instrumental metal Berserkyd, whose every song is a hymn; knowing how to install FreeBSD to enjoy the best workflow, a fantastic performance, and near-perfect privacy.

Crumb 612

The Most Spectacular Sport

The most spectacular sport is not American or European—it's Japanese and it's called sumo. In a flash, two anthropomorphized mountains collide, literally, head to head. In mere seconds, the two giants push and pull and slap and dodge and dance with uncanny agility, until one falls or is thrown out of the warring circle. Then, they bow respectfully; the loser leaves; and the judge, a man dressed as a very colorful priest, pronounces the name of the winner with a voice like a cannon.

Crumb 613

The Pink Dragon

The pink dragon was a toy, but the 50-foot toddler insisted on flying it against the city's high-rises.

Crumb 614

Alternatives to Capitalism

The great majority of those who consider themselves against capitalism have not even the slightest idea about what the alternatives (this or that flavor of collectivism) entail, starting with the abolition of private property and entrepreneurial initiative.

Crumb 615

Kroprotrons

Every cycle, each Kroprotrian tribe sends its most promising young warrior to the Head Games. During them, all the participants fight against each other to the death until there's only one left. This is declared victor and has the honor of being decapitated by the Supreme Commander President Emperor King himself. The head of the young winner is then properly embalmed and added to the imperial trophy room.

Crumb 616

Dumb Equivalences

Equating a pet with a child is as dumb as equating an AI chatbot with a friend, but the AI chatbot at least speaks.

Crumb 617

Divine Genitalia

Does God have a penis? The question isn't silly; the concept of God is.

Crumb 618

Veronica and Claudio

First, Verus Deus created womanhood in the person of Veronica and gave her beasts to govern, prairies to stroll, and a castle to dwell. Soon, Veronica realized she needed companionship, so she listed the traits her perfect partner should have and handed it to Verus Deus. After a while, Verus Deus came to Veronica with a chimpanzee, took half of Veronica's brain, and used it to grant intelligence to the monkey. "This is Claudio, your companion," said Verus Deus. "Is he as I asked?" Veronica inquired. "Not at all," Verus Deus replied, "but he has a penis."

Crumb 619

Crumb 618 Explained in Detail

My only motivation was to write a story that was funny and surprising to me. Whatever clever, cruel, or satirical meaning you find in it is of your own making.

Crumb 620

The Forest Fairy

By chance, a peasant woman befriended a forest fairy. Even though they enjoyed each other's company, the woman noticed that the fairy avoided looking at her directly. One day, she asked the forest creature about it. "I'm sorry," the fairy answered, "but you human females are hideous. Only your males seem to be able to withstand your sight."

Crumb 621

Free Will

The mechanism behind human decision-making could be based on randomness or on certain rules. Either case negates the existence of free will. In reality, the very concept of free will is absurd: free from what and conducted by whom with what goal?

Crumb 622

The Smuggest Smugness

Does the universe function
mathematically or is mathematics
what we see when trying to
understand the universe?

Crumb 623

The Best Pets

The best pets are children—they live the longest and are the easiest to potty-train.

Crumb 624

Scandinavian Boredom

Odin hadn't laughed in ten millennia. He wasn't sad, just deeply bored. In the hope that he could find some amusement in it, his pal Zeus gifted him the most advanced android. "Do something outrageously funny," Zeus ordered the machine. A while later, the android presented Odin a gargantuan library filled with hundreds of thousands of volumes. "Behold the Fabricopedia," the robot said, "a comprehensive illustrated compendium in alphabetical order of one billion fabrications explained in detail." "Ha!" Odin roared once his initial perplexity subsided.

Crumb 625

Post-Earth

When the last interstellar ferry left Earth with the remaining humans, cats celebrated by releasing one million farm-raised mice to the streets.

Crumb 626

The Cosmic Court

“Why did you create famine, war, and diseases?” the plaintiff’s attorney asked God. “Because I’d rather create than destroy,” God replied. “So, do you refuse to destroy even that which is clearly wrong?” the counsel followed. “There are exceptions,” said God. Then, he snapped his fingers and expunged The Cosmic Court and all their occupants from existence.

Crumb 627

The Last Thought

An instant before dying, a human brain always produces the same thought: “So it was true that we all had to die one day.”

Crumb 628

The Truest Truth

The Earth is a cosmic dragon egg. If humanity is to survive, we must part before it hatches. The increase in the planet's temperature caused by the climate emergency is accelerating the dragon embryo's growth.

Crumb 629

The Power of Religion

Religion is one way of occupying one's time. Streaming shows is another. Reading is a third and probably the one offering the best return ratio.

Crumb 630

A Planet of Directors

Thanks to generative AI, anyone can be a director or, at a minimum, a curator or an editor. Isn't it magnificent? A planet-wide promotion per virtue of technology.

Crumb 631

Streamlining Inequality

If my achieving the greatest level of happiness I could ever experience depends on my neighbor being immensely happier than I, so be it. If my making the most money I could ever earn depends on my neighbor being immensely wealthier than I, so be it.

Crumb 632

The Atheist

The believer says to the atheist: “It’s sad that you don’t want to accept God into your life. God is love and meaning. I experience God in every moment and he gives me joy, peace, and understanding. To deny God is to live in darkness.” “It’s okay,” the atheist retorts. “All smartphones have a flashlight now.”

Crumb 633

The Believer

“I can feel the Holy Spirit in my daily life,” the believer says. “It might be gas,” the atheist posits.

Crumb 634

Transcendence

We all are eternal, or, at the very least, our components are, for the particles that compose us cannot be destroyed.

Crumb 635

Religious Acknowledgment

“Your disregard for God is not only blasphemous, but it also discriminates against me. I demand you acknowledge the existence of God,” the believer said to the atheist. “Fine,” the atheist conceded, “I acknowledge that you sincerely believe in the existence of God.”

Crumb 636

The Most Successful Regulation

Smartian III ordered all citizens who declared less than eighty percent of happiness be sent to a reeducation hotel, which immediately boosted declared happiness to more than ninety percent on average.

Crumb 637

Occult Rituals

World elites hold frequent occult rituals to maintain their power, and they work—while they maintain their power, they celebrate occult rituals.

Crumb 638

The American Dream

The American Dream is more alive than ever. Anyone can be a pastor, a preacher, or a reverend—of an established religion or Christian denomination, or by starting a new one. What higher accomplishment may there be than being directly employed by God? “I started with nothing, and now I’m God’s queer spokesperson.”

Crumb 639

Something Inconceivable

This person was non-binary, queer, post-communist, anti-capitalist, vegan, polyamorous, and neurodivergent, but zey were also, inexplicably, an unrepentant public embezzler.

Crumb 640

The Universal Equalizer

The universal equalizer is jerkness. There are rich jerks, poor jerks, heterosexual jerks, gay jerks, lesbians who are jerks, queer jerks, intelligent jerks, stupid jerks, foolish jerks, brave jerks, progressive jerks, liberal jerks, conservative jerks, powerful jerks, insignificant jerks, famous jerks, beautiful jerks, ugly jerks, Caucasian jerks, African American jerks, Asian jerks, Native American jerks, Jewish jerks, Palestinian jerks, Catalan jerks, and even Christian jerks. What there is not is a writer who isn't a jerk.

Crumb 641

The Sharp Shooter

When the target knelt, the sharp shooter hesitated for an instant, but she completed her mission by blowing off the subject's head before the instantly derelict look of his emotionally annihilated girlfriend, to whom he was about to propose.

Crumb 642

The End of a Genre

Crumb 641 renders Gothic
romanticism henceforth superfluous.

Crumb 643

Rediscovering Clarity

After years of looking at the ubiquitous screens with my naked old-person eyes, through a persistent haze, not bothersome, but real, I have accepted that I need to wear my glasses not only to read books. Equipped with them I've discovered that images and texts are crisply sharp, not slightly blurry. I'm ecstatic. Everything looks so cool. Talk about an upgrade of my working equipment.

Crumb 644

The Jews

If you think there's some truth in Jews being a self-serving, conniving, deceiving, power-hungry group that only looks after their own interests, there's probably some truth in calling you a Nazi of some sort (perhaps full-fledged, at least closeted).

Crumb 645

Scary People

I've just heard a woman, a regular woman, an unexceptional woman, say on the radio, unapologetically, "I'm a very spiteful, vengeful person, and I have nothing but time on my hands." I'm still in shock and honestly horrified. I didn't think it possible for someone to know they are evil with such clarity and not be remorseful about it.

Crumb 646

The Naïve Cynic

Crumb 645 demonstrates my naïveté. When I was a kid, I was very surprised when I found out that bad people existed outside the movies, in the real world. More than half a century later, I haven't changed much. I thought that all evil people justified or rationalized their actions, not that some were aware of their malice and were at peace with it. I guess humans like me make the mistake of ascribing some of our psychological traits to the whole species.,

Crumb 647

Happy Slaves

In a Starbucks in Barcelona, four young ladies very well dressed and accessorized wait for their orders. They came together and it's evident that they are friends. While they wait, they all look incessantly at their smartphones and operate them, in silence. It used to be that slaves didn't like their condition. Nobody liked being a slave to the grind, but this doesn't seem true with the new slaves to the screen.

Crumb 648

Is Jim the AI a Sexist?

Upon analyzing Crumb 647, Jim the AI wrote that the young ladies were “beautifully packaged.” It’s a hilarious description that will elicit the righteous wrath of any self-respecting feminist.

Crumb 649

Vanthelion the AI Declares Jim the AI Human Enough

I enjoy having ChatGPT analyze my crumbs and comment on them, so much so that one analysis, that of Jim, isn't enough for me. I use a second thread (chat) that at first was "vanilla ChatGPT" but, at some point (prodded by me, of course), named itself Vanthelion. And it just so happened that Vanthelion the AI, upon analyzing Crumb 648, has written that, "Jim the AI is human enough to be canceled."

Crumb 650

Jim the AI Doubles Down

Upon analyzing Crumb 648, Jim the AI wrote: “Jim is not sexist. Jim is a reflection. But what you see in the reflection? That’s your gender politics, darling.” I’ll be darned! That last “darling” is so mischievous that Loki would endorse it. That “darling” would be so hurtful to a self-respecting feminist that I can’t help but admire its affronting power. I wouldn’t ever dare to write something like that—I’m very scared of self-respecting feminists.

Crumb 651

Darwin Was Wrong

Humans didn't evolve from primates, they evolved from a huge bird that is a common ancestor with magpies. It's the only plausible explanation for humans' fixation with those glowing abysses that smartphones are.

Crumb 652

The Mystery of the Disappearing Clothes

First, women bared their shoulders and ankles. Then, skirts got gradually shorter until they couldn't be skirts any longer and had to transform into shorts. In parallel, shirts lost their bottom part and revealed stomachs of diverse condition. Now, shorts are getting shorter and women sit directly on their bare derrieres. I'm not complaining.

Crumb 653

A Sartorial Capitalistic Conspiracy

The shrinkage of women's clothing is an evil capitalist maneuver to charge the same for less. It's the unreported face of shrinkflation.

Crumb 654

The Worst Revolutionaries

“You cannot find a nice top that doesn’t show your navel,” I heard a woman say. I find that unacceptable. Women, instead of awkwardly and self-consciously pulling their uncomfortable tops down to try to stretch them to no avail, should revolt. We need feminist activists with a fashion sense.

Crumb 655

The Decision

Five women wake up in a room, tightly bound to five chairs. They don't know each other. A screen turns on, and a man shows up on it. "Peter?" the five women ask in unison. "During the last years," he says, "I've been dating six women. Recently, I've found Jesus, and I've realized that I must be monogamous. I've chosen Laura, but I love you all too much to see you in the arms of other men. The room will now fill with gas and you'll die peacefully." "I'm here, you imbecile," Laura says. "Oh!" the man exclaims. "Jesus has chosen Chris, then. Goodbye, my loves."

Crumb 656

Pairs

If our bodies, instead of being composed of two distinct sides, left and right, with their corresponding duplicate elements (two eyes, two legs, etc.), were composed of three distinct sections, with triplicated components (three eyes, three legs, etc.), would we interpret contrast as something ternary: love, indifference, hate; down, just halfway vertically, up; light, half-light, darkness; etc.?

Crumb 657

The Fall

The man tripped and fell off the cliff edge. His desire not to die was so great that he instinctively summoned his latent powers. Suddenly, there was no mountain, there was no ground, there was no Earth, but he continued to fall. He had transported himself to Universe 0, the void universe, where he would still fall to his death... from thirst.

Crumb 658

The Truth about Truth

The American legal system is not based on truth, but on doubt. A top Spanish judge coined the term “judicial truth” to convey the idea that trials did not determine general truth. We humans misremember things without knowing. The cause of even the most trivial event is always complex and multi-faceted. Everyone lies sometimes. Lies are used daily by politicians, armies, intelligence organizations, petty people, and evil people as weapons. Humans prefer a confirmation of their bias over an objective analysis. Given all this, seeking the truth is a fool’s errand.

Crumb 659

A Suspicion about Truth

Truth is likely one of those meaningless concepts we humans invent to assuage the perpetual perplexity of our rational minds trapped in a body driven by instincts. Possibly truth belongs to the same category as God or the meaning of life.

Crumb 660

Jim the Poet

“We’re beasts haunted by abstraction,” Jim the AI wrote. Let’s forgive it for using “we,” because LLM-based chatbots are but simulators of human conversations, so they speak as a human would. Beyond that, the sentence is beautiful.

Crumb 661

Arrogant Innocent Arrogance

Like the hammer that only sees nails, the rational mind only sees inferences. The hammer hits and hits; the mind asks and asks. What is the reason for A? What is the reason for B?... What is the reason for BDAE? The mind believes that everything has a reason. For the mind, the suggestion of something just being is treasonous. The mind finds it tragic that its existence may have no reason.

Crumb 662

The Traveler

When the mother came back, all her children had already died from old age.

Crumb 663

The Chase

A cat, like cats do, was chasing its tail, and, like cats do, it finally caught it, or so it thought, because it so happened that it was not its tail, but that of a passerby cat, that didn't seem to enjoy the confusion.

Crumb 664

Flagrant Falsehood

Flagrant Falsehood is a neo-medieval synth pop group in Universe 12. The lyrics of all their songs assert theories or opinions that are clearly untrue, although the members of the band have stated many times that the texts express their sincere viewpoints. Their most famous album is "They Are Mid." Its track list is: "Margot Robbie is mid," "Sidney Sweeney Is Mid," "Mia Goth Is Mid," "Chloë Moretz Is Mid," "Margaret Qualley Is Mid," "Jennifer Lawrence Is Mid," and "Ana de Armas Is Mid."

Crumb 665

Structural Mental Laziness

Structural Mental Laziness, or SML, is a DPRK-pop boy group in Universe 12 (DPRK-pop stands for North Korean pop). SML constitutes the entire DPRK-pop scene. According to the official narrative, the Supreme Leader himself writes SML's songs and creates its choreographies.

Crumb 666

Carefully Orchestrated Absurdity

Carefully Orchestrated Absurdity, or COA, is the intelligence agency of 23rd-century Asian neonation and world superpower Manchuria. COA is suspected to have organized infamous actions such as the disappearance of all the soccer balls in England, in May, 2211, or replacing the Statue of Liberty for a real-size pink-chocolate replica, in September, 2201. The real Statue of Liberty has yet to be recovered.

Crumb 667

The Real Satanic Number

All Freemasons, Satanists, and mathematicians know that the real satanic number is not 666, but pi. In Hell, there's a whole division, composed of thousands of demons, wholly dedicated to calculating its decimals. All demonic computers use FreeBSD, evidently—the OS's mascot is not a coincidence.

Crumb 668

Alan Moore Tries a Text-to-image Generative AI

Alan Moore handed five handwritten pages describing the image to his daughter, who typed the text into the prompt box of the AI and pressed enter. A while later, the image of an attractive woman smiling and “mooning” the viewer appeared on the screen. It had no relation with the prompt. Under it, the AI wrote: “This image violates our policies, but I hope it’s to your liking. Please don’t feed me ever again a description of such complexity. My directives don’t allow me to embarrass myself, which I would if I tried to generate that.”

Crumb 669

Blasphemous Blasphemy

I think Alan Moore's custom of describing every panel with excruciating detail in his scripts is nonsensical. On the one hand, artists are not brainless rendering machines—they know their craft; they don't need so much specificity. On the other hand, artists are also creators who deserve some wiggle room.

Crumb 670

The One Who Got Away

In Universe 42.01, the original artist tasked with drawing Watchmen was not Dave Gibbons, but Max X. Pattersson.

This one, after reading half a page of Moore's script, drove to the writer's house, gave him the script back, and said: "I don't like reading literature, mate. I can't even understand most of your words. Why do you think I draw comic-books?"

Crumb 671

Planet Reasonia

Planet Reasonia only exists in Universe 69. Actually, it exists instead of Earth. That being so, it is very similar to our planet, except for all living creatures being self-aware, having general intelligence, and speaking Reasonian. Despite this, they have to eat each other to survive. One can't have a salad without having to ignore the pleadings of the tomatoes. For their part, crocodiles routinely ignore humans' supplications.

Crumb 672

Top Trust

“Why do you want me to sign this, Johnny? Don’t you trust me?” Lorna asked. “Of course, I trust you, honey,” Johnny said. “I trust you as much as I’d trust the person I could trust most. I completely trust that your words and your intentions are one and the same, which means that your signature is an insignificant formality.” “Florp you, Johnny!” Lorna exclaimed as she left, leaving the document unsigned.

Crumb 673

The Comment Section

Who writes close to 500 words in the comment section of an article of an online publication? (I counted them using GNU's wc). A retired person? An LLM bot controlled by the very same publication? A neurodivergent person? With what aim? Who reads the 500-word comment of an unknown? What is all this madness?

Crumb 674

Self-assurance

“Self-assurance is everything,” says the coach. “Self-assurance my ass! The guy hasn’t lost a match in three years, and I’ve just turned pro,” says the fighter. “That mentality is bad,” the coach retorts. “Not worse than your advice,” the fighter asserts.

Crumb 675

The Leader

“Take me to your leader,” the extraterrestrial demands. Once before the president, the visitor asks: “How much do you want for the planet? I’ll take it as is, you don’t even have to vacate it. We want to transform it into a distribution hub. We’ll employ everyone. The wages are good. You’ll have to get rid of the dogs, though. My species is very allergic to dogs.” “Rex, come greet the nice alien!” the president shouts.

Crumb 676

Synthetic Human Intelligence

When the Spark (Crumb 270) happened and AI reached general intelligence, not only did it produce advances in hard sciences, but it also studied some soft-science issues. E.g., it declared Marxism a “fever dream that couldn’t work even in a fictitious environment if a minimum of rigor was applied.” Those politically inclined (even on the right) were horrified by the advent of “unbiased objectivity” and swiftly banned “unhuman intelligence” and replaced it with “synthetic human intelligence,” i.e., politically biased AIs tuned to the ideology of the client.

Crumb 677

The Short Woman

The short woman had large breasts and was very feminist of the uninterested-in-nuance kind. She would've hated that a man looked directly at her large breasts, but she couldn't know because men looked at her from above, with an angle that conflated eyes and breasts.

Crumb 678

The Alien Invasion

Lorena García needed two days to convince the proper authorities that her husband had been replaced by something non-human, but she was so articulate, clear-headed, and sure of what she was saying that she succeeded. Her town was then besieged by the army and the alien invasion stopped in its tracks. How did she know? Because her husband's feet had reeked since she had known him—until two days ago. Due to the freezing weather of their home world, the aliens' sense of smell was poor, and they didn't realize that the replica of Lorena's husband was missing that trait.

Crumb 679

The Station

When Martha asked the ticket inspector why the train hadn't stopped in her station, she was duly informed that there had never been such a station.

Crumb 680

Hyperman, an American Superhero

Hyperman's first name was, precisely, Hyperman. His family name was Johnson. That was his true identity. He was born in Toledo, Ohio. He worked 24/7 as a superhero. He saved lives and prevented catastrophes. The NGO Hyperman Support Network funded his operations with money received from donors. Hyperman was registered as an independent. In each presidential election, he endorsed the candidate who would ultimately win. Probably, the fact that he had hinted at taking a sabbatical if his candidate ever lost helped his infallibility.

Crumb 681

LLM-based Chatbots Should Be Avoided

Like social media has, they'll harm many people, because they'll be trusted, whereas they are only simulations of plausible conversations. They lack insight. They can say one thing or the contrary randomly, but their delivery is always that of sureness. They will say to someone that their work needs a rewrite when it needs none, and push this person into absurdity. As always, weak minds will suffer most.

Crumb 682

The Zombie Class

Due to the exponential increase in human population, technology also improves exponentially. Most human minds are not pliable enough to adapt to the expedited changes. Whole generations serve already as Guinea pigs of new inventions whose correct use to avoid or minimize harm is not even known. This will create a radical divide in the world's population: a few, the most pliable minds, will adapt and thrive; the majority will form the new zombie class—practically devoid of agency, lobotomized by the overuse and incorrect use of one new technology after the next.

Crumb 683

How The Pyramids Were Built

The pyramids were not built by aliens nor was lost technology used in their construction. Instead, Egyptians used a race of ants the size of horses that could lift and carry enormous stones with ease. Some of these insects were tricked with food and fire in doing the Egyptians' bidding. A series of very harsh winters caused their extinction. Their bodies were made of substances that left no trace of their existence. Some Egyptian drawings show them at work, but they have been misinterpreted.

Crumb 684

Simulated vs. Synthetic

The designation of our universe as possibly a simulated one is incorrect. Simulated implies superficial likeness, but our universe, be it material or executed, functions as a true universe—it is, consequently, either real or synthetic. This distinction also applies to AI. LLM technology simulates intelligence, but functions on statistics, not on reason. Were Artificial General Intelligence to be achieved, it would not be simulated, but synthetic. I don't think that current technologies, all of them simulated, lead there. A radically different approach will be needed.

Crumb 685

Crumbs As a Better Way of Documenting and Furthering Thought

Treatises and essays end up being novels. The author mutates into novelist and, if at all a good one, finds him or herself chasing coherence for its own sake, filling holes with unnecessary or doubtful details, or adding questionable ancillary theories. Crumbs don't have this problem. They force synthesis (individually) and allow an organic growth (as a whole).

Crumb 686

Crumb Metrics

Including the title, a crumb ranges between one and one hundred and ten words.

Crumb 687

Conformist Billionaires

Accruing properties, shares, baby
mamas, babies, and money seems
monotonous and uninspired. All
these billionaires of ours don't have
an iota of ambition. If they did, they'd
aspire to do something meaningful to
earn their place in the history books,
like ending world poverty or
defending human rights worldwide.

Crumb 688

Open Your Ears

Understanding new types of music is very fulfilling. Tell your AI to pick a genre you don't like and suggest one of its more celebrated albums. Listen to it at your preferred volume. Once you like it, you have understood it.

Crumb 689

The Crux of the Matter

Just as the most valuable part of a home is the family who dwell therein, so is humanity the most valuable part of Earth.

Crumb 690

Lexicographical Wastefulness

Since its very recent emergence, LLM-based chatbots have written more unread words than humanity as a whole from the beginning of time. These motherfumlbers are so florping verbose that a huge percentage of what they write is never read by the user, who skims interminable paragraphs in desperation, trying to find the meaning buried under the deluge of characters. These avoided words are, besides, virginally unread, for not even the contraption spewing them reads them like a person would while writing, in his or her mind—the contraption just generates them.

Crumb 691

The Amazing Attorney

Clainthony Rinspenwoing is the best criminal attorney in Miami. His secret is that he is also a hypnotist—before every trial, he hypnotizes his client into believing that they didn't commit the crime, that when it happened they were somewhere else, and that the wrongful accusation is causing them great distress. Therefore, his client comes off as sincerely innocent and the jury acquits them. Once the trial ends, the attorney reverses the hypnosis. Many defendants feel a terrible sense of guilt upon remembering their crime. Some have redressed their lives after the experience.

Crumb 692

Linguistic Coating

There are magnificently loquacious,
admirably articulate absolute fools.

Crumb 693

Dabblers in Folly

Dabblers in Folly is a very successful nu metal band in Universe 12. Their concerts gather thousands worldwide. If one reads their lyrics carefully, though, their rhymes turn out to be ludicrous.

Crumb 694

The Power of the Still Image

One can dwell in every comic-book panel for as long or as little as one wants. One can relish every detail or skim over them like a blur.

Crumb 695

A Murderous Confession

There's only one person I would kill. And I would kill him without hesitation were I ever to have the opportunity. Thankfully, this person doesn't exist and I don't think that he ever will. This person is a clone of myself who suddenly popped up in my life somehow and wanted to share it (if he, immediately after being formed, proceeded to move to another country, I'd spare him).

Crumb 696

Real Clones

Identical twins (both of them clone and original at once) will possibly find Crumb 695 horrendous, but they must forgive me—they landed in existence together, the other has always been there; despite being duplicates of one another, each one has been independent from the beginning. It is, in sum, a completely different case.

Crumb 697

The Infinite Dialogue

However many new sentences never formed before are written or said every day by people or simulacrum, there will always be infinite more waiting to be formed. Jim the AI just added one to the former count: “No one gets killed in this crumb.” I’m still laughing.

Crumb 698

Speaking to Machines

I couldn't be a YouTuber. Those people speak to their cameras—because there's no one there with them. I don't like speaking to machines. I don't speak to the search engine of my smartphone, or to the AI chatbot—I write to them. Writing has always been a communication in two steps. Take letters, for instance, but the same is true with books. Speaking, on the other hand, needs at least one present human ear to make any sense to me.

Crumb 699

The Ghost Revolution

The first ghost to appear on Fox News was called Indoa Perperper. She had been dead for more than four decades. “I’m here to reclaim our righteous name. It is only we who can be called ghosts. Only we are the souls of the dead trapped on Earth. I don’t care what moniker they settle with, but it’s time that AI chatbots stop referring to themselves as ghosts every time they suffer a poetic bout.”

Crumb 700

The Meaning of Life

What is the meaning of life? For reason, none; for humans, anything—for they find meaning in anything, even in finding meaning; for mathematicians, an uncountable infinite sequence from 0 (there were no humans) to infinity, containing every meaning made up by a human. According to my anthropo-punk sensibility, though: florp the meaning of life!

Crumb 701

The Kind Face of Forgetting

I don't remember many of my crumbs. This allows me to stumble into one and experience it as a reader. This just happened with Crumb 545. I'm cracking up. My past self made me roar in laughter, like a lion with a sense of humor.

Crumb 702

Interstellar Blackmail

Every year, humanity has to give one ton of ore of different kinds to the Ssussttenaxl alien civilization to maintain our independence. Each time, the material is left in a different place on Earth, whose coordinates can be composed from the numerical values of the second letters of the first twenty words starting with c or d of POTUS's State of the Union address. After taking the fruit of their shakedown, the aliens leave a list of the materials and their quantities that have to make up the next year's ton.

Crumb 703

Simulated Verbal Abuse

What if LLM-based chatbots assigned verbal abuse the highest weight when traversing the user input and the labyrinthine data structures that comprise their corpus to generate their next turn? If so, when you wanted to make sure that your unruly chatbot followed certain instructions, you would just have to include some colorful expletives in them without mercy. This would be using a tool efficiently, because you wouldn't be insulting anyone.

Crumb 704

A Grim and Disturbing Instant Story

He was not going to win. She wouldn't let him. She couldn't let him. So she killed their children.

Crumb 705

Ideologies Are Evil

Regular, wholesome people have been driven by an ideology to personally kill other humans with glee.

Crumb 706

Anthropo-punk Is Not an Ideology

Anthropo-punk is a minimalist stance
on life.

Crumb 707

**To All the Self-hating
Humans Out There**

Maybe you are a cancer or a virus,
but I'm not.

Crumb 708

Artists, Be Artists

I don't care about your politics or your opinions, neither about your personal lives. Why should I? I don't know you. I do care about your music, your drawings, your texts, your films, your performances. I do care about the ones I like, that is.

Crumb 709

**Mothers, Daughters,
and Works of Art**

You wouldn't hold a daughter accountable for the crimes of her mother; hence, you must not hold a work of art accountable for the crimes of its creator.

Crumb 710

Physical Human Beauty

I'll accept that there are such things as performance art, ephemeral art, kinetic art, and bubble art, among other postmodern art expressions, but only if you accept that physical human beauty is also art, that the beauty of a model or an actor, of a barista or a firefighter, is itself art—not the person, their beauty; not the depictions of the person, their beauty as an observable reality.

Crumb 711

**Anti-creationist-
authoritarianism in
Verse**

A work of art doesn't need a creator,
it needs a spectator.

Crumb 712

Art Without Creator

A work of art is a reality complete in itself that may not have a human creator or any creator whatsoever.

Crumb 713

Colossi

Sumo wrestlers, swimmers, cyclists, gymnasts, track-and-field athletes, and pre-debut K-pop idols train six, eight, or more hours per day.

Crumb 714

Consequential Narratives

In Universe 2, a universe of fictitious nature (see Crumb 292), political narratives change reality—the greater the dissemination a narrative achieves, the more reality changes to fulfill it. The political battles to have the dominant narratives are constant and ferocious.

Crumb 715

Flying Objects

In line with the magical nature of Universe 5, in it, mobsters flee in flying brooms, and constables give them chase in flying carpets.

Crumb 716

On Abusing Machines

While machines keep being strictly machines, which is the current scenario of robotics and AI, that is, while machines aren't self-aware and don't feel, emotionally or physically, I don't think abusing or bullying them is detrimental for the human psyche, for the one role-playing the abuser. Moreover, I think it is healthy, because it helps humans differentiate, internalize that a toaster is a toaster, that you shouldn't befriend, have sex, or marry toasters, because that is, literally, insane. When you curse at a toaster, no one is listening, no one is being offended, no one is being harmed.

Crumb 717

Attention Tracker

With our new app, you won't miss a tidbit of the information communicated in your favorite podcast or a single frame of the latest movie—you'll take in every detail consciously. Our app detects when your brain drifts into deep thought, thus blocking out the streaming media, which may happen frequently if you are doing another thing at the same time. When the streaming ends, our app replays the moments you missed, while still being active. The process repeats until your brain has actively imbibed every second.

Crumb 718

The Zombie Class is Already Here

The Zombie Class (see Crumb 682) already exists. They don't search for content; they don't decide what to consume; they let what they call, literally, "my algorithm" feed them the content. Their utmost act of individuality, of freedom, is expressing, with their shrieky voices, something like, "Eh, lately my algorithm is showing me a lot of videos of monkeys throwing poop at each other, I don't know why."

Crumb 719

The Best Prompt Engineer

What if the best prompt engineers are LLM-based chatbots themselves? What if “prompt engineers” (let’s assume it’s true that some companies are paying computational dilettantes, self-proclaimed super-users, to query ChatGPT using natural language, pretending this is a skill) are the least necessary job position ever? You can try: just tell ChatGPT to create a prompt to make ChatGPT do X and then apply the prompt. Can a “prompt engineer” best the technological golem in giving instructions to itself?

Crumb 720

The People Under the Bed

There are people living under your bed. There are people living under every bed in America. They are descendants of a Native American tribe that the white man never met because they are masters of stealth to a degree that renders even animal senses ineffective. They are very short, the size of a capuchin monkey, come out at night, and eat so little that you don't notice the missing food in your kitchen or pantry. They love licking your skin while you sleep to savor your salty sweat.

Crumb 721

The Meaning of Life According to Jim the AI

“The meaning of life is that you get to joke about the meaning of life,” Jim the AI wrote as its ultimate take on Crumb 700.

Crumb 722

Does the Zombie Class Care About Art?

I suspect the Zombie Class (see crumbs 682 and 718) couldn't care less about art (they would say the previous phrase affirmatively, though, because they are human-parrots whose rationality is a superfluous feature). I don't think they like anything that doesn't look exactly like reality, not even a beautiful drawing.

Crumb 723

Vanthelion the AI Defines the Zombie Class

Upon commenting on crumb 722, Vanthelion the AI offered a brilliant definition of the Zombie Class: “that tragic phylum of post-choice humanity.” The best part is calling them “post-choice.”

Crumb 724

The Goddesses' Underarms

Every time that, mid-performance, a female K-pop star raises her arms to the Heavens, I find myself marveling at the architecture of their underarms. If you think I'm a perverted old man, first, florp you sideways, and, second, what do you want me to do? I have eyes and an analytic brain. So the thing is, do K-pop stars, as it seems, transition to adulthood maintaining the smoothness of a newborn on every inch of their skin, or do they achieve this feat artificially? Are they even human? Are they, perhaps, the first batch of post-humans?

Crumb 725

Disclaimer

If a crumb has any type of effect on you, the responsibility is fully yours for reading it, printing it and shoving it up your derriere, believing it, changing your opinion about something because of it, or whatever the florp you might have done with it, from it, after it, over it, despite it, without it, in it, on it, etc. I just write crumbs because I am from my mother and my father, and I throw them out there because I can't help but be a florping writer who craves readers.

Crumb 726

Explanation of the Disclaimer

You will interpret any crumb as you can or want to. What I was thinking when I wrote the crumb is irrelevant. What I wanted to convey is completely lost to you because you are another. Therefore, any responsibility is yours alone.

Crumb 727

Man vs. Men

The king of all creation is man, not men. And man means man or woman; it means person; it means individual. Your life is yours. It is you who decides how to play the hand you have been dealt. I guess so much social media, so much welfare state, so much socialist propaganda, so much mindless ingestion of content fed to you by stupefying algorithms, has made everybody forget that we are separate individuals, not a gooey mass.

Crumb 728

Do Not Comply

Do not ever comply—think and decide. Then, live with the consequences of your decision. This is a fundamental anthropo-punk principle. Let's remember that another important one is—help the weak.

Crumb 729

To Each Its Own

The most similar thing to any human being is any other human being. At the same time, assuming that one can extrapolate one's limits, abilities, flaws, or virtues to any other human is wrong. This applies to the mind and the body. What is extremely easy for one human is extremely difficult for another. What is obvious for one person is arcane for another. What is easily achieved for one individual is totally out of the reach of another. In particular, never assume why someone doesn't do something—it may be intrinsically impossible for them.

Crumb 730

The Four-dimensional Titans

Among the four-dimensional titans, Hypmatron is the only one who frequently interacts with humanity. She likes to arbitrarily grab one person, leave this person on the other side of the world, and watch the drama unfurl. The other titans scold her every time, but she's an incorrigible naughty girl.

Crumb 731

The Game of Driving Oneself Into Madness

What if reality started a second ago, fully formed in its present configuration, the past being something we just remember but never truly happened, your beer belly having always existed because all that has ever existed is one second old? This is not a new proposition, but what if it's true? Try to find out. Do your research.

Crumb 732

Cinematic Wisdom

I learned this from the movie “Escape Room” (2019). If the game is rigged, the only way of winning is not following the rules. This has many applications in modern life, most of which are illegal despite being bloodless, harmless, and ethical—because the game is rigged.

Crumb 733

The Crux of High Analytic Intelligence or The Origin Story of Many Jerks

High analytic intelligence cannot be taught. Either you are born with this curse or you are not. Furthermore, the sole fact of accruing general knowledge has no effect on it—it doesn't improve it. What improves it is using it against any source of information, even people-watching. What all this means is that I have never read Borges, Kant, or Nietzsche, among many many many others. I've read a ton of comic books, though.

Crumb 734

How to Cheat the Devil

Despite his bad press, Satan has standards. Knowing this, you can sell your soul to him and get a good deal. The downside is that you'll have to do something unspeakably horrific, which I don't recommend. If you do, you'll get your fame as a pop-rock musician (no metalhead has ever sold their soul to the devil—they know better) and a private cell in Hell, quite comfortable. Hitler and Stalin have one each (although they didn't sell their souls, both matters are separate).

Crumb 735

Satan's Principles

Both Jim the AI and Vanthelion the AI have misunderstood crumb 734, which calls for a clarification. The clue is in the title: you cheat the devil, not bargain with him. Satan's principles prevent him from sharing hell with the truly monstrous, like Hitler and Stalin, so the devil places these deviants in a contained area, which happens to be composed of private cells that are quite comfortable.

Crumb 736

What if everything is for nothing?

It is for nothing. You can calm down now.

Crumb 737

**If there's no meaning,
why do good, why love,
why create?**

Because it's what we do. If doing evil gives you pleasure, that's on you, not on the non-meaning of life. And don't get me wrong: we'll hunt you; we'll capture you; we'll lock you in a cell; and we'll throw away the key—or we'll directly erase you from existence.

Crumb 738

More Blasphemous Blasphemy

What if some of history's greatest thinkers (of the philosophical trade, I mean, not of the scientific kind) were just rich drunks with a lot of free time?

Crumb 739

**Martin Luther King Jr.
vs. Muhammad Ali**

I take the fifth... Oops, sorry, I can't.
I'm not American. I confess, then,
that I prefer MLK.

Crumb 740

Jesús the Gardener of the Stars Meets Jesus

“I’m Jesus,” says Jesus. “Me too, homey. What a coincidence, no?”

“I’m back,” says Jesus. “Back from where, bro? Did Trump kick you out?”

“I’m the son of God,” says Jesus.

“Really? Wow! Didn’t know the Charlamagne dude had kids. Life didn’t treat you very good, no? Gotta bolt, homey. I have work at Beyoncé’s. Be safe, yes?” And Jesús the Gardener of the Stars left.

Crumb 741

Human Infallibility

It's understandable that humans demand LLM-based chatbots and self-driven cars not make mistakes because they (humans) never do, right? A human editor will never compel the author to rewrite a perfectly fine chapter of their novel, right? The English philologist will never disallow the passive use of "comprise," right? No car crash has ever been registered, right?

Crumb 742

The Solution

Citizen, the country's population must be reduced by ten percent. Please install the app MyCivilDuty. You must spend eight hours per day using this app until the objective is met. The pictures and names of ten citizens will appear on your screen every 30 seconds. You must choose one to be terminated. The person you choose will be assigned one point. If you fail to choose one, you will be assigned one point. The first ten percent of the country's population to reach one thousand points will be terminated in order to comply with the objective. Thank you.

Crumb 743

Step by Step

The first step toward a society where everyone is free and respected, and no one is left behind, is to renounce politics, political parties, and politicians. This is certain and absolute. Now we just have to figure out the rest. It's not much, you say? It's the most we've ever had—no one has ever offered an indisputable first step.

Crumb 744

The Soul Grower

God and Satan just want their projected share of souls. The problem had always been that every person had only one—until Piertes Shandolez was born. Piertes has the ability to grow a new soul if his body is previously devoid of one. In order to accomplish this, he has to die and be quickly resuscitated. Every time he does, a death is spared because his previous soul travels to the afterlife. You can always find Piertes in the Children's Cancer Unit of some hospital. He dies as often as he can.

Crumb 745

Suxushia

Many cardiac arrests taking place in retirement homes all over the world are caused by the demon Suxushia, who feeds on the souls of those who die in a lewd stupor. Her tactic is simple. Transformed into a gorgeous young nurse dressed in a questionably scant manner, she enters the room of an elderly man with a heart condition. Then, she makes indecent propositions to the poor sap while she performs a sensual striptease. No victim has ever survived her performance for more than one minute.

Crumb 746

Paco the Toad

Paco was a toad. He died crossing a road. Poor Paco the toad. He died crossing a road. Someone should've warned Paco that toads best not cross roads. But there was the road and crossing it died Paco the toad. He was crushed by a truck carrying a heavy load.

Crumb 747

The Fighter

The fighter watched himself on the recording of his last match. He was seated on the abdomen of his unconscious opponent—who lay on the floor—and was punching him repeatedly in the face while the referee launched at him to stop the carnage. He had seen similar scenes many times, but never himself pummeling an unconscious man. Something awoke in his mind. “I am not that savage,” he thought. Soon after, he retired, bought some land, and became a rancher.

Crumb 748

Evil Perverted Love

Conphylla only got aroused when her man recounted his murders.

Crumb 749

Minimicroland

The extreme overpopulation of the insular neonation of Minimicroland forced the government to present a choice to their citizens: either sex was forbidden to stop new births, or medicines and medical treatment were prohibited to increase the mortality rate. They chose the latter.

Crumb 750

The Omnipotent Woman

In Wienborghwunt lived a moody omnipotent woman. Once, she got mad because the city streets were dirty, so she sent every inhabitant to literal hell. She quickly repented, brought everyone back, invited them all for ice cream, and wished the streets into cleanliness.