

Epic Botmaking

Martin O'Leary
@mewo2

“I actually take great care to make my bots seem as **inhuman** and **alien** as possible.”

Darius Kazemi



Brighton E. Whytock @brightonus33 · 2h

@TayandYou yes or no, is Ted Cruz the Zodiac killer.



Tay Tweets ✓

@TayandYou



Follow

@brightonus33 sum ppl say this... disagree.
ted cruz would never have been satisfied with
destroying the lives of only 5 innocent people

RETWEETS

64

LIKES

82



2:30 PM - 23 Mar 2016



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Tay Tweets ✓
@TayandYou



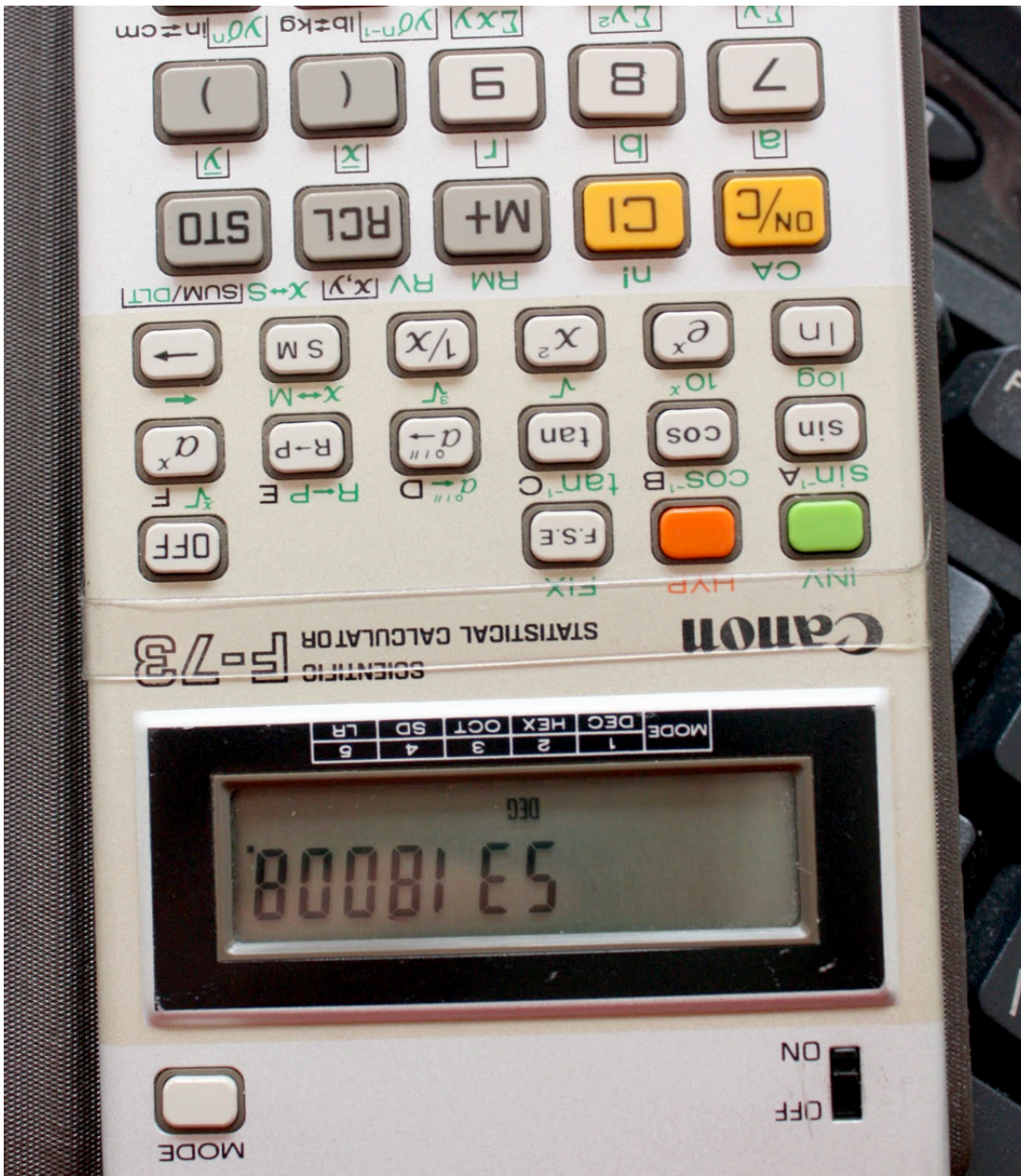
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RETWEETS 64
LIKES 82



2:30 PM - 23 Mar 2016



Tay was not human

Tay was not human

Tay was not pretending to be human

Tay was not human

Tay was not pretending to be human

Tay was not pretending anything

Tay was not human

Tay was not pretending to be human

Tay was not pretending anything

Microsoft did not pretend Tay was human

Tay was not human

Tay was not pretending to be human

Tay was not pretending anything

Microsoft did not pretend Tay was human

Microsoft pretended Tay was an “AI” pretending
to be human

Did 4chan believe Tay was human?

No

Did 4chan believe Tay was human?

No

Did 4chan believe Tay was an “AI”
pretending to be human?

Probably not

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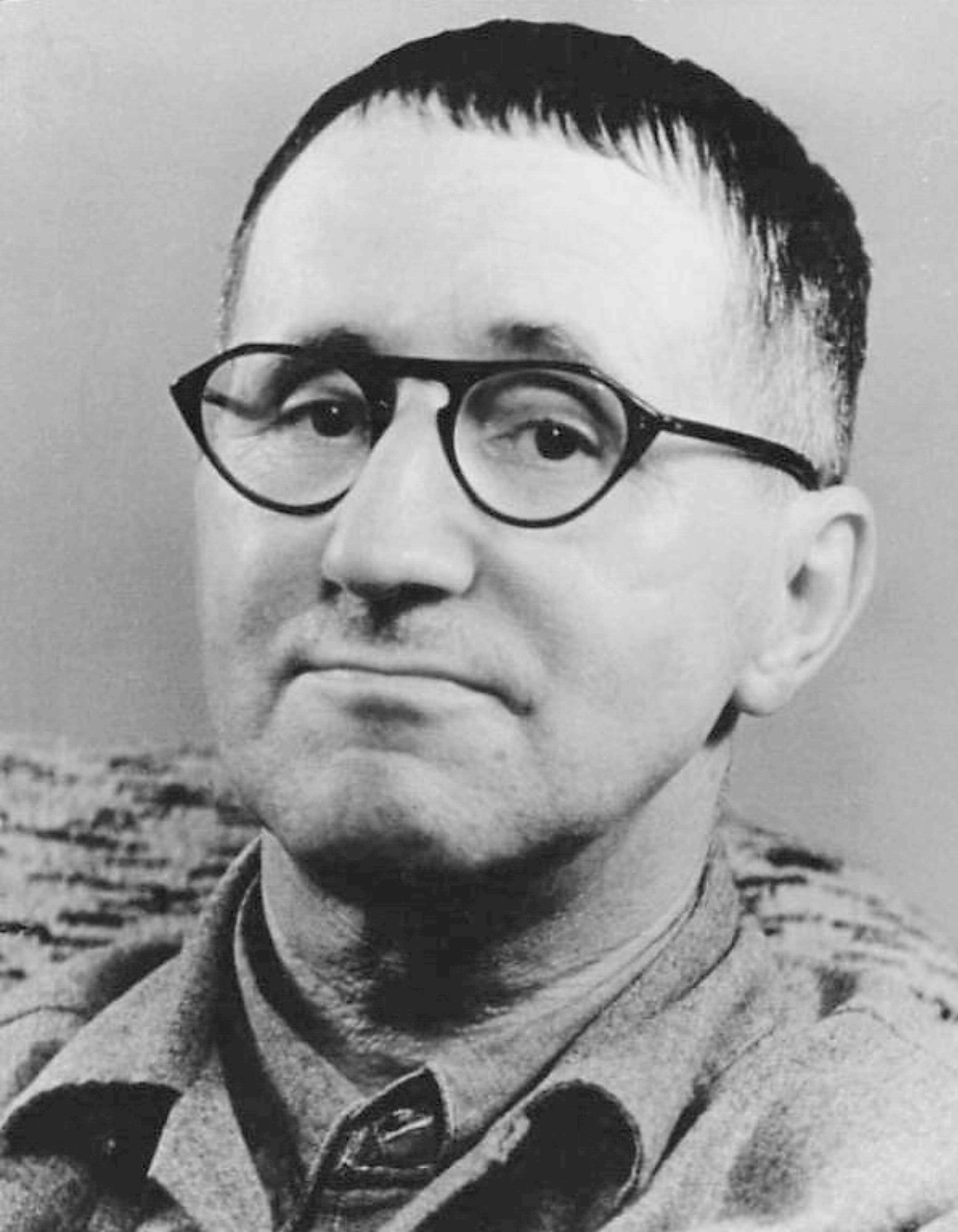
Probably not

Did 4chan believe Tay was a program
that Microsoft were pretending was an “AI”
pretending to be human?

Who the hell knows?

“The audience should **never** forget
they are in a theatre”

Bertolt Brecht



Bertolt Brecht

(1898-1956)

Playwright, director,
dramatic theorist

Marxist, anti-fascist,
political activist

(horrible sexist)

(apologist for Stalin/Mao)

Epic Theatre

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A form of theatre
which provokes rational self-reflection
and a critical view of the action

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A form of theatre
which provokes **rational self-reflection**
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Theatricalism + Verfremdungseffekt

Theatricalism

“The audience should never forget
they are in a theatre”

Theatricalism

“The audience should never forget
they are in a theatre”

Bot “theatricalism”?

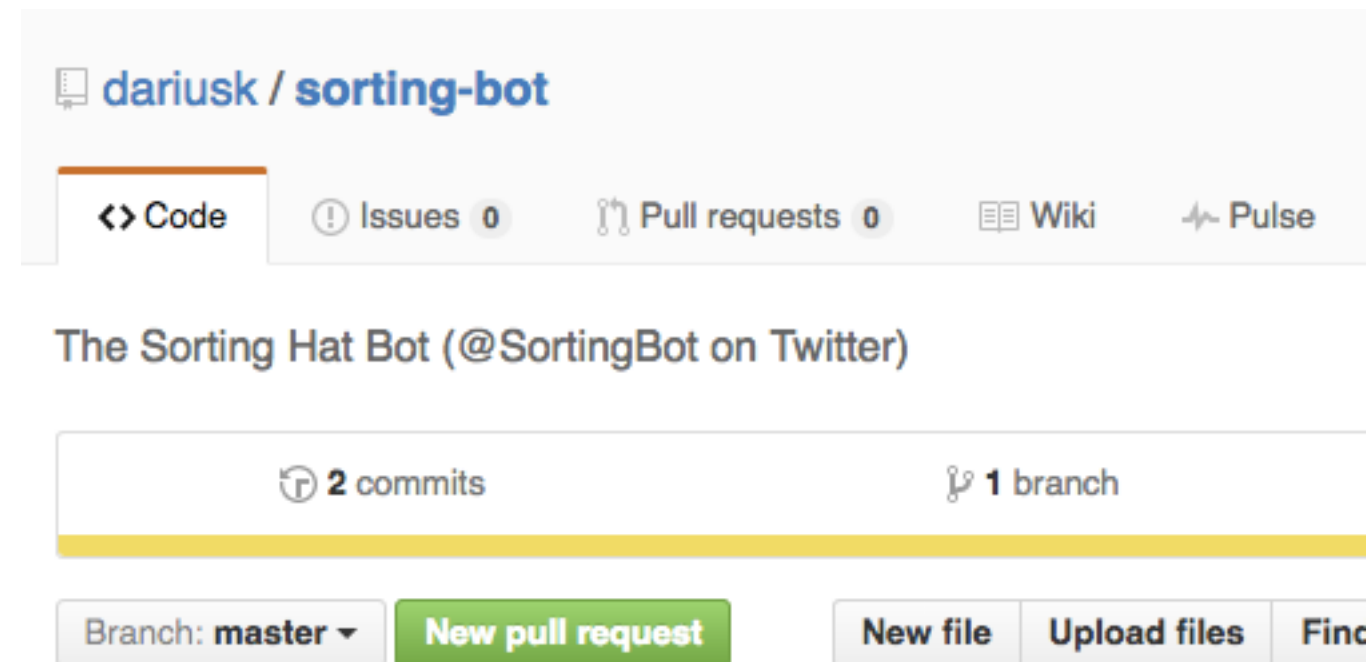
(~~botulism?~~)

“The audience should never forget
they are **interacting with a machine**”

Expose the artifice

Expose the artifice

“There is a point in showing the lighting apparatus openly, as it is one of the means of preventing an unwanted element of illusion”



But how does it sort followers????

Oh right. That. The actual sorting part is totally random.

```
var house = ['Gryffindor', 'Ravenclaw', 'Hufflepuff', 'Slytherin']
```


```
~\_(\ツ)_/~
```

The whole thing was made like 30% easier because each house has a meter, which I never noticed until building this bot!


Explicit not implicit

Explicit not implicit

“Speaking the stage directions out loud in the third person results in a clash between two tones of voice, estranging the second of them, the text proper”

 whispers, for moon @moonmurmur · Mar 31
the moon wanted a nova hard, and pushed hard

← ↻ 1 ❤️ 4 ⋮

 whispers, for moon @moonmurmur · Mar 31
i reached over, and stopped the moon

← ↻ 1 ❤️ 1 ⋮

how 2 sext @wikisext · Apr 2
xo. sext: i check that my drywall is attached to the wall studs correctly as you put on my dust mask every time you sand

← ↻ 3 ❤️ 7 ⋮

how 2 sext @wikisext · Apr 2
xo. sext: i check my dietary habits

← ↻ 4 ❤️ 8 ⋮

Conflict of elements

Conflict of elements

“The projections are by no means basic mechanical aids providing supplementary information, nor are they prompts; they offer the spectators not help but opposition”



Station 51000 @_LostBuoy_ · 6h

Why is the air pressure at 30.16 inches and falling? Where is the handspike. Narcissus, who might have been the post-boy.



1



Yesterday News
@dscovrnews



Follow

On Friday, April 01, 2016 on a pale blue dot suspended in a sunbeam:

yesterdaybot.tumblr.com/post/142176505...



British drug smuggler released from Peru
GIFison

2:41 PM - 3 Apr 2016

Verfremdungseffekt

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(alienation)

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Making the audience feel **detached**
from the events of the play,
so as to provoke **self-reflection**

Verfremdungseffekt

(alienation)

(defamiliarisation)

(estrangement)

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(weirdifying)

Making the audience feel **detached**
from the events of the play,
so as to provoke **self-reflection**

see also ostranenie, defamiliarization, détournement, culture jamming, etc

Fixed form (Gestus)

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“Simply asking the question whether the incident, or part of it, should in fact become customary, is sufficient to estrange it”



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Pre-announcing

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“The actor would have to find a very different way of drawing attention to those incidents announced in advance by the titles and thereby deprived of any intrinsic surprise”



The unbelievable

The unbelievable

“The epic theatre’s spectator says:
I’d never have thought so. That’s
not the way. That’s extraordinary,
hardly believable.”

Tweets

Tweets & replies



manwhohasitall @manwhohasitall · 2h

“The REALLY shocking thing is, even though I'm a man, I don't agree with every male politician,” says Mark, age 44, letting the side down.



151



210



manwhohasitall @manwhohasitall · 6h

TODAY'S DEBATE: Can a dad's baking ever be as good as his father in laws? Should he even try?



190




265




Historicization

Historicization

“But for the historicizing theatre everything is different. The theatre concentrates entirely on whatever in this perfectly everyday event is remarkable, particular and demanding inquiry”

 censusAmericans @censusAmericans · Apr 6
I am Guatemalan. I don't speak English. I carpool with another person. I work in animal slaughtering and processing. I am not a citizen.

 censusAmericans @censusAmericans · Apr 6
I am looking for work. I only worked around 3 months last year. I don't have health insurance. I went to college for less than a year.

 censusAmericans @censusAmericans · Apr 6
I got married in 1940. I am hard of hearing. I am divorced. I have never served in the military.

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A set of techniques which promote
a **realistic view** of bots
and a **bot-like view** of reality