

PARTNER MODEL 3X-8000: **An ambivalent assessment**

*Can you show me how to operate Partner 3X-8000?
I read the operator's manual,
but it seems to have conflicting instructions.*

*Consider its volume control switch for example:
why is 3X-8000 so verbose?
Doesn't this model have an "audio off" switch?*

*I have no complaints about the 3X-8000's cooking,
and when it comes to cleaning, it functions better
than anything I've seen.*

*Moreover, this unit's bedroom protocols
are oddly mechanical.
However, that is not the primary function
of this machine.*

*From what I am told,
this unit was designed for companionship.*

*However, I suspect
it has many programming bugs, and
this machine malfunctions in many ways.*

*Why haven't I replaced my Partner?
I must confess the thought has crossed my mind.*

*Despite its quirks, I've grown somewhat fond of
this gadget: it resembles me in many ways.*

*I was told that the 3X-8000 has a lifetime warranty.
However, since my lifetime is nearly complete,
I will stay with this ditzzy, dingy, dazzling
piece of malware!*

*Please do not tell me about new cyborgs,
or mention what other units can do.*

*I am half-content with my own purchase
even though deep-down
I realize I'm screwed!*

Bill : Sometimes we treat other humans like objects or machines.

Liao : That is an unfortunate mistake. That mechanistic view of world leads to all sort of suffering.