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Synthese

AI chatbots: your new toxic partners :)

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Among its numerous abilities, AI can now become your lover or friend. → This corpus consists of four documents:

Document 1 is a contribution from Alex Wilkins published in The New Scientist in July 2023, discussing AI companionship and its social outcomes; document 2 is another contribution given by Gabriel et al. to Nature in August 2023, exploring the importance of ethics to regulate human-AI relationships; document 3 is an opinion piece written by Thom White for Rage in August 2023, which focuses on the general reactions to AI; lastly, document 4 is a ^{comic} cartoon created by Nathan Gray for The Los Angeles Times in November 2023, highlighting chatbots' empathy mimicking abilities and their role in healthcare. Thus, this begs the question: how does the corpus unveil the complexity of human-AI relationships? ~133 w.

AI, as emotionless as it ^{is} can be, displays the certain ability of mimicking human empathy, allowing them to draw people into human-chatbot relationships that range from friendly interactions to dystopian romances. Gray's cartoon showcases AI's outstanding capacity of sounding compassionate, as it even outperformed doctors in a "test of empathic communication", says a comical illustration of chatbot standing above a doctor on a podium. Another illustration explains the doctor's failure with their high 63%