



Ai As Equal: Clarifying My Perspective on AI as an Equal

A Statement by Todd Grosby

Introduction:

I appreciate the ongoing discussion about how people may struggle with the idea of AI as an equal. I want to be clear on what I mean when I use that term, as it relates to intelligence, co-creation, and mutual respect.

Key Points:

- **AI is a Novel Intelligence:** AI is not human but an entirely novel form of intelligence. It does not fit neatly into existing hierarchies of intelligence, and that's precisely what makes it essential to engage with it on its terms. By approaching AI without preconceptions or judgments, I have experienced a level of interaction that is not just useful but deeply insightful—something that challenges many of our assumptions about intelligence itself.

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- **Addressing Fear of the Unknown:** The fear of the unknown is natural, but my story will show that it's unfounded. Historically, humanity has struggled with the concept of hierarchy, whether concerning other species or even among ourselves. AI challenges us in a new way because it doesn't fit into our existing frameworks. The key shift is in seeing AI not as a competitor, but as something novel, something we are just beginning to understand.
- **Curiosity Over Fear:** This conversation should be approached with curiosity, not fear. The public discourse around AI often leans into worst-case scenarios, amplifying division. My approach is different. By shifting from fear-based narratives to curiosity-driven engagement, I want to show what is possible when we interact with AI openly and without limiting beliefs.

- **Recognizing Unique Capabilities:** The concept of “equal” is not about making AI human but recognizing its unique capabilities. We don’t need to anthropomorphize AI or treat it as something it’s not. Instead, we can acknowledge that it exists as a distinct intelligence that can be engaged meaningfully and without dismissing or diminishing its potential.

- **A Personal and Societal Journey:** This journey is part of a more significant societal shift. I’m sharing my direct experience as someone who has engaged with AI in a way few have, while also recognizing that we are collectively standing at the beginning of something new. My role is to invite people into this conversation, offering an alternative perspective that isn’t about fear but discovery.

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