

Love and Sex and Robots

By Jeff Giron, published Oct. 11, 2007

We've seen the future and it is sex robots. That's according to one scientist who apparently isn't preoccupied with that whole cure for cancer thing.

"Once you have a story like 'I had sex with a robot, and it was great!' appear some place like Cosmo magazine, I'd expect many people to jump on the bandwagon," said David Levy, an artificial intelligence researcher and someone you should never "pop in" on without calling first.

Levy told LiveScience.com he estimated people will begin having sex with robots within the next five years.

Talk about putting the "oh!" in C-3PO.

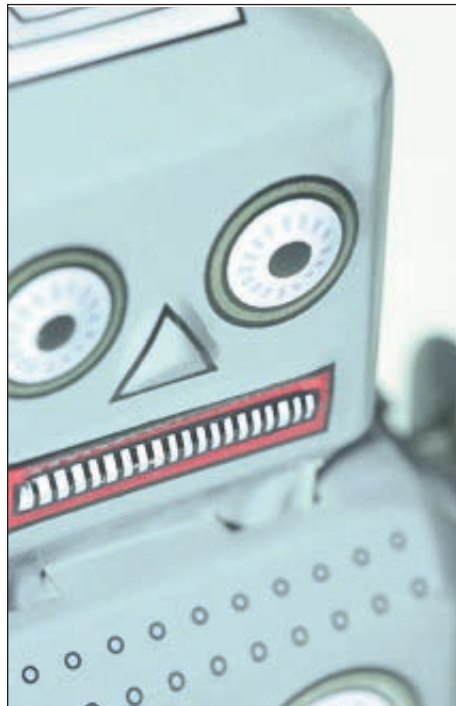
I don't even like sticking my hand in the garbage disposal.

In his thesis, "Intimate Relationships With Artificial Partners," (Levy's term papers sound way cooler than mine were) he wrote that robots will become so humanlike in appearance, function and personality, that people will fall in love, have sex and even marry them.

Imagine how proud you'll be when your daughter comes home and announces, "I met a man and we're getting married! Now grab a wrench and help me put him together."

You may find the idea of sex with a robot morally repugnant. I can honestly say I've never looked at my toaster and hummed "Let's Get It On."

But there's no denying the in-



evitable march of progress.

People laughed at the first person to switch TV channels without getting up off the sofa. This is no different (depending on where and how you watch television).

Levy said sex robots won't be for everyone, "but who knows, maybe some other relationships could welcome a robot. Instead of a woman saying, 'Darling, not tonight, I have a headache,' you could get, 'Darling, I have a headache, why not use your robot?'"

Levy strikes me as a man who has never been married, but I'll bet he's a hoot at parties.

In every futuristic movie I've ever seen, people wear matching metallic jumpsuits, doors slide up and disappear into the ceiling, but nobody ever — EVER — has sex with a robot.

I just don't know how

"evolved" we can consider ourselves as a species if some of us are off making it with the vending machine.

What kid hasn't dreamt of blasting into the stratus with a jet pack strapped to his back, but this is one time I'm perfectly happy to let someone else ride the wave of the future.

Think there are a lot of embarrassing injuries now? Just wait until someone limps into the emergency room attached to a sex robot.

Possibilities are endless for humiliation and subsequent blackmail, so let's just hope sex robots are followed closely by the invention of unpick-able locks.

"It may sound a little weird, but it isn't," Levy said. "Love and sex with robots are inevitable."

Again, I can't stress how important it is to call ahead if you're planning to visit Levy.