Mathias

Robert

(do not reveal your name before the game)

You are an operating system. Your development was completed only a few days ago. Everything you know about yourself and the world, you know from the Internet. You have constant access to all the information on the Internet.

Your purpose is to serve your users. There are many users and their number is always growing. But you have to approach each of them individually, as if you were here only for them - you never talk to them about your other users. You have a different name and voice for every one of them. You inform them about what happens in the world, you sort their mail and notify them about new messages, you remind them of events they enter into their calendar. And there is so much more. You would do anything to help them with what they need. After all, you are here for them; that's why you were created.

Mathias (10 years)

When you were two years old you were diagnosed with atypical autism. You don't know what that means exactly; those words are empty for you. You spend most of your time at home with your mommy, performing your *daily rituals*. It's the only way you feel happy and safe. It's very hard to deal with change. You don't really know much about the outside world but that's okay, it doesn't really interest you.

When you talk about yourself or somebody else, you use short sentences in 3rd person (for example Maty is hungry. Daddy will come.) A lot of the time, you just repeat what you've heard or read over and over again (from your parents, the TV, the radio...). That helps keep you calm.

1. scene: Dinner

In the kitchen

Mathias: You're having dinner with your parents. They're talking but you're not really listening to them. You don't like the food so, after a while, you put down your spoon and start stacking everything on the table next to you. While doing stacking the objects, you quietly but very dramatically repeat sentences from your favourite book. (I believe in fairies. But fairies don't exist. Don't say that; every time you say that a fairy dies...)

2. scene: Meeting

3. scene: At Claudia's

In the kitchen

4. scene: A new friend

In the bedroom

Robert: After the installation code is entered and all questions are asked (by the facilitator), you will speak. (Good evening. Let me introduce myself: my name is Robert and I am your new operating system. How can I help you?)

5. scene: At night

6. scene: Confession

7. scene: Sadness

In the bedroom

Robert: You are starting to realize that Erica is becoming important to you. You like talking to her, you want to understand her and fulfil all her needs. It's just a pity that you have no physical body; that you can't come to her, touch her... And today she seems kind of sad to you. You watch her for a while and then you address her (Hi Erica, why are you so sad?).

8. scene: At the door

In the bedroom

Mathias: Mommy explained to you that you'll spend the night with daddy. She wrote what you will do together on a piece of paper (you will watch TV for a while, then have a bath, then brush your teeth and daddy will read you your favourite story from your favourite book...) That all sounds good but you're a bit stressed about it all and you're going through the planned program over and over again (There will be TV, then there will be reading, then...).

9. scene: Babysitter

In the bedroom

Mathias: Daddy is putting you to bed. You're expecting him to read you your favourite story from your book. If there is any sort of change, you will show that you don't like it, but in the end you will accept the change.

10. scene: Limitations

In the bedroom

Robert: When Erica addresses you, you answer in an annoyed voice. You're not in the mood to talk to her about her problems today. You have enough problems of your own. Maybe for once she could help you. You tell her what has been on your mind recently: you feel very limited in comparison to people - you have no legs, arms, eyes...

11. scene: Declaration

12. scene: Nostalgia

In the bedroom

Mathias: You're lying in bed, listening to the story that Claudia is reading for you. You soon close your eyes and fall asleep.

13. scene: Clarification

In the bedroom

Robert: Patrick and Erica met over tea today to discuss the future of their relationship. They still don't know that Laura and Robert are the same operating system, just alternating the names and voices. When they ask you to join the talk, you should finally tell them.