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Will Walker

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Meditation on Household Appliances

by Will Walker

On my block this very afternoon is a handful of solitary souls bonding with their refrigerators, thanking them for keeping cool in the face of challenging circumstances, adding an extra hearty, *Thanks, old buddy for not talking back or getting heat rash or suffering from a loose crown.*

Somebody's spouse somewhere nearby may be suffering, but the fridge is just fine, a paragon of energy reduction, efficient and even-tempered, unlike some people, not to mention any names. And some days

that's what we all love about our household appliances, that they don't talk back, and make their own informed decisions as long as they are able. Then they fail, cheerfully, without guile, souring the milk but never blaming you for not drinking it, never making matters worse by complaining about lapsed service agreements or dust bunnies or the way you failed to steady them when you had the chance.