

WTF IS THIS?!

In 1998, Tiger Electronics released a new toy that quickly became a sensation.

It was Furby, a creature whose official lore states that it left its homeland, A-loh May-lah, due to changes in the climate.¹ In other words, Furby is a climate refugee.

Upon arrival on Earth, Furby was introduced as what “could be the first of an entire race of artificially intelligent ‘special feature plush’ toys.”²

Though it was wildly popular, in 1999 the toy was banned from some government buildings in the United States.

The toy’s ability to “learn” languages made some believe that it could record confidential information, an allegation that was dispelled by Furby’s creators, who stated, “Furby is not a spy!”³

In a history of the toy’s troubles with the U.S. government, FFA historian Terry Kraus notes that “some considered Furby a danger and even as enemies of the nation.”⁴

It turns out that the U.S. government makes a habit of unfairly targeting innocent immigrants, and Furby is one in a long line of many.

It follows that Furbys everywhere would join in the resistance against fascism, Trumpism, and hatred toward immigrants. That’s why I’ve translated some common phrases of resistance into Furby’s native language, Furbish.⁵

This pamphlet was created to inspire solidarity and silliness in a time of difficulty. I hope you enjoy it.



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**AND OTHER
FURBISH
PHRASES
FOR
RESISTANCE**

¹ <https://official-furby.fandom.com/wiki/Furbyland>

² <http://virtualpet.com/vp/farm/furby/furbypr.htm>

³ <https://www.faa.gov/media/19696>

⁴ [https://news.google.com/newspapers?](https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1356&dat=19990206&id=I9RPAAAAIBAJS&sjid=MwgEAAAAIBA)

[J&pg=5340.1818348](https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1356&dat=19990206&id=I9RPAAAAIBAJS&sjid=MwgEAAAAIBA)

⁵ <https://www.hasbro.com/common/assets/image/Printables/48b6f7255056900b10435c83cc620c4b/25B3E34650569047F5895DB39002D65D/25B91F7B50569047F5B92815857F066F.pdf>

Abortion is health care.

Bay-bee-bye-bye boh
koo-doh ah-noo.

Accessibility matters.

Toh-bye-way boh ee-day.
Tee boh-dah oo-loo tee.

Act on climate change!

Oo-boh oo-tye oo-bah
wah-dah-ay-loh boo-tay!

All labor is skilled labor.

Dee-loo-lay boh dah
dee-loo-lay.

Eat the rich.

Ay-tay moo-lah-moh-moh.

Free Gaza.

Tay-ay Gaza.

Furbys against fascism!

Furbys wee-tah-bah-boo,
oo-kah-dee-moh-moh!

Health care is a human right.

Koo-doh boh tee
boh-dah-ah-mah.

Housing is a human right.

Lay-lay boh tee
boh-dah-ah-mah.

Mutual aid saves lives.

Tee-ah-noo-tee boh
ee-day. Koh-koh koo-doh,
koh-koh may-may!

No person is illegal.

Boo tee boh
boo-koo-lay-lah-dah-boo.

People over profit.

Tee oo moo-lah.

Protect trans futures.*

Oo-boh oo-tye koh ah-noo
kah-boo-tay-tee
nee-way-way-loo.

Respect existence or expect resistance.

Oo-lay-ay-ay-lee-koo tee
tay ay-ay dah-bo-bah-boo.

Smash the patriarchy.

Koo-bah-nah-bah
toh-dee-doh-tee.

Stop racism!

Dah-boo
tee-kah-tay-moh-moh!

Stop ICE!

Dah-boo
lay-lah-moh-moh!

Workers of the world unite!

Dee-loo-lay-tee boh-dah
boo-koo-lay-lah boh
noo-lah!

***A NOTE ON TRANSLATING FURBISH**

Due to its origins in a multi-billion-dollar corporation, Furbish is an inherently patriarchal, white supremacist language. It has two gendered words, which translate to "dude" and "uncle."

Because of this, I had to combine existing Furbish words to create a new word for "trans." I decided on *kah-boo-tay-tee*, which literally translates to *me-change-life*. I selected *me* to reflect the individual's identity and combined it with *change* to reflect transition and *life* to reflect personhood.

It seemed an appropriate, if dry, translation. That said, I encourage trans people to select or create new terms that resonate more deeply. If I receive any suggestions, I will update this pamphlet.

Likewise, racial, ethnic, and cultural identities, are also challenging. Furbish has no words for such concepts, and the words that do exist don't lend themselves as much to my guessing games.

I would love to hear from people of any and all identities and cultures with the Furbish words that they feel best describe their communities.