

Sean Aubin

🌐 <http://compneuro.uwaterloo.ca/people/sean-aubin.html>

Failures and Rejections

Failures.....

- Required three tries to become a Cisco Certified Network Assistant (2011)
- Totally failed to mentor the one other person in a 300 person town interested in IT (2012)
- My component for my Fourth Year Design Project was deemed useless (2015)
- Both of my short stories were rejected from a half a dozen publishers (2014-2015)
- Couldn't finish my model of the Wisconsin Card Sorting Task for SYDE556 (2016)

Rejections.....

- Shad Valley (2010)
- Nanotechnology Engineering at the University of Waterloo (2010)
- More co-op jobs than I can count (2010-2015)
- Iron Ring Scholarship (2015)
- Center for Applied Rationality (CFAR) for Machine Learning practitioners (2016)

Privileges and Luck

- Born a cis-gendered white male with no physical disabilities
- Raised in a stable, safe and friendly community with supportive parents
- Attended schools that encouraged my curiosity in spite of my social ineptitude
- Financial prosperity allowed me to purchase software for correcting French grammar, greatly boosting my grades
- Lived close to a library where I could acquire limitless teen fiction, including Cory Doctorow, which inspired me to become an Electrical Engineer
- Parents paid for multiple classes allowing me to investigate diverse interests
- Was allowed to read in class during my entire school career
- Found medication to manage my anxiety disorder while still in High School
- Found a community in my second term of university that guided me academically and encouraged my self-development
- Attended a University with free tutoring services via Teaching Assistants which I used at every opportunity
- Attended a University with a welcoming and fostering lab
- Was able to graduate from University with no financial debt and was able to pursue low-paying co-op jobs due to financial support from parents and being able to live with relatives during co-op terms