

Touring the Turing Tool

by Jonathan Lam, in the spirit of Poetry Day

(with links to relevant Wikipedia articles to coding references for further reading)

“Hello World!” says binary²

```
01001000 01100101 01101100 01101100 01101111 00100000  
01010111 01101111 01110010 01101100 01100100 00100001
```

wow! a journey through the most diverse world
where different languages are vast seas,
from the universal Turing machine³
and infinite new possibilities,
to Torvalds’ Linux⁴ and open-source⁵ and
freedom and free-ness and modernity;

look! there’s the forests of toggling bit⁶ trees
with logic and some portability,
a far step from digital machine code⁷
and binary² yields to great Assembly⁸,
a town of infants with ability
that is moving-zeroes-and-ones worthy⁹;

wait! here comes a newcomer lad named C¹⁰
whose mind shows of his advanced memory¹¹,
who said to the babies’ excited cheer
“sophistication’s just many steps wee¹²,”
and soon came his cousin named C++
and taught classes¹³ by accident (OOP¹⁴sies);

behold! the children take now a tour to
rest on fine Java’s¹⁵ islands, finally,
learning the basics of concurrency¹⁶
juggling classes¹³ and small objects¹⁴, easy,
doing some hands-on foreign policy
writing “Hello, World!” to Apple TV¹⁷;

whoa! there they unearthed a most wondrous tool
the Internet¹⁸! a broad haven to see,
its limits seemed larger than galaxy
with its great interconnectivity¹⁹,
between people, also technology

from CSS²⁰ to scripts in PHP²¹;

ahem! showed a webpage²² on Google Chrome²³
this is HTML²⁴ here, actually,
through a browser²⁵ like this, as you can see
but I'm often bored when I go singly,
and then said his right hand man JavaScript²⁶,
"I like fun and interactivity²⁷";

huh? emerged NodeJS³⁰, JS's young child
who uncovered desks on which he poured tea,
the tables³¹ of data eternity
whose ownership was in SQL³²'s reach³³,
— a "database" — but he said don't worry
his server-side³⁴ place has authority;

thanks! but there's much more, he promised to them
as he presented a second fun leave,
now to the "real" stuff— the DB's virtual
and thus he showed JSON³⁵ and XML³⁶,
and, lastly, the text files³⁷ were not left out
thus they ended their overdue journey;

stop! the children had their memories full
but now their data types³⁸ were not lossy³⁹,
they were no longer Assembly⁸ but now
they were aspiring, programming-ready⁴⁰,
so they sought out guidance of expertise
and searched for coding gurus fervently;

wow! targe FORTRAN⁴¹ and Mathematica⁴²
— there they are, the computations heavy —
and there's Bash⁴³ and Batch⁴⁴ waiting for command⁴⁵
like its friend MS-DOS⁴⁶, it needs a key,
but let's have some fun⁴⁷ and go meet LOLCODE⁴⁸
to see what goods it offers— let's go see:

—
"Hello World!"¹ says LOLCODE⁴⁸

HAI 1.2

CAN HAS STDIO?⁴⁹

VISIBLE "HAI WORLD!!!!!"

KTHXBYE

Programming References and Allusions:

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- [32] Structured Query Language (SQL) <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SQL>
- [33] Domain-Specific Languages https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domain-specific_language

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Other Fun Facts about the Poem

- Each line was ten syllables, there were ten stanzas, and each rhyming line ends in an “e”-sound
 - Ten (10) in binary (base-two) is 2, which can represent binary
 - “e” is 101 in binary, which is a decimal 5; when dividing 10 by 5, you get 2, which is another possible representation of binary
- Besides the fact that the binary “Hello World!” is not a program, but literally the character representations in binary, everything else in the poem is accurate (unless I am mistaken)
 - LOLCODE is an actual language
- If you didn’t pick it up, the whole poem was an extended metaphor, a group of learning schoolchildren being an analogy for the exploration of the evolving world of computers
- I’m really bad at finding rhymes, and so there is no rhyming rule for the odd lines
- I’ve finally successfully made a pun in this poem (“OOPsies”)
- I can almost bet that no one will ever get to these fun facts and read this fun fact
- This is the first poem I’ve had fun with, as well as the longest one I’ve written. Enjoy!