

The paradoxical sense of relief when instructions to solve the problem fail at the first step

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I couldn't get something to work. The details aren't important.

I found a very old internal wiki page that listed a long, complicated process for getting the thing to work. I strongly suspected that it wouldn't help, but out of thoroughness was obligated to give it a try, so that if somebody asked if I tried it, I could say "Yes, and it didn't work."

It failed on step 1.

Yay! This is so much better than failing on step 23.

Now I could ask for help with a slightly clearer conscience.

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