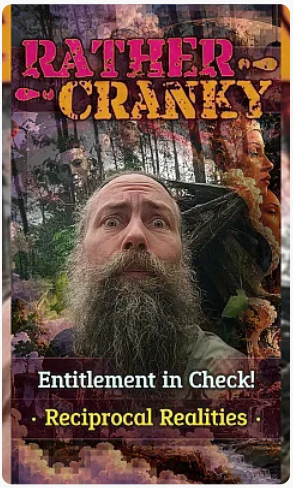
ENTITLEMENT IN CHECK! RECIPROCAL REALITIES (RAC001)

◂ Rather Cranky | LINK 🔗 | IA | YT

Words: 794 ⁘ **Length:** 04:04 min

⁘ **Created:** 2026-11-17 ⁘ **Published:** 2026-11-17



All those important concerns you pitch. How you need and want and take. Expect and require and demand. What exactly do you provide in return? Do you pause to consider, what matters for those you ask from? Reciprocity. Mutually helpful relationships. Balance in interaction. Is that a major concern for you? What do you offer in way of balance?

There is no such free meal in this world, that you could do what you like, and skip what you don't, and still expect everything to spin in your favor. No-one will forever stretch and cater for you. Then double-check your entitlement. It's a recipe for your

shortage when the accounts are leveled. Lack of entitlement leads to enlightenment.

#RatherCranky #Entitlement #Reciprocity #Consideration #Selfishness #Relationships #Symbiosis

Reciprocity. There's no such free meal in this world, that you could just do whatever you like, and leave undone whatever that you don't like, and still expect all things to be spinning in your favor. Want and want, take and take, expect and even demand for good measure.

How about we double-check our entitlement? What exactly is it that you are giving in return to all of your taking? Or is it the awesomeness of your taking itself that should be my blessing? Well I don't think so.

You may put the prettiest words on the table right now to turn the world in your favor, hoping that all of the past is forgotten. To forgive is noble. And to forget is just straight stupid. Your track record has been established. Your behavioral patterns have been recognized. Unless and until there is demonstrated sustainable change, that record remains a loud consideration.

Consideration in how we prioritize our time and attention in this life. To make this rant more concrete, let me drop you a favorite case example. Myself, of course. So here I am, walking the dog. I've fed and cleaned up after the 30 creatures for the fifth time today. Driven up and down to the city through rain and fog to get what the establishment needs.

Patched up the roof and the slope and what-not in preparation for the upcoming heavy rains. Scouted for fencing materials, the old bamboo fence is crumbling down. Debating if I should just weld it myself or bring in a friend to get it promptly sorted. Somewhere in between the cracks, a bunch of professional code works.

Somewhere in between there too, family time – not optional. Somewhere at the deep end of the day, sitting down, attending again to my life's work. Compiling, processing all of my life's accumulations. Again, not really optional. And then, there you are, with your important concern. Well, hello here from the end of the road.

Do you need me to get your back fixed, again, so you can break it down again with your mindless compulsive

behavior? Would you like me to help sort out the mess that is your mind, or reconcile your spiritual concerns? Just so you can forget 90% of what I said in a matter of a week, because you took no notes. You only sought for momentary emotional relief.

So okay, that's all so important for you. Is it important for me? So yes, helping people is important. But there are limits to capacity, and limits to my willingness to be an enabler of perpetual dysfunction.

And there's ever the question, what exactly are you giving in return? Reciprocity, that's a thing. If I invest hours upon hours, days upon days into sorting out your life. Then what about me? How is my investment of time, energy and attention into you sustainable when you do little to relieve my burdens in life? Will you come here, clean up the 20 litres of daily cat shit?

Clean up the gardens, fix up the slopes, take the dog for a walk for good measure. Drive up and down to the city, get groceries. Visit a couple of shops, compare pricing and quality for our fencing materials. Or even drop a respectable hourly compensation for therapy sessions addressing your specific needs. It's not seven bucks an hour by the way. This isn't McDonald's.

The fruits of my life's work, I freely share. Go dig it all. But I cannot freely share my time, energy and attention for all the things that seem important to you. Reciprocity means that you also look at all the things that are important in life for me. A relationship should be symbiotic, mutually beneficial. Need and need, want and want, take and take. Giving in return, an afterthought. That's not symbiotic.

The rains are starting again. Heading back home. For your fortune cookie takeaway. Giver first. Taker second. Double-check your enlightenment. Thank you. P.S. Lack of entitlement leads to enlightenment. Excellent.

🔗 https://ananda.icu/talks/rather-cranky/rac001-entitlement-in-check-reciprocal-realities