Supplementary Table 1: Demographics of Participants

N = 270		N	Percentage
Sex	Female	161	59.6%
	Male	102	37.8%
	Prefer not to say	7	2.6%
Gender	Male	100	37.0%
	Female	152	56.3%
	Transgender	1	0.4%
	Non-binary/genderqueer/gender-fluid	8	3%
	Other	2	0.7%
	Prefer not to say	7	2.6%
Country of Residence	South Africa	103	38.1%
	UK	37	13.7%
	Canada	14	5.2%
	Australia	11	4.1%
	Italy	8	3%
	Portugal	9	3.3%
	Germany	9	3.3%
	Mexico	9	3.3%
	Poland	8	3%
	USA	9	3.3%
	Other Countries (each country with fewer than 7 people)	46	17.0%
	Prefer not to say	7	2.6%

Racial Ethnic Background	White	102	37.8%
	Black	110	40.7%
	Asian	25	9.2%
	Latinx/Hispanic non-White	12	4.4%
	Multiracial	7	2.6%
	Middle Eastern/North African	6	2.2%
	Prefer not to say	8	3%
Sexual Orientation	Heterosexual	205	75.9%
	Bisexual	33	12.2%
	Gay/Lesbian	6	2.2%
	Pansexual	6	2.2%
	Asexual	5	1.9%
	Queer	2	0.7%
	Questioning or unsure	5	1.9%
	Prefer not to say	8	3%
Romantic Relationship Status	No partner	78	28.9%
	Unmarried and living apart	79	29.3%
	Unmarried and living together	43	15.9%
	Married and living apart	9	3.3%
	Married and living together	54	20%
	Prefer not to say	7	2.6%

Education Status	Some High School	2	0.7%
	High School or equivalent	52	19.3%
	Some college	35	13%
	4-year college degree	118	43.7%
	Master's or equivalent	49	18.1%
	Doctoral	3	1.1%
	Prefer not to say	11	4.1%
Student Status	Full-time	64	23.7%
	Part-time	55	20.4%
	Not student	136	50.4%
	Prefer not to say	15	5.5%
Working Status	Full-time	126	46.7%
	Part-time	85	31.5%
	Not working	43	15.9%
	Prefer not to say	16	5.9%
Social Class Identification	Lower class	19	7%
	Working class	98	36.3%
	Middle class	120	44.4%
	Affluent	7	2.6%
	Not sure	16	5.9%
	Prefer not to say	10	3.7%
Religion	Christian	141	52.2%
	Muslim	18	6.7%
	Hindu	4	1.5%

	Buddhist	4	1.5%
	Atheist	30	11.1%
	Agnostic	35	13%
	Nothing in particular	21	8%
	No listed	4	1.5%
	Prefer not to say	13	4.8%
Chronic physical condition	Yes	26	10%
	No	234	87%
	Prefer not to say	10	3.7%
Had at least one mental health disorder diagnosis	Yes	73	27%
	No	176	65.2%
	Prefer not to say	21	7.8%
Psychiatric medication (among those who had a diagnosis)	Yes	47	17.4%
	No	24	8.9%
	Prefer not to say	23	8.8%
	No Diagnosis	176	65.2%
Therapy Experience	No	103	38.1%
	Yes, in the past	123	45.6%
	Yes, currently	34	12.6%
	Prefer not to say	10	3.7%

Supplementary Table 2*: Criteria for Classification of Meta-theme 1*

Criteria for Classification	
Human	Descriptions tied to human identity, roles, or social interactions.
Non-Human	Descriptions not tied to human identity, roles, or social interactions.
Concrete	Apprehended by any of the five senses or existing in time & space
Abstract	Not apprehended by any of the five senses or not existing in time & space
Abstract vs. Concrete	Does it have a physical form?
	Can it be touched?
	Does it occupy physical space as matter?
Human vs. Non-human	Is it tied to human identity, roles, or social interaction?
	Does it behave like a human?
	Is it interpreted through human-centered meaning?

Supplementary Table 3: Content Frequency Analysis of Human Imaginations of GenAI

Category	Some Words Used	Frequency
Anthropomorphic	Man	3
	Guy	1
	Boy	1
	Woman	2
	Lady	3
	Female (She)	7
	Male (He)	5
	Non-binary	1
	Companion	14
	Consultant, Mentor, Advisor, Counselor	7
	Educator, Professor, Teacher, Tutor	5
	Friend	27
	Someone, Person	14
	Virtual Social Agents	48
	Spiritual Beings	2
	Mindlike Entity	2
	Celebrity Figure	2
	Human Nerd	1
Personal Qualities	Silly, Dumb, Moody, Emotionless	10
	Knowledgeable, Smart, Intelligent, Wise, Articulate	26
	Honest, Trustworthy, Reliable	5
	Conservative	1
	Kind	9

	Calm, Patient	4
	Emotionally Intelligent	5
	Nice	1
	Good	4
	Able to Possess/Express Emotions	2
	Sense of Humor	6
	Witty	4
	Calming Voice	1
	Empathetic	9
	Warm and approachable	5
	Beautiful, Attractive, Good-looking	7
Actions	Talking	4
	Stealing	1
	Listens	10
	Sitting	1
Dispositions	Always Smiling/Friendly	10
	Helpful and Nurturing	15
	Always available	9
	Nonjudgmental	5
	Strives to be Relatable	1
	Tries to be an Agent for Good (morality)	2
	Tries Not to Hurt, Respectful	3
Age	Old Age	5
	Middle Age	2
	User’s Age	2

Non-Human Descriptions	Illusional Abstract Beings	11
	Iconic Characters	7
	Robots	43
	Unbounded Energy	4
	Software Systems	72
	Hardware Systems	17
	Hologram	3
	Fictional Characters	3