

# Taking Action for a Better Tomorrow



JEREMY P. BOGGESS

# **Taking Action for a Better Tomorrow**

By:

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## Volume One:

The Survival and Advancement of our Species and Society

OR

Just another voice, like that of the woman known as Cassandra, Kassandra, or Alexandra

To my mother, Lu Ella, for teaching me strength.

To my father, Don, for instilling kindness and empathy in me.

À la femme de ma vie, Brigitte, pour m'avoir rendu l'espoir.

And to all those other people who helped make this possible.

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## **Introduction**

This book is a point of view and an observational look from a common man at the progression of our societies, humanity, and our world. It is a look at where our various societies and humanity and the world have been, currently are, and are headed in general. What do we do when it appears that uncertainty and change not only seem to be constants in your world but also appear to be at a heightened level? What lies in the future? Whatever does lie in our future, we must remember, in our concern for the future, that our course is often predicated on and laid out in the present. What we do right now is the greatest determining factor for the future.

I want to help us survive. My basic motivation has always been the survival and advancement of our societies, humanity, and the world. But the problem in reading works such as this, as with any philosophical literature, is that the author consciously or unconsciously will attempt to persuade the reader. So, I do apologize if there is any feeling of persuasion. It is also important to remember that the meaning of a message is soured when reward is expected in exchange for delivery. No matter what a person may say, how easily one can assume they are a liability when it is believed they are only there for their own needs. Thus, I do not wish my writings to be tainted by the view that I seek personal compensation beyond the survival and advancement of humanity.

Again, I reiterate that my main purpose is not persuasion, but I do hope that we will all think about how our actions affect ourselves, others, and the world, and how they will affect the actions and the world of people not yet born. I hope this book will have you ask a variety of questions, both of yourself and about the world around you.

I do not claim to know anything new; I just restate what many of us have been thinking. I have posed some questions without answers and given some answers without asking the questions. I hope that my writing will help us think about our actions more, instead of being just viewed as irrelevant words. I hope my writing, and what I have done, will help. I hope it will be accepted as a legitimate piece of work and not seen as just another piece of “cardboard philosophy”<sup>1</sup> created by another crazy idiot.

## **Chapter One: Changes Occurring in the Fractionalized World of Today**

### **Threshold**

I feel that something is happening worldwide. I believe that we now stand at the “threshold” of current society and maybe even the future of our species. Is this a new dawn, or the end? Some changes are occurring that are beyond the ability and daring of our modern world to even report. No matter where our politics, beliefs, or tendencies lean, we must admit that there are strange movements and occurrences happening now. As of late the world seems to be suffering from more serious growing pains and changes than it has ever experienced before.

Yes, we have always had chaos, and there has always been discontent in all societies throughout time. However, it seems that in the world today the numbers of the discontented are growing faster than in previously recorded rates. There seems to be a higher rate of the growing observable discontent, not only within the commonly thought of societal groups where discontent is normally found, but it also seems to be growing within a more diverse ranges of societies found in the world. Their numbers seem to be growing faster in proportion to that of past societies. We have observably become more fractionalized, not just on national or cultural levels, but also at microcosmic levels within societies, and even sometimes within the individual.

It seems the world is more chaotic than it has been in the past. Perhaps it has always been like this, and we have not noticed it until our current technologies and communication networks have allowed us to see it. But I believe the chaos in this period of change is different and unlike any experienced by past generations. Never in the accepted recorded history of humanity has there been such frequency, speed, and diversity in change, such ability and opportunity for change, and such

quick and easy methods for it to spread in our societies, ideologies, and our world in general. With the growth of the world—increased population, new interconnectedness, and all of our various advancements and other changes—our world appears to be becoming increasingly more fractionalized. Many people seem to be becoming increasingly fractionalized, polarized, or both.

We are seeing the world changing exponentially and in more diverse areas before our eyes. Our current world, as a whole, is increasingly experiencing these changes. These shifts seem to be happening more simultaneously with other world experiences. They seem to be occurring more frequently, quickly, and in ever widening range of areas both old and new. Some of these changes are coming at an almost exponential rate. Every generation today has witnessed unprecedented advancements and changes relative to their own previous life experiences. The world is changing and becoming rearranged in almost every way imaginable and sometimes in even unimaginable ways. It is altering in a way that past generations have never experienced before. These changes may even be seen coming from a multitude of areas. They may be seen taking place simultaneously. They may be seen as taking place both independently as well as affecting the changes of each other. Two of these areas that changes are coming from are terrorism and global economics. More areas that are changing in our world are the political and geographical. Yet another area is the technological world. Unfortunately, we have even become a world where valid tangible data in the measurement of statistics and studies have become a point of debate. We have become a world where subjectivism has replaced deduction and reason by some. A world where deduction has been corrupted by subjectivism. A study is believed or not, not based on its data, but who produces or complies it. Back to the subject at hand: There are many who believe we are also experiencing simultaneous changes including but not

limited to scientific breakthroughs, sociological changes, cultural changes, and changing migratory patterns of various species, including those of our own human species. Some even say that there are currently uncommon global environmental and climate changes. Some go even further and contend that there are genetic changes occurring within some younger generations, resulting from how they have adapted their bodies or minds to accompany technology. Even the speeds and ways in which we distribute, examine, integrate, and exchange information are changing at explosive rates compared to the past. Perhaps we are even not yet aware of all of the changes, big and small, as well as their causes and effects, that our world is experiencing. Let us look closer at what changes we have witnessed and know to be true from our own observations.

### **Edge of a Frightening and Unknown World**

Ironically, I wonder how many people are having fun, acting as if nothing is wrong and pretending for their own self-assurance? Unfortunately, most people are willing to ignore a situation until it directly affects them—at which point, panic and overreaction are common responses. I fear that we have accepted our façades of normality as truth. It is our false façades of normalcy that led us into our current predicaments in the first place. Ignoring a situation never makes it better or go away, and generally makes it worse. Sorry folks; the joke and the “free ride” is over. It is time for people to stand up and say: “Stop playing with the future of our children.” When I look back, I wonder if we have truly learned anything from our past experiences. But more importantly, are we going to take different actions in the future than those that have led us to these various ongoing fiascos?

Virtually all societies in the world are finding themselves at the edge of their own unique or undefinable event or shift. But, for all of us, is it the edge of a new

inconceivable dawning or one of our possible myriads of darkness? Unfortunately, as each society blames the others' ideologies for the problems of the world, it looks like darkness ahead. We have become a world of people in constant paranoia of other establishments, groups, political organizations, and governments, to name only a few. However, some people are becoming more aware and accepting of others and their differences at this same time. They are also realizing the actions we take today ultimately affect the outcome of the changes we are currently experiencing. The various actions we take today will have a significant impact on not only the next millennium, but also eons to come.

Being frightened of an unknown future is universal and a recurring theme in human nature and history. The common denominator in most of us is that we are shaped by the past, constrained by the present, and anxious about the future. However, there is still time for us to realize our potential. The progression to a new dawning will be difficult and may seem improbable at times. However, improbable does not mean impossible.

### **Changing World—Change, Flexibility, and Adaptability**

It is a new world of quick, extreme, and drastic change. Generations today are being born into a world where the only normal they know of is what some may call “the new normal.” Quick flexibility and adaptability will not only be favored in the new world of tomorrow, but will be requirements for survival amid the rapid and diverse changes still coming. Even our current understanding of “quick,” “flexible,” and “adaptable” may be considered mild in the world of tomorrow. This flexibility and adaptability will be required in many ways and in many circumstances. In my opinion, the normalization of quick flexibility and

adaptability of response needs to be more securely normalized. I am not just talking about flexibility or adaptability in a specific area that is experiencing change, but in all areas. I am talking about the ability to recognize the need for alterations and to be able to cope in all areas in which change is occurring, while at the same time having the ability and foresight to identify and accept the long-term consequences of our actions.

As the world is already adapting and altering course in so many areas and ways, many observers of our complex planet need no convincing of the incalculable variety and complexity of the coming demands. From some perspectives these changes are not only exponential but taking place all over. However, even between observers who can agree that these changes and alterations are taking place, there is debate on the affected areas, extent of the changes, and/or the causation of the changes. There is even more debate on how to proceed regarding prevention and/or what solutions are needed. Unfortunately, many people feel that they are unable to make significant contributions to the preventions or solutions that are needed. There is also a need for more exploration on how to adapt in response to these world changes, and in turn acceptance.

Many changes that have brought opportunities for advancement and progress in the past have also on occasion brought chances for disaster and regression. Thus, a great concern of mine are the epic man-made cataclysms and societal regressions that we have been doomed to repeat. I am concerned that we may make one or more wrong decisions that may take us generations or longer to recover from. Or even worse, one that we may never be able to recover from.



## History Repeated

In the past, it has taken much tribulation, time, and suffering to recover from devastating changes. Those recoveries never compare to what was or what could have been. And especially not to where we could be now. How many times have we lost knowledge and been forced to repeat history because of that? How many times has history already been repeated that we are not aware of, and more importantly to what extent? To help understand what I mean, even what can seemly be a minor instance can be devastating. In “Journeys in Space and Time,” the eighth episode in the television series *Cosmos: A Personal Voyage*, noted American astronomer and scientist Carl Sagan speculated and stated, “What if the scientific tradition of the ancient Ionian Greeks had prospered and flourished? . . . I think we might have saved ten or twenty centuries.” And in episode 1 of that same series, Sagan said, concerning the burning down of the Great Library of Alexandria: “Accurate numbers are difficult to come by, but it seems that the library contained at its peak nearly one million scrolls. . . . Only a small fraction of the works survived. . . . For example, we know that there once existed here a book by the astronomer Aristarchus of Samos who apparently argued that the Earth was one of the planets, that like the other planets, it orbits the sun, and that the stars are enormously far away. All absolutely correct. But we had to wait nearly two thousand years for these facts to be rediscovered. . . . But it’s gone, utterly and forever.” I suspect other knowledge within that library that was lost potentially took centuries or millennia to be rediscovered. I ask, have we had in our distant past even more devastating and severe setbacks or cataclysms? How long can we continue to create more of these setbacks until we potentially create one that could be our final one, where we may not have the chance to recover?

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