



Message from the future

**WE MADE
IT!**

A VISION OF A BLOSSOMING
NEW HUMAN CIVILIZATION

Henning Jon Grini

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Introduction

The future, - what will it bring? What will it look like? This is a large and fascinating topic which engages and worries a lot of people. Will we be plagued by escalating environmental catastrophes and pandemics, or will we succeed in handling and controlling them? Will the future be full of pollution and plastic, or will it be clean and free from all kinds of littering? Will we manage to stop - and possibly reverse - the global warming? Will we have a society characterized by fear and misery, or filled with laughter and joy?

How the future is going to manifest itself is not cut in stone. It is we humans who decide what is going to happen in the years to come. The future is malleable and depends entirely on what we do. Still, there are hints and trends that point in certain directions.

Imagination is more important than knowledge, according to Einstein. I have made an attempt at describing the future based on many years' interest in this topic, lots of self-studies and long experience in my professional work. Yes, ever since I was a boy I have taken a great interest in the future. In my room I had a model of the Space Shuttle and futuristic posters, and I read books about science and the Great Questions. I watched science fiction movies, and already as a sixteen-year-old in the early eighties I was programming computer games. Since that time my field of interest has expanded to encompass new societal models, spirituality, extraterrestrial life and more. All of this has become a part of this book.

In me a picture has gradually formed of a potential future far more positive than the impression one gets when one regards today's world. One reason for this is the relatively one-sided focus – especially by the media - on what is wrong and dysfunctional. An enormous amount of innovations and generally positive things are emerging, but far too seldom are the camera lenses directed at these.

This book is also meant to counterbalance all the gloomy and dystopic scenarios of the future that are being outlined in such a lot of science fiction books and movies. In my view, how we envision the future is in fact contributing to how that future will become. Precisely this is an important reason why I have written the book. It also views today's society as seen in relation to the future described in the book, as well as the process needed to achieve it.

My view of the future is most profoundly bright and positive, but also realistic. Why, and in what way, you may ask. Because many of the greatest global challenges humanity struggles with today are on the mend. Wars, for instance, are statistically seen becoming fewer. In the futuristic scenario I describe we have put a complete ban on such primitive conduct. This is because of the fact that as our understanding increases, we develop. We have also seen a dramatic reduction of extreme poverty, and life expectancy has increased. In addition we now have an expanding cooperation between different nations in order to solve the problems we face, such as pandemics and the environmental ones. All of this is far more important, in my opinion, than the technological development, (although this obviously is also helping to raise our level of conscience). For what are the benefits of technological development when it can be misused and we are in danger of destroying ourselves? This is why the human aspect is of such paramount importance, which is exactly what this book emphasizes so strongly. On the other hand, a lot of new technology is described in this future world, but it is subordinate to man and only employed for the benefit of people in a world far more human and friendly than today's society.

Although humanity is progressing, new challenges arise and must be dealt with. Man-made climatic changes are serious and pose a threat to our future. We have arrived at the Age of Consequences. On the other hand, the climatic changes have an important function

by reminding us that we cannot treat our planet exactly as we wish. The changes in the climate have made us conscious of the fact that our actions have consequences, and of our profound connection with Nature. They have made us find environment-friendly solutions, and this development will accelerate. Examples of other challenges we face are misuse of genetic engineering and increasing loneliness. At the same time, tenacious problems like social inequality still create great and increasing challenges and suffering, and are large contributors to the emergence of populist leaders.

The good news is that nearly all our problems already have their solutions, but they are so thinly distributed throughout the world that only a few people know of all the good solutions that already exist. As time goes by, these and new solutions will more and more be put to use all over the world. This is something this book deals with.

How far into the future is the plot of the book thought to take place? This question is something I have left to the reader to imagine, but I can at least say that it is not so very distant. Some of our children and grandchildren will still be alive in the future I describe, and even some of the younger readers.

The Star Trek series and films are well known. They are set in a future more distant than the story in this book depicts. Science fiction often describes things that later have become realities, and Star Trek is no exception. The Star Trek universe was multicultural long before this was the norm. In the original series the leading role was for the first time on American television played by an Afro-American woman. Star Trek was apparently the only show Martin Luther King and his wife allowed their three children to watch. In Star Trek there was a normal and peaceful coexistence here on Earth with other beings in the Universe. Here were also the headquarters of The Federation, which was a union between different races. The Federation had abolished money, which in turn had removed the need for buying, selling and competition, as well as greatly reduced greed, jealousy and many other problems. Humanity had conquered illness and poverty. The series was first shown in September 1966, which happens to be the month and year in which I was born. Perhaps I wanted to take part in the fun?

At the time of writing certain politicians and heads of states appear frightening, but here it is important to take the long view. Present politicians will long ago have left their political offices by the time of the future scenario I describe here. As humanity gradually acquires more empathy and wisdom, our understanding and development will increase, and future leaders will reflect this.

Many older people alive today have witnessed an enormous social change, and the development over the next decades will go significantly faster than during the preceding decades. Precisely for this reason this time is so crucial for our future. We need visionary persons who can express themselves through their works of art, authorship, inventions and innovations, just to list a few areas. We need dreamers! Yes, we have a great need of everyone who wants to contribute for the benefit of humanity simply by seeing the best qualities in humans and our enormous potential, of which we have only just started to glimpse the contours.

It is my hope that you will come along on this journey into our near future together with the main person and the ones he meets there, which also include friendly intelligent life forms from other civilizations. The book is free from murder, crime, intrigues, fear and other kinds of misery. It is not a dystopic description of how people have to struggle to survive in a largely destroyed world. On the contrary, it speaks of happy experiences, optimism, hope, imagination and love. It has a more philanthropic and positive approach to life. There *is* light

in the tunnel, and my wish is that more of us will see it and together create a fantastic and enriching future for us all, full of vivid and empathic people.

In short, the message from the future is this: WE MADE IT!

And this book describes how we managed it...

Chapter 1

The sun peeps in through the curtains towards the bed where I lie. It is morning, and I know I should be happy for a new day with new possibilities. The truth is, I am not. Just now I am fed up with most things. My life is not going smoothly at present. Not only did I recently lose my job, but my marriage has gone down the drain.

Furthermore, I think the entire world is a pile of shit. Everywhere one looks there seem to be problems. Terrorism and wars are particularly dreadful, but wars are being fought here in my own neighborhood as well, even over trifles. And then there is the way people, animals and nature are being misused and usurped. And our greed for profit and exaggerated material luxury, which has brought so much suffering in its wake. Additionally, we have these enormous environmental problems that we don't seem able to handle, they just keep increasing. Did I mention social distancing because of pandemics? There is apparently no end to all our problems. I'll not continue to enumerate them all here, - you get the picture...

The only place I feel really free is in nature. That is where I can be myself. Or actually, not completely, as my thoughts won't leave me in peace even there, but accompany me wherever I go. Albeit muted when I am in nature, because the peace and harmony that reigns there has an effect on me, but it is very bothersome to have a mind that is constantly nagging. Perhaps, if I do some special exercises with a view to stop all this nagging, I might see the end of it? At least so I have heard. Well, I might take a look at this later. Just now I simply want to get out of my apartment; I can't stand being here any longer. My own thoughts are making me feel depressed.

But I ought not exaggerate. After all, I have good friends and family who confirm that the world and we humans are perhaps not that bad after all, because there *are* a lot of great people in the world, and we *do* many good things. On the other hand, there is no getting around the fact that we cause a lot of problems for each other. Just the other day I saw on the news that yet another murder had been committed, and yet another violent conflict and protest against some injustice or other was going on. In fact, such things are on the news every day. No wonder one can become disillusioned, depressed and losing faith in humankind! Could this be what has happened to me?

Chapter 2

So who is this frustrated person, you may think. Sometimes I myself wonder! But what I do know about myself is that I am a man in my late thirties, and I feel reasonably sure that I am heterosexual. At least I have never tried, or been interested in, anything else, but one never knows these days. I suppose I have lived a rather mundane life with a wife and a job. No kids, though, but all of this is now history...

The story I am about to tell is anything but mundane, however, and may appear unbelievable to most people. Already at this stage I shall reveal a bit of what happened to me. Hang on tight, - not only have I been fortunate enough to visit the future, but there I also got to talk for a while with our friends from other civilizations!

It all started on that morning when I felt so frustrated and just had to get out of my apartment in the huge city where I live. After driving for some miles, I parked my car and decided to go for one of my long walks in nature. I shall do my best to relate what subsequently happened.

I walked for quite a while and then sat down to rest at a place on a mountain plateau where I had a beautiful view and could glimpse the far-away ocean. I was entirely alone up there. The walk had been good for me and my mind was calmer. I was actually in a good mood, a rare thing these days. The weather was glorious and the sun warmed me. How wonderful it was to feel the sunshine! It is rather incredible that an object many millions of miles away can give light and warmth here! Not only that, but of course the sun gives life and energy to our planet.

It is all rather magical, I reflected gratefully as I lay there.

Some distance below me and on my left there was a beautiful small lake and a river that meandered by. The lovely chirping of birds could be heard in the distance as I gradually became more and more relaxed. I was actually no longer sitting, but had lain down on a small grassy area shadowed by trees and had closed my eyes. I was, after all, rather tired after the ascent and had not slept well the previous night. In fact, I felt quite comfortable lying there... Suddenly I heard a low humming sound and was seized by a weird feeling that I was being watched. It felt odd, and I opened my eyes and looked around, but there was nothing unusual to be seen. I closed my eyes again, and the feeling of wellbeing returned. I felt I was in a daze, not asleep but not awake either. Then, after a while, things started to happen...

Chapter 3

In the distance I heard the chirping of birds. Gradually I felt more and more awake and clearheaded, unusually so, like after a good night's sleep. I got up and stretched a bit. The sun had moved quite some distance in the sky, so it was perhaps about time to start on my way home. I cast one last glance at the plain far below me, and just as I was about to turn around and walk away, I noticed some buildings or tents in the far distance that I could not remember having seen before. They seemed to be mainly round. There were some people there as well. This was strange, very strange. Somehow I did not feel able to simply walk away, I wanted to find out what this could be. After all, I had been here many times before, even though it was a while since the last time. Never before had I seen these buildings. I decided to investigate.

It was too steep to walk straight down, and considerably further to go back the way I had come, so I chose another and apparently quicker path. This meant I had to walk through the forest in places where I had never been before. Hm... something is rather peculiar here, I thought, something is different. For one thing, it felt so peaceful there that I myself was in a more relaxed frame of mind than I could recall having been for a long time. But this was not all, something else was singularly different, something I could not quite define... I was probably too engrossed in thinking about the mysterious buildings I had seen, to register the changes that had occurred in the vegetation.

When I got down from the mountain and walked along a path where I had been a few times before, I passed a small area that I had always viewed with distaste. Somebody had simply dumped a load of rubbish down a slope. I could not understand why anyone would do a thing like that, but now I was very pleased to see that it had fortunately all been cleared away. How great that someone had literally grabbed hold of the problem and removed it!

As I walked along, a person came towards me. He smiled and greeted me as we passed each other. I only just managed to do the same before he was gone, because he made me somewhat confused and distracted. Not because he greeted me, as this is quite usual when one meets someone while walking in nature, but it was his entire appearance. The heartfelt smile he gave me, and not least the clothes he wore. They were certainly rather incongruous. If you have seen the apparel people wear in science fiction movies you will understand what I mean. I had to chuckle a bit and now had yet another thing to wonder about.

It soon appeared that there were many other things to ponder. I saw a deer fairly close by, and the wonderful thing was that it did not get frightened as I approached. It took a few steps away from me, but it did not run off. Well, I thought, what a pleasant experience it was to get so close to one of the wild animals of the forest! Maybe it had got used to being around people? We were of course in the country, but there was a house here and there.

But suddenly I was really stunned: I had by then emerged from the forest and stood there completely mesmerized, scarcely believing my eyes. In front of me were many of these small round houses I had seen from the mountain, and they were solid houses, not tents. A narrow river flowed through the area towards a small lake, just as I had seen it from up above. Several adults and children were in the area, and a particularly peaceful and loving atmosphere could be felt. How should I best describe what I saw? Perhaps if you visualize an Indian village of older times, such as can be seen in books and movies, you might get an impression of what this looked like. Only this was - how should I put it - of a far more modern type, sort of an Indian Village Version II. Had I happened upon a filming? Now I

understood why the man I had met in the forest had worn such peculiar clothes. He had obviously come from this place, and they must be filming a scene for a science fiction movie!

Chapter 4

«Aron!»

Someone was calling my name! I noticed a woman about my own age walking towards me. This *has* to be a science fiction movie, I thought, because she also was dressed in a futuristic way. Hm... I ought to have known about this movie, considering I live only some miles from this place.

When the woman got to where I was standing, she gave me a warm hug and smiled broadly. It seemed as though she knew me. I can't say that the way I hugged her in response was quite as warm and heartfelt, but that was because I did not know her. This was really starting to be rather weird.

«Do I know you?» I heard myself ask in confusion.

«Yes and no», was all the answer I received. «My name is Natalia, by the way, and welcome to our small town of Lighthaven.»

«What kind of movie are you filming?» I asked, feeling flurried and bewildered. «And where are the camera men? I don't see any, nor any movie equipment.»

«You'll get your answers, just come with me, please» Natalia said.

I followed her across a beautiful small bridge which had been built across the river. They really had put a lot of quality work into this filming, I mused, for here was a fantastic parklike environment and really cool-looking buildings. It seemed a bit odd that Natalia referred to it as a town, though, as it didn't seem to be of any great size, more like a village. Maybe they had taken such pains with the «scenery» with a view to later usage? Who knows, perhaps they planned to sell the houses and other buildings later? In that case I might even consider moving here myself, I thought, - provided I could afford it, of course, for I found the place to be exceptionally pleasant, with a wonderful ambience! A far cry from the apartment building where I live, to put it mildly. Here there was life all around me, with children at play. Their happy laughter could be heard, a positive sign. But the fact that I did not know of the existence of this place already, was really peculiar...

«Welcome to the future!» I heard Natalia say.

«Ha-ha, thank you. I have to admit that I am quite impressed with the scenery you have constructed for this movie» I replied.

«Aron, this is not a filming, this *is* the future!» Natalia said, sounding a bit more serious.

I felt shivers going down my back. I looked at Natalia and could see that she meant what she said. She quickly put one hand on my shoulder to calm me.

«Take it easy, there is nothing to be afraid of. You are just a bit shocked and frightened by what I said. And that is simply because you have no inkling of what has happened to you, but I have. Look, let's sit down over there and I'll explain a bit more.» And with these words she took my hand and led me to a bench with a view of the area. Her calm words and her touch quietened me and made me trust her.

«What you have experienced is rather special and something only very few people are granted. You should know that we have been waiting for you. We know where you live. We know that you enjoy being in nature and from time to time visit this mountain plateau. We know of your recent troubles. All in all we know a great deal about you and your life. But most importantly, Aron, we know *who* you are! We know your personality, your character and your psyche», Natalia said.

«How on earth can you know all these things?» I asked in a state of light shock.

«We'll get back to that later. Just now I only want to explain a bit more about the process and what has happened to you. When you lay down on the mountain plateau and were just

about to fall asleep, things started to happen. In that transition between being awake and sleeping, you were brought through a time portal to the future. The details in this process are of no importance in this connection,» Natalia explained.

«How am I going to believe this? It sounds completely weird!» I said and could feel several other questions building up inside me.

«You might begin by pinching your arm», Natalia said and started to laugh. Her laughter made me feel calmer. As a matter of fact I myself began to laugh a little, until she actually pinched my arm. And then we both laughed even more. After a while our laughter subsided and my urge to ask questions returned.

«I might simply have walked down from the mountain, got into my car and driven home. Then none of these things would have happened» I said.

«In the first place, you would not have found your car. Remember that you have stepped into the future. The vegetation has also changed a great deal. Another thing, - the man you met on the way here was actually on his way to fetch you, to bring you here if you had not found your way to us by yourself. He has now gone to his home. Besides, you would have had trouble finding your apartment, to put it like that. The area where you live looks completely different now. But just relax, we shall bring you back in due time. Although I won't rule out the possibility that you might want to remain here, but I am afraid you can't» Natalia explained.

«And why can't I remain?» I asked.

«You could, but we want you to go back to the age you came from,» she answered. «We want you to tell about us to those who are willing to listen.»

«Ok, and precisely what do you want me to tell?» I asked.

«Tell people about how we have solved many of the problems you face, like the environmental problems. Tell them that we have no poverty here, and that we long ago have abolished wars. We want you to tell who we are, how we live, what we do and how we have organized our society. And, not least important, how we love each other and make love to each other!» she said and sent me a warm and coquettish smile. I suddenly felt rather hot. Natalia was a beautiful woman, at least I thought so. Was I embarrassed? In any case I didn't quite know what to say.

«You are thinking of sex,» she said, laughing. «That is probably no wonder, after all, you are a man.» I had no time to reply – or defend myself – before she continued. «Jokes aside, we shall show you how we make love, including sex, but to make love is so much more than just sex, as I know that you too are aware of.»

«Yes, I am very aware of that» I replied, and felt my body growing warm from her direct, playful and teasing energetic emanation.

«But where you come from, not everyone is aware of this», she said, serious again now. «Here we have neither abuse, rape or prostitution. All of this we have outgrown, and it is one of the many topics we'll be touching on while you are visiting here.»

«That is great, of course, but this is after all just a small village where everyone knows everyone else, what about the rest of the world?» I said.

«We'll get back to that. It is not all that small, however, it is larger than you believe it to be. The larger part of the town is behind the hill you see over there. Come along with me now, I'll show you around.» Natalia got up from the bench, and I followed her while she continued to explain.

Chapter 5

«Do you see the small buildings that are spread through the area? They are dwellings», she explains. «And if you look closely you will see that there are also some houses up on that slope and some among the trees over there. They are also dwellings and have been designed to more or less blend with nature and are not necessarily round.»

«Actually, I had not noticed them» I said in surprise.

«Everything we have built here have been built on nature's own terms, absolutely everything. There is nothing here that in any way causes pollution. Also, the round houses are far better able to withstand the elements of nature, for example strong wind, and they feel far better to live in. This has to do with energies. You live mainly in square boxes and lead square lives, at present I myself live in one of these round houses. I prefer to be down here where there are more people. Behind that hill are even more dwellings as well as larger buildings that are used by the community. That is where the center of Lighthaven is located.»

«So then it is larger than what I imagined».

«Much larger than what you actually see here, because this is more than just a village, as you supposed from your first impression. It is a small town, but with a village feeling. It has been quite intentionally planned and designed that way. Lighthaven is also a suburb of an even larger town which you will get to visit. On the other side of the hill, in the center, there is a connection to the greater city. By means of maglev trains that are operated by magnetic energy it only takes a few minutes to reach the city, although the distance is tens of miles. Of course, in your time you have that type of trains in simpler versions, and you are experimenting with developing them further, and also with what you call Hyperloop. By the way, we also have what you would call flying cars!»

«Fantastic! I would love to see and experience this! How far into the future – seen from my own time – are we actually? I ask, profoundly impressed by what I see and what she tells me.

«Not as far as you perhaps might think. It is not a matter of centuries, not even of one. Some of the young people of your time are still alive. Exactly how far into the future we are is not so very important. And as for flying cars and maglev trains, of course you will get to try them. It should not come as a great surprise for you that we have these things. In your own time there is a lot of experimentation with flying cars and passenger-carrying drones going on, and you are even testing hoverboards and flying motorbikes.»

«Yes, but these futuristic houses, this place, and not least the people here seem to be far more relaxed, balanced and content than what I am used to where I come from. And not least, they smile a lot more.»

«That is quite correctly observed, but I don't know how well you have been paying attention. Already in your time towns based on sustainability and renewable energy are on the way to becoming a reality. In addition there are quite a few so-called ecovillages and other smaller areas where people are experimenting with new modes of living such as Damanhur, Auroville, Findhorn, Tamera and others. The people there try their best to live according to the principles of Nature and to create a more humane society. And the results show that they are more content with life and therefore happier.»

«I have paid some attention and have heard about some, but not that there are as many as

you describe' I answered. 'By the way, how is that now, in this future where I find myself at present?»

«First I'll have to explain a bit about the reason that this place and similar ones came into existence. In your time and your reality the ruling mentality is materialism and consumption. Yes, you even had a national measure for it, Gross Domestic Product, which was always based on growth. But that is not possible in a world with limited resources. It has resulted in a superficial, cold and not very humane society, something that has made you yourself feel terribly frustrated without you really understanding why it is so. It was literally a «every man for himself» mentality which led to unfair distribution at the expense of others and the community. This greed and inequality felt extremely unfair, which in turn created discontent and a fertile ground for populists with easy answers that appealed to the baser instincts in man. This mentality also led to an unparalleled pollution, the consequences of which were enormous environmental problems. In addition, such a superficial society created a lot of ennui, feelings of meaninglessness, loneliness and depression. At the same time there were other challenges for the society as a whole, such as thirst for power, xenophobia, conflicts of religions and cultures, and much more. You might say these were the collective flows that permeated the society at that time, in your time, that is.»

«I think I understand where you are heading. A shift in the mentality has occurred,» I said.

«That is right. And this shift actually happened quite rapidly once it had got underway. This has now led to things having been turned more or less upside down, at least here in our society. For it is not the same everywhere on Earth in my time either, and even we have our problems. But in general things have become much better. We are far more oriented towards community in our society, and we are collectively working at restoring the environment and repairing the damage that has been done to Earth. In fact, this is now one of the most significant collective flows and tasks that our society is going through globally. In short, we are cleansing and rewilding the planet. We are tidying up after our own ravages. This will be going on for many years to come, until we have restored the balance.»

«It sounds like an almost impossible task!»

«It is definitely not impossible! Don't forget that when a sufficient number of people work together, enormous creative powers are set in motion. Since your time we have had ideas and invented methods that have solved the majority of the problems humanity struggled with at that time. I'll try to draw a parallel here: In the 20th century we had two world wars. By now we have completely stopped such a primitive and horrendous behavior as wars are. We no longer solve our conflicts with violence. However, these two world wars led to an escalated technological development while they were going on, particularly within the weapon industry. People on both sides of the conflict felt threatened. This affected first the allied forces and then the axis powers, and heaven and earth was put in motion in order to meet this threat. Something comparable happened around your time. Many problems had their roots in differing religious dogmas, while others were caused by the unfair distribution of resources or exploitation of animals. The environmental problems in particular gradually became so enormous that people realized that something drastic had to be done, and fast. Pandemics, unrest, hurricanes, sea level rise and huge flooding's, extreme drought and high temperatures were some of the scourges that plagued humanity. We were not facing a threatening external enemy, - we were our own enemy! We had brought all the problems we struggled with onto ourselves.»

«So what you are really saying is that we had to change ourselves?»

«Yes, precisely! An individual as well as a collective self-development was called for. When enough people had realized this after we had had enough of all our problems, and started to act accordingly, masses of means and power was mobilized, and things quickly began to change. Starting at grass root level, and gradually attracting the authorities, business, organizations, private persons, - you name it - who implemented one measure after the other to help further this turnaround. People began to co-operate on a scale humanity had never before witnessed. Instead of making weapons of mass destruction, we started to create mass repair and mass mobilizing for the benefit of people and Nature. This is not a mere play on words, we quite concretely changed focus. We stopped making dreadful weapons meant for destruction. This freed an enormous lot of resources. In the place of weapons came a deluge of environmentally friendly ideas, inventions and innovations. Ecologically produced goods and services popped up everywhere. Creativity and inspiration blossomed. That was the time when the cleansing and rehabilitation of Earth really took off. And we in addition began to use robots to perform this work, the speed was further increased. But most importantly of all, massive resources were employed in order to create a shift in mentality which would prevent similar problems in the future. We became far more skilled at engaging in dialogue and in general listening to each other, also where religious conflicts were concerned, and we greatly improved in our ability to take care of each other and to share and distribute resources in a fair way. First, of course, there must be the thought! All of this meant that the turnaround in both the external and the internal world went more rapidly than many had foreseen. We shall return to much of this while you are here.»

«Now I have suddenly acquired a brighter view of the future! I have to admit that I have been rather «down» lately and have taken a gloomy view of both my own future and that of the planet» I said.

«It is understandable and natural that one reacts like that. Just take care that the gloominess doesn't quite take over. You know, one thing leads to another, and when you take a dim view of what is happening in your own life, it can easily infect other areas of life and so the snowball starts to roll. The solution is to find and enjoy the small and larger good things in life. There will always be more and more of them when you appreciate them. And, not least, there will always be something to appreciate and be grateful for! Practice this kind of mentality shift often, so that *this* becomes natural. This will result in pleasant surprises in the future.»

«So now we are going to talk about my life? I said, smiling.

«It probably wouldn't do any harm» Natalia chuckles and greets some persons who smile in a friendly way at both of us as they pass by. We sit down on another bench.

Chapter 6

«If you say that this is not really very far into the future, I am still surprised at how quickly things must have gone. As far as I can remember, people have not exactly been very fast about changing their ways. In fact, we have been repeating our mistakes for generations and not been good at self-reflection. Could you explain a bit more about the road you have taken and how you have managed it all» I ask.

«First of all I'll repeat that it is not like this everywhere on Earth. This is actually one of the experimental projects we have started in this country and which I mentioned briefly earlier. We have had a certain control over the first people who chose to settle here. Of paramount importance was that they agreed with our philosophy and understood our intention and what we were creating, as well as a sincere wish to live here and take part in manifesting and developing this fantastic society that we have created.»

«Then I can better understand why you say we are now not so very far into the future!»

«Exactly. We are still working on this, that is experimenting with new ways of living, just as you are doing in your time. But as you see, we have got quite a bit further. And this small town here, Lighthaven, has proved to be so successful that it is one of those that are used as templates in other parts of the world. For that reason we have many people who come here from other parts of the world to study and learn about us and our way of living.»

«I can understand that. It is so quiet and peaceful here. In fact, it is surprisingly quiet, hardly any bothersome sounds. You barely hear that vehicle over there.»

«Those small vehicles are self-running and are used by those who need transport within the area here. They carry people and goods to their houses and are particularly useful to those who have any special needs for this service. On the other hand we are aware of the importance of using our bodies, and we don't want to become too dependent on these vehicles, so we don't exaggerate the use of them. I like to walk, so I use them mainly when I have to transport larger items to or from my house. There are almost always some available for use. Of course we also have other small means of transport that we use. The sources of energy that they use are obviously completely pure, and range anxiety is long ago a thing of the past. Some of these crafts can float above the ground, something that means we no longer have to build so many roads. However, we also have quite ordinary bicycles where muscle power is the only source of energy.

But, there is another important element which has been a great help in our process. Would you like to hear about it?

«Of course I would», I answer quickly.

«We have received help from other worlds, other existences!» Natalie says and looks as if she is eagerly waiting to see my reaction.

«This is definitely starting to get weird! A short while ago I was lying peacefully up on the mountain just over there, then I suddenly arrived in some kind of time travel to the future, and now you are talking about aliens» I exclaim.

«I am talking about more than aliens, I said we have received help from other worlds and existences, which is more comprehensive, although I understand what you mean. Besides, I don't like to call our friends from the stars for aliens. It creates associations to something strange, and to many people the word itself has negative connotations. But why are you so surprised? Once we humans believed the Earth to be flat! Once we believed the Earth was the center of the Universe! You should not believe that humanity has reached the pinnacle

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