

2020 International Essay Contest for Young People

[Children's Category – Honorable Mention]

Letter to Aravind 2020 from Arvind 2030

(Original)

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(Age 11, Malaysia)

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Dear Arvind "Arvy",

Hi there. What are you doing? How is everyone? How was your holiday? I know you went to Japan with mom after winning an essay competition. As I remember it was a lovely trip and Japan was enchanting, by the way it is even better now. The flowers, the technology, the friendly people and the lovely food to name a few. Well I am okay, being an archeologist takes me places. I have been around the world and I have seen many wonderful things. Have you heard of the Pachyarvindosaurus, it was named after me after I discovered it in Zambia.

Did you know that cars can now fly and they can self-drive? There are special landing areas for the cars, like elevated plains. I have a Bugatti Flyron. It is blue in colour. Remember how you used to love this model when we were small. The actual reason I am writing this letter is to tell you about our future and what life is like now.

I miss all the trees, animals, the fresh air and swimming in the sea. After we were hit by a virus 10 years ago things never really got better. Everything is AI, "Artificial intelligence" now. We rarely get to see the real thing. Most animals died due to hunting, radiation and pollution. Whales were killed in huge numbers for their oil and meat. Tigers for their skin and meat. Rhinos and elephants for their tusks. With AI I still get to see them in artificial zoos though. Trees and plants are mostly holograms as we lost a lot of them to acid rain, greenhouse effects and radiation. Also the radiation killed most of the earthworms and animals. Soil became contaminated in many parts of the world. So most of nature is virtual reality. Of late there has been increased activity of natural disasters like earthquakes, floods, tsunamis, typhoons and hurricanes.

Healthcare is now online. Medicines are delivered to our homes. If required doctors will provide home visits. Most of our surgeries are done by robots. Classes are now virtual

classrooms and we don't have to leave our homes to go and study. I have lots of friends now. We frequently chat and play games online.

We had a few wars in the past 10 years. World population is down. Due to this, many industries use robots. People are scared to have children due to the radiation also contributing to a low population count.

Many service sectors use drones now, for example the postal service, police force and others. Scientists are now busy exploring the universe. We have discovered 11 new planets, some of which can support life. Space ships are being constructed and our space station is fully functional. One day they will send archeologists into space. Our amazing scientists are also trying to bring back our animals, trees and repopulate our oceans by cloning. How amazing is that.

I have 2 virtual pets Lucus the giraffe and X-borg my snake. Good thing is I don't have to feed them just recharge ha, ha. Remember how we used to love dinosaurs. Well, scientists are trying to clone them nowadays. The lego models we used to fix are now nanobots and some of our vehicles are made up of them, guess what, they can transform. Phones are very amazing now. They can transform from a bracelet into a tablet.

Please take care. There is still time in your year to change the world so that we in the future can still live here. Please make them stop pollution, stop wars and take care of our animals. We have only one world and together we can save it for our future. Though we have great technology now, I will always miss swimming in the sea, going to a real zoo, petting real animals, breathing fresh air and playing with friends in the gardens. Our mistakes started many years ago and if we had fixed them our world will still be beautiful. You need to get our friends to make noise and save the world. You can do it young Arvind. Take care of our parents, grandparents and our dear sister.

Yours sincerely,

Arvind Anandaraj (senior)