

2020 International Essay Contest for Young People

[Youth Category – Honorable Mention]

In your hands

(Original)

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Dear me,

I'm writing this to you because no one can understand me better than me myself. I want to congratulate your generation because you guys are doing a great job. You people are doing your best to maintain balance with your needs and nature, as a result we live on a peaceful planet.

After years of painstaking, we are now soundly living in a world with no poverty, gender equality, quality education, and zero hunger. The future is where your present dreams come true. We here enjoy our rights. Honesty, well being, kindness, independence, and love are all the core values of your future. The future is the perfect example of unity in diversity, where countries don't fight impulsively for their egos, rather we all sit together to find ways to get more connected to nature, through modern technology. A world full of light, aspirations, dreams that come true, that too packed with utmost love is what you can imagine your future to be.

So, that's a tiny glimpse of your bright future and there's a lot yet to be unveiled, but you have to wait for it.

And in the end, the good news is tomorrow I'm going to mars. Yes, we have started to colonize mars. I know it would seem like a dream to you but it's true. You know whatever you people have ever imagined in your dreams, has come true. Everything is possible here.

Dear me,

Deadly sunshine is pouring over my ashen face as I'm writing you this letter. I know you are doing great or at least better than me. I don't know if this is the end or not, but all I know is that it all started with us. We ourselves have written our dark future with the ink of greed.

Reckless use of fossil fuels and over-exploitation of natural resources have continuously

harmed earth. We humans have always exploited nature's patience in view of its weakness, but now's the time to pay the aggregate of our deeds. Reckless deforestation, ignorance towards carpool, heedless use of water resources, scrappy streets choked with garbage, cacophonous sound produced from blaring speakers and erroneous drainage system easily pestered by a negligent throw of plastic are all repercussions of our sins.

The quality of air here is deteriorating everyday. Now, refilling our oxygen cylinders has become a major commodity. Food, once eaten for pleasure is now barely cooked. Evergrowing pollution has destroyed the crops and we now have to force ourselves to rely on synthetic food.

Melting glaciers, frequent earthquakes, deadly diseases, and enraged floods, all warned us to stop harnessing mother earth, but all in vain before human materialism and ego. Inevitably the temperature has increased so much that we can scarcely wear it and are we forced to live inside capsules. However, whom to blame for this miserable condition when we ourselves are the creators of our own affliction.

Gone is the time when we used to fight for freedom, independence future has given birth to water, food, and land wars. People once blemishing nature, tussling to earn capital, are now ready to lose everything to have drinking water, and a natural meal, which is nowhere to be found. Deadly polluting air, synthetic food, and water have made us so weak that we have to rely on electronics to even help us move and communicate.

The good news is we have found a cure to almost all diseases. But everyday new incurable diseases come up with no cures. That's why healthy people are colonizing mars. Only dead and diseased would be left here on this diseased planet.

I'm leaving tomorrow for mars. You must be wondering, what your future self is carrying to mars. After all these pains which we ourselves have gifted us, all I wanna carry is my self-stolen memories and a handful of earth.

Postscript:

I'm writing these two letters for you to choose which future you want, because your present choice defines your future. And always remember, the choice is still in your hands.