

## **A Dream in the Future**

I had a dream, twenty-years in a future afternoon,  
A machine traveled me back to the earth from the moon

The sky and river are blue,  
The air and water are shining,  
Trees and flowers are blooming,  
Birds and bees are singing,  
Boys and girls are dancing.

Where is the hunger in Africa?  
Where are the wars in the mid-east?  
Where is the smoking pollution in Asia?  
Where are the sick in the hospital?

I asked the birds in the sky,  
I talked to the dogs running in the grass,  
I questioned the bees in the flowers,  
I spoke to the butterflies in the tree.

The birds told me, smart human invented plants grow fast, produce high,  
thrive in dessert,  
The dogs replied me, wise men signed peace treaties, ceased wars all  
around,  
The bees answered me, genius humans turned pollution air into bricks,  
The butterflies responded to me, brilliant human beings created medicines  
as a miracle.

How wonderful the future would be!  
How eager am I to grow and see!  
Beautiful future never come itself easily,  
Hard work for everyone, things don't fall from the sky,

A small thing done by me and all,  
A big influence made to now and then,  
The leaves a miracle change in the world as a whole,  
I hope my dream is not a dream within a dream,  
The earth is our home, the beautiful future is in our hands,  
Let's do it hands by hands!

**By Ryan Zhao, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Gilbert Linkous Elementary School**  
**First Place**

## The Bright Future

As the late 20th century perishes away,  
A new dawn takes birth of our next generation,  
New people, new inventions  
Dominating our Earth  
As we come forward together to create

Flying cars up in the air  
Making traffic in the clouds  
As we can see all seasons from above  
Flying cars will be like cell phones  
The center of their conversation

Smog, pollutants, the blindness of countries  
Blocking the beautiful sight of the Earth  
And choking the sweet, melodious voice of humans  
Eradicated from our lives  
Restoring our vision

Solar power, our strength  
Eliminating our lights  
LED lights will age  
with lights no more  
Solar power saved energy  
with the solar panels we will use  
The Earth will become beautiful once more

In 20 years  
Life like it now  
very unthinkable  
Flying cars  
No smog or pollution  
Solar energy  
will fill our lives  
Blossom trees  
Picturesque land  
over the years we will improve  
But not as much as we will in 20 years

By Sriya Sridhar, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Gilbert Linkous Elementary School  
Second Place

## **20 Years Later**

### **Chapter One**

#### **Technology**

Twenty years later, I will be twenty-nine years old. Scientists have made an invention called a pet translator which you hook onto your pet's collar. Whenever you pet barks or meows, the device will translate the sound into any language. There will be cars that can drive by themselves, and no gasoline will be needed, you will only need to charge it. The iPhone 30 has just come out. Scientist improved on the hover board and now it actually hovers above the ground.

### **Chapter Two**

#### **Planets**

They are now building a moon city. Its name is Equestria, and it is safe to breathe the air in the city. Equestria is just like a normal city except it is on the moon. People are now going to Mars. They are bringing back the pretty rock they dug up from the ground and use it to build bridges and buildings. Scientists found a tenth planet and have named it Iceiaea (Ice+ie+iea). It is basically a desert with no sunshine and blue sand which they call moon dust. Scientists have sent a robot to inspect the planet's sand, and it discovered that the dust is made of ground up moonstones. The moonstones are aqua and different shades of blue.

### **Chapter Three**

#### **Homes**

There are still a lot of different types of homes in 2037, but now people are building an underwater city. It is supposed to be surrounded in a special material that is super strong but see-through. It is being built for people to study the sea and underwater animals.

### **Chapter Four**

#### **The Doctor's Office**

Have you ever dreaded going to the doctor because you are going to get a vaccine? Well, that has changed. All you have to do is drink a liquid that tastes good and you can pick the flavor. There is even a cookies and crème ice cream flavor that is my favorite out of all of them.

### **Chapter Five**

Well, that's what I think the future will be like in twenty years. I wish it would be like that right now.

**By Annabel de Souza, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Kipps Elementary School**

**Third Place**

## **2037: What Will Happen?**

Diary:

People were into super technology, just like any other day. Nanotechnology, augmented reality, and 3D printing were some examples. Enhanced cars zoomed by, creating air pollution all around the futuristic city. Day after day, it only got worse. The rural community of Montgomery County had slowly transformed into an urban city, with a great quantity of cars, and the sky filled with machinery.

Some would enjoy and prefer the change that slowly overcame the county, while a small amount of others wouldn't. But, there is no going back. Our future is shaped the way it is meant to be, even if that's not what it's wanted to be. People were getting more and more addicted to technology, some more affected than others. How could they not?

There would be some downsides and upsides of the changing world. For example: an upside would be that machinery could do hard jobs for people, such as labor. That would be part of the upside, but that also means that people soon forget, or cannot do that job anymore, and in some cases, get lazy. Those are some downsides.

On the other hand of all of this, what about humans? My theory is that doctors would find a way to somehow improve, replace, or add some things to or about the human body. First of all, they would find working vaccinations or cures specifically for feared illnesses, such as pneumonia, and Ebola. Scientist would find what DNA is, how it's made, and how to change it. That way, they could stop diseases before they happen, take out different types of syndromes, and more endless possibilities. They could also improve the human body to make people live longer, and stay healthier. It would lead to a better universe.

Space exploration would succeed in many ways, too. Scientists exploring the planets in the 2030s wouldn't be impossible. Take Mars, for example. NASA would send scientists to see what Mars is like, and if adapting and living in Mars works, then people could have a less crowded Earth! This might work in other suitable planets over time, too.

The future over 20 years would be calm, yet chaotic, changing and unchanging, and adaptable and at the same time unadaptable. It's all in how you look at it! People from the past might not have expected all of what is happening right now in our present either! Who knows?

**By Jian Kim, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Kipps Elementary School  
Honorable Mention**

**Future Inventions**  
**By Abigail Hewitt, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Christiansburg Elementary School**  
**Honorable Mention**

My mom says in the olden days there was something called a car. You hopped into it and it took you places that were far. They seem so very different to our solar powered scooter with the motion signaled bell.

My dad said twenty years ago, and this may not be true, there was something called a flower that people gave to me and you. They are so very, very different from our battery colored lights.

My aunt says a long old time ago there was something called a school. Kids went there to read and write. It sounds kind of cool. This is so very different from our wind mill powered dome. We go there from home to read and type on our solar colored chrome pod.

These things from twenty years ago seem different from today. I wonder if there will be some new inventions to use and to play.