

# THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

Hey kids! It's time for a peek into...

## The Awesome World of THE FUTURE!

Featuring noted futurologist Dr. Wilbur von Philbert

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GREETINGS, CHILDREN! LET'S GET STARTED!

IN THE FUTURE, OUR LEADERS WILL BE CAREFULLY CHOSEN FOR THEIR WISDOM AND MATURITY. PLEASE REMEMBER--MY ESTEEMED OPPONENT'S GOVERNING EXPERIENCE FAR SURPASSES MY OWN!

NONETHELESS--MY OPPONENT IS A MAN OF DEEP INTELLECT AND EXCESSIVE HUMILITY!

YOU ARE TOO KIND!

LIKE-WISE!

OUR POLITICAL DISCOURSE WILL BE THOUGHTFUL AND RATIONAL. IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THERE WERE ONCE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES WHO PROUDLY EMBRACED IGNORANCE, RESENTMENT, AND XENOPHOBIA!

SUCH BARBARIC ATTITUDES ARE LITERALLY INCOMPREHENSIBLE TO THE MODERN MIND!

PREJUDICE AND INTOLERANCE WILL BE NOTHING BUT DISTANT MEMORIES FROM A LESS ENLIGHTENED ERA. OUR ANCESTORS WERE BESET BY HATRED INEXPLICABLY BASED ON SKIN COLOR, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, AND VARIOUS TRIBAL AFFILIATIONS! FORTUNATELY THEIR PRIMITIVE ANIMOSITY DID NOT SURVIVE INTO THIS DAY AND AGE!

AND OF COURSE, MISOGYNY AND SEXISM WILL SIMILARLY BE LONG FORGOTTEN. HOW COULD ANYONE POSSIBLY TREAT ANOTHER HUMAN BEING AS LESS THAN EQUAL, BASED SOLELY ON THE CONFIGURATION OF THEIR REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS?

THE STRANGERS WITH WHOM I CONVERSE ON THE GLOBAL COMPUTER NETWORK FIND IT UTTERLY PERPLEXING!

WOW! HOW SOON WILL THIS INCREDIBLE WORLD ARRIVE, DR. VON PHILBERT? OH, I'D SAY BY JANUARY 2016 AT THE LATEST! IF WE HAVEN'T FIGURED THINGS OUT BY THEN, WE MIGHT AS WELL GIVE UP!

I MEAN, WHAT ELSE ARE WE GOING TO USE OUR FUTURE BRAINS FOR--DATING APPS?

UM--WHAT'S AN "APP"?

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This is insanity and this is one reason why I am supporting Bernie Sanders. Our current government is saturated in greed and fraud and it has to stop. There are enough resources to take care of people and our needs if we get rid of the corruption. Bernie is the one to do it; he is not beholden to the rich and greedy, but only to us, the people.

Ellen Furstner  
Marcola

## RURAL NEEDS UNMET

Our own Lane County leaders have felt caught in a financial bind. This has ended up meaning that our beloved sisters and brothers who live in rural areas have not had their basic needs met. Where is protection for them? Where is 911 in an emergency? Their schools and other services are neglected. They are suffering.

So what is their response? Militias are forming for their own protection. Some are rising to take over the governments of their towns and villages. There is an increase in the threat of guns and violence.

We can, we *must* do better. Lane County, we have neglected our rural areas. Let's reach out and truly provide for their needs, so they can live fully and with dignity.

And, my friends, let's reach out to our national government to withdraw from our endless wars and war preparations, and divert the trillions of dollars to the deep needs and struggles of our people, and of all people everywhere.

Violent wars can only lead to more wars, to more pain and suffering. We can reach out to the world, the planet, our county brothers and sisters, in peace.

Peg Morton  
Eugene

EDITOR'S NOTE: Peg Morton wrote this letter before she died Dec. 19 and it was submitted by a friend.

## SEMI RULE OF LAW

A small group of armed white Christian militiamen take over a federal building in

southeast Oregon. The sheriff claims these men have intentions to overthrow the county and federal governments. These men, some of whom crossed state lines to get here, claim they have no intentions of leaving, have stocked up food and have a generator.

This isn't the first time. A similar scenario occurred at the Nevada ranch of Cliven Bundy in 2014. Even though the "protestors" ignored lawful orders given to them by local and federal law enforcement officials and pointed their weapons at federal law enforcement officials, the government backed down and left them alone. As far as I know, the government has yet to collect any of the grazing fees (over \$1 million) owed by the Bundy family for grazing their cattle on our public lands.

If these "protestors" had been of some other religion, race or foreign nationality, would they have been dealt with the same way? Recent events would suggest otherwise. This country is governed by the rule of law, which does allow some latitude.

However, if the government were to correctly recognize these people as terrorists, as their actions clearly indicate, there would be no latitude given, and law enforcement would meet the threat with overwhelming force.

If these people think they are protestors and not terrorists, we should refer to them with appropriately less severe names such as Yocal Haram, Ya'll Quada or Vanilla ISIS.

Jay Schwartz  
Eugene

## HONOR HER REQUEST

Peg Morton always worked for the betterment of our world, and I cannot think of a better way of honoring her memory than by doing what she requested in her letter printed Dec. 17. In it she clearly explained the need for a green, welcoming place in the city center and she asked our

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