

## GREETINGS FROM THE PAST

Hello.

I am writing to you from the past. The 21<sup>st</sup> century to be exact.

I thought you'd like to know what life is like for us human beings today.

Right now we are made up of men and women, males and females. But, by the time you read this, things may have changed.

Nowadays, people seem to be confused about their identities.

Me, I'm biologically a woman. I have a womb, ovaries and I have borne children.

Now there are men who claim to be women and – without having had any surgery or any changes to their body – this is becoming acceptable. To such an extent that men who look like men and have the physique of men are allowed to use women only spaces such as lavatories and changing rooms.

Some men are being allowed to compete in women's sporting events even though they are to all intents and purposes men. What's more, some have even been allowed to win!

Some of us find this demeaning to women. But sadly, those who speak out, get shouted down or even ghosted. This is a new word that means cancelled, ignored, erased.

I've been alive for a long time and the world has changed a great deal from when I was young. Things that when I was a child were the stuff of science fiction, now really happen.

People can travel, not just in distance on land, but on the sea, in the air and even in space. By the time you read this, it's possible that there will be other societies, not just on earth but elsewhere in the galaxy. Humans have already attempted moon landings but as yet, in my lifetime, no one has remained on the moon or on any of the other planets.

The world is becoming overcrowded so maybe in your lifetime man might have succeeded in living on the moon or elsewhere. That's an amazing thought. Or even awesome, as a younger person might say, a word from America that has now become popular parlance.

I'm writing this in English. Do you understand English I wonder or will you need to get it translated? It used to be that most people spoke or learned

English but I understand that Mandarin is now being taught in schools. It's highly possible that by the time you read this – in decades or centuries hence – English will be a forgotten language.

In the 21<sup>st</sup> century we still get an enormous pleasure from food. Cooking, baking, eating and sharing food with friends is one of life's pleasures. I hope that in the world you know people will still be eating real food and not just popping pills. Having said that, there are even people now who, because they don't want to gain weight, stop eating what we would call normal food and just drink special weight reducing liquids or take pills. There's been a huge change in eating habits. Today many people no longer eat animal meat (is that still a thing where you come from?) and will eat nothing whatsoever that comes from animal products.

Many today are concerned over what they call global warming which is the gradual rise in the average temperature of the Earth's air and oceans. The fact that our ice glaciers are melting is considered to be extremely harmful to the earth and its inhabitants.

Are people still giving birth in the world where you live? I say people because it's possible that by the time you read this it will be a normal event for a man to give birth. Or maybe no one gives birth anymore and it's all done by test tube?

In terms of the natural environment the world is still a beautiful place. I hope that, by the time you read this, it will still be lovely – even that the world as we know it today still exists.

There is a well-known expression that the best things in life are free. It may be a cliché but it is true. Even if you are homeless and without any love in your life, you can still enjoy the elements. The sun, moon, sky, flowers, birds, trees and stars will, I hope, always be there to uplift people whatever the future brings.

I wish I could see into the future and know what your world will be like. I do hope that the world we know today – with all its faults – will still be here.

PS Attached you'll find an explanation of some of the words I have used in case you haven't understood them. Eg travel, America, birth, identity.