

03 Letter to My Son

Notes:

This article was written in 1998 and was later included in the book *Design Is*, published in 2001. At the time of publication, the author's son was around 3 or 4 years old. If he were alive in 2025, he would be about 27 or 28 years old.

Some of the things mentioned in the article have indeed come true today: for example, the widespread presence of the internet and smart devices, the growing emphasis on environmental sustainability in design, and the blurring line between work and home life due to technological advancements.

As for its accuracy and impact: What it got right includes its predictions about technological progress and social changes;

Where it fell short is its overly optimistic perspective, failing to anticipate issues like digital addiction and privacy breaches;

Overall, the impact is mixed: technology has indeed made life more convenient and connected people more closely, but it has also contributed to environmental strain and increased psychological stress.

Letter to My Daughter (Born 2020 – Read 2035)

Context (2025): The world rebuilds post-2020s with new tech/lifestyles. You're 5—curious, bright, laughter-

filled. Open at 15, as you find your path.

Opening: My dear, the world's changed since you were born. This letter shares 2025 life and my hopes for you.

2025 World

- Positives: AI, robotics, VR shape life/learning; mental health/equality get more focus; global green energy grows.
- Negatives: Climate change harms Earth (floods, fires, lost species); over-reliance on screens; social/economic gaps remain.

2035 May Bring

- You might see: AI learning partners, smarter medicine; more women leading in science/design.
- You may face: Balancing digital life/real emotions; adapting to fast tech changes; mixing ambition with care/empathy.

My Advice: Stay curious (keep asking/learning); be kind (tech can't replace compassion); protect nature (small acts count); value health/joy; believe in yourself (the world needs your creativity).

Closing: No matter what 2035 holds, use your heart to make it better. I'll always be proud of you—then, now, always.