



Our best climate future

High-speed electric trains cruise through the sky, able to take me halfway around the world in less than five minutes. They rest on grav-platforms so that they do not disturb the forests that cover every part of the earth.

Scientists and teams of 'land-guardians' have worked hard to rejuvenate these old-growth forests. They didn't even resort to cloning and genetic manipulation technologies to create super-trees as some people had pushed for early on, but instead returned to traditional land management knowledge and techniques to care for and restore the earth.

Grazing and farming land was dramatically reduced as we moved fully to lab-grown meat and perfected vertical farming technologies, reducing farms to a few small blocks that could feed the world.

Ages ago, the Collective Earth Council (CEC), established to eliminate national borders and rivalries and instead focus on the needs of the entire planet, introduced laws to ban logging and deforestation, but they were hardly needed. We have eliminated our reliance on wood and steel for construction purposes. Instead, we mostly use carbon recovered from the atmosphere by huge, floating artificial 'tree' turbines and reprocessed into building blocks of carbon.

Bushfires, droughts, and other extreme weather events and temperatures were our biggest challenges, but we invested heavily, first in water bomber fleets and fire lookouts, and later in rain machines capable of regulating rainfall in areas where it was needed it most. Soon even they became redundant as we restored our natural billabongs and farming drew on these less and less.

We derive most of our energy from the sun, having developed super-efficient solar panels and unlocking quantum storage capacity so that batteries the size of my thumb can power cities and last for decades.

We used asteroids to restore the icesheets and cool the ocean in time to recover much of the coral. The great barrier reef now encircles Australia.