

WARNING THIS MESSAGE CONTAINS PARADOXES THAT COULD SEVER THE THREAD OF TIME. PROCEED WITH CAUTION!

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Hey Michael,

So, don't freak out but it's you... from the future. 10 years in the future to be exact. Don't believe me? How would I know that you seriously considered getting a dolphin tattoo after seeing the first 30 minutes of *The Cove*, if I wasn't you?

I thought that might get your attention! I thought I'd send you an update from the future.

Things have changed quite a bit over the past ten years. I'd like to say that you (we?) have grown to place where you're fulfilled creatively, professionally and in your personal life. But this didn't happen overnight and certainly without your share of hard work and tribulations. I've learned that ideation and talent mean nothing if you don't have the diligence to improve on your skills and work on it everyday.

Continuing a regimen of education and experimentation is paramount to your overall well being in the coming years. You may not see it now, but Netflix grows into a multinational conglomerate with the explicit goal of placating the public into a society of consumers not creators. As appealing as marathoning the entirety of *Frasier* may be; you're time is much better spent writing, working on your comedy, making music and *doing things* in general! Also, you'll be staving off the inevitable Netflix/Robot Rebellion of 2021.

Your mind should be a foot deep and a mile wide. Learn about everything and don't be afraid to ask questions. As our world grows the need for true knowledge trumps the need for easy-access information. It's one thing to know the answer to a question, it's another to understand why that is the correct answer.

Keep in touch with your friends and partners. You can't carry the world on your shoulders, your friends and creative partners are assets who can help you grow through collaboration and good times. Competition can be healthy but collaboration fosters true innovation.

My final piece of advice is to follow your gut and your heart. What's the worst that will happen? Failure? Let me tell you this, you will fail. But it's the ability to learn from failure and grow that will keep us in this game.

I won't tell you what happens in your life. The choices you make and where we go from here. I'd hate to spoil the surprises.

I will, however, give you some bullet points on the future so you can prepare yourself and impress party goers with your nostradamus-esque predictions.

1. For some inexplicable reason, Bing is actually a thing in the future. Like how people say "Let me Google that" in 2015, people actually say "Let me Bing that" in the future. Weird.
2. The 2024 Presidential Election will be between Republican candidate Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson and Democratic candidate hologram-Tupac Shakur. Who wins? Third party candidate Ross Perot's mind injected into a computer. No joke.
3. The Phoenix Suns have become the Sun's Suns after humanity colonised the Sun. We still haven't won a championship though.
4. Pauly Shore makes a comeback in 2019 with his riveting portrayal of Alexander Graham Bell in the biopic, "Tele the World About Me." (Puns get really bad in the future.)
5. George R.R. Martin is alive and well! However, we are still waiting on the final installment of A Song of Ice & Fire.

That should wrap everything up! Enjoy the present and don't fixate too much on the future!

Best,

Michael Skarsten