

# CHUCKLES #3

FROM: Joy-Lynd Chamberlain

"Que sera, sera, what will be will be . . ." or so the song says, time after time.

I think back to a time in high school and they were telling young women to take typing classes because we were getting some of the new electric typewriters in to learn on. No one would be able to afford one for the home but soon they would be in all of the offices and to get a good job a girl would have to get used to them.

Is this the future our parents told us about? My father could never have visualized this future . . . But, I wish he could have seen it. Both my father and grand father were inventors, when you buy a carton of milk at the store, the paper type, you can thank my dad that it does not leak like they did in days before they were plastic coated. He had heard of computers but the PC was not even a dream before he died. Lasers were still science fiction and so many of the other things we take for granted these days.

The future? It is doomed to be a repeat of the past if we do not learn . . . this is a saying that I have heard far too often in my past. Once in musing I thought that all knowledge is at hand, we just keep rearranging it so it sounds new. Maybe it just gets a new paint job for each new outlook?

A year ago a wish for the future might have included peace, the end of hunger, homes for those without them, health, etc. Today there is peace where there was none



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and wars where there was peace, some have food who did not before and others now die, homes have been gained and some lost, medicine has advanced and is still unavailable to those who need it. So the same wishes for the future must go out this year, just pointed in different directions.

Where will technology go in the future? I hear a lot for speculation, I read a lot of fiction on the subject, I feel it is time to sit back and let it happen as it will. After all, when I believe the software manufacturers about when their new products will be on the market they disappoint me. When I listen to the government about what they will do to help the common man they disappoint me. When I expect improvements to items I use to make my life easier they either do not come or are priced for those better off than I.

Back in 1963 I told one of my best friends that I only had a year left in which I wished to be alive. By the age of 20 I figured that I would have done everything I could do in life and would have seen it all . . . Well I have still not done or seen it all, so I am still here. Somehow, each day seems to bring something new. I guess I will have to stay around until inventors run out of ideas and people run out of interesting situations.

I watch the TV (more than I should) and see the view of the future offered in the Star Trek adventures. It seems that all of the people do not have to worry about food or lodging or medical treatment - would it not be nice? There is also the view on Babylon 5 which does have the poor and the homeless - must it be so? What can a future offer if it

does not offer a betterment to all who must endure it? In the *New Testament* there is a tale where someone comments to Jesus that oil used to clean his feet could have been sold to help the poor, he told then that we would always have the poor with us. Why should it be so? Ayn Rand had the idea that one would only have motivation to invent if it would improve their own position but not to improve just the general whole. It would seem that no matter what the strongest urge is for self. Others only benefit as a result of that which one does for him or her self. If you want a better mouse trap, it is because you have a mouse problem. After you have solved your problem then others can share in the invention.

What of a bright future . . . Well, brightness is as relative as the folks you just saw again for the holidays.

The future I would see is one where the ills that we have caused to the earth could be fixed; where the damage we inflict by our comforts could be erased; where all who seek could gain as long as their gain would not cause a loss for another.

The future I would see is one where a united world would explore the universe for good rather than gain; where all life were respected; where the ideals of the masses were never forced upon any individual; where the value respected is that of the one in question.

The future I would see is one where technology is tempered with (not so) common sense; where want and need come closer together; where compassion is not given based on anything but necessity; where medicine, shelter and food are not items of cost.

The future I would see is one where

forward was considered a path to be sought; where time was worth the effort you put into it; where value means appreciation not worth.

The future I would see is one where judgement was reserved for none; where happiness was a choice not a luxury; where play was enjoyable not competitive; where learning was desirable not demanded.

The future I would see is one where my computer never crashed; where my good ideas would write themselves down so as not to be forgotten; where all I met were new friends; where memories were considered welcome at all times.

The future will most likely be few of the things I have just listed, but it is fun to dream of such foolishness. The future is and will be no more or less than we make it! We all know this to be a truism . . .

Here is a truism — that you may not know — I wish all the foolishness above each day for all of you here reading and all those I do not know. There was a bright note in the news the other day: The announcer said that it has been determined that my children will earn less in their lifetime than I have. So what is the bright note? I have no children!

On this last day of 1994, let me ask you one favor —

HAVE A HAPPY  
NEW YEAR!

