

EXTRACTS OF MESSAGES TO KEO **IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

“... At the age of 5, I went to a residential school for the blind, which I regard as one of the greatest blessings of my existence because if I had stayed at home, I would not have had the chance for a decent education. So I am spending my life in expanding this blessing in every way I can...”

Anne, 5 years, USA

“... So I have a prayer for our future generations:

That you treat your children like the precious gifts that they are. Teach them to respect and love themselves, teach them to love, and to be tolerant of each other. We do that by example, because we have learned that children imitate the behaviors that are presented to them, educate them, give them hope, and keep them healthy. Yes, every child is worth the effort...”

Teresa, 46 years, USA

“... Dear Future Beings,

I am writing to you with optimistic hope that you exist, that you have the science and technology to decipher this, and that you have the incentive and freedom to do so. One of my great interests is paleontology. It is ironic that if my physical remains exist at all now, they are probably in the form of fossils—similar to those fossils that have decorated my home...”

Chris, 45 years, USA

“... I am 10 years old. I am living in a time that’s 50,000 years apart from your time. You got my letter from a time capsule that floated around in space for 50,000 years! (I’m not lying, really). My letter was in the time capsule with many other letters, photos and a diamond with soil, air, water...”

Michelle, 10 years, Canada

“... I’ll tell you how to make hamburgers. You need:

1 pound ground lean beef
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon pepper
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
4 tomato slices (if you like them)...”

Joshua, 10 years, Canada

“... I also think my Dad is very very important because he’s my parent and he means a lot to me. I wouldn’t be able to tie my shoes if I didn’t have him because he taught me how to tie my shoes. My Dad also taught me how to wink, swim, fish and canoe.

I think my Mom is very very important too, because, she gave birth to me. She taught me how to walk and talk, use computers, numbers, sing, write, and to read. I think my Mom is the best mom in the world...”

Scott, 9 years, Canada

“... Remember what Mark Twain said: Mauritius was made first, then heaven, and God copied heaven to the image of Mauritius. Love your country. Invest in education. Do not encourage communalism. Take lessons from our mistakes...”

Farahnaz, 22 years, Mauritius

"... First of all, this can't be imagined at this time this message will be read after 50,000 of 2003. But by the wish of our God " ALLAH" as Moslems every thing is possible. So if you come to read my message just remember that 50,000 years ago there were human beings living here who have all the feelings but always like the feeling of love as this feeling is an everlasting one, love will never die and stay for ever even after the death of the beloved. I want you to know that despite all the obstacles and circumstances that might stop the flow of love emotion, real love will remain forever. I been in love but due to circumstances of differences between societies rich and poor I could not marry my beloved one..."

Hani, 35 years, Saudi Arabia

"... My mother was born in Antwerp, Belgium on 6th of October 1947. She had a pretty normal childhood though she lived in total absence of relatives. All of her relatives were decimated and turned to ashes in the German concentration camps during the second world war. She met my father on a trip to "Terra Sancta" or the Holy Land..."

Rafael, 28 years, Belgium

"...Actually sometimes I wonder why am I myself. Why am I not the hawker selling chicken rice down the street, the bus driver or even my good friend Josephine? What is it that causes me to think, analyse or have a conscience? I know scientists will come up with the explanation of neurons, nerves electrical messages and even genes..."

Ong, 19 years, Singapore

« ... Here on Earth in our year 2000 AD, we humans are aware of the enormous numbers needed to count the stars and galaxies in our known physical universe. However, we have not been able to attach a meaning or explanation to such physical extravagance. It appears that such understanding is beyond the limits of the human brain. But we comfort ourselves in the concept that there is a divine purpose to all things. However, we humans apparently cannot know what that purpose really is. We are in complete darkness to explain the miracle of existence or the miracle of life. I hope that humans of your time have had at least a glimpse into the divine secret.... »

Leonard, USA

« ... Hello. Do you have special toys? Do you have a fireplace? Do you have a car? Do you have a closet? Do you have a blanket? I have three blankets. I can write my name: Kayla. What is your name? Do you have glasses? I like my mommy. I have a dog named Woo. Do you have a dog? I have a purple outfit. My favorite color is green.....

As dictated to her grandmother by Kayla, 4, USA

... Hi my name is Jesse, I am 14 years old. The thing I worry the most about is my dad and my brother. My dad smokes and drinks a lot, and he has been for many years. He is getting old, about to be fifty, and I am afraid that his habits might kill sometime in the near future. He stopped drinking and has been sober for about five years, but he has started again not too long ago. I tried to get him to stop smoking but my asking is just not enough.... »

« ...My brother is a very bright person but gets into a lot of trouble. He lies, cheats, steals, and lots of other bad things. It's been hard for my brother growing up with behavior disorder, especially since my mother died back in ninety-one. He's been in and out of boy's homes and foster families for the past year, but he just hasn't been getting along too well. He is 16 and he doesn't know how to take care of himself the way he should... »

Jesse, 14, USA

« ...But, I would dearly love to see the future. As ever since I was 4 years old I have liked the prospect of 'tomorrow' and the promise of space travel to explore other worlds beyond the Earth. I remember the first Russian space missions as well as the American Mercury and Gemini space missions and the Apollo moon missions and no doubt in your time human space travel is now taken for granted.

...I like the idea and vision of a vast galactic community of millions of different species as we can all learn from each other. But that is yet to come for as today in mid 1999 AD the human race has only gone as far as the moon and in the nearly 30 years since the last Apollo mission came home we still haven't really tried to expand beyond low Earth orbit. But we have now started to look for planets outside our solar system. Part of the problem may lie in that people of the world in 1999 AD still consider themselves as part of national groups instead of a single global society—my 'group' is called English. I hope humanity has created a galactic civilization by your time, but only you can answer that... ».

Christopher, 43, England

« ...I am special because I am me. My mother was adopted, and her parents were Indian, and I have Indian blood in me. My father has a little Indian in him, but not much. I don't know what kind of Indian my parents have in them, but I know my dad is Russian too. I am special because I have good friends, and I have the chance to go to school and learn. I'm special for a lot of reasons, and I think everyone is special in her or his own way.

My greatest dream is to be safe at home and be in my backyard playing with my friends and having a fun time. All my relatives are there and I'm happy and everyone is happy. In my dream there are no troubles and no worries, everyone is kind and the scenery is pretty. In my dream nothing can go wrong... »

Kady, 10, USA

« ...Knowledge is only useful if it teaches you to respect yourself, your neighbour and nature. Without respect there is no knowledge.

This is Dublin 1999, the eve of the millennium - good luck to all of you from a young Irish cailin. Go neiri an bothar leat.... »

Helena, 26, Ireland

« Dear Intelligent Beings of 50,000 Years Hence,

... I hope you've had time to develop kindness and consideration among individuals, families, tribes and nations, the lack of which has caused most of our misery... »

Rod, 71, Retired Foreign Correspondent, USA

« To my future descendants,

...I cannot imagine what life will be like so many years from now, but I hope you learned to live peacefully and in harmony with your fellowman.

By the time you receive this, I expect that you will have fully conquered space travel, well, my children please act so that I could be proud of you.

If there is such a thing as re-incarnation, maybe I'm writing to myself!...

Dorothy, 79, USA

...I have a confession to make, however. Prior to my devotion to the Creator's ways, as tenacious as it is, I was a criminal. I sought to gratify my selfish desires at the expense of others. For my violations of the laws of society, I have been placed in a thing called prison, which is sort of a mini-society made up of criminals and persons that come in and stand around and perform other authority-like functions...

Eugene, 39, prisoner, USA

...I live in rural Ontario, a part of the country we call Canada, in the northern half of North America. It is spring, my favourite season, and Nature is renewing herself—the trees, birds and flowers all seem to be rejoicing! It gives me such heart-felt delight!

I love gardening—the planning, pruning, digging, planting, weeding, and of course, the resulting beauty. I am not a ladylike gardener—I really get into it, and have the scratches and broken finger nails to prove it! All that, plus an enquiring mind, keeps me feeling young, although at 86 I am fairly old. (You won't consider that as old, I'm sure!)...

Lillian, 86, Canada

Dear the class of 52,001,

...I have never written to anybody 52,001 years younger than me! I am sitting in science class doing this assignment for whoever will read this... »

Julie, 11, USA

« ...I will be 83 years old in mid-October of this year. My life span has provided a plenitude of scientific advances and changes in life styles along with humanity's varied responses. Both continue to be remarkable. Life on Earth is a true wonderment! ... »

Priscilla, 83, USA

« ...There isn't really anything to do for fun around here. Before Wal-Mart was put in, the "cool" thing to do was to hang out at K-Mart and chase the blue light specials. But now that we are older, we go to the movies or go bowling. Both of which are ultimately pointless. When going to the movies you pay \$6.75 just to get in. Then if you want popcorn, candy or a drink, there goes the rest of your paycheck. All to sit in a somewhat comfortable chair with some little kid behind you kicking the back of your chair, and some lady with big hair in front of you blocking your view of the screen. Yeah, there's a worthwhile event. Now bowling is another story. You pay \$3.00 or \$4.00 just to play the game. You then have to wear ugly uncomfortable rented shoes. I only have problems with the shoe thing. First of all you never know who wore them before you. And secondly, they never match the outfit you're wearing. After you find a pair of shoes that adequately fit you, you proceed to try and throw a heavy ball down this lane trying to knock down the ten pins standing at the end. You do keep score so you can win this game. But overall, it's a pointless sport.

That really sums up the life of a teenager in a small town... »

Corinne, 16, USA

« ...I wish to have this letter included in your project as a remembrance to my daughter who was killed on 18 December 1998, she was 21 years old. Your project will let me do the one thing for her that I could not have done on my own; to write her name in the annals of history so future generations will also know her. This way she may live on not only in my heart but in history.

...There is a terrible sadness to our life together because I have been in prison since she was 9 years old. I was not able to watch her grow up like other fathers and we could not share our lives together but nonetheless I loved her and she loved me.

...My daughter's life ended all too quickly and now I live alone in a world filled with people. I will be out in a couple of years and I can finally visit her graveside and truly accept the fact that she is gone from me forever... »

John, prisoner, USA

« ... It is an ambrosial mid-summer's eve. The sun's rosy golden orb softens the clouds with subtle fragrant colours. Distant hills have turned to mauve; their reflection edging the luminous waters of the lake. My canoe drifts silently on. In the marsh behind me the bullfrogs greet their mates and birds flit gracefully by. An elderly couple stroll arm in arm on the shore. They too, stop and glance up, enthralled with the scene before them. Slowly the light fades in the darkness. We reach for the warmth of our sweaters. The moon's silvery form rides high in the sky, amidst a sea of heavenly bodies. In the stillness of the night, the old pine tree nods and its branches wave as it whispers in the wind.... »

Dorothy, Canada

« ...I like history. It explains today. When I wonder "why", I look to history and then my question is answered. I do believe that "history repeats itself"...It is a re-occurring theme in our relationships with one another. If we don't learn the first time around, we must go through it all again and again until we change. I'd like to be alive when you read this...I wonder if there will be a record of me anywhere at all in 50,000 years. Will anyone beside you that read this know that I ever existed? Will you understand the language I use? Will you be able to read this message? Am I wasting my time? Maybe I'm wasting my time, but if someone does read this message, then it is worth my time. And that makes it worth your time to read these messages...to get a glimpse of history. I'm just a middle class person who works everyday and is raising my beautiful little boy. Typical in this day and age. I don't expect to be famous or wealthy. I just hope to provide a stable home for my son.... »

Faith, 36, USA

« ...Extra-terrestrials. My name is Gregory...I don't know if you keep track of your age, but I am eleven years of age. I may be just a small boy, but I have many things to say. I wanted to know if you had the custom called love. I don't know if you have families, nor do I know you need sentimental bonds to breed or not to. Just in case, let me fill you in. Whether it is a family love, or a sentimental bond, love is the best feeling you could ever have... »

Gregory, 11 USA

« ...My father, a senior medical student and extern at the same San Francisco Charitable Hospital and my mother, a student nurse at the same institution, said they met each other "wrapping up stiff's" during the 1917 flu epidemic and fell in love... »

Jane, 77, USA

« Dear people of the future,
...What an honor to be writing to people who are so advanced. I hope you learn a lot about the past by reading all these letters. Right now the world isn't such a happy place in my opinion. People are dying all over and some kids in other countries can't even read when they are 12 like me. I'm sure in your time everyone is smart and healthy. Not everything is bad, though. Technology is making improvements and less people are dying from fatal diseases. Thank you for listening and I hope you know now the point of view of a sixth grader.... »

Elizabeth, 12, USA

« ...Hi my name is Holly...I'm 18 years old...I don't know when or who is going to find this letter. I don't even know where it's going. I just know one of my teachers in school read in a newspaper that if you wrote a letter they were sending them up to outer space. I thought it was a really cool idea so here I am writing. This world we live in today in the year 1999 is really crazy especially where I live. There is a lot of violence and drugs. A lot of teenagers are having babies. I have a daughter she is 18 months old...I came from a really good family but as I got older I started hanging out with the wrong crowd and I got into drugs really bad. So now I'm getting my life together... »

Holly, 18, USA

« Dear Descendants and Others,

...I hope this letter finds you well. How I wonder how you are? What you look like? How many toes you have? My 10th grade biology teacher said that we would eventually lose our little toes, evolving out of them because we wear shoes so much. I like going barefoot. I wonder if it's warm or cold all the time where you live? How much flora and fauna still exists? I wonder if you have discovered and/or made contact with extra-terrestrial life? Have the New England Patriots won an N.F.L. Superbowl Championship yet? Yeah, I know that that's probably hoping for too much. We'll probably see the homeless housed, the hungry fed and world peace first.

As I write this, I sit cross-legged surrounded by blue-steel and cinderblock. We in the United States of America are told that our judicial system is the fairest in the world. Even so, it is not infallible. I am a detective with the ... police department, sentenced in the summer of 1996 to life in prison for a terrible crime I did not commit. I am a dad to three great sons... Tomorrow is Father's Day—the hardest day to get through for me.

...Our family has such a bright spot of hope in that several talented investigators have uncovered new evidence which, supported by two inmates who have come forward to testify, not only proves my innocence but exposes the one responsible. We are preparing to present our new evidence and witnesses in court. Sadly, many other innocent people (and their families) are suffering similar ordeals—around the world as well as in this building. Throughout man's existence better people have endured far worse than what I currently face. My family is fortunate in that we believe we will soon have justice. I haven't told them that if our motion for new trial and appeal fail, I intend to stop eating. I refuse to accept punishment for something I didn't do and it would be a last resort to free me and my family from this nightmare. But we are confident that justice will prevail this time. One of my new life's missions will be to help others who are wrongly convicted... »

Jeffrey, prisoner, USA

« ...At the age of 5, I went to a residential school for the blind, which I regard as one of the greatest blessings of my existence because if I had stayed at home, I would not have had the chance for a decent education. So I am spending my life in expanding this blessing in every way I can... »

Anne, USA

...There are so many things on this planet that move us to feel and to enjoy. Therefore, I will share with you those things that move me and bring me peace.

Walking along a pine-covered forest floor with towering cedars that surround me while sunlight filters through the leaves in delicate shafts of pure joy: that thrills me. Watching the raindrops splatter and drip from the bamboo overhang as they quench the Earth's thirst and water the green plants: that refreshes me. Looking up at the night sky from a meadow where there is only the light of the stars, millions of beautiful and mysterious stars: that inspires me. Knowing that I live in a world where I can communicate with a person in Africa and then step outside and enjoy the city life or nature as I choose: that amazes me. Not many people consider the many joys and adventures that this world, in this age, offers us. I hope that the Earth, in 50,000 years, will still be that strange, wondrous, and beautiful place that I have come to know it as...

...This is just one letter in a sea of thousands, and I am just one person in a sea of billions, but I hope that my humble words will move those who read this...

Alisha, 18, USA

« ...Some time in the near future I will be strapped down on a gurney and poison will be run into my veins until I can no longer breath and my hearts stops beating...I hope that in your world politicians have to be against the death penalty in order to get elected. Or better yet, no politicians at all. They love to start wars but never do the actual fighting... »

Miguel, prisoner, USA

« ...At one point several years ago, I was heavy into the drug scene, always going to raves (underground warehouse parties), doing only the best drugs and living it up. I had not a care in the world. Nowadays, my life is filled with a new kind of joy, my wonderful little baby boy...he has given me new determination, hope, and meaning in life that has been more than murky at several points. »

Christina, 21, USA

« ...So I have a prayer for our future generations:

That you treat your children like the precious gifts that they are. Teach them to respect and love themselves, teach them to love, and to be tolerant of each other. We do that by example, because we have learned that children imitate the behaviors that are presented to them, educate them, give them hope, and keep them healthy. Yes, every child is worth the effort.... »

Teresa, 46, USA

« ...A few thousand years before I was born, humans had a thing called "belief" (which meant taking something as true despite any evidence to back it up) and that "belief" took many forms. We believed in a god, one or many, who was an invisible being with endless power, including the power to manipulate human life. All different people had all different gods, and some thought their god was so great that they had to harm or kill anyone who believed in a different invisible force or creature. By my time, many of these beliefs still existed, but people were not as willing to kill each other because of their different beliefs in different visible forces. In many places, this kind of killing was still very common.

For the most part, though, human beings were learning how to get along with one another. Hopefully, getting along with one another is a very common thing in your time. In our time, it was a constant struggle. In addition to hating people for believing in different visible entities, human beings often hated each other for having different colored skin, different lengths of hair, or for being from a different place than they were. These places were called nations, which were created by taking a huge piece of land and putting an imaginary fence all around it in order to keep other people out and to keep the people that lived there in...

...Despite our numerous problems, our toiling in the fields of selfishness and selflessness, what kept us alive was a sort of stubborn willingness to be decent to one another and work together to get out of the various messes we were in...If our world was flooded with problems and human cruelty, then it was also a world full of quiet pools of kindness, tenderness, and a decency that arose from a shared fate...

...The people who designed the craft in which these letters were stored strove, in their own way, to touch the beauty of living. After all, trying to write to an audience 50,000 years away, without any knowledge of what that audience might be or what it has been through, probably has a more significant effect on the writers than the readers. That might be an arrogant overstatement, but the fact is that the mere effort to anticipate something so far removed in time has an alarming and wonderful tendency to put our own time, however tenuous or amazing, in perspective, and perspective is something we desperately need... »

Mike, USA

« ...The very planet you are standing on I once stood on. The air you are breathing is the very same air that I once took a breath of... »

Marisa, 13, USA

« Dear Future Beings,

...I am writing to you with optimistic hope that you exist, that you have the science and technology to decipher this, and that you have the incentive and freedom to do so. One of my great interests is paleontology. It is ironic that if my physical remains exist at all now, they are probably in the form of fossils—similar to those fossils that have decorated my home... »

Chris, USA

« ... To whom am I writing? An evolved human being or some other life form? Maybe a roach. I've always felt that roaches will inherit the earth. Or maybe tube worms, protected from wars or disease down there near those deep ocean vents. If you're a roach or a tube worm, then you won't understand anything I'm saying. My thoughts will be as foreign to you as a trilobite's would be to me. But maybe—just maybe—you are a descendant of human beings. 50,000 years isn't all that long, actually. Many humans are now living to be a hundred. If a hundred-year-old human touches the hand of a newborn who then, when he or she reaches a hundred, touches the hand of a newborn, etc., it takes only 500 humans to form a 50,000 chain... »

Madge, 68, USA

« ...Over the years we have learned to appreciate the value of our antiquities, and to take care of them. The Egyptian pyramids and the Roman coliseum come to mind, however these are only 6,000 and 2,000 years old respectively. Will future generations be able to maintain these monuments, and present day edifices as New York City's Empire State Building, so that they last another fifty thousand years? And how about now existing works of art: the Titians, Rembrandts, Van Goghs, Picassos? Are those paintings still appreciated? And "our" music: Mozart, Van Beethoven, Tchaikovski, Stravinski, Gershwin...how I would love to have answers to all these questions and many more. My imagination falls miserably short. I wish all my descendants wisdom and peace.... »

Bert, 76, USA

« ...I am motivated to write this because I have no direct descendants. This is the only way my name may live on. Admittedly this is a somewhat selfish motive...I was born on a farm during "The Great Depression" between the first two world wars. Farms were undergoing a transition from animal power to mechanical power (horses to tractors) in spite of the economy...I managed to go to college for higher education until the Korean War interrupted and I enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. ...Now in my old age, I do have some regret that I never had any children. On the other hand, they might have turned out like my nephews—inconsiderate, selfish and totally self-absorbed. »

Ward, 68, USA

"...I have been sent to prison for the rest of my life and each day I have the opportunity to think about the past and about my victims. I think about the good times and the bad. I also think about the future. In this day and age, prison is a place to warehouse people. Don't get me wrong, there are people who belong here. I won't even say that I don't belong here. I committed a crime and I have no problem about paying my debt to society. It's just that the current thinking at this time is to "Lock em up and throw away the key"...

...I have dedicated my life, even from here in prison, to making the world a better place for you. I hope that in small way I succeed. I am but a speck of dust in the passage of time but if enough dust falls a mountain can be built.

I hope that mountain is your present. I wish and pray that you have become what we could only dream to be..."

Doc, 45, USA

« ...How do I tell you about the way my world is? How can I make you see that I am more than these words? What can I say to you? If I tell you today is a very hot Monday in August, would you know what that meant? If I write that I have potted begonias sitting on the porch that desperately need to be watered, would you understand? Hot is a temperature, Friday is a day, June is a month, begonias are flowers, a porch is the front of a house, desperate is what the flowers are when it is a certain kind of temperature in a certain month and they have no water. But I doubt you understand that because, frankly, I barely understand that. I can't explain what all those things mean, so how can I explain what it means to be me or to live in this time. If I can't explain hot, then how can I tell you that I am in love? Hot is a temperature,

love is an emotion. But both hot and love are so much more than that. I could spend a whole page describing hot and two hundred pages describing love, but I don't have much room or time... »

Heather, USA

... « To my dear and very distant relative, How I would love to have a conversation with you! There are so many things I want to ask. I am sure that your technology is so advanced compared to ours that I would not even be able to ask intelligent questions and would be astounded and confused by the answers. But there are other questions I so desperately want to ask. Is there life on other worlds? Intelligent life? Are you able to communicate with them? Visit them? Trade with them? Live peacefully with them? I believe that the answer to the first question is Yes. Our insignificant sun cannot be so unique among the hundreds of billions of stars that it supports the only planet with life... »

« ...I am a 70-year old man (elderly by our standards; perhaps youthful by yours). In just that short period of time, our technology has outpaced our intellect. Our ability to kill each other and to destroy our Earth home has escalated at a geometric rate, but our intellect is no greater than it was centuries ago... »

Norman, 70, USA

...I am a simple widowed woman. Widowed just one year ago. Life has been lonely but not tragic. There « was a time when I was rather famous locally. But I surrendered that to care for my sick husband. In the years to come, if relationships still exist, it would be beautiful for one to sacrifice for the other. That is what makes the world go around. Life, love, letting go and going on... »

Peggy, 55, USA

« ...My brother was murdered...Why am I telling you this? Think about something very precious and priceless then have it stolen away from you. I hope by the time this message is received, the world is a better place where we don't have to worry about family and friends getting murdered. If they do, that there is a swift and detrimental punishment to those responsible. I still believe you take a life, you owe a life. In this day, criminals/murderers have more rights than a regular run-of-the-mill burglar. It can take up to ten years to have the murderer prosecuted. The man didn't give my brother near that time to think about his life. Maybe they should have some sort of tracking feature that can be placed in the body so that at all times the individual can be tracked. Somebody gets killed and through investigation you know who did it and punch it in the computer then find the man responsible and dispose of him/her. I know it sounds cold but just think about when this person murdered a loved one. Do you think he/her was concerned about your feelings? I don't think so. This is the most tragic thing that affects Americans in the 21st Century.... »

James, 30, USA

« ...I am a typical 6th grader: I have a girlfriend who doesn't think I'm any more than a normal friend, I think school is okay, I have my hobbies and have never had a date or been kissed by a non-relative. Yet. I have a mom who is one of the nicest people in the world, a dad who teaches me stuff that my mom would scream at, no siblings, lots of friends and terrific grandparents and relatives... »

Gregory, USA

« ...Perching on a stump deep in the forest, I grow aware of beady eyes staring back into mine. Chipmunk, quaint name for that unblinking bushy-tailed cousin of the squirrel. He crouches there, one paw extended tentatively over a bunch of seeds, then snatches them, flurries away to his camouflage of leaves.

A lizard shuffles his ungainly form over decaying vegetation on the forest floor. One of nature's jokes, he wastes no time on idle vanity but bustles with the business of living.

Life that crawls and creeps inhabits a private world of its own under the carpet of brush and moulding

leafage. To bring forth myriad numbers of mirror images of themselves, to feed up their humble environment, transforming it in subtle ways to nourish higher forms of life, then to die without giving voice to their low destiny—that is their role.

...Life is not reckoned by man's calendar but by nature's seasons. I observe that trees do not conform to geometric patterns as in our urban parks and well-manicured gardens. There is something about forests that object to perfection of form. No, a tile of a trunk here, a shaggy branch there mar the perfect contour of the scene, notifying us that a too-earnest preciseness violates the true law of symmetry...

...Only man plans for perfection...Nature just abides...Under the forest's bows like the sheltering wings of wisdom we tune in to a finer cadence...I want to remind you that once old Earth was green and beautiful.... »

Dorice, USA

« ...It is my hope that you, the people of the future of this world, have learned how to live and function as a united and peaceful race. I pray that there is no more war, crime, hate, discrimination of ethnic race and hunger.

It is a very sad time that I live in. We have adopted a policy of bombing nations to bring about peace instead of working out our differences in non-violent ways.

I also pray that you have found the technology to reach out and travel the stars and walk the soil of distant planets in other galaxies. It has been my dream to do this... »

Scott, prisoner, USA

« ...Never has the Earth been more senselessly violent than it has in the last one hundred years. I hope your situation is different. We learned the arts of traveling underwater, in the sky and to a lesser extent, in space, and what did we do with these marvelous advances? We learned how to use them as weapons. We learned how to "harness" the power of atoms, much like stars do, and with that power we rained hellish destruction down upon thousands of people, altering the course of human history as well. The 20th century has seen the violent end of hundreds of millions of humans. Humans are no more or less barbaric than we were 50,000 years ago. I'm a student of anthropology, the study of human culture. Sometimes when I read about the cultures of the past, they take on a very impersonal aura, as most cultures in the past did not value individual expression. Times are different. I hope it gives you great pleasure to establish some connection, however, tenuous, with so many long-dead individuals.... »

John, USA

« ...My favorite things so that you might better understand my world.

- Sitting quietly and petting my purring cat
- Feeling a cool breeze on a hot day
- Listening to the wind rustle the tree branches from my balcony
- Watching the snow fall
- Sitting on the beach edge with my toes in the water...
- Listening to foreign voices in foreign places
- Walking the streets of an unknown town
- Walking the streets of my home town
- Enjoying a good meal with friends and family... »

Wendy, 37, USA

« ...I am fascinated that someone 50,000 years from now may be reading this very simple history of my family and life. A human life span on Earth is so short compared with Earth's long history—it could be as short as a few minutes or as long as 120 years. So to think of a span of 50,000 years is dizzying. What is the Universe like in your time? Is there a universal society? So many people on Earth think that we are the only intelligent life in the entire Universe. How can that possibly be? We are such a small part of the Universe. How selfish and arrogant of us to think that we could be it! We do not even begin to understand all the wonders that are around us on this planet. Imagine all the wonders to be discovered



on other stars and planets! Five hundred years ago, European explorers were amazed to find the continent that I live on—America. It was also common belief hundreds of years ago that the Earth was flat and that our sun orbited the Earth. Today we laugh at those ideas. How many hundreds of years will it take for the people then to laugh at the people of our time who thought we were alone in the Universe?... »

Julie, 32, USA

« ...I am a 69-year-old woman. This is not considered very old these days. I love life and feel great. I live in a small house with a tiny art studio for my pen/ink drawings, some watercolors, and some pencil renderings I have done. I plan to do some more...

I have been a wife, a mother, a computer programmer, a sales clerk, a clerical worker, a nurse's aide, a secretary, a volunteer worker... »

Sarah, 69, USA

« ...It is early morning (4:00 am), June 12, 1999. I live in Northern Canada. The days are long at this time of year. The sun is just now rising.

I got up early this morning to write this letter. I chose this day in particular because my daughter, my first descendant, is getting married later this afternoon. So I feel a touch of pure poetry in this moment as I write a letter to my descendants 50,000 years hence. I sense that my daughter is taking her first steps down a long road that will someday end up crossing paths with yours.

Ever since I first heard about the KEO project, I have been trying to wrap words around what I think is important. I don't suspect that I'm any different than anyone else who sends you mail: I want to say something profound. But now that I'm actually sitting down at the computer to glue words to paper, the only thought that comes to mind is to tell you about how we tie our shoelaces... »

John, 45, Canada

EXTRACTS OF MESSAGES PART OF THE FRESCO OF MESSAGES OF KEO

"...I am as yet too young to have made any true impact on the world, but I give you my solemn promise that I will try to win some victory for humanity during the course of my life. Whether my name will be remembered past the year 5000, much less 50,000, I cannot know, but I hope that I will do something beneficial enough that it will be..."

Alexander, 16, Germany

"...This message is to say that I love my life and, as I am only 14 years old, I intend to keep being an actress in the future. I think that theatre is one of the most beautiful arts, because it can bring you feelings and make you reflect about all the concepts of the society you live in. I think it's also very important, considering that acting is a way to make changes in the world where you live, when you know you're influencing everyone who sees you acting. Nowadays, at least here in Brazil, theatre doesn't have much sponsorship. It's very difficult to afford a play as there's no interest in arts by the government. I hope this situation has changed when someone read it. Don't let theatre die..."

Vanessa, 14, Brazil

"...I envy the people in the future when they find the capsule and read the billion letters from all the people. I hope it will help them feel they have it good, or that they could have done better. Either way it will help them to realize how clever we really are.

I tingle with excitement every time I think that people from the far, far future will be reading my letter and realizing what it was really like in those days.

Thank you for saving a little space for my letter in your wonderful satellite..."

Jackson, 14, Spain

"...Why God is so unfair? Till now, I have no boyfriend. Why must I be the one with pimples & sometimes acne? Why not other girls? Why I don't have the courage to tell Dennis that I like him and wish to go further...Why can't I have more confidence in myself? Why am I so bloody shy? Why can't I be like Zilla? Why must I always be the spare tyre of my friends..."

Lau, 24, Singapore

"...Peace, peace! Please make peace and respect the environment! And love, love is the key and cure of everything! People now are very lonely!..."

Fotini, 21, Greece

"... Today is October 11th 1999. Tomorrow Earth's population is expected to be 6 billion. I live in Amman, Jordan. I am of Palestinian origin. I'm 15 years old and I'm the youngest in my family...I am a Muslim. Jordan (The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan) is ruled by King Abdullah the Second. After three years I'm going to graduate from high school, and I'm planning to study computer science like my brother and my dad..."

Faris, 14, Jordan

"...I have three sons who have not yet grown up. I live alone, but my sons visit me every 14 days. I live a good life, I can eat well, I am protected against rain, heat and cold. In the house where I live there is running cold and warm water. In the winter the house is heated so I won't freeze. If you who read this are a human then I hope that you live as good as I do, or better. If your life is better than mine then

humanity has managed to overcome the problems we are wrestling with in our present time and I can die happy..."

Jan, 42, Sweden

"...I am 29 this year 1999 and I was born in the year 1970. It's great that you all can read this as I have so much to tell you...if you are my grand-grand-children etc. that means I have finally married...to who I am not too sure..."

Jon, 29, Malaysia

"...I just want the future to be a wonderful place to live. Peaceful, calm, no pollution, no war, no unhappiness. Where every living thing are friends and all live together. That's all for my message..."

Oran, 12, Thailand"

"...I am 16 year old and I hope to have more luck in my studies. I don't like study. I want to be in the next 10 years a rich girl (I hope) because I want to travel to all the countries in this world and I also wish to buy a car hmmm...I want a BMW and a Ferrari... I hope to marry a good family and I also want to live in peace...."

Saleema, 16, Kuwait

"...The real voyage of a new discovery begins not with visiting new places, but in seeing familiar landscapes with new eyes..."

Leonid, 21, Israel

"...We hope some one get this we are Iranian (from Iran). We are sending this message 20 years after our revolution its year 1378 of parsion calender & Mr Khatami is the president of the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN. Wee are Moslems & at that time we hope our country be the most powerful country in the world like the ancient Iran (Persia).We hope that the Shiites Moslems be the leaders of the world & HAZRAT-E-MAHDI has arrived & has rised the FLAG OF JUSTICE. Sorry for our spelling mistakes...."

Ali (17), Sobhan (16), Iran

"...Today we are at the end of 20th century heading for the 21st century taking with us one of the fastest and tremendous developmental century that humankind has ever witnessed. I know there will many more such centuries in the offering. And I pray that the development will always continue and human kind never perishes and continues to survive unfolding the numerous mysteries that lie ahead. This century has brought with it both the good and the evil side still I will always believe that the show must go on, humankind has survived so many decades of hostile environments and it will somehow pass through the one's coming ahead and along the way preserving its rich culture and heritage. Today I sit before this marvel of "Internet" developed just over a decade ago trying to speculate on how much easier it has made everything and also feeling amazed at how much human mind has achieved. I feel proud to be a human and also feel great to be an INDIAN, the country to which I belong."

Anil, 25, India

"...does earth still exist 50,000 years from now, 1999? What will earth be like by then? It is a question beyond our imaginations. Our age has been one "junked" with all sorts of information, knowledge, technological advances and progresses in various fields. I have been living in one of the busiest cities in the world, i.e. Hong Kong. Will Hong Kong still be here in 52000? Our mother earth has been crowded with people in most of the places, with different races and colors and languages. It is an age of diversity converging to one that counts more on capital rather than spiritual gains. Nevertheless, it doesn't matter whether one earns a lot or the least. For me, the most important thing is to live my life happily. It is "yuanfen" in Chinese, which somewhat means "fate", that I live the way I live now and meeting the people I met. It is joyous to look back at all my happy times as well as my frustrations. Being able to be close to somebody I love and trust is the happiest thing in life...."

Nellie, 30, Hong Kong

"...I hope that in the future will be more love and peace on Earth. That people stop any wars and will not use any weapons. That all the countries will be one big and friendly power...Please remember me and my family... Good luck, descendants!!!"

Alexei, 24, Russia

"...I am a Filipino and my husband is a Syrian Arab. My husband is a Muslim and I am a Christian. I have what others would simply conclude a very complicated life. The strange thing, though, is my family and I don't find our life complicated. And it seems that situations here on earth on this time has the same conclusion as mine. Life is complicated. There seems to be no PEACE between neighboring countries because of boundaries and demarcation lines, properties and economies, population and growth. All in the name of who is much better, more stronger and who is more POWERFUL than the rest. Everyday, you'll read in the newspapers and see on television that NATIONS, COUNTRIES, KINGDOMS who were previously at PEACE are now quarrelling, negotiating with their guns and arms. Producing deaths, hunger and pain to millions of people. And for what??? My message to all of you who would read this, is LIFE IS NOT COMPLICATED, it is simple, it is quiet and it is at peace...."

Beth, 39, The Philippines

« ...The war killed nearly 1,000,000 people in 8 years between Iran & Iraq, then killed 100,000 in Gulf war, now kill 300,000 people in Europe. All war and killing, but future will be good... »

S. 34, Iran

"...Life is a precious thing and we as human beings must cherish what we have now, for it is not all the creatures who have the pleasure of living like us. We humans are the only animals on earth who have the best developed faculty of reason and we must utilize it for the benefit of all beings on this planet.

With the coming millennium, I think all of us must do something positive for ourselves and the next generation in order to preserve what we have built over the years.

Finally, I hope that the satellite will go and return safe to Earth...."

Ngaujake, 23, Namibia

"...My name is Joseph. I am sending greetings from a country called Sri Lanka. This is situated in the Asian continent that is presently the Earth, which is divided into five continents. My country is an island (a piece of land engulfed by water). Here there are two major races called the Singhaleses and Tamils. I belong to Tamil race. Now these two races are fighting because the Singhalese rule Tamils and the Tamils rights are being denied.

But it is ridiculous, we could solve the problem by negotiation. The politicians do not want to do so, b'cos of their selfishness. My kind advice to you all with my bitter experience, do not fight, be friendly, love one another...."

Joseph, 38, Sri Lanka

"...When you desire somebody close to you, but you can't tell her, tell the world instead..."

Steven, 22, Hong Kong

"...I lost my mother in May 27th 1997. I want to tell everyone out there that how much I love my mother and how much I miss her. If she can hear my voice, I love you Mummy and I really miss you...."

Mazhar, 22, Pakistan

"...To the people of my country: I hope that the island will still be here and not under water. Remember what Mark Twain said: Mauritius was made first, then heaven, and God copied heaven to the image of Mauritius. Love your country. Invest in education. Do not encourage communalism. Take lessons from our mistakes..."

Farahnaz, 22, Mauritius

"... Do you have art? Do you revel in music? Do you listen to the cadences of poetry and sigh in happy intoxication? Have you the opportunity of gazing at the Sistine Chapel's ceiling, painted with the most marvelous frescoes by the genius Michelangelo? Seen the enigmatic Mona Lisa by Leonardo da Vinci? Or have you ever heard the amazing vocal acrobatics of opera singers, their voices soaring in splendid arias, reaching that high note and trilling, sustaining it? Or muttered to a lover "Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?" Or beheld a tiger, majestic striped King animal of the Jungle, and whispered "Tiger, tiger, burning bright" and wondered what divine hand could "frame thy fearful symmetry?" (In case you are ignorant of the above lines, they are snatches of poems, by William Shakespeare and William Blake respectively. Do not be mistaken that all poets are named William. There are countless poets in many languages. Some excellent Chinese poetry I cannot translate here for fear of losing their flavour.)..."

Tan, 18, Singapore

"...First of all, this can't be imagined at this time this message will be read after 50,000 of 2001. But by the wish of our God " ALLAH" as Moslems every thing is possible. So if you come to read my message just remember that 50,000 years ago there were human beings living here who have all the feelings but always like the feeling of love as this feeling is an everlasting one, love will never die and stay for ever even after the death of the beloved. I want you to know that despite all the obstacles and circumstances that might stop the flow of love emotion, real love will remain forever. I been in love but due to circumstances of differences between societies rich and poor I could not marry my beloved one..."

Hani, 35, Saudi Arabia

"...Earth now is very beautiful but we are faced by many problems, pollution, wars, and overpopulation are some of the problems we are facing today..."

I'm writing this letter to you because I'm sick of people making war, sick of people polluting. I believe we can solve all these problems if we just put our needs behind and the planet's in front. So please don't make the same mistakes we are making today..."

Ayad, 17, Lebanese living in Kuwait

"... I come from Zhaoqing, Guangdong, China. I am a university student now. I like music and films very much. I like Michael Jackson, Vivien Leigh. I also like basketball, and Michael Jordan is my idol.

Living in the world, one should try every means to be happy. But, of course, you mustn't deprive others' right to happiness. In that case, you'll be eventually sorry and sorrowful, because you'll be punished..."

Ken 20, China

"1...2...3...4...5...6...7...8...9

...I think numbers are the universal symbols of the scientific world. If you know these are numerals used in every computation ever known to the humans of the 21st century, I'm already getting through to you..."

Arden, 19, The Philippines

"...[My father] was born in Iraq in a small village named Kirkuk. His family and him and thousands of other families were evicted from the country for being Jewish. They were transported like cattle to Israel, which just had won its first war against its Arab neighbours. My grandfather had to leave all his wealth and properties in a country which harboured his family for many generations. He had to start a whole new life in poverty in a new country of which he didn't even know the language. There he lived and served his country until he met my mother.

My mother was born in Antwerp, Belgium on 6th of October 1947. She had a pretty normal childhood though she lived in total absence of relatives. All of her relatives were decimated and turned to ashes in the German concentration camps during the second world war. She met my father on a trip to "Terra Sancta" or the Holy Land..."

Rafael, 28, Belgium

"...Actually sometimes I wonder why am I myself. Why am I not the hawkker selling chicken rice down the street, the bus driver or even my good friend Josephine? What is it that causes me to think, analyse or have a conscience? I know scientists will come up with the explanation of neurons, nerves electrical messages and even genes. But is there an explanation that can give me an answer that is more "human" (actually I myself am not very sure what I mean by that. Well it is this feeling that I can't describe.) Sometimes my brother and some of my friends tell me that there is no superior existence, like God. Life is but like a computer and our death can be compared to that of switching off a computer. As much as I try and refuse to let myself be convinced by this theory, I can't help but feel that I am drawn to this belief (I can't find a better word)..."

Ong, 19, Singapore

"... It's not cool to be important, it's important to be cool..."

Peter, 17, Bulgaria

"...Currently, I am 21 years old and look forward to the future. Step after step, like the dew drops dripping off a flower's petals as the first rays of sunshine hit the air, I walk through Time Eternal, guided by my various schemes and plans.

I have planned out my life quite well up till now. Next year, in 2000, I will be graduating in computer science.

But the end of this period is almost over...The door to the long winding stairs leading to the dark, starry night outside is already in sight. My voyage on the dark winding river of life will soon start—no security, no certainty—every moment governed by chaos—but I love it..."

Angelo, 21, Malta

"... Your friend's friend was your friend, your friend's enemy was your enemy, your enemy's friend was your enemy, and your enemy's enemy was your friend. We couldn't understand why our older brothers were so crazy over fast cars and other girls, and why our older sisters wore perfume and make-up..."

Jonathan, 20 Singapore

"...Are those homosexuals still being discriminated? In the Chinese society, homosexuals are regarded as bad, monster like, deteriorated, etc. I hope the situation nowadays is perfect for homosexuals. My lover and I decided to live together for the rest of our life, we are confident, but our parents don't know about it..."

German, 22, Hong Kong

"... At the age of 5, I went to a residential school for the blind, which I regard as one of the greatest blessings of my existence because if I had stayed at home, I would not have had the chance for a decent education. So I am spending my life in expanding this blessing in every way I can..."

Anne, 5 years, USA

"... So I have a prayer for our future generations:

That you treat your children like the precious gifts that they are. Teach them to respect and love themselves, teach them to love, and to be tolerant of each other. We do that by example, because we have learned that children imitate the behaviors that are presented to them, educate them, give them hope, and keep them healthy. Yes, every child is worth the effort..."

Teresa, 46 years, USA

"... Dear Future Beings,

I am writing to you with optimistic hope that you exist, that you have the science and technology to decipher this, and that you have the incentive and freedom to do so. One of my great interests is paleontology. It is ironic that if



my physical remains exist at all now, they are probably in the form of fossils—similar to those fossils that have decorated my home...”

[Chris, 45 years, USA](#)

“... I am 10 years old. I am living in a time that’s 50,000 years apart from your time. You got my letter from a time capsule that floated around in space for 50,000 years! (I’m not lying, really). My letter was in the time capsule with many other letters, photos and a diamond with soil, air, water...”

[Michelle, 10 years, Canada](#)

“... I’ll tell you how to make hamburgers. You need:

1 pound ground lean beef

1 teaspoon salt

1/2 teaspoon pepper

1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

4 tomato slices (if you like them)...”

[Joshua, 10 years, Canada](#)

“... I also think my Dad is very very important because he’s my parent and he means a lot to me. I wouldn’t be able to tie my shoes if I didn’t have him because he taught me how to tie my shoes. My Dad also taught me how to wink, swim, fish and canoe.

I think my Mom is very very important too, because, she gave birth to me. She taught me how to walk and talk, use computers, numbers, sing, write, and to read. I think my Mom is the best mom in the world...”

[Scott, 9 years, Canada](#)

“... Remember what Mark Twain said: Mauritius was made first, then heaven, and God copied heaven to the image of Mauritius. Love your country. Invest in education. Do not encourage communalism. Take lessons from our mistakes...”

[Farahnaz, 22 years, Mauritius](#)

“... First of all, this can’t be imagined at this time this message will be read after 50,000 of 2003. But by the wish of our God " ALLAH" as Moslems every thing is possible. So if you come to read my message just remember that 50,000 years ago there were human beings living here who have all the feelings but always like the feeling of love as this feeling is an everlasting one, love will never die and stay for ever even after the death of the beloved. I want you to know that despite all the obstacles and circumstances that might stop the flow of love emotion, real love will remain forever. I been in love but due to circumstances of differences between societies rich and poor I could not marry my beloved one...”

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“... My mother was born in Antwerp, Belgium on 6th of October 1947. She had a pretty normal childhood though she lived in total absence of relatives. All of her relatives were decimated and turned to ashes in the German concentration camps during the second world war. She met my father on a trip to "Terra Sancta" or the Holy Land...”

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“...Actually sometimes I wonder why am I myself. Why am I not the hawker selling chicken rice down the street, the bus driver or even my good friend Josephine? What is it that causes me to think, analyse or have a conscience? I know scientists will come up with the explanation of neurons, nerves electrical messages and even genes...”

[Ong, 19 years, Singapore](#)

**EXTRACTS OF MESSAGES FOR KEO
FROM THE WORLD IN THEIR NATIVE LANGUAGE**

"...Espero que esten bien y que la tierra haya mejorado en lo social, ambiental, y en lo espiritual..."

E. 36, Argentina (written in Spanish)

... "MIR je jedina stvar koju covek nikad nije imao na zemlji i verovatno nece imati. Zbog svoje prirode covek ce verovatno u buducnosti sam sebe unistiti. Ako ne znate sta znace reci RAT, MRZNJA, NESRECA, onda nemojte da stupate u kontakt sa ljudskom rasom. Te reci su sastavni deo naseg zivota a vama mogu doneti samo nesrecu. Zelim vam mirnu buducnost..."

G. 26, Yugoslavia (written Serbo Croat?)

... "O planeta falava sempre no amor mas fazia a guerra (the planet spoke about love but did war). As pessoas viviam em sempre guerra mas o que queriam era a paz (people always lived in war but what they wanted was peace)..."

Ricardo, 29, Brazil (written Portuguese and English)

... "ich hoffe, dass man mit Hilfe dieser Nachrichten einen einigermaßen genauen Eindruck unserer heutigen Zeit bekommt.

Ich bin eine 17jaehrige Schuelerin aus Oesterreich. Im naechsten Jahr mache ich meine Matura und danach wuerde ich gerne bei Austrian Airlines als Pilotin anfangen. Die meisten meiner Freunde glauben, dass ich das nicht ernst meine, sie lachen mich aus, da es kein typischer Beruf fuer eine Frau ist. Ich glaube, es gibt in Oesterreich nur 5 Pilotinnen von 8mio Einwohnern. Aber das hindert mich nicht daran, mir diesen Traum wahrzumachen.

Zur Zeit geht es bezueglich der Frauenpolitik in Oesterreich etwas chaotisch zu. Die Politiker reden von "Emanzipation", aber trotzdem wuenschen sie die Frauen zurueck an den Herd. Der Unterschied zwischen Mann und Frau wird wohl noch laenger bestehen bleiben. Vielleicht ist dieses Problem bis in euer Zeitalter laengst kein Thema mehr..."

Nicole, 17, Austria (written in German)

... "Espero que a humanidade tenha conseguido preservar as nossas florestas e os animais necessários a nossa sobrevivência. Saibam que nesse momento, o mundo está passando por uma guerra horrível em Kosovo. Novamente o homem está tentando selecionar as raças, a religião que deve ser seguida. As mulheres em todo o mundo sofrem com a discriminação. Há indícios de que as mulheres estão sendo proibidas até mesmo de sair nas ruas, de falarem, de mostrarem os seus rostos. Ainda temos muita fome e miséria no nosso planeta. As nações com conhecimento da ciência e da genética estão esterilizando as sementes para, quem sabe num futuro, serem os donos da alimentação. Ainda temos muitas doenças como a AIDS e o câncer que matam muitas pessoas. Aqui no Brasil, meu país natal, apesar da grande dificuldade financeira que estamos passando, temos liberdade, muitas florestas, o céu é azul, temos água, a temperatura é agradável—em torno de 34 graus, nos divertimos com o futebol e com o carnaval..."

Ana, 36, Brasil (written in Portuguese)

... "Lectori salutem hodie ego homo sapiens cum satisfactione emitto meum gaudium..."

Han, 73, Netherlands (written in Latin)

... "No sabes como me gustaría ver lo que en estos momentos pasa, hace muchos años atras nosotros teníamos muchas esperanzas que muchas cosas desagradables que nos ocurrían cambiasen como por ejemplo: el hambre que mataba a miles de personas en muchos paises de este mundo, las intolerancias raciales que en muchas partes desencadenaba guerras donde muchos inocentes morían, la contaminación que cada vez asesinaba a millones de especies y hacia más dificil la vida en este planeta...pero siempre pensabamos que talves en algunos años íbamos a ser capaces de resolver estos problemas, muchas personas teniamos la esperanza que la cosas malas de este mundo podían arreglarse e incluso muchos personas trabajabamos para que esto ocurriese, espero que esfuerzos de muchas de estas personas anonimas sean recompensados en el futuro en el que vives y que este mundo, que aunque no lo creas yo tambien viví pero hace muchisimos años atras, es el lugar que soñamos..."

V. 24, Chile (written in Spanish)

... "Rakastakaa toisianne älkääkä yrittäkö elää ikuisesti.

Love each others and don't try to live forever..."

P. 27, Finland (written in Finnish and English)

Botella Al Cielo

... "El día en que cumplo
Sesenta años
Y ya en los umbrales
Del siglo veintiuno,
Yo te saludo,
Hermano,
Tendiendo mi mano
A través de los abismos
De tiempo.
¿Lo comprenderas?
Eso espero."

Alma, Argentina (written in Spanish)

... "Esperanto estas ne nur lingvo, sed profunda volo ami, paci, fratumi kaj intershanghi ideojn kune kun iu ajn en la mondo. Fido estas nia kredo..."

Aline, 24, France (written in Esperanto)

... "Sono u ragazzo di 19 anni che è tremendamente innamorato di Vittoria, la mia ragazza. Per lei stravedo, la amo alla follia. Il problema è che non ci possiamo vedere spesso. Pensando a lei ho scritto queste poesie. Spero che, quando le leggerete, l'amore esiste ancora e non sia stato sostituito da qualche marchingengo elettronico che tenta di dare le stesse emozioni..."

Davide, 18, Sicity (written in Italian)

"...No se si para esa fecha donde se encuentre esta informacion tenga algun descendiente o quede ninguna, y si seran personas inteligentes o por el contrario la raza humana retrocedio, me gustaria imaginar tengo algun descendiente y que la humanidad progreso tanto que no existen fronteras y que el mundo vive en paz, asi mismo que se han logrado superar asuntos ignorados por nosotros ahora como es el inicio de la vida en la tierra, la creacion del universo, confirmar la existencia de otras civilizaciones en otros mundo y que se puedan realizar viajes interplanetarioa en tiempos muy cortos. Asi mismo que se tenga una mejor vision de lo significo la religion para el mundo, dudo mucho que ya exista la religion para ese entonces, yo mismo no creo en acciones divinas ni santos..."

David, 34, Peru (written in Spanish)

"Hola Gente

Por favor cuiden el planeta! No lo destruyan. No olviden que son humanos y son capaces de cualquier cosa que quieran lograr..."

Vicente, 25, Ecuador (written in Spanish)

... "Carissimi amici dell'anno 50000, spero davvero che queste parole vi possano giungere e che qualcuno abbia la possibilita e la voglia di leggerle. In questo caso quello di cui voglio parlare sarà sicuramente di attualità : l'uomo. Non ho bisogno di sapere quale è stata la vostra storia, di sapere come vivete e come la pensate, so soltanto che la vostra vita è improntata sulle stesse tracce della mia, e che come me provate piacere e gioia, dolore e sofferenza. Inoltre ognuno di voi ha un problema da risolvere che per la sua complessità e per la sua mutevolezza si presta difficilmente ad essere trattata o compresa in modo organico: la propria vita.

Ebbene, nonostante io sia l'ultima persona che può insegnare qualcosa, il mio messaggio è : stante la inesorabile complessità del problema di cui sopra la soluzione si può trovare solo con una chiave così semplice da essere banale : amore. Amore per la natura, per gli animali, per i nostri simili, per i nostri figli, per noi stessi.... "

Mauro, 32, Italy

... "Is tir an-bheag í Eire ach is tir le stair an-shuimiúl í. Nuair a bhí mé bheo bhí an tir scoilte i dhá leath, and tuaisceart agus and deisceart. Ní dogha liom go mbeidh sé fós mar sin nuair a fhaigheann sibhse é seo ach is scéal an-shuimiúl é. I 1920 bhí fuar Deiscear na hÉireann saoirse ón mBreatain ach bhí an Tuaisceart fós faoi smacht acu agus as sin a tháining na troiblóidí go léir. Is scéal ró-fhada é ach tá súil agam go bhfuil gach rud sáisiúl anois..."

Ronan, 20, Ireland (written in Gaelic (Gaelic))

... "Nil fhios agam cad a tharlóidh ag geailge, ach taim chun scriobh ina i gcomhair an craic! nil fhios agam chomh maith da bmeadh é seo leabhunt. Ach ta fhios agam rud amhain. ni more odm a ra go bhuil sé tabhachtach peace a camad inar dohmain, ach is leor a ra is wish gach duine go bhfuil se ann nuair ata tu ag leabh é seo. Ta eagla are gach duine anios go mbeadh gach rud críochnaithe i cupla bliana. bomb nucleacht, angus rud mar sin..."

Simon, 17, Ireland (written in Gaelic (Gaelic))

... "QUERIDOS HABITANTES DE LA TIERRA!!!

Les escribo este mensaje hoy 31 de agosto del 2000 con la esperanza que lo reciban dentro de 50 mil años !!! ... Para entonces, no quedará ni polvo de nosotros, pero aún así hoy les deseo que vivan en paz, felicidad y armonía unos con otros. Ojalá vivan dignamente en un mundo donde todos tengan derecho a ser cada día mejores. Les pido tengan confianza y amistad en el género humano que ha sido capaz de desarrollar la ciencia a niveles insospechados. Quiero también que tengan el valor suficiente para enfrentar las injusticias que aún puedan quedar en el mundo. Que tengan, además, compasión por los seres más débiles: niños, enfermos y ancianos. Finalmente que tengan fe en el mejoramiento humano y en hacer del planeta Tierra un mundo cada vez más hermoso!!!

Oscar, 50, Cuba (written in Spanish)

"...Dit is half ongelooflik om te dink dat hierdie boodskap moontlik oor 50,000 jaar deur iemand gelees kan word. Sal die mensdom werklik nog so lank bestaan? Oor 50,000 jaar sal die mens seker al groot dele van ons sonnestelsel beset, en moontlik ook al met mense van planete buite die sonnestelsel verbinding gemaak het.

Ek wonder of die mens nog in God sal glo ^ besef die mens dat God die Skepper van hemel en aarde is? Goed vir dié wat Christene is, jammer vir die wat nie glo nie!

Sou die mens al meer vredeliewend en kalm geword het, of is hulle nog in die proses om mekaar dood te maak ^ soos barbare 5,000 jaar gelede.

Al wat ek verder kan sê is, jy moet jou naaste soos jouself lief hê, en God bo alles. Hy is die wese wat ons geskep het, en sal bepaal of iemand oor 50,000 jaar hierdie boodskap lees.

Vrede aan julle almal, en mag God se genade met julle wees...."

Johan 47, Namibia (written in Afrikaans)