

THE WORLD KEPT MOVING



1Earthling

Generational Shift

The World Kept Moving

2026 – 2027

The World Kept Moving

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SHE LEFT AT TWELVE



Series ID: GS01-01

Mum mixed up the morning batter
Standing by the kitchen heat
Pikelets cooking on the girdle
Then stacked upon the plate

Dad drove from house to house
Pikelets packed beside the seat
Driving down the bush tracks
And up the mountain roads

They all worked from day to day
Different roads but much the same
What they earned, what they knew
Carried them the whole way through

The line kept moving year by year
But no one called it out
One step further than before
Till old ways didn't hold the same

She left at twelve. No school now.
She wasn't the only one.
Hair tied up, shoes on
Caught the early line to town

Lunch wrapped in wax paper
Coin purse folded in her coat
Arrives at the shop on time
Ready for the day's work

She learned how to wrap shoes
Tie the boxes up with string
Sweep the floor before the close
Wipe the dust from everything

Boxes stacked and dusting done
Still time to make the train
Same ride home past tired shops
Same path six times a week

They all worked from day to day
Different roads but much the same
What they earned, what they knew
Carried them the whole way through

The line kept moving year by year
But no one called it out
One step further than before
Till old ways didn't hold the same

Returning to the canvas walls
Fruits of their labor there
Shared meals, news and hopes
For the life they were making

Nobody called it falling short
Nobody asked for anything more
That was just the way things were
Back before the rules moved on

They all worked from day to day
Different roads but much the same
What they earned, what they knew
Carried them the whole way through

The line kept moving year by year
But no one called it out
One step further than before
Till old ways didn't hold the same

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YEAR TEN WAS ENOUGH



Series ID: GS01-02

People planned from year to year
Believed the road ahead was clear
What was enough not long ago
Now didn't open up that door

The line kept moving quietly
And no one saw its pace
Same towns, same halls, same working lives
But they all didn't stay the same

Dad worked in the Main Roads Office
Same desk through the years
People talked of jobs for life
It seemed that's how it was

Most left after year ten
Found their place and settled in
Nobody talked much about
Life after school was done

Then the notice boards went up
Year twelve now for office work
Decisions now had to be made
To be more than assistant clerk

Some stayed on two more years
Some just left, took what came
Nobody called it good or bad
Something just quietly changed

People planned from year to year
Believed the road ahead was clear
What was enough not long ago
Now didn't open up that door

The line kept moving quietly
And no one saw its pace
Same towns, same halls, same working lives
But they all didn't stay the same

Maintenance workers in sheds
Trains shunting in the yard.
Crews ready the engines
Before heading for the lines

Railway office main depot
The center of the hive
Weekly hours marked and totaled
Mental arithmetic was just fine

Pay packets counted out by hand
Worker numbers stamped in red
One man counted, one checked through
The money then placed in tins

Each face it had a number
and all their faces we did know
Fatty Vautin's dad was 5 2 8
Standing there in line

People planned from year to year
Believed the road ahead was clear
What was enough not long ago
Now didn't open up that door

The line kept moving quietly
And no one saw its pace
Same towns, same halls, same working lives
But they all didn't stay the same

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THE PAPER MOVED HIGHER



Series ID: GS01-03

The paper moved a little higher
Another form to fill back then
One more process to complete
Just to reach the work ahead

Most just followed the path
Same as people often do
Nobody talked about it much
Was just what you had to do

What once opened doors
Now needed something more
People climbed from year to year
Thinking something waited there

The line kept moving quietly
One more step above the last
Things changing beneath them
As life just carried on

Some left town to keep climbing
Suitcase packed then out the door
Trains running toward the city
Leaving behind all they knew

Shared kitchens, rented bedrooms
Rostered shifts to pay the bills
Study notes spread on the table
Trying hard to keep up still

What once opened doors before
Now needed something more
People climbed from year to year
Thinking something waited there

The line kept moving quietly
One more step above the last
Things changing beneath them
As life just carried on

Calculators replaced slide rules
The Walkman was all the rage
One-line screens on keyboards
Now words moved before the page

Folders slowly turned to systems
Workplaces began to shift
Nobody could see completely
Where the changes would lead

What once opened doors before
Now needed something more
People climbed from year to year
Thinking something waited there

The line kept moving quietly
One more step above the last
Things changing beneath them
As life just carried on

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LEAVING TOWN FOR STUDY



Series ID: GS01-04

A few possessions in a suitcase
Dad's advice went on and on
Mum hugged for the longest time
The train left early Monday

Town shrinking by the window
Past the mill and football ground
Nobody called it leaving home
Just the next step along the road

The paper moved a little higher
Further than the town could reach
People followed where it pointed
For opportunities found there

Some found freedom in the distance
Some just learned to live alone
Doors kept opening a little further
Every year that followed on

Shared walls and unfamiliar voices
Names written on the fridge
One bloke never washed his dishes
Left them sitting by the sink

Roster pinned beside the doorway
Late night shifts, morning trains
Assignments stacked by the kettle
Trying not to fall behind

The paper moved a little higher
Further than the town could reach
People followed where it pointed
For opportunities found there

Some found freedom in the distance
Some just learned to live alone
Doors kept opening a little further
Every year that followed on

Nobody said when to sleep now
Nobody checked if you got home
Some nights lasted until morning
Life discussed, plans revealed

Extra shoes beside the hallway
Someone sleeping on the couch
People drifting through each other
While the world kept opening out

The paper moved a little higher
Further than the town could reach
People followed where it pointed
For opportunities found there

Some found freedom in the distance
Some just learned to live alone
Doors kept opening a little further
Every year that followed on

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SHARED WALLS



Series ID: GS01-05

First few weeks felt unfamiliar
Phone calls home then quiet again
Same four walls each night around them
Traffic drifting through the dark

Someone asked if they were coming
Down to dinner with the rest
Plastic chairs around the kitchen
Faces slowly settling in

Nobody stayed around forever
People drifted room to room
Some were studying for futures
Others just passing through

Late night talks around the kitchen
Different towns, different plans
For a while they built a scaffold
Support for who they'd each become

Same two people sat together
Most lectures through the week
One saved seats beside the window
The other shared their notes

Coffee cups between the classes
Walking back through city streets
Names and faces growing familiar
Till the place began to shift

Nobody stayed around forever
People drifted room to room
Some were studying for futures
Others just passing through

Late night talks around the kitchen
Different towns, different plans
For a while they built a scaffold
Support for who they'd each become

Someone moved away by winter
Another took their empty room
Boxes stacked beside the doorway
Then gone again by Sunday noon

People drifted in beside them
Then disappeared the same way too
Still for a while they held each other
Steady while life moved through

Nobody stayed around forever
People drifted room to room
Some were studying for futures
Others just passing through

Late night talks around the kitchen
Different towns, different plans
For a while they built a scaffold
Support for who they'd each become

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LEARNING NEW SYSTEMS



Series ID: GS01-06

Someone brought a computer home
Set it up in their room
Floppy disks stacked by the screen
Green text glowing in the dark

They'd type a line then hit enter
Wait to see what happened next
Nobody talked about it much
Just another thing to learn

Most just saw the next small change
As something added to the desk
Some were already looking further
Trying systems no one knew

Different lanes forming quietly
Now running side by side
Some still learning old systems
While the next had already grown

Twenty megabytes felt endless
People laughed, shook their heads
"No one's ever filling one of those"
This will last me all my life.

Manuals stacked beside the keyboard
Passwords stuck to the screen
Some stayed back after office hours
Trying hard to make it all work

Most just saw the next small change
As something added to the desk
Some were already looking further
Trying systems no one knew

Different lanes forming quietly
Now running side by side
Some still learning old systems
While the next had already grown

Tetris played between spreadsheets
Prince of Persia after dark
Work and home were slowly mixing
Lines no longer standing still

Disks arrived through the mail
Passed from desk to desk at work
People stayed awake much longer
Waiting for the screens to load

Tom stayed back running programs
Numbers scrolling down the screen
Nobody quite knew what he saw
Still he stayed there working late

Instructions scribbled on notepads
Printer paper on the floor
Everyone just worked around it
Till the next thing came along

Most just saw the next small change
As something added to the desk
Some were already looking further
Trying systems no one knew

Different lanes forming quietly
Now running side by side
Some still learning old systems
While the next had already grown

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THE LIGHTS STAYED ON



Series ID: GS01-07

Screens stayed on much longer
Blue light glowing in the room
Dial tones singing in the night
Long after the house went quiet

Someone sitting in the darkness
Waiting for the page to load
Nobody called it life changing
Was just another place to go

People still met at coffee shops
Walked home on Friday nights
But the world just kept opening
Somewhere glowing out of sight

Some still living town to town
Others talking world to world
Screens stayed on a little longer
People drifting somewhere new

Tom talked simulation systems
Linked directly to the plant
Nobody quite knew what he meant
Nor understood what he did

Most wondered what's an Internet
Some were already living there
Passing messages to each other
From half way around the world

People still met at coffee shops
Walked home on Friday nights
But the world just kept opening
Somewhere glowing out of sight

Some still living town to town
Others talking world to world
Screens stayed on a little longer
People drifting somewhere new

People stayed up downloading slowly
Watching numbers crawl all night
Downloads failing half completed
Still they tried the next night too

Phone lines humming in the darkness
Long after the town went still
Physical distance still existed
Yet the rooms felt less alone

People still met at coffee shops
Walked home on Friday nights
But the world just kept opening
Somewhere glowing out of sight

Some still living town to town
Others talking world to world
Screens stayed on a little longer
People drifting somewhere new

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CONNECTED BY A SCREEN



Series ID: GS01-08

Phones grew smaller year by year
Fitting in a pocket now
Calls arriving through the day
Messages back and forth

People hurried home daily
Friends to meet online
Nobody thought about it much
Just another thing to do

People going out together
Seeing films and bands at night
But lives were slowly changing
Quietly beneath it all

Some still held to older rhythms
Others somewhere on the screen
The world became a little closer
When connected by a screen

Profiles built in bedrooms
Songs playing across the page
Photos changed each weekend
Worldwide connections made

Old school friends appearing
People talking after years
Lives unfolding on screens
For all the world to see

People going out together
Seeing films and bands at night
But lives were slowly changing
Quietly beneath it all

Some still held to older rhythms
Others somewhere on the screen
The world became a little closer
When connected by a screen

Dinner finished, friends waiting
Messages through the evening
People stayed online longer
Socialising late at night

Distance slowly lost its meaning
Changing into something new
People stayed connected longer
With an online life they grew

Tom still worked behind systems
Servers humming through the night
Most just watched social changes
He watched the structure grow

Signal towers climbed hillsides
Networks spread town to town
Most still never saw the systems
Quietly growing underground

People going out together
Seeing films and bands at night
But lives were slowly changing
Quietly beneath it all

Some still held to older rhythms
Others somewhere on the screen
The world became a little closer
When connected by a screen

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THE FEED KEPT MOVING



Series ID: GS01-09

Phones lit up by conversations
Buzzing softly through the day
People stopped in doorways
Reading messages right there

Photos taken without thought
Meals and moments shared online
Nobody planned what happened
Just going with the flow

People stayed in watching series
Building playlists in the night
The feed moving every minute
Names and faces sliding past

Some still lived a private life
Others lived there on the screen
Most stayed constantly connected
As the feed moved on and on

People filming at concerts
Holding phones above the crowd
Others taking video calls
Walking slowly down the street

Notifications all the time
There was so much to know
People filling silences
Scrolling late in the night

People stayed in watching series
Building playlists in the night
The feed moving every minute
Names and faces sliding past

Some still lived a private life
Others lived there on the screen
Most stayed constantly connected
As the feed moved on and on

Streaming shows not channels
Music living in the cloud
Shops and taxis on apps
Everything arrived online

Work became more temporary
Jobs appearing screen to screen
Ratings followed behind you
Long after shifts ended

Tom still worked behind systems
Watching networks stretch and grow
Most just lived inside platforms
He maintained information flow

Influencers filming scenes
Even when nothing changed
People watched in numbers
Tom just couldn't understand it

People stayed in watching series
Building playlists in the night
The feed moving every minute
Names and faces sliding past

Some still lived a private life
Others lived there on the screen
Most stayed constantly connected
As the feed moved on and on

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EVERYTHING ONLINE



Series ID: GS01-10

Paper maps stayed in glove boxes
Phone books gathered dust
People stopped keeping directions
Everything just a search away

Tickets lived inside phones
Banking moved behind screens
Most followed where it led them
Life always there on hand

Everything moved online slowly
One small piece at a time
Things once spread across town
Now lived behind a login

Some still kept old routines
Others never looked behind
A world growing beneath them
Everything online

Music collections disappeared
Streaming libraries took their place
Movies waiting when you wanted
No need to wait another week

Shopping happened after dinner
Parcels arriving at the door
People stopped noticing changes
That would have been strange before

Everything moved online slowly
One small piece at a time
Things once spread across town
Now lived behind a login

Some still kept old routines
Others never looked behind
A world growing beneath them
Everything online

Services became subscriptions
Files no longer stayed at home
People rented what they needed
Rarely keeping what they owned

Accounts linked to other accounts
Passwords multiplied each year
Life collected behind logins
Was now the price to play

Tom worked amongst cloud systems
Carefully tending his garden
Most just saw fruits of labour
He watched new systems grow

What was once behind curtains
Shaped the lives people knew
Quietly becoming normal
As old ways lagged behind

Everything moved online slowly
One small piece at a time
Things once spread across town
Now lived behind a login

Some still kept old routines
Others never looked behind
A world growing beneath them
Everything online
But still alive

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DIFFERENT WORLDS



Series ID: GS01-11

People followed different pages
Different voices every day
Stories travelling the networks
Each finding their own way

Neighbours sitting side by side
Reading very different things
Conversations felt familiar
Yet arrived at different ends

People are connected closer
More than ever in the past
Yet the world seemed larger
Than it ever was before

Some saw one thing in headlines
Others something different there
Standing in the same room talking
But seeing very different worlds

Families gathered round tables
Conversations drifting wide
People sharing links and stories
Certain they knew the truth

Friends who once agreed
Now saw things differently
Nobody knew when it happened
Only they'd drifted apart

People are connected closer
More than ever in the past
Yet the world seemed larger
Than it ever was before

Some saw one thing in headlines
Others something different there
Standing in the same room talking
But seeing very different worlds

Information kept arriving
Leading people down new roads
Communities formed around ideas
Growing stronger day by day

People found their own reflections
Mirrored back from every screen
The same events unfolding nightly
Viewed as very different scenes

Tom still worked in the systems
Watching traffic move around
Most just saw another message
Moving through another feed

He saw the links connecting
In every corner of the world
Yet as people connected more
The more they seemed to disagree

People are connected closer
More than ever in the past
Yet the world seemed larger
Than it ever was before

Some saw one thing in headlines
Others something different there
Standing in the same room talking
But seeing very different worlds

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FINDING SMALLER CIRCLES



Series ID: GS01-12

People left larger platforms
Looking for familiar names
Small communities forming
Around common interests

Neighbours met for coffee
Local groups began to grow
People now trusted faces
Not headlines on a screen

The world kept moving faster
Changes arriving everyday
Some stopped following everything
Choosing a smaller place to stay

Not everyone was searching wider
Some search nearer home
Seeking smaller circles
A place they felt understood

Messages kept arriving
Feeds kept moving everyday
Yet people spent more time together
With those living close at hand

Shared projects in local spaces
People teaching what they knew
Trust rebuilt in smaller moments
Regaining what was lost anew

The world kept moving faster
Changes arriving everyday
Some stopped following everything
Choosing a smaller place to stay

Not everyone was searching wider
Some search nearer home
Seeking smaller circles
A place they felt understood

New tools appeared regularly
Some adopted them at once
Others waited, watched and listened
Learning when the time felt right

Tom still worked behind systems
Watching interactions change
If it helped people used it
All the rest they left behind

Nobody could hold it all
There was simply far too much
People picked threads that mattered
Letting all the rest drift by

The world never stopped changing
It didn't wait for anyone
So people changed their pace
And who they listened to

The world kept moving faster
Changes arriving everyday
Some stopped following everything
Choosing a smaller place to stay

Not everyone was searching wider
Some search nearer home
Seeking smaller circles
A place they felt understood

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STILL LEARNING



Series ID: GS01-13

Tom packed up his desk
Carried boxes to his car
People thanked him for his service
For all the years he put in there

Systems carried on without him
Just as they were built to do
Worlds he watched for a lifetime
Still evolved, still grew

Nobody ever reached the ending
There was always more to know
Every generation learning
What the last one never knew

Some things changed beyond belief
Others not so much at all
The world kept moving forward
Still adapting, learning anew

Children grew up with systems
Never knowing life before
What was once ground-breaking
Now just another tool

Questions never really vanished
Only changed from year to year
People still adapting
To the changes drawing near

Nobody ever reached the ending
There was always more to know
Every generation learning
What the last one never knew

Some things changed beyond belief
Others not so much at all
The world kept moving forward
Still adapting, learning anew

Curiosity kept Tom moving
Opening paths he'd not seen
Still he watched people changing
And finding meaning as they did

He sat down and started writing
Songs about the years gone by
Not to teach or sound a warning
Just a record of days past

Nobody ever reached the ending
There was always more to know
Every generation learning
What the last one never knew

Some things changed beyond belief
Others not so much at all
The world kept moving forward
Still adapting, learning anew

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