

2050

2050 is the time I arrived back on earth. I had no sense of where I was or for that matter how I got there. All I could recollect was that there was an innate need of mine to escape and travel to the future as a way of accepting, coping and coming to terms with the world I escaped from. The future world doesn't seem that far away in reality. What was important for me was to be in another time and space, where I could feel at ease with myself. I arrived in a country called Khadistan, where the air was clean and the available water was as pure as one would want without being adulterated by impurities. The architecture was minimalist, basic and with all the amenities one would want. Solar panels provided power and we survived on sustainable food we sought from local people given that we formed a collective cooperative way of living and being. There was a sustained commitment towards equality, which translated not merely to political rhetoric but actual implementation and support to those most vulnerable and unable to survive. Covid gave rise to an increased conciseness among many and in particular about the marginalized and disenfranchised. Solidarity among many gave rise to resistance towards maintain the status quo, whereby the privileged few could enjoy the luxury of having choices in life. Greater equality and appropriate representation were critical in making political as well as social care a reality for many not just the few. There was a greater emphasis on living cooperatively and collectively. This was a change both politically and within society, awakened to address inequalities in how societies lived and flourished together, rather than on an individualistic basis. This change only occurred with the impact of the covid virus, which specifically highlighted stark inequalities simply on the basis of your class, gender, faith and ethnicity. enabled individuals to move towards creating the change needed. My fantasy of the future in a world that feels much more equal, remains a fantasy and am disappointed, asking myself why I was so deluded in thinking and feeling that inherently there is good among all of humanity. I continues to feel nothing much has changed that the privileged few continue to rule at the cost of many. All we have done is enhance the under class even further and created many more lords of poverty to hold power over the majority. I wanted a future whereby I was able to give much more than I have been able and yet, every opportunity for me to engage and enter a world where I can be involved and contribute meaningfully has increasingly been restricted. Solidarity through building coalitions with like minded individuals and communities was the only way to create the kind of shift's and changes I wanted to happen. This felt hard but not impossible and felt good contributing to the kind of future I wanted for myself and others. I had the energy, enthusiasm and commitment to work towards change. It felt like a consistent struggle but something worth investing in personally towards crating change I wanted, rather than accept and go back to a world as it was. The virus provides us an opportunity to create a new way of living and being with each other as human beings. Let us not squander this and use it as an opportunity for real change. If we do not learn from the experiences we have had in the present moment, then we will have learned little about the degree of complicity and our collective responsibility. The outcomes of this are a stark reminder of an unequal world we occupy. If you need any further reminders, then look at the over representation those severely impacted and most vulnerable. They are people of colour working on front line services who need the resources and jobs in order to sustain themselves. Racism, class and gender come to mind, along with unconscious bias which plays itself out. No we do not need any further evidence nor any new policies or strategies to create the change we want. We have plenty of these. What we need is change to redress

institutional and structural barriers that prevent change. What we also need are resources to be distributed equally and for individuals, institutionally to be able to be given opportunities to flourish