

## Postcard 1 — Bangkok: The Amphibious City



**Date:** August 12, 2050

**Location:** Bangkok Metropolitan Flood Zone

Bangkok did not disappear, but it changed in ways that are impossible to ignore. Rising sea levels, land subsidence, and stronger monsoon storm surges have turned large parts of the city into permanent flood zones. The Chao Phraya River no longer has clear banks, instead it blends into streets and canals across entire districts. Saltwater has contaminated groundwater supplies, and mangrove ecosystems have slowly moved inland as coastlines retreat.

The biggest changes are human. Millions moved north decades ago as flooding became normal rather than temporary. Insurance systems collapsed once flooding became constant. Wealthier areas adapted through elevated housing, flood barriers, and floating infrastructure, but poorer communities were forced to relocate. Extreme heat has made daytime outdoor work dangerous for much of the year, forcing schools and businesses to shift schedules. Bangkok still functions, but it is now a city built around water rather than protected from it.

From somewhere between a canal and a street,  
— Your Future Self

## Postcard 2 — Kiribati: The Country That Had to Leave



**Date:** March 2, 2050

**Location:** South Tarawa Evacuation Processing Zone

Kiribati was always vulnerable, with most land less than two metres above sea level, but accelerating sea-level rise made long-term settlement impossible. King tides began flooding communities monthly. Saltwater destroyed crops and contaminated freshwater lenses. Over time, sea walls and raised housing slowed the impacts but could not stop them.

Forced migration became reality. Families moved through planned relocation schemes to Fiji, New Zealand, and Australia. The greatest loss was not just land, but identity. Burial grounds, community meeting spaces, and ancestral villages were abandoned. Young people prepared for lives abroad, while older generations struggled with the emotional cost of leaving their homeland. Kiribati became one of the world's first nations where climate change forced an entire population to plan for relocation.

"We are not refugees. We are a nation without land."

From a country that now exists mostly in memory,  
— Your Future Self

## Postcard 3 — Bangladesh: The Frontline of Survival



**Date:** October 18, 2050

**Location:** Dhaka Megacity Expansion Zone

Bangladesh has spent decades adapting to climate change, but the pressures never stopped increasing. Sea-level rise pushed saltwater into rice-growing regions, reducing crop yields and contaminating drinking water. More intense cyclones increased storm surge flooding, destroying homes and farmland. At the same time, heat and humidity increased disease risk, with dengue and water-borne diseases becoming year-round threats.

Migration reshaped the country. Millions moved inland and into cities like Dhaka, causing rapid expansion of informal housing. Bangladesh became a global leader in adaptation technology, including floating agriculture and advanced early warning systems, but population density limits how far adaptation can go. Bangladesh did not collapse, but survival requires constant innovation and resilience.

From one of the most climate-resilient nations on Earth,  
— Your Future Self

## Postcard 4 — The Arctic: The New Global Battleground



**Date:** January 9, 2050

**Location:** Northern Sea Route Shipping Corridor

The Arctic Ocean is no longer permanently frozen. Seasonal ice loss opened major global shipping routes, reducing travel time between Asia and Europe and transforming global trade. New oil and gas extraction and commercial fishing expanded rapidly into newly accessible waters.

These changes created intense geopolitical competition. Russia controls key shipping corridors. China invested heavily in Arctic infrastructure. NATO countries expanded military monitoring. At the same time, Indigenous Arctic communities lost traditional hunting routes and coastal settlements to erosion and unstable ice. The Arctic became a symbol of climate paradox: economic opportunity created by environmental loss.

From the world's newest geopolitical hotspot,  
— Your Future Self

## Postcard 5 — The Graveyard of the Reefs



**Date:** June 21, 2050

**Location:** Andaman Sea Reef Monitoring Station

Coral reefs declined gradually before collapsing. Repeated bleaching events, ocean acidification, and pollution weakened reef ecosystems until recovery became impossible. Fish populations declined sharply, removing a major protein source for coastal populations and weakening natural coastal storm protection.

Fishing communities lost income. Tourism collapsed in many regions. Some coastal populations migrated inland as livelihoods disappeared. Reef loss was not only ecological, it was economic and cultural. Entire coastal identities were built around reef ecosystems. Losing reefs meant losing food security, storm protection, and traditional ways of life.

From an ocean that once glowed with colour,  
– Your Future Self

## Postcard 6 — The Sahel: The Moving Desert



**Date:** May 14, 2050

**Location:** Southern Niger, Sahel Transition Zone

The Sahel used to be a transition zone between desert and savanna. Climate change turned it into the frontline of desert expansion. Rainfall became unpredictable, sometimes absent, sometimes arriving as destructive storms that stripped soil away. Rising temperatures increased evaporation, while deforestation accelerated land degradation.

Communities adapted for years through drought-resistant crops and solar-powered water systems, but eventually many were forced to move. Farmers became herders. Herders moved south. Competition for water and grazing land increased conflict risk. Migration became a survival strategy, with many moving to coastal cities or attempting migration to Europe. The Sahel did not suddenly collapse, but it slowly became harder to live in each year.

From the edge of the expanding desert,  
– Your Future Self

