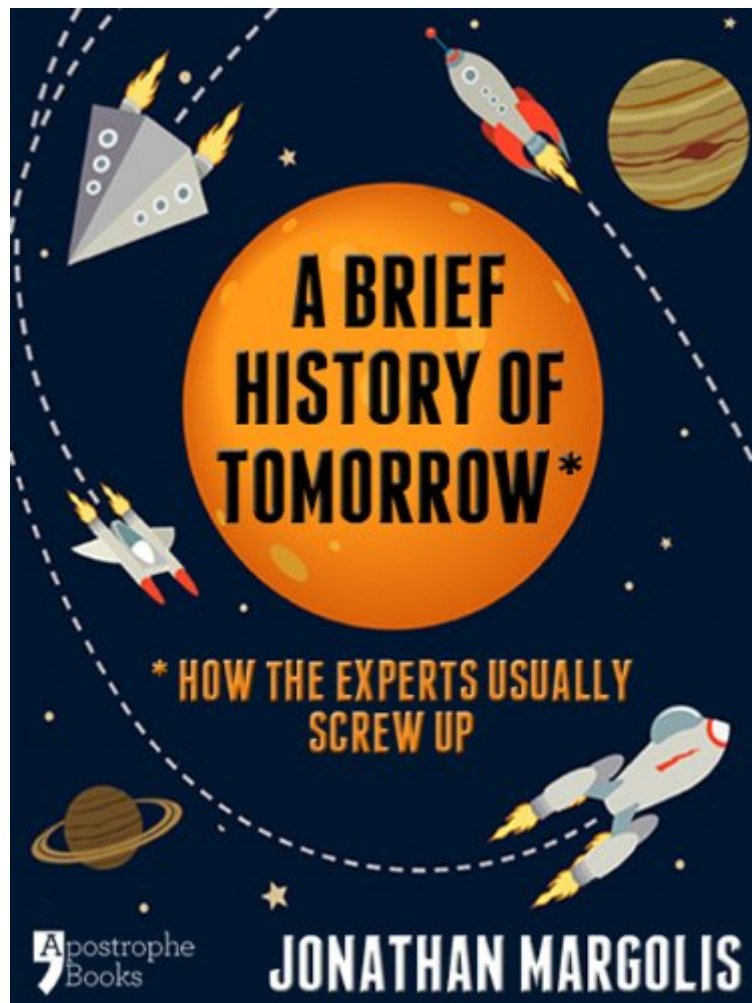




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A Brief History Of Tomorrow: How The Experts Usually Screw Up (Future Forecasting)



Synopsis

A fascinating look at the future, as you've never seen it. Ten years from now, will we have a tiny personal computer surgically inserted in an earlobe, capable of connecting to phone lines and the internet? Fifty years from now, will atomic-sized robots replace surgeons? A hundred years from now, instead of taking the bus, will we simply teleport to work? It all may sound like impossible science fiction, but not too long ago, so did walking on the moon. Journalist Jonathan Margolis interviews leading thinkers in such fields as genetics, medicine, neurobiology, quantum physics, robotics, computer science, and space travel to explore where we're going, and what it will look like when - and if - we get there. Beginning with famously flawed past visions of the future - among them H.G. Wells, George Orwell, Arthur C. Clarke, Stephen Hawking, and Bill Gates - Margolis examines many of the strange and tempting futures that may lie in store for us. Politics, society, religion, and work are all destined for great changes. What might they be? How will they come about? Thought-provoking, amusing, and absolutely original, *A Brief History of Tomorrow* is a deliciously compelling look at something we all spend a lot of time contemplating: the future.

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Customer Reviews

The book takes a tour through what might be expected in the future according to various futurologists: academic scholars, technologist, and writers. It looks at what the past futurologists have successfully predicted, and then at what is presently predicted, and to extent whether the author thinks they will be right. The author is Jonathan Maroglis, a journalist for some of Britainâ™s foremost magazines. After covering the past futurologists and their predictions, Margolis moves on to the present futurologists. He goes on to discuss the possible future of the environment, including global warming, pollution, and natural disasters, such as an asteroid strike or a super volcano eruption. Following this he goes over the future of the human body with a discussion of genetic engineering. The next topic is the future of the human mind, including artificial intelligence, and the possible merging of mind and machine. The future of home and work is next. How will we work, and how we will live are looked at. The next area of discussion is the future of leisure, involving how paradoxically we will both work more and have more time for leisure. The future of politics and society may well be more democracy and globalization spurred on by American culture. In the future travel maybe similar to what we have today with maybe human exploration of Mars. The final frontier would be spirituality, which may gain from the emptiness of future life with machines in charge and to much leisure time for succeeding generations. Sometimes I wish he had got the science better. In a section devote to the advancement of women in society it is said that women have a greater role due to greater reliance on the visual today.

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