

SEVEN SIBLINGS FROM THE FUTURE



[Easy Access Guide](#)

Seven Siblings from the Future

It's a summer day in the future. In southern Australia there is a place called Eucalara. The climate is changing at Eucalara. Climate refugees started arriving a long time ago, there are new animals travelling, and water is rare. This is where seven siblings live.

The siblings great-grandmother gave them this land, but they don't know what to do with it. They each think differently about what makes life and the future good.

Come and meet them. You can make choices that change their lives. SEVEN SIBLINGS FROM THE FUTURE asks what sort of future we want for South Australia. We think about our personal values and decisions. How do these impact our community?

Ava's Test

Ava has been genetically engineered to be intelligent. Ava's parents were hoping they would become a scientist, but Ava wants to go to space. As an Austronaut (Australian astronaut), team work is really important. Other people frustrate Ava, so it's not always easy. Now, the last test for Austronaut school needs Ava to work in a group and they might fail. Can you practice together?

Will we all be genetically engineered astronauts?

The space industry is growing in Australia. The Australian Space Agency (ASA) wants there to be 30,000 people working for them in the next 20 years. We need engineers and technicians, but also lawyers and communications specialists.

By the time the ASA is up and running will we be genetically engineering our children to be super smart?

Playing with DNA has gotten much easier and cheaper. It cost \$100 million in 2001 to record DNA, but today it can cost as little as \$1300. Reading DNA is one thing, what if people want to change it?

A technology called CRISPR is used to edit DNA. It can be used to cure genetic disorders, but could also make us smarter or better at sport. Most people are happy to cure disease, but don't like the other ideas as much.

For now, visit Ava in space. Help them to pass the test and decide what career in space to choose.

Julia's Stash

The environment is changing and animals are migrating to new places. Julia is worried. With more bushfires, they have built a safe house and are stocking up to survive. Everyone thinks Julia is worried for no reason, but maybe we all should be worried.

A new, hotter home

Climate change is the biggest issue facing Australia. The temperature will change. It will rain less. There will be natural disasters. Our environment will need to change to survive. We don't know what will happen yet, but we do know that there are lots of changes we can make both as people and globally that can help.

You might know the general gist. Temperatures will rise by up to 4°C by 2050. This works out to over 85 days above 30°C in Adelaide (it used to be 49 days). We won't have much of a winter.

The hotter temperature will warm the ocean, melting ice and increasing the sea level. This will change the chemical make up of the ocean which will impact marine life.

We are quickly running out of natural resources. Natural coal and gas — things we use to power the country — will be mostly finished by 2050.

These temperature changes will impact 70% of ecosystems. We will lose native flora and fauna and in their place will be new species of animals and plants that can survive the heat.

As we have more people living in Australia, we will need more food and water. Our farmers do well, but they might be impacted by a changing climate. We will need twice as much water by 2050, but we will also have less rainfall.

It's a lot to take in! And it's scary! But people are moving. In the Global Climate Strikes of September 2019 we have seen over 4 million people strike around the world. With strikes taking place in over 150 countries, it was the largest climate protest in history. Action needs to take place globally. If not, well, you'll find us bunking with Julia.

Luca's Marina

An entrepreneur and businessman, Luca wants to develop great-grandmother's land. If they create Eucalara Bay, everyone's dreams can come true. With a growing population and a new climate, it can become the magical, modern city. Explore the show room at MOD. and pick what you'd like to include in the new city.

What will the cities of the future look like?

Researchers think that the world population will hit 9.8 billion by 2050. In Australia, a country where most of us live in cities, the population might reach 42 million. Where will all these new people live?

People best like living in cities that you can walk in and easily catch public transport. These cities have public parks and there is food and places to go out. You can buy a house and there are jobs that you can easily travel to. At the moment, no Australian city performs well on all of this. With cities growing to keep up with the people, what does this mean?

We will probably live more in apartments and smaller houses. Adelaide now has apartments being built all throughout the city to help do this. We also need to improve our public transport and build more parks for people who don't have backyards.

Adelaide has the least parks of any capital city in Australia, so more would be good. Parks are good for our bodies and our brains, but they also make it cooler when it's hot. They often have lower temperatures than city streets. In California, they have worked out that streets with trees use less air conditioning during the summer.

So, what should Luca include in Eucalara Bay? What will Australia need in 2050? It's up to you to decide.

Kai's Date

Kai's heart has been broken and they are writing poetry about love and loss. The siblings are sick of it. Luca met their partner Noah on the Hypertrain's dating show, so they enter Kai in the competition. What is there to lose? Maybe Kai will find someone to love, but it's up to you to decide who.

How we move is going to change

These TV shows probably won't be on all public transport, but we will probably take more buses and trains to get around. As less of us own a car and more of us worry about the climate, transport is going to change. Adelaide is very spread out, the city is perfect for cars. People think that self-driving and electric cars will replace lots of our regular cars.

Self-driving vehicles are already here. They use them at the Tonsley Innovation District, there's a bus at Glenelg, and the Lyell McEwin Hospital has a bus too. If we take up self-driving cars like we did the internet and smartphones, it's likely that things will change really quickly.

The other big change is shared mobility. You might have noticed the e-scooters all over Adelaide? These can link us in new ways, even from public transport to our destinations. And there are shared cars too. As more people live in or close to cities, less of us need to own a car. These are also getting more popular.

And as for the Hypertrain? We don't know yet. It could make it really fast to get around, but cost billions and billions. For now, you'll need to sit tight in Kai's Hypertrain and just imagine.

Eucalara

Welcome to Euclara, and great-grandmother's backyard. Here you can sit back and relax. Enjoy the family arguments, and help the siblings decide who should win. Spend some time thinking about your values, when it comes to your life and the people around you. You might even spot some of the invasive species that are creeping into this part of Australia.

Whose idea of the future?

The future of Australia is built as a result of people's choices. Every person is guided by their ideas, their hopes, their fears, and, above all, their values. Values are so important because they are very permanent, they don't change much.

You can see that each of the siblings have a different idea for what they think the future of Eucalara looks like. Luca thinks that a marina development is best, it can provide for lots of people. Rowan wants to focus on science. What about you? What do you think they should do?

Nurse Alex

Alex is a nurse for elderly people that live at home. The patients are tracked through wearable devices and nurses are there if they need help. Alex was shocked to find out that their great-grandmother stopped tracking her health. In a world where everyone lived longer and stays healthy, why would anyone do that?

Healthier for longer

Health care today is fixing problems; you go to the doctors when you are sick. By 2040, patients will be at the centre of health care. Around us will be doctors and pharmacists and other specialists. Health is about being well and we will track ourselves all the time.

This has grown already. You might have a Fitbit or a smartphone that tracks your sleep and steps. This has become part of our lives and is just getting more popular. They might be in our skin or in our homes, anything from smart contact lenses to toilets that check your urine.

This is one of the biggest changes that we will have: personalised medicine. Health today is based on standards of care. If a medicine works for everyone else, it probably will work for you too. But there are lots of things that make us different — age, family history, diet, and DNA. This is how personalised medicine is different. By working on our individual characteristics, there are new ways to treat people.

It's not surprising that Alex is busy at work and can't visit great-grandmother's house. Go visit her house and see if you can find out why she stopped monitoring her health.

Mia's Training

Mia has had a rough time at work. They just lost their job to a robot, but there are lots of robots in their new job too. All Mia wants to do is open up an organic café with their partner, Naomi. But with all the water restrictions it will be hard. Mia is hoping that Luca can find a sponsor to help, but for the time being they're stuck doing hair.

Robot anxiety

Anxiety about automation is not new. There have always been people who have worried about machines. It's great at creating jobs for those that make the tech, but what about everyone else?

There are some jobs that will outlive robots. They're the ones that involve managing people, creativity, or decision-making. Basically, the things that humans are better at doing than robots.

It's not just people on factory lines that are at risk. Big media organisations are already using AI to generate reports and articles. And machine learning algorithms can detect breast cancer better than most radiologists. So, where does that leave us?

In Australia, we will need real people working with our elderly people, we need people to build things, we need people to teach, and we need programmers.

If you aren't working in any of those industries, don't worry. Most fields estimate that AI and robots will improve the workforce, not replace them. For the time being, Mia has a lot of feelings about this. Why don't you visit the salon? Get a haircut and hear a little more about how robots are impacting the workforce in Eucalara.

Rowan's Kitchen

Rowan values freedom. A self-taught biohacker and scientist, Rowan has learned differently to you or I. We already can answer any problem we face — thanks YouTube. But going forward, learning in the traditional sense will be very different.

Different how?

Education in the future will be for your whole life. We will learn from anywhere and the content will just for you. Learning might have more group projects to reflect a changing workforce. As more people freelance, students will spend more time in real-world situations.

Rowan has benefited from these changes. Working from home, they get help from all the experts online. This is how Rowan was able to create a bio-implant. After struggling with anxiety, they created a bio-sensor to help.

Bio-hacking is a DIY manipulation of your brain or body. Rowan might be ahead here, but it's not a far jump to make from wearing a Fitbit on your wrist. Saying that, there are already about 10,000 people around the world with chip implants. These chips hold personal details and credit card numbers, and can be used to travel or in place of money.

Now Rowan is thinking about lab grown meat. This is something that is growing in popularity. There are dozens of Silicon Valley start ups racing to be the first to bring this meat to the public. Beginning as a sample of muscle, this meat is grown in labs. It is better for the animals, but we are not sure yet whether it is better for the environment.

While we don't have it yet, it's likely that we will be eating lab grown meat much sooner than 2050. In the meantime, do you mind giving Rowan a hand to un-lock the lab computer?

Epilogue: Australia 2050

As we come to the end of the siblings' story it's time to think about our own. Here we can find out which sibling is most similar to ourselves and take some time to talk and think. What sort of future do you want to see for Australia? And how will your values play into this?

SEVEN SIBLINGS FROM THE FUTURE is just one vision of the future, but it's not the only way. We all have power, whether we are entrepreneurial like Luca or safe like Julia. Caring like Alex or innovative like Ava. We can make changes ourselves on a small scale, not to mention lobby for changes on state and national levels. The future is coming, but we are the ones that will shape it. And we can make a difference.