

APP TO THE FUTURE

by

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Digital Sky
Ep# 5

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2019

INT. LISA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

NARRATOR

The year is 2020. Picture in your mind the bedroom of 16 year old LISA NINO. She sits at drawing table that takes up a large corner of the room. A set of sharpened pencils and pastel sticks are surrounding the delicately beautiful work in progress of a teenage girl.

SOUND: Pencils scraping across the page. Followed by the sounds of an eraser. Lisa blows on the page to clear the eraser residue and then back to pencils. She lifts the paper to inspect it.

LISA

Meh.

(sigh)

I need a break.

Sound: Lisa jumps on her bed. She picks up her phone.

NARRATOR

The organic activity of making art is replaced by the digital activity of searching for a phone app to relieve her boredom.

LISA

Eight billion Apps and nothing looks good.

NARRATOR

Games. Photo filters. Emoji's. Content of every kind. Then, seemingly out of nowhere... An APP pops up a 3-D hologram resting on the phone.

APP

FUTURUM. Free to download.

NARRATOR

Lisa Nino. A teenager in the midst of "trying to figure it all out," while at the same time... knowing she already knows everything. Over the course of this evening Lisa will discover, that in fact, she doesn't yet know what her future holds, and she doesn't know who she is going to be...

APP VOICE

Lisa, Futurum is free to download. No up-charges or anything like that.

LISA

Huh... The app store knows my name? That's messed up. So much for privacy protection guys.

APP VOICE

Lisa. Download the app... Please?

PAUSE

LISA

Nope. I'm not falling for this scam. I'm not having my identity stolen, or sign over my first born.

SOUND: The App pulsates with strange but compelling energy.

APP VOICE

It won't. No one knows that better than me. You have to trust me.

LISA

This marketing is insane. I can't believe I'm even considering doing this.
(deep breath)

LISA (CONT'D)

Don't do this Lisa.
(beat)
Ahh, fuck it.

SOUND: Slowly presses her thumb on the button. SFX and Music create a futuristic sound.

LISA (CONT'D)

Whoahh.....

SOUND: A concoction of communication alerts and ring tones, including: classic ring from a 1890 phone. Morse code. Rooster cockle. Church bell. 70's Rotary. CB radio. Morse code. Dinner triangle.

LISA (CONT'D)

I guess I already went this far.

SOUNDS: Clicks answer. Cool SFX

LISA (CONT'D)

Hello... hello... is someone there?

NARRATOR

A HOLOGRAPHIC 6 INCH of CHELSEY, a 15 year old girl, rises from the phone.

CHELSEY

Yes, hi... Lisa. I'm Chelsey Nino.

LISA

(confused)

Nino. Are you a... cousin of mine?

CHELSEY

Well... no.

LISA

You must be some kind of artificial intelligence voice system. Siri? Alexa? Is that you?

PAUSE

CHELSEY

(delicately)

How opened minded are you?

LISA

I used to think... very.

CHELSEY

Good, so take this one in. I'm not AI, I'm not a cousin, a long lost sister or anything else that boring. But I am very much related to you.

LISA

Okay...

CHELSEY

(deep breath)

I'm your daughter Chelsey... from the year 2040.

LISA

No, seriously?

CHELSEY

I was going to bring it up slowly, but I don't know how stable the Futurm APP connection is back in your time.

LISA

Yeah, well. It was nice talking to you. I gotta go do some other important thing now.

CHELSEY

Lisa wait! I figured I'd have to prove it. Look at this.

SOUND: Rustling of paper.

CHELSEY (CONT'D)

This is a current calendar from 2040.

LISA

(sarcastic)

Wow. How did I ever doubt you?

CHELSEY

Check this out, Lisa. A \$20 BILL featuring...

LISA

Harriet Tubman. That would be amazing if it were true.

CHELSEY

It is... will be... is. Check out this photo album.

SOUND: Cool clicking sound of an album.

CHELSEY (CONT'D)

See that pretty girl in the cap and gown with purple and green hair?

LISA

(starting to wonder)

I have been thinking about dieing it.

CHELSEY

You will. And you will also regret it.

(beat)

Okay, a couple of years later; here is one of my favorites.

LISA

That's... me?

CHELSEY

That's us. Me when I was little and you when you... in your mid 20's.

(beat)

And this is a selfie of the two of us at my dance recital.

LISA

You liked to dance? Or... will like to dance?

CHELSEY

Nope. That was your idea. The next year you let me join little league.

LISA

(beginning to freak)

This is crazy.

CHELSEY

Technology, Lisa. It's what's barely saving the planet.

LISA

But time travel doesn't make logical sense!? If you were from the future the butterfly effect would be taking effect, changing your reality every second we speak.

CHELSEY

That's the genius of the Futurum APP! It realigns the past and stitches it back together so it doesn't effect the future. When we finish this session the APP will disappear from your phone and you won't know it ever existed...

LISA

This is the most elaborate joke ever.

CHELSEY

Let me ask you something. If you have a daughter, what would you name her?

LISA

(pause)

Chelsey.

PAUSE

CHELSEY

Did you ever tell anyone that?

LISA

I don't think so. But that doesn't mean...

CHELSEY

Want to see my learners permit?

PAUSE

LISA

How could this be possible?

CHELSEY

I'll tell you about it in 20 years...
tomorrow.

INT.CHELSEY'S BEDROOM

NARRATOR

Picture Chelsey's bedroom. Cool and future modern chic'. But still respects the classics. (Note: Rock band Posters based on copyright details) The art piece that was on Lisa's drawing table in 2020 is NOW a stunning finished work framed and displayed on Chelsey's wall.

SCENE INTERCUTS between the two bedroom LOCATIONS.

CHELSEY

Look you're going to go through a lot of crap growing up. Everybody does, but the good news is that you get to have me and I turn out pretty awesome.

LISA

Well, I do like you so far.

CHELSEY

But just because I can't affect the past doesn't mean you can't affect your future. It's the decisions you make that will create the reality I live in.

LISA

But we already know that you will be born... right?

CHELSEY

Look, teenage mom, it's only 20 years later than when you are now! Do you really think we figured out the "big questions" yet? We are only just now perfecting the flying car and fixing democracy.

SOUND: Voice calling out from elsewhere in the house.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

Chelsey. Who are you talking to this late!?

Teen Lisa gasps.

CHELSEY

Just a friend from school, mom!

36 YEAR OLD LISA

(off camera)

Don't you have a test in the morning?

CHELSEY

It's a sleep one. We're cramming for it now.

TEEN LISA

Sleep one?

CHELSEY

Yeah. You program the information into the app and it gets stored in your memory. So you take it in your sleep. This way we can't cheat... which sucks.

TEEN LISA

Do you do well in school?

CHELSEY

Do you?

TEEN LISA

No. Not really.

CHELSEY

Yeah. Guess it's an apple-tree kind of thing.

TEEN LISA

What if we both decided to work harder?

CHELSEY

You can decide now all we want. You won't remember any of this once we close the APP.

PAUSE

TEEN LISA

Okay... I guess, but that doesn't mean YOU can't. You're obviously really smart.

CHELSEY

You're a little young to start lecturing me, Lisa. Don't you think?

36 YEAR OLD LISA

(in room, kind of drunk)

Chelsey.

CHELSEY

Yeah mom!

36 YEAR OLD LISA

How was school?

CHELSEY

Fine. I only cut one class today.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

(yawns)

Okay good girl. Do you want to have a nightcap with me?

CHELSEY

I think you had enough. Go to bed mom.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

It's just... the other women were lame and wanted to leave the restaurant early.

CHELSEY

That's because they have work tomorrow. Just like you.

(firm)

Now got to bed Lisa!!

36 YEAR OLD LISA

I think I'm going to go to bed. I'm exhausted, from work.

CHELSEY

Okay mom. Love you.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

Love you more.

CHELSEY

Could you please shut the door behind you?

SOUND: Bedroom door is shut. 36 YEAR OLD Lisa walks away.

PAUSE

CHELSEY (CONT'D)

All right, so where were we?

PAUSE

TEEN LISA

(freaked out)

What the fuck!

CHELSEY

That must be weird for you, huh?

TEEN LISA

On so many levels. I can't believe you talk to your mother like that.

CHELSEY

Yeah, well, avoidance is how we cope with living together.

(beat)

So where's your head at?

TEEN LISA

You look to be around my age.

CHELSEY

Yup. I'm going to be your frat party baby.

TEEN LISA

So you said you reached out to me for a reason.

CHELSEY

You will be a decent person. People like my mom. She has a good heart. But being a single mom derailed her life. She dropped out of art school and had to go right to work.

TEEN LISA

But I would still have to do my art! Even if I end up working like crazy. It's what makes me happy.

CHELSEY

Yeah. And you really grow as an artist.. Until you stop, and end up just getting by in life. Lately she has gone to an even darker place, she's been drinking more, living less.

TEEN LISA

(deep breath)

That makes me really sad. But if I won't remember this conversation, what can I do change?

CHELSEY

I need you to help me set you straight.

TEEN LISA

I'm just a kid like you. Why would I listen to me?

CHELSEY

Because many of us have tried, but future you won't listen to anyone... else.

TEEN LISA

Are you asking me to talk with her... me? What do I say?

PAUSE

CHELSEY

I'm hoping you can remind her of the passion she once had.

PAUSE

TEEN LISA

She already went to bed.

CHELSEY

Tomorrow morning, before she goes to work. Leave the app on and we'll both get some sleep.

TEEN LISA

Are you ready for your "sleep test"?

CHELSEY

Please stop nagging me, teen mom.

SOUND: Light snoring. Night turns to morning.

SOUND: KNOCKING at Chelsea's bedroom door wakes both teenagers up past and present.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

How was the test?

CHELSEY

I think I bombed it.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

Okay. Please study more next time so you can get into a decent college.

CHELSEY

Study. Decent college. Got it.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

Come on down I made us some Amazon
espresso.

CHELSEY

Do you mind bringing it to me mom? I'm
still waking up from my test.

(beat)

And I want to show you this new app I
downloaded.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

Okay I guess, sure.

36 YEAR OLD Lisa leaves. Chelsey scrambles up and grabs
her device.

CHELSEY

You up?

TEEN LISA

Yeah. What happened to Starbucks?

CHELSEY

Amazon came up with a way to match your
coffee for you. Just the right taste for
you, and just the right amount of
caffeine you need.

NARRATOR

36 YEAR OLD Lisa comes in with two piping
hot ESPRESSOS with animated ADVERTISING
MESSAGES swirling around the cup.

CHELSEY

I'm going to shower. Talk to my friend
until I get back.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

What a beautiful hologram...

SOUND: 36 YEAR OLD Lisa sits down on Chelsey's bed.

36 YEAR OLD LISA (CONT'D)

(slightly confused)

Hi. We've met before, right?

TEEN LISA

Sort of... how are you?

36 YEAR OLD LISA

I've got a bit of a headache. I'll absorb
a few advils and I'll be fine.

TEEN LISA

It's... nice to meet you.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

It's... um... nice to meet you to.

TEEN LISA

Is something wrong?

36 YEAR OLD LISA

This probably sounds pretty strange, but if I was a man I would think the child I never knew had just showed up at the door.

TEEN LISA

We do look a lot alike...

36 YEAR OLD LISA

So tell me about you.

TEEN LISA

Not much to tell, I'm an ordinary kid. The thing I'm most passionate about is art.

(beat)

Do you like art?

36 YEAR OLD LISA

Who doesn't like art. It's like asking if someone likes music... or a...

TEEN LISA

But do you like making art...

36 YEAR OLD LISA

The Pink Floyd "Dark side of the Moon" shirt your wearing. I had one when I was your age.

TEEN LISA

Yeah, it's cool.

(beat)

You never answered though. Do you create art?

36 YEAR OLD LISA

(avoiding question)

Move the shot around. Let me see your bedroom.

PAUSE

36 YEAR OLD LISA (CONT'D)

(mind blown)

That's definitely my old room!

(beat)

I recognize, the art on your wall!

TEEN LISA

You guys have some pretty crazy Apps in your time.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

I read an article about this APP. It's some kind of augmented reality filter.

TEEN LISA

Well, I am definitely augmented.... I'm really you when you were a teenager.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

How... is this possible?

TEEN LISA

That's was my first reaction. What's important is that I am worried about us.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

Shouldn't I be worried about you. If I tell you to do anything different I might not have Chelsey.

TEEN LISA

You can't. Chelsey will explain it later. But maybe I can help you.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

I'm fine.

TEEN LISA

Not if you're not doing your art.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

I gave up on that long ago, when I left college.

TEEN LISA

That really sucks. Art is my life!

36 YEAR OLD LISA

I know it was. But as you will find out when you grow up, real life can sometimes get in the way.

TEEN LISA

You gave up our dream! And you look like you have a hangover the size of Mount Rushmore... (beat) there still is a Mount Rushmore, right?

36 YEAR OLD LISA

Yeah, but it's not-

TEEN LISA

I don't want to know.

TEEN LISA (CONT'D)

(beat)

What's my career going to be then?

36 YEAR OLD LISA

I'm a process manager at the office of Singularity protocols.

TEEN LISA

Sounds um... interesting.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

Not after fifteen years of a grid-locked bureaucracy.

TEEN LISA

What about your art?

36 YEAR OLD LISA

I had to leave school when I was pregnant with Chelsey. I wasn't going anywhere as an artist, anyway.

TEEN LISA

All that matters is that you do what ever it takes to rediscover your passion.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

(pause)

It's too late now. I am a single mother with a daughter. There are bills to pay. College to cover.

TEEN LISA

Chelsey is so smart. They still have scholarships in your time right?

36 YEAR OLD LISA

Yes. But she doesn't apply herself for anything like that.

TEEN LISA

Oh my god! I can't believe I grew up to be so immature!

36 YEAR OLD LISA

What is that supposed to mean?

TEEN LISA

Somewhere along the way you gave up on on the only two people that mattered.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

Oh yeah.. I forgot, when I was a kid, I thought I knew everything.

TEEN LISA

Yes. I believe in myself. Where did that go?

36 YEAR OLD LISA

It went away with constant rejection. I tried but found out that I wasn't talented enough to make it as an artist.

TEEN LISA

Bull shit! You just forgot what matters! Shake it off Lisa! Art is subjective and people like to knock us down.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

(emotional)
It's too late.
(beat)
It's too late...

TEEN LISA

(emotional)
Seriously!? You're in our mid thirties. Get over yourself and go get some art supplies.

SOUND: Both generations of Lisa are crying.

TEEN LISA (CONT'D)

One thing I realize from this crazy experience... is that there is something I love even more than art.
(pause)
Even more than my life...

36 YEAR OLD LISA

(pause)
Chelsey

PAUSE

TEEN LISA

Chelsey is going to mean everything to me.

36 YEAR OLD LISA

She does mean everything to me.

TEEN LISA

If you don't get our shit together; she is the one who is going to suffer!

CHELSEY

I love you, mommy, I know you think you are doing your best.

The three of them are all in tears.

CHELSEY (CONT'D)

Please mom. Listen to teenage you. You... we... need to get our act together.

(beat)

And please don't give up your passion. Please show the world your beauty inside.

PAUSE

36 YEAR OLD LISA

Come here, baby.

SOUND: Chelsey runs into her arms. They are both in tears and holding each other.

SOUND: The Futurum app closes. It's now a familiar blending of music and SFX.

APP VOICE

FUTURUM Session complete.

INT. LISA'S BEDROOM

NARRATOR

The teen Lisa transports back in her room where she started. She is confused as her reality stitches back into place from before she ever discovered the Futurum app. She resumes scrolling through the usual 2020 Apps.

TEEN LISA

(yawns)

I'm so bored.

(MORE)

TEEN LISA (CONT'D)

(beat)

Maybe i should just go back to my drawing.

NARRATOR

A beautiful piece of art work comes into further focus. A teenage girl that looks very much... like Chelsey.

END CREDITS

BONUS SCENE

INT.CHELSEY'S AND 36 YEAR OLD LISA'S HOUSE

CHELSEY

(on phone)

Mom! Your not going to believe it. I kicked ass on the test!

(beat)

I guess that talking to I got from teen you paid off.

(beat)

Okay. I'll start getting dinner ready for when you come home.

SOUND: Ping - Call ends.

SOUND: The SFX and Music of the Futurum APP starts to play. Chelsey opens it.

CHELSEY (CONT'D)

(confused)

Hello.

36 YEAR OLD CHELSEY

Chelsey. It's me. You. I mean the future you.

CHELSEY

No. Seriously?

36 YEAR OLD CHELSEY

I can go through all the proving it stuff, but I think we are probably beyond that at this point.

CHELSEY

I can't believe I'm talking to me. When did I get so pretty?

36 YEAR OLD CHELSEY

I'll explain later. I need your help.

CHELSEY

Of course, Chelsey. What's up?

36 YEAR OLD CHELSEY

Our little brother needs your help.

CHELSEY

I don't have a little brother...
(realizing)
...yet?

36 YEAR OLD CHELSEY

Exactly.

CHELSEY

Do you need me to talk to him, or something.

36 YEAR OLD CHELSEY

I do. But first we've got to find him.

CHELSEY

I don't understand.

36 CHELSEY

This is FUTURUM 10x. Touch the screen.

CHELSEY

And what is going to happen?

36 YEAR OLD CHELSEY

You'll take the app to the future.

CHELSEY

Wow. Seriously, grown-up me?

36 YEAR OLD CHELSEY

A lot's changed since your time.

CHELSEY

Wouldn't I need some sort of souped up data plan to survive such a trip.

Data? Where you're going, you don't need data. Trust me and touch the screen.

SOUND: The wildest music and SFX transition ever.

36 YEAR OLD CHELSEY

Welcome to the year 2060, Chelsey. Now
give me a hug and let's go find our
brother.

SOUND: A loving hug creates melodic digital feedback.

NARRATOR

If you want to hear more about what
happens in Chelsey's and future Chelsey's
future, SUBSCRIBE now and let us know
with a 5 Star review, and we will record
their next chapter with your feedback.