

*End of Year, Start of Year Wishes & Poems*

*Eric Verhulst*

*Wishes for 1992*

Last year I witnessed  
The unreason  
For Guarding old walls.  
Since Mandelbrot  
We know  
That crumbled stones  
Have a fractal beauty,  
Just as the coast of England.  
Fortresses are just a mirage.  
Amid the chaos there is light.  
The human species  
Just witnessed another blip  
On its lifeline.

E.V. December 1991.

## *Star spotting in 1997*

*All over the intergalactic  
Network space  
Comets astonish the mind  
Coming from nowhere  
Shooting off to nowhere.*

*I sit on a hill  
Looking over the digital valley.  
The art of spotting the stars  
Before they turn  
From around a corner.  
Becoming a meaningful signal.*

*Eric.Verhulst@eonic.com*

## **Credo in unum mundum**

Mankind's horizon is expanding  
But the masters live in yesterday.  
Workers all over the world, unite !

Nations defend borders  
Like dogs marking trees  
But now we ride the wires  
Looking beyond the walls.  
In the virtual single universe  
There are no trees to bark at.

Mind space over body space  
No more body counts.  
Minds all over the world, unite !

1998, a tick closer to reality.

*Eric.Verhulst@eonic.com*

*A numbers game*

As far as we know, it took less time than we can measure to start the universe.  
Ten to the power minus forty three seconds, but that's now fifteen billion years ago  
Still we wonder about what was before and what will be beyond.

So when Julius came, another star was born and we started counting again  
So they say we are now two thousand years later.  
Some of our friends say we are in the year five thousand seven hundred and sixty.

Some thousand years ago, people's memories became confused and  
They went to battle in the friction zone where the star was born  
Not so long ago, people were killed in that same battle.

In ten minutes a plane is leaving that was delayed for sixty minutes  
I am getting closer to the center of the friction zone  
Selling the Virtue of context switches measured in nanoseconds.

Next year they say, the world will start spinning at hyperspeed velocity.  
Traveling the wires at increasing speed, is what keeps us ticking  
Filling the friction gap in human memory in the year two thousand.

[eric.verhulst@eonic.com](mailto:eric.verhulst@eonic.com), December 1999

*Wishes for the Fishes in 2000*

The God of Pure Logic  
Did he foresee the lack of reason in big numbers ?  
The new Millennium started as a big number,  
But when the bubble burst  
False eyes stared in the face.  
Ten silver coins,  
Ten million chickens,  
Ten million dollars,  
In the name of the Golden Calf.  
No prisoners are taken  
While the Pharisee counts his metal,  
Pilate washes his hands in innocence.  
The prophets are doomed,  
The return after the city has been burned.  
How to be or how to be not.  
At the end of times, that is the only question.



*Wishes for the Eagles in 2001*

It is said that climbing a mountain is a difficult feat.  
The simpletons try to walk in a straight line  
And crash in mid-air.  
Others believe they only need to walk the stairs,  
The brave ones know the path is with many pitfalls  
And only perseverance will reach the peak.  
As I stand now, we have left the pond  
And reached the first hill.  
The Valley that looked within distance  
Has become a ridge with many mountains to reach.  
Looking back, I see the red mud of a previous battle.  
Stained by the blows of beating the wind,  
There is no future in the past  
And I take the jump off the cliff.  
Carried by the wind of tomorrow  
I reach for new heights  
and master the world on the ground.  
The Eagle flies again.

[eric.verhulst@eonic.com](mailto:eric.verhulst@eonic.com), December 2000

*The noise of times*

Nothing is so difficult as not deceiving yourself,  
Said Wittgenstein and the world started shivering,  
Deadly were the ripples.

Is this the battle for rightness or for forgiveness ?  
Is this the battle of reason or of instinct ?

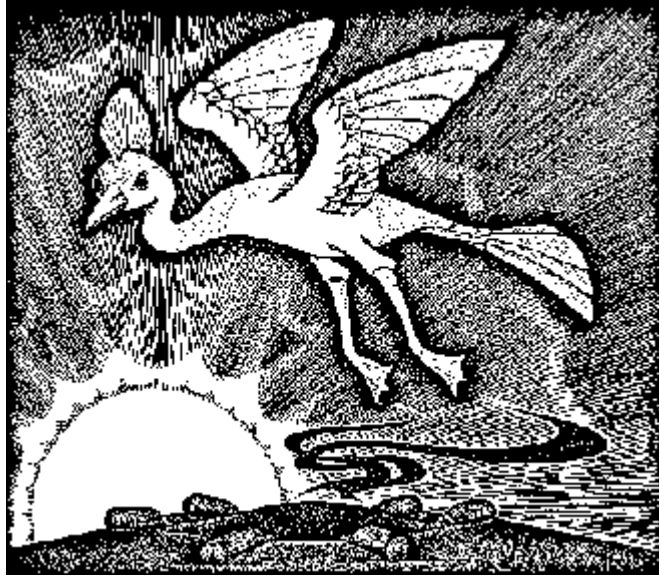
Bridging the millennia musters a new balance,  
A struggle to keep the animal at bay.

I see three girls singing and dancing.  
I see in them a past I know well,  
Yet sometimes they know the future better.

When the green leaves turn red,  
I know the Wahnwitz has taken hold.  
Those who mistrust the future  
Are known to be left behind.

Le Grand V est mort, vive le Grand A !

[Eric.Verhulst@eonic.com](mailto:Eric.Verhulst@eonic.com), December 2001,



*The Phoenix Rises Again*

*Red is the color of the sun at its daily birth.  
Red is the color of the sun when it goes into hiding.  
Light and darkness, two ways of living.  
Life and death, two ways of being.  
Red is the color of the stone on the mountain I am  
climbing  
It's inner fire reminding me of Dante's visions.*



*And then came 2004*

I have no words for the past year,  
having been where I never have been before.

Cold is the winter,  
cold can be the human mind  
rattling in its cage  
trying to escape  
from an aggressive past.

There's only a small margin  
Between being and not-being  
a human with a human mind.  
Where's the hidden code  
buried in the billion years old program ?

The Beauty and the Beast.  
If evil could be chased from our dreams  
we would all be human.

[eric.verhulst@lancelot.be](mailto:eric.verhulst@lancelot.be), December 2003

*A drop of water in the sea of Asov  
where could it be?  
A brick in the wall, did it make any change?  
Life itself is telling otherwise,  
not all bricks are equal.  
Just like the butterfly can create a storm,  
flapping its wings  
and people can get killed for it.*

*Freedom of speech  
Freedom of thought  
Freedom of work  
Freedom to work  
Freedom to exist  
Freedom to be.*

*Velvet is the revolution, orange its color.  
The step is small and the road is long.  
It did make a change, nobody got hurt  
and people started dreaming again.*

*Best wishes for 2005 and beyond*

*Eric.Verfulst@OpenLicenseSociety.org*

Wishes with a picture





### **Freedom of speech in 2005**

Ugly fish is looking around  
It's head in the sand.  
A crooked smile showing greedy teeth  
But where's the substance?

< claiming democracy, grabbing in the bag >

Leave us alone, someone else will sweat the bill.  
Someone said as deficits come on their own,  
They will go on their own.  
Obviously nothing could be less true,  
And grabbing with tricks,  
the balance got patched.

Meanwhile the forest got smoked,  
Leaving the tar pits behind,  
the birds gasping for air.

I claim the right to be,  
I claim the right to speak,  
I claim the right to work.

Words are not meant to hurt,  
Words are meant to think.

Solidarity can be an ugly word.  
F as in Freedom to give and accept  
Not as in Freedom to take and force.

I grant the right to work,  
I grant the right to speak,  
I grant the right to be.

*Wishes for a better 2006, eric.verhulst@workforall.org*

## *Wishes for the workers anno 2007*

Some say we are a loner,  
after all the world isn't black.  
It looks like black because some paint it black.

Some say there's no logic,  
after all the world isn't for loonies.  
It looks like that because some like to take it all.

A Möbius strip is the ultimate time warp machine.  
It hits you in the face if you don't follow its thread.  
Unless you possess the fifth dimension.

There ain't no sugar cubes unless there's some logic in the squares.  
Atom to atom, link to link. Even with Schrödinger's cat, sugar is.

Gentle is the breeze, moist is the air. I see a sea of grains.  
None are equal but they create a silvering beach.

From every node, I see a line of thought.  
Some will reach for the stars,  
Some will only reach the beach,  
But the essence is, they reach.

What would music be if we just played the tones?  
After all harmonics make up the sound.  
What would a forest be if we cut it short?  
After all blossoms make up the color.

No man is equal, it better be.  
All I want is equal opportunity,  
It better be.

[eric.verhulst@workforall.org](mailto:eric.verhulst@workforall.org) anno 2007

*Looking beyond makes you dream.  
Looking back makes you wonder why.*

What can I wish You for the coming Year? More Power and Gold? Or should I say More of a Real Life of your own Work and Freedom? Less Taxes comes to Mind. The World is accelerating at a brisk Pace. Turbulence all over the bloody Place, to be taken literally. The Balance is delicate. Shall We All perish in the Rush or shall We be lucky and find Nirvana in Peace? Maybe We need the Turbulence to be reminded how peaceful it could be if We All just did All We could to reach for It. If you ask Me, last Year was bad enough although History has seen worse. Whatever, I wish You All a better and happy 2008. It helps to keep repeating the same Wishes every Year.



#### Wishes for a new pebble on the beach of Ostend 2008

The sea burns my skin. Its turbulence washes the shore.  
Time unrolls its history like waves hitting the beach.  
So many steps washed away in a single sweep.

Sometimes I wish the sea would clear the land from all its greed.  
Life is short, just a gust of wind in the line of time.  
Why waste it in lust for power and gold ?

Deep in the program of life, I have two eyes just like the fish have.  
Deep in the program of life, I have the will to survive just like we all have.  
Deep in the program of life, I have a brain to think and ponder why I am here.

I leave my steps on the beach, no one can say where I came from.  
I leave my steps on the beach, no one can say where I went to.  
I leave my steps on the beach, no one can say which one was my step.

Shall I leave it to that and walk into the sea, never turning back?  
Wind and water will quickly erase the steps, forgotten for eternity.  
I go to the shore and bury my feet in the sand.  
As long as I stand waves will hit my face but I will remain.

There's a new pebble on the beach, someone will pick it up.  
There's a new pebble on the beach, someone will cherish it.

*Eric.Verhulst @ WorkForAll.org*

## A decade of Vaporware anno 2010

Empires die like old men  
Whispering or falling from a throne  
With power corrupted minds.  
Why gather more when some day  
All will be in vain?

Surrounded by wizards of the court,  
Golden books in their hands,  
Secretly gathering favors.  
The citizen is just a subject,  
Waiting to be taxed and judged.

Living at the expense of others  
Selling dried air to those who trust  
That the world is a better place  
And neighbors can be friends.  
Stasis müssen auch leben.

Alas, when the tsunami strikes,  
Walls come down.  
Many are left behind  
Gathering the pieces  
To rebuild their lives.

Kondratieff took the long view  
He understood the waves of life.  
Technology will never change facts.  
The rise and fall of generations.  
Les vieux ont l'oeil de Moscou.

Inflated egos leave their souls behind.  
Burning energy anticipating hell.  
Made from clay by the god of power.  
Who has no mercy for those who sweat.  
The trick is to make them vote.

Give me gold, I'll give you paper.  
How many fortunes were made this way?  
Paying the bills is easy  
As long as you jump ship on time.  
Après nous le déluge.

The sun sneezes bursting flames  
Its waves heating the little rock.  
No number can fool me forever.  
Deserts getting frigid at night.  
Burning fossils is sin.

Humans thrive on flocking up mountains  
Crashing down on the other side.  
Be brave my child,  
There's always another mountain to climb



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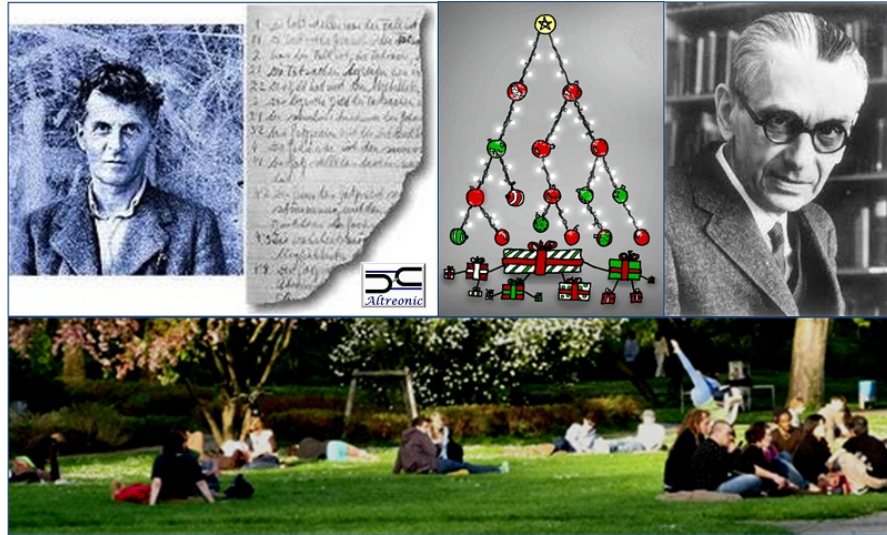
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*Best wishes for the next decade,  
eric.verhulst*

Approximate size  
of earth for  
comparison

*(Sun playing hockey with mother earth)*



*If the world defies logic,  
 Where do we look for answers?  
 If the world needs no logic,  
 Why do we look for answers?  
 Logic is in meaning, said Wittgenstein.  
 All logic trees have a root, said Gödel.  
 The question is, which root is right?*

*Parallel universes exist  
 In the mind of each.  
 We decide by consensus  
 Until a new truth was proven right ;-)  
 The model is the system  
 When it passes Turing's test.*

*Respect is, you might be wrong.  
 Respect is, to accept the facts.  
 There is no Right and Left,  
 Les extrêmes se touchent.*

*Wishes for clarity in 2011,  
 Ratio clearing the mind.*

*Eric Verhulst (@) Altreonic.com*





## THE 5TH DIMENSION

The Union says,  
Don't touch my privilege.  
The law of taxation says,  
It is easier to steal from many.  
Just make it legal,  
Parliament will vote.  
Ignorance pretending,  
The Court looks away.

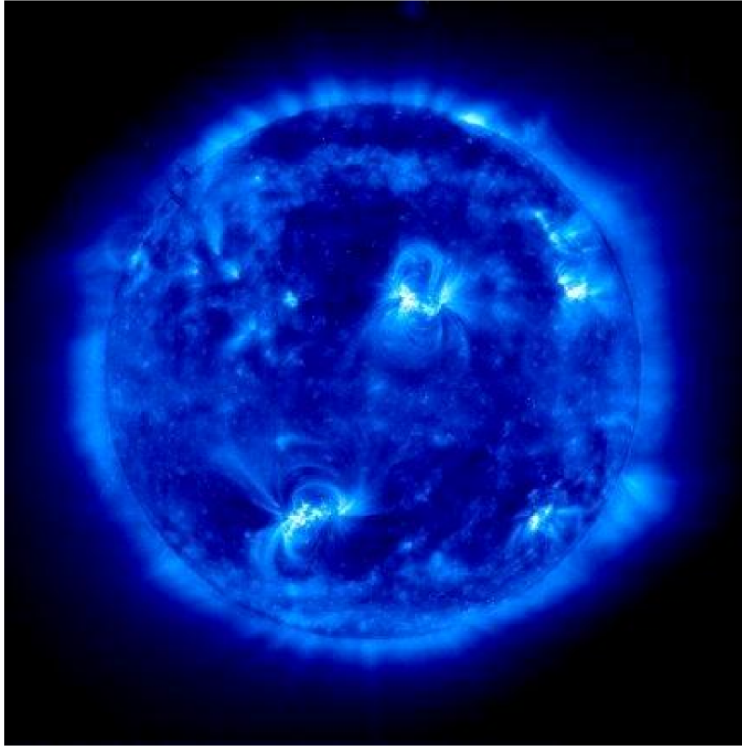
She is made of iron, Sir.  
And sink she will.  
The more paper you pump,  
The faster water flows in.  
Save Our Souls.

The law of real economics.  
Vienna was right.  
von Mises is far away.

Light in de darkness.  
It has all the energy.  
Thanks to neutrinos,  
We can skip the void.

I need a hyperdrive.

Hyperdrives for the brave ones in 2012.



The hiding of the electron

There was a time  
when electrons could be seen  
swirling as a blue light  
when plasma was energised.

Holy kudu, watch this startrek alien  
not looking like a rainbow chameleon  
but as a good-old gu-32 tube.

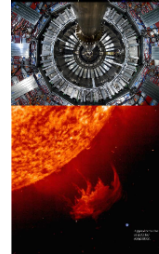
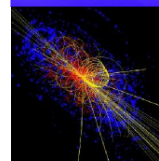
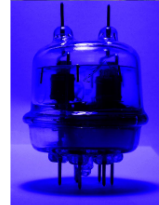
Today, electrons have been replaced  
by their absence of positive holes.

They went into hiding  
deep inside quantum walls.

But mankind built the first starship,  
underground, twenty-eight kilometer wide,  
smashing the atom,  
spitwater liberating Gott's particle  
resonating on its cosmic string.

Standardising the model,  
at least if no connector is loose.  
The world didn't end on 122112,  
the sun stayed cool.

Best wishes from Altreonic's team  
for the year 2013



From Deep Space to Deep Sea

**When the light shines,  
There is no past  
Only a future.**

**When justice reigns  
There is no crime  
Only happiness.**

**When respect reigns  
There is no greed  
Only justice.**

**Where there is justice  
There is no fraud  
Caesar's dues are in harmony.**

**Envy is the mother of evil,  
Intolerance the father of war.  
Who's God is ordering the killings?  
Love is symmetric  
But power prevails.**

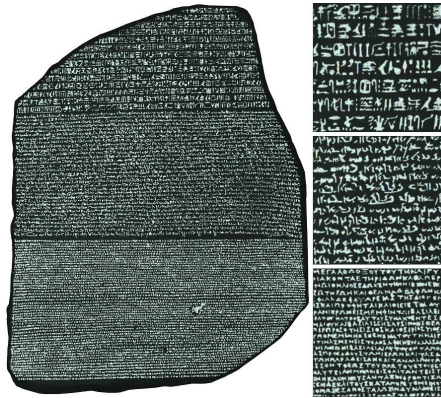
**A great man died  
Many were born today.  
It took a lifetime  
To find the smallest particle.  
Curiosity sends us to Mars.**

**In the mind lies freedom  
In the mind lies respect  
In the mind lies justice  
In the mind lies the future.**

**Mind over matter.  
I think, therefore I am. Today.**

## **Best Wishes for 2014**





## The year of the Rosetta stone

*There is more knowledge in the world than we will ever know.  
Does knowing that there are unknown unknowns make you a wiser man?*

*Men launched a quest for water.  
Rosetta said it wasn't hers.*

*The bottom is not solid ice but a black rock.  
Forged in the heat of creation.*

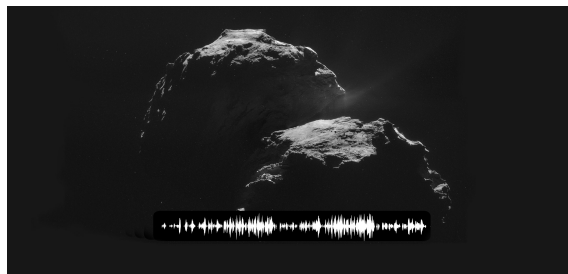
*It took ten years to build The Collider.  
It took ten years to reach The Stone.*

*Any new event gives us more questions.  
Are we the victim of Zeno's paradox?*

*Too many words hide the simple fact.  
To move a mountain, ignorance is just courage.*

*I don't need a revolution in the street.  
I need a revolution of the mind.*

*Watson might be wiser than all of us.  
Will the world accept his facts?  
Wishes for a wiser world in 2015*



*#Philae to #Rosetta  
> landed after 10  
years  
> waiting for news  
from home  
> Is the #world still  
discussing the sex of  
angels?*

*The year of Kurt*

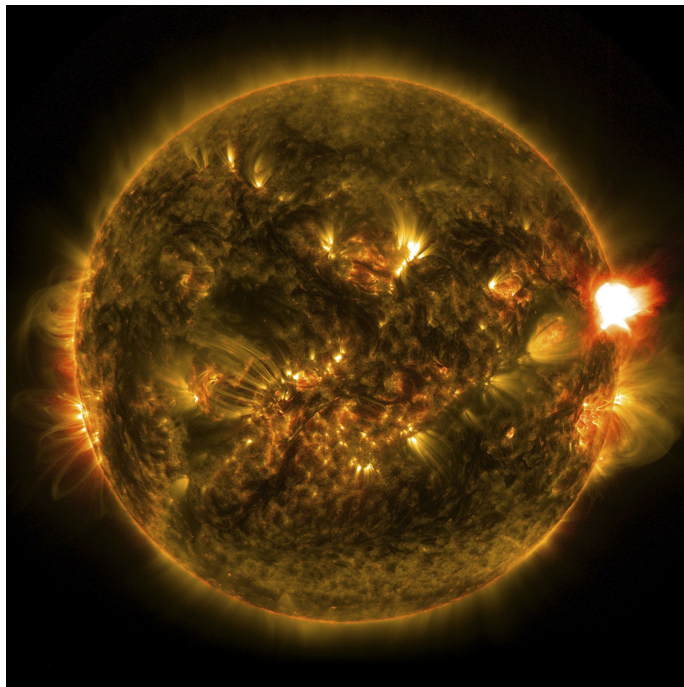
*The year to come could be a long one.  
It even comes with a day more.  
The year to pass was a long one.  
It even had a day less.*

*The turmoil has stayed. Should I now be scared?  
The world hasn't gotten any worse,  
the world hasn't gotten any better.  
The quest for progress is a slow one today.  
The descent from the trees was just yesterday.*

*Enchanted by Ganesh, we removed Gödel's obstacles.  
Being free is looking beyond what someone else believes.*

*After we made it to the Rosetta stone,  
We left the system and visited Pluto.  
It's now time to get entangled  
riding the fifth dimension.*

*Best wishes for an inspiring 2016*



*No life without the sun's energy and carbon*

