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## 40 Years From Now

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# 40 Years From Now

by Anne Collison, T. JI. 3

To be the woman I wish to be in forty years, I must remember today the happy ways of doing. . .

Practicing etiquette and simple courtesies which make life more pleasant for me and my associates.

Paying attention to the obvious (which is most often the overlooked).

Always, always writing promptly a thank you note for a week-end, a dinner, or a blue hair ribbon.

Using the right fork — and knowing why.

Respecting age and femininity in making introductions.

I must remember also that being a lady requires more than being a walking Amy Vanderbilt.

I must show by my actions the esteem I hold for appropriateness and neatness in dress.

I must win the eternal game of "beat the clock" and not make others wait.

I must think about that indefinite and indescrib-

able term "charm," composed of poise, voice, personality, and star dust.

I must never forget

—that "a reputation is like a white satin ball gown."

—that it is good to have an ever-inquiring and growing mind.

—that there should be meaning in the shells of words such as "sincere," "thoughtful."

I must remember to have a minute to spare and an understanding heart that perhaps by some miracle has the answer to a problem.

May I look at the world through champagne bubbles while keeping my feet firmly on the ground.

And may I remember to look at this memo. Perhaps then I will be able, in 2002, to look back with pride on forty years to see that I have become the woman I hoped to be.

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