

# Past, Present, and Future

Nobody asked but ...

The intertwining of time is a problem set, by which we humans seem to be endlessly perplexed. Do we ever sort it out? A fundamental truth is that we only have the present in which to act on the results of the past and to effect our preferences for the future. To hope to relive the past is as futile as anything we can do. To plan the future entirely is equally as futile. All we can do is to learn from the past, act on the present results as seen through our learning, then aspire to a future in which we have acted adequately on everything we could possibly know in the present. We have no ability to have a do-over in the past. We have no opportunity to forget the past once the future has arrived.

— Kilgore Forelle