



## Contents

<b>Section 1: Gizmo Jitters</b> . . . . .	<b>1</b>
The PC Obsolescence Conspiracy . . . . .	3
An Easy-to-Read Column. Really.. . . . .	5
PC Shopping Nightmare. . . . .	7
Technology Slaves . . . . .	9
My Last New PC (As If) . . . . .	12
Aging Technology. . . . .	16
Boob Tube/PC Convergence . . . . .	19
Electronic Bubbles . . . . .	22
Simplify Complexity . . . . .	25
The Coming DVD Wars . . . . .	28
Technology-Free Zones . . . . .	31
Intelligence Strikes Back. . . . .	34
<b>Section 2: Peace, Love &amp; Groovy ... Or Not</b> . . . . .	<b>37</b>
The Virus Wars . . . . .	39
The Death of Privacy . . . . .	42
Cheating Technology . . . . .	45
Helping Big Brother . . . . .	48
Good Versus Evil . . . . .	51
Lost Opportunities . . . . .	54
Robot Soldiers. . . . .	57
High-Tech Hunting . . . . .	60
Technology Trumps Privacy . . . . .	63
Digital Division . . . . .	66
Playing at Life . . . . .	70
<b>Section 3: Say What?</b> . . . . .	<b>75</b>
Demon Email . . . . .	77
Text Non-Communication . . . . .	79

IM: Instant Madness . . . . .	81
Blog Yourself . . . . .	84
More Demon Email . . . . .	87
Email Is Far Too Easy . . . . .	90
It's the Messaging, Stupid . . . . .	93
<b>Section 4: Customer Disservice . . . . .</b>	<b>97</b>
Banish Solutions . . . . .	99
Press Four for Frustration . . . . .	101
Digital Dialing for Dollars . . . . .	104
Mailing for Dollars . . . . .	107
Calling the Helpless Line . . . . .	110
<b>Section 5: Propeller Heads . . . . .</b>	<b>115</b>
Eternal IT Devotion . . . . .	117
Out of Alignment . . . . .	120
IT's Worst Enemy . . . . .	123
<b>Section 6: Stuff &amp; Nonsense. . . . .</b>	<b>127</b>
COMMON Questions . . . . .	129
Bits of Democracy . . . . .	132
Lost Bits of Democracy . . . . .	135
New Year's Eve Prognostications. . . . .	138
Stop! On Second Thought... . . . .	142
Eat This Column . . . . .	145
Pet Replication . . . . .	148
Virtual Life . . . . .	152
Silicon Attorneys . . . . .	155
Technology Priorities . . . . .	158
Surgery TV . . . . .	163
Strategic Argot Discourse (SAD, Very Sad) . . . . .	167
Anything You Want . . . . .	171
Suggestions for Inventors. . . . .	176