CONSULTANT: Sadie Bower

AGE: 41

RESIDENCE: Carrboro, NC

OCCUPATION:

INTERVIEW DATE: August 6, 2016, approx. 11:30 am LOCATION: Carrboro Farmers Market, Carrboro, NC

Sadie Bower approached my table as she was leaving the Farmers Market with her children. It was getting very hot, and since her kids were by her side, I kept the interview brief. Sadie began with the standard introduction (name, age, residence).

So take a minute to think about that, New Year's Eve 1999, going into the [booming voice] year 2000. Paint a picture for us. What do you remember?

I lived in New York City. I know. It was not as glamorous as you think it would be, though.

Why do you say that?

I had some friends visiting and we went down to Times Square, but not at midnight, after midnight. And...

That had to be a weird scene.

It was pretty weird, actually. There was confetti everywhere, and there was trash *all over* the streets. And we went into a diner, and we had pancakes and 2:00 am. And we watched the street cleaners pick up all of the confetti, and in fact, the world had *not* come to an end, and everybody was still around, and Times Square was still cooking, and that's pretty much what I remember.

Now, you can be honest. Did you really think something might happen?

No. I didn't actually think anything would happen.

So you didn't take any preparations for the Y2K bug?

I didn't, but I'm not terribly tech-savvy, so I wouldn't have known what to do, had I been worried about it [laughs]. Yeah.

No, I mean, I've had conversations with people that took all their money out of the bank, and all sorts of –

Wow.

Oh yeah.

Yeah, no, I did not do any of that. I guess I would have been out of luck had my bank account shut down [laughs]. Or any of that not work.

Besides the Y2K, did it seem important to you?

Well, it seemed lucky to be alive at a turning point in history. And it seemed cool and interesting. But it didn't seem important in terms of the computers and the things that people were focusing on. It seemed historical.

Interesting. "Lucky to be alive," you're not the first person to say that. Okay. And this, like I said, is for kind of a time capsule, so you never know who is going to listen to it down the road. Let me ask you this: What will people be talking about in the year 2100?

Oh, wow. Let's see, what will they be talking about...

Most often.

Hmm. Climate change. [laughs]

For better or for worse?

I'm hoping for better, but I fear for worse.

Yeah.

Yeah.

Well, hopefully, the archive will be around, meaning that things haven't totally gone down the toilet.

Yes, that's right. Hopefully they'll have a really cool way of listening to it. Yeah. [laughs].

The heat was getting to be too much, so I thanked Sadie for her time and ended the interview.