

# The Time Machine

## An Invention

by H.G. Wells

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Lowen Clarke discovered and created empowerment script in 2003. After years of research, the first book in empowerment script was published in 2015, a children's picturebook 'Sam the Tram's Dance Club' (available at Apple iTunes) The work was found to be capable of amazing results with trauma, and PTSD.

Some people have found reading in this new format a pleasure, others have found that connection and creativity is sparked, others met with and dealt with emotions, some find it is more efficient reading, some find it helps dyslexia, and others have found it has helped with deep PTSD, trauma and dissociation, when working with a therapist.  
What will you find ?

We invite feedback for the research project : suggestions in end pages.

If you are using this as a strengthening exercise for PTSD, let your therapist know, so they can use skilled observation over a few months.

> READ > THIS > WAY  
WAY < THIS < NOW < AND <

>THE > FIRST > LINE > reads > from > left > to > right.  
.left < to < right < from < reads < line < second < The <

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Feedback invited

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I

## Introduction

The Time Traveller (for so it will be convenient to speak of him) was and shone eyes grey pale His .us to matter recondite a expounding twinkled, and his usually pale face was flushed and animated. The fire the in lights incandescent the of radiance soft the and ,brightly burnt lilies of silver caught the bubbles that flashed and passed in our rather us caressed and embraced ,patents his being ,chairs Our .glasses than submitted to be sat upon, and there was that luxurious the of free gracefully runs thought when ,atmosphere dinner after trammels of precision. And he put it to us in this way - marking the his admired lazily and sat we as forefinger lean a with points earnestness over this new paradox (as we thought it) and his fecundity.

'You must follow me carefully. I shall have to controvert one or two ,instance for ,geometry The .accepted universally almost are that ideas they taught you at school is founded on a misconception.'

'Is not that rather a large thing to expect us to begin upon?' said .hair red with person argumentative an ,Filby

'I do not mean to ask you to accept anything without reasonable ground of know You .you from need I as much as admit soon will You .it for course that a mathematical line, a line of thickness nil, has no real .plane mathematical a has Neither ?that you taught They .existence These things are mere abstractions.'

'That is all right,' said the Psychologist.

'Nor, having only length, breadth, and thickness, can a cube have a '.existence real

'There I object,' said Filby. 'Of course a solid body may exist. All things real

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'So most people think. But wait a moment. Can an instantaneous cube  
'?exist

'Don't follow you,' said Filby.

'Can a cube that does not last for any time at all, have a real  
'?existence

Filby became pensive. 'Clearly,' the Time Traveller proceeded, 'any  
have must it :directions four in extension have must body real  
Length, Breadth, Thickness, and - Duration. But through a natural  
we ,moment a in you to explain will I which ,flesh the of infirmity  
incline to overlook this fact. There are really four dimensions, three  
,is There .Time ,fourth a and ,Space of planes three the call we which  
however, a tendency to draw an unreal distinction between the former  
our that happens it because ,latter the and dimensions three  
consciousness moves intermittently in one direction along the latter  
' .lives our of end the to beginning the from

'That,' said a very young man, making spasmodic efforts to relight his  
' .indeed clear very that' ;lamp the over cigar

'Now, it is very remarkable that this is so extensively overlooked,'  
.cheerfulness of accession slight a with ,Traveller Time the continued  
'Really this is what is meant by the Fourth Dimension, though some  
It .it mean they know not do Dimension Fourth the about talk who people  
is only another way of looking at Time. There is no difference between  
our that except Space of dimensions three the of any and Time  
consciousness moves along it. But some foolish people have got hold of  
say to have they what heard all have You .idea that of side wrong the  
about this Fourth Dimension?'

'I have not,' said the Provincial Mayor.

'It is simply this. That Space, as our mathematicians have it, is  
,Length call may one which ,dimensions three having as of spoken  
Breadth, and Thickness, and is always definable by reference to three  
philosophical some But .others the to angles right at each ,planes  
people have been asking why three dimensions particularly - why not

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even have and ?three other the to angles right at direction another tried to construct a Four - Dimension geometry. Professor Simon Newcomb month a only Society Mathematical York New the to this expounding was or so ago. You know how on a flat surface, which has only two and ,solid dimensional three a of figure a represent can we ,dimensions similarly they think that by models of three dimensions they could the of perspective the master could they if four of one represent thing. See?'

'I think so,' murmured the Provincial Mayor; and, knitting his brows, who one as moving lips his ,state introspective an into lapsed he repeats mystic words. 'Yes, I think I see it now,' he said after some .manner transitory quite a in brightening ,time

'Well, I do not mind telling you I have been at work upon this geometry For .curious are results my of Some .time some for Dimensions Four of instance, here is a portrait of a man at eight years old, another at All .on so and ,three twenty at another ,seventeen at another ,fifteen these are evidently sections, as it were, Three - Dimensional and fixed a is which ,being Dimensioned Four his of representations unalterable thing.

'Scientific people,' proceeded the Time Traveller, after the pause Time that well very know' ,this of assimilation proper the for required is only a kind of Space. Here is a popular scientific diagram, a of movement the shows finger my with trace I line This .record weather the barometer. Yesterday it was so high, yesterday night it fell, then the Surely .here to upward gently so and ,again rose it morning this mercury did not trace this line in any of the dimensions of Space that and ,line a such traced it certainly But ?recognised generally line, therefore, we must conclude, was along the Time - Dimension.'

'But,' said the Medical Man, staring hard at a coal in the fire, 'if has why and ,it is why ,Space of dimension fourth a only really is Time it always been, regarded as something different? And why cannot we move '?Space of dimensions other the in about move we as Time in

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The Time Traveller smiled. 'Are you so sure we can move freely in  
,enough freely forward and backward ,go can we left and Right ?Space  
and men always have done so. I admit we move freely in two dimensions.  
'there us limits Gravitation ?down and up about how But

'Not exactly,' said the Medical Man. 'There are balloons.'

'But before the balloons, save for spasmodic jumping and the  
'movement vertical of freedom no had man ,surface the of inequalities

'Still they could move a little up and down,' said the Medical Man.

'Easier, far easier down than up.'

'And you cannot move at all in Time, you cannot get away from the  
'moment present

'My dear sir, that is just where you are wrong. That is just where the  
present the from away getting always are We .wrong gone has world whole  
moment. Our mental existences, which are immaterial and have no  
uniform a with Dimension Time the along passing are ,dimensions  
velocity from the cradle to the grave. Just as we should travel down  
'surface 'earth the above miles fifty existence our began we if

'But the great difficulty is this,' interrupted the Psychologist. 'You  
about move cannot you but ,Space of directions all in about move can  
in Time.'

'That is the germ of my great discovery. But you are wrong to say that  
an recalling am I if ,instance For .Time in about move cannot we  
incident very vividly I go back to the instant of its occurrence: I  
course Of .moment a for back jump I .say you as ,minded absent become  
we have no means of staying back for any length of Time, any more than  
a But .ground the above feet six staying of has animal an or savage a  
civilised man is better off than the savage in this respect. He can go  
that hope not he should why and ,balloon a in gravitation against up  
ultimately he may be able to stop or accelerate his drift along the  
'?way other the travel and about turn even or ,Dimension Time

## The Time Machine

'Oh, this,' began Filby, 'is all - '

'Why not?' said the Time Traveller.

'It's against reason,' said Filby.

'What reason?' said the Time Traveller.

'You can show black is white by argument,' said Filby, 'but you will  
'me convince never

'Possibly not,' said the Time Traveller. 'But now you begin to see the  
Long .Dimensions Four of geometry the into investigations my of object  
ago I had a vague inkling of a machine - '

'To travel through Time!' exclaimed the Very Young Man.

'That shall travel indifferently in any direction of Space and Time, as  
'determines driver the

Filby contented himself with laughter.

'But I have experimental verification,' said the Time Traveller.

'It would be remarkably convenient for the historian,' the Psychologist  
of account accepted the verify and back travel might One' .suggested  
the Battle of Hastings, for instance!'

'Don't you think you would attract attention?' said the Medical Man.  
'anachronisms for tolerance great no had ancestors Our'

'One might get one's Greek from the very lips of Homer and Plato,' the  
.thought Man Young Very

'In which case they would certainly plough you for the Little - go. The  
'much so Greek improved have scholars German

## The Time Machine

'Then there is the future,' said the Very Young Man. 'Just think! One and ,interest at accumulate to it leave ,money 'one all invest might hurry on ahead!'

'To discover a society,' said I, 'erected on a strictly communistic .basis

'Of all the wild extravagant theories!' began the Psychologist.

'Yes, so it seemed to me, and so I never talked of it until - '

'Experimental verification!' cried I. 'You are going to verify that?'

'The experiment!' cried Filby, who was getting brain - weary.

'Let's see your experiment anyhow,' said the Psychologist, 'though it's .know you ,humbug all

The Time Traveller smiled round at us. Then, still smiling faintly, and of out slowly walked he ,pockets trousers his in deep hands his with the room, and we heard his slippers shuffling down the long passage to .laboratory his

The Psychologist looked at us. 'I wonder what he's got?'

'Some sleight - of - hand trick or other,' said the Medical Man, and Filby he before but ,Burslem at seen had he conjuror a about us tell to tried had finished his preface the Time Traveller came back, and Filby's .collapsed anecdote

II

**The Machine**

The thing the Time Traveller held in his hand was a glittering metallic delicately very and ,clock small a than larger scarcely ,framework made. There was ivory in it, and some transparent crystalline his unless follows that this for ,explicit be must I now And .substance explanation is to be accepted - is an absolutely unaccountable thing. He the about scattered were that tables octagonal small the of one took room, and set it in front of the fire, with two legs on the hearthrug. sat and ,chair a up drew he Then .mechanism the placed he table this On down. The only other object on the table was a small shaded lamp, the a perhaps also were There .model the upon fell which of light bright dozen candles about, two in brass candlesticks upon the mantel and sat I .illuminated brilliantly was room the that so ,sconces in several in a low arm - chair nearest the fire, and I drew this forward so as to sat Filby .fireplace the and Traveller Time the between almost be behind him, looking over his shoulder. The Medical Man and the the ,right the from profile in him watched Mayor Provincial Psychologist from the left. The Very Young Man stood behind the me to incredible appears It .alert the on all were We .Psychologist that any kind of trick, however subtly conceived and however adroitly .conditions these under us upon played been have could ,done

The Time Traveller looked at us, and then at the mechanism. 'Well?' .Psychologist the said

'This little affair,' said the Time Traveller, resting his elbows upon only is' ,apparatus the above together hands his pressing and table the a model. It is my plan for a machine to travel through time. You will odd an is there that and ,askew singularly looks it that notice twinkling appearance about this bar, as though it was in some way one is here ,Also' .finger his with part the to pointed He '.unreal little white lever, and here is another.'

## The Time Machine

The Medical Man got up out of his chair and peered into the thing.  
'It', he said, 'made beautifully'

'It took two years to make,' retorted the Time Traveller. Then, when we  
went to the table, he said, 'Medical Man, the action of the lever had  
been clearly understood that this lever, being pressed over, sends  
the motion of the machine into the future and reverses it. This saddle  
represents the seat of a time traveller. Presently it will go off and  
the lever will be pressed to go and I will vanish, pass into future  
Time, and disappear. Have a good look at the thing, and satisfy  
yourself that there is no trickery. I don't want to waste this model,  
and then be told I'm a quack'

There was a minute's pause perhaps. The Psychologist seemed about to  
put forth the Time Traveller. Then his mind changed, but he spoke  
to me, pointing his finger towards the lever. 'No,' he said suddenly.  
'Lend me your hand, individual that took the Psychologist to turning  
And 'hand in his own and told him to put out his forefinger. So that  
it was the Time Machine model that sent forth the Psychologist  
on his interminable voyage. We all saw the lever turn. I am absolutely  
certain that there was no trickery, and the wind of breath was there  
and the lamp jumped. One of the candles on the mantel was blown out,  
and the little ghost as seen was indistinct became suddenly machine  
for a second perhaps, as an eddy of faintly glittering brass and ivory;  
and it was gone, vanished for the lamp table was bare

Everyone was silent for a minute. Then Filby said he was damned.

The Psychologist recovered from his stupor, and suddenly looked under  
the table. 'Well,' he cheerfully laughed, 'that's the Time Traveller  
that said, with a reminiscence of the Psychologist. Then, getting up,  
he went to the jar of tobacco on the mantel and began to fill his pipe  
with it.'

We stared at each other. 'Look here,' said the Medical Man, 'are you  
in earnest about this? Do you seriously believe that machine has  
travelled into time?'

## The Time Machine

'Certainly,' said the Time Traveller, stooping to light a pipe at the fire. (The Psychologist, to show that he was not unhinged, helped have I, more is What'). uncut it light to tried and cigar a to himself a big machine nearly finished in there' - he indicated the on journey a have to mean I together put is that when and' laboratory my own account.'

'You mean to say that that machine has travelled into the future?' said .Filby

'Into the future or the past - I don't, for certain, know which.'

After an interval the Psychologist had an inspiration. 'It must have .said he ',anywhere gone has it if past the into gone

'Why?' said the Time Traveller.

'Because I presume that it has not moved in space, and if it travelled must it since ,time this all here be still would it future the into have travelled through this time.'

'But,' said I, 'If it travelled into the past it would have been we when Thursday last and ;room this into first came we when visible were here; and the Thursday before that; and so forth!'

'Serious objections,' remarked the Provincial Mayor, with an air of .Traveller Time the towards turning ,impartiality

'Not a bit,' said the Time Traveller, and, to the Psychologist: 'You ,threshold the below presentation 'It .that explain can You .think you know, diluted presentation.'

'Of course,' said the Psychologist, and reassured us. 'That's a simple ,enough plain 'It .it of thought have should I .psychology of point and helps the paradox delightfully. We cannot see it, nor can we wheel a of spoke the can we than more any ,machine this appreciate spinning, or a bullet flying through the air. If it is travelling it if ,are we than faster times hundred a or times fifty time through

## The Time Machine

gets through a minute while we get through a second, the impression it  
it what of hundredth one or fiftieth one only be course of will creates  
would make if it were not travelling in time. That's plain enough.' He  
You' .been had machine the which in space the through hand his passed  
see?' he said, laughing.

We sat and stared at the vacant table for a minute or so. Then the Time  
.all it of thought we what us asked Traveller

'It sounds plausible enough tonight,' said the Medical Man; 'but wait  
' .morning the of sense common the for Wait .tomorrow until

'Would you like to see the Time Machine itself?' asked the Time  
way the led he ,hand his in lamp the taking ,therewith And .Traveller  
down the long, draughty corridor to his laboratory. I remember vividly  
of dance the ,silhouette in head broad ,queer his ,light flickering the  
the shadows, how we all followed him, puzzled but incredulous, and how  
little the of edition larger a beheld we laboratory the in there  
mechanism which we had seen vanish from before our eyes. Parts were of  
of out sawn or filed been certainly had parts ,ivory of parts ,nickel  
rock crystal. The thing was generally complete, but the twisted  
of sheets some beside bench the upon unfinished lay bars crystalline  
drawings, and I took one up for a better look at it. Quartz it seemed  
.be to

'Look here,' said the Medical Man, 'are you perfectly serious? Or is  
'?Christmas last us showed you ghost that like trick a this

'Upon that machine,' said the Time Traveller, holding the lamp aloft,  
in serious more never was I ?plain that Is .time explore to intend I'  
my life.'

None of us quite knew how to take it.

I caught Filby's eye over the shoulder of the Medical Man, and he  
.solemnly me at winked

III

**The Time Traveller Returns**

I think that at that time none of us quite believed in the Time  
are who men those of one was Traveller Time the ,is fact The .Machine  
too clever to be believed: you never felt that you saw all round him;  
,ambush in ingenuity some ,reserve subtle some suspected always you  
behind his lucid frankness. Had Filby shown the model and explained the  
far him shown have should we ,words 'Traveller Time the in matter  
less scepticism. For we should have perceived his motives: a  
more had Traveller Time the But .Filby understand could butcher pork  
than a touch of whim among his elements, and we distrusted him. Things  
his in tricks seemed man clever less a of fame the made have would that  
hands. It is a mistake to do things too easily. The serious people who  
were they ;deportment his of sure quite felt never seriously him took  
somehow aware that trusting their reputations for judgment with him was  
of any think 'don I So .china eggshell with nursery a furnishing like  
us said very much about time travelling in the interval between that  
in ,doubt no ,ran potentialities odd its though ,next the and Thursday  
most of our minds: its plausibility, that is, its practical  
utter of and anachronism of possibilities curious the ,incredibleness  
confusion it suggested. For my own part, I was particularly preoccupied  
the with discussing remember I That .model the of trick the with  
Medical Man, whom I met on Friday at the Linnaean. He said he had seen a  
the on stress considerable laid and  $\sqrt{T}$  at thing similar  
blowing - out of the candle. But how the trick was done he could not  
.explain

The next Thursday I went again to Richmond - I suppose I was one of the  
or four found ,late arriving ,and guests constant most 'Traveller Time  
five men already assembled in his drawing - room. The Medical Man was  
his and hand one in paper of sheet a with fire the before standing  
watch in the other. I looked round for the Time Traveller, and - 'It's  
have better 'we suppose I' .Man Medical the said ',now seven past half  
dinner?'

'Where's - ?' said I, naming our host.

## The Time Machine

'You've just come? It's rather odd. He's unavoidably detained. He asks  
Says .back not 'he if seven at dinner with off lead to note this in me  
he'll explain when he comes.'

'It seems a pity to let the dinner spoil,' said the Editor of a  
.bell the rang Doctor the thereupon and ;paper daily known well

The Psychologist was the only person besides the Doctor and myself who  
Editor the ,Blank were men other The .dinner previous the attended had  
aforementioned, a certain journalist, and another - a quiet, shy man with  
,went observation my as far as ,who and ,know 'didn I whom beard a  
never opened his mouth all the evening. There was some speculation at  
suggested I and ,absence 'Traveller Time the about table dinner the  
time travelling, in a half - jocular spirit. The Editor wanted that  
of account wooden a volunteered Psychologist the and ,him to explained  
the 'ingenious paradox and trick' we had witnessed that day week. He  
corridor the from door the when exposition his of midst the in was  
opened slowly and without noise. I was facing the door, and saw it  
the and ,wider opened door the And '!last At' .said I '!Hallo' .first  
Time Traveller stood before us. I gave a cry of surprise. 'Good  
him saw who ,Man Medical the cried '?matter the 'what ,man !heavens  
next. And the whole tableful turned towards the door.

He was in an amazing plight. His coat was dusty and dirty, and smeared  
to seemed it as and ,disordered hair his ;sleeves the down green with  
me greyer - either with dust and dirt or because its colour had actually  
cut a it on cut brown a had chin his ;pale ghastly was face His .faded  
half - healed; his expression was haggard and drawn, as by intense  
been had he if as ,doorway the in hesitated he moment a For .suffering  
dazzled by the light. Then he came into the room. He walked with just  
in him at stared We .tramps footsore in seen have I as limp a such  
silence, expecting him to speak.

He said not a word, but came painfully to the table, and made a motion  
it pushed and ,champagne of glass a filled Editor The .wine the towards  
towards him. He drained it, and it seemed to do him good: for he looked  
his across flickered smile old his of ghost the and ,table the round  
face. 'What on earth have you been up to, man?' said the Doctor. The

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he 'you disturb me let 'Don' .hear to seem not did Traveller Time said, with a certain faltering articulation. 'I'm all right.' He draught a at off it took and ,more for glass his out held ,stopped 'That's good,' he said. His eyes grew brighter, and a faint colour came certain a with faces our over flickered glance His .cheeks his into dull approval, and then went round the warm and comfortable room. Then 'I .words his among way his feeling were it as still ,again spoke he going to wash and dress, and then I'll come down and explain things.... 'meat of bit a for starving 'I .mutton that of some me Save

He looked across at the Editor, who was a rare visitor, and hoped he said ',presently you Tell' .question a began Editor The .right all was the Time Traveller. 'I'm - funny! Be all right in a minute.'

He put down his glass, and walked towards the staircase door. Again I and ,footfall his of sound padding soft the and lameness his remarked standing up in my place, I saw his feet as he went out. He had nothing door the Then .socks stained blood ,tattered of pair a but them on closed upon him. I had half a mind to follow, till I remembered how he was mind my ,perhaps ,minute a For .himself about fuss any detested wool - gathering. Then, 'Remarkable Behaviour of an Eminent Scientist,' I this And .headlines in )wont his after( thinking ,say Editor the heard brought my attention back to the bright dinner - table.

'What's the game?' said the Journalist. 'Has he been doing the Amateur my read and ,Psychologist the of eye the met I '.follow 'don I ?Cadger own interpretation in his face. I thought of the Time Traveller limping .lameness his noticed had else anyone think 'don I .upstairs painfully

The first to recover completely from this surprise was the Medical Man, at waiting servants have to hated Traveller Time the bell the rang who dinner - for a hot plate. At that the Editor turned to his knife and fork .resumed was dinner The .suit followed Man Silent the and ,grunt a with Conversation was exclamatory for a little while with gaps of our Does' .curiosity his in fervent got Editor the then and ;wonderment friend eke out his modest income with a crossing? or has he his business this 'it assured feel I' .inquired he '?phases Nebuchadnezzar of the Time Machine,' I said, and took up the Psychologist's account of The .incredulous frankly were guests new The .meeting previous our

## The Time Machine

Editor raised objections. 'What was this time travelling? A man  
'?he could ,paradox a in rolling by dust with himself cover 'couldn  
And then, as the idea came home to him, he resorted to caricature.  
,too Journalist The ?Future the in brushes clothes any they 'Hadn  
would not believe at any price, and joined the Editor in the easy work  
of kind new the both were They .thing whole the on ridicule heaping of  
journalist - very joyous, irreverent young men. 'Our Special  
was Journalist the ',reports Tomorrow after Day the in Correspondent  
saying - or rather shouting - when the Time Traveller came back. He was  
look haggard his save nothing and ,clothes evening ordinary in dressed  
remained of the change that had startled me.

'I say,' said the Editor hilariously, 'these chaps here say you have  
little about all us Tell !week next of middle the into travelling been  
Rosebery, will you? What will you take for the lot?'

The Time Traveller came to the place reserved for him without a word.  
What' .said he '?mutton my 'Where' .way old his in ,quietly smiled He  
a treat it is to stick a fork into meat again!'

'Story!' cried the Editor.

'Story be damned!' said the Time Traveller. 'I want something to eat. I  
And .Thanks .arteries my into peptone some get I until word a say 'won  
the salt.'

'One word,' said I. 'Have you been time travelling?'

'Yes,' said the Time Traveller, with his mouth full, nodding his head.

'I'd give a shilling a line for a verbatim note,' said the Editor. The  
with it rang and Man Silent the towards glass his pushed Traveller Time  
his fingernail; at which the Silent Man, who had been staring at his  
dinner the of rest The .wine him poured and ,convulsively started ,face  
was uncomfortable. For my own part, sudden questions kept on rising to  
Journalist The .others the with same the was it say dare I and ,lips my  
tried to relieve the tension by telling anecdotes of Hettie Potter. The  
the displayed and ,dinner his to attention his devoted Traveller Time  
appetite of a tramp. The Medical Man smoked a cigarette, and watched

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even seemed Man Silent The .eyelashes his through Traveller Time the more clumsy than usual, and drank champagne with regularity and Traveller Time the last At .nervousness sheer of out determination pushed his plate away, and looked round us. 'I suppose I must amazing most a had 'I .starving simply was I' .said he ',apologise time.' He reached out his hand for a cigar, and cut the end. 'But come greasy over tell to story a long too 'It .room smoking the into plates.' And ringing the bell in passing, he led the way into the .room adjoining

'You have told Blank, and Dash, and Chose about the machine?' he said .guests new three the naming and chair easy his in back leaning ,me to

'But the thing's a mere paradox,' said the Editor.

'I can't argue tonight. I don't mind telling you the story, but I can't to happened has what of story the you tell' ,on went he ',will I .argue me, if you like, but you must refrain from interruptions. I want to 'It !it be So .lying like sound will it of Most .Badly .it tell true - every word of it, all the same. I was in my laboratory at four human no as days such days eight lived 'I then since and 'o being ever lived before! I'm nearly worn out, but I shan't sleep till no But .bed to go shall I Then .you to over thing this told 'I interruptions! Is it agreed?'

'Agreed,' said the Editor, and the rest of us echoed 'Agreed.' And with sat He .forth it set have I as story his began Traveller Time the that back in his chair at first, and spoke like a weary man. Afterwards he much too only with feel I down it writing In .animated more got keenness the inadequacy of pen and ink - and, above all, my own ,suppose will I ,read You .quality its express to inadequacy attentively enough; but you cannot see the speaker's white, sincere intonation the hear nor ,lamp little the of circle bright the in face of his voice. You cannot know how his expression followed the turns of the in candles the for ,shadow in were hearers us of Most !story his smoking - room had not been lighted, and only the face of the Journalist were downward knees the from Man Silent the of legs the and illuminated. At first we glanced now and again at each other. After a .face 'Traveller Time the at only looked and ,that do to ceased we time

IV

**Time Travelling**

'I told some of you last Thursday of the principles of the Time  
the in incomplete ,itself thing actual the you showed and ,Machine  
workshop. There it is now, a little travel - worn, truly; and one of the  
'it of rest the but ;bent rail brass a and ,cracked is bars ivory  
sound enough. I expected to finish it on Friday; but on Friday, when  
nickel the of one that found I ,done nearly was together putting the  
bars was exactly one inch too short, and this I had to get remade; so  
ten at was It .morning this until complete not was thing the that  
o'clock today that the first of all Time Machines began its career. I  
of drop more one put ,again screws the all tried ,tap last a it gave  
oil on the quartz rod, and sat myself in the saddle. I suppose a  
at wonder same the much feels skull his to pistol a holds who suicide  
what will come next as I felt then. I took the starting lever in one  
almost and ,first the pressed ,other the in one stopping the and hand  
immediately the second. I seemed to reel; I felt a nightmare sensation  
.before as exactly laboratory the saw I ,round looking ,and ;falling of  
Had anything happened? For a moment I suspected that my intellect had  
it ,seemed it as ,before moment A .clock the noted I Then .me tricked  
had stood at a minute or so past ten; now it was nearly half - past  
!three

'I drew a breath, set my teeth, gripped the starting lever with both  
.dark went and hazy got laboratory The .thud a with off went and ,hands  
Mrs. Watchett came in and walked, apparently without seeing me, towards  
the traverse to so or minute a her took it suppose I .door garden the  
place, but to me she seemed to shoot across the room like a rocket. I  
the like came night The .position extreme its to over lever the pressed  
turning out of a lamp, and in another moment came tomorrow. The  
Tomorrow .fainter ever and fainter then ,hazy and faint grew laboratory  
night came black, then day again, night again, day again, faster and  
dumb ,strange a and ,ears my filled murmur eddying An .still faster  
confusedness descended on my mind.

## The Time Machine

'I am afraid I cannot convey the peculiar sensations of time exactly feeling a is There .unpleasant excessively are They .travelling like that one has upon a switchback - of a helpless headlong motion! I I As .smash imminent an of ,too ,anticipation horrible same the felt put on pace, night followed day like the flapping of a black wing. The ,me from away fall to presently seemed laboratory the of suggestion dim and I saw the sun hopping swiftly across the sky, leaping it every had laboratory the supposed I .day a marking minute every and ,minute been destroyed and I had come into the open air. I had a dim impression any of conscious be to fast too going already was I but ,scaffolding of moving things. The slowest snail that ever crawled dashed by too fast excessively was light and darkness of succession twinkling The .me for painful to the eye. Then, in the intermittent darkneses, I saw the a had and ,full to new from quarters her through swiftly spinning moon faint glimpse of the circling stars. Presently, as I went on, still one into merged day and night of palpitation the ,velocity gaining continuous greyness; the sky took on a wonderful deepness of blue, a sun jerking the ;twilight early of that like colour luminous splendid became a streak of fire, a brilliant arch, in space; the moon a fainter and now save ,stars the of nothing see could I and ;band fluctuating then a brighter circle flickering in the blue.

'The landscape was misty and vague. I was still on the hillside upon and grey me above rose shoulder the and ,stands now house this which dim. I saw trees growing and changing like puffs of vapour, now brown, huge saw I .away passed and ,shivered ,spread ,grew they ;green now buildings rise up faint and fair, and pass like dreams. The whole .eyes my under flowing and melting changed seemed earth the of surface The little hands upon the dials that registered my speed raced round and up swayed belt sun the that noted I Presently .faster and faster down, from solstice to solstice, in a minute or less, and that the minute by minute and ;minute a year a over was pace my consequently white snow flashed across the world, and vanished, and was followed by .spring of green brief ,bright the

'The unpleasant sensations of the start were less poignant now. They ,remarked I .exhilaration hysterical of kind a into last at merged indeed, a clumsy swaying of the machine, for which I was unable to kind a with so ,it to attend to confused too was mind my But .account

## The Time Machine

of madness growing upon me, I flung myself into futurity. At first I knew these but anything of thought scarce, stopping of thought scarce sensations. But presently a fresh series of impressions grew up in my mind until dread certain a therewith and curiosity certain a mind they took complete possession of me. What strange developments of I, civilisation rudimentary our upon advances wonderful what, humanity thought, might not appear when I came to look nearly into the dim and great saw I! eyes my before fluctuated and raced that world elusive splendid architecture rising about me, more massive than any buildings I. mist and glimmer of built, seemed it as, yet and, time own our of saw a richer green flow up the hillside, and remain there, without any earth the confusion my of veil the through Even. intermission wintry seemed very fair. And so my mind came round to the business of .stopping

'The peculiar risk lay in the possibility of my finding some substance travelled I as long So. occupied, machine the or, I which space the in at a high velocity through time, this scarcely mattered: I was, so to of interstices the through vapour a like slipping was attenuated, speak intervening substances! But to come to a stop involved the jamming of meant; way my in lay whatever into, molecule by molecule, myself bringing my atoms into such intimate contact with those of the obstacle reaching far a possibly reaction chemical profound a that explosion - would result, and blow myself and my apparatus out of all to occurred had possibility This. Unknown the into dimensions possible me again and again while I was making the machine; but then I had man a risks the of one risk unavoidable an as it accepted cheerfully has got to take! Now the risk was inevitable, I no longer saw it in the absolute the, insensibly, that is fact The. light cheerful same strangeness of everything, the sickly jarring and swaying of the absolutely had, falling prolonged of feeling the, all above, machine upset my nerves. I told myself that I could never stop, and with a gust I, fool impatient an Like. forthwith stop to resolved I petulance of lugged over the lever, and incontinently the thing went reeling over, .air the through headlong flung was I and

'There was the sound of a clap of thunder in my ears. I may have been was I and, me round hissing was hail pitiless A. moment a for stunned sitting on soft turf in front of the overset machine. Everything still

## The Time Machine

was ears my in confusion the that remarked I presently but ,grey seemed gone. I looked round me. I was on what seemed to be a little lawn in a their that noticed I and ,bushes rhododendron by surrounded ,garden mauve and purple blossoms were dropping in a shower under the beating cloud little a in hung hail dancing ,rebounding The .hailstones the of over the machine, and drove along the ground like smoke. In a moment I has who man a to' ,I said ',hospitality Fine' .skin the to wet was travelled innumerable years to see you.'

'Presently I thought what a fool I was to get wet. I stood up and white some in apparently carved ,figure colossal A .me round looked stone, loomed indistinctly beyond the rhododendrons through the hazy .invisible was world the of else all But .downpour

'My sensations would be hard to describe. As the columns of hail grew for ,large very was It .distinctly more figure white the saw I ,thinner a silver birch - tree touched its shoulder. It was of white marble, in being of instead ,wings the but ,sphinx winged a like something shape carried vertically at the sides, were spread so that it seemed to thick was and ,bronze of was ,me to appeared it ,pedestal The .hover with verdigris. It chanced that the face was towards me; the sightless the on smile a of shadow faint the was there ;me watch to seemed eyes lips. It was greatly weather - worn, and that imparted an unpleasant a half space little a for it at looking stood I .disease of suggestion minute, perhaps, or half an hour. It seemed to advance and to recede as from eyes my tore I last At .thinner or denser it before drove hail the it for a moment, and saw that the hail curtain had worn threadbare, and .sun the of promise the with lightening was sky the that

'I looked up again at the crouching white shape, and the full temerity hazy that when appear might What .me upon suddenly came voyage my of curtain was altogether withdrawn? What might not have happened to men? this in if What ?passion common a into grown had cruelty if What interval the race had lost its manliness, and had developed into might I ?powerful overwhelmingly and ,unsympathetic ,inhuman something seem some old - world savage animal, only the more dreadful and incontinently be to creature foul a likeness common our for disgusting slain.

## The Time Machine

'Already I saw other vast shapes - huge buildings with intricate parapets me upon in creeping dimly hillside wooded a with ,columns tall and through the lessening storm. I was seized with a panic fear. I turned I As .it readjust to hard strove and ,Machine Time the to frantically did so the shafts of the sun smote through the thunderstorm. The grey a of garments trailing the like vanished and aside swept was downpour ghost. Above me, in the intense blue of the summer sky, some faint buildings great The .nothingness into whirled cloud of shreds brown about me stood out clear and distinct, shining with the wet of the piled hailstones unmelted the by white in out picked and ,thunderstorm along their courses. I felt naked in a strange world. I felt as perhaps will and above wings hawk the knowing ,air clear the in feel may bird a swoop. My fear grew to frenzy. I took a breathing space, set my teeth, gave It .machine the with ,knee and wrist ,fiercely grappled again and under my desperate onset and turned over. It struck my chin violently. heavily panting stood I ,lever the on other the ,saddle the on hand One in attitude to mount again.

'But with this recovery of a prompt retreat my courage recovered. I remote the of world this at fearfully less and curiously more looked future. In a circular opening, high up in the wall of the nearer house, and ,me seen had They .robes soft rich in clad figures of group a saw I their faces were directed towards me.

'Then I heard voices approaching me. Coming through the bushes by the these of One .running men of shoulders and heads the were Sphinx White emerged in a pathway leading straight to the little lawn upon which I feet four perhaps creature slight a was He .machine my with stood high - clad in a purple tunic, girdled at the waist with a leather belt. his on were which distinguish clearly not could I buskins or Sandals feet; his legs were bare to the knees, and his head was bare. Noticing .was air the warm how time first the for noticed I ,that

'He struck me as being a very beautiful and graceful creature, but beautiful more the of me reminded face flushed His .frail indescribably kind of consumptive - that hectic beauty of which we used to hear so my took I .confidence regained suddenly I him of sight the At .much hands from the machine.

V

### **In the Golden Age**

'In another moment we were standing face to face, I and this fragile my into laughed and me to up straight came He .futurity of out thing eyes. The absence from his bearing of any sign of fear struck me at spoke and him following were who others two the to turned he Then .once to them in a strange and very sweet and liquid tongue.

'There were others coming, and presently a little group of perhaps them of One .me about were creatures exquisite these of ten or eight addressed me. It came into my head, oddly enough, that my voice was too ,ears my to pointing ,and ,head my shook I So .them for deep and harsh shook it again. He came a step forward, hesitated, and then touched my and back my upon tentacles little soft other felt I Then .hand shoulders. They wanted to make sure I was real. There was nothing in pretty these in something was there ,Indeed .alarming all at this little people that inspired confidence - a graceful gentleness, a certain fancy could I that frail so looked they ,besides And .ease childlike myself flinging the whole dozen of them about like ninepins. But I made feeling hands pink little their saw I when them warn to motion sudden a at the Time Machine. Happily then, when it was not too late, I thought the of bars the over reaching and ,forgotten hitherto had I danger a of machine I unscrewed the little levers that would set it in motion, and in do could I what see to again turned I Then .pocket my in these put the way of communication.

'And then, looking more nearly into their features, I saw some further ,hair Their .prettiness of type china Dresden their in peculiarities which was uniformly curly, came to a sharp end at the neck and cheek; ears their and ,face the on it of suggestion faintest the not was there were singularly minute. The mouths were small, with bright red, rather and large were eyes The .point a to ran chins little the and ,lips thin mild; and - this may seem egotism on my part - I fancied even that there .them in expected have might I interest the of lack certain a was

## The Time Machine

'As they made no effort to communicate with me, but simply stood round the began I ,other each to notes cooing soft in speaking and smiling me conversation. I pointed to the Time Machine and to myself. Then, At .sun the to pointed I ,Time express to how moment a for hesitating once a quaintly pretty little figure in chequered purple and white of sound the imitating by me astonished then and ,gesture my followed thunder.

'For a moment I was staggered, though the import of his gesture was these were :abruptly mind my into come had question The .enough plain creatures fools? You may hardly understand how it took me. You see, I and Hundred Eight year the of people the that anticipated always had Two Thousand odd would be incredibly in front of us in knowledge, art, showed that question a me asked suddenly them of one Then .everything him to be on the intellectual level of one of our five - year - old a in sun the from come had I if ,fact in ,me asked children thunderstorm! It let loose the judgment I had suspended upon their of flow A .features fragile and ,limbs light frail their ,clothes disappointment rushed across my mind. For a moment I felt that I had .vain in Machine Time the built

'I nodded, pointed to the sun, and gave them such a vivid rendering of and so or pace a withdrew all They .them startled as thunderclap a bowed. Then came one laughing towards me, carrying a chain of beautiful was idea The .neck my about it put and ,me to new altogether flowers received with melodious applause; and presently they were all running I until me upon them flinging laughingly and ,flowers for fro and to was almost smothered with blossom. You who have never seen the like can of years countless flowers wonderful and delicate what imagine scarcely culture had created. Then someone suggested that their plaything should sphinx the past led was I so and ,building nearest the in exhibited be of white marble, which had seemed to watch me all the while with a .stone fretted of edifice grey vast a towards ,astonishment my at smile As I went with them the memory of my confident anticipations of a irresistible with ,came posterity intellectual and grave profoundly merriment, to my mind.

## The Time Machine

'The building had a huge entry, and was altogether of colossal dimensions. The crowd growing there with the little people, and with the big open portals that yawned before me over saw I world the of impression general My .mysterious and shadowy their heads was a tangled waste of beautiful bushes and flowers, a long garden weedless yet and neglected strange white flowers, measuring a foot perhaps across the spread of variegated the among ,wild if as ,scattered grew They .petals waxen the shrubs, but, as I say, I did not examine them closely at this time. The .rhododendrons the among turf the on deserted left was Machine Time

'The arch of the doorway was richly carved, but naturally I did not suggestions saw I fancied I though ,narrowly very carving the observe of old Phœnician decorations as I passed through, and it struck me that brightly more Several .worn weather and broken badly very were they clad people met me in the doorway, and so we entered, I, dressed in garlanded ,enough grotesque looking ,garments century nineteenth dingy with flowers, and surrounded by an eddying mass of bright, of whirl melodious a in ,limbs white shining and robes coloured soft laughter and laughing speech.

'The big doorway opened into a proportionately great hall hung with with glazed partially ,windows the and ,shadow in was roof The .brown coloured glass and partially unglazed, admitted a tempered light. The not ,metal white hard very some of blocks huge of up made was floor plates nor slabs - blocks, and it was so much worn, as I judged by the along channelled deeply be to as ,generations past of fro and to going the more frequented ways. Transverse to the length were innumerable from foot a ,perhaps ,raised ,stone polished of slabs of made tables the floor, and upon these were heaps of fruits. Some I recognised as a they part most the for but ,orange and raspberry hypertrophied of kind were strange.

'Between the tables was scattered a great number of cushions. Upon .likewise do to me for signing ,themselves seated conductors my these With a pretty absence of ceremony they began to eat the fruit with round the into ,forth so and ,stalks and peel flinging ,hands their openings in the sides of the tables. I was not loath to follow their hall the surveyed I so did I As .hungry and thirsty felt I for ,example

## The Time Machine

at my leisure.

'And perhaps the thing that struck me most was its dilapidated look. The pattern geometrical a only displayed which, windows glass stained The were broken in many places, and the curtains that hung across the lower the of corner the that eye my caught it And .dust with thick were end marble table near me was fractured. Nevertheless, the general effect of couple a, perhaps, were There .picturesque and rich extremely was hundred people dining in the hall, and most of them, seated as near to little their, interest with me watching were, come could they as me eyes shining over the fruit they were eating. All were clad in the same .material silky, strong yet and, soft

'Fruit, by the bye, was all their diet. These people of the remote of spite in, them with was I while and, vegetarians strict were future some carnal cravings, I had to be frugivorous also. Indeed, I found the followed had, dogs, sheep, cattle, horses that afterwards Ichthyosaurus into extinction. But the fruits were very delightful; was I time the all season in be to seemed that, particular in, one there - a floury thing in a three - sided husk - was especially good, and I, fruits strange these all by puzzled was I first At .staple my it made and by the strange flowers I saw, but later I began to perceive their .import

'However, I am telling you of my fruit dinner in the distant future make to determined I, checked little a was appetite my as soon So .now a resolute attempt to learn the speech of these new men of mine. convenient a seemed fruits The .do to thing next the was that Clearly thing to begin upon, and holding one of these up I began a series of difficulty considerable some had I .gestures and sounds interrogative in conveying my meaning. At first my efforts met with a stare of haired fair a presently but, laughter inextinguishable or surprise little creature seemed to grasp my intention and repeated a name. They, other each to length great at business the explain and chatter to had and my first attempts to make the exquisite little sounds of their .amusement, uncivil if, genuine of amount immense an caused language However, I felt like a schoolmaster amidst children, and persisted, and; command my at least at substantives noun of score a had I presently and then I got to demonstrative pronouns, and even the verb 'to eat.'

## The Time Machine

to wanted and tired soon people little the and ,work slow was it But  
get away from my interrogations, so I determined, rather of necessity,  
.inclined felt they when doses little in lessons their give them let to  
And very little doses I found they were before long, for I never met  
.fatigued easily more or indolent more people

VI

**The Sunset of Mankind**

'A queer thing I soon discovered about my little hosts, and that was of cries eager with me to come would They .interest of lack their astonishment, like children, but, like children they would soon stop my and dinner The .toy other some after away wander and ,me examining conversational beginnings ended, I noted for the first time that almost how ,too ,odd is It .gone were first at me surrounded had who those all speedily I came to disregard these little people. I went out through was hunger my as soon as again world sunlit the into portal the satisfied. I was continually meeting more of these men of the future, ,and ,me about laugh and chatter ,distance little a me follow would who having smiled and gesticulated in a friendly way, leave me again to my .devices own

'The calm of evening was upon the world as I emerged from the great At .sun setting the of glow warm the by lit was scene the and ,hall first things were very confusing. Everything was so entirely different had I building big The .flowers the even known had I world the from left was situated on the slope of a broad river valley, but the Thames to resolved I .position present its from mile a ,perhaps ,shifted had mount to the summit of a crest, perhaps a mile and a half away, from Eight year the in planet our this of view wider a get could I which Hundred and Two Thousand Seven Hundred and One, A.D. For that, I should .recorded machine my of dials little the date the was ,explain

'As I walked I was watching for every impression that could possibly the found I which in splendour ruinous of condition the explain to help world - for ruinous it was. A little way up the hill, for instance, was a vast a ,aluminium of masses by together bound ,granite of heap great labyrinth of precipitous walls and crumpled heaps, amidst which were but possibly nettles plants like pagoda beautiful very of heaps thick wonderfully tinted with brown about the leaves, and incapable of ,structure vast some of remains derelict the evidently was It .stinging to what end built I could not determine. It was here that I was first the experience strange very a have to ,date later a at ,destined

## The Time Machine

intimation of a still stranger discovery - but of that I will speak in  
.place proper its

'Looking round, with a sudden thought, from a terrace on which I rested  
.seen be to houses small no were there that realised I ,while a for  
Apparently the single house, and possibly even the household, had  
,buildings like palace were greenery the among there and Here .vanished  
but the house and the cottage, which form such characteristic features  
.disappeared had ,landscape English own our of

"Communism," said I to myself.

'And on the heels of that came another thought. I looked at the  
I ,flash a in ,Then .me following were that figures little dozen half  
perceived that all had the same form of costume, the same soft hairless  
,strange seem may It .limb of rotundity girlish same the and ,visage  
perhaps, that I had not noticed this before. But everything was so  
the all in and ,costume In .enough plainly fact the saw I ,Now .strange  
differences of texture and bearing that now mark off the sexes from  
children the And .alike were future the of people these ,other each  
seemed to my eyes to be but the miniatures of their parents. I judged  
,precocious extremely were time that of children the that then  
physically at least, and I found afterwards abundant verification of my  
.opinion

'Seeing the ease and security in which these people were living, I felt  
would one what all after was sexes the of resemblance close this that  
expect; for the strength of a man and the softness of a woman, the  
are occupations of differentiation the and ,family the of institution  
mere militant necessities of an age of physical force. Where population  
than rather evil an becomes childbearing much ,abundant and balanced is  
a blessing to the State; where violence comes but rarely and offspring  
an for necessity no is there indeed necessity less is there ,secure are  
efficient family, and the specialisation of the sexes with reference to  
even this of beginnings some see We .disappears needs 'children their  
in our own time, and in this future age it was complete. This, I must  
appreciate to was I ,Later .time the at speculation my was ,you remind  
how far it fell short of the reality.

## The Time Machine

'While I was musing upon these things, my attention was attracted by a  
a in thought I .cupola a under well a like ,structure little pretty  
transitory way of the oddness of wells still existing, and then resumed  
towards buildings large no were There .speculations my of thread the  
the top of the hill, and as my walking powers were evidently  
a With .time first the for alone left presently was I ,miraculous  
strange sense of freedom and adventure I pushed on up to the crest.

'There I found a seat of some yellow metal that I did not recognise,  
in smothered half and rust pinkish of kind a with places in corroded  
soft moss, the arm - rests cast and filed into the resemblance of  
our of view broad the surveyed I and ,it on down sat I .heads 'griffins  
old world under the sunset of that long day. It was as sweet and fair a  
horizon the below gone already had sun The .seen ever have I as view  
and the west was flaming gold, touched with some horizontal bars of  
the which in ,Thames the of valley the was Below .crimson and purple  
river lay like a band of burnished steel. I have already spoken of the  
ruins in some ,greenery variegated the among about dotted palaces great  
and some still occupied. Here and there rose a white or silvery figure  
sharp the came there and here ,earth the of garden waste the in  
vertical line of some cupola or obelisk. There were no hedges, no signs  
had earth whole the ;agriculture of evidences no ,rights proprietary of  
become a garden.

'So watching, I began to put my interpretation upon the things I had  
was interpretation my ,evening that me to itself shaped it as and ,seen  
something in this way. (Afterwards I found I had got only a half  
) .truth the of facet one of glimpse a only or truth

'It seemed to me that I had happened upon humanity upon the wane. The  
first the For .mankind of sunset the of thinking me set sunset ruddy  
time I began to realise an odd consequence of the social effort in  
a is it ,think to come ,yet And .engaged present at are we which  
logical consequence enough. Strength is the outcome of need; security  
conditions the ameliorating of work The .feebleness on premium a sets  
of life - the true civilising process that makes life more and more  
united a of triumph One .climax a to on steadily gone had secure  
humanity over Nature had followed another. Things that are now mere  
carried and hand in put deliberately projects become had dreams

## The Time Machine

forward. And the harvest was what I saw!

'After all, the sanitation and the agriculture of today are still in a but attacked has time our of science The .stage rudimentary the little department of the field of human disease, but, even so, it agriculture Our .persistently and steadily very operations its spreads and horticulture destroy a weed just here and there and cultivate number greater the leaving ,plants wholesome of so or score a perhaps to fight out a balance as they can. We improve our favourite plants and new a now ;breeding selective by gradually are they few how and animals and better peach, now a seedless grape, now a sweeter and larger them improve We .cattle of breed convenient more a now ,flower gradually, because our ideals are vague and tentative, and our our in slow and shy is ,too ,Nature because ;limited very is knowledge clumsy hands. Some day all this will be better organised, and still The .eddies the of spite in current the of drift the is That .better whole world will be intelligent, educated, and co - operating; things the In .Nature of subjugation the towards faster and faster move will end, wisely and carefully we shall readjust the balance of animal and .needs human our suit to life vegetable

'This adjustment, I say, must have been done, and done well; done had machine my which across Time of space the in ,Time all for indeed leapt. The air was free from gnats, the earth from weeds or fungi; brilliant ;flowers delightful and sweet and fruits were everywhere butterflies flew hither and thither. The ideal of preventive medicine any of evidence no saw I .out stamped been had Diseases .attained was contagious diseases during all my stay. And I shall have to tell you been had decay and putrefaction of processes the even that later profoundly affected by these changes.

'Social triumphs, too, had been effected. I saw mankind housed in them found had I yet as and ,clothed gloriously ,shelters splendid engaged in no toil. There were no signs of struggle, neither social nor that all ,traffic ,advertisement the ,shop The .struggle economical commerce which constitutes the body of our world, was gone. It was a of idea the at jump should I that evening golden that on natural social paradise. The difficulty of increasing population had been met, .increase to ceased had population and ,guessed I

## The Time Machine

'But with this change in condition comes inevitably adaptations to the the is ,errors of mass a is science biological unless ,What .change cause of human intelligence and vigour? Hardship and freedom: the and survive subtle and ,strong ,active the which under conditions weaker go to the wall; conditions that put a premium upon the loyal .decision and ,patience ,restraint self upon ,men capable of alliance And the institution of the family, and the emotions that arise therein, parental ,offspring for tenderness the ,jealousy fierce the self - devotion, all found their justification and support in the ?dangers imminent these are where ,Now .young the of dangers imminent There is a sentiment arising, and it will grow, against connubial ;sorts all of passion against ,maternity fierce against ,jealousy unnecessary things now, and things that make us uncomfortable, savage .life pleasant and refined a in discords ,survivals

'I thought of the physical slightness of the people, their lack of my strengthened it and ,ruins abundant big those and ,intelligence belief in a perfect conquest of Nature. For after the battle comes had and ,intelligent and ,energetic ,strong been had Humanity .Quiet used all its abundant vitality to alter the conditions under which it .conditions altered the of reaction the came now And .lived

'Under the new conditions of perfect comfort and security, that Even .weakness become would ,strength is us with that ,energy restless in our own time certain tendencies and desires, once necessary to the and courage Physical .failure of source constant a are ,survival love of battle, for instance, are no great help - may even be and balance physical of state a in And .man civilised a to hindrances security, power, intellectual as well as physical, would be out of or war of danger no been had there judged I years countless For .place solitary violence, no danger from wild beasts, no wasting disease to ,life a such For .toil of need no ,constitution of strength require what we should call the weak are as well equipped as the strong, are strong the for ,are they indeed equipped Better .weak longer no indeed would be fretted by an energy for which there was no outlet. No doubt last the of outcome the was saw I buildings the of beauty exquisite the surgings of the now purposeless energy of mankind before it settled the lived it which under conditions the with harmony perfect into down

## The Time Machine

flourish of that triumph which began the last great peace. This has  
to and art to takes it ;security in energy of fate the been ever  
eroticism, and then come languor and decay.

'Even this artistic impetus would at last die away - had almost died in  
in sing to ,dance to ,flowers with themselves adorn To .saw I Time the  
the sunlight: so much was left of the artistic spirit, and no more.  
are We .inactivity contented a into end the in fade would that Even  
kept keen on the grindstone of pain and necessity, and it seemed to me  
!last at broken grindstone hateful that was here that

'As I stood there in the gathering dark I thought that in this simple  
whole the mastered world the of problem the mastered had I explanation  
secret of these delicious people. Possibly the checks they had devised  
their and ,well too succeeded had population of increase the for  
numbers had rather diminished than kept stationary. That would account  
plausible and ,explanation my was simple Very .ruins abandoned the for  
enough - as most wrong theories are!

VII

**A Sudden Shock**

'As I stood there musing over this too perfect triumph of man, the full in light silver of overflow and out up came, gibbous and yellow, moon the north - east. The bright little figures ceased to move about below, a I .night the of chill the with shivered I and, by flitted owl noiseless determined to descend and find where I could sleep.

'I looked for the building I knew. Then my eye travelled along to the growing, bronze of pedestal the upon Sphinx White the of figure distinct as the light of the rising moon grew brighter. I could see the, bushes rhododendron of tangle the was There .it against birch silver black in the pale light, and there was the little lawn. I looked at the stoutly I said ',No' .complacency my chilled doubt queer A .again lawn to myself, 'that was not the lawn.'

'But it was the lawn. For the white leprous face of the sphinx was to home came conviction this as felt I what imagine you Can .it towards me? But you cannot. The Time Machine was gone!

'At once, like a lash across the face, came the possibility of losing bare The .world new strange this in helpless left being of, age own my thought of it was an actual physical sensation. I could feel it grip me a in was I moment another In .breathing my stop and throat the at passion of fear and running with great leaping strides down the slope. the stanching in time no lost I ;face my cut and headlong fell I Once blood, but jumped up and ran on, with a warm trickle down my cheek and a it moved have They' :myself to saying was I ran I time the All .chin little, pushed it under the bushes out of the way.' Nevertheless, I ran sometimes that certainty the with, time the All .might my all with comes with excessive dread, I knew that such assurance was folly, knew breath My .reach my of out removed was machine the that instinctively came with pain. I suppose I covered the whole distance from the hill am I And .minutes ten in, perhaps miles two, lawn little the to crest not a young man. I cursed aloud, as I ran, at my confident folly in and, aloud cried I .thereby breath good wasting, machine the leaving

## The Time Machine

none answered. Not a creature seemed to be stirring in that moonlit world.

'When I reached the lawn my worst fears were realised. Not a trace of empty the faced I when cold and faint felt I .seen be to was thing the space among the black tangle of bushes. I ran round it furiously, as if with ,abruptly stopped then and ,corner a in hidden be might thing the my hands clutching my hair. Above me towered the sphinx, upon the rising the of light the in ,leprous ,shining ,white ,pedestal bronze moon. It seemed to smile in mockery of my dismay.

'I might have consoled myself by imagining the little people had put their of assured felt not I had ,me for shelter some in mechanism the physical and intellectual inadequacy. That is what dismayed me: the my intervention whose through ,power unsuspected hitherto some of sense invention had vanished. Yet, for one thing I felt assured: unless some have not could machine the ,duplicate exact its produced had age other moved in time. The attachment of the levers - I will show you the method they when way that in it with tampering from anyone prevented later were removed. It had moved, and was hid, only in space. But then, where ?be it could

'I think I must have had a kind of frenzy. I remember running violently startling and ,sphinx the round all bushes moonlit the among out and in some white animal that, in the dim light, I took for a small deer. I clenched my with bushes the beating ,night that late ,too ,remember fist until my knuckles were gashed and bleeding from the broken twigs. the to down went I ,mind of anguish my in raving and sobbing ,Then great building of stone. The big hall was dark, silent, and deserted. I ,tables malachite the of one over fell and ,floor uneven the on slipped almost breaking my shin. I lit a match and went on past the dusty .you told have I which of ,curtains

'There I found a second great hall covered with cushions, upon which, no have I .sleeping were people little the of so or score a ,perhaps doubt they found my second appearance strange enough, coming suddenly and splutter the and noises inarticulate with darkness quiet the of out flare of a match. For they had forgotten about matches. 'Where is my upon hands laying ,child angry an like bawling ,began I '?Machine Time

## The Time Machine

them and shaking them up together. It must have been very queer to see I When .frightened sorely looked them of most ,laughed Some .them them standing round me, it came into my head that I was doing as the under do to me for possible was it as thing a foolish circumstances, in trying to revive the sensation of fear. For, be must fear that thought I ,behaviour daylight their from reasoning forgotten.

'Abruptly, I dashed down the match, and knocking one of the people over out ,again hall dining big the across blundering went ,course my in under the moonlight. I heard cries of terror and their little feet as did I all remember not do I .that and way this stumbling and running the moon crept up the sky. I suppose it was the unexpected nature of my a kind own my from off cut hopelessly felt I .me maddened that loss strange animal in an unknown world. I must have raved to and fro, horrible of memory a have I .Fate and God upon crying and screaming fatigue, as the long night of despair wore away; of looking in this touching and ruins moonlit among groping of ;that and place impossible strange creatures in the black shadows; at last, of lying on the ground at anger even ,wretchedness absolute with weeping and sphinx the near the folly of leaving the machine having leaked away with my strength. I was it again woke I when and ,slept I Then .misery but left nothing had full day, and a couple of sparrows were hopping round me on the turf .arm my of reach within

'I sat up in the freshness of the morning, trying to remember how I had and desertion of sense profound a such had I why and ,there got despair. Then things came clear in my mind. With the plain, reasonable the saw I .face the in fairly circumstances my look could I ,daylight wild folly of my frenzy overnight, and I could reason with myself. altogether machine the Suppose' .said I '?worst the Suppose' lost - perhaps destroyed? It behoves me to be calm and patient, to learn ,loss my of method the of idea clear a get to ,people the of way the and the means of getting materials and tools; so that in the end, ,hope poor a ,hope only my be would That ' .another make may I ,perhaps perhaps, but better than despair. And, after all, it was a beautiful .world curious and

## The Time Machine

'But probably the machine had only been taken away. Still, I must be or force by it recover and ,place hiding its find ,patient and calm cunning. And with that I scrambled to my feet and looked about me, .soiled travel and ,stiff ,weary felt I .bathe could I where wondering The freshness of the morning made me desire an equal freshness. I had found I ,business my about went I as ,Indeed .emotion my exhausted myself wondering at my intense excitement overnight. I made a careful in time some wasted I .lawn little the about ground the of examination futile questionings, conveyed, as well as I was able, to such of the ;gestures my understand to failed all They .by came as people little some were simply stolid, some thought it was a jest and laughed at me. pretty their off hands my keep to world the in task hardest the had I laughing faces. It was a foolish impulse, but the devil begotten of advantage take to eager still and curbed ill was anger blind and fear of my perplexity. The turf gave better counsel. I found a groove ripped of marks the and sphinx the of pedestal the between midway about ,it in my feet where, on arrival, I had struggled with the overturned machine. footprints narrow queer with ,about removal of signs other were There like those I could imagine made by a sloth. This directed my closer .bronze of ,said have I think I as ,was It .pedestal the to attention It was not a mere block, but highly decorated with deep framed panels .hollow was pedestal The .these at rapped and went I .side either on Examining the panels with care I found them discontinuous with the if ,panels the possibly but ,keyholes or handles no were There .frames they were doors, as I supposed, opened from within. One thing was clear my that infer to effort mental great very no took It .mind my to enough Time Machine was inside that pedestal. But how it got there was a .problem different

'I saw the heads of two orange - clad people coming through the bushes smiling turned I .me towards trees apple covered blossom some under and to them, and beckoned them to me. They came, and then, pointing to the my at But .it open to wish my intimate to tried I ,pedestal bronze first gesture towards this they behaved very oddly. I don't know how to grossly a use to were you Suppose .you to expression their convey improper gesture to a delicate - minded woman - it is how she would look. tried I .insult possible last the received had they if as off went They a sweet - looking little chap in white next, with exactly the same you as ,But .myself of ashamed feel me made manner his ,Somehow .result

## The Time Machine

know, I wanted the Time Machine, and I tried him once more. As he three In .me of better the got temper my ,others the like ,off turned strides I was after him, had him by the loose part of his robe round the saw I Then .sphinx the towards him dragging began and ,neck the horror and repugnance of his face, and all of a sudden I let him go.

'But I was not beaten yet. I banged with my fist at the bronze panels. I thought I ,explicit be to inside stir something heard I thought I heard a sound like a chuckle - but I must have been mistaken. Then I got flattened had I till hammered and came and ,river the from pebble big a a coil in the decorations, and the verdigris came off in powdery in hammering me heard have must people little delicate The .flakes gusty outbreaks a mile away on either hand, but nothing came of it. I ,last At .me at furtively looking ,slopes the upon them of crowd a saw hot and tired, I sat down to watch the place. But I was too restless to a at work could I .vigil long a for Occidental too am I ;long watch problem for years, but to wait inactive for twenty - four hours - that is .matter another

'I got up after a time, and began walking aimlessly through the bushes your want you If' .myself to I said ',Patience' .again hill the towards machine again you must leave that sphinx alone. If they mean to take ,panels bronze their wrecking your good little 'it ,away machine your and if they don't, you will get it back as soon as you can ask for it. is that like puzzle a before things unknown those all among sit To hopeless. That way lies monomania. Face this world. Learn its ways, end the In .meaning its at guesses hasty too of careful be ,it watch you will find clues to it all.' Then suddenly the humour of the in spent had I years the of thought the :mind my into came situation study and toil to get into the future age, and now my passion of and complicated most the myself made had I .it of out get to anxiety the most hopeless trap that ever a man devised. Although it was at my .aloud laughed I .myself help not could I ,expense own

'Going through the big palace, it seemed to me that the little people to something had have may it or ,fancy my been have may It .me avoided do with my hammering at the gates of bronze. Yet I felt tolerably sure to and concern no show to ,however ,careful was I .avoidance the of abstain from any pursuit of them, and in the course of a day or two

## The Time Machine

the in could I progress what made I .footing old the to back got things language, and in addition I pushed my explorations here and there. excessively was language their or point subtle some missed I Either simple - almost exclusively composed of concrete substantives and verbs. of use little or ,terms abstract ,any if ,few be to seemed There figurative language. Their sentences were usually simple and of two simplest the but any understand or convey to failed I and ,words propositions. I determined to put the thought of my Time Machine and possible as much as ,sphinx the under doors bronze the of mystery the in a corner of memory, until my growing knowledge would lead me back to ,understand may you ,feeling certain a Yet .way natural a in them tethered me in a circle of a few miles round the point of my arrival.

VIII

**Explanation**

'So far as I could see, all the world displayed the same exuberant same the saw I climbed I hill every From .valley Thames the as richness abundance of splendid buildings, endlessly varied in material and same the ,evergreens of thickets clustering same the ,style blossom - laden trees and tree ferns. Here and there water shone like so and ,hills undulating blue into rose land the ,beyond and ,silver faded into the serenity of the sky. A peculiar feature, which presently ,wells circular certain of presence the was ,attention my attracted several, as it seemed to me, of a very great depth. One lay by the path ,others the Like .walk first my during followed had I which hill the up it was rimmed with bronze, curiously wrought, and protected by a little peering and ,wells these of side the by Sitting .rain the from cupola down into the shafted darkness, I could see no gleam of water, nor I them of all in But .match lighted a with reflection any start I could heard a certain sound: a thud - thud - thud, like the beating of some big steady a that ,matches my of flaring the from ,discovered I and ;engine current of air set down the shafts. Further, I threw a scrap of paper was it ,down slowly fluttering of instead ,and ,one of throat the into at once sucked swiftly out of sight.

'After a time, too, I came to connect these wells with tall towers often was there them above for ;slopes the upon there and here standing just such a flicker in the air as one sees on a hot day above a strong a reached I ,together things Putting .beach scorched sun suggestion of an extensive system of subterranean ventilation, whose to inclined first at was I .imagine to difficult was it import true associate it with the sanitary apparatus of these people. It was an .wrong absolutely was it but ,conclusion obvious

'And here I must admit that I learnt very little of drains and bells in time my during ,conveniences like the and ,conveyance of modes and this real future. In some of these visions of Utopias and coming times and ,building about detail of amount vast a is there ,read have I which social arrangements, and so forth. But while such details are easy

## The Time Machine

'one in contained is world whole the when obtain to enough imagination, they are altogether inaccessible to a real traveller amid a which London of tale the Conceive .here found I as realities such negro, fresh from Central Africa, would take back to his tribe! What telephone of ,movements social of ,companies railway of know he would and telegraph wires, of the Parcels Delivery Company, and postal orders explain to enough willing be should ,least at ,we Yet ?like the and these things to him! And even of what he knew, how much could he make how think ,Then ?believe or apprehend either friend untravelled his narrow the gap between a negro and a white man of our own times, and was I !Age Golden the of these and myself between interval the wide how sensible of much which was unseen, and which contributed to my comfort; I fear I ,organisation automatic of impression general a for save but can convey very little of the difference to your mind.

'In the matter of sepulture, for instance, I could see no signs of me to occurred it But .tombs of suggestive anything nor crematoria that, possibly, there might be cemeteries (or crematoria) somewhere I question a was ,again ,This .explorings my of range the beyond deliberately put to myself, and my curiosity was at first entirely a make to led was I and ,me puzzled thing The .point the upon defeated further remark, which puzzled me still more: that aged and infirm among .none were there people this

'I must confess that my satisfaction with my first theories of an Yet .endure long not did humanity decadent a and civilisation automatic I could think of no other. Let me put my difficulties. The several big and halls dining great ,places living mere were explored had I palaces sleeping apartments. I could find no machinery, no appliances of any at must that fabrics pleasant in clothed were people these Yet .kind times need renewal, and their sandals, though undecorated, were fairly And .made be must things such Somehow .metalwork of specimens complex the little people displayed no vestige of a creative tendency. There They .them among importations of sign no ,workshops no ,shops no were spent all their time in playing gently, in bathing in the river, in I .sleeping and fruit eating in ,fashion playful half a in love making could not see how things were kept going.

## The Time Machine

'Then, again, about the Time Machine: something, I knew not what, had the For ?Why .Sphinx White the of pedestal hollow the into it taken life of me I could not imagine. Those waterless wells, too, those ?it put I shall how felt I .clue a lacked I felt I .pillars flickering Suppose you found an inscription, with sentences here and there in of up made others ,therewith interpolated and ,English plain excellent words, of letters even, absolutely unknown to you? Well, on the third Two and Hundred Eight of world the how was that ,visit my of day Thousand Seven Hundred and One presented itself to me!

'That day, too, I made a friend - of a sort. It happened that, as I was them of one ,shallow a in bathing people little the of some watching was seized with cramp and began drifting downstream. The main current .swimmer moderate a even for strongly too not but ,swiftly rather ran It will give you an idea, therefore, of the strange deficiency in these to attempt slightest the made none that you tell I when ,creatures rescue the weakly crying little thing which was drowning before their ,and ,clothes my off slipped hurriedly I ,this realised I When .eyes wading in at a point lower down, I caught the poor mite and drew her and ,round her brought soon limbs the of rubbing little A .land to safe I had the satisfaction of seeing she was all right before I left her. I any expect not did I that kind her of estimate low a such to got had gratitude from her. In that, however, I was wrong.

'This happened in the morning. In the afternoon I met my little woman, an from centre my towards returning was I as ,was it believe I as exploration, and she received me with cries of delight and presented me The .alone me and me for made evidently flowers of garland big a with thing took my imagination. Very possibly I had been feeling desolate. We .gift the of appreciation my display to best my did I rate any At were soon seated together in a little stone arbour, engaged in affected friendliness 'creature The .smiles of chiefly ,conversation me exactly as a child's might have done. We passed each other flowers, and ,talk tried I Then .hers to same the did I .hands my kissed she and found that her name was Weena, which, though I don't know what it a of beginning the was That .enough appropriate seemed somehow ,meant queer friendship which lasted a week, and ended - as I will tell you!

## The Time Machine

'She was exactly like a child. She wanted to be with me always. She it about and out journey next my on and ,everywhere me follow to tried went to my heart to tire her down, and leave her at last, exhausted and had world the of problems the But .plaintively rather me after calling to be mastered. I had not, I said to myself, come into the future to was her left I when distress her Yet .flirtation miniature a on carry very great, her expostulations at the parting were sometimes frantic, her from comfort as trouble much as had I ,altogether ,think I and devotion. Nevertheless she was, somehow, a very great comfort. I Until .me to cling her made that affection childish mere was it thought it was too late, I did not clearly know what I had inflicted upon her understand clearly I did late too was it until Nor .her left I when what she was to me. For, by merely seeming fond of me, and showing in a of doll little the ,me for cared she that way futile ,weak her creature presently gave my return to the neighbourhood of the White her for watch would I and ;home coming of feeling the almost Sphinx tiny figure of white and gold so soon as I came over the hill.

'It was from her, too, that I learnt that fear had not yet left the oddest the had she and ,daylight the in enough fearless was She .world confidence in me; for once, in a foolish moment, I made threatening the dreaded she But .them at laughed simply she and ,her at grimaces dark, dreaded shadows, dreaded black things. Darkness to her was the set it and ,emotion passionate singularly a was It .dreadful thing one me thinking and observing. I discovered then, among other things, that and ,dark after houses great the into gathered people little these slept in droves. To enter upon them without a light was to put them one or ,doors of out one found never I .apprehension of tumult a into sleeping alone within doors, after dark. Yet I was still such a of spite in and ,fear that of lesson the missed I that blockhead Weena's distress, I insisted upon sleeping away from these slumbering .multitudes

'It troubled her greatly, but in the end her odd affection for me including ,acquaintance our of nights the of five for and ,triumphed the last night of all, she slept with her head pillowed on my arm. But the been have must It .her of speak I as me from away slips story my night before her rescue that I was awakened about dawn. I had been sea that and ,drowned was I that disagreeably most dreaming ,restless

## The Time Machine

anemones were feeling over my face with their soft palps. I woke with a  
rushed just had animal greyish some that fancy odd an with and ,start  
out of the chamber. I tried to get to sleep again, but I felt restless  
just are things when hour grey dim that was It .uncomfortable and  
creeping out of darkness, when everything is colourless and clear cut,  
out so and ,hall great the into down went and ,up got I .unreal yet and  
upon the flagstones in front of the palace. I thought I would make a  
.sunrise the see and ,necessity of virtue

'The moon was setting, and the dying moonlight and the first pallor of  
,black inky were bushes The .light half ghastly a in mingled were dawn  
the ground a sombre grey, the sky colourless and cheerless. And up the  
scanned I as ,times several Three .ghosts see could I thought I hill  
the slope, I saw white figures. Twice I fancied I saw a solitary white,  
the near once and ,hill the up quickly rather running creature like ape  
ruins I saw a leash of them carrying some dark body. They moved  
they that seemed It .them of became what see not did I .hastily  
vanished among the bushes. The dawn was still indistinct, you must  
feeling morning early ,uncertain ,chill that feeling was I .understand  
you may have known. I doubted my eyes.

'As the eastern sky grew brighter, and the light of the day came on and  
the scanned I ,more once world the upon returned colouring vivid its  
view keenly. But I saw no vestige of my white figures. They were mere  
I' ;said I ',ghosts been have must They' .light half the of creatures  
wonder whence they dated.' For a queer notion of Grant Allen's came  
,ghosts leave and die generation each If .me amused and ,head my into  
he argued, the world at last will get overcrowded with them. On that  
Thousand Hundred Eight some innumerable grown have would they theory  
Years hence, and it was no great wonder to see four at once. But the  
the all figures these of thinking was I and ,unsatisfying was jest  
morning, until Weena's rescue drove them out of my head. I associated  
my in startled had I animal white the with way indefinite some in them  
first passionate search for the Time Machine. But Weena was a pleasant  
far take to destined soon were they ,same the all Yet .substitute  
deadlier possession of my mind.

## The Time Machine

'I think I have said how much hotter than our own was the weather of was sun the that be may It .it for account cannot I .Age Golden this hotter, or the earth nearer the sun. It is usual to assume that the sun with unfamiliar ,people But .future the in steadily cooling on go will such speculations as those of the younger Darwin, forget that the As .body parent the into one by one back fall ultimately must planets these catastrophes occur, the sun will blaze with renewed energy; and the Whatever .fate this suffered had planet inner some that be may it reason, the fact remains that the sun was very much hotter than we know .it

'Well, one very hot morning - my fourth, I think - as I was seeking shelter I where house great the near ruin colossal a in glare and heat the from slept and fed, there happened this strange thing. Clambering among side and end whose ,gallery narrow a found I ,masonry of heaps these windows were blocked by fallen masses of stone. By contrast with the I .me to dark impenetrably first at seemed it ,outside brilliancy entered it groping, for the change from light to blackness made spots ,eyes of pair A .spellbound halted I Suddenly .me before swim colour of luminous by reflection against the daylight without, was watching me .darkness the of out

'The old instinctive dread of wild beasts came upon me. I clenched my to afraid was I .eyeballs glaring the into looked steadfastly and hands turn. Then the thought of the absolute security in which humanity that remembered I then And .mind my to came living be to appeared strange terror of the dark. Overcoming my fear to some extent, I and harsh was voice my that admit will I .spoke and step a advanced ill - controlled. I put out my hand and touched something soft. At once turned I .me past ran white something and ,sideways darted eyes the with my heart in my mouth, and saw a queer little ape - like figure, its space sunlit the across running ,manner peculiar a in down held head behind me. It blundered against a block of granite, staggered aside, of pile another beneath shadow black a in hidden was moment a in and ruined masonry.

'My impression of it is, of course, imperfect; but I know it was a dull was there that also ;eyes red greyish large strange had and ,white flaxen hair on its head and down its back. But, as I say, it went too

## The Time Machine

all on ran it whether say even cannot I .distinctly see to me for fast fours, or only with its forearms held very low. After an instant's it find not could I .ruins of heap second the into it followed I pause at first; but, after a time in the profound obscurity, I came upon one closed half ,you told have I which of openings like well round those of by a fallen pillar. A sudden thought came to me. Could this Thing have a saw I ,down looking ,and ,match a lit I ?shaft the down vanished small, white, moving creature, with large bright eyes which regarded me human a like so was It .shudder me made It .retreated it as steadfastly spider! It was clambering down the wall, and now I saw for the first ladder of kind a forming rests hand and foot metal of number a time down the shaft. Then the light burned my fingers and fell out of my little the another lit had I when and ,dropped it as out going ,hand monster had disappeared.

'I do not know how long I sat peering down that well. It was not for I thing the that myself persuading in succeed could I that time some had seen was human. But, gradually, the truth dawned on me: that Man distinct two into differentiated had but ,species one remained not had animals: that my graceful children of the Upper World were not the sole ,obscene ,bleached this that but ,generation our of descendants nocturnal Thing, which had flashed before me, was also heir to all the .ages

'I thought of the flickering pillars and of my theory of an underground I ,what And .import true their suspect to began I .ventilation wondered, was this Lemur doing in my scheme of a perfectly balanced the of serenity indolent the to related it was How ?organisation beautiful Overworlders? And what was hidden down there, at the foot of any at ,that myself telling well the of edge the upon sat I ?shaft that rate, there was nothing to fear, and that there I must descend for the !go to afraid absolutely was I withal And .difficulties my of solution As I hesitated, two of the beautiful upperworld people came running in pursued male The .shadow the in daylight the across sport amorous their the female, flinging flowers at her as he ran.

'They seemed distressed to find me, my arm against the overturned to form bad considered was it Apparently .well the down peering ,pillar remark these apertures; for when I pointed to this one, and tried to

## The Time Machine

visibly more still were they, tongue their in it about question a frame distressed and turned away. But they were interested by my matches, and and, well the about again them tried I. them amuse to some struck I again I failed. So presently I left them, meaning to go back to Weena, in already was mind my But. her from get could I what see and revolution; my guesses and impressions were slipping and sliding to a the to, wells these of import the to clue a now had I. adjustment new ventilating towers, to the mystery of the ghosts; to say nothing of a Time the of fate the and gates bronze the of meaning the at hint Machine! And very vaguely there came a suggestion towards the solution. me puzzled had that problem economic the of

'Here was the new view. Plainly, this second species of Man was made which particular in circumstances three were There. subterranean me think that its rare emergence above ground was the outcome of a the was there, place first the In. habit underground continued long bleached look common in most animals that live largely in the dark - the, eyes large those, Then. instance for, caves Kentucky the of fish white with that capacity for reflecting light, are common features of that, all of last And. cat the and owl the witness things nocturnal evident confusion in the sunshine, that hasty yet fumbling awkward head the of carriage peculiar that and, shadow dark towards flight while in the light - all reinforced the theory of an extreme. retina the of sensitiveness

'Beneath my feet, then, the earth must be tunnelled enormously, and of presence The. Race New the of habitat the were tunnellings these ventilating shafts and wells along the hill slopes - everywhere, in fact, its were universal how showed valley river the along except ramifications. What so natural, then, as to assume that it was in this of comfort the to necessary was as work such that Underworld artificial the daylight race was done? The notion was so plausible that I at once the of splitting this of how the assume to on went and, it accepted human species. I dare say you will anticipate the shape of my theory; the of short far fell it that felt soon very I, myself for, though truth.

## The Time Machine

'At first, proceeding from the problems of our own age, it seemed clear merely present the of widening gradual the that me to daylight as temporary and social difference between the Capitalist and the Labourer grotesque seem will it doubt No .position whole the to key the was enough to you - and wildly incredible! - and yet even now there are to tendency a is There .way that point to circumstances existing utilise underground space for the less ornamental purposes of for ,London in Railway Metropolitan the is there ;civilisation instance, there are new electric railways, there are subways, there are .multiply and increase they and ,restaurants and workrooms underground Evidently, I thought, this tendency had increased till Industry had gone had it that mean I .sky the in birthright its lost gradually deeper and deeper into larger and ever larger underground factories, the in ,till ,therein time its of amount increasing still a spending end - ! Even now, does not an East - end worker live in such artificial the of surface natural the from off cut be to practically as conditions earth?

'Again, the exclusive tendency of richer people - due, no doubt, to the between gulf widening the and ,education their of refinement increasing them and the rude violence of the poor - is already leading to the of surface the of portions considerable of ,interest their in ,closing the land. About London, for instance, perhaps half the prettier country due is which gulf widening same this And .intrusion against in shut is to the length and expense of the higher educational process and the the on habits refined towards temptations and for facilities increased part of the rich - will make that exchange between class and class, that of splitting the retards present at which intermarriage by promotion our species along lines of social stratification, less and less ,Haves the have must you ground above ,end the in ,So .frequent pursuing pleasure and comfort and beauty, and below ground the of conditions the to adapted continually getting Workers the ,nots Have their labour. Once they were there, they would no doubt have to pay and ;caverns their of ventilation the for ,it of little a not and ,rent if they refused, they would starve or be suffocated for arrears. Such would rebellious and miserable be to as constituted so were as them of die; and, in the end, the balance being permanent, the survivors would as and ,life underground of conditions the to adapted well as become happy in their way, as the Overworld people were to theirs. As it

## The Time Machine

followed pallor etiolated the and beauty refined the ,me to seemed naturally enough.

'The great triumph of Humanity I had dreamed of took a different shape general and education moral of triumph such no been had It .mind my in co - operation as I had imagined. Instead, I saw a real aristocracy, the conclusion logical a to working and science perfected a with armed industrial system of today. Its triumph had not been simply a triumph must I ,This .man fellow the and Nature over triumph a but ,Nature over warn you, was my theory at the time. I had no convenient cicerone in absolutely be may explanation My .books Utopian the of pattern the wrong. I still think it is the most plausible one. But even on this must attained last at was that civilisation balanced the supposition have long since passed its zenith, and was now far fallen into decay. slow a to them led had Overworlders the of security perfect too The movement of degeneration, to a general dwindling in size, strength, and had What .already enough clearly see could I That .intelligence happened to the Undergrounders I did not yet suspect; but, from what I these which by name the was ,bye the by ,that Morlocks the of seen had creatures were called - I could imagine that the modification of the the 'Eloi' the among than profound more far even was type human beautiful race that I already knew.

'Then came troublesome doubts. Why had the Morlocks taken my Time the if ,too ,Why .it taken had who they was it sure felt I For ?Machine Eloi were masters, could they not restore the machine to me? And why ,said have I as ,proceeded I ?dark the of afraid terribly so they were to question Weena about this Underworld, but here again I was and ,questions my understand not would she first At .disappointed presently she refused to answer them. She shivered as though the topic she ,harshly little a perhaps ,her pressed I when And .unendurable was burst into tears. They were the only tears, except my own, I ever saw about trouble to abruptly ceased I them saw I When .Age Golden that in the Morlocks, and was only concerned in banishing these signs of her and smiling was she soon very And .eyes 'Weena from inheritance human clapping her hands, while I solemnly burnt a match.

IX

**The Morlocks**

'It may seem odd to you, but it was two days before I could follow up a felt I .way proper the manifestly was what in clue found new the peculiar shrinking from those pallid bodies. They were just the in preserved sees one things and worms the of colour bleached half spirit in a zoological museum. And they were filthily cold to the sympathetic the to due largely was shrinking my Probably .touch influence of the Eloi, whose disgust of the Morlocks I now began to .appreciate

'The next night I did not sleep well. Probably my health was a little I twice or Once .doubt and perplexity with oppressed was I .disordered had a feeling of intense fear for which I could perceive no definite the where hall great the into noiselessly creeping remember I .reason little people were sleeping in the moonlight - that night Weena was among even me to occurred It .presence their by reassured feeling and them then, that in the course of a few days the moon must pass through its these of appearances the when ,dark grow nights the and ,quarter last unpleasant creatures from below, these whitened Lemurs, this new vermin these both on And .abundant more be might ,old the replaced had that days I had the restless feeling of one who shirks an inevitable duty. I boldly by recovered be to only was Machine Time the that assured felt penetrating these mysteries of underground. Yet I could not face the .different been have would it companion a had had I only If .mystery But I was so horribly alone, and even to clamber down into the darkness my understand will you if know 'don I .me appalled well the of feeling, but I never felt quite safe at my back.

'It was this restlessness, this insecurity, perhaps, that drove me the to Going .expeditions exploring my in afield farther and farther south - westward towards the rising country that is now called Combe century nineteenth of direction the in ,off far observed I ,Wood Banstead, a vast green structure, different in character from any I had I ruins or palaces the of largest the than larger was It .seen hitherto knew, and the favßade had an Oriental look: the face of it having the

## The Time Machine

a of ,green bluish of kind a ,tint green pale the as well as ,lustre certain type of Chinese porcelain. This difference in aspect suggested the But .explore and on push to minded was I and ,use in difference a day was growing late, and I had come upon the sight of the place after for adventure the over hold to resolved I so ;circuit tiring and long a the following day, and I returned to the welcome and the caresses of my that enough clearly perceived I morning next But .Weena little curiosity regarding the Palace of Green Porcelain was a piece of I experience an ,day another by ,shirk to me enable to ,deception self dreaded. I resolved I would make the descent without further waste of the near well a towards morning early the in out started and ,time ruins of granite and aluminium.

'Little Weena ran with me. She danced beside me to the well, but when strangely seemed she ,downward look and mouth the over lean me saw she disconcerted. 'Good - bye, little Weena,' I said, kissing her; and then climbing the for parapet the over feel to began I ,down her putting hooks. Rather hastily, I may as well confess, for I feared my courage a gave she Then .amazement in me watched she first At !away leak might most piteous cry, and running to me, she began to pull at me with her I .proceed to rather me nerved opposition her think I .hands little shook her off, perhaps a little roughly, and in another moment I was in and ,parapet the over face agonised her saw I .well the of throat the smiled to reassure her. Then I had to look down at the unstable hooks .clung I which to

'I had to clamber down a shaft of perhaps two hundred yards. The the from projecting bars metallic of means by effected was descent sides of the well, and these being adapted to the needs of a creature and cramped speedily was I ,myself than lighter and smaller much fatigued by the descent. And not simply fatigued! One of the bars bent blackness the into off me swung almost and ,weight my under suddenly beneath. For a moment I hung by one hand, and after that experience I presently were back and arms my Though .again rest to dare not did acutely painful, I went on clambering down the sheer descent with as a ,aperture the saw I ,upward Glancing .possible as motion a quick small blue disc, in which a star was visible, while little Weena's head machine a of sound thudding The .projection black round a as showed below grew louder and more oppressive. Everything save that little disc

## The Time Machine

had Weena again up looked I when and ,dark profoundly was above disappeared.

'I was in an agony of discomfort. I had some thought of trying to go up I while even But .alone Underworld the leave and ,again shaft the turned this over in my mind I continued to descend. At last, with a ,me of right the to foot a ,up coming dimly saw I ,relief intense slender loophole in the wall. Swinging myself in, I found it was the and down lie could I which in tunnel horizontal narrow a of aperture rest. It was not too soon. My arms ached, my back was cramped, and I the ,this Besides .fall a of terror prolonged the with trembling was unbroken darkness had had a distressing effect upon my eyes. The air .shaft the down air pumping machinery of hum and throb the of full was

'I do not know how long I lay. I was aroused by a soft hand touching ,and matches my at snatched I darkness the in up Starting .face my hastily striking one, I saw three stooping white creatures similar to before retreating hastily ,ruin the in ground above seen had I one the the light. Living, as they did, in what appeared to me impenetrable are as just ,sensitive and large abnormally were eyes their ,darkness the pupils of the abysmal fishes, and they reflected the light in the ,obscurity rayless that in me see could they doubt no have I .way same and they did not seem to have any fear of me apart from the light. But, fled they ,them see to order in match a struck I as soon so incontinently, vanishing into dark gutters and tunnels, from which .fashion strangest the in me at glared eyes their

'I tried to call to them, but the language they had was apparently left needs was I that so ;people Overworld the of that from different to my own unaided efforts, and the thought of flight before exploration it for in are You' ,myself to said I But .mind my in then even was now,' and, feeling my way along the tunnel, I found the noise of I and ,me from away fell walls the Presently .louder grow machinery came to a large open space, and striking another match, saw that I had darkness utter into stretched which ,cavern arched vast a entered beyond the range of my light. The view I had of it was as much as one .match a of burning the in see could

## The Time Machine

'Necessarily my memory is vague. Great shapes like big machines rose dim which in shadows black grotesque cast and dimness the of out spectral Morlocks sheltered from the glare. The place, by the bye, was blood shed freshly of halitus faint the and oppressive and stuffy very was in the air. Some way down the central vista was a little table of rate any at Morlocks The meal a seemed what with laid metal white were carnivorous! Even at the time, I remember wondering what large all was It saw I joint red the furnish to survived have could animal very indistinct: the heavy smell, the big unmeaning shapes, the obscene to darkness the for waiting only and shadows the in lurking figures come at me again! Then the match burnt down, and stung my fingers, and blackness the in spot red wriggling a fell

'I have thought since how particularly ill - equipped I was for such an started had I Machine Time the with started had I When experience with the absurd assumption that the men of the Future would certainly come had I appliances their all in ourselves of ahead infinitely be without arms, without medicine, without anything to smoke - at times I had I only If matches enough without even !frightfully tobacco missed thought of a Kodak! I could have flashed that glimpse of the Underworld there stood I ,was it as ,But leisure at it examined and ,second a in with only the weapons and the powers that Nature had endowed me still that matches safety four and ,these ;teeth and ,feet ,hands with remained to me.

'I was afraid to push my way in among all this machinery in the dark, my that discovered I light of glimpse last my with only was it and store of matches had run low. It had never occurred to me until that wasted had I and ,them economise to need any was there that moment almost half the box in astonishing the Overworlders, to whom fire was a ,dark the in stood I while and ,left four had I ,say I as ,Now novelty a hand touched mine, lank fingers came feeling over my face, and I was the heard I fancied I .odour unpleasant peculiar a of sensible breathing of a crowd of those dreadful little beings about me. I felt hands other and ,disengaged gently being hand my in matches of box the behind me plucking at my clothing. The sense of these unseen creatures my of realisation sudden The unpleasant indescribably was me examining ignorance of their ways of thinking and doing came home to me very They .could I as loudly as them at shouted I .darkness the in vividly

## The Time Machine

started away, and then I could feel them approaching me again. They I .other each to sounds odd whispering ,boldly more me at clutched shivered violently, and shouted again - rather discordantly. This time laughing queer a made they and ,alarmed seriously so not were they noise as they came back at me. I will confess I was horribly the under escape and match another strike to determined I .frightened protection of its glare. I did so, and eking out the flicker with a narrow the to retreat my good made I ,pocket my from paper of scrap tunnel. But I had scarce entered this when my light was blown out and among wind like rustling Morlocks the hear could I blackness the in leaves, and pattering like the rain, as they hurried after me.

'In a moment I was clutched by several hands, and there was no another struck I .back me haul to trying were they that mistaking light, and waved it in their dazzled faces. You can scarce imagine how ,great and faces chinless ,pale those looked they inhuman nauseatingly lidless, pinkish - grey eyes! - as they stared in their blindness and retreated I :you promise I ,look to stay not did I But .bewilderment again, and when my second match had ended, I struck my third. It had lay I .shaft the into opening the reached I when through burnt almost down on the edge, for the throb of the great pump below made me giddy. my ,so did I as ,and ,hooks projecting the for sideways felt I Then feet were grasped from behind, and I was violently tugged backward. I on hand my had I But .out went incontinently it and match last my lit the climbing bars now, and, kicking violently, I disengaged myself from ,shaft the up clambering speedily was and ,Morlocks the of clutches the while they stayed peering and blinking up at me: all but one little a as boot my secured nigh well and ,way some for me followed who wretch trophy.

'That climb seemed interminable to me. With the last twenty or thirty difficulty greatest the had I .me upon came nausea deadly a it of feet in keeping my hold. The last few yards was a frightful struggle against the all felt I and ,swam head my times Several .faintness this sensations of falling. At last, however, I got over the well - mouth I .sunlight blinding the into ruin the of out staggered and ,somehow fell upon my face. Even the soil smelt sweet and clean. Then I remember the among others of voices the and ,ears and hands my kissing Weena Eloi. Then, for a time, I was insensible.

X

### When Night Came

'Now, indeed, I seemed in a worse case than before. Hitherto, except a felt had I ,Machine Time the of loss the at anguish 'night my during sustaining hope of ultimate escape, but that hope was staggered by by impeded myself thought merely had I Hitherto .discoveries new these the childish simplicity of the little people, and by some unknown an was there but ;overcome to understand to only had I which forces altogether new element in the sickening quality of the Morlocks - a I ,Before .them loathed I Instinctively .malign and inhuman something had felt as a man might feel who had fallen into a pit: my concern was a in beast a like felt I Now .it of out get to how and pit the with trap, whose enemy would come upon him soon.

'The enemy I dreaded may surprise you. It was the darkness of the new incomprehensible first at some by head my into this put had Weena .moon remarks about the Dark Nights. It was not now such a very difficult was moon The .mean might Nights Dark coming the what guess to problem on the wane: each night there was a longer interval of darkness. And I of fear the of reason the least at degree slight some to understood now the little Upperworld people for the dark. I wondered vaguely what foul felt I .moon new the under did Morlocks the that be might it villainy pretty sure now that my second hypothesis was all wrong. The Upperworld Morlocks the and ,aristocracy favoured the been have once might people their mechanical servants: but that had long since passed away. The two down sliding were man of evolution the from resulted had that species towards, or had already arrived at, an altogether new relationship. The beautiful mere a to decayed had ,kings Carlovignan the like ,Eloi futility. They still possessed the earth on sufferance: since the to last at come had ,generations innumerable for subterranean ,Morlocks find the daylight surface intolerable. And the Morlocks made their ,needs habitual their in them maintained and ,inferred I ,garments perhaps through the survival of an old habit of service. They did it as animals killing enjoys man a as or ,foot his with paws horse standing a in sport: because ancient and departed necessities had impressed it on .reversed part in already was order old the ,clearly ,But .organism the

## The Time Machine

The Nemesis of the delicate ones was creeping on apace. Ages ago, the of our man brother his thrust had man ,ago generations of thousands ease and the sunshine. And now that brother was coming back - changed! were They .anew lesson old one learn to begun had Eloi the Already becoming reacquainted with Fear. And suddenly there came into my head how odd seemed It .Underworld the in seen had I meat the of memory the it floated into my mind: not stirred up as it were by the current of my tried I .outside from question a like almost in coming but ,meditations to recall the form of it. I had a vague sense of something familiar, .time the at was it what tell not could I but

'Still, however helpless the little people in the presence of their age this of our came I .constituted differently was I ,Fear mysterious of ours, this ripe prime of the human race, when Fear does not paralyse .myself defend would least at I .terrors its lost has mystery and Without further delay I determined to make myself arms and a fastness this face could I ,base a as refuge that With .sleep might I where strange world with some of that confidence I had lost in realising to sleep never could I felt I .exposed lay I night by night creatures what again until my bed was secure from them. I shuddered with horror to .me examined have already must they how think

'I wandered during the afternoon along the valley of the Thames, but the All .inaccessible as mind my to itself commended that nothing found buildings and trees seemed easily practicable to such dexterous the Then .be must ,wells their by judge to ,Morlocks the as climbers tall pinnacles of the Palace of Green Porcelain and the polished gleam Weena taking ,evening the in and ;memory my to back came walls its of like a child upon my shoulder, I went up the hills towards the but ,miles eight or seven was ,reckoned had I ,distance The .west south it must have been nearer eighteen. I had first seen the place on a ,addition In .diminished deceptively are distances when afternoon moist the heel of one of my shoes was loose, and a nail was working through I that so indoors about wore I shoes old comfortable were they sole the was lame. And it was already long past sunset when I came in sight of .sky the of yellow pale the against black silhouetted ,palace the

## The Time Machine

'Weena had been hugely delighted when I began to carry her, but after a while she desired to be left to me, and she ran along by the side of me, occasionally darting off on either hand to pick flowers to stick in my pockets. At last she had puzzled me, but I concluded that they were an eccentric kind of vases for floral decoration. And she utilised them for the least purpose. At least she reminds me! In changing my jacket I found,

The Time Traveller paused, put his hand into his pocket, and silently placed two large white flowers, very unlike the little table. Then he resumed his narrative.

'As the hush of evening crept over the world and we proceeded over the crest of the hill towards the grey stone house of Wimbledon, Weena understood her contrived Porcelain Palace that we were seeking a refuge there from her Fear. You know that great breeze that comes upon the trees. To me there is always an air of expectation about that evening. The stillness was clear and remote, a few horizontal bars far down in the sunset. Well, that night the expectation of colour took my calm darkling. In my fears, my senses seemed preternaturally sharpened. I fancied I could even feel beneath my feet the hollowness of the ground through which the Morlocks on their ant-hill go hither and thither, and would they that fancied my excitement in the dark for waiting to receive my invasion of their burrows as a declaration of war. And why had they taken my Time Machine?

'So we went on in the quiet, and the twilight deepened into night. The clear blue of the distance faded, and the ground grew dim and the trees black. Weena's fears and her fatigue caressed her, and she talked to me, and I took her upon my arms. Then, as the darkness grew deeper, she put her arms round my neck, and pressed her face against my shoulder, and her eyes closed, and we went down a long slope into a valley, and there in the dimness I almost walked into a little river. This I waded across, and went up the opposite side of the valley, past a number of sleeping houses, and by a headless figure, or some such figure, a Faun statue

## The Time Machine

acacias. So far I had seen nothing of the Morlocks, but it was yet  
were rose moon old the before hours darker the and ,night the in early  
still to come.

'From the brow of the next hill I saw a thick wood spreading wide and  
either ,it to end no see could I .this at hesitated I .me before black  
to the right or the left. Feeling tired - my feet, in particular, were  
and ,halted I as shoulder my from Weena lowered carefully I sore very  
sat down upon the turf. I could no longer see the Palace of Green  
the into looked I .direction my of doubt in was I and ,Porcelain  
thickness of the wood and thought of what it might hide. Under that  
Even .stars the of sight of out be would one branches of tangle dense  
were there no other lurking danger - a danger I did not care to let my  
stumble to roots the all be still would there upon loose imagination  
over and the tree - boles to strike against. I was very tired, too, after  
but ,it face not would I that decided I so ;day the of excitements the  
would pass the night upon the open hill.

'Weena, I was glad to find, was fast asleep. I carefully wrapped her in  
The .moonrise the for wait to her beside down sat and ,jacket my  
hillside was quiet and deserted, but from the black of the wood there  
,stars the shone me Above .things living of stir a then and now came  
for the night was very clear. I felt a certain sense of friendly  
from gone had constellations old the All .twinkling their in comfort  
the sky, however: that slow movement which is imperceptible in a  
unfamiliar in them rearranged since long had ,lifetimes human hundred  
groupings. But the Milky Way, it seemed to me, was still the same  
)it judged I as( Southward .yore of as dust star of streamer tattered  
was a very bright red star that was new to me; it was even more  
scintillating these all amid And .Sirius green own our than splendid  
points of light one bright planet shone kindly and steadily like the  
.friend old an of face

'Looking at these stars suddenly dwarfed my own troubles and all the  
unfathomable their of thought I .life terrestrial of gravities  
distance, and the slow inevitable drift of their movements out of the  
great the of thought I .future unknown the into past unknown  
precessional cycle that the pole of the earth describes. Only forty  
I that years the all during occurred revolution silent that had times

## The Time Machine

had traversed. And during these few revolutions all the activity, all languages, nations, the organisations, complex the traditions, the literatures, aspirations, even the mere memory of Man as I knew him, who creatures frail these were. Instead, existence of our world had been forgotten their high ancestry, and the white things of which I went two the between was that Fear Great the of thought I Then. terror in species, and for the first time, with a sudden shiver, came the clear too was it Yet. be might seen had I meat the what of knowledge horrible! I looked at little Weena sleeping beside me, her face white. thought the dismissed forthwith and, stars the under starlike and

'Through that long night I held my mind off the Morlocks as well as I signs find could I fancy to trying by time the away whiled and, could of the old constellations in the new confusion. The sky kept very, Then. times at dozed I doubt No. so or cloud hazy a for except, clear as my vigil wore on, came a faintness in the eastward sky, like the and thin, rose moon old the and, fire colourless some of reflection peaked and white. And close behind, and overtaking it, and overflowing No. warm and pink growing then and, first at pale, came dawn the, it Morlocks had approached us. Indeed, I had seen none upon the hill that that me to seemed almost it day renewed of confidence the in And. night my fear had been unreasonable. I stood up and found my foot with the sat I so; heel the under painful and ankle the at swollen heel loose down again, took off my shoes, and flung them away.

'I awakened Weena, and we went down into the wood, now green and wherewith fruit some found We. forbidding and black of instead pleasant to break our fast. We soon met others of the dainty ones, laughing and as nature in thing such no was there though as sunlight the in dancing the night. And then I thought once more of the meat that I had seen. I I heart my of bottom the from and, was it what of now assured felt pitied this last feeble rill from the great flood of humanity. Clearly, run had food 'Morlocks the decay human of Ago Long the in time some at short. Possibly they had lived on rats and such - like vermin. Even now he than food his in exclusive and discriminating less far is man was - far less than any monkey. His prejudice against human flesh is no to tried I men of sons inhuman these so And. instinct seated deep look at the thing in a scientific spirit. After all, they were less four or three of ancestors cannibal our than remote more and human

## The Time Machine

thousand years ago. And the intelligence that would have made this  
These ?myself trouble I should Why .gone had torment a things of state  
Eloi were mere fatted cattle, which the ant - like Morlocks preserved and  
Weena was there And .of breeding the to saw probably upon preyed  
dancing at my side!

'Then I tried to preserve myself from the horror that was coming upon  
Man .selfishness human of punishment rigorous a as it regarding by ,me  
had been content to live in ease and delight upon the labours of his  
the in and ,excuse and watchword his as Necessity taken had ,man fellow  
fullness of time Necessity had come home to him. I even tried a  
this But .decay in aristocracy wretched this of scorn like Carlyle  
attitude of mind was impossible. However great their intellectual  
claim to not form human the of much too kept had Eloi the ,degradation  
my sympathy, and to make me perforce a sharer in their degradation and  
.Fear their

'I had at that time very vague ideas as to the course I should pursue.  
myself make to and ,refuge of place safe some secure to was first My  
such arms of metal or stone as I could contrive. That necessity was  
so ,fire of means some procure to hoped I ,place next the In .immediate  
that I should have the weapon of a torch at hand, for nothing, I knew,  
to wanted I Then .Morlocks these against efficient more be would  
arrange some contrivance to break open the doors of bronze under the  
if that persuasion a had I .ram battering a mind in had I .Sphinx White  
I could enter those doors and carry a blaze of light before me I should  
Morlocks the imagine not could I .escape and Machine Time the discover  
were strong enough to move it far away. Weena I had resolved to bring  
I mind my in over schemes such turning And .time own our to me with  
pursued our way towards the building which my fancy had chosen as our  
.dwelling

XI

**The Palace of Green Porcelain**

'I found the Palace of Green Porcelain, when we approached it about noon, and great sheets of the green facing had fallen upon high very lay It .framework metallic corroded the from away fallen a turfy down, and looking north - eastward before I entered it, I was judged I where ,creek even or ,estuary large a see to surprised Wandsworth and Battersea must once have been. I thought then - though I be might or ,happened have might what of thought the up followed never happening, to the living things in the sea.

'The material of the Palace proved on examination to be indeed some in inscription an saw I it of face the along and ,porcelain unknown character. I thought, rather foolishly, that Weena might help writing of idea bare the that learnt only I but ,this interpret to me had never entered her head. She always seemed to me, I fancy, more .human so was affection her because perhaps ,was she than human

'Within the big valves of the door - which were open and broken - we found, .windows side many by lit gallery long a ,hall customary the of instead At the first glance I was reminded of a museum. The tiled floor was objects miscellaneous of array remarkable a and ,dust with thick shrouded in the same grey covering. Then I perceived, standing strange of part lower the clearly was what ,hall the of centre the in gaunt and a huge skeleton. I recognised by the oblique feet that it was some and skull The .Megatherium the of fashion the after creature extinct the upper bones lay beside it in the thick dust, and in one place, thing the ,roof the in leak a through dropped had water rain where itself had been worn away. Further in the gallery was the huge skeleton Going .confirmed was hypothesis museum My .Brontosaurus a of barrel towards the side I found what appeared to be sloping shelves, and of cases glass familiar old the found I ,dust thick the away clearing our own time. But they must have been air - tight to judge from the fair .contents their of some of preservation

## The Time Machine

'Clearly we stood among the ruins of some latter-day South Kensington! splendid very a and ,Section Palaeontological the was ,apparently ,Here array of fossils it must have been, though the inevitable process of the through ,had and ,time a for off staved been had that decay extinction of bacteria and fungi, lost ninety - nine hundredths of its slowness extreme with if sureness extreme with ,nevertheless was ,force at work again upon all its treasures. Here and there I found traces of or pieces to broken fossils rare of shape the in people little the threaded in strings upon reeds. And the cases had in some instances very was place The .judged I as ,Morlocks the by removed bodily been silent. The thick dust deadened our footsteps. Weena, who had been ,came presently ,case a of glass sloping the down urchin sea a rolling as I stared about me, and very quietly took my hand and stood beside .me

'And at first I was so much surprised by this ancient monument of an it possibilities the to thought no gave I that age intellectual presented. Even my preoccupation about the Time Machine receded a .mind my from little

'To judge from the size of the place, this Palace of Green Porcelain possibly ;Palaeontology of Gallery a than it in more deal great a had historical galleries; it might be, even a library! To me, at least in than interesting more vastly be would these ,circumstances present my this spectacle of old - time geology in decay. Exploring, I found another be to appeared This .first the to transversely running gallery short devoted to minerals, and the sight of a block of sulphur set my mind no ,indeed ;saltpetre no find could I But .gunpowder on running nitrates of any kind. Doubtless they had deliquesced ages ago. Yet the the for As .thinking of train a up set and ,mind my in hung sulphur rest of the contents of that gallery, though on the whole they were the specialist no am I .interest little had I ,saw I all of preserved best in mineralogy, and I went on down a very ruinous aisle running parallel been had section this Apparently .entered had I hall first the to devoted to natural history, but everything had long since passed out of once had what of vestiges blackened and shrivelled few A .recognition been stuffed animals, desiccated mummies in jars that had once held for sorry was I !all was that :plants departed of dust brown a ,spirit that, because I should have been glad to trace the patient

## The Time Machine

been had nature animated of conquest the which by readjustments attained. Then we came to a gallery of simply colossal proportions, but angle slight a at downward running it of floor the ,lit ill singularly from the end at which I entered. At intervals white globes hung from that suggested which smashed and cracked them of many ceiling the originally the place had been artificially lit. Here I was more in my big of bulks huge the were me of side either on rising for ,element machines, all greatly corroded and many broken down, but some still and ,mechanism for weakness certain a have I know You .complete fairly I was inclined to linger among these; the more so as for the most part vaguest the only make could I and ,puzzles of interest the had they guesses at what they were for. I fancied that if I could solve their of be might that powers of possession in myself find should I puzzles use against the Morlocks.

'Suddenly Weena came very close to my side. So suddenly that she have should I think not do I her for been not it Had .me startled noticed that the floor of the gallery sloped at all. [Footnote: It may was museum the that but ,slope not did floor the that ,course of ,be built into the side of a hill. - ED.] The end I had come in at was quite down went you As .windows like slit rare by lit was and ,ground above the length, the ground came up against these windows, until at last only and ,each before house London a of 'area' the like pit a was there a narrow line of daylight at the top. I went slowly along, puzzling the notice to them upon intent too been had and ,machines the about gradual diminution of the light, until Weena's increasing apprehensions a into last at down ran gallery the that saw I Then .attention my drew thick darkness. I hesitated, and then, as I looked round me, I saw that away Further .even less surface its and abundant less was dust the towards the dimness, it appeared to be broken by a number of small Morlocks the of presence immediate the of sense My .footprints narrow revived at that. I felt that I was wasting my time in the academic far already was it that mind to called I .machinery of examination advanced in the afternoon, and that I had still no weapon, no refuge, of blackness remote the in down then And .fire a making of means no and the gallery I heard a peculiar pattering, and the same odd noises I had .well the down heard

## The Time Machine

'I took Weena's hand. Then, struck with a sudden idea, I left her and a in those unlike not lever a projected which from machine a to turned signal - box. Clambering upon the stand, and grasping this lever in my deserted ,Weena Suddenly .sideways it upon weight my all put I ,hands in the central aisle, began to whimper. I had judged the strength of and ,strain 'minute a after snapped it for ,correctly pretty lever the I rejoined her with a mace in my hand more than sufficient, I judged, kill to much very longed I And .encounter might I skull Morlock any for a Morlock or so. Very inhuman, you may think, to want to go killing any feel to ,somehow ,impossible was it But !descendants own 'one humanity in the things. Only my disinclination to leave Weena, and a Time my murder for thirst my slake to began I if that persuasion Machine might suffer, restrained me from going straight down the .heard I brutes the killing and gallery

'Well, mace in one hand and Weena in the other, I went out of that first the at which ,one larger still and another into and gallery glance reminded me of a military chapel hung with tattered flags. The presently I ,it of sides the from hung that rags charred and brown recognised as the decaying vestiges of books. They had long since here But .them left had print of semblance every and ,pieces to dropped and there were warped boards and cracked metallic clasps that told the have ,perhaps ,might I man literary a been I Had .enough well tale moralised upon the futility of all ambition. But as it was, the thing to labour of waste enormous the was force keenest with me struck that which this sombre wilderness of rotting paper testified. At the time I Transactions Philosophical the of chiefly thought I that confess will and my own seventeen papers upon physical optics.

'Then, going up a broad staircase, we came to what may once have been a of hope little a not had I here And .chemistry technical of gallery useful discoveries. Except at one end where the roof had collapsed, .case unbroken every to eagerly went I .preserved well was gallery this And at last, in one of the really air - tight cases, I found a box of were They .good perfectly were They .them tried I eagerly Very .matches not even damp. I turned to Weena. 'Dance,' I cried to her in her own we creatures horrible the against indeed weapon a had I now For .tongue feared. And so, in that derelict museum, upon the thick soft carpeting of kind a performed solemnly I ,delight huge 'Weena to ,dust of

## The Time Machine

composite dance, whistling The Land of the Leal as cheerfully as I part in ,dance step a part in ,cancan modest a was it part In .could a skirt dance (so far as my tail - coat permitted), and in part original. .know you as ,inventive naturally am I For

'Now, I still think that for this box of matches to have escaped the was it me for as ,strange most a was years immemorial for time of wear a most fortunate thing. Yet, oddly enough, I found a far unlikelier by that ,jar sealed a in it found I .camphor was that and ,substance chance, I suppose, had been really hermetically sealed. I fancied at But .accordingly glass the smashed and ,wax paraffin was it that first the odour of camphor was unmistakable. In the universal decay this many through perhaps ,survive to chanced had substance volatile thousands of centuries. It reminded me of a sepia painting I had once perished have must that Belemnite fossil a of ink the from done seen and become fossilised millions of years ago. I was about to throw it good a with burnt and inflammable was it that remembered I but ,away bright flame - was, in fact, an excellent candle - and I put it in my down breaking of means any nor ,however ,explosives no found I .pocket the bronze doors. As yet my iron crowbar was the most helpful thing I .elated greatly gallery that left I Nevertheless .upon chanced had

'I cannot tell you all the story of that long afternoon. It would all at in explorations my recall to memory of effort great a require the proper order. I remember a long gallery of rusting stands of arms, I .sword a or hatchet a and crowbar my between hesitated I how and could not carry both, however, and my bar of iron promised best against The .rifles and ,pistols ,guns of numbers were There .gates bronze the most were masses of rust, but many were of some new metal, and still had been have once may there powder or cartridges any But .sound fairly rotted into dust. One corner I saw was charred and shattered; perhaps, a was place another In .specimens the among explosion an by ,thought I vast array of idols - Polynesian, Mexican, Grecian, Phœnician, every irresistible an to yielding ,here And .think should I ,earth on country impulse, I wrote my name upon the nose of a steatite monster from South .fancy my took particularly that America

## The Time Machine

'As the evening drew on, my interest waned. I went through gallery sometimes exhibits the ,ruinous often ,silent ,dusty ,gallery after mere heaps of rust and lignite, sometimes fresher. In one place I the by then and ,mine tin a of model the near myself found suddenly merest accident I discovered, in an air - tight case, two dynamite Then ,joy with case the smashed and '!Eureka' shouted I !cartridges came a doubt. I hesitated. Then, selecting a little side gallery, I waiting in did I as disappointment a such felt never I .essay my made five, ten, fifteen minutes for an explosion that never came. Of course I .presence their from guessed have might I as ,dummies were things the really believe that had they not been so, I should have rushed off my )proved it as( and ,doors bronze ,Sphinx blown and incontinently chances of finding the Time Machine, all together into non - existence.

'It was after that, I think, that we came to a little open court within and rested we So .trees fruit three had and ,turfed was It .palace the refreshed ourselves. Towards sunset I began to consider our position. still had place hiding inaccessible my and ,us upon creeping was Night to be found. But that troubled me very little now. I had in my against defences all of best the ,perhaps ,was that thing a possession the Morlocks - I had matches! I had the camphor in my pocket, too, if a do could we thing best the that me to seemed It .needed were blaze would be to pass the night in the open, protected by a fire. In the as ,that Towards .Machine Time the of getting the was there morning yet, I had only my iron mace. But now, with my growing knowledge, I had I ,this to Up .doors bronze those towards differently very felt refrained from forcing them, largely because of the mystery on the I and ,strong very being as me impressed never had They .side other hoped to find my bar of iron not altogether inadequate for the work.

XII

**In the Darkness**

'We emerged from the Palace while the sun was still in part above the horizon, and ere the dusk I purposed pushing through the woods that had as far as go to was plan My .journey previous the on me stopped possible that night, and then, building a fire, to sleep in the any gathered I along went we as ,Accordingly .glare its of protection sticks or dried grass I saw, and presently had my arms full of such ,anticipated had I than slower was progress our ,loaded Thus .litter and besides Weena was tired. And I, also, began to suffer from .wood the reached we before night full was it that so ;too sleepiness Upon the shrubby hill of its edge Weena would have stopped, fearing the that ,calamity impending of sense singular a but ;us before darkness should indeed have served me as a warning, drove me onward. I had been and feverish was I and ,days two and night a for sleep without irritable. I felt sleep coming upon me, and the Morlocks with it.

'While we hesitated, among the black bushes behind us, and dim against and scrub was There .figures crouching three saw I ,blackness their long grass all about us, and I did not feel safe from their insidious .across mile a than less rather was ,calculated I ,forest The .approach If we could get through it to the bare hillside, there, as it seemed to my with that thought I ;place resting safer altogether an was ,me matches and my camphor I could contrive to keep my path illuminated matches flourish to was I if that evident was it Yet .woods the through with my hands I should have to abandon my firewood; so, rather would I that head my into came it then And .down it put I ,reluctantly amaze our friends behind by lighting it. I was to discover the an as mind my to came it but ,proceeding this of folly atrocious ingenious move for covering our retreat.

'I don't know if you have ever thought what a rare thing flame must be is heat 'sun The .climate temperate a in and man of absence the in rarely strong enough to burn, even when it is focused by dewdrops, as blast may Lightning .districts tropical more in case the sometimes is

## The Time Machine

and blacken, but it rarely gives rise to widespread fire. Decaying fermentation its of heat the with smoulder occasionally may vegetation but this rarely results in flame. In this decadence, too, the art of went that tongues red The earth the on forgotten been had making fire licking up my heap of wood were an altogether new and strange thing to Weena

'She wanted to run to it and play with it. I believe she would have and ,up her caught I But her restrained not I had it into herself cast in spite of her struggles, plunged boldly before me into the wood. For ,presently back Looking path the lit fire my of glare the way little a I could see, through the crowded stems, that from my heap of sticks the was fire of line curved a and ,adjacent bushes some to spread had blaze creeping up the grass of the hill. I laughed at that, and turned again me to clung Weena and ,black very was It me before trees dark the to convulsively, but there was still, as my eyes grew accustomed to the was it Overhead stems the avoid to me for light sufficient ,darkness simply black, except where a gap of remote blue sky shone down upon us .free hand no had I because matches my of none lit I there and here Upon my left arm I carried my little one, in my right hand I had my .bar iron

'For some way I heard nothing but the crackling twigs under my feet, the and breathing own my and ,above breeze the of rustle faint the throb of the blood - vessels in my ears. Then I seemed to know of a more grew pattering The grimly on pushed I me behind pattering distinct, and then I caught the same queer sound and voices I had heard and ,Morlocks the of several evidently were There .Underworld the in they were closing in upon me. Indeed, in another minute I felt a tug at and ,violently shivered Weena And .arm my at something then ,coat my became quite still.

'It was time for a match. But to get one I must put her down. I did so, darkness the in began struggle a ,pocket my with fumbled I as ,and about my knees, perfectly silent on her part and with the same peculiar creeping were ,too ,hands little Soft .Morlocks the from sounds cooing over my coat and back, touching even my neck. Then the match scratched Morlocks the of backs white the saw and ,flaring it held I .fizzed and in flight amid the trees. I hastily took a lump of camphor from my

## The Time Machine

Then I should have lit the matches as soon as I was prepared and I looked at Weena. She was lying clutching my feet and quite motionless. I lit the block of camphor and flung it to the ground. The Morlocks and the shadows, I knelt down and lifted her. The wood seemed full of murmur and stir behind.

'She seemed to have fainted. I put her carefully upon my shoulder and rose. In my confusion I had turned myself about several times. For all I knew, I might be facing back towards the Palace of Porcelain Green. I determined to build a fire and encamp where we were. I put Weena upon a turfy bank, motionless still. As my first lump of camphor waned, I began collecting sticks and stones. Here and there leaves shone like carbuncles.

'The camphor flickered and went out. I lit a match, and as I did so, Weena approached. One was so blinded by the light that he came straight for me, and I felt dismay, staggered a little way, and fell down. I lit another piece of dry wood. Presently my bonfire went and camphor was some of the foliage above me, for since my arrival on the Time Machine, no rain had fallen. So I began leaping up and dragging down branches of smoky fire, and could economise my camphor. Then I turned to where Weena lay. I tried to revive her, but she lay like one dead. I could not even satisfy myself whether or not she breathed.

'Now, the smoke of the fire beat over towards me, and it must have made the air in my nostrils of camphor vapour. Moreover, my fire would not need replenishing for an hour or so. I felt very weary after my exertion, and sat down. The wood was too full of

## The Time Machine

slumbrous murmur that I did not understand. I seemed just to nod and upon hands their had Morlocks the and ,dark was all But .eyes my open me. Flinging off their clinging fingers I hastily felt in my pocket for me with closed and gripped they Then !gone had it and ,box match the again. In a moment I knew what had happened. I had slept, and my fire forest The .soul my over came death of bitterness the and ,out gone had seemed full of the smell of burning wood. I was caught by the neck, by horrible indescribably was It .down pulled and ,arms the by ,hair the in the darkness to feel all these soft creatures heaped upon me. I felt went and ,overpowered was I .web 'spider monstrous a in was I if as down. I felt little teeth nipping at my neck. I rolled over, and as I I .strength me gave It .lever iron my against came hand my so did struggled up, shaking the human rats from me, and, holding the bar the feel could I .be might faces their judged I where thrust I ,short succulent giving of flesh and bone under my blows, and for a moment I .free was

'The strange exultation that so often seems to accompany hard fighting determined I but ,lost were Weena and I both that knew I .me upon came to make the Morlocks pay for their meat. I stood with my back to a the of full was wood whole The .me before bar iron the swinging ,tree stir and cries of them. A minute passed. Their voices seemed to rise to none Yet .faster grew movements their and ,excitement of pitch higher a came within reach. I stood glaring at the blackness. Then suddenly came that of heels the on close And ?afraid were Morlocks the if What .hope came a strange thing. The darkness seemed to grow luminous. Very dimly then and feet my at battered three me about Morlocks the see to began I I recognised, with incredulous surprise, that the others were running, through away and ,me behind from ,seemed it as ,stream incessant an in the wood in front. And their backs seemed no longer white, but reddish. of gap a across drifting go spark red little a saw I ,agape stood I As starlight between the branches, and vanish. And at that I understood now growing was that murmur slumbrous the ,wood burning of smell the into a gusty roar, the red glow, and the Morlocks' flight.

'Stepping out from behind my tree and looking back, I saw, through the It .forest burning the of flames the ,trees nearer the of pillars black was my first fire coming after me. With that I looked for Weena, but thud explosive the ,me behind crackling and hissing The .gone was she

## The Time Machine

as each fresh tree burst into flame, left little time for reflection. I was It .path 'Morlocks the in followed I ,gripped still bar iron My close race. Once the flames crept forward so swiftly on my right as I at But .left the to off strike to had and outflanked was I that ran last I emerged upon a small open space, and as I did so, a Morlock came !fire the into straight on went and ,me past and ,me towards blundering

'And now I was to see the most weird and horrible thing, I think, of as bright as was space whole This .age future that in beheld I that all day with the reflection of the fire. In the centre was a hillock or arm another was this Beyond .hawthorn scorched a by surmounted ,tumulus of the burning forest, with yellow tongues already writhing from it, hillside the Upon .fire of fence a with space the encircling completely were some thirty or forty Morlocks, dazzled by the light and heat, and .bewilderment their in other each against thither and hither blundering At first I did not realise their blindness, and struck furiously at killing ,me approached they as ,fear of frenzy a in ,bar my with them one and crippling several more. But when I had watched the gestures of heard and ,sky red the against hawthorn the under groping them of one their moans, I was assured of their absolute helplessness and misery in .them of more no struck I and ,glare the

'Yet every now and then one would come straight towards me, setting time one At .him elude to quick me made that horror quivering a loose the flames died down somewhat, and I feared the foul creatures would by fight the beginning of thinking was I .me see to able be presently killing some of them before this should happen; but the fire burst out among hill the about walked I .hand my stayed I and ,brightly again them and avoided them, looking for some trace of Weena. But Weena was .gone

'At last I sat down on the summit of the hillock, and watched this and ,fro and to groping things blind of company incredible strange making uncanny noises to each other, as the glare of the fire beat on through and ,sky the across streamed smoke of uprush coiling The .them the rare tatters of that red canopy, remote as though they belonged to came Morlocks three or Two .stars little the shone ,universe another blundering into me, and I drove them off with blows of my fists, .so did I as trembling

## The Time Machine

'For the most part of that night I was persuaded it was a nightmare. I the beat I .awake to desire passionate a in screamed and myself bit ground with my hands, and got up and sat down again, and wandered here and eyes my rubbing to fall would I Then .down sat again and ,there and calling upon God to let me awake. Thrice I saw Morlocks put their heads above ,last at ,But .flames the into rush and agony of kind a in down the subsiding red of the fire, above the streaming masses of black diminishing the and ,stumps tree blackening and whitening the and smoke numbers of these dim creatures, came the white light of the day.

'I searched again for traces of Weena, but there were none. It was cannot I .forest the in body little poor her left had they that plain describe how it relieved me to think that it had escaped the awful fate moved almost was I ,that of thought I As .destined seemed it which to to begin a massacre of the helpless abominations about me, but I in island of kind a was ,said have I as ,hillock The .myself contained the forest. From its summit I could now make out through a haze of my get could I that from and ,Porcelain Green of Palace the smoke bearings for the White Sphinx. And so, leaving the remnant of these day the as ,moaning and thither and hither going still souls damned grew clearer, I tied some grass about my feet and limped on across with internally pulsated still that stems black among and ashes smoking fire, towards the hiding - place of the Time Machine. I walked slowly, intensest the felt I and ,lame as well as ,exhausted almost was I for wretchedness for the horrible death of little Weena. It seemed an like more is it ,room familiar old this in ,Now .calamity overwhelming the sorrow of a dream than an actual loss. But that morning it left me house this of think to began I .alone terribly again lonely absolutely of mine, of this fireside, of some of you, and with such thoughts came .pain was that longing a

'But, as I walked over the smoking ashes under the bright morning sky, .matches loose some still were pocket trouser my In .discovery a made I The box must have leaked before it was lost.

XIII

**The Trap of the White Sphinx**

'About eight or nine in the morning I came to the same seat of yellow .arrival my of evening the upon world the viewed had I which from metal I thought of my hasty conclusions upon that evening and could not same the was Here .confidence my at bitterly laughing from refrain beautiful scene, the same abundant foliage, the same splendid palaces its between running river silver same the ,ruins magnificent and fertile banks. The gay robes of the beautiful people moved hither and I where place the exactly in bathing were Some .trees the among thither had saved Weena, and that suddenly gave me a keen stab of pain. And the to ways the above cupolas the rose landscape the upon blots like Underworld. I understood now what all the beauty of the Overworld of day the as pleasant as ,day their was pleasant Very .covered people the cattle in the field. Like the cattle, they knew of no enemies and .same the was end their And .needs no against provided

'I grieved to think how brief the dream of the human intellect had towards steadfastly itself set had It .suicide committed had It .been comfort and ease, a balanced society with security and permanency as ,Once .last at this to come to hopes its attained had it ,watchword its life and property must have reached almost absolute safety. The rich his of assured toiler the ,comfort and wealth his of assured been had life and work. No doubt in that perfect world there had been no quiet great a And .unsolved left question social no ,problem unemployed had followed.

'It is a law of nature we overlook, that intellectual versatility is perfectly animal An .trouble and ,danger ,change for compensation the in harmony with its environment is a perfect mechanism. Nature never is There .useless are instinct and habit until intelligence to appeals no intelligence where there is no change and no need of change. Only variety huge a meet to have that intelligence of partake animals those of needs and dangers.

## The Time Machine

'So, as I see it, the Upperworld man had drifted towards his feeble that But .industry mechanical mere to Underworld the and ,prettiness perfect state had lacked one thing even for mechanical feeding the ,on went time as Apparently ,permanency absolute perfection of an Underworld, however it was effected, had become disjointed. ,years thousand few a for off staved been had who ,Necessity Mother came back again, and she began below. The Underworld being in contact thought little some needs still ,perfect however ,which ,machinery with outside habit, had probably retained perforce rather more initiative, other when And .Upper the than ,character human other every of less if meat failed them, they turned to what old habit had hitherto forbidden. Two and Hundred Eight of world the of view last my in it saw I say I So Thousand Seven Hundred and One. It may be as wrong an explanation as and ,me to itself shaped thing the how is It .invent could wit mortal as that I give it to you.

'After the fatigues, excitements, and terrors of the past days, and in warm the and view tranquil the and seat this ,grief my of spite sunlight were very pleasant. I was very tired and sleepy, and soon my own my took I ,that at myself Catching .dozing into passed theorising hint, and spreading myself out upon the turf I had a long and .sleep refreshing

'I awoke a little before sunsetting. I now felt safe against being down on came I ,myself stretching ,and ,Morlocks the by napping caught the hill towards the White Sphinx. I had my crowbar in one hand, and .pocket my in matches the with played hand other the

'And now came a most unexpected thing. As I approached the pedestal of into down slid had They .open were valves bronze the found I sphinx the grooves.

'At that I stopped short before them, hesitating to enter.

'Within was a small apartment, and on a raised place in the corner of So .pocket my in levers small the had I .Machine Time the was this here, after all my elaborate preparations for the siege of the White sorry almost ,away bar iron my threw I .surrender meek a was ,Sphinx not to use it.

## The Time Machine

'A sudden thought came into my head as I stooped towards the portal. Morlocks the of operations mental the grasped I ,least at ,once For Suppressing a strong inclination to laugh, I stepped through the bronze been had it find to surprised was I .Machine Time the to up and frame carefully oiled and cleaned. I have suspected since that the Morlocks to way dim their in trying while pieces to it taken partially even had grasp its purpose.

'Now as I stood and examined it, finding a pleasure in the mere touch bronze The .happened expected had I thing the ,contrivance the of panels suddenly slid up and struck the frame with a clang. I was in the .gleefully chuckled I that At .thought Morlocks the So .trapped dark

'I could already hear their murmuring laughter as they came towards me. the on fix to only had I .match the strike to tried I calmly Very levers and depart then like a ghost. But I had overlooked one little the on only light that kind abominable that of were matches The .thing box.

'You may imagine how all my calm vanished. The little brutes were close them at dark the in blow sweeping a made I .me touched One .me upon with the levers, and began to scramble into the saddle of the machine. fight to simply had I Then .another then and me upon hand one came Then against their persistent fingers for my levers, and at the same time almost they ,indeed ,One .fitted these which over studs the for feel got away from me. As it slipped from my hand, I had to butt in the dark It .it recover to ring skull 'Morlock the hear could I head my with was a nearer thing than the fight in the forest, I think, this last .scramble

'But at last the lever was fixed and pulled over. The clinging hands found I .eyes my from fell presently darkness The .me from slipped myself in the same grey light and tumult I have already described.

XIV

**The Further Vision**

'I have already told you of the sickness and confusion that comes with travelling time but sideways and in an unstable fashion. For an indefinite time I clung to the machine as it vibrated and swayed quite unheeding how I went and when I brought myself to look at the dials again I was amazed to find where I had arrived. One dial records days and thousands of days, another millions of days, and another thousands of millions. Now instead of reversing the levers, I pulled them so as to go forward with them, and when I came to look at these indicators I found the hand that sweeps round as fast as the hand of a watch - into futurity.

'As I drove on, a peculiar change crept over the appearance of things. The travelling with prodigious velocity - the blinking succession of day and night which usually was of an indicative pace - returned slower and more marked. This puzzled me very much at first. The day and night of alternations grew slower and slower until they seemed to stretch through twilight a steady twilight over the earth. At last centuries only broken now and then when a comet glared across the darkling sky. The band of light which had indicated the sun had disappeared; for the sun had ceased to set - it simply rose and fell in the west and grew ever broader and more red. All the stars vanished. The circling of the stars, growing slower and slower, had stopped, the sun, red and very large, halted motionless upon the horizon with a vast glowing dome and a dull heat. At one time it had suffered a momentary extinction. At one time it had glowed more brilliantly, again but it reverted speedily to its sullen red heat. I perceived by this slowing down of its rising and setting that the work of the tidal drag was done. The earth had come to rest with one face to the sun, even as in our own time the moon faces the earth. Very cautiously I remembered my former headlong fall.

## The Time Machine

began to reverse my motion. Slower and slower went the circling hands no was one daily the and motionless seemed one thousands the until longer a mere mist upon its scale. Still slower, until the dim outlines .visible grew beach desolate a of

'I stopped very gently and sat upon the Time Machine, looking round. out and ,black inky was it eastward North .blue longer no was sky The of the blackness shone brightly and steadily the pale white stars. it eastward south and ,starless and red Indian deep a was it Overhead grew brighter to a glowing scarlet where, cut by the horizon, lay the a of were me about rocks The .motionless and red ,sun the of hull huge harsh reddish colour, and all the trace of life that I could see at projecting every covered that vegetation green intensely the was first point on their south - eastern face. It was the same rich green that one these like which plants :caves in lichen the on or moss forest on sees grow in a perpetual twilight.

'The machine was standing on a sloping beach. The sea stretched away to wan the against horizon bright sharp a into rise to ,west south the sky. There were no breakers and no waves, for not a breath of wind was gentle a like fell and rose swell oily slight a Only .stirring breathing, and showed that the eternal sea was still moving and living. thick a was broke sometimes water the where margin the along And incrustation of salt - pink under the lurid sky. There was a sense of .fast very breathing was I that noticed I and ,head my in oppression The sensation reminded me of my only experience of mountaineering, and .now is it than rarefied more be to air the judged I that from

'Far away up the desolate slope I heard a harsh scream, and saw a thing sky the into up fluttering and slanting go butterfly white huge a like and, circling, disappear over some low hillocks beyond. The sound of firmly more myself seated and shivered I that dismal so was voice its upon the machine. Looking round me again, I saw that, quite near, what .me towards slowly moving was rock of mass reddish a be to taken had I Then I saw the thing was really a monstrous crab - like creature. Can you moving legs many its with ,table yonder as large as crab a imagine slowly and uncertainly, its big claws swaying, its long antennae, like at gleaming eyes stalked its and ,feeling and waving ,whips 'carters you on either side of its metallic front? Its back was corrugated and

## The Time Machine

blotched incrustation greenish and, bosses ungainly with ornamented  
it here and there. I could see the many palps of its complicated mouth  
.moved it as feeling and flickering

'As I stared at this sinister apparition crawling towards me, I felt a  
to tried I .there lighted had fly a though as cheek my on tickling  
brush it away with my hand, but in a moment it returned, and almost  
caught and ,this at struck I .ear my by another came immediately  
something threadlike. It was drawn swiftly out of my hand. With a  
of antenna the grasped had I that saw I and ,turned I ,qualm frightful  
another monster crab that stood just behind me. Its evil eyes were  
and ,appetite with alive all was mouth its ,stalks their on wriggling  
its vast ungainly claws, smeared with an algal slime, were descending  
month a placed had I and ,lever the on was hand my moment a In .me upon  
between myself and these monsters. But I was still on the same beach,  
them of Dozens .stopped I as soon as now distinctly them saw I and  
seemed to be crawling here and there, in the sombre light, among the  
.green intense of sheets foliated

'I cannot convey the sense of abominable desolation that hung over the  
,Sea Dead salt the ,blackness northward the ,sky eastern red The .world  
the stony beach crawling with these foul, slow - stirring monsters, the  
air thin the ,plants lichenous the of green looking poisonous uniform  
that hurts one's lungs: all contributed to an appalling effect. I moved  
a ,larger little a sun red same the was there and ,years hundred a on  
little duller - the same dying sea, the same chill air, and the same  
and weed green the among out and in creeping crustacea earthy of crowd  
the red rocks. And in the westward sky, I saw a curved pale line like a  
.moon new vast

'So I travelled, stopping ever and again, in great strides of a  
,fate 'earth the of mystery the by on drawn ,more or years thousand  
watching with a strange fascination the sun grow larger and duller in  
more ,last At .away ebb earth old the of life the and ,sky westward the  
than thirty million years hence, the huge red - hot dome of the sun had  
I Then .heavens darkling the of part tenth a nearly obscure to come  
stopped once more, for the crawling multitude of crabs had disappeared,  
,lichens and liverworts green livid its for save ,beach red the and  
seemed lifeless. And now it was flecked with white. A bitter cold

## The Time Machine

the To .down eddying came again and ever flakes white Rare .me assailed north - eastward, the glare of snow lay under the starlight of the sable .white pinkish hillocks of crest undulating an see could I and ,sky There were fringes of ice along the sea margin, with drifting masses under bloody all ,ocean salt that of expanse main the but ;out farther the eternal sunset, was still unfrozen.

'I looked about me to see if any traces of animal life remained. A the of saddle the in me kept still apprehension indefinable certain machine. But I saw nothing moving, in earth or sky or sea. The green shallow A .extinct not was life that testified alone rocks the on slime sandbank had appeared in the sea and the water had receded from the ,bank this upon about flopping object black some saw I fancied I .beach but it became motionless as I looked at it, and I judged that my eye The .rock a merely was object black the that and ,deceived been had stars in the sky were intensely bright and seemed to me to twinkle very .little

'Suddenly I noticed that the circular westward outline of the sun had this saw I .curve the in appeared had ,bay a ,concavity a that ;changed grow larger. For a minute perhaps I stared aghast at this blackness was eclipse an that realised I then and ,day the over creeping was that beginning. Either the moon or the planet Mercury was passing across the is there but ,moon the be to it took I first at ,Naturally .disk 'sun much to incline me to believe that what I really saw was the transit of .earth the to near very passing planet inner an

'The darkness grew apace; a cold wind began to blow in freshening gusts in increased air the in flakes white showering the and ,east the from number. From the edge of the sea came a ripple and whisper. Beyond to hard be would It ?Silent .silent was world the sounds lifeless these convey the stillness of it. All the sounds of man, the bleating of the makes that stir the ,insects of hum the ,birds of cries the ,sheep background of our lives - all that was over. As the darkness thickened, the and ;eyes my before dancing ,abundant more grew flakes eddying the cold of the air more intense. At last, one by one, swiftly, one after into vanished hills distant the of peaks white the ,other the blackness. The breeze rose to a moaning wind. I saw the black central pale the moment another In .me towards sweeping eclipse the of shadow

## The Time Machine

stars alone were visible. All else was rayless obscurity. The sky was  
.black absolutely

'A horror of this great darkness came on me. The cold, that smote to my  
and ,shivered I .me overcame ,breathing in felt I pain the and ,marrow  
a deadly nausea seized me. Then like a red - hot bow in the sky appeared  
felt I .myself recover to machine the off got I .sun the of edge the  
giddy and incapable of facing the return journey. As I stood sick and  
no was there shoal the upon thing moving the again saw I confused  
mistake now that it was a moving thing - against the red water of the  
may it ,or ,perhaps football a of size the ,thing round a was It .sea  
be, bigger, and tentacles trailed down from it; it seemed black against  
Then .about fitfully hopping was it and ,water red blood weltering the  
I felt I was fainting. But a terrible dread of lying helpless in that  
the upon clambered I while me sustained twilight awful and remote  
saddle.

### The Time Traveller's Return

'So I came back. For a long time I must have been insensible upon the .resumed was nights and days the of succession blinking The .machine the sun got golden again, the sky blue. I breathed with greater The .flowed and ebbd land the of contours fluctuating The .freedom hands spun backward upon the dials. At last I saw again the dim shadows and changed ,too ,These .humanity decadent of evidences the ,houses of passed, and others came. Presently, when the million dial was at zero, familiar and pretty own our recognise to began I .speed slackened I architecture, the thousands hand ran back to the starting - point, the the of walls old the Then .slower and slower flapped day and night laboratory came round me. Very gently, now, I slowed the mechanism .down

'I saw one little thing that seemed odd to me. I think I have told you Watchett .Mrs ,high very became velocity my before ,out set I when that had walked across the room, travelling, as it seemed to me, like a she when minute that across again passed I ,returned I As .rocket traversed the laboratory. But now her every motion appeared to be the ,opened end lower the at door The .ones previous her of inversion exact and she glided quietly up the laboratory, back foremost, and Just .entered previously had she which by door the behind disappeared before that I seemed to see Hillyer for a moment; but he passed like a .flash

'Then I stopped the machine, and saw about me again the old familiar off got I .them left had I as just appliances my ,tools my ,laboratory the thing very shakily, and sat down upon my bench. For several minutes old my was me Around .calmer became I Then .violently trembled I workshop again, exactly as it had been. I might have slept there, and .dream a been have thing whole the



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### After the Story

'I know,' he said, after a pause, 'that all this will be absolutely here am I that is thing incredible one the me to but ,you to incredible tonight in this old familiar room looking into your friendly faces and .Man Medical the at looked He ' .adventures strange these you telling 'No. I cannot expect you to believe it. Take it as a lie - or a prophecy. upon speculating been have I Consider .workshop the in it dreamed I Say the destinies of our race, until I have hatched this fiction. Treat my .interest its enhance to art of stroke mere a as truth its of assertion And taking it as a story, what do you think of it?'

He took up his pipe, and began, in his old accustomed manner, to tap momentary a was There .grate the of bars the upon nervously it with stillness. Then chairs began to creak and shoes to scrape upon the round looked and ,face 'Traveller Time the off eyes my took I .carpet at his audience. They were in the dark, and little spots of colour swam of contemplation the in absorbed seemed Man Medical The .them before our host. The Editor was looking hard at the end of his cigar - the I as far as ,others The .watch his for fumbled Journalist The .sixth remember, were motionless.

The Editor stood up with a sigh. 'What a pity it is you're not a writer 'Traveller Time the on hand his putting ,said he '!stories of shoulder.

'You don't believe it?'

'Well - '

'I thought not.'

The Time Traveller turned to us. 'Where are the matches?' he said. He I ...truth the you tell To' .puffing ,pipe his over spoke and one lit hardly believe it myself..... And yet...'

## The Time Machine

His eye fell with a mute inquiry upon the withered white flowers upon  
I and ,pipe his holding hand the over turned he Then .table little the  
saw he was looking at some half - healed scars on his knuckles.

The Medical Man rose, came to the lamp, and examined the flowers. 'The  
,see to forward leant Psychologist The .said he ',odd 'gynaecum  
holding out his hand for a specimen.

'I'm hanged if it isn't a quarter to one,' said the Journalist. 'How  
'?home get we shall

'Plenty of cabs at the station,' said the Psychologist.

'It's a curious thing,' said the Medical Man; 'but I certainly don't  
'?them have I May .flowers these of order natural the know

The Time Traveller hesitated. Then suddenly: 'Certainly not.'

'Where did you really get them?' said the Medical Man.

The Time Traveller put his hand to his head. He spoke like one who was  
my into put were They' .him eluded that idea an of hold keep to trying  
pocket by Weena, when I travelled into Time.' He stared round the room.  
atmosphere the and you and room This .going all 'isn it if damned 'I'  
of every day is too much for my memory. Did I ever make a Time Machine,  
life say They ?dream a only all it is Or ?Machine Time a of model a or  
is a dream, a precious poor dream at times - but I can't stand another  
I ?from come dream the did where And .madness 'It .fit 'won that  
must look at that machine. If there is one!'

He caught up the lamp swiftly, and carried it, flaring red, through the  
light flickering the in There .him followed We .corridor the into door  
of the lamp was the machine sure enough, squat, ugly, and askew, a  
Solid .quartz glimmering translucent and ,ivory ,ebony ,brass of thing  
to the touch - for I put out my hand and felt the rail of it - and with  
upon moss and grass of bits and ,ivory the upon smears and spots brown  
the lower parts, and one rail bent awry.

## The Time Machine

The Time Traveller put the lamp down on the bench, and ran his hand  
I story The' .said he ',now right all 'It' .rail damaged the along  
told you was true. I'm sorry to have brought you out here in the cold.'  
the to returned we ,silence absolute an in ,and ,lamp the up took He  
smoking - room.

He came into the hall with us and helped the Editor on with his coat.  
,hesitation certain a with ,and face his into looked Man Medical The  
told him he was suffering from overwork, at which he laughed hugely. I  
.night good bawling ,doorway open the in standing him remember

I shared a cab with the Editor. He thought the tale a 'gaudy lie.' For  
so was story The .conclusion a to come to unable was I part own my  
fantastic and incredible, the telling so credible and sober. I lay  
day next go to determined I .it about thinking night the of most awake  
and see the Time Traveller again. I was told he was in the laboratory,  
,laboratory The .him to up went I ,house the in terms easy on being and  
however, was empty. I stared for a minute at the Time Machine and put  
squat the that At .lever the touched and hand my out  
substantial - looking mass swayed like a bough shaken by the wind. Its  
of reminiscence queer a had I and ,extremely me startled instability  
the childish days when I used to be forbidden to meddle. I came back  
He .room smoking the in me met Traveller Time The .corridor the through  
was coming from the house. He had a small camera under one arm and a  
an me gave and ,me saw he when laughed He .other the under knapsack  
elbow to shake. 'I'm frightfully busy,' said he, 'with that thing in  
'there

'But is it not some hoax?' I said. 'Do you really travel through time?'

'Really and truly I do.' And he looked frankly into my eyes. He  
,hour an half want only I' .room the about wandered eye His .hesitated  
he said. 'I know why you came, and it's awfully good of you. There's  
time this you prove 'I lunch to stop 'you If .here magazines some  
travelling up to the hilt, specimens and all. If you'll forgive my  
'?now you leaving

## The Time Machine

I consented, hardly comprehending then the full import of his words, the door he heard I .corridor the down on went and nodded he and laboratory slam, seated myself in a chair, and took up a daily paper. reminded was I suddenly Then ?time lunch before do to going he was What by an advertisement that I had promised to meet Richardson, the barely could I that saw and ,watch my at looked I .two at ,publisher save that engagement. I got up and went down the passage to tell the .Traveller Time

As I took hold of the handle of the door I heard an exclamation, oddly whirled air of gust A .thud a and click a and ,end the at truncated round me as I opened the door, and from within came the sound of broken seemed I .there not was Traveller Time The .floor the on falling glass to see a ghostly, indistinct figure sitting in a whirling mass of black behind bench the that transparent so figure a moment a for brass and with its sheets of drawings was absolutely distinct; but this phantasm a for Save .gone had Machine Time The .eyes my rubbed I as vanished subsiding stir of dust, the further end of the laboratory was empty. A .in blown been just ,apparently ,had skylight the of pane

I felt an unreasonable amazement. I knew that something strange had strange the what distinguish not could moment the for and ,happened thing might be. As I stood staring, the door into the garden opened, .appeared servant man the and

We looked at each other. Then ideas began to come. 'Has Mr. gone out .I said '?way that

'No, sir. No one has come out this way. I was expecting to find him '.here

At that I understood. At the risk of disappointing Richardson I stayed perhaps ,second the for waiting ;Traveller Time the for waiting ,on still stranger story, and the specimens and photographs he would bring .lifetime a wait must I that fear to now beginning am I But .him with The Time Traveller vanished three years ago. And, as everybody knows .returned never has he ,now

## Epilogue

One cannot choose but wonder. Will he ever return? It may be that he hairy, drinking blood the among fell and, past the into back swept savages of the Age of Unpolished Stone; into the abysses of the reptilian huge the, saurians grotesque the among or; Sea Cretaceous brutes of the Jurassic times. He may even now - if I may use the or, reef coral Oolitic haunted plesiosaurus some on wandering be phrase beside the lonely saline seas of the Triassic Age. Or did he go but, men still are men which in, ages nearer the of one into, forward with the riddles of our own time answered and its wearisome problems cannot, part own my for, I for: race the of manhood the Into? solved think that these latter days of weak experiment, fragmentary theory, own my for, say I! time culminating 'man indeed are discord mutual and part. He, I know - for the question had been discussed among us long the of cheerlessly but thought made was Machine Time the before Advancement of Mankind, and saw in the growing pile of civilisation destroy and upon back fall inevitably must that heaping foolish a only its makers in the end. If that is so, it remains for us to live as is blank and black still is future the me to But, so not were it though a vast ignorance, lit at a few casual places by the memory of his white strange two, comfort my for, me by have I And, story flowers - shrivelled now, and brown and flat and brittle - to witness that tenderness mutual a and gratitude, gone had strength and mind when even still lived on in the heart of man.

We make these texts available for fun and relaxation, but also run a research project about the script.

If you enjoyed reading Empowerment Script, or found it a challenge, let us know.

If you notice an increase in ideas or mental space, let us know.

We make no recommendations about therapy, but if you would like to contact a therapist, we suggest you also seek out an EMDR practitioner or a CBT therapist who will put their reading material into Empowerment Script. If you have a therapist, let them know you have been reading Empowerment Script, and ask if they will add an EMDR or CBT therapist to your therapy team.



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