

THE TIME MACHINE

On its first journey into the unexplored dimension, the Time Machine, as conceived in a book of the same name by H. G. Wells in 1895, took its creator to the year 802701. That trip into the limitless unknown was a simultaneously beautiful and terrifying experience – for it was a time of two worlds and two races of mankind. One race, the Eloi, lived in the bright, sunlit upper world; the other, the Morlocks, lived in the subterranean darkness.

On the future Earth's surface the Time Traveler found the descendants of the thousands of generations which had, through tireless creative effort, gained complete mastery over nature. The outer world of the year 802701 was one of ease and grace. The Eloi were delicate, beautiful and sweetly innocent. They were surrounded by bountiful gardens, forests, and fields abundant in natural foods and richly-colored flowers. Ages of effortless living in their utopian environment had made its mark upon the people of that distant time. Freed from the problems and challenges that had stimulated their ancestors to vigorous achievement, these people had become simple and childlike.

In the nether regions of the Earth lived the Morlocks, a degenerate race of sub-humans. They were evolved from the working classes, who, through interminable centuries, had labored in routine drudgery in underground factories providing for the needs of the Eloi. They had become witless and deformed dwellers in perpetual darkness. Prohibited from sharing the abundant nourishment of the upper world, they lived off the flesh of the abominable creatures that dwelt in burrows and faults in the depths of the earth. Suddenly their food supply had begun to dwindle, threatening their survival. Responding to a dormant strain in their genes, faint thought processes were generated in the Morlock's primitive minds. They began to see the tender flesh of the Eloi as a source of life-sustaining nourishment. In terrifying nighttime forays, they carried off unwary Eloi who had wandered away from places of lighted habitation.

The Time Traveler, searching for his Time Machine which had been stolen and hidden underground by the Morlocks, was set upon in the darkness. He was destined for the same fate as the defenseless Eloi. By a stroke of luck he gained the safety of the Machine before he was overpowered by the Morlocks and escaped. Once removed from the time of the Eloi and the Morlocks, he saw the hopelessness of trying to return to their aid. Saddened, but wiser, he returned to his own time to prepare himself for his next exploration in the new dimension.

