THE TIME MACHINE

H.G. Wells

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"What Has Happened to You?"
A Strange Disappearance

“Good Heavens, man!” gasped Filby. “What has happened to you?”

Standing in the doorway to his dining room, bruised and disheveled, the young scientist wore the look of one who had just been through unspeakable horror. He just stood there, silently shaking his head.

The other men seated around the table echoed Filby’s amazement at the appearance of their host, a respected young scientist.

As all the guests stared, frozen in their chairs, Filby’s mind raced back to the strange events of the week before.
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That evening, as the scientist’s dinner guests were all sitting around the table after one of his regular Thursday dinner parties at his stately home in Richmond, England, the host had captured everyone’s attention with a point he was making. To avoid using the scientist’s name, let him just be known as the Time Traveler.

Among the invited guests were George Filby, a mathematics professor and the Time Traveler’s closest friend; John Manning, a psychologist; and Oswald Perry, a doctor.

The men had been discussing the educational system in England when the Time Traveler burst out, “And another thing — they’re not teaching geometry correctly in today’s schools.”

“What are you talking about?” asked Filby. “We do an excellent job of teaching math.”

“I figure that system of math produced fine results with all of us,” observed Manning as he
Discussing Education in England