Creative Writing: Time Machine

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H.G. Wells wrote a book in 1895 called "The Time Machine", about a scientist who built a means to travel in time. If there were such a time machine as depicted, it certainly would be more interesting than space travel. Instead of travel to dead, boring, planets you could travel to the past, and meet all your favorite historical people and enjoy historical events. You could also take the daring step into the unknown of your future. Let us look at what we could experience and do.

Imagine sitting in a machine, turning on some controls in 2013, and almost instantly getting out in Egypt in 1279 BC in Rameses II rule. First, your clothes would stand out. Your Billabong T-shirt, board shorts, and Nike sport shoes will stand out among their kilts and sandals. Your cell phone will be useless. When you are hungry you will find no KFC, Starbucks, or McDonalds, nor anyone to accept your US\$. If you happen to smoke and have a lighter on you that would draw a crowd. You could do tricks, like lighting papyrus, and take a collection.

Alternatively, you could swop it to a rich Egyptian for some barter goods and get food. You would, however, be able to tell Rameses how his reign would work out, warn him against some of his well-known failures and totally change all we know about his reign!

You could share the principles of electricity and the light bulb with him, or the principles of Alexander Bell. After you would have left, Egypt would have lights in every home and a phone too. In addition, you would be chiseled on a Pyramid explaining you invented such technology. Alas, Alexander Bell and Edison would be deleted from our history books, as now the Egyptians would be the inventors.

A trip to Europe in the Middle Ages could be a good opportunity to warn them against the rats and plague, and to introduce smallpox vaccinations and penicillin. If you went to the early 1900s and warned the Archduke not to go for a ride in his carriage, you would have prevented World War 1. A short hop to 1930's and you could have prevented World War II, which in turn would have prevented the rise of the Soviet Union.

However, a trip to the future would be the daring trip. You decide to travel to 2100 AD. What would you find? Who knows! If someone like Caesar had a time machine and he arrived in London in 2013, he would not recognize it. Instead of primitive tribes he fought, he would find the remnant heart of an empire that was bigger than his. He would soon realize his famous and feared Legions with their formations of 100 men that conquered the world would be useless against missiles and nuclear warheads.

A trip to the future will result in you coming back with new knowledge, and knowing the outcome of events that will follow your return. From such information as the birth and growth of new companies. Talk about insider trading! How about the winning numbers of future lotteries and being able to submit them so you can win. To knowing the destiny of nations, the new technologies available in those future societies.

Travelling to the past would result in changing the future. Certainly, it would be interesting and daring, but it would totally throw the past, present, and future into chaos. We would have to change your name and call you God.



References

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