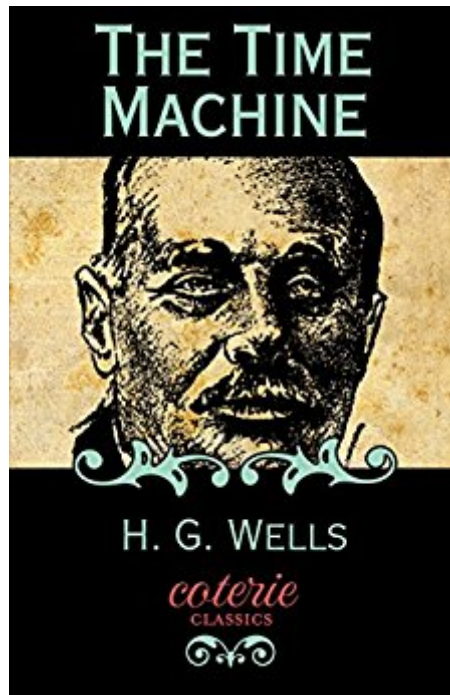




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The Time Machine (Coterie Classics With Free Audiobook)



Synopsis

The Time Machine by H.G. Wells from Coterie Classics All Coterie Classics have been formatted for ereaders and devices and include a bonus link to the free audio book. “We should strive to welcome change and challenges, because they are what help us grow. Without them we grow weak like the Eloi in comfort and security. We need to constantly be challenging ourselves in order to strengthen our character and increase our intelligence.” H.G. Wells, The Time Machine The story of a time traveller that launched H.G. Well’s writing career is an exciting tale of a man sent into the future to bring back the lessons he’s learned to the past.

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Customer Reviews

In the beginning of the twentieth century began the great disillusionment. So begins 'The War of the Worlds.' In this great science fiction dystopia the prolific H.G. Wells (1866-1945) shows us the Martians attacking earth. This apocalyptic vision was made famous to the general public in Orson Wells infamous 1938 broadcast of the novel on his Mercury Theatre on the Air produced for CBS

radio. HG and Orson were not related. Orson Wells moved the story from England to New Jersey. Giant mechanical monsters attack and destroy earth as related by a terrified eyewitness. The Invisible Man (made famous in a movie with Claude Rains portraying the Invisible Man) a mad scientist discovers how to become invisible as he murders his way across the English countryside. The Time Machine (another Wells movie starring Rod Taylor) a scientist travels to the distant future. There he meets the lovely Weena . A weird and short novella which is fascinating to read. H.G. Wells is well served in this excellent Everyman Edition! I recommend it highly to anyone interested in good science fiction well told by a master of the genre.

SO- if you're any kind of Sci Fi nerd, as I am, you know this story. I mean, know this story. Not only have you read the book, you've seen the old movie starring Rod Taylor and you've also seen that glowy, gadgety, steam punky, levered, whirling time machine guest star on a recent TV show which shall remain nameless, because it's become a fixture in nerd culture worldwide. But here's a recap in case you aren't as aware of it: Around the turn of the century, a guy makes a time machine. He travels to the distant future and makes it back with a story to tell. Apparently, in the future, the human race has evolved into two sub-species: The shiny, happy Eloi who live above ground with nothing to do but eat, play and indolently make love. Below ground it is a different story. Hairy, with subterranean eyes accustomed to the dark, the Morlocks are a brutish, threatening lot, which the traveler surmises descended from the lower class of people whose jobs it were to "get their hands dirty", i.e. the laborers of our culture. (Not as much a point for Socialism as I guess Wells intended, as it comes off slightly snotty and academically elitist.) Because he's sure the Morlocks are treating the Eloi as cattle on which to feed, and partly I'd say because he had taken the lovely Eloi, Weena, to bed, the traveler decides to take it on himself to smoke the Morlocks out of their subterranean homes. Plus... they have his Time Machine. His plan works beyond his imaginations and when waking the next day, he does indeed find his Time Machine- all set up like bait in a trap. But he knows something the Morlocks do not- he can escape the trap with ease. And escape he does- but not without a tense confrontation with the white haired, red-eyed creatures. Farther into the future he goes, watching the sun grow red and huge and then wane, till only darkness and stars permanently fill the skies. And then he comes home- to the exact moment he left- a little distance away, because, after all, the Morlocks had moved his machine, and though time had changed, distance had very little. The end of the tale leaves those listening, not believing a word of the traveler's supposed flight of fancy. Still, one friend comes back days later because he's just not sure. He of course sees the traveler disappear in his machine. That friend is still waiting for his return. Honestly? The story

doesn't really get good till about the time the scary Morlocks show up... but, I gotta say, the tiny smooth-skinned Eloi creep me out more. With scientific touches- classic to his stories- H. G. Wells plays a game of "what if?" with the future that still feels unique even as it spawned an entire genre and thousands of similar stories. I wish Wells had a time machine to take him to today so he could see how beloved his stories were and still remain. I wonder if he would have changed his future world to be a little more happier, a little less dystopian? Then again, maybe not- he seemed to have been an excellent judge of human nature, if misguided, by what would fix it, imo.

First time I have read this book. I remember watching this movie with my Mom as a child and not liking it very much. The old adage rings true here: 'the book is better than the movie!'. It's great to see how those before us figured the future would play out. Usually a 'future' novel, at least in my experience, is placed in the 'near future' up to maybe a few thousand years ahead. Wells takes that equation and does away with it going millions of years ahead. It's a good study (or at least perspective) of where man might be by then. Good read and I encourage anyone who has seen the movie, to read the book! Haha

It is often the case and more often thought to be the case that "classic novels" are old hat. That is they are worth reading just to understand a certain school of literary aesthetic or thought, a past era, etc. and maybe they might be worth reading not for their fame (or infamy). "The Time Machine" shatters any assumption that a classic has to be stuffy, irrelevant or out of date (of course, it is by no means the only classic novel to do so). Wells creates the first novel about a time traveling machine with wit, intelligence, suspense, political satire and an adventurous spirit. The story begins in Surrey where a scientist and inventor referred to simply as the Time Traveler is discussing with dinner guests how he views time as simply the fourth dimension (the other three being height, length and breadth), which can be traveled through just like the other three dimensions. The catch is that this eccentric is actually successful and manages to travel over eight hundred thousand years into the future. The Time Traveler navigates through a different world which appears to be an utopian world of leisure occupied by a civilization of small but pretty persons calling themselves Eloi. The Time Traveler soon finds out that things are not as they seem. Even though this is a well known novel, I will not spoil things in case of new readers who stumble across the magnificent book which is in the public domain and free on the Kindle. You may find the musings and observations of the curious and bold Time Traveler to be fascinating. Wells manages to create a thrilling tale with satirical and political themes woven in to warn against oppression and promoting his socialist ideals.

After reading the novel, consider the good but imperfect film adaptations – The Time Machine – and – The Time Machine. Do yourself a favor and avoid the 1970s mess, though; that version is worse than an encounter with morlocks.

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