

THE TIME MACHINE

The next Thursday, I went to Richmond again and when I arrived, I found four or five men already in the sitting room waiting for the time traveller. Because it was late I said that we probably should have dinner ...

Suddenly, the door opened slowly and without noise.

Well, at last !



Oh my friend!
What's the matter ?

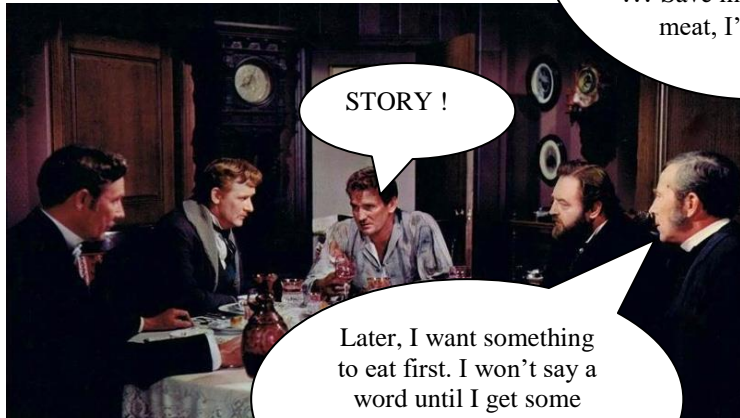


Don't let me worry you,
I'm all right.
I'm going to wash and dress and then I'll come down and explain things ... Save me some of that meat, I'm hungry.

The time traveller sat down without a word. He smiled quietly, in his usual way.



Where's my meat ? How nice it is to stick a fork into meat again.



STORY !

Later, I want something to eat first. I won't say a word until I get some food into my stomach. Thanks. And the salt.

One word, have you been time travelling ?



I suppose I must apologise, I was so hungry I've had a most interesting time. But come into the smoking room. The story is too long to tell over dirty plates.



Most of it will sound like lies but it is true. I was in the laboratory earlier, and since then ... I have lived eight days like no human being ever lived before! I'm very tired, but I won't sleep until I have told this thing to you. But no interruptions! Is it agreed?



We all agreed and the time traveller began his story..



To be continued ...

