



**TIME  
BLASTERS**

# **BACK TO THE ICE AGE**

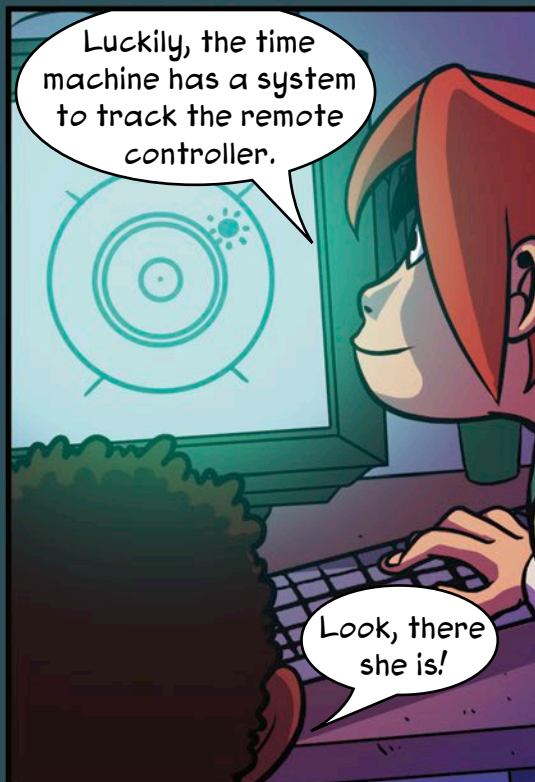
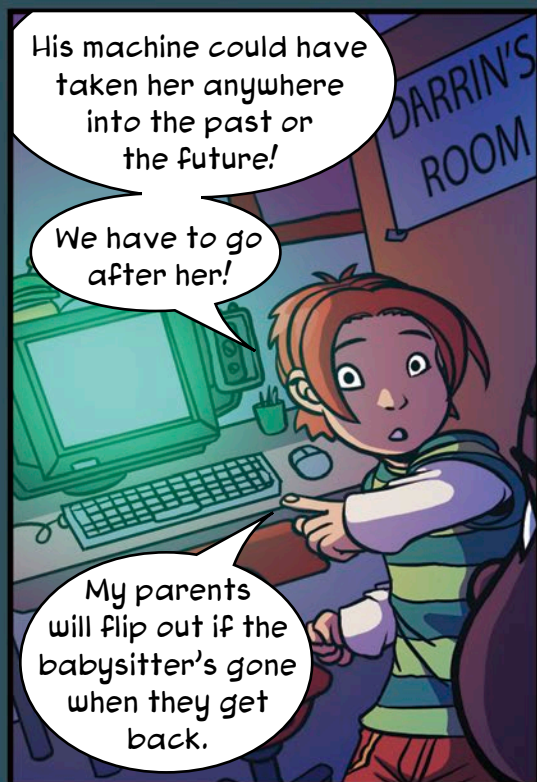
by Scott Nickel  
illustrated by  
Enrique Corts

**GRAPHIC  
NOVEL**





Meanwhile, back at the house . . .















# GLOSSARY

**butterfingers** (BUHT-ur-fing-gurz)—someone who often drops or lets things slip through their hands

**exchange student** (eks-CHAYNJ STOOD-uhnt)—a person living and studying in another country to experience a different culture

**Ice Age** (EYESS AYJ)—a period of time in history when ice covered much of Earth

**mammoth** (MAM-uhth)—an elephant-like animal that lived during the Ice Age and had long tusks and shaggy hair

**pip-squeak** (PIHP-SKWEEK)—an insulting word referring to an unimportant or small person

**prehistoric** (pree-hi-STOR-ik)—a time before historical events were written down

**rascal** (RASS-kuhl)—a tricky, sly person, or a name an older kid might call you

**saber-toothed tiger** (SAY-bur TOOTH TIE-gur)—a tiger-like animal that lived during the Ice Age and had long, pointy teeth. Never call a saver-toothed tiger a “pip-squeak”!



# MORE ABOUT THE ICE AGE

During the Great Ice Age, sheets of ice more than a mile thick covered much of North America and Europe. And you thought winter was bad! Here are a few more facts about this chilly time in history.

Scientists believe Earth has experienced four major ice ages. The **Great Ice Age** began more than one million years ago and ended just 15,000 years ago.

Large glaciers, or ice sheets, covered nearly one-third of Earth during the Great Ice Age. Even today, some of this ice still hasn't melted in Greenland and Antarctica.

As these huge glaciers grew, they dug out canyons and valleys and pushed up hills and ridges. When the glaciers melted, they left behind many lakes and swamps.

As ocean water froze, sea levels dropped more than 350 feet. Many areas that are now under water would have been dry land. In fact, during the Great Ice Age, Florida was nearly twice as large as it is today.

Many large animals, such as woolly mammoths and saber-toothed tigers, roamed North America during the Great Ice Age. When the ice melted, these animals, also known as **megafauna** (MEG-uh-faw-nuh) became extinct. Today, scientists still discover their fossils.

Temperatures during the Great Ice Age must have been extremely cold, right? Actually, much of Earth was only a few degrees colder than today.

## HOW BIG WERE THE ICE SHEETS?





# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. David and Ben didn't like their babysitter, Pamela. So why did they go back in time to save her life? Explain your answer.
2. Each page of a graphic novel has several illustrations called panels. What is your favorite panel in this book? Describe what you like about the illustration and why it's your favorite.
3. What do you think should happen to David? Should he be punished or rewarded for going back in time to save the sitter? Explain your answer.



# WRITING PROMPTS

1. In this story, a cave man travels with David and Ben back to the present time. What happens next? Does the cave guy learn to fit in at school? Or do the boys send him back to the Ice Age? Write down your ideas.
2. Mammoths and saber-toothed tigers are both extinct animals. Ask an adult to help you find information about another extinct animal. Describe what the animal looked like, where it lived, and what it ate.
3. Make a list of three things you would pack for a journey back in time. Would you want to show a Pilgrim your computer or play video game with George Washington? Explain each item you would bring and why?