

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Time Arrogance

Time Safari Inc. promised its clients the ultimate adventure: a chance to travel millions of years into the past and hunt the most dangerous creatures to ever roam the Earth. For Eckels, the idea of hunting a Tyrannosaurus rex was too exciting to pass up. But the company warned its customers: “Time is fragile. Even the smallest change in the past could have disastrous effects on the future.”

The rules were clear. Travelers had to stay on the Path, a floating walkway designed to keep them from interacting with anything in the past. “If you step off, even for a moment, you might destroy something small but important, like an insect,” said Mr. Travis, the guide. “That could change the future in ways you can’t imagine.” However, Eckels dismissed these warnings, confident that one person’s actions couldn’t possibly matter in the vastness of history.

When the group arrived in the prehistoric jungle, Eckels was thrilled—until the T. rex appeared. The dinosaur was enormous, powerful, and terrifying. Eckels froze. Overwhelmed by fear, he ran off the Path, despite Mr. Travis’s desperate warnings. In his panic, Eckels crushed a butterfly under his boot. When they returned to the present, everything had changed. The language on signs was strange, and a cruel dictator now ruled the country. The small butterfly Eckels had killed had set off a chain reaction, changing history in unimaginable ways.

Bradbury’s story critiques human arrogance, showing how people sometimes underestimate the power of their actions. Eckels believed that his choices were insignificant, but his carelessness proved him wrong. The story suggests that humans, with all their advanced technology, must approach the world with humility and responsibility. Time travel was a tool for adventure, but it came with risks far beyond what Eckels had imagined. Bradbury warns us that arrogance, combined with powerful technology, can lead to irreversible consequences.