

THE THIRD  
LEVEL

BY JACK FENNEY

# JACK FINNEY

- ◉ Jack Finney American writer
- ◉ Best known for science fictions and thriller
- ◉ The body snatchers and Time and again
- ◉ Movie invasion of the body snatchers.

# WHAT COLLECTORS ARE CALLED

- ◉ Collectors of dolls are called plangonologists.
- ◉ A collector of paper money, coins, tokens, and related objects is called a numismatist.
- ◉ A collector of paper money is called a notaphilist.
- ◉ A collector of butterflies is called a lepidopterist.
- ◉ Conchologists collect animal shells..
- ◉ A collector of antiques is an antiquarian.
- ◉ A stamp collector is called a philatelist..
- ◉ A bibliophile collects books.
- ◉ A collector of hi-fi equipment is called an audiophile

# SOME TERMS USED IN THE LESSON

leg of mutton  
sleeves (noun) --  
sleeves that puff  
out toward the  
shoulder .

*A leg of mutton  
sleeve needs a lot  
fabric to make.*



# MEN IN 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AMERICA

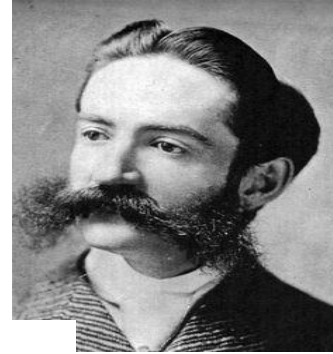
- ◉ Lapel coat, sleeve protectors, gabardine suit



STRAW HAT



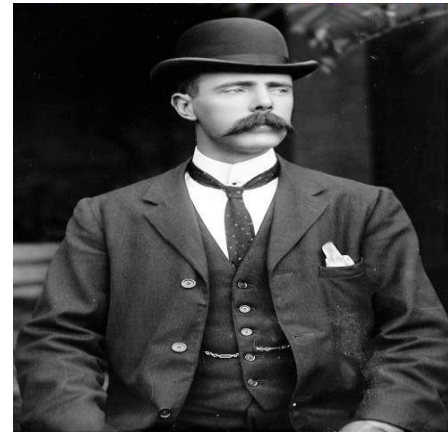
Handle bar moustache



Brass spittoons



Durby hat



## AMERICA IN 1880

Open flame gaslight



Currier and Ives  
locomotive



# PERSPECTIVE OF THE STORY

- ◉ Charley's was a mental trauma - a hallucination.
- ◉ Charley really travelled to the past - time travelling.



# GRAND CENTRAL STATION IN 1952



# GIST OF THE STORY

- ◉ Charley was returning home from his office.
- ◉ He was in a hurry to get home. His wife Louisa was waiting for him.
- ◉ Having found no train from the first level of the station, Charley went down to the second level.
- ◉ While waiting for a train on the second level, Charley found a door and tunnel down.
- ◉ Curious as he always was, Charley suspected it was a mysterious tunnel.
- ◉ Following the tunnel, he took steps down and reached the third level of the station.

# GIST OF THE STORY

- ◉ From a newspaper, he learnt the time - 1895!
- ◉ Charley knew one thing for sure - time traveling!
- ◉ He had got into similar tunnels in the past - under Roosevelt Hotel, under Times Square...
- ◉ In the past he had got into more such mysterious tunnels and caves but always a question remained without answer - why was he not able to go back to those places once again!
- ◉ Anyway, now, in the third level of the Grand Central Station, he had not much time to ask questions - Louisa was waiting at home.
- ◉ He went the ticket counter and asked for two tickets to Galesburg - the 1895 Galesburg or more clearly, a hundred years old Galesburg - where he was born.
- ◉ When he paid the cash at the counter, the clerk suspected him for tendering fake currency. Threatened, Charley ran out of the third level and reached home.

# GIST OF THE STORY

- ◉ Psychiatrist friend Sam refuses to believe
- ◉ Interprets it as an escape from insecurity fear, war and worry of the modern world.
- ◉ Louisa too disbelieves Charlie
- ◉ Charlie's determination to find the Third Level
- ◉ Withdraws money buys old currency worth 300 dollars.
- ◉ Fails to find the Third Level
- ◉ Louisa and Psychiatrist worried
- ◉ Sam disappears
- ◉ Charlie finds a first-day cover, never seen before
- ◉ Note from Sam dated 18th July 1894 from Galesburg
- ◉ Sam asks Charlie and Louisa to come to Galesburg and enjoy a quiet and peaceful life.
- ◉ Charlie discovers Sam had bought old currency worth 800 dollars.
- ◉ Enough to help him start hay and grain business in 1894 at Galesburg