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Journey of the Past

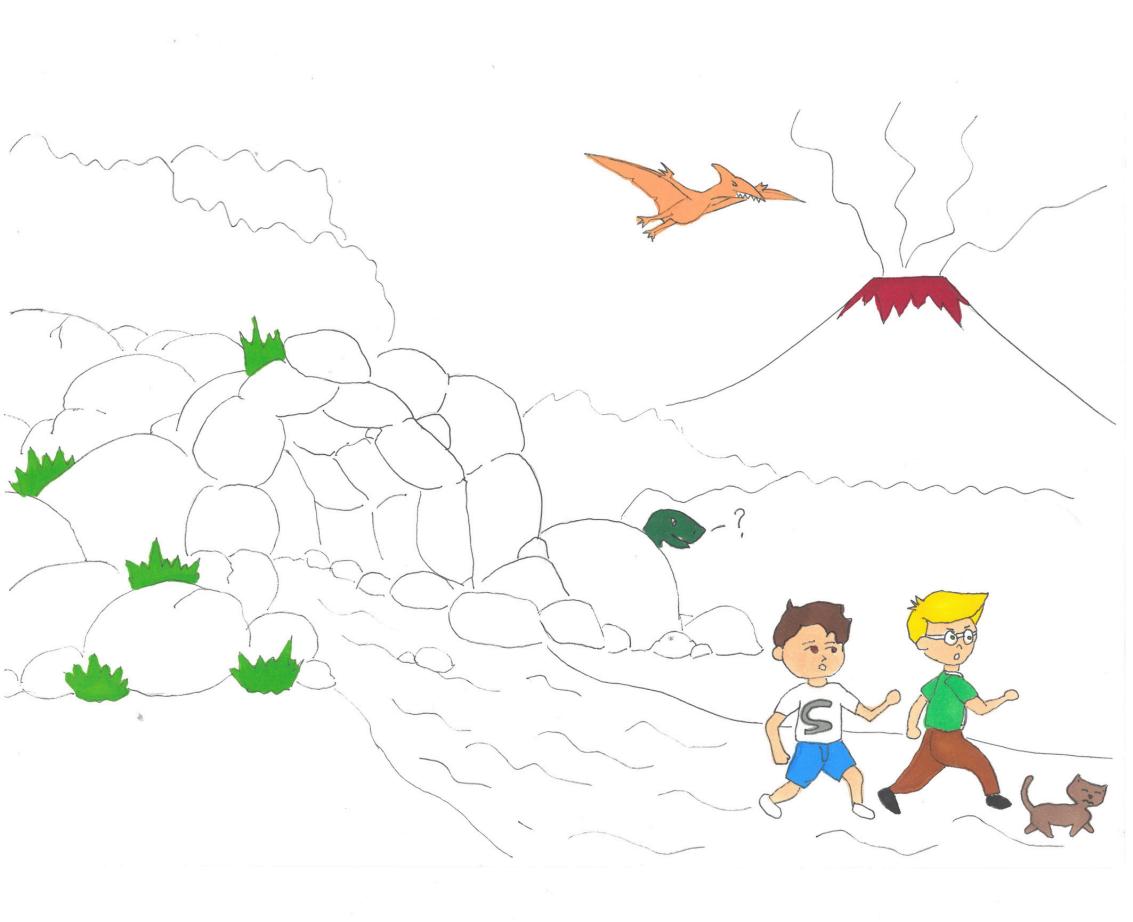
by Rick Lam



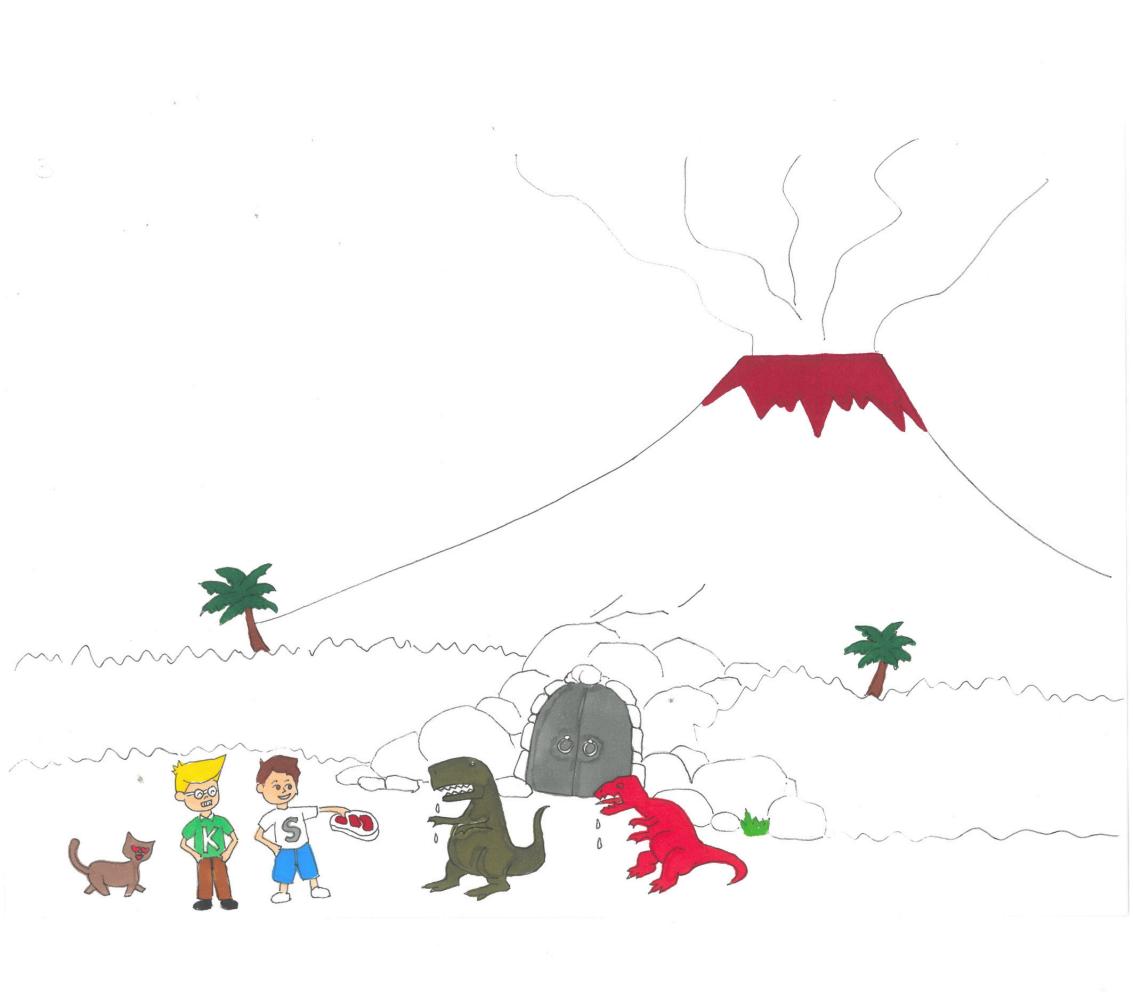
Tourney of the Past



In 2030, two archaeologists named Ken and Sam found a mysterious temple in Thailand. They discovered a mega crystal, an activator, and a code to open a time portal. They took the items back to their lab in Hong Kong. They opened the portal, and Ken, Sam, and their cat, Cream, jumped in. They found themselves in the time of dinosaurs with volcanoes erupting all around them. Suddenly, the portal began to malfunction and disappear! They were trapped.



They quickly hid in a cave. Ken said, "Let's camp here!" Sam said, "I disagree. It is humid and hot with swarms of mosquitoes around us!" Suddenly, "Splash!" the cave started to flood! "Run!" yelled Sam. When they reached another cave, Sam shouted, "We must try to find the mega crystals!" Cream gave them some apples from their backpack and they began searching for the first mega crystal.



Ken and Sam found a giant volcano. Ken said, "This must be it! The mega crystal must be in this great big volcano!" They were about to enter when two Herrerasaurus guards stopped them. One of them said, "Where is your pass ticket?" Ken asked, "What kind of pass is that?" The guard replied, "A piece of meat." Cream quickly gave them a piece of fresh pork. "Beep!" The door opened. They took the mega crystal and waved goodbye. The guards did the same.



They arrived at a large volcano. Cream gave the guards a piece of beef and they entered the volcano's maze. "This place is huge!" Ken exclaimed as they encountered numerous forks and dead ends. After an hour of exploring the maze, they reached a room and obtained another mega crystal. "Boom!" The volcano was about to erupt! They ran quickly through a shortcut and escaped. They put the two mega crystals together. It took them straight to the Ice Age.



They walked through a strong blizzard until they reached a gigantic iceberg. A Smilodon guard stopped them. Cream gave them some KFC fried chicken and they entered the room where the mega crystal was stored. They were just about to touch the crystal when a cage fell upon them. Cream had an idea. It used its slim body to squeeze out of the cage, which could only be opened by a cat's paw. Cream opened the cage and they took the mega crystal and ran away.



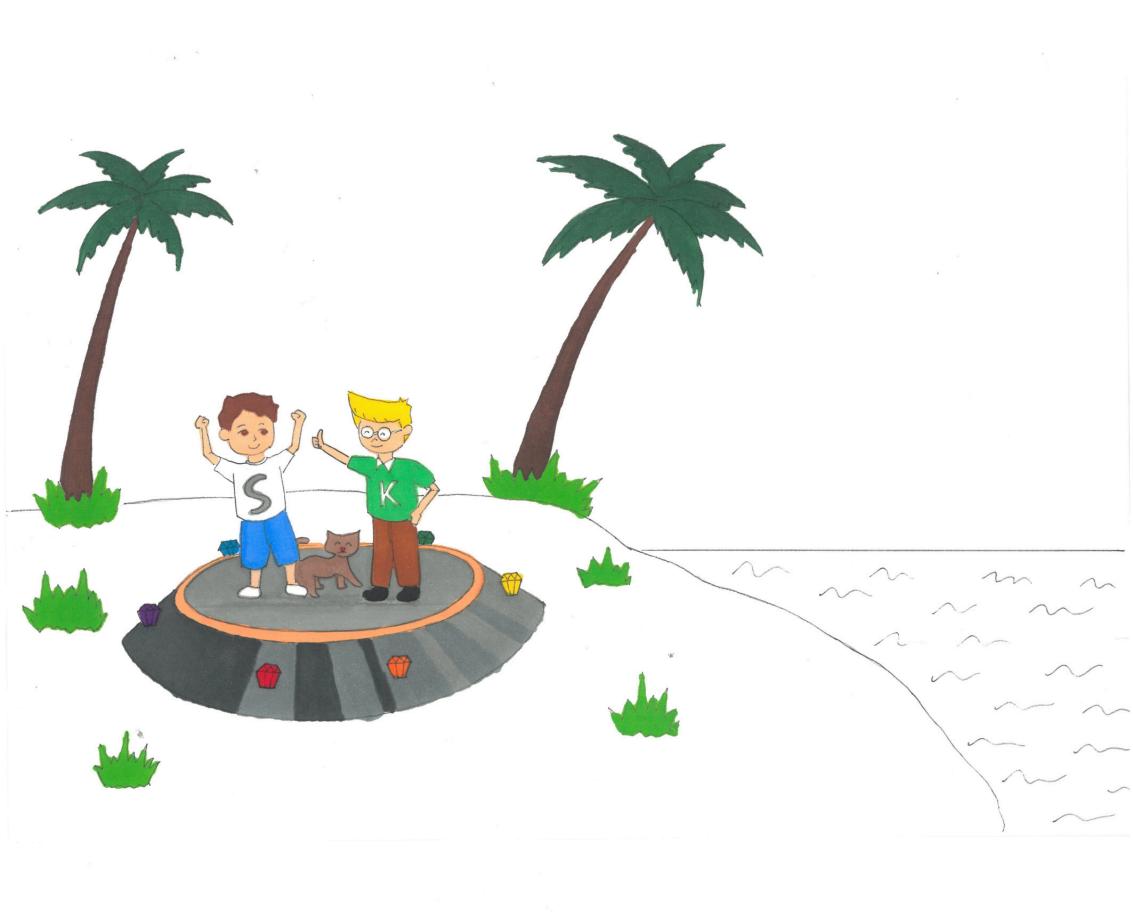
They reached another iceberg. Cream gave the guards roasted lamb and the guards warned them, "Beware of the defensive measures." "We will," Ken replied. They entered the iceberg. Ken and Sam were shocked to see laser beams, iron doors and CCTV cameras. "Wow, it's really difficult." They exclaimed. Ken and Sam carefully navigated through the gloomy, cold and snowy hallways. They finally found the mega crystal and put together the four mega crystals, which transported them to the ocean in the year 1030.

99999 × 99999 = ???

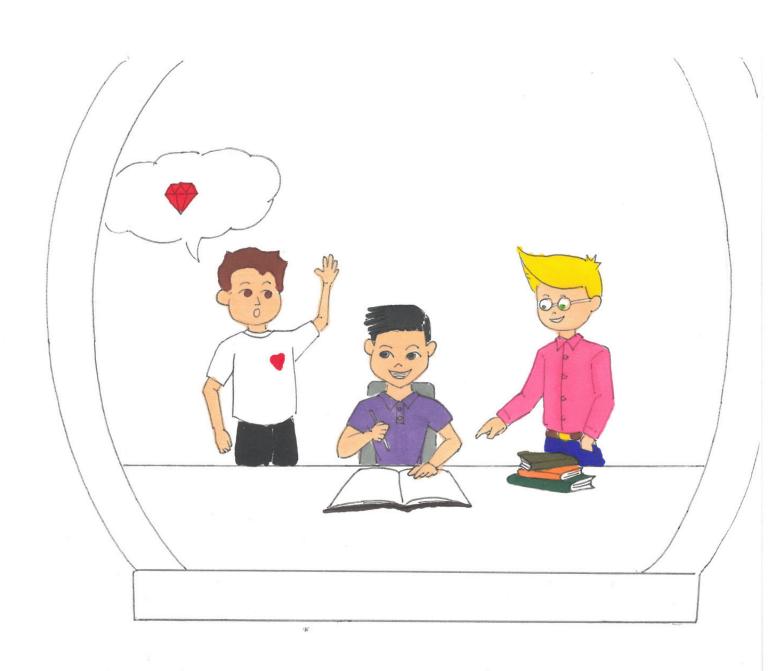
They swam underwater until they reached an underwater mountain. A shark guard stopped them. Cream gave the guard some salmon, and then they entered the mountain. They had to solve numerous very difficult math questions. The last question was actually 99999 x 99999! Sam, who was an expert at math, thought for 15 minutes and then loudly said, "999,980,000!" Ken was shocked. They took the mega crystal and swam away.



Ken and Sam reached an underwater castle. They gave sardines to the guards and entered the castle. The first floor was an enormous cafe, and the second floor was the bathroom and the third floor was the bedroom. Finally, they found the last mega crystal, and a portal activated. However, they were blocked by a robotic guardian! Cream circled the robot with its immense speed and jumped up to press the big red "OFF" button. They shouted, "Hooray! We have got all the mega crystals!"



Ken and Sam swam up to dry land. First, they placed the portal activator on the ground. Next, they inserted the mega crystals into their slots. Finally, they pressed the green button marked "ON". A big purple swirly portal appeared in the hoop of the portal activator. Ken said, "I will miss being in these ancient worlds." "Me too," said Sam. With that, Ken, Sam and Cream jumped into the portal and returned to the year 2030.



When Ken, Sam and Cream arrived back in 2030, they went to meet the famous author, Rick Lam, at his workshop on the seventh floor of Palka Town Hall. They also had a chat with the renowned illustrator, Ben Kudo. Together, they wrote, illustrated, and published the book called "Journey of the Past." And that is the book you are holding in your hands now.

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