

# INTRODUCTION

## THE BASICS OF TIME TRAVEL

### 1. Intro to Time Travel

On the first day of physics class, when freeze-rays are handed out, everyone asks their physics professor what happens if you go back in time and freeze yourself before you go back in time to freeze yourself. The answer is so maddening, many students go back in time to freeze their physics professors. Or, occasionally, to simply register for a different class.

No one has yet studied what would happen if physics professors were sent back in time to freeze themselves before they became physics professors. Though, it should be noted, several physics professors have been known to go back in time to freeze other physics professors.

It would stand to reason that the laws of physics would apply to physics professors, even though physics professors are technically the ones defining the laws of physics. It's possible that if physics professors weren't happy with the laws of physics, they could simply invent some new laws of physics, and the rest of us would be none

the wiser. It's not as though anyone but a physics professor would be nutty enough to go around questioning the laws of physics.

It is unlikely any physics professors would go back in time to freeze themselves before they had made tenure. However, tenured physics professors could probably go back in time to freeze themselves quite safely, because as any university can tell you, it's nearly impossible to get rid of a tenured professor.

## 2. The Rules of Time Travel

The First Rule of Time Travel is that no one is allowed to permanently change the past except Finn Greenquill. Got a problem with that? Hey, if you want to permanently alter human history, *you* invent time travel.\*

Finn's ability to do whatever he wants with history enables several very important causes:

- Supplying Finn's four-star restaurant that serves only endangered species
- Beefing up Finn's eighteenth-century art collection. The one he plans on selling in the twenty-third century for an astronomical profit
- Collecting prehistoric fish to feed the sixty-foot megalodon shark in Finn's office aquarium

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\* The writers of this time travel guide wish the reader to know that we did not write this section. Finn wrote all of it. Or rather, he dictated it from his bubble bath while forcing us to take notes.

Finn also takes credit for causing Napoleon's stunning defeat at Waterloo, America landing a man on the moon, and the inexplicable popularity of electronic dance music in the twenty-first century. But these claims are extremely difficult to prove.

**HELPFUL HINTS:  
SIGNS YOU ARE  
CAUGHT IN A TIME LOOP**

- If this section sounds familiar, as if you've read it millions of times, you may be caught in a time loop.
- If you have déjà vu of having déjà vu, you may be caught in a time loop.
- If your day planner for tomorrow resembles everything you did yesterday, you may be caught in a time loop.
- If you check your credit card statement and realize you've purchased this book eight thousand times, thank you. But also, you may be caught in a time loop.
- If you have déjà vu of having déjà vu, you may be caught in a time loop.

### 3. Time Patrol

The good people at the Time Patrol do an excellent job of cleaning up history after you are done time traveling. If you accidentally borrow Paul Revere's horse, preventing him from making his famous ride, the Time Patrol will return Paul's horse before you borrow it, fixing your changes to history.

Sometimes the Time Patrol makes mistakes. After all, they are only human. Luckily, we have the Time Patrol Time Patrol, who do an excellent job of cleaning up any mistakes made by the Time Patrol. Of course, the Time Patrol Time Patrol are only human. Which is why we have the Time Patrol Time Patrol Time Patrol, who do an excellent job of cleaning up mistakes made by the Time Patrol Time Patrol.

Mistakes made by the Time Patrol Time Patrol Time Patrol are cleaned up by the Time Patrol. Who are, of course, policed by the Time Patrol Time Patrol.

### 4. Your Time Machine

What better way to cruise around colonial America than in your very own one-horse carriage? The Time Corp Time Machine Colonial™ features reclining seats, cup holders, and a convenient weapons rack for holding muskets, rifles, and iridium blasters. The state-of-the-art cloaking device will allow you to slip past

American colonies want to form their own government, they're going to have an uphill battle ahead of them. If the Americans rebel against the British king and demand independence from Britain, they will find themselves fighting the largest army, the largest navy, and the largest empire on the planet.

## The Boston Tea Party

Your time travel adventure begins in Boston, Massachusetts, on the night of December 16, 1773. More than five thousand angry citizens—a third of the city's population—gather at the Old South Meeting House. Merchants, sailors, lawyers, farmers, and tradesmen overflow the meeting house and crowd the cobble streets. They are hopping mad over two of the most important things in life: tea\* and money.†

Stand in the back of the meeting house, where you won't get trampled by the furious crowd. Samuel Adams, the American politician who called the meeting, tries to keep order. The British government is forcing the Americans to buy all their tea from only a few British tea merchants . . . and two of the tea merchants just happen to be the British governor's own sons. These shenanigans will put a lot of American merchants out of business.

Adding insult to injury, the British are forcing Americans to pay a tea tax. The Americans are not allowed a vote over any

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\* Tea is important to the settlers because they are mostly descendants of the British, and tea is more or less sacred to British people.

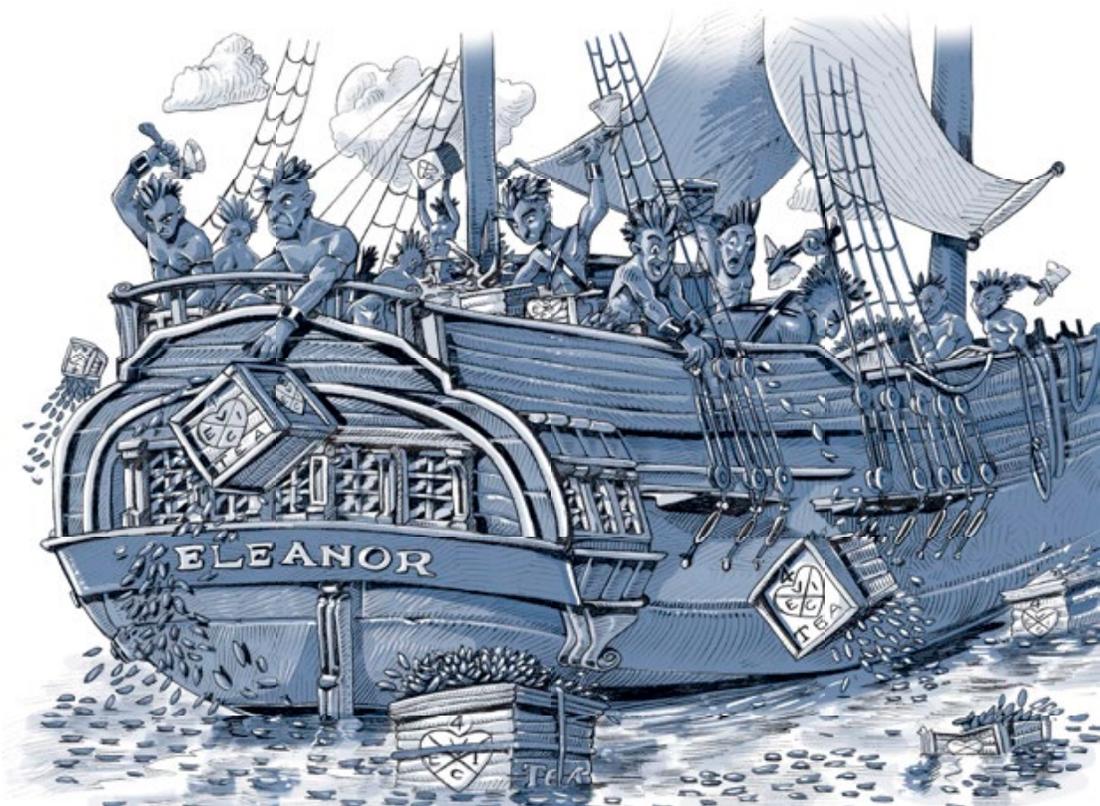
† Money is important to the settlers because you need it to buy more tea.

of this. It's as if the British are robbing the Americans, and then forcing them to pay a robbery tax.

When the British refuse to back down on the tea tax, Samuel Adams tells the rowdy audience, "This meeting can do nothing more to save the country!" Samuel believes the tax is unfair and the Americans should rebel against the British to make their point.

See if you can spot John Hancock in the crowd. He's a wealthy Harvard graduate who will go on to become the first signer of the Declaration of Independence. John made his fortune selling Dutch tea. The new law forcing Americans to buy only British tea will force him out of business. Watch as he stands up in the meeting house and shouts to the riotous crowd, "Let every man do what is right in his own eyes!"

That night, about one hundred American rebels set out to destroy all the British tea in Boston Harbor. The Americans would



rather have no tea than British tea. They dress up as Mohawk Indians, darkening their faces with soot to mask their identities from any witnesses. Two thousand Bostonians cheer from the docks of Griffin's Wharf. Find a good disguise and join the rebels as they ransack all three British tea ships. Together, you'll smash open 342 chests of tea with tomahawks, hurl the tea into Boston Harbor, and launch the American rebellion.

## THINGS THE BOSTONIANS ARE MAD ABOUT

1. The Sugar Act (unfair taxes)
2. The Stamp Act (unfair taxes)
3. The Townshend Act (unfair taxes)
4. The Tea Act (unfair taxes)
5. The Boston Massacre (Bostonians shot by British soldiers for rioting against unfair taxes)

## OTHER THINGS THE BOSTONIANS SHOULD BE MAD ABOUT

1. Hamburgers won't be invented for another hundred years
2. Boston won't have reliable Internet service for another 240 years
3. The Boston Red Sox will only win the World Series eight times in the next two centuries

## HOW TO DRESS IN COLONIAL AMERICA

Understanding ancient fashions is very tricky, and time travelers often have enormous trouble blending in to colonial America. Instead of wearing a powdered wig on their head, they'll accidentally wear a powdered doughnut. Or instead of wearing a tricorne hat, they'll wear a candy corn hat. Or some time travelers will forget to use their horse for travel, and simply fire up their jetpack.\* Any of these innocent

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\* Jetpacks do not get invented until 2121 and are not made illegal until the great Black Friday collision of 2126 that injures seven hundred shoppers as they jetpack simultaneously into a single shopping mall entrance in Poughkeepsie, New York.

mistakes will completely blow your cover in 1773.

Here are some fashion tips for blending in to Colonial Boston:

## MEN



## WOMEN



Note: Women in the 1700s do not wear underpants.