

L3-Listen Up!(2-1)

Intermediate

2010/03/18 11:43

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STEP

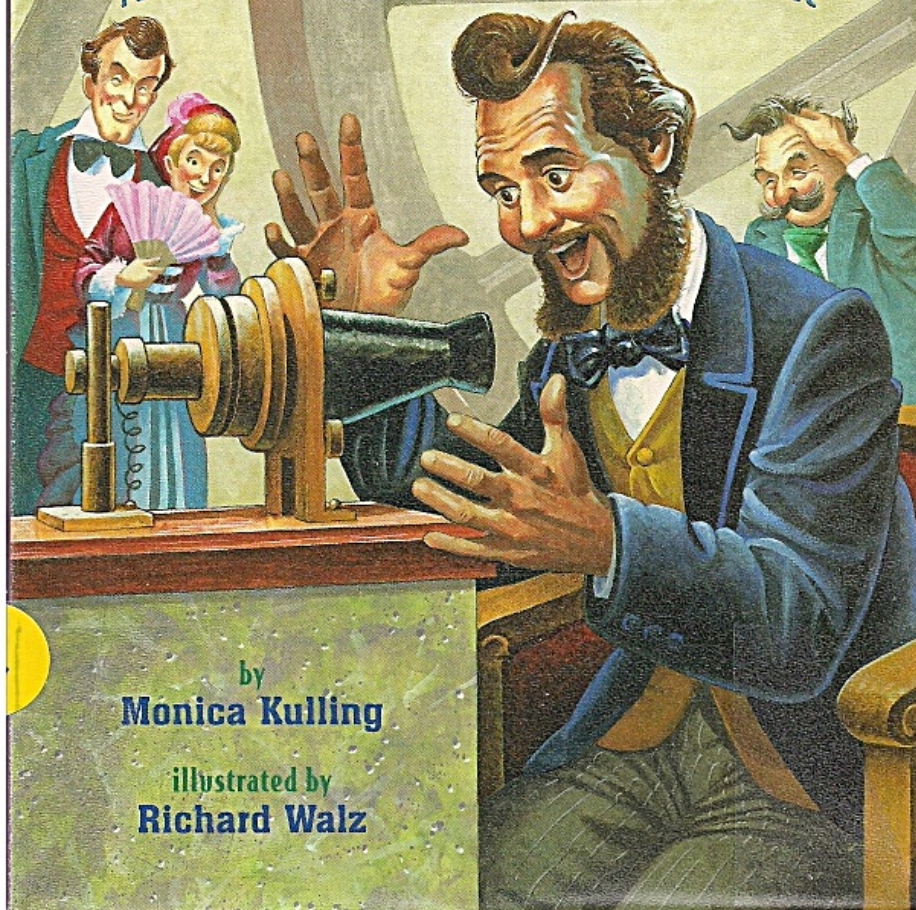
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LISTEN UP!

Alexander Graham Bell's Talking Machine

by
Monica Kulling

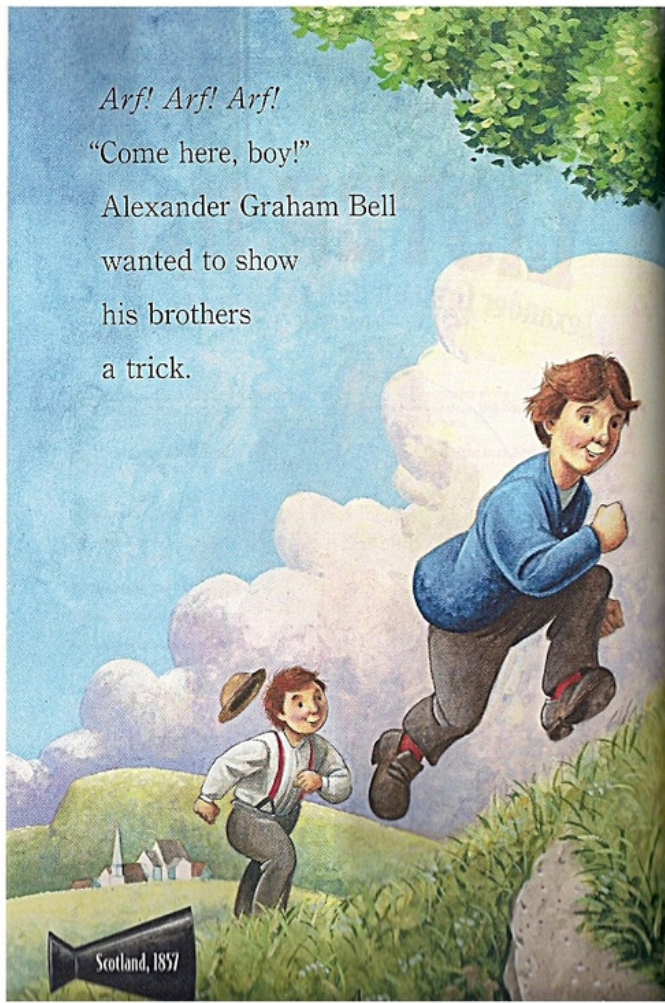
illustrated by
Richard Walz



Arf! Arf! Arf!

"Come here, boy!"

Alexander Graham Bell
wanted to show
his brothers
a trick.



Scotland, 1857



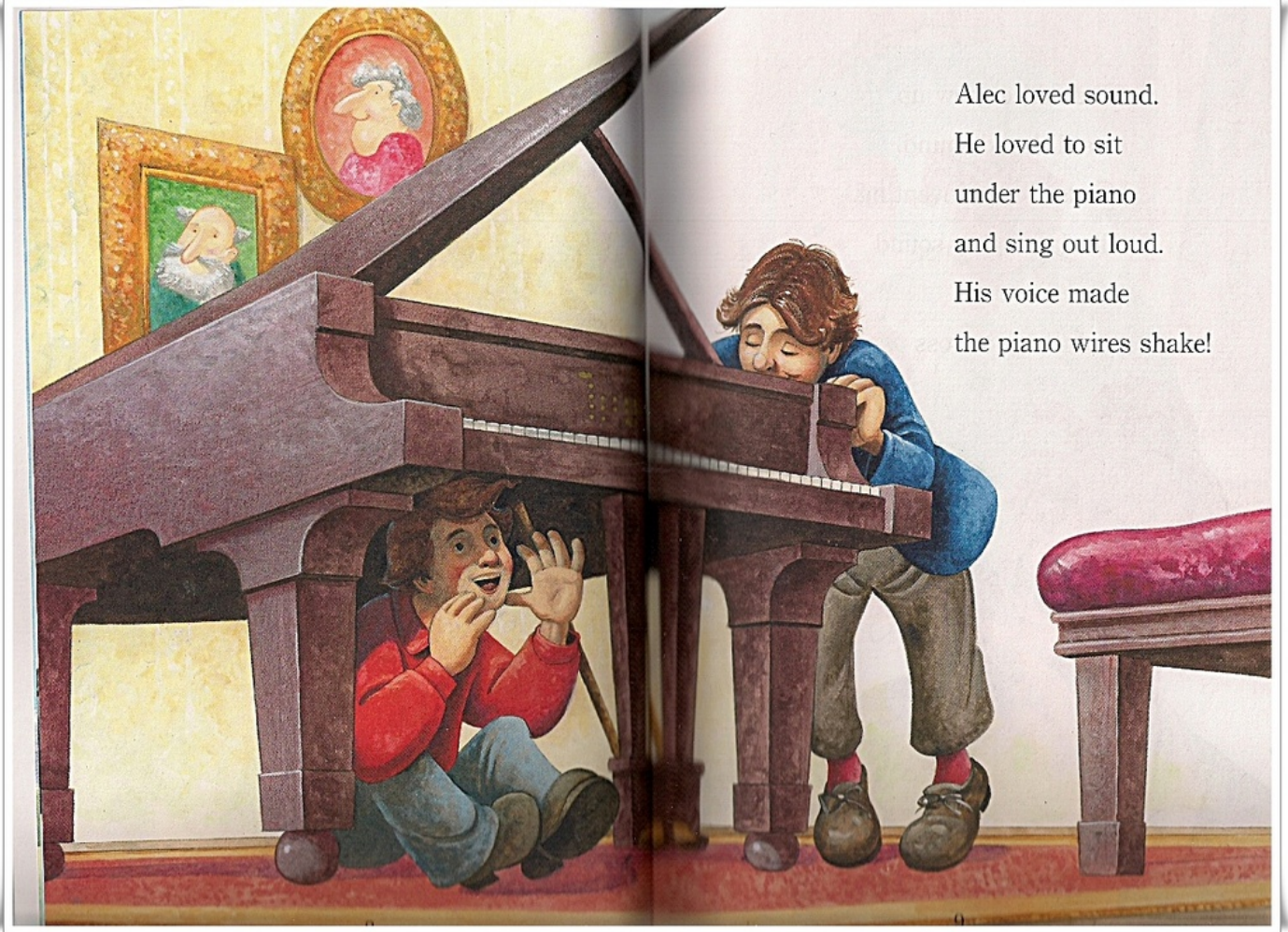
He could stroke
the dog's throat
so that it sounded
like the dog was talking!

Alec's father
had taught him
all about sound.
"Sound moves
through the air in waves,"
said Papa.

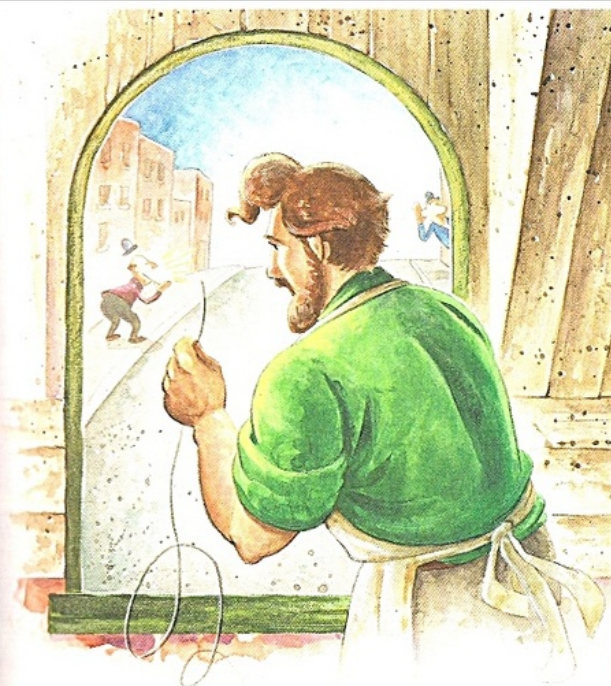
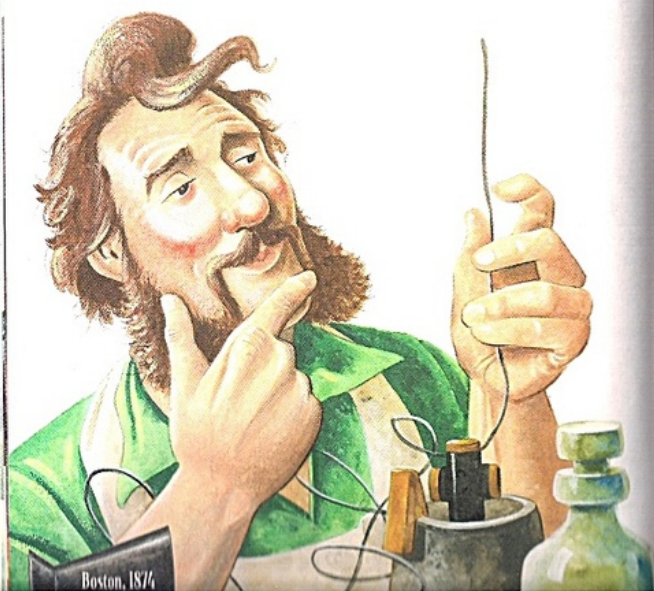


"When the waves
hit your ear,
you hear the sound."

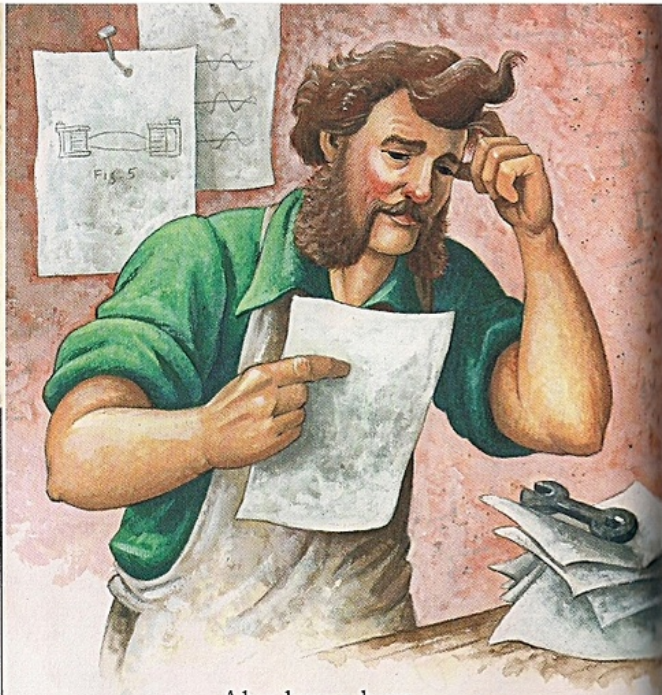
Alec loved sound.
He loved to sit
under the piano
and sing out loud.
His voice made
the piano wires shake!



When Alec grew up,
he still loved sound.
He also loved inventing.
Alec knew that sound
shook a wire.
Could it also cross *over* a wire?

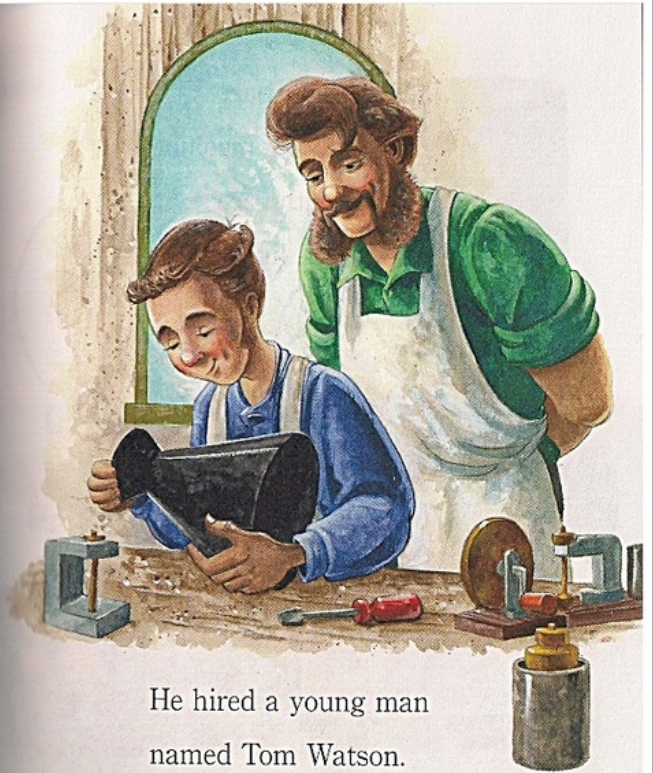


If Alec could invent
a talking machine,
then people could talk
to each other—long-distance!



Alec knew how
he wanted
the talking machine to be.
But he did not
know how to build it.

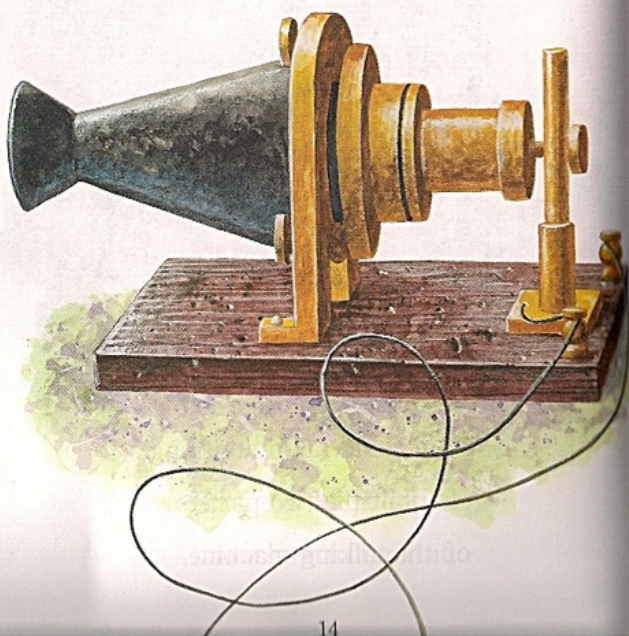
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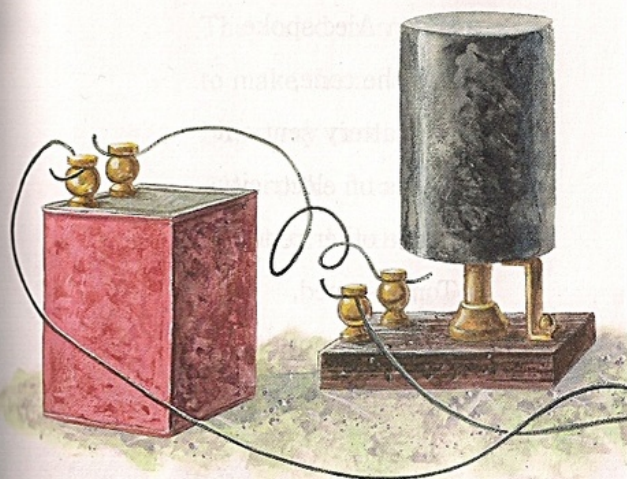
He hired a young man
named Tom Watson.
Tom could build anything.
He built the two parts
of the talking machine.

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The sending part
of the talking machine
had a mouthpiece
that looked like a cone.



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The receiving part
was in another room.
The two parts
were joined by a wire.
The wire was connected
to a battery.

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When Alec spoke
into the cone,
the battery sent out
waves of electricity.
In the other room
Tom listened,
but heard nothing.
Alec and Tom worked hard.



They tried many ways
to make the machine work.
But every time
Alec spoke into the cone,
Tom heard nothing.



Then one day
they tried something new.
This time when Alec spoke,
Tom came running.



"Did you hear what I said?"
asked Alec, excited.
"No," said Tom.
"But I *did* hear
the rise and fall
of your voice!"

One day,
by accident Alec spilled
acid on his pants.
He called into the cone,
"Watson, come here!
I want to see you."



Watson came running.
"It works! It works!"
he shouted.
"I heard every word!"

Chug! Chug! Chug!

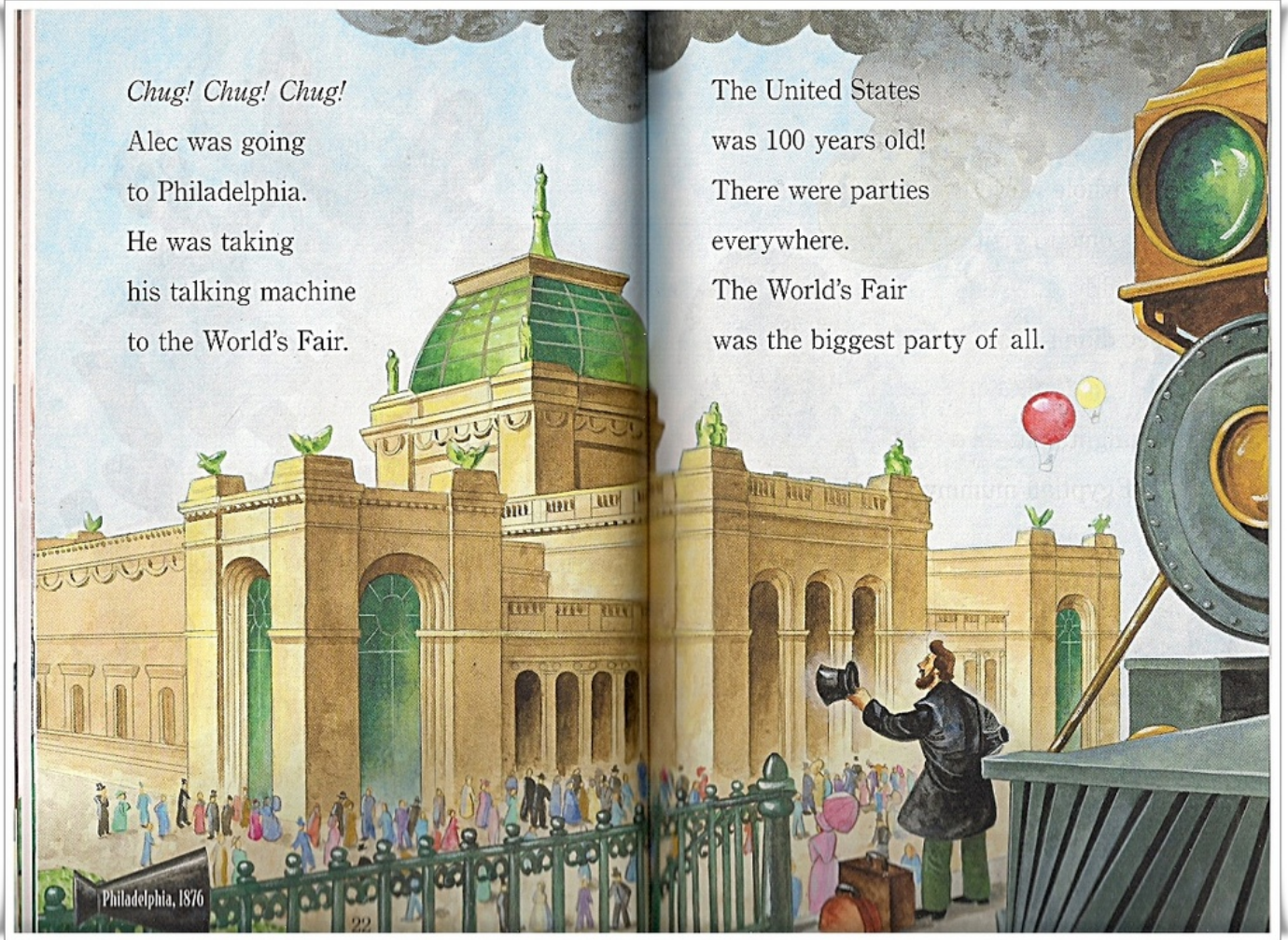
Alec was going
to Philadelphia.

He was taking
his talking machine
to the World's Fair.

The United States
was 100 years old!

There were parties
everywhere.

The World's Fair
was the biggest party of all.



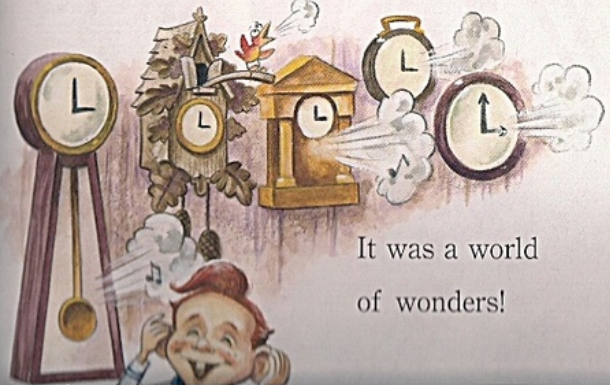
Excitement
was in the air.
The whole world
had come to visit
the fair!
Alec didn't know
what to do first.
He might visit
the Egyptian mummy.



Or stroll through
the sweet-smelling
Japanese garden.



Or listen to
the musical clocks.



It was a world
of wonders!

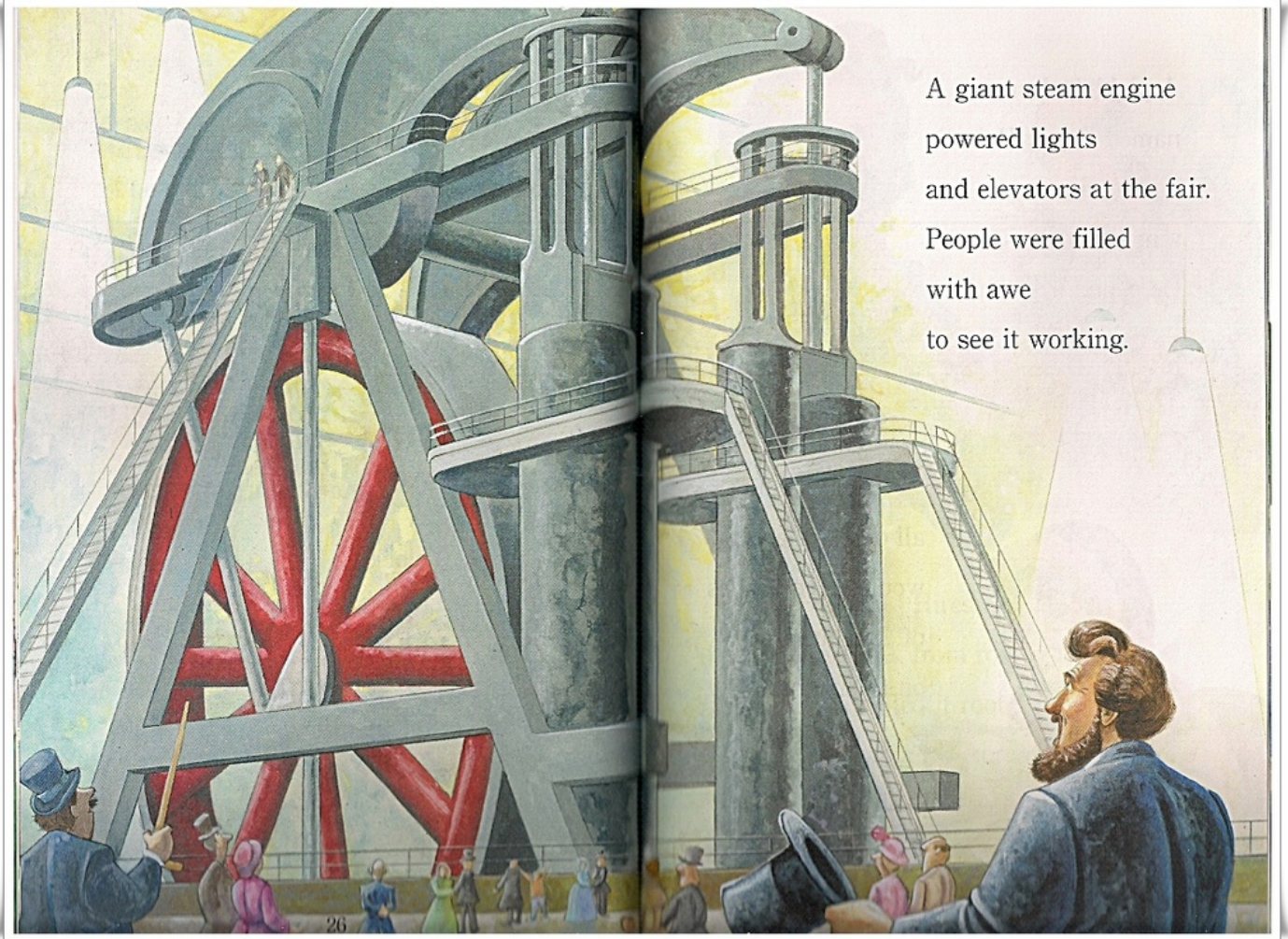
L3-Listen Up!(2-2)

Intermediate

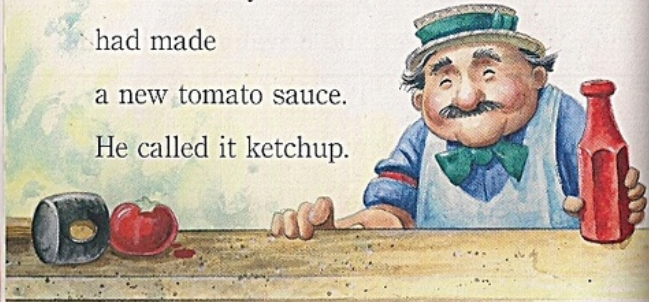
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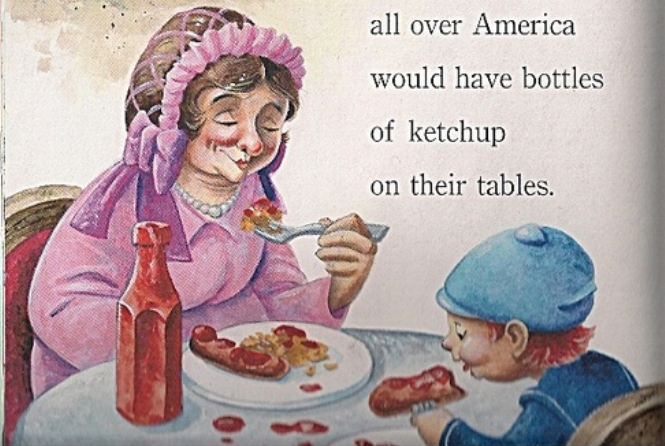
A giant steam engine
powered lights
and elevators at the fair.
People were filled
with awe
to see it working.



A pickle salesman
named Henry Heinz
had made
a new tomato sauce.
He called it ketchup.



Soon restaurants
all over America
would have bottles
of ketchup
on their tables.



Charles Hires had made
a drink from roots.
He called it root beer.
It was a hot summer day.
Alec bought a bottle.
Yum!

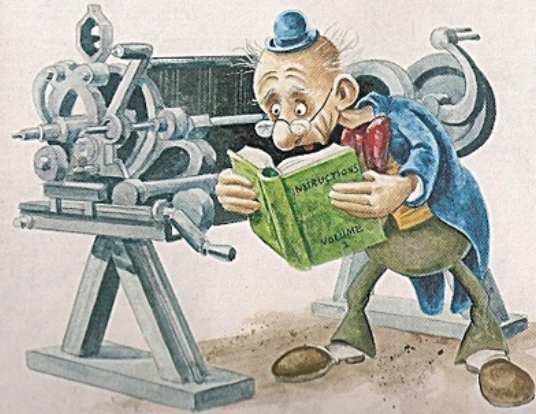
There were many
interesting inventions
at the fair.
The typewriter.



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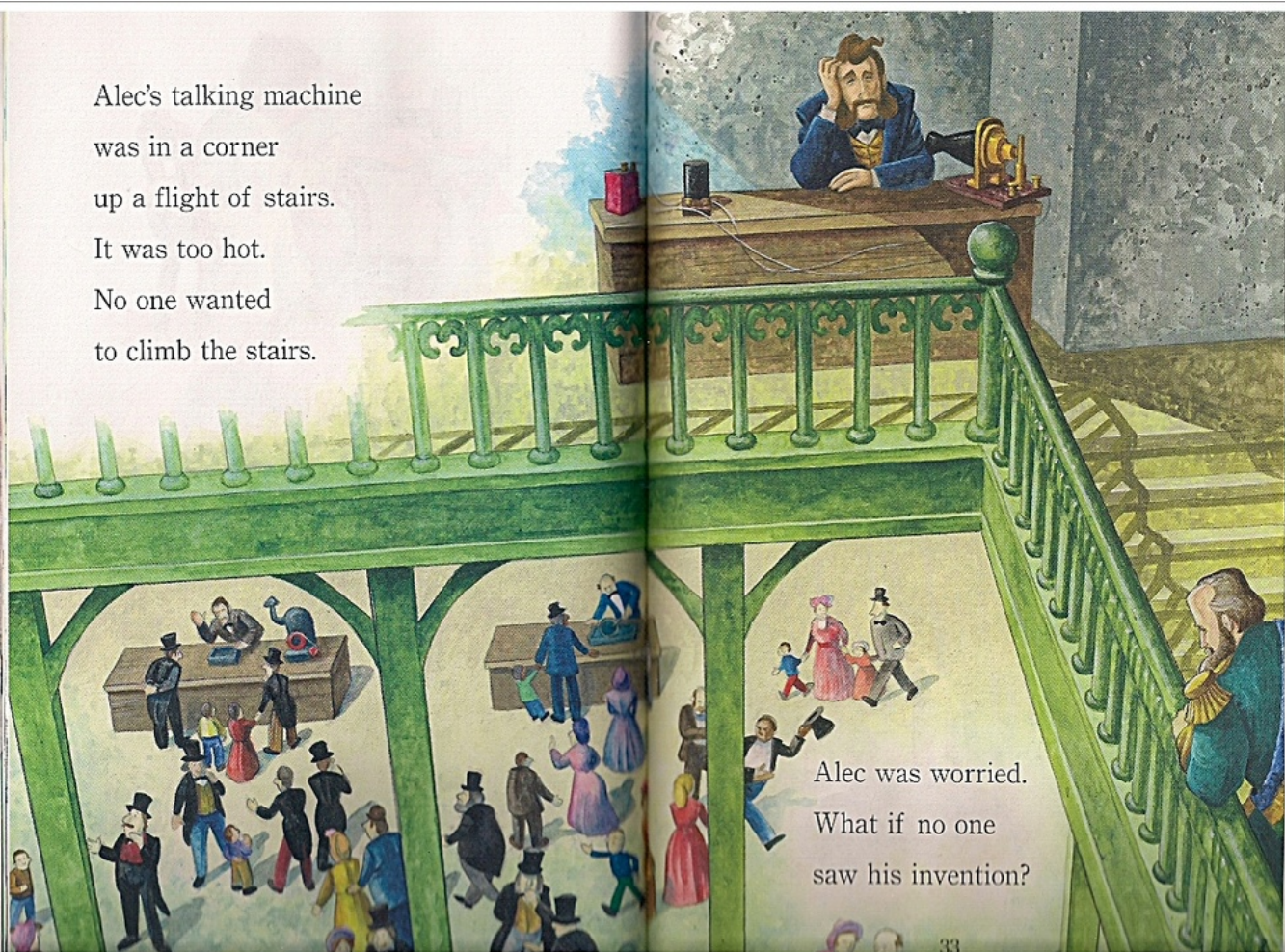
The sewing machine.



The calculator.

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Alec's talking machine
was in a corner
up a flight of stairs.
It was too hot.
No one wanted
to climb the stairs.



But one person *did*
climb the stairs.
He was Dom Pedro,
the emperor of Brazil.
“What is this thing?”
he asked.
“Let me show you,” said Alec.



Dom Pedro held
the hearing piece
to his ear.

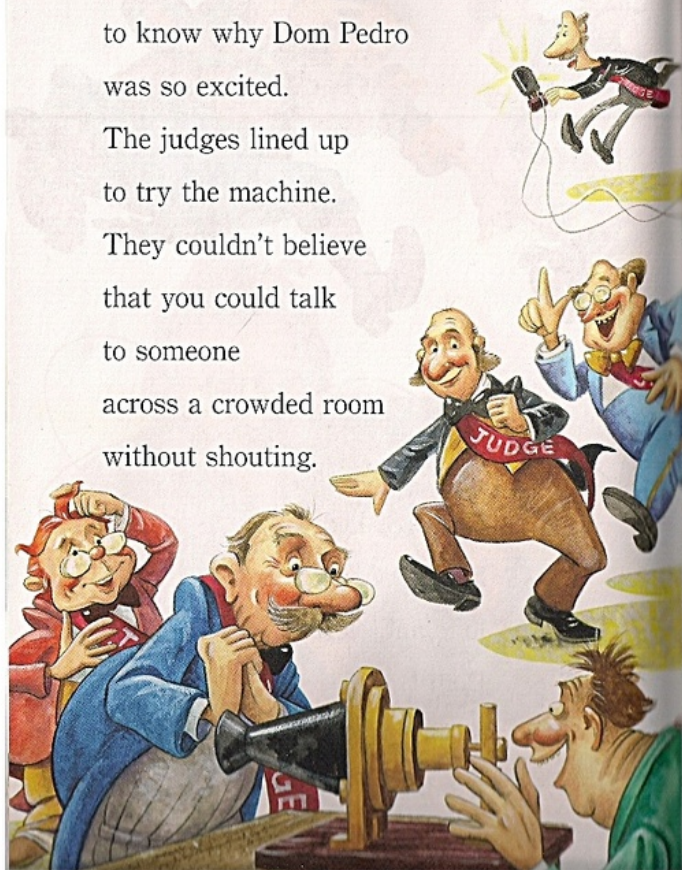
On the other side
of the building,
Alec spoke into the cone:
"To be or not to be . . ."
The room was noisy.



But Dom Pedro
heard Alec's voice,
loud and clear.
Dom Pedro
dropped the hearing piece.
"It talks!" he shouted.

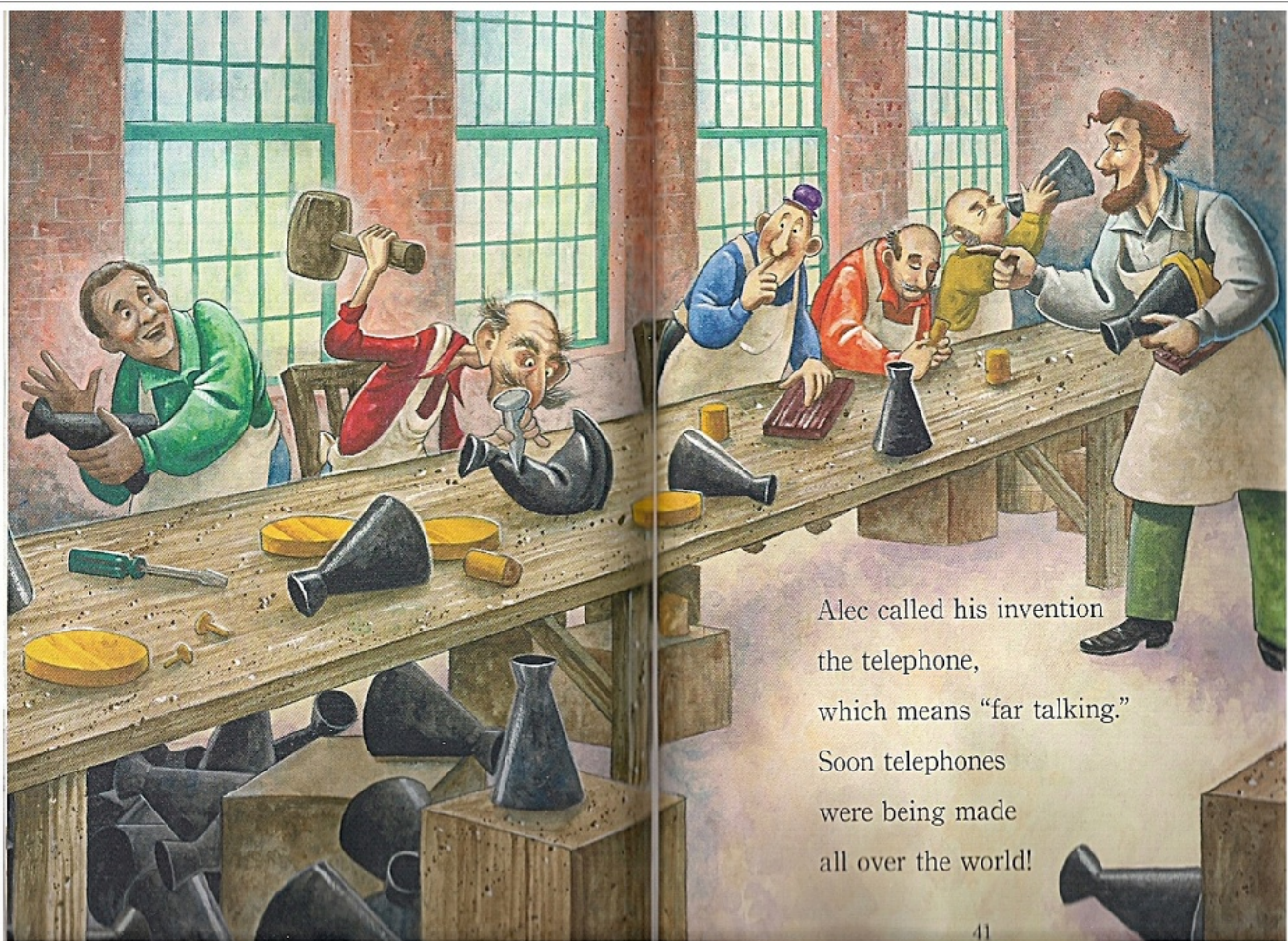
People wanted
to know why Dom Pedro
was so excited.

The judges lined up
to try the machine.
They couldn't believe
that you could talk
to someone
across a crowded room
without shouting.



They were convinced.
Alec's talking machine
was a marvel!





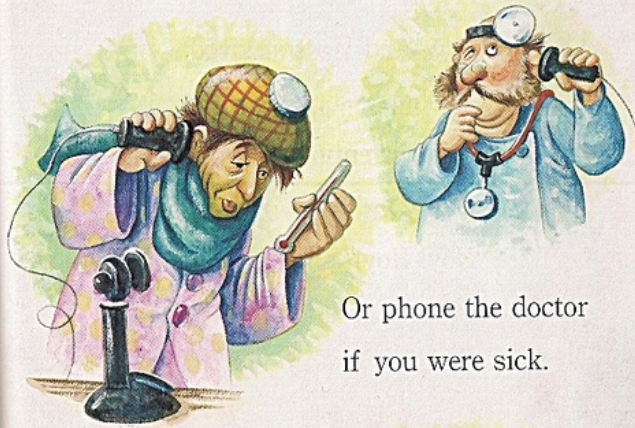
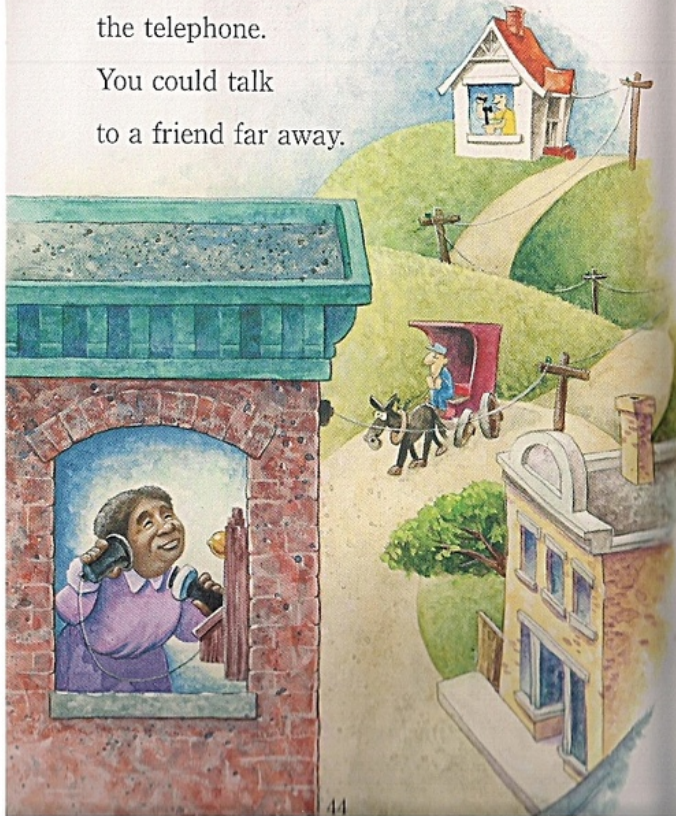
Alec called his invention
the telephone,
which means "far talking."
Soon telephones
were being made
all over the world!

At first, people
were afraid of
the telephone.
It might
spread disease!



Everyone would
know their business!
Life would never
be the same!

But in time,
people grew to love
the telephone.
You could talk
to a friend far away.



Or phone the doctor
if you were sick.



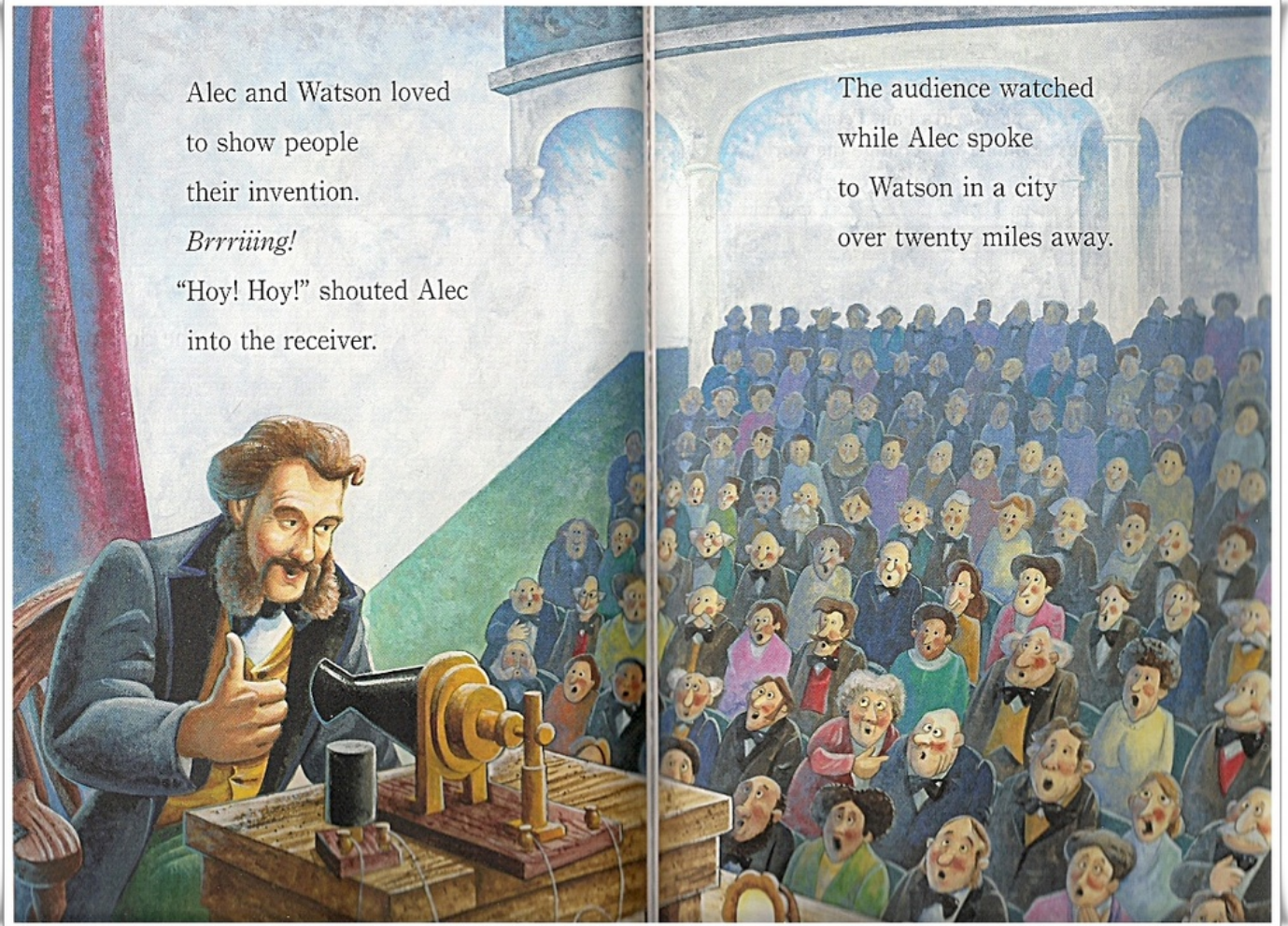
Or buy groceries
without leaving
your house!

Alec and Watson loved
to show people
their invention.

Brrriing!

"Hoy! Hoy!" shouted Alec
into the receiver.

The audience watched
while Alec spoke
to Watson in a city
over twenty miles away.



Alexander Graham Bell was famous for that first phone call at the World's Fair. People often told him, "The telephone will change the world." They were right.



Here is a photo of Bell using his talking machine in 1892.

AUTHOR'S NOTE: The stories in this book are true. We can't be sure *exactly* how they all happened, but we've tried our best to show the way things might have been.

If you are reading on your own
and are ready for longer stories,
look for these Step into Reading books:

- | | |
|---|--|
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| ARTHUR AND THE SCHOOL PET □ | GORILLAS: Gentle Giants of the Forest |
| ARTHUR BREAKS THE BANK □ | THE GREAT TULIP TRADE |
| ARTHUR, CLEAN YOUR ROOM! □ | HEAVY-DUTY TRUCKS |
| ARTHUR IN A PICKLE □ | HUNGRY, HUNGRY SHARKS |
| ARTHUR LOSES A FRIEND □ | THE INCREDIBLE DASH ○ |
| ARTHUR LOST IN THE MUSEUM □ | JOHNNY APPLESEED: My Story |
| ARTHUR TRICKS THE TOOTH FAIRY □ | LEWIS AND CLARK: A Prairie Dog for the President |
| ARTHUR'S BACK-TO-SCHOOL SURPRISE □ | LISTEN UP! Alexander Graham Bell's Talking Machine |
| ARTHUR'S CLASSROOM FIB □ | LITTLE WITCH GOES TO SCHOOL |
| ARTHUR'S FIRE DRILL □ | LITTLE WITCH LEARNS TO READ |
| ARTHUR'S FIRST KISS □ | LITTLE WITCH'S BIG NIGHT |
| ARTHUR'S HICCUPS □ | MAN O' WAR: Best Racehorse Ever |
| ARTHUR'S LOST PUPPY □ | MISS GRUBB, SUPER SUB |
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| THE BERENSTAIN BEARS AND THE MISSING WATERMELON MONEY | THE PARAKEET GIRL |
| THE BERENSTAIN BEARS AND THE TIC-TAC-TOE MYSTERY | PAUL REVERE'S RIDE |
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