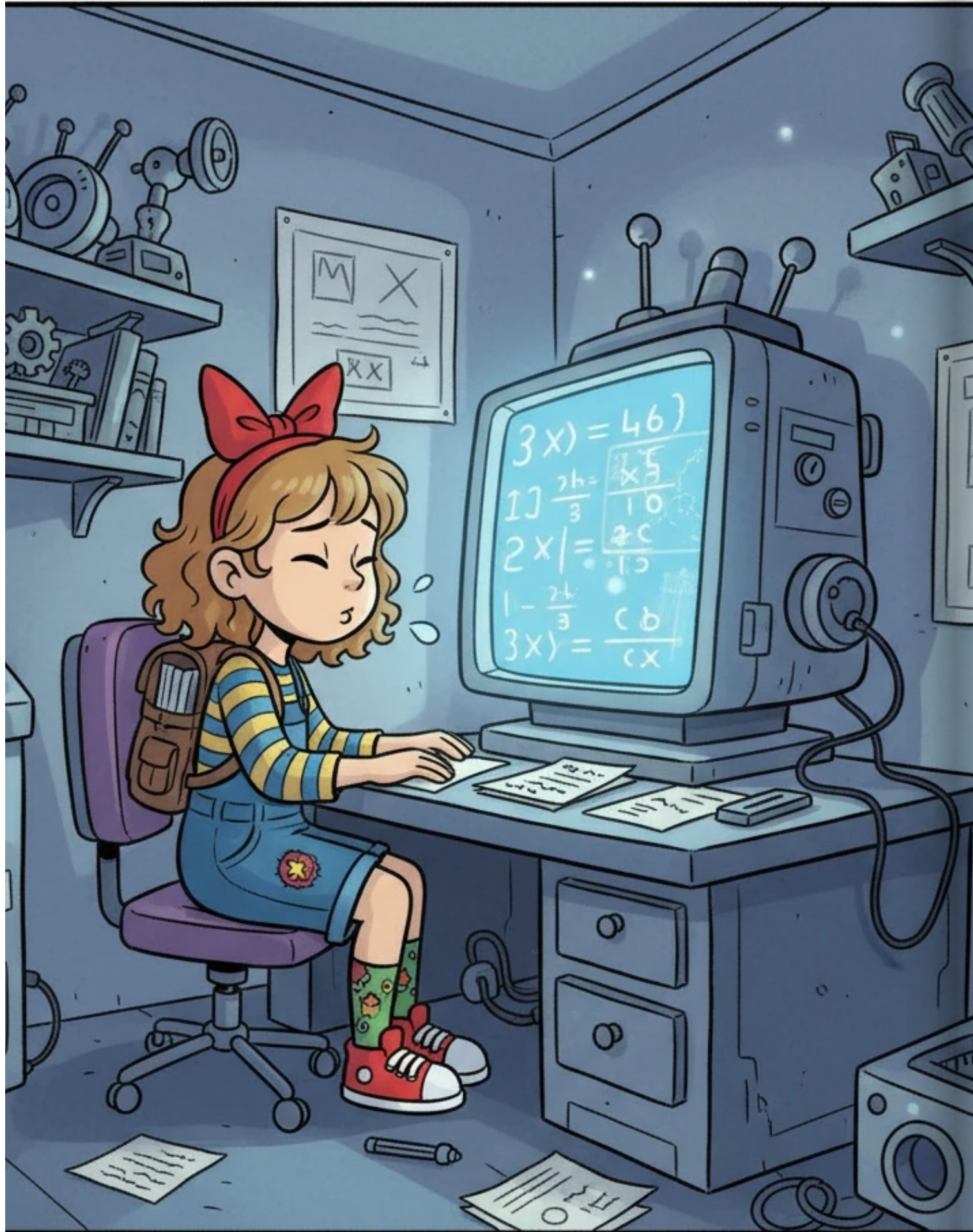


Margie's Time-Traveling Adventure

by LCS Lau Chi San



Margie sat at her desk, the screen of her mechanical teacher glowing. The lesson for the day was arithmetic, but her mind wandered. She sighed, remembering the test she'd just failed in geography. She hated school, especially the cold, impersonal lessons delivered by a machine.



Suddenly, Margie's friend, Tommy, burst into the room, holding a dusty, yellowed book. He announced he'd found a real book in the attic. Curiosity piqued, Margie forgot her arithmetic and rushed to see this ancient treasure. It was a book about school!



Together, Margie and Tommy turned the crinkly pages. They were fascinated by the words that stood still, unlike the moving words on their screens. They read about schools where children and teachers learned together, a concept completely foreign to their experience.



Margie was particularly intrigued by the idea of a human teacher. She imagined a world where children laughed and shouted in a schoolyard, learning the same things and helping each other. This was a stark contrast to her isolated learning experience.



As Margie's mother called her to school, she couldn't help but feel a pang of longing for the old days. She imagined the fun and camaraderie of the old schools, a stark contrast to her solitary lessons. She promised Tommy she'd read more about it later.



Back in her schoolroom, Margie inserted her homework into the slot of the mechanical teacher. As the screen displayed the arithmetic lesson, her thoughts drifted back to the old schools and the joy of learning together. She couldn't help but dream of those simpler times and the way things used to be.