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Young Odysseas sets off reluctantly with his friend Haris to do an errand for his father, complaining about yet another one of the endless chores which adults seem to keep assigning their children. It is only his father's hint that he might be afraid that has piqued the boy's pride and made him agree to go and collect a framed picture from his grandfather's empty house.

The mission soon becomes far more perilous than he could have imagined. The picture frame appears to have only one side. And that is just the beginning. Bit by bit, other objects change and the world becomes alarmingly one-dimensional. Odysseas finds himself pitted against the ruthless Saranti and his gang of 40 scoundrels, who have not only changed the shape of things but are also planning an appalling fate for humans. An unusual concept in a fast-moving story for children of nine and over.