

# THE CALL OF THE WILD

## Chapter One—The Journey North

1. Why does Buck not read the newspaper? He's a dog
2. What is the yellow metal found in the Arctic darkness? gold
3. Give a brief description of where Buck lives.
4. What was the final destination of the train on which Buck was placed in a cage?  
Seattle
5. What was Buck's introduction to law of the club? The club and the man
6. What is the *Narwhal* and which direction is it headed? Steamer ship, North
7. Who are Perrault and Francois? Government workers
8. When the ship's propellers finally stop, what strange mushy substance does Buck encounter on the deck of the *Narwhal*? snow
9. What other dog came with Buck? Curly

**Vocabulary:** sullenly, consolation, despised, tormentor, savagely

## Chapter Two—The Law of Club and Fang

1. Describe why Buck's first day on Dyea beach was like a nightmare? On alert, no rest
2. Explain how the husky dogs fought differently from most dogs and more like wolves.  
Attack and leave with speed
3. Describe the tragedy that befell Curly. died
4. Why is Buck fastened to straps and buckles on him? Harness to pull the sled
5. Although Billee and Joe were from the same litter, they had very different characters. Describe their characters briefly. Good natured vs. sour and private
6. The name of the new dog was Sol-leks. What did the name mean? Angry-one
7. Why was Buck unable to sleep and how did he finally solve the problem? Cold, dug a hole in the snow
8. What would Buck eat for his daily rations? fish

**Vocabulary:** combatants, retaliate, writhing, comradeship, ambition

### **Chapter Three—The Dominant Primordial Beast**

1. What finally drove Buck to attack Spitz? Spitz took his nest
2. What made the dogs who invaded their camps so terrifying and fierce? hunger
3. Describe the condition of the dogs after the fight had ended. Hurt and tired
4. Describe two ways that Francois attended to the needs of Buck's tender feet.  
Brought him food and made him dog shoes
5. Why was Francois forced to kill Dolly? Dolly was mad
6. Why did Spitz decide that this was the time to attack Buck? Buck was just chased and not paying attention
7. Who grabbed the first hare? Spitz
8. What did Buck do? Attack Spitz
9. What made Buck rare in a dog fight? Imagination
10. Who won the first fight? Buck
11. What is he called? Primordial beast

**Vocabulary:** sputtered, pandemonium, immense, toil, rashly

### **Chapter Four—Who Has Won to Mastership**

1. Why did Francois state that they would now be able to make good time? speed and Buck's leadership
2. Why did the two men have such a difficult time when they tried to harness Buck to the sled? He wanted the lead position
3. Who was Buck's new owner? Scotch-Indian man
4. What load were they pulling on the sled? mail
5. Describe what happened to Dave. Fell and shot dead
6. What was the dog's round trip journey? Dawson and back
7. Does Buck remember his first home? yes

**Vocabulary:** solidarity, broad, staggered, valiantly, mercifully

## **Chapter Five—The Toil of Trace and Trail**

1. How much weight had Buck lost by the time they arrived in Skaguay? 25lbs
2. Why were the dogs so tired? So much traveling, only 5 days rest
3. Why were the dogs unable to pull the sled? Too heavy
4. Describe what happened once they got the sled moving. Its contents fell overboard
5. What advice were they given by the spectators who had been watching this whole fiasco? Too much stuff
6. How many new dogs did Charles and Hal purchase for the team? six
7. How did Hal try to resolve the fact that he had miscalculated the amount of dog food required for the trip? Dogs ate horsehide
8. Whose camp did they stagger into at the mouth of the White River and what was the gentleman doing? John Thornton
9. Why did moisture come into John Thornton's eyes? Watching the dogs' beating
10. What tragedy occurred at the end of this chapter? Hal's sled broke thru the ice and all fell.

**Vocabulary:** intention, trekking, extended, lunged, bewildered

## **Chapter Six—For the Love of a Man**

1. Why was Thornton limping slightly at the time he rescued Buck? Frozen feet
2. What were Thornton, Buck, Skeet and Nig waiting for? Raft to go to Dawson
3. Why was Thornton an ideal master? love
4. Why could Buck never steal from John Thornton? Love of a master
5. Who were Hans and Pete? friends
6. Describe the incident with Black Burton. Buck saved Thornton's life
7. What did Thornton claim Buck could do? Start a sled with 1,000 lbs
8. How did Matthewson call his bluff? Bet him \$1,000
9. How much money did the Skookum Bench king offer for Buck? \$1,000
10. Why do you think John Thornton refused the offer? Love for Buck

**Vocabulary:** reveled, rollicked, mysterious, luring, floundering

## **Chapter Seven—The Sounding of the Call**

1. They took months searching for what place? The Lost Cabin
2. What did they finally manage to locate? Gold in the river
3. What noise causes him to spring from his sleep with a start? Wolf calls
4. How does Buck react to the Yeehats? Anger, rage
5. Who does Buck recognize when he encounters the pack of wolves in "his" valley?  
The lone wolf that he ran with before
6. Does the end of the story surprise you? Explain why or why not?

**Vocabulary:** brooded, prevent, ferocity, mournful

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