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## Call of the wild pdf chapter 5

The built-in audio player requires a modern Internet browser. You should visit [Browse Happy](#) and update your internet browser today! 30 days since he left Dawson, Salt Water Mail, with Buck and his friends at the first moment, has arrived in Skaguay. They were in a sorry state, worn out and worn out. Buck's £140 has dropped to 150. Other friends of his, albeit lighter dogs, have relatively lost more weight than him. Pike, a malingerer, who in his lifetime in deception often successfully feigned an injured leg, is now seriously limping. Sol-lex limped, and Dub suffered from a crooked spatula. They were all terribly footsore. There's no spring or jump left in them. Their legs fell heavily on the track, causing their bodies and doubling the fatigue of one day's travel. Nothing mattered to them except that they were dead tired. It is not the dead-fatigue that comes through a brief and exaggerated effort, from which recovery is a matter of hours; but it was dead fatigue that comes through the slow and prolonged drainage of the strength of months of effort. There was no recovery power left, no backup power to call. Everything was used, to say the least. Every muscle, every fiber, every cell, they were tired, dead tired. And there were reasons for that. In less than five months they have covered 2,500 miles, over the last eighteen hundred of which they have had only five days off. When they got to Skaguay, they were on their hind legs. They could barely keep their tracks tight, and on down marks only managed to keep out of the way of the sleigh. Porridge on, poor sore legs, was encouraged by the driver as they descended Skaguay Main Street. Dis is de las. Den we got one long res'. Eh? for sure. One bully for a long time res'. Drivers confidently expected a long stop. They covered 1,200 miles on their own with two days' rest, and in the nature of reason and common justice they deserved an interval of lye. But many were men who flew into Klondike, and many were sweethearts, women and relatives who did not fly in, that the beleathed post office was taking on an Alpine scale; also, there were official orders. Fresh batches of Hudson Bay dogs were supposed to take the places of the worthless ones for the track. Worthless should have been got rid of, and since dogs count little on dollars, they should have been sold. Three days passed, as Buck and his friends discovered how tired and weak they were. Then, on the morning of the fourth day, two men from the U.S. came and bought them, a siding and all, for a song. People were addressing each other like Hal and Charles. Charles was a middle-aged, bright-coloured man, with weak and dry eyes and a moustache that twisted fiercely and above, giving the lie a flabby relaxed lip that she hid. Hal was a young man of 19 or 20, with a large Colt revolver and a hunting knife tied to him on a belt that was quite crowded with cartridges. This belt was the most prominent thing about him. He advertised his callowness – callowness sheer and unutterable. Both were clearly out of place, and why such as would need adventure North is part of the mystery of things that go through understanding. Buck heard chaffering, saw money pass between a man and a government agent, and knew that Scotch semi-breed and mail-train drivers had passed out of their lives on the heels of Perrault and Francois and others who had gone before. When he drove with his friends to the new owners' camp, Buck saw slipshod and a messy affair, the tent half stretched, the dishes unwashed, all in disarray; Also, he saw a woman. Mercedes people called her. She was Charles' wife and Hal's sister – a nice family party. Buck watched them terrifiedly as they continued to tear down the tent and fill the sled. There was a lot of effort about their behavior, but not the business method. The tent was rolled into a clumsy bundle three times larger than it should have been. The tin dishes were unwashed packed. Mercedes kept fluttering in the way of her men and continued her uninterrupted chatter about remonstrance and advice. When they put a bag of clothes on the front of the sleigh, she suggested going to the back; And when they put it on their backs, and covered it with several other bundles, she discovered overlooked articles they couldn't stand anywhere other than that bag, and they unloaded again. Three men from the tent next door came out and looked, grinning and winking at each other. And you have a real smart load, said one of them; And I shouldn't have told you my job, but I wouldn't tote that tent together if I were on your property. Undreamed of! Cried Mercedes, throwing his hands in dainty astonishment. How could I manage without a tent? It's springtime and you won't get any more cold weather, the man replied. She shook her head resolutely, and Charles and Hal put in the final odds and ended up on top of the mountain load. Do you think he'll ride? one of the men asked. Why wouldn't he? Charles demanded soon. Oh, that's fine, that's fine, meekly said the man. I was self-wonderin', that's all. It seemed like a top-heavy mite. Charles turned his back and pulled his eyelashes as best he could, which was not the least bit good. And of course dogs can hike all day with that device behind them, confirmed the second of the men. Certainly, Hal said, with icy decency, clutching a gee-pole with one hand and swinging the whip away from the other. Mash! He was yelling. Porridge on The dogs spraied up against the pectoral straps, exerted each other hard for a few moments, then relaxed. They couldn't move the sled. Lazy nuggets, I'll show them, he cried, preparing to come down on them with a whip. But Mercedes intervened, crying, Oh, Hal, you cant,

as she grabbed the whip and took it from him. Poor darling! Now you have to promise not to be them for the rest of the journey, or I won't take a step. A precious lot of what you know about dogs, her brother smuded; And I'd like you to leave me alone. They're lazy, I'm telling you, and you have to sing them to get anything out of them. That's their way. You ask any of them. Ask one of those people. Mercedes looked at them begging, unspeakable repulsion in the eyes of pain written in her pretty face. They're as weak as water, if you want to know, there's a response from one of the men. Plum tuckered out, that's what it is. They need a break. Rest, clutter up, Hal said, with your lips without a beard; And Mercedes said, Oh! in pain and grief at the oath. But she was a clan creature, and she immediately rushed to her brother's defense. Never mind that man, she said sternly. You drive our dogs, and you do what you think best with them. Again, Hal's whip fell on the dogs. They threw themselves on the pectoral straps, dug their feet out in the packed snow, descended low to it and put all their strength out. The sleigh was held as if it were an anchor. After two attempts, they stood still, gassing. The whip whistled wildly, when once again Mercedes intervened. She fell to her knees in front of Buck, with tears in her eyes, and put her arms around his neck. You poor, poor darling, she shouted sympathetically. Why don't you pull hard?—then you wouldn't be finged. Buck didn't like her, but he felt too miserable to resist her, taking it as part of a miserable job. One of the onlookers, who was clenching his teeth to suppress the hot talk, has now spoken: Not that I care about what becomes of you, but for the sake of dogs I just want to tell you, you can help them a lot by breaking out that sry. Runners are frozen fast. Throw your weight against the gee-pole, right and left, and break it. The third attempt was made, but this time, following advice, Hal knocked out runners who were frozen in the snow. Overloaded and clunky sledging forged forward, Buck and his friends with frantically under a rain of blows. About 100 meters in front of the trail, he turned and steeply swerved into the main street. That would require an experienced man to keep a heavy sled upright, and Hal wasn't that kind of man. As they swung at the turn of the sled they spilled over, sheathing half their load through loose lashes. The dogs never stopped. Illuminated sleds flanked behind them. They were angry about the poor treatment. received and unfairly burdened. Buck was furious. He broke into the run, the team after his lead. Hal shouted who! Whoa, whoa! but they didn't dare. He tripped and took him off his feet. Overturned sleds over him, and dogs took off down the street, adding gayety of Skaguay while scattering the rest of their clothes along the main thoroughfare. Citizens with kind-hearted hearts caught the dogs and gathered scattered things. Also, they gave advice. Half the load and twice the dogs, if they ever expected to get to Dawson, was what he said. Hal and his sister and brother-in-law listened unwillingly, pitched a tent and overhauled their clothes. It turns out that canned goods made men laugh, because canned goods on the Long Trail is a thing to dream of. Blankets for the hotel quote one of the people who laughed and helped. Half as many are too many; Get rid of them. Throw away that tent and all those dishes — who's going to wash them anyway? Dear God, do you think you're traveling in pullman? And so it passed, the inexorable elimination of the superfluous. Mercedes broke down in tears when her clothes bags were thrown to the ground and an article after the article was thrown out. She cried in general, and she cried especially for every rejected thing. She had her arms around her knees, swinging back and forth with a broken heart. She's averred she won't go an inch, not for a dozen Charleses. She appealed to everyone and everything, finally wiping her eyes and continuing to discard even items of clothing that were imperative. And in her fervor, when she was done with her own, she attacked her men's belongings and went through them like a tornado. This was achieved, the clothes, although cut in half, were still difficult in bulk. Charles and Hal went out in the evening and bought six outside dogs. That, he added to six of the original team, and Teek and Koon, the Huskies won at Rink Rapids on a record-breaking trip, led the team to fourteen. But the outside dogs, although practically broke in from landing, did not amount to much. Three were short-haired pointers, one was Newfoundland and the other two were mongrel of an indeterminate breed. They didn't seem to know anything, these newcomers. Buck and his comrades looked at them in disgust, and although he quickly taught them their places and what not to do, he couldn't teach them what to do. They weren't kind enough to follow and follow. With the exception of the two mongreles, they were confused and broken by the spirit of the strange savage environment in which they found themselves and the sick treatment they received. The two mongreles were without spirit at all; Bones were the only things that could break about them. With the newcomers hopeless and abandoned, and the old team worn out by 2,500 miles of continuous track, the view was anything but bright. the two men, however, were quite cheerful. And they were proud. They did it in style, with 14 dogs. They've seen other sleds go over the crossed pass to Dawson, or come from Dawson, but they've never seen a sled with so many fourteen dogs. In the nature of the Arctic journey, there was a reason why fourteen dogs should not be dragged one sled, which is that one sled can not carry food for fourteen dogs. But Charles and Hal didn't know that. They've been doing the journey with a pen, so much to the dog, so many dogs, so many days, the Q.E.D. Mercedes looked over their shoulders and nodded comprehensively, it's all so very simple. Late the next morning, Buck was taking a long crew out on the street. There was nothing lively about it, there was no bite or getting into it and his fellow man. They started dead tired. He covered the distance between Salt Water and Dawson four times, and the realization that, tired and tired, he was once again facing the same track made him bitter. His heart was not in the work, nor was it the heart of any dog. From the outside, they were timid and frightened, inside without trusting their masters. Buck felt vague that he was not dependent on these two men and a woman. They didn't know how to do anything, and as the days went on it became apparent that they couldn't learn. They were a sudith in everything, lacking order and discipline. It took them half the night to camp down, and half the morning to break up that camp and load up a sled in fashion so messy they were busy stopping and rearranging the load for the rest of the day. They haven't done 10 miles in a few days. The other days couldn't even begin. And on no given day have they been able to make more than half the distance that men use as a basis in their calculation of dog food. It was inevitable that they lacked dog food. But they sped it up by overeating, bringing the day closer when underfeeding would begin. External dogs, whose digestion was not trained by chronic hunger to make the most of it, had voracious appetites. And when, in addition, the worn husky retreated poorly, Hal decided that the orthodox meal was too small. He doubled it. And that all this caps, when Mercedes, with tears in their pretty eyes and shivers in their throats, could not persuade him to give the dogs even more, she stole it from the fish bags and fed them to the adhesives. But buck and huskies didn't need food, they needed vacation. And although it was bad weather, the heavy load they were hauling seriously increased their strength. Then came the understatement. Hal one day woke up with the fact that his dog food was half gone, and the distance was only a quarter covered; furthermore, that no additional dog food can be obtained for love or money. So he cut down even the orthodox meal and tried to increase daily commutes. His sister, brother-in-law gave it; but they were frustrated with their heavy clothes and their own incompetence. It was a simple thing to give dogs less food; but it was impossible to get dogs to travel faster, while their own inability to get underway earlier in the morning prevented them from traveling for longer hours. Not only did they not know how to work with dogs, but they did not know how to work alone. The first to leave was Dub. The poor mistake thief who was, always caught and punished, was no less a faithful worker. His crooked shoulder blade, untreated and restless, went from bad to worse, until finally Hal shot him with a big Colt revolver. It's the country's saying that an outdoor dog dies at a husky meal, so six outdoor dogs under Buck can do nothing less than die halfway through a husky meal. Newfoundland went first, followed by three short-haired pointers, two mongreles that grittily clung more to life, but ultimately, By then, all the contents and gentleness of the Southern Country had fallen away from three people. The shorn of their glamour and romance, Arctic travel has become a reality too harsh for their masculinity and femininity. Mercedes stopped crying over the dogs, she was too busy crying over herself and arguing with her husband and brother. Arguing was the one thing they were never too tired for. Their irritability arose from their misery, increased with it, doubled on the basis of it, surpassed it. The wonderful patience of the path that comes to men who try and suffer painfully, and remain sweet-talking and kind, did not reach these two men and women. They had no idea of such patience. They were stiff and in pain; their muscles ached, their bones ached, their heart ached; and because of that, they became harsh on speech, and the harsh words were first on their lips in the morning and in the last evening. Charles and Hal fought whenever Mercedes gave them a chance. It was a precious belief of each of them that he did more than his part of the job, and that belief at every opportunity was not said either. Sometimes Mercedes sided with her husband, sometimes with her brother. The result was a beautiful and endless family feud. Starting with a dispute over which should chop a few fire sticks (a dispute that concerned only Charles and Hal), he would currently be lured into the rest of the family, fathers, mothers, uncles, relatives, people thousands of miles away, and some of them dead. That Hal's views on art, or the kind of society written by his mother's brother, should have anything to do with chopping off a few sticks of firewood, passes understanding; Yet the feud was just as likely to weigh in that direction as it did in the direction of Charles' political prejudices. And that she's Charles' sister. the language should be relevant for the construction of the Yukon fire, it was obvious only to Mercedes, which paid off abundant opinions on the subject, and by the way to several other qualities unpleasantly peculiar to her husband's family. Meanwhile, the fire remained unbuil, the camp half-cast and the dogs unadjusted. Mercedes has cultivated a special complaint — a complaint about sex. She was beautiful and soft, and she was knightly treated all her days. But the current treatment of her husband and brother was all that saved the knighthood. It was her custom to be helpless. They complained. On which the revocation of what was most important to her sexual right made their lives unbearable. She no longer thought about dogs, and because she was sore and tired, she persevered in sled riding. It was beautiful and soft, but weighed a hundred and twenty kilograms — the lustful last straw to the load pulled by weak and starving animals. She rode for days, until they fell into tracks and the sleigh stood still. Charles and Hal begged her to come down and walk, they prayed, prayed, as she wept and imported Heaven with a recital of their brutality. On one occasion, they took her off the sled with the main force. They never did it again. She let her legs limp like a spoiled child and sat on the track. They went their separate ways, but she didn't miss each other. After they had covered three miles they unloaded the sled, came back for it and put it on the sled again with the main force. In excess of their own misery they were callous to the suffering of their animals. Hal's theory, which he practiced on others, was that man had to toughen up. He started preaching to his sister and brother-in-law. If he doesn't make it there, he's nailed him to the dogs with the club. On five fingers dog-food gave, and a bloodless old squaw offered to trade them a few pounds of frozen horse-hide for Colt's revolver that kept a big hunting-knife company on Hal Hook. A bad substitute for food was this hideout, just as it was taken away by starving cattlemen's horses six months ago. In its frozen state, it looked more like strips of galvanized iron, and when the dog wrestled it into the abdomen it thawed into thin and inordinate leather wires and into a mass of short hair, irritating and indigestible. And through it all Buck staggered to the team lead like a nightmare. He withdrew when he could; when he could no longer pull, he fell and stayed down until the whistling or club kicks drove him back to his feet. All the stiffness and glide came out of his beautiful fur coat. The hair came down, limped and dragged, or matted with dried blood where Hal's club bruised him. His muscles were wasted on knotted wires, and the flesh pads were gone, so every rib and every bone in his frame was outlined. through loose skin that was wrinkled in the folds of emptiness. It was heartbreaking, only Buck's heart was unbreakable. The man in the red sweater proved it. Just like it was with Buck, so it was with his friends. They're perambulating skeletons. There were seven of them together, including him. In their great misery they became insensitive to the bite of an eyelash or a bruise of the club. The pain of the beating was dull and distant, just as the things their eyes saw and their ears heard seemed dull and distant. They weren't half alive, or a quarter of their lives. It was simply so many bags of bones in which the sparks of life fluttered poorly. When it was stopped, they went down in tracks like dead dogs, and the spark damedsted and blurred and seemed to die down. And when the club or whip fell on them, the spark slid poorly, and they rose to their feet and staggered. The day came when Billee, good-ass, fell and couldn't rise. Hal was changing his revolver, so he took the axe and hit Billee in the head as he lay in the tracks, then cut the body out of the armor and dragged it to one side. Buck saw it, and his friends saw it, and they knew this thing was very close to them. The next day Koon left, and five remained: Joe, he had gone too far to be maligned; Pike, mutilated and limping, only half conscious and not aware enough to be a malinger; Sol-lex, one-eyed, still true to the efforts of trace and trace, and saddened that he had so little strength with which he could draw; Teek, who did not travel that far that winter and who is now beaten more than others because he was fresher; and Buck, still at the head of the team, but no longer enforces discipline or seeks to impose it, blind from weakness half the time and holding the mark for the loom and the muted feeling of his feet. It was nice spring weather, but neither dogs nor humans were aware of it. Every day the sun came up early and went down later. It was dawn until 3:00 a.m., and dusk lingered until 9:00 p.m. The whole long day was the flame of the sun. Spooky winter silence gave way to the great spring murmur of awakening life. This murmur arose from all over the country, filled with the joy of living. It came from things that lived and moved again, things that were dead and that didn't move during the long months of frost. The juice was rising in the pine trees. Willows and ash trees burst in young buds. Shrubs and vines put on fresh green clothes. Crickets sang in the nights, and on days all sorts of creeping, creeping things rustled in the sun. Partridges and woodpeckers flourished and knocked in the forest. Squirrels chattered, birds sang, and overhead honked wild poultry riding from the south in tricky yedges that divided the air. From each The slope came to a leak of running water, the music of invisible fountains. All things are thawed, bent, crackled. Yukon shived to break the ice that tied him up. He ate far from below; The sun ate from above. Air holes were formed, cracks went ni different and spread, while thin sections of ice fell through the body into the river. And in the midst of all the cracking, the rending, the pulsating revival of life, under the scorching sun and through the softly sighing breeze, like a road to death, he staggered two men, a woman and a husky. As the dogs fell, the Mercedes weeping and driving, Hal cursed incocessively, and Charles' eyes watered knowingly, staggering into John Thornton's camp at the mouth of the White River. When they stopped, the dogs fell like they were all dead. Mercedes dried her eyes and looked at John Thornton. Charles sat on a diary to rest. He sat down very slowly and painstakingly what about his great stiffness. Hal was talking. John Thornton's whittling last touches on the axe-handle he made of stick birch. He whittled and listened, gave monosyllabic answers, and, when asked, terse advice. He knew the breed and gave his advice in safety that this would not be followed. They told us upstairs that the bottom was falling off the track and that it was best for us to lie down. Hal said in response to Thornton's warning not to take any more chances on the rotting ice. They told us we couldn't build the White River, and here we are. This last one with a mocking ring of triumph in it. And they told you true, John Thornton replied. The bottom will probably fall out at any moment. Only fools, with the blind luck of fools, could come. I'm telling you, I wouldn't risk a carcass on ice for all the gold in Alaska. That's because you're not a fool, I guess, said Hal. Anyway, we're going to Dawson. He unbuttoned the whip. Get up there, Buck! Hi! Get up! Mush on! Thornton continued with Whittling. It was good, he knew, to come between the fool and his folly; until two or three fools more or less changed the scheme of things. But the team didn't get up on command. He had long since passed into a phase where punches were needed to wake him up. The whip flashed here and there, in his ruthless dealings. John Thornton clenched his lips. Sol-lex crawled to his feet first. Teek followed. Joe came next, yelping with pain. Pike made painful efforts. He went down twice, when he was half up, and on the third attempt he managed to rise. Buck didn't bother. He was lying quietly where he fell. The eyelash bit him over and over again, but he didn't moan or fight. A few times Thornton started, like he was talking, but he changed his mind. Moisture came into his eyes, and, as the fright continued, he emerged and walked irreparable. and down. This was the first time Buck had failed, in itself reason enough to drive Hal into a rage. He exchanged whips for the usual club. Buck refused to move under the rain of heavier blows that have now fallen on him. Like his friends, he could barely get up, but, unlike them, he chose not to get up. He had a sense of impending doom. That was strong for him when he came to the bank, and it didn't deviate from him. What about the thin and rotten ice he felt at his feet all day, he seemed to feel disaster near, out front on the ice where his master was trying to drive him away. He refused to stir. So much so that he suffered, and so far away did he go, that the blows didn't hurt much. And as they continued to fall on him, the spark of life within flickered and descended. It's almost out. He felt strangely stiff. It was as if from a long distance he was aware he was being besoded. His last feelings of pain left him. He felt nothing more, although he could very poorly hear the club's impact on his body. But it wasn't his body anymore, it seemed so far away. And then, suddenly, without warning, uttering a cry that was inarticulate and more like the cry of an animal, John Thornton came across the man who ran the club. Hal was thrown backwards, as if he had been hit by a tree that had fallen. Mercedes was screaming. Charles looked wittily, wiped his dry eyes, but did not get up because of his stiffness. John Thornton stood over Buck, struggling to control himself, too huddled with rage to speak. If you hit that dog again, I'm going to kill you, he finally managed to say a sithing voice. That's my dog, Hal replied, wiping blood from his mouth as he returned. To get out of my way, or I'll fix you. I'm going to Dawson. Thornton was standing between him and Buck, and he wasn't going to drag himself out of the way. Hal drew his long hunting knife. Mercedes screamed, cried, laughed and manifested a chaotic abandonment of hysteria. Thornton ribmed Hal's knuckles with the handle of an axe, knocking the knife to the ground. He was ribming his knuckles again while trying to pick him up. Then he landed, picked him up himself, and cut Buck's tracks with two strokes. Hal didn't fight in it. In addition, his hands were full with his sister, that is, his hands; while Buck was too dead to be of further use in getting the sleigh out. A few minutes later, they pulled off the shore and down the river. Buck heard them leave and raised his head to see, Pike led, Sol-lex was behind the wheel, and in between were Joe and Teek. They limped and staggered. Mercedes was driving a loaded sled. Hal ran a gee-pole, and Charles tripped in the back. As Buck watched them, Thornton knelt beside him and searched for broken bones with rough, kind hands. By the time his search was discovered More than many bruises and a state of terrible starvation, the sled was a quarter of a mile away. A dog and a man watched him crawl across the ice. Suddenly they saw his rear end come down, like a rut, and a gee-pole, with Hal snug to him, in the air. A Mercedes scream came to their ears. They see Charles turn around and take one step to escape back, and then a whole piece of ice gives way and the dogs and people disappear. The yawning hole was all you could see. The bottom fell out of the lane. John Thornton and Buck looked at each other. You poor devil, John Thornton said, and Buck licked his arm. Hand.

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