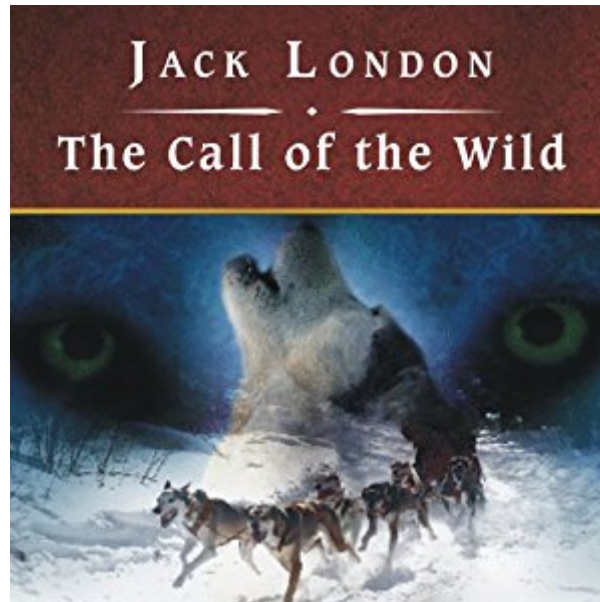




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The Call Of The Wild



Synopsis

Published now in the Wisehouse Classics series, *The Call of the Wild* is a short adventure novel by Jack London published in 1903 and set in Yukon, Canada during the 1890s Klondike Gold Rush, when strong sled dogs were in high demand. The central character is a dog named Buck. The story opens at a ranch in the Santa Clara Valley of California when Buck is stolen from his home and sold into service as a sled dog in Alaska. He progressively reverts to a wild state in the harsh climate, where he is forced to fight to dominate other dogs. By the end, he sheds the veneer of civilization and relies on primordial instinct and learned experience to emerge as a leader in the wild. London spent almost a year in the Yukon collecting material for the book. The story was serialized in the *Saturday Evening Post* in the summer of 1903; it was published a month later in book form. The book's great popularity and success made a reputation for London. Much of its appeal derives from its simplicity as a tale of survival. As early as 1923, the story was adapted to film, and it has since seen several more cinematic adaptations. --This text refers to the Kindle Edition edition.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Customer Reviews

This is a book I have read several times first as an teen and then as an adult. The first time I read it, it was a great, interesting adventure story. As an adult, reading this book I realized how complex and insightful into life this book was. Both times was well worth the read. The illustrations of this edition are great.

Like most people this book was required reading as a child but didn't fully appreciate the story until I read it again a few years ago. I enjoyed the book so much that when I saw it available in an audible format I wanted to get it. I admit I was a little reluctant only because other books I had purchased in this format were, for me, boring. I mean the voice was not very expressive and so slow and it took forever to get through a book. Not the case with this book narrated by Bill Lord. He has an extremely expressive and pleasing voice. The narration painted a captivating picture better than my imagination had when I had previously read the book. Seriously, it was like watching a movie with my ears.

Mmm yes, *The Call of the Wild* is a bit of a left-field selection but it was engaging- most of the time. The book is written from the dog's perspective and Jack London's turn of the 20th century descriptions are a bit archaic. The story was fascinating as he describes the opening up of Canada's back-woods through the lens of the Klondike Gold Rush. The writer has a keen understanding of working dogs and sledding through wilderness snow and ice so it was a pleasure to keep reading his fictional portrait that reminded me much of adventure books I had read as a boy. The final chapter introduces one of Canada's bloodthirsty Indian people and I would have liked this chapter expanded to provide an insight into their lives and social structures- if only the Dog could have been taken into their world. As it stands, the alignment with and leadership of the wild wolf pack is a bit too romantic for today's \ more cynical audiences. I was disappointed with the soft ending after an adventurous, almost sinuous read of the Wild Dog and its ancestral call. Maybe this is a 4 star read, but I don't want to disappoint readers who have so many more important choices of good reads from the 20 and 21st centuries. Maybe something specific on the indigenous people of Northern Canada and how they have fared under European invasion.

If you just want a copy of *The Call of the Wild*, to give to a friend, say, take a look at Daniel Dyer's edition. (In , type in Dyer as "author" and "Call of the Wild" as title. Click on the paperback link, and ignore the part that says it hasn't been published). The elegant Library of America edition of "London: Novels and Stories" has three complete novels *The Call of the Wild*, *White Fang*, *The Sea-Wolf*, and a very well chosen selection of stories. It's great. Viking's *The Portable Jack London*, is cheap and excellent; it's edited by Earle Labor, has *The Call of the Wild*, and an excellent selection of short stories, nonfiction, and letters. If you want copies of *The Call of the Wild* to give to LOTS of friends, the Dover Thrift Edition is just a buck. But if you want *just* *The Call of the Wild*, Dyer's edition is nice enough to give as a gift, is clear and legible, and has just the

right amount of pictures and annotations. Not a scholarly work, but every time you get to one of those places where you have a question--where was Dyea? What was the "Chinese lottery?" Could a dog really pull a thousand pound sled? there's Dyer with the answer. And if you're interested in Jack London, take a look at the alt.books.jack-london Internet discussion group--see "about me" for details.

I enjoyed this book so much I searched up all of Jack London's books and bought most of them. This all started when I was grounded and I just couldn't stop reading. Now I have 4 copies of the book. Two from kindle for one illustrated and one not and two printed copies with different covers. I read all of them no matter where

Good books never get old and this is a most read. I read it long time ago as a child in Spanish but now I got the opportunity to read it in the original language. Amazing, unforgettable and enjoying read!

In Jack London's Call of the Wild, Buck, a self-effacing St. Bernard living the good life on a California farm suddenly finds himself in a life or death struggle in vast stretches of the Alaskan wilderness. London is so adept at assigning human characteristics to this animal that dog becomes the chief protagonist of this book. Buck displays so many similarities of his human counter parts that the reader is prone to forgetting that this dog is not a human seeking to rise to the top of the food chain. This book is so inspiring and uplifting that it is well worth the read.

This book was purchased for my daughter for her summer reading list. She and I both enjoyed the book very much. It is a clever way to lead a discussion on life paths and on people and situations that can come up in someone's life. She is only beginning 7th grade, so our perspectives on different parts of the book were great discussion points. She was able to read it in about a total of 6 hours. I only gave it 4 stars because despite it being a great book at a great price the print was so small that I had to wear reading glasses with my contacts in to see it. I am sure the small print was a cost cutting measure, but I am only in my 40's and it was difficult to see.

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