

**ABSTRACT**

Jack London is considered as the most significant naturalist author of America. Most of his works are the results of his constellation experiences. His most and perhaps his masterpiece work is *The Call of The Wild*. This novel is created after his journey to Klondine. Therefore, this novel successfully presents us with the gallery of the wilderness environment in a vivid way.

Nevertheless, *The Call Of The Wild* does not merely present the scenery of nature. Furthermore, this novel tries to present the paradox of life when a living creature is compelled from the civilized life to the wilderness of the world. Here, the living creature is presented by the character of Buck, a mixture of St Bernard and Scotch Sheperd dog.

Buck is living comfortably in his early stage of life. His life suddenly changes when he is kidnapped and eventually becomes a sled dog in the wilderness of Northland. Getting various treatments from many kinds of masters do not make him give up easily. However, the worse condition he experiences has even supported his primordial instinct which is concealed during his life in Southland emerges in surface. The desires to join the primordial life especially the wolves pack begin to call him and haunt his dreams.

However, when he almost reach the primordial life through sequel "rite of passage", Buck finds himself still bound to the convention of human civilization. John Thornton's love has made it difficult for him to decide the life he is going to be. Buck is back and forth between the love which represents the man civilization and the call from his older brothers, the wolves pack. Eventually, this conflict is solved when Thornton dies and Buck decides to join the life of nature. Yet, his love for Thornton itself is eternal.

**ABSTRAKSI**

Jack London dianggap sebagai salah seorang penulis naturalis yang paling diperhitungkan di Amerika. Sebagian besar karyanya dihasilkan dari konstalasi pengalaman kehidupan pribadinya. Karyanya yang paling terkenal dan terbaik adalah *The Call of The Wild*. Novel ini diciptakan setelah Ia kembali dari Klondike. Tidak mengherankan bila novel ini berhasil menghadirkan sebuah "panggung" kehidupan alam yang liar sebagaimana aslinya.

Meski demikian *The Call of The Wild* tidaklah semata-mata hendak menghadirkan kehidupan alam liar. Lebih jauh novel ini mencoba menghadirkan sebuah paradoks kehidupan ketika seorang (seekor) makhluk hidup dilemparkan dari kehidupannya yang beradab menuju dunia yang liar. Dalam novel ini tokohnya diwakili oleh seekor anjing peranakan St. Bernard dan anjing gembala Scotch, Buck.

Pada awalnya Buck menjalani kehidupan dengan penuh kesenangan. Hidupnya tiba-tiba berubah ketika ia diculik dan harus menjadi anjing penarik beban di wilayah Northland yang liar dan kejam. Disini meskipun Buck mengalami bermacam perlakuan dari tuan-tuannya, ia tidak menyerah dengan mudah. Kondisi buruk yang ia alami bahkan mendorong insting primordial yang lama tersembunyi selama hidupnya di Southland muncul kepermukaan. Keinginan-keinginan untuk bergabung dengan kehidupan yang liar khususnya dengan gerombolan serigala mulai memanggil-manggil dan menjadi bagian dari mimpi-mimpinya.

Meskipun begitu, ketika Buck hampir mendapatkan kehidupan yang ia inginkan, setelah melampaui serangkaian "persyaratan", Ia mendapati dirinya masih terikat dengan konvensi peradaban manusia. Cinta John Thornton telah membuatnya sulit untuk memilih kehidupan yang akan ia tempuh. Buck bergerak diantara nilai cinta yang mewakili peradaban manusia dan panggilan dari saudara tuanya; gerombolan serigala. Pada akhirnya konflik ini terselesaikan dengan kematian Thornton dan Buck bergabung dengan kehidupan alam. Kendati demikian, cintanya kepada Thornton sendiri tetap abadi.

## SYNOPSIS

Buck is a mixture of St Bernard and a Scotch Shepherd dog. In his early stage of life, he lives in easy life under the benevolent master, Judge Miller, in Southland. Actually, Buck is accustomed to trust men he know and give them all respect as a master he must obey.

His life suddenly changes when men find gold in Northland. They need heavy dogs with strong muscles to toil and furry coats to protect them from the frost. Buck meets all these qualification .

Firstly, he is passed into the hand of kidnapers where he finds that life is not easy. He has to face a cruel master, the red sweater man which has introduced him to the law of club. It gives him a lesson that a man with a club is a lawgiver, a master to be obeyed. In fact, this scene has deeply affected his later conduct.

Later, he is compelled to the wilderness of Northland with its extreme temperature and whose hostile environment will kill whoever fails adjusting themselves. Under the mastering of Perrault and Francois, Buck makes himself survive in this place. He becomes a sledge dog that has to perform the task done by the draft-horses in Southland. Although he despises this job, under the rough

but humane discipline of those masters, he has grown to take proud with this job and moreover it stimulates himself to carry out the best things in this toil.

Furthermore, his physical and beast instinct has gradually developed. Having physical development, he experiences no difficulty in the process of adapting to this wilderness full of toil, frost and starvation. On the other hand, his increased instinct has haunted Buck with the ancient life of wild dogs or the wolves pack. This instinct seems to come to him without effort or discovery.

In addition to this fact, the two combinations of physical and instinct developments has aroused his need of having a leadership supremacy among the dogs in the team. It begins when Spitz, as a lead dog and is acknowledged as the master of the team feels his supremacy threatened by this Southland dog, Buck. Finally, this hostility meets its solution through a great fighting between them that has resulted in Buck becoming a winner and it establishes his supremacy over the dog team, as well.

Afterwards, the team pass into the hand of the "Scotch half-breed" in which the works become harder, more routine and less rewarding. However, despite their

being a wearied down by condition, the team is passed to the hand of the cruel masters, Hal, Charles, and Mercedes. In their hands, Buck and all the members of the dog team encounter the worst treatment they have ever had. Hal and Charles will club the dog when failing to perform impossible tasks. Although Mercedes protests the whipping of the dogs but she forces those weary dogs pulls her own weight on the overloaded sled.

Finally, Buck that is dying has been rescued by a kindly master, John Thornton. The extraordinary kindness of Thornton soon has emerged his feeling of love, genuine passionate love that he has never experienced towards Judge Miller and it is expressed in adoration and the fear of losing.

Meanwhile, the call of the wild still remains in him and eventhough he really loves his master but it is not easy for him to deny it. Moreover, the call becomes much more stronger when he accompanies Thornton to the depth of forest to gold. However, this conflicts end when Thornton is killed and that there is no more tie which bind Buck to the life of his master. He finally follows the calling of the wild, the calling from his primordial brother. Later, he is known as a Ghost Dog among the Yeehat who is running at the head of the pack.