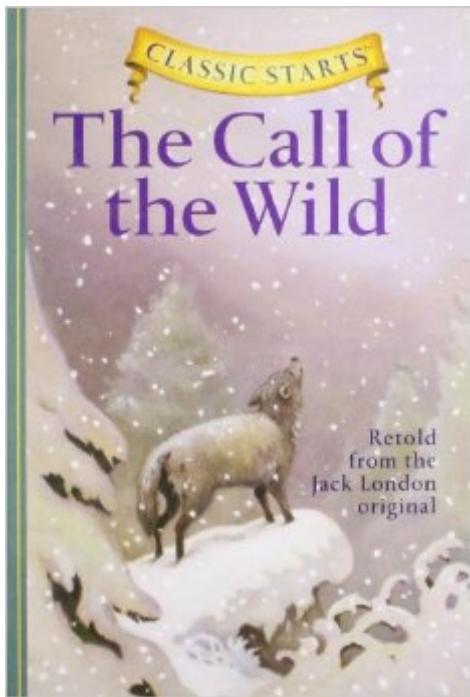


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# The Call Of The Wild (Classic Starts)



## **Synopsis**

Following Sterling's spectacularly successful launch of its children's classic novels (240,000 books in print to date), comes a dazzling new series: Classic Starts. The stories are abridged; the quality is complete. Classic Starts treats the world's beloved tales (and children) with the respect they deserve--all at an incomparable price. Here is the ultimate dog story, one filled with emotion, adventure, and excitement. During the Gold Rush, Buck is snatched away from his peaceful home and brought to the harsh and bitter Yukon to become a sled dog. Will he adapt, and learn to trust men? Or will his newly awakened primitive instincts lead him to search for the freedom he has never known?

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 640 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 160 pages

Publisher: Sterling; Revised ed. edition (March 1, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 140271274X

ISBN-13: 978-1402712746

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 5.5 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (2,182 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #43,495 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #54 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Animals > Foxes & Wolves #379 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Animals > Dogs #648 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Classics

Age Range: 7 - 9 years

Grade Level: 2 - 4

## **Customer Reviews**

Jack London's letters about the publication of "The Call of the Wild" reveal an all-too-common story that would make any author and most sympathetic readers cringe. In 1903, Jack London was hard up for cash and had just completed the manuscript. He sold the serial rights to the Saturday Evening Post for \$700 and, since the editors were not all that keen on his first choice, suggested the title "The Sleeping Wolf." (Interestingly enough, the magazine version did not even include what has probably become the book's most famous scene: when John Thornton blusteringly makes a wager that Buck can pull a sled weighing half a ton.) Soon after, Macmillan agreed to take a chance on the

unknown writer and offered to publish the book for \$2,000, with no royalties. By this time, London had warmed to his initial title, "The Call of the Wild," but left the final choice up to his editor. Both the magazine and the book publisher reluctantly used London's now-famous title, and seven years later London wrote to his editor, reminding him of his tin ear: "I'll be damned if that very muchly-rejected title didn't become a phrase in the English language. This is only one of many experiences concerning titles, wherein editors, booksellers, and publishers absolutely missed." But it still boggles the mind that London earned a grand total of \$2,700 for a book that quickly sold more than two million copies. And what a book! I must have read it three or four times as a youngster, but even now, over twenty years since I last picked it up, it still manages to electrify me. "The Call of the Wild" is often cited as the best work of fiction ever written about dogs, but the book is equally about men--and about London himself.

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