

Sergeant Preston of the Yukon created by Geo. W. Trendle.

Curly

by Fran Striker

Number 1071

Date 2/3/53

*Striker*

Preston

King

Jimmy.....14 years.

Mary.....his mother.

Dill.....his father.

Jake.....heavy.

Ladue.....small part. Might be French.

**FILE**

Names from World Almanac

OURLY PROMO

Annrc; Sergeant Preston reported to the Inspector at headquarters. The Inspector said -

Insp; Preston, did you know Bill Williams?

Prest; Yes sir. He died in a mining accident, ~~a few~~  
~~months ago.~~

Insp; I think his death was no accident! ~~I don't~~  
I'm certain it was murder - but I need proof.  
~~proof that it was murder!~~

Prest; I'll try to get that proof, Inspector.

Annrc; The search for proof of murder led Sergeant Preston into a death trap. By the time he learned the identity of a killer, he was completely at that killer's mercy. Be sure to listen . . .

Sergeant Preston of the Yukon

by Fran Striker

Number 1071

CURLY

Date 2/3/53

(USUAL OPENING)

(WIND BG)

Annecr; Bill Williams and his thirteen year old son named Jimmy walked together on the trail that led north from Dawson. The ground was covered with the first snow of the season and a chilling wind told of more snow to come. Bill was going to his gold claim, which was about five miles from town.

FOOTSTEPS SUSTAINING

Bill; When we reach the tall pine, Jimmy, you turn back.

Jimmy; Dad, please let me go to the mine with you.

Bill; Not today, Son. Your mother'll be expecting you home.

Jimmy; I haven't been to the mine in a long time.  
~~Jimmy; I haven't been there in a long time.~~

Bill; I'll take you one of these days.

Jimmy; Why not today? Is it because your partner doesn't want me around?

Bill; Jake? (LAUGHS) Where'd you get the idea Jake didn't want you around.

Jimmy; He acted that way, the last time I was there.

- Bill; Nonsense, Jimmy. That's just your imagination. I don't want to take you to the mine today, because it'll be dangerous around there. We're goin' to use blastin' powder.
- Jimmy; Oh. Well anyway, I think Jake doesn't like me. And I don't like him! Neither does Mother.
- Bill; Jake's all right. He's rough an' he doesn't have much education, but he's a good minin' man.
- Jimmy; Mother wishes you'd never teamed up with him.
- Bill; I know it, Jimmy. I'm sorry your Mother feels that way about it, because I didn't have much choice. Y'see, when we came to the Yukon, I had cash for a grubstake, but I didn't know anything about lookin' for gold, or stakin' a claim, or workin' a mine. Jake knew all those things - but he was broke. So we became partners.
- Jimmy; If you strike it rich, he'll get half the gold, wont he?
- Bill; Of course he will! We're partners!
- Jimmy; D'you think you'll strike it rich, Dad?
- Bill; Jimmy, I think we're mighty close to real pay dirt!
- Jimmy; (EAGERLY) Oh golly -
- Bill; Jake says all the signs point to it.
- Jimmy; Then we'll be able to buy all the things we need - and fix up the house - and - and have a dog!
- Bill; (LAUGHS) Yes, Jimmy. You'll get the dog I promised you. A fine dog!

Jimmy; A dog like Yukon King?

Bill: Huh?

Jimmy; That's the name of Sergeant Preston's dog-

Bill: Well, I can't promise you a dog like that, Son. I don't know as anyone could find a dog as fine as Yukon King, but you'll have a good dog! ( ) Now you'd better turn back.

Jimmy; All right, Dad. I'll see you tonight.

Bill; You bet, Jimmy. (FADING) I'll try to bring home the pay dirt.

WIND FULL UP AND TRAIL OUT.

SNEAK IN, PICKAXE ON ROCK.

Annex; In due time Bill Williams reached the hillside where he and Jake Tracy had staked their claim and dug a tunnel. In the tunnel he found Jake working with a pickaxe.

Bill; Morning, Jake.

STOP AXE

Jake; Howdy, Bill. I've been waitin' for you. The blastin' powder's all set an' fused.

Bill; You must've started work at daybreak.

Jake; Livin' in a shack nearby, it's easy for me to get on the job early. You lose an hour comin' all the way from town.

Bill; How do things look?

Jake; First rate. I don't want to arouse a lot of hope -

Bill; I understand that, Jake-

Jake; That's why I didn't want you to tell your wife how close we are to pay dirt.

Bill; I didn't say much - ( ) were'd you plant the powder?

Jake; Right here. See the fuse stickin' out?

Bill; Oh yes.

Jake; It's ready for the match. I didn't want to touch it off until you were here. You want to light it?

Bill; Yeah. I'd sort o' like to be the one.

Jake; Got a match?

Bill; Right here.

Jake; Here's a hunk of wood. Scratch it on this.

Bill; Gosh, Jake- this- this might be the biggest day of our lives -

Jake; Go ahead. Scratch the match an' light the fuse.

Bill; Right.

SCRATCH MATCH

Bill; (MUTTER) There now-

Jake; What's the matter with you, Bill? Light the fuse.

Bill; (NERVOUS LAUGH) Hand is shakin' - I- I'll get 'er lighted - j-just a second - ( ) There. It's lighted!

Jake; (CHANGE MANNER) That's all I waited for!

Bill; (SHARP CRY) Jake- what're you doin' ?

Jake; (EFFORT) Sorry -

Bill; (HALF CRY CUT OFF WITH)

(BLOW)

(FALLING BODY)

Jake; Yeah - sorry - Partner.

(SLAB OF WOOD TO GROUND)

(STEPS SUSTAINING AS)

Annrc; Jake tossed aside the slab of wood with which he struck Bill Williams. He glanced at the fuse to be sure it was burning properly, then hurried out of the tunnel.

(STEPS HALT)

Annrc; A moment later the buried powder was ignited-

(EXPLOSION) (TRAIL OFF)

(BREAK)

Annrc; Sergeant Preston of the Northwest Mounted Police was about to enter the general store in Dawson when he heard someone calling his name-

Jake; (BACK) Sergeant Preston - Sergeant Preston -

RUNNING STEPS COMING IN

Preston; Jake Tracy-

Jake; (COMING IN BREATHELESSLY) You're just the man I want to see. It's about Bill Williams.

Preston; Your mining partner?

Jake; Yes.

Preston; What about him?

Jake; He's dead.

Preston; Dead!

Jake; Yes. It was an accident in our tunnel. We were usin' blasting powder. Bill wanted to set off the charge, so I told him to go ahead. I waited outside while he went into the tunnel where the powder was planted an' fused...

Preston; What happened?

Jake; I don't know, Sergeant Preston. Like I said - I was waitin' for Bill, when all of a sudden the powder let go. Maybe, after lightin' the fuse, Bill stumbled an' fell down - or somethin' of the sort - I don't know-

Preston; Did the tunnel cave in?

Jake; No. I went inside as soon as the smoke cleared. Bill lay on the floor half buried under rock that had been blown from the wall. I carried him out, but he was dead. I left him at the tunnel an' came here -

Preston; Have you told Mrs. Williams?

Jake; Not yet. I - I hate to break the news. It'll be a mighty hard blow to her an' young Jimmy-

Preston; I'll tell them.

Jake; I reckon you're better'n I am at that sort of thing.

Preston; Go to headquarters and wait for me. We'll take my sled to your tunnel and bring back the body.

Jake; (FADING) All right, Sergeant Preston. I'll be waitin' for you.

BREAK

Anner; ~~Sergeant Preston took with him to the Williams' house, the storekeeper's wife who agreed to~~  
*THE STOREKEEPER'S WIFE WENT WITH SEREANT  
PRESTON TO THE WILLIAMS HOUSE TO*  
remain with Mrs. Williams and Jimmy during the first trying hours of bereavement. Then the Mountie hitched his team to the sled and went to the gold claim, accompanied by Jake Tracy and Yukon King.

WED DG.

At the entrance to the mine, Preston examined the dead man, then wrapped the body in a blanket and placed it on the sled.

Preston; You stay right here, King. On guard, boy.

SHORT BARK

Preston; Now, Jake, we'll go inside the tunnel.

Jake; D'you want to see the place where it happened?

Preston; Yes.

Jake; We'll need a lantern.

Preston; Do you have one?

Jake; Yeah. There's one right here inside the entrance. I'll light it.

ADLIB LIGHTING LANTERN

I had another lantern, but it was wrecked. Bill had it with him so he could see to light the fuse. There.

CLOSE LANTERN.

Preston; Lead the way. I'll follow. ( ) Stay there, King.

SHORT BARK. SNEAK IN TUNNEL EFFECT AS STEPS SUSTAIN AS, WIND FADES BACK.

Preston; (CUE) Did you set the powder, Jake?

Jake; Yeah. I drilled the holes, tamped in the powder an' fixed the fuse. I was just about to touch it off when Bill came from town. He wanted to do it, so I let him.

Preston; Had he ever used explosives?

Jake; No. But all he had to do was light a match an' hold it to the fuse - then get out. I can't figure what could've happened to poor Bill.

STEPS HALT.

Jake; Here's where it happened.

ADLIB HANDLING STONES

Preston; Is this the ore that was loosened by the blast?

Jake; Yeah.

Preston; Is this valuable ore?

Jake; Not very. It's the same as we've been gettin' all along. It's not worth the work it takes to get it, but we've been hopin' to strike a pocket.

Preston; Do you plan to continue working the mine?

Jake; I reckon so. But I'll have to work it alone. There's no cash to hire help, and Jimmy Williams is too young to work here -

Preston; Well, I've seen enough. Let's start for Dawson.

BREAK

Anner; Sergeant Preston left the tunnel without seeing the valuable pocket of gold that Jake had cunningly concealed before reporting the death of his partner. During the weeks that followed, Mary Williams and Jimmy adapted themselves to their changed way of life. They received a little financial aid when Jake stopped periodically and left a few dollars which he said represented their share of the gold he'd mined. Then, one afternoon, Jimmy came into the house leading a big, hungry looking dog.

DOOR OPENS. BARKS. DOOR CLOSES AS-

Mary; Jimmy! What in the world-

Jimmy; Look, Mom! Look at my dog! () Quiet, Curly-

Mary; I see it - I - (DOUBLE TAKE) Your dog!

Jimmy; Quiet, Curly. () He's all mine!

DOG SUBSIDES

Mary; B-but Jimmy-

Jimmy; Mr. Ladue gave him to me.

Mary; (STILL OFF BALANCE) Mis- mister Ladue - you mean the man who raises sled dogs?

Jimmy; That's right. I've been helping him out at his kennels after school -

Mary; I know you had a job, but-

Jimmy; That's where it was, and today Mr. Ladue paid me. Here's the money. Two dollars. It's for you.

Mary; No, no, dear, that's your money.

Jimmy; Please take it, Mom. It'll help out. I just wish I was old enough to have a regular job-

Mary; I'll save the money for you.

Jimmy; After he gave me the two dollars, Mr. Ladue asked if I'd like Curly -

Mary; Oh.

Jimmy; He gave him to me for nothing, Mom!

Mary; If he- the dog looks hungry -

Jimmy; Curly's always hungry, Mom. He's been sick. That's why he's so thin. A trapper abandoned the poor fella - and Mr. Ladue gave him a home. He'll look lots better when he's fattened up a little - you'll let me keep him, won't you, Mom? Please let me have him.

Mary; I- I suppose it will be all right -

Jimmy; Good! Thanks, Mom! Did you hear that, Curly?  
Mom said it's all right! You'll be my pal -  
we'll always stick together, won't we Curly?

WHILPERING

Jimmy; Just like Yukon King and Sergeant Preston!

R AP ON DOOR.

Mary; The door -

Jimmy; I'll go, Mom. Stay right there, Curly. Stay there,  
boy!

DOOR OPENS.

Jimmy; (CUE) Oh, hello, Mr. Stacey.

Jake; 'Lo Jimmy. ( ) Howdy, Mary.

Mary; Hello, Jake. Come in.

DOOR CLOSES.

Jake; Oh, where'd you get the mutt?

LOW GROWL

Jimmy; He's not a mutt. He's my dog and his name's Curly.

~~Jake; Keep away from me, you mutt!~~

~~LOW GROWL~~

~~Jimmy; Curly, be still!~~

Jake; I hate dogs! Especially ones like that! Don't  
let him near me. If he snaps, I'll kick his ribs in.

Jimmy; Aw, Curly wouldn't hurt anyone.

Mary; Will you sit down?

Jake; (SITS) Thanks. I brought your share of what I took from the mine this week.

Mary; Oh.

Jake; I took the gold to the bank an' turned it in for paper money. Here's all I got. Half of it is yours.

Mary; Thank you.

Jake; I'm sorry to say, it's even less than it was last week. It's mighty little pay for a week of hard, back-breakin' work.

Mary; Y-yes. And it's mighty little to support two people -

Jimmy; When are you going to strike the rich pocket?

Jake; Huh?

Jimmy; Dad said we'd be rich most any day -

Jake; Rich. Humph!

Mary; I remember that Bill mentioned a pocket of gold that you expected to find.

Jake; That was a false alarm. I told Bill not to mention it and raise false hopes -

Mary; We- we've been counting so much on that gold mine-

Jake; It's a good claim, Mary. There oughtta be gold there - but- well -

Mary; (PAUSE) But what?

Jake; Workin' alone, as I've had to, it might be months or even years before I hit real pay dirt. And I might never find it.

Jimmy; Let me help work the mine.

Mary; No, Jimmy, you're not big enough.

Jimmy; I could do something there - please, Mom, let me try to help-

Jake; It's a man's work. I need the help of a man who knows the minin' business. I can't go on without help - and I can't hire help without cash.

Mary; What does that mean, Jake?

Jake; It means that - if you're goin' to depend on the gold mine for a livin', you'll starve to death.

Mary; I - I have no money. I've used up what little Bill had left.

Jake; That's what I thought.

Mary; I've done a little sewing for ladies here in town and Jimmy has earned some cash - but we can't earn enough to support us. I - I've been hoping the mine would improve-

Jake; You'd better not count on that.

Mary; So I see -

Jake; Mary, I've been thinkin' about you an' Jimmy.

Mary; That's a surprise.

Jake; It's the truth. I was thinkin' that the Yukon's no place for a widow like you, with a son to raise. You'd both be better off if you were back in the States. You'd be with friends - and you could find work -

Mary; What about it, Jake?

Jake; The boats will start operatin' in a few weeks. You two should be aboard the first one that leaves here. Go home!

Jimmy; This is our home!

Jake; You an' your Ma are out of place here.

Mary; It - it takes cash to go back to the States.

Jake; I happen to know the gent who'll provide the cash.

Mary; Oh.

Jake; ~~He has some gold hidden away.~~ I talked to him, about a business deal. He'll put up the cash for me to hire help at the mine - and buy some tools and things I need - if he can buy half interest in the claim.

Mary; Half interest?

Jake; Yes. He's willin' to buy Bill's- er- your share of the property.

Jimmy; Mom! We can't sell Dad's gold mine! He said it would make us rich!

Mary; Jimmy, please be quiet.

Jimmy; But, Mom - it must be a good claim, if someone wants to buy it -

Mary; Hush, Jimmy. () Go on, Jake.

Jake; My friend knows it's a gamble. Of course, he wouldn't pay you anywhere near as much as Bill put into the mine- but I figured it would be a good thing for you to sell, if you could get cash enough to take you to the states with a couple of hundred dollars left over-

~~Mary; What's the name of your friend?~~

~~Jake; He doesn't want me to tell his name. Y'see, as I said, he's got considerable gold hidden away. If that news got out, he'd likely be robbed.~~

Jimmy; Please don't sell the mine, Mom! We'll get along somehow - I'll get another job -

Mary; I'll not decide today.

Jake; It's up to you, Mary.

Mary; I'll think it over.

MUSIC INTERLUDE.

Annecr; For several days Mary considered the offer without reaching a decision. Nearly every evening found Jimmy repeating his arguments -

Jimmy; ...but Mom, Dad said the mine would make us rich.  
That's why he brought us here.

Mary; Jake can't continue working the mine without help.

Jimmy; Then let me help him. I'm strong. I know I could  
do the work.

Mary; No, Dear.

Jimmy; I don't want to go away - and leave Dad buried here-  
and leave Curly-

WILPER

Mary; I'll not be happy about leaving your father buried  
here, Jimmy, but we can't stay without money.

Jimmy; Mom, I can work at Mr. Ladue's kennel full time  
every day. He said so. He'll pay me lots more  
than he does for just after school and on Saturday.

Mary; No, Dear. I'll not have you give up school.  
Your father wouldn't want that.

Jimmy; Aw, golly, Mom- I don't want to give up an' go  
back to the States -

Mary; Sonny, I've thought the matter over very carefully.  
I can see nothing to do, except to sell out.

Jimmy; (FADING) It- it's like runnin' out on Dad - it's  
like tellin' him he was all wrong when he brought  
us here - -

Annex; The following day was Saturday and there was no school. Jimmy left home early in the morning to put in a full day of work on his part time job.

WIND BG

Annex; With Curly at his side, he walked to the edge of town where the Ladue kennels were located.

FADE IN DOGS. BARKS, WHIMPERS ETC.

Annex; Outside the low, rambling building he saw a string of dogs hitched to a sled. The dogs were friendly.

Jimmy; (ANLIB) Hello there, fellows. Hello, Boy! You're a big dog! () Hello, Whiteface. (LAUGHS) You look as if you're laughing -

DOOR OPENS, BACK.

Ladue; (BACK) Hi there, Jimmy.

Jimmy; (CALL) Good morning, Mr. Ladue.

Ladue; (BACK) There's a friend of yours here. Come on inside and bring your dog.

Jimmy; (CALLS) Yes sir! () Come on, Curly. () That sure is a fine team, Mr. Ladue.

Ladue; That outfit belongs to Sergeant Preston.

Jimmy; Oh!

DOOR CLOSE. CUT WIND AND DOGS AS

Prest; (SLIGHTLY BACK) Hello, Jimmy.

Jimmy; Hello, Sergeant Preston!

BARKING, ADLIB

Jimmy; (ADLIB HELLO'S TO KING)

Prest; So this is your dog, eh, Jimmy?

Jimmy; Yes sir. His name is Curly.

Prest; Hello, Curly.

Ladue; (LAUGHS) He and King seem to have struck up a quick friendship.

Preston; Take good care of your dog, Jimmy, and he'll be a real pal.

Jimmy; He's already a pal! He walks to school with me every day, and waits outside the school till I go home.

Preston; How are things at home, Jimmy?

Jimmy; W-well - Mom wants to sell our share of the claim and go back to the States.

Preston; I'm sorry to hear that.

Jimmy; Jake Tracy says he can't work it alone - he wants Mom to sell to a man who has money to hire help.

Ladue; I've heard that the claim isn't doin' very well.

Jimmy; I wish I could work there -

Preston; Why don't you? You could help Jake part time -

Jimmy; (EAGERLY) Do you think I could?

Preston; Why not?

Jimmy; Jake says I'm not big and strong enough.

Preston; I think you are. I know a number of fellows your size who work in mines.

Jimmy; If I could help Jake, maybe the two of us could - could hit pay dirt - then Mother and I wouldn't have to sell out - and go back to the States -

Preston; That would be fine. ( ) Did Jake say who wanted to buy your Mother's share of the claim?

Jimmy; No, Sir.

Preston; I'd like to discuss that with your Mother. I have some errands to do now, but when I return to Dawson this evening, I'll call on your Mother.

Jimmy; I'll tell her.

Preston; Good. ( ) Thanks, Ladue, for taking care of my team.

Ladue; Your welcome any time, Sergeant.

Preston; (FADING) I'll see you later, Jimmy.

Jimmy; Yes, Sir (

DOOR OPEN, WIND AND DOGS.

Preston; (BACK) Come on, King! Line 'em up, Boy.

BARKS FADE. DOOR CLOSE.

Jimmy; Mr. Ladue, did you hear what he said? I'm big enough to work in the mine!

Preston; (OUTSIDE) On King, on you huskies -

Ladue; Why don't you try it?

Jimmy; I want to.

Ladue; D'you know the trail to the claim?

Jimmy; Oh yes. I've been there with Dad. It's only a few miles from town.

Ladue; Well go ahead.

Jimmy; B-but you said you'd need me here today -

Ladue; I'll get along all right, Jimmy. You go on an' try your hand at diggin' gold!

Jimmy; Oh, thanks, Mr. Ladue! ( ) Hear that, Curly?

BARKS. FADING BACK

Jimmy; (FADING) Come on, boy!

DOOR OPEN WIND.

Ladue; Good luck to you!

Jimmy; (BACK) Thanks!

DOOR CLOSE. CUT WIND.

Ladue; (MUTTER) Lord, give that lad Your best. He's deservin' of it.

WIND FADE ULL UP AND TRAIL OUT.

FADE IN PICKAXE ON ROCK

Annecr; By lantern light inside the mine, Jake Tracy was using a pickaxe. He was deeply absorbed in his work and didn't hear Jimmy and Curly enter the tunnel. He didn't know that the boy and dog were watching until he paused to wipe away the sweat -

STOP AXE

Jake; Phew!

Jimmy; Hello, Jake.

Jake; (STARTLED) Wha- who - (ANGRY) You!

LOW GROWL

Jimmy; Quiet, Curly!

Jake; What are you doin' here?

Jimmy; I came to try my hand at diggin' ore.

Jake; You?

Jimmy; Yes. I thought I'd find an axe and try it. I didn't think you'd be here - after what you said about workin' alone. () Jake, I want to help you.

Jake; No, no, Kid. I couldn't use you. You'd be in the way.

Jimmy; Aw, Jake, I watched you and I'm sure I could swing that pickaxe. If this ore is the stuff you want, I- (BREAK) Jake! Look at this! It's gold!

Jake; Where'd you get that idea?

Jimmy; I've seen gold from a pocket, and this looks just like it!

Jake; You're wrong. That's not gold. Lot's of people make that same mistake. That stuff's worthless.

Jimmy; Oh -

HANDLING ORE.

Jake; Leave it alone -

Jimmy; I just want a couple of pieces of ore to take back to town with me.

Jake; (SHARPLY) I said, leave it- -

Jimmy; You said it was worthless.

Jake; Y-yeah. That's right. Help yourself. () Say, Kid, are you really interested in the minin' business?

Jimmy; (EAGER) Yes.

Jake; *I'LL SHOW YOU SOME REAL GOLD.*  
In that case, I've got somethin' to show you.  
Come with me.

Jimmy; All right, Jake. Where?

Jake; It's only a hundred yards or so ~~from the~~ *DOWN THE TRAIL*  
~~200~~ *BEYOND MY CABIN.*  
~~entrance to this tunnel.~~ Maybe it'll turn out  
to be a richer gold claim that your Pa ever  
dreamed of. Come on.

Jimmy; All right. (FADES) Come on, Curly.

BARKS FADING WITH STEPS

BREAK

A

SNEAK IN DOGSLED. WIND BG.

Annrcr; It was after dark that evening when Sergeant Preston returned to Dawson from the trip that had occupied most of the day. He drove his team directly to the home of Mary Williams.

STOP TEAM, ADLIB DOGS AS -

Preston; (ADLIB WHOAS)

Annrcr; The door of the house was opened suddenly -

Mary; (BACK) Sergeant Preston - is that you?

Pres; Yes Mrs. Williams -

Mary; (COMING IN) Have you seen anything of Jimmy?

Pres; No. Isn't he here?

Mary; No! I expected him at supper time. When he didn't arrive, I went to Ladue's kennels -

Pres; I saw him there this morning -

Mary; Yes, and, according to Mr. Ladue, Jimmy went to try his hand at digging gold in the tunnel! He left soon after you did -

Pres; Better go inside, Mrs. Williams. That shawl's not much protection against the wind and cold -

Mary; Something must have happened to Jimmy! Do you think he got lost on the trail?

STEPS IN. DOOR CLOSE. CUT WIND, DOGS.

Pres; I doubt it. It's only a few miles to your gold mine. There's a good trail and a bright moon -

Mary; After what happened to Bill- I- I'm afraid-

Pres; I'll go to the mine at once.

Mary; I'll go with you.

Pres; Very well. You may right in my sled.

Mary; (FADE BACK) I'll get a wrap. Jake Tracy has a cabin near the claim-

Pres; Yes. I know. And we'll probably find Jimmy talking to Jake about gold mining.

Mary; (COMING IN) I'm ready, Sergeant Preston!

BREAK

WIND BG. DOG SLED.

Annex; In the full moon's light the trail to the mine was clearly defined and the snow on either side looked silvery white. With Yukon King setting the pace, Preston's dogteam made good time to the small cabin where Jake Tracy lived alone.

DOGS STOPPING.

Preston; (WHOOAS)

Mary; There's light inside the cabin. Jake must be there.

Preston; I'll find out, Mrs. Williams. You stay in the sled.

RAP ON DOOR. DOOR OPENS.

Jake; Oh - Sergeant Preston: Hello!

Pres; Hello, Jake. We're looking for Jimmy Williams.  
Is he here?

Jake; No. He's not here. ( ) Is that Mary on the sled?

Pres ! Yes.

Mary; (BACK A BIT) Jake, haven't you seen Jimmy?

Jake; I saw him before noon, Mary. He came into the  
tunnel where I was workin'. We talked for about  
half an hour, then he set out for home.

Mary; He hasn't been home! Something must have happened  
to him! Are you sure he left the tunnel.

Jake; Oh yes ma'am. I'm sure of that.

START FADING IN BARKING DOG

Pres; We may be able to find tracks if we start from  
the mouth of the tunnel -

Jake; The way the wind's been blowin, I doubt if there'll  
be any tracks -

KING BARKING CLOSE.

Pres; King- what is it, boy?

Mary; Here comes another dog-

Pres; That looks like Curly.

Mary; Jimmy's dog! It is Curly!

DOG IN. ADLIB BARKS.

~~Jake; The the dogs seem friendly -~~

SUDDEN SNARLING.

Prest; Curly!

Jake; Get away! Get away from me!

Prest; DOWN!

~~Jake;~~ SUBSIDE SNARLS. MORE BARKS.

Jake; Tha- that dog never did like me-

Prest; Curly seems to want us to follow him.

Jake; Aw - those dogs sometimes are loco - I -

Prest; We'll follow Curly!

Jake; I'll get a parka and go with yuh!

Mary; If he was with Jimmy, he may take us to - to-  
( ) Oh, Sergeant † now I'm sure something has  
happened -

Prest; Steady, Mrs. Williams.

DOOR SLAMS.

Jake; (COMING IN) I'm ready.

Prest; Go ahead, Curly. On King!

DOGS BARKING, FADING.

Annecr; Curly raced along the trail toward Dawson for  
only a short distance, then turned sharply to  
the left and made new tracks across the wind  
blown snow toward a yawning pit.

Pres; (ADLIB WHOAS)

STOP SLED. DOGS WHILPERING

Annor; As Preston halted his team, Curly ran to the edge of the pit and looked down -

Prest; That's an old mine shaft.

Jimmy; (BACK)(HOLLOW) Help - Help -

Mary; That's Jimmy!

Jake; He- he must have been exploring -

Pres; (CALL) Jimmy! Are you hurt?

Jimmy; (BACK) My shoulder's hurt - I- I can't hardly move.

Jake; I don't see how he could fall down there -

Pres;! I have a rope on my sled.

Mary; Here it is! ( ) (CALL) Jimmy, we'll get you out.

Jake; Maybe I - uh- better go for help -

Pres; We'll not need help. I'll tie this rope around my waist. You, Jake, tie the other end to the sled.

Jake. I sawvy.

Pres; Help the team hold the sled until I get below. I'll tie the rope around Jimmy and the dogs will pull him out. Then you lower the rope again for me.

Jake; Right.

Mary; Do you think the team can pull you and Jimmy out?

Prest; Yes, Mary. King'll take charge of the dogs. He's done it before. ( ) King, you understand, Boy?

SHARP BARKS.

Pres; Good. (CALLS) Jimmy -

Jimmy; (BACK) Yes.

Pres; Can you see the top of that shaft?

Jimmy; (BACK) Yes.

Pres; I'm coming down to get you. Any idea how far down you are?

Jimmy; (BACK) I'd say about twenty feet -

Pres; About what I figured. ( ) Watch the rope, Jake. I'm going down.

Anncr; Preston put his weight against the rope which was tied to the sled, and saw that the dogs braced themselves. ~~Then he went over the edge of the shaft and lowered himself, pulling out the rope as he descended.~~ <sup>THEN HE DROPPED THE ROPE OVER THE EDGE OF THE SHAFT AND SLID DOWN.</sup> Presently his voice came from below-

Pres; (BACK)(HOLLOW) I'm with Jimmy now, Mrs. Williams. He'll be all right.

Mary; (SHARP CRY) Jake !

Jake; ~~(SHARP CRY)~~ (HARD) Stand back!

Mary; Don't cut that rope! (FRENZY) Sergeant, he's going to cut the rope -

Jake; (EFFORT) Keep away -

## DOGS ADLIB SNARLS

Mary; (STRUGGLE) No No- Sergeant - Help -

Prest; (BACK) Take him, King!

## WILD SNARL

Jake; (YELL OF PANIC)

## ADLIB STRUGGLE

Annor; King charged, leaping at Jake with fangs exposed. His jaws closed on the hand that held the knife - then, as Jake and King thrashed in the snow, Curly leaped to help.

Jake; (WILD EFFORT) Get away from me - stop - help - get away -

~~MARY~~ PREST (BACK) Hold him, King! ~~Hold him down there!~~

~~Prest; (BACK) On guard, King! ( ) Mary Mary, can you hear at me?~~

## AD LIB KING SNARLS

~~Mary; Yes, yes!~~

Prest; (BACK) <sup>MARY</sup> Does King have Jake down?

Mary; Yes!

Prest (BACK) Then drive my team! Drive hard! They've got to pull us both up at the same time!

Mary; (SHOUTING) Mush - Mush you huskies -

DOGS SNARLING AND BARKING.

Anncr;

Preston held Jimmy in one arm, and gripped the rope. He braced his feet on the side of the shaft to aid as much as possible while the strong dogs strained against the tugline. Inch by inch the sled moved forward raising the rope that extended from the sled into the pit. Finally the Mountie and Jimmy were safe on level ground-

Annex;           The dogs strained against the t ueline  
and the sled moved foward. Inch by inch the  
powerful huskies brought Sergeant Preston and  
the boy in his arms toward the top of the pit.  
Then finally -

Prest;           (EFFORT) That's it! Good work, fellows!

Mary;           Jimmy, Oh Jimmy, Dear -

Prest;           He's all right.

Jimmy;          Yes, Mom, I'm all right--

Jake;           (WAIL) Call off these dogs - every time I move  
they tighten their grips on me--

Prest;           That'll do, King. I'll take over!

Jimmy;          That'll do, Curly.

WIMPERS.

Mary;           You, Jake Tracy, you tried to cut that rope.

Jake;           No, I -

Mary;           You did!n And there's the knife.

Jimmy;          You pushed me into that pit!

Jake;           You lie--

Jimmy;          You did so! And I think you wanted to kill me.  
You thought I'd starve to death down there - and  
it would look like - like I'd fallen in by  
                  accident--

**JAKE**

(AD LIB)

Prest;           Steady, Jake! I want to hear more about this.

Jimmy; I found what I thought was gold on the floor of the <sup>MINE.</sup> ~~mine~~  
 JAKE SAID IT WAS WORTHLESS, BUT HE'D SHOW ME REAL GOLD. ~~at~~  
 Then Jake said he wanted to show me something. He  
 He brought me here, and told me to look into the pit.  
 When I did, he shoved me.

Jake; He lies!

Jimmy; I'm telling the truth! Here's some of the ore I  
 saw in the tunnel. Maybe it's gold. Maybe that's  
 why Jake wanted me out of the way.

Jake; No, no..

Preston; (CUT IN) Jake, I'm taking you to headquarters  
 for questioning. Put your hands behind your back.

Jake; For- for handcuffs?

Prest; Yes.

## BREAK

Anncr; At noon of the following day, Sergeant Preston  
 called at the home of Mary and Jimmy. He exchanged  
 greetings, then sat down in a chair. Curly lay on  
 the floor at Jimmy's feet.

Preston; How's your shoulder, Jimmy?

Jimmy; It's much better. It'll be as good as new in a  
 few days. ( ) Did Jake admit shoving me into  
 that shaft?

Preston; He admitted a lot of things. Before we questioned  
 him, we visited the tunnel. We found gold.

Mary; You did?

Jimmy; Then that ore I saw - it really is gold!

Prest; Yes. We found a rich pocket of gold. Also, we found several bags filled with it. Some hidden in the tunnel and some in Jake's cabin.

Mary; And he told us we were practically penniless!

Prest; When we questioned him, he became badly confused. We tripped him in lies time after time, and finally he broke down completely and confessed everything. He and Bill found that pocket of gold.

Mary; Oh-

Prest; Jake killed Bill to conceal the discovery. Then he worked secretly to get enough gold to buy you out.

Mary; Then he's the one who would have bought our share-

Prest; Yes. But now he'll pay the penalty for murder. You and Jimmy will be very wealthy -

Jimmy; Dad said the mine would make us rich.

Mary; (SOBS) P-poor Bill-

Prest; You have your son, Mary.

Mary; Yes, yes. I- I'm grateful for that - I'm grateful to you - and King-

Prest; And Curly/

Jimmy; Gosh - Curly is sure a real fine dog. () You're a hero, Curly.

SHORT BARK

Pres Yes, Jimmy. Curly is a hero. Thanks to him, this case is closed.

theme