

Sergeant Preston of the Yukon
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LOCK, STOCK AND BARREL
by Fran Striker

Number: 1211

Date: DEC. 21, 1954

(NAMES FROM WORLD ATLAS)

Preston

King

Donmiddle-aged, straight

Mary his wife

Jack 12 year old boy

Spike Heavy

Buck Heavy

Blairpoliceman - straight

Jimprospector

Voicebit

Voice 2bit

FILE

PROMO

"LOCK, STOCK & BARREL"

Annex;

When Sergeant Preston made a routine overnight stop in the town of Selkirk, he didn't suspect he'd be called on to meet ruthless outlaws and a pack of killer wolves! For fast action and high adventure, be sure to listen!

Sergeant Preston of the Yukon

Number: 1211

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(USUAL OPENING)

Annrc; In an isolated cabin in the hills several miles north of the Yukon town of Selkirk, Mary Andrews hummed happily as she prepared breakfast ...

Mary; (AD LIB HUMMING)

(AD LIB TABLE BIZ, B.G. THRU
DOOR OPENS AS:)

Annrc; When she heard the bedroom door open, she turned and smiled at Jackie, her twelve year old son --

Jack; (COMING IN) 'Morning, Mom!

Mary; Good morning, Jackie. Is your Dad nearly ready for breakfast?

Jack; Yes, Mom. He's - (BREAK AS:)

Don; (CUT IN, COMING IN) I'm ready, Mary. Those flapjacks sure smell good!

(AD LIB CHAIRS AS:)

Mary; Well sit down - both of you, and -- (BREAK)
Don! You're wearing your best clothes!

Don; (SITTING DOWN) Yes siree!

Mary; Clean shirt - fresh shave --

Don; (LAUGHS) This is my big day, Mary. It's our big day!

Jack; Dad, aren't you going to work at the gold claim today?

Don; Not today, son - nor tomorrow, nor the day after. () I'm sellin' out, lock stock and barrel! () Please pass the syrup.

Jack; Yes sir. () What's that mean, Dad?

Don; What's what mean?

Jack; Lock, stock and barrel.

Don; Oh. (LAUGHS) It means I'm selling the gold claim, the tools, this house, the furniture - everything! A man in Selkirk is buying us out and today I'm going to town to close the deal.

Jack; Oh --

Mary; Don, we agreed to say nothing about it until the deal was closed.

Don; It's as good as closed, Mary. Mr. Lennex and I are agreed on everything. It's just a matter of signing the papers and collecting the cash.

Jack; B -but Dad - if you sell this house, where'll we live?

Don; Son, your mother and I have big news for you. We're going b̄ack to the States!

Jack; (EAGERLY) We are?

Don; Yep. Back to Seattle!

Jack; Oh, golly, Dad, are we really?

Don; Yes, Jack. And we'll go back with enough cash to start a business - and to buy a little house of our own -

Jack; How soon, Dad? How soon are w e goin' to leave?

Don; Day after tomorrow on the last boat of the season.

Jack; Oh, Jiminy! Dad after tomorrow! Then we won't have to spend another winter here!

Don; Not on your life!

Mary; Thank goodness.

Jack; It's almost too good to be true!

Mary; Do you remember what it was like in Seattle, Jackie?

Jack; Sure I do, Mom! It's only three years since w e left there.

Mary; Three years. It seems ever so much longer. Oh, Dan, if anything goes wrong -- if Mr. Lennex doesn't buy you out --

Don; Nothing'll go wrong, Mary.

Mary; I -- I couldn't face another winter here.

Don; Don't worry. We'll close the deal today.

(BARKS OUTSIDE)

Don; Jack, I guess the dog knows you're up. He's barking.

(CHAIR SCRAPES)

Jack; (FADING) I'll let him in.

(DOOR OPENS, BACK - BARKS LOUDER)

Jack; (BACK) Come on in, Digger.

(WHINES COMING IN AS:)

(DOOR CLOSES, BACK)

Don; Hello there, Digger!

Jack; Golly, the fellas in Seattle will sure like Digger. I'll bet they ~~like~~ never ^{SAW} ~~seen~~ a dog as big and strong as he is --

Don; Oh - uh - Jack -- Digger's not going with us.

Jack; (STUNNED) N -not g-going with us ? But Dad --

Don; I told you, son - Mr. Lennex is buying us out, lock, stock and barrel. The house, the horse - everything, including Digger.

Jack; But Digger's one of us, Dad. He's one of the family!

Don; Son, Mr. Lennex especially wants the dog. He plans to make a sled dog of him.

Jack; No, no! I can't leave Digger here! We've been friends since he was a puppy!

Mary;
~~Don;~~ We couldn't take him with us on the boat, dear. He's too big. Furthermore, Seattle is no place for a dog like Digger.

Jack; (SNIFFLE) If - if Digger can't go with us - I -- I don't want to go!

Don; We'll get another dog in Seattle. I'll get you a dog of your own.

Jack; (SNIFFLES) I don't want another dog. I want Digger.

Don; I'm sorry, son - but it's out of the question for him to go with us.

Jack; (SNIFFLES) D - Digger -- P- p- poor Digger -- he -- he'll be lonesome.

(WHINES)

Mary; Jackie, finish y our breakfast. Then we--

Jack; (CUT IN) I - I don't w ant any more to eat.
(FADES) Come on, Digger. Let's go outside.

(WHINES, FADING BACK)

(DOOR OPEN & CLOSE)

Don; Too bad he's taking it that way.

Mary; How did you think he'd take it? He and the dog have been inseparable playmates for nearly two years!

Don; Jack'll have plenty of playmates in Seattle.

Mary; Don, perhaps we could take Digger with us --

Don; I told you Mr. Lennex ^{PARTICULARLY} wants him. He plans to work him.

Mary; But if you speak to Mr. Lennex. Explain the situation to him, and take a little less money --

Don; (CUT IN) Lennex and I have reached an agreement, and the whole deal may fall thru if I try to make changes. Now let's drop the subject.

BREAK

Anncr; Soon after breakfast, Don saddled his horse and rode to Selkirk. At noon, after concluding his business with Lennex, he went to the cafe for a mid-day meal.

(CAFE B.G.)

There he found a number of friends and acquaintances who were glad to hear of his good fortune.

Adlib; Congratulations, Don.
Glad you put over a good deal.
You sure got a fine price for an ~~unproved~~ unproved claim.

Voice; Is the deal all closed, Don?

Don; It's closed and I've got the cash. Ten thousand dollars.

Voice; Phew! That's a lot of money!

Voice 2; How does Mary feel about sellin' out?

Don; She's mighty glad to be leavin' before winter sets in.

Voice; I don't blame her.

Voice 2; I'd leave, too - - if I had the boat fare.

Adlib; (FADE UNDER:)

Ann cr; While Don Andrews stood with his friends at the long counter, two men, seated at a nearby table, followed the conversation with interest. They were known as Buck Collins and Spike Hawks.

Buck; (Low, Close) Ten thousand in cash, Spike.

Spike; (Low, Close) I heard it, Buck.

Buck; (Low, Close) We could use that money.

Spike; (Low, Close) We're thinkin' along the same line.

Buck; (Low, Close) Gettin' the cash?

Spike; (Low, Close) Yeah.

Buck; (Low, Close) How?

Spike; (Low, Close) We might waylay Andrews on his way home.

Buck; (Low, Close) D'you know where he lives?

Spike; (LOW, CLOSE) Yes. He has a cabin a few miles north of town. It's in an isolated locality.

Buck; (LOW, CLOSE) I'd rather rob him at the cabin than waylay him on the trail. There's less chance of a slip-up. We could visit his cabin tonight.

Spike; (LOW, CLOSE) Suits me. We'll do that.

(CAFE ROOM NOISES UP, THEN FADE OUT)

Annrc; Don Andrews remained in town, buying supplies until late afternoon. When he started for home, he didn't suspect he was being watched by Spike and Buck, who stood near the hitchrail in front of the General Store.

(STREET NOISES)

Don; (BACK) Giddap there!

(HOOF'S BACK, START & FADE OUT AS:)

Buck; We'll wait fifteen or twenty minutes before we start. We don't want to follow him too close.

Spike; I don't know about goin' all the way to his cabin. We could overtake him an' rob him when he reaches a desolate part of the trail --

Buck; (CUT IN) We'd have to leave him hogtied, Spike so he couldn't get the law after us before we have time to reach the hideout --

Spike; What's wrong with leavin' him tied? Someone'll find him sooner or later.

Buck; Wolves might find him first. There are plenty of them around here.

Spike; Um-m.

Buck; If wolves killed Andrews, we'd be to blame. I don't want to take a chance on a murder charge if we're ever caught.

Spike; All right. We'll do it your way.

(BREAK)

(FADE IN HOOFS)

Anncr; Soon after Don Andrews headed north from Selkirk, Sergeant Preston rode into town from the east and halted his black horse named Rex in front of the Constable's office.

Preston; (AD LIB WHOA'S)

(HOOFS STOPPING)

(KING BARKING AS:)

Anncr; Preston's faithful dog, Yukon King, ~~when~~ who had been running alongside the horse, seemed glad to see his master dismounting.

Preston; (DISMOUNTING) You and Rex will be glad to rest, eh King?

(DOOR OPENS BACK)

Blair; (BACK) Hi there, Sergeant Preston!

Preston; (CALLS) Hello, Blair!

BARKS, AD LIB

STEPS, COMING IN AS:)

Blair; (FADING IN) Glad to see you! You, too King!
How've you been, Sergeant?

Preston; Fine! How's everything in the Constable's office?

Blair; First rate.

Preston; King, you stay here, boy. Keep an eye on Rex.

(SHORT BARK)

(STEPS SUSTAIN AS:)

Blair; I heard barking and thought it sounded like King,
so I looked out and sure enough, I was right.
(LAUGHS)

(STEPS IN & DOOR CLOSE)

Preston; I had some business at Indian Creek. When it
was finished, I decided I might as well come
here while I was so near.

Blair; Glad you did. Sit down, Sergeant.

(BIZ OF CHAIRS AS:)

Preston; I'll sit close to the stove. The heat feels
good.

Blair; Cold traveling?

Preston; Mighty cold. In fact, I ran into some snow in
the high country.

Blair; I expect we'll have snow here in a few days.

Preston; Looks like an early winter. Perhaps I'd better take the boat to Dawson.

~~Blair; You going to Dawson from here?~~

~~Preston; Yes. And I'm not carrying gear to make snow camps on the trail.~~

Blair; It's a long trip to Dawson, Sergeant. You should take the boat. You could take Rex and King on board with you.

Preston; Yes. That's what I'll do.

Blair; The boat leaves the day after tomorrow - last trip of the season. Meanwhile, I'd be mighty glad to have you stay with me.

Preston; Well thanks, Blair.

Blair; My cabin's not fancy, but I'm a good cook. (LAUGHS)

Preston; I'll accept your hospitality.

Blair; Good! We'll have a chance to talk as long as we want.

Preston; Right. How soon are you going to leave the office?

Blair; I'm ready to leave now. Let's go.

BREAK

Annecr; In due time Don Andrews reached home and stabled the horse. Wholly unaware of the disaster that was about to strike, he entered the house and called gaily --

(DOOR OPENS)

Don; Hi there, Mary!

(DOOR CLOSES, STEPS IN)

Mary; (BACK & FADING IN) Don! Thank goodness you're home! Did - did you --

Don; (CUT IN) The deal is closed, Mary!

Mary; (SIGHS) Thank goodness! I - I couldn't have endured another winter here!

(START WOLF HOWL, DISTANT)

Don; well, we --

Mary; (CUT IN) wait! Listen!

(FINISH HOWL)

Mary; (CUE) Did you hear that?

Don; Just a wolf howlin'.

Mary; Oh, it'll be wonderful to live in civilized country - where there are no wild animals prowling in the night. () Did Mr. Lennex pay you the money?

Don; Sure thing! I spent some of it for a few things we'll need for the trip. () Where's Jack?

Mary; He's feeding the dog.

Don; (CHUCKLES) I've some news for him.

Mary; You'll probably find him in the shed where Digger sleeps. The poor boy. He spent most of the day with Digger. He's terribly broken up by the thought of leaving his playmate --

Don; I thought about that all the way to town, Mary. I remembered when I was a boy of twelve. My dog died, and I -- well, I realized how Jack felt. So I spoke to Mr. Lennex about Digger --

Mary; (TENSE) Yes -?

Don; He was mighty fair. He said it would be agreeable to him if we kept Digger. He paid me a hundred dollars less than the original agreement.

Mary; Oh, I'm so glad! And Jackie'll be so happy! Do you know he really meant it when he said he'd rather stay here than leave without Digger?

(HOOF'S STOPPING OUTSIDE AS:)

Don; He'll not have to leave without him. I --

Mary; (CUT IN) I think I heard horses stop outside.

Don; Yeah. Maybe it's Jim Fenten. He's the prospector who lives north of here. I saw him ~~and~~ in town. He said he might stop in on his way home. I reckon he brought someone with him.

(RAP ON DOOR)

Don; I'll go to the door.

Mary; (FADING BACK) Supper'll be ready in a little while.

(DOOR OPENS, WIND, WOLF BACK)

Don; Hi there, Hi - - (BREAK) Oh.

Buck; Howdy, Mister.

Don; I thought you were someone else. But come in out of the cold - both of you.

(STEPS IN AS:)

Buck; Thanks.

(DOOR CLOSE, CUT WIND AS:)

Buck; We're on our way to Selkirk, but we got lost. Thought maybe you could give us directions.

Don; Yes - - (BREAK) Did you say you were going to Selkirk?

Spike; That's right.

Don; I thought I saw you two in Selkirk a few hours ago.

Buck; Yeah?

Don; Yes. Weren't you there - in the cafe?

Spike; We were there, Andrews. (EFFORT)

Mary; (GASP) A gun!

Spike; Steady! Both of you, stand still!

Don; (ANGRY) What's the idea!

Buck; (CUT IN SHARPLY) Don't try any fast moves!

Spike; Do as you're told an' you won't get hurt!

Don; what do you want?

Spike; Money.

Mary; (GASP) Oh no --

Spike; The cash you got for sellin' your claim!

Don; B - b -but I -- we --

Buck; Don't stall and don't try to lie. we saw you
in the cafe. You had the money in your wallet.
Hand it over.

Don; (SUDDEN EFFORT) Not without --

Buck; (CUT IN, EFFORT) You fool!

Mary; (OVERLAP) Don, lookout!

Spike; (EFFORT) Get him!

(BLOW, FALLING BODY AS:)

Buck; (EFFORT) There!

Mary; Don!

Spike; Hold it, lady!

Mary; You -- you killed --

Buck; He's not dead!

Mary; You -- you struck him with your gun.

Buck; Only hard enough to knock him out. Now you follow orders or you'll get the same.

Mary; You -- you beasts --

Spike; Watch her, Buck - while I see if the wallet's in his pocket.

Buck; I'm watchin' her.

Spike; (EFFORT) He had it in the inside coat pocket.
() Here it is.

Buck; Is the cash inside?

Spike; Yeah. (CHUCKLES) This is a good haul.

Mary; You -- you'll never get away with this! You'll be caught and --

Buck; Save the talk, Mrs. Andrews. () Spike, make sure Andrews is alive.

Spike; He's all right - just unconscious.

Buck; Good. Now we'll tie and gag him.

Mary; No, no! Please don't do that --

Buck; Quiet! We're goin' to tie and gag you too,

Mary; Please -- you have your money. That's all you want. Please go.

Spike; An' leave you free to run for help? Sorry, M'am. But we've got to have plenty of time to make our getaway.

Buck; I'll get some rope, Spike. (FADING) Keep an eye on those two.

(BREAK)

(WIND, UP, THEN UNDER - MUFFLED)

(DISTANT WOLF HOWL)

Annrc; Meanwhile, in the small shed a short distance behind the cabin, Jack saw Digger suddenly stop eating. The big dog raised his head and growled softly.

(LOW GROWL)

Jack; Go ahead an' finish your meal, Digger. Don't pay any attention to those howlin' wolves.

(GROWLS, AD LIB THRU)

Jack; Please, Digger - eat your food. Dad told me to always take away your food if you don't eat it right away. (FADING) Come on, boy. It's good food --

Annrc; But the dog had lost interest in food. And it was not the distant wolf howl that caused him to growl. Instinct told him something was wrong inside the house. He moved away from the pan of food and clawed at the door of the shed.

(CLAWING & GROWLING)

Jack; No, Digger - I can't let you out. Dad doesn't want you loose at night. You'll have to stay here 'til morning.

(GROWLS)

Jack; I've got to go in to supper.
Gosh, fella - I've got to take away the food.
() I'll come back and say goodnight to you ~~LATER~~
~~after supper~~. Now stay there, Digger. Stay
there, boy.

(GROWLS)

Stay back --

(DOOR OPEN, WIND STRONGER) (CLOSE
DOOR)

Anncr; ~~Grabbing the paw that held the dog's unfinished~~
~~meal,~~ Jack hurried through the darkness. He
paused when he saw two horses standing at the
side of the house where there was shelter from
the wind.

Jack; Someone must be inside. Wonder who's there --

Anncr; Peering through the small side window, the
twelve-year old boy was gripped by fear when he
saw his parents gagged and tied. Two rough
looking men were just leaving thru the front door.

(DOOR CLOSE, BACK)

Jack heard their voices in front of the house.

Spike; (BACK) That was the easiest cash we ever took!

Buck; (BACK) Yep. (SUDDENLY) Hey! Wait a minute --

Spike; (BACK) What's wrong?

Buck; (BACK) We forgot the boy.

Spike; (BACK) What boy?

Buck; (BACK) We heard Andrews had a son-

Spike; (BACK) That's right! I didn't see anything of him.

Buck; (BACK) We didn't look for him. He might be in the bedroom - or the woodshed-

Spike; (BACK) Or the barn -

Buck: (BACK) Where ever he is, we've gotta find him. We'll look inside the house first.

DOOR OPEN AND CLOSE, BACK.

Anncr; Panic stricken, Jack ran back to the shed -

DOOR OPENS, ADLIB DOG WHINES EAGERLY.

Jack; (HALF SOBBING) Digger, we've got to get away from those men. They might kill us if they catch us. (EFFORT) Hold still, fella, while I fasten this leash - We've got to stick together- () There! Come on, Digger-

WHIMPER AND WHINE MORE EAGER

Anncr; Outside the shed the dog tugged at the leash, trying to go to the house where he knew there was trouble -

Jack; No, no, Digger, we've got to go the other way! We've got to get away! We'll try to hide in the woods - () Come on, boy - that's it! (FADING) This way, fella -

WIND UP. DIST. WOLF HOWL.
FADE WIND

Annecr; After searching without success for Jack, the two thieves mounted their horses and rode away. About half an hour later, Jim Fenten who had promised to call, drew rein and dismounted in front of the lighted cabin. He rapped several times, then tried the door and found it unlocked.

(DOOR OPENS)

Jim; (GASP) Great scott!

(DOOR CLOSE, FAST STEPS)

Annecr; He drew a knife from his belt as he hurried to Mary's side.

Jim; (EFFORT) I'll get rid o' that gag first of all. There!

Mary; (DRY MOUTH) Oh-h - the - thank you --

Jim; Now for the ropes --

Mary; Never mind me. Help Don -

Jim; (EFFORT) You'll be free in a jiffy. One more rope. There you are. () Who in tarnation tied an' gagged you?

Mary; Two thieves! They came here - they knocked Don out and stole our money.

Jim; (EFFORT) There, Don. C'n you talk?

Don; Y - yes.

Jim; I'll cut those ropes on your hands and feet.

Mary; Don, Don - are you all right?

Don; I'm all right, Mary. Just a headache. I - I guess I was unconscious when they tied me.

Mary; Yes.

Jim; You're free, Don.

Don; Thanks, Jim! Lucky you came. () Where's Jack?

Mary; I haven't seen him. He hasn't come in from the shed.

Don; Maybe he's still there.

Mary; (GASP) If he isn't - - () Oh, Don do you think those crooks found him?

Don; I'll see if he's - (MOAN)

Jim; (EFFORT) Lemme help you stand.

Don; (WEAK) Just a - a little dizzy. Be all right in a minute.

Jim; I'll go to the shed with you.

Mary; So will I.

(WIND UP & UNDER:)

Annrc; A moment later, the worst fears of the parents were realized. The door of the shed was open and both the boy and dog were gone.

Mary; (CRY OUT) What've they done to Jackie?

Don; Heaven only knows! Maybe he's hiding. (CALLS)
Jack! Jack, where are you?

(DISTANT WOLF HOWL)

Mary; (CRY OUT) The wolves! (SOBS) Oh my ~~baby~~^{Boy} - my Boy
~~baby!~~

Don; Steady, Mary. Steady! We'll find him.

Mary; (SOBBING) Where is he? Where is he --

Jim; Don, my horse is saddled an' waitin'. I'll ride
back to town for the Constable --

Don; But I --

Jim; You'd better stay here with Mary. (FADING)
Both of you, keep your chins up!

(WIND FULL UP, FADE OUT)

Annrc; After Jim left for town, Don continued calling
his son's name, but heard no reply. He and Mary
returned to the house to wait. The minutes dragged
for nearly an hour before the fearful parents heard
the welcome sound of horses hoofs.

Don; At last!

(FAST STEPS, DOOR OPENS) (DOG BARKS)

Jim; (BACK) Don, here's Constable Blair and Sergeant
Preston is with him. So is Yukon King.

Mary; Find our boy. Oh do find Jackie.

Preston; (COMING IN) Come on, King. We've a job to do!

(BARKS, COMING IN AS:)

Don; Constable, we --

Blair; (CUT IN) Jim told us what'd happened, Don.
This is Sergeant Preston.

Adlib; (ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS)

Mary; You must find our boy! He's only twelve and -
(FADING) He's disappeared. Never mind the crooks
or the money! Just find our son!

Annrc; Sergeant Preston took King to the boy's bedroom
where the big dog picked up the scent from blankets
and clothing... then to the shed where Jack and
Digger had been.

(WIND B.G.) (KING WHIMPERS EAGERLY)

(HOOFS APPROACHING)

Preston; King has the scent.

Mary; Will he be able to find Jackie?

Preston; I'm sure of it, Mrs. Andrews.

(HOOFS IN)

Blair; (COMING IN) I brought our horses, Sergeant.

Preston; Good.

Don; Do you want me to go with you, Sergeant?

Preston; You stay here with your wife. You stay with them,
Jim. The Constable and I'll follow King. ()
Ready, King?

(BARKS)

Preston; All right, boy. Go ahead! On King!

(BARKS FADING)

Preston; (MOUNTING) Come on, Blair. Giddap, Rex!

(HOOF'S START, FADE)

(WIND UP & UNDER:)

Annrc; Meanwhile, with Digger at his side, Jack had hurried thru the dark woods until he was exhausted. He had lost all sense of direction, and when he reached the base of a cliff, he didn't know which way to turn. He unleashed the dog as he said-

(WIND IN TREES, B.G.) (WOLVES BACK)

Jack; Digger, I - I'm not going to lead you any more.
~~Digger - I - I'm afraid we - we're lost. I -~~
 I - I don't know where to go - and
 I'm so tired - and hungry --

(WHIMPERS)

Annrc; The boy sank to the ground close to the cliff. Digger, fully aware of the nearby wolves stood at his side.

(LOW GROWLS) (WOLVES HOWLING)

Annrc; The dog knew a wolf pack was closing in - moving cautiously, but moving ever nearer to the boy who was too weary to realize his great peril.

(GROWLS)

(WIND, FULL UP THEN UNDER:)

Annrc; Sergeant Preston and the Constable had been traveling for some time, following King thru the woods. Suddenly the dog halted --

(HORSES, AD LIB)

Preston; Draw rein, Blair.

Adlib; (WHOA'S)

(HOOF'S STOP)

Preston; what is it, King?

(WOLVES SUDDENLY START SNARLING, BACK)

(DOG BARKS AND SNARLS BACK)

Blair; Wolves!

Preston; Somewhere ahead of us!

Blair; They're fighting!

Preston; I hear a dog! (EFFORT) On King! Come on, Rex!

(BARKS, HOOF'S SUSTAIN AS:)

Annrc; ~~Racing after King thru the woods,~~ Racing through the woods behind King, Preston and the Constable heard the sounds of battle more clearly and presently, in the dim starlight, saw the battle at the base of the cliff! Digger was doing his best in a losing fight against four huge wolves when Yukon King charged in to help.

(FURIOUS BATTLE AS:)

Adlib; (WHOA'S)

(HOOF'S STOPPING)

Preston; There's the boy! Hold your fire, Blair! Don't shoot! You might hit him!

Blair; But those wolves! Four of them against King and the other dog!

Preston; (DISMOUNTING) Dismount! We'll try to get close enough to help!

(FIGHT UP & UNDER:)

Annecr; Yukon King had fought his way to Digger's side. Then the two courageous dogs became a bulwark of fighting fury between the hungry wolves and the terror-stricken boy who pressed hard against the cliff.

(FIGHT UP & UNDER:)

Annecr; Yukon King and Digger held the pack at bay until Preston and Blair reached a position at one side where they could use their guns without danger of hitting Jack.

Preston; Let 'em have it!

(WD LIB SHOTS) (WOLF HOWLS OF PAIN)

Blair; ~~in a moment~~ We got two of them.

Preston; There's the third-
(HOWLS FADING FAST AS:)

Blair; - and the fourth!

~~Preston; They're running! (SHOUT) Hold it, King! Let~~
Preston; That does it!
~~—~~

Blair; (SHOUTS) Jack, are you all right?

Jack; (BACK, SOBBING) Don't kill me! Please don't kill me --

Preston; We're not going to hurt you, Jack. We're going to take you home.

Jack; You -- you're a Mountie!

Blair; Jack, you know me.

Jack; Oh, Constable Blair (SOBBING)

Blair; This is Sergeant Preston!

Jack; My Mom - my Dad -- they - they --

Preston; They're all right, son. They're waiting for us to bring you back.

Jack; There -there we re two crooks. I saw them. They were in our house --

Blair; We know about them, Jack.

Preston; We'll follow their trail, just as we followed your's. We'll start as soon as you're safe at home.

(WIND UP, FADE OUT)

Annrc; At midnight, the lamps were still lighted in the small cabin. Don sat in the living room with his head bowed. He looked up as Mary came from the bedroom.

(CLOSE DOOR SOFTLY)

Mary; Jack's sound asleep, and Digger's lying beneath the bed.

Don; Thank heaven for that dog, Mary. If it hadn't been for him. . . .

Mary; To think we were going to leave him here --

Don; It looks as if we'll all be left here - without a claim or a home --

Mary; Don, listen to me, dear. I don't mind.

Don; Huh --?

Mary; I know that without the money we can't go back to Seattle, but that doesn't matter! Our boy is back with us -- alive - well! That's all that matters.

Don; But honey --

Mary; If we have to leave the cabin, we'll go to Selkirk. There must be some way to earn a living there.

(RAP ON DOOR)

Don; The door!

Mary; Oh --

Don; (CALLS) Come in!

(DOOR OPENS)

Mary; Sergeant Preston!

Preston; (BACK) Glad you're still up.

(STEPS IN, DOOR CLOSING)

Preston; (FADING IN) We're on our way to Selkirk. We saw the lights, so we stopped. I think this is your property, Don.

Don; My wallet!

Preston; The money's inside. The crooks had no chance to spend any of it.

Now

Mary; (GASP) Oh, Don -

Don: Mary! Our Money! Our trip to the States!

Mary: Sergeant! You caught the crooks!

Preston; Yes. We found them in a cave they were using for a hideout. They're wearing handcuffs now, and Constable Blair and King are guarding them. They're wanted for a number of other robberies, so you'll not have to testify against them.

Don: Good! You men certainly work fast!

Preston; King was a great help to us. () How is your son?

Don; Fine. He's none the worse for his adventure.

Mary; He's asleep, Sergeant, but if you want to see him -

Preston; No, no. I don't want to disturb him.

Dan; He'll sure be happy to learn that we'll be able to take the boat - just as we planned.

Mary; No happier than I am! After three years here, I -
() Oh, Sergeant, I don't mean to say anything against your country. The Yukon is a wonderful place but - well -

Preston; I understand, Mrs. Andrews.

Don; We've nothing against the Yukon, Sergeant. After all, we did mighty well here -

Mary; It's just that Seattle was our home -

Preston; Yes. I know it was.

Don: Of course - there's a lot more opportunity here -
 a man can grow with the country - and there's
 something about the Yukon - the vastness - the
 freedom - nervousness and the great untapped resources -

Preston; People who come here never forget the Yukon. It
 gets into their blood.

Mary: It has been a wonderful experience. The winters
 are cold - there are hardships - but all-in-all -

Preston; I often think the hardships are part of the Creator's
 plan to discourage the weaklings and the Fainthearted
 so the Yukon's treasures will be reached only by
 strong men of good courage.

Mary: Oh - I- I hadn't thought of it that way -

Preston; You folks are returning to Seattle, but in the
 spring when the ice is melted and the boats are
 running, I'll be watching for you, because I
 think that you - ~~like many others~~ - will find
 that this great, new territory has made you its
 own. I think you'll be back.

Don; Sergeant, you may be right. Who knows?

DOOR OPENS. WIND. HOOFS CLUMPING.

Preston; Good luck to you - and good night.

ADLIB: (GOODNIGHTS)

Mary; And thanks, Sergeant! Thanks for everything!

DOOR CLOSE. WIND FULLER

BARKS

Blair; (SLIGHTLY BACK) All set, Sergeant?

Preston; All set, Blair! The case is closed.

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