

Sergeant Preston of the Yukon  
Created by George W. Trendle

The Fourth Man

By Fran Striker

Number: 1242

Date: APRIL 7, 1955

*Striker*

*Not sent to SK*

Preston

King

Pete Raven .... heavy

Butch ..... heavy

Lefty ..... heavy

Red Gage ..... heavy

Hank Prindle ... storekeeper

Const ..... policeman

Voice ..... bit

Voice 2 ..... bit

*PBL*

PROMO-"THE FOURTH MAN"

Annecr;

The trail of escaped convicts brought Sergeant Preston face to face in a desperate showdown with four ruthless outlaws determined to escape justice. What happened? Well, for thrill-packed action and hair-trigger danger, be sure (ETC.)

Sergeant Preston of the Yukon

THE FOURTH MAN

Number: 1242

Date: 4-17-55

(USUAL OPENING)

Annrc; After blazing a trail of crime throughout the Yukon, Pete Raven and his two equally ruthless partners were captured and sentenced to life terms in prison. But within a year, the lawless trio made their escape. With neither food nor weapons they traveled on foot in cold winter weather for nearly ~~two hours~~ <sup>TWO DAYS</sup> to reach the town of White Ridge, some distance north of Dawson City.

(SNEAK IN WIND & STEPS IN SNOW)

Annrc; Moving through the early evening darkness, they saw the lighted general store---

Raven; There it is, boys! We'll find all we need in that store.

Lefty; Food!

Butch; An' weapons!

Raven; Yes, an' warm parkas, and some clothes to replace these prison outfits.

Lefty; I'm half starved, half froze an' tired enough to sleep standin' up.

Raven; Sleep's the one thing we can't get, Lefty. Not for some time.

Lefty; Raven, you mean we can't stay here in town for a while?

Raven; Not a chance! We're too well known. We gotta keep goin'.

Lefty; All the way to Red Gage's cabin?

Raven; Yes.

Butch; That means at least twelve hours more of walkin'!

Raven; Twelve hours more of walkin' is better'n spendin' the rest of our lives in prison!

Lefty; But what if he won't let us hide out in his cabin?

Raven; He's gotta let us! He used to be one of our gang. He'd have gone to prison with us, if we hadn't kept our mouths shut about him.

Lefty; Yeah, but--

Raven; I'll handle Red Gage, and I guarantee we'll have the use of his cabin until we're ready to make the break for the Alaskan border.

Butch; (LOWER) Better talk softer, we're close to the store.

Raven; (LOWER) Stop here a minute.

(STEPS HALT)

Butch; (LOW) The street seems to be deserted.

Raven; (LOW) We're in luck on that score. Now here's how we'll do this. I'll go into the store first. You two come right behind me. (FADING) Lefty, you stay on watch just inside the door--

(WIND UP, FADE OUT)

Annce; A few minutes later, Hank Prindle, owner of the White Ridge store, was about to lock up for the night when he heard the door open--

(DOOR OPEN, WIND, STEPS IN AS:)

Hank; Come right in, gents. I'm still open for business.

(DOOR CLOSE, CUT WIND)

Raven; Glad to hear it.

Hank; I- (GASP) Those look like prison clothes! (MORE REACT ON) Y-you're Pete Raven!

Raven; (EFFORT) Right!

Hank; (STRUGGLING) Leggo me! (START YELL, WHICH IS CHOKED OFF) (SUSTAIN AD LIB STRUGGLE)

(AD LIB SCUFFLING)

Butch; Hold him, Pete! Don't let him yell! Keep yer hand over his mouth for a second -

Raven; (EFFORT) He's hard to hold! Get somethin' to hit him with-

Butch; (EFFORT) This hunk o' firewood'll do!

Raven; (EFFORT) Hurry!

Butch; (EFFORT)

(BLOW, FALLING BODY AS:)

Butch; That got him.

Raven; Good. () See anyone out in front, Lefty?

Lefty; (BACK) No. The street's still empty.

Butch; The storekeeper's unconscious. What'll we do about him?

Raven; (EFFORT) Here's some rope. Tie his hands and feet while I gag him.

Butch; He recognized you!

Raven; Yeah, and in another minute, he'd probably have recognized you and Lefty. Our pictures were on handbills for a long time before the law caught us.

Butch; Um.

Raven; Lefty, you'd better lock that door and blow out the lamps so's no one'll come in.

Lefty; (BACK) I'll lock the door, but we've gotta have light to find the things we need.

Raven; Leave <sup>ONE</sup> ~~the~~ lamp burnin', but turn it low. (FINAL EFFORT) There. That gag'll keep this gent quiet after he comes to.

Butch; Maybe we oughtta kill him so he can't tell the law we came here.

Raven; The lawmen will figure it out even if the storekeeper doesn't tell 'em. They'll know we needed supplies an' <sup>DECIDE</sup> ~~figure~~ we stole 'em at the first opportunity after breakin' out of prison.

Butch; That's so. ( ) There. He's hog-tied.

Raven; He won't be found until morning, an' by that time we'll be at Red Gage's cabin. ( ) Now let's find grub, then we'll see about the clothes an' other things we need.

(BREAK)

(DOGS AND SLED)

Anner; The following morning, Sergeant Preston was returning from a patrol with his great dog Yukon King running as a free lead ahead of the dogteam. As he entered the town of White Ridge, Preston saw a small crowd gathered in front of the general store. He stepped on the brake of his sled and shouted--

Preston; (AD LIB WHOA'S)

(DOGS STOP, CROWD B.G.)

Voice; (BACK) Here's Sergeant Preston. (COMING IN)  
Golly, sergeant, it's a good thing you're here.

Preston; Something wrong?

Voice; Yes. When I came here to the store for supplies a little while ago, I found Hank Prindle gagged and tied. He'd been robbed.

Voice 2;       The Constable's in the store with him right  
now, Sergeant.

Preston;       I'll go inside. ( ) Stay there, King! Watch  
the dogs.

(BARK)

(DOOR OPEN AND CLOSE, CUT CROWD

B.G., STEPS AS:)

Const;        (FADE IN) Sergeant Preston!

Preston;       Hello, Constable. ( ) Morning, Hank!

Hank;         Sergeant! Pete Raven and two other crooks came  
here last night---

Preston;       Pete Raven!

Const;        He must've broken out of prison.

Preston;       He did. He and his two pals escaped yesterday  
morning.

Const;        I hadn't heard about it.

Preston;       You've no telegraph office here. I got the news  
last night at the telegraph station in Mound City.

Hank;         I recognized Pete Raven! I called him by name,  
and he grabbed me an' one of his pals knocked  
me out. When I came to, I was gagged and hogtied  
so I couldn't move. Those crooks robbed me of  
plenty!

Const;        You're lucky they didn't kill you.

Preston;       What did they steal, Hank?



Hank; I haven't had time to make a full check, but I know they cleaned out the cash drawer, an' they took guns, ammunition, clothes an' fur parkas.

Const; The wind has probably filled in their tracks, so I suppose there's no hope of trailin' them.

Hank; The ornery polecats! They even had the nerve to change their clothes before they left here.

Preston; They did?

Hank; Yep. They left their old prison clothes.

Preston; (ALERT) That was a mistake! Where are the prison clothes?

Hank; Right there in the corner--

Preston; From those clothes King will be able to get the scent of the outlaws!

FAST STEPS AS

-- and I'm sure he can follow that scent!

DOOR OPENS

Preston; I'll call him in. (CALL) King!

BARK, BACK

Preston; (CALL) Come here, King!

BARKS COMING IN

Preston; I have a job for you!

(BREAK)

Anncr; Meanwhile, the escaped outlaws, after walking all night, had reached the isolated cabin home of Red Gage, a former member of the gang. While they ate breakfast, Pete Raven told of the jailbreak, then said--

Raven; - - - and now, Gage, we figure on hidin' out here in your cabin.

Gage; (DUBIOUSLY) Um-m -- for how long?

Raven; (SHARPLY) I don't know how long. We're goin' to stay here 't'ıl I figure the search for us has died down, so it'll be safe for us to head for the Alaska border.

Gage; But if you three are found here, I'll be in trouble--

Raven; You'd have been in trouble long ago if Butch, Lefty an' I hadn't protected you!

Butch; That's right, Gage. The police knew there was a fourth man in our gang and tried to make us name him.

Raven; If we had, you'd have gone to prison with us.

Gage; But--

Raven; (CUT IN, HARD) You c'n still go to prison,  
if we tip off the law on a few things we know  
about you. And that's just what we'll do, if  
we're captured!

Gage; So that's it, eh?

Raven; Yes!

Gage; You win, Raven.

Raven; You're showin' good judgement.

Butch; I'm tired. I gotta get some sleep.

Raven; We all need sleep.

Gage; I've got plenty of blankets, but only one bunk.

Lefty; The floor's good enough for me.

Butch; Me too. I c'n sleep anywhere.

Raven; Then I'll take the bunk. And Gage, while we're  
sleepin', you'd better stand watch.

Gage; Think someone's followin' your trail?

Raven; I don't know. I hope the wind has filled in our  
tracks, but just to be on the safe side, you'd  
better keep an eye on the route between here an'  
White Ridge. (FADES) Wake us up an' let us  
know if you see anyone comin'.

(BREAK)

Annex; King had no difficulty following the scent of the outlaws. The big dog set a fast pace for the team that pulled the sled with Sergeant Preston riding on the runners. By noon, Preston reached the crest of a long hill not far from the outlaws' hideout. Red Gage, watching through a window of his cabin saw the distant figure of the man and dogteam against the white snow. He held binoculars to his eyes for a moment, then rushed to the bunk where Pete Raven slept--

(FAST STEPS)

Gage; (EFFORT) Pete, Pete! Wake up!

Raven; (WAKING) Huh -? Wha--

Gage; (EFFORT) wake up! There's trouble!

Raven; (AWAKE) What's wrong?  
~~Gage;~~

Gage; There's a man headin' this way with a sled an' dogteam--

Raven; (EFFORT) Yeah?

Gage; I think he's Sergeant Preston!

Raven; Preston! (EFFORT) Lefty! Butch! Wake up!  
(SUSTAIN AD LIB EFFORTS AS:)

Adlib; (WAKING)

Gage; (OVERLAP) I saw his dog runnin' as a free lead. It looks like Yukon King!

Raven; Wake up, yuh lazy galoots! Sergeant Preston's headin' this way!

Adlib; (STIR)

Gage; Here's the binoculars, Raven. You take a look at him.

(FAST STEPS AS:)

Gage; (CONTINUING) He's comin' down this side of Round Mountain.

Raven; That's a big dogteam-

Gage; Preston uses thirteen dogs in his team, not countin' King.

Raven; That sure looks like Preston's outfit.

Butch; What'll we do?

Lefty; We can't outrun that outfit!

Raven; Take it easy. We got plenty of time before he gets here.

Butch; How much time?

Lefty; That man don't look more'n a mile away.

Raven; Maybe so, but he can't jump across Windy Canyon.

Butch; That's right.

Raven; Remember the route we followed to get here, Lefty?

Lefty; I was too tired to notice.

Raven; At the foot of that hill, there's a deep canyon. Preston'll have to travel along the rim for about five miles before he reaches the slope leadin' into the canyon. Ain't that so, Gage?

Gage;            Yep. Then he'll have to come back along the floor of the canyon to reach the slope that'll bring him to the top on this side.

Lefty;           He'll get here sooner or later. Then what'll we do?

Butch;           We'll have to shoot him!

Raven;           We may not have a chance.

Butch;           Why not, Raven?

Raven;           Yuh fool, if Preston's trailed us from White Ridge, he knows he's trailin' men who're likely to kill him. D'ya think he'll drive right up here so we can shoot him?

Butch;           What will he do?

Raven;           I don't know.

Butch;           We're four against one.

Raven;           So was the Fenton gang, but Preston captured all four of them. We're not goin' to wait for him to get here an' trap us in some way. I've got a better plan.

Butch;           What is it?

Raven;           Gage, you go into the canyon an' meet Preston!

Gage;           Me!

Raven;           Yes. He doesn't know you!

Gage; Why should I tangle with Preston? You're the ones who're dodgin' the law!

Raven; Preston knows us! So does his dog. You c'n talk to him an' he'll never suspect a thing.

Gage; Talk to him! What good'll that do?

Raven; ~~Wanna~~ Get him off guard an' watch for the chance to shoot him.

Gage; Raven, you've heard about Yukon King. If I so much as raise a hand against Preston, that dog'll be at me!

Raven; Take care of King the way trappers take care of wolves.

Gage; How?

Raven; They put poisoned meat in their traps. The wolf eats it an' drops dead! What's more, Gage, you know that! You've done a lot of trappin' since you came here.

Gage; But I - I've got no poison.

Raven; No?

FAST STEPS

~~Raven~~  
- Raven

(SHARPER) Then what d'ya call the stuff in this can?

Gage; Oh - i -u h-

Raven; (SARCASM) Maybe you forgot you had it here on the shelf.

Gage; Y-yeah - I forgot-

Raven; (SHARPER) Stop stallin', Gage! D'you want to go to prison for the rest of your life - or help us?

Gage I- I'm willin' to help you men, but I don't see--

Raven; (CUT IN) I've got a plan all worked out. The hood of your parka will make it hard for Preston to get a good look at your face, so you should be able to pose as an old man -

Gage; An old man?

Raven; Yes! An old man who's in trouble! Now listen careful an' I'll tell you how to get rid of Preston and his dog!

BREAK

COMMERCIAL

Annrc; While Gage poisoned several pieces of meat, Pete Raven gave detailed instructions for the murder of Sergeant Preston and Yukon King. Then Gage left the cabin and headed toward the nearby canyon.

SNEAK IN DOGS AND TEAM

Annrc; Meanwhile, following the outlaws' scent, King led the dogteam along the edge of a cliff, then down a curving slope into the canyon. After about half an hour of travel along the canyon floor, Sergeant Preston saw a man huddled in the snow close to the rocky wall, and heard--

NOTE: GAGE ACTS LIKE OLD MAN.

Gage; (BACK) (SHOUT) Help - help me--



(KING BARKS)

Preston; (SHOUTS) Man in trouble, King!

Gage; (NEARER) Please, Mister- help-

Preston; (AD LIB WHOA'S)

(DOGS & SLED STOP)

Gage; (NEARER) Help-

Preston; (CALLS) Be right there! (TO DOGS) You fellows-  
lie down! Stay!

(AD LIB DOGS)

Preston; King, you come with me.

(STEPS IN SNOW AS:)

(AD LIB SOFT BARKS)

Preston; What's the trouble? Are you hurt?

Gage; (COMING IN) I'm not hurt, Mister, but I'm cold  
an' hungry - an' I'm lost! I don't know who  
you are, but--

Preston; I'm Sergeant Preston.

Gage; A policeman?

Preston; Yes.

Gage; I thought policemen wore uniforms.

Preston; Sometimes. But not when we travel in weather  
like this.

(KING, LOW GROWLS)

Gage; Yer -yer dog-- he - he's growlin' at me. He don't like me.

Preston; quiet, King.

(KING SUBSIDE)

Preston; He'll not hurt you. () Here's some chocolate. Eat it while I start a fire.

Gage; Thanks, Sergeant!

Preston; (EFFORT) I'll brush away some of this snow. There should be plenty of dead twigs and branches close to the canyon wall. () Here we are.

(AD LIB BREAKING WOOD AS:)

Gage; I wanted to build a fire, but the crooks stole my matches.

Preston; What crooks?

Gage; I don't know who they are, but three men robbed me early this morning.

Preston; Where?

Gage; I- I think it was that way- () I'd camped for the night in a cave. Those men shoved up while I was buildin' a fire to cook my breakfast. They made me empty my pockets, then told me to clear out or they'd shoot me! I- I had to leave my sled an' dogteam an' everything else!

Preston; What's your name?

Gage; Jim Gage. I've been trappin' an' I was headin' for Dawson with some furs when I was robbed. I - I traveled on foot as far as I could, then my legs gave out. () That chocolate sure hit the spot.

Preston; As soon as I get this fire going, I'll get some food from my sled--

Anncr; While Sergeant Preston bent to light the fire, Gage glanced at Yukon King, who stood nearby. Cautiously, so he'd not be noticed by Preston, he took a piece of poisoned meat from the pocket of his parka and tossed it toward the dog.

Gage; I- I reckon I'd o' died here if you hadn't come along. I'm sure grateful to you.

Preston; That's all right, Gage. After I get food for you, I want to question you about those robbers.

Anncr; While Preston fanned the small fire, Gage glanced at Yukon King and at the untouched meat. He didn't know that the big dog had been trained to disregard all food except that given to him by his master.

Gage; I'll tell you all I know about those crooks, but that's not much. I -I'm sure they'd o' killed me if I hadn't left there--

Anncr; Gage had a gun beneath his parka but he didn't dare draw it while the big dog watched. He took another piece of the deadly meat from his pocket. This time he tossed it directly at King.

(KING SNARLS LOW)

- Preston; King, I told you-- (BREAK)
- Anncr; The dog stood tense, poised as if to attack,  
and his lips were drawn back from his teeth-
- Preston; What's the matter with you, Boy?
- Gage; (NERVOUSLY) I- uh -- dogs never did like me--
- Preston; Did you raise a hand so he might've thought  
you meant to hit him?
- Gage; N -no, Sergeant. I - I didn't do a thing.
- Anncr; Preston moved close to his dog as he said--
- Preston; Now calm down, boy. Take it easy. You -  
(BREAK) What's this?
- Gage; (NERVOUS) I - I don't know-
- Preston; It's meat! Looks like a piece of steak!
- Gage; I don't know where it came from, Sergeant! I  
swear I don't!
- Preston; And here's another piece! Right on top of the  
snow!
- Gage; I tell you I don't know anything about it!
- Preston; It was not there a few minutes ago, Gage! You  
must have tossed it there!
- Gage; I - I --

Preston; (CUT IN HARD) Why -?

Gage; Well, I -uh - that is, I ~~I found a couple of~~  
~~hunks of meat in my pocket and tossed 'em out-~~

Preston; <sup>YOU HAD COOKED MEAT WITH YOU!</sup>  
I thought you were starving!

Gage; Well -uh --

Preston; What else have you in your pocket?

Gage; Nothin'! That's all!

Preston; You don't sound convincing. I'll see for myself!

Gage; Please, Sergeant-

Preston; Hold still! ( ) More meat!

Gage; I -I didn't know it was there, I swear I-

Preston; -- and matches! Push back the hood of your parka!  
I want a better look at your face!

Gage; Sergeant, I -I -

Preston; Quickly!

Gage; Y -yes sir-

Preston; You're not an old man! Your whole act was a fake!

Annrc; Gage knew it was useless to carry his masquerade  
any further. While he tried desperately to think  
of a way to escape, he heard Preston saying-

Preston; You threw that meat to my dog! Why did you want  
him to eat it?

Gage; I - uh - I ---

Preston; Unbutton your parka!

Anncr; Gage obeyed slowly. He opened his big fur parka then made a lightning move for his gun-

Preston; (EFFORT, SHARPLY) Hold it!

(KING SNARLS)

NOTE: GAGE BECOMES NERVOUS

Gage; (PAIN) My wrist-

Preston; Drop the gun!

Gage; (PAIN) OwOw you're breakin' my arm! I dropped the gun. I dropped it! (MOANS)

Preston; You're lucky I-gripped your wrist! King might have hurt lots more. () Now then, Gage, you'd better start talking and stick to the truth!

Gage; Sergeant, I - uh -

Preston; You wouldn't have reached for a gun unless you meant to use it! A man has to be mighty desperate to draw on a lawman.

Gage; I - I didn't know what I was doin'. I --

Preston; Why did you toss meat to King?

Gage; W -well I -

Preston; I wonder if that meat's been poisoned!

Gage; No no!

Preston; Then you eat it!

Gage; (CRY OUT) No!

Preston; (EFFORT) Yes, Gage!

Gage; (EFFORT) Leggo-

(SNARLS)

Preston; (EFFORT) Here! Open your mouth! Prove that the meat is not poisoned!

Gage; (WILDLY) It is poisoned! Don't make me eat it, Sergeant! I'll tell you everything!

Preston; Talk fast!

Gage; Pete Raven made me come here!

Preston; Pete Raven!

Gage; Yes. I - I - you'll know it sooner or later, so I may's well tell you I used to be a member of Raven's gang.

Preston; You did?

Gage; Y -yes-

Preston; Are you the fourth man? The man the law's been looking for?

Gage; Yes. I - I've got a cabin over yonder a little way. After Raven, Butch and Lefty were arrested, I went there an' stayed. So when the boys broke out of prison, they went there -- told me I'd have to give 'em a hideout - (FADING) Then, when we saw you comin' --

Anncr; Completely cowed, Red Gage told all the details of Pete Raven's plan. Preston listened carefully, then said-

Preston; Are the three jailbreakers in your cabin right now?

Gage; Yes, Sergeant.

Preston; Good.

Gage; They're waitin' for me to get back.

Preston; I'll go there and arrest them.

Gage; I reckon you'll find that's a bigger job than capturin' me.

Preston; You were easy, Gage. Take off your parka.

Gage; My -my parka?

Preston; Yes! Take it off.

Gage; (EFFORT) Well - all right. () There.

Preston; Drop it to the ground then turn around. I'm going to handcuff you. () Put your hands behind your back.

(HANDCUFFS)

Gage; I'm cold!

Preston; There. Now walk over to my sled. () Come on, King. Keep an eye on him.

(STEPS AS:)

Gage; You got no right to deprive a prisoner of warm clothes.

Preston; You'll be warm enough, Gage.



## (STEPS HALT)

Preston; Lie face down on the sled and ~~I'll wrap~~  
~~you in a fur robe.~~

Gage; ~~(EFFORT) That parka cost me a lot of money.~~  
~~If you think you can steal it--~~

Preston; ~~I've no intention of stealing it.~~ (EFFORT)  
 This robe should keep you warm. Now I'm going  
 to tie you to the sled, and King is going to  
 ride with you.

Gage; That dog!

Preston; Yes. He's going to do a trick I taught h im.  
 He's going to play dead!

Gage; Huh -?

Preston; (AD LIB EFFORT AS IF TYING MAN) When your friends  
 see us coming, I'll be wearing your parka  
 with the hood concealing my face. They'll see  
 a man on the sled -- a man wrapped in a robe --  
 and a dog lying motionless--

Gage; Um. I savvy. They'll think I'm comin' back  
 with your sled and dogteam - an' with the bodies  
 of you an' King.

Preston; Yes.

Gage; (GRUNT) Hey, you're makin' these ropes too  
 tight.

Prestn; You'll get used to them. ( ) Now I'll gag you.

Gage; Hold on -don't gag me. I won't try to warn the boys--

Preston; I'll make sure of that. Open your mouth.

Gage; Please! I - (GAGGED)

Preston; (EFFORT) With the odds against me, Gage, I'm taking no unnecessary chances.

Anncr; Preston removed his fur cap and his short, heavy coat and placed them on top of the helpless prisoner, then put on Gage's parka and drew the hood forward to conceal his face. Then --

Preston; Now, King -- board the sled, boy.

(SOFT BARKS)

Preston; That's it, King - lie down. Play dead.

(SOFT WHINE)

Preston; Play dead, King - that's it! Stay right there until I need you. (SHOUTS) Line up!

(AD LIB DOGS WHINE & WHIMPER)

Anncr; When the dogs were on their feet and ready to go, Preston stepped on the runners of his sled and shouted--

Preston; On, you huskies!

(DOGS & SLED START, SUSTAIN AS:)

Annex;           The Sergeant guided the dogs along the clear line of footprints Gage had left in the snow and soon after leaving the canyon, saw the cabin where the escaped convicts were waiting.

(DOGS AND SLED FADE OUT)

Annex;           Butch sat close to the window, watching for Red Gage to return. When he saw the oncoming sled and driver, he called--

Butch;           Hey, Raven! He's comin'!

(STEPS IN AS:)

Raven;           (COMING IN) Gage?

Butch;           Yeah -an' he's bringing Preston's sled!

Lefty;           (COMING IN) Let's see!

Raven;           Good for Gage! (LAUGHS) Look what's on the sled!

Lefty;           A dog!

Raven;           The body of a dog!

Butch;           Looks like he's got Preston's body too.

Raven;           (LAUGHS) Now how d'ya like my plan? I knew it'd work! Boys, now we're sittin' on top of the world! With that sled and dogteam, we'll have no trouble at all reachin' the Alaska border!

Butch;           And then we'll be out of reach of the Mounties!  
(LAUGHS)

Raven; Everyone figured Preston was so doggoned smart.  
(LAUGHS) Well at last he met a man who out-smarted him.

Lefty; We gotta hand it to Gage.

Raven; Humph. He just followed instructions. It was my plan that did the trick.

Lefty; Somethin'll have to be done with the bodies of Preston and his dog.

Raven; We'll let Gage worry about them.

(DOGS AND SLED STOP OUTSIDE)

(FAST STEPS)

Raven; I'll open the door.

(DOOR OPENS)

Raven; (CALLS) I see you got 'em, Gage! Good work!

Adlib; (THROWAWAYS AS:)

Anner; Preston turned his back toward the men who stood in the doorway and pretended to pick up something from the sled, but actually, he reached beneath the parka he wore and drew his gun. He held it concealed and approached the door with h<sup>is</sup> head lowered so the hood of the parka concealed his face.

Butch; What's the matter with you, Gage? You haven't said a word.

Preston; You're under arrest!

Adlib; (SURPRISED REACTION)

Lefty; (CRY OUT) Preston!

Butch; (OVERLAP) The Mountie!

Raven; (OVERLAP) (EFFORT) Get him!

Preston; (CUT IN HARD) You're covered!

Raven; Yuh can't shoot all three of us! (SUDDEN EFFORT)

Come on, boys!

(SHOT)

Lefty; (CRY OUT IN PAIN) (SUSTAIN ADLIB PAIN IN ARM)

Adlib; (STRUGGLE)

Anncr; Preston's one shot struck Lefty's arm. Before he had a chance to fire again, Raven and Butch had closed in.

Raven; (EFFORT) I've got his gun hand! Draw yer gun, Butch! Shoot him!

Butch; (EFFORT) I'll get him -

(WILD SNARLS)

Anncr; King leaped from the sled and raced to help his master.

Adlib; (WILD YELLS AS:)

(KING IN ATTACKING AS:)

Anncr; His powerful jaws gripped Butch's arm before the outlaw could bring his gun to bear and Butch went down under the force of King's charge-

Preston; (EFFORT) The showdown, Raven!

Raven; (SNARLING) I'll kill yuh!

Annrcr; Preston twisted suddenly -his left hand was free.  
He drove a hard fist to Raven's chin-

(BLOW)

Preston; (EFFORT) Here's another -

(BLOW)

Annrcr; When the second blow landed, Raven released his  
grip on Preston's gun and staggered backward-

Preston; One more to come -

Annrcr; Knowing that he dealt with killers, Preston  
wasted no time. He leaped forward and swung  
his gun in a knockout blow to Raven's head,  
then turned just in time to see Lefty reaching  
with his left hand to pick up the gun he'd  
dropped.

Preston; Hold it, Lefty! Touch that gun and I'll break  
your other arm!

Lefty; Don't shoot, Sergeant- don't shoot

Butch; (FRANTIC) Call off this dog! Call him off me!

Preston; That'll do, King! Down, boy!

(KING SUBSIDES)

Butch; (DAZED) Tha- that dog!

Preston; Roll over! Lie face down and put your hands behind your back! () King, you watch that man!

(GROWLS)

Lefty; (MOANS) Preston, you shot me in the arm. I think my arm's broken -

Preston; I'll attend to you as soon as I've handcuffed Butch and Raven!

(HANDCUFFS)

Preston; There! Now you may sit up, Butch!

Butch; Y -you - we thought-

Preston; You thought King and I were dead!

Butch; Y -yeah. Is that Gage on yer sled?

Preston; Yes. And as soon as we're through with the formality of a trial, he'll join you three in prison!

(HANDCUFFS)

Lefty; (MOANS) Preston, you can't handcuff me like you did Butch an' Raven! My arm is busted!

Preston; I have no more handcuffs, Lefty. So you'll go back to town with one arm in a splint and the other one tied to your side.

Butch; (GRUMBLING) The way Raven boasted about his smart idea -- when he comes to, he'll have to eat his words.

Preston; A lot of crooks have had smart ideas - but  
sooner or later every one of them is brought  
to justice <sup>THIS</sup> ~~when~~ the case is closed.

theme