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书虫·牛津英汉双语读物

- Jack London (美) 著
- Nick Bullard (英) 改写

# The Call of the Wild

## 野性的呼唤



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藏书章

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- 余珺珉 译
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## 简介

在加利福尼亚的家里,巴克过着安逸舒适的生活。他是那儿最高大强壮的狗,地位举足轻重。他和孩子们一同散步,在水中嬉戏,冬天的时候他就坐在主人的炉火边取暖。

但是在 1897 年,人们在育空河发现了金矿,他们需要像巴克这样的狗。于是巴克被从家乡偷运到北方。他在那里学会了拉雪橇,在冰天雪地中日复一日地跋涉。他学会了偷食以慰饥肠,破冰取水解渴,还学会了反击来对付那些欺负他的狗。而且他学得很快。

不久巴克成为了北方所有著名的拉雪橇的狗之一。但是北部是狼群出没的森林,在那里他们对着明月长嚎。野性的呼唤在巴克的梦中回响,越来越响亮……

杰克·伦敦 1876 年生于旧金山,死于 1916 年。他出身穷苦,在短暂的一生中有着丰富的经历——海员、工人、育空河的淘金人、旅行家、记者和作家。他写了很多书,其中以《野性的呼唤》和另一本写狗的书《白芳》,最广为流传。

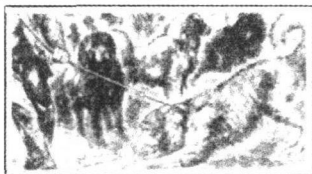
1**To the north**

**B**uck did not read the newspapers. He did not know that trouble was coming for every big dog in California. Men had found gold in the Yukon, and these men wanted big, strong dogs to work in the cold and snow of the north.

Buck lived in Mr Miller's big house in the sunny Santa Clara valley. There were large gardens and fields of fruit trees around the house, and a river nearby. In a big place like this, of course, there were many dogs. There were house dogs and farm dogs, but they were not important. Buck was chief dog; he was born here, and this was his place. He was four years old and weighed sixty kilos. He went swimming with Mr Miller's sons, and walking with his daughters. He carried the grandchildren on his back, and he sat at Mr Miller's feet in front of the fire in winter.

But this was 1897, and Buck did not know that men and dogs were hurrying to north-west Canada to look for gold. And he did not know that Manuel, one of Mr Miller's gardeners, needed money for his large family. One day, when Mr Miller was out, Manuel and Buck left the garden together. It was just an evening walk, Buck thought. No one saw them go, and only one man saw them arrive at the railway station. This man talked to Manuel, and gave him some money. Then

# 1 北部之旅



巴克不曾读过报纸,他不知道灾难将降临在加州的每一条大狗身上。人们在育空河里发现了金子,他们需要能在北方严寒的冰雪环境中工作的高大强壮的狗。

在阳光明媚的圣克拉拉山谷中,巴克的家就在米勒先生的大房子里。房子的周围是开阔的庄园和种满了果树的田野。一条小河从附近流过。这样一个辽阔的地方,有许许多多狗。诸如看门狗和牧羊犬,但他们是无足轻重的。真正的狗的首领是巴克;他生于斯长于斯。他4岁,体重60公斤。他同米勒先生的儿子一起游泳,也陪着他的女儿们一起去散步,有时还会给米勒先生的孙儿们当马骑。冬天到了,他就偎着炉火蹲坐在米勒先生的脚边。

然而到了1897年,巴克不知道这一年人们都带着狗蜂涌到加拿大西北部寻找金矿。他更不知道,米勒先生的一个园丁曼纽尔需要钱养活他的一大家子。有一天,米勒先生出去了,曼纽尔带着巴克离开了庄园。对于巴克来说,他还以为这只是一次傍晚的散步。没有人看到他们离开,只有一个人看见他们到了火车站。这个人同曼纽尔说了些什么,然后塞给他一些钱,随后就将一条绳

**Yukon** a river in North America. 育空河。**chief** adj. most important; main. 主要的;首要的。**weigh** v. show a certain measure when put on scales. 测出重量。**fire** n. burning fuel in a furnace for cooking food or heating room. 炉火;取暖装置。**railway station** a place where trains stop on a railway line. 火车站。

he tied a piece of rope around Buck's neck.

Buck growled, and was surprised when the rope was pulled hard around his neck. He jumped at the man. The man caught him and suddenly Buck was on his back with his tongue out of his mouth. For a few moments he was unable to move, and it was easy for the two men to put him into the train.

When Buck woke up, the train was still moving. The man was sitting and watching him, but Buck was too quick for him and he bit the man's hand hard. Then the rope was pulled again and Buck had to let go.

That evening, the man took Buck to the back room of a bar in San Francisco. The barman looked at the man's hand and trousers covered in blood.

'How much are they paying you for this?' he asked.

'I only get fifty dollars.'

'And the man who stole him—how much did he get?' asked the barman.

'A hundred. He wouldn't take less.'

'That makes a hundred and fifty. It's a good price for a dog like him. Here, help me to get him into this.'

They took off Buck's rope and pushed him into a wooden box. He spent the night in the box in the back room of the bar. His neck still ached with pain from the rope, and he could not understand what it all meant. What did they want with him, these strange men? And where was Mr Miller?

The next day Buck was carried in the box to the railway

子系到巴克的脖子上。

巴克咆哮起来，却吃惊地发现脖子上的绳索勒得紧紧的。他跳起来直扑向那个人。那人一把抓住了巴克，突然间巴克已仰面朝天摔在地上，舌头都耷拉出来了。过了好一会儿他都动弹不得，于是两个人轻而易举地把他送上了火车。

当巴克醒过来的时候，火车仍然在行进着。那人坐在那儿注视着他，然而巴克却更加迅疾，狠狠地咬住了那人的手。但脖子上的绳索又一次勒住了他，巴克不得不松了口。

那天晚上，那个人把巴克带到旧金山一间酒吧的后屋里。酒吧老板看了看那人血迹斑斑的手和长裤。

“他们付你多少钱？”他问。

“我只挣 50 美元。”

“那么那个偷狗的人——他赚多少？”酒吧老板问道。

“100 美元。少一个子儿他都不干。”

“也就是说 150 美元。对于这样一条狗可真是个好价钱。这边来，帮我把他弄到这里去。”

他们解开巴克的绳索，把他推进一只木箱里。他在酒吧后屋的那个木箱中过了一夜。他的脖子仍然因为绳子勒过而疼痛不已，而且所有的一切都令他如坠五里云中。这些陌生人，他们想让他做什么呢？米勒先生又在哪里呢？

第二天巴克被关在木箱里运到火车站，

**growl** v. (of animal or thunder) make a low threatening sound. 指(动物或雷)作低沉的怒吼声。  
**jump at sb.** 扑向某人。  
**be unable to do** not have the ability, opportunity or authority to do sth. 无法做某事。  
**wake up** stop sleeping. 醒来。  
**ache** v. suffer from a continuous dull pain. 持续地隐隐作痛。



station and put on a train to the north. For two days and nights the train travelled north, and for two days and nights Buck neither ate nor drank. Men on the train laughed at him and pushed sticks at him through the holes in the box. For two days and nights Buck got angrier and hungrier and thirstier. His eyes grew red and he bit anything that moved.

In Seattle four men took Buck to a small, high-walled back garden, where a fat man in an old red coat was waiting. Buck was now very angry indeed and he jumped and bit at the sides of his box. The fat man smiled and went to get an axe and a club.

‘Are you going to take him out now?’ asked one of the men.

‘Of course,’ answered the fat man, and he began to break the box with his axe.

Immediately the four other men climbed up onto the wall to watch from a safe place.

As the fat man hit the box with his axe, Buck jumped at the sides, growling and biting, pulling with his teeth at the pieces of broken wood. After a few minutes there was a hole big enough for Buck to get out.

‘Now, come here, red eyes,’ said the fat man, dropping his axe and taking the club in his right hand.

Buck jumped at the man, sixty kilos of anger, his mouth wide open ready to bite the man’s neck. Just before his teeth touched the skin, the man hit him with the club. Buck fell to the ground. It was the first time anyone had hit him with a

送上了北去的列车。火车向北开了两天两夜。这两天两夜,巴克滴水未进。火车上的人们嘲笑他,把木棍从箱子上的洞口伸进去捅他。这两天两夜,巴克越来越怒火中烧,也越来越饥渴难忍。他红着眼睛,撕咬所有移动的东西。

在西雅图,四个人把巴克抬进一座小小的但却有高高院墙的庄园里。一个身着旧红外套的肥胖男人正等在那里。这当口儿巴克已经愤怒到了极点。他跳着,咬着木箱的边缘。那胖子微微一笑,拿来一把斧子和一根木棍。

“你打算现在就把他放出来吗?”其中一人问道。

“当然。”胖子说。他开始用斧子劈开木箱。

立刻,另外4个人都爬上院墙,从安全的地方观望着。

当那个胖子用斧头劈木箱时,巴克在里面四处跳着、咆哮着、撕咬着,用牙齿扯着碎木片。一会儿,就有了一个大洞,巴克可以钻出来了。

“现在,过来,你这急红了眼的。”那胖子说着扔下斧头,右手抄起木棍。

巴克60公斤的愤怒之躯扑向那人,他大张着嘴准备一口咬住那人的脖子。就在他的牙齿快要碰到皮肤的时候,那人用棍子给了他一下,巴克摔倒在地。这还是头一次

**neither... nor... not... and not**. 既不……也不…… **laugh at** *ridicule sb./sth.* 取笑; 讥笑某人/某事。 **bite at sth.** *try to bite sth... , snap at sth...* 去咬某物; 突然猛咬某物。 **axe** *n.* *tool with a handle and a heavy metal blade used for chopping wood.* 斧子; **club** *n.* *heavy stick with one end thicker than the other, used as weapon.* (一端粗一端细的沉重的)棍棒(可用作武器)。 **hit** *v.* *strike sb./sth. with a blow.* 打、击中某人或某物。

club and he did not understand. He stood up, and jumped again. Again the club hit him and he crashed to the ground. Ten times he jumped at the man, and ten times the club hit him. Slowly he got to his feet, now only just able to stand. There was blood on his nose and mouth and ears. Then the fat man walked up and hit him again, very hard, on the nose. The pain was terrible. Again, Buck jumped at the man and again he was hit to the ground. A last time he jumped, and this time, when the man knocked him down, Buck did not move.

‘He knows how to teach a dog a lesson,’ said one of the men on the wall. Then the four men jumped down and went back to the station.

‘His name is Buck,’ said the fat man to himself, reading the letter that had come with the box. ‘Well, Buck, my boy,’ he said in a friendly voice, ‘we’ve argued a little, and I think the best thing to do now is to stop. Be a good dog and we’ll be friends. But if you’re a bad dog, I’ll have to use my club again. Understand?’

As he spoke, he touched Buck’s head, and although Buck was angry inside, he did not move. When the man brought him water and meat, Buck drank and then ate the meat, piece by piece, from the man’s hand.

Buck was beaten (he knew that) but he was not broken. He had learnt that a man with a club was stronger than him. Every day he saw more dogs arrive, and each dog was beaten by the fat man. Buck understood that a man with a club must

有人用棍子打他，他不知所措。他站起来，再次猛扑过去，木棍再次击中了他使他瘫倒在地。他扑了10次，木棍打了他10次。他慢慢地站起来，现在他仅能勉强站住。鲜血从他的口鼻和耳朵中涌出来。然后那人走上前又打他，狠狠地击中了他的鼻子。剧痛袭来，巴克再一次扑向那人，但他又被打倒在地。最后一次他扑上去，而这一次，当那人把他打倒时，巴克再也没有动弹一下。

“他可知道如何把狗制得服服帖帖的，”墙上的一个人说。然后这4个人跳下来，回车站去了。

“他的名字叫巴克。”那胖子自言自语道，读着写在木箱上的字母。“咳，巴克，我的孩子，”他用友好的语气说道。“我们有场小小的争斗，现在我想我们最好停战。做一只好狗，我们会成为朋友的。但是你要是使坏，我就不得不再用棍子对付你，明白吗？”

他一边说，一边抚摸着巴克的头。虽然巴克愤恨难平，他却没有再反抗。当那人给他拿来水和肉时，巴克喝了水，又从那人的手上一片又一片地吃肉。

巴克挨了打(他现在知道怎么回事了)，但他并未就此垮掉。他知道拿棍子的人比他强大。每一天他都看见许多狗被送进来。每条狗都被那胖子痛打。巴克明白了他必须听从拿棍子的人，虽然那人不一定是朋

**stand up** *rise to one's feet*. 起立；站起来。**crash** *v. fall or strike suddenly and noisily*. 突然倒下；撞击(某物)。**walk up** *approach sb./sth.*. 走近某人/某物。**knock down** *strike sb. to the ground or the floor*. 将某人击倒或撞倒在地上。**argue** *v. express an opposite opinion, exchange angry words, quarrel*. 争辩；争吵。

be obeyed, although he did not have to be a friend.

Men came to see the fat man and to look at the dogs. Sometimes they paid money and left with one or more of the dogs. One day a short, dark man came and looked at Buck.

‘That’s a good dog!’ he cried. ‘How much do you want for him?’

‘Three hundred dollars. It’s a good price, Perrault,’ said the fat man.

Perrault smiled and agreed that it was a good price. He knew dogs, and he knew that Buck was an excellent dog. ‘One in ten thousand,’ Perrault said to himself.

Buck saw money put into the fat man’s hand, and he was not surprised when he and another dog called Curly were taken away by Perrault. He took them to a ship, and later that day Buck and Curly stood and watched the coast get further and further away. They had seen the warm south for the last time.

Perrault took Buck and Curly down to the bottom of the ship. There they met another man, François. Perrault was a French-Canadian, but François was half-Indian, tall and dark. Buck learnt quickly that Perrault and François were fair men, calm and honest. And they knew everything about dogs.

There were two other dogs on the ship. One was a big dog called Spitz, as white as snow. He was friendly to Buck at first, always smiling. He was smiling when he tried to steal Buck’s food at the first meal. François was quick and hit Spitz

友。

人们来找胖子看狗。有时他们付钱后牵走一只或更多的狗。一天，一个又矮又黑的人来了，他看见了巴克。

“那可是条好狗！”他叫道。“你卖多少钱？”

“300美元。这是个好价钱，佩罗，”那胖子说。

佩罗笑了，他知道这价钱合适。他是选狗的行家里手，清楚巴克是一条优秀的狗。“万里挑一”，佩罗心里说。

巴克看见那胖子收了钱，并且当他和另一条叫科莉的狗被佩罗带走时，他对此已经不以为奇了。他把他们带上船，那天巴克和科莉站在船上看着越来越远的海岸，这是他们最后一次看见温暖的南方了。

佩罗把巴克和科莉带到船尾，在那里他们见到另一个人，弗朗索瓦斯。佩罗是法国与加拿大的混血儿，弗朗索瓦斯则有一半印第安人的血统，长得又黑又高。巴克很快就了解到佩罗和弗朗索瓦斯为人不错，沉稳可靠。他们对于狗的习性可谓了如指掌。

船上还有两只别的狗。其中一只大狗叫斯皮兹，浑身雪白。他起初对巴克倒挺友好，时时冲他微笑致意。但吃第一顿饭时，他就企图偷吃巴克的食物，而脸上居然还微笑着。在巴克还来不及采取任何行动之前，

**obey** *v.* *do what one is told to do* 服从；顺从。**agree** *v.* *say that one is willing.* 同意；愿意。**surprise** *v.* *cause (sb) to shock* 使(某人)吃惊。**fair** *adj.* *in a fair manner.* 公平的；正直的。**friendly** *adj.* *showing or expressing kindness and helpfulness.* 亲切的；友好的。

before Buck had time to move. Buck decided that this was fair, and began to like François a little.

Dave, the other dog, was not friendly. He wanted to be alone all the time. He ate and slept and was interested in nothing.

One day was very like another, but Buck noticed that the weather was getting colder. One morning, the ship's engines stopped, and there was a feeling of excitement in the ship. François leashed the dogs and took them outside. At the first step Buck's feet went into something soft and white. He jumped back in surprise. The soft, white thing was also falling through the air, and it fell onto him. He tried to smell it, and then caught some on his tongue. It bit like fire, and then disappeared. He tried again and the same thing happened. People were watching him and laughing, and Buck felt ashamed, although he did not know why. It was his first snow.

弗朗索瓦斯就迅速给了斯皮兹一下。巴克觉得这事处理得挺公道，他对弗朗索瓦斯有了一点儿好感。

另一只狗戴夫并不友善。他喜欢独自呆着。他除了吃就是睡，对一切都漠不关心。

日子在平静中一天天地过去，但巴克留意到天气在渐渐地变冷。一个早晨，船的马达终于停止了，船上有一种令人兴奋的气氛。弗朗索瓦斯用绳子拴住狗，把他们带出船舱。巴克一迈脚就陷进一种轻软洁白的东西里，他惊恐地跳了回去。那轻软洁白的东西也正从空中飘下来，落在他的身上。他尝试着嗅嗅它，然后又用舌头舔舔它，那东西嚼起来像火一样灼烧，但转瞬就无影无踪了。他又试了试，还是同样的结果。人们看着他笑了起来。虽然巴克不知道为什么，但他害了羞。这毕竟是他第一次接触到雪。

**get colder** *become colder.*  
变得越来越冷。**leash** *v.*  
*put a leash on.* 用皮带系住。**surprise** *n.* *feeling caused by sth happening suddenly or unexpectedly.*  
惊奇；惊讶。**disappear** *v.*  
*no longer be visible.* 消失；失踪。



2**The law of club and tooth**

**B**uck's first day at Dyea Beach was terrible. Every hour there was some new, frightening surprise. There was no peace, no rest—only continual noise and movement. And every minute there was danger, because these dogs and men were not town dogs and men. They knew only the law of club and tooth.

Buck had never seen dogs fight like these dogs; they were like wolves. In a few minutes he learnt this from watching Curly. She tried to make friends with a dog, a big one, although not as big as she was. There was no warning. The dog jumped on Curly, his teeth closed together, then he jumped away, and Curly's face was torn open from eye to mouth.

Wolves fight like this, biting and jumping away, but the fight did not finish then. Thirty or forty more dogs ran up and made a circle around the fight, watching silently. Curly tried to attack the dog who had bitten her; he bit her a second time, and jumped away. When she attacked him again, he knocked her backwards, and she fell on the ground. She never stood up again, because this was what the other dogs were waiting for. They moved in, and in a moment she was under a crowd of dogs.

It was all very sudden. Buck saw Spitz run out from the crowd with his tongue out of his mouth, laughing. Then he