

# call of the wild chapter 7 questions and answers

## Call of the Wild Chapter 7 Questions and Answers

Jack London's "The Call of the Wild" is a classic novel that tells the story of a domesticated dog, Buck, who is thrust into the harsh realities of life in the Yukon during the Klondike Gold Rush. Chapter 7, titled "The Sounding of the Call," is pivotal as it encapsulates Buck's transformation and the ultimate call of his wild ancestry. In this article, we will explore some essential questions and answers related to this chapter, providing insights into the themes, characters, and significant events.

## Key Themes in Chapter 7

Before diving into the questions and answers, it is important to understand the key themes that are prominent in this chapter:

- **The Struggle for Survival:** Buck's instincts are tested as he adapts to his surroundings.
- **Identity and Transformation:** Buck's journey is not just physical but also a profound transformation of his identity.
- **The Call of the Wild:** The chapter emphasizes the theme of nature's call and the primal instincts within Buck.
- **Man vs. Nature:** The relationship between humans and nature is explored as Buck navigates his new reality.

## Questions and Answers

Below are some frequently asked questions about Chapter 7 of "The Call of the Wild," along with their answers.

### 1. What happens to Buck in Chapter 7?

In Chapter 7, Buck experiences a profound transformation. He fully embraces his wild instincts, leaving behind the domesticated life he once knew. After killing a moose and later a wolf, Buck begins to understand the law of the wild and his place within it. He also faces the ultimate challenge when he confronts his human counterpart, John Thornton, who represents the last vestige of civilization in Buck's life.

## **2. How does Buck respond to the death of John Thornton?**

The death of John Thornton is a turning point for Buck. Thornton's murder by the Yeehat tribe sends Buck into a deep state of grief and rage. It is during this moment that Buck fully heeds the call of the wild, abandoning his bond with humans and embracing his instinctual nature. The loss of Thornton signifies the complete break from Buck's past life, propelling him further into the wilderness.

## **3. What significance does the moose hunt have in this chapter?**

The moose hunt serves as a crucial moment for Buck's character development. It illustrates his ability to thrive in the wild, showcasing his strength, intelligence, and instincts. The successful hunt also signifies Buck's complete transformation from a domesticated pet to a powerful creature of the wild. This experience reinforces the theme of survival and the natural order, as Buck learns to respect and coexist with nature.

## **4. How does Buck's relationship with the wolves evolve?**

Buck's relationship with the wolves evolves significantly in this chapter. Initially, he views them with a mix of curiosity and caution. However, as he spends more time in the wild, he begins to communicate and bond with them. This relationship highlights Buck's transformation and his acceptance of his wild heritage. The wolves symbolize freedom and the wild, and Buck's connection with them marks his complete departure from his previous life.

## **5. What does the term "the call of the wild" represent in this chapter?**

In Chapter 7, "the call of the wild" represents Buck's innate instincts and the deep-seated yearning for freedom and authenticity. It symbolizes the primal force that drives him to embrace his wild nature. This call becomes increasingly powerful as Buck faces challenges and loses his human companion, leading him to fully accept his identity as a creature of the wilderness. The phrase encapsulates the essence of Buck's transformation and the universal struggle between civilization and nature.

## **6. How does London use imagery in this chapter?**

Jack London employs vivid imagery to immerse readers in the rugged landscape of the Yukon. The descriptions of the natural environment, such as the harsh weather, the dense forests, and the wild animals, evoke a sense of both beauty and danger. This imagery enhances the theme of nature as a powerful force, contrasting the comfort of civilization with the rawness of the wild. Through Buck's experiences, readers are drawn into a world where survival hinges on instinct and adaptability.

## **7. What role does the Yeehat tribe play in Buck's journey?**

The Yeehat tribe plays a crucial role in Buck's journey as they represent the ultimate threat to his newfound freedom. Their attack on John Thornton serves as the catalyst for Buck's complete transformation. The Yeehats symbolize the encroachment of civilization and the dangers that come with it. Their presence forces Buck to confront the realities of life in the wild, ultimately driving him to embrace his true nature. Buck's interaction with the Yeehats also highlights the conflict between man and nature, a recurring theme throughout the novel.

## **8. How does Buck's character change from the beginning to the end of the chapter?**

At the beginning of Chapter 7, Buck is still somewhat tethered to his past life with John Thornton, displaying loyalty and affection. However, by the end of the chapter, he has fully embraced his wild instincts. This transformation is marked by his ability to hunt, his connection with wolves, and his emotional detachment from human attachments. Buck becomes a symbol of the wild, representing the power and beauty of nature, contrasting sharply with his domesticated beginnings.

## **9. Why is the ending of Chapter 7 significant?**

The ending of Chapter 7 is significant as it marks the culmination of Buck's transformation. After avenging John Thornton's death and embracing his wild instincts, Buck answers the call of the wild, fully integrating into the wilderness. This moment symbolizes not only Buck's personal journey but also a broader commentary on the relationship between humans and nature. The ending reinforces the idea that true fulfillment and identity can only be found in the wild, away from the constraints of civilization.

## **10. What lessons can readers learn from Buck's journey in this chapter?**

Readers can glean several important lessons from Buck's journey in Chapter 7:

1. **Embrace Change:** Buck's transformation illustrates the importance of adapting to new environments and challenges.
2. **Listen to Your Instincts:** The call of the wild serves as a reminder to trust one's instincts and embrace one's true nature.
3. **The Power of Grief:** Buck's grief over Thornton's death demonstrates how loss can lead to profound personal growth.
4. **Nature's Indifference:** The chapter highlights the idea that nature can be both beautiful and brutal, emphasizing the need for respect and understanding.

## Conclusion

Chapter 7 of "The Call of the Wild" is a transformative moment for Buck, encapsulating themes of survival, identity, and the call of the wild. Through a series of significant events and character developments, Jack London masterfully portrays Buck's journey from domestication to wildness. By exploring key questions and answers related to this chapter, readers can gain a deeper understanding of Buck's evolution and the broader messages embedded in London's narrative. The lessons learned from Buck's experiences resonate with the primal instincts inherent in all beings, reminding us of the enduring connection between humanity and the wild.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is the main theme explored in Chapter 7 of 'The Call of the Wild'?**

The main theme in Chapter 7 is the struggle for survival and the instinctual return to nature, as Buck fully embraces his wild instincts and heritage.

### **How does Buck's character evolve in Chapter 7?**

In Chapter 7, Buck evolves from a domesticated pet to a more primal creature, showcasing his adaptability, leadership, and growing connection to the wild.

### **Who are the significant characters introduced in Chapter 7?**

The significant characters introduced in Chapter 7 include John Thornton, who represents kindness and loyalty, and the pack of wolves that Buck encounters, symbolizing his return to the wild.

### **What role does the setting play in Chapter 7?**

The setting in Chapter 7, with its harsh wilderness and the presence of wolves, emphasizes Buck's transformation and highlights the challenges of survival in a natural environment.

### **What conflicts arise for Buck in Chapter 7?**

The conflicts that arise for Buck in Chapter 7 include his internal struggle between loyalty to John Thornton and his instincts calling him back to the wild, as well as external conflicts with the harsh wilderness.

### **How does Buck's relationship with John Thornton change in Chapter 7?**

Buck's relationship with John Thornton deepens in Chapter 7, as he feels a strong bond of loyalty and

love towards him, contrasting with his growing connection to his wild ancestry.

## **What does Buck learn about leadership in Chapter 7?**

In Chapter 7, Buck learns that true leadership comes from strength, intelligence, and the respect of others, as he interacts with both the wolves and his human companions.

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