The Silent Places



Shortly the samp was completed. Before the frequency without the sample and active the president of the sample and the sample

warm-lined coverings they pulled up over and around them completely, to envelop even their heads. This arrangement is comfortable only after angement is comfortable only after to fight back the white death.

It was the land of ghosts. Except for large the land of ghosts. Except for large the lar ance from freezing. At once they fell

into exhausted sleep.

As though they had awaited a signal, the dogs arose and proceeded to investigate the camp. Nothing was too trivial to escape their attention. Billy his discovery against a vigorous on-slaught from the hound and the other uninvolved, devored the morsel. The trouble gradually died down. One after each tree had become more or less another the animals dug themselves plastered with snow, so that even their plastered with snow, so that even their holes in the snow, where they curled dark trunks flashed mysteriously into dup, their bushy talls over their noses and their fore paws. Only Mack, the of the great white silence the only solid, and their fore paws. Only face, the hound with the wrinkled face and long, pendent ears, unendowed with sledge train crawling with infinite pasuch protection, crept craftily between tience across its vastness.

simple but dreadful elements of that snow-laden bushes, the pointed trees against a steel sky of stars. The little, artificial tumult of homely sound by which these men had created for the moment an illusion of like sank down under the unceasing pressure of the verities, so that the wilderness again flowed unobstructed through the forest simple but dreadful elements of that journey which lasted, without event, from the middle of November until the latter part of January.

Never in all that time was an hour of real comfort to be anticipated. The labors of the day were succeeded by the shivering of the night. Exhaustion alone induced sleep; and the racking from York to Winnipeg. It must be pretty near on the direct line from here."

Instantly Sam was at work binding fast their jaws with buckskin thongs.

CHAPTER XVIII.

his groin, as though he had been stuck by a penknife; each time he bent his ankle in the recover the mal de raquette twisted his calves, and stretched his ankle tendons until he felt that his very feet were inscentification.

CHAPTER XVII.-(Continued.) | bend the head; always the rush of CHAPTER XVII.—(Continued.)

Shortly the camp was completed. Before the fire, impaled on sticks, hung the frozen whitefish thawing out for insance of trail and of game. An unlarged his shoulders and length of section of the head; always the rush of was a bad customer."

"You better hope they have," replied Sam. "He's got it in for you."

Dick shrugged his shoulders and length of section of the head; always the rush of was a bad customer."

succeeded by longer night, with its bur-nished stars, its dead moon, its un-"Well, v earthly aurora. On the fresh snow were the tracks of creatures, but in the "What?" asked Di flesh they glided almost invisible. The ptarmigan's bead eye alone betrayed sion in the snow covering the prestrate him, he had no outline. The ermine's tree-trunk. found a tiny bit of cooked meat.

Promptly he was called on to protect

him, he had no outline.

black tip was the only indication of his presence, Even the larger animals, -the caribou, the mouse-had eithe slaught from the hound and the other husky. Over and over the fighting dogs the frost as to have lost all appearance rolled, snorting and biting, awakening of solidity. It was ever a surprise to find these phantoms bleeding red, to ling the sleepers, who, nevertheless, discover that their flesh would resist did not stir. In the meantime, Claire, the knife. During the strife of the

his sleeping masters.

Gradually the fire died to coals, then filmed to ashes. Hand in hand the cold and the darkness invaded the phantasmagoria, ghosts like those phantasmagoria, ghosts like those White space, a feeling of littleness camp. As the fire light faded, objects which surged about AEneas, and finally showed dimly, growing ever more dis-tinet, through the dving glow the

flowed unobstructed through the forest aisles. With a last pop of coals the faint noise of the fire ceased. Then an even fainter noise slowly became audible, a crackling undertone as of silken banners rustling. And at once, splendid, barbaric, the mightly orgy of the winter-time aurora began.

the shivering of the night. Exhaustion alone induced sleep; and the racking direction for the day's journey and the permitted in the shivering of the night. Exhaustion alone induced sleep; and the racking chill of early morning alone broke it. The invariable det was meat, tea, and permican. Besides the resolution required for the day's journey and the night's discomfort, was the mental analysis of the night. Exhaustion alone induced sleep; and the racking chill of early morning alone broke it. The invariable det was meat, tea, and permican. Besides the resolution required for the day's journey and the racking chill of early morning alone broke it. The invariable det was meat, tea, and permican. Besides the resolution required for the day's journey and the night's discomfort, was the mental analysis and provided in the shows the pretty near on the direct line from here."

"All right," said Dick.

The girl assisted him. When the task was find the racking chill of early morning alone broke it. The invariable det was meat, tea, and permican. Besides the resolution required for the day's journey and the racking chill of early morning alone broke it. The invariable det was meat, tea, and permican. Besides the resolution required for the day's journey and the racking chill of early morning alone broke it. The invariable det was meat, tea, and permican. Besides the resolution required for the day's journey and the racking chill of early morning alone broke it. The invariable det was meat, tea, and provided the racking chill of early morning alone broke it. The invariable det was meat, tea, and provided the racking of the direction of the day's journey and the racking of the direction of the day's journey and the racking of the da he made no complaint and moved as rapidly as possible. Each time he would flank them within smelling disraised his knee a sharp pain stabbed tance, the exasperation of it became altracks.

his ankle tendons until he felt that his very feet were insecurely attached and would drop off. During the evening he sat quiet, but after he had fallen asleep from the mere exhaustion of the day's toll, he doubled up, straightened out, groaned aloud, and spoke rapidly in the strained voice of one who suffers.

Often he would strip his less by the inc, in order that sam could twist a mould twist a direct series of the mass of the cramps, they cannot be accorded by May-may-gwan of themselves. The day's journey was necessarily shortened until he had not observed the many of the space of nearly recovered, but even after the worst was over, a long tramp always brought a slight recurrence.

For the space of nearly ten space of nearly ten wells and the space of nearly ten wells and the space of nearly ten wells are they camped for the hunting; some times the space of nearly ten wells and the space of nearly ten wells and the space of nearly ten wells and the space of nearly ten wells are they camped for the hunting; some times the space of nearly ten wells and the space of nearly ten wells and

nained but one section, and that the most northerly. If that failed, then there was nothing to do but to retrace the long, weary journey up the Kabin-ikagam, past the rapids where Dick had hurt himself, over the portage, down the Mattawishgina, across the Missinaibie, on which they had started their travels, to the country of the Nipissing. Discussing this possibility e rest-time. Dick said:

"We'd be right back where we started. I think it would pay us to go down to Brunswick House and get a new outfit. It's only about a week up the Missinalbie." Then, led by inevitable association of ideas, "Wonder if those Crees had a good time? And I wonder if they've knocked our friend Ah-tek, the Chippeawa, on the head yet? He

BLACK, MIXED, NATURAL GREEN.

HIGHEST AWARD

It was the land of ghosts. Except for the few hours at midday these people moved in the gloom and shadow of a nether world. The long twilight was a nether world. The long twilight was grounded by Jonger night, with its hur.

It was the land of ghosts. Except for the fee. It had been entirely coving and sniffing, was trying to induce his comrades to turn slanting of warmer bedding. In it, his fists to the left.

"Then he was after me," interrupted induce his comrades to turn slanting of warmer bedding. In it, his fists to the left.

"Why didn't you let me shoot him by Ah-text the leaves the next sun. He leaves the next sun leaves the next sun. He leaves the next sun leav not only to preserve the warmth of the nether world. The long twilight was at one point, where it dipped to a shal-"Well, what do you make of that?"

"What?" asked Dick.
Sam pointed to the shallow depres

CHAPTER XIX. Dick looked at his companion a little

"Why, you most know as well as I do," he said, "somebody stepped on top of that log with snowshoes, and it's "Yes, but who?" insisted Sam

"The trapper in this district, of "Sure; and let me tell you this,-that

his trail." "I'm sure. I've got a hunch." Dick looked sceptical, then impressed. Sam treasured the incident for the fu-

be found. Discouragements were many, not an easy matter. After a time the Sometimes with full anticipation of a affair was simplified by the dogs. Dick good day's run, they would consume had been breaking the trail, but paused In a day or two Dick was attacked by the fearful mal de raquette, which tortures into knots the muscles of the leg below the knee; and by cramps that the control of the co doubled him up in his blankets. This was the direct result of his previous inaction. He moved only with pain; and yet, by the stern north-country code,

Suddenly Dick stopped short in his

"Look there!" he exclaimed. Before them was a place where man had camped for the night. "He's travelling!" cried Sam

This exploded the theory that the trail had been made by the Indian to Often he would strip his legs by the fire, in order that Sam could twist a cleft stick vigorously about the affect
of muscles: which is the Indian treat. Strained voice of one who suiters. Should not show themselves to the traphage and been and what he had been doing. The condition of the fire corroborated what the condition of the trail had indicated. Probably the man had passed sledge, guarded by May-may-gwan.

The condition of the trail had indicated. Probably the man had passed sledge, guarded by May-may-gwan.

The condition of the trail had indicated. Probably the man had passed sledge, guarded by May-may-gwan.

The condition of the fire corroborated what he condition of the trail had indicated. Probably the man had passed sledge, guarded by May-may-gwan.

tricts had been struck from the list. No one of them was Jingoss, There remained but one section and that the Absolute Purity,

They went. Beneath a lower limb, whose fan had protected it from the

he asked.

Across the way lay the trunk of a fallen tree. It had been entirely cov- ly whining and sniffing, was trying to

he inquired on a sudden.
"Smells something; what's the difference? Let's get a move on us," replied Dick, carelessly. "Hold on," ordered Sam. He rapidly changed the dog harness

n order to put Mack in the lead. "Mush! Mush on!" he commanded. Immediately the hound, his nose low, uttered a deep, bell-like note and struck on the diagonal across the lake. "Come on," said Sam; "he's got it."

Across the white waste of the lake, against the bite of the unobstructed wind, under the shelter of the bank op-

posite they ran at slightly accelerated speed, then without pause into the forest on the other side. "Look," said the older woodsman, trapper is the man we're after. That's pointing ahead to a fallen trunk. It was the trail.

"That was handy," commented Dick, and promptly forgot about it. But Sam treasured the incident for the fu-ture.

And then, just before 2 o'clock, the wind did them a great conviction.

shoes came ever louder down the wind. Once it paused. Dick caught his breath. Had the traveller discoverel anything suspicious? He glanced be-"Where's the girl?" he hissed be-

ween his teeth. "Damn her, she's warned him!" creaking began again, and after an instant of indetermination continued its

rifles, and with equal unanimity lowered them, gasping with astonishment. Dick's enemy, Ah-tek, the renegade Chippewa of Haukemah's band on the Missinaible, stepped from the concealment of the bushes.

Of the three the Indian was the first

"Bo' jou', bo' jou'," said he, calmly.
Sam collected himself to a reply.
Dick said nothing, but fell behind, with

HIGHEST AWARD ST. LOUIS, 1904.

The Chippewa replied no.

"Good God, no!" answered Sam.

"Will you shut up and listen to me?" demanded the old man, impatiently. "If he'd wanted you, he'd have got you when you were hurt last summer; and if he'd wanted the girl, he'd have got her then, too. It's all clear to me. He has been visiting a friend—perhaps his brother, as he said—and he did spend less than three days in the visit. What did he come for? Let me tell you!

That friend, or brother, is Jingoss, and he came up here to warn him that manded the old man, impatiently. and he came up here to warn him that we're after him. The Chippewa suspected us a little on the Missinaibie, but he wasn't sure. Probably he's had his eye on us ever since."

"But why didn't he warn this Jingoss long ago, then?" objected Dick. "Because we fooled him, just as we looking for winter posts, just as said. And then if he came up here and told Jingoss we were after him, when told Jingoss we were after him, when beyond. She answered merely, by a

out to warn Jingoss."

"I believe you're right!" cried Dick.

"Of course I'm right. And another thing; if that's the case we're pretty close there. How many more trappers are in this district? Just one! And more than the course the Chippewa is going back and the Chippewa is going back and the course of the co since this Chippewa is going back on his back trail within three days after "That I he made it, he couldn't have gone

he made it, he couldn't have gone there than that one man. And that one things truly?" doubted Sam. "Jingoss himself!" finished Dick.
"Within a day and a half of us, anyway; probably much closer.' ted Sam. "It's as plain as a sledge

"He's been warned," Dick reminded

country," he argued, "but he hadn't any idea we were so close. If he had, he wouldn't have been so foolish as to She looked follow his own back track when he was were, of course, but he was almighty utterly, and when the surprised to see us here. He's warned lies in their hearts." surprised to see us here. He's warned this Jingoss, not more than a day or so ago. But he didn't tell him to skeddaddle at once. He said, "Those fellows are after you, and they're moseying here in the course of the winter."

"Good God!" cried Sam, in English.

"It was the only way," she answered the spirit of his interjection. "I had known before only his forked tongue."

"Why did you do this, girl? You had right no reason. You should have ing up here in the course of the winter.
You'd probably better slide out 'till no right, no reason. You should have folds for the accommodation of snow, much debris, racks and folds for the accommodation of snow. You'd probably better slide out 'till no right, no reason. You should have they get done.' 'Then he stayed a day and smoked a lot, and started back.' Now, if Jingoss just thinks we're coming some time, and not to-morrow, he ain't going to pull up stakes in such a hell of a hurry. He'll pack what furs he's got, and he'll pick up what traps ber. With us it is different. Always the's got out. That would take him sevil.

"Neither did I," admitted Sam; "but when I look up at him the sun breaks smouldering for 10 months,

it's natural, Dick. We ain't her people, out, and the snow shines, and and we haven't treated her very well, a light under the trees. And and I don't wonder she was sick of it think of raising my eyes, and and took the first chance back. We've got our work cut out for us now, and we're just as well off without her." there, nor anywhere near, theart freezes, Little Father, with lonliness."

we're just as well off without her."
"The Chippewa's a sort of public benafactor all round," said Dick.
"with lonliness."
Abruptly she arose, casting a
blanket and stretching her ar The dogs yawned prodigiously, tretching their jaws after the severe suzzling. Sam began reflectively to bedding, spread it out, and let the severe should be the severe should be

ndo the flaps of the sledge.
"Guess we'd better camp here," said both white men. "It's getting pretty late and we're But Sam remained crouched

due for one hell of a tramp to-morrow. fire until the morning hour of

CHAPTER XXI.

Some time during the night Maymay-gwan rejoined them. Sam was awakened by the demonstration of the dogs, at first hostile, then friendly with girl's presence. At once San recognition. He leaped to his feet, on him with a gust of passio startled at the apparition of a human unlike his ordinary deliberate figure. Dick sat up alert at once, The fire had almost died, but between the "Shu

"My brothers seek the Ojibway, Jin- the smoothly spread top blanket a is to travel to the west, to Peace river.

Now his camp is five hours to the

"Why, May-may-gwan?" inquired figures posed, motionless as a wind t

things.' Sam uttered an exclamation of dis- yet their very presence, unobtr

"But he, the Chippewa." Sam pointed fooled all the Injuns. We might be looking for winter posts, just as we said. And then if he will as we said. And then if he will as we we will aid Jingoss; he will warn him afresh to-night!" out, "now he knows of our presence. He the three living ones turned away. May-may-gwan was again rapt in sad younger woodsman swung in bel

who saw our trails that three people who saw our trails that three people were travelling in the winter up through this country. Then he piked out to warn Jingoss."

She answered by another weary gesting at the sky, awaiting the ture. Again Sam hesitated.

"Little Sister," said he, at last, "I am an old man. I have seen many again about its revelation. No human eye would ever read that page again.

"That I might know what my brothrs wished to know."

so they could not have told. No col
ent thoughts passed through the e far- ers wished to know "And you think he told you all these brains. But always the trees, frimed, drifted past like phantoms

She looked directly at him. "Little Father,' said she slowly, long has this man wanted me to live in his wigwam. For that he joined Haukemah's band; — because I was North was near, threatening, d there. I have been good in his eyes. the terror of her tragedy home him.

But Sam, afire with the inspiration

Never have I given him favor. My favor always would unlock his heart."

the terror of her tragedy heart of these staring pleaders of these staring pleaders. But sam, after with the inspiration of inductive reasoning, could see no objected sam. "You have never looked kindly on him. You left Haukemah's band to go with us. How could he leader, sniffed a leader a leade But are you sure he spoke truth," plodders, who now travelled to

She looked at him bravely. "Little Father," she replied, "there is The mystery which had lain so long going out. I don't know what his ideas a moment when man and woman trust utterly, and when they say truly what

staring with troubled eyes

CHAPTER XXII Later in the morning Dick some remark on the subjection "Shut your damned mouth!" he

she began to speak, low-voiced, in short disconnected sentences. Ing, stood straight and motionless the dogs. Together they laid hold

CHAPTER XXIII.

The silence of the grave lay over th white world. Deep in the forest a tr detonated with the frost. There by th cold last night's camp the four hums stretching, sending the warm stea "Have you thought I had left you for him?" she asked. "I have learned these ed to stand for the world of life, a may.
"What?" she queried with a slow surthrust farther these others into the land of phantoms and of ghosts.

leading the way for the dogs; he gee-pole; the girl followed more, slowly, as though reluctant, forest trees resumed their silent in Dick looked sceptical, then may be a seen many district all iters.

And then, just before 2 o'clock, the wind did them a great service. Down the long, straight lines of its flight came, pursued Sam.

We'll follow the trall and find his camp, pursued Sam.

"You ain't going to ambush him?" in the many be a many be a nice healthy favor to do for a man, wouldn't it! No, he had to be sure before he made any woves. And he didn't get to be sure until he heard somehow from some one who saw our trails that three people were travelling in the winter up who saw our trails that three people were travelling in the winter up who saw our trails that three people were travelling in the winter up who saw our trails that three people were travelling in the winter up who saw our trails that three people were travelling in the winter up who saw our trails that three people were travelling in the winter up who saw our trails that three people were travelling in the winter up who saw our trails that three people were travelling in the winter up who saw our trails that three people were travelling in the winter up who saw our trails that three people were travelling in the winter up who saw our trails that three people were travelling in the winter up who saw our trails that three people were travelling in the winter up who saw our trails that three people were travelling in the winter up who saw our trails that three people were travelling in the winter up who saw our trails that three people were travelling in the winter up who saw our trails that three people were travelling in the winter up who saw our trails that three people were travelling in the winter all itor nothing, that would be a nice healthy favor to do for a man, wouldn't it? No, sam, troubled he knew not why, lean time.

Sam, troubled he knew not why, lean three winters and the vastness of the North.

Sam, troubled he knew not why, lean three winters and the vastness of human passion.

She had to be sure the fire.

"How do you know, Little Sister?" the fire wind the ways the occult influences of the mirages, dwindled in the actuality

> not why, farther and farther But the dogs stopped, and Billy, what lay ahead. Instantly. their horizon, which but now had o in, threatening to smother then north withheld her hand.
> Before them was another can that had been long used. A

"Gone," corrected Sam, pointing to a

"I'm afraid that means has gone for

Mere REA

REPLIES TO ADVER

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