## "BELA"

 $=$ Joe sprang up and opened the doorSome confused sounds from the direct lion of the creek reached his ears, bu e had not enough woodcraft to dit The fire
trick a ma
cried, sadden
 oath. You wouldn't believe me be
 maimed on the bed, cursing. At the
ereek-mounth the sandbank was empty
The last pallid rays of the moon re veiled nothing.
They were accustomed to come there
many times a day to wash or to dor aw
water, and the welter of footprints in the brand gave no clue. Finally Joe
with a cry, pounced on a dark object
 the end,", he cried. "I knew it! Gone
together in her boat!"
It was a man" voice I heard," ob-
jetted Jack. "What for would he






 ableness,
you Me,
by myeif,
Jack str Jack strode back along the path. Joe
followed him, merely because he was
one of those natures who will choose
an enemy company sooner than face an enemy company sooner than race
the prospect of being left with his
own
They left Stand to his own devices.
Husky greeted them with eager quesHusky greeted them with eager ques.
tons. Jo ne cured him, and Jack
clenched his teeth upon the stem or
his pipe in grim silence.
They revived the fire

 pane. Tn the end he reese abruptly. . Joe
followed suit as a m matter of course.
Jack e turned on him, snaring. Have
I got to be followed by you like a dog
 take one
said grim
Jack rem






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