



ПОДГОТОВИЛ УЧЕНИК  
11 КЛАССА  
ПОЛЯНСКИЙ ДАНИИЛ



Jack London was a 19th century American author and journalist, best known for the adventure novels *White Fang* and *The Call of the Wild*. He is a pioneer in the world of commercial magazine fiction, he was one of the first writers to become a worldwide celebrity and earn a large fortune from writing. He was also an innovator in the genre that would later become known as science fiction.

# CHILDHOOD

Journalist and author John Griffith Chaney better known as Jack London, was born on January 12, 1876, in San Francisco California.



Jack London at the age of nine with his dog called Rollo, 1885

## EARLY YEARS

Jack, as he came to call himself as a boy, was the son of Flora Wellman, and William Chaney, an attorney and journalist. His father was never part of his life, and his mother ended up marrying John London, a Civil War veteran.



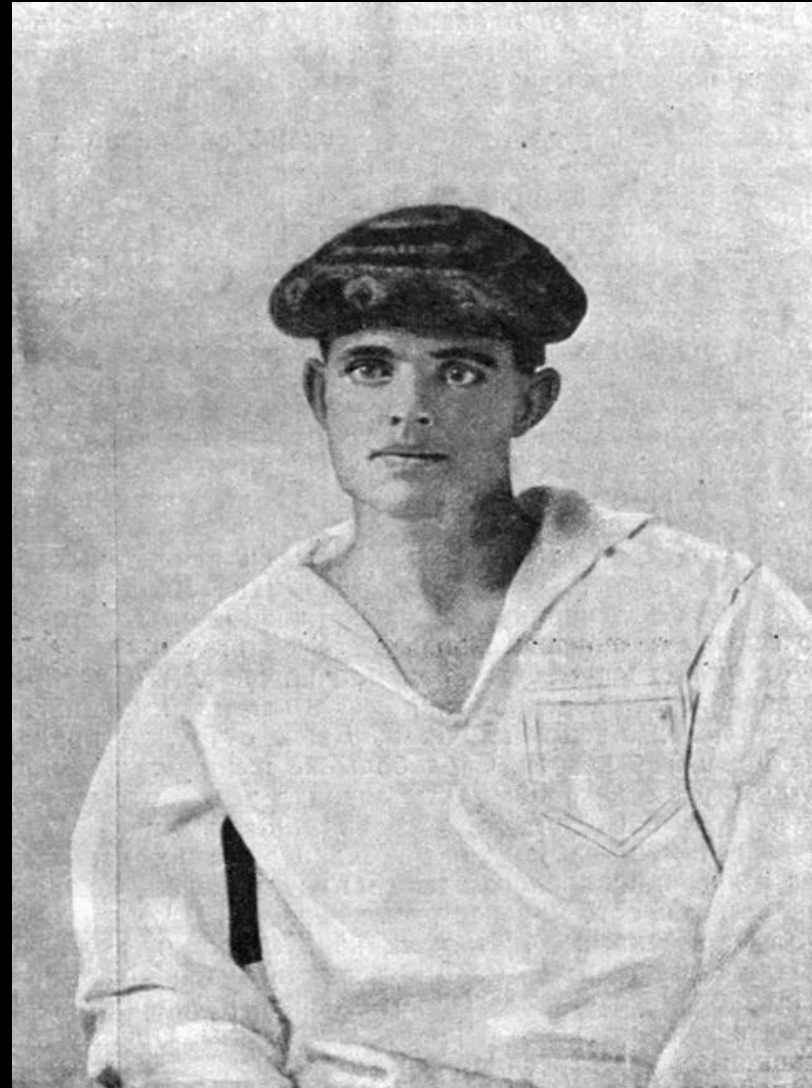
Flora Wellman, Jack London's mother

He went to school. The pupils will be surprised when they see somebody so much older in the class room. He learned from his teachers and from other pupils, but most of all, he learned from books. He read all the books on the shelves of the school library and the city library. As he read novels by well-known authors he tried to notice the words they used and how they used them: he tried to discover the secrets of their art.



# THE YOUNG WRITER AND TRAVELER

His essentially writer career began in 1893. That year he had weathered a harrowing sealing voyage, one in which a typhoon had nearly taken out London and his crew. The 17-year-old adventurer had made it home and regaled his mother with his tales of what had happened to him. Jack London was full of a new idea. He was going to become a writer. But to his surprise, when he tried to write, he couldn't make the words tell the stories. His language was poor and it was full of mistakes, because he did not know grammar.



In 1896, when Jack London was twenty years old, gold was discovered in Alaska. But by the age of 22, however, London still hadn't put together much of a living. He had once again returned to California and was still determined to carve out a living as a writer. His experience in the Yukon had convinced him he had stories he could tell.



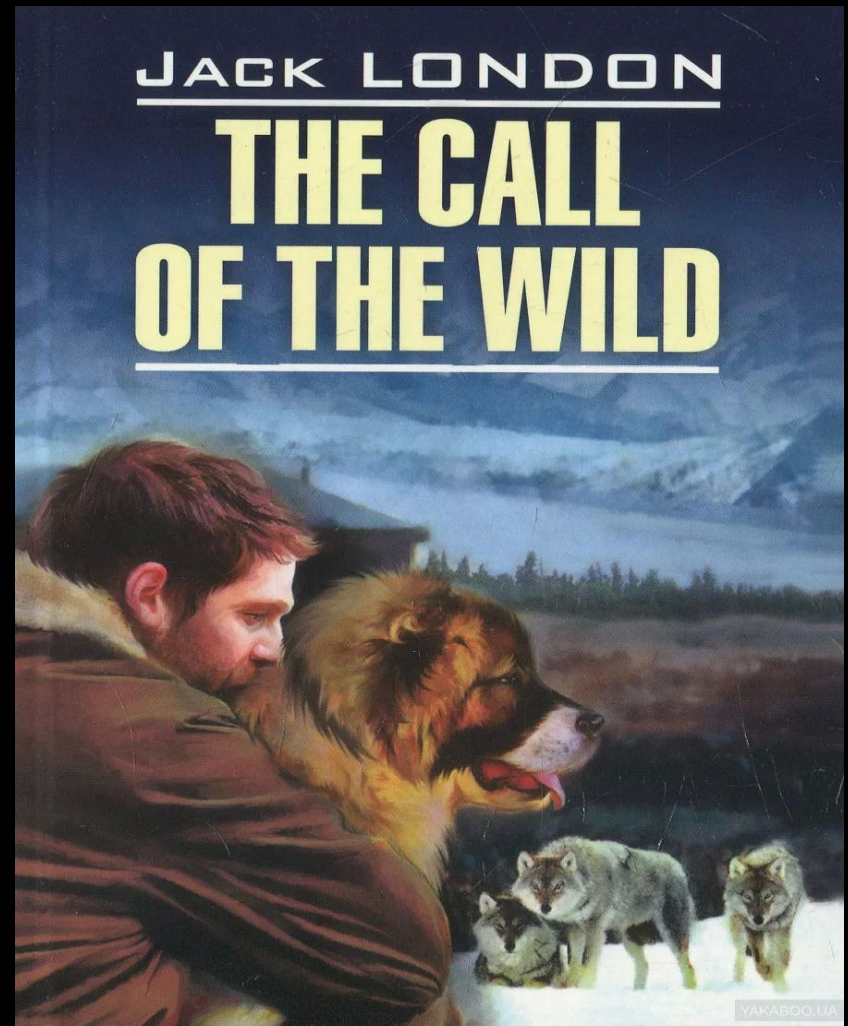


In 1899 he began publishing stories in the *Overland Monthly*. The experience of writing and getting published greatly disciplined. From that time forward, London made it a practice to write at least a thousand words a day.

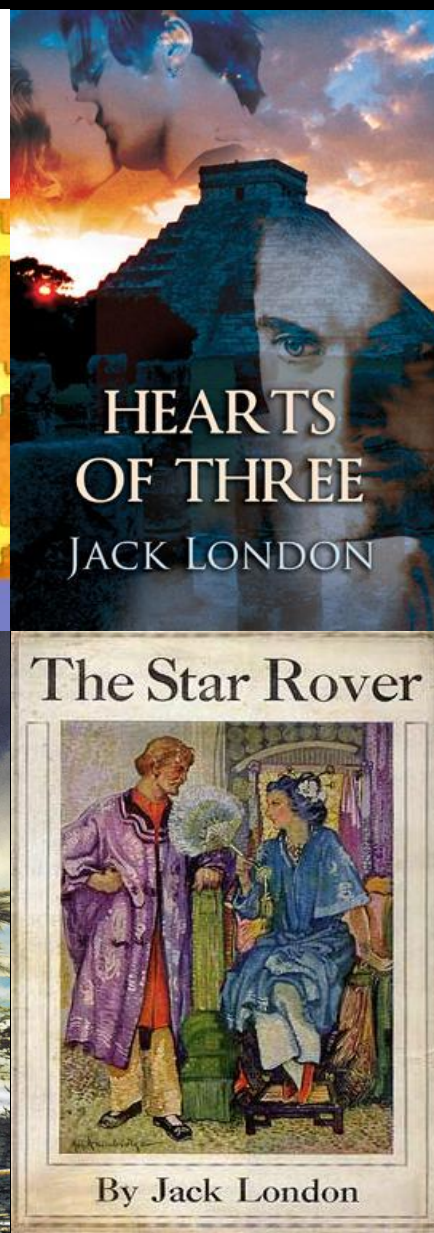


## A HARDWORKING AUTHOR

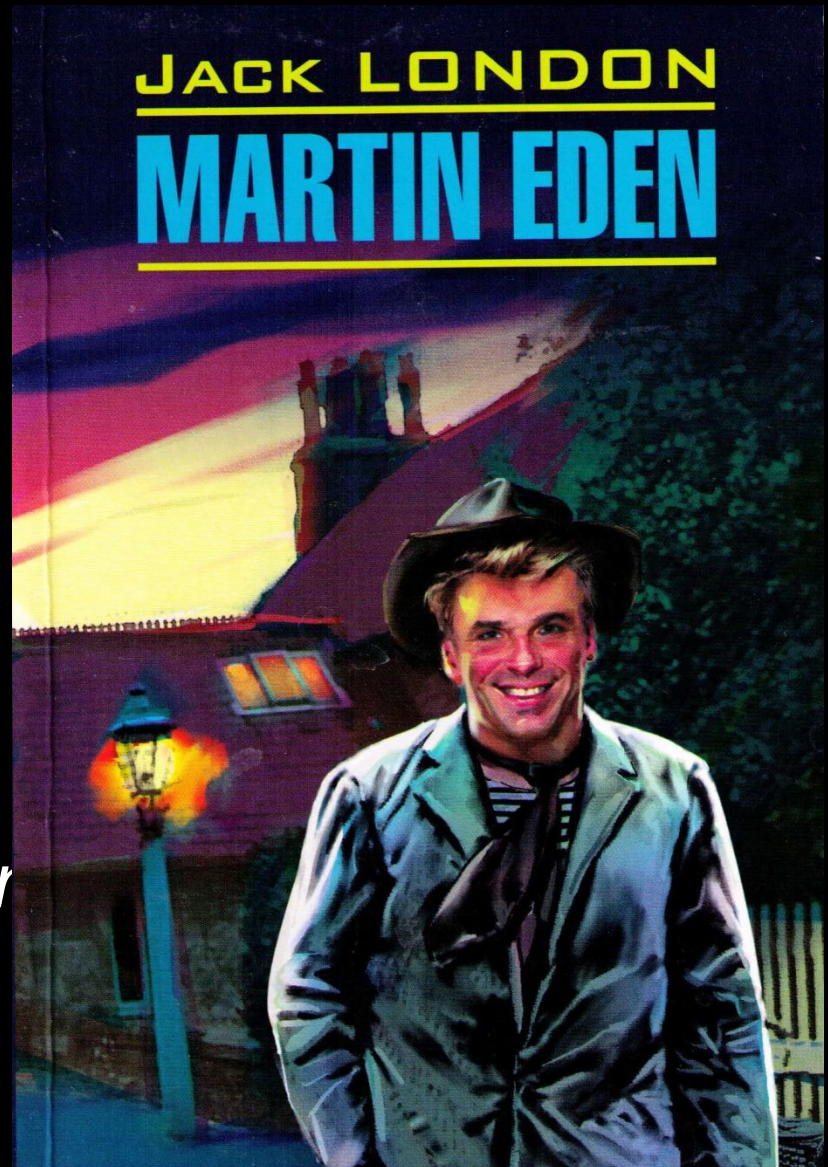
London found fame and some fortune at the age of 27 with his novel *The Call of the Wild* (1903), which told the story of a dog that finds its place in the world as a sled dog in the Yukon.



The success did little to soften London's hard-driving lifestyle. A prolific writer, he published more than 50 books over the last 16 years of his life. The titles included *The People of the Abyss* (1903), which offered a scathing critique of capitalism and *White Fang* (1906), a popular tale about a wild wolf dog becoming domesticated.



Among London's major works are *The Sea-Wolf*, remembered from its Nietzschean Superman hero, visionary fantasy *The Iron Heel* (1908), which became very popular in the Soviet Union, *The Cruise of the Snark* (1911), a travel book from his journeys in South Pacific, and semi-autobiographical *Martin Eden*, London's most favourite autobiographical novel.



# WHITE FANG

White Fang is a novel by American author Jack London (1876–1916) — and the name of the book's eponymous character, a wild wolfdog. First serialized in *Outing* magazine, it was published in 1906. The story takes place in Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories, Canada, during the 1890s Klondike Gold Rush and details White Fang's journey to domestication. It is a companion novel (and a thematic mirror) to London's best-known work, *The Call of the Wild*, which is about a kidnapped, domesticated dog embracing his wild ancestry to survive and thrive in the wild. Much of *White Fang* is written from the viewpoint of the titular canine character, enabling London to explore how animals view their world and how they view humans. *White Fang* examines the violent world of wild animals and the equally violent world of humans. The book also explores complex themes including morality and redemption.

*White Fang* has been adapted for the screen numerous times, including a 1991 film starring Ethan Hawke.



## FAMILY

In 1900 London married Bess Maddern. The couple had two daughters together, Joan and Bess. By some accounts Bess and London's relationship was constructed less around love and more around the idea that they could have strong, healthy children together. It's not surprising, then, that their marriage lasted just a few years.



## FINAL YEARS

For much of the last decade of his life, London faced a number of health issues. This included kidney disease, which ended up taking his life. He died at his California ranch, which he shared with Kittredge, his second wife, on November 22, 1916.



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