

The Call of the Wild

Jack London

Why does Thornton's death change the call of the forest from temptation into something Buck can finally obey?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	The last human tie breaks
------------	---------------------------

FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION	Chapter VII · The Sounding of the Call
START	Thornton's desperate struggle was fresh-written on the earth
END	John Thornton was dead. The last tie was broken. Man and the claims of man no longer bound him.
PASSAGE ID	sec-cow-04

THE MOVE

Track how one event changes the meaning of an earlier desire

WHY THIS PASSAGE

The call of the wild has tempted Buck before, but Thornton's presence kept one powerful human bond in place. After Thornton's death, the same call changes meaning because the competing obligation disappears. The desire has not changed; the conditions around obeying it have.

MARK

Underline the evidence that Thornton is dead and the bond is irrecoverable. Circle the language of the forest call before and after that realization. Star the sentence that names the 'last tie' as broken.

NOTICE

- What prevented Buck from fully answering the call earlier?
- Why does Thornton's death remove more than grief?
- How can the same desire mean temptation at one point and destiny at another?

THINK

Answer provisionally: Why does Thornton's death change the call of the forest from temptation into something Buck can finally obey? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: Why does Thornton's death change the call of the forest from temptation into something Buck can finally obey? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	Thornton's death removes the last human bond strong enough to compete with the forest call. The call itself has existed before, but after that loss obeying it no longer means abandoning someone Buck loves.
EVIDENCE	Use evidence of Thornton as the final human tie, Buck's response to his death, and the renewed call afterward.
WATCH FOR	Do not say Thornton's death creates the forest desire. It changes the conditions under which Buck can finally act on an existing desire.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

The Call of the Wild

Jack London

Why does Thornton's death change the call of the forest from temptation into something Buck can finally obey?

START ANCHOR	Thornton's desperate struggle was fresh-written on the earth
END ANCHOR	John Thornton was dead. The last tie was broken. Man and the claims of man no longer bound him.

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK - Underline the evidence that Thornton is dead and the bond is irrecoverable. Circle the language of the forest call before and after that realization. Star the sentence that names the 'last tie' as broken.
2. NOTICE - What prevented Buck from fully answering the call earlier? Why does Thornton's death remove more than grief? How can the same desire mean temptation at one point and destiny at another?
3. THINK - Answer provisionally: Why does Thornton's death change the call of the forest from temptation into something Buck can finally obey?
4. WRITE - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.