

By the Great Horn Spoon

Section 1 – Chapters 1-3

Chapter 1 – The Stowaways

Vocabulary

slake	
dire	
lurch	
penetrate	
clamor	
imperative	
cholera	
scoundrel	

Comprehension

1. Who do you think will win the race, the Lady Wilma or the Sea Raven? Explain.

2. When Praiseworthy and Jack are discovered as stowaways they are sent to the coal bunkers as punishment. What are the advantages and disadvantages of this punishment?

3. Why did Jack go searching for gold?

4. Jack and Praiseworthy had to get on the boat as stowaways. What caused this?

Chapter 2 – How to Catch a Thief

Vocabulary

rogue	
undaunted	
anxious	
despicable	
suspicion	
imposter	

Comprehension

1. What is the plan to catch the cutpurse? How does it work?

2. Draw a picture of the first 2 main characters of the story:
Jack and Praiseworthy

Chapter 3 – News of the Sea Raven

Vocabulary

oozed	
molting	

Comprehension

1. List all of Jack and Praiseworthy's cabinmates. Give a detail about each one.

2. Do you think Captain Swain made the right decision in towing the square-rigger? Why or why not?

3. What is the Southern Cross?

4. How does Jack view his and Praiseworthy's relationship?

5. How does Praiseworthy view it?

6. Give a 4-6 sentence summary of the beginning of the book.

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Section 2 – Chapters 4-7

Chapter 4 – The Pig Hunt

Vocabulary

latitude	
banshees	
tarry	
exotic	

Comprehension

1. In what country is Rio de Janeiro? _____
2. Why do you think it was so important to Jack that Praiseworthy wanted him along?

3. What does it mean when the book says “They lost their land legs”?

4. Why did Jack think Good Luck had good luck at the end of the chapter?

5. What were some of the exotic fruits they found in Brazil?

Chapter 5 – Land of Fire
Vocabulary

impending	
horrendous	
yarn	
inclement	
suspicion	
imposter	

Comprehension

1. Why did Captain Swain choose to take the boat through the Strait of Magellan?

2. Do you think that was a good idea? Why or why not?

3. The author does a great job using figurative language to bring the words to life in this chapter. Give 3 examples

4. On the next page, draw a straight line to show the route of *Lady Wilma*. Draw a dashed line to show the route of *Sea Raven*.



Chapter 6 – Spoiled Potatoes

Vocabulary

monotony	
becalmed	
languished	
ration	
stalwart	

Comprehension

1. What were the problems of Jack and Praiseworthy's fellow passengers and how did they help solve them?

2. What did Mr. Jones and the frenchman offer to buy Jack and Praiseworthy when they got to the gold mines?

3. What happened at the end of the chapter?

Chapter 7 – End of the Race
Vocabulary

skedaddled	
thronged	

Comprehension

1. What benefit do the sellers have to tell Mr. Jones and Monsieur Gaunt that they would be buying the last picks, shovels and pans in Callao?

2. Which weighs more, bricks or coal? _____
3. What was the Sea Raven's strategy to win the race?

4. Who won the race? _____
5. Give a 4-6 sentence summary of Section 2.

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Section 3 – Chapters 8-11

Chapter 8 – Saved Vocabulary

lure	
ruination	
necessity	
obliged	

Comprehension

1. Why do they only have two months to find gold?

3. Why is everything so expensive in San Francisco?

4. What are some words used for gold?

5. Who was the man following Jack and Praiseworthy? Why did he follow them?

6. Why were they offering free haircuts to the miners?

Chapter 9 – The Man in the Jipijapa Hat
Vocabulary

savages	
fascination	

Comprehension

1. Why were the mining supplies so expensive?

2. Who was the man in the Jipajapa hat?

3. Give 3 more examples of figurative language in this chapter.

4. Draw a picture of what you think the mining town will be like.

Chapter 10 – The Rouge Out-Rouged
Vocabulary

undertaker	
imposter	

Comprehension

1. What were some of the things the robbers stole from the travelers?

2. How did Jack and Praiseworthy get to keep their gold?

3. What happened when the robbers started digging in Praiseworthy's carpet bag?

4. Why do they want the map back?

5. What did Cut-Eye Higgins say happened to it? Do you believe him?

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Section 4 – Chapters 12-15

Chapter 12 – Bullwhip

Vocabulary

elated	
dire	
lurch	
penetrate	
clamor	
imperative	
cholera	
scoundrel	

Comprehension

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Chapter 13 – A Bushel of Neckties

Vocabulary

notoriety	
grubstake	
speculations	
spangles	
suspicion	

Comprehension

1. In the beginning of the story, Jack solved a desperate problem with a very clever solution. He does it again in this chapter. What is the problem and how does Jack solve it?

2. Should they go after the man who took the map or continue prospecting? Defend your choice.

3. What is your favorite part of the story so far? Explain why.

Chapter 14 – The Prospectors
Vocabulary

mule	
devoured	

Comprehension

1. Who is stubb?

2. How does Praiseworthy think he can beat Mountain Ox?

3. Why is Praiseworthy going to fight Mountain Ox?

4. Do you think he should come back to fight Mountain Ox? Why or Why not?

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Section 5 – Chapters 16-18

Chapter 16 – Gravediggers

Vocabulary

festivities	
heinous	
reprieve	
cantankerous	

Comprehension

1. What was happening to Cut-Eye Higgins when they got to Shirt-Tale camp?

2. Why did Praiseworthy help Cut-Eye Higgins even after finding out the map was no good?

3. How did Praiseworthy convince the Justice to let Doc Higgins out of the noose?

4. What happened when they went looking for a place to bury Higgins?

Chapter 17 – The Fifteenth of August
Vocabulary

exuberance	
savor	
invincible	
vigilant	

Comprehension

1. Why did Jack have to cut some stakes before digging for more gold?

2. What was Praiseworthy contemplating regarding Aunt Arabella?

3. What does Praiseworthy mean when he says “He’s just running from one noose to another”?

4. How did Jack and Praiseworthy get their gun?

5. How was Praiseworthy able to beat the Mountain Ox?

Chapter 18 – Arrival at the Long Wharf
Vocabulary

rousing	
engulfed	
flustered	

Comprehension

1. How did Jack and Praiseworthy lose their fortune?

2. What was their clever plan that restored their riches?

3. Who came to greet them at the Wharf?

4. What does Praiseworthy mean when he says “When a man strikes gold he doesn’t lose any time staking his claim?”

5. What is their new plan for the future, as a family?

6. Now that you have finished the story, why do you think the author titled the book, By The Great Horn Spoon?
