Kawahjahlin Rogers

Professor K

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Sequel of “To Build A Fire”

It had been proven the dog was smarter than the man. The dog ran along to the destination without his travelling companion. At the log cabin, the men waited for a friend who would never show up. As 7 o’clock approached, the dog made it to the log cabin. All the dog could think about was finally being able to warm up by the fire. The men let him in and he ran straight to the burning fire to rest.

The next morning, the men realized their friend still had not arrived. They were expecting to find their friend by the fire by morning, but now the men started to wonder exactly where their friend had gone. The dog saw the men’s confusion and decided to lead them to where he had left the man. It took the men a while to understand exactly what the dog was attempting to do for them. After discovering what was being grated to them, they prepared the for the trip. They got gas lamps and bundled up for the trip with the dog. The dog could remember everything from the previous day, but tried not to remember the fright the man put in him. A few times along the way, the dog got lost because of the amount of snowfall covering the scent guiding him.

The body was covered in snow. Digging had to be done. Unable to leave their friend there, the men had to lift and carry their friend back to the cabin. After finally making it back to the cabin, the body had to be thawed by the fire because it was rock solid. They laid the body on the floor by the fire as cautiously as possible trying not to shatter the remains. While the body was thawing, the men decided how to put their friend to rest. One man came up with the idea of digging the grave in the back of the cabin because it was his ultimate destination. The other had the idea of taking his body back to where he was found because it was the place of his final demise. The last man thought they should get his body stuffed and make a somewhat statue of their noble friend to remind them never stop trying. Nobody agreed on the best way to let their friend rest. The dog began to feel as though the men were being ridiculous. No matter what they did to honor their friend, he would not come back to life. Frankly, the dog thought all their ideas were foolish and should not have been considered. He thought the body would be fine just buried anywhere.

After hours of debating, the men finally came up with a solution. They decided to incorporate all their ideas into their plan of a final send off for their friend. They would take an article of clothing to hang over the fire and create two headstones to represent where he died and his destination. The actual burial of the body was to be decided by his mother.

Now that they had figured out what to do with the body, it was time to break the new to his mother. They wanted to write a very sincere note, so she would not take the news too hard. In the letter, they also told her of their plan to put her son to rest and asked if she had a specific place she wanted him buried. They mailed the letter off and had to wait for a reply. While they waited, they began to grow closer and fonder of the dog. He was very wise for his species and they could tell he was conscious of what was going on. They were not sure of what their late friend called him, so they gave him the new name, Courage. They named him this because he had the courage to come all the way to the camp alone even after what happened with their friend.

His mother had written back and the letter arrived about a week later. His mother said she thought it would be a good idea to bury her soon behind the cabin, so it would be like he finally made it to his friends after all. They buried their friend at the back of the camp in a deep grave. His headstones were handmade and they out them where they said they would. The next day there was no snow, only sunlight. They like to think it was their friend telling them they had done a great job, but they can never be sure.