

Name
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LA
BTGHS Book Report

By the Great Horn Spoon
By: Sid Fleishman

By the Great Horn Spoon, by Sid Fleishman, is about two people in search for gold during the California Gold Rush. The story takes place on route to California and in the gold fields in the year 1849. The two main characters are Jack and Praiseworthy. Jack is a 12 year old school boy from Boston and Praiseworthy is his beloved butler.

Jack and Praiseworthy began their journey as stowaways aboard the Lady Wilma. Someone, a cut-purse, stole their bank-notes so they could no longer afford their passage. They were forced to work in the coalbunkers until they found the thief. Praiseworthy devised a plan to catch the scoundrel who stole their passage money and the bank notes were found in Cut-Eye Higgins cigar. They were saved from the coalbunkers. Along the way, Jack made a new companion, a pig he named Good Luck. The pig was supposed to be food for the shipmates, and the cook did all he could to catch the piggy. Jack protected him and he finally had good luck when Cut-Eye Higgins took the skiff and Good Luck was along for the ride. All this time, the Lady Wilma and the Sea Raven were in a race to California. The captain, Captain Swain, took a shortcut through the Strait of Magellan. They took the lead and eventually won the race. They arrived in San Francisco.

Jack and Praiseworthy quickly learned how expensive and difficult it was to get anything or do anything in San Francisco. They needed to find a way to make enough money to get to the diggings. A miner, by the name of Quartz Jackson, helped them

realize that they could pan the whiskers of the miners to get gold dust. That meant Free Haircuts for miners only. On the way to the diggings, Cut-Eyes Higgins was on their stagecoach. They found the gold map. Only to lose it, so they thought, to Road Agents. The road agents also went through all the bags and found a picture of Aunt Arabella. When the road agents wouldn't return it, Praiseworthy punched him and he went flying up the hill. The road agents left, and they finally made it to the diggings. Finding a claim was not possible. They squatted with Pitch Pine Billy to gather their grubstake and go prospecting. While there, they earned their new names, Bullwhip and Jamoka Jack.

They were off to go prospecting. Along the way, a rouge road agent saved Jack from a coyote hole. Jamoka Jack recognized the jacket of Cut-Eye Higgins and the lies were exposed. Cut-Eye Higgins still had the map. They found him in Shirt-Tale camp, saved him from being hung, and found the map. It was USELESS!! It lead them right where they already were. They were tasked with digging Cut Eye Higgins grave, during which they struck gold. THEY DID IT!!! They went back to San Francisco only to lose their gold in the bottom of the bay. In San Francisco, they saved their fortune by selling Peruvian cats living on the Lady Wilma to shopkeepers in the city. As they searched for a passage, they found their family and were reunited on the west coast. They decided to live in the city together as a family. Bullwhip and Aunt Arabella were to be married.

The story By the Great Horn Spoon is _____. I liked it because _____. I disliked _____ . I would (not) recommend this book to a friend because _____. Write your own closing sentence.