

The Adventures of Seaman and the Corps of Discovery

Written and Illustrated by the
Fourth Grade Class at Laguna
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Table of Contents

Chapter 1 Dog for Dollars

Chapter 2 Hiring Men

Chapter 3 Meeting the Fierce Sioux

Chapter 4 The Winter with the Mandan Indians

Chapter 5 The Missouri River

Chapter 6 Sacagawea's Reunion

Chapter 7 The Rocky Mountains

Chapter 8 Finally There

Chapter 9 The Journey Home



Chapter 1

Dog for Dollars

by Ulrikke Holm Jensen and Lucas Acosta

Seaman was walking happily with his owner, Mr. Hanson. The wind was going through Seaman's fur. Then he held his head high in the sky to smell the air. They walked right where the two rivers go together. Soon Hanson stopped, and Seaman stopped too. "Nobody has to teach you manners, Seaman," said Hanson. Seaman looked at his owner to hear for a command.



A hunter was standing right by the river bank about to shoot a duck. Seaman could smell the hunter's cotton shirt and leather pants.

Bang! Seaman saw the bullet going out of the hunter's gun. Seaman looked at the hunter, and the hunter smiled and started to walk towards them with a big smile on his face. Hanson exclaimed, "Seaman go fetch that duck!" Seaman started to swim across river to get the duck as fast as he could swim. Seaman was pattering through the water.

Then the hunter yelled, "Hey that is my duck!" and Seaman came and laid the duck at the bottom of Hanson's feet. Then Hanson gave the duck to the hunter. "Wow!" said the hunter, "The duck is only harmed where I shot the duck." There were no bite marks from the dog's teeth. "It seems like your dog has a really soft mouth," said the hunter. "Aye, he has a soft mouth. That is for sure," said Hanson.

The hunter said, "My name is Meriwether Lewis," and then Hanson said, "It's nice to meet you. My name is James Hanson." "Is the dog young?" asked Lewis. "Well, he is about a year old," said Hanson. "What a nice dog you have got," said Lewis. "Thank you, but I can't take credit for his training. He watched his mother work, and he learned just watching. He got taken away when he was a pup," said Hanson. "Is it a newfoundland?" asked Lewis. "Yes it is," said Hanson. "Aren't you the man who is here to get a keelboat," asked Hanson.

"Yes I need a keelboat for a mission to see if there is a river that goes all the way to the Pacific Ocean. For the trip I need a dog, and I think I got one here," said Lewis. "If you are asking if he is for sale, he is not. I already sold him to someone else who is going out on a ship that is heading towards the ocean," said Hanson. "But I need a dog who can learn fast and alert us to danger and strangers.

I can't wait for the next litter of pups," said Lewis. "I will give you fifteen dollars," Lewis added. "I would be glad to do sell him to you, but only for only for twenty dollars," said Hanson. "Twenty dollars it is," said Lewis. Soon Lewis took out twenty dollars and gave it to Hanson.

"Sit," ordered Hanson. "Lewis is your new owner," Hanson added. "What is the dog's name?" asked Lewis. "His name is Seaman because I knew he was going to sea," said Hanson. "He is just like you thought," said Lewis. "So you are saying that you're taking this dog to the Pacific Ocean on President Jefferson's command?" asked Hanson. "Yes, this was President Jefferson's command," said Lewis.

When Lewis and Seaman started to go away tears filled Hanson's eyes, and Seaman started whining. "Seaman now you are with me, and we are going on a fantastic adventure," Lewis told Seaman.

Hanson started to think about the twenty dollars he just got. He could buy clothes for himself and his five sons with really good quality. This was a really good day, but he had to give up Seaman for the money and the original buyer is going to be very mad.

Chapter 2

Hiring Men

By Spencer Hlavaty & Nicole Levine

Seaman and Lewis were just getting on the keelboat to hire men and then, all of a sudden hundreds of squirrels were swimming across the river. Lewis said, "Seaman, go get the 'em!"

Seaman didn't hesitate to get them and when he bit the squirrels on the neck there was no blood, just a little bite from those big adorable jaws.

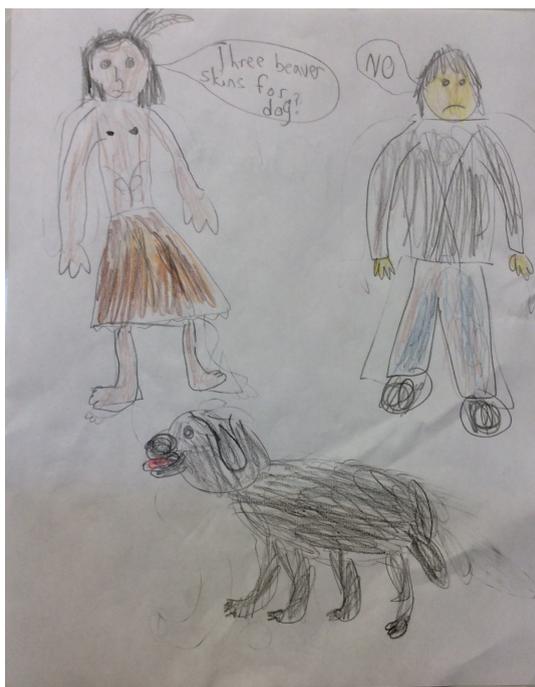


Lewis, Seaman, and some men were traveling to William Clark's house to hire men for the journey. Seaman lay on the ground patiently smelling the meat until a black man came and was amazed by the size of the dog. "Look at the size of you. You're huge!" The black man exclaimed out loud, "Come to the yard and play." So Seaman played with the black man as well and found out his name, York. That night they hired men and ate boiled squirrel meat.

Three days later the men were about to retrieve game (meat) and one of the fellow members, John Colter, asked if he could take Seaman on a hunt for food. Lewis agreed and said that he was a good retriever and needed the exercise. Lewis started to teach Clark on latitude and longitude to pinpoint their location with a triangular instrument. They had to do this every day. Clark had some troubles while doing this hard but yet important job. The men couldn't wait to start the journey.

On an afternoon on November 16, 1803, Lewis asked a man to be in charge of camp.

Lewis, Clark, and Seaman hopped onto a pirogue and they went to the Mississippi river to study the river's width. They got out and hiked in the woods until they approached a nearby Indian camp. These Indians were nice and some even petted Seaman and one Indian was amazed, so the Indian said, "Big dog." Lewis was proud of his dog so he showed the Indian Seaman's tricks. The Indian asked, "Three beaver skins for dog." The Captain turned him down leaving the Indian in annoyance. Then they left and Lewis said, "Three beaver skins, no way! I paid twenty bucks for this dog in Pittsburgh. This dog is not just any dog, he's a miracle!"



On November 20, 1803 the men loaded the boats and continued the journey up the river to get to the Pacific Ocean. The current was swift, and the boats were heavy with supplies, but it was so heavy against the current they needed more men and more supplies, but that meant they had to get more boats. "Let's get more men at Kaskaskia." Lewis agreed and smiled at Clark. They reached Kaskaskia on November 28, 1803 and they got men and more supplies loaded. They set camp at the mouth of the Missouri River. In mid-December, the men were setting up camp wood. The winter was cold for four months and Lewis made trips to St. Louis to purchase supplies, mail letters, and make arrangements with traders and trappers who've been up the Missouri. The captains made informal maps. Seaman went on hunting trips beside John Colter and ran by men at training drills. George Shannon and York would play with Seaman when they had time.

By mid March, 1804, the Missouri River was ice-free. Every day was warmer than the last;

the men grew restless to begin the new adventure. At 6:00 on March 13, the captains sat and looked over a list of names. Seaman was dozing by while Lewis gossiped with Clark. Every time Lewis and Clark went on a walk, Seaman accompanied them. The captains ordered the men to assemble. Seaman stood the men that were being chosen by Lewis and Clark for the expedition to the Pacific. Each man chosen stuck out their chest before returning to the dog's side.

Twenty six men were chosen. Three sergeants were announced: Charles Floyd, Nathaniel Pryor, and John Ordway. Nine of the men were from Kentucky, including George Shannon and John Colter. Some of the men were siblings, cousins, and friends. One of the men played the fiddle. The men chosen were in there 20's or 30's and all were unmarried like their captains. Lewis announced that 6 of the men would return after they collected some more samples of plants and animals.

After speeches and announcements were said, the men rejoiced by drinking beer while slapping

people's backs. Young Shannon ran over to Seaman to try to pick him up, but he failed. He was the youngest man to be chosen. Seaman licked Shannon's face all wet. Sadly, York was not chosen but Clark gave a hand signal that he could come. York was happy and did a little jig. John was happy and clapped his hands, and Seaman barked joyfully.

Chapter 3

Meeting the Fierce Sioux

by Kendall Keshen and Alex Whitten

During the hot summer day, the Corps was passing the James River, when an Indian teen was watching them, jumped in the water, and swam over to the boats. They could only understand some of the words the Indian spoke so they mostly used sign language.

Lewis looked at Clark, and they decided to have a meeting with the Sioux, but they had to be careful. They were excited to meet the Sioux in person. That day the Indian boy came back with news that his chiefs would come to the meeting in three days. The meeting was held at Camlet Bluffs. Both the explorers and Indians dressed nicely. When the chiefs arrived, Lewis and Clark looked at each other nervously and started the meeting with their usual lecture.

The Indians did their performance to show off their strength and skill. The explorers were amazed with their shooting skills and the chiefs were proud of their Indian sons. The Corps loved the Indians' little show and showered them with gifts. Usually during the meetings, Seaman was always happy and playful, but this time he was nervous of the men with new smells and the woman with the scalps of the men they fought in battles.

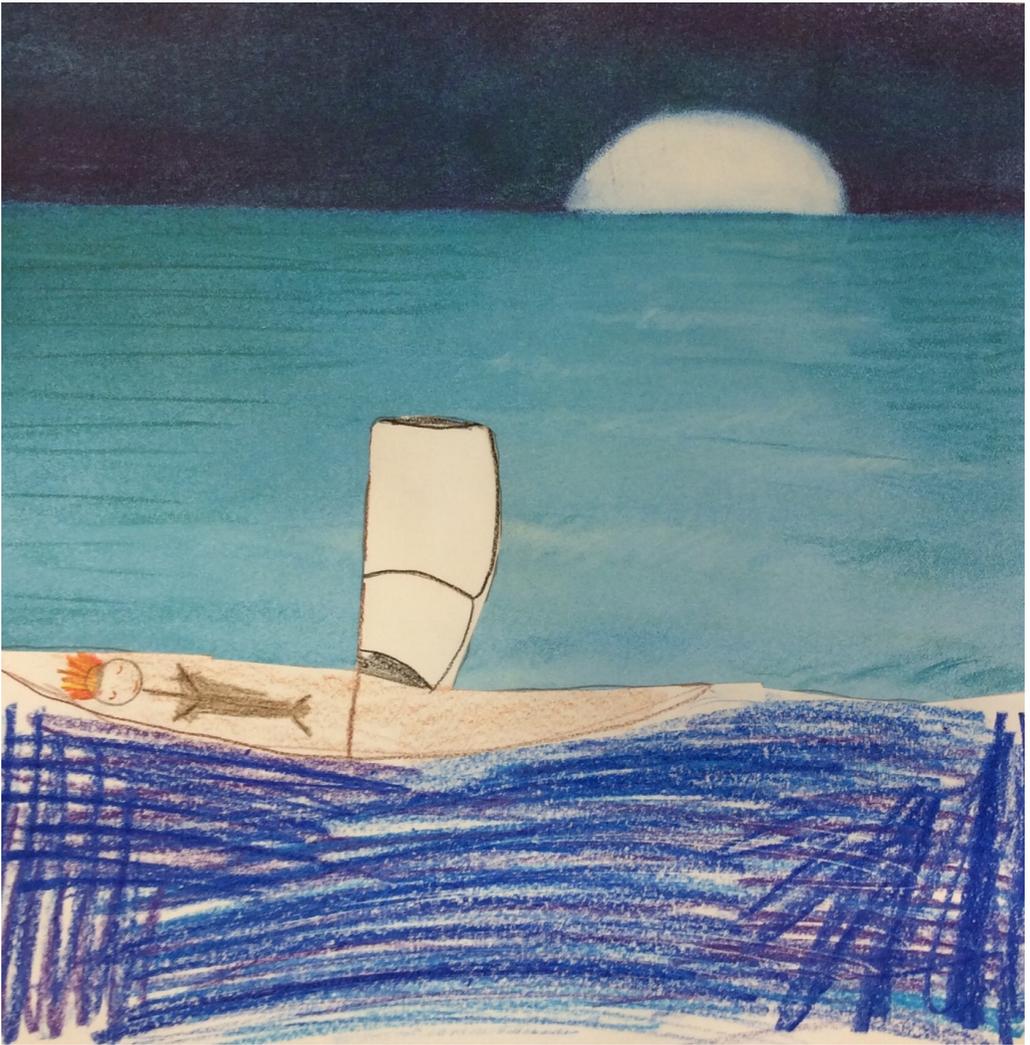
The Indians were pinching and touching York because of his dark skin. The next day the Yankton Sioux chiefs made their speeches and the Corps gave out the gifts, but this time the braves were not impressed.

They soon realized that one of the men, George Shannon, disappeared, and no one has seen him anywhere. They were calling out his name, but there was no answer. Everybody was nervous, so Lewis decided to send out Colter to find Shannon and bring him back to camp. Seaman wandered into a prairie and found some creatures popping out of the ground. He stepped on the holes and jumped around trying to make them come out again. Lewis told the men that the squirrel-like-animals were impossible to catch. They decided to fill the holes with water to bring the animals out and take them to a nearby tribe to find out what the animal was called.

Sadly, Colter couldn't find Shannon, but a few days later Seaman was barking like crazy, and just around the corner was George Shannon. The crew stared for a few minutes before saying something, and finally someone said, "Thank God you are alive Shannon!" Seaman sat still so Shannon could use him as a pillow. When the men were talking to him, Shannon fell asleep while sitting up!

The next meet up with another Sioux tribe was pretty much the same as last time. The next day Colter arrived with fresh game tied to his horse, and his men came to help put the game on the boat, when the Indians took the horse. "Thief, horse thief, help me catch this man!" Colter shouted. The next morning, the three Teton chiefs arrived in their camp. They had brought buffalo meat for them as a gift. The meeting started right away with the captain's speech about the new white father. The Teton Sioux couldn't understand English, so Lewis' words were meaningless to them. Lewis ended the speech and gave out small things like tobacco and medals.

Seaman was once again nervous because they didn't seem as friendly as the tribes before. During the party that night, Seaman stayed by Lewis's side and watched the dancers do their thing with the dead scalps. Clark said something to Lewis. Lewis asked the chiefs to come up on one of the pirogues. The chiefs went up in the pirogues. The captains gave the Indians some whisky. They sniffed and drank all the whisky until one Indian drank the last drop. The captains did not understand the chief's words and took them back to shore. The Indians became angry and looked at them with fierce eyes. Lewis and Clark became very angry and loaded up the guns to fire at the Indians if they did not let go of the boat. "Stop this!" Clark shouted as he drew his weapon. "Get ready to fight!" Lewis said. The Indians loaded up their bows and got ready until someone said, "Let's stop this craziness and make peace." Clark wanted to shake hands with the chiefs of the Teton Sioux, but they did not accept the shake.



That evening Black Buffalo wanted to sleep in the keelboat. The captains agreed, but they ordered a guard to watch the chief sleep. Again Black Buffalo wanted to sleep in the keelboat, and again a guard was ordered to watch him sleep. Both the Indians and the Corps were angry.

The Indians held onto the boat and wouldn't let go. The Indian chief demanded tobacco until Lewis threw a small piece of tobacco. That day the Corps said goodbye to the Teton Sioux and moved on with the journey.

Chapter 4

The Winter with the Mandan Indians

by Noah Dehli and Alexia Acosta



On October 8, Lewis, Clark, and the Corps of Discovery went out to meet the Arikara Indians. The explorers showed a military display and gave small gifts to the Indians, and the Indians gave them a warm welcome and food.

It was very surprising to the Indians that York had black skin. York pretended to be a monster and scared the children. Then the captains stopped him because the Arikaras might take it seriously. After a few days the Corps of Discovery proceeded on into Mandan Indian territory by the end of October. They hoped to set up winter camp close to the Mandan Indians for trade.

On October 24, Lewis and Clark met a Mandan hunting party, and they were invited to the village. Lewis and Seaman were going to have a meeting with the chief of the Mandan tribe. They were a friendly tribe and told the Corps that they were a central trading village. The tribe said that in summer, just before fall, there were massive amounts of traders.

Lewis came back to report to Clark that the Mandans were peaceful farmers and were also friendly, helpful, and open to trade with the Corps of Discovery. Clark asked how many local villages were near. The Mandan chief had said that there were five villages, two Mandans and three Hidatsa.

More than 4,000 Indians lived in all the villages. Clark asked Lewis, "How many warriors in all?" Lewis said, "About 1,000 in all the villages." Lewis knew that it was still dangerous even though the Mandans seemed friendly, so Lewis and Clark agreed to post guards to protect the supplies.

They had a meeting on October 29, with the Mandan chief, Black Cat. He explained that his people and many other Indians were dissatisfied with the presents the Corps of Discovery gave them. But the explorers all knew that they had to stay calm because thousands of Indians were surrounding them.

Lewis and Clark began to build their winter fort to the east of the Missouri River.



For the first few days of the construction of Fort Mandan, curious Indians came to visit and even slept in the fort. The explorers were concerned about all the Indians, but as the days went by and everything was peaceful, the Mandans earned the Corps' trust. The Indian squaws also gave meat to Seaman.

Lewis and Clark were told landmarks by the Indians, and they sketched a map. One of the people who came to the fort was a trapper named Charbonneau (SHAR-buh-no), a forty-six year old French Canadian. He offered to come along and take one of his wives named Sacagawea (Sah-KAH-gah-WAY-ah) to help translate, and the Corps happily accepted. They were delighted to find that she was pregnant. Sacagawea liked Seaman and fed him meat.

That night the temperature dropped, but the explorers saw the northern lights and were amazed.



The next day it snowed hard, and Seaman was the only one who was happy. The fort was completed on November 21. The explorers all said that it was the coldest they have ever been at 45 degrees below zero. The Corps started to get into shape for the cold winter months by hunting, getting logs for fire, reinforcing walls, and making new tools.

The captains came together and wrote all the information that they gathered so far. The explorers began to run low on their meat and began to depend more on the Indians' corn.

The Indians were happy to trade casually, until they noticed that the Corps was desperate. Then they negotiated harder bargains. One day John Shields had set up a forge to repair the expedition's tools. The Indians began coming to the forge to repair tools they got from earlier trades, and John charged them in corn. The explorers also had medicine that the Indians did not know about. Lewis was also skilled in doctoring and amputated a child's toes so he wouldn't die of an infection from frostbite.

Sacagawea was ready to give birth and Lewis invited her to stay in their fort. Everybody all noticed an air of happiness as they were told the baby was healthy and was named Jean Baptiste.



At night they had parties with the Indians. A man from the Corps named Cruzatte played his fiddle, and everybody sang and danced long into the night.

On March 2, 1805, someone announced that the ice on the river had melted, and they could continue their journey to the Pacific, so the Corps started again. That night, Lewis described in his journal, "This moment of my departure as among the most happy of my life."

Chapter 5

The Missouri River

by Keanu and Jayla

After the Corps of Discovery left Fort Mandan, they felt confident. They had survived a really cold winter, and they felt like they could survive anything. Traveling the Missouri was pretty hard. It took a lot of their strength and patience. The river was not easy to travel using the heavy keelboats,

so they used the dugout canoes and pirogues instead. When they went away from the river, there was nothing that could block their view.

Even though there was not enough rain for trees, the place was good and there were a lot of animals such as buffalo, elk, and antelope. There were also a lot of birds eating little bugs. Every day there was enough food for everyone. It seemed like paradise. Seaman hunted also. They saw antelopes crossing the river, and they realized that antelopes were really bad swimmers. They watched how other animals, like wolves and bears, caught the antelope. Seaman copied them and caught the antelope. He would jump into the water, bite a swimming antelope, and push its head underwater so that it would drown. Seaman caught a lot of food.

One day when Lewis was taking a walk, he saw a buffalo calf. The calf didn't run away. When Seaman came running to Lewis, the calf just went closer to Lewis for protection.

The same things happened to the other men. Sometimes they would throw sticks at the animals to chase them away.

On April 13, Charbonneau was steering the pirogue when a big wind blew. He started panicking, and he turned the pirogue against the wind. Unfortunately, that was too much. Seaman slid overboard. He was staring at Sacagawea. Seaman wanted to make sure Sacagawea didn't fall overboard. After the pirogue was straightened, the men pulled Seaman up. He shook himself, and the cold water droplets sprayed everyone. The white pirogue was the steadiest of their boats. It was used hold a bunch of stuff, including valuable trading goods.



They all knew that there were a lot of grizzly bears next to the Missouri River. When they heard that the Indians prepared to hunt grizzly like they prepared to go to war, they were a little excited to test their strength on one. On April 14, Clark found two grizzly bears running. On April 28, Lewis and Clark heard two grizzlies and shot at them. One of the wounded bears ran off. The other bear charged. Both men managed to load their guns and shoot at the bear. Finally it fell to the ground. He was amazed by the bear's size. They had thick claws longer than a man's finger. It took several men to carry the bear to the boat.

Clark returned with a story that was even more frightening. Clark's group shot ten bullets at the grizzly bear, and it ran halfway in the river and roared for 20 minutes. Clark discovered that there were five bullets in the bear's lungs. Another wounded bear chased a hunter half a mile. The hunter shouted at the boats. The men chased the grizzly bear a mile and a half before the bear died.

The grizzly bear had already been shot in the lungs. Three days later, they had their fourth and worst meeting with a wounded grizzly bear.

The explorers shot six bullets at the bear, and the bear chased the hunters to the river. The hunters kept shooting. It took a total of eight bullets to take down the bear. Now the explorers knew why the Indians feared the grizzly bears. Lewis wrote that he would rather fight two Indians than a grizzly bear.

One day, Charbonneau was steering the white pirogue when the wind started to go fast again. Both captains and Seaman were on the land. They watched helplessly as the pirogue tipped. Seaman jumped into the river and began to swim to the boat. Some papers and instruments washed overboard. Sacagawea went to the other side of the boat where it was tipping and picked up the papers out of the water. Sacagawea proved that she was as brave as any of the Corps of Discovery.

They all knew that there were a lot of grizzly bears along the Missouri. That was the only thing they worried about. The next peril really surprised everyone. There were a lot of beavers along the Missouri River. The fur of the beavers were very soft and beaver meat was good. Beaver tail was everyone's favorite dish.

The hunters saved the hides so that they could sell them when they returned from the wilderness. Nobody thought beavers were dangerous because they never attacked the men. On May 19, one of the men shot a beaver. Then Seaman went to go get it. The injured beaver bit him on the leg. When Seaman gave the dead beaver to the hunter, there was a large amount of blood coming out of his leg.



The hunter yelled for help. Immediately, Lewis came. Lewis was panicking because Seaman lost so much blood. He asked for something to make the blood stop. The hunter ripped some buckskin off his clothes and gave it to Lewis. Some other people came and carried Seaman back to camp. Lewis was scared because he never treated a wound that bled so much. It already bled through three layers of cloth. Lewis cut off Seaman's fur and stitched it on his wound. York said to Seaman, "A big fellow like you should watch out for an animal who eats cottonwoods for dinner. They can chew up a whole tree you know."

Sacagawea brought some dinner to Seaman and stroked his big head. Everyone was worried about Seaman. George Shannon remembered when he was lost. At that time he slept against Seaman's back. He asked Lewis if he could sit by Seaman for the night.

In the morning Seaman was still alive, but he was not strong enough to get up.

When Lewis came to check on him, his tail thumped softly. Lewis was so glad that Seaman was still alive.

Sacagawea made a bed for Seaman in the white pirogue. George Shannon, John Colter, and York helped carry Seaman into the white pirogue. Sacagawea put a blanket on two sticks so Seaman wouldn't be hit by the sun. Every half an hour, she would wet a cloth with cold water and squeeze it so Seaman could drink. Lewis checked his dog for infection, but there was none. He thought that Seaman would probably live.

By the next evening, Seaman could roll over on his stomach. He could also lift his head. Lewis told everyone that Seaman was ready for some food, and everyone cheered. John Colter saved a bowl of drippings for Seaman. Seaman lapped it up. York also gave some meat to Seaman. George Shannon slept next to Seaman again.

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The next morning, Seaman was able to walk on his three good legs. Lewis was afraid that if Seaman walked too much, he would reopen his wound. Everyone gave him food and water. If strangers looked closely at the Corps of Discovery, they would think a hairy beast was the king of them and his throne was in a white pirogue.

After a week, Seaman was back to normal again. Lewis encouraged that Seaman should ride in the boats for at least a little bit of each day.

The men decided they would hunt their own food until the dog completely healed.

But Seaman didn't have any trouble swimming. When Seaman ran, he amazed all of the men by showing no signs of a limp.

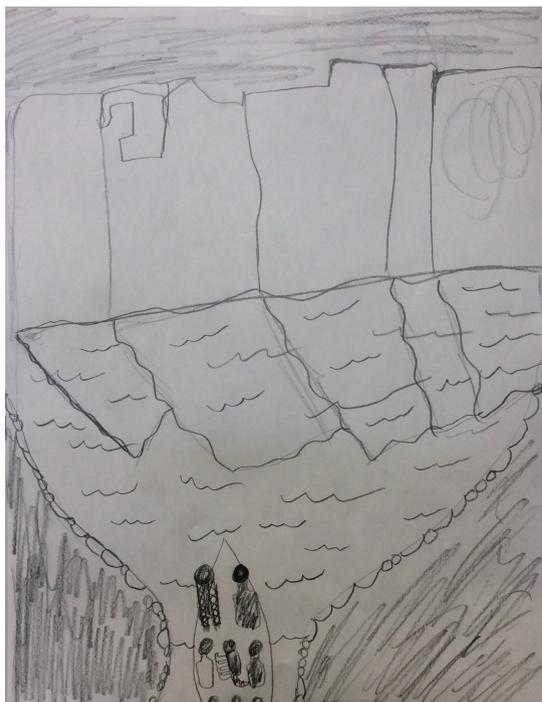
Chapter 6

Sacagawea's Reunion

by Anne Koornwinder-Gott and Lily Koornwinder-Gott

It was a hot summer day. Seaman splashed into the cold, clear water to escape the summer heat. He put his head under water so the annoying gnats could go away. The second he came out gnats were everywhere again. The Missouri River did not live up to its nickname "Old Muddy". Now it was a smooth mountain stream going over rocks and going quick around cliffs. Sometimes the stream was so strong that they could not go against the current. They had to get out of the boat and pull the boat all the way up stream. The captains already knew the Shoshone Indians because Sacagawea's tribe lived on the eastern side of the Rockies.

On July 19, Captain Lewis lead the Corps of Discovery up the river While Captain Clark took a small group of men to go on land and search for the Shoshone Indians, Captain Lewis lead the Corps of Discovery to a canyon, where the walls were about 1,000 feet tall. The water was so deep the men could not pull the canoes. The paddled through the dark shadows that were made by the big cliffs. The place was so cool, Lewis could not describe the place in the right words. Then he finally decided to name it "The Gates of the Rocky Mountains." When the canoes came out of the canyons, Seaman barked.



Seaman's nose smelled smoke. He went back and forth on the boat, barking. The boat went back and forth as Seaman did. Lewis looked out and saw rows of smoke. Lewis was a bit nervous. Lewis thought it was set on purpose. Someone asked him if maybe Clark put it there to tell them something. Lewis did not think so though. Shannon thought the Indians might have put it there. Lewis looked at Sacagawea, and she nodded.

People were wondering how they would get across if the Indians really did put it there and would not let them close to their land. The group was a little scared of what the Indians might do to them if they get to their land. Shannon asked Lewis, " Captain, what will happen if we do not have any horses to cross the Rocky Mountains?" They had a little pause until Pomp woke up and gave a little cry. Seaman made Pomp smile because Seaman rubbed against Pomp's cheek. Sacagawea sang a quiet song to Pomp. While listening to her sing, Seaman's tail gently thumped, and Lewis's face began to relax.

A few days later, on July 22nd, Sacagawea sat up and looked carefully at the land beside the river. Quietly she said, "I've been here before when I was a little girl," she said to Lewis. Lewis stared at her. "You recognize this place?" he asked. "Are you sure?" Sacagawea smiled. "Yes I know this place," she said. "In the summer, my tribe sometimes camped along the rivers. Soon we will be reaching the Three Forks, where the river joins together with the Missouri River." Lewis's mind was full of thoughts.

If Sacagawea's people came here every summer then surely the Shoshone Indians were somewhere nearby. In the afternoon, Seaman barked suddenly. He was excited. No one knew why. The people tried to get the boat steady. In the distance was Clark and his scouting group. Seaman was sniffing Clark's bare feet. They were so bloody. They got pricked by prickly pear. All the boys that went with Clark had a bloody mess on their bare feet. Lewis said they could not walk for a day so their feet could heal.

The scouting group had even worse news. They could not find the Shoshone Indians. If they could not find the Shoshone, they could not get any horses, and without horses they could not get across the Rocky Mountains. Clark wanted to try again, ignoring his torn feet. He gathered up three men. Lewis kept on going up the river with the rest of the Corps of Discovery.

The Corps of Discovery thought walking on the land next to the river was as bad as having to do boat duty. Lewis tried to make the men happy by motivating them with his own muscle power because the men were so exhausted. As soon as travel conditions seemed as bad as they could get, they got worse. The Corps of Discovery found a needlegrass, a plant with very sharp seeds in them. The needlegrass went right through their leather shoes and hurt them. Seaman did not like these horrible new pests at all.

York said, "What if this river doesn't end?"

York knew that days were getting shorter. Colter was a little worried because he thought there wasn't enough game anymore. Lewis knew that they were traveling the wrong way. The men were not happy anymore.

On July 27, the river became a really big, open valley. A second river was coming towards the men, and not so far up, a third river rushed down to meet the other rivers. Finally, they arrived at Three Forks!

Lewis was sitting on the ground and patting his leg for Seaman to come. Lewis patted Seaman's head, and Lewis had a smile on his face. The Corps of Discovery decided to rest at Three Forks. Clark and his scouting group stepped very lazily. Clark felt really sick. He had really bad muscle aches and he had a fever. Clark said that his group hadn't found the Shoshone. The explorers rested while Clark was recovering from his illness. Colter took Seaman out to hunt. There were no buffalo, but there were still deer to hunt.

One day the Corps of Discovery found the Shoshones. The Corps of Discovery and the Shoshones traded goods. Then they were greeting with hugs and laughter. Some of the Shoshones were amazed by Seaman and York's black skin. Some of the Shoshones went to York and started touching his bare skin. Suddenly, a Shoshone woman screamed! Everyone froze, scared. Seaman checked the area to make sure there was no danger. Then one of the Shoshone Indian woman hugged Sacagawea, and they both cried until there were no more tears left. Sacagawea and the Shoshone woman had recognized each other from their childhood. They were childhood friends. The explorers watched Sacagawea scream and dance around, weeping with joy. The two girls were crying, laughing, and dancing. After a few minutes, the girls were quiet. Sacagawea and her friend were hanging out with Pomp. Later that afternoon, the captains held a meeting with Cameahwait and some of guards. Sacagawea was the translator so the Corps of Discovery knew what they were saying.

While the men were talking, Sacagawea stopped translating. She was looking at Cameahwait, and the Captains were wondering what she was doing. Sacagawea started to speak in the Shoshone language. Suddenly she ran to Cameahwait and hugged him. Nobody knew why. Lewis asked Charbonneau what was going on. Charbonneau said that Sacagawea just found her brother. Sacagawea remembered Cameahwait's childhood name and called him by that name. Cameahwait and Sacagawea were so happy to see each other again. They were both crying on the inside. They couldn't hold it, and they started crying secretly on the outside.



Chapter 7

The Rocky Mountains

by Elyse Weaver

The Corps of Discovery began crossing the Rocky Mountains with a small herd of packhorses they had purchased from the Shoshone. The Corps followed Old Toby, the Shoshone guide, without any hesitation. Although the horses carried the baggage and they had left the canoes behind, the Corps covered less than 20 miles each day.

In early September, rain caused the ground to become slippery. The hunters barely found any meat. Unfortunately, the captains had to distribute the last of the salt pork.

Luckily, a few days later they ran into about 400 Indians. They were going to meet the Shoshones for the autumn buffalo hunt. The captains passed out small novelties.

The Indians gave the Corps some of their small supply of food. The captains were very worried. They didn't know how long their small food supply would last. Fortunately, Old Toby said that soon they would reach a valley, where game was plentiful.

The Corps reached Bitterroot Valley, and everything became a lot easier. There was plenty of game, and they traveled over 20 miles a day. John Colter was hunting in the valley, and he came across three Indians. Using signals, the Indians told him that it was only a five-day journey to the end of the mountains.

When Colter reported this, the Corps rejoiced. "The hunters are bringing back so much food! This supply will last us at least five days!" Lewis said excitedly. However, Clark had his doubts. "The braves may travel faster than us, Meriwether. It will probably take the Corps longer," he replied.

They left Bitterroot Valley and began traveling smoothly. "Maybe the Nez Perce braves were

Right. We might be out of here in four days," Clark exclaimed. For the rest of the day both captains were super happy. But the rain and hail of September 14, washed the smiles off their faces.

Old Toby took the wrong trail and figured out his mistake the next day. The hunters came back empty handed. The explorers were forced to kill a colt for dinner. Fallen trees were everywhere and the slippery footing caused several horses to slip. The pack horse with Clark's writing desk fell 40 feet. It had no injuries, but the desk was broken beyond repair.



When the explorers awoke, they found everything covered in snow. Freezing water fell down their shirts. That night, the hungry explorers had to eat another colt. Due to the cold weather, all the grass was dead. On the morning of September 17, the horses strayed looking for food. The Corps of Discovery wasted half the day, rounding up the packhorses.

The weather started to warm up, but this caused water to melt all over the men.

Water ran down their shirts and into their shoes, making travel even more uncomfortable. That night the discouraged explorers ate the third and last colt in the herd.

Finally, the captains decided that they would have to split up the Corps. Clark would take a few of the best hunters ahead to find food. His group would then leave some of their meat. A few days later, Lewis came across some meat Clark's group had left behind.

It was the first time the Corps had enough to eat for days!

On September 22, Lewis's group met one of Clark's hunters. Clark had sent him, and he had run seven miles. The hunter led the way to a Nez Perce village. The explorers celebrated! They were reunited, and they all lived to tell the tale of the great Rockies! The men who had just made it to the village began stuffing themselves on the Nez Perce food.

Clark noticed how much everyone was eating and yelled, "Stop! The food will make you sick!" All the men, who always followed Clark's orders, couldn't help themselves. However, later they realized what Captain Clark meant. They began puking, and the men had diarrhea. Even Seaman became sick! It took several days for the men to adjust to the Nez Perce food, but some got used to it quicker than others.

Chapter 8

Finally There

by Magdalena Amezaga and Jake Gidney

All the food that the Nez Perce had given them was not agreeing with their stomachs. Shannon told them that they would soon get used to it, and they would be able to eat a feast. While recovering from their stomach troubles, the Corps of Discovery camped out near the Nez Perce villages. As soon as some of the men were healthy, the Indians pointed out some of the edible plants in this new territory.

The Nez Perce could not understand English, Shoshone, or even Hidatsa.

So as they started to get to know each other, they made up hand signals to communicate with each other. The captains asked if the villagers would care for their horses as they went to the Pacific.

The explorers noticed that they had left their canoes behind and that they had to make new

ones. They chose five big trees to cut down and use as canoes. Their plan to ride the rapids was not a good one because the rapids are very strong and dangerous for a canoe.

Indians gathered along the bank. The explorers didn't know why Indians gathered, but Shanon did. Indians gathered because they thought the explorers were crazy to run those rapids. The explorers got ready and began.



Boom! They barreled down their first rapid. This was dangerous, but they thought it was fun. It was so dangerous that the Nez Perce watched them. The Corps did this by making one boat go down the rapid and watching. If it made it without any damage, the rest of the Corps of Discovery would set off and go down the rapid.

The crew questioned if they were actually at the Pacific because they could still see land on the horizon. The captains told the crew that they were not at the Pacific. They were at the Colombian Estuary. They still had a ways to go. Once the men went into the bank of the Columbia Estuary, they thought it was a good campground because of the high cliffs so the waves would not reach them, and there was shelter so not so much wind would get to them. They were mistaken. There was a powerful storm, and there were gigantic waves so strong that they could not return to the Columbia River.

They were stranded at Point Ellice. One afternoon the explorers saw a shape, and soon they realized it was an Indian tribe! They were a tribe named Clatsops, relatives of the Chinooks. The Clatsops wanted to trade. The explorers happily purchased the trading goods that the Indians had. Lewis and Clark used Colter, Shannon, and another man with the Indian canoe (they had previously purchased) to get out of the estuary and reach the Pacific. Luckily, they got out and found a nice sandy beach on the bay.

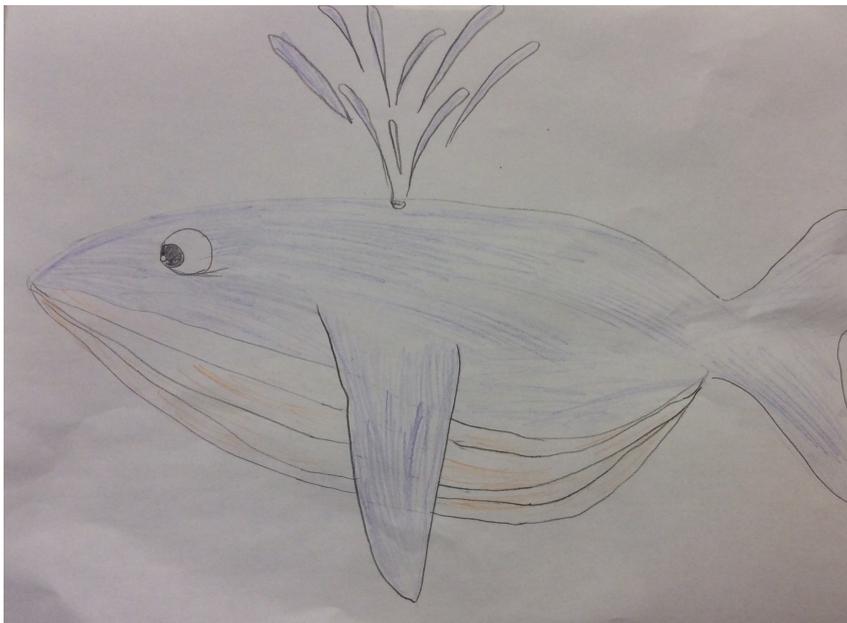
Lewis laid still why Seaman licked him. Then Lewis jumped and said, "Merry Christmas Seaman!" Clark then woke up and said, "Merry Christmas, Meriwether!" After that Seaman joined everybody in carols. Nobody worked that day, and everybody was happy. At dinner everybody had spoiled elk meat, rotting fish, and a few soggy roots. The only person who enjoyed the food was Seaman.

The crew was relieved that they had now made it to the Pacific, but they now had to vote on where to spend the winter. Everybody in the Corps discovery got to vote even York and Sacagawea. This was the very first time in history that a woman or a slave ever got to vote. The decisions were to go back to the Nez Perce or make camp near water. They decided to make camp by water. They began to make a camp called Fort Clatsop to bare the cold hardships on Jan 1, 1806, just in time for the New Year. As the winter started coming, storms got harder and the weather got colder. Although they were happy, they were scared of what was coming.

The winter was now there, and they were not very well prepared. They had a smokehouse to dry and preserve the meat, but that doesn't mean that they didn't run low. The meat was all rotten and nobody would ever want to eat rotten meat.

Most of the men starved because they would not eat the meat, until one day they found a dead whale on shore. Most of the whale meat the Indians had already taken to their camp and the explorers had to purchase it. They purchased the meat and savored it so they would actually eat again.

The winter was still harsh, but they got used to it. It rained and drizzled for days. They had another vote of when they would start heading home. After the vote, they got ready to go home.



Chapter 9

The Journey Home

by Ally Jacobs and Tracy Cao

Everyday they were getting closer and closer to home. They heard a sudden clasp of nose. They immediately turned their heads. It was the Indians! They were tugging with a tight rope on Seaman. Seaman was barking louder and louder, and he was getting really scared! He was freaking out, and did not know what to do. He was trying to get out the rope by biting it. When Seaman was trying to walk, the Indians dragged him along. Captain Lewis was very scared. They were not going to let Seaman go like this. He was way too special. They fought and fought until they finally got their special dog back.



On August 13, 1806, the journey had finally come to an end. The travelers might have had quite a few scratches and bruises, but they were very happy to be home. Clark shouted, "Hello! Hello everyone! We're home! We've returned from our journey at the western sea!" Lewis struggled to get ashore, but he really wanted to go see his friends and family. Seaman and Clark immediately ran up to shore to see all the Mandan villagers. The Indians were hiding behind the huts. Every traveler had a big smile on his face once they saw the villagers! Lewis was still in a lot of pain, but he was very relieved to be at the end of the journey.

At the end of the day, the travelers had a campfire and talked about the ups and downs of their long journey. Seaman enjoyed the warmth as well. Everyone felt really bad for Lewis. It was very hard for him to walk. He could walk, but only in pain.

Lewis said, "I am very excited to show President Jefferson the results of our journey."

Suddenly, an unusual man came into the camp fire circle. Seaman immediately stood up for this unusual moment. They heard the dirt shuffling and grumbling. It was John Colter! He simply just wanted to talk to Clark. When Clark saw it was John Colter, he responded, "Go ahead and sit down! We think we will arrive in St. Louis before winter." "Yeah, that's what I wanted to talk about too."

"I will not return to St. Louis. I don't know how to tell you this Captain, but I don't want to return to St. Louis. I want to stay here in the west," explained Colter. "You don't want to return to St. Louis?" asked Lewis. "What will you do because that is your home, where you were born and where your family lives!" Lewis exclaimed. "Don't be mad but, I don't want to go back to my home town because I feel like I was meant to be out here in the West, and I like it a lot here." "If you don't come back home to the U.S.A, what will you do?" asked Clark. "I will go to live in Yellowstone River," said Colter.

"But I don't want you to leave, because you're the best man I've ever met," said Clark. "Thank you, I will always have you in my heart!" said Colter. "We sure will miss you a lot!" said Captain Clark. Colter started to turn a little sad, "I sure will miss Seaman a lot! He is the best dog ever! I wish he could come with me."

Immediately when Colter said he didn't want to return home, Seaman grew very sad. His big bulky black ears dropped down. Seaman leaned his furry head on Colter's upper leg. Seaman's actions made Colter sad to leave Seaman. Seaman began to fall asleep after a long day.

A little while passed, and Clark began to think about John Colter more. He began to worry about him. Then he remembered that Colter is a man. He started to think to himself that John Colter was turning into a brand new man. Lewis said, "How are you doing with the new news?"

Clark responded, "Well, I'm going to miss my best man, but I know he is going to do great things!"

Both of the captains were talking about how grateful they were for Charbonneau and his family. They decided to give them a gift of five hundred dollars. They wanted to give it to the happy family for all their hard work and services. The next few days were full of goodbyes. Pomp was very joyful that day. He came out of his cradle so everyone could hug him goodbye. That was also the day the boats were leaving. Clark was very sad to leave the toddler. He even offered to raise him and give him a really great education. His parents didn't want to give him up at such a young age though, but they said if they felt like they needed to give him up at an older age, they could give Pomp to Captain Clark. Sacagawea held up Pomp and Pomp shouted, "See-mah!"

Now everyone was saying goodbye to John Colter. He was helping the Indians get in their boats.

Everyone was shaking his hand and wishing him luck on his new life. It was tough for the captains to say goodbye to their best man. York said, "I will never forget you man! Good luck on your new life!"

Seaman jumped in a canoe and was barking his goodbyes. All you could hear was woof, woof, woof. Lewis stood right next to Seaman. Lewis felt like his ear was going to come off because Seaman was right next to him and was barking super loud! When the boats left it was so quiet. The boats were moving down stream pretty smoothly, then suddenly Lewis shouted, "STOP!" Everyone in the boats was very confused. At first they didn't know who said it. Then they turned their heads and saw it was Lewis. Lewis told Seaman quietly, "Everything will be alright." This made Seaman very confused. Seaman licked Lewis's face. Colter ran up very fast to the big dog. The dog ran up to him too. "Take good care of him!" Colter was very confused as well.

"Seaman was meant to be out in the west just like you." A small tear came out of Lewis's eye. Colter gave Seaman a big slobbery hug! Sacagawea put Pomp down right next to Seaman and gave him the biggest squeeze he could! They all watched the canoes until they were out of sight. "Ok Seaman! We're going back to the West! You'll be able to hunt and swim everyday!" Seaman's tail wagged very excitedly! He missed Lewis, but he loved Colter! They both were very excited for their new journey.

Mrs Roca

Noah

Keanu

Alexis

Lucero

Elyse

Nicole

Maggie

Tracy

Alex



Ally

Ulrikke

Jake

Spencer

Lily

Soyla

Mrs Brown

Rendall

Anne

