

out of the unprepossessing bedroom to the kitchen, now warm with the fire Buck has built. She finds that gentleman with the papers that have arrived on the train at the table, engrossed ~~in~~ the news and ~~laughing~~ bursting with laughter over month old jokes of the famous Maggie and Jiggs (Bringing up Father). At the stove Dick is pushing around a sorry mess of fat and a heap of crushed eggs in which broken egg shells are mingled.

"Listen to this" says Buck. "Maggie says to Jiggs-----  
Corn beef and cabbage-----"

"I'm hungry! I'm starving!" cries Birdie hysterically.

"Hold your horses lady. You're old man's gittin'  
the supper. I showed him where the things was"

Buck points with his thumb to an upturned box in which are several packages of food---bread &c. The starving Birdie rushes upon it, seizes a loaf and bites voraciously into it. Dick meanwhile dishes up his awful concoction and carries it to the table, where Buck's eyes bulge in horror at it.

"Gosh, bo, is them the kind of eats you New Yorkers is used to? I'm dinged glad I filled up before settin' out to meet you".

After the meal, the Daytons sit in a sort of silent stupor. Unable to bear it longer, Birdie opens the door of the shack. She is confronted by the vast night, utter stillness, a sense of immensity, and isolation. The New York girl is appalled and begins to realize the change that has come into her life. Dick, holding his parched throat stands beside her and peers out, but the two start back in terror as a blood curdling moan slowly