

Chapter Five: "Pop Burgoyne's Glory"

Panel 289

EXT – the drivers side of the stopped crew cab of the truck driven by Donny Burgoyne POV Donny looking at the side view mirror. The truck is stopped on a county road outside the village (lined with tall pines seen over the mirror and in the mirror). In the mirror we see DEPUTY BOB's patrol car with lights flashing stopped behind the truck. Bob is exiting the car. We can also see part of Donny's face in the mirror, looking sheepish-alarmed at being pulled over.

Panel 290

INT the truck POV from the passenger seat looking toward the drivers side window where Deputy Bob is leaning in and Donny, Danny, and Dunny have their heads turned toward him. We can also see Denny in the back seat of the crew cab.

DUNNY (leaning forward to see Bob)
Was Donny goin' too fast, Bob?

DEPUTY BOB

Now, Donny. I understand why Pop's wheel chair is in the back of the truck, especially in this fine December morning. Nice day for a drive an all. But now what I don't understand, Donny, is WHY POP IS STILL SITTIN' IN IT!!

Panel 291

EXT POV from the front of the truck looking in through the windshield. Inside the truck the boys are all in various stages of alarm and frantically exiting the truck. The doors are open on both sides. Bob is awkwardly backing away to make room.

DUNNY
Pop! Who had Pop last?!

DENNY
He's gonna be frozen!

DONNY
Aw, DARN IT! Get 'im outta there!

DANNY
Aw JEEZ! Here we come, Pop!

Panel 292

EXT POV from the left side of the truck, zoom slightly back off the road to see Pop sitting in the truck bed in his chair, looking straight ahead, angry expression, one arm raised waving. Bob is standing off to the side with his arms folded over his chest looking dry and cynical. The boys are clamoring into the truck bed to get to Pop.

POP
HHAARRgggg!

DONNY
Aw Pop!

DEPUTY BOB
You tell 'em, Pop.

Panel 293

EXT the village, POV from the porch of Edna's store. You can see Lew's across the sandy 'square', and Tin's cabin over on the right in the Pines at the edge of the village park. The Burgoyne's truck is coming into the village toward Edna's store. The village center is relatively empty of cars now since deer (rifle) season is over.

Panel 294

INT Edna's store in a grocery aisle. POV from the end of the aisle looking toward the Burgoynes working their way along. Dunny is wheeling Pop in front. Donny is pushing a cart behind with items in it. Denny is walking behind looking at the shelves. Danny is in the background seen through the end of the aisle sitting at a stool at the counter talking with Edna. Pop is gesturing toward an item on a shelf.

POP
mmmmmmmm!

DUNNY
Pop wants them cookies Donny.

Panel 295

INT Tin's cabin. Tin is at the table sewing a big, wide banner. Fabric scraps, scissors, spools of thread, pin cushion. He has the letters W E L C sewn on and is working on an O. A couple Elvis items are on the table (the usual candle, another statue, a tall glass with some water in it).

Panel 296

INT the Burgoyne kitchen, traditional farm house style, run down but functional, appliances from the 30s and 40s. A few grocery bags on the table. Pop is at the table having some milk and cookies. Crumbs around his mouth and on the table around his plate. Milk mustache. The boys are putting away the groceries, open old-style fridge, open cupboard doors. Small black and white TV on the counter with rabbit ears, has a picture, some channel is on. TV is not prominent, but is a background item.

DANNY (sticking a jar into the fridge)
So we gonna finish up ole Tin's record player today?

DUNNY (box into the cupboard)
Yawp. Still our only customer, right? Might as well git 'er done.

Panel 297

INT the kitchen. The boys sitting around the table with Pop having some lunch. Bowls of soup, bread, milk in glasses, butter on plate, home fries in a skillet. Pop is eating a bowl of captain crunch and is reading the back of the box.

DUNNY (wiping his mouth with a well seasoned cloth napkin)
Okay boys, ready to go to work?

Panel 298

INT the Burgoyne barn. The record player is on a work bench with the broken arm laying next to it, some pieces unscrewed and otherwise detached scattered around it. The boys, except Dunny, are standing around the work bench looking at it. Dunny is in the background digging through a large pile of stuff.

DUNNY
I know we got some strap around here somewheres.

Panel 299

Zoom in on Dunny, standing up holding an old cracked, musty looking canoe paddle. He looks victorious with his discovery.

DUNNY

Hey brothers! Lookee here what I found! Gotta be Pop's old paddle.

Panel 300

POV from behind the boys at the work bench all gathered around the canoe paddle. They've pushed the record player and parts out of the way and have the paddle laying in the center of the workbench and are inspecting it closely with a bright shop light.

DONNY

Yawp, says here "1947 Champ, singles division Au Sable Canoe Marathon"

DUNNY

Well Awl-be-darn! Pop's ole paddle.

DENNY

Let's go up the house and show it to 'im.

Panel 301

INT the Burgoyne living room where Pop is sitting in an easy chair in front of an old floor model TV with long rabbit ears rigged up at the top with coat hangers and foil extensions. His wheel chair is tucked in behind his easy chair. Worn braided oval rug on a wide plank floor, fireplace with old photos in dusty frames leaning on the mantel, old couch and side tables, a few framed photos, old oval matted portraits of relatives.

POV from behind and to the side of the TV so we can see Pop looking up from the program as the boys are coming into the room. The look on Pop's face is one of surprise.

DENNY

Hey Pop. Look what Dunny found!

Panel 302

POV to the side of Pop in his easy chair. Zoom in slightly. Pop is leaning forward reaching with both arms for the paddle being carried by Denny. He has a look of glee on his face.

POP

AwwwwAaayyy!

Panel 303

POV behind the boys standing grouped in front and on either side of Pop's chair as Pop holds the paddle in his lap and holds forth, looking at the paddle admiringly.

DONNY

Tell us about the race agin, Pop.

POP

Ihruurrra wIhhh Rurraaa! Waawoorrrywunn.

Panel 304

POV from the side. The boys are now sitting on the floor in front of Pop's chair, leaning forward in rapt attention as Pop tells his story. Pop is holding the paddle as if he were paddling in the chair, demonstrating the stroke he used to win the great race. Pop's expression is of pride and reminiscence.

POP

WeerIhwuummff! WoowummNrrgg!

Panel 305

ZOOM BACK to the edge of the room. The boys are listening intently. Pop has the paddle before him like he's demonstrating a cross-bow draw, his eyes blazing with the memory of the race and the drama of the story.

DANNY

What about that ole' cedar tree that was leanin' out on the river in front of yaw, Pop?

POP

hhrrrrngg wummmooff ffurrrmmff!

Panel 306

EXT POV from outside the house looking in through a living room window. ANGLE behind and to the side of Pop. We can see Pop with his paddle digging in hard to the imaginary river under his chair. We can see the boys' faces hanging on his every word (well, noise to us, words to them).

Panel 307

EXT POV from outside the house around the corner from the last panel so we're looking in through the other living room window and we see Pop from the front slightly to the side and the boys from the back. Pop has the paddle horizontal up over his head and his head is tilted up in victory, his eyes closed and his toothless mouth open in a victory yell. The boys all have their arms up with fists in the air sharing in the moment of victory.

Panel 308

INT the living room. The boys are up off the floor and all giving Pop a group hug. We can see Pop's face happily basking in the attention from his aging sons.

Panel 309

POV from Pop ZOOM IN on Dunny's face. Dunny has a wild-eyed look, still in the afterglow of the great victory.

DUNNY

Hey Pop! Would ya wanna do it agin? Would ya wanna git back in the canoe?

Panel 310

POV Dunny looking at Pop's face. Zoom back slightly so we can see the expressions of the other boys looking toward Dunny. The boys expressions are quizzical and dubious. Pop is still caught up in the memory of victory and has the glow yet on his face, the sparkle in his eyes. He is holding the handle portion of the paddle up by his face and is looking closely at it with enormous affection, cradling it in one hand while he holds the shaft with the other.

POP

HhhaaeellllyaaIhhh. Hhhaaeelllyahh! Ihhhwooooooopp!

Panel 311

POV from the side so we see the whole group. ANGLE toward Dunny. The boys look skeptical. We don't see Pop's expression, obscured by one of the other boys.

DUNNY

Hear that guys? Pop wants to paddle agin!

Panel 312

ZOOM IN on Dunny's face. Animated expression, excited about his idea.

DUNNY

That's perfect! Yaw know. That TV contest we saw. Pop's better 'n seventy. Hell, he's better 'n eighty. Five thousand smackers guys!

Panel 313

ZOOM OUT to see the group. The boys are listening to Dunny with their mouths open in wonder but sort of neutral (bovine) expressions.

DONNY

What TV contest was that?

DUNNY

Danny and me saw it with Pop. Ya send in a video. An atha-lete still doin' his sport after he's seventy years old. Come on Guys. We could win it with Pop paddlin'! An he's better 'n eighty!

Panel 314

NEW ANGLE more toward Pop.

DONNY

We don't have no video camera.

DUNNY

What say, Pop? Five thousand be good fer the farm.

DENNY

But it's December.

POP

Harrrrggg guummmfff.

Panel 315

ZOOM IN on Dunny's face. Excited.

DUNNY

Hear that guys? He wants to do it! Let's go git his ole' canoe!

Panel 316

EXT the barn, around the corner past the big main door. We're looking past a very weathered split rail fence to the barnyard where a handful of ragged-looking cows and a horse are all peacefully picking at the dried grass and weeds in the yard. An old wooden canoe, set up on a pair of log sawhorses, is filled with grain near the fence. The horse is poking his nose in there for a bite of oats. A cow is approaching for her bite too.

Panel 317

EXT inside the barnyard fence with the cows and horse. The boys are paired at each end of the canoe lifting it off the sawhorses and dumping the grain. As they're turning it over, we can see some cracks and holes in the wood, showing the ribs inside. The grain is piling underneath. The cows and horse are all looking on. The horse is standing close and lifting his head back to stay clear of the boys.

DONNY

Pardon us, Mikey.

Panel 318

SAME SCENE the boys are gone with the canoe. The cows and horse are inspecting the grain pile with renewed interest, sniffing at it as if it might be a fresh treat, but a little wary as it's not in the usual place (the old canoe).

Panel 319

INT the barn. The boys have the canoe upside down on a couple saw horses. They've pushed the record player parts into a jumbled pile to the side of the workbench in favor of some brushes and old cans of varnish. The boys are standing around the canoe inspecting the holes and cracks. Donny is working the lid off one of the varnish cans with a screw driver.

DUNNY

Don't look like nothin' a little shellac can't take care of.

Panel 320

INT the barn. NEW ANGLE. All the boys are working with brushes on the bottom of the canoe, covering holes with small wood patches and brushing them on with varnish.

DUNNY

...and then all we gotta do is get it on video and send it in to the contest.

DENNY

Whatter we gonna do fer a video camera?

DUNNY

Edna 'll know somebody has one. Wouldn't be surprised if it was Ray's boy, Norman.

DENNY

You gotta call 'im Toby or such, Dunny. Otherwise he gets mad.

Panel 321

EXT the village center. The Burgoyne's truck is parked in front of Edna's. The canoe is leaned up in the bed, strapped down to the cab by a rope through the crew cab windows. Pop's chair is folded up in the bed under the leaning canoe. Silhouettes of Pop and one of the boys can be seen in the crew cab. Dunny and Denny are getting out of the driver and passenger doors.

Panel 322

INT Edna's, at the counter. Dunny and Denny are standing at the counter talking with Edna. POV from along the counter so we can see all their expressions. Dunny is animated and gesturing. Denny is looking mentally absent. Edna is looking very skeptical.

EDNA

You heard him say he wants to do it too, Denny?

DENNY

mmm hmm.

EDNA

That doesn't sound right to me.

Panel 323

EXT Edna's store, by the truck. Edna has come out to see for herself and is leaning in the crew cab window where Pop is seated. POV behind Edna so we see Pop looking out the rolled-down window and Danny leaning forward in the seat next to him to see Edna.

EDNA

It's DECEMBER, Pop. What are you thinking?

POP

Aangggghhh. Mrrrrffffff. Ggghherrmmmmfff.

EDNA (angry)

You crazy old loon.

Panel 324

ZOOM OUT to see Dunny and Denny standing there. A few other villagers are around the porch and looking on to see what's in the works.

DUNNY (smiling)

Ya See?

EDNA (angry)

You're all nuts! Go ahead and use the phone to call Thurman. He's got a video camera. Then I'll call Bob!

Panel 325

EXT at the park water front. Danny and Donny are carrying the canoe to the waters edge. Dunny has Pop's paddle. Denny is helping Pop waddle over toward the canoe. All the boys are wearing their carhart cover-alls. Pop is wearing his too, but we can see beneath the suspenders a striped shirt like an old-time bathing suit, Pop's old paddling outfit. Edna, Tin, and a collection of villagers are looking on. Thurman is there in a tie-died tee-shirt under an open wool coat and holding a video camera, standing next to Tin and Edna. Tin is listening to Thurman with a look of mild shock. Deputy Bob is striding into the scene with a purpose.

THURMAN (quietly to Tin)

I was happy to get outta there anyhow. Maime was following me around trying to pierce my ears. Wanted to do BOTH of them even!

DEPUTY BOB

HOLD ON! HOLD ON NOW! Is this one of your ideas, Dunny? Let me see that canoe!

Panel 326

NEW ANGLE. Danny and Donny have turned the canoe over and Deputy Bob is leaned over inspecting it, testing the patches with a finger. Tin has walked over and is looking at the bottom too. The boys are all watching Bob as he looks over their work. Pop is grabbing for his paddle out of Dunny's hand. Thurman has the camera up to his eye filming the scene. Ray and Norman and another guy from the garage have joined the crowd to watch.

DEPUTY BOB

Now, how long ago d'you put them patches on anyways?

DUNNY

Done 'em fresh, Bob! Good as new!

Panel 327

ZOOM IN on Deputy Bob's face, looking exasperated at Dunny.

DEPUTY BOB

You know how cold that water is, RIGHT?

Panel 328

ZOOM BACK OUT, NEW ANGLE. Dunny is looking a bit perturbed, as if his scheme might be in jeopardy. Thurman is holding the camera by his waist now and has walked up to the canoe. In the BACKGROUND a few of the villagers are toeing at the waters edge with their boots.

DUNNY

We ain't doin' nothin' illegal here.

DEPUTY BOB (to Pop)

Hey now, Pop. We all know you're the champ. You don't have to prove nothin' around here.

POP

mmmeecerrraaaaggguurrrphhh

Panel 329

POV along the beach from the south so the water's on the left. Danny and Donny are pushing the canoe half into the water while Denny and Dunny are lifting Pop, gripping his paddle with both hands, into the middle of it. They're standing with their boots submerged up to the ankles but don't seem to notice the cold. Deputy Bob is looking on with hands on hips. The village crowd has grown again and is all milling about and watching. Thurman is still holding the camera down but leaning in to ask Dunny how he wants the filming to go.

THURMAN

You want film from the shore? Or out there with him?

DUNNY (mid lift to get Pop into the canoe)

Be mighty slick to get 'im from the water. Maybe Tin'll paddle ya in a village canoe.

DUNNY (thought bubble - image)

brothers and Pop receiving a \$5000 check from TV show on a stage set like America's Funniest Home Videos

Panel 330

POV along the beach from the north so the water's on the right. Tin, by himself, is dragging a big, aluminum Grumman canoe to the water. Thurman is following. In the **BACKGROUND** Pop's smaller wooden canoe is afloat with Pop in it, in kneeling position like a canoe racer, and the boys standing around holding the gunwales steady.

Panel 331

POV from the lake looking back at the shore while the two canoes are leaving the beach. Tin is casually stroking with his paddle with Thurman sitting up front with the video camera going, pointed to the south where Pop is headed out after a good shove from the boys. Pop's paddle is up ready for the next stroke with water dripping off. He has a huge toothless grin and beaming eyes looking out at a distant horizon (in his memory, wistful but forcibly imagined). People on the beach are jumping and cheering.

ONLOOKER FROM THE BEACH

Go Pop!

Panel 332

QUICK TAKE of the interior bottom of Pop's canoe where water is seeping in around the cedar ribs in the floor around his knees, pooling up.

Panel 333

POV from the south side looking at Pop's canoe with Tin's visible to the other side. Pop is looking straight ahead still mesmerized by the feeling of paddling again, pulling along with his paddle. Thurman has the camera trained on Pop, face scrunched up as he watches through the eye piece. Tin is glancing over into Pop's canoe and looks worried.

THURMAN

Ya still got it, Pop. Ya look great old man!

TIN

Say, aw, Pop?

Panel 334

POV from the water closer to the beach facing the onlookers, everybody lined up watching with alarmed expressions.

DUNNY

Pop!!

DANNY

Uh oh!

DEPUTY BOB

Better go Boys! NOW!

Panel 335

POV from farther out in the lake, the two canoes coming toward us. Geysers have erupted in Pop's canoe through holes in the bottom and it's full of water and going down. Pop is paddling furiously. Tin is leaning over reaching toward Pop. Thurman is filming away. In the BACKGROUND we see all four Burgoyne boys rushing and splashing into the water to come get Pop.

Panel 336

POV next to Tin's canoe looking toward it broadside, down close to water level. Tin's big paw has Pop's suspender in its grip. Pop is submerged up to his neck. His paddle is floating in front of him just out of his reach. He is focused on it and reaching with both arms up through the water to get it. Dunny, the youngest and fastest swimmer is just coming into the panel swimming a breast

stroke so his head is up out of the water. The nose tip of Pop's canoe is sticking straight up just a few inches above the water surface, about to go down for good.

DUNNY

Here we come Pop! We gottcha!

POP (focused on his paddle)

Fooooaaaaalhhhh!

Panel 337

QUICK TAKE close up of Thurmans free hand (you can see his other hand at gunwale level holding the camera, not filming now) snatching Pop's floating paddle out of the water.

Panel 338

INT Tin's cabin. Big Panel. POV from inside the front door looking at a wide view of the kitchen dining room living room. The boys are lined up on picnic bench and Pop in a folding chair in front of the wood stove, all wrapped up in wools blankets (wide single stripes, Hudson Bay blankets, the good stuff from years past). Their cover-alls are in puddle heaps around on the floor. Deputy Bob is in the background in the kitchen putting a pot of coffee on. His uniform has a big water stain on it. Thurman is sitting at the picnic table (on the other bench) looking into the camera eyepiece and smiling. We can see the big 'welcome' banner in progress on the table in a pile next to where Thurman sits. Edna is standing looking at an Elvis poster (roustabout) on the wall behind where Thurman is sitting. Tin is standing before the Burgoynes holding up an Elvis droopy toy (those gizmos where you push a button under the base and the figurine goes limp; you release the button, the figurine snaps back into shape). The Elvis figure is wearing the famous jump suit and Tin is making it flop up and down. The Burgoynes are all shivering somewhat and watching Tin.

TIN

Norman found this one here on eBay for me. The King's gonna love it when he comes back here. Watch this.

Panel 339

POV from behind Tin, elevated ANGLE looking down over his shoulder at the four Burgoyne brothers faces pointed up watching Tin. Pop is looking off somewhere else, maybe over at Edna. Deputy Bob is setting the coffee pot on the table. Thurman is pushing a button on the camera. Tin is holding up an Elvis nut cracker, showing the mouth action by moving the lever in the back.

TIN

... an my aunt Shirley give me this one 'fore she died.

Panel 340

POV the brothers looking up at Tin standing there, this time holding an Elvis alarm clock.

TIN

Say, when would you fellers figger you might have my record player fixed up, anyways?

Panel 341

POV Tin looking downward at the brothers on the bench, lined up like birds on a wire and looking at each other quizzically.

DUNNY

Tuesday next sound okay to you?

DENNY

Well what day is today?

Panel 342

EXT the Burgoyne barn, in the barnyard where the old canoe used to be a feed trough for the cows and horses. Pop is in his wheel chair presiding over the boys hammering together a new feed trough out of pine planks. The horse and cows are looking on with interest. Pop is watching carefully with raised hand pointing, calling out his instructions. A bright, chilly December day. They're wearing their cover-alls and light wool jackets. Pop has a wool cap on. Dunny doesn't wear a jacket but has a sweater on under his suspenders.

POP

Haammmuummmferrroooo. Nnngeerrgggnnn.

Panel 343

EXT the road leading out of the village to the Burgoyne farm. POV looking down the road toward the bend out of the village. Tin is strolling down the road with his hands in his pockets, whistling.

Panel 344

EXT the barnyard where the boys are still putting together the new feed trough. Tin has arrived and is leaning against the fence on the other side (the barn door side) looking over at the boys working. POV from where Pop sits watching the boys work and Tin on the other side of the fence.

TIN

Say, boys. Tuesday.

DUNNY

Whazzat? Oh ya! We gotter all fixed up for yaw.

Panel 345

POV from up in the tree next to where Pop is sitting in his wheel chair in the yard. In view sitting on a bare branch is a black-capped chickadee preening some feathers. Pop is looking up at it with an appreciative sparkle in his eye and a contented, closed mouth smile. We see the cows and horse in the frame nosing around on the ground. In the corner of the frame we see a single snowflake falling through the bare branches.

Panel 346

INT the barn. The boys and Tin are gathered around the workbench where the record player is sitting with a repaired play arm, bolts and metal strap, welded wire, a real Frankenstein fix, looks a bit heavy, but it's there and fairly put together. Tin is looking at it with one raised eyebrow.

DUNNY

Yuht! Good as they day she was borned.

TIN

So, how much I owe ya?

Panel 347

POV Tin looking at the boys faces as they look at each other or their eyes go up to the rafters as they tally up the bill.

DUNNY

Now let's see, there's the figgerin, then there's the thinkin, ...

DANNY

...weldin rod, welder, knowing WHERE to weld...

DENNY

...then skilled labor, unskilled labor, storage, shop rags...

DUNNY

...finishin parts...

DONNY

...four carry the two plus eight percent rush charge ...

Panel 348

QUICK TAKE close up of Tin's face, looking scared, sweat forming on his brow, hand up on his cheek.

Panel 349

POV Tin looking at the boys.

DUNNY

Come out to Three dollars and fourteen cent!

Panel 350

QUICK TAKE close up of Tin's face, looking totally surprised, aghast.

Panel 351

QUICK TAKE of the boys lined up, head and shoulders, dumb-looking smiles on their faces, waiting for their first happy customer to pay up.

Panel 352

ZOOM OUT to see the whole group. Tin is peering into his wallet (big biker wallet on a chain from his back pocket, thin though, not much in it). The boys standing there smiling expectantly or exclaiming gleefully.

TIN

Can we just make it an even four?

DUNNY

Hell ya! Hear that boys? A tip!

DENNY

Heck sure, Tin.

DANNY

Happy customer, there.

Panel 353

EXT the barnyard. POV from behind and to the side of Pop in his chair. He is looking up at the Chickadee still sitting on the branch. The cows are investigating the new trough. More snowflakes are falling through the branches.

Panel 354

INT the barn. Tin is gone now, just the brothers standing around the workbench.

DUNNY

I'd say we made out pretty good. Don't you?

Panel 355

INT Tin's cabin. Tin is in the shrine room with the record player back in its spot, heavily worked up player arm and all. He's standing there looking at it expectantly.

TIN (thought bubble)

Now, King, I need to ask you: Should I ask Karma out?

Panel 356

POV from the side of Tin, closed eyes, head back, reaching to the shelf of records.

Panel 357

POV from the other side, eye's closed, putting the vinyl disk in place on the turntable while flipping the power switch

Panel 358

POV from the record player, close up of Tin's hand whapping the player arm which goes 'wabba wabba wabba'.

Panel 359

POV from behind Tin.

SOUND FX (from the record player)

...ernt...arp...runnin' all the way, Baby, trying to get to you ...

Panel 360

Close up of Tin's face. Eyes misty, moonlight eyes, happy eyes.

TIN

Yeah, I'll ask her on a picnic when the time is right.

Panel 361

POV from the doorway to the room. Tin's turned around away from the record player, looking into space.

TIN

But when IS the time right?

Panel 362

POV from up in the record shelf. Tin is reaching up for another disk, eyes closed, Elvisance again.

TIN (thought bubble)

Help me again, King.

Panel 363

CLOSE UP, whapping the player arm again.

Panel 364

POV behind Tin.

SOUND FX (from the record player)

... Blue Moon, you knew just what I was there for ...

END CHAPTER FIVE