

# Older run

[Environment](#), [Animals](#)



Analyzing Two Adventurers, Gary and Karana Gary Paulsen, the narrator and author of "Older Run" and Karana, in an excerpt from *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell, are both some type of adventurer. Their adventures and reactions are similar in various ways and are diverse in others. Gary Paulsen experiences a real-life survival adventure with his sled dogs. He is a dogsledder with a team of ten dogs. The dogs have been through vigorous preparation so he is sure that they will have had enough strength and training to satisfy him throughout the run.

The run starts out well; Gary was carrying enough extra food and decides to do an open run. He decides this because he wants to steer clear of the forests, the younger dogs might forget what they're doing and run into trees. As they reach a trestle, Gary discovers that some nutcase had stolen the plywood from the trestle. As a result of the plywood being taken, Gary performs a suicidal maneuver that causes him to fly twenty feet, and then land into the snow. After he realizes his luck, he works to prepare his dogs to recuperate so he can finish his journey. Gary tries in vain to get back his dogs but each time he is met with failure.

But, his dogs come back for him as he merrily drives them to their destination. Karana also experiences real-life adventure which is like Paulsen's in some ways. Both Paulsen and Karana are vengeful toward someone or an animal. Paulsen is vengeful toward the maniac that tore out the plywood from the trestle because the missing plywood caused him a sufficient amount of difficulty. Karana is vengeful toward the dog that killed her brother because now she was alone on the island except for other

animals, including a pack of vicious, menacing dogs. Like Paulsen, Karana also feels determined.

She feels determined when she built the fire to drive the dogs out of the cave because it will give her a chance to kill some of the pack. Paulsen feels determined because he needs to get the dogs back on track after he scattered them accident because he was thrown off the trestle. Paulsen is confident that he was ready to leave for the run because the dogs had been taught and trained. Likewise, Karana was confident that of her use of bow, arrow, and spear to kill the lead dog in revenge for killing her younger brother. Paulsen and Karana are also different in some ways.

Paulsen is optimistic about his dogs traveling with him when they first start off because he enjoys riding behind dogs in sled. But, Karana is uncomfortable about the lead dog (Rontu) sleeping inside her house so she sleeps outside on a rock because being eaten by a hefty black dog does not appeal to her. While Gary Paulsen is fearful that his education has fallen behind the dogs and he might never catch up, Karana feels affectionate toward Rontu when she treats his arrow wound. Finally, Paulsen was surprised that all of his dogs came back for him after he caused them so much trouble and struggle.

On the other hand, the first three days Rontu is staying in Karana's home to recover, Karana is longing for the dog, Rontu, to leave her house so she can have some peace and privacy. In conclusion, Gary Paulsen Experiences real-life survival adventure with his team of sled dogs while Karana also experiences a real-life survival adventure which is like Paulsen's in some ways and different in others. Karana and Paulsen's reactions show that they

are determined to reach their goal and that they can have a sudden change of heart.