

on him, and Johansen on his back. I tried to seize my gun, which was in its case on the fore-deck, but at the same moment the kayak slipped into the water. My first thought was to throw myself into the water over the kayak and fire from there, but I recognized how risky it would be. I began to pull the kayak, with its heavy cargo, on to the high edge of the ice again as quickly as I could, and was on my knees pulling and tugging to get at my gun. I had no time to look round and see what



“YOU MUST LOOK SHARP!”

was going on behind me, when I heard Johansen quietly say, ‘You must look sharp if you want to be in time!’

“Look sharp? I should think so! At last I got hold of the butt-end, dragged the gun out, turned round in a