winned for Whistling Season Feb. '03
Duff family chronology

Hugh and Dora b. about 1885; in their mid-20's when they emigrate to America; they come to Scotch Heaven in the fire summer of 1910, are dismayed, and move on east to the Roy/Fergus country.

Owen is about 30 when Ft. Peck project begins in 1935; thus b. abt 1905, old enough to remember the Scotch Heaven summer of smoke. (Could also remember the bigger boy, Varick McCaskill, b. 1899)

Neil is probably the next oldest, 3-4 yrs younger than Owen; the middle child.

Bruce is the youngest, only a year or two old when the family came to America.
The Duffs--

The Duffs could be family of three brothers, their father, and uncle from Scotland who went through the '26 General Strike, a fierce Glaswegian leftist.

(Owen)

One brother, probably the oldest, got away to college, has become an engineer or project bigshot on the building of Fort Peck dam. Another brother, the rakehell one, becomes the diver in the pilework under the Missouri. Last brother, carpenter, works at drilling and fastening (bolting) the pilings and braces, as Frank Henderson did.

The father, perhaps a nephew of Ninian Duff, has been driven from land by the Depression. (Perhaps one son's wife stays behind on the land, does the farming, as my Havre woman informant did—child left in the car as she drives tractor; could use grasshopper scene here?)

The uncle has abandoned Scotland for America, hoping the political/economic system will fall and a quicker cleaner start on a new society can happen here.

possible names: Colin
  * Bruce
  * Duncan
  * Ewan
  * Hugh (father?)
  * Myles
  * Neil
  * Owen (Goin' Owen)

* Rod(eric)k  wives: * Dora(mother?)
  * (Scotch names)
  * Kate
  * Rosellen
  * Con? (Cornelius?)
  * Jessie

* Idalia
  * Wyomia

1/1/90
Still, they are Scots, so God couldn't have made much of a mistake with them.

- Níncián
I could remember Lucas Barclay somewhat. He had (physical description), much like Rob's father (and Rob himself). I remember he (incident of something Lucas said). All the Barclays had that quick tongue. Even the littlest (Adair)...

I would greet her "Hello, you." and get back, snappy as 00, "Hello yourself."
He figured they were in there fucking like fury.
a character with DeVoto's incorrigible show-off habit (as desc'd in Stegner bio)?

Maclean's salutary—that is, deliberate, maybe considered—mean streak?
Angus, listen to me half a minute...

There's the story of the man standing by the sea looking at a great gash... His neighbor came by and asked, "why are you standing there daft as a gowk?" The other says, "My tatie patch is point to where his potato garden was and says, "My tatie patch is gone. The storm last night washed it away." "That happens," the neighbor says. "But it was the best tatie patch in the land all of Scotland. Grew tatties big as your head and twice as firm, it did. I don't know how I can get along without that tatie patch." "You can't go about life obsessed this way. Make yourself not think about that tatie patch. After all, it's not even there."

"You're pure right," the other agreed. "That's just the thing I'll do."

A week later, the neighbor came by and found the man standing in the exact spot. "Now I'm obsessed with not thinking about my tatie patch that isn't there," he says. "Why are you standing there then?" The other tells him.

Lucas did not look down where his hands would have been. "I try not to think of that way."
The Duff women:

Meg: b. in Scotland (Crail?); use Rascal Fair files
--beginning to look like her mother--high sheep-like hairline?

Rosellen: Mother-like use of gestures?

Kate: Caused me like fast-talking (in bursts)
Hugh MacLennan Is Dead at 83; A Canadian Novelist and Teacher

By ELEANOR BLAU

Hugh MacLennan, one of Canada’s best-known authors, died Wednesday night at his home in Montreal. He was 83 years old.

The cause of death was not disclosed.

Mr. MacLennan wrote “Two Solitudes” (1945), the second of seven novels, whose title became a byword for the strains between French and English-speaking Canadians — although that was not its original connotation. The title is from a definition of love by the German poet Rainer Maria Rilke, as “two solitudes” that “protect and touch and greet each other.”

The book focuses on a venerable French-Canadian family: an aristocrat who confronts the fanaticism of a village priest and the wiles of an Englishman, and his son, who is left without roots after his father’s ruin and death. Few of the English characters in “Two Solitudes” are likable, and the author, himself an English Canadian, said in 1977 that the book had been used to support the move for French Canada’s independence.

Before 1945, he recalled, the dominant, Protestant English who lived in the middle of Montreal were “the most arrogant people I have ever seen in Canada,” and the Roman Catholic French of the area were largely uneducated, poor and “did what the priests told them.”

Since then, he added, the old English society has virtually died out, leaving an English minority mostly, though not entirely, free of bigotry. And among the French, he said, there had emerged during and after World War II a “large educated and at times brilliant middle class” that “began to demand things and to ask questions,” and whose hostility for the English decreased because the French were no longer being put down.

Later, though, Mr. MacLennan grew discouraged by the state of English and French-Canadian relations. Recently he told an interviewer: “I’m sure Quebec will become quite independent, but it’ll take some time to happen. You don’t amputate a nation easily.”

Mr. MacLennan’s other novels include “The Precipice” (1948) “Each Man’s Son” (1951), “The Watch That Ends the Night” (1959) and “Return of the Sphinx” (1967). He also wrote nonfiction, including “Scottishman’s Return” (1960), a collection of essays, and “The Rivers of Canada” (1962), a political, social and natural history book.

Taught at McGill

He was born in Nova Scotia, and grew up in Halifax. He graduated from Dalhousie University and attended Oxford University as a Rhodes scholar.
Any Seton, Author And Other Novels

By GLENN FORSEY

Any Seton, the author of several popular historical and biographical novels, two of which were made into successful films, died on Thursday at her home in Old Greenwich, Conn. She was 86 years old. She had been ill for several years and died of heart failure, a daughter, Pamela Cottier Forcey, said.

Miss Seton developed a devoted following from the 1940's to the 1970's for her carefully researched and innovative works, two of which, "Drums of the Forest" and "Foxfire," were made into successful films. She won a readers' poll for her attention to the life style of the period she wrote about, but she was famous for reworking familiar stories.

A First Book

The daughter of a United States Senator, the author, artist and sculptor Alice Thompson Seton, wrote several travel books. Miss Seton died two years ago at the age of 79.

She had two husbands, both raised them seriously. She was a noted newspaper cartoonist and the author of several books. She was also a sculptor and an artist.

Surviving are his wife, Frances, and a sister.

Hugh MacLennan

He later received a doctorate in classics from Princeton University.

In 1963 he moved to Montreal. He taught English there at McGill University, and made the city his home, although he never mastered the French language.

A longtime friend, Alec McGinnis, a professor emeritus at McGill, said Mr. MacLennan had reacted strongly as an adult against a rigid upbringing. "His novel 'Each Man's Son' was really a blast against Puritanism," he said.

Surviving are his wife, Frances, and a sister.
"We need more children. This one's going to be spoiled silly." (Bruce says?)

"Have some, then." (Rhonda retorts?)

--or, have this @ the grandparent level, Hugh and Meg?
changed in Aug. '95 revise:

("doorknobs" used earlier in ms)

the male Duffs' customary build of broomsticks and doorknobs; her main had been complaint about Darius so far as that his boney knees were wicked in bed.