The Duff men all liked Rhonda, who could cut through the guff.
"Mind you, I..." (as in "Mind you, I've said nothing." Check to see whether this is too Irish to be a mannerism for Darius or Hugh.)

--possible characteristic for Bruce is that he picks up speech mannerisms from Darius, such as this; steals them.
Argot, a dic of criminal slang  
- Howard, Lucien 1895- 1939: Seattle

- balled up: wrongly done or confused
- biscuit shooter: waiter or waitress
- crooked eye: glass eye
- forty nood: bad strong whiskey
- jasper: denisive term for a person, i.e., that jasper.
- knowledge box: school
- oysterberries: pearls
- rain: tears
- snoop lights: X-rays
- under full sail: drunk
"Not at all much." (someone indicating they want just a bit more coffee or drink)

Dora, meeting Rhonda?
Rhonda (or Kate) waitressing: joke about punching meal tickets
It surprised her that (Rhonda) was one of those people who can do more than one thing at once—ironing, whatever, she always also had an eye on Jackie.
Bruce, instrument of desire, (held Proxy close while dancing? looked at her as if spooning her up?)
Not that you'd have known so from (Bruce?).
When I can't sleep at night I go over all the ones I know in this area.

(people she went to high school with)

— use with Jick? maybe to review the town of GV as it was then, or the people along English Creek.
Rossellen. Castleton. Carleen? (Carlie)

Carter? Rhonda?

The black fire of dreams.
There were times when she wanted to bat Bruce's ears.
"That Rhonda. She can surprise you."
I blamed--not life, but what?
Rhonda to child?—
Do you want a whaling? (i.e., spanking)
— me with Beth, after Jack—Ray Heaney fight?
from Patricia Kelly, Mac'n Texas sales rep, speaking of something good that had happened to somebody, winning a lottery or some such:

"I'd ask for it, you know?"

—flirting w/ Wyoming?
Somebody's got to get - dances & treys of life.
Bruce to Darius?
"letting down the cable" and other details (inc. teamstering) for Rhonda's family background in Lucier interview, in "Fort Peck ferry" file.
possible archie & mehitabel use:

The 3 couples go to a movie, A a&m are the cartoon. Rosellen giggles herself silly, whispers along the row to the others that she could use a crew of those flinging himself key to key on (archie bouncing the typewriter for paydays). Rhonda, though, takes to heart mehitabel's "what have I done to deserve all these kittens"; she knows she loves the baby, but...
Bruce diving: can he be at the original site of Fort Peck? or a Lewis & Clark camp? a buffalo-herd crossing? a steamship wreck?

--the dredging in a way is processing the bottom of the river, sluicing its history: the buffalo skulls (dinosaur bones before that?), pieces of old steamboat...

this would tie in w/ the pickup ultimately joining the other pieces of history.
a thin (or round) girl who could turn in any direction and look the same.
the private language of twins:

—Tony Angell mentioned that Bryony and Cilia had one, when they first started to talk.
—Alludetto this, without entirely tipping the reader off, in 1st scene of Bruce/Neil?
baby behavior, for Bruce and Rhonda's Clark (?): ask Tony and Lee for suggestions.

Tucker
Owen Williams--2nd folder MHS oral history summaries

p. 1--Recalls incident when caught speeding on new Harley-Davidson motorcycle. Captain Plank in charge of town management, couldn't arrest him, so put his motorcycle in jail for 30 days.

(possibly true, if Plank of the Corps of Engineers cd control Ft. Peck traffic?)
Bruce

I did fast damage to the plateful of...

then figures out how to hang around, cape, by doing dishes.
an eating place at Fort Peck has sign on the wall:

Meals  50¢
Big feed  75¢
Hell of a gorge $1
from Eng Crk "Forest Svce" filed cd ctgry

--Lunches put up. (cd be said, or cd be sign in cafe)
- Where R hands works.
Ray Howard on hiring prostitutes as waitresses when he'd get shorthanded in his McCone City cafe near the spillway project.

--says the prostitutes were girls from the Dust Bowl, many from Minneapolis.

--cafe sold $5 and $10 meal tickets, which were then punched for cost of meal.

--customers would pitch in and wash dishes

--the Riding Academy was about a half-mile out of Wheeler.
chock-full of hot air, that one.

-someone says at Bruce?
--I was travelin' when I got here. (Heard on All Things Considered; means, I can move on from this place, too)
veteran waitress in Oregon City, fall '87, who continually called me "kid":

"What'll you have, kid?" "Here you go, kid."
"Eat that or I'm going to rub it in your hair." (somebody's—Marcella's?—kidding injunction to their children; original from Valerie Ryan.)
Talking to myself in the dark so you wouldn't hear me.

Bruce turns off light: "We'll do it in dark so she can't hear us."
I like them lanky. (A Duff says about his taste in women.)
(or: cranky)
bossy pants: bossy person?
dredge work: Carter Johnson, oral h. summaries ffldr #1
Bucking the Sun

A character, maybe one of the Duff brothers, who gets coldly, arrogantly drunk; what Bill Lang once called "fuck you" drinking, fast and mean. (sullen, too?)
quicksilver

analogy to sperm? A character says of another, The old boy must have been pumping out q'silver the night he produced (son's name).

(or name of a Duff daughter-in-law)

—could also be linked to gush of the Missouri (thru penstocks, permanent excitation into electricity)
the whole famn damily
complex-cated (somebody's version of "complicated")
So goddamn what?
slow horses and fast women

have Stanley say: That's like the advice to avoid slow horses and fast women. The trouble is to know which is which.
Clarence Palmer, p. 13:

I sailed a little high in Hot Springs and got a little short of money.
--You hired out to be tough, didn't you?

- Helena applicant to Auguste Rob?
The Montanans

I told her flatout no.
sack of oats—slang for case of beer
March - Montana lingo

"I'll give you four guesses." (i.e., surely you know this.)

(see c Baloney Express, Roger telling of Model T's?)
(Or have I'd say, sarcastically, to Riley.)
"Say. Didn’t you...?" (interjectory "say" as mannerism for one of the women? Rhonda?)
DARE, 0.3

classiciy - "shame" gesture of moving index finger @ right angles to other.
Bruce & Rhonda's child does this.
"He just right up and hit him."

--a fight involving Bruce?
Rollins/2

307—bucking horse "played cat's cradle with the gentleman's innards"

324—mutton chop: wool with a handle
   —sunnyside egg: with a bright eye
   —egg over: dirty on both sides
snooks (nickname of endearment, as in Baby Snooks)
heard on the train to Montana, April '88:
"She's in the hairdresser field."
Rhonda to Bruce, leaving a Duff family gathering? picnic?

We’d better scoot.
Throw me a cow. (i.e., pass me the cream for my coffee. Jick then slides the dish of creamer containers along the counter)
Given a Bruce's what he's getting involved in (wif holude)

He could rate a rifle bullet in the back, he could rate a lot of unpleasant things.
In words, Bruce is really isn’t he.
340-walking! Hence: nervous person
(see EG wynn mannerisms)
Yeah, I'll bet tears big as horse turds rolled down your face.
Melvin Hanson--1st folder MHS oral history summaries

p. 20--suit salesmen wd come to barracks

"The guys were pretty good to go and dress up when they went out."
(check w/ LIFE pics, which I think do show men in bars somewhat dressed up)
character with black line on back of his hand, where he slapped grease onto a cut, as Clifford Shearer's dad did.
dredge work details--

painting the dredge, insects came out at dusk and stuck to fresh paint
(Walter Inlow, oral h summaries filefolder #1)

--could use as precipitating action in scene: Bruce or someone else does the painting, as to re-do it (earlier in the day) the next day.
Sometimes you had to wonder if the guy is absolutely stud loco.

—use when Riley prints EARTH and FIRE onto AIR and WATER service station sign.
Bruce had not spoken to Owen (since Owen slapped his ears down), which was something of a relief.

—But Bruce at some point sticks up for Owen against outside comments.
Bruce calls Rosellen "Sis". (doesn't dare do so w/ Charlene?)
Depend on Bruce to bring chaos out of order every time.
"Bruce isn't happy unless he's in trouble up to his bottom lip." (Owen says?)
(Bruce and Rhonda) were strapped for money, naturally.