

Angus, hit with love, wonders if this was what it was like for Lucas to try fasten into a new life after loss of his hands.

Anna lives with a N. Fork family, maybe Wainwrights.

possible save from scene of Angus meeting Anna:

She noticeably did not ask me mime. (hometown in Scotland)

I couldn't see how life could be any better (Angus, night of dance?)

There weren't enough women in the country, so men who were at all picky--  
Isaac Reese, Angus--were bachelors in their early years.

Intently--I wasn't going to forfeit this chance to be in the near vicinity of  
Anna--as I say, intently I...

Isaac Reese on his horse ranch was the only neighbor near.

To say the truth, that braid of hers was the rope to my heart.

--Anna has her children make geography notebooks shaped like Montana, similar to my mother's grade-school one. Use this as a way to say something about Montana at the time--1894 or so?--and perhaps have Angus reflect that he doesn't yet know the places and particulars as well as Anna's students have ~~it~~ them in their notebooks.

--possibility: have him look at a specific student's notebook--from some Noon Creek family, maybe an Egan--as he reflects; and have the notebook resurface in The Montanians, as an artifact in Gros Ventre historical society or somewhere.

--Anna writes a new word on the blackboard each day, so students will have something to look at and to build their vocabulary.

Lady

It is the oldest story [of humankind] the two  
people closest to each other with distances  
yet between them. That near, and that far.

"Swamping is to sweeping what whaling is to fishing," I was informing her as I displayed my broom style. "Lucas would be the first to tell you he's never seen a schoolkeeper who was a better swamper than yours truly, nor, if I do have to say it myself, a swamper who was a better schoolkeeper."

"Lucas Barclay thinks even higher of you than you are," Anna responded. I was gratified that Anna seemed to prize Lucas, not always the case among women because of what they saw as the flagrant fact of Nancy.