

● Keeping Days

● M/T plot

try to tap mainstream thought-process: can you go home again? Shd you? Dsn you? (Who's taking over, home place?)

- Bill Cronan & Wm history: trying to find our home

- collision of people want'g to go home w/ those who're taking it over

- collision, too, w/ jerks of old hometown

- & nice neighborly things happen

- dilemma of big city: bkstores, theater...

- who can you best create a sane world? Are you summing from s'thing?

- community: (Ann Mathews?) Many newcomers to MT aren't there to create com'ity.

Home town can be both supportive & stifling. How do you sort it out?

- Make this a weight of evidence vs: M & L exploring, weighing their options?
- M & L aim for hunches & best guesses - i.e., between manic energy of skating & lethargy of hometown chums. (Lkg for way to walk - or Tai chi - than life.)

heard at Utica, between 2 college-age people:

"Two different lifestyles--you get all geared up for one and then come back
(and have to deal with what you left originally)."

"Tell me about it."

have Lyle deputize Mitch or Lexa for brand inspecting?

Lexa & Mitch are to have different attitudes toward living in Seattle:

--She's more satisfied with Seattle life; has tried (walking, hiking, gardening) to retain connection to the outdoors in urbanized NW). Has some ambivalence, but theater, opera, music, make her think Yeah, isn't this (Seattle)life) great in a lot of ways.

--Mitch can laptop it in Montana; maybe become second-string for LA Globe (by way of Mariah @ The Montanian, or her pulling strings w/ Riley in his Globe job).

--Mitch is maybe bugged by Seattle's ascendancy: Boeing/Microsoft/Far East trade/music/cyber fortunes

Mountain Time

pace and proportions of section one, The Coast: (128 pp. draft)

Lexa catering, 9 pp.

Mitch & Jocelyn rollerblading, 12 pp.

Mitch flying over St. Helens, 12 pp.

Lexa walking the city, 6 pp.

Mitch @ Cascopia, 30 pp.

Lexa @ zoo, 12 pp.

Mitch & Lexa @ catered party, 43 pp.

Keeping

scenes: Twin Sulphur Springs flashback

San Francisco: rollerblading

Mitch's flight home to Seattle

Mitch & Lexa in Seattle

--news of Lyle's death/illness

hospital in hometown ("smell" graf as lead here)

--they stay in motel? or w/ relatives or high school friends?

an abrupt (at least unannounced) reflection by Mitch about giving up his kids in the break-up of his marriage.

--check The Main for any example of this technique: LaPointe dreaming of wife & kids...?

similar reflection, without becoming an actual flashback, could be used for Lexa and the marriage she left behind in Alaska. (or just for Alaska)

Becky advises: keep Mitch human--not a caricature of his generation.

--my note: do same with Jocelyn, Lyle, etc., all the ages; complicate them

mountains theme:

--Mitch has been @ Berkeley conference, "Thinking Like Mountains" (Aldo Leopold qte)

--he flies home to Seattle past the "fire mountains," Cascade volcanoes

--the backpack trip into the Bob