

Mitch, consciously or not, is seeking the peace of ritual.

--tai chi

--exercise routines (rollerblading the latest; running, cross-country skiing...)

Mitch

Jick should be fond of, maybe enthralled by, the daybook; big handsome ledger, perhaps with earlier records of ~~the~~ the ranch in it. Example to be found in MSU's Dogie--Castle Mtn Cattle Co.?--collection? Or at MHS?

--in a sense, Jick's fascination with the daybook should be similar to a computer hacker's; the information growing and growing, flexible under his hand, taking on a kind of life of its own.

--Jick has been put in charge partly because of his memory (as well as his reliability, sense of responsibility), and it is that strong point of his that is challenged by Jim Bill's insistence on a different version.

unused for Mitch:

When the job offer came from Audubon, those years ago, he went to NY...and knew he would turn it down when the receptionist met him behind bulletproof glass...

Generationally, ~~Lyle~~ Mitch has some of the baby-boomerish quality of wanting life for himself; this has to run up against the family obligation of dealing with Lyle's illness.

Mitch (at magazine?) never had considered himself working here. He'd always thought of himself as sort of here, working.

Mitch remembered how much he'd hated Thirtysomething, & then watched in fascination.

Mitch: learns to live with himself as an individual in an ostensibly team setting, i.e. football; but there was the team and the team that was Mitch (in high school f'ball).

--sports nickname?--The Iron Tumbleweed...(used for a Glendive player?)
... Horse

Mitch (abt tai chi): "I am not turning woo woo. This isn't (crystals) or
Johnny L. Seagull, this is just, just...

...the search for the peace of ritual. (amid disturbances in the field)

Mitch has to be shown to love music, starting w/ 60's and on into Seattle sounds...

Keeping the Days

Mitch's details:

--has a fish tank?

--VNam vet? if so, maybe he emphatically does not have flashback syndrome. His service there (in AF, at some notorious air base?) is a blur to him except for remembered wisecracks etc.?

--light drinker; a beer or two; but marijuana in his college &/or military bgnd?

--have him a U. of Wyoming grad? (thus a "Cowboy")

--U. of Washington probably better, to get him to Seattle

--as a football player in high school, nicknamed "Animal" Withrow (mostly for his size)

--rollerblading as an outlet (C. remarked when I noted that the otherwise uptight Denver literary escort Ann Bont had rollerbladed thru Chicago, a place she 'd never been, when visiting a friend there.)

--Mitch is bulky, not fat. (Yet, kept at him.) Have him a binge dieter? Can abstain, but cannot be moderate?

Keeping the Days

Mitch's job:

- writer for Cascadia magazine. Has done many environmental pieces--Oly Pen'la logging etc.--and feels that in spite of env'l'sm Seattle is turning into LA.(?)
- the magazine recently has hired a consultant, which M knows is trouble.
- Mitch's employers also publish a weekly for "people concerned to know the difference between tofu and futon."

segment of paper

Mitch: the print keeps getting finer (i.e., rules of society)

Mitch or Lexa--takes Polaroid of computer screen when it freezes (and is turned off and loses what's on there).