nocturne
performed solo
without accompaniment
considered & rejected something like this as book's second sentence:
"If my life now must become a nocturne performed solo," she had advised herself...

Another possibility:
Not, she sharply would have told you, that her solitary life amounted to a nocture. Simply, the hours beyond dark...

Not, she unmistakably would have let you know,....
He settled for that.

He'd...

He could...

She would
"Any musically aware listener will know of music that breaks out of established forms or syntax to profound effect—my personal favorites include Beethoven's 'Eroica Symphony,' Wagner's 'Tristan und 'solde,' Schoenberg's 'Ewartung,' Debussy's 'Apres midi d'un Faune.' What is the most that we can ever say objectively about what those composers are discovering?"

--Philip Campbell, Editor, Nature

"Why is music such a pleasure?"

--Nicholas Humphrey, psychologist, The New School
on the flyleaf of the diary of Susan Duff, among the papers of the Dohole W Cattle and Land Company, at the Widener Library, Harvard University, in the year 2025.
--He sees, and talked about at '89 Mont. History Conf., a split in Montana psyche:Montanans see the state as a destination (3 great, and very different, migrations to it as a specific destination: gold, copper, and homesteading land rush) and take pride in endurance and perseverance, yet perpetually feel deprived of a just reward.
Statehood was delayed, economic rewards have come and gone as corporate powers have seen fit. Montana as "next year" country isn't really just the hope for a decent crop, income in the next calendar year/season, it's an anticipation of some kind of fruition that ought to come out of Montanans having chosen the place as a destination and having stuck life out there.

--Bill felt, from comments people gave him afterward, there was some resentment by Montanans toward this view of them having a warp in their psyche; he said the tone was they didn't mind being viewed as dumb clucks, but psychologically off, no thanks.

--Differences in Montana cities and the way they're laid out: closed-in feeling in Helena from the Gulch, the wide-open grid patterns of Great Falls and Billings. Bill said he's commented, and gets great appreciation in western Montana where Billings is viewed as snooty, that Billings is still trying to find a reason for existing.

Great Falls on the other hand, he and I agreed, has a reason--as agricultural hub--but I pointed out I don't think GF really sees itself that way, that GF people don't really link up with, say, farmers and ranchers of Judith Basin.
Bill thinks geographers are onto something when they say metropolises are more alike than the hinterlands around them are alike; says somebody at Malta, for instance, would be more different from somebody around Dillon (in the way they live) than would persons in their nearest sizable cities.
go through "anecdotes" notebook
The sounds of jazz in my head are as alive right now as the whirling wind outside and those moanful booms of the boats and the warning whistles. More alive, in fact; I wish it were possible to get them onto paper, for if I could, you would stand, excited as I was, and applaud in exhilaration...
"How does the capacity for low mood give a selective advantage?"

--Randolph Nesse, psychiatrist, U. of Michigan
"How can we know when and what we do not know?"

--Sir John Maddox, editor emeritus, Nature
Prairie

Within the Song (Pushkin: "Not all of me is dust. Within my song, safe from crem, my spirit will survive.")

Golden Triangle
York's Song
Barovina Harp