

road hymn of the tires

The poetry of distance

- Traveling eastern MT in June '88 drought: long slow rhythms of crossing land: county lines, 7 (Miles City to Plentywood) in 1 afternoon; Wibaux, Baker + Chalaka each c the own counties & no other towns(?)
- rhythm of land: none of eastern MT as deadely dull flat as I expected; always at least ridges, buttes, draws; cliffs of Missouri + Y'stone Ts.
- samples of horizon
- rhythm diffnt from staccato of denser populations.
Cmakes the point that where land has been farmed in Baker-Chalaka country, it ~~is~~ looks reassuringly tidy--the eye has been trained to respond and respect that kind of pattern order--even though plowing that prairie may be its ruination.

OVER

Yellowstone R. valley particularly impressive in the ~~the~~ dry tan land all around it; would not be so striking, sayy, w. of the Cascades? Provides water, shade, wood, travel (highway now, as Lewis & Clark, and then steamboats). A wonderful drive because the road follows the river, instead of cutting it up like a snake (as freeway does to the Clark Fork).

C notes: people now even travel indoors, in a/c'ed rigs etc.; moving away from sense of the land.

--Miles City bartender Bobby (in The Hole in the Wall) told us he and his daughter did some riding in this drought heat on his dad's cattle ranch s. of Miles City, daughter commented that it wasn't as hot, out there riding, working, as being in town.

(C took pic on Ek'a road of his'l sign about old wagon route there, ruts still to be seen on hillside near.)

see Ekalaka cd 3 for perceived differences between Ek'a and Plentywood town configurations

walloping along (i.e., driving steadily fast)

Bugs were mooshed on the windshield of the Bago.

trucks and other traffic the Bago encounters.

(Bryan DiS's New Yorker pieces on trucks?)

describe the highway and other traffic.

--kinds of cars and license plates (tourists lessen after Labor Day? or more
retired people noticeable?)

--other rigs: do a symphony of the kinds of motorhomes?

--truck patterns

show the Bago as a household: who does what chore, who has what habits, Jick's comparison to earlier households at Eng Creek and Noon Creek, or when he was in the Army?

web of shattered upper corner of windshield on passenger side is mentioned again, possibly after Leona joins them.

The various hums of the Bago's systems (vital systems)

RV details:

--twin "cockpit" seats, with platform between. Thus Jick is driver, Mariah cd ride shotgun in the other seat and watch for pic chances, while Riley works (cd be seat belted in) at table behind driver.

--Bago living wd be perpetually cramped for 3. (Jick after all bought it for just him and Marce.) Places to be are: att either side of table (Mariah and Riley thus might have to work unwillingly facing each other), on couch ~~basins~~ behind passenger seat, or in bed at rear.

--windows to be opened: big sliding ones at table and couch, for cross-ventilation; smaller ones over stove, toilet and bed (on passenger side wall; rear window on Southwind does not open).

--Jick when he nukes himself a cup of coffee: sets microwave for $1\frac{1}{2}$ min., puts in cup with instant coffee mixed with water, hits the start button; when the mic' bell dings (done), hits the door button.

--"I nuked a cup of coffee in the microwave..."

--cup receptacles: 2 in dashboard between driver and passenger; 2 others between them ~~in~~ in a molded holding tray that sits on hump between seats.

camping procedure (with Southwind):

--hook up 110 v. system: big three-pronged plug into c'ground outlet box receptacle. Runs the refrig, microwave, interior lights, air conditioning; stove is only gas. If camped where there's no hookup, RV's generator has to be kept going to run these appliances. A switch at bottom of dashboard at driver's left puts the system either on 110 v. hookup or generator.

--water hose, from RV intake to campground spigot, keeps water pressure up in RV, without water pump having to run(?).

--sewage flexible pipe, like a huge Slinky, goes into c'grnd drain hole, then is fitted on (over toggles) to RV drain outlet and plugs are pulled to let out graywater (dishwater etc) and blackwater (toilet).

--pulling out step beneath side door.

C notes: definite age distinction in g rigs--younger people in poptop trailers or tents, 50s-70s in RV's--the outfit more elaborate the older the people. She thinks the older crowd prob'ly likes the c'grnd procedure not in spite of the chores (of hooking up) but because of them--giving the people something to do, something to be capable at.

RV details/2

--Southwind's ★ air conditioning unit is in middle of the rig on ceiling; makes considerable noise as it works. RV's generator also makes noise, and the rig has road noise; Jick et al. wouldn't be traveling quietly.

--tie-back curtains on all windows; also, blinds to be let down.

--2 vent lids in roof, one in middle of ceiling between table and couch, one over toilet. When rain squall broke at Miles City KOA, we scrambled to ~~thwart~~ close those 2 hatches--rain was coming right in.

(C was startled, wondering what was wrong with rig, when rain began coming down on her; instant weather gauge.)

C suggests: my characters wd use the rig as a kind of day van, eating and drinking in town whenever possible to get themselves some space. Also, it's noticeably more pleasant, more ~~xxx~~ sense of the country, when the systems (such as a/c) don't have to be running; birdsong at dawn, for instance--robins, cooing of doves.

--breeze, even a slight one, thru the rig is really nice.

--front and rear (head and tail) of rig get hotter; Riley could comment abt preferring to be at table in middle, "in the belly of the beast."

--train whistle moaning, at Miles City KOA: cd wake Jick, somewhere along High Line or in eastern Mont. The sound goes on longer than you ever expect, rising, slacking off--a ~~kind~~ kind of talking across miles. (The sound is in intervals, too, such as: wooh wooh woohwooh

RV details/3

--closet space wd have to be apportioned, w/ Mariah's photo gear the main factor: she'd stash it above dash (if Bago has comptmt there) or in comptmt above couch, or both. film in the refrig, in way of Riley's beer. 3 door shelves of S'wind refrig, thus: liquids on bottom, film on middle, condiments on top.

--wd need to travel light on clothes (just jeans, shirts, hats, boots; avoid'g laundry as much as possible, as well as storage lack).

--shower: nobody wd bother with rig's little handheld gizmo if they could get in, say, KOA swimming pool. (Jim Healey, summer he roughnecked in Sidney oilfields, lived in his pickup, used muni swim'g pool as his shower--said he left a ring around the pool each time.)

--Riley cd prefer bars and swimming pools as places to dig up info; Mariah wd like more photogenic poss'ties.

--they habitually lunch at Hardee's? (constant litter of fast food plastic cups in the rig, around driver's area)

--S'wind design has 4 mirrors, in probable attempt to give feel of spaciousness; forever encountering yr reflection, any way you turn, at rear end of rig--Jick thus sees his bearded self constantly.

RV details/4

--bed measurement: 6 handspans wide (appxly 54"), 8+ h'spans long (74 or 75")
So, it's just barely long enough for 6-footer; also, it's angled at inside bottom edge to allow passageway to toilet area, so a tall person trying to gain space by sleeping crosswise actually loses space.

table: 4 ~~H8~~ handspans plus 2 thumbs long: appxly 38" (actual 39")
2 h'spans plus ext. 6" wide: appxly 24" wide (" 25")

set of dials above refrig inc. thermometer, which read 90 at bedtime 6/23/88,
Miles City KOA

people wd be perpetually bumping rumps in tight space at rear of ~~Back~~ rig
where bed-toilet-kitchen begin to coincide.

S'wind interior 7'7" wide; 6'4" high, but air conditioner hangs down 2½"
in center of rig; people over 6' are
going to bump heads on a/c, lights etc.
worst bed~~ixt~~ is the fold-down over the driver/passenger seats;

abt 12" clearance between body and ceiling, hard to get in and out of.

Bago, 21 June

- on I-94, w. of Colstrip turnoff, /'way smooth enough to write @ table behind driver; tried typing, also OK - Riley cd write on laptop machine while Jick has Bago on cruise control. Person cd also map on bed or couch.

22 June, Miles City KOA: ~~xxx~~ campground is in grove of big old cottonwoods ^(rattle of leaves) beside the Tongue River; trees likely 75' high. But in not particularly strong wind a branch as big around as my thigh and 15' long crashed down at the next row of sites from ours; a widowmaker. In a real storm, the cottonwoods would produce terrific deadfall.

--Bago campground procedure: hook up elec'l ~~cord~~ cord to get the systems operating on elc'y instead of generator; hook up water hose and turn on c'ground spigot to provide constant water pressure; put slinky waste hose into sewer drain, ~~let~~ let out blackwater (toilet) and graywater (dishwater & shower).

--the woman, in retired couples traveling by RV or trailer, is like landing officer on aircraft carrier, directing the driver/husband with arm motions how far to come back etc.

Riley: cd do italicized lyrical descrip of road journey, in 2-3
grafs done on his laptop (not really a column) as counterpoint
to Jack's descrip while driving.

- powder snow in dark timber, seen from Deer Lodge to Butte
on Ap '89 drive.
- centerline dots & dashes

formed. Weather within the motorhome, though, was heavy and electrical,

I'd done did what I could to add to the atmosphere
just as I'd hoped. I made a little contribution of my own when we

whisked through the little town of Clyde Park and I asked if there

was a brass plaque on the schoolhouse saying Riley Wright slept here

cut from Helena scene in revise; use elsewhere?

Once the sun was up, Mariah and Riley were too, I could tell by

*change to insert
the running st*
the sounds of flushing and toothbrushing within the Bag. That's the

trouble with dawn, it doesn't last. Reluctantly I left the quiet

morning outside in the campground and climbed back in the motorhome for

breakfast with the warring tribes.

And found both of them on their best behavior. Oh, still several

Jick does most of the cooking; Mariah occasionally; and Riley's specialty is something weird. (also dishwashing)

at Sieben, 5 July '89: 20 Airstreams are parked at freeway
pull off, others pulling in - staging area for those who
want to travel together.

- thicker stream of Airstms, Sieben to Helena, & by pulled by
heavy carryalls. Bells of silver as they approach dn. off way.

Tioga camper towing small car

Manan

rips: Blue Bird Wander Lodge (like medium-size bus)

- have heard go for groceries (in Billings?) in a Kentucky couple in site next dr. in the small car a sign, Greiner Shipping Cart

Kompt Trailer (sugarbe)

Dolphin (from Idaho) RV

Airstream trailers - silver; convention in Byam; on horizon like covered wagons

Volkswagen Westalia Vanagon (^{tip} up top like fun & hole's)

13 Airstreams, ~~shiny~~ shining like silver wagon train, stopped & shales of 1-90,

35 min. W of Billings, 6/26/89

#16 Airstream pulled by Cont'l coupe (after Labor Day, pick up see only retired couples in Airstreams)

6/26/89 at Byam Conv'n:

Airstreams pulled by Chevy Suburbans predom'tly

Damboree camper towing small Nissan & Trailer Hater

Airstreams, 5 July '89, on way from Byam Conv'n in Byam, traveling in quartets, spaced, evidently deliberately in departure times.

10 A's @ once in Wolf Creek rest area over

Tanker rolls, 677 Sept 21, 1959 two men dead

COLUMBUS (AP) — Two truckers were killed Tuesday when their semi-trailer loaded with liquid nitrogen rolled off Interstate 90 near Columbus, the Highway Patrol said.

The victims were identified as Jerry H. Mitchell, 55, of Evanston, Wyo., and Jerry L. Rice, 51, of Ogden, Utah.

Patrol Lt. Jack Gaughan said a small amount of vapor leaked from the tanker but did not pose any threat.

Both men were thrown from the cab and it was unknown who was driving, the patrol said.

Mitchell died at the scene and Rice died a short time after the 2 a.m. accident in the Stillwater County Hospital.

Gaugen said chemical and disaster experts were called in to clear the tanker without leaking any more of its contents.

St Falls area
of eastern Montana.

Morning after morning it was saddle and ride.

Jick sees cross-country bicyclists from the Bago, in gaudy Spandex pants--as if they'd painted their bodies from the waist down.

gophers running across hi way: pick hits one one?

- tail in air like antenna

- pops up to have a look

Montana driving: Gr. Bago @ 55+ mph, pickups & horse trailers (2 horses in them) pass us.

Honda Gold Wing m'cycle (pic in h'own)

blocks under Bago (to level it up)

the three of them in the Bago as a household: describe how they divvy chores etc.

Whoever laid out the restroom stops (on Montana freeway), you can tell ^{just} where he had diarrhea--short distances between in Wolf Creek, huge distances some other areas.

Old age and treachery will overcome youth and skill. (T-shirt)

Spandexterous, skid lids in place,

(if they meet up with a bike brigade, such as the Yaak-Alzada bunch)

bumper stickers: use as Montana detail/commentary? (go thru mall parking lots;
watch downtown streets.)

--Cowgirls need love too.

--Help keep Montana green. Shoot a developer.

- A ♥ BOWLING. Where else can you get shoes so cheap?

Instant Asshole--Just Add Alcohol (on ballcap)

bumper stickers in RODEO, Elizabeth A. Lawrence, p. 110

my adaptation: Calf ropers do it in front of their horses

- Bago passed by pickup pulling horse trailer, going to rodeo?
- or Kevin Frew's pickup, in EV?
- spirit 7. Amen (amen: We're comin' Back!
Count on it!

freeway: • broken white line between lanes, ahead the ~~line~~ solid,
then breaks into dots, then becomes dashes - More code of road

- freeway as data, giving a gray parent

- April '59 Minoula-Billings drive: snow caking freeway signs.
It cd blot out parts of words on signs: W eight
Station

- Riley comment • road sign glyphs: knife & fork, wheel etc?

freeway

April '89, from Livingston until I turned off @ Big Timber for lunch @ Country Pride, I was followed by a semi- at comfortable precise interval. I/ I sped up or slowed a few mph, so did he. tendency to string yourself on distance that way, to want a moving object steadily ahead to travel in tandem c.

- same truck, from Powder River entry, was gallant: seeing a bicyclist ahead, trucker swung over into . far lane so as not to hit him a backwash of road spray. (mucky day)
- truck had red Mont. Truck license

@ someplace on freeway whr thrs a rumble strip, when it makes some smart crack pick left. Bago drift its r. wheels onto shoulder of road; tires make an erk ... erk sound like a barking seal, iconic applause for Riley.

trucks idling @ rest stop

chrome pug noses

heard on KBOZ, April '89 Missoula-Butte drive:

a branding party - everybody ed bring the branding irons & seal brands into wall - some enterprise (probably a bar) was holding as center'l celebration.

insert some scene of Bago life: into Helena morning?

Riley nukes a thermal cup? (his favorite thermal cup?)

bar soap in Bago's washbasin is always black from newsprint on Riley & Mariah's hands

joggers and doggers, seen in a park somewhere

the Bago gets dinged

RV scenario:

Jick goes to swim in pool at a KOA (as we did in Miles City) and watches kids playing:

--girls are cannonballing and bellyflopping at deep end; 3 or 4 of them, with rules that one watches while the others perform and if they can make her laugh, she has to do inventive or silly dive. Dives inc: I'm-a-tree, standing at pool edge and toppling (maybe with other contestant making a quick chopping motion at ankles); boogying, with index fingers in air; grabbing ankles in classic cannonball.

--boys meanwhile are aggressively playing tag or keepaway or diving for pennies at other end of pool.

RV scenario:

--a wasp or hornet or bee ~~get~~ begins flying around while Bago is on the road, as a fly annoyed us driving from Glendive to Miles City. Difficult to swat in moving vehicle.

--have the bee emerge from a/c vent, Jick or whoever is driving sees it come out, thinks "Uh oh, trouble."

Rogers Pass / 1

June 20, '87

Bourmans Corner - 116 mi. to Helena, 38 to Lincoln

- up over 1st little side rise after bar, curved (swayback) reef ahead (C's pics begin) Campouts: mtns, after paralleling them
- pic begins change of country here; he must pass thru
- streaks of wall rock - seams - in front
- small wk cabin on hill n. of ~~new~~ road: like glimpse of ship wagen
- mtns begin to unfold you; arms around you
- swaybck mtn moves off to n (as road swings)
- rocky ridgelines (pic) letting road earn
- opening in mtns ahead w/ n. pass is
- Dearborn R size of a healthy creek; (pic of buttes s. along r.)
- single trees on hilltops, branches wide as opened arms
- cattle tracks, white & red
- bee hives in field, after Wolf Cr. cutoff

Rogers Pass / 2

- crow carrying off a dead gopher from middle of road
- part highway section house, road starts up, + gets rougher
- smell of pine forest in car?
- rocky faces of mtns disappear, during climb to pass;
high ridges of timber; you don't go thru + dramatic mtns to pass
- lupine amidst green beside road
- mtns look good (middle terrain of pass)
- road in broad curves, up to summit
- record cold spot (all caps): coldest of cold temp ever recorded in con'l US occurred at a mining camp near here Jan. 20, 1954, when temp dropped to 70 degrees below zero
- over summit before you know it

Rogers Pass/3

- suddenly in a wide valley of willow & sage (after summit)
 - sage country is new to Dick
- low timbered ridges as if serious part of mtns - business end -
we went out to face plains
- Dick gauges it as favorable sheep country (before Lincoln)
 - sage clumps reminiscent of sheep
 - barrow pits filled w sage now, instead of cheatgrass etc.
 - sagebrush flat
- stops at Aspen Grove campground to pee?
- sagebrush flat (valley bottom) continued, alt to Lincoln
- Lambkins of Lincoln cape
- Len's post of signs

- after Lincoln, sage flat again but c houses now, until Blkfoot Canyon
- Bl Canyon wooded, c dark shiny curves of river
- clearcut c Z's of roads, like surgery on savaged body
- Bl R curves as if touching base at sides of valley, going to other
- clearcut in canyon, c Z's of log's roads
- country opens out into big basin after Bl Canyon: ranches, hay fields
- mtns to n. as regular as big dark tents (~~that~~ start from valley floor)
- sudden big cliffs across Bl/H again
- occasional white water in " "
- after Suley f. road, smaller ridges
- Bl/H: black^{dark} snake of a river

Encounters the ~~who~~ can have:

--highway work; flagpersons

--car wreck

--rest areas: truckers, retired couples in RVs

--schoolbusses

--service stations (amt of gas)

--broken windows from sagehen and from Riley locking the keys in.

- horse trailer whipping back & forth ahead of Bago.

A running theme is Riley having to add--pad, really--eventual Bago repairs

into the trip's expense account. The sequence:

- dented hood from being butted by buffalo
- hubcap lost after he fixes the flat tire
- cracked windshield where pheasant hits it
- broken rear window after he locks the keys in at surrender site
- something after Leona joins them: R nukes a thermal cup in the microwave?
or leaves something hooked up as they pull out of campground site? (snaps,
say, the sewer hose; they hear a thwop as Bago begins to pull out; Riley
had to duct tape it back together in the meantime)

accumulated stuff fly up from the dashboard as Jick swerves or brakes to try avoid pheasant?

--dashboard can be a frontier of housekeeping: the 3 of them keep the back of the Bago in reasonable order, in self-defense, but the dashboard accumulates.

RV details:

--Miles City KOA, lightning storm abt 10:30 pm June 24 '88; in the heat I was on the couch and C on the made-down table bed, and lying there I could see the lightning's white sheets of light, then count to see how far off the strike was.

--characters could say:

Riley: God's strobes. (remember blues song~~x~~ abt the Titanic, heard on Noah Adams show: "God moves on the water...one more time.")

~~xx~~ Jick: God's autograph (from Joaquin Miller poem:... "the awful autograph of God.")

Mariah: God's flashbulbs ("Smile, Riley. You're on Cosmic Camera.")

bed-making: Jick insists on doing it promptly (with Riley's help?) in Bago;
carryover from doing so at home, a mark of regularity in life after Marce's death.
--Leona then helps Jick make beds, after she joins the Bago crew?

Mariah

- Bago hits a skunk
" " " sagehen

I fiddled around at the Bago, making sure (air in tires OK, etc.)

The kitchen air filled with silence, slow and heavy as sagebrush smoke.

Winnelago

^{together}
slap up a meal-cook (see in Mission I?)
(Grainger, 31)

Sage hens are such turkeys.

--possible use: sage hen hits the windshield of the Winnebago.

--Mariah Montana, ornithological expert, said today... (Riley mannerism)

tovers (leftovers; phrase from Hazel Bonnet)

- Jack fixing meal in W'bago; they are far out in e. Montana?

House?

On the gravel road the Winnebago was like a fat person trying
to walk a thin line. ~~✓~~ Pretty appxorimate. Ordinarily I'd have come
to town in the pickup, but Maria wanted to look over the Winnebago
bathroom for darkroom possibilities.

and

get high-centered

Oh, just great. All we needed was to get this rig high-centered, out here
40 miles from nowhere. (Nez Perce memorial?)

The 00 was in disgrace now.

Can?

Bago

--"...I in my heart repeated the prayer of Cervantes' simple hero, 'God bless the man who invented sleep.'"

p. 158, Annals of Wyo., v. 5, #4, June 1929

"Pretty good invention, sleep." (Riley & Jack sharing bed)

Riley was a wild sleeper.

I do my dreaming awake.

Put 'er down in the glory hole. (shift into lowest gear)

" " " " the granny hole.

" " " 2" grandpa.

--scene of Riley locking keys into Bago. R unlocks Bago, drops keys into sidepocket of coat, changes into heavier coat, ~~locks~~ leaving coat with keys in Bago on the seat, and ~~locks~~ carefully locks the door. Jick, unbelievably:
I went over to him.
surely to Christ
"You didn't just do what I think you did?-- Did you?"

Riley gaped at me, then slapped his sidepocket, then spun and peered in the Bago window at the coat ~~with~~ the keys ~~in it~~ were actually in. "Oh, Jesus," he *said soft & low*
"Maybe somebody will come along." "Yeah. In a 1/43 saucer full of w. bago keys,"
--They use turkey basting bag on broken window, appropriate.

R: "It is a turkey basting bag. No wisecrass, okay?"
"Main strength of ignorance," I said. "You already proved one. Now let's see how strong you are."

Frank Zoretich as source on living in RV?

pedal to the metal

iron--slang for tire chains, as in Bill Lang's story of young tow truck drivers trying to pull out his entire n'hood of snowed-in cars:
"Give her some iron!" (i.e., race the rear wheels)

bumper sticker:

Answer My Prayer: Steal This Car

possible variation:

Make my day: hit this car, I wanted a new one from you anyway.

possible bumper sticker

Clim High in Life

- SOB in Ya Sight is Farther off
Than You think

Parent: you're gonna see stuff that'll make you poop your pants.

(scenery)

pick a Walkman in car

joggers and doggers

Jick ed be reading some book throug hout the trip.

--Lewis & Clark journals?

--Wolf Willow?

- Travels with Charlie?

Bagonauts

Bagonauts again, we...

We the Bagonauts...

Blue air of argument trailed behind (the Bago expedition).

Bago, 21 June

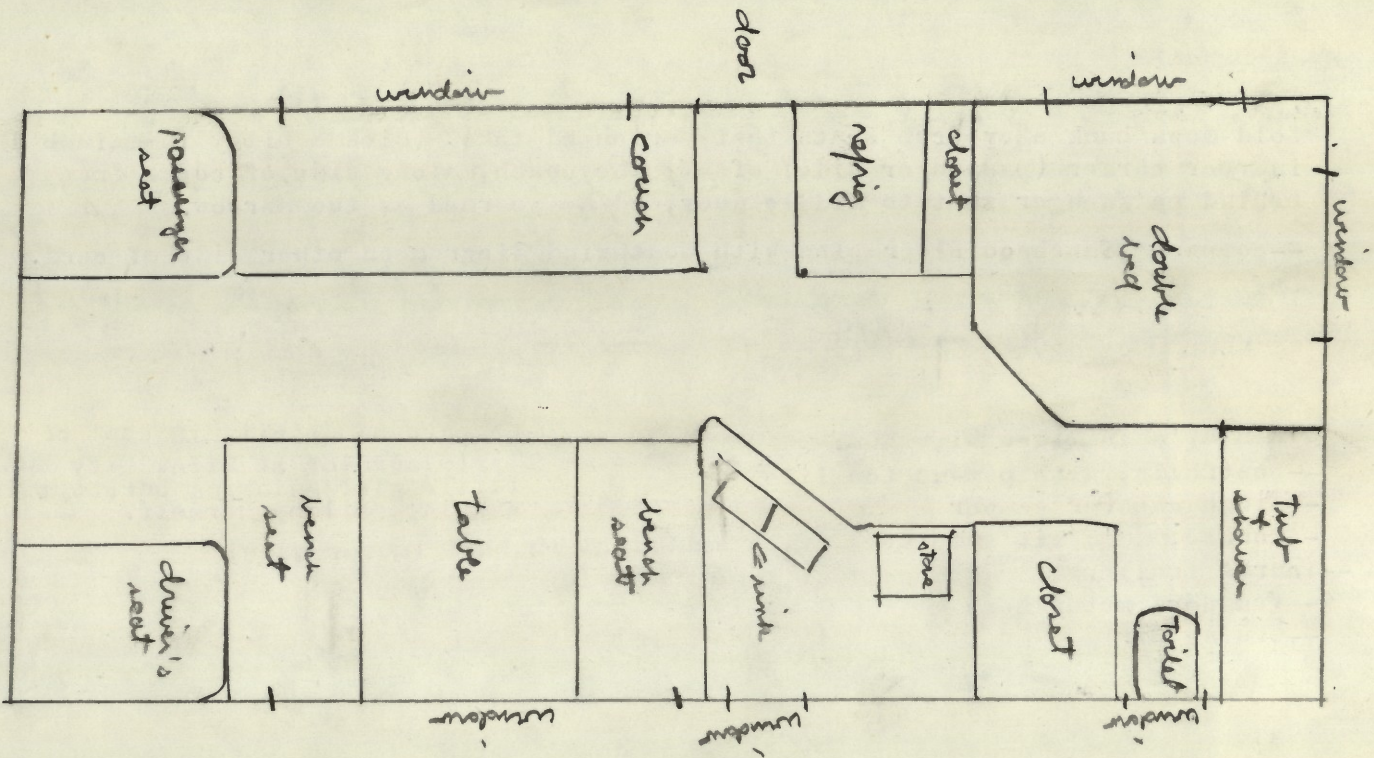
Things to check & obj'cs of configuration in S'wind & Winnebago.

- fold-down bunk above cab seats that Mariah cd take? (Jick & Riley in main bed in rear corner (passenger side) of RV) The couch, along side of coach from behind passenger seat to middle door, cd be scorned as too narrow.
- compare Winnebago floor plan with Southwind diagram on other side of card.
- character wld need occasional night in motel to really scrub up; use this when M & R go to motel to make love

OTHER RV's in Miles City KOA:

- Westfalia, with pop-up top like
- Tioga cabover camper
- Monaco, 40', ~~rit~~ sumptuous, with spotlight on back (motor home)
- Taurus trailer
- Vanguard motor home
- Cruise Air " "

campground detail, in cool of early morning at Miles City KOA: little girl swinging barefoot in a swing, all by herself.



make note of bumper stickers.

If you don't like a way I drive this, stay off. sidewalk.
ask first!! To hunt & fish on Private Land.

Single & ♥ ♣!

a Clean Car is A Sign of A Sane Mind

I'm insured by Smith & Wesson.

I Brake for Lobsters

car with pots of cactus in rear window, ~~mf~~ for heat from sun.

hitchhikers at freeway entrances?

possible bumper sticker, derived from Tannahill Weavers joke:

I ♥ bowling

Where else can you get a pair of shoes for 75¢?

T-shirt mottoes from Steve Duin column, Oregonian NW Mag, 21 Aug. '88:

Dear Auntie Em--

Hate you.

Hate Kansas.

Taking the dog.

--Dorothy

I may look normal to you but the ugly truth is: I am NOT OF THIS EARTH

U.S. gov't vehicles - 7 Svc Broncos etc. - have distinctive white lic. plates
- call them "whitetails"?

- do interstate trucks (or buses) have enough lic. plates from diff't states
to make a "fruit salad" like mil. battle ribbons?

Finally I ~~said~~ got out the necessary:

"Well, hell, okay then. Sitting in a Winnebago is something I guess I can manage to do. As long as nothing physical or mental is required, I can give this a try."

I did not want the Bago (to wander on gravel road)...

pots of cactus in rear window of car

Maui

- trucks stopped @ top of a pass (no Butte?) for drivers to sleep, check tires etc.
(as at top of Siskiyous, + at crest/idea line)

in-state (license) plates

Jick cd wonder, when Indian rider on Northern Cheyenne resvtn waves back at the
Bago, whether the in-state plates made that more or less likely to happen.

the sound of rain on the Bago, and use of windshield wipers, during

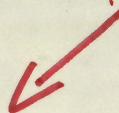
August travels

is the Bago window they have to break out at head height?

thinking and driving: add a line for Jick about how things come to mind as you sit and go across the miles?

--use this with the (card, maybe in the Bago file,) about the Bago's cargo of memory?

recapied



The Winnebago (carrying) a cargo of memories (family bgnd haunting Jick).

1 Feb. '89: When Bill Lang was here a few wks ago we reminisced abt Stan Davison, and Bill remembered Stan was always worried about the roads (in winter). So were Fred and Theresa Buckingham (at Lewistown MHS conference), and for that matter so were my folks. In short, native Montanans tend to worry about the roads more, perhaps from memory of bad storms, people in trouble etc., than the younger immigrants do; Those Times is good on this, the terrible sneakiness of weather. Have this as a characteristic for Jick as the centennial trip goes into Nov.?

Domestic arrangements.