

Flip
used

decision made between the thighs

like most decisions made between the thighs
this one had afterthoughts

Flip
used

She still is a mystery to me--unlike other ranch
cooks

Flipped

Dad whistling tunelessly: Wee Doch and Doris,
Squaws Along the Yukon, Springtime in Rockies

Flip *used*

one of them dreaming of NY and second fame, the
other fumbling for his next bottle of whiskey

Flip *used*

you were so damn bashful, a friend of my father's
grunts. Hard to get a word out of yuh.

Lady
used

the kids' dad

Lady
used

the first word of a secret, and no more

Lady
Wed

The railroad in its townless run across the
county

FLIP

used

Pete McCabe call over to cafe for steaks: Save us three.

Lady
Madd

a man who talked as some peple sing

*Flip
used*

from Ann Hubenthal, 7/18/77:

of Dad's marriage to Fern: "I couldn't see that, with that little child....She thought everything should come in a cloud for her... But she had hate in her, she was full of hate...

(called "Ann Hoop")

Lady
used

Finnigan's some where-beyond-Helsinki accent as if
he was breaking glass with his teeth

Lady-Add
used

kerosene light of campsite--like star on mountainside
sheepherders ? at Camas

Lady
used

three people corded together by bloodline

Lady
use

Rudy: walked with all his stride from waist down, like
soldier marching

With ~~ix~~ shovel on his soldier, he had a very military look

Flip
used

Someone about me, to Dad: 'That kid's smarter than he knows what
to do with.

Lady
used

Mickey Allen's funny, wadded face

sheep: their long clown faces in ruffs of wool

Lady
used

Valley
mspd

pushing in clutch of pickup so I could move
gearshift and lie down on seat

from Ann Hubenthal, 7/18/77

Lady *used*

of Grandma: "There was some that said they didn't see how she could take over the daughter's husband, and the child too. But I said there was love there, that was the way of it."

Lady
~~man~~

feeling the light which glimmered to the foot of
my bed, straight from the two of them and their
charged talk

Lady
used

She told me once of a neighbor, a homesteader, with a head huge and twisted as an ogre's. He had left his skull to medical science after his death. As I squirmed a bit at the story, she chuckled and said in her declaring style: "Headless Man into heaven."

too deep for me

Lady
used

Flip *used*

it was like a bosun's mate ~~and~~ opening a candy store

Lady - ADD
used

p. 30 of 1st draft: add reading material from SatEvePost
and Life, maybe Collier's.

Lady - ADD
used

Shep did not survive the winter, but the Camas had
endless other dogs

Lady
used

And so Dad stayed on with McGrath not as his foreman, but his right-hand man, one of those odd relationships my family seemed to invent

Shep's death

Lady
used

outhouse

Lady
resed

behinder (rump)

Lady
used

Lady
used

I see, said the blind man

Lady
used

bouncing a ball between bedroom and kitchen

manful coffee

sour tarry coffee

(Dad's cooking for us)

T. Lady ¹⁹¹¹
need

dialogue
Lady
used

G'ma: I deaded him

Lady
used

Even her looks changed to defy that life. The one luxury of the cows was unending butter and cream; her cooking feasted on them, and she broadened and squared.

Lady
used

The two of us pondered the fuzz on my upper lip. At the precise age when ~~my~~ other boys were praying for whiskers, I was trying to get rid of a downy shadow. As with everything else, G'ma had been thru it before: she came up with a white salve called a depilatory which took off the fuzz, all right, and felt as if my lip were going with it.

Lady
used

That displeasure corked each sentence.

Lady
revised

The grownups had their own game of imagination, which was gossip. On our side of the tracks--I had little idea of how people lived on the other side of them--Kate Badgett kept her tongue at a steady courier's gait.

Lady
used

The two of us pondered my first beard, a pale rim of fuzz
on my upper lip

Prism I
used

deviling in us

Valley
west

rewardful

Valley
used

sitting silent as doorstops

Lady
and

G'ma and dogs: she would break into rough-house play with them, setting off wild barking and jumping which always ended with scratched and bleeding arms. In time, the skin between wrist and elbow looked like a torture victims', white nicks of scar all the length...

Lady
used

with a hatchet nose and an ax of a jaw

Lady
used

She despised magpies: GIT!

Lady
used

G'ma provided me delayed memory of childhood;
how she dandled me and read to me, how I said
"poor me," raced down the hill from big tree,
asked her, "Sing, Gramma: ah-ah-ah. . ."

LADY-14-15, ADD

used

Tom Ringer would stop Mrs. Holmes on street, concerned about how I was doing in school; stop her on his slow rounds uptown; he lived then in cabin behind motel (?), a kind of charity. I was his one grandchild at the time.

Dad made me visit Tom Ringer: he was gray, bent, colossal nose, musty, everything of the cabin gray.

Lady
need

things under beds as if ballasting the house

Lady
used

mewls of wind ~~came~~ in under the bedroom window
slipped

When I woke in the mornings, fine drifts of snow would
be on the sill like a spill of sugar.

Lady
used

the scrushing sound of boots on silk-dry snow

Valley *used*

July 4, 1923: Dad played baseball at Sixteen as relays from telegraph office brought round-by-round account of Dempsey-Gibbons fight ~~for~~ at Shelby.

Lady
replied

She was born when a man named Grover Cleveland was President.
That she did not know ~~what~~ who that was bespeaks her upbringing.
She was perpetually baffled that there had been two Presidents
Roosevelt.

Lady- ADD *used*

my pingponging life: # of places I had lived, such as house with Wally and Joyce where toilet was in cellar, trap door was in middle of kitchen.

Lady
used

It was noticeable that McGrath's bluster did not hit on Dad or Grandma; he had a clever bully's instinct about who to leave alone.

Lady
Wood

poor me

Lady
used

ideas in place like logs of a stockade--upright, pointy and
entirely wooden.

Lady *red*

Mrs. Snider's mention of Roosevelt sons, S asking
what that had to do with anything

Lady
red

snoose: Rudy chewed it, claimed mosquitoes never bothered him while he irrigated

Valley

used

Dad's naming of me: wanted to avoid juniors

--had no idea the name was Russian

Lady
Wood

Snider's potato story: "blaze, damn ye!"

Lady used

I began to be dismayed about the way my hair forever parted in the middle of my head, draping away to both sides like fountain flows: was I going to go through life like that? Not if Grandma could help it. She took a nylon stocking...

G'mas thunderous snoring, waking herself up, mad
at herself

Lady
used

Lady
wed

riding with McGrath to open gates

I was expert gate opener, running up to wire,
8 seconds saved pleased him

Lady
used

Mickey-and-Rudy vanish to ranch on Sun River.

Lady
used

The one annoyance I could do was to see her with her teeth out.
After a time or two I respected this, and would veer away or
turn my back if I saw it happening

used

In that time, when I was a ten-eleven^m-twelve-year-old,
six-seven-eight

Lady
Maid

Walter Badgett: a hand as big as my face

Lady
used

Badgetts: those two serene old outlaws

Lady
used

Mrs. Badgett pillowed in the fat of her body

Lady
used

They were in the sort of outliving contest which a very old couple sometimes seem to be having, each aging against the other instead of against time. Naturally, Kate would win.

Lady
used

I am the bonus child, son of her daughter and
promising in my own right--How much was I the shadow
of my mother? *Not much, as it turned out.*

Lady *red*

I was a gift, a bonus chance to raise

Lady
used

G'ma wore bib overalls only when no one could see
her

the smoke hue of moss agates

Lady
used

Lady
used

husked

Lady
used

Spots of light came in around the gear-housings and
driveshafts...
drilled

Ringling dimensions: (7/22/77)

70 paces from G'ma's house to Badgetts - *used*

150 yds to depot

*Lady
used*

North--add

used

Trailing to reservation: wire rings of cans (tin dogs)

Lady ~~red~~

All around, ranges of mtns hazy to a thin blue,
as if behind smoke. Mtns & mtns & mtns.

(G's arrival to 3 Forks)

Valley
useff

Fred Buckingham on Rankin cattle:

"He had cattle, oh we were all afraid of 'em. A storm would come and they'd come up the road from Rock Creek, and they were reaching through the fences eating weeds and ~~nutbax~~ willows; people were scared of 'em 'cause if they broke in they'd eat you out in one night."

Lady
used

I can see her toughening in those years, the salt
of sweat toughening her personality

As if a fifth season had been added to the year

North
used

North - ADD
used

G'ma driving jeep on. resv'n

North
used

~~my~~ notion for me to become pharmacist: Dad talked himself
around to it

Reservation grass had been reason luring Dad to north. *used*

NORTH--add

Nora ADI
used

Dad and I listened to baseball games on battery radio; G'ma to morning soap operas.

~~Notes~~
used

I took an awkward straddle of classes, Latin on the one hand and vocational agriculture on the other. They merged only when I came across the textbook narrative, Galba est agricola...

North ADD
used

Trailer house about 20 feet long (?)

Dad and I shared bed across one end, G'ma made down ledge of
bed near the table.

Facing North ADD

used

death of Tip and Kitten in last reservation summer: Tip from
running with dog pack, Kitten apparently to an eagle. (Earlier
describe Kitten's finding us after trailer moves)

North--Add

used

detail of reservation life: G'ma crocheting, getting thread

mixed "six ways to Sunday"

Facing North

ADD

used

Description of daily life in trailer house on resvtn--listening to
baseball games, the heat, the lack of space in one of world's
expanses, slow hours, sunsets

North used

did not want to move during my senior year in high school; if there were no solid timbers in their life, there should be one in mine... (contrast with WSS)

Facing North
ADD *revised*

Seagulls were her new nemesis, as ~~seagulls~~ had been
magpies

Seagulls, the first she or I had seen; Dad recognized from his winter on the coast. I thought they were remarkable, sailing in all this distance from the ocean to pick over the fields; she disliked them at once, *recognizing that they scavenged as avidly* (Still disdainful of gulls when she visited us in Seattle; *as* called them "sharks") *magpies*

North
wood

Resvtn: bunchgrass like quivers of tan arrows with slim white tips

Notes ADD
used

Kitten: never around when we moved camp, but either that night or in morning would come purring in to the new site.

North used

For good measure, she added a cat, and without asking
opinions named it Kitten.

Facing North--ADD *used*

As ever, we were neither one situation nor the other. on the other reservstion allotments, ranchers supplied the herding camps. We were both rancher and herder, and so did our own scrabbling.

a makeshift family that lived in half a house for 2/3 of a year and then trooped off onto the prairie ~~from~~ to live more oddly still. (yet)

Facing North
North

an army of mountains, drawn in battalions
south to north as far as could be seen

the mastering mountains

Xanth
used

the carom-line of mountains

North
used

Facing North
used

Dad's cooking: white gravy

Facing North

ADD

used

Collins scored on 89-yd run on 1st play of season

Facing North
used

Mrs. Tidyman: at news of disaster, would begin to wish it involved no one from a town she knew, then a state, and on up until the wish was that no one at all had been involved

Facing North
used

Frances Tidyman: walked leaning forward from waist, like ship's figurehead prowling through sea of life.

Facing North
used

As Irishman says, this place is back of
neck of world. (Jensen ranch.)

*North
used*

Mrs. Tidyman told me the man had been a Rhodes Scholar, an honor so vast I didn't entirely understand what it was. He walked across the plowed field ~~town~~ where I was running the harrow. "What is this, a discer?" he asked, and I learned at once that Rhodes Scholars didn't know everything.

Flipped
used

the Old Auditorium

Flip used

hot water well

Flip
used

Weird winter. My dog fell thru the ice and drowned before any of us missed him. Dad led snowplow in circle. His and Fern's best time together. Going to town by sled. I rode off a cutbank on my sled and opened a knee. Dad at JB's, saw the chinook break winter.

Valley ~~used~~

The quickest parts of his brain, *if they were several*

Valley
used

Standing as if his strut had stopped mid-stride

Valley

used

He was, as I have said, only ~~about~~ five and a half feet tall. He weighed only 135 pounds or so. But his width...like a playing card.

I'd rather scratch c-chickens than work for
that bastard.

Valley
used

Valley, used

six sons, named like the rollcall of a Highlands
regiment

Deathday
used

2 young half-strangers, like past neighbors
glimpsed years after

Valley
used

it must have been the 1st time he laid hands on death

to the bone

Valley
used

Valley
Boeing

like much else in this country's history, homesteads worked to an end, but not the one expected. They were not the makings of yeoman farms and ranches, but the quarters which held people until something else happened--like the apartments in immigrant ghettos.

Valley *used*

when you don't know how you know

Valley
used

rodeo 1928: they took the town

It was time. look from. hot eye
of a hawk.

Filed
10/21

Facing North
used

Gertie: "You know how Dupuyer is. Once a year, everyone gets at each other's throats." (My point: rest of time, Dupuyer remarkably friendly and even-tempered.)

Flip *used*

my hair made me stand out, when I wasn't sure I wanted to

dialogues
Lady *Hand*

Hnnf! Balloon ascension

Ledyed

Some folks say they get tired of their own cooking.

I never have (and would dig into her meal)

Lady
used

There was a sheen to her talk, like the nap of very old and odd-colored velvet. Anything which lay lengthwise was longways to her. The stanchions of a barn were stanchels, and the cows themselves were a child's word of my mother's, merseys.

Lady
red

drift of snow thru Ringling bedroom window like
spilled sugar bowl

He's quite the ^{McGnold}
~~Snider~~.

Lady
used

Lady
used

a wand of a woman

My mother had been a wand of a woman, but this grandmother
was an oak stump.

Flip *used*

Roy Swan, 7/19/77--

On arriving in WSS to teach just after WWII:

"The town didn't look too perky. It had been through a Depression and a world war, and obviously nobody had built anything or painted anything or cleaned anything for twenty years."

On arriving, off the bus at old Sherman Hotel, S asked hotel man Joe Buckley if there were lockers he could check his baggage into. "Just throw it there in the corner," he was told. "But I'd like to check it..." "Just throw it there in the corner!" When he came back for it in a day or so, it was there in the corner.

Learning that S had taken a job in WSS, people said to him, "Oh, that's the place with a hotel in the middle of the street." He came expecting to see a hotel athwart the street, with traffic divvying around it on both sides.

^o notes that WSS, rough looking as it is in most respects, has had two points of pride: its cemetery and its schools.

FACING NORTH *used*

Carlton arrived, with his stories of the girl he had left in the last town. A rancher's daughter, she had been given a Jeep to herd her father's sheep with. C began meeting her, and they would get naked in the Jeep; he would take her; then they would roar after the straying sheep and round them in. "Run right over those woolly bastards if they didn't move fast enough." I didn't know whether to be more astonished at the notion of a girl naked in a Jeep or at running over a sheep.

fondle one another until she wd straddle his lap - (until one wd straddle other)

("In a jeep?" Clas cried)

Print
used

the river of my boyhood flowed in the sky. (Weather,
bearing storms like foam, or cargo: extended analogy)

Notes used

We found that the neighbor to our east was an Indian, and a solid respectable rancher. Dad was amazed that an Indian could work and prosper.

North
and

Driving the Reservation ridgelines was like traveling over short grass islands, in a long grass sea.

Facing North ^{used}

• Rockies looking up into storm clouds w. J. Dupuyer

Facing North
used

• Rockies. repline of continent, a sury of storm
breaking over them & flooding toward us...

North
used

Years later I interviewed a man who had become famous in forestry, first as a chemist and then for his administrative skills. I asked how he had gone into the work, and he told me of deciding one day in an Indiana field that he would become a chemist. He looked at me belligerently (bellicosely; challengingly) after telling me the abrupt story. But I only smiled and nodded, because it rang true with my own deciding....

*Nalt
used*

Dupuyer had 00 houses, 00 people, 00 feet of sidewalk, 0 barns,
0 gas stations, 1 store, 0 restaurants, etc.

Split-tongue of silence that comes when you
first know a parent is dying, and it begins
to croak all that has been unsaid...

Endings
used

... ^{Then} ~~It~~ it declares, as ^{it} ~~it~~ did thru me, "We've
got to get you some doctoring."

Endings *red*

At a canasta table, a heart attack comes to McGrath;
he g flings his cards as if blasted by lightning,
and topples backwards dead.

(use concatenation of these ~~00~~--McGrath, Nellie,
Badgetts--in final prism scene?)

Endings
used

told her.

My heart's just hanging by a th'ead, he said. I
looked at him in surprise. The load on his heart
was great, but its continuing strength was the one
soundness in his health.

Endings
used

As we chose a tombstone for Dad, she said she wanted to be buried beside him, and to have her name on the same stone. Then she said No, not together on the stone; ~~xxx~~ right alongside him.

...twin humps of granite against the walling mountains beyond the valley. (*use as last line of Endings?*)

Endings 480

Changes: Dogie owned by goddamn KC paper box
company; sage plowed
Always startled by plume of smoke over WSS

Ending
used

G'ma at the funeral home: OH Charlie, why did you have to die?

Endings
used

Charlie Doig, survivor of broncs and bear and all
else, had begun to die

Endings *used*

Dad's chest built up, the muscles stretching out
to squeeze air into the failing lungs.

Endings
used

Breath dragged in and out of Dad grudgingly

Endings *used*
Impossibly, he had become both thinner & larger -
- exertions of his lungs building his chest to a shell

Endings
used

he could scarcely have put breath on a mirror

Endings *used*

he was everlastingly weak now

Endings
used

In twenty years, I had watched the two of them wear grooves into each other until at last the fit of their lives was a mutual comfort, a familiar necessity. It passed through acceptance, then beyond affection, and became ^{of bonds of} love. My father came to lean his very life on my grandmother. And when he died, a presence went out of her life like something lacking in the air she breathed.

Endings
and

Oxygen had become all.

- it all had thinned to whiffs holding him to life,
like a breeze scudding a dried leaf along a fence

It was not a time of steady gloom. I think that
is true grief of it - that the four of us

Endings
used

Dad fishing with Leo

Endings
used

One story more
(bear story prim)

used

Ivory

used

Rumor went through its entire prism and ~~box~~ off both ends.

(Cuban missile crisis)

copy used

I was neither a good soldier nor a poor one, only the outline of a soldier, like the targets on the firing range.

IVORY

used

Holden, my closest friend and most opposite, ambushing his course work in a last blazing week after I had laid steady grinding siege to mine.

When I had begun to write fillers for magazine and was the sole undergraduate to have an article in the J school quarterly, he said: You're gonna be bigger than any of us, aren't you? I thought it over, as I did everything, and answered: No, Thomas, not necessarily so.

IVORY

used

looking for house in Shelby, oil-field workers town. Next ~~x~~ to
guy at urinal, finally ask him. His advice: There'll be a
nigger maid at the door. Tell her you want Estelle. She's got
legs like OO, will squeeze the daylight out of you. Squeeze...
what was that all about? I tried to give him a dollar. Naw,
spend it at the house, it'll be worth it.

He was right. And so was Carleton.

One thing I could not go back to NU without solving.

Ira Hayes from poetry file

Ivory
used

If I was going to be bookish, I might as well ^{try} ~~use~~ as well
do it in earnest & become a prof'r.
(make a job of it)

Endings
used

If you had said you were going to run an opium den, she would have come around to the side of opium dens, C said once.

Endings *used*

becoming father to my father

if I feared it & wrestled it, I did it.

There was all. grief on earth in that
verdict, with its fearsome memory of my
mother's long agony.

Endings
used

Endings
used

veneth.

1 breastbone

print
used

memory as a kind of homesickness

Prism
used

Spaced ^{where} ~~as~~ I am between having been young and not quite yet
middle-aged

Endings--ADD

used

Dad and Jehovahs Witnesses, after his death scene

~~Endings—Add~~
Prism *mark*

final line: Of where, now, my outline meets the air that knew
theirs.

prim
used

a two-day rain, which was all the rain we could
imagine

prism
used

If it would come and go cleanly, like the day-night turn of the earth.

prism
used

Kin, clan. ^{sire} son, ~~OO~~. Where do the words come from?

In my mind, I mean; I know that in the language, they arrive from the clangs and soughs of tongues now silent a thousand years into the past--sound arriving, in its way, like the light from a gone star.

blood & breed, breath & death

grandson & grandma
grand of

Endings
used

Unaccountably, the clubbings in Chicago sent Dad furious: I thought this was a country where the police weren't supposed to beat up on people. About Vietnam, he had two attitudes: he wanted his country not to lose the war, and he wanted his son not to get over there and be blown to bits. I was most sure about the second part of that

Endings
Valley *used*

Dad's joking: dialect stories, most of them still burred with his Scots. How many critters on that side. Five? As the Dutch fellow says, as many as the thumbs on the end of mine hand.

prism used

prism before North: Noon was the magic time. The day changed then, in heat, quality of light, outlook, work. It was not an exact hour, but when lunch was eaten. Reckoned the day by it: "After noon we'll..." "Let's get this done by noon..." "better noon up, I guess"

Endings *used*

As disease wore at him, he seemed to resent
country's ailments: "I thought this
was a country where police ~~at~~ weren't
supposed to beat people."

ENDING S

ADD

used

G'ma's quilts: colored squares small as crackers.

Like ~~flags~~ fields of flags from all the universe;
or semaphores; *tartans*

Endings--ADD

used

The dying of a parent is a baffling time.

Endings
used

I was plugging away in graduate school, the only way I have ever known to get a thing done.

Vetapes entering house & playing Nola:

doo-tee-doo-tee-dooty-doo....

Ivory
Hull

They always assumed I knew what I was doing,^{assumed}
which was a tremendous assumption.

Ivory
used

I have no instinct for the deep waters of my profession

Ivory

used

I had read somewhere of a writer who liked to claim that he was better than anybody who was faster, and faster than anybody who was better, and that was the brag I made in my head...
(at Decatur, TR)

My editorials never went far or deep, but they sang off the mark (quote some of best leads)

Ivory
used

Begin with letter from G'ma; use as counterpoint
throughout ch.

used

Her expressions were taut: the usual one was a quick disgusted
hmmph. But a surprise flick of humor would come with it.

When the wind would swirl her dress up, there would be: hmmph!

Balloon ascension!

Endings *used*

The nation was in wars I despised ~~it~~ and feared--in Asian
rice paddied, in its own streets--but the obliteration
raging *against* in my father was more vital to me

when the spirit is homesick--homesickness of the
spirit

wave flipped me like a tiny plaything

I said afterward that my face had a deeply
resigned look, composed, accepting. (consigned)

pusim

As a boy, I heard this story from Dad a hundred times,
and never enough

used

"Kin" prism: change "points of light" to "pulses of light"?

used

tink--'48 winter, sound of team harness: ching
tink, ching tink

Lady-ADD

used

Grandma called me "boy", especially after solitaire triumphs:
I got a game, boy, what do you think of that?

Valley - ADD
used

Dad's color blindness

Vallyy-ADD

used

Margaret Doig a family talisman

Lady
used

it is a dark secret of our family that Dad feared
G'ma would take me.

used

he gave you opinions like a man paying out rope

used

The half-dark of a winter ~~day~~^{forenoon}

Used

where the whips of wind had cut in

Lady
add

rainbarrel (esp. in Ringling, for soft water
and to save carrying)