

Valley
Basin

The country's terms were harsh

1st rain of season:

--like infinity falling

--the complete package: sheen on deck of porch, can hear it falling all the way back to the Flood.

--lull: the ~~level~~ rain is akin the word's spelling, soft and straight down (like l's)

the sea has washed down the land from forested green to cliff-gray.

WB

• winter-tanned bluff

winter

use c Nisqually

the polished water, smoothed by rocks below.

WB

fold of shoreline

WINTER

Puget Sound area as a littoral

WB

The (scree, shore) slurred beneath...

WB

watercourse upon watercourse

WB

breakup (geography)

Seattle a city of Pacific roulette

life through the decades @ Cascopia:

--70's, making love on every desk

--80's,

--90's, mutual funds/401K's

Seattleites know airplanes the way birders know ducks.

The Coast, the leading edge of the continent. It butted against...

seaplanes skiing down the sky (did I use this in earlier book?)

plane notes for Mitch (based on our 6/15/96 flight to Chicago ABA):

--Puget Sound like puzzle parts

--riffles (snow-white) of mountains to the horizon

--frozen lakes in the Cascades; like portholes? isinglass? manhole covers?

--unfrozen lakes a little farther east; Mitch reads elevation(s) of mtns by them

geomorphology

possible detail of Mt. St. Helens eruption:

the ashstorm above the clouds, Mitch on airliner w/ music on the headset

Milton's 1st home from SF

· fire mtns...

- St. H, · blow cone

Mitch's flight home: over the fire mtns...

--his close call @ Mt. St. Helens, flying w/ Lighthawk (day before eruption)

--his sense of the land having been hacked at

--he muses about his job, & the publisher's habit of sending him to conferences

--big as he is, M in the plane seat is like St. Bernard in a windowbox (?)

- . Green Page.

showing the picnic basket.

Seattle downtown under clouds: pewter skyline

4th of July fireworks setting off car alarms

--Sarah & Nile Norton reported this, watching Elliott Bay '96 firwks from Qn Anne Hill

--flight attendant who gives gate numbers with quasi-military codenames:

"C9, Charlie 9."

David (Isn't the actual military codename here "Dog"?)

Echo F

Fox

--younger attendant, Skyla's generation, would give them as...

Bennie
Courtney

Keeping:

@ Green Lake (or elsewhere), Mitch &/or Lexa while thinking about moving from Seattle (or a job) hear a voice say, "Leave it." (Dog-owner to big dog on a leash, interested in another dog; "leave it" is the common command..!)

Keeping:

--crow (probably a young one) on railing @ Shilshole, teetering and flinching a bit as we walked past, C's elbow less than 3' from him, but not flying off; maybe another evolutionary instant in crows fitting themselves into disturbed environment. Tony Angell likens it to the history of dogs, changing from hunting beasts to pets; says crows are so smart, always working at the edges of a situation, that he wouldn't be surprised in 100 years to find them in some role humans find compatible and comfortable.

WB

windless as a sea in space

Day 47--Feb. 5-- Wind and rain in night and early morn. Some clearing, showers at noon; misty showers during afternoon.

Day 48--Feb. 6--rain trotting in the drainpipe when we woke up; now (10 am) gray pause between rain, slight wind in trees.

These two days are the usual winter--rain and 45 degrees--after the weeks of the cold clear winter. The winter of two winters.

The moodless weather does not help. Customarily I take the view
Swan seemed to: count it a bonny day whenever the ^{weather} ~~wind~~ isn't ripping
the roof from the house. Just now I would wave away the gray equilibrium
overhead and invite commotion for commotion's sake. It could happen
yet, in the remaining space of the afternoon. No winter I have spent
in the Pacific Northwest--this will make an even dozen--ever has been
as damply bland and excitementless as the season's reputation. ~~("Seattle")~~

("Oh, Seattle," anyone from elsewhere will begin, and one of the next
three words is "rain.") There can be winter weeks here

if-
today!
soon!
for



WINTER

Does Swan ever curse the rain in his diaries?

WB

pewter weather of gray days and stormy water

winter

call to Nat'l Weather Service, Dec. 18, '78:

--winter arrives 9:21 p.m., Dec. 21 (is this 2121 hours?)

winter solstice

perihelion

winter

"Rain five days and I love it," wrote Richard Hugo in Swan's town of Pt. T.
(Chapbook, RAIN FIVE DAYS AND I LOVE IT, Shln 810.54 H895Rai)

winter

used

(rain) (trotting)
6:11 the murmur running in the drainpipe. Day-long yesterday, night-long. Into the
day again. (6:15)

gently sombre day (of rain)

WB

the discontent of our winter

WINTER

Dec. 12: a rarely chilly season so far.

Snow last month, and today a lingering frost on the streets, the day punctuated with the panicked scritchcchhh of braking cars.

(Scritchcchhh)

WINTER

winter: an ~~entire~~ entire season in shade

winter

We are now into winter, the rain and I...

(17021 10th NW)

the winter light of this house: more daylight in living and dining room now--Jan. 5, etc.--than in summer, because of lowness of sun, circling the end of the house from noon on.

this winter that began with a salute of twenty-ones

5 decades of North Pacific's hard weather

- or, 30-yr winters in Mont; hard weather, say. voices of friends

If I noted the weather three times a day as Swan did, today it would read:
goose-drowner, gully-washer, fence-lifter.

soft weather of this area