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THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

THE HISTORY OF THE EDITORIAL PROCESS OF  
RUDY WIEBE'S PEACE SHALL DESTROY MANY

by

STEPHANIE ANNE LARDEN

A THESIS

SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND  
RESEARCH IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR  
THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

EDMONTON, ALBERTA

SPRING 1989

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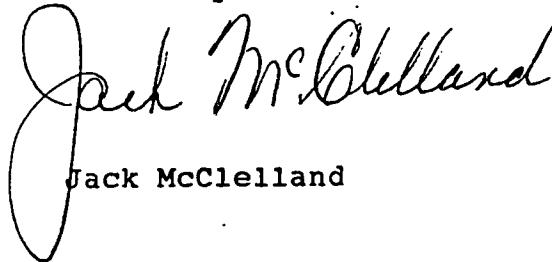
November 24th, 1988

Ms. Stephanie Larden,  
1004, 10883 Saskatchewan Drive,  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T6E 4S6

Dear Stephanie Larden:

I would be pleased to let you quote from my correspondence with Rudy Wiebe. I just hope and pray that I didn't tell him it was a lousy novel or had to be rewritten. Actually it was a great novel and I hope we didn't give him too hard a time. Good luck with your thesis. If you feel when you finish it that it might make a saleable book, let me know and I might be interested in peddling it for you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jack McClelland". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Jack McClelland

JGMCC/m



November 23, 1988

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Rudy Wiebe

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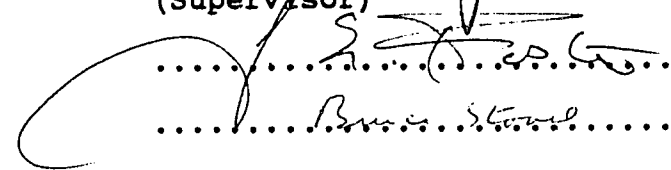
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THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH

The undersigned certify that they have read, and recommend to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research for acceptance, a thesis entitled **THE HISTORY OF THE EDITORIAL PROCESS OF RUDY WIEBE'S PEACE SHALL DESTROY MANY** submitted by Stephanie Anne Larden in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts.

  
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(Supervisor)

  
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Date: .12./16./88.....

## ABSTRACT

In 1962, Rudy Wiebe published his first novel, Peace Shall Destroy Many. Before its appearance in its final printed version, the manuscript for the novel, which was originally Wiebe's thesis for his Master's degree at the University of Alberta, had to undergo numerous changes. This thesis proposes to examine these changes in a dualistic fashion: by exploring what they reveal about the creative process and artistic consciousness of the author, and by analyzing what they suggest about the necessary practicalities of the publishing industry.

Revision, an unavoidable step in producing a manuscript which will eventually satisfy the demands of a publisher, also becomes part of the creative process and is as important as the initial writing of a work. It is clear in the love/hate relationship between an author and his editor that revision is the point at which the creative process and the publishing process unite. By presenting the history of the production of a first novel, this thesis undertakes to explore the way in which the creative process is forced to interact with the publishing industry.

The Rudy Wiebe Papers available at the University of Calgary contain numerous drafts of the novel which provide ample material to study the process of revision

in this novel. This thesis focuses on the revisions made between five versions of the novel: the original thesis, the re-submitted version, the printer's copy, the hardcover edition, and the paperback edition. All substantive revisions between the various versions of the novel are listed in a textual apparatus at the end of the thesis.

Chapter One is a precise examination of the nature of the various revisions made to the different drafts of the novel. Chapter Two, using correspondence between the author and his editors, explores how and why these revisions occurred. This section also raises the question as to whether creativity is ever sacrificed for publishability. Chapter Three is a consideration of first novelists, in general, to discover whether Wiebe's experience of extensive revision is common to all first novelists.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I wish to thank Dr. Gordon Moyles for his invaluable guidance and assistance in the creation of this thesis and Rudy Wiebe for giving me permission to use his work.

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THE HISTORY OF THE EDITORIAL PROCESS OF  
PEACE SHALL DESTROY MANY

Introduction

In 1962, Rudy Wiebe published his first novel, Peace Shall Destroy Many. Before its appearance in the final version which McClelland and Stewart published, the manuscript for the novel, which was originally Wiebe's thesis for his Master's degree at the University of Alberta, had to undergo numerous changes. These changes can best be examined in a dualistic fashion: by exploring what they reveal about the creative process and artistic consciousness of the author, and by analyzing what they suggest about the necessary practicalities of the publishing industry. Revision, an unavoidable step in producing a manuscript which will eventually satisfy the demands of a publisher, also becomes part of the creative process and is as important as the initial writing of a work.

Preparing a manuscript to be accepted for publication becomes a very humbling and trying experience. Joyce Marshall, the editor assigned to Peace Shall Destroy Many, writes a long letter to Wiebe detailing her many criticisms of the novel and she concludes it by stating: "I hope you don't feel that I've ripped your book into very small pieces."<sup>1</sup> Presumably, "ripping a



book into very small pieces" is the first step in the process of revision which then requires that an author re-engage the same powers of analysis and imagination that produced his original work, only he must, in this second (or third, or fourth) time around achieve a different end. While Ms. Marshall's numerous suggestions for ways in which the novel should be improved may have seemed discouraging for Wiebe, she concludes her letter with this reassuring remark: "It is potentially a very powerful book with an excellent theme and McClelland and Stewart is very anxious to see how you can revise it."<sup>2</sup> It is clear in the love/hate relationship of the author and his editor that revision is the point at which the creative process and the publishing process unite. By presenting the history of the production of a first novel, this thesis undertakes to explore the way in which the creative process is forced to interact with the publishing industry.

The original thesis and final printed version of Peace Shall Destroy Many are available at the University of Alberta, but the best source of information about the revisions to this novel are the Rudy Wiebe Papers in the Special Collections Department of the University of Calgary's library. These papers contain correspondence between Wiebe and his editors at McClelland and Stewart which discusses suggested changes to the manuscript of the novel. The papers also contain five drafts of this

novel: there is a very rough draft written before the thesis which Wiebe describes as the second draft; a copy of the thesis is listed as the third draft; the fourth draft contains comments made in pencil by Joyce Marshall and revisions later made in pen by Wiebe; the next version is the retyped copy of revisions to the fourth draft that Wiebe resubmitted to McClelland and Stewart for publication which, to all intents and purposes, is identical to the revised fourth draft; the final version of this novel that appears in these papers is the printer's copy which indicates further minor revisions in spelling and punctuation. The novel was first published in hardcover in 1962, but the paperback edition of Peace Shall Destroy Many, published with an introduction by J. M. Robinson in 1972, does not correspond exactly to the hardcover version. This indicates that minor revisions made in retrospect by Wiebe himself were inserted in this final version at the same time that the introduction was added.

For the purposes of this thesis, the focus will be mainly on the changes that occur between the original thesis, the fourth draft (the resubmitted version), the printer's copy, the hardcover edition of 1962, and the paperback version of 1972. The 1972 edition is the base text used in comparison. The numerous drafts of the novel provide ample material to study the process of revision. This process can be traced in the textual

apparatus following the text of this thesis. The apparatus is a meticulous collation of all the substantive textual variants which occur between the five versions of the novel discussed in this thesis.

The first section of this thesis is a precise examination of the various revisions and additions made to the different drafts of the novel. This is primarily an analytical approach which explores the nature of the textual variants. The chapter is divided into sections which categorize the substantive variants; revisions to style are grouped into categories involving the addition, omission, substitution or rearrangement of one or two words or sentences. These classifications, in turn, are distinguished from the novel's major revisions which add entire paragraphs, pages and even one chapter to the original thesis.

The second section of this thesis progresses from an analysis of the nature of the novel's revision to an examination of who influenced these revisions. By comparing the correspondence related to the publication of this novel with its various drafts, such questions can be answered as: "How did these changes and revisions arise?" and "Did the author agree with the suggestions and criticisms made by his editors?" Wiebe's response to the revisions suggested by his editors, that is, whether or not he agreed with their comments, would presumably affect his own creative

process. Similarly, if Wiebe chose to ignore revisions which his publishers felt were important, but that he believed diminished his novel, this response might affect the publishing process of his work in that his editors could possibly have decided not to publish it. Fortunately, there is little evidence of such disagreements. It is interesting, however, to explore the balance between creativity and publishability in this novel, and to examine whether one ever appeared to be sacrificed for the other. Related to the question of why individual revisions were made to the novel is the importance of examining how revision affected Peace Shall Destroy Many, and whether individual revised passages are beneficial or harmful to the novel. Along with the various drafts of this novel, the Rudy Wiebe Papers also contain its reviews which, when they are examined in detail, can provide valuable insight into the novel's revision. For example, when a critic praises a passage which does not appear in the original thesis version, this may well indicate that the revision has a positive influence on the original work. A similar examination of any scholarly work on this novel will also be included.

The concluding section of this thesis is a consideration of first novelists, in general, and it raises the question: "Are Wiebe's experiences with numerous revisions common to all writers eager to have

their first novels published?" It is also interesting to explore whether editors are generally more demanding of first-time novelists or more encouraging of them. Publishing a first novel seems to be more dependent on the editor-writer relationship than do subsequent novels. Until the fledging author has published his first successful work, he is at the mercy of his editor. Presumably, with subsequent novels, an author's relationship with his editor becomes less intense, or, at the very least, the process of revision becomes less traumatic.

One

THE NATURE OF TEXTUAL VARIANTS IN  
PEACE SHALL DESTROY MANY

Peace Shall Destroy Many was begun as a novel in 1959 as Rudy Wiebe's thesis for his Master of Arts degree in English at the University of Alberta. Wiebe's thesis supervisor, Dr. F.M. Salter, was responsible for planting the seed in Wiebe's mind that he could choose the novel option for his thesis. In a recent article, Wiebe recounts the occasion when Salter first made this suggestion:

[W]e were sitting in the June sunlight of your porch, your house which the University has now destroyed and levelled into a parking lot, 'yes, yes,' with all those stacks of thick books piled around you in your porch and letters from scholars and thinkers and writers from all over the world lying everywhere like gold, 'yes, Mr. Wiebe, yes, a great many people can write perfectly acceptable, or dreadful, theses on Shakespeare, but perhaps only you can write a fine novel about Mennonites.' Leaking that into me like . . . poison."<sup>1</sup>

The manuscript was found acceptable as an M.A. thesis on March 30, 1960. On May 30, 1960, Wiebe received a letter from Salter informing him that Salter had recommended the novel to Jack McClelland. Based on Salter's advice, McClelland contacted Wiebe on August 18, 1960. Two editors, Claire Pratt and Joyce Marshall, were assigned to work with Wiebe on revising his novel/thesis, and Peace Shall Destroy Many was published in

September, 1962. The novel was moderately successful, although it did not make its author wealthy, and it was published in paperback form for McClelland and Stewart's New Canadian Library with an introduction by J.M. Robinson in 1972.

The authoritative text of Peace Shall Destroy Many comprises five distinct versions: the original thesis (m1), the resubmitted manuscript (m2), the printer's copy (m3), the 1962 hardcover edition (m4), and the 1972 paperback (m5). A careful collation of these reveals that there are over one thousand variants created by revision. These revisions were primarily initiated in m2, in which Wiebe undertook to comply with his editors' concerns. In fact, at least eighty-five percent of all revisions between texts can be found in this version. In m3, we only find single-word revision or rearrangement of word-order, some of which clearly are after-thoughts by Wiebe and some copy-editor's corrections. The printer's copy and the printed version of the novel do not correspond exactly; we know that Wiebe made final changes to the page proofs sent to him by his editors, even though these page proofs are missing from the Papers. In a letter from Wiebe to Claire Pratt dated March 7, 1962, he writes:

I have made all the corrections I could find to make in a fairly careful look-through. I appreciated some of the corrections you had made -- others I felt would have to be changed. I hope that it is now final and that the book will be published as it is corrected. <sup>2</sup>

The only evidence of change between the 1962 hardcover and the 1972 paperback is in approximately twenty situations of word substitution.

This chapter will examine the nature of the textual variants created by the revision of Peace Shall Destroy Many. The second section of this thesis will discuss the influences that motivated this revision. Of the more than one thousand variants, approximately twenty percent are typographical errors and minor changes in spelling and punctuation. These have been omitted from the collation in the textual apparatus as they do not affect readings of the text. The remaining variants are substantive variants. Seventy-five percent of all the variants can be classified as revisions to style which involve the addition, omission, substitution or rearrangement of one or two words or sentences. The final five percent of the textual variants are major revisions which add entire paragraphs, pages and even one chapter to the original thesis. The motivation for these additions is the need to create new passages which will clarify a central theme in the novel or further explain an ambiguous statement expressed by one of Wiebe's characters.

The textual variants which involve revisions made to style fall under one of four categories: the rearrangement of words in a sentence, the modification of a word to match a style of speech, the addition of



words and sentences, and the substitution or deletion of words and sentences. Each category is best examined individually.

Where there is only a rearrangement of the order of words, or perhaps a change in verb tense, the purpose for revision is often to correct ambiguity or to make the phrase more succinct. For example, "casual as a brother should be" in the original thesis is revised to "brotherly casual" (p. 14); "had to throw himself" becomes "threw himself" (p. 14); and "oinking in their huge pen to be fed" changes to "oink-ing to be fed in their huge pen" (p. 19). The equivocal statement, "Now David was across more oceans than she could imagine in India" is corrected to "Now David was in India, across more oceans than she could imagine" (p. 19), while "In Russia, the last of eight boys, behaviour for him had" is revised to "In Russia, behaviour for him, the last of eight boys had" (p. 21). Altering word order improves "Occasionally the reporter could say nothing at all when the sounds drowned all" to "Occasionally, when the sounds drowned all, the reporter could say nothing" (p. 42). Similarly, the phrase, "In this moment behind the hedges of France he knew that men lay silent under the shriek of shells" makes more sense when it is written as: "He knew that in this moment behind the hedges of France men lay silent under the shriek of shells" (p. 48). The emphasis is placed on a more appropriate word

when "To just live" is revised to "Just to live" (p. 66), and the awkwardness of the following passage as it appeared in the original thesis clearly needs to be reworked, "even his own parents (Herman being a grown man when he came to Canada, thirty-seven or eight years old, as Wiens told him evasively later, he really belonged among them.) seemed to avoid the lonely bachelor." Revision makes this much clearer: "even his own parents, seemed to avoid the lonely bachelor. Herman was a grown man when he came to Canada, thirty-seven or eight years old, as Wiens told him evasively later; he really belonged among them" (p. 106). A change in verb tense improves "respectfully avoided had been the sure knowledge" when it becomes "respectfully avoiding the sure knowledge" (p. 194). Similarly, "food -- Thom's hands numbing, he could not carry through the analogy" is better when the dangling participle is replaced: "food -- he could not carry through the analogy as his hands numbed in his mitts" (p. 200). Finally, it is debatable which order is best, but apparently "squirrels' nests and rabbit forms and weasel slurs" is not as pleasing as "squirrel nests and weasel slurs and rabbit forms" (p. 213).

The second category of revisions to style involves altering the speech of some characters in an attempt to authenticate the dialogue. Old Lamont, presented as a character with a Scottish accent says "verry" in the

first two manuscripts, but by the printer's copy, it is changed to read "verra" (p. 29). Hal says "hangin'" in the original thesis, but "hanging" (p. 97) in the next draft while his "come on" is rewritten as "com'mon" (p. 97). "Yeh" becomes "Yah" (p. 139), and Louis' "Yes" in the original thesis is not as realistic as the "Yeh" (p. 182) that appears in the next draft. On the final pages of the novel, it is decided that for Hal to say "four big boys" is not as appropriate as "four fellas" (p. 238), while "so Jackie an' me" is seen to be better as "so we" (p. 238). Although changes in word order and modification of dialect are interesting to trace, these types of revisions have a minor impact on the way a text is read as compared to stylistic revisions which add, delete or substitute words or whole sentences.

The third category of stylistic revision involves the addition of words or sentences and is extensive; there are over four hundred examples of this in the textual apparatus. Not every revision makes a profound difference to the way the text is read, but for the most part, these additions serve to clarify and supplement; they insert images which bring the novel to life. Added phrases frequently expand on description. For example, "he looked back" in the original thesis becomes "he twisted on the halted plow to look back" (p. 11); "suddenly felt the" is more vivid as "suddenly experienced, like a water bucket emptied over him,

the" (p. 12); and we can recreate Goertzen's speech in our minds when we are told that his "words" in the original thesis are "clipped German phrases" (p. 12) in the revised text. The landscape that is described in the original thesis as "all around lay virgin sections" forms a clearer image in the reader's mind when it is revised to "all around the Mennonite settlement lay virgin sections, heavily wooded" (p. 20). The specific action of turning "horses round" becomes easier to visualize when "their heads and bodies heavy in protest" (p. 40) is added. The image of Annamarie sitting by the river in the original thesis: "She sat down farther on the rocks, doubled up, clasping" is more sharply focussed in the revision when it is written as this: "She sat down farther, her white dress pale against the grey rocks, clasping" (p. 45), and the reader can better visualize the features of this character when the phrase "her hair" is expanded to "her simply coiled hair" (p. 48). A description of "the window" is more satisfying when it reads "the screened open window" (p. 64), just as "a laugh" is easier to imagine when we are told that it is "a ringing laugh" (p. 31). It only takes the addition of one or two words to flesh out characters for the reader; we learn a little bit more about Elizabeth, and about the Mennonite culture, when her "formless clothes" are specified as her "formless outdoor clothes" (p. 135); and Pete's

physical appearance takes a more distinctive shape in the reader's mind when the reference to his "shoulders heaving" in the original thesis becomes his "wide shoulders heaving"(p. 146) in revision.

As well as enhancing the description of characters, the addition of words or phrases allows for the expansion of minor actions. For example, in the original thesis, Ernst "leaned back, contented," is not as vivid as the revision where this action becomes, "leaned to the water, washing his hands, contented" (p. 24). In the first manuscript, it is stated that Joseph has his notes from the riverside meeting with him "here -- and," but the revision explains to the reader what had to be assumed before, "here -- I worked them out in German anyway -- and" (p. 59). The image of Thom's horse comes to life when, instead of "Nance rocked," we get "Nance, flirting her tail to the morning flies, rocked" (p. 66), and a stronger sense of the evening routine of the Wiens family is captured when "Upstairs, Hal's prayer murmur was indistinguishable" (p. 160) is inserted. Razia's emotions are more evident when revision provides the added phrase, "Sobs of humiliation racked her. Such an absolute pig!" (p. 174). Finally, the original thesis gives the impression that Deacon Block is always stern, but through revision, we are let in on the added fact that he does sometimes smile: "smiling his rare smile" (p. 234).

In addition to developing description and action, added words or phrases serve as qualifiers which can alter the significance of the original text. For example, Hal's reaction "with innocence" to his brother's reprimand has a different connotation when it becomes "with sham innocence" (p. 15). When the general statement "upheavals of the 1920's" is specified in revision as "upheavals of Russian life after 1917" (p. 21), the reader is guided to remember the historical event which led to the immigration of Mennonites to Canada. We learn something about the inflated ego of Deacon Block when the phrase "They could not remain" is revised to "Too many years he had allowed them to remain" (p. 153).

Added phrases also offer brief explanations: Thom's "new" thoughts about Elizabeth tell the reader something of her past: "As far back as Thom could recall, she had appeared exactly as now, uninvolved, oddly wasted" (p. 25). In the original thesis, this passage is a mystery to the reader: "he had resolved not to think of it. Herman had better watch himself." Revision does not offer many more clues, but a longer passage now piques the reader's interest and it will be easier to recall this reference later in the novel when all is revealed: "but he had promised Herman not to speak or even think of it. Let them find out -- but it was four months now, and still no one -- Thom turned

sharply away from his thoughts" (p. 31). Annamarie's statement: "reason we fled to Canada" is qualified in the revision, and provides the reader with background knowledge of the history of the Mennonite people:

"reason our parents fled to Canada -- why our fathers left Holland and Prussia" (p. 46). In the original thesis, "a gathering like this" is explained in the revision to be extraordinary because it is "a gathering for the young people alone like this" (p. 54). A phrase added in revision explains why Old Lamont and other elders in the community are able to trade with the neighbouring Métis, even though they do not speak English: "when they whipped their jaded horses into a Mennonite yard to buy eggs or a few sacks of seed grain, there were always youngsters to interpret" (p. 57).

Revision allows Mrs. Wiens to advise Thom on how to deal with Herb, and the reader can also interpret her words as a traditional Mennonite solution: "and we have to be especially careful not to annoy him. Perhaps, if we're lenient enough" (p. 67). Deacon Block echoes this same cautious attitude for Herb, but his original statement "we'll have to be careful with him -- temper" does not indicate as clearly as does the revision his concern that Herb continue to be a part of the community "we must go carefully with him. He's far from the church" (p. 73).

A passage added in revision on page 124 is one of

the few references to the effect of the war on Mennonite youth, "it forced some to camps, some to a denial of their fathers' pacifist position," and the motivation for the cruel sport of the Forstet bush camps is also elaborated on in a second draft which explains that it is "a desperate attempt at amusement during month-long isolation" (p. 125). Revision allows Deacon Block to explain why he refers to his daughter as elderly: "of -- as they all considered her in their Mennonite way -- his elderly daughter" (p. 180). Finally, Thom briefly summarizes his hostility towards Deacon Block in the added phrase, "He tells us what is good and what isn't good for us" (p. 218), and a rewrite enables Thom's mother to offer what is clearly another traditional Mennonite solution for why Thom should forget his hostility: "If she could forgive, surely you can" (p. 219).

By far the largest category of stylistic revision is the substitution or deletion of words and phrases, and these come into play for a variety of reasons: to create better description, to make the landscape come alive, or to alter the tone of the message in a particular passage. Substitutions also work to expand on a theme that Wiebe is trying to convey to his readers, or to correct a previous ambiguity, while words and phrases are often deleted to correct a badly worded earlier version, or to avoid redundancy. Finally, Wiebe



deletes some words and rearranges others to create a unique stylistic effect. A later section of this thesis will examine the ways in which this unorthodox technique has been criticized by some reviewers.

Substitutional revisions are most often a question of finding a word or phrase which is more appropriate to the description desired in the text. The phrase "boy waded slowly towards" is not as interesting as "boy pushed gurglingly by towards" (p. 10), nor is "had jerked out the plow" as good a portrayal as "had staggered the plow" (p. 11). "[T]he tumbled land" is somehow not as active as "the humped land" (p. 11), and "very fast" certainly does not create the same image as "wind-swift" (p. 12). The power of the land is emphasized in the following revision where "the neutral world that had not noticed his" becomes "the rugged world that had hidden his" (p. 12), and the land takes on the human quality of mortality in this revision which transforms "round the world the wounds of heathen tank-tracks gaped like death in the earth" to "round the world it was wounded to death by slashing heathen tank-tracks" (p. 18).

The reader can almost share the taste of fresh, homemade bread with Thom when this passage: "bread and his teeth gleamed in a bite, the smell rising to his head" is transformed to read: "bread and its warm aroma rose to Thom's head, his teeth crunched through the

crust" (p. 20). It is debatable which description of the stampeding cattle at the end of the first chapter is the more dramatic: "to crush against the closed door in a terror of heaving bodies" seems almost as shocking as "to crash against its closed door in a convulsion of bodies" (p. 22). "Like a black mass in the back of his thinking," however, is definitely improved when it becomes "like blackness on the rim of his conscience" (p. 28). It is easier to imagine the exact sound of the voices of Annamarie and Margret when, instead of being described as "girls, who had talked steadily" they are "girls, whose murmured talk had never hesitated" (p. 40), and when "gray-bearded" in the first manuscript becomes "grey mustached" (p. 55) in revision, an important descriptive element is altered. Block's memory of his experiences in the Forstei camp and of being dumped in the icy water trough is vividly drawn in the original thesis: "He splashed out of his wrappings in the slivered ice of the horse-trough and shivered to sleep under his coat." The revision, however, is more effective at capturing the reader's imagination because of its more detailed account of the event:

He felt himself drop sharply; he flung out his arms and almost choked in the wall of water that seemed to collapse on him. He splashed out of his wrappings in the slivered ice of the horse-trough and, returning to the absolute quiet of the bunkhouse, shivered to sleep under his coat. (p. 125)

What Block encounters in the Moosomin cabin varies

between texts; in the original version, the children he sees appear as "several draped in rags peeked out from legs, boxes", but in a second draft it becomes "several in rags peered from beds and trapping gear" (p. 180). A final example of the way in which descriptive techniques are altered from one text to the next is Block's memory of the man he murdered in Russia. In the first manuscript, Block recounts the following: "It was the remembered swollen face of the Mongol with the thread of spittle frozen to his cheek. He had killed him with his own hand." The revised version is more graphic: "It was the remembered way the Mongol's whole body had squeaked over rigid on the snow when he prodded it with his foot, the thread of spittle frozen across its swollen face. With his own hand he had killed him" (p. 131).

One of the few revisions which appear for the first time in the 1972 paperback version of this novel is the word "Mongol" changed to the more accurate term of "Bashkir" throughout the text. Other examples of one word being substituted for another more appropriate word can be traced in the textual apparatus, but they are so numerous that it is impractical to attempt to examine more than a few of them in any detail. The phrase "in the whirlpool" appears in the original thesis, but changes to "in the charybdis" in the revised version which becomes the hardcover edition. However, it is

interesting to note that Wiebe, given ten years to consider it, apparently changes his mind about the appropriateness of this new word he inserted and in the paperback version the phrase again becomes "in the whirlpool" (p. 21). An attempt to recreate realistic dialogue probably motivated the change from "I got angry" to "I got mad" (p. 34), for similar reasons, "a comfortable priesthood and become a hunted minister" is revised to "a fat priesthood and become a hounded minister" (p. 47). By changing the phrase "trail an agreement between" to read "trail were a covenant between" (p. 49), the religiosity of the novel is underscored. Herb's manipulative character is more readily visible when the phrase "been agreeable enough" is altered to read "been pliable enough" (p. 78), and while it may be dramatic for Herb to say "your little ass around," the modified phrase, "your trim rear around" (p. 173) seems to be more fitting.

Whole phrases have also been substituted to reflect more accurately the author's intent. It is difficult to extract the theme of this wordy passage in the original thesis:

He stood drained at what he had already committed in his mind and the joy of that moment. He could have sunk beyond heaven and hell with gladness into oblivion as the weight of being forever alive and accountable suddenly crushed in upon his void of anger.

In revision, however, the message comes across more forcefully:

He stiffened, aghast at what he had already committed in his mind and the flashing joy of that committal. He could have sunk beyond earth with gladness into oblivion. But he had to stand there, before them all. (p. 36)

In the original thesis, the phrase that is used as an example of the kind of sound that Thom likes to hear is "A calf bawling before the storm breaks," but this is revised to a more sensual image, one that hints of Elizabeth's as yet unknown past: "The stir of spruce when you lie in the damp moss of the muskeg" (p. 136).

Substitutions serve to create precision and to eliminate confusion. The substitution of "four hundred years" for "three hundred years" (pp. ix, 30) is clearly done for accuracy, as is replacing "fifteen thousand members" for "seventeen thousand members" (p. 53). A character such as Thom with his strong religious background would not say, as he does in the original thesis: "There was something in the Bible about valleys," he would know where it occurred: "Somewhere in Isaiah it spoke of valleys" (p. 80). The following passage appears in manuscript one, but is rejected in the next version: "But he himself moved his head only slightly when his glance crossed with Wolfe. Thom had never before seen the lean face with an expression of 'Well, this is more interesting than I had dared hope.'" Revision alters the tone of this text by eliminating Wolfe and the potentially confusing sub-plot he creates, and by replacing him with another character, less

distracting to the main plot: "He had moved his head only slightly when his glance crossed with Rempel. Beyond the surprised indignity of the older man's gaze there stirred pain. One could not doubt his sincerity" (p. 58). The aggressive character of Wolfe is again deleted on page 63, and the substituted passage includes background information about the Mennonite stance on the medical corps:

Everyone in Wapiti knew and agreed with the Deacon's strong stand against the medical corps service, but it had been ratified by the Canadian Conference despite the opposition. But now Thom cared nothing for what amounted to Joseph's final drastic break with Block's concepts.

Character substitutions also occur on page 149 when "Abe Hiebert and John Dick" are replaced by "Jake and John Rempel".

Substitutional revisions often dramatically alter the meaning of the original text. For example, "road towards the old Unger place" in the original thesis takes a different direction in a second draft: "road, away from Herb's quarter" (p. 73). The behaviour of Herman and Madeleine becomes more respectable when "'We were in Hainy two weeks ago and the J.P. married us'" is revised to "'We drove to Hainy when the storm let up and the J.P married us'" (p. 108). Deacon Block's nature appears even more violent in the revision when his intentions towards Louis change from mutilation in the original thesis: "with my two bare hands castrated you"

to talk of death: "with my two bare hands killed you" (p. 184). Thom's convictions are shaky during his encounter with Block at the haystack in manuscript one: "Thom resolutely suppressed a tinge of conscience at the Deacon's look." Revision makes a marked difference in his attitude, however: "Thom felt a flick of pride that the Deacon's look could not rouse his conscience" (p. 202). For whatever reasons, Thom's actions after the scene in the barn in the revised draft are completely reversed from the thesis version. "[T]o slow his hitching so that the Lepps would be gone before he drove up to the school" becomes "to speed his hitching so that the Lepps would not be out before he drove up to the school" (p. 237). Revision sometimes serves to correct oversights. This sentence in the original thesis is inaccurate: "Pete told me you're taking correspondence school, like this summer with Joseph," and revision removes the error: "Pete told me you want to take correspondence school again, like last winter with Joseph" (p. 140).

Not all substitutions demand that the meaning of the text be altered, some merely serve to expand and explain what is already there. The author's intent when he writes in manuscript one: "he was gripped in spasms" is clearer in revision when "he was beyond himself" (p. 13) is used instead. This comment made by Annamarie in the original thesis is vague: "It won't do, Thom.

Repression is not enough." Revision clarifies her remark: "You've started, Thom. But you will have to let go more -- much more" (p. 101). The word "unlooking" in the original text is confusing, but is explained in the revision as "With no more regard than if they were stumps" (p. 126), and "brute left the gal bilious on her tongue" appears jumbled until it is revised to "brute left the bile on her tongue" (p. 171). Finally, this phrase, "Hank, his nose awry on his face like the grin of a satyr" is much less perplexing when it appears in revision as "Hank, his face agrin like a satyr" (p. 223).

The category of deletions is an interesting one because, while many deletions are clearly deliberate actions intended to improve the text, others seem to be accidental, an omission of a word or phrase that occurs when the manuscript is retyped. The opening phrase of the novel in the original text reads: "valley, gazing loggishly southward, waiting for the children"; in the first revision it becomes "valley, its loggish face gazing southward", but in the final printed form, it is "valley, its loggish face southward" (p. 9). Now, this omission may be deliberate, in which case it is an example of the cryptic style that Wiebe cultivates in this work and to which many critics object, but there is at least one other example of deletion in the text which can be traced as the probable omission of one line when



the text was being retyped. In the original thesis, the line is "He himself occasionally thought that Block's harping on uniform behaviour -- he glanced" but appears in manuscript two as "He glanced" (p. 88). That two lines of text in the original thesis begin with the same word, "he," explains how the eye of the typist could easily skip a line.

Other deletions are deliberate, and often occur to prevent the sense of melodrama that an excess of adjectives can create. "The death-face crouched nearer" is too forceful a description and, the revision: "The face pushed nearer" (p. 184) is much more effective. Similarly, "at his black-glowering face" seems too strong an image, and the revised "at his face" (p. 217) is certainly less overwhelming. There is a danger of Deacon Block speaking in clichés in this passage: "world. And the world will notice us in time and will learn from us, never fear. The beginning is hard, but we cannot expect an easy life on earth." The revision wisely stops the passage at "world" (p. 205) because there are so many other more appropriate places in this novel where Mennonite beliefs are better explained. A whole paragraph of the final chapter in the original thesis which recounts Razia's acceptance by the community, including an invitation for Sunday dinner from Old Mrs. Martens, is omitted from the second manuscript because other passages added to the revision

serve the same purpose. Finally, in the original thesis, Thom's crisis in the barn is expressed in a long paragraph, full of adjectives and competing images:

It broke in Thom like a dam. Later he would ponder the folly of ramming violence away for years only that it might burst into the void of dogma shells to rupture all in the instant, but now he was washed by the despair and hopelessness of a whole life of belief hinging on another person's action and the at-last-relieving surge of brute strength.

The much shorter revision is more efficient in conveying the same message: "Pete! Thom's mind gasped the cry as into his void of splintered dogmas violence surged to brute strength" (p. 235).

One final purpose for substituting words or phrases is to create a particular prose style distinguished by unusual expressions. Wiebe's distinctive manner of writing takes the original phrase "horses trembling in their sweat" and twists it to become "horses' sweated trembling" (p. 11); a "stretch of hard sand" becomes a "flat of sand" (p. 28). Wiebe is very creative in his description of what it is like to suddenly realize that an answer is expected to a just-asked, but not heard, query; the phrase that appears in manuscript one is good: "Annamarie's last question festering slightly" but the revision is better because it is more precise: "Annamarie's inflection festering" (p. 91).

While revisions to style in the various manuscripts of Peace Shall Destroy Many are numerous, they have a relatively minor impact on a reading of the novel in

comparison to the more extensive revisions which can vary from one paragraph to several pages. These revisions are inserted to change the direction of the text, to offer new interpretations of textual themes, and to clarify those passages which are ambiguous or which contain material unfamiliar to the average reader. Because of the length of this category of revision, it is impractical to reproduce textual variations in the body of this thesis. It is for this reason that a textual apparatus has been included and specific examples will only be summarized.

Substantive revisions of several sentences or more fall into five separate categories: certain passages provide background information about Mennonite culture and belief, others allow for the inclusion of Biblical verses in full, many give details of community life, some add information about individual characters, and still others create changes in the plot.

Passages which include background information about the Mennonite culture provide knowledge important for a proper interpretation of the novel by a non-Mennonite reader. On page 16, reference is made to the way in which Mennonites use High German to express religious ideas, but English for everyday use, and this helps to explain why Thom, at this point in the novel, has difficulty in deciding which language to use to explain the concept of conscientious objection to his

younger brother while they are out working in the field. Later, on page 20, background information is expanded to include discussion of the peculiar way in which Mennonites find it easy to alternate between three languages; only High German is appropriate for religious or formal matters, Low German is used for everyday, and English is spoken among the young people of the community who have more contact with outsiders than do their parents. A connection between Low German and Dutch is made on page 30, and on this same page, Joseph points out the "almost nationalistic interest" that Mennonites have in Germany because they consider themselves displaced Germans. He notes the moral dilemma they face in supporting a country which has produced Hitler and so much violence. Annamarie's speech on page 46 is revised to include a reference to the Mennonite exodus from Russia. Her statement: "Of the thousands who streamed to Moscow with us, only a few hundred left for freedom" indicates to a reader unfamiliar with this part of history how difficult that departure must have been for these people, and it reveals the powerful commitment they make to their beliefs. Joseph's explanation on page 62 of why Mennonites are spared war duty also provides the reader with an explanation for the other side of the debate over conscientious objection: "We are to be so much better witnesses for Christ here at home." This

revision is also worded in such a way that it reminds the reader that this is a problem with which Mennonites have wrestled for centuries. Joseph's last spoken conversation with Thom on page 69 contains information on other Mennonite groups and outlines the way in which beliefs which are founded on the same religion can vary from one community to the next. Joseph makes reference to those who verge on fanaticism, and who insist on a certain cut and colour of clothing to enforce separation and Mennonite beliefs, but he also cites groups who are more progressive and who encourage contact with outsiders. Later in the novel, on page 204, Deacon Block's inserted explanation refutes Joseph's argument for freer contact with non-Mennonites: "Soon a church member could do this, do that -- no one really knew if anything was right or wrong." Lastly, in a revised passage, Razia asks Thom what a Mennonite is, and he gives an explanation of interest especially to non-Mennonite readers:

Some say only church members are Mennonites, others that we're actually a race of people. Most who are born with Mennonite names but refuse to join the church don't want to be known as Mennonites -- guess they feel somehow it commits them. (p. 178)

Longer, substantive revisions also explain Mennonite beliefs in detail. We learn in a second draft that the "new patterns of thought" which Thom develops on page 17 have to do with the meaning of existence, the nature of Christianity, and the Christian's relationship

to his fellow man. A revision on page 32 indicates how difficult it is to reject traditional beliefs:

"Occasionally, after long mulling and searching, when concentration would cause only more problems, he was wearily content to let tradition suffice." Thom's deep religious convictions are emphasized in a passage on page 53 in which he recalls the experience of his brother's ordination when he was overcome with emotion. Two years after this, Thom's own baptism leaves an equally strong impression on him. A lengthy revision on page 176 inserts a debate between Thom and Razia over conscientious objection, and allows Thom to elaborate on his understanding of the basis for the Mennonite doctrine of non-violence. Thom's "heart to heart" with his mother on page 215 is the final breaking point between Thom's personal beliefs and the beliefs that are imposed on him by his religion. The two are seemingly incompatible at this point, but Thom begins to solve the impasse when he is able to recognize and break away from the mould that has been created for him by his religious training, yet still remain true to his own religious convictions. Critics contend that this resolution of the dilemma that has been built up throughout the entire novel is too abrupt, that the conclusion lacks substance, but this will be explored more fully in a later section of the thesis.

Biblical verses have been added and quoted at

length in the revision, and this allows the reader to participate more fully in the experience of the characters of the novel; knowing which Biblical verses are recited in which situation provides an inside knowledge which helps to bring the story to life. On page 48, the verse which begins: "Love your enemies . . ." is quoted by Thom, and we learn its significance when Thom muses on the fact that the verse "had been the guiding star of their fathers". By including the prayer recited at Elizabeth's graveside on page 156, the author supplies a detail which helps the reader to formulate in his mind an accurate image of life in this community. Similarly, by being able to read the verses that Wiens reads aloud from the Bible as they appear in revision on pages 115 and 159, we participate in the private life of this family. Characters come to life when their intimate practises are known.

The addition of other details of community life works to the same end as the inclusion of Biblical verses; the reader is better able to suspend her powers of disbelief and to accept that a story is realistic when she is able to visualize it easily. The extensive added revision which begins on page 50 describes Thom's earliest memories of the church and how it was built, and its significance as the focal point of the community becomes clear when the labour that went into its construction is detailed; the importance of the Church

as "the Rock" upon which the community is built is impressed upon the reader. The insights which Block shares with Wiens on page 73 on how to bring up boys sparks recognition in readers aware of a problem universal to all parents: how to raise children successfully. The Sunday that Thom and Pete spend tinkering with Block's tractor, as described in a revision on page 84, reveals to the reader the bond of friendship which exists between Thom and Pete. Elizabeth's revelation to Thom added on page 141 indicates that there are many others who share Thom's mixed feelings between his own interpretations of Mennonite beliefs and the way in which the Church expresses these beliefs: "Your brother David couldn't work here -- Joseph had to go -- Pastor Lepp -- Herm -- Aaron Martens -- look what they are! A church is supposed to be a brotherhood -- all equal -- that gets its direction from Scripture. Not rules."

Providing new perspectives on individual characters is another function of substantive revisions of several sentences or more. In a revised conversation between Annamarie and Thom, Annamarie gives her opinion on the woman's place in the home and it is clear that this character, rather than obediently following doctrine, has actually considered her own situation: "And I rather think that that's a better place than many others one reads about, or hears about on the radio. Ten years



from now, it will probably be changed with us too" (p. 42). It is through Thom's eyes that the reader gets a glimpse, if unflattering, of the character of his father: "Beyond his boyish need for solidarity, he now comprehended more fundamental weaknesses in his father" (p. 68). That Thom is a sensitive person is emphasized in a passage added to his conversation with Pastor Lepp in the field:

The short and almost chilly question brought Thom to himself. The Pastor's friendly assistance and workday clothes had not invited rudeness.

"I'm sorry, sir, I just asked the question out of the blue like that. It was rather rude of me. But living here all my life is just the problem." (p. 86)

In the encounter between Thom and Herb in the berry patch, manuscript one describes Thom as suddenly, inexplicably, longing for Herb's friendship, but the paragraph added in revision on page 98 gives an insight into Thom's kind nature and Herb's pathetic need, and is an explanation of Thom's motivation for changing his attitude towards Herb. A long paragraph added to page 110 gives a new explanation for Thom's mental weariness after discussing the situation of Herman and Madeleine. The original thesis version states that the radio playing in the background had fatigued Thom, but the revision suggests that it is "having pried so deeply into his own subconscious and having recognized such monsters there" which tires Thom. This builds on the self-revelation Thom makes just prior to this in another

section added in revision. Margret's argument on behalf of Herman and Madeleine on page 112 includes a reference to Pastor Lepp, who is willing to accept Madeleine if it is proved she is a Christian, indicating that he certainly fits the category of maverick, along with several others, as Elizabeth suggests on page 141. It is through Thom's impressions, added in revision, that the reader gets the best description of Deacon Block. On page 135, Thom envies Pete and Elizabeth their efficient and self-assured father, but at the same time, pities what they have to endure under his tyrannic rule. Later, on page 139, Thom learns that it is easier to discover flaws in the Deacon when Thom is near Pete. Razia's memory of Elizabeth on page 150 provides the reader with one of the more detailed references to this character which helps to explain Elizabeth's doomed fate; we learn that while she had been "truly kind and gentle," Elizabeth had "an incomprehensible aura of old-maidish resignation about her." Razia, and the reader, gather from the conversation of the girls at the school that, in Mennonite communities, a woman over twenty-five faces only spinsterhood. It is also through Razia on page 170 that the reader is given a description of Thom's abilities as a teacher.

The argument between Herb and Razia inserted on page 171 provides the means for Herb to discuss his past and his previously unexplained hatred for Thom. This

passage also gives the reader an insight into the opinions of those who live in the Mennonite community, but who are not practising Mennonites. One final passage which adds information about individual characters is on page 219, and it gives an interesting description of Thom's crisis of belief. The original text is too graphic an image to appeal to the reader's imagination: "when what you had believed, despite doubts, turned to vomit of which you could not rid yourself." The revision is much more effective for its less offensive analogy: ". . . he could not deny that something had crashed within him . . . . But the one log that held the jam had been jarred and he could sense within him only the numb void that remained after the rush had vanished."

The final category of substantive revisions of a paragraph or more consists of changes in plot. In the original draft, Thom does not carry on Joseph's Bible classes, but on page 63 of the revised text there is a first reference to teaching Bible classes. The possibility of securing Pastor Lepp's assistance for this new task is mentioned on page 69, and a lengthy addition beginning on page 89 allows for Thom to confront Pastor Lepp with his plan to continue the classes and to enlist his aid in preparing lessons. The revised account of Herman's and Madeleine's behaviour together during the storm includes specific reference to

reading the Bible which makes the incident more innocent and their later marriage more justifiable. During the expanded Wiens family debate on page 110 over the actions of Herman and Madeleine, Thom must accept that the reason he feels Herman should not have married Madeleine is that she is a half-breed, and, therefore cannot be a Christian. Having admitted this fact, he must confront its significance in relation to his teaching the Bible classes to the Métis children, and he decides that he will conclude the classes at the end of the summer. However, a sentence on page 115 and a revision to the end of Joseph's letter on page 163 confirms that Thom will continue with his commitment to Joseph's project. Razia's thoughts on page 169 indicate that Thom is teaching the classes again in November, and this passage also reveals her serious romantic interest in Thom, stating that she has already attempted to attract his attention, but has, to her surprise, failed. Thom's conversation with Deacon Block that begins on page 201 is based, in the revision, on a serious discussion about the Bible classes he is teaching. Finally, in a revision on page 222, we are told that Thom has again decided to end his Bible classes during a crisis of belief.

Chapter Fourteen, a whole new chapter added in revision which replaces Chapter Two of Winter 1944, has not yet been examined. The reasons for this revision

will be more fully discussed in the second chapter of this work, but the chapter addition essentially provides a detailed look at one of Thom's lessons, the means for some youthful hijinks which make the characters more believable as young men, and the opportunity for a serious discussion between Pete and Thom which will force Thom to examine the implications of his teaching of the Métis children. This encounter with Pete precipitates Thom's encounter with Deacon Block, his discovery of the truth behind Elizabeth's death, and his crisis of conscience which results in the outbreak of violence in the barn. Thus, the incident which occurs in the added chapter acts as a catalyst for the more important events to follow.

Stylistic revisions comprise the majority of the textual variants in the authoritative text of Peace Shall Destroy Many. This category of revision involves the rearrangement, modification, addition, substitution or deletion of one or two words or sentences. Stylistic revisions bring the novel to life; they augment description, authenticate dialogue, correct ambiguity, create precision, and qualify words or phrases to alter the tone of the text. The more extensive revisions, however, those of a paragraph or more in length, have the largest impact on a reading of the text. These revisions are important for the information they provide on Mennonite culture and belief, community life,

characterization, and for the way in which they alter the plot of the novel. It is necessary now to examine the forces which bring about substantive revision. Are such revisions made voluntarily by the author or imposed by a stern editor?

## Two

### THE PROCESS OF REVISION

Rarely does any manuscript escape the editor's blue pencil before publication, unless, of course, the author is his own publisher, and in Peace Shall Destroy Many, it is clear that the editor is a major influence in the revisions made to this novel. Indeed, in a letter from Jack McClelland dated August 18, 1960, the first that Wiebe receives from McClelland and Stewart, he is informed that his novel will not be considered for publication unless he is willing to go through a process of revision with the editors of this publishing house:

We would like to work with you editorially on this script and see if the weaknesses that presently exist could not be eliminated. This is not something that could be done overnight and whether it could be done at all would depend on your point of view. I would prefer not to make an outright publishing commitment at this stage although we would be prepared to make one contingent on your completing the revision to our satisfaction.<sup>1</sup>

Joyce Marshall, the editor assigned by Claire Pratt to work with Wiebe on his manuscript, writes him a four-page letter, with two pages of attached notes, detailing her concerns with the original manuscript and suggesting areas where he should begin revision. This letter is clearly a great help to Wiebe, and it will also provide a useful outline for this chapter's study of Peace Shall Destroy Many's revision process.

While it becomes clear that the most significant revisions made to this manuscript were suggested by Marshall and implemented by Wiebe, many textual variants also occur between the resubmitted manuscript and the printer's copy. Most of these variants are corrections of spelling or punctuation, but there are several more substantial revisions which improve a badly worded phrase missed in revision by the author and his editor. For example, the corrected phrase on page 19, "in India, across more oceans than she could imagine" does not appear until this version; on page 20, the word "conventions" is substituted for "dogmas." "[C]lever" is replaced by "dramatic" speech on page 42; and "On Sunday a church meeting had been abruptly called for the immediate Monday night" is replaced in the printer's copy with "A church meeting, abruptly called on Sunday for the immediate Monday night, was beginning" on page 50. The phrase "caretaker, sluffed the" becomes "caretaker, shuffled up the" on page 56 as part of the revisions made in this version, and "where he had nothing to ask it about" is clarified as "where there was nothing to forgive" on page 62. Revisions to the printer's copy in which words are rearranged are most likely the work of a copy editor, but in those instances where one word or phrase is substituted for another, Wiebe would have been consulted or have made the change himself on his copy of the page proofs. Wiebe has



stated, however, that there is one textual variation which he did not authorize that was imposed by a well-meaning copy editor. This is the addition of a word which significantly alters the meaning of one phrase on page 238. In manuscript two, Wiebe writes: "two wars did not confront him; only one's two faces," but the printed version reads: "two wars did not confront him; only one's own two faces."<sup>2</sup> For the most part, the revisions made in manuscript three, the printer's copy, are relatively minor and do not significantly influence a reading of the text.

The majority of revisions which do substantially alter the original text seem to have been suggested by Joyce Marshall. Her first letter to Wiebe addresses three areas of concern: problems with style, weak characterization, and a vague concept of the book as a whole. Chapter One of this thesis points out that the most common revisions made to the manuscripts of Peace Shall Destroy Many are revisions to style. Jack McClelland's letter of August 18th, 1960 indicates that problems with style are their primary concern:

The reports recommend you on the one hand for your descriptions and your ability to convey atmosphere, and on the other hand they criticize many stylistic faults in the script. For example, one editor says: "There is a continual striving for effect in the use of the unexpected word and startling turn of phrase; yet common-sense rules and legitimate techniques are as often as not ignored. For instance, in narration little care is taken with the point of view. It often shifts for no good reason. It even splits so that one is

treated to the odd sensation of being inside two heads at the same moment."<sup>3</sup>

Marshall, in her letter, also sees stylistic faults as the initial area needing revision:

At its best, your style is excellent, your choice of phrase and image deft and very strong. At times, however, you have pushed this gift a little too far; the use of too many images within too short a space often, by placing too great a strain upon the reader, weakens the force of them all. Sometimes you have stretched the meaning of words too far, to the detriment of meaning and syntax. Intransitive verbs, for instance, have sometimes been used in a transitive sense . . . . I've also marked a number of inversions of word-order, which seem to me a trifle mannered. Though this device may certainly be used, it should be used sparingly, held in abeyance for special effect. Sometimes, in your effort to avoid looseness and wordiness, you have packed your sentences a little too full, with consequent warring or poorly affixed phrases or clauses. On several occasions, I have merely underlined a number of words, without comment -- as, for example, on page 211. This is a scene of great violence -- the Deacon with Louis in the barn. I think if you glance through this page and the ones following, reading only the words I've marked -- "glare", "like a spell", "nemesis", "blanching" and so on -- you will see that you've gone further than you intended in producing an atmosphere of terror and violence and given the scene an almost melodramatic tinge. A little understatement with such material more than pays its way and, though I'm not suggesting you need change each and every phrase and word I've marked, I think you should examine them all closely.

In short, your style, without the loss of its particular qualities, could, I feel, be loosened somewhat and simplified considerably.<sup>4</sup>

The original manuscript that Wiebe submits to McClelland and Stewart can be found in the Rudy Wiebe Papers. This manuscript has both Marshall's comments

and Wiebe's revisions, so that specific stylistic revisions suggested by Marshall can be distinguished from those initiated by Wiebe. Marshall is clearly very thorough in her reading of the manuscript for this novel; it can be seen that Wiebe agrees with many of her specific stylistic comments, and revisions which apparently originate with Wiebe are no doubt influenced by general suggestions made in Marshall's letter. Revisions to style which involve the substitution, addition, or omission of words or phrases appear to have been easily resolved between author and editor.

Marshall's second area of concern, how to strengthen weak characters, is a more complicated process of revision. This is not a case of merely changing one or two words; it involves reworking the whole novel. Marshall explains:

The dominant figure in the book, as in the community, is, of course, the Deacon. You have done well with him and he emerges as a figure of great tragic force. Thom is less strong but this is not necessarily a flaw; he serves largely as a mirror for various events. At times I wondered whether he was not too inconsistent, too inclined to fluctuate with every wind, but this is a question of the book's structure and I will discuss it later. Pete, I felt, could have been developed more strongly. I don't think he emerges as fully as you intended. More development, also could be given to what might be called the "good" people in the book -- Pastor Lepp and Thom's parents, for instance. I don't mean that they need be given more space, just more sharpness. I think you should also consider the various minor figures and see whether you could establish them more clearly. I found that several of the people who appeared briefly at the picnic slipped from my mind so that I had

trouble recognizing them when they appeared again. You have used personal description rather sparingly. A little more of this might establish your characters more sharply. A few vivid details are often of great help to the reader.<sup>5</sup>

Wiebe seems to agree, again, with most of Marshall's points about revision of character. To develop Pete more strongly, he adds a paragraph on page 84 which describes the way Thom and Pete, in a younger and more carefree state, pass one pleasant Sunday afternoon together. Thom notes in a revision on page 139 that he and Pete have grown apart and that "Pete, plodding in his father's ways, never changed." An added word on page 146 emphasizes the fact that Pete's wide shoulders were heaving. Chapter Fourteen, the chapter added in revision, gives the reader a description of one of Thom's Bible classes, and it allows Wiebe to introduce a dialogue between Thom and Pete which reveals Pete's inner thoughts about Thom's actions. The character of Pete is important only in that he is the Deacon's son and Thom's best friend. Wiebe inserts this phrase on page 139, "When he was near Pete, Thom found it increasingly easier to discover flaws in the Deacon's methods." (Elizabeth's unhappy life and tragic death also point to the Deacon's failings.) As Thom's closest friend, Pete challenges Thom's decision to teach Bible classes to the Métis children and causes Thom to question his own beliefs. In the notes attached to her letter, Marshall comments

on a reference made at the end of the thesis version to Thom and Pete being united: "He and Pete stood together."<sup>6</sup> Marshall is not convinced of the bond between these two, and asks for more explanation of Pete's religious stance and how it affects the relationship between the young men: "But we have heard so little of Pete lately. Could he be made a stronger character and used to express more of the orthodox Mennonite point of view?"<sup>7</sup> Thus, in the added chapter, Pete is shown to disapprove of behaviour which goes against Mennonite teachings, but ironically, in the final scene of the book, it is in defense of Pete, who initiates the violence, that Thom finds himself breaking the most important of Mennonite tenets, that of non-violence.

Wiebe seems to accept Marshall's statement that the "good" people in the book are not well-defined. The revised section, which begins on page 89, reveals that Pastor Lepp is a man who has strong personal convictions and who is willing to go against the rest of the community to support Thom in his decision to teach the Métis children about Mennonite beliefs. On page 112, reference is made to Pastor Lepp's willingness to accept Madeleine into the church as a Christian, Métis or not, and on page 141, Elizabeth cites Pastor Lepp as one of the men willing to defy the rules imposed by Deacon Block. We see a little more of the character of

Wiens during a family prayer session included in revision on page 159 in which Thom "had never heard his father pray so -- personally". Thom's mother becomes a much clearer character during her long conversation with Thom added in revision on page 215. As for minor characters, some that are introduced randomly throughout the text continue to be hard to place. In her notes on the original thesis version, Marshall expresses concern over the character of Herman:

2nd reference to mystery of Herman. "Herman was who he was, but for the teacher to do that?" [revised to "Herman had done what he had done, but the teacher?" on page 33] What does this mean? Does the reader (or Thom) know enough about Herman to understand what this means? I think you might look carefully at all these references to there being a secret about Herman & make sure they are strong enough to remain in our minds and maintain suspense.<sup>8</sup>

Wiebe tries to remedy this problem in a longer reference to Herman on page 31 which is more effective at piquing the reader's interest. Aaron Martens also becomes more familiar to the reader and is recognizable for his part in Thom's early memory of the building of the church added on page 50.

Marshall repeats her concern over the need for more detail and personal description in her notes attached to her letter:

Woman in seven-year-old hat at funeral. Do these women not wear the typical Mennonite bonnet one sees in Ontario? It occurs to me that you have given little information about their dress. It is, of course, stated that the men wear parkas in winter but do they, on formal occasions, wear their traditional dress?

It is also several times mentioned that the girls' skirts are long -- I think a few more details of this sort would add to the vividness of your picture. Do they always dress in dark colours, for instance? Is there anything -- some particular plainness -- about the way their houses are built? Anything special about their utensils? Dishes? Cooking? Details of this sort are always of interest to the reader. I don't suggest, of course, that you should labour this.<sup>9</sup>

In response to this comment, the reader is told that the girls wear "white print frocks" on page 32; Annamarie wears a "white dress" and has "simply coiled hair" on pages 45 and 48; Margret has skirts that she wears for milking on page 68; and, on page 70, the Deacon is wearing, instead of the usual overalls, "denim trousers and a tan-checked shirt."

Marshall had the most difficulty with the characterization of Herb, Hank and Razia:

The characters that are least successful from the reader's point of view are those we might loosely call "unsympathetic" -- Herb, Hank, Razia. These are almost wholly black and vicious, stereotypes of evil. Razia, for instance, might well be loose and immoral in her ways but you have made her much too obvious a tart, the sort of young woman who might have great success in a third-rate beverage room but not among ordinary decent young men. This is in part the result of the highly coloured, even "loaded" words in which you have described her. I realize that you are making the point that these lads have never seen anyone like her, but you could do this equally well without making her a sort of caricature of the small-time tart.<sup>10</sup>

Wiebe makes a few concessions with the character of Razia. While she continues to have morals that are markedly different from the Mennonites among whom she

lives, Razia gains intelligence in Wiebe's revision. Her insights provide the reader with a fresh look at Elizabeth on page 150 and at Thom on page 170, and she enters into two lengthy discussions each with Herb and Thom on pages 171 and 176. Razia's conversation with Herb serves to expand the character of both, and to explore some of the reasons behind Herb's bitterness. With Thom, Razia proves herself capable of participating in a debate about the difficult moral dilemma of conscientious objection. Even in the revision, however, Razia continues to lust after Hank Unger (after she gives up on Thom), and Wiebe adds a passage on page 229 in which Thom becomes aware of the physical change this emotion makes in Razia's appearance: "Her glance seemed to hesitate on some man before him and in that flick of time he thought her face was transformed."

Marshall also argues for a refinement of the characters of Herb and Hank:

As for the Unger brothers, I have many questions which I should like to have answered. I think a little more should be known about why they have lost their faith. Various clues are given -- bad home environment etc -- but it might be well to know a little more than this. Also, what is the responsibility of the Mennonites towards such people? Herman had to defend himself. Why was nothing done about what seems to me a much more serious matter? If the point is that the Mennonites have failed with them, I think we should know more about the exact nature of this failure. Herb appears to us once in a pitiful light -- when Margret rejects his proposal -- but most of the time he seems all in one shade, black. Hank also seems rather overdrawn. I wonder if you couldn't tone him down somewhat. He could



still be brash, still speak of his success in downing German planes in a way that would horrify the Mennonites, or for that matter anyone else. It is partly a matter of vocabulary. You use such charged words in all your dealings with these characters.<sup>11</sup>

The characters of Herb and Hank do not become any more agreeable in Wiebe's revision, but he does try to include explanations for their behaviour and for the attitude of the community towards them: Mrs. Wiens stresses the importance of being lenient with Herb on page 67; Block makes reference to their home life on page 73 and to how their father failed to earn their respect; and he recognizes that Herb needs help on page 77, as does Thom on page 98. A revision made to page 205 is a response to Marshall's request for an explanation of the community's attitude towards Herb. In this passage, Block refuses to recognize his own and the community's ultimate failure with Herb:

Herb's had a hard youth and hasn't been handled too well. Basically, he's rebelling against his Christian home. But he still goes there and I'm convinced he will some day become a Christian and then we'll welcome him into the church.

No excuses are given for Hank's split from the church, but he plays such a minor part in the action of the novel, and he is such a repulsive character that the reader does not want to know that much more about him. His brash arrogance is the perfect counterpart to Razia's excessive lust.

The third point that Marshall's letter addresses

for revision is the concept of the book as a whole:

I feel that the book, as it stands now, doesn't make the effect you intend it to make and that this is partly because you haven't made the Mennonite point of view and beliefs sufficiently clear to the outside reader. I got a great deal more out of a second reading; you have slipped many valuable clues in so lightly that they don't strike the reader with sufficient force. I'm not suggesting that you need use a bludgeon, just that many of your readers will know little or nothing about Mennonites. I don't think I should try to tell you what the ultimate meaning of your book ought to be. I shall just make some comments and ask some questions, with the suggestion that, after you've read and considered them, you should formulate in your own mind what your own concept of the book is. You should then be able to decide how to rework the book to make the intention clearer.<sup>12</sup>

Chapter One discusses passages added in revision which include information about Mennonite customs and beliefs, so it is clear that Wiebe again agrees with Marshall's suggestions to this point. In her comments on the text of manuscript one, Marshall notes: "Joseph mentions that Mennonites live differently 'outside.' Could this be slightly expanded?"<sup>13</sup> Wiebe adds a brief passage on page 69 about the practices of other Mennonite groups in response to this. Marshall also asks: "What is the precise difference between the meeting at which Thom was present (to discuss Joseph's speech) and the later one (to discuss Herman) at which he wasn't allowed? Could this be clarified in a few words?"<sup>14</sup> In response to this, Wiebe explains that Thom is under-age and includes: "They had to set the line

somewhere, he supposed" on page 103. Marshall points out: "If men & women sit on opposite sides of church, as earlier stated, why are Herman and Madeleine together? Because she isn't a Mennonite?"<sup>15</sup> Wiebe's revisions do not attempt to answer this question as he clearly feels that the reason should be obvious to the reader; Herman is no longer a part of the Mennonite community and, therefore, no longer obeys the rules of the church, so his wife stands beside him on page 155. Marshall expresses concern with a passage on page 175: "Thom's arguments to Razia somewhat unconvincing. People in the Canadian west before the war were not all living a wonderful life with plenty to eat. Many were starving, many others desperate."<sup>16</sup> In answer to this, Wiebe revises Thom's speech to read: "a, comparatively speaking, comfortable time" and "we, who on the whole had enough -- and some too much -- to eat."

It is when the ending of the novel is criticized that Wiebe begins to disagree with Marshall's opinion. Marshall writes:

Everyone is troubled by the ending of the book as it now stands. It is very abrupt, for one thing, and also too melodramatic. This is partly because neither the Ungers nor Razia have been made real to us, partly because of the rather highly coloured way it is written. More seriously, it doesn't seem quite to offer a solution to the moral problems that have been raised.<sup>17</sup>

In her notes, Marshall says of the ending to manuscript one:

Is your meaning as clear as you intend it to be on this page? "A noble man's misguided interpretation." In what way has he been misguided? How has Pete's knocking a man down this?[sic] Is this statement supposed to cast doubts upon his words to Thom (page 217 et seq)? Why does Wiens call himself a "sinner in silence"? What was the sin -- allowing too much power and authority to the deacon?<sup>18</sup>

Wiebe is unwilling to accept Marshall's suggestions for revision to the ending of his novel. He evidently responds to Marshall's criticism in a letter, and, while this letter is not included in the Rudy Wiebe Papers, its general points can be inferred from Marshall's response in her second letter:

I have discussed your letter with Miss Pratt and we both felt that I should write to you again about the whole question of the conclusion of the book. . . . The conclusion of your book as we originally saw it seemed abrupt not because of the suddenness of events but because they did not seem to offer any real solution to the moral questions you raised. In your letter you say, "How anyone can miss the positive ending, which I have so carefully planned, symbol and event, is beyond me." However, everyone has missed it and I am a little afraid that, unless you can see exactly how you have failed in this respect, you will not be able to make a satisfactory revision. I would suggest that you write down, clearly and briefly, just what effect you tried to make and by what means you believed it had been made and send this to me. . . . In the first version, at least, Thom was the central figure and his doubts crucial. Unless some solution is found for Thom, it seems to me that the book will still fail. We must know what Thom feels. What he does or decides to do is much less important.<sup>19</sup>

In her original letter, Marshall combines her discussion of the weakness of the conclusion of the novel with reference to the novel's overall theme of

non-violence. She writes:

The matter of non-resistance is, of course, crucial and gives the book its very powerful theme. When I read the book for the first time I felt that, now that two young men have knocked two others down, the entire community is crushed and devastated. The Deacon is destroyed morally. The Mennonite ideal has been proved unworkable in the modern world. I understand from Miss Pratt that this wasn't exactly your intention and that you didn't wish to end on so hopeless a note. One thing that takes away the force of the ending is that the story as you have told it abounds in violence and near-violence. There is little Christian charity or Christian forgiveness. It is significant that all those whose conduct somewhat approaches the Mennonite ideal -- Pastor Lepp, Thom's mother -- are rather weak figures in the book. If one sees even one person succeeding, within human limits, which means only partly, in living by an ideal, the failure of others is more pointed. . . . As for Thom himself, his moral questioning seldom has the force for us that you intend. He is always on the verge of striking Herb and prevented by others. . . . So we do not appreciate the effect the actual striking of the blow has on him. One reason for this is that the non-resistance concept isn't fully established at the outset but is allowed to seep gradually into the book, and that we never feel its force upon Thom -- or upon any of the others, for that matter. . . . So when Thom knocks Herb down we do not feel emotionally that he has, in that instant, denied the single most vital element in his training.<sup>20</sup>

At the end of Marshall's second letter to Wiebe, in which she expresses concern over his ability to revise the ending of the novel, she asks for Wiebe's response to her comments in her first letter as listed in the last quotation. Fortunately, part of the rough draft of Wiebe's reply is available in the Rudy Wiebe Papers:

If I grant your criticism for the moment (for

there certainly is some violence in it!), I must say that the two acts of physical violence -- Block's killing of the Mongol and the final scene in the barn, pin-point the whole character of the Mennonites who, on the whole, mistakenly believe that only physical violence disrupts the "peace" they long to retain. This mistaken belief I am trying to demonstrate in the book (note the title): the violence of clash between characters and the inward struggle and violence of the soul is really where the peace they want should be in control. Now if we consider each chapter, paragraph by paragraph, there are only 2 physical acts of violence (mentioned above) and there are three where physical violence is averted only at the last moment. . . . [T]he characters have committed themselves to violent action but it is not called for because the power of some characters overrules (Joseph, Razia, the Deacon). So these scenes can be called violent in the emotions that are involved, but these effects are the exact ones I want to achieve.<sup>21</sup>

Wiebe pointed out during an interview that one of his motivations in adding Chapter Fourteen to the original manuscript is to provide the opportunity for Thom to do something positive and non-violent. Teaching the Bible to the Métis children in a squalid cabin in the woods in the middle of winter is a clear example of Christian charity such as Marshall requests.<sup>22</sup> Indeed, adding to the novel the fact that Thom agrees to teach the Bible classes at all shows him to be a stronger character than the one who appeared in the original thesis version, and this fact also provides more grounds for conflict between Thom and the Deacon, as well as more plausible conflicts within Thom himself.

A third letter from Marshall refers to Wiebe's general defense of the conclusion of his novel, not

available in the Papers:

As I hoped, your summary of your intention for the ending has given me some clues that I think might be of use to you. I did not realize the significance of Thom's striking a blow after Pete has struck one. (I did not see the second action as being the result of the first.) Nor did I catch the symbolic point of Thom leaving with his parents behind him. And, though I was certainly aware of the symbolic sense of your book's seasonal structure, Hal's words at the last seemed more a hope than a certainty. I offer these points for what value they may have for you. Now that the book is undergoing revision, it is useless to try to imagine the fittingness of the ending as I saw it.<sup>23</sup>

Wiebe's revision to the ending of his novel is apparently a satisfactory improvement, as there is no more correspondence on this point between author and editor, and the ending submitted in manuscript two is the same as the one which appears in the final published version.

Though no reviewer or critic was aware of Joyce Marshall's concerns, or of the revisions Wiebe had made, it is noteworthy that many fastened on just those passages which Marshall mentions in her original comments as areas needing revision in the novel. This suggests that perhaps the process of revision was not truly complete before the novel was accepted for publication. While McClelland and Stewart seem satisfied with Wiebe's revision to the conclusion of Peace Shall Destroy Many, this part of the novel was one area targeted by critics and reviewers. Herbert Giesbrecht states: "Nor does the reference to [Thom's]

more passive aspirations, added in a brief epilogue (p. 237), suffice in order to restore what has been lost, for it comes after all is over and is not of one piece with the fabric of the rest."<sup>24</sup> F.W. Watt wrote in his review:

Worst of all, the community's ideal is not given fair play, for in the end Wiebe makes it merely the work of "one man's misguided interpretation of tradition" -- when to begin with it is made to seem a genuine alternative to "the world". . . . Until the author's grasp weakens in the later stages, this is a moving work on a profound theme.<sup>25</sup>

Carlyle King complained about the work as a whole:

"This novel is so badly written that one has difficulty in attending to its theme," and he singled out phrases such as 'the school stares loggishly', 'the mirror smiles her reflection', 'the July world lounges' and 'the log shack crouches' as examples.<sup>26</sup> Elmer F. Suderman shared Marshall's concern over a lack of details: "Wiebe relies very little on the peculiar mores and folkways which we associate with the Mennonites to give the Wapiti community its particular Mennonite atmosphere."<sup>27</sup> F.W. Watt pointed out: "Wiebe spoils the drama by exaggeration -- it becomes in fact melodrama."<sup>28</sup> The reviewer for the Montrealer stated:

In presenting the conflicting viewpoints Mr. Wiebe runs into serious technical difficulties which he is not always able to resolve. Lengthy debates alternate with scenes of unrestrained sadistic violence, as if Mr. Wiebe were seeking to compensate with extravagant melodrama for the tedium of sustained argument and exposition.



He went on: "Mr. Wiebe will probably learn to overcome the technical faults (including a certain lushness of style) which makes this novel rather uneasy reading."<sup>29</sup>

Most reviewers criticized the didactic element of the novel. The reviewer in the Winnipeg Tribune pointed out: "The book is written with an overly adjectival intensity which seldom produces anything but a weighty literary effect." He went on to state: "[F]ar too much of the conversation is purely a vehicle for explanations of Mennonite thinking, philosophy and tradition."<sup>30</sup> Peter Klassen also recognized this flaw and wrote: "At times I felt the didactic element in the story was too obtrusive."<sup>31</sup> Hildegard E. Tiessen's article finds Joseph Dueck's comments on peace "too lengthy and awkward,"<sup>32</sup> while S.E. Read's review stated: "The dialogue . . . too often lapses into lay passages on conscription, the place of conscientious objectors, or the validity of points of theology, that pass beyond the borders of plausibility." He also felt that "Razia is not convincing."<sup>33</sup> George Henry Hildebrand's thesis on Wiebe notes that the passage where Thom recounts Madeleine's story of her grandfather "does not fit the overall tone of the novel," and that in the section where Thom and Pete find the skull in the swamp, "Wiebe has lost control of his character."<sup>34</sup> H.R. Percy commented in his review:

[W]hen he gets outside the skin of Thom Wiens the narrative moves vigourously. Thom himself

is weak and colourless, and his problem never seems to be quite real. His religious musings leave you wondering whether it is possible for a country boy with a grade nine education to think that way.

He added: "The beginning of the book is a little confusing."<sup>35</sup>

Francis Mansbridge also dislikes Wiebe's long theological explanations, but is less harsh than other critics, and, in fact, alternately praises and censures Wiebe. Mansbridge states, "There are too many passages, such as the long confrontation between Joseph Dueck and Peter Block in the first section, in which Wiebe indulges in long discussions of issues." Mansbridge notes that Wiebe's style is "frequently awkward and ponderous," but that, like Grove, "he is a formidable novelist." This critic finds it impossible to overlook the novel's "difficult moments," however, and cites the following as a sentence which, "with its tongue-twisting clusters of personal pronouns, is hardly a model of clarity":

For him to have another person in the house, one who did not leave hurriedly but peeped into his neat cupboards and fingered the window-curtains, a woman who had just been there as slowly he must have grown conscious of her whom, as he had laughingly put it, he had before merely considered as the "Moosomin-girl-who-gets-the-milk," the raging storm must suddenly have seemed a thrust into humanity (p. 107)<sup>36</sup>.

Other reviewers were divided over the talents and flaws of the novel. J. Wesley Ingles praised the novel's authentic dialogue, but stated: "[O]ccasionally

it stiffens out of its natural shape into formal English, or gets out of character, and it too seldom communicates the actual idiom of the spoken German in an English equivalent." He saw Wiebe's use of the multiple point of view as both good and bad: "This constant shifting does extend our understanding of complex relationships, but it tends also to weaken the story line." Ingles also felt that Razia was not convincing.<sup>37</sup>

Jake Letkeman liked Wiebe's use of adjectives, and he wrote: "One seldom or never senses that descriptive words have been used as mere ornamentation." He did, however, question the appropriateness of some expressions such as "the clouds were sheep with their heads down in the sunshine" and Herb "battering his better nature against the wall of what he knew he should do."<sup>38</sup>

Herbert Giesbrecht comments in his article about this work that "there are passages of moralizing that do not arise naturally and convincingly from the immediate context, and that, therefore, merely obtrude and annoy." He finds Joseph's warning to Thom about falling into the pitfalls of other Mennonite groups "overly solemn." He also finds that Wiebe has a talent for providing a "deeper insight into human nature" and praises the interesting writing evident in passages such as this one found on page 28, "the quarrel crouched like blackness

on the rim of his conscience."<sup>39</sup>

W.J. Keith notes: "[T]here are places, admittedly, where the novel falters because the author becomes too explicitly, and abstractly, didactic." He also acknowledges that "ungainly sentences, grammatical oddities, obscurities -- sometimes even misused words" appear throughout the text, but he is willing to overlook these faults because of the fact that "English is not Wiebe's native tongue."<sup>40</sup> G. Coleman Luck stated in his review: "His only flaw is over-writing. Sometimes his descriptive approach becomes description for description's sake, rather than for communication. Yet the fact that there is good description writing here compensates for this tendency."<sup>41</sup> Patricia Morley is one of the few critics who does not condemn Wiebe's didacticism: "I suggest that these passages do not detract from Wiebe's . . . novels. They are in character, and are relatively brief. Didactic passages are the exception, not the rule."<sup>42</sup>

In a study of the process of revision, it is important to consider whether the changes made during this process do actually benefit the novel. While the editor and the author are the only ones who can truly compare the first version of the novel with the last, one measure of the success of the process of revision is how the final work was received by reviewers. While Joyce Marshall asks Wiebe to add information about

Mennonite doctrine throughout the revised manuscript, most reviewers criticized these parts of the novel for being didactic, and although Marshall points out problems with character and style to be corrected in manuscript one, critics find these same flaws in the final published version.

There are, however, some passages from the novel selected for praise by the critics, and when these passages originate in a revised version of the manuscript, then the process of revision can be considered a success. Herbert Giesbrecht cites this revised phrase on page 28 as an example of interesting writing: "[T]he quarrel crouched like blackness on the rim of his conscience,"<sup>43</sup> and he praises Wiebe's perception of human nature expressed in this sentence added in revision: "When he was near Pete, Thom found it increasingly easier to discover flaws in the Deacon's methods."<sup>44</sup>

W.J. Keith points out how this phrase inserted on page 47 where the stone is thrown at the frog can be "recognized as an emblem of the ineffectiveness of minority action": "But it did not splash. It skipped beautifully in its flatness, dropping gently with a final plop into a far gleam of water."<sup>45</sup> He also stresses how the following passage added in revision on page 110 effectively "brings the matter of the union of Indians and Mennonites to a head":

Why should Herman not have married Madeleine? The reason lay painfully open now: she was a half-breed, and a Mennonite just did not marry such a person, even if she was a Christian. He stared at the bared thought. Despite this summer's work with the breed children every Sunday afternoon, he suddenly knew that he had not yet seen them as quite human.<sup>46</sup>

Keith also praises the way in which "sharply drawn sides" were emphasized in this sentence added in revision on page 231: "Was there only the old Block way or the young Unger way?"<sup>47</sup>

Patricia Morley feels that Wiebe's revised use of the analogy of the log jam being released in Thom's mind on page 219 makes it easier for the reader to understand Thom's experience, "But the one log that held the jam had been jarred and he could sense within him only the numb void that remained after the rush had vanished." Morley states that this passage "contributes to a sense of void."<sup>48</sup> Finally, Hildegard E. Tiessen praises the way in which Thom's perception of the question of non-resistance is expressed in the final pages of the reworked novel.<sup>49</sup> This lengthy passage can be found in the textual variants of pages 237 and 238 in the textual apparatus.

The revision process does not have a limit after which a perfect product is achieved. The process is never complete. Wiebe admits twenty years after the publication of this novel: "When I look at Peace Shall Destroy Many now, I see there are things that could have been done to the form that would have made it far more

interesting but I wasn't capable of them."<sup>50</sup> Perhaps it is the level of revision of which first novelists are capable which distinguishes their process of revision from that of other, more experienced writers. An exploration of the process of revision of first novelists in general is the subject of the next and final chapter of this thesis.

## Chapter Three

### FIRST NOVELISTS

Publishing a novel for the first time is a challenging task for most authors. To attract the interest of a publishing house with the idea of a novel seems to be the easy part; the difficulty comes in revising the manuscript to meet the editor's requests. Those who enter the publishing world for the first time generally know very little about this industry, but they do have one expectation of the crucial process of revision: authors and their editors will fight. Doug Gibson comments on the origin of this myth:

The author-editor myth continues along predictable lines. The editor is hired by the publisher to push the author around. Unless the author is willing to stand up for his rights, the editor will routinely cheapen and distort the author's manuscript. The editor's cynical aim will be to make the book as "commercial" as possible - and she will treat the author's artistic aspirations with weary contempt. The author will have to fight her at every stage if his manuscript is to be treated decently and published with proper care.

Thus runs the popular myth. What makes it worth outlining in tragic detail is that it is so widely believed. Editors at social gatherings are politely asked if they spend all their time fighting with authors, while author's friends are solicitous in their enquiries about how badly the current editor is screwing up the latest manuscript. And this myth, sadly, is likely to set the context in which a new author meets his first editor, or vice versa.<sup>1</sup>



Perhaps as a consequence of this myth, first novelists often act out what they believe is expected of them, so that many editors come to the conclusion that first novelists are the most difficult to edit. Cynthia Good, Editor-in-Chief of Penguin Books Canada Inc., states that "first novelists are rarely willing to accept editorial suggestions, as compared to experienced writers who are more open to editorial ideas."<sup>2</sup> Doug Gibson concurs:

[A] striking but almost invariably true paradox is that the more experienced and successful an author is, the more likely he is to listen carefully to editorial suggestions; the "don't-touch-a-hair-of-my-baby's-head" approach tends to be restricted to first novelists with restricted futures.<sup>3</sup>

Elsie Myers Stainton explains:

The good writer is more amenable to suggestions than the bad writer. At first glance this proposition doesn't seem to make sense, because the good writer should need less help. But the poorer a writer is, the more suggestions he's apt to get, and the more impatient he's apt to become.<sup>4</sup>

Clearly, the work of most first novelists is expected to need revision, and editors are experienced in differentiating between those manuscripts which have potential and those for which even major revision will not be enough to correct a weak thesis. Rejecting manuscripts is part of an editor's routine, but editors are not infallible, and their oversights have lost untold fortunes for their respective publishing houses. This statement made by Le Roi Jones is a good example of

the ambivalence that authors often have for publishers/editors: "Publishers are usually not very intelligent, or they might be intelligent, but it's usually hard to tell. Publishers don't publish a lot of fine books they should publish."<sup>5</sup>

There are many stories of books destined to become classics which were rejected at first by short-sighted editors and publishers. It is "hard to tell" where lies the wisdom of publishers who rejected such works as Lewis Carroll's Alice in Wonderland. Lucy Maud Montgomery's Anne of Green Gables had a similar history; of the original five publishing houses to which she sent her manuscript, only one gave an explanation for rejection of her work: "Four of them returned it with a cold, printed note of rejection; one of them 'damned with faint praise.' They wrote that, 'our readers report that they find some merit in your story, but not enough to warrant its acceptance.'"<sup>6</sup> Theodore Dreiser worked hard to get his manuscript for Sister Carrie accepted for publication by Doubleday, Page and Company. Although two of the three partners in the firm initially accepted the work, Doubleday found the work immoral and Dreiser received this letter from Page:

The feeling has grown upon us that, excellent as your workmanship is, the choice of your characters has been unfortunate. . . . To be frank, we prefer not to publish the book, and we should like to be released from my agreement with you. If you have suffered any injury, we stand ready, of course, to make amends. . . . If you were to ask my advice,

I should without hesitation say that Sister Carrie is not the best kind of book for a young author to make his first book.

Dreiser was eventually able to make this house honor its legal contract to him to publish his work, but the novel was printed in only a small edition and received no publicity.

Doug Gibson argues that it is a myth that an editor is only interested in the commercial aspect of an author's work. However, when considering the motivations involved in revising a manuscript, the question arises as to whether creativity is ever sacrificed for publishability. Certainly examples of such drastic forms of revision can be found. Evelyn Waugh's first novel Decline and Fall "had originally been rejected by Duckworth because of 'indelicacy.'"<sup>8</sup> Revisions to this manuscript were demanded "for reasons of propriety and literary improvement."<sup>9</sup> P.A. Doyle, the author of an article about revisions made to Waugh's work, maintains that when "Examining the differences between the standard 1928 edition and the 1962 'original text,' one finds the most prudish kind of Victorianism at work. A listing of some of the most basic differences will support this observation."<sup>10</sup> Doyle goes on to give some startling examples of the substantive variations which occur between the two texts:

In the 1928 edition a Matisse painting is thrown into a "water jug" (4); in the 1962

volume the painting is thrown into the "lavatory" (15). During the Bollinger seizure of Pennyfeather, the following line is omitted in the standard edition; "They appear to be tearing off his clothes" (1962 ed. p. 17). The following sentence appears only in the 1962 volume: "It reminds me of the communist uprising in Budapest when I was on the debt commission" (14). This deletion was probably intended to prevent the conduct of an Oxford fraternal group from being tainted by any metaphor involving communism. Philbrick reports his conversation with the Welsh station and band master in the 1962 edition: "if either of you ever wants a woman, his sister --" (40); in the 1928 version Philbrick comments: "Feeling lonely? . . . if either of you wants an introduction to a young lady --" (31-32). At the 'Sports' (1928 ed.) the station-band master offers Lord Circumference his sister-in-law (99); in the 1962 version he offers his sister (95), and is later distressed that Grimes would not accept his sister (127) -- but it becomes "sister-in-law" in the 1928 volume (138). In his preface to the revised edition Waugh mentions this change as one of Ralph Straus's pet suggestions: "He thought it, for instance, more chaste that the Llanabba Station Master should seek employment for his sister-in-law, rather than his sister."<sup>11</sup>

Doyle lists further examples relevant to a study of textual variants:

In the standard edition of 1928, cigars were found in the school "boiler room" (40-41) instead of in the "lavatory" (46-47). Material about Philbrick and Dingy having a sexual intrigue (51) has been eliminated in the 1928 edition (48), and some material has been added to stress the mystery of Philbrick (45-46). "Psychoanalysis" (1928 ed. - 47) has been substituted for the more accurate (the reference is to Grimes) but apparently offensive "sexual psychology" (52). Waugh had originally written about the Welsh (1962 ed.): "Their sons and daughters mate freely with the sheep but not with human kind except their own blood relations" (79). In the 1928 edition this sentence reads, "their sons and daughters rarely mate with human kind except their own blood relations" (80). In the 1928 version,

several lines were omitted about Grimes's homosexuality with the result that the aberration becomes vaguer and much less apparent (192 - 107; 1962 - 115). . . .

The standard 1928 version omits the statement that the chaplain was drunk at Grimes's first marriage (1962 ed. - 120), and also omits Peter Beste-Chetwynde's remark that Margot's boy friends "tend to get flirtatious with (him)" (1962 ed. - 158). Margot's rejection of an experienced candidate for her Latin-American Entertainment Ltd. business becomes "Sorry, Bessy; nothing for you just at present" (1928- 190); the original manuscript read: "Sorry, Bessy; nothing for you until you're well again" (1962 - 171). In the original manuscript Waugh had the prison medical officer ask Pennyfeather, "Suffering from consumption, V.D., or any contagious disease?" (193), while in the regular version "V.D." (215) has been left out.<sup>12</sup>

Doyle's poor opinion of the editor's role in this process of revision is evident in the following comment:

The above mentioned examples are the most salient illustrations of squeamishness and residue Victorianism at work. The alterations reveal an excessive predilection for propriety in print which was not uncharacteristic of the time, although in this instance the censorship appears to be excessive."<sup>13</sup>

With the more relaxed conventions of our era, it is unlikely that propriety would necessitate revisions such as Waugh's work underwent, but examples of creativity being sacrificed for publishability can still be found. The manuscript for Shelia Watson's first novel, The Double Hook, was subjected to various alterations before it was printed:

The printers, Hazel, Viney and Watson, altered the original punctuation of Sheila Watson's manuscript to bring it more into line with "normal" prose punctuation. To a certain extent, due to the changes in punctuation, the

phrasing of the original manuscript has been changed. McClelland and Stewart, with Ms Watson's agreement, made the editorial decision to let the altered punctuation stand because it was felt that to insist upon the original punctuation would be to introduce the possibility of more obvious errors during the resetting of the type.<sup>14</sup>

Douglas Barbour points out that not only did Ms Watson have to accept changes in the punctuation of her manuscript, there was one further change made in the interest of publishability about which she was not even consulted:

Perhaps the most important change from the original manuscript of The Double Hook is the epigraph on page 7. This was the result of an editorial decision which McClelland and Stewart made without consulting Ms Watson. Because Professor Salter's Preface did not quite fill all the pages set aside for it (due possibly to its having been cut), Kip's statement (p. 55) was inserted as a prefatory quotation. Ms Watson never intended that any such statement be placed before the text of the story. Certainly, it cannot be denied that the prominence its appearance as an epigraph has bestowed upon it has made Kip's statement appear far more important to critics of the novel than might have been the case had it existed only as the thoughts of a single character at a certain point in the narrative.<sup>15</sup>

To be fair it should be pointed out that editors are not always the "bad guys". In fact, Sheila Watson was grateful for the rejection of a novel she wrote called Deep Hollow Creek upon which The Double Hook was later based:

I sent it to Macmillan and it came back. I was glad that it came back because I realized then that there was something wrong with it and felt that somehow or other I had to get the authorial voice out of the novel for it

to say what I wanted it to say. I didn't want a voice talking about something. I wanted voices.<sup>16</sup>

Not every editor casts a jaundiced eye on the manuscripts of first novelists. B.W. Heubsch is one publisher who revels in the risk that such manuscripts suggest: "I enjoy an author's first book more than publishing those subsequent ones whose results can be calculated."<sup>17</sup> In his discussion about the myth of the relationship between authors and their editors, Doug Gibson actually cites two versions of this story. The first has already been discussed in which the editor appears as a heartless cynic, or the evil stepmother, if you will. In the second version, the editor plays the part of the fairy godmother:

The competing myth -- what we might call "The Max Perkins Story" -- is closer to the truth, though romanticized beyond recognition. Here the editor is a benign literary visionary who not only transforms the writer's inchoate masterpiece into a publishable gem, but becomes his best friend in the process. The writer in this version of the legend is an unappreciated genius, a voice, crying in the wilderness, that only the editor is able to hear.<sup>18</sup>

Maxwell Perkins was certainly responsible for giving several famous writers their first opportunity to have their manuscripts published. It is clear, through correspondence between Perkins and his authors, that revision was a necessary procedure in developing a publishable manuscript for most of his first novelists, but it is unlikely that revisions suggested by Perkins were as detrimental to his authors' work as those

revisions requested by Waugh's or Watson's editors.

Maxwell Perkins was supportive of F. Scott Fitzgerald's first creative efforts with This Side of Paradise: "In August 1918 Maxwell Perkins returned the manuscript with a note of encouragement, suggesting that he would be glad to see it again after its revision."<sup>19</sup> Some time later, Perkins was able to send Fitzgerald this letter after reading the revised manuscript: "I am very glad, personally, to be able to write to you that we are all for publishing your book. . . . The book is so different that it is hard to prophesy how it will sell but we are all for taking a chance and supporting it with vigor."<sup>20</sup>

Maxwell Perkins also acted as mentor for Thomas Wolfe. Wolfe's first novel, Look Homeward, Angel (not the original title) was rejected by four publishing firms before it finally reached Perkins, and then even he did not immediately appreciate the work. It was a reader for the house who drew Perkins' attention to the manuscript:

He liked the opening scene, but lost interest in later sections and asked one of his readers to examine the entire manuscript. Struck by the quality of much of the manuscript, the reader made this known to Perkins. "I dropped everything," Perkins wrote later, "and began to read again, and all of us were reading simultaneously, you might say, including John Hall Wheelock, and there was never the slightest disagreement among us as to its importance."<sup>21</sup>

Perkins then wrote Wolfe the following:



I do not know whether it would be possible to work out a plan by which it might be worked into a form publishable by us, but I do know that setting the practical aspects of the matter aside, it is a very remarkable thing, and that no editor could read it without being excited by it, and filled with admiration by many passages in it, and sections of it. . . . What we should like to know is whether you will be in New York in a fairly near future, when we can see you and discuss the manuscript.<sup>22</sup>

The revisions that needed to be made to Look Homeward, Angel were extensive, and Perkins had to guide Wolfe step-by-step through the revision process:

Perkins went over the manuscript with him to indicate general reorganization, the parts in need of revision, passages which might be omitted, and places which required additional material. Soon, however, he realized that Wolfe was unable to cut and revise as he had suggested. By now interested as much in the author as in the manuscript, he took over the process of detailed revision, explaining, cajoling, urging, directing. . . . Wolfe explained the work of revision to his sister Mabel by telling her that he was working daily with Perkins, that his heart bled to see big chunks of the manuscript removed from the narrative, but he knew it was "die dog or eat hatchet." Both he and Perkins, he continued, hated to take so much out of the book, but they realized it was necessary to shorten the novel and make it easier to read; also, as they were giving up some good stuff they were gaining unity.<sup>23</sup>

It is difficult to decide with this novel whether or not creativity was sacrificed for publishability. The work was certainly significantly shortened for readability:

"The novel . . . originally contained around 330,000 words. It was reduced by about a third, and the sections were tightened and knitted together to read as a flowing narrative."<sup>24</sup> Thus, much of the author's

creative work was eventually rejected, but as Wolfe explained to his sister, and perhaps also to himself, they were "gaining unity." Both creativity and unity seem equally important in a work of this length.

Sinclair Lewis is another example of a first novelist whose work was not publishable until it had undergone revision:

In 1912 he was ready to write a novel. The first draft of Our Mr. Wrenn was considered amateurish by his friends who read it. W.E. Woodward told him: "You're not cut out for a writer, and that's all there is to it. It's just not your game, if I were you, I'd forget all about it." Lewis put the manuscript away -- only to return to it somewhat later and rewrite it completely. Macmillan, Century, and Holt declined it, but Harper accepted it on May 6, 1913.<sup>25</sup>

Margaret Mitchell is the exception to the rule of first novelists who must struggle for recognition. According to Charles A. Madison: "Gone With the Wind was a rare phenomenon in the book world: a first novel of merit that attracted more readers than any work of fiction in the history of publishing."<sup>26</sup> Instead of having to submit her manuscript to the rejection of several publishing houses, Mitchell was unusual in that she had to be coaxed by Harold S. Latham of Macmillan to allow him to read her work in progress. Mitchell's situation was also exceptional in that she did not have to undergo the extensive revision process required of many first novelists. On the contrary, Latham "cautioned her against the tendency of inexperienced

writers to revise too drastically."<sup>27</sup> He wrote:

Please do not think for one moment of ripping it all to pieces and doing it over. All that you should do, as the reader suggests, is to bridge the existing gaps with a few lines, fill out a scene or two, and catch up a few loose ends. I think it will be a serious mistake if you attempt to do too much.<sup>28</sup>

The truth of the relationship between an author and her editor, then, is a combination of the two myths Gibson described. It can be a trying situation, as must have been the case between Waugh and Watson and their editors, or it can be nurturing and supportive. Rudy Wiebe was fortunate in that his first relationship with an editor seems to have been the latter. He notes: "I was very lucky with Pratt and Marshall."<sup>29</sup> The relationship between an editor and a first novelist is unique; it is crucial to both that the novel succeed. The fledgling author must prove himself and display all of his creative abilities in his first novel. Wiebe explains:

A first novel is always the purest because in order to make it you must use everything you know or can imagine. In 1959 what little I knew about life and humanity had to be pushed to the utmost limits of my conception, and then another notch farther, and then another, towards whatever I was discovering of what was good and new and moving and beautiful. No one knows you, there seems to be no chance that the marks your pen or typewriter are tracing across blank paper will ever get beyond that paper and so you grab everything conceivable and imaginable into your hands, spin it around into one compact ball and hurl it as hard and as far as you can and you never expect to hit anyone. And then, dear God, by a miracle it gets published and you do. Hit someone. Again and again.<sup>30</sup>

The editor is also concerned that a first novel be successful, and she must be convinced that publishing the work of an unknown author will not be a waste of time and money. This is often difficult for a previously unrecognized author to prove to an editor, and certainly an established author has more influence when it comes to deciding who will publish his work and how it will be revised. Wiebe points out: "a first novel is also the purest because it has the least chance of publication."<sup>31</sup> Wiebe freely admits the role that his thesis supervisor, F.M. Salter, played in the publication of Peace Shall Destroy Many:

When I read McClelland's letter now, it is clear that Salter's recommendation (which I have never seen) made all the difference. It was Salter in the middle '50's who convinced McClelland to publish Sheila Watson's The Double Hook. . . . So when Jack McClelland in 1960-61 paid two editors, Claire Pratt and Joyce Marshall, to work with me on a total rewrite of Peace. . . . he was gambling on Salter's perceptions honed by 20 years of reading new student writing.<sup>32</sup>

For better or for worse, the editor, through the process of revision, has a significant influence on the manuscripts of first novels. Clearly, the editor-author relationship is crucial in the editorial process of first novels, because, in order for revision (mandatory in almost all first novels) to be successful, both parties must be on good working terms. Although it may sometimes appear that this is not the case, that the author and his editor are actually working at cross-

purposes, Rick Archbold's statement reminds us that everyone is actually on the same side in the process of revision: "[I]t is well to remember that editor, author, and publisher have the same goal: to turn out the best book possible and to see it published as well as possible."<sup>33</sup>

## NOTES

**Introduction**

<sup>1</sup> Joyce Marshall, "To Rudy Wiebe," 13 December 1960, Rudy Wiebe Papers, U of Calgary.

<sup>2</sup> Marshall, 13 December 1960.

**Chapter One**

<sup>1</sup> Rudy Wiebe, "The Skull in the Swamp," Journal of Mennonite Studies 5 (1987): 13.

<sup>2</sup> Rudy Wiebe, "To Claire Pratt," 7 March 1962, Rudy Wiebe Papers, U of Calgary.

**Chapter Two**

<sup>1</sup> Jack McClelland, "To Rudy Wiebe," August 18, 1960, Rudy Wiebe Papers, U of Calgary.

<sup>2</sup> Rudy Wiebe, personal interview, 5 October 1988.

<sup>3</sup> Jack McClelland, 5 October 1960.

<sup>4</sup> Marshall, 13 December 1960.

<sup>5</sup> Marshall, 13 December 1960.

<sup>6</sup> Marshall, 13 December 1960.

<sup>7</sup> Marshall, 13 December 1960.

<sup>8</sup> Marshall, 13 December 1960.

<sup>9</sup> Marshall, 13 December 1960.

<sup>10</sup> Marshall, 13 December 1960.

<sup>11</sup> Marshall, 13 December 1960.

<sup>12</sup> Marshall, 13 December 1960.

<sup>13</sup> Marshall, 13 December 1960.

<sup>14</sup> Marshall, 13 December 1960.

<sup>15</sup> Marshall, 13 December 1960.

<sup>16</sup> Marshall, 13 December 1960.

<sup>17</sup> Marshall, 13 December 1960.

- 18 Marshall, 13 December 1960.
- 19 Joyce Marshall, "To Rudy Wiebe," 8 February 1961, Rudy Wiebe Papers, U of Calgary.
- 20 Marshall, 13 December 1960.
- 21 Rudy Wiebe, "To Joyce Marshall," 11 February 1961, Rudy Wiebe Papers, U of Calgary.
- 22 Rudy Wiebe, personal interview, 5 October 1988.
- 23 Joyce Marshall, "To Rudy Wiebe," 14 February 1961, Rudy Wiebe Papers, U of Calgary.
- 24 Herbert Giesbrecht, "O Life, How Naked and How Hard When Known," A Voice in the Land: Essays By and About Rudy Wiebe, ed. W. J. Keith (Edmonton: NeWest Press, 1981) 50-63.
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- 26 Carlyle King, rev. of Peace Shall Destroy Many, Saskatchewan History 16.1 (Winter 1963): 38.
- 27 Elmer F. Suderman, "Universal Values in Rudy Wiebe's Peace Shall Destroy Many," Mennonite Life 20 (October 1965): 173.
- 28 Watt, 400.
- 29 E. M., rev. of Peace Shall Destroy Many, Montrealer 37 (February 1973): 37.
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- 31 Peter Klassen, rev. of Peace Shall Destroy Many, Mennonite Brethern Herald 12 October 1963: 2.
- 32 Hildegard E. Tiessen, "A Mighty Inner River: 'Peace' in the Fiction of Rudy Wiebe," Journal of Canadian Fiction 2 (1973): 73.
- 33 S. E. Read, "The Storms of Change," rev. of Peace Shall Destroy Many, by Rudy Wiebe, Canadian Literature 16 (1963): 76.
- 34 George Henry Hildebrand, "The Anabaptist Vision of Rudy Wiebe: A Study in Theological Allegories," diss. U of Alberta, 1982, 106.

- 35 H.R. Percy, rev. of Peace Shall Destroy Many, Canadian Author and Bookman 38.2 (1962): 16.
- 36 Francis Mansbridge, "Wiebe's Sense of Community," Canadian Literature 77 (1978): 43-44.
- 37 J. Wesley Ingles, rev. of Peace Shall Destroy Many, Christianity Today 27 March 1964: 30-31.
- 38 Jake Letkeman, rev. of Peace Shall Destroy Many, The Canadian Mennonite 12 October 1962: 8.
- 39 Giesbrecht, 55.
- 40 W. J. Keith, Epic Fiction: The Art of Rudy Wiebe, (Edmonton: The University of Alberta Press, 1981) 17, 24.
- 41 G. Coleman Luck, "Significant Fiction Book," rev. of Peace Shall Destroy Many, Moody Monthly January 1965: 38.
- 42 Patricia Morley, The Comedians: Hugh Hood and Rudy Wiebe (Toronto: Clarke, Irwin and Company Ltd., 1977) 72.
- 43 Giesbrecht, 59.
- 44 Giesbrecht, 58.
- 45 Keith, 21.
- 46 Keith, 18.
- 47 Keith, 55.
- 48 Morley, 65.
- 49 Tiessen, 73.
- 50 W. J. Keith, ed., A Voice in the Land: Essays By and About Rudy Wiebe (Edmonton: NeWest Press, 1981) 227.

### Chapter Three

- 1 Doug Gibson, "Editor and Author," Author and Editor: A Working Guide, Archbold, Rick, et al. (Toronto: The Book and Periodical Development Council, 1983) 16.
- 2 Cynthia Good, "Editing II - Working with the Author: The Big Picture," The Banff Book Publishing



Workshop, Banff, Alberta, 1 August 1988 .

- 3 Gibson, 20.
- 4 Elsie Meyers Stainton, Author and Editor at Work: Making a Better Book (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1982) 45.
- 5 Le Roi Jones, "Black Writing," Home (n.p.: n.p., 1966) n. pag.
- 6 L. M. Montgomery, "The Alpine Path," Everywoman's World, 8, No. 4 (1917) 8.
- 7 Charles A. Madison, Irving to Irving: Author - Publisher Relations 1800 - 1974 (New York: R. R. Bowker Co., 1974) 96.
- 8 P. A. Doyle, "Decline and Fall: Two Versions," Evelyn Waugh Newsletter 2 (Autumn 1967) 4.
- 9 Doyle, 4.
- 10 Doyle, 4.
- 11 Doyle, 4.
- 12 Doyle, 5.
- 13 Doyle, 5.
- 14 Douglas Barbour, "Editors and Typesetters," Sheila Watson and The Double Hook, ed. George Bowering, (Ottawa: The Golden Dog Press, 1985) 9.
- 15 Barbour, 9.
- 16 Bruce Meyer and Brian O'Riordan, In Their Words: Interviews with Fourteen Canadian Writers (Toronto: Anansi, 1984) 158.
- 17 Madison, 184.
- 18 Gibson, 18.
- 19 Madison, 152.
- 20 Madison, 153.
- 21 Madison, 170.
- 22 Madison, 170.
- 23 Madison, 171.

- 24 Madison, 172.
- 25 Madison, 215.
- 26 Madison, 247.
- 27 Madison, 250.
- 28 Madison, 250.
- 29 Rudy Wiebe, personal interview, 5 October 1988.
- 30 Wiebe, "Skull," 8-9.
- 31 Wiebe, "Skull," 9.
- 32 Wiebe, "Skull," 15.
- 33 Rick Archbold, "When Disputes Occur," Author and Editor: A Working Guide (Toronto: The Book and Periodical Development Council, 1983) 26.

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### Textual Apparatus

The following apparatus contains all the substantive variants -- those likely to affect a reading of the text -- between the five designated texts of Peace Shall Destroy Many. Omitted from this list are the many minor spelling and typographical errors in the texts, changes such as 'any one' to 'anyone', 'whow' to 'wow' and 'I have' to 'I've'. The variants have, for the sake of convenience, been designated as follows:

- m1 - The original thesis and first version of the novel submitted to McClelland and Stewart. This is available at the University of Alberta.
- m2 - The revisions made by Wiebe after the first reading by his editor. This manuscript can be found in the Rudy Wiebe Papers at the University of Calgary.
- m3 - This manuscript is designated as the printer's copy in the Rudy Wiebe Papers at the University of Calgary.
- m4 - This is the hardcover version of the novel published in 1962.
- m5 - This is the paperback version of the novel published by McClelland and Stewart in 1972.

#### FOREWORD

- |    |      |      |   |
|----|------|------|---|
| ix | 1.4  | m1   | their only theological  |
|    |      | m2-5 | their sole early theological  |
|    | 1.5  | m1   | Because of the group's biblicism:<br>believers'                         |
|    |      | m2-5 | Because the group's literal biblicism<br>expressed itself in believers' |
|    | 1.11 | m1   | what had begun as   |
|    |      | m2-5 | what in 1523 began as   |
|    | 1.13 | m1   | like Israel,  |
|    |      | m2   | like ancient Israel,  |
|    | 1.19 | m1   | the three hundred   |
|    |      | m2   | the four hundred  |
|    | 1.22 | m1   | hardly result otherwise.  |
|    |      | m2-5 | hardly have other results.  |

- 1.23 m1 which in 1523 forced  
m2-5 which forced
- 1.26 m1 any one.  
m2-5 any one of several groups that came to  
Canada from Russia in the 1920's.

**SPRING 1944: Prelude**

- 9 1.1 m1 valley, gazing loggishly southward,  
waiting for the children.  
m2 valley, its loggish face gazing  
southward.  
m3-5 valley, its loggish face southward.
- 1.2 m1 barn, its open door yawned lazily in  
m2-5 barn, it waited with its door yawning  
in
- 1.7 m1 shouts to the tumbled  
m2 shouts and the tumbled  
m3-5 shouts and tumbled
- 1.12 m1 they slowed to  
m2-5 they eased to
- 1.13 m1 shoulders, swinging  
m2-5 shoulders, arms swinging
- 1.20 m1 off the shoes and walked to  
m2-5 off his shoes and trotted to
- 1.21 m1 foamed out between the willows  
smothering a wire fence.  
m2-5 foamed between willows smothering a  
barbed fence.
- 10 1.2 m1 wood flashed beneath  
m2-5 wood floated beneath
- 1.3 m1 regally out into  
m2-5 regally past the rushes into
- 1.8 m1 and eased  
m2-5 and, after grimaced testing, eased
- 1.10 m1 were carefully stowed  
m2-5 were hastily stowed
- 1.10 m1 Swinging his  
m2-5 Brandishing his
- 1.13 m1 today," he said



m2-5 today --- oogh!" he gasped

1.15 m1 boy waded slowly towards  
m2-5 boy pushed gurglingly by towards

### Chapter One

- 11 1.4 m1 he looked back  
m2-5 he twisted on the halted plow to look back
- 1.6 m1 horses trembling in their sweat was  
m2-5 horses' sweated trembling was
- 1.17 m1 The whole country a mass of acclaimed murders!  
m2-5 Acclaimed murders everywhere!
- 1.18 m1 gone, flying  
m2-5 gone then, flying
- 1.20 m1 had jerked out the plow  
m2-5 had staggered the plow
- 1.23 m1 rocks at the  
m2-5 rocks along the
- 1.26 m1 the tumbled land  
m2-5 the humped land
- 12 1.1 m1 it along the  
m2-5 it bordering the
- 1.4 m1 suddenly felt the  
m2-5 suddenly experienced, like a water bucket emptied over him, the
- 1.8 m1 machines that helped were  
m2-5 machines for it were
- 1.9 m1 were very fast; and for a  
m2-5 were wind-swift. For a
- 1.10 m1 had discovered a great truth, veiled  
m2-5 had found a great truth, veiled
- 1.14 m1 plow. One did not stand about, thinking. He  
m2-5 plow. To just stand, thinking! He
- 1.15 m1 glanced around, happy  
m2-5 glanced about, happy
- 1.15 m1 the neutral world that had not noticed

- his  
 m2-5 the rugged world that had hidden his
- 1.16 m1 he felt the primeval strength  
 m2-5 he sensed within himself the strength
- 1.18 m1 like they, was  
 m2-5 like them, was
- 1.20 m1 face. Not like pushing a button  
 m2-5 face, not pushing a button
- 1.23 m1 as he  
 m2-5 as, with a flare of conscience, he
- 1.24 m1 Goertzen's words: "We  
 m2-5 Goertzen's clipped German phrases: "We
- 1.38 m1 to recall consciously his  
 m2-5 to consciously recollect his
- 13 1.6 m1 are more essential than comfortable  
 ends.  
 m2 are more essential than comfortable  
 apparently necessary ends.  
 m3-5 are more essential than comfortable  
 and apparently necessary ends.
- 1.11 m1 There was no argument against that.  
 The(new paragraph)  
 m2 There was no argument against that.  
 And truth necessitated following. (set  
 apart by itself) The (new paragraph)  
 m3-5 There was no argument against  
 that. (end of paragraph) And truth  
 necessitated following. (by itself)  
 The (new paragraph)
- 1.18 m1 he was gripped in spasms. It  
 m2-5 he was beyond himself. It
- 1.19 m1 man could feel  
 m2-5 man must feel
- 1.22 m1 the horses nodding  
 m2-5 the burdened horses nodding
- 1.24 m1 down their chests. When there, he  
 felt doubts lie in  
 m2-5 down their thighs. Lying there, he  
 felt doubts settle in
- 1.26 m1 not imagine how one man should wish to  
 kill another, yet

- m2-5 not actually imagine that men should wish to kill one another -- yet
- 1.28 m1 Army? Lying with the earth to hold him  
m2 Army? Lying with the earth holding him  
m3-5 Army? The earth holding him
- 1.34 m1 And again he felt the prick: And -- sometimes -- you  
m2-5 And Thom felt the persistent, recurring prick: sometimes you
- 1.38 m1 hocks pacing in the  
m2-5 hocks treading the
- 14 1.2 m1 real to him as  
m2-5 real as
- 1.3 m1-2 beneath him? But it had done so. Had he but known himself strong.  
m3-5 beneath him. But it had become so. Could he but know himself strong!
- 1.5 m1 with women  
m2-5 with gimlet-eyed women
- 1.6 m1 sons were flying over the bend of the world like yellow hawks, their eyes boring like bullets, and  
m2-5 sons were flying like yellow hawks, somewhere over the bend of the world, and
- 1.8 m1 conscience," never having dreamt for an instant  
m2-5 conscience." Never having considered, even for an instant
- 1.23 m1 said, casual as a brother should be, Why  
m2-5 said, brotherly casual, "Why
- 1.28 m1-2 plow, had to throw himself beside  
m3-5 plow, threw himself beside
- 15 1.18 m1 with innocence.  
m2-5 with sham innocence.
- 1.26 m1 Usually he was careful to avoid them when talking within earshot of his elders, but frequently he forgot what

- they had termed 'bad' before.
- m2-5 Usually, when talking near his elders, he was careful to avoid phrases that might catch a sensitive adult ear but then he always forgot what they had termed "bad" before.
- 1.29 m1 Puzzling about it now, there really did not seem to be a good way to describe the thunder of the planes except Jackie's way, with a comfortable push on the 'bad' word.
- m2-5 Puzzling now, no really good method of describing the thunder of the planes struck him -- except Jackie's way, with a pleasurable push on the "bad" word.
- 1.36 m1 fly around in
- m2-5 fly 'round in
- 16 1.4 m1 for they knew the answer. So
- m2-5 for the basic answers were known. So
- 1.12 m1 to hurt and kill them first
- m2-5 to do it to them first
- 1.14 m1 had heard it himself since he was a child. "The
- m2-5 had known it himself since he was a child, working the religious idea, among Mennonites always expressed in High German, into the unaccustomed suit of workday English. Somehow, while he was plowing, he could not suddenly speak to his small brother in the smooth German of the church, not even regarding non-resistance. "The
- 1.22 m1 looking. They try to get something without working for it. And finally, when they
- m2-5 looking because they care only for themselves and wish to get all they can without working for it. Finally, if they
- 1.27 m1 'em?" (new paragraph) "Because
- m2-5 'em?" (new paragraph) What next! Yet why not? A long-submerged argument rose in his searching mind. He spoke before he thought, sensing his deviation only as he proceeded: "Because

- 1.33 m1 bad so they themselves and their families won't be hurt and killed." (new paragraph) "Does  
m2-5 bad, so that they themselves and their families won't be hurt and killed --" (new paragraph) Hal did not sense his hesitation. "Does
- 17 1.2 m1 and talking, you're  
m2-5 and gabbing, you're
- 1.7 m1 lad was off over  
m2-5 lad fled over
- 1.9 m1-2 hearing in the trees  
m3-5 hearing among the trees
- 1.10 m1 cup. Edging down a small ridge, over the horses' backs  
m2-5 cup. As the horses eased their pull edging down a small ridge, over their backs
- 1.15 m1 been: the first  
m2-5 been, for during the first
- 1.15 m1 nine years when only an occasional R.C.M.P. officer coming the thirty miles of dirt road from Hainy to check their passports or eventually to bring their naturalization papers reminded them, for the few English moved away as they were bought out and the breeds settled back farther in the wilderness. But  
m2-5 nine years of their settlement at Wapiti when, as the English were bought out and moved away, as the breeds settled back farther into the wilderness, only an occasional RCMP officer, coming the thirty miles of dirt road from Hainy to check their passports or eventually to bring their naturalization papers, had even reminded them of the world. But
- 1.28 m1 go. Doing his work mechanically, he had groped out new patterns of thought for himself, but  
m2-5 go. Since Joseph Dueck had come to teach at Wapiti School the fall before, his friendship with Thom had

unlocked new thought possibilities of which Thom had formerly had no conception. He had been astonished to find that, with arduous effort, he could follow most of Joseph's thinking. On a winter Sunday afternoon, as the heater glowed red and the peaceful sounds of Pa's afternoon sleeping drifted through the curtain of the bedroom door, Thom had stumbled after Joseph's rambles regarding the meaning of existence, the nature of Christianity, the Christian's relationship to his fellow men. During the week, while cleaning the cow-barn or hauling hay to the stock, he would grope through the newly discovered labyrinth of his mind, alternately enchanted and intimidated, but

- 18 1.4 m1 point, for he could  
m2-5 point. He could
- 1.6 m1 again: the Deacon knew, Believe  
m2-5 again: he had been told the truth.  
The church - the Deacon - they knew.  
Believe
- 1.9 m1 could know,  
m2-5 could truly know,
- 1.10 m1 evil, though correct,  
m2-5 evil, if perhaps correct,
- 1.12 m1 Must he always wonder - why not accept  
m2-5 Must he always wonder and try to  
explain? Why not accept
- 1.15 m1 anyway. "Leave it to the fathers,"  
m2-5 anyway. Joseph! "Leave it to the  
fathers,"
- 1.17 m1 and dangled his cramped legs nearly to  
the ground  
m2-5 and flexed his cramped legs forward so  
that they dangled nearly to the ground
- 1.18 m1 It was comfort.  
m2-5 It was sheerest comfort.
- 1.26 m1 world the wounds of heathen  
tank-tracks gaped like death in the  
earth. Plowing

- m2-5 world it was wounded to death by  
slashing heathen tank-tracks. Plowing
- 1.31 m1 and sluffing of  
m2-5 and shuffling of
- 19 1.2 m1 gate to the field behind  
m2-5 gate behind
- 1.3 m1-2 oinking in their huge pen to be fed.  
When  
m3-5 oink-ing to be fed in their huge pen.  
When
- 1.18 m1 only uselessness had  
m2-5 only brute nature had
- 1.19 m1 the heightening heat  
m2-5 the spiraling heat
- 1.19 m1 had done right in  
m2-5 had acted wisely in
- 1.23 m1 tasted clean as  
m2-5 tasted pure as
- 1.26 m1 her before turning back  
m2-5 her; then she turned back
- 1.29 m1 moment. She  
m2-5 moment than the others. She
- 1.30 m1 feeling with  
m2 feeling special importance with  
m3-5 feeling of special importance with
- 1.31 m1 the first back  
m2-5 the early back
- 1.33 m1-2 Now David was across more oceans than  
she could imagine in India, Ernst  
m3-5 Now David was in India, across more  
oceans than she could imagine, Ernst
- 20 1.1 m1 breathed there for  
m2-5 breathed for
- 1.2 m1 the wood-stove.  
m2-5 the kitchen wood-stove.
- 1.6 m1 German, as they always did at home.  
The pale  
m2 German. The peculiar Russian  
Mennonite use of three languages

- caused no difficulties for there were inviolable, though unstated, dogmas as to when each was spoken. High German was always used when speaking of religious matters and as a matter of politeness towards strangers; a low German dialect was spoken in the mundane matters of everyday living; the young people spoke English almost exclusively among themselves. Thought and tongue slipped unhesitatingly from one language to the other. Now, as the pale
- m3-5 German. The peculiar . . . unstated, conventions . . . as a gesture of politeness . . . Now, as the pale
- 1.15 m1 bread and his teeth gleamed in a bite, the smell rising to his head. (new paragraph) "Mr. Block  
m2-5 bread and its warm aroma rose to Thom's head, his teeth crunched through the crust as his mother answered.(new paragraph) "Mr Block
- 1.18 m1 came round to  
m2-5 came to
- 1.20 m1 "We can't give anything now."  
m2-5 "We haven't anything to give now."
- 1.26 m1 he opened the  
m2-5 he cleared the
- 1.27 m1 he came the  
m2-5 he had come, the
- 1.28 m1-2 stood solid forest and  
m3 stood forest  
m4-5 stood as forest
- 1.34 m1 left. Calder was  
m2-5 left. The hamlet of Calder was
- 1.38 m1 north, all around lay virgin sections, enough  
m2-5 north, all around the Mennonite settlement lay virgin sections, heavily wooded, enough
- 21 1.1 m1 And more,  
m2-5 And there would be more,



- 1.8 m1 grimace flitted over  
m2-5 grimace flicked over
- 1.9 m1 walked on. Forty  
m2-5 walked beyond hearing. Forty
- 1.11 m1 The upheaval of the 1920's that drove him  
m2-5 The upheavals of Russian life after 1917 that drove him
- 1.17 m1 Most past knowledge was upset.  
Farming  
m2 Most past standards seemed barely authoritative. Farming  
m3-5 Most past standards seemed barely authoritative. Farming
- 1.19 m1 settle far and  
m2-5 settle farther and
- 1.20 m1 Yet if it had been practical difficulties alone, Wiens  
m2-5 Yet if practical difficulties alone had been involved, Wiens
- 1.22 m1 In Russia, the last of eight boys, behaviour for him had  
m2-5 In Russia, behaviour for him, the last of eight boys had
- 1.24 m1 wrong. Here  
m2-5 wrong. Any situation could be quickly placed in one or the other category. Here:
- 1.26 m1 to Mennonite  
m2-5 to accepted Mennonite
- 1.31 m1 in the whirlpool  
m2-4 in the charybdis  
m5 in the whirlpool
- 1.36 m1 It was his insistance that made them buy out  
m2-5 It was at his insistance that they had bought out
- 22 1.4 m1 With drinking  
m2 With the cattle's drinking  
m3-5 With the cattle drinking
- 1.14 m1 to crush against the closed door in a terror of heaving bodies

- m2-5 to crash against its closed door in a convulsion of bodies
- 1.23 m1 still hung against the bent door  
m2-5 still strained against the cracking door
- 1.25 m1 hand. But even from where  
m2-5 hand. From where
- 1.34 m1 thinking at that moment, the aspect did not matter. He  
m2-5 thinking that aspect of war was of no significance at the moment. He

## Chapter Two

- 23 1.1 m1 Thom had no  
m2-5 Thom received no
- 1.13 m1 grip the twitching  
m2-5 grip Ernst's twitching
- 1.17 m1 mouth gaping, to  
m2-5 mouth plowing, to
- 1.25 m1 down in the middle of the broad back  
m2-5 down on the middle of the speckled back
- 24 1.7 m1 moment he had the hook free  
m2-5 moment the hook was free
- 1.8 m1 leaned back, contented.  
m2-5 leaned to the water, washing his hands, contented.
- 1.15 m1 once fishing  
m2-5 once you're fishing
- 1.20 m1 day."  
m2-5 day too."
- 1.26 m1 he bought a truck used by everyone when needed, but he would not 'waste' money on a fishing line. Thom stared across the bleached water at the  
m2-5 he had bought a truck anyone could use as needed, but he would not 'waste' money on a fishing line. Such a -- Thom could only think of "strong" -- man. His thought slid away, in musing wonder at this one man's aggressive edge, his eyes vacant over the

- bleached water, when abruptly he  
comprehended the
- 25 1.7 m1 sorrow somehow, at  
m2-5 sorrow push in him at
- 1.9 m1 she had never used it  
m2-5 she seemed never to really have lived  
it
- 1.11 m1 Margret: she worked a great deal, yet  
m2-5 Margret; she worked always: the hard  
drudging labour of men, yet
- 1.12 m1 necessity. As  
m2-5 necessity. As far back as Thom could  
recall, she had appeared exactly as  
now, uninvolved, oddly wasted. As
- 1.15 m1 touched Thom.  
m2-5 touched him.
- 26 1.7 m1 cookin'."  
m2-5 cookin' yet."
- 1.9 m1 forward to the  
m2-5 forward towards the
- 1.14 m1 "He'll go on doing what he always  
has."  
m2-5 "He'll do what he always has."
- 1.18 m1 unloading. Only the older men  
remained aloof, watching  
m2-5 unloading. The family men remained  
aloof, as usual, watching
- 1.19 m1 backs. But old Mr. Reimer  
m2-5 backs. Only old Mr. Reimer
- 1.21 m1 Like two teams wanting to get to the  
chop-crib first!  
m2-5 Like two stallions fighting to reach  
the chop-crib first!
- 1.24 m1 The old man stood near the boat, water  
inching at his boots, eyes shining.  
m2 The old man stood near the boat, water  
inching to and fro at his boots, eyes  
shining.  
m3-5 The old man stood near the boat, eyes  
shining, water inching to and fro at  
his boots.

- 1.34 m1 to leave it, quickly,  
m2-5 to drop it, quickly,
- 1.35 m1 never set out to  
m2-5 never wanted to
- 27 1.1 m1 the evil of quarreling was  
m2-5 the cheapness of a quarrel was
- 1.5 m1 answer against the older man's leer,  
half in wit not to be outdone. But as  
soon as the words left his  
m2 answer against what suddenly struck  
him as the pettiness of the other's  
ire, half in wit not to be outdone.  
But as soon as the words left his  
tongue, he knew they  
m3-5 answer; suddenly struck with the  
pettiness of the other's ire, and not  
to be outdone in wit, he spoke, and  
knew as soon as the words left his  
tongue that they
- 1.12 m1-2 home with neither Air Force nor Navy  
nor Army accepting him  
m2-5 home; neither Air Force nor Navy nor  
Army would accept him
- 1.15 m1 didn't wait till  
m2-5 didn't sit around till
- 1.20 m1 decent like -- Heavenly Father, help  
m2-5 decent. To squabble about two fish!  
Heavenly Father, help
- 1.22 m1 back went through him like a charge.  
Franz was beside him, wife hooked to  
his  
m2-5 back shocked through him. Franz, his  
thin face gleaming above the sopping  
shirt, was beside him, wife hooked on  
his
- 1.25 m1 those fish!  
m2-5 those frying fish!
- 1.30 m1 bruisingly; he alone was left to the  
waves' heave and drop, when  
m2-5 bruisingly. The others had vanished;  
he alone was left to the waves' heave  
and drop, when
- 28 1.1 m1 through with their  
m2-5 through their

- 1.4 m1 like a black mass in the back of his thinking. He  
m2-5 like blackness on the rim of his conscience. He
- 1.11 m1 felt its comfort when  
m2-5 felt that comfort when
- 1.13 m1 cud. (new paragraph) "Who's  
m2-5 cud. But now, the lake recalled the school picnic. (new paragraph) "Who's
- 1.22 m1 get away fast  
m2-5 get through fast
- 1.25 m1 the stretch of hard sand  
m2-5 the flat of sand
- 29 1.1 m1 agreement. Old  
m2-5 agreement at the known impossibility. Old
- 1.3 m1 they approached and  
m2-5 they neared and
- 1.16 m1 the verry best,  
m2-5 the verra best,
- 1.19 m1 stuff." (new paragraph) They  
m2-5 stuff." (new paragraph) "It was nice of you to remember us." Thom smiled at the friendly face. (new paragraph) They
- 1.22 m1-2 gum. "Tastes like truck inner-tube," Pete said. (new paragraph) "Probably would, if we had any to chew." Gum and picnics were inseparable. (new paragraph) They  
m3-5 gum. Gum and picnics were inseparable. "Tastes like truck inner-tube," Pete said. (new paragraph) "Probably would, if we had any to chew." (new paragraph) They
- 1.26 m1 poplars, red-wristed hands hanging awkward  
m2-5 poplars, whose red-wristed hands hung awkward
- 1.35 m1 had consciously  
m2-5 had strictly, consciously

- 30 1.2 m1 some three hundred  
m2-3 some four hundred years  
m4-5 some 400 years
- 1.4 m1 which to them was about the same.  
They  
m2-5 which heritage they retained in their  
Low German dialect. They
- 1.5 m1 were truly horrified  
m2-5 were honestly horrified
- 1.7 m1 this. If we should ever turn militant  
---'. (new paragraph) Joseph  
m2-5 this. (new paragraph) Joseph
- 1.8 m1 had first called  
m2-5 had once called
- 1.9 m1 undercurrent. As they passed, Thom  
listened hard, but  
m2-3 undercurrent in Mennonite thinking.  
'Though Mennonites, because of their  
training, naturally abhor violence,  
yet they faintly admire it, somehow,  
in someone who without thought 'hews  
to it'! And if Germans are involved,  
why this unconscious admiration is  
even bolstered a bit by our almost  
nationalistic interest in Germany.  
After all, we are displaced Germans,  
at least ethnically, and though we  
haven't had a true home for four  
hundred years, we subconsciously long  
for one. It will take this war to  
knock any silly German ideas out of  
our heads.' Joseph had laughed his big  
laugh, but not as if he were amused.  
"You'd be surprised how different some  
Mennonites in the south and in  
Manitoba sound now, compared to the  
middle thirties! They had no idea  
what Hitlerism was about." (new  
paragraph) Remembering Joseph's words,  
Thom listened hard as he and Pete  
passed the elderly men, but  
m4-5 undercurrent . . ."Though . . .  
involved, this . . . and because we  
haven't . . . for 400 years . . .  
heads." . . . men, but
- 1.29 m1 They  
m2-5 Then they

- 1.31 m1 tents and tethered horses of the  
Indians camped  
m2-5 tents of the Indians, camped
- 1.33 m1 groups far  
m2-5 groups or moved languidly among the  
tethered horses, far
- 1.36 m1-3 at good land  
m4-5 at any good land
- 1.38 m1 backstop burst into  
m2-5 backstop exploded into
- 31 1.3 m1 that. To Thom, Joseph had mentioned  
his wonder  
m2-5 that. Joseph had once mentioned his  
initial wonder
- 1.7 m1-2 existence became the problem for the  
metis children, not study.  
m3-5 existence, not study, became the  
problem for the Metis children
- 1.10 m1-3 the latter the  
m4-5 the last the
- 1.14 m1 that crammed  
m2-5 that were crammed
- 1.24 m1 but he had resolved not to think of  
it. Herman had better watch himself.  
(new paragraph) Jackie  
m2-3 but he promised Herman not to speak or  
even think of it. Let them find out --  
but it was four months now, and still  
no one -- Thom turned sharply away  
from his thoughts. (new paragraph)  
Jackie  
m4-5 but he had promised Herman not to  
speak or even think of it. Let them  
find out. But it was four months now,  
and still no one--Thom turned sharply  
from his thoughts. (new paragraph)  
Jackie
- 1.27 m1 two boys stepped  
m2-5 two youths stepped
- 1.31 m1-2 older ladies stood  
m3-5 older women stood
- 32 1.1 m1 girls looked  
m2-5 girls in their white print frocks

- looked
- 1.6 m1 seemed some-how different.  
m2-5 seemed different.
- 1.10 m1 the look of  
m2-5 the form of
- 1.11 m1 he felt he would remember forever.  
Pete juggled his  
m2-5 he abruptly felt a lifetime would not  
be long enough to forget. Pete jogged  
his
- 1.12 m1 and they moved behind the  
m2-5 and Thom jerked self-consciously, then  
followed through the
- 1.28 m1 could hardly have conceived how his  
thoughts slipped smoothly into  
tradition when he thought without  
effort. The War disrupted everything.  
m2 could hardly have imagined how  
smoothly his thoughts slipped into  
traditional ways when he thought  
without concentrating. Occasionally,  
after long mulling and searching, when  
concentration would cause only more  
problems, he was wearily content to  
let tradition suffice. The War  
spoiled everything.  
m3-5 could . . . wearily resigned to . . .  
everything.
- 1.38 m1 They would  
m2-5 They too would
- 33 1.6 m1-3 their bodies. As  
m4-5 their faces. As
- 1.11 m1-2 that "whatever he  
m3-5 that "whatsoever he
- 1.28 m1 not that Joseph had attended  
University that  
m2-5 not Joseph's attendance at University  
that
- 1.32 m1-3 to do the traditional thing. He  
m4-5 to behave traditionally. He
- 1.34 m1 Herman was who he was, but for the  
teacher to do that?  
m2-5 Herman had done what he had done, but



the teacher?

- 34 1.10 m1 He said, "I got angry."  
 m2-3 "I got mad."  
 m4-5 "I got mad." (set apart by itself)
- 1.11 m1 "Yes."  
 m2-5 "Yes." Joseph's voice leaped,  
 "Pla-a-y ba-a-all!"
- 1.13 m1 bat drawing a  
 m2-5 bat tracing a
- 1.19 m1 in quickly from  
 m2-5 in swiftly from
- 1.30 m1 pitching and he was fervent for the  
 m2-5 pitching, and he was despairing of the
- 1.31 m1 gone. Then Jacq  
 m2-5 gone. But Jacq
- 1.36 m1 shouts settled, stood  
 m2-5 shouts eased away, stood
- 35 1.20 m1 mumble that which made  
 m2-5 mumble what made no
- 1.36 m1 still twisted soundlessly in the same  
 phrase  
 m2-5 still soundlessly framing the phrase
- 36 1.3 m1 He stood drained at what he had  
 already committed in his mind and the  
 joy of that moment. He could have sunk  
 beyond heaven and hell with gladness  
 into oblivion as the weight of being  
 forever alive and accountable suddenly  
 crushed in upon his void of anger.  
 (new paragraph) "Thom  
 m2-3 He stiffened, aghast at what he had  
 already committed in his mind and the  
 flashing joy of that committal. He  
 could have sunk beyond earth with  
 gladness into oblivion. But he had to  
 stand there, before them all. (new  
 paragraph) "Thom  
 m4-5 He stiffened, . . . sunk with gladness  
 beyond earth into . . . (new  
 paragraph) "Thom
- 1.15 m1 here? Get the game finished - we have  
 to get home to do chores."  
 m2-5 here? Finish the game - we have to get

- home to the chores."
- 1.19 m1 announced: "The  
m2-5 announced clearly: "The
- 1.23 m1 broke.  
m2-5 broke reluctantly.
- 1.37 m1 to remain here  
m2-5 to stay here
- 37 1.2 m1 of the greatest importance  
m2-5 of very great importance
- 1.3 m1 arrange with your  
m2-5 arrange for your
- 1.15 m1 overcome. Now,  
m2-5 overcome. To master yourself! (new  
paragraph) Now,
- 38 1.6 m1 Hankey." (new paragraph) Thom  
m2-5 Hankey." (new paragraph) "Mom aren't  
there any candies left at all?"  
Realization dawned pitifully in Hal's  
voice. (new paragraph) Thom
- 1.9 m1 Then, as he heard Mom talking to Hal,  
who suddenly realized that his  
wanderings had cost him the picnic  
candy, he took the yellow package,  
m2-3 Then, he took the yellow package,  
m4-5 He took the yellow package,
- 1.12 m1 knife. (new paragraph) "We're  
m2-5 knife. (new paragraph) "They handed  
them out before - when you weren't  
here. We're
- 1.21 m1-3 away with his motion  
m4-5 away at the motion
- 1.25 m1 longingly seeing Thom  
m2-5 longingly watching Thom
- 1.29 m1-3 helping for the program  
m4-5 helping with the program
- 1.32 m1 if he did not exist. He turned  
m2-5 if no grown-up existed. Thom turned

### Chapter Three

- 40 1.8 m1 snuffed in

- m2-5 snuffed deeply in
- 1.9 m1 When they halted  
m2-5 When the team halted
- 1.10 m1 girls, who had talked steadily,  
abruptly  
m2-5 girls, whose murmured talk had never  
hesitated, abruptly
- 1.16 m1 horses round  
m2-5 horses, their heads and bodies heavy  
in protest, round
- 1.17 m1 North. Head tilted, he  
m2-5 north. Lax, he
- 1.18 m1 sunlight from the north-west. (new  
paragraph) The  
m2-5 sunlight over the north-west  
cloud-fringe. (new paragraph) The
- 1.20 m1 The hovering  
m2-5 That hovering
- 41 1.4 m1 been instinctive, but now he was aware  
of the world.  
m2-5 been the instinctive agreement he  
always proffered when he could not  
lever his mind to reason, but now he  
grew aware of the world.
- 1.7 m1 road wound to avoid swamps and dry  
mudholes;  
m2-5 road, wound within its limits to avoid  
swamps and dry mudholes,
- 1.9 m1 a roof  
m2-5 a burnished roof
- 1.12 m1 touch. Joseph would have known a  
story to fit this evening. Suddenly  
it struck him, though he had never  
driven like this with a girl, that  
silence was not always necessary.  
Thinking  
m2-5 touch. Suddenly it struck him, though  
he had never driven like this with a  
girl, that silence was not always  
necessary. Joseph would have known a  
story to fit this evening. Thinking
- 1.14 m1 to hear her  
m2-5 to anticipate her

- 1.14 m1 Joseph ever drive you  
m2-5 Joseph drive with you ever
- 1.23 m1 she brought in  
m2-5 she drew in
- 1.35 m1 When work  
m2-5 When, rarely, work
- 1.36 m1 around occasionally where  
m2-5 around where
- 1.37 m1-2 home, there  
m3-5 home, working, there
- 42 1.1 m1 its short spring  
m2-5 its brief spring
- 1.5 m1 want. He  
m2 want. "The horses are always used -  
it's so far - " He  
m3-5 want. "The horses are always used -  
it's no fun -" He
- 1.7 m1 himself. (new paragraph) "Mennonite  
women belong in the home so they say.  
And even men  
m2-5 himself. "Who has time? Mennonite  
women belong in the home, so they say.  
And I rather think that that's a  
better place than many others one  
reads about, or hears about on the  
radio. Ten years from now, it will  
probably be changed with us too. Now  
even men
- 1.18 m1 ditch on to the  
m2-5 ditch into the open moonlight of the
- 1.23 m1 the trees swallowed  
m2-5 the tree-gloom swallowed
- 1.32 m1 the film  
m2-5 the thin film
- 1.35 m1-2 for clever speech  
m3-5 for dramatic speech
- 1.35 m1 Occasionally the reporter could say  
nothing at all when the sounds drowned  
all. It  
m2-5 Occasionally, when the sounds drowned  
all,

the reporter could say nothing. It

- 1.38 m1-3 listen as men  
m4-5 listen while men
- 43 1.1 m1 none knew  
m2-5 none really knew
- 1.2 m1 announcer gagged,  
m2-5 announcer choked,
- 1.4 m1 report was over and he had gone out,  
his mind choked, the  
m2-5 report had been cut abruptly and he  
had gone out, his mind clogged, the
- 1.8 m1 savagely. (new paragraph) They  
m2-5 A marvelous invention, radio. (by  
itself)
- 1.16 m1-3 talked like that about  
non-resistance, before  
m4-5 talked as he did about non-resistance  
before
- 1.23 m1 and, knowing it, he stopped at the  
last turn under the jack-pine and  
stood aside. "You  
m2-5 and he stood aside at the last turn  
under the jack-pine. "You
- 1.25 m1 No farther."  
m2-5 No more."
- 1.34 m1 below. The moon, thin but enough, hung  
in the north-west, and beyond a line  
of trees, like shrubbery in the depth,  
lay the broad wanness of the muddy  
river, emerging from nowhere under the  
moon to  
m2-5 below. Beyond a line of trees, like  
shrubbery in the depth, lay the  
immense wanness of the muddy river,  
emerging from nowhere under the thin  
north-west moon to
- 44 1.1 m1 Reservation crouched among the stars  
m2-5 Reservation were sketched against the  
stars
- 1.23 m1 flexed, intent to  
m2-5 flexed, tense to
- 1.26 m1 hair framed the

- m2-5 hair shadowed the
- 1.29 m1 It thins out soon."  
m2-5 It thins soon."
- 1.32 m1 guess we better stay away from it  
then."  
m2-5 guess then we better stay away from  
it."
- 45 1.2 m1 and then they  
m2-5 and soon they
- 1.22 m1 he sat down  
m2-5 he hunkered down
- 1.23 m1 She sat down farther on the rocks,  
doubled up, clasping  
m2-5 She sat down farther, her white dress  
pale against the grey rocks, clasping
- 1.28 m1 he could remember one point. (new  
paragraph) "If  
m2-5 he voiced the one point he recalled  
having pondered. (new paragraph) "If
- 1.30 m1 speaks historically, I  
m2-5 speaks from history, I
- 1.31 m1 a minority. But  
m2-5 a small group. But
- 1.32 m1 Does what is done show us the  
Christian ideal? (new paragraph) "But  
m2-5 Does what has happened in the world  
show us what a Christian should do?  
Or does the Bible? (new paragraph)  
"But
- 46 1.3 m1 faith?" (new paragraph) There  
m2-5 faith?" (new paragraph) As she spoke,  
his remembrance of the talk by the  
rippled lake grew, to his discomfort.  
There
- 1.5 m1 with that. He  
m2-5 with what she, and Joseph, said. He
- 1.9 m1 or is dead himself. That's  
m2-5 or he's dead. That's
- 1.10 m1-3 another -- it's just, and  
m4-5 another. It's only, and

- 1.14 m1 usefulness. If.  
m2-5 usefulness as witness to Christianity.  
If
- 1.18 m1 reason we fled to Canada was  
m2-5 reason our parents fled to Canada -  
why our fathers left Holland and  
Prussia - was
- 1.20 m1 it?" (new paragraph) He  
m2-5 it?" What will you and I do, now that  
we, in our turn, have no country to  
fly to for protection? "He
- 1.23 m1 he said, not  
m2-5 he fumbled, not
- 1.25 m1 him, (new paragraph) "I  
m2-5 him. "Oh, I'm not -- really, I  
couldn't accuse anyone. So many did  
die in Russia. Of the thousands who  
streamed to Moscow with us, only a few  
hundred left for freedom. That our  
families escaped is only God's mercy  
and we can be eternally thankful. But  
the world is only so big: there comes  
a time when you must make a stand."  
Her voice-timbre deepened as he  
remembered his mother's words about  
'overcoming'. "I
- 1.34 m1 refusal? And  
m2-5 refusal - by mere avoidance? And
- 1.38 m1 Christ guide us?  
m2-5 Christ lead us?
- 1.38 m1 He demands, not reasonableness -- as  
the right to return a blow -- but  
rather holiness -- a refusal of all  
violence. It  
m2-5 He doesn't ask something reasonable --  
as the right to return a blow -- but  
He expects holiness, a denial of all  
force. It
- 47 1.2 m1 a comfortable priesthood and become a  
hunted minister.  
m2-5 a fat priesthood and become a hounded  
minister.
- 1.4 m1 The deep bass  
m2-5 The bass

- 1.7 m1 packages. And in some ways Menno  
m2-5 packages. There is a sure-fire  
traditional way of acting for almost  
every situation you can imagine. But  
in some ways - in some situations -  
Menno
- 1.14 m1 difference is it at  
m2-5 difference does it make at
- 1.16 m1 radio? The result is the same." (new  
paragraph) "The result, yes, but  
m2-5 radio? You're killing both times."  
(new paragraph) "The result is the  
same, yes, but
- 1.19 m1 it. Father  
m2-5 it. We can't avoid it. Father
- 1.24 m1 being transferred to  
m2-5 being shifted to
- 1.33 m1 stone far into the  
m2-5 stone against the
- 1.34 m1 pool. His  
m2-5 pool. But it did not splash. It  
skipped beautifully in its flatness,  
dropping gently with a final plop into  
a far gleam of water. His
- 48 1.1 m1 again. Did you have to think of these  
things? There  
m2-5 again. Must these things be thought  
of? There
- 1.5 m1 poison. He  
m2-5 poison: having once seen the problem,  
he could never forget it. That was  
what made thought so frightening. (new  
paragraph) He
- 1.14 m1 sad. "We  
m2-5 sad. A verse arose in his mind with  
startling clarity: "But Jesus Christ  
said, 'Love your enemies, bless them  
that curse you, do good to them that  
hate you, and pray for them which  
despitefully use you and persecute  
you. For if you love them which love  
you, what reward have you? Do not  
even the publicans so?'" (new  
paragraph) "Yes, He said that," she  
returned, and silence lengthened



between them. Four hundred years before that verse had been the guiding star of their fathers, but somehow, through the centuries, they had worked it into an impasse. He wondered thinking of Wapiti's isolation whether now they could even be termed as loving their friends. (new paragraph)  
"We

- 1.28 m1 they went back as  
m2-5 they returned as
- 1.32 m1 her hair.  
m2-5 her simply coiled hair.
- 1.32 m1 moon gleamed naked  
m2-5 moon hung naked
- 1.35 m1 pine. There was not the cry  
m2-5 pine; there was no cry
- 1.35 m1 to nag them. In this moment behind  
the hedges of France he knew that men  
m2-5 to nag. He knew that in this moment  
behind the hedges of France men
- 49 1.5 m1 trail an agreement between  
m2-5 trail were a covenant between

#### Chapter Four

- 50 1.1 m1 On Sunday a church meeting had been  
unexpectedly called for the immediate  
Monday night. (new paragraph) They  
were singing the opening hymn, the  
voices  
m2 On Sunday a church meeting had been  
abruptly called for the immediate  
Monday night. (new paragraph) In the  
warmth of the June evening, they were  
singing the opening hymn, voices  
m3-5 A church meeting, abruptly called on  
Sunday for the immediate Monday night,  
was beginning. (new paragraph) In the  
warmth of the June evening, they were  
singing the opening hymn, voices
- 1.5 m1 intense in worship.  
m2-5 intense.
- 1.6 m1 his throat, Thom discerned Mr. Wolfe's  
lean face on the next bench, gazing as  
though he knew all and was present

merely to confirm that knowledge. The man had never been known to open his mouth in song. As Thom glanced at the hymn-book for the last verse, Wolfe caught his eye for an expressionless instant, and in that gaze the worship vanished for Thom. Momentarily it seemed each person in the building stood separate, crying out to an unknown in the worship of The One. He himself was done, blowing inanely in the empty air. He glared at the familiar words, disgusted at his own shallowness. Everyone knew that Wolfe, unerringly picking some rumour from the wind, came only to those church meetings where someone was about to 'get into trouble'. To be affected by that! (new paragraph) Pastor

m2-5 (Wiebe added two and a half pages of text at this point in his revision - page 50, l.7 to page 52, l. 24. It is not practical to reproduce these pages here, but the changes between these additional pages and the final version of the published novel are indicated.)

Revision notes from - his chest, Thom

- |    |      |      |  |
|----|------|------|--|
|    | 1.7  | m2   | was lifted   |
|    |      | m3-5 | was raised   |
| 51 | 1.5  | m2   | point the what seemed to him huge hole   |
|    |      | m3-5 | point what seemed to him a huge hole   |
|    | 1.10 | m2   | men. Numbing in  |
|    |      | m3-5 | men. Numb in   |
| 52 | 1.5  | m2   | be beyond  |
|    |      | m3-5 | be something beyond  |
|    | 1.25 | m1   | yourselves', and then all arose to echo in their thoughts his prayer.  |
|    |      | m2-5 | yourselves'. Hearing that solemn warning, Thom could hardly doubt what the sudden reason for the church meeting might be, but the serene brotherliness about him was reassuring. Their church did not have quarrels: the problem would be solved and the matter concluded. Thankful, he rose with the others, to echo in his thoughts the Pastor's prayer. |

- 1.38 m1 any matter  
m2-5 any church matter
- 1.38 m1 the fourteen years  
m2-5 the years
- 53 1.6 m1 for general  
m2-5 for doctrinal and general
- 1.7 m1 its seventeen thousand  
m2-5 its fifteen thousand
- 1.10 m1 was a solid rock on which to stand.  
Not  
m2-5 was solidarity itself. Not
- 1.15 m1 into haziness; the  
m2-5 into hazy reminiscence; the
- 1.16 m1 day. A pause lengthened  
m2-3 day. Despite Joseph's hard analysis,  
the events Thom had experienced in  
this building were sacred to him.  
David's ordination for mission work in  
India: when old Brother Janz,  
conference moderator, had come from  
the south and David and Nettie had  
knelt on a grey blanket beside the  
shiplap pulpit after they had pledged  
themselves to God's service. He  
remembered how David had risen, hair  
rumpled by the Reverend Janz's  
unsteady hand, and prayed with the  
triumphant intensity of absolute  
dedication until Thom could only  
breathe to himself, overcome, "Holy,  
holy is the Lord." Two years later,  
he and Pete and Frieda Martens had  
been baptized: the entire  
congregation, except for the oldest  
ladies riding in the bennett-wagon,  
had climbed up from the creek below  
the church where the baptism had taken  
place, singing in sombre harmony, "My  
God, I am persuaded, forever I am  
Thine." Pastor Lepp had led them in,  
they three had knelt to be accepted  
into the church, then Frieda had sat  
down on the ladies' side, Pete and he  
on the men's, to receive the Lord's  
Supper for the first time. Finally,  
he had bent his head at Franz Reimer's  
hand-clasp, received on his cheek the

- rough kiss, and heard the old man say,  
"Welcome, my son. God Bless you!"  
(new paragraph) A silence lengthened  
m4-5 day. Despite . . .oldest women riding  
. . . lengthened
- 54 1.3 m1 felt cheap. Could a church in the  
Canadian bush be periodically roused  
to interest only by something wrong  
within it? He  
m2-3 felt almost cheap for them. The  
church was meant for greater things!  
He  
m4-5 felt cheap for them. The Church was  
meant for greater things! He
- 1.9 m1 gathering like this has  
m2-3 gathering like this for the young  
people alone has  
m4-5 gathering for the young people alone  
like this has
- 1.16 m1 clarified, so the Church  
m2-5 clarified. There is no need for  
ungodly gossip to develop. The Church
- 1.20 m1 What exactly was the objection, Thom  
puzzled. Perhaps the lateness of some  
getting home! But Mom had said  
nothing; the Lepps would never object  
publicly. Young Franz rose  
m2-5 The exact objections would come  
shortly, Thom knew, but who could  
possibly have complained? Everyone  
had been so moved. Young Franz,  
slender face peaked in seriousness,  
rose
- 1.32 m1 learned when  
m2-5 learned at home when
- 1.33 m1 or discovered in the harmony  
m2-5 or learned in the moving harmony
- 1.36 m1 pacificism, disturbing questions,  
m2-5 pacificism, probing questions,
- 55 1.2 m1 gray-bearded face  
m2-5 grey mustached face
- 1.4 m1 matter. The issues  
m2-5 matter. Two definite issues
- 1.7 m1 Her questions would

- m2-5 Her questions -- and his own -- would
- 1.8 m1 Joseph. (new paragraph) "In  
m2-5 Joseph, but also vast relief, for what  
he himself had so long hesitated to  
mention would now be bared to all.  
(new paragraph) "In
- 1.27 m1 stirred. "Could  
m2-5 stirred expectantly. "Could
- 1.28 m1 that everyone know  
m2-5 that the church know
- 1.30 m1 feel the eyes of the church turn  
m2-5 feel all eyes turn
- 1.34 m1 A loudness  
m2-5 A slight loudness
- 1.35 m1 the Board,  
m2-5 the council,
- 56 1.14 m1 with Thom snorted uncontrollably, and  
then ducked  
m2-5 with Thom, snorted uncontrollably,  
and quickly ducked
- 1.17 m1 chairman, evaporated the  
m2-5 chairman, snapped the
- 1.18 m1 of laughter,  
m2-5 of overt laughter,
- 1.22 m1 and the shuffling gait of John, the  
caretaker, came up the aisle  
m2-5 and John, the caretaker, shuffled up  
the aisle
- 1.31 m1 dictionary wrapped him  
m2-5 dictionary gripped him
- 1.32 m1-2 that here --- Rempel  
m3-5 that in this connection? Rempel
- 57 1.2 m1 damaging against  
m2-5 damaging to
- 1.22 m1 length; Old  
m2-5 length; when they whipped their jaded  
horses into a Mennonite yard to buy  
eggs or a few sacks of seed grain,  
there were always youngsters to  
interpret. Old

- 1.25 m1 German. Now  
m2-5 German and all his store wares were labelled by a half Low-German, half English jargon anyway. Now
- 1.30 m1 people appeared a carefully planned accident  
m2-5 people could easily appear a well-planned accident
- 1.32 m1 meanings. Tension  
m2-5 meanings. Or perhaps any meaning! Tension
- 1.33 m1 church: 'Give the young people an inch and- -.' Thom  
m2-3 church: 'Just give the young people an inch!' Despite his tightening concern, Thom  
m4-5 church: "Just give the young people an inch!" Despite his concern, Thom
- 1.37 m1 four of them in  
m2-5 four in
- 58 1.3 m1 also. This  
m2-5 also. How can we dare keep the gospel to ourselves? This
- 1.14 m1 it, but he himself moved his head only slightly when his glance crossed with Wolfe. Thom had never before seen the lean face with an expression of 'Well, this is more interesting than I had dared hope.' Thom  
m2-5 it. He had moved his head only slightly when his glance crossed with Rempel. Beyond the surprised indignity of the older man's gaze there stirred pain. One could not doubt his sincerity. Thom
- 1.17 m1 pulpit.  
m2-5 pulpit, torn.
- 1.24 m1 There would  
m2-5 As, in the years of their growing up together, Thom had comprehended the difference between their fathers, how he had envied Pete. Prompt, accurate decisions, always perfectly confident of direction and purpose; small wonder Pete would be so rock-like in his

- belief; there would
- 1.29 m1 through. And for  
m2-5 through. Yet now, for
- 1.31 m1 agree.  
m2-5 agree with all.
- 59 1.17 m1-2 Christ is this  
m3-5 Christ in this
- 1.18 m1 new things  
m2-5 new enticing things
- 1.34 m1 here -- and  
m2-5 here -- I worked them out in German  
anyway -- and
- 1.37 m1 ideas concerning war in  
m2-5 ideas in
- 60 1.2 m1 and all  
m2-5 and toward all
- 1.4 m1 followers do not assert their  
m2-5 followers have not asserted their
- 1.5 m1 are ready  
m2-5 have always been ready
- 1.6 m1 neighbours. And history  
m2-5 neighbours. History
- 1.15 m1 answer. Having a  
m2-5 answer. Giving a
- 1.27 m1 Joseph gagged; the  
m2-3 Joseph's voice was muffled; the  
m4-5 Joseph's voice was snuffed; the
- 61 1.15 m1 we all suddenly professed  
m2-5 we all, on the instant, professed
- 1.20 m1 crashed the Deacon  
m2-5 charged the Deacon
- 1.24 m1 that - - -"  
m2-5 that we should do - -"
- 1.25 m1 slit the speech,  
m2-5 slit Thom's speech,
- 1.30 m1 recognized Aaron Martens.  
m2-5 recognized the high voice of Aaron

## Martens.

- 1.33 m1 not accuse one another."  
m2-5 not accusations."
- 1.36 m1 strong.  
m2-5 strong. "What have you done for them?"
- 1.38 m1 rose to calm, "we want to believe the young brother that what he said he believed to be the truth.  
m2-5 rose in calmness, but the lines of his face seemed more deeply scored, "such shouting and personal reprimands are most unbecoming to a church meeting held among Christians. We wish to discuss this most serious matter, true, but in love, as Christ behooves us. We all, old as well as young, want to believe our brother that what he said at the lake he
- 62 1.11 m1 firm: "I gladly and wholly agree with that.  
m2-5 firm: "I ask pardon for my impulsive words. And I gladly and wholly agree with Brother Lepp.
- 1.16 m1 was being almost fiendishly abused here.  
m2-5 was being abused here.
- 1.18 m1-3 where he had nothing to ask it about.  
m4-5 where there was nothing to forgive.
- 1.29 m1-2 can you think  
m3-5 can I think
- 1.35 m1 Christ-like. I had not planned to say any more as the school-board is not yet informed, but  
m2-5 Christ-like. But we Mennonites, everyone of us, are not better than other men. There can be no other reason for our being spared war duty and possible death on the battlefield than that we are to be so much better witnesses to Christ here at home. Understanding the truth only brings with it greater responsibility of action. (new paragraph) "I had not planned to say any more, but



- 63 1.4 m1 let me add that my army call, which was postponed during last winter because of teaching, has come again and I will leave after June 30 for training in the Restricted Medical Corps.
- m2-5 let me clarify my position. I hope someone will be willing to carry on the Sunday afternoon Bible class that I began with the non-Mennonite children in school, for my army call, which was post poned during last winter because of teaching -- as was explained to the School Board when I came, I was really only 'on loan' from the draft -- my call has come again and I must leave on June 30. I will go into training in the Restricted Medical Corps.
- 1.14 m1 I cannot - - - - lose  
m2-5 I find I cannot - - - - lose
1. 15 m1-3 not there. I  
m4-5 not here. I
- 1.16 m1 giving my  
m2-5 giving a bit of my
- 1.21 m1 silence. He only caught a look from Wolfe vaunting with knowledge. It seemed  
m2-5 silence. Everyone in Wapiti knew and agreed with the Deacon's strong stand against the medical corps service, but it had been ratified by the Canadian Conference despite the opposition. But now Thom cared nothing for what amounted to Joseph's final drastic break with Block's concepts. It seemed
- 1.25 m1 he crawled alone  
m2-5 he staggered alone
- 1.26 m1-3 over waste horizonless dunes  
m4-5 over horizonless dunes
- 1.27 m1 directions. Then he  
m2-3 directions. Where could one go? (new paragraph) Then he  
m4-5 directions. Where could one go? (new paragraph) He

- 1.31 m1-3 he knew that it  
m4-5 he knew it
- 1.35 m1 "Amen", he suddenly remembered that  
m2-5 "Amen," his mind could only dully  
comprehend that
- 1.37 m1 questions. He could not recall their  
having been talked about.  
m2-5 questions. They had not even been  
considered.

**SUMMER 1944: Prelude**

- 64 1.2 m1 long outline lay  
m2-5 long shape lay
- 1.3 m1 the curled one in the bunched darkness  
where the rafters closed their jaw  
squeaked the straw.  
m2-3 the small curled one in the bunched  
darkness where the rafters closed  
their jaw squeaked the straw-tick.  
m4-5 the small curled one, in the bunched  
darkness where the rafters closed  
their jaw, squeaked the straw-tick.
- 1.6 m1 they felt  
m2-5 the two felt
- 1.7 m1 the window.  
m2-5 the screened open window.

**Chapter Five (earlier titled Chapter One of Summer 1944)**

- 66 1.2 m1 Nance rocked  
m2-5 Nance, flirting her tail to the  
morning flies, rocked
- 1.4 m1-3 To just live  
m4-5 Just to live
- 1.17 m1 away after them.  
m2-5 away.
- 1.20 m1 dung. In  
m2-5 dung, staring at his gallop. In
- 1.24 m1 caring at their  
m2-5 caring about their
- 1.26 m1 easily found the hole.  
m2-5 easily discovered the hole.

- 1.28 m1 father who had questioned him, face  
m2-5 father, who had questioned him at  
breakfast, face
- 67 1.2 m1 eating. "They rub on the rail, break  
it, and then walk through, getting a  
back-rub from the wire."  
m2-5 eating. "If they rub on the rail long  
enough, it finally breaks and then  
they scrape through, getting a good  
back-rub for their warbles from the  
wire."
- 1.11 m1 back against  
m2-5 back on the bench, against
- 1.15 m1 and we have to --" (new paragraph) "I  
know he's  
m2-5 and we have to be especially careful  
not to annoy him. Perhaps, if we're  
lenient enough --" (new paragraph)  
"Mom, we have been lenient and I know  
he's
- 1.19 m1 fencing. If  
m2-5 fencing. Everyone made the rules. If
- 1.21 m1 himself, as if he was excusing himself  
for having a good oat-field, but just  
told Herb to get that bottom wire on,  
--"  
m2-5 himself. He doesn't have to excuse  
himself for having a good oat-field --  
just tell Herb to get that bottom wire  
on like --"
- 1.27 m1 Hal charged out. In  
m2-5 Hal slid along the bench from behind  
the table and, scrambling over Thom,  
charged out the screen door. In
- 1.29 m1 family finished eating.  
m2-5 family continued eating.
- 1.32 m1 looking up from  
m2-5 looking away from
- 1.33 m1 that reached  
m2-5 that was reaching
- 1.33 m1 bread. "I wouldn't go near his  
place." (new paragraph) "Stop  
m2-5 bread. "That's not my business." (new

paragraph) "Stop

- 1.35 m1 voice bumped loudly. "I'll  
m2-5 voice broke in. "I'll
- 1.37 m1 the farm?"  
m2-5 the whole farm?"
- 1.38 m1 said anything more.  
m2-5 said more.
- 68 1.1 m1 but for himself that meeting in church  
had meshed many unconsidered  
circumstances into place.  
David and Ernst managing the farm; Pa  
as church secretary always agreeing  
with church policy -- which originated  
with Block alone; Pa  
m2-5 but since the church meeting, for him  
many unconsidered circumstances meshed  
into place. Beyond his boyish need  
for solidarity, he now comprehended  
more fundamental weaknesses in his  
father. David and Ernst managing the  
farm; Pa as church secretary, though  
he occasionally murmured mild  
objections at home, always agreeing  
with church policy --policy originated  
almost exclusively with Block; Pa
- 1.8 m1-3 how it would  
m4-5 as it would
- 1.9 m1 reputation. To consider  
m2-5 reputation. To be a true Christian,  
must one always agree? Until now, to  
consider
- 1.11 m1 had to Thom seemed like wavering of  
his own faith until now. But  
m2-5 had seemed to Thom like the wavering  
of his own faith. But
- 1.13 m1 wavered in  
m2-5 wavered and said nothing in
- 1.15 m1 Joseph's words at departure  
m2-5 Joseph's departure
- 1.28 m1 trunk home sometime  
m2-5 trunk to the folks sometime
- 1.32 m1 then, skirts  
m2-5 then, milking skirts

- 69 1.4 m1 yourself. This is a colony; you get hemmed in here -- lose all perspective. Outside the Mennonites live and act a bit differently." They stared at
- m2-5 yourself. At least you use modern machinery and wear ordinary clothes; you haven't fallen into the pitfalls of some Mennonites who almost equate Christianity with a certain cut and color of clothing, prayer caps and beards, but if you keep on insisting on the German language and tie your belief to cultural expressions, I wonder. In some ways you're so progressive here, and in others you're still so like a colony, so much under one man's -- Thom, you personally are hemmed in -- physically -- you lose all perspective. There are Mennonites in the south -- too many -- who live in settlements as you people here, but others are getting away from this 'physical separation' idea. They are living out our common faith. And they do it better, I believe, than you are here, because it reacts and comes alive in contact with people who do not have it. Of course there are big problems too, but those spring up everywhere. If you could only come and see -- " Both stared at
- 1.27 m1 silence. "I'll write to you -- tell you what it's like."
- m2-5 silence. "I'm convinced you'll do very well with the Bible Class, Thom. Remember to watch Jackie Labret -- the others always take their cue from him. I tried to sound out Pastor Lepp again, just last night. I'm certain if you talked to him, say, someday at work, man to man, he would give you some help with the lessons, unofficially, of course, but he'll help. And I'll write to you from camp, tell you what it's like."
- 1.34 m1 (new paragraph) Hold only to that which is good.
- m2-5 (new paragraph) Get Pastor Lepp's assistance. Hold only to that which is good.

- 1.36 m1-2 plate in sweeps of brown bread  
m3-5 plate with brown bread
- 1.38 m1 slid down the bench to get up.  
m2-5 slid down the bench and got up.
- 1.38 m1 "I'll see Herb  
m2-5 "I'll drive and see Herb
- 70 1.6 m1 sky. As Old Lamont shuffled out,  
streaming his ignored chatter, to take  
the weekly mail bag, the  
m2-5 sky. He wore, instead of the usual  
overalls, demin trousers and a  
tan-checked shirt. As Old Lamont  
shuffled out to take the weekly mail  
bag, streaming ignored chatter about  
the Indians bringing in a fresh load  
of seneca roots, the
- 1.11 m1 store-porch, not thinking his usual  
business thoughts. Last  
m2-5 store-porch. He was not occupied with  
usual business thoughts; last
- 1.16 m1 they had nodded  
m2-5 they nodded
- 1.17 m1 Deacon re-framed his great hope in his  
thoughts. He  
m2-5 Deacon mentally re-framed his great  
hope. He
- 1.22 m1 Canada. But, if the children could be  
taught enough  
m2-3 Canada. Therefore, if the children  
could be taught just enough  
m4-5 Canada. If the children could be  
taught just enough
- 1.25 m1 for it.  
m2-5 for such knowledge.
- 1.27 m1 the world and yet believed the  
m2-5 the way of the world and yet adhered  
strictly to the
- 1.29 m1 his iced logic  
m2-5 his glacial logic
- 1.33 m1 nipped? But  
m2-5 nipped? At the church meeting -- but

- 1.35 m1 town toward the railroad shack. As  
m2-5 town to stand near the unused railroad shack chatting. Block waited by the cream cans. As
- 71 1.1 m1 the length  
m2-5 the short length
- 1.20 m1 the cans  
m2-5 the empty cans
- 1.23 m1 his boyhood  
m2-5 his early boyhood
- 1.33 m1 he knew not where. As swiftly  
m2-5 he did not know where, stumbling over rails and cinders. As swiftly
- 1.36 m1 going!" He knew not where to turn, the shut doors on that side of the train stretching  
m2-3 going! Where? -- the doors shut above his head, the freight cars stretching  
m4-5 going! Where? The doors shut above his head, the freight stretching
- 72 1.1 m1-2 front, stupid -- Move!"  
m3-5 front to the outside, stupid! Move!"
- 1.2 m1 He looked up  
m2-5 He glanced up
- 1.2 m1 usual bearded  
m2-5 heavy bearded
- 1.3 m1 knew that, though this man controlled the monstrous machine, he was only a Russian. With out  
m2-5 knew that this man who controlled the monstrous machine was only a Russian, like all the rest. Without
- 1.5 m1 flinch, the boy turned and walked past the nozzle, dripping water to hiss on the tracks,  
m2-5 flinch, he turned rigidly and walked past the nozzle, which dripped hissing water on the tracks,
- 1.24 m1 came, rather hesistantly  
m2-5 came, almost hesitantly
- 1.30 m1 window. "You  
m2-5 window, one foot still on the running

- board. "You
- 73 1.6 m1 sharply: we'll have to be careful  
with him -- temper. To  
m2-3 sharply: we must go carefully with  
him. He's far from the church. To  
m4-5 sharply. We must go carefully with  
him. He's far from the church. To
- 1.13 m1 get in. We'll go see Unger."  
m2-5 get in." He pulled in his leg and  
slammed the door. "We'll go see the  
old Unger."
- 1.14 m1 road towards the old Unger place.  
m2-5 road, away from Herb's quarter.
- 1.15 m1 The rolling  
m2-5 Wiens, relieved of initiative, mused,  
"It's odd how some boys turn out so  
decently and others -- always against  
grain." (new paragraph) "Depends on  
the home," Block said curtly. (new  
paragraph) "I suppose." After a  
pause, Wiens ventured, "Yet look at  
Unger's youngest boys. Probably apply  
for baptism this summer -- fine boys.  
And the two oldest --" (new paragraph)  
"That's true." Block offered a rare  
insight into his knowledge of the  
community, "When Ungers first came to  
Wapiti, if his boys fought with anyone  
in school, Unger would whip them for  
it that very evening when they came  
home." (new paragraph) "Fight?" Wiens  
was astonished. "My boys never fought  
in school!" (new paragraph) Block  
smiled faintly. "Ask Helmut -- or  
better yet, Jackie Labret." He  
continued, thoughtful, "After a  
certain age you can't whip a boy very  
well. They have to know who's who  
before you reach for the whip." (new  
paragraph) The rolling
- 1.35 m1 Block gauged the green  
m2-5 Block estimated the width of the green
- 1.38 m1 Wiens, who had been looking at the  
field also, asked  
m2-5 Wiens, sitting erect abruptly and  
looking at the field, asked
- 74 1.16 m1 drove. The glimpses between the trees,



- pushing through the rows of rocks  
edging the fields, showed dust-clouds  
and reels of seagulls  
m2-5 drove, the glimpses through the trees,  
that pushed between the rock-ridges  
edging the fields showed dust-clouds  
and reels of gulls
- 1.22 m1 shabby, while the  
m2-5 shabby and the barn
- 1.22 m1 squall of squawking chickens  
m2-5 squall of chickens
- 1.32 m1 in the Mennonite 'Forstei' bush camps  
of Russia. (new paragraph) "Morning.  
m2-5 in the "Forstei" bush camps of Russia  
where the Mennonites had worked in  
lieu of military service. (new  
paragraph) "Morning.
- 1.38 m1 be behind  
m2-5 be a bit behind
- 75 1.3 m1-3 two oldest sons  
m4-5 two eldest sons
- 1.13 m1 with a payment  
m2-5 with that first payment
- 1.19 m1 to boil the  
m2-5 to stir the
- 1.32 m1 Wiens gazing in  
m2-5 Wiens staring in
- 76 1.26 m1 glance flitting from  
m2-5 glance flicking from
- 1.30 m1 into his coarse Low German  
m2-5 into Low German
- 1.33 m1 "Wait!" Block broke in. "Think  
m2-5 "Wait," Block broke in calmly, across  
Unger's obvious defeat, "think
- 1.38 m1 glared for  
m2-5 glared at the Deacon for
- 77 1.20 m1 me last day  
m2-5 me the other day
- 1.22 m1 that -- I can't --"  
m2-5 that money. I can't -"

- 1.27 m1 week." Against Herb's antipathy Block  
 m2-3 added, trying for friendship, "We all  
 week." Even as he spoke, the Deacon  
 realized that Herb, if always proven  
 completely wrong in his actions  
 towards others, could only harden in  
 his antipathy towards those who  
 levelled accusing fingers. The man  
 needed help. Yet Block found himself  
 strongly at a loss: he hesitated,  
 then tried for reasonableness, "No one  
 can do anything without other people's  
 cooperation. And we all
- 1.35 m1-3 said suddenly, "That  
 m4-5 said abruptly, "That
- 78 1.10 m1 been agreeable enough.  
 m2-5 been pliable enough.

Chapter Six (earlier titled Chapter Two of Summer 1944)

- 79 1.3 m1 Through the reaching branches of the  
 trees, hung wispy with hay clawed from  
 homeward passing racks, sprayed the  
 morning sunlight. New  
 m2-5 Morning sunlight sprayed through the  
 reaching branches of the trees, hung  
 wispy with hay clawed from homeward  
 passing racks. New
- 1.17 m1 bound feeling it reach  
 m2-5 bound, feeling the song reach
- 1.24 m1 sand of a  
 m2-5 sand up a
- 80 1.2 m1 Russia. There was something in the  
 Bible about valleys  
 m2-5 Russia. Somewhere in Isaiah it spoke  
 of valleys
- 1.5 m1 He grinned. He was thinking like  
 Elijah, shivering  
 m2-5 He grinned, thinking of yesterday  
 afternoon's Bible lesson, one that had  
 even impressed Marie Moosomin and  
 Jackie Labret, concerning Elijah  
 shivering
- 1.20 m1 water stretching  
 m2-5 water that stretched

- 1.24 m1 the frost-breathing  
m2-5 the hoar-breathing
- 1.28 m1 the sound of the rhythm  
m2-5 the rhythm
- 1.29 m1 popped, the dew  
m2-5 popped, dew
- 1.31 m1 up, jumped over the rail  
m2-5 up, swung over the rack-rail .
- 1.37 m1 His trousers  
m2-5 His blue-denim trousers
- 81 1.5 m1 hay. The grass taller with each step,  
Thom could  
m2-5 hay. Thom, each step into taller  
grass, could
- 1.13 m1 grass they knocked down in showers of  
dew, the ground began to ease away.  
When  
m2-5 grass, which they knocked down in  
showers of dew, the ground began to  
ease away under the men's feet. When
- 1.15 m1 foot-prints. (new paragraph) "No  
m2-5 foot-prints while grass-blades bent  
ponderously erect, one by one. (new  
paragraph) "No
- 1.34 m1 life without hard  
m2-3 life except hard  
m4-5 life beyond hard
- 1.37 m1 mother. In work, where  
m2-5 mother. Hacking a farm out of the  
wilderness demanded strong women as  
men, but once comparative security was  
reached -- in work where
- 82 1.4 m1 He waited for Pete who stood looking  
south, trying to gauge  
m2-5 He glanced at Pete, who stood looking  
south, absorbed in gauging
- 1.30 m1 year." Staring  
m2-5 hear. Odd you haven't hit it with the  
mower." Staring
- 1.33 m1 reckoned everything young  
m2-5 reckoned places young

- 1.34 m1 re-mold things to  
m2-3 re-mold them to  
m4-5 re-mould them to
- 83 1.2 m1 then. From enforced habit of avoiding  
that scene, still  
m2-5 then. His enforced habit of avoiding  
that scene asserted itself and, still
- 1.13 m1 of old crones. A  
m2-5 of an old crone. A
- 1.32 m1 trees at the activities of the meadow.  
Everywhere he looked, blotches  
m2-5 trees. Wherever his eye probed over  
the meadow, blotches
- 84 1.2 m1 of the world  
m2-5 of their Canadian world
- 1.6 m1 it. But beyond that, his own lightning  
annoyance which, in the moment, he had  
scorned to disguise,  
m2-3 it. They had once had such times!  
They had spent every Sunday last  
summer together. His mind reverted  
inevitably to the early fall, almost a  
year ago now, when they had spent the  
Sunday afternoon inspecting Block's  
new steel-lug tractor. Though he was  
conscious that he could somehow never  
return to such a Sunday afternoon, in  
his memories it remained a delight.  
Even when Pete, having rallied his  
courage to advance on the house and  
ask, had been refused permission to  
start the tractor, yet the pleasure  
had grown as, in the shelter of the  
granary, they had cranked to test the  
"kick", muscled the heavy steel  
steering wheel around, and in every  
imaginable way edged to the very point  
of starting it. When Mrs. Block  
halloed from the house, the signal for  
changing and getting the cows, they  
had paused, their only white shirts  
grease-streaked and Pete's forehead  
slightly gashed where he had stumbled  
against a lug, and grinned at each  
other. Where was that friendship?  
(new paragraph) Sharply, he recalled  
that Joseph had arrived in Wapiti a  
week later. And that now, with the  
Bible class at school, he no longer

- had time to visit Sunday. The mower-clamour called him back. He had to acknowledge that now his own lightning annoyance which, in the moment of throwing the skull he had scorned to disguise,  
 m4-5 it. They . . . visit on Sunday . . . disguise,
- 1.29 m1 any rousing  
 m2-5 any slightly rousing
- 1.34 m1 discovered the stories of Greek  
 m2-5 discovered Greek
- 85 1.1 m1 Omnipotence, stealing  
 m2-5 Omnipotence and stealing
- 1.5 m1 body was like  
 m2-5 body, seemed to him suddenly like
- 1.8 m1 yet fitted perfectly  
 m2-5 yet it fitted with fearsome perfection
- 1.10 m1-3 would he be able to comprehend  
 m4-5 could he comprehend
- 1.14 m1 mower twisted abruptly  
 m2-5 mower staggered and balked abruptly
- 1.15 m1 back, and he jerked hard on the reins.  
 m2-5 back hard. As he jerked quickly on the reins, he heard a crack.
- 1.24 m1-3 him a hundred yards away  
 m4-5 him some distance away
- 1.24 m1 he unhitched the  
 m2-5 he unhooked the
- 1.32 m1 knife." (new paragraph) "You never know how trouble gets here, but you're sure to find it!" Thom  
 m2-5 knife." (new paragraph) "A person never knows how trouble gets around the way it does, but it manages to keep most people occupied." Thom
- 86 1.4 m1 be. Perhaps we better draw it out altogether."(new paragraph) They  
 m2-5 be. Do you think we should draw it out altogether?" (new paragraph) "Yes. And it would be easier to work on that finger if you

- had the bar upright." (new paragraph)  
They
- 1.9 m1 "Okay." They  
m2-5 "Okay." Thom went around and lifted  
the bar erect. They
- 1.12 m1 snapped easily  
m2-5 snapped very easily
- 1.12 m1 fix it."  
m2-5 fix this."
- 1.15 m1-3 Thom, knuckles broken from a slipped  
wrench  
m4-5 Thom, a knuckle barked from a slipped  
wrench
- 1.18 m1 up, the young man said,  
m2-5 up, Thom said,
- 1.22 m1 "That's just the trouble. I've  
m2-5 The short and almost chilly question  
brought Thom to himself. The Pastor's  
friendly assistance and workday  
clothes had not invited rudeness. (new  
paragraph) "I'm sorry, sir, I just  
asked the question out of the blue  
like that. It was rather rude of me.  
But living here all my life is just  
the problem. I've
- 1.29 m1 what it means.  
m2-5 what that means.
- 1.37 m1 Thom tested the bolt, listening.  
m2-5 Thom rapped the bolt, listening.
- 87 1.1 m1 God's revealed word. Whatever  
m2-5 God's recorded revelation to man.  
Whatever
- 1.3 m1 so. If - - -"  
m2-5 so."
- 1.4 m1 Thom, interrupted, "Does  
m2-5 Thom asked, mind aroused, "Does
- 1.6 m1 slowly, "I'm sorry -- I said that  
wrongly. The Bible is nothing  
particular without Christ. He makes  
the Bible a divine book. So if  
m2-5 slowly, but warmly, "I don't know if  
that question can be rightly asked.

Without Christ the Bible loses all uniqueness, for everything it speaks of centers in Christ. In the sense that Christ is God's complete revelation and that Christ's words are recorded in the Bible, in that sense Christ makes the Bible a divine book. So to get back: if

- 1.16 m1 earth. If He is  
m2-5 earth. Since He is
- 1.17 m1 knocked at the finger  
m2-5 knocked the finger
- 1.18 m1 wrench.  
m2-5 wrench, testing.
- 1.35 m1 for example, are  
m2-5 for example," he asked, confident of his direction now, "are
- 88 1.2 m1 itself. It  
m2-5 itself. God did not use it to speak to Adam in the Garden! It
- 1.3 m1 "Yes --- but  
m2-5 "Yes," the mention of the Deacon diverted Thom's thoughts from his original intention, "but
- 1.12 m1 buys tractors ---"  
m2-5 buys a tractor and everyone agrees it's very fine ---"
- 1.26 m1 meadow. He himself occasionally thought that Block's harping on uniform behaviour -- he glanced  
2-5 meadow. He glanced
- 1.32 m1 Pastor. (new paragraph) "Thanks very  
m2-5 Pastor, wondering how he could begin again. He said, slowly, conventionally, (new paragraph) "Thanks very
- 1.38 m1 "Thanks."  
m2-5 "Thanks." How could he ask?
- 89 1.1 m1 "Everyone has difficulties, -- I  
m2-5 The Pastor paused in his turn, thoughtful, then spoke rapidly, as from impulse: "Everyone has difficulties -- I

- 1.3 m1 you. Yet others can be a guide to you  
in their behaviour."  
m2-5 you. (Wiebe inserted two and a half  
pages of revisions at this point. It  
is not practical to include so much  
text, but the discrepancies between  
these revision notes and the published  
novel are listed below.)
- 1.26 m2-3 them. He said they hardly knew who  
Jesus was when he began. You  
m4-5 them. He said that when he began they  
hardly knew who Jesus was. You
- 90 1.15 m2-3 continued  
m4-5 continued, after a moment,
- 1.31 m1 Thom watched the retreating back of  
Annamarie's father. He wondered why  
the Pastor added those last words, as  
if he had to reassure himself.  
m2-5 As Hal trotted up, gasping questions,  
Thom's eyes followed the retreating  
back. He had seen, heard, talked to  
the Pastor times without number, but  
he could not remember having met him  
before. Annamarie's father.

**Chapter Seven (earlier titled Chapter Three of Summer  
1944)**

- 91 1.11 m1 church, we haven't had anything there  
either."  
m2-5 church, there's nothing to disturb  
us."
- 1.12 m1 "With  
m2-5 "Of course. With
- 1.12 m1 happen? The  
m2 happen? Everything's "all right" with  
our world." The  
m3-5 happen? 'All's right' with our  
world." The
- 1.15 m1 "Thom sometimes gets a letter from  
him. About  
m2-5 "Margret continued, unheeding, "Thom  
sometimes gets a letter from Joseph.  
About
- 1.20 m1 Annamarie's last question festering  
slightly.



- m2-5 Annamarie's inflection festering.
- 92 1.12 m1 beyond Poplar  
m2-5 beyond Herman Paetkau's lonely farm  
and Poplar
- 1.16 m1-3 of the razed  
m4-5 of razed
- 93 1.13 m1 uncle in the First War was called up  
into the United States Army  
m2-5 uncle -- he lived in the States then  
already -- was called up into the  
United States Army
- 1.30 m1-3 come home!  
m4-5 be home!
- 95 1.4 m1-3 drive beyond  
m4-5 drive of two months ago beyond
- 1.7 m1-3 had on the youth.  
m4-5 had had on the youth.
- 1.8 m1-3 arose with  
m4-5 arose now with
- 1.22 m1-3 either was impossible.  
m4-5 either task was impossible.
- 1.31 m1-3 older stuck  
m4-5 older and equipped with adequate  
intuition, stuck
- 1.32 m1-3 tenaciously. At last Hal  
m4-5 tenaciously. Finally Hal
- 96 1.1 m1-3 right at her. It's  
m4-5 right on top of her. It's
- 1.12 m1 hollow among  
m2-5 hollow they had traversed among
- 1.14 m1 the chimney  
m2-5 its chimney
- 1.23 m1-3 two hundred and fifty  
m4-5 250
- 1.26 m1 Trudie's superiority  
m2-5 Trudie's habitual superiority
- 1.29 m1 he had considered having her cook and  
wash dishes, but

- m2-3 he had succumbed to her obvious advantages as cook and dish washer, but
- m4-5 he had succumbed to the obvious asset of a cook and dish washer, but
- 97 1.7 m1 Trudie quickly shifting into  
m2-5 Trudie, shifting swiftly into
- 1.17 m1 saddle, gun  
m2-5 saddle, at the gun
- 1.24 m1-3 hangin'  
m4-5 hanging
- 1.31 m1 Herb  
m2-5 Without a word, Herb
- 98 1.5 m1 he felt that  
m2-5 he was thinking that
- 1.6 m1-3 life-time would not suffice, when they heard the snort of an approaching horse.  
m4-5 life time would not suffice to see her, when the snort of an approaching horse marred the quiet.
- 1.9 m1 Without particularly trying, Thom had avoided Herb since the picnic two months before. Herb drew rein near them, looking silently at the girls, and Thom longed suddenly for his friendship. He said, smiling, "Hello,  
m2-5 Without particularly trying to avoid Herb, Thom had not encountered him since the picnic two months before. Herb now drew rein near them, looking in silence at the girls, and Thom suddenly comprehended a shade of this man's need. Here was a man as lost and forlorn as the half-breed children that squirmed tousle-haired and ragged on the school seats every Sunday afternoon. Concerning the beginning of their antipathy, Thom could not remember anything, except that childish matter about the two fish and his own even more childish behaviour at the ball game. How a mole-hill mushroomed. He said, smiling, longing for friendship, "Hello,
- 1.22 m1 returned, "No,

- m2-5 returned without a look, "No,
- 1.28 m1-3 anyone, except her mother in that  
paralyzed moment, that  
m4-5 anyone except her mother that
- 1.28 m1 had asked  
m2-5 had once asked
- 1.32 m1 where roses  
m2-5 where faintly-pink roses
- 1.35 m1 she comprehended, the question pushed  
into her shock stunningly. He  
m2-5 she understood, the question pushed  
stunningly into her shock. He
- 99 1.4 m1 stretch tenuously in  
m2-5 stretch thin and snap in
- 1.6 m1 fled. And she did not know how  
m2-5 fled. (new paragraph) She had no  
inkling of how
- 1.10 m1-3 berries. She  
m4-5 berries. Now she
- 1.32 m1 and we've got no complaints. What  
m2-5 and we haven't complained. What
- 100 1.3 m1 whole damn church  
m2-5 whole confounded church
- 1.20 m1 see them grouped  
m2-5 see the three grouped
- 1.25 m1 I'm sorry for it."  
m2-5 I'm very sorry for it now."
- 1.27 m1 to the  
m2-5 towards the
- 1.28 m1 day -- oh, hello,  
m2-5 day. I hear you're already tryin' it  
on the breeds - oh, hello,
- 101 1.2 m1 had made  
m2-5 had possibly made
- 1.6 m1 a choked instant,  
m2-5 a brief choking instant
- 1.11 m1 Annamarie, hearing the fading  
hoof-beats but looking after Thom's

tall figure retreating to the wagon with the berries, could only think, It won't do, Thom. Repression is not enough.

m2-5 Annamarie, the fading hoof-beats drumming in her ear, looked after Thom's tall figure retreating to the wagon with the berries, and she could only think, You've started, Thom. But you will have to let go more -- much more.

**Chapter Eight (earlier titled Chapter Four of Summer 1944)**

- |     |      |      |   |
|-----|------|------|---|
| 102 | 1.11 | m1-3 | contain the sound   |
|     |      | m4-5 | absorb the sound  |
|     | 1.18 | m1   | the darkness.   |
|     |      | m2-5 | the summer darkness.  |
|     | 1.19 | m1   | on the plaster,   |
|     |      | m2-5 | on the white-washed plaster,  |
| 103 | 1.4  | m1   | had been  |
|     |      | m2-5 | had finally been  |
|     | 1.17 | m1   | at the ridiculousness of his  |
|     |      | m2-5 | at his  |
|     | 1.18 | m1   | know about such things.   |
|     |      | m2-5 | know about the problems that arose where a man and a woman were concerned.                  |
|     | 1.20 | m1   | people's lives. How   |
|     |      | m2-5 | people's intimate affairs. They had to set the line somewhere, he supposed. How             |
|     | 1.25 | m1   | Margret. And  |
|     |      | m2-5 | Margret, for the church had to decide what stand it would take. And                         |
|     | 1.28 | m1   | member.   |
|     |      | m2-5 | member. They would soon know enough.  |
| 104 | 1.1  | m1   | dominated. They had both known -- wanted it known what Herman Paetkau had done. But neither |
|     |      | m2-5 | dominated. Both he and Herman Paetkau had wanted it known what Herman had done, but neither |
|     | 1.6  | m1   | anything. Thom  |

- m2-3 anything. Knowing Mennonite rigidity regarding man-woman relations, the breeds had probably had many a laugh at Mennonite expense during those seven months. Thom
- m4-5 anything. Knowing the Mennonite's rigidity regarding . . . months. Thom
- 1.21 m1-3 Star  
m4-5 Nance
- 1.21 m1-3 rubbing him down  
m4-5 rubbing her down
- 1.22 m1-3 broke open a  
m4-5 broke into a
- 1.24 m1-3 Give him a  
m4-5 Give her a
- 1.34 m1 Come on!"  
m2-5 Com'mon!"
- 1.38 m1 the sky.  
m2-5 the long sky.
- 105 1.5 m1 for she had been struggling in an upper class in Wapiti when he entered Grade one, and left school shortly after.  
m2-5 for when he entered grade one she had been struggling in an upper class in Wapiti and had left school shortly after.
- 1.17 m1 understand that it should. She  
m2-5 understand. She
- 1.19 m1 Thom said, hesitant,  
m2-5 Thom ventured quickly,
- 1.21 m1 and wanted to drop in for a minute to warm up -- those crazy wolves ---"  
m2-5 and, since I was so far from home and about chilled through -- those crazy wolves ---"
- 1.24 m1 a day  
m2-5 a hard day
- 1.25 m1 me as much as you  
m2-5 me more than you
- 1.31 m1 a laugh

- m2-5 a ringing laugh
- 1.37 m1 a young shaver.  
m2-5 a little shaver.
- 1.37 m1 left. But everyone  
m2-5 left -- sorry for myself, I guess,  
mostly. Everyone
- 106 1.1 m1 wife. Instead of returning  
m2-5 wife. Because of the war, instead of  
returning
- 1.3 m1 had had to remain in northern India  
and  
m2-5 had had to accept a brief holiday in  
northern India, and
- 1.6 m1-3 even his own parents (Herman being a  
grown man when he came to Canada,  
thirty-seven or eight years old, as  
Wiens told him evasively later, he  
really belonged among them.) seemed to  
avoid the lonely bachelor.  
m4-5 even his own parents, seemed to avoid  
the lonely bachelor. Herman was a  
grown man when he came to Canada,  
thirty-seven or -eight years old, as  
Wiens told him evasively later; he  
really belonged among them.
- 1.10 m1-3 told him.  
m4-5 had told him.
- 1.24 m1 wooden arm of the rocker which  
m2-5 wooden rocker-arm which
- 1.25 m1 nail one day many years before when he  
had been terribly angry at his mother  
for some small-boyish thing, he  
m2-5 nail once many years before during a  
small-boyish fit of temper, he
- 1.31 m1-3 stove, her serenity as she knitted  
like his mother's late on a winter  
Saturday night when the heater cracked  
and  
m4-5 stove knitting, her serenity like his  
mother's late on a winter Saturday  
night when the heater cracked, and
- 107 1.9 m1 added, "Two days later she went home  
and  
got her stuff. She

- m2-5 added, "She
- 1.11 m1 "Yes." Her voice was gentle, without  
m2-5 "Yes." She spoke gently, without
- 1.14 m1 occasional mosquito that could not understand that summer was gone, droning on the screens in the last flicker of day, could not know, nor had he known as he sat in that kitchen, brilliant from sun on snow, the whole depth of humanity the bachelor  
m2-5 occasional lost mosquito droning on the screens in the last flicker of day, wrestling with that day when he had sat in the small kitchen, brilliant from sun on snow, caught a vantage of the human depth the bachelor
- 1.18 m1 sentence. For Herman, alone since his aunt and uncle died in their first year at Wapiti, to have another human being with him in  
m2-5 sentence. Herman had lived alone since his aunt and uncle died in their first year at Wapiti. For him to have another person in
- 1.23 m1 he grew conscious of her whom he had merely considered the Moosomin-girl-who-gets-the-milk,  
m2-5 he must have grown conscious of her whom, as he had laughingly put it, he had before merely considered as the "Moosomin-girl-who-gets-the-milk,"
- 1.25 m1 storm stirred life. As  
m2-5 storm must suddenly have seemed a thrust into humanity. As
- 1.27 m1 her, with the comb from his wash-stand, soothing  
m2-5 her, perhaps with the comb from his wash-stand soothing
- 1.29 m1 shape sprouted the long-buried longings in him, whose very existence in the fabric of his mind he had forgotten. He fed the stock, almost floundered in the sting of the storm. They ate supper in silence. As they sat in the wavering light of the coal-

oil lamp, the storm shrieked in a tone of brightening inevitability. (new paragraph) Days later he suddenly thought of the rumours rampant for many years, and that night he abruptly asked her. She turned her rounded Cree face to him. "Herman, it's not true." And he knew her true. It was as if they had both been pushed into humanity when that blizzard broke. (new paragraph) Not knowing these things, then or now, Thom could only feel revulsion

m2-5 shape began to stir the long-buried longings in him, longings whose very existence he had probably forgotten. (new paragraph) The remembered look on Herman's face had said that, and "more". What that 'more' was, Thom could not capture, but Herman's words hammered now as they could not before because he had promised to forget the whole incident: "Those three days of the blizzard, I read the Bible with her. She knew nothing of it, really. Yet she'd kept herself clean -- those rumours were just the jealousy of the men with whom she would have nothing to do. I asked her. And Thom, every night, when I heard her stirring there in the bedroom as I lay here on the kitchen floor, I knew that that storm was God's blessing on both of us." (new paragraph) On that February afternoon, not having then thought about these matters, Thom had only felt instantaneous revulsion

- 108 1.7 m1 conscience persisted.  
m2-5 conscience insisted.
- 1.8 m1 was, supposedly, a member  
m2-5 was a member
- 1.9 m1 live with any  
m2-5 live alone with and then marry any
- 1.11 m1 man, avoided  
m2-5 man, as good as avoided
- 1.17 m1 "We were in Hainy two weeks ago and the J.P. married us.  
m2-5 "We drove to Hainy when the storm let up and the J.P. married us."



- 1.20 m1 That exceeded  
m2-5 That had exceeded
- 1.21 m1 thinking bogged,  
m2-5 thinking had bogged,
- 1.22 m1 illogicalness.  
m2-5 illogic. Even now, his mind rebelled,  
blindly.
- 1.32 m1 aisle, spurning aside  
m2-5 aisle, thrusting aside
- 109 1.13 m1 had bothered going to the cathedral at  
all. To thank for what?  
m2-5 had gone to the cathedral. Could one  
kneel and thank God for having killed  
more of the enemy than they had been  
able to kill of you?
- 1.18 m1-3 voice said,  
m4-5 voice asked,
- 1.24 m1 "They fought  
m2-5 "They argued
- 1.28 m1 There has to be  
m2-5 There must be
- 1.33 m1 their unexpectedness. As his father's  
shape pushed into the room, Thom  
explained the day in February  
m2-5 their unawareness. His father's shape  
pushed into the room as Thom explained  
the day in February
- 1.36 m1 a Christian can't go living with a  
half-breed and then after two weeks  
get married to her and still stay in  
the church.  
m2-5 a Christian can't just up and marry  
any person the storm blows into his  
house.
- 110 1.1 m1 "So what's he to do with her then?  
Say he's not married to her?" (new  
paragraph) "It's not supposed to  
happen in the first place." (new  
paragraph) "Thom,  
m2-5 "So what's he to do then? Tell her to  
stay out and freeze because if she  
comes into the house he may not be  
able to control himself? And why

shouldn't he marry her? (new paragraph) She had lanced him to the quick. Why should Herman not have married Madeleine? The reason lay painfully open now: she was a half-breed, and a Mennonite just did not marry such a person, even if she was a Christian. He stared at the bared thought. Despite this summer's work with the breed children every Sunday afternoon, he suddenly knew that he had not yet seen them as quite human. At times a glimmer of it had been there, but not reality. Abruptly his vague relief at the last Bible class of the summer the Sunday before rose to his memory in stark, dreadful simplicity. Public school was beginning within a week, and he was relieved to conclude the summer lessons because if one of the children had become a Christian, what would he have done with that child? Had he even taught them as if they were capable of belief? (new paragraph)  
"Thom,

- 1.18 m1 Wiens interrupted, "Why  
m2-5 Wiens spoke into his heavy silence,  
"Why
- 1.19 m1 about it?  
m2-5 about your visit?
- 1.21 m1 never say anything? You should have  
been there tonight ---"  
m2-5 never mention anything to us? You're  
almost twenty; you should have come  
tonight and explained what you knew."
- 1.27 m1 bed. After the eruption in June, life  
had been getting peaceful again. His  
thinking with the radio drumming had  
tired him. He did not want to say  
anything. How could he explain why he  
had agreed to silence when Herman had  
said, as he mounted that winter day.  
m2-5 bed. He was suddenly prostratingly  
tired. Having pried so deeply into  
his own subconscious and having  
recognized such monsters there, he now  
wanted to say nothing. How could he  
now explain, even to himself, why he  
had agreed to silence when Herman had

- said, as he mounted Nance that winter day,
- 1.33 m1 We'll be living here together; anyone  
m2-5 We'll be living here; anyone
- 111 1.2 m1 lonely. And more. Madeleine sealed  
m2-5 lonely? And more. Though he had never admitted it to himself, Madeleine had sealed
- 1.4 m1-3 she was,  
m4-5 that she was,
- 1.16 m1 Canada concerning which  
m2-5 Canada regarding which
- 1.17 m1 acted nobly and  
m2-5 acted as nobly as they knew
- 1.18 m1 fear. She had become a woman with a living soul as she spoke, and he  
m2-5 fear. For a few moments, she had become a person to him as she spoke, and unwittingly acting on that comprehension, he
- 1.21 m1 He said, "I  
m2-5 Now, understanding for the first time, he seized the simplest half-truth, "I
- 112 1.14 m1 talked. As if he wanted Herman just plain dragged in the mud and --"  
m2-5 talked. He wanted Herman just plain hauled through the mud, if he could only find enough. Why couldn't they do what Mr Lepp suggested--talk to her and if she is really a Christian let the matter stand?"
- 1.20 m1 boots, "No talking like that! A church has to know where to draw the line. You can't have just anything happening." (new paragraph) "But why did he do it like that, after Herman explained and went out?  
m2-5 boots, "Lepp's a good preacher, but I wonder where the church would go if he had his way. A church has to know where to draw the line. You can't just have anything happening and pat it down with a few nice labels." (new paragraph) "Mr Lepp didn't want to bend any principle. And why did the

Deacon do it like that, after Herman explained and went out?

- 1.18 m1 then."  
m2-5 then. Hmm -- that was a hard winter."
- 1.30 m1 "And  
m2-5 Mrs Wiens said, "And
- 114 1.6 m1 "It's sad  
m2-5 "It's certainly sad
- 1.15 m1 "That's the way  
m2-5 "That's exactly the way
- 1.19 m1-3 "It's a sad enough story.  
m4-5 "It's a sad story.
- 1.34 m1 "What should he do -- after fourteen  
years of being ignored?  
m2-5 "What should he do? Mennonites  
ignored him for fourteen years.
- 115 1.6 m1 and the probing whine of a lost  
mosquito on the screen. The  
m2-5 and on the window screen the probing  
whine of a mosquito that could not  
understand that summer was gone. The
- 1.16 m1 Herman living with a breed  
m2-5 Herman having to be expelled from the  
church for living with a breed
- 1.25 m1 clear what went on there even before  
they were married. Take his side ---"  
m2-5 clear that we'll never know what went  
on there before they were married."  
(new paragraph) "Can't you take the  
man's word? What would he gain by  
lying --"
- 1.29 m1 we have to go to bed."  
m2-5 we should be in bed."
- 1.31 m1 "Yes, I'm sleepy." Wiens  
m2 Wiens said, as if suddenly weary,  
"Yes. Gret, get the lamp for  
reading." (new paragraph) As Margret  
moved into the kitchen, the three in  
the livingroom sat silent again. Thom  
stared unthinkingly at the black bulge  
of the radio. A match burst in the  
kitchen. Margret re-entered and they  
sat in the wavering light of the coal-

oil lamp, staring at their laps, as Wiens thumbed through the worn Bible. He read, in slow German, without comment: (new paragraph) "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for our's only, but also for the sins of the whole world. And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked. Brethern, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning." (new paragraph) After a pause, Wiens placed the Bible beside him on the couch. "It's after eleven. We'll stand and I'll pray alone tonight." (new paragraph) His head bowed to his father's prayer, Thom vowed, Immediately after I get back from the harvest crew, I'll start the Bible class again. The Sunday after. (new paragraph) When his brief prayer was completed, Wiens

m3-5 Wiens said . . . anyone sin . . .  
Wiens

- 116 1.17 m1 bedroom. "It's after eleven. -- Mother, did you put the church papers in the cupboard?"  
m2-5 bedroom. "Don't stand around long. Mother, did you put the church papers in the cupboard?"
- 1.20 m1 Mrs. Wiens moved  
m2-3 Mrs. Wiens picked up the lamp and moved  
m4-5 Mrs Wiens picked up the lamp and moved
- 1.21 m1 Thom arose stiffly and stood by the open window, half-leaning on the radio. The sky was clear like a great dusky band,

m2-5 Thom turned slowly to half lean on the  
radio. Through the open window, the  
sky looked clear like a great dusky  
band,

**Chapter Nine (earlier titled Chapter One of Autumn 1944)**

120 1.22 m1 as they had come in  
m2-5 as they rode in

1.24 m1 lord, her luck to be tossed among a  
bunch of queers two  
m2-5 Her luck to be dropped two

1.37 m1 so careful to  
m2-5 so concerned to

1.38 m1 Razia found she  
m2-5 Razia sensed, very strangely for her,  
that she

121 1.6 m1 her.  
m2-5 her -- on Sunday afternoon.

1.10 m1 of, in mentioning they  
m2-5 of, when he mentioned they

1.21 m1 her coiffure, brushed  
m2-5 her hair, brushed

1.28 m1 words bogged on  
m2-5 words caught on

1.37 m1 instant. Then he stepped in as she  
turned, deliberate in the slight swing  
of her skirt. His  
m2-5 instant. His

122 1.5 m1 She stopped by the stove,  
m2-5 She stepped to the stove,

1.18 m1 shyness was gone while  
m2-5 shyness vanished while

1.24 m1 laughed to the kitchen's peal, "I  
m2-5 laughed, "I

1.27 m1 kitchen had seemed to have vanished.  
"Once  
m2-5 kitchen had evaporated. "Once

123 1.3 m1 houses (Lord, he'll  
m2-5 houses. (He'll

- 1.6 m1 You --"  
m2-5 You know --"
- 1.7 m1 He said nothing, as if her thought had never occurred to him before.  
m2-5 Looking at her, he said nothing, as if the thought she expressed had never occurred to him before.
- 1.9 m1 and looked towards  
m2-5 and his eyes shifted towards
- 1.23 m1 help in pulling out one of the two bolts that held  
m2-5 help. While he held the pole steady, she pulled out the bottom bolt of the two that held
- 1.25 m1 posts while he held the pole steady, then lowered it to  
m2-5 posts. He then lowered the pole to
- 1.27 m1 and then raised it again. The other pole was wired to  
m2-5 and again hoisted it aloft. The other aerial pole was wired to
- 1.33 m1 acknowledgement. In her confidence, she did not invite him to a cup of coffee,  
m2-5 acknowledgement. So she did not invite him to a cup of coffee,
- 1.36 m1 she lounged against the door-jamb, his glance slid across her  
m2-5 she leaned in the open doorway, his glance slid down her
- 1.37 m1 half-joking, to hold it, "How  
m2-5 half-joking, "How
- 124 1.2 m1 her tightly as  
m2-5 her as
- 1.9 m1 That was not, quite, what 'Papa' had said.  
m2-5 That was not quite what "Papa" had explained so carefully.
- 1.11 m1 miles away, the Deacon was bindering green-feed.  
m2-5 miles from school, the Deacon was bindering the last of his green-feed.

- 1.25 m1 also. A  
m2-5 also: it forced some to camps, some to a denial of their fathers' pacifist position. A
- 1.34 m1 Russia in the dread that if he was left  
m2-5 Russia. The need for the community had grown to be a driving imperative to him as his dread increased that if he were left
- 125 1.2 m1 necessary.  
m2-5 necessary. He shifted his thoughts to the necessities of the coming weeks of threshing work.
- 1.4 m1 tangled  
m2-5 now tangled
- 1.5 m1 escape despite forcing  
m2-5 escape by forcing
- 1.10 m1 than partake in  
m2-5 than participate in
- 1.14 m1 as individual he was sufficient unto himself.  
m2-5 as an individual he was not sufficient to himself.
- 1.16 m1-3 he was sent  
m4-5 he had been sent
- 1.18 m1 groups, isolated month after month subjected  
m2-5 groups, in a desperate attempt at amusement during month-long isolation, subjected
- 1.22 m1 kindly man  
m2-5 kindly older man
- 1.26 m1 resistance. He splashed out of his wrappings in the slivered ice of the horse-trough and shivered to sleep under his coat. Morning brought their  
m2-5 resistance. He felt himself drop sharply; he flung out his arms and almost choked in the wall of water that seemed to collapse on him. He splashed out of his wrappings in the slivered ice of the horse-trough and, returning to the absolute quiet of the



- bunkhouse, shivered to sleep under his coat. Morning brought only their
- 1.34 m1 have forgotten him, but  
m2-5 have accepted him for several solicitously and quite needlessly advised him on the sharpening of his axe, but
- 126 1.2 m1 leg jabbed before him;  
m2-5 leg stuck swiftly before him;
- 1.4 m1 Heinz. Block  
m2-3 Heinz, staring the low laughter of the gang at their comrade's bruised shin into silence. Block  
m4-5 Heinz, staring into silence the low laughter of the gang at their comrade's bruised shin. Block
- 1.28 m1 heave, it jerked out;  
m2-5 heave, he jerked it out;
- 1.29 m1 about. Unlooking, he  
m2-5 about. With no more regard than if they were stumps, he
- 127 1.17 m1-4 and Mongol frozen  
m5 and Bashkir frozen
- 1.18 m1 For Block, into the climax of seven years harrowing there  
m2-5 Suddenly, for Block, in this climax of seven years' harrowing, there
- 1.32 m1-2 heavily at him.  
m3-5 heavily to him.
- 1.38 m1 to recall the  
m2-5 to hear the
- 128 1.7 m1-4 and Mongol villages  
m5 and Bashkir villages
- 1.10 m1 the tiny red  
m2-5 the curled red
- 1.13 m1 1922. Knowing the Mennonites had pooled their resources and that they were non-resistant,  
m2-5 1922. Since the Mennonites were known to have pooled their resources and were openly non-resistant,

- 1.18 m1 depredations; whom they captured they  
beat unmercifully. A  
m2-5 depredations; they beat unmercifully  
whoever they captured. A
- 1.22 m1-3 relief from the Mennonites of America  
by spring,  
m4-5 relief by spring from the Mennonites  
of America,
- 1.33 m1-4 "The Mongols."  
m5 "The Bashkirs."
- 129 1.14 m1 He had seen babies that died of  
hunger, heard the thin cry that slowly  
stretched away.  
m2-5 He had seen babies starving: seen the  
arms that lay like twigs; heard the  
thin cry that slowly stretched away.
- 1.24 m1 strode to where lived the leader of  
the protective association.  
m2-5 strode toward the house of the  
protective association leader.
- 1.25 m1-4 two Mongols prying  
m5 two Bashkirs prying
- 1.27 m1 a deserted barn,  
m2-5 a long-deserted barn,
- 1.33 m1 pillars as their shadows  
m2-5 pillars while their shadows
- 1.35 m1 Block's commands restraining  
m2-5 Block's authority restraining
- 1.36 m1 The boy spoke from the gloom.  
m2-5 The boy quavered from the gloom.
- 1.37 m1-4 The Mongol  
m5 The Bashkir
- 130 1.1 m1 man confessed that  
m2-5 man gasped out that
- 1.2 m1 in the booty  
m2-5 of the booty
- 1.2 m1 boy. Other names of Mongols  
m2-4 boy. Names of Mongols  
m5 boy. Names of Bashkirs
- 1.17 m1 We'll carry

- m2-5 We can carry
- 1.27 m1-4 Mongols  
m5 Bashkirs
- 1.32 m1-4 Mongols  
m5 Bashkirs
- 131 1.4 m1-4 Mongol  
m5 Bashkir
- 1.11 m1 The Mongol dropped with barely a moan  
when he hurled  
m2-4 The Mongol collapsed to the hard snow  
with barely a moan when Block hurled  
m5 The Bashkir collapsed to the hard snow  
with barely a moan when Block hurled
- 1.12 m1 They stalked  
m2-5 The three men
- 1.14 m1-4 Mongol  
m5 Bashkir
- 1.14 m1 sleigh. Block turned him over with his  
foot. He  
m2-5 sleigh. With his worn boot, Block  
poked at him. He
- 1.26 m1-2 or even the ten Mongols  
m3-4 not even the ten Mongols  
m5 not even the ten Bashkirs
- 1.32 m1 child. It was the remembered swollen  
face of the Mongol with the thread of  
spittle frozen to his cheek. He had  
killed him with his own hand.  
m2-4 child. It was the remembered way the  
Mongol's whole body had squeaked over  
rigid on the snow when he prodded it  
with his foot, the thread of spittle  
frozen across its swollen face. With  
his own hand he had killed him.  
m5 child. It . . . the Bashkir's whole  
. . . him.
- 132 1.3 m1 years, driven to all to be an  
m2-5 years, driven to innumerable massive  
efforts, alone, that he might be an
- 1.6 m1 to leave for Canada  
m2-5 to find exit to Canada
- 1.9 m1 in a

- m2-5 in what he saw as a
- 1.17 m1 stoked.  
m2-5 stoked unceasingly.
- 1.25 m1 home.  
m2-5 home for milking.

**Chapter Ten (Chapter Two of Autumn 1944 in m1 and m2)**

- 134 1.15 m1 work this  
m2-5 work outside this
- 1.17 m1-3 voice drooped tiredly  
m4-5 voice dropped tiredly
- 1.25 m1 don't bother you -- I haven't eaten  
yet."  
m2-5 don't bother you if I eat here."
- 1.26 m1 won't. I never get a  
m2-5 won't. All this month of threshing  
I've hardly ever had a
- 135 1.3 m1 formless clothes,  
m2-5 formless outdoor clothes,
- 1.14 m1 remembering Margret's  
m2-5 remembering once again Margret's
- 1.15 m1 August. Poor Elizabeth. What could be  
said for her? Yet he could not  
believe what his mind suggested about  
Block: after the month of work he  
could more easily have envied her her  
father. An allusion  
m2-5 August. The month of grinding  
physical work under Block, of learning  
about tractor and thresher, had  
absorbed Thom completely. The Deacon  
was so phenomenally efficient: an  
actual expert in anything. If a  
problem arose, he stood motionless in  
thought for a moment, then rapped out  
precise orders. Invariably, his  
solution worked. Thom, thinking of  
his own father, could only envy  
Elizabeth her's. But Margret's quiet-  
felt words 'Poor Elizabeth.' Sitting  
now across the table from her, Thom's  
mind drove him back irresistably to  
the many autumn-cool evenings when, as  
he settled himself beside the other  
men on the straw of the temporary

bunkhouses, head filled with admiration at the Deacon's efficiency that day had revealed, he had nevertheless hesitated on the brink of the thought, you cannot run people like machines. Remember the past summer - then welcome sleep would wipe all away, and the new morning broke to simpler necessities. (new paragraph) He shook his head slightly. She was there before him -- a slight allusion

- 1.33 m1 asked, "What  
m2-5 asked, hoping for diversion, "What
- 136 1.1 m1 night. A calf bawling before the storm  
breaks. Cattle  
m2-5 night. The stir of spruce when you lie  
in the damp moss of the muskeg. Cattle
- 1.3 m1 barn when snow  
m2-5 barn as snow
- 1.5 m1 uncle near Saskatoon  
m2-5 uncle beyond Saskatoon
- 1.16 m1-3 mother sluffed out  
m4-5 mother shuffled out
- 1.18 m1 plate. He  
m2-5 plate. He could not deny his thoughts  
now. He
- 1.20 m1 the bedlam of threshing.  
m2-5 the threshing.
- 1.37 m1 his useless son,  
m2-5 his care-nothing son,
- 137 1.5 m1 memory. They had arrived late with  
the outfit from near Calder and had  
manoeuvred  
m2-5 memory. The outfit had arrived late  
from near Calder and they had  
manoeuvred
- 1.14 m1 and, thinking in shame, her  
m2-5 and, the thought suddenly shamed him,  
her
- 1.18 m1-3 paused, raising her  
m4-5 paused, raised her
- 138 1.1 m1 But, standing before him without ever

- looking him in the eye, that dead-pan look had been hardening on Louis's face,
- m2-5 But Louis, sullen across the barn-aisle, eyes never quite meeting a glance, the dead-pan look hardening on his face,
- 1.4 m1 wages. No argument about saving had dented that expression. Ten  
m2-5 wages, could be dented by no argument about saving. Ten
- 1.6 m1 having the police come, and the  
m2-5 having the
- 1.7 m1 jail! (new paragraph) His  
m2-5 jail! And Joseph and Thom trying to teach half-breeds Bible lessons. It kept their Sunday afternoons occupied, but what could you teach them. He had hammered at Louis for three years. (new paragraph) His
- 139 1.1 m1 they were under  
m2-5 they vanished under
- 1.3 m1 caught awkwardly by  
m2 caught danglingly by  
m3-5 caught dangling by
- 1.4 m1 that."  
m2-5 that." Pete calmly swept the stray stalks together with his fork.
- 1.6 m1 was jubilant  
m2-5 was thoughtlessly jubilant
- 1.12 m1 There must be  
m2-5 There should be
- 1.14 m1 perhaps? Somehow, he and Pete seemed unable to regain that calm serene they had known, past now as an age, before Joseph had come and gone. Yet, Pete had not really changed. Thom  
m2-5 perhaps? He could as well forget about trying to regain that deep serenity he and Pete had known, past now as an age, before Joseph had come and gone. Pete, plodding in his father's ways, never changed. But Pete's activities somehow lacked the edge of brilliance that, despite growing conviction,

attracted Thom to the Deacon. When he was near Pete, Thom found it increasingly easier to discover flaws in the Deacon's methods. Savagely, Thom

- 1.25 m1 dust ran in  
m2 dust run in  
m3-5 dust ran in
- 1.27 m1 home for a week. Mom  
m2-5 home for two weeks before last night.  
Mom
- 1.30 m1-2 "Yeh.  
m3-5 "Yah.
- 140 1.7 m1 some little  
m2-5 some faceless little
- 1.21 m1-2 face pallid  
m3-5 face was pallid
- 1.34 m1 his boundless confusion  
m2-5 his confusion
- 1.35 m1-2 - Wapiti.  
m3-5 - Wapiti - for a few years.
- 1.36 m1 right -- Pete told me you're taking  
correspondence school, like this  
summer with Joseph --  
m2-5 right -- to teach those children from  
the Bible -- Pete told me you want to  
take correspondence school again, like  
last winter with Joseph --
- 141 1.2 m1 she saw to  
m2-5 she seemed to
- 1.4 m1 "I -- I don't know --" He could not  
protest an echo of his thought. (new  
paragraph) "It didn't get Joseph --  
but look at Herb -- and Herman --"  
(new paragraph) "Elizabeth," he said  
and knew not a word to add,  
m2-5 "I -- I don't know --" stunned, he  
found no protest for an echo of his  
thought. (new paragraph) "Your brother  
David couldn't work here -- Joseph had  
to go -- Pastor Lepp -- Herm -- Aaron  
Martens -- look what they are! A  
church is supposed to be a brotherhood  
-- all equal -- that gets its

direction from Scripture. Not rules!"  
 (new paragraph) "Elizabeth, to go --"  
 he knew not a word to add,

- 1.12 m1 forward before  
 m2-5 forward in his tallness before
- 1.14 m1 The hiss of  
 m2-5 The passion of
- 1.32 m1 He gasped, gawking.  
 m2-5 he gasped.
- 1.33 m1 swung around.  
 m2-5 swung about.
- 1.34 m1 crumpled heap  
 m2-5 motionless heap
- 142 1.4 m1-2 the kerchief  
 m3-5 her kerchief
- 1.5 m1-2 forward under the banging of the  
 threshing, "Is  
 m3-5 forward as the threshing thundered on,  
 "is
- 1.11 m1 pole-like; he could not have dreamt  
 what was happening. "Is  
 m2-5 pole-like; "Is
- 1.15 m1 inane, looking  
 m2-5 inane to him, looking
- 1.19 m1-3 the boom of  
 m4-5 the lash of
- 1.22 m1-2 be? -- and then he gathered  
 m3-5 be? He gathered
- 1.24 m1 house. As from far away from his  
 thoughts, he sensed Thom run up behind  
 him. The truck roared off. (new  
 paragraph) "The  
 m2-5 house. The truck roared off.  
 Somewhere, far from his thoughts, he  
 sensed Thom run up behind him. (new  
 paragraph) "The
- 143 1.12 m1 But in the kitchen the work no longer  
 seemed so important to return to. He  
 m2-5 But when he stood there, alone, in the  
 kitchen cluttered with supper  
 preparation, he felt oddly useless:



the work outside no longer seemed so important. He

- 1.17 m1-2 as men  
m3-5 while men
- 1.19 m1 pitched. (new paragraph) "Hey,  
m2-5 pitched. (new paragraph) "Don't let  
the machine run empty. Pitch!" (new  
paragraph) "Hey
- 1.21 m1-3 "Jake,  
m4-5 "John,
- 1.27 m1 He gagged, blood bursting in his scar.  
m2 Blood burst in his scar:  
m3-5 Blood burst on his scar:
- 1.29 m1-3 faith-wrenching  
m4-5 faint-wrenching
- 144 1.8 m1 gone in the  
m2-5 gone at the
- 1.22 m1 He was dead to all, save  
m2-5 He comprehended nothing save
- 1.24 m1 change in his glare.  
m2-5 change under his glare.
- 1.27 m1 pain brushed along  
m2-5 pain seemed to brush along
- 145 1.13 m1 a breed  
m2-5 a half-breed
- 1.16 m1-2 his mind suddenly became quiet,  
cunning. He was being forced. He  
m3-5 his mind caught in a moment of  
startling calmness. How many assaults  
had he withstood in the community? He
- 1.19 m1 the snake in the community. His  
m2-5 the snake. His
- 1.22 m1 worked out.  
m2-5 worked out, somenow.
- 1.38 m1 kernels crunching under  
m2-5 kernels ground under
- 146 1.30 m1-3 shoulders heaving  
m4-5 wide shoulders heaving

- 147 1.12 m1 hit them here,  
m2-5 hit your people here,
- 1.38 m1 from working, Thom." Goodridge  
m2-5 from working." Goodridge
- 148 1.11 m1 The stupor was beginning to lift; his  
talk with the doctor had been an  
automatic covering up, a reflex.  
Then,  
m2-5 The stupor settled on him; his talk  
with the doctor had been an  
involuntary mental reflex. Then,
- 1.17 m1 man looked up, "Oh  
m2-5 man lifted his heavy face, "Oh
- 1.21 m1 man there, gaping.  
m2-5 man there, mouth agape.

**Chapter Eleven (earlier titled Chapter Three of Autumn  
1944)**

- 149 1.14 m1 reaching out, as in greeting  
m2-5 reaching out in greeting
- 1.26 m1 enter: Abe Hiebert and John Dick at  
the feet,  
m2-5 enter: Jake and John Rempel at the  
feet,
- 150 1.13 m1 that doomed him  
m2-5 that sentenced him
- 1.14 m1 her. In some ways he was nice. Her  
glance  
m2-5 her. Elizabeth had been his only  
sister. Razia's glance
- 1.16 m1-2 could only see the  
m3-5 could see only the
- 1.18 m1 draped. Razia  
m2-5 draped. She
- 1.26 m1 delight. God, if he  
m2-5 delight. If he
- 1.30 m1 comprehend. The  
m2-5 comprehend. But really -- this was a  
funeral. She bent her mind to  
consider Elizabeth. On Razia's one  
visit to the Block's for supper,  
Elizabeth had seemed even more

colourless if that were possible, than the Mennonite women of Wapiti. She had been truly kind and gentle, but she had carried an incomprehensible aura of old-maidish resignation about her. Yet, considering Block's age, Elizabeth at most could not have been much over thirty. Listening to the chatter of the older girls at school, Razia had sensed that if a Mennonite woman was not married by twenty-five, she could look forward to nothing but spinsterhood. The

- 151 1.3 m1 her. Hat seven years old. And hair like coiled slough-hay.  
m2-5 her, Hat seven years old. And hair like coiled slough-hay. No wonder.
- 1.15 m1 only know that at some time when He best chooses, if our Lord tarry, we shall die. We do not know the time  
. . . ."  
m2 only --"  
m3-5 only . . ."
- 1.22 m1 they sometimes lay  
m2-5 they occasionally lay
- 1.32 m1 heathen? Like Papa says, we're  
m2-5 heathen? We're
- 1.33 m1-3 a secluded place  
m4-5 a separate place
- 152 1.8 m1-2 without her about:  
m3-5 without her:
- 1.10 m1 stretch. Grown  
m2-5 stretch. When his father disciplined him sharply, she would slip him a cookie and hold his hand until he slept. Grown
- 1.13 m1 for she was still always there. Last  
m2-5 for she was still always there, occasionally speaking a helping word. Last
- 1.23 m1-2 true devotedness. Could  
m3-5 true devotion. Could
- 1.29 m1 consciences that would fester to their last day. She did not know what her

- husband thought. He  
 m2 consciences, festering to their last  
 day. As she had never really  
 comprehended the massive mental power  
 of her husband, she now had no idea  
 what he thought. He  
 m3-5 conscience, festering . . . He
- 1.36 m1 it would but have been  
 m2-5 it would only have been
- 153 1.1 m1 thoughts. Could she but have moved  
 him  
 m2-5 thoughts. Had she but been able to  
 move him
- 1.3 m1 that finally blazed  
 m2-5 that finally, abruptly, blazed
- 1.8 m1 at his hand-touch.  
 m2-5 at his touch.
- 1.16 m1 away. In madness he had roved those  
 three days, for  
 m2-5 away. Those three days he roved in  
 madness, for
- 1.28 m1 they took their  
 m2-5 they must have taken their
- 1.30 m1 the lowest seething pit of  
 m2-5 the deepest wallow of
- 1.32 m1 bush. Even as  
 m2-5 bush. As
- 1.34 m1 go. They could not remain  
 m2-5 go. Too many years he had allowed  
 them to remain
- 1.37 m1 possible. When he came back, he would  
 buy them out personally and  
 m2-5 possible. He would buy them out  
 personally, everyone of them, and
- 154 1.3 m1 was reading  
 m2-5 was slowly reading
- 1.26 m1 wonderment was  
 m2-5 wonderment from the congregation was
- 1.34 m1 Wapiti; he  
 m2-5 Wapiti to learn other ways; he

- 155 1.4 m1 the look  
m2-5 that look
- 1.12 m1 Herman held  
m2-5 Herman, head bowed, held
- 1.37 m1 the lid pushed  
m2-5 the lid half-pushed
- 156 1.27 m1 poplars. (new paragraph) "Let  
m2-5 poplars. (new paragraph) The pastor  
turned the leaves of his Bible. "So  
when this corruptible shall have put  
on incorruption, and this mortal shall  
have put on immortality, then shall be  
brought to pass the saying that is  
written, Death is swallowed up in  
victory. O death, where is thy sting?  
O grave, where is thy victory? (new  
paragraph) "Let
- 1.36 m1 Ernst handed to  
m2-5 Ernst passed to
- 157 1.4 m1 he pulled the lid  
m2-5 he levered the lid
- 1.6 m1 the long bodies of the people staring  
down at him over the rim of the grave.  
At  
m2-5 the elongated bodies and heads of the  
people dividing the slate sky and the  
grave's rim, staring down at him. At
- 1.10 m1 It horrified him, somehow, to stand in  
a grave, feet on the coffin-box, and  
look up to see that sharp new face.  
m2-5 It terrified him, somehow, to hunch in  
Elizabeth's grave, feet on her  
coffin-box, and look up to see all  
Wapiti -- and that sharp new face.
- 1.11 m1 Shuddering he knew not why, he  
m2-5 Shuddering as before a premonition; he
- 1.14 m1 and scattered the  
m2-5 and spread the
- 1.29 m1 did she look like a death's head from  
down there,  
m2-5 did her narrow face look like a  
death's-head from down there,
- 1.31 m1-3 filled. Elizabeth's coffin was buried

- forever.  
 m4-5 filled. Surrendered to dusty death.
- 1.33 m1-3 and he saw Pete  
 m4-5 and saw Pete

**Chapter Twelve (earlier titled Chapter Four of Autumn 1944)**

- 158 1.4 m1 in the pool of kerosene light.  
 m2-5 in the kerosene light.
- 1.18 m1 an' Pete.  
 m2-5 an' even Pete.
- 1.22 m1 like before ---"  
 m2-5 like nothin'---"
- 1.23 m1 "You shouldn't have done that."  
 m2-5 "You shouldn't stare at people -- especially in their sorrow."
- 1.25 m1 "Doesn't he care that she died?"  
 m2-3 "He wasn't cryin'. Doesn't he care that she died?"  
 m4-5 "Honest, he wasn't cryin'. Doesn't he care that she died?"
- 159 1.4 m1 Sonny; you better go to bed. Come."  
 She took his arm  
 m2-5 Sonny; time for bed. Pa will read first." (new paragraph) Thom draped the towel over the spool nailed against the wall and moved over to drop to the bench as his father reached up for the heavy Bible on the shelf above the table. Margret sat on a chair in the gloom. Hal leaned against his mother. Wiens read slowly, voice rough and uninflected. (new paragraph) "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. (new paragraph) "And God shall wipe

all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be anymore pain; for the former things are passed away." (new paragraph) After a moment, they all stood for his prayer. (new paragraph) "Our Father, we can only thank You for this blessed hope of being forever with You. In your mercy, grant us grace, now and in the moment of our death. Let us sleep tonight under Your hand. In Jesus' name. Amen." (new paragraph) Thom had never heard his father pray so -- he looked up at him, seated at the table, staring into the hand-worn book -- so -- personally was the only concept that formed in his mind. Like the prayer of some new vision, almost. (new paragraph) Mrs Wiens said, "Now to bed with you, Hal, come." She took the boy's arm

- 1.32 m1 year: Hal's bright voice chattered on as they vanished in the dark of the stair-hole. (new paragraph) Thom draped the towel over the spool nailed against the wall and went into the darkened living room.  
m2-5 year. (new paragraph) As they vanished into the dark of the stair-hole, Thom rose and went into the darkened living room.
- 1.37 m1 sitting on  
m2-5 sitting now on
- 160 1.7 m1 table. The  
m2-5 table. Upstairs, Hal's prayer murmur was indistinguishable. The
- 1.9 m1 She rose and  
m2-5 She slipped from the box and
- 1.10 m1 He read, as music floated forlornly from the radio.  
m2-5 He read, as the rocker squeaked forlornly.
- 1.30 m1 opportunity of dying for  
m2-5 opportunity to die for
- 162 1.4 m1 In English 'peace'  
m2-5 In the English Bible, 'peace'

- 1.7 m1 reading the German translation of the Bible, may  
m2-5 reading Luther's German translation, may
- 1.20 m1 please.  
m2-5 please. Or we can neglect him entirely.
- 1.30 m1 mighty river  
m2-5 mighty inner river
- 1.36 m1-3 that we are  
m4-5 such as we are
- 163 1.3 m1 peacemakers. (new paragraph) "I  
m2-5 peacemakers. (new paragraph) "But I must stop preaching! I'm tremendously happy that you see the necessity of carrying on the Bible class after harvest. It may be a bit tough in the hard winter, but don't be discouraged. If it gets very bad, perhaps you could hold it in one of their cabins -- they live close together -- if the parents let you. It would be a wonderful way to get them to listen too. If the beginning goes well, why don't you try that? I found two books that I think may help you in your preparation and I'm sending them along separately. (new paragraph) "I
- 1.13 m1 camp. I  
m2-5 camp. Tell me especially about the class. I
- 1.15 m1 perhaps your problem with Herb, as with the other, centers around your relationship to this Christ-given peace. Thom, you have to help Herb.  
m2-5 perhaps that Herb's persisting in being angry towards you, as with the other matter, centres around your relationship to the Christ-given peace I mentioned above. Thom, who can help Herb but you?
- 1.26 m1 shoulder, who had fallen asleep at the table. Thom  
m2-5 shoulder. The older man still pored over the family Bible. Thom
- 1.27 m1 them, slowly folding the



- m2-5 them as he slowly folded the
- 1.28 m1 He climbed up the narrow stairs.  
m2-5 He pushed it into his breast pocket,  
turned and climbed up the narrow  
stairs.
- 1.33 m1 existence, be so  
m2-5 existence, in one short summer be so
- 1.36 m1 Margret ascend the  
m2-5 Margret creak the
- 164 1.9 m1-3 great bear  
m4-5 great brute
- 1.10 m1-3 maws  
m4-5 maw
- 1.18 m1 wound escapeless clutches until he  
sank in suffocation like the birth-  
heaving of an animal that cannot throw  
off its young in the final tearing  
m2-5 wound clutches until he sank in  
suffocation like a birth-heaving  
animal that cannot throw off its young  
in a final tearing
- 1.29 m1 nearer as though running distended in  
terror.  
m2-5 nearer, the lines of their growing as  
if distended in terror.
- 1.30 m1-3 winged by  
m4-5 winged up
- 165 1.25 m1 clear away the rubble and really farm!  
m2-5 clear the rubble, jerk out the stumps  
and really farm!

**WINTER 1944: Prelude**

- 166 1.5 m1 lives in feeding  
m2-5 lives to feed
- 1.8 m1 piling high with wood  
m2-5 piling deep with wood
- 1.15 m1 At night over the drifts wolves moaned  
under a hard moon. On  
m2-5 At night wolves moaned under the  
faintly bloody sprawl of northern  
lights. On

- 1.17 m1-3 stood at fifty-three  
m4-5 stood fifty-three
- 1.18 m1 sheds helped nothing whatever.  
Bunched  
m2-5 sheds gave no protection. Bunched
- 1.21 m1 watering under the desperate  
m2-5 watering, stirred only by the  
desperate
- 1.22 m1 heaters plumed smoke into the air  
under prodding pokers; without them  
each pail of water had spread  
m2 heaters, under prodding pokers, plumed  
smoke into the air; without them each  
pail of water spread  
m3-5 heaters, under . . . water had spread

**Chapter Thirteen (earlier titled Chapter One of Winter  
1944)**

- 168 1.2 m1 clearing when Thom  
m2-5 clearing as Thom
- 1.3 m1-3 All was hazed in cold, save where the  
teacherage dropped its yellow light  
through the tight-curtained windows  
like damask on the snow blue in the  
moonlight.  
m4-5 Etched by moonlight, all was hazed in  
cold, save where the teacherage  
dropped its yellow light through the  
tight-curtained windows like damask on  
the blued snow.
- 1.7 m1 kicked off his  
m2-5 kicked loose his
- 1.7 m1 He knocked, heart tripping in his  
chest.  
m2-5 He knocked.
- 1.10 m1 ready to jerk shut  
m2-5 ready to jerk it shut
- 1.13 m1 Tantamount, I'm Thom Wiens, and I was  
m2-5 Tantamount, it's Thom Wiens. I was
- 1.15 m1 course, you're the big brother Hal  
always talks about." The  
m2-5 course, I couldn't see your face with  
that big parka in the dark." The

- 1.18 m1 parka that covered him.  
m2-5 parka.
- 1.24 m1 "I hope you don't mind my just coming like this, but I'm trying to take a few courses by correspondence and keep running into trouble --" (new paragraph) Her  
m2-5 "I hope my coming's all right tonight. I don't want to keep you from your work, but as I said last Sunday, some of these correspondence courses --" (new paragraph) Her
- 169 1.1 m1 What grade are you taking?" (new paragraph) "Grade  
m2-5 What grade did you say you were taking?" She remembered well enough. Since he had begun the Sunday classes with the children in November, she had been planning some occasion or reason for him to come to see her alone. She had even listened to two of his lessons, but his tremendous seriousness and the distant politeness he presented towards her speared duplicity before it could develop. She had been forced to the very strange position of wondering how she could attract this man when he had abruptly approached her himself. He said now, (new paragraph) "Grade
- 1.12 m1 "I should be able to remember something! Certainly I shall. Did you bring your books?"  
m2-5 "I should know something about that! You didn't forget to bring your books?"
- 1.14 m1-2 "In my knapsack outside -- I skied out. If you've a broom  
m3-5 "No -- they're in my knapsack outside. I skied out. If you've a broom
- 1.19 m1 joy. She had not seen him since that first time at the funeral. Her  
m2-5 joy. He had the gentility of great strength. Her
- 1.23 m1-3 wiped away  
m4-5 dabbed away
- 1.33 m1 underneath. "My," she said,

- marvelling fingers on the bead-work,  
"Where  
m2-5 underneath. "I've often wondered,"  
she said, marvelling fingers on the  
bead-work, "where
- 170 1.8 m1 and she wondered at  
m2-5 and she wondered again at
- 1.10 m1 shoulders. He  
m2-5 shoulders. It was better than the  
shiny suit on Sunday. He
- 1.23 m1 child. She thought, jamming in a  
piece of wood, He  
m2-5 child. But for all his inadequate  
schooling, he could certainly impress  
the children with his Bible-story  
telling: the older girls talked among  
themselves about King David last week.  
And even his strange, impossible-of-  
explanation emphasis that Jesus was  
God, somehow gained a sort of credence  
from his tremendous conviction. To  
try and teach children something at  
which men staggered! She glanced at  
him again, in his hunch of  
concentration, and his appearance  
intruded on her thoughts. She jammed  
a piece of wood into the heater. He
- 171 1.13 m1 cigarette lighted,  
m2-5 cigarette,
- 1.25 m1 brute left the gal bilious on her  
tongue.  
m2-5 brute left the bile on her tongue.
- 1.28 m1-3 -Heaven knew  
m4-5 -Heaven knows
- 1.29 m1 But the mangy diversion  
m2-5 But the better-than-nothing diversion
- 1.30 m1 an amusing  
m2-5 a cleanly amusing
- 1.31 m1 a spew of hatred  
m2-5 a spill of hatred
- 1.33 m1 said, "Why  
m2 said, (new paragraph) "What's the  
matter with them?" (new paragraph)  
"Whom?" (new paragraph) "The

Mennonites you always yell about every time you're here. You're one too -- just like your father and mother." (new paragraph) His face convulsed. "I'm no Mennonite! Think I'd sit around and pray and read the Bible like a dumb Mennonite? That's why they can't stand me -- all those pure church-goers -- because when I was old enough as my Mennonite old man didn't dare beat me into readin' the Bible and goin' to church, I went fishin' on Sunday. (new paragraph) It was the nearest he had ever come to self-revelation. Interested, she said, in her clear uninflected voice, (new paragraph) "What did that prove?" (new paragraph) "Prove? It showed 'em that I could do as I damn well pleased. Nobody's goin' to tell me what to do. I'm my own boss." (new paragraph) She did not hide the tinge of disgust in her voice. "So you do as you please -- and live by yourself -- without a friend to your name. Don't you think that someone like Thom Wiens has --" (new paragraph) He swore across her sentence. "Thom Wiens! That ratty coward claiming 'holy love' as an excuse for hidin' at home during a war -- you been listenin' to him preach to those kids? He'll stuff you full of dish-rag Christianity. I'll tell you what --" (new paragraph) Angered, she cut his speech sarcastically, "You'll tell me nothing. Why --" she hesitated momentarily, glancing at his frown, catching the very understandable jealousy on his homely features, and flicked her question away from Thom, "Why

- m3-5 said, "What's ... "Who?" . . . one too just like your . . . stand me, all those pure church-goers, because when . . . dare clobber me into . . . 'holy love' . . . "Why
- 172 1.21 m1 then if you hate it so much. I  
m2-5 then, if you hate everyone so much. I
- 1.24 m1 and he could not for a moment scrape together  
m2-5 and it seemed for a moment that he could not scrape together

- 1.26 m1 it. Scowling at her profile while she  
checked through Grade two drawings, he  
muttered, "Well  
m2-5 it. She calmly checked through Grade  
two drawings. He shrugged, "Well
- 1.29 m1 "Why not?"  
m2-5 She faced him squarely. "Why not?"
- 1.30 m1 His scowl soured, "I've a lotta money  
tied up in things --"  
m2-5 "I've a lotta money tied up in things  
--"
- 1.31 m1 His face worked, almost  
m2-5 His scowl soured, almost
- 1.33 m1 existence. She flayed  
m2-5 existence. Merciless, she flayed
- 1.38 m1 Get out - go to your precious farm."  
m2-5 Get out - Beat it to your precious  
farm."
- 173 1.2 m1 one slash of  
m2-5 one wipe of
- 1.3 m1 knew sickeningly that  
m2-5 knew with a heart-trip that
- 1.5 m1 His crooked face leered at her,  
m2-5 His face turned toward her,
- 1.9 m1 But he stared down the line of her  
body as if she were a mare he was  
about to buy. His guttural voice  
growled,  
m2-5 But, staring down the line of her body  
as if she were a mare he was about to  
buy, he growled,
- 1.15 m1 before his stalk-like step.  
m2-5 before his slow, confident step.
- 1.21 m1 as he leered at her, hand reaching,  
and with a curse he reeled aside.  
m2-5 as he grinned at her, hand reaching,  
and with a bitten curse he reeled  
aside.
- 1.26 m1 A door  
m2-5 A rude door

- 1.28 m1 the diagonal,  
m2-5 the door-diagonal,
- 1.30 m1 your little ass around  
m2-5 your trim rear around
- 1.34 m1 his laugh was worse than any word he  
could have spoken,  
m2-5 his laugh was coarser than any word he  
could have spoken.
- 1.37 m1 he knew  
m2-5 he must know
- 174 1.2 m1 His leer spread  
m2-5 His grin spread
- 1.13 m1 he'd never go the the cops."  
m2-5 they never go to the cops."
- 1.17 m1-2 spell, hung  
m3-5 spell, hanging
- 1.19 m1 parka. Growling imprecations, he  
jerked  
m2-5 parka. Blackly silent now, he jerked
- 1.20 m1 said, carefully natural, "You  
m2-5 said, in careful calm, "You
- 1.23 m1 "Don't  
m2-5 "Her voice tensed, "Don't
- 1.25 m1 "And next time wait till the girl  
invites, you filthy ignorant block-  
head," she screamed hysterically  
against the door and the shining  
storm. "Not just sit and drink her--"  
m2-5 "You filthy ignorant blockhead," she  
screamed hysterically against the door  
and the whining storm.
- 1.30 m1 hands. It  
m2-5 hands. Sobs of humiliation racked  
her. Such an absolute pig! It
- 1.35 m1 Thom's voice broke across her reverie.  
She  
m2-5 Thom's voice broke the thoughts she  
would have gladly done without. She
- 1.36 m1 cups, smiling at  
m2-5 cups, her rigid features relaxing into  
a smile at

- 1.38 m1 form relaxed in  
m2-5 form comfortable in
- 175 1.31 m1 a comfortable  
m2-5 a, comparatively speaking, comfortable
- 1.34 m1 Did we, who had lots to  
m2-5 Did we, who on the whole had enough --  
and some too much -- to
- 176 1.4 m1 of it before  
m2-5 of this exactly before
- 1.10 m1 now." (new paragraph) She laughed  
highly, not at all prepared for the  
torrent that had spilled against her.  
"Well,  
m2 now." (new paragraph) "Isn't there a  
difference between men dying so that  
you don't have to, and men dying  
because of the accident of their  
birth?" (new paragraph) "Probably."  
He concentrated momentarily. "But  
what I want to get at is this idea of  
fairness. Life on earth is not fair  
-- ever. Advantage for one is always  
balanced by disadvantage to another.  
Canada can only hold so many people.  
If I -- and you -- live and eat here,  
in a sense that fact makes it  
impossible for someone else to live  
and eat here. The way people behave,  
there is not enough -- either of food  
or space -- for all to live  
comfortably. Joseph -- last year's  
teacher here -- he gave me a book  
written about World War I. It was  
"the war to end all wars." But look  
at the one raging on now. Man is  
always fighting such a war to end war,  
and the next generation has to fight  
it over again. The Bible says there  
is this lack of unity, of space, of  
food in the world because man has  
sinned. He is now sinful. I suppose  
this sin -- this unfairness -- becomes  
the most obvious in time of war and  
that's why so many begin to act very  
nobly to prove that they, at least,  
don't take part in this rashly open  
unfairness." (new paragraph) "So you,  
as a good Christian, can sit back and  
calmly accept your own comfort while  
. . ." (new paragraph) "No!" his



- earnestness precipitated him into violent interruption. "No. Certainly not that. But that's just where I -- like a bog -- get nowhere. I've read and thought -- perhaps a Christian is on earth for a different purpose -- he gestured almost pathetically. (new paragraph) She smiled warmly into his sad face. She had not at all been prepared for the torrent that spilled against her, and now attempted a smooth shift: "Well,
- m3-5 now." . . . earth is not fair . . . enough either of food or space for all . . . War One. It was to be 'the war to end war.' But . . . comfort while --" . . . had been not at all prepared . . . "Well,
- 177 1.2 m1 Pete Block --"  
m2-5 Pete Block, but --"
- 1.3 m1 interrupted, his  
m2-5 interrupted again, his
- 1.5 m1 She laughed again, not having known this would grip his interest. She  
m2-5 She laughed for his sake, inwardly disgruntled that she had not drawn him from his preoccupation. She
- 1.7 m1 legs brushing his for a second under  
m2-5 legs brushing his under
- 1.9 m1 Good old Harry had  
m2-5 Good Jim at normal school had
- 1.16 m1-2 call it? -- Bor --, Bors --"  
m3-5 call it? bor --"
- 1.27 m1 in thought.  
m2-5 into intrackable thought.
- 1.32 m1 wants," then he  
m2-5 wants. But it has to go beyond the mere teaching of the fathers --" Then he
- 1.37 m1 she smiled up at him.  
m2-5 she smiled.
- 178 1.1 m1 her hinted coquetries had not found him. He  
m2-5 her hints had not found him.

Recalling Herb's vehemence, she made one last attempt to interest him as she held his parka while he pushed into it. "I've lived here for three months and I don't really know. Who is a Mennonite?" (new paragraph) He smiled wanly as he scooped up the books. "I doubt you'll get an answer in Wapiti -- or anywhere. Some say only church members are Mennonites, others that we're actually a race of people. Most who are born with Mennonite names but refuse to join the church don't want to be known as Mennonites -- guess they feel somehow it commits them." Then he

- 1.26 m1 The stupid fool would  
m2-5 The dunce would
- 1.37 m1 correct. Should one talk about Mennonite tradition to a woman who knew nothing about the love Christ taught, who was forever telling the pupils in school that 'everyone had to do his part to win the war.' His  
m2-5 correct. Should one say, I act this way because my father tells me so? Should one talk about Mennonite tradition before one spoke of the only possible basis for that tradition: the personal commitment to Christ? Especially to a woman who knew little about Christ's teachings and was ever telling the pupils in school that "everyone had to do his part to win the war"? His
- 179 1.23 m1 excuses. He could not even recall exactly what had started the ill-feeling. Do it and done with. His  
m2-5 excuses. Get that triviality cleared away, whatever it was, and perhaps even find some basis for friendship. Do it and done with, before easy alternatives lured. His
- 1.27 m1 **Chapter Two of Winter 1944** begins at this point in the thesis  
m2 Wiebe inserted ( - - - - ) in his revision to indicate a break in the narrative, but not the end of a chapter  
m3-5 There is a space between paragraphs in

the published version to indicate a  
break in the narrative

- 1.31 m1 embarrassment at the greeting.  
m2-5 embarrassment in the greeting.
- 1.33 m1 Yet despite  
m2-5 Despite
- 180 1.1 m1 thoughts shifted.  
m2-5 thoughts turned.
- 1.11 m1 of his elderly daughter.  
m2-5 of -- as they all considered her in  
their Mennonite way -- his elderly  
daughter.
- 1.14 m1 death -- perhaps --  
m2-5 death.
- 1.17 m1 In a few, short, minutes he  
m2-5 In a short minute he
- 1.30 m1 greasy  
m2-5 grease-shined
- 1.37 m1 room; several draped in rags peeked  
out from legs, boxes. The  
m2-5 room; several in rags peeked from beds  
and trapping gear. The
- 181 1.13 m1 around. Lazy dogs: it  
m2-5 around. Laziness: it
- 1.23 m1 The hated voice, "Evenin', -- Mr.  
Block."  
m2-3 The hated voice, "Evenin', Mr.  
Block."  
m4-5 His voice, "Yeh."
- 1.34 m1 lean and dark,  
m2-5 leanly dark,
- 182 1.4 m1 "Yes."  
m2-5 "Yeh."
- 1.12 m1 "What are you going to do now?"  
m2-5 "What are you doing now?"
- 1.18 m1 him, a flash of fear flicking across  
his face, then the stolid hood drooped  
back  
m2-5 him, fear flicking across his face,  
then the stolid hood dropped back

- 1.21 m1 The flicker was  
m2-5 The flash was
- 1.28 m1 Louis off-guard  
m2-5 Louis nicely off-guard
- 1.33 m1 seemed to  
m2-5 seemed now to
- 1.35 m1 He ranted, "These sonofabitches!  
Standin'  
m2 He ranted, "Suckers! Standin'  
m3-5 He hissed, "Suckers! Standin'
- 183 1.4 m1 Louis gagged  
m2-5 Louis stuttered
- 1.4 m1 open-mouthed, fear naked.  
m2-5 open-mouthed.
- 1.5 m1 Block's burning glare seared the thin  
m2-5 Block's glare shrivelled the thin
- 1.8 m1 you rotten --"  
m2-5 you miserable --"
- 1.10 m1 Not a damned thing!"  
m2-5 Not a damn --"
- 1.12 m1 Louis's chest and doubled him over,  
Block rigid  
m2-5 Louis's chest, allowing him to bend  
away from Block rigid
- 1.13 m1 straightened up, spittle  
m2-5 straightened, spittle
- 1.14 m1 Block hissed,  
m2-5 Block rapped,
- 1.19 m1 Terror suffused the dark face,  
m2-5 Fear suffused the other's face,
- 1.32 m1 and the terror grovelled him  
completely as he stared  
m2-5 and the terror gripped Louis quite as  
he stared
- 1.35 m1 Then, into the terror, Louis's cough  
broke again, bending him forward as if  
his chest would crumble, and when it  
was over, the fear was cut.  
m2-5 Then Louis's cough broke again, and  
when the spasm was over, the fear was

- bent aside.
- 1.38 m1 deliberate; he would never again hunt  
alone, but it was not now enough to  
hold him. The dark gaunt face  
m2-5 deliberate. On the fringe of his  
consciousness Block knew Louis would  
never again hunt alone. But it was  
not now enough to hold him, and the  
Deacon was driven by his necessity.  
The gaunt face
- 184 1.7 m1 right." Their glances held like fire-  
flames, breaths hoar jets between  
them. "If  
m2-5 right." Breaths hoar between them,  
Block's glance held Louis in bind.  
"If
- 1.9 m1 were up to, I would have taken you and  
with my two bare hands castrated you."  
m2-5 were doing, I would have taken you and  
with my two bare hands killed you."
- 1.10 m1 the scar pale as death at his temple,  
m2-5 the scar pale at his temple,
- 1.12 m1 dropped them to the floor.  
m2-5 dropped it on the floor.
- 1.13 m1 never want to touch another woman."  
m2-5 never touch another woman."
- 1.13 m1 He took another step, but the other  
faded back in horror.  
m2-5 He took the next step, but the other  
faded back.
- 1.15 m1 It was a scream; the dark hand  
m2-5 It was a cry; the long hand
- 1.17 m1 half-withdrawn  
m2-5 half-drawn
- 1.17 m1 knife clanged dully  
m2-5 knife clunked dully
- 1.18 m1 "With your own  
m2-5 "Now, with your own
- 1.19 m1 the hunting knife  
m2-5 the fallen knife

- 1.20 m1 backward, absolute horror blanching  
his face.  
m2-5 backward, horror blanching his face.
- 1.22 m1 "God No! Mr. Block. No!"  
m2-5 "Mr. Block! No!"
- 1.23 m1 "You did it." The terrible scream  
tore as from the Deacon's maddened  
soul, their  
m2-5 "You did it!" the scream torn as from  
a compelling madness, their
- 1.24 m1 plunging wildly in  
m2-5 plunging in
- 1.29 m1 a man -- she cried she ha --"  
m2-5 a man --"
- 1.32 m1 The death-face crouched nearer,  
m2-5 The face pushed nearer,
- 1.34 m1 swear! -- she wouldn't even  
m2-5 swear! She wouldn't ever even
- 1.35 m1 that night she had to ha --"  
m2-5 that night she cried she had --"
- 1.36 m1 The hoarse despair echoed animal-like  
in the barn,  
m2-5 Hoarsely, despair echoed in the barn,
- 185 1.1 m1 to indicate that only a shell remained  
erect  
m2-5 to indicate him stripped.
- 1.8 m1 your whole stinking breed-brood."  
m2-5 your whole breed-brood.
- 1.9 m1 glance gleamed down  
m2-5 glance flashed down
- 1.10 m1 where terror had  
m2-5 where fear had
- 1.11 m1 A thin laugh cackled after him, then  
the voice,  
m2-5 A thin laugh broke behind him.
- 1.13 m1 "If I should talk about this --"  
m2-5 "When I talk about this --"
- 1.24 m1 he believed,  
m2-5 he ever believed,

- 1.27 m1 He prayed, here, let me cry at last.  
But  
m2 He prayed, Now, alone, at last, let me  
cry. But  
m3-5 He prayed, Now, alone, at last, let me  
cry. (new paragraph) But

Chapter Fourteen (This chapter was inserted by Wiebe in his revision to replace Chapter Two of Winter 1944. As it does not appear in the original thesis, comparison can only be made from m2-m5.)

- 186 1.1 m2 "Whoa," Thom said, easing Nance  
m3-5 "Whoa!" Thom eased Nance
- 187 1.33 m2 mile hiking  
m3-5 mile of hiking
- 1.36 m2 was over.  
m3-5 was gone.
- 191 1.21 m2 who rabidly pawed the blankets at  
their feet, as  
m3-5 who was avidly trying to tickle his  
face, as
- 1.28 m2 much -- it's too late  
m3-5 much. Well, it's too late
- 192 1.6 m2 Carlo leaped out and  
m3-5 Carlo hurled himself out and
- 193 1.23 m2 and made  
m3-5 and make
- 1.24 m2 And I've  
m3-5 I've
- 194 1.32 m2 respectfully avoided had been the sure  
knowledge. There  
m3-5 respectfully avoiding the sure  
knowledge. There
- 197 1.11 m2 lying there opened at the electric  
trains where Hal  
m3-5 lying opened at the electric trains  
where, Hal

Chapter Fifteen (earlier titled Chapter Three of Winter 1944)

- 199 1.3 m1 border to border  
m2-5 border to far border

- 1.10 m1 broke loose and  
m2-5 broke free of the frost and
- 200 1.1 m1 food -- Thom's hands numbing, he could  
not carry through the analogy. Besides  
m2 food -- he could not carry through the  
analogy as his hands numbed in his  
mitts. Besides  
m3-5 food -- but he could not ... mitts.  
Besides
- 1.5 m1 His blood  
m2-5 The blood
- 1.6 m1 on face and nose.  
m2-5 on his face.
- 1.10 m1 meadow shone before him.  
m2-5 meadow glistened before him.
- 1.17 m1 rack. The afternoon being early, Thom  
halted the horses, flung blankets over  
them, and walked to him across the  
hard-driven  
m2-5 rack. Thom gauged the sun: the  
afternoon was early. Perhaps -- at  
the thought he halted the horses and  
flung blankets over them, and walked  
across the hard-driven
- 1.24 m1 hay-knife. "Got  
m2-5 hay-knife, continuing in Low German.  
"Got
- 1.34 m1 camaraderie quickening  
m2-5 camaraderie involuntarily quickening
- 1.35 m1 Even in pitching hay, he was so  
decisive,  
m2-5 Even pitching hay, Block was so  
decisive,
- 201 1.1 m1 coffee. Like a  
m2-5 coffee. Want a
- 1.6 m1 open hay,  
m2-5 open hay of the cut,
- 1.8 m1 them. (new paragraph) Thom asked,  
happy, "I heard Louis was back." (new  
paragraph) Block's rugged face  
darkened as he lowered the crock and  
passed it. Even as he answered,



regret at having spilled the warmth twitched Thom's mind. "You heard wrongly. He was here, but he's left again. We're not having drunken jail junk around here. I told him to get away and stay there." (new paragraph) "But what about his folks?" (new paragraph) "They're moving in the spring too. I bought their farm." (new paragraph) "You did?" In his amazement, Thom pushed on thoughtlessly, "Why there's no decent acre of breaking --" (new paragraph) "Just to be rid of them! We don't want breeds around here, and it's time we bought them out, whether we want their land or not -- just so they get out." (new paragraph) The coffee glowing in his stomach and the pale sun on his face, Thom looked fleetingly at the older man, then away. Hero-worship and the companionship of the harvest were hopeless now to dream of. He said the most deliberate words he had ever voiced in his life. "Why is it so necessary that only Mennonites live in Wapiti? Can't we be Christians even if breeds live here?" (new paragraph) Block slowly corked the crock, staring slit-eyed across the white expanse to the ridge bristling black pine and poplar into dead-blue sky. Every word was planned: "Each person lives in the way he has learned from his fathers. We live like ours taught us, the breeds like theirs.

m2

Thom returned, the coffee glowing in his stomach, "Mr. Block, I want to ask you what you think of my Bible class. Pete told me -- last Sunday afternoon -- some things -- I wonder if you would --" He suddenly could not proceed for even as he spoke he wondered why he asked. He knew where Block stood; what was there to explain? And, somehow, his words were faintly gaining the 'you-have-the-answer-tell-me-and-I'll-do-it' tinge that always caught him in his small-child feeling before the Deacon. Thom dropped his glance. (new paragraph) Block lowered the crock and passed it, staring slit-eyed across the white

expanse to the ridge bristling black pine and poplar into the dead-blue sky. As the older man turned to speak, Thom knew startingly as by intuition, that every man in Wapiti community had, at some time or another, felt compelled to come to Block about his problems. There was more than competence or common-sense in the man. Thom shook his head to clear his thoughts. I have to weigh -- Block was saying in High German, (new paragraph) "Let's look at the principles involved in what you are doing. Once they're settled, the details will fall into place. Now: every person on earth, generally speaking, lives in the way he has learned from his fathers. We live as ours taught us, the breeds live as theirs.

- m3-5 Thom returned . . . thoughts. Block . . . theirs.
- 1.33 m1 Thom interrupted,  
m2-5 Thom, alert now, interrupted,
- 202 1.5 m1 matters of spiritual  
m2-5 matters of moral and spiritual
- 1.11 m1 world, even from the breeds who are backward in many ways. The world has been trained by its  
m2-5 world. And that includes the breeds, who are culturally and morally backward. They -- the world -- has been trained by its
- 1.15 m1 laziness Moosomins live in.  
m2-5 laziness that Moosomins -- or Mackenzies -- live in.
- 1.23 m1 coming."  
m2-5 coming. Our knowledge and attitude therefore creates a certain distance between us and-the breeds, for example. It is right that it do so."
- 1.26 m1 traditions --"  
m2-5 traditions, but does this --"
- 1.30 m1 "Yes." Thom resolutely suppressed a tinge of conscience at the Deacon's look.

- m2-5 "Yes, I do. Thom felt a flick of pride that the Deacon's look could not rouse his conscience.
- 1.32 m1 "You  
m2-5 "Block considered him soberly for a moment, then said, as if more carefully, "You
- 1.35 m1 brain-power; they must simply be believed. But  
m2-5 brain power; objects of belief cannot be affected by logic. But
- 1.37 m1 received. But most  
m2-5 received. But here is the difference. Most
- 1.38 m1 that tradition  
m2-5 the tradition
- 203 1.2 m1 But for us it is different: our fathers found the correct way of acting and if we do not follow them in their way, then our eternal salvation is lost. That  
m2-5 But our fathers found the correct way of acting. Through the years, this action has developed into our culture. If we do not follow them in their way, then we stand in grave danger of losing our eternal salvation. That
- 1.11 m1 right spiritual action.  
m2-5 right moral and spiritual action.
- 1.15 m1 the world. It will  
m2-5 the world -- either the English or the breeds. They will
- 1.21 m1 summer was waft to Thom as they stirred the dry hay in rising. He  
m2-5 summer wafted to Thom as, rising, they stirred the dry hay. He
- 1.22 m1 layer of hay along the line of cut.  
"Children  
m2-5 layer, momentarily unable to penetrate the forceful thinking. Then it caught. He probed, "Children
- 1.26 m1 "How  
m2-5 "Yes. How

- 1.33 m1 a good member  
m2-5 a good upright member
- 1.38 m1 "There, when my life  
m2-5 "There, when in that upheaval my life
- 1.38 m1 no children  
m2-5 no child
- 204 1.2 m1-2 chance -- taught clearly  
m3-5 chance -- be taught clearly
- 1.2 m1 the world,  
m2-5 the filthy lawlessness of the world,
- 1.9 m1 a terrible death  
m2-5 a shameful death
- 1.10 m1 man's face boring at him from under  
the brush of parka-fur.  
m2-5 man's glance leveled at him from under  
the brush of parka-fur.
- 1.20 m1 spoke, "It doesn't seem right to me  
that we should never speak a word  
about this truth we have to other  
people." (new paragraph) Block said,  
wearily, "But we do. Your own brother  
in India --" (new paragraph) "The  
half-breeds on the next quarter know  
no more of it than they." (new  
paragraph) Teaching throbbed strongly  
through Block. "You must look at it  
realistically. Would we gain  
m2-5 spoke, "But it's impossible for me not  
to speak this truth to my neighbour,  
if I hold to it myself." (new  
paragraph) Block interrupted,  
recovering quickly, "But we do speak  
of it. Your own brethren in India --"  
(new paragraphNP) "Yes. And how much  
could he do here at home with the  
half-breeds you're objecting to? They  
know no more about --" (new paragraph)  
Teaching throbbed strength through  
Block. "I know why you've tried these  
Bible lessons with them. It's a noble  
effort, but be realistic about it, as  
David was years ago. Will our church  
gain
- 1.30 m1 and asking all  
m2-5 and trying to get all

- 1.31 m1 or do we gain  
m2-5 or will we gain
- 1.36 m1 understand. We must be  
m2-5 understand. Those churches that did  
gain a few members did so by  
sacrificing ethical standards. Soon a  
church member could do this, do that  
-- no one really knew if anything was  
right or wrong. Don't you see, Thom?  
We must be
- 205 1.3 m1 world. And the world will notice us  
in time and will learn from us, never  
fear. The beginning is hard, but we  
cannot expect an easy life on earth."  
m2-5 world."
- 1.4 m1 Listening, Thom could not swallow.  
The year, mining at his beliefs,  
reversed through his head. He stared  
hard at the Deacon's laboring back,  
sensing antipathy prickle in him.  
This man, whose influence had once so  
controlled him that doubt would have  
been too preposterous to countenance,  
carefully explaining his position,  
which had never been necessary before:  
his arguments were all ruthlessly  
mechanistic. Did not the individual  
have to decide whether he wanted to  
follow Christ's teachings? Could you  
teach belief? If so -- he spoke at  
the thought:  
m2-5 Wiebe inserted three and a half pages  
of notes in his revision and it is  
impractical to reproduce those pages  
here.
- 1.16 m1 (new paragraph)"What about the teacher  
Miss  
m2-5 "You say we must be taught to believe  
the right. What about the teacher,  
Miss
- 1.20 m1 around at him,  
m2-5 around to him,
- 1.27 m1 Thom's quick rage surged: "You  
m2-5 The straw broke the dam: Thom's blood  
charged to his face. "You
- 1.31 m1 whitely paralysed,  
m2-5 whitely,

- 1.34 m1 his fury bore  
m2-5 his rage bore
- 1.35 m1 turmoil convulsed his words.  
m2-5 turmoil and now wasted labour  
convulsed his words.
- 1.36 m1 Moosomin away from home because he's  
been in jail and so isn't  
m2-5 Moosomin packing because he isn't
- 1.37 m1 You tell  
m2-5 You push people around without  
bothering to tell them your plans. You  
tell
- 208 1.4 m1 And you better check up on what you've  
taught your son. If he tells this  
teacher ---" (new paragraph) Even in  
his rage, the look  
m2-5 And what have you taught your son?  
Just acting on the father's say-so  
won't get him through this world ---"  
The look
- 1.7 m1 lifeless as an icicle, his mouth  
forming, inanely,  
m2-5 lifeless, his mouth forming, inanely,
- 1.13 m1 voice as from the dead, "What  
m2-5 voice pale, "What
- 1.16 m1 could not speak but the  
m2-5 could but speak the
- 1.17 m1 Deacon's paralysed  
m2-5 Deacon's strangely paralysed
- 1.18 m1 answer that burning glare.  
m2-5 answer.
- 1.22 m1 "Said she anything else?"  
m2-5 "She said something else?"
- 1.24 m1 "Thom! The cry was rending.  
m2-5 "Thom!"
- 1.26 m1 of him the day she died.  
m2-5 of him and his ruthless regimentation  
the day she died.
- 1.30 m1 been slashed savagely from

- 1.33 m2-5 been savagely cut from  
m1 ancient as time, turned  
m2-5 ancient now, turned
- 1.34 m1 gripped convulsively, twice,  
m2-5 gripped twice,
- 1.35 m1 he whispered,  
m2-5 he said hoarsely,
- 209 1.1 m1 stumble muttered words  
m2-5 stumble a few words
- 1.8 m1 he settled for the  
m2-5 he hunched down to the
- 1.8 m1 Starkly through his shame the question  
glared: what really had happened to  
Elizabeth?  
m2-5 The question stared through his  
widened comprehension and his heavy  
shame: what really had happened to  
Elizabeth?
- Chapter Sixteen (earlier titled Chapter Four of Winter  
1944)**
- 210 1.38 m1 studying  
m2-5 studyin'
- 211 1.21 m1 steps  
m2-5 stair-steps
- 1.25 m1 it will be late  
m2-5 it might be late
- 1.26 m1 Christmas."  
m2-5 Christmas. Only one more mail-day  
left."
- 1.32 m1 hurtling down.  
m2-5 hurtling towards them.
- 212 1.4 m1 Don't get lost in the candy-barrel at  
the store." Hal  
m2-5 Don't let the candy-case hypnotize  
you." Hal
- 1.12 m1 the snowy rubbers  
m2-5 the snow-shined rubbers
- 1.13 m1 end, unzipping his  
m2-5 end, unbuttoning his

- 1.25 m1 carry this pail of slop out."  
m2-5 carry the slop-pail out."
- 1.33 m1 ring to hooves squeaking from  
m2-5 ring as hooves squawked from
- 1.36 m1-2 as unawares  
m3-5 as if unawares
- 213 1.1 m1 squirrels' nests and rabbit forms and  
weasel slurs,  
m2-5 squirrel nests and weasel slurs and  
rabbit forms,
- 1.3 m1-2 they found it.  
m3-5 they had found it.
- 1.11 m1 wagged to greet them, Thom  
m2-5 wagged in greeting. Thom
- 1.12 m1 perched it erect  
m2-5 perched the tree erect
- 1.17 m1 (new paragraph) Sweeping his boots,  
Thom  
m2-5 (new paragraph, but left-justified)  
Having stomped off the snow, Thom
- 1.26 m1-2 center like this, let it  
m3-5 centre, so, let it
- 1.34 m1-2 mother spoke gently,  
m3-5 mother asked gently,
- 214 1.6 m1 but then I mentioned about coming from  
the school and suddenly he turned on  
me, raging mad. Swore at me to get  
out. Mom, he  
m2-5 but when I mentioned about coming from  
the school he changed just like that."  
Thom flicked his hand. "Wouldn't hear  
a word I said -- just called me two-  
faced and swore at me to get out. I  
don't know what it was I said -- he  
even asked me in at first. Mom, he
- 1.13 m1 "Ah Mom, I don't think Mrs. Unger  
cares about  
m2-5 Thom recalled Block's words about the  
Unger family two days before; he  
voiced his disagreement now. "Ah Mom,  
I sometimes wonder if Mrs. Unger cares  
much about



- 1.21 m1 do something for  
m2-5 do a bit more for
- 1.25 m1 Again quick to attack, and himself so  
fatally vulnerable.  
m2-5 Again quick to attack, and yet so  
fatally vulnerable himself.
- 1.26 m1 He remembered how almost superhumanly  
difficult it had been to contain his  
temper as Herb brandished the brown  
m2 He remembered the quickening stir of  
his temper as Herb seized the brown  
m3-5 He remembered the quickening stir of  
his temper as Herb had seized the  
brown
- 1.30 m1 still suppressing it.  
m2-5 still trying suppression.
- 1.31 m1 corner as a  
m2-5 corner when a
- 215 1.14 m1 "To be a man, God asks you to overcome  
obstacles.  
m2-5 "To become mature in Him, God requires  
you to overcome obstacles.
- 1.15 m1 stove. (new paragraph) Mrs. Block said  
at last, eyes unseeing, bent down,  
"We've had as good an example of  
Christian love in this district as  
ever there was in the world.  
Elizabeth Block. For all that  
unhappiness that happened to her and  
all that we may think he father did  
wrong towards her, she loved him to  
the end. She told me as she lay  
dying."  
m2-5 stove. (new paragraph) "And why must  
we in Wapiti love only Mennonites?"  
(new paragraph) His mother looked up  
then, "Don't always be on the attack,  
Thom. No one has said that. The  
reason our men aren't in the Army --"  
(new paragraph) "But Mom, what about  
those people north of the school?  
Shouldn't our love for them as lost  
human beings overpower our revulsion  
at their squalor -- rather help us to  
teach them something better?" (new  
paragraph) She said simply, "You know  
neither your father nor myself  
objected for a moment to your teaching

those children." She worked silently, then continued, "You don't fit so well any more with the other young men, do you? I've seen you, after church, standing in their circle, without talking, where you used to lead the laughter. And then they go off to visit and you come home and eat without saying anything and take your books and drive alone to Wapiti School." (new paragraph) Thom said, knowing her prayers for him, "The quartet did come last Sunday." After a moment, reaching for another bun, "But it's all over." (new paragraph) "Why?" unsurprised, head bent. (new paragraph) "Mr Block has bought Moosomins out. And he will the others too, before spring." (new paragraph) She asked, on the superficial level both of them knew held no meaning, "What does he, with one son, want with all that bush? There's no decent acre of breaking in the lot." (new paragraph) "Just to get rid of them! He told me as much on Thursday when I talked with him in the hay-meadow. Louis's being in jail just proves his point that nothing can be done with them. They'll just -- somehow -- infect us with their sin. He didn't outrightly mention Herman, but there's obviously the beginning. And my teaching those --" Thom stopped. (new paragraph) "What did he say to you?" (new paragraph) Thom hesitated, fearful for her as he had been, and was, for himself. But there was no avoiding it. He said, baldly, "Could we have half-breeds joining our church?" (new paragraph) She said nothing. Thom, drawing his finger through a bump of flour on the oil-cloth, pushed on, "What have I been doing? Trying to salve my conscience for half a year with a salve that doesn't exist?" (new paragraph) She spoke then, quietly, considering only his first question. "I cannot see how it would work, either. Perhaps we would -- somehow -- be fit to cross that bridge once it had faced us for a time." (new paragraph) "But Mom, can you see Old Rempel -- or Unger --

Block --" (new paragraph) She interrupted his groping. "No. Look at yourself -- or me --" She shook her head, almost shuddering. "Too many things would have to break. It would be fearful." (new paragraph) Eyes unseeing on her work, she murmured, "And Christ left us no easy way out. Only love. Hard. Probably impossible. After having seen as good an example of impossible love as ever there was in the world. Elizabeth. For all the unhappiness that came to her; all that one may think her father did wrong towards her, she loved him to the end. Her whisper as she lay dying."

- 1.33 m1 if she had spoken to herself and his forgotten presence had  
m2-5 if his presence, forgotten, had
- 1.34 m1 him, but stumbled her query, hands  
m2-5 him, hands
- 1.35 m1 "What  
m2-5 "Was I speaking aloud? What
- 1.37 m1 "What did she die  
m2-5 "What did Elizabeth die
- 217 1.3 m1 a tree. Mother, I don't want to blame anyone. I have to know for myself!"  
m2-5 a falling tree." As he stared at his mother's mute figure, he suddenly comprehended that somehow Elizabeth was vital for unsnarling his confusion. Intensely, "Mother, I don't want to blame anyone. I have to know for myself."
- 1.10 m1 tiny cupboard  
m2-5 tiny pantry
- 1.22 m1 What happened to  
m2-5 What did happen to
- 1.25 m1 giant above her, his hands clenching massively on the table before her eyes, crumbs dribbling. "On  
m2-5 giant above her, hands clenching massively on the table, crumbs dribbling. "On

- 1.29 m1 hair bristled on  
m2-5 hair seemed to bristle on
- 1.30 m1 How can I go on believing what Block  
says -- about anything? There  
m2-5 How can you keep me ignorant when  
everything is falling in ruins? There
- 1.32 m1 at his black-glowing face  
m2-5. at his face
- 1.33 m1 his thirsting tyrannic necessity. She  
m2-5 his tyrannically grasping maturity.  
She
- 1.35 m1 tears sliding  
m2-5 tears pushing
- 218 1.5 m1 It does not matter what  
m2-5 It cannot matter to you what
- 1.9 m1 man, running  
m2-5 man, getting rid of undesirables,  
running
- 1.16 m1 survived in  
m2-5 survived somehow in
- 1.17 m1 him. Even  
m2-5 him. Others did. Even
- 1.21 m1 us? He keeps  
m2-5 us? He tells us what is good and what  
isn't good for us. He keeps
- 1.25 m1-2 bush, we  
m3-5 bush, do we
- 1.29 m1 "Where does  
m2-5 "Everyone keeps saying that! But  
where does
- 1.32 m1 mother screamed in the face of his  
wild despair, "It  
m2-5 mother cried, distraught in the face  
of his raging, "It
- 1.36 m1 for rage.  
m2-5 for anger.
- 219 1.1 m1 the frightful silence  
m2-5 the dreadful silence
- 1.5 m1 dying."

- m2-5 dying. If she could forgive, surely you can."
- 1.25 m1 (continuation) His mind grovelled: what was the use of anything when what you had believed, despite doubts, turned to vomit of which you could not rid yourself. Distantly  
 m2 His reason told him this should not affect him so, but as remembered details fit into the design only too smoothly, he could not deny that something had crashed within him. In the past six months he had questioned almost the man's every act, surely his own Christian faith should not now be affected. But the one log that held the jam had been jarred and he could sense within him only the numb void that remained after the rush had vanished. Distantly  
 m3-5 His . . . details fitted into . . . distantly
- 1.36 m1 his thoughts.  
 m2-5 his emptiness.
- 220 1.3 m1 but seem to indicate that in the  
 m2-5 but it is clear that in the
- 1.5 m1 area seems to have  
 m2-5 area have
- 1.14 m1 "We will  
 m2-5 "Stay tuned to this station; we will
- 1.16 m1 buzz-bomb over London is becoming  
 m2-5 buzz-bomb attacks against London are becoming
- 1.19 m1 than even during the height of V-1 attacks last  
 m2 than the height of V-1 blitz last  
 m3-5 than during the height of V-1 blitz last
- 1.29 m1 knew, hypocritical thought, the  
 m2-5 knew, evasive thought and action, the
- Chapter Seventeen (earlier titled Chapter Five of Winter 1944)**
- 221 1.1 m1 air above the  
 m2-5 air around the

- 1.6 m1 long gone; the trees  
m2 long gone; in the north-west the northern lights flimmed faintly; the trees  
m3-5 long gone; in the north-west the Northern Lights glimmered faintly; the trees
- 1.12 m1 world which you could believe the  
m2-5 world into which it could be believed the
- 1.13 m1 had once entered at Bethlehem. Even Thom forgot his  
m2-5 had once come at Bethlehem. Thom almost forgot his
- 1.16 m1 that almost everyone  
m2-5 that nearly everyone
- 1.18 m1 stage. Scrambling over  
m2-5 stage. As he scrambled over
- 1.22 m1 teach'rage.  
m2-5 teacherage.
- 1.23 m1 figgered  
m2-5 figured
- 222 1.3 m1 grunted in pulling  
m2-5 grunted, pulling
- 1.14 m1 and trotted through  
m2-5 and walked slowly through
- 1.15 m1 school. As he  
m2 school. He would as soon not have come, but how could Hal understand. His feet sinking with each step, he saw the lights of the teacherage beyond the school; the excitement of the carefree children dressing for their evening laughed distantly at him. You couldn't tell a child's skin colour from its laughter -- just like you couldn't tell the difference between Jackie Labret and Johnny Lepp by the way Hal talked about them. Give him a few years. Thinking of Jackie, he knew the boy had been puzzled Sunday afternoon. As for himself, he could but count it a blessing that the afternoon had been

- planned as program practice. What he would have taught them in a regular lesson he did not bother to consider. As the school-steps creaked under his weight he thought, Face it. Block, one way or another, has his way. He reached for the door-knob. (new paragraph) As he
- m3-5 school. He . . . Hal understand? His . . . just as you . . . As he
- 1.34 m1 green-blue  
m2-5 grey-blue
- 223 1.12 m1-2 you left  
m3-5 they left
- 1.13 m1-2 your family  
m3-5 their family
- 1.14 m1-2 you had done your Christian duty.  
While  
m3-5 they had done their Christian duty,  
while
- 1.15 m1 he fought the  
m2-5 he out-stared the
- 1.17 m1 He dropped his voice in the quietness.  
"As  
m2-5 His hand reaching inside his jacket,  
he dropped his voice in the quietness.  
"As
- 1.18 m1 reporter," and for an instant Hank  
gloated over the fact that not one  
person in the whole building had even  
known that the Record existed before  
he said so, or now knew that it was  
the largest weekly newspaper in the  
world, "when  
m2-5 reporter in Montreal -- here -- read  
it," and he pulled out the dog-eared  
paper, folded at the page where his  
picture grinned, and held it up before  
the eager eyes of the young men about  
him. For an instant a smile curled  
his lips; not one person in the whole  
building had even known that the  
Record existed, or now knew that it  
was the largest weekly newspaper in  
the world. "When
- 1.25 m1 a German swine

- m2-5 a Nazi pig
- 1.37 m1 Hank, his nose awry on his face like  
the grin of a satyr -- he  
m2-5 Hank, his face agrin like a satyr --  
he
- 224 1.3 m1 them. But younger men drew close to  
Hank, the  
m2-5 them. Though crowded beyond possible  
motion, in the silence some of the  
younger men seemed to draw closer to  
Hank, the
- 1.13 m1 only two feet  
m2-5 only three feet
- 1.15 m1 goin', boy?  
m2-5 goin', big-boy?
- 1.16 m1-3 doin'  
m4-5 doing
- 1.18 m1 The row of ribbons and the three  
medals on Hank's chest gleamed dully  
m2-5 The picture on the glossy paper  
someone was holding before him and the  
row of ribbons on Hank's chest gleamed  
dully
- 1.25 m1 stage. As he opened his parka, Thom  
slowly  
m2-5 stage. Hank said, reaching, "The  
show's on, I guess -- let's have that  
paper. You can see afterwards." As  
he turned, Thom, opening his parka,  
slowly
- 1.34 m1 had been thinking of the  
m2-5 had often considered the
- 225 1.15 m1 line, each of which  
could distinctly be heard in the tot's  
recitation,  
m2-5 line, each distinct in the tot's  
recitation,
- 1.31 m1 the following evening. Mennonites  
m2-5 the following Thursday evening. Side  
by side, Mennonites
- 1.35 m1 eyes caught what he had been looking  
m2-5 eyes caught the hope he had been  
looking



- 226 1.3 m1 mind like a light the darkness  
m2-5 mind as a light the empty darkness
- 1.6 m1 the smaller  
m2-5 the nine smaller
- 1.12 m1 was little hope  
m2-5 was now little hope
- 1.15 m1 A former thought roused him. He had  
once admitted to himself that Razia  
was pretty, but even in the smooth  
green dress on the stage corner --  
m2-5 Looking at her in what he rigidly  
disciplined himself to believe were  
inconspicuous intervals, he smiled to  
remember how he had once, fleetingly,  
paused to ponder if Razia might be  
almost as pretty. Even in that smooth  
green dress on the stage corner she --
- 1.22 m1 Herb turned slightly and saw  
m2-5 Herb, turning slightly, saw
- 1.24 m1 undertone, vulgarity a brand across  
his face, "Easy  
m2-5 undertone, "Easy
- 1.26 m1 marching off, chanting  
m2-5 marching, chanting
- 1.29 m1 Almost -- almost -- there must --  
somewhere -- be a limit. No.  
m2-5 Thom's muscles knotted. Only the  
crowd and the occasion checked him.
- 1.31 m1 Rigid as a ramrod against  
m2-5 Then, ramrod-rigid against
- 1.34 m1 anyway? Why not live as  
m2-5 anyway? Live as
- 1.35 m1 must. He  
m2-5 must. And he
- 227 1.4 m1 paled before Herb's carnality. Thom  
felt himself smothered. The  
m2-5 paled before Herb. The
- 1.5 m1 body. He could not think of  
m2-5 body. It was impossible to think of
- 1.6 m1 but Razia -- if he

- m2-5 but Razia -- abruptly he found that if he
- 1.7 m1 he would be thinking in unison with Herb.  
m2-5 he could think in unison with Herb.
- 1.8 m1 He could no longer delude himself about his own unhindered thoughts concerning the tantalizing figure in the tight green dress.  
m2-5 His mind, strange to such thoughts, went fumbling after the tantalizing figure in the tight green dress.
- 1.10 m1 He found such wells of depravity yawning in  
m2-5 Such wells of depravity yawned in
- 1.26 m1 The beauty of her was like the essence of her soul to him, reaching beyond  
m2-5 Her beauty reached beyond
- 1.28 m1 together in one vulgarity was sacrilege. Pete  
m2-5 together in one obscenity was -- his mind could articulate no word; he felt rasped to his soul. But the question stood. Pete
- 1.30 m1 sitting in his desk  
m2-5 sitting in the desk
- 1.31 m1 stage, had the right answer from his father. He must have! Against a woman who flaunted her body at you like a flag, you needed rigid principles to control your thoughts.  
m2-5 stage; what helped him control his thoughts against a woman who flaunted her body like a flag? He turned on his father's principles. "We Mennonites teach." And so on.
- 228 1.1 m1 him. Herman  
m2-5 him. To his right, Old Moosomin glared, non-committal, at the stage, never turning his head. Herman
- 1.3 m1 were farther to the right, in a corner with their little bundle,  
m2-5 were beyond him in one corner with their little bundle,

- 1.4 m1 pause. The  
m2-5 pause. Mrs Mackenzie, proud beside her sombre husband, caught Thom's eye with a smile. He smiled and looked away. The
- 1.7 m1 were looking  
m2-5 were gazing
- 1.20 m1 that were tradition  
m2-5 that, under Mennonite teachers, seemed tradition,
- 1.21 m1 School. Innocent  
m2-5 School. Unknowing half-breeds and innocent
- 1.26 m1 (continuation) And Hank Unger had arrived!  
m2-5 (new paragraph) And Hank Unger!
- 1.26 m1 She had resolutely checked her desire to look  
m2-5 She had rigidly resisted the pull of her look
- 1.27 m1 stood. If he  
m2-5 stood: only after the program. But as item after item slipped smoothly by and success drew towards triumph, her mind, aroused, began to tense under that pull. If he
- 1.31 m1 Having fondled the thought all evening, Razia edged the side-curtain over as Linda Giesbrecht recited 'The Shepherds' Welcome.'  
m2-5 What did it matter, a few minutes. As Linda Giesbrecht recited "The Shepherd's Welcome", Razia turned abruptly from her prompting papers -- Linda never made a mistake -- and fingered a slit through the side curtain.
- 1.33 m1 was only twenty  
m2-5 was twenty
- 1.37 m1 door-step a week before -- the smitten fool -- where had he groped up the nerve to sneak away from his father that late at night! -- uggh -- and then she shifted and there he was.  
m2-5 door step a week before. Where had he

groped up the nerve to sneak away from his father that late a night to -- then the edge of her eye caught, she shifted, and there he was.

- 229 1.3 m1 hair. But the clean lines of his face seemed smudged, somehow, and more masculine than the intense boy she recalled. And the ribbons across his chest were like the scar of awful manhood upon him.
- m2-5 hair, but the ribbons were now like the scar of gigantic potency across his chest. Knowing him unconscious of her look, his manhood ranted through her. After a time, she realized that the clean boyish lines of his face seemed smudged, somehow, by the weight of what he had encountered.
- 1.8 m1 He had done his share.  
m2-5 He had done his share, and more.
- 1.9 m1 down. And born a Mennonite. What  
m2-5 down. What
- 1.11 m1 and she turned, reluctantly.  
m2-5 and she could barely restrain from brushing it away as she would an insect. What a beautiful man! She forced herself to let the curtain slip, and turned.
- 1.14 m1 The people of Wapiti felt that the program was extraordinary. The vivid faces they had when Mr. Block announced that a non-Mennonite was the only teacher available were now allayed completely. Trust Mr. Block. As Linda stepped back behind the curtain, Reimer nodded to the Pastor. Old Mrs. Martens leaned over towards her daughter-in-law, rocking her youngest grandchild on her knee, "That girl knows what to do, even if she's not one of us. You ask her over for Sunday dinner after New Year's." Razia would have smiled to know she had passed the test. (new paragraph)  
Thom
- m2-5 Linda stepped behind the curtain.  
Thom
- 1.15 m1 to the hurried scurrying behind the

- curtain. It must be the 'Surprise!' which Hal had labored under  
 m2-5 to hurried scurrying on the closed stage. It must be the "Surprise" under which Hal had labored
- 1.17 m1 He could see Mr. Block leaning forward in his chair, his face non-committal. After  
 m2-5 Block was leaning forward in his chair, face as ever non-committal. Consummate! After
- 1.28 m1 everyone drinking her  
 m2-5 everyone held by her
- 1.28 m1 "The Star  
 m2-5 As the people understood the title, Reimer, near the front with Block nodded to Pastor Lepp beside him, smiling. Thom, glancing back at the green figure, saw her look sweep over the school-room and waver for one instant toward the door. But she did not see him, of that he was certain. Her glance seemed to hesitate on some man before him and in that flick of time he thought her face was transformed. He blinked, puzzled, but then her look was away again and she announced, her voice slightly roughened, "The Star
- 1.38 m1 As she stepped through the curtain, she thought, This does it. After this I can do no wrong. (new paragraph) The  
 m2-5 She vanished. The
- 231 1.6 m1 Thom was beyond himself. As the curtain closed, he saw the Deacon, face shining, looking  
 m2-5 As the curtain closed, Thom saw the Deacon, face shining, looking
- 1.7 m1 They were right. Authority of the fathers was the only way. They must follow Truth like a Star, wherever it went, even if the road was sometimes superhumanly difficult. Elizabeth had faltered and been overcome by the Flesh and the Devil -- he himself, once -- but not Pete, and himself never again. There  
 m2-5 He looked away but the point of that

first scene pierced him. A man must live on something. And Truth must be followed as a Star, though the road was sometimes superhumanly difficult. But did Block have this Truth -- from the fathers? Abruptly, Thom could not avoid the conviction that Elizabeth had faltered; his compulsion against Block could not forever hide the fact that, despite her father's rigidity, she still had to consent personally to that act. If she was not really responsible, then Block was not either, because then he also had been, helplessly, moulded by his training. Following that back, you arrived at Adam: what then? You blame God. And you go through life doing what you do because you can do no else. No. There

- 1.22 m1 chest. The world and the War were for modern heathen. The Deacon's teachings were for the right and for the strong. With relief like agony Thom plunged again into what he knew was his faith. Erect  
m2-5 chest. So where was the Truth that must be followed? Was there only the old Block or the young Unger way? (new paragraph) The curtain was opening. Erect
- 1.25 m1 kings as his own struggle to the freedom of dedication. He  
m2-5 kings and slowly, as he saw, he began to follow, praying unconsciously in his longing. He
- 1.31 m1 quest they knew not whither while they doubted but struggled on.  
m2-5 quest, the very end of which was unknown, while they doubted but struggled on.
- 1.34 m1 the last final directions  
m2-5 their last directions
- 232 1.12 m1 And the shepherd smiled and said,  
m2-5 And the shepherd -- Thom recognized Jackie Labret -- smiled and said,
- 1.18 m1 For Thom, there was no way the world could touch him now. He was calm as

he had not been since the War began to affect him. It did not matter now that the War had finally come to Wapiti and was there at that moment before him, or even that the German break-through back into France would demand a vast recruitment of those who could receive calls. The letter calling him was doubtless already in the mail, but he was calm. His path in following truth to peace was clear. He and Pete stood together, undoubtedly. (new paragraph) The For Thom the marvel that Razia should initiate such a play was drowned in his own conflict. He could follow the kings in their quest, but when they bent and entered, he was blocked. They found the answer of their search in that barn in Bethlehem, but his answer? He needed it -- this evening -- in Wapiti. The War was there before him. The huge German break-through back into France would demand a vast recruitment of those eligible to receive calls; his own letter could not but already be in the mail. What -- and as he raised his head, his eye centred on Old Moosomin, face folded in the same inflexible lines. There was more than one war to be faced in Wapiti. (new paragraph) On the instant the

- m2-5
- 1.30 m1 The door pushed wide  
m2-5 the door jerked wide
- 1.31 m1 Claus. The  
m2-5 Claus. As Thom tried to move aside, the
- 1.32 m1 to the school on  
m2-5 to the pupils on
- 1.33 m1 stretch, and Santa  
m2-5 stretch, Razia behind them, face enraptured. Santa
- 1.34 m1 way towards them  
m2-5 way through the crowd,
- 1.37 m1 and the running of shouting children to their parents  
m2-5 and the shouting of the children

pushing towards their parents

- 233 1.1 m1 Christmas. Caldrons of  
m2-5 Christmas. Caught in the eddies of the crowd, Thom, despite his longing to get outside and alone with himself, was jostled farther from the door. Everyone recognized him; he was forced to answer their friendly questions, then cauldrons of
- 1.8 m1 lamps. When  
m2-5 lamps. The Deacon inched his way inconspicuously from one family father to the next, speaking a few words and then edging on. When
- 1.10 m1 way out into  
m2-5 way into
- 1.14 m1 quiet. After an evening such as they could not remeber before, the Wapiti people hushed quickly. Thom, relaxing on a desk-top, could only admire the man facing the members of his community. The year had tested that man's beliefs -- terribly -- but they still stood rock-like.  
m2-5 quiet. Thom had finally, evading all coffee cups, worked his way almost to reaching the door-knob when he noticed the Deacon. He stopped then. After an evening such as they could not remember before, the Wapiti people hushed quickly.
- 1.27 m1 fulfilled." (new paragraph) "We  
m2-5 fulfilled. (new paragraph) Thom was numbed. To say that! (new paragraph) "We
- 1.32 m1 hard and planned a wonderful program, so we as trustees decided that, since she is new here and yet has done such good work among the peculiar people we are," and the Deacon smiled, "We would suprise her with a small present to show that we like her work." He leaned forward and took the large box Reimer handed up to him. "If  
m2-5 hard. She planned one of the best programs we have ever seen, while we sat here, we as trustees decided that we should give her a little present.



Christmas is a good time to give gifts -- to acknowledge our gratefulness to others. Our teacher is new here, and yet has done a good work among the peculiar people that we are," and the Deacon smiled broadly while pulling a heavy envelope from his coat pocket. Thom thought, The half-breeds don't exist in Wapiti any longer. They never have -- for him -- except when Eliz -- he listened. "It was a surprise to you men to be asked to contribute, but in giving you all showed that you enjoyed and received a spiritual blessing from the program given here tonight. So this gift, small as it may be," the Deacon hefted the heavy envelope in his hand, "comes as a surprise to both giver and receiver -- which is certainly the best way it could be. If

- 234 1.9 m1 paused.  
m2-5 paused, smiling his rare smile.
- 1.10 m1 young teacher walk through the crowd.  
m2-5 young teacher's face as she pushed through the crowd.
- 1.11 m1 Block looked about, hesitant, and repeated  
m2-5 Block, scanning, repeated
- 1.12 m1 Not a sound was heard through the whole building. " -- Isn't  
m2-5 Every sound vanished in the crammed building. "Isn't
- 1.13 m1 about as if  
m2-5 about, smiles frozen
- 1.22 m1 this?" Thom grabbed the door-knob and in an instant was outside.  
m2-5 this?", Thom stretched for the door-knob and in two strides was outside.
- 1.27 m1 think, but it kept nagging --  
m2-5 think, but that look kept nagging.
- 1.29 m1 and he felt Herb move beside him,  
m2-5 and he sensed Herb behind him,
- 1.36 m1 and running, Herb slower in the sleigh

- tracks,  
m2-5 and running -- Herb slipping in the  
criss-crossed sleigh-tracks,
- 235 1.1 m1 but of the  
m2-5 but the
- 1.3 m1 it open  
m2-5 the door open
- 1.3 m1 What he saw between the two rows of  
nervous horses near the far wall  
turned him to stone.  
m2-5 His glance leaped between the two rows  
of nervous horses to the barn's far  
wall. He stood, rocked.
- 1.8 m1 over it, who, as Thom opened the door,  
jerked her face back  
m2-5 over it. As Thom opened the door, her  
face jerked back
- 1.16 m1 a line gleaming  
m2-5 a gleaming line
- 1.18 m1-2 "God, he hit me. Pete, he ----"  
m3-5 "He hit me. Pete, he ----"
- 1.19 m1 To the two, silhouetted like marble in  
the shadows by the open door as only  
the horses stirred and the pounding  
footsteps which none heard raced  
nearer, the  
m2-5 Only the horses stirred; the thudding  
footsteps, which none heard, raced  
nearer. To the two, silhouetted like  
marble in the shadows by the open  
door, the
- 1.23 m1 thinking, Hank, in stunned amazement  
cursed.  
m2-5 thinking. Hank, in numbed amazement,  
stumbled a curse.
- 1.26 m1 and all his hatred  
m2-5 and his long unreleased hatred
- 1.28 m1 desire, and the nursed hatred against  
m2-5 desire, against
- 1.30 m1 leaped at Pete, who turned,  
m2-5 leaped. Pete
- 1.32 m1 It broke in Thom like a dam. Later he

- would ponder the folly of ramming violence away for years only that it might burst into the void of dogma shells to rupture all in the instant, but now he was washed by the despair and hopelessness of a whole life of belief hinging on another person's action and the at-last-relieving surge of brute strength.
- m2-5 Pete! Thom's mind gasped the cry as into his void of splintered dogmas violence surged to brute strength.
- 236 1.2 m1 the tabloid in  
m2-5 the tableau in
- 1.5 m1 with Hank groggily sitting  
m2-5 with Hank sitting as half-bemused
- 1.8 m1 wall, they  
m2-5 wall, at first glance they
- 1.9 m1 casual for a photograph.  
m2-5 casual for the photographer.
- 1.10 m1 Block had been among the first men in.  
m2-5 Block rammed his way through the crush.
- 1.16 m1 face lost in hysterical abandon.  
"What  
m2-5 face abandoned. "What
- 1.27 m1 shame. She stared about,  
m2-5 shame. Her look flashed about,
- 1.28 m1 hands and tottered towards the  
m2-5 hands and ran towards the
- 1.35 m1 father since he  
m2-5 father after he
- 1.36 m1 right. I would do it again."  
m2-5 right."
- 1.37 m1 scarred and hoary head  
m2-5 scarred grey head
- 237 1.3 m1 two greys swung  
m2-5 two horses swing
- 1.7 m1 Métis had  
m2-5 half-breeds had

- 1.8        m1        incomprehension.  
           m2-5    incomprehension yet sensing a great  
                  break.
- 1.12       m1        one sharp word,  
           m2-5    one clipped word
- 1.13       m1        the shameful corpse  
           m2-5    the corpse
- 1.14       m1        Block. And Block had been taken away  
                  by his son, without another word.  
                  Thom's  
           m2-5    Block. Thom's
- 1.15       m1        to slow his hitching so that the Lepps  
                  would be gone before he drove up to  
                  the school.  
           m2-5    to speed his hitching so that the  
                  Lepps would not be out before he drove  
                  up to the school.
- 1.17       m1        Staring between the horses' heads,  
                  nodding in their dust, understanding  
                  fumbled through his daze. Had he been  
                  forcing himself to believe another  
                  man's powerful convictions? All his  
                  grapplings with applying Christ's Love  
                  in a modern world -- had he ever had  
                  any to apply! Or merely an enforced  
                  mental conformity with a noble man's  
                  misguided interpretation of Mennonite  
                  teaching? Christ's teachings stood  
                  clear in the Scriptures. If he could  
                  but scrape them bare of all their  
                  acquired meanings and see them as  
                  those first disciples had done, their  
                  feet in the dust of Galilee. See them  
                  clear in this century. Perhaps then  
                  they could have a community in the  
                  spirit of Menno Simons. Perhaps then  
                  they could have a Christian, not a  
                  Mennonite, community. Move in the  
                  divine harmony of God's peace. (new  
                  paragraph) Wiens  
           m2        Block had been led away by Pastor  
                  Lepp, with Pete following silently.  
                  Thom drove, reins clenched in his left  
                  fist, his right throbbing dully,  
                  forcing his thoughts back. His body  
                  revolted in barely controllable nausea  
                  at the remembered crash on Herb's  
                  face, the oozing blood. Beastly! One  
                  taste eclipsed a thousand imaginings.

He, with his months of oh-so-noble questionings, had plumbed the pit. (new paragraph) He gazed unseeing between the greys' heads, nodding in their trot. The evening overwhelmingly upon him, it would be long before he could conceive of how much had been sloughed aside that night in Wapiti. Then, Jackie Labret, bending down to lead the way to the manger, stood before him. There must lie the way. Not the paths of conscienceless violence or one man's misguided interpretation of tradition. They brought chaos. But the path of God's revelation. Christ's teachings stood clear in the Scriptures; could he but scrape them bare of all their acquired meanings and see them as those first disciples had done, their feet in the dust of Galilee. He must. And, seeing Jackie again, a long-forgotten statement by Joseph rose to his memory. "We are spared war duty and possible death on the battlefield only because we are to be so much the better witnesses for Christ here at home." Comprehending suddenly a shade of those words' depth, he realized that two wars did not confront him; only one's two faces. And he was felled before both. (new paragraph) No. If in suppression and avoidance lay defeat, then victory beckoned in pushing ahead. Only a conquest by love unites the combatants. And in the heat of this battle lay God's peace. "My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth." (new paragraph)

Wiens

m3-5 Block . . . one's own two . . . 'My peace . . . giveth.' (new paragraph)  
Wiens

- 238 1.18 m1 sound. (new paragraph) Hal's  
m2-5 sound, for it had come as hard, and harder than she had feared, and the end was not yet. (new paragraph) Hal's
- 1.23 m1 where we all go into  
m2-5 where we all follow Jackie into
- 1.25 m1 four big boys  
m2-5 four fellas

- 1.34 m1 so Jackie an' me could  
m2-5 so we could
- 1.38 m1 her, staring up, driving towards the  
brightest star in the heavens.  
m2-5 her, staring skyward. As she looked  
up at him, it seemed momentarily that  
he was driving them towards the  
brightest star in the heavens.
- 239 1.5 m1-2 the end.