

Cola's depression + its explanation - 2nd telling

mean, the woman
is undercurrent

1) explanation for the wild alternatives bet. the ~~Amazon~~ Amazonian + the vulnerable - PTSD - takes something away from the possibility of her exceptionalism as a woman

* [Almost simultaneously, Abby is proving herself ready to become more than a RE farming widow - her ambitions]

But to the degree to which L embodies something of the
Califia-like spirit, a primordial, self-sufficient,
belliare/spirited feminine figure, ~~her~~ turns out to
be based in trauma * linked to conquering +
suppression of the aboriginal presence in America - her
wound inflicted in retaliation, emergence of cruelty
* contradictions that America, white America, will never
resolve - subjugation of Indians + subjugation of Ireland
in its minerality

Her suicide as confirmation of the ~~the~~ irresolvable of these
contradictions

admirable beauty
of land

psyche level: girl raised who mother in fierce west who compensates
for the "weakness" of her sex by becoming a warrior, manly - The repressed
need to be loved + taken care of allowed to return after Logan's death +
[glacier violence + beautiful valley linkage]
in presence of Lant's love - but so extreme a trauma can permit no
lasting resolution. The very relaxing of repression that makes her
exchange of tenderness w/ Lant possible brings back the buried
memories w/ renewed force. Classic case of her syndrome we today
call PTSD; she cannot prevent the scenes from being re-created in
her mind. In the end, can't bear, suicide as May
dumb higher

stake played out

death of Logan → onset of winter → Lola grown, stilled & enabled
by grief & electricity & complete winters - minimized gratifications - some rhetoric
of conquest - gold under water, lost stage, Queen's veil - Arab-like
searcher man have not signed on for (HobyDichin background). But winter
swollen river - men's realizations that they have been taken advantage of
& departure of CL

From Amazon to lover

two believers

Yosemite as interlude, as taste of the Garden, a kind
of rebirth for Lola, a partial recompense

↳ someone else - and we understand that the Amazon she was
in the camp was ^a reaction to her trauma

wild swings make her a complex character - Clint more
readable - He is in love of her and still transfixed by

Arab-like search for the Pitcher Code; but she abandons
her mania

Can this come together in Yosemite Yellowstone?

p. 118-19 Description of creation of valley by glaciers - wonder

↳ of the violence, death & retreat → sun, river, life

↳ pattern of the couple's life - the moment of error & play

↳ Romantic description -

like a man in a woman's life

like a man in a woman's life

like a man in a woman's life

moment of restitution

at play in the fields of the Lord, at least momentarily
for Lola

How otherwise
can we --

Lola's character is indeed in need of explanation. Otherwise, how can we understand her sudden transformation from a fierce, hunting man-woman to a flower child cooing in the animal in the garden by day and falling into her lover's arms at night? The explanation, after the manner of Victorian novelistic conventions, comes in the form of a concealed story of origins, ^{which is in two stages} as Thomas Logan lay dying, he reveals to Lunt ^{only} that Lola is not his daughter. ~~The members of~~ ^{her biological} family were among the early settlers ^{of?} in the Great Plains and that she was placed with him for safekeeping by an Indian; Logan's dying wish is for Lunt to take care of her. The full story emerges only at Tremité when Lunt ^{observes} that Lola is subject to unexplained periods of dejection. ~~When~~ ^{when pressed by Lunt} ~~her mood~~ ^{her mood resents from the fact} ~~presses her,~~ Lola explains that she is being revisited by traumatic primal scenes from her past. When she was a child, her parents and younger brother ^{by Indians} were murdered before her eyes, ~~They had been found~~ ~~when~~ and she was taken captive. It had been a year of extreme drought; desperate for survival, the tribe, undertaken four days of sunning, feigned dancing to beseech the gods to bring rain. Seized by a holy delirium, the medicine man declared that the "evil woman" ^{will be propitiated only} requires a sacrifice of blood, ~~to be~~ and that the white child is the chosen one. After being bound to a tree overnight in preparation for her sacrifice, Lola is rescued by a ^{young} Indian from Pierre-Meg tribe -- ~~he~~ he is no other than Haulustan -- who handed her over to Logan, who raised her as his daughter.

Although the reader may be tempted to dismiss this story as stereotypically melodramatic, a closer look at the poem's narrative ^{shows} that Eber is making productive use of this convention. ^{symbolic}