

1846-48 Mex - Am war, result: CA now part of US - w/ discovery of Gold
Comparison w/ W. Indians

- woman traduced, woman idealized, Indians idealized, agricultural ideal
- conflicted man who yields to greed + left as empty shell
- focus on specific locations, although vastly expanded context

Genre: narrative poem, realistic w/ lyrical + descriptive portions

Epos's selection of this episode as exemplary, paradigmatic

* contrast w/ what Preil found in NE 19th c.: stability, connection to land, fullness of nature, unchanging idyll (which he can't be part of)

Here: movement, turbulence, greed, risk, danger, frontier -

Essential feature of Am character that will not stay on the farm
+ enjoy the love of a good woman.

Female figures here split bet. good woman and bad + troubled, & concern -

Ezra as name: wing, wild woman

return to Simeon?

Salem MA, sea town - p[ro]p[erty] God - man movement

300,000 came

12 Recall of how they met: returnee from Mex war, sought peace & quiet
- farm hand - her land - farm unencumbered + productive -

(He is distracted from concern for his son - out of his mind -

14 Abby's father: America as mystery + how can you sleep peacefully
next to it? N[orth] S[outh] C[entral] G[reat] R[ivers] 200k 7'lk

Great hearings: Ohio, Then Missouri, + now CA - why did I stay?

They went + I stayed - support (male) for Ezra

15 The great streaming from all directions to Independence T[er]r

great collective feeling of eve of great adventure - assembly of wagons
1820s -> 7'lk pp 200+

- 20 Thomas Logan - head of hunters + master story teller
- 21 Collection of 99ers on wagon train: from every walk of life + social class
- 22 Calafia as head of kingdom of strong women - not long lasting
- 23 Cole: young, ♀ black hair + eyes - mad dancing - calling them on to great exploits - 24 question asked how + answered like re her extreme spirit

26 alk n? - Heb. months

cf:
Calafia? The journey + its challenges: Calais sparing them or, Indian attacks,
Humboldt Desert

*38-99 Lent + God/gods: why did you implant in me something that cannot
grant me peace + uproot me from a good home?
Fate chose these pioneers to play w/., to delight its soul -
furniture thrown over board, food gone, all-out effort to survive.

Does not bother w/ fictional transitions, i.e. bet. horrors of journey +
arrival in CA

meeting w/ Indians - healthy dream of farming the CA soil -
grandiose plans w/ Abby + family, purchase of land
Indian's wisdom of return to land + renunciations of resistance

* 62 The great unanswered question about why he cannot desist
* Role of descriptions of mining + * Yezemite as answers to this Q

68 1710-910 - title of section - attracted + repelled - Fitst impression:
details, realia

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- ^{S sudden} ^{disorientations}
1. happened upon ghosts/p'kə>, dead hearts repeating past death
 2. gigantic game where players have forgot the rules

76 70 image of black spider pulling him into its golden web

- 74 Lent devotes himself to the work - innovates with cribs
 rocker or cradles, 2 men could process 200 buckets full per day.
 Brings in Mexican workers to make the cradles - becomes overseer
- 77 Reminder of Abby at home
- 78 Around campfire: common cross section of American dream to return
 home w/ money to get girl, buy store, church, plantation, although
 no S wait behind
- 81 Lent's speech: transfixed, enthralled, mad speech about finding
 the Mother Lode - climbing to the source of gold - Urging miners to
 band together, not to return, to search
 The Gold Queen ^{is} FINDING ~~is~~ ^{is} PIS ^{is} 20/NP - intoxicated speech -
 sees wonder in Lola's eyes and appeals to her as his mate -
 confession/declaration: you are my soulmate! She turns
 into her tent
- 82 descent into sadness, diminution
- ? 2 objects of desire: 1 more distant than ever & unachieved! !P1/P2, P1/P2
- 88 end of summer exhaustion - where the happiness? The wisdom?
 Silent analogue to Abby: regret, longing, guilt, how to return
- 90 Thomas Logan's painful death - story of Lola's trauma
 Solemn oath demanded of Lent to be responsible for Lola -
- 94 end of summer + miners think of home - 7'11K7 52'120 - banjo + the
 local songs from each region sing plaintively - melancholy -
 The camp, the sociality of men from disparate places drawn together
 under this spell outside society -
- 96 Lola's impassioned speech (to California) - mocking or clinging to their
 mother's arms
- Her maturation from girl to woman + obj. of desire - what they've
 taken so far is 205 P1/P2 / 20/NP found in date p

Califa stirring them up + surprising their home feelings

Although already ruined out

102 She feeds them nourishing stars in winter at their work place.

frenzy of return to work, as one organism
Lent as general & over load

105 End of winter, melting; river rises (Lola's admiration for Lent's
great organization acumen, commanding presence) rise to
hero status, above other men, Trieste

104-106 P/S of winter, nature - hail, surge in river
failure of dike + levee - Lola + Lent blamed + mocked

108 Lent in despair - Lola backs him up - she believes in the Gold
Queen

IV 1/8238
111 1110

Truth, idyll, she makes him wait until she is ready -
there in the abandoned cabin they unite
moment of sexual fulfillment - Eden, alone in the world + nature's
beauty

But: SO INT DIL R'PRONN / L'YSLD IS DPLN PNSR JLR

117 Even this sweet dream can be penetrated by call of gold
San Joaquin River - Yosemite

118 Yosemite - description of creation by glaciers -

* 119 passage of description for analysis - displaced religious imagery -
L + L in the Garden meeting up - *America in the garden.
Lola plays like a child in the garden

121 change in Lola's affect - lost in thought, abstracted

122 other miners + invite to Sunday festivities

123 cock fight - magician, *square dances

127 Return, peace of night: she: ? wishes that I die on this night.

The mystery of her melancholy amidst paradise

placer miners - on surface

225
⑤

- 127 She wants to return, stop & he is astounded
- 128 Return of trauma, reliving it forever, PTSD
parents + brother killed - drought - sacrifice - fields free - rescued
Indian Hiyo + Shoshone
- 131 Tishkei, they leave the valley for the hills. Why? she asks
wonders, why leave Eden? To find the mother lode
- 132 221N, pink 3N 222, 223
Comic injustice that she is punished whereas it is he who
has sinned -

X 221 1k, 222

- 141 Feb (220) - making maple syrup as another set piece of
Americana description - function not just ethnographic or
biog - into - Hebrew but dramatic: the pastoral, settled life
of an earlier America vs the residential, seeking individuality
questioning, risking dimension
- Prop CP
Again, no real
religion] idyll interlude

- 144 Satiric: 223 1 224, 225 discussing ~~the~~ the devil's work of the Gold Rush
- P 224 1 225 226 227 228

This obscurantism represents what truly needs to be excised from

- 146 Dance on the farm vs at the miners' camp
- * 159 achievement of tragic renunciation beyond "frozen storm" -
accepts the price of his deeds + his losses -

Fence of new farm is the boundary he cannot/must not cross - there
the vibrancy of agriculture + farm life reected on new shore

161 metaphor

- 162 22 of crops - why did they look for any other kind? - ravaging
of earth - proto-ecological theme

168 Abby's theodicy: Perhaps it was the lust for gold & was the only force that could attract settlers to this distant place + now they can turn themselves to the land -