

SYNOPSIS HALF BROKE HORSES

By Paul Stebings

Part 1

Part 1 Summary

Part 1, "Salt Draw," began with the tale of a flash flood that plagued High Lonesome, the home of the Casey family. The main character, Lily, was ten years old. She was outside with her little brother Buster, who was 9 years old, and their little sister, Helen, who was 7 years old. There was very little warning before the flood hits. Lily manages to set the animals free. Lily stated, "Those old cows knew trouble was coming before we did." (Part 1, p. 3).

Lily, Buster, and Helen make it to a large cottonwood tree just before the flood hits. They children are forced to spend the night in the tree. Lily used every trick that she knew to keep Buster and Helen awake and therefore preventing them from falling out of the tree and drowning. By morning the water recedes enough to allow the children to get down from the tree and make their way home. Lily's parents talked about a guardian angel that must have saved them from danger. Lily said, "'There weren't no guardian angel Dad,' I said. I started explaining how I got us to the cottonwood tree in time, figuring out how to switch places when our arms got tired and keeping Buster and Helen awake through the long night by quizzing them."

Lily's father said that maybe the guardian angel is really Lily. Lily had a large number of responsibilities on the ranch including collecting and selling the eggs, helping her mother and Lupe, supervising the children, and helping with the raising and training of the horses. Daisy, Lily's mother, often objected to Lily's work with the horses but her objections were shot down by Lily's father. He needed the help and Lily is good at it.

Flash floods were not the only problems the Casey's faced at the ranch. A tornado struck. While the house was not ruined by the tornado, a windmill was thrown onto the house roof, caving it in. It was time to leave High Lonesome and return to Hondo Valley. Fortunately, family heirlooms, and most of the animals were saved. Everything was packed up into the wagon and the family heads for New Mexico.

Part 1 Analysis

The first part was dedicated to introducing the family, including Lily Casey and Adam Casey, Lily's father.

Lily Casey was the main character in the story. Born in 1901 on Salt Draw, Lily quickly became her father's right hand when it came to training horses and dealing with the public. Adam Casey had also been kicked in the head by a horse at age three which left him with a speech impediment. People often mocked him for his slurred speech. Therefore, his speech in public was severely limited. It was up to Lily to be her father's voice.

From a young age, Lily was the kind of person who took charge. She took care of her siblings, broke horses, trained horses, and did every farm chore that needed to be done. There was nothing that Lily Casey couldn't do.

Adam Casey was a man with big dreams and as Lily sometimes puts it, harebrained schemes. Casey was a well educated man, one that is devoted to learning as much as possible and passing that desire and knowledge onto his children, particularly Lily. Casey was an eloquent writer, known for penning long, precise soliloquies and letters to politicians and other public figures. Casey is highly political and somewhat intolerant. He was fascinated by things that are grandiose in P

Part 2 Summary

Part 2, "The Miraculous Staircase," began with the Casey family arriving in Hondo Valley, New Mexico. They saw a mirage in the distance. In the sky is an inverted image of the town of Tinnie, six miles away. Lupe made a sign of the cross. Adam explained the mirage.

The life of the Caseys was about to change. The KC Ranch was much larger than the one at High Lonesome. There was more land to contend with and care for which meant more land for the horses but it also meant more work.

Due to Adam's speech impediment, it became Lily's job to hire and oversee migrant workers and farm hands. Lily was only 11 years old.

Although Adam had a great deal of work and responsibility on his hands, there is always time for his flights of fancy. Among these was writing a biography of Billy the Kid. Lily took her father's dreams with a grain of salt. She said, "I sat there, ignoring Dad's prattle about harebrained schemes." (Part 2, p. 44).

Buster was sent off to school at age ten. Lily had been promised an education for years. Finally, she was going to be sent to The Sisters of Loretto of Our Lady of the Light in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Adam and Lily set off for Santa Fe, a 200 mile ride from the ranch. Lily fell in love with Santa Fe.

One of the first things that Lily and Adam saw in Santa Fe was the Miraculous Staircase. The staircase had 33 steps with no visible support. The staircase had been built by a mysterious, nameless carpenter after the nuns realized they had no staircase and prayed for intervention.

Lily liked Mother Albertina, the Mother Superior of The Sisters of Loretto of Our Lady of the Light. The woman was stern but fair and always on the move. She had a calming presence. The thing that Lily liked the most about Mother Albertina was that she treated everyone the same despite ethnicity or socio-economic status.

Lily did well at the convent school. Mother Albertina told Lily that she should become a teacher. Mother Albertina explained to Lily that she could do anything that she wanted to do, whether or not that included a husband. Lily talked about becoming a nun. Mother Albertina said that unless Lily has the calling, becoming a nun would be a mistake. Even when it became clear that becoming a novice is the only way Lily can stay at the convent, she knew that it was not the right thing for her. Lily must return to KC Ranch.

Adam did not go to Santa Fe to get Lily. Instead Lily must take the stagecoach. When Lily met her father, she learned that her tuition had been spent on purchasing Great Danes, which the family will breed. Lily learned that Buster was still in school because a boy must have a diploma.

The Caseys take on tenant farmers. The Clemenses were extremely poor. Lily liked their daughter Dorothy, who was capable and a hard worker.

There was the beginning of a feud when Old Man Puckett kills the Caseys' Great Danes. Puckett claimed that the dogs were on his property and he

feared that they would kill his horses. Lily and her father go to court to demand restitution. The family received restitution in the form of several half-broke horses. One of the horses was a mare Lily names Patches. The two would become nearly inseparable.

Mother Albertina sent a letter to Lily. Due to the war, there was a shortage of teachers. If Lily could pass the certification test, she could teach despite her lack of education. After much discussion, it was determined that Lily would take the test.

Part 2 Analysis

Lily is growing up. It is clear that her father wants to keep her on the ranch. Denying Lily an education went against what the girl had been taught but Adam did not want to let Lily leave. It was only through Lily's perseverance that she manages to get to the convent. This is clearly a male-dominant society where women need to know very little. It was only important that women know the most basic things in life, including how to keep a house and raise a family. Daisy, Lily's mother, feared that her daughter will not marry.

Lily did well in school. She worked hard and the education that she had to date paid off. When Lily learned that she must return to the ranch, she was devastated. The only way to stay without having to pay tuition was to become a novitiate. Mother Albertina showed wisdom in advising against such a drastic move. Becoming a nun was not in the cards for Lily.

Spending Lily's tuition on the Great Danes seemed logical to Adam but was hurtful and insulting to Lily. She knew that it was merely an excuse to keep her on the ranch. Later, when Lily had the opportunity to take the teacher's exam, her father had little room to argue. Lily knew that the ranch would never belong to her. She needed to make a life of her own.

Part 3 Summary

In Part 3, "Promises," Lily got her teacher's certificate. The test was easier than Lily had expected and her education paid off once again. While Adam was not happy that Lily would be away from the ranch, he had no valid argument to keep her there.

For the next four years, Lily traveled from town to town, teaching children of all ages, ethnicities, backgrounds, and abilities. Lily loved her job. The superintendent was rarely at the school, leaving Lily to teach how she wanted. Lily learned that every child could be taught, it simply took a

while to learn the trick of teaching those that do not learn in a conventional manner. Lily was a strict teacher but the students and parents liked her.

When the war ended, Lily's job ended. The women whose husbands went off to war were being laid off from the factories and wanted their jobs back. These women had more experience and education than Lily, so they were preferred stock. Lily returned to KC Ranch once more.

It had been a long time since Lily had been home. She was pleased to see that the ranch is in good repair. The fences were mended, the buildings had been whitewashed and everything was neat and tidy. Lupe greeted Lily with a whoop, alerting the rest of the family. Lily was glad to be home. The ranch was in good shape, thanks in part to Dorothy. Dorothy and Buster had married the previous year. It seemed that Dorothy had taken over the household, much as Lily might have if she had stayed on the ranch.

Lily went back to her routine for a while. Lily finally decided that she needs to break out on her own. Lily felt that she was not needed on the ranch. She decided to go to Chicago where an unmarried woman could find satisfying work.

Lily made her way to Chicago. She had a difficult time finding work at first. Eventually, Lily took on work as a maid. It was not her ideal job and she had a difficult time being subservient. Lily met Minnie, a girl who would become her first genuine friend. Minnie died in a factory accident.

Lily met Ted Conover, an Electrolux sweeper salesman. Ted swept Lily off her feet and the two marry. Lily and Ted lived in a boarding house for couples. They planned for a bright future and scrimped and saved to ensure that their dreams would come true. Ted works out of town which was fine with Lily, who was busy getting an education and working.

Lily was hit by a car on the street. The man who hit Lily insisted that she go to the hospital and call Ted. Lily objected but finally gave in. When Lily called Ted's office, she learned that not only did Ted work in the city, he was also married to a woman named Margaret. Lily was

stunned. She confirmed this story. Lily confronted Ted in his office. She attempted to pawn her engagement ring, which she learned was a fake. Lily arranged for an annulment and left Chicago.

Part 3 Analysis

Lily took a few hard blows in this section. After four years of being a teacher throughout the western U.S. Lily was told that there is no longer a place for her in the system. The women and soldiers were returning and although Lily had performed well, the women had more experience and education. Lily was wounded and upset. In Lily's mind, the superintendent had discounted her and her work. Lily had no choice but to return home.

Upon returning to KC ranch, Lily sees that she is no longer needed. This is another blow to her ego. Dorothy had all but taken over the ranch, just as Lily might have done. Lily saw this as a good thing, however, because Dorothy was good at her job. Besides, the ranch would be inherited by Buster and Dorothy when Adam and Daisy died. Lily needed to make a life of her own.

Lily was used by Ted. That was the most devastating blow thus far. Still, Lily's pride and determination were stronger than Ted's betrayal. Lily told Ted that he did not have the power to destroy her.

Part 4, "Red Silk Shirt," began with Lily's return to KC Ranch. It had been several years since Lily had been home. Buster and Dorothy had two children in Lily's absence. Lily was excited to see Patches, who was now 17 years old. The two bonded quickly. Lily easily fell into her old routine of farm chores. Lily's main concern at this point was Helen.

Once again, Lily realizes that she had changed and living on the ranch no longer held the same appeal as it once did. The family expected Lily to leave again. Lily left for Flagstaff earlier than planned.

Lily fell in love with college. Being older, she was not distracted by drinking and boys. Lily took every class she

can handle, read every book, and got the most from the entire experience. Part way through her tenure, Lily began to have concerns about money. Lily was approached by the superintendent who offered her a teaching job even though she did not have her degree. Lily accepted.

Lily returned to KC Ranch to get Patches. The trek was a familiar one but Patches was old and it took a while to get her into shape again.

Lily was happy to be back in Red Lake. She was assigned 36 students of all ages, sizes, and abilities. Lily was a good teacher; a strict teacher. People respected her. At the end of the week, when Lily went to collect her paycheck, she was challenged by two men. The men told her that she needed to pass a test before collecting her check. Lily had to ride a "gentle" little mustang in the corral. Lily said that she was not dressed for riding but would give it a try. The men laughed at Lily. The men stopped laughing when Lily easily broke the wild mustang.

It wasn't long before Lily befriended the men, especially Orville Stubbs, aka Rooster. Rooster eventually became Lily's "secret student" and learned how to read and write.

Lily became a regular at one of the local bars. She played poker. Lily also began to race horses, notably the little mustang she broke to gain her paycheck. Lily became famous for her red silk shirt.

Lily was introduced to Big Jim Smith. Jim was the owner of a local garage. Lily told Jim about her fascination with cars. Jim taught Lily to drive. It was not long before Jim began to court Lily despite a significant age difference.

Lily received letters from Helen in Hollywood. Helen had not been successful in the movie business, however, each week she met a new Mr. Wonderful. Lily expressed concerns about Helen's virtue. Lily received a letter from Helen stating that she was pregnant. Mr. Wonderful wanted Helen to have a back alley abortion but Helen was scared. Lily told Helen not to do it. Helen arrived in Red Lake to stay with Lily.

Helen's demeanor improved. She slept a lot and Lily tried to ensure that Helen got sunshine and exercise. Lily was disappointed when Helen showed no interest in Rooster.

Helen and Lily began to go to a local Catholic Church. The Father told Helen that her mortal soul was in danger.

The townspeople learned about Helen's situation. People began to treat Helen and Lily differently. The superintendent told Lily that if she wanted to keep her job, Helen will have to leave. Helen heard the conversation and is distraught. Helen commits suicide.

Helen was not permitted to be buried in the Catholic cemetery. Jim and Lily buried Helen on top of a hill. Helen wore Lily's red silk shirt.

Part 4 Analysis

In this section, Lily took control of her situation once more. While she loved college, being able to teach classes and make money while doing it made more sense to Lily. Lily was a pragmatic woman. Showing up the men at the corral was a bonus for Lily. She does not gloat, which is another thing that wins the men over.

Lily appreciated that in Red Lake a woman can have her moniker and still be a respected woman. Lily befriended Rooster but made it clear that she had no intention of marrying again. This decision held even though it became clear that Jim Smith was courting Lily. Lily liked Jim and the easy company. He was exactly the opposite of Ted.

Lily tried to step in to save Helen once more. Small towns were known for gossip and it did not take long for word of Helen's condition to travel. Despite Lily's reassurances that they would find a solution to Helen's problem, Helen's life-long battle with melancholy and unrealistic dreams won over.

Part 5, "Lambs," began with Lily's thoughts on suicide: "When people kill themselves, they think they're ending the pain, but all they're doing is passing it on to those they

leave behind." (Part 5, p. 113).

Lily was consumed by grief over Helen's death. Everything annoys her, even the children she teaches. If it wasn't for the children Lily says she would stay home but she has a duty to fulfill. The thought of Helen's baby also consumes Lily. For the first time, Lily decides that she wants to have a child. Lily proposes to Jim Smith. Lily tells Jim that her only criteria include being partners in the marriage and that Jim, as a Mormon, will not take another wife. Jim says he believes Lily is all he could ever handle. The couple marries in the schoolhouse. Lily is 29 years old.

The couple moved to Ash Fork, a nearby town. Jim opens a new garage and the couple builds a home. The house has indoor plumbing, which seems almost miraculous to Lily. Lily got pregnant.

Over the next couple of years, Jim and Lily had two children - Rosemary and Little Jim. Rosemary was a great deal like Lily and had a bit of a wild streak.

The Great Depression continued and finally hit Arizona hard. Lily began to worry about the family's financial status as more money was going out than coming in. Lily was approached by Mr. Lee, a Chinaman bootlegger who was also a friend of Jim's. Mr. Lee and Lily struck up a deal that Lily would begin to sell bootleg whiskey out of the house: "It was because I was a mother with two kids, I said, as well as a respected former schoolteacher, that the revenuers would never suspect me." (Part 5, p. 121).

The business was very successful and eased the family's burden. One night a man came to the house and Lily refused to sell whiskey to him. The man threatened to call the police. The police showed up at the house but Lily was able to persuade them that the report is completely false. Although the operation was safe, Jim said that he would rather be broke than have his wife behind bars. Lily closed up shop.

Jim and Lily watched as many of their neighbors and friends began to lose their ranches.

Lily and Jim were barely holding on to their land and home. A few months later, the bank foreclosed on the property. Lily and Jim decided to sell everything off at an auction and head to California where there were still jobs to be had.

There was an incident with lambs at the Carmel Brothers' ranch. The lambs get separated from their mothers and complete chaos ensues. No matter what the brothers and their ranch hands try to do, the lambs and mothers cannot find each other. Lily told them to get Jim because he would know what to do. Jim solved the problem and gained the eternal thanks of the Carmel Brothers.

One of the brothers told Jim that they were selling the ranch to some British investors. Jim was recommended to run the ranch. Lily and Jim called off the auction and settle in at the Arizona Incorporated Cattle Ranch, aka AIC. While Jim and Lily's future was secure for now, others were not so lucky.

"With the Depression still going strong, owners like that - as well as plenty of owners who did know a thing or two about ranching - were going out of business." (Part 5, p. 140).

Lily struggled with Rosemary who is 100% tomboy. The girl was always getting hurt and putting herself into dangerous situations. Jim claimed that it was just her personality. Lily was determined to teach Rosemary and calm her wild nature.

Lily decided that she cannot do everything at the ranch without additional help. Jim was busy taking care of the massive property and had little help as well. Lily decides that she would forgo laundry and housework until it could be put off no longer.

The rains came but were soon followed by a terrible drought. Jim proposed building a dam for when the next rains come. The idea was brilliant and works well. There was a struggle to save the dam from a flash flood but it was saved.

Part 5 Analysis

Lily's moxie became apparent in this chapter. Although she struggled with Helen's death a great deal, Lily managed to pull through. Lily is angry with Helen but more distraught because she was not able to help her baby sister. The reactions of the townspeople only made it worse since they seemed to be unwilling to show any compassion to the woman that they had adored not so long ago. The worst part of the scenario came later when the irate man told Lily that she was nothing more than the sister of a dead whore.

The thought of having a baby seemed to save Lily from her grief. Jim Smith was thrilled but surprised when Lily proposed.

Building a future seemed to be Lily's forte. She showed great ability to think ahead and to dig in to do the work. With Jim by her side, Lily seemed to be the perfect person to operate a business, make money, and run a ranch.

Jim was a good fit for Lily despite his age. Jim was calm and even tempered. Lily cannot help but compare Jim to her "crumb bum" husband Ted and know that she made the right choice.

It was humorous and ironic that Rosemary was a lot like Lily. This might count for some of Lily's impatience and intolerance of her daughter's actions.

Jim and Lily refused to be destroyed by the Depression. The incident with the lambs proved to be fortuitous and saved the couple from orange picking in California.

Part 6, "Teacher Lady" begins with the purchase of Hackberry, a nearby ranch. The AIC is now comprised of 180,000 acres. It takes a week to ride the property. Jim is often gone for days at a time with Rosemary in tow.

Jim and Lily move into the house at Hackberry. For the first time Lily decorates the house with bright colors. Lily falls in love with the house and wants to buy it. However, neither Lily nor Jim is willing to get a loan and go into debt. Lily devises a plan to save as much money as possible and to

purchase the house outright within ten years.

Lily gets a bit extreme with her frugal ways.

One day, Lily sees a sign for flying lessons. She asks Jim to stop. The pilot, Goggles, balks at giving a flying lesson to a woman.

"Don't you 'little lady' me,' I said. 'I break horses. I brand steers. I run a ranch with a couple dozen crazy cowboys on it, and I can beat them all in poker. I'll be damned if some nincompoop is going to stand there and tell me that I don't have what it takes to fly that dinky heap of tin.'" Part 6, p. 161

Goggles was impressed by Lily. Rosemary asked about the expensive lessons because she knew that the family must save money. Lily explained that she wanted to get her pilot's license. A bush pilot can make a lot of money. It was not frivolous, she told Rosemary. It was an investment.

Lily decided to go back to teaching. She took Rosemary and Little Jim with her to Arizona Strip. Lily enrolled the children in school. Lily made it clear that there would be no favoritism.

Lily had a run in with Uncle Eli, a powerful figure in the Mormon's polygamist community. Lily believed in teaching the children about the outside world, not just straight academic studies like math. This enraged Uncle Eli. Uncle Eli begins to spy on the "Teacher Lady." Lily covered the schoolroom windows. Uncle Eli was persistent. When Lily caught Uncle Eli skulking around the school, she fired at him with a shotgun. Lily's contract was not renewed at the end of the school year.

Lily decided to take a summer job. The job paid well. There were actually three jobs available - teacher, janitor, and school bus driver. Lily took all three jobs. She purchased a hearse and used it as a school bus. Her days were long and strenuous but Lily was determined. Lily also decided that it made no sense to let the hearse sit unused on the weekends, so she also started a taxi service. There was a

humorous incident with three ladies from Brooklyn and a car accident with the hearse.

The ladies in Brooklyn convinced Lily that Rosemary and Jim need to learn about Santa Claus. The children would have none of it.

The next person that caused trouble for Lily is Deputy Johnson. The deputy and his wife have four sons, each wilder than the next. Because the boys are the son of a deputy, they feel they can get away with anything and do. They torment people, vandalize, steal, and do everything possible to get into trouble. When Lily tried to discipline one of the boys, Deputy Johnson confronted her. Lily was fired once again.

At the end of the school year, Lily learned that "Gone with the Wind" was premiering in town. The tickets were extremely expensive but "Gone with the Wind" is Lily's favorite book. She made a gown from red velvet curtains, a la Scarlett O'Hara. As she stepped from the car, a photographer took her photo with Deputy Johnson looking on in the crowd. Lily had the last laugh.

Part 6 Analysis

At times Lily's temper and her ideals got the better of her. Although she acted rashly at times, Lily always felt justified and said that she would do the same things over again. In the case of Uncle Eli, Lily explained that she was protecting herself and the children. In the case of Deputy Johnson, it was clear that the boys needed to be reined in but it was also clear that Lily would not be the one to do it. Certainly the boys would grow up to be even bigger bullies and corrupt citizens, protected by their father, which made him equally as guilty.

Again, Lily was not to be dissuaded. She wanted to buy Hackberry more than anything and needed money. Jim ran the ranch while Lily was away with help of a cook. Times were hard but Lily and Jim made the most of it. Meanwhile, the children learned about perseverance and fortitude.

Part 7, "The Garden of Eden," began with Lily going back to teaching once more. She told the children not to make friends with other school kids because she wanted to discourage any type of favoritism. Making friends at home was a different story.

The kids love to hike, ride horses, and race trains. They were the rough and tumble kind. One day Lily and Rosemary were out in the car and got stuck in the mud. Rosemary is impressed when Lily caught a wild half broke mare. They rode home. Rosemary wanted to keep the mare but Lily says it has to be set free.

Lily and Jim decided to send the kids to boarding school. Both kids hated it. Little Jim ran away as often as he could manage and was given the name "Little Houdini." Rosemary was crass and undisciplined. The Mother Superior wanted her to leave after the first year but Lily managed to convince the school to keep her. The second year was worse and Rosemary was not allowed to return.

Lily finally got her degree and a new job. World War II wreaked havoc on everyone's lives, often making difficult situations worse for the Smith family.

Adam contacted Lily and said that he was dying. Lily and Rosemary begged and borrowed to get enough gas to travel to Tucson to rescue him from an old age home. Adam died the night after Lily and Rosemary arrive. They took Adam back to KC Ranch to be buried. Lily learned that Salt Draw had been left to her. After weighing the options, Lily decided to keep Salt Draw.

Rosemary's compassionate heart continued to get the best of her. She wanted to stop the killing of the Japanese and wanted to set free all animals despite the outcome. Rosemary got into trouble for letting cows go free.

Rosemary developed a crush on Fidel Hanna, a member of the Havasupai tribe. Lily kept a close eye on her wild daughter. Rosemary said that she wanted to learn to slaughter a cow to prove that she could run a ranch. It was clear that Rosemary is not a rancher.

The Arizona Department of Education contacted Lily. The women representing the department wanted to investigate the conditions of the Havasupai tribe to make sure the children were being educated and the conditions were sanitary. The Havasupai wanted no part of it. Lily became angry when Fidel arrived wearing war paint. The trip was a total disaster. Rosemary was caught swimming in her underwear with a group of boys that had gone skinny dipping. Rosemary got a beating from Lily. It was decided that Fidel would not return to the ranch.

The children were sent to boarding school once more. The school year was no more successful than the last. Lily was frustrated.

Jim was contacted by the people at AIC. They were going to sell the ranch to investors. Jim and Lily met Boots and Gaiters. Gaiters had worked with John Wayne and wanted the ranch to be a sort of Hollywood getaway as well as a working ranch. They fired Jim and Old Jake, referring to them as "Old geezers." Lily and Jim gave up everything and move to Phoenix.

Part 7 Analysis

Lily became more and more frustrated. Although she and Jim managed to keep themselves out of financial binds, they had lost Hackberry. The biggest concern, however, was the children. Both hated school, unlike their mother. Rosemary was the worst. She was becoming wilder by the day. Lily began to believe that she had finally met the one child she could not teach.

Part 8, "Gumshoes," began with Lily and Jim getting dentures. Lily was so pleased with her dentures that she showed them off at every opportunity. Lily began to splurge on things that others might view as necessities. Lily and Jim bought a house, a dining room table, and a car to replace the hearse. Little Jim and Rosemary hated Phoenix. Both wanted to be back on the ranch.

Lily continued to work toward her pilot's license. Jim got a new job in a warehouse. Rosemary was fully focused on her

art. For the first time, Lily suggested that Rosemary try modeling or beauty pageants. Rosemary had the looks for it but not the demeanor.

Lily got in trouble for having a gun at school. Lily began to hate Phoenix.

Jim was called out to help during a major blizzard. When he arrived back home two weeks later, he was pale, gaunt, and exhausted. He was also happy.

Showtime Ranch, formerly the AIC, was in need of a new manager. Jim was offered the job. Both Jim and Lily knew that it would mean working for Gaiters. Jim refused the offer.

Lily discovered that there was a floozy that works in Jim's office. She began to wonder if Jim was faithful. Everyone knew Lily, so Lily persuaded Rosemary to spy on Jim. Jim was innocent of any wrong doing. He and Lily realized that it was time to leave Phoenix.

Part 8 Analysis

The shiny newness of Phoenix did not last long. Lily loved the modern conveniences but not the bureaucracy of the school. The new house was a palace in Lily's eyes and the cafeterias in town are a real pleasure. The discord between Lily, Jim and their jobs proved that neither was cut out for city life.

The offer from Gaiters was unexpected even though Jim gained a great deal of respect after the blizzard. Neither Jim nor Lily were willing to be anyone's servant ever again.

art 9, "The Flyboy," described the tale of Rex Walls and Rosemary.

Lily and Jim movde to Horse Mesa, a beautiful ranch. Jim was hired to haul gravel and Lily returned to teaching. There was a one-room school house so Lily could teach the way she was always meant to teach without the bureaucrats hanging over her shoulder.

Lily began to become involved in politics. She became the Democratic precinct captain on Horse Mesa and registered all 13 families in Horse Mesa to vote. Lily and Jim also took up hunting for uranium.

Little Jim and Rosemary were enrolled in Arizona State University. Rosemary insisted on studying art. Lily said that Rosemary can study art but insisted that she major in education and got a teaching degree. After the first year in college, Little Jim met Diane. Little Jim dropped out of school, got married, and became a police officer.

Lily worried constantly about Rosemary. Men proposed to Rosemary on a regular basis. Lily thought about Helen and tried to isolate Rosemary as much as possible. Lily had even more cause to worry when Rosemary met Rex Walls.

Rex Walls was a wild card. However, he was determined to marry Rosemary. Nothing Lily could say would deter Rosemary from marrying Rex. Rex was a loud mouth who drank too much, was clearly not a good candidate for a husband, and had no solid plans for a future. Rex did what he could to impress Jim and Lily but failed. Rosemary, however, was smitten.

Rex decided that he needed to win over Lily so he took her flying. It was illegal to take a civilian up in an Air Force craft but it is done often. Lily was happy about the flying since it had been years since she has flown. Lily was still not sold on Rex and continues to try to talk Rosemary out of marriage. Rosemary, however, has a comeback for every one of her mother's objections. Rosemary insisted that she and Rex did not need a plan, or a future or a home. It seemed that Granny's predictions were right - Rosemary was a wanderer.

Lily finally gave in. She said that she would pay for the wedding if Rosemary and Rex got married in the local Catholic Church. There was a big reception held afterward at a newly constructed hotel in town.

Little Jim and Diane lived in the house on North Third Street in Phoenix. Lily and Jim remained on Horse Mesa where

they would retire.

Epilogue:

Rex and Rosemary had three daughters, the second of whom died from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome before she turned a year old. The third daughter was Jeannette, the author. Lily was grateful that Jeannette was not a stunning beauty like her mother or Helen. She was an interesting character. Lily assured the reader that the grandchildren would know her. Rosemary and Rex continued to be somewhat wild. Lily said that it was all right, though, because she had every intention of being around to watch over everything.

Part 9; Epilogue Analysis

Lily gave up trying to teach Rosemary and make her submit to her will. It seems that Rosemary is a lot like Lily, save for her love of education. Although it seemed that Rosemary was determined to run her life the way she saw fit and Jim was accepting of it, Lily was equally determined to be watching over her daughter's shoulder.