

Ruth Lindow Interviewed by Kathy Naugle Oct.11,1975(?)

KN: What's the date today?

RL: October the eleventh.

KN: The eleventh. And we're in Avery, right?

RL: Avery, Idaho.

KN: Avery, Idaho, and the interviewer is Kathy Naugle, and the interviewee is Ruth Lindow, Now, the first thing I want to do is fill out this personal data record. We leave the tape recorder on because that way if I misspelled anything, or can't read my writing, then I can go back and listen to what you said, so

RL: Mm hm.

KN: First of all, your full name is?

RL: Ruth Evelyn Lindow.

KN: E,V...

RL: E,L,Y,N, L,I,N,D,O,W.

KN: You say Lindo, not Lindow, I see, O.K.

RL: Well, Dow is right, but nobody does it.

KN: And your maiden name?

RL: ^{Ruth} Larson.

KN: L,A,R,S,E,N?

RL: S,O,N,

KN: S,O,N.

RL: I'm a Swede.

KN: And your birthdate?

RL: February 23, 1910.

KN: And you were born where?

RL: Denver, Colorado.

KN: Ah. So you were already out in the West. And do you have any nicknames that people call you now, or that they used to?

RL: Oh, well when I was a kid people used to call me "Gus".

KN: Gus. Nobody does now, huh?

RL: No.

KN: And your address here, it's?

RL: Box 95, Avery, Idaho.

KN: So you don't have a home delivery, either, in the mail?

RL: No.

KN: We were down in Orofino and we found out for as big as Orofino is, they don't have home delivery.

RL: Oh.

KN: Let's see. I have your phone number but what is it again?

RL: 245-2878.

KN: 2878, O.K. Let's see. Where did you first, when you first came to Idaho did you come right here to Avery?

RL: Mm hm.

KN: You've been here ever since?

RL: August, 1917.

KN: Oh. So you were seven.

RL: Mm hm.

KN: And before that, you lived in Denver. So you've lived two places, mostly.

RL: Yes, uh huh. And then we only have two years of high school and I went back to Denver and graduated from high school.

KN: You did? Let's see; you came out when you were seventeen and

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KN: then you turned right around and

RL: Just went back for the winter.

KN: Oh.

RL: See. When I was in high school.

KN: O.K.

RL: That was the 19 what?

KN: 17 or 18?

RL: Oh no, I was only seven years old then.

KN: Oh seven, that's right. That's 24

RL: I forget what year it was.

KN: About 27.

RL: See, at that time, our high school wasn't accredited, and

KN: Here in Avery?

RL: Yes. And I lost much of my accreditation when I went to Missoula
awhile to school.

KN: Was this before or after Denver?

RL: Before.

KN: Before you went back? Oh?

RL: Yeah.

KN: Oh.

RL: And my mother was over there, and my father had passed away
and my step-father had passed away, so I was over there, she was
over there

KN: Now she first, you and she came here?

RL: Mm hm.

KN: She went to...?

RL: Well, after my step-father died.

KN: Uh huh. She went to Missoula.

RL: See, he (uh, this is quite alarming...) ?

KN: Oh, that's O.K.

RL: They were first sweethearts in Denver.

KN: Uh huh.

RL: My step-father and my mother. His father was a Baptist German minister and he (because of a heart condition) had to move to Pasadena.

KN: Uh huh.

RL: Well they were engaged, but my mother and he, of course, didn't see each other then because he was in California with his dad.

KN: He was in California with his dad .

RL: O.K. He got married. He married the choir singer

KN: Oh no.

RL: And he had three children, and my mother, at the age of thirty, got married and had my brother and I. He named his girl Ruth and my name was Ruth, and so as we grew, my father died when I was five, and his wife died, ^{i forget,} maybe just about the same time, and he had come to Avery. He was a locomotive engineer. He was a candy maker by trade

KN: Uh huh.

RL: But he was a locomotive engineer here. So he went to Denver on this uh, he represented the engineers and firemen?

KN: Uh huh.

RL: In a convention.

KN: Uh huh.

RL: And he went to Denver and he learned his trade, this Bauers (sp?) candy shop? They told him he should go see Mrs. Larson. My granddad was

KN: So he didnt know who that was?

RL: Well, he knew who it was, but he didn't know my father in law.

KN: Uh huh.

RL: So he went out there and my granddad answered the door and he said (it was German, of course) "welly willy welly, come in" and invited him for dinner, well then as the custom why they take him to the parlor and show him pictures, you know?

KN: Mm hm.

RL: And just turned one page and my mother was there with her two little kids and had a veil on, and John F. Larson on the tombstone, and he looked at her and he says, "Alma, are you a widow?" and she says yes, well they were married in Au-ber, in May and moved here in August then.

KN: That's really some courtship story!

RL: Yeah, well we were really closer to our brothers and sisters and we were closely related

KN: Sure.

RL: Because of this prior romance between my mother and my stepfather.

KN: That would really make a good story too, you know?

RL: Yeah, yeah.

KN: You should write that up. It would be really worth it. Let's see, when you came out from Denver how did you come, by train?

RL: Train.

KN: And you came with your mom, and

RL: My new stepfather.

KN: Yeah, which sounds like your father, I'm almost, I mean

RL: Yeah. Do you mind if I smoke?

KN: No.

RL: I've got coffee here for you gals. I made a pot.

KN: Oh

RL: Will you have some?

KN: Sure. I would.

RL: How about you?

?: I don't like coffee.

RL: I got hot water for tea. I've got milk, I've got

down the river. Right now there's a big A-frame over here.

But at one time ^{why, there were} some English people ^{that} built a cabin here and they
put the logs in like you do in a fort?

KN: Uh huh.

RL: And then it fell in.

KN: Oh, gosh.

RL: So that's what ^{that} is.

KN: These are, that is really nice.

RL: And this one back here is, that's Huckleberry campground.

KN: Huckleberry campground.

RL: up the river. Huckleberry campground.

KN: We were trying to find it last night.

RL: It's six miles up the river

KN: And you haven't had any art lessons, have you?

RL: No, I, most of these were done, I did start the "Famous Artist" course, but I only did five, I was just too busy. And I only did five of their lessons, and that's since I retired.

KN: Well, and you did the picture down at

KN: The one of the Lord?

KN: That's incredible. When we saw that, and you said you hadn't had any formal training. Let's see, I want to get back to this one part, um, when you came out here with your mother and stepfather, and how many? All the, all his?

RL: My brother , no

KN: No sisters

RL: See, he lost his wife so his kids were in California. But

KN: Oh, uh huh.

RL: See, he had to build a cabin to make room for

KN: Uh huh.

RL: All of us so, 'cause they only had the one, there were three bachelors living in the one cabin. So they had

KN: In Denver?

RL: No, here. in the depot. So they *built* their cabin well then he had to build one, another cabin out in front of it to make room for all six of us.

KN: Oh my gosh. So you just came out with your mother, stepfather, and your brother?

RL: Yeah,

KN: Your mom had two children and he had

RL: Only one died.

KN: Oh.

RL: So he had two, really.

KN: Now your mother's maiden name?

RL: Alma Klewer.

KN: C,L,U,R,E?

RL: K,L,E,W,E,R.

KN: W,E,R. And your mother's birthdate?

RL: She was 91½ in 1970.

KN: Mm, so that's ninety one, ¹⁸⁻that's not right...81?

RL: Sounds, 70, 20, yeah.

KN: ^{O.K.} And where was she born?

RL: In Stolt, Germany.

KN: Oh?

RL: S,T,O,L,T. It used to be known as Prussia.

KN: Oh, I see, and you say she died in '70.

RL: Mm hm.

KN: And her first husband, do you remember, do you know about when they were married?

RL: My father?

KN: Yeah, your father.

RL: Uh, she was thirty years old when they were married.

KN: Oh. So that's 81 plus...should be about 1911?

RL: No, 'cause I was born in 1910.

KN: Oh.

RL: And my brother was born first. He's two years older than I was, and they were married over a year when he was born.

Lindow/ Naugle

KN: Probably 1907, or something like that?

RL: Something like that, yeah.

KN: And then the second, your stepfather?

RL: That'd be 1917.

KN: 17, when you came out, O.K. Your mother, did she work outside the home?

RL: She was a seamstress by trade. She learned under a tailor.

And after my stepfather died, see my stepfather died in 1924.

KN: Oh, so they were just about

RL: And she never remarried, and during those years, until I could support her she took in sewing.

KN: Huh. Let's see, um, so your father's name?

RL: John F. Larson.

KN: You probably don't remember too much about him.

RL: I can just faintly remember.

KN: He died in?

RL: In 19, I was five, (19)15.

KN: Do you remember about how old he was?

RL: Yeah, he was ten years older than my mother, so

KN: He was probably born about 1870.

RL: Mm hm.

KN: And he was born in Germany, also?

RL: No, no he was born in Genesta, Stockholm, er a Sweden.

KN: Oh, that's right. You said Sweden.

RL: Yeah.

Lindow/ Naugle

KN: HM, do you know how to spell that? G,E,N, I s'pose, E

RL: G,E,N,A,S,T,A Genasta, I think.

KN: O.K.

RL: It was where the King took his summer.

KN: Took his summer? The King?

RL: The King took his summer, yeah, the King of Sweden.

KN: And your father worked, what did he do?

RL: He was an upholsterer by trade

KN: Oh.

RL: But he came to America during the awful depression of the late 1800's

KN: Huh.

RL: And nearly starved to death, or the early nineteenth century well anyway, he nearly starved to death, and he finally landed in Denver and he was a motorman on a streetcar.

KN: Huh. So neither your mother or your father were farmers, or ranchers. That's kind of unusual. I'm so used to getting people whose parents were. Now let's see, you've got the one brother, then. Is he still living?

RL: No. KN:

KN: What was his name?

RL: Stanford.

KN: And when did he die?

RL: I think it was, Let's see, he was two years older than I, and he was 46 when he died, so I would've been forty four, it must've been 54, then.

KN: O.K. And what did he do?

RL: He was way up in the forest service.

KN: Oh.

RL: He had worked up to, he was head, chief timber engineer
out of the woods, you know

KN: Oh, wow. Regional or

RL: Yeah

KN: Oh, is it? That's what I thought.

RL: He started in, he was fourteen years old

KN: Oh?

RL: As a lookout up on Cedar mountain.

KN: Oh? Fourteen? That's really something. Yeah.

RL: 'Course in those days, you know

KN: They took whoever was around, I s'pose.

RL: Well, they took, kids had more woods lore

KN: Yeah

RL: Than kids that got outa school.

KN: ^{oh,} Sure they would.

RL: In those days it was a matter of survival, not management.

KN: That's right. Um, now let's see... do you have children? Did you marry?

RL: One child.

KN: O.K. Um, and who is it?

RL: Arthur Lindow. It's one of those childhood romances that *broke off,*
and that was it. I never remarried.

KN: What was your husband's name?

RL: Arthur Lindow.

KN: Oh, I thought that was your, Arthur jr. was your son?

RL: No, Betty Jean Lindow.

KN: Oh.

RL: She brought me five grandchildren. The youngest of which,

RL: the youngest grandson lives with me.

KN: Oh, he does?

RL: Mm hm. And when he got out of high school last year he says, *well,*
" good bye mom, I'm gonna go live with grandma now".

KN: Huh. Well that's really something. How long were you married?

RL: Oh, about a year.

KN: That's about what I was married. So that was ^{about} ~~when~~, that you
came here.

RL: Well, let's see

KN: YOu c ame out here in '17

RL: I think it was , I think it was '27.

KN: O.K. After you graduated. High school.

RL: No, no I hadn't graduated. And then I went back and finished
school.

KN: After? You got your divorce?

RL: Yeah.

KN: Well, you should've been there last night. We had a presentation
and one of the characters did the same thing after she got her
divorce. She had been married for fifteen years but, um, that's
what she did. What did Mr. Lindow do? Work for the railroad?

RL: Worked for the forest service.

KN: Oh, I'm sorry (for interrupting). Oh, forest service.

RL: And then later, after we were divorced, why his family moved
to Miles City and he worked for the Milwaukee there.

KN: Oh. Did he work here, out of Avery?

RL: Not on the, yeah, on the forest service.

KN: O.K. Now, Betty Jean was born?

RL: Ah, you want the month?

KN: If you've got it.

RL: February the third, 1928.

KN: Oh, you were born in February, weren't you too?

RL: Mm hm.

KN: And is she working, did she?

RL: Yeah, she's an L.P.N.

KN: Oh.

RL: My oldest grand-daughter just graduated with an L.P.N. and
got her papers so she can work.

KN: That's really nice.

RL: She's divorcing (?) too.

KN: Now your grandson, he's living here?

RL: Yeah.

KN: And what's he doing?

RL: He works for the forest service.

KN: What's his name?

RL: Richard Marshall. We call him Rick.

KN: And so you have, you went back and finished high school.

RL: Mm hm.

KN: ~~Now you lived~~ in Missoula or Denver?

RL: Denver.

KN: Just a sec. O.K. Have you ever thought, did you ever want to
go back?

RL: To Denver?

KN: ^{Back} To school, and get a degree?

RL: Well, yeah, I would've liked to, but you know, if you'd look at

RL: the *dates* there, that was ~~all thru~~ the depression.

KN: Oh, you're right, yeah.

RL: At that time, my mother was living in Missoula and I couldn't even get a job in Missoula so I came to Avery and worked in the beanery down here.

KN: By then you had your daughter, right?

RL: Yeah.

KN: So you've been a waitress.

RL: Yeah.

KN: And

RL: I worked in a swimming pool in Missoula when my mother was there.

KN: Selling, er cashiering?

RL: No, I was, well I went up there last summer, I was lifeguard and then I taught swimming lessons. That was in

KN: And that was when? That was in the depression?

RL: Yeah. That was in, I think that was in '26, no '25 and '26.

KN: O.K.

RL: Dad died in '24, see my mother had already moved to Missoula before dad died, because ^{there} ~~^~~ wasn't any high school here, and my two older brothers, she moved over there so they could go to school and dad stayed here and that was the awful polio epidemic

KN: Oh.

RL: ~~They had~~ all over the country. And dad kept me here.

KN: I see. 'Cause he didn't want you to be exposed over there.

RL: Mm hm. Because I always caught everything.

KN: Oh. Well, and then when you were a waitress here in Avery,
that was later.

RL: Later, uh huh. And I spent several summers workin' for the
forestry, I was spunky and

KN: Do you do office work? Was it all office, or?

RL: No, I was a cook.

KN: Oh, really?

RL: Mm hm.

KN: And what other jobs?

RL: Then in 1935, I think, I was clerk *at* the school district
and I held that position for twenty six years.

KN: Is that right? Are you doing that now?

RL: No. *It was too big of a job.*

KN: Oh. That could've added up for you then

RL: Right. I quit in '59. And then in 1937, in August, I was,
became post master.

KN: So you were, had two jobs.

RL: Yeah, I was post master for thirty two years, I retired in '69.

KN: Was it hard for you to decide which of those two jobs to give up?

RL: Well one didn't pay anything.

KN: Which was that?

RL: The school job. For a long time it only paid thirty dollars
a month. We only had one school. But then we consolidated

KN: Mm hm.

RL: And we had three schools which between the very difficult

KN: Oh, I s'pose so.

Lindow/ Naugle

RL: And I used to have to work all night.

KN: And it still wasn't paying. Very well.

RL: Well, yeah, it payed \$135. by then.

KN: Well, but, how did you decide which one to give up?

RL: Oh, I wouldn't have given up my Post Office.

KN: Really?

RL: 'Cause the other is, the other is the longest contract you
get is one year.

KN: Oh, you had to keep renewing it, uh huh.

RL: Yeah, every year when they elected their officers they had to
decide whether they wanted to keep you or not.

KN: Huh. Yeah, well why did you give up the Post Master job?
You just didn't want to work anymore?

RL: I had to give it up to fish and paint.

KN: O.K. That's fair.

RL: My mother was gettin' older and I ~~fe~~ felt I should be home
with her more,

KN: Yeah.

RL: For fear she would fall, or somethin'.

RL: You were living right here, then? In this house?

RL: Not in this house. I was living in the first flat. I lived
down there for thirty two years.

KN: Oh. So you've just been here since?

RL: That's why when I retired, see, the railroad, uh, I was renting
from the railroad

KN: Uh huh.

Lindow/ Naugle

RL: In a flat, well, this is the only house in east Avery to get sunshine.

KN: Oh.

RL: It gets it down that canyon there.

KN: I didn't think about that, but yeah.

RL: And the elderly man who lost his wife in '71, he's ninety now, he and his wife had promised they'd sell me this place.

KN: I see.

RL: So they sold it to me, and since then I haven't had time to fish or paint because I've been so busy workin'. Right now my grandson and I are makin' shakes and shinglin'

KN: Your back

RL: Our back out there. I have arthritis and

KN: Oh, gosh.

RL: my arms ache and this was our awful beat up place, and see the

KN: I can see the panelling, yeah

RL: And, well, I practically re-did the whole house; all but that bedroom.

KN: And now you're doing what for the newspaper? You write an article, or?

RL: I write the news.

KN: The news.

RL: The Avery news, yeah.

KN: How often does the paper come out?

RL: Once a week. It's a weekly, it's the St. Mary's Gazette.

RL: I'm a trustee of the Avery Community Church.

KN: Where is the church? Is it down

RL: at the school house.

KN: Oh.

RL: And I'm president of the Avery water and sewer district.

KN: Now these probably aren't paying jobs, are they?

RL: Oh, none of 'em are

KN: Yeah.

RL: None of em are.

KN: Not even the news job?

RL: Well, yeah. I get twenty cents an inch. And I'm also secretary of the Avery Citizens Committee.

KN: Oh.

RL: For about ^{forty?} four years I was president of it. It got to be too much.

KN: I can see why.

RL: But now I'm secretary it's just as bad 'cause I still have all the correspondence and everything to do. But on our Avery wire service I've got a wonderful gal on the five man board

KN: Mm hm.

RL: She's chief clerk for the forest service and also secretary and treasurer for the water and sewer district, and this is marvelous because she, she's a

KN: In a community as small as this are there a lot of people who are doing more than one job? Do you run into the same people on different committees and different work?

Lindow/ Naugle

RL: You figure a small group in a community will do it all, and the more you have to do, the more that's loaded on you to do.

KN: So there is a

RL: Yeah.

KN: Certain group of people that are more likely to get involved and do something.

RL: Yeah. For many, many years, I, well, in fact all the railroad officials called me "Mrs. Avery."

KN: Ah. I'm going to put that down for your nickname. That's good.

RL: They do, they said, well, there goes "Mrs. Avery." Because I've had to fight for this town all my life.

KN: Now

RL: You see, we're a corporate-owned town surrounded by the Milwaukee railroad,

KN: This is a railroad-owned town.

RL: More or less.

KN: Yeah.

RL: Now they're selling, see, they moved the terminal out so now they're selling off their property.

KN: Is this a round house here? Is this the town

RL: They're tearing most of it down, but it is a round house, yes.

KN: Now what is this, the thing where the big insulators are the wires are cut, what is that?

Lindow/ Naugle

RL: That was where, for electrical power ^{for} ^ the engines on the Milwaukee trains.

KN: And did they

RL: They came as far as Avery.

KN: It wasn't hydro-electric power? They, how did they generate it?

RL: Well it come over the hill, there's a high line, and

KN: Yeah, I think I saw those old poles, now it came from where?

RL: From over at Thompson falls.

KN: Thompson Falls.

RL: ^{Montana.} It came in through, see there's another sub station at East

KN: Now where's that, I forget.

RL: That's on the divide: Montana, Idaho, Nevada.

KN: O.K., yeah.

RL: Falls, and there's electrification, or was, until they pulled them out, all the way through to...is it Miles City?

KN: Huh?

RL: I forget how far east it goes. Well then at they picked up electrification again, or did and it went all the way to the coast. And they never electrified the gap. Well then everything was so obsolete, so the new ways of running electric trains, now, that aren't as costly

KN: Mm hm.

RL: as it is this type of, what is it, ^{is this} D.C. current? And they've got a new A.C. current that runs 'em better. Anyway, they're tearing out all the electrification.

KN: So when did they yank that out up there?

Lindow/ Naugle

RL: Uh, let's see, three years ago they started.

KN: Three years. I was real curious because we came through here about a month and a half ago and we were trying to figure out what, because there's ^{you said there's} no hydro electric power.

RL: And then we had a real nice, you see during the war, the government gave a lot of money to all the railroads to update their systems so that they could carry war materials to

KN: Oh, uh huh.

RL: From coast to coast. Well when they did that Mrs. (?) ^{Terio} the ^(?) Terrio family that owns all the downtown area, they own this lot next door, here, they own they had bought out a homestead and they own a lot of mining claims in through here, and they owned a great portion of the town. And under ^{Mary} Deterio's uh, rulership when everything was beautiful. I mean it was kept up

KN: Mm hm.

RL: everything was really nice, but she got quite along in years, and she was very ill, and so she decided she better sell the property to the railroad when she could get a real good price

KN: Mm hm.

RL: Which she did.

KN: During the war, then.

RL: But when they did that, they took the hotel and they renovated it to make more rooms to house more people

KN: Ah.

Lindow/ Naugle

RL: To room more people, and then they contracted that all out
and then they never did another thing for forty years.

KN: Ah huh

RL: And that thing just finally fell in the street.

KN: Yeah. The hotel?

RL: Well, they run our store out and everything. See, we had a
beautiful store.

KN: Oh.

RL: Now we don't even have a store. We have to go to St. Maries
for our groceries.

KN: Is that right? Huh.

RL: And you see we can't build anything yet because we don't
have water and sewer[^]. That's why we're workin'

KN: Oh, I see

RL: We formed an association at first, and you can't get any E.P.A.
money from an association. It has to be, it has to be a taxing
body, and

KN: Ah.

RL: The water and sewer district is.

KN: Uh huh. So that's what you did, you made a

RL: And it took us all these years to do it 'cause we couldn't get
enough money. People donated money and we put on beer busts
and other kinds of parties to raise the money because everything
was by donation and then I kept houndin' the county commissioners,
so finally a little less than a year ago we finally got twelve
hundred dollars out of the commissioners and were able to form

Lindow/ Naugle

RL: our district.

KN: Oh, gosh.

RL: 'Cause the railroad, with all they own here, they only gave us a hundred dollars toward helpin' us

KN: Was that a donation?

RL: Well everybody don't

KN: I mean they weren't taxed or anything.

RL: Well they shoulda given us a couple a' thousand. 'Cause that's why they moved the terminal out is on account of the water and sewer, they said it would take two million dollars to put the water and sewer in here.

KN: Gee. This is really interesting but I wanna get some more information about you. Um, I almost hate asking you, are you in any other clubs, groups, or societies? Are there any

RL: Oh yeah, oh yeah

KN: O.K. What?

RL: I belong to Bridge club, and I belong to Milwaukee Woman's

KN: It's the railroad

RL: It's the railroad club, and I'm public relations for them.

KN: Oh.

RL: We used to have a real active Sportsman's club and I was secretary of that one, assistant editor of the paper we put out, but that was back in the thirties and forties and the fifties. And then, let's see, what else? I can't remember.

KN: Let's see, ^{yeah actually,} I would be more interested in the ones you're in now. What's this book, now?

Lindow/ Naugle

RL: Oh that's a, just a, community

KN: Does it have a, are you in it?

RL: Yeah *I was*

KN: Now this one's Community Leaders of America. I guess so.

I guess you couldn't be called a community leader here.

Nobody in Avery could. And that was 1958?

RL: '72.

KN: Oh. I don't know what I'm thinking of. What, now we're on it

RL: 'Course they invite me every year

KN: You just haven't

RL: Uh uh.

KN: What would it entail? They ask you to write down ^{again} what you've
done and send it in?

RL: Mm hm

KN: Who nominates you, how do they get you?

RL: I don't know. They wouldn't tell me.

KN: Is that right? Huh.

RL:

KN: I bet, I bet if it involves somebody

RL: I'm trying to think if

KN: It probably has to do with the railroad, huh?

RL: No, no

KN: You don't think so.

RL: I'm trying to think if it has something to do with the high-ups
in the forestry.

KN: Oh. O.K.

Lindow/ Naugle

RL: 'Cause when I used to write for the paper, I'd give them,
they had the best Avery- district had the best news
coverage

KN: Oh.

RL: Of any rangers' districts in region one.

KN: Well

RL: So I think the supervisor, I've got a hunch that the former
supervisor or maybe one of his

KN: Yeah, that could be. I would think it would be somebody that had

RL: Yeah.

KN: Other contacts on the sides.

RL: Yeah.

KN: What other, as long as we're on this, too, what other honors
or awards or, have you received?

RL: Oh, you don't get thanked for these things

KN: Yeah?

RL: You just, you keep your mouth shut. You get more bitching than
you do thanks.

KN: I heard the same thing down in Orofino from a woman.

RL: You gotta have a skin as thick as an elephant's. Yeah. But it
don't bother me, because the town to me is, see my dad ^{was} ~~is~~ on
the school board, when I first came here there were all these
grades in one room school house, up on the hill.

KN: Uh huh.

RL: Well, then they built an addition and then they had a two room

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RL: schoolhouse and underneath, why they had ^{three} ~~two~~ high school kids and they hired a professor to teach that, and they sat around on dirt floors on apple boxes around the furnace.

KN: Oh my gosh.

RL: And they had a year, my first year of high school there. Well then my dad got on the school board and they built this school house over here in 1922. My brother gave the dedication for it and my roots grow so deep in Avery, I just can't let go.

KN: I guess so.

RL: So, no matter how they hound me, it don't bother me, because I'm interested in Avery

KN: Mm hm.

RL: And just think; there's only about a hundred, and I'd say, twenty five or fifty people that live here. We have a resident pastor, we pay him three hundred dollars a month, and we pay for the which is thirty five, we

KN: Now is this out of taxes, or donations, or what?

RL: Well, some of it. This is out of our own personal pockets. We try, and we can provide the spiritual leadership in our community. And it's non-denominational, so Catholics and Jews and any, anyone that wants to come, we all worship the same way.

KN: Uh huh.

RL: And we're able to do this, also our Scouts are very, very active.

KN: Boy Scouts?

RL: Oh yeah.

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KN: Girl Scouts?

RL: We've got, do you know when they had that World Jamboree
here, I forget how many years ago, but that our boy, an Indian
boy here, that was adopted by one of the Avery families, carried
the lighted fire from Greece and lit off the Jamboree?

KN: Oh, is that right? You mean the World's Fair?

RL: No, the World Jamboree

KN: I don't know.

RL: The World Jamboree at Farragut.

KN: Huh.

RL: The World...

KN: I was down in the SouthWest.

RL: Oh.

KN: So I didn't know too much

RL: Yeah, well, see Farragut they fixed up for the World, the First
World Jamboree of

KN: Boy Scouts.

RL: Boy Scouts from all over the world.

KN: O.K. I think I have heard of that.

RL: Yeah, because it had national world coverage all the time.

Well, I have one of our boys from Avery, was the one that lit that.

KN: That's something for such a small town.

RL: And not only that, you should go in the school and see all the
ribbons that have been won by our Scouts.

KN: Well now, how about back to you, how about have you ever been,
say, have you ever had ^{are there} anythings from county fairs, or any of

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KN: your paintings? Have you ever gotten any

RL: No, I've helped a couple of gals get started on a career of painting.

KN: Did you? Here in Avery, huh?

RL: Well, one of them lives in Potlatch.

KN: Did you teach them?

RL: I had a group.

KN: Oh, so that's another occupation, my gosh. In the meantime, let me ask you some other questions. Besides the apainting, you mentioned fishing, that's one of your hobbies? And do you still hunt? Look at that. That's just what my father said. That's why he never got into hunting. 1949. Oh, let's see.

RL: I got this woman here to help me.

KN: This was in where?

RL: In Avery, here.

KN: In Avery, O.K.

RL: That was a class. They don't have that little gal that

KN: Now where are you? Oh?

RL: There

KN: Oh, my gosh. Let me ask, when you paint, do you take pictures of magazines? Uh, do you have to do it in your, in a studio somewhere, of magazine pictures? Oh. That's too bad. I'd like to have a copy of this. I'll get back to that later. What other interests or hobbies do you have?

RL: Well, to help my daughter. See a lot of the years when I, when everybody was makin' all this fabuluos money during the

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RL: war even sweepin' up

KN: Yeah.

RL: factories, well anyway, my salary in the Post Office was less than a thousand dollars a year.

KN: Oh.

RL: For many years, for several years, so I used to go with a lot of fishermen to mend (?) and I used to repair their fish poles that they'd break.

KN: Gosh.

RL: That was set up to ^{fix} repair fish poles and

KN: That was in the forties, probably, huh?

RL: Yeah, Mm hm.

KN: Right off the bat I've got a question I want to ask you. Do you think that if, now, let's see, you, I don't even remember what happened here. You got married in 1927 and you were only married a year. Do you think that if you would've stayed married that you would've had so many different occupations? Or?

RL: Mm mm. (no.)

KN: That's really something. And it looks like you didn't just find one thing and go off in that direction. You've really had varied occupations.

RL: Oh, I

KN: Was that mostly out of necessity, or did you like it?

RL: No, I love this; see, my daughter thinks I'm crazy; 'cause I live in Avery. She lives in Billings.

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KN: Billings, O.K.

RL: She thinks that it's wonderful. And the only one of my relatives, my youngest grandson, he thinks his grandmother's just right.

KN: He's the one that's here, huh?

RL: Yeah, he loves Avery like I do, and ah, we're a long ways from a doctor and everything, you know

KN: That St. Maries?

RL: Yeah

KN: Uh huh.

RL: Now remember the flood we had in 1974?

KN: Yeah.

RL: That January flood? Well I have allergies and I'd been taking some kind of medication that didn't agree with me, and I think it was the fourteenth of January, with that particular flood, when everything was all, the railroad was washed out, the roads were washed out

KN: Oh.

RL: and everything, and they flew a great big Beauty in, and put it down out there, I would've died, and they flew me to St. Maries

KN: They came and got you? And took you? Huh.

RL: Yeah, they had to do the forestry to cooperate, we have an R.N. here in Avery, she's married to a forestry technician

KN: Oh, well that's good.

RL: And she had given me three shots of adrenalin and I was still all puffed out and choked, and my hands out like that.

KN: You just had a reaction to

RL: Yeah. I get this way. I land in the hospital two or three times

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RL: a year. I was in there, oh, just in June. I had the reaction right in the doctor's office.

KN: Oh.

RL: And just ^{with-} in fifteen, twenty minutes I just puffed all up and they rushed me to the hospital. It just scared my grandson to death.

KN: Um

RL: But you see, she thinks I'm nuts because I live here.

KN: Yeah, now this

RL: But I trust in the Lord, and everything is always comin' out O.K.

KN: You're really a perfect person to ask, what do you think the advantages are of a rural area over an urban area of living?

RL: Oh, it's a, it's just something that I feel so sorry for all those people that have never known it, and those who do live here and don't appreciate it. The pure air and the beauty, the esthetic beauty, well, it's just out of this world. You

KN: Oh, I agree with that. This morning when we got up and it was so quiet.

RL: And the fishing is wonderful. And you take a community, a small community like this, that is more or less isolated

KN: Mm hm

RL: They become dependent and work as a group together. We have, well, everybody rallies to the aid of everybody else. You can see by, we have more, now Calder down here, and Clarkia

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RL: there are

KN: Mm hm, yeah.

RL: our other two city limits, they cant even have a P.T.A.
because they fight among themselves too much.

KN: I, we understood there's quite a lot of controversy about
the school district.

RL: Oh, yeah.

KN: I understand.

RL: Yeah, and they wiped out, we were gonna have a secondary school
down here, where, see where it's (, you know, where you stayed.)

KN: Uh huh

RL: And this one

KN: Right there at the property, huh?

RL: Yeah, right there on the other side of the drive.

KN: Uh huh, yeah.

RL: We'd expended \$37,000. on that. We'd bonded and received,

KN: Oh.

RL: And they voted in a half a million dollar bond, and this one
man stopped it 'cause it wouldn't be built ~~right~~ in his town
right in Calder ()

KN: What do you think accounts for the fact that Avery can work together
and Calder can't?

RL: Because we're more or less isolated. These people are ^{to the most part,} transients.

KN: Where, here in Avery?

RL: ^{in Avery.} No w That's surprising

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KN: Yeah, it is.

RL: That a group of transients could get in and work and cooperate *and have* all these (?) We're so busy on the calendar that it's hard to find a night when there isn't somethin' goin' on.

KN: I can imagine that, yeah.

RL: And we have, to be frank with you, we have a class of educated people, that live here that

KN: You

RL: I'd hate to have them hear I said that, though, and, you know, feel badly about it, but this is true. You take your forestry person now. Those families, they seldom stay more than three *or*

KN: Yeah, that's right.

RL: to five years. O.K. They support, they are the greatest supporters of our church, they're the greatest supporters of our P.T.A., *and* the greatest supporters of everything we have: our church, our P.T.A., our Milwaukee Women's Club, and everything else.

KN: And you feel that's because, I mean, the success of Avery has to do with the fact that you've got people, that are educated, that came here, and they're isolated when they get here.

RL: Right. Yeah, *well, look here* we're isolated. We want the best for our kids, we're gonna get in here and help.

KN: I see.

RL: Now the P.T.A. supports two things that are just real outstanding. And one is our scouts, very very active group.

KN: Mm hm.

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RL: And the other is , is a kindergarden.

KN: Oh.

RL: We have, they have supported the kindergarden, and the woman that teaches it donates every hour of her time five days a week.

KN: Oh.

RL: And has for three or four years.

KN: Now, you bring up another point.

RL: And the Milwaukee Women's Club donates the room, the space to have it in.

KN: What, now we're talking about a rural woman, what do you see as the, how do you compare the life of a rural woman and an urban woman? You've been to Missoula and Denver. Do you think there's more or less opportunity for a woman?

RL: More, in a rural area .

KN: Do you think so?

RL: Far more. There's far more because there's not the competition. You take, if I were in a city, I would never, 'cause it even bothers me to get out and talk before a group. Although I've learned

KN: Mm hm.

RL: To do it. I, I've had to learn to do it, in order to accomplish the things I wanted to accomplish for Avery. And if they come here with an open mind, why, the things they can do are just tremendous. Now our trouble right now, we have less railroad involvement, families of railroad people, because they're younger, kids that have come from cities, they live in Avery

KN: Yeah...

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RL: they just can't stand it, they're bored to death, they can't wait till the week end to get out

KN: Yeah, O.K.

RL: They don't attend anything, they wanna get off to the city and shop, and do this and do that. Just look what they're missing.

KN: That's, now what would you tell a woman like that, a young woman who'd come from a city and was, you knew and she knew she was gonna be here for three or four years, what would you tell her? What advice would you give her?

RL: I would tell her to be a doer. To be a doer, and the satisfaction *she'd get* *out of* the accomplishments that this little town was able to do is such a great personal satisfaction that it'd far outweigh anything that she could do off in some city shoppin' the windows and goin' to a show, or somethin'. Because, see we, beside we have ladies bible study every Wednesday noon it's a luncheon thing

KN: Mm hm.

RL: And then we study for a couple of hours after *wards* and then on Monday nights we have adult bible class where the men and the women come, and it's about an hour and they just serve coffee, coffee and cookies. But it's made these men, they are participating within the church; they get up on the platform and help with the open, the *open* prayer.

KN: Mm hm,

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RL: And do all, now these are fellas, mostly forestry men who see the need in a town like this, where there's two bars, and nothin' else for their kids, where they participate and make this thing a family thing with picnics and parties and this 'n that, and it's done wonders for the kids.

KN: That's really something, that you find both the men and women involved, then.

RL: That they're not sittin' in front of the T.V. every minute.

KN: Yeah, yeah. Gee, I could go on

RL: Now these little, there's a group of boys, in the seventh and eighth in high school that are building a cabin.

KN: Is that right?

RL: Up there, and they just, now they're, they've got their shakes. They're gonna shingle the roof, I guess it's twelve by eight, and everybody that's seen it thinks it's just beautiful.

KN: Oh, that's really neat, that's, you know I was over in Seattle this summer and they had classes at the University in building log cabins, and we were laughing about some of the, you know, some of the funny things they were doing in there.

RL: But, you know, the thing, I had the most wonderful childhood, I think

KN: O.K., let me ask you about that. How do you compare, well, you've got your grandson now, your daughter's not here, but how do you compare family life for you, and maybe you wanna include your daughter, or

RL: Well, when I go to my daughter's house, I go nuts.

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KN: How do you compare it with your family life when you were a child? I know there's a million differences, but

RL: Oh, yeah, yeah there is because, because now kids, so many kids want to be entertained, and I was so busy as a kid that I had to hurry and get my chores done so I could do all the things ~~that~~ I wanted to do.

KN: Do you think that you manage to, did your daughter manage to keep busy? When you were raising her, and how about your grandson?

RL: No

KN: Has that been preserved, or?

RL: No, I wasn't able to do that. I think part of it was that she lived with mother and I and there lacked that father

KN: Uh huh

RL: image in the home, and so when the C.C.s came to build these roads, why she was just nuts about the C.C. guy

KN: How old was she, then? Was she a teen-ager?

RL: Well, she was in eighth grade.

KN: Oh.

RL: First year of high, you know.

KN: Did she get married fairly young?

RL: Well, she had a year in the University of Montana, and so she was, what was she? I think she was nineteen.

KN: Yeah, she was nineteen.

RL: Mhm. She married a fella that ^{she} was the chief dispatcher for the ranger station and she met a young man from Billings that, see, he was already engaged when he got here, but he didn't

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RL: but he didn't stay engaged long 'cause she grabbed him.

KN: So she was back from school for the summer, or something?

RL: Yeah. Mm hm

KN: Well

RL: And she said, she told me when she went to college, she said, "mom, I'm not goin' to learn, I'm goin' to find a husband."

KN: She was really honest about it, then, wasn't she?

RL: Yeah. She said, 'cause she'd been raised all alone with two women, she said " I'm gonna get married and have six kids". She missed it by one.

KN: Now isn't that strange, you, you're more atypical, probably ^{you know, you} of the two of you, you're much less traditional than she is. then, or, I don't know what she

RL: Yeah. That's what, yeah, that's what she wanted. Well, I never could find a guy that, every person that I ever got engaged to they said, well a, don't quit your job.

KN: Did they?

RL: Yeah, three times, and I thought, got to thinkin' well, do I wanna give up my freedom? Work in the post office and have to come home and take care of their needs?

KN: Now you're talking about giving up your freedom ^{your free time} after work.

RL: Yeah.

KN: You didn't mean give up your work and stay home.

RL: No.

KN: Would you have done that?

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RL: Well

KN: If you had met the right person?

RL: Yeah, I would've.

KN: With all these jobs that you've had, it looks like it would've been too confining for you to just be stuck in the home.

RL: Well, I don't know.

KN: I shouldn't say just be

RL: Seeing my mother, my mother wasn't too well the last ten years of her life so I was quite confined, ^{to} watching out for her needs, although she was queen of the house. I never learned to cook until she passed away. 'Cause she was queen of the kitchen, and queen of the house, and I brought home the bread and butter and she did the managing; a marvelous job, very
There were times when I'd sit down at the table and I'd say (puts on a deep voice) "well, hello, old friend", you know?

KN:

RL: Quite a few times before.

KN: So you have had opportunities to get married again.

RL: Oh, yeah, yeah.

KN: But you just decided you didn't need that?

RL: No way; I never found the fella that I'd give up my freedom for. Especially when mother's live, we had the most wonderful friendship. She was a very brilliant woman, although she, herself, had only had a seventh grade education, she was a very avid reader, and when I was in the Post Office working and didn't have time to read, a lot of the times she'd go

Lindow/ Naugle

RL: through the Daily Spokesman Review and mark it, so these are of interest.

KN: Oh. You had your one daughter when you were married. You then, apparently, didn't want any more children bad enough to get married and have 'em.

RL: No, huh uh.

KN: You were satisfied with just the one.

RL: Oh yeah.

KN: Let's see, you came from a family, your mom just had two, didn't she?

RL: Mm hm.

KN: So it wasn't a real large family. If you don't mind my asking, and if you do just tell me, you don't have to go over it, but, what, how about child birth and birth control? What kind of information did you, did your mother talk to you about it, or did you just learn as it happened, Or?

RL: No, no, you know, the old German way was "hush-hush" ^{you know} these things are, I think it was somethin' they figured that a person shouldn't know 'till they got married. Well, then that was kinda late.

KN: (laughs) Yeah.

RL: You know what I mean?

KN: Did, what did you

RL: My mother didn't even tell me, when I got to the age of, what do you call it when you start your period?

KN: Uh huh.

Lindow/ Naugle

RL: I was on a camping trip with a whole bunch of people up there
and, 'course, I knew vaguely, but, you know, kids don't

KN: Uh huh.

RL: about it. But our river used to be about ten, twelve degrees
colder than it is

KN: Oh.

RL: 'Course I was out fishin', you know up here

KN: Yeah.

RL: And of course I was just very, oh, I was so chagrin there for
all summer long because I was, I got these cramps so bad,[^] and because I had started
I didn't know it, see?

KN: Oh my gosh.

RL: I was just too busy fishin' and they had to bring me home.
They had to get a horse and bring me home, I was

KN: Oh no. The thing we have to do is go back and pick up some
of the other women, but this always happens, you know, we get
into the questions and there's much more I want to ask than
we've got time for. Some of these we've already gone over,
well, let's see

RL: Well, what you should do is send me ^{your} a questionnaire

KN: Yeah. That's no fair. I like to, I'd rather listen.

RL: My, I was goin' on to tell you, my dad's the one that told me
about the birds and the bees.

KN: Oh, is he?

RL: Yeah. Not my mother.

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KN: Well, that's something, yeah, that's unusual

RL: After this happened to me and, gee, they had a nurse workin'
on me for ^{three} ~~10~~ days and I guess I was really sick.

KN: Is that right?

RL: Mm hm.

KN: Huh.

RL: 'Cause I, you know, it was, that river's just like ice.

KN: Oh well, yeah, the first time, I ^{imagine} ~~by~~ you were just mortified,
to have that happen.

RL: Yeah I was 'cause the whole town, some of the guys would look
at you and said, "how're you feeling?"

KN: Oh, oh how, I can imagine.

RL: I could just die, I could'a fallen through the

KN: You might've thought about leavin' Avery forever then.

RL: Yeah.

KN: What about your daughter? Did you, by the time she came along

RL: Oh, yeah

KN: along, did you tell her or did she go to

RL: Yeah, I told her, but she could'a probably told me things.

KN: Told you?

RL: Because by that time, you know, it wasn't the big question it
used to be, uh, people talked about it.

KN: Yeah.

RL: You know, and it was discussed in school and everything, and
this was good.

Lindow/ Naugle

KN: How about when you had her, did you have her in a hospital,
or at home?

RL: In a hospital.

KN: How do you feel about the medical service you got? Did you

RL: Real good.

KN: Did the doctors give you information, or did they pretty much
leave you in the dark and?

RL: No, they, ^{well,} I don't know, 'cause I don't have anything to compare
it with now; 'cause I haven't asked my own daughter about it.

KN: How her, ^{experience was,} let's see, she was born in '28.

RL: But, I think, well, this town is still, we have, you know,
young folks living together

KN: Uh huh.

RL: Which is a pattern in the cities. We older generation, we
don't like it, but, we go along with it because we realize
that's, that's the new way of life. That's the new mode.

KN: Now you haven't remarried but do you feel then that marriage
is a worthwhile institution to save?

RL: I do. I really do, yeah. I really do for the children.
See, now we had a couple living up there in the canyon, who
were living together: Chris, she's got a little, what is it?
Five, four year old boy? And it's just battered from pillar
to post. Now I have a granddaughter, my oldest granddaughter,
who is a divorcee

KN: Mm hm.

RL: Her husband ran off with another woman and then she fell in love

Lindow/ Naugle

RL: with this fella, and then they lived together, well, my little great granddaughter she was pulled from one to the other one, and

KN: Oh.

RL: And she's real, she's too attached to her mother because her mother's the only one where she can find security.

KN: The stable one.

RL: The stable one, yeah.

KN: The one she's always got to go back to.

RL: And of course I didn't like him, and I told my granddaughter I didn't, and she was just heart-broken because she thought that he would eventually marry her, but he didn't. And so where there's a child, no. Now my oldest grandson is married. His wife, and divorced. They have, I have a great grandson and a great granddaughter and he married before he finished high school and then they had a child, and then they, her folks interfered, and they split up

KN: Oh.

RL: Mostly because my grandson wasn't grown up enough to hold a job more than three months. He pumped gas here, and did this there and ^{some thin' else there} then he met this other girl in Missoula, and she really fell for him and he was off of marriage as an institution. He was, but, after she lived with him, he was ^{the that wanted} ~~one~~ to remarry.

KN: Is that right?

RL: But they're married and they're really happy

KN: What do you, now you've got your daughter and then?

Lindow/ Naugle

RL: Well, there's, that's two of my, now Rick and my ^{second} next grandson, Steve, they both saw what their older brothers and sister did.

KN: Uh huh.

RL: Well, they don't want any of that.

KN: They don't want any marriage or living together, or what?

RL: No, they don't. Not until they're stabilized.

KN: Oh. So what do you see for those grandchildren? Do you think they'll?

RL: These two?

KN: Yeah.

RL: Well, I think that they'll both be stabilized and have a way of life before, and they'll look the field over before they get married. I really think that.

KN: But you think they'll end up getting married?

RL: I do think they'll get married.

KN: Huh.

RL: Of course my youngest granddaughter, thirteen, so, I don't know no idea how she feels. Whether she looks at that, but she knows, the agony ^{+ the grief} that the other two went through.

KN: And then if they look at you at all, and ask you about it, they see there's another alternative, you know, nobody'll say you haven't had a full life.

RL: I have, oh.

KN: I guess, actually, you've covered most of the questions without me having to ask 'em, which was really nice. I think one thing that's always kinda interesting to ask is: World War Two

Lindow/ Naugle

KN: and the depression. Did those have a very, do you think they had a very big effect on you at all?

RL: They were good for us. They were good for us.

KN: Do you think so?

RL: Oh, yeah. I wish, when I see the way my daughter throws ^{awa} one third of what they buy to put on the table in the garbage

KN: Uh huh. So you think they were strengthening?

RL: I think very much so, yeah.

KN: Experiences.

RL: But you see now this recession, this depression, it's different.

KN: Yes.

RL: We didn't have ah, what do you call it? Unemployment *compensation.*

KN: Oh, Mm hm.

RL: Now

KN: Do you think that rural people, I don't want to answer my own question, do you think rural people have a more self sufficient, do you think they're better able to cope with economic hardships or hardships in general?

RL: Yeah, I do. I do because most of them outside of Avery, 'course Avery is more and more being able to buy land from the railroad

KN: Uh huh.

RL: That they have that plot, they can raise their own, they can provide for themselves, where city people, you know, gosh they're, just think when the gas shortage comes.

KN: Sure.

Lindow/ Naugle

RL: I feel so sorry for these people in the big cities where there if they have a hard winter, gosh would that be terrible. It's just, and of course we can always go out and pick up a big tree and burn it, you know?

KN: Yeah.

RL: And that it's just like being in heaven. It is.

KN: It's really nice to hear somebody that's so pleased about where they are.

RL: But you see, this is what I don't understand about the community in Calder. How come, How is it, how come it is that they don't, I've studied, and studied, and studied, and tried to figure out why is it, that that group don't work together?

Because some of them live there, their grandfathers and their

KN: Do you think maybe that is the difference? You're talking about people coming in from the outside and saying, well, we're here, we might as well make it, now those people, some of them have been there for a long time?

RL: The educated people won't (?) do it.

KN: Ah, you think so?

RL: Yes. It's the people that have had one or two years of college

KN: And can see ahead, maybe?

RL: And can see, and have been out more

KN: Mm hm.

RL: And can see that, these people down there are provincial, or something. They don't have any cash, unless they sell a cow, or somethin'

KN: Now the mill is a pretty big, the lumber yard, is that a pretty

Lindow/ Naugle

KN: big employer down there?

RL: Yes, ^{it is} uh huh. ^{except?} That's when it shuts down, you know?

KN: Yeah.

RL: Your economy is according to whether they're doing lousy or not.

KN: Yeah, that's right.

RL: And I tell you, this is bad because they have to depend on another source. No, I truly believe that education is just everything. Because these people have read enough and seen enough, that even though they're comin' in as transients, 'course, then you get the odd family that won't have anything to do with anything, you know?

KN: Uh huh.

RL: But that isn't the rule. And now we've got a new family movin' in up there on the hill, and I'll bet you within two or three months that woman will be so involved

KN: The woman. Now what about the man? Will he too? I mean

RL: Not always. Not always?

KN: I know he'll have his job, but

RL: Not always. Not always, but they're trained in the forestry area ^{I know.} ^

KN: Mm hm.

RL: The public relations is a real part of their opportunity to be promoted on to another

KN: Ah.

RL: Job. Now there's one man over there, that family moved out,

Lindow/Naugle

RL: he had to take a ladder which means he didn't get a step (up?)

KN: Right. Yeah.

RL: O.K. Because he and his wife wouldn't have anything to do
with the community

KN: Ah

RL: Only with this little forestry clip

KN: Yeah.

RL: They weren't part of the whole set-up, see?

KN: O.K. well, let me ask you what, I don't know if you're even
interested in it, but, what do you think when you hear about
the women's movement, or, you know, women say "I'm not fulfilled,
I'm not satisfied, I don't know who I am"?

RL: You know, yeah, you know most everything in our country *that's*
good; they over-do it.

KN: Yeah, we heard that before.

RL: Like these miners over here. ^{Now} It's fine if a woman wants to go
into mining

KN: Mm hm. This is up at Kellogg, huh?

RL: Yeah, O.K. but you should all use, if she wants to be a
miner she gotta use the same plot. You see what I mean?
I mean I'd hate to see it come to the point, I'm a bit (?)
old-fashioned, where I'd be settin' on a plot here, and a
man would be urinating right next to me. I mean I just don't,
I mean, I think the woman loses somethin'. I really do. I
may be wrong. But I ^{watch} ~~see~~ _x, I watch these woman lib things
on T.V. and everything, and I think the idea's good.

Lindow/ Naugle

RL: Because I do think the women have been held down. We have a woman livin' up the street here whose husband has always been very jealous

KN: Oh.

RL: Of her, and they lived here quite a while and had a big family and it's only just now that he's mellowed to the point where she can hold offices and do, she's a very brilliant woman

KN: Mm hm.

RL: Very talented in many, many ways. This is not right, you know, I mean, there's so many women like that that have so much to give. The pressures at home, and there's so much vying between husband and wife, this, who's gonna be the big shot, and it's too bad. So, so I can see just like with our environmental protection they went over backwards, they took it too far, I've been tryin' all summer long to get a permit for shakes to shake my

KN: Mm hm.

RL: 'Cause it leaks.

KN: Ah ha.

RL: Well, I've lived here for over half a century, and we've always been ~~allowed~~ to get anything that ~~was~~ fallen down ready to rot, ^{you know} and to go and take it. Well I couldn't get a permit.

KN: Oh is that right? Cedar?

RL: Cedar, yeah. So now I finally got, I finally got one, this man was goin' by the book; just by the book

KN: Uh huh.

RL: right down the line. There's gotta be elasticity.

Lindow/ Naugle

RL: Government bureaucracies, they're too powerful if they go by the book.

KN: And you say that goes for the women's movement, too

RL: Yeah, I mean it goes over, they go over backwards because, see, the women that are active in it, most of 'em I imagine are level headed, but you take these emotional women who go off on a tangent, you can take two or three of say fifteen hundred people, ^{you take those 2 or 3} and that'll ruin the whole movement because they just

KN: They get the publicity.

RL: They get the publicity and they go over backwards, well that's always what's written up and this is bad. It's bad for the movement.

KN: I've got just one more thing to ask and this is very general. Is there anything that you feel you'd like to say about who you are and how you feel about yourself, and, you know, how you feel about

RL: Well I think

KN: The path that you've chosen. Are you happy with your life?

RL: Yeah. I've been very blessed. To, that my mother came to America and that I wasn't in Germany during World War Two.

KN: Uh huh.

RL: And I was very blessed to be able to live in a town like this that has everything in it that a person would want. Not so much material things, because we weren't able to own our land, and as you can see my furniture is all beaten up, but it don't bother me, it's livable, I live with it; I love it, you see? And I think it's an attitude within yourself.

Lindow/ Naugle

KN: I was just gonna ask, I bet you could be put down in a lot,
could've been put down in another town and you would, could've
said the same thing about it, I mean, because

RL: Well

KN: you would've made it

RL: I don't know

KN: as much a part of you as you did Avery.

RL: But I just, I'm real pleased. I know where I'm goin' when
I leave this old earth.

KN: Ah.

RL: 'Cause I have this strong faith, and this is real important
when you lose your peace. No matter what

KN: Lose your purpose?

RL: No matter, Oh yeah, no matter what's goin' on in the world
I'm not a religious fanatic

KN: Mm hm.

RL: I just read the bible and I believe it. And I know the Lord's
comin' back after us one of these days and rapture us out and
then there'll be a *greater life* so, *you see I have* ~~that's~~ something to look
forward to. ~~Any~~ time anybody has a goal, that's somethin' to
look forward to

KN: Mm hm. Yeah, that's what you're saying.

RL: You see?

KN: Yeah.

RL: You can do, you can put up with most anything. It doesn't

Lindow/ Naugle

RL: terrify me if I have an allergy attack.

KN: Oh!

RL: I mean

KN: Yeah.

RL: in this respect

KN: Mm hm.

RL: Because I'm ready anytime. And my mother felt the same way, you know, and you know, this was a wonderful lesson for me because so often I've *Known* so many other older people. That they just grasp back to their youth, you know, and without that spiritual knowlege and blessing, as they approach age and get older, why it's awful to see 'em. They're terrified of death, They're terrified of their arthritic bones

KN: Yeah, and they get very, very concerned with their bodies.

RL: Yeah, and they get so afraid with themselves, they don't know what's goin' on in the world. But my mother wasn't like that. And this was real

KN: It would've been

RL: This was real fortunate for me, because I had the happiest last twenty years of her life. Gosh, we were happy. And she was so wise about world affairs, and everything, you know, just

KN: I think that's just a perfect place to end. I can't imagine anything...

THE END