

P.1

"refinery" or "refining" ? (The Dec 05 "transcription" has the former, the "fair copy" has the latter)

refining ?

cf

happening

joining

yearning

or:

refinery ?

cf

misery

every

I still think this is "refinery" (as it is in the "MCR ms" - the only other place where this text appears [not used for *Queer's* Epilogue]).

P.3

"Peopl[e]"

Although I understand the intervention, I don't think the interpolated letter is warranted; Burroughs has just written the word quickly (having used it twice before in previous lines), rather than left it incomplete - in fact the final "e" here is not much less formed than in the first usage (or from the struck through one later down the page) so it's the second use that's the odd one out. I would have just "People"

P.4

"girl[s]"

"girls" ?

"girl"

Although it's less clear than in the other two instances of "girls" in the text, I still think there is an "s" here (unlike the "girl" on p. 4 and p.9)

"Hiroshim[a]"

Likewise, I wonder whether the "a" here is not covered by the squiggle?

P.5

NB "Transcription" has "ships out" cf "Fair" has (preferred reading) "skips"
(I noticed similar variety elsewhere – eg "the bar in/is a different place":
I've not checked throughout, but clearly this is vital to ensure changes
made for one version are also made for the other...)

P.6

"the floozie"; in an earlier "Transcription" we had "a floozie"; sense would
dictate "a" but I think it *is* "the" – in which case, we should read "floozies"

"No Hiding Places" – should be "Place" (as in the song title)

"... Not like she has some / nice job."

I don't think this can possibly be right, especially when you compare to
the version in the "MCR ms": "Not when the Old Skip Tracer goes out on
the job." The shared frame – from "Not" to "job" – implies the original is
saying something very similar. Maybe: "Not with skip tracer away on the
job."

Individual words:

= "like"? But doesn't in the least resemble

(p. 7)

= "she"? [cf

= "skips" (p.5)?] [no other "she" in ms]

= "nice"? but cf

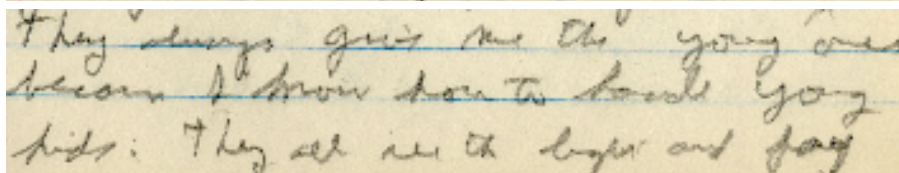
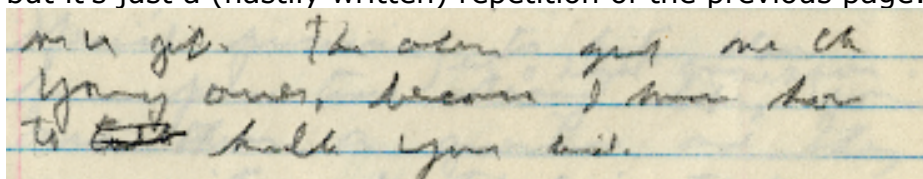
= "nice" (p.1)

Then again, maybe

is not "job" - cf

= "jobs" (p.7)



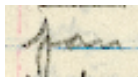
As for the rest of this passage – I don't know why I didn't see it before, but it's just a (hastily written) repetition of the previous page:

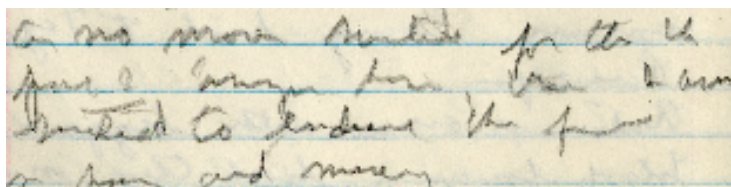


so, NOT "The other girls are the young ones, because I know how to handle your kind." BUT, again; **"They always give me the young ones, because I know how to talk handle young kids."**

p. 12

"the pain I felt for my sever[ed] / finger"?:

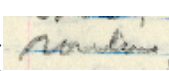
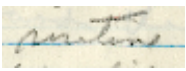
"pain" ?  - cf  = "pain" same page, or  (p. 27)
Surely this is not "pain" – which, if written quickly/badly flattens out - but the word, "pity"



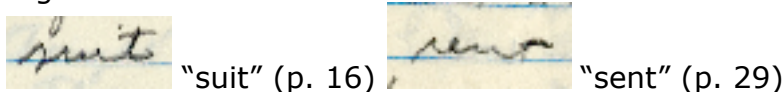
"am no more sensitive for its th[e] / part I anger him when I am / suited to endure the fear / o[f] pain and misery"

This (obviously!) doesn't make much sense, so:
Instead of "sensitive" try "suited" – not so dissimilar from following line:



[  = "routine" ??????]

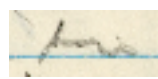

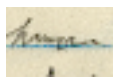

The ending of the first word is not a perfect match – although the ending of the second appears to have been corrected, as if the "d" were added... - but the "su" formation at start of words is very consistent in WSB; whereas the "s" is shaped rather differently for words beginning "se"
E.g.

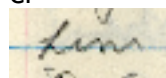
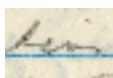



In fact, the sentence seems to fall into place as a comparative construction, where first word is "A" short for Allerton:
=

"A[llerton] **no more suited for this[,]** the / **part I [???** **know [or him]**
than I am / suited to endure the fear or pain and misery."

"him" or "know"?

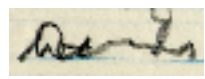
 = "him" or "know"? cf    = know
 cf

   = him

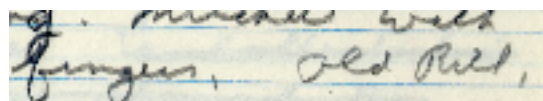
ie

most likely "know"

P.14

 - this seems to be "winds" changed to read "sands" by an
 "s" overwriting the "w"

P.15



"fingers. Old Bill."

punctuation here is surely commas (twice) – clear cf the period in line
 above

P.16



= "hat and wide straw hat bought in Guatemala and his"

The punctuation seems to have been overlooked – dashes before "bought"
 and after "Guatemala"

P.17

 "lots and ??? 'I ..."

The struck word looks to me like a capital "M" followed by a vowel and a
 consonant; in context, it's most likely "Mon-day" or, less likely, "Mex-ico/
 an". Not sure about reading the dot as a single speech mark before "I"; is
 it really deliberate?

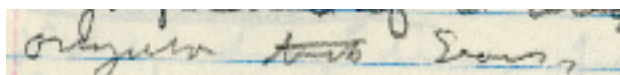
P.18



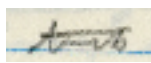
"I had left"? surely "**have**"

cf = "had" (same page)

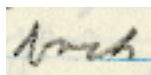
or = "have" (same page)



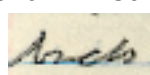
= "orizaba toward Sears" ?



= "toward"? - surely = "**back**" - cf

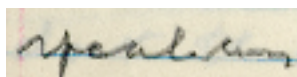


(p.38)

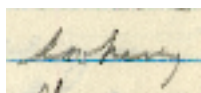


(p.13)

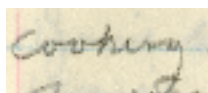
cf = "towards" (also p.18)



is this "speaking"? first letters look OK, but typically words ending -"king" look very different, e.g.:



"looking"



"cooking"

There's no other case of "speaking" in the Nbk (but examples in letter mss confirm difference). I can't suggest an alternative - only need to rethink