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Notes on "APM" meetings, September 1991

1. Zuckerman

Marquez and Edward were at boarding school together. Edward did something disgraceful--perhaps even killed someone. Marquez protected him from the consequences, perhaps by denying that he had witnessed the act although in fact he had. He and Augusta are brought together by this shared guilty secret.

Maisie steals a brooch. Hugh sees. When caught, she is defiant: "I took it because it looks better on me than any of these fat wives of rich men." Hugh rescues her from prosecution.

After the bank collapse, in Part V: Miller in trying to save the bank must be in conflict with both Marquez and Augusta.

Miller needs a government that will settle the Water Company problem and pay interest on Argentine bonds. Marquez does not want to do this.

Augusta does not want to sell her house and auction all her possessions. She tries to get her money out of the country. This would spoil Miller's scheme. Hugh prevents her.

Miller is in London at the start of the book--on his own business and Pilasters'. He pitches for the exclusive agency. Augusta opposes it. Miller flirts with Greenbournes. Joseph gives Miller the agency. Miller returns to Boston with Hugh.

Later, when Miller demands a partnership, Augusta decides not to oppose it--but to destroy Miller by other means.

Marquez' father comes to town in Part I. A little shabby. Explains to Marquez the grand scheme. It may sound a little fantastic. Marquez's role is to get a job in the embassy and cultivate powerful people. (Marquez thinks of Pilasters and

Greenbournes.) Father gets back on the boat (second class) after buying Marquez a new suit of clothes and a big ring (probably too big?) leaving Marquez with a heavy guilt trip.

Father has arranged for Marquez to get a chargé d'affaires job at the Embassy but after the boat leaves a rival emerges. Marquez organises a card game in which he cheats and the rival loses a lot of money. The rival borrows from Edward (who is showing off to Solly). Losing borrowed money which he cannot repay he is obliged to go home in disgrace, leaving the field clear for Marquez.

Take out all scenes with Hugh's family: this information can be given in other ways.

After the death of Joseph, Augusta gets a proposal from the impoverished Duc de Quatreceinque. However, it is conditional on her being rich. Miller's plans will scupper this engagement.

Augusta pretends to be compliant while her house is put on the market and her jewels are appraised. Then she does a runner, taking all her portable wealth and the Duc. This could ruin Miller's plans. Hugh catches them and brings her back.

Marquez is Alfredo Machado? Miller is Ross Perot?

## Eileen

There must come a moment when the adored son turns on the suffocating mother and defies her (she would say he betrays her). This might come after the death of Joseph, when Edward has fulfilled her ambitions and become senior partner and Lord. She might forbid him to do the Water Company deal which eventually brings down the bank.

Carol/Brian

Maisie's brother should die, to give her an opportunity to reflect on her roots (at the funeral?) She feels guilty.

Is Maisie's father an employee of the Pilasters? Or a tradesman they use?

Welsh Jews? Tinkers? CB will send "Brothers" by Bernice Rubens.