Brown Bag Items for *Whale Talk*

1. a deer/photo of a deer being hunted (1 other person listed this)
2. “They loaded both animals into Rich’s dualie, backed over my mountain bike twice, and left me in the middle of the clearing soaked in a mixture of the deer’s blood and my own” (37).
3. a Brown Barbie doll
4. a bloody T-shirt (3 others listed this item)
5. C Letterman jacket/a letterman’s jacket (4 others listed this), /varsity jacket
6. Letter for a jacket
7. Brian’s letterman jacket
8. pay phone
9. toy whale
10. “Private Group” pool sign
11. “Finally I say, ‘Know what?’

‘What?’

‘I think we’re stuck with it…’

‘Know what else?’

‘What?’

‘If we keep this up, we could hurt ourselves’” (70).

1. “How messed up is that” You get treated like shit, then have to be ashamed that you’re the kind of person people treat like shit” (18).
2. “…but the fight had drained out of me with the soul of the deer” (37). (1 other person listed this)
3. soap/brush (1 other person listed this)
4. masculinity/what is masculinity?
5. a bus/toy bus/hot wheels-sized bus (5 others listed this)
6. “Healthy people want to solve their own problems, which, by the way, you have plenty of. Best way to be healthy in any relationship is to take care of yourself and let the other person do the same” (50).
7. “Sweet Georgia Brown, more by example than by lecture, has continually demonstrated that racist thought and action say far more about the person they come from that about the person at whom they are directed. Yet, no matter what you *know*, it doesn’t always alter how you *feel*” (88). (1 other person listed this quote)
8. snow chains
9. “Not *one minute* for revenge. I’ve spent my life…looking back…wanting to change things…This is okay…Promise you won’t…” (212).
10. “Dad says Arthur knew something that eludes most of the jocks and coaches and administrators at Cutter; that the universe doesn’t create special dispensation for a guy because he can run faster or just higher or thread the needle with a fastball” (19-20).
11. a brillo pad (5 others listed this)
12. surgical tubing (3 others listed this)
13. “Why would anyone want his opponent not to be at his best?” (13)
14. picture of Chris Coughlin’s brother, Brian
15. “Once in a while my gut pulls rank on my mind, and I’m compelled to get ugly” (3).
16. “You kick Mike Barbour’s ass, and it just cranks him up to be more like he already is” (149).
17. prosthetic leg
18. a broken heart taped back together
19. “Man, what kind of a fucked-up world is this? You should have to be a lot more than decent to be a kid’s hero” (95). (2others listed this quote)
20. “I feel strong right now, but I know how I am. When the stars line up right, I’ll lie and protect him (Rich) and deny this conversation ever took place” (158).
21. “I learned in grade school that the color of a person’s skin has to do only with where their way-long-ago ancestors originated so my mind tells me all racists are either ignorant or so down on themselves they need somebody to be better than” (3). (1 other person listed this quote)
22. “So when I see a guy like Chris Coughlin eating shit, it’s personal, and I mean in a bottom-level, core, DNA sense… when I see someone getting kicked, I *feel* it” (42).
23. “He smiles, and I feel the most familiar feeling I know, that of the deer slipping away. My father is gone. I didn’t get a chance to tell him … he saved two” (213)
24. “Georgia’s right about bigotry: that absent the element of hate, a person’s skin color is only an indication of his or her geographical ancestry. But *with* that element, it is a soul stealer” (74).
25. “When I was eight, in the third grade, I learned about Charlotte Volare’s birthday party the day after, when one of my friends asked why I wasn’t there…She said her parents didn’t want me in their house because I wasn’t white, that her grandfather had been killed by some Japanese people in this thing called World War II, an event neither of us could quite pin down” (88).
26. “I think people don’t consider sometimes how *arbitrary* things are” (34)
27. “Nothing exists without its opposite” (204).
28. “I’m a lot more tolerant of things I used to despise, a lot slower to draw the line between good and bad”(129).