

that snake and he said not to kill it, and so I just let him in there. And that just settled it. And so he just shucked his own corn, and then he'd come in and feed the horses. And that was all there was to it. He'd come in and grin at me. Say, "You're not afraid of that snake." And I said, "Oh, you know I am." Ooh! They just scare me to death! (Even if you know they're not poisonous?)

Well, now that little one down there, just little one like that one they don't scare me. But one day I was out late, it was getting late, about sundown. I went out there. Leant upon the gate post, see, where the gate--you can see the gate--there's a bed. So I was laying up there this way, you know, and all at once the crows around me crying and all at once looking at the cows. All at once one of them jumped like that and looked over. Pretty soon another one she jumped and looked, 'too. Well, they just stood there and I watched them and you know they just kept watching. And they looked right this way. I said, "Uh-oh! That's a snake coming to the house." So there's a hoe out here. I just run back in and grab that hoe and went back. So them cows just raised their head a little higher up this way and was looking right towards that thing. And I said--pretty soon there was the biggest old snake come crawling right along there. And he started right that away, and he saw me there. Started under the gate. So I backed out here, let him come and he come through the fence over there. And I hit the ground like that, you know, with a hoe. And it scared him and he run around that way, and pretty soon he turns back and he gets right over there. And he just stands up about that high. And then I don't know, there's about so much of them on here. And then his tail, he just twist that tail up. Ooooooh! I shook and my hair raised up! And I said, "Oh, my goodness!" And I hit the ground again and he just stand there.