

(How did you get the one you had before?)

Somebody I doctor way back in years gave it to me. And I just lost track of it. These Indian men, they always bring their feathers and sit them on the dresser or hang them on the wall--because after supper they all leave and pick up their feathers and somebody must have just put their feather hanging up on the wall over my feather and when he took that feather took mine, and that's the way I lost that feather. I sure was sorry to lose that feather because it really was powerful that--I won't let no little kids touch it. Nobody ain't going to touch it except me. He could give it to me if I'm doctoring. No young childrens going to touch that feather.

MARY'S MEDICINE SONG:

(You mentioned your medicine song. How did you learn that?)

My mother learn it to me and my uncle. That was their doctor song.

(Did she ever tell you where she learned it from?)

She learned it from her father. Her father was a doctor, his name was White Wolf.

(And do you know where he learned it?)

Oh, I don't--he must got it way back--long time ago. I never did ask how he ever got that. If we was away from these people I could sing it in there (tape recorder) for you. Cause I just keep that song to myself till I doctor anybody that's real bad. Only time I sing it.

(What does the song talk about?)

The way my mother said..when she learned that song. My grandfather heard and gave it to his son Wayne..White Wolf--and when my mother--he gave it to my mother first because she was older then my uncle--and my mother got it from her father, and then my uncle got it--still my mother is living and they gave me that medicine and she learned me that song, and I learned it--I was about fourteen years old. And I learned that song and today I still got it. I know that song real well.