

Seventh Story
White Man Story

Myrtle Lincoln, Arapaho
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I guess there was a big camp. This White Man went east and seen that camp. I guess he come in from the east. The chief's tent was right in the middle. It was a big tipi. This chief had a pretty daughter. They invite men to come over. They were sitting around telling stories. White Man got a mouse. I guess he tell him, "All right, brother, you take my penis." This girl was sitting there in the tipi. White Man tell this mouse to take his thing (penis) and put it right in the hole (vagina) of this girl. This girl felt something. "Oh, something's around here," she said. They run away. There was a river on the east side of the camp. Mouse took White Man's penis and start running toward the river, but it was so big it just stuck in the sand. White Man stopped him and told him to come back. He told him he would give him power so that his teeth would make a hole in anything. So Mouse came back and tried again. I guess this time he hit the right spot. The girl hollered and said something was bothering her. Then her mother came out to see what it was. She looked down and saw this thing (the penis) laying there (Myrtle indicates the length of her forearm), so she cut it off. That's why men have a short penis. If it was too long, they would rope us. After she cut it off, the next day they moved away from there. They left that thing laying there. This White Man came over there and turn it into a snake. I guess he talk to it. "You're gonna increase. Some snakes is gonna be poison. Some won't be". But he told this one, "You're gonna be the meanest and the biggest. You're gonna have a white rattle at the end of your tail. You gonna be a rattlesnake." This White Man must have been the devil. He made things go the way he wanted them.

(Cf. Tale 31, 38 Arapaho Traditions.)