

Eighth Story
White Man Story

Myrtle Lincoln, Arapaho
November 26, 1969

This White Man was married. He went out--he's always hunting. He had two boys. His wife got sick. She was going to have a baby. When she got sick, she died. He told his boys, "I guess your mother is dead and gone." His oldest boy said, "Yes, my mother is gone, but she's gonna come back." He told his father, "Make a sweat lodge and put my mother in there." He made a sweat lodge and put his wife in there. "Now what are you going to do?" he asked his oldest boy. "I'm going to bring my mother back to life. She's got two little boys in her stomach and I'm going to get them out." He went in the sweat lodge. It always be dark in there. This boy went in and he opened his mother's stomach. There were two little boys there. He put them out, and then he went and closed his mother's stomach. He kept saying, "Mother." He repeat this second time: Third time he said, "Mother, wake up." Fourth time he said, "Mother." She woke up and said, "What do you want?" He told her to get up. And he told her her two little boys went outside and were playing. I don't know how they could be playing already. She said, "Where is your father, White Man?" "He's out there," I guess he said. Then she went out. Then White Man greeted his wife. He told her he was glad she came back to her children. She's got two more boys. She has four boys now.

White man said, "I got to keep hunting to feed these boys." He went out and he seen a buffalo. It was laying down and it's feet were up. He went over there and touched it. "It's good meat," he said. He start to butcher it. This buffalo was really a coyote. It jumped up and ran. He came back to the camp and his boys told him, "We have to move, father." So they moved and they made camp on kind of a hill, like. White Man told his wife, "My brother is gonna come and stay with us. Fix him a bed." Every time he went out hunting, this woman was after her brother-in-law. He used to go out and sit on the hill to get away from her. This woman was really a badger. She cleaned her fireplace and dug a hole there in the ground. She'd come up and see where he was sitting and then dig some more until she dug the hole right up to him. He dropped down in the hole. White Man came back and said, "Where is my brother?" The woman said, "My brother-in-law, I threw him in that hole. I go over there and pee on him. I go over there and shit on him." I guess she just kept doing that. I guess she went over and throw scraps of bone over there by that place. Coyotes and wolves used to come over there. They heard him crying. They dug in there and found him in that hole. He had a dirty head. It was covered with all that---- He told them, "If you help clean me up, I'll go get my sister-in-law and you can eat her." Then they licked him all over and cleaned him up. He went to the camp and went to his brother. As soon as he got there he said, "Brother, do you love your wife or do you love me? She threw me in that hole and she used to come and pee on me and shit on me. And the wolves dug me out. Tell me if you love her or me." "Well, I love you," his brother told him. I guess he told his sister-in-law, "Come with me. I want to see you." I guess she was more than willing to go with him. So she went with him and I guess this woman said, "Right here is good enough." He said, "No, wait. We go a little farther. So they went on. Finally he got her into this grass. He said, "Come on, wolfs! Here is your beef!" Before she had a chance to do anything, they tear her up