

'That was in 1907 and 1908. Yeah, that's an old story.

(Interruption. Then Birdie decides to tell another story)

STORY ABOUT BAD SPIRITS BOTHERING A CHEYENNE CAMP

A long time ago the Indians used to be in big camps. They weren't scattered like we are today. And something used to bother them all night long. One group of camps. And they couldn't make out what it was. Oh, it would just bother them, and maybe kids at night had nightmares--little children--and they could hear noises outside. They didn't know what it was. And they began to think it was what they called "ghosts" or "spirits." And this boy--he was a young man--went out to the prairie and he was looking for a high place where he could sit down and look down at the camp. And he found a kind of a high place. He had his pipe with him. And he was sitting there and he was praying. He was praying for help. 'What this thing could be that was bothering these Indians in this camp.' He wanted to know what it was. And he prayed for help. And while he was praying when he lifted his head and looked over there someone was coming from the east. And at the same time he looked down to the camp. He said there was just spirits going back and forth and back and forth, maybe sometimes little children cry at night and a group of them would run here and a group of them would go back here. Oh, they were just going through the camp! And when he saw this thing coming from the east he said it was a spirit. You couldn't hardly tell what it was. He could tell it was moving something but he couldn't see the body of it. And when it came closer he heard something--like when you sing--from way off. And he listened that much closer. Sure enough, this spirit was singing that was coming from the east. He was just trotting like this. He