

God. We just call Him the Mystery--the All-Powerful Mystery--the Supreme Power.

JESS' PERSONAL PHILOSOPHY

(How do you say that in Arapaho?)

Well, the main name that we always call the Supreme Power, is baetaen. That's the universal word of the Arapaho. We call Him "Our Father." Our Father, the Supreme Power. We always call mother earth our mother. Provides for us--vegetation, animals, and fowls of the air. Provides for our living--nourishment. And the things that we wear come from the earth, mostly--mother earth--the fire that cooks our food, and the water it provides for us. Of which our lives are nourished. In fact they say three-fourths of our body is composed of water. To replenish it. And all those things is the way the Indian prays. We have three planes of life that we're governed by: The physical man, which is represented by peyote and that sits on that altar, the vegetation on mother earth. And the spiritual part of man which is represented by ashes. That is finer and whiter, and has some life power from the fire that it originates from--from burning wood--constitutes the second plane of life of a man. The third is the fire itself--that is alive, untouchable, and not scientifically known at that. Because you can't touch it. The same as you don't know what the soul of man is, only that God gave us that life when He created us in his own image. And he breathed his holy, divine power through our nostrils and we became a living being. That's the three planes of life: physical, spiritual and psychical (?). That's the way the Indian believes.

(Is this belief in the three planes of life--is this part of