

(Recorder turned on after beginning of conversation. Guy had a xeroxed copy of a page from Elsie Claws Parson's book, Kiowa Tales, Memoirs of American Folklore Society, vol. 2, 1929., concerning spirits, etc. and was showing this to me along with some of his own notes.)

GENERAL DISCUSSION OF KIOWA CONJURERS OR SPIRIT MEDIUMS:

(--about the Kiowa Spirit Mediums--)

Another buffalo tipi, small one, sets on the inside this tipi. And the medicine man, the spiritualist, just sit over here. And the chief performer, he sits over here close to his tipi. And the other medicine men sits all around in a circle inside. And the spectators--there's a ring around the tipi that's marked. No one's allowed inside that mark except the guards that's going around. Spectators and listeners can lay on the outside anywhere around the whole camp. But they must have their heads covered and blankets on 'em. And when the spiritualist--medium--he sits here and goes through his ceremony for performance and to contact the dead person, the spirit that they're contacting comes in through through the top. They say when he comes, he lights on the tipi and he shakes the whole tipi. "here I am! Here I am!" And they hear him flopping his wings--look like a bird--inside. And then he goes inside that little tipi. "Now what you want?" All right. That old lady told you what that old man said, that spirit was--that they anybody's (?) that medicine man asked to see that. It's something like a fairy, spirit. She said, "We sit down and it came and that's only (unintelligible phrase).

(Well--(I don't understand what he's talking about))

He calls it a 'underground.'

(Underground?)

I don't call it that. She (Parson's?) call it Underground Old Woman. Well, what we call, mostly, today, Underground, is "Echo." It's "Echo."

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This old man he told us about, tene.taide, is a distant relative of mine.