

Sixth Story
White Man Story

Myrtle Lincoln, Arapaho
November 26, 1969

I guess White Man said, "I want six men. We are going to look for the enemy," I guess he said. So there were seven men. I don't know how he done it, but he said, "We're going to have a woman with us." They went so far and they stopped and made fire. Then they heard something from where they had come from. Whatever it was, it flop around them and say, "wade." Then it would flop around. "Hey! That's something." Second time it came and flop around and say, "wade." Third time it came and flop around and say, "wade." Fourth time it came and said, "wade." Then it came in. They had a shade or shelter where they were going to sleep for the night. They cooked in there. They had an arbor.

This thing was a woman's private parts. (wade? means a woman's private parts or her genitals.) White Man grabbed it and said, "I'm going to sleep with it first." Next day they moved. They went on. They go so far each day. White Man said, "I'm going to put this poor thing under the grass." They left. Went so far and then they stop. When they were cooking their supper it came again. It flop around them and call out, "wade." It came a second time and a third time. Fourth time it came in the tent. I guess they took turns sleeping with it. In the morning when they left, they put it under the grass.

Then they found the enemy. They started fighting. While they were fighting they thought they lost it. Well, they whipped their enemy and were coming back home. The first night they stopped, I guess they heard it again. It flop around and holler "wade." And so, they same way the second night and the third night. The third night when this thing came, the last man slept with it. I guess White Man said, "We're on our way home. We're gonna return it to its owner." So on the fourth night it didn't come. It was gone. White Man said, "This man that was the head of the people, that's his wife's thing." One of the men said, "Why didn't you tell me--that's my sister!" I guess White Man said, "She didn't know it." White Man said, "They are gonna have a victory dance. Anyone she comes to dance with, go ahead and dance with her."

I guess they had the dance for four nights. On the fourth night they broke up. And White Man told them he was going east. He went east. He told them they were never going to see him again. That was the end of the wade.