

Jeannette: A heifer.

Birdie: Uh-huh. (Cheyenne phrase) They holler for him. He come forward. They said, "Get ready. You're gonna be in our race."

So this man, he went back there somewhere and get ready. When he came forward, all he had was some part of--what you call it?--plume, or something--some part of a eagle--a white--

Jeannette: It's under here (indicating underarms--a downy feather from under the eagle's wings).

Birdie: It's all he had. It wasn't even tied or anything. It was just stuck in his--

Jeannette: Scalplock--

Birdie: Queue--what they call queue. Man wears that braid up here (indicating top of head) and it's round. They call it queue. He just stuck in there. And he come forward. All he had was his breech-cloth and moccasins, probably. And buffalo, she came forward, too--this one they were calling for. She had been selected to run against this boy. Then this man said, "All right, now, the race is gonna start. Everybody, are you ready? If you are not ready, get ready." So the little skunk, he jump in there and found some white ashes. No white ashes, but that--what you call that?--white clay? That little skunk went over there to get himself ready. He just stuck his hand in that white clay. He just put that white clay clear over him (makes swiping motion starting with forehead and going down over back). He was gonna enter that race. That's the reason why that little skunk has that white mark. And then another one was decorated on the other side--a crow. We don't eat crows. He was hunting for a burned tree--where it had been burnt black. And he was getting those black ashes. He just put it all over himself. That's why crow is black today. And then let's see--

_____: Meadowlark.