

That's what I don't know--how it start. Look like Ray (Blackbear) ought to know, because his daddy, Joe Blackbear, he's there too. Joe Blackbear and Freddie Achitta and a whole bunch of them like that. So it look like Ray ought to know something about it. He ought to know when it start and all about it.

(Did you ever hear if the Apaches ever got it from some other tribe?)

Oh, I don't know. Seems like a Comanche gal was saying they learned it first. And the Apache, they said they had that before any other tribe. And here lately other tribes are coming in. So that's the way I know. Though I don't know which is true. But ever since I know, Apaches are having their peyote meetings all along.

(How long was your father--I mean, was he a peyote man almost all his life, or had he used it for a long time?)

What I heard when I was a kid, you know, he said they used to go among the Mescalero Indians way out someplace. And he stayed with one. I believe he kinda got in love with a women there--two of them--and he stayed there and he said that they always have peyote meetings in a tent, but women, s they drum and sing like these men right now. That's what he always tell me. But I don't know where men were running it--he didn't say nothing about that.)

(Was that before you were born?)

Yeah. It's before he even married my mother. When he was just young he used to go out that way. Yeah, that's what he--I heard him telling about it. If I just had listened to him good, all the way, I might know something about it, but I just go in and listen a little bit and run out to play. That's why I don't know much about it.

(I know you've told me about your father in the past, but I don't think I've got too much about his life--but how old were you when he passed away?)

Well, I was just that goofy I don't even know, but seems to me about-- You know when he's sick I get on horseback and I water the horses for him and bring it back. I could say I must be about--I could say about twelve years old.

(It was before you were married?)