

Somebody replies, "No."

Meanwhile Bob is fixing the fire, shaping the coals into the form of a bird, the outline of the wings following the shape of the crescent-shaped earth altar, and the tail formed by the intersecting fresh sticks of firewood.

John yells to the outside: "When Midge comes back, tell him to come in-- he's got to pass that staff." (The staff, etc., are being passed from Bobby to Abraham and apparently they cannot skip a place--whoever is sitting in a position must be on hand to pass them.)

Midge comes back in. They tell him to come around this way. Bob is still fixing the fire. Eugene Blackbear talks to Abraham, saying something about the Navajo visitor, Herman Nelson, but his voice is low and it's difficult to understand him.

John says: "Abraham, remember that drum head you gave me? We use it round here four times. Then I gave it to my friend, John Kionut (Caddo). It really sound good."

Someone says: "Is she ready?" (referring to me, outside).

Someone answers: "Yes."

Glen says: "Howard Williams, the leader's gonna call on you to add cedar for the morning water. Pray. Pray for her, etc., and especially this home and this man from Wyoming, etc. That's the purpose why these people put it up (the tipi). They honor and respect him. That's our way. All the people that's in need of help--that's why we're here. Gonna give you this cedar when he (Abraham) gets through singing and ask you to say something and pray." (Everyone says, "Uh-huh," and "Good.")

Abraham blows four times on his whistle. A rooster crows in the background. He starts singing. I come in, Pendleton blanket wrapped about me, and sit down on a cushion someone has provided. I set the bucket of water in front of the fire, the painted designs on the bucket facing the fire--someone told me to orient the bucket like that. The birds outside can be heard between songs. People join with Abraham in singing. When Abraham gets through with the morning water songs, he lays down the staff, gourd, sage wand, on a small senape beside him.

Glen says: "Sister. Judy. I'm gonna prepare a cigarette for you. The lady that does this usually fixes her own, but I want it to be convenient for you. This man, Howard Williams, a Caddo, he'd been among our people--give him that privilege to talk at this time, etc. . . ."

Howard says: "Glen, thank you for the opportunity. . . that you present this cedar to me to say a few words. I just be willing. . . I'm that kind of a fellow. Try to be that way. I think that much of my church. John, when I come here--he treats me good. I have respect for him and his boys. It's a feeling when I come here. . . humble people. . . this chance. . . this cedar. You asked my brother--cousin --Verle, to pray at midnite. My relations. Also this one--that's my nephew (probably referring to Buster Brown). That's my niece and sister (his niece would be Juanita Brown, and his sister is Irene Kionut). We're related. For that reason I want to try to help you. I try to follow our ways. I know I'm going to get a good blessing. . . I try to stay around close--get someone's help in here. . . (He talks about Glen, or his brother, Francis, who is not present). Pray for people here. Say a word of two to my people and these people, like that. . . this Navajo boy--he come a long way