

Sarah Boyd Little

Where: The home of Eve Faulkes

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Sarah Boyd Little, 94, is an African American gospel singer who grew up in Scots Run, West Virginia. When she was in high school, Little's choir sang for President Roosevelt at the White House. Little still performs in the group Al Anderson and Friends, and is active in the Scots Run community. I spoke with her and West Virginia University art professor Eve Faulkes at Faulkes' home in Morgantown.

SL: Sarah Little
EH: Emily Hilliard
EV: Eve Faulkes

00:00

SL: Oh my goodness, you're going to have to put it up. Oh I'd love to. ... would love it.

EF: Mmhm. So you knew that was yours, right?

SL: Yeah, I didn't particularly care for that.

EF: Okay.

SL: I'll probably just eat more salad, that's all.

EF: Would you like to me to take anything out of your way there?

EH: Um, sure, thank you. Yeah, I'll just have this on for now while we're chatting and then I'll do a more formal intro. So sometimes the camps were segregated, but your coal camps weren't?

SL: No.

EH: People just lived right next door to each other?

SL: Exactly. Mmhm.

EF: She can tell you everybody still to this day-- all 25 houses

SL: Mmhm.

EH: Oh wow.

SL: Yeah.

EF: What kids were in there and everything.

SL: Exactly.

EH: Where they were from?

SL: Mmhm. Cause we all played together, you know?

EH: Mmhm. So there were a lot of...

SL: Hungarian...

EH: Yeah, Hungarians, I saw in the photos.

SL: And some we didn't know their nationality, you know, cause some of the parents didn't talk their English was real broken, but the kids learned, you know, quick. So...mmhm.

EH: I saw a lot of Mexican miners in the photos.

SL: Yes, some of those lived in, right there in Bertha.

EH: And there was-- it looked like some kind of beer hall for miners that was I think, must have been Croatian or Serbian, because the last name was -ich, like...

SL: Oh really?

EH: Abramovic or something like that.

SL: Was that in Osage or...

EH: Well it was listed as Scots Run, so I don't know where exactly it was.

SL: I can't remember a place like that. I know... I'm not saying... you know, cause there was a place in Osage that we weren't allowed to go, not because of color but because it was like my dad called 'em speakeasies where there was a lot of drinking and a lot of... cursing and they played the numbers and whatever so we weren't allowed to go and because of that I don't know if it was because of color or anything you know, so...

EH: Right.

SL: There was places like that in Osage.

EH: Mmhm.

EF: But we can get you some guys who can tell you those stories.

EH: Oh, that'd be great!

EF: You can sit at the boy's table (laughs)

EH: (laughs) Yeah, I need to!

SL: Oh yeah, they can tell you some stories--Oh my god, yeah, some of the things that went on in the coal mines. Some of the things. Phew!

EF: However, do you want to tell her about when you would go dancing--how you got there?

SL: Oh, what? What is it?

EF: In the high heels?

SL: I can't remember, what did I tell (laughs) Oh gosh!

EF: Okay, I didn't want to give it away.

SL: No, you can tell it-- I forgot.

EF: No, that story that we put on the bench?

SL: Oh Jesus, I forgot.

EF: (laughs) Ok, I'll tell it, but you gotta say it...

SL: Yeah, go ahead. I'll remember if it comes back to me while we talk.

EF: Okay, you told me--we were talking about how people would jump a train sometimes.

SL: Oh yeah. Oh yeah! That one! Oh yeah, because we lived at Pursglove #2 at that time and the train, those great big cars that carried the coal, we would be on our way to Osage, which was about a mile, a little over a mile to Osage from Pursglove, and so we would go down and see the train go and we would just grab ahold of this train and get a free ride! We thought it was fun, you know!

EF: In high heels!

SL: Yeah! We'd be all dressed to go to the dance and the club.

EH: (laughs) You'd hop a train to go dancing.

SL: Oh yeah, we'd hop a train and had a pocket book and everything. (laughs)

EH: How far of a ride?

SL: I guess I was maybe...a teenager, maybe 18 or maybe like...in that age.

EH: How far was the ride?

SL: Uh, about a mile, almost a mile from Pursglove to Osage. And we thought that was, we thought that was good! You know, that was good for us, you don't have to pay but... I think the bus might have been a nickel. But money was-- we didn't have money much, you know, we sold pop bottles or something to get money cause that wasn't... in our house there wasn't a thing called money. (laughs)
04:29

My dad's grocery bill was more than what he earned. So he called it-- you in the hole--that's the expression they used. That means your store bill was bigger than your paycheck.

EH: Right. And you were--they were buying from the company store.

SL: Yeah, right. You could get everything from the company store. You could get yard goods, they would get furniture for you, whatever, through the company store so, my dad didn't have money. So what he would do every--when he got ready to go to Osage, first he'd buy a carton of cigarettes and sell them and that would be his little bit of money to spend until we got old enough to work and then we'd give my dad money. Oh, he would be so glad to get a couple dollars! (laughs)

EH: So when you sold pop bottles, you would just give it to your dad?

SL: Well sometimes we would, yeah because he was such a good daddy and I know he wanted to go to Osage and--cause he was a wise man. I mean you'd go to Osage and you'd see all these men standing around and my dad would be in the middle telling stories. Some was wild stories but some was just wisdom that he learned growing up and all.

EF: That's how he got his nickname.

SL: Yeah, they called him doc.

EH: Oh, nice.

SL: They called him Doc Boyd.

EH: So he was sort of a philosopher?

SL: Yeah, he was. Mmhm. He loved God, loved reading the Bible and they didn't go to school so they learned to read our books and mom too. But to hear them talk, they tried to get it right. They did--they got it right. So they realized that they was, they was not allowed to go to school cause my mom remembers working in a cotton field when she was a kid. So they didn't go to school, and she said they had to cook, mom and dad worked--their mom and dad worked in the cotton field so the kids had to get dinner ready, she said I remember standing up on the box or something to make dinner for when they came home from out the fields, you know, so. I think she said maybe she went to 3rd grade, but anyway, they didn't... but they were what they learned, they did that. What they learned, they walked in that. You know, they loved everybody, honest... 'cause I was telling her how my mom used to go to Osage and course, was the money, but there was Max Levine the clothing store, the grocery store and all that, and so they would, they called them our name. And she would go to Osage-- you could feel like a huss... everybody... there would be winos--a guy was drinking, they'd be on the street drinking--they would see her coming, Miss Boyd, that's what they called her. They would say, oh here she comes! And they would take their hats off and bow to her. And they did--they loved her. She loved them too and so she'd go in the store and they would say, "Give Miss Boyd what she wants. She'll pay when she gets the money." That was it! She would go get anything that she wanted, and when she got money she did pay, so that was how she was raised, so, yeah. She was honored. So was daddy. Daddy was a man of wisdom. So we had a good training. They taught us right. And we could have been different because of how some... we was still called the N-word and stuff like that, but my mom used to tell, "Well you're not that. Well, why would you get mad? Somebody called you that? Well you're not that." You know, so that's how we, I grew up so I don't care what you call me, I'm not none of those. I know--- I know who I am, happy to know who I am. So that was how they taught us, and so, daddy too. And he told us, he worked with KKK men and how they would steal his coal. They had a little check--something like this and they would have a little hole in it, and when they loaded the car, they would put--there was a little nail on there and they would put that on there and his whatever his number was, when they brought the coal to the thing they put that down--Doc Boyd--they didn't call him Doc, they called him Luther, they'd put that down for, but somebody would steal his. This man, he was--real bad. Yeah, they would steal that from him, you know, so he talked about that... he wasn't... you know, he wasn't mad, he wasn't cursing like some people, so he just took it all as, this is how it is.

And so when we um, grew up, some of the kids, they played with us when we was kids, and then when we got older they wouldn't play with--there was one girl, me and her was really close, her name was Sarah and we called her Tootsie--That's her mother gave her that nickname, and so me and her used to play together, we'd play house and what kids do.

EH: Right.

SL: And then when she got to be a teenager she said, oh I can't play with you no more. And I thought, why? Why? She said, well my mom said it. So then I went and told my mother and she said well, she said, she said that's how it is. So she said, that's just how it is.

EH: Why was it-- why did it change when you became teenagers?

SL: Well you-- well they just don't want, I really don't know why they did, but they did.

EH: yeah.

SL: They did, they did. So. but that was really hurting. But then you'd think, well something wrong with me, maybe, you know?

EH: Was that kind of a rare experience or did it...

SL: Well everybody didn't do that, just some people did.

EH: Some did.

SL: Some did. Everybody didn't do that 'cause we had other neighbors was totally different, you know. So, but this family--that happened to be the one that... maybe we got to be too close I don't know, cause I don't know why. I couldn't imagine, but she said her mother said she couldn't play with me no more, and I thought, why? So then first thing was, well something's wrong with me. but then you realize, no. That's when my mother explained--she said no, that's just how it is. So... and then she had a brother... I really think it's-- she had a brother and his name was Marcus and I kinda think, cause we played together, we had lots of fun, I kinda think she was scared that Marcus and I would get kind of, you know. I kinda think that was it.

EH: Ah.

SL: yeah, cause we played together and had lots of fun together and we played store and he'd be the doctor and we'd get the little patient to be sick and all that, so... (laughs)

EH: (laughs)

SL: Crazy stuff, but it was fun. It was clean fun, you know, we didn't think about cursing or sickness or what-- and we had the grocery store, then we'd get all the cans, empty cans, we'd go get picked 'em up, put them on the shelves and stuff, and so when you come to our store you could buy green beans or whatever, we'd give 'em the dirty can. (laughs)

EH: (laughs)

SL: Oh my goodness, it was good fun. Good clean fun, yeah, so.
10:53

EH: And with that family were they from West Virginia?

SL: Yeah, they was from West Virginia.

EH: Was that most when--with the KKK members, were there any foreign born?

SL: Well they were, they were, no...no they were, I don't know, I guess they was, cause they spoke good, you know? Cause they was like 2 houses from us and, and... like we'd be playing and they would-- she'd--"oh you little nasty." that's what... they would do that, but we'd just ignore that. You know, but she was like that. Yeah.

EF: Something I remember you telling me about the people that lived on that row? You said some of the bachelor miners, like you kids would like cook for 'em and clean house for 'em and...

SL: Oh yeah, right.
11:38

That was like a job you know, just, yeah, they would--bach-men, bachelor men, you know, so we would clean their houses and scrub for 'em and then when payday come, you know, they would give us a little bit of money. I did that for a-- 3 or 4 men, bachelor men, yeah. Had a little job! (laughs) after school. Yep, sure did.

EH: Did they have their own houses or did they live together?

SL: Yeah, they had their own houses, they all had their own houses. But they didn't, they were just single men, you know, so...

EF: They just didn't know how to clean. (laughs)

SL: They didn't know how to clean, yeah.

EH: (laughs)

SL: And I guess when you work in the coal mines you don't want to come home and clean.

EF: Or they had an appointment at the beer garden, maybe. (laughs)

EH: (laughs) Yeah right.

SL: Oh yeah, oh my. Mmhm.

EH: So maybe I'll have you introduce yourself and tell me when and where you were born. And who you are.

SL: Okay. My name is Sarah Boyd Little, I was born in the year 1924, April the 20th. And I was born in a little town outside of Fairmont. And of course later years, because of work my dad moved to Osage and then later we moved to Pursglove.

EH: Why don't you introduce yourself too.

EF: I'm Eve Faulkes and I teach graphic design at WVU where because of a project I met Miss Sarah about 5 years ago, and then we fell in love and here we are! (laughs)

SL: We've been in love ever since, right?

EH: (laughs)

EF: Yeah.

SL: Want to get that book and stuff in there on the chair so I can show her some of the pictures of that. And of course when i went to high school, like I said I went to all-black school and so that's when I started singing in the a cappella choir. And then we went on tour--that's how I got a chance to sing in the White House where Roosevelt was our president at that time.

EH: Mmhm. What year was that--do you know?

SL: In the 40s cause when did war break out-- 40 something, but this was before the war.

EF: How close was it to when the mine exploded 'cause that was '42. So was this earlier than that?

SL: I think it was.

EF: Like maybe 1940?

SL: It may have been. It may have been. So I'm not good at dates but anyway, that's what we did. We went, we went to places, and of course, my sister and I, my other 2 sisters Ida and Katherine, who we called Kitty, and there was a little program at one of the theaters in Osage where--a talent show. And so like I said, we always sang--that's all we ever did was sing. That was our entertainment. So the 3 of us--we formed a trio and we used to go places and sing. The three of us-- The Boyds, they called us. So this particular night that they had this talent show and of course, they said if you win, you get a spot on the radio. And so of course we won and we got to sing-- i can't remember the-- Morgantown, I can't remember the figures. But anyway, we won and so we got a chance to sing on the radio and... 'cause we did real good-- we could harmonize together. And so like every Sunday afternoon around 4:45 maybe, just a 15 minute show, we would sing. And so one time we got in an argument about the song we was supposed to sing and so we was...I guess we forgot we was on the radio--we started arguing on the radio and my mom said that's it, you're not going (laughs).

EH: So it was a regular gig, it wasn't just one time?

SL: Yeah, you had every Sunday afternoon-- I believe it was 4:45, but you had 15 minutes to sing and of course we're arguing on the... she said, well you're not going back--that's all of that right there. (laughs)

EH: (laughs) What would you sing? Are you a lead singer?

SL: I'm second soprano. And of course, once Ida sang alto and Kitty sang lead, what you call a lead. Mmhm. But we sang a cappella, we didn't have no piano or nothing. But we sang and harmonized together. That was-- I loved it. Yeah, so, then that was over, we didn't get to... have a chance to sing no more. I mean not publicly like that. But we always did sing, of course we had church choirs and church groups and stuff like that and we would sing for--the coal miners would have their meetings and we would always sing, you know we would sing for them and I saw in the history of West Virginia read all that about Sarah Boyd, Ida Boyd, and Willa Boyd, all of use was singing. You know, they called us the Stepping Stones then.

EF: I didn't know that!

SL: Mmhm. It's in that West Virginia book. And so we just sang. That was...

EH: And how old-- were you teenagers then?

SL: Yeah, we were, we were teenagers, yeah, so...that was our. That was our recreation. I guess you call recreation 'cause (laughs) after supper was over, we'd start singing. Somebody would start a song and mom and dad would pick it up and before you know it we was all singing and coal miners would be on their way to work and they'd be out there under the window--they'd say oh listen to the Boyds singing, the Boyds singing! They singing! (laughs)

EH: (laughs)

EF: Was that even before Eugene Wayman Jones had you in high school?

SL: Yeah it was. Mmhm. That was before him.

EF: Because he was an amazing character.

SL: Oh my.

EF: I mean he was the one that organized that whole trip to...

EH: Okay.

SL: He sure did, yeah. I used to have a picture of him-- probably got a picture somewhere.

EF: I've got one.

SL: Do ya?

EF: Mmhm.

SL: Okay. Yeah he was the one over-- he's the choir... organize our trips to different places. Mmhm.

EH: Why don't you tell me more about those trips because we didn't record it earlier.

SL: You mean like...

EH: That tour when you went to the White House and you sang for soldiers and...

SL: Oh yeah, we went to so many places-- I may have it on one of the articles here. The first place was, the first place we went to--Washington, D.C. to sing for the president. And then later I think the next place was an army place in Baltimore which was a Navy-- I don't know if you call it... a Navy base. Then we sang there. And from there we went to New Jersey and we went to New York and so... once when we was in New York City it was, oh, I guess about 28, 29 of us and then our principal and his wife, they went as like to see about--keep us in order, whatever. And so we was all getting on the subway and everybody was looking you know, they didn't know who we were. They said, oh they refugees, they just come (laughs) they just come here from whoa... they refugees kids! (laughs) 'cause we got called all kinds of names!

18:37

But it was okay so, yeah, we enjoyed. And of course all the churches right here in Morgantown had us singing a capella. That's a little bit of the articles that.

EF: Yeah, there' some articles of paper.

SL: They covered us, yeah.

EH: So you were in high school--that was Monongalia, yeah?

SL: Mmhm-- Monongalia High. Mmhm. Yes, yes, that was all-black school.

EH: Can you talk about the White House visit?

SL: Uh... beautiful, I just know beautiful cause we lived in coal miner's house so a lot of things we had never seen you know, like the beautiful cabinets, all the gold tapestry and all that. We just--oh! Just looking all around. Of course, they was at a dining room table--they was in the dining room and--'cause there was lots of guests there. I can't remember all... but I do remember Melvin Douglas was one of the guests there. And of course, President Roosevelt-- I think he sat in a wheelchair-- I think he was... he sat in a wheelchair. He was right there as we came in. And, course there was a piano there and our music teacher, that's where he sat, and then he did request President Roosevelt requested one number that we sang--that was the Negro National Anthem.

EF: ...that was the last one uh, Blues in the Night he joined in singing.

EH: Whoa!

SL: Yeah, we sang all kinds of...

EH: Did he have a good voice?

SL: I don't remember (laughs)

EH: (laughs)

SL: I don't remember if he did or not-- we was just excited, you know a bunch of kids just excited about being there, so...it was great. it was so good.

EH: So you sang the National Anthem-- is that what he requested?

SL: Yeah, he requested the Negro National Anthem.

EH: "Lift Every Voice and Sing"?

SL: "Lift Every Voice and Sing" and so that's one thing we had never practiced that, so when he asked that our teacher said, Mr. Jones, we called him Mr. Jones, he said, oh I think we could do that so we stumbled through it somehow. We knew it but we had never rehearsed that because we didn't think we was gonna be asked to sing that. So we got it done! (laughs) We got it done some kinda way.

20:45

But it was just so good. So good, so good, so exciting. Mmm mmm mmm.

EH: And did you continue in groups after high school?

SL: Well I always did sing. That's all I have always done. So um... with a cappella then I got... well we always just sang like with church choirs and church groups so I was always part of that and so...

EF: So soon after that because of the war, you went to the Pentagon and worked.

SL: Uh-huh. Yeah, I went to work in the Pentagon.

EH: What were you doing there?

SL: I was a secretary-- we worked in the transportation division and when you first go there, first thing you gotta learn his how all the officials of the army-- you gotta know who they are. You can't call Major Captain or the Captain so that's the first thing you do, you in training for a few days. And then you learn their insignia, the little thing that they wear on the collar. So you have to learn that so you won't call them out their names, so we had to learn that first of all. Um, and that was kinda difficult 'cause we wasn't use to that. So... but you had to learn that so... yeah.

EF: Did you meet General MacArthur?

SL: Yeah, and Eisenhower also. And Admiral Nimitz-- he was the Admiral of the Navy. And of course we got to see all those. Well then, you know, didn't matter then, wasn't a big deal then--I was just all in it. But we got a chance to see them. And meet all the Majors and the Captains. Matter of fact I was next-- my desk was next to a Colonel and I would answer the phone for him. It wasn't my position, but he'd be away from desk all the time so I would, you know, take his phone calls for him and do that, you know. We worked in transportation where we was responsible for all the shipments, food overseas, whatever the soldiers need--that was--we was responsible for that. So I learned to type 70 some-- cause it was old-fashioned typewriters that we used. I could type 70 some words a minute.

EF: Oh my God! I can't do more than 30.

EH: (laughs) Yeah, I think that's about where I was.

SL: But you learn, you know. You do it and you learn. So, and I used to have lots of pictures. You know down through the years, you lose all that stuff. Mmhm. Yeah.

EH: How many years were you there?

SL: Oh let me see, two, three, I can't remember. That's where I met my husband in Washington, D.C. And I didn't-- I just thought that was a foolish thing, but anyway, whatever. So...

EH: What was a foolish thing?

SL: Well, you know, I shouldn't have married him, but I did. So we got to see, we got to see a lot of entertainers 'cause a lot of the entertainers came there. Howard Theatre there, that's where they had a lot of entertainers. What was that women's group that used to sing? We got a chance to meet them and um I can't remember all the names, all the bands and everything that was there. So you know, we got a chance to meet all those guys and I used to have pictures of all those too. But...

EH: Where did you live in D.C.?

SL: Oh... we lived in--they had dormitories. Dorms for the girls and so sisters got a chance-- everybody got a single room, but sisters had--they had a special place for sisters, so me and my sister we got a chance to have the same room--they had twin beds and everything. Of course they had the meals--we'd go to work and then we'd come back there. They had meals and of course they had entertainment, they had movies and you know, dances and stuff for the workers. Mmhm.

EH: Was this part of the New Deal program? Bringing people from West Virginia for jobs?

SL: Well they had, people from everywhere to work at the Pentagon. And I had a chance to meet people from all over you know, from Atlanta, from New York City, and all those. Whoever worked in the transportation department. You get to meet them, so you get a chance to meet a variety of people.

EF: Did you go together or was your sister already there?

SL: No, we went together.

EF: Okay. You don't remember how you discovered that was an opening? Was it in the paper, was it an ad or anything?

SL: I don't even know how we got to be there. I just know next thing we know we was on the bus to Washington, you know, going there. (laughs) Oh my.

EH: So at that point after 2 or 3 years there you moved back to West Virginia?

25:07

SL: Yeah, well I moved to uh, about 3-- I can't remember how many years we worked there, but til the war was over I guess. When they-- and I remember that too. Can't go into the details, but remember when it was victory and so we knew we wouldn't be working. So we worked a little while after then but then... see I can't remember. My sister went on to college. She was, she went to Howard University. And of course I helped her go to college and then that's where I met my husband and then I moved to Philadelphia, that's how I got to Philadelphia--that's where he lived. Mmhm.

EF: She was in Philadelphia too, wasn't she?

SL: Yeah, she was. Yeah, she met her husband so I can't remember how she got there, but she did.
25:53

SL: I don't know how she got there but she did. I guess... anyway, like I said, that's a long time ago!
(laughs)

EF: And Eugene Wayman Jones ended up in Philadelphia too!

SL: Yeah, he was in Philadelphia, yeah he sure was, he was a pastor of one of the big churches. Of course he had a choir there.

EF: He was a pastor?

SL: Not pastor, I mean...

EF: Oh choir director?

SL: Yeah, he was the choir director of one of the churches there you know, so... I saw him once I think while I was there and I got a chance to meet a lot of people. But like you said, that's-- it don't mean much, but now you think about it, you know that it was really important. So...

EH: Should we take a look at some photos?

SL: Yeah, right.

EH: I know that you have a meeting at 2 so...

SL: You have a meeting at 2?

EF: I have a meeting at 2-- I mean, I could miss it...

EH: Well, you shouldn't... I actually scheduled a meeting at 2:15 so...

EF: Oh you did, okay.

EH: Let me just check my...

SL: What time is it?

EF: It's not quite 1.

EH: 2:30 is when I need to be there. But I don't want you to miss your meeting, so it's up to you. I can always come back and come to the museum and do a follow-up.

EF: Oh, do it again?

EH: Yeah.

SL: Oh that would be good if you came to the museum.

EH: Okay.

EF: Yeah, yeah! Because there'd be a lot of prompts there. And you might meet your next interviewee. (laughs)

EH: Props? Prompts? Would there be a quiet place we could talk?

EF: It's relatively quiet-- there are coal trucks that go on the road outside so depending on-- I can't remember how disturbing they are. It probably... there's a hallway before you get to the room, so it's set back off...

SL: We probably could sit back out in the opening, you think? Or maybe like in the kitchen area that she has a table and chairs back--where she keeps her refrigerator and stuff--you think?

EF: Are you talking about Mary Jane's house?

SL: Yeah, is that what we're talking about?

EF: Oh I was just...

SL: I'm talking about the museum...

EF: Yeah. You mean that little counter space.

SL: Or we could... yeah. Or back on the little place where she has a lot of stuff on display--that couch and stuff back there.

EF: Yeah.

SL: That's kinda quiet.

EF: We could just...see which is the quietest area.

SL: Exactly. Yeah, that would be good.

EH: Yeah. Well, we still have some time before you have to leave probably so we'll talk as much as we can now and then we'll have a follow-up.

SL: Yeah, well I was just gonna show you--will you put this away Eve, I'll show her mom and dad. Most of the family are all here. Not too many of are still... were here when we had this, but this is a...this was Scots Run. Did you ever see a book like this? Did you ever see a book like...

EH: I've never seen this book-- I have looked on the Library of Congress website to see the...the WPA photos.

SL: Did ya? I think we're at 136 now, let me see. I don't have my glasses on so you tell me if I get to 136.

EH: Here-- gotta go this way...

SL: I think it's 136.

EH: This should be it.

SL: No, that's not it.

EH: Oh, next one.

SL: Maybe it's the next one. Yeah, here it is. Daddy, mom, Luther, this is the one we told you died when she was 29 years old. This is Molly.

EH: So Willa, and you called her Bill?

SL: We called her Bill. Mmhm. Ida, Kitty, and brother John. So the older brother, that older brother was married and away, the older sister was in New York going to school, and we don't have much pictures of her. And then there was 2 dead and so this is us. Yeah, so it's me, her, and her. We were the singers.

EH: Ida, Katherine, and Sarah?

SL: Mmhm. Yeah.

EH: Yeah.

SL: Yeah, so.

EH: But everybody sang right?

SL: But everybody sang, yeah. And he tried to-- he had a real deep voice like daddy. Daddy had a real deep voice and mom had a real high soft voice. And 'cause he was in the service, he died young too. I think he had throat cancer--most of 'em died young, they sure did. Okay...

EH: (laughs) And so which sister is in the photo... let's see I could pull it up.

SL: Which one you got?

EH: Let me see..

30:23

I know Mark [Crabtree] sent it to me. So you would have been, I think these photographers were through in '35?

EF: In '38.

EH: So you would have been 12?

SL: Maybe.

EH: Oh here we go.

SL: I was born in '24 so...

EH: Oh 24, okay. So you would have been 14.

SL: (looks at Walker Evans photo "Women selling ice cream and cake, Scotts Run, West Virginia) Oh yeah, that's my sister. Now that's the one had the little baby. That's the one, Willa, that we called Bill. And that's her mother-in-law there and they had been at Osage selling uh cake or whatever, money for the church. Yeah, that's our sister. Mmhm.

EH: The one standing?

SL: Mmhm. Yeah. And that's her mother-in-law, the lady that's sitting.

EH: Okay.

SL: Mmhm.

EH: And she's the one who...

SL: Was having a party for her husband and he was killed that day, mmhm. And she...

EF: So she would have been Gibson?

SL: Yeah, she was Gibson. Mmhm. She just pined her life away so... (Sarah had told us earlier that Willa had died of a broken heart)

EH: It's a beautiful photo.

SL: She was a pretty girl.

EH: Yeah.

SL: Yep, yep, yep. That's her.

EH: So do you remember those photographers being around?

SL: No, I don't even remember. This is the choir. And I thought I had a bigger picture but I don't. This is... probably do somewhere, I don't know. This is work, and then when I came back here and I went to work I had to work at Scots Run Settlement House and I organized a pantry, a food pantry and so that's what I did. I did the shopping and ordering the food, and this is...you can see this says "Lean Months at Scots Run," This was in the newspaper-- I was always in the paper for some reason or another.

EH: (laughs)

32:23

SL: Yeah. And this was at work. I worked there 39, really 40-some years I worked there.

EH: At the settlement house?

SL: Yeah, settlement house.

EH: Or settlement house.

SL: Mmhm, yeah, sure did. That was me at my desk and so-- Oh this...

EF: She retired in '88.

SL: I did.

EH: Wow!

SL: And this right here-- listen. We had (laughs) we had a bridge in Osage and it had big holes in it and nothing was being done about it, okay? So I got out on the bridge one day and I said--I just put my hand out to honk if we need a new bridge. Well honey, this was me on the bridge and this was cars stopping. Don't you know they came out and did it--fixed that bridge the next day? Put...they sure did! Bridge draws protest, see? And this is where I worked, and this was all family--we was at a park one day. Oh my. And this is--I was in the newspaper right here, and this was in our pantry as you can see. Yeah, I don't know what's under here. And this was my 85th birthday party.

EH: Oh wow.

SL: Yep!

EH: What kind of dance are you doing there?

SL: Uh, jitterbug! (laughs)

EH: (laughs)

SL: Right here! Oh my God! And this is our piano player Church, so he was on the floor dancing with me too. Yep, yep, yep.

EF: She was saying her hair turned white, what in her 30s?

SL: Yeah, starting when I was 17!

EH: Really!

SL: And this is another choir, yeah it is.

EH: Was that common in your family?

SL: Yeah, it was. Course this is bought hair that I got now.

EH: Uh-huh.

SL: This is my husband right here. That's Ed. This is my granddaughter's graduation right there, so...

EH: Oh your dress was...

SL: So this is some things I thought you may want to see, yeah. This is a choir, these are choir members when I went to Philadelphia and I joined the church-- we had a choir there too. Of course I was saying.

EH: how long were you in Philly?

SL: A good little while. And after my marriage didn't work, I moved back home. Okay? Yep, yep, yep. So this is Martin Luther King--we always sang at Martin Luther King [Day] every year. This is the first year I didn't sing, but this was Martin Luther King. And this is of course at the pantry where I worked which-- showing that we didn't have food--we needed food. So I think that's it. Let me see-- what is this here? Oh I think that's probably... oh this is just another picture of the choir. Yeah.

EH: Why don't you tell me a little bit about the Flying Colors (her band) and it's Al and Friends?

SL: Okay, Al and--how we come together... we used to... 'cause we knew the same people. You know, cause Al grew up in Scots Run too, so we knew the same people. And every time somebody would pass away, there wouldn't be anybody to sing, you know, do the musical part of the program so that's--Kitty would be there and Patty would and Al was there and Christine was there so we were first--we just volunteered to sing at these. And that's how-- so every time there was a funeral they would just contact us! And so that's when we got the name. So Christine who was our trombone player, she's in California now, she gave us the name of the Flying Colors, so that's how-- and then it just went over big, every church wanted us so I mean one while we was going... Oh my every place was-- oh get the Flying Colors! (laughs)

EH: (laughs)

SL: I said, well, we flying around, I guess! (laughs)

EH: So you were doing a funeral circuit.

SL: Yeah, that's how it really started. Then we just did it for--like churches would want us to come and sing so we'd just... have a program, you know, maybe somebody would read some scriptures or tell a story or whatever and then Christine would always tell how we got the name of the Flying Colors. So and then we started making CDs and that's how... and then after Christine moved away, Kitty passed away, so there was just myself and Patty and Albert, so then when he met these other people-- well Al knows everybody--and so they were singers, and so we just joined together, so we call ourselves now Al and Friends.

EH: Okay.

SL: Yeah, we call ourselves Al and Friends, yeah.

EH: So you don't really have the Flying Colors anymore.

SL: No, not...

EF: But we kinda... on the CD we made, we still called it that. Have you seen the CD?

EH: No!

EF: That's what you were listening to.

EH: Yeah, yeah.

EF: Here's a copy for you.

EH: Oh, thanks!

37:12

EF: That was actually when several of us had joined up just to keep it going.

SL: Right, cause one time it was kinda looked like we was gonna fade out, didn't it? (laughs)

EF: Mmhm. And then...now the some of the other people from that smaller church are a different mix in there.

SL: Right. Mmhm.

EH: And what was the instrumentation in the Flying Colors?

SL: Well we just, Christine had a trombone and Kitty or Patty both of them played the piano and that was about it. Sometimes, one of Patty's kids maybe-- the boys played drums but not all the time, but sometimes we'd go to a different place to sing and they would accompany us. But just the piano and sometimes the trombone, so...

EH: Do you remember other music happening in Scots Run from other cultures?

SL: Not really, I don't think.

EF: I remember in the museum them talking about a couple that had concertinas and they would play on the big curve.

SL: Really?

EF: Did you ever hear them?

SL: No!

EF: Maybe that was a different era.

EH: That's cool.

SL: Maybe so.

EF: And then didn't you say that somebody would play banjo on the front porches.

SL: Well brother John, brother John played the banjo...

EH: That's your brother who you said had the deep voice?

SL: Yeah, yeah. Mmhm.

EF: Something else having to do with music-- you were telling me stories about how people would brew their own beer and bottle it and they also had jukeboxes and had parties.

SL: Oh yeah, they had jukeboxes in their homes, you know, so we... on Saturday nights sometime we'd go from house to house--they were a... we called 'em Nickelodeons because you put a nickel in and you'd play a song. They would have their own homebrew. My dad made it too--own beer, you know. And we'd go to the dance to the music and they would come to our house to hear us sing. You know, we was just kids then, but they would-- they would give us a nickel or 2 pennies or whatever for us to sing. (laughs) Oh my God. (laughs) Oh my Lord.

EH: It was mostly house parties?

SL: Yeah right. Yeah, so they would have house parties. They was so much fun-- my God-- we could stay up there all night long. And then we had friends that we'd go and course nobody locked the door-- and if we would be out late or something we'd just go to their house and my sister's house or wherever the door was open--we'd just go in there--it was about 3 o'clock in the morning-- we'd just go in there and go on the couch and go to sleep or whatever-- nobody locked the doors and that's the way we did, so...

EH: (laughs)

SL: They'd come downstairs and say, oh whatcha doing (laughs) We'd be on the house sleeping, make coffee, whatever you know and then my neighbor, we'd do like that if she-- if I needed coffee or coffee and cream, I'd just go in her house and get it and she did the same--that's how we lived you know, we didn't have a lock on the door. Now we could lock in once we got in, but you couldn't lock it when you going out so the door's just open.

EF: There's a story at the boy's table over at the museum, I heard somebody say nobody locked our doors, course we didn't have anything worth stealing so it didn't matter! (laughs)

SL: (laughs) But you just didn't. you didn't lock your doors-- you really didn't have to, so...

EH: yeah.

SL: It was just so different than today. It was just so different. So...and it's so much love, you know, it really was. And when something happened to a family everybody would just pitch in--they would just come and cook the meals or they would bring them a pot of this, a pot of that, a pot of that, or make two cakes and the pies and bread and they would bathe the kids. Course I remember when Bill we called her, when her husband first, when he got killed, they would um... take the girls and shower them and you know, do their hair for them--she didn't have to do it. They'd take... this family would do the meal-- we gonna do supper for her. And somebody else would say-- we're gonna do breakfast. That was just the way it was, so...

EF: And sometimes they would take in kids.

SL: They would--they would take the kids...

EF: And it didn't always matter what race they were.

SL: That's right. They would take and keep...three.. the whole time. You know, so, and it was so good.

EH: Your family would too?

SL: Yeah, right. My mom--she--we always had a house full because there was--the baby brother, brother John-- he had his friends, and Ida, she was like sophisticated-like and she had her friends and so it was always a bunch in the house, you know, and so a lot of times there would just be a little bit in the pot but it was always enough. Not to-- "mom, somebody coming, we ain't got enough." She always, "Oh, it'll be okay." And sure enough (laughs) sure enough, I don't know what happened to that pot, but there would be enough for everybody!

EF: Did y'all have a big crock of sauerkraut? Was that in your house?

SL: No we--huh-uh.

EF: Some of the other people had said that was a tradition. That might have been more of a Hungarian thing.

SL: It might have been, yeah, 'cause no we didn't-- we didn't have that. But I'll tell you-- we had a cellar-- it wasn't a basement-- we just had a plain cellar. It was dirt, you know, dirt floor and everything? But that's where we kept pumpkins and sweet potatoes that we gardened, you know, and that's where we kept it in the cellar. You went down in the cellar to get potatoes or whatever you had from the garden--during the winter months. You kept it in the cellar.

EH: Right.

SL: Yep.

EH: And all of this community, when people were having a hard time, that was across race and culture?

SL: It was, it really was, it really was. We didn't know nothing about the blacks or whites, it was just everybody pitched in, you know. And so it didn't matter. I remember a lady--I was the first black woman she had seen. And she lived in a way out in a little--we called it boonies, you know (laughs). That's what we called it. (laughs) Or plum nelly--that means plum nelly out of civilization!

EH: (laughs)

SL: If we ever used the word, we'd say "she's out in plum nelly," that means she's plum nelly out of civilization so we saw people that you know--they had never come from out there. The husband worked and he did, you know, the grocery shopping and everything...and so this lady that when they moved on the row where we lived--she said I was the first black lady that she had ever seen. And so we got to be very, very close. We'd go to her house and eat and I'd stay at her house all night and sleep with her kids and it was just like meeting another sister.

EH: And was she native born?

SL: Yeah, she was--yeah she was from West Virginia, named Louise-- I'll never forget her. yeah, she was a sweetheart. And so like I said, most of the time we didn't have no issues with blacks or whites. There was always a few, you know, you always had that somebody just whatever... like this one family they was KKK-- we knew that. But and then--the white people didn't like 'em either because they saw how they treated us, so they didn't like 'em either for, you know, how they behaved! So...they wasn't liked by the blacks or the whites! (laughs)

EH: Right.

SL: Right, right.

EH: Didn't work out for 'em.

SL: It didn't work out for 'em anyway, yeah.

44:06

So...yeah, so, but it was so good, I just look back on my life and I'm so glad that I, that I was raised to love everybody and not to dislike anybody, cause like my mom said, God made us all so...He don't have preference. People make preference, but we, he didn't. So... and I think I've lived that way. I think I've lived like that too. Yep.

EH: Well, well I guess we could--I was going to say, that's a great ending, but we could probably go a little bit more is that okay?

EF: Yeah!

SL: Yes!

EH: When do you need to leave?

EF: Uh...

SL: First you gotta take me home!

EH: Oh okay.

EF: Exactly, so... I would say 1:30.

EH: Okay, okay. Why don't...

EF: Do you need water or anything? You're talking.

SL: I'll just--this'll be, this'll do.

EH: (laughs) So I heard that you remember Katherine Johnson? But what was her name, her maiden name?

EF: Katherine Coleman Johnson.

EH: Katherine Coleman Johnson.

SL: Uh-huh-- we knew her as Ms. Coleman. And so she... she... I can't remember what year she came to Monongalia High... but I remember she was very tall, stately woman, oh she was just beautiful. Real fair complexion had light, real light hair. But she was very elegant in her speech and just like... she did everything right. We just marveled at her. She wasn't there very long-- I can't remember how long she was there. But she taught math and she may have taught geometry so I wasn't... 'cause I wasn't good at none of those subjects with arithmetic but she was very stately. And I remember she had a--I don't know what kind of voice she had, but it was different from everybody else's. And I've seen her on TV a couple times since because of...they were talking about her because of that movie, and I saw her a couple times and so. Of course she's older, but I could recognize that it was her.

EH: Yeah, I think she got a Congressional Medal of Honor-- I think Obama gave her that.

SL: Really?

EF: Mmhm. In 2016.

SL: Oh my, bless her heart. She was something else. Yeah, we had lots of things at Monongalia High. I remember... of course Ms. Roosevelt was there too once.

EH: Yeah, I was wondering if you--what your memories were of her.

SL: Uh... she was, I guess her like a stately woman 'cause she-- so you know, she wasn't pretty you know, we'd look at that as...but she was very elegant in her speech and so she did go in the coal mines... did she? I think she did go in the coal mines, and of course that was like a... our men-- the men that worked in the coal mines, they didn't like that. It was like a-- an omen or something. They'd say, oh it's gonna be a... you know...course she-- and there was other women that did that-- went in the coal mines too but she did.

EH: Do you remember which mine it was?

SL: It was Pursglove #2.

EH: Okay. That's one of the ones where your father was?

SL: Yeah, that's the one where my dad worked. Mmhm. Pursglove #2, yeah. So... but that was wonderful that she came cause like you said--when you encounter that like when you're a kid, it don't mean much and then later on it life what it means--- oh Ms. Roosevelt was here. Or shake the hands that handed... you know, whatever. Like you... (laughs)

EH: Right. Right. Was she there when you sang at the White House?

SL: Uh... no, she wasn't there. She was I guess on her missions or something. But I can't remember, there was just a table full of people but I do remember Melvin Douglas 'cause I remember seeing him in the movies so that's how I recognized him. but there were a lot of people there and he, course he was in a wheelchair. And I mean you just felt so relaxed, you just oh, this is the president! You know...but we just felt so relaxed and we sang beautiful 3 or 4 selections and they clapped and said we were good. I know we were because we all had good voices and of course Eugene Wayman Jones, he taught us real good so we really could sing. I'm sorry now that we didn't have--that he didn't make tapes of our songs--the songs that we sang 'cause it coulda went real big now because we sang harmony-- he had first soprano, second soprano, the altos and the tenors and the bass and so everybody had their part, you know. I was second soprano. And so when we learned the song he would teach every harmonizing part. He would teach all sopranos their part, then he would teach second sopranos their part, then he would teach the altos their part and then the tenors and the bass and then when he get it together, then he'd say okay everybody sing. Oh! It was beautiful.

49:07

It really was. Mmm, mmm, mmm. Yeah, that's why the churches, everybody wanted us to come and sing and we did. We went to all the churches.

We went to all the churches in Morgantown. And the people from the churches would pick us up cause there was so many of us cause we lived in different places--Everettsville, Cassville, you know, and so we had people from those to make sure we got home safe, so, yeah...

EH: Do you know if there are any recordings of you singing when you were younger with your sisters?

SL: I don't think so. Yeah, we didn't, we didn't... I wish now thinking about that, I wish we had you know, kept some of those recordings but we didn't so... yeah, so it's all history now. And of course now, like a lot of the times I think about things I want to-- oh do you remember so and so, well I don't have nobody I can go to to talk about that so... I think about that now cause most all the kids that we grew up with, they're all passed on. Mmhm.

EF: That's one of the cool things about the museum is because there's at least 3 people that come regularly that are 90 plus.

SL: [Lou] Birurakas is one, I don't know about those other two guys.

EF: Well, John Probst.

SL: Is he?

EF: Yeah!

SL: That little skinny man.

EF: Yep! Yeah, he's the-- we had his 90th birthday...

SL: He's 90 too?

EF: He-- had his 90th birthday right before we did the June 1 performance.

SL: Really? I didn't know that!

EF: Yeah. And he talks about music in his life and remember when we were trying to identify Jack Jones, the guy that was the first man pulled out of the...

SL: explosion? Mmhm.

EF: And he said that Jack Jones taught him to play-- he was, Jack Jones was black, John Probst is white--but when he was a kid Jack Jones taught him how to play piano and taught him Hoagy Carmichael songs that he said he can still play to this day.

SL: Is that right? Hoagy Carmichael-- I remember him.

EF: So, so similar music was shared you know, among the different cultures too.

SL: It was really like a family, I tell you what. We, everybody got along real well there. We didn't have no... somebody from the outside maybe would come in and try to start something, you know. They always give Osage a bad name, but it wasn't like people said. "Oh, they killing down there, they fighting and cutting"-- it was just the opposite.

EH: Mhm.

SL: So they always give Osage a bad name, but I know better because I said some of the best people I know came from Osage and it was like that. So... somebody always got you know, tried to come in

and start trouble. Well there was I dunno... so... all I know--there was 15th and the 30th was payday for all the miners and so Osage would be packed those days because everybody came to Osage. There was a grocery store, there was a market, there was the dentist, there was a cleaners, and the movie theatre... everything was there right in Osage so Osage was like the hub sorta. And everybody came to Osage and you got to see everybody on payday cause the moms would come too and so it was just, it was just wonderful. And we'd come--"Oh guess who I saw, Miss so and so!" And so it was good-- you see the kids too cause we could only go there like well we couldn't hang out there because it was a lot of drinking and so our dad tried to keep us from that. So I would tell, I would tell Eve one day, somebody would-- we slipped to Osage-- mom didn't know where we were, so somebody would tell, "Oh, I saw Sarah in Osage!" "Oh see, Sarah, were you in...?" "No! I wasn't-- I didn't go to Osage!" Well Miss Williams, she just lied didn't she. So you just better shut up-- you better not say no more! (laughs)

EH: So you'd cover.

SL: (laughs) And sure enough we would slip and go down there, you know cause that's where all the noise and all the exciting to us, you know, the music was going, they had machines going you know, and my daddy sometime--my dad would be there and he said, "Your mom knows you here?" and we said no-- "Well, you know what you better do. You better get this 5 cent ice cream cone" and whoa you could get a whole bunch for ice cream. (laughs) So we better make it back home then, cause she would say the same thing-- we wanted to go somewhere. She said, you ask your dad. And we'd ask daddy, "Can we go to Osage?" "What did your mama say?" It was just back and forth. (laughs) We didn't like that at all so, you know. Oh my. But it was good, it was really good. Good life. Mom and dad loved us kids so much.

EF: I don't think you've talked about the gardening that was your duty.

SL: Oh my God!

53:54

We had gardens cause they used to lease where we lived there was a lot of property, but there was a community-- like a community to garden, they would lease so much and my dad would always like lease an acre. And so they would plow it up for you, but you had to plant it so we worked in the garden. I tell you what. And we had the most beautiful tomatoes, potatoes, corn, and so...when harvest time come like in the later part of the summer, Sunday we'd go to garden. You'd go to garden and get corn on the cob, get string beans, and then she'd mom and daddy would say, get Miss Miller, get her a head of cabbage. Or whatever. So you learned to share, you know. And so that's how we did. And of course there was canning. I learned how to can. And so most people don't know what canning is today, but we learned how to can. And we had to go to the garden and of course we all had our little spots and I had my little place because I liked... cucumbers and tomatoes so he would say, Daddy would say, this is your spot, you can plant what you want here. So I would have a lot of cucumbers and a lot of tomatoes and somebody else, maybe John liked string beans. It was all in the garden but he allowed us to do that so we had to take care of our part. But we had to work in the garden quite a bit and take the weeds out and take the worms off the beans or whatever. But when harvest time come it was so good. Potatoes and we had to dig for potatoes, sweet potatoes, and then at the end of the harvest season they have what they call a fair and everybody would bring their products and so whoever got the biggest of the most biggest potatoes or biggest head of cabbage or biggest whatever, they would get a prize so my dad--that was the year we got the prize for the biggest pumpkin. And we had great big pumpkins.

EH: How big?

SL: Yeah! Big ones like this! (laughs)

EH: (laughs)

SL: Cause my dad--they knew how to work in the garden. They... my mom too. They loved working in the garden so that's where they spent a lot of their time and I remember something my dad used to do-- he would take a pumpkin and cut it open. Of course, you'd take all the seeds and everything out. He would just cut it in half or and then he'd put butter or cinnamon or brown sugar and like that and just cook it like that you know. And then when it was all done, you'd just get a spoon and eat it. And dig it out like that, you know. That was one of the things he did. So I'd never saw anybody do that, but him. but that's what he'd do with the pumpkin. it was really good. yeah, you'd just eat it with a spoon out the hole. Yep. So we knew about working in the garden, we knew about getting a little can, take all the beetles off the beans and then there was picking time. You know you had to pick the beans and break the beans and same thing with the cabbage or collard greens or whatever you had, cause we had all that in the garden. String beans and corn and radishes and yeah. They knew how to garden because...

EF: ...something you were telling me before Emily came was about the blooms on the squash.

SL: Oh yeah, we used to fry them.

EH: Ohhh.

SL: The blossoms?

EH: Squash blossoms.

SL: Yeah.

EH: Mmhm.

SL: You'd take them out and you make a little batter, you know make a little batter and put that in your hot-- you get your grease nice and hot. Ooh they were so good!

EH: I've had those.

SL: Have you really?

EH: They're so good. Yeah.

SL: Oh my goodness! Yeah! You don't see too many people who know about that!

EF: First time I had 'em was in Italy so-- did you have 'em here somewhere?

EH: I dunno, I think so-- I think I just had 'em cause you know my family kept a garden too. I think I had 'em when I was little.

SL: Okay.

EH: And maybe it was like zucchini-- zucchini blossoms.

SL: Aren't they good? Mmhm.

EH: I mean anything fried's pretty good, but...(laughs) They're special.

SL: Yeah, you'd have that hot-- you'd have your grease real good and hot.

EH: Mmhm.

SL: And put it in that batter and they're so crispy when you take 'em out you know.

EF: Almost like tempura.

EH: Yeah. Well we should probably let you go.

SL: What about fried green tomatoes? Did you ever make those?

EH: I didn't... well, maybe once or twice but when I moved down to North Carolina for grad school, I definitely had a lot there. My dad's family's from North Carolina so with some of that Southern cooking he would incorporate it.

SL: Oh my, did you ever have fried green tomatoes?

EF: Yeah, my step father would make 'em.

SL: Oh really?

EF: And I've never successfully made them but I've eaten them at any place that offered them.
(laughs)

SL: Oh yeah, yeah, yeah.

EH: So good.

SL: Oh yeah, I look at-- some guy was telling me at church today, he says, he got a garden, I said, "You got tomatoes?" He said, "Yeah. I said as soon as you get green tomatoes..." he said, "Oh Ms. Sarah, I'll bring you some green tomatoes!" (laughs). They are so good.

EH: It's a good way to use up those tomatoes that aren't gonna get red before the frost.

SL: Right, right. And even if they're a little bit red, they're really good. If they just really start to ripen just a bit. And you slice those and put 'em in your batter and everything. Oh my!

EH: So good.

EF: I'll have to do that this year.

SL: Oh yeah, we have to do that. Oh yeah, you'd love 'em. You'd love 'em. There's a movie called Fried Green Tomatoes.

EH: That's a good movie. (laughs)

EF: I love that movie!

SL: Yeah, buzz it was a movie-- I thought who is making a movie with that crazy title... but it was a good movie, wasn't it? It was cute. Yep.

EH: Did you see Hidden Figures about...

SL: Yeah, I did.

EH: Yeah. Did you like it?

SL: I did. I really did, yeah. I went to see Black Panther too.

EH: Oh you did? I saw it this weekend. What'd you think of that?

SL: I thought it was good. I need to see it again to really get the essence of the movie. So my Dandre's seen it twice. She's getting ready to go again, you know? It was beautiful. Really was.

EH: There was a lot of visual-- all the costumes.

SL: Oh my goodness! It was incredible. It really was. And I said everybody had their clothes on 'cause sometimes you... I get tired of seeing...

EF: (laughs)

EH: (laughs)

SL: I said everybody got their clothes on!

EH: It was actually a pretty modest movie.

SL: It was. It really was. And they said it's really doing good at the box office! It's up in the millions so...

EH: Wow.

SL: Yeah. So...mmhm. Beautiful. So...

EH: Yeah. Very cool.

SL: Yep, yep, yep. So, mmhm.

EH: Well we'll revisit next time and...

SL: Next time.

EH: And maybe we can go more chronologically. I know this was scattered, but...

SL: Okay.

EH: We were just chatting and trying to get stuff in.

SL: Mmhm. Well maybe next time we'll take her to Osage.

EH: Yeah I would love to.

SL: Yeah, and show well this used to be here, cause it's not like it used to be 'cause up on Osage Hill there was houses, little row of houses you know, and so. Cause they're not there now. Church is not there either. There was a church up there. Well every little community had their own church. Every little-- wherever there was a coal mine there was a little community. There was a church and a grocery store, so they had their own grocery stores and...

EF: What you might want to do is come one Saturday and you can spend a couple hours while the museum's open and then when it closes it'd be quiet and you could have Miss Sarah...

EH: Oh yeah.

SL: That sounds good. Cause Mary Jane wouldn't care.

EH: And 10-2 you said.

EF: Mmhm.

EH: Okay. Well thank you so much!

SL: You're welcome.

EF: Yeah! You're welcome.

SL: Amen. Good talkin'.

EH: (laughs)

SL: Brings back good memories.

1:01:12

END OF TAPE