HISTORY OF HORN SOCIETY

I am going to tell the story of the origin of the Horn Society.

David Bull Bear: O! Help me. I am going to tell the story of the All Comrades,* I am going to tell the story of the origin of the Holy Society. This white man (D. Reid) and Dave are always travelling. May they not hurt themselves and may they be lucky with money. I am going to use my power. I have my power root. I am going to speak, so that I may not hurt myself, my children and these people (Dennis and Dave). They travel a lot. I am going to tell the story how the All Comrades originated.

Okay! Tuk, tuk, tuk, tuk. First I will tell the story about Wise Old Man. Wise Old Man got the boys together first. The kicking competition** took place. They started to kick each other. One boy never retreated. The next competition is the battle on horseback at this point. Each opposing team used bulrushes as weapons and the boy was the only one that never was defeated. Then they had a mud war with willows. A mud is stuck at the end which they shoot with. A crumpled tree was burned in the next competition. Each boy will dance forward to the fire and they'd retreat from it and the very same boy never
did retreated from the fire. Wise Old Man took him. The Blackfoot were at the verge of starvation. This Wise Old made the White Staff (Swan Staff) on and on. On the fourth night you will stick it into the ground on the ridge. There will be four that will. A big bull charged. The big bull ripped the ground in front where the boy was sitting. The third was a young one, another young one. It did the same thing. The third this was a young one, it ripped the ground. These were running back. They said, "This is your child, why you came up." On the fourth time, "Okay, that buffalo may come." He started

*All Comrades is another name for the Horn Society.

**Information of the origin of the Horn Society. The kicking competition is contested by a group of boys. The boys will be divided evenly into two groups making two teams. Each team will be lined up facing each other and at the command, "Charge!" each opposing team will advance forward and start kicking each other. The last boy that didn't retreat, his side wins the kicking competition. The next competition will consist of the same group. This is a fractured information. It cannot be explained or described.

walking. He walked with the Swan Staff. He was told by the Wise Old Man; he also has a Swan Staff. Try and run out with it." This is the reason why we run away with the Swan Staff.

He told him the story, "In what way did you have me for a child?" He told the buffalo, "You was walking and you relieved yourself and that is how you had me." Then the buffalo believed. The buffalo was a man so he went out for some reason. Wise Old Man told him, "He will go out for some reason, grab it and leave this one in there and start running with it." When they all went out, he took it and he started to run. The buffalo man found out. He ran out with mine and he gave chase. He took off his coat and they were licking it. He started running again imm! He also threw his leggings, he licked them too. After he had ran for a while, he was also licking it. He also threw his moccasins. He was licking them too and they were also licking his other shirt. Wise Old Man told him, "When the four incidents occur, ride on the White Staff and it will fly." So he rode the White Staff and a white swan flew up. All the buffaloes came and they didn't suffer no more. The White Staff is the leader. That's what brought the buffalo as the people of the past eat them. That is the end of the story.

Now how the Horn Society originated. The Gambler, Gambler is famous for his hunting. He rounds up the buffaloes for the Blackfoot to have something to eat. A buffalo was sleeping; it was a female. The buffalo was a female. He just touched her with his coup stick; the female buffalo ran off. He herded the buffaloes home so the people had something to eat. The wise men gathered together. They told Gambler, "Come, you will sit in the council." There was Gambler. Suddenly the door was opened; a little boy looked in. Ah! he was pretty. They told him, "Why are you looking in?" "No, I am looking for my father. There he is."
Gambler was told by the wise men, "No, don't talk." The buffalo child started to walk, the buffalo's litter. He sat down by him. Gambler's child told him, "My mother is standing outside. Go out to her and you will tell her." The elderly men told him, the wise, "Go out to her." He came in with her. My, the woman was a very pretty woman. She was a pretty woman and so is the boy. Gambler told her, "What is this all about?" She told him, "I was sleeping and you poked me and this is your child." He just poked her with the coup stick.

He went home with her. His wife told him, "You can knock me unconscious and so on like that but never strike me with a hot charcoal." Why did she tell him that? Gambler got mad. He grabbed the hot charcoal and was going to strike her with it.

The calf was the first one to run out and then its mother. As he looked out the buffaloes ran eastward. After four days he told his father, "I am going to look for my wife and my son." He told him, "This hoop is rolled away and you will get there. If anything happens to you, even one strand of hair, my hoop will lay on it." The old people started off. After four days, the old woman, four nights, on the fourth they came up on the ridge. As they came up the place was all trampled. There was nobody around.

O! No. When Gambler started he came to the buffaloes. He came up on the ridge on the man. I skipped the story. The calves were made to dance the way the Horns dance; a dance was held. His son told him in a low voice, "I will shut one eye in the dance and in the next dance I'll dance with one foot up and the, and the, and the, I will, I will dance with one foot up." And on the fourth he will dance with one ear flopped. The dancing songs, the buffalo told him, "Now, here he is." "Yes, you were right." He was guessing right. The third time they noticed the calf they said, they planned, "We will dance exactly the way he dances." They were made to dance again, then he danced with one ear flopped. Once he danced with his tail up; that is why Calf Child got the name Danced With His Tail Up. And he danced with his ear flopped, these three. And they were made to dance again. The song that they dance to, a song was sung for them again. The calves saw him and all the calves danced with one ear flopped and they mingled in their dance and the buffalo told him, "Now where is your son?" He guessed wrong. He told him, "Here is my son." The calves mingled with him and Gambler was trampled to nothing; he was trampled to nothing there.* He was nothing; he was just completely trampled to nothing.

When he didn't come home the old and his mother started off. He rolled away his hoop. The hoop was rolling on, four nights. On the fourth they came up on the ridge. There he is. On the third, now they are three why they came there it was trampled. The old man how Gambler here is your hoop. It rolled again. It was rolling around where he danced and suddenly it fell down. It fell on a one strand of hair. The old woman saw it
and Gambler, the old man, his father.

The old man made an obstacle. "Now our son," he took the hoop, "now, Gambler, we are going to have a game." He rolled it and

*The calves didn't trample Gambler to death. It was the bull buffaloes that trampled Gambler to death. David Bull Bear's information is mostly accurate. His information would have been more perfect if he was in his right condition.

the other way and on the third, and as he rolled it on the fourth time Gambler jumped in beside him. He came back to life. Gambler is the one that knows all the songs that the Horns dance to. That's how it is. This Wise Old Man is first; he owns the Swan Staff and second is Gambler. That is how it is operated. I'll finish my story for now. There are a lot. For now I'll hold back. These two, that's it. That is how the Horn Society started, it is called Horns in the other way. These are calves; it's their dance. It was put in a bad way. The Horns, the dance came from the calves.* The All Comrades Society, they are the ones that produced it. The dance was given to the Bloods and the Blackfoot by the calves. That's all. I'll conclude my story for now. That is all.

Dave Melting Tallow: You are through now?

Bull Bear: Yes.

Dave Melting Tallow: You are not going to tell any more stories?

Bull Bear: I will not tell the story about the dangerous one** -- I am afraid to tell the story. You people said to give an information how the Horn Society originated and that is how I know about it. That is how it was illustrated to me, that is why I told you the story of how the Horn Society originated. I told you two stories, Wise Old Man and Gambler.

Dave: He is saying now, this white man's name is Eagle Fly.

Bull Bear: Eagle Fly, yes, I know him!

Dave: Yes, that's his name.

Bull Bear: Yes.

Dave: He says the last time we came...

Bull Bear: Yes.

Dave: He says the last time we came...

Bull Bear: Yes.  ------------------------
*The Horn Society Dance didn't come from the calves, it came from the bull buffaloes. The bull buffaloes were the ones that were dancing with Gambler.

**The dangerous one is the sacred ceremony of the Horns.

Dave: ...you promised him to tell him the story of the procession of the Horns. So that's what he came for now. He told his boss "Gray Horse Rider (David Bull Bear) will tell us the story of how the Horn Society originated and their procession. He'll also tell us that story." That is why he came here for you to tell the story when the Horns celebrate the sacred ceremony.*

Bull Bear: It is expensive. I'll hold it back. I will not tell it now. I just told the story of how the Horn Society originated. I will think it over. Sometime, sometime I'll know how I am going to tell him the story. I'll think over. I will not... you know that we will not just tell the story. If I tell the story now we will hurt ourselves, he will hurt himself. It is very powerful; these power roots are real powerful. I'll think it over, in a way I can make it out, and I will tell the story in that way. That's all, that's all.

Dave: When do you think he should come again and to give him the information?

Bull Bear: Now it is hard with the snow. You can come any time during the summer. Lots of time, you know. That's it, lots of time. The reason why I wanted to make it clear is because it is dangerous. I will not give information of how other people go about it. I will give an information of how I went through. I know all about the women. I get the holy things** with two women, Day Old Woman (Mrs. Jack Crow) and Walking Ahead. With these women I get the holy things. I'll tell the story then. That's all.

Dave: He says it's very good.

Bull Bear: Yes.

Dave: That you are going to tell a story about what you did.

Bull Bear: Yes, I will tell it that way.

Dave: He appreciates that.

Bull Bear: Yes.

Dave: That's all.

*The procession of the Horn Society takes place right after the celebration of the holy sacred ceremony.

**The holy things are the power roots.
Bull Bear: There are fine feather headpieces and a whip. I just gave them to Calf Shirt, Yellow Coming Up the Hill and Face and another one. There are songs to them. I know all the songs of the feather headpieces of the four men. Calf Shirt is the most famous and Yellow Coming Up the Hill they are the most famous ones. Now this Only Chief Old Man Calf Child, he owns the leading out bundle and the two men the whip and this one. Those four men had feather headpieces. I'll sing the songs. He can pay me whatever he wants for one song. I haven't sang the songs to him. He will not just take a holy bundle, he'll take the songs. He'll take them, that's what it is, that is how it is. He just buys the holy bundles, the Horn Society bundles. He just buys them. The thing is, they should be transferred to him and be painted on them in any they want to be transferred to him. If a person just sells his bundle he'll hurt himself and the ones that are buying them will hurt themselves. The thing is, they should be transferred to them -- I just told you this, that is how it is. That's all.

(End of Interview)

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