

1 Agnes Johnson Ott Littlefield

INTERVIEW WITH: Agnes Littlefield
INTERVIEWER: Marsha Holland
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MH: Today is November 21, 2011, and I'm with Agnes Littlefield. How are you doing today Agnes?

AL: I feel pretty good. I just had a shower and got cleaned up. [Laughter]

MH: Ready to go for the day.

AL: Yes.

MH: That's good. Ok, good. Just let me know if you know if you need anything, ok?

AL: Ok.

MH: Alright. Ok. Would you tell me your full name?

AL: Agnes Johnson Ott Littlefield.

MH: Johnson, does that mean you were born in Henrieville?

AL: No. I was born here in Tropic right down in this house, right down on the corner.

MH: Ok. So, on this street just below us?

AL: Where the Winter's owned that house.

MH: The Winters. What were your parent's names?

AL: Janette and James...

MH: Johnson?

AL: No, Ott.

MH: Ott. Ok. Where does the Johnson come from?

AL: [Laughter] My mother wanted me named for her father and then we had three girls in a row so she says I didn't get to... this will probably be our last one. And she says I didn't get to put Johnson in a boy's name so she gave it to me.

MH: Agnes Johnson Ott. Alright. What was the date you were born?

AL: January 19, 1918.

MH: 1918, alright. And you had some sisters, too?

AL: Yes. I had two sisters older than me. I'm the youngest one in the family and the only one left out of, out of... out of four eleven children. Six sisters and four brothers.

MH: What were their names, your sisters?

AL: Sarah and Rose and then I had my older sisters was named Hope and Louise. And then I had two little sisters die, Susan and Filate, which I didn't ever know, of scarlet fever years ago.

MH: So you mostly grew up with your two other sister.

AL: Sarah and Rose.

MH: And what were some of your first memories, Agnes, growing up?

AL: They tell me that I was spoiled and I guess I was bein' the last one, but we lived in Henrieville and we...they all used to go out to the ranch out to Yellow Creek and I didn't have to go cause after Dad got to be bishop, why, we didn't go to the ranch in the summertime. So, I got out of goin' herdin' cows in the summer.

MH: So, Agnes, what do you remember about your mother? Tell me about your mother. Where did she come from?

AL: She was born and raised in Hillsdale. You know where that is? Yes. And then she come over here to work for her brother. He had little store here in town and she come to work for him and met my dad.

MH: What was the stores name? You remember? Was just in Tropic, right?

AL: It was just a little home store. It wasn't really a store, I mean, a building here in Tropic.

MH: And her brother was named, the one that she came to work for?

AL: George Johnson, that was her brother.

MH: Ok. I haven't heard about George Johnson before.

AL: Georgetown was named for him. Yes. That's how Georgetown got its name.

MH: And their roots are from Hillsdale.

AL: Yes. My mother was born in Hillsdale but she didn't live there very long, you know, she come over this way and they lived down in this house where I was born. All of us were born down there except the two oldest ones.

MH: Right. So Georgetown, huh? And why did they name the town after him? Did he start the town?

AL: Yes. He started the town and he was the first Bishop of Georgetown.

MH: How many people lived there? Did he ever tell you?

AL: It was quite a big place at one time. I don't know just where it was.

MH: Isn't it down by Cannonville, right?

AL: Yes. That's where I'm gonna be buried. In Georgetown Cemetery.

MH: Awesome. So have you been down there recently to Georgetown?

AL: Just in a car that we drove in. My son passed away two years ago this month and we buried him out there so that was about the last time that I was ever out.

MH: Yes. Most of the buildings are gone from Georgetown.

AL: Oh, yes. They're all gone, aren't they?

MH: Yes.

AL: I think there's just one.

MH: Uh huh. I remember the Mangums talking about being out there, too. Do you remember him talking about the Mangums being out there?

AL: Yes.

MH: Ok, so when you were a little girl what were the kind of things that you did here... well, how long did you live in Tropic before you moved to Henrieville?

AL: I was four years old when we moved to Henrieville so I don't remember much about living in Tropic until we moved back here at the end of the war.

MH: Ok. So when you were in Henrieville you started to have memories of living there.

AL: Oh, yes. I loved Henrieville and I still do. It's kind of home to me.

MH: Yes. Who were some of the kids that you played with there?

AL: They're all dead. They're all gone.

MH: Do you remember their names?

AL: Yes. Helen Willis and Ferris Willis.

MH: Ferris?

AL: Yes. And there's one still alive and over in the care center- Elva her name was, Elva Goulding.

MH: Elva Goulding, ok.

AL: Yes. Now her name's Shepherd. And she's a mother to the one that runs the senior citizens meals.

MH: Oh, right. What's her name? Doyle and

AL: Kathryn.

MH: Kathryn Goulding. Good. Maybe I'll chat with Kathryn about Elva. And what did you girls do in Henrieville while growing up?

AL: We had to make our own fun. We didn't have a... this was depression time. Everybody was very poor, but we didn't know it because everybody else was in the same boat. But we had bon fires and we didn't, we couldn't afford marshmallows and wieners, we had roasted potatoes cause we raised potatoes. And [Laughter] I can just see our faces after we took the potatoes out of the fire and the coating of black on there on our faces. Our faces got all black from eating these, but, oh, they were good.

MH: It sounds like it was a fun time.

AL: It was a fun time. And then we used to gather down on the school grounds. I went to that little school that still there for eight grades before I had to come up to Tropic to school.

MH: Right. Do you remember who any of your teachers were at that little schoolhouse in Henrieville?

AL: Yes. It's still there. They have the senior citizen lunch there.

MH: Right. Who were some of your teachers? Do you remember any of their names?

AL: I do. I had Charlie Winch, my brother-in-law, for three grades and then I had Bernell West and then I skipped the second grade. I didn't have to go to the second grade. I was a better reader

than an eighth grader and spelling- I was real good at that- so they just promoted me on to the third grade. So I never did go to second grade.

MH: Right. So who taught you to read so well?

AL: Alberta Conrad and I guess that was the one. She was there two years. And spelling, I was a good speller. And not too terribly long ago a girl that works up to Ruby's called me and she says, "Agnes I need you to spell a word for me, could you do it?" And I says [Laughter], "Sure." When she told me what it was I says, "Oh, my heavens, that's an easy word to spell." It was mechanic. And so she told this person my aunt is ninety years old. That was when I was ninety something. I'm ninety three now. She says, "I had to call her to spell a word for you." [Laughter]

MH: [Laughter] That's neat. So your family must have encouraged you to be a good student?

AL: They did and they used to have spelling bees. And when I was in the fourth grade, why, they had a spelling bee and invited the parents to come and I was the last one up. I spelled down even the eighth graders. Oh, my dad was so proud of me.

MH: Yes. I would be too! That's excellent to be a good speller.

AL: Now I can't even see to write.

MH: Yes, but you can still spell.

AL: Yes. I can still spell.

MH: Yes, it's good. You spent your first school years in Henrieville. Did they have a graduation for the eighth graders?

AL: No. They didn't. We just went out of there into the ninth grade, come to Tropic.

MH: What were your summers like when you were in grade school?

AL: Boring [Laughter].

MH: [Laughter] So you looked forward to school.

AL: Yes. I looked forward to school. And we used to do a lot of hiking down there. And we had a little hut... a place; I guess it's still there. I've said I was gonna go to it before I die, but I'm not now. We used to call it The Playhouse. We'd take our dolls which we had made because we couldn't afford a real doll. We would make 'em out of rags and we would take our dolls up there and play house- up to The Playhouse. Yes. It's just outside of Henrieville a ways.

MH: And is it in the white rock.

AL: Yes.

MH: Like a cave?

AL: Yes.

MH: I think I've been there.

AL: Oh, dear, you've been there and I haven't been there for years.

MH: I think I know where you're talking about.

AL: I do. I think you do, too.

MH: Did you ever go swimming or learn to swim?

AL: I hated the water. I nearly drowned once. A gal told me- she says , “You’re gonna learn to swim or else you’ll die.” She pushed me in the water. She was from England. She come over from England and had some friends that lived in Henrieville. And she pushed me in the water and I nearly drowned before somebody got me out. And I never have liked to swim or anything since then. It done something to me.

MH: It’s called being afraid- it’s ok.

AL: [Laughter]

MH: So when you were growing up in Henrieville, would your family ever go on trips to places?

AL: We didn’t even own a car. We never owned a car. We had just a wagon- not even a buggy. And I went on a trip with my dad to Marysvale. He took a load of wheat down there and traded it for flour. The train come into Marysvale then. And it took us three days to go down. We camped along the way. And I got to see my first train. It was quite a thing for me.

MH: Do you remember how old you were then?

AL: I was about eight. Yes. I wasn’t very old.

MH: So when you were going to Marysvale and you camped along the way do you remember the places where you stopped to camp?

AL: No, I don’t.

MH: So, you probably made it up on top the first day, to maybe Red Canyon?

AL: Yes.

MH: And do you remember stopping in Panguitch? And did you stay in Marysvale, then?

AL: We stayed in Marysvale one night and loaded the flour on and then come home.

We never owned a radio. There was one radio in town. My dad would take me down there to listen to Amos and Andy- two negro... characters. Oh, I loved that radio.

And then my sister married a man that had a, what we called a Grafonola- you had to wind it up, you know, to play music. And he left it there and we messed with it, played with it, broke it- wound it too tight and broke it. Oh, my gosh, I sure hated to have to tell my brother-in-law that we had ruined his Grafonola. He took it in good spirits. I can remember that. And then before I come up here to school we did get a little record player and we would play music on that and dance. We learned to dance in my place. I said, "My goodness, we have ruined our carpets a-dancing on them, learning to dance." But that's about what the only entertainment we had was dancing.

MH: Right. What about your daily chores? Did you have to help around the house doing things?

AL: Oh, yes. We had to on Saturdays was our main days. We would have to go through the house and clean it. My sister said I was so slow. She'd get mad at me because I was slow. I was just thinking I was pullin' one over on 'em- getting' out of a lot of work [Laughter]. So she threw a spoon at me and it hit me in the eye and the force of that spoon knocked me over and she thought she had killed me. Oh, she just was so sad. She says, "I won't make you do anything more. I'll do all the things that you have had to do." So [Laughter] I did get by with that.

MH: Oh, my. Was that Sarah? Who threw the spoon at you?

AL: No, Rose. She was three years older than me.

MH: Right. She probably did feel really bad.

AL: Yes. [Laughter]

MH: So most of the things you had to do were around in the house?

AL: Yes. We had an upstairs that had two bedrooms in and... of course, we didn't have electricity then and we had a candle and we was comin' down the stairs and she says, "Watch," she says, "I'll put this candle in back of me and see how much you can see." She caught herself on fire. And she screamed. It was, the fire was burning her dress and her hair and my dad heard her scream. He opened the stairway door and grabbed her and threw a rug around, over her, you know, and put out the flame. But she come very near burning herself.

MH: Wow, that's dangerous.

AL: Yes.

MH: But that was your main source of light, candles?

AL: Candles and a lamp. A kerosene lamp.

MH: Right. And what did your father do? What was his job?

AL: He had his ranch, had to run cattle.

MH: And this is James?

AL: Yes. James R. Ott.

MH: Did you ever go out with him when he was ranching?

AL: No, not much. I got out of it because I was the youngest one and they stopped goin' out to the ranch.

MH: Right. Was James the bus driver?

AL: No. Wallace was a bus driver and Layton was a bus driver, my other brother. But when we first came to Tropic, we didn't have a bus. We just had a truck and every morning, well, my mother would put some bricks on the stove at night to keep 'em warm and she'd wrap 'em up in a cloth of some kind and we'd bring 'em on the truck. But it wasn't even a bus and it was awful cold. And that's what we rode it. Finally, my other brother, my oldest brother finally rigged up a truck and put some seats in it so we could sit down instead of just squat down. And, oh, we thought that was really great.

MH: Was it covered?

AL: With a canvas, yes.

MH: Right. Ok, so it sounds like you had some brothers too. What were their names?

AL: [Laughter] All teases. Joe, Joseph. He lived here. He lived in this house and he passed away when he was forty years old with a ruptured appendix. And that was before any antibiotics or anything come out. And he passed away. And then I had a brother James and he went on a mission to Georgia. And he wrote me a letter for my birthday and there were some misspelled words in there and I corrected all of those and sent it back to him [Laughter].

MH: [Laughter]

AL: I was a little stinker. He always remembered that [Laughter].

And he was a school teacher later on. And he taught school in St. George. And he wrote some things on the blackboard and one of the kids said, "Mr. Ott, you've misspelled a word." And told him what it was. He said, "I wondered when anybody would ever notice that [Laughter]."

MH: [Laughter] He was testing the kids.

AL: Yes.

MH: Testing his student. So you've got Joseph and James...

AL: And Layton who died quite early. He was only in his fifties when he passed away, and then Wallace. Wallace was my brother. Brother tease-cat. He teased me so much. He would listen in on our little playhouse that we had, on my sister and me and she said... "I brought a little something and I said, "Andy." – I called her Andy- "Andy, this will make a black and white and all colored pudding." And handed it to her. So she come over and she said... had a little bottle of stuff and she says, "Boric oil is good to make cakes." And he teased us throughout all the years about black and white and all the colored pudding [Laughter].

MH: [Laughter] That's funny. I knew Wallace, a nice man.

AL: That was all. Wallace was the youngest brother. And I had a sister that was older, she was older than me and my dad was such a gentle person, he never ever got angry. And he said, "I never did spank anybody only you and your oldest sister." My older sister wanted a pair of shoes that cost \$14.00. That was depression time, you know. And Dad told her, "No you can't have them. If you have that, there won't be any Christmas for anybody, for any of the other kids." And she says, "Well, I'm gonna have 'em anyway." So he spanked her. [Laughter] And then with me, I always had a birthday party and I took it upon myself to invite kids to my birthday party. I came

home and Dad says, "You can't have one, you're mother's ill and can't do anything about it."

"Well, that's too bad, I've already invited 'em," I said. So he laid me across his lap and spanked me. And he says, "That's really something when I had to spank my oldest daughter and my youngest one." [Laughter]

MH: [Laughter] So, your mom was ill, huh? Did she recover?

AL: Oh, yes.

MH: Ok. Do you remember the areas where your dad would ranch? Where would he take his cows?

AL: Just up here on East Fork.

MH: So up on the East Fork. Would he bring them through here, through the canyon?

AL: Yes. They didn't haul them like they do nowadays.

MH: Did they go up through Yellow Creek or Sheep...

AL: Yes. That's where his farm was, was in Yellow Creek.

MH: Yellow Creek, ok. Yes. I went up there one time with Rella.

AL: Oh, yes.

MH: And she showed me the ranch up here.

AL: Yes. They lived there. My brother Joe lived there. Rella's my niece.

MH: So your brother Joe lived up there.

AL: Yes.

MH: Rella told me that her dad, Joe, never liked to kill an animal so he would hire somebody to kill his beef, to kill the cow.

AL: Yes. He was a gentle person. I went out one summer and spent a summer out there with 'em. And we had to watch out for the porcupines that was eating the corn. And so there was a porcupine a' starting to eat the corn so he told, hollered to Joe and told him and he went and got his gun. He came down and he looked at the porcupine devouring the corn and that porcupine put his paws up over his eyes like that. And he put down his gun [Laughter] and I couldn't shoot that poor porcupine.

MH: That's funny. And so you would go out there in a wagon?

AL: Yes. Only way we had.

MH: It sounded like a beautiful ranch, the Yellow Creek Ranch.

AL: It was a beautiful ranch.

MH: And when you spent the summer out there, would you sleep inside the cabin?

AL: Yes. We had a little cabin and lots of rattlesnakes.

MH: How would you take care of the rattlesnakes?

AL: Run as far as we could away from 'em [Laughter]. My dad told me never try to kill one. He didn't believe in killin' anything that would eat something that was undesirable.

MH: Right, like a mouse or rats and stuff.

AL: Yes.

MH: Yes. That's neat. Do you remember taking the trip from Henrieville and then you have to go up The Dump and over up on top. What was that trip like for you? Would you do it in a wagon?

AL: Oh, yes. That's all we had. It was pretty bumpy.

MH: Was it a scary ride?

AL: Pretty scary.

MH: And when you went to high school, what kind of activities did you do in high school?

AL: When I started high school we didn't have anything only P.E. it was called. And just do stuff, you know, with our... we didn't play... when I was in my last year of high school we finally had a girl's basketball team [cough].

MH: Do you need a little water.

AL: No, thanks. It's just I have this oxygen cough every once in awhile.

MH: Right. And did you try basketball then?

AL: I tried it but I wasn't a very good player.

MH: And did you have a favorite subject when you were in high school?

AL: In high school...I liked English real well, but I didn't like Shakespear and my nephew came down a while back. He taught... his name's William Shakespear. Bill come to see me and he says, "Aunt Agnes, I hear that you didn't like Shakespear." I says I didn't. I didn't like it in school. I hated it. He says, "I'm gonna bring some material down and talk to you about William Shakespear." That's all he taught at BYU was William Shakespear. Of course, his name was

William [cough]. He says, "You'll like him after I get through tellin' you about him." But he hasn't come yet.

MH: So did you ever go on any trips when you were in high school?

AL: We went... we followed, we had a little pep club we called it. And when the boys played basketball in Escalante and over in Wayne County and where else would we go, we would go with them and have cheering, we'd cheerlead. We wasn't cheerleaders but we cheered like cheerleaders. And I still remember one of those yells. It was "Strawberry shortcake, gooseberry pie, V-I-C-T-O-R-Y. Will we win it? Well, I guess. Tropic High School, THS."

MH: All right. Yay! Excellent.

AL: [Laughter]

MH: What was the trip like over to Escalante? How would you get to Escalante with your pep club?

AL: Well, what was the name of those people of Roosevelt, they built the road.

MH: Oh, the CCC.

AL: Yes, the CCC Camp. Yes. They built a road over there. It wasn't a very good one.

MH: Was it the one that went from Widstoe over?

AL: Yes.

MH: Yes. Sometimes that would be snowy though, wouldn't it?

AL: Oh, yes. Sometimes it'd be bad.

MH: And basketball season's in the winter.

AL: Yes.

MH: Would you take a truck over there or would they have a bus?

AL: They had a bus. Such as it was. That's the only time I got to go out of town is when they had a game.

MH: Right. It's the same for students now. Sometimes it's the only time they go away from town is to go to a game.

AL: Yes.

MH: Still kind of the same now. And you went to Wayne County too. That's a long trip.

AL: That was a long trip.

MH: And would you go in one day?

AL: Yes. Usually we'd have our basketball games earlier.

MH: So you could make it back before dark.

AL: Yes.

MH: Yes. And when you graduated from high school, what was that like?

AL: [Laughter] Oh, my goodness. That was so long ago, honey. But I met my husband on the... we graduated the tenth of May and I knew of him, but I hadn't met him and we got acquainted on the tenth of May and we were married on the twentieth of June.

MH: Wow. And where was he from?

AL: California. San Bernardino, California. And we moved to California the next week after we were married and I lived there fourteen years.

MH: So, that's where you started your family?

AL: Yes. I had three children when I left California. I had three children before I could vote. Cause I was only seventeen when I graduated because I had skipped this grade.

MH: Right. Oh, yes, that's right. You were younger, one year younger. Yes. And so why was your husband here that you could meet him.

AL: He come to visit some relatives that lived in Henrieville. His mother was from there originally.

MH: Right. What was her name?

AL: Francis.

MH: Francis Littlefield?

AL: Yes.

MH: Right. Yes. There is a story about the Littlefield's, that maybe one of them is buried by Promise Rock?

AL: Oh, yes, my... let's see, what would he be to me? He was some relation to my husband. And they don't know where he's buried. Waldo Littlefield

MH: Right. Yes, I've heard that story before.

AL: When they found the remains of a skeleton, oh, Ira was so excited. He says, "I hope it's my uncle that died there." But, it was an Indian woman. He was so disappointed because they don't know where he was buried.

MH: Evadean, well, she thought she might know where. And we've gone out to look but we haven't found anything yet. Out by Promise Rock the wind blows and the sand shifts.

AL: Oh, yes. It's changed. I'm sure. They was bringin' him to Cannonville to bury him. He died in Henrieville. They was bringing him to Cannonville to bury him and they couldn't get across the water. Wasn't any bridge or anything so they just had to bury him there.

MH: Right. Well, tell me about your husband, Ira.

AL: He worked for the Santa Fe Railway Railroad and when the war was on he got deferred... is that what they called it? Because he worked for the railroad. So, when the war got over, he couldn't come until the war was over, but he brought me out the spring before the war got over. And I come and lived here. We had bought this place and I came and lived here and raised a nice garden cause all we had in California was just a little spot called a Victory Garden. And I raised a nice garden and then just as quick as the war was over, why, he come out. But they wouldn't let him come until the war was over.

MH: What town did you live in, in California?

AL: San Bernardino.

MH: Right. And that was just becoming a bigger city then.

AL: Yes. I've been back there; we went back there, oh, before my husband died, I would say about twelve years ago. And my daughter lives in California and she took us up to see San Bernardino. We couldn't believe how much it had grown. It didn't look like the same place at all.

MH: I bet. That's a big city now, a big, sprawling city. Could you find the place where you lived when you were married?

AL: We did. And Linda says, "I'll go and ask 'em if we can come look." It still looked about the same. And she says, "I'll go and ask 'em if we can come in and look around." So she went to the door and asked and an oriental man went back and got a dagger and came to the door and he says, "Nobody will come in here." Oh, Linda run back and got in the car and we left. Never got to look at the place.

MH: Just from the outside. Was that a good memory for you?

AL: It wasn't having him come out [Laughter].

MH: Yes. That's a surprise. So tell me the three children that you had in San Bernardino. What are their names?

AL: Roselyn, she lives in Escalante and Helen who passed away and then Marion, the one that came in here; I had all three of them before we left California.

MH: So, Marion was the youngest.

AL: Yes.

MH: And how old was he when you came to Tropic?

AL: He could sit up, so he must have been about four or five months old, a baby

MH: And were you excited to come back here?

AL: I wasn't excited as much as my husband was. He loved the country. He wanted to come back here and live. But I've lived here for a good many years so I better like it.

MH: What was it 1945 when you moved back?

AL: Yes.

MH: And its now 2011, that's a long time.

AL: Yes. We've lived here a little while.

MH: And every year you had a nice garden.

AL: Yes. The last thing my husband said when they took him in the ambulance, he said to the EMTs, "Will you make sure that my garden spot is plowed cause I'm coming back and make a garden," but he didn't come back.

MH: What year did your husband pass away?

AL: Well, it's been 11 years. It was 2000 Yes, and I've lived here ever since.

MH: Yes, I have friends who come by and visit you- Kay Lynn... Kay Lynn, your neighbor, she always tells me she comes by to visit you and check on you.

AL: She came yesterday. I called her. I couldn't get up off the couch. I needed to go to the bathroom and everybody that I knew was in church and so I called Kay Lynn and she came over and helped me, lifted me up so I could get up and use my walker.

MH: And what did Ira do when he moved here after he left the railroad?

AL: Well, he taught school one year. The teachers were all gone to war, so he taught one year of school. He was a shop teacher and coach was what he taught. Cause he really... he never graduated from high school but they was needing somebody so...

MH: Right and he had skills.

AL: Yes.

MH: He was a mechanic?

AL: Yes, he was. He served in the railroad as a pipe fitter. He learned pipe fitting in the railroad and he could have had a good job, but he would have had to have moved to Barstow. And he didn't want to go to Barstow so we come out here. And then after his school teaching job, he got a job at the sawmill and worked at the sawmill.

MH: Which sawmill was that, Agnes?

AL: It was just one that was right up here on the mountain. It was run by Colvin, Orlin Colvin.

They're all gone now. And he worked for them and then Pierson and Croft put in a sawmill in Panguitch and he got a job there. And he hadn't worked there very long until they put him in as a foreman. He hired fellows to come and work, you know. So he had a good job all those years.

MH: He was at the mill, right?

AL: He was right in the sawmill. And then Marion, my son that came in here, worked there too when he was old enough.

MH: Right. And so would Ira drive to Panguitch every day?

AL: Every day, uh huh.

MH: Would he take men with him, driving with him?

AL: No. He didn't have anybody that had the same hours that he did.

MH: And was your job staying at home and making sure that the kids were fed [Laughter].

AL: I was a homemaker, that's what I was. That's all I was and that was a big job, but it was a worthwhile job. I wouldn't trade it for anything in the world.

MH: To make a house a home is a big job. What were some of the things you remember about your life with Ira and raising your family that are special to you?

AL: Everything was special. He was kind of a tease, too. Every anniversary, he would bring me a candy bar called Rocky Road. Have you ever seen one of those?

MH: Oh, yes.

AL: Ok. He used to bring me that candy bar and say, "Living with me has been a rocky road." But I wouldn't have changed it for anything.

MH: Right. And it wasn't really a rocky road, though. He just really appreciated you, huh?

AL: Yes, he did.

MH: As a family, what kind of things would you do as a family?

AL: He wouldn't go anywhere without his family. We went to the World's Fair.

MH: In Seattle?

AL: In Seattle, that was one of our trips. And we camped along the way. We took all the kids. Of course, we didn't have Ed then, Ed or Linda. But we camped along the way and went to the fair. And he said while we was lookin' at one of things at the fair he says, "One thing for sure, we'll never see anybody we know." And about then somebody come up and touched me and I looked around and it was Laurie Dee, the one that run the post office. Do you remember when she run the post office.

MH: I don't but our family purchased Laurie Dee's land in Cannonville for the KOA. Yes, so that's the only way I know Laurie Dee. How funny.

AL: Oh, yes. Yes. She was there to the fair. We saw two or three different people that we knew. Yes, clear up in Seattle.

MH: Really. That's neat. So that's a big trip.

AL: Well, it was. And I remember riding on the Space Needle. I thought that was quite a thing. And we went, we stayed in San Francisco one night and I hated San Francisco. That was the dirtiest, ugliest place I thought in the whole trip. And we went to Fisherman's Wharf and oh, my gosh, my kids was so angry cause I ordered fish and chips instead of getting' like a live lobster or a crab. Yes [Laughter]. They thought I was kind of goofy, but I didn't like things like that so...[Laughter] I ordered fish and chips.

MH: Ok. San Francisco must have been interesting. That was in 1963, right?

AL: Yes.

MH: Interesting. And so did it take a week to get there?

AL: No. We "cousined" it along the way. I had two cousins, one lived in Seattle and one lived...where? Before we ever got to Seattle. So we stayed to their house one night. In Portland, we stayed in Portland was where it was. Oh, that was a pretty city. And the roses was on and, oh, it was beautiful.

MH: And so what are some of your best memories, Agnes, the things that make you smile and laugh.

AL: It was more serious business. I don't think I ever really smiled and laughed like I should have done.

MH: Did you have worries about making sure that your family was ok?

AL: Oh, yes. My youngest son said, "Mom, you worry about what you're gonna worry about next." [Laughter] And when he passed away two years ago, he came to see me about two days before he died and he says, "Mom, I'm gonna be alright." He always come and kiss me on the forehead and asked, "How's my mother today." And I said, "Ok. Haws my son?" "Oh, I'm ok. They've finally got some blood pressure medicine that's agreein' with me. So I'm gonna be alright." And the next day... two days later he was dead. So when Marion and Catherine come and tell me about it I said, "Where did he wreck?" It was so sudden; he didn't know he had anything wrong with his heart. He had a massive heart attack.

MH: Blood pressure is an important thing to keep track of and the medicine they have now is much better. And so how do you feel about your life?

AL: It hasn't been easy all the time, but I wouldn't trade it for anything in the whole world. I think it has been wonderful to raise a family in this little valley. It suits me just fine. I said, "This house is an old house, but I'm old so that's fine with me."

MH: Yes, but it's a beautiful, little house. It's well-kept and you can tell it's had a lot of love here.

AL: Yes, it's been a lot of love here.

MH: So we only talked about your first three children from California, but I didn't hear about the rest of your children. Who came after Marion?

AL: Linda, she lives in California still. And then Ed, my youngest one was Ed. And he had a job, he was a master electrician and he said, "Mom, sometimes I wish I didn't have that master tacked on to my name." It was hard to find a job. They didn't want to pay, you know, for a master electrician. So he was without a job a lot. And it really bothered him to be without a job.

MH: Yes, it's hard, especially when you take the time to train.

AL: And it's bad now to find a job.

MH: Any other stories you want to tell me, Agnes?

AL: I came from a wonderful family, as well, you can understand. They were all good people, hard working people, but good people so I'm thankful for that. Bein' Thanksgiving time, I'm very thankful for my heritage. I had a good family bringing up.

MH: And lots of Thanksgiving dinners.

AL: Oh, lots of Thanksgiving dinners. One time, we had a Thanksgiving dinner to my brother's place who lived here in town and my dad prayed so long that all the food got cold [Laughter]. My dad never did live that down. They'd say to him, "Don't let Grandpa pray 'cause he prays too long." [Laughter] So we thought that was kind of funny.

MH: What are some of your favorite things to make for Thanksgiving dinner? Do you have a family tradition of things?

AL: No. Oh, I used to make carrot pudding and I think my family has missed that more than anything. I always made a big carrot pudding.

MH: How do you make carrot pudding? I've never heard of that.

AL: Oh, it's hard work. You have to mix the ingredients and it's kind of... and then you have to have it in an airtight container like a bottle or something. And you have to boil that in that for quite a long while, an hour or so, slowly boil it. But that carrot pudding was what they expected.

MH: Right. And who would make the turkey?

AL: Not very many times we had turkey. We usually had a chicken. A lot of 'em didn't like turkey, naming me [Laughter].

MH: [Laughter] Would you raise your own chickens?

AL: Yes, mostly.

MH: Yes. So that's always the best.

AL: [Laughter] My sister and I decided we wanted to cook a chicken once. Mother and Dad were gone and we were gonna get dinner, make a special dinner. So we got a chicken and she says, "I don't dare chop its head off." And I says, "I don't either." So we got a tub and put a chicken in so just its head was out and then we chopped its head off. And we had a chicken dinner. And now I don't like chicken at all because you dipped it in this boiling hot water, brought it out, and

took its feathers off. And what imagination does for you, the reason I don't like chicken is I can still smell that feathery...

MH: Broth.

AL: That's why I don't like chicken. And I don't care that much for turkey. I have to have so much cranberry sauce on there that you can't taste the turkey.

MH: And so you'd have a roast or something.

AL: Yes.

MH: Did you raise some beef?

AL: Yes. We always had a nice beef.

MH: Did Ira do any kind of cattle ranching?

AL: No. He didn't know the first thing about that.

MH: Right. But I bet you always had a lot of firewood.

AL: [Laughter] We did.

AL: My dad used to raise a beef for us for the winter and we didn't have refrigeration then- we didn't have electricity in Henrieville. And he would hang it up in the granary we called it. And anybody wanted a beefsteak or something they'd go out and cut one off.

MH: And how long would that last?

AL: Well, when it got so we didn't... it got warmer weather, we didn't dare use it, of course. So we'd have to bottle it or can it.

MH: Right. But in the winter you could leave it out there because it would mostly be frozen.

AL: Yes, it'd be frozen. We could have all the beef we needed.

MH: Right. And what about a milk cow?

AL: Yes, we always had a milk cow.

MH: Did you ever learn how to milk the cow, Agnes?

AL: No, I didn't, but you know something I loved, my brothers were such teases and they'd holler at me to come when they were milkin' the cow and they'd say, "Open your mouth." I opened my mouth big and they would squirt that milk in my mouth. [Laughter] And, you know, I got so I liked that. And when we got a separator and that milk would come out warm, I'd grab me a glass and drink the warm milk that come out the separator. I didn't like cold milk until then.

MH: Right. And did you also... you could separate it then for the butter.

AL: Yes. The cream would come out one spout.

MH: Mmm, that's good. Did your family ever make the ice cream?

AL: Oh, yes, I made a lot of ice cream. We had a little shop down here that we when we first moved out here we bought and on the Fourth of July was about the only time that... and after dances and things we sold like hot dogs and hamburgers and I made the ice cream. I made five gallons at a time. Until they finally started bringing ice cream to us.

MH: Right. Wow! Five gallons at a time...

AL: I had a freezer that would freeze five gallons, these old hand turn ones.

MH: Yes, that's quite a treat. Would you grow berries?

AL: Not very many. We used to go in and get berries to make jam and outside of town there were elderberries, that's what I'm trying to think of. Made real good jam.

MH: You bet. Yes, we have raspberries at our house that do pretty well.

AL: Oh, yes. We raised a lot of raspberries, too. Strawberries, we never did raise strawberries very good.

MH: I know. I don't think they grow well here.

AL: They're not suppose to I guess. Raspberries do quite well here.

MH: All right. And so... your Thanksgiving dinner this year, are you looking forward to it this year?

AL: Well, in ways, yes. Because I think its gonna be my last one. Of course, I told 'em that last year and I'm still here [Laughter]. But we're gonna have it down to Lynettes and I don't know if I can... they'll have to take me in the wheelchair cause I can't walk that far anymore.

MH: Right. I'm sure they don't mind doing that.

AL: Oh, I know they don't, but I hate to have to be a nuisance to anybody.

MH: Right, but you've helped a lot of people and taken care of a lot of people in your life and it's always hard to have someone take care of you.

AL: Yes. You like your independence, is what I call it. Yes. I've said I've got to stop complaining and do more enduring. That's what I've got to do. But it's not easy at all to have anybody when you've done your own thing for so long.

MH: Right. But, you know, people get joy being with you and taking care of you. There's joy for them and that's a happy thing.

AL: It sure is. If I could just think of it that way.

MH: So, tell me how many grandchildren you have. Do you know what the count is?

AL: I had twelve grandchildren, but the great grandchildren I've lost track on, I'm sorry to say.

I don't know how many. I can tell you how many great great's I've got. I'm gonna have seven in a few days. I'm gonna have seven great greats.

MH: So you had five children and they all had kids, your grandchildren. And so, Marion. Oh, Netty is your grandchild.

AL: Yes. Marion and Catherine's child is Lynette.

MH: And that's nice because she lives here.

AL: Yes.

MH: I only know Steven who's your great-grandchild.

AL: He's my great-grandchild. Oh. He's a sweetheart. I love him dearly.

MH: He is, yes, he's a good one. It's nice to have a couple of your grandchildren here and your great-grandchildren. You're lucky. Cause usually they're very far away.

AL: Yes.

MH: The most important thing with your family is to have a place where you can make a living and it splits our families up now, you know; they have to go far away.

AL: That's what's sad, isn't it?

MH: It is. Now you live right next to the high school.

AL: I was sad about that at first.

MH: Were you?

AL: Yes. And then I got so I liked to watch them board the bus and get off from the bus and count how many. And now I'm blind and I can't see. I can't see the kids anymore. I don't know....I can see something moving, but I don't recognize it.

MH: One of the things I always like is I can hear the kids at recess from my house. Can you hear them when they're at recess?

AL: Yes.

MH: Yes. That always makes me feel good. They're out playing at recess. So what was this property like where the high school is now? What was there?

AL: There was an old maid that lived there and her name was Ruth Marshall. She lived there for quite a few years and she was a strange one but very nice. She used to sleep on the porch the year round and have so many quilts over her I don't know how she could stand it.

MH: Too heavy, huh?

AL: Yes [Laughter].

MH: Now somebody told me about a family that lived here. You might remember them, their last name was Millet.

AL: Was what?

MH: Millet.

AL: Yes.

MH: Do you know who they are, the Millets?

AL: Yes, I do. I think they're both dead though.

MH: Yes. Where did they come from?

[Telephone]

MH: Ok, so I was asking you about the Millets. I've never heard their name before and, let's see, who told me about them?

MH: It was a man who lived here for a very short time, his name was Treavor Leach. He was a goat herder; he had goats here with his dad. The last name was Leach.

AL: Oh.

MH: But he told me about I think his name was Burt Millet. Do you remember that family?

AL: Yes.

MH: Did they live here a long time?

AL: No, not a long time.

MH: Yes. Do you remember what they did, the Millets?

AL: He was a barber.

MH: A barber.

AL: He married a girl that lived here and they lived here.

MH: She was from Tropic.

AL: Yes.

MH: Do you remember the sheep being here?

AL: No.

MH: And I think there was... most of those guys were from Cannonville. Did you ever go down to Cannonville to visit?

AL: When we come on the bus, we would sing "Henrieville's a lily, Tropic's a rose, Cannonville's a pig- pen, everybody knows."

MH: Oh! [Laughter]

AL: When we'd take on the kids from Cannonville, there was one big ol' fight on the bus, all the time. Yes. We couldn't get along with Cannonville kids [Laughter].

MH: I remember a couple ladies from Cannonville, Gretha, maybe Rhoda.

AL: Desmond.

MH: Yes. Were they on your bus?

AL: Probably at one time, but not when I was.

MH: Yes. Who were the kids from Cannonville?

AL: It's been so long ago. The Palmers.

MH: Hendersons?

AL: Hendersons, yes. Fletchers, yes.

MH: So you didn't have any friends from Cannonville, huh?

AL: No.

MH: [Laughter]

AL: We'd quarrel with 'em.

MH: I think that's funny, sorry.

AL: [Laughter]

MH: But people always talk about the dances you guys used to have.

AL: Oh, yes, that's all we did, all we had for fun was dances and parties.

MH: How would you get the music for the dances?

AL: We had a band, what they call Bollie Rose's Orchestra and they played music and we'd have dances.

MH: And what kind of instruments did the Bolly Rose have?

AL: Oh, drums and piano and Elva Clark from Cannonville used to play the piano. George Thompson played the... ah.

MH: Was it a bugle or a trumpet?

AL: Trumpet, yes, trumpet. It was quite a good orchestra.

MH: Right. I think they went on the road didn't they?

AL: Yes. And we could even dance to it. It was nice music.

MH: Right. Now George Thompson was from Cannonville. Was he a nice Cannonville person?

AL: Yes, he was a nice one. He was my cousin [Laughter].

MH: Oh, was he? Ok. So he's your cousin from how? Thompson, what was the relationship?

AL: His mother was my mother's niece.

MH: Uh huh. It was his mother. Yes. Now she had a store- didn't she have a store in Henrieville?

AL: No. My mother had a store in Henrieville.

MH: Oh, ok.

AL: Years and years and years ago and one time she went away and left us and she kind of locked up that little store room, it was just a room in the house for a store. And we got it open, my sister and I, and they had some little candies that they called Dark Secrets, I've never seen 'em since then. And they had a little prize inside. We pried open all those candies and got the little prize

out of 'em. My mother was upset at us. I think I got a... I think we got a little switching going on there.

MH: Janette. And what was her last name before she was married?

AL: Johnson.

AL: [Laughter] Oh, we were pills to do that, ruined all that candy.

MH: Right. That's a good story. I'm trying to think of the things that went on in Henrieville. Do you remember when they first got the water in Henrieville?

AL: No, that was after I was married.

MH: But there was a man there who came in from outside, from Texas, and he was Moore, Lige Moore. Do you remember him?

AL: Oh, yes. Yes I do. And I can tell you a story now about that. Did you know my brother Wallace?

MH: I did.

AL: He saw Butch Cassidy, met Butch Cassidy. That was the story of his life. He come to see Lige Moore and Lige come over and asked my brother if he'd like to meet Butch Cassidy. And he said yes he would. So he did and he met him.

MH: How old were you then? You were older.

AL: Yes, I was married. I wasn't livin' there then. I was livin' in California when he did that, but that was quite a thing for him to meet Butch Cassidy. And he says Butch Cassidy wasn't as bad as they played him up. He was a very nice man. He, if he ever robbed, he never kept it. He gave it

to people that... needed it. They tell a story of him robbin' a bank and there was one widow lady that was gonna lose her home and he robbed the bank and then gave her the money.

MH: Uh huh. He was like a Robin Hood.

AL: Yes, he was a kind of Robin Hood.

MH: Right. Do you remember when you lived in Henrieville, any strangers coming through and visiting then?

AL: I do. We had a bon fire and this stranger come and stood by the bon fire and we were so scared because we hadn't ever seen him before. It turned out that he moved to Tropic and his name was Vern Ray, but we didn't ever have any strangers come. Oh, once or twice a year the Indians would come and trade rugs for goods or something else that they needed. We'd have the Indians come. And I can remember it used to bother me when they would talk and I couldn't understand them. Oh, my goodness! It made me afraid of 'em.

And when we moved to California, why, we didn't have a car. We had to walk downtown to pay our bills and things or else I'd take a bus. And I was standin' waitin' for the bus and there was some Mexicans come up and they were all a gibber-gabbin' you know and, oh, I said, "I'm not gonna do that again. I'll walk all the way before I go and take that bus again." I was scared of the Mexicans [Laughter].

MH: Yes. It's a... It makes you feel insecure when you don't know what someone's saying, huh?

AL: I know it does.

MH: So wasn't there an Indian encampment over here sometimes? Did they come up here (to Tropic)? Maybe not when you lived up here.

AL: Not when I was here.

MH: You remember when they came to Henrieville. In Henrieville, they came by.

AL: They came by.

MH: Did Charlie Francisco live there, too?

AL: Yes. He was younger than me.

MH: Yes. And they had a ranch outside of town.

AL: Yes.

MH: So where would you get your water in Henrieville from, Agnes, when you were little?

AL: We had to dip it up out of the ditch. We had to get up early before the animals got in it and fill up three barrels full of water to last, you know, until the water was in town again. And then in the wintertime, we had to go down to the creek to get it. And they put the barrels on the thing...like a sled and go down to the creek and dip it up in the barrels. And when we get home it would freeze ice and if we needed a drink a drink of water, or we needed water for a bath and our wash and such like we had to go out and chop the ice out of the barrel and bring it in and put it on the stove, a wood or coal burning stove. It was hard work.

MH: Not to mention that you also had to wash your clothes that way.

AL: Yes. We had to scrub on the ol' scrubbing board. We made our own soap. Even since I've been here in Tropic, I learned how to make homemade soap. I've made quite a lot of it.

MH: What do you use now to make the soap?

AL: It was just leftover grease and stuff, you know, and lye. When I was a kid, a small kid, my sister told me, she was always a teasin' me, that mother had spilled a little bit of lye on a rock and she told me it was salt. So I got down and licked it with my tongue. It was lye and I hurriedly spit it out, you know. And mother had me just eat cream for oh... I thought that was really neat to get to just eat cream. I loved cream. Separated cream.

MH: But it burned your tongue, right?

AL: Yes. Oh, that lye was terrible. I've still got a...

MH: Oh, yes. You have a scar.

AL: I've still got a scar on there from that. And that happened when I was a little girl.

MH: Wow. That's kind of a mean trick.

AL: It was a mean trick and she felt bad about it.

MH: Was she the same one who threw the spoon at you?

AL: Yes.[Laughter]We did great quarreling and when we grew up, we were the best of friends. I loved her dearly.

MH: There was one last thing I was going to ask you, so the Indians you remember, you remember the Indians when they came.

AL: Yes.

MH: What kind of items did your family trade with them? Or did other people trade with them?

AL: It was usually food stuff. Mother used to make pickles. They liked pickles real well. And she would put them in a salt, in a barrel, in brine, you know, until they fermented. And oh, they were good. And they liked them. They liked food stuff mainly. They would trade for food stuff.

MH: Right. And they would trade blankets?

AL: Yes. They made these rugs, you know, Indian rugs.

MH: Right. And do you remember those in your house?

AL: Yes.

MH: They were pretty nice, huh? And durable.

AL: Yes.

AL: They're expensive now.

MH: Oh, yes. They are very expensive now. And what about your clothing, would you make it or?

AL: Yes, we made everything.

MH: How did you get the fabric here?

AL: Most of ours was just made over from other people's clothing and Mother would make something. Mother would look in the Sears catalog and see a dress that we liked quite well and

she could make a pattern for that. And she would sew up a dress for us. We didn't ever wear slacks then.

MH: And you have to wear... you had stockings, right?

AL: Yes. I hated those ol' ribbed stockings. I can see 'em now [Laughter].

MH: You can feel 'em now, huh [Laughter]. Were they uncomfortable?

AL: Yes. We had a little belt thing that had garters, you know.

MH: It's not very practical is it?

AL: My daughter, my oldest daughter says, "Mom, you don't remember this, but you made us wear these stockings and when we would get out away from you, we'd take them off and hide them till school was out and then come put 'em back on."

AL: I said, "Well, [Laughter] what you don't know don't hurt ya."

MH: That's right. That's not a bad thing. What about if you would get sick when you were a kid; how did your mom heal you when you were sick?

AL: My mother was just almost like a doctor, she made medicines. Her father owned a little, well, it's kind of a little drug store in Cannonville. He made his own products like pneumonia medicine.

MH: Was that Seth Johnson?

AL: Yes. He was my grandpa and that little house is still standing down there where he lived, in Cannonville. I remember once a' goin' there. And I followed him around nearly all day and he

says, "What do you want? Do you want a stick of Mayberry gum?" And I've never heard of Mayberry gum since then. And he got down and on...he had a little hinge box under the bed and he got it out and gave me a stick of gum and that's what I remember about my grandpa. He's the only grandparent that I knew. They all died before I could remember them

MH: Right. I've heard stories about Seth Johnson. He's your grandpa.

AL: My grandpa.

MH: And how do you think he got his knowledge about making medicine?

AL: Just reading about it, I guess. My son, when he was here last, he was bald headed. My Grandpa Johnson was bald headed, too. Ed was sittin' over there in that chair. I went over and said, "Ed, take off your hat." He never would take off his cap. And he says, "What for?" And I says, "I wanna prove something." So I felt on his head. I could see then, though. So I said, "You've got a head shaped just like Grandpa Johnson's, just exactly like his. So, I know you must be relation to him [Laughter]."

MH: What kind of things would your mom make for medicine? Do you remember anything about that?

AL: Yes, I do. She made canker medicine for people that had sore mouths and pneumonia cure which took whiskey, a little bit of whiskey. And she hated to bring it in the house because she was afraid that we would get into it or something. So she'd a' hurry and get that made. We didn't like the cough medicine it made [Laughter].

MH: And so it'd have a little whiskey. What else was in it? Do you remember? Was there...

AL: It was kind of menthol. It kind of smelled like mentholatum. Then she made what they call Green Salve. And it was for infections, sores, you know, that got infected. That was before we had antibiotics. Yes. And slivers and things, they put on this Green Salve and warmed it up and put that on the place and it would draw the sliver out so you could see it and pull it out.

MH: Right. Was it made like with plants or...

AL: Yes. And my mother made it for years and then she turned it over to my sister, oldest sister. And one of the things that she used in Green Salve come from Russia. And they wouldn't... they got so they wouldn't release it or send it so that stopped the Green Salve. 'Cause that was the main ingredient.

MH: Do you remember what that ingredient was called by chance?

AL: I think it was burgundy pits.

MH: Ah, interesting. I'll have to look that up, burgundy pits.

AL: Now, I'm not right sure about that but that was one of the ingredients. But whether that was the one that come from Russia, I don't know.

MH: Right. Huh... and I know sometimes people use pine gum salve. Did she ever make the pine gum salve?

AL: Yes, a lot of people did that.

MH: And what about if you had a fever?

AL: A mustard plaster [Laughter].

MH: Did it work?

AL: Yes, I hated them.

MH: Cause I know there was a time, you were born in a time when they had the flu epidemic.

AL: Yes. My mother had it.

MH: She did?

AL: Yes.

MH: And it was when people came back from Europe from the war. And it killed a lot of people.

AL: It did, yes.

MH: But she had it and got over it?

AL: Yes.

MH: That's lucky.

AL: That was a bad one, flu.

MH: Were there any other kind of epidemics or things that you remember when you were growing up?

AL: Only just having it told to me that my two little sisters had scarlet fever and they both died. Mother was sick with the flu and one of the little girls Dad didn't even tell her about it till she got better.

MH: They were babies?

AL: Yes, they were babies.

MH: That's pretty sad.

AL: Yes. They lost a lot of babies though.

MH: Yes. You've told me about two. There were two, right?

AL: Yes.

MH: That's very sad. Are they buried in Henrieville?

AL: They're buried down here in Tropic. Susan and Vilate. Ott

MH: Ott, yes. Well, the Ott has a strong name here. Its one of the main families.

AL: Yes. It was. There's only one Ott that lives here now.

MH: Who is that?

AL: The postmaster.

MH: Oh, right, Karen.

AL: She's married to an Ott, my brother's son.

MH: Right. And you.

AL: And me.

MH: Rella.

AL: Yes, Rella was an Ott.

MH: Janet. Those are your cousins right.

AL: Yes, those are my nieces.

MH: Right. Well, it's a good family and they did a lot to help make this a town. What about snake bites? If someone got a snakebite do you remember how they treated that?

AL: Oh, my brother... I had two brothers get bit with rattlesnakes and the last one he was herdin' his sheep out to the sheep herd and a rattlesnake bit him and he got off from his horse and took his pocket knife out and cut a little gash and then got down and sucked that venom out and then he found the CCC doctor and he said if he hadn't have done that he would have died.

MH: Wow. Were you in Henrieville when the CCCs were there?

AL: Yes.

MH: Whoa. I heard they had a movie theatre there.

AL: They did. I had a boyfriend that was in the CCCs.

MH: Really, who was that?

AL: [Laughter] Oh, he was just from up to Payson, up that way somewhere. Oh, yes, we wrote letters to each other. My mother said I was too young to have a boyfriend, but yet I married at seventeen so...

MH: Right. Well, good, I'm gonna give you a break here. This was a nice talk Agnes. I appreciate it. And thank you so much for doing this.

AL: Oh, I don't know whether I've made sense or not.

MH: Oh, you made perfect sense. It's really a pleasure to meet you.

AL: It's a pleasure to meet you too.

MH: Thank you.