

Sister Martha Buie

Roderick Red

January 10, 1984

Red: Where were you born?

Buie: Oh, I was born in Claiborne County at the Gordon Station about 7 miles south of Port Gibson.

Red: When were you born?

Buie: I was born October 8, 1931.

Red: What was it like when you were young?

Buie: Well, in my younger days it much different from where about it is now. Becuase in my younger days, children like you all we had to get out in the field-hoe cotton, pick cotton, pull corn, pick peas, help gather wood to have fire. But now days, we don't have to do that. We can use gas, electric lights. We had to use kerosene lamps in my younger days.

Red: Did you ever go to school?

Buie: Well, we went to school but not like the children have today becuase we had to lose so much time gathering cotton and different stuff like that and we would be late going. Sometime we wouldn't start school until sometime in November. They had 8-month schools then. They have nine [now].

Red: Where did you go to school?

Buie: Watson Chapel.

Red: Where is it located?

Buie: Oh, that's located about 7 miles or 7 1/2 south of Port Gibson.

Red; What was it like going to school?

Buie: Well going to that school everything was nice. The children and teachers and things seem to got along well. The children was obedient to the teachers and the teachers felt the same about the children. They treated the children like the children was human beings like they were and if the children had any problem, they could carry it to the teacher and the teacher was able to solve the problems.

Red: What were your favorite subjects in school?

Buie: Well all of them was mines. They used me as sometime the teacher. I would have to teach the class, give them their grades, and scores-what ever they make. Sometime I would help the teacher work their report books, whatever.

Red: Did you ever play any sports while you were in school?

Buie: Oh, I tried a little of it all but my main one was basketball.

Red: Could you tell us something about that?

Buie: Well I was the head, the head one of the basketball team at that time. And I could stand center ways of each side and make the goal. And without me, the team would lose.

Crosby: Who else played on the team with you?

Buie: Well there was a number of others- boys and girls-- some them was named oh, Lawrence Reed, which is a brother to this Alfred Reed used to live down the street, Mary C. Liggans, Viola Hart, Rosie Wood, Annie C. Norrell. Oh, just a number of them.

Crosby: Did you play others when you played basketball?

Crosby: Who was your competition?

Buie: Oh, we played other schools. We had to walk to these schools, though. They were several miles from the school where I went to. We would have to leave school in the morning time we get there to

Buie: get to the other school and play in time to get back to the school where I was going you know before school turn out to get home on time.

Crosby: Do you remember the names of any schools you played?

Buie: Pine Groves School, MB. Johnny Carroll was the head teacher at that time. She had deceased now and Rose Hill, I beleive, is number2 school, and I can't think of the head teacher that was out there. But the Watson Chapel School where I was going they had several, Ms. Louizana Moore was one of the head teachers, Ms. Deetsy Jenkins was one, and the last one of the head teachers, I went under, was Professor Robinson.

Red: Were there any fights during the game?

Buie: Well, no more than usually sometimes you know how some of us head long, think we know it all, and about every--you know--sometimes it bring up about a misunderstanding but it wasn't never too much to it. The professor will always, you know, as he speak the children will obey him.

Red: Did you have coaches? What were the coaches' names?

Buie: Oh, professor Robinson was the coach of the school, we really did not hire any others, the professor was the only coach.

Red: How did your parents treat you when you was young?

Buie: Well, my father passed when I was about the age of 4, see that just left a mother and I wouldn't wish for no better mother she was a mother and a father for us and we were obedient to her and she didn't have to tell us every time something had to be did. You must go and do. We had enough get up about us to go and do it for ourselves.

Red: If you were, if you did anything good what would your mother do for you?

Buie: Well, she would always shore us up, and if we ever did anything good she would tell us how nice it was and try to do a little better the next time. And so that by, and so doing that, that made us willing to do things.

Red: If you did anything bad what did she do? She would spank you?.

Buie: Well, I hardly did anything bad. The only whippings that I would get was for when some of mine other sisters and brothers do wrong and I wouldn't tell on them. And she knew I would know it and because I wouldn't tell her then sometimes she'll spank me-- sometimes she wouldn't.

Red: Did you ever have adventures or mysteries when you were young?

Buie: Beg your pardon.

Red: Did you ever have adventures or mysteries when you were young?

Buie: No, not really.

Red: Did you ever work?

Buie: Well, I had to work in the farm.

Red: What was it like working in the farm?

Buie: I had stated before -- chopping cotton, picking cotton, pulling corn, picking peas, gathering up things like that. And we would plant, and whatever anybody else could do in the field I just had a hand in it because I just love to do those things. And by so doing that made me learn how to do a little of every thing that could be did in the country.

Crosby: How young were you when you started working in the fields?

Buie: Oh, I beleive about 7 years old. And my brother was plow the team and you know sometimes they would walk away from the team and we would go, sometime the team would throw us, oh we get upset and plow whatever it is and go on. So we learned how to do that then our mother didn't have to carry on the farm, 'cause after our father passed she would had to tie her dress up and carry on

Buie: the farm, but after that we took over.

Red: How many brothers and sisters did you have?

Buie: Well, I had 3 brothers and 7 sisters.

Red: What did your parents tell you about your grandparents?

Buie: Well they told us everything we could know about 'em and then our grandparents would visit us and tell us about themselves. And my grandmother she was sold in slavery in Virginia, she and one of sisters, by selling them together they stayed together until they were freed. And the way they say they were freed, that the master was so mean to them and there was an old man in the field, the man was sick one day and he wasn't able to carry on his work like he should, and he left some stalks of cotton leaning over and these monsters went and whipped this man, just whipped him down to the ground, and he laid there and couldn't do nothing but cry and call on the Lord, so my grandmother say she started walking towards them and her sister had left a stalk of cotton leaning over on her row, and she and the others that you know in being a bunch was together and they made up their mind if he came 'cross to whip them that they was going to chop him up with their hoe, so he came on over and he question about the stalk of cotton you know, you have to build it up and leave it sitting straight, so they just told him that they saw how brutal they was to that old man, that if they hit them they was gonna chop him with the hoe so that day they freed them. They just didn't have any more trouble with them. So just have to let people know who you are and where you stand. So you won't have too much trouble with them.

Red: Do you have any riddles or ghost stories you can tell?

Buie: Well, used to say quite a few of them, Humpty Dumpty sat on the wall,

Buie: Humpty Dumpty had a great fall, Humpty Dumpty fell down broke his crown, how it go, came all the great horses or something, I can't get it all together. But it was quite a few of 'em we use to use back in those days. And we used to sang this song, the boys and the girls, sang good morning little school girl, how are you today, tell your mama and your papa that I'm a school boy too, I'm gonna buy me an airplane, I ain't gonna sail it low, I'm gonna sail all over town, want to ride with me, good morning little school girl, tell your mama and papa that I'm a school boy, too.

Crosby: Do you know where you learned that song?

Buie: Well, we children you know we be together and we would just, one would start it and the other would just catch on, and by you know we use to, then I compose songs which I compose some now, anything I would undertake to do the rest would follow, I didn't have any problem with following, teachers and all were that way 'bout me. I think sometime today, what schools and what not we will have yet we just had teachers and things that cared or seemed to care about the children today as they did in those days.

Red: What is the oldest thing you own?

Buie: The oldest thing I own? Like what?

Red: Like anything.

Buie: Oh, what I own or I used to own. Well, I have a old antique piano. That's about the oldest--of course, it's some more antique around here I own. And I have that old piano in there. Most morning when I get up give God thinks that be my next job, to go in sing and praise his name.

Red: Do you know where you got the piano from?

Buie: Well, I've own several piano (s) before I came up here on my own and after I marry my husband [I] had this one and so that just still leave

Buie: me with piano.

Crosby: Where did you learn to play the piano?

Buie: Well, gifted from God.

Crosby: You played, you never had anyone teach you?

Buie: No one teach.

Crosby: It is amazing.

Buie: It is good if I must say to live close to the Lord and let him use you, I was sitting alone one day in there, of course God being dealing with me and I with him ever since I was big enough to remember some few people notice that and some doesn't. So I was called a number of years to do some things for him, but you know how we are when we don't want to do things and I used to fight it when I had sick relatives you know in my family I would take them and take care of 'em some I will have them on hand about 14 years or 15 years or something like that, but you can't serve two gods, you can't serve mammon and you can't serve God so you just have to serve one and leave the other one alone, so I know I couldn't serve God and give them the attention that I should give them, so I know God understood, so after he saw fit to take my husband, I was sitting alone in there one day and I said to myself I said people say that when God give you a talent if you doesn't use it he will take it away from you and I said I just knew he had taken my talent. A voice spoke to me just like we are talking said, "No, I give it to you I don't want it back and you shall use it." Kept on talking and I look around the house and I said I know ain't nobody in this house the voice spoken again, I tried to sing a song that my mother use to sing the last, the last time we were together, my two children were musicians they used to play music on the weekend and we used to

Buie: sing and praise God. I couldn't remember that song. A voice spoke to me and said I am going to give you new songs to sing I'm going to write the words on your heart and place them on the end of your tongue I'm going to give you the music to play it with and I said oh God I don't know any new songs, I don't know any music, the voice spoke the second time, I still didn't obey the third time the voice spoke, something just struck me in the middle of my head and it ran down to the end of my toes I had to get up and lay my Bible down and go to the piano when I got to the piano the words of a song was before my face just like I had a book and there wasn't a book something was guiding my fingers putting them on the right keys and I was playing and singing that song just like someone had been doing it all the time and later on that evening my neighbors came in and they heard the music they will come in and got chairs and they sit around in the room and I look back and some of them were just shedding tears but it couldn't take any effect on me because the spirit had me on high and they went and told others they never seen anything like it before, of course you can't understand God's wishes, never, only those that abide in him and he abide in them are the only ones who understand God and his ways.

Crosby: Can you still sing that song today?

Buie: Well, I've compose quiet a few songs so I just sing this one, that one, different ones at different times.

Crosby: Would you sing one for us?

Buie: Let me see what the spirit give me to sing for y'all. Do you want me to sing one or play it?

Crosby: Well, how about if we wait until Rod finishes asking the questions and you could sing and play it.

Buie: That will be fine.

Red: How did your parents prepare you for life?

How did they do what?

Red: Your parents prepare you for life?

Buie: Oh, any way that she could. She taught us all the good she could and about everything and how to live with other people and how to treat them like we want them to treat us and if doing that can't gain them just leave them alone because there isn't any good in them.

Red: Do you remember where you met your husband?

Buie: Oh, up on the street. Up town on the streets.

Crosby: What were you doing?

Buie: Well, talking to some more friends of mine. Which I had the Lord the Lord brought a vision and showed him to me about 19 years before I met him. I didn't even know anybody would exist like this picture. I would tell others about this picture that I had had in this vision and one person was able to describe this man to me who he was and where he lived and so all you have to do is put your trust in the Lord and wait on it.

Crosby: How old were you when you met him?

Buie: Oh, I was about 45.

Crosby: What did he look like in your vision?

Buie: The same, he looked like when I met him, didn't change a bit.

Crosby: Can you tell me what that was like?

Buie: Well, I think, well he had a beautiful smile and he had a beautiful personality, just everything that it took to make a person be a real person that's what he had.

Red: What was it like when you got married to him?

Buie: Oh, well, my life, everything that's happened. He did everything he could to make me happy and my 4 children happy. And anything

Buie: or anytime they say they want something he would beat me giving so I wouldn't want for any better.

Crosby: What was his name?

Buie: Well, his name was Luther Buie. Wife before my time she was a school teacher and her name was Florine Buie.

Red: What was your church's name?

Buie: The church I belongs to, Antioch Christian Church I belongs to, but I will attend almost all the churches, because the denomination doesn't mean anything, because we all serving the same God.

Red: What were your children names?

Buie: My oldest child was name Willie Lee. My second child was name Patrica Ann. My third Ronnie L. I adopted him, Ronnie L. Buie. My fourth Carol L. Buie. My oldest grandson here, adopted him, his name is Darrel L. Buie.

Red: Were times hard when you and your husband were married? You know financially and stuff like that?

Buie: Well, not too hard, because each one of us knowed how to manage. That's the main thing, being a good manager.

Crosby: Did you ever work when you were married outside your house?

Buie: Oh, no, my husband told me that I had enough work here in this house and I took care of him and saw after these 4, 5, children that I had, I had a full time job, so I haven't worked out public since I been grown.

Red: Do you remember when you first joined church?

Buie: I was born in church my mother say and I been in church all of my life.

Red: How big does religion play a part in your life?

Buie: Well, religion plays a big part in my life because, if it hadn't been for religion I don't believe I would be able to speak to God's people like he has commanded me to do so I would

Buie: say it play a great part in my life.

Crosby: When or how do you speak to God's people?

Buie: Well, it said therefore go and teach all nations. Baptize them in the holy name of the Father and of the following of the Holy Ghost teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you and more I'll be with you always even to the end of the world so, teaching them God's word, the Bible, we heard the Bible often but, there's a lot in the Bible we do not hear, just certain things in the Bible we often hear, but, God didn't only have a head and feet and hand. She had a whole body and there are many members of that body that individuals should know about and this is not a part of my [_____] teach them [designed] Lord's body.

Crosby: Did you teach in Sunday School or preach in church?

Buie: Well I go to Sunday School but, not like I should and I preach in church, different churches, but I don't have any church of my own, but, I speaks in churches.

Red: Do you garden, fish, hunt, or anything like that?

Buie: Well I use to garden a little.

Red: How about fishing and hunting?

Buie: Well not now. I used to do that when I was in the country.

Crosby: Who taught you to hunt?

Buie: We learned most of these things on our own.

Red: Who was the most important person in your life when you was growing up?

Buie: Outside of god, my mother was next.

Crosby: What was your mother's name?

Buie: Mrs. _____ Carter Brown.

Red: What was your father name?

Buie: There was a first husband and she met my father and came Mrs. _____

Buie: U. Crowner. My father was named Charles Samuel Evans Crowner, my baby brother name Crowner 4th.

Red: How do you feel about life today?

Buie: Well life is ok. It's just what you make out of it. Now if you want to make it worthwhile it's ok and if you doesn't that's just the way it is.

Red: Could you compare the children of today to the children when you were young?

Buie: No, I couldn't do that because, the children today is not as the children was in the days when I came along.

Red: How different was they?

Buie: When I came along everybody special adults was your parents and anybody could chastize you if you did wrong or they thought you done wrong and even if you didn't do wrong and if they said something to you, you know not to have a slack word, you know to accept that and go head on, but nowadays don't care what a child do or children you bet not say anything to him, you better see them and not see them, I think that is so bad, because any individual that have, I teach my children to hear anybody when they speak to you, because someday God might see fit to call me on and somebody might be able to help you along the way, I think any parents should teach their children like that, to obey all adults becuae, they are parents if they not your parents, they are parents and the Lord will bless you more if you be obedient to your parents.

Crosby: So the adults in the community all helped raise the little children when you were growing up?

Buie: Right.

Crosby: More so then?

Buie: My mother didn't have to watch out at us. They was just like a real mother to us and if I felt sick or something like that they will come

Buie: there and sit all day and all day and all night long with my mother and anythang that she say that the doctor say I needed to have or something like that, somebody was going to bring that. She didn't have to worry about because, somebody was going to get it for her. When you were young what did your mother do to help you when you were sick?

Buie: Well she would doctor me and she would sit by my bedside all night long and if I moved or groaned she would rub me.

Crosby: Do you remember any of the medicines or something that she would use when you where young?

Buie: Well, there is a number of medicines.

Crosby: Home remedy is not necessarily medicine.

Buie: Well she, you know, mix up different medicines, you know, linaments and stuff like that and rub with it make this bitter weed teas for fever, we used to call it 666.

Crosby: What's that?

Buie: You can buy it in the store. They call it 66 now. Back in those days they call it 666, you can get for malaria fever or you can get it for colds.

Red: Do you feel the quality of life today is better or worse?

Buie: Well in some instances it's I would say it's better because, God have bless the people more these days but, they have more in these days than what the people had in the days when I was a child coming along and you could take 35 cents and go to a store and bring back a bag of groceries, now you can take 35 cents and you might get a nickel stick of candy. At that time what you pay 50 cents for today you could take a nickel and get them all day long.

Crosby: You mentioned that now we have electricity and gas and things that have improved. Are there other improvements in life you think are changes for the good?

Buie: Well they have a lot more things now that they didn't have when I was a child coming along, because we had to use kerosene lamps sometimes. Sometimes when we had it and if we didn't have it we had to use pine knots, you know, put them in the fire place and light them and that would be the light we would use.

Crosby: Pine knot, is that like the knot in a pine tree?

Buie: Right. That's a pine tree. And in that time we didn't have but a changing piece to put on and sometimes would have to go in the morning about a mile and a half to get some water or a ton of wood and bring it back before we get ready to go to school and had to be at school before 8 o'clock. And sometimes what we had on like what I have on today we had to pull that off and wash it and stand before the fire and half dry and put it on the shelf for the next morning to wear to school. Out we went to school and we learned--the children in those days. But now we can dress up some of the best today but not learning.

Crosby: How many years did you go to school?

Buie: Oh, well I finished grammar school and I caught on until I finished school but all of God's children are alike and my child is just as much as Mr. So and So's and Mrs. So and So's child and that just stay the way it was. That's the way it's going today that have poisoned a many child mind against a going to school and [they] figure that what is out there suit them best than what it is in school, because some teacher have drove that child out of school system and the problem, I guess if that's what you waiting on, that I had with this teacher, I have always been smart in school, my mother was a school teacher. I had several teachers in my family. I'm suppose to teach school. I suppose to have been

Buie: teaching school if I had, you know, continue on, so the teacher would, the girl that she cared more of, seemed to care more of she didn't know much as I did, she would have her head of the class, and get to words, you know, you have to [] hard words skip them, so I told her one day that's not no hard word skip it, I told her what the word was so she told me say, you know more than I do so you need to come on up here were I am and I will come back there, so I told her well we can do that, it would be fine with me, so we went out for recess, this teacher had, she didn't do it herself, I'm not sure, someone to take some of my books out and take them to another teacher's room and hide the books, so when we came back in after lunch, I told it to her, my books were missing and she replied that I was crazy, I didn't know what I did with, I didn't bring them in, so all the rest of the class she brought them in say how if they're not in here you carried out or you know the reason way they were out so we just kept on until we just got to fighting.

Red: So what did the teachers do?

Buie: well, we got to fighting, the principal say for us to come to the office but, the principal know that we didn't bother anybody, that if anything happened it was on the other person. he talked with this teacher and he told her he ought to send her home because no teacher got no business provoking no child to anger, and she were wrong in the first place if she was the teacher she wasn't suppose to have told the student that she suppose to have been able to teach that student.

Crosby: How old were you then?

Buie: oh, I was in my teens, my late teens.

Red: Did you get in many fights when you were young?

Buie: No, I had the best of friends, boys and girls.

Crosby: Who were some of your friends?

Buie: All of them, when I was going to school. All of them was crazy about me and if I was sick and missed a day when school was out you could look for them, they would load up in wagons and things come to my house and see about me teachers and all, but nowadays a child can get sick and stay at home and die you won't even [see] a classmate, but it wasn't like that in those days when I was coming up and if I went to school and the teacher thought I slept bad in the morning she would come and lay on my shoulders, if I cried she cried.

That's what I call some one got the Love of God in their hearts because, when those students go to that teacher's room that those students as just as that teacher's own individuals and they suppose to treat those students as their own and have no section between any of 'em.

Red: Is this the first house you ever own or did you own another?

Buie: Well, I don't really own this, this is our property but, I've lived in several houses.

Red: Have you ever left Claiborne County to live someone else?

Buie: Oh, well, I lived in Vicksburg a while and back here.

Crosby: Did your mother own the land you grew up on? The farm.

Buie: She did not.

Crosby: Who did you farm for?

Buie: In those days you know, you living on people place and you work crops called share crops and whatnot and on halves or something like that, if you make a bale of cotton you give half of it to the individual you work for and that's the way they did in those days.

Red: Do you give advice? What kind of advice would you give kids to live a better life?

Buie: Well, if I could give them any, but, you can't so happen do that I would give them advice to change their way of living and their attitude and live so everybody would Love them. and that God could use them. that would be the advice that I would give them.

Crosby: How many children were in the school you went to, Watson Chapel?

Buie: Pretty large.

Crosby: How many teachers were there then?

Buie: Well, they had several teachers, some rooms, they would have three teachers in a room, so they used corners and these long tables with chairs across tne end and down the side and sometime they would ~~bottom~~ have first, second, and third grade in one room.

Crosby: Do you remember how many rooms there were in the school?

Buie: Well, that, well, I believe it was 5 rooms, 6 with the auditorium.

Crosby: You had an auditorium?

Buie: That's what they had.

Crosby: Did they have programs in the auditorium?

Buie: Oh, they had tne best of programs.

Crosby: What kind of programs did they have?

Buie: Well, children will say speeches, and they would sing songs and you know, do little funny acts whatever tne teachers prefer them to do.

Crosby: Did you have school closing?

Buie: School closing, talking about closing were the school?

Crosby: at the end of the year.

Buie: Well those, that would be at the 8th grade, they would have, you know, they would graduate, prom, and different things like that.

Crosby: Where did you have proms?

Buie: Well, they had it at the Watson Chapel School where I was going but I didn't want to speak mine, because I wouldn't speak mine the

Buie: teacher would just cry.

Crosby: You had a speech to give but you didn't want to do it or?

Buie: No, I didn't want to do it.

Crosby: Why?

Buie: I just didn't want to do it. They thought I was stage frightened, but, it wasn't that I was stage frightened, it was that, that I just didn't want to do it and never been forced to do anything. But the teacher just kept on insisting so told me to learn it if it wasn't no more than 2 verses for her, and speak it for her, because everytime I would get ready to say it she would sit front, out front and look right my face and she would cry and would had to do smething, so I went head on a learned it.

Crosby: So you didn't have to write the speech yourself?

Buie: Learn smething that somebody else gave me.

Crosby: Do you still remember it?

Buie: Oh, not really. I use could remember things quite well, but you know when God start using you most of those things you forget them. He erase them off of your mind and put the things on your mind that he would have, you know, want you to have on your mind so that makes a big difference.

Crosby: Do you go to basketball games anymore?

Buie: No, the spirit don't ever lead me to go to them. The Bible said beware of those type of things.

Crosby: Are the rules different you think now for basketball when you played?

Buie: They're about the same.

Crosby: Did girls and boys play on the same team?

Buie: They did.

Crosby: What was your grandmother's name that you were telling us about?

Buie: Ellen Maria Cage Carter.

Crosby: She was your mother's mother or your father's mother?

Buie: My mother's mother.

Crosby: Did you know any of your other grandparents?

Buie: Well, my father's mother was, she was a King and I never met her, but I like to call her name, I'm not for sure I can't pick up her name, now they say she was born a King.

Red: What happened?

Buie: I think she was a slave too. But you know, her maiden name, her last name was a King.

Crosby: Did your grandmother tell you how old she was when she came from Virginia to Claiborne County?

Buie: I believe she say that she didn't, you know, when she came from Virginia she didn't come to Claiborne County. They sent her elsewhere. When they settle, after they were freed, she settle in Jefferson County and she say when they sold her to slavery she was 8 years old, and her sister was 7, and she say was several others and they never did see the others and the only way they sold them together was they didn't let on they was sisters.

Crosby: When she was a slave she lived where?

Buie: In, down in Jefferson County.

Crosby: And then she moved to Claiborne County?

Buie: She never did, she lived there, that's were she died at, in Jefferson County.

Crosby: Did she tell you any stories about the time when slavery aside from when she was free?

Buie: Oh, she would tell us for know how things would be with them and they used to do them, how they, how they old masters would make the women do things for them that they didn't want to do, and all those things like that, and you would have to cook and clean up while in and whatever they said do that's what you had to do.

Red: Do you remember the master's name? or did she ever tell you that?

Buie: She told, I just can't remember thier name.

Crosby: How old was she when she was finally freed?

Buie: How old was I?

Crosby: Your grandmother.

Buie: Oh, I don't remember her saying how old she was but, after she freed and she marry she become a mother of 16 head of children. Several of them like to be school teachers, worked in the school system, one worked in there about 37 years after she retired, you know, she just so great in the school and it just couldn't exist not seeing her having her in the school where they would just have her to come at days you know, she would just go in.

Crosby: What was her name?

Buie: Her name was Caroline Walker.

Crosby: And she taught in?

Buie: Jefferson County. And when she start the teaching you could finish 8th grade and take a test and start the teaching, and when she started she started in a one room school, right around the corner from the house were she was born.

Crosby: And you say your mother was a school teacher as well?

Buie: Well, she wouldn't teach. She was a school teacher, but she didn't teach.

Red: Why she didn't teach?

Buie: She said she didn't like teaching.

Red: Did you ever go to prom?

Buie: Well, I went a few times, I never did care too much for it.

Crosby: Why not?

Buie: I just never did. I just been like that all my life. A lot of things I didn't care too much for. course they say I just, I was a different child when I was born, my mother said I was born in Christ.

Crosby: Why did she say that?

Buie: Well.

Crosby: What was it about you that made her think you were different?

Buie: Well, I think all mothers should know about their children and so she just had that much mother wisdom and she just knew the difference between her children.

Crosby: You say you were born in Christ, were you also baptized when you were growing up?

Buie: I was baptized.

Crosby: How old were you when you were baptized?

Buie: I believe I was 9 years old.

Crosby: Do you remember that day?

Buie: I remember that day well.

Crosby: What was it like?

Buie: It was a beautiful day, sunshine clear, baptized in the creek. Rev. Gordon called it Gordon Bridge, that was down there were I was born and raise at.

Crosby: And what did you do?

Buie: Well, they said I, when brought me from out the water, they said I shouted so that was the birth of the earth but now I had to be born again. The Bible say you got to be, you must be born again, so I been born the second time, born of Jesus Christ, he baptized me himself.

Crosby: What did you wear the day you were baptized?

Buie: Well, we had common clothes you know. They had us to wear common clothes and they had string and tie them and wear your dress tied across your leg and they will take you and lead you to the water and they read scripture verses scriptilre tae bible, silent hymn and then they will baptize you.

Crosby: Who was the minister in your church then?

Buie: Ellen Tilydel.

Crosby: And what church was that?

Buie: Antioch Christian Church.

Crosby: That's the church you still belong to?

Buie: Right.

Crosby: Do you remember when you first registered to vote?

Buie: Not really, I believe it was in '65 when they register to vote.

Crosby: Do you think it's an important thing to be registered to vote?

Buie: I think so.

Crosby: Why?

Buie: Because everybody ought to be, ought to have its own rights and so if that give a person equal [rights] sure I think he should vote.

Crosby: Do you think things are better in that way in Claiborne County than when you were young?

Buie: Well, they would be better if they had more Christlike in they hearts, now before this voting and it have been every since I been big enough to remember people have had a bad heart in their bodies and no matter how long this world stand there are some that type of heart in them so that what make things difficult, but not with God. God has his own time set, when he get ready, he is going--those who is wrong--straighten out them who is crooked, but you have to have faith, believe in him and wait on him to do these things. And I believe one day he is going to change condition here in Claiborne County.

Crosby: What changes would you make if you could change Claiborne County?

Buie: Well, I would make the best of changes.

Crosby: What kinds of changes would you do?

Buie: I will do things that I saw would be pleasing in the eyesight of the Lord and to, and toward every fellowman because God made us all and he made us all in likeness of his Son's image and we all are made out of the same thing, there's no difference.

Crosby: What kind of work did your husband do?

Buie: He didn't do any work after we marry he was retired, way before we were married.

Crosby: What did he do before you were married?

Buie: Yet before I met him he said he did construction, work building bridges, then laid the foam and what not for this bridge going across [US hwy] 61 here.

Crosby: Oh, the one on the way to Vicksburg?

Buie: It's one right across.

Crosby: Right by the Hardware store or right?

Buie: By the Hardware and that near Vicksburg, and he name all around, he worked all all around that he laid foam for bridges.

Red: Where did you get married?

Buie: We got married right here in this room.

Crosby: Who all came to your wedding?

Buie: Oh, there were quite a few people, some from Natchez, here, and elsewhere.

Crosby: Did a minister come to your wedding?

Buie: They did. The minister married us.

Crosby: What was the name of the minister who married you?

Buie: Oh, Rev Fred Williams.

Red: Is he still alive?

Buie: He still alive, very fine friend of mind we call and talk to each other sometime.

Crosby: What year was it when you was married?

Buie: Oh, I married in '72.

Crosby: Did you sing at your wedding?

Buie: I didn't sing.

Crosby: Did somebody else?

Buie: Well, they all you know, sang and prayed a prayer.

Crosby: Why did you get married in this room rather than a church?

Buie: Well, this was his choice, he didn't want it large, he just wanted it small.

Crosby: Was that common for people to get married in homes?

Buie: It been ever since I been big enough to remember.

Red: Did you ever go to any other person's wedding?

Buie: Well, I went to quite a few in churches, but I always prefer small weddings, and at home would do just as well, and sometime they seem like they hold up better than it does in the churches.

Crosby: Well, I got married in a church, I hope that will hold up.

Buie: It works pretty good for some of them and some of them it doesn't, but I think it's just what you make out of it.

Red: What advice did you give on marriage or to married people?

Buie: Well, it all depend upon their minds and their hearts before they are married, now if they have their mind made up, that they are marrying to Love, care, and cherish each other, that make a difference, but if they just marry to be married a _____ someone else that what brings about a lot of conflicts in married lives today, but you would do that and you two would have to put your heads together and work together for the better of your marriage.

Crosby: Do you play the piano for anyone beside yourself?

Buie: Oh, well, sometime I play it at churches, sometime different ones come by and we sing and play.

Sister Martha Buie Copy Music

Buie: Now this one I'm gonna _____

Song: I must help Jesus
Oh, I must help Jesus
I must help Jesus
I must help Jesus _____
I can not carry the burden
I must help Jesus
Oh I must help Jesus
The burden getting weavy
He will change me
I must help Jesus
Oh, I must help Jesus
I can not carry the burden alone
He came and he helped me
Keep the burden on
Now that's one. Now, let me try the other one here.

Buie: IF JESUS SHOULD COME AND COME IN AWAY

Song: What would you give in exchange for your soul
What would you give in exchange
What would you give
Oh, what would you give in exchange for your soul
If god should come and call it a way
What would you give in exchange for your soul

Buie: Now you don't know which one of them you like?

Crosby: Well, I enjoyed them both to tell you the truth.

Buie: What would you give in exchange for your soul, if God should come
and come in a way, just answer this question, what would you give
in exchange for your soul? I don't beleive I would give anything
in exchange for my soul.

Crosby: No.

Buie: _____ I can't get my mind on the one I really want.

Crosby: You've written all the songs in this book?

Buie: Most of 'em. It's some you know? It's so many of 'em I don't go over them all the time. I'm trying to find one, I don't know the name of, that I want to play. I know you ready to go.

Crosby: No, we've got plenty of time.

Buie: The one I'm looking for might be looking in the wrong book, but I got to look until I find it.

Buie: Pass me my glasses in that case. Most of the time I can't do without 'em.

Crosby: Well, when I do close work I have to put mine on.

Buie: The ones I want to play I haven't been over them in a good while.

Crosby: Well, if you would like to go over some we will come back another afternoon.

Buie: Well, I don't want to have to keep you'll coming back.

Crosby: It's all right with me if it's all right with you.

Buie: Do you like listening?

Crosby: I enjoy listening to your ~~music~~ singing.

Buie: _____
Song:

Walk with me lord
Please walk with me

Walk with me Lord
Come on and walk with me

I'll guide him all night
While I'm on this distant journey I want
Jesus to walk with me
Oh Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me
Be my friend Lord
Please be my friend
Be my friend Lord

Buie: Come on and be my friend

Song:

I'll guide him on

While I'm on this distant journey

I want Jesus to walk with me.

Oh Lord, I want Jesus to be my friend

Buie: Say, you like that one?

Crosby: Yeh, I'm amazed, I can't sing and I couldn't begin to write a song.

Buie: Oh, you can't sing?

Crosby: No, well I do in the bath tub.

Buie: Well I can't be the best myself, but at times I can mess with them, I can sing them like I want to, do just like I want to at times, but it depends upon the spirit, I thought that I would do that one, Walk With Me.

Buie: Church I prayed, Lord and I cried

Song:

Crosby: Thank you that's beautiful.

Buie: Thank you.

Crosby: I think that's incredible that you can write songs and play them.

Buie: Yeah, I thank him for it.

Crosby: How old were you when you first started playing?

Buie: Oh, I been playing music all my life you know, singing and going on but, in '80 I beleive it was when the voice spoke to me and said he was going to give me new songs to sing and write the words on my heart and place them on the end of my tongue and that's when I really start writing songs and off and on since then I been writing a few songs.

Crosby: It's amazing.

Buie: The way I feel that there's no secret what god can do. What he say he do for others he'll do it for you and I just believe that if

Buie: others could do it I can do it to.

Song:

When I am burdened

When I ~~am~~ sad and in sorrow

Buie: That song is true.

Crosby: Yeah.

Buie: Jesus will always remember when others forget. He will not forget. I have got quite a few impressions with that song, maybe Jesus made a way for me. Yeah, it's just one of those things. Now people just can't understand, but I try to get them to understand but God the way to man knowing.

Buie: Oh, Oh Lord, pat my feet 'cause I'm your child.

Song: