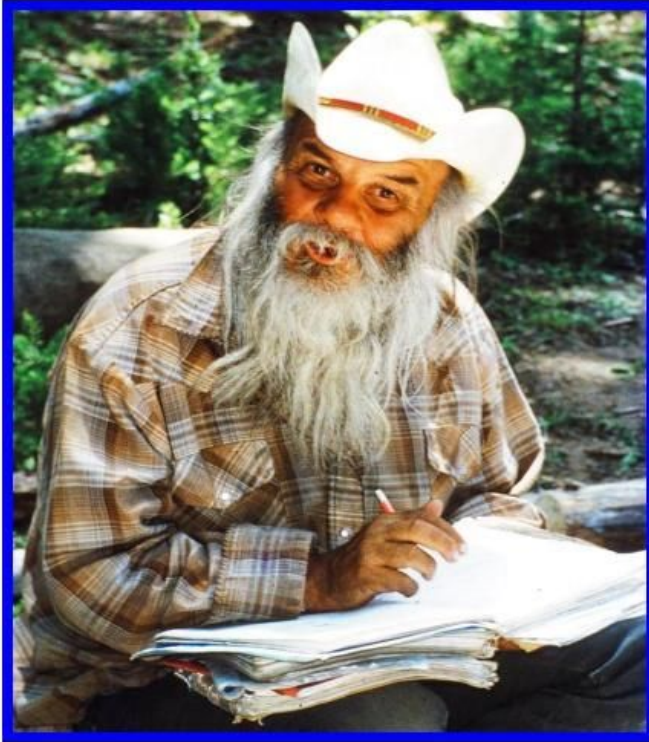


Rainbow Family Life Stories



*by Jodey Bateman.
Interviews with Rainbow
Family of Living Light
folks conducted between
1977 and 2008.
Scanned in 2018.
Jodey Bateman may be
contacted on Facebook,
or jodey.bateman@yahoo.com*

Howdy Family ... For those of you who want to skip the Preface and dive right in, these stories are best viewed on a computer or tablet. You can use a phone but it might be hard to read. There are over 100 pdf files here. Some are very large (like 20 mb) and will take a long time to load depending on your connection. Please contribute to the [magic hat](#) if possible. And most of all, thank you Jodey Bateman for your incredible labor of LOVE! Enjoy! ☺



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5. Starting from Granby

The people in this section of the book became involved with Rainbow at the first gathering in 1972 near Granby, Colorado. Most of them have gone on to play conspicuous roles in Rainbow.

The narrators of these stories tell of all varieties of scenes - a cross-section of Rainbow ... from the road people of the Peace Camp in the account by Carlos to the largely upper middle class All One Family mentioned by Medicine Story and Red Dave.

There is much here that could be cross-referenced to help make a definitive history of the counter-culture. For example, JaySun tells about setting up the first People's Park in Berkeley in April and May, 1969. In the previous section, Sunny tells about being there for the second attempt at People's Park in September, 1970. Later on in this book, Billy Star shows in his account how People's Park became a permanent Berkeley institution in the late Seventies.

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- A. [Sage \(Felipe's daughter\) "Young Sun Dancer"](#), 2 pgs
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Chronic runaways, abused children, drug addicts, people with severe mental and physical illnesses ... in this section are examples of how these people find help for their problems in Rainbow and find a new dignity and hope.

- A. [Kashfi, Lucas & Haya "Give Each Other Strength"](#), 8 pgs
- B. [Nashema & Banjo Jennie "I Never Grew Up" & "The New Mommy"](#), 20 pgs
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8. Four Long Views

Foxfire and Grey Eagle both remember U.S. society before World War II ... long before most Rainbow people were born. Tisa was part of an early sixties scene that is ancient history for many in Rainbow. And although Sarra is considerably younger than the first three, she grew up in a vigorous wide open Communist Party subculture in Canada of a sort that had long vanished in the United States so that to her, the left wing is not something that began on college campuses in the late sixties as it is for so many in the USA. Thus Sarra has a "long view" ... a memory of a world that survived much longer in Canada than it did in this country.

- A. [Foxfire "The Anarch"](#), 17 pgs
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- 10. Eden Hot Springs

At the opposite extreme from STP was Eden Hot Springs, also known as Healing Waters, a place that was a center for the kind of people who are sometimes derisively called "high holy hippie elders." There was a run-down old hotel at the springs near Safford, Arizona. Stephen Gold rented the hotel probably around the beginning of 1975. He remodeled it and opened it up as a hip resort. He held several Healing Gatherings there out of which the All One Family was founded - a group which placed great emphasis on herbal and psychic healing. The main difference between Eden's Healing Gatherings and the Rainbow Gathering was that you had to pay to go to Eden. Also no meat was to be consumed on the premises. Some of the hard-core "road dogs" in Rainbow used to make a point of trying to get into Eden free and eating meat there. Finally Eden had to close because of the hepatitis epidemic described by Red Dave. Later Mick Jagger of the Rolling Stones bought the place for the use of his family and friends.

- A. [Fox "In Cosmic Terms"](#), 5 pgs
- 11. [Jodey's Introduction "The Christ Family"](#), 2 pgs
 - A. [Star Bearer "I Caught the Energy"](#), 7 pgs
 - B. [Clay "In and Out of the Robe"](#), 5 pgs
 - C. [Saint Stephen "It Takes 100%"](#), 11 pgs

12. Flowering Tree

Flowering Tree is in some ways like the inhabitants of a Pawnee Indian earth lodge. In Gene Weltfish's words, "The personal (of the earth lodge) was likely to change from season to season." A group of people, fluctuating in size and composition calls itself Flowering Tree and tries to travel together and find land to rent or caretake. When Flowering Tree has land, then to a lesser extent than the old-time Pawnees, the Flowering Tree household "within itself produces the whole material and social base for an ongoing community."

These accounts were taken down at the Oregon Rainbow Gathering in the summer of 1978 and the Arizona Rainbow Gathering, summer 1979.

- A. Moonstone "Rebuild the Waste Places", typewritten, 13 pgs
- B. Donna "Together Ever Since", typewritten, 4 pgs
- C. Blackjack "My Scarf", typewritten, 3 pgs
- D. Light Owl "On the Road With the Spirit", typewritten, 8 pgs
- E. Ba "Too Earthy, Too Gypsy", 4 pgs
- F. Sky Pony "I Like the Trip", 2 pgs

13. Jodey's Introduction "The Austin Rainbow Co-op House", 2 pgs

- A. Richard (Eagle Feather) "We Lifted a Lid on a Garbage Can", 8 pgs
- B. Michelle "The House Just Happened", 1 pg
- C. Rose "I Have Lived Into a Different World", 22 pgs
- D. Gipcy Tex "The Revolution Was Crushed", 10 pgs
- E. David Earl "I Found True Love Here", 10 pgs
- F. Story on the "Rainbow House" from the Austin American Statesman, with comments by Jodey and Richard, 3 pgs
- G. Harmony "A Real Movie With Real People", 6 pgs
- H. Elizabeth Babblingbrook "The People Here Are My Children", 4 pgs
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14. Preface by Jodey "Oklahoma Rainbow", 1 pg

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- C. [Daniel "My Young Life"](#), 2 pgs
- D. [Sarah with Comments by Coyote "A Child of the Rainbow"](#), 12 pgs
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- B. [Birdie "Open Your Heart and Come Out of the Box"](#), 7 pgs
- C. [Scott "The Community House in Tucson"](#), 6 pgs
- D. [Spring Flower "Rainbow Saved My Life"](#), 19 pgs
- E. [Jackson Unicorn \(Jack\) "The Gathering of the Tribes in 1968"](#),
[1 of 2], 12 pgs
- F. [Jackson Unicorn \(Jack\) "The Gathering of the Tribes in 1968"](#),
[2 of 2], 12 pgs



Preface



Jodey & JaySun, 1981, Usk, Washington

- Garrick's Rap

I first saw Jodey Bateman sitting around a Rainbow Gathering campfire strumming his guitar and singing in I-have-no-idea-what language. He was always like that. He'd ask for requests from various cultures, and when you hollered out some vaguely-known language, he'd ask innocently, "Would you like a sad song, or a happy song." If you said "Happy," he'd ask if you wanted something in the mountain peoples' dialect, or the plains peoples' dialect; and if you said "Mountain," well, he'd ask if you wanted a more modern ballad, or something from the olde style.

What Jodey was showing was the vastness of the human character - in addition to his own seemingly endless playlist.

For years I watched him amble thru Gatherings, his half-cocked cowboy hat always almost falling off, his beater guitar half-dragged behind him, and always, always held under his arm, his spiral-bound notebooks in which he copied down, word-by-word the life stories of the Rainbows.

What an awesome job, scrawling fast as printed letters can be written, in his thick-lettered penciled style. And there he is sitting cross-legged in the dust recording verbatim another tale from Rainbow after Rainbow - getting the truth of people's real lives so much better than it could ever be done with the self-conscious apparatus of a microphone or video recorder. In fact, exactly because of the speed at which he wrote, there were just enough pauses for the person being interviewed to pull their next thoughts together just in time for the writer to catch up and catch the next sentence. He did this for years, capturing the 'Lives of the Rainbows' in an honest-to-God manner that simply brought out the most raw essence of each person's life.

And because of his knowledge of language he captured the dialects, the 'voice' of each person so well, that you can hear them speaking aloud through each word on the written page. What a work of love - and journalism!

Years later, Jodey and I both attended the New England Storytellers Conference at Another Place Community in New Hampshire. After that we were going to Mexico to meet up with Kuiz from the Aztec to participate in the unique Alignment of the Planets Ceremony.

But on the way we had to stop in Oklahoma City so Jodey could get a copy of his Birth Certificate in order to pass the border with proper I.D. Jodey had ordered up his Birth Cert in advance and we went early in the day to the Dept. of Vital Statistics to get it. Walking back toward the car in the wind and rain, Jodey is looking wonderously at that piece of paper muttering about how now he must be a real person after all, since even the government agrees he exists, when the wind pulls the paper from his hand and blows it up high into the air, over a construction site. Jodey is running after it, arms flailing. I scale a small fence and soon we have the embossed paper back in his hands, then folded up and placed inside his jacket pocket for safekeeping.

Next we head to Norman, Oklahoma where Jodey tells us there's a tavern where they know him and he'd like to go see some of his old friends who might still be there. So off we go, and as we enter the bar, the bartender catches site of him and hollers, "It's Jodey! Drinks on the house!" And before I know it they have him on a stool in the corner twanging his guitar and singing, once again, in some verrry foreign language. What a wonderful evening that was.

Before we leave Norman, Jodey wants me to meet up with his brother, Jack, who, it turns out is actually living in a huge old boat of a Cadillac. You know, one of the ones with the giant tail fins from the days when the bigger car you had was the bigger status symbol. But now

the car has seen better days, and even though his brother explains, "If you're going to live in a car, this is definitely the one to choose, because there's really enough room inside to stretch out and get a good night's sleep." He opens the trunk to show how all his living gear fits soooo nicely in there too --- and there in a corner of the immense trunk I see a collection of spiral bound notebooks and Jodey is quick to explain that his brother has been good enough to store them for him here.

I'm practically in shock. These are treasured volumes. And it's already raining on us, and I can see every time the trunk opens they are exposed to the weather, and who knows how long this old boat of a car will even last.

I plead and beg, and finally Jodey lets me take these and wrap them in plastic and I promise, promise, promise to take good care of them and see that they get typed up. His brother is equally concerned: he makes me raise a hand and make an oath to follow up on what I've just said I'd do: protect these writings and see that they get the treatment they deserve.

Well, here we are a third of a century later, and the notebooks are finally getting copied and preserved.

Oh, there's much more to say about Jodey Bateman. Much, much more. He had a history working both in the labor movement, and in the very heart and depths of the Civil Rights Movement's voter registration drives in the deep South. But those are other stories for another time...

Let me say this: nowhere in any of the Rainbow literature is there anything as raw, as real, or as pure, and as profoundly revelatory of who we are, and where we come from than these hand-written Rainbow Family Life Stories.

Garrick Beck
Santa Fe, New Mexico
May 2018

- Henry's Rap

In the wide world of Rainbow, Jodey Bateman is a living legend. He has done what no one else has even attempted ... to interview dozens of our Family and record their life stories with pencil and paper. With his well worn trademark cowboy hat and dog eared spiral notebooks, he is hardly someone you would take for a university educated literary scholar, but as the old saying goes, looks can be deceiving! I have yet to find a single misspelled word or grammatically incorrect sentence in any of his writings.

Jodey was a regular at most of the annual U.S. Rainbow Gatherings between 1975/Arkansas and 2009/New Mexico. The last time I saw him was in 2009 at our Gathering near Cuba, NM. There he was, sitting by Kid

Village with his dog Naomi at his side. He now lives quietly in Silver City, New Mexico where he continues to do what he loves the most ... write!

Several years ago Jodey gave his many notebooks and loose papers to Garrick Beck for safe keeping. Garrick showed them to me back in 2016 and I wondered if they might ever get published for all to enjoy. I couldn't help but think what a tragedy it would be if this man's life work might never be shared with the world. At that time I set a goal to someday find a way to publish Jodey's stories. Today I am happy to finally be able to share them with you.

This has been the result of so many of the high tech advances of the modern era ... the computer, Internet, smartphones, scanner apps. It was also made possible by dovetailing Jodey's project on the tail end of Grey Eagle's slide digitizing party in Santa Fe, April, 2018. Since several of us were already on a roll with that, it only made sense to keep the ball rolling and scan Jodey's.

And there is still more to do and you can help. For more info scroll down or click: [Typing Brigade and Audio Book](#)

- Feather's Rap

I have known Jodey for 38 years, since the 1975 Arkansas Rainbow Gathering. Jodey is family to us! He has lived and worked with us over the years and is a beloved uncle to my children. For the last five years, my oldest daughter, Tracy, has been patiently typing 27 chapters so far, of Jodey's latest book, a historical mystery novel.

Jodey lives in a small cabin in Silver City, New Mexico with his dog, Naomi. He doesn't own a phone, a car, or a computer and walks everywhere he needs to go, including the university library, where he goes nearly every day to write on their computers. Here is a lovely statement one of his neighbors in Silver City, Zen Dancer, recently posted about him.

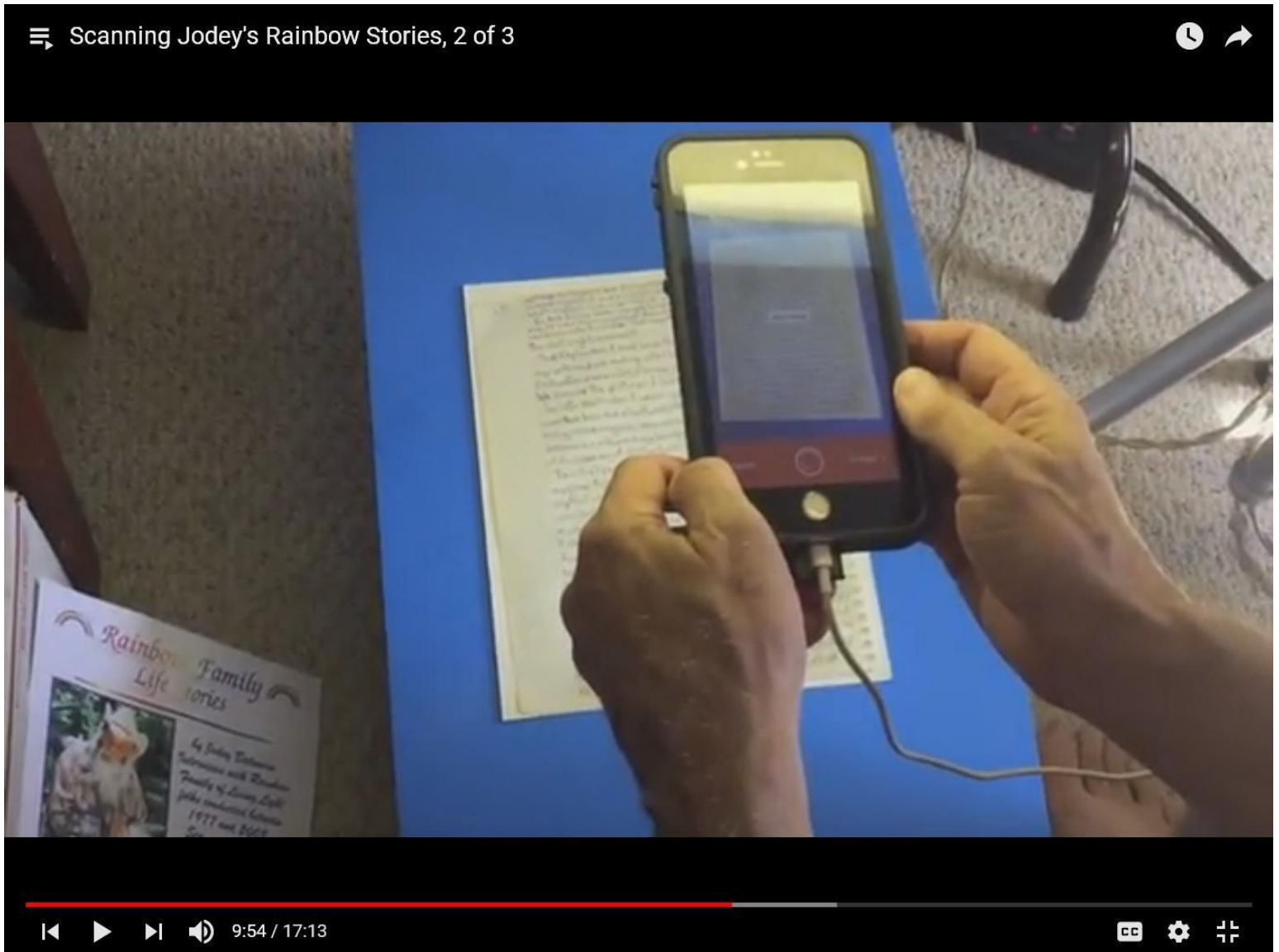
"If you live in Silver most of you know Jodey Bateman from being around the library and Food Basket with his beloved black dog Naomi. He is a most interesting person deserving of all accolades in compiling and interpreting history, compassion, music, ethnic justice and so much more. He does not even know who I am, but I know who he is and have such great respect for one of the most real people in my community."

- Feather's Artwork (future)

- Our Scanning App, Scanbot Pro This is the app we used on Feather's iPhone 6+ to do all the scanning. It runs on both iPhones and Androids and costs only \$7. There's also a free version with less features. Here's the link: <https://scanbot.io/en/features.html>. We were originally going to use traditional flatbed scanners but Scanbot Pro turned out to be much faster. In addition to super fast scanning, it created all the pdf's automatically.
- Scanning Station Photo This is Our scanning station in Faith and Darrell's house in Taos. We used a fluorescent bulb about 18 inches above the pages to provide uniform lighting day and night. The pages were surrounded by blue posterboard so the scanner app had clearly defined page edges. We started scanning on the table in the background and were standing up, but after about 400 pages our backs were killing us. So we moved the whole operation closer to the floor where we could sit down while scanning. Much better ergonomically when you have to rapidly scan 1,000 pages!



- Video Showing the Scanning Process We thought you might enjoy seeing our scanning procedure. Somehow this ended up being 3 vids instead of 1 so Henry put them all into a YouTube playlist that you can watch here: [Scanning Jodey's Rainbow Stories, Playlist](#)



- Magic Hat, Fundraiser Please send PayPal to: paypal.me/HTFiddler

PayPal will normally charge you ~3% but you can avoid this by looking for:

- (i) It's cheaper to send money to friends using bank or balance.

Beware! If you send a gift from a credit or debit card they'll still charge you the ~3%.

If you'd prefer to send a check or money order, email Henry at henry@htfiddler.net. Tell him how much you plan to send and he'll send instructions.

We've been in Santa Fe and Taos, New Mexico doing archiving work for our Family during much of April and May, 2018. This has been to digitize ~10,000+ of Grey Eagle's slides and ~1,000 pages of Jodey Bateman's life stories. This is a combined magic hat/fundraiser for both.

[Please click this link to see an up to date accounting for these important Rainbow Family of Living Light archiving projects.](#)

This fundraiser will continue until expenses are fully paid at which time it will be removed from this file. Thank you for your support Family!

- Scan Quality You'll notice a wide range of quality in these archival pages. Please be aware that these have been stored in a variety of environments over the decades including a car trunk. We experimented with a variety of lighting and Scanbot filters. What you are seeing here is the very best we could come up with. Our apologies for any portions that are difficult to read.
- Typing Brigade and Audio Book As you can see some of these pages are pretty hard to read. What is needed next is to convert them to typed pages either by good old fashioned typing or use speech to text software. We could then get these life stories published in book form. Another option is to create an audio book. If any of this interests you let us know.
- Removing Your Story To have your story removed, please email Henry: henry@htfiddler.net
- Contacting Us

Jodey Bateman, Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/jodey.bateman>, email: jodey.bateman@yahoo.com

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