

Thomas Lacey séance collection

Chicago. GA270-131_001a
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Transcribed by: Transcript Heroes

[Start of recording 00:00:03]

Skipper: Hello, Tom. We just got back and I'm fixing the three reels to send to you. You know, the two just have hash and testing, but we have – we'll write you a letter this way instead of doing it on paper.

Marge and I are sitting here as always, sitting around a table, just talking things over with you.

I'm going to try to see how the recording is. Just a moment.

Marge: Hello Tom, Edith. We're just visiting here and we wanted to say hello to you. We've been thinking about you so much. I wonder if you've got all of your Christmas decorations put up around the house? We're just beginning to decorate our house too, and Jean has a great big wreath on her front door that's just perfectly beautiful.

Skipper: Well, Tom, I checked the recording. Maybe we've got to get a little closer. But let us know if this is loud enough on

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the recording. I'm going to keep it below the sixty cycle, but I still want to get enough volume in, so we can sit back a couple of feet from the mic and have it record.

Well, anyway, Tom, I guess Marge told you about the big blizzard we went through. My guess was about right, through Canada, our ride was nice and clear, with very little snow.

Then we got down through Indiana and the bottom of Lake Michigan, where boy, we really hit a blizzard, from a way east of Elkhart, through to almost the state line of Illinois. When we started, Marge was doing some driving and she got into the snow, till she couldn't see the front of the car.

Then I took it over and we stopped in some of these houses they have along the toll road. It's like, Johnson restrooms with a big lounge, and there were people all over the place – babies and women – who had been there for over twenty four hours, waiting for the snow to stop.

Well, after we got a cup of coffee, we pulled out and kept going. It took us about two hours to get from Elkhart to

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South Bend, a distance of about twenty miles. Boy, it was rugged for a while, but then we passed through that and it was nice going when we got into Illinois.

But Marge, you tell him what you think of the storm.

Marge: Oh, [laughs] I was never so scared in all my life as I was there, and I couldn't stop and even have Skipper drive the car, because I was afraid somebody would crash into me from the back, and I couldn't see the side of the road. So we just had to drive and do the best we could. I hope I will never get into anything like that again.

Skipper: Tom, you can imagine a white car in a snow blizzard. Boy, we had all the lights on all day long.

Marge: Well, when we got back, Tom, Skipper went right over and got your reel, and it was over at the post office waiting for us, and it's the most wonderful Christmas present that we've ever had. We've played it over and over again. Oh, thank you so much for it.

Skipper: Yeah, it was swell. And it included quite a few things that we had discussed at the meeting at Hespeler, but more complete even. And Christmas greetings from all the

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Masters. We've got it right here now, we just transcribed a copy and put it in our file.

By the way, I suppose you know by now that we're running this reel at slow speed. Maybe I should have run it at high speed for you. But at least that reel is so good, and what I'm trying to do now, to get back to science, is to take your reels, record them on our machine, and have it come out without any sixties cycle. And the machines have to be matched perfectly for speed and adjustment.

Now I think what I'll do right in the middle of here, is turn on this Christmas reel we got and transcribe just a little of it now on this reel, so that you can hear how much sixties cycle comes through with the reel. Just a minute.

Marge: Don't go away.

Skipper: Here goes the piece of transcription now.

Tom Lacey: Greetings I saw [unintelligible 00:05:13] that this communication might go directly to you, my associates in Chicago. Very soon you will have the pleasure of this listening to Thomas Edison.

[00:05:53]

Skipper: Say, Tom, I'm going to run that back while Marge talks to you for a minute. I want you to hear your own voice coming back at you. Just a minute.

All right, Babe, you talk to him.

Marge: I suppose he'll be able to hear.

Skipper: No, I'll take it right off this reel and send it back to him.

Marge: Oh, it's too bad you didn't hear that reel, Tom. It was such a beautiful one. We've enjoyed it so much. Now you're going to play it, Skipper?

Skipper: Yeah, let's see if I've got the right place in those.

Tom: Hello, Russell, Marjory, Jeannie and Ronnie and all at home. Thanks very much, Russell, for the reels. They came yesterday morning.

Skipper: Oh, you're much obliged.

Tom: They were delivered by post, without going through the customs at all, so they arrived all right.

Skipper: Well, that's swell. Now we can send reels back and forth, can't we.

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Tom: [Unintelligible 00:07:00]. I was asked to come into the room here and leave myself a message for you from Thomas and [Dekar]. So in a few minutes I'm going to get in condition here and see what can be put on this reel for you.

Skipper: Boy, and this reel is swell. Well, that's enough for the transcribing. Now, let me run back and see how this is recording.

Marge: Hello, Edith - I wanted to tell you, we've had an experience very much like you have when we go up to visit you. We had some fellows that came up here from Purdue -

Skipper: University.

Marge: - from Purdue University, and they were the most interesting men. They wanted to know all about outer space and about science. And I had to feed them, the way you've done for us, and we fixed up a room for them and got them all comfortable. And we spent almost all day yesterday just talking and visiting the way we do when we're with you.

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But these fellows, they wanted to know all about outer space and they listened to the reels, and they were so thrilled, they just pounded their heads as they said, we can't believe it. We know it's true, but we can't believe it. So all together it was the most thrilling experience for them and for us too.

Skipper: Yeah, it was funny about these boys. They brought in some very tough questions to answer. First starting, do you believe in reincarnation? We said, yes and they said, why, how do you know, and a million other questions. Seven questions, and give reasons to each.

Well, we got that over and we got into a lot of things. They're both taking engineering, and this one fellow didn't know whether he should be an atheist or not. Well, I think we convinced him that reincarnation has certain advantages, that line of thinking, and also, he got into the unfairness of some people being born deformed, and why. It's not a good natural law. But I think we got him squared away.

Then we got into engineering, and he insisted electricity is the highest form of energy and I took issue with him and

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said I thought magnetism was higher. Well, I finally stopped him by saying, when you have a transmitter and something going off the aerial, is it not a wave? Oh no, he says, it's electricity.

Then I said, electricity involves the movement of electrons. Yep. Well, electrons have a different mass and a weight. Do you think that there is a definite weight of material going from New York City to Chicago when you're listening? He says, oh no, it couldn't be. Then, says I, why do you call it electricity? And that ended the argument. He finally said, well, maybe I hid something in calling it a magnetic wave.

But anyway, it went on like that for hour after hour and we finally got them started back to Purdue. Now, Babe, you say something.

Marge: Well, we're wondering what they're going to tell their buddies when they get back there, about having listened on the reel to a man from Mars. And being science students, they were so interested in what Dekar had to say.

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At first they wouldn't believe that they could possibly say anything that we wouldn't – well, be able to understand clearly. They thought they were pretty smart. But after just a few minutes of Dekar's talk – well, one of them shut off the machine so we could talk, and he says, honestly, I don't understand what he's talking about. [Unintelligible 00:11:19], it's just got so much more than we know about.

So I feel as if we were really able to give those fellows exactly what they wanted, because Dekar's message just seemed to be beamed right for them. So I hope that Dekar will – well, I hope that we'll be able to help these fellows, because I imagine that a great many – that they'll talk to their friends there at school, and that Dekar's message, particularly about the bombs, will go on from here.

Skipper: Well, they were just so interested, they all want to come back. They made us promise that they could come back any time and listen to reels, and they want to borrow all our books. So I think half of our library is down in Purdue, Lafayette, Indiana now.

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Marge: Well, anyway, I think that ought to make Dekar pretty happy, because that's where his message would do the most good, where it gets to scientific people. And we kept stressing, remember, his message is that we're not supposed to shoot off the bombs, and we had pretty well convinced them that – well, what else about science?

Skipper: Well, Tom, we're going to send off these three reels tomorrow. The outside one will be marked – this has a letter on, the others are hash, as I said. Now, I have not been able to order the coils for the headband as yet, but Monday I'll put in an order for some more, and I have a few days, then I'll make up a new headset for your [conducture 00:12:56] that is without a set, without a headset.

Then I'm going to buy another tape splicer. I've only got the one here now, but I suppose to send that to you, I'd better take it out of the box and bend it up and put some mess around it, so I can call it second-hand, huh?

I'll get that off to you sometime next week.

[00:13:26]

Marge: Well, folks, I hope you're going to have a wonderful Christmas, and Edith, Jeannie and Ronnie got part of that wonderful fruit cake that you gave me, and we all had a party on it and then took some home, and I gave them some of the cookies. And oh, we've just been having the most wonderful time with all those goodies that you gave us to take home.

Now, I hope you'll have a wonderful Christmas. We'll be thinking about you every minute.

Skipper: Well, we certainly enjoyed it up there. I think it's better to take two or three trips a year of short duration, instead of spending a lot of time and then not being able to afford to go frequently.

But this was just right. We got relaxed, everything was swell, it was a nice ride over in the back, so we feel fine, and raring to go now, to get back into business.

Marge: But I hope all you folks aren't all tired out. Well, Merry Christmas to both of you now. We'll think about you and I hope you'll be thinking about us.

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Skipper: I don't think we can talk enough to fill this whole reel but at least the inspectors will know it's used when they hear all this [laughing].

Marge: They certainly will.

Skipper: Well merry Christmas Tom and Edith. The best of luck to you. I hope we see you again soon, hope you can get to Chicago soon.

Marge: Yes, please do. Well, goodbye.

[End of recording 00:15:02]