

[When you dream]

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(Verbatim Conversation)

“When you dream 'bout dem dat dead day sperrit been 'bide wid you when you in sleep. 'E been wanna (want to) tell you somet'ing mos lak, so jes' set youself in mind for somet'ing dat aint go he'p you wedder de storm. One time I dream my mother what been dead long time, was set right dere in de do (door), an' she say, 'Ophelia, is you happy?' den she walk out an' gone. I steady 'bout dat dream all next day, an' I say, 'somet'ing gwine happen,' an' befo anudder day come, deat' (death) meet me in dat same do. Me husband brang home, knock down dead, widout one las' word. I grieve ober dat, but de Lord mobe in a mysterious way an' what 'E do is we Christian duty to oncept. A dream dat rest heaby on you mind in a wisitation ob do sperrit. Look on it wid concern.”

“In dis world dere aint no had (hard) time, an' dere aint no sorrow but what it could a been worser, dere aint no happiness but what it could a been mo happy. Now when you git to Hebben dat different, dere aint no sorrow dere, dere aint no deat (death) dere, dere aint no separation from nuttin, dere aint no hunger. It jes dere, ebery t'ing do sperrit desire.”

Source: Ophelia Jemison, Addison Court, Charleston, S. C.