

Record made in Ybor City, Tampa, Florida, August 24, 1939. [Textual Transcription]

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RECORD 10

(Made in Ybor City, Tampa, Florida, August 24, 1939. Stetson Kennedy, Intermediary, interviewer; Robert Cook, operator, photographer.)

Item:

1) Ziomara Andux, age 13, and her sister, Evelia Andux, age 11, describe a game played by the Cuban children in Ybor City, called "Amambrocha To." To play the game, a group of children line up, with the exception of one who faces the line and sing the first two lines of the song; all the children in the line sing together in response. The game continues until each of the children has been offered some agreeable "work" and have been adopted by the original singer, who takes them and forms a line opposite. When all but one of the children have been "adopted," the game begins again.

As played for the recording, the name "Orbito" is used, because Orbito Andux was playing the game with his two sisters. The work offered him is "cowboy," which is said in English because they could not think of the word for cowboy in Spanish. They say that they often use English words in the game, such as cowboy, G-man, etc.

AMAMBROCHA TO

Amambrocha to, Matandilen dilen, dilen, Amambrocha to Matandilen, dilen don.

Que queria mi Senorita, Matandilen, dilen, dilen? Que queria mi Senorita, Matandilen, dilen, don?

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Yo queria una de sus hijas, Matandilen, dilen, dilen, Yo queria una de sus hijas, Matandilen, don.

Gual de ellas Usted queria, Matandilen, dilen, dilen? Gual de ellas Usted queria, Matandilen, dilen, don?

Yo queria a Orbito, Matandilen, dilen, dilen. Yo queria a Orbito, Matandilen, dilen don.

Que oficio le pondremos, Matandilen, dilen, dilen? Que oficio le pondremos, Matandilen, dilen, don?

Le pondremos "cowboy", Matandilen, dilen, dilen, Le pondremos "coyboy", Matandilen, dilen, don.

Ese oficio si le agrada, Matandilen, dilen, dilen, Ese oficio si le agrada, Matandilen, dilen, don.

Vamos a dar la media vuelta, Matandilen, dilen, dilen, Vamos a dar la media vuelta, Matandilen, dilen, don.

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AMAMBROCHA TO

(English translation)

Amambrocha to, Matandilen, dilen, dilen, Amambrocha to, Matandilen, dilen, don.

What do you want my Senorita, Matandilen, dilen, dilen, What do you want my Senorita, Matandilen, dilen, don?

I want one of your children, Matandilen, dilen, dilen, I want one of your children, Matandilen, dilen, don.

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Which of them do you want, Matandilen, dilen, dilen, Which of them do you want, Matandilen, dilen, don?

I want Orbito, Matandilen, dilen, dilen, I want Orbito, Matandilen, dilen don.

What work will you give him, Matandilen, dilen, dilen, What work will you give him, Matandilen, dilen, don?

I will place him as a cowboy, Matandilen, dilen, dilen, I will place him as a cowboy, Matandilen, dilen, don.

That work is pleasing, Matandilen, dilen, dilen, That work is pleasing, Matandilen, dilen, don.

We will give him the half turn, Matandilen, dilen, dilen, We will give him the half turn, Matandilen, dilen, don.

2) Evelio Andux, age 37, of Cuban parentage (father of French descent), born in Key West, Florida, tells the story of “Miss Martinez Cockroach and Mr. Perez Mouse, in Spanish.

Evelia Andux, age 11, his daughter, tells a different version of the same story.

(The following text is not a translation of the story as recorded, but will serve to give an idea as to its content.

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Miss Martinez Cockroach and Mr. Perez Mouse.

Once upon a time Miss Martinez Cockroach was sweeping the floor of her house when she found a nickel. “What can I do with this nickel?”, she said. “If I buy candy, I will soon

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eat it and when I will have no more,” “If I buy bread, I will soon eat it,” “If I buy a cake, I will soon eat it. Oh my, what will I do? I know, I will buy me some flour.”

So she went to the grocery store and bought herself some flour. Then she dug herself into the flour and came out white all over. Then she seated herself on the porch. Pretty soon Mr. Goat came along. “How beautiful you are, Miss Martinez Cockroach: Do you want to marry me?” “Yes”, said Miss Martinez Cockroach, “But how do you do?” “Baa 'Baa”, said Mr. Goat. “Oh no: you frighten me”. So Mr. Goat went away.

Pretty soon Mr. Cow passed by. “How beautiful you are, Miss Martinez Cockroach: Do you want to marry me?” “Yes said Miss Martinez Cockroach, “but how do you do?” “Moo—Moo” said Mr. Cow. “Oh no: you frighten me”. So Mr. Cow went away.

Pretty soon Mr. Dog passed by. “How beautiful you are: Do you want to marry me?” “Yes”, said Miss Martinez Cockroach, “But how do you do?” “Bow-wow” said Mr. Dog. “Oh no you frighten me”. So Mr. Dog went away.

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Pretty soon Mr. Perez Mouse passed by. “How beautiful you are, Miss Martinez Cockroach: Do you want to marry me?” “Yes” said Miss Martinez Cockroach, “but how do you do?” “Wee—Wee” said Mr. Perez Mouse. “Oh how good:” said Miss Martinez Cockroach. “I will marry you”. So they were married.

One day Miss Miss Martinez Cockroach had to go shopping, so she told Mr. Perez Mouse to watch the stew, but to be very careful and not look inside the pot as he might fall in. When she had left, Mr. Perez decided he would take just one little peep. When he looked inside, the stew smelled so good that he decided he would take one little sip. But when he was going to put in his nose, he fell over and was killed.

After a while Miss Martinez Cockroach came to the house. “Toon, Toon” she knocked at the door, but Mr. Perez Mouse did not come to open the door. Toon toon, she knocked

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again, but still no answer. She was getting frightened. TOON, TOON, she knocked louder, but still the door did not open. So she called Mr. Carpenter to open the door. Mr. Carpenter came along with his hammer and crowbar, and crashed the door down. She ran to the kitchen, and when she looked into the pot, she saw poor Mr. Perez Mouse dead in the stew.

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So she seated herself on the porch, and commenced to sing:

“Pobre ratoncito Perez Cayo en la olla Por la gelocina De una cebella”.

Poor little rat Perez Fell in the stew For the greediness Of an onion.

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REVERSE

Item:

3) Evelio Andux describes an old work song that is sung on the farms of Cuba. He says, “it is a canto juajiro.” (Cuban farmer song.) He continues, “They sing it while digging in the dirt.

Evelio Andux sings the CANTO JUAJIRO, in Spanish, and plays the maracas in accompaniment.

4) A bakery work song is described and sung by Evelio Andux. He explains that he used to sing it when he worked in a bakery in Key West, Florida, where they pulled the dough by hand and threw it from one man to another.

He sings the BAKERY SONG in Spanish, and plays the claves.

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5) An impromptu Cuban lullaby is sung by Martin Noriega and Evelio Andux. (By impromptu, I mean unannounced; they describe it as an old Cuban lullaby.)

6) Evelio Andux describes an old love night serenade which he heard his father sing to his sweetheart in Key West, Florida.

Love Serenade sung by Evelio Andux, in Spanish.

7) (The remainder of Record 10 is a recording of a birthday party, with Evelio Andux, Martin Noriega, and Esther Andux? Rollato. All had been drinking wine. The record was made without the knowledge of the persons present.)

Martin Noriega sings, accompanied by the claves. His songs are cantos juajiros, or Cuban farm songs. (Some are pornographic.)