

SUPERSTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH PREGANANCY

Libby Berryman
May 3, 1972

FOLKLORE AND FOLKLIFE COLLECTION
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1972 200

The superstitions are very numerous and kept alive today. Large families are among the old timers and hillfolk and some believe that a girl will have the same number of children that her mother had, if she allows nature to take its course. When a woman has her first baby lumps or enlargements in the umbilical cord are looked for very carefully, since the number of lumps is suppose to indicate the number of children the woman will have, there is a general notion among some people that more babies are born than in many other month. when a woman first child is born in August it is the sign that she will have many more.

It is said that if a child is conceived in the winter the mother will be subjected to chilled, and if it is conceived in the summer she will have hot flashes and fever.

Some mountainer's wives believe that if a baby's diaper is left in her house by some visiting mother, she herself will shortly become pregnant.

Pregnant bath very seldom, and never in cold water. In some places it is believed that death is a penalty for an expectant mother who crosses a running stream.

A pregnant mother may go about her household tasks as usual, but she should never try to (put up) with fruit, the fruit will spoil every time. A pregnant woman must never jump over the end gate of a wagon or stoop under a horse's neck - if she goes she is certain to miscarry.

The parents may conceive a boy by sticking a knife in the mattress, while a woman who a girl can get results by placing a skillet under the bed.

There is rather a comon idea that the sex of a child is somehow determined by which parent is a more powerful sexually, if the father is most passion, the children will be mostly girls, while if the mother is more sensual then the father there will be many boys in the family.

Some people believe that if a husband sits on his roof for seven hours, his next child will be a boy.

Some people believe that when a pregnant woman carries a baby high, then it will be a female, but if it is carries low, then it is a boy. A woman who is big in the front has a boy, while a woman who carries her baby in the back would give birth to a girl.

When a pregnant woman has a craving for some particular

article of food, every effort is made to satisfy it, because otherwise the child mark of that food.

Children are said to be marked by some sudden feight or unpleasant experience of the mother. A pregnant mother must not look at a dead body, or this might mark the baby or cause it to be born dead.

This is tales given to me by several people. At least they make interesting reading, false or true.

Miss Edie Mudd, February 1972
909 Old Harrods Rd.
Anacorage, Ky.
Catholic

Class "B" text

SUPERSTITION

"If you eat strawberries your child will have red hair."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky.-Davis County

Leslie Kyle, March, 1972
1318 Braudview Rd.
Bowling Green, Ky.-Warren County
Methodist

Class "B" text

"If you eat lots of carrots, your kid will have good
eyesight."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky.-Davis County

Miss Cindy Mann, March 1972
Louisville, Ky. -Jefferson County
Episcopal

Class "B" text

SUPERSTITION

"If you have a lot of freckles you will have
a lot of kids."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky.

Fran Shuffett - March, 1972
Cardinal Heights
Greensburg, Ky.-Green County
Methodist

Class "B" text

SUPERSTITION

"Carry a baby low, it's a boy-- carry a baby high,
its a girl."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky. - Green County

Miss Kim Bright, April 1972
922 East Riverside Dr.- Jefferson Co.
Evangelical

"Class. "B" text

SUPERSTITION

"If you conceive on the night of a full moon
your baby will be a werewolf."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky. - Davis County.

Mary Jane Cleveland, March 1972
3070 Hill Dale Rd.- Jefferson county
Louisville, Ky.
Catholic

Class "B" text

SUPERSTITION

"How many bows you break at a shower, is how many
kids you will have."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky. Davis County

Miss Paula Vance, March, 1972
360 Marigold Lane
Orlando Fla.
Protestant

Class "B" text

SUPERSTITION

"If you are scarred by an animal, the child will have a
birthmark of that animal."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky.-Davis County

Carolyn Kuhn, February, 1972
305 Walker Street
Greenville, Ky.
Baptist

Class "B" text

SUPERSTITION

"If you eat Squirrel meat while pregnant, your baby
will have crossed eyes."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky.- Davis County

Pat Tinsley- June 1972
2311 Donna Rd.
Louisville, Ky
Catholic

Class "B"

SUPERSITITION

"If you rub your syomach with grease while you
are pregnant you won't have any stretch marks after
birth."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky. - Davis County

Miss Debbie Ball, March, 1972
240 Shakertown Rd.
Burying, Ky.
Baptist.

Class "B" text

SUPERSTITION

"If you sleep on the left side it will be a boy, if
you sleep on the right side it will be a girl.

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky.-Davis County

Miss Lois Eigelbach
3820 Sunrise Way
Louisville, Ky. Jefferson County
Lutherian

Class "B" text

SUPERSTITION

"If you eat a lot of salt, your baby will be anemic."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky. Davis County

Miss Eve Lawson, February, 1972
816 Ashland Ave.
Shelbyville, Ky.
Methodist

Class "B" text

SUPERSTITION

"If you exceed 4,000 feet in the air while pregnant
you will have more than one child."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky.-Davis County

Miss Mia Bootjer- March, 1972
362 Hilltop Dr.
North Aurora, Ill.
Lutherian

Class "B" text

SUPERSTITION

"if you you stick out a lot , the baby is a boy.
If you are wide you will have a girl."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky. - Davis County

FOLKLORE AND FOLK LIFE COLLECTION

1972 200

Ginger Humprey, April, 1972
1289 Longhollow Pike
Goodlettsville, Ky.
Church of Crist

Class "B" text

SUPERSTITION

"If you get a perminent while pregnant, it won't
take."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky.-Davis County

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Lynn Goode, March, 1972
4646 Henley Ave.
Columbus, Ohio
Southern Baptist

Class "B" text

SUPERSTITION

"If you get your teeth filled while pregnant the filling
won't stay.

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky. - Davis County

Miss Vickie Van derveer, April 1972
Apt. 23 Hillsbury Rd.
Nashville, Tenn.
Lutherian

Class "B" text

SUPERSTITION

"Attach a nail to a string and hold over the stomach
while pregnant--if it swings to the left it is a boy, to the
right it is a girl."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky.- Davis County

Pam Cantrell, april, 1972
1286 Lucus Street
Louisville, Ky.-Jefferson County
Baptist

Class "B" text

SUPERSTITION

"If a dog bites you while you're pregnant, your child will
be afraid of dogs."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky.-Davis County

Nancy Rossman, February, 1972
107 Elizasceth
Battle Creek, Mich.
Congregational

Class "B" text

SUPERSTITION

"If you listen to classical music the child will enjoy
classics when he grows up."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky.- Davis County

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Midge Rose, February, 1972
124 Wyoming Street
Warsaw, New York
Presbyterian

Class "B" text

SUPERSTITION

"If you eat blue cheese you will have a healthy child."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky.-Davis County

2-24

Miss Laura Tilipko, February, 1972
5550 Fieldston Rd.
Bronx, New York
Lutherian

Class B" text

SUPERSTITION

"If you have intercourse during the eighth or ninth month of pregnancy, the baby will feed on the sperm and tend to be a homosexual."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky.-D vis County

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2-25

Susan Check-June 1972
401 West Cambell Street
Frankfork, Ky
Baptist

Class "B" Text

SUPERSTITION

"If you don't eat 3 eggs a day your kid will be
born premature."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky-Davis County

25

Pat O'Hair- June 1972
400 Commanche Street
Radcliff, Ky
Baptist

Class "B" Text

SUPERSTITION

"If you smoke while you are pregnant your child
will be a slow thinker."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky-Davis County

Miss Jacquie McGrath
No. 8 Cillia Rd.
Louisville, Ky.-Jefferson County
Catholic

Class "B" text

SUPERSTITION

"If you swim in the ocean will pregnant, your child
will have water on the brain."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro, Ky.- Davis County

Miss Vickie Ochelle
3610 Sorrento Street
Louisville Ky.
Methodist

Class "B"

Superstitons

" If you don't eat seasoned food your child won't have any
taste buds."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st St
Owensboro, Ky. Davis County

Miss Debby Armstrong
6811 Dartmouth Drive
Louisville Ky.
Baptist

Superstitions

" If a woman wears glasses while pregnant the baby will also
need glasses."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st.
Owensboro, Ky. Davis County

Jo Ellen Tumbrick- May 1972
425 East 5th. Street
Carrollton, Ky
Catholic

Class "B:

SUPERSTITION

"If you don't eat a lot of protein your hair will fall out"

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21 St
Owensboro, ky Davis County

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Mr. Bobby Smith April 1972
760 Burkley Rd.
Gary Indiana
Catholic

class "B"

Superstition

" If you don't drink a lot of water your finger nails will
fall off."

Miss Libby Bergman
304 21st.
Owensboro, Kv. Davis County

Miss Toni Martin April 1972
340 36th
Louisville Ky.
Baptist

Superstitions

" If you get an electric shock While pregnant your child will
have frizze hair ".

Miss Libby Berryman
304 21st.
Owensboro Kv. Davis County

Miss Linda Rueff March 1972
1134 Nanz Ave.
Louisville Ky.
Baptist

Superstitions

" If a woman plucks her eyebrws during pregnancy the baby will
have no eyebrows."

Miss Libby Bergman
304 21st.
Owensboro Ky. Davis County

234
Miss Diane Westrick April 1972
305 6th Street
Carrollton Ky.
Catholic

Class "B" text

Superstition

" If while pregnant you talk about other peoples children
yours will be deformed."

Miss Libby Berryman
304 East 21st Street
Owensboro , Ky. - Davis County