

**Interviewer**

All right. You ready? And please look at him. Actually before we actually start, let me check the levels. Vince, can you just talk to Arron real quick? Just tell him wherever. Just talk. What did you have for breakfast? Thank you. Do you know what you had for breakfast?

**Vince McIntyre**

Bacon and eggs. What else? Coffee. Yeah. Yeah. No actually a pig that I actually met, turned into bacon. Home grown. Yeah.

**Interviewer**

Levels are good. Alright thank you. All right. Can you just say your name and where where you live? Describe the place. And how old you are.

**Vince McIntyre**

Vince MacIntyre and I'm sixty seven.

**Interviewer**

Can you say my name is? Yeah sorry. When ever. Wait to start talking until Arron's done, because we can't have the overlapping voices. OK. So as soon as he's finished asking questions trying to make your question the same, so he can hear the end and then he starts. Thank you.

**Vince McIntyre**

Start again?

**Interviewer**

Can you say your name?

**Vince McIntyre**

Vince McIntyre.

**Interviewer**

Sorry. So when when he says "can you say your name?" if possible could you say, "my name is Vince McIntyre." You have to work with full

**Interviewer (continued)**

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sentences.

**Vince McIntyre**

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Oh yeah. OK. So my I don't I don't get that language. And so you want to 00:01:38

start. So my name is Vince Macintyre. 00:01:46

**Interviewer**

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And how old are you? I'm sorry. Let's start again. Everyone just make sure 00:01:48  
we're not talking and then you start talking to you it takes up everything.

Be careful. Can you name again? 00:02:04

**Vince McIntyre**

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My name is Vince McIntyre. 00:02:09

**Interviewer**

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And your age? 00:02:11

**Vince McIntyre**

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Sixty seven years old. 00:02:16

**Interviewer**

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And where were you born? 00:02:19

**Vince McIntyre**

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In the west of Ireland. 00:02:21

**Interviewer**

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What do you do now? You're a farmer and what's your occupation now? 00:02:25

**Vince McIntyre**

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My, I'm a farmer and I do a woodworking and... A jack of all trades you 00:02:35  
might as well call me.

**Interviewer**

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How long have you lived here? 00:02:50

**Vince McIntyre**

I have lived here, since 1979. I found this place by accident and decided to camp here with my girlfriend in 1979 she was a mountaineer. And we made our temporary camping in here, 30 years later still here.

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00:03:06

**Interviewer**

What made you decide to move up here?

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**Vince McIntyre**

I just needed... I had been living in a big wall tent and I burned it down and I needed another place to camp. And that was just a temporary solution.

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00:03:29

**Interviewer**

So when you moved here was, what was your plan?

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**Vince McIntyre**

When I come here it was a base camp to go on the mountain.

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**Interviewer**

Did you have an idea of how long you might be here?

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**Vince McIntyre**

I didn't I didn't know how long because it was unauthorised occupation of Crown land and how long it would have, what the implications of that. I didn't understand or know about at the time so I never seen it. Even today I don't see it as permanent. I see it as my camp. Yeah.

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00:04:04

00:04:09

00:04:12

**Interviewer**

Since you've been here since 1979, does it feel more permanent?

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**Vince McIntyre**

It feels very permanent in the sense that it feels like home. This is the most at home I feel any place since I left my, the place I was born. So this is where I decided in the world to settle down.

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00:04:37

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**Interviewer**

Was there something special about this place that made you feel like this is a good place to settle? 00:04:43

**Vince McIntyre**

Definitely it is a beautiful place. And when I come here one time to help somebody get firewood it was an old clear cut and all the trees were down but it was so beautiful the panorama of the mountains and the lake and all that that, oh that would be a nice place to live. Yeah. 00:04:51  
00:05:09

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**Interviewer**

Was there, was there something that that gave you a feeling, of home when you when you found it or did home happen in a more organic way? 00:05:11  
How did that happen? 00:05:23

**Vince McIntyre**

I think you know. Well when when Amber was you know my daughter was two and a half years old I'd brought her up here because I wanted it because my girlfriend at the time she, we were both of us were homeless. And I was wondering where we're going to spend the winter. And there was an old man and Johns's landing. He wanted me to get him some polls for his chicken house to build and he knew there was a nice straight cedar pulled up here. So I take Amber up here and we get some polls. But in the process Amber forgets her red shoes. So I had bring her back up here to get her red shoes. So I brought my girlfriend up here and. I would just want to see how she felt about the place. And she was just totally amazed by the place. So there I knew it was, from there I knew... you know both of us like it here. So this was in October of 1979. We wanted to make a camp. And back then I could really work hard. And we we wanted to make it so it wasn't really visible or whatever because it was on crown 00:05:28  
00:05:50  
00:05:56  
00:06:03  
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00:06:23  
00:06:26  
00:06:35  
00:06:44

**Vince McIntyre (continued)**

land. So I start digging down here and she helped me. And we made that 00:06:56  
little downstairs place. With a store where I cut off a 45 gallon drum and 00:07:04  
put a hole for a lid and put it on the ground that was our fire for the  
winter. And we put the roof on the snow. And that's how we started here. 00:07:14  
And then the next spring on wondering if it was it wasn't too cold to grow 00:07:22  
a garden up here so we planted. And she was a gardener and she loved 00:07:29  
the whole horticulture thing. She's beautiful gardener flower she knew all 00:07:34  
the Latin names. Every plant in the forest out here. 00:07:38

**Interviewer**

Was that Gladda? 00:07:44

**Vince McIntyre**

That was Gladis yeah. Yeah. 00:07:45

**Interviewer**

Can you say more about the first year here and what it was like to be 00:07:48  
through out the season?

**Vince McIntyre**

We, the next spring, we started to see you out here it was just really deep 00:07:55  
slash you know from the debris from logging because back when the log,  
they just knocked everything down. This was the first clear cut in the 00:08:07  
Lardo Valley here. It was little, 40 acres. And when the loggers I knew the 00:08:11  
old man that log here and he told me you know. When the new regulations 00:08:22  
come in for clearcutting because they didn't take it seriously when the log  
they just took out the stuff they could sell and they left the rest standing.  
They got sent in to knock it all down. So that's when I come here, that's 00:08:32  
what it was like. People have been up here to get firewood and fencing 00:08:36  
material and all that but basically it was, you needed cork boots to get

**Vince McIntyre (continued)**

around here is quit. So next spring we started clearing some of that up 00:08:45  
and making burning some of it and taking some of it out. That's what our 00:08:53  
place up here is built out of stuff that come out of the slash. Yeah. 00:09:00

**Interviewer**

It looks like some of it... 00:09:01

**Vince McIntyre**

Somebody come to a fire from like 1905 or something like that. There was 00:09:05  
old, old Cedar snag standing dead. But when I found them they had been 00:09:14  
cut down.

**Interviewer**

What were some of the challenges in that process? 00:09:18

**Vince McIntyre**

I guess we were first of all the whole feeling of being illegal. Being on 00:09:28  
Crown land and not you. That's something I had to deal with whether or 00:09:39  
not we were going to get eviction orders or whatever. And that kind of 00:09:45  
stuff stayed with me for a few years. And then I got over that. And then as 00:09:48  
I got over that then and become more I've become more of, home.  
Because you know I got more attached to the place. Now and you know 00:10:00  
now this is it for me. Probably. 00:10:06

**Interviewer**

When you say that before that you didn't have a home. You went from... 00:10:08  
what was your feeling of what home was before you came here and  
started making a home?

**Vince McIntyre**

I guess you know my when I think of home I think of the little thatch 00:10:23  
house I was born in in the west of Ireland. I still think of it as that. But I felt 00:10:30

**Vince McIntyre (continued)**

like a drifter, traveler. I had you know traveled a lot around BC and just seeing what was happening and I'd go down to the coast sometimes I'd go up to that caraboo the Chilcote and camp and then find some work to do for somebody. I work for a hay rancher up there cattle rancher. That's where I first use horses in BC was helping an old rancher put up, hundreds of acres of hay, with horses. The only machine he had on a tractor machine he had was the mower and everything else he did with the horses cutting it and stacking it. Picking it up and stack it and heavy and then an Indian family.

**Interviewer**

Did that experience remind you of, a former time when you had connection with the horses when you were growing up or? Or did that was that more of a new thing for you?

**Vince McIntyre**

It was when... it just brought me back to my childhood to where we did before before the tractor, with people everybody had tractors. We did. My father he was a horseman. Helped him when I was like 10 years old and stuff. I learned to drive horses. And it's not that I wanted to do it back then but I learned enough by that observation to be able to do it. And I got older.

**Interviewer**

Can you talk more about the just learning by seeing other people do it or observation or growing up with that? That informed.

**Vince McIntyre**

I think, for a person to learn the horses out of a book it's difficult and with information and if you don't have the. Some sort of like a lot of people I

## Vince McIntyre (continued)

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find that with the first introduction the horse is treated like a machine. The people, you say will and the brakes are on you know. And to me it's more like being on a boat, in rough water that there's always movement going on and you always have to be in touch with the movement with horses. You can't just say oh I got that figured out and then drift off. When you do that your horses drift off. So it takes a lot of focus. For me it's it's a discipline it's actually maybe like somebody doing yoga or something like that because you it really takes you out yourself makes you focus on that. And yeah you have to be like that to make a horse thing work for you and keep an even temper. So if you get angry with your horses you're in trouble. They feel that right away and they don't. It takes... have to be stoical.

## Interviewer

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I'd imagine that that would be similar with other aspects of life, this way.

## Vince McIntyre

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I think is a lesson riding the horses. Keep you humble. Because you know you a tractor, people get on a big machine and they have that power. But with a horse you have to you have to be polite. You have to ask them you have to get their willingness and attention. And with a tractor you don't have to do that.

## Interviewer

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You have to make a connection.

## Vince McIntyre

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And then also the whole feeding and care process like that I would say that I wouldn't I wouldn't call myself a good horseman by any means I know a good horseman but I would never say that I'd be a good guy to