



Bio & Character Sketch of Helen Elizabeth Scott

April 1, 1913 - October 10, 2003

Age in April, 1923: 9 Age at Death: 90

Age when picture was taken: (est) 9

James Scott's Son, Carl Earl Scott

Helen Elizabeth Scott was born in Chicago on April 1, 1913 to James and Lucille Scott.

At the age of seven, Helen moved with her father to Columbia, Missouri where she likely enrolled in the Frederick Douglass School. Her teacher was likely his future step-mother, Gertrude Carter (Scott).

There is little known about Helen's life up to the point where her father was lynched, but immediately after the lynching, both Helen and her brother, Cal were taken back to their mother in Chicago.

After she grew up, it is believed that Helen married but she had no children.

In the feature, Helen's father, James her and her brother to see Doug and Clyde, two dogs who are kept at the Missouri University Medical School's Animal House where animals slated for medical experiments are kept. James takes the children to feed the dogs on a regular basis. Helen is very sensitive and she is concerned about what will happen to the animals. She seems to know at her young age that the animals are destined for death.

Later in the feature, after his father is lynched, the pastor from Carl's church visits the family along with a group of church members bearing food and lit candles. Carl tugs on one church member's sleeve to ask if he knew his father. The church member responds "Yes, Yes I knew your father. And he was a very good man." The story behind this scene is remarkable; the church member Carl approaches will actually be one of James Scott's grandsons – an actual "son" of Carl Earl Scott. The 8-year-old, "young Carl" will be meeting his real 80-year-old son.

SIDES

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Cages line the walls. Dogs, cats, and monkeys—some bandaged, some scarred—watch from behind bars. James releases two dogs into the small room and reaches into his pocket.

JAMES

Now kids, don't tell Mamma that I brought some of last night's roast for Doug and Clyde. Doug, Clyde? That goes for you too.

James hands treats to Helen and Carl. They feed the dogs. After Clyde finishes, Helen's expression shifts—wondering, questioning.

HELEN

Daddy, are the doctors going to hurt Doug or Clyde?

James hesitates. The question hangs between them.

JAMES

Doug and Clyde are going to be just fine baby girl. They're heroes because they're going to help sick people get better.

HELEN

I asked Jesus to take care of them.

JAMES

Know what? I bet Jesus Himself would love to have dogs like Doug or Clyde.

Doug and Clyde continue eating from Carl's hand.