I'm Sarny and they be thinking I'm dumb and maybe up to witchin' and got a stuck tongue because when birthed they say I come out wrong, come out all backwards and twixt-and-twinst. (14)

...they be thinking because I don't make noise and go to twattering all the time that I be dumb. (15)

gossip talking silliness

I'm Sarny and the other part of my name be the same as old Waller who wants to be master but is nothing. Nothing. I don pack part of my name no more than I count old Waller himself. No more than I count spit. (15)



Waller puts great store in the sticks and watches them like an old hawk watching the chicken pens. (16)

It isn't for certain how old I am except for the sticks....

By the stick I am going into the same year as all the fingers on both hands, fold them down, then hold up the thumbs. (16-17)

Im twelve.

The house women are fond of leaving the window open and talking all their business right there. (17)

discussing private matters

I thinks of all the things I have learned that day and then I tries to add them to the things I learned the day before that. I've been doing that as long as I can remember, since I was almost just walking, and I remember all the parts of my life. If there is time of an IFI have hime evening and I haven't been worked to the bone I can just lay there in the dark and think on all my time and remember it. (18)

