

how Bubba feels about his little sister. (*Showing another string trick.*) Teepee.

G.W. Well, I never though that Darrel Koontz never was worth a good goddamn anyhow. Any man who beats a woman is no man at all.

ODELL. He's in group therapy for abusive husbands now. A buncha wife beaters gets together onced a week with this specialist in wife beatin' and they purge. Some of 'em are dead-beat dads too. There used to be two groups, one for wife beaters and one for dead-beat dads, but so many crossed over from one group to the next, that they merged. (*Thinks.*) Hey, they merged and they purged.

G.W. Purged?

ODELL. Uh-huh. That's when you all kinda spew forth your story and then you feel better after'n you spew forth. Darrel says it works. Hadn't laid a hand on Mozelle since he started purgin'. Said it disgusts him now. 'Course I think that whoppin' mighta had somethin' to do with it.

G.W. Well, I probably shoulda married Mozelle instead of Noleta, then maybe I wouldn't been compelled to fool around and Peggy woulda still been alive. Life is a big ol' pile of shit, Odell.

ODELL. You know G.W., no offense, but you're startin' to get on my nerves. I mean, get off the cross, buddy—we need the wood! (*Pause.*) That was a joke, G.W. You know, to lift your spirits.

G.W. Uh-huh. Well you of all people have a lot of gall to say that I'm gettin' on your nerves when you stay on ever'body's nerves about 99.9 percent of the goddamn time!

ODELL. I'll have you know, a lotta people find me to be a very interesting person.

G.W. Who?

ODELL. Vera Lisso over at the Piggly Wiggly.