

ODELL. I'm gettin' to that, G.W. (*He takes another string out of his pocket.*) Well, as I rounded the corner to where they was all lined up for the porta potty, that's when I witnessed the whole shebang. That kid and a bunch of his buddies. They all looked like juvenile delinquents to me. They was holding that pig down while they was sticking a garden hose and puttin' water down that poor ol' pig's throat. Well, I yelled out, "Hey what you boys doin' to that pig?" And the biggest one said "Don't you never mind. This here's my pig. Just go drain ya pipe." Told me to go drain my pipe. Well, about that time (*Chokes up again.*) I'm sorry, but the vision—it haunts me, G.W.

WARDELL. (*Re-enters.*) You mean to tell me, you ain't finished?

ODELL. I got sidetracked.

WARDELL. Naw!

ODELL. Shut up, Wardell.

WARDELL. Don't you tell me to shut up or I'll whoop your ass!

ODELL. Go to hell, Wardell!

WARDELL. Lead the way!

ODELL. (*Back to G.W.*) So, I started to go on my way and just forget about the whole thang when that poor ol' pig fell over, started wallerin' around and convulsin', then...(*Close to tears.*)...it just lay down and...and—

WARDELL. Died. The damn pig died! Kaput! Done! Finished! End of story. *Next!*

ODELL. Didn't even get to compete in the fair.

WARDELL. Yeah, well that's a damn shame. But I guess now that life can go on, huh, G.W?

G.W. Except for the pig's.

(*G.W. starts laughing.*)

WARDELL. (*Joins in.*) Except for the pig's. Goddamn! That's a good 'un.

ODELL. Well, it's not funny!

WARDELL. Oh, yeah it is. That's the first time G.W.'s laughed since Peggy died.

*(G.W. suddenly stops laughing and begins to cry.)*

G.W. Shit... shit...

ODELL. (*Pats G.W. on the shoulder.*) It's okay, buddy. I know how you feel, G.W. I still have nightmares over that pig myself... with water spewin' out of it's nose and snout—

G.W. (*Exploding.*) I don't give a shit about that filthy, dirty, slop-eating, mud-wallerin' pig, Odell! I have killed a woman by irresponsibly leaving these legs in the middle of the motel room after we made long passionate love.

WARDELL. Oh my Lord.

G.W. And I haven't killed a person since Nam. And I didn't love any of them slant-eyed gooks. And killin' them has haunted me for years. So how am I s'pose to go on after killin' someone I love? Huh? You'll get over that pig, Odell. I ain't ever gonna get over killin' Peggy.

WARDELL. G.W., go easy on yourself, buddy. She tripped on your legs on her way to the bathroom. It's not your fault. It was an accident. Coulda happened to anyone.

ODELL. Anyone with two wooden legs, you mean.

WARDELL. Shut up, Odell!

ODELL. Go to hell, Wardell!!

WARDELL. Lead the way!!!

*(Pause. ODELL starts doing another trick.)*