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A LITTLE MUD FOR HIS TURTLE

You were doing so well. Had that girl. . . (The blonde with the money.) Two cars and a country house. Until that unfortunate dalliance With an aspiring chanteuse Who looked good under the footlights And was oh so energetic. . .

You woke up soooo hungover Like the seven dwarves Were hi-ho hi-hoing Through megaphones in your head Too many double scotches And too little memory Lying there sweaty on the bed Beside a girl who was calling you "Baby."

"Well, honey, there was this girl. . ." You hear yourself saying To your dear wife and her lawyer. As she glares and he takes notes "I didn't mean to. . ." The blonde thing sits up in bed And you notice the makeup That mixed very well with scotch. You wish you'd chewed your arm off. . .

Nobody knew you at that bar. . . You were just slumming Getting a little mud for your turtle. Getting some dirt on your shoes. Sure beats blood on your hands. Or a mark on your permanent record. Or a skeleton in your closet Just in case you ran for president someday.

Jon Paulette