

The Good People — The Holy Bible

They were up on a picnic table at that park by the lake, by the edge of the lake, with part of a downed tree in the shallows half hidden by the bank. Lane A. Dean, Jr., and his girlfriend, both in bluejeans and button-up shirts (22:5). They sat up on the table's top portion and had their shoes on the bench part that people sat on to picnic or fellowship together in carefree times. They'd gone to different high schools but the same junior college, where they had met in campus ministries (2:18). It was springtime, and the park's grass was very green and the air suffused with honeysuckle and lilacs both, which was almost too much (1:9-10). There were bees, and the angle of the sun made the water of the shallows look dark. There had been more storms that week, with some downed trees and the sound of chainsaws all up and down his parents' street (8:24). Their postures on the picnic table were both the same forward kind with their shoulders rounded and elbows on their knees. In this position the girl rocked slightly and once put her face in her hands, but she was not crying. Lane was very still and immobile and looking past the bank at the

Deuteronomy 22:5 It is not right for a woman to be dressed in man's clothing, or for a man to put on a woman's robe: whoever does such things is disgusting to the Lord your God.

Genesis 2:18 Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." Genesis 1:9-10 And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good.

downed tree in the shallows and its ball of exposed roots going all directions and the tree's cloud of branches all half in the water. The only other individual nearby was a dozen spaced tables away, by himself, standing upright. Looking at the torn-up hole in the ground there where the tree had gone over. It was still early yet and all the shadows wheeling right and shortening. The girl wore a thin old checked cotton shirt with pearl-colored snaps with the long sleeves down and always smelled very good and clean (2:9-10), like someone you could trust and care about even if you weren't in love. Lane Dean had liked the smell of her right away (4:7). His mother called her down to earth and liked her, thought she was good people, you could tell (3:1-3)—she made this evident in little ways. The shallows lapped from different

Timothy 2:9-10 And that women may be dressed in simple clothing, with a quiet and serious air; not with twisted hair and gold or jewels or robes of great price; But clothed with good works, as is right for women who are living in the fear of God. Song of Solomon 4:7 You are all fair, my love; there is no mark on you.

1 Peter 3:1-3 Wives, be ruled by your husbands; so that even if some of them give no attention to the word, their hearts may be changed by the behavior of their wives, When they see your holy behavior in the fear of God.