

The Orbs of Kosh County: The Forest Knows Everything

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Bible Scriptures in this book are from the King James Version.

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Introduction

Former Major League pitcher Klem Karrington owns a perfect general store and campground in Kosh County. It's a great place for families to explore the woods, fish and escape the bustle of everyday life. But when Congressional hopeful Melvin Atwater is assassinated near those woods another world is unleashed. Get inside the Orbs of Kosh County now!

Chapter 1 - Klem Karrington

If there are secrets in Kosh County; there is a good chance Klemson "Klem" Karrington knows them. Klem is a main fixture of Kosh County and has been for his whole life.

Klem, now 60 years old, is a business owner in the county and is one of its living legends. Klem was a huge baseball star at Kosh County High School. His left arm was electric. His senior year of high school he was throwing the baseball at 91 mph, which in 1981 was unusual. Despite his parents' wishes that he attended Clemson University as they had; Klem chose Long Beach State in California. LBS was a long way from Indiana.

Klem knew about the gang rape that took place his junior year in high school. The boys accused were athletes and everything was brushed under the table, but Klem knew it was true. He had been at the party

before the event, and he knew that everyone involved had been too drunk to make good decisions. Klem knew the true story.

Klem attended LBS and his freshman season was one to behold. He threw just 49 innings and struck out an astounding 71 batters. Scouts were enamored but Klem wanted his degree. He had hopes of becoming a business owner. He wanted a place in the woods where he could hunt and fish and run a little bait shop. Baseball was going to be his way to that end. The White Sox drafted him in the 12th round anyway and Klem chose to stay in college.

Klem saw Drew Ryan shooting heroine the night he was drafted from LBS to the Atlanta Hawks. Ryan a 6-9 power forward was an NBA team's dream. A highflyer with a jump shot. Ryan led LBS into the Sweet 16 of the NCAA tournament. He caught the eye of every scout. Klem saw Ryan shoot heroine several times. The night of the draft he died. Ryan overdosed and ESPN and every other outlet ran specials about how clean

Ryan had been and how this had to have been a celebration gone wrong.

Klem knew different. Ryan was an abuser.

Klem's Junior year was a disaster. Shoulder and elbow problems limited him to just nine innings before LBS chose to redshirt him. Klem knew it was best for his development and a chance to play in the big leagues. It began to derail even further. In October, the phone call you would never want as a child. Klem received a call from Kosh County Sheriff's Department. Klem's mother and father had a terrible car crash and it resulted in the death of both parents. Klem knew his father had suffered from depression and mental illness for years. He loved his father. He loved his mother even more. There were rumors that maybe Klem's father had made the choice to wreck the car on purpose. The secret that Klem knew was that his mother had recently been diagnosed with inoperable brain cancer. She was given just a few days to live. So, maybe his father had chosen to end the life of he and his wife, but not for reasons people thought.

The next season Klem fought through his emotions and his pain of rehabilitation and was okay, but nothing set him apart. He was a little above average, but his last year was different. He met a girl, Katrina Monk. She was a star of the LBS Volleyball team, and she helped Klem find his self-worth and in the process, he found his fastball. As a left-handed pitcher who the scouts had known before, he hoped they would rediscover his ability just as he had. They did.

That season Klem felt more like himself than ever before. He tossed 101 innings and struck out 179. The scouts noticed. He was a second-round pick of the Pittsburgh Pirates, and he signed a bonus of \$500,000. He and Katrina would be set. He went back to Indiana for the first time since his parents' funeral. His agent, Mark Furly, helped him buy a company. Furly didn't like the plan, but he helped Klem buy Moe's General Store on the banks of the river in Kosh County. Furly also helped him negotiate a contract of 1.75 million dollars guaranteed over three years.

Klem blew through the minor leagues in a season and half and made his debut in the Pirates bullpen for the August and September months of that second season. Klem was sensational. He threw 21 innings and struck out 24. He only allowed one home run, that a three-run blast by the Cincinnati Reds Eric Davis. Furly helped him sign a two-year extension for another guaranteed 3 million dollars. Klem pitched the last three years and was a major part of the Pirates bullpen. But after five seasons, Klem didn't have the desire to pitch and play. He was happy to retreat to his newly named, Klem's Kosh Kounty Kampgrounds and Kanteen. Alliteration at its greatest, Klem thought. Klem wanted it to be "Klem and Katrina's Kosh Kounty Kampgrounds and Kanteen", but Katrina and Klem split during that last year of Klem's season with the Pirates.

Katrina had met another man. She thought Klem didn't know. But like most secrets, Klem knew. Maybe that was part of the reason that he was done with playing ball or maybe it was just time. But for sure, Klem was in Indiana running his store. It was wildly popular as at first people wanted to be there simply because Klem was a hero but soon Klem's

store was popular because it was the best place to shop in Kosh County. Getting Klem to tell stories of his time in the major leagues was the gravy on top.

But the biggest secret Klem knew was the Orbs. The Orbs of Kosh county. Yep, Klem knew the Orbs were real. Yep, they are real.

