

THE REVENGE OF OLD MEN - General notes

~~E, here are some things that bother me.~~ 1. ~~Lou, the narrator.~~  
Your narrative style is good and alive. But Lou's attitudes are unclear and seemingly contradictory. At times he seems cynical, at other times overly <sup>naive</sup> naive. Then again he has sort of a quirkish humor (like when he slaps his own head or talks to himself). He's Candi's lover but he doesn't really talk to her or act toward her or think about her like one who loves her. This really hurts the story a lot. He's a newspaperman and often quite tough-talking. But after the scene between Jim and Gilbert--the two having just made a perfectly common deal between two politicians on the make--he is not only amazed but thinks he's "dreaming." He's a Cajun and apparently a relative of the Fixes, but he doesn't act at all as though he feels at home there. He doesn't seem particularly sympathetic toward anyone (except Beep-Beep), which is ok. But it did turn me off a bit. If he could at least have shown some tenderness toward Candi when she was really low. His main passion seems for football. This is ok. Perhaps you could make him a sports-writer. But that still doesn't solve his lack of feeling about other matters.

2. Jayc. In a way he's the central character. The action centers around him--though he himself is very little in evidence. In the beginning and again the end he seems to be a sort of people's hero. They look up to him, follow his advice, etc. However whenever he is shown he is very unlikable. He is forever smiling sarcastically, making set speeches and showing himself to be arrogant, intolerant, and he doesn't say one thing that shows a direct warm contact with a human being, black or white. I understand Lou's dislike for him because of course Lou is jealous (though he doesn't seem to be aware of it). I suspect that you, the author also dislike him and it shows. It shows.