

THE DAMMED

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In 2009, the odds that a major flood would hit the Green River valley of western Washington, inundating the city centers of Kent and Auburn and parts of Renton, Tukwila, and Pacific, along with thousands of acres of farms, industrial parks, factories, shopping malls, schools, and homes were one in three, roughly equivalent to the frequency that favorites win at Emerald Downs.

There is a line
You can never step on twice
Where the Duwamish runs Green
The Puyallup Stuck White
The Cedar
Falls

Where barracuda go to die
But salmon leap
To spawn forever
In the dreams
Of the dammed

The Dammed

1

Kent Auburn, private eye
Kang Lee, his man

Bonney Lake, the fiancée
Until Sumner
Came his way

The karaoke keystones
Cumberland, Kummer
And Krain

And Renton
That Renton
Whose Barbee Mill
Was one prime thrill
Of a woman

Or so she seemed

Al Gona, The Gopher
Joe Vita, The Muscle
Glen Dale, Boy Wonder
Kenny Dale, The Blunder
And Veazie?
Yeah, Veazie

--I'm no bigot, I'm a fist fighter
 But Kang Lee know kung-fu
 Kent Auburn
 Cracked pidgin
 To show he was
 One of them
 Not of those

Kent Auburn
 Nobody's phony
 Phoning was
 For secretaries
 --Lee, tell Al Gona
 To put a tail
 On Ravensdale

--We have a job, boss?
 --A hunch from a quip
 On the tip line:

--*Some nerve easy*
Rave end's tale can ask at
How word hands unperch gangley, boys
He saw your
Water shed
Cask aid to see

3

Meanwhile, Bonney Lake
Taps out
At the Muckleshooting slots
Goes home to
Stick pins in
His prom photo face

Home over
The valley
Damned by the
Dammed of the
Damned

He liked to play clever
Like he was dumb
To fool a square
Like Captain Cumberland

On Karaoke Night at the City Hall
He popped
For a shot
While the keystones caterwauled

--I'm telling you, Auburn
Don't even scratch your ass
Without clueing us in

--Well, if it isn't the
Quart-low Quartet
Clue you in, Cumberland?
Screw you in a light bulb
And get your own idea.
Hit it, boys

He dropped a dime
To make them sing
To fool around like
Cumberland, Kummer, and Krain

--Rafting and tubing
While running the rapids
Wading and swimming
To liquidate assets
Donning a wetsuit and pumped waterwings
These are a few of my favorite things

Mexico City
The time of the conquest

Kona or Fiji
Right after a tempest
Gondola taxis with wake ripples
These are a few of my favorite things

When the land shakes
And the dam breaks
And I'm feeling small
I think of a few of my favorite things
And I don't feel bad at all

Sumner
The comely Sumner
She would stand
By, over
However
She knew
To do
Some thing
To him

--Kent
Take care

Take care?
Care took
The take

So near to Bonney Lake
She was
As near as
He was
To Barbee Mill

Whose number
Now number
Than pus if ick
Pacific
Could float
A boat in the
White lipstick
Stuck oozed
In his pocket

--Kent
Can't you tell me?

--I take the case

I can't

Tell till

I can say

For sure

Mrs. Franklin Bayne Covington and
Mr. George Town Landsburg?

Dear wringer,
Why not go?

Fair wood,
Edge wood
Up her mill
Mack millin'
Bare re: tail

Oh, really?
Oh, see oh la la

Some, it gets Kitt's
Corn or cum or
Palm her
Strum Durham

But later
Laid her
Black Diamond under where
Underwear?

--Mr. Auburn? Kitt Covington.
--Kent, Mrs. Covington.
--Kitt, Kent.
Can I count on you?

Glen Dale, boy wonder
 Wandered fast as
 A plastic dashboard
 Christopher on a Tacoma:
 Thomas Guide
 Missing Black Diamond
 But Ravensdale
 Where it used to be mist!
 Or, Mr.
 Franklin Bayne Covington
 Would like to know
 What the Mrs. misses
 When he comes home from
 The Turf Club

--If Landsburg, then Ravensdale.
 There in the
 Middle they're
 By the Green
 Or Cedar

Kent Auburn, nobody's cartographer
 Took cues from
 A boy wonder
 Like a stooge without a stoolie
 Kent Auburn knew
 He couldn't use a phone
 To read a map
 He couldn't do a thing or two
 To cue a cue's accused acquittal
 Without his crew
 To cruise the sloughs
 Tukwila to Veazie to Enumclaw

Joe Vita hit the Emerald double daily
By blanket bets he liked to call a doily
This silly ornamental filligree
Kept him from losing head-first royally
And satisfied his fill of frilly glee
To put him on a tidy winning trail he
Fell prey to as he paid a grilling fee
To win small stakes he lost back loyally

From Milton Fife to Captain Cumberland
For any who'd refill his wager keg
Especially like Franklin Covington
He advertised his arms to break a leg
But mostly he avoided all the towns
So he could spend his life at Emerald Downs

Kenny Dale, The Blunder
The Dim Twin could
Mill around the
Creek Park to
Peek at

Barbee Mill
Advertising her units
Her condom-
Inium sets it's
Secret, sick,
Creeps for
Creeps like him
Who golf in the woods
For a shot through the window

A hole in one
But who can he tell
But Glen the wonder

Veazie drove the Gorge
Hanging Gardens
Flaming Geyser flood
Plain to see the silver
Lining the Green
Levees with bean

Bags, bagging a
Forty in his lap, packing a
Wallet on the hip
On a hillbilly trip
To the silly dollar valley

--Auburn, Veazie
Got a tip on the third
Have your boy call me
If you wanna get lucky
For now, here's the word
The mare's affairs
Are the stallion's cares

Kent Auburn, nobody's pick-up
Pick-ups were for b-girls
He was the man
On the machine
In his master's voice
--Message for Kent Auburn?
Leave it

Kang Lee on a moonlight gig
Spun a high leg kick
Straight over the rigged
Dummy in a trick
For kicks

Kent Kang Lee's Kent-Kangley Kung-Fu Academy
Trailed a blaze to Maple Valley, whose
Four Corners core foreigners
Sent their kids
Too trite to feign
To fight to train
To learn kung-fu
From Kent's Kang Lee
On the Kent-Kangley Road

From India to Mexico
Arabia to Tokyo
To Africa to Borneo
A foreign legion
In the land
Of the hand
Of the fist

--Got fire?
She knew him well
Enough to know
He would

Like all the rest
She had his number
Leave it, heel
Shake, come
Good. Biscuit.

He struck
She sucked
They stared
--The lake. Look

The lake from a dive
In Renton
Without Renton
They saw from here
Her condo in a blaze
Of waves

Kent Auburn
Across from Barbee Mill
Without Renton in Renton
In a dive on the lake
On a dive in the lake

--Take me there
She puffed
He stood
He understood
A ride home

He said
--Let's swim
--It's too wet, far and
I'm far too wet

The green plant jets
Leered in their primer prime
And Laugh Fitness buffed a shine
But no sign of Renton
As Renton
Glowered behind them
Kennydale to Barbee Mill

He had to ask
What he came for

Where they'd been
The Turtle Lounge
Neon scrounged
Black diamonds
Under where
The lake went on
And on and in

Franklin Bayne Covington
Tipping to tippie
Tipped
Joe Vita on
The double

Vita, who'd only ask
What's up?
To hear what Whisper was

Never wired or stoked
Plugged or coked
But intended
As in to win

Whisper, his per
The Soos Creek
Stable hopefuls
Trained by
Hobart O'Brien
Trained by
Running up losses
Between jackpot wins

--What's up
Who's up

--Orilla
The Boise bug boy
Not a cinch, Mr. C.
But a switch
To the whisp
Per intended

--Whaddya know
If it isn't
Al Gona
You're pretty
Far afield, pal

--Field and stream
Like the magazine
Sergeant Krain
And by the way,
Likewise

--Fishing expedition?
--Franklin, my dear
I don't give a dam
--Don't get cute
--Shhh

Ravensdale waded
Down the Green
With them unseen
Casting toward
Franklin, mistily
Banked in
The roar
Of the gorge

--Lose your creel, Al
--I'm catch and
Release, strictly
For sport, Sarge
--Likely, sport
Catch and
Release
My ass

That your plan
For Ravensdale?

--Be seeing you, Sarge
--Why the tail?
--I could say
What tail?
But I can't
Say why. Why?

--Don't tell me
You don't know
--Don't you know
The foodchains
Don't change
Down here, we're
Not even high
As a tied fly

Kent Auburn
Thought he knew
His way around
The valleys of the dolls

Bonney Lake to
Sumner
And all the Mary Beth
Morgan filly rides
In and out
Between

But Barbie Mill
Was not like them
All give and
No take

--You won't need
One of them
Let's keep it casual
Or I'll . . .

If Ravensdale
In haven's vale
Threw out the trout
Throughout
The route
He took,
The brook
Might conceal
A herring in the creel

Going nowhere
Algona to Kangley to Veazie,
Glen Dale went digital
On the Kent Auburn line
--Consider the source

Veazie?
Yeah, Veazie
The Naco Knocker
The Kanaskat Kid
The Selleck Slick beyond Retreat

--You could unplug the waters' head
And take home a Tacoma watershed
When the dam breaks
The land's lakes
Run to Renton
While Landsburg Black Diamond
Ravensdale Covington
Are islands
High and
Dry

Bonney Lake was over it all
Auburn, Sumner, Pacific
Buckley, Enumclaw

As for Barbee Mill
Please
Bonney Lake was real
Not some man-made
Doll factory girl
Slapped together
By the Seahawk camp
Built to order like a
Stick pussy cheerleader

For Kent Auburn

The slots can grip
But Barbee Mill
Was all wrapped up
In herself
Herself! Bonney Lake knew

Consider the sore spot
The weak link, the dim twin
Kenny to Glen Dale
Al Gona Veazie to Bonney Lake

Veazie? Yeah, Veazie
Looked up to her
Brought her what she wanted
To come across

Renton

Johnny Renton? No

Benny Renton? No

Valley Renton, Monty Renton? No

Renton: That Renton

Tukwila to Covington

Glendale to Kent

Barbee Mill on Lake Washington to

May Creek up Newport Hills to Newcastle to

The Green beyond Duwamish

That Renton

Hears you're looking for

The Black Diamond lode

Kent Auburn

Talking to the mirror

In his mind

Renton, that Renton

By Barbee Mill

Sobbing in her cups

Those cups

On her lips

Those lips

--Vita, I got one

--That you?

--Who else?

That you

That Renton

Hobart O'Brien?
Blink and you miss him
Covington to Soos Creek
To Emerald Downs

As Orilla, the Boise bug boy
The Whisp
Spurred a switch on Whisper
A well-intended
Tour detour
Via the valet
Parking lot by Jovita
Fucking Joe Vita
And the horse he rode in on

But Auburn was on the map
Had an office a
Post office a train station a
Bank a telephone
He wouldn't answer
To save his life

From Milton Fife
Joe Vita rode
Jovita Road
To Auburn

On the job again
Oh really
Orilla, well
Intended or not
Like throwing a switch
To a spur whisper

Sumner

The comely Sumner

Stranded between

Bonney Lake and Auburn

Buckley and Pacific

Puyallup and Lake Tapps

The White River Amphitheater and

The Muckelshooting Gallery

No place to go

To be or not

To call?

Call Kent?

Come, heel

Biscuit

Kang Lee, his man?

Glen Dale, his boy?

Barbee Mill, Bonney Lake?

Renton, that Renton?

--Cumberland

--Captain, it's Kent . . . he's

--Sumner?

--Missing. It's been--

--He's a big boy

--Yes, yes, yes

Just a big boy nothing but a

Big bad boy--oh

--K, O.K.

We'll check it out

Neither here nor there
Ravensdale wandered
In waders
Between Franklin and
Flaming Geyser
Under Cumberland
Over Maple Valley
Engorged by the Green

He could have sworn
Al Gona was always around
Algona, way downstream
On the White
Stuck here?
Around him?

Ravensdale wondered
On the Kangley Road
To Selleck
If the watershed alarms
The signs claimed were there
Would think you were a bear
If you waited for dark
And waded all night

--Your friend lost?
Selleck, the dead end troll
Of the taboo trail
To Cedar Falls
--When I speak, he won't talk
--When I do, he won't walk
Buckley! Gittim!

No note
No sign
Kang Lee knew
He wouldn't have phoned it in
Wouldn't if he couldn't if he could

Kent Auburn, throwback
On a catch and release
Tailspin bender likely story for
Cumberland, Kummer, and Krain

--Got me, guys
No note, no sign, no phone
No car, too, he
Could be anywhere

--Kent Auburn
Can't be anywhere
But where he is
He's a big boy
But not that big

--But Renton
That Renton
What he want?

--And Veazie
--Veazie?
--Yeah, Veazie
Look, Lee, we know
We play him
Like a radio

--Oh and
Homeland snatched

Your gopher Gona
Seems he took a stroll
On a trail with a pibull
On his tail where he
Didn't belong

--You can spill and
Spare him hell or
Let the feds
Sweat it out of him
In their Duwamish
Waterway spa

--Speaking of which
Where you from?
We could lean
On a Green
Card play
Kang Lee

--I'm clean but
The case is
Not the case
It was, it is
Or seems to be

--Cut the kone crap Kang
--Koan, Krain, like Cohan
Let the man sing that
Yankee Doodle Dandy

Joe Vita
The public muscle
Who couldn't find
A private eye
Who couldn't phone
In time to lam
For life and limb

Not at the office
The post office
Bank station
Trains to
Auburn

Kent?
Shotgunning up
Across the map
In platted splat tracts
Took off to pop up
All over
Unincorporated
King County
And left no tracks

Joe Vita rode
Jovita road to
Milton Fife to
Have him
Call Renton
That Renton

Put his river gang boys
The Meridians
The Timberlanes
The Cedar Groves

The Summit Law Sons
On the trail
Of one Kent Auburn,
The Everyman a
King County

Kenny Dale
May Creek
Ravine creep
Snatch snitch
Knew no
Blinds bounds but

Barbee Mill
Was still
Too still
Hung
Over deed
Or dead?

The dim twin
Called it in
By calling in
Glen the one
Who knew who
To do
To call

Renton? Not Renton
Bellevue? Newcastle?
Who new?

Veazie
That's who
Yeah, Veazie
Who else?
The blunder, the wonder
The bug boy, the trainer

The gopher Al Gona
Spilled the beans
Where the Green's
The Duwamish waterway
For the homey waterboard
Follies, like, who wouldn't?

A town missed in
The mist
Of Ravensdale?

--Come on

A dull tree
Adultry of a pair of
Black Diamond underwear
Under where?

--You can do better than that
Or I'll Qaeda your ass
Al Gona

Veazie knew
Too soon and
It's no fun
For them

--A caper

Chased by a dog
Into the woods?
A tail on
Ravensdale
By Kent Auburn
For Kitt Covington?
Come on

Veazie
Yeah, Veazie
Knew where Auburn was
How Barbee Mill
Took the pills
What Kenny Dale
Told Glen Dale
When Hobart O'Brien
Put a bug boy up
How Franklin Bayne Covington
Put his money away
And just what Al Gona
Had to say
To get homeland free

--Renton, that Renton
Full of them now
Up on the ridge
They drive cabs
They get around
Somalia to here
And Kenya
Oh say Kenya
See, I was double timing
Kang Lee and Auburn
Set the tail
On Ravensdale
But Renton sent me
That Renton said he

Had to see the trail signs
Were for real
I took the fall
For the Falls

Veazie knew
Yeah, who didn't
Even the homeys
Had to know
The Arab cabbies
On the ridge of
Renton, that Renton
Knew the Cedar
From the Green

Blow the dam and
Flow the valley
Like Veazie knew
They never would
Stop believing
A likely story

Kent Auburn came to
Wherever he was
It was wet
Too far and
Far too wet
To swim in
A field
And stream
Magazine
Ravine

Yet up a bluff
Somewhere
River it was
Or came to
Be here now
To coin a koan
Doodle dandy

Like a patriot act
By the karaoke
Off key stones
He sang to
Come to
Stay awake
To hear over
The roar
Of the dark
Made by
The light headlights

Kent Auburn, nobody's roadkill
Slaughter was for Indians

He rolled away

And waited for
The car
To come
To go

Franklin Bayne Covington
Milton Fife, Joe Vita,
Renton, that Renton
And Veazie
Yeah Veazie

The Turtle Lounge?
The City Hall?
The Turf Club?
The Red Dog?
The Cave Man?
The Yellow Beak?
The Card Room?
The Shooting Gallery?

Neutral territory
Rosalita's in Kent
With Kent
Auburn out
Of the picture
On the lam
At large

--I don't like it
--What's not to like
--It's not to like
--It's like I don't
--Veazie?
--Yeah
Veazie knew
What's new

Al Gona
Stuck by Pacific
The homeland bracelet

Homing him in
Like a good boy
While feds in fezes
Took cabs like customers
Playing hide and seek
Allah akbar oxen free

Barbee Mill
Pumped out clean
By the Valley Med team
High-fiving pros
I-told-you-sos
Who'd never spill
What they had seen

Sumner
The comely Sumner
Called the cops who
Caught Kang Lee
Kick on a doodle
Dandy yankee gig
Of a flip for
Cumberland, Kummer, and Krain
Tapping Glendale
To Kennydale

While Ravensdale
And Selleck still
Drink the royal family fill
The King of Beers
And Buckley stares
For bears
He hears are theirs

--It's like this, there's
No way it won't
Do or don't

And when it does
If you do
You're who
Knows then
The how what when
Gentlemen

--Veazie?

--Yeah

Veazie

Glen Dale took
A backseat tour
Up the road
To the dam
Of the Green

Krain drove from
Cumberland
With Cumberland

And Kummer
Came to
Baby-sit

Glen Dale, boy wonder
Knew the Cedar
Was secure
From the White
Lightning swilling
Engineers who pulled
The plug to flood
The Stuck
And stuck Pacific
With the spill

But near the Green
Was where
Kent Auburn
Could have come to be seen
Stumbling in the woods
Like a 'coon bear skunk
On a king beer drunk

In a flash of the flush of a flood
Forward to the scene

When the dam breaks

--If and when
Said Cumberland

--Kent Auburn, an if
The dam, a when
Glen Dale put
The aftermath
To a foregone equation

Orilla took
A backstretch tour
To Hobart O'Brien
To beg
For a leg
Up on Whisper

That Trude Wabash
Would be up
For the win
While he was
On the hook
For the ride
That jacked the prize

--You told me
And I did
Catch and release

--You did but too hard
So the stewards
Had to knock you
Off the card

--You owe me
--I paid you
So take it to the window
And keep it to yourself

When the damn breaks
Broke the bug boy
He didn't get even
But mad
Too mad to get
Too wet far

And far too wet

The bugboy sang
Like a bullfrog
Till the Whisper
Croaked the tote

From Enumclaw
To Joe Vita
--Mr. C, you gotta be
 Kidding me, even the
 Exotics are flooded

Covington semaphored
Hobart O'Brien
--She check the board?
 To keep from tryin'
--She's too straight
 And it's too late

Not a shot
But a whisper
Of a pot

If Milton Fife lived off generic brands
He was like any other guy from here
Wherever here might be, but his commands
Were closer to Jovita and the near
Stretch of the Stuck than the Puyallup sands
Or far from where the headwaters appear
To run as white in name as through the lands
They carved in lava gullies from Rainier.

Evacuation warnings decorate
The valley like a joke exaggerates
Unlikelihood as if it is a fate
Determined in advance to celebrate
A Revelations style of rendezvous
Of inundations wet yet barbecued.

Although an atheist by preference
Fife had a hankering for Biblical
Disasters on a scale of pestilence
To plague a land in metaphysical
Conundrums to inspire reverence
In fools who thrilled a guy so cynical
As one who would exploit a deference
Just like the Pope in ecumenical

Pronouncements of the certainty of doom.
Not to exclude the lunatics of gloom
Those fundamentalists who would assume
The rapture will release their souls to bloom
When Armaggedon gives the heaven-sent
A tenement up on the firmament.

Kent Auburn came in
Like he'd never been out
--On a job
I was on
A sign
Meant to say
That's all

No sorry
Sorry was for funerals

Kent Auburn, nobody's loved one
Punched, drunk, or out to lunch
Take a number
Number than
A sore spot
On the skull

--You see Doc Hanson?
--I don't need no
Damn doctor
I need a drink

In an inn on
Lake Tapps
Bonney Lake
Taps Veazie for a
Flaming Geyser
Cocktail

Veazie?
Yeah, Veazie
Knew all the
Gorgeous gorges

Where the dog meets
The horse farms in
The pasture lands
Underwater year
After year
Before the dam
Doctors played beaver
With the Green

As if earth work
Could cement
Without chemistry

--Like Superman
Made black diamonds
Out of coal

Kummer and Krain
Rode the Gorge
Of the salmon dead
To Cumberland
Without Cumberland
And with
Kent Auburn Covington
In the rear view

But here few
Understood
How teams of boys
In uniform
Stood on
The Black Diamond
Diamond in the sun
Before the rains

--Baseball in October
--I don't like it
--What's not to like?
--It's not like it's
Ever done

--Once it was
All that ever was

Glen Dale, boy wonder
Had to wonder
When Kenny called

When the dim twin
Shimmed to skim
Through the mondo
Condo window
If he could say
From what he saw
Of the old sawmill
Was pulp or timber

Barbee Mill
In her groove
Her mover outfit
Surrounded by cases
Too packed to solve

--Moving, where?
To Renton
That Renton?
He there?

--Where else?
If those river boys
Of his are on the job

--River boys?

No father could control them
No daughter could resist them
No law could make them obey

Al Gona under water
Bored with home
Land of the free
Mason re-runs every day

Lee newspaper in hand
Job in mind
Games gave a run
Down in the bottom of the
Ninth Circuit
Court of a
Peeling bell peeling a ban
An atrocity torch
Your tort sure
Went nowhere

--Can't you get me
Out of here?

Al Gona stuck
White by Stuck
Algona

--No can do
Al sorry but
Rebutted Lee free
Lee, TV list
Sting cable favor
Writs parry
Mason re
Runs up against
Reality show drug
Busts and asses
Mace and Dicks and
Lines of Coca

Cola afternoons

--I know what
To watch just tell
Auburn to watch
His back

--Chisback?
New cop show?

--For real, Lee
Really

Kent Auburn
With Renton
That Renton
In Renton?
What Renton?
Tukwila Renton Junction Renton
That Renton

--On the level
Up the ridge
To the valley
We know
Where we're
Coming from
Auburn, Kent

That Renton knew
His way around
The town squares
No racing zones
Erased tracks

--Longacres gone
To Boeing gone
But here we're where
The grandstand stood
The finish line
Remember Kent?

--Marshes to marshes
Bets to bust

The Kent Auburn line
To Renton
That Renton

On the track
Gone back
To marshes
Pushed under
The rushes
The dozers
Razed to raise

With Kang Lee and Glen Dale
The Timberlanes, the Cedar Groves
Stable where the stables stood
Motors off, safeties
On or off
Depending

--Veazie, Cumberland
Milton Fife, Covington
Where are they?
They're nowhere
We could ever be
Anywhere but everywhere
We ever were

Kent Auburn, nobody's priest,
Priests were for choir boys,
Heard Renton vent in
A compassion
Like confession
On the turn
For home

Joe Vita rode
To Sumner
The comely Sumner
Beyond summer

From Al Gona
In Algona
With its sign
Meant to
Warn of
Lava doom

--Kang Lee,
You ready?

Kang Lee bowed
And took a stance
Too trite to feign

Sumner, the comely Sumner
Came to pour the tea for Lee
Who'd asked to meet
Joe Vita here
Then posed a toast
To change the face
Of his command

--My country tis of thee
Under the volcano koan
We sing to hear the sound
Of one dam cracking

Barbee Mill
 Under cover blown
 Out of hiding moved
 The Federal Way
 Above Kent Auburn

And Renton, that Renton
 Al Gona, the gopher
 Joe Vita, the muscle

Sumner, the comely Sumner
 As for Bonney Lake
 Please

Barbee Mill was not
 One of them

--None of them
 Kenny Dale to Glen Dale
 To Enumclaw
 Franklin Bayne Covington
 To Kitt's core nor
 George Town Landsburg in her
 Black Diamond underwear
 Hobart O'Brien to Orilla
 The Boise bug boy
 Whisper caper
 Buckley heard
 For Ravensdale

--But Selleck
 Cumberland tumbled

--You're getting warmer
 Captain. Crunch time.

--Then Veazie
--Yeah, Veazie

--Not Veazie
Give up?

Barbee Mill, FBI, paid a courtesy call
On Cumberland, Kummer, and Krain
Karaoke Night at the City Hall
And the keystones caterwauled

--We could lean
On a green
Card play:
Kang Lee

--Play it, boys
You say it's Kang Lee
I say it's Kangley
You say illegal
I say a legal
Illegal, a legal
Not Kang Lee but Kangley
Let's pull the whole thing off

Kangley, nobody's man
But his own
Joe Vita rode up
Jovita Road to Milton Fife

With Sumner, the comely Sumner
In the rear view
On the phone unseen

--Message for Kent Auburn
Leave it!

--Kent! Can't you
Do it! Pick up!
It's Kang Lee, he's
Not what he was or
Seems to be!

While a man
By the man
Made lake
Taps the Kent Auburn line
To a Fed Way relay,
Milton Fife trains the scope
On the Green
Of the field
To stream
To kingdom come

--A likely story
Franklin Bayne Covington
Palms up for the payoff

--But Veazie!
--Yeah Veazie

Pay up

--But Kang Lee
No, Kangley
Pay up

Kangley and Joe Vita
Milton Fife and Franklin Bayne Covington
Betting on the end
Of the world of the valley
From the ridge in Milton
On a dive in the lake plunge

--You blew it
Damn it
Where's the pay-off?

--Gentlemen!
Safeties on or off
Depending
The Valley Fed team
Who'd shoot to kill
Just stood to gleam
In the mystery

Kent Auburn, private eye
Had an office a
Post office a telephone
He couldn't use
To read a map

He couldn't do
A thing or two
With half his crew accused
For no acquittal
To cruise the sloughs
To the Homeland
Waterway spa

--I'm no bigot, I'm a two-fister
But Kang Lee had me fooled

--No background check? No
References?

Kent Auburn, nobody's clerk
Clerks were for government work

--It must be here
Somewhere

Special Agent Ravensdale
Wondered if
The Army Corps of Engineers
Could find a file and blow it clear
As if it were no more
Than a bum bomb scare

--Relax, Auburn
Here's a bedtime tale to pin on the donkey:

Birch Kangley, no note, no sign, no friends
Just a dead end kid run out of Retreat
On the Kent-Kangley Road
Going nowhere
But there he was
On a high
Leg gig
For kicks

Passing for a nerd
Foreigner, a kung
Fu king? Why not
Flip out and pin it on
Them and those?

Blow the damn and
Flow the valley
What the hell?
Like the story?

Kent Auburn was right
To remain
Silent

--Oh and
Auburn
One piece
Of advice
Don't leave town

Washington cities, towns, and places along and above the Green, Stuck, White, and Cedar rivers

Algona	O'Brien	Lawson
Auburn	Orilla	Maple Valley
Barbee Mill	Osceola	McMillan
Bayne	Pacific	Meribeth
Berrydale	Ravensdale	Morganville
Birch	Renton	Federal Way
Black Diamond	Kitt's Corner	Howard Hanson Dam
Boise	Selleck	Longacres
Bonney Lake	Summit	Puyallup
Christopher	Sumner	Palmer
Covington	Thomas	Sawyer
Cumberland	Tukwila	Naco
Dieringer	Upper Mill	Slaughter
Durham	Veazie	
Edgewood	Wabash	
Emerald Downs	Wynaco	
Enumclaw	Riverton	
Fairwood	Cedar Grove	
Franklin	Lake Wilderness	
Georgetown	Cedar Falls	
Glendale	Trude	
Hobart	Kennydale	
Jovita	Mill Creek Park	
Kanaskat	Four Corners	
Kangley	Soos Creek	
Kent	Muckleshoot Reservation	
Krain	Retreat	
Kummer	Buckley	
Lake Tapps	Hanging Gardens	
Landsburg	Flaming Geyser	

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