

**Big River**

©Jerry Axson

Big river running through my town,  
Big river gonna' roll on down,  
to the bottom of the big blue sea...  
far away from you and me...  
Gonna' save every tear I cry,  
and when you ask me why -  
I can show you the living proof...  
I'm still in love with you...  
And it doesn't matter if I leave this place...  
Big river runs no mans race...  
all the begging in the world won't change...  
Big river wears no mans' chains...  
Big river running through my eyes,  
dark river but it can't disguise,  
broken lines all around my face...  
broken promises can leave that trace...  
Keep waiting for the well to dry,  
hear them whisper but I know I tried -  
to cup the water up to my mouth...  
couldn't help it when it all ran out...  
And it doesn't matter if I leave this place...  
Big river runs no mans race...  
all the begging in the world won't change...  
Big river wears no mans' chains...  
Big river...Big river...Big river...Big river...



**Nothing Between Us (But My Pride)**

©Jerry Axson

Here she comes on a Friday night,  
in her green Camaro - 1969,  
I'm so lucky, all the boys step aside,  
there aint' nothing between us but my pride...  
And if it weren't for the tears that I've cried over her -  
I might say it's all in vain...  
It doesn't matter, she drives me insane...

All I wanted was a kiss from you -  
just to see what it might do -  
instead it lay broken like an arrow in my side...  
nothing between us but my pride...  
nothing between us but my pride...

Well she walks Oh, so very fine,  
and I don't mind looking every single time,  
I've been lucky, I never had the blues,  
till I went down on my knees all because of you,  
And if it weren't for the tears that I've cried over her -  
I might say it's all in vain...  
It doesn't matter, she drives me insane...

SOS I'm in distress...SOS I'm just a mess...  
All I wanted was a kiss...your lips on mine...taste so fine...



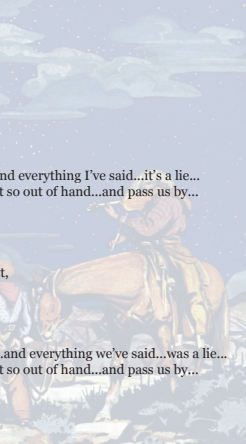
**She Thinks I'm Sleeping**

©Jerry Axson

She thinks I'm sleeping,  
as I lay awake in the dark,  
I count her breathing,  
with every beat of my heart,  
and I've been thinking,  
that maybe I should go -  
she thinks I'm sleeping,  
she doesn't even know -  
That everything I've done...and everything I've said...it's a lie...  
I never meant for this - to get so out of hand...and pass us by...

I've been dreaming,  
of someone else at night,  
I try to stop this -  
because I know that it's not right,  
and I fear I'm losing,  
this place for you in my heart,  
she thinks I'm sleeping,  
and it's taring me apart  
That everything we've done...and everything we've said...was a lie...  
I never meant for this - to get so out of hand...and pass us by...

I think she's sleeping,  
as the tears fall from her eyes...



**If I Hurt You**

©Jerry Axson

Sad lovers, dancing in the moonlight,  
sad lovers, holding on so tight,  
I guess that's why I can't see this thing through,  
Every time I turn around, you're kicking something else in the ground,  
Another day -  
and I move that much more away from you...

If I hurt you I'm sorry for that -  
if I hurt you I take it all back,  
if I hurt you the joke is on me,  
do anything but please, please - don't set me free...

Sad lovers, faces in the crowd,  
sad lovers, crying out so loud,  
the eyes never lie - they will give them away,  
saying up those tears for a rainy day,  
Not just anyone in this world would do,  
not just anyone could measure up to you,  
I think I know now why the walls tumble down,  
you hurt me like I hurt you - it's all over town - but girl...



**That Much More Away From You**

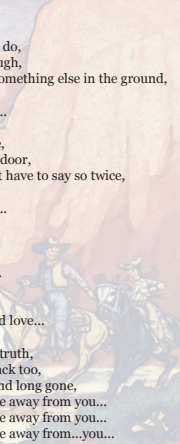
©Jerry Axson

I don't know why I can't play the games you do,  
I guess that's why I can't see this thing through,  
Every time I turn around, you're kicking something else in the ground,  
Another day -  
and I move that much more away from you...

I get the feeling you don't want me anymore,  
I come home, my things are piled up by the door,  
If you don't want me in your life, you don't have to say so twice,  
Another word -  
and I move that much more away from you...

I don't have to find out about,  
the boys that take you out,  
to places across town we don't speak of...  
And there's a burning feeling here,  
that drowns my heart in tears,  
and washes away the traces of a once-had love...

I've looked around enough to recognize the truth,  
and I believe what goes around will come back too,  
By the time that you get home, I'll be up and long gone,  
Another mile - and I'll move that much more away from you...  
Another mile - and I'll move that much more away from you...



**Can't Buy A Good Name In A Small Town**

©Jerry Axson

I used to be Momma's sweet little baby -  
I used to be Daddy's pride and joy,  
ever since I landed in the county jail, Lord -  
they do their very best to avoid -  
running into me on the street, it's hard to be polite but discreet...  
I used to run with the neighborhood bad boys -  
I used to spell trouble every way,  
people said I got just a little "too crazy",  
every time the sun went and slipped away -  
behind the hills over our town - I'd get so wound up when it went down...  
Oh, you can't buy a good name in a small town...  
Oh, you better strap yourself in if you're gonna' settle down...  
you can hear all about it on the telephone line -  
read it in the paper if you're so inclined...  
Oh, you can't buy a good name in a small town...  
Oh, you can't buy a good name in a small town...  
I used to spend my money like water -  
I used to be the "high rolling" type,  
now I'm rolling pennies at the kitchen table -  
you can find me there most every night -  
worrying bout' the bills over my head - thinking I'd be better off dead...  
Help me...their beating down the door -  
Help me...they're gonna' take me away -  
Help me...I've got to pull myself together -  
Help me...before I fade to gray...

**Across The Dirt Road**

©Jerry Axson

She lived across the dirt road,  
sometimes I saw her out back,  
five empty acres behind our house,  
we lived on the wrong side of the tracks...  
She had an independent momma',  
ran around and drank a lot,  
my Daddy told me it was 64',  
she messed around and got herself shot...for what she was and was not...

I watched you then like I want you now,  
from a distance - without a sound,  
every night of every day,  
I have hoped and I have prayed -  
that somehow - maybe - some way -  
you will wake up and see...  
that your love belongs to me...

Through the years I've seen you grow,  
so close and yet so far,  
boys would come and boys would go,  
I'd catch the tail lights of their cars,  
it seems to me you can't fill up,  
that empty place in your heart,  
Well, I've got something to say to you girl,  
and it's a good place to start...this is a good place to start...



**I Don't Want To Know**

©Jerry Axson

The things I've done for you -  
the things I've done for love,  
there is a great divide in my heart,  
a pain I can't rise above -  
Your lips could sway me -  
but not one kiss was real,  
and as your eyes betray me -  
so this is how it feels...

I don't want to know -  
where you go tonight,  
even if he's there,  
you've got to keep it out of sight,  
cause' all our friends will talk -  
about the way you do,  
and I don't want to know,  
even if it's true...

I'm holding on forever -  
I'm holding out for you,  
I must believe in something,  
I don't know what else to do -  
Your lips could sway me -  
but not one kiss was real,  
and as your eyes betray me -  
so this is how it feels...



**You and Me and Jealousy**

©Jerry Axson

Well I get up every morning and I go to work -  
I wear the same shoes, same pants, I wear the same shirt,  
I punch that clock and I work so hard,  
to keep a two car garage and a well groomed yard -  
and if I decide to go out with the boys...  
we may sink a few drinks - we might make a little noise...  
(but it don't mean nothin'!!!)  
You and me and jealousy -  
somebody gave the police a call...  
standing out in the yard at three -  
the neighbors got a good look at it all...  
Friday night through Sunday morn -  
it's bound to rear it's ugly head -  
you and me and jealousy -  
sleeping in a crowded bed...

I took it all serious when we stood before the man -  
I said "I do", cause' I know that I can,  
I don't make no promises that I can't keep,  
I've got a ring on my finger and my love runs deep -  
Well, I may just be the last of a dying breed...  
I'm a one woman man with a **one - woman - need...**  
(and that's all I've got to say about that!!!)  
I don't mind the regular stuff,  
life might up and throw,  
I can deal with just about anything -  
but this has got to go...



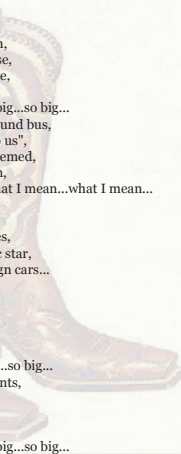
**Cowboy Boots (The BIG SONG)**

©Jerry Axson

Well I left Maw and Paw sittin' on the porch,  
lookin' out the screen door - tired and coarse,  
took consultation with a good friend of mine,  
said I will write you if I find the time,  
I'm gonna' be big...so big...I'm gonna' be big...so big...  
Lookin' through the window of that Greyhound bus,  
humming this refrain, "Leave the driving to us",  
never really noticed how small that town seemed,  
nice place to visit - if you know what I mean,  
what I mean...what I mean...you know what I mean...what I mean...

Cowboy Boots and a young mans' smile,  
pickin' and a-grinnin' as we roll the miles,  
I'm gonna' be a legend - a country music star,  
big diamond rings and drive small foreign cars...

Skyscraper shadows falling down on me,  
carbon monoxide so thick I can't breathe,  
pushers and shovers and feminine men,  
sometimes I wonder is this how it begins?,  
I wanna' be big...so big...I've got to be big...so big...  
I got five whole dollars sittin' here in my pants,  
I can smell success - all I need is a chance,  
some like a little - some like a lot,  
but I want it all - got to take my shot,  
I'm gonna' be big...so big...I'm gonna' be big...so big...



**Once Lovin' Girl**

©Jerry Axson

Well I've been watching for a long time,  
waiting in the shadows,  
at the rate you're wearing her down,  
well, it won't be long before -  
you better tell her what's' going on,  
you better tell her you don't love her,  
because if you don't I will,  
yes, she's bound to discover,

All the talk around town that implicates you,  
doing all the things you know you shouldn't do,  
one of these days you'll look around and see,  
your once lovin' girl is loving me...  
Your once lovin' girl - is loving me...  
Your once lovin' girl - is loving me...

It takes a fool to treat her like this,  
you just don't know what you're doing,  
all the tears on her pillow,  
all her love you've been using,  
Well I've been biding my sweet time,  
cause' I can see where it's going,  
I'm gonna' take her in my arms,  
when the time comes for showing,



**Black Mule**

©Jerry Axson

I don't want to be your fool,  
some dead weight you drag behind,  
so far gone now it's just cruel,  
will you say goodbye this time,  
All your friends - they talk me down,  
say I'm just no good for you,  
but it's the soul - no, not the crown,  
that sees my spirit on and through...

And I don't want to be your black mule, meant to carry only you,  
Black mule is a poor mans' tool, for the unlucky few,  
I don't want to be your - I don't want to be your -  
I don't want to be your black mule...  
I don't want to be your - I don't want to be your -  
I don't want to be your black mule...

Say goodbye to this boy now,  
out the gate and down the road,  
I would leave you without a sound,  
and I will carry a heavy load,  
"precious, precious" is your name,  
though you don't seem to be like that,  
I could have died inside your flame,  
never - ever coming back...never - ever coming back!

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