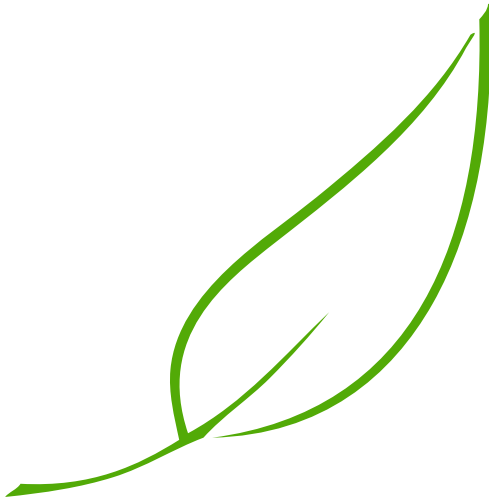


MY HOME TOWN

by Robert L. Crowe



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The pacing of this selection can be varied by the amount of stage business used between lines. Two chairs are on stage. Alfie is already seated when Omega enters.

OMEGA: Is this seat taken? May I sit here?

ALFIE: Sure. Grab a seat. Well. The big day of competition is finally here.

OMEGA: Yeah. Finally here. Say, could you tell me what I signed up for?

ALFIE: You mean you registered and you don't know what for?

OMEGA: I'm a joiner. I was walking by and someone asked me if

I had registered and I said no.

ALFIE: What you signed-up for is the World Open 9-Sport Finals.

We compete against some of the world's best in 9 different sports.

OMEGA: Like a decathlon.

ALFIE: Not exactly. It's more like a nine-athon. The sports are different. For example ... this bus ride up the mountain.

Know

where we're going?

OMEGA: Mountain climbing?

ALFIE: Nope. Mountain jumping. We parachute off the mountain and try to land in a red circle on the ground.

OMEGA: Oh. OK. I've never done that before.

(During this quick sequence, they emerge from the bus, don their parachutes, jump and land.)

ALFIE: I'm especially excited to be a part of this. See all the other

participants? They are from the world's largest cities: Paris, London, Moscow, New York. Me? I come from a very

small town. Maybe the smallest town in the U.S. Here we go. *(they jump)*

OMEGA: No. I come from the smallest town in the USA. When do we pull the cord?

ALFIE: Probably ought to do that now. *(They jerk upright as the chutes open.)* Yeah, we called our town jail “The Amoeba” because it only had one cell.

OMEGA: Our town is so small it doesn’t have a jail. If someone does something wrong they have to stand in the corner.

ALFIE: We had to rent a horse to have a one-horse town.

OMEGA: We had to share a horse with another town. Here’s the landing. Be careful. *(They land, remove the parachutes and walk a few steps.)* Looks like the downhill skiing leg. *(They stand in their skis and do racing poses as they go around turns, still talking.)* For the parades down Main Street, our high school was so small that the band was a marching trio ... and only one of them was a student.

ALFIE: We couldn’t have any parades on Main Street. It was a dead end at both ends.

OMEGA: For our main street, when they wanted to paint a center

stripe, they had to widen the road. *(They stand out of skis.)* Whoa. Here we are at the car races. *(They return to the chairs, move them apart and drive side by side, going around corners and moving the steering wheels madly.)*

ALFIE: Our phone book had just one page and only listed first names.

OMEGA: Our zip code was 631 and ½.

ALFIE: Our zip code was e – i – e – i – o.

OMEGA: Our fat lady only weighed 135 pounds.

ALFIE: We didn’t have enough room for a fat lady. *(getting out of*

car) Wow. That was a really fast race. You’re pretty good.

OMEGA: Thanks. So are you. Here we are at the tennis courts. *(They move to opposite sides of the stage and use the chairs as a net.)* *(A tennis game occurs.)* Our Motel 6 means what it says. It only holds six people.

ALFIE: We had a Hotel 5 because that's the total number of people who ever stayed there.

OMEGA: I lived on First Street. Second Street was in the next town.

ALFIE: The road map of our town was actual size.

(They quickly dissolve into a golf game.)

OMEGA: Hey, nice shot. Speaking of shots. We had a big legal clash in town. The mayor wouldn't give the sheriff the town gun.

ALFIE: Our mayor was the sheriff. Also the town council and street cleaner.

OMEGA: Here. Watch this putt! Made it! Our city tour was conducted from a step-ladder.

ALFIE: In our town the First National Bank was a guy with big pockets.

(They crouch down and stand as if water skiing. They do jumps and tricks during the chat.)

OMEGA: Looks like our water ski boats are about the same speed.

One thing about car speed in our town, you don't have to signal. Everybody knows where you're going.

ALFIE: We have limited dining opportunities. Our McDonalds only has one arch.

OMEGA: Our only restaurant is a hot dog stand ... the owner had

to annex property to sell foot-long.

ALFIE: A night on the town only takes 11 minutes.

OMEGA: In my home town there's nothing to do for those 11 minutes. *(They arrange the chairs one behind the other.)*

It's the two-man bobsled run. Want to team with me?

ALFIE: Sure. I'll even let you drive. *(They lean around curves and Alfie puts hand over eyes at one point during the run.)*

OMEGA: In our high school, the class valedictorian had both the highest and lowest averages.

ALFIE: We didn't have a town idiot. Everybody had to take turns. And speaking of turns! Wow!

OMEGA: Our little place had a Brink's Armored Bike Service. The bike had only three speeds.



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