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John Grey

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Grandfather and His Kelvedon Sweetheart

by John Grey

And here I was thinking he was referring to
an old girlfriend he escorted
to the bijou in his first jalopy
to see Nelson Eddy and Jeannette McDonald,
America's singing sweethearts.
But it was corn, the Kelvedon Sweetheart,
days when his fingers were young and supple enough
to tear the husks and cornsilk from the ears.
It's cooking on some hotplate in his head.
As yellow as the morning sun
is that shucked beauty rolling in boiling water.
He grins, says he can taste it now.
But just not with the lips that kissed it then.

