Tom Waits, Thousand Bing Bangs

TW: She drove a big ol' Lincoln with suicide doors and a sewing machine in the back

KN: Thousand bing bangs near the end. Nothing's ever what it was

TW: And a light bulb that looked like an alligator egg was mounted up front on the hood

KN: Had myself a kind of brainstorm. Took a table spoon of buzz

TW: And she had a tattoo gun that she'd made herself from a cassette motor and a guitar string

KN: X-ray eyes can see right through me. Naked thought, put on your clothes

TW: And she always had leaves in her hair

KN: You hear that funny laughing? Just the caw of ancient crows

TW: And she cut two holes in the back of her dress, cause she had these scapular wings

KN: Somewhere near the raveled edges, by the pool of Think-a-Bit

TW: And they were covered with feathers and electrical tape, and when she got good and drunk she would sing

KN: Once again the notion hits me: Half is quite a bit of wit

TW: About Elkhart, Indiana, where the wind is tall and folks mind their own business

KN: Power up that upper story. Ten percent is all you use

TW: And she had a hundred old baseballs that she'd taken from kids, and she collected bones of all kinds

KN: Take a flight of simple fancy. You're the one who has to choose

TW: And she lived in a trailer under the bridge, and she made her own whiskey and gave cigarettes to kids

KN: Okay. All right for you. Look into the tiger's eye

TW: And she'd been struck by lightning seven or eight times, and she hated the mention of rain

KN: See if you can see the desert. Pour a drink, my throat is dry

TW: And she made up her own language and she wore rubber boots. She could fix anything with string

KN: Poetry ain't gonna catch me. Climb up this high plateau

TW: And her lips were like cherries, and she was stronger than any man, and she smelled like nutmeg and piss

KN: Finish up what you were thinking, just a day or so ago

TW: And she put mud on a bee sting I got at the crick, and she gave me my very first kiss

KN: Illustrate for visionaries: Go buy a doodle pad. Basically