

B R A D K A V O

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## Silencing Khe Sanh

First, he positioned both cars so their headlights formed

a perfect cross,  
road and driveway, with him  
in its center.

Left to idle, their steady choking  
softened  
the junglesilence of his walking-dreams

so he could build  
bunkbeds for his sons  
in the middle of the  
road.

He'd be done by midnight,  
he told his wife,  
himself,  
the nightvoices.

Across town, his father

bundled up on windy winter nights, still  
fighting

Bastogne-cold,

but here, in the lighted crossfire, he felt

Lifted

from deltas, hills, tunnels,

night.

Just before midnight,

a neighbor called and complained to the police, who came

and turned off his headlights.

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