



From News Ltd.

Stephen Kopel

routes & roots

on broad shoulders of narrow country lanes, roadside stands
at attention

open-mouthed, seeing
artichoke each other's throats,
feisty Brussels sprout
flower boxes anxious to
mix it up in the ring,
potatoes adjust shades to
shield their eyes,
garlics every blushing new girl tomato,

alarmed, hearing
Swisschard admit owning
off-shore accounts,
hearts of palm readers
confide they possess
more than several chambers,
tubers talk of changing places,
tubas mutter in closed cases, and,

rude abega interrupt corn's ears nibbling on scarecrow's loose-fitting advice

cone zone

Nervous Aorta looks sorta lost, leaving her ventricle muddling
in the middle of rush-hour traffic, radiator aking a leak,
no bypass valves sneaking a peek

Her bare feet skip over
plaque set in cement meant for

dentists, chewers of sugarless gum,
who give eyeteeth 20/20 supervision
in case clots close arteries
to laughter's one-way out

Air, coppery, conductive, pulse a steady heat beat, heat beat, pumps
mutter a sympathetic dubglub •• dubglub •• while Carbon Miranda
waits for rude,
but, rich producer R.U. Mangosteen
to champion her plugs

Ms Cochita bets Guff the gaffer
that bananas like to unzip their jackets offering small bites to big mouths,
maws unaware that well-marked crosswalks backward into the heart of the matter

Stephen Kopel is author of Spritz and Picnic Poetry. He joins videographer
John Rhodes and hosts Clara Hsu and Joan Gelfand in presenting poets in
films that are edited for YouTube.