

# STONE CHURCH (AKA BOSTON NEEDS WATER)

*by Joe O'Connor*

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Once upon a time  
there was a small village  
a small village called oakdale  
it stretched out as farmlands and a modest town center in the nashua river valley  
the mighty nashua river runs through the center of town  
with fields of apples and corn stretching off into the diistance  
the protestant and catholic churches stand on the high ground  
an idylic sleepy town  
40 miles to the east  
and the old wooden stave pipes leaked  
and narrowed by calcifation as water coursed through  
but Boston needs water  
this small village will have to go  
Boston needs water  
the sprawl of the city of Boston continues to grow  
Daming rivers will create a large resevoir  
Many rivers to dam  
Dam the merrimack?  
no the prosperous mill town of lowell must be protected  
Dam the charles?  
what and drown Harvard?  
no  
Whatever  
Remember            needs  
                 Boston            water  
eyes turned out toward to wachusett region  
the nashua winds through the valleys  
the sleepy towns Sterling, West Boylston, Boylston and Oakdale  
or the burgeoning town of clinton - to the mills water equals power  
the dam would provide more jobs, more settlements  
the most impacted town would be oakdale  
    Dam oakdale - a little town with nothing special  
or is it  
    Damn oakdale - a sore spot in urban planning  
back in oakdale  
what is urban planning?  
we are just a small village  
we will be okay here  
Meanwhile  
Boston needs water

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where to build the dam  
big mills in clinton  
more power from faster water and dont forget  
Boston needs water  
build the dam and take some land  
25% of land from sterling  
33% from boylston and west  
and oakdale?  
just take it - ALL of it!  
Remember            needs  
                 Boston            water  
that was more than 100 years ago  
Oakdale is gone save the old stone church  
the streets and houses are gone  
the fields where farming once was king  
now flooded and gone deep underwater  
a whole town gone but remember            needs  
                 Boston            water