

Big River

tossed a bottled note
into my youth's big river
off Lexington bridge

four-day canoe float
broke free my writer's block in
dissertation year

Mekong, Danube, Nile
transported my wonderment
on mythic waters

Mother Amazon
apex nourisher of Earth
broadened my world view

a lifetime adrift
my big river, long and deep,
approaches the sea



Photo: On the Amazon near Santarém, Brazil, January 14, 2023
First and second stanzas refer to the Missouri River (1955 and 1977).

20 January 2023

