

## Townes Van Zandt "Talkin' Karate Blues"

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By townes van zandt

Well, I ain't very big for twentyone  
And it seems I never could have any good clean fun  
Cause every time I'd go outside some great big bully'd  
come along  
He'd hit me in the face and he'd knock to the ground  
And he'd start kickin' me all around  
And that ain't exactly fair, friends, that's wrong.  
So I got me a paper the other night  
And I crawled up on the sofa and I turned on the light  
And flipped through the pages till I found the classified  
ads.  
Said, "take karate from lee hung chow;  
Man, make your first appointment now  
This course is guaranteed to make you bad."  
Well, the next day I drove to the address  
By japanese design I was really impressed  
It looked like a regular house of the rising sun.  
I walked inside, I was all alone  
I had a nervous feeling down in my bones  
I was kind of sorry I'd ever even come.  
Then a giant jap came through the door  
He must have been about seven foot four  
And he looked like he's prone to easy aggravation.  
He said, "lee hung chow, ah kee dung"  
That's japanese for fee fie foo fum  
I tried to explain my entire situation.  
He said, "number one course, yankee, self defence,  
Twohundred dollars and twentyfive cents";  
I said "what's the twentyfive cents for? " and he said,  
"repairs."  
I said, "repairs to what? ", and he said "to you"  
And I thought to myself "man, that won't do"  
Felt about a half inch tall under that ol' slender stare  
Ah, you think he was yellow...  
I said, "i believe I better go check another place"  
He said, "ha so, yankee don't like my race"  
I said, "now, there's a mistake, man, and that's true;  
I've been for you you japanese all along  
You japanese just can't do no wrong  
And I thought you got mighty dirty deal in world war ii."

Well, he grabbed me by the hand and gave a heave  
I figured there's a pretty good time to leave  
Before he had a chance to do me any definite harm.  
But my plan worked out in the end, you see,  
Now no bully is gonna pick on me  
Who's gonna hit a fellow with just one arm?

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