

# CHICAGO

Poem arranged for Choral Speaking

by  
Carl Sandburg



## Wetmore Declamation Bureau

Box 2695  
Sioux City, IA 51106

[www.wetmoredeclamation.com](http://www.wetmoredeclamation.com)  
Email: [speeches@wetmoredeclamation.com](mailto:speeches@wetmoredeclamation.com)

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From CHICAGO poems.

- CHORUS: Hog Butcher for the World,  
Tool Maker, Stacker of Wheat,  
Player with Railroads and the  
Nation's Freight Handler;
- 3 SINGLE VOICES: Stormy, husky, brawling,
- THE 3 IN UNISON: City of the Big Shoulders;
- SOLO I (FEMALE): They tell me you are wicked and I believe them,  
for I have seen your painted women under the  
gas lamps luring the farm boys
- SOLO II (FEMALE): And they tell me you are crooked, and I answer;  
"Yes, it is true I have seen the gunman kill  
and go free to kill again."
- SOLO III: And they tell me you are brutal and my reply is:
- FEMALE CHORUS: "On the faces of women and children I have seen the  
marks of wanton hunger."
- SOLO I: And having answered so, I turn once more to those  
who sneer at this my city,  
and I give them back the sneer and say to them:
- FEMALE CHORUS: "Come and show me another city with lifted head  
singing so proud to be alive  
and coarse and strong and cunning.

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