

THE HILL

A Collection of Poems for Choral Speaking



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Selected and arranged by Rae Wetmore from the book,
“Spoon River Anthology” By Edgar Lee Masters

1.

THE HILL

- MALE CHORUS: Where are Elmer, Herman, Bert, Tom and Charley,
- 5 SOLO VOICES: The weak of will, the strong of arm, the clown,
(Male) The boozier, the fighter?
- ALL FIVE: All, all, are sleeping on the hill.
- SOLO VOICES: One passed in a fever,
One was burned in a mine,
One was killed in a brawl,
One died in a jail,
One fell from a bridge toiling for children and wife--
- ALL FIVE: All, all, are sleeping, sleeping on the hill.
- FEMALE CHORUS: Where are Ella, Kate, Mag, Lizzie and Edith,
- 5 SOLO VOICES: The tender heart, the simple soul, the loud, the
(Female) proud, the happy one?
- ALL FIVE: All, all, are sleeping on the hill.
- 3 SOLOS: One died in shameful childbirth
One of a thwarted love,
One at the hands of a brute in a brothel,
- ALL THREE: One after life in faraway London and Paris
Was brought to her little space by Ella and Kate
and Mag--
- FULL CHORUS: All, all are sleeping, sleeping, sleeping on the hill.

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