



The Dead of Spoon River GOSSIP FROM THE GRAVE



*A Graphic Novel Adaptation
of Edgar Lee Masters'
"Spoon River Anthology"
by James M. Kemp*

The Hill





Where are Elmer, Herman, Bert, Tom and Charley, the weak of will, the strong of arm, the clown, the boozier, the fighter?

A photograph of a cemetery. In the foreground, a large, rounded green hill rises. On the crest of the hill, several gravestones are visible. The most prominent is a tall, slender monument with a decorative top. To its left and right are smaller, simpler headstones. The background is filled with trees, some with vibrant autumn foliage in shades of red, orange, and yellow, and others that are bare or dark green. The sky is overcast and grey. At the bottom of the image, there is a line of blue text with a white outline.

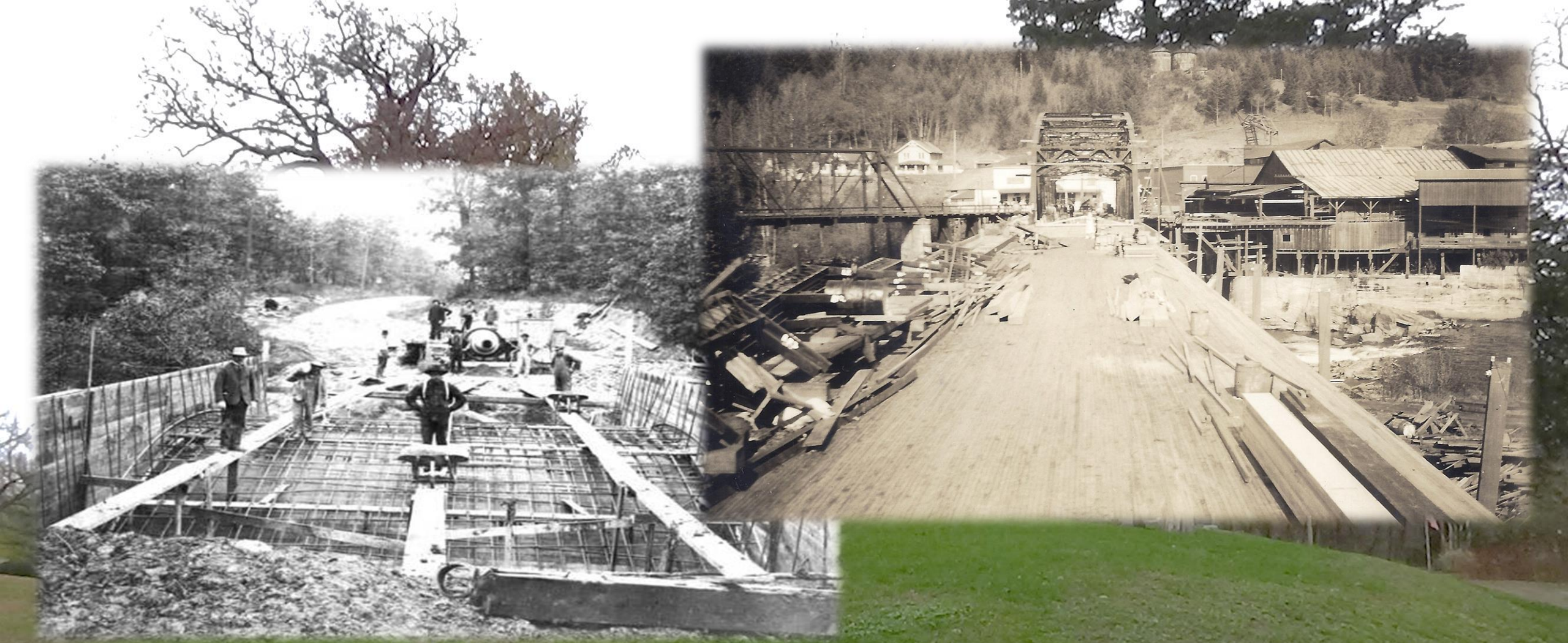
All, all, are sleeping on the hill.



**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.**

A photograph of a cemetery. In the center, a large, ornate, grey stone monument stands on a grassy hill. The monument has a decorative top and is surrounded by several smaller, simpler gravestones. The background is filled with trees, some with vibrant autumn foliage in shades of red, orange, and yellow, and others that are bare. The sky is overcast and grey. The overall scene is peaceful and quiet.

**All, all, are sleeping, sleeping,
sleeping on the hill.**



**Where are Ella, Kate, Mag, Lizzie
and Edith, The tender heart, the
simple soul, the loud, the proud,
the happy one?**

A photograph of a cemetery. In the foreground, a large, grassy green hill rises. On the crest of the hill, several tombstones are visible, including a prominent, tall, grey stone monument with a statue on top. The background is filled with trees, some with brown and orange autumn leaves, and others that are bare. The sky is overcast and grey.

All, all, are sleeping on the hill.



**One died in shameful childbirth.
One of a thwarted love,**



**One at the hands of a brute in a
brothel.**

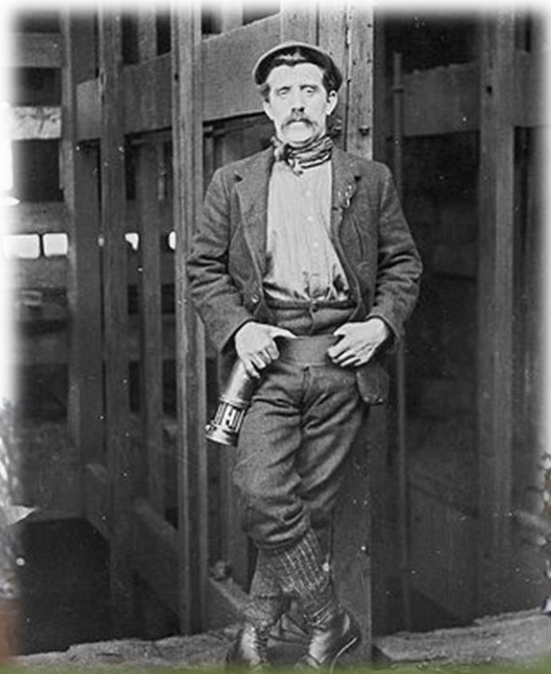
**One of a broken pride, in the search
for heart's desire.**



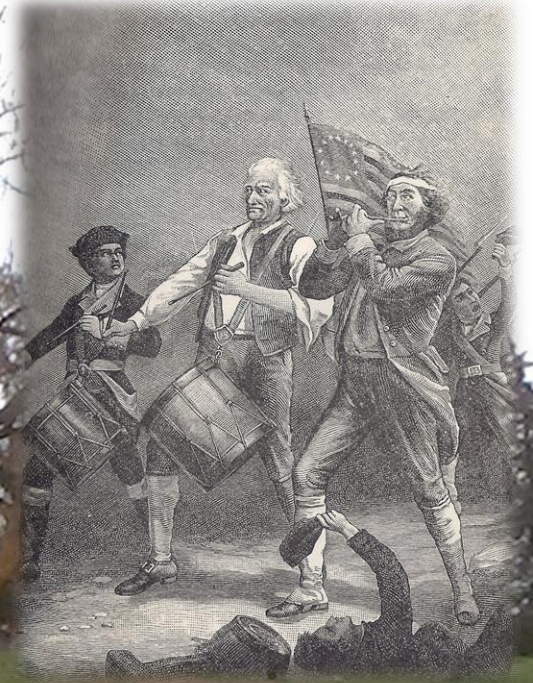
One after life in far-away London and Paris was brought to her little space by Ella and Kate and Mag.

A photograph of a cemetery. In the center, a large, ornate, grey stone monument stands on a grassy hill. The monument has a decorative top and is surrounded by several smaller, simpler gravestones. The background is filled with trees, some with vibrant autumn foliage in shades of red, orange, and yellow, and others that are bare. The sky is overcast and grey. The overall scene is peaceful and quiet.

**All, all, are sleeping, sleeping,
sleeping on the hill.**



Where are Uncle Isaac and Aunt Emily, and old Towny Kincaid and Sevigne Houghton?



**And Major Walker who had talked with
venerable men of the revolution?**



They brought them dead sons from the war, and daughters whom life had crushed.



All, all, are sleeping on the hill.



And their children fatherless, crying.

A photograph of a cemetery. In the center, a large, ornate, grey stone monument stands on a grassy hill. The monument has a decorative top and is surrounded by several smaller, simpler gravestones. The background is filled with trees, some with vibrant autumn foliage in shades of red, orange, and yellow, and others that are bare. The sky is overcast and grey. The overall scene is peaceful and quiet.

**All, all, are sleeping, sleeping,
sleeping on the hill.**



**Where is Old Fiddler Jones who played
with life all his ninety years?**



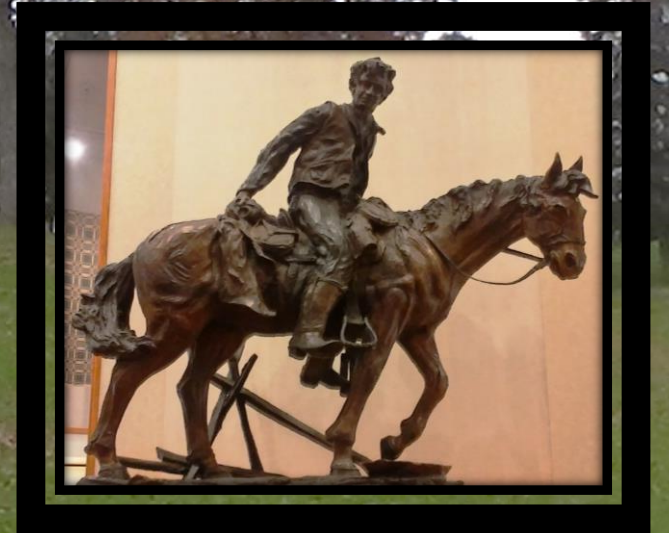
**Braving the sleet with bared breast,
drinking, rioting, thinking neither of
wife nor kin.**



**Nor gold, nor love, nor heaven?
Lo! He babbles of the fish-fries of
long ago.**



**Of the horse-races of long ago at
Clary's Grove,**



**Of what Abe Lincoln said one time at
Springfield.**

A dramatic sunset or sunrise over a forest silhouette. The sky is filled with horizontal bands of orange, red, and yellow clouds, with a bright sun low on the horizon behind a dark line of trees.

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