

"SPOON RIVER"

American Folk-dance

The fiddle tune below was sent me by Capt. Charles H. Robinson in the summer of 1915, at my request, after he had written me in regard to *Spoon River Anthology* that he had heard the old fiddlers play this tune when he lived in Stark County, Illinois, in 1857.

Edgar Lee Masters

February 11th. 1922.

"Spoon River"

Fiddle-tune

as heard in 1857 at a dance at Bradford, Illinois, U. S. A.,
by Capt. Charles H. Robinson

The musical score is written in treble clef with a 2/4 time signature. It consists of five staves of music. The first three staves form the main melody, ending with a double bar line and the word "End". The fourth staff is a repeat of the first two staves, marked "2nd time octave higher". The fifth staff is a repeat of the first two staves, with the first two measures marked "1st time" and the next two measures marked "2nd time". Below the fifth staff, the instruction "Back to start" is written.

AMERICAN FOLK-MUSIC SETTINGS

№ 1. "SPOON RIVER"

(For Edgar Lee Masters, poet of pioneers)

American folk-dance, heard played by a fiddler at a country dance at Bradford, Illinois, in 1857, by Capt. Charles H. Robinson

and set for piano by

PERCY ALDRIDGE GRAINGER

Set, March 10, 1919,
New York City, and
Jan. 29-30, 1922,
White Plains, N.Y.

Sturdily, not too fast; with "pioneer"
persistence. ♩ = about 168

p detached

pp
(no pedal except where marked)

pp

*Ped.**

*Ped.**

*Ped.**

*Ped.**

*Ped.**

small hands

*Ped.**

Red. *

Red. *

Red. *

Red. *

Red. *

Red. *

Red. *

Red. *

detached, top voice to the fore
mp

p

p

(small hands may break)

Red. *

Red. *

Red. *

Red. *

small hands

p

mp

mp

these chords)

L.H. to the fore

Red. *

Red. *

Red. *

Red. *

small hands

p *mp*

Ped. *

mp *sf*

Ped. *

sf

Ped. *

small hands

etc. *Top voice much to the fore detached*

mf *ff* *f* *short and sharp*

Ped. *

System 1: Treble and bass clefs. Treble clef has notes with accents and slurs. Bass clef has notes with accents and slurs. Dynamics include *f* and *fff*. Pedal markings: *Ped.* *.

Bass hugely to the fore

System 2: Treble and bass clefs. Treble clef has notes with accents and slurs. Bass clef has notes with accents and slurs. Dynamics include *ff* and *fff*. Pedal markings: *Ped.* *.

small hands

Ped. * *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* *

System 3: Treble and bass clefs. Treble clef has notes with accents and slurs. Bass clef has notes with accents and slurs. Pedal markings: *Ped.* *.

The accents very heavy

System 4: Treble and bass clefs. Treble clef has notes with accents and slurs. Bass clef has notes with accents and slurs. Dynamics include *pp* and *louden*. Pedal markings: *Ped.* *.

louden

pp

small hands

Ped. * *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* *

8

smoothly

pp

ped.

8

(keep it pp)

ped.

8

ped.

8

(don't louden)

ff *suddenly*

Fingers,

ped. *ped.* *ped.* *ped.* *

small hands

suddenly ff

ped. *

ped.

wrist and arm as stiff as possible

This system contains two systems of music. The upper system consists of a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with a piano part and a small hand part. The piano part has a tempo marking of 8 and includes dynamic markings like *ff* and *pp*. The small hand part is a single-line staff with notes and rests. Pedaling instructions are shown as "Ped. *". The lower system also consists of a grand staff with piano and small hand parts, with similar pedaling instructions.

stiff, as before

This system contains two systems of music. The upper system consists of a grand staff with piano and small hand parts. The piano part has a tempo marking of 8 and includes dynamic markings like *ff* and *pp*. The small hand part is a single-line staff with notes and rests. Pedaling instructions are shown as "Ped. *". The lower system also consists of a grand staff with piano and small hand parts, with similar pedaling instructions.

small hands

This system contains two systems of music. The upper system consists of a grand staff with piano and small hand parts. The piano part has a tempo marking of 8 and includes dynamic markings like *ff* and *pp*. The small hand part is a single-line staff with notes and rests. Pedaling instructions are shown as "Ped. *". The lower system also consists of a grand staff with piano and small hand parts, with similar pedaling instructions.

small hands

The accents as rough and heavy as possible

Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *

accents as before

p

Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *

p
(no pedal)
(small hands may break these)

detached

louden hugely

chords)

Much slower ($\text{♩} = \text{about } 100$)

in time (1st speed)

fist *Top voice* *fff* *slacken*

ff *fff* *fff*

Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *

Written out in train, Canadian Rockies, March 24, 1923