

Tom Merritt from "Spoon River Anthology"

by Edgar Lee Masters

Tom:

At first I suspected something--She acted so calm and absent-minded. And one day I heard the back door shut, As I entered the front, and I saw him slink Back of the smokehouse into the lot, And run across the field. And I meant to kill him on sight. But that day, walking near Fourth Bridge, Without a stick or stone in hand, All of a sudden I saw him standing there, Scared to death, holding his rabbits, And I could say was, "Don't, Don't, Don't," As he aimed and fired at my heart.