

# AMONG CRUMBLING PEOPLE

- E.E Cummings (1894- 1962)

## ◆ Author Biography:

E.E. Cummings was an American poet, painter, essayist and playwright. He wrote approximately 2900 poems, two autobiographical novels, four plays and several essays. Cummings was associated with modernist free form-poetry.

Cummings first published work was collection of poems entitled *Tulips and chimneys* (1923). Some of the Cummings poems do not involve the grammar and punctuation.

Background of the poem:

- ◆ Second world war
- ◆ Fall of American Economy
- ◆ Unconcern of Rich
- ◆ Poor condition of working class people



# AMONG CRUMBLING PEOPLE

-BY E E CUMMINGS

A  
mong crum  
bling people(a  
long ruined streets  
hither and)Softly  
thither between (tumb  
ling)houses(as  
the kno  
wing spirit prowls, its  
nose winess before a dissonance of  
rish and foses)  
until  
(finding one's self  
at some distance from the  
crooked town)A  
harbour fools the sea(  
while emanating the triple starred hotel du golf...that notable structure  
or ideal edifice... situated or established  
.... far from the noise of waters)One's  
eye perceives  
(as the ego approaches)  
Painfully sterilized contours;  
Within  
which  
"ladies and gentlemen"  
-under  
glass  
are: asking!  
Each  
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:uestions

## Introduction

E. E. CUMMINGS was an American poet, novelist, dramatist, and painter. He was known for his free verse and his use of capital letters and punctuation in a way that was often playful and experimental.

## POEM EXPLANATION

- ◆ Crumbling- Falling apart, shatter, collapse
- ◆ Ruined- Destruction
- ◆ Tumbling-Fall, slip
- ◆ Prowls-Searching, Seeking
- ◆ Whine-High voice, grumble, to make lot of noise
- ◆ Crooked- not straight, bent, dishonest
- ◆ Emanating-Flow out, emerge
- ◆ Edifice- large, imposing buildings
- ◆ Perceive-Sense, feel
- ◆ Contours-Outline, Outline edge of figure
- ◆ Sterilized-Make infertile

## POEM NOTES

### ✓ The Pitiabale crumbling people:

When the poem begins, the poet is strolling in the streets of America witnessing the sufferings of crumbling people due to World war II and fall of American Economy. The crumbling people is loss of their physique and peace of mind. They lead their life without any shelter. They symbolized the hanging of the poor lives. It seemed as though the houses whined and cried towards The rich and powerful People for their apathetic attitude of poor.

Passing through the crooked down, the poet neared the seashore and found people at some distance in the harbour. The harbour is represented the shelter of rich people whom is ignorant the condition of poor people.

### ✓ Unconcern of the Rich:

The Rich people used the lower class to work for them and fortunate never listened to the painful voices of the poor. The rich people entertained themselves in a triple star hotel of the people Which symbolized the luxurious and lavish lives of rich.

## ✓ The Sterilized Rich:

The poet feels that the sympathy of rich was sterilized. Their unconcern was sterilized contour turning inhumane to the poor who sought aids and shelter. Their unconcern pains the poet. The lower class were brutally victimized. Though they could notice woes of the poor, they just ignored them. They engaged themselves in amorous talks, They asked each other rubber questions/ Unworthy questions.

## ✓ Conclusion:

Thus the poet emotionally describes the ill effects of war and indifference attitude of the rich towards the poor condition of crumbling people. The upper class just exploited the poor and labour class did not meet the basic requirements of their survival.

**THANK YOU TO ALL**

# ANCEDOTE OF THE JAR

By wallace stevens



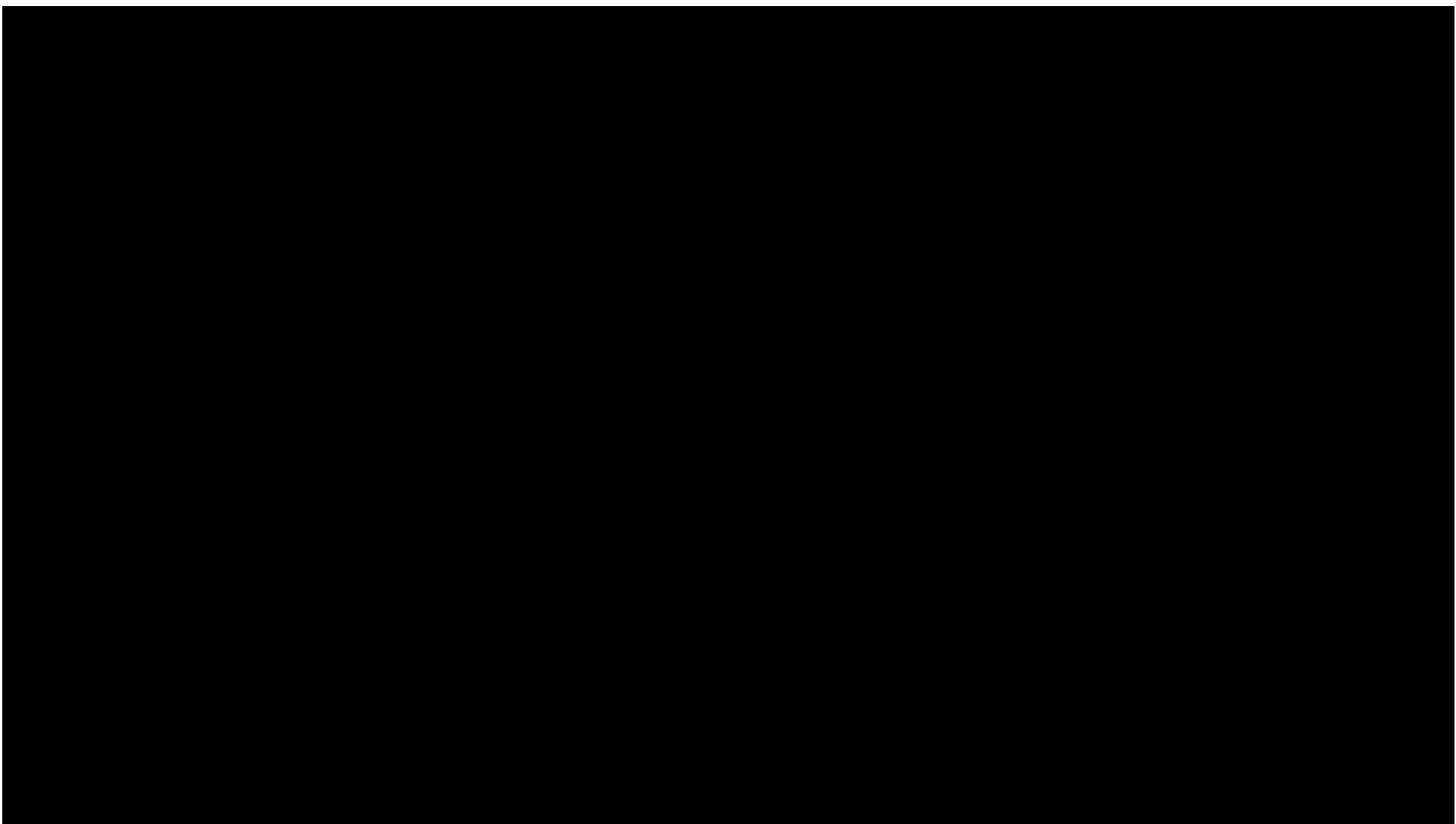
## ANECDOTE OF THE JAR

I placed a jar in Tennessee,  
And round it was, upon a hill.  
It made the slovenly wilderness  
Surround that hill.

The wilderness rose up to it,  
And sprawled around, no longer wild.  
The jar was round upon the ground  
And tall and of a port in air.

It took dominion everywhere.  
The jar was gray and bare.  
It did not give of bird or bush,  
Like nothing else in Tennessee.





About the poet:

Wallace Stevens( 1879-1955) was composed the Anecdote of the jar in 1918 and it was published later year. It was descriptive lyric poem. It was later published the collection poems entitled Harmonium( 1923).

Title of the poem:

Anecdote of the jar which means ( Anecdote) Little story about Jar.

Setting of the poem:

The jar is sitting on the ground, in a hill, in the middle of wilderness. It is also places in Tennessee.

Images of the poem:

- ✓ The speaker
- ✓ The Jar (The Dominion Wide Mouth special)
- ✓ The wilderness
- ✓ Tennessee(place)

Here I refers to the speaker was placed the jar in Tennessee. The jar even may be a particular jar, The Dominion wide mouth special which was all the rage around time that this poem was written. Jar means sudden or unpleasant.

The jar was round which is no big surprise. The jar is not placed in Tennessee but on a hill in Tennessee. We can see it as the king of its little territory, looking down upon everything Around it.

the jar is affecting around the world. The jar made wilderness surround the hill upon which it rested. The wilderness is slovenly, unclean or unmaintained. The jar is influencing the wilderness - trees, branches, vines, birds, skunks, rabbits, yadda, yadda - around the hill is being described as rising up to the hill and the jar.

Yet the wilderness still sprawls or spread out. Not only wilderness seem to be drawn to this jar like magnet, but the Jar has made wilderness no longer wild. The jar was round and on the ground, makes it all more amazing that the wilderness has been conquered or affected by it.

The jar is tall- which Probably means it's a just little longer than other jars. The jar as a port in the air as in harbour way or entry way. Cetainly, in the wilderness outdoors, air would come in and out of jar.

It's got dominion ( power) everywhere. The jar has begun to take over the world beyond its little area of Tennessee.

It is gray and bare. Gray and bare are not two qualities with ruling our world. Wilderness has been diminished by this jar. Give means care, this jar does not look anything around the world like greeny plants or fly or grow.

The poem ends with final demonstration of conflict between the jar and the wilderness. So everything in Tennessee breeds, it's grow ir atleast cares about and is connected with the wilderness someway- except the jar.

The book cover features a central circular mirror with a silver frame. The mirror's reflection is a distorted, wavy image of a woman with long, dark, spiky hair, wearing a dark, textured dress. The background of the cover is a light, mottled grey. The title 'Mirror' is printed in a large, black, sans-serif font across the center of the mirror. Below it, the author's name 'Sylvia Plath' is printed in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. The overall design is minimalist and evocative, with a focus on the central figure and the reflective surface.

# Mirror

Sylvia Plath

About the poem:

The mirror poem was written by sylvia plath. The mirror was written in 1961, It appeared plath's book "Crossing the water".

Setting of the poem:

This poem has two distinct settings. In the first stanza, setting is probably bathroom or bedroom because the wall is speckled pink and there are lot of faces and darkness in the room. In the second stanza setting changes. Our speaker is now a lake.

Speaker of the poem:

First stanza was written in mirror point of view, The second stanza The mirror switches into a lake. Both things have human qualities in the poem.



## MIRROR

I am silver and exact. I have no preconceptions.  
Whatever I see I swallow immediately  
Just as it is, unlisted by love or dislike.  
I am not cruel, only truthful—  
The eye of a little god, four cornered.  
Most of the time I meditate on the opposite wall.  
It is pink, with speckles. I have looked at it so long  
I think it is a part of my heart, but it flickers.  
Faces and darkness separate us over and over.

Now I am a lake. A woman bends over me,  
Searching my reaches for what she really is.  
Then she turns to those liars, the candles or the moon.  
I see her back, and reflect it faithfully.  
She rewards me with tears and an agitation of the hands.  
I am important to her. She comes and goes.  
Each morning it is her faces that replaces the darkness.  
In me she has drowned a young girl, and in me an old  
woman  
Rises toward her day after day, like a terrible fish.

Sylvia Plath

## Mirror as personification:

Here I refers to Mirror which is silver and gives an exact reflections. Now mirror is personifies, The mirror is telling us it has no preconceptions, it doesn't change anything. Mirrors do to everything see--The substitution of swallowing means reflecting it. The vision- impairing mist of love or dislike does not apply the mirror. It explains that it not cruel but truthful. It could refer any God, even one in the guise of a mirror. The God's eye is four cornered (square or rectangular)

## Wall flickers:

The mirror is meditate or contemplates the opposite wall. The wall is speckled and pink. The colour pink is make the wall feminine. The wall is part of its heart and wall flickers. Here why see the wall flickers-- because of the faces and darkness. The mirror must be sad at this separation.

## Searching of woman in the lake:

Now the poem switches into a lake, A woman is looking in the lake and not a mirror, the woman must bend over to see the reflection of her face. She is searching the reaches or depths of the lake, perhaps looking not only into her reflection but also into the water beneath it.

## Lake called the liars:

She turns to face the moonlight and candles to try and see a different reflections. The lake calls candles and moon liars. The lake is still there, reflecting her back, faithfully showing the truth. Woman shows her distress by physically disturbing the lake, her tears drop into it and her hands stir up the water that shows her reflection.

The lake says the woman visits every morning, so that the lake then reflects the woman's face instead of the dark of the night.

## Conclusion:

The woman has drowned a young girl in the lake. The Woman's reflection is changing and aging. She sees herself growing into an old woman. This old woman is like terrible fish something as ugly as a fish. In her own reflection in this lake, beautiful youth is sinking and terrible old age is rising.

