

Williams, Peasant Wedding

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Peasant Wedding

William Carlos Williams

Pour the wine bridegroom
where before you the
bride is enthroned her hair

loose at her temples a head
of ripe wheat is on
the wall beside her the

guests seated at long tables
the bagpipers are ready
there is a hound under

the table the bearded Mayor
is present women in their
starched headgear are

gabbing all but the bride
hands folded in her
lap is awkwardly silent simple

dishes are being served
clabber and what not
from a trestle made of an

unhinged barn door by two
helpers one in a red
coat a spoon in his hatband

Pieter Brueghel, The Wedding Banquet (c. 1558)

Oil on canvas, approximately 49 inches x 64.5 inches. Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna.

