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The County Seat

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The County Seat

The judge is still showing
up to work even
though all trials have been
postponed and the court-
house condemned until
the foundation has been
set right. Under his robe
the judge wears more
black in mourning over all
the lives he has presided over.
Standing guard at the
chamber door is a
young bailiff with a face
that never needs shaving
and a belt that shines like
gold fillings. The two smoke
cigars and discuss what kind
of grass seed makes
for the best lawn; they
disagree but the bailiff
defers to his honor's
experience while wooden
benches wait in silence
for justice to be
handed down.

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