

AMONTILLADO

MONT: DON FORTUNATO, GREAT MAN AND WISE
IS THAT YOU AMONG THE WINOS AND FLIES?
I COME HUMBL Y UPON YOU
FOR I SEEK YOUR EXPERTISE
I'VE A PIPE OF AMONTILADO
OF WHICH I FEEL ILL AT EASE

A PIPE OF WHAT PASSES
WITH THE COMMONPLACE MASSES AS AMONTILLADO
WHAT DO YOU THINK? [Does not register]
AMONTILLADO - A DRINK? [Entices, but still does not register] AMONTILLADO [Tries
snapping fingers!]
AMONTILLADO! [Yells in Fortunato's ear]

FORT: AMONTILLADO? [Groggy]

MONT: I HAVE MY DOUBTS

FORT: AMONTILLADO [Confused]

MONT: SHHH, DON'T LET IT OUT

FORT: AMONTILLADO?

MONT: WE ARE LUCKIL Y MET, I FEEL DECEIVED
I AM IN YOUR DEBT
FOR AS YOU KNOW AND I NEVER FORGET
WHAT IS OFTEN RECEIVED
IS NOT WHAT ONE IS MEANT TO GET!

[spoken] Still, it was a bargain.

FORT: AMONTILLADO, HA! [Spits it out, begins to move on]

MONT: I'D SAY ALMOST A STEAL

FORT: AMONTILLADO? A FAKE.

MONT: AND SUCH A WORTHY MERCHANT
AN HONORABLE CROOK
IN CREDIT HE DEALS NO CASH AT STAKE

FORT: AMONTILLADO [Interested]

MONT: I HAVE MY DOUBTS (Leaning back, playing hard to get)

FORT: AMONTILLADO! [Pressing]

MONT: NO NEED TO SHOUT [Quickly shuts him up with his hand]

FORT: AMONTILLADO?! [Muffled]

MONT: BUT YOU ARE ENGAGED
AND YOUR HEALTH IS WORSE THAN I HAD WAGED

AND LUCHESI IS SO EASILY PAGED
HE HAS TALENT AND SKILL THAT IS RARELY UPSTAGED

FORT: LUCHESI! (Angered]

MONT: A WARM MAN OF LOCAL REKNOWN [Sincerely defending]

FORT: LUCHESI? (More outraged]

MONT: WELL RESPECTED ALL ABOUT TOWN [Blithely defending]

FORT: LUCHESI
KNOWS LESS OF WINES THAN MOST PEASANTS DO

MONT: AND YET OFTEN I'VE HEARD
PLEASE DON'T MARK MY WORD
HE'S EVEN A MATCH FOR YOU

FORT: MAY I REMIND YOU, THE REASON WE MEET
IS AMONTILLADO, SUCCULENT AND SWEET
IT WOULD BE VERY ODD
THAT FOR SUCH A SMALL PRICE
A CLOD LIKE YOU COULD HAVE TROD
UPON THAT BOTTLED PARADISE
AMONTILLADO...

[Slams his hand down, picks up the pace]

COME, WE MUST GO

MONT: I COULDN'T INSIST

FORT: NOW! WE MUST GO

MONT: I MUST RESIST

FORT: YOU WILL NOT THOUGH

MONT: BUT YOU HAVE PLANS

FORT: I SHALL FOREGO

MONT: IMPORTANT DEMANDS

FORT: THE AMONTILLADO!)

MONT: I WILL NOT IMPOSE
UPON YOUR GOOD WILL
LUCHESI IS FOUND
OF ADEQUATE SKILL
AND I PERCEIVE YOU
HAVE MANY ENGAGEMENTS
ARE BURDENED BY
OTHER ARRANGEMENTS
LUCHESI IS FREE
AND CERTAINLY ABLE

FORT: YOU BEGIN TO TEST
MY PATIENCE FRIEND,
LEAD ME ON,
LET THIS BICKERING END.
LUCHESI IS LOST IN
VINEYARD OR CELLAR
HIS TALENTS QUITE LESS
THAN STELLAR
AND I AM NOW FREE
AND VERY ABLE

MONT & FORT:

TO TASTE AND SENSE
AND SMELL AND JUDGE
THAT SWEET AND FINE
SUCCULENT WINE

FORT: AMONTILLADO [Nods at Montessor]

MONT: AMONTILLADO [Nods at Fortunato]

WON'T YOU COME [Both proffering]

FORT: LET US GO

FORT & MONT:
AMONTILLADO