

The Cask of Amontillado

Edgar Allan Poe

Why does Montresor keep offering Fortunato ways not to come?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	Montresor uses Luchesi
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FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION	Carnival encounter
START	My dear Fortunato, you are luckily met. How remarkably well you are looking to-day!
END	He again took my arm, and we proceeded.
PASSAGE ID	sec-cask-02

THE MOVE

Track manipulation through apparent reluctance

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Montresor manipulates Fortunato by repeatedly offering him an exit and mentioning Luchesi. The apparent politeness works because every 'way out' threatens Fortunato's pride, making refusal feel like Fortunato's own choice.

MARK

Underline every place Montresor suggests turning back or consulting Luchesi. Beside each suggestion, write the pride point it touches—health, expertise, status, or rivalry. Star the moment Fortunato most clearly chooses the path Montresor wanted.

NOTICE

- Why would a direct command be less effective on Fortunato than an invitation to stop?
- What does the name Luchesi do to Fortunato each time Montresor uses it?
- Who appears to be making the decisions in the conversation, and who is actually controlling them?

THINK

Answer provisionally: Why does Montresor keep offering Fortunato ways not to come? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: Why does Montresor keep offering Fortunato ways not to come? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	Montresor's offers to stop are manipulative because each apparent exit is paired with an insult to Fortunato's pride—especially the possibility that Luchesi could judge the wine instead. The refusal feels like Fortunato's choice even though Montresor designed it.
EVIDENCE	Use at least two offers to turn back or consult Luchesi and show what pride point each activates: health, expertise, rivalry, or status.
WATCH FOR	Do not describe Montresor as reluctant. The point is that the performance of reluctance is the mechanism of control.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

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Why does Montresor keep offering Fortunato ways not to come?

START ANCHOR	My dear Fortunato, you are luckily met. How remarkably well you are looking to-day!
END ANCHOR	He again took my arm, and we proceeded.

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK - Underline every place Montresor suggests turning back or consulting Luchesi. Beside each suggestion, write the pride point it touches—health, expertise, status, or rivalry. Star the moment Fortunato most clearly chooses the path Montresor wanted.
2. NOTICE - Why would a direct command be less effective on Fortunato than an invitation to stop? What does the name Luchesi do to Fortunato each time Montresor uses it? Who appears to be making the decisions in the conversation, and who is actually controlling them?
3. THINK - Answer provisionally: Why does Montresor keep offering Fortunato ways not to come?
4. WRITE - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.