

## Count of Monte Cristo

By Alexandre Dumas

- We read chapters 1-7 in class. We meet the important characters and Edmond is sent to the infamous Chateau D'If prison for treason
- **Chapter 8**
  - Dante is still in prison. His father dies from grief & starvation. Mercedes and Morrell are with him and try to help. Morrell pays for his funeral and pays his debts. Morrell tries to get Dante released (at risk of his own life). Danglars goes to Spain and Fernand joins the military.
- **Chapter 9**
  - 4 years later, Dante is still in prison. He hears scratching in the walls. Eventually meets his neighbor who was trying to tunnel out.
- **Chapter 10**
  - Dante and his neighbor (Abbe Faria) get to know each other. Abbe Faria helps Edmond realize Fernand, Cadderousse, Danglars and Villefort are behind his imprisonment. Edmond vows to get revenge. Dante promises to not escape without Abbe Faria. They spent 15 months trying to dig out. Abbe Faria gets sick but is saved by a red liquid.
- **Chapter 11**
  - Abbe Faria realizes Edmonds' character and loyalty. He tells Edmond about how he became rich. He was the friend of the Count of Spada and inherited everything. The Count hid his fortune on the Island of Monte Cristo so others couldn't get to it. Abbe Faria tells Edmond, half is his if they make it out together, if not it is all his. Abbe Faria makes Edmond memorize the directions on how to get to the treasure.
- **Chapter 12**
  - Abbe Faria dies and is put in a body bag. Edmond swaps places with him, hoping to dig himself out after being buried. Edmond didn't know the graveyard at the prison was the ocean. Edmond was able to escape after being thrown into the sea with a cannonball attached.
- **Chapter 13**
  - Edmond is eventually taken onboard a ship with smugglers and quickly earns their trust by proving he is a fine sailor. It has been 14 years to the day that he was arrested to his escape. He looks very different now and is anxious to get to the island but has learned patience.
- **Chapter 14**
  - Edmond finally is on the island and fakes an injury to stay behind. He finds the treasure. There are 3 compartments, filled with gold coins, gold ingots and the last with diamonds, pearls and rubies.
- **Chapter 15**
  - Edmond buys a yacht and transfers the treasure. He sends one of the smugglers/friends (Jacopo) to find news of his father and Mercedes. He learns

his father is dead and Mercedes has disappeared. Edmond sails to Marseille with an English passport (Lord Wilmore)

- **Chapter 16**

- A priest (Abbe Busoni) travels to an old inn that is run by Caderousse and his sick wife. Abbe Busoni tells him he has a diamond to split between Edmond's friends since he was there to pray with him as he died (fake, Edmond is the priest). Caderousse tells him everything. Edmond learns his father died of starvation and how Morrell tried to save him and his father. Morrell is on the brink of disaster and his daughter lost her fiancée because of it. We learn Danglars is back from Spain after making millions in banking and married Madame De Nargonne. Fernand made his money climbing the ranks in the military. He went to help Ali Pasha fight in Greece and was made the Count de Morcerf. He inherits his money from him but Ali Pasha gets killed. Mercedes still loves Edmond, but married Fernand so she wasn't alone. She had a son named Albert. Abbe Busoni leaves the diamond with Caderousse and asks only for the red silk purse that Morrell had used to leave money to his father.

- **Chapter 17**

- Edmond is disguised as Lord Wilmore and gathers info on Morrell's money troubles. He buys him out of debt from Monsieur Bellville and learns there that the records show he drowned trying to escape the prison. He also sees proof Morrell tried to get him out of prison.

- **Chapter 18**

- Still disguised as Lord Wilmore, Edmond goes to Morell. Morell's men come back from India on the Pharaon, but sadly the ship sank and Morell has truly lost everything. "Lord Wilmore" extends his deadline of his bills. When he leads Lord Wilmore tells Morell's daughter Julie to expect a letter from Sinbad the Sailor and she should do exactly what it says, no matter how odd and that God will reward her and her life with her future husband Emmanuel. Lord Wilmore talks to Penelon (one of the sailors) in private.

- **Chapter 19**

- Morell's son (Maximilian) comes home. Things are bad. Morell is ready to commit suicide. At the last minute a letter arrives from Sinbad the Sailor. Julie follows the instructions and brings back a red coin purse with a diamond for her dowry and all of the bills paid. They go to the harbor and a replica of the Pharaon is sailing into the harbor. Penelon is at the helm. Edmond steps onto his yacht with Jacopo and as he sails off and says providence has rewarded the good, now it is time to punish the wicked.

- **Chapter 20**

- Albert de Morcerf and his friend Franz are in Rome for vacation (carnival). They can't find a carriage but the Count of Monte Cristo befriends them and they watch an execution from his balcony. One man was saved (Peppino) by the Count

- **Chapter 21**

- Albert and Franz enjoy the party in Italy. Albert gets tricked and is kidnapped by the Bandit Vampa. Franz is forced to ask the Count for help. Peppino takes the

Count to Vampa and Albert is released because Vampa knows the Count. Albert and the Count agree to meet in exactly 3 months time.

- **Chapter 22**

- Albert gets ready for lunch with his friends (Beauchamp -newspaper writer, Lucien Debray-works in government, Chateau de Renaud -Baron and now Maximilian Morrell-saved Chateau de Renaud). Albert tells them about the Count, they think it's made up until The Count of Monte Cristo arrives and they find him outrageous but he is so straightforward they believe him. He gravitates towards Maximilian who doesn't know he is the one who saved his father.

- **Chapter 23**

- Albert introduces the Count to his parents. The Count compliments Morcerf (Fernand) and the Countess (Mercedes) goes pale but pretends it's only her gratitude for him saving her son. When the Count of Monte Cristo leaves she warns Albert to be careful.

- **Chapter 24**

- The Count buys a house in Auteuil. His butler Bertuccio is visibly scared when they arrive. Bertuccio tells the count he had told Abbe Busoni everything. Bertuccio had vowed to kill Villefort since he refused to seek justice for whoever killed his brother. Bertuccio followed Villefort to the house the Monte Cristo bought and saw Villefort meeting a woman there (Hermine Danglars, wife to Danglars). Bertuccio stabbed him for vengeance when he came to bury something in the garden and took the box (thinking it was money). He leaves the baby at an orphanage but his sister in law said he should have kept it and named it Benedetto (for blessing) Bertuccio goes back to smuggling with Caderousse.
- Bertuccio is hiding in Caderousse's inn the day Abbe Busoni leaves the diamond with him. The diamond seller offers him 45k francs. He is convinced to spend the night. Caderousse's wife hints they should kill him so they can keep the diamond and the money. Caderousse kills both the wife and seller and escapes with the money and diamond. Bertuccio is caught (they think he did it) and is only saved by Abbe Busoni who gives him a letter of recommendation to work for the Count of Monte Cristo. Caderousse is caught and sentenced to a life of hard labor. We learn Bertuccio's sister in law is killed by the adopted Benedetto who tortures her to death with friends and escapes with the money she had.

- **Chapter 25**

- Count of Monte Cristo introduces himself to Danglars to open an unlimited bank account. The Count had purchased Danglars horses earlier. The Count is introduced to Mrs. Danglars who is with her "friend" Lucien DeBrey. She mentions wanting the horses back. Later that day Mrs. Villefort (2nd wife) and her son are stopped outside by Ali (Counts Servants) when the same horses are out of control. The Count meets the son Edouard and Mrs. Villefort.

- **Chapter 26**

- Villefort comes to thank the Count for saving his child and wife. The count is cold and forceful with Villefort but Villefort is intrigued.

- **Chapter 27**
  - The Count talks with Haydee and reminds her in France she is free and she could leave. She tells him that she loves him and wouldn't go anywhere without him.
- **Chapter 28**
  - The Count visits Maximilian Morrell and his sister Julie and her husband. They are happy to see him and the Count is caught off guard at how happy/peaceful they are. They tell him of the "angel" that saved their father. They still had the purse and diamond. They reveal their father on his deathbed believed it was Edmond Dantes as the angel. The count couldn't keep his composure and quickly left. Julie swore she had heard his voice before.
- **Chapter 29**
  - The count visits Mrs. Villefort. He meets Valentine (daughter from Villefort's 1st marriage). The awful son Edouard is there. Mrs. Villefort takes an interest in learning about the counts remedies and medicines and how they can quickly be turned to poison and kill. As he leaves he promises to send her the remedy that he uses but to be careful. He remarks the seeds have been sown as he leaves.
- **Chapter 30**
  - Albert visits the Count. He tells the count that his father wants him to marry Danglars daughter (Eugenie) and his mother is against it. He doesn't want to upset either parent but would pick his mom over his dad. He wants to stay a bachelor.
- **Chapter 31**
  - Colonel Calvcanti and "Andrea" Cavalcanti are given letters from Abbe Busoni to go to the Count of Monte Cristo. They are being paid to pretend to be father and son and are given the documents. The Count is pretending that he is only reuniting father and son. The men agree to go along with the story as long as they are getting paid.
- **Chapter 32**
  - Valentine sneaks away to be with her love (Maximilian Morrell). We learn she is engaged to Franz D'Epinay who she doesn't love and Albert is engaged to Eugenie Danglars (she wants to run away and be a musician). We also learn her stepmother (Mrs. Villefort) is upset because Valentine is inheriting everything, from her grandparents, her grandfather Nortier and her father, not her beloved son Edouard.
- **Chapter 33**
  - Villefort's father Nortier is paralyzed and unable to speak. He communicates by blinking and is very close with Valentine. He tries to save her by a new will that removes her from his inheritance if she marries Franz but Villefort refuses and says she will marry him even if it means losing the 900k Francs
- **Chapter 34**
  - Danglars is tricked into selling his bonds and loses 1 millions Francs.

- **Chapter 35**
  - The Count has a dinner party at his country home in Autiel (the house of Villefort's 1st wife's parents) where he had the affair with Madame Danglars. He also invites Major Cavalcanti and "Andrea" Cavalcanti. Bertuccio freaks out when he realizes Mrs. Danglars is there because that is the woman he saw with Villefort. He also sees Benedetto there being addressed as Andrea. The Count tells the tale of woe on what he thinks happened there and how he found the skeleton of a baby. Villefort leaned over and whispers that he needs to talk to Madame Danglars later.
- **Chapter 36**
  - As Andrea leaves the Count's house he is greeted by a "friend" from prison (Caderousse) he forces Andrea to give him an allowance of 200 francs a month to live as a retired baker. Andrea promises as long as he gets his allowance Caderousse will get his.
- **Chapter 37**
  - Danglars confronts his wife about her cheating and how he has known all along. He knew she was 6 months pregnant with Villefort's child when her 1st husband returned after being gone for 9 months. He demands he pay her back ¼ of his losses since he has been paying for her political lesson from her current lover Debray who fed him false information. She needs to get Debray to help her pay it and if he goes bankrupt, so be it.
- **Chapter 38**
  - Danglars visits the Count and discusses his financial struggles. He recently had a faithful client default (not pay his loan) (Jacopo-Counts friend/smuggler/sailor). He also is unsure of his daughter's wedding to Albert de Morcerf. He knows that Albert and the mother are against it. He also knows de Morcerf isn't the natural title of Albert's dad because he knew him as Fernand the fisherman. The Count encourages him to dig into his past because he knew he was connected to Ali Pasha in the orient. The count drops the seed that Danglars daughter should marry Andrea Cavalcanti.
- **Chapter 39**
  - Madame Danglars visits Villefort. He confesses that the child that they thought was dead must have been alive. When he was attacked by the Corsican (Bertuccio) he took the box thinking it was treasure and saved the child. Villefort knows that the Count must know what they did/happened and vows to figure out who the Count is in the next week.
- **Chapter 40**
  - Albert visits the count and reiterates how he doesn't want to marry Eugenie Danglars. The Count says to stay patient and Mr. Danglars might withdraw the engagement for him.
- **Chapter 41**
  - Valentine's grandmother is ill and delusional after the death of her husband. She wishes to see Valentine married. Valentine calls the doctor and visits Maximilian in the garden. He says he will kill himself to defend his honor if she marries Franz

D'Epina y. She promises to run away with him that night. There is a delay. Maximilian overhears Villefort and the doctor in the garden. The doctor believes she was poisoned (with the same poison the Count told Mrs. Villefort about). Valentine is grieving, Maximilian gets to her anyway. She takes him to her grandfather and he has Maximilian promise to wait for Valentine, regardless of what happens.

- **Chapter 42**

- Franz D'Epina y arrives after Valentine's grandparents are buried to sign the marriage contract. Nortier demands to "speak" to him. We learn that Franz's father was ardently for the king and Nortier was not (Bonapartist) Nortier killed Franz's father. Villefort storms out before he chokes his own father at the news.

- **Chapter 43**

- Valentine is now the sole heiress for her grandparents and her grandfather. She and Maximilian are excited to be married. Fernand goes to Danglars to formalize the engagement between their children. Danglars delays it but won't give him a firm reason why, only that circumstances have changed.

- **Chapter 44**

- Nortier calls Valentine and Maximilian to him. The plan is that he will move to an apartment where she will take care of him until he dies/she is of age, then they can get married. Nortier's servant is poisoned and dies. The doctor looks after Mrs. Villefort's son first because he was "under the weather." The doctor is now convinced someone is poisoning people and it's Valentine to speed up receiving the money. Villefort pleads with him that it isn't her. The doctor leaves and says he won't say anything yet as a friend, but his conscience might demand he say something soon.

- **Chapter 45**

- We started reading as a class. Andrea/Benedetto meets with Caderousse and he plans to rob the Count of Monte Cristo.