

TITLE: *The Count of Monte Cristo*

AUTHOR: Alexandre Dumas

POINT OF VIEW: 3rd person

SETTING:

Time:

1815-1844,
beginning during
Napoleon's
captivity on Elba.

Place: Marseilles,
Château d'If,
Rome, Paris,
Monte Cristo,
Greece, and
Constantinople.

Mood:

CHARACTERS:

Protagonist: Edmond
Dantès

19 y.o. seaman, about to become
a captain, engaged to Mercedes.

Antagonist: Danglars,
Mondego, Caderousse: all are
jealous of Dantes for various
reasons. **Villefort** fears that
Dantes will reveal his father is
involved in a plot with Napoleon.

Others: Mercedes: Dante's
fiancé

Abbé Faria: Priest that Dante
meets in prison. He rescues Dante
from despair and leaves him his
hidden treasure when he dies.

Monsieur Morrel: Ship owner,
Dante's boss

Haydée: a beautiful and
mysterious Greek woman who
accompanies the Count of Monte
Cristo.

And a huge cast of characters, too
many to mention!

Plot Stage 3

Climax: One by one, Dantès entraps each of his
persecutors, using their crimes and weaknesses
against them. He draws out each act of revenge to the
point of suspense.

Plot Stage 2

Conflict, Rising Action: The **Conflict is introduced:**
Will Dantès get revenge on his enemies? In the **Rising
Action**, Dantès is consumed by the desire for revenge. Over
the next 2 years Faria educates him in mathematics,
philosophy, history, and several languages. They make an
escape plan but Faria becomes ill before they can carry it out.
He reveals the location of a hidden treasure. Faria dies and
Dantès escapes to find the treasure, then heads to Marseilles
to find Caderousse, who reveals the details of the betrayal.
After rescuing his former employer Mr. Morrell from
bankruptcy, Dantès disappears for 10 years, then reappears in
Rome as the fabulously wealthy Count of Monte Cristo.
Methodically, he sets about an elaborate scheme to exact
revenge against the men responsible for his imprisonment.

Plot Stage 4

Denouement: Caderousse dies after being
stabbed by Villefort's illegitimate and
violent son; Mondego's reputation and
relationship with his family is ruined and he
kills himself; Villefort goes insane; and
Danglars is left penniless.

Plot Stage 5

Conclusion: Dantès rejects Mercedes, who he
still feels was untrue to him when she married
Mondego out of despair. He finds true love with
Haydée, who had been also been injured in
Mondego's crimes. He finally recognizes that
he cannot act in the place of God, but can only
wait and hope for God to punish evil and reward
good.

Plot Stage 1

Exposition: Edmond Dantès, of Marseilles, seems to
have the perfect life. He is about to become the captain of
a ship, he is engaged to a beautiful and kind young
woman, Mercédès, and he is well liked by almost
everyone who knows him. This perfect life, however, stirs
up dangerous jealousy among some of Dantès's so-called
friends, Danglars, Mondego, and Caderousse, who accuse
him of treason. Villefort fears that Dantès will reveal that
his father is involved in a plot with Napoleon so he
sentences him to prison on Château d'If. With no recourse
to justice, after 6 years he desponds. Ready to commit
suicide, he unexpectedly meets Abbé Faria, a priest who
tunnels into Dantès's cell while trying to escape. Faria
befriends him and learns his story, discerning that Dantès
has been framed by his enemies.



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THEMES

Human Revenge vs. Divine Retribution
Peace
Alienation vs. Love

CONFLICT

Man vs. Society, Man vs. Himself
Will Dantès be able to punish his enemies so that he can finally be at peace?