

A LIVELLA



The spirit level

di

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CLIK



Ogn'anno, il due novembre, c'é l'usanza
per i defunti andare al Cimitero.
Ognuno ll'adda fà chesta crianza;
ognuno adda tené chistu penziero.

**Every year on the 2nd of November,
it is usual for the dead care, to go to the Cemetery.
Everyone should do this present;
Everyone should have this thought.**



Ogn'anno, puntualmente, in questo giorno,
di questa triste e mesta ricorrenza,
anch'io ci vado, e con dei fiori adorno
il loculo marmoreo 'e zi' Vicenza.



**Every year, exactly on this day,
Of this sad and unhappy happening,
I go there too, and with some flowers I garnish
the grave stone of Auntie "Vincenza".**



St'anno m'é capitato 'navventura...
dopo di aver compiuto il triste omaggio.
Madonna! si ce penzo, e che paura!,
ma po' facette un'anema e curaggio.



**This year an adventure has happened to me ...
After completed the sad homage,
My God! I am still scared (if I think at it)
But then I got braveness.**



'O fatto è chisto, statemi a sentire:
s'avvicinava ll'ora d'à chiusura:
io, tomo tomo, stavo per uscire
buttando un occhio a qualche sepoltura.



**The fact is the following, listen to me:
We were next to the closing time
When slowly slowly I was going out
Having a look at some graves.**



Qui dorme in pace il nobile marchese
signore di Rovigo e di Belluno
ardimentoso eroe di mille imprese
morto l'11 maggio del '31"



**"Here sleeps in peace the nobleman marquis,
lord of Rovigo and Belluno,
brave hero of 1000 enterprises,
dead on 11th of May 1931"**



'O stemma cu 'a curona 'ncoppa a tutto...
...sotto 'na croce fatta 'e lampadine;
tre mazze 'e rose cu 'na lista 'e lutto:
cannele, cannelotte e sei lumine.



**A Logo with a crown at the very top ...
Below a cross made of bulbs;
Three bunch of roses with a mourning list ...
Candles, Big candles and six little candles.**



Proprio azzeccata 'a tomba 'e stu signore
nce stava 'n 'ata tomba piccerella,
abbandunata, senza manco un fiore;
pe' segno, sulamente 'na crucella



**Very Next to the grave of this lord
There was another very little grave,
It was abandoned without any flower;
As a sign only a little cross,**



E ncoppa 'a croce appena se liggeva:
"Esposito Gennaro - netturbino":
guardannola, che ppena me faceva
stu muorto senza manco nu lumino!



And on the cross it was very difficult to read:
"Esposito Gennaro - Dustman"
I felt pain, looking at him ...
This dead man without any candle.



Questa è la vita! 'ncapo a me penzavo...
chi ha avuto tanto e chi nun ave niente!
Stu povero maronna s'aspettava
ca pur all'atu munno era pezzente?



**"That's life" - I thought in my mind. -
"Who has had a lot and who hasn't had anything!"
"Was this poor man aware
that he was beggar at the other world too?"**

Mentre fantasticavo stu penziero,
s'era ggià fatta quase mezanotte,
e i'rimanette 'nchiuso prigioniero,
muorto 'e paura...nnanze 'e cannelotte.



While I was daydreaming to this situation,
It was nearby midnight,
And I was left closed and prisoner,
Dead and scared in front of the candles.

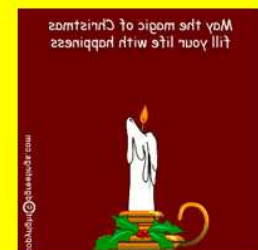


Tutto a 'nu tratto, che veco 'a luntano?
Ddoje ombre avvicenarse 'a parte mia...
Penzaje:stu fatto a me mme pare strano...
Stongo scetato...dormo, o è fantasia?



**Suddenly what did I see in the distance?
Two shadows coming to me ...
I thought: "This seems to be very strange ...
Am I awake, sleeping or is it fantasy?"**

A te che fantasia; era 'o Marchese:
c'o' tubbo, 'a caramella e c'o' pastrano;
chill'ato apriesso a isso un brutto arnese;
tutto fetente e cu 'nascopa mmano.



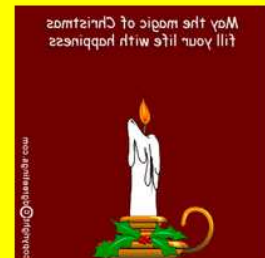
**It was not fantasy ... he was the marquis:
With the walking stick, the monocle and the greatcoat;
Following him, you can see, the ugly badly dressed,
Stinker and with a broom in his hand.**

E chillo certamente è don Gennaro...
'omuorto puveriello... 'o scupatore.
'Int 'a stu fatto i' nun ce veco chiaro:
so' muorte e se ritirano a chest'ora?



**"Yes, he is for sure Mr Gennaro."
"The dead poor man ... the dustman".
"This situation is very unclear: they are dead
and they come back at this time?"**

Putevano sta' 'a me quase 'nu palmo,
quanno 'o Marchese se fermaje 'e botto,
s'avota e tomo tomo..calmo calmo,
dicette a don Gennaro:"Giovanotto!



**They were about a palm away from me,
When suddenly the marquis stopped,
He turned and slowly slowly quite quite,
Told to Mr Gennaro: "Hey mate ...**

Da Voi vorrei saper, vile carogna,
con quale ardire e come avete osato
di farvi seppellir, per mia vergogna,
accanto a me che sono blasonato!



**I want to know from a so low swine like you
With what such a dare you have allowed
To bury your body, with my shame,
next a such titled like me!"**

La casta è casta e va, si, rispettata,
ma Voi perdeste il senso e la misura;
la Vostra salma andava, si, inumata;
ma seppellita nella spazzatura!



**"Caste is caste and it should be respected!
You lost the sense and moderation;
Ok, your corpse had to be buried but
I think inside the garbage!"**



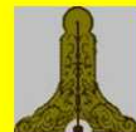
Ancora oltre sopportar non posso
la Vostra vicinanza puzzolente,
fa d'uopo, quindi, che cerchiate un fosso
tra i vostri pari, tra la vostra gente"



**"I cannot suffer
your stinky presence anymore
So it is necessary that you will find another grave
among your dear, among your similar"**



"Signor Marchese, nun è colpa mia,
i'nun v'avesse fatto chistu tuorto;
mia moglie è stata a ffa' sta fesseria,
i' che putevo fa' si ero muorto?"



**..Mister marquis, It's not my fault,
I had never made this wrong to you,
My wife made this foolish think,
What could I do if I was dead?**

Si fosse vivo ve farrei cuntento,
pigliasse 'a casciuella cu 'e quatt'osse
e proprio mo,obbj'...'nd'a stu mumento
mme ne trasesse dinto a n'ata fossa".



**If I were live I would make you happy,
I'd get my box with my four bones
and now, you know, just in this moment,
I'd go inside another grave."**

E cosa aspetti, oh turpe malcreato,
che l'ira mia raggiunga l'eccedenza?
Se io non fossi stato un titolato
avrei già dato piglio alla violenza!"



**"So what are you waiting, filthy badly created?
Do you want that my wrath reaches overflow?
If I hadn't been a titled man,
I'd already get angry!"**

"Famme vedé...-piglia sta violenza...
'A verità, Marché, mme so' scucciato
'e te senti; e si perdo 'a pacienza,
mme scordo ca so' muorto e so mazzate!...



"OK, I want to see ... let's take this violence...
You know, marquis, I am annoyed to listen to you
And if I lose my patience
I forget that I am dead and I'll beat you!



Ma chi te cride d'essere...nu ddio?
Ccà dintò, 'o vvuo capi, ca simmo eguale?...
...Muorto si'tu e muorto so' pur'io;
ognuno comme a 'na'ato é tale e quale".



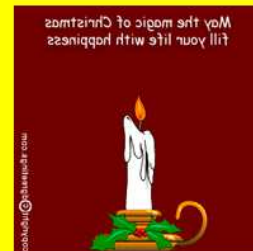
Who do you think you are? A Lord?
Do you know that in this place we are all the same?
Dead are you and dead I am;
Everyone is equal to the others."



Tu qua' Natale...Pasca e Ppifania!!!
T"o vvuo' mettere 'ncapo...'int'a cervella
che staje malato ancora e' fantasia?...
'A morte 'o ssaje ched"e?...è una livella.



**"But what Christmas, Easter and Epiphany!!!!
Do you want finally understand inside you brain
That you are still sick of fantasy?
Do you know what is dead? It's a spirit level ...**



"Lurido porco!...Come ti permetti
paragonarti a me ch'ebbi natali
illustri,nobilissimi e perfetti,
da fare invidia a Principi Reali?"



**"Bloody pig! How do you allow
to compare yourself with me that
had as my ancestors very revered, very nobles
and perfect to make regal princes envious?"**



'Nu rre, 'nu maggistrato, 'nu grand'ommo,
trasenno stu canciello ha fatt'o punto
c'ha perzo tutto, 'a vita e pure 'o nomme:
tu nu t'hè fatto ancora chistu cunto?



**A King, a Magistrate, A great man
that coming through this gate has understood
that he has lost everything, life and the name also:
Hadn't you already considered this?**



Perciò, stamme a ssenti...nun fa"o restivo,
suppuorteme vicino-che te 'mporta?
Sti ppagliacciate 'e ffanno sulo 'e vive:
nuje simmo serie...appartenimmo à morte!"

Antonio De Curtis



**So, listen to me ... don't be reluctant.
Suffer my presence close to you? Don't you care about it!
This are jokes of alive people: We are more serious...
We belong to the death.**

By [Antonio Caputo](#) & Dario Velleca