



## The Morel Dilemma Christmas Album

Holiday Classics for the Mycophile. Lyrics copyright Elizabeth Gall 2016.

<i>Carol of the Amanitas</i> .....	2
<i>I Saw Mommy Eating Chanterelles</i> .....	2
<i>I Saw Some Mushrooms</i> .....	3
<i>I Think I Found a Puffball</i> .....	4
<i>Let Us Grow</i> .....	5
<i>The Morel is an Ascomycete</i> .....	6

**Carol of the Amanitas**

*Tune: Carol of the Bells*

Amanita muscaria (x14)

Not the sort of mushroom for an omelet<sup>1</sup> (x2)

Amanita muscaria (x18)

Not the sort of mushroom for an omelet (x2)

Amanita muscaria (x4)

**I Saw Mommy Eating Chanterelles**

*Tune: I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus*

I saw Mommy eating chanterelles  
By herself at two a.m. last night  
When I asked she said they  
Were all used up in May  
Before she tucked me in  
And made her scandalous saute

Then I saw Mommy eating chanterelles  
Every last delicious-looking bite  
I can't believe that she  
Would hide such treats from me  
Just to have them to herself last night

I saw Mommy eating chanterelles  
Every last delicious-looking bite  
I can't believe that she  
Would hide such treats from me  
Just to have them to herself last night

---

<sup>1</sup> In 1897, while visiting the United States, Italian diplomat Count Achilles de Vecchj lethally poisoned himself by eating 24 misidentified *Amanita muscaria* caps for breakfast. The public fear surrounding this episode actually led to much better literature about the mushrooms of the US, effectively bringing mycology to the American public.

The Morel Dilemma Christmas Album

**I Saw Some Mushrooms**

*Tune: I Saw Three Ships*

I saw some mushrooms in a field  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day  
I saw some mushrooms in a field  
On Christmas Day in the morning

They made a little fairy ring  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day  
They made a little fairy ring  
On Christmas Day in the morning

With caps of red and spots of white  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day  
With caps of red and spots of white  
On Christmas Day in the morning

They made a truly merry sight  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day  
They made a truly merry sight  
On Christmas Day in the morning

I saw some mushrooms in a field  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day  
I saw some mushrooms in a field  
On Christmas Day in the morning

They made a little fairy ring  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day  
They made a little fairy ring  
On Christmas Day in the morning

The Morel Dilemma Christmas Album

**I Think I Found A Puffball**

*Tune: I Had a Little Dreidel*

[I think I found a puffball  
Way out here in the wood  
I'd rather like to eat it, but  
I don't know if I should] (x2)

[I think I found a puffball  
It's right here on the ground  
It's white and firm and fleshy  
And very big around] (x2)

[I think I found a puffball  
I think it's bona fide  
For when I cut it open  
It's also white inside] (x2)

[I think I found a puffball  
I must look in the book  
And make sure it's the right one  
Before I start to cook] (x2)

[I think I found a puffball  
My ID is confirmed  
My expert friends are proud of me  
Because of all I've learned] (x2)

**Let Us Grow**<sup>2</sup>

*Tune: Let it Snow*

For a while I've been growing hyphal  
But that lonely life will stifle  
So let's be dikaryotes  
Let us grow, let us grow, let us grow!

The leaves have long ceased droppin'  
But my dear, we're genome swappin'  
It's cozy beneath the snow  
Let us grow, let us grow, let us grow!

We'll keep moving through soil despite  
Our host's largely stagnant phloem  
And to later make sporophytes  
Take all the carbs and we'll stow'em!

Dead matter we're liquefyin'  
And our hunger we're satisfyin'  
Myceliate to and fro,  
Let us grow, let us grow, let us grow!

We'll keep moving through soil despite  
This host's largely stagnant phloem  
And to later make sporophytes  
Take all the carbs and we'll stow'em!

Oh our tree host is slowly dyin'  
But those carbs it's still supplyin'  
So now that we're pure saprobes  
Let us grow, let us grow, let us grow!

---

<sup>2</sup> This song details part of the life cycle of a fungus. The speaker is one haploid hypha that has become tired of its roaming lifestyle and decided to settle down with another hypha of the same species. They join cells, mingling their nuclei in a new, dikaryotic phase of the fungus. They create a life together, making mycelia and forming a partnership with a nearby tree, sharing nutrients and dreaming of the mushroom (sporophyte) they will make together. The mutualistic relationship is sadly cut short when the tree dies over the winter, but as the fungi can also live saprobically (off of dead and decaying matter), their future is looking bright!

The Morel Dilemma Christmas Album

**The Morel is an Ascomycete**

*Tune: The Holly She Bears a Berry*

The Morel is an ascomycete  
With pocks in the side  
It's a delicacy that you should seek  
If you have not tried

A delicacy to seek  
Its flavor excels  
We wait all the winter long for  
The spring's first morels

*Chorus:*

Morels, morels  
We wait all the winter long for  
The spring's first morels

The Morel is an ascomycete  
With fruits black or gold  
And cook it with golden butter  
The flavor to hold

Cook it with golden butter  
Its flavor excels  
We wait all the winter long for  
The spring's first morels

*(Chorus)*

The Morel is an ascomycete  
With impostor cruel  
If you don't broil Finnish Fugu<sup>3</sup>  
You're eating jet fuel.

If you broil the Finnish Fugu  
Then the Finns like it well  
But we wait all the winter long for  
The spring's first morel.

*(Chorus)*

The Morel is an ascomycete  
With flavor divine  
And if you do not share your bounty  
You'll have none of mine.

Oh share around the bounty  
Its flavor excels  
We wait all the winter long for  
The spring's first morels

*(Chorus)*

---

<sup>3</sup> "The Finnish Fugu" is a common nickname for the False Morel, since it is consumed only by locals and the bravest visitors and must be specially prepared, much like the Fugu fish of Japan.