

## *A Coffee Sample in the Information Age*

*This coffee is grown  
in an unspoiled region  
of Madagascar*

*aged in casks of beryl  
scooped from deep mines  
in North Carolina.*

*The loaded casks are shipped to a particular mountain in Chile  
where the exceptional altitude  
removes certain residua*

*so that the smooth baritone flavor  
and the ethereal aromas of soft flowers  
can mingle.*

*Then in the superb microclimate  
of Southwest Omaha  
the coffee is roasted and aged again*

*(or aged again and roasted)  
in osmium vats  
utterly immune to surrounding influences.*

*And now we bring  
this splendid brew  
to you*

*because you deserve it.  
(Why I deserve it  
is not explained.)*

*I drink and experience  
the faint taste of acid on the tongue  
accompanied by a certain twang,*

*all reminiscent of old Gilbert Chemistry Sets.  
Suffused throughout is the pillow-soft scent  
of effluvium.*

*But to be generous  
this might have come from a smidgeon  
of North Canadian mud*

*from the hand of the server  
who had just come from  
a canoeing vacation.*