

I Knew It

One Little Wish

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Señor Gruñón is not a popular man in Paraguay because of his forthright defense of his pear tree and his stubborn refusal to pay taxes. He is especially unpopular with the taxman – Moriñigo – who is not surprised when he learns the old man is causing trouble yet again. This time Señor Gruñón has put a magic curse on his pear tree that has trapped Death in the tree and prevented the deadly presence from making his rounds. A very cocky Moriñigo can't help but remind his colleagues that he long ago warned them about the old man.

MORÍÑIGO

(Singing.)
WELL, WELL, WELL, WELL.
WHO WARNED YOU OF THIS HELL?
LET'S SEE, LET'S SEE...
WHOEVER COULD IT BE?
IT WAS I!
IT WAS I!

FONTES, BURIOS

(Singing.)
IT WAS HE.

MORÍÑIGO

(Singing.)
I SPIED IT FROM A MILE AWAY
SO SCATTER YOUR DENIAL AWAY.
I KNEW IT.
I SAID IT.
IN EV'RY STAR I READ IT.

MORÍÑIGO (CONT)

I SAW THE WRITING ON THE WALL
AND CIRCLED IT UPON THE WALL.
I KNEW IT.
I FELT IT.
FATE TOOK THE CARD AND DEALT IT.

YES, FROM THE VERY START OF THINGS
I WENT RIGHT TO THE HEART OF THINGS
AND KNEW THE ENDING LONG BEFORE IT CAME ON.
I TOOK A CHANCE AND TOLD YOU SO,
BUT HERE, NOW I WON'T SCOLD YOU, SO
THERE'S NO FEAR THAT I'LL GAILY POUR THE BLAME ON.

I'LL RUB NO SALT INTO YOUR WOUNDS
BUT NOR SHALL I BOOHOO YOUR WOUNDS
BECAUSE
I KNEW IT...
I SAID IT...
I FELT IT...
NOW DREAD IT
AND JUST KNOW -
I TOLD YOU SO!

I KNEW IT FROM THE VERY FIRST
AND PROPHESED THE VERY WORST.
I KNEW IT.
I SAW IT.
I DARED TO STAR AND DRAW IT.

I LIT A FIRE AND WAVED A FLAG
BUT YOU JUST THOUGHT I WAVED A RAG.
I KNEW IT.
I SCREAMED IT.
YOU NEVER EVER DREAMED IT.

YET HERE WE STEW WITHIN THIS MESS,
A CRAZED AND GHASTLY SIN, THIS MESS,
WITHOUT A SEEMING EXIT WE MIGHT TURN TO.
I GUESS THE ONLY THING UPBEAT
IS THAT OUR ROUT IS SO COMPLETE
WE'VE NOW RUN OUT OF BRIDGES WE CAN BURN, TOO.

I CAUTIONED YOU, BUT NO ONE HEARD
AND THUS I LEARNED TO GO UNHEARD
AND YET
I KNEW IT...
I SAW IT...
I SCREAMED IT...
HA-HA, IT
CAME TO PASS -
ALAS, ALAS!

Wrapped in the moment, MORÍÑIGO turns
on the crowd of people and
proselytizes:

MORÍÑIGO

Don't you see, my friends? Death up a tree doesn't mean we will
cease to age and hurt. We will continue to age and continue to
hurt, but without relief. The food will grow scarce. Our bodies
will grow weak. We will all stalk the Earth like phantoms. It is
the hand of the devil I see in that horrible old man! We must
bring him here and compel his cooperation! Who's with me?

ALL cheer excitedly, save for an
uncertain LARRÁZABAL and a stern-faced
LA SEÑORA MARAVILLA, who, quietly, has
just entered:

LA SEÑORA MARAVILLA

I am not with you. I will not be a part of any mob.

MORÍÑIGO

Then, Señora, stand aside and leave the action to us.

MORÍÑIGO pushes LA SEÑORA MARAVILLA
aside and turns to the crowd:

MORÍÑIGO

(Singing.)
I'VE ACTED TO INDICT THE WRONG
AND NOW IT'S TIME TO RIGHT THE WRONG
SO LET'S DESTROY THE ROGUE WHO CAUSED OUR RUIN.

FONTES, BURIOS, ANA, PEPE,
DOCTOR, NUN

(Singing.)
ONE HAS TO GET A LITTLE ROUGH
WITH TIMES MORE THAN A LITTLE TOUGH
SO LET'S ALL MAKE SOME HELL FOR HIM TO STEW IN.

MORÍÑIGO

(Singing.)
I KNEW IT AND I KNEW IT ALL!

FONTES, BURIOS, ANA, PEPE,
DOCTOR, NUN

(Singing.)
AND NOW WE'VE LIVED TO RUE IT ALL!

MORÍÑIGO

(Singing.)
YES, YES, I KNEW IT!

FONTES, BURIOS, ANA, PEPE,
DOCTOR, NUN

(Singing.)
HE KNEW IT!

MORÍÑIGO

(Singing.)
YOU BLEW IT!

FONTES, BURIOS, ANA, PEPE,
DOCTOR, NUN

(Singing.)
WE BLEW IT
FOR YES, YOU...
YOU ALWAYS KNEW!

MORÍÑIGO

(Singing.)
I ALWAYS KNEW!

MORÍÑIGO, FONTES, BURIOS, ANA,
PEPE, DOCTOR, NUN

(Singing.)
I/HE ALWAYS KNEW!