

Mysterious Merlot

**Winemakers have tried to solve the mystery of Merlot
that elusive grape that hides inside some Cabernets
its softness pressing against the fleshiness of the Cab
seducing it to soften
yet enjoying the symbiotic relationship.
Like a chameleon, it hides in plain sight
ruby red
it tempts the Cabernet to mellow with age
and not rage against the palate.
Alone, it often lacks structure
And its need for a companion is more apparent.
Ah, mysterious Merlot,
where did you come from
and where do you want to go?**

-John Koetzner