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THOSE SENSUOUS WRITERS SHOULD BE ASHAMED

Gold tasseled menus overwhelm resolve
with every highly seasoned epithet.
Cold crisp suggestions dipped in tang revolve
the pith and piquance skewer-aimed to whet
each tasting bud, to silence moderation.
Broiled tender phrase, spiced syntax, creamy riot
breach my barriers. Anticipation
coiled inside each cell defies the diet
prescribed by Dr. No-No. I'm seduced.
I will have Langostino Casaloma
described au verve. The poetry reduced
my won't to puree smothered in aroma.
There's one last round to lose and much to gain:
"Where's dessert?" I cry. "Serve it with champagne!"

--Glenna Holloway,
MODERN MATURITY, 1985