**Amos Fortune, Free Man** from Los Angeles City College Cyber Writing Center

by Elizabeth Yates

Please discuss the following questions on pp. 53-73 of Amos Fortune.

1. What is his life with Mr. Richardson like? How would you compare him to Mr. Copeland?

2. How did Amos view the Whites’ preoccupation with skin color? How did it make him feel? Were you surprised to learn this?

3. Amos makes a special bargain with Mr. Richardson (p.61). What is this for? What do you think will happen in Amos’s future?

4. Under what conditions does Mr. Richardson agree to give Amos his freedom? What is his wife’s reaction? What is Amos’s reaction? What did you think?

5. What does Mrs. Richardson do after Mr. Richardson dies? Again, were you surprised?

6. What does Amos decide to do after he has received his freedom?

7. Why does Amos wait so long to marry Lily? When does he finally go to see Mr. Twombly?

8. What do you think of the quote “[Amos] left the gentleman’s presence and went out to find Lily: his now, and a free woman because she was his (p.73)?” What does this reflect about the status of women in general and the status of Black women in particular during this time period?