Lost in Translation: “Godfather” Vocabulary

_The Godfather_ makes use of a variety of Italian words, phrases, and expressions:

- Paulie says "sfortunato", which in Italian means "unlucky guy".
- Michael explains that Tom is a "consigliere", or a counselor.
- Vito calls Johnny Fontane a "finocchio", an offensive term for a homosexual.
- Sonny refers to Paulie as a "stronzo", a term equivalent to "a**hole".
- Carlo and Connie both say "va fa 'n culo" during their fight, which means "go f**k yourself".
- Don Zaluchi calls the sale of drugs to children as an "infamnia", or an infamy.
- Both the Dons (Vito & Michael) use the word "pezzonovante", which means ".95 caliber," or more accurately meaning "big shot".
- “Vendetta”: a private feud, originally between Corsican or Sicilian families, in which the relatives of a murdered person seek vengeance by killing the murderer or some member of his family.
- Michael calls Apollonia “pazzo”, meaning “crazy”.

- **Sollozzo speaks to Michael in Sicilian:** "I am sorry. What happened to your father was business. I have much respect for your father. But your father, his thinking is old-fashioned. You must understand why I had to do that. Now let's work through where we go from here." When Michael returns from the bathroom, he continues in Sicilian with: "Everything all right? I respect myself, understand, and cannot allow another man to hold me back. What happened was unavoidable. I had the unspoken support of the other Family dons. If your father were in better health, without his eldest son running things, no disrespect intended, we wouldn't have this nonsense. We will stop fighting until your father is well and can resume bargaining. No vengeance will be taken. We will have peace. But your Family should interfere no longer."