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Victor Hugo
LES MISÉRABLES
& Notes

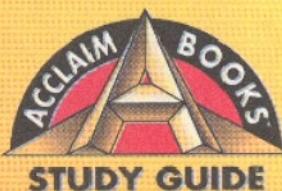
YOUR
DOORWAY TO
THE CLASSICS



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Illustrated®

Victor Hugo
LES MISERABLES

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Sherwood Smith, M.A.





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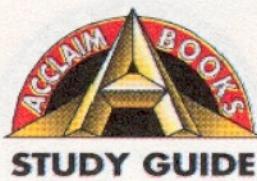
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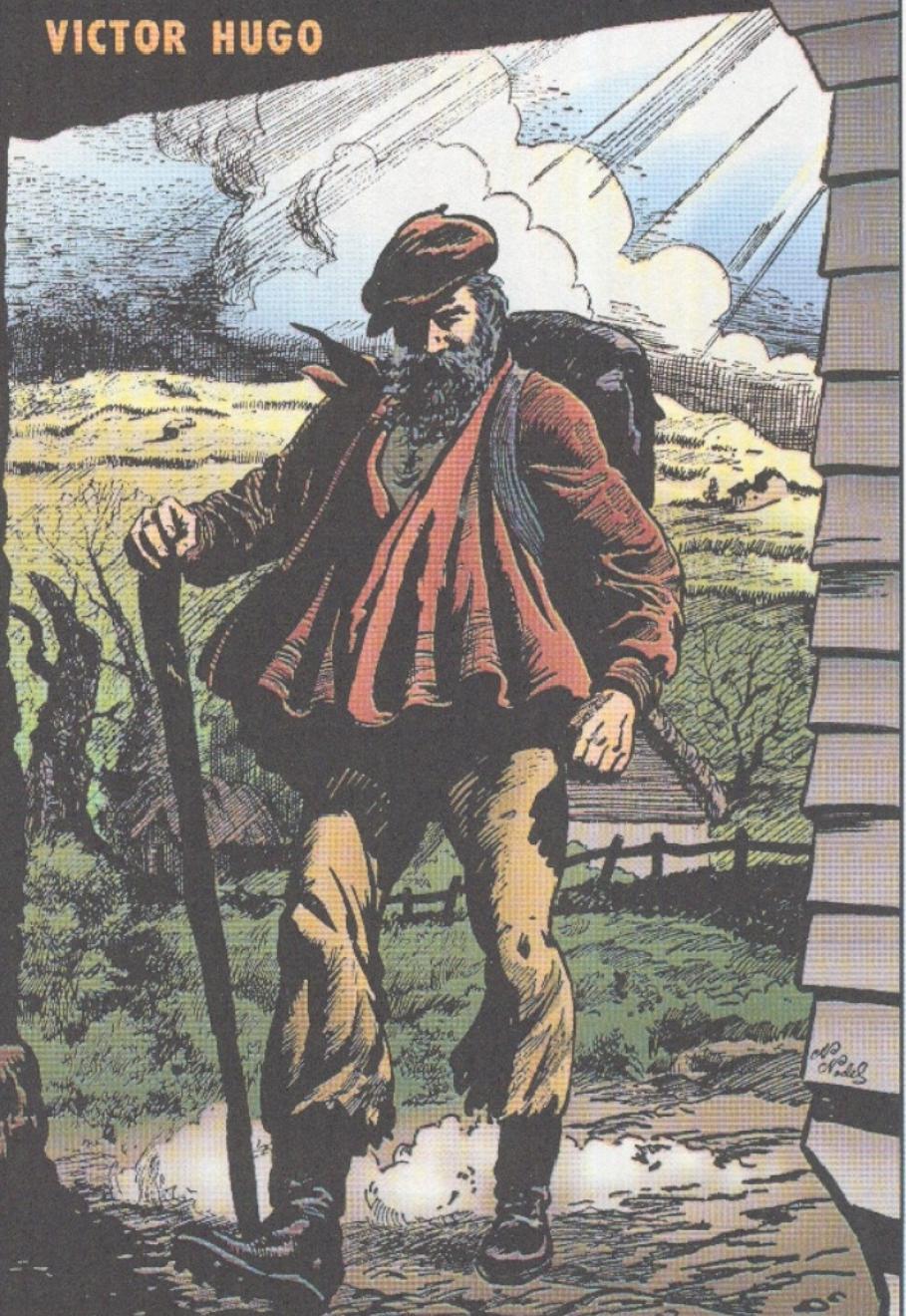
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Les MISERABLES

VICTOR HUGO



THE UNFORTUNATE AND THE INFAMOUS ARE ASSOCIATED IN THE WORDS, LES MISERABLES. THERE WERE MANY SUCH PEOPLE IN FRANCE IN 1815. ONE OF THEM WAS JEAN VALJEAN.

AN HOUR BEFORE SUNSET ON AN EVENING IN THE BEGINNING OF OCTOBER, 1815, A MAN ENTERED A LITTLE TOWN OF D--.



HE WENT INTO THE MAYOR'S OFFICE, CAME OUT, AND TURNED HIS STEPS TOWARD AN INN.



WHILE THE NEWCOMER WAS WARMING HIMSELF, THE INNKEEPER WROTE A LINE OR TWO ON A PAPER AND HANDED IT TO A CHILD.



WHEN THE BOY CAME BACK WITH THE PAPER, THE HOST READ IT, THEN TOOK A STEP TOWARD THE TRAVELER.



NO MORE OF THAT! I KNOW WHO YOU ARE. GO AWAY!



THE MAN BOWED HIS HEAD AND WENT OUT. HE WALKED AT RANDOM, SLINKING NEAR THE HOUSES. THEN HE ENTERED ANOTHER INN.

THERE IS THE FIRE; SUPPER IS COOKING IN THE POT. COME, WARM YOURSELF, COMRADE.



THE MAN SEATED HIMSELF NEAR THE FIREPLACE, HALF DEAD WITH FATIGUE. BUT A FISHERMAN WHO HAD BEEN AT THE FIRST INN BECKONED TO THE TAVERN KEEPER. THEY EXCHANGED A FEW WORDS, AND THE TAVERN KEEPER RETURNED TO THE TRAVELER.

YOU ARE GOING TO CLEAR OUT FROM HERE!

AH! YOU KNOW THEN.



THE MAN TOOK UP HIS STICK AND KNAPSACK, AND WENT OFF. HE TRIED SEVERAL HOUSES AND WAS TURNED AWAY. NIGHT CAME ON. EXHAUSTED, HE LAY DOWN ON A STONE BENCH.



JUST THEN AN OLD WOMAN CAME OUT OF THE CHURCH.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING THERE, MY FRIEND? YOU CANNOT PASS THE NIGHT SO.

I HAVE KNOCKED AT EVERY DOOR. EVERYBODY HAS DRIVEN ME AWAY.



THE OLD WOMAN POINTED TO A LITTLE, LOW HOUSE BESIDE THE BISHOP'S PALACE.

KNOCK THERE.



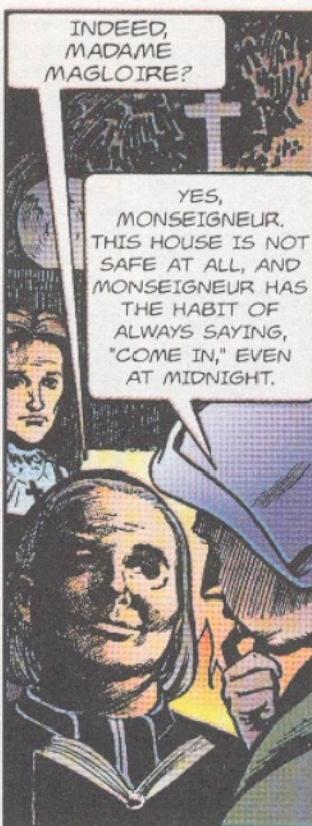
INSIDE THE HOUSE IN QUESTION LIVED THE BISHOP OF D--, A JUST, INTELLIGENT, HUMBLE, WORTHY, AND BENEVOLENT MAN. WITH HIM DWELT HIS SISTER AND HIS HOUSEKEEPER, MADAME MAGLOIRE.

I HAVE HEARD IN TOWN THAT THERE IS A DANGEROUS VAGABOND LURKING AROUND.



INDEED, MADAME MAGLOIRE?

YES, MONSIEUR. THIS HOUSE IS NOT SAFE AT ALL, AND MONSIEUR HAS THE HABIT OF ALWAYS SAYING, "COME IN," EVEN AT MIDNIGHT.



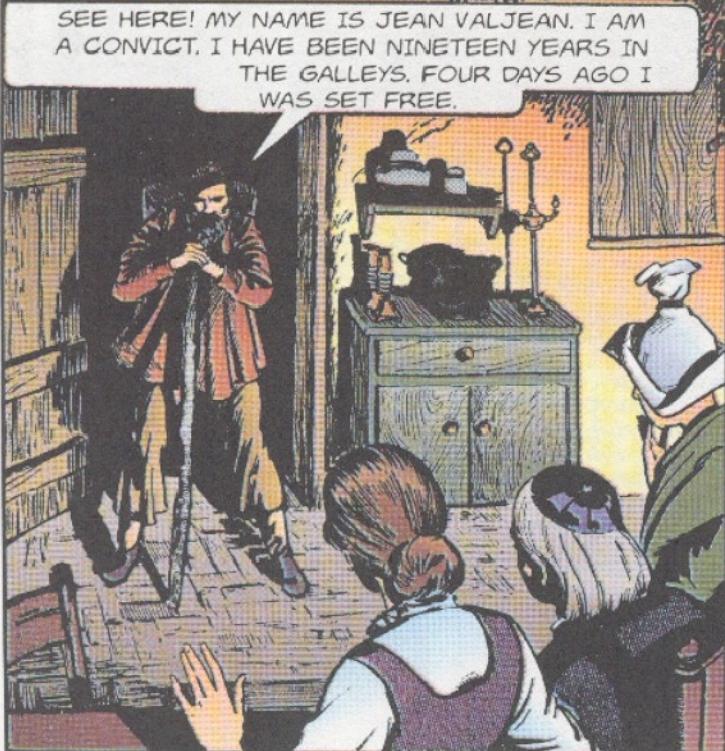
AT THAT MOMENT THERE WAS A VIOLENT KNOCK ON THE DOOR.

COME IN.



THE DOOR OPENED AND THE TRAVELER ENTERED. A ROUGH, TIRED, FIERCE LOOK IN HIS EYES.

SEE HERE! MY NAME IS JEAN VALJEAN. I AM A CONVICT. I HAVE BEEN NINETEEN YEARS IN THE GALLEYS. FOUR DAYS AGO I WAS SET FREE.



WHEN I REACHED THIS PLACE I WENT TO AN INN AND THEY SENT ME AWAY ON ACCOUNT OF MY YELLOW PASSPORT WHICH I HAD SHOWN AT THE MAYOR'S OFFICE, AS WAS NECESSARY. IT WAS THE SAME EVERYWHERE, THEN A GOOD WOMAN SHOWED ME YOUR HOUSE. CAN I STAY?



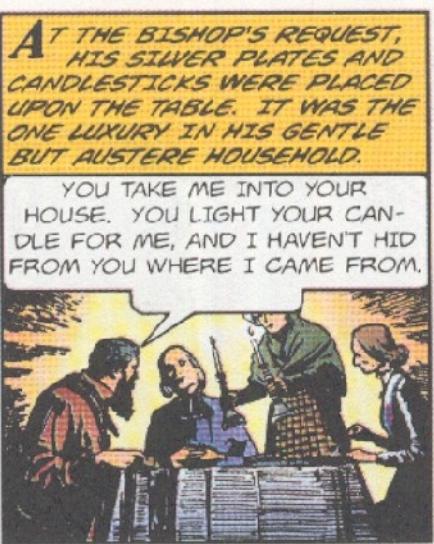
MONSIEUR, SIT DOWN AND WARM YOURSELF. WE ARE GOING TO TAKE SUPPER PRESENTLY, AND YOUR BED WILL BE MADE READY WHILE YOU SUP.

YOU ARE GOOD PEOPLE!

AT THE BISHOP'S REQUEST, HIS SILVER PLATES AND CANDLESTICKS WERE PLACED UPON THE TABLE. IT WAS THE ONE LUXURY IN HIS GENTLE BUT AUSTERE HOUSEHOLD.

YOU TAKE ME INTO YOUR HOUSE. YOU LIGHT YOUR CANDLE FOR ME, AND I HAVEN'T HID FROM YOU WHERE I CAME FROM.

THIS IS NOT MY HOUSE, IT IS THE HOUSE OF CHRIST. WHATEVER IS HERE IS YOURS.



AFTER DINNER THE BISHOP LED JEAN VALJEAN TO THE ALCOVE WHERE HE WAS TO SLEEP. AS THEY WERE PASSING THE BISHOP'S ROOM, MADAME MAGLOIRE WAS PUTTING UP THE SILVER IN THE CUPBOARD.



THE BISHOP LEFT HIS GUEST BEFORE A CLEAN, WHITE BED.

YOU LODGE ME IN YOUR HOUSE, AS NEAR TO YOU AS THIS! WHO TELLS YOU THAT I AM NOT A MURDERER?

GOD WILL TAKE CARE OF THAT.



JEAN VALJEAN WAS NOT A MURDERER. HE HAD BEEN A PRUNER AT FAVEROLLES, THE SOLE SUPPORT OF HIS WIDOWED SISTER AND HER SEVEN CHILDREN. ONE YEAR THERE WAS A VERY SEVERE WINTER. JEAN HAD NO WORK, THE FAMILY HAD NO BREAD.



WHAT SHALL WE DO?

THAT NIGHT, A BAKER IN FAVEROLLES WAS GOING TO BED WHEN HE HEARD A VIOLENT BLOW AGAINST THE BARRED WINDOW OF HIS SHOP. HE GOT DOWN IN TIME TO SEE AN ARM THRUST THROUGH THE OPENING. THE ARM SEIZED A LOAF OF BREAD.



THE BAKER PURSUED THE THIEF AND CAUGHT HIM. IT WAS JEAN VALJEAN.



JEAN VALJEAN WAS BROUGHT BEFORE THE TRIBUNALS AND FOUND GUILTY.



FOUR TIMES HE TRIED TO ESCAPE, AND EACH TIME HIS SENTENCE WAS EXTENDED. HE WAS SET AT LARGE AFTER NINETEEN YEARS AND, SULLEN AND HARDENED, HAD BEEN RECEIVED BY THE BISHOP.



A FEW MINUTES AFTERWARD, ALL IN THE LITTLE HOUSE SLEPT. AS THE CATHEDRAL CLOCK STRUCK TWO, JEAN VALJEAN AWOKE.

THE SILVER PLATES IN THE CUPBOARD IN THE BISHOP'S CHAMBER WOULD BRING AT LEAST TWO HUNDRED FRANCS.



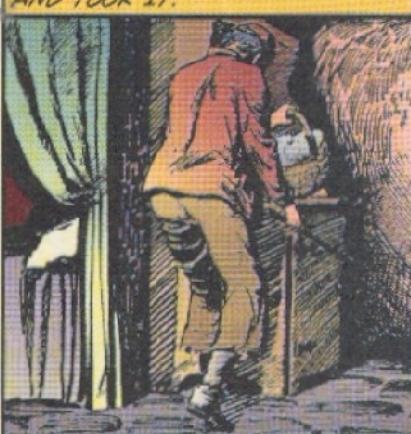
HIS MIND WAVERED A WHOLE HOUR. THEN HE ROSE TO HIS FEET, FUMBLED IN HIS KNAPSACK FOR AN IRON BAR, AND WITH STEALTHY STEPS MOVED TOWARD THE DOOR OF THE NEXT ROOM.



HE FOUND IT UNLATCHED. HE ADVANCED TO THE BISHOP'S BED AND STOOD LOOKING DOWN AT HIM WITH A STRANGE INDECISION.



SUDDENLY HE PASSED QUICKLY TO THE CUPBOARD. HE SAW THE BASKET OF SILVER AND TOOK IT.

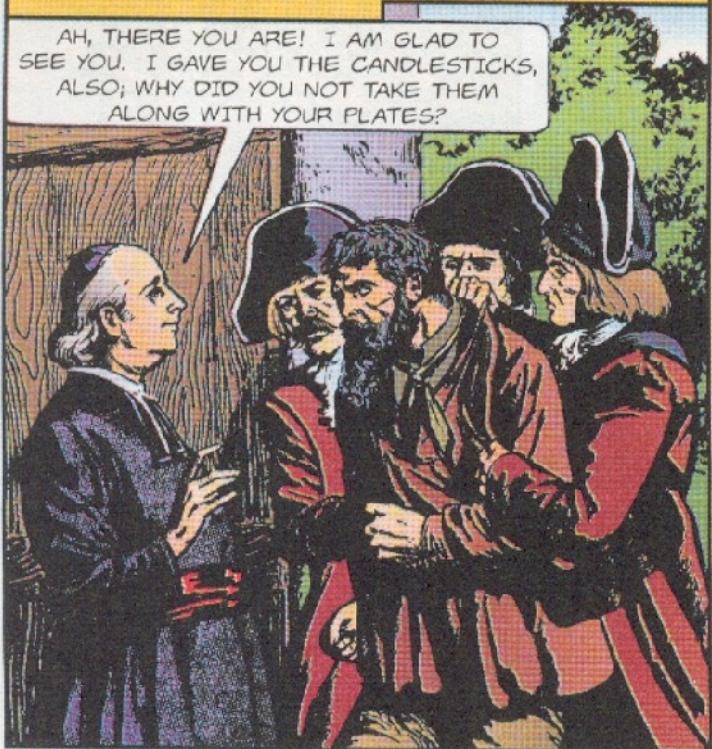


HE CROSSED THE ROOM WITH HASTY STRIDE, TOOK HIS STICK AND KNAPSACK, STEPPED OUT OF THE WINDOW, RAN ACROSS THE GARDEN, LEAPED OVER THE WALL LIKE A TIGER, AND FLED.



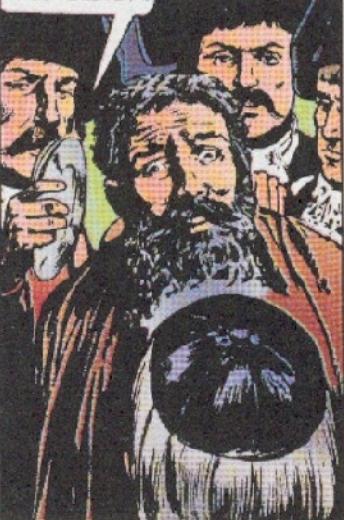
THE NEXT DAY, THREE GENDARMES BROUGHT JEAN VALJEAN BACK TO THE BISHOP'S HOUSE.

AH, THERE YOU ARE! I AM GLAD TO SEE YOU. I GAVE YOU THE CANDLESTICKS, ALSO; WHY DID YOU NOT TAKE THEM ALONG WITH YOUR PLATES?



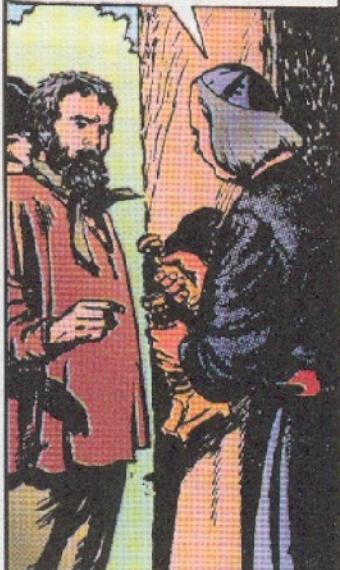
JEAN VALJEAN LOOKED AT THE BISHOP WITH AN EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE WHICH NO HUMAN TONGUE COULD DESCRIBE.

THEN WHAT THIS MAN SAID WAS TRUE? WE MET HIM GOING LIKE A MAN WHO WAS RUNNING AWAY AND WE ARRESTED HIM. HE HAD THIS SILVER.

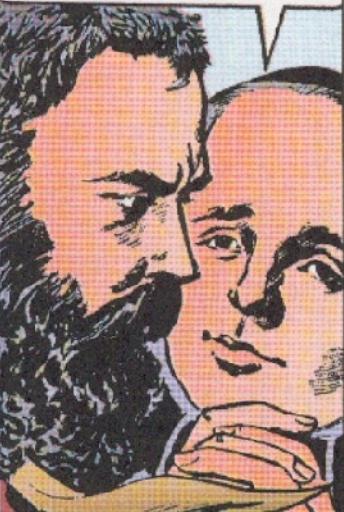


THE GENDARMES RELEASED JEAN VALJEAN, WHO SHRUNK BACK. THE BISHOP BROUGHT THE TWO CANDLESTICKS TO HIM.

MY FRIEND, BEFORE YOU GO AWAY, THERE ARE YOUR CANDLESTICKS. TAKE THEM.



JEAN VALJEAN, NEVER FORGET THAT YOU HAVE PROMISED ME TO USE THIS SILVER TO BECOME AN HONEST MAN. IT IS YOUR SOUL I AM BUYING FOR YOU. I WITHDRAW IT FROM DARK THOUGHTS AND I GIVE IT TO GOD!



JEAN VALJEAN FLED FROM THE CITY AS IF HE WERE ESCAPING. HE WANDERED IN THE COUNTRY ALL DAY, CONFUSED BY A MULTITUDE OF NEW SENSATIONS. HE WAS SEATED BEHIND A THICKET WHEN HE SAW A BOY COMING ALONG A PATH.



THE BOY STOPPED BY THE SIDE OF THE THICKET, WITHOUT SEEING JEAN VALJEAN, AND TOSSSED UP SOME PIECES OF MONEY THAT HE HAD IN HIS HAND.



A FORTY-SOUS PIECE ESCAPED HIM AND ROLLED TOWARD THE THICKET NEAR JEAN VALJEAN. JEAN VALJEAN PUT HIS FOOT UPON IT.



JEAN VALJEAN DID NOT APPEAR TO UNDERSTAND. THE BOY TOOK HIM BY THE COLLAR OF HIS BLOUSE AND SHOOK HIM.

I WANT MY MONEY!
WILL YOU TAKE AWAY YOUR FOOT?



JEAN VALJEAN ROSE TO HIS FEET, AND THE BOY TOOK TO FLIGHT. ALL AT ONCE JEAN VALJEAN SAW THE FORTY-SOUS PIECE.

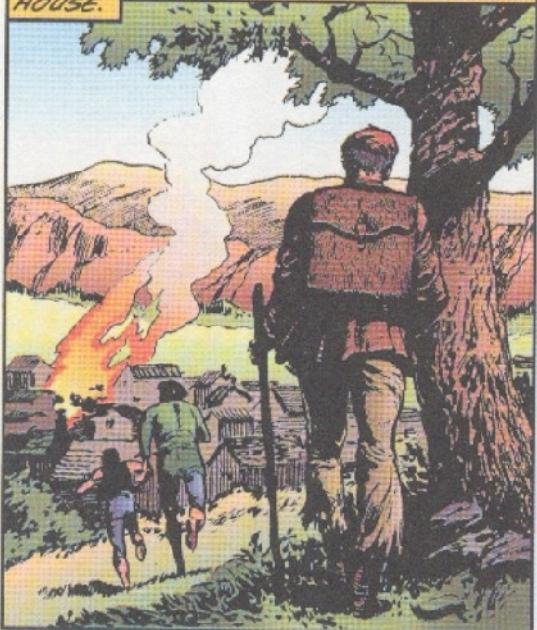
WHAT IS THAT?



AFTER A FEW MINUTES HE SEIZED IT AND BEGAN TO WALK RAPIDLY IN THE DIRECTION IN WHICH THE CHILD HAD GONE. HE SAW NOTHING. THEN HE FELL UPON A GREAT STONE, HIS HEART SWELLED, AND HIS BURST INTO TEARS.



HOW LONG DID HE WEEP THUS?
WHAT DID HE DO AFTER WEEP-
INGS? NOBODY EVER KNEW.
BUT ABOUT THAT TIME A STRANGER
ENTERED THE LITTLE CITY OF M --
SUR M -- ON THE VERY DAY THAT A
GREAT FIRE BROKE OUT IN THE TOWN
HOUSE.



THE MAN RUSHED INTO THE FIRE AND
SAVED, AT THE PERIL OF HIS LIFE,
TWO CHILDREN WHO PROVED TO BE THOSE
OF THE CAPTAIN OF THE GENDARMERIE.



IN THE HURRY AND GRATITUDE OF THE
MOMENT, NO ONE THOUGHT TO ASK HIM
FOR HIS PASSPORT. HE ESTABLISHED HIMSELF
IN THE CITY AND INVENTED A PROCESS IN
THE MANUFACTURE OF JET AND BLACK GLASS
WARE. IN LESS THAN THREE YEARS, HE HAD
BECOME RICH, AND HAD MADE ALL AROUND
HIM RICH.

THERE IS FATHER MADELEINE'S
FACTORY, AND THERE ARE THE
NEW SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS HE
BUILT FOR THE POOR.



FIVE YEARS AFTER HIS
ARRIVAL, THE SERVICES HE
HAD RENDERED TO THE REGION
WERE SO BRILLIANT THAT THE
KING APPOINTED HIM MAYOR.
HE REFUSED, BUT THE PEOPLE
BEGGED HIM TO ACCEPT.

A GOOD MAYOR IS A
GOOD THING. ARE YOU
AFRAID OF THE GOOD YOU
CAN DO?



SO HE BECAME MONSIEUR THE MAYOR, HONORED AND ADORED BY ALL. ONE MAN ALONE HELD HIMSELF CLEAR OF THIS ADMIRATION. HIS NAME WAS JAVERT, AND HE WAS ONE OF THE POLICE.

WHO IS THIS MAN?
I AM SURE I HAVE SEEN
HIM SOMEWHERE.



ONE MORNING, MONSIEUR MADELEINE WAS WALKING ALONG WHEN HE HEARD SHOUTING. HE WENT TO THE SPOT.

IT IS FATHER FAUCHELEVENT!
HE HAS FALLEN UNDER HIS CART!



THE WHOLE WEIGHT OF THE CART RESTED UPON THE OLD MAN'S BREAST.

WE HAVE SENT FOR A JACK. IT WILL BE HERE IN A QUARTER OF AN HOUR.

WE CANNOT WAIT. DON'T YOU SEE THE WAGON IS SINKING ALL THE WHILE?

LISTEN, THERE IS ROOM ENOUGH UNDER THE WAGON FOR A MAN TO CRAWL IN AND LIFT IT WITH HIS BACK. IS THERE NOBODY HERE WHO HAS THE COURAGE AND STRENGTH?



NOBODY STIRRED. THEN JAVERT CAME UP.

I HAVE KNOWN BUT ONE MAN CAPABLE OF RAISING A WAGON ON HIS BACK. HE WAS A CONVICT IN THE GAL- LEYS AT TOULON.



MONSIEUR MADELEINE BECAME PALE.
MEANWHILE, THE CART WAS SLOWLY
SETTLING IN THE MUD.

MY RIBS ARE BREAK-
ING! A JACK!
ANYTHING!



MONSIEUR MADELEINE MET THE FAL-
CON EYE OF JAVERT AND SMILED
SADLY. THEN HE FELL ON HIS KNEES
AND SUD UNDER THE CART.



THE BYSTANDERS HELD THEIR BREATHS. ALL AT ONCE THE ENORMOUS MASS ROSE.

HELP ME!



THEY ALL RUSHED TO THE WORK. THE
CART WAS LIFTED. OLD FAUCHELEVENT
WAS SAFE.



MONSIEUR MADELEINE AROSE. HE
WAS VERY PALE AND COVERED WITH
MUD, BUT HE LOOKED WITH A TRANQUIL
EYE UPON JAVERT, WHO WAS STILL
WATCHING HIM.



FAUCHELEVENT HAD INJURED HIS KNEE.
WHEN HE WAS WELL, MONSIEUR
MADELEINE GOT HIM A PLACE AS GARDENER
AT A CONVENT IN PARIS. ANOTHER PERSON
HELPED BY MONSIEUR MADELEINE WAS A
YOUNG WOMAN NAMED FANTINE.

I MUST HAVE WORK!

COME IN. MONSIEUR
MADELEINE HAS ORDERED
THAT ANY HONEST PERSON
MAY FIND WORK AND
WAGES HERE.



ONE DAY, HOWEVER, THE OVERSEER
OF THE WORKSHOP TOLD FANTINE
THAT SHE WAS NO LONGER WANTED IN
THE SHOP.

BUT WHAT WILL I DO?
WHERE WILL I GO?



FANTINE'S LIFE BECAME
VERY MISERABLE.
NOBODY WANTED HER.

I DO NOT MIND SO MUCH FOR
MYSELF, BUT I HAVE A CHILD
WHO IS LIVING WITH SOME
PEOPLE NAMED THENARDIER,
IN MONFERMEIL. I CAN NO
LONGER SEND THEM ENOUGH
MONEY TO CARE FOR HER.



THE MORE ALL BECAME GLOOMY AROUND
HER, THE MORE FANTINE WORSHIPPED
HER CHILD.

OH, TO HAVE COSETTE
WITH ME! BUT I CANNOT
BRING HER HERE TO SHARE
MY MISERY.



ONE DAY FANTINE WAS INVOLVED IN A STREET FIGHT. SHE WAS TAKEN TO THE BUREAU OF POLICE BY JAVERT.

CARRY THIS GIRL TO JAIL SHE IS IN FOR SIX MONTHS



SIX MONTHS! BUT WHAT WILL BECOME OF MY DAUGHTER? I MUST PAY THE THENARDIERS, OR ELSE THEY WILL TURN AWAY MY LITTLE ONE.



JAVERT TURNED HIS BACK, AND THE SOLDIERS SEIZED HER BY THE ARMS. THEN A MAN WHO HAD ENTERED A FEW MINUTES BEFORE STEPPED FORWARD.

INSPECTOR JAVERT,
SET THIS WOMAN AT LIBERTY.



BUT MONSIEUR THE MAYOR --

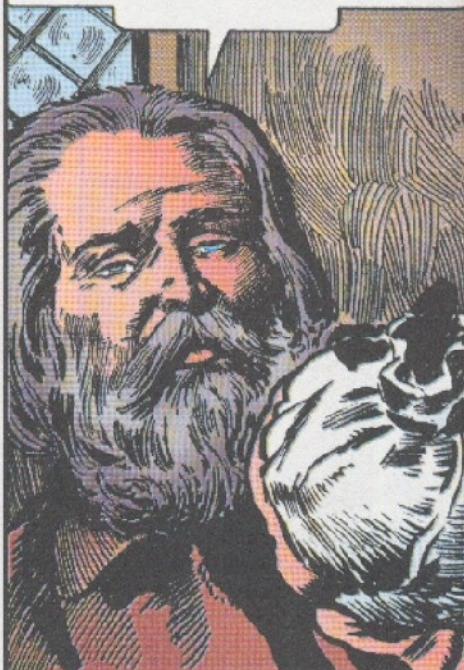


FANTINE SPRANG AT MONSIEUR MADELEINE.

YOU ARE THE MAYOR?
WHY, YOU ARE THE CAUSE OF ALL THIS!
YOU TURNED ME AWAY FROM YOUR WORKSHOP!
THEN I COULD NOT EARN ENOUGH, AND ALL THIS WRETCHEDNESS CAME.



I KNEW NOTHING OF WHAT YOU HAVE SAID. WHY DID YOU NOT COME TO ME?
BUT NOW, I WILL HAVE YOUR CHILD COME TO YOU, AND I WILL GIVE YOU ALL THE MONEY YOU NEED.



MONSIEUR MADELEINE HAD FANTINE TAKEN TO THE INFIRMARY, FOR SHE WAS VERY ILL. HE WROTE TO THE THENARDIERS DIRECTING THEM TO BRING COSETTE AT ONCE, BUT THEY DELAYED. MEANWHILE, A SERIOUS MATTER INTERVENED.

WELL, WHAT IS IT, JAVERT?



SOME WEEKS AGO I WROTE TO THE POLICE IN PARIS AND DENOUNCED YOU AS A FORMER CONVICT NAMED JEAN VALJEAN. I SAW HIM TWENTY YEARS AGO WHEN I WAS ADJUTANT OF THE GALLEY AT TOULON. AFTER LEAVING THE GALLEYS THIS VALJEAN ROBBED A LITTLE BOY.



AND WHAT ANSWER DID YOU GET TO YOUR LETTER?

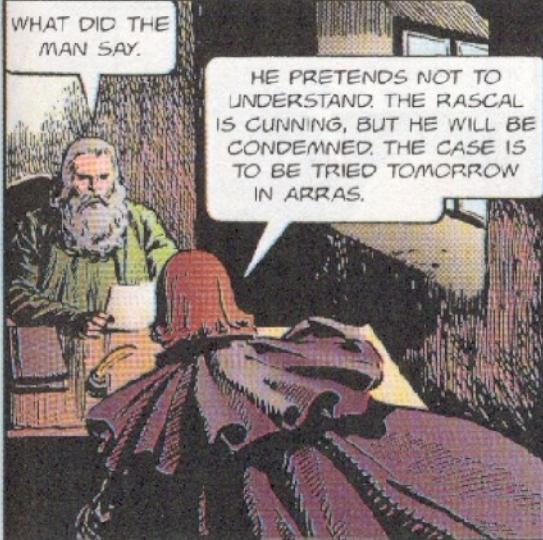


THAT I WAS CRAZY. THE REAL JEAN VALJEAN HAS BEEN FOUND. HE IS A SIMPLE SORT OF FELLOW WHO WAS ARRESTED FOR STEALING APPLES.

IN THE PRISON, A CONVICT SAW HIM AND CRIED OUT THAT HE WAS JEAN VALJEAN, WHO HAD BEEN WITH HIM IN THE GALLEYS. THEFT, FOR A CONVICT, IS NOT A FEW DAYS IMPRISONMENT, BUT THE GALLEYS FOR LIFE.



WHAT DID THE MAN SAY.



HE PRETENDS NOT TO UNDERSTAND. THE RASCAL IS CUNNING, BUT HE WILL BE CONDEMNED. THE CASE IS TO BE TRIED TOMORROW IN ARRAS.

YOUR PARDON, MONSIEUR, FOR SUSPECTING YOU. I OUGHT TO BE DISMISSED.

JAVERT, YOU ARE A MAN OF HONOR. I DESIRE YOU TO KEEP YOUR PLACE.



MONSIEUR MADELEINE WENT HOME AND PASSED THE NIGHT IN A TORMENT OF INDECISION. AT FIVE O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING HE STARTED FOR ARRAS. IT WAS NEARLY EIGHT IN THE EVENING WHEN HE ARRIVED.

MONSIEUR, WHERE IS THE COURT HOUSE?

DO YOU SEE THOSE FOUR LIGHTED WINDOWS? THEY ARE HAVING AN EVENING SESSION.



MONSIEUR MADELEINE ENTERED THE BUILDING AND FOUND HIMSELF BEFORE A DOOR. HE SEIZED THE KNOB CONVULSIVELY -- THE DOOR OPENED. HE WAS IN THE COURT ROOM.



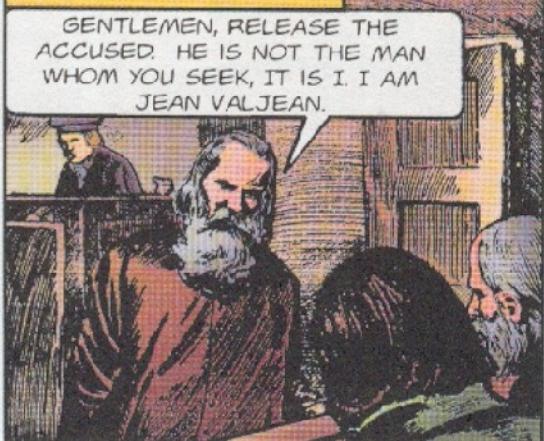
HIS EYES WENT TOWARD A MAN SITTING BETWEEN TWO GENDARMES.

YES, HE RESEMBLES ME. GREAT GOD! SHALL I AGAIN COME TO THIS?

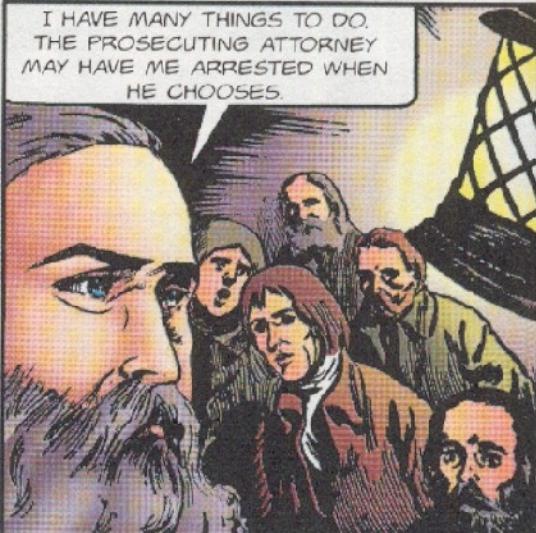


THE TIME HAD COME FOR CLOSING THE CASE. IT WAS EVIDENT THAT THE MAN WAS LOST. MONSIEUR MADELEINE ROSE.

GENTLEMEN, RELEASE THE ACCUSED. HE IS NOT THE MAN WHOM YOU SEEK, IT IS I. I AM JEAN VALJEAN.



I HAVE MANY THINGS TO DO. THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY MAY HAVE ME ARRESTED WHEN HE CHOOSES.



HE WENT OUT AND RETURNED HOME. JAVERT CAME FOR HIM AS HE WAS VISITING FANTINE, WHO WAS NOW EXTREMELY ILL.



JAVERT SEIZED HIM BY THE COLLAR.



JEAN VALJEAN TURNED TO JAVERT AND SPOKE RAPIDLY IN A LOW TONE.

GIVE ME THREE DAYS TO GO FOR THE CHILD OF THIS UNHAPPY WOMAN! YOU SHALL ACCOMPANY ME IF YOU LIKE.

THREE DAYS! ARE YOU MAKING FUN OF ME? I DID NOT THINK YOU SO STUPID!



MY CHILD! I WANT MY CHILD! MONSIEUR MADELEINE!

I TELL YOU THERE IS NO MONSIEUR MADELEINE! THERE IS A CONVICT CALLED JEAN VALJEAN, AND I HAVE GOT HIM!



FANTINE STARTED UPRIGHT, THEN SANK SUDDENLY BACK UPON THE PILLOW. SHE WAS DEAD. JEAN VALJEAN TURNED TO JAVERT.

NOW, I AM AT YOUR DISPOSAL.



JAVERT PUT JEAN VALJEAN IN THE CITY PRISON, BUT HE BROKE A BAR FROM A WINDOW AND ESCAPED. IN THREE OR FOUR DAYS HE WAS RETAKEN, BUT NOT BEFORE HE HAD WITHDRAWN SIX FOR SEVEN THOUSAND FRANC'S FROM HIS BANKERS, AND CONCEALED THEM. HE WAS TRIED FOR ROBBING THE BOY'S COIN AND SENTENCED TO THE GALLEYS FOR LIFE



IN OCTOBER, 1823, HE WAS SERVING ON THE SHIP ORION WHEN AN ACCIDENT OCCURRED.



SUDDENLY A MAN WAS DISCOVERED CLAMBERING UP THE RIGGING. IT WAS JEAN VALJEAN.



IN A TWINKLING HE WAS UPON THE YARD. HE WAS SEEN TO RUN ALONG IT AND THEN LET HIMSELF DOWN ON A ROPE HE HAD BROUGHT WITH HIM.



HE SEIZED THE SEA-MAN AND HAULED HIM UP, LIFTING HIM IN HIS ARMS, HE CARRIED HIM TO THE ROUNDTOP, WHERE HE LEFT HIM IN THE HANDS OF HIS MESS-MATES.



THEN HE SLIDE DOWN THE RIGGING AND STARTED TO RUN ALONG A LOWER YARD. SUDDENLY, THE THRONG UTTERED A THRILLING OUTCRY -- THE CONVICT HAD FALLEN INTO THE SEA.



HE DID NOT RISE TO THE SURFACE, AND IT WAS BELIEVED HE HAD BEEN CAUGHT UNDER THE PILES AT THE PIER-HEAD AND DROWNED. HOWEVER, CHRISTMAS DAY FOUND HIM IN MONTFERMEIL AT THE THENARDIER TAVERN.

AH, COSETTE! THAT IS THE WAY YOU WORK! I'LL MAKE YOU WORK WITH A COWHIDE!



THE CHILD IS YOURS, MADAME THENARDIER?

NO, MONSIEUR. SHE IS A LITTLE PAUPER THAT WE HAVE TAKEN IN THROUGH CHARITY.



SUPPOSE YOU WERE RELIEVED OF HER?

COSETTE? AH, MONSIEUR, TAKE HER! WE GET NOTHING FROM HER MOTHER. WE THINK SHE MUST BE DEAD.



AT THAT MOMENT, THENARDIER ADVANCED INTO THE MIDDLE OF THE ROOM.

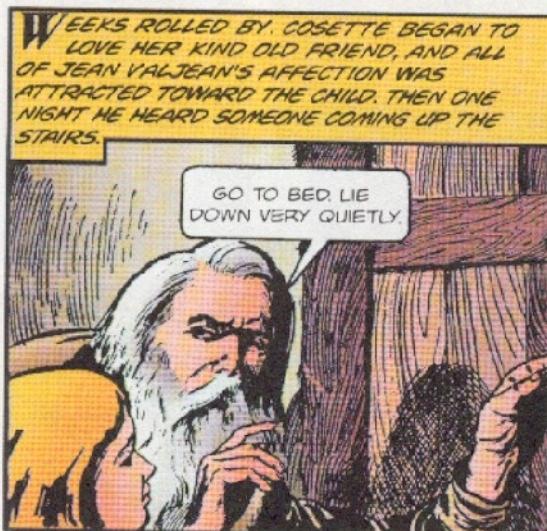
I MUST HAVE FIFTEEN HUNDRED FRANCS FOR THAT CHILD.

VERY WELL. BRING COSETTE.

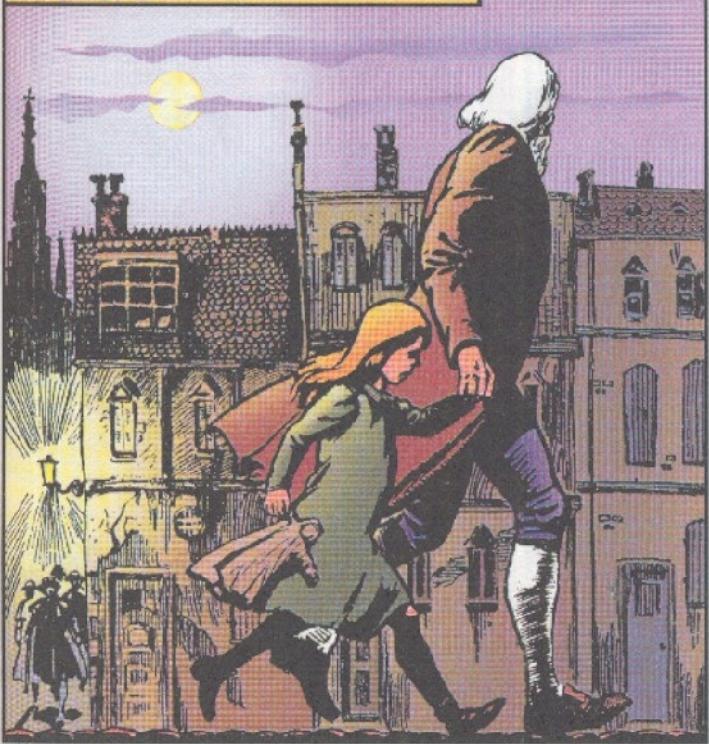


AND A WHILE LATER, JEAN VALJEAN LED THE LITTLE GIRL FANTINE'S CHILD, ALONG THE ROAD TO PARIS.





AS ELEVEN O'CLOCK STRUCK HE TURNED HIS HEAD AND SAW FOUR MEN. HE RECOGNIZED JAVERT PERFECTLY.



HE DOUBLED HIS PACE, CARRYING COSETTE. FINALLY HE TURNED INTO AN ALLEY. THE END OF IT WAS A GREAT WHITE WALL.

I CAN SCALE THE WALL, BUT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO CARRY COSETTE.



HIS DESPAIRING GAZE ENCOUNTERED THE LAMP POST AND THE ROPE WHICH RAISED AND LOWERED THE LAMP. HE CUT IT OFF AND TIED IT AROUND COSETTE.



TAKING THE OTHER END IN THIS TEETH, HE BEGAN TO CLIMB. HALF A MINUTE HAD NOT PASSED BEFORE HE WAS ON HIS KNEES ON THE WALL.



BEFORE COSETTE HAD TIME TO THINK, SHE TOO WAS AT THE TOP OF THE WALL. JEAN VALJEAN PUT HER ON HIS BACK, CRAWLED TO A BUILDING WITH A SLOPING ROOF, SLID DOWN THE ROOF, AND JUMPED TO THE GROUND.



HE FOUND HIMSELF IN A SORT OF GARDEN. HE TOOK COSETTE INTO A SHED AND WRAPPED HER IN HIS COAT. SHE FELL ASLEEP. SUDDENLY A NOISE MADE HIM TURN.



HE TOUCHED COSETTE'S HANDS. THEY WERE ICY. HE SHOOK HER. SHE DID NOT WAKE.



HE WALKED STRAIGHT TO THE MAN IN THE GARDEN.

A HUNDRED FRANCS FOR YOU IF YOU WILL GIVE ME REFUGE TONIGHT.



THE MOON SHONE FULL IN JEAN VALJEAN'S FACE.

WHY, IT IS MONSIEUR MADELEINE! HOW DID YOU COME HERE? DID YOU FALL FROM THE SKY?



WHO ARE YOU?
WHAT IS THIS HOUSE?

I AM FATHER FAUCHELEVENT. YOU LIFTED THE CART OFF ME AND YOU GOT ME A PLACE AS GARDENER AT THIS CONVENT. YOU SAVED MY LIFE.



WELL, YOU CAN NOW DO FOR ME WHAT I ONCE DID FOR YOU.



IN A HALF HOUR COSETTE HAD AGAIN BECOME ROSY BEFORE A GOOD FIRE. FOR FIVE YEARS THEY STAYED AT THE CONVENT. JEAN VALJEAN WORKED AS A GARDENER AND COSETTE WAS EDUCATED BY THE NUNS.



FINALLY THEY LEFT THE CONVENT AND WENT TO LIVE IN A SMALL HOUSE ON A DESERTED STREET. OFTEN THEY WALKED IN THE LUXEMBOURG, WHERE COSETTE, NOW BEAUTIFUL, ATTRACTED THE ATTENTION OF A POOR YOUNG LAWYER NAMED MARIUS PONTMERCY.



ONE DAY COSETTE RAISED HER EYES. THEIR GLANCES MET. FROM THAT DAY ONWARD, THEY ADORED EACH OTHER.



MARIUS FOLLOWED COSETTE HOME. HE SPOKE TO THE PORTER WHO, IN TURN, SPOKE TO JEAN VALJEAN. JEAN VALJEAN MOVED, TAKING COSETTE WITH HIM.

HE HAD NOT LEFT HIS NEW ADDRESS?



MARIUS SEARCHED FOR COSETTE CONTINUALLY.

WHY DID I FOLLOW HER? I WAS SO HAPPY IN SEEING HER ONLY! SHE HAD THE APPEARANCE OF LOVING ME. I WAS A FOOL!



MARIUS LIVED IN A TENEMENT. THE ONLY OTHER OCCUPANTS WERE THE JONCROSSE FAMILY. ONE NIGHT MARIUS CLIMBED UPON A BUREAU AND LOOKED INTO THEIR ROOM.

LET US SEE WHAT THESE PEOPLE ARE, AND TO WHAT THEY ARE REDUCED. PERHAPS I CAN HELP THEM.



MARIUS SAW A FILTHY DEN IN WHICH THE FATHER WAS BUSY WRITING TO BENEVOLENT PERSONS IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THEIR CHARITY. THEN THE ELDER DAUGHTER APPEARED.

THE PHILANTHROPIST IS COMING! I GAVE HIM YOUR LETTER.

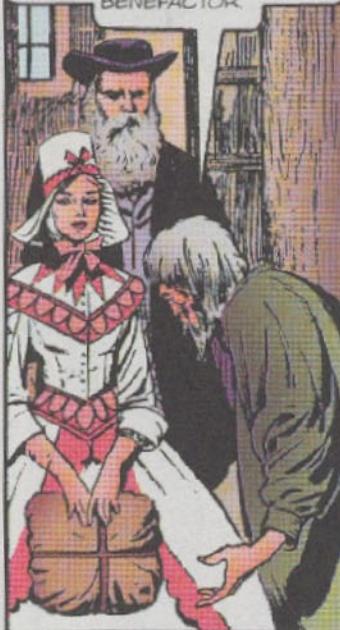


WIFE, PUT OUT THE FIRE! QUICK, BREAK A PANE OF GLASS! AH, HOW I HATE THESE CHARITABLE MEN WHO BRING US CLOTHES AND BREAD. I WANT MONEY!



IN A FEW MINUTES THERE WAS A LIGHT RAP AT THE DOOR. THE MAN RUSHED FORWARD AND OPENED IT.

PLEASE COME IN, MY NOBLE BENEFATOR.



MARIUS SAW A MAN OF MATURE AGE AND A YOUNG GIRL ENTER.

IT IS SHE!



COSETTE STEPPED INTO THE ROOM AND LAID A PACKAGE ON THE TABLE.

MONSIEUR, YOU WILL FIND IN THIS PACKAGE SOME NEW CLOTHES, SOME STOCKINGS AND SOME BLANKETS.

MY BEFANCTOR! BUT TOMORROW, IF I DO NOT PAY THE RENT, WE WILL BE DRIVEN INTO THE STREET. I OWE FOR A YEAR THAT IS SIXTY FRANCS.

MONSIEUR, I HAVE ONLY THESE FIVE FRANCS WITH ME, BUT I WILL RETURN THIS EVENING AT SIX OCLOCK WITH SIXTY FRANCS.

AFTER THEY WENT OUT, JONDRETTE WALKED UP AND DOWN WITH RAPID STRIDES.

IT WAS EIGHT YEARS AGO, BUT I RECOGNIZE HIM! AND THAT YOUNG LADY -- IT IS THAT GIRL!

WHAT! THAT LADY?
COSETTE?

MY FORTUNE IS MADE. HE WILL COME THIS EVENING. I WILL GET SOME MEN, SOME GOOD ONES. YOU WILL HELP US. HE WILL BE HIS OWN EXECUTOR.

AND IF HE SHOULD NOT BE HIS OWN EXECUTOR?

WE WILL EXECUTE HIM.



MARIUS GOT DOWN FROM THE BUREAU AS QUIETLY AS HE COULD.

I MUST PUT MY FOOT ON THESE WRETCHES.



HE FOUND A POLICE INSPECTOR AND RELATED HIS ADVENTURE.

TAKE THESE PISTOLS. GO BACK HOME AND WATCH. I WILL BE OUTSIDE. WHEN YOU DEEM IT IS TIME TO STOP THE AFFAIR, FIRE OFF A PISTOL.

BE ASSURED, I WILL.



MARIUS PLACED HIS HAND ON THE LATCH OF THE DOOR TO GO OUT.

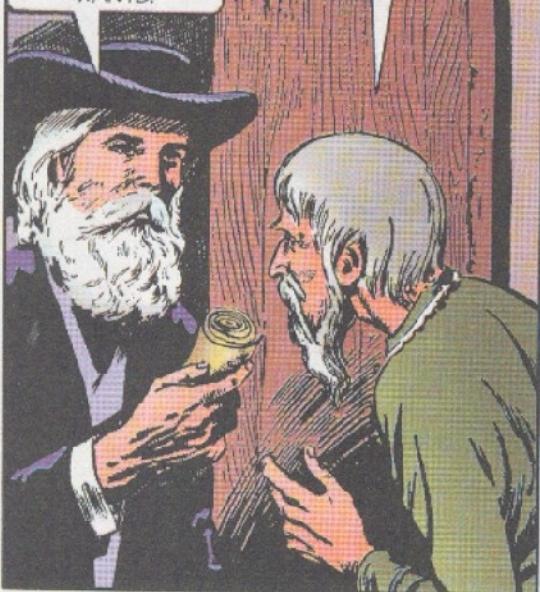
BY THE WAY, IF YOU NEED ME BETWEEN NOW AND THEN, COME OR SEND HERE. ASK FOR INSPECTOR JAVERT.



MARIUS RETURNED TO HIS ROOM AND RESUMED HIS PLACE AT HIS OBSERVATORY. WHEN SIX O'CLOCK STRUCK, THE DOOR OF THE JONDRETTE DEN OPENED, AND JEAN VALJEAN WALKED IN.

THIS IS FOR YOUR RENT AND YOUR PRESSING WANTS.

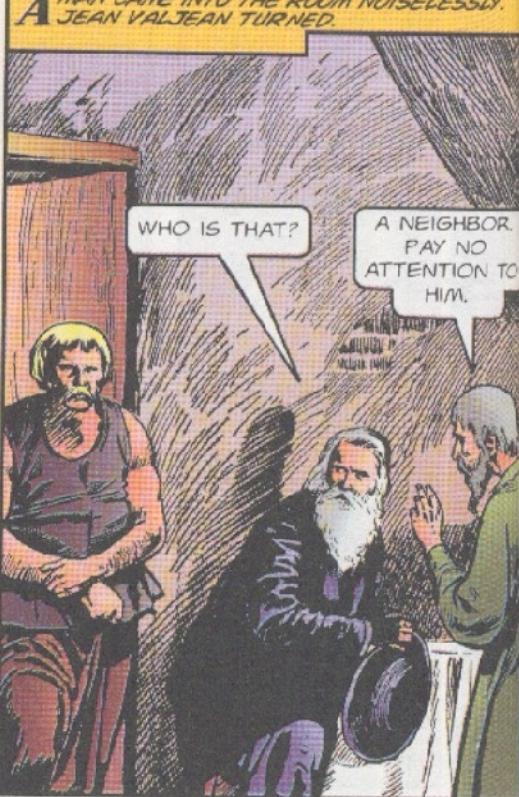
GOD REWARD YOU, MY GENEROUS BENEFAC-TOR.



A MAN CAME INTO THE ROOM NOISELESSLY. JEAN VALJEAN TURNED.

WHO IS THAT?

A NEIGHBOR. PAY NO ATTENTION TO HIM.



THREE MORE MEN SLIPPED IN.

DO NOT MIND THEM. THEY ARE PEOPLE OF THE HOUSE, BUT THAT IS NOT THE QUESTION! DO YOU KNOW ME?



JONDRETTE LEANED FORWARD LIKE A WILD BEAST JUST ABOUT TO BITE.

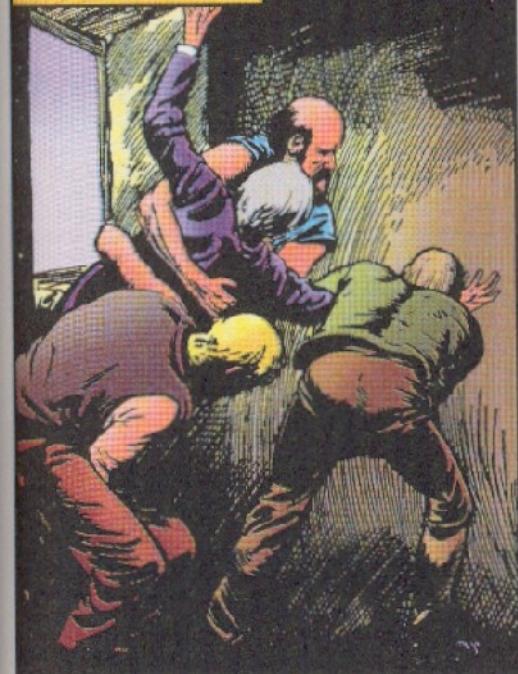
MY NAME IS NOT JONDRETTE, MY NAME IS THENARDIER! I AM THE INN KEEPER OF MONTFERMEIL! NOW DO YOU KNOW ME?



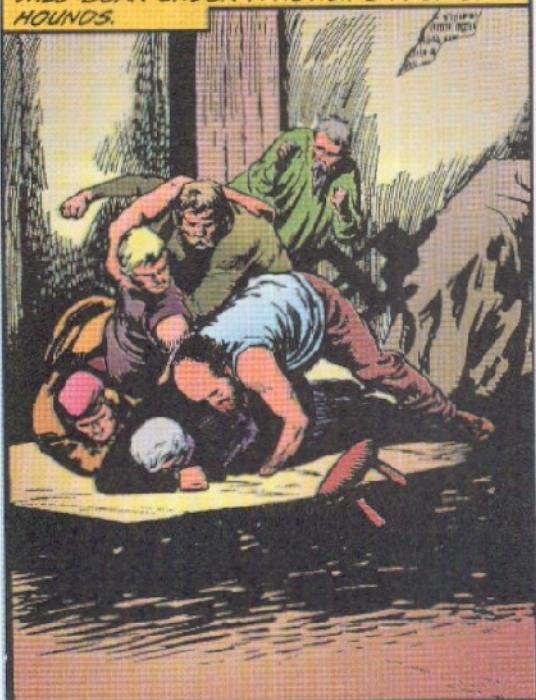
IT WAS YOU WHO CAME TO MY INN EIGHT YEARS AGO AND TOOK FONTINE'S CHILD FROM MY HOUSE. WELL, TRUMPS ARE IN MY HAND TODAY. I MUST HAVE AN IMMENSE AMOUNT OF MONEY, OR I WILL KILL YOU.



JEAN VALJEAN ROSE, AND WITH ONE BOUND WAS AT THE WINDOW. HE WAS HALF OUTSIDE WHEN SIX STRONG HANDS DREW HIM FORCIBLY BACK INTO THE ROOM.



A STRUGGLE COMMENCED. JEAN VALJEAN DISAPPEARED UNDER THE HORRIBLE GROUP OF BANDITS LIKE A WILD BOAR UNDER A HOWLING PACK OF HOUNDS.



THEY SUCCEEDED IN BINDING HIM TO THE BEDPOST. THENARDIER SAT DOWN IN FRONT OF HIM.

I HAVE NOTICED THAT YOU HAVE NOT MADE THE LEAST OUTCRY. I WILL TELL YOU WHY--BECAUSE YOU ARE NO MORE ANXIOUS THAN WE TO SEE POLICE COME. YOU ARE CONCEALING SOMETHING.



NOW WE CAN COME TO AN UNDERSTANDING. I WANT TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND FRANCS.

DO YOU IMAGINE THAT YOU CAN MAKE ME DO WHAT I DO NOT WISH TO DO?



SUDDENLY JEAN VALJEAN SHOOK OFF HIS BONDS, WHICH HE HAD MANAGED TO CUT WITH A LITTLE SAW CONCEALED IN A LARGE COIN.



MARIUS' FINGER WAS ON THE TRIGGER OF HIS PISTOL WHEN THE DOOR OPENED AND JAVERT STEPPED INTO THE ROOM.



JEAN VALJEAN TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE CONFUSION THAT FOLLOWED TO LEAP OUT OF THE WINDOW. JAVERT LOOKED OUT. NOBODY COULD BE SEEN.



AFTER JAVERT HAD CARRIED AWAY HIS PRISONERS, MARIUS LEFT THE HOUSE. HE HAD FOR A MOMENT SEEN THE YOUNG GIRL HE LOVED, ONLY TO HAVE HER SWEPT AWAY. THEN ONE DAY HE PASSED AN OVERGROWN GARDEN IN A DESERTED PART OF PARIS AND SAW HER.



SHE TURNED HER HEAD AND ROSE. SHE DREW BACK SLOWLY.

DO NOT BE AFRAID OF ME. DO YOU REMEMBER THE DAY YOU LOOKED UPON ME? IT WAS AT THE LUXEMBOURG. IT IS A LONG TIME NOW. I ADORE YOU.



SHE SANK DOWN. HE CAUGHT HER IN HIS ARMS.



GRADUALLY THEY BEGAN TO TALK. THEY CONFIDED ALL THAT WAS MOST HIDDEN AND MOST MYSTERIOUS IN THEMSELVES. FINALLY...

MY NAME IS MARIUS.
AND YOURS?

MY NAME IS
COSETTE.



THENCEAFTER, MARIUS CAME EVERY EVENING. JEAN VALJEAN SUSPECTED NOTHING. YET HE FELT DANGERS AROUND HIM. THE POLICE HAD BECOME VERY ACTIVE AND SUSPICIOUS, AND HE HAD SEEN THENARDIER, WHO WAS OUT OF PRISON, PROWLING ABOUT.



WE MUST LEAVE HERE.

WHEN MARIUS CAME THAT NIGHT, HE FOUND COSETTE HAD BEEN WEEPING.

MY FATHER TOLD ME THIS MORNING THAT WE WILL BE GOING AWAY TO ENGLAND.



BUT THIS IS MONSTROUS!

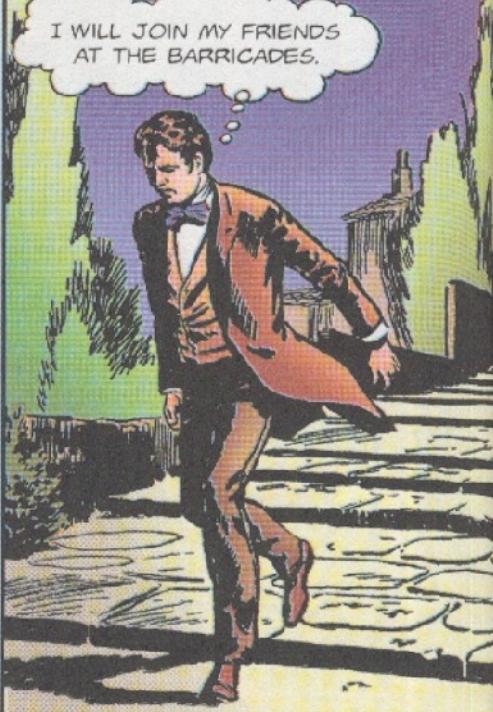
I HAVE AN IDEA I WILL TELL YOU WHERE WE ARE GOING, AND YOU CAN JOIN ME THERE.



MARIUS LEFT, INTENT ON GETTING SOME MONEY FROM HIS GRANDFATHER. WHEN HE RETURNED, FORTY-EIGHT HOURS LATER, COSETTE WAS NOT THERE. THE HOUSE WAS AS SILENT AND EMPTY AS A TOMB.



MARIUS WAS MAD WITH GRIEF. HE HAD BUT ONE DESIRE -- TO DIE.



I WILL JOIN MY FRIENDS AT THE BARRICADES.

DURING THE TWO MONTHS OF JOY MARIUS HAD HAD WITH COSETTE, AN INSURRECTION AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN GATHERING. THAT DAY, IT HAD BROKEN OUT IN OPEN CONFLICT. BARRICADES WERE BEING THROWN UP. MARIUS HASTENED TO ONE DEFENDED BY SOME OF HIS FRIENDS. WHEN HE REACHED IT, THE FIGHTING HAD ALREADY BEGUN.



THE SOLDIERS WILL TAKE THE BARRICADE!

HE FOUND A KEG OF POWDER, GLIDED ALONG THE BARRICADE, PUT THE KEG DOWN, AND SEIZED A TORCH.

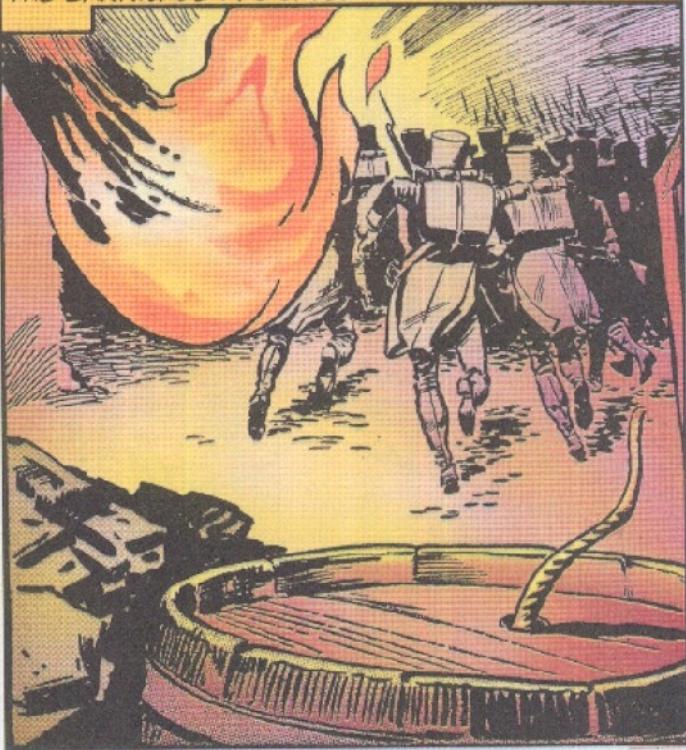
BEGONE, OR I'LL BLOW UP THE BARRICADE!



BLOW UP THE BARRICADE! AND YOURSELF, ALSO.

AND MYSELF, ALSO.

HE HELD THE TORCH NEARER TO THE KEG OF POWDER. THE SOLDIERS FLED PELL-MELL, AND THE BARRICADE WAS SAVED.



MARIUS' FRIENDS FLOCKED AROUND HIM.

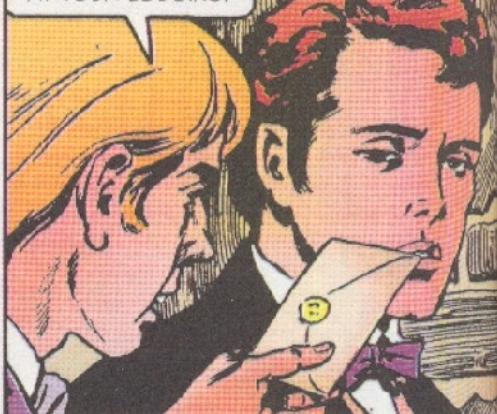
YOU CAME IN GOOD TIME!

WITHOUT YOU WE WOULD HAVE BEEN DEAD.



ONE HELD A LETTER OUT TO HIM.

THIS CAME FOR YOU AT YOUR LODGING.



MARIUS TOOK IT AND FOUND A CANDLE IN A BASEMENT ROOM.

IT IS FROM COSETTE. TONIGHT,
SHE WILL BE AT THE
RUE DE L'HOMME ARME, NO. 7.



MARIUS FOUND A PIECE OF PAPER
AND WROTE A FEW LINES.

our marriage
is impossible. I
am without
fortune. I die.
I love you.

HE GAVE IT TO A MESSENGER TO TAKE TO COSSETTE.
THE MESSENGER, HOWEVER, GAVE IT TO JEAN VALJEAN.

WILL YOU GIVE IT TO THE LADY? I
MUST GET BACK TO THE BARRICADE
IN THE RUE DE LA CHANVREIRIE.



JEAN VALJEAN READ THE LETTER.
IT WAS CRUSHING EVIDENCE THAT
COSETTE, WHOM HE ADORED AS A
DAUGHTER, HAD GLIDED FROM HIS
HANDS.

IT MUST BE THAT UNKNOWN PROWLER OF
THE LUXEMBOURG. WELL, HE IS GOING TO
DIE. I HAVE ONLY TO LET THINGS TAKE
THEIR COURSE.



BUT WITHIN HIMSELF HE BECAME
GLOOMY. ABOUT AN HOUR AFTER-
WARD, HE WENT OUT IN THE DIRECTION
OF THE BARRICADE.

CITIZEN, YOU ARE WELCOME. YOU
KNOW THAT WE ARE GOING TO DIE.



IN A BASEMENT ROOM BEHIND THE BARRICADE, JEAN VALJEAN SAW A MAN BOUND TO A POST.

YOU ARE A SPY.

I AM JAVERT, AN OFFICER
OF THE GOVERNMENT.



YOU WILL BE SHOT
TEN MINUTES BEFORE
THE BARRICADE IS
TAKEN.

WHY NOT IMMEDIATELY?



FROM THE THRESHOLD, JEAN VALJEAN
GAZED AT HIM WITH SINGULAR
ATTENTION. JAVERT RAISED HIS EYES.

IT IS VERY NATURAL
FOR YOU TO BE HERE.



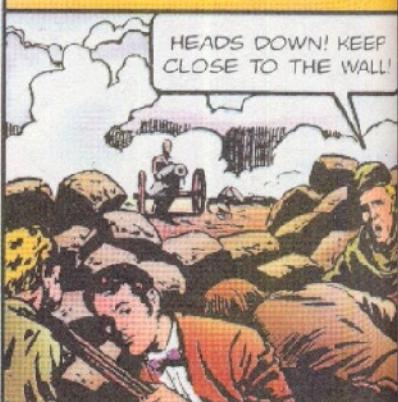
EACH MAN RESUMED HIS POST FOR COMBAT. THEY DID NOT HAVE LONG TO WAIT. A PIECE OF ARTILLERY APPEARED.



THE WHOLE BARRICADE FLASHED FIRE. AN AVALANCHE OF SMOKE COVERED THE GUN AND THE SOLDIERS.



BUT THE GUNNER BEGAN TO POINT HIS CANNON AT A BREAK IN THE BARRICADE WITH THE GRACE OF AN ASTRONOMER ADJUSTING A TELESCOPE.



THE DISCHARGE TOOK PLACE WITH THE FEARFUL RATTLE OF GRAPESHOT.



THE ONLY MATTRESS WAS OUTSIDE THE BARRICADE. JEAN VALJEAN WENT OUT, PASSED THROUGH A STORM OF BALLS, PICKED UP THE MATTRESS AND RETURNED TO THE BARRICADE.



HE PUT THE MATTRESS IN THE OPENING. THE CANNON VOMITED ITS PACKAGE OF SHOT WITH A ROAR. BUT THE SHOT MISCARRIED UPON THE MATTRESS. THE BARRICADE WAS PRESERVED.

CITIZEN, THE REPUBLIC THANKS YOU.



BUT THE FIRE OF THE SOLDIERS CONTINUED. A SECOND CANNON WAS BROUGHT UP. THEN ANOTHER PLATOON APPEARED. THE END WAS NEAR.

THE LAST MAN TO LEAVE WILL BLOW OUT THE SPY'S BRAINS!



JEAN VALJEAN APPEARED.

I ASK A FAVOR. I WANT TO BLOW OUT THAT MAN'S BRAINS MYSELF.

NO OBJECTION!



JEAN VALJEAN CAUGHT UP A PISTOL ALMOST AT THE SAME MOMENT THEY HEARD A FLOURISH OF TRUMPETS. THE INSURGENTS SPRANG FORWARD AND WENT OUT.

YOUR HEALTH IS HARDLY BETTER THAN MINE.



WHEN JEAN VALJEAN WAS ALONE WITH JAVERT, HE UNTIED THE ROPE THAT HELD THE PRISONER AND LED HIM INTO A LITTLE STREET.

TAKE YOUR REVENGE.



JEAN VALJEAN CUT THE REMAINING CORDS.

YOU ARE FREE.
GO.



JAVERT STOOD AGHAST AND MOTIONLESS. THEN HE TURNED AND WALKED OFF. JEAN VALJEAN FIRED THE PISTOL IN THE AIR.



HE RE-ENTERED THE BARRICADE. SUDDENLY THE DRUM BEAT THE CHARGE. THE ATTACK WAS A HURRICANE. THERE WAS ASSAULT AFTER ASSAULT.



IN THE THICK CLOUD OF COMBAT, JEAN VALJEAN DID NOT TAKE HIS EYES FROM MARIUS. WHEN A SHOT STRUCK MARIUS, JEAN VALJEAN BOUNDED WITH THE AGILITY OF A TIGER AND CARRIED HIM AWAY.



THE ATTACK WAS AT THAT INSTANT SO FIERCE THAT NO ONE SAW JEAN DISAPPEAR BEHIND THE CORNER OF A HOUSE AND STOP IN A LITTLE SHELTERED PLACE.

HOW CAN WE ESCAPE THIS MASSACRE?



HE PERCEIVED AN IRON GRATING LAID FLAT AND LEVEL WITH THE GROUND. TO LIFT IT, DESCEND WITH MARIUS ON HIS BACK, AND FIND A FOOTHOLD ON THE FLAGGED SURFACE TEN FEET BELOW THE GROUND, REQUIRED BUT A FEW MOMENTS.



HE FOUND HIMSELF, WITH MARIUS STILL SENSELESS, IN A LONG, UNDERGROUND PASSAGE.

IT IS THE SEWER.



HE RESOLUTELY ENTERED INTO THE DARKNESS. HE WENT FORWARD SEEING NOTHING, KNOWING NOTHING, PLUNGED INTO CHANCE.

SHALL I FIND AN OUTLET?
SHALL I FIND IT IN TIME?



HE HAD BEEN WALKING FOR ABOUT HALF AN HOUR, WHEN ALL AT ONCE HE SAW HIS SHADOW BEFORE HIM. IN AMAZEMENT HE TURNED AROUND.



BEHIND HIM FLAMED A SORT OF HORRIBLE STAR. BEHIND THE STAR WERE EIGHT OR TEN BLACK FORMS, STRAIGHT, INDISTINCT, TERRIBLE.



HE DREW CLOSE TO THE WALL. THE PATROL RESUMED ITS MARCH, LEAVING JEAN VALJEAN BEHIND.



JEAN VALJEAN RESUMED HIS ADVANCE, WHICH BECAME MORE AND MORE LABORIOUS. HE FELT THAT HE WAS ENTERING THE WATER, AND THAT HE HAD UNDER HIS FEET NO LONGER PAVEMENT, BUT MUD.



HE SOON HAD THE MIRE HALF-KNEE DEEP, AND WATER ABOUT HIS KNEES.



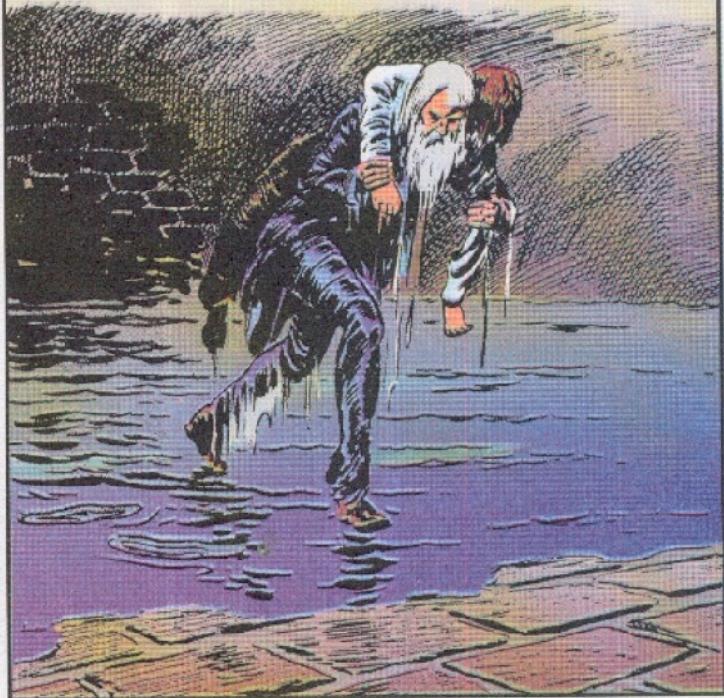
HE SANK IN DEEPER AND DEEPER. THE WATER CAME UP TO HIS WAIST, TO HIS ARMPITS. HE NOW HAD ONLY HIS HEAD OUT OF THE WATER, AND HIS ARMS SUPPORTING MARIUS.



HE SANK STILL DEEPER.
HE MADE A DESPERATE
EFFORT AND THRUST HIS
FOOT FORWARD. HIS FOOT
STRUCK SOMETHING SOLID.



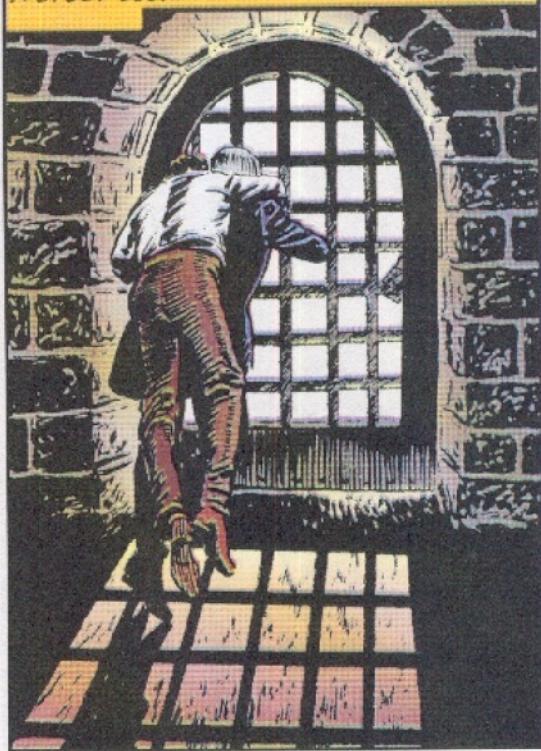
HE ASCENDED AN INCLINED PLANE AND REACHED THE
OTHER SIDE OF THE QUAGMIRE. HE ROSE, ALL DRIPPING
WITH SLIME, HIS SOUL FILLED WITH A STRANGE LIGHT.



HE RESUMED HIS ROUTE ONCE MORE.
HIS EXHAUSTION WAS GREAT. THEN
HE REACHED AN ANGLE OF THE SEWER
AND SAW THE LIGHT OF DAY.



HE REACHED THE OUTLET. THE ARCH WAS
CLOSED BY A STRONG GRATING HELD BY
A STOUT LOCK.



J EAN VALJEAN CLENCHED THE BARS AND SHOOK THEM. THE GRATING DID NOT STIR. HE DROPPED UPON THE PAVEMENT. HIS HEAD SANK BETWEEN HIS KNEES.



THEN A HAND WAS LAID UPON HIS SHOULDER

GO HALVES?



J EAN VALJEAN THOUGHT HE WAS DREAMING. HE RAISED HIS EYES AND SAW THENARDIER.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

YOU HAVEN'T KILLED THAT MAN WITHOUT LOOKING TO SEE WHAT HE HAD IN HIS POCKETS. GIVE ME HALF. I WILL OPEN THE DOOR FOR YOU.



J EAN VALJEAN TURNED OUT HIS POCKET AND DISPLAYED HIS MONEY. THENARDIER TOOK ALL OF IT. THEN HE OPENED THE DOOR.



J
EAN VALJEAN FOUND HIMSELF OUTSIDE.
SUDDENLY HE FELT AN INDESCRIBABLE
UNEASINESS. HE TURNED AROUND.



S
OMEbody was behind him. It was Javert.
HE COULD NOT HAVE KNOWN I
WOULD BE HERE. HE MUST HAVE
BEN FOLLOWING
THENARDIER.



J
AVERT'S LOOK WAS TERRIBLE.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
AND WHO IS THIS MAN?

DISPOSE OF ME AS YOU PLEASE, BUT
FIRST HELP ME CARRY HIM HOME.



J
EAN VALJEAN SHOWED JAVERT A NOTE
ON WHICH MARIUS HAD WRITTEN HIS
GRANDFATHER'S ADDRESS. JAVERT CALLED
A CARRIAGE. MARIUS WAS LAID ON THE
BACK SEAT, AND IT MOVED RAPIDLY OFF.



T
HE CARRIAGE ARRIVED AT THE HOUSE,
AND MARIUS WAS CARRIED IN.
JAVERT AND JEAN VALJEAN RETURNED
TO THE CARRIAGE.

INSPECTOR JAVERT, GRANT ME
ONE THING MORE. LET ME GO
HOME A MOMENT. THEN YOU
SHALL DO WITH ME WHAT
YOU WILL.

VERY WELL.



THEY ARRIVED AT THE STREET WHERE JEAN VALJEAN LIVED. JAVERT DISMISSED THE CARRIAGE.

GO UP. I WILL WAIT HERE FOR YOU.

JEAN VALJEAN MOUNTED THE STAIRS. ON REACHING THE FIRST STORY HE PAUSED AND LOOKED OUT OF THE WINDOW. JAVERT WAS GONE.



JAVERT MADE HIS WAY WITH SLOW STEPS TO THE SEINE, WHERE HE LEANED ON THE PARAPET AND REFLECTED. HE WAS SUFFERING FRIGHTFULLY.

I OWE MY LIFE TO A CONVICT AND I HAVE SET HIM FREE. CAN THERE BE A MYSTERIOUS JUSTICE ACCORDING TO GOD WHICH GOES AGAINST JUSTICE ACCORDING TO MAN?



AUTHORITY WAS DEAD IN JAVERT. HE HAD NO FURTHER REASON FOR EXISTENCE. HE BENT HIS HEAD AND LOOKED AT THE WATER.

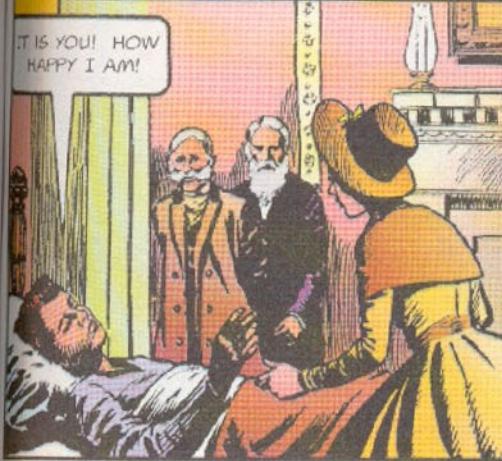


THEN HE SPRANG UP ON THE PARAPET, FELL STRAIGHT INTO THE DARKNESS AND DISAPPEARED UNDER THE WATER.



FOUR MONTHS PASSED BEFORE MARIUS WAS OUT OF DANGER. THEN COSETTE CAME TO SEE HIM.

IT IS YOU! HOW HAPPY I AM!



MARIUS HAD ONE PREOCCUPATION -- TO FIND THE MAN WHO HAD BROUGHT HIM TO HIS GRANDFATHER'S HOUSE.

HE MUST HAVE SNATCHED ME OUT OF THE COMBAT AND CARRIED ME FOR MORE THAN FOUR MILES THROUGH THE SEWER.



MARIUS AND COSETTE WERE MARRIED. THE DAY AFTER THE WEDDING, JEAN VALJEAN WENT TO SEE MARIUS.

MONSIEUR, I HAVE ONE THING TO TELL YOU. I AM AN OLD CONVICT. I HAVE BEEN IN THE GALLEYS.



MARIUS STOOD ASTHAST.

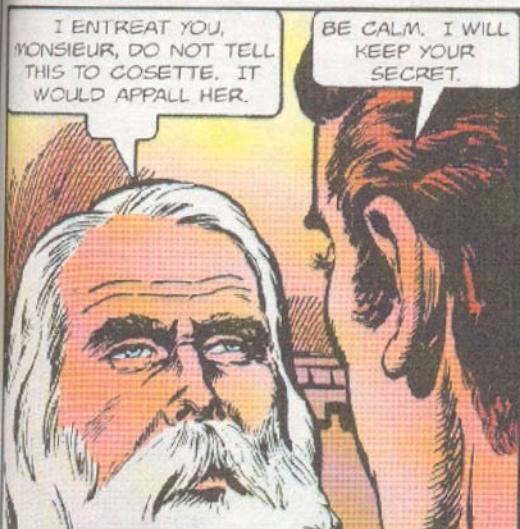
WHY DO YOU TELL ME THIS?

I DO NOT WISH TO BURDEN THE HAPPINESS OF OTHERS WITH MY OWN MISERY. WHAT IF ONE DAY THE POLICE SPRING OUT OF THE SHADOW AND TEAR OFF MY MASK?



I ENTREAT YOU, MONSIEUR, DO NOT TELL THIS TO COSETTE. IT WOULD APPALL HER.

BE CALM. I WILL KEEP YOUR SECRET.



NOW THAT YOU KNOW THIS, I WILL TRY TO SEE COSETTE AS SELDOM AS POSSIBLE.

I THINK THAT WOULD BE BEST.



JEAN VALJEAN'S CONFESSION LEFT MARIUS COMPLETELY UNHINGED. HE FELT A CERTAIN HORROR FOR THE FORMER CONVICT.



JEAN VALJEAN FELT IT. SOON HE DID NOT VISIT COSETTE AT ALL. HE BECAME VERY ILL.



SOMEONE IN HIS BUILDING CALLED THE DOCTOR.

WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH HIM?

HE IS A MAN, IT WOULD APPEAR, WHO HAS LOST SOME DEAR FRIEND. PEOPLE DIE OF THAT.



THEN ONE DAY MARIUS HAD A CALLER. IT WAS THENARDIER.

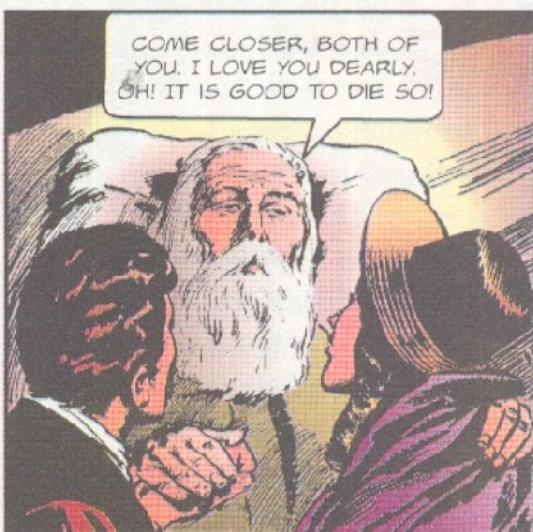
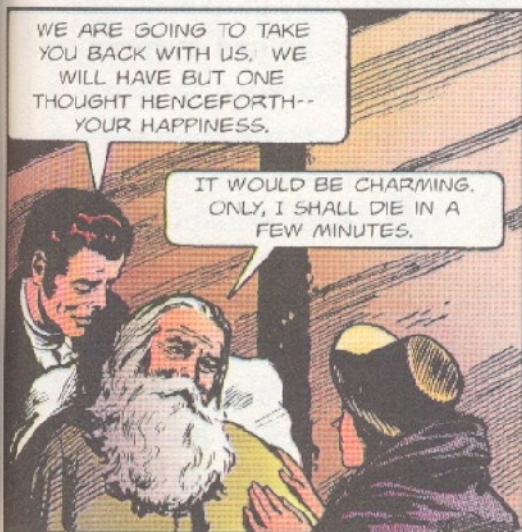
MONSIEUR, A MAN HAS GLIDED INTO YOUR FAMILY UNDER A FALSE NAME. HE IS JEAN VALJEAN, AN OLD CONVICT. I HAVE AN EXTRAORDINARY SECRET ABOUT HIM. IT IS FOR SALE.



MARIUS THREW HIM A BANK NOTE.

ABOUT A YEAR AGO, ON THE DAY OF THE UPRISING, I WAS IN THE SEWER OF PARIS. THERE I SAW JEAN VALJEAN CARRYING ON HIS SHOULDERS THE CORPSE OF SOMEONE HE HAD ASSASSINATED.





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