**BOOK ONE: AN UPRIGHT MAN (BISHOP MYRIEL)**

There is a cure of Brignoles by the name of Monsieur Charles Myriel. He is rather old and secluded, and his wife had already passed away.

He runs into Napoleon, who inquires him about his identity. Myriel just says he is a “goodman.”

He is then appointed as bishop to D----.

As his work as bishop in D----, he is assisted by two women: Mademoiselle Magloire and Mademoiselle Baptistine.

Magloire is a plump and jolly woman, while Baptistine, while not very pretty, is sweet, soft-spoken and serene.

As a bishop, he lives in a house similar to a palace. He is adjacent to a small one-story crowded hospital. He requests for the hospital to be his new home while his current house becomes the new hospital.

During his work as bishop in D---, he gives 90% of his income to the poor.

The bishop goes on a preaching quest. He even meets a powerful miser/ruler who believes that God makes some people kings. Nevertheless, the bishop tells this man to give him something.

One of his destinations is Chastelar. This involves going through a dangerous region frequently sacked by Cravatte, a lieutenant of Gaspard Bes. The bishop decides to go alone, and finds treasure at his destination. He then takes the treasure.

**BOOK TWO: THE FALL (JEAN VALJEAN)**

We are introduced to a man whose name is not mentioned at first. He is wandering the streets in the same town where Bishop Myriel resides. He attempts to stay at an inn but then is kicked out by the host after the inn identifies by a person named Jean Valjean. The host’s first excuse is that there is no vacancy in the inn. Jean requests to sleep in the stable. The host’s next excuse is that the stable is “reserved” for the horses. Jean tries to request any location to sleep but is forced out of the inn.

Jean runs into a woman who gives him a little bit of money, but tells him to try to seek refuge at the bishop’s palace.

Meanwhile, the bishop and his staff has learned there might be a “vagabond” on the loose causing trouble. Madame Magloire advises the bishop to exercise caution.

A knock on the bishop’s door is heard. The door opens to Jean Valjean, appearing very ugly. Both Madame Magloire and Baptistine look horrified. The bishop remains calm.

Without any input from the others, Jean immediately rants about his identity. After a long introduction (rant), he asks for a place to eat and stay.

The bishop warmly welcomes him and Jean eats like a hound.

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Jean Valjean wakes up in the middle of the night, for the first time in 19 years in an actual bed. His thoughts are not clear, yet he feels an urge to be violent or negatively affect the bishop’s life in some fashion. He looks for a weapon and goes through the door in the bishop’s room (which was left open) and then pauses near the bishop with weapon in hand. It is not clear what Jean is thinking during this time, but he ends up stealing precious items in the bishop’s cupboard, most notably the silver.

In the morning, the Madames notice the silver is missing, thinking Jean stole it. The bishop notes that the silver plates do not belong to them, but to the poor.

Three men come to the door with a captured Jean Valjean. The bishop inquires why Jean did not take the candlesticks along with the silver. Everyone including Jean looks is confused by the bishop’s words. The bishop stresses Jean’s actions were a misunderstanding and wills to give Jean silver and precious items as long as Jean turns into an honest man. The bishop strongly believes Jean Valjean may be redeemed, in which his soul may serve God.

**BOOK THEE: IN THE YEAR 1817 (FANTINE)**