

# **LES MISERABLES**

Herbert Kretzmer

## **(DISC ONE)**

### **ACT ONE**

#### **1. PROLOGUE (WORK SONG)**

CHAIN GANG

Look down, look down  
Don't look 'em in the eye  
Look down, look down  
You're here until you die.  
The sun is strong  
It's hot as hell below  
Look down, look down  
There's twenty years to go.  
I've done no wrong  
Sweet Jesus, hear my prayer  
Look down, look down  
Sweet Jesus doesn't care  
I know she'll wait  
I know that she'll be true  
Look down, look down  
They've all forgotten you  
When I get free  
You won't see me  
'Ere for dust  
Look down, look down  
Don't look 'em in the eye.

How long, O Lord,  
Before you let me die?  
Look down, look down  
You'll always be a slave  
Look down, look down,  
You're standing in your grave.

JAVERT

Now bring me prisoner 24601  
Your time is up  
And your parole's begun  
You know what that means,

VALJEAN

Yes, it means I'm free.

JAVERT

No! It means You get  
Your yellow ticket-of-leave  
You are a thief.

VALJEAN

I stole a loaf of bread.

JAVERT

You robbed a house.

VALJEAN

I broke a window pane.  
My sister's child was close to death  
And we were starving.

JAVERT

You will starve again  
Unless you learn the meaning of the law.

VALJEAN

I know the meaning of those 19 years  
A slave of the law.

JAVERT

Five years for what you did  
The rest because you tried to run  
Yes, 24601.

VALJEAN

My name is Jean Valjean.

JAVERT

And I'm Javert  
Do not forget my name  
Do not forget me  
24601.

## **2. ON PAROLE / THE BISHOP**

VALJEAN

Freedom is mine. The earth is still.  
I feel the wind. I breathe again  
And the sky clears  
The world is waking  
Drink from the pool. How clean the taste

Never forget the years, the waste  
Nor forgive them  
For what they've done  
They are the guilty—every one  
The day begins  
And now let's see  
What this new world  
Will do for me

EMPLOYER

You'll have to go  
I'll pay you off for the day  
Collect your bits and pieces there  
And be on your way

VALJEAN

You have given me half  
What the other men get  
This handful of tin  
Wouldn't buy my sweat

LABORER

You've broke the law  
It's there for people to see  
Why should you get the same  
As honest men like me.

VALJEAN

And now I know how freedom feels  
The jailer always at your heels.  
It is the law

This piece of paper in my hand  
That makes me cast throughout the land.  
It is the law  
Like a cur  
I walk the street  
The dirt beneath their feet.

BISHOP

Come in, Sir, for you are weary  
And the night is cold out there  
Though our lives are very humble  
What we have we have to share  
There is wine here to revive you  
There is bread to make you strong  
There's a bed to rest till morning  
Rest from pain, and rest from wrong

VALJEAN

He let me eat my fill  
I have the lion's share  
The silver in my hand  
Cost twice what I had earned  
In all those nineteen years  
That lifetime of despair  
And yet he trusted me  
The old fool trusted me  
He'd done his bit of good  
I played the grateful serf  
And thanked him like I should  
And when the house was still  
I got up in the night

Took the silver  
Took my flight!

### CONSTABLES

Tell His Reverence your story.  
Let us see if he's impressed.  
You were lodging here last night.  
You were the honest Bishop's guest.  
And then, out of Christian goodness.  
When he learned about your plight  
You maintain he made a present of this silver

### BISHOP

That is right.  
But my friend, you left so early  
Surely something slipped your mind.  
You forgot I gave these also  
Would you leave the best behind?  
So, Messieurs, you may release him  
For this man has spoken true.  
I commend you for your duty  
And God's blessing go with you.  
But remember this, my brother  
See in this some higher plan.  
You must use this precious silver  
To become an honest man.  
By the witness of the martyrs  
By the Passion and the Blood  
God has raised you out of darkness  
I have bought your soul for God!

### 3. VALJEAN'S SOLILOQUY

VALJEAN

What have I done?

Sweet Jesus, what have I done?

Become a thief in the night!

Become a dog on the run!

And have I fallen so far

And is the hour so late

That nothing remains but the cry of my hate,

The cries in the dark that nobody hears

Here where I stand at the turning of the years?

If there's another way to go

I missed it twenty long years ago.

My life was a war that could never be won

They gave me a number and murdered Valjean

When they chained Me and left me for dead

Just for stealing a mouthful of bread.

Yet why did I allow this man

To touch my soul and teach me love?

He treated me like any other.

He gave me his trust.

He called me Brother.

My life he claims for God above.

Can such things be?

For I had come to hate the world.

This world that always hated me!

Take an eye for an eye.

Turn your heart into stone.

This is all I have lived for.

This is all I have known.

One word from him and I'd be back  
Beneath the lash, upon the rack.  
Instead, he offers me my freedom.  
I feel my shame inside me like a knife.  
He told me that I have a soul.  
How does he know?  
What spirit comes to move my life?  
Is there another way to go?  
I am reaching, but I fall,  
And the night is closing in,  
And I stare into the void —  
To the whirlpool of my sin.  
I'll escape now from the world  
From the world of Jean Valjean  
Jean Valjean is nothing now.  
Another story must begin!

#### **4. AT THE END OF THE DAY**

##### THE POOR

At the end of the day you're another day older  
And that's all you can I say for the life of the poor  
It's a struggle, it's a war  
And there's nothing that anyone's giving  
One more day standing about  
What is it for?  
One day less to be living!  
At the end of the day you're another day colder  
And the shirt on your back doesn't keep out the chill  
And the righteous hurry past  
They don't hear the little ones crying



And the winter is coming on fast  
Ready to kill  
One day nearer to dying!  
At the end of the day there's another day dawning  
And the sun in the morning is waiting to rise  
Like the waves crash on the sand  
Like a storm that'll break any second  
There's a hunger in the land  
There's a reckoning still to be reckoned and  
There's gonna be hell to pay  
At the end of the day!

FOREMAN

At the end of the day you get nothing for nothing  
Sitting flat on your butt doesn't buy any bread.

WORKERS

There are children back at home  
And the children have got to be fed  
And you're lucky to be in a job  
And in a bed  
And we're counting our blessings!

WOMEN

Have you seen how the foreman is fuming today  
With his terrible breath and his wandering hands?  
It's because little Fantine won't give him his way  
Take a look at his trousers, you see where he stands!

WORKERS

At the end of the day it's another day over

With enough in your pocket to last for a week  
Pay the landlord, pay the shop  
Keep on grafting as long as you're able  
Keep on grafting till you drop  
Or it's back to the crumbs off the table  
You've got to pay your way  
At the end of the day!

GIRL

And what have we here, little innocent sister?  
Come on Fantine let's have all the news  
"Ooh...dear Fantine, you must send us more money ...  
your child needs a doctor ... There's no time to lose ... "

FANTINE

Give that letter to me  
It is none of your business  
With a husband at home  
And a bit on the side  
Is there anyone here  
Who can swear before God  
She has nothing to fear  
She has nothing to hide?

VALJEAN

What is this fighting all about?  
Will someone tear these two apart  
This is a factory, not a circus.  
Now, come on ladies, settle down  
I run a business of repute  
I am the Mayor of this town

I look to you to sort this out  
And be as patient as you can.

FOREMAN

Now someone say how this began!

GIRL

At the end of the day  
She's the one who began it,  
There's a kid that she's hiding  
In some little town.  
There's a man she has to pay  
You can guess how she picks up the extra.  
You can bet she's earning her keep  
Sleeping around  
And the boss wouldn't like it!

FANTINE

Yes it's true there's a child  
And the child is my daughter  
And her father abandoned us  
Leaving us flat.  
Now she lives with an innkeeper man  
And his wife  
And I pay for the child.  
What's the matter with that?

WOMEN

At the end of the day  
She'll be nothing but trouble  
And there's trouble for all

When there's trouble for one!  
While we're earning our daily bread  
She's the one with her hands in the butter  
You must send the slut away  
Or we're all gonna end in the gutter  
And it's us who'll have to pay  
At the end of the day!

FOREMAN

I might have known the bitch could bite  
I might have known the cat had claws  
I might have guessed your little secret.  
Ah yes, the virtuous Fantine  
Who keeps herself so pure and clean  
You'd be the cause, I had no doubt  
Of any trouble hereabout  
You play a virgin in the light  
But need no urgin' in the night!

GIRL

She's been laughing at you  
While she's having her men.

WOMEN

She'll be nothing but trouble again and again.

WOMAN

You must sack her today.

ALL WORKERS

Sack the girl today

FOREMAN

Right my girl. On your way!

## **5. I DREAMED A DREAM**

FANTINE

There was time when men were kind.  
When their voices were soft  
And their words inviting.  
There was a time when love was blind  
And the world was a song  
And the song was exciting.  
There was a time.  
Then it all went wrong.  
I dreamed a dream in time gone by  
When hope was high  
And life worth living  
I dreamed that love would never die  
I dreamed that God would be forgiving.  
Then I was young and unafraid  
And dreams were made and used  
And wasted  
There was no ransom to be paid  
No song unsung  
No wine untasted.  
But the tigers come at night  
With their voices soft as thunder  
As they tear your hope apart  
As they turn your dream to shame.  
He slept a summer by my side

He filled my days  
With endless wonder  
He took my childhood in his stride  
But he was gone when autumn came.  
And still I dream he'll come to me  
That we will live the years together  
But there are dreams that cannot be  
And there are storms  
We cannot weather . . .  
I had a dream my life would be  
So different from this hell I'm living  
So different now from what it seemed  
Now life has killed  
The dream I dreamed.

## **6. LOVELY LADIES**

### SAILORS

I smell women  
Smell 'em in the air.  
Think I'll drop my anchor  
In that harbor over there.  
Lovely ladies  
Smell 'em through the smoke  
Seven days at sea  
Can make you hungry for a poke.  
Even stokers need a little stoke!

### WHORE

Lovely ladies  
Waiting for a bite

Waiting for the customers  
Who only come at night  
Lovely ladies  
Ready for the call  
Standing up or lying down  
Or any way at all.  
Bargain prices up against the wall,

CRONE

What pretty hair!  
What pretty locks you got there.  
What luck you got. It's worth a centime, my dear  
I'll take the lot.

FANTINE

Don't touch me. Leave me alone.

CRONE

Let's make a price. I'll give you all of ten francs.  
Just think of that!

FANTINE

It pays a debt.

CRONE

Just think of that!

FANTINE

What can I do? It pays a debt  
Ten francs may save my poor Cosette!

**WHORES**

Old men, young men, take 'em as they come,  
Harbor rats and alley cats and every kind of scum.  
Poor men, rich men, leaders of the land,  
See them with their trousers off they're never quite as  
grand  
All it takes is money in your hand!  
Lovely ladies  
Going for a song  
Got a lot of callers  
But they never stay for long.

**FANTINE**

Come on, Captain, you can wear your shoes  
Don't it make a change  
To have a girl who can't refuse?  
Easy money  
Lying on a bed.  
Just is well they never see the hate  
That's in your head!  
Don't they know  
They're making love to one already dead!

**7. FANTINE'S ARREST****SAILOR**

Here's something new, I think I'll give it a try  
Come closer, you!  
I like to see what I buy...  
The usual price  
For just one slice of your pie



FANTINE

I don't want you  
No, no M'sieur let me go

SAILOR

Is this a trick? I won't pay more!

FANTINE

No, no, not at all

SAILOR

You've got some nerve, you little whore  
You've got some gall.  
It's the same with a tart  
As it is with a grocer—  
The customer sees what he gets in advance  
It's not for the whore to say 'yes sir' or 'no sir'  
It's not for the harlot to pick or to choose  
Or to lead in the dance

FANTINE

I'll kill you, you bastard  
Try any of that!  
Even a whore who has gone to the bird  
Won't be had by a rat

JAVERT

Tell me quickly what's the story?  
Who saw what, and why, and where?  
Let him a give a full description

Let him answer to Javert!  
In this nest of whores and vipers  
Let one speak who saw it all  
Who laid hands on this good man here?  
What's the substance of this brawl?

SAILOR

Javert, would you believe it—  
I was crossing from the park  
When this prostitute attacked me  
You can see she left her mark

JAVERT

She will answer for her actions  
When you make a full report  
You may rest assured, M'sieur  
That she will answer to the court

FANTINE

There's a child who sorely needs me  
Please, M'sieur, she's but 'that high'  
Holy God, is there no mercy?  
If I go to jail she'll die!

JAVERT

I have heard such protestations  
Every day for twenty years  
Let's have no more explanations  
Save your breath, and save your tears  
'Honest work. Just reward. That's the way to please the  
Lord.

VALJEAN

A moment of your time, Javert  
I do believe this woman's tale

JAVERT

But M'sieur Mayor!

VALJEAN

You've done your duty, let her be  
She needs a doctor, not a jail

JAVERT

But M'sieur Mayor

VALJEAN

Where will she end  
This child without a friend?  
I've seen your face before  
Show me some way to help you  
How have you come to grief  
In such a place as this?

FANTINE

M'sieur, don't mock me now I pray  
It's hard enough, I've lost my pride  
You let your foreman send me away  
Yes you were there  
And turned aside  
I never did no wrong!

VALJEAN

Is it true what I've done?

FANTINE

My daughter's close to dying...

VALJEAN

To an innocent soul?

FANTINE

If there's a god above

VALJEAN

Had I only known then...

FANTINE

He'd let me die instead

VALJEAN

In his name my task has just begun. I will see it done

JAVERT

But M'sieur Mayor

VALJEAN

I will see it done

## **8. THE RUNAWAY CART**

JAVERT

Can this be true?

I don't believe what I see  
A man your age  
To be as strong as you are  
A mem'ry stirs  
You make me think of a man  
From years ago  
A man who broke his parole  
He disappeared  
Forgive me, sir  
I would not dare

VALJEAN

Say what you must  
Don't leave it there

JAVERT

I have only known one other  
Who can do what you have done  
He's a convict from the chain gang  
He's been ten years on the run  
But he couldn't run forever  
We have found his hide-away  
And he's just been rearrested  
And he comes to court today  
But, of course, he now denies it—  
You'd expect that of a 'con'  
But he couldn't run forever  
No, not even Jean Valjean!

## **9. WHO AM I? — THE TRIAL**

VALJEAN

He thinks that man is me  
He knew him at a glance!  
That stranger he has found  
This man could be my chance!  
Why should I save his hide?  
Why should I right this wrong  
When I have come so far  
And struggled for so long?  
If I speak, I am condemned  
If I stay silent, I am damned!  
I am the master of hundreds of workers.  
They all look to me.  
Can I abandon them?  
How would they live  
If I am not free  
If I speak, I am condemned.  
If I stay silent, I am damned!  
Who am I?  
Can I condemn this man to slavery?  
Pretend I do not see his agony?  
This innocent who bears my face  
Who goes to judgment in my place.  
Who am I?  
Can I conceal myself for evermore?  
Pretend I'm not the man I was before?  
And must my name until I die  
Be no more than an alibi?  
Must I lie?  
How can I ever face my fellow men?  
How can I ever face myself again?

My soul belongs to God, I know  
I made that bargain long ago  
He gave me hope when hope was gone  
He gave me strength to journey on  
Who am I? Who am I?  
I am Jean Valjean!  
And so, Javert, you see it's true  
That man bears no more guilt than you!  
Who am I?  
24601!

## **10. FANTINE'S DEATH**

FANTINE

Cosette, it's turned so cold  
Cosette, it's past your bed time!  
You've played the day away  
And soon it will be night.  
Come to me. Cosette, the light is fading  
Don't you see the evening star appearing?  
Come to me and rest against my shoulder  
How fast the minutes fly away and every minute colder.  
Hurry near, another day is dying  
Don't you hear the winter wind is crying?  
There's a darkness which comes without a warning  
But I will sing you lullabies and wake you in the morning.

VALJEAN

Oh, Fantine, our time is running out  
But, Fantine, I swear this on my life.

FANTINE

Look, M'sieur, where all the children play.

VALJEAN

Be at peace, be at peace evermore.

FANTINE

My Cosette ...

VALJEAN

Shall live in my protection.

FANTINE

Take her now

VALJEAN

Your child will want for nothing.

FANTINE

Good M'sieur, you come from God in heaven.

VALJEAN

And none will ever harm Cosette  
As long as I am living.

FANTINE

Take my hand  
The night grows ever colder.

VALJEAN

Then I will keep you warm.



FANTINE

Take my child  
I give her to your keeping.

VALJEAN

Take shelter from the storm.

FANTINE

For God's sake, please stay till I am sleeping  
And tell Cosette I love her  
And I'll see her when I wake ...

## **11. THE CONFRONTATION**

JAVERT

Valjean, at last.  
We see each other plain  
'M'sieur le Mayor'.  
You'll wear a different chain!

VALJEAN

Before you say another word, Javert  
Before you chain me up like a slave again  
Listen to me. There is something I must do.  
This woman leaves behind a suffering child.  
There is none but me who can intercede.  
In mercy's name, three days are all I need  
Then I'll return. I pledge my word.  
Then I'll return . . . .

JAVERT

You must think me mad!  
I've hunted you across the years.  
Men like you can never change.  
A man such as you.

VALJEAN

Believe of me what you will  
There is a duty that I'm sworn to do  
You know nothing of my life  
All I did was steal some bread  
You know nothing of the world  
You would sooner see me dead  
But not before I see this justice done.  
I am warning you, Javert  
I'm a stronger man by far  
There is power in me yet  
My race is not yet run  
I am warning you, Javert  
There is nothing I won't dare  
If I have to kill you here.  
I'll do what must be done

JAVERT

Men like me can never change.  
Men like you can never change.  
No. 24601  
My duty's to the law  
You have no rights  
Come with me. 24601  
Now the wheel has turned around

Jean Valjean is nothing now  
Dare you talk to me of crime  
And the price you had to pay  
Every man is born in sin  
Every man must choose his way  
You know nothing of Javert  
I was born inside a jail  
I was born with scum like you  
I am from the gutter too.

VALJEAN  
And this I swear to you tonight

JAVERT  
There is no place for you to hide.

VALJEAN  
Your child will live within my care.

JAVERT  
Wherever you may hide away.

VALJEAN  
And I will raise her to the light.

VALJEAN & JAVERT  
I swear to you. I will be there!

## **12. CASTLE ON A CLOUD**

YOUNG COSETTE

There is a castle on a cloud  
I like to go there in my sleep  
Aren't any floors for me to sweep  
Not in my castle on a cloud.  
There is a room that's full of toys  
There are a hundred boys and girls  
Nobody shouts or talks too loud  
Not in my castle on a cloud.  
There is a lady all in white  
Holds me and sings a lullaby  
She's nice to see  
And she's soft to touch  
She says: 'Cosette I love you very much'.  
I know a place where no one's lost  
I know a place where no one cries  
Crying at all is not allowed  
Not in my castle on a cloud.

Oh help! I think I hear them now, and I'm nowhere near  
finished sweeping and scrubbing and polishing the floor.  
Oh, it's her! It's Madame!

MADAM THENARDIER  
Now look, who's here!  
The little madam herself  
Pretending once again she's being so awfully good!  
Better not let me catch you slacking  
Better not catch my eye  
Ten rotten francs your mother sends me  
What is that going to buy  
Now take that pail

My little 'Mademoiselle'  
And go draw some water from the well  
We should never have taken you in in the first place  
How stupid the things we do  
Like mother, like daughter, the scum of the streets  
Still there, Cosette?  
Your tears will do you no good!  
I told you fetch some water from the well in the wood...

COSETTE  
Please do not send me out alone  
Not in the darkness on my own.

MADAM THENARDIER  
Enough of that or I'll forget to be nice!  
You heard me ask for something  
And I never ask twice!

### **13. MASTER OF THE HOUSE**

THENARDIER  
Welcome, M'sieur  
Sit yourself down  
And meet the best  
Innkeeper in town.  
As for the rest.  
All of them crooks  
Rooking the guest  
And cooking the books.  
Seldom do you see  
Honest men like me

A gent of good intent  
Who's content to be  
Master of the house  
Doling out the charm  
Ready with a handshake  
And an open palm  
Tells a saucy tale  
Makes a little stir  
Customers appreciate a bon-viveur  
Glad to do my friends a favor  
Doesn't cost me to be nice  
But nothing gets you nothing  
Everything has got a little price!  
Master of the house  
Keeper of the zoo  
Ready to relieve 'em  
Of a sou, or two.  
Watering the wine  
Making up the weight  
Picking up their knickknacks  
When they can't see straight  
Everybody loves landlord  
Everybody's bosom friend  
I do whatever pleases  
Jesus, Won't I bleed 'em in the end!

**THENARDIER & CHORUS**

Master of the house  
Quick to catch your eye  
Never wants a passer-by  
To pass him by

Servant to the poor  
Butler to the great  
Comforter. philosopher  
And lifelong mate!  
Everybody's boon companion  
Everybody's chaperone

THENARDIER

But lock up your valises  
Jesus! Won't I skin you to the bone!  
Enter. M'sieur  
Lay down yer load  
Unlace yer boots  
And rest from the road  
This weighs a ton  
Travel's a curse  
But here we strive  
To lighten your purse.  
Here the goose is cooked  
Here the fat is fried  
And nothing's overlooked  
Till I'm satisfied  
Food beyond compare  
Food beyond belief  
Mix it in a mincer  
And pretend it's beef  
Kidney of a horse  
Liver of a cat  
Filling up the sausages  
With this and that!  
Residents are more than welcome

Bridal suite is occupied!  
Reasonable charges  
Plus some little extras on the side!  
Charge 'em for the lice  
Extra for the mice  
Two per cent for looking in the mirror twice.  
Here a little slice  
There a little cut  
Three per cent for sleeping with the window shut.  
When it comes to fixing prices  
There are lots of tricks he knows  
How it all increases  
All those bits and pieces  
Jesus! It's amazing how it grows!

THENARDIER & CHORUS

Master of the house  
Quick to catch your eye  
Never wants a passer-by to pass him by  
Servant to the poor  
Butler to the great  
Comforter, philosopher  
And life-long mate  
Everybody's boon companion  
Gives 'em everything he's got.

THENARDIER

Dirty bunch of geezers  
Jesus! What a sorry little lot!

MADAME THENARDIER



I used to dream  
That I would meet a prince.  
But God Almighty.  
Have you seen what's happened since?  
'Master of the house'?  
Isn't worth me spit!  
'Comforter, philosopher'  
—and lifelong shit'  
Cunning little brain  
Regular Voltaire  
Thinks he's quite a lover  
But there's not much there.  
What a cruel trick of nature  
Landed me with such a louse  
God knows how I've lasted  
Living with this bastard in the house!

THENARDIER & CHORUS  
Master of the house

MADAME THENARDIER  
Master and a half.

THENARDIER & CHORUS  
Comforter, philosopher.

MADAME THENARDIER  
Don't make me laugh

THENARDIER & CHORUS

Servant to the poor  
Butler to the great

MADAME THENARDIER  
Hypocrite and toady  
And inebriate!

THENARDIER & CHORUS  
Everybody bless the landlord!  
Everybody bless his spouse!

THENARDIER  
Everybody raise a glass

MADAME THENARDIER  
Raise it up the master's ass.

ALL  
Everybody raise a glass ta the master of the house.

## **14. THE BARGAIN – WALTZ OF TREACHERY**

VALJEAN  
I found her wandering in the woods  
This little child, I found her trembling in the shadows  
And I am here to help, Cosette  
And I will settle any debt you may think proper  
I will pay what I must pay  
To take Cosette away.

THENARDIER

What to do? What to say?  
Shall you carry our treasure away?  
What a gem! What a pearl!  
Beyond rubies is our little girl!  
How can we speak of debt?  
Let's not haggle for darling Cosette!  
Dear Fantine, gone to rest  
Have we done for her child what is best?  
Shared our bread. Shared each bone.  
Treated her like she's one of our own!  
Like our own, Monsieur!

VALJEAN

Your feelings do you credit, sir  
And I will ease the parting blow  
Let us not talk of bargains or bones or greed  
Now, may I say, we are agreed?

MADAM THENARDIER

That would quite fit the bill  
If she hadn't so often been ill  
Little dear, cost us dear  
Medicines are expensive, M'sieur!  
Not that we begrudged a sou—  
It's no more than we Christians must do!

M. & M'ME THENARDIER

One thing more. One small doubt  
There are treacherous people about  
No offense. Please reflect  
Your intentions may not be correct?

VALJEAN

No more words. Here's your price.  
Fifteen hundred for your sacrifice  
Come, Cosette, say goodbye  
Let us seek out a friendlier sky  
Thank you both for Cosette  
It won't take you too long to forget.

## **15. LOOK DOWN**

BEGGARS

Look down and see the beggars at your feet  
Look down and show some mercy if you can  
Look down and see  
The sweepings of the street  
Look down. Look down  
Upon your fellow man!

GAVROCHE

How do you do? My name's Gavroche.  
These are my people Here's my patch.  
Not much to look at, nothing posh  
Nothing that you'd call up to scratch.  
This is my school, my high society  
Here in the slums of Saint Michele  
We live on crumbs of humble piety—  
Tough on the teeth, but what the hell!  
Think you're poor.  
Think you're free?  
Follow me! Follow me!

## BEGGARS

Look down and show some mercy if you can.  
Look down, look down upon your fellow man.

## OLD BEGGAR WOMAN

What d' you think yer at  
Hanging round me pitch?  
If you're new around here, girl,  
You've got a lot to learn!

## YOUNG PROSTITUTE

Listen, you old bat  
Crazy bloody witch  
'Least I give my customers  
Some pleasure in return!

## OLD BEGGAR WOMAN

I know what you give.  
Give 'em all the pox!  
Spread around your poison  
Till they end up in a box

## PIMP

Leave the poor old cow.  
Move it, Madeleine.  
She used to be no better  
Till the clap got to her brain

## BEGGARS

When's it gonna end?

When we gonna live?  
Something's gotta happen now or  
something's gonna give  
It'll come, It'll come. It'll come  
It'll come, It'll come. It'll come. It'll come.

ENJOLRAS

Where are the leaders of the land?  
Where are the swells who run the show?

MARIUS

Only one man — and that's Lamarque  
Speaks for these people here below.

BEGGARS

See our children fed  
Help us in our shame  
Something for a crust of bread  
In Holy Jesus' name

URCHIN

In the Lord's Holy name.

BEGGARS

In his name  
In his name  
In his name

MARIUS

Lamarque is ill and fading fast  
Won't last the week out so they say.

ENJOLRAS

With all the anger in the land  
How long before the judgment day!  
Before we cut the fat ones down to size?  
Before the barricades arise?

BEGGARS

Look down and show some mercy if you can  
Look down, look down  
Upon your fellow man

## **16. STARS**

JAVERT

There out in the darkness  
A fugitive running  
Fallen from grace  
Fallen from grace  
God be my witness  
I never shall yield  
Till we come face to face  
Till we come face to face.  
He knows his way in the dark  
But mine is the way of the Lord  
And those who do follow the path of the righteous  
Shall have their reward  
And if they fall  
As Lucifer fell  
The flame  
The sword!

Stars in your multitudes  
Scarce to be counted  
Filling the darkness  
With order and light  
You are the sentinels  
Silent and sure  
Keeping watch in the night  
Keeping watch in the night  
You know your place in the sky  
You hold your course  
And your aim  
And each in your season  
Returns and returns  
And is always the same  
And if you fall  
As Lucifer fell  
You fall  
In flame!  
And so it has been and so it's written  
On the doorway to paradise  
That those who falter  
And those who fall  
Must pay  
The price.  
Lord let me find him  
That I may see him  
Safe behind bars  
I will never rest  
Till then  
This I swear  
This I swear by the stars!



## 17. ABC CAFE / RED AND BLACK

STUDENTS

At Notre Dame

The sections are prepared!

At Rue du Bac

They're straining at the leash!

Students, workers, everyone,

There's a river on the run:

Like the flowing of the tide

Paris coming to our side!

ENJOLRAS

The time is near

So near it's stirring the blood in their veins

And yet beware

Don't let the wine go to your brains

For the army we fight is a dangerous foe

With the men and the arms that we never can match

it is easy to sit here and swat 'em like flies

But the National Guard will be harder to catch

We need a sign

To rally the people

To call them to arms

To bring them in line!

Marius, you're late

JOLY

What's wrong today?

You look as if you've seen a ghost

GRANTAIRE

Some wine, and say what's going on.

MARIUS

A ghost you say, a ghost maybe  
She was just like a ghost to me  
One minute there...then she was gone!

GRANTAIRE

I am agog!  
I am aghast!  
Is Marius in love at last?  
I have never seen him 'ooh' and 'aah'  
You talk of battles to be won  
And here he comes like Don Ju-an  
It's better than an o-per-a!

ENJOLRAS

It is time for us all  
To decide who we are  
Do we fight for the right  
To a night at the opera now?  
Have you asked of yourselves  
What's the price you might pay?  
Is it simply a game  
For rich young boys to play,  
The color of the world  
Is changing day by day  
Red — the blood of angry men!  
Black — the dark of ages past!

Red — a world about to dawn!  
Black — the night that ends at last!

MARIUS

Had you been there tonight  
You might know how it feels  
To be struck to the bone  
In a moment of breathless delight!  
Had you been there tonight  
You might also have known  
How your world may be changed  
In just one burst of light  
And what was right seems wrong  
And what was wrong seems right!  
Red — I feel my soul on fire!  
Black — my world if she's not there!  
Red — the color of desire!  
Black — the color of despair!

ENJOLRAS

Marius, you're no longer a child  
I do not doubt you mean it well  
But now there is a higher call  
Who cares about your lonely soul?  
We strive towards a larger goal  
Our little lives don't count at all!

STUDENTS

Red — the blood of angry men!  
Black — the dark of ages past!  
Red - a world about to dawn!

Black - the night that ends at last!

ENJOLRAS

Well, Courfeyrac, do we have all the guns we need  
Feuilly, Combeferre, our time is running short  
Grantaire, put that bottle down!  
Do we have the guns we need?

GRANTAIRE

Give me brandy on my breath  
And I'll breathe them all to death

COURFEYRAC

At St. Antoine they're with us to a man

COMBEFERRE

At Notre Dame they're tearing up the stones

FEUILLY

Twenty rifles good as new

JOLY

Twenty rounds for every man.

GAVROCHE

Listen

Listen to me

Listen everybody

General Lamarque is dead

ENJOLRAS

Lamarque is dead  
Lamarque  
His death is the hour of fate  
The people's man  
His death is the sign we await  
On his funeral day they will honor his name  
It's a rallying cry that will reach every ear.  
In the death of Lamarque we will kindle the a flame  
They will see that the day of salvation is near  
The time is here  
Let us welcome it gladly with courage and cheer  
Let us take to the streets with no doubt in our hearts  
But a jubilant shout  
They will come one and all,  
They will come when we call!

## **18. DO YOU HEAR THE PEOPLE SING?**

ENJOLRAS

Do you hear the people sing?  
Singing the song of angry men?  
It is the music of a people  
Who will not be slaves again!  
When the beating of your heart  
Echoes the beating of the drums  
There is a life about to start  
When tomorrow comes!

COMBEFERRE

Will you join in our crusade?  
Who will be strong and stand with me?

Beyond the barricade  
Is there a world you long to see?

COURFEYRAC

Then join in the fight  
That will give you the right to be free...

CHORUS

Do you hear the people sing?  
Singing the song of angry men?  
It is the music of a people  
Who will not be slaves again!  
When the beating of your heart  
Echoes the beating of the drums  
There is a life about to start  
When tomorrow comes!

FEUILLY

Will you give all you can give  
So that our banner may advance?  
Some will fall and some will live  
Will you stand up and take your chance?  
The blood of the martyrs  
Will water the meadows of France!

CHORUS

Do you hear the people sing?  
Singing the song of angry men?  
It is the music of a people  
Who will not be slaves again!  
When the beating of your heart

Echoes the beating of the drums  
There is a life about to start  
When tomorrow comes!

## **19. RUE PLUMET —IN MY LIFE**

COSETTE

How strange this feeling that my life's begun at last  
This change, can people really fall in love so fast?  
What's the matter with you, Cosette?  
Have you been too much on your own?  
So many things unclear  
So many things unknown,  
In my life  
There are so many questions and answers  
That somehow seem wrong  
In my life  
There are times when I catch in the silence  
The sigh of a far away song  
And it sings  
Of a world that I long to see  
Out of reach  
Just a whisper away  
Waiting for me.  
Does he know I'm alive?  
Do I know if he's real?  
Does he see what I saw?  
Does he feel what I feel?  
In my life  
I'm no longer alone  
Now the love in my life

Is so near  
Find me now, find me here!

MARIUS

In my life  
She has burst like the music of angels  
The light of the sun!  
And my life seems to stop  
As if something is over  
And something has scarcely begun  
Eponine, you're the friend  
Who has brought me here  
Thanks to you, I am one with the gods  
And Heaven is near!  
And I soar through a world that is new, that is free

EPONINE

Every word that he says  
Is a dagger in me!  
In my life, there's been no one like him anywhere,  
Anywhere, where he is  
If he asked...I'd be his!

MARIUS & EPONINE

In my life, there is someone who touches my life.

MARIUS

Waiting near!

EPONINE

Waiting near!



## 20. A HEART FULL OF LOVE

MARIUS

A heart full of love  
A heart full of song  
I'm doing everything all wrong  
Oh God, for shame  
I do not even know your name  
Dear Mad'moiselle  
Won't you say?  
Will you tell?

COSETTE

A heart full of love  
No fear, no regret.

MARIUS

My name is Marius Pontmercy.

COSETTE

And mine's Cosette.

MARIUS

Cosette. I don't know what to say.

COSETTE

Then make no sound.

MARIUS

I am lost.

COSETTE  
I am found!

MARIUS  
A heart full of light.

COSETTE  
A night bright as day.

MARIUS  
And you must never go away  
Cosette, Cosette!

COSETTE  
This is a chain we'll never break.

MARIUS  
Do I dream?

COSETTE  
I'm awake.

MARIUS  
A heart full of love.

COSETTE  
A heart full of you.

MARIUS  
A single look and then I knew.

COSETTE  
I knew it too.

MARIUS  
From today.

COSETTE  
Every day.

COSETTE & MARIUS  
For it isn't a dream  
Not a dream  
After all

EPONINE (interjections)  
He was never mine to lose  
Why regret  
What could not be?  
These are words  
He'll never say  
Not to me  
Not to me  
Not for me  
His heart  
Full of love  
He will never  
Feel this way.

**(DISC TWO)**

## 1. ATTACK ON RUE PLUMET

THENARDIER

This is his lair  
I've seen the old fox around  
He keeps himself to himself  
He's staying close to the ground  
I smell profit here  
Ten years ago  
He came and paid for Cosette  
I let her go for a song  
It's time we settled the debt  
This'll cost him dear

BRUJON

What do I care  
Who you should rob?  
Gimme my share  
Finish the job!

THENARDIER

You shut your mouth  
Give me your hand.

BRUJON

What have we here?

THENARDIER

Who is this hussy?

BABET

It's your brat Eponine  
Don't you know your own kid  
Why's she hanging about you?

THENARDIER

Eponine, get on home  
You're not needed in this  
We're enough here without you

EPONINE

I know this house  
I tell you there's nothing here for you  
Just the old man and the girl,  
They live ordinary lives.

THENARDIER

Don't interfere  
You've got some gall  
Take care, young miss  
You've got a lot to say

BRUJON

She's going soft

CLAQUESOUS

Happens to us all.

MONTPARNASSE

Go home. 'Ponine  
Go home, you're in the way.

EPONINE

I'm gonna scream. I'm gonna warn them here.

THENARDIER

One little scream and you'll regret it  
For a year.

CLAQUESOUS

What a palaver  
What an absolute treat  
To watch a cat and it's father  
Pick a bone in the street.

BRUJON

Not a sound out of you!

EPONINE

Well. I told you I'd do it  
Told you I'd do it...

THENARDIER

You wait my girl, you'll rue this night  
I'll make you scream. You'll scream alright.  
Leave her to me. Don't wait around.  
Make for the sewers. Go underground.

MARIUS

It was your cry sent them away  
Once more 'Ponine, saving the day!  
Dearest Cosette—my friend 'Ponine  
Brought me to you

Showed me the way!  
Someone is near  
Let's not be seen  
Somebody's here.

VALJEAN

My dear Cosette  
I heard a cry in the dark  
I heard the shout of angry voices in the street

COSETTE

That was my cry you heard, Papa  
I was afraid of what they'd do  
They ran away when they heard my cry

VALJEAN

Cosette, my child, what will become of you?

COSETTE

Three men I saw beyond the wall  
Three men in shadow moving fast!

VALJEAN

This was a warning to us all  
These were the shadows of the past!  
Must be Javert!  
He's found my cover at last  
I've got to take Cosette away  
Before they return  
We must get away from shadows  
That will never let us be

Tomorrow to Calais,  
And then a ship across the sea!  
Hurry, Cosette, prepare to leave and say no more  
Tomorrow, we'll away!  
Hurry, Cosette, it's time to close another door  
And live another day!

## **2. ONE DAY MORE!**

VALJEAN

One day more!  
Another day, another destiny.  
This never-ending road to Calvary  
These men who seem to know my crime  
Will surely come a second time.  
One day more!

MARIUS

I did not live until today  
How can I live when we are parted?

VALJEAN

One day more.

MARIUS & COSETTE

Tomorrow you'll be worlds away  
And yet with you my world has started!

EPONINE

One more day all on my own.



MARIUS & COSETTE  
Will we ever meet again?

EPONINE  
One more day with him not caring.

MARIUS & COSETTE  
I was born to be with you.

EPONINE  
What a life I might have known.

MARIUS & COSETTE  
And I swear I will be true.

EPONINE  
But he never saw me there!

ENJOLRAS  
One more day before the storm.

MARIUS  
Do I follow where she goes?

ENJOLRAS  
At the barricades of freedom.

MARIUS  
Shall I join my brothers there?

ENJOLRAS

When our ranks begin to form.

MARIUS

Do I stay: and do I dare?

ENJOLRAS

Will you take your place with me?

CHORUS

The time is now

The day is here

VALJEAN

One day more!

JAVERT

One day more to revolution

We will nip it in the bud

I will join these little schoolboys

They will wet themselves...with blood!

VALJEAN

One day more.

THENARDIER

Watch 'em run amuck

Catch 'em as they fall

Never know your luck

When there's a free-for-all.

Here a little 'dip'

There a little 'touch'

Most of them are goners  
So they won't miss much!

REBEL STUDENTS

One day to a new beginning.  
Raise the flag of freedom high  
Every man will be a king  
Every man will be a king  
There's a new world for the winning  
There's a new world to be won!  
Do you hear the people sing?

MARIUS

My place is here  
I fight with you.

VALJEAN

One day more.

MARIUS & COSETTE

I did not live until today  
How can I live when we are parted?

JAVERT

I will join these people's heroes  
I will follow where they go  
I will learn their little secrets  
I will know the things they know.

EPONINE

One more day all on my own.

VALJEAN

One day more.

MARIUS & COSETTE

Tomorrow you'll be worlds away  
And yet with you my world has started.

JAVERT

One more day to revolution  
We will nip it in the bud  
I will join these little schoolboys

THENARDIER

Watch 'em run amuck  
Catch 'em as they fall  
Never know your luck  
When there's a free for ail.

VALJEAN

Tomorrow we'll be far away  
Tomorrow is the judgment day.  
Tomorrow is the judgment.

JAVERT

Tomorrow is the judgment day

ALL

Tomorrow we'll discover  
What our God in Heaven has in store  
One more dawn

One more day  
One day more!

## **ACT TWO**

### **3. ON MY OWN**

EPONINE

And now I'm all alone again  
Nowhere to turn, no one to go to  
Without a home, without a friend  
Without a face to say hello to  
And now the night is near, now I can make  
Believe he's here.  
Sometimes I walk alone at night  
When everybody else is sleeping  
I think of him and then I'm happy  
With the company I'm keeping  
The city goes to bed  
And I can live inside my head.  
On my own  
Pretending he's beside me.  
All alone, I walk with him till morning  
Without him  
I feel his arms around me  
And when I lose my way I close my eyes  
And he has found me.  
In the rain the pavement shines like silver  
All the lights are misty in the river  
In the darkness the trees are full of starlight  
And all I see is him and me for ever and forever.

And I know it's only in my mind  
That I'm talking to myself and not to him  
And although I know that he is blind  
Still I say there's a way for us.  
I love him  
But when the night is over  
He is gone, the river's just a river  
Without him the world around me changes  
The trees are bare and everywhere  
The streets are full of strangers.  
I love him  
But everyday I'm learning  
All my life I've only been pretending  
Without me his world will go on turning  
A world that's full of happiness that I have never known.  
I love him, I love him.  
I love him, but only on my own.

#### **4. BACK AT THE BARRICADE**

##### CHORUS

Red — the blood of angry men!  
Black — the dark of ages past!  
Red — a world about to dawn!  
Black — the night that ends at last!

##### STUDENTS

Now we pledge ourselves to hold this barricade.

##### MARIUS

Let them come in their legions

And they will be met!

ENJOLRAS

Have faith in yourselves  
And don't be afraid.

GRANTAIRE

Let's give 'em a screwing  
They'll never forget!

COMBEFERRE

This is where it begins!

COURFEYRAC

And if I should die in the fight to be free  
Where the fighting is hardest  
There will I be.

FEUILLY

Let them come if they dare  
We'll be there!

ARMY OFFICER

You at the barricade, listen to this!  
No one is coming to help you to fight!  
You're on your own  
You have no friends  
Give up your guns—or die!

ENJOLRAS

Damn their warnings. Damn their lies!

They will see the people rise!

STUDENTS

Damn their warnings. Damn their lies!  
They will see the people rise!

## **5. JAVERT'S ARRIVAL / LITTLE PEOPLE**

JAVERT

Listen my friends  
I have done as I said  
I have been to their lines  
I have counted each man  
I will tell what I can  
Better be warned.  
They have armies to spare  
And our danger is real  
We will need enough cunning  
To bring them to heel

ENJOLRAS

Have faith  
If you know what their movements are  
We'll spoil their game  
There are ways that a people can fight  
We shall overcome their power

JAVERT

I have overhead their plans  
There will be no attack tonight  
They intend to starve you out



Before they start a proper fight  
Concentrate their force  
Hit us from the right

GAVROCHE

Liar!

Good evening dear Inspector  
Lovely evening, my dear  
I know this man, my friends  
His name's Inspector Javert!  
So don't believe a word he says  
'Cause none of it's true  
This only goes to show  
What little people can do!  
And little people know  
When little people fight  
We may look easy pickings  
But we got some bite  
So never kick a dog  
Because he's just a pup  
We'll fight like twenty armies  
And we won't give up!  
So you'd better run for cover  
When the pup grows up!

STUDENT

Bravo, little Gavroche! You're the top of the class  
So what are we gonna do with this snake in the grass

ENJOLRAS

Tie this man and take him

To the tavern in there  
The people will decide your fate  
Inspector Javert!

COURFEYRAC

Take this bastard now and shoot him!

FEUILLY

Let us watch this devil dance.

LESGLES

You'd have done the same, Inspector  
If we'd let you have your chance!

ENJOLRAS

Take this man. Bring him through.  
There is work we have to do.

## **6. A LITTLE FALL OF RAIN**

EPONINE

Don't you fret. M'sieur Marius,  
I don't feel any pain  
A little fall of rain  
Can hardly hurt me now  
You're here. That's all I need to know.  
And you will keep me safe  
And you will keep me close  
And rain will make the flowers grow.

MARIUS

But you will live 'Ponine — dear God above  
If I could heal your wounds with words of love.

EPONINE

Just hold me now, and let it be.  
Shelter me, comfort me.

MARIUS

You would live a hundred years  
If I could show you how  
I won't desert you now...

EPONINE

The rain can't hurt me now  
This rain will wash away what's past  
And you will keep me safe  
And you will keep me close.  
I'll sleep in your embrace at last.  
The rain that brings you here  
Is heaven blessed.  
The skies begin to clear  
And I'm at rest.  
A breath away from where you are  
I've come home from so far  
So don't you fret. M'sieur Marius  
I don't feel any pain  
A little fall of rain  
Can hardly hurt me now.  
That's all I need to know.  
And you will keep me safe  
And you will keep me close

And rain will make the flowers

MARIUS

Hush-a-bye, dear Eponine

You won't feel any pain

A little fall of rain

Can hardly hurt you now

I'm here.

I will stay with you till you are sleeping

And rain

Will make the flowers

Grow.

## **7. NIGHT OF ANGUISH**

ENJOLRAS

She is the first to fall.

The first of us to fall upon this barricade.

MARIUS

Her name was Eponine.

Her life was cold and dark yet she was unafraid.

COMBEFERRE

We fight here in the name.

PROUVAIRE

She will not die in vain.

LESGLES

She will not be betrayed.

## 8. FIRST ATTACK

JOLY

Here comes a man in uniform  
What brings you to this place?

VALJEAN

I come here as a volunteer.

JOLY

Approach and show your face.

SENTRY

You wear an army uniform.

VALJEAN

That's why they let me through.

JOLY

You've got some years behind you, sir.

VALJEAN

But much that I can do.

JOLY

You see that prisoner over there?

GRANTAIRE

A volunteer like you!

COMBEFERRE

A spy! who calls himself, Javert!

GRANTAIRE

He's gonna get it, too!

SENTRY

They're getting ready to attack.

ENJOLRAS

Take this and use it well!

But if you shoot us in the back

You'll never live to tell.

STUDENT 1

Platoon of sappers advancing towards the barricade.

STUDENT 2

Troops behind them! Fifty men or more!

ENJOLRAS

Fire!

LESGLES

See how they run away!

GRANTAIRE

By God, we've won the day!

ENJOLRAS

They will be back again.

Make an attack again.  
For your presence of mind,  
For the deed you have done,  
I will thank you, M'sieur  
When our battle is won.

VALJEAN  
Give me no thanks, M'sieur  
There's something you can do.

ENJOLRAS  
If it is in my power.

VALJEAN  
Give me the spy, Javert—  
Let me take care of him!

JAVERT  
The law is inside out,  
The world is upside down.

ENJOLRAS  
Do what you have to do,  
This man belongs to you.

The enemy may be regrouping. Hold yourselves in readiness. Come, my friends, back to your positions, the night is falling fast.

## **9. DRINK WITH ME**

VALJEAN

We meet again.

JAVERT

You've hungered for this all your life

Take your revenge!

How right you should kill with a knife!

VALJEAN

You talk too much

You're life is safe in my hands.

JAVERT

Don't understand.

VALJEAN

Get out of here.

JAVERT

Valjean, take care!

I'm warning you...

VALJEAN

Clear out of here.

JAVERT

Once a thief, forever a thief

What you want you always steal!

You would trade your life for mine

Yes, Valjean, you want a deal!

Shoot me now, for all I care



If you let me go, beware  
You'll still answer too Javert!

VALJEAN

You are wrong, and always have been wrong.  
I'm a man no worse than any man.  
You are free and there are no conditions,  
No bargains or petitions.  
There's nothing that I blame you for  
You've done your duty, nothing more.  
If I come out of this alive, you'll find me  
At number fifty-five, Rue Plumet  
No doubt our paths will cross again.  
Go!

FEUILLY

Drink with me to days gone  
Sing with me the songs we knew.

PROUVAIRE

Here's to pretty girls  
Who went to our heads.

JOLY

Here's to witty girls  
Who went to our beds.

ALL THREE

Here's to them  
And here's to you!

## GRANTAIRE

Drink with me to days gone  
Can it be you fear to die?  
Will the world remember you  
When you fall?  
Could it be your death  
Means nothing at all?  
Is your life just one more lie?

## MEN

Drink with me  
To days gone by  
To the life that used to be  
Let the wine of friendship  
Never run dry.  
Here's to you  
And here's to me.

## WOMEN

Drink with me  
To days gone by  
To the life that used to be.  
At the shrine of friendship  
Never say die. Here's to you  
And here's  
To me.

## MARIUS

Do I care if I should die  
Now she goes across the sea?  
Life without Cosette

Means nothing at all.  
Would you weep, Cosette.  
Should Marius fall?  
Will you weep, Cosette.  
For me?

## **10. BRING HIM HOME**

VALJEAN

God on high  
Hear my prayer  
In my need  
You have always been there  
He is young  
He's afraid  
Let him rest  
Heaven blessed.  
Bring him home  
Bring him home  
Bring him home.  
He's like the son I might have known  
If God had granted me a son.  
The summers die  
One by one  
How soon they fly  
On and on  
And I am old  
And will be gone  
Bring him peace  
Bring him joy  
He is young

He is only a boy  
You can take  
You can give  
Let him be  
Let him live  
If I die, let me die  
Let him live, bring him home  
Bring him home  
Bring him home.

## **11. SECOND ATTACK / THE FINAL BATTLE**

ARMY OFFICER

You at the barricades, listen to this  
The people of Paris sleep in their beds.  
You'll have no chance  
No chance at all.  
Why throw your lives away?

ENJOLRAS

Let us die facing our foe—  
Make them bleed while we can

COMBEFERRE

Make 'em pay through the nose.

COURFEYRAC

Make 'em pay for every man.

ENJOLRAS

Let others rise

To take our place  
Until the earth is free!

## **12. THE SEWER**

## **13. DOG EATS DOG**

THENARDIER

Here's a hint of gold  
Stuck into a tooth  
Pardon me. M'sieur  
You won't be needing this no more.  
Shouldn't be too hard to sell  
Add it to the pile  
Add it to the stock  
Here among the sewer rats  
A breath away from Hell  
Y' get accustomed to the smell.  
Well someone's got to clean them up, my friends  
Bodies on the highway  
Law and order upside down  
Someone's got to collect their odds and ends  
As a service to the town  
Here's a tasty ring  
Pretty little thing  
Wouldn't want to waste it  
That would really be a crime.  
Thank you sir, I'm in your debt  
Here's a little toy  
Take it off the boy  
His heart's no longer going

And he's lived his little time  
But his watch is ticking yet!  
Well someone's got to clean them up, my friends  
Before the little harvest  
Disappears into the mud  
Someone's got to collect their odds and ends  
When the gutters run with blood  
It's a world where the dogs eat the dogs  
Where they kill for the bones in the street  
And God in His Heaven  
He don't interfere  
'Cos he's dead as the stiffs at my feet.  
I raise my eyes to see the heavens  
And only the moon looks down.  
The harvest moon shines down.

#### **14. JAVERT'S SUICIDE**

VALJEAN

It's you Javert  
I knew you wouldn't wait too long  
The faithful servant at his post once more  
This man's done no wrong  
And he needs a doctor's care.

JAVERT

I warned you I would not give IN,  
I won't be swayed.

VALJEAN

Another hour yet and then I'm yours

And all our debts are paid.

JAVERT

The man of mercy  
Comes again  
And talks of justice.

VALJEAN

Come, time is running short  
Look down, Javert,  
He's standing in his grave  
Give way, Javert,  
There is a life to save.

JAVERT

Take him, Valjean  
Before I change my mind.  
I will be waiting  
24601.

Who is this man?

What sort of devil is he  
To have me caught in a trap  
And choose to let me go free?

It was his hour at last  
To put a seal on my fate  
Wipe out the past  
And wash me clean off the slate!  
All it would take  
Was a flick of his knife.

Vengeance was his and he gave me back my life!

Damned if I'll live in the debt of a thief  
Damned if I'll yield at the end of the chase  
I am the Law and the Law is not mocked  
I'll spit his pity right back in his face  
There is nothing on earth that we share  
It is either Valjean or Javert!  
How can I now allow this man  
To hold dominion over me?  
This desperate man that I have hunted  
He gave me my life. He gave me freedom.  
I should have perished by his hand  
It was his right  
It was my right to die as well.  
Instead, I live ... but live in hell.  
And my thoughts fly apart  
Can this man be believed?  
Shall his sins be forgiven?  
Shall his crimes be reprieved?  
And must I now begin to doubt.  
Who never doubted all these years?  
My heart is stone and still it trembles  
The world I have known is lost in shadow  
Is he from heaven or from hell?  
And does he know  
That, granting me my life today  
This man has killed me even so?  
I am reaching but I fall  
And the stars are black and cold  
As I stare into the void  
Of a world that cannot hold  
I'll escape now from the world



From the world of Jean Valjean  
There is nowhere I can turn  
There is no way to go on...

## **15. TURNING**

WOMEN

Did you see them  
Going off to fight  
Children of the barricades  
Who didn't last the night?  
Did you see them  
Lying where they died?  
Someone used to cradle them  
And kiss them when they cried  
Did you see them lying side by side?  
Who will wake them?  
No one ever will  
No one ever told them  
That a summer day can kill  
They were school boys  
Never held a gun  
Fighting for a new world  
That would rise up like the sun.  
Where's that new world now the fighting's done?  
Nothing changes. Nothing ever will.  
Every year another brat, another mouth to fill  
Same old story. What's the use of tears?  
What's the use of praying  
If there's nobody who hears?  
Turning turning turning turning turning

Through the years  
Turning, turning, turning through the years.  
Minutes into hours, and the hours into years.  
Nothing changes. Nothing ever can  
Round about the roundabout, and back where you began.  
Round and round and back where you began!

## **16. EMPTY CHAIRS AT EMPTY TABLES**

MARIUS

There's a grief that can't be spoken  
There's a pain goes on and on  
Empty chairs at empty tables  
Now my friends are dead and gone  
Here they talked of revolution  
Here it was they lit the flame  
Here they sang about 'tomorrow'  
And tomorrow never came.  
From the table in the corner  
They could see a world reborn  
And they rose with voices ringing  
I can hear them now  
The very words that they had sung  
Became their last communion  
On the lonely barricade at dawn!  
Oh my friends, my friends, forgive me  
That I live and you are gone  
There's a grief that can't be spoken  
There's a pain goes on and on  
Phantom faces at the window  
Phantom shadows on the floor

Empty chairs at empty tables  
Where my friends will meet no more,  
Oh my friends, my friends, don't ask me  
What your sacrifice was for  
Empty chairs at empty tables  
Where my friends will sing no more.

## **17. EVERY DAY / A HEART FULL OF LIFE** (reprise)

COSETTE

Every day  
You walk with stronger step  
You with longer step,  
'The worst is over'.

MARIUS

Every day,  
I wonder every day  
Who was it brought me here  
From the barricade?

COSETTE

Don't think about it, Marius!  
With all the years ahead of us!  
I will never go away  
And we will be together  
'Every day',  
'Every day'.  
We'll remember that night  
And the vow that we made.  
A heart full of love.

A night full of you.  
The words are old  
But always true.  
Oh, God for shame  
You did not even know my name.

MARIUS  
Dear Mad'moiselle  
I was lost in your spell.  
Cosette, Cosette.  
Waiting for you  
At your feet.

COSETTE  
A heart full of love  
No fear nor regret  
'My name is Marius Pontmercy.'  
I saw you waiting and I knew.  
At your call.

VALJEAN  
She was never mine to keep  
She is youthful, she is free.  
Love is the garden of the young.

MARIUS & COSETTE  
And it wasn't a dream  
Not a dream, after all.

VALJEAN  
A heart full of love,

This I give you this day.

## **18. WEDDING CHORALE / BEGGARS AT THE FEAST**

### FIRST CHORUS

Ring out the bells  
Upon this day of days  
May all the angels  
Of the Lord above  
In jubilation  
Sing their songs of praise  
And crown this  
Blessed time with  
Peace and love.

### SECOND CHORUS

Ring out the bells  
Upon this day of days  
May all the angels  
Of the Lord above  
In jubilation  
Sing their songs of praise  
And crown this  
Blessed time with  
Peace and love.

## **BEGGARS AT THE FEAST**

### THENARDIER

Ain't it a laugh?  
Ain't it a treat?

Hob-nobbin' here  
Among the elite?  
Here comes a prince  
There goes a Jew  
This one's a queer  
But what can you do?  
Paris at my feet  
Paris in the dust  
And here's me breaking bread  
With the upper crust . .  
Beggar at the feast!  
Master of the dance!  
Life is easy pickins  
If you grab your chance  
Everywhere you go  
Law-abiding folk  
Doing what is decent  
But they're mostly broke!  
Singing to the Lord on Sundays  
Praying for the gifts He'll send.

M. & MME. THENARDIER  
But we're the ones who take it  
We're the ones who make it in the end!  
Watch the buggers dance  
Watch 'em till they drop  
Keep your wits about you  
And you stand on top!  
Masters of the land  
Always get our share  
Clear away the barricades

And we're still there!  
We know where the wind is blowing  
Money is the stuff we smell.  
And when we're rich as Croesus  
Jesus! won't we see you all in Hell!

## **19. EPILOGUE (FINALE)**

VALJEAN

Alone I wait in the shadows  
I count the hours till I can sleep  
I dreamed a dream Cosette stood by  
It made her weep  
To know I die  
Alone, at the end of the day  
Upon this wedding night I pray  
Take these children, my Lord, to thy embrace  
And show them grace.  
God on high,  
Hear my prayer  
Take me now  
To thy care  
Where you are.  
Let me be,  
Take me now,  
Take me there  
Bring me home,  
Bring me home

FANTINE

Mssr. I bless your name.

VALJEAN

I am ready, Fontaine.

FANTINE

Mssr. lay down your burden.

VALJEAN

At the end of my days.

FANTINE

You raised my child with love

VALJEAN

She's the best of my life

FANTINE

And you will be with God.

COSETTE

Papa, Papa I do not understand  
Are you all right? They said you'd gone away.

VALJEAN

Cosette, my child, am I forgiven now?  
Thank God, thank God, I've lived to see this day.

MARIUS

It's you who must forgive a thoughtless fool.  
It's you who must forgive a thankless man.  
It's thanks to you that I am living



And again I lay down my life at your feet.  
Cosette, your father is a saint.  
When they wounded me  
He took me from the barricade  
Carried like a babe, and brought me home to you!

VALJEAN

Now you are here,  
Again beside me.  
Now I can die in peace  
For now my life is blessed...

COSETTE

You will live, Papa, you're going to live.  
It's too soon, too soon to say good-bye!

VALJEAN

Yes, Cosette, forbid me not to die.  
I'll obey,  
I will try.

On this page  
I write my last confession.  
Read it well  
When I, at last, am sleeping  
It's a story  
Of those who always loved you.  
Your mother gave her life for you  
Then gave you to my keeping.

FANTINE

Come with me  
Where chains will never bind you  
All your grief,  
Your grief, at last, behind you  
Lord in heaven,  
Look down on him in mercy.

VALJEAN

Forgive me all my trespasses  
And take me to your glory.

FANTINE, EPONINE

Take my hand  
And lead me to salvation  
Take my love  
For love is everlasting.

VALJEAN, FANTINE & EPONINE

And remember  
The truth that once was spoken,  
To love another person  
Is to see the face of God.

CHORUS

Do you hear the people sing  
Lost in the valley of the night?  
It is the music of the people  
Who are climbing to the light  
For the wretched of the earth  
There is a flame that never dies  
Even the darkest night will end

And the sun will rise.  
They will live again in freedom  
In the garden of the Lord  
They will walk behind their plowshare  
They will put away the sword  
Their chain will be broken and  
All men will have their reward  
Will you join in our crusade?  
Who will be strong and stand with me?  
Somewhere beyond the barricade  
Is there a world you long to see?  
Do you hear the people sing?  
Say do you hear the distant drums?  
It is the future that they bring  
When tomorrow comes!  
Oh, tomorrow comes!

## **20. ENCORE 1 - SPEECHES / DO YOU HEAR THE PEOPLE SING?**

## **21. ENCORE 2 - ONE DAY MORE**