

"The HUNCHBACK of NOTRE DAME"

DRAWN
BY
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THE FESTIVAL OF FOOLS—JANUARY 8, 1482. ALL OF PARIS TURNS OUT TO CELEBRATE. THE RICH AND THE POOR WANDER THROUGH THE STREETS, DRINKING, SINGING AND DANCING. THE FESTIVAL LASTS LATE INTO THE NIGHT WITH FIREWORKS DISPLAYS CROWNING THE FESTIVITIES. THE GAITY IS HEIGHTENED BY THE PEALING OF THE GRAND BELLS IN THE NOTRE DAME CATHEDRAL. THE BELLS ARE THE ONLY SOUND LOUD ENOUGH TO REACH THE DEAF EARS OF THE PATHETIC BELL-RINGER, QUASIMODO, WHO HAS BECOME KNOWN AS "THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME."



QUASIMODO WATCHES THE FESTIVITIES FROM A LOFTY PERCH HIGH IN HIS BELOVED CATHEDRAL. THE CROWD CATCHES SIGHT OF HIM AND BEGINS TO TEASE AND RIDICULE HIM ...



AND IN HIS MAGNIFICENT GROTESQUENESS HE DANCES ON THE LEDGE TO RETURN THEIR RIDICULE, HIS TONGUE DARTING IN AND OUT IN GRAND STYLE.

IT IS THE CUSTOM EACH YEAR AT THIS TIME TO SELECT A POPE OF FOOLS. ON THIS PARTICULAR EVENING THE CROWD ROARED AT THE SIGHT OF THEIR POPE. THEIR POPE OF FOOLS ... QUASIMODO, THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME!



QUASIMODO IS FORCED BY HIS MASTER, THE EVIL JEHAN TO KIDNAP A BEAUTIFUL GYPSY GIRL NAMED ESMERALDA BECAUSE JEHAN WANTS HER. ALTHOUGH RELUCTANT, QUASIMODO BLINDLY OBEYS AND IS ARRESTED WHILE JEHAN SLIPS AWAY UNNOTICED ... QUASIMODO WON'T FORGET!

HIS TRIAL IS SWIFT AND, THEN ...

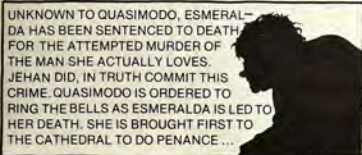




HE IS LED THROUGH THE STREETS TO A SPOT IN THE CENTER OF THE SQUARE. THERE HE IS CHAINED TO A WHEEL, STRIPPED TO THE WAIST AND FLOGGED WITH A WHIP WITH METAL TIPS! THE PAIN IS INTENSE. IT HURTS WORSE AS THE PEOPLE LAUGH AND TAUNT ... FINALLY IT IS OVER AND HE PLEADS FOR WATER ...



TO HIS SURPRISE ESMERALDA, HIS INTENDED KIDNAP VICTIM, SHOWS PITY ON HIM AND OFFERS HIM WATER. SOMEONE CARES! QUASIMODO WON'T FORGET HER KINDNESS.



UNKNOWN TO QUASIMODO, ESMERALDA HAS BEEN SENTENCED TO DEATH FOR THE ATTEMPTED MURDER OF THE MAN SHE ACTUALLY LOVES. JEHAN DID, IN TRUTH COMMIT THIS CRIME. QUASIMODO IS ORDERED TO RING THE BELLS AS ESMERALDA IS LED TO HER DEATH. SHE IS BROUGHT FIRST TO THE CATHEDRAL TO DO PENANCE ...

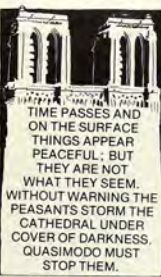


TIME PASSES AND THE WOUNDS IN HIS POOR BACK HEAL, BUT THE WOUND LEFT TO HIM BY JEHAN FESTERS IN HIS MIND. ALSO IN HIS MIND IS THE CONSTANT MEMORY OF ESMERALDA'S KINDNESS TO HIM. THIS KINDNESS SEES HIM THROUGH EACH DAY AS HE GOES ABOUT HIS WORK IN THE CATHEDRAL. HE WANTS TO REPAY HER KINDNESS AND SEARCHES HIS MIND FOR A WAY.



QUASIMODO SEES HER ON THE STEPS BELOW ...

AND SLIDES DOWN A ROPE LEFT BY A WORKMAN REPAIRING THE CATHEDRAL. ONCE ON THE GROUND HE SEIZES ESMERALDA AND CARRIES HER INTO THE CATHEDRAL, YELLING TO THE CROWD AS HE GOES ... "SANCTUARY, SANCTUARY, SANCTUARY!" CARRYING ESMERALDA ON HIS BACK, HE CLIMBS HIGH INTO THE CATHEDRAL TO HIS SMALL ROOM, NEAR THE BELLS.



TIME PASSES AND ON THE SURFACE THINGS APPEAR PEACEFUL: BUT THEY ARE NOT WHAT THEY SEEM. WITHOUT WARNING THE PEASANTS STORM THE CATHEDRAL UNDER COVER OF DARKNESS. QUASIMODO MUST STOP THEM.

QUASIMODO, IN AN EFFORT TO DEFEND HIS CATHEDRAL AND ESMERALDA, THROWS HUGE STONES TO THE PAVEMENT FAR BELOW, CRUSHING MANY OF THE PEASANTS. AND THEN, IN A LAST SUPREME EFFORT, HE POURS MOLTEN METAL ON THE ANGRY CROWD BURNING MANY TO DEATH BUT STILL THEY PERSIST.



IN THE MIST OF THE EXCITEMENT QUASIMODO DOESN'T NOTICE THAT ESMERALDA IS MISSING! SUDDENLY, HE REALIZES AND HIS ATTENTION IS IMMEDIATELY TURNED TO THE DIRECTION OF HIS SMALL ROOM. HE LEAVES TO SEEK OUT ESMERALDA.



QUASIMODO PUSHES OPEN THE DOOR AND FINDS ESMERALDA IN THE EVIL CLUTCHES OF JEHAN. IMMEDIATELY, QUASIMODO BECOMES LIKE A WILD ANIMAL AND THROWS JEHAN OVER THE WALL TO THE STREET FAR BELOW! IN THE STRUGGLE QUASIMODO IS STABBED REPEATEDLY IN THE BACK AND SADLY STUMBLES AWAY ...



TO RING HIS OWN DEATH KNELL!!!