

# Prologue

mae

1815, Toulon, France. The chain gang, overseen by brutal warders, works in the sun.]Prisoners

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 ya won't see me  
Here 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  
And you will starve again  
Unless you learn the meaning of the law. Valjean  
I know the meaning of these 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 am Javert  
Do not forget my name  
Do not forget me 24601 Chorus  
Look down, look down  
You will always be a slave  
Look down, look down  
You're standing in your grave. Valjean

Freedom is mine. The earth is still.  
I feel the wind. I breathe again.  
And the sky clears, the world is waiting.  
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, everyone.  
The day begins...  
And now lets see  
What this new world  
Will do for me! [He finds work on a farm.]  
Farmer  
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've given me half  
What the other men get! This handful of tin  
Wouldn't buy my sweat! Laborer  
You broke the law  
It's there for people to see  
Why should you get the same  
As honest men like me? Valjean  
Now every door is closed to me  
Another jail, another key, another chain  
For when I come to any town  
They check my papers  
And they find the mark of Cain  
In their eyes, I see their fear: 'We do not want you here.'  
[He comes to an inn.] Innkeeper's Wife  
My rooms are full  
And I've no supper to spare  
I'd like to help a stranger  
All we want is to be fair Valjean  
I will pay in advance  
I can sleep in a barn  
You see how dark it is  
I'm not some kind of dog! Innkeeper  
You leave my house  
Or feel the weight of my rod  
We're law-abiding people here  
Thanks be to God. [They throw him out.] 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 cursed throughout the land  
It is the law! Like a cur  
I walk the street

The dirt beneath my feet.[He sits down despairingly outside a house from which emerges the  
Bishop of Digne.]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 had 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's done his bit of good  
I played the grateful serf  
And thanked him like I should  
But when the house was still, I got up in the night  
Took the silver  
Took my flight! [Taking the silver cup, he runs off, but is brought back by two constables.]

Lyrics provided by <http://counterlikes.com/>