
GREAT ILLUSTRATED CLASSICS

**THE HUNCHBACK
OF NOTRE DAME**

Victor Hugo

**adapted by
Malvina G. Vogel**

**Illustrations by
Pablo Marcos Studios**



**BARONET
BOOKS**

BARONET BOOKS, New York, New York

Cover Copyright (c) 2008
Waldman Publishing Corp.
New York, New York
All rights reserved.

Text Copyright (c) 2008
Waldman Publishing Corp.
New York, New York

BARONET BOOKS is a trademark of Waldman Publishing Corp., New York, N.Y.

No part of this book may be reproduced or copied in any form without written permission from the publisher.

Printed in the United States of America



A Noisy Crowd

CHAPTER 1

Quasimodo, the Pope of Fools

On the morning of January 6, 1842, the people of Paris were awakened by the deafening peals of all the church bells in the city. Not only was it a religious holiday, but it was also the Festival of Fools, and Parisians celebrated it by going to plays, lighting bonfires, or electing a Pope of Fools and parading him through the streets.

A noisy crowd started gathering outside the Palace of Justice before dawn, eager to get good seats for the play to be performed there at noon, when church officials and important

THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME

guests would arrive. While they waited, the crowd of poor townspeople, rowdy students, and ragged beggars climbed the tall pillars, broke windows, and shouted to the actors and to Pierre Gringoire, the play's young author, for the show to begin.

Fearful that the shouts would lead to a riot, Pierre began the play. But the officials soon began arriving, and an usher in the gallery announced each one by name. These announcements and the spectators' noisy laughter and discussion of each arrival interrupted the play frequently.

These interruptions frustrated the young playwright, but they were nothing compared to the horror he felt when still another interruption came from a visitor from Belgium. The man suddenly rose in the gallery and called down, "People of Paris, I've been waiting for those people on stage to move, to act, to fight, but all these fools do is call each other names. I had hoped to see a Pope of Fools elected.



The Spectators' Noisy Laughter