

## **Claude-Michel Schonberg**

### **"At The Barricade"**

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ENJOLRAS

Here upon these stones  
We will build our barricade  
In the heart of the city  
We claim as our own!  
Each man to his duty  
And don't be afraid.  
Wait! I will need a report  
On the strength of the foe.

JAVERT(disguised as a rebel)

I can find out the truth  
I know their ways  
Fought their wars  
Served my time  
In the days  
Of my youth.

PROUVAIRE

Now the people will fight

GRANTAIRE

And so they might  
Dogs will bark  
Fleas will bite.

LESGLES

They will do what is right!

(Marius spots Eponine, who is dressed as a boy)

MARIUS

Hey, little boy, what's this I see?  
God, Eponine, the things you do!

EPONINE

I know this is no place for me,  
Still, I would rather be with you!

MARIUS

Get out before the trouble starts.  
Get out, 'Ponine, you might get shot!

EPONINE

I've got you worried now, I have  
That shows you like me quite a lot!

MARIUS

There is a way that you can help  
You are the answer to a prayer!  
Please take this letter to Cosette  
And pray to God that she's still there!

EPONINE

Little you know!  
Little you care!

(She walks to the Rue Plumet, where she meets  
Valjean)

EPONINE

I have a letter M'sieur  
It's addressed to your daughter, Cosette  
It's from a boy at the barricade, Sir,  
In the Rue de Villette.

VALJEAN

Give me that letter here, my boy.

EPONINE

He said to give it to Cosette

VALJEAN

You have my word that my daughter will know  
What this letter contains.

(He gives her a coin)

Tell the young man she will read it tomorrow  
And here's for your pains  
Go careful now, stay out of sight  
There's danger in the streets tonight.

(He opens the letter... and reads it)

"Dearest Cosette, you have entered my soul  
And soon you will be gone.  
Can it be only a day since we met  
And the world was reborn?  
If I should fall in the battle to come  
Let this be my goodbye...  
Now that I know you love me as well  
It is harder to die..."

I pray that god will bring me home  
To be with you.  
Pray for your Marius. He prays for you!"

(Valjean goes in, leaving Eponine alone)

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