

## **Claude-Michel Schonberg**

### **"Look Down"**

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#### 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

'Ow 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!

(An old beggar woman finds a young prostitute  
occupying her pitch)

#### OLD BEGGAR WOMAN

What 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 me 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

ENJOLRAS

Where the leaders of the land?  
Where are the swells who run this 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 I'll and fading fast!  
Won't last the week out, so they say.

ENJOLRAS

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

GAVROCHE

Watch out for old Thenardier  
All of his family's on the make  
Once ran a hash-house down the way

Bit of a swine and no mistake  
He's got a gang  
The bleeding layabout  
Even his daughter does her share  
That's Eponine, she knows her way about  
Only a kid, but hard to scare  
Do we care?  
Not a cuss  
Long live us.  
Long live us!

**BEGGARS**

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

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