

## **Claude-Michel Schonberg** **"The Thenardier Waltz"**

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THENARDIER

What to do? What to say?  
Shall you carry our treasure away?  
What a gem! What a pearl!  
Beyond rubies is our little girl!  
How can we speak of debt?  
Let's not haggle for darling Cosette!

Dear Fantine, gone to rest...  
Have we done for her child what is best?  
Shared our bread. Shared each bone.  
Treated her like she's one of our own!  
Like our own, Monsieur!

VALJEAN

Your feelings do you credit, sir  
And I will ease the parting blow  
He pays them.  
Let us not talk of bargains or bones or greed  
Now, may I say, we are agreed?

MME. THENARDIER

That would quite fit the bill  
If she hadn't so often been I'll  
Little dear, cost us dear  
Medicines are expensive, M'sieur  
Not that we begrudged a sou  
It's no more than we Christians must do!

M. & MME. THENARDIER

One thing more, one small doubt  
There are treacherous people about  
No offense. Please reflect.  
Your intentions may not be correct?

VALJEAN

No more words. Here's your price.  
Fifteen hundred for your sacrifice.  
Come, Cosette, say goodbye  
Let us seek out some friendlier sky.  
Thank you both for Cosette  
It won't take you too long to forget.

(Valjean and Cosette leave the inn)

Come, Cosette, come, my dear  
From now on I will always be here  
Where I go, you will be.

YOUNG COSETTE

Will there be children and castles to see?

VALJEAN

Yes, Cosette, yes, it's true.  
There's a castle just waiting for you.

VALJEAN & YOUNG COSETTE

La la la la la...

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