

## **Alan Menken**

### **"Out There"**

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The world is cruel, the world is wicked  
It's I alone whom you can trust in this whole city  
I am your only friend  
I who keep you, teach you, feed you, dress you

I who look upon you without fear  
How can I protect you, boy, unless you  
Always stay in here, away in here  
Remember what I've taught you, Quasimodo

You are deformed, I am deformed  
And you are ugly, and I am ugly  
And these are crimes for which the world shows little  
pity  
You do not comprehend, you are my one defender

Out there they'll revile you as a monster  
I am a monster out there they will hate  
And scorn and jeer, only a monster  
Why invite their calumny and consternation?  
Stay in here

Be faithful to me, I'm faithful  
Grateful to me, I'm grateful  
Do as I say, obey  
And stay in here

Safe behind these windows and these parapets of  
stone  
Gazing at the people down below me  
All my life I watch them as I hide up here alone  
Hungry for the histories they'd shown me

All my life I memorize their faces  
Knowing them as they will never know me  
All my life I wonder how it feels to pass a day  
Not above them but part of them

And out there living in the sun  
Give me one day out there  
All I ask is one to hold forever  
Out there where they all live unaware

What I'd give, what I'd dare  
Just to live one day out there

Out there among the millers and the weavers and their  
wives  
Through the roofs and gables I can see them  
Every day they shout and scold and go about their lives  
Heedless of the gift it is to be them  
If I was in their skin, I'd treasure every instant

Out there strolling by the Seine  
Taste a morning out there like ordinary men  
Who freely walk about there just one day and then  
I swear I'll be content with my share  
Won't resent, won't despair, old and bent I won't care  
I'll have spent one day out there

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