

Miserables, Les "Fantine's arrest"

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BAMATABOIS (a well dressed gentleman)
Here's something new. I think I'll give it a try.
Come closer you!
I like to see what I buy...
The usual price
For just one slice of your pie.

FANTINE
I don't want you. No, no m'sieur, let me go.

BAMATABOIS
Is this a trick? I won't pay more.

FANTINE
No, not at all.

BAMATABOIS
You've got some nerve, you little whore,
You've got some gall.
It's the same with a tart
As it is with a grocer
The customer sees what he gets in advance
It's not for the whore to say "yes sir" or "no sir"
Not for the harlot to pick or to chose
Or to lead me a dance!

FANTINE
I'll kill you you bastard, try any of that!
Even a whore who has gone to the bad
Won't be had by a rat!

BAMATABOIS
By Christ, you'll pay for what you've done
This rat will make you bleed you'll see!
I guarantee, I'll make you suffer
For this disturbance of the peace
For this insult to life and property!

FANTINE
I beg you, don't report me sir
I'll do what ever you may want...

BAMATABOIS

Make your excuse to the police!

JAVERT

Tell me quickly what's the story

Who saw what and why and where?

Let him give a full discription

Let him answer to Javert!

In this nest of whores and vipers

Let one speak who saw it all.

Who laid hands on this good man here?

What's the substance of this brawl?

BAMATABOIS

Javert, would you believe it

I was crossing from the park

When this prostitute attacked me

You can see she left her mark.

JAVERT

She will answer for her actions

When you make a full report.

You can rest assured, M'sieur

That she will answer to the court.

FANTINE

There's a child who sorely needs me

Please M'sieur, she's but "that high"

Holy God, is there no mercy?

If I go to jail she'll die!

JAVERT

I have heard such protestation

Every day for twenty years.

Lets have no more explanations,

Save your breath and save your tears

"Honest work. Just reward. That's the way to please the Lord."

VALJEAN (emerging from the crowd)

A moment of your time, Javert

I do believe this woman's tale.

JAVERT

But, M'sieur Mayor!

VALJEAN

You've done your duty

Let her be

She needs a doctor, not a jail

JAVERT
But, M'sieur Mayor!

FANTINE
Can this be?

VALJEAN
Where will she end-
This child without a friend?
(to Fantine)
I've seen your face before
Show me some way to help you
How hae you come to grief
In such a place as this?

FANTINE
M'sieur, don't mock me now, I pray
It's hard enough I've lost my pride!
You let your formen send me away
Yes you were there and turned aside
I never did no wrong!

VALJEAN
Is it true, what I've done?

FANTINE
My daughters close to dying...

VALJEAN
To an innocent soul?

FANTINE
If there's a God above.

VALJEAN
If I had only known then.

FANTINE
He'd let me die instead.

VALJEAN
In his name, my task has just begun.
I will see it done.

JAVERT
But, M'sieur Mayor!

VALJEAN
I will see it done!

JAVERT
But, M'sieur Mayor!

VALJEAN
I will see it done!

VOICE
Look out!
It's a runaway cart!

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