



THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME
BY
RICHARD HILLS

A SMITH SCRIPT

EXTRACT

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THE HUNCHBACK OF
NOTRE DAME

A Pantomime

By

RICHARD HILLS

Loosely based on the story by Victor Hugo

CHARACTERS

1ST Gargoyle	Part of Bell Tower
2nd Gargoyle	Part of Bell Tower
Claude Frollo	Nasty Minister of Justice.
Qussimodo	The Hunchback of Notre Dame
Fe Fe La Large	Proprietress of the Jolly Frenchman
Gringoire	A Street Actor
Yvette	Owner of Ye Olde Bread Basket Shop
Clopin	King of the Beggars
Esmeralda	A Gypsy Dancer
Marguerite	Daughter of Fe Fe
Phoebus	Captain of the Guard
Chorus of Street Urchins, Carnival Revellers, Townspeople, Beggars, Soldiers and Dancers	

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

PROLOGUE Part of the Bell Tower of Notre Dame

ACT 1

Scene 1 The Square outside Notre Dame

Scene 2 Part of the Bell Tower of Notre Dame

Scene 3 The Square outside Notre Dame, the next morning

Scene 4 Part of the Bell Tower of Notre Dame

Scene 5 The Court of Miracles, that night

ACT 2

Scene 1 The Square outside Notre Dame, next morning

Scene 2 Part of the Bell Tower of Notre Dame, later that day

Scene 3 The Square outside Notre Dame, later that day

Scene 4 Another street in Paris, the next day

Scene 5 The weddings inside Notre Dame

MUSICAL NUMBERS

This is a list of suggested songs only, and can be changed to suit needs and voices available. Final choice is left to the Musical Director.

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|---|--|
| 1. Carnival Night | Fe Fe, Gringoire, Chorus and Dancers |
| 2. All line up in a queue | Fe Fe, Gringoire, Chorus and Dancers |
| 3. Ma Belle Marguerite | Clopin and Marguerite |
| 4. Don't laugh at me because I'm a fool | Quasimodo |
| 5. Tarantella | Esmeralda, Quasimodo, and Dancers |
| 6. I was never kissed before | Esmeralda and Phoebus |
| 7. Something's coming | Phoebus |
| 8. I have a love | Esmeralda |
| 9. It's a hard Knock Life | Street urchins |
| 10. The Fly Duet | Fe Fe and Gringoire |
| 11. Do it again | Clopin and Marguerite |
| 12. The Ding Dong Song | Phoebus, Yvette, Fe Fe, Gringoire,
Clopin, Marguerite, Chorus, Dancers |
| 13. I want you | Phoebus and Esmeralda |
| 14. He loves and she loves | Quasimodo |
| 15. Can Can | Marguerite, Fe Fe, Clopin, Chorus,
Dancers |
| 16. Hungarian Dance | Esmeralda and Dancers |
| 17. The Vagabond King | Quasimodo, Clopin, Gringoire, Fe Fe ,
Marguerite, and Chorus |
| 18. It's a fine life | Yvette and street urchins |
| 19. To Arms | Everyone |
| 20. Invocation | Esmeralda and everyone |
| 21. The violin Duet | Gringoire, Fe Fe, and Chorus |
| 22. The Man I Love | Esmeralda |
| 23. Dance Macabre | Esmeralda, Phoebus, Gringoire, Clopin
Fe Fe, Marguerite, Yvette, Chorus,
Dancers |
| 24. Isn't it a pity | Fe Fe, and Gringoire |
| 25. I've got a crush on you | Yvette and Quasimodo |
| 26. The Hades Chorus | Everyone |
| 27. Sing, Sing, Sing | Audience Participation Song |
| 28. Ring out the Bells | Everyone |
| 29. I was never kissed before | Everyone |

PROLOGUE

(Front of house lights fade to blackout. We hear the bells of Notre Dame. In the blackout the two people representing the Gargoyles take their places one in front of the proscenium arch L, and one in front of proscenium arch R. As the front of tabs lights come up, so the bells stop ringing, and we see the two Gargoyles standing there.)

1st GARGOYLE: Thank goodness for that! Quasi is for ever ringing those bells.

2nd GARGOYLE: It gets on my nerves. I wish he would go out into the world down there.

1st GARGOYLE: It's the twelfth night in the year 1599. I hope we don't have to put up with another year of those bells.

2nd GARGOYLE: Why doesn't he join the Carnival of Fools? He would make a good King of the fools.

1st GARGOYLE: The Minister of Justice, Claude Frollo, would never allow it.

2nd GARGOYLE: That old fool! He hates Gypsies. Ever since he killed Quasimodo's mother and was made to take care of him.

1st GARGOYLE: Kept him up here ever since.

FROLLO: *(Off R.)* Quasimodo! Quasimodo, where are you?

1st GARGOYLE: Look out! Here comes the old devil!

FROLLO: *(Entering DR.)* Quasimodo! Where are you hiding? I know you are here. I saw you looking over the parapet. Come out, you fool!

QUASIMODO: *(Peering round the proscenium arch DL.)* Did you call, Master?

FROLLO: Of course I called. Where have you been?

QUASIMODO: *(Moving to DL.)* Watching the carnival from the bell tower.

FROLLO: Not thinking of joining the carnival, were you?

QUASIMODO: Quasi like people. Quasi like to dance.

FROLLO: Quasi will stay up here for ever. If I catch you down there I shall have you put in prison. Understand?

QUASIMODO: Quasimodo not like prison.

FROLLO: I hate Gypsies! Why I had to be landed with you I shall never know. I hate you all! *(Seeing the audience.)* And I hate you lot as well!

AUDIENCE: Boo!

FROLLO: And boo to you! *(He hurries out DR.)*

QUASIMODO: *(Sobbing into handkerchief.)* Quasimodo never has been out of bell tower. Quasi only see people from up here. Quasi want to have fun like other people. Quasi want to dance.

1st GARGOYLE: Don't take any notice of the old fool.

2nd GARGOYLE: Go down and enjoy yourself.

QUASIMODO: *(Wiping tear from his eyes.)* Master say I must never go down there. Master say I must ring the bells.

2nd GARGOYLE: You leave them bells alone. Give us some peace.

1st GARGOYLE: He's gone home. Go and enjoy yourself for once.

QUASIMODO: People will make fun of me. Quasi too ugly!

1st GARGOYLE: No they won't. He isn't ugly is he girls and boys?

AUDIENCE: No!

2nd GARGOYLE: See! They don't think you are ugly. Well, not much.

QUASIMODO: Who are the girls and boys?

2nd GARGOYLE: That lot out there.

QUASIMODO: (*Looking at the audience.*) All those white blobs?

1st GARGOYLE: They are girls and boys.

2nd GARGOYLE: Well, some are a bit older.

1st GARGOYLE: They think you are very handsome.

QUASIMODO: They think me handsome?

2nd GARGOYLE: Well, some of them do. The others are not as good looking as you.

QUASIMODO: If Quasimodo handsome, I go to Carnival dance. Have fun!

1st GARGOYLE: You do that. Leave us in peace.

2nd GARGOYLE: Have some fun while Frolo has gone home for is evening meal.

QUASIMODO: You make Quasimodo very happy. Quasi go and ring the bells, then go to carnival! (*He exits DL.*)

2nd GARGOYLE: Oh, no! He's gone to ring the bells again!

(The bells ring.)

1st GARGOYLE: The bells! (*He puts his hands to his ears.*) The bells!

(The lights fade to blackout and the GARGOYLES exit on end of scene. The bells fade out as the next scene begins.)

ACT !

SCENE 1

(The curtains open on the square outside Notre Dame. On the L is the entrance to Notre Dame. UR is the entrance to The Jolly Frenchman Pub, and UL is a view of Paris. DR is a baker's shop called "Ye old Bread Basket. Entrances are UL, DL, UR and DR, and also into The Notre Dame, the Jolly Frenchman, and the Baker's shop.

When the curtains open, it is early evening and the Carnival of Fools is taking place. All the CHORUS and PRINCIPALS are on stage, dressed in carnival costumes, and several are wearing masks.)

MUSIC No. 1

(They are all singing CARNIVAL NIGHT. At the end of the song MADAME FE FE LA LARGE enters from THE JOLLY FRENCHMAN.)

FE FE: Hello Everyone! What a wonderful evening this is.

CHORUS: Hello, Fe Fe!

FE FE: Let me introduce myself to all my friends.

CHORUS: We all know who you are!

FE FE: That lot down there don't. (*She comes to the front of the stage.*) You have never seen me before, have you?

AUDIENCE: No!

FE FE: And who doesn't want to see me now? (*She points to someone in the AUDIENCE.*) I'll come down and sort you out. You have got to put up with me for a while, so I'll tell you

who I am. I am Madame Fe Fe La Large. I run the Pub called The Jolly Frenchman. I am called La Large because...

GRINGOIRE: She is large in many places!

FE FE: Trust Gringoire to put his spoke in.

GRINGOIRE: Having a night off, Fe Fe?

FE FE: Makes a change. Let someone else do the work.

GRINGOIRE: Have a good time with me.

FE FE: Some hopes you have got.

GRINGOIRE: It's the night of fools, so fool around with me.

MUSIC No, 2

(The music plays and FE FE, GRINGOIRE, and the CHORUS all join in and sing ALL LINE UP IN A QUEUE. They dance around the stage as they sing. At the end of the song YVETTE enters from the Baker's shop.)

YVETTE: Hello! What is going on? Gringoire! You for her or me?

GRINGOIRE: Ah! My little passion flower! I have been looking for you everywhere.

YVETTE: Then why do I catch you with your hands all over La Large?

GRINGOIRE: My love, I couldn't get my hands all over her.

FE FE: That's it! Make out I'm bigger than I am.

YVETTE: You are a horrible man, Gringoire! You say you take me out, and then I find you with another woman! *(She exits into shop.)*

GRINGOIRE: So what have I done? I dance! I sing, Yvette! Wait for me! *(He follows her into baker's shop.)*

1st WOMAN: Poor Gringoire! He's in for a rough evening.

2nd WOMAN: He deserves it, the silly old fool.

1st MAN: Let's go and join the Carnival.

FE FE: Come on, everyone! It only happens once a year.

(They exit UL and UR with some leaving their beer mugs on the small table outside the Pub as they exit.)

CLOPIN: *(Entering DL.)* It's all clear! Everyone has gone.

ESMERALDA: *(Entering DL.)* It was good of you to get me into Paris.

CLOPIN: I told you it was easy. I distracted the soldiers on the gate so you could get by. *(He looks at the AUDIENCE.)* What is this lot doing here?

ESMERALDA: Do you know who they are?

CLOPIN: Look a peculiar lot. Layabouts I'd say. Not all beggars are you?

AUDIENCE: No!

CLOPIN: I'm not so sure. *(He points down at front row of AUDIENCE.)* This lot look suspicious! Don't want more beggars around here taking away our trade. I'm the King of the beggars, see!

ESMERALDA: I hope they don't give me away.

CLOPIN: They had better not, or they will have me to answer to!. You wouldn't give Esmeralda away, would you?

AUDIENCE: No!

CLOPIN: Better not or I'll bash your heads in. She's a Gypsy, see! We don't want old Frolo to find out. He hates Gypsies. Don't want her to end up in Prison, do you?

AUDIENCE: No!

CLOPIN: Keep it under your hat, then.

ESPERALDA: Thank you, everyone!

CLOPIN: Go and enjoy yourself, Esmeralda. But keep out of sight of any soldiers.

ESMERALDA: Which way to the Carnival?

CLOPIN: Up there and turn left.

(He points UL and ESMERALDA runs off UL.)

CLOPIN: Nice girl she is. You can keep my secret, can't you?

AUDIENCE: Yes!

CLOPIN: Make sure you do.

(MARGUERITE comes out of the Pub to collect the Beer mugs. Seeing she has her back to him, CLOPIN creeps up behind her and slaps her behind. This makes her jump.)

MARGUERITE: Oooh! *(Seeing CLOPIN..)* Oh, it's you! You gave me such a fright!

CLOPIN: My dear, Marguerite! Are you not the girl I love? Come! Come down here. *(He leads her DS.)* I've got something for you.

MARGUERITE: What kind of fool do you take me for?

CLOPIN: Look what I have got for you.

MARGUERITE: What is it?

CLOPIN: *(Giving her a necklace.)* See! A necklace just for you.

MARGUERITE: Oh, Clopin! Where did you get it?

CLOPIN: Shall we say I just picked it up somewhere. *(He puts it on for her.)* There! It looks much better on you. How about a kiss? *(He kisses her.)*

MUSIC No. 3

(CLOPIN takes MARGUERITE'S hand and sings MA BELLE MARGUERITE. Some chorus girls come out of the Pub and join in with the chorus, and the dancers enter and perform a dance in the background.)

CLOPIN: Come on, everyone! Tonight the drinks are on me!

(CLOPIN and MARGURITE run into the Pub, and the CHORUS and the DANCERS follow. Then the door of Notre Dame opens and QUASIMODO sticks his head out.)

QUASSIMODO: No one here. *(He creeps out and looks around.)* Everyone has gone. Quasi all alone. *(He wanders DS.)* Quasi want to dance. People go away because Quasi is here. *(He takes out a handkerchief and wipes a tear from his eyes.)* People not like me because I am a fool.

MUSIC No. 4

(The music plays and QUASIMODO stands CS and sings DON'T LAUGH AT ME BECAUSE I'M A FOOL. At the end of the song he exits DL sobbing.)

YVETTE: *(Entering from Baker's shop.)* You, Gringuior! Never will I go out with you again! You are the most exasperating man I know.

GRINGUIOR: *(Entering behind her.)* What have I done now?

YVETTE: You don't know how to treat a lady.

PHOEBUS: (*Entering DL.*) Ah, Mademoiselle! Can you tell me the way to Claude Frollo's residence?

YVETTE: Ah, la, la! Now here is a man!

GRINGOIRE: Who are you?

PHOEBUS: Phoebus! Captain of the Guards! Just arrived in Paris.

YVETTE: Now you can take me out anytime. (*Making up to him.*)

PHOEBUS: I have come to report to Frollo. He is doing a purge on Gypsies. Do you know where he lives?

YVETTE: In a big house down that street. (*She points DR.*)

PHOEBUS: Thank you! I understand there is a Carnival tonight? I hope to see it.

YVETTE: Look me up anytime. I live over the Baker's shop.

PHOEBUS: Pleased to meet you. (*Bows to her.*) Goodnight! (*He exits DR.*)

GRINGOIRE: (*Imitating Phoebus with a bow to YVETTE.*) Pleased to meet you! Goodnight!

YVETTE: And goodnight to you! (*She turns upstage.*)

GRINGOIRE: Where are you going?

YVETTE: To get a drink. (*She exits to the Pub.*)

GRINGOIRE: Hey, wait for me! (*He follows her into Pub.*)

FROLLO: (*Entering DR.*) So you got here just in time.

PHOEBUS: (*Entering DR.*) For the Carnival?

FROLLO: To keep a look out for Gypsies.

PHOEBUS: Are there any here?

FROLLO: Better not be. I have given orders to your soldiers to man the gates. No Gypsies to be allowed into Paris.

PHOEBUS: I give the orders to my soldiers. I take it that you do not like gypsies.

FROLLO: Plague of my life. The people need guidance and protection. Despite all my attempts to keep them out, they still thrive. They even have a safe haven called The Court of Miracles. When I find this secret hideout I will destroy it.

PHOEBUS: Doesn't anyone know where it is?

FROLLO: (*Looking at the AUDIENCE.*) Not unless this lot do. (*To the AUDIENCE.*) Do you know where The Court of Miracles is?

AUDIENCE: No!

FROLLO: I don't trust that lot. Keep your eye on them. Trouble makers, that is what they are.

(Sound of festival crowd approaching UL.)

PHOEBUS: Sounds like the Carnival arriving.

FROLLO: Come with me. I'll show you around.

(They exit DL. As the CHORUS enter UR and UL, followed by FE FE and ESMERALDA. The CHORUS take up positions around the stage.)

1st MAN: Come on everyone! It's time to pick the King of the fools!

1st WOMAN: That is Clopin's job!

2nd MAN: Where is he?

2nd WOMAN: Getting drunk or chasing Marguerite.

FE FE: (*Pointing to Pub door and shouting.*) Clopin! Come out here and bring Marguerite with you.

CLOPIN: *(Sticking his head out of the door.)* What is going on?

FE FE: Time to pick the King of the Fools!

(He comes out of the Pub, followed by MARGUERITE, YVETTE, GRINGOIRE and the DANCERS.)

1st MAN: Who is the ugliest one here?

2nd MAN: Your old woman!

2nd WOMAN: Oh, no I'm not!

FE FE: Come on Clopin! Get a move on!

CLOPIN: Alright! Alright! As King of the Beggars I get to choose the King of the Fools, so all start making your ugliest faces. *(Everyone starts pulling faces.)* What an ugly lot you all are.

FE FE: What about me? *(She pulls a face.)*

CLOPIN: You don't look any different than usual.

FE FE: I'll bash you in a minute.

(QUASIMODO appears UL. He is afraid to come down into the crowd.)

CLOPIN: Come on, everyone! Make a face! *(He turns downstage.)* It's no good! What about you lot out there? Let's see who has got the ugliest mug. *(He gets everyone in the AUDIENCE to start making faces.)*

ESMERALDA: *(Seeing QUASIMODO.)* Here is one! *(She grabs his hand and pulls him down to CLOPIN.)* How about this for an ugly face?

CHORUS: It's Quasimodo from the Bell Tower.

CLOPIN: That is it! Quasimodo is the King of the Fools!

CHORUS: Quasimodo!

CLOPIN: Bring the crown.

(One of the CHORUS picks up the crown from the table outside the Pub and brings it down to CLOPIN..)

CLOPIN: It is my honour as King of the Beggars to make Quasimodo King of the Fools! *(He places the crown on QUASIMODO'S head.)*

1st MAN: Speech! Speech!

1st WOMAN: Quasi never made a speech in his life.

3rd WOMAN: Still, he should say something as King.

QUASIMODO: Quasimodo very happy. Quasi like people! Quasi like to dance!

GRINGOIRE: Come on, everyone! Let's have a dance! This is Carnival night!

MUSIC No. 5

(The music plays and ESMERALDA starts to dance the TARANTELLA and the dancers join in. Then ESMERALDA dances around QUASIMODO and gets him to join in for a few steps. As the dance comes to an end, so everyone shouts "OLAY!". Two men pick up QUASIMODO and hold him on their shoulders, and everyone starts to sing "FOR HE'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW". Unknown to everyone, FROLLO and PHOEBUS have entered UL. FROLLO comes marching downstage. ESMERALDA sees him and hides behind some of the CHORUS. FROLLO looks at QUASIMODO.)

FROLLO: What do you think you are doing? Get down at once!

(The two men lower QUASIMODO to the ground.)

FROLLO: King of Fools! I ordered you to stay in the tower!

(QUASIMODO stands trembling as FROLLO punches him. FROLLO grabs the crown from his head and throws it into the crowd.)

FROLLO: You will pay for disobeying me! Go to the Tower at once!

QUASIMODO: Quasi only wanted to dance. *(He takes out his handkerchief and sobs as he slowly exits into The Notre Dame.)*

2nd MAN: You big bully!

FROLLO: Who said that?

1st MAN: We all did.

FROLLO: Watch it or I'll put you in prison.

1st WOMAN: You haven't got a prison big enough for all of us.

CHORUS: We all hate you!

FROLLO: And I hate you! *(He goes to exit DR but turns to the AUDIENCE.)* I hate you lot even more! *(He exits DR.)*

GRINGOIRE: He's the biggest fool here. Time he was kicked out.

3rd WOMAN: So say all of us.

FE FE: Come on everyone! Come into the Pub and celebrate!

(They all start to follow her into the Pub.)

YVETTE: Be better if I had something to celebrate.

(As the others make their way into the Pub, ESMERALDA makes her way to the door of Notre Dame. PHOEBUS, who has been standing UL, watches her.)

ESMERALDA: Quasimodo, are you alright? *(No answer.)* Quasimodo!

PHOEBUS: *(Coming forward.)* He can't hear you. He will be up in the tower.

ESMERALDA: *(Looking round.)* Oh, I didn't see you.

PHOEBUS: I saw you dance. You made quite a picture.

ESMERALDA: Thank you, kind sir.

PHOEBUS: I said to myself, there is the girl of my dreams.

ESMERALDA: I bet you say that to all the girls.

PHOEBUS: Only the ones I like.

ESMERALDA: I haven't seen you before.

PHOEBUS: I've only just arrived in Paris.