

From the full length play:
The Hunchback of Notre Dame
Adapted from Victor Hugo By Tracy Wells

QUASIMODO, *a disfigured young man who's spent his life living in a bell tower*

QUASIMODO

I'm sorry old friends. I know I haven't been ringing you as much. I just haven't felt like myself since the day I was put in the stocks. I was once the King of Fools and now I feel like a fool.

(Stands and looks down, toward first level.)

Why didn't Claude Frolo help me when I called out to him? He has cared for me my entire life—he's like a father to me. And yet in my time of need he denied me.

(Puts down crown and crosses to gargoyle and looks it in the face.)

But the gypsy girl, Esmeralda, found kindness in her heart and brought me water, even though I was being punished for a crime I committed against her.

(Looking down again toward first level, angrily.)

A crime Claude Frolo *forced* me to commit! He knows I would do anything for him. So why would he ask me to do something so awful?

(Crossing to window and looking out.)

There's the gypsy girl now, dancing for the townspeople of Paris with her clever goat beside her. Seeing her dancing so far below reminds me that up here in the bell tower of Notre Dame I have a bird's eye view of all that is good and kind in the world.

(Looking up at the bells.)

And that, my friends, makes me want to sing! You can help me do that.

(Grabs rope and pulls as the sounds of bells ringing is heard.)

Go on, go on, Gabrielle! Pour all your music out into the public square.

(Rings another bell.)

Thibault, no laziness! Your pace is slackening. That's better! Quick, quick, don't let me see the clapper! Make them as deaf as I am. That's it, Thibault.

(Rings another bell.)

Bravely done Guillaume! You are the biggest of them all.

(Rings another bell.)

Pasquier is the smallest and yet Pasquier rings the best.

(Rings another bell.)

Hollo, what are you doing up there? Ring out loud for all to hear!

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