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Episode 4

Written by

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Shooting Script

1st February 2018

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IC L I A E A D C FIDE IAL

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It's very spartan: a dozen narrow iron framed beds with cupboards, and a dozen GIRLS getting out of their uniforms and into their nighties. Ages seventeen down to about thirteen. All very neat, very modest, but chattering and giggling at the same time.

S GERMAINE
 d Look at Marie Claire, she can't
 wait till Friday!

C E COSETTE
 W W

GERMAINE

And holding hands with him, and
kissing. . . poor Cosette!

COSETTE

Why po

He goes to the door and opens it. When she arrives, he takes her in his arms and holds her tight. She still adores him, but there's something almost desperate in his need for her.

COSETTE

Papa! Not so tight, you'll squash
all the breath out of me!

He loosens his hol

COSETTE
Papa, am I real

MARIUS sits in the almost empty church. Someone is playing the organ quite quietly. MARIUS is listening and reflecting.

Across the aisle an old man, MABEUF, finishes his prayer, ste

MARIUS
You lied to me! You told me lies
about my father!

GILLENORMAND
I am your father!

MARIUS
Don't talk nonsense. I have
discovered that my father was a
humble and heroic man. He died
forgotten and neglected, because of
you! I never knew him, because of
you!

GILLENORMAND
And I never knew him, and never
wanted to! Or any of his kind! They
were all villains, murderers,
revolutionaries, and thieves! Al

of them traitors who betrayed their

king!

Sh

4/16

4/16

4/17

4/17

MADAME

CO

MARIUS and COURFEYRAC. They take a short cut throu

As they go through his pockets we can see MARIUS and COURFEYRAC walking on, chatting, oblivious to the murder they've left behind them.

4/27

4/27

MARIUS comes in, takes off his coat. He's getting ready for bed. He half sings, half hums, the song we heard in the Café Musain.

He's just about to get into bed when he hears:

FEMALE VOICE
Psst! Monsieur!

He stares about him.

FEMALE VOICE (CONT'D)
Psst! Monsieur! Over here!

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EPONINE
Show's over. Nighty night!

Shaken to the core, MARIUS retreats to his bed and blows out his own candle.

4/28

4/28

JAVERT lets himself in. Shoots the door bolts home top and bottom. Hangs

JEAN VALJEAN

Good.

COSETTE

When are we going to go out in the world?

JEAN VALJEAN

We are in the world, my child.

COSETTE

Are we? It doesn't feel like it.

J

JEAN VALJEAN
Don' t make me speak of i t.

A pause. He'

JEAN VALJEAN doesn't really notice him - the bench is on COSETTE's side of the path - but he looks up at COSETTE as they come near, and she looks back at him.

He likes what he sees, and she is all of a quiver - she has never been looked at like that by a boy.

They hold the glance, and he stands when they've gone past. She manages to sneak a glance back, and he's still looking.

COSETTE

I need new clothes, Papa. Everyone here looks so smart, Papa.

JEA

Quite enchanting - and such a lovely figure - it would be a shame not to show it off, I'm sure you agree with me! I'll just go and see if she's ready. Mademoiselle?

She goes into the adjoining room, and comes back leading COSETTE, who is of course looking stunning.

And very shy.

DRESSMAKER (CONT'D)

There!

He's in a state of shock. Faced with the fact that his COSETTE is a beautiful young woman. He can't speak.

DRESSMAKER (CONT'D)

Turn. See your reflection. Exquisite.

And COSETTE thinks so too, shy or not.

COSETTE

Do you like it, Papa?

DRESSMAKER

Papa! That's so charming!

JEAN VALJEAN

I liked you better in your old one. But if it pleases you...

DRESSMAKER

Ah! Men! What do they know? So, shall we show him the others?

4/38

4/38

A succession of shots of COSETTE going behind a screen, COSETTE emerging in a sequence of dresses and coats, all very becoming, and worryingly sexy. At one point JEAN VALJEAN finds himself looking at a reflection in one of the many mirrors that shows a view behind the screen - he looks away hastily.

JV's face. He's got problems.

4/39

4/39

JEAN VALJEAN and COSETTE walking, arm in arm. But this time we're seeing them from MARIUS' s point of view.

He's following them from a distance

She's giving little glances back, she's aware of being followed.

A sudden gust of wind blows leaves down the path and lifts COSETTE's dress "almost to the height of her garter." She swiftly pushes her dress down, and turns bl

W

MARIUS
Marius - Marius Pontmercy.

He blurts it out like a declara

JEAN VALJEAN
You told him your name?

COSETTE
He didn't mean any harm.

JEAN VALJEAN
What makes you think you know that?
You know nothing of the world!

COSETTE
Because you want to protect me from
knowing anything!

JEAN VALJEAN
I'll tell you one thing: we won't
be going to the Luxembourg Gardens
for a while!

COSETTE
T

We hear a little knock on the wall. And then again, and again.

EPONINE
Psst. Monsieur.

He pulls the blanket over his head.

EPONINE (CONT'D)
Psst. Monsieur. What's the matter?
Why so sad? Come to the peephole
and tell me about it.

He ignores her.

EPONINE (CONT'D)
Psst. Monsieur. Don't be like that.
Come and talk to me.

MARIUS
Leave me alone, damn you!

EPONINE
Oh, monsieur. That's not nice. I
thought we was friends.

He gets up and storms over to the wall. Scrunches up a wad of paper and jams it into the peephole to block it up.

EPONINE (CONT'D)
Monsieur. Monsieur. Don't do that.
I never meant no harm.

Her voice is muffled now.

EPONINE (CONT'D)
I'll do you a dance again if you
like.

MARIUS
I don't want your damned dance. I
just want you to leave me alone.

EPONINE
I know what you really want. I
could help you. Monsieur. Come and
talk to me. Come on. I'll be your
pal.

He can't shut her up. Nothing for it but to slam out of the room, which he does.

COURFEYRAC

Come on. Get that down you. Un,
deux, trois...

MARIUS drains his glass and they all cheer.

COURFEYRAC (CONT'D)

Any better?

MARIUS

Worse, if anything.

COURFEYRAC

Repeat the prescription, ad
infini tum. Does anybody know a
better cure for love?

ENJOLRAS

Revolution. Well, come on! Soldiers
who spilled their blood for France
are living as beggars... Your own
father was banned from entering the
city! And look at the poverty on
the streets, look at the slums,
look at the children starving while
a fat King sits on the throne.
Paris is a tinder box - it'll only
take one spark to set it off.

GRANTAI RE

(clapping MARIUS on the
back)

That's it - put your passion into
the fight for freedom! Then once
the regime has withered away,
equality for all! We can all take
turns with that nice girl of yours!

MARIUS instantly furious.

MARIUS

You dare say that to me?

GRANTAI RE

A joke! I apologise! Truly, I
sympathise! I have felt what you
are feeling now, that d 0 12 243 209Tm /TT8 2 348 221Tm /T

Whe

The mass resolves

MARIUS' s room. He' s l yi ng asl eep.

We hear a gentle tapping at the (h) ET BT 12 0 0 12 332 701Tm /TT8 1

Wh

MARIUS opens his purse again. A shining five franc piece and some little coins. He takes out the five franc piece.

MARIUS

Here.

She takes it, amazed and joyful.

EPONINE

Five francs! A shiner! You're a star! Are you sure?

MARIUS

I'm sure.

EPONINE

What a gent!

She takes his face in her hands and kisses him.

EPONINE (CONT'D)

Merci, monsieur! Mille fois

MME THENARDIER is squatting by the fireplace, wearing a chemise and a patched woollen skirt.

THENARDIER sits at the table, laboriously composing a letter. He wears a woman's chemise

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n

TRÉNARDIER

That's the one. I have high hopes
of him. "As poet to patron, may I
thank you in advance and dedicate
to you my very next work of art, en
the sure and certain hope that you
will relieve my poor family's
suffering, with my most respectful
compliments, I remain yours truly,
Geoffot, ma

EPONINE (CONT'D)

My poor fathe

JEAN VALJEAN
Her family needs help, Cosette, and
I can give it. There's nothing to
worry about.

4/62

4/62

4/63

4/63

4/64

4/64

THENARDIER, MADAME THENARDIER, AZELMA. Suddenly EPONINE runs
panting into the apartment.

EPONINE
They're coming!

THENARDIER jumps up.

THE

I wish woollen stockings could pay
the rent. But I thank you with all
my heart.

He approaches them, coming out of the shadows. THENARDIER and
VALJEAN look at each other, and recognise each other. Fuckin g
hel

JEAN VALJEAN

Here is five francs. That's all I have about me now.

THENARDIER

Five francs... There's people in this city would pay a lot more than that to see you, I'm sure.

JEAN VALJEAN

I'll take my daughter home and return this evening at six o'clock, with sixty francs.

(takes COSETTE by the arm)

Come along.

As they are at the door:

EPONINE

Don't forget your coat, monsieur.

JEAN VALJEAN

I'm not forgetting it. I'm leaving it. It's yours, monsieur.

THENARDIER

My benefactor! Allow me to

EPONINE

Depends. What do I get?

MARIUS

Anything you want.

EPONINE

Well, anything for you, Monsieur
Marius...but he may not live very
long, the old chap.

MARIUS

What d'you mean?

EPON

A MARIUS
A little nervous.

JAVERT
Everything depends on you. Six
o'clock, you s

THENARDIER
Very thoughtful of you, mons

JEAN VALJEAN
So what do you want with me?

THENARDIER
Not that much. I'm a reasonable man. I don't want the lot. Two hundred thousand francs would do it. Come on. I've got a feeling you won't be telling the police about our little meeting. And you wouldn't want no harm coming to your pretty granddaughter, would you? Is that what you call her?

Cut to MARIUS at the peephole, highly alarmed.

THENARDIER (CONT'D)
My friend Montparnasse here could slip up behind her in the park and cut her throat as easy as that. It's his speciality. He loves it, don't you, Montparnasse?

MONTPARNASSE
I do, monsieur, I can't deny it. I'd slit yours, too, for two sous.

JEAN VALJEAN
You dare to threaten my Cosette?

He wrenche

GAVROCHE
(softly, to himself)
Bye, Ma. Bye, Pa. Sweet dreams.

GAVROCHE strolls back into the house as the closed carriage goes off.

THENARDIER, through the bars.

THENARDIER
You missed

2

And he starts humming a mocking little love song, which continues, louder, as he goes off down the corridor and out of the house. (We could use the one on page 736, but in French.)

4/86

4/86

4/87

4/87