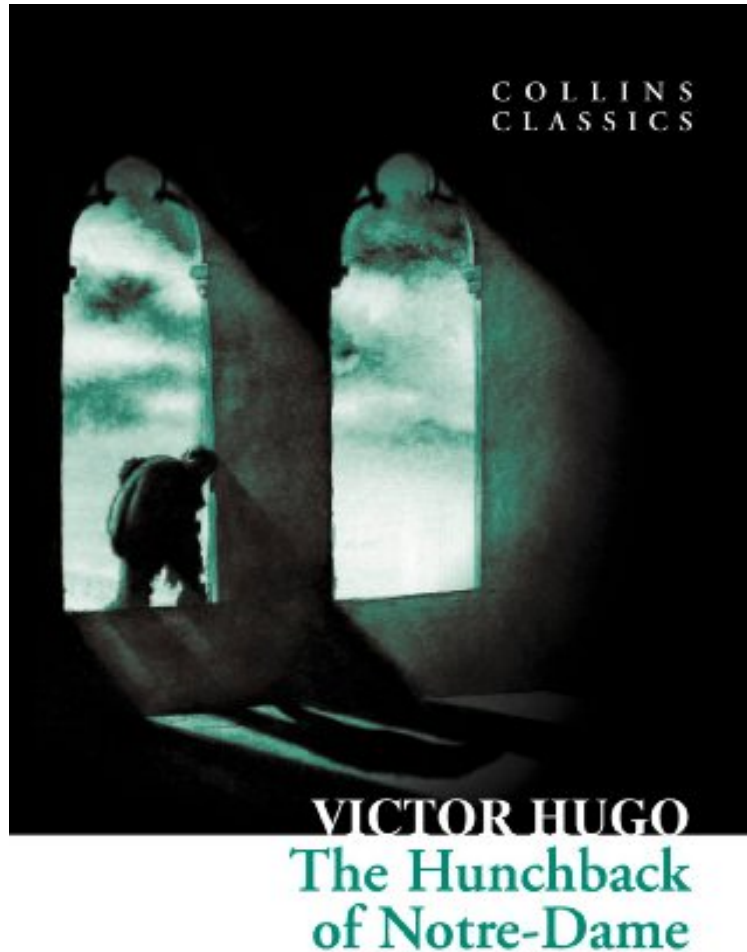


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The Hunchback of Notre-Dame (Collins Classics)

Von Victor Hugo

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Von Victor Hugo : The Hunchback of Notre-Dame (Collins Classics) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Hunchback of Notre-Dame (Collins Classics):

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Disturbing yet enjoyable. Von Gerry T. Neal (gneal.stu@providence.mb.ca) Contrary to popular opinion the novel Le Notre Dame de Paris by Victor Hugo is not primarily about the deformed bell-ringer Quasimodo. Quasimodo's role is

actually surprisingly small in the story, which makes you wonder why the English translator's chose "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" as the translation for the title. Actually, as the original French title would indicate, it is the cathedral itself that is the focus of the book. This is why in the unabridged editions of this book you will find numerous chapters that seemingly have nothing to do with the plot of the story. This is the book's weakest point, and it may turn many people away from the book. Once you get into the plot, however, it is impossible to put the book down. The characters are intriguing: composer Pierre Gringoire, archdeacon Dom Claude Frollo, once a paragon of virtue now tormented by his corrupt love for a gypsy girl, L'Esmeralda, the naive gypsy dancer, Phoebus, the selfish, egotistical captain of the guards, and of course Quasimodo, a deaf, deformed bellringer. The relationships between these characters are complex and dark but they make an unforgettable story. The story is never, from front to back, a happy one, so if you are looking for a book that makes you "feel good" this is not the one for you. If, on the other hand, you are looking for a good book to read, that is unafraid to deal with the darker side of reality, I highly recommend "The Hunchback of Notre Dame."

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Extreme Issues! Von Sean Ares Hirsch Do not watch the Disney version to understand this! This is not a simple tale where the moral is not to judge people by looks! Hugo masterfully shows us a tragic but interesting dilemma. Claude Frollo is holy and virtuous enough to take care of an abandoned and physically deformed child. Yet, despite his virtue, he is unable to control his sexual frustrations towards the gypsy woman. It is also interesting that despite the kindness Quasimodo shows towards La Esmeralda, she can hardly look at him. Hugo masterfully increases our sorrow when Quasimodo sees her beauty and feels all the more ugly: "I never realized how ugly I am until now." It is also striking that the gypsies are sympathetic at first, but then their actions go to far and the soldiers of the church have no choice but to take direct action. Another phenomenal aspect of this book is that even though Claude Frollo shows his dark side, Hugo does not permit us to forget his good points. (Especially when Hugo shows the ingratitude of Claude Frollo's delinquent brother after all the kindness he treated him with.) Hugo presents us with striking images, powerful drama, convincing characters, some comic relief, tragic recognition and reversal, and harsh realities. Not one page is wasted. The harsh ending where Quasimodo sees everything he loved destroyed and leaves the cathedral in pure sorrow left me silent for days. If you are open to reading this in Quasimodo's and Claude Frollo's light (not in a modern light) I highly recommend this exquisite masterpiece beyond expectations. I DO NOT recommend the DISNEY version. Someone lent it to me, and I was so enraged at the destruction of Hugo's intentions that I would have loved to burn the tape. Read the book instead, or at least find a movie that tells the story the way Hugo wrote it!

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Much better than I thought it would be Von Ein Kunde The Hunchback of Notre Dame was a story that I thought would be a little bit adolescent and childish because they made a Disney movie out of it. But it wasn't. If you read the story, you realize that Disney obviously made the movie have more of a happy ending, because a sad ending is not characteristic of a child's film. Also, the Disney movie focused more on the moral of "Don't judge a person by the way they look", where the book obviously did not. The book just doesn't transfer well to screen. As far as the actual book goes, it was a very powerful story. Even though it's not really a mystery, you just want to read more to find out what happens. You begin to feel inside the story, in almost another reality. Anytime somebody talked to me or disturbed me during my reading, I would come out of the fictional dimension feeling almost hypnotic because of being into the story so much. This story is very deep, and certainly more than the Disney film portrays. I guess the main thought that I'm trying to send here is that the book is so much different and focuses on so many different subjects that in order to UNDERSTAND The Hunchback of Notre Dame you must read the book.

Kurzbeschreibung HarperCollins is proud to present its new range of best-loved, essential classics. Love is like a tree, it grows of its own accord, it puts down deep roots into our whole being. Set in medieval Paris, against the backdrop of the brooding Cathedral of Notre-Dame, Hugo's take on the classic story of Beauty and the Beast tells of the hunchbacked, grotesque bellringer, Quasimodo. Rejected by Parisian society because of his appearance, Quasimodo resides in Notre-Dame, harbouring a love for the only woman that pities him, a gypsy named Esmeralda. However, a sinister archdeacon also covets Esmeralda, and when his advances are spurned, he seeks to destroy her.

From Kirkus s The Hunchback of Notre Dame (40 pp.; \$15.95; Sept. 1997; 0-531- 30055-2): A storybook retelling of Hugo's classic of the lonely bellringer and his hopeless love for the beautiful gypsy girl, Esmeralda, whom he rescues from hanging and the evil archdeacon Dom Frollo and reunites with her mother. While remaining relatively faithful to the original, this version from Wynne-Jones (The Maestro, 1996, etc.) is always competent, but never compelling. Slavin creates lovely illustrations, but his pale washes leave even the most festive scenes sedate. The volume lacks power or emotion; adults seeking an alternative--any alternative--to the Disney film may find that this one hardly competes for the hearts and minds of the target audience. (Fiction. 5-8) -- Copyright 1997, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.

From Library Journal Hugo's standard is being reprinted to tie in with the Disney animated feature. Though the average kid is not likely to wade through this epic, Hyperion's illustrated edition is actually quite nice if you're looking for a quality

hardcover at a good price. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.