

RESEARCH ARTICLE

THE PORTRAYAL OF HUMAN BONDING AND ITS IMPACT IN VICTOR HUGO'S
LES MISERABLES

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Abstract:

This article is going to explore the importance of love and affection among human beings. This world is always filled with an endless strives and struggles. Among those problems, this article is an attempt to portray the impact of human bonding. All humans have known that this is not a big deal to love others. But the reality is no one shows that love when is needed. In contrast to our concept here the novel *les miserables* explored it's protagonist as the man of carrying the burdens but who does not failed to shower his love on the poor people. His love showed great impact on the lives of people like a dying mother and her suffering daughter. Jean Valjean is the man who has suffered a lot in his personal life. Though he has been portrayed as an ex convict he has utilized his living by giving life to others. Being a reader everyone wants the person like Jean in their life. With the medium of affection he attracted the hearts of many readers.

Keywords: humanity, unexpected affection, life of an ex convict, impact of love, les miserable.

Introduction:

The novelist Victor Hugo is known as the greatest writer of nineteenth century in Russia. This novel *les miserables*, has implications of his personal life. It has been adapted into numerous movies. This novel contained the life of an ex convict and his own impact on a poor and suffering child. The novelist explored the life after imprisonment and treatment of the society on an illegitimate child. Apart from these all this novel exposed the themes like politics, selfish nature, dilemma between love and law. This article can be termed as a review material on the impact of selfless love and affection. We all know that one person gets the love from his own family members and known persons of his life. But in this novel the love has been transformed from an unknown person. Through that unknown affection the poor child Cossette has gained her life.

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The Miserable Life of Jean Valjean:

Here the protagonist has been portrayed as the person who came from the prison after spending his long time imprisonment. The society is not a welcoming one which rejects him as a citizen. The person named M. Myriel showed his compassion on Valjean. Being an ex convict he couldn't sustain the received love of that bishop. He has stolen the silverware but soon he was caught by the police. During the investigation Jean Valjean was taken before the bishop. Out of his compassion that bishop forgiven him and wanted him as a good human being. This incident created a guilty feeling in the mind of Valjean. From that moment he has realised the rays of love and compassion. M. Myriel wanted him as an honest man but Valjean could not understand the sudden transformation. He was distributed by his words. Then another incident occurred to make him value the importance of love. During his mental struggle he has happened meet an poor boy. That poor boy lost his money when he enquired about this Jean Valjean became furious. He just started yelling at him. The fact is that money was under his own feet only. After knowing the truth he felt guilty about his own merciless action.

The wealthy mayor:

After six years, Jean Valjean became the mayor of Montreuil-sur-mer. In this new life Jean Valjean tried his best to be useful to others. Simply he became the

person of love and has developed his helping tendency. Here he became the person who lives for the welfare of others. One day a person named Fauchel event caught under the wheels of a cart. No one is ready to help him. But Jean Valjean crawls under the cart and rescue him. Victor Hugo shows the humanity of an ex convict. Though it seems like a simple incident, it marks the Jean Valjean as a lovable human.

The world without love:

On the other part of the story the novelist portrayed the more selfish family. Fantine is a most lovable and caring mother of Cossette who is her illegitimate child. Fantine was afraid to face the society along with her illegitimate child. Thus she asked a person called Thenardiers to be the guardian for her child. Fantine thought that they would take a good care of her Cossette. In contrast to that they didn't give a proper food and cloth to that poor child. They have been portrayed as the tool of loveless and selfish humans. Out of their greed they asked much money from Fantine which leads her to the death.

Jean Valjean and fantine:

Fantine got her employment in the factory of Jean Valjean who is a mayor of that city. But the gossiping situation leads her out of the job. In order to send money to the welfare of her child Fantine sold her hair and teeth which shows the selfless affection of a mother. Some people might

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be surprised of this review and said it is that much unique but this article deliberately present points that it is not necessary to love a child. The readers become astonished with the sacrifices of Fantine. During one incident she was rescued by the mayor. He promised her that he would bring her child. Fantine completely believed the mayor. Their togetherness becomes heart warming to read.

The rescue of cassette:

Fantine died without seeing her daughter. Jean Valjean was given some years of imprisonment for his past crimes. But he escaped from the prison and went to meet Cossette. The portrayal of the pathetic life Cossette makes the readers to know the value of humanity. That scene really makes any person would cry. Jean Valjean had given the asked amount to Thenardiers and take Cossette along with him. From that moment to till the end of his life he does not failed to hold her hand. He sacrificed his whole life for Cossette. He tried and

struggled to get her married to her beloved person.

Conclusion:

The title *les miserables* represented the life of an outcast. Out of his kindness Jean Valjean has given his wealth to Cossette after her marriage with her lover Marius. But Marius could not understand his selfless affection. He suspected him and does not allow Cossette to meet Jean Valjean. This made him to be a depressed person. Then one day Marius realised his misunderstanding and started to love Jean Valjean. In his last breath also Jean Valjean showed his boundless love and affection on Cossette. He said that apart from her there is nothing for him to live for.

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