

Poor people often left children at the door of the church. They hoped the church would care for them. However, this was no ordinary child.

It was a boy, three or four years old, tied to a board with old **rags**. His face was **twisted**. His lips were thick, and two teeth stuck out like **tusks**. One eye was forever closed. Red hair topped his **misshapen** head.

His body was twisted, too. His legs were short, and his spine was bent into a **curve**. He had a **hump** over one shoulder.

Like a wild thing, the ugly boy **struggled** against the rags that held him. Finally, he opened his mouth and screamed. The sound sent **shivers** down my spine!

When the child screamed, the mob stepped back in fear. I stepped back and fell on my rump in the dirty street. "It's a monster," one man shouted.

"Better to kill it now," said another man. "It's a beast from hell." The little boy's head twisted from side to side. He opened his one eye wider and screamed again.

rags	סמרטוטים
twisted	מעוותות, מעוקמות
tusks	ניבים (של חיה)
misshapen	מעוות
curve	עקומה
hump	גיבנת
struggled	נאבק
shivers	צמרמורת

A man in rags picked up a heavy stone from the street and started to throw it at the helpless boy. An arm reached out and grabbed the man's hand. The stone dropped to the street.

The young priest, Claude Frollo, pushed the man aside and stepped into the center of the circle of people. Frollo was tall and thin with a **bald** head. He stood before the boy. "No one shall harm this child," Frollo said.

"He is a monster!" a woman cried out.

"He is only part **human**," argued another.

"We must bring his human side to God," Frollo replied. The people of Paris feared Claude Frollo. They said he studied books of **sorcery**. He never smiled or said a kind word.

"If he is part human," the priest continued, "that shall be his name!" The child was silent as the priest put his hand on the twisted **forehead**. "I **adopt** this child in the name of the Church. His name will be Quasimodo, 'part man'," said Claude Frollo.

bald	קירח
human	אנושי, אדם
sorcery	כישוף
forehead	מצח
adopt	קאמץ