

An Excerpt from *The Hunchback of Notre-Dame*¹⁾

In an extensive space left open between the crowd and the fire there was a young girl dancing.

Whether this young girl was a human being, or a fairy, or an angel Gringoire, sceptical²⁾ philosopher and satirical³⁾ poet as he was, could not at the first moment decide, so completely was he fascinated by the dazzling vision. She was not tall, although she appeared to be so from the slenderness and elegance of her figure. Her complexion was dark, but it was easy to divine⁴⁾ that by daylight her skin must have the beautiful golden tint of the Roman and Andalusian women. Her small feet too were Andalusian. She danced, whirled, turned round, on an old Persian carpet, carelessly spread on the pavement; and every time her radiant⁵⁾ face passed before you as she turned, her large black eyes flashed lightning.

Every eye was fixed upon her, every mouth open; and in truth, while she was thus dancing, what with the sound of the tambourine⁶⁾, which her two plump exquisitely shaped arms held above her head, her bodice of gold without folds, her spotted robe which swelled with the rapidity of her motions, her bare shoulders, her finely turned legs which her petticoat⁷⁾ now and then discovered, her black hair, her eyes of flame, she was a supernatural creature.

"Verily," thought Gringoire, "it is a salamander, a nymph⁸⁾, a goddess, a bacchanal⁹⁾ of Mount Mnalus." At that moment one of the tresses of the salamander's hair got loose, and a piece of brass which had been fastened to it dropped to the ground. "Ha. no," he said, "'tis a gipsy." The illusion was at an end.

She began dancing again. She picked up from the ground two swords, which she balanced on their points upon her forehead, and made them turn round one way, while she turned the other. She was in fact a gipsy, neither more nor less.

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节选自《巴黎圣母院》

在人群与篝火之间的一大块空地上，有一个姑娘在舞蹈。

怀疑论者和讽刺诗人甘果尔被这眼花缭乱景象完全迷住了，竟然不能一眼看清这姑娘是人，是仙女，还是天使。她个儿不高，不过，她身段苗条而优雅，看上去亭亭玉立。她面色黝黑，但可以想像在阳光下一定有着罗马和安达卢西亚女子那美丽的金色。她那双纤足也是安达卢西亚人的。在一条随意铺于地面的旧波斯地毯上，她翩翩起舞，旋转着，转动着；每当她转过身来，那灿烂的脸庞经过你面前的时候，她那双乌黑的大眼睛就忽地一闪。

大家都目不转睛，大张着嘴。在她如此舞蹈之际，她那两只丰满好看的胳膊把一面小鼓高高举过头顶，在这动人的鼓声中，她那平整无皱的金色胸衣，她那快速转动时鼓胀起来的有斑点的裙子，她那裸露的双肩，她那从裙子里偶尔露出的优美转动着的双腿，她那乌黑的头发，她那闪着火焰的眸子---真的，她是一个超自然的造物。

"真的，"甘果尔想道，"这是一个火精，一个林中仙女，一位女神，梅纳伦山上的一位

女酒神！”这时，“火精”的一条发辫松开了，别在上面的一根黄铜饰针掉在地上。“哈！不对，”他说道，“她是吉卜赛人！”幻觉消失了。

她又跳起舞来。她从地上拾起两柄剑，两个剑尖平衡地抵着额头，然后把剑朝一边旋转，她自己则朝另一边旋转。她确实是吉卜赛人，一点不错。

NOTE 注释：

1. Hunchback of Notre-Dame 《巴黎圣母院》，雨果名著
2. skeptical ['skeptikəl] adj. 怀疑论的，怀疑的
3. satirical [sə'tɪrɪk(ə)l] adj. 好讽刺的，爱挖苦人的
4. divine [di'vain] vt. 想象
5. radiant ['reɪdjənt] adj. 发光的，容光焕发的
6. tambourine [tæmbə'reɪn] n. 小手鼓
7. petticoat ['petɪkəʊt] n. 衬裙，裙子
8. nymph [nɪmf] n. [希神][罗神]居于山林水泽的仙女，美丽的少女
9. bacchanal ['bækənəl] n. 酒神