

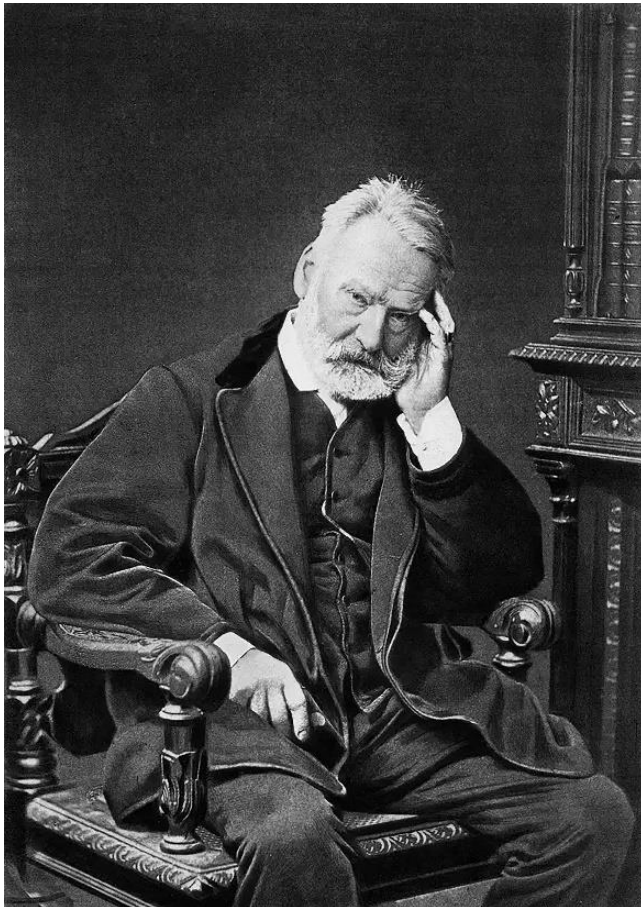
LES MISERABLES

VICTOR HUGO

BIOGRAPHY

Victor Hugo was a French author and poet. His best-known novels are *Les Misérables* and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. He was considered a national hero in his homeland.

Hugo was born in Besançon, France, on February 26, 1802. He grew up primarily in Paris, where he lived with his mother and two brothers. His father, who was an officer in Napoleon's army, sometimes visited them.



Victor's love of writing blossomed during his school years. His poetry won honors in many writing contests. He even started his own literary magazine. However, the publication's life was short-lived.

In October 1822, Hugo married his childhood sweetheart, Adèle Foucher. The couple had five children. However their first child, Leopold, died shortly after his birth.

Hugo wrote many different genres in his lifetime: poetry, plays, and novels. His poems earned him his first success in the literary world.

In 1831, Hugo's novel *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* was published. Its story about a deformed bell ringer who falls in love with a beautiful

dance moved audiences from all over the world. In 1862, his epic novel *Les Misérables* was released. It became one of the most popular books of all time.

Hugo died from pneumonia on May 22, 1885, at 83 years old. He was buried in the Panthéon, a monument in Paris.