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## APPENDICES

### 1. Synopsis of Novel *The Phantom of The Opera*

The original title of *The Phantom of the Opera* is *Le Fantôme de l'Opéra*, written in French by Gaston Leroux. The novel was first published in France in 1910. One year later, in 1911, it was translated and published in English with the title *The Phantom of the Opera*. *The Phantom of the Opera* is a gothic mystery set in the Paris Opera House. Strange things happen in the opera building, and many people believe there is a ghost haunting it. Some workers and dancers claim to have seen a man with a skull-like face, dressed in black. This figure becomes known as the Opera Ghost. Panic begins to spread when a stagehand named Joseph Buquet is found dead, hanging in the basement.

Christine Daaé, a young and talented singer, suddenly rises to fame. She sings beautifully during a special performance and replaces the lead singer, Carlotta, who becomes sick. Many are surprised at Christine's success, especially because she used to be shy and quiet. Some believe her voice has been magically trained by an "Angel of Music," whom Christine believes was sent by her dead father.

Raoul, a nobleman who knew Christine as a child, attends her performance and is amazed by her voice. He tries to meet her afterward and quickly realizes he still has feelings for her. However, Christine acts strangely and avoids him. Raoul becomes suspicious and wants to find out who is influencing her. He later hears Christine talking with a mysterious man in her dressing room, but no one is inside when he enters.

As the story continues, it becomes clear that the "Angel of Music" is actually the Opera Ghost, a man named Erik. Erik lives in a hidden world beneath the Opera House, full of secret passages, trapdoors, and even a lake. He is a musical genius but has a terrifying face, which he hides behind a mask. He falls in love with Christine and tries to keep her under his control.

Christine is torn between fear and sympathy. She feels sorry for Erik but also wants to be free. At one point, Erik kidnaps her and brings her to his underground lair. He demands that she choose between marrying him or letting innocent people die. Though afraid, Christine shows him kindness and even kisses him. This act of compassion surprises Erik deeply.

Meanwhile, Raoul, along with a mysterious man known as "the Persian," tries to rescue Christine. The two face many traps and challenges in Erik's underground world, including a torture chamber. They suffer greatly while trying to

and Erik watches them silently, testing their courage.

and, Christine's act of love softens Erik's heart. He decides to let her go and allow her to marry Raoul. He realizes that he cannot force someone to do what he wants. Christine's decision shows a change in Erik, who has lived in loneliness and many years. He lets go of his anger and obsession.

Christine leaves with Raoul, Erik tells the Persian that he is going to let her go. He writes her a few letters and tells him what happened. Not long after, Erik



passes away alone in his underground home. The Persian tells this story years later to the narrator, who collects all the evidence and writes it down. The Phantom of the Opera shows the power of compassion, love, and sacrifice. Gaston Leroux mixes mystery, romance, and tragedy to create a haunting and unforgettable story.

## 2. Biography of Gaston Leroux

Gaston Leroux was born on May 6, 1868, in Paris, France. He came from a family involved in construction, which influenced his later works. Leroux initially studied law but soon shifted his focus to journalism and literature. His experiences as a reporter provided him with a unique perspective on storytelling, allowing him to create vivid and engaging narratives.

One of Leroux's most significant contributions to literature is *The Phantom of the Opera*, published in 1910. This novel tells the story of a mysterious figure, known as the Phantom, who lives beneath the Paris Opera House and becomes infatuated with a young soprano named Christine Daaé. The book combines elements of romance, horror, and mystery, and has been adapted into numerous films, musicals, and stage productions, making it a timeless classic.

Before *The Phantom of the Opera*, Leroux gained recognition for his detective fiction. His first major novel, *Le Mystère de la Chambre Jaune* (The Mystery of the Yellow Room), was published in 1907. This groundbreaking work introduced the character Joseph Rouletabille, a young journalist who solves complex mysteries. The novel is often credited as one of the first locked-room mysteries, showcasing Leroux's innovative approach to the genre.

Leroux continued to write throughout his life, producing other notable works such as *La Poupée Sanglante* (The Bloody Doll, 1910) and *Chéri-Bibi* (1913). His stories often featured suspenseful plots and elements of the supernatural, reflecting his fascination with the darker aspects of human nature. Leroux's unique style and imaginative storytelling earned him a dedicated readership and established him as a prominent figure in French literature.

Despite his literary success, Leroux faced personal challenges, including financial difficulties and health issues. These struggles impacted his writing career, but he remained committed to his craft until the end of his life. His determination to create compelling stories is evident in the diverse range of works he produced.

Gaston Leroux passed away on April 15, 1927, leaving behind a rich legacy of literature. His works have inspired countless adaptations and continue to be celebrated in popular culture. The themes of love, obsession, and the supernatural in his stories resonate with readers even today, ensuring his place in literary history.

Leroux is recognized as a pioneer of the mystery genre. His influence can be seen in the works of many contemporary authors, and his ability to weave intricate plots and create memorable characters has left a lasting impact on the genre. His stories continue to captivate audiences, proving that great



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storytelling transcends time. Gaston Leroux's contributions to literature are significant and enduring. His most famous work, *The Phantom of the Opera*, remains a beloved classic, while his other writings continue to intrigue and entertain.



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