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Guillotine = An instrument with a large, heavy blade sliding down between two wooden posts which was used in France to cut off the head of criminals.

Tumbrils - Open carts used to carry prisoners to the guillotine during French Revolution.

Furrow - A long, narrow mark made in the earth by a plough.

Impassive - Expressionless; not feeling or showing any emotion.

Lingering - Show to end

Forfeit - Penalty, something one has to give up as result of a wrong action

Faltering - Hesitating

Seamstress - A woman who sews often for a living

Faint of heart - Not brave or confident

Sublime - Extremely good or beautiful

Prophetic - Saying correctly what is going to happen; here, Carton's face looked as if he could see the future.

Scaffold - The raised platforms on which criminals were made to stand before being killed.

Given any utterance to - Spoken aloud

Abyss - A very deep hole; here, meaning the dark and low situation.

Healing office - Lucie Manette's father was a doctor; healing office refers to his work as a doctor.

Sanctuary - A very sacred place

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Lest earthly bed - Graves

That path of life which once was mine - The profession
of a lawyer (Sydney Carton was a lawyer)

Illustrious - Admired and respected distinguished

The blot I threw upon it - The disrespect that I
brought to my name through my faults