BIOGRAPHY OF THE AUTHOR

Henrik Ibsen was born in March 20, 1828 in Skien, Norwegia. He who has another name, Johan is a Norwegian poet and playwright, creator of modern realistic drama. His major works include Peer Gynt (1867), A Doll’s House (1879), Ghosts (1881) and Gabler (1890).

Early years, Ibsen was the second child of a prosperous businessman. In an unfinished autobiographical fragment written in 1881, Ibsen described born as a boy, he saw from his window ‘only buildings, nothing green’. He remembered particularly the church, the pillory, the jail, and the mad house, and remarked how the many sawmills filled the air all day with a sound like the noise of whining, moaning, shrieking woman. In the mid 1830, his father went bankrupt, the ibsen moved to nearby Venstop. This more away from familiar surroundings, together with the disgrace attacked to it, led the already introverted young Ibsen to find comfort in daydreams, in reading and his puppet theatre. Impressions and memories from these early years are found in many his later plays. Skien provided the small-town background of the League of Youth; the attie in The Wild Duck (1884) and members of his family often served as models for his characters.

Progressive separation and alienation from ‘home’ childhood home, his home town and his home country is an obvious pattern in Ibsen’s life. At the age of 15, he left Skien behind with the same feelings of release, the same sense of escape that filled him 20 or so years later when he left Norway to live abroad. Even as an old man nearing 70 and recently returned to Norway, he could still write to a friend. In 1841 he went to Grimstad later to form the background of ‘The
Pillars of Society’ where he was apprenticed to a chemist. In spare hours he studied for his matriculation examination and also found five for writing. His first drama, Catilina, was in part inspired by the revolution throughout Europe in 1848 and in part by the Latin texts set for his examination.

In April 1850 he moved to Christiania, the capital, stopping on the way at Skien to take final leave of his family; in Christiania, he studied at crammer’s but he was not wholly successful at his examination in August (Greek, Arithmetic, Latin). In particularly, he contributed to and helped to edit a periodical called Adhrimner. On September 26, 1850, the first performance of an Ibsen play took place. The Burrial Mound, a historical play strongly nationalistic in style. It was unsuccessful and for the rest of the year he earned a meager living by journalist.

In September 1856 he became engaged to Suzannah Thoresen, but it was another two years before they could afford to marry, their son and only child, Sigurd, was born on December 23, 1859.

In September 1857 he returned to Christiania to become artistic directors of the Norwegian theatre. Admittedly, the three dramas he completed in Christiania between 1857 and 1864. The Vikings at Helgeland Love’s Coney and The Pretender, are an altogether higher level than anything he had written previously.

The next few year saw a breakthrough in his career Brand 1865, Peer Gynt 1867. Both plays are in a sense polemic pieces directed against what Ibsen felt was the narrowness of Norwegian life and the complacency of the North character.
After nearly years in Rome, he moved in 1868 to Dresden. He published *Digte (poem 1871)* and drama *Emperor and Galilean (1873)*. In 1875 he moved to Munich, but by late autumn of 1878 he was back in Rome where a part from a short period of residence in Munich in 1879-1880 he made his home until 1885. the pillars of society which appeared in 1877, marks the end of this poetic period and the first of the so-called social sadness for which Ibsen become generally known. February 1878 it was being played at five different theatres in Berlin alone, in there quite different translation 1879, A Doll’s House, a play that created a major scandal. In it, Ibsen exposes the individual’s loss of freedom and expression as he confirms to society’s contentious by observing how a husband bring about, although unwittingly, his wife’s intellectual and financial and averment. At London production in 1889 *A Doll’s House* touched off the enhancement debates about Ibsenism that characterized literary controversy in the 1890s. Although honored during his own life tune as the source of what G.B.Shaw term Ibsenism (i.e. a critique in dramatic form of contemporary morality). He first achieved recognition as the creator of modern, realistic prose drama move recent criticism esteems other qualities in this work; his supreme technical mastery, his penetrating psychological insight, his symbolism and the bleak poetry of his dramatic prose. The more controversial dramas of his later years-works that their exploration of the nature of reality and illusions of what is genuine and what spurious in the individual and in society, contributed much to the development and enrichment of prose drama in general.
Henrico Ibsen wrote some play and poem. The writer lists below there are some of his works which are worth while to be read and discussed by the readers who wants to deepen their studies on Henrico Ibsen and his works below are chronologically listed that is easy for the readers to trace as a writer:

1. The Pillar 1874
2. Catilina 1848
3. Adhrimner 1850
4. The Burial Mound 1850
5. St. John’s Night 1853
6. Lady Inger 1855
7. The Feast at Halhoung 1856
8. The Viking at Helgeland Loves Coney 1857
9. Paa Vidderne (poem) 1859
10. Terie Vigen (poem) 1862
11. Episke Brand (poem) 1864
12. The Pretenders 1864
13. Brand 1864
14. Peer Gynt 1867
15. Digte (poem) 1868
16. Emperor and Galilean 1873
17. A Doll’s House 1879
18. Ghost 1881
19. An Enemy of People 1882
20. The Wild Duck
21. Rosmersholm
22. The Lady From The Sea
23. The Master Builder
24. Little Eyolf
25. John Gabriel
26. When We Dead Awaken
SUMMARY OF HENRIK IBSEN’S PLAY
A DOLL’S HOUSE

A Doll’s House is a play which tells about the way of family live of Torvald Helmer and Nora as a couple of husband and wife. They have three small children, Bob, Ivar and Emmy.

This play begins while Nora comes back from shopping for Christmas while Nora is busy to welcome Christmas Day; Torvald is also busy with some works dealing with his new position, a bank manager in the beginning of New Year, at his study room.

When they are talking about Nora’s behavior in spending money, Dr. Rank who a best friend of Helmer comes. Dr. Rank is a doctor that always checks Helmer’s health. In the same time, Mrs. Linde comes to visit Nora. Nora welcomes Mrs. Linde who an old friend of Nora. She tells Nora that after her husband’s death nothing left because his business was a precarious one. She has to fight for her living. Because of this, she wants Nora to persuade her husband to give her a position in the bank that he is going to lead. On the other hand, Mrs. Linde admires Nora’s happy life that like a child who does not know the burden of live and not capable of the trip is borrowed from someone.

After getting full authority in his office, Helmer dismisses Krogstad who had done some criminal that makes his reputation bad. Helmer intends to change his position to Mrs. Linde who is looking for a job. When Krogstad receives a letter of the dismissal, he comes to Nora and asks her to change her husband’s opinion. Unfortunately for Krogstad, Helmer does not agree with Nora’s request.
Krogstad disappointed in failing Nora to prevent his dismissal. He comes to Nora again and reminds her that he will reveal her secret to her husband unless she will insure his position at the bank Hlemer manager. Nora’s secret not only borrows some money from Krogstad but also do forgery. It happen when Nora borrowed money from him at the time, Krogstad suggested Nora to have her father signature on the loan letter for guarantee the loan. On the other hand, Nora did not do so. She involved a criminal acted b signing the loan letter by her self. It happened because her father is bad. She didn’t have another risk after knowing daughter problem.

Finally, Krogstad send a letter for Helmer. The laetter is about Nora’s action in the past that had clone a criminal act and he can bring her into a court. After reading the letter, Helmer gets angry with her wife. He says Nora as a woman who have not moral and religion. She doesn’t think the effect by putting false signature in the letter. In the same time, he says he not believe to her in growing up their children. Nora just sends and keep silence to Helmer’s angry.

Next, Krogstad feels sorry and ashamed of what he done to Nora. He sends a second letter for changing his mind. He will withdraw his treat from Nora. It happens because of presence of Mrs. Linde who promises him to take a risk together with him Mrs. Linde’s confession makes him happy. Really, Krogstad needs someone to care herself. Mrs. Linde sympathy with Krostad in withdrawing his treat from Nora, her old friend.

After hearing and seeing Krogstad’s a second letter, Helmer feel glad. On the other hand, Nora has different response to Helmer who has humiliated
herself. As a wife and mother of her children, she has done in well and the best from him but Helmer had treat her badly, as a doll of house. Because of this, she left Helmer and her three children. She wants a freedom in outside of the world she had known.