

APPENDICES

Synopsis of Checkhov's Ivanov

Ivanov , a local government official, was a reforming landowner but now fallen on hard times. Anna Petrovna. his wife, is dying of tuberculosis, a doctor says about Anna's condition and when he hears about it, his reacting is not with sorrow but emptiness. He is beginning not to love her. Borkin, as his estate manager asks him some money to pay the workers, but Ivanov cannot give it to him because he has no money to pay the workers.

One day, he is going to Lebedev, a chairman of the district council, to the house where the birthday party of Sasha, Lebedev's daughter, is held. Sasha falls in love with Ivanov but Ivanov feels guilty because he has debt to Sasha's family. In time when Sasha declares her love to Ivanov and when they kiss, Anna arrives and sees it. Anna's condition is getting worse and a year later she dies.

Ivanov and Sasha plan to marry and before the wedding ceremony, Ivanov talk to Sasha that he wants to call off the wedding. He draws the line to destroy her life as he did to Anna's. Lebedev begs Ivanov to think more simply that he and Sasha love each other. For a moment Ivanov feels young again and is able to run away with Sasha, but equally suddenly he shoots himself.

Biography of Anton P. Chekhov

Anton Pavlovich Chekhov was born on 17 January (Russian style – 29 January in the rest of Europe) 1860, in Taganrog. He was the third of six children. His father Pavel, was a grocer and became bankrupt when Anton Chekhov was fifteen . Pavel escaped to Moscow, to be followed by the rest of his family, except for Anton, who stayed in the south to complete his schooling and looked after what remained of the family's affairs before coming to Moscow to study medicine at the university. He supported his family by writing comic sketches and short stories for the Moscow periodicals.

By the end of the 1880s, Chekhov was established as a major writer of short fiction, such as Peasant, Lady with as dog and My life, and being masterpieces in the genre. However, his full-length output for the theatre at his stage was limited to an unperformed early play now known as Platonov, a qualified success with Ivanov in Moscow and St Petersburg and a failure The Wood Demon, a work, which he later used as the basis for Uncle Vanya. Thus far, his only outright theatrical successes were one-act farces and monologues, a number of which are still performed.

Throughout his life, Chekhov also practiced as a doctor. His efforts on behalf of the communities in which he lived, both near Moscow and later in Yalta – where he moved after being diagnosed with tuberculosis in 1897 – would have constituted a busy life even without his literary work. In 1890 he travelled in conditions of great hardships across Siberia to the penal colony on Sakhalin Island, on Russia coast; here he made painstaking analysis of climatic, medical and geological circumstances and conducted personal interviews with each of its

ten thousand convicts. This eventually led to exhaustive reports, The Island of Sakhalin, which mildly influenced the government policy.

He married Olga Knipper, the leading actress of the Moscow Art Theatre, in Moscow in 1901. There were no children. By the time of his marriage Chekhov was a very sick man. At the opening of The Cherry Orchard on his birthday in 1904, his colleagues and spectators were shocked at his frailty at a rare public appearance; in May of that year he left Russia for Germany with his wife, and finally died, on 2 July 1904, in Badenweiler in Germany. His body was brought back to Moscow and he was buried in the Novodevichy Cemetery in Moscow, where his grave can still be visited.