

APPENDICES

Synopsis of *Amedee*

Amedee is walking around his living room and once in a while he would sit in his chair and tries to write as he is a playwright; but no words can come out and he seems to always have something that distracts him from writing his play. His wife, Madeleine, has to work to support both of them. Not only does she have to work but she also has a habit of cleaning their house. They have been living in this house for fifteen years and they have not left since then. They use basket tied to a rope to buy provision from the market below their home. They are afraid to go out because they fear that people will find out that they actually have a corpse in their house which is growing bigger and bigger.

The corpse is getting so big that its feet take almost all of their living room. Amedee and Madeleine decide that they need to get rid of the corpse. They wait for midnight so that people might not see them with the corpse. At midnight Amedee manages to get the corpse out of their house with much effort. Madeleine does not help a bit only telling Amedee what he should do. Two policemen run after Amedee. Just before Amedee is caught, the body wrapped around Amedee opens out like a parachute then Amedee is flying out of reach of the policemen leaving “the world”.

Synopsis of *The American Dream*

Mommy and Daddy are sitting in their living room complaining that the guest they expected are late. Not only that, they are complaining about how these days people can get away with things. Mommy tells Daddy a story that she has bought a hat. She was happy with her new hat until she met a chairman of her woman's club that said her new hat is wheat color not beige. So Mommy returns to the store and demands they change her hat to beige color just like she asked. Grandma enters the living room with neatly wrapped boxes. She drops them at Daddy's feet and mourns about how everyone treats the old. Mommy and Grandma were poor then but after having married Daddy, she is rich. The door bell rings, and Daddy have to be encouraged several times by Mommy before he opens the door. It is Mrs. Barker the chairman of the woman club that said Mommy's new hat is wheat color. She is invited to sit and they had a conversation. After being silenced for a while, Grandma finally said a word. Mommy threatens to have Grandma taken away. Mommy calls her a liar and commands Daddy to break her television. Mommy left to get Mrs. Barker water. Grandma and Mrs. Barker had a conversation. The doorbell rings and the young man enters. Grandma compliment his looks that his face is good-looking in a typically American way. The young man said that he will do anything for money. Grandma asks the young man to take all her boxes outside. Daddy and Mommy enter again and Mommy asks where Grandma is. The young man appears again and Mommy was pleased with her replacement.

Biography of Eugene Ionesco

Eugene Ionesco was born in Slatina, Romania, in the year 1909. His father was a Romanian and his mother was French. The family moved to Paris in 1911 where his father studied law. Because of complex circumstances, his father secretly divorced his mother and remarried and was appointed general inspector in Bucharest police. His father was always on the side of the authority in power. His father took the custody of the children and Eugene with his sister had to live with his father and stepmother. Eugene was unhappy because he was more attached to his mother than to his father. He studied French at the University of Bucharest and became a French professor. There he began to write. He married in 1936.

After World War II, he returned to Paris and lived in poverty. He taught himself English and found the essential nonsense of the phrases and expressions found in textbooks to his amusement which led him to write his first play *The Bald Soprano* (1950). Ionesco had always been associated with the term antiplay. He avoided realistic imitation and used symbol and language instead to penetrate a deeper level of meaning.

His other works are *The Lesson* (1952), *Victimes* (1953), *Amedee* (1954), *Rhinoceros* (1959), *Exit the King* (1962), *Killing Game* (1970), and *Macbett* (1972). In the last twenty year of his life, Ionesco concentrated on paintings and lithography and wrote several prose works. He died in Paris on March 28, 1994.

<www.bedfordstmartins.com/litlinks/drama/ionesco.htm>

Biography of Edward Albee

Edward F. Albee was born in Washington D.C on March 12, 1928. He was adopted at the age of two weeks by Reed and Frances Albee. He was named after Reed's father. This family was very wealthy. His parents were a unique couple. Reed was a small, quiet and unassertive man, whereas, Frances was a loud, aggressive, domineering woman. Many of Albee's women character was based on his stepmother. His school records were not a good one. He was sent to boarding school and was dismissed because of cutting class, ignoring his academic works, not playing in sports and having a bad behavior. He was transferred to several schools before he was transferred to Choate where he was encouraged to write. After graduating in 1946 he entered Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut.

In 1948, Albee left his family for New York City. In 1958 at the age of thirty, Albee quitted his job with Western Union and wrote *The Zoo Story*. The play was rejected by several New York producers. After being posted from friends to friends the play was finally accepted for production and premiere at the Schiller Theater Werkstatt in Berlin on September 28, 1959. From then Albee won the recognition as a formidable talent. In 1960 the play won the Vernon Rice Memorial Award.

His major work *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* ran for 664 performances and made into a popular film. Albee received three Pulitzers, for *A Delicate Balance* (1966), *Seascape* (1975), and *Three Tall Women* (1991).
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