

# [An inspector calls is a play by jb prestly written in 1945](https://assignbuster.com/an-inspector-calls-is-a-play-by-jb-prestly-written-in-1945/)

An inspector calls is a play by Jb prestly written in 1945 but set in the past 1915 i am going to write about the production of an inspector calls by the dicector steven doltry Who aslo directed billy eliots. i saw this production at the alhambra theater bradford in may 2003 the main charecters are arthur birling , sybil birling, shiela birling, eric birling, edna the maid, gerald groft and inspector goole. Arthur Birling is an old man with two children.

He is the owner of a succesful business, ex lord mayor of brummley when royalty visited and thinks he is on the honours list to get a knighthood. He is very pompous. Mrs birling is on a charity comittee and is from a better background than Arthur. She is very proud of her self and has very set views on what people of lower backgrounds are like and what emotions they are capable of.

Sheila Birling is a woman in her early twenties. She has been raised protected form the world and is selfcentered. she is about to marry gerald groft sheis very sencitiveshe cares about people and she can face up to her responsibilities. edna plays no major part in this play erald groft is the son of lord and lady croft he seems to care about people and seems very nice but he acts and agrres with arthur a lot he seems to care about sheyla because he will be marring down. inspecter goole is meant to be an inspecter but there is no proof he is no one at t5he satation knows hom and he does not avct like one he just arives one day claming he is. a very controlling man who does not let name dropping worry him but is sensitive to people who admit there wrong doings.

The production that i saw of the inspecter calls was set in a street before the war the set was a street looking in on a house closed at the beggining but the house opens up to reveal a house full of people celebrating. in the book they are always in a house but in the production they were on the street. The street was delapidated but the house looked new i think this was to sybolie a couple of tings maybe its to show there shayde past and lack of guilt on the inside. aybe it was to show how they percive the world ( the house) and the reality of it ( the street) also the house is set up so that at some point in the play it can tip forward destroying plates and the house.

the atmosphere at the beggining of the play was created by three children playing and a old radio they turn on. You also hear old air raid sirons and are xchased away by edna. the family inside the house are celebrating inside the house over a resent engagemnt of groft and shiela. arthur and groft step out side and have a talk about all men being for them selves. n the bok he says the titanic is unsinkable but in the play he leaves this out and says nothing about it.

he leaves it out because it would have given a comical spin to it and the speech would have done this. the mood before the inspector arrives is chery. we know he enters because he casts a shadow over the house and it opens up to revesal the party and how every one is cheary. the inspector was dressed like Humphrey Bogart. the inspector says he is here to inquire about the suicide of a young women in the early twentys he believes they drove him to it. e questions them in order of there accounts with this young woman except for the end where he questions the mothere before the son.

In each one he breakes them down firest hew questions mr birling. Mr birling does not see him self-responsible at all but in fact giveds the inspector reason why he was just to fire her. “ Your not even sorry now, when you know what happoned to the girl? ” mrs birling still doesnt care about this girl who’s last chance was her charity which see not onl; y turned away but forced outheres to turn away also . even after learning that she was this girls last chance before she commited suicide. mrs birling gets very angry. it almost bevcomes a fight she only feels sorry when she learns that it was her sons child.

r gould looks like he is about to hit her but she accacts him but every one thinks he was going to attack her but that would have been odd because he is ment to be a representative of good or so we are lead to belive. the inspector makes his speech “ one eva smith has gone…

. ” more people come on to the stage at the side i think they are meant to represent the world anfd how we are all together to support help and suffer with each outher. “ we dont dont live alone. We are members of one body”. e is right in this world we are like the cells in a body all working together to support this world and each outher while the inpector is making hs speech, the house crashes down there is a lot of smoke noise and broken crokery when the house falls it shows there values beeing crushed down by the inspector and his questions.

he has layedx bare all the hidden secrets it semed that it was only ment to be symbolic because to them it never realy hapon. but it represents what happoned inside. how all there social , moral and finacial beriers had been striped away to show there true nature. The inspector was and was not an inspector where as he did question them and find the truth but no poice man in the area has ever heard of him nore no one fits the description.

he seemed to have the experience of an inspector, the look’ the feel and the trsaining of an inspecter but was not threatened easily by name dropping and old job descrpitions. the inspector made them confess to a crime before it was comited so what could he have been?. there is no easy answer to this there is nothing we can say he isnt except normal. he could be from the future sent back not to change the past but to punish the unescsped. e could have been from god to seek retribution for there wrong doings.

he could have been god him self or the unified spuirit of the world especialy with all the people surrounding them. We can never know how J. B Priesley meant for Mr Gould the play itself was very inspiring the content left you wanting more and it also was well scripted Priestly left you wondering what would happon with the family did they all go back to there normall lives or would they remember they where responcible eva would still be alive if they were not so selfish. he actors porttayed the carecters very well but i think a bit to much was cut out the direscter realy should have left in the bit about the titannic in mr birlings talk to the boys. the playright wrote this play because he was a socialist and wanted to demonstrate how we are all linked together by the universe. the play tells us something about our selves and how we should live with each outher.