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**HEDDA GABLER**

**HENRIK IBSEN**

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Hedda Gabler by Henrik Ibsen.

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**Mrs. Elvsted:** [Starts from her chair.] Oh—what is that?

**Tesman:** [Runs to the doorway.] Why, my dearest Hedda—don't play dance-music to-night! Just think of Aunt Rina! And of Eilert too!

**Hedda:** [Puts her head out between the curtains.] And of Aunt Julia. And of all the rest of them.—After this, I will be quiet. [Closes the curtains again.]

**Tesman:** [At the writing-table.] It's not good for her to see us at this distressing work. I'll tell you what, Mrs. Elvsted,—you shall take the empty room at Aunt Julia's, and then I will come over in the evenings, and we can sit and work there—eh?

**Hedda:** [In the inner room.] I hear what you are saying, Tesman. But how am *I* to get through the evenings out here?

**Tesman:** [Turning over the papers.] Oh, I daresay Judge Brack will be so kind as to look in now and then, even though I am out.

**Brack:** [In the arm-chair, calls out gaily.] Every blessed evening, with all the pleasure in life, Mrs. Tesman! We shall get on capitally together, we two!

**Hedda:** [Speaking loud and clear.] Yes, don't you flatter yourself we will, Judge Brack? Now that you are the one cock in the basket—

*[A shot is heard within. Tesman, Mrs. Elvsted, and Brack leap to their feet.]*

**Tesman:** Oh, now she is playing with those pistols again.

*[He throws back the curtains and runs in, followed by Mrs. Elvsted. Hedda lies stretched on the sofa, lifeless.]*

*Confusion and cries. Berta enters in alarm from the right.*

**Tesman:** [Shrieks to Brack.] Shot herself! Shot herself in the temple! Fancy that!

**Brack:** [Half-fainting in the arm-chair.] Good God!—people don't do such things.

THE END

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