

**LITTLE  
EYOLF: A PLAY**

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Little Eyolf: a play by Henrik Ibsen

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**HENRIK IBSEN**

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*LITTLE EYOLF*



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*LITTLE EYOLF*

*A PLAY*

*In Three Acts*

*By HENRIK IBSEN*

*Translated from the Norwegian by*

*WILLIAM ARCHER*

*LONDON: WILLIAM HEINEMANN*

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## PERSONS

ALFRED ALLMERS, *landed proprietor, man of letters,  
formerly a tutor.*

MRS. RITA ALLMERS, *his wife.*

EYOLF, *their child, nine years old.*

MISS ASTA ALLMERS, *Alfred's younger half-sister.*

ENGINEER BORGHEIM.

THE RAT-WIPE.

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*The action takes place on ALLMERS'S property, bordering  
on the fiord, twelve or fourteen miles from Christiania.*

## TRANSLATOR'S NOTE

*The word "Rat-Wife" is formed on the analogy of "Fish-wife," "Hen-wife," "Housewife," &c., the "wife" (German "weib") implying merely a woman—not necessarily a married woman.*

*The verse quoted on pp. 60 and 61, is the last line of a very well-known poem by Johan Sebastian Welhaven, entitled "Republikanerne," written in 1839. An unknown guest in a Paris restaurant has been challenged by a noisy party of young Frenchmen to join them in drinking a health to Poland. He refuses; they denounce him as a craven and a slave; he bares his breast and shows the scars of wounds received in fighting for the country whose lost cause has become a subject for conventional enthusiasm and windy oratory.*

*"De saae paa hverandre. Han vandred sin vei.*

*De havde champagne, men rørte den ei."*

*"They looked at each other. He went on his way. There stood their champagne, but they did not touch it."*