



### **Three Sisters**

*Written By Anton Chekhov*

#### **Andrei**

I'll just say what I have to say and then I'll go. Forthwith.... In the first place you've got something against Natasha, my wife - and this I've been aware of from the very day we got married. Natasha is a very fine person - honest, straightforward, and upright - that's my opinion. I love and respect my wife - I respect her, you understand? - and I insist that others respect her, too. I say it again - she is an honest and upright person, and all your little marks of displeasure - forgive me, but you're simply behaving like spoiled children. *(Pause)* Secondly, you seem to be angry that I'm not a professor, that I'm not a scientist. But I serve in local government, I am a member of the local Council, and this service I consider just as sacred, just as elevated, as any service I could render science. I am a member of the local Council and proud of it, if you wish to know.... *(Pause)* Thirdly..... I have something else to say...I mortgaged the house without asking your permission... To this I plead guilty, and indeed ask you to forgive me... I was driven to it by my debts... thirty-five thousand... I don't play cards now - I gave it up long since - but the main thing I can say in my own justification is that you're girls, and you get an annuity, whereas I had no... well, no income..... *(Pause)* .... You're not listening. Natasha is an outstanding woman, someone of great integrity. *(Walks about in silence, then stops)* When I got married I thought we were going to be happy ... all going to be happy... But my god... *(Weeps)* My dear sisters, my own dear sisters, don't believe me, don't trust me.... *(He goes)*