

Three Plays by Lady Gregory: Spreading the News, The Rising of the Moon, and The Poorhouse



Spreading the News is a short one-act comic play by Lady Gregory, which she wrote for the opening night of the Abbey Theatre in Dublin, 27 Dec. 1904. It was on a double bill with William Butler Yeats's Cathleen Ni Houlihan. Audiences may have dozed through Yeats's play, but Spreading the News was very successful and it is still acted at the Abbey Theatre as late as 1961. Lady Gregory remarked after seeing an early performance of the play that the audience would laugh so much at Spreading the News that they lost about half the dialogue. I mustn't be so amusing again! In a small village in rural Ireland, a new (English) magistrate inspects stalls at the local fair, expecting the worst. Because of Mrs. Tarpey's hearing impairment and the villagers' love of gossip, a misunderstanding grows and grows, leading to a false arrest for a murder that never happened. The play ends abruptly, with little resolution; we are left wondering what happened. Most of the humour is situational, rather than playing with language. Because we know what really happened at the beginning, most of the play uses dramatic irony. Spreading the News is a comedy that exploits both English and Irish stereotypes. Lady Gregory was a member of the Protestant upper classes of Ireland, but she had sympathies for Irish Nationalism and was a strong supporter of Irish culture and identity. In this play she carefully reproduces the colloquial style and lower-class dialect of the workers on her estate [4] in an effort to represent their culture accurately, and yet at the same time she reproduces various stereotypes about Irish people. She also includes satire versus the English governing class (of which she was a member) in the character of the Magistrate. The Magistrate comes to the village expecting people to be committing crimes: in a way, he is imposing his idea of their corruption on them, and they accept it/live up to it. However, there are no real

sides in the play. Spreading the News may have been written to help the Irish and the English understand each other by having them see each others flaws. Lady Gregory's The Rising of the Moon is an explicitly political play dealing with the relation between England and Ireland trying to fight for freedom from English rule. Lady Gregory presents characters who are torn between duty and patriotism and are ultimately united together as Irishmen through the folklore, myths and songs which they share as a nation. The thought of being the citizen of a country takes precedence over ones feelings of duty towards a foreign nation. Patriotism is the unifying force among the people. The Ballad Singer (Rebel) and the Sergeant are the major characters through whom the issue of unity among Irish people is explored. Isabella Augusta, Lady Gregory (15 March 1852 – 22 May 1932), born Isabella Augusta Persse, was an Irish dramatist and folklorist. With William Butler Yeats and Edward Martyn, she co-founded the Irish Literary Theatre and the Abbey Theatre, and wrote numerous short works for both companies. Lady Gregory produced a number of books of retellings of stories taken from Irish mythology. Born into a class that identified closely with British rule, her conversion to cultural nationalism, as evidenced by her writings, was emblematic of many of the political struggles to occur in Ireland during her lifetime. Lady Gregory is mainly remembered for her work behind the Irish Literary Revival. Her home at Coole Park, County Galway, served as an important meeting place for leading Revival figures, and her early work as a member of the board of the Abbey was at least as important for the theatres development as her creative writings. Lady Gregory's motto was taken from Aristotle: To think like a wise man, but to express oneself like the common people.

Lady Augusta Gregory's most popular book is Gods and Fighting Men: The Story of the Tuatha Dé Danann. Spreading the News The

Rising of the Moon The Poorhouse (1906) by. Lady Selected Plays of Lady Gregory (Irish Drama Selections 3) by. The Project Gutenberg eBook of Seven Short Plays, by Lady Gregory This eBook is for the The Rising of the Moon. The Jackdaw. The Workhouse Ward. [Pg 3]. SPREADING THE NEWS. Scene: The outskirts of a Fair. An Apple Stall, Mrs. 12 results for Kindle Store : Augusta Lady Gregory Three Plays by Lady Gregory: Spreading the News, The Rising of the Moon, and The Poorhouse. Contents: The Travelling Man Spreading the News Kincora Hyacinth Halvey The The Gaol Gate The Rising of the Moon Dervorgilla The Workhouse Ward Lady Augusta Gregory (Isabella Augusta Persse), 1859-1932, Irish dramatist. Spreading the News (1904), The Gaol Gate (1906), The Rising of the Moon (1907), The Image, and Other Plays By Lady Gregory G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1922 3 Hyacinth and the Wise Man: Lady Gregory's Comic Enterprise. Excerpt from Spreading the News The Rising of the Moon The Poorhouse Scene The outskirts of a Fair. An Apple Stall. Mrs. T. Arfey silling at it. Isabella Augusta, Lady Gregory was an Irish dramatist, folklorist and theatre manager. . the area around her home, especially from the residents of Gort workhouse. Discussions between the three of them, over the following year or so, led to One of her own plays, Spreading the News, was performed on the opening Three Plays by Lady Gregory: Spreading the News, The Rising of the Moon, and The Poorhouse eBook: Lady Augusta Gregory: : Kindle Store. [Lady Gregory nee Isabella Augusta Persse] b. early moments of 15 March written with Hyde also with Hyde, The Poorhouse (3 April 1907), later called . Selected Plays of Lady Gregory, chosen & introduced by Elizabeth Coxhead . Contents: Spreading the News [1] Hyacinth Halvey [31] The Rising of the Moon Lady Gregory was one of the most popular figures of the Irish literary .. Twenty-Five, The Rising of the Moon, Spreading the News, Kincora, and The . In 1928 she published Three Last Plays, and as .. The Poorhouse. Full text of Spreading the news, [and] The rising of the moon. See other formats. : CNI ICNI Gregory, Isabella Augusta (Persse) Lady Spreading the news CO PR .. All that I know Well, there are the three estates there is Limbo, and there is .. DOUGLAS HYDE and I wrote The Poorhouse together, I giving in plot what he Three Plays by Lady Gregory: Spreading the News, The Rising of the Moon, and The Poorhouse eBook: Lady Augusta Gregory: : Kindle Store. See all books authored by Lady Augusta Gregory, including Irish Myths and Legends, and Lady Gregory's Spreading the News The Rising of the Moon The Poorhouse (1906) .. Selected Plays of Lady Gregory (Irish Drama Selections 3). Three Plays by Lady Gregory: Spreading the News, The Rising of the Moon, and The Poorhouse Kindle Edition. Spreading the News is a short one-act comic play by Lady Gregory, which she wrote for the opening night of the Abbey Theatre in Dublin, 27 Dec. 1904. another play in Irish by Douglas Hyde with translation by Lady Gregory, The Lost Saint. By 13 September 1903, Yeats was correcting the proofs of the third number of the Shadow of the Glen and Lady Gregory's The Rising of the Moon as well the text of Lady Gregory's Spreading the News and then of An Fear Siubhail, The NOOK Book (eBook) of the Three Plays by Lady Gregory: Spreading the News, The Rising of the Moon, and The Poorhouse by Lady The Rising of the Moon (Annotated): A Play in One Act (Bicycle Comics Three Plays by Lady Gregory: Spreading the News, The Rising of the Moon, and The