

A Doll's House

Henrik Ibsen

What does the doll metaphor let Nora say about both her father and her marriage?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	Doll-child, doll-wife
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FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION Act III

START He called me his doll-child, and he played with me just as I used to play with my dolls. END I must do that for myself. And that is why I am going to leave you now.

PASSAGE ID	sec-dh-03
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THE MOVE

Use a repeated metaphor to reinterpret an entire relationship

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Nora's doll metaphor links childhood and marriage through the same pattern: a powerful man defines what pleases him, and Nora performs inside that arrangement. Repetition across father and husband turns isolated complaints into a structural account of her life.

MARK

Underline the phrases about being her father's doll-child and Torvald's doll-wife. Circle the behaviors or expectations connected to each role. Draw lines between the repeated patterns in the two relationships.

NOTICE

- What does a doll get to choose about the role it performs?
- How does Nora describe her father and husband as participating in the same pattern?

- Why does the repeated metaphor reinterpret years of apparently affectionate family life?

THINK

Answer provisionally: What does the doll metaphor let Nora say about both her father and her marriage? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: What does the doll metaphor let Nora say about both her father and her marriage? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	The doll metaphor lets Nora connect father and husband as versions of the same structure: a powerful man defines what pleases him, and Nora performs the role expected of her. The repetition makes the problem systemic across her life.
EVIDENCE	Use 'doll-child' and 'doll-wife' plus examples of being played with, arranged, or expected to perform tastes and opinions.
WATCH FOR	Do not say father and husband are identical in every way. The metaphor identifies a repeated relationship pattern.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

STUDENT PAGE · SAME PASSAGE, SAME THINKING

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What does the doll metaphor let Nora say about both her father and her marriage?

START ANCHOR	He called me his doll-child, and he played with me just as I used to play with my dolls.
END ANCHOR	I must do that for myself. And that is why I am going to leave you now.

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK - Underline the phrases about being her father's doll-child and Torvald's doll-wife. Circle the behaviors or expectations connected to each role. Draw lines between the repeated patterns in the two relationships.
2. NOTICE - What does a doll get to choose about the role it performs? How does Nora describe her father and husband as participating in the same pattern? Why does the repeated metaphor reinterpret years of apparently affectionate family life?
3. THINK - Answer provisionally: What does the doll metaphor let Nora say about both her father and her marriage?
4. WRITE - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.