

Everything In The Garden

By: Edward Albee

Play no. 282

Opening show: 10/03/1973

Creative team

Hebrew by : Ada Ben-Nahumi

Directed by : Michael Meacham

Set by : Paul Steinberg

Costumes by : Terry Jacobs

Music: Poldi Schaetzman

Lighting: Michael Lieberman

Cast

Richard: Schmuel Atzmon

Jenny: Eva Lion

Jack: Shlomo Bar-Schavit

Mrs. Toothe: Elicheva Michaeli

Roger: Aviv Zidon, Jaacov Peter

Beryl: Ninette Dinar

Dale: Zvi Stolper

Louise: Bilha Mass

Gilbert: Yitzhak Kluger

Act 1

Jenny and Richard are beginning to feel the pinch after having moved into a wealthy suburban neighbourhood,, with the consequent rise in the cost of living. They are always bickering about money – or the lack of it – and Jenny once more proposes that she should get a job: Richard once more adamantly refuses to hear of it.

Jack' their neighbour, jokingly offers to leave them his fortune in his will and then kill himself; they are wanly amused. Richard leaves to buy drink. Mrs. Toothe, a stranger, arrives "on business". After Jack has left she gives Jenny \$1,000 and offers her a part-time job as a prostitute in her exclusive establishment in Town. Jenny is deeply shocked and turns her out of the house – but carefully puts the \$1,000 safely away.

A little later she realizes her normal scruples are as nothing compared with her desire for money and she accepts Mrs. Toothe's offer.

Six months later Richard receives an anonymous package containing \$5,000. Jack arrives, sees the money, and persuades them to give a celebration party. While Jenny is busy phoning invitations Richard finds a great deal more money hidden away and realizes the package was sent by Jenny. He forces her to reveal the source of the money but is prevented from taking action by the return home of Roger, their son, on vacation from school. The party is due to start in a couple of hours.

Act 2

The party goes ahead. Mrs. Toothe, discreetly on the run from the authorities, reveals that all the wives present are working for her; their husbands welcome Richard to the affluent fraternity and pacify him. They arrange for Mrs. Toothe to buy a suitable property in the neighbourhood so that business may continue usual. Jack drops in from the Club, recognizes Toothe from England, where she had a similar establishment, and is amused to discover that everyone in the room is involved with her. Mrs. Toothe, aware that Jack will talk, orders the men to kill him, after which he is buried in the garden. The guests leave, Jenny and Richard console each other, while Jack, in a posthumous appearance, tells us that he has, indeed left his millions to Jenny and Richard and reflects on their capacity to live with their guilt.

