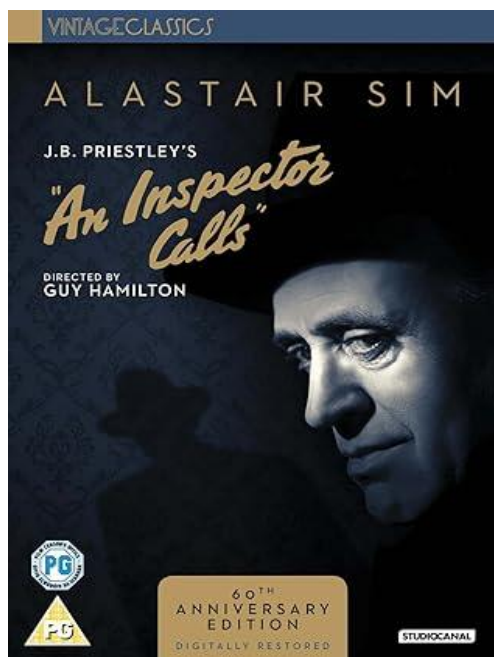


The Paragon Multimedia DVD, VHS

Title: An Inspector Calls



1 Disc
Library Image

ISBN: 5055201826510

Information

Release **Title:** An Inspector Calls 11th March 1954 (United Kingdom)

Origin: United Kingdom

Release Date: 25th November 1954 (New York City)

Genres: Crime,drama, mystery

AKA:

Disc Nos. – 1- 1

Certification: A

Duration: 1h 20 min (80min)

Region Code: 2

Product Code:

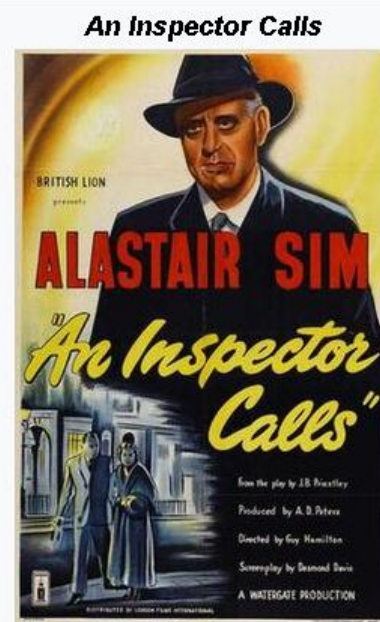
Languages: English

Filming locations: Shepperton Studios, Shepperton, Surrey, England, UK(Studio)

Sound mix: Mono

Colour: Black and White

Aspect Ratio: 1.37:1



Theatrical release poster

Directed by	Guy Hamilton
Written by	Desmond Davis
Based on	<i>An Inspector Calls</i> by J.B. Priestley
Produced by	A. D. Peters
Starring	Alastair Sim Jane Wenham Eileen Moore
Cinematography	Ted Scaife
Edited by	Alan Osbiston
Music by	Francis Chagrin
Color process	Black and white
Production company	Watergate Productions
Distributed by	British Lion Films
Release date	11 March 1954 (London)
Running time	80 minutes
Country	United Kingdom
Language	English

Storyline – An Inspector Calls

In 1912, the prosperous Birling family sit at a dining table at the end of a dinner party with their friend, Gerald Croft, who is engaged to the daughter, Sheila. Mother chastises Eric, the son, for drinking too much. Father discusses the likelihood of war and after the meal discusses his possible knighthood with Gerald over port and cigars. They are interrupted by a man calling himself Inspector Poole, investigating the suicide of a working-class girl, Eva Smith, whose death is linked to each family member. Eva has poisoned herself. She left a diary. Eva was one of Mr Birling's workers in his factory.

In a flashback to 1910, Eva is seen working in the machine shop in his factory. She goes with a group of women to demand a pay increase from 22/6 to 25/- per week. Birling refuses and tells them to find another job if they are unhappy. Back in the Birling house, the father cannot see what any of this has to do with him. The inspector explains that after Eva was sacked from Birling's she had a period of unemployment, then went to work at Milward's but was dismissed after two months after a customer complained. It becomes clear that this was Sheila.

In a second flashback, Sheila is trying to choose a hat with her mother. Sheila accuses Eva of being rude for smiling as she struggles to fit the hat and demands she is dismissed.

Sheila explains she was jealous of her looks. The inspector says Eva then changed her name to Daisy Renton, to which Gerald looks shocked. Gerald confesses to Sheila that he had an affair with Daisy beginning in March 1911. He says he met Daisy at the Palace Variety Show and a third flashback shows Gerald in the bar where he tricks the man she was with to leave and takes his seat. He takes her for a meal and, finding she is homeless, lets her use his townhouse and gives her money to survive on. It develops into an affair, but he does not go out with her in public. On one of his visits, she realises that he is building up to breaking off their affair, and, to make things easier for him, tells him they should separate as she realises that he only ever felt sorry for her, although she is very much in love with him. She leaves the flat the next day.

It is revealed that Mrs Birling refused Eva charity in her role as chairwoman of a charity committee. The refusal was on the grounds that a pregnant Eva gave the name Birling and claims her husband left her. She accuses Eva of having used the name Birling because she knows that is her surname, but Eva says she had no prior knowledge of this and had used the name because she used to work at Birling's. She refuses to name the father, saying he tried to help her but was unable to do so. Other members of the committee feel sympathy for Eva, but Mrs Birling insists that aid be refused. Mrs Birling tells the Inspector that the main blame lies with the girl, but also that the young man who made her pregnant should be punished. She brushes aside Sheila's attempts to stop her condemnation. Finally, Eric is shown to have met Eva on a tram. They have an affair and Eva falls pregnant. He steals money to support her, but she refuses it when she realises it was stolen. This is when she goes to Mrs Birling but is turned down. In summary, each person is partially responsible for Eva's death.

Gerald asks a policeman outside and discovers there is no "Inspector Poole" in that town. He goes back into the house to challenge Poole. Birling asks Poole to wait in the study while they discuss it. They all feel partially unburdened of their guilt except Sheila and Eric. They decide to turn it all round to avoid a scandal and realise there is no evidence. They also realise the photo of the girl was only shown to one at a time, so they cannot be sure it was the same girl. Gerald phones the infirmary to check if the girl is really dead but is told no-one died. It is all a strange scam. Mr and Mrs Birling decide to go back to how they were, though Sheila and Eric are permanently changed. Going back to the study, Mr Birling discovers that the Inspector has disappeared, but there is no possible exit from the room apart from the door, which was in their view the whole time.

Then the phone rings. A girl has just died at the infirmary and an inspector is on his way.

Gerald and the elder Birlings celebrate in relief, but Eric and Sheila continue to rue their own and the others' actions. The phone rings: it is the police, who tell Birling that a young woman has just died on her way to the infirmary in a suspected suicide, and that a policeman is on his way to question the family. The inspector's identity is left unexplained, but it is clear that the family's confessions over the course of the evening have all been true, and that public disgrace will soon befall them. [Wiki](#)

Set in 1912, an upper crust English family's dinner is interrupted when a police inspector brings news of a girl known to everyone present having died in suspicious circumstances. It seems each member of the family could have had a hand in her death. But who is the mysterious Inspector and what can he want of them? This was originally a West End play. [Imbd](#)

Cast

Alastair Sim as Inspector Poole
Jane Wenham as Eva Smith/Daisy Renton
Eileen Moore as Sheila Birling
Bryan Forbes as Eric Birling
Brian Worth as Gerald Croft
Olga Lindo as Sybil Birling
Arthur Young as Arthur Birling
Norman Bird as Foreman Jones-Collins
Charles Saynor as Police Sergeant Arnold Ransom
John Welsh as Mr. Timmon: Hat Sales Manager
Barbara Everest as Mrs. Lefson: Charity Committee Woman
George Woodbridge as Stanley: Fish & Chip Shop Owner
George Cole as conductor on tram
Olwen Brookes as Miss Frances
Frances Gowens as small girl in the chip shop

Parents Guide

Certification

Sex & Nudity – None **Violence & Gore** – None **Profanity** – None, **Alcohol, Drugs & Smoking** – Mild, **Frightening & Intense Scenes** – None

France- Tous Publics, Hungry 14, Ireland PG video rating, Japan G, Netherlands AL self-applied, Norway 16 original rating 7 self-applied, Sweden 15, United Kingdom A original rating PG 1989, re-rating, United States Approved

[Classic Menu](#)



[Main Menu](#)

