The destructive Messiah: a study of Henrik Ibsen's search for truth as portrayed by rebel heroes in Brand, An enemy of the people, and The wild duck.

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Abstract
Having read Henrik Ibsen’s major plays, I became interested in his treatment of truth. Brand, Doctor Stockman, and Gregers Werle all represented various degrees of the truth, each embodying Ibsen’s own ideas. It is specifically Gregers Werle’s treatment of the truth that resulted in the conclusions found in this paper.

As Ibsen explored his personal convictions about the truth, a new type of rebel hero began to emerge, a destructive savior. Through this messiah, Ibsen allows the truth to be exploited, which brings about complete destruction to communities, families, and friends.

Biographical material has been deleted. By focusing only on those necessary ideas that help to clarify a destructive messiah, I did not feel justified in presenting Ibsen’s plays as autobiographical analyses. This is not intended. I only hope that what has been presented here have been presented clearly and fairly.

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