

## # 4. Anton Chekhov – The Master of Subtle Drama and Human Truth

Biography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Born: January 29, 1860, Taganrog.</li> <li>• From a modest background - supported his family from a young age.</li> <li>• Studied medicine at Moscow University.</li> <li>• Worked as a doctor throughout his life, writing some of the most important literary works.</li> <li>• Medical profession provided deep insight into human suffering and psychology.</li> <li>• Suffering from tuberculosis, remained committed to both healing and writing about people with compassion and clarity.</li> <li>• Died: 1904, at the age of 44.</li> </ul>
Main Literary Works	<p><b>Plays:</b> 1) “<b>The Seagull</b>”, 2) “<b>Uncle Vanya</b>”, 3) “<b>Three Sisters</b>”, 4) “<b>The Cherry Orchard</b>” – introduced a new kind of drama based on mood, character, and subtext rather than action.</p> <p><b>Short Stories:</b> 1) “<b>The Lady with the Dog</b>,” 2) “<b>Ward No. 6</b>,” 3) “<b>The Bet</b>,” 4) “<b>The Darling</b>” – revealed the complexities of ordinary people with profound empathy and subtle irony.</p>
Screen Adaptations and Theatrical Productions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Directors - Konstantin Stanislavski, Lee Strasberg and Peter Brook used Chekhov’s works for new acting methods.</li> <li>• Film adaptations range from faithful versions like “<b>The Cherry Orchard</b>” (1999) to modern reinterpretations.</li> <li>• Japanese director Ryusuke Hamaguchi’s Oscar-winning “<b>Drive My Car</b>” is based on Chekhovian storytelling techniques.</li> </ul>
The Significance and Contribution to Russian Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The father of the modern short story.</li> <li>• Changed Russian and global literature focusing on the inner lives of characters rather than dramatic events.</li> <li>• His plays introduced a new type of realism in theatre: dialogue, silence, and what’s left unsaid reveal the deepest emotions.</li> <li>• Portrayed rural life, social change, and the emotional struggles of individuals with compassion.</li> <li>• His influence is seen in writers like Hemingway, Raymond Carver, and many modern screenwriters.</li> </ul>