

Death of a salesman

Literature



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

Death of the Salesman was written by Arthur Miller who was born in 1915. He produced and published this play in 1949 and it was actually made in line with the conventional style of social realism. The full title of the play was Death of a Salesman: Certain Private Conversations in Two Acts and a Requiem. The play mostly depicted both the financial and emotional issues that the author had seen throughout his lifetime. In addition, it also depicts the image of the Great Depression as millions of people have not been able to attain the American Dream.

It can be said that the author has been able to enhance reader's understanding of the emotional and financial issues to the portrayal of the characters of the story. In the story, it can be said that there are two acts. The play's conflict was shown to the audience through a delusional series which includes flashbacks of important and crucial events of the character's lives. Through these flashbacks, the audience have been able to understand clearly why the characters behaved as they are. It consists of a plot which gives emphasis on finding out why Biff has not been able to have a better future and how these circumstances affected Willy.

I can say that the play's exposition started with the strange problem of Willy Loman of not having the talent for driving. Herein, Happy said that he cant drive because he is not focusing on what he is doing. The story has been thickened as Biff's life has been revealed along with the issue on how he has lost everything after his high school. The crisis continued with another flashback which showed why Biff lost his opportunity for a better future by not getting his career interview and when Willy has been fired.

The crisis happened when Biff shouted at his father and tried to prove that the entire family is full of lies. The story's climax falls during the times when Willy has been able to feel others' appreciation and contentment with the notion that Biff loved him. However, the play did not end in a happy ending because of the tragic suicide of Willy and the entire family recollected over his death. The protagonists of the story include Willy and Biff Loman while the antagonists can also be considered as the two. The time period of the play is in the 1940s at the house and yard of Willy Loman in Brooklyn.

Body It can be said that the story of the Death of a Salesman depicts a common story of a man who only wants to surpass all the bad things in life. It can be said that the play has brought tears to the audience. In the story, there are many critical debates which arise; however, I can say that Willy Loman's can still be viewed as a tragic hero. It can be said that in some other classics, being a hero means that a person is of high stature brought low by various flaws in the character of such a person which are commonly known as tragic flaws.

In addition, it can also be argued that Willy can be considered as a pathetic individual rather than tragic. His life has been miserable because of the imbalances in the society and its effect on Willy's life. I can say that based on the story, Death of a Salesman can be considered as the quintessential modern literary written piece on the American dream. Ironically, the story of Death of a Salesman is linked with the American Dream which is optimistic in views while the former shows darkness and frustration. In the story, I can say that the things that we want in life are achievable through many factors.

In the case of the story, Howard Wagner and Willy Loman have the same aims and objectives in life, i. e. to be successful in their business. However, because both have different personality, the former has been able to gain more success than the latter. The story shows how different person survive in the competitive society. Herein, the author have shown that Howard Wagner can be considered as a symbol of process and innovation while Willy Loman uses outdated ideas for his business. The story shows indifference between the personality of Wagner and Loman, especially with their business ideals.

As Howard can be considered to use modernised approach, Willy Loman being the underdog can't do anything but to rely more on his past, which hinders him to move on and grow not only as a salesman but as a man as well. Once again, Willy has failed again on his ideas that personal relationships and personality are crucial aspects in the business world. Like any other individual, Willy has been able to face different challenges which most of the time brings disappointments and discouragement in his personality.

This happens on people who have no self-esteem and confidence. In the story, another humiliation that happened with Willy has been shows. First Willy's son abandoned him at the restaurant and leaves him along with waiter while they are out with the two superficial women. In this regard, Willy like any other person has been preoccupied with the thoughts that nobody really cares for him and that all the things that he has done is not worthy. Being a salesman, Willy has always been at the back of others, while the family that he tried to build has left him.

Like any other people, the life of Willy seems to be hopeless because he is thinking that he can't do any good. With all the bad things that happened in his life, he decided to commit suicide. This act can be considered as a coward's act. Instead of facing his problems and issues, he decided to end his life. Until his death, it can be considered that Willy Loman has not been able to leave a strong mark on other people except his family. No one from his customers, friends and colleagues has given respect to Willy which is very pathetic and cruel.

Nonetheless, the funeral rests principally on the status of Willy as a salesman. They have considered Willy as determined salesman. Some of his friends have been able to interpret his death in accordance with the business dreams of Willy. All in all it can be said that based on the story, the character of Willy depicts a depressed and hopeless individual who think that there is no solution for their problems. During the wake and funeral, Happy have a wish of staying in the city where his father faced his failure while Biff rejected to the business ethos which destroyed his father.

It can be said that the story of Willy can be considered as martyr. The story ends on an ironic note that Linda has been able to pay the house which creates financial security. Unlike any other businessman it can be said that Willy does not have the courage to wait for the right time. Like any other people, Willy Loman has lost the courage to continue his journey as he committed suicide. Hence, the consequence of this is that he has not been able to taste the truth of his handworks. Conclusion- The story depicts a tragic story because of the decision of Willy Loman to commit suicide.

The story raises an issue regarding social status and social aspects of Willy Loman. In addition, the questions that can be raised in this play include the questions regarding the reasons why his family left him. In addition, other question that can be raised is with regards to the relationship of Willy Loman with his immediate family. This play has changed my view in terms of doing business and how the ability of the individual can help him or her succeed in the business. These changes has been reinforced with the success that has been experienced by Wagner and the failure of Willy Loman.