

## A P P E N D I X

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF ARTHUR MILLER

To compose the biographical sketch of Arthur Miller, the writer of this thesis collects the data and information about him and his works from many sources. The eminent sources used here includes the reference books and encyclopaedia such as : The Encyclopaedia Americana, The New Encyclopaedia Britannica, Modern American Playwrights by Jean Gould, and The Theater In Our Time by John Gassner.

Arthur Miller was born in Manhattan on Oct. 17, 1915, to Isadore and Augusta Barnett Miller, a conventional well to-do Jewish couple. They belonged to the middle-class community in the bustling industrial borough of the sprawling metropolis.

Young Arthur was hardly studious, but rather athletically inclined. As a child he spent his boyhood playing football and baseball, skating, swimming and other physical activities. In brief, he is a very physical youth.

In 1929 the Miller family moved out of Manhattan and settled in Brooklyn where they weathered the Depression, though the Wall Street crash, which occurred when Arthur Miller was fourteen. And by the time Arthur Miller graduated his high school in 1933. Then, he wanted

to go to the University of Michigan, but his father could not afford to send him to any college.

For two and half years, Arthur Miller worked as a loader and shipping clerk in an automobile warehouse at Tenth Avenue and Sixtieth Street in Manhattan. Since he had to take a long subway ride every morning to and from work, so he began to read some of the books. A book that changed his life was The Brothers Karamazov. He does not know how or why, and all at once believed he was born to be a writer. Like most New Yorkers, he'd always enjoyed the theater, going to Broadway shows, but now he felt an urgent desire to write plays. He's impressed, eventually, by Shakespeare, Eugene O'Neill, Bertolt Brecht, G.B. Shaw, Jean Giraudoux, Sidney Howard, and others. But he attributes his chief literary obligation to Henry Ibsen.

In 1934 Arthur Miller was granted the opportunity to go to the University of Michigan. And eighteen months after entering the university, he began to write plays-winning the Avery Hopwood Award with his first effort, No Villain, a piece written in four days. Winning the prize made him confident that he could go ahead from there.

Granted the Bachelor of Arts in 1938, he returned to New York, worked briefly with the Federal Theatre Project. Later he married Marry Grace Slattey, one of his classmate to whom he had become engaged while at Michigan.

They settled down to a semi - suburban life in Patchogue, Long Island. Within a few years their daughter was born and in three more years, their son. In this period, Arthur Miller wrote plays for radio programs such as the Columbia Workshop (CBS) and Cavalcade of America (NBC) and also tried to get them produced.

When World War II came along Arthur Miller kept from military service by an old injury. During this war he visited numerous army camps to collect materials for a movie The Story of GI Joe. Then he published the journal of his tour in book form, entitled Situation Normal, in 1944. That year his first Broadway production, The Man Who Had All the Luck appeared, and followed by a novel, Focus. By the time he completed All My Sons, he'd won many prizes: two Hopwood Awards for the plays No Villain (1936) and Honors at Down (1937), A Theatre Guild Bureau of New National Award for The Man Who Had All the Luck (1944). He won the New York Drama Critics Circle Awards for All My Sons (1947) and for Death of Salesman (1949), a Pulitzer Prize for Salesman, and the Antoinette Perry Award for The Crucible (1953).

In 1949 Arthur Miller's named an "Outstanding Father of the Year"; and awarded an honorary degree at his alma mater (1956). In 1958 he's elected to the National Institute of Arts and Letters, which voted him its Gold

Medal for Drama the following year. From 1965 to 1969 he served as president of P.E.N., an international literary organization. Finally, to crown his good fortune, Arthur Miller married Marilyn Monroe in 1956 after divorcing his first wife.

Unluckily, in the decade of 1950s the difficulties had begun one after another. Started by the contract cancellation, then followed by the refusal of State Department for giving him a passport to go abroad, the dropping of his script-writing plan by the Investigation Commissioner were the proof of his misfortune.

In 1955 he published his A View from the Bridge and A Memory of Two Mondays and a number of essays and stories. His divorce from Marilyn Monroe, and his marriage to Ingeborgh Morath in 1962 able him to finish his After the Fall, Incident at Vichy followed in less than a year. These two plays were produced by the Lincoln Center Repertory Theater in 1964.

Now, Arthur Miller with his wife live in Roxbury, Connecticut, where he spends most of his time writing in a semi-separate studio. However, Arthur Miller is a popular playwright, because he has the touch of common speech mingled with democratic idealism, poetic expression, and an ancient people's capacity for understanding the anguish of the soul.