

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

In *Long Day's Journey Into Night*, the writer learns that the four haunted Tyrones, being haunted by the past, significantly, admit the fact that they can not escape from the reality of the present. The reality, with all its frustrations, forever returns while they attempt to obscure or deny it. The most hopeless fact; the condition of the drug addicted mother, however, does make the day's journey seem so long for all the Tyrones.

Being together with the family at that particular day, Edmund learns about the family and himself. He displays hatred and anger toward the other members of the family, at the same time he is filled with guilt and remorse. Edmund Tyrone, a sensitive young man, undergoes a distorted psychological conflict, which is entirely due to the lack of understanding and the inability to communicate among the family. He admits that he knew about the mother's return to dope addiction, but that he tried to make believe it was not true; he preferred illusion to reality, he preferred uncertainty to certainty. As the story progresses, the writer witnesses that he finally realizes that he needs the alcohol to escape from the reality by forgetting (like the mother with drugs).

Edmund is sensitive like his mother. He is sensitive to the feelings of others and to his own feelings, although he tries, he can not close his eyes to what is happening to all of them. He is very sensitive to his mother's need for encouragement and trust. He hopes against hope that his suspicions are unfounded. But when he knows how she suffers a great pain when she has to face the reality, he comes to understand that she uses drugs to the reality tolerable. He finally understands about the reasons for his father's miserly behavior; that his father feels a terrible disappointment with what 'life' has done to him and what he has done to his life by selling his soul for easy money. He understands his brother Jamie and is able to forgive him. He realizes that Jamie is hunted by himself and whiskey, artistically hiding in a Broadway hotel room with some fat whore.

Being together with the family, at that particular day, Edmund has studied others as well as himself, through reading and reflection he has learnt about himself and others. At the end of his problems, in the conversation with his father, Edmund speaks of 'losing his life' and 'finding himself'. Having forgotten himself, or having put aside his fears and hopes and dreams, he says he has found satisfaction and peace in union with God.

BIBLIOGRAPHY