Mothers in Eugene O'Neill's Strange Interlude and Long Day's Journey into Night

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Abstract

Critical approaches to E. O'Neill address some of the important and recurrent questions that could be broadly referred as autobiography, psychological aspects, intellectual and literary kinship among other related subjects. From psychoanalytic perspectives, the studies carried on provide insight into his art and his creative process in the plays. There is a definite nexus of personal memories and the works of art that he shapes. Art, in fact, in his case, serves as a psychobiography that unravels his inner self specially related to mother and other family members in a sustained manner. However, this factor has also exposed him to diverse theoretical stances. Oedipal dynamism among others has variably been referred to as a peculiar component of his art and life. It is however, contended here that this factor involves complexity that no single theoretical position could adequately explain. The paper therefore adds Kleinian perspective on personality development and child-mother relation to highlight this complexity. It concludes that preoccupation with subjective experiences and peculiar nature of experiences explained in terms of both Freudian and Kleinian perspectives instruct O'Neill’s art with depressive and sadist outlook as well as create problems of representation for his art.

Key words: O'Neill's plays autobiography, psychoanalysis, and representation

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Mothers in Eugene O'Neill's Strange Interlude and Long Day's Journey into Night. Article. Jan 2011. Masks appear in several of Eugene O'Neill's early plays, serving not as a mere technical innovation, but rather as a way to explore "hidden conflicts" of human nature. This article explores three factors that could have provoked this sensitivity to the motif of masking. First is the influence of Greek tragedy--itself a domain of "the masked God"--which O'Neill tried to restore through several of his plays. Second is O'Neill's insight into the connection between modern man's selfhood and the process of masking, several decades before psychoanaly Full text from the play Long Day's Journey Into Night, by Eugene O'Neill. Journey intq night Eugene O'neill Digitized by the Internet Archive in 2010 http://www.archive.org/details/longdaysjourneyiOOnei Long Days Journey into Night Long D^ys Journey into Night
You had a strange way of showing your restlessness. You were snoring so hard I couldn't tell which was the foghorn! She comes to him, laughing, and pats his cheek playfully. Dramatic Monologue for Men. Long Day's Journey into Night. A Monologue from the play "Long Day's Journey into Night" by Eugene O'Neill. 5 (3 votes). Character. They just had an argument where Edmond accuses his father of being responsible for his mother's addiction to morphine. They also express their frustrations as Edmond's dad tells his son of a mistake he made in the past that prevented him from becoming very famous. Edmond also confesses that he is afraid he will die of tuberculosis. He concludes his long speech saying how he "will always be a stranger who never feels at home, who does not really want and is not really wanted, who can never belong and who must always be a little in love with death...". Written by Administrator. Excerpt.