



## The function of drugs in Eugene O'Neill's "Long Day's Journey into Night" and Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire"

By Nadine Esser

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English, abstract: The two plays Long Day's Journey into Night  
by Eugene O'Neill and A Streetcar Named Desire by Tennessee  
Williams can be seen as two of the most successful and  
respected plays of American Modernism. Besides other  
similarities, both plays deal, more or less obviously with the  
consumption of alcohol and - in case of Mary Tyrone in Long  
Day's Journey into Night - drugs. This paper's matter is to find  
out what function drinking or the consumption of other drugs  
have for the characters of the two plays. This question could  
also be interesting looking at the authors: O'Neill's play has very  
many parallels to his own life and also Williams admitted that he  
is to be found in the character of Blanche DuBois to a certain  
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