



Finding the Way to 'Long Day's Journey Into Night'

Eugene O'Neill and Carlotta Monterey O'Neill at Tao House

By William Davies King

Pub Date: 16 July 2024

Binding: Hardback

Price: £80.00 / \$110.00

ISBN: 9781839992490

Extent: 300 pages

Size: 153 x 229 mm /
6 x 9 inches

BISAC CATEGORY: DRAMA / American /

General LITERARY CRITICISM / Drama,

DRAMA / General

BISAC CODE: DRA001000

BIC CODE: DD

RIGHTS

Exclusive: WORLD

This book takes a fresh journey to Eugene O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey Into Night*, locating in the house, the marriage, and the historical circumstances in which it was written new keys to understanding this masterpiece of drama.

A profound new way to approach Eugene O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey Into Night* comes from reading this intensely autobiographical masterpiece in terms of the Taoism-inspired California house where it was written on the verge of World War II and the fractious marriage to Carlotta Monterey O'Neill to whom the play is dedicated.

Key selling points

- Presents a radically original approach to a classic work, *Long Day's Journey*, which has here found its ideal reader in a scholar whose life and career have been shaped by this play
- Opens the doors to "Tao House," a place that must be known to know its most famous occupant
- Establishes Carlotta Monterey, who has often been seen as a hindrance to Eugene O'Neill, as a co-creator of his most famous play
- Draws deeply from the whole of O'Neill's mature work, including many famous plays
- Offers a distinctly Californian and Asian approach to O'Neill's writing, which was generally been interpreted from the perspective of Broadway values and European influences
- Centers on O'Neill's third wife, Carlotta Monterey—in contrast to his early O'Neill scholarship that centered on the second wife, Agnes Boulton—and offers a feminist perspective on the power and creative relationships in marriage that factor in all of "the Master's" work

About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

William Davies King is Distinguished Professor of Theater and Dance at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a veteran scholar of Eugene O'Neill, his life and works, also his wives.

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