



Understanding Death of a Salesman A Student Casebook to Issues, Sources, and Historical Documents The Greenwood Press Literature in Context Series

By Brenda Murphy

Greenwood. Hardcover. Condition: New. 248 pages. Dimensions: 9.1in. x 6.1in. x 0.9in. This collection of social, cultural, and historical documents and popular materials, with linking explanations and commentary, will help the reader to study the play in the context of its time and cultural background. The collected materials are designed to work with the play to highlight inherent conflicts within American society which lie at the heart of *Death of a Salesman*, and to explore how the play affects and is affected by social mores and beliefs. Salesmanship and the changing face of business, along with perceptions of sports, gender, and families, are explored through selections drawn from a rich variety of sources that help provide forceful evidence of the play's influence. Documents include essays, articles, and fiction, which have created or explored the social expectations of a typical American family in the late 1940s; unusual selections such as a self-analysis chart, an obituary, and a diary, which help to trace the history of salesmanship from the nineteenth century to the present day; and advertisements, song lyrics, speeches, how-to books, and other readings that promote an interdisciplinary study of the play. More than 70 short primary documents illustrate the cultural, social...

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