## Matthew Gizzi

## The Death of a Salesman

# Act I

- Behind the kitchen is the boy's bedroom
- The entire setting is partially transparent
- The forward area serves as the backyard as well as the locale of all Willy's imaginings and of his city scenes
- Willy Loman The Salesman enters to the sound of a flute but he does not hear it
  - He is just passed 60 years old
  - Dressed quietly
  - His exhaustion is apparent
  - He drapes across the living room saying, "Oh boy, oh boy"
- Linda Loman
  - Willy's Wife
  - She more than loves Willy and his adjusted to his mercurial nature
- Linda is seated in her bed and asks Willy what happened
  - She asked if he smashed the car, implying that it was crashed before
- Willy explains that he is very tired
- Willy explains to Linda his trepidations but she doesn't necessarily listen to him and just makes excuses for his issues
- Willy explains how he drifted off the road and almost caused an accident
  - "I have such thoughts, I have such strange thoughts," he says
- Willy says that he is vital to New England and cannot switch back to NY
- Willy says that Howard, his boss, isn't a very considerate man while his old boss Wagner would have put him in charge of New York by now
- Willy asked if Biff said anything when he left this morning
  - Linda explains that Willy should not criticize Biff and lose his temper on him

- He simply asked Biff if he was making any money and this set him off
- Willy criticizes Biff's "farmhand" job and says that Biff has spent 10 years and has yet to make \$35 a week
  - "He's finding himself Willy" Linda
- Willy says that Biff is 34 and is a lazy bum
- Willy ridicules their town and everything that has gone wrong with it
  - The street is lined with cars, the grass no longer grows, and you can't even grow a carrot in the backyard
- Willy says the world is being ruined
  - Population is growing out of control.
  - The competition is maddening
- Billy and Happy begin to listen to Linda and Willy's conversation
- The boys get up and Willy is heard talking to himself, "Eighty thousand miles," and a little laugh
- Happy
  - Two years younger than Biff
  - Tall, powerfully made
  - He is lost like his brother, but in a different way
  - He never allowed himself to turn his face toward defeat and is thus more confused and hard headed, although seemingly more content
- Happy tells Biff that their dad (Willy) is going to get his license taken away
- Biff says that his father's eyes are going
- Biff and Happy converse from their beds and talk about how they've spent their whole lives talking to each other from across the room
- Biff taught Happy everything he knows about girls
- Happy used to be bashful with women but now he controls it
- Happy says that something is happening to Willy
- Biff says that he has worked countless jobs and comes running home when he tries to make a point of not wasting his life

- He realizes, though, that when he makes it home he has wasted his life
- Happy says that Biff is a poet, an idealist
- Biff says that he is not and that he mixed up
  - He says that he oughta get married
  - He is just a boy he says
  - He asks Happy if he is content
- "Hell, no!" Happy
  - He says that he is still lonely even though he has an apartment, a car, and women
- Happy says that everyone around him is fake and he consistently lowers his ideals
- The two brothers talk about living together
- Biff recounts that a man named Bill Oliver offered Biff a job if he ever needs one
  - He thinks that he will take him up on this offer
- Biff wants a ranch
- Willy is seen talking to himself
  - The topic is Biff and how he is too young to be talking to girls seriously

### WILLY IS CAUGHT IN HIS MEMORIES

- Willy gives Biff and Happy a surprise
  - They get a punching bag signed by Gene Tunney
- Biff gets a new football
  - He borrowed it from the locker room
- Willy tells his boys that one day he will have his own business and he won't have to leave home anymore
- Willy claims that all the New England people know him
  - "I have friends. I can park my car in any street in New England, and the cops protect it like their own. This summer, heh?"
- Biff says he is going to score a touchdown in his game for Willy
- Bernard comes into the scene telling Biff that they were supposed to be studying together
  - He refers to Willy as his uncle

- Bernard tries to convince Biff to study by saying that he has regents and the school will flunk him if he doesn't do well
- Willy says that Bernard may be a better student than Biff but when they get into the business world Biff is going to be five times ahead of him
  - Willy says that his son will one day become just as successful as him
- Linda enters with a youthful appearance
  - Willy continues his memories from 15 years back
  - Willy brags to Linda about the commissions he has made in the past week and she counts that he would've made close to \$200
    - Willy originally claimed that he had made \$1200
      - He covers up by saying that 3 of the stores were half closed for inventory in Boston, and otherwise he would've broke records
  - Willy realizes that this commission is not enough to pay for their household needs
  - Willy says that people do not take him seriously and sometimes laugh at him
  - Willy wonders how other men make the same amount of money that he does yet he works 10-12 hours a day while they work less
    - He says that he talks too much
    - He compares himself to his neighbor, Charley, who is a man of few words and he is respected
      - This is the first time we see Willy's jealousy for his neighbor Charley
    - Willy than says that he is fat and foolish to look at
    - He once heard someone call him a walrus
      - He cracked this man across his face
    - Linda calls Willy the handsomest man in the world
    - Willy now confides in Linda (referred to as The Woman) telling her how much he loves her
      - The woman bursts out laughing and Linda's laughter sounds in.

- It turns out this woman was Willy's mistress and a secretary for one of his buyers
- His daydream includes them sitting in a hotel room and her telling him how she picked him because he is funny and sweet
- Willy gives the woman stockings and she promises to put him through to the buyer the next time she sees him
- The woman leaves and Willy fades back into real conversation with Linda
- He notices Linda mending stockings and angrily demands that she throw them out—he is too proud to let his wife wear an old pair (Biff later discovers that Willy has been buying new stockings for The Woman instead of for Linda).
- Bernard returns to the Loman house to beg Biff to study math.
- Willy orders him to give Biff the answers.
- Bernard replies that he cannot do so during a state exam.
- Bernard insists that Biff return the football. Linda comments that some mothers fear that Biff is "too rough" with their daughters.
- Willy, enraged by the unglamorous truth of his son's behavior, plunges into a state of distraction and shouts at them to shut up.
- The memory fades. Willy laments to himself and Happy that he did not go to Alaska with his brother, Ben, who acquired a fortune at the age of twenty-one upon discovering an African diamond mine.
- Happy says that he is going to retire Willy for life
  - Willy explains to Happy that this would never happen
- Charley enters the kitchen with pajamas and slippers on after hearing the shouts
- Charley and Willy play cards
- Charley offers Willy a job and he becomes insulted
- Willy tries to out man Charley by insulting him on his ability to use toolsa
  - "A man who can't handle tools is not a man. You're disgusting"

- Uncle Ben enters
- Willy tells Charley that Ben's wife wrote from Africa to tell them Ben had died.
  - He alternates between conversing with Charley and his dead brother.
- Willy loses a card game to Charley and they grow angry with each other
  - At the same time, Ben, Willy's dead brother, is asking about how their mother and father died
- Charley picks up the cards and goes home
- He is disturbed that Willy is so disoriented that he talks to a dead brother as if he were present.
- Willy immerses himself in the memory of a visit from his brother. Ben and Willy's father abandoned the family when Willy was three or four years old and Ben was seventeen.
- Willy wants Ben to tell Happy and Biff of their father
  - "I want my boys to hear. I want them to know the kind of stock they spring from"
    Ben tells of their father and how he often played the flute
  - Their father was good at inventing things and would go cross country to sell these things
  - Ben proceeds to wrestle the young Biff to the ground in a demonstration of unbridled machismo, wielding his umbrella threateningly over Biff's eye.
  - "William, when I walked into the jungle, I was seventeen. When I walked out I was twenty-one. And by God, I was rich!" ~ Ben
- Willy continues to ask Linda about cheese, meaning that his daydream is over
- Willy asks Linda bout Ben's watch fob with a diamond in it that he had left for Willy when he returned from Africa
  - Linda reminds Willy that he had pawned it to buy Biff's radio correspondence course
- Biff asks Linda if they should do anything about Willy
  - Happy says that he has never heard him so loud
- Linda says that Willy is the worst when Biff comes home
  - Linda says that Willy has trouble opening up to Biff

- Biff explains that he is unable to take hold of his life
  - "Biff, a man is not a bird, to come and go with the springtime"
- Linda says that if Biff has no feelings for Willy, he cannot have any feelings for her
  - Linda says that she loves Willy and he is the dearest man in the world to her
    - "Either he's your father and you pay him that respect, or else you're not to come here."
- Biff tells Linda that Willy has never had an ounce of respect for her
  - Biff says that Charley would not act like this
- Linda explains that it is not right for Biff to call his father crazy as he is going through something at the moment
  - He has never became rich, but he still deserves to be treated like a human
- Linda says that Willy is exhausted
- Willy has been working off of just commission as they removed his salary
- Linda knows that Willy borrows fifty dollars a week from Charley and pretends it is his salary.
- Biff, after hearing his mother's spiel, decides that he will stay away from Willy, get a job, and try to fix his relationship with Willy

- Linda reveals to Biff that Willy is dying

- He has been trying to kill himself

- All the car accidents had not been accidents

- Linda adds that she found a rubber hose behind the fuse box and a new nipple on the water heater's gas pipe—a sign that Willy attempted to asphyxiate himself.
- Linda feels as if Willy has put his whole life into Biff and Happy and they have turned their back on him
- Happy and Biff get into an argument
  - Happy feels as if Biff does not keep his promises
- The argument ends with Biff saying, "Screw the business world"
- Willy appears
  - Willy misunderstands Biff and thinks that he called him crazy

- Willy grows angry
- Willy asks Biff to go around and shout the name Willy Loman and to see people's reactions
  - Furthering his idea of him being a big shot
- Happy mentions to Willy that Biff is going to Bill Oliver's because he will offer him a job
- Happy outlines a publicity campaign to sell sporting goods; the business proposal, which revolves around the brothers using their natural physical abilities to lead publicity displays of sporting events, is henceforth referred to as the "Florida idea."
  - They would call it the Loman Line
  - They would train and put on exhibitions
  - Two basketball teams and two water polo teams and they would play each other
  - It's a million dollar plan according to them
  - Happy says that the beauty of the scheme is that it wouldn't be like a business.
  - They would be out there playing ball like they used to when they were kids
- Linda and Willy are pleased with this idea
- Willy tells Biff to wear a business suit to the meeting with Bill Oliver, talk as little as possible, and not to crack any jokes
  - "Because personality always wins the day"
- Biff tells his father not to yell at Linda and an argument breaks out
- Willy asks Biff if he thinks he owns the household
- Linda tells Biff to apologize to Willy
- Biff goes upstairs and tells his father goodnight
  - Willy informs him not to pick up anything if it falls on Oliver's desk because that is an office boy's job
  - Willy also informs Biff to tell Oliver that he previously worked in business in the west
  - He also tells Biff to not accept anything less than \$15,000
- Happy tells his mom that he is going to get married

- When Happy leaves Willy asks Linda if she remembers the Ebbets Field Game, when they won the Championship
- "He was the tallest"
  - Did Biff play baseball?
- Linda asks Willy if he will ask Howard to be able to work in New York and he says that he will ask him in the morning
- Biff reaches behind the heater and takes out the length of rubber tubing. He is horrified and turns his head towards Willy's room
  - Biff wraps the tubing around his hand and goes quickly up the stairs

### Act II

- Willy wakes up very rested
- When Willy awakes the next morning, Biff and Happy have already left, Biff to see Bill Oliver and Happy to mull over the "Florida idea" and go to work.
- Willy, in high spirits with the prospect of the "Florida idea," mentions that he would like to get some seeds and plant a small garden in the yard.
- Linda, pleased with her husband's hopeful mood, points out that there is not enough sun.
- Willy replies that they will have to get a house in the country.
- Linda reminds Willy to ask his boss, Howard, for a non-traveling job as well as an advance to pay the insurance premium.
- They have one last payment on both the refrigerator and the house, and they have just finished paying for the car.
- They realize that their 25 year mortgage is almost paid off
- Willy wishes Biff would take the house and raise a family in it
  - Willy has done a lot of work to the house and would hate to see it sold to a stranger
- Linda informs Willy that Biff and Happy want to take him to dinner at Frank's Chop House at six o'clock.

- As Willy departs, moved and excited by his sons' dinner invitation, he notices a stocking that Linda is mending and, guilt-ridden with the latent memory of his adultery with The Woman, admonishes her to throw the stocking away.
- Willy timidly enters Howard's office. Howard is playing with a wire recorder he has just purchased for dictation.
  - "The most terrific machine I ever saw in my life"
- Willy asks what he does with the wire recorder
  - Howard responds by saying that he uses it for dictation
    - He plays a recording of his son whistling, "Roll out the Barrel" and Willy is astonished by how life like it is
      - His daughter whistles, his son knows the state capitals in alphabetical order, and his wife is shy
- Howard says that this is the most fascinating relaxation he has ever found
- Willy tries to change the topic but it is difficult to do so
- Willy says that he will purchase one for when he is on the road
- Willy tells Howard that he would rather not travel anymore
  - Howard says that it is impractical since they have such few men that travel
  - Willy tries to pull at Howard's love strings, reminding him of their relationship, how Willy has never asked for anything, and how Howard's father asked willy if the name Howard was a nice name for his child
- Howard says that there is just no spot available for Willy
  - He looks for a lighters and Willy picks it up and gives it to him
    - Remember that Willy had once told Biff to never hand a man anything, as it is an office boys job
      - He had subconsciously violated his own rule because he was nervous
- Willy continues to drop his wage and eventually gets to \$50 a week
- Howard consistently calls Willy "kid"
- Willy tries to tell Howard a story

- When he was 18 or 19 he was already on the road
- He was debating whether or not he wanted to do business because he truly wanted to go to Alaska
- Willy explains that his father lived in Alaska for many years and that his family has a sense of self-reliance through them all
- Willy met a salesman in the Parker House by the name of Dave Singleman
  - Dave was 84 and had drummed merchandise in 31 states
  - He made a living at the age of 84 by calling and selling from his hotel room without having to leave
    - When Willy saw this, he realized that selling was the greatest job in the world
    - He calls this man's death, the death of a salesman
      - When he died, hundreds of salesman and buyers were at his funeral
      - Willy says that back then there was camaraderie in the business and now it's just cut and dry
      - "They don't know me anymore"
- Willy now drops the price to \$40 a week
  - Willy has worked for Howard for 34 years and now he cannot pay his insurance
    - "You can't eat the orange and throw the peel away -- a man is not a piece of fruit!"
- Howard leaves and tells Willy to pull himself together
- Willy, now talking to himself summons Frank, Howard's dad who had overseen Willy's great work
  - He accidentally flips on the recorder
- Howard tells Willy that the firm no longer wants him
  - "I think you need a good long rest."

- He tells him that when he feels better he can come back and they will work something out
- Howard suggests that Willy depend on his sons for income
  - "I can't throw myself on my sons. I'm not a cripple."
- Willy daydreams and Ben enters
  - Willy tells Ben that nothing is working out and that he does not know what to do
  - Ben asks Willy to leave his urban life and go manage a tract of timberland has has purchased on Alaska
- Linda tries to talk Ben out of convincing Willy by saying that they are happy and have everything that they need right where they are.
- Willy agrees and explains his situation to Ben, hoping for his approval
- Ben questions this firm that Willy is building and tells him to lay his hands on it
  - Willy realizes that there really is nothing for him to do
- Willy tells Ben about Dave Singleman
  - Ben says that he has to go
  - Willy reflects on the past
    - Biff enters carrying a suitcase, with Happy carrying his shoulder guards, gold helmet, and football pants
- Ben leaves and tells Willy that he has a whole continent at his doorstep, a place where he could grow rich instantly
- Ben disappears and Willy insists that he will grow rich from his current position
- Young Bernard enters
  - Bernard asks Biff if he can carry his helmet
  - Happy responds by saying that he is carrying the helmet
  - Biff lets Bernard carry his shoulder guards
- Willy comes in with pennants and tells them all to wave when Biff goes onto the field
- Biff has All-Scholastic Championship at Ebbets Field
- When Biff takes off his helmet, that means that the touchdown was for Willy
- Biff messes with Willy telling him that Ebbets Field blew up

- "I don't think that was funny, Charley. This is the greatest day of my life."
- In the present, the grown-up Bernard is sitting in his father's reception room when his father's secretary, Jenny, enters to beg him to deal with Willy.
- Outside, Willy, still immersed in his memory, argues with an invisible Charley from the past about Biff's football game.
- Bernard converses with Willy and mentions that he has a case to argue in Washington,
   D.C. Willy replies that Biff is working on a very big deal in town
- Willy breaks down and asks Bernard why Biff's life seemed to end after his big football game
- Bernard answers, "He never trained himself for anything."
- Bernard mentions that Biff failed math but was determined to go to summer school and pass.
  - Willy says that Biff's math teacher ruined his life by flunking him
- Willy thinks that Biff's failure is his fault
- Bernard says that he loved Biff even though he would always take advantage of him
- He adds that Biff went to see Willy in Boston, but after he came back, he burned his sneakers with the University of Virginia's insignia.
- Bernard also adds that him and Biff has a fist fight in the cellar where they cried through the punches and he knew that Biff was dead inside
- Attempting a candid conversation with the wounded Willy, Bernard asks him what happened in Boston that changed Biff's intentions and drained his motivation.
- Willy becomes angry and resentful and demands to know if Bernard blames him for Biff's failure.
- Charley exits his office to say goodbye to Bernard.
- He mentions that Bernard is arguing a case before the Supreme Court.
- Willy, simultaneously jealous and proud of Bernard, is astounded that Bernard did not mention it.
- Charley deals out \$50 dollars to Willy but Willy explains that he needs \$110 to pay for his insurance

- After a moment, Charley states that he has offered Willy a non-traveling job with a weekly salary of fifty dollars and scolds Willy for insulting him.
- Willy refuses the job again, insisting that he already has one, despite Charley's reminder that Willy earns no money at his job.
- Broken, he admits that Howard fired him.
- Outraged and incredulous, he again mentions that he chose Howard's name when he was born.

- "The only thing you got in this world is what you can sell" ~ Charley

- Willy retorts that he has always thought the key to success was being well liked.
- Exasperated, Charley asks who liked J. P. Morgan.
- He angrily gives Willy the money for his insurance. Willy shuffles out of the office in tears.
- Charley announces that Willy has been jealous of him his whole life and gives him the money for his insurance sorrowfully
- Willy says, "Funny, y'know? After all the highways and trains, and the appointments, and the years, you end up worth more dead than alive"
  - The train represents the death of a salesman, the highways represent the eventual death of Willy by car crash, and this foreshadows his suicide
- Charley responds by saying, "Willy, nobody's worth nothin' dead."
- Willy tells Charley that he is the only friend that he has
- Willy leaves on the verge of tears
- It picks up with Happy getting dinner and the waiter Stanley serves him
- He orders a lobster from Stanley
- Happy explains to Stanley that Biff pulled off a great deal and that they are going into business together.
- Stanley says that the greatest business is in the family
- Happy and Stanley see a pretty girl come in
  - Happy flirts with her
- Happy says that she must have been a magazine cover girl in her past

- Biff enters and sits next to Happy
- The girls name is Mrs. Forsythe
- Happy tells the girl that he is a successful champagne salesman and that Biff is a quarterback for the New York Giants
- Mrs. Forsythe is "on call"
  - She is most likely a prostitute
- Happy invites this girl to join them
- She gets on the phone and invites a girlfriend to join them
- Biff tells Happy that "I did a terrible thing today, Hap. It's been the strangest day I ever went through. I'm all numb, I swear."
- Biff says that he waited 6 hours to see Oliver
- Happy explains this is because Biff is no longer confident
  - Biff explains that Oliver came out at 5 o'clock and did not even recognize Biff
- Biff also realizes that he had only been a lowly shipping clerk for Oliver and Willy had over exaggerated his position into reality
  - Biff took Oliver's fountain pen out of anger and sprinted out down the 11 flights of stairs
- Happy and Biff discuss ways to keep the news from Willy when suddenly he enters
- Biff explains to Willy that he was never a salesman for Bill Oliver
  - Willy doesn't believe this
- Willy tells the boys that he was fired today
- Biff tells Willy that Oliver gave him a warm welcome (lie) and Willy believes it
  - He is astonished that Oliver remembered him.
  - Willy says that he remembered Biff because he "impressed him in those days"
- Willy realizes that Biff probably did not see Oliver and that he is telling him a lie
  - Young Bernard enters
  - Bernard tells Linda that Mr. Birnbaum failed Biff in math and that he won't be able to graduate
- Biff went to Boston where Willy happens to be

- Willy realizes that Biff stole Oliver's pen
- Willy has a flashback as he argues with Biff as to why he can't go meet Oliver the next day for lunch
- In a frenzy as the perilous truth closes in on him, Willy enters a semi-daydream state, reliving Biff's discovery of him and The Woman in their Boston hotel room.
- A desperate Biff backs down and begins to lie to assuage his frantic father.
- Miss Forsythe returns with her friend, Letta.
- Willy, insulted at Biff's "spite," furiously lashes out at his son's attempts to explain himself and the impossibility of returning to Oliver.
- Willy wanders into the restroom, talking to himself, and an embarrassed Happy informs the women that he is not, in fact, their father.
- Biff angrily tells Happy to help Willy, accusing him of not caring about their father.
- He hurries out of the restaurant in a vortex of guilt and anguish.
- Happy frantically asks Stanley for the bill; when the waiter doesn't respond immediately,
   Happy rushes after Biff, pushing Miss Forsythe and Letta along in front of him and
   leaving Willy babbling alone in the restroom.
- The Woman and Willy are having an affair
  - Someone knocks at the door
- The Woman calls Willy self-centered
  - He "ruined her" so she will make sure to put him through to the buyer immediately
- Willy insists that the person knocking is at the wrong door
- Willy tells The Woman to stay in the bathroom since there is a "Law in Massachusetts about it"
  - It is Biff who knocks
  - He has a suitcase with him and tells Willy that he failed math class
    - He only got a 61 on the exam he needed to graduate
  - He asks Willy if he will speak to Mr. Birnbaum for him

- Biff says that the reason this man hates him is because one time he imitated him and crossed his eyes and talked with a lithp
- Biff hears the laugh of The Woman and insists that there is a woman in his bathroom
- Willy tries to cover his tracks by saying that The Woman is actually "Miss Francis, a potential buyer of his"
  - Her room was being painted so he let her shower in his bathroom  $\leftarrow$  lies
- The Woman and Willy argue over the stockings he was supposed to have given her
- Biff sits and cries and Willy tries to explain to him that The Woman was just a "buyer"
  - Willy says that when Biff grows up he will understand these things.
- He says that he will see Birnbaum in the morning
  - Willy insists that he will get Birnbaum to give him his points so that Biff can attend the University of Virginia
    - Biff says that he no longer wants to go
- Willy says that The Woman was "nothing to me" and that he was just lonely
  - Biff continues to cry when he realizes that Willy gave The Woman Linda's stockings
- Biff calls Willy a fake and leaves with his suitcase
  - Willy cries on his knees
- Willy attempts to tip Stanley on the way out but Stanley slips the money back into Willy's coat pocket
  - Willy asks Stanley where he could find a "seed store"
    - Willy explains that he's got to get some seeds.

- "Nothing's planted. I don't have a thing in the ground."

- The sound of a flute is heard and light phases onto the kitchen
- Happy and Biff return home and they carry a bouquet of roses for Linda
  - Linda knocks the roses to the floor at Biff's feet
  - Linda yells at the boys after they invited Willy to dinner, got him excited, and then abandoned him like a stranger
  - Happy says they had a swell time at dinner

- Linda wants Happy and Biff to leave and never come back
  - "I don't want you tormenting him anymore."
  - Linda makes Biff pick up the flowers and calls the two boys animals
- Linda says that Willy was so humiliated that he limped when he walked in
- Biff says that he has to talk to Willy but Linda want let him
  - Biff stops fighting back and accepts all the things that Linda is calling him
    - "Now you hit it on the nose! The scum of the earth, and you're looking at him."
- Linda says that Willy is outside planting a garden
  - It is dark now but Willy does not care
- In the dark, Willy discusses a \$20,000 proposition with Ben
  - Ben says that they might not honor the policy
    - Willy says that he works to pay the premiums so for them to deny his pay is impossible
  - Willy realizes the amount of people that will join at his wedding and how amazed Biff will be with the turnout
    - Biff will understands Willy's importance
      - Ben on the other hand says that Biff will call him a coward and a damned fool
- Willy is speaking about his life insurance policy and how his family will be able to get his \$20,000
- Biff tells Willy that he is leaving for good and that they won't keep in touch.
- Biff tries to take the blame for everything that has happened by saying that he is a bum
- Biff tells Linda that when people ask where he is to say that they do not know and they do not care
- Biff says that Willy will never see who he truly is so there is no use in arguing
  - "May you rot in hell if you leave this house" ~ Willy
- Willy says the word for Biff's actions is **Spite**
- Biff whips out the rubber hose in front of Willy

- Willy denies ever seeing the hose
- Biff has had enough of the lying in their household
  - He explains that he went missing for 3 months because he was jailed in Kansas
     City for stealing a Suit
- Biff says that he "stole himself out of every good job since highschool"
- Biff also exposes Willy by saying he is not the assistant buyer but instead one of the two assistants to the assistant buyer
  - Biff blames his issues on Willy who, "blew me so full of hot air I could never stand taking orders from anybody!"
- Willy tells Biff to hang himself
- Biff explains that he ran down 11 flights of stairs with Oliver's pen just to realize everything that he loves in the world
  - He looked at the pen and asked why he is grabbing it
  - "Why am I trying to become what I don't want to be?"
- Biff says that Willy and himself are a dime a dozen
- Biff attacks Willy but Happy blocks him
- Biff explains to Willy that he is nothing, and that he is who he is and Willy cannot change that
- Willy sees Biff crying and realizes that Biff truly loves him
  - Willy says, "He cried! Cried to me. That boy -- that boy is going to be magnificent."
- Ben appears in the light outside the bedroom
  - "The jungle is dark but full of diamonds, Willy"
- Willy conversates with Ben about how well the \$20,000 will suit Biff
- Willy know what must be done and Ben fades
- Linda, Happy, and Biff call for Willy to come upstairs but they hear the car drive full speed away
- It now fades into Charley joining the immediate family at Willy's grave

### Requiem

- Linda says that Willy had no right to kill himself
  - "We could've helped him"
- Linda wonders why nobody attended the funeral
  - She feels that maybe they blame him
- Linda knows that after 35 years they were just about free and clear of bills and responsibilities
- Biff says that Willy had the wrong dreams
  - "He never knew who he was."
- Charley tells them not to blame Willy for the dreams just come with the job of a salesman
- Happy is certain that he will carry out his father's dream
  - "I'm gonna show you and everybody else that Willy Loman did not die in vain."
- A flute is heard and Linda finds it impossible to cry
  - She explains that she made the last payment on the house on this day
    - "We're free ..."
- All that is heard is the sound of flute.