

## **Willy's Attempts of Committing Suicide :**

Miller's drama has a strong smell of social criticism. For some interpreters, especially Marxists, the idea might come near that the author of *Death of a Salesman* intended to present Willy's ruin exclusively as a result of an unfair society. In fact, several scenes of the play, among them some of the most important ones, seem to support this point of view.

In *Death of a Salesman*, Willy Loman has attempted suicide several times by purposely smashing his car. Linda also discovers a rubber hose in the basement with a new nipple attached to the water heater, which suggests that Willy plans on committing suicide by inhaling gas. However, there is no evidence to suggest that Willy attempted to suffocate himself. Willy's final suicide attempt is another car accident, which tragically ends his life at the end of the play.

Willy Loman is portrayed as a delusional, unsuccessful salesman who struggles to cope with his failures and form meaningful relationships with his sons. Willy recognizes that he has done nothing significant in his life and acknowledges that he is destined to leave an empty legacy to his sons. He has also failed to attain the American Dream and can no longer endure the hardships as a struggling salesman, which motivates him to commit suicide.

In act 1, Linda explains to Biff that Willy is dying and elaborates on his earlier suicide attempt when he purposely drove his car off a bridge and landed in shallow water. According to Linda, the insurance inspector claimed that it wasn't an accident after speaking to an eyewitness, who watched Willy casually drive off the bridge. Linda also alludes to Willy being in several other car accidents, which seem to be previous suicide attempts.

At the end of the play, Willy ends up committing suicide by purposely wrecking his car in hopes that his family will receive the insurance money and respect his sacrifice. Tragically, his family resents his suicide and it is unclear if the insurance company will pay the Loman family.

Linda reveals to her sons that Willy has been trying to kill himself. She explains that the several car accidents which Willy had during the last year were not accidents and that Willy had deliberately tried to kill himself by smashing the car. She also reveals that only last month she found a length of rubber pipe behind the fuse-box in the basement bellow. This indicates to her that Willy had intended to gas himself to death. She then swears to Biff that Willy's life is in his hand. He promises to mend his ways to settle down and correct his personal mistakes.