Dear Study Group members,

Welcome to "Journey Beyond Long Day's Journey Into Night."  This deep dive into Eugene O'Neill's powerful drama about the Tyrone family is occasioned by the upcoming production at the Lyric Stage of a new play by Ronán Noone, called Thirst, cleverly set among the help in the kitchen of the Tryrone household while the action of Long Day's Journey Into Night proceeds offstage. We will read and discuss both plays, and we will see and discuss the Lyric Stage production of Thirst.

In this course, we will see how O’Neill transformed the raw material of his own tortured family life into drama that is emotionally and psychologically true and universally compelling. We will also see how Noone views the Tryone household through a different lens to depict life experiences at the crossroads of despair and hope through the immigrant experience in America.

As many of you know from previous Study Groups and/or from reading my bio, I have been studying and teaching drama and theatre for many years. I believe that to appreciate dramatic literature fully, you must see plays in performance; I also believe that the performance experience is enhanced by reading the play in advance. In some cases, when a live production is inaccessible, a filmed production may be the next best thing. For this study group, we will have the benefits of a live production of Thirst and a filmed production of Long Day's Journey Into Night.

Most sessions of this study group will be in person at 60 Turner Street, but the first three sessions will be on Zoom.

I have developed a Google site for this course, so instead of distributing a syllabus, I am providing this link to the site, where you will find more details about assignments and expectations, including the Zoom link on the homepage:

<https://sites.google.com/view/journey-beyond-long-days-journ/home>

Everyone must see the Lyric Stage production of Thirst between the third and fourth sessions (between March 13th and March 17th). You are responsible for purchasing your own ticket. The student discount rate of $10 is available for any performance. The 3:00 matinee on Sunday, March 17th, is the preferred performance; if you cannot make that one, you must see another performance between March 13th and