

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Farm as a Symbol of Fate in O'Neill's *Beyond the
Horizon* and *Desire Under the Elms*

A thesis submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences,
Tribhuvan University, in partial fulfillment of
the requirements for the Degree of
Master of Arts in English

By

Drona Bahadur Bhandari

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Katmandu

August 200

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

This thesis submitted to the Central Department of English Tribhuvan University, by Drona Bahadur Bhandari entitled "Farm as a symbol of Fate in Eugene O'Neill's *Beyond the Horizon* and *Desire Under the Elm*" has been accepted by the undersigned members of the thesis committee.

Members of the Research Committee

Internal Examiner

External Examiner

Head

Central Department of English,

T.U.

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

Date: _____

Acknowledgements

In this profound hour of happiness, I would first of all express my sincerest gratitude to my supervisor Dr. Shiva Rijal for providing me scholarly suggestions and invaluable guidance, without whose companionship my thesis would never have seen the light of the day.

My true reverence also goes to Prof. Chandra Prakesh Sharma, Head, Central Department of English, who not only allowed but also inspired and encouraged me in my work. I also take this moment to thank Prof. Dr. Abhi Subedi, Dr. Krishna Chandra Sharma, and Mr. Sajag S. Rana, who inspired and co-operated me to complete this dissertation. Likewise, I would like to thank to my teacher Mr. Puspa Acharya for his continual guidance while preparing thesis proposal.

Similarly, thanks to my friends, Jitendra, Deuman, Dines, Dilli, Om, Netra, Padam who helped a lot when I needed them. I always remember Mr. Sujeen Shrestha for his technical support.

Last, but not least, I am grateful to my parents Chandra Bahadur Bhandari, Basuka Devi Bhandari and Netra Bhandari, my family Gita, Grishma and Grish Bhandari, and my brothers Dambar, Hom and Akindra Bhandari for their continuous support and encouragement during my academic years.

August 2006

Abstract

This research deals with the farm as a symbol of fate and confinement of the characters. The characters in both plays: *Beyond the Horizon* and *Desires Under the Elms* are greatly influenced by the farm which entraps them and does not let them to be free till to their tragic doom. Struggling in the farm, they give outlet to their emotional forces: hate, resentment, lust, greed, pride and mistrust. Similarly, the outside forces like circumstance, community also guide them. Thus, O'Neill places his characters in the grip of powers beyond their control and understanding, driving them inexorably toward the final catastrophe.

CONTENTS

Page No.

Acknowledgements

IV

Abstract

V

) Introduction

1-11

) American Drama

12-25

) *Classical Form and Modern Aesthetic*

26-47

) Farm and Fate: A Search for Grand Tragic Vision

48-68

) Conclusion

69-72

Works Cited