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complex is meeting the requirement of achievement that is measured in income figures, nor is either backing up his successful self-image with palpable social contacts in favorable conditions or positions. This can only mean death for the dreams they at one time possessed a smaller part of. Two lives and homes collapse and with them the mellow dream of success that drives possibly not suited, or non-adaptive individuals to insanity and failure. In the two works we are looking at the results of not achieving even the most mediocre of successes, are insanity and death. The traumatic things are the ones that surface in the spot perusal of one's life, or in his active conscious intellectual workings, when one is coming to grips with a failure situation. Willy goes back to the thrill of success that he had in his youth while looking toward a hope filled future, and does this to escape a geometrically degenerating world. Tommy Wilhelm, or Dr. Adler's son, has no such release to a fantasy mechanism, and with a crumbling perspective and grip on reality, distorted by drugs and pressure, he tries to rationalize and order people and situations that caused his present degenerated state.

The plot also makes its own statements on the failures of the two failing protagonists, and is another device that helps us to get an idea, in the course of a single day, about what has led to the failures. Willy seems brave and self-sacrificing in his suicide. We can either accept him as a conquered Roman general falling on his sword, or as a raving lunatic ignominiously running from a nightmare world. But if Willie can be seen, in a sense, as a strong and considerate person in leaving money to his destitute son, Tommy can be seen as even more of a societal failure in his

I think both notions are exaggerated.