**Act Two - Climax** (the turning point, which changes the protagonist’s fate)

* The Immigration Officers turn up to arrest Marco & Rodolpho; Eddie is suspected of being the informant and Marco spits in Eddie’s face.

What is the significance of the timing of the Immigration Officers’ arrival?

“She stands a moment staring at him in a realised horror.”

“Pugnaciously, furious, he steps towards Beatrice.”

“She looks at him now and sees his terror.”

“My God, what did you do?”

Why is it important that the drama of the men being arrested happens in front of the community? What is most important to both Marco & Eddie in this scene?

“ Marco spits in Eddie's face.”

“That one! He killed my children! That one stole the food from my children!”

“stage directions relating to the neighbours after officers take R and M away.”

***His eyes were like tunnels; my first thought was that he had committed a crime, but soon I saw it was only a passion that had moved into his body, like a stranger. (Act 1, p33)***

Alfieri seems to fear Eddie as a paranormal beast (remnant of Greek/Roman tragedy

Eddie seems almost possessed, emphasising Alfieri’s feelings of powerlessness to control him

Passion = passion for niece

Unreleased & suppressed in his subconscious – stranger to Eddie’s conscious self

Actively denies thoughts of incest (why he is unable to take responsibility for actions later

Self-interest and self-denial is his tragic flaw

Style of Alfieri as chorus – dramatic & literary descriptions (repeated in later descriptions) – tale of Eddie becomes almost legendary

Creates significance for audience – learn lessons from story/tragedy

**Vinnie Bolzano**

Reveals/exposes irony and madness of Eddie’s character

Lectures Catherine about how they must not tell anyone of cousins & warns of consequences

Story and comment foreshadows Eddie’s fate

Spends rest of play ‘giving away words’ – contrasts with Marco’s silence

Tragedy fore-grounded – Eddie is aware of consequences/own fate but cannot control his own self-interest – cannot escape fate

Remains powerless (like Alfieri) or too mad to stop it

Miller sets up Eddie so vehemently against betrayal that his transition to betrayer seems illogical

Set-up requires him to undergo a drastic change/complete breakdown

Force of transition reinforces his self-destructive madness & deepness of unspoken love of niece

Eddie acted as whole person, unrestrained & uninhabited – at expense of others & himself

Escaped restraint because he escaped consideration of others & community at large

Wholeness is whole interest in his own life

TRAGIC FLAW = self-interest – flaw seems both admirable & alarming to Alfieri