

Scene II

Vocabulary

absconding – running away, usually after having stolen something
airily – in a light or frivolous manner
atomizer – a type of spray dispenser that turns liquids (perfume, in this usage) into a fine mist
fornications – sexual acts
gander – a look
improvident – careless, reckless, irresponsible
perpetrated – committed, carried out
peruse – to read carefully or thoroughly
swindled – cheated
tiara – a type of jeweled headdress resembling a crown
treachery – betrayal, disloyalty

1. Why is Stanley upset about the loss of Belle Reve? Explain the “Napoleonic code” to which he refers.

2. What makes Stanley think that Blanche has “swindled” him and Stella? What does he assume has happened to Belle Reve?

3. What does Stanley think Blanche has done with the money? What does Stella tell him?

4. Why does Stanley refuse to leave the room when asked by Stella?

5. How does Stanley react to Blanche's flirting?

6. How does Blanche characterize Stanley during their conversation? Does Stanley think she is being sincere? How does he dismiss her act?

7. What reason does Blanche give Stanley for the loss of Belle Reve? How do the papers in the tin box convince him that she is telling the truth?

8. Aside from the legal documents concerning Belle Reve, what else is in the tin box? How does Blanche feel about these items? Give examples from the text to support your answer.

9. What news does Stanley reveal to Blanche at the end of the scene? How does Blanche react to the news?
