

Scene IV

Vocabulary

anthropological – concerning the study of human evolution and development

bestial – like a beast; inhuman

bromo – a type of headache remedy

cultivated – developed; nurtured

narcotized – drugged, tranquilized

serene – calm, tranquil

stealthily – in a sneaky or quiet manner

1. As the scene begins, Blanche is trying to persuade Stella to leave Stanley. What is Blanche’s plan for her and Stella? Is it a realistic plan, in your opinion?

2. Why does Blanche find it hard to believe that Stella is uninterested in leaving Stanley?

3. In this scene, Williams alludes once again to the title of the play. How is the streetcar named Desire presented during Blanche and Stella’s conversation? How might it act as a metaphor?

4. How is Stanley able to eavesdrop on Blanche and Stella's conversation?

5. Briefly summarize what Stanley overhears. What picture does Blanche paint of him? How does Blanche's speech further emphasize the contrast between her and Stanley?

6. As this scene ends, how are Stella's feelings visually revealed?
