

**Scene VI**

## Vocabulary

**demureness** – modesty; respectability

**neurasthenic** – relating to a condition characterized by fatigue, anxiety, and depression

**reproving** – scolding

**stolid** – not showing emotion

1. As the scene opens, Blanche and Mitch have just returned from their date. How did the date go? Provide examples from the text to support your answer.

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2. As Blanche looks at the sky before going into the apartment, she talks about the stars. How does she describe the stars? What literary term does she use in her description?

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3. Why must a single girl, according to Blanche, “keep a firm hold on her emotions”?

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4. Why does Blanche resist Mitch’s advances? What is hypocritical about her behavior?

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5. What is significant about Mitch’s mother asking about Blanche’s age?

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6. Why is loneliness a specter for Mitch? Why is Blanche so familiar with loneliness?

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7. Blanche tells Mitch the circumstances surrounding her husband's death. Briefly describe what happened to him.

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8. In what way does Blanche feel responsible for her husband's death?

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9. As she talks about her husband, Blanche says that she discovered love at sixteen years old. What metaphor does she use to describe what that discovery was like? How does Williams extend this metaphor to the end of Blanche's speech?

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10. Why do you suppose Blanche tells Mitch the details surrounding her husband's death?

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11. Briefly describe what happens at the end of the scene. When Blanche says, "Sometimes—there's God—so quickly!" what does she mean?

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