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## A Streetcar Named Desire (New Directions Paperbook)

*Tennessee Williams*

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**Tennessee Williams : A Streetcar Named Desire (New Directions Paperbook)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Streetcar Named Desire (New Directions Paperbook):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Intense dialogue and situations, a very powerful workBy fra7299Therersquo;s a strong drive and passion in many of the characters in A Streetcar Named Desire. A definite rawness in emotion and complexity is within many of the scenes and situations.I had read A Streetcar Named Desire once before, but never really caught on at how so much is working underneath the surface of the dialogue. In many estimations, Blanche is a character deeply rooted in pathos and tragedy. Her vision of what the world should be, as

opposed to what it truly is, is at the center of her unhinging. Arriving to her sister's apartment in New Orleans, she has taken a leave of absence from her teaching, and there are more undercurrent issues that have taken hold of her, most notably losing Belle Reve, their childhood home. At her opposite, Stanley, Stella's husband, represents the brute, harsh, realities of the world. I think that, in many respects, Williams creates an intensity that builds as the play moves forward until the dramatic final scene. There is a power in Stanley and Blanche's confrontations, especially in the final scenes as we learn more and more about Blanche's past. These moments are written so eloquently, so human, clearly by someone who has experienced, witnessed, and reflected on the impact of human sufferings and failings. In short, clearly Williams was a man who could project real human situations into dialogue in such a clear, convincing way. *A Streetcar Named Desire* is a very powerful and thought-provoking play, with characters who breathe strong emotion throughout, making the scenes really come to life. It is no wonder that this epic play was made into a fine classic 1951 film with Marlon Brando as Stanley and Vivien Leigh as Blanche. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A Timeless Classic By TJMjr Williams is an expert of dissecting and analyzing complex personalities and he does it expertly in his classic "A Streetcar Named Desire." The book was very easy to read with simple dialogue. The plot starts with Blanche DuBois coming to New Orleans to visit her sister Stella and her husband Stanley Kowalski. The sisters both grew up in a place called Belle Reve and had not seen each other in years. Throughout the book, readers start to see Blanche go a little insane as she tries to forget the loss of her former husband who killed himself years before. (Stella feels guilty over her husband's suicide.) Stanley starts to harass Blanche and begins to accuse her of lying about her past. Towards the end, Blanche gets physically overpowered by Stanley and tries to tell Stella but she failed to believe her. In result of that, Stella sent Blanche off to a mental hospital because of her strange behaviors and because she thought she had made up everything. Stella continued to stay with Stanley even though, in reality, he really did hurt Blanche. The readers are left off to figure out why Stella chose to side with Stanley and not with her own sister. This book also leaves readers to form several different opinions about each of the characters. Overall, the book was very well written with a very interesting plot and characters. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I don't like plays but I loved this. By Kashmir A true classic. A quick read as well. Read in one day while my boyfriend steam cleaned the carpet and I was confined to our bed for a couple hours amongst all our overturned furniture. Reads like a short story which was great because I dislike plays quite strongly. A little slow to start but push through and prepare to be engrossed in Blanche's jaded view of the life, invested in what happens to her and her sister and surprised by some of the developments along the way! Also, a great vocabulary booster. Would strongly recommend for a moderate reader who wants to increase their skill. This book is not suitable for children due to content (13+).

The Pulitzer Prize and Drama Critics Circle Award winning play—reissued with an introduction by Arthur Miller (Death of a Salesman and The Crucible), and Williams' essay "The World I Live In." It is a very short list of 20th-century American plays that continue to have the same power and impact as when they first appeared—57 years after its Broadway premiere, Tennessee Williams' *A Streetcar Named Desire* is one of those plays. The story famously recounts how the faded and promiscuous Blanche DuBois is pushed over the edge by her sexy and brutal brother-in-law, Stanley Kowalski. *Streetcar* launched the careers of Marlon Brando, Jessica Tandy, Kim Hunter and Karl Malden, and solidified the position of Tennessee Williams as one of the most important young playwrights of his generation, as well as that of Elia Kazan as the greatest American stage director of the '40s and '50s. Who better than America's elder statesman of the theater, Williams' contemporary Arthur Miller, to write as a witness to the lightning that struck American culture in the form of *A Streetcar Named Desire*? Miller's rich perspective on Williams' singular style of poetic dialogue, sensitive characters, and dramatic violence makes this a unique and valuable new edition of *A Streetcar Named Desire*. This definitive new edition will also include Williams' essay "The World I Live In," and a brief chronology of the author's life.

From Publishers Weekly Williams's classic play begins with Blanche DuBois's arrival in New Orleans to stay with her sister and brother-in-law, Stella and Stanley Kowalski. The determinedly genteel Blanche is shocked by their lower-class lifestyle—and by Stanley's frequently aggressive behavior. As Blanche's secrets catch up with her, a seedy reality trumps her love for romance. Rosemary Harris embodies Blanche with all the flare, attitude and Southern drawl commonly associated with the cultural icon. The role of Stanley is so physical that his presence is diminished by the lack of a visual performance, but James Farentino's Stanley is excellent. The overall production quality is excellent with musical segues and sound effects that enhance without distracting the listeners. This recording captures the cast of the 1973 Broadway revival (which won Harris a Drama Desk award and Farentino a Theatre World award). (Feb.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Lyrical and poetic and human and heartbreaking and memorable and funny.--Francis Ford Coppola About the Author Tennessee Williams, born Thomas Lanier Williams in 1911 in Columbus, Mississippi won Pulitzer Prizes for his dramas, *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. Other plays include *The Glass Menagerie*, *Summer and Smoke*, *The Rose Tattoo*, *Camino Real*, *Suddenly Last Summer*, *Sweet Bird of Youth* and *Night of the Iguana*. He also wrote a number

of one-act plays, short stories, poems and two novels, *The Roman Spring of Mrs. Stone* and *Moishe and the Age of Reason*. He died in 1983 at the age of 72.