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KEY=THEATRE - RAMOS LAYLAH

STUDENT COMPANION TO TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

Greenwood Publishing Group Helps students understand why this playwright is now considered an American classic.

THE THEATRE OF TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

New Directions Publishing Volume III of the series includes *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (1955), *Orpheus Descending* (1957), and *Suddenly Last Summer* (1958). The first, which won both the Pulitzer Prize and Drama Critics Award, has proved every bit as successful as William's earlier *A Streetcar Named Desire*. The other two plays, though different in kind, both have something of the quality of Greek tragedy in 20th-century settings, bringing about catharsis through ritual death.

CRITICAL COMPANION TO TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

Infobase Publishing One of the greatest American dramatists of the 20th century, Tennessee Williams is known for his sensitive characterizations, poetic yet realistic writing, ironic humor, and depiction of harsh realities in human relationship. His work is frequently included in high school and college curricula, and his plays are continually produced. *Critical Companion to Tennessee Williams* includes entries on all of Williams's major and minor works, including *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *The Glass Menagerie*, a novel, a collection of short stories, two poetry collections, and personal essays; places and events related to his works; major figures in his life; his literary influences; and issues in Williams scholarship and criticism. Appendixes include a complete list of Williams's works; a list of research libraries with significant Williams holdings; and a bibliography of primary and secondary sources.

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS IN SWEDEN AND FRANCE, 1945-1965

CULTURAL TRANSLATIONS, SEXUAL ANXIETIES AND RACIAL FANTASIES

Bloomsbury Publishing The immediate post-war period marks a pivotal moment in the internationalization of American theatre when Tennessee Williams' plays became some of Broadway's most critically acclaimed and financially lucrative exports. Dirk Gindt offers a detailed study of the production and reception of Williams' work on Swedish and French stages at the height of his popularity between 1945 and 1965. Analysing the national openings of seminal plays, including *The Glass Menagerie*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Orpheus Descending* and *Suddenly Last Summer*, Gindt provides rich and nuanced insights into Williams' transnational impact. In the process, he charts a network of fascinating and influential directors, actors, designers, producers and critics, all of whom left distinctive marks on mid-twentieth-century European theatre and culture. Gindt further demonstrates how Williams' work foregrounded cultural apprehensions, racial fantasies and sexual anxieties, which resulted in heated debates in the critical and popular media.

THE THEATRE OF TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

A&C Black Perfect for students of English Literature, Theatre Studies and American Studies at college and university, *The Theatre of Tennessee Williams* provides a lucid and stimulating analysis of Williams' dramatic work by one of America's leading scholars. With the centennial of his birth celebrated amid a flurry of conferences devoted to his work in 2011, and his plays a central part of any literature and drama curriculum and ubiquitous in theatre repertoires, he remains a giant of twentieth century literature and drama. In Brenda Murphy's major study of his work she examines his life and career and provides an analysis of more than a score of his key plays, including in-depth studies of major works such as *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* and others. She traces the artist figure who features in many of Williams' plays to broaden the discussion beyond the normal reference points. As with other volumes in Methuen Drama's *Critical Companions* series, this book features too essays by Bruce McConachie, John S. Bak, Felicia Hardison Londré and Annette Saddik, offering perspectives on different aspects of Williams' work that will assist students in their own critical thinking.

THE THEATRE OF TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF; ORPHEUS DESCENDING; SUDDENLY LAST SUMMER

New Directions Paperback *Theatre of Tennessee Williams Vol. 3 Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Orpheus Descending, and Suddenly Last Summer.*

CULTURAL POLITICS--QUEER READING

University of Pennsylvania Press Was Shakespeare gay? Is *The Merchant of Venice* anti-Semitic? How does mainstream reading differ from that of subcultural groups? In this lively and readable book, Alan Sinfield challenges the assumptions of English literature and investigates the principles and practices that may inform lesbian and gay reading.

THE METATHEATER OF TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

TRACING THE ARTISTIC PROCESS THROUGH SEVEN PLAYS

McFarland Tennessee Williams' characters set the stage for their own dramas. Blanche DuBois (*A Streetcar Named Desire*), arrived at her sister's apartment with an entire trunk of costumes and props. Amanda Wingfield (*The Glass Menagerie*) directed her son on how to eat and tries to make her daughter act like a Southern Belle. This book argues for the persistence of one metatheatrical strategy running throughout Williams' entire oeuvre: each play stages the process through which it came into being--and this process consists of a variation on repetition combined with transformation. Each chapter takes a detailed reading of one play and its variation on repetition and transformation. Specific topics include reproduction in *Sweet Bird of Youth* (1959), mediation in *Something Cloudy, Something Clear* (1981), and how the playwright frequently recycled previous works of art, including his own.

TRAGEDY IN THE CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN THEATRE

University Press of America This book examines plays by contemporary playwrights and compares them alongside the works of Eugene O'Neill, Arthur Miller, and Tennessee Williams. Andreach argues that tragedy is not only present in contemporary American theatre, but issues from an expectation fundamental to American culture: the pressure on characters to create themselves.

COMING HOME AGAIN

AMERICAN FAMILY DRAMA AND THE FIGURE OF THE PRODIGAL

Fairleigh Dickinson Univ Press This study focuses on the representation of the family in American drama, in particular, on various uses and conventions of the figure of the prodigal husband or son. It considers the lineage and function of this figure from the writings of Augustine, medieval iconography, Renaissance prodigal son plays, and temperance melodramas to such contemporary manifestations as television talk shows, the Recovery Movement, and plays by contemporary writers including Spalding Gray, Ntozake Shange, and Cherrie Moraga.

A STUDENT HANDBOOK TO THE PLAYS OF TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

THE GLASS MENAGERIE; A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE; CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF; SWEET BIRD OF YOUTH

A&C Black A Student Handbook to the Plays of Tennessee Williams provides the essential guide to Williams' most studied and revived dramas. Authored by a team of leading scholars, it offers students a clear analysis and detailed commentary on four of Williams' plays: *The Glass Menagerie*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* and *Sweet Bird of Youth*. A consistent framework of analysis ensures that whether readers are wanting a summary of the play, a commentary on the themes or characters, or a discussion of the work in performance, they can readily find what they need to develop their understanding and aid their appreciation of Williams' artistry. A chronology of the writer's life and work helps to situate all his works in context and the introduction reinforces this by providing a clear overview of Williams' writing, its recurrent themes and concerns and how these are intertwined with his life and times. For each play the author provides a summary of the plot, followed by commentary on: * The context * Themes * Characters * Structure and language * The play in production (both on stage and screen adaptations) Questions for study, and notes on words and phrases in the text are also supplied to aid the reader. The wealth of authoritative and clear commentary on each play, together with further questions that encourage comparison across Williams' work and related plays by other leading writers, ensures that this is the clearest and fullest guide to Williams' greatest plays.

MAGICAL MUSE

MILLENNIAL ESSAYS ON TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

University of Alabama Press In this unique and engaging collection, twelve essays celebrate the legacy of one of America's most important playwrights and investigate Williams's enduring effect on America's cultural, theatrical, and literary heritage. Like Faulkner before him, Tennessee Williams gave universal appeal to southern characters and settings. His major plays, from *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* and *The Glass Menagerie* to *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *Night of the Iguana*, continue to capture America's popular imagination, a significant legacy. Though he died in 1983, only recently have Williams's papers become available to the public, bringing to light a number of intriguing discoveries—letters, drafts, and several unpublished and unproduced plays. These recent developments make a reassessment of Williams's life and work both timely and needed. The essays in this collection originated as presentations at the 27th annual Alabama Symposium on English and American Literature at The University of Alabama in 1999. The book addresses a wide range of topics, among them the influence of popular culture on Williams's plays, and, in turn, his influence on popular culture; his relationship to Hollywood and his struggles with censorship, Hollywood standards, and the competing vision of directors such as Elia Kazan; his depictions of gender and sexuality; and issues raised by recently discovered plays. Anyone interested in American literature and drama will find this collection of fresh, accessible essays a rewarding perspective on the life, work, and legacy of one of the bright stars of American theatre.

CATS ON A HOT TIN ROOF A STUDY OF THE ALIENATED CHARACTERS IN THE MAJOR PLAYS OF TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

Academic Foundation

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS - A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE/CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF

Bloomsbury Publishing *A Streetcar Named Desire* (1947) and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (1955) are major plays by Tennessee Williams, one of America's most significant dramatists. They both received landmark productions and are widely-studied and performed around the world. The plays have also inspired popular screen adaptations and have generated a body of important and lasting scholarship. In this indispensable Reader's Guide, Thomas P. Adler: - Charts the development of the criticism surrounding both works, from the mid-twentieth century through to the present day - Provides a readable assessment of the key debates and issues - Examines a range of theoretical approaches from biographical and New Criticism to feminist and queer theory In so doing, Adler helps us to appreciate why these plays continue to fascinate readers, theatregoers and directors alike.

OUT ON STAGE

LESBIAN AND GAY THEATRE IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

Yale University Press This intriguing, authoritative book tracks stage representations of lesbians and gay men from Oscar Wilde to the present day and examines scores of British and American plays and playwrights, including works by Wilde, Maugham, Coward, Hellman, O'Neill, Le Roi Jones, and Joe Orton.

THE MAGIC TOWER AND OTHER ONE-ACT PLAYS

New Directions Publishing A wonderful collection of never-before-collected one-acts: "The peak of my virtuosity was in the one-act plays. Some of which are like firecrackers in a rope" (Tennessee Williams). Here are portraits of American life during the Great Depression and after, populated by a hopelessly hopeful chorus girl, a munitions manufacturer ensnared in a love triangle, a rural family that deals "justice" on its children, an overconfident mob dandy, a poor couple who quarrel to vanquish despair, a young "spinster" enthralled by the impulse of rebellion, and, in "The Magic Tower," a passionate artist and his wife whose youth and optimism are not enough to protect their "dream marriage." This new volume gathers some of Williams's most exuberant early work and includes one-acts that he would later expand to powerful full-length dramas: "The Pretty Trap," a cheerful take on *The Glass Menagerie*, and "Interior: Panic," a stunning precursor to *A Streetcar Named Desire*. The plays include: • At Liberty • The Magic Tower • Me, Vashya • Curtains for the Gentleman • In Our Profession • Every Twenty Minutes • Honor the Living • The Case of the Crushed Petunias • Moony's Kid Don't Cry • The Dark Room • The Pretty Trap • Interior: Panic • Kingdom of Earth • I Never Get Dressed Till After Dark on Sundays • Some Problems for The Moose Lodge

READING AND INTERPRETING THE WORKS OF TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

Enslow Publishing, LLC As a child growing up in the Deep South, Tom [Tennessee] Williams escaped from his tumultuous home life by retreating into his imagination. His love for made-up stories would eventually translate into a propensity for writing drama and poetry. This compelling text places the playwright's work in the context of his life and times, allowing readers to gain a greater understanding of the two-time Pulitzer Prize winner. Featuring quotes, excerpts, and in-depth critical analysis of his most famous plays as well as his lesser-known works, the text provides an in-depth look at this hard-working, prolific playwright considered by many to be among the greatest of his time.

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

A CASEBOOK

Routledge Tennessee Williams' plays are performed around the world, and are staples of the standard American repertory. His famous portrayals of women engage feminist critics, and as America's leading gay playwright from the repressive postwar period, through Stonewall, to the growth of gay liberation, he represents an important and controversial figure for queer theorists. Gross and his contributors have included all of his plays, a chronology, introduction and bibliography.

THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

Cambridge University Press This is a collection of thirteen original essays from a team of leading scholars in the field. In this wide-ranging volume, the contributors cover a healthy sampling of Williams's works, from the early apprenticeship years in the 1930s through to his last play before his death in 1983, *Something Cloudy, Something Clear*. In addition to essays on such major plays as *The Glass Menagerie*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, among others, the contributors also consider selected minor plays, short stories, poems, and biographical concerns. The Companion also features a chapter on selected key productions as well as a bibliographic essay surveying the major critical statements on Williams.

THE BEDTRICK

TALES OF SEX AND MASQUERADE

University of Chicago Press "Somehow I woke up one day and found myself in bed with a stranger." Meant literally or figuratively, this statement describes one of the best-known plots in world mythology and popular storytelling. In a tour that runs from Shakespeare to Hollywood and from Abraham Lincoln to Casanova, the erudite and irrepressible Wendy Doniger shows us the variety, danger, and allure of the "bedtrick," or what it means to wake up with a stranger. The *Bedtrick* brings together hundreds of stories from all over the world, from the earliest recorded Hindu and Hebrew texts to the latest item in the *Weekly World News*, to show the hilariously convoluted sexual scrapes that people manage to get themselves into and out of. Here you will find wives who accidentally commit adultery with their own husbands. You will read Lincoln's truly terrible poem about a bedtrick. You will learn that in Hong Kong the film *The Crying Game* was retitled *Oh No! My Girlfriend Has a Penis*. And that President Clinton was not the first man to be identified by an idiosyncratic organ. At the bottom of these wonderful stories, ancient myths, and historical anecdotes lie the dynamics of sex and gender, power and identity. Why can't people tell the difference in the dark? Can love always tell the difference between one lover and another? And what kind of truth does sex tell? Funny, sexy, and engaging, *The Bedtrick* is a masterful work of energetic storytelling and dazzling scholarship. Give it to your spouse and your lover.

CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF

Dramatists Play Service Inc Maggie the Cat fights for the lives of her damaged and drinking husband Brick, herself, and their unborn children in the revised version of Williams' acclaimed dramatization of Big Daddy's birthday and deathday party and family gathering

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS 101

Arcadia Publishing Like an alchemist, Tennessee would dip his pen in reality and make fiction out of it. This journey through his life focuses on the influence of specific people and places on selected works.

INVISIBLE SUBURBS

RECOVERING PROTEST FICTION IN THE 1950S UNITED STATES

Univ. Press of Mississippi An examination of fiction from repressed voices in a misunderstood decade of American history

TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE

THE LIFE AND WORK OF LESLIE FIEDLER

University of Missouri Press

MFA IN A BOX

A WHY TO WRITE BOOK

Dream of Things Nautilus Book Award Silver Winner. Eric Hoffer Award Grand Prize Short List. Midwest Book Award Finalist/Reference. "Witty, audacious and wise." Robin Metz, Winner of the Rainer Maria Rilke International Poetry Award. "This should be on every writer's bookshelf." Randy Richardson, President, Chicago Writers Association. By exploring the relationships between the writer and love, grief, place, family, race and violence, Rember helps writers dive deep into their own writing. "A big part of writing involves grappling with the terrors and discouragements that come when you have writing skills but can't project yourself or your work into the future," says Rember. "My hope is that MFA in a Box will help writers balance the despair of writing with the joy of writing. It's a book designed to help you to find the courage to put truth into words and to understand that writing is a life-and-death endeavor -- but that nothing about a life-and-death endeavor keeps it from being laugh-out-loud funny."

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS, UPDATED EDITION

Infobase Publishing Presents a collection of critical essays on Williams and his works, arranged in chronological order of publication.

BATTLE OF ANGELS

Dramatists Play Service, Inc. THE STORY: As in its later and substantially re-written version (entitled ORPHEUS DESCENDING), the play deals with the arrival of a virile young drifter, Val Xavier, in a sleepy, small town in rural Mississippi. He takes a job in the dry goods stor

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

A GUIDE TO RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE

Greenwood Publishing Group The plays of Tennessee Williams are some of the greatest triumphs of the American theatre. If Williams is not the most important American playwright, he is surely one of two or three of the most celebrated, rivaled only by Eugene O'Neill and Arthur Miller. But in a career that spanned almost five decades, he also produced two collections of poetry, two novels, four collections of stories, and scores of essays. This reference book offers a thorough review of the vast body of research on his works, along with a history of performance. The volume contains chapters

devoted to particular works or clusters of works, and each is written by an expert contributor. Each chapter includes a discussion of the biographical context of the work or group of works; a survey of the bibliographic history; a summary of major critical approaches, which looks at themes, characters, symbols, and plots; a consideration of the major critical problems posed by the work; a review of chief productions and film and television versions; a concluding overview; and a bibliography of secondary sources.

GENTLEMEN CALLERS

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS, HOMOSEXUALITY, AND MID-TWENTIETH-CENTURY DRAMA

Springer *Gentlemen Callers* provides a fascinating look at America's greatest Twentieth-century playwright and perhaps the most-performed, even today. Michael Paller looks at Tennessee Williams's plays from the 1940s through the 1960s against the backdrop of the playwright's life story, providing fresh details. Through this lens Paller examines the evolution of Mid-Twentieth-century America's acknowledgment and acceptance of homosexuality. From the early *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* and one-act *Auto-da-Fé*, through *The Two-Character Play* and *Something Cloudy, Something Clear*, Paller's book investigates how Williams's earliest critics marginalized or ignored his gay characters and why, beginning in the 1970s, many gay liberationists reviled them. Lively, blunt, and provocative, this book will appeal to anyone who loves Williams, Broadway, and the theater.

A HOUSE NOT MEANT TO STAND: A GOTHIC COMEDY

New Directions Publishing The spellbinding last full-length play produced during the author's lifetime is now published for the first time. *Christmas 1982: Cornelius and Bella McCorkle of Pascagoula, Mississippi*, return home one midnight in a thunderstorm from the Memphis funeral of their older son to a house and a life literally falling apart--daughter Joanie is in an insane asylum and their younger son Charlie is upstairs having sex with his pregnant, holy-roller girlfriend as the McCorkles enter. Cornelius, who has political ambitions and a litany of health problems, is trying to find a large amount of moonshine money his gentle wife Bella has hidden somewhere in their collapsing house, but his noisy efforts are disrupted by a stream of remarkable characters, both living and dead. While Williams often used drama to convey hope and desperation in human hearts, it was through this dark, expressionistic comedy, which he called a "Southern gothic spook sonata," that he was best able to chronicle his vision of the fragile state of our world.

SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL WELFARE

A HUMAN RIGHTS FOUNDATION

Oxford University Press Unique in its use of a human rights framework, *Social Work and Social Welfare* goes beyond American borders to examine U.S. government policies-including child welfare, social services, health care, and criminal justice-within a global context. Guided by the belief that forces from the global market and predominant political ideologies affect all social workers in their practice, the book addresses a wide range of relevant topics, including the refugee journey, the impact of new technologies, war trauma, environmental justice, and restorative justice. As a general textbook, the content is organized to follow outlines for basic, introductory, and more advanced courses examining social welfare programs, policies, and issues.

FIFTY MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY DRAMATISTS

Routledge *Fifty Modern and Contemporary and Dramatists* is a critical introduction to the work of some of the most important and influential playwrights from the 1950s to the present day. The figures chosen are among the most widely studied by students of drama, theatre and literature and include such celebrated writers as: • Samuel Beckett • Caryl Churchill • Anna Deavere Smith • Jean Genet • Sarah Kane • Heiner Müller • Arthur Miller • Harold Pinter • Sam Shephard Each short essay is written by one of an international team of academic experts and offers a detailed analysis of the playwright's key works and career. The introduction provides an historical and theatrical context to the volume, which provides an invaluable overview of modern and contemporary drama.

THE LONG REACH

NEW & UNCOLLECTED POEMS, 1948-1984

New Directions Publishing Poems deal with truth, religion, nature, thought, the role of poetry, death, visions, age, and the past.

LAW AND SEXUALITY IN TENNESSEE WILLIAMS'S AMERICA

Rowman & Littlefield This book explores the diverse representation of sexualities in Tennessee Williams's texts and argues for his creative response to the increase, prior to and following World War II, in criminal prosecution of transgressive sexual activity. It expands longstanding scholarly assessments of Williams's work, using the law as a framework to assess this writer's role as a cultural, political, and legal force participating in the normalization of diverse sexualities, during his lifetime and beyond.

MCGRAW-HILL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF WORLD DRAMA

AN INTERNATIONAL REFERENCE WORK IN 5 VOLUMES

VNR AG Ranging from the earliest drama to the theater of the 1980's this encyclopedia includes coverage of national drama and theater around the world, theater companies, and musical comedy. Arrangement of the 1,300 entries is alphabetically by name or subject with nearly 950 of these devoted to individual playwrights and their works.

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS, T-SHIRT MODERNISM AND THE REFASHIONINGS OF THEATER

Anthem Press Tennessee Williams, T-shirt Modernism and the Refashionings of Theater reappraises the received wisdom that Williams's work fell into decline in the late 1960 as the Naturalism he was associated with, not always through his own choice, was replaced by European theatrical experimentalism and as culture saw a lifting of sexual restrictions. It suggests, instead, that Williams was always experimental, always more Chekhov than Ibsen, a lyrical playwright inflected with the poetry of Harte Crane, and that his late plays are as central to Williams's reshaping of American theater as those works of the immediate post-World War II era that brought him fame and fortune. Its general aim, then, is to engage the perception that "Tennessee Williams is the greatest unknown playwright America has produced" (David Savran, City University of New York). In many respects the work of Tennessee Williams, after a protracted period of neglect, is primed for reappraisal, reinterpretations and, subsequently, re-stagings. This work is part of that process, academically at very least, but performatively as well as academic reinterest often regenerates theatrical reinterest.

THE PUBLISHERS' TRADE LIST ANNUAL

THE LINES BETWEEN THE LINES

HOW STAGE DIRECTIONS AFFECT EMBODIMENT

University of Michigan Press What is the purpose of a stage direction? These italicized lines written in between the lines of spoken dialogue tell us a great deal of information about a play's genre, mood, tone, visual setting, cast of characters, and more. Yet generations of actors have been taught to cross these words out as records of previous performances or signs of overly controlling playwrights, while scholars have either treated them as problems to be solved or as silent lines of dialogue. Stage directions can be all of these things, and yet there are examples from over one-hundred years of American playwriting that show that stage directions can also be so much more. *The Lines Between the Lines* focuses on how playwrights have written stage directions that engage readers, production team members, and scholars in a process of embodied creation in order to determine meaning. Author Bess Rowen calls the products of this method "affective stage directions" because they reach out from the page and affect the bodies of those who encounter them. Affective stage directions do not tell a reader or production team what a given moment looks like, but rather how a moment feels. In this way, these stage directions provide playgrounds for individual readers or production teams to make sense of a given moment in a play based on their own individual cultural experience, geographic location, and identity-markers. Affective stage directions enable us to check our assumptions about what kinds of bodies are represented on stage, allowing for a greater multitude of voices and kinds of embodied identity to make their own interpretations of a play while still following the text exactly. The tools provided in this book are as useful for the theater scholar as they are for the theater audience member, casting director, and actor. Each chapter covers a different function of stage directions (spoken, affective, choreographic, multivalent, impossible) and looks at it through a different practical lens (focusing on actors, directors, designers, dramaturgs, and readers). Every embodied person will have a slightly different understanding of affective stage directions, and it is precisely this diversity that makes these stage directions crucial to understanding theater in our time.

CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF

New Directions Publishing The tragic lives of a guilt-ridden alcoholic, his sexually-frustrated wife, and a tyrannical patriarch are violently exposed in Williams' renowned play.

NOW THE CATS WITH JEWELLED CLAWS & OTHER ONE-ACT PLAYS

New Directions Publishing “The peak of my virtuosity was in the one-act plays—like firecrackers in a rope.” —Tennessee Williams This new collection of fantastic, lesser-known one-acts contains some of Williams’s most potent, comical and disturbing short plays?Upper East Side ladies dine out during the apocalypse in *Now the Cats With Jeweled Claws*, while the poet Hart Crane is confronted by his mother at the bottom of the ocean in *Steps Must Be Gentle*. Five previously unpublished plays include *A Recluse and His Guest*, and *The Strange Play*, in which we witness a woman’s entire life lived within a twenty-four-hour span. This volume is edited, with an introduction and notes, by the editor, acting teacher, and theater scholar Thomas Keith.