

street car named desire pdf

street car named desire pdf is a widely sought resource for students, educators, and literature enthusiasts interested in Tennessee Williams' iconic play. This article explores the significance, availability, and usage of the *Streetcar Named Desire* script in PDF format. The play, known for its rich themes, complex characters, and dramatic narrative, holds a crucial place in American literature and theater studies. Accessing the **street car named desire pdf** allows readers to analyze the text in detail, study its dialogue, and understand its theatrical structure. This comprehensive guide also examines the legal aspects of obtaining the PDF, the educational benefits it offers, and tips for effective literary analysis. Readers will find a structured overview to navigate the essential facets of the play and its digital formats.

- Understanding Streetcar Named Desire
- Availability of Streetcar Named Desire PDF
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- How to Use the Streetcar Named Desire PDF Effectively
- Key Themes and Analysis in Streetcar Named Desire

Understanding Streetcar Named Desire

The play *Streetcar Named Desire*, written by Tennessee Williams, premiered in 1947 and quickly gained critical acclaim. It centers on the troubled life of Blanche DuBois, her sister Stella Kowalski, and Stella's husband, Stanley Kowalski. The narrative explores themes of desire, mental health, social class, and the conflict between reality and illusion. Understanding these elements is essential for a comprehensive appreciation of the text. The **street car named desire pdf** provides a convenient, accessible format for readers to engage deeply with the dialogue and stage directions that define the play's dramatic tension.

Historical Context

The play reflects post-World War II American society, addressing changing social dynamics and cultural anxieties. Tennessee Williams drew inspiration from his own experiences and observations of New Orleans life. The historical context enriches the reader's comprehension of the characters' motivations and conflicts.

presented in the **street car named desire pdf**.

Plot Overview

The story follows Blanche DuBois as she moves into her sister's apartment in New Orleans, clashing with Stanley Kowalski. The escalating tension leads to a dramatic climax that reveals deep psychological and emotional turmoil. Having the full play in PDF form enables detailed study of plot progression and character development.

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Educational Importance of Streetcar Named Desire PDF

The **street car named desire pdf** is an invaluable tool in educational settings, enhancing literature and drama curricula. It facilitates close reading, textual analysis, and stage performance preparation. Students benefit from having the full script accessible for annotation and repeated review.

Benefits for Students

- Easy access to the complete text for study and revision
- Ability to highlight and annotate key passages
- Convenient for group discussions and assignments
- Supports preparation for theatrical performances and presentations
- Facilitates understanding of dramatic structure and character interaction

Use in Academic Research

Scholars use the PDF version for citation, comparative analysis, and historical study. The digital format allows for keyword searches, enhancing research efficiency and depth.

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How to Use the Streetcar Named Desire PDF Effectively

Maximizing the utility of the **street car named desire pdf** involves strategic reading and analysis techniques. This approach supports comprehensive understanding and retention of the play's complexities.

Annotation and Note-Taking

Readers are encouraged to annotate the PDF, marking significant passages, thematic elements, and character traits. Digital tools enable highlighting, comment insertion, and bookmarking for easy reference.

Scene Breakdown

Dividing the text into manageable scenes or acts facilitates focused study and aids in memorization or performance preparation. The PDF format allows easy navigation between sections.

Comparative Study

Using the PDF alongside critical essays or adaptations enriches the interpretative experience. Readers can cross-reference dialogue and stage directions with analyses or film versions.

Key Themes and Analysis in Streetcar Named Desire

The **street car named desire pdf** provides the primary source for exploring the play's enduring themes. Understanding these themes is crucial for both academic study and theatrical interpretation.

Desire and Destruction

The play explores how desire motivates actions that lead to both passion and tragedy. Blanche's longing for affection and escape drives much of the narrative tension.

Reality versus Illusion

Blanche's struggle to maintain illusions contrasts sharply with Stanley's brutal realism. This conflict highlights the fragility of human psyche and societal facades.

Power and Control

The dynamics between characters reveal themes of dominance, submission, and resistance, reflecting broader social power structures.

Social Class and Decay

The play critiques the decline of the Southern aristocracy and the rise of a more industrial, working-class society, represented by Stanley and Stella's lifestyle.

Frequently Asked Questions

Where can I legally download 'A Streetcar Named Desire' PDF?

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While some websites may offer free PDFs, it's important to ensure they are legal copies. 'A Streetcar Named Desire' is still under copyright in many regions, so free versions might not be authorized.

What is the summary of 'A Streetcar Named Desire' available in PDF guides?

PDF study guides often summarize the play as a tragic drama by Tennessee Williams focusing on the decline of Blanche DuBois and the tension with her brother-in-law Stanley Kowalski in post-war New Orleans.

Can I find annotated versions of 'A Streetcar Named Desire' in PDF?

Yes, many educational websites and publishers offer annotated versions or study guides in PDF format that include explanations, analysis, and notes on 'A Streetcar Named Desire.'

Are there any study guides for 'A Streetcar Named Desire' in PDF format?

Yes, numerous study guides in PDF format exist online, providing chapter summaries, character analyses, themes, and essay questions to help students understand the play better.

What are the main themes highlighted in 'A Streetcar Named Desire' PDFs?

Main themes often highlighted include desire and destruction, reality versus illusion, social class conflict, mental health, and the decline of the Old South.

How can I use 'A Streetcar Named Desire' PDF for academic purposes?

You can use the PDF for reading the original text, referencing quotes, studying character development, analyzing themes, and preparing essays or presentations for class.

Is there an audiobook version linked with 'A Streetcar Named Desire' PDF resources?

Some websites provide both PDF texts and audiobook versions of 'A Streetcar Named Desire,' which can be helpful for auditory learners or those looking to experience the play in multiple formats.

Additional Resources

1. *A Streetcar Named Desire: The Original Play by Tennessee Williams*

This is the classic play that introduced the world to Blanche DuBois and Stanley Kowalski. Set in New Orleans, it explores themes of desire, mental illness, and social decay. The raw emotional intensity and poetic dialogue make it a cornerstone of American theater.

2. *The Glass Menagerie by Tennessee Williams*

Another masterpiece by Williams, this play delves into the fragile world of the Wingfield family. It shares themes of memory, desire, and escape, much like *Streetcar*. The poetic and evocative language creates a haunting portrayal of family dynamics and personal dreams.

3. *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof by Tennessee Williams*

This Pulitzer Prize-winning play explores complex family relationships and repressed desires in the American South. Themes of mendacity, truth, and emotional conflict resonate with those found in *A Streetcar Named Desire*. The intense character interactions offer a profound look at human vulnerability.

4. *Tennessee Williams: Mad Pilgrimage of the Flesh by John Lahr*

A comprehensive biography of Tennessee Williams, this book provides deep insight into the playwright's life and creative process. Understanding Williams' personal struggles helps readers appreciate the emotional depth of *Streetcar*. It's an essential read for fans wanting to explore the man behind the work.

5. *Southern Gothic Literature: A Study of the Grotesque in American South*

This academic text examines the Southern Gothic genre, to which *A Streetcar Named Desire* belongs. It discusses common motifs like decay, grotesque characters, and social issues. The book contextualizes Williams' play within a broader literary tradition.

6. *Feminism and the Politics of Desire in A Streetcar Named Desire*

This critical analysis explores the gender dynamics and power struggles in Williams' play. It offers interpretations of Blanche's character through a feminist lens, discussing themes of patriarchy and female agency. The book is valuable for readers interested in gender studies and literature.

7. *Theatrical Realism and Expressionism in American Drama*

Focusing on dramatic styles, this book compares realism and expressionism in plays like *Streetcar*. It explains how Williams blends these techniques to convey psychological depth and social critique. Theater students and enthusiasts will find this a useful resource.

8. *New Orleans: The Cultural Setting of A Streetcar Named Desire*

This book explores the rich cultural and historical background of New Orleans, the vibrant setting of the play. It discusses how the city's unique atmosphere influences the mood and themes of the drama. Readers gain a better understanding of the social context shaping the narrative.

9. *Psychology of Characters in Tennessee Williams' Plays*

An in-depth study of the complex psychological profiles of Williams' characters, including Blanche DuBois and Stanley Kowalski. The book analyzes their motivations, traumas, and interpersonal conflicts. It's an insightful resource for those interested in character study and psychological literary criticism.

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Streetcar Named Desire PDF: A Deep Dive into Tennessee Williams' Masterpiece

Ebook Title: *A Streetcar Named Desire: Exploring Themes, Characters, and Legacy*

Ebook Outline:

Introduction: A brief overview of Tennessee Williams, the play's historical context, and its enduring popularity.

Chapter 1: Blanche DuBois – A Study in Decadence: Analysis of Blanche's character, her motivations, and her tragic downfall.

Chapter 2: Stanley Kowalski – The Brute Force of Reality: Examination of Stanley's character, his representation of the working class, and his conflict with Blanche.

Chapter 3: Stella Kowalski – Caught Between Two Worlds: Exploration of Stella's complex relationship with both Blanche and Stanley, and her difficult choices.

Chapter 4: Themes of Illusion vs. Reality: Discussion of the play's central theme and how it manifests through the characters and setting.

Chapter 5: Symbolism and Imagery: Analysis of key symbols and imagery used by Williams to enhance the narrative and thematic depth.

Chapter 6: The Power of Memory and the Past: Exploration of how Blanche's past traumas shape her present and contribute to her demise.

Chapter 7: Critical Interpretations and Adaptations: Overview of different critical perspectives on the play and its numerous film and stage adaptations.

Conclusion: Summary of the play's enduring impact on literature, theatre, and popular culture.

A Streetcar Named Desire PDF: Unpacking Tennessee Williams' Enduring Masterpiece

Tennessee Williams' *A Streetcar Named Desire*, first performed in 1947, remains a cornerstone of American drama. Its exploration of complex characters, potent themes, and evocative imagery continues to resonate with audiences and scholars alike. This in-depth analysis delves into the play's intricate layers, examining its enduring relevance and the reasons behind its continued popularity. This exploration will be particularly useful for students, scholars, and anyone seeking a deeper understanding of this theatrical masterpiece. Acquiring a *A Streetcar Named Desire* PDF provides easy access to the text for detailed study and personal interpretation.

1. Blanche DuBois - A Study in Decadence (H2)

Blanche DuBois is arguably one of the most iconic and compelling female characters in American literature. She arrives in New Orleans, clinging to a faded aristocratic past, desperately seeking refuge from her crumbling reality. Blanche's fragility masks a deep-seated insecurity and a desperate clinging to illusions. Her reliance on artifice, manifested in her elaborate lies and carefully constructed persona, is a direct response to the trauma she has experienced. The loss of Belle Reve, her family's ancestral home, symbolizes the loss of her identity and status. This chapter will analyze Blanche's descent into madness, exploring the psychological factors that contribute to her tragic fate. We will examine her manipulative behavior, her alcoholism, and her desperate attempts to recapture a lost past, ultimately culminating in her mental breakdown and institutionalization. The exploration of her sexuality and its societal implications within the context of the 1940s will also be a key focus.

2. Stanley Kowalski - The Brute Force of Reality (H2)

In stark contrast to Blanche's fragile world of illusion is Stanley Kowalski, the embodiment of raw, primal energy. He represents the working class, a stark counterpoint to Blanche's decaying aristocracy. Stanley's animalistic nature, his physical dominance, and his blunt honesty create a powerful tension with Blanche's refined sensibilities. This chapter will dissect Stanley's character, analyzing his motivations and his brutal treatment of Blanche. We will investigate the patriarchal structure he embodies and how his actions reflect the societal norms of the time. While often portrayed as a villain, a nuanced understanding of Stanley reveals a complex character driven by instinct and a fierce loyalty to his family, even if that loyalty manifests in destructive ways. The chapter will also examine the symbolism of his animalistic traits and his connection to the natural world, contrasting him directly with the artificiality Blanche desperately tries to maintain.

3. Stella Kowalski - Caught Between Two Worlds (H2)

Stella Kowalski, Stanley's wife and Blanche's sister-in-law, is caught in the tumultuous crossfire between these two diametrically opposed personalities. She represents a kind of mediating force, attempting to reconcile the clash between illusion and reality, refinement and brute force. This chapter will explore Stella's complex relationship with both Blanche and Stanley. It will examine the reasons behind her loyalty to Stanley despite his brutality, and the difficult choices she faces in navigating her loyalty to her sister and her commitment to her husband and family. Stella's character is often debated, with critics questioning her complicity in Blanche's destruction. This chapter will offer a nuanced perspective, acknowledging the societal constraints and personal vulnerabilities that shaped her decisions.

4. Themes of Illusion vs. Reality (H2)

A Streetcar Named Desire is fundamentally a play about the clash between illusion and reality. Blanche's desperate attempts to cling to a romanticized past are consistently challenged by the harsh realities of her present circumstances. This chapter will analyze how this central theme is woven throughout the play, examining the various ways in which illusion and reality manifest themselves in the characters' actions, dialogue, and the setting itself. We will consider how the play explores the human tendency to escape painful truths and the consequences of failing to confront reality. The contrast between Blanche's decaying gentility and Stanley's raw vitality perfectly encapsulates this central conflict.

5. Symbolism and Imagery (H2)

Williams masterfully employs symbolism and imagery to enhance the play's thematic depth and emotional impact. This chapter will analyze key symbols such as the streetcar itself, the paper lantern, Belle Reve, and the bath, exploring their multifaceted meanings and their contribution to the overall narrative. The use of light and darkness, the evocative descriptions of the setting, and the recurring motifs all contribute to the play's powerful atmosphere. The chapter will delve into the rich tapestry of symbolic language used by Williams, illuminating the deeper layers of meaning within the text.

6. The Power of Memory and the Past (H2)

Blanche's past traumas profoundly shape her present actions and her eventual downfall. This chapter will examine the role of memory and the past in the play, exploring how Blanche's experiences haunt her and contribute to her mental disintegration. The loss of Belle Reve, her failed marriages, and her sexual encounters all contribute to her fragile state and her inability to cope with the harsh realities of her life. The chapter will investigate how Williams utilizes flashbacks and fragmented memories to illustrate the powerful influence of the past on the present.

7. Critical Interpretations and Adaptations (H2)

A Streetcar Named Desire has been subject to numerous critical interpretations since its premiere. This chapter will survey various perspectives on the play, examining different critical lenses through which the text can be analyzed. Feminist interpretations, psychoanalytic readings, and Marxist critiques will be discussed. Furthermore, the chapter will explore the numerous film and stage adaptations of the play, analyzing how these adaptations have interpreted and re-imagined Williams' original work. The impact of Marlon Brando's iconic portrayal of Stanley Kowalski will also be examined.

8. Conclusion: Enduring Legacy (H2)

A Streetcar Named Desire continues to hold a prominent place in American literature and theatre. Its enduring appeal lies in its exploration of timeless themes—illusion versus reality, the clash of cultures, and the fragility of the human psyche. This concluding chapter will summarize the play's significance and its lasting impact on subsequent works of art and literature. The play's exploration of complex characters and its powerful emotional resonance have ensured its continued relevance for audiences across generations. The availability of a *A Streetcar Named Desire* PDF facilitates continued engagement and critical discussion of this remarkable work.

FAQs

1. What is the main conflict in *A Streetcar Named Desire*? The central conflict is between Blanche DuBois and Stanley Kowalski, representing a clash between illusion and reality, refined aristocracy and working-class brutality.
2. What are the major themes of the play? Major themes include illusion vs. reality, the destructive power of the past, the disintegration of the Southern aristocracy, and the struggle for identity and survival in a changing society.
3. What is the significance of the setting in New Orleans? New Orleans provides a backdrop of sultry heat, raw sexuality, and a blend of cultures that intensifies the conflict between Blanche and Stanley.
4. How does Blanche's past impact her present? Blanche's past traumas—the loss of Belle Reve, her failed marriages, and her sexual indiscretions—fuel her anxieties and contribute to her mental instability.
5. What is the symbolism of the streetcar? The streetcar symbolizes Blanche's journey into a harsh, unfamiliar reality, her descent into madness, and the loss of her idealized past.
6. Why is Stanley Kowalski such a compelling character? Stanley's brutal honesty, primal energy, and animalistic nature make him a complex and fascinating character, even as his actions are often reprehensible.
7. How does the play portray women in the 1940s? The play offers complex and multifaceted portrayals of women, highlighting both their strengths and vulnerabilities within the societal constraints of the time.
8. What are some of the different critical interpretations of the play? Critical interpretations range from feminist and psychoanalytic readings to Marxist and sociological perspectives, each offering unique insights into the play's complexities.
9. Where can I find a *Streetcar Named Desire* PDF? Various online retailers and libraries may offer digital versions of the play. Always ensure you are accessing legally obtained copies.

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street car named desire pdf: Mimetic Disillusion Anne Fleche, 1997-01-30 The book focuses on two major writers of the 1930s and 1940s - Eugene O'Neill and Tennessee Williams - one whose writing career was just ending and the other whose career was just beginning.

street car named desire pdf: A Streetcar Named Desire Rosemary O'Shea, 2011-08 Insight Study Guides are written by experts and cover a range of popular literature, plays and films. Designed to provide insight and an overview about each text for students and teachers, these guides endeavor to develop knowledge and understanding rather than just provide answers and summaries.

street car named desire pdf: *A Streetcar Named Desire* Tennessee Williams, 2023-01-26 This revised Student Edition includes an introduction by Bess Rowen, Assistant Professor at Villanova University, US, which looks in particular at the play's treatment of rape, vulnerable people, mental institutions (especially in connection to Williams's own family), sexuality and sexual desire. *A Streetcar Named Desire* shows a turbulent confrontation between traditional values in the American South - an old-world graciousness and beauty running decoratively to seed - set against the rough-edged, aggressive materialism of the new world. Through the vividly characterised figures of Southern belle Blanche Dubois, seeking refuge from physical ugliness in decayed gentility, and her brutal brother-in-law Stanley Kowalski, Tennessee Williams dramatises his sense of the South's past as still active and often destructive in modern America. METHUEN DRAMA STUDENT EDITIONS are expertly annotated texts of a wide range of plays from the modern and classic repertoires. A well as the complete text of the play itself, this volume contains: · A chronology of the play and the playwright's life and work · An introductory discussion of the social, political, cultural and economic context in which the play was originally conceived and created · A succinct overview of the creation processes followed and subsequent performance history of the piece · An analysis of, and commentary on, some of the major themes and specific issues addressed by the text · A bibliography of suggested primary and secondary materials for further study

street car named desire pdf: Study and Revise for AS/A-level: A Streetcar Named Desire

Nicola Onyett, 2016-03-21 Enable students to achieve their best grade in AS/A-level English Literature with this year-round course companion; designed to instil in-depth textual understanding as students read, analyse and revise *A Streetcar Named Desire* throughout the course. This Study and Revise guide: - Increases students' knowledge of *A Streetcar Named Desire* as they progress through the detailed commentary and contextual information written by experienced teachers and examiners - Develops understanding of characterisation, themes, form, structure and language, equipping students with a rich bank of textual examples to enhance their coursework and exam responses - Builds critical and analytical skills through challenging, thought-provoking questions and tasks that encourage students to form their own personal responses to the text - Extends learning and prepares students for higher-level study by introducing critical viewpoints, comparative references to other literary works and suggestions for independent research - Helps students maximise their exam potential using clear explanations of the Assessment Objectives, sample student answers and examiner insights - Improves students' extended writing techniques through targeted advice on planning and structuring a successful essay

street car named desire pdf: Grounded Globalism James L. Peacock, 2011-04-01 The world is flat? Maybe not, says this paradigm-shifting study of globalism's impact on a region legendarily resistant to change. The U.S. South, long defined in terms of its differences with the U.S. North, is moving out of this national and oppositional frame of reference into one that is more international and integrative. Likewise, as the South (home to UPS, CNN, KFC, and other international brands) goes global, people are emigrating there from countries like India, Mexico, and Vietnam--and becoming southerners. Much has been made of the demographic and economic aspects of this shift. Until now, though, no one has systematically shown what globalism means to the southern sense of self. Anthropologist James L. Peacock looks at the South of both the present and the past to develop the idea of grounded globalism, in which global forces and local cultures rooted in history, tradition, and place reverberate against each other in mutually sustaining and energizing ways. Peacock's focus is on a particular part of the world; however, his model is widely relevant: Some kind of grounding in locale is necessary to human beings. Grounded Globalism draws on perspectives from fields as diverse as ecology, anthropology, religion, and history to move us beyond the model, advanced by such scholars as C. Vann Woodward, that depicts the South as a region paralyzed by the burden of its past. Peacock notes that, while globalism may lift old burdens, it may at the same time impose new ones. He also maintains that earlier regional identities have not been replaced by the rootless cosmopolitanism of cyberspace or other abstracted systems. Attachments to place remain, even as worldwide markets erase boundaries and flatten out differences and distinctions among nations. Those attachments exert their own pressures back on globalism, says Peacock, with subtle strengths we should not discount.

street car named desire pdf: Words with Music Lehman Engel, 2006 The dean of Broadway musical directors examines the dynamics of how the book, music and lyrics work together to create such hits as *My Fair Lady*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Hair*, *Pal Joey*, *West Side Story*, *Company*, *South Pacific*, *Threepenny Opera* and *Porgy and Bess*. Howard Kissel, chief theater critic for the New York Daily News, extends the reach of Engel's subjects by bringing them up to date with commentary on such shows as *A Chorus Line*, *Nine*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Rent*, *Working* and *Falsettos*. Kissel offers a thoughtful history on how musical theater has evolved in the three decades since Engel wrote *Words with Music* (1972) and how Engel's classic work remains vital and illuminating today.

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Desire classics of the American theater. Only one of these plays (*The Purification*) is written in verse, but in all of them the approach to character is by way of poetic revelation. Whether Williams is writing of derelict roomers in a New Orleans boarding house (*The Lady of Larkspur Lotion*) or the memories of a venerable traveling salesman (*The Last of My Solid Gold Watches*) or of delinquent children (*This Property is Condemned*), his insight into human nature is that of the poet. He can compress the basic meaning of life—its pathos or its tragedy, its bravery or the quality of its love—into one small scene or a few moments of dialogue. Mr. Williams's views on the role of the little theater in American culture are contained in a stimulating essay, *Something wild...*, which serves as an introduction to this collection.

street car named desire pdf: *Mrs. Dalloway* Virginia Woolf, 2023-12-16 *Mrs Dalloway*, Virginia Woolf's fourth novel, offers the reader an impression of a single June day in London in 1923. Clarissa Dalloway, the wife of a Conservative member of parliament, is preparing to give an evening party, while the shell-shocked Septimus Warren Smith hears the birds in Regent's Park chattering in Greek. There seems to be nothing, except perhaps London, to link Clarissa and Septimus. She is middle-aged and prosperous, with a sheltered happy life behind her; Smith is young, poor, and driven to hatred of himself and the whole human race. Yet both share a terror of existence, and sense the pull of death. The world of Mrs Dalloway is evoked in Woolf's famous stream of consciousness style, in a lyrical and haunting language which has made this, from its publication in 1925, one of her most popular novels.

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Murphy, 2010 Volume of literary criticism concerning Tennessee Williams' novel *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

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sister Stella and her husband Stanley Kowalski. In a supporting part appears Mitch. Blanche is a thirty year old woman from Mississippi. At the beginning of the play she comes to visit her younger sister Stella in New Orleans, because she does not know where else to go. All of her family are dead except Stella. Blanche is helpless and seeks protection, because she has lost her home "Belle Reve", her inheritance and her employment. Stella and Stan are living in a small apartment in the French Quarter of New Orleans called "Elysian Fields". Blanche has to take the streetcars called "Desire" and "Cemeteries". Here the strong symbolism of Williams' writing can already be seen clearly. The names of the streetcars foreshadow the course of the play and its outcome and in general show Blanche's journey in the play, from longing and desire to destruction.

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He considers the representation of bodies and acts, the closet dramas between 1930 and 1968, and recent works portraying a culture that has to do with more than sex.--Annotation © Book News, Inc., Portland, Ore.

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