

and possibly showing some sexual aggression toward Stanley. Earlier in this scene she has suggested to Stella that she leave her squalid low-class situation and start a shop with her, and this change of heart to praise of Stan is probably used by Stella to soften the shock of the idea. If nothing else we must remember that Stella is a complex character, and also headed for insanity, and an ambivalent attitude towards Stan may be viewed as psychological rather than based on an intellectual form of scheming on Blanche's part.

Stella is influenced to a small degree by Blanche's dreams, and Stella defends her sister to Stan on a number of occasions. Psychologists will tell us that this is due to sibling sexual ties that remain strong throughout one's life, but after all Blanche is Stella's sister. Stan feels no such sibling attachments, and is onesidedly against Stella's sister throughout the play. In the First Act, where Stan is introduced, he is described as exuding an "...animal joy in his being," and his sexual prowess is pointed out in the same stage direction. Sex does not seem to be a conscious motivation on Stanley's part, however, and most of his flamboyant and violent behavior springs from affronts to his position as the head of the household. He is also suspicious of Blanche as soon as she arrives at his flat. In Scene Two he brings up the possibility that Blanche has made off with the proceeds of the selling of Belle Reve. He jerks some of Blanche's things out of a trunk and says, "Open your eyes to this stuff! You think she got them out of a teacher's pay? ... Hers's our plantation, or what's left of it, here!" This scene contains a lot of action between Blanche and Stan, and as Blanche comes out of a bath, he confronts her about the plantation. She is cleared of the charge of absconding with the funds, but there is a lot of tugging and pushing between the

Do you mean Blanche?