

Character Descriptions

Character Breakdown (All roles are open) Ages represent the age of the characters. The age and physical attributes listed for each character are a guide and are not necessarily final casting requirements. All those cast must be at least 18 years old due to the mature themes addressed in the show.

BLANCHE DuBOIS (f 30-35) A sensitive, delicate, moth-like member of the fading Southern aristocracy, about thirty years old, she has just lost her teaching position in Laurel, Mississippi, because of her promiscuity. She, therefore, left Mississippi and as the play opens arrives at the home of her sister and brother-in-law, Stella and Stanley Kowalski. Slender, dark, and with features and a demeanor that connote an emotionally fragile person. NOT looking for an imitation of Vivien Leigh. Raised with money but now destitute, her grip on reality is far too loose, carries eternal guilt, has a way with words and possesses an alarming internal dialogue. She is a complex and contradictory character, an alcoholic, whose helplessness, fragility and vulnerabilities foreshadow her tragic end. When Blanche arrives at the Kowalskis she's tired but she hasn't given up, not just yet, but you can "smell the desperation." Her beauty from times past has to shine through in the beginning and slowly, as the play progresses, we see the "light of life" fade. (LEAD)

STELLA KOWALSKI (f 25-30) Blanche's younger sister, about twenty-five years old, she is married to Stanley and lives in the French Quarter of New Orleans. As the play opens we learn that she is pregnant with their first child. She is happy in her marriage and her home; however, much to the consternation of Blanche, she has forgotten her genteel upbringing in order to enjoy a more common existence. Fair, vivacious, sensual. Stella fell for Stanley because she liked the "passion" in their relationship – it made her feel "alive." That's actually something she and Blanche have in common when it comes to men, but it's not something they'd ever admit to each other. Stella is happy to see Blanche but also views her visit as an invasion. Blanche represents "the past" from which Stella has moved on and to which she has no interest in returning. Married to Stanley, Stella has discovered an overpowering physical passion which Blanche cannot understand. Stella surrenders totally to Stanley, accepting his world and its value; torn between Blanche and Stanley, she ultimately sides with her husband. (LEAD)

STANLEY KOWALSKI (m 30-35) A rather common working man, about thirty to thirty-five years old, his main drive in life is sexual. He is a former master sergeant in the engineer corps and faces everything and everybody in his life with a brutal realism. Must be muscular, well-built, and around 6ft tall. NOT looking for an imitation Marlon Brando. Stanley is shrewd and manipulative, always "working an angle." He isn't as "sure" of himself as he projects. Blanche represents a "reminder" of what Stella gave up to be with him, and thus a threat to his life as he knows it. He is lean, vibrant, radiates energy; has dirt under his nails. Unshakeable world view and sees his commonness as above Blanche's pretensions. He hits his wife, rapes her sister, and shows no remorse. (LEAD)

HAROLD "MITCH" MITCHELL (m 30-35) Stanley's friend who went through the war with him, he is unmarried and has a dying mother for whom he feels a great devotion. He is one of a group of men who gather regularly at the Kowalski home for poker. He, however, is a bit gentler than the others. Tall, solidly built, shy, clumsy, but gentle and kind; devoted to his ailing mother; Stanley's buddy from the war, work and poker; finds himself drawn toward Blanche. Frustrated at still being single, Mitch wants someone who's "genteel and a lady," so he can "marry up." He thinks he's found that in Blanche. He sweats through his awkwardness but is sensitive and a gentleman - until he learns the truth about Blanche's sordid past. Yet, at the end, he and Stella are the only ones who lament Blanche's fate. (SUPPORTING)

EUNICE HUBBELL (f 25-35) A bit crass and rough around the edges. She's a good friend to Stella and finds Blanche's "I'm better than you" airs annoying and insulting. She is Stella's friend, upstairs neighbor, and landlady. We see the low-class life of the French Quarter through her and her husband, Steve. (SUPPORTING)

STEVE HUBBELL (m 25-40) Same demeanor as his wife – on the crass side and very earthy. Loves his wife in a possessive, grabby kind of way but is still fascinated by the "lady" who comes into their midst. Given the opportunity, he'd grab Blanche in an instant for a little "footsy." As one of the poker players, Steve has the final line of the play. It comes as Blanche is carted off to the asylum and Steve coldly deals another hand. (FEATURED)

YOUNG COLLECTOR ("looks" 15-17 but will cast someone who is at least 18 years old, because of the interaction w/ Blanche). A teenager who comes to the Kowalskis' door to collect for the newspaper when Blanche is home alone. The boy leaves bewildered after Blanche hits on him and gives him a passionate farewell kiss. (FEATURED)

PABLO GONZALES (m 25-40) Pablo Gonzales is one of the poker players, who punctuates games with Spanish phrases. Ability to speak Spanish is not required but is a plus as is a Spanish accent. (FEATURED)

NEGRO WOMAN (f 30-50) Has a "seen it all" air and look about her. (ENSEMBLE)

DOCTOR (m 40-60) Arrives at the end to bring Blanche on her "vacation." After the Nurse has pinned her, the Doctor succeeds in calming Blanche. She latches onto him, depending, now and always, "on the kindness of strangers." (ENSEMBLE)

NURSE (f 30-45) A brutal and impersonal character; quite severe, when no straight jacket is available, she is. Must be able to wrestle Blanche to the ground. (ENSEMBLE)

MEXICAN WOMAN (f 40-65) The Mexican Woman sells flowers for the dead during the powerful scene when Blanche recounts her fall from grace. A Spanish accent is a plus. (ENSEMBLE)

The ethnicity of some of the characters may be adapted to the pool of actors/actresses that audition for the show. In some instances, some actors/actresses may play more than one character.