

Cat on a Hot Tin Roof by Tennessee Williams

Discussion Questions

1. What is the significance of the play's title?
2. The structure of the play and stage directions were somewhat unique at the time. Share any reflections you had regarding the specifications of the setting, characterizations, and non-stop action of the play. What is the importance of long stage directions in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*?
3. The dichotomy of appearances versus reality runs throughout *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. How does this dichotomy relate to wealth? How does wealth limit or harm the Pollitts in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*?
4. A major theme throughout the play is homophobia. Brick, Maggie, and Big Daddy circle around and directly discuss homosexuality and male friendship. Did you find any of their individual takes surprising? What did you think of the parallel between Brick and Skipper with *Straw and Ochello*?
5. Mae and Maggie have opposite feminine qualities. How have their "hyper-feminine" expressions constrained them? Is *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* by Tennessee Williams a feminist tragedy?
6. What are some possible interpretations and explanations of the crutches that Brick uses, and how does Brick's physical injury contribute to the symbolism of the play?
7. Why does Maggie's announcement that she is pregnant seem like a viable solution to her?