

Contents

K

| | Preface | vii |
|-----|---|-----|
| | Prologue | ix |
| 1. | It was a tragic move | 1 |
| 2. | The parlor was uncomfortable as the cellar | 21 |
| 3. | the kind of freedom I had always needed | 38 |
| 4. | a battle of angels above them | 52 |
| 5. | Jack be nimble, Jack be quick, Jack jump over, Arithmetic! | 64 |
| 6. | Not about nightingales | 83 |
| 7. | The Play is memory | 97 |
| 8. | Alma is Spanish for soul | 113 |
| 9. | You didn't know Blanche as a girl | 130 |
| 10. | They live from the heat | 155 |

CONTENTS

| 11. | this one was meant most for the vulgarity | |
|-----|---|-----|
| | of performance | 172 |
| 12. | the earth destroys her crooked child | 185 |
| 13. | But we've never talked to each other! | 198 |
| 14. | Some things are marked by their nature | |
| | to be not completed | 223 |
| 15. | God shows a savage face to people | 240 |
| 16. | lost in the beanstalk country, the ogre's country | 260 |
| 17. | High Point is built on a cavern | 275 |
| | Conclusion | 287 |
| | Acknowledgments | 295 |
| | Index | 298 |

Each chapter title is a quotation from a work of Tennessee Williams.