

## **The Glass Menagerie**

### **University of Texas El Paso production**

AMANDA WINGFIELD: Now, you give me one good reason why you should be afraid of the door. A door.

TOM WINGFIELD: Hello?

AMANDA WINGFIELD: You go. Now, go. Go. Laura Wingfield, you march straight to that door. Open it, honey. He's hurried for you, honey. So get it.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

TOM WINGFIELD: Laura. Laura, this is Jim. Jim, this is my sister, Laura.

JIM O'CONNOR: I didn't know Shakespeare had a sister. How are you, Laura?

LAURA WINGFIELD: How do you do?

JIM O'CONNOR: Well, I'm OK. Oh, your hand is cold, Laura.

LAURA WINGFIELD: Yes. I've been playing the victrola.

JIM O'CONNOR: Must have been playing classical music. You ought to play a little fast swing music to warm you up.

[AUDIENCE LAUGHING]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

[MUSIC STOPPING]

[FOOTSTEPS RECEDING]

JIM O'CONNOR: What's the matter?

TOM WINGFIELD: Oh, Laura's just terribly shy.

JIM O'CONNOR: Shy, huh? You know, it's unusual to meet a shy girl nowadays. I don't believe you ever mentioned you had a--

I see that pitcher Dean is on his [INAUDIBLE].

TOM WINGFIELD: Oh, really?

JIM O'CONNOR: Uh-huh. Say, where you going?

TOM WINGFIELD: Oh, I'm going out on the terrace and then I'm going to have a smoke.

JIM O'CONNOR: You know, Shakespeare, man? I want to sell you a bill of goods.

TOM WINGFIELD: Goods?

JIM O'CONNOR: A course I'm taking.

TOM WINGFIELD: What course?

JIM O'CONNOR: A course in public speaking. I mean, you and me, we're not the warehouse type.

TOM WINGFIELD: Well, thanks. That's good news, but what does this course have to do with it?

JIM O'CONNOR: Well, it fits you for executive positions.

TOM WINGFIELD: Oh.

JIM O'CONNOR: I tell you, it's done a hell of a lot for me.

TOM WINGFIELD: Really? In what respect?

JIM O'CONNOR: In all respects. Sit. Ask yourself now what's the difference between you and me and the guy in an office down front? Brains? No. Ability? No. Then what? Primarily, he's got just one single thing.

TOM WINGFIELD: And what's this one thing?

JIM O'CONNOR: Social poise, having the ability to square up to somebody, hold your own on any social level.

AMANDA WINGFIELD: Tom?

TOM WINGFIELD: Yes, mother.

AMANDA WINGFIELD: Is that you and Mr. O'Connor?

TOM WINGFIELD: Yes.

AMANDA WINGFIELD: Well, make yourselves comfortable.

TOM WINGFIELD: We will.

AMANDA WINGFIELD: Ask Mr. O'Connor if he would like to wash his hands.

[AUDIENCE LAUGHING]

JIM O'CONNOR: No, thanks, ma'am. I took care of that down at the warehouse. Say, Tom?

TOM WINGFIELD: Huh?

JIM O'CONNOR: Mr. Mendoza's been speaking to me about you.

TOM WINGFIELD: Favorably?

JIM O'CONNOR: What do you think?

TOM WINGFIELD: Well, I don't know.

JIM O'CONNOR: You're going to out of a job if you don't wake up.

TOM WINGFIELD: I am waking up.

JIM O'CONNOR: Yeah. But you show no signs.

TOM WINGFIELD: The signs are interior. I'm a guy that's involved and doesn't want to get involved with Mr. Mendoza or the warehouse or even a night course in public speaking.

JIM O'CONNOR: Now, what are you gassing about?

TOM WINGFIELD: I'm tired of the movies.

JIM O'CONNOR: Movies? Yes.

TOM WINGFIELD: The movies.

But I'm not patient. I'm about to make a move.

JIM O'CONNOR: A move?

TOM WINGFIELD: Yes.

JIM O'CONNOR: When?

TOM WINGFIELD: Soon.

JIM O'CONNOR: Where? Where?

TOM WINGFIELD: I know I sound dreamy, but I'm boiling inside. If I pick up a show and I shudder, then I think about how short life is. And whatever that means, it doesn't mean making the shoes-- except as something to put on my traveler's feet. Look.

JIM O'CONNOR: What's this?

TOM WINGFIELD: I'm a member of it.

JIM O'CONNOR: The Union of Merchant Seamen.

TOM WINGFIELD: I've paid my dues last month instead of the light bill.

JIM O'CONNOR: You're going to regret when they turn off the lights.

TOM WINGFIELD: I'm like the bastard son of a bastard, like my father. Come here.

[FOOTSTEPS RECEDING]

Mother, how about supper?

[AUDIENCE LAUGHING]

AMANDA WINGFIELD: Honey, why don't you go ask sister about supper? You know she's in full charge of that this evening. You tell her that you hungry boys are waiting for it. Well, have you met Laura?

JIM O'CONNOR: Well, she came to the door.

AMANDA WINGFIELD: Oh, she let you in?

JIM O'CONNOR: Yes, ma'am.

AMANDA WINGFIELD: She's very pretty.

[CHUCKLING]

JIM O'CONNOR: Oh, yes, ma'am.

AMANDA WINGFIELD: You know, it's rare for a girl as sweet and pretty as Laura to be domesticated, but she is. Thank heavens. Very pretty and very domestic.