

CHARACTERS

- Mrs. Parnell a patrician matron in her late sixties, she enjoys speaking in orchestral tones
- Flippy her maid, awkward and in a constant frenzy
- Elmyra the lady of the house, 35 and elegantly beautiful, proper without being rigid
- Dorine her maid, smart, opinionated and unafraid to show it
- Denny Elmyra's son, about fifteen, bursting with emotion and fiercely loyal
- Maryann Elmyra's daughter, about sixteen, lovely, confused, and sensitive
- Cleo Elmyra's brother, easy-going and cultured, a lawyer
- Oren Elmyra's husband and Mrs. Parnell's son, about fifty, distracted and a little sad
- Val Maryann's fiance. Modern, easily confused, out to make his mark
- Buddy a handsome, clean-cut youth of 28, with a spellbindingly charming Southern lilt
- Larry a thirty-something guy from Brooklyn
- Bernie Loyal a slick little man in his fifties
- Fiorello LaGuardia Hizzoner, 57 at this time.

SETTING

A house on Manhattan's Washington Square

TIME

Summer 1939