



## Fugitive Kind

By Tennessee Williams

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### Fugitive Kind By Tennessee Williams

**Social outcasts, misfit survivors, dangerous passions? Tennessee Williams fleshed out the characters and themes that would dominate his later work in *Fugitive Kind*, one of his earliest plays.**

*Fugitive Kind*, one of Tennessee Williams's earliest plays, is one of his richest in dramatic material. Written in 1937 when the playwright was still Thomas Lanier Williams, *Fugitive Kind* introduces the character who will inhabit most of his later plays: the marginal man or woman who, through no personal fault, is a misfit in society but who demonstrates an admirable will to survive. Signature Tennessee Williams' characters, situations, and even the title (which was used as *The Fugitive Kind* for the 1960 film based on *Orpheus Descending*) have their genesis here. At age twenty-six, Williams was still learning his craft and this, his second full-length play, shows his debt to sources as diverse as thirties gangster films (*The Petrified Forest*, *Winterset*) and *Romeo and Juliet*. *Fugitive Kind*, with its star-crossed lovers and big city slum setting, takes place in a flophouse on the St. Louis waterfront in the shadow of Eads Bridge, where Williams spent Saturdays away from his shoe factory job and met his characters: jobless wayfarers on the dole, young writers and artists of the WPA, even gangsters and G-men. *Fugitive Kind* was also Williams's second play to be produced by The Mummies, a St. Louis theatre group devoted to drama of social protest. Called "vital and absorbing" by a contemporary review in *The St. Louis Star-Times*, this play reveals the young playwright's own struggle between his radical-socialist sympathies and his poetic inclinations, and signals his future reputation as our most compassionate lyric dramatist.

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# Fugitive Kind

*By Tennessee Williams*

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### Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

One of Tennessee Williams's earliest plays, *Fugitive Kind*, was first produced in 1937 and introduced characters and themes that 'resurfaced in *Orpheus Descending* and other plays. Set in a Midwestern riverfront flophouse, it centers around the proprietress, Glory, and Terry Meighan, a gangster on the lam after a bank robbery. Tensions mount between the two, and they fall for one another, but all ends in tragedy. Mainly die-hard Williams fans will want this one and they're probably better off with it than with the lackluster film version, directed by Sidney Lumet.

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### Review

Williams is a playwright to watch. -- *The St. Louis Star-Times, December 1, 1937, on Fugitive Kind*

### About the Author

Tennessee Williams (1911-1983) is the acclaimed author of many books of letters, short stories, poems, essays, and a large collection of plays, including *The Glass Menagerie*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Camino Real*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Orpheus Descending*, *The Night of the Iguana*, and *The Rose Tattoo*.

Allean Hale, writer and poet, was the leading authority on the early life and late plays of Tennessee Williams.

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#### Paul Flynn:

*Fugitive Kind* can be one of your starter books that are good idea. We recommend that straight away because this e-book has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining however delivering the information. The copy writer giving his/her effort to put every word into pleasure arrangement in writing *Fugitive Kind* nevertheless doesn't forget the main place, giving the reader the hottest and also based confirm resource facts that maybe you can be one among it. This great information could drawn you into new stage of crucial considering.

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