

# A Streetcar Named Desire

Why would someone call their  
play this?

What is a streetcar?



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What is a streetcar?

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It's a tram or a trolleybus - it runs on a rail and can therefore only run on pre-defined routes: it can not veer off in a direction that a person spontaneously chooses. It is a form of public transport; people pay a fare to use it and as long as a person has the money they should be able to board and get off at one of the designated stop points.

What does this word mean?

A Streetcar Named Desire

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What does this word mean?

## A Streetcar Named Desire

the feeling that accompanies an unsatisfied state; feel or have a desire for; want strongly; hope; expect and wish; an inclination to want things; something that is desired

# A Streetcar Named Desire

Now as you read the play consider why the playwright Tennessee Williams might have chosen this as the title, remembering that authors are craftspeople: they choose their words for a reason – not because they can not think of anything else. Think about the issues that arise in the play; the themes that appear; the characters, their backgrounds and ambitions.