

p 13: (a long pause - Mama, you just don't understand): Analyze Walter.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mama has forbidden Walter to invest in a liquor store. Walter wants her to look at his business plans and cannot understand her. He indirectly reproaches her of being responsible for the detrimental situation his family is in. He wants to take over responsibility, provide for his family, but Mama does not let him. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You ain't even looked at it and you have decided - Well, you tell that to my boy tonight when you put him to sleep on the living-room couch - tell it to my wife ... when she has to go out of here to look at sb. else's kids ...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When he wants to leave, Ruth says that she would like to accompany him and talk to him, but Walter does not want her to come. He wants to be alone or with his friends. He is deeply hurt by his mother's behaviour and takes it out on Ruth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - That's too bad.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mama tells him to sit down. She treats him like a child. Walter reacts aggressively. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sit down. - stage directions: violently flinging ...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mama asks him what the matter is. She does not understand him at all and states that something is "eating [him] up like a crazy man". - She warns him that his behaviour is too much for Ruth and that he is in danger of losing her. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - you getting to be too much, don't make the mistake of driving that girl away from you.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Walter reacts quite stubbornly. He does not feel understood at all. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Why – what she do for me?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mama points out that Ruth loves him. He again tells her that he is going to leave. She tries to keep the conversation going, but he rises. - Mama warns him again that it is dangerous. Walter does not understand her, he even inquires beseechingly: "Why can't there never be no peace in this house?" He only wants to be on his own. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - She loves you. - It's dangerous, son.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Walter tries again to show her his point of view. He wants her to put herself in his shoes. - He is not only thinking about himself but about his entire family. He is longing for money and tries to explain to her that the lack of money, the ongoing fight for it, drives him insane. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do you know what this money means to me? Do you know what this money can do for us? - Mama – I want so many things that are driving me kind of crazy.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - However, Mama does not understand what he wants, she points out that he looks good, has a job, a nice wife and a fine boy. - Walter interrupts her. He outlines the stupidity of his job in which he sees no sense at all. This reflects back on his life. The future looks very bleak to him. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A job? I open and close car doors ... - That ain't no kind of job ... that ain't nothing at all. - I can see the future stretched out in front of me ... a big, looming blank space – full of nothing.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - He is distressed because he doubts that Mama understands him and tries to explain to her that money means life to him because it offers opportunities and provides freedom. - When Mama points out that "Once upon a time freedom used to be life", he even claims that "it was always money" and they "just didn't know about it." - Mama reproaches him of having a completely different set of (wrong) values and being ungrateful. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - very quietly - Because it is life, Mama
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Walter finally gives up. He realizes that he cannot make himself understood. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You ain't satisfied or proud of nothing we done. - He pats her hand and gets up.