

# A select group

I was commenting tonight on a select group of actors I would do almost anything to be on stage with. I've been thinking about it since I've said it, and I imagine I can count them on one hand. This does not mean that I wouldn't want to be on stage with some other actors, but there is a select group that have a special presence on stage that makes the time on stage a wonderful event.

A look, an action, a tone of voice that bring out the best in other actors on stage. They are the ones that push you to bring your best. Not by telling or lecturing, but by their actions and style. A select group indeed.

Are they the award winners? Some but not all. Are they the most friendly? That does not seem to matter. Are they the most knowledgeable? Often, but not always. The most talented? In a way, but not. Most comfortable on stage? Some are, some aren't.

But just what makes them part of this group? That is what I've been trying to decipher. What puts one person on it, and leaves another off? I wish I knew. I'll keep thinking about it, because I would like everyone I act with to be in that group. Can it be taught? □