



DRIFTWOOD

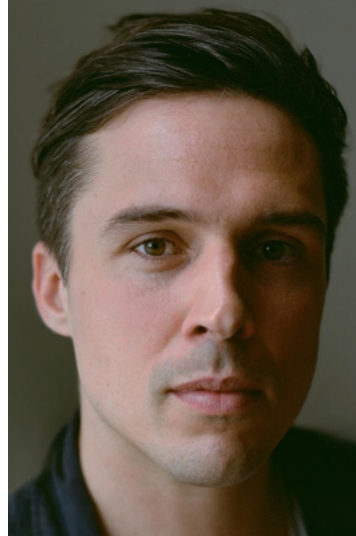
VISUAL STORYBOARD

CAST AND CHARACTERS



Shane David-Joseph

plays **Seldom**, a policeman
and friend of Ruby



Ziggy Heath

plays **Tom**, an American
sailor



Martins Imhangbe

plays **Diamond**



Roger Ringrose

plays **Mansion**,
owner of Alma



Ellen Thomas

plays **Pearl**,
who runs Alma



Cat White

plays **Ruby**,
Pearl's daughter

OVERVIEW AND REFERENCES

Alma – A drinking club run by Pearl and owned by Mansion

All Fours – A card game played by four people in two pairs. It is similar to the card game Bridge

Dr Eric Eustace Williams – leader of the newly formed People's National Movement, a political party of Trinidad and Tobago

Port of Spain – The capital city of Trinidad and the main port for ships in Trinidad

Rita Hayworth - An American actress and dancer, and a Hollywood icon from the 1940s

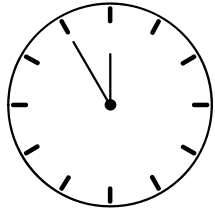
Midnight Robber – A Trinidadian carnival character, known for speaking in a boastful and mocking style

Mayaro – An area in Trinidad on the East coast of the Island

Rio Claro - Town in South Eastern Trinidad

Creole - A type of language that is developed from a mixture of different languages

SHOW NOTES



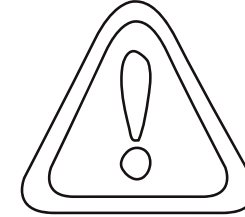
Running Time

The show is approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes including a 20 minute interval

Please note this production contains loud music, flashing lights, smoking, stage blood and gun shots.

Age Guidance: 14+

For further content advice visit
KilnTheatre.com/content-advice



Content Advice

Language: Strong and discriminatory language used throughout

Nudity: No

Violence: Depictions of rape, violence and death

Themes: Incest

THE STORY

SCENE BY SCENE

ACT ONE

Scene One

Date: September 1956

Location: Downtown Port of Spain

Ruby enters, turns on the radio and the fan. The radio discusses the upcoming political election.

Ruby dances to music.

Diamond arrives with a delivery of rum. He watches Ruby dancing before she notices him.

Diamond explains that he is delivering the rum because Mahadeo is busy elsewhere.

Seldom, a police officer, arrives. He laughs with Ruby, discussing how they tricked an English tourist out of money.

Ruby gives Seldom his share of the money but accuses him of secretly taking extra money from tourists. The two argue before agreeing to continue to trick tourists together.

Production Photography by Marc Brenner



Ruby tells Seldom about a new scam she wants to try on a returning tourist. She plans to pretend that a baby is his child and ask him for money.

Seldom reveals that he is being sent to Rio Claro for police work and will be leaving immediately.

Ruby is upset because they had plans to make money from tourists together.

Seldom leaves Alma.

Diamond has remained in Alma after finishing his delivery. He says he is waiting to speak to Miss Pearl, the owner of Alma.

Diamond flirts with Ruby.

Ruby offers Diamond a drink and tells him she needs help with a plan now that Seldom has left. Diamond agrees to stay and listen.

Ruby goes to get drinks while Diamond relaxes in Alma and turns on the radio.



Scene Two

Time: Around 12:30 a.m.

Alma has closed for the night.

Pearl, who runs Alma, is talking with Mansion, the English owner of the property.

Pearl complains about the money Mansion takes from the businesses she manages for him. Mansion talks dismissively about Trinidad becoming independent and does not take Pearl's concerns seriously.

Pearl tells Mansion that she believes she deserves ownership of the building. Mansion refuses to discuss giving Alma to Pearl.

Ruby returns in a bad mood but hides it when she sees Mansion. Ruby thanks Mansion for buying her a new radio.

After Pearl leaves to collect money from another property, Ruby tries to persuade Mansion that she should run Alma instead of Pearl. Mansion enjoys Ruby's attention but dismisses her plans and leaves.



Diamond arrives after helping Ruby with one of her scams. Ruby is angry because Diamond became violent while pretending to be a jealous husband during the scam. Diamond explains that his aggressive behaviour earned them even more money from the frightened tourist. Ruby and Diamond divide the money and discuss working together again.

Diamond tells Ruby that he is attracted to her. Pearl returns and is surprised to find Diamond. Diamond reveals that he has been waiting because he has business with Pearl.

Diamond tells Pearl that he is her son. Pearl is shocked. Diamond explains that he has left job roadbuilding because he felt lost and wanted to find his mother. He asks if he can stay with her for a while.

Pearl is suspicious and worries that he may bring trouble. Pearl reluctantly agrees to let him remain at Alma.



ACT TWO

Scene One

Pearl is sewing and singing an old Creole song. Diamond enters and offers to fix the flickering lights. Pearl refuses his help. Diamond tells Pearl that he wants to understand why she gave him away as a baby. Pearl responds that she cannot be the mother he is looking for. Ruby enters and argues with Pearl about her age and her old clothes.



Diamond asks about a wooden sculpture in the room. Pearl explains that when she was a child, an old man carved it for her from driftwood. It represents mother Africa. Pearl is preparing to vote in the upcoming political election which Ruby mocks. Diamond tells Pearl he has met an American sailor who may bring new customers to Alma. Pearl does not trust Americans and does not want them becoming involved in her business.

Diamond argues that the future of Trinidad is changing and that Alma should adapt to opportunities. Pearl gets angry and reminds Diamond that she makes the decisions in Alma. She warns him that she can still throw him out. Pearl leaves.

Ruby and Diamond divide the money they've earned from their scams. He tells her about the American sailor and suggests they could make more money by working with him. Ruby is frustrated as Diamond is making plans without discussing them with her.

Ruby reveals that she has bigger ambitions for Alma.

Ruby accuses Diamond of becoming jealous whenever tourists pay attention to her during their scams. Diamond admits that he does not like other men touching her. Diamond first says it is because she is his sister. Ruby does not accept this explanation and pushes him to admit his true feelings. Ruby tells Diamond that he is staying at Alma because of her, not because of Pearl.

Ruby and Diamond kiss.



Scene Two

Date: The next day

Diamond and Ruby welcome Tom, an American Sailor, to Alma.

Tom believes it could be a good business location as Alma is close to the docks.

Tom and Diamond discuss business. Tom explains that he works with people who need a discreet place to temporarily store imported goods before they are moved elsewhere.

He suggests that Alma could be used for this purpose and promises that it could make a lot of money. Diamond is interested in the proposal.

Tom is attracted to Ruby and flirts with her.

Ruby confirms to Tom that her and Diamond are business partners and that she has plans for Alma's future. Tom suggests he could be their third partner and help them make more money. Ruby is cautious and does not immediately agree.



Ruby reveals that Alma does not belong to Pearl. She explains that the property is owned by Mansion. Diamond is surprised because he believed Pearl owned Alma.

Tom becomes concerned that Diamond may not have the authority to make any business agreements. Ruby tells Tom that she expects to take over Alma in the future.



Tom becomes increasingly familiar with Ruby and begins touching her. Ruby is uncomfortable and looks to Diamond for support. Diamond does not intervene. Diamond suggests they celebrate the deal. He announces that he is going to buy better alcohol and leaves.

Ruby is upset that Diamond is leaving her alone with Tom. Tom is pleased to be alone with Ruby. After Diamond leaves, Ruby plays along and continues entertaining Tom by offering him another drink.

INTERVAL

ACT THREE

Scene One

Ruby is excited because Tom has bought her a new record player, she thanks him and kisses him.

Tom, Ruby, Diamond and Mansion spend time together playing a card game of All Fours at Alma.

The card game is played in pairs, and Diamond explains the common signals the pairs use to communicate secretly.

Mansion talks about his long history in Trinidad and his plans to eventually leave. Tom wants his business arrangements to continue after Mansion leaves.

Ruby argues that Pearl is not suitable to run Alma's future business dealings and suggests that she and Diamond should have control.



Diamond hopes he can profit from Tom's business operation and asks whether he can gain access to the goods being stored at Alma so he can sell them. Tom refuses and warns Diamond not to interfere with the operation.

During the game, Ruby secretly signals to Mansion the cards she has while Diamond and Tom are distracted. Ruby and Mansion win the card game.

Mansion leaves after praising Ruby's intelligence and usefulness.

Tom continues to flirt with Ruby and invites her to spend the night with him. Ruby agrees and leaves with Tom.

After they leave, Diamond returns carrying one of the crates with the good in. He secretly removes the crate from Alma and takes it out through the street door.



Scene Two

Ruby is alone in Alma and retrieves a hidden bag from a cupboard before Seldom unexpectedly arrives.

Seldom, now back in Port of Spain, catches up with Ruby, Pearl and Diamond.

Diamond gives Pearl an expensive pair of new shoes. Seldom tells the story of a wanted man from Mayaro who stole money, slept with his foreman's wife, and is now being hunted by police and criminals. It becomes clear that the man Seldom is describing is Diamond. Seldom leaves, Ruby warns Diamond that he is in danger and should leave. Diamond refuses, insisting he can pay off his debts. Ruby rejects Diamond's dreams. Their conversation is tense and ends with Diamond kissing Ruby. Pearl sees them kiss.

Diamond shows Ruby money he has been making by selling some of the goods that Tom has been storing at Alma.



Pearl confronts Diamond, accusing him of bringing trouble into her home. Diamond blames Pearl for abandoning him as a child. A bitter argument erupts between Pearl, Diamond, and Ruby, exposing years of resentment and disappointment.

Tom arrives and announces that he is leaving Trinidad, but that the storage operation will continue. Ruby reveals that Diamond has been stealing goods from the crates stored at Alma.

Tom is furious. Tom orders Diamond to accompany him to explain the missing goods to his commander. Tom leaves with Diamond.

Ruby takes the hidden bag and hurries to the back of the house.

Pearl is left alone. She sits facing the front door as the light bulb blows and the stage falls into darkness.



Scene Three

Diamond returns. He has been badly beaten up. Pearl tends to his injuries, giving him rum and cleaning his wounds.

Diamond is very upset and speaks about his lifelong abandonment and lack of maternal care. Pearl explains that she was forced to give him away.

They both finally reconcile and Pearl acknowledges Diamond as her child.

Seldom arrives and warns that criminals and police forces seeking Diamond are getting closer to finding him.

Ruby appears with a suitcase and says she is leaving with Tom. Diamond pleads with Ruby to stay, insisting their love is real.

Ruby rejects Diamond and reveals she is pregnant. She says the child belongs to Tom.

Tom returns and the tension escalates as Diamond realises that Tom knew his Commander would hurt him. Pearl and Ruby learn that the Commander raped Diamond.



Diamond is overcome by a spirit and starts speaking about how others have seen him as a beast and themselves as men.

Diamond picks up a knife and intimidates Tom.

Tom urges Diamond to drop the knife and treat the situation as business. He pulls out a gun.

Ruby urges Tom to put down the gun and leave. She tells him she is pregnant with his child.

Tom tries to get Diamond to calm down, putting down his gun.

Diamond's speech escalates as he transforms further into the midnight robber: he thinks of himself as already dead to the world, and says he now chooses to stand as a man rather than a victim.

Pearl struggles to retrieve something from under the wooden sculpture.

Ruby sees Diamond about to lunge towards Tom with the knife and picks up Tom's gun and points it at Diamond so she can leave with Tom.

Lighting Notes

Eerie green lights pulse gently, smoke rises from between the slats of the floor.



A struggle breaks out between Diamond and Ruby and the gun is fired, though Diamond is not killed. Seldom enters and warns that the police will arrive very soon as they heard the gunshot. Ruby forces Tom to take her with him using the pregnancy as leverage and gets Seldom to agree to lead them out. Before leaving, Pearl forgives Ruby.

Pearl asks Seldom to deliver money to pay off the criminals targeting Diamond. Pearl has been secretly saving money hidden inside the wooden sculpture. She chooses to use her hidden money to secure Diamond's survival.

Diamond discovers the sculpture is covered in Pearl's blood, revealing she has been shot earlier. Pearl tells Diamond he always had a mother and that he is loved. Pearl dies in Diamond's arms. The play ends with Diamond holding the sculpture and resting in his mother's lap, finally receiving the love he was denied.





This is the '**Sonic Story**' of *Driftwood*. It highlights **loud and quiet moments** from the show and times when the **sound changes suddenly**.

A Sonic Story can be **used by anyone** who would benefit from knowing about the sound of the show in advance.



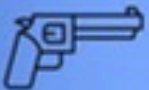
Key information about the sounds in the show:



The sound levels **change regularly** from **very quiet** moments to **very loud** moments.



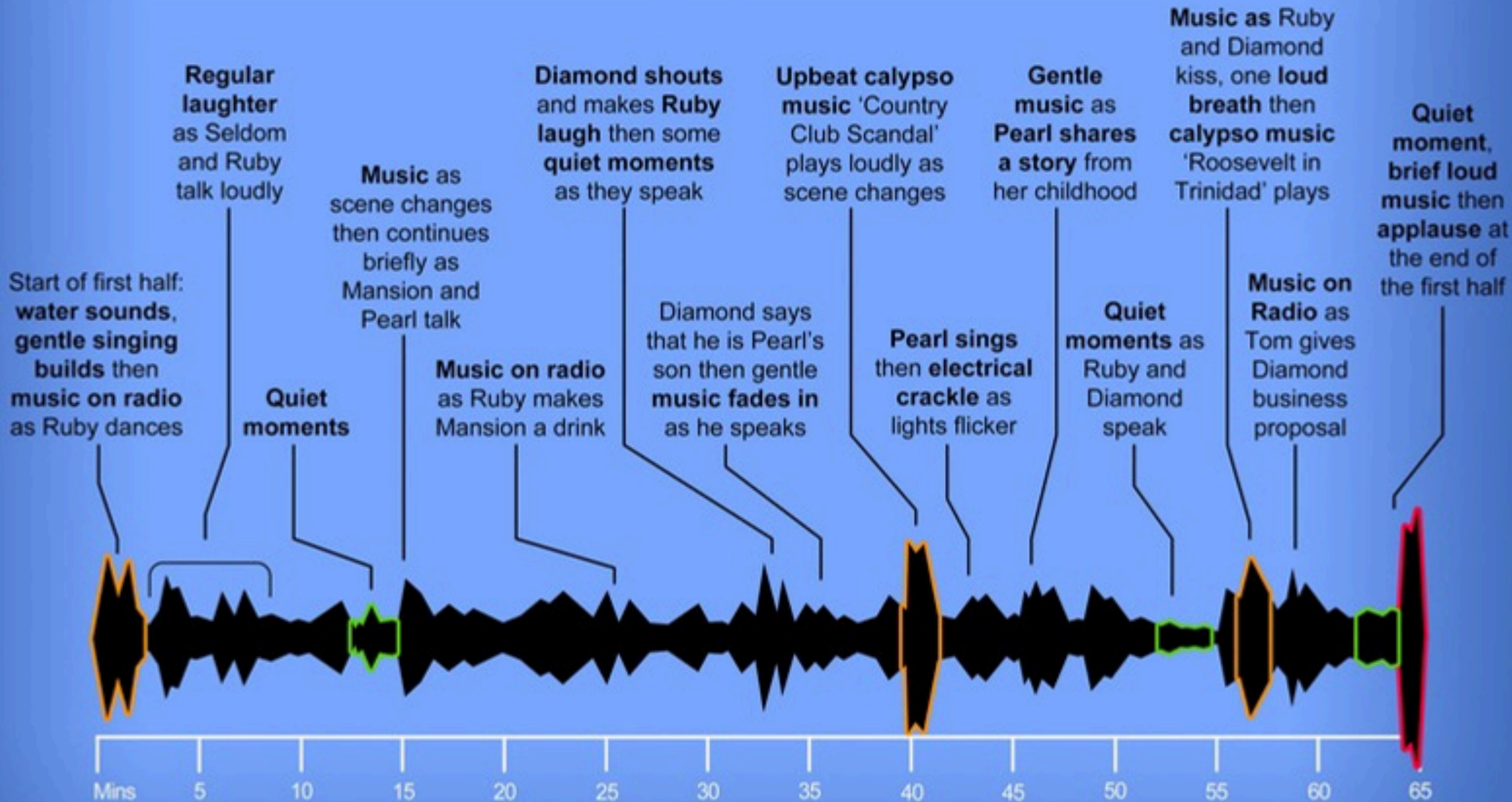
There is a **radio** on stage, the characters turn this on and off during the show. The radio often plays **calypso music**.



There is **one very loud gunshot** near the end of the second half.



The next two pages describe the sounds in **more detail**.



Very Loud ●
Loud ●
Quiet ●

