The Eyes of the storm

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

# Ms. Ann

## Character Function - Protagonist (Matriarch)

### She is the well respected spiritual foundation of the community. As well as everybody’s mother.

## Character Emotions

### Empathy – the audience understands the emotions that drive the character, which is bringing her loved ones to Christ.

## Character Components

### Interior – She feels deeply about each character and her faith in God is paramount

### Exterior – Her feelings are revealed in her face with a deep range of emotions. Her voice is strong and rich. When angered or becoming forceful her voice becomes booming almost to the extent of belting, yet her voice resides in a soft nurturing tone.

## Character Background

### History: Ms. Ann was the best friend of Nero and Prada’s mother, who before passing Ms. Ann promised to look after her kids. Ms. Ann has basically raised both Nero and Prada.

### Pre – Nero and Prada: She is a former black panther and was known for leading police stand-offs, and carrying weapons if need be to protect her community. During her time of black panther affiliation her and deacon Mitchell put their lives on the line many times, and has saved each other on numerous occasions which fostered a special relationship between the two, one that Deacon Mitchell would like to mature intimately; yet Ms. Ann does not want their special bond to be ruined by the romanticism of “love”.

### Spirituality: She understands the spiritual realm and is wise enough to see the difference between a person doing wrong with the intent to do right, vs someone doing wrong with the same specific intent, which is why she does not trust truck. She senses Satan in him.

## Character Objectives

### Her goal is to lead those around her to Christ. Nevertheless she deals with each character differently.

#### Nero: she is caring towards him and speaks in a direct manner with a strong voice, because that’s what he understands.

#### Prada: she is sensitive and forthcoming, using a subtle voice

#### Truck: uses a cautious voice with him

#### Deacon Mitchell: uses a sweet but irritated voice

#### Fatimah: uses a nurturing voice they have a mentor mentee relationship

#### Isaiah: same as Nero

# Fatimah

## Character Function – love interest and catalyst

### She along with Isaiah represent the change from the streets to spiritual enlightenment.

## Character Emotions

### Anger – hidden anger due to inability to escape her current life style

### Hurt – hides a lot of past hurt, family, friends, etc…

### Spiritual peace – she has reverence for Ms. Ann and the peace that she sustains through Christianity.

### Insecure – She feels insecure in her ability to stand strong on her own without Nero. Additionally, she battles with her belief in god because of what she has endured in the past.

## Character Components

### Interior- She is extremely intelligent and feels she must protect Nero so she keeps a cautious eye on everyone who comes into contact with him. Except Ms. Ann and Prada.

### Exterior – She appears brash and sensitive, her eyes (close attention to eyebrows) and smiles often times gives two different meanings.

## Character Background

### She is Nero’s love interest. They have been together since middle/high school. She is extremely intelligent but thwarted college in attempts to save her mother who at the time was strung out on drugs. Nero has always protected her and took care of her financially. He spoils her with expensive items, yet she places value in their relationship and building a safe haven for them in the future. She does not trust God because her life has shown her that anything that’s going to get done she has to do it or Nero.

## Character Objectives

### Overcome her disbelief in God

### Convincing Nero that there is another life besides the streets

### Figuring out who truck really is

### Allowing Ms. Ann to lead her to God

# Isaiah

## Character Function – Nero’s best friend and Prada’s love interest

### He is the mirror image of Nero without Fatimah, because his love interest is prada (Nero’s sister). This conundrum causes conflict because the same way Nero needs to express his love and dependence on Fatimah, Isaiah needs the same but he must hide his affair with Prada. This conflict continues to build until its climax at the end, when God gives Isaiah the strength to stand up against Nero.

## Character Emotions

### Faith: he shows great faith in God once he asks god into his life

### Irritation: confusion of how to continue his relationship with Nero and Prada causes him great irritation.

### Fear: fearful of Nero, not because of potential violence but at loosing his best friend.

### Deep Love: his love for Prada is strong but then it grows to the same level as Nero and Fatimah once he finds out that she is pregnant.

## Character Components

### Internal: Fear, Anger, love

### External: He has a peaceful but strong walk, he also well reserved because he is constantly watching out for Nero (as a business partner, best friend, as well as a very dangerous threat) and Prada (his future wife).

## Character Background

### They met in primary school, Nero protected Isaiah from some bullies and they have always remained friends. Isaiah is smart and has always been a playboy which is why Nero does not want him with Prada. Nero is also fearful that Prada will one day kill Isaiah if he ever hurt her emotionally, this portion of the equation Isaiah does not understand. Isaiah like the others don’t believe in god because their lifestyles has forced them to depend on themselves at least that’s what they think.

## Character Objectives

### Convincing Nero that his love for prada is genuine.

### Breaking down to hear gods word, he is hurt by god because at one point he believed as a young boy but he feels like god let him down by allowing his father to leave the home and he blames the God for the conditions that his mother had to live in.

### Confused on how to handle his rapidly growing love for prada and the increasing difficulty in hiding it from Nero.

# Truck

## Character Function – Satan

### Inception of Confusion, destruction and lead away from god. He promotes violence by bringing glamour to it. His cover is he comes across like he is mentally unstable, but this cover if done properly forces those around him to let their guards down because they feel he doesn’t have the intellectual prowess to take advantage of them.

### He is also the comic relief of the play along with deacon mitchell

## Character Emotions

### Controlled rage: his true rage is against god

### Physical difference when people speak of God in an uplifting manner

### Overly crazy: he shows his craziness but interacts with the crowd in another manner because they know who he really is.

## Character Components

### Internal – calculating he literally thinks and plans out every move he makes, he never does anything by chance.

### External – He is explosive and violent, he attracts with his voice, alternating his voice between high and low tones.

## Character Background

### He is a surrogate father to both Nero and Prada in addition to being Pradas mentor. Although they lived with Ms. Ann, they were taught and protected in the streets by Truck.

## Character Objectives

### To remove Ms. Ann

### Remove Fatimah

### Keep Nero, Isaiah, and Prada under his spell of violence and drug dealing

# Prada

## Character Function –

### She is an assassin and works relentlessly at her craft, she is Nero’s hit-man and little sister. She is also Isaiahs love interest. Her function is to give the crowd a sense of redemption as she struggles to overcome her past and current darkness for a normal life with the love of her life Isaiah.

## Character Emotions

### Seductive

### Emotions harbored as a weakness, so she is afraid when she is with Isaiah because she doesn’t like being out of control.

### Art of Killing – she cares for her kills the way an artists cares for his paintings. He is called the angel of death.

## Character Components

### Internal – she is calculating and apropos when she kills.

### External – she moves gracefully like a gymnast or ballerina, she always wears her glasses and walks on her toes most of the time.

## Character Background

### Prada is Nero’s younger sister she has been trained to kill by her surrogate father Truck. She loves Nero dearly but know his rage but understands his integrity which is why she is constantly urging Isaiah to tell Nero of their relationship so when he does find out he doesn’t think they have been hiding behind his back; they were taught as kids that betrayal should only be repaid by DEATH, she knows Nero will kill Isaiah.

### Prada like the others don’t believe in God, but prada wants a normal life with Isaiah and if getting close to god will help her achieve the peace she so desires she is willing to do whatever it takes. Additionally, she doesn’t believe that god will forgive her anyway because of the killings she has done in the past.

## Character Objectives

### Find peace and if through god then so be it

### Convince Isaiah to tell Nero of their relationship.

### Avoid vulnerability by showing her feelings but she can’t help how she feels about Isaiah

# Nero

## Character Function –

### Nero is a ruthless drug dealer. He is the lost soul in the play. He thinks he is in control, not realizing that he is under the control of truck.

## Character Emotions

### Controlled rage for the competition – he is a tactician and is constantly planning on how to rid the competition.

### Arrogant – his tattoos are indications of the horrors that he has caused in the streets.

### Deep sincere love – his love for Fatimah is very strong she is his anchor, otherwise he would only be concerned with punishing people.

## Character Components

### Internal – conflicting challenges, between the life he wants for him and Fatimah and escaping the streets

### External – very aggressive walk almost animalistic, talk is strong

## Character Background

### Nero is a ball of aggression his humanistic attributes are only displayed with Fatimah, Ms. Ann, Prada and Isaiah, otherwise he feeds off of pain. This was taught to him by truck the mantra…”trust no man, and never build a relationship that you cant leave and or kill within 30 sec” this mantra has always bothered him because he could not do this to Fatimah, so he sees her as his Achilles heal, nevertheless she is also his strength.

## Character Objectives

### Protect prada and Fatimah

### Provide for Fatimah without losing her to the way he makes his money.

### He wants to leave it all behind and move to Africa. He believes going to Africa will allow him to escape his past, but what he is really running from is himself.

# Deacon Mitchell

## Character Function –

### He is the comic relief

## Character Emotions

### Desperate: back in the day he was a womanizer and has found that the only true woman for him is Ms. Ann and he will do anything to get her.

### Fighter: he is a natural fighter and is always willing to fight, although oftentimes it does not call for it.

### Community concern: he has deep concern for his community and is angered by black peoples discontent for each other.

### Intelligence: has a deep understanding of economics from Karl Marx to Alan Greenspan.

## Character Components

### Internal – he is still a little shell shocked from the wars he has fought from Vietnam to Community wars with the black panthers where he met ms. Ann.

### External – he is over the top with everything he does.

## Character Background

### He was once a black panther where he met Ms. Ann at a community rally. They dated for a while and was starting to get serious until one day Mitchell slipped and had sex with another woman, because Ms. Ann wanted to wait until marriage. Ms. Ann broke up with Mitchell and he has been chasing her every since then. He loves Ms. Ann and will do anything for her even kill, and she knows it.

### He also cares for his community and is often times saddened by its lack of cohesiveness.

## Character Objectives

### His main objective is to get Ms. Ann to be with him

### Protect the young guys in his community, because he sees himself in them.