



presents...



# EYE OF THE STORM

**A visual story &  
performance guide**

Our visual story contains lots of information and pictures of the play to guide you through the show and your visit to the theatre!

If you require any further details about the performance, please give us call of email on:

**E:** [drama@theatr-nanog.co.uk](mailto:drama@theatr-nanog.co.uk) **T:** 01639 641771

## **Theatre Foyer**

Welcome to the theatre! Your first stop in the theatre will be the theatre foyer. This is where all of the audience members enter the theatre so they can see the show! Because so many people want to come and see the show, theatre foyers can often be very busy and quite noisy.

In the theatre foyer you will be able to buy tickets, programmes, snacks and drinks for you to take in to see the show. These will be sold by people called Ushers.

Ushers are super helpful people who will be able to answer any questions you may have about your trip to theatre and direct you to all of the theatre facilities including toilets, café's and where to go to take your seats for the show.

For more information about the theatre you are visiting, speak to one of the theatre staff members who.

## **Tickets**

The Usher's will let you know when it is time for you to enter the theatre and take your seats (sit down). You may even hear an announcement telling you how long it will be until the performance begins.

To enter the theatre, you will need to **show your ticket** to one of the ushers. The ushers will need to look at your ticket so they can check where you are sitting and guide you to your seats.

## **Taking Your Seats**

Once you have shown your ticket to the Usher and entered the auditorium, you may notice that there are lots of chairs in rows facing the stage. Make sure to sit in the correct seat by **checking the Row & Seat number** on your ticket. If you need help finding your way, you can always ask one of the theatre ushers who will be more than happy to help!

Before the show starts, the auditorium can get very busy and it may be quite loud as people get excited for the show to begin.

## **On with the show...**

When it is time for the show to start, you may hear a voice politely asking everyone to turn off their mobile phones. You must make sure you switch off all mobile phones and tablets, or set them to silent before the show begins.

Taking photographs or recording videos of any part of the performance is not allowed.

Once everyone backstage is ready to go, the lights in the auditorium will dim, meaning that the theatre will get very dark!

You may find this a little bit scary, but there is no need to worry – If at any point you need to leave the theatre, there will always be enough light for you to see where you are going. An usher will always be around to help you find your way.

When the show begins, **sit nicely and quietly** in your seat.

It is important that you do this as it helps everyone else in the theatre enjoy the show too!

Eye of the Storm is a musical so there will be lots of different songs played live on stage throughout the show.

If the music or sound effects are too loud for you, it's ok to cover your ears or use ear defenders, if you've brought them with you.



At times, other people in the audience may show the actors on stage that they are enjoying the show by clapping their hands together.

This can be quite sudden and quite loud.

If you enjoyed something in the show, you can clap too, if you like!

If at any point you need to leave the auditorium, there are quiet spaces for you to go and sit. Just ask an usher for details and directions of where to go.

## **Running Times**

Schools performances and the relaxed performance of Eye of the Storm lasts for approximately:

1 Hour & 20 Minutes.

There will be no interval.

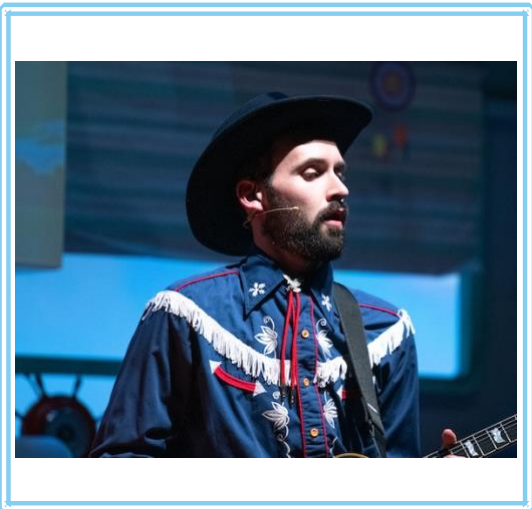
## The Characters

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### Emmie Price

15 Years Old  
School Girl & Young Carer  
Smart & Independent



### Bud

American  
Anchor-man for  
K259 TV

### Ched

American  
Weather Correspondent  
for K259 TV





Angela Price

Emmie's Mum  
Has Bi-Polar

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Mr Church

Son of the Manager of  
'Montana Heights'  
Where Emmie Lives



Walt

Emmie's Science Teacher  
Grumpy & Jaded

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Lloyd

15 Years Old  
Emmie's Friend at School  
Funny & Enthusiastic



Thomas (left)

Posh School Kid at  
Emmie's School

Griff (right)

Smarty-pants kid at  
Emmie's School

Chris

Kid at Emmie's School  
Obsessed with Computer  
Games





Karen

24 Years Old  
Emmie's Half-Sister  
Runs her own Salon

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Doctor

Works at the  
Hospital

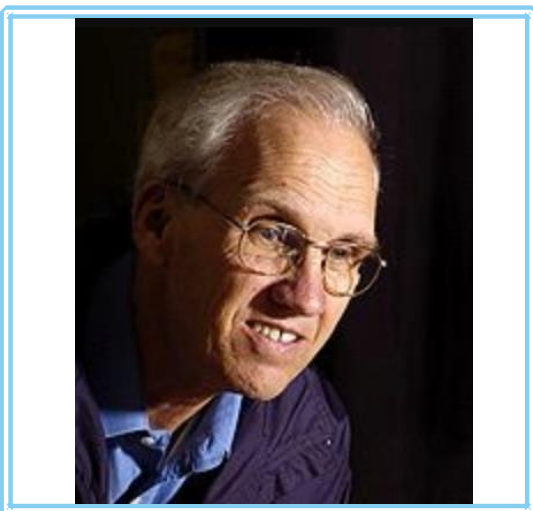


Louis Michaud

The Inventor of the  
Atmospheric Vortex  
Engine

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During the show, the characters will talk, sing and act in order to tell you their story.

The characters (apart from Louis Michaud) aren't actually real, although you may find that you can recognise or relate to the things they do or say, in the show.

Some of the actors play more than one character.

They will have a different costume and sometimes a different accent so you can tell the difference.

The actor's in Eye of the Storm are also very talented musicians and you will see them playing lots of different instruments in the show.

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## **The Set**

The story of Eye of the Storm takes place in lots of different locations, Aberdare in Wales, America and Quebec in Canada.

We can't physically take the whole audience to all of the different countries and locations in one show, so we've had to design the stage in a way which makes you believe where the characters are at any one time.

This is known as a set.

The Set Has 4 Main Areas:

### **The Caravan Trailer**

This is where Emmie and her mum Angela live



### **The Yard**

The band are in the remains of an old caravan



## The Classroom



## The Garage



Some of the sets and scenes are enhanced by using video projection.

The video projection is also used to help us tell the difference between night-time and daytime or show the weather.

# The Story

(~~Spoiler Alert!~~)

The skies darken and thunder rumbles **[Flashing Lights]** over a small caravan nestled in the South Wales Valleys. Lights flicker on to reveal **Emmie**, a 15-year-old school girl who dreams of chasing storms and changing the world! Emmie is sat at her laptop, munching on huge bag of crisps and flicking through different US extreme weather reports online.

Emmie settles on American news channel K259, where energetic news anchor-man, **Bud**, and enthusiastic weather-man **Ched**, report on a huge hurricane crashing onto the shores in Cuba.



Emmie is singing an upbeat song about feeling Alive – *“When the clouds fill up the sky, and the rain falls on you and I. When the storm it rages on outside, I won’t mind, cos at least I feel alive.”* A sudden power cut takes out all of the lights and leaves Emmie and her Mum Angela in the dark. Angela is scared. **[Flashing Lights] [Blackout]**.

Emmie gives her mum her medication and she goes back to bed.

The next morning and Emmie is getting ready for school and doing the housework. Emmie notices that there is no food left in the caravan and raids the emergency tin for cash, only to find that her Mum has spent all of the spare money. **Angela** tells Emmie not to worry as she is applying for a job.

**Mr Church**, who runs the site for his dad but dreams of being a property developer, appears to switch the electric back on and collect the money for the bills.





The school bell rings and announces the start of physics. We meet **Lloyd, Thomas, Griff, Chris** and their teacher **Mr. Walt Hodges**. Emmie turns up late again for class, much to the annoyance of her teacher. Mr Hodges informs the class of a new science project. Emmie proves to her class that she really knows her stuff when it comes to physics and this catches the attention of classmate Lloyd, who falls head-over-heels for her. However, due to her poor classroom attendance, Mr. Hodges tells Emmie she can no longer participate in physics classes and will be moved to a less demanding subject in the next term.



Lloyd plucks up the courage to ask Emmie to work together on the science project, but Emmie tells him that she can't take part because she is being taken out of physics class. Lloyd sings a song about how he didn't really like school until he met Emmie and that she has won his heart. *"Cos she had all the answers to the questions, while I just sat there hoping for a chance, she would talk to me outside the lesson, give me a second glance. Cos I'm hoping the laws of gravity means one day she might fall for me"*



When she arrives home from school, she finds Mr. Church outside the caravan confirming that the electricity is back on and is all paid for & up to date. He hands her an envelope from the Ball State University, Indiana.

Emmie takes the letter from Mr. Church and enters the caravan to find her older half-sister, **Karen**, drinking wine with her Mum. Emmie gets angry at Karen for allowing her mum to drink alcohol when she is supposed to be taking her medication.

Angela lashes out at Emmie, despite her being the only one trying to help **[Shouting]**. Emmie gets upset with Karen for not doing enough to support her and her Mum. We watch as Emmie cleans the caravan. Emmie and Karen sing a song called 'Emmie don't say' about Emmie's frustrations of being a carer for her mum and how she feels forgotten.

Emmie opens the letter from Ball State University in Indiana to find details about the grades she needs to get on the course; she needs an A in Physics in order to qualify.



The story cuts back to a weather report from K259 television. Bud & Ched discuss how much power is held in the eye of a storm. We discover that a tornado has around 10,000kw of power! This report inspires Emmie to rebel against Mr. Hodges & she goes to find Lloyd at the petrol station to take him up on his offer to work together for the Science Award. Emmie pitches her idea of generating electricity from an artificial tornado!



Angela finds out about Emmie's application to study in America and promises to try and get better so Emmie can fulfil her dream. Emmie sings about what life might be like if her mum didn't need her to care for her. Emmie is hopeful things will work out but then suddenly the power cuts out again and Emmie and her Mum are in the dark. Emmie realises it was just a dream.

**[Flashing Lights] [Blackout].**

The next morning Mr Church comes to put the electric back on.

It's the day of Emmie's invention at school but she has forgotten her mum has a doctor's appointment. She says she'll go on her own but as soon as Emmie has gone she takes her coat off and stays.

In school, Emmie and Lloyd are ready to show the class their idea for the science project. The Artificial Turbulence machine uses dry-ice and fans to create an artificial tornado inside a wooden box which provides energy to power the small radio on top, much to the awe of their classmates who have just made a 'remote control wrangler'!



Mr. Hodges is angry with Emmie and Lloyd for messing up his classroom with their invention **[Shouting]**, however, after Emmie explains that she can write a program to show the data from the tornado energy, he warms to the idea of letting them submit the invention for the science award.

Together Emmie & Lloyd clean up the Science classroom while singing an upbeat song about wining "*If you're going to win, sometimes you'll have to fight, when you feel like giving up*". Emmie explains to Lloyd why she is so passionate about studying extreme weather **[Loud] [Dark] [Flashing Images]**.

Emmie is watching the weather forecast with Bud and Ched but this time they appear in her home but she's unaware of them.



On the day of the science presentation, the power has gone out again and Emmie's school jumper is stuck in the washing machine. Angela has a big job interview – she hopes she can get the job so she can finally act like a Mum for Emmie. She sings a song about how great her life could be if she could escape her illness.



Meanwhile, at Swansea University, Emmie & Lloyd present their invention to the panel.



They think the presentation has gone really well when suddenly, a very grumpy Mr. Hodges storms over to Emmie to tell her that their invention has been disqualified from the competition because the idea is not actually original. Emmie & Lloyd discover that the Atmospheric Vortex Engine had already been invented by a scientist named **Louis Michaud** in 2005. In his anger, Mr. Hodges expels Emmie from his physics class for good **[Shouting]**.

Emmie is very upset and feels like all hope is lost for her ever being able to study extreme weather.

Lloyd thinks of a cunning solution to help Emmie and rings Louis Michaud.

Emmie returns home from school to find her mum has been cooking all day and dinner on the table, this time it's real, not a dream. Angela has discovered Emmie's application to Ball State University, but after her disappointing day at the Science presentation, Emmie is upset and no longer feels she can go to university and feels destined to spend the rest of her life in Aberdare, looking after her mum.

Angela is upset about the idea of Emmie leaving her and has a breakdown. **[Flashing Images]**



At school, Emmie is invited to Science club by Lloyd to show her a very special video message.

Lloyd has been in conversation with Louis Michaud, the scientist who discovered the original Atmospheric Vortex Engine! Louis praises Emmie for her cleverness and offers her an internship at his science laboratory in Canada. Emmie is overjoyed and thanks Lloyd for his help with a kiss on the cheek! As Walt arrives Emmie leaves telling him she's off to save the plant.

Walt sets the class a test that they weren't expecting. He sings a song about how everybody else gets to have dreams but nothing has worked out for him. He dreamed of being a rock star.



Filled with excitement, Emmie rushes home to tell her mum the exciting news, however, when she gets to her caravan, she finds Karen. Emmie begins to tell her Karen her good news, but Karen stops her to explain that her mum been taken into hospital after hurting herself following an outburst at her salon. Emmie gets angry with Karen **[Shouting]** for not understanding what it's like caring for her mum and she rushes to the hospital to see Angela.

At the hospital, the consultant informs Karen & Emmie that their mum has not been taking her medication and that this had made her very ill. The consultant finds out that Emmie is Angela's primary carer and tells her that the hospital is considering sectioning Angela under the Mental Health Act. Emmie gets very upset by this and promises to do anything to help her mum get better.

When she returns home from the hospital, Emmie discovers Mr. Church fiddling with the electricity meter. Emmie finds out that Mr. Church has been over-charging Emmie & Angela for the electricity use **[Shouting]** and gets very angry at him and sends him away.

In a moment of hopelessness, Emmie throws her application to Ball State University in the bin.

Karen arrives back at the caravan with a dish of lasagne as a peace offering for Emmie. Karen & Emmie talk and sing together about happy memories they have of their mum when they were younger, and she was well.



Karen tells Emmie to go after her dream and to not worry about her mum anymore and promises Emmie that she'll take care of her.

A few weeks later, Lloyd sets up a video screen showing Emmie, on the news, live from Ontario, Canada! Inspired by Emmie's bright future, Mr. Hodges lent Emmie some of his redundancy money so she could follow her dream of a becoming a storm chaser.

Emmie joins Ched from K259 TV and together they report on a looming tornado in the distance

**[Loud] [Flashing Images]**

The show ends with Emmie returning home and the whole cast singing a song about feeling Alive.



The cast bow to the audience and the audience clap, giving a round of applause to all of the actors on-stage to say thank you for the show.



# Eye of the Storm & Theatre Dictionary

## A

### **Aberdare Leader**

The name of the local town newspaper for where Emmie lives in the South Wales Valleys.

### **Actor**

The term for a person whose profession it is to perform on-stage, on television or in films.

### **Applause**

The word used to describe the clapping of hands to show approval or praise for a show or performance. Applause can happen throughout a show but mainly happens at the end.

### **Artificial Turbulence Machine**

Emmie's invention for the Science award. She makes this by using dry-ice and a fan to generate energy to power the radio.

### **Atmospheric Vortex Engine**

An invention by Louis Michaud which uses tornados to generate energy.

### **Auditorium**

The area of the theatre where you sit to watch a performance.

### **AV Designer**

An AV designer is responsible for creating all of the video content you see during a performance. In Eye of the Storm, AV is used to support Emmie's story by helping to set the scene and create atmosphere. The AV Designer for Eye of the Storm is Andy Pike.

## B

### **Ball State University**

The university in Indiana, USA where Emmie hopes to study Extreme Weather and Tornados.

### **Blackout**

A theatrical term used to describe sudden darkness happening on stage in a theatre.

## C

### **Caravan**

A vehicle or mobile-home that is set-up for people to live in. Emmie lives in a caravan with her Mum, Angela. Caravans can normally be driven, towed or moved to different locations around the world.

### **Composer**

The composer is the person who writes the songs and music for a show. Amy Wadge has written all of the songs.

## **Curtain Call**

The part at the end of a show where the actors give thanks and bow to the audience.

## **D**

### **Director**

Someone who is in charge of creating and bringing together all aspects of a production. Including: Actors, Lighting, Sound & Stage Management. The director for Eye of the Storm is Geinor Styles

### **Dry Ice**

Carbon Dioxide in its solid form. Dry Ice is used by Emmie to create her Artificial Turbulence Machine for the Science Project.

## **H**

### **Haze**

The theatrical term used for a special type of smoke used in the entertainment industry. Haze is often used to create or enhance the atmosphere of a scene.

## **I**

### **Interval**

The word used to describe the break the audience takes in the middle of a show.

## **L**

### **Lasagne**

A classic Italian layered pasta dish, commonly made from meat, cheese and sauce. This is Emmie's favourite thing to eat!

### **Lighting Designer**

A lighting designer is in charge of creating the lighting for a show. A lighting designer will play with different colours and intensity of light to create atmosphere and enhance the world in which the actors perform in. The lighting designer for Eye of the Storm is Elanor Higgins

## **M**

### **Mental Health Act**

The main piece of legislation that governs the assessment, treatment and rights of an individual with a mental health disorder.

### **Musical**

A play or film where singing and dancing is the main feature.

### **Musical Director**

The Musical Director is in charge of arranging all of the music for a performance. During the show, the MD will make sure all the musicians are in-tune and playing in time with one



another. In Eye of the Storm, the Musical Director is Barny Southgate who plays the keyboard, banjo, accordion and also plays the character of Thomas.

## **Musician**

Someone whose job is to play a musical instrument or sing as part of a performance.

## **P**

## **Physics**

The branch of science that focuses on the nature & properties of matter and energy in relation to the world and the universe. This Emmie's favourite subject at school.

## **Production Manager**

A production manager is responsible for all the logistics of staging a theatre show. They will work closely with all members of the production team to make sure everything runs according to plan.

## **Projection**

A technique used in theatre to show video, film or animated footage on a screen or surface. You will see elements of projection throughout the show – For example; the background that changes the setting from her home to the school or when Emmie talks about reaching the Eye of the Storm.

## **S**

## **Sound Designer**

A sound designer is in charge of all sound effects and music created for a production. A sound designer will work closely with the musical director to use music and sound effects to support the feel of a performance. The sound designer for Eye of the Storm is Mike Beer.

## **Stage Manager**

The stage manager is in charge of all backstage elements of a production during rehearsals and performances. It is their job to make sure everything runs smoothly and that all cast and crew are happy and feel looked after. There are 3 members of stage management on Eye of the Storm, Ali, Lefi and Mara. You will see Lefi and Mara moving parts of the scenery on and off the stage.

## **Strobe Lighting**

A theatrical effect which causes a light flash on and off really quickly. This is used in the show to create the effect of Thunder & Lightening!

## **T**

## **Tornado**

A mobile and destructive vortex of wind which forms a funnel-shaped cloud in the middle of a large storm system.

## **W**

## **Writer**

The script for Eye of the Storm was written by Geinor Styles who is also the director.

## **Y**

### **Young Carer**

Someone under 18 years old who has the responsibility of looking after another person who may be unwell, has restricted mobility or suffers from a mental health issue. Emmie is a young carer because she looks after her Mum, Angela.

## **Feedback**

We hope you had a wonderful time at the theatre and enjoyed today's performance of Eye of the Storm!

### **Got something to share?**

We'd love to hear what you have to say about any of our shows and resources!

If you have anything you'd like to share with us about our Visual Story, your trip to the theatre today or just want to know more about us, please get in touch.

You'll find us on...

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Thank You!

We hope to see you again soon!

