# Blood Brothers – Key Moments for Characters

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| **Mrs Johnstone** | At the start of the play, Mrs J sings of her affinity with Marilyn Monroe, using the song to tell us that she had seven children with the husband that left her, and has another on the way. | Finding out she is expecting twins and frightened that the welfare will take one away as she is already in debt to various creditors (milkman, finance man, catalogue man) Mrs J makes a pact with Mrs L on the bible to give her one of the twins on the condition she'll still be able to see him every day. | Mrs J is fired by Mrs L who breaks the terms of their agreement, and does not see Eddie again until Mickey brings him home, aged 7. When she finds out his family is leaving, she gives him a locket with a picture of her and Mickey to remember them by, before finding out she too is leaving. | Having been moved to the countryside, Mrs J is happy in her new life until Mickey brings Eddie home again, aged 14. Mrs L witnesses this and confronts Mrs J with a knife. Mrs J disarms her and tells her she is mad. | At the end of the play, Mrs J reveals to Mickey and Eddie that they are brothers. After their deaths, she sings how she wishes the events weren't true and just from an old movie with Marilyn Monroe. |
| **Song** | *Marilyn Monroe* | *Easy Terms* | *Bright New Day* | *Marilyn Monroe part 2* | *Tell Me It's Not True* |
| **Mrs Lyons** | Introduced as a wealthy woman who Mrs J works for, Mrs L reveals that she and her husband have been unable to have children. Hearing of Mrs J's worries about having twins, she convinces her to give one to her, singing of all the luxuries the child will have and promising Mrs J she'll be able to have contact with him. | Having seen Mrs J's superstitious nature when she put new shoes on the table, Mrs L uses this to manipulate Mrs J, convincing her if the twins ever find out about each other then they will both die. She uses this superstition again when she fires Mrs J to convince her not to reveal their secrets. | Mrs L dotes on Eddie, but after Mickey comes to her house she realises their connection. Terrified of Mickey's influence, she convinces Mr Lyons to move the family away. | Initially happy in her new life, when Eddie is suspended Mrs L sees the contents of the locket Mrs J gave him. She grows increasingly paranoid, eventually following Eddie to Mrs J's house. She breaks in and confronts her with a knife. After leaving she spirals into madness. | Having seen Eddie and Linda together, Mrs L tells Mickey and sets the events in motion that lead to their deaths. |
| **Song** | *My Child* | | *Gypsies in the Wood* | *Secrets* | *Mad Man* |
| **Eddie** | As a child, Eddie is lonely and is thrilled to meet Mickey. The pair become 'Blood Brothers' and, with Linda, play together, getting in trouble with the police. Eddie is angry and devastated when he is told they are moving away. | As a teenager Eddie is suspended when he swears at a teacher and refuses to give up his locket. On suspension, he meets Mickey and Linda again. The three spend their teenage years together happily. Eddie sings of his growing feelings for Linda, but does not act on them, instead helping them get together before he leaves for university. | When he returns from university at Christmas, Eddie is oblivious to Mickey's employment troubles and the two argue, with Mickey eventually telling him to leave. Before he does so he admits to Linda that he loves her. | Years later after Mickey's imprisonment, Eddie meets with Linda to discuss how to help Mickey. The feelings between the two resurface, and they kiss. | At the end of the play Eddie is a local councillor. His meeting is disturbed by Mickey, and, though he tries to calm his brother, is eventually shot and killed by him |
| **Song** | *July 18th* | *That Guy/ Summer Sequence/ I'm Not Saying a Word* | | *Light Romance* | *The Council Chamber* |
| **Mickey** | As a child, Mickey looks up to his brother Sammy but is also excluded by his brother frequently. Eddie is generous to him and the two become 'Blood Brothers' and play together with Linda, getting in trouble with the police. | As a teenager, Mickey is suspended from school for being cheeky to his teacher. He meets Eddie again and the three spend their teenage years together happily. He struggles with his inability to express his feelings for Linda, but with Eddie's help they get together. | Linda gets pregnant and Mickey marries her. The two move back in with Mrs Johnstone but struggle financially when Mickey loses his job. Unable to get work, Mickey is resentful of Eddie when he returns from university, and eventually pushes him away. | Sammy persuades Mickey to be lookout on an armed robbery to earn some money for Linda, but when the robbery goes bad Mickey is caught and sent to prison for 7 years. He gets hooked on anti-depressants and when he comes out is distant and struggles to function in society and connect with Linda. | When Mrs L tells Mickey of Linda and Eddie's affair, he descends into madness and plans to shoot Eddie. Enraged by Mrs J's revelation of the life he could have had, the gun goes off and he is shot by police. |
| **Song** | *I Wish I Was Our Sammy/ July 18th/Kids' Game* | *That Guy/ Summer Sequence* | *One Day in October/ Take a Letter Miss Jones* | *The Robbery/ Marilyn Monroe part 3* | *Mad Man/ The Council Chamber* |

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| **Sammy** | As a child, Sammy is aggressive. He plays with guns, kills his pet worms, and torments Mickey, often excluding him. | As a teenager, Sammy is known to the police. He burns the school down and gets probation. | As an adult, Sammy is on the dole and lies to the bus conductor before robbing him at knife point. | Sammy persuades Mickey to be a lookout on an armed robbery to get money for his family. | Sammy commits the robbery, running off and leaving Mickey before he is caught. |
| **Song** | *I Wish I Was Our Sammy/ Kids' Game* | *Bright New Day* | | *The Robbery* | *The Robbery* |
| **Linda** | As a child she defends Mickey against bullies and Sammy. She plays with Mickey and Eddie and is confident and outgoing. | As a teenager she supports Mickey no matter what and tells him she loves him publicly and repeatedly. She gets suspended defending Mickey and spends the next few years with him and Eddie, seemingly unaware of Eddie's feelings. | As an adult she tries to create a stable family: gets pregnant, marries Mickey, and moves in with Mrs J. Before Eddie leaves, she admits that she has always loved him, in a way. | After Mickey returns from prison she tries to keep him off pills and get him a job through Eddie. She is frustrated with his attitude and the lack of passion in her life. | With Mickey unresponsive and Eddie declaring his love, Linda eventually kisses Eddie, which enrages Mickey. |
| **Song** | *Kids' Game* | *Summer Sequence* | | | *Light Romance* |
| **The Narrator** | At the start of the play the narrator immediately invites us to judge Mrs J as we see a snapshot of events from the end of the play. He continues to play different roles in Mrs J's life – from the gynaecologist to the milkman – in Act 1 to show us more facets from which to judge Mrs J. | As the women make their deal, the narrator comments on the importance of the event, telling us that a debt is a debt and must be paid. He repeats this idea of an inescapable debt later when he appears as the bus conductor, and is robbed by Sammy, serving to remind us of the danger of 'owing' something. | As Mrs L descends into madness in act 2, the narrator shifts from judging Mrs J to judging her. He sings about how she is going mad, and directs his 'Shoes Upon the Table' reprise at her. | The narrator turns his attention to Linda before the final scenes, commenting on the drudgery of her life and how there is a girl inside the woman, waiting to escape. | At the end of the play the narrator sings about Mickey's descent into madness, and then ends by asking us to decide whether it is superstition or class that leads to the events at the end of the play. |
| **Song** | *Overture* | *Shoes Upon the Table* | *Shoes Upon the Table* | | *Mad Man* |