

AARON POWER

A Musical
(Draft/Intro Features)

By Michael Callahan and Daniel Haughey

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

AARON POWER THORN, 18, half-Anglo-Navajo, dark-eyed, soft-spoken, tenor.

COLIN POWER THORN, 48; Aaron's father; Methodist Missionary, faint Irish accent.

SHARON YAZZI THORN, 38, Navajo, Aaron's mother, Methodist, Missionary, loyal.

EDGAR "BULL" BEGAY. 74, Navajo Medicine Man; respects "Great Spirit" and God.

ANDREW "SKY" YAZZI, 48, Navajo, Shiprock Reservation Sherriff, Sharon's brother,

KATE KEANE, 19, Irish Catholic, free-spirit, smart, perky, thick Irish dialect, soprano.

SEAMUS O'SULLIVAN, 28, band's "techy", Irish Catholic, political, edgy, smart.

PATRICK SEMANSKI, 21, Irish-half-Polish, guitarist/singer, stereotypical rocker.

DEL FITZGERALD, 22, from Belfast, drummer/singer, 22, intelligent, judgmental.

BRIAN RUSSELL, 23, gifted bassist/singer, African-Irish, Rastafarian, druggie.

ELIZA ("LIZA") DINGLE, 25, gifted keyboardist/singer, style-Queen; do-gooder.

MOYA MC COURT, 27, fiddler, flautist/singer, tree-hugger; Celtic neo-Pagan/Catholic.

NANCY O'TOOLE, 29, singer, intellectual, confident, but stutters except when singing.

MOLLY KELLY, 41, Protestant, very Irish, educated, a soprano, wife to THOMAS.

THOMAS KELLY, 47, Irish Protestant; history professor, spiritual, father to DANIEL.

DANIEL KELLY, 22, Irish, natural leader, but cynical, fatalistic, trouble finds him.

AGNES ("NESSIE") KELLY, 21, Irish, KATE's musically competitive friend, assertive, singer, DANIEL's sister. The KELLY's are a Belfast family.

AGENT HUGH CLARK, 49, Irish detective, Republic of Ireland.

AGENT MARY MC CULLOUGH, 43, Irish detective, Republic of Ireland.

CHARLES POWER, a ghost, 80, former "Taoiseach" Chief of the Republic of Ireland.

LIAM AHERN, 31, Irish Catholic nurse in the Republic of Ireland, Kilarney Hospital.

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

(Continued.)

NOTE: The eight BAND MEMBERS are always an “onstage” band, the only live band for the musical. For small companies and/or lower budgets, the music can be performed as a pantomimed, “air band” with mp3 backup, but with live vocals. When not directly involved in the action, nor playing music, the BAND MEMBERS may discretely move to a pit, side-stage, or deemphasized area, or even take an end-seat in the auditorium.

AARON POWER can be performed with ten men and seven women. The role of KATE can be played by any ethnicity.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES AND SONGS

SETTING: The time is the present. The setting begins on a Navajo reservation in the Four Corners area of America and rapidly moves to Ireland. The action then moves through several counties of Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, from the east coast to the far west coast, to include the Blasket Islands. All locations are represented with simple props, benches, chairs, black boxes, on an open stage, with one or two platforms for levels. U. S. we can see a scrim, pale cyclorama or neutral backdrop, suitable for projections of representations suggesting the New Mexico desert and various Irish landscapes in the background. Perhaps a “pit” and/or side-stage areas offer a home-base area for the BAND MEMBERS as they move in-and-out of scenes.

SYNOPSIS

AARON POWER is an exciting, new, full-length musical about a talented but troubled Anglo-Navajo teen! Aaron is sent by a medicine man on an epic quest to Ireland to escape a possible crime. The teen is to discover the mystery of his Irish roots. A gifted musician, Aaron Power Thorn meets up with a cutting-edge Celtic Rock band that is running from the suspicion that one of its members may have committed an act of terrorism in Belfast. Aaron is quickly assimilated into the band, its culture and its Irish tour--a journey for its own musical identity. Aaron falls in love with the lead singer, Kate, who helps him find his place in Irish music, traditions, and the discovery of his haunting heritage: that Aaron’s mysterious and late grandfather was a “*Taoiseach*” (pronounced *teé-sheck*): one of Ireland’s most loved yet hated political chiefs of modern times.

With the pressures of a new culture and challenges of relationships converging on him, Aaron—in a flurry of emotions-- flees to the Great Blasket Island, the apparent burial ground of his grandfather. Aaron aims to resort to violence, to “blow up” and deface the controversial, ill-fated family legacy that is now his own. In his struggle, he slips on a rock during a terrible island storm, and falls unconscious into a dream-like, nightmarish state. He is confronted in a dream sequence by an apparition of his infamous grandfather, Charles Power, as he confronts Aaron with his Irish identity, family and troubled values, and even the meaning of love.

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SYNOPSIS

(Continued.)

Aaron is rescued, and in the denouement, begins a healing process as he reconciles issues that have haunted him. He pledges a new-found understanding of his heritage, his love of family, and his love for Kate. He sees himself now as a man and a musician with a meaningful message, who has much to express about the world and who he really is. He vows to return to the States with Kate, reunite with his Navajo family, and resolve his tempestuous life. This is a musical of cultural discovery, family fusion, and **a quest for peace**. It is a right-of-passage story about personal challenge and growth, set to distinctive, uplifting sounds of contemporary Irish American and Native American music.

Synopsis of Songs and Dance Music Titles

Overture

ACT I.

“What have you done, my son?”

“Ireland’s Enough!”

“Wake Up Today!”

“Moya’s Song”

“Family Celli” (Dance)

“The Writing on the Wall”

“The Love Song”

“Song Against Change”

“The Love Song” (Reprise)

“Death Punk Ballad”

ACT II.

“Blackthorn Tree”

“Skyclad”

“Shiprock Ode”

“I’m Not”

“Finale”

“Curtain Call”

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