

# The Glow

## Sensory Synopsis: A Guide to Sights, Sounds and Emotional Triggers

This is a sensory synopsis for *The Glow*. It is intended to help those with sensory or communication requirements prepare for the experience of attending the performance. Our aim is to warn you of any moments with loud noises, flashes of light, sudden or surprising movements or heightened emotion.

Should you have any questions regarding any aspect of *The Glow*, please

email [boxoffice@royalcourttheatre.com](mailto:boxoffice@royalcourttheatre.com)

### KEY:



Where you see this symbol, we are alerting you to moments that might be **emotional**.



Where you see this symbol, we are alerting you to moments that might surprise or shock you, such as **sudden movements**.



Where you see this symbol, we are alerting you to **flashes of light or sudden/extreme lighting changes**.



Where you see this symbol, we are alerting you to **loud noises or changes in music/sound**.

**WARNING:** This document contains some information which may give away aspects of the plot.

This performance contains:

- Haze
- Strobe lighting
- Flashing images
- Sudden loud noises
- Open flames

We have attempted to highlight all the points at which these are present.

Throughout the performance the illuminated signs marking fire escape routes inside the auditorium will turn on and off. This is to increase the feeling of darkness in the room at key points.

*The Glow* contains adult language and the use of extreme swear words.

The characters in *The Glow* are often in a state of high emotion or extreme tension.

This can cause them to speak loudly and shout throughout the performance.

# PART ONE:

## A PROMINENT WOMAN



The lights in the auditorium turn off to signal the start of the play.



The sound of a ghostly metal gate clanging,



A lantern turns on in the centre of the stage



MRS LYALL begins speaking while it is still dark



MRS LYALL moves the lantern, passing it from hand to hand.



THE WOMAN is laying curled up on the floor



MRS LYALL slowly crawls towards THE WOMAN.  
The light from the lantern is blocked for a moment.



THE WOMAN has been in the asylum for a long time



There is mention of doctors in this scene.



There is mention of being a spiritual medium in this scene.



There is mention of being locked away in this scene.

## SCENE 2



Two corridors of light can be seen across the stage.



MASON enters quickly.



MASON is holding a candelabra.  
The two candles on it are lit.



We can see haze.



MRS LYALL and MASON have a disagreement.



MASON refers to MRS LYALL's interest in the spiritual realm as a "sickness".



THE WOMAN stands up very slowly.



MASON says mean things about THE WOMAN.



MRS LYALL leaves the stage to the left.



The lights change.  
We see a square passage on the right side of the stage.



MASON threatens to beat THE WOMAN.



MASON and THE WOMAN use the doorway on the right side to leave the stage.



The lights on stage go black.



We hear MASON speaking in the dark.



We see the woman dimly lit on the left side of the stage.



MASON enters quickly from the left side of the stage.



MASON is carrying the candelabra.  
This is the only light on stage.



MASON walks to the front of the stage.  
He turns around quickly.



MASON threatens THE WOMAN.



MASON thrusts the candelabra near to THE WOMAN's face.



THE WOMAN speaks in a soft, croaking voice.



MASON removes one candles from the candelabra.  
He hands it to THE WOMAN.



MASON leaves the woman standing alone in the darkness.



THE WOMAN uses the candle to find the wall.



THE WOMAN walks along the perimeter of the room.



We hear a hand rubbing on the wall.



We hear wheezing breaths.



We hear a sustained chord.  
It starts quiet and gets gradually louder.



A KNIGHT in armour stands under a dim light.



Abstract flashing images are projected on the walls above.



The KNIGHT walks quickly toward THE WOMAN.



The candle is blown out.

## SCENE 3



It is dark.



In the darkness we hear MRS LYALL call the woman SADIE.



The lights on stage get bright quickly.



We see haze.



MRS LYALL enters from the left side of the stage.



MRS LYALL sings SADIE's name to get her attention.



MRS LYALL places a candelabra on the floor.



MRS LYALL uses a real match to light the two candles.



SADIE says that she heard voices.



The passage on the right side of the stage pushes outward.



MASON enters through the passage as it is moving.



MRS LYALL leaves the stage to the left.



There is mention of the dead in this scene.



There is mention of fear in this scene.



There is mention of demonic ritual in this scene.



MASON gets mad at SADIE for taking his toy horse.



MASON takes the horse from SADIE.



SADIE screams.



MASON shouts at SADIE.



MASON asks if SADIE is deaf.



We hear MRS LYALL begin speaking offstage.



MRS LYALL enters from the left side of the stage.



There is mention of bullying in this scene.



There is mention of stealing in this scene.





MASON tears the toy horse in two pieces.



MASON throws the pieces of toy horse on the floor.



MASON goes to leave.  
He stops in the doorway on the left side of the stage.



MRS LYALL raises her voice at SADIE.



MRS LYALL stamps her foot.  
This makes SADIE stand up quickly.



MASON walks across the stage quickly.  
He goes through the passage on the right.



MASON returns through the passage on the right.  
He is carrying a small stool.



MRS LYALL places a shiny blue blanket on the floor.



MRS LYALL throws the pieces of the broken horse toy through the passage  
on the right.



We hear piano music.



MASON mimes playing a piano.



MRS LYALL sings.



MASON joins in the singing.



The stage gets darker and bluer in colour.



Images of water and bubbles move quickly across the whole stage.



SADIE is gasping for breath.



MRS LYALL and MASON's singing are distorted and echo.



The water images stop suddenly.



The lights on stage are no longer blue.



SADIE sings in a loud voice.  
She is not in tune.



The lights on stage get a bit darker.



MASON picks up the stool and takes it through the passage on the right.



SADIE lies down on the floor.



MASON holds SADIE'S ankles to restrain her.



MRS LYALL speaks to the spirits.



MRS LYALL sways from side to side.



We hear three chimes.



MASON shouts impatiently.



We hear a crash of thunder.



We hear one bang.  
It sounds like the beating of a bass drum.



We hear one bang.



We hear two bangs.



MRS LYALL is interrupted by one louder bang.



SADIE struggles to breath.  
She tries to get MRS LYALL's attention.



MASON is nervous.



MRS LYALL asks if the spirit "passed before it's time".



We hear nails on a chalkboard.



The lights change.



SADIE takes heaving breaths.  
It is like she had been unable to breathe for a long time.



We hear a bang.  
It is louder than before.



We hear nails on a chalkboard and more banging.



MRS LYALL shouts.



The lights go out.



SADIE screams loudly.



The lights strobe.



SADIE thrashes her body and kicks her legs.



MRS LYALL shouts at MASON to hold onto SADIE.



SADIE screams in Latin.



The lights turn off.



We hear frantic violin music.



SADIE runs away.



MRS LYALL blows out the candles.  
The stage is completely dark.



The music stops.

## SCENE 4



We see a line of light across the back of the stage.  
Part of MASON's face is visible in the light.



The lights onstage get brighter.



There is mention of being abandoned in this scene.



There is mention of buying and selling people in this scene.



MASON and MRS LYALL argue.



MRS LYALL claps.



There is mention of failure in this scene.



There is mention of alcohol in this scene.



SADIE sneaks on stage through a door on the left.



MRS LYALL leaves through the passage on the right.



MASON is surprised to see SADIE.  
He shouts.



SADIE says that being connected to the spirit hurts.



MASON grabs a book out of SADIE's hands.



MASON calls SADIE a dog.



SADIE and MASON argue about the book.



MASON grabs SADIE by the wrist.



The lights change.



Flickering images of fire and a person in pain are projected on the stage.



We hear screaming and gunfire.



When MASON lets go of SADIE the noise stop and the images turn off.



MASON throws the book of poems on the floor.



MASON hurries away through the passage on the right.



The lights get darker.



SADIE mutters to herself.  
We can only hear the occasional word.



We hear birdsong and nature sounds.



Slowly we can see the image of a forest with a giant tree fill the stage.



There is mention of marriage and love in this scene.



We hear rhythmic music.



A MAN in animal hides walks in the darkness.



A light turns on at the back of the stage on the left.



We see haze.



The man raises a rock in the air as if to attack.



SADIE opens her hand revealing a ball of light.



The man turns and runs.



Abstract images flash across the stage.



The stage is dark.  
SADIE's glow is the only light that can be seen.



A Roman soldier runs towards SADIE.



There is strobe lighting.



SADIE and the Roman soldier fight.



The lights turn off.



The strobe lighting turns on again.



The soldier is on top of SADIE.



The lights turn off.



The strobe lighting turns on again.





The music becomes more chaotic.



MASON is on top of SADIE.



We hear MRS LYALL calling for SADIE.



The lights turn off.



A light from above flashes.



SADIE holds MASON by the head and bites off his nose.



MRS LYALL grabs SADIE.



The flashing light stops.



MASON runs off stage.



The music stops.



The lights get brighter.



SADIE has blood on her mouth.

## SCENE 5



The lights get darker.



As they speak the right wall of the stage moves in closer.  
This makes the space smaller.



There is mention of blood in this scene.



There is mention of pain and suffering in this scene.



SADIE describes a battlefield and piles of corpses.



There is mention of hate in this scene.



MASON bursts in from the passage on the right.



MASON is drunk.



MASON has a bloody nose.



There is mention of mutilation in this scene.



MASON is upset.  
He shouts at SADIE.



MASON grabs SADIE by the shirt.



SADIE yells at MASON to let her go.



There is mention of burning at the stake in this scene.



SADIE pushes her finger into MASON's wounded nose.



MASON screams.



The lights go dark.



We hear a low drone.



The lights come back on.



MRS LYALL is upset.



MRS LYALL tells SADIE that she is nothing and compares her to spoiled meat.



MRS LYALL grabs SADIE from behind.



SADIE yells.



MRS LYALL calls THE WOMAN mean names.  
THE WOMAN yells out.



THE WOMAN threatens to bring death and destruction down on MRS LYALL.



MRS LYALL grabs her hand and breaks one of THE WOMAN's fingers.



We hear a loud cracking sound.



THE WOMAN is in pain.



MRS LYALL breaks another finger.



We hear more cracking.



THE WOMAN falls to the floor.



THE WOMAN's broken hand begins to glow



Airy music plays.



The lights get darker.



We hear a popping and cracking sound as THE WOMAN's fingers snap back into place.



The music changes.  
It becomes more menacing.



THE WOMAN's body is covered in the image of flowing lava.



The Knight stands in the passage behind THE WOMAN.



MRS LYALL falls to her knees.



THE WOMAN opens her mouth widely.



The lights get darker.



The image of streams of glowing lava fill the stage.



Lava is projected on to MRS LYALL.



MRS LYALL splutters and clutches her throat.



A jumble of tangled white lines move quickly over the stage.



We hear a scrambled, static-like noise.

## SCENE 6



We see the year 343 AD projected on the walls.



The lights are blue.



We see haze.



We hear THE WOMAN screaming in pain.  
It sounds very far away.



The lighting changes.



A jumble of white lines move around the stage.



We hear frantic string instruments.



MRS LYALL is afraid.



MRS LYALL tries to crawl away.



Out of the darkness we see the Roman soldier.



The Soldier rushes towards MRS LYALL and swings his sword.



MRS LYALL screams “oh no!”.



The lights turn off.



The music stops.

## INTERVAL



The lights in the auditorium will get brighter.



The interval will last around 20 minutes. There will be announcements throughout the building telling you when there are 5 minutes left.



The lights in the auditorium will turn off again to signal the start of Part Two.

## PART TWO: KING FISHER

### SCENE 1



We hear ominous string music.



We see the flame of a torch.



A blue light turns on.



We see THE WOMAN with an iron collar and chairs hanging off it in many directions.



The music gets louder.



The lights turn off.

## SCENE 2



A jumble of tangled white lines move quickly over the stage.



We hear a scrambled, static-like noise.



The lights get brighter.



HASTER and THE WOMAN are at the front of the stage.



We see the year 1348 projected on the walls.



We see trees projected on the background.



The music stops.





HASTER threatens THE WOMAN with pain.



There is mention of decapitation in this scene.



There is mention of imprisonment in this scene.



There is mention of alcohol in this scene.



HASTER shouts at THE WOMAN.



THE WOMAN runs off stage.



The projections of the year fade away.



HASTER calls after the WOMAN.



We hear the beating of a drum.



The stage gets dark.



A jumble of tangled white lines move quickly over the stage.



Spotlights swing back and forth.



We hear an air raid siren.



An Air Raid Protection (ARP) Warden walks across the stage.



The ARP Warden carries a lantern.



We hear a plane.



The ARP Warden runs past HASTER.



HASTER draws his sword and swings it at the ARP Warden.



The lights go dark.



We hear a scrambled, static-like noise.



The siren sound changes into an alarm.



Flickering lights come from the passage on the right side of the stage.



The right wall of the stage moves in closer.



We see THE WOMAN tearing at wired electrodes on her head.



Someone in a hazmat suit walks across the stage.



The lights turn off.



Abstract images move across the stage.



HASTER takes his sword out.



The lights turn off.



A light turns on in the passage.  
We see the silhouette of THE WOMAN.



THE WOMAN's hand glows.



The light behind THE WOMAN turns off.  
The glow in her hand is the only light on stage.



THE WOMAN walks forward.



THE WOMAN's body is projected with moving lights.

## SCENE 3



The music fades away.



The lights come on.  
The glow is gone.



We see the year 1993 projected on the walls.



We see haze.



ELLEN is leaning against the passage entrance.



There is mention of breaking into people's homes in this scene.



There is mention of stealing in this scene.



The right wall moves back to the right side of the stage.

## SCENE 4



The lights go dark.



We hear a scrambled, static-like noise.



A jumble of tangled white lines move quickly over the stage.



We see the year 1348 projected on the walls.



We see trees in the background.



HASTER runs on stage from the left and grabs THE WOMAN.



THE WOMAN shouts.



THE WOMAN and HASTER argue.



There is mention of magic in this scene.



There is mention of death in this scene.



The lights turn off.

## SCENE 5



The year 1979 is projected on the walls.



EVAN walks down the passage on the right.



The lights get brighter.



EVEN gestures with his hands while he talks.



Evan climbs on top of the opening to the passage.



There are mentions of ghosts in this scene.



EVAN uses the term “mentals” to describe people.



The word “cock” is used in this scene.



There are mentions of death in this scene.



The lights turn off.

## SCENE 6



A jumble of tangled white lines move quickly over the stage.



The passage is lit.



The year 1993 is projected on the walls.



We hear audio from the television.  
There are two different voices.



There is mention of head trauma in this scene.



ELLEN presses a button on the remote.  
The light representing the television turns off.



The television sound turns off.



ELLEN says that BROOKE hates her.



ELLEN presses a button on the remote.  
The light representing the television turns on.



The television sound turns on.



The lights turn off.

## SCENE 7



A jumble of tangled white lines move quickly over the stage.



A light shows EVAN on top of the passage entrance.



THE WOMAN climbs on top of the passage entrance.



EVAN swears.



There is mention of war in this scene.



There is mention of being cut to pieces in this scene.



There is mention of being burnt at the stake in this scene.



EVAN climbs down from above the passage entrance.



EVAN walks away while still talking.



We hear sombre string music.



The lights slowly turn off.

## SCENE 8



We hear a crash of thunder.



We see a flashes of light



The year 1348 is projected on the walls.



Lights turn on.





We hear CATCH's voice from the darkness.



HASTER threatens CATCH.



There is mention of sickness and plague in this scene.



There is mention of violence and death in this scene.



There is mention of blood in this scene.



HASTER swears.



There is mention of being cut up and being burned in this scene.



CATCH uses an extreme swear word.



HASTER draws his sword.



CATCH cuts HASTER's leg with his knife.



HASTER drops his sword and shouts.



CATCH swings HASTERS sword.



The lights slowly get darker.



THE WOMAN spits in CATCH's eye.



We hear a horn.



CATCH is in pain.  
He falls to the ground.



We hear rhythmic music begin to play.

## SCENE 9



Lights come on.



The year 500,000 BC is projected on the walls.



We see haze.



Colourful images move across the stage.



Out of the passage we see THE WOMAN wearing a crown made of bones.



CATCH cries out in fear.



The man wearing hides creeps out of the shadows.



THE WOMAN screams.



The lights turn off.



The music fades away.

## SCENE 10



The lights turn on.



The year 1993 is projected on the walls.



We hear ELLEN from off stage.



BROOKE comes out of the passage.



BROOKE is tired.



There is mention of ELLEN's son dying in this scene.



There is mention of nightmares in this scene.



BROOKE describes being locked in a box and drowning.



ELLEN leaves through the passage.



The lights get darker slowly.  
We can only see BROOKE.

## SCENE 11



We hear melancholy cello music.



We hear EVAN's voice from the darkness.



The music fades away.



The lights get a bit brighter.



There is mention of death in this scene.



BROOKE is sad.



There is mention of love in this scene.



We hear the melancholy cello music again.



The lights get dark.



The wall on the right turns towards the audience.

## SCENE 12



The year 1348 is projected on the walls.



We see trees projected over the stage.



We hear HASTER shouting.



HASTER drags himself down the passage holding his sword.



HASTER throws his sword on the ground.  
It makes a loud noise.



HASTER is in pain.



THE WOMAN pokes HASTER's wounded leg.



HASTER describes the first time he killed someone.



There is mention of being beaten in this scene.



THE WOMAN describes the pain of being alone.



Music plays.



THE WOMAN uses HASTER's sword to cut her hand.



HASTER roars in pain.



There is a flash of light.

## SCENE 13



The year 1994 is projected on the walls.



BROOKE shouts for help.



ELLEN walks through the passage.



BROOKE is holding HASTER'S sword.



We hear noise from the television.



There is a light that shines on BROOKE and HASTER as if they are in front of a television.



HASTER is in pain.



ELLEN rushes back down the passage.



BROOKE shouts for her.



From off stage we hear ELLEN say she is coming back.



ELLEN comes back carrying a tin first aid box.



We hear a clang when se puts it on the floor.



ELLEN performs first aid on HASTER.  
We can see medical supplies such as bandages and antiseptic ointment.



BROOKE speaks in an old version of English.



ELLEN says that HASTER needs stitches.



The noise from the television gets louder.



ELLEN puts a bandage on HASTER's leg.



ELLEN says that HASTER is smelly.



BROOKE says that HASTER kept her safe.



BROOKE and HASTER speak an old version of English to each other.



ELLEN leaves.



BROOKE pushes HASTER's hand off of her.

## SCENE 14



The lights change.



The year 1348 is projected on the walls.



We see trees projected over the stage.



HASTER is shocked after being taken to 1994.



HASTER tells THE WOMAN that he is unable to hate her.



HASTER gives the woman the name BROOKE.





Music gently plays.



The music changes.  
We hear strings.



The right wall turns away.



The lights get darker.



BROOKE and HASTER leave through the passage.

## SCENE 15



We hear MASON scream in the darkness.



The year 1353 is projected on the walls.



The lights turn on.



MASON looks around frantically.



BROOKE enters from the passage.  
She is wielding a longbow.



MASON stammers.



We hear HASTER from off stage.



HASTER enters from the left side of the stage.  
He is holding an axe.



HASTER drops a pile of sticks on the stage.  
They make a clattering noise.



MASON falls to the ground as he scrambles away in fear.



MASON sings manically.



BROOKE pushes HASTER out of the way.



BROOKE yells for MASON to run.



MASON runs away.



The lights get darker.



We hear low-tones string music.

## SCENE 16



A jumble of tangled white lines move quickly over the stage.



We hear a crackling, static-like noise.



The year 1999 is projected on the walls.



There is a light from the passage and a light at the back of the stage.



We see haze.



ELLEN is dead.



There is mention of a house repossessed in this scene.



The lights turn off.

## SCENE 17



We hear BROOKE's voice in the darkness.



BROOKE is disappointed.



A very dim light turns on at the back of the stage.



We see haze.



HASTER walks with a cane.



HASTER tells BROOKE that she must stay in the cave.



There is mention of apocalypse and death in this scene.



HASTER and BROOKE argue.



BROOKE cries.



HASTER says that they have been pretending to be a family.



There is reference to suicide by drowning in this scene.



BROOKE says that she will never forget HASTER.



There is mention of torture in this scene.



HASTER is angry.



BROOKE says that she loves HASTER.



HASTER calls himself a monster.



BROOKE screams at HASTER.



The lights get darker.



A high-pitched drone begins to play.



The image of fire is projected onto BROOKE.



The sound fades away.



The projection on BROOKE fades away.



The light at the back of the stage turns back on.



We see haze.



There is talk of hate in this scene.



The lights turn off slowly.



We hear melancholy string music.

## SCENE 18



The lights get brighter and bluer in colour.



The year 1998 is projected on the walls.



The string music fades away.



ELLEN enters from the left of the stage.



We see haze.



ELLEN remembers who son who died.



BROOKE puts her arm around ELLEN.



Waves are projected across the stage.



BROOKE and ELLEN walk forward.



There is a light at the front of the stage so they can be seen.



The light at the back of the stage turns off.



ELLEN says that people can be disappointing.



ELLEN mentions that she has a bad memory.



BROOKE asks ELLEN what it was like to lose her son.



BROOKE kisses ELLEN on the forehead.



The lights change.



The waves projected on the stage turn into a giant 1979.



ELLEN is confused.



The 1979 projection fades away.



The wall on the right side of the stage turns in towards the audience.



We hear EVAN before we are able to see him.



BROOKE sits on the passage entrance next to EVAN as it moves.



EVAN is rolling a joint.



There is description of a bomb site in this scene.



There is mention of broken bones in this scene.



There is mention of ghosts in this scene.



We hear the melancholy string music.



The wall turns away from the audience with ELLEN and EVAN in the passage.



The lights go dark.  
There is one light shining on THE WOMAN from above.



THE WOMAN describes being alone.



There is mention of war in this scene.



There is mention of love in this scene.



THE WOMAN describes being tired but not sleeping.



There is mention of insects in this scene.





There is mention of sorrow and nightmares in this scene.



There is mention of being broken-hearted.



Ethereal music plays.  
It gets louder as the scene goes on.



The lights get darker.



A galaxy of moving stars is projected over THE WOMAN and the whole stage.



A light turns on behind THE WOMAN.  
It looks like she is glowing.



The music fades away.



The projections and the light behind THE WOMAN fade away.  
The stage is dark.



THE WOMAN holds a glowing orb in both hands.  
She raises the glow to her face.



The lights turn off.

**CURTAIN CALL.**  
**THE END.**