

# EXTRACT

## Traveller in the dark

a short play

by

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Inspired by the children's song  
"Twinkle Twinkle little star"

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**Cast**

EDWARD

DIANA

ACTOR 1 (MALE)

ACTOR 2 (FEMALE)

ACTOR 3 (MALE OR FEMALE)

**EDWARD** IN A POOL OF LIGHT. THE OTHER ACTORS MOVE IN THE DARKNESS AROUND HIM.

OTHER ACTORS: (SINGING) Twinkle, twinkle, little star,  
How I wonder what you are!  
Up above the world so high,  
Like a diamond in the sky!

EDWARD: I'm on a bus.  
He's on a bus.  
I'm on a bus.  
A train.  
We're on the A train out to Rockaway  
She's sitting alongside me.  
There is a conversation.

THE ACTRESS PLAYING **DIANA** EMERGES FROM THE DARKNESS.

DIANA: (SINGS) "Up above the world so high,  
Like a diamond in the sky!"

EDWARD: We have a conversation.

DIANA: I don't know why you want to go to the beach.

EDWARD: Not the beach.

DIANA: What else is at Rockaway except the beach?

EDWARD: Bars, cafes.

DIANA: There are no cafes at Rockaway Beach.

EDWARD: Bars, Irish Bars.

DIANA: Full of drunk Donnellys. No thank you.

EDWARD: Could be fun.

DIANA: No thank you.

EDWARD: We used to have fun.

DIANA: We used to go to fun places. Not Mick bars in Rockaway.

EDWARD: We can walk on the Boardwalk.

DIANA: The Rockaway Boardwalk. That would be fun. Then maybe we can take a jaunt down to Breezy Point. Would you like that? A jaunt to Breezy Point.

OTHER ACTORS: (SINGING) When the blazing sun is gone,  
When he nothing shines upon,

EDWARD: We had a -

OTHER ACTORS: (SINGING) Then you show your little light,  
Twinkle, twinkle, all the night.

EDWARD: conversation.

DIANA: Sure. I could do that. Take a stroll to Breezy Point.

EDWARD: You're up for a stroll.

DIANA: If it's not too cold.

EDWARD: It's not too cold.

**DIANA AND EDWARD STROLL.**

EDWARD: We had a stroll. (TO **DIANA**) It's a long way. I don't remember it  
being this long.

**ACTOR 1 (MALE), EMERGES FROM THE DARKNESS:**

ACTOR 1: You don't remember much.

HE DISAPPEARS IMMEDIATELY.

EDWARD: We had a stroll. (TO **DIANA**) It's a long way.

DIANA: Not too long.

EDWARD: You don't mind the rain?

DIANA: Not if you hold me close.

SHE HUDDLES IN CLOSER TO HIM.

ACTOR 1: (APPEARING AGAIN) That's so sweet.

AGAIN HE IS GONE.

**ACTOR 3 (MALE OR FEMALE) EMERGES FROM THE DARKNESS**

ACTOR 3: There are just a couple of blank spots –

EDWARD: We had a stroll.

ACTOR 3: It would be great –

DIANA: A lovely stroll.

ACTOR 3: To fill those in.

EDWARD: We reached Breezy Point.

THE ACTORS EMERGE FROM THE DARKNESS AND PLACE A BENCH IN THE LIGHT. THEY MELT BACK INTO THE BLACK.

DIANA: Let's sit on the bench.

EDWARD: It's too cold.

DIANA: That's good. No-one else around. Who knows what we can get up to?

ACTOR 1: (EMERGING FROM DARKNESS) Cosy.

ACTOR 3: So no one else was around?

DIANA: Someone's watching us.

**ACTOR 2 (FEMALE) EMERGES FROM THE DARKNESS.**

ACTOR 2: Who was watching you?

ACTORS 1, 2 AND 3 (SING) Then the traveller in the dark,  
Thanks you for your tiny spark,

ACTOR 3: You weren't alone.

ACTOR 1: (EMERGING, SPOKEN) He could not see which way to go,  
If you did not twinkle so.

DIANA: It's nice to be here. Just us.

ACTOR 2: Were you alone or not?

EDWARD: He got on at Liberty Avenue.

ACTOR 1: He was already there.

ACTOR 3: He started following you on the A train?

EDWARD: He was on the bench.

ACTOR 2: We need to be clear.

EDWARD: He's the Traveller.  
The Traveller in the dark.