



THE
DARWIN
CHRONICLES

A SUPERNATURAL WESTERN
AUDIO COMIC BOOK SERIES

ONE IS A FORMER NURSE
WHO KILLED A PATIENT TO END HIS SUFFERING.

ONE TURNED HIS BACK ON RELIGION
AND BUILT WEAPONS FOR THE RUSSIANS.

ONE HUNTED HIS OWN FLESH AND BLOOD
FOR THE U.S. ARMY.

ONE HAS A DEMON INSIDE
WAITING TO COME OUT.

THE DARRWIN CHRONICLES

A SUPERNATURAL WESTERN
AUDIO COMIC BOOK SERIES

Written & Directed by Johnathon Hoskins Assistant Director Paul Slingsby Executive Producer Johnathon Hoskins for VirtuallyAudio.com

Production Manager Roma Anderson Produced by Michael Craig Associate Producer Liam Smyth

Associate Producer Paul Slingsby Original Songs & Music Rod Brown

Featuring: Paul Slingsby Marcia de Deckere Andrew Kines Dave Barker Dylan Mask Eva Havill Berk Connery

Justine Cargo Phil Skala Michael Craig Roman Struhanyk Sam Montesano Stephen McPhail

Volume 1 available

SEPT 2016

Check the Darrwin web pages for more info

and updates exclusively at: VirtuallyAudio.com

What have you been listening to... lately?



THE STORY

The Darrwin Chronicles is a supernatural X-files styled western that takes place ten years after the end of the civil war. Scars from both the victors and the losers have yet to heal, as the country continues to find its way after one of the most devastating and bloody conflicts in human history.

Into this melee steps one man, Christopher Darrwin, ex-lawyer, ex-gunfighter, lapsed Catholic and former alcoholic. He comes with a score to settle, not with either party but himself. A last chance at redemption to become the man he has never been able to be, to finally take on the demons inside he's always been afraid to face.

Foreign investment has dug its greedy claws into the American soil. The man known as the 'Butcher of the Civil War' is in the White House and is crying reform. An organization known only as the New South is about to take matters into its own hands and turn back the clock.

And deep below the surface someone wasn't paying attention and left the door open and what comes out no one on earth will want to face, not even Darrwin.

Hang onto your breeches, all hell's about to break loose, and you have a front row seat.

Welcome to The Darrwin Chronicles, where what you thought was happening isn't really, and what is really going on is just a ruse for something that may or may not happen later.

Welcome to another normal day in the life of Christopher Darrwin and the crusade he now finds himself on. Welcome to the world of The Darrwin Chronicles!

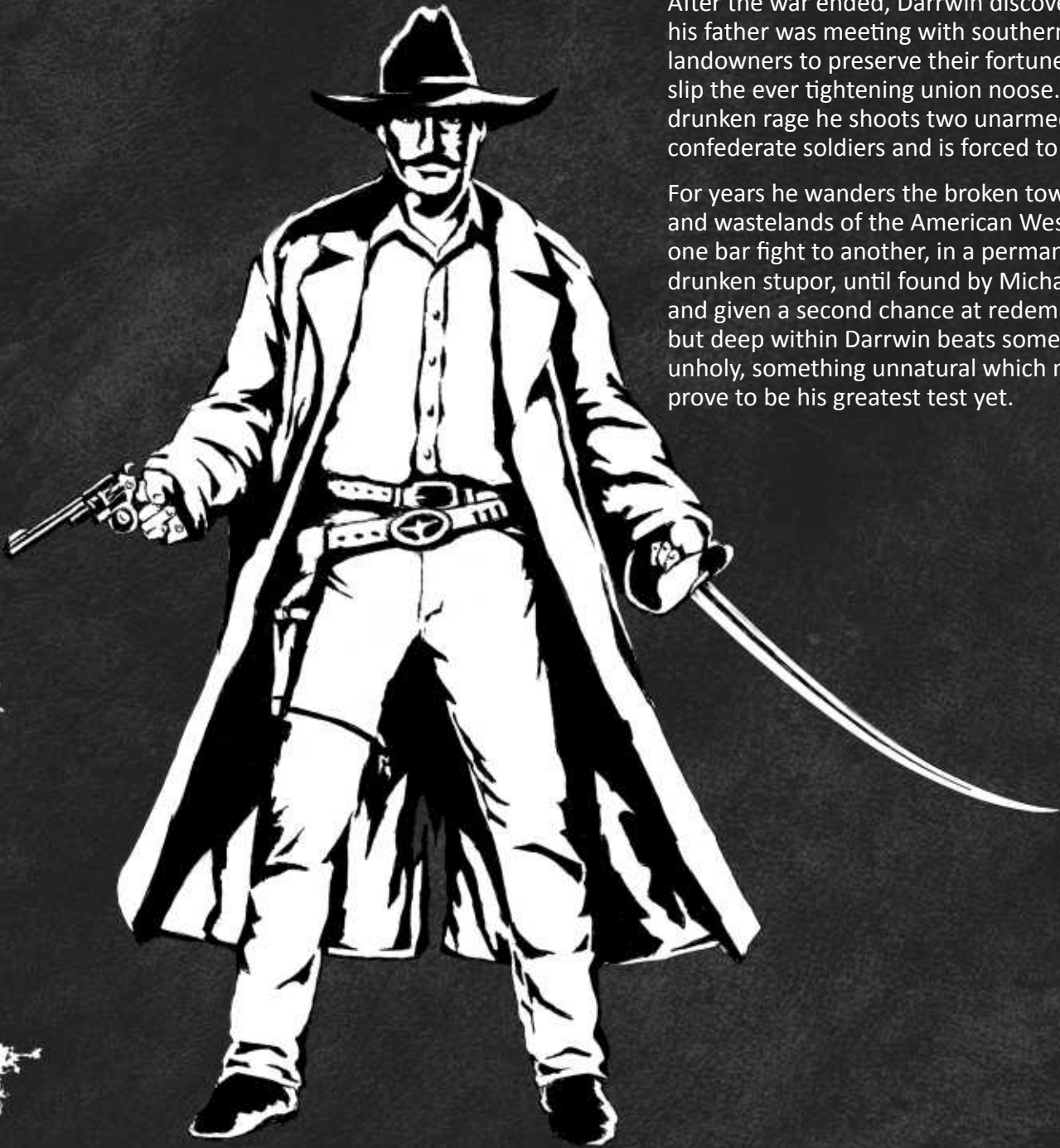
CHRISTOPHER DARRWIN

Voiced by Paul Slingsby

Former lawyer, alcoholic, lapsed Catholic, Darrwin grew up in high society in Boston. He was taught to ride and shoot by his uncle, a former Texas Ranger. He has developed a deep hatred for the South because two of his brothers were killed during the war fighting for the North at the battle of Gettysburg.

After the war ended, Darrwin discovered his father was meeting with southern landowners to preserve their fortunes and slip the ever tightening union noose. In a drunken rage he shoots two unarmed ex-confederate soldiers and is forced to flee.

For years he wanders the broken towns and wastelands of the American West from one bar fight to another, in a permanent drunken stupor, until found by Michaels and given a second chance at redemption, but deep within Darrwin beats something unholy, something unnatural which may prove to be his greatest test yet.



KATHERINE BRADDOCK

Voiced by Marcia de Deckere

Former nurse who worked in the same prison facility in which the New South was carrying out experiments on raising the dead.

Trained both as a doctor and a scientist. She is Darrwin's 'scientific eye', trying to make sense of the unnatural occurrences and supernatural creatures they encounter.

She carries several ghosts, the most debilitating of which was the operations she bore witness to in the prison hospital ward and the night she killed a patient out of mercy.

She sees becoming part of Darrwin's circle as a chance to redeem herself for the past sins that still haunt her. She alone is able to understand the Demon that thrives within Darrwin for she carries one deep inside her as well.



JESSE Q. MARTIN

Voiced by Dylan Mask

The town Deputy. He is whip smart, but learns more about people by not always playing that card. He doesn't carry a gun but favours a large bowie knife – the twin of the one Isabella carries. He observes the world around him and takes notes as he does it – a trait he shares with Darwin, who he rubs up against, but eventually evolves into a sense of respect and admiration. He has a strong friendship with Isabella, but he doesn't catch on there is more growing under the surface which pushes the two of them together. He seems to be waiting for something, a chance to prove himself under fire.



ISABELLA MARIA CORTEZ

Voiced by Justine Cargo

The head barmaid, Isabella is part Latin and very smart, which she tends to keep hidden except from those close to her. She is often brash and outspoken which gets pushed into Malachai's face on more than one occasion. They have formed a strange father/daughter relationship between the two of them – based on events neither of wish them talk about. She carries a bowie knife under the folds of her dress, which she often utilizes when patrons get out of line. Often followed by the remark "You want to drink, sit down. You want to rut like a pig, go down the street!" She is sweet on Jesse, the town Deputy, but often finds more of a kinship with Johnny as they both see themselves as outsiders. Isabella often seems to come across harsh and reserved, but beneath beats a fragile soul.



JOHNNY TWO-BLOODS

Voiced by Phil Skala

A mixed blood Cheyenne Indian scout who at one time hunted down Apaches and Comanche's for the U.S. Army under the tutelage of General George Custer. He is a half-breed trapped between two cultures, carrying the guilt of hunting down his own people. This self-hatred leads him to find solace in the bottom of a whiskey bottle – a state that Darrwin is all too familiar with, but even this trait may be a ruse that Johnny uses as camouflage to hide his real intentions. He is a keen marksman who can shoot the eye of a coyote out at fifty yards; he is an expert tracker of both four foot and two-foot variety of animals that cross his and Darrwin's path.



MALACHAI DORCHESTY

Voiced by Roman Struhanyk

A Russian-Jewish immigrant who left his family behind and fled the pogroms in Europe for a better life in the American West. He is a student of the school of hard knocks. Nothing was ever easy for him. He runs the local watering hole with an iron grip and a well used double-barrel shotgun he keeps primed and safely tucked behind the bar. He holds his former life close to his chest but tolerates and has a strong affection for Isabella his barmaid and surrogate daughter. He does not make friends easily nor does he seem to want to, but behind the steely grey eyes there are many secrets and a confirmation that one is not always as they appear.

JEDIDIAH GOODACRE

Voiced by Stephen McPhail

The head of the organization known as the New South, the group of former military southern landowners and politicians whose sole purpose is to make the northern states, and especially President Grant, to pay dearly for the physical and emotional damage that was done to their beloved south during and after the civil war. Goodacre himself was a colonel in the Confederate army and he carries that distinction with pride and a commanding presence.

He is a United States Democratic senator who will cross any line to exert payback on his enemies. He seems to have great many resources at his disposal including money, manpower and access to scientific information and expertise, which in turn has allowed him to create and utilize weapons that in some cases haven't even been invented yet.

He has made many deals to get to this place of power and respect, but a few of them may be more than he is even prepared for.



MICHAELS

Voiced by Sam Montesano

The mysterious man in the wheelchair who claims ties to both the railroad and the affairs of President Grant, is sworn to stop the economic and military rise of the organization known as the New South. He has saved Darrwin from a grisly end, but underneath his charm and his quick turn of a phrase, Michaels holds back the real intent of why he needs Darrwin and the reason why Darrwin needs him.



ANNIE ELIZABETH PRIDE

Voiced by Justine Cargo

Educated at the finest schools in New York and Europe, Annie was on her way to receiving a degree in Classical Literature when she had to return home due to a scandal which destroyed her family reputation and left them in financial ruin. Her siblings shunned the family name and distanced themselves leaving Annie to take care of her distraught, ailing parents. To make ends meet she took what work she could, a tutor, laundress and eventually a barmaid.

When both her mother and father died she moved to Boston. At first she resisted Darrwin's charms, suspicious of his reputation as well as his intentions towards her, but over time his showing of respect and displays of genuine affection won her over. He became a window for her to look back into a world she had left behind. They would often lie in bed reading to each other into the early hours laughing and talking. When someone asked Darrwin many years later how he felt about her, he replied "I loved her more than breathing."

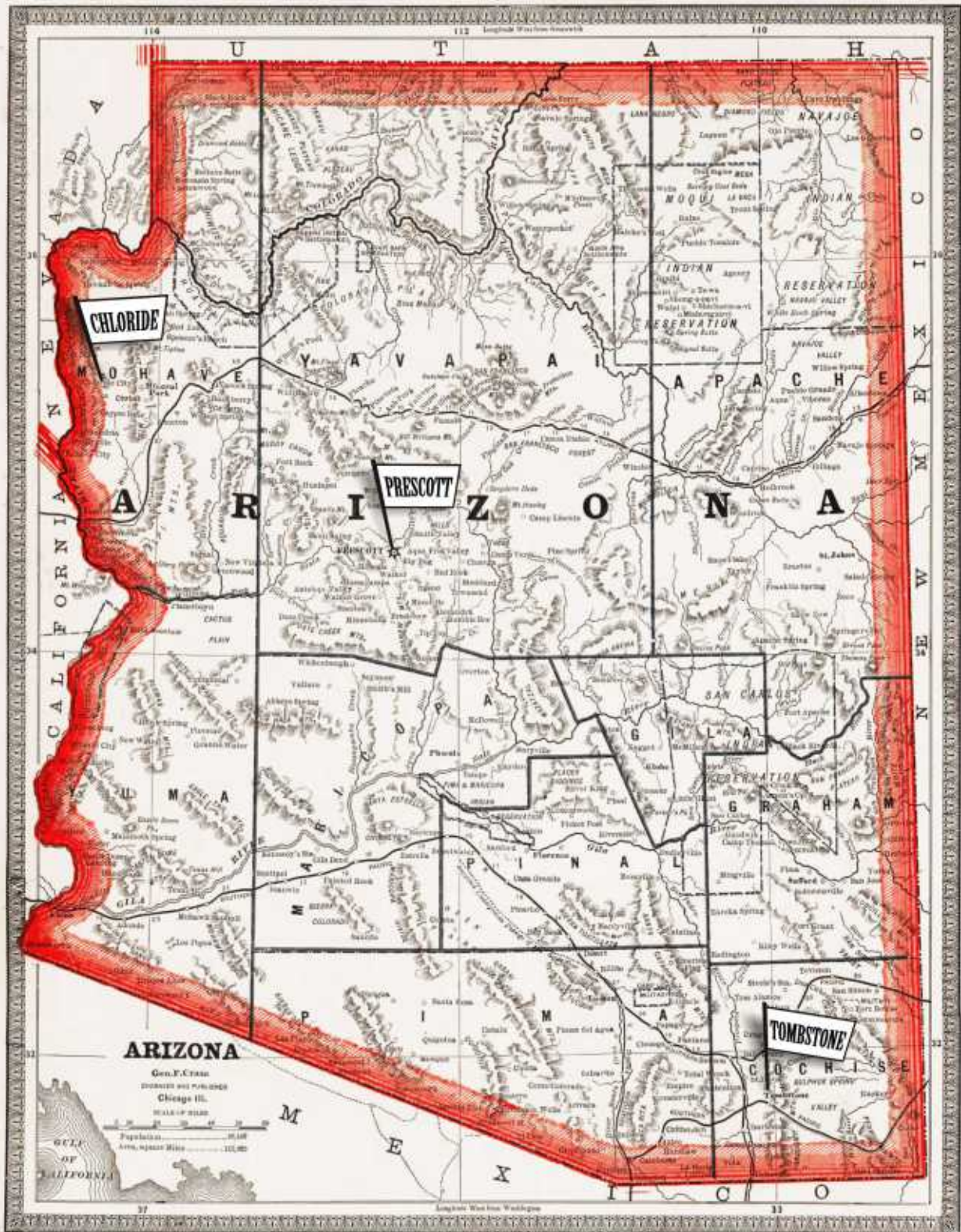


ZACHARIAH

Voiced by Dave Barker

"I always say, that loss is a far much better motivator than gain. Wouldn't you agree?"

Nothing about this shadowy figure is easy to pin down. His uneasy alliance and consul for Goodacre and his eventual end-game for the New South, keeps far more hidden than it reveals. Making it difficult to decipher what side Zachariah is really playing for.



DARRWIN'S MIDDLE-EARTH

DIRECTOR AND WRITER'S JOURNEY

I have always moved to my own drummer. I am drawn to stories that are perplexing, hold no easy answers and don't reveal themselves until about half way through and then usually in a way that you don't expect.

This was what drew me into the world of Darwin.

The attraction started almost seven years ago when David Renegar, then the head of VirtuallyAudio, and myself came up with the idea for a new kind of western series entitled "Darwin's Law", a story that featured a well-educated former Boston lawyer named Christopher Darwin, who had become a gun for hire and now finds himself at a moral crossroads.

The concept at the time also included a young nurse named Sarah who, disillusioned by a male dominated profession, becomes Darwin's 'scientific eye' as they form a sort of X-files style like partnership solving mysteries in the old west and doing their best to stay alive.

Fast-forward four years, the series name has changed to illustrate its much broader scope and universal themes, "The Darrwin Chronicles".

The main character of Darrwin has remained intact. Only now he has picked up the additional attributes of reformed alcoholic and lapsed Catholic and although he still finds himself at that crossroads, he now has a demon growing inside keeping him company.

The nurse's name is now Katherine, who as well as being more mature, now sports a Scottish accent, has a serious opium addiction and harbours a few secrets and demons of her own.

An organization known only as the 'New South' has reared its head composed of a group of very powerful men who will stop at nothing to see a new Confederacy resurrected, even if that involves the taking of innocent lives in a series of brutal terrorist acts. Post-war America has become a chess game with pieces moving across the board and assured victory going to the highest bidder.

The world of Darrwin has grown densely populated by an assortment of interesting characters, each of them dealing with their own personal demons – real and imagined. A collection of motley souls who now find themselves caught in a struggle of good waged against evil with an unholy puppeteer holding tightly on the strings.

This is the tale we wanted to tell; a story of strong men and equally strong woman who have to make hard choices and then face the consequences of their actions afterwards.

This is the reason that myself and a very brave and talented cast embarked on a journey eighteen months ago to arrive at this place. A little battered and bruised, but still eager to share what we had created.

Welcome to the world of The Darrwin Chronicles!

*J Hoskins
Writer/Director
The Darrwin Chronicles Series*

AN ACTOR'S PERSONAL JOURNEY

by Marcia de Deckere

Evolution. In practice and performance. I have never seen it so fully unfold as I have in this production. Darrwin was first presented to me as the title "Darwin's Law". Naturally, I imagined it to be involving microscopic organisms, single celled amoeba and lizards. Lots and lots of lizards. So you can imagine my culture shock when it went to the wild, wild west and cowboys, and demons, lots and lots of demons.

The process of creating this story had an omnipresence of a snake, biblical legends and scientific dogma hovered over our heads during rehearsals. As if the two were butting heads, vying for superiority and in turn the ownership of our lives. Which side will dictate what we believe next? I still wake up in the middle of the night from dreams of a demon trying to suck my soul out of my body. A demon with cold, cold eyes. And I scream but no sound escapes my thought.

Our demons are all around us, but our angles our heroes, our reason is there too. And when we have seen the terror we can create with our mind, one can not help but think of the beauty and wonder and compassion we can create as well.

Episode 8, Scene 9: "Katherine's Detox"

Katherine, finally realizing the only way she can beat her addiction is complete withdrawal, suddenly finds herself face-to-face with her former best friend, Isabella — the last person she wanted to see right now.



STORY BY JOHNATHAN HOSKINS, ART BY CHRISTOPHER BUTTY

Episode 2, Scene 12: "An Unexpected Meeting"



THE DARRWIN CHRONICLES: EPISODE 2, SCENE 12 ~ STORY: JOHNATHAN HOSKINS ~ ART: CHRISTOPHER RUTTY



EPISODES

Episode 1: *The Beginning at the End*

In the final days of the Civil War a young Boston lawyer, Christopher Darrwin, comes upon his father consorting with southern land owners in order to save their fortunes from the impending sacking of the south by the Union. Fueled by a sense of betrayal, having lost his two older brothers at Gettysburg, Darrwin guns down two unarmed ex-Confederate soldiers in a local bar and is forced to go on the run.

Finding himself in Texas, he becomes a hired gun for a less-than-reputable organization that perceives heads of cattle and the lives of men with the same regard. Spending the next ten years in a drunken and moral lapsed stupor, Darrwin relishes in his new found trade, swirling further downwards until he is finally asked to cross a line which he can't and his luck runs out.



Episode 2: *The Gathering*

Alone, badly wounded and close to death, Darrwin's fate is almost decided when he's rescued at the last minute and placed in front of Michaels, a man with mysterious ties to both the ever-expanding railroad and President Grant. Michaels offers Darrwin a chance to redeem himself by enlisting him to join in the fight against the New South, a powerful secret cabal whose sole purpose is to bring around the advent of another civil war.

Wished god speed, Darrwin finds himself on the outskirts of small town in Arizona named Chloride City where, after arousing the suspicions of the local sheriff and his deputy, meets up with two of the people who will aid him in his future quest. Katherine Braddock, a feisty ex-prison nurse with demons of her own, and a former half-breed Indian scout, Johnny Two-Bloods, AWOL from the Seventh Calvary, together will form the first part of Darrwin's new circle.





Episode 3: *The Sign of the Three* – Part 1

As Darrwin spends his days attracting unwanted attention waiting for the New South to make its first move, a devastating train derailment outside Chloride turns everything upside down. Former enemies turn into allies, strangers become friends, all of them coming together in an effort to navigate through the crisis they now find themselves in.

Here, Darrwin finds himself at a crossroads where his only two options are to either flee or to stay and help the people he has started to care about. Deep below the surface, something else is stirring and the burning inside that Darrwin has felt for so long is starting to get worse, much worse.



Episode 4: *The Sign of the Three* – Part 2

While Katherine and Isabella deal with the aftermath of the train disaster, Darrwin comes to realize that, as horrific as this may be, that this could all be an elaborate deception, set in motion by the New South in order to stage the assassination of President Grant.

As Johnny and Darrwin race to intercept Grant's train, what they find in the end proves to be more than even Michaels bargained for.

Meanwhile, deep within the bowels of the prison, where Katherine once administered to its occupants, screams echo through the dimly lit corridors announcing something unholy is being created.



MUSIC NOTES

*How music gets to a production is sometimes a strange and winding road.
The Darrwin Chronicles was no different.*

When this creative journey started almost two years ago, the vision for the musical fabric that would eventually weave its way through the world of Darrwin was simple – the music of the great bluesman Robert Johnson sung by a female vocalist.

This concept stuck to the project for a long time. We had tried several combinations of musician and singer, as there were many different musical structures to string the theme together, but that particular muse eluded us.

After we attempted to work through this scenario with two different music directors – and a lot of good will – we still could not achieve what we originally set out to do. To discover the musical pulse that would surge through the characters and stories of The Darrwin Chronicles and make them come alive.

Finally, with only six months before the scheduled release of The Darrwin Chronicles, I turned to an old friend who had produced other audio series for me in the past. He was way too busy with numerous projects on the go, his life was complicated and he really didn't have a lot of time, but taking chances and sometimes just dumb luck has played a big part in the creative evolution of Darrwin, so I sent him the script of the first episode.

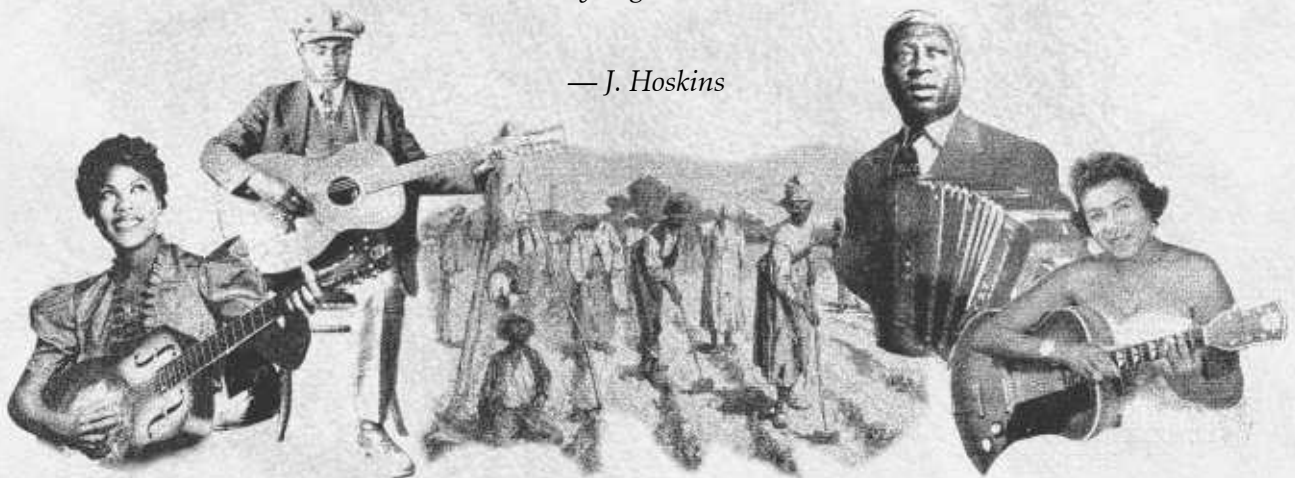
At first there was nothing. Then one morning, two weeks later, I received an email telling me to look on my Google Drive. There, I was able to hear the first impressions of what would over the next three months become the DNA that would form the musical basis for the soundtrack of the series.

Raw, cinematic, and bred from the same notes that Mr. Johnson supposedly made his 'deal with the devil' for, the music of The Darrwin Chronicles was everything I imagined it to be, and more... Scottish lilts fused with blues motifs, Spanish ballads molded from the bare bones of old spirituals, exposed steel string guitar dripping with the sweat of the desert, and bold soundscapes that captured the expanse of a hard won and hard fought life.

This was the music that would draw us into the world of The Darrwin Chronicles. The music that gave us a glimpse of the stories and themes that we would get to explore as we immersed ourselves into the lives of the characters and followed them on their journey.

And now you get to hear it too.

— J. Hoskins



Cast and Crew

Written & Directed by Johnathon Hoskins
Produced by Michael Craig & Johnathon Hoskins
Associate Producers, Paul Slingsby & Liam Smyth
Original Songs & Music, Rod Brown
Design, Branding & Character Illustrations, Craig Norris
Comic Illustrations, Chris Ruty

Featuring

Paul Slingsby — Christopher Darrwin; Quell; Jonas; Engineer; Journalist #2; Boggs' Man
Marcia de Deckere — Katherine Braddock; Miss Abigail; Mrs. Montgomery's Friend; Priest's Niece;
Mother at Train; Background Characters at Cougan/Dawes fight
Justine Cargo — Isabella Maria Cortez; Annie Elizabeth Pride; Mrs. Montgomery; Miss Charlotte;
Little Girl at Train; Wendigo, Background Characters at: Arties Bar; Train Crash;
Cougan/Dawes Fight; and Bracken's House of Ill Repute
Dylan Mask — Jesse Q. Martin; Boone; John Wilcox; Loring; Hillbilly Brother #3
Roman Struhanyk — Malachai Dorchesty; Cougan; Quint; Senator Polk New South Man #1
Phil Skala — Johnny Two-Bloods; Hop Shan; Senator Ferguson; Cowboy #1; Cowboy #2;
Background Characters at Bracken's House of Ill Repute
Sam Montesano — Michaels; Uncle Charlie
Michael Craig — Grimes; Sheriff Chester Thompson
Dave Barker — Zachariah; Robert Darrwin; Mr. Jackson; Deke; Brother Able; Williams; Mr. Carney; Cole;
Old Sam; Grant's Aide Lucas; Bracken; New South Man #2; Bar Keep; Hired Killer #2
Andrew Kines — Senator Longstreet; Brother Cain; Tobin; Sergeant Gates; Mr. Walker; Bob; Mendez; Mr. Boules;
George; Bishop; The Captain; Sergeant Barnes; New South Man #3; Hired Killer #1
Berk Connery — Doc Burke; Boggs; Rank; Warden Briggs; Bret Darrwin; James Darrwin;
Jack; Gabriel; Father McCory
Stephen McPhail — Jedadiah Goodacre; Cobb; Father Paul; Artie; President Grant; Cord; Splat; Corporal Fitz;
Apparition Robert E. Lee; Azaroth; Journalist #1, Hillbilly Brother #1 & 2, Old Rebel Solder;
Boone's Gunmen #1 & 2; Brakeman; Injured Man
Eva Havill — Old Sal; Madame LaLaurie

"Motherless Child"

Arranged by Paul Slingsby
Performed by Marcia de Deckere, Berk Connery & Paul Slingsby

Production

For VirtuallyAudio.com:

Executive Producer, Johnathon Hoskins
Art Direction & Graphic Design, Craig Norris
Web Design & Webmaster, Jeff Pearson – Web Alchemy

For The Darrwin Chronicles:

Assistant Director, Paul Slingsby
Production Manager, Roma Anderson
Assistant Production Manager, Wil Wong
Recording & Interim Production Manager, Stephen McPhail
Recording & Post-Production Supervisor, Dylan Vogel
Audio Production Editor, Dylan Vogel
Production Assistants, Alie Ruty, Rachel White & TWM Slingsby
Photography, Craig Norris & Alie Ruty
Live Event Coordinator, Justine Cargo – 2nd Star Events
Transportation, Paul Slingsby & Roma Anderson
Catering, Eva Nell Havill & Michael Craig

Special Thanks

Jim Blokland & Rose Will, who without, none of this would be possible.

The Journey of Darrwin is dedicated to
Matthew Plaxton
fellow writer, actor and friend who left us far too soon.

MISSING



Christopher Darrwin

White, Age 35, Ht 6ft 1 inch, Hair sandy
Last seen employed by the Signet Mining and Cattle Company
Went missing June 15, 1875, Lubbock Texas

MISSING



Katherine Braddock

White, Age 31, Scottish origin, Ht 5ft 5 inches, Hair brown
Nurse who vanished from the hospital wing of the Cochrane State Penn,
Kansas, Night of April 12, 1876

MISSING



Johnny Two-Bloods

Age 27, Ht 5ft 8 inches, Hair black
Half-breed Cheyenne Indian Scout went AWOL from U.S. Army Seventh Cavalry
Nov 24, 1876, Black Creek, Arizona
Believed armed and dangerous

MISSING



Annie Elizabeth Pride

White, Age 28, Ht 5ft 5 inches, Hair red
Went missing the night of Sept 4, 1872
Boston, Massachusetts