



### **A Fragment of Life**

*A Fragment of Life* is a short novel from 1906 by Arthur Machen (1863-1947). This is a new four-part, three-hour, full-cast audio drama version, adapted and produced by Robert Kingham of [Minimum Labyrinth](#), an independent creative partnership producing innovative historical tours, theatre, books, audiobooks, documentary films, and audio dramas (most recently *Bluebird* in 2021).

**Minimum Labyrinth is seeking composers/performers of existing music for the soundtrack of a new audio drama, in return for a one-off payment, royalty-free.**

#### **Description**

Machen uniquely blends folk horror, psychogeography and spiritual discovery. *A Fragment of Life* weaves these around a love story: a young married couple, Edward and Mary Darnell, who perceive weird, dark forces crowding around their banal 1890s suburban existence, forcing them to question whether there are more things in heaven and earth than are dreamt of in their philosophy. You can read the [original story online here](#).

#### **Production and cast**

We will record the series in March-April 2021. Robert Kingham will narrate. Edward will be played by [Will Henry](#). We are currently auditioning for the female lead, Mary Darnell. Other parts will be read by previous Minimum Labyrinth collaborators.

#### **Distribution**

We plan to offer *A Fragment of Life* for free download and, like *Bluebird*, distribute it via Findaway Voices to reach a global network of 40+ retail and library channels including Apple, Google, Scribd, Chirp, Hoopla and Bibliotheca.

#### **Music**

As with *Bluebird* we would like to blend narrative with music – not throughout, but perhaps for a third of the

runtime in total – particularly when the story takes a turn into folk horror, or transcendental themes.

Rich Cochrane composed and performed the music for *Bluebird*, but for *A Fragment of Life* we would like to do something different, and seek out composers/performers of existing music who would like their work to feature in the soundtrack.

#### **Payment**

Downloads of *A Fragment of Life* will be free, and so we need to request that all music is available on a royalty-free basis. However, we will be crowdfunding the production – as we did successfully for *Bluebird* – and so will have a budget to make a one-off payment of **£10 per minute to composers/performers of all music that is used in the production.**

#### **Copyright**

In effect our offer is for synchronisation rights of your music to this particular production. You must have (and will retain) copyright to both the composition and the master sound recording. You will be fully credited.

This is primarily aimed at composers/performers of existing music. We would welcome bespoke pieces but this will be at your risk as we cannot guarantee they will be used in the production.

**How to apply** Please send your details and a link to your music to [robertkingham \[at\] virginmedia \[dot\] com](mailto:robertkingham@virginmedia.com). Closing date for applications: 30 April 2022.