

MS 76 Morrison Manuscripts

About the Collection:

The Morrison manuscripts are a collection of the Ballymoney-born playwright William (Bill) Morrison's manuscripts and drafts, as well as ephemera relating to his work including letters, research materials and press clippings. At different points in his long career Morrison was a resident writer at the Victoria Theatre in Stoke-on-Trent and co-artistic director of the Liverpool Playhouse. He produced an extensive body of work for radio, including adaptations of *Crime and Punishment* and the works of Raymond Chandler, and his writing for the stage brought the Troubles to English theatre audiences in plays such as *Flying Blind* (1978), *Scrap!* (1982) and *A Love Song for Ulster* (1993). Morrison died in 2011, and his family donated this collection to the University in 2022.

N.B. Where a play was both performed on stage and broadcast on radio or other format, all versions are included in the section that relate to where it was first performed or originally written for. For instance, scripts for both the stage and radio versions of *The Emperor of Ice Cream* are found in MS 76/1/9, as it premiered as a play for stage. This is noted in the listing where appropriate.

This listing was compiled by Jack Tubman and Andrew Harrison in 2025.

MS 76 Outline

[MS 76/1](#) Plays for Stage

[MS 76/2](#) Plays for Radio

[MS 76/3](#) Teleplays

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[MS 76/5](#) Unpublished works

[MS 76/6](#) Ephemera and other miscellaneous material

MS 76/1 Plays for Stage

Materials pertaining to Morrison's works for the stage including manuscripts and drafts in various stages of completion, and ephemera relating to background research and production. Works for the stage include original plays, adaptations for stage and *Be-Bop-A-Lula*, his musical about Eddie Cochran and Gene Vincent. *The Emperor of Ice Cream* was adapted by Morrison for both stage and radio; the radio version is included here. The radio adaptation of *Sam Slade is Missing* is also included here alongside the original work for stage. The stage version of *Ellen Cassidy* can be found at MS 76/2/6 alongside the radio version which preceded it.

MS 76/1/1 A Love Song for Ulster

Premiered at the Tricycle Theatre, London on 27th March 1993. A trilogy of plays chronicling the history of a family from the arranged marriage of the Protestant John to the Catholic Kate, from the 1922 partition of Ireland to the Troubles and the peace process of the 90s.

MS 76/1/1a	1993	Scripts for Plays One, Two and Three (second rewrite) with cover sheet detailing cast list and rehearsal schedule for the production at the Tricycle Theatre in 1993. The first six pages of play one are missing.
MS 76/1/1b	n.d.	Scripts for Plays One, Two and Three. Script for Play Three has extensive edits/annotations.
MS 76/1/1c	n.d.	First typed draft script of Play One.
MS 76/1/1d	n.d.	A draft script of an earlier version of Play One, with handwritten notes at the end. Titled 'Act Two'. Significant differences with the published version.
MS 76/1/1e	n.d.	Scripts for Play One, Act Two (Second Rewrite) and Play Two, Act Two.
MS 76/1/1f	n.d.	A heavily annotated and edited work-in-progress script of Play Two with handwritten pages inserted, and photocopy of the same. Pages from the start of a draft of Play Three that were moved to the end of Play Two. A script of first draft of Play Two annotated with feedback in another hand.

MS 76/1/1g	n.d.	Handwritten draft pages from Play Three. Typed draft pages of sections of Play Two, loose, with annotations and edits.
MS 76/1/1h	n.d.	A draft typescript of Play Three. Handwritten outlines of Play Three and notes.
MS 76/1/1i	n.d.	A rough draft typescript of Play Three.
MS 76/1/1j	1995	A French translation of Plays One, Two and Three dated June 1995.

MS 76/1/2 *Flying Blind*

Premiered in November 1977 at the Everyman Theatre in Liverpool. A two-act play set in 1970s Belfast.

MS 76/1/2a	07/11/1977	Press release for the production of <i>Flying Blind</i> at the Merseyside Everyman Theatre in 1977.
MS 76/1/2b	n.d.	Three typescripts of <i>Flying Blind</i> .
MS 76/1/2c	n.d.	Typescript of <i>Flying Blind</i> with annotations.
MS 76/1/2d	n.d.	Two typescripts of <i>Flying Blind</i> .
MS 76/1/2e	n.d.	Two typescripts of <i>Flying Blind</i> .
MS 76/1/2f	n.d.	Four typescripts of the first draft of <i>Flying Blind</i> . Morrison's agent's name and address are on the cover page.
MS 76/1/2g	n.d.	Royal Court Prompt Copy of <i>Flying Blind</i> . Extensive annotations including sound and lighting cues.
MS 76/1/2h	n.d.	A typescript of what may be an earlier draft of <i>Flying Blind</i> .
MS 76/1/2i	n.d.	Two typescripts of what may be an earlier draft of <i>Flying Blind</i> , handwritten cover sheet with agent details.

MS 76/1/3 Drive On

Premiered in the Lyric Theatre, Belfast in February 1996. See also MS 76/5/10, *Rage: A Play for the Stage in Three Acts*, which may be a formative version of this play.

MS 76/1/3a	02/1996	Press clippings from reviews of <i>Drive On</i> . Reviews are from BBC Radio 4, The Times, The Sunday Life, The Newsletter and The Belfast Telegraph.
MS 76/1/3b	02/1996	A letter from Bill Morrison to the Lyric Theatre containing his programme note for <i>Drive On</i> and a guest list, likely for the premiere.
MS 76/1/3c	n.d.	A programme from the Lyric Theatre's production of <i>Drive On</i> .
MS 76/1/3d	n.d.	Handwritten notes and to-do-list, and rewrites of individual scenes in <i>Drive On</i> .
MS 76/1/3e	n.d.	Production schedule for <i>Drive On</i> .
MS 76/1/3f	n.d.	A bundle of typescripts of <i>Drive On</i> labelled 'Draft Two'.
MS 76/1/3g	n.d.	A heavily annotated and edited photocopy of a typescript of Act Two of <i>Drive On</i> .
MS 76/1/3h	n.d.	Typescript of <i>Drive On</i> .
MS 76/1/3i	n.d.	A bundle of typescripts of Act Two of <i>Drive On</i> , some with annotations.
MS 76/1/3j	n.d.	Handwritten early draft pages of <i>Drive On</i> .

MS 76/1/4 Dr Jekyll of Rodney Street

Premiered at the Everyman Theatre in Liverpool on the 11th of April 1979. The play is set in Liverpool in 1912 and heavily references *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson.

MS 76/1/4a	n.d.	Typescript of <i>Dr Jekyll of Rodney Street</i> . No date, but likely circa 1979.
MS 76/1/4b	n.d.	Duplicate of MS 76/1/5a.
MS 76/1/4c	n.d.	Duplicate of MS 76/1/5a.

MS 76/1/4d	n.d.	An alternate version of the play, with some differences in dialogue. Potentially an earlier draft.
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MS 76/1/5 Be-Bop-A-Lula

Premiered in the Liverpool Playhouse in 1988. A rock compilation musical about Eddie Cochran and Gene Vincent, which was written by Bill Morrison and Spencer Leigh. The collection also includes an unproduced screenplay of the musical from 1996.

MS 76/1/5a	n.d.	A typescript of Be-Bop-A-Lula with hand-written edits and annotation, and some handwritten pages inserted. 'Rehearsal draft' is written at the top of the first page.
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MS 76/1/5b	n.d.	Typescript of Be-Bop-A-Lula with hand-written edits and annotations and some handwritten pages at the back.
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MS 76/1/5c	22/7/1996	A screenplay for a potential film/TV adaptation of Be-Bop-A-Lula dated 22 nd July 1996.
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MS 76/1/5d	n.d.	A typescript of Act One of Be-Bop-A-Lula.
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MS 76/1/5e	n. d.	Background Research material. Much of this was sent to Morrison by Spencer Leigh as part of the writing process (see MS 76/1/5g, Correspondence). Includes photocopies of biographical accounts of Vincent's career, fanzines etc.
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MS 76/1/5f	n. d.	Images of Cochran, Vincent et al. Postcards and photocopies of images of Vincent, Cochran and Sharon Sheeley.
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MS 76/1/5g	c. 1988	Correspondence. Letters and correspondence from members of the public offering feedback after the premiere, industry colleagues and Spencer Leigh, Morrison's collaborator.
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MS 76/1/5h	c. 1988	Production Ephemera. Including technical schedules, rehearsal information, performance reports, audition schedules and actors CVs.
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MS 76/1/5i	c. 1988	Reviews and press clippings. Some newspaper clippings with reviews of the show.
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MS 76/1/6 The Irish Immigrants Tale

Premiered in the Liverpool Everyman Theatre in 1976. A play for stage, detailing the story of a young Irish man from Newry who moves to Liverpool to make a better life for himself.

MS 76/1/6 c.1976 A finalised, complete typescript of the play.

MS 76/1/7 Please Don't Shoot Me When I'm Down

Premiered at the Stables Event Centre, Manchester, in 1969. A one-act play that details an interaction between a would-be presidential assassin and a photographer. The play is one of Bill Morrison's earliest published works.

MS 76/1/7a n.d. Complete, finalised typescript of the play.

MS 76/1/7b n.d. Complete, finalised typescript of the play. Address on the front cover page; Peter Crouch Plays LTD., National House, 60-66 Wardour St., London W1V 4HA.

MS 76/1/7c n.d. Complete, finalised typescript of the play.

MS 76/1/8 The Shelter

Set in a London suburb during the Cold War and concerns two men attempting to create an underground shelter to use in the event of a nuclear strike.

MS 76/1/8a n.d. A typescript of the play, with handwritten annotations and edits throughout, made by Morrison.

MS 76/1/8b n.d. A complete draft typescript for *The Shelter*.

Premiered at Dublin's Abbey theatre in 1977 and transmitted on several occasions via radio. An adaptation of the 1965 Brian Moore novel of the same name, set in Belfast during the Second World War. The play tells the coming-of-age story of a young man who defies his nationalist, Catholic family to join the predominantly Protestant Air Raid Precautions organisation. N.B. both stage and radio scripts are included here.

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| MS 76/1/9a | c.1977 | A complete, finalised typescript of the play. Bound in a cover with the logo and name of the Abbey Theatre, Dublin. |
| MS 76/1/9b | c.1977 | A complete, finalised typescript of the play, adapted for stage. |
| MS 76/1/9c | c.1975 | A complete typescript of the play, adapted for radio. Includes a cast list and rehearsal schedule. |
| MS 76/1/9d | c.1970s | An early draft of the play, adapted for radio. Includes extensive handwritten notes and revisions by the author. |
| MS 76/1/9e | c.1970s | A complete typescript of the play, adapted for radio. |
| MS 76/1/9f | c.1970s | A complete typescript of the play, adapted for radio. |

A stage-play adaptation of the 1891 Thomas Hardy novel of the same name. Set in rural Victorian England in Hardy's fictional region of Wessex in 1891 (1870 in the original novel) it tells the story of a young woman, Tess Durbeyfield, who is sent by her parents to enquire about ancestral links to a nearby noble family, the d'Urbervilles.

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| MS 76/1/10 | c. 1971 | A complete typescript of the play, including substantial notation and revisions by the Author. Includes a hand-written cast list. Address on the front cover page; Victoria Theatre, Hartshill Road, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs. ST4 6AE. |
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A play in two acts, written by Morrison for the Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, in 1974. The play featured in 'Best Plays of 1973', published in the USA, and was later adapted for radio and broadcast on BBC Radio 4.

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| MS 76/1/11a | c.1973 | A draft copy of the play, includes extensive handwritten revisions by the author. |
| MS 76/1/11b | c.1973 | A finalised typescript of the play. |
| MS 76/1/11c | c.1973 | A finalised typescript of the play – loose pages. |
| MS 76/1/11d | c.1973 | Duplicate of MS 76/1/16c. |
| MS 76/1/11e | c.1973 | A finalised typescript of the play. Address on the front cover; 'Peter Crouch Plays Ltd, 60-66 Wardour Street, London'. |
| MS 76/1/11f | c.1973 | A finalised typescript of the play. |

MS 76/1/12

Scrap

Premiered in the Liverpool Playhouse in 1982 and was the first play to premier during Morrison's tenure as co-artistic director of that theatre. Set in Liverpool, it details the attempts of an English policeman to solve the ongoing issues in Northern Ireland through bribery, betrayal, and blackmail, and involves paramilitary leaders from either side of the Troubles conflict.

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| MS 76/1/12a | c.1980 | An early draft of the play. Includes a personal note of approval from a contemporary, possibly David Aukin at the Hampstead Theatre – appears on note header. |
| MS 76/1/12b | c.1982 | A complete, finalised typescript of the play. |

MS 76/2 Plays for Radio

Morrison's works for radio including scripts and draft scripts in various stages of completion as well as ephemera. As well as original plays, Morrison wrote several adaptations of well-known books and series', including *Crime and Punishment*, the *Sherlock Holmes* novels and the works of Raymond Chandler. A radio version of *The Emperor of Ice Cream* is included alongside the original stage version in MS 76/1/9. However, both the original radio and the subsequent version of *The Love of Lady Margaret* is included here at MS 76/2/1. Scripts for *Sam Slade is Missing*, a play for stage that was later adapted for radio, can be found at MS 76/1/11.

MS 76/2/1 The Love of Lady Margaret

Written for broadcast on BBC radio 3 in 1973. The play was subsequently staged in London the same year.

MS 76/2/1a	c.1973	Complete, finalised typescript of the play.
MS 76/2/1b	c.1973	Complete, finalised typescript of the play.
MS 76/2/1c	c.1973	Complete, finalised typescript of the play.
MS 76/2/1d	c.1973	Complete, finalised typescript of the play.
MS 76/2/1e	c.1973	Complete, finalised typescript of the play.
MS 76/2/1f	c.1973	Complete, finalised typescript of the play.
MS 76/2/1g	c.1973	Complete, finalised typescript of the play.
MS 76/2/1h	c.1973	Complete, finalised typescript of the play.
MS 76/2/1i	c.1973	Complete, finalised typescript of the play.
MS 76/2/1j	c.1973	Complete, finalised typescript of the play.
MS 76/2/1k	c.1973	Complete, finalised typescript of the play, submitted for the Prix Italia international radiobroadcasting awards.
MS 76/2/1l	c.1973	Complete, finalised typescript of the play.
MS 76/2/1m	c.1973	Complete, finalised typescript of the play.
MS 76/2/1n	c.1973	Complete, finalised typescript of the play.

MS 76/2/1o c.1973 Loose pages/draft revisions of the play.

MS 76/2/2 Raymond Chandler Adaptations

Adaptations of several Raymond Chandler novels. Broadcast on BBC Radio 4 between 1977 and 1978.

MS 76/2/2a/i c.1977-78 Radio play adaptation of *The High Window* by Raymond Chandler.

MS 76/2/2a/ii c.1977-78 Radio play adaptation of *The High Window* by Raymond Chandler.

MS 76/2/2a/iii c.1977 Radio play adaptation of *The High Window* by Raymond Chandler. Includes cast list & transmission schedule.

MS 76/2/2a/iv c.1977-78 Radio play adaptation of *The High Window* by Raymond Chandler.

MS 76/2/2a/v c.1977-78 Radio play adaptation of *The High Window* by Raymond Chandler.

MS 76/2/2a/v c.1977-78 Radio play adaptation of *The High Window* by Raymond Chandler.

MS 76/2/2a/v c.1977-78 Radio play adaptation of *The High Window* by Raymond Chandler.

MS 76/2/2b/i c.1977-78 Radio play adaptation of *The Lady in the Lake* by Raymond Chandler.

MS 76/2/2b/ii c.1977-78 Radio play adaptation of *The Lady in the Lake* by Raymond Chandler.

MS76/2/2b/iii c.1977-78 Radio play adaptation of *The Lady in the Lake* by Raymond Chandler

MS 76/2/2b/iv c.1977-78 Radio play adaptation of *The Lady in the Lake* by Raymond Chandler.

MS 76/2/2b/v c.1977-78 Radio play adaptation of *The Lady in the Lake* by Raymond Chandler.

MS 76/2/2c/i	c.1977-78	Radio play adaptation of <i>The Long Goodbye</i> by Raymond Chandler.
MS 76/2/2c/ii	c.1977-78	Radio play adaptation of <i>The Long Goodbye</i> by Raymond Chandler.
MS 76/2/2c/iii	c.1977-78	Radio play adaptation of <i>The Long Goodbye</i> by Raymond Chandler.
MS 76/2/2c/iv	c.1977-78	Radio play adaptation of <i>The Long Goodbye</i> by Raymond Chandler.
MS 76/2/2c/v	c.1977-78	Radio play adaptation of <i>The Long Goodbye</i> by Raymond Chandler. Includes cast list & transmission schedule.
MS 76/2/2d/i	c.1977-78	Radio play adaptation of <i>The Long Goodbye</i> by Raymond Chandler.
MS 76/2/2d/ii	c.1977-78	Radio play adaptation of <i>The Big Sleep</i> by Raymond Chandler. Includes cast list & transmission schedule.
MS 76/2/2d/iii	c.1977-78	Radio play adaptation of <i>The Big Sleep</i> by Raymond Chandler. Includes cast list & transmission schedule.
MS 76/2/2d/iv	c.1977-78	Radio play adaptation of <i>The Big Sleep</i> by Raymond Chandler.
MS 76/2/2e	c.1978	Radio play adaptation of <i>The Big Sleep</i> by Raymond Chandler. Includes cast list & transmission schedule.
MS 76/2/2f/i	c.1977-78	Radio play adaptation of <i>The Big Sleep</i> by Raymond Chandler.
MS 76/2/2f/ii	c.1977-78	Radio play adaptation of <i>The Little Sister</i> by Raymond Chandler.
MS 76/2/2f/iii	c.1977-78	Radio play adaptation of <i>The Little Sister</i> by Raymond Chandler.
MS 76/2/2f/iv	c.1977-78	Radio play adaptation of <i>The Little Sister</i> by Raymond Chandler. A first draft of the play, includes loose handwritten pages.

MS 76/2/2f/v c.1977-78 Radio play adaptation of *The Little Sister* by Raymond Chandler. A second redrafting of the play.

MS 76/2/3 [Down These Mean Streets](#)

Broadcast on Radio 4 in 1977. A biographical radio play about Raymond Chandler.

MS 76/2/3a c.1977 A draft copy of *Down These Mean Streets*.

MS 76/2/3b c.1977 A final version of the play. Includes cast list and broadcast schedule.

MS 76/2/3c c.1977 Duplicate MS76/2/3b.

MS 76/2/4 [Crime & Punishment Adaptations](#)

Broadcast on BBC Radio 3 in 1975. An adaptation of Fyodor Dostoyevsky's novel *Crime & Punishment*. The production was notable for being the first to utilise stereo audio playback for dramatic purposes, which was used to great effect by Morrison in his script directions.

MS 76/2/4a c.1975 A complete script for Part I of the play. Includes cast list and transmission schedule.

MS 76/2/4b c.1975 Duplicate of MS76/2/4a.

MS 76/2/4c c.1975 A complete script for part I of the play. Includes cast list, transmission schedule, and handwritten annotations by the author.

MS 76/2/4d c.1975 A complete script for Part II of the play. Includes cast list and transmission schedule.

MS 76/2/4e c.1975 A collection of loose, handwritten pages constituting an early draft/drafts of the play.

MS76/2/5 Sherlock Holmes Adaptations

Broadcast on Radio 4 between June and August 1978. A series of Sherlock Holmes adaptations.

MS 76/2/5a/I	c.1978	A complete script of Morrisons adaptation of <i>The Naval Treaty</i> , as broadcast.
MS 76/2/5a/II	c.1978	A final draft of <i>The Naval Treaty</i> .
MS 76/2/5a/III	c.1978	Duplicate of MS76/2/5a/II.
MS 76/2/5b/I	c.1978	A complete script of Morrisons adaptation of <i>Charles Augustus Milverton</i> , as broadcast.
MS 76/2/5b/II	c.1978	Duplicate of MS76/2/5b/I.
MS 76/2/5c/I	c.1978	A complete script of Morrisons adaptation of <i>The Blue Carbuncle</i> , as broadcast.
MS 76/2/5c/II	c.1978	Duplicate MS76/2/5c/I.
MS 76/2/5d/I	c.1978	A complete script of Morrisons adaptation of <i>The Reigate Squires</i> , as broadcast.
MS 76/2/5d/II	c.1978	Duplicate MS76/2/5d/I.
MS 76/2/5d/III	c.1978	Duplicate MS76/2/5d/I.
MS 76/2/5d/IV	c.1978	Typed version of <i>The Reigate Squires</i> with Morrison's agent's details on the cover.
MS 76/2/5e/I	c.1978	A complete script of Morrisons adaptation of <i>The Six Napoleons</i> , as broadcast.
MS 76/2/5e/II	c.1978	Typed version of <i>The Six Napoleons</i> with Morrison's agent's details on the cover.

MS 76/2/6 Ellen Cassidy

Broadcast in 1974 on BBC Radio 3. This play is significant in being Morrison's first major work set within the Troubles of Northern Ireland. It was later adapted for stage at the Everyman Theatre, Liverpool, in 1977.

MS 76/2/6a	c.1974	A complete typescript of the play, including cast list and transmission schedule.
MS 76/2/6b	c.1974	Duplicate of MS76/2/6a.
MS 76/2/6c	c.1974	Duplicate of MS76/2/6a.
MS 76/2/6d	c.1974	Duplicate of MS76/2/6a (damaged).

MS76/2/7 Simpson & Son

Broadcast on BBC Radio 3 in 1978. Morrison described the play as an autobiographical account of his own relationships with Northern Ireland and his father.

MS 76/2/7a	c.1978	An early draft of the play, including a synopsis.
MS 76/2/7b	c.1978	A late draft of the play, including handwritten revisions by the author.
MS 76/2/7c	c.1978	A late draft of the play, including handwritten revisions by the author. N.B. distinct from MS76/2/7b.

MS 76/2/8 Affair

Broadcast on the BBC World Service in 1991.

MS 76/2/8a	c.1991	An early, handwritten draft of the play.
MS 76/2/8b	c.1991	A late draft typescript for the play. Includes handwritten annotations by the author.
MS 76/2/8c	c.1991	A complete finalised typescript for the play, with cast list and rehearsing schedule. Includes a note from the typist.

MS 76/2/9 Waiting for Lefty

Broadcast on BBC Radio 3 in 1935. This play is an adaptation of Clifford Odets 1935 stage play of the same name.

MS 76/2/9a	c.1994	A complete, finalised typescript of the play. Includes a note from the typist.
MS 76/2/9b	c.1994	A collection of handwritten notes and early drafts of the play.
MS 76/2/9c	c.1994	A photocopy of the original Clifford Odets play, annotated by Morrison.

MS 76/2/10 [Crows Flight](#)

A play written for radio, based on *The Strange Voyage of Donald Crowhurst* by Nicholas Tomalin and Ron Hall. Whilst the play appears to have been broadcast in 1975, there is little evidence of what service the broadcast was intended for.

MS 76/2/10a	c.1975	An early draft typescript of the play.
MS 76/2/10b	c.1977	A final, possibly revised typescript of the play, dated 1977. Accompanied by a letter of rejection from the BBC.

MS 76/2/11 [The Great Gunrunning Episode](#)

Broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in 1972. The play, set in 1914, follows the story of an attempt to smuggle arms into Ireland following Home Rule enacted by the Government of Ireland Act.

MS 76/2/11a	n.d.	A late draft of the play. Features annotations by the author including audio queues for performance on radio.
MS 76/2/11b	n.d.	A complete final draft of the play. Contains a note of compliments from Pat Sandys, a contemporary script-editor, attached to a card from 'Yorkshire Television Limited.'
MS 76/2/11c	n.d.	An apparently earlier draft of the play. Though no date is visible, this copy features extensive handwritten revisions made by the author.
MS 76/2/11d	c. 1974	A complete copy of the play. Contains a rehearsal/recording and transmission schedule, and a cast list.

MS 76/2/11e n.d. A draft of the play, featuring extensive handwritten revisions and taped-over pages. Accompanied by a finalised character list.

[MS 76/2/12](#) Maguire

Broadcast in 1979 and again in 1980 on both BBC Radio 4 and BBC Radio Northern Ireland. Play set in Belfast during the Troubles. This section contains drafts for a teleplay adaptation of the play which never saw production.

MS 76/2/12a c.1979 A complete final draft of the play, includes cast list, rehearsing schedule, and transmission schedule.

MS 76/2/12b c.1979 An early draft of the play, written for radio.

MS 76/2/12c c.1979 A first draft of the play as written for television.

MS 76/2/12d c.1979 A revised second draft of the play, written for television.



MS 76/3 Teleplays

Materials pertaining to Morrison's works for television including scripts, annotated and draft scripts in various stages of completion, and ephemera. Includes a large amount of ephemera relating to the 1986 drama *Shergar*. Works in this section include *Shergar*, *Joggers*, *A Safe House*, and *McKinley and Sarah*. A teleplay for *Maguire* which never saw production can be found in MS 76/2/12 alongside the radio versions of that play.

MS 76/3/1 Joggers

First broadcast in 1978 on BBC One North West, and again in 1981 on BBC One London. A comedy involving a women's jogging group set within Sefton Park, Liverpool.

MS 76/3/1a	c.1978	A complete film schedule for the teleplay <i>Joggers</i> .
MS 76/3/1b	n.d	An early draft of <i>Joggers</i> . Includes handwritten notes from the author.
MS 76/3/1c	n.d	A later draft of <i>Joggers</i> . Includes handwritten revisions.
MS 76/3/1d	n.d	A finalised typescript of <i>Joggers</i> .
MS 76/3/1e	n.d	Duplicate of MS 76/3/1d.
MS 76/3/1f	n.d	Duplicate of MS 76/3/1d.

MS 76/3/2 McKinley & Sarah

Aired in 1973, as part of the live entertainment programme *Full House* on BBC Two. The play is set contemporaneously in Belfast during the Troubles.

MS 76/3/2	n.d	Draft typescript of <i>McKinley & Sarah</i> .
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Aired in 1986 on BBC Two as an episode of the stations Screen Two programme. The teleplay is based on the real-life events surrounding the kidnapping of the racehorse *Shergar*.

MS 76/3/3a	c. 1984	A collection of correspondence between Bill Morrison and contacts at the BBC concerning the production of <i>Shergar</i> .
MS 76/3/3b	c.1985	A collection of production ephemera relating to <i>Shergar</i> . Includes a filming schedule, itemisation of travel expenses for cast, and promotional materials.
MS 76/3/3c	n.d	A collection of draft material for <i>Shergar</i> . Includes a partially complete transcript of the teleplay.
MS 76/3/3d	n.d	A collection of character studies/outlines of how the kidnapping of <i>Shergar</i> impacted on the affected parties. These appear to have been written by the author to better inform his fictional adaptations in the teleplay.
MS 76/3/3e	n.d	A collection of synopses for <i>Shergar</i> addressed to BBC producers.
MS 76/3/3f/I	c.1983-1985	A collection of research materials, concerning the kidnapping of <i>Shergar</i> . Primarily contemporary newspaper clippings and photocopies.
MS 76/6/3f/II	c.1983-1985	Continuation of MS 76/3/3/I.
MS 76/3/3g	n.d	Loose pages and a notebook, relating to <i>Shergar</i> .

MS 76/4 Children's Theatre

A collection of scripts and annotated draft scripts of works for Children's Theatre. Titles include *Conn and the Conqueror of Space*, *Aladdin and the Magic Lamp* and *The Quest*.

MS 76/4/1 Aladdin and his Magic Lamp

Performed in the Victoria Theatre in Stoke-on-Trent in 1971. A children's pantomime, based on the Arabic folk tale *Aladdin*.

MS 76/4/1a	c.1971	A draft typescript for <i>Aladdin and His Magic Lamp</i> . Includes handwritten revisions by the author.
MS 76/4/1b	c.1971	Duplicate (photocopy) of MS 76/4/1a.
MS 76/4/1c	c.1971	An early draft of <i>Aladdin and His Magic Lamp</i> .
MS 76/4/1d	c.1971	A revised version of <i>Aladdin and His Magic Lamp</i> . Includes extensive stage directions, cue lists, lighting charts, and notes on stage design.
MS 76/4/1e	c.1971	A draft typescript for <i>Aladdin and His Magic Lamp</i> . Heavily annotated and revised by the author.
MS 76/4/1f	c.1971	Duplicate of MS 76/4/1a.
MS 76/4/1g	c.1971	Duplicate of MS 76/4/1a.

MS 76/4/2 Conn and the Conquerors of Space

First performed in 1972 in the Gardiner Arts Centre, Brighton, and then in the London Arts Theatre. Later performed in 1977 in the Abbey Theatre, Dublin. A science-fiction play written for children.

MS 76/4/2a	n.d	Complete typescript for <i>Conn and the Conquerors of Space</i> .
MS 76/4/2b	n.d	Complete typescript for <i>Conn and the Conquerors of Space</i> . Includes more detailed parts for a narrator.
MS 76/4/2c	n.d	Duplicate of MS 76/4/2b

MS 76/4/2d	n.d	Duplicate of MS 76/4/2b.
MS 76/4/2e	n.d	Duplicate of MS 76/4/2b
MS 76/4/2f	n.d	Duplicate of MS 76/4/2b.
MS 76/4/2g	c.1979	Complete typescript for <i>Conn and the Conquerors of Space</i> . A later version of the play. Includes a note from Kenneth Irvine from Bangor Players Club, Co. Down, with apologies for the delay in returning scripts, and commendations on Morrison's play Dr. Jekyll.
MS 76/4/2h	c.1979	Duplicate (photocopy) of MS 76/4/2g, without note.
MS 76/4/2i	c.1979	Complete typescript for <i>Conn and the Conquerors of Space</i> . Includes rehearsal schedule for the Bangor Players Club production of the play.



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MS 76/5 Unpublished Works

A collection of unpublished and/or unfinished works, as well as works whose status is ambiguous as there is no apparent record of their performance. This section includes works for stage, radio and formative works in which it is not clear in which medium Morrison intended for them to be performed.

MS 76/5/1 On a Cold Sunday

An unpublished play for stage.

MS 76/5/1 n.d A complete draft typescript of the play. Printed address of Morrison's Agent, May Bleazard crossed out, with details of a new agent, Johnathan Clowes Ltd, inscribed underneath.

MS 76/5/2 The Boy Stood on the Burning Deck

An unpublished play for stage, set in a home for boys in Belfast.

MS 76/5/2 n.d A complete draft typescript of the play – notes indicate a rewrite of an initial draft.

MS 76/5/3 The Siege of Londonderry

An unfinished, unpublished play. It is unclear if it was intended for stage or radio production.

MS 76/5/3 n.d A large collection of draft pages, all handwritten. Contained within a paper binder marked 'unfinished Siege of Londonderry'.

MS 76/5/4 All the Long Way Home

An unpublished, three act play for stage.

MS 76/6/4 n.d A draft script, entirely handwritten.

MS 76/5/5 We're in the Money

An unpublished play for stage.

MS 76/5/5 n.d A complete draft typescript of the play, accompanied by handwritten corrections.

MS 76/5/6 Untitled Series

MS 76/5/6 n.d An extensive collection of handwritten scripts, revisions, and notes, relating to an unfinished, unpublished, and untitled series.

MS 76/5/7 The Masquerade

An adaptation of a play by the late Northern Irish Playwright Sam Thompson. It is unclear whether it was intended for radio or for stage. No record exists of Morrison's version of *The Masquerade*, and it was likely never published, or was part of a very limited run.

MS 76/5/7 n.d A complete typescript of the play, adapted by Morrison from the original Sam Thompson script.

MS 76/5/8 A Slow Beer on a Long Afternoon

An unpublished play for stage.

MS 76/5/8a n.d. Typescript of *A Slow Beer on a Long Afternoon*. Cover sheet with agent details. This version finishes with the audience being asked to vote at the very end of the play.

MS 76/5/8b n.d. Typescript of *A Slow Beer on a Long Afternoon*. This version finishes with the audience being asked to vote at the very end of the play.

MS 76/5/8c	n.d.	Typescript of <i>A Slow Beer on a Long Afternoon</i> . This version finishes with the audience being asked to vote at the very end of the play.
MS 76/5/8d	n.d.	Typescript of <i>A Slow Beer on a Long Afternoon</i> . Cover sheet with agent details. This version finishes with the audience being asked to vote at the very end of the play.
MS 76/5/8e	n.d.	Typescript of <i>A Slow Beer on a Long Afternoon</i> . No audience vote at the end in this version.
MS 76/5/8f	n.d.	Typescript of <i>A Slow Beer on a Long Afternoon</i> . No audience vote at the end in this version.

MS 76/5/9 *Van Morrison: Into the Mystic, A Celebration of the Poet's Vision*

An unpublished work of musical theatre. Essentially a short script written as a framing device for a performance of Van Morrison's music. It features a presenter providing narration while a set list by Van Morrison is performed in a specific order.

MS 76/6/9a	n.d.	A short typescript for the performance of <i>Van Morrison: Into the Mystic</i> .
MS 76/6/9b	21/10/93	A bundle of papers containing Bill Morrison's choice of songs for the production, a handwritten version of the same and lyric sheets. The top sheet is titled 'Bill Morrison's choice of songs' and dated 21/10/93. Additionally, there is a letterhead from Exile Productions dated 14/10/1993.
MS 76/6/9c	n.d.	A handwritten text related to <i>Van Morrison: Into the Mystic</i> on a single sheet of paper.
MS 76/6/9d	n.d.	A file pad containing a hand-written draft of <i>Van Morrison: Into the Mystic</i> . The file pad also contains a handwritten draft of the play <i>Rage</i> (MS 76/6/10) here titled <i>Family</i> .

MS 76/5/10 *Rage: A Play for the Stage in Three Episodes.*

Seemingly a very formative version of the work that would later become *Drive On* (MS 76/1/3), as it shares a similar premise and some passages in *Drive On* are taken from it verbatim. It consists of

three long monologues from the perspective of three different members of a family- The Son, The Father and The Mother.

- MS 76/6/10a** n.d. Typescripts for *Rage: A Play for the Stage in Three Episodes*. The title *Family* is scored out and *Rage* written in.
- MS 76/6/10b** n.d. A handwritten letter from a Nick at Tricycle Theatre (potentially Nicolas Kent, Artistic Director) giving feedback to Morrison on the play *Rage*.

MS 76/5/11 When Heart Is Broken

A play for the stage set in London at the time of the plays writing, centred on the characters of Tom and Helen, a middle-aged married couple.

- MS 76/6/11a** n.d. A typescript for the play *When Heart is Broken*.
- MS 76/6/11b** c. 10/2003 A typescript for the play *When Heart is Broken*. Accompanying folder has the date October 2003 written on it, but it's unclear if this definitively refers to the date the play was written.

MS 76/5/12 PEACE: A Play in Three Acts

A play for the stage set in the West of Ireland in the month of July at the time of the plays writing.

- MS 76/6/12a** n.d. A typescript of the play *PEACE*.
- MS 76/6/12b** n.d. Duplicate of MS 76/1/9a.
- MS 76/6/12c** n.d. Duplicate of MS 76/1/9a.

MS 76/5/13 Charity

A play for television commissioned by London Weekend Television, set in Belfast.

MS 76/5/13 n.d A complete typescript of *Charity*.

[MS 76/5/14](#) [The Urgent Hangman](#)

A play written for television, adapted from the Peter Cheyney novel of the same name.

MS 76/6/14a c.1986 A draft typescript of *The Urgent Hangman*, including handwritten revisions by the author. Includes Parts I and II.

MS 76/6/14b n.d An early draft for Part II of *The Urgent Hangman*.

MS 76/6/14c n.d A draft typescript of *The Urgent Hangman*, Includes Parts I and II.

[MS 76/5/15](#) [Electric Temple](#)

Electric Temple is a four-part play/film script written for television broadcast, co-authored by Morrison and Northern Irish journalist and Author, Chris Ryder. It details the development of a polarising Northern Ireland based radio show as it gains international recognition.

MS 76/5/15 n.d A partial typescript of *Electric Temple*, part 1. Includes snippets of an unfinished 'episode 2'.

[MS 76/5/16](#) [The Bell](#)

The Bell is a three-act play written for television, set within a teacher training college in Northern Ireland.

MS 76/5/16 n.d A complete, finalised typescript of *The Bell*.

MS 76/5/17 Soft Money

An unpublished crime thriller written for television, split across four episodes.

MS 76/5/17a	n.d	A complete typescript for episode 1 of <i>Soft Money</i> .
MS 76/5/17b	n.d	A complete typescript for episode 2 of <i>Soft Money</i> .
MS 76/5/17c	n.d	A complete typescript for episode 3 of <i>Soft Money</i> .
MS 76/5/17d	n.d	A complete typescript for episode 4 of <i>Soft Money</i> .

MS 76/5/18 Learning

A draft script and synopsis of a proposed collaboration between Bill Morrison and Chris Ryder on a TV play, *Learning*, as well as background material on integrated education in Northern Ireland.

MS 76/5/18a	n.d	Synopsis of the play <i>Learning</i> , with a written note from co-author Chris Ryder.
MS 76/5/18b	n.d	Complete typescript for <i>Learning</i> with a written note from co-author Chris Ryder.
MS 76/6/18c	n.d	Research material & newspaper clippings relating to integrated colleges in Northern Ireland, especially Hazelwood and Lagan Colleges.
MS 76/6/18d	n.d	Loose draft pages for <i>Learning</i> .

MS 76/5/19 Sweet Gene and Eddie

An unpublished Screenplay, *Sweet Gene and Eddie* is concerned with the story of musicians Eddie Cochran and Gene Vincent, set before and after Eddie's death. The work appears to be inspired by Morrisons stage play/musical *Be-Bop-A-Lula*.

MS 76/5/19a	n.d	A draft typescript of <i>Sweet Gene and Eddie</i> .
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MS 76/5/19b	n.d	A third draft of the typescript for <i>Sweet Gene and Eddie</i> .
MS 76/5/19c	n.d	A third draft of the typescript for <i>Sweet Gene and Eddie</i> . Includes handwritten revisions by the author.
MS 76/5/19d	n.d	An early draft of <i>Sweet Gene and Eddie</i> . A mix of handwritten and typewritten pages.
MS 76/5/19e	n.d	An early draft of <i>Sweet Gene and Eddie</i> .
MS 76/5/19f	n.d	A draft/variation of the <i>Sweet Gene and Eddie</i> typescript, beginning with a musical cue from the song 'Be-Bop-A-Lula'.
MS 76/5/19g	n.d	A draft/variation of the <i>Sweet Gene and Eddie</i> typescript, beginning with a musical cue from the song 'C'mon Everybody'.
MS 76/5/19h	n.d	A draft of <i>Sweet Gene and Eddie</i> , structured into preliminary blocks for a film. Consists of handwritten and typewritten pages.
MS 76/5/19i	n.d	Duplicate of MS 76/5/19b.
MS 76/5/19j	n.d	A draft typescript of <i>Sweet Gene and Eddie</i> .

MS 76/5/20 *C'mon Everybody*

An unpublished screenplay, *C'mon Everybody* is another work by Morrison telling the story of Eddie Cochran and Gene Vincent. Like *Sweet Gene and Eddie*, his screenplay also appears to be inspired by Morrison's *Be-Bop-A-Lula*, but the plot is notably distinct from that of *Sweet Gene and Eddie*, with the works only related by subject matter and intended medium.

MS 76/5/20a	n.d	A complete draft typescript for <i>C'mon Everybody</i> .
MS 76/5/20b	n.d	Duplicate of MS 76/5/20a.

MS 76/5/21 *Going to the Moon*

Going to the Moon is an unpublished screenplay written by Morrison. The film is set in Ireland in 1959 and tells the story of an aspiring young jazz saxophonist.

MS 76/5/21a	n.d	An early version of <i>Going to the Moon</i> , entitled 'Leap to the Moon.'
MS 76/5/21b	n.d	A later draft screenplay for <i>Going to the Moon</i> . Includes handwritten annotations and revisions by the author.
MS 76/5/21c	n.d	A complete, finalised screenplay for <i>Going to the Moon</i> .

MS 76/5/22 *The Silence of the Majority*

An unpublished screenplay, *The Silence of the Majority* is set in Belfast during the Troubles and centres around the young couple of Patrick, a doctor, and his wife Barbara.

MS 76/5/22a	n.d	A complete draft screenplay of <i>The Silence of the Majority</i> .
MS 76/5/22b	n.d	Duplicate of MS 76/5/22a.

MS 76/5/23 *The Real Fire*

An unpublished screenplay co-authored by Bill Morrison and journalist Chris Ryder. It is set in Belfast during the latter years of the Troubles conflict and centres around the activities of the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

MS 76/5/23	n.d	A complete draft screenplay of <i>The Real Fire</i> .
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MS 76/5/24 *The Silence of the Guns*

An unpublished screenplay co-authored by Bill Morrison and journalist Chris Ryder. *The Silence of the Guns* is set in Northern Ireland, in the immediate aftermath of the 1987 Remembrance Sunday bombing in Enniskillen. The film was commissioned by Channel 4 in 1996 but never saw production.

MS 76/5/24a	c.1996	A second draft for part one of <i>The Silence of the Guns</i> .
MS 76/5/24b	c.1996	A complete second draft of parts one and two of <i>The Silence of the Guns</i> .

MS 76/5/24c c.1996 A revised draft of part 2 of *The Silence of the Guns*, including handwritten revisions made by the author.

MS 76/5/24d c.1996 A rough third draft for part one of *The Silence of the Guns*.

MS 76/5/25 The Quest

The Quest is a play written for children, commissioned by the Newcastle-under-Lyme festival.

MS 76/5/25 n.d A complete typescript for *The Quest*. An annotation on the front page reads 'Indexed and acknowledged'.

MS 76/5/26 The Siege of Harry

The Siege of Harry is an unpublished teleplay, commissioned by BBC Northern Ireland in 1991. It follows the story of a Northern Irish lawyer, Harry, as she works in London.

MS 76/5/26 c.1991 A complete typescript for *The Siege of Harry*. Includes an invoicing for expenses incurred by Morrison, acknowledged by the BBC.

MS 76/6 Ephemera and other miscellaneous material

A collection of miscellaneous letters, copies of newspapers and magazines, synopses of plays, various loose pages from unidentified plays, A4 notepads and spiral notebooks, material gathered to research Northern Ireland politics and a few copies of the work of other playwrights. **This section is currently in the process of being catalogued. Please contact us at specialcollections@qub.ac.uk for more information.**



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