Mississippi Cast

**Kitten**

 Kitten is a white, college age woman and the daughter of Pastor Please. She has been abused by PP (her name for her father). She is provocative, smart and aware of her “mental issues” including her uncontrollable Turrets-like sexual outbursts. Her imaginary friend, a younger black girl, Buttons, help her cope. She says inappropriate things to Moses and Justine. She tries to seduce Toby. She comes on to Hattie and later Justine. After dreaming about equal rights she begins to change her racist Mississippi attitudes. In her dream she hears God say “nobody is less” and to “Un-Less” (a 2 syllable Golden Rule). She offers herself as a spy to the black church to warn them of the Klan’s evil plans. After failing to seduce Toby, witnessing Hattie’s murder, Toby threatening her, being disgusted with PP’s account of Moses’ electrocution and speaking with Justine about the murder she decides to expose Toby. After learning that PP is dead she loses her dependence on Buttons.

Songs: Mississippi, Song I Sing, Rope Is Fallin’, You Look A lot Like Me, Just So You Know, Un-Less, Mississippi Rope

**Moses**

 Moses Jackson runs the local juke joint. Lives there too.

His brother, Twin is a preacher in Hope River. Moses has been hooking up with Justine but has always loved her younger sister Hattie. He isn’t all blues and sex though. He carries food to some widows in town, helps the white boy, Toby, play guitar, cautiously supports Civil Rights and tries his best to keep helping his family even after his wrongful execution.

Songs: Slide Closer, Oh Justine, Just So You Know

As **Twin** he sings: Church, Rope Is Fallin’

**Hattie**

 Hattie Mae Brown is a young black woman who lives and works with her beloved sister Justine and her mother, Gussy, in Deacon’s fine home. She is afraid Deacon will insist on sex with her like he has with Justine. She is Toby’s forbidden lover. Not unwillingly but without any choice she doesn’t shut Toby down. She isn’t overly conflicted about submitting to her sister’s lover, Moses. When Toby hears her making love to Moses he murders her.

Songs: Mississippi, By The Blues, Another Baby Come,

Sure Feels Good, By The Blues Reprise.

(as **Gussy** she also sings: Gravy On Top, Who You Listening To,

Trouble Everywhere)

**Justine**

 Justine is Hattie’s older sister. She works and lives with Hattie and her mother, Gussy, in Deacon’s fine home. She is a few months pregnant with either Deacon or Moses’ baby. No way to tell which. Neither man knows. She despises Deacon and doesn’t actually love Moses. Theirs is a friendship with benefits. Justine is unapologetic and hardened by life.

Finding Toby’s bloody clothes and realizing that Moses would never hurt Hattie she talks with her pastor and confesses that she is going to do something about the injustice. In the final scene she admits she has just murdered Deacon and accidently killed Pastor Please as well. She is intent on finishing off Toby as the curtain falls.

Songs: Oh Justine, Another Baby Come, Bittersweet

Just So You Know

**Toby**

 White Ole Miss student, the wealthy Deacon’s troubled son.

He’s an alcoholic, sexual predator. Despite his raging racism, he is infatuated with Hattie who he wants to move to Chicago and marry. He even tries to play the blues and asks Moses for help with his guitar. When he hears his Hattie making love to Moses he murders her and then lets Moses be electrocuted for his crime. Defiant to the end Toby faces Justine and her gun as the curtain falls.

Songs: Sure Feels Good, Just So You Know, Moses & Hattie

*In the interest of economics ( reducing the Cast from 8 to 5 )* ***Gussy, Twin*** *and* ***Pastor Please*** *are written to be played by:*

***Hattie, Moses and Toby****.*

**Gussy**

 Gussy is Hattie and Justine’s mother. They all live and work in Deacon’s fine home where she is the cook. She has lost one son to lynching. She’s a true Christian and confesses to Twin, her pastor, that she is struggling to forgive and get past the past.

Songs: Gravy On Top, Who You Listening To,

Trouble Everywhere

**Pastor Please**

 PP as Kitten calls him is a once affluent tax fraud who found the Lord and is a preacher. He’s in the Klan and abuses his daughter Kitten.

Songs: None

**Twin**

 Identical twin of Moses. Righteous man who is pastor of Hope River Holiness and a committed Civil Rights leader. He’s a good listener but resorts to clichés when trying to counsel.

Songs: Church, Rope Is Fallin’