



A TASTE OF HONEY



easy read



A TASTE OF HONEY is a **play** which was first performed in London in 1959.

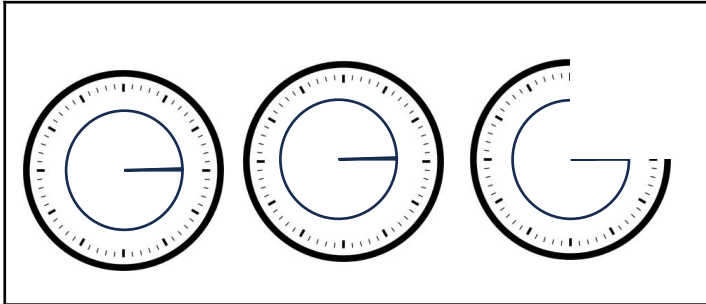


5 actors and a **jazz singer** perform in the play.

The play is performed **indoors** in the main theatre.



A TASTE OF HONEY is about a **mother and daughter relationship** in **working-class Salford** in the late **1950s**



Performance Information

First part is 1 hour 5 minutes. Interval/Break of 20 minutes. Second part is 1 hour 19 minutes.

The play is performed **'in the round'** which means that the audience sits in a circle around the action on stage.

You can come and go from the show. If you need to leave, it is **okay to go and come back**.

During the play, there will be people around who you can **ask for help** if you need.

You are **allowed** to make as much **noise** as you like.

The actors really enjoy it when you **clap** and get **excited**.



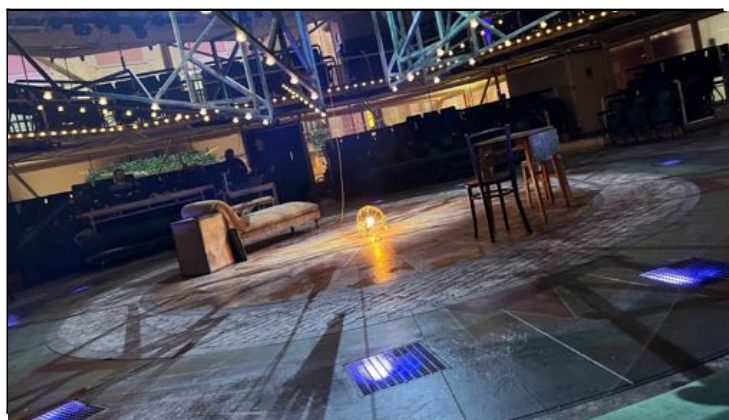
About A TASTE OF HONEY

A TASTE OF HONEY is a piece of theatre.



Shelagh Delaney **wrote** the play in 1958.

The **director** Emma Baggott worked closely with the actors to turn the **words** she had written into the **actions** you see the actors use on the stage.



The **floor of the stage** has **3 sections** which represent the **interior** and **exterior worlds** of the play. A large metal **structure hangs from the ceiling** to represent the industrial architecture of Salford and a fairground.



Meet the **ACTORS**



Hello I'm Jill Halfpenny.

My character is called HELEN.

I am a white actor, have red hair, am medium in height, and wear many dresses, high heels and different hats throughout the show.



Hello I'm David Moorst.

My character is called GEOF.

I am a white actor, have short brown hair, am medium in height, and wear a black shirt, brown trousers and a green jacket



Hello I'm Rowan Robinson.

My character is called JO.

I am a white actor, have red hair, am short in height, with green eyes. I wear a school uniform and red duffle coat in the first half, with a woolen hat. I wear shorts and a yellow top and later a checkered dress in the second half.



Hello I'm Andrew Sheridan.

My character is called PETER.

I am a white actor, medium in height with blue eyes. I wear an eye patch, a pinstripe suit, tie and tweed jacket, and in a later scene a yellow suit and patterned shirt.



Hello I'm Obadiah.

My character is called JIMMIE.

I am a black actor, medium in height with brown eyes and black hair, wearing a heavy jacket, brown trousers and a striped jumper.



Hello I'm Nishla Smith.

My character is called the JAZZ SINGER.

I am a white singer, short to medium in height, with brown shoulder length hair in a ponytail with a red hair band, a white shirt and black trousers and black clogs.



Scene by Scene

ATASTE OF HONEY has **5 scenes.**



START OF THE SHOW

At the start of the show a **JAZZ SINGER** sits at the end of an old iron bed looking at a light bulb and uncovered light shade that is on the floor in the middle of the stage.

She sings a song called Dirty Old Town to the bulb and uncovered light shade and as she does the light bulb rises upwards.

At the same time a large metal framework above the bulb lights up and moves up and down.



December 1958.



Mother and daughter (HELEN and JO) arrive in a new flat in Salford near a river and a canal.



PETER (HELEN's boyfriend) arrives and asks HELEN to marry him.



JIMMIE a sailor walks JO home from school.
He asks her to marry him.
He gives her a ring which he ties around her neck.



JO tells her mother she has a friend and that he is a sailor.
JO asks her mum to choose a film that they could go and see at the local cinema.
HELEN tells JO she is getting married.



PETER arrives with some flowers for HELEN and some chocolates for JO.
JO has a fight with PETER.
HELEN and PETER leave JO on her own for Christmas.



JIMMIE arrives and makes JO a cup of warm milk.
JIMMIE tells JO he loves her.
JO asks JIMMIE to stay with her for Christmas.



Late morning New Years Eve 1958.



HELEN asks JO to help her get ready for her wedding.
HELEN finds the ring around JO's neck and they argue.
HELEN rushes off to her wedding leaving JO on her own again.

INTERVAL

May 1959.



JO is 5 months pregnant.

JO offers GEOFF the sofa to sleep.
JO tells GEOFF that the father of her baby is a black sailor.



July 1959



JO is 7 months pregnant.

It is hot and GEOF is making clothes for JO's baby.

JO argues with GEOF and asks him if he wants to be the father of her baby. GEOF says that he does and tries to kiss her.

JO asks GEOF to leave.

GEOF pleads with JO to let him stay.



HELEN returns and JO and HELEN have a big argument.

HELEN gives JO some money to help her with food and preparations for the baby.



PETER arrives and is drunk.

PETER and HELEN have a big argument.

HELEN asks GEOF to make sure JO goes to the clinic regularly.

HELEN leaves.



September 1959



JO is 9 months pregnant and close to giving birth.

GEOF gives JO a doll to practice holding. JO tells GEOF she does not want to be a mother.



HELEN arrives with clothes for the baby. JO and GEOF tell HELEN that JO wants to have the baby at home.



HELEN tells GEOF to leave.
HELEN comforts JO.
JO tells HELEN that her baby will be black.
HELEN tells JO she is going for a drink.
JO is left on her own.