



Shattered, a review by Jaden Milne

Produced and written by Lisa Nicoll and directed by Jordan Blackwood.

“After months of watching from her window and seeing her husband move in and out of her world, a women’s encounter with a stranger begins her reconnection to life.”

“Shattered” effectively shows the damage of grief and the fear of loss. Each character is dealing with their own emotions and struggles in different ways yet share a deep feeling of loss, which ends up making their relationships stronger in the end.

Lucy (Nicole Roy) effectively shows the range of emotions that come with grief and how many people try to avoid the pain. She shows the damaging effects of loneliness and isolation. Ben (Gavin Jon Wright) her husband, also shows the effect of grief and how he learns to accept reality and move forward. Katy (Kirsty Findlay) shows a very upbeat and happy front yet pain behind it all, which she tries to run from. Tom (Nebli Basani) the shop owner, struggles to reconnect his relationship with Lucy and purposefully tries to forget her.

Each performance is realistic and captivating, thanks to the brilliant writing and brilliant performances. Each character felt real and their struggle was compelling. The set was very simple. This allows the scene to be created in the audience’s head, accompanied with effective lighting. The lighting always managed to draw attention to the correct areas at the right time, making each scene and the overall story very easy to follow. Music is also a very important part of not only the mood of the scene but the overall plot. It is used to brilliantly diffuse and build tension when necessary. Each of the costumes were perfect for the piece. They were unique yet avoided anything flamboyant. They reflected the characters well, in particular the cheery nature of Katy and the dull situation of Lucy. The play’s pacing and length felt correct, with exception to the ending. While I understand the metaphor of life having no definitive endings, it felt abrupt and anti-climactic as the story was beginning to build up at this point. Overall, the play is a very striking one that leaves a lasting impression. It is very relatable on a personal level and perfectly shows the fear of loss and the effects of losing a loved one. It is an amazing piece with humour, fear and anger all together at the right times. It also addresses the damaging effects on males, which is often horrifically over-looked. It also leaves the audience with a sense of hope for a better future.