

WRITTEN & PERFORMED BY SAM DANSON

BI-TOPIA

DIRECTED BY RIKKI BEADLE-BLAIR COMMISSIONED BY CREATIVE INDUSTRIES TRAFFORD DEVELOPED WITH EMMERSON & WARD PRODUCTIONS



**"TIGHTLY WRITTEN
EXTREMELY MOVING"**

THE STAGE



QUAY NEWS



THEATRE WEEKLY

HIDDEN GEM
FRINGE REVIEW



REVIEWS HUB



**"A TREMENDOUS
PRODUCTION"**

ThreeWeeks

THU 20 MAR: **THE EGG, BATH**

FRI 28 MAR: **CARRIAGEWORKS, LEEDS**

FRI 04 APR: **SHAKESPEARE NORTH, PRESCOT**

SAT 19 APR: **THEATRE@41, YORK**

Visual Story Guide - 2025 Tour

About This Story Guide:

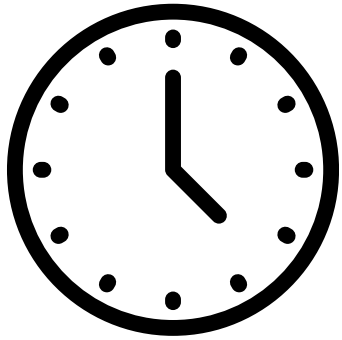
This Sensory guide is written to help you to enjoy BI-TOPIA. This guide will help you get to know some of the characters in the show, as well as some of the Lighting and Sound Elements that could be overwhelming to some theatre goers.

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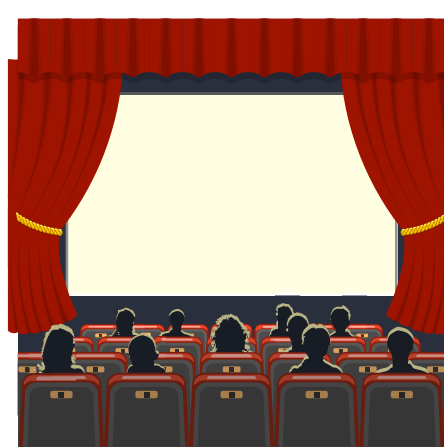
This guide also contains some spoilers.



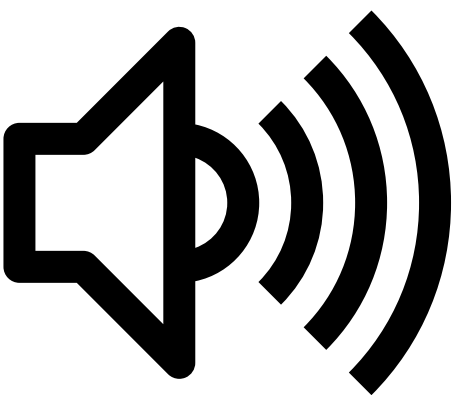
What To Expect



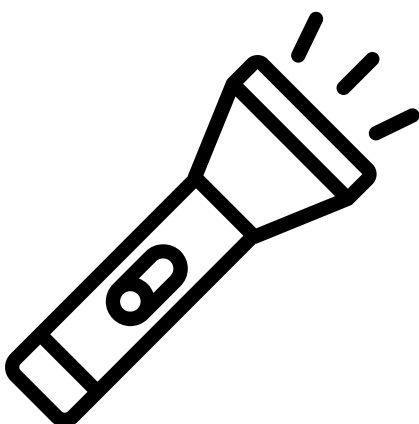
**BI-TOPIA is 1hr and 5 Minutes long
with no Interval**



**The Show Involves 1 Actor who
plays multiple roles and contains
some strong languages a
References to some sensitive
subjects like Suicide, Mental
Health & abuse**



**The Show uses some Elements of Loud,
Unexpected Sounds Like Gun Shots and
Explosions as well as a scene with some
quite Loud Music**



**Throughout the show, there will be uses of
Flashing Lights, Lights towards the
audience and Disco Lights.
There is also a Moment in the Show where
we have a Blackout on stage for 55
Seconds**

The Characters

Sam Danson (Who stars in BI-TOPIA) plays lots of different characters in the show, (This is called multi-roling). Here is a catalogue of Sam's characters and key elements of costume to help you know who's who.



Sam

Sam is the First Character we see in the Show, and the story is told from his perspective. He talks a little faster than some of the other characters in the show and looks like this. He also wears a yellow hat when he works at the Gelato Shop.



Captain

The Captain is Usually Seen Infront of his Fip-chart Paper and behind Battle Table on the Right Hand Side of the Stage. He is very Stern Talking and is seen carrying various Guns in the show.



Bernie

Bernie is one of Sam's work place friends in the Gelato Shop, He is sometimes seen in the same Yellow Hat that Sam Wears but always has a noticeable hand on his hip. He Speaks in a very flamboyant tone.



Dad

Sam's dad in the show will usually have either his legs or arms crossed - he talks with a deeper, broader accent, often slower in pace.



Hannah

One of Sam's friends/love interests, will often have legs closer together and speak in a softer tone than the rest of the characters.



Lewis

Sam's first male love interest as an adult, has more of a regional accent, talks with confidence and wit.



Joe

Sam's childhood friend/male love interest, is just staring at his phone at the start of the show (which is represented by a brick) - he has a quieter, shyer type of voice.

The Story

Before the Show:

The Space will look like the below image with some music playing from old action films.

During the show, photography & videography are forbidden.

The set design:



Show beats 1/3:

- The show starts with Sam bursting onto stage along with **loud gunshots and explosion** sound effects.
- Sam then becomes **captain** and talks to imaginary soldiers about their upcoming mission.
- Sam then becomes more **child-like** - talking like he is a 12 or 13 years old, and how he **wants to be a soldier**.
- Sam then is sat with **Joe** - a childhood love interest, Sam goes to the bathroom with Joe, to be intimate.
- Sam is gradually growing up during this time - at one point joining the **army cadets** another time driving home with his **dad**.
- Following becoming homesick at the cadets, Sam **re-enters an imagined state**, where he is a WWII soldier heading off to war, he regains his masculine posture and steps aboard a train.
- Sam then becomes about 20 years old - and introduces us to his place of work '**Just Gelatos, Crepes & Waffles**' A dessert place in Manchester.

Show beats 2/3:

- Sam then **heads on a night out** - one that becomes **several nights out blurred into one**: Sam is running around the stage, having several conversations about his identity, during this time, **he goes from being 'technically straight' to completely confused.**
- Sam **goes home with a guy**, the first time he's ever done so.
- Sam is clearly struggling mentally as he gets further into his 20's. Unsure who he is.
- Sam keeps drinking and going to parties, eventually having a **mental breakdown** at a house party where he's embarrassed himself to Hannah, and become **overwhelmed by his own confusion.**
- Sam then flicks between two states - **captain & Sam** - as the captain he is **looking for an enemy that cannot be seen** - as Sam he is **leaving several voice messages** on various people's phones such as Hannah & Joe - he manages to delete these.
- Sam sends his dad a voice message about **suicidal thoughts**, but this time, it **cannot be deleted.**

Show beats 3/3:

- Sam then gets a **visit from his dad** - **they discuss mental health** and therapy.
- Sam has a final **imagined war state**, which includes an over the top gun fight where he ends up shot.
- Sam then has a **date night with Hannah** at his apartment, this ends in the two of them making love.
- Sam then has a phone call with his dad - **finally asking for advice** about the therapy he is getting.
- **End of show.**

