

Recommended for ages 16+ / Year 11 and 12

The production runs for approximately 1 hour and 20 minutes with no interval.

The Questions is set in contemporary present day in the apartment of the character “The Resident” or ‘Res’. The play follows Res and “The Visitor” or ‘Vis’ on a blind date, where they quickly discover they are not compatible. As Vis prepares to leave Res’s apartment, an outside catastrophe and “shelter in place” lockdown order forces these polar opposites into the longest first date ever, with an audience of a neighbouring rock band to watch as they rehearse. Desperate to end the constant bickering, they turn to “The Questions”, a real-life psychological questionnaire researchers promise can build intimacy between anyone...The play explores modern intimacy in a hilarious and unsparing manner.

Scripted dialogue contains description, mention, reference to or staging of the following:

Coarse Language:

There is occasional use of coarse language, the words ‘fuck’, ‘fucking’, ‘bullshit’ and ‘shit’ are used throughout the play. Some of the songs contain coarse language in the lyrics. The words ‘bitch’ and ‘cunt’ are used once.

Characters also speak derogatorily to each other e.g. “You vindictive, incandescent MOLL!”, “dickhead”, “crazy bitch”. The language is used in a ‘comedic’ manner.

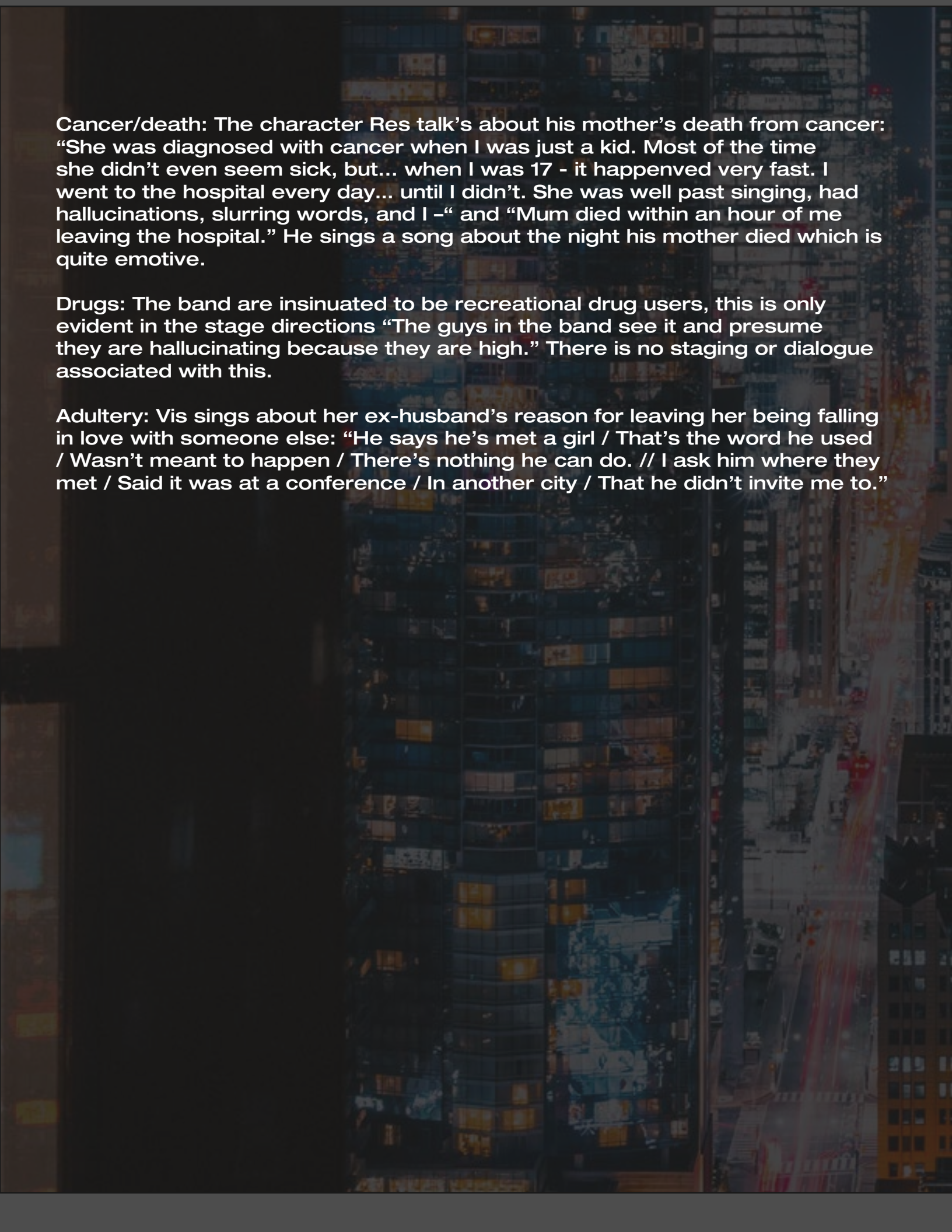
Sexual Content:

There is reference to having sex in public within a song: “We were waiting at a bus-stop and he said “let’s do it here!”. The two characters discuss each others bodies. the Resident praises the Visitors body. ‘Having a few SEXY THOUGHTS over the egg-powder omelettes are we?’

They provoke each other with comments about their bodies ‘Certainly not with your eyes sticking out like a HORNY CRAB. Your wouldn’t know, given your eyes never stray from my tits’. The Resident responds with ‘how many times a day do you think about sex with me?’ There is a build up of tension as the two dare each other on. A moment where they both remove their shirts, and dare each other not to look. There is no nudity and the moment moves back to antagonism between the characters. Toward the end of the play there is a passionate onstage kiss between Res and Vis towards the end.

Adult Themes:

Stressful situations: The play revolves around the shelter in place/lockdown due to an emergency – characters use gas masks to go outside, only eat rations, talk of police, helicopter and drone presence, and vocally wonder “if it’s all gonna end in a flash, or we’ll burn up. Or they’ll just lock us in without food and wait for us all to eat each other.”



Cancer/death: The character Res talk's about his mother's death from cancer: "She was diagnosed with cancer when I was just a kid. Most of the time she didn't even seem sick, but... when I was 17 - it happened very fast. I went to the hospital every day... until I didn't. She was well past singing, had hallucinations, slurring words, and I -" and "Mum died within an hour of me leaving the hospital." He sings a song about the night his mother died which is quite emotive.

Drugs: The band are insinuated to be recreational drug users, this is only evident in the stage directions "The guys in the band see it and presume they are hallucinating because they are high." There is no staging or dialogue associated with this.

Adultery: Vis sings about her ex-husband's reason for leaving her being falling in love with someone else: "He says he's met a girl / That's the word he used / Wasn't meant to happen / There's nothing he can do. // I ask him where they met / Said it was at a conference / In another city / That he didn't invite me to."