

Kera Pulman

I selected the Peach Season for a monologue, and found it through reading books containing a collection of monologues which was provided by my teacher. I felt immediately interested and enraptured by the plot, and related to the characters. The Peach Season was written by Debra Oswald and I quickly fell in love with her writing style and how she depicts the relationship between a mother and her young daughter in the monologue. My piece is based in Realism, written with the importance of hindsight and reflection in mind, especially in regards to the character I play, Zoe.

Zoe is a young woman who has recently run away from home and gotten involved in drugs and a robbery, resulting in the death of an acquaintance. The slow pace yet abrupt start to the monologue is intended to capture Zoe's reminiscing and reflection on what she had and took for granted, and highlight how now after the traumatic experiences that take place, she is able to appreciate the lifestyle she had.

While editing the script I edited sections in which Zoe describes Kieran and the experiences she had with him whilst he was working at the peach farm, as I felt it wasn't entirely necessary to my journey. I also emphasised the mystery that surrounds Kieran as a person and how, despite this, Zoe still follows him away from home and naively loves him regardless. I also altered the ending, in which Zoe describes and reflects on how she would rely on her mother for comfort in darker times and how now that she has left home, she no longer has this comfort and is entirely on her lonesome. She has achieved the independence she strived for but now wishes for what she had and took for granted.

For several months I struggled to enjoy the monologue and even changed my piece briefly, eventually returning to it after a discussion with my teacher. The hurdle I needed to overcome was that I found the character I played whiny and irritating but realised it was simply how I was portraying her because I saw her that way. Upon adjusting my view and taking some time away from the monologue I began to enjoy it again and as a result, improved my depiction of Zoe and her powerful journey.