



## Visual Story for The Librarian

May 30 and 31, 2025  
Relaxed performance: Jun 1, 2025  
at Performance Works on Granville Island

A Visual Story helps people prepare for the experience  
or decide if this show is right for them.



# What information is in this visual story?

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This is the visual story for the show, [click here to see the visual guide for Performance Works](#), the theatre.

# Schedule / Important times

## Schedule for May 30 and 31, 2025

**6:15 pm/11:15 am** The doors to the theatre open

**6:30 pm/11:30 am** The performance starts

**7:15 pm/12:15 pm** The performance finishes

The doors to the theatre open 15 - 30 minutes before the show starts. Before that you can wait in the lobby.

## Schedule for the Relaxed Performance (June 1, 2025)

**1:55 pm** The doors to the theatre open

**2 pm** The introduction to the Relaxed Performance starts

**2:15pm** The introduction is over

The doors open so everyone can come in

**2:30 pm** The performance starts

**3:15 pm** The performance finishes

These times will be a little different for every performance. It is never exactly at the same time.

The performance is about 45 minutes long.

There is no intermission.

# What to expect at the Relaxed Performance

The lights above you will always stay on, it may be a bit dark sometimes, but **never all dark**

- It is ok to move
- It is ok to make noise
- It is ok to react
- It's ok to have a snack or a drink
- It is ok to use your electronic devices (on silent)

BUT it is not ok to take pictures or make calls

There will also be a chill out zone, find out more on the next page

# Chill-Out Zone

There will be only a chill-out zone for the Relaxed Performance at 2.30pm on Sunday, June 1st

- You can leave the Relaxed Performance at any time
- You can ask the volunteers and staff for help
- It will have:
  - Comfortable seats, yoga mats, pillows
  - Fidget toys & colouring books
  - Noise-cancelling headphones
  - A TV so you can still watch the show
- You can go back into the theatre any time

The Chill-Out Zone will be halfway the long hallway, in the space behind the bar, but you can also be in the hallway





# The Stage

Here is a picture of what the stage will look like

The bookshelves and the books on them will be a little different.

It may not be as many bookshelves as in this picture.



## The Performer



James is a man.  
He plays Lynn, the Librarian, who is a woman.



In most of the pictures the Librarian wears a yellow sweater  
but in the show it will be this blue jacket



## The Curtain Speech

Before the show starts, someone will come to the stage and talk.  
It might be a little bit different, but these are the things they often talk about:

- The indigenous land we are on
- Thank you to sponsors and donors and volunteers
- How you can donate to the festival or help in other ways

This is a short speech between 1-3 minutes

[Click here to read an example of the speech](#)

In this photo, someone is doing a curtain speech.  
When you go, it could be another person.



## About the Story

We are in a library and Lynn, a lovable brave librarian (a.k.a. “librarian”), chats with audiences and lip syncs to original audiobooks that immerse the audiences in the world of each book.

All the books are about bravery and identity, written by Irish authors like Patricia Forde, Meg Grehan, Christine Hamill and Jane Mitchell.

The playful costumes and intriguing props and sound designs celebrate literature, physical theatre and diverse stories.



# Sound

The loudest thing on the show is the Librarian shouting or pretending to be a character who is very loud, or a chimpanzee.

There are other noises, voices or music coming from the speakers. Sometimes they are soft noises to help us feel like we are in the place of the story the Librarian is telling us.

These are the moments or effects that will be most intense:

- Circus music and a drum roll
- Voice on an intercom
- Sound of an explosion
- A surprised shout
- Chimpanzee noises

## Sound at the Relaxed Performance

The sound will be very similar to any other show  
the volume of the speakers will be a little lower

# Lights

There will be no strobe and it will never be all dark.

Overall, the lighting is simple and colourful.

It sometimes changes slowly to have more light where the Librarian is, like in these pictures.

The most intense lighting:

Sometimes it changes suddenly to all one colour when the Librarian pretends to be someone else.

You can see pictures on the next page.





## Intense Lights: All One Colour

Sometimes the light changes suddenly to all one colour when the Librarian pretends to be someone else.

That is the most intense thing.



Here, for example, the Librarian is pretending to be her dad.



And here, she's pretending to be her friend, Mitzy.

## Lights at the Relaxed Performance

When the Librarian pretends to be someone else and the lights change to colour everything, it will happen more slowly and the lights won't be as brightly coloured.

# Introduction at the Relaxed Performance

This will only happen on at the relaxed performance on June 1, 2025 at 2:30 pm

- James will introduce himself. He will be dressed like Lynn, The Librarian.  
He will explain who he is and what is different when he plays the Librarian.
- We will ask you what you want to know about the show or what parts you would like to see. For example:
  - The most intense moments with the lights
    - When all the lights go to one colour
    - The circus lights
  - The most intense sounds
    - The drum rolls
    - The explosion
    - Mary on the intercom
  - The most intense moments
    - [An explosion](#)
    - [A chimpanzee and a chimpanzee hand that comes out of the book and grabs Lynn](#)
    - [A surprise reveal of a costume](#)

The introduction will be 10 - 15 minutes long.

After it is done, James will leave and all the other people coming to see the show will come inside.

## How people react

In this show people, the audience often laughs a lot because the Librarian says some funny things.

People can react very differently every time.

Sometimes people in the audience laugh.

Sometimes nobody laughs.

At the end everyone claps.

That can be very loud. It is okay to cover your ears.



## SPOILER ALERT :

Don't read this unless you want to know everything that happens.

## Visual Story: Everything that happens

Lynn is a Librarian (a brave librarian) who thinks today is a normal day of book sorting. She comes in and puts books away. She is dancing and doesn't know we are there. When she sees us, she is surprised.

She calls out to her assistant, Mary (we don't see Mary, she responds on the intercom). Mary tells her that the Book Tour Guide is sick, and that Lynn will have to give the book tour. She is VERY shy and nervous, she doesn't like speaking to a group of people!

So she decides to read the beginning of other people's stories, because she loves books and is much more confident with other people's stories.



In most pictures the Librarian wears a yellow sweater, but in the show it will be a blue jacket.

She reads *The Wordsmith*, a book by Patricia Forde, about a young girl in a world run by monstrous cops, where there's only 700 words allowed and she has to keep the list of words up to date.

During this story, two tea cups appear inside the book.



The next story she reads is called *The Best Medicine* by Christine Hamill, about a young boy in school being bullied by a boy who looks like a chimpanzee!

During the story, the hand of a chimpanzee comes out of the book.





Lynn reads a book called *The Deepest Breath* by Meg Grehan, about a girl named Stevie falling in love with a classmate called Chloe. There is a balloon inside the book.

She reads a story called *A Dangerous Crossing* by Jane Mitchell, where a young girl and her brother run away from an explosion.

Lynn Shows a picture from the explosion in the book.



At different times in the show, Lynn talks about what it was like to grow up in the circus; and her friendship with Mitzy, who reminds Lynn of a frog.

Her Mum is not very nice to her, but her Dad is supportive.

Lynn eventually runs away and finds a new life here in her bookshop.





At the end of the show, Lynn has learned from the stories and is now confident enough to read her own story. She changes into a fabulous costume her friend Mitzy made her.

Once she changes, she reads her story. It is called *The Lion's Tooth*.

She thanks everyone for making her feel brave, and offers everyone a pencil so they can write their own brave story.



# Credits

This Visual Story was created by [Brú Theatre](#) with the help of a template created with the input of many consultants, patrons, artists and fellow arts organizations.

Special thanks to the Vancouver International Children's Festival, the members of their Youth Council on Relaxed Performances, Intrepid Theatre, Vancouver Writers Fest, PuSh, the Gateway Theatre and Jake Anthony.

Want to create a visual story for your show, event or venue?  
Email Anika Vervecken and she will share the template: [access.activator@gmail.com](mailto:access.activator@gmail.com)

We welcome all feedback!