

***Scotch Tape*: Synopsis**

Scotch Tape is an hour-long, one act dramedy written by Toronto-based actor Marryl Smith. It follows the life of Maggie, a mid-twenties millennial living in Toronto who has made a career out of sharing her life on the internet. She uploads weekly vlogs, curates her social media profiles, and creates content appealing to young women of her generation. All of this has amassed her 5 million followers and counting. She is a big deal. The internet knows her name. Maggie is at the prime of her life: the dream job, newly engaged, financial success, and an unfathomable number of fans. Her life is perfect—or so we are lead to believe.

The play is divided into three parts, each taking the form of a video she is filming for her channel. The first is a fashion try-on, the second a question-and-answer, and the third a gift-wrapping DIY. But in this scenario, with a live audience instead of viewers hidden behind a computer screen, there is no option for editing. The audience sees it all: Maggie's word flubs, mistakes, off-colour commentary. As the play progresses, these light-hearted videos reveal that the version of "Maggie" she presents on camera is not congruent with her real life. The real Maggie is trapped in a controlling, emotionally abusive relationship of which she is selectively ignorant, all while dealing with the pressure to maintain a "perfect" image or risk losing her viewers and, subsequently, her livelihood. Maggie can cut-and-paste what she chooses to put on the internet, but when in the format of a theatrical play, when the audience is watching her throughout the whole process, there isn't much she can hide.

Over the course of the play, Maggie has a more and more difficult time finding ways to cover up her imperfections as she slowly comes to terms with the dangerous truth of her relationship. For years in this relationship, she has bent and conformed herself to fit this man's wishes, walked on eggshells to avoid setting off his temper, and been manipulated to apologize when she didn't feel at fault. Maggie has repressed it all, because she is deeply in love. But by the play's end, all of this repressed conflict comes to a head, and we see what choice she ultimately makes.