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# FESTIVAL METRO

## THEATRE

Tuesdays And Sundays ★★★★★

Based on a true story and written and performed by Daniel Arnold and Medina Hahn (pictured), Tuesdays And Sundays is as simple a work as it is moving. And one whose greatest strength lies in capturing that first flush of young love where every walk home can be made to seem longer or shorter by the merest word of encouragement or discouragement.

Awaking in limbo, William and Mary, a rural Canadian couple played with real pathos, warmth and comedic timing by Arnold and Hahn, relive their story of how they met at a party on New Year's Eve. A trail of love is thereby set in motion, one that inevitably, almost predictably, ends in tragedy.

Economic in its use of language yet delicately poignant in getting the most out of a structure

which allows the dialogue to flow while at the same time providing space for interrupted narrative asides, the piece pitches our fledgling couple headlong into a variety of emotional Mexican stand-offs as they wear their hearts on their sleeves and then just as quickly wipe their noses on them.

Albeit sometime more in hope than expectation and not always to their advantage. William, 18 going on 19, is a hard-working farmboy who could pass for Tom



Sawyer. Mary is a giddy, girly 16 going on 17 who could have stepped straight out of a Jane Austen novel. They court each other with an innocent's sense of grown-up passion whose consummation opens the piece up to the much wider vistas of guilt, responsibility and the social pressures brought to bear in a strict world of right and wrong where a middle way seems hardly to exist.

Moving in its depiction of burning youth caught in the flame of intransigent community values and obligation, Tuesdays And Sundays is a funny, moving and ultimately tragic story of what happens when growing up is hard to do and being together then growing apart even harder. Whatever the day and age.

Alan Chadwick

Until Mon, Pleasance Dome (V23), Bristo Square, 14:30 to 15:15, £6 to £7, £5 to £6 concs. Tel: 0131 226 0000. [www.pleasance.co.uk](http://www.pleasance.co.uk)