

# Pre-Viewing Sensory Guide for Children and Adults with Disabilities

*The Story Of My Life* • February 5 - 28, 2021

Broadway Rose's mission is to create unparalleled musical theatre experiences that invigorate audiences and enrich our communities. In addition to putting the best work possible on our stage, to us that also means making it possible for individuals to experience it as fully and comfortably as possible. Below are some advisories for sensory- and content-sensitive patrons.



## Emotional Music

The music is loud and powerful during some songs, but soft and emotional during others.



## Adult Themes

**Death:** Death is a normal part of life. When people die, they can no longer walk, talk, or breathe, and their hearts and brains no longer work. Death is permanent and people cannot come back to life after they have died. Alvin's family has had lots of sad events happen to them. Alvin's mother died when he was a child. Alvin's father died when Alvin was an adult. Alvin died shortly after his father, which is what this musical is about.

**Suicide:** Alvin fell off of a bridge. He died because of the fall. We do not know if the fall was an accident or on purpose. If he did it on purpose, this is called suicide. If Alvin was suicidal, he was probably suffering from an illness in his brain that made him confused and probably didn't know he could get help. The illness is called depression. Depression makes some people very sad and it is very different from having a bad day.

*It's okay to feel sad, angry, or confused about suicide. If you feel these emotions, you can talk to someone you love or trust, or call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 800-273-8255.*

**Grief:** Tom was Alvin's best friend. He is very sad about Alvin's death, so he is grieving the death of his best friend. Grief comes in many forms, which may make people feel sad, angry, silly, or even happy when they remember their friend. Because Tom is grieving, he is remembering Alvin as though he is talking to him and they remember memories together. Tom feels very sad because he thinks he made Alvin sad while he was alive.

**Humor:** It is okay to laugh when something funny happens in this musical. Death reminds us of happy times we shared when the person was alive. Alvin and Tom laugh a lot.

**If you get scared and don't want to keep watching, you can pause or stop the show at any time to take a break.**



Tom, thoughtful and a little sad, delivering Alvin's eulogy (speech honoring someone's life after they have died, often at a funeral.)



Alvin, feeling happy and remembering a good memory.