

Fullerton Union High School's "Eurydice" is an Unforgettable Journey!
written by Tessa Maryott, a senior at St. Margaret's Episcopal School

In a world that traverses between life and death, this thrilling spin on a classic tale tells the renowned story of Orpheus and Eurydice through the eyes of Eurydice, as she navigates not only the underworld, but also her memory, identity, and heart with the aid of her beloved father.

From wide eyes to furrowed brows, Sophia Goldblatt (Eurydice) entralls the audience with her entrancing presence. Whether she is bouncing around the stage as she carelessly twirls around her dance partner or collapsing on the floor while breaking into heart-wrenching sobs, Goldblatt delivers a wide range of emotions with both commitment and authenticity. Accompanying Eurydice through her journey is Eurydice's Father, played by Eadyn Ochoa. His comforting nature is palpable throughout the entire show, which is especially evident as Goldblatt races to him and he welcomes her with open arms, placing a hand on the back of her head as he envelops her in a fatherly embrace.

Alejandro Thompson, playing Orpheus, weaves agony and desperation through his voice when he reads out his letters that he's written to Eurydice, his love and longing crystal clear. As he traipses across the stage on his path out of the underworld, Goldblatt follows, their steps in sync, the connection and tension between them almost tangible. As Orpheus inevitably turns around, the two stand with their eyes locked on each other, arms hanging limply by their sides, bathed in blue light.

Elevating the scene previously mentioned as well as countless others, is the lighting design (Cynthia Montiel-Cruz). Utilizing a variety of blues, purples, and greens to depict the cold tone and loneliness of the underworld, the kaleidoscope arrangements add to the fractured and melancholy atmosphere, which contrasts with the land of the living's warmer undertones.

In addition to the lighting, both Jett Shields and Aiden Stephenson present a remarkably designed set, with no overlooked detail. The centerpiece of the show itself is a glittering mosaic representing the Lord of the Underworld's presence in the underworld. As a part of the mosaic, the two rivers in the underworld, Lethe and Styx, are showcased flowing around the eye. The rock background employs a central theme of tan and white, allowing the colorful lighting to consume the stage easily.

With its talented cast and crew, "how will you remember" Fullerton Union's "Eurydice"? That's easy. You can't help it!