

Written by Jill Walsh
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Driving home from the Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse on Friday night, after seeing the opening performance of the musical *Joseph & the Technicolor Dreamcoat*, I asked my husband, "Can you honestly think of anyone who *wouldn*

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like this show?" We couldn't. And I still can't. With its appealing confluence of technical effects, engaging storytelling, musical styles, memorable characters, and lessons in forgiveness, humility, and hope, even those grudging types who would rather be dressed in bologna and tossed into a shark tank than see a musical can find something in

Joseph

to laugh at, mull over, be inspired by, or appreciate on a sensory level.

This British musical was written in 1968 by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice, and was popularized in America by the Broadway performance starring Donny Osmond. It's based on the Old Testament story about a motivated young man who suffers betrayal at the hands of his 12 spiteful brothers, and then uses his talent as a dream interpreter to fulfill his own destiny, and the most impressive aspect of the elaborate plot is the fact that every word of it is sung. There are no dialogue breaks to catch the audience up on important details - they're all tucked inside the clever lyrics of the 21 songs that range in style from country-western to '50s rock.

Dream On: "Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," at the Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse through M

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