

# Alliance Theatre

---

## *institute*

Study Guide:  
*Goodnight, Tyler*

Created as part of the Alliance Theatre's Dramaturgy by Students program  
by: Avery Sharpe, Teaching Artist; and Ebony Tucker, Teaching Artist  
with: theater students at DeKalb School of the Arts  
and their educators: Ms. Candace Lambert & Mr. Richard Wright



Written by B.J. Tindal  
Directed by Kent Gash

February 16 – March 10, 2019  
Hertz Stage

## Table of Contents

### **About the Play**

Journal Prompts.....	2
Synopsis.....	3
Characters.....	3
Vocabulary.....	4

### **Historical Connections**

Literary Allusions: Historical Figures & Pop Culture References.....	5-8
Civil Rights History.....	9-10
Current Events: Police Brutality.....	11-12
Legacy.....	12
Interracial Relationships.....	13

### **Production Elements**

Set Design.....	14
Costume Design.....	15
Lighting Cue Sheet.....	16

### **Learning Extensions**

Vocabulary Collage.....	17
Vocabulary Puzzle.....	18-19
Suggested Reading List.....	20

<b>Works Cited</b> .....	21
--------------------------	----

.....

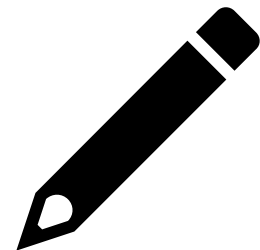
## Journal Prompts

### **Pre-Show:**

1. What is racial equality and what does it mean to you?
2. Who is an important matriarch in your life and why?
3. How do you respond to advice given to you by strangers?
4. What would you do if you were stopped by the police?
5. To what extremes would you go for someone you love?

### **Post-Show:**

1. Have you encountered (experienced or observed) racism?
2. Is race an important factor in love? Why or why not?
3. How have your friends helped you in drastic situations?
4. What legacy do you want to leave behind?
5. Have you ever experienced grief? If so, how did you cope?



## Synopsis

*Goodnight, Tyler* tells the story of a passionate, young black man and victim of police brutality, Tyler Evans. Throughout the play, Tyler struggles to come to terms with his own death as he comes back to haunt his girlfriend (Chelsea), friends (Drew, Shana, and Davis), and grandmother (Fannie).

Playwright B.J. Tindal creates tension between the characters while illustrating the way in which different people deal with the loss of a loved one. This contemporary and unexpectedly humorous drama is the winner of the 2019 Alliance/Kendeda National Graduate Playwriting Competition.

## Characters

**Tyler:** the protagonist, a 26-year-old black male who is very active in his community. His death serves as the inciting incident to the entire play. He ends up falling victim to police brutality. He is an advocate and believes in the equality of races. He cares for his friends and family and continues to support them.

*"I was told that in life I only had to do two things. Stay black and die."*

**Shana:** a voice of reason, a demanding personality, honest to everyone. A member of the Black Student Union, she believes in racial equality and is an advocate for black lives and Tyler Evans.

*"Then again, I don't own a gun. Or 400 years of white supremacy."*

**Davis:** the childhood friend and roommate of Tyler. He is a gay white male who has a very prominent role in Tyler's life. They share similar interests, but it appears Davis has always longed for more.

*"I really mean it Tyler. It's okay for you to go. You don't have to haunt me anymore."*

**Fannie Evans:** Tyler's grandmother and the one who raised him. She sees herself as the most important person in Tyler's life. There is tension between Chelsea and Fannie, because she doesn't believe Chelsea is worthy of Tyler.

*"Ain't no baby in my family bein' raised by you."*

**Chelsea:** Tyler's fiancé; a white young lady oblivious to why others might have a problem with her interracial relationship. She desires attention from Tyler's loved ones and wants to be allowed to grieve like everyone else. There is speculation about the real reason she accepted Tyler's proposal.

*"I don't care if you don't like me. I don't care if all of you hate me. Tyler chose Me!"*

**Drew:** Frat boy friend of Tyler and Davis, obsessed with drinking and partying. Though he doesn't seem to take much seriously, it is obvious that he cares about his friends deep down.

*"We're drinking for Tyler's affection."*

## Vocabulary

**Bachelor Pad (n.):** the home of a man not in a relationship

**Brittle (adj.):** easily hurt or offended

**Dweeb (n.):** a boring or socially incapable person; a “nerd” or “loser”

**Gauges (n.):** ear accessory used for ear stretching

**Goob (n.):** an insult to describe someone who does or says something idiotic

**Guerilla Theatre (n.):** dramatization of political/social issues, typically performed outdoors as protest

**Hovercraft (n.):** a vehicle that travels both on land and water

**Hussy (n.):** an insult to describe an impudent or immoral woman

**Hypoallergenic (adj.):** said to cause less allergic reactions

**L’chaim (interjection):** a Hebrew toast, meaning “to life!”

**Legacy (n.):** something transmitted by an ancestor or predecessor

**Memorial (n.):** something that keeps remembrance alive

**Misogynistic (adj.):** hateful towards women

**Purgatory (n.):** a place between heaven and hell according to the Catholic faith; also known as limbo

**Ragamuffin (n.):** an insult to describe a person, typically a child, in ragged, dirty clothes

**Rachet (adj.):** used to describe someone or something who is wretched

**Rugby (n.):** a football game in which play is continuous

**Soliloquy (n.):** An act of speaking one's thoughts aloud when by oneself, especially by a character in a play

**Sorority (n.):** a women's student organization for social purposes; has a name consisting of Greek letters

**Subtext (n.):** an underlying and distinct theme in a piece of writing or conversation

**Taffeta (n.):** a silk or synthetic fabric with a crisp texture

**Trollop (n.):** an insult to describe one who engages in sex promiscuously or for money

**Vegan (adj.):** describes a person who does not eat or use meat and animal products, including dairy

## Literary Allusions: Historical Figures & Pop Culture References

**American Girl Doll:** 18-inch dolls released in 1986 by Pleasant Company

**Amy Winehouse:** English singer/songwriter known for songs like *Back to Black*, *Valerie*, and *Love Is a Losing Game*

**Archie Comics:** American comic book publishing company famous for fictional teenagers: Archie Andrews, Betty Cooper, Jughead Jones, Veronica Lodge, Reggie Mantle, Sabrina Spellman, and Josie and the Pussycats; founded in 1939

**Billie Holiday:** jazz singer whose career lasted from 1935-1959; one of the leading influences of modern jazz and pop singing

**Black Lives Matter:** international activist movement that originated in the African American community and campaigns against violence toward black people

**Black Panther Party:** African American rights party founded in 1966 by Huey Newton and Bobby Seale for the initial purpose of protecting African American persons from police brutality; evolved into the Marxist group they are known for today, calling for the liberation of African American persons from white American responsibilities (such as the draft and sanctions) and demanding compensation for their exploitation by white Americans; identified by black leather jackets and black berets

**Bring it on: All or Nothing:** 2006 movie about cheerleading; third in the *Bring It On* series

**Chris Brown:** American R&B singer, songwriter, actor and dancer that started with Jive records in 2004; hits include *Wall to Wall* and *Kiss, Kiss*

**Cupid Shuffle:** popular song and line dance released in 2007 in the R&B genre of music; sang by Cupid and written by Bryson Bernard

**Derek Jeter:** American professional baseball player who, as a shortstop for the New York Yankees of Major League Baseball, was selected to multiple American League All-Star teams and was one of the most popular players of his time

**Dr. Dre:** American rapper and producer whose career has spanned from 1984 to present day; he also has a brand of headphones called Beats by Dre

**Dream A Little Dream of Me:** song written in 1899 by Gus Kahn and performed by Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong

**Dream Catcher:** originating in Native American culture, dream catchers were used to protect people, primarily children, against bad dreams

**Ella Fitzgerald:** the most popular female jazz singer in the United States for more than half a century; she won 13 Grammy awards and sold over 40 million albums

**Emma Watson:** was a child actor in the hugely successful *Harry Potter* film franchise; now a popular adult model and actress, having appeared in the popular films *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, *My Week with Marilyn* and *Beauty and the Beast*

**Ferguson, Missouri:** on August 9, 2014, an unarmed 18-year-old African-American, Michael Brown, was fatally shot by Darren Wilson, a white policeman with the Ferguson Police Department, which started major riots in the city

**Gonzo:** Muppet character that also goes by the name Gonzo the Great; known for his daredevil energy

**Goosebumps:** series of short horror books written for children written by R. L. Stein; they were most popular in the 90s

**Horcrux:** an object from *Harry Potter* that contains part of a dark wizard's soul; it is made when a wizard kills someone

**I Believe I Can Fly:** song released in 1996 by American singer R. Kelly; it reached number two on the Billboard Hot 100, and is still R. Kelly's most successful song to date

**Jackie Kennedy:** American book editor and socialite; first lady during John F. Kennedy's presidency

**Jason Mraz:** American singer famous for his indie pop music; his most famous song is *I'm Yours*

**Jesse Williams:** American actor and activist, best known for his role as Jackson Avery on *Grey's Anatomy*; he also delivered a stirring speech while accepting the Humanitarian Award at the 2016 BET Awards

**Jiminy Cricket:** the Walt Disney version of the Talking Cricket, a fictional character created by Italian writer Carlo Collodi; he appears in the movie *Pinocchio*

**John Green:** New York Times bestselling author of *Looking for Alaska*, *An Abundance of Katherines*, *Paper Towns*, *The Fault in Our Stars*, and *Turtles All the Way Down*; he is one half of the vlogbrothers on YouTube and co-creator of the educational series *Crash Course*

**Life Alert:** medical alert device made to be worn around the neck and designed for the user to push a button to call for help during any emergency

**Louis Armstrong:** jazz musician trumpeter whose career spanned from the 1920s to 1960s; in Chicago, he joined a Creole jazz band just like his mentor, Joe King Oliver

**Lucky:** song by pop singer Britney Spears that aired in 2000 and tells the story of a movie star who is unhappy and lonely despite having fame and wealth

**Luther Vandross:** American singer/songwriter and lead singer of the band Change; his solo music career began in 1981 and ended with his death in 2005; he won four Grammys, including one Song of the Year award

**MadLib:** template-based game in which one player asks others for a list of words to substitute for blanks in a story, before reading the – often comical or nonsensical – story aloud

**Mancala:** popular two-player strategy game; one of the oldest known games still played today; the general goal of the game is to end with as many stones in your “bank” as possible

**Mark Zuckerberg:** American entrepreneur and billionaire credited with the co-founding of Facebook, an online social-media platform

**Martin Lawrence:** American stand-up comedian, actor, producer, talk show host, and writer; known for his sitcom *Martin* and the movie *Bad Boys*

**Michael Bublé:** four-time Grammy award winning Canadian singer, songwriter, actor and record producer known for his smooth jazzy voice; his career started in 1996 and he is still performing today

**Modern Family:** TV series on ABC that shows the hilarious perspective of family life in which the parents, Phil and Claire, want an honest relationship with their three children; told in the form of a documentary

**Nickelodeon:** American children’s television channel which first aired in December 1977; known for cartoons such as *Spongebob Squarepants* and *Rugrats*

**Notorious B.I.G.:** rapper from the 90s who was murdered in his car; a major influencer in hip-hop; famous for songs like *Big Poppa* and *Hypnotize*

**Otterbox:** privately-owned consumer electronics accessory company based in Fort Collins, Colorado that produces water resistant, shock resistant, and drop resistant cases for mobile devices

**Stokely Carmichael:** West-Indian born civil rights activist; leader of black nationalism in the United States in the 1960s and originator of its rallying slogan, “black power”

**Playstation:** created by Sony in 1994, the company currently has four home gaming consoles out: The PS4, 3, 2, and the original

**Pokemon:** series of TV shows, video games, and collectible cards that feature fictional animal-like creatures that trainers battle with and collect

**PS I Love You:** book written in 2004 by Irish author Cecelia Ahern; the movie was produced and directed by Richard LaGravenese in 2007

**Rachel Dolezal:** American artist and former civil rights activist best known for her controversial claims of being a black woman despite her European ancestry and no evidence of any African ancestry

**Record Player:** apparatus for reproducing sound from phonograph records, comprising a turntable that spins the record at a constant speed and a stylus that slides along in the groove and picks up the sound with an amplifier and loudspeaker

**Red Bull:** popular energy drink with high sugar and caffeine content used to help people stay awake; its popular slogan is: “Red Bull gives you wings”

**Roseanne:** a television series that looked at life, death and everything else relatable; the series hits current issues and shows how the working-class Conner household handles them

**Say Yes to the Dress:** American television series in which a large group of professionals prepare people for weddings, dressing them in bridal wear and placing makeup on their face to give them the “perfect look”

**Scooby Doo:** talking dog who is the protagonist of a popular cartoon in which a group of friends go on adventures and solve mysteries

**Shrek:** cartoon movie released by Dreamworks Pictures which stars an ogre character created by American author William Steig

**Spice Girls:** 90s British girl group comprising of Victoria Beckham, Mel B, Melanie C, Geri Halliwell, and Emma Bunton. They are best known for their song *Wannabe*

**Stay Woke:** phrase meant as a warning against “sleeping” on injustice; the term “woke” originated in the black community as a slogan to be alert to racial injustice in the 21st century

**Steve (of Blue’s Clues):** Steve Burns was the original host for the show *Blue’s Clues*, an educational children’s TV show that ran from 1996-2006 on Nickelodeon

**Stokely Carmichael:** prominent organizer in the Civil Rights Movement in the United States and the global Pan-African movement known for the “Black Power” slogan; he was the national chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) in 1966 and 1967

**Swiping Right/Swiping Left:** refers to the famous dating app, Tinder, in which people are presented with another person’s profile and can either “swipe left” to decline matching (being set up) with a person or they can “swipe right” in hope of matching

**The Brady Bunch:** American sitcom created by Sherwood Schwartz that aired from September 26, 1969, to March 8, 1974; the series revolves around a large blended family with six children

**The Wiz:** movie that retells the classic story of *The Wizard of Oz*; released on October 24, 1978

**Trojan War:** war waged against the city of Troy by the Achaeans after the Trojan prince abducted Helen of Sparta

**Ultimate Frisbee:** non-contact sport played with a flying frisbee; created in 1968 by high school students in Maplewood, New Jersey

**Uncle Tom:** a black man that is considered obedient to white people or betraying of their culture; coined from the book *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* (1852), written by Harriet Beecher Stowe

**World of Warcraft:** online role-playing experience set in the award-winning Warcraft universe; players assume the roles of Warcraft heroes as they explore, adventure, and quest across a vast world

**Zig-a-zig-ah:** phrase coined by the Spice Girls in their 1996 song *Wannabe*; used as a statement against sexist figures in the music industry



## Civil Rights History

**Racial discrimination** happens when a person is treated justly or unfairly because of their actual or assumed race. *Goodnight, Tyler* audience members may want to discuss what racial discrimination looks like today and how it violates peoples' civil rights. This overview of **Civil Rights History** is provided to support and ignite that discussion.

### What are Civil Rights?

A set of rights designed to protect individuals from unfair treatment.

Specifically, these rights include:

- Vote
- Education
- Employment
- Fair Trial
- Use of public facilities

### Significant Civil Rights Legislation:

- **Brown vs. Board of Education (1952-1954):** Supreme Court case that declared school segregation to be unconstitutional
- **Civil Rights Act (1964):** ended segregation in public places and banned employment discrimination; signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson.
- **Voting Rights Act (1965):** Congress expanded the Civil Rights Act into the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which helped African Americans who faced challenges when registering to vote or actually voting, after the **March on the Edmund Pettus Bridge** (also known as the **March from Selma to Montgomery**)

↓

\*March 7, 1965: 600 marchers met by a wall of Alabama state troopers, who told the protesters to turn around. When the protesters rebuked, the troopers **threw tear gas at them, trampled them, and beat them.**

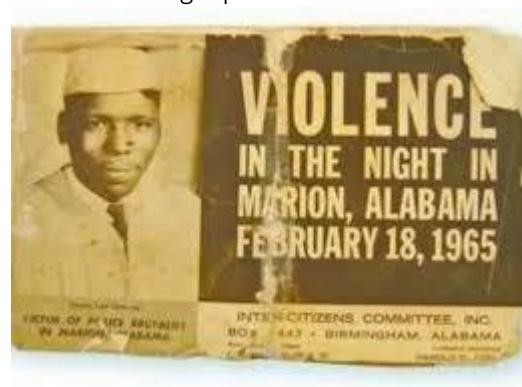
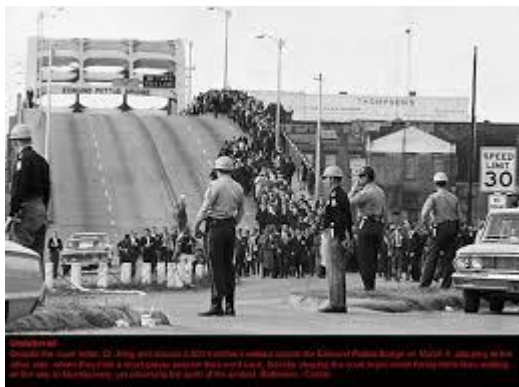
\*Sparked by the death of **Jimmie Lee Jackson** ↓

↓

\*Police brutality

↓

\*26-year-old man fatally shot by an Alabama state trooper as he attempted to protect his grandfather and mother following a protest



## What is Police Brutality?

A form of misconduct that involves an officer committing an act of violence towards a citizen.



## Racial Profiling:

The act of classifying somebody based on their actual or assumed race. Racial profiling started off as the “Free Negro Registry” to keep track of free African Americans, but this law changed after the Civil War. When these laws were no longer in use, Jim Crow laws were followed.



\*Established that there were different laws for blacks and whites. A former practice of segregation in the U.S.



## The Gateway Act:

A law (excuse) to approach citizens assumed to be criminals

## The 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment:

Grants all citizens equal protection under the law

## 14th Amendment

...nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

## Discussion questions:

1. How does the example of police brutality presented in *Goodnight, Tyler* connect to our country's Civil Rights history?
2. Why didn't the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment protect Tyler?

## Current Events: Police Brutality

**Sandra Bland** was a 28-year-old black woman who was pulled over for a traffic violation. She was taken to Waller County Jail in Texas on July 13, 2015. She was killed in her prison cell, but her death was ruled as a suicide to cover up the truth. Sandra had a clean record prior to her alleged traffic violation. She was wrongfully pulled over and killed in her cell.



**Philando Castille** was a thirty-two-year-old man with a loving girlfriend, Diamond Reynolds. On an otherwise normal day, July 6, 2016, Philando was stopped by Officer Jeronimo Yanez, who was looking for a robbery suspect. Yanez remarked to a fellow officer that Philando had the same “wide set nose” as the suspected culprit. Although Yanez was suspicious that Philando was the robbery suspect, he did not share this with Philando, instead stating that he had pulled Philando over due to a broken taillight. There was a brief discussion between them during which Philando calmly revealed to the officer that he had a gun for which he had a license. This news caused Officer Yanez to put his hand on his gun holster and instruct Mr. Castille not to “go for” his weapon. Even though Philando and Diamond tried to assure Officer Yanez that he had no intention of pulling his gun, Officer Yanez fired seven shots into the car, killing Mr. Castille. Philando was shot in front of his girlfriend and her child. Officer Jeronimo Yanez was acquitted of all charges. It was this case and others alike that caused three women (Alicia Garza, Patrisse Khan-Cullors, and Opal Tometi) to start the **Black Lives Matter Movement**.



**Eric Garner** was approached by officers about selling cigarettes without tax stamps. Officer Pantaleo put his arms around Garner’s neck and pulled him down, and they slammed into a glass window. Garner went onto his hands and knees and was unresponsive. When Pantaleo let go, he pushed Garner’s face into the sidewalk, while four other officers came to restrain Garner. He repeated, “I can’t breathe.” After he lost consciousness, the officers laid him on his side while waiting for the ambulances. He remained handcuffed. The officers did not perform CPR on him immediately. Approximately one hour later, he was announced dead at the hospital.





**Oscar Grant** was killed in Oakland, California. Policemen were called to a train regarding a fight, but one of the policemen shot Oscar Grant after shouting racist slurs at him even after Grant was restrained. The officer states it was an accident and his reasoning for shooting Grant was that Grant was intoxicated. Grant was peaceful in the video footage.



**Trayvon Martin** was a high school junior, visiting his father in a gated community in Stanford, Florida on February 26, 2012. George Zimmerman was part of the neighborhood watch patrol. He saw Trayvon walking the sidewalk and thought he was suspicious, reportedly because of the hoodie he was wearing, so he called the police while following him. The police said to stop following him, and they'd be there. He hung up and attacked Trayvon, shooting him. Zimmerman was charged with murder and arrested, but released after the charges were lifted after claiming self-defense.

**Deravis Caine Rogers** was driving in his car when he was shot through the passenger side window by police officer James Burns, who said he believed Rogers was trying to run him over. The dash-cam video footage showed no provocation for the shooting and the officer did not even know if Rogers was a suspect in any crime. Burns was fired and charged with 2 violations of oath of office, aggravated assault, felony murder, and making false statements. This indictment marks a shift in police shootings both in-state and nationally.



## Legacy

In the script, Tyler pleads that Davis not forget him. It is an incredibly powerful moment that led our class to consider the **legacy** of the victims of police brutality described above.

What legacy did these people leave behind?

What can we learn from these recent cases of police brutality?

How can we honor their lives, even though they are gone?

What does it mean to “never forget” someone?

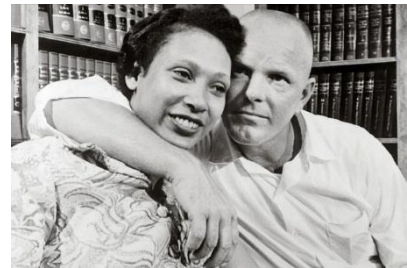
What can we do to prevent this from happening to another person?

## Interracial Relationships

Tyler and Chelsea's interracial relationship made us question: *is race a significant factor in a loving relationship?* To better understand our nation's history of accepting (or not accepting) interracial relationships, we researched examples of real-life couples from the 1960s and present day.

### 1960s

**Mildred & Richard Loving** lived in a small Virginia community where children went to racially segregated schools. They married when Mildred was 18 and Richard was 24 in Washington, DC, where their marriage was legal. Eventually, they were forced to move after being arrested under Virginia's Racial Integrity Act, later moving back to combat against it. With the help of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), the couple successfully challenged the law. With their lawyer, Bernie Cohen, the couple eventually took the case to the Supreme Court, where it was overturned in 1967. The decision, written by chief justice Earl Warren, removed the country's last remaining segregation laws.



**Sammy Davis Jr. & May Britt** got married during a time when interracial marriage was illegal in 31 states. Because of this, the married couple received lots of hateful and often racist comments. They were married in 1960 and divorced in 1968 because of so much pressure/spotlight on their marriage. Sammy Davis Jr. died in May 16, 1990 of lung cancer, while May Britt lives on to this day telling their story.



### Present Day

**John Legend & Chrissy Teigen** met on the set of Legend's music video. They went on a few dates and soon began a widely known and loved relationship. They are seen by many as a "perfect couple" as they work very well together and make each other very happy. They are now married and have two children: Luna and Miles. John Legend's popular song *All of Me* was written for Chrissy Teigen.



## Set Design

*Goodnight, Tyler* (the script) begins with the following stage directions:

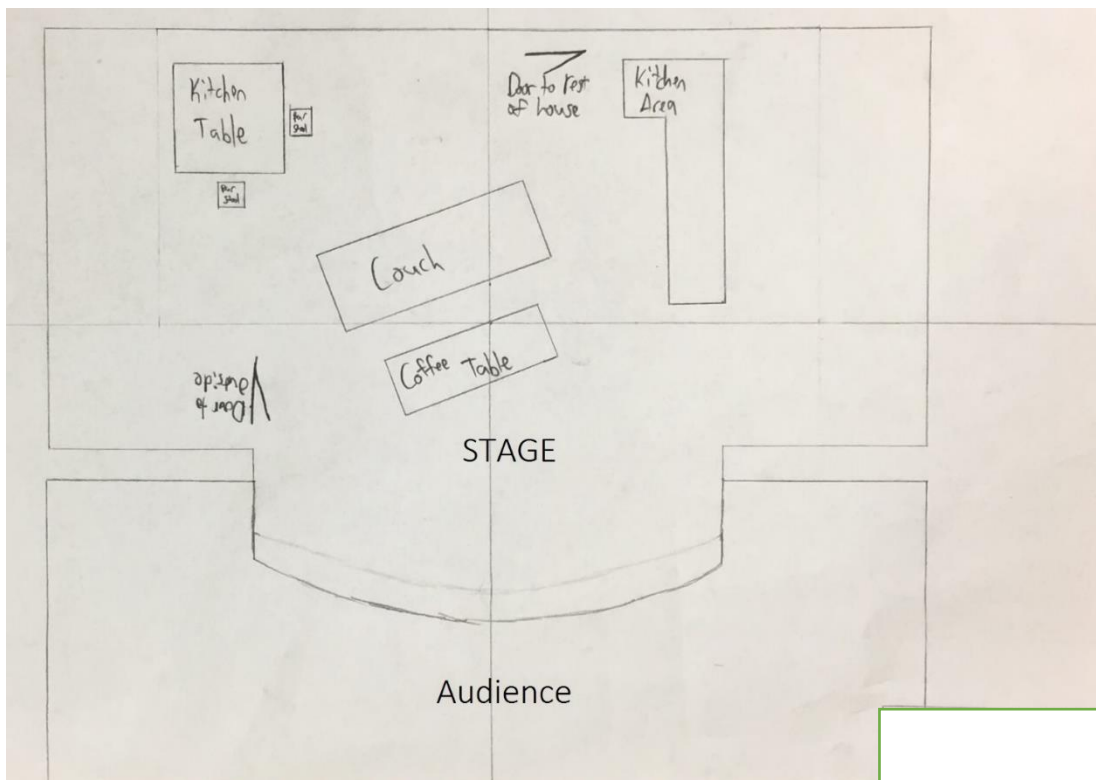
### **Present**

*The play opens at 3 am to a town house living room. The Ella Fitzgerald/Louis Armstrong version of “Dream a Little Dream of Me” plays softly. In the center there is a couch with a coffee table in front of it. On stage left of the couch is a smaller lounging chair/love seat. Behind the couch is an “island” kitchen table with bar stools on the downstage side. Behind the table should resemble a kitchen. Along the walls are pictures of TYLER and DAVIS. On far down stage right, there is door that leads to outside, and upstage left, there is a door that should resemble a hallway leading to the rest of the house.*

*At the opening of the scene, Davis is asleep on the couch. He is still fully dressed and sleeping without a blanket, as to make it clear that he has fallen asleep there accidentally. The door opens and Tyler enters. Music fades*

*Tyler bursts into the room excited/out of breath. He stops for a moment to take in the room and catch his breath. He paces slowly around the living room. With his back turned to the couch...*

Below is a student’s rendering of the set based on this description. Her design is inspired by the fact that Tyler and Davis were two young guys living together. She imagined the table wouldn’t be too big, nor the kitchen to be used as often as it should.



## Costume Design

As students read the *Goodnight, Tyler* script, they imagined how the directors and designers might bring the characters to life through costume design. Below are costume renderings by two students from Mr. Wright's class. **What choices did these artists make that accurately represent each character?**



## Lighting Cue Sheet

(Dream Sequence)

At the beginning of Act Two, Tyler slips into everyone's dreams and sees their desires, fears, and secrets.

**Here's how we would light this scene:**

Cue 1 Tyler - "I will not..."	Stage floods with light (stage lights at full)
Cue 2 Chelsea - "You're Home."	Light changes to a bright baby blue
Cue 3 Fannie's Entrance	Light changes to a dark purple by the wings, front, and back of stage
Cue 4 Chelsea - "I went to Brown!"	Stage right becomes fully purple and stage left becomes fully baby blue
Cue 5 Davis' Entrance	All other colors fade as light green spotlight follows Davis' path
Cue 6 Drew's Entrance	Magenta light slowly goes to full. Green slowly fades to 00
Cue 7 Shana - "Hi"	Orange radiates out from Shana. Magenta fades away quickly
Cue 8 Shana - "Do you regret it?"	Orange softens and lights fade to 75
Cue 9 Shana Exits	All colors vanish. Stage lights at full

### **Rationale:**

- Chelsea: baby blue was chosen to represent her dream of having a family.
- Fannie: purple was chosen to symbolize how demanding, yet how soft and caring she can be.
- Davis: green was chosen because he is a bit jealous of Chelsea and Tyler's relationship. Davis says that he tried and failed to just get over it, which is why the color is a lighter green instead of a dark, envious shade.
- Drew: magenta was chosen to symbolize his love for Davis.
- Shana: red was considered because in parts of the play she states that she wanted to kill someone (although of course she did not). Yellow was also considered to symbolize that she is good at heart and does not hide things. The final choice was orange as a medium between yellow and red.

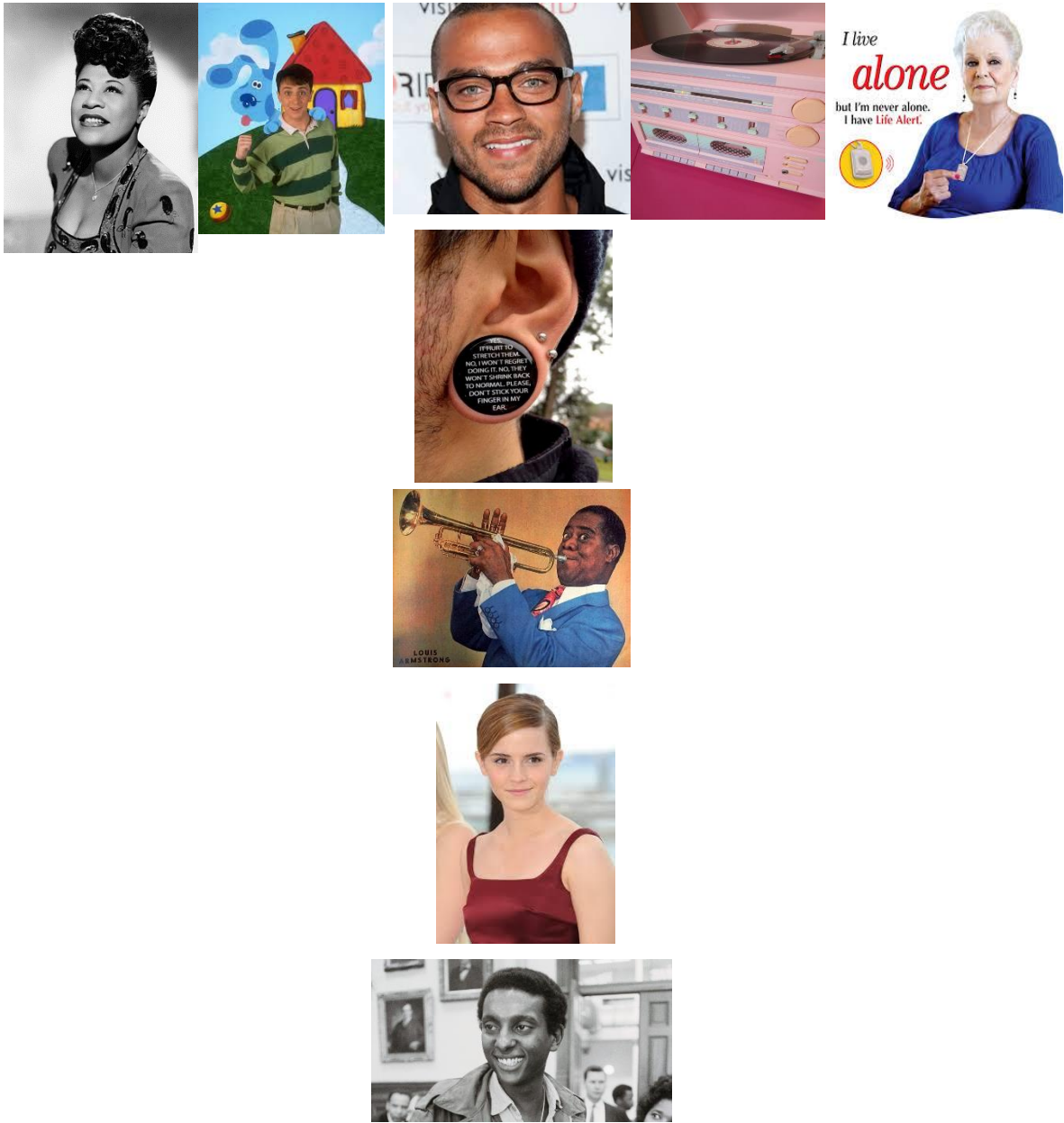
**What did *\*you\** notice about the lighting in *Goodnight, Tyler*?**



## Vocabulary Collage

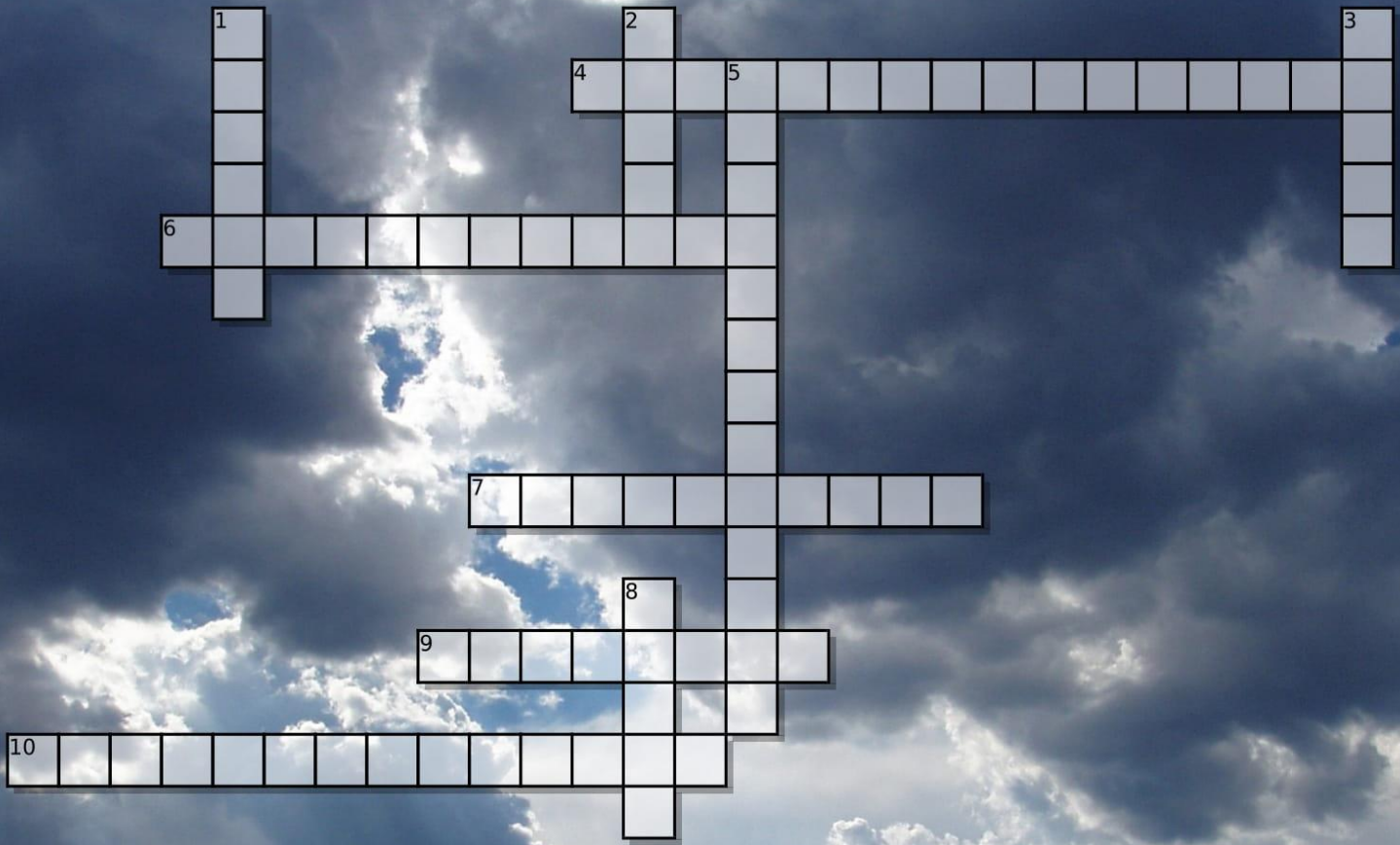
Below is a collage of images related to the vocabulary, historical figures, and pop culture references used in Goodnight, Tyler. The images appear in the shape of a "T" in honor of Tyler.

Can you identify each image?  
Where do these references appear in the script?



# Goodnight, Tyler

## Vocabulary



### ACROSS

- 4 National activist movement originating in the African American community, to bring awareness to the violence and racism specifically against that race
- 6 Lack of consensus or approval
- 7 The closest person whom one knows and has a bond or mutual affection
- 9 Situated inside
- 10 The title of the play

### DOWN

- 1 A jacket or sweater with a hood attached
- 2 To assign responsibility for fault or wrong
- 3 A series of images going through someone's mind while asleep
- 5 giving or likely to give rise to public disagreement
- 8 Sadness caused by someone's death

Vocabulary Puzzle Key

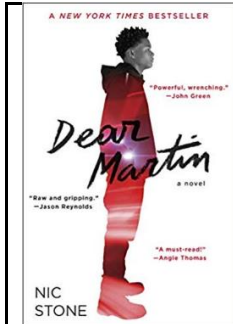
# Goodnight, Tyler

## Vocabulary



## Suggested Reading List

If you want to learn more about the topics discussed in this guide and the play *Goodnight, Tyler*, we suggest you pick up any of the following books:

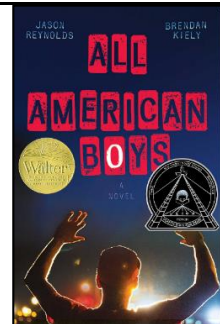


*Dear Martin*

Author: Nic Stone

Published: 2017

Summary: This is a story of a student named Justyce who is an ivy-league student that gets racially profiled and arrested. Although he isn't charged, he can't stop thinking of that moment.

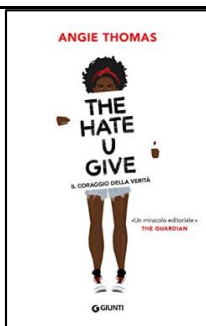


*All American Boys*

Author: Jason Reynolds, Brendan Kiely

Published: September 29, 2015

Summary: 16-yr-old Rashad is mistakenly accused of stealing and is brutally beaten by a police officer. The officer happens to be Rashad's best friend's older brother.

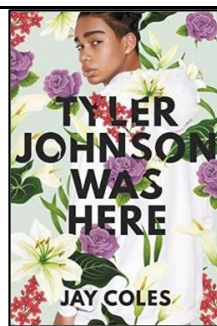


*The Hate U Give*

Author: Angie Thomas

Published: 2017

Summary: This is the story of a girl, who has witnessed one of her best friends being shot by a police officer. She now must decide, whether to speak out or keep quiet to help get justice for her friend.

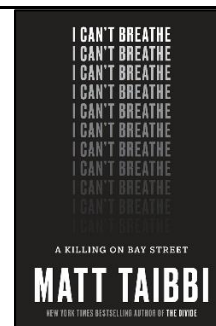


*Tyler Johnson Was Here*

Author: Jay Coles

Published: 2018

Summary: When Marvin Johnson's brother goes to a party (and he decides to tag along) a fun party soon turns into a police raid. It's discovered that his brother has gone missing but is soon found dead because of a police officer.



*I Can't Breathe: A Killing on Bay Street*

Author: Matt Taibbi

Published: 2017

Summary: This book highlights Garner's last words, and his last day on earth. He was killed by police officers and they wouldn't help him although he said, "I can't breathe."

## Works Cited

- Biography.com, E. (2019). *Emma Watson*. [online] Biography. Available at: <https://www.biography.com/people/emma-watson-20660247> [Accessed 22 Jan. 2019].
- Editors, History.com. "Civil Rights Act of 1964." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, 4 Jan. 2010, [www.history.com/topics/black-history/civil-rights-act](http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/civil-rights-act).
- Editors, History.com. "Selma to Montgomery March." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, 28 Jan. 2010, [www.history.com/topics/black-history/selma-montgomery-march](http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/selma-montgomery-march).
- Johnson, Assia. "Jimmie Lee Jackson: The Murder That Sparked the Selma to Montgomery Marches of 1965." *History | National Underground Railroad Freedom Center*, 2004, [freedomcenter.org/voice/death-sparked-selma-montgomery-marches-1965](http://freedomcenter.org/voice/death-sparked-selma-montgomery-marches-1965).
- Jost, Kenneth. "Racial Profiling." *CQ Researcher by CQ Press*, SAGE, 22 Nov. 2013, [library.cqpress.com/cqresearcher/document.php?id=cqresrre2013112200](http://library.cqpress.com/cqresearcher/document.php?id=cqresrre2013112200).
- Kindig, Jessie. *Boley, Oklahoma (1903- ) | The Black Past: Remembered and Reclaimed*, 2017, [blackpast.org/aah/bloody-sunday-selma-alabama-march-7-1965](http://blackpast.org/aah/bloody-sunday-selma-alabama-march-7-1965).
- Merriam-webster.com. (2019). Dictionary by Merriam-Webster: America's most-trusted online dictionary. [online] Available at: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/> [Accessed 24 Jan. 2019].
- Costly, Andrew. "A Brief History of Jim Crow." *Constitutional Rights Foundation*, 2019, [www.crf-usa.org/black-history-month/a-brief-history-of-jim-crow](http://www.crf-usa.org/black-history-month/a-brief-history-of-jim-crow).
- park services, national. "We Shall Overcome -- Selma-to-Montgomery March." *National Parks Service*, U.S. Department of the Interior, [www.nps.gov/nr/travel/civilrights/al4.htm](http://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/civilrights/al4.htm).
- Reuters, Thomas. "What Are Civil Rights?" *Findlaw*, 2019, [civilrights.findlaw.com/civil-rights-overview/what-are-civil-rights.html](http://civilrights.findlaw.com/civil-rights-overview/what-are-civil-rights.html).
- Smith, Mitch. "Video of Police Killing of Philando Castile Is Publicly Released - The New York Times." *Breaking News, World News & Multimedia - The New York Times*. New York Times, Web. <<http://www.nytimes.com/2017/06/20/us/police-shooting-castile-trial-video.html>>.
- Willis, Anita L. "The Roots of Racial Profiling." *History News Network*, Columbian College of Arts and Science, Mar. 2003, [historynewsnetwork.org/article/1167](http://historynewsnetwork.org/article/1167).
- Zoppo, Avalon. "Here Are 5 Facts about the Selma March You May Not Know." *NBCNews.com*, NBCUniversal News Group, 5 Mar. 2017, 8:00pm, [www.nbcnews.com/news/nbcblk/selma-montgomery-5-things-you-may-not-know-about-bloody-n729276](http://www.nbcnews.com/news/nbcblk/selma-montgomery-5-things-you-may-not-know-about-bloody-n729276).

### **Photo Credits:**

<https://blacklivesmatter.com/about/herstory/>

[https://www.democracynow.org/2017/6/19/philando\\_can\\_be\\_any\\_of\\_us](https://www.democracynow.org/2017/6/19/philando_can_be_any_of_us)