

Whatever your plans are this weekend, cancel them — unless it involves attending one of Theatre UAF's performances of "Tiny Beautiful Things."

Based on the real life story of author Cheryl Strayed's book of the same name and adapted for the stage by Nia Vardalos, the play tells the story of Sugar, a writer who takes an unpaid job as an advice columnist. The production is directed by Rachel Blackwell.

In the play, Sugar quickly realizes that the type of issues her letter-writers are concerned about go far beyond typical relationship troubles.

Sugar struggles at frst to connect with her readers. But she knows what any half-decent writer already does: The most compelling stories are those that show the raw, personal emotion of real life people, including herself.

For Sugar — played by University of Alaska Fairbanks senior Hannah Greene — that rawness is her own.

The play is certainly for adults. Sexual abuse by a family member, heroin addiction and a parent's loss of a child are just a few of the mature topics featured in the play.

Greene runs with these topics without losing her stride. Her delivery is simultaneously humorous and powerfully emotional even when she's talking about something as depraved as being sexually assaulted by one's own grandfather. Greene's performance was even more impressive considering she spent the entire 75 minutes on stage with no intermission.

"Tiny Beautiful Things" features

only four actors, but that's really all you need for a story like this that focuses on the quality of dialogue above anythingelse. Each of the