

General Information – *Alice by Heart* by Duncan Sheik and Steven Sater

<https://www.mtishows.com/alice-by-heart>

Choosing a song

- **Prepare 16 – 32 bars of a song in the style of the Duncan Sheik and Steven Sater musical, *Alice by Heart*.** It is primarily a pop-rock and indie-pop musical score with folk influences, characterized by a haunting, melodic, and contemporary sound. Similar to *Spring Awakening*, it blends emotional pop ballads with a "darkly whimsical" and, at times, acoustic guitar-
 1. Choose from the popular rock genre or a contemporary rock musical that captures the essence and energy of ***Alice by Heart***. Do not sing from the score.
 2. Choose a song that allows you to identify with the story and be yourself. It should be something you enjoy singing!
 3. As always, it's important to have a beginning, middle and end to your story.
 4. Choose a song that is within your vocal range and shows your vocal strength. Give us your best!
- **You will need to provide sheet music for the pianist.** The music should be secured in a binder. Loose sheets of paper can fly off pianos! iPads and tablets are not to be brought in lieu of sheet music. Note: all iPads and tablets are not built the same and can bring unnecessary stress to your pianist and adversely affect your audition.
- **The sheet music must have the lyric printed with the music.** Pianists stay with a singer by following the lyrics being sung. If there are no lyrics, the pianist is guessing. Be very aware and stay away from any free downloads of the song without lyrics!!
- **Do not bring in a lead sheet with only chords and lyric.** Make sure a piano part is written out with an accompaniment and lyrics.
- **The music must be clearly marked with any cuts you are taking.** Don't expect the pianist to *remember* where you want to cut in order to meet the 32-bar requirement.
- **Make sure the music is in the key you want to sing.** If singing from a musical theatre score, find the song in the original key (generally the recorded key). If you want to change that key, there are websites (listed below) that will help you.

Here are some websites to get some ideas about appropriate songs for the audition. You are also encouraged to find your own songs!

<https://musicaltheatrerresources.com/2026/02/22/the-best-audition-songs-for-alice-by-heart-by-character/>

Here are websites to purchase music, transpose music and find the original key:

<https://www.musicnotes.com> (can transpose the song most of the time)

<https://www.sheetmusicplus.com>

<https://www.scribd.com/home> (Very helpful resource if you have a subscription)

Don't forget the Morgan Library!! There are many scores and Musical Theatre Anthologies at the library – FREE!

Practicing app for iOS and Android smart devices:

This app is an incredible resource to practice and learn your music. If your song selection is on this app, you will have access to an accompaniment (make sure it's the same as your music!), be able to transpose the key, slow down the tempo, supply a melody only, melody with the accompaniment and accompaniment only. It has a monthly subscription, but the first month is free.

<https://www.appcompanionist.com>