

SYNOPSIS OF THE BIRDSEED CONFIDENTIAL

Birdseed Confidential is a one-hour one person show written and acted by Charlene Zacks. It is a comedy inspired by the real-life death of Charlene's father in 2011.

Unlike many one-person shows it is simply not someone telling a story to the audience. It is combination of acting and storytelling in nine scenes.

Birdseed Confidential is the story of Gloria, a Jewish woman dealing with the death of her father. Gloria has social anxiety and isn't connected with many people.

With the help of the birds who she befriends in the park, she goes through her journey of mourning to acceptance.

All her life, Gloria was very close to her father. He was her best friend, idol, the one she admired. But one day, her world is completely shattered when she finds that he is dying of cancer.

She tells the birds about the life of her father, his love of bird watching, the story of the time he was born, his pride and joy regarding growing up in Kitchener, her struggles with finding a new job (she has been working for him, and never worked anywhere else) coping as his caregiver, and his death.

From there, she tries to deal with his passing. She talks about her scary time in a bereavement group, going on a disastrous date with an Oscar the Grouch fan, complaining about her loneliness during holidays, and planning a seder with blow up dolls.

Gloria eventually comes to the realization that her father will always be alive to her if she has memories of him. She then also realizes that she has to reach out to other people as well.

She phones her Uncle Joel whom she hasn't spoken to since forever, and they reconnect. We hope Gloria can survive.