

ANASTASIA THE MUSICAL
CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

Roles

All roles are available.

Anya Principal, presents as female, appears late teens to mid-20s; when we first meet Anya, she is a lost soul but with great strength, pride, determination, and dignity; as the story progresses, she begins to discover her sense of self and the possibility that she may be the missing daughter of Tsar Nicholas; we're not looking for a fairy-tale princess; she's a tough survivor; when Anya is transformed into the beautiful Anastasia, it should have the same effect and surprise as Eliza Doolittle entering the ball; must possess wit, sense of humor, and spirit; exciting mix/belt. Range: G3-F5, Belt to D5. Disney-esque Soprano or Mezzo, some movement.

Dmitry Principal, presents as male, appears in his 20s; an opportunist trying to make it on the streets of Russia by selling stolen objects from the Tsarist past; he's the prince of St. Petersburg's black market; he creates the scheme to find an Anastasia impersonator in order to gain the reward for her safe return; he's smooth, persuasive, daring, and a real operator; must have a sense of danger, edginess, and sex appeal; must possess wit, charm, sense of humor, grit, and spirit; not a typical romantic leading man, although he and Anya eventually fall in love; thrilling, clear tenor with a flexible top of range. Range: A2-G4. "Baritenor," some movement.

Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna Supporting, presents as female, appears 60s-70s. The formidable and imperious grandmother of Anastasia; Anastasia is her favorite grandchild, and she loves her with all her heart; she never truly gives up the belief that her granddaughter might be alive, but finally after years of enduring Anastasia pretenders, she becomes hardened and bitter; it's only when she meets Anya that her old spirit begins the return; even when she knows that Anya may not be Anastasia, she realizes that we all "need our dreams and we need the truth"; must have elegance, beauty, and a regal bearing; alto or actor who's very comfortable with singing. Range: F3-Bb4. A regal Mezzo, no dancing required.

Vlad Principal, presents as male, appears 40s-50s Before the revolution, Vlad was a minor functionary at the empirical court; he's Dmitry's right hand man, and because of his romantic relationship with Lily, he arranges a meeting between Anya and the Dowager Empress; must have wit, style, be a character comedian with panache, and have generosity of spirit; character baritone, with strong singing voice, color, finesse, and musical theatre musicianship in general. Range: A2-F4. Comic Baritone, some movement (ideally a strong mover).

Gleb Supporting, any gender, appears 30s-50s A member of the Chekist secret police; a zealot with tremendous intensity; as the play progresses, we see Gleb rise in power and position within the political party; Gleb has a soft spot for Anya but would not be above killing her if necessary; we're not looking for a typical villain; Gleb must be likable; strong, dramatic baritenor (or mezzo) with thrilling middle and top of range. Range: A2-Gb4 (or A3-Gb5). Baritone (or mezzo) with a strong upper extension, no dancing required.

Countess Lily Principal, presents as female, appears 40s-50s. The voluptuous confidante/lady-in-waiting to the Dowager Empress; she's delightful when she's not with the Dowager but also compassionate, respectful, and good at her job; she doesn't take her romantic

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relationship with Vlad too seriously; must be a juicy character comedienne with strong dancing ability; comic belt. Range: G3-C5 (Ideally sings a B5 in one song, but the rest of the role is very Mezzo) Jazzy Mezzo with an upper extension, dancer (ideally a strong dancer).

We anticipate that the following roles will be played by members of the ensemble:

Young Anastasia Featured, presents as female, child role. The daughter of the Tsar of Russia; a sweet and impressionable young princess; beautiful soprano voice; principal - juvenile performer. Range: C4-C5, a sweet child soprano. We anticipate that this role will be double-cast, with each actor performing in the ensemble for performances when they are not playing Young Anastasia.

Count Ipolitov Featured, any gender, appears 30-70. Strong baritone (or mezzo).

Tsarina Alexandra Featured, presents as female, appears 30-50. Regal, yet wrought with uncertainty and dread for the alleged uprising, Tsarina Alexandra is a stern but loving mother. Mezzo.

Count Leopold Featured, presents as male. appears 30-60. A presumptive Romanov heir, Count Leopold is sinister and a snob. (Bass/Baritone)

Tsar Nicholas II Featured, presents as male, appears 30-60. Elegant and commanding, Can also play Count Ipolitov. He is a loving father who tries to keep the peace between his mother, the Dowager Empress, and his wife, the Tsarina. (Baritone)

Gorlinsky Featured, presents as male, appears 30-70. Non-singing role.

Little Swans Featured, all present as female, appear 15-30. Three dancers in a production of Swan Lake, requires strong ballet ability including dancing en pointe. No singing or dialogue.

Ensemble Ages 8 and up.

The ensemble in this musical is a great place for anyone who would like to be involved in the show. All of the Ensemble plays Townsfolk, Royal Servants, Bolshevik Officers and Soldiers, Parisians, Reporters, and Aristocrats. There are a number of roles for both kids and teenagers (aged 8-18) playing Romanov siblings and other characters in Romanov-era Russia. Kids' roles are throughout act 1 while teenagers joining the adult ensemble would be in both acts. There are opportunities for small sung solos, spoken lines, and dancing depending on your interest and skills.