

## Character List

**CAPTAIN ORTON** Captain Orton is an English captain who navigates the ship carrying Anna and Louis to Bangkok and who provides a bit of information about what to expect when they arrive. This is a small character role

**LOUIS (pronounced Lewis)** Louis is Anna's young son who is as nervous as he is curious about their new home. Louis begins the show with one of Rodgers and Hammerstein's most beloved songs – "I Whistle a Happy Tune" – so there is a small amount of solo singing for this role. Louis is a kind-hearted boy with a sunny disposition and an innocent air about him.

**ANNA** Anna is an English schoolteacher who has been hired to teach the King of Siam's many children. She is a strong and wilful presence and is unwavering when she challenges the King. Through the story, she holds steadfast to her Western values but grows to respect the beliefs of the people of Siam. Anna is the story's primary protagonist, so needs to be a young woman who is an excellent singer and actor.

**THE INTERPRETER** The Interpreter is the first character that greets Anna and Louis upon their arrival. As he translates for the Kralahome, he becomes surprised at Anna's unwillingness to share her personal information. A small cameo role.

**THE KRALAHOME** The Kralahome is the King of Siam's right-hand man and is most concerned with making sure that everything remains in order. He may appear severe, but he also maintains a sense of humour. The role doesn't need to be a singer but must be a performer with strong stage presence.

**THE KING** The King rules Siam with a firm hand and great pride in the country's rich history and culture. While he is loyal to the structures that have been set, he remains open to the Western ideas that Anna is sharing with his many young children and wives. His pride can get the better of him, but by the end of the play, there is no doubt that Anna has changed him. The King needs to be a very strong performer with great stage presence and a good musicality.

**LADY THIANG** Lady Thiang is the King's head wife and serves as a maternal figure for all the wives and children. She is also strong willed and the only person who is able to convince Anna to visit the King during his illness. This role is ideal for a performer with a strong voice and great acting abilities.

**BUTRI-** The King's second wife, quieter and more serene than Lady Thiang and a peacekeeper. A lovely role with fewer lines and a small amount of singing.

**THARA, SAMORN** Thara and Samorn are the King's other wives young women whose primary roles in the palace are to raise their children and tend to the King when necessary. Smaller cameo roles with a small amount of singing.

**LUN THA** Lun Tha is a young man who serves as an emissary (a person sent as a diplomatic representative on a special mission) for the court of Burma. He has brought Tuptim, a young Burmese woman, to be a new wife for the King, although he is secretly in love with her himself. This actor must have a strong and confident acting ability and excellent singing voice and must be able to work well with Tuptim. We must be able to see the chemistry between these two characters.

**TUPTIM** Tuptim is a young Burmese woman who has been brought to Siam as another wife for the King. She is more educated than the other wives and, in turn, tries to defy the injustices of her circumstances. She is also secretly in love with Lun Tha. This featured role is for a young woman who is a sensitive actress who can act with a sweet and gentle nature. She should make a great pair with Lun Tha. Ideally this role would have a verse of solo singing.

**PRINCE CHULALONGKORN** Prince Chulalongkorn is the King and Lady Thiang's oldest son and should be a close composite of his father. He is prideful and intelligent and will eventually learn to lead in his own way. Cast someone who is a talented actor and has a similar strength to the King's.

**PRINCESS YING YAOWALAK AND THE CHILDREN OF SIAM** Princess Ying Yaowalak and the Children of Siam are the most important members of the royal palace, next to the King. They are torn between their allegiance to their father and their curiosity for Anna's new ideas. Ideal roles for younger members with a flair for acting and clear speech.

**SIR EDWARD RAMSAY** Sir Edward Ramsay is a diplomat from England whose fondness for Anna becomes evident when he visits Siam. This role is great for someone who can play a mature and very 'English' character

**UNCLE THOMAS, EVA, TOPSY, GEORGE, ELIZA, KING SIMON OF LEGREE, DOGS, BUDDHA, DANCERS, SERVANTS and the ANGEL** are all featured performers in "Small House of Uncle Thomas." These roles are for the more confident dancers and performers who can best express this very important story using their entire bodies. The Chorus in this number doesn't need to be as skilled in dance, but they should have strong voices for their narration.