THE DROWSY CHAPERONE
Character Breakdown

Man in Chair

The narrator of this story. It's his passion and enthusiasm for this musical and for the Golden Age of Musicals that brings the story into existence. He is a bit lonely, a definite homebody, and very particular about his privacy and his space. He has strong opinions about the musical and a strong emotional connection to its characters. Converses with the audience directly, improv experience a plus.

Gender: male
Vocal range top: C5
Vocal range bottom: C3
Dialect: General American / Contemporary

Janet Van De Graff

A glamorous showgirl who plans to give up her career to wed Robert Martin. Loves being the center of attention, no matter how much she denies it. She presents herself as confident and powerful, but underneath she wonders if she is doing the right thing. A true triple-threat performer, excellent singer, actor, and dancer, especially for her signature number "Show Off". Special skills a plus (acrobatics, juggling, etc).

Gender: female
Vocal range top: D#5
Vocal range bottom: Db3
Dialect: Transatlantic (Old Hollywood) / Polished

Robert Martin

Janet's fiancé. Debonair, dashing, ever-cheerful. A matinee-idol that is always on. Embarrassingly so at times. Though he has the air of a 1920s debonair leading man, he wrestles with insecurities over his upcoming wedding. Must have basic to good tap dance skills and be able to roller skate (or learn) on a basic level.

Gender: male
Vocal range top: D5
Vocal range bottom: C4
Dialect: General American / Polished Light Transatlantic

Drowsy Chaperone

Played by the famous Beatrice Stockwell, is a diva leading lady who takes pride in chewing the scenery. Carefree, experienced, a woman of the world who lets the world know what she's thinking at all times.

Must have a strong sense of timing and physical/facial expression - knows when to land a line just at the right moment.

Gender: female
Vocal range top: E5
Vocal range bottom: C2

Dialect: Transatlantic (Old Hollywood) / Exaggerated

Mrs. Tottendale

The befuddled hostess for Janet and Robert's wedding. She is always happy, always looking on the bright side, and often confused about what is happening. Light dancing involved. Ability to play or learn the ukulele would be great.

Gender: female
Vocal range top: Db5
Vocal range bottom: C3
Dialect: Transatlantic (Old Hollywood) / Upper-class

Underling

Mrs. Tottendale's much-putupon right hand man. He tries to do the best job he can for Mrs. Tottendale – though he often gets exasperated. No one is more surprised than he when she confesses her love for him, and also when he realizes he loves her too. Understated sense of dry, sarcastic humor that would make Bea Arthur proud.

Gender: male
Vocal range top: Gb3
Vocal range bottom: Gb5
Dialect: British RP / Proper

Aldolpho

European self-proclaimed "ladies man". A Latin Lothario who is confident and larger than life. His bravado knows no limits. A former silent movie star with all the facial and physical expressions that became his trademark style. Fake Spanish/Italian accent.

Gender: male
Vocal range top: F5
Vocal range bottom: C3
Dialect: Spanish / Theatrical Lain-lover

George/Georgia

Robert's stressed-out best man/pal. S/He is happy to take on the role of best man/pal, but is having to

really work to keep the wedding on track. Though George/Georgia spends a good amount of the show in a tizzy, s/he knows how to pull it together to get things done. Must tap dance.

Gender: male or Female
Vocal range top: G5
Vocal range bottom: D4
Dialect: General American / 1920's Comedic

Victor Feldzieg

Harried producer who has a lot of people putting pressure on him, including a gang boss, his pseudo-girlfriend Kitty, and Janet, the leading lady who is leaving his show. He always seems a bit on edge as he schemes to stop the wedding and save his own life. Impatient, overbearing, and blustering.

Gender: male
Vocal range top: D5
Vocal range bottom: Gb3
Dialect: New York / 1920's Broadway

Kitty

A chorus girl who is gunning to take over Janet's role. Though Kitty has a lot of heart, she isn't very bright, and has trouble convincing Feldzieg that she would be able to carry the show. A cross between Goldie Hawn in "Laugh In" and Lina Lamont from "Singin' in the Rain". Strong character/comedic timing.

Gender: female
Vocal range top: Db5
Vocal range bottom: Eb4
Dialect: New York/1920's Ditzy Showgirl

Gangster 1 & Gangster 2

Have been sent by Feldzieg's largest investor to ensure that Janet re-joins the show. Posing as pastry chefs, this jovial duo are your typical 1920s gangsters with excellent wordplay, synchronized movements, and a vaudeville sense for timing and gags. They could very well be the disowned criminal element of the Marx Brothers family.

Gender: male or female
Vocal range top: Db5
Vocal range bottom: Ab2
Dialect: New York / 1920's Gangster Style

Trix

Trix the Aviatrix is one spunky pilot! She saves the day at the end of the show by officiating all the weddings. A real go-getter of the new American spirit. Will double in the ensemble as needed.

Gender: female
Vocal range top: D5
Vocal range bottom: Ab3
Dialect: General American / Confident Theatrical

Ensemble / Pit Singers

Wedding Staff; Reporters; etc. All must be able to sing and move and have strong engaged personalities.