# ANASTASIA: THE MUSICAL (Youth Edition) CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

#### **FEMALE ROLES**

# Anya/Grand Duchess Anastasia Nikolaevna Romanov

Playing age: 27 years old

• Lead role

• Range: G3-F5, Belt to D5. Disney-esque Soprano or Mezzo

• Dance Requirement: Confident mover, Partnering experience helpful

Anya is brave, fiery, witty, and above all determined. With no memory of her life before age 17 and having lived through the horrors of the Russian Revolution, Anya jumps at loud sounds and is distrustful of strangers, but there is steel hiding just beneath the surface. Anya is strong-willed and compassionate. Her mantra, "Home, love, family" is her goal. All she knows is her family is in Paris and she will find them however she can.

## **Countess Lily Malevsky-Malevitch**

Playing age: AdultSupporting lead role

• Jazzy Mezzo with an upper extension. Soloist on "Land of Yesterday"

Dance Requirement: Strong Dancer

Lily is the lady-in-waiting to the Dowager Empress. She has been by the Dowager's side since before the revolution. Lily is clever, dutiful, and above all fun (when not working for the Dowager). She deals with her exile from Russia with a sort of resigned humor.

# **Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna Romanov**

Playing age: Elderly AdultSupporting lead role

A regal Mezzo

• Dance Requirement: None

Nana to Anastasia, The Dowager Empress has lost everything she once held dear and must now put up with imposter upon imposter never allowing her to grieve in peace. She is icy, proud, and regal (not to mention intimidating) to all but her family. Though, she does have a very sharp wit. She is especially warm with Anastasia both when a child and after it's revealed that Anya really is the princess. She commands authority and attention the minute she enters a room.

#### Tsarina Alexandra Fyodorovna

Playing age: Adult

• Featured Ensemble role

Dance Requirement: Strong Movement and Dance ability

Anastasia's mother. She always carries herself with a regal presence. This character continues to make many appearances throughout the show in dreams and memories.

# Olga, Tatiana, Maria

Anastasia's 3 sisters.

- Dance Requirement: Strong Movement and Dance ability
- Featured Ensemble role
- Doubles in Ensemble

#### Teen Anastasia

- Playing age: 17 years old
- Dance Requirement: Strong Movement and Dance ability.
- Doubles in Ensemble

# **Young Anastasia**

- Playing age: Child (cameo from the All-Starz or Starz Rizing Performance Ensembles)
- Featured Ensemble role
- A Sweet Youthful Soprano
- Dance Requirement: Comfortable mover

Young Anastasia is the willful, brave, proud, and precocious youngest daughter of the Tsar. She has a special bond with her grandmother (whom she calls Nana).

## **Countess Ipolitov**

- Playing age: Adult
- Featured Ensemble role

Russian Countess hoping to escape Russia via train. Soloist on "Stay I Pray You." (Important note: In the full-length production, this role is played by a male as Count Impolitov. For the Youth Edition it has been changed to a Countess and the music has been transposed to be sung by a female voice)

# Dunya, Paulina, Marfa

- Playing age: Young adult
- Featured Ensemble Roles

3 Russian women who audition for the Anastasia-scheme. They later report Dmitry and Vlad's plot to Gleb. These characters will double in the Ensemble.

#### MALE ROLES:

## **Dmitry Sudayev**

• Playing age: 27-30

- Lead role
- "Baritenor"
- Dance Requirement: Some Movement, Partnering or Ballroom experience helpful
- Strong stage presence needed. Must command the stage.

Dmitry is a scoundrel with a heart of gold. A street rat who grew into a conman, Dima does all he does to get out of poverty and is not above lying, cheating, and stealing to do so—that is until he meets Anya. What starts as just another scheme (albeit much bigger than anything he's tried to pull off before) turns into the adventure of a lifetime that requires Dimitry to look inward and figure out how to put the one he loves before himself.

## Vladimir "Vlad" Popov

Playing age: AdultSupporting Lead role

- Baritone
- Dance Requirement: Strong mover
- Acting Requirement: Good comedic timing. Strong, mature (leader) presence.

Vlad is Dmitry's partner in crime (literally) and father-figure. Before the revolution he scammed his way through society pretending to be a count. Vlad is dramatic, crafty, and a big softie at heart. While he, like Dmitry, is not above lying, cheating, and stealing, he cares greatly for his loved ones and is generally affable.

#### **Gleb Vaganov**

Playing age: AdultSupporting Lead role

- Baritone
- Dance Requirement: None.

Gleb is the villain of the show, though not a bad person. He fully believes in the Communist ideals he follows. Loyal, honest, and hard working, Gleb almost has the potential to be a hero (he's very much the hero of his own story). A deeply conflicted person, Gleb's infatuation (and borderline obsession) with Anya leads to his battle with the idea of doing one's duty vs. doing what is right.

#### Tsar Nicholas II Romanov / Officer Gorlinsky

Playing age: Adult

- Supporting role
- Dance Requirement: Comfortable mover. Partnering / Ballroom experience helpful.
- Strong acting ability needed to convey emotion without words during the memories

Tsar Nicholas II Romanov is Anastasia' father. This character continues to makes many appearances throughout the show in dreams and memories. This role will double with Officer Gorlinsky who is a Russian Superior and demands Gleb pursue Anya to Paris.

# **Count Leopold**

- Playing age: Adult
- Featured Ensemble role
- Dance Requirement: Comfortable mover who can lead in *Land of Yesterday*. Tap experience
  - Strong acting ability needed

A distant relative of The Dowager Empress who is trying to convince The Empress to name him as sole heir to the Romanov fortune. Soloist in "Land of Yesterday"

# Young Alexei

- Playing age: Child (cameo from the All-Starz or Starz Rizing Performance Ensembles)
- Dance Requirement: None

Alexei was the Tsarevich (Heir to the throne) and only boy of the Romanov siblings. He suffered from debilitating hemophilia that often left him bed-ridden. Anya mentions that he was her best friend.

#### Male & Female Roles

## **Ensemble (Starz, Starz Rizing, All-Starz)**

Anastasia (Youth Edition) features a very large and busy ensemble who will play the following character roles: Members of the Russian Court, People of Russia, Revolution Comrades, Marketeers/Workers, Train Station Crowd, People of Paris, Exiled Russians, Aristocrats & Reporters.