

BIG FISH – Character Descriptions

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Edward – (father and beyond, ages 16--60). Edward is a charming, charismatic storyteller. A devoted yet absent father nearing the end of his life and wanting to reconnect with his son. He is comfortable in his own skin, but hopes for Will's approval. He absolutely loves his wife, his son, and telling stories. Needs a big voice and serious character acting. Plays ages ranging from young man to older sick man, so must be a versatile actor. Able to move but little real dance.

Songs: Be the Hero
Out There on the Road
Time Stops
Closer To Her
Daffodils
Red, White, and True
Fight the Dragons
Showdown
Start Over
How It Ends

Sandra – (young woman and beyond, 15--55). Sandra is patient, calm – the perfect balance to Edwards enthusiasm. She adores and appreciates Edward and tries to bring reconciliation to her husband and son, both of whom she loves. Needs a mellow ballad voice. Very little movement.

Songs: Two Men in My Life
Alabama Lamb
Time Stops
Daffodils
Red, White, and True
I Don't Need a Roof

Will – (late 20's). Will is a critical part of the story. He is an earnest, serious, thoughtful young man wanting to reconnect with his storytelling father, but unable to appreciate Edward's romantic view of life. He is a successful professional and new husband. He has to be able to take us on the journey of understanding and make us believe the complex relationship and final heartfelt embrace of his father's legacy. Needs a strong tenor voice. No dance. Serious character acting.

Songs: Strangers
Strangers Reprise
Showdown
What's Next
Be the Hero – Reprise

Josephine – (mid 20's). Will's wife. Successful adult, sweet, intelligent, and organically compatible with Will. Josephine acts as the bridge between Edward and Will, explaining the deeper meaning of the stories. Often on stage. Light singing. No dance. Serious character acting.

Karl – (the Giant). Edward's best friend. Karl is shy, exceptionally intelligent, hermit-like, and has a quiet charisma. He needs a booming voice and large personality. Needs to be decently tall, but not a "giant." ***Will need to learn to walk on stilts. Bass voice.

Songs: On the Road

Start Over

Amos – adult male, circus owner (40--50). Amos is the rather eccentric, quirky owner of the circus that employs young Edward. He also happens to be a werewolf (in Edward's tales). Needs an actor able to portray strong, outgoing personality and humor. Doesn't need to move, but good stage presence essential. Character voice.

Songs: Closer to Her

Start Over

Witch – Commanding performer with great confidence and storytelling ability. She convinces Edward to pursue a Big Life without fear. Needs belt voice, mezzo soprano. Some dance, could be extensive.

Songs: I Know What You Want

Jenny Hill – young cheerleader (15--50). Edward's devoted, first girlfriend. She is beautiful, a dreamer, maybe a little blonde(can wear a wig). Also included in ensemble. Adult-- Very tired, disillusioned version of the younger Jenny. No longer a dreamer but she has dignity and honesty. She is crucial in helping Will to understand his father and his motivations. Serious Actress needed. Light singing.

Songs: Ashton's Favorite Son

Out There On The Road

Don Price – (high school/college aged). Older snarky bully, high school quarterback. Athletic build preferred. Sandra's first fiancé. Needs a bigger than life acting style. Possible movement but not crucial.

Songs: Out There on the Road

Start Over

Zacky Price –(maybe a middle school or elementary student) Nerdy brother and shadow of Don Price.

Doctor Bennett – considerably older man. Warm, kind, frank, soft-spoken friend and physician of Edward. Needs realistic actor. No singing or dancing necessary.

Red Fang – male, assassin. World War II villain. Needs fight scene movement abilities.

Ashton Mayor – Typical small town good-guy mayor personality.

Alabama Lambs – two of Sandra’s friends. Perform with Sandra at the circus. Needs strong singing and dancing skills. Must be able to hold a vocal part on your own.

Fisherman – Hometown redneck Needs strong singing and dancing skills

Ensemble --- All sing and move. Some individuals will do extensive dance(8 boys and 8 girls), but not all.

Songs: Be The Hero – townspeople, fishermen

I Know What You Want – only 8(girls) advanced dancers

Wedding Scene – wedding guests

Ashton’s Favorite Son – Ashton townspeople

Out There On the Road – Ashton townspeople

Closer to Her (and preceding) – circus (some)

Auburn (pre--Daffodils) --- college students (some)

Red, White, and True – USO dancers and soldiers (16 feature dancers)

Showdown – Westerners

Start Over – Ashton townspeople

What’s Next – hospital people (some)

Procession – funeral (some)