**THE KING AND I**

**CHARACTERS**

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| **CHARACTER** | **RANGE** | **SEX** | **AGE** | **NOTES** |
| **ANNA LEONOWENS** | Soprano or Mezzo-Soprano (Range b-d”) | **F** | **30-45** | A strong-minded English widow and teacher with a 13 year-old son.  **Involvement:** In many scenes. Waltzes with Sir Edward Ramsey and Polkas with the King.  **Musical Numbers:**   * *Whistle a Happy Tune* * *Hello Young Lovers* * *Getting to Know You* * *Shall I Tell You What I Think Of You?* * *Shall We Dance?* |
| **LADY THIANG** | Soprano or high Mezzo-Soprano (Range c#' - g'') | **F** | **30-50** | First wife of the King, who loves him very much; tries to protect him even though she cannot take direct action.  **Involvement:** In many scenes.  **Musical Numbers:**   * *Something Wonderful* * *Western People Funny* |
| **TUPTIM** | Soprano (Range c'-a# except for one note c’-g”) | **F** | **15-25** | She is a present from the Prince of Burma to the King who is a strong character with real emotional range.  **Involvement:** In many scenes.  **Musical numbers:**   * *My Lord and Master* (solo) * *We Kiss In a Shadow* (duet with Lun Tha) * *I Have Dreamed* (duet with Lun Tha) * *The Small House of Uncle Thomas* (narrator) |
| **THE KING OF SIAM** | Baritone (Range c - e') | **M** | **35-50** | A demanding and chauvinistic absolute ruler who nevertheless struggles with European philosophical ideas and desperately wants his kingdom to be seen as "scientific". Although he is filled with uncertainty and self-doubt, he possesses a commanding stage presence.  (Note: The King's presence was diminished in the movie. In the original cast production he dominated the stage with the sheer force of his personality.)  **Involvement:** In many scenes. Polkas with Anna in ***Shall We Dance?***  **Musical numbers:**   * *A Puzzlement* * *Song of the King* |
| **THE KRALAHOME** | Non-singing role | **M** | **45-60** | The King's principal advisor and keeper of the traditional ways of thought.  **Involvement:** In several scenes. |
| **LUN THA** | Tenor or high baritone (Range c - g') | **M** | **15-25** | The Emissary from the Prince of Burma who has brought Tuptim to the King of Siam and falls hopelessly in love with her in the process.  **Involvement:** In several scenes.  **Musical numbers:**   * *We Kiss in a Shadow* (duet with Tuptim) * *I Have Dreamed* (duet with Tuptim) |
| **LOUIS LEONOWENS** | Alto  (Range g - b') | **M** | **12-15** | Anna's son.  **Involvement:** In many scenes  **Musical numbers:**   * *Whistle a Happy Tune* * *The Royal Bangkok Academy* * *A Puzzlement* (duet with Prince Chululongkorn) |
| **PRINCE CHULULONGKORN** | Alto  (Range g-a') | **M** | **13-17** | Eldest son of the King and heir to the throne of Siam. Brought up to imitate his father's autocratic ways, but with his own self-doubts.  **Involvement:** In many scenes.  **Musical numbers:**   * *The Royal Bangkok Academy* * *A Puzzlement* (duet with Louis) |
| **CAPTAIN ORTON** | Non-singing role | **M** | **40-65** | Captain of the ship Chow Phya.  **Involvement:** Appears in opening and closing scenes only, and may be cross cast. Has some lines. |
| **THE INTERPRETER** | Non-singing role | **M** | **18-60** | Interpreter for the King  **Involvement:** Appears in opening and closing scenes only, and may be cross cast. Has some lines. |
| **PHRA ALACK** | Non-singing role | **M** | **18-60** | Secretary to the King.  **Involvement:** In several scenes. Has lines. |
| **SIR EDWARD RAMSEY** | Non-singing role | **M** | **35-50** | English diplomat and former friend of Anna and her husband.  **Involvement:** Appears in only Act II, and may be cross cast. Waltzes briefly with Anna. Has lines. |
| **PRINCESS YING YAOWLAK** | Singing role (Range eb' - g'') | **F** | **8-12** | Cute, young loveable daughter of King  **Involvement:** In several scenes. Has a few lines. Marches in “March of the Siamese Children”. Singing always as a group. If under 8, mother may need to be part of cast.  **Musical numbers:**   * *The Royal Bangkok Academy* * *Getting to Know You* |
| **ROYAL PRINCES AND PRINCESSES** | Singing role (Range eb' - g'') | **M/F** | **8-15** | **Involvement:** In several scenes. Singing always as a group, with individual acting and a few lines. March in ***March of the Siamese Children***.  **Musical numbers:**   * *The Royal Bangkok Academy* * *Getting to Know You* |
| **ROYAL DANCERS** | Non-singing role | **M/F** | **16-60** | Prominently featured in ***The Small House of Uncle Thomas*** Ballet. Both male and female dancers will be used. May be cross cast in other roles.  **Involvement:**   * Act I/Scene 2 - Dance for King * Act I/Scene 4 - One principal dancer * Act II/Scene 3 - ***Small House of Uncle Thomas*** |
| **ROYAL**  **WIVES** | (Range c' - g''. In the Ballet, sopranos c' - a''; altos c' - f'') | **F** | **18-45** | Wives of the King.  **Involvement:** Prominent in many scenes as a group; some individual dialogue lines; Present at "The March of the Siamese Children".  **Musical Numbers:**   * *The Royal Bangkok Academy* * *Getting to Know You* * *Western People Funny* * *The Small House of Uncle Thomas* |
| **PRIESTS** | (Range d - d') | **M** | **16-80** | Buddist Priests  **Involvement:** In two scenes. Will be cross cast as guards, slaves, and townspeople |
| **AMAZONS** | Non-singing roles | **F** | **18-35** | Female slaves  **Involvement:** In several scenes. Can be cross cast in other roles. |

The voice ranges given indicate the extreme ranges for each part. As always with Richard Rodgers, most of each song lies in a very comfortable range for the voice type, and the highest notes are usually used for brief intensity or strong endings.

* Middle C is c', with each note above c' indicated by a single'.
* The C an octave higher is c'', with each note above it indicated by two ''s.
* Notes in the octave below c' are indicated by lower-case letters without ticks (sounding pitch, not written pitch).

ENDS