

Selections from

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Character Breakdown:

Maria Rainer - A postulant at Nonnberg Abbey – young, free spirited, warm, gentle and kind with much determination. A lover of music who doesn't think twice about speaking her mind. She is sent to serve as governess to the seven children of Captain von Trapp. Hoping to find her true calling in this new role, Maria faces a crisis when, unexpectedly, she falls in love with the Captain.

Captain Georg von Trapp - A retired Austrian naval captain. Polished, yet very military in the way he runs his life to repress his sadness over the death of his wife; underneath, he is warm, understanding, and determined. Often away on business or spending time with Baroness Schraeder abroad, the Captain remains uncompromisingly loyal to his Austrian homeland as threats of Anschluss grow more serious. When Maria restores music to his household, the Captain reconnects with his children and falls unexpectedly in love with the governess.

Elsa Schrader - A baroness of taste and elegance, sophisticated, dignified and mature. She has her eyes set firmly on the Captain. She is a businesswoman, president of her late husband's corporation, who feels the way to deal with the oncoming political situation is not to fight it and let it pass. When she and the Captain realize they don't see the future the same way, she knows the relationship is over.

Mother Abbess - Motherly, understanding, strong and authoritative, but kind. Mother Abbess sends Maria to the von Trapp house, sensing that she would be a good fit in the role of governess. When Maria confesses that she has fallen in love with the Captain, the Mother Abbess assures her that love can also be God's will.

Rolf Gruber - Suitor to Liesl, telegram delivery boy, later Nazi soldier. A very pleasant young man. As an impressionable teen, he is aware of the growing political tension and is caught between his affection for Liesl and a need to prove himself.

The von Trapp Children (Ages listed are the characters' ages, not necessarily the ages of the actors.)

Liesl von Trapp (16) The oldest child, blossoming into a young lady with an interest in boys. She has a maternal edge to her and cares very deeply for her younger siblings. She is, however, still naïve and in need of her own guidance.

Friedrich von Trapp (14) Tough exterior, very much trying to learn how to be “the man” of the family, but with his father often traveling, he lacks someone to show him how.

Louisa von Trapp (13) A Rebellious teenager who is quite skilled at playing tricks on the governesses, hiding toads in their pockets or giving the wrong name during introductions. But with Maria, it seems she's met her match.

Kurt von Trapp (10) Gentle and mischievous. Kurt is sensitive and pretends not to be hurt by his father's absence.

Brigitta von Trapp (9) Smart, observant, and extremely thoughtful for her age. She loves to read a lot.

Marta von Trapp (7) Very sweet, but honest and forthright. Marta likes to enjoy herself and would like a pink parasol for her birthday.

Gretl von Trapp (6) The youngest of the von Trapp children, Gretl is soft-spoken and shy, but sweet. Must have the cute factor.

FEATURED ENSEMBLE CHARACTERS:

Sister Berthe - Mistress of Novices, prudish, straight laced with a quick tongue, she is less tolerant than other nuns.

Sister Margaretta - Mistress of Postulants, very kind, understanding and concerned. She has a soft spot for Maria.

Sister Sophia - Neither demanding nor critical, sticks with the rules.

Frau Schmidt - The housekeeper, stoic, very little personality; she does her job efficiently but without affection. Strong and somewhat dominating.