

# WE FOXES CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

BY RYAN SCOTT OLIVER

**WILLA** ..... Dramatic Belter

an orphan-girl (early 20s to play late teens),  
rough around the edges. The girl has to be a star — high belting but with a flexible mix. An actress with an incredible range. Willa is sly (she has lived much life on the streets) but she is very damaged and wounded — and yet, to survive has learned to build a fortress around her heart and to be charming in spite of it all. The metaphor of Willa is that she is a “dog who becomes a fox.” She is Violet, the chick from Spitfire Grill, Eponine in a country musical, but with more hope.

**VESTA QUIMBY** ..... Dramatic Contralto (**CASTING AEA**)

the Sheriff’s wife (35+) — said to be partly  
Native American, but hiding it. Glamorous,  
powerful, a political.

**SHERIFF-CORONER QUIMBY** ..... Folk/Legit Bass-Baritone (**CASTING AEA**)

“Good ol’ boy,” handsome but fading (40+)

**EUGENE** ..... Folk Tenor

a soldier (20s), not conventionally good-looking. Eugene is a boy who should not have been drafted into the war — a nerd who likes photography. He befriended Willa’s brother and miraculously got out of the war without being wounded ... Sort of a Marius-complex. Eugene is not pretty enough so that girls swoon .... But a conversation with him, and his actions — speak much louder, and he is husband material. Characters like him: Emmett in LEGALLY BLONDE; Will Parker in OKLAHOMA; a young Albert Peterson in BYE BYE BIRDIE. Eugene’s animal: a SCAREDY CAT.

**JACK K.** ..... Folk Baritone

a professional tramp (30s+) (Jack Kerouac) Scrappy as hell, a true

**TRAMP** ... Charming, a storyteller, VERY rough around the edges. He CHOOSES to live life out on the street. America’s answer to Che. Jack’s animal: a dog.

**GEORGE** ..... Folk Tenor

Willa’s brother (early 20s to play late teens) Similar to Jack K, but younger feeling. He’s Huckleberry Finn. Like Willa, George’s animal is a dog.

**OFC. HATLESS** ..... Folk Baritone

a rookie officer (20s) A rich kid only a few years older than Willa. He’s sexual and

manipulative, entitled but dark. He'd betray you after he sleeps with you. His animal: A SNAKE.

**OFC. WILKINS** ..... Folk Baritone

an older officer (30+) Older feeling, dumb, a good ol' boy. He goes to church and loves his wife, and doesn't care too much about much, just doing his job. His animal: a sweet old PIG.

**LORAMAE, SADIE, DOTTIE** .... Legit Soprano, Mezzo, Alto

Vesta's friends (30+) The pick-a-little ladies in Music Man. They're funny but ALL inferior to Vesta in some way. Their animals: BIRDS.

**MRS. SLAUGHTER** ..... non-singing

the Governor's Wife (40+) Like the ladies above, but she has a secret amount of "Vesta" in her. She got to the top through nefarious means but she knows how to hide it all. Think of Eulalie McKechnie Shin in the Music Man, if she had previously murdered someone.

**JOHN BRASS** ..... Baritenor (30+), the "Bernie Sanders" of the 40s Need I say more?

**SKEET** ..... Folk (any range)

another tramp (any age), cast from ensemble

**GOV. SLAUGHTER** ..... non-singing

(40+), cast from ensemble The male version of Mrs. Slaughter.

**ENSEMBLE** (various ages, ethnicities) folk and legit voices