

MAX UNDERSTOOD

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

Max, 7 years old. Autistic, big eyes, angelic, uncoordinated, jumps and flaps, is an escape artist, an obsessive compulsive, extremely bright, trapped behind the wall of his disorder. Surprisingly sweet singing voice.

Mom, his mom, 30-ish. Trying not to buckle under the weight of her stresses, searching for her son, her lost self, and her off-course marriage. Soprano.

Dad, his dad, 30-ish. Bewildered at the life he finds himself in, trying to do right, searching for his son, his lost self, and his off-course marriage. Baritone.

Homunculus “Munc” Jones, a gardener, a philosopher, a spirit-guide. The guy with the leaf blower. Wise, gentle, practical, magical. Unusual gravitas. Baritone

Fin, a girl, a little older than Max. Bossy, powerful, then sweet and lyrical. A misunderstood bully who needs a friend. Soprano.

Albert, a boy, 12-14. Book-ish, awkward, then cuts loose. Probably an Asperger’s kid. Unusually smart, happy to rattle off facts and lists. His inner hip-hop artist waiting to get out. Baritone. Can rap.

Peg, a girl, 12-14. Heavy-set, into clothes. Teased about her weight, but secretly, she can fly! Alto or mezzo-soprano.

Note: the three kids, Fin, Albert, and Peg could be played by adults. Max should always be played by a real kid.