



Characters

ROBERT (BOB) HARRISON: Mr. Confidential himself. He's movie-star handsome and looking for a way to become a true man-about-town, but he isn't sure he matters to the world. His bravado is real. Yet fear of failing always beckons. Early 40s to mid-50s. Baritone.

MARJORIE: Bob's niece is an intelligent young wife and mother who unexpectedly becomes his right-hand in business. As "Confidential" gains in popularity, tabloids start calling her a "Flame-Haired Femme Fatale" and she relishes it... for a while. Mid to late 20s. Alto/2nd soprano, with strong, high belt.

HOWARD RUSHMORE: He's the razor-sharp, red-baiting writer who sees everyone as a probable enemy. His acid-tongue is matched by his energetic belief in his own infallibility. When things go spectacularly wrong and out of control, it is never his fault. Mid 40s to early 60s. Bass-baritone.

JEANNIE DOUGLAS: Bob's cotton-candy girlfriend is a drop-dead stunner. She's a showgirl who gets lots of ink from the columnists, and a dumb blonde who proves to be anything but. Versatility required; 2nd soprano, from Broadway belt to breathy soprano, tap dances. Late 20s to very early 30s.

EDITH: Bob's matronly older sister is a worrier and a mother. Maybe she seems a little meek, but she morphs into a pit-bull when she has to defend her beloved brother Bob or her daughter Marjorie. Soprano. (Also in ensemble). Late 50s, early 60s.

MICHAEL: He's a fresh-faced, geeky high school student; Bob's nephew, Marjorie's brother, Edith's son. He idolizes his Uncle Bob and idly dreams of becoming just like him one day. Tenor. (Also in ensemble). Late teens, early 20s.

FRANCES RUSHMORE: Howard Rushmore's pretty, alcoholic wife can give as good as she gets, but there's a fragility and honesty to her. (Also in ensemble). Alto/2nd soprano. Late 20s, early 30s.

FRED: Marjorie's henpecked husband is a good guy, but not the smartest or most exciting of men. (Also in ensemble). Bari-tenor. Early to late 30s.

FRANCESCA: A source for magazine stories. She is sexy, mysterious, and of an indeterminate foreign origin. (Also in ensemble). Alto. Mid 20s to mid 30s.

WALTER WINCHELL: Fast talking, hyper excited radio reporter whose gossip-heavy broadcasts reach 50 million people every day. Bari-tenor. Mid 40s-50s.

OTHER ENSEMBLE: Character man with a wide range (baritone, 40s-50s), young woman who can do ingénues as well young characters (Versatile soprano, 20s), young male tenor (Versatile, with strong legit tenor, 20s), versatile character woman (alto/2nd soprano, 50s-60s). All must dance.