

## Irving Berlin's WHITE CHRISTMAS Character Breakdown

"White Christmas" is a classic Broadway musical based on the 1954 film of the same name. The heartwarming story is centered around a song-and-dance team, a sister act, and the attempt to save a failing Vermont Inn. Below are detailed descriptions of the main characters, their typical age ranges, and the songs they perform:

**Bob Wallace** (35-40): A former army captain and half of the song-and-dance duo Wallace and Davis, Bob is a world-wise, cynical yet charming individual with a strong sense of loyalty and duty. He falls for Betty, the elder of the Haynes sisters. His key songs include "Happy Holidays," "White Christmas," "Count Your Blessings Instead of Sheep," and "How Deep is the Ocean."

**Phil Davis** (30-35): Phil, the other half of the duo, is Bob's complete opposite - a fun-loving, adventurous, and somewhat mischievous individual who's always on the lookout for a good time and romance. He's instantly smitten with Judy Haynes. His main songs include "The Best Things Happen While You're Dancing," "Sisters (Reprise)," "I Love a Piano," and "Count Your Blessings Instead of Sheep."

**Betty Haynes** (30-35): Betty is the older Haynes sister. She's independent, pragmatic, and protective of her younger sister Judy. Despite her skepticism, she finds herself falling for Bob. Her featured songs include "Sisters," "Count Your Blessings Instead of Sheep," "Love, You Didn't Do Right By Me," and "How Deep is the Ocean."

**Judy Haynes** (25-30): Judy is the more vivacious and adventurous of the Haynes sisters. She's a romantic at heart and often the driving force behind many of their decisions, including the one to follow Bob and Phil to Vermont. Her key songs include "Sisters," "The Best Things Happen While You're Dancing," "I Love a Piano," and "Snow."

**General Henry Waverly** (50-60): The General is a stern, authoritative figure with a gruff exterior but a kind and caring heart. He's the owner of the failing Vermont Inn and was the commanding officer of Bob and Phil during World War II. He doesn't have any solo songs, but his character plays a significant role in the plot.

**Martha Watson** (45-50): Martha is the General's lovable and nosy housekeeper. She's a Broadway performer in retirement and still has a flair for the dramatic. She has a heart of gold and only wants what's best for the General. Her main songs include "Let Me Sing and I'm Happy" and "Falling Out of Love Can Be Fun."

**Susan Waverly** (9-12): Susan is the General's curious and intelligent granddaughter with dreams of becoming a performer. She's wise beyond her years but still has a childlike innocence about her. She sings "Let Me Sing and I'm Happy."

**The following roles may either be combined with others and/or pulled from the ensemble:**

**Mike Nulty:** Mike is the harried and gruff stage manager. He is passionate about getting the show to run smoothly and is definitely workaholic. Ezekiel Foster is the bane of Mike's existence.

**Ezekiel Foster:** Ezekiel is slow and steady; he doesn't rush things. He is the antithesis of Mike.

**Snoring Man and Mrs. Snoring Man:** A couple travelling to Vermont for a Christmas getaway. They are featured in "Snow."

**Rita and Rhoda:** A couple of chorus girls in Bob and Phil's show. They're not the brightest but they can dance and flirt with the best, especially with Phil.

**Tessie**

**Seamstress**

**Jimmy**

**Train Conductor**

Plus, various other characters and dancers