SOMETHING ROTTEN! CHARACTER AND

CASTING INFORMATION

**Bea (Female)**

● Casting ages 18+

● Alto with very good belt and lower extension

● Nick’s wife and “Right Hand Man”. She loves and supports him despite his questionable

decision making and lack of success. Bea resorts to dressing up like a male to make

ends meet for her growing family. She is a strong leader and a powerful woman who is

quite persuasive when she wants to be. She ultimately saves the day. Comedic acting a

plus.

**Portia (Female)**

● Casting ages 18+

● Soprano with a strong mix

● A quirky Puritan girl whom Nigel meets on the street. Portia is the only daughter of

Brother Jeremiah and the love interest to Nigel Bottom. They fall madly in love with each

other over their mutual love for Shakespeare and poetry. Portia and Nigel set out to

convince Jeremiah and the other puritans that they should be together rather than

following the "star-crossed lovers" idea. Comedic actress who sings well.

**Nostradamus** (gender fluid role)

● Casting ages 18+

● Mezzo / Alto with high belt

● A soothsayer who “almost” sees the future correctly. A bit loony. This character predicts

that Nick and Nigel will write a musical. Seeking a comedic performer who sings and

moves very well. (Baritone / or Mezzo)

**Minstrel (gender fluid role)**

● Casting ages 18+

● Alto / Soprano with high riff

● The Minstrel is a narrator of sorts for the show with the main purpose of introducing the

cast and welcoming the audience to the Renaissance era of the show. This performer

opens the first and the second act. The performer playing the Minstrel will also play other

roles in the show.

**Tom Snout, Peter Quince, Snug, Francis Flute (gender fluid roles)**

● Casting ages 16+

● All Voice Types

● These characters are individual members and characters within Nick Bottom’s theatrical

troupe.

**Lord/Lady Clapham (gender fluid role)**

● Casting ages 16+

● All Voice Types

● Lord/Lady Clapham is a flamboyant theatre producer. Comic speaking role. This

character may also play Master of the Justice as well as other singing/dancing roles

throughout the show.

**Male and Gender fluid Roles**

**Nick Bottom**

● Casting ages 18+

● High Baritone or Tenor

● The main protagonist of the show. A struggling renaissance writer at the end of his rope.

Nigel’s older brother. Incredibly jealous of the success of William Shakespeare and will

do anything to beat him. He is responsible for creating the first musical, Omelette, after

guidance from the misguided Nostradamus. Seeking a comedic actor who sings - tap

dance skill a plus.

**Nigel Bottom**

● Casting ages 18+

● Tenor or high baritone

● Nick’s younger brother. A sweetly naïve young writer and poet, perhaps a little awkward.

He's not very confident, as shown when he doesn't think his work is very good despite

the outstanding quality of his writing. He is very gullible and can easily be manipulated.

He falls in love with Portia and ultimately finds confidence in himself through art and

love. Seeking a comedic actor who sings very well.

**Shakespeare**

● Casting ages 18+

● Tenor or high baritone

● A renaissance rock star. Classic Mick Jagger type performer. William Shakespeare is

both the real life author of many plays and rival to Nick Bottom. Shakespeare, also

referred to as “The Bard” throughout the show, gets all of the praise and attention from

his adoring fans leaving writers like Nick and Nigel in his shadow. Shakespeare is

portrayed as a rock star, and all of his sonnets are performed as rock songs during the

song Will Power. Seeking a comedic actor with a pop/rock voice style, tap dance skills a

plus. (rock tenor)

**Brother Jeremiah**

● Casting ages 18+

● All Voice Types

● The Puritan father of Portia and secondary antagonist in Something Rotten!. He is very

strict and refuses to let her daughter engage in "fulfilling her lustful desires". He shows

nothing but disrespect towards everyone, but especially playwrights like Nick and Nigel.

A deeply repressed Puritan. He despises playwrights, poets and all things ungodly.

Seeking a comedic actor who sings.

● Songs: Welcome to the Renaissance, We See the Light (Will likely participate in other

musical numbers)

**Robin**

● Casting ages 16+

● Tenor or Baritone

● Member of Bottom’s theatrical troupe who always plays the female characters (must

present as a male).

**Shylock**

● Casting ages 16+

● Baritone or Tenor

● Jewish landlord/tax collector who loves theater more than anything. It was illegal at that

time to hire someone who was Jewish, so when Nick is forced to hire Shylock, he has to

watch out or he could be hanged. An investor to whom Nick and Nigel are in debt. Comic

character.

**Other Possible Speaking and Singing Roles:**

● Three Chefs (important trio in Omelette - must sing tight harmonies)

● Valet - Shakespeare’s Assistant

● Soloists in Welcome to the Renaissance

● Astrologer

● Eyepatch Man - Tells Shakespeare that Nick has been visiting Nostradamus

● Foreman

● Messenger

● Announcer (Will Power)

● Man in Crowd

● Lead Man

● Doorman

● Valet

● Clerk

● Man 1, Man 2 (Solos in Welcome to the Renaissance)

**Featured Ensembles**

The Bard Backup Singers/Dancers

“ Tap Dancing Ensemble for Tappers / Grim Reapers

Puritans

Renaissance Writers

Shakespeare Groupies

Gallery / People in Court

New World Troupe

London Townspeople

**Other Possible Speaking and Solo Singing Roles:**

● Sad Little Egg - Dreamgirls type solo in Make and Omelette (Soprano/Alto with high belt

● Three Chefs (important trio in Omelette - ability to sing in tight harmonies)

● Miranda, Rosalind, Helena (friends of Bea)

● Soloists in Welcome to the Renaissance

● Astrologer

● Psychic Woman

● Eyepatch Woman - Tells Shakespeare that Nick has been visiting Nostradamus

● Foreman

● Messenger

● Announcer (Will Power)

● Woman in Crowd

● Panicked Woman

● Woman 1, Woman 2 (Solos in Welcome to the Renaissance)

● Puritan Woman

● Clerk