

## CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS – ages approximate

**Rose: 35-50** Strong mezzo/alto with good low notes. Powerful Broadway belt. The ultimate stage mother. Lives vicariously through her daughters whom she has put into show business. Loud, brash, pushy but can be doting and charming. Minimal dance but must move well.

**Louise (Gypsy): 18-27.** Baby Louise – years later-Pushed aside by Rose in favor of June until June leaves the act. Rose tries to make her a star. She becomes the famous stripper Gypsy Rose Lee. Must Sing and dance well.

**June: 16-25.** Baby June-Years later. Pretty, talented and frustrated with Mama Rose's domination. Must be good dancer, singer, baton twirler and does a split. Runs off, gets married, leaves the act.

**Baby Louise: 8-12** Always plays second fiddle to June, shy, awkward, must sing and dance well.

**Baby June: 7-11.** Sugary sweet, cute, precious, twirls a baton, does splits. Must sing and dance well.

**Herbie: 35-50** Baritone, has a heart of gold, but has the power to defend the people he loves. Strong acting role. Agent for Rose's girls and Rose's boyfriend. Minimal dance.

**Tulsa (male) 18-25** Extremely strong dancer/singer. Also part of Broadway/Farm boys. Dreams of having his own act.

**Three Strippers, just past their prime:** Tessie Tura (former ballet dancer), Mazeppa (plays a trumpet – badly), Electra (costume lights up). They each sing, You Gotta Get a Gimmick. Sing and dance well.

**2 groups of Broadway/Farm Boys and girls:** One group 8-12, one group 16-25. **Must sing and dance well.**

**Broadway/Hollywood Blondes/Toreadorables: 16-25. Must sing and dance well**

### Non singing/non dancing small roles:

- Uncle Jocko – Vaudeville MC at a weekly kiddie talent show. Hates stage mothers. Would rather be drinking.
- Georgie: Uncle Jocko's assistant
- Auditioning children: (9-12 years)non speaking: Balloon girl, clarinet boy, clown child
- Pop: Rose's father: Doesn't believe Rose and the kids will ever amount to anything
- Rich man: drives touring car
- Weber: theater manager in LA, does not want to hire the act.
- Kringelein: Hotel manager in Akron. Wise to show biz
- Phil – Louise's press agent – big time
- Famous French photographer
- Mr. Goldstone: Representative of the Orpheum circuit, Books the act.
- Mrs. Cratchitt: Secretary at Grantziger's Palace. Has no patience for small time acts or pushy mothers
- Front and back of cow.

Various others: moms, stage crew, hotel guests, waiters/waitresses, etc.