

# THE BIG ONE-OH! JR.

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## **Character Breakdown**

### **Charley Maplewood**

The hero of our story. He's a nine-year-old about to turn ten with no clue about how to celebrate his upcoming birthday. His family has recently moved, so he's in a new school where he feels friendless. To cope with his loneliness, Charley has conjured up three imaginary friends – his Monsters – from the pages of his favorite comic book series, Monsters & Maniacs.

### **Boing Boing**

Charley's dog, his most patient and supportive friend. Without words, Boing Boing communicates with a whimper or a bark, a turn of the head, a scowl, the lifting of a paw, or the raising of an eyebrow.

### **Mrs. Cleveland**

Fresno's biggest snoop and the neighborhood busybody. She has no solos.

### **Dad**

Charley's father, lives in Scotland but pops up whenever Charley refers to him. He's big-hearted and upbeat, even though he never seems to get the date of Charley's birthday right. He's a chef – a really good one, according to Charley. Good singing voice.

### **Zombie King, Swampy, and Alien**

Charley's imaginary friends – his 3 Monsters. When Charley is feeling frazzled or friendless, his Monsters appear to talk him through any dilemma. To play these fantastical creations, these characters, have quirky speaking voices that will differentiate them. They sing together a lot, so be sure your actors are good with harmonies.

### **Garry Quarky**

Charley's puzzling next-door neighbor. He starts out seeming like a scatterbrained mad scientist, but eventually reveals himself to be a talented creator of special effects who shares many of Charley's interests – not only in Monsters & Maniacs but in all sorts of scary stuff as well. Their friendship is one of the most surprising in Charley's young life. Someone with comedic skills.

### **Mom**

A nurse with a challenging work schedule, patient and supportive of both her children, always trying to figure them out as best she can. She goes out of her way to say good things about her ex-husband (Dad) whenever he comes up. She has a very small solo ("Lullaby"), and sings in group numbers.

### **Lorena**

Charley's eye-rolling older sister who works at a fast-food restaurant. Because she is always tossing her hair and scoffing in exasperation. Lorena carries one number ("So Lame"), which is deceptive in its difficulty.

TURN OVER

**Lillian, Lilith, and Leilani (The 3 L's)**

Lorena's friends who sing backup for her during "So Lame."

**Donna Pointer**

The most popular girl in school. She's a bouncy social butterfly who has lots of friends and a very full calendar. She has important solo lines in several numbers.

**Dina and Dana**

Donna's best friends. These three go everywhere together.

**Darryl Egbert**

The smartest boy in fourth grade. He's also a bit of a mess. His brain – and his mouth – are constantly running at a hundred miles an hour as he obsesses and processes every little thing. The role requires an actor who can explode with energy.

**Cougar**

Together with Scottie – Fresno Elementary School's resident bad guys. Cougar (whose real name is Leland, but don't call them that!) enjoys swaggering through the school hallways, acting tough but never following through on their threats. Cougar must sing with conviction and power and be able to harmonize

**Scottie**

Cougar's sidekick – a bully without a mean bone in their body. Scottie, lacking Cougar's inventiveness, is always ready to go along with whatever shenanigans Cougar suggests. Cougar and Scottie together form a comedy duo.

**Jennifer Mobley**

New to Fresno Elementary School and having trouble making friends. But because they both share an interest in Monsters & Maniacs, Jennifer has targeted Charley with her aggressive excitement, dashing into every scene she's a part of and interrupting whatever else is going on. Her indomitable high spirits seem indestructible... until Charley fails to invite her to his birthday party. She carries one of the most important songs in the show – the only ballad!

**Vince Champagne**

A back-slapping, loud-talking party planner who's unafraid to speak his mind, no matter whom he offends in the process. Vince is dating Mom, which is how he comes to offer Charley "Vince Champagne's three basics of a good birthday party."

**Assistant Andy and Assistant Annie**

Vince Champagne's assistants in "A Perfect Party." They each have brief featured solo lines in the song and sing with small groups too. These are great roles for young performers who are newer to the stage.

**Stacy**

Garry's ex-girlfriend. She has no sung solos but can shine during her brief breakup scene with Garry. This is a good role for a fantastic actor who can do a lot with a cameo.

**Ensemble**

Consists of Company, **Monster Chorus, Students (Popular Kids, Bullies, Nerd Herd), Lion King Performers**, Lion King Soloist, Jennifer's Mom, Jeffrey Stovall, Motorcycle Cop, and **Garry's Community Theater Friends**. These are great spots for anyone who'd like to be involved in your show! Note that Jennifer's Mom, Jeffrey Stovall, and Motorcycle Cop are non-singing