

DRAMATIS PERSONAE and VOCAL RANGES

Women

Patience – Soprano (C4 to A5, optional D6)

A young milkmaid who peacefully keeps to herself until she suddenly becomes the object of the poet Bunthorne's desire. She is driven by a keen sense of morality and considerable naivety.



Lady Jane – Contralto (G3 to F-sharp5)

The oldest, most aesthetic and most loyal of Bunthorne's followers, Jane has a natural tendency to give others the creeps. She is forever at her "dear Reginald's" side, whether he likes it or not.



Lady Angela – Mezzo-Soprano (B3 to E5)

Angela was content with her boyfriend, the Colonel, until Bunthorne came along. She believes that love cannot be true unless it is unselfish and is she who first gives Patience this idea.



Lady Saphir – Soprano/Mezzo-Soprano (C-sharp4 to G5)

Following Angela's lead, Saphir has spurned Major Murgatroyd to follow Bunthorne. Similarly, if Angela had jumped off the pier, Saphir would have cannon-balled in after her.



Lady Ella – Soprano (D4 to A5)

One of the youngest maidens, Ella tries her best to keep up with the rest, aligning herself as often as possible with Saphir and Angela. Bunthorne is her first crush and she's fallen hard.



Men

Reginald Bunthorne – Baritone (B-flat2 to G4)

Addicted to the love of maidens, Bunthorne has become an aesthetic poet. He loves Patience, but when Grosvenor steals the ladies' attentions his only thought is defending his territory.



Archibald Grosvenor – Lyric Baritone (D3 to G4)

Grosvenor is God's reluctant gift to womankind, as he'll tell you. An aesthetic poet, doomed to attract all maidens, his love burns for one person only: his childhood friend, Patience.



The Duke of Dunstable – Tenor (E-flat3 to A4, optional C-sharp5)

It's hard being a nobleman. Tired of the luxurious life, the Duke joined the Dragoon Guard, hoping to be treated poorly. Even so, he gladly accepts the deference of his fellow soldiers.



Colonel Calverley – Baritone/Bass-Baritone (G2 to E4)

The Colonel is a proud and serious military man. He is easily the smartest person in the whole of the 35th Dragoon Guard. Every great man has a weakness, however, and the Colonel's is Angela.



Major Murgatroyd – Baritone (B-flat2 to E-flat4)

As second-in-command, the Major tries to be like the Colonel, but can't always pull it off. When he finds that Saphir has left him, he's willing to try anything to get her back.



Bunthorne's Solicitor – Silent (or Patter Baritone, C3 to E4)*

Mr. Solicitor is Bunthorne's faithful sidekick. He is always happy to represent his friend, as long as he can make a little money off of it. It's possible that the "aesthetic poet" thing was his idea.



* The Solicitor is written to be a silent role, but we may wish to give him a patter solo in the Act 1 Finale.