

Children for the Arts: The Little Mermaid Jr.
Audition Sides & Character Descriptions

Please choose one or two characters to audition for. Below are sides, or excerpts from the script, to read in auditions. Supporting and ensemble character descriptions included.

If an actor prefers to audition for a character not included in the audition sides, please choose one character and prepare lines from the perusal script prior to auditions.

Ariel

(naive and emotional; longs to be a part of the human world. Uses big expressions when she loses her voice.)

ARIEL: Just look, Flounder. The sun, the sand...isn't it the most beautiful place you've ever seen?

FLOUNDER: I dunno, Ariel...I'm not sure we ought to be up here.

ARIEL: Don't be such a guppy! (a beat) You'll never guess what I found today. Look! (she pulls out a large silver fork) Have you ever seen anything so wonderful in your entire life?

FLOUNDER: Wow! Cool! What is it?

ARIEL: I don't know...(SCUTTLE enters, humming and looking through the wrong end of a telescope.) but I bet Scuttle will!

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KING TRITON: You could've been seen by one of those barbarians!

ARIEL: Daddy, they're not barbarians!

KING TRITON: They're dangerous - nets, harpoons! You're my youngest-

ARIEL: I'm old enough to look after myself-

KING TRITON: As long as you live under my reef, you'll obey my rules!

ARIEL: If you'd just listen to me for once-

KING TRITON: That's the last time you're ever swimming to the surface! Understood?

ARIEL: You're so unfair!

Prince Eric

(an adventurous Prince; charming with a sensitive nature)

PRINCE ERIC: Isn't this perfection, Grimsby? Out on the open sea, surrounded by nothing but water and imagination.

GRIMSBY: Oh, yes, it's simply... *(bending over the rail, seasick)* delightful.

PRINCE ERIC *(hearing ARIEL's voice)*: What is that? Do you hear something?

GRIMSBY: Milord, please...enough seafaring. This talk of merpeople and the king of the sea is nautical nonsense.

PRINCE ERIC (*hears it again*): There it is again! Straight ahead!

GRIMSBY: Your majesty, you've got to return to court and take up your father's crown!

PRINCE ERIC: That's not the life for me, Grimsby. (*to PILOT*) Now, follow that voice- to the ends of the earth if we have to!

Sebastian

(*an anxious crab with an emotional range; speaks in a Jamaican accent*)

SEBASTIAN: Teenagers! Give 'em an inch, and they swim all over you.

KING TRITON: I can govern a kingdom, but I can't control my own daughter. Maybe I was too harsh...

SEBASTIAN: Nonsense, sire! If you ask me, you haven't been tough enough.

KING TRITON: I haven't?

SEBASTIAN: Ariel needs constant supervision! Someone to watch over her - to keep her out of trouble.

KING TRITON: That's not a bad idea.

SEBASTIAN: I'd say it's a right good one.

KING TRITON: And you are just the crab to do it!

SEBASTIAN: What?!

KING TRITON: You heard me! From now on, Ariel is your responsibility! (*he exits.*)

SEBASTIAN: (*following him*) Mine? But your majesty, she's a clever mermaid! I'm just a crustacean! Surely you ought to pick someone higher on the evolutionary ladder.

Flounder

(*a spunky fish; sincere and sensitive; loyal to Ariel*)

ARIEL: Just look, Flounder. The sun, the sand...isn't it the most beautiful place you've ever seen?

FLOUNDER: I dunno, Ariel...I'm not sure we ought to be up here.

ARIEL: Don't be such a guppy!

FLOUNDER: A guppy?! I'm as brave as you are! I'm not afraid of anything.

ARIEL: What about sharks?

FLOUNDER: Where?!?

ARIEL: Oh, Flounder, you really are a guppy!

FLOUNDER: I am not!

Scuttle

(know-it-all seagull; comedic; speaks in an old-fashion New York accent)

SCUTTLE: *(calling out to Ariel "in the distance")* Mermaid off the port bow! Ariel, how you doin' kid? *(puts down the telescope and sees Ariel up close)* Whoa! What a swim!

ARIEL: Scuttle, look what we found!

SCUTTLE: More human stuff, eh? Lemme see...

FLOUNDER: Can you tell us what it's for?

SCUTTLE: Wow! This is special. This is very, very unusual...

ARIEL: What? What is it?

SCUTTLE: It's a dinglehopper!

ARIEL: A dinglehopper?

SCUTTLE: Oh, these babies are fantabulous...absolutely indispensary. When it comes to dinglehoppers, I'm a regular encyclopoodia!

Ursula

(manipulative and cunning Sea Witch with a greed for power)

URSULA: Flotsam, my pet! Jetsam, my darling! Come to me, my little sea-spies! Mama's feeling...woebegone - banished to the nether regions of the sea. No food, hardly any company...I'm simply wasting away!

JETSAM, FLOTSAM: Poor Urssula!

URSULA: Yes, poor me!

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KING TRITON: It's not my soul you're after... *(holds up his trident)* It's my power.

URSULA: Now, which would you rather be: the King of the Sea or a father to his little girl?

KING TRITON: The trident is a great responsibility, Ursula.

URSULA: Nonsense, Triton. Hand it over! *(KING TRITON bows his head and hands over his trident. URSULA laughs maniacally)* Finally! The oceans belong to me!
And now you poor unfortunate soul! Time's up! You're through!

King Triton

(ruler of the sea and a force to be reckoned with; Ariel's father; speaking role)

ARIEL: Um...nothing happened-

KING TRITON: You could've been seen by one of those barbarians!

ARIEL: Daddy, they're not barbarians!

KING TRITON: They're dangerous - nets, harpoons! You're my youngest-

ARIEL: I'm old enough to look after myself-

KING TRITON: As long as you live under my reef, you'll obey my rules!

ARIEL: If you'd just listen to me for once-

KING TRITON: That's the last time you're ever swimming to the surface! Understood?

Supporting and Ensemble Character Descriptions

Mersisters: Ariel's sisters who perform in Sebastian's court "*Daughter's of Triton*" and gossip about Ariel's odd behavior in "*She's In Love*". Will double as Princesses.

Flotsam & Jetsam: Ursula's slippery eel spies. They are sinister and sneaky, always spying on Ariel.

Grimsby: Prince Eric's prim and proper valet. Stubborn, he is constantly pushing Eric to the throne.

Pilot: The head sailor on Prince Eric's ship who entertains the sailors with his tales of the sea. Sings "*Fathoms Below*".

Sailors: The crew of Prince Eric's ship, eager for adventure. They sing in "*Fathoms Below*".

Chef Louis: Over-the-top head chef in the palace. He is wild and frantic. Must speak in a french accent. Sings "*Les Poissons*".

Chefs: Chef Louis's assistants. They sing in "*Les Poissons*". Will double as Gulls.

Carlotta: Headmistress in Prince Eric's palace and Ariel's greatest human ally. Warm and maternal.

Princesses: Six princesses who try to win over Prince Eric using their voices. They exaggerate their comedic personalities during the number "*The Contest*". Will double as the Mersisters.

Gulls: Scuttles flock of zany back-up singers in "*Human Stuff*". Will double as Chefs.

Sea Creatures: The main ensemble of the show. The Sea Creatures sing and dance in "*Under the Sea*" and "*Kiss the Girl*". They are also a part of King Triton's court.