## <u>The Secret Garden</u> Character Descriptions

**Mary Lennox**- (Young Voice, Ab3-D5) Recently orphaned ten-year-old girl who lost her parents to cholera in India and is sent to live with her uncle in England. She is curious and stubborn to a fault (worthy of the "mistress Mary quite contrary" nursery rhyme), but grows to be open, loving, caring and strong. English accent.

**Colin Craven**- (Young Voice, A3-E5) Archibald's ten-year-old son. Spent his life in bed due to a medical condition. He is very stubborn and throws temper tantrums to get what he wants. He believes his father hates him for causing his mother, Lily's death. English accent.

**Archibald Craven**- (Baritone C3 - A4) Mary's uncle, Colin's father, and lord of Misselthwaite Manor. Haunted by the past and afraid of the future, he locks himself away both physically and mentally. Mary painfully reminds him too much of his wife, Lily, who died ten years ago. He cares deeply for Colin but doesn't know how to connect with him. He has a hunch-back. English accent.

**Dr. Neville Craven**- (Baritone C3 - F#4) Archibald's bitter brother, he resents that Lily loved Archibald and not him. He is Colin's doctor, although he half-hopes for Colin's death so that he might inherit Misselthwaite. He has a cold and uncaring disposition. British accent.

**Lily** -(Soprano Bb3 - D6) Mary's aunt, Colin's mother and Archibald's wife. She died in a tragic accident in her garden, and her memory haunts everyone at the Manor. Compassionate, loving and comforting, she guides those she loves from beyond the grave. British accent.

**Martha**-(Mezzo w/ Belt F3 - D5) A faithful housemaid, who grew up near Yorkshire and has the accent to prove it. Although she is from a lower-class family, her wisdom is often far beyond her age. She is Mary's first friend at Misselthwaite Manor.

**Dickon** (Tenor D3 - G4) Martha's brother, he expertly looks after the plants and animals at the Manor. Spunky, slightly rebellious, and charismatic. Befriends Mary and convinces her to take care of the Garden. Yorkshire accent.

**Ben Weatherstaff**- (Baritone E3 - D#4) Head gardener who has been around the Manor for many years. Deeply cared for Lily and takes Mary and Colin under his wing. Ornery at times, but very sweet. Grandfather-like figure. Yorkshire accent.

Mrs. Medlock- Housekeeper at the Manor. Serious and cold. Yorkshire accent.

**Mrs. Winthrop**- Headmistress at a private school. Very strict and abrasive, but unable to handle the irrepressible Mary Lennox. British accent.

The Dreamers (Chorus of the memories or ghosts of people Mary loved)

**Rose Lennox** – (Soprano A3 - D6) Mary's mother. Never understood how Lily could love Archibald. Loyal, opinionated, and outspoken. British accent

**Captain Albert Lennox**- (Tenor D3 - A5) Mary's father. Deeply cares about his wife and daughter. British Accent

**Fakir** - Itinerant Hindu ascetic. A mystical wandering chanter who serves as a reminder of Mary's inner strength.

Ayah- Mary's nanny in India.

Plus a small ensemble to play additional "dreamers" from Mary's past such as school friends, family, officers.

PLEASE NOTE: All roles are open to anyone regardless of race, ethnicity, nationality, class, caste, religion, belief, gender, language, sexual orientation or gender identity. Some actors will play more than one role.