Jack Point - (baritone, Range: A2 - F4): A professional jester and travelling comedian, Jack Point has been bullied and beaten down by the world for as long as he can remember; in spite of this, he does his best to put on a cheerful face in public. The one spot of joy in his life is his travelling companion, Elsie Maynard, who he regards as the best thing that ever happened to him. He is genuinely in love with her despite her faults (which he does see) and, although he knows she doesn’t love him, remains ever hopeful.

Colonel Fairfax - (tenor, Range: D3 - A4): A nobleman, scholar, and retired soldier, Fairfax is handsome, charismatic, and conspicuously charming. He displays a rare intelligence and gift for introspection, and these traits, along with an easy self-confidence, have made him a natural leader; he easily earns the love and admiration of the military men who surround him. In his interactions with Elsie and Phoebe, we see a hard-edged self-interest that hints at a more manipulative side.

Sergeant Meryll - (baritone or bass-baritone, Range: G2 - D4): Sergeant of the Yeomen of the Guard, he is a brave soldier who has worked his way up the ranks of the Yeomen Warders from humble beginnings to the position of honor he now holds. He is respected and esteemed by the men he commands. A widower with two grown children, he is deeply proud of his son Leonard’s military accomplishments, but is prone to ignoring and underestimating the abilities of his daughter, Phoebe. He is fiercely devoted to Colonel Fairfax, who once saved his life in battle.

Leonard Meryll - (tenor, Range: D3 - Ab4): Sergeant Meryll’s son, whose military prowess has made his father justifiably proud. Like his father, he is inclined to underestimate the abilities of his sister, Phoebe. Although quite young, he has been appointed to the elite corps of veterans that is the Yeomen of the Guard. Why is he no longer in active service? - Is he wounded?

Wilfred Shadbolt - (baritone or bass-baritone, Range: A2 - E4): The tower’s chief jailer and assistant torturer, Wilfred is an unintelligent, brutish man who is used to getting what he wants by force, be it money, women, or what passes for power at his social level. Despite all of these unpleasant attributes, Wilfred provides a great deal of comic relief, due to his genuine inability to perceive himself as anything other than completely normal. He pursues Phoebe extensively, but is never a match for her intelligence.

Sir Richard Cholmondeley (The Lieutenant) - (baritone, Range: G2 - E4): The nobleman in charge of the Tower of London. He is respectable, dedicated, and serious...mostly. He just might have a subtle and slightly cruel sense of humor.

First Yeoman - (tenor, Range: Bb2 - A4)
Second Yeoman - (baritone, Range: G2 - F4)
Third Yeoman - (tenor, Range: Bb2 - G4)
Fourth Yeoman - (bass, Range: Eb2 - E4)
Veteran soldiers who have been granted the honor of joining an elite corps. They are dignified and proud.

First and Second Citizens - (Speaking only roles): Citizens of London working in and around the Tower. When we meet them, they are members of a mob watching Elsie and Point perform.

The Headsman - (Walk-on part): The Tower’s executioner. He does not sing or speak, and is on stage briefly during the Act I finale.

Elsie Maynard - (Soprano, Range: C4 - Bb5 (C6)): A gifted performer and the travelling companion of Jack Point, their relationship is entirely professional, although she is well aware of his romantic intentions towards her. Elsie comes of poor social station, and is determined to make the most of what opportunities and talents she has been given; if this makes her opportunistic, so be it. She began travelling with Point after being seduced by a man of the upper class; her “mother” is a convenient fiction maintained for the sake of respectability.
Phoebe Meryll - (Mezzo-Soprano, Range: B3 - F5): Resourceful, clever, and intelligent, Phoebe is bored by her life in the tower. She finds escape in her cat-and-mouse relationship with Wilfred; she claims he disgusts her, but she’s drawn to the thrill of the potential danger he represents. Her infatuation with Fairfax serves the dual role of escapist fantasy into the upper classes and bait to get a rise out of Wilfred.

Dame Carruthers - (Contralto, Range: G3 - F5): The housekeeper of the Tower of London. She is something of an authoritarian, although sometimes kindly and motherly. She is devoted to the Tower, which has been her home for her entire life. She is in love with Sergeant Meryll, but has thus far been rebuffed in all her attempts to pursue him.

Kate - (Soprano, Range: D4 - G5): Dame Carruthers’ niece, who assists her aunt in tending to the Tower. She finds Elsie’s mutterings while asleep interesting enough to write down in her diary - does she have a personal interest in discovering Elsie’s secret?