



# STORY & CHARACTER GUIDE

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Photo by Brinkhoff-Mogenburg



## THE LION KING STORY & CHARACTER GUIDE

### The Story

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A lively stage adaptation of the Academy Award®-winning 1994 Disney film, THE LION KING is the story of a young lion prince living in the flourishing African Pridelands.

When an unthinkable tragedy, orchestrated by Simba's wicked uncle, Scar, takes his father's life, Simba flees the Pridelands, leaving his loss and the life he knew behind. Eventually accompanied by two hilarious and unlikely friends, Simba starts anew. But when the weight of responsibility and a desperate plea from the now ravaged Pridelands come to find the adult prince, Simba must take on a formidable enemy, and fulfill his destiny to be king.

### Audience Recommendation

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Disney's THE LION KING is recommended for a general audience. As an advisory to adults who might bring young people, Disney recommends this production for ages 6 and up. This is only to be used as a suggestion for you and your child; the decision to attend this show should be made by the parent or guardian. All persons entering the theater, regardless of age, must have a ticket.

### Performance Notes

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- At the beginning of Act One and at the beginning of the Act Two there is a large procession through the orchestra in the aisles.
- There are potentially scary moments during Act One with an onstage stampede and Mufasa falling from a cliff.
- There are stairs at the edge of the stage that only the actors are meant to use.

### Running Time

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*Approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes*

- Act 1: 70 minutes
- Intermission: 20 minutes
- Act 2: 60 minutes

All images from the 1997 animated film *The Lion King* ©Walt Disney Animation Studios. All photos from THE LION KING North American Tour ©Disney. Photos by Brinkhoff-Mogenburg, Joan Marcus, Matthew Murphy, Johan Persson and Deen van Meer.





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# The Characters

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### SIMBA

Simba is the only son of Mufasa. He is the future King of the Pridelands and ruler of Pride Rock. Simba is rowdy and independent.



### NALA

Nala is Simba's friend. Every bit as rambunctious as Simba, Nala is ready to go wherever he does. Nala is the future Queen of the Pridelands.



### MUFASA

Mufasa is Simba's dad and King of the Pridelands. He is a great king with a kind, generous heart. He is concerned with teaching Simba to be a wise and responsible adult and king.



### SCAR

Scar is Mufasa's brother and Simba's uncle. Scar was next in line to be King of the Pridelands until Simba was born. He is ruthless and will do anything to be king. Scar is sly and should not be trusted.





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### The Characters



#### **RAFIKI**

Rafiki is a wise, old baboon. She is a shaman, guide and teacher. Using mystical powers and common sense, she guides Simba on the right path.



#### **ZAZU**

Zazu is Mufasa's trusted advisor and Simba's mentor. He is a prim and proper hornbill with a strong sense of personal dignity. Zazu is proud of his position and is always looking out for Simba's well-being.



#### **TIMON**

Timon is Simba and Pumbaa's friend. He is a hyperactive meerkat with a motor mouth. He likes to make jokes and boast about his easygoing lifestyle.



#### **PUMBAA**

Pumbaa is Simba and Timon's friend. He is a bit clumsy and dimwitted, but his empathy and intuition make up for it. Pumbaa is sympathetic and warm-hearted.