SYNOPSIS OF BYE BYE BIRDIE

Bye Bye Birdie is a satire that takes place in 1958 and centers around an Elvis Presley type rock and roll superstar (Conrad Birdie) who is drafted into the army. His agent and song writer (Albert Peterson) and Albert's secretary and love interest (Rosie Alvarez) plan a farewell performance for Birdie on the Ed Sullivan television show, which they hope will provide the publicity to sell his new song "One Last Kiss" and bring Albert's company out of debt. At the conclusion of the performance, Birdie will give a real kiss to a lucky girl from his fan club.

The lucky girl, randomly chosen, is Kim MacAfee from Sweet Apple, Ohio, and is a avid member of the local Conrad Birdie fan club. Albert and Rosie come to Sweet Apple to prepare for Birdie's arrival and things begin to unravel. Kim's father (Harry MacAfee) begins to get excited about the thought of being on the Ed Sullivan Show with his daughter and Kim's new steady (Hugo Peabody) starts to get jealous of the thought of Kim kissing Birdie on national television.

After Birdie's arrival in Sweet Apple, things continue to come undone as Birdie's charms enrage Hugo to punch him out on national television as he embraces to kiss Kim. Later, Birdie confesses that he is tired of show business and goes out on the town with the kids to show them how to party. This leads to Birdie's arrest. Meanwhile, Rosie is getting tired of waiting for Albert to propose and figures that eight years is long enough. She is also tired of Albert's domineering mother (Mae Peterson) who is constantly interfering in their relationship. Rosie goes out on the town and stumbles into a Shriner's meeting, leading to a humorous ballet sequence.

The show ends with Albert bailing Birdie out of jail prompting Birdie to ask Albert to be his agent forever as he gets on the train to New York and his induction into the army. Kim and Hugo make up as Hugo proposes to Kim and Albert finally decides to propose to Rosie to tie up the remaining romantic knot before the show's finale.

BACKGROUND OF CHARLES STROUSE & BYE BYE BIRDIE

MUSICAL
Music by Charles Strouse; Lyrics by Lee Adams - Book by Michael Stewart.

STAGE PRODUCTION

MOVIE
Bye Bye Birdie was made into a film musical in 1963 by MGM. The movie starred Dick Van Dyke, Janet Leigh, Paul Lynde and a young Ann-Margret as Kim MacAfee.
TELEVISION
The 1995 made for television version starred Jason Alexander, Vanessa Williams, George Wendt, and Chynna Phillips as Kim MacAfee. Tyne Daly played Albert's mother, Mae Peterson.

AWARDS
(1959-60) - 4 Tony Awards
Musical, Director, Choreography and Supporting or Featured Actor
The Outer Critics Circle Award for Music

(1961)
1961 Tony Award® Best Musical
  Book by Michael Stewart; Music by Charles Strouse; Lyrics by Lee Adams; Produced by Edward Padula; Produced in association with L. Slade Brown [winner]
1961 Tony Award® Best Featured Actor in a Musical
  Dick Van Dyke [winner]
  Dick Gautier [nominee]
1961 Tony Award® Best Featured Actress in a Musical
  Chita Rivera [nominee]
1961 Tony Award® Best Scenic Design (Musical)
  Scenic Design by Robert Randolph [nominee]
1961 Tony Award® Best Choreography
  Gower Champion [winner]
1961 Tony Award® Best Direction of a Musical
  Gower Champion [winner]
1961 Tony Award® Best Conductor and Musical Director
  Elliot Lawrence [nominee]
CAST OF CHARACTERS

DANCE NOTE:  
- **Yes** means that this is a role for someone with some experience in dance (often with classical/jazz/tap dance training). Many of these roles are intended to be featured dancers.
- **Some** means that there role requires some dancing, but not necessarily a trained dancer. The ability to learn simple dance steps is needed.
- **No** means no dance ability is necessary.

AGE NOTE: The age range is a general guide to the approximate age of each character. Some characters can be played older or younger depending upon the director's vision. Also, your age is less important than your ability to portray a character of that age. The plus sign (+) next to an age indicates that there is no specific upper limit on age for that role.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Voice Type (Range)</th>
<th>Dance</th>
<th>Age Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albert Peterson</td>
<td>Baritone</td>
<td>Some</td>
<td>28-35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rose Alvarez</td>
<td>Soprano</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>28-35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conrad Birdie</td>
<td>Baritone</td>
<td>Some</td>
<td>20-25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kim MacAfee</td>
<td>Soprano</td>
<td>Some</td>
<td>14-16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Harry MacAfee</td>
<td>Tenor</td>
<td>Some</td>
<td>40-45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Doris MacAfee</td>
<td>Soprano</td>
<td>Some</td>
<td>40-45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Mae Peterson</td>
<td>Alto</td>
<td>Some</td>
<td>60+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hugo Peabody</td>
<td>Tenor</td>
<td>Some</td>
<td>16-17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Randolph MacAfee</td>
<td>Young Boy</td>
<td>Some</td>
<td>8-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ursula Merkle</td>
<td>Soprano</td>
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<td>14-16</td>
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<td>Mrs. Merkle</td>
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<td>35+</td>
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<td>Gloria Rasputin</td>
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<td>28-32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mayor</td>
<td>All Ranges</td>
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<td>50+</td>
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<td>Mayor's Wife</td>
<td>All Ranges</td>
<td>Some</td>
<td>50+</td>
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<td>Harvey Johnson</td>
<td>Tenor</td>
<td>Some</td>
<td>14-16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Johnson</td>
<td>All Ranges</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles F. Maude</td>
<td>Tenor</td>
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<td>30+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conrad's Guitar Man</td>
<td>All Ranges</td>
<td>Some</td>
<td>20-25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adult Chorus, Neighbors

- **Policeman** - Speaks Act I, Scene 4
- **First Reporter** - Speaks
- **Second Reporter** - Non-speaking cameraman
- **Third Reporter** - Speaks
- **Ed Sullivan's Voice** - Offstage
- **Traveler** - Speaks Act I, Scene 4
LIST OF SCENES

SETTING: 1958, New York City and Sweet Apple, Ohio

ACT ONE

Scene 1  Office of Almaelou Music, New York  
Scene 2  Sweet Apple, Ohio  
Scene 3  MacAfee Home, Sweet Apple  
Scene 4  Pennsylvania Station, New York  
Scene 5  Railroad Station, Sweet Apple  
Scene 6  Courthouse Steps, Sweet Apple  
Scene 7  MacAfee Home, Sweet Apple  
Scene 8  Stage & Backstage Office, Central Movie Theatre, Sweet Apple  
Scene 9  Stage, Central Movie Theatre, Sweet Apple

ACT II

Scene 1  MacAfee Home, Sweet Apple  
Scene 2  Street Outside MacAfee Home  
Scene 3  MacAfee's Back Door  
Scene 4  Maude's Roadside Retreat  
Scene 5  Private Dining Room, Maude's Roadside Retreat  
Scene 6  Back Door, Maude's Roadside Retreat  
Scene 7  The Ice House  
Scene 8  Railroad Station, Sweet Apple
LIST OF MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

1. Overture Orchestra
2. An English Teacher Rose Alvarez and Albert Peterson
3. The Telephone Hour Sweet Apple Kids
4. How Lovely to Be a Woman Kim MacAfee
5. We Love You, Conrad! Teen Trio
6. Put on a Happy Face Albert Peterson
7. A Healthy, Normal American Boy Rose Alvarez, Albert Peterson and Chorus
8. One Boy Kim MacAfee, Two Girls & Rose Alvarez
9. Honestly Sincere Conrad Birdie and Townspeople
10. Hymn for a Sunday Evening - Ed Sullivan Mr. MacAfee, Mrs. MacAfee, Kim MacAfee, Randolph MacAfee and Neighbors
11. Hundred Ways - Ballet Orchestra
12. One Last Kiss Conrad Birdie and Company

ACT TWO

13. Entr'acte Orchestra
15. What Did I Ever See in Him? (Reprise) Rose Alvarez
16. A Lot of Livin' to Do Conrad Birdie, Kim MacAfee and Teenagers
17. Kids Mr. MacAfee and Mrs. MacAfee
18. Baby, Talk to Me Albert Peterson and Quartet
19. Shriners' Ballet Orchestra
20. Kids (Reprise) Mr. MacAfee, Mrs. MacAfee, Randolph MacAfee and Townspeople
22. An English Teacher (Reprise) Rose Alvarez
23. Spanish Rose Rose Alvarez
24. Hand Car Conrad Birdie Fan Club
25. Rosie Albert Peterson and Rose Alvarez
26. Finale Orchestra