

STEPPENWOLF FOR YOUNG ADULTS

I am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter
Character Guide

Adapted by Isaac Gómez Based on the novel by Erika L. Sánchez Co-Directed by Ensemble Members Sandra Marquez and Audrey Francis



Voiced by Steppenwolf ensemble member Karen Rodriguez:

Julia, this is her story. Wants to become a famous writer and is always taking notes in her journal. She loves her family but often feels like a disappointment to them. Since the death of her sister – the perfect daughter, Julia has felt more out of place and alone than ever. She/Her/Hers



Voiced by Bianca Phipps:

Olga, Julia's older sister. She was the perfect Mexican daughter. Or was she? Now that she is gone, Julia finds herself wondering if she knew the real Olga. Permanently twenty-two, but never looked or acted like a normal twenty-two-year-old. Could be the spitting image of Amá. In fact, they were practically besties. All she ever did was go to work, sit at home with her parents, and take one class at the local community college. Or so Julia thought? Who was she, really? Also plays ANGIE, JAZMYN, PATTY, SIOBHAN and PRIMA PALOMA. She/Her/Hers



Voiced by Charin Álvarez:

Amá, Julia's amá, her mother. Has had a tough life and gives tough love to show for it. Julia is constantly frustrated that Amá does not hear her. Olga's passing pushes Amá past her breaking point, giving her even less space for Julia. Does she care? Or is she just upset that Julia isn't Olga? Perhaps it's more complicated than that. Also plays MAMÁ JACINTA, DR. COOKE, and ANGIE'S MOM. She/Her/Hers Voiced by Eddie Martinez



Voiced by Eddie Martinez

Apá, Julia's apá, her father. He's around, but he's not really there. He's quiet and doesn't reveal much. Julia knows he must feel sad about Olga, but he doesn't really talk about it. He also has to feel some concern for his only living daughter. Right? He and Amá are living their lives alongside Julia, but they feel so far away. Also plays TÍO CHUCHO, JOSE LUIS, JUANGA'S DAD, DR. CASTILLO, QUINCE DJ and MEXICAN CHEF. He/Him/His



Voiced by Leslie Sophia Perez:

Lorena, Julia's best friend in the entire world. Always around to keep Julia grounded. The kind of friend that will be there no matter what. A tough exterior due to a challenging past. But, after Olga dies, Julia finds herself brushing Lorena off more and more. And what do we make of Lorena and Juanga's new friendship? Does she have room for Julia anymore? Also plays BELEN and TAQUERIA LADY. She/Her/Hers



Voiced by Robert Quintanilla:

Juanga, A new friend of Lorena's. He's given himself the same nickname as Mexican pop singer "Juan Gabriel", and like him, doesn't mind being the center of attention. Juanga loves clothes, parties, and gossiping with Lorena. But is that really all there is? Juanga and Lorena just seem to get each other, and they both know a lot more about sex than Julia. Where does Julia fit in? He/Him/His



Voiced by Harrison Weger:

Conner, A friendly boy Julia meets at Myopic Books. He's from Evanston, he's white, and his family has way more money than hers. Julia's never been friends with someone like him before, but he and Julia like the same books, and he even reads poetry. Total nerd and he is also pretty cute. They come from different worlds, but can it still work? He/Him/His



Voiced by Pete Moore:

Mr. Ingman, Julia's favorite teacher for her favorite class. Mr. Ingman is always trying to encourage Julia to stay focused on her schoolwork and on college. He wants her to dream about her future. As much as he believes in Julia and makes her feel seen, sometimes he doesn't really understand the challenges of her world. Mr. Ingman means well, but he's still an old white guy who's already been to college. Can he really help? He/Him/His