Cast of Characters

Opal – A 10-year-old girl

Narrators 1, 2 & 3 – The narrators explain the action in the play

The Preacher – Opal’s father

Gloria – A librarian in her 60s

Miss Franny - A blind woman with a creative personality — some people think she's a witch

[Otis - In this scene he plays the guitar, but he does not speak.]

Scene 8

NARRATOR 3

Gloria and Opal turn Gloria's overgrown yard into a candle-lit fairyland.

NARRATOR 1

As guests arrive, Winn-Dixie stands in the middle of everybody, wagging his tail.

NARRATOR 2

But then there's a rumble of thunder. Suddenly, rain pours down.

GLORIA

Save the sandwiches!

NARRATOR 3

Everyone runs inside.

MISS FRANNY

Is everyone OK?

OPAL

I think so. Wait! Where's Winn-Dixie? He's scared of thunderstorms, and I let him get away.

NARRATOR 2

She starts to cry. She runs outside.

GLORIA

Opal, get out of the rain!

NARRATOR 1

Opal hops on her bike and rides through the rain to her trailer, where she finds the preacher.

OPAL

Is Winn-Dixie here? He ran away because of the thunder.

THE PREACHER

I'll help look.

NARRATOR 3

Everyone searches for Winn-Dixie.

THE PREACHER

We've searched for hours, Opal. There's only so much looking we can do.

OPAL

You're going to give up. You always do. I bet you didn't even go out looking for my mama when she left.

THE PREACHER

I couldn't stop her. I tried. I tried.

NARRATOR 2

The preacher starts to cry.

THE PREACHER

Losing Winn-Dixie upsets me as much as it does you. I love that dog.

OPAL

I know it, Daddy.

NARRATOR 1

Holding hands, they walk together back to Gloria's house to be with their friends.

NARRATOR 3

Otis starts playing his guitar.

NARRATOR 2

There is a soft sound, like howling.

OPAL

Winn-Dixie?

NARRATOR 1

She runs and opens the front door.

NARRATOR 3

Winn-Dixie is standing there.

NARRATOR 2

Everyone cheers. The preacher leads a song. Otis plays along.

OPAL (VOICE-OVER)

Mama, I know you may never come back. But my heart's not empty anymore. It's full all the way up. I've got all sorts of friends. I've got Winn-Dixie. And most of all, I've got my daddy.