

## Mustang Martha's Character Breakdowns:

**Martha**: Gruff, spitfire woman in her 40s, single mother and no-nonsense, she just wants her business to succeed and to succeed right. Her creative streak and hippie ways inspire her to re-purpose junk into something new and beautiful to share with the world, bringing an interesting flare to her business that leads her into a conflict with the city over a bright purple Mustang planted with wildflowers that she parked underneath her shop's sign to get more attention. And attention does she get! Everyone in Baytown has an opinion as she grapples with the city, her shop, her ex, and the man who'd like to be her next partner.

**Billy**: Salt of the earth man in his 40s, likes to work with his hands, friend to all animals – including humans. He spent his youth in the 60s protesting the establishment and living off the grid, but has made his home back in Baytown as one of the Baytown Motor Mechanics. He tells bawdy jokes to make Martha laugh and wants to see if their relationship can develop beyond the workplace (combo of Martha's real-life husband, Billy, and another mechanic).

**Mikey**: Martha's 15 year-old son with her ex, Scott, he's a tall, gangly boy with a LOT of angst.

**Betsy (Martha's Mom)**: Traditional homemaker in her 60s whose creative streak shows in her cooking and taking care of her family. A protective mother hen, she's got the sass Martha and her sister inherited, though it only comes out when she's chiding her husband.

**Henry (Martha's Father)**: Grew up as one of the oil executive families in Baytown and got his work in the Auto Body industry as an insurance adjuster/estimator and manager. A kind, good man in his 60s who wants to take care of his family and is not terribly ambitious, he is quietly proud of the business he built and was able to retire off of. He worries for his daughters, and especially Martha, because she was always so independent and he tried to help foster and support that independence by giving her jobs at the shop and eventually selling her the shop for her to own/run, but wonders if he never supported her independence whether she might be more settled as a woman.

**Peggy**: Martha's younger sister by only a couple of years, and her best friend. High school teacher. Spitfire, comic relief.

**Scott**: Martha's first love and father to her child, he was the popular, gorgeous, football quarterback whose life hasn't lived up to the heights of high school. A college football injury sidelined him and a stint in Vietnam traumatized him. Drugs and alcohol wrecked his marriage with Martha, not to mention his cheating and inability to step up as a parent. Since their divorce 10 years ago, he's pulled himself together, gotten a stable job in Oil & Gas and made something of himself. He's now re-married to a younger model and expecting a child. This throws a wrench into Martha's homelife as her son reacts to this news like all teenagers do...badly.

**Sue Ann:** (60s) is a tiger lady in her real estate business and had to sacrifice many feminine aspects (like having children) in her push to be the best. But she's also a Texas Lady, always prim and proper without a hair out of place.

**Frank:** At 18, he's the youngest worker at Martha's Shop. Full of energy and lean muscle, he's a charismatic heartthrob with a good work ethic (though always on his own time) and a good heart (that he's happy to share). Think Channing Tatum.

**Don Coffey:** Lawyer in his 40s/50s with eyes on a political career, he's a popular Democrat in a solidly red city/state. Big wattage smile like a televangelist and good humor carry him along way, as well as his want-to-do-good heart. Still, he's willing to see things in various ways to make his case – just like a good politician.

**Stan:** Gruff worker at Martha's Shop, he has not taken well to the changing leadership from her father to Martha and thinks a woman's place should be at home. When he gets fired, he's a prime candidate for who called in the purple Mustang.

**Bobby Roundtree:** Baytown's new City Manager responsible for the Junk Car Ordinance, he's trying to do good and is a straight bureaucrat who doesn't seem to have much common sense.

**Pete Alfaro:** Longtime Mayor, popular and well-known among the people of Baytown, he wants to promote Baytown, help make it more beautiful against all those oil refineries, and have everyone get along.

**Debbie Barnes:** Assistant to Bobby Roundtree, she's the one that fielded all the initial calls/complaints about the purple Mustang.

**Judge:** No nonsense judge who's just found himself in the middle of a circus.

**Helen:** Former classmate of Martha's, she's also married to one of Martha's competitors and is a prime suspect for calling in the complaint about the Mustang. She's the perfect stay-at-home-mom with her 3 perfect kids who eat all her perfectly cooked and nutritious meals and she always looks perfectly stunning. A bit of a control freak, she wears the pants in her marriage.

**Steve:** Helen's husband, he took his wife's last name to take after her father's auto body shop which is unfortunately just down the street from Martha's and is their chief competitor.

**George:** Old school Texan, wears his Cowboy hat, boots, belt buckle and spurs like he's on the ranch, even though he's the local used car salesman. Believes a woman is better seen than heard. He cancels the dealership's contract with Baytown Motors once Martha takes over.

**Alicia:** (early 20s) Young, Latina, female mechanic who's more macho than Martha's feminine style.

**Reporter:** Reporter who does the news coverage interviews of this local ruckus.

**STAGE DIRECTIONS:** Person who serves as the narrator of the stage-play, reads all the locations and action lines. Strong, clear voice, stamina to narrate entire script.

Single scene/One-liner characters:

ANOTHER MECHANIC

ANOTHER OBSCURED MAN

BAILIFF

BANKER

BARKING MAN

BARRY KLEIN

BARTENDER

BURLY MAN

BUSINESS MAN

BUSINESS MAN 2

CARRIE NEWMAN, Baytown Sun Reporter

CASHIER

COURTROOM ONLOOKER

CUSTOMER

GUYS

HUSBAND

INSURANCE ADJUSTER

JOE NIETO

JOHN MITCHELL

KELLY

KYLE (15), Mikey's best friend and son of Helen

LETTER WRITER

MALE DRIVER

MAN

MECHANIC

NEW MECHANIC

OBSCURED MAN

OBSCURED WOMAN

PRINCIPAL

RANDOM PERSON

TOM BROKAW, National News Anchor

WIFE

WITNESS

WOMAN 1

WOMAN 2

WOMAN 3

YOUNG MOTHER