## L.A. Vida Character Breakdown

All Latino cast



Lupe Padilla - 25 year old Latina female, alto. Cares for the family after the death of her mother. Staunch defender of her little brother and father. Had a relationship with Jake as a teen. Has a dream of going to college. Misses her mother terribly.

Jake Ruiz - 26 year old half-

Caucasian half-Mexican male, Francisco Ruiz' son, tenor. Idealistic and caring. Inherits his father's meat plant. Had a relationship with Lupe as a teen.

**Rafael Infante** - 24 year old Mexican male, tenor. From Oaxaca Mexico. Loves Lupe. Plays guitar in the Ballet Folklórico Band.

<u>José Maria Padilla</u> - 17 year old Latin male, Lupe's brother, singing/rap, tenor. Always wears a t-shirt with the image of Vicente Fernandez. Angry and frustrated. Misses his deceased mother. Was friends with Pinto as a child.

<u>Gabi Torrentera</u> - 45 year old Latina female, Lupe's aunt, alto. Owner of Gabi's Panadería. Hot tempered and protective of the Padilla family. Carries a gun.

<u>Conchise Ochoa</u> - 27 year Latina female, Gabi's niece, alto. Works as a cook in Gabi's panadería. A bit of a busybody and gossip. Has a rocky relationship with her boyfriend Nacho. Conchise and Nacho provide the comic relief.

<u>Nacho Chavez</u> - 26 year old Latino male, Conchise's boyfriend, baritone. Works as a cook in Gabi's panadería. Conchise's boyfriend. Conchise and Nacho provide the comic relief.

Mr. Padilla - 53 year old Mexican male, Lupe's father and manager of the meat plant, baritone. Quiet and authoritative. Has trouble dealing with his wife's death.

Mrs. Padilla - 51 year old Mexican female, Lupe's deceased mother. Appears to Lupe in the two church scenes. Soprano.

**Rosa Medina** - 45 year old immigrant Mexican woman, Toni's wife, undocumented worker, alto. Speak Spanish only. Busybody.

<u>Antonio Medina</u> - 47 year old immigrant Mexican man, Rosa's husband, undocumented worker, baritone. Speaks only Spanish.

**Pinto** - 19 year old male, gang member, baritone. Is interested in Lupe. Was friends with José Maria as a child

<u>Gang member #1</u> – young male Latino, speaking only. Part of Pinto's gang.

Gang member #2 - young male Latino, speaking only. Part of Pinto's gang.

**INS agent #1**-speaking only. Male.

**INS agent #2**-speaking only. Male.

<u>Lawyer #1-</u>speaking only. Male.

<u>Lawyer #2</u>-speaking only. Male

**Student #1-**speaking only

**Student #2-**speaking only

**Student #3-**speaking only

Loudspeaker voice- speaking from offstage, anyone

<u>Company</u>: sing, speak, and dance. Workers at the plant. Customers at Gabi's panadería. Friends of the Padilla family.

Pancho-tenor Chuy-tenor Jesús-baritone

Elvia-soprano Cierra-alto Xochitl (Xochi)-alto

## **Combined roles**:

Elvia: Mrs. Padilla

Pinto: INS agent #1, Student #1

Nacho: INS agent #2 Antonio: Lawyer #1 Chuy: Lawyer #2

**Jesús**: Gang member #1 **Pancho**: Gang member #2

Jake: Student #2 Rafael: Student #3