

Barrino, Fantasia ^[1]

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Fantasia Barrino

1984-

by Emily Horton
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Dupuis, Jyle. "Fantasia Barrino." 2009.

^[9]

R&B singer Fantasia Barrino was born June 30, 1984 in [High Point](#) ^[10], North Carolina. She attended [Andrews High School](#) ^[11] in High Point until she dropped out at age 16. After that, Barrino lived briefly in [Greensboro](#) ^[12] before appearing on the television series [American Idol](#) ^[13].

Fantasia Barrino rose to fame in 2004, winning first place in [American Idol's](#) ^[13] third season. Since her [Idol](#) ^[13] victory, Barrino has released five albums: [Free Yourself](#) ^[14] (2004), [Fantasia](#) ^[15] (2006), [Back to Me](#) ^[16] (2010), [Side Effects of You](#) ^[17] (2013), and [The Definition Of](#) ^[18] (2016). She won a Grammy award in 2011 for Best Female R&B Vocal Performance for the song "Bittersweet", after six previous nominations.

Barrino took a brief hiatus from recording music after her sophomore album to explore acting and writing. She played Celie Johnson for almost a year in the Broadway production of *The Color Purple* [19], based on Alice Walker's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel. Barrino will also play Celie Johnson in an upcoming film adaptation.

Barinno wrote and published *Life is Not a Fairy Tale* [20] in 2005, a personal memoir of her life. The Lifetime Network [21] adapted this memoir into a 2006 television movie, *Life is Not a Fairy Tale: The Fantasia Barrino Story* [22]. Barrino played herself in this movie and was nominated for a 2007 Image Award for Outstanding Access in a Television Movie, Mini-Series, or Dramatic Special. She was also nominated for Female Choice Reality/Variety TV Star at the 2004 Teen Choice Awards for her performance on *American Idol* [13]. Fantasia continues to star in her own reality television show on VH1, *Fantasia For Real* [23].

Barrino has two children, and continues to pursue a career in R&B music and acting.

Sources:

Fantasia, Official. Last modified 2012. Accessed March 22, 2012. www.fantasiaofficial.com/ [24]

Internet Movie Database, Fantasia Barrino. Last modified March 22, 2012. <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm1568881/awards> [25]

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Video courtesy of MattPianoBoy. "Fantasia." Posted on September 3, 2006. Available from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WSQt_X2AUak [27] (accessed March 23, 2012).

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[19] <https://colorpurple.com/>

[20] <https://www.amazon.com/Life-Not-Fairy-Tale-Fantasia/dp/074328156X>

[21] <https://www.mylifetime.com/>

[22] <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0810937/>

[23] <http://www.vh1.com/shows>

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