

Barrino, Fantasia ^[1]

Fantasia Barrino

June 30, 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:

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