

The King and I is a 1951 musical by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II based on the 1944 novel *Anna and the King of Siam* by Margaret Landon, which derives from the memoirs of Anna Leonowens, governess to the children of King Mongkut of Siam in the early 1860s. IN the 1860s the King of Siam tries to bring Western culture to his country and engages Anna Leonowens, an attractive English schoolteacher, to teach his royal princes and princesses. She gets to Siam with her son, Louis, and is shocked because she will have to live in the palace. Soon Anna gets the King's children's affection, but Anna insists on having a house of her own. Meanwhile the musical follows the development of the love story between Tuptim – future King's wife - and Lun Tha.

A crisis is developing in Siam. An agent in Singapore has known that the king is a barbarian. Anna defends him and when the King tells her that some high-ranking English men and women are coming to visit Siam and to judge him she Anna suggests that they must be entertained with a European dinner and ball, and with all the Siamese princes and princesses wearing European dress. Meanwhile Lun Tha and Tuptim are making plans to run away together. The visit is a huge success and Both Anna and the King are joyful by the success of their efforts. But suddenly Tuptim is brought to the King because captured while trying to escape and Lun Tha has been killed.. The King orders that she be whipped, but Anna fiercely oppose. Anna feels that she can't stay in Siam any longer, and makes preparations to return to England. But the King falls seriously ill. On his death-bed the King implores her to stay on in Siam, and she Anna cannot find the courage to leave a country, a people and, most of all, the pupils she has come to love.