

## Character List

This list carefully avoids spoilers. Names and descriptions below reflect the original information given about each character. Main characters are listed, along with a few minor players.

### PennDutch Inn Regulars

**Magdalena Yoder** - 43 year-old Mennonite - owns controlling interest in the PennDutch Inn until Susannah proves herself “competent and productive” - then they will be equal partners

**Susannah** - Magdalena’s 33-year-old sister who ran off and married a Presbyterian after the death of her parents - now divorced, she is irresponsible and Magdalena is endlessly critical of her

**Mr. and Mrs. Yoder, deceased** - the parents of Magdalena and Susannah died 10 years earlier in a highway smash-up, their vehicle being sandwiched between a truck full of running shoes and a tanker full of milk - previously Mr. Yoder had been a dairy man and Mrs. Yoder sold eggs - they may have already passed on to Glory, but you’ll hear a lot about Mama and Papa, especially Mama

**Mose Hostetler** - 73 years ole, a kinsman and handyman for the inn - Amish instead of Mennonite

**Freni Hostetler** - Mose’s wife - the crotchety cook for the PennDutch Inn

### PennDutch Animals

**Shnookums** - Susannah’s tiny dog

**Pertelote** - Magdalena’s boldest hen

**Matilda and Bertha** - milk cows

### Guests for the Week

1 **Heather Brown** - photographic essayist for a magazine - mothlike appearance - does not eat with the rest of the guests

**Herbivores** - Members of A.P.E.S. - Animal Parity Endowment Society, in other words, animal rights activists:

2 **Ms. Jeanette Parker** - a vegan (eats only fruits, vegetables, and grains) - a redhead

3 **Linda McMahon** - friend of Ms. Parker - a lacto (a vegetarian who eats dairy products, but no eggs or fish) - young and kind of mousy

- 4 **Joel Teitlebaum** - eats eggs, but no meat, fish, or dairy products - a sculptor from Philadelphia - tall and skinny - snacks on sunflower seeds

### **Omnivores**

- 5 **Garrett Ream** - U.S. Congressman - tall, dark, and handsome  
6 **Lydia Johns Ream** - socialite and wife of Garrett - an heiress and daughter of a senator - classy  
7 **Delbert James** - the Congressman's aide, a speech writer - seems impassive  
8 **Billy Dee Grizzle** - eats meat - a contractor - attached to A.P.E.S. even though he eats meat - quit hunting after he mistook his 11-year-old daughter, Jennifer Mae, for a deer and shot her

### **Some Hernia, Pennsylvania, folks**

**Jeff Myers** - Chief of Police - has a wife: Tammy, and children: Sarah, David, and Dafna (Side note: I learned very recently that author Tamar Myers is married to Jeffrey Myers. She and Jeffrey have three children - Sarah, David, and Dafna, according to encyclopedia.com.) Chief Myers is about to leave on vacation three hours after his appearance in the book, so the solving of the murders is left to his underlings.

**Alvin Hostetler** - lawyer

**Melvin Stoltzfus** - acting Chief of Police in the absence of Chief Myers

**John** - Mose and Freni's son who now runs their farm while they work for Magdalena

**Barbara** - John's wife - 6 feet tall - always at odds with Freni

**Samuel Nevin Yoder** - owner of Yoder's Corner Market - a relative of Magdalena's father

**Doc Shafer** - veterinarian

**Harold P. Smith, III** - a "full-time people doctor" and the "epitome of arrogance"

**Ed Houlihan** - county coroner, a trained pathologist