

No Use Dying Over Spilled Milk 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 some minor players.

Pennsylvania Dutch Mystery Series Regulars

Magdalena Yoder - 44 year-old Mennonite (one of those Mennonites who were formerly Amish, from Switzerland) - owns controlling interest in the PennDutch Inn until Susannah proves herself "competent and productive" - then they will be equal partners

Susannah Yoder Entwhistle - Magdalena's 34-year-old sister. She ran off and married a Presbyterian after the death of her parents. Now divorced, she is lazy and irresponsible. She billows when she walks because she drapes herself in "enough fabric to clothe a small third-world country."

Papa and Mama Yoder, deceased - The parents of Magdalena and Susannah died about 11 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 about them, especially Mama.

Mose Hostetler - age: mid 70's, a kinsman and handyman for the inn - Amish instead of Mennonite

Freni Hostetler - about 75 years old, Mose's wife - the crotchety cook for the PennDutch Inn

Doc Shafor - octogenarian veterinarian who loves to cook

Aaron Miller - the Yoders' handsome neighbor and Magdalena's romantic interest

Melvin Stoltzfus - Chief of Police - a sometimes romantic interest of Susannah's

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

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

PennDutch Animals

Shnookums - Susannah's tiny dog

Sadie - the Hostetler's horse

Ohioans

Yost Yoder - drowned in a tank of milk - Freni's double first cousin - an Amish dairyman - had been involved in starting up a cheese factory, which would compete with Daisybell Dairies - his death leaves 10 children fatherless

Sarah - wife of Yost - Freni stays with her while in Ohio

Annie Stutzman - phoned Magdalena to let her know of Yost's death - lives in Farmersburg, Ohio - cousin of Magdalena's father (Amos)

Samuel and Elizabeth Troyer (Sam and Lizzie) - Magdalena and Susannah sleep at their house while in Ohio - 5 sons: Isaac (6 y.o., the oldest), Benjamin, Solomon, Peter, Elias

Levi Mast - Samuel's first cousin - died a week earlier by falling off his silo on his wedding day - another Amish dairy farmer, working with Yost to start up a cooperative that would compete with Daisybell Dairies

Jacob and Catherine Mast - Levi's parents

Enos Mast - Levi's brother

Sophia Mast - Levi's sister

Barbara Hooley - Levi's fiancé

Peter Hooley - Barbara's little brother

Bishop Kreider - Amish bishop who spoke at the graveside service

Stayrook Gerber - also an Amish dairy farmer - has a wife and four children - a neighbor of the Stutzman's

Danny Hem - from West Virginia - the new owner of Daisybell Dairies since the death of his uncle, Wesley P. Craycraft, III - Daisybell Dairies is a cheese factory, specializing in Farmersburg Swiss cheese, a gourmet cheese

Elsie Bontrager - a Daisybell employee who moved away after Danny Hem allegedly made improper advances toward her

Pauline - proprietress of Pauline's Pancake House

Marvin Stoltzfus - sheriff and first cousin of Melvin Stoltzfus

Arnold Ledbetter - general manager of Daisybell Dairies

Miscellaneous Others

Harold P. Smith, III - Hernia's M.D.

Harriet - chauffeured a carload of relatives to the funeral from Goshen, Indiana - apparently, she makes her living by driving the Amish when they need to travel

Hooter Faun - a guest at the PennDutch Inn - Magdalena suspects Aaron is interested in her