

Character List for *Just Plain Pickled to Death*

This list carefully avoids spoilers. Names and descriptions below reflect the original information given about each character. Main characters are listed, as well as 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

Aaron Miller - the Yoders' handsome neighbor and Magdalena's fiancé, her "Pooky Bear"

Aaron Miller, Sr. (Pops) - Aaron's father

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

Melvin Stoltzfus - Chief of Police

Zelda Root - assistant police chief

Sam Yoder - owner of Yoder's Corner Market - relative of Magdalena's father

Dorothy Yoder - Sam's wife - influenced Sam to become a Methodist

PennDutch Animals

- **Shnookums** - Susannah's tiny dog
- **Matilda and Bessie** - milk cows

Characters in Current Story

Catherine Miller - Aaron's deceased mother

Sarah Weaver - found dead in a barrel of pickled sauerkraut on the back porch of the PennDutch Inn - had been missing 20 years - had been Susannah's best girlhood friend until she disappeared

Rebecca Weaver - Sarah's mother - disappeared about a month before Sarah did - sister of Aaron, Sr.

Catherine Miller - Aaron's deceased mother

Jonas Weaver - Sarah's father - no one in Hernia knows where he lives now

The Beeftrust - Aaron's aunts (Aaron Senior's sisters)

- **Veronica (Vonnie) Gerber** - the oldest - 6'2" tall, weighs 200 pounds - has a crabby temperament, a large nose and tiny feet (for her height) - lives in Fox Chapel, a suburb of Pittsburgh
- **Leah Troyer** - next oldest and the tallest - 6'4" tall - has a smallish head and no neck - resembles Magdalena, according to Aaron, Jr. - lives in New Jersey
- **Lizzie Blough** - a devout Mennonite, but looks English - lives in Du Bois, PA - has platinum blond hair, wears lipstick and has pierced ears - has very small ears and large hands
- **Magdalena Fike** - whimpers like a frightened puppy and has a very large bosom - lives in St. Louis, MO - she mumbles and her speech is so hard to understand her husband sometimes has to translate - has very small hands
- **Rebecca Weaver** - missing 20 years

Rudy Gerber - Veronica's husband - pudgy, shorter than his wife, has silver hair and silver-rimmed glasses - wearing an Armani suit and a \$500-dollar tie

Solomon Troyer - Leah's husband - he's short and bald with very short fingers

Manasses Blough - Lizzie's husband - wears a bolo tie, has dyed hair and mustache, and smokes cigarettes

Elias Fike - Auntie Magdalena's husband - short, stylish (wearing a suit and tie), and black

Wagler Hooley - lost a barn to a tornado and Magdalena's mother went into labor with Magdalena during the community barn raising

Rev. Michael Schrock - pastor of Beechy Grove Mennonite Church, Magdalena's church

Lodema Schrock - wife of Pastor Schrock and organist at the church

Norah Hall - blames Magdalena for her daughter not becoming a movie star (see Book 2 in the Pennsylvania Dutch Mystery Series: *Parsley, Sage, Rosemary, and Crime*)

Clarence Stucky - former owner of Stucky Ridge - after he had mined all the coal, he turned it over to the city and it is the location of Settlers Cemetery

Dolores Brown - nosy - owns a rooming house in Hernia

Diane Lefcourt - Rebecca's best friend

Andrea - replacement for Zelda at the P.D. - on loan from Bedford

Hernia's Two stores:

- **Yoder's Corner Market** - overpriced and understocked
- **Miller's Feed Store** - caters to livestock

Misc. Abbreviation

ALPO - Amish Lifestyles Plan Option - guests pay for the privilege of doing their own laundry and maid service