Character List for A Perfect Square

Setting: Shipshewana, Indiana, in late October

This list carefully avoids spoilers. Names and descriptions below reflect the original information given about each character. Main characters are listed, along with many minor players, more or less in the order they appear in the story.*

Deborah Yoder - young Amish mother with 5 children

Esther Zook - widow with a young daughter - planning her wedding in a couple of weeks

Joshua - Deborah's 18-month old son

Leah - Esther's 3-year-old daughter

Tobias Fisher - Esther's fiancé - works in the town's feed store, as well as doing farm work

Reuben Fisher - 35 years old - Tobias's cousin - they both live on and work their grandfather's farm

Callie Harper - owner of Daisy's Quilt Shop in Shipshewana

Cinnamon and Lightning - the Yoders' buggy horses

Rick - Callie's deceased husband - died when they lived in Texas, before Callie moved to Indiana after her Aunt Daisy died and willed all her property to Callie

Max - Callie's yellow Labrador

Lydia - 17-year-old Amish girl who works for Callie fulltime

Mrs. Knepp - owner of another guilt shop in Shipshewana, Quilts and Needles

Trent McAllister - editor of the Shishewana Gazette

Law Enforcement Personnel

- Officer Andrew Gavin strict by-the-book officer
- Officer Stan Taylor senior officer in Shipshewanna old enough to retire
- Shane Black detective from the county office

Jonas Yoder - Deborah's husband

Samuel - mysterious man hiding in the woods

Katie - dead Amish woman floating in the pond

Timothy Lapp - Katie's father - lives in Pennsylvania

Deborah and Jonas's children: Martha, 10; Mary, 7; Joseph and Jacob, 6; Joshua, 18 months

Melinda Byer - has two sons, one of them with a chronic disease, and a baby daughter

Adalyn Landt - local lawyer - age: nearing 50

Ira Bontrager - confused old man who shows up at Callie's shop looking for his daughter - 89 years old

Sharon - Ira's wife

Bethany - Ira's (imaginary?) daughter

Caleb Bontrager - Ira's son

Sarah - Esther's mother

Obie - Esther's father

Mrs. Drisban - encounters Esther in the general store and berates her for endangering Leah by planning to marry "the cousin of a murderer"

Robert and Nancy Gerald - customers from Chicago at Daisy's Quilt Shop - Nancy is interested in producing an Amish quilt exhibit and leaves her card with Callie

Baron Hearn - a businessman, a welder

Margie - owns the coffee shop

Erin Troyer - knitter at the old folks' home where Ira Bontrager lives

Emma - someone from Reuben's past

Mrs. Barnwell - bank employee

Bishop Elam - spiritual counselor for the Shipshewana Amish in the story

Rachel - Katie's mother

* Footnote:

Please understand that my review is based on the audio version of the book. For that reason, I have to spell unfamiliar names phonetically (unless they occur on early pages, which I can access on amazon.com.) Also, I will sometimes miss names completely or get them out of order if I miss them when they first occur. Other times, I may list characters out of order on purpose if I place them with a group, in which some appear earlier in the story than others. (You can always use Ctrl-F to search for a name if you have trouble finding it.)