

Under The Persimmon Tree

By Suzanne Fisher Staples

Najmah “star”	Novel’s protagonist (main character) Twelve year old Afghan girl
Nusrat “help”	School teacher from America Changed her name from Elaine and is 25 years old Converted to Islam Husband is Faiz (doctor) Lives in Peshawar, Pakistan Opens a school for refugee children
Nur “light”	Najmah’s older brother
Baba-Jan	Najmah’s father Term that means father dear
Mada-Jan	Najmah’s mother Term that means mother dear
Habib “friend”	Najmah’s infant brother
Uncle Mohiuddin	Selfish, sketchy, weird (stalker-y) He sells poppies - opium - heroin (sells on the Black Market) Rich Heavy-set
Fatima	Nusrat’s Mother-in-law (Faiz’s and Asma’s mother) Positive relationship ^ Snow-white hair Bright, dark eyes English professor at University of Kabul Birdlike (talkative, features, actions, perceptive, energetic)
Sultan	Nusrat’s brother-in-law (Asma’s husband) Chair of the Department of Education at University of Kabul Gentle soul, heart of a poet Bit eccentric (he listens to folk music from Afghanistan) Bald, muscular, broad shoulders Clean-shaven
Husna	Nusrat’s housemaid/servant
Maha	An old lady that was Faiz’s housemaid when he was young
Haroon	Kind

