

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 “Reviver of faith”	Uncle that tries to steal the land from Najmah and Mada-jan Grows poppies to sell opium on the Black Market Heavy-set/fat/clumsy/tall Opposite of his brother, Baba-jan Rich
Fatima	Nusrat’s Mother-in-Law (Faiz’s and Asma’s mother) Birdlike woman (skinny, long nose, active, energetic) English professor at University of Kabul Snow-white hair
Sultan	Asma’s husband (Nusrat’s brother-in-law) Chair of the Dept. of Education at University of Kabul Tall, bald, clean-shaven Has a collection of music
Husna	Servant/housemaid for Nusrat
Maha	
Haroon	Brings children from the refugee camp to help them get food and an education. Good guy.
Basharat	Accompanies Nusrat and Husna Makes their purchases for a small percentage

