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CHARACTERS

Kleynhans:

- Kleynhans are Ben's best friends. He lives in Mayfair and they always play PlayStation.

Luke Anderson:

- Oom Luke was Ben's stepfather.
- He is Elma (Ben's half sister)'s father.
- He is gone now. Nathalie told Elma and Ben that Oom Luke went to a foreign country in Africa.

Tannie Pop:

- She is Ben's neighbor / family friend
- She lives in Mayfair, Johannesburg
- She said Ben could stay with them

Leon:

- Leon works at Eagletons. He told Ben to talk to Mike for work at Eagletons.

Mike:

- Owner of Eagletons at the fresh produce market. He gave Ben his first job.

Tannie Joan:

- She works in the fresh produce market at Moerdyk Markagente office
- She knew Ben's father; tell him what his nickname (oil) was; says he was in Bloemfontein to work there.
- His call was later to say that Oil went to work at the furniture factory, Houtgerus.

Alta:

- She helps Ben to get a job as a waiter at Spur and to rent a room near the Spur.

Kenny:

- Work at Houtgerus - The furniture factory in Bloemfontein.
- Ben went to the bar because he was discouraged after he could not find his father and decided to drink him a drink drink.
- Kenny tells Ben that Bobby (Oil) went out of his way to look for a girl (Nathalie).

French and Nonnie:

- They help Ben with temporary work on their farm, Soetwater.
- Bobby has worked for 1 year on Soetwater and other farms. He died in a strange accident, as if he had fallen off a wreath. He is now in their cemetery

Charl:

- Charl was French and Nonnie's son. He had an accident on a motorcycle and he is now dead.
- Uncle Frans is guilty of Charl's death because he bought the motorcycle. Tannie Nonnie said the bike was too big for a young man like Charl and that it was too dangerous - she was right.

Helena:

- Helena is not a girl's girl. She works on the farm just like a boy and she just knows what's going on on the farm. She also plays PlayStation.
- She goes to school in Beaufort West and she goes home every weekend.
- She was not friendly to Ben at the beginning as she thought he was there to take Charl's place.

Pastor Chalmers:

- The pastor of the Apostolic Church in Hoopvol
- He fell in love with Miss Laetitia September when they were young people. They were not married because they were not the same colour
- Pastor Chalmers and Miss September go away at the end of the story and they are now faithful.

Mrs Chalmers:

- She is the sunshine mother of the Apostolic Church in Hoopvol.
- She is always unhappy and angry with everyone. She is like a stepmother for Nathalie.
- Mrs Chalmers makes the life of Pastor Chalmers unpleasant.

Liefie:

- She is Nathalie's best friend and former classmate.
- Work as one of the chefs at the Rose and Crown hotel's kitchen.
- Liefie knew everything about Nathalie when she was in Hoopvol.
- In the end, Liefie is the new owner of the Rose and Crown. She phoned Frans to pick Ben.

Fiona:

- Fiona is also Nathalie's former classmate.
- She worked at the inquiry desk at the municipality.
- Fiona is the strange woman whom Nathalie, Ben and Elma have seen in Mayfair. She told Nathalie that Bobby was at the fresh produce market in Pretoria.

Olivia:

- Olivia is also Nathalie's former classmate but she is one year younger than Nathalie.
- She works as an employed person at the hotel.
- Her parents are very protective and paranoid about Olivia. She is also very innocent because she had a protected education.
- On her eighteenth birthday she is assaulted. She said it was Bobby because she saw the delivery truck but Bobby was innocent. Kevin assaulted her.

- She and Nathalie are no longer friends when Bobby goes away.

Tannie Lettie:

- She is the owner of the Rose and Crown Hotel.
- She is good friends with Miss September.
- Big plans for Nathalie to be the new owner for the hotel.
- She is not faithful. She thinks Bobby is not a good person and she says it to Nathalie. She's Nathalie must be her own person.
- She told Olivia that she did not give Nathalie Bobby's number when he called the hotel.

Laetitia September:

- She is the Mayor of Hoopvol
- Nathalie worked for Laetitia when her assistant went to Port Elizabeth.
- She cries every day in her office about Pastor Chalmers because they are not married and she loves him.
- Nathalie and Miss become good friends and talk about love. She took Nathalie to Beaufort West when Bobby left.

Sakkie:

- Sakkie is the constable in the police on Hoopvol. He is passionate about his work.
- Nathalie and Liefie have nicknames for him like "Constable 007" and "Constable Pickup".
- Sakkie respects women and wants Nathalie to become his wife. Nathalie does not want to be with Sakkie for the rest of her life because his will goes out of hope.
- In the end, Sakkie is the head of the police in Hoopvol but he was sergeant for it.

Kevin:

- Kevin is the deacon at the church.
- He is the kind of person who gives you grills.
- He touched Olivia on her birthday. He took Bobby's delivery truck, so it looked like Bobby was the one who assaulted Olivia.
- He acknowledges everything about Sunday's anniversary on Olivia's birthday.

Tannie Rhoda:

- Tannie Rhoda is the owner of the rooms where Bobby and Kevin stay.
- She told Sakkie that Bobby did not assault Olivia because she gave him a sleeping pill earlier in the morning because he was hurt from his motorcycle crash.

BEN DE KOKER

Ben is a teenager in high school. He is sixteen years old.

appearance:

- Short, dark hair.

- Birthmark on his elbow.
- Broad shoulders.

Personality:

- A very attractive boy.
- interesting

otherwise:

- He smokes.
- He had nightmares over the fire in his house.

Ben is the only son of Nathalie and Bobby. He was named after his father whose second name was Benjamin. He has the mother's maiden name (maiden names) and he was born illegally.

When Ben's mother and sister burned, he went to see his father. His mother always said his father was dead but her story changed a lot and he knows she did not tell him the real story.

When he was in Pretoria in Moerdyk he saw a picture of his father. He recognized his father because they were the same. He asked the receptionist, Tannie Joan, what his father's name was and she said it was Old Oil. She also said that he no longer works at Moerdyk. She says he went to Bloemfontein to do other work but she can not remember where he said he was going to work. Ben gives her his phone number and she says she will call him when she recalls something about Oil.

Ben goes to Bloemfontein and he goes to the Spur for something to eat. His waiter's name was Alta and his help Ben to get a job like a waiter at Spur and to rent a room near the Spur. Tannie Joan called Ben a few weeks later to say she remembered something. Oil said he was working at the Furniture Factory in Bloemfontein but she could not remember her name. Ben asks Alta for the name and she says it is Houtgerus.

Bone goes to the furniture factory but the receptionist does not help him and she does not want to tell him if someone is called Oil at the furniture factory. Ben sat down the road and waited for the furniture factory to see if one of the people who came out was his dad but nobody looked like Old Oil. He walks over the road to the bar. A few men from the furniture factory play darts in the bar and they call old Oil. Ben asked one of them, Kenny, about Old Oil and he said Oil went to a town in the Karoo to visit a girl. The name of the village is Hopeful.

Ben goes to Hopeful. He goes to Rose and Crown and Liefie, the new owner, is at the reception desk. When he walked she was shocked as she saw a ghost. Love calls for Uncle Frans van Eeden to pick him up.

They go to Frans's farm, Soetwater. Frans and Nonnie, Frans's wife, had a son, Charl, but he died in a motorcycle accident. Ben stays in Charl's room and wears his clothes. They also have a daughter, Helena, but she is in the residence at school in Beaufort West. Frans told Ben what happened to his father Bobby (Oil). Bobby returned to Hopefully to Bloemfontein and worked on Soetwater and other farms for a few months. One evening there was snow and he went to look for all the sheep. At night he fell over the wreath and he is now dead. He was buried in Frans's family cemetery.

Nathalie had a home in Hopeful. Nobody stayed in it for many years and it looks very neglected. He and Tannie Nonnie say they will make the house better and make it a guesthouse. The name will be Bonalie (Bobby and Nathalie).

In the loading chapter, we see Ben at the van Eeden's cemetery with his mother and sister's surpluses. He puts the surpluses into the wall with the Karoo stone Bobby gave to Nathalie many years ago.

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NATHALIE DE KOKER

- Her parents died: in a car accident on the outshoorn road
- Living with pastor chalmers and mrs. Chalmers
- She gets home when she is 21
- She works at R & C receptionist for Tannie Lettie
- Gielie, Sakkie and Bobby love her
- She does not like Hopeful because she is alone and can not go to university
- Start getting sad when Jorrie goes to Stellenbosch
- Her best friends are Olivia
- She and Mrs. Chalmers does not have a good relationship because she costs her
- Vaal brown hair and sprots (do not know why bag and bobby do not like) lick and long nose

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