



The Tremble  
of  
Love

A Novel of the  
BAAL SHEM TOV

Ani Tuzman

# LIST OF CHARACTERS



This is an alphabetical list of the characters in *The Tremble of Love*, along with a brief description of each one. Characters who are named in one scene only and do not appear again in the narrative are not included here. Note: “Reb,” a word often found within the story with the names of male characters, is a title of respect before a name, e.g., Reb Eliezar, so look for characters by first name, e.g., Eliezar.

Alta Bina, *old herbalist*

Aleksander, *friend of Gedaliah’s, son of Reb Wolf*

Amadeusz, *Polish parish priest*

Ambrozy, *farmer in mountains of Zabie, husband of Pela*

Amos, *son of Mendel, husband of Zahava*

Aryeh, *blacksmith, father of Rifka, husband of Dvorah*

Avigal, *daughter of Luba and Boaz*

Avner, *rabbi, father of Zahava*

Batleya, *daughter of Gedaliah and Zofia, mother of Nava*

Batya, *cousin of Gittel, mother of Elias, Naftali, and Zofia*

Benjamin, *lame friend of Samuel’s*

Ber, *husband of Leya, father of Gedaliah and Samuel,  
namesake of Gedaliah’s son, Ber*

Bluma, *wife of Gershon*

Boaz, *shepherd boy with whistle*

Channa, *daughter of Rabbi Elijah, wife of Yisroel*  
 Chmielnicki (Bogdan Chmielnicki), *leader of Ukrainian*  
*Cossack uprising in late 1600s*

Dalia, *daughter of Channa and Yisroel*  
 Dembowski (Mikolaj Dembowski), *bishop of the city of*  
*Kamenetz-Podolsk*  
 Dobry, *young Polish prison guard*  
 Dominik, *peasant farmer, husband of Justyna*  
 Dovid, *son of Gittel and Jacob*  
 Dvorah (deceased), *wife of Aryeh, mother of Rifka*

Elias, *son of Batya and Rabbi Meir, husband of Naomi*  
 Eliezar, *deceased father of Srolik/Yisroel*  
 Elijah, *Chief Rabbi of Brody, father of Channa and Gershon;*  
*namesake of his grandson Elijah, husband of Batleya*  
 Enoch, *blind tin peddler*  
 Eyzer, *son of Channa and Yisroel*  
 Ezekiel, *friend of Elias, husband of Malka*  
 Ezra, *rabbi, Kabbalist, and teacher of Yisroel in Thuste*

Freyda, *daughter of Dalia and Judah*

Gedaliah, *son of Leya, husband of Zofia*  
 Gershon, *rabbi, judge, son of Rabbi Elijah of Brody,*  
*brother of Channa*  
 Gittel, *best friend of Leya, mother of Dovid, Tanya, and Nessa*

Ha'Ari, *"The Lion," refers to Rabbi Isaac Luria,*  
*renowned sixteenth-century Kabbalist*

Ibrahim, *Kabbalist teacher of Yisroel in Okup*

- Jacob, *husband of Gittel, father of Dovid*
- Jacob Emden, *rabbi from Prague*
- Jacob Frank, *self-declared messiah claiming to be the  
reincarnation of Shabtai Tzvi*
- Jeremiah, *teacher in boys' cheyder in Horodenka*
- Jonathan Eybeschütz, *Sabbatean rabbi from Prague*
- Judah, *nephew of Sadya, husband of Dalia, father of Freyda*
- Kaila, *daughter of Ezekiel and Malka, wet nurse to Eyzer*
- Kovel, *violent Polish peasant*
- Lazer, *rabbi and head of Polnoyye's Yeshiva*
- Levi, *hunchbacked soap maker*
- Leya, *widow, cobbler, mother of Gedaliah and Samuel,  
aunt of Rifka*
- Luba, *daughter of Tanya and Samuel, mother of Avigal*
- Malka, *wife of Ezekiel, grandmother of Raisa*
- Marishka, *Polish peasant friend of Rifka's*
- Meir, *rabbi, judge, husband of Batya, namesake for Zofia  
and Gedaliah's son*
- Mendel, *Channa's first husband*
- Motke, *schoolboy*
- Mikulski, *bishop in Lemberg*
- Naftali, *handicapped son of Batya and Rabbi Meir,  
brother of Zofia and Elias*
- Naomi, *midwife, wife of Elias*
- Nathan, *aka Nathan of Gaza, "prophet" who  
proclaimed Shabtai Tzvi to be the Messiah*
- Nava, *daughter of Batleya and Elijah*
- Nessa, *daughter of Gittel*

Olga, *cousin of Justyna*

Otto Frank, *visitor to inn at Zabie, Sabbatean follower*

Patryk, *son of peasant farmers Dominik and Justyna*

Pela, *midwife in mountains of Zabie*

Potocki, *nobleman, owner of village of Horodenka*

Raisa, *daughter of Kaila*

Rifka, *daughter of Aryeh and Dvora, niece of Leya*

Ruben, *son of Gedaliah and Zofia*

Sadya, *Turkish merchant from Constantinople,  
Judah's uncle*

Samuel, *son of Leya, husband of Tanya, father of Luba*

Sarah, *deceased mother of Yisroel*

Shabtai Tzvi, *false messiah of the 1600s, risen on  
the heels of Chmielnicki massacres*

Shlomo, *deceased father of Jacob*

Srolik, *childhood name for Yisroel*

Tanya, *daughter of Gittel, sister of Dovid, wife of Samuel*

Wolf, *head of Kahal in Horodenka*

Yitta, *widow in Okup*

Zahava, *daughter of Rabbi Avner, wife of Amos*

Zelda, *vegetable hawker*

Zofia, *sister of Naftali and Elias, wife of Gedaliah*