

THE CURIOUS SAVAGE By John Patrick Synopsis: The Curious Savage is the story of an elderly widow named Mrs. Savage, whose husband has left her \$10 million dollars. She intends to give the entire fortune away to people who need it, but her stepchildren strongly object.

Characters:

The Family:

Ethel Savage (f) – Ethel Savage is an eccentric woman who desires to fulfill the dreams of others. She has a small and youthful face with bright, expressive eyes, making her always seem amused and cheerful. Her hair has a blue tint, and she always carries around a large teddy bear. She is kind and accepting, not judging any of the inmates despite their obvious quirks. In contrast with the other inmates, Mrs. Savage is peculiar yet still maintains an accurate perception of herself and of the world around her.

Titus (m)– Titus, one of the Savage stepchildren, is a wealthy and successful businessman. He is aristocratic, stuck-up, and greedy, just like his siblings. He looks upon the inmates in The Cloisters with scorn and disgust, and he always acts very pompously. He is disrespectful to everyone around him, including his brother and sister.

Samuel (m) – Samuel, the third Savage sibling, is less pretentious than the other two. He is short, awkward, and undistinguished, seeming to follow whatever his siblings do and say. He seems to have the least power among the Savage stepchildren.

Lily Belle (f) – Lily Belle, the sister of Titus and Samuel, is tall, thin, and very chic. She is self-confident and assured, but she has a quick temper. She has been romantically involved with many men in the past, and her various past relationships are often ridiculed by her siblings and stepmother. Lily Belle is stubborn, stuck-up, and very materialistic. She is rumored to sleep wearing a tiara.

The Guests:

Florence (f) – Florence, a woman in her late twenties, is an inmate at The Cloisters. She is naturally elegant and maternal, and her warm smile always lightens the mood. She believes that the doll she carries around is in fact her five-year-old son, John Thomas. She is polite and kind to everyone, making sure to always have proper etiquette.

Hannibal (m) – Hannibal, a man in his thirties, is an inmate at The Cloisters. He is described as “pink, plump, and cherubic.” He is gifted at mathematics, and he used to be a statistician for the government; he uses math constantly and often muses on such things as the placement of body parts. He believes he is a master at the violin, but in reality he cannot play.

Fairy May (f) – Fairy May, a woman in her early twenties, is another inmate at the Cloisters. She believes she is beautiful despite her unkempt appearance: she is pale and slender with frazzled

hair, unflattering dresses, and wide-rimmed glasses. Her energy and light-hearted attitude are always amusing but sometimes annoying. She is a compulsive liar, inventing fantastical stories about her childhood that are clearly not veracious.

Jeffrey (m) – Jeff, one of the inmates at the Cloisters, is a handsome man of about twenty-five. He is more quiet and reserved than some of the other inmates, but he possesses a maturity that surpasses his age. He fought in World War II, but he quit before his plane was shot down. He believes this has left him with physical scars on his face, when really he possesses only emotional scars.

Mrs. Paddy (f) – Mrs. Paddy, the final inmate at The Cloisters, is a stout, middle-aged woman of “awesome ferocity.” She is hostile and detached from the other inmates. When her husband told her to shut up, she decided never to talk again; now, she merely lists the countless things she hates. She frequently paints “seascapes,” which consist of one undulating line.

The Staff:

Miss Wilhelmina – Miss Willie is the nurse at The Cloisters. She is very compassionate, treating the inmates with warmth and respect despite her occasional frustration. She enjoys her job and has never let any inmate pay her to escape.

Dr. Emmett (f/m) – Dr. Emmett is the doctor at The Cloisters. S/he is rational and calm, treating every situation with composure and sensibility and providing an authority figure to the inmates. S/he acts as the voice of reason in the sanitarium, genuinely caring about the inmates and wanting them to enjoy their stay at The Cloisters.