

The Price of Dreams: Cast of Characters and Glossary

[A](#) [B](#) [D](#) [F](#) [G](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

A	Alavidza	Tengiz Alavidza, a colonel in the KGB.
	Aleksander Mingrelsky	A leading figure in the Ksord-Akhtarian Communist Party and father of Vakhtan Mingrelsky.
	Arslan	Arslan Maqashveli, university instructor, friend of Ruslan and Nina.
	Asmat	Asmat Shalikov, post-graduate student, friend of Ruslan and Nina.
B	<i>Babushka</i>	Russian for old woman or grandmother.
	<i>Blat</i>	Russian for influence, the most important commodity in the Soviet Union.
D	Dissident	An opponent of the Communist dictatorship.
F	Fatima	Fatima Dzemileva, a Tatar drama student befriended by Ruslan in the summer of 1978.
G	Giorgi	Giorgi Shanidza, Ruslan's half-brother, who is more than 20 years older than him.
	<i>Glasnost</i> and <i>perestroika</i>	'Openness and reconstruction' – the twin pillars of Gorbachev's attempts to reform Soviet Communism in the late 1980s.
	<i>Goskomспорт</i>	The Soviet State Committee of Sports
	Great Patriotic War	The Soviet name for World War Two
I	Iya	Iya Cristavi, university instructor, friend of Ruslan and Nina.
	Izabella	Izabella Jibotian, a young Armenian girl who lived near Ruslan in Azerbaijan.
J	Jibotian, Mrs	Armenian near-neighbour of Ruslan and Tamara.
	Josep	Josep Machutadza, Ruslan's best friend at university.
K	Ketevan	Giorgi and Venera's son.
	KGB	The Soviet secret police and intelligence service.
	Korgay	Shakman Korgay, a leading figure in the Ksord-Akhtarian Communist Party.
L	Lana	A friend of Tamara
	Leila	Leila Meipariani, a singer and friend of Fatima Dzemileva.
	Lionidza	Sergo Lionidza, a leading figure in the Ksord-Akhtarian Communist Party.
M	Manama	Manama Sidamon, post-graduate student, friend of Ruslan and Nina.
	Marta	Marta Bovin, artist, wife of Yakub, close friend of Nina.
	Masha	Masha Guriis, lawyer, friend of Ruslan and Nina.
	Mingrelsky	Vakhtan Mingrelsky, the wayward son of a leading Communist.
	<i>Muallim</i>	A respectful term used to address a man in Azerbaijan.
	Murad	Murad Akchurin, Tatar a drama student befriended by Ruslan in the summer of 1978.
N	Natasha	Russian journalist at <i>Literaturnaya Gazeta</i> .
	Nina	Nina Begishveli, dissident university instructor.
	Nodar	Nodar Lodjanadza, postgraduate student, friend of Ruslan and Nina.
O	Orbeliani	Zourab Orbeliani, human rights lawyer.
	Osman	<i>Muallim</i> Osman, Ruslan's neighbour in Azerbaijan. Yasmin's husband.

P	Partizans	Soviet fighters operating behind enemy lines during the Great Patriotic War.
	<i>Propiska</i>	Soviet internal passport, which had details of the holder's ethnicity.
R	Rebels	A derogatory term for Akhtarians used by many Ksords. It refers to pro-Nazi Akhtarian fascists who launched a campaign of genocide against the Ksords in Akhtaria and Central Kubania.
S	<i>Samizdat</i>	Clandestine journals or literature produced without being submitted to censorship.
	Sergei	Russian journalist at <i>Literaturnaya Gazeta</i> .
	Solidarity	Trade union independent of Communist control, formed by Polish workers in 1980.
	<i>Spartakiad</i>	An Olympic-style sports competition within the Soviet Union.
T	Tamara	Tamara Dadianova, a 16-year-old Akhtarian secondary polytechnic student and Ruslan's girlfriend in the summer of 1978.
	Tsatsa	Tsatsa Chavchavadza, piano teacher, wife of Uta, friend of Ruslan and Nina.
U	Uta	Uta Chavchavadza, Orthodox priest, friend of Ruslan and Nina.
V	Venera	Giorgi Shanidza's wife.
Y	Yakub	Yakub Bovin, Tatar university instructor, husband of Marta, close friend of Nina.
	Yasemin	<i>Babushka</i> Yasemin, Ruslan's neighbour in Azerbaijan. Osman's wife.
Z	Zikladza	Comrade Besiki Zikladza, Communist ruler of Ksordia-Akhtaria.