

Spelling list: Characters in Birdsong

Birdsong by Sebastian Faulks is a poignant novel set against the backdrop of World War I. It follows Stephen Wraysford's journey, from a passionate love affair in pre-war France to his experiences as a soldier in the trenches. The novel explores themes of love, war, and human resilience amid unimaginable hardship.

Stephen **Stephen** Wraysford, the novel's protagonist, is an Englishman who works in Amiens before World War I and has an intense affair with Isabelle Azaire.

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Elizabeth **Elizabeth** Benson, Stephen's granddaughter in the later timeline of the novel, seeks to uncover her grandfather's past.

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Isabelle **Isabelle** Azaire, a married Frenchwoman trapped in a loveless marriage with René Azaire, engages in a passionate love affair with Stephen.

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René **René** Azaire, Isabelle's controlling and abusive husband, becomes Stephen's adversary in the novel.

Jack **Jack** Firebrace, a British tunneller during World War I, forms a close friendship with Stephen.

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Jeanne Isabelle's sister, **Jeanne** , becomes Stephen's confidante in the later part of the novel.

Michael **Michael** Weir is one of Stephen's comrades in the war.

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Bérard

Monsieur **Bérard** is René Azaire's friend.