

21 Addendum

Guide to People and Places

The Imaginary Places of the Novel (in relative order of appearance)

Unuaq Ingriq (pronounced *OOH – noo – ack IN – grick*) — “Morning Mountain” or “Mountain of the Morning” in Afognak Alutiiq (Sugpiak), the original name of Sokroshera Island.

“east beach” and Teplov Point (pronounced *TEP – lawv*) — A rocky beach just before the cliffs of the point, separated by a grassy bluff from the road that goes up into Fort Sheplen from the village. The road above east beach is at its lowest point before winding off into the hills of the fort. Stepan’s beach is sandy with some gravel. The place called “east beach” has coarse gravel, small to medium-sized rocks, and some larger boulders.

Sokroshera Island, Sokroshera Cove (pronounced *soak – row – SHARE – uh*) — A fictional island with pieces borrowed from Woody and Long Islands near Kodiak, and Spruce Island. The island is roughly three miles long and a mile and a half wide. *Sokroshera* derives from the combination of the Russian words for “treasure” and “cave,” as explained in chapter one. The original name of the island is the *Sugpiak* words for “morning mountain” or “mountain of the morning,” as explained in the first and last chapters. **Mount Sokroshera** is described as being less than a thousand feet high, but it rises dramatically out of the bay on its north end.

Sokroshera Cove is the name of the village of less than fifty people, on the verge of extinction, which is the main location of the novel. The village officially got its name when the military began building the fort on the island, changing the village to the same name as the island. The new name replaced “Pasheeranny Cove” (pronounced *puh – SHEER – uh – nee*) from the Russian words for “lost” and “cave,” that the herring plant had used when it was in operation.

Stepan’s Beach (pronounced *step – ON’z*) — the coastline of the geographical Sokroshera Cove, about a third bigger than the Ouzinkie Harbor. The beach faces west-southwest. Named for one of the rebels of the 1830s, who lived on the island. It is sandy, with patches of gravel (such as where the seaplanes load).

Pacific Endeavor Seafoods — an entirely fictional cannery, part owned by investors in Louisiana. It is partly upgraded for salmon canning using the original 1915 Marmot Bay Fisheries Corp. herring plant, but is in shutdown mode when the story begins. It is a blend of the Ouzinkie Packing Co. cannery and the Alaska Packers Assoc. cannery in Larsen Bay, with bits and pieces of other old canneries around Kodiak Island. “Pacific Endeavor” refers to the fact that two former soldiers from Fort Sheplen returned to run a peaceful business on the island. This cannery occupies the northeastern half of the cove.

Fort Rufus Cullen Sheplen — a fort on the north two-thirds of the island that was partially completed during World War II and abandoned before war's end. The various features of this fort are major parts of the plot, including several underground facilities, a 'jeep trail' road system, and various abandoned buildings. The name is a hybrid and adaptation of several generals' names from both sides of the Civil War. It's a shame that this is a fictional place, because it has all the best features of Fort Smith and Fort Tidball, real World War II coastal battery facilities built near Kodiak.

Selivanoff Point (pronounced *sell - ee - VON - off*) — A grassy knoll with young spruce trees that marks the southwestern tip of Sokroshera Cove. Boats arriving from the south and west have to round Selivanoff Point to enter the west-facing Sokroshera Cove. The larger northwestern tip is called "Sentry Point."

Lake Stephanie — the largest lake on Sokroshera Island, directly behind (north of) the village, beyond the abandoned, damaged World War II airstrip. It was used for water in the early days of the cannery, but during World War II, the current water system (using the unnamed "upper lake") was installed.

Cape Unuak, Unuak Channel (pronounced OOH—new—ack) —The Unuak Channel hugs the northwest coast of Sokroshera Island, with the real Duck Bay to its north and west. Cape Unuak is the largest point, on the northeast tip of the island, beneath an abandoned World War II cliffside bunker.

The Fictional Characters, listed in approximate order of appearance (With their Relationships to Each Other as Known when the Novel Begins)

Evgeni Teplov (pronounced *ev - GAY - nee TEP - lawv*) — The leader of a rebellion in Russian America in the late 1830s, with *Unuaq Ingriq* Island as its headquarters.

Stepan Selivanov (pronounced *step - ON sell - ee - VON - off*) — Teplov's right hand man, Alaska-born, half Native, trained as a stonemason, who wants desperately to impress his boss. The ancestor of the current Selivanoff family in the village.

The Monk, Father Zakhar (pronounced *ZAK - ahr*) — Sent to the island by the Russian Orthodox Church with a shipment of church treasures to start a church and Native training center on *Unuaq Ingriq* Island as a way to continue Father Herman's work after his death.

Laura and Will Rezoff (pronounced *REE - soff*) — A young couple that are the only full-time employees of the shut-down Pacific Endeavor Seafoods in Sokroshera Cove. Laura runs the post office and store, and Will is the head machinist, who also keeps the electricity and the water working for the village.

Owen Faltrip (pronounced *FALL – trip*) — a New Jersey native with a German name who was stationed at the fort during World War II, but subsequently came back to the island in the early 1950's to help run the cannery. He is part owner in Pacific Endeavor Seafoods, and has a personal connection to the village. The local kids call Mr. Faltrip "Fat Lip" behind his back, and see him as a grouchy old man.

Jeffrey Hansen — A Bureau of Indian Affairs schoolteacher who has developed a drinking problem after the death of his wife, Jeffrey Hansen leaves Arizona to take a job as the only schoolteacher in Sokroshera Cove Grade School, bringing his young son with him.

Judson Jeffrey Hansen — The main character of the novel is the twelve-year old son of the schoolteacher, a very observant and inquisitive young man, who takes on the nickname "**Jay-Jay**" given him by a local resident in Sokroshera Cove. His dad most often calls him "**Jud.**" His thoughts, expressed as complete sentences instead of just impressions (for the readers' benefit), serve as important narration for the story.

Howie and Betty (Howell and Elizabeth) Lindseth — this husband and wife village couple are both of Scandinavian-Native mixed heritage. Howie's parents have passed away and no other relatives live in the village. His parents' home is now vacant. Betty and her two brothers grew up in an orphanage and came to the village as young adults to work in the cannery. The Lindseths are among the first people rehired whenever the cannery is operating, Howie for the heavy machinery and Betty as the cook in the cannery's mess hall. They have two children, Serafina (called Sandy Ann), in 6th grade, and Jakob (always called Jake), in 4th grade. The Lindseths have a very typical village wood-frame house, and Howie has an old Army jeep he uses to run the mail to and from the planes.

Serafina Ann Lindseth — Serafina is called "**Sandy Ann**" after a beach incident when she was a young child. She is a talkative and occasionally disruptive, yet easily embarrassed sixth grader who agrees to show young Judson Hansen around town and in the process becomes his first friend in the village. She names him "Jay-Jay" and tends to give other people nicknames as well.

Herman Rezoff — 6th grade son of Laura and Will Rezoff. He is quiet, sometimes moody, but knows a lot about local history, especially about Fort Sheplen, and becomes one of Judson's closest friends.

Barbara Rezoff — 3rd grade daughter of Laura and Will Rezoff. She would be classified today as having some level of autism. Barbara is extremely focused on whatever interests her, is usually very calm, and says whatever is on her mind. When the Hansens begin to assist her with her studies, it is the first time any village teacher has attempted to help her learn. Her best friends are April Bazaroff and the Selivanoff twins.

Jakob Lindseth — (Always called “**Jake**”) is a fireball and town clown 4th grader, almost constantly into some kind of mischief with his best friend “Eagle” (William) Bazaroff. Together they are known as the “Holy Terrors.”

Anya Bazaroff (pronounced *Bazz – uh – roff*) — A local woman with four kids who has never been married, is usually drunk, and takes no particular interest in being a mother. Her son **Ward** is one of the town’s bad boys, and is slated to go into Kodiak for High School. Her son **Eagle** is Jake Lindseth’s best friend, and is an energetic 4th grader. Her daughter **April** (Amy Marie) got her nickname from her birth month, and is quiet and often withdrawn. The Bazaroff infant is less than a year old, and the main character does not learn her name until much later. They live with Anicia Novikoff, her elderly great-aunt.

Mr. and Mrs. Billy Selivanoff, Jr. (pronounced *sell – ee – VON – off*) — The proudest family in town. They are proud to have the largest home, built by village founder Stepan Selivanov in the 1830s, and proud to own the largest boat, a salmon tender named the *Marla S.*, named for their eldest child, **Marla**. She is in 8th grade, hates being cooped up in the village, and is the girlfriend of Ward Bazaroff. The elder Selivanoffs also have twin daughters, **Sonya** and **Paris**, who are in 3rd grade (and suffer from what is likely fetal alcohol syndrome), and a son, Alexander, who is in 1st grade. Mr. Selivanoff, by contracting out to other canneries, has kept steady employment when many of his neighbors have not. Billy Jr. is frequently drunk, with an arrogant mean streak, and he often hangs out with his brother-in-law, Marty Pankoff.

Pariscovia (Novikoff) Rezoff (pronounced *NO – vih – koff* and *REE – zoff*) — Will Rezoff’s deceased mother, who lived on the island in the 1940s at the time when the fort was being built. She was Anicia’s daughter, and married Wilfred Rezoff from Karluk, who passed away before the island became a fort.

Jake and Danny Pedersen (the “Truck Brothers”) — the elder brothers of Betty Lindseth, they got their nicknames because they own the only two trucks in town. **Jake (Jakob) Pedersen** is a former medic, is divorced, and acts as the town’s nurse. He is a bit on the quiet and moody side, but plays guitar and sings. **Danny Pedersen** runs the cannery seiner the *Salmonchanted Eve*, and has a lively sense of humor. They live as bachelors in a plain plywood home at the east end of town. The “Truck Brothers,” and their sister, were orphaned at a young age, grew up in the Mission in Ouzinkie, and moved to Sokroshera Cove for work in the cannery.

Petey and Dottie Kurtashkin (pronounced *curt – ASH – kin*) — **Pyotr and Dorofei** are most often called “**Petey and Dottie Kurt**,” and are Anicia Novikoff’s younger brother and sister-in-law, respectively. Petey owns and operates the *Kolodka II*, the oldest seiner in the harbor, dating from the 1920’s. They are also respected elders, in their mid-to late seventies. Their adult children and grandchildren moved away when the cannery closed down.

Wendell and Carla Bazaroff — Wendell (called “**Windy**”) is Anya Bazaroff’s brother, but is sober and industrious. **Carla** is his charming, cheerful wife. Their yellow and black seiner named the *Lil’ Carla* is the smallest in the harbor, and they eke out a living running a gill net site on nearby Afognak Island. They live in a tarpaper shack with no electricity or running water on the far side of the creek, but Windy is gradually building a much larger new home behind the shack whenever he gets money and time. The couple has two children, **Jimmy** (four), and **Maria** (two-and-a-half).

Anicia Novikoff (pronounced *NO – vih – koff*) — Anicia is the matriarch of the village, the eldest resident. She is descended by marriage to the first Blessed Reader (a lay leader in the Russian Orthodox Church) in the 1830’s. She lives in a log home that is likely the second oldest structure in the village. Anicia is the great aunt of Anya Bazaroff, who lives with her, and is the grandmother of Will Rezoﬀ and great-grandmother of Herman and Barbara. The older sister of Petey Kurtashkin, in her mid-eighties.

Kirk Thorsen — An employee of Westerbrook Seafoods who stays in Sokroshera Cove to help set up the cannery’s crab operation as head machinist. Kirk is nicknamed “Quirky” for various odd habits he has.

Marty Pankoff — a local fisherman of questionable ethics who leases the seiner *Kashka Cyerry* from the cannery. His local nickname is “**Smarty Pants**.” Marty was once fired for stealing equipment from Mr. Faltrip, and is best drinking buddy with Billy Jr. (Selivanoff). Marty often makes his own distilled home brew. Mrs. Alice Selivanoff is his sister, but Jay-Jay does not learn her first name until later.

Gail Pankoff — sister of Mrs. Selivanoff and Marty. She arrives to get a job when the cannery begins operating again, and is a good forklift driver. Her daughter Kateryn Pankoff (called “**Rinny**”) is pretty and flirty. She is brought to the village and enters 7th grade, causing considerable havoc. Gail and Danny Pedersen were acquaintances in High School.

Sam Gelsen — a completely fictional resident of Ouzinkie who, like the Lindseths and Pedersens, is of Scandinavian, Russian and Native descent. He interacts on several occasions with characters from Sokroshera Cove and Kodiak. He runs the equally fictional tender, the *Sally G.*, out of Ouzinkie.

Brother Toma (Thomas McCraith) — A former drifter who converted to Christianity through the ministry of Father John and the Joy of All Who Sorrow Cathedral in San Francisco (which are real). Brother Toma comes to Sokroshera Cove on a mission from his Bishop to look for evidence of the missing Monk from the 1830s.

The Real Places and Groups in the Novel, in alphabetical order

Afognak (pronounced *uh – FOG – nak*) — The island closest to my imaginary island, and the second largest in the Kodiak Archipelago. The village of Afognak relocated to a new community called Port Lions after the earthquake and tidal wave of 1964.

Alutiiq (pronounced *ul – OO – tick*) — The name for the Alaska Natives of the Kodiak Archipelago. Specifically, the Natives in this novel consider themselves **Sugpiak** (pronounced *SOOG – pee – yak*), a more specific tribal group. The old villagers speak the Afognak *Sugpiak* dialect.

Anton Larsen Bay — A shallow bay behind the Kodiak Naval Air Station (during this time period) that had beach access via a gravel road. It is easy to get to by boat from my fictional island, but is largely uninhabited. Village residents would need to get someone from Kodiak to drive out and meet them.

BIA — The Bureau of Indian Affairs, who ran the school on the island (BIA involvement in Alaska's rural schools had largely ended by 1967)

Cape Izhut (pronounced *IS – zhoot*) — The point on the eastern end of Duck Bay, the closest point of land to my imaginary island, separated from it by about two miles.

Duck Bay — a large, southern-facing bay on the south coast of Afognak Island. An area on the northeast shore of the bay, five miles distant, is a favorite hunting spot of the villagers of my fictional island.

Kodiak (pronounced *CODE – ee – yak*) — one of the largest islands in the United States, fifty miles from the Alaska mainland in the Gulf of Alaska. The town of Kodiak is also real, and all the stores and streets described were real places in 1963 – 64.

Larsen Bay — A village at the "South End" of Kodiak Island, where my fictional Gail Pankoff once worked. It was a small village with a one-room schoolhouse and hardly any trees in 1963, and was the model of my fictional "Sokroshera Cove" in those aspects. Not to be confused with Anton Larsen Bay, a location on the road system near Kodiak.

Marmot Bay — A large body of water separating Spruce Island and Afognak Island, with Marmot Island to the north and the Kodiak Island shore to the south and west. It is open to Shelikof Strait and the Gulf of Alaska to the north and east.

Ouzinkie (pronounced *you – ZINK – ee*) — A village on nearby Spruce Island (also real). All residents of the village of Ouzinkie that are mentioned in the book are real except the Gelsen family, who are completely fictional. The author's parents lived in Ouzinkie for nearly fifty years.

Prokoda Island (pronounced *pro – CODE – uh*) — Also known as “**Cat Island**,” it is at the southern end of the Ouzinkie Narrows, a shallow and rocky waterway between Spruce Island and the main Kodiak Island.

Raspberry Island — An island west of Marmot Bay, accessed through Whale Pass. In the time period of this novel, it was the site of the real Wakefield’s Fisheries, a pioneer in King Crab processing.

Shelikof Strait — A long passage averaging about fifty miles wide between Kodiak Island and the Alaska Mainland. It runs in roughly a northeast-southwest direction, and is famous for treacherous waters, east of where the cold Bristol Bay waters meet the warm Japanese Current in the “Cradle of the Storms.”

Whale Pass (Whale Passage) — An extremely treacherous waterway located between Raspberry Island and Anton Larsen Bay. Whale Pass has been a graveyard for boats that don’t follow the tide charts.

The Real People Mentioned in the Novel (as of the time-period of 1963-64)

Darrell Chaffin, Woody Island — Station manager of the FAA station on Woody Island at the time.

Larry and Katie Ellanak — the Blessed Reader of the Orthodox Church in Ouzinkie, and his wife.

The DeWitt Fields family — cattle ranchers out at Anton Larsen Bay, who lived at the time in the “Erskine House” by the D & A Dock. “Erskine House” later became the Baranoff Museum.

Father Gerasim Schmaltz — A Russian Orthodox Archimandrite Monk-Priest. Father Gerasim tended the grave of Father Herman, and restored the hermitage at Monk’s Lagoon.

Bob Hall — the owner of Kodiak Airways, who had the mail contract and had regularly-scheduled flights in the story to real places such as Ouzinkie, Afognak, Port Bailey, and Port Williams. My fictional island is on that route. Kodiak Airways flew mostly Grumman Gooses and Grumman Widgeons (amphibians).

Bill Harvey — the owner of Harvey Flying Service, a charter bush pilot airline.

Father (Apa) Herman — A Monk of the Russian Orthodox Church who served on Spruce Island in the early years of Russian rule, and died in 1836. He became the first Russian Orthodox Saint from the New World, but since he was canonized *after* the time of this story, he is referred to as *Apa* or Father.

Father Ioann Veniaminov — The future Saint Innocent of Alaska is mentioned as a forceful antagonist to the fictional Russian rebels in the novel’s 1830’s flashbacks.

Ed Opheim, Pleasant Harbor, Spruce Island — a rancher and master skiff builder, who also runs a sawmill.

Rev. Norman and Joyce Smith (and Timmy and Kelly) — Baptist missionaries, operators of the mission boat *Evangel*, based out of Ouzinkie. “Timmy” is the author as a 10-year old, Kelly is his younger brother.

Bill Stone, Miss Setze (Setzekorn), Miss Rold — real employees of the Kodiak Baptist Mission. Bill Stone was the superintendent in Kodiak, the latter two served at the Baker Cottage orphanage in Ouzinkie.

Edith Swan and Alice Aga — of Harvester Island and Larsen Bay (the village at the “South End” of Kodiak Island), a daughter and mother, who my fictional Gail Pankoff meets and gets a recipe from. **Robert Agik**, Larsen Bay’s Blessed Reader, is also briefly mentioned.

Lowell Wakefield — Owner of Wakefield’s Fisheries, Raspberry Island, represented fictionally as “Lloyd Westerbrook” in the novel, since there are financial details that are entirely made up for the book.