

# Character List: Unwavering Faith

## A Bounty Brothers Novel by Melissa LaShure

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### MAIN CHARACTERS

#### Claire Belonge Young

- **Age:** Early 20s
- **Background:** Wealthy socialite from Fifth Avenue, New York
- **Family:** Daughter of deceased French father and German mother; sister to Lionel
- **Description:** Golden blonde hair, crystal blue eyes, porcelain skin
- **Personality:** Initially sheltered but proves courageous, compassionate, and determined
- **Arc:** Flees abusive uncle → accepts marriage of convenience → finds faith → becomes true wife and mother
- **Key Relationships:** Marries Brody, becomes Junior's adoptive mother

#### Brody Young

- **Age:** 26
- **Background:** Bounty hunter, ranch owner, leader of the Bounty Brothers
- **Family:** Son of Charles and Catherine Young; lost sister Rose in childhood
- **Description:** Six feet tall, lean but muscular, hazel eyes with golden flecks, ruggedly handsome
- **Personality:** Natural leader, protective, struggles with guilt over past failures
- **Arc:** Reluctant husband → falls in love → overcomes trauma → commits to real marriage
- **Key Relationships:** Marries Claire, father to adopted son Junior

#### Junior

- **Age:** Approximately 8-10
- **Background:** Orphaned when Indians killed his family; adopted by Brody
- **Description:** Golden hair, brown eyes, small for his age
- **Personality:** Sweet, brave, eager to please, calls the Bounty Brothers "uncle"
- **Role:** Catalyst for Brody and Claire's parental instincts; represents hope and healing

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### ANTAGONISTS

## Thomas Belonge

- **Relationship:** Claire and Lionel's uncle
- **Background:** Runs family business in France; jealous of his brother's success
- **Motivation:** Greed for the Belonge family fortune
- **Crimes:** Murders Mr. and Mrs. Flynn; physically and sexually abuses Claire and later Madeline
- **Personality:** Manipulative, cruel, entitled

## Jennings

- **Occupation:** Hired assassin/outlaw leader
- **Background:** Professional killer who orchestrates attacks from a distance
- **Role:** Hired by Thomas to kill Lionel and Claire
- **Personality:** Cold, calculating, sadistic
- **Fate:** Captured and severely beaten by Brody

## Prichard

- **Occupation:** Bounty hunter (unscrupulous)
- **Motivation:** Wants the \$1,000 bounty on Claire's head
- **Role:** Leads multiple attempts to capture Claire
- **Personality:** Greedy, crude, threatening

## Fredrick "The Fighter"

- **Background:** Outlaw with reputation for violence
- **Family:** Part of criminal family; brothers attempt jail break
- **Role:** Early bounty captured by Brody; later allies with others against the Youngs
- **Fate:** Killed by Brody, but accepts salvation prayer before dying

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# BELONGE FAMILY & ALLIES

## Lionel Belonge

- **Age:** Mid-20s
- **Relationship:** Claire's older brother
- **Background:** Civil War veteran; owns the L.B. Saloon in Dodge City
- **Description:** Tall, lean, brown wavy hair, blue eyes like Claire
- **Personality:** Initially distant due to war trauma; protective once reunited with Claire
- **Arc:** Guilt-ridden veteran → loving brother → devoted husband
- **Key Relationship:** Marries Margaret

## Margaret

- **Background:** Bartender and manager at Lionel's saloon
- **Description:** Petite, auburn hair, feisty personality
- **Personality:** Strong-willed, protective of the women who work at the saloon, maternal
- **Role:** Becomes Claire's friend and sister-in-law
- **Arc:** Saloon worker → Lionel's fiancée → his devoted wife

## Madeline Flynn

- **Age:** Young woman
- **Background:** Daughter of Claire's murdered guardians
- **Current situation:** Kidnapped by Uncle Thomas along with her deaf brother Danny
- **Role:** Sets up future book in series; represents consequences of Claire's flight

## Danny Flynn

- **Age:** Young boy
- **Condition:** Born deaf
- **Background:** Son of Claire's murdered guardians
- **Current situation:** Kidnapped with sister Madeline; used as leverage against her
- **Relationship:** Close to sister Madeline; was like a brother to Claire

## Paul Harrington

- **Occupation:** Pinkerton Detective
- **Background:** Childhood friend of Lionel's
- **Role:** Hired by Claire to locate Lionel; provides information

## Mr. Blackford

- **Occupation:** Family lawyer for the Belonges
- **Role:** Tries to protect Claire's interests; investigates Thomas's crimes
- **Personality:** Loyal, persistent, suspicious of Thomas

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# THE BOUNTY BROTHERS

## James McPherson

- **Age:** Similar to Brody
- **Background:** Brody's childhood friend and right-hand man
- **Description:** Sandy brown hair, green eyes, six feet two inches
- **Personality:** Former charmer with women; reformed Christian; loyal friend

- **Role:** Doctor skills (trained by father); voice of reason; comic relief
- **Arc:** Reformed rake learning to live by Christian principles

## Tom

- **Background:** Mysterious past; exceptional marksman
- **Description:** Outlaw appearance but loyal heart
- **Personality:** Silent, brooding, protective; rarely speaks
- **Skills:** Fastest draw of the group; never misses his target
- **Role:** The strong, silent type who connects with traumatized Rebecca

## George

- **Age:** Similar to other Brothers
- **Description:** Six feet six inches, 250+ pounds of muscle; built like a Clydesdale
- **Personality:** Jovial, always smiling, gentle giant
- **Role:** The heart of the group; provides strength and optimism

## Walter

- **Background:** Lost wife and child to outlaws; joined army seeking death but found faith
- **Personality:** Calm, wise, reflective
- **Role:** Voice of wisdom; helps keep others grounded

## Henry and Phillip Sharpe

- **Age:** Early 20s
- **Background:** Twin brothers; joined Brody's unit at age 11
- **Description:** Same handsome face; Phillip has better social skills
- **Personality:** Henry is clumsy with women; Phillip is smoother; both are skilled trackers
- **Role:** Comic relief; represent youthful energy

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# SUPPORTING CHARACTERS

## Gramps

- **Background:** Older ranch hand who oversees operations
- **Role:** Father figure to all; cook; provides wisdom and stability
- **Personality:** Practical, caring, no-nonsense

## Allie Jones

- **Background:** Former brothel madam turned respectable boardinghouse owner

- **Location:** Runs boardinghouse in Gambel
- **Personality:** Reformed woman of faith; protective of Claire
- **Role:** Friend and advisor to Claire; represents redemption

### **Captain Jesse Burns**

- **Occupation:** U.S. Army officer stationed at Fort Dodge
- **Background:** Clean-cut, responsible soldier
- **Role:** Romantic rival for Claire's affections (one-sided)
- **Personality:** Honorable but develops feelings for married Claire

### **Sheriff Dozier**

- **Location:** Gambel
- **Age:** Around 30
- **Role:** Local law enforcement; ally to the Bounty Brothers
- **Personality:** Competent, trustworthy

### **Sheriff Calhoun**

- **Location:** Wichita
- **Description:** Older, growing stout
- **Role:** Regular contact for bounty deliveries; provides information

### **Rebecca**

- **Age:** Around 14
- **Background:** Orphaned by her gambling, alcoholic father; sold to brothel
- **Rescue:** Saved by James and Tom from Madame Isabelle's
- **Personality:** Traumatized but brave; forms attachment to Tom as protective figure
- **Role:** Represents innocence needing protection; potential future love interest for Henry

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## **MINOR CHARACTERS**

### **Charles and Catherine Young**

- **Relationship:** Brody's parents
- **Personality:** Loving, faithful Christians; strong marriage
- **Role:** Arrive to check on Brody's sudden marriage; provide wisdom and support

### **Madame Isabelle**

- **Occupation:** Runs brothel in Dodge City

- **Personality:** Hardened by life but shows moments of conscience
- **Role:** Provides information; represents the harsh realities of frontier life

## Brent McClain

- **Age:** Around 20
- **Background:** Son of outlaw gang leader; skilled gunfighter
- **Personality:** Cool, professional, but searching for something better
- **Arc:** Outlaw → informant → potential future ally
- **Role:** Represents possibility of redemption even from worst circumstances

## Mr. Yorke (Brian Yorke)

- **Background:** Well-dressed gentleman; oversees construction
- **Role:** Built house for Claire in Gambel on Mr. Blackford's orders
- **Personality:** Helpful, mysterious motives regarding Allie

## Jim Smith

- **Background:** Works at livery stable in Dodge City
- **Role:** Spy for Uncle Thomas; sends telegrams about Lionel and Claire
- **Fate:** Killed by Jennings to cover tracks

## Lena

- **Background:** Severely beaten prostitute
- **Role:** Brings out Claire's compassionate nature; shows reality of Dodge City
- **Recovery:** Cared for by Claire, Margaret, and James

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# FAMILY CONNECTIONS

## The Belonge Family Tree:

- **Parents:** Deceased French father, German mother
- **Children:** Lionel (older), Claire (younger)
- **Uncle:** Thomas Belonge (father's brother, runs French operations)
- **Previous siblings:** Pierre (stillborn), Sophie (died of scarlet fever at age 3)

## The Flynn Family:

- **Parents:** Mr. and Mrs. Flynn (murdered by Thomas)
- **Children:** Madeline (young woman), Danny (young boy, deaf)
- **Role:** Served as Claire's guardians after her mother's death

## **The Young Family:**

- **Parents:** Charles and Catherine Young
  - **Children:** Brody and multiple siblings (including deceased Rose)
  - **Extended:** Junior (adopted son)
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*This character list includes all major and minor characters who play significant roles in advancing the plot, developing themes, or representing important relationships within the story.*