

**Lahiri, Jhumpa: \*1967**

## **The Namesake, 2003 – Characters**

### **Ashoke Ganguli**

An Indian immigrant and a professor of electrical engineering.

### **Ashima Ganguli**

Ashoke's wife.

### **Gogol (Nikhil) Ganguli**

The protagonist, born in the U.S. to Ashoke and Ashima. Named Gogol at birth, he later changes his name to Nikhil.

### **Sonia Ganguli**

Gogol's younger sister, also born in the U.S.

### **Maxine Ratliff**

Gogol's American girlfriend for a significant part of the story.

### **Moushumi Mazoomdar**

Gogol's eventual wife.

### **Ruth**

Gogol's first serious girlfriend during his college years at Yale.

### **Dimitri Desjardins**

Moushumi's former lover and a professor.

### **Ghosh**

A minor but significant character from Ashoke's past in India.