THE MEMORY ADDICTS: characters

*The Memory Addicts* is about a group of friends battling to survive a memory loss pandemic.

Jody and Millar work at a medical research facility. The action starts, pre-crisis, when Jody steals samples of an experimental memory drug, and wangles Millar's help. The drug sparks amazing memory restorations, but since it also implants false memories, it is being recalled. A dozen of their friends are drawn in. When the contagion escalates, the drug saves most of their lives.

The main settings are the unfolding first year of the crisis and a single day during the fourth year. The worst of it, by then, seems to be past, but this is still a world under threat. Ten survivors from the group are trying to make a new life on a vacated farm. They're functional, but their memories are partial, and often false, and they must lean on each other or go under.

Millar and Jody's star-crossed love story is central but not dominant: there are a dozen point of view characters, all with their narrative thread. And there are half a dozen others who have a significant role to play. (Ages given below are approximate, at the midway point of the novel.)

Core Characters: Heartwood

JODY BARKER: 30, White. Nurse, med school drop-out, female protagonist.

MIILAR KEARNEY: 30, White. College drop-out, history buff, male protagonist. Aka Brian.

ANDREW BARKER: 35, biracial. Jody's half-Aboriginal half-brother.

ELISE BARKER: 13, biracial, Andrew's daughter, Jody's niece.

JENNA BROWER: 65, White, reconstituted. Formerly Sarah Oldchurch.

EDIE DRISCOLL, 32, White. Heartwood pharmacist.

LISA HUTTONGOLD, 30, Black. Nurse, Heartwood vet. Jody & Nick's surrogate mother.

JEMMY JARONSKY, 25, White. Musician (Nick's band mate).

MATT SIMMONS, 58, White. Building contractor.

NICK TRIFFLETT, 26, Black. Drummer (Jemmy's bandmate). Lisa's cousin.

Core Characters: Eastdon & Hale County only

KITTY BOGGENPOEL, 28, triracial. Tiff's partner.

TIFF DRISCOLL, 30, White. Kitty's partner, Edie's sister, Millar's ex.

DANNY JARONSKY, 29, White. Jemmy's brother, Jody's ex.

Four Other Significant Characters

JOYCE BANERJEE, 26, South-East Asian. Jemmy's ex. Eastdon leadership.

DR. JACOB CORRIGAN, mid 30's, White. Clinic doctor and research lab liaison.

SITA PATEL, 21, South-East Asian. Jemmy's next. New & former Heartwooder.

JILLY SIMMONS, 77, White. Matt's aunt. Jody's patient and friend.