

The Tiger's Gate: Character List

Oshima and friends

Oshima Kai – recently invalided out of the army – accountant and sometime private detective

Adachi – Oshima's friend; greengrocer in Oshima's neighbourhood

Sato – Oshima's friend; retired schoolteacher who still tutors students privately

Nakajima Michiko – Oshima's housekeeper; she has a rather dubious past

Boss – (Kobayashi Takuya) Oshima's old friend from the army; also invalided out of the army

Aunt Maeda – Oshima's aunt

Laakonen – attached to the Finnish embassy, a friend of Oshima's since their time in China

Other neighbours and old acquaintances

Kayako – Adachi's wife

Aya – works in Adachi's shop

Professor Asai – Oshima's old professor

Asai Minako – Professor Asai's daughter

Waka, (nickname of Sano sensei) – son of Oshima's old martial arts teacher

Ono – one of Waka's students

Military

General Akagi – "The General", Oshima's old army commander, General Affairs Bureau of the General Staff

Lt. Shirai Kensaku - successor to Oshima as General Akagi's aide

Mizoguchi, (known as Mizo) – ex-soldier and lacquer worker

Miyashita – visited Professor Asai;

Kikuchi – a soldier, served with Oshima in Manchuria

Hirano – a soldier, works for General Akagi

Sgt. Takemura – a member of the Kempeitai (military police)

Hida – Sgt. Takemura's subordinate

Gangsters

Kim Masayoshi – ex gangster boss

Nakaura/Kanemoto – fixer and muscle for Kim

Shuji, Yoshida – names from Mizo's past

Art, Antiques and Lacquer

Keisei (Nakayama Keisei) – a lacquer artist of legendary skill, recently deceased

Rokkaku Shisui, Matsuda Gonroku, Shirayama Shosai – famous (real) lacquer artists

Matsuoka – former workshop manager of the lacquerware firm Namikawa

Reverend Seiun – art collector and Buddhist priest

Yamazaki – a pawnbroker, very recently deceased

Koda – art and antiques dealer – knew Yamazaki

Germans

Beckmann – searching for a stolen lacquer bowl

Brandt – Beckmann's colleague

Klinnsmann – German businessman

Haas – works for the embassy

Various

Arata – supplied Boss with a gun, friend of Boss, only mentioned

Shibata Yasumori – printing magnate

Okada – policeman, a friend of Sato

Chinese historical/fictional characters used as motifs for artwork

Zhuge Liang (J. Komei) – famous Chinese strategist from The Romance of the Three Kingdoms

Daito Kwansho – character from the Chinese story Suikoden (The Water Margin)