

The Kite Runner poses a number of complex, thought-provoking questions about a wide range

of issues. What responsibility does the individual hold to others? One of major issues explored

in Khaled Hosseini's first novel is that of power and power relations - between fathers and sons,

men and women, rich and poor, educated and uneducated, Pashtun and Hazara, weak countries and powerful countries, immigrants and Americans.

Many of these issues we have also explored in our earlier readings. *Of Beetles and Angels*, *The Power of One*, and *Night* have all dealt with similar issues. So as we read, we will be looking to refine our understanding of these themes in hopes of better understanding how power affects our humanity.

**READING SCHEDULE *As You Read, Pay Attention To...***

Chapters 1-4 As you read, pay attention to Amir’s relationship with his father. Baba (pages 1-34) says, “…there is only one sin, only one. And that is theft. Every other

**DUE: Wednesday, December 7** sin is a variation of theft” (17). Why does he say this? Do you think it is

significant?

Chapters 5-7 Early in the story, Baba says to Rahim, “A boy who won’t stand up for

(pages 35-79) himself becomes a man who can’t stand up to anything” (22). How do

**DUE: Monday, December 12** the events for these chapters connect to this quote? Is Amir a coward or a product of his environment?

Chapters 8-11 Rahim tells Amir, “In the end, the world always wins. That’s just the

(pages 80-142) way of things” (99). What does Rahim mean? How does this quotation

**DUE: Friday, December 16** connect to the events of thesechapters?

Chapters 12-14 A return to the beginning: “Come. There is a way to be good again” (2,

(pages 143-194) 192). How does this quote frame the action of these chapters?

**DUE: Wednesday, December 21**

Chapters 15-20 “Yes, hope is a strange thing. Peace at last. But at what price?” (201).

(pages 195-258) What price have each of the main characters “paid” by the close of

**DUE: Monday, January 2** chapter 20? Has that “price” been fair?

Chapters 21-23 The director of the orphanage, Zaman, declares, "There's nothing I can

(pages 259-310) do to stop it," speaking of how the Talib "buys" children (256). This

**DUE: Thursday, January 5** connects to a larger idea present in these chapters - can one person

really make a difference, especially against such overwhelming odds?

Chapters 24-25 The story ends with Amir saying "For you, a thousand times over," a line

(pages 311-371) that has been repeatedly mentioned throughout the story (371). Why is

**DUE: Tuesday, January 10**  it significant that the story ends with Amir saying this words?

**TEST: Friday, January 13**