

## THE FATHERHOOD BONDS DESCRIBED IN "THE KITE RUNNER"

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**Annotation:** This article is about father-son relationship and their experiences until they will achieve to the peace life. Also, this story gives information about horrible events which had happened during Soviet invasion, and rise of the Taliban regime. I would suggest reading this novel was written by Khaled Hosseini in 2003. Fatherhood bonds described as a crucial point of this article.

**Key words:** Taliban, regime, fiction, heart-piercing, betrayal, protagonist, Afghanistan, Russians, tournament, redemption.

The Kite Runner is the first novel by Afghan-American author Khaled Hosseini. Published in 2003 by Riverhead Books, it tells the story of Amir, a young boy from the Wazir Akbar Khan district of Kabul. The story is set against a backdrop of tumultuous events, from the fall of Afghanistan's monarchy through the Soviet invasion, the exodus of refugees to Pakistan and the United States, and the rise of the Taliban regime.<sup>1</sup> Hosseini has commented that he considers The Kite Runner to be a father-son relationship story, emphasizing the familial aspects of the narrative, an element that he continued to use in his later works. Themes of guilt and redemption feature prominently in the novel, with a pivotal scene depicting an act of sexual assault inflicted upon Amir's friend Hassan, which Amir fails to prevent, and which ends their friendship. The latter half of the book centers on Amir's attempts to atone for this transgression by rescuing Hassan's son two decades later. The Kite Runner became a bestseller after being printed in paperback and was popularized in book clubs. It appeared on the New York Times bestseller list for over two years, with over seven million copies sold in the United States. Reviews were generally positive, though parts of the plot drew significant controversy in Afghanistan. A number of adaptations were created following publication, including a 2007 film of the same name, several stage performances, and a graphic novel. The novel is also available in a multi-CD audiobook read by the author. The unforgettable, heartbreaking story of the unlikely friendship between a wealthy boy and the son of his father's servant, The Kite Runner is a beautifully crafted novel set in a country in the process of being destroyed. It is about the power of reading, the price of betrayal, and the possibility of redemption. And it is also about the power of fathers over sons - their love, their sacrifices, their lies.<sup>2</sup>

The first Afghan novel to be written in English, The Kite Runner tells a sweeping story of family, love, and friendship against a backdrop of history that has not been told in fiction before, bringing to mind the large canvases of the Russian writers of nineteenth century. But just as it is old-fashioned in its

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1 <https://study.com/learn/lesson/khaled-hosseini-books-education-biography.html>

2 <http://www.khaledhosseini.com>

narration, it is contemporary in its subject - the devastating history of Afghanistan over the past thirty years. As emotionally gripping as it is tender, *The Kite Runner* is an unusual and powerful debut. This book is dedicated to Haris and Farah, his children, and to the children of Afghanistan.

The book by Khaled Hosseini *The Kite Runner* is the heart-piercing story about the childhood of Afghan boys. This story represents rather realistic features of Afghanistan and is based on direct relation to time prospects in this country some 30 years ago. In this respect the author provides a scope of main characters. All of them are mutually related to one another. Their roles differ in terms of positive and negative evaluation. However, the story is full of themes and ideas. This attributive feature makes the book so eminent. Its screening version was even nominated on major movie festivals. This fascinating historical epic demonstrates different sides of peoples' nature and their personal estimation of their deeds. All in all, the story gives a scope of reasonable and socially determined peculiarities of childhood in Afghanistan. This observation of the book is really hot owing to the realistic scenes related to actions and feelings of main characters. *The Kite Runner* gives a scope of vital themes for the mankind to think over, and in this feature Hosseini demands a reader to get involved into the genuine sphere of peoples' relationships. The book renders a story about two Afghan boys, Amir and Hassan, living in Kabul. They are young and apt to compete in kite competitions. Amir and Hassan are best friends, notwithstanding the fact that Hassan and his father Ali work as servants in the house of Amir's father, Baba.<sup>3</sup>

Amir is the protagonist of the book. In fact, it is his story. The main event which touches further upon the soul of Amir is the fatal for Hassan competition. Once competing in kiting the antagonist of the book, Assef bullied Hassan, because of his talent to run down kites. In this moment the amoral actions of Assef outrage a reader. It is so because he beats and rapes Hassan. The thing is that Amir was at a distance and could help his friend. However, he tries to ignore this scene and runs from that place. With the emergence of Russians in Afghanistan and with the start of the war Amir with his father flee to the United States in the city of San Francisco. However, the betrayal of Amir does not leave him alone. He suffers from what he inflicted to his childhood friend. He returns to Afghanistan knowing about the disasters with Ali and Hassan. Amir finds in Kabul the son of Hassan, Sohrab and tries to communicate with the boy while kiting and showing some techniques of his father Hassan. He also meets his wife, or better to say, widow. The whole relevance of characters can be shown due to the scheme below. The book is really touching and creates a picture of lost hopes and the significance of duty in friendship. The book describes several themes. Some among them contemplate the themes of betrayal, choices, forgiveness, friendship, guilt, love, honor, immigrant experience, truth, class distinctions, relations between fathers and sons etc. However, the central theme is the theme

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<sup>3</sup> [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Kite\\_Runner](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Kite_Runner)

of strength of character. This point is fair due to the inner moral struggle of the protagonist when he brought through a long period of his life. The scenes of betrayal and cowardice are stated at the core of the book. With a flow of the story the main character seems to deeply realize his fault. The class difference which separated Amir and Hassan is the problem which intended Amir to ignore the needs and sufferings of Hassan. In this point it is necessary to admit the goodness in Hassan. He is apt to be devoted to friendship. He is the most positive character in the book. This feature of his is adequately valued by Amir. The only thing which provided such negative effects is that Amir due to his childish mistake gets to the point of his unjust and unfair attitude toward Hassan. It is stated above that the book is the manifestation of Amir's story. It is his act of repentance. The tragedy, however, is indicated with the loss of Hassan at the moment when Amir returned to Afghanistan. The book shows that throughout distances bygone failures get back to people. Being conscientious Amir is the example of such moral intentions in his life. The situation with Hassan does not leave him for a long time. He feels no satisfaction in it until being convicted of sin. It appears that realizing that there is no Hassan at all, Amir tells about his pains to the Sohrab. This collision is the most touching, because it discloses the subtle nature of peoples' feelings and their inner struggles.<sup>4</sup>

Amir is described as the selfish boy in the book. He feels no difference between his actions and what God thinks about it. The theme of religion runs into the theme of living up to parents' expectations. The conflicts of Amir with his father Baba prove this controversy. Amir needs more explanation of where the goodness appears to be. He asks himself this question during his life. Fortunately, his search becomes completed when he decides with the help of Rahim Khan to come back to Afghanistan. His beliefs are concentrated on supposed resilience if only he could have a possibility to talk with Hassan and tell him about his sin. This mission was delivered to Hassan's wife and child. It is really sad to realize that the lifelong intention does not find a person to whom it was directed initially. In other words, trying to confess before Hassan Amir finds another way for such motivation. In fact, the idea of the human spirit resilience is also imposed into the plot of the book. It is the real idea of the book because Amir wants to find out the harmony in his soul.<sup>5</sup>

He is immitigable because of his pains and his desires to fall down the burden of his life. This is why he finds out Assef, who is Talib at the moment. They are fighting. Amir comes out the combat as a winner. However, he needs recovery from that beating. After he recovers he flees to Pakistan and wants to bring Sohrab to the United States. In this flow of development in the book a reader sees the improvements in bygone selfish boy who becomes now altruistic and respectful to his best childhood friend's offspring. The Kite Runner provides also various points on psychological concerns. In this case the developmental theories are helpful. The characters are placed in the book as the objects for

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4 [http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/specials/133\\_wbc\\_archive\\_new/page3.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/specials/133_wbc_archive_new/page3.shtml)

5 <https://www.publishersweekly.com>

further psychological grounding of their deeds and their feelings. All in all children and parents are chosen for this purpose. The Kite Runner have been read by over twenty million people worldwide.

One of the main plots of this novel is: 1970s Afghanistan: Twelve-year-old Amir is desperate to win the local kite-fighting tournament and his loyal friend Hassan promises to help him. But neither of the boys can foresee what will happen to Hassan that afternoon, an event that is to shatter their lives. After the Russians invade and the family is forced to flee to America, Amir realizes that one day he must return to an Afghanistan under Taliban rule to find the one thing that his new world cannot grant him redemption.<sup>6</sup>

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