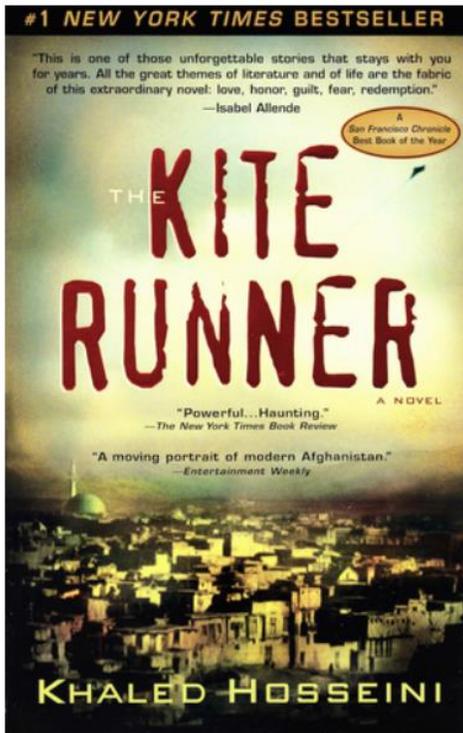


Sophomore Honors English: Summer Reading 2018-2019

THE KITE RUNNER

By Khaled Hosseini



Amir is the son of a wealthy Kabul merchant, a member of the ruling caste of Pashtuns. Hassan, his servant and constant companion, is a Hazara, a despised and impoverished caste. Their uncommon bond is torn by Amir's choice to abandon his friend amidst the increasing ethnic, religious, and political tensions of the dying years of the Afghan monarchy, wrenching them far apart. But so strong is the bond between the two boys that Amir journeys back to a distant world to try to right past wrongs against the only true friend he ever had. (Credit to goodreads.com for the plot summary.)

SOPHOMORE HONORS SUMMER READING EXPECTATIONS:

Welcome to Sophomore Honors! The first semester of the course focuses on a philosophical examination of human nature, specifically our capacity to do both good and bad. To begin this exploration, students should read Khaled Hosseini's novel *The Kite Runner*. While annotations aren't necessary, reading is required. Students will take a quiz early on in the school year to assess reading and comprehension, and the novel will also be used to introduce close reading and writing skills that become the foundation not only for the Sophomore Honors course, but other courses here at GCHS and beyond.

SUMMER READING ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

While annotations won't be graded, the Sophomore Honors teachers realize that students read best when they have purpose. To that end, students should think about some of the following questions as they read:

- How does the main character Amir change and develop throughout the course of the novel?
- What does Amir's journey reveal to us about human nature? Or, how does Amir's growth as a character reinforce or develop certain themes?
- How might the growth of Amir's character lend itself to an essay structure that demonstrates change and development?
- What passages seem essential to understanding Amir's journey and development?