The Kite Runner: Chapters 15-20

*Four quotes stand out from these chapters:*

1. *“ The elephant in the room”*
2. *“A boy who can’t stand up for himself becomes a man that can’t stand up for anything.”*
3. *“Like father, like son.”*
4. *“You’ve always been a tourist here, you just didn’t know it.”*
5. Quote A deals with Amir and Rahim Kahn’s interaction…what exactly does the cliché mean? Have you ever been in a situation where you could relate to this cliché? What does it mean in reference to the novel?
6. Have you ever lost touch with someone you were once close with? If you could reconnect today, what would you say? How do you think the interaction would go?

Once getting over that “elephant in the room,” Amir learns quite a bit about Hassan. We, as readers, finally get to hear about Hassan’s life from all of those years he was absent from the novel! What do we learn? Hassan writes letters to Amir. What is his tone and what are some of the details he gives about his life? \*You may bullet this information.\*

1. Unfortunately, we hear of Hassan’s fate. What happened to Hassan, his wife and his son? Refer back to page 73 and Amir’s memory of the fortune teller. Does it make even more sense now?
2. We come back to Baba’s words (quote B) “a boy who can’t stand up for himself…” Rahim (who once mocked Baba for saying this) makes reference to it when he requests that Amir go seek out Sohrab at an orphanage in Kabul. Why is Rahim so adamant it has to be Amir that goes to Kabul? How does Amir react to his request? Do you agree with Rahim or Amir?
3. Has anyone ever told you that “you are just like your mom” or “just like your dad” or any relative for that matter? Do you agree? Rahim reveals some heavy, major, life changing information. What is it? What was your reaction??? Were you surprised??? Does everything make sense now in relation to Quote C, “Like father like son?” We said in earlier chapters that when Amir was a child, based on his interests, he was more like his mom but how is Amir, in actuality, more like his father? What are your feelings now towards Baba, Amir, Rahim?
4. As angry as he is, is this a turning point for Amir? What changes do we begin to see after this major revelation? Also, refer to the scene from page 238-242. How does this scene differ from Amir as a child? Thoughts?
5. When Amir reveals he feels like a tourist in Kabul, Farid states, *“*You’ve always been a tourist here, you just didn’t know it” (p232). Why does he say this? Do you agree?
6. Kabul is a scary place under Taliban rule. Provide some details to show how it has changed from the Kabul Amir remembers. \*You may bullet this info.\*
7. Once they finally arrive at the orphanage, what does the director, Zaman, reveal to Amir and Farid about the Talib official? Where is Sohrab? What was your reaction?

10)Once again, Hosseini is effective with drawing the reader in! We have characterized every grouping of chapters so far. How can we characterize this grouping? There are only 5 chapters that remain. Predictions?? Thoughts?? Opinions??