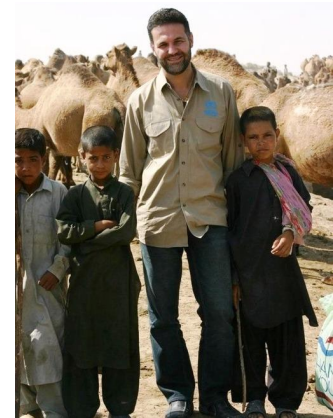
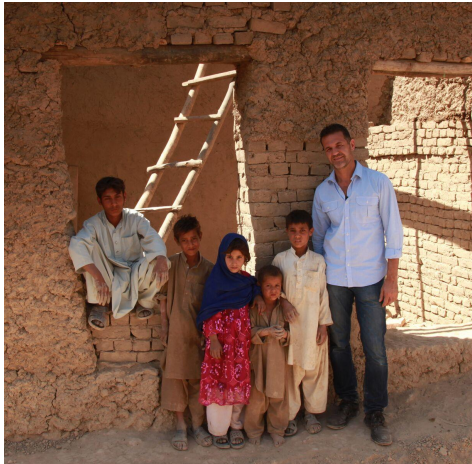


Khaled Hosseini





Interview with Khaled Hosseini

Khaled Hosseini Says Refugees Are Essential to America



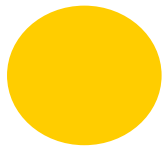
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Biography

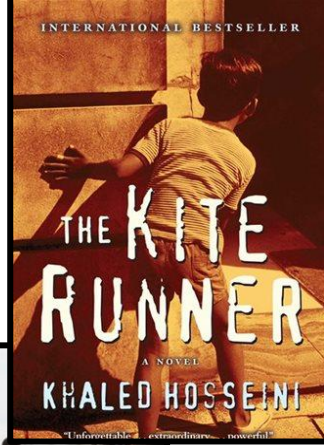
- ❑ Khaled Hosseini was born in Kabul, Afghanistan in 1965.
- ❑ After the Soviet Invasion, Khaled moved to the U.S.
 - A Major shift in lifestyle.
- ❑ He completed high school and earned a bachelor's degree in biology. He pursued medicine and earned his medical degree in 1993.
- ❑ He practiced internal medicine for 10 years
- ❑ While practicing medicine, Hossein began writing his first novel, the Kite Runner, in 2001 which was published a bit later in 2003. The Kite Runner gained popularity across the globe.
- ❑ Hosseini is taking a break from medicine to pursue his career as an author/writer.





Successes

- Kite Runner
 - Borders Original Voice Award, the San Francisco Chronicle Best Book of the Year Award, and 'South African Boeke Prize
 - International bestseller: sold in over seventy countries and translated into 40 languages..
 - 100+ weeks on the New York Times Best Sellers list
 - It was adapted into a film in 2007 and graphic novel in 2011.
- Thousand Splendid Suns
 - #1 spot of the *New York Times* Best Sellers list for fifteen weeks
 - Indies Choice Book Award) for Adult Fiction in 2008
- And the Mountains Echoed
 - Won the Goodreads Choice for Fiction 2013 and was the Paris Review Best of the Best for 2013
- He was appoint an UNHCR ambassador. While traveling extensively with UNHCR, he decided to start his own nonprofit, The Khaled Hosseini Foundation, partnering with UNHCR. It has raised funds to provide humanitarian relief to children and women Afghanistan
- <https://www.khaledhosseinifoundation.org/>





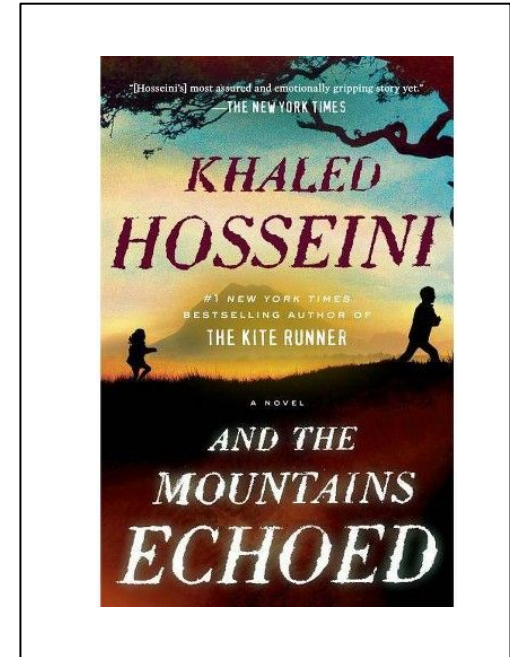
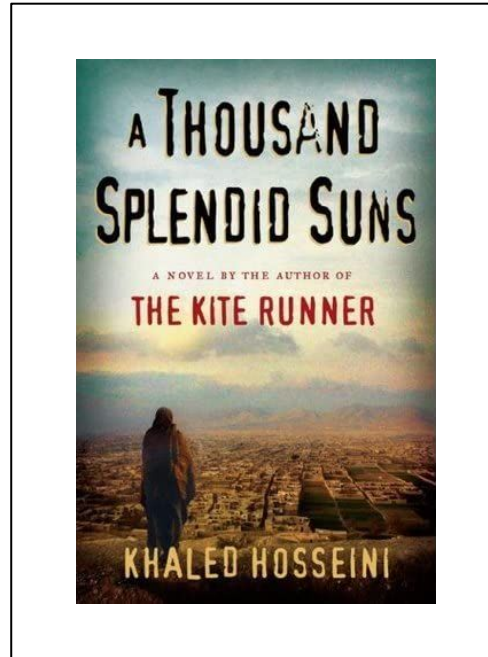
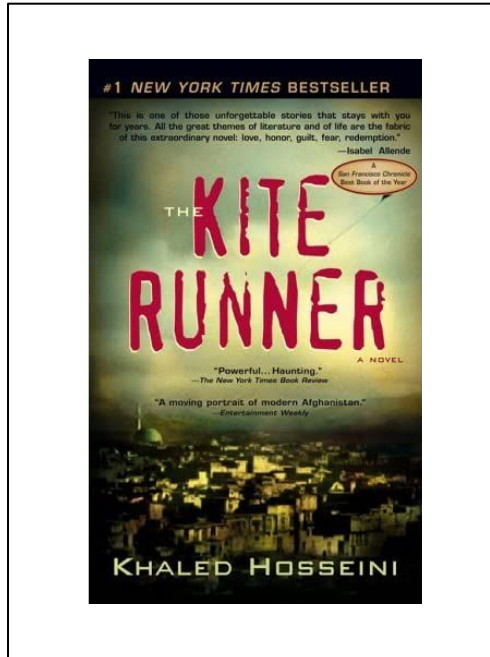
Typicality of Khaled Hosseini's Work:

- ◉ Genre: Fiction
- ◉ Themes
 - War
 - Love and Relationships
 - Betrayal
 - Loss
 - Oppression
 - Patriarchy
 - Injustice
- ◉ Styles & Techniques:
 - Incorporation of Afghan words
 - Realism
 - Storytelling to evoke empathy





More About Khaled Hosseini's Novels

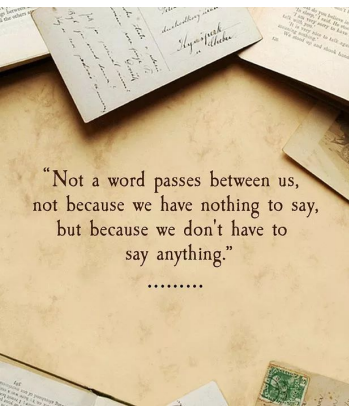




Advice for Writers

Overcoming Writer's Block:

“Stop trying to ‘fix’ the problem, and think outside the box. Approach the impasse from a different angle entirely. This often helps me understand how I ended up at the impasse to begin with. I like to think of writer’s block as a symptom, as a clue to an underlying problem which must be discovered and dealt with.”



Writing Prompts:

“I think of a line of dialogue or a very simple image, and use that as the starting point. The starting image for my first novel for instance was—I know, predictably enough—two kites in the sky. On a day to day basis, my prompt is to read the last two pages of what I wrote the day before and try to hop back onboard. Some days, I will not write everything I have in mind, and will write a note, a few lines, as a prompt for the following day.”

A Reminder:

“You write because you have an idea in your mind that feels so genuine, so important, so true. And yet, by the time this idea passes through the different filters of your mind, and into your hand, and onto the page or computer screen—it becomes distorted, and it's been diminished. The writing you end up with is an approximation, if you're lucky, of whatever it was you really wanted to say. Even my finished books are approximations of what I intended to do. I try to narrow the gap, as much as I possibly can, between what I wanted to say and what's actually on the page. But there's still a gap, there always is. It's very, very difficult. And it's humbling.”

Excerpt: *A Thousand Splendid Suns*

“Only two weeks since he had left, and it was already happening. Time, blunting the edges of those sharp memories. Laila bore down mentally. What had he said? It seemed vital, suddenly, that she know.

Laila closed her eyes. Concentrated.

With the passing of time, she would slowly tire of this exercise. She would find it increasingly exhausting to conjure up, to dust off, to resuscitate once again what was long dead. There would come a day, in fact, years later, when [she] would no longer bewail his loss. Or not as relentlessly; not nearly. There would come a day when the details of his face would begin to slip from memory's grip, when overhearing a mother on the street call after her child by [his] name would no longer cut her adrift. She would not miss him as she did now, when the ache of his absence was her unremitting companion--like the phantom pain of an amputee.”



“

Excerpt: *Sea Prayer*

I wish you remembered Homs as I do, Marwan.

In its bustling Old City, a mosque for us Muslims, a church for our Christian neighbors, and a grand Souk for us all to haggle over gold pendants and fresh produce and bridal dresses. I wish you remembered the crowded lanes smelling of fried Kibbeh and the evening walks we took with your mother around Clock Tower Square.

But that life, that time, seems like a sham now, even to me, like some long dissolved rumor. First came the protests. Then the siege. The skies spitting bombs. Starvation. Burials.

These are the things you know. You know a bomb crater can be made into a swimming hole. You have learned dark blood is better news than bright. You have learned that mothers and sisters and classmates can be found, in little triangular patches of sunlit skin, shining in the dark, through narrow gaps in concrete and bricks and exposed beams.

“

Sea Prayer: a 360 illustrated film by award-winning novelist
Khaled Hosseini



Analysis

5 - 7 Minutes





Analysis

I wish you remembered Homs as I do, Marwan.

In its bustling Old City, a mosque for us Muslims, a church for our Christian neighbors, and a grand Souk for us all to haggle over gold pendants and fresh produce and bridal dresses. I wish you remembered the crowded lanes smelling of fried Kibbeh and the evening walks we took with your mother around Clock Tower Square.

But that life, that time, seems like a sham now, even to me, like some long dissolved rumor. First came the protests. Then the siege. The skies spitting bombs. Starvation. Burials.

Symbolism: Old City - peaceful coexistence

Repetition

Father Hopeful that Marwan will be able to envision the Syria that once was

Imagery: sight, sounds, smells - normalcy, enjoyment

***Contrast with the Syria that Marwan has come to know (present war-torn Syria) and the narrators peaceful memories in pre-war Syria

Perspective : Unnamed First-Person= Father - narration addressed to son (Marwan)

Syntax: combination of average length sentences describing the narrator's past memories, after the turning point - chopped sentences becoming shorter and shorter.

Consonance

Personification

Terms: Souk - (Arabic/Persian) market, bazaar; Kibbeh - (Middle Eastern dish) ground beef fritters (cultural aspects)



Analysis

These are the things you know. You know a bomb crater can be made into a swimming hole. You have learned dark blood is better news than bright. You have learned that mothers and sisters and classmates can be found, in little triangular patches of sunlit skin, shining in the dark, through narrow gaps in concrete and bricks and exposed beams.

The experience of children growing up in violence and war. Marwan lacks the personal connection to the true beauty of Homs.

Themes: War, upbringing

Description of Setting: present tense

Syntax: Brief sentences; almost like a list. This contrasts the last sentence which obtains much more description.

Repetition

Syrian boys dive into a bomb crater filled with water

Refers to medical context;

Refers to the clothing of females; Niqab/Burqa

Imagery: sight/setting



EMULATION

Be ready to share!



Personal Thoughts

- ◉ Khaled Hosseini inspires individuals to address issues they feel strongly about and stand up against injustice.
- ◉ Through his writing, the world became more aware of the reality many had to face in Afghanistan during the Soviet Invasion.
- ◉ He uses his writing as a means for activism by implementing real world issues into his heartfelt writing.

“Hosseini’s writing makes our hearts ache, our stomachs clench, and our emotions reel.”

—*USA Today*



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- <http://www.mebondbooks.com/2018/06/25/three-contemporary-writers-on-creativity/>
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A silhouette of a boy running across a field at sunset, holding a kite string. The kite is flying in the air, and the sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds.

“For you, a thousand times over.”

- The Kite Runner -

Thank You!

