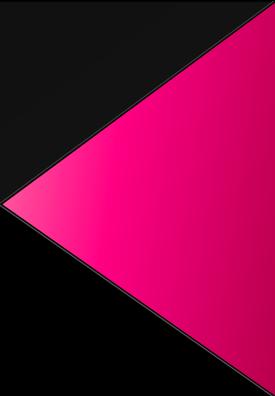


# SYMBOLISM

The Kite Runner

# What is a SYMBOL?

- ① 1. Something that represents something else by association, resemblance, or convention, especially a material object used to represent something invisible.
- ② 2. A printed or written sign used to represent an operation, element, quantity, quality, or relation, as in mathematics or music.



**THE  
POMEGRANATE  
TREE**

# Pomegranate Tree

- On an abandon cemetery
- Private and secluded
- Carve in the Tree
  - > “Amir and Hassan, the sultans of Kabul”
- Where they meet and play together
  - > Climb the tree, eat the fruit and Amir reads to Hassan



# Pomegranate Tree

- “Bromance” created
- They can be themselves and be friends
- Hosseini uses the tree to impress the closeness of Amir and Hassan’s friendship



# Pomegranate Tree

- After the rape, we see that the relationship between the two isn't the same.
- Amir throws pomegranates at Hassan, and he doesn't fight back, instead he smashes one on his own forehead.
- The brotherly love turns to bitterness
- There is a third visit at the end of the novel as well.

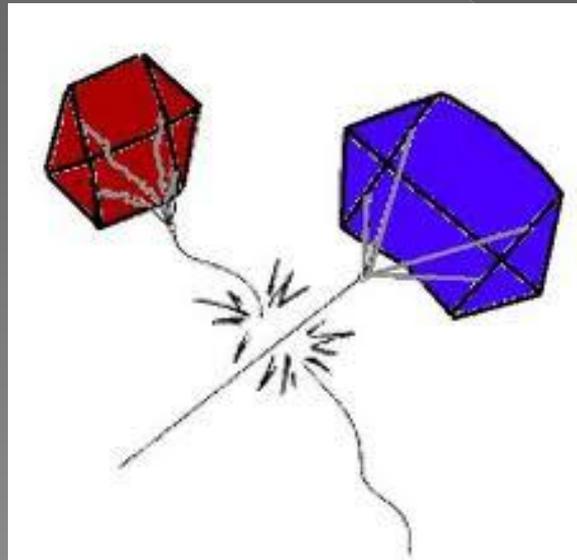
# KITE FIGHTING

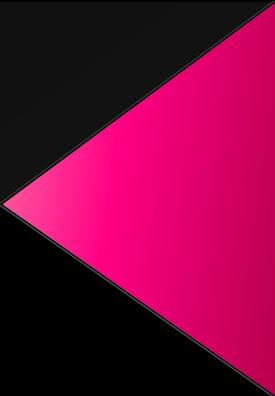
# Kite Fighting

- Brings Amir happy thoughts of him and Hassan flying kites as kids
- Kites themselves are free flying
- How Amir wins Baba's love (briefly)
- But then a reminder of Amir's betrayal
- At the end of the novel we will see this act in a redemptive way

# Kite Fighting

- The actual image of the colorful, free flying kite attached by a violent glass-sheathed string
- Contains both tenderness and cruelty





**FIGHTING  
VS  
RUNNING**

# Kite Runner vs. Kite Fighter

- The novel is written in first person from the view of Amir, who is in fact the Kite Fighter
- Why did Hosseini choose to title the book Kite Runner which is Hassan's role.

# Other Symbols

- ◎ **The MONSTER IN THE LAKE dream**
  - > Hassen has the dream the night of the competition
  - > Who is the monster? Assef? Amir?
- ◎ **Baba fighting the black bear**
  - > How Amir views Baba?