



P R E F A C E :

THE CAL POLY SHARED READING PROGRAM

“Cal Poly asserts that reading is a key institutional value, a tool for community building, and an unending source of mental pleasure.”

What an opportunity to have something in common with your fellow students! Read a bestselling novel over the summer and discuss it with faculty, staff, community members, and fellow students - across all disciplines - during WOW. Preface offers you the rare opportunity to learn how to discuss a book at the university level, and the best part, your first trial run has no grades attached.

Reading the Preface book gives you a leg up on the academic expectations at Cal Poly and offers students a common intellectual experience. This year, the entire campus community will read the bestselling novel *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini.

New Students

New students are expected to finish reading *The Kite Runner* by the end of summer. When you arrive on campus for WOW (Week of Welcome), you will meet in small groups to discuss the book on Wednesday, September 14, 2005. Then, on October 20, 2005 as the highlight of Preface, you will have the opportunity to meet the author, have your book signed, and hear him speak.

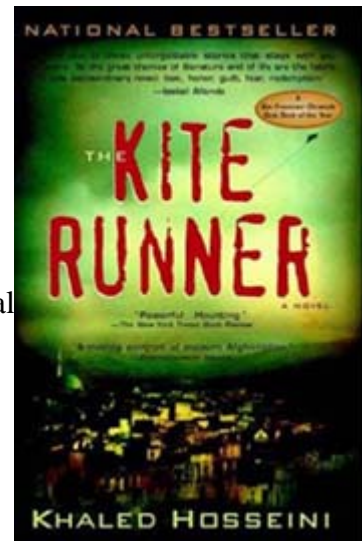
The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

Across the country, *The Kite Runner* is a riveting bestselling novel that tells the memorable story of a complex father son relationship and the unlikely friendship between a wealthy boy and the son of his father's servant. The wealthy Amir narrates the story and grapples with issues of class difference, love, loyalty, betrayal, and redemption. All within an eye-opening account of a country's political turmoil--in this case, Afghanistan.

Reading Guides

These supplemental documents will assist you as you read *The Kite Runner*.

- Reading Guide for *The Kite Runner*



- Fast Facts on Afganistan
- [Biography of Khaled Hosseini](#)
- [Author campus visit October 20, 2005](#)

More Information

For more information on *The Kite Runner*, visit the links below.

New York Times book review:

<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9504E0DF123FF930A3575BC0A9659C8B63>

Audio interview with Khaled Hosseini

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=1358775>

Audio interview with Khaled Hosseini

http://www.gracecathedral.org/forum/for_20040926.shtml

The Kite Runner film

<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0419887/>

Should you have any questions, email PREFACE at preface@calpoly.edu