

	laws. Jalalabad is filled with signs of neglect and destruction - even the smells of the city have changed. People now live in mud huts on dirt roads, a far cry from Baba's multi storey house in Kabul. Wahid's family gives Amir a warm welcome and tries to make him feel comfortable with a blanket and tea. Wahid makes polite conversation but appears embarrassed and knows his place. The sensationalist nature of Amir's last novel juxtaposes Wahid's humble life and desire for the reality of Afghanistan to be revealed. Wahid and Farid have playful banter, creating a humorous atmosphere despite the grim surroundings. The women listen silently, wear the hijab and do not make eye contact or speak loudly. They appear to be very submissive and respectful of the men, something which shocks a Westernised Amir. Wahid tells Farid off for his lack of manners and dishonouring him and his guest. Amir's act of searching for his nephew is, in contrast, very honourable in Afghan culture meaning that Wahid is respectful towards him. Bowls of vegetable shorwa and bread are brought to Farid and Amir, whilst Wahid claims that the family have eaten beforehand. Wahid's sons stare at Amir, making him think that they will hit him when in reality they're starving. He gifts them the watch, which later lies discarded. Amir's nightmare about not being the Talib who shot Hassan shows his guilt and belief that his actions ultimately led to Hassan and Farzanas deaths. This also reinforces the discrimination and injustice towards Hazaras. Amir feels like he is home again in Afghanistan and experiences a sense of kinship. This surprises him and he feels a strong connection towards Kabul and the nostalgic memories that the city holds. Amir also appears to feel more at peace with his decision to find Sohrab. Amir realises that Wahid's family have nothing, so he <i>"planted a fistful of crumpled money under a mattress."</i> This act is very poignant as 26 years earlier he did the same thing to Hassan - but now it's for the right reasons (to help rather than to drive someone away). This suggests that Amir has evolved emotionally and is becoming a real man, therefore completing his unfinished business.
Context	Symbolism of: car sickness, poverty and destruction, burqa, money under the mattress. Afghan tradition for hospitality and generosity towards guests (despite decades of war) particularly emotive in this chapter.