

Soraya is introduced as a romantic interest of Amir's

Baba becomes ill with cancer and this distracts Amir from Soraya

As a final fatherly deed, Baba asks for permission for Amir to marry Soraya

Contrast between the seriousness of Baba's cancer and the delight of Amir and Soraya's courtship and eventual engagement

"Sad stories make good hoors" he said – pg.135

A statement that applies not only to Wuthering Heights, the book Soraya is reading, but also to The Kite Runner itself. This also shows that Soraya takes an interest in literature, like Amir, therefore they are compatible

"I cringed a little at the position of power I'd been given" – pg.137

Amir is uncomfortable overpowering women because of his culture but rarely did he feel the same about his inherent dominance over Hassan due to race

Mainly chronological, linear narrative, and deviates little from the storyline

"Shhh, Baba jan, I'm here. Your son is right here." – pg.146

Role reversal; Amir is now looking after his father and for the first time in his life, putting someone else's needs before his own



"I asked for kindness from a God I wasn't sure existed" – pg.142 – Amir's faith comes into question again but as usual, he asks for God's help when in need

Kite Runner: Chapter 12

"What about me, Baba? What am I supposed to do?" I said, my eyes welling up – pg.144 – Amir is still the same person in America as he was in Afghanistan, he cannot stand up for himself and Baba becomes angry at him because he believes Amir should be his own man and not need to ask that question.

"I had used my literacy to ridicule Hassan" – pg.140

Soraya once taught her illiterate servant to read and write, and she now aspires to become a teacher, whereas Amir always teased Hassan and belittled him for being illiterate – the ultimate contrast between the pair. However it does show that Amir is more reflective on his mistakes and realizes what he did wrong.

Creates parallels between Amir and Soraya – she is clearly the better person between the two and through her, Amir learns from his mistakes. Her situation (she ran away and lived, unmarried, with another man), mirrors Amir's in many ways but she chooses to admit to the world what she has done wrong unlike Amir. He is more mature now but still cannot face his past.

"There were many ways Soraya Taheri was a better person than me. Courage was just one of them." – pg.152
Amir will need courage of his own in the end, something he has never had, to rescue Sohrab.

"I was fully aware of the Afghan double standard that favoured my gender" – pg.135

In some ways, Amir and Soraya's tentative friendship mirrors his and Hassan's – they cannot really be friends because of social expectations and hierarchy, which puts women and Hazaras lower than men and Pashtuns.

Soraya is reading Wuthering Heights when Amir speaks to her for the first time alone; this book is significant as it is about two characters from different social classes in an isolated existence, somewhat like Amir and Hassan