

Motif Tracking For THE KITE RUNNER:

Definition of motif: a distinctive feature or dominant idea in an artistic or literary composition that is repeated in order to reinforce a theme.

They are meant to unify work as a whole. In Alfred Hitchcock's *Vertigo* geometric designs and film angels help convey tone and theme. In the novel *The Color Purple* music, color and flowers are woven in and out as symbols of hope and reconciliation.

As you read the first three Chapters of *The Kite Runner*, brainstorm a list of motifs (some might be kites, games, friendship, dreams, deformities, music, food, colors, books, etc)

You will pick several to track throughout the novel. Once you have picked your motif, you will follow it's development through the novel. Use the following format:

Motif (on column) / Interpretation (on column)

Motif: On this side, write the page number and the motif...	Interpretation: On this side discuss the author's purpose, tone and your own insight
Example: Pg. 2 "I sat on a Bench near a willow tree."	... A willow tree is also known as a "weeping willow." Weeping willows are beautiful trees with graceful spreading leaves and branches. In this example, the main character has just received a phone call. A voice from his past. He is thinking about an incident that happened when he was twelve. There is a sadness about him. He must have done something regrettable because his friend is offering him a way out. I wonder who wept...