



Sophomore Summer Reading 2018

Greetings, rising sophomores! It is time to gear up for Seattle Prep's Summer Reading Program. We hope that you will be reading lots of books during your summer break! We have selected two books that you are required to complete this summer:

The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

Test and Graded Discussion

During the first week of the new school year, you will take an *objective test* (multiple choice) on *The Kite Runner* and participate in a *graded discussion* on *The Boys in the Boat*.

Study Guide and Review Chart

A study guide for the objective test and a review chart for the graded discussion will be on the Summer Reading 2018 link on the Seattle Prep webpage by the start of summer.

More information about the objective test and graded discussion will be provided by your teachers when you start school in the fall.

Preview of Summer Books

The Boys in the Boat tells the story of the University of Washington's 1936 eight-oar crew and their epic quest for an Olympic gold medal, a team that transformed the sport and grabbed the attention of millions of Americans. The sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers, the boys defeated elite rivals first from eastern and British universities and finally the German crew rowing for Adolf Hitler in the Olympic games in Berlin, 1936. The emotional heart of the story lies with one rower, Joe Rantz, a teenager without family or prospects, who rows not for glory, but to regain his shattered self-regard and to find a place he can call home. The crew is assembled by an enigmatic coach and mentored by a visionary, eccentric British boat builder, but it is their trust in each other that makes them a victorious team. They remind the country of what can be done when everyone quite literally pulls together—a perfect melding of commitment, determination, and optimism. (Goodreads.com)

The Kite Runner offers a gripping introduction to modern Afghanistan's turbulent history through the story of Amir, a wealthy boy who grows up in 1970's Kabul, just before the overthrow of the monarchy and Russia's invasion of Afghanistan. Amir enjoys kite running and inventing stories with his best friend Hassan. He struggles with the typical challenges of growing up, especially trying to please his demanding father. In the midst of a fairly happy childhood, violent historical events and a traumatic personal test of courage change Amir's life forever. Though Amir immigrates to the United States and embraces his new life, he eventually must journey back to a dangerous, Taliban-controlled Afghanistan to face the ghosts of

A decorative border of palm trees surrounds the text. The border consists of a top row of 18 palm trees, a bottom row of 18 palm trees, and two vertical columns of 18 palm trees each on the left and right sides.

his past. With a forward-moving plot and many twists and turns along the way, *The Kite Runner* will keep you guessing, anxious to find out the final secret in Amir's story. (Goodreads.com)

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Slevin: aslevin@seaprep.org.