

*A Thousand Splendid Suns: Part Four*  
Chapters 48-51 Discussion Questions

*Please answer these questions in your notebook. Present a group copy for a group grade.*

1. How does Laila's life in Murree contrast with her life in Kabul?
2. Is Laila's expectation that Zalmai will learn to accept his father's absence realistic?
3. Will Laila's nightmares about her life in Kabul ever cease? What is the worst thing that happened to her there?
4. Why is Laila afraid to hope for peace in Afghanistan, after the U.S. war on the Taliban is over?
5. What forces tug on Laila to return to Afghanistan?
6. Why does Laila want to visit the home where Mariam had lived as a girl?
7. How does the letter of Mariam's father show his character? Does it redeem him in some way? In what ways is it ironic?
8. What is fitting about Laila's return to Kabul and her work at the orphanage?
9. How do the drawings by the children in the orphanage express their experiences? How do they show the contrast between the time when Aziza was there and now?
10. How has Mariam become a symbol of Kabul for Laila?