The Dragon Battle: A Note-Catcher

The great "dragon battle" is also known as the "brother battle." Why? The hero's greatest nemesis often displays traits that the hero also possesses. In that way, they are like brothers. After all, when we despise a trait in someone else, isn't it often because we are ashamed of that trait in ourselves?

However, the hero and the "dragon" must also be different in some fundamental way. Typically, the hero is able to make a choice that the nemesis fails to make, and/or the hero finds an inner quality that the nemesis severely lacks.

Questions to Ponder	*Harry Potter*	*The Kite Runner*
What's the significance of the nemesis' name?	*Volde = flight* *Mort = death* Why might Rowling have chosen this name for this character?	Click here for the meaning behind Assef's name. Why might Hosseini have chosen this name for this character?
What's the significance of the hero's name?	Click here for the meaning of Harry's name. Why might Rowling have chosen this name for this character?	Click here for the meaning behind Amir's name. Why might Hosseini have chosen this name for this character?
What gives the nemesis/dragon his power? What makes him almost impossible to defeat?		
What strengths must the hero call upon to defeat the nemesis?		
What traits and history do the nemesis and the hero share? In other words, what makes them "brothers"?	In the film, what imagery draws Harry and Voldemort together?	"I dreamed Assef was standing in the doorway of my hospital room, brass ball still in his eye socket. 'We're the same, you and I,' he was saying. 'You nursed with him, but you're *my* twin.'" (307) Why does Amir worry that

		he's Assef's "twin"?
What fundamental difference exists between the nemesis and the hero?		