**Group Discussion #2 (1-15)**

1. Discussion Questions
   1. What do you think of Estha’s 2 thoughts? (CHAP 10)
      1. Reminds us of “hope for the best, but prepare for the worst”
      2. Shows his maturity
         1. Rahel is more childish than Estha
         2. Maturity is maybe due to what he went through with the lemonade man
            1. He’s mentally changed since that incident

He doesn’t want anyone to know

Possible cause of his silence

Rahel notices that something is up

* + 1. Wouldn’t Rahel have this same thought too?
       1. Goes along with what Estha does
    2. Macbeth reference pg. 186
  1. Why do you think Roy added the scene at the very end of the book?
     1. Shocks the reader into understand what the book really means
     2. Ties in to the theme that can’t promise into anything concrete
  2. Any significance surrounding how Sophie Mol dies?
     1. They talk about the river all of the time in the book
     2. Thing that divides them from the history house (their past)
        1. The river acts as an obstacle in life
           1. Sophie Mol wasn’t strong enough to cross that obstacle
        2. Breaks the whole idea of the class separations
  3. Why do they kill Velutha?
     1. Communists
     2. Went after the wealthy daughter
     3. Possibly tried to kidnap the children
     4. May have had a part in Sophie Mol’s death

1. Random Notes
   1. Baby Koochamma
      1. Purpose in the whole story is to be a foil
2. Connections
   1. Heart of Darkness is a book about British Colonialism that is in Africa and in we can see the British mistreating the people and all the evil that happens because of it so it relates to the novel because in the novel the History House is located in the Heart of Darkness. For them it represents all things related to the British.
3. Words of Interest
   1. **History House**- By identifying with the British, the family lose sight of who they really are and where they come from. To understand history – not only their family's personal history, but the broader history of which their family's story is just one small part – they have to seek out ways of learning about the past.
   2. **Madras**(title of a chapter)- is a region that existed as part of the Republic of India (see map)
   3. **Heart of Darkness**- could be an allusion to another novel, the Heart of Darkness, in which the phrase symbolizes the "darkest" side of human nature as seen in the brutal colonists and ivory traders illustrated in Heart of Darkness.  So all things related to the white man?
   4. **Naaley**- tomorrow…this is important simply because it describes the little things that people can promise each other.  It is not "later," which holds a negative connotation
   5. **From chapter 3…but interesting**
   6. **Little man is the Mombatti - wax light…e.g. a candle**
   7. **Big Man is the -Laltain…lantern**
   8. **Kathakali**- are storyteller performers who put on all-night plays
   9. **Mangosteen tree**- a type of tree that bears fruit