

Y.D.R

Ms.Fargo

L&L

11 December 2020

Effects of Character Choices

Imagine if your parents were struggling to provide resources for your family, and you had the choice to change your identity to protect your family, would you do it? In the book *The Breadwinner* by Deborah Ellis, a girl named Parvana has to change her gender from a girl to a boy. Character identity, usually influenced by character choice because Parvana's decision to risk everything to protect her family manifests that she is selfless. Character choices give us a sense of how that character is like and their perspectives presently, especially from past experiences, which can also lead us to their motivations.

Experiences can lead to the choices Parvana makes, which impacts the way she sees things. In the book, you can see how Parvana grows as a person through the decisions she makes. Her choices may not always seem the best, but you can see how Parvana tries to think of the best possible way to solve any problem. Shauzia, Parvana's friend, decided that she wanted to leave Afghanistan. Shauzia felt like she did not have a purpose anymore. With her family fighting all the time, she decided it was best. Her choices have helped her become independent and risk-taker. Character choices are powerful because they show us more about character, but they also move the plot forward. When a character is on the verge of making a choice, it can lead readers to question the character and their intentions.

For example, when Nooria decides to get married. "Didn't you listen to anything Mother was saying last night? I'll be living in Mazar-e-Sharif, in the north. The Taliban aren't in that

part of Afghanistan. Girls can still go to school there. Both of his parents are educated. I can finish school, and they'll even send me to the university in Mazar" (p.119). The quote explains how Nooria wants to live an average life where she is finally free, so she can live out her dream of going to school again. When readers read this part of the book, it can make them wonder, when will she see her family? What will Nooria do once she finishes school?

In conclusion, character choices create a massive impact on the book. It teaches readers about the characters and how we see that character grow throughout the book. These choices can either bring out the best or worst to that character.