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Language and Literature

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### Kindness and Bravery in *The Breadwinner*

You can tell a lot about a person by how they act during times of trial. Difficult times can either bring out good or bad qualities. In the book “The Breadwinner”, by Deborah Ellis, the main character, Parvana, is a good example of kindness and bravery through her trials. She shows these qualities in her everyday life because she has to help her family while her dad is in jail.

She usually has to help her family and doesn't always want to, but she does her jobs anyway. She goes and does her chores even when she doesn't want to because she knows that she is the only one that can do things like fetch the water. “Nooria never goes for water, nor does Mother. Maryam doesn't, either. She doesn't have to do anything!’ Parvana knew she was mumbling nonsense, but she kept it up anyway.” She then went and got the water.

Parvana has to do some terrible things to help her family survive. This shows she is very brave. An example is on page 100, “‘When things get better and we grow up, we have to remember that there was a day when we were kids when we stood in a graveyard and dug up bones to sell so that our families could eat.’” This quote shows that things are bad and Parvana can struggle through. Parvana also is very brave because she does things that most people wouldn't do. Some examples are like how

she digs up bones and brings a person that she doesn't know into her house. She also goes into the market without her dad, which is illegal.

Parvana is a good person and we should strive to be like her. She had to face tough circumstances like not being able to go outside and having to find ways to get money (digging up bones) as well as having to put up with her annoying sister. When the going gets rough, some crumble while others try their best to keep things normal. Parvana definitely falls into the trying category because as I stated above, she does a lot to help her family keep moving forward. We should be more like Parvana.