

"The Breadwinner" by Nora Twomey

Questions to the movie

- 1) Who is the title breadwinner? Why?
- 2) What is the historical background of the movie? Where does the story take place? How do we know?
- 3) What is the life like under the Taliban rule? What is the situation of women like?
- 4) How are Parvana and her sister Soraya brought up in their family?
- 5) How is the past present in the movie?
- 6) How is the story of "dreadful elephant king" parallel of the narrative of Parvana's struggle to save her father?
- 7) How is war present in the movie?

2. Who says these words? Who or what do they refer to?:

- a) *"Stories remain in our hearts, even when all else is gone,"*
- b) *"When you're a boy, you can go anywhere you like!"*
- c) *"We were scientists, philosophers and storytellers, but we were at the edges of empires at war with each other."*
- d) *"We are a land whose people are its greatest treasure."*
- e) *"Everything changes, Parvana. Stories remind us of that."*
- f) *"She's drawing attention to herself! She should be at home, not displaying herself in the market."*
- g) *"You can get a lot done with bribes. A lot!"*
- h) *"I am a good son ... but he is not a good father."*
- i) *"I'll meet you at that beach you were talking about, where the moon pulls the water! 20 years from today."*
- j) *"Please, take us out of Kabul so that we may have a chance of survival."*

k) *"One day, I found a toy on the street. I picked it up. It exploded. I don't remember what happened after that ... because it was the end."*

l) *"We can't go on like this! We can't depend on you to keep us alive!"*

m) *"You look so much like him. Go change Sulayman's clothes or you'll get them dirty. They are already dirty."*

3. How would you interpret the words of Jalal ad-Din Muhammad Rumi, a 13th century Persian poet, which appear at the end of the movie (write 50-100 words):

"Raise your words, not voice. It's rain that grows flowers, not thunder".