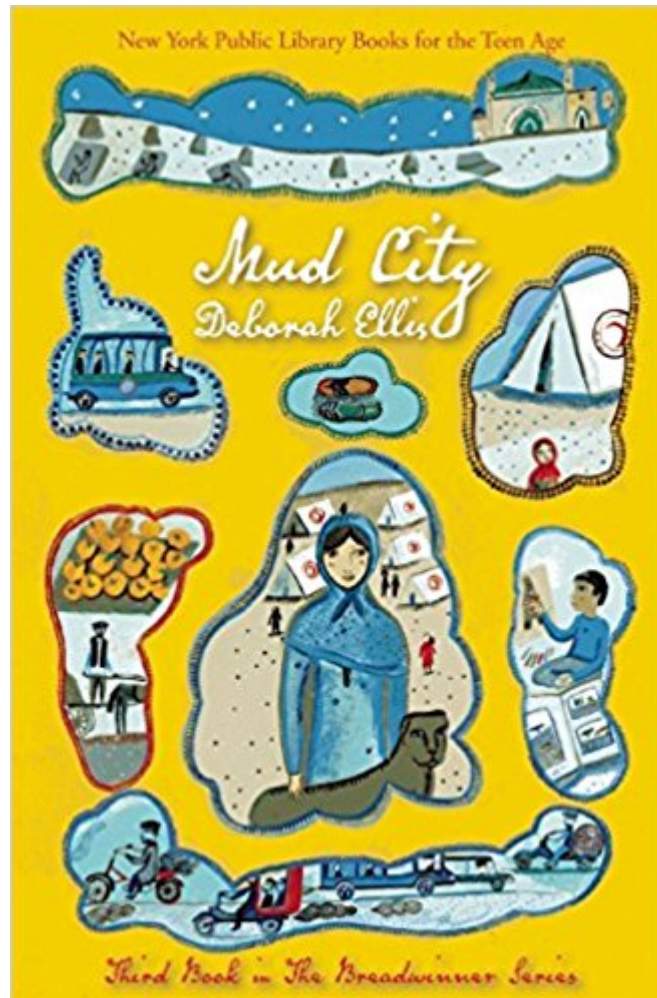




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# Mud City (Breadwinner)



## Synopsis

Parvana's best friend, Shauzia, has escaped the misery of her life in Kabul, only to end up in a refugee camp in Pakistan. She still dreams of seeing the ocean and eventually making a new life in France, but it's hard to imagine when she is living in the Widows' Compound of a muddy, crowded refugee camp outside Peshawar. Shauzia finally decides to leave the camp and try her luck on the streets. Peshawar is dangerous and full of desperately poor and wandering children like herself, but she has Jasper, the dog who followed her down from a shepherd's camp in the mountains, and she knows how to masquerade as a boy and comb the streets for jobs. But life as a street kid is dangerous and terrifying, even with the advantages of a strong will, brave spirit, and good luck. This is a powerful and human story of a feisty, driven girl who tries to take control of her own life. The reissue includes a new cover and map, and an updated author's note and glossary to provide young readers with background and context. Royalties from the sale of this book go to Street Kids International.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 740 (What's this?)

Series: Breadwinner (Book 3)

Paperback: 168 pages

Publisher: Groundwood Books; Revised edition (May 12, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1554987733

ISBN-13: 978-1554987733

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.4 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 20 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #181,385 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #55 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Middle East #765 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Self-Esteem & Self-Respect #1065 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Girls & Women

Age Range: 10 - 14 years

Grade Level: 4 - 9

## Customer Reviews

Grade 5-7-Stuck in the Widows' Compound of an Afghan refugee camp just across the border in Pakistan, Shauzia chafes at the endless small jobs Mrs. Weera assigns to her. She longs to take charge of her life, travel with her faithful dog Jasper, and make her way to the sea and ultimately to France. She leaves the camp dressed as a boy to try to earn money in Peshawar but there is little work and the meager amount she does earn is stolen by the police. Befriended by a Western family, she misunderstands their ways and is returned to the camp. There, her leg is broken in a riot caused by her efforts to get food for the widows and children. As she comes to recognize her own strengths, she reaches a point where she can lay aside her dream long enough to return to Afghanistan with Mrs. Weera to help her countrymen. Like *The Breadwinner* (2001) and *Parvana's Journey* (2002, both Groundwood), this novel conveys a distinctive sense of place, describing in discomfiting detail the sights and sounds of the impoverished refugee camp and the poorest sections of Peshawar. However, the book has the feel of a story begun in the middle. Shauzia's friend Parvana is just a name. Readers know nothing of their previous connection and Shauzia's own history is sketchy. She is smart and likable in her generosity, but her change of heart is sudden and comes as a surprise. Buy where the earlier titles have been popular. Kathleen Isaacs, Edmund Burke School, Washington, DC Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Gr. 4-7. In the third book in the *Breadwinner* Trilogy, orphan Afghan refugee Shauzia leaves the rough Pakistan border camp and joins other homeless children on the streets of the city of Peshawar. Her dream, left from the time before the Taliban when she was still at school, is to reach the ocean and a place called France. Instead, disguised as a boy, she must beg and scrounge for food and find odd jobs. In the end, she returns to the refugee camp and to the tough camp leader, Mrs. Weera, whom Shauzia thought she hated. The story is strong on message, and in a final note, Ellis fills in the recent history about Afghanistan, the Taliban's restrictions on women, and the millions of new, desperate refugees. Middle-school readers will be caught up in the cause and in the elemental survival adventure, especially because Shauzia is no sweet waif; she's mean, insolent, and rebellious. Her struggle with the rough Mrs. Weera reveals that they are both strong and brave. Royalties from the book go to help homeless kids. Hazel Rochman Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The Breadwinner series was what i was looking for - Needed to know some of this history - I

realized that the world didn't all live in brick houses or glass houses or white houses. But didn't hear any of this in High school - that many years ago. Most 87 - guess you can guess why. Even in college we didn't touch on these subjects. But I didn't major in history! Just Psych, education and Special Ed. Read all four you will like them

This, and all the other in the series, are a five. It allows the reader to truly understand what those in the Middle East have gone through.

Loved the whole series

My 12 year old daughter and I read the whole series together. It was an eye opener for her as to the problems that children in other areas of the world face. We loved the characters.

It is alright it's not that bad the dirt and the second book is so much better

This book is overly simplistic, unless you are 8 years old.

Great Book

This is a real eye-opener and should be mandatory reading for all. I have passed on copies of Mud City, Parvana's Journey and The Breadwinner to my teenage Grandchildren.

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