



Hans Christian Andersen Award 2020

Deborah Ellis

Author Nominee
(IBBY Canada)

Table of Contents

<i>Introduction</i>	3
<i>Statement of Contribution</i>	5
<i>Biography of Deborah Ellis</i>	8
<i>Most Significant Titles</i>	10
The Breadwinner (2000)	11
Parvana’s Journey (2002)	13
No Ordinary Day (2011)	15
Looks Like Daylight (2013)	17
Moon at Nine (2014)	18
<i>Interview with Deborah Ellis</i>	20
<i>Complete (Children’s and YA) Bibliography</i>	23
<i>Fiction</i>	23
<i>Non-Fiction</i>	24
<i>Complete Awards & Accolades</i>	25
<i>Fiction</i>	25
<i>Non-Fiction</i>	28
<i>Foreign Rights & Translations</i>	30
<i>Series</i>	30
<i>Fiction</i>	36

Introduction

The best of children's literature can help create a Day Before – a Day Before the order is given to toss chemicals in a river. A Day Before the order is given to massacre a village. A Day Before the order is given to manufacture a new batch of guns that will be used to shoot up a school, a church, a gay bar, a country music festival. A Day Before the order is given to move a child-abuser to a new county and new victims. A Day Before the order is given to bomb a school bus full of eight-year-olds returning home from a much-needed outing. We must have a Day Before! The best of children's literature can remind us who we are when we are at our best. It can remind us we need not be afraid of differences, and that we have the power to create beauty out of pain.

-Excerpt from Deborah Ellis's keynote at the 2018 IBBY Congress in Athens, Greece

No one in attendance at Deborah Ellis's keynote address, "Before They Give the Order," during the IBBY International Congress in Athens 2018 will soon forget these resounding words nor the extended and enthusiastic standing ovation she so deservedly received.

The Hans Christian Andersen Committee of IBBY Canada is honoured to introduce to the HCA 2020 jury an outstanding author and social justice advocate, and our nominee, Deborah Ellis.

Ellis is an author of exceptional talents, who has become known not only throughout Canada, but also in many other countries for her literature, peace activism, and philanthropy. She has travelled to many war-torn countries and visited with countless refugees. It was an interview with a refugee mother that inspired Ellis to write the first book in the *Breadwinner* series.

While perhaps best known for *The Breadwinner* (2000), Ellis first came to popularity and critical acclaim after her 1999 debut novel, *Looking for X*, won the Governor General's Children's Literature Award (2000). Set in a low-income Toronto housing project and featuring a protagonist struggling within a dysfunctional family, this novel brought Ellis to the attention of the Canadian children's literature academic community and young readers, enabling her readers to better understand and empathize with the plight of impoverished and homeless individuals throughout the world.

Since *Looking for X* and *The Breadwinner*, Ellis has continued to raise awareness with such works as *The Heaven Shop* – an examination of HIV/AIDS among a family of orphans – *I Am a Taxi*, *Sacred Leaf*, and *Lunch with Lenin and Other Stories*, a collection of short stories about children whose lives have been affected by drugs.

Although her fiction is vastly popular, her nonfiction publications have also been very well received, becoming invaluable resources for educators and young readers. *Looks Like Daylight*, among a number of other collections of interviews with youth in various cultural and geographical contexts, highlights the lived experiences of Indigenous youth in North America.

The Breadwinner was recently released as a feature-length animated film (2017), receiving positive critical reviews. The movie was nominated for an Academy Award and a Golden Globe; it won Best Animated Feature at the Los Angeles Film Critics Association, the Annie Awards (presented by the International Animated Film Association), and Best Adapted Screenplay at the Canadian Screen Awards.

Ellis has received the Jane Addams Children’s Book Award, which is given to a book that advances the causes of peace and social equality, and has been honoured with the Order of Ontario and the Order of Canada.

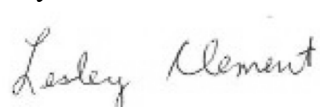
It is not simply the number of works published and the number of accolades received that make Ellis such a deserving nominee, but her stances around politics and social movements continue to impress. She concluded her Congress keynote with a call-to-arms: “The more good books we can get to children, authored by more voices from every part of the earth, the better chance we all have of achieving that great Day Before.” It is because her literature and activism have paved so many paths to “achieving that great Day Before” that we at IBBY Canada are proud to nominate Deborah Ellis for the 2020 Hans Christian Andersen Award for Writing.

Robert Bittner, PhD



IBBY Canada, Regional Councillor West
Co-Chair, HCA Nomination Committee

Lesley D. Clement, PhD



IBBY Canada, Regional Councillor Ontario
Co-Chair, HCA Nomination Committee

Statement of Contribution

Submitted by Professor Jane M. Gangi

Deborah Ellis is a self-described social justice activist and feminist who writes in various genres, including contemporary realistic fiction, historical fiction, short stories, essays, and nonfiction. Her work has inspired children and adults around the world to empathize with victims of war, disease, land mines, and poverty, often raising money for the world's most vulnerable. Ellis donates most of her royalties to organizations that benefit the young people about whom she writes. Her opus has won many awards, including the Jane Addams Book Award Special Commendation, the American Library Association's Notable Books, the Canadian Library Association Book of the Year, USBBY Outstanding International Books selection, the Middle East Book Award, Sweden's Peter Pan Prize, and she has been named to the Order of Canada.

Ellis's first publicly recognized book was published in 1999, *Looking for X*, which won Canada's Governor General's Award for Children's Literature. In this book, as in most of her books, Ellis begins with a question, in this case: What would be like to be the daughter of an ex-stripper? The protagonist, Khyber, has befriended a homeless woman who has gone missing, a pattern that follows in subsequent books—unlikely friendships characterized by caring for the most needy. Ellis also gives gentle wisdom to those of us who are searching: "That's how it is with change. You leave one thing behind, and there's something else to take its place."

In the late 1990s, Ellis worked in a refugee camp in Pakistan for Afghans who were escaping the Taliban. Prior to September 11, 2001, Ellis, while recognized in Canada as an important writer, had not yet received recognition on the international stage. After the destruction of the World Trade Center, *The Breadwinner* (2000) flew off the shelves, helping young readers to understand Afghanistan, the Taliban, and terrorism. *Parvana's Journey* (2002) and *Mud City* (2003) followed, making up The Breadwinner Trilogy, and *The Breadwinner* came out in a highly regarded animated film in 2017. In these books and the film Ellis asks the question: What is it like to grow up under the oppressive Taliban regime? Because the men and boys in the family are either dead, in jail, or conscripted in the Taliban army, women and girls, who usually live in bombed-out apartments, must fend for themselves. Because neither Parvana's mother nor older sister can go outside unaccompanied by a man, feisty, eleven-year-old Parvana cuts off her hair and dresses as a boy to forage food for her family.

Once in the outside world, she meets her friend, Shauzia, who has done the same for her family. Through the girls' eyes, Ellis records the tyranny of the Taliban, but also brings into focus the humanity of one member of the Taliban. One of Parvana's many jobs is letter reader for the illiterate. On one occasion a Talib asks her to read a letter that was in his dead wife's belongings. The loving letter is from her aunt on the occurrence of her wedding. Parvana witnesses his deeply felt grief for his wife, a deliberate choice on Ellis's part; she believes numerous outside factors contributed to the development of the Taliban, many of whom grew up as orphans in refugee camps. The world pays when it neglects its children, as it neglected Afghanistan's orphans during the 1980s.

In 2015, Ellis added to *The Breadwinner* Trilogy a fourth book, *My Name Is Parvana*, in which Parvana is now fifteen and suspected by American troops of terrorism; Ellis's characters often find themselves in tight spots. The four books have sold 2.5 million copies and have been translated into twenty-five languages. Her primary publisher, Groundwood, in 2018 published *The Breadwinner* as a graphic novel based on the animated film. Ellis's continuing concern for Afghanistan is further demonstrated in *Kids of Kabul: Living Bravely through a Never-Ending War* (2012).

Perhaps her most controversial book is *Three Wishes: Palestinian and Israeli Children Speak* (2004), a work of nonfiction in which Ellis interviewed both Jewish and Israeli young people. She introduces each interview with an essay. Boards of Education were asked to ban the book because it was thought the book might encourage children to emulate suicide bombers. Ellis responded with an op-ed in the *Toronto Star*, "If children are tough enough to be bombed and starved, they're tough enough to read about it."

Also, in 2002 she published a work of historical fiction, *A Company of Fools*, which asked what it would be like to grow up during the bubonic plague. Ellis is fascinated with children's resilience and courage in all kinds of situations and, in this book, children form a theater troupe to cheer the dying. Another work of historical fiction is the elegant *Jackal in the Garden: An Encounter with Bhizad* (2006) in which the protagonist, Anubis, who is fighting for her life, forms a friendship with Bhizad. The conversations between the two are often philosophical. Although I read the book a decade ago, I still remember, "All we have is what can't be lost in a shipwreck." As is so often the case with Ellis's books, she provides, without being didactic, guidance for readers trying to make their way in the world.

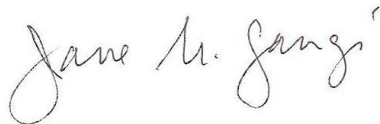
Following works took Ellis to several continents: Africa, South America, and Europe. After extended stays in Malawi and Zambia, she published both fiction and nonfiction on AIDS orphans and their kind-hearted grandmothers—*The Heaven Shop* (2004) and *Our Stories, Our Songs: African Children Talk about AIDS* (2005). In Bolivia, she learned how the North American drug trade affects Bolivian families

and wrote The Cocalero Novels, *I Am a Taxi* (2006), *Sacred Leaf* (2007), and *Beyond the Barricade* (2007). *I Am a Taxi* won the Ruth and Sylvia Schwartz Children's Book Award, an award given by seventh and eighth grade students. One of the judges said, "My heart melted at the end of this book." Ellis later traveled to Jordan to conduct interviews for *Off to War: Voices of Soldiers' Children* (2008) and *Children of War: Voices of Iraqi Refugees* (2009).

With Canadian writer Eric Walters, Ellis wrote *Bifocal* (2007), which explores what it was like to be Muslim in a Canadian high school post 9/11. Her tireless effort to understand the plight of the world's most vulnerable has also resulted in *No Safe Place* (2010), a novel of a refugee from Baghdad who ends up in France's "Jungle," and is desperate to escape to England; *In from the Cold* (2010) on homelessness; *We Want You to Know* (2010) on bullying; *No Ordinary Day* (2011) about leprosy in India; and *Looks Like Daylight: Voices of Indigenous Kids* (2013). She has also written short stories, such as in *Lunch with Lenin* (2008), *Click* (2009) and *Sit* (2018).

When defending *Three Wishes*, PEN Canada wrote, "Often the very best literary work pokes light into dark places, and freedom of expression, inquiry and opinion is a cornerstone of our democratic society." Deborah Ellis has put forth the best literary work for young people by poking light into dark places, thus helping to sustain democracies. Ellis is most deserving of the Hans Christian Andersen Award.

Sincerely,



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Genocide in Contemporary Childrens and Young Adult Literature: Cambodia to Darfur

Biography of Deborah Ellis

With the publication of *The Breadwinner* in 2000, Deborah Ellis opened the eyes of publishers and writers in the West to the possibilities and need for honest, engaging and beautifully written stories about children in developing countries—countries at war, countries under duress where children do not have access to their basic rights. The international success of *The Breadwinner*, with publication in over twenty-five languages, provided further opportunities for many other writers, from both outside and inside these countries, to tell their own stories and introduce their books to audiences around the globe.

In the seventeen years since *The Breadwinner*, Deborah has continued to write books about marginalized children—from Bolivia to Malawi, India to Israel—including refugees, youth experiencing homelessness, and Indigenous children throughout North America and abroad. Her characters are not downtrodden and depressed. Despite their situations, her protagonists, particularly her female characters like Parvana, are spunky, unconventional, independent-minded, imaginative children full of spirit and humour, who will not be put down by their circumstances. Instead, they pursue their own goals, education, and adventures, living their lives to the fullest. Her stories do more than address social justice issues; they are award-winning literary achievements. Nobel Prize winner Malala Yousafzai has said in the *New York Times* that *The Breadwinner* is a book all girls should read.



Deborah’s commitment to promoting children’s rights and her own hopes for a more humane world go beyond the gift of her characters and stories. She has donated almost \$2 million in royalties to organizations that include Women for Women in Afghanistan, Street Kids International, The Leprosy Mission, UNICEF, First Nations Child and Family Caring Society, and the Children in Crisis Fund of IBBY. A gifted speaker, she has been to hundreds of schools, conferences, libraries, and churches in more than fifteen countries around the world and spoken to audiences of all ages. But Deborah does much more than just present her books. She talks about the need for all of us to engage with each other and to effect change in our own communities and beyond. Anyone who has seen her address audiences, young or old, can attest to her ability to inspire and educate in a way that is humble, moving, eloquent, and passionate.

In 2017 Deborah's inspiring storytelling was brought to the big screen with the release of an animated feature film based on her novel, *The Breadwinner*. Featuring a cast of Afghan-Canadian voice actors, the film was praised by critics for its sophisticated portrayal of a brave young girl living in Afghanistan during a time of conflict and oppression. The film has been nominated for and won many prestigious awards, including an Academy Award nomination for Best Animated Feature.

Deborah makes the most cynical among us believe in the ability of humanity to change the world and the role of children and children's books to effect that change. She believes that children are naturally courageous and that they have an infinite capacity for imagining a better world. That's why she writes books for and about them.



https://www.macleans.ca/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/MAC36_DEB_ELLIS01www.jpg

Most Significant Titles

The Breadwinner

(Toronto: Groundwood, 2000)

Parvana's Journey

(Toronto: Groundwood, 2002)

Mud City

(Toronto: Groundwood, 2003)

I Am a Taxi

(Toronto: Groundwood, 2006)

No Ordinary Day

(Toronto: Groundwood, 2011)

My Name is Parvana

(Toronto: Groundwood, 2012)

Kids of Kabul: Living Bravely Through a Never-Ending War

(Toronto: Groundwood, 2012)

Looks Like Daylight: Voices of Indigenous Kids

(Toronto: Groundwood, 2013)

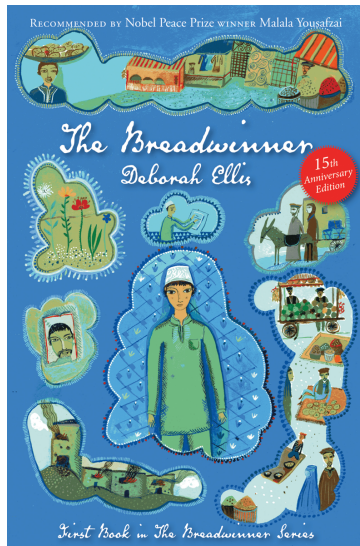
Moon at Nine

(Toronto: Pajama Press, 2014)

The Cat at the Wall

(Toronto: Groundwood, 2014)

The Breadwinner (2000)



“The Taliban have decreed that women stay inside their homes, unless completely covered by a long, tentlike garment with a veil over the face. Girls can no longer go to school. Parvana's only relief is accompanying her father to the market where he works as a letter writer and sells family possessions. After he is arrested and taken away, Parvana becomes the breadwinner, dressing as a boy and taking over her father's job. One day, she recognizes a school friend, similarly disguised. The two team up to dig human bones to sell to make extra money, always fearful that their secret will be revealed and that they, too, will be imprisoned or worse. After Parvana's older sister, younger siblings, and mother leave for the north, Parvana learns that the town they went to has been taken over by the Taliban in a bloody battle. There seems to be no hope, until,

unaccountably, her father appears, released from prison, and they decide to leave Kabul in search of the rest of their family. The author's sympathy with the women of Afghanistan is evident; her outrage at their treatment makes the single moment when Parvana sees a Talib as human, with feelings, stand out. The girl's courage and wit are admirable; she comes alive as a character....” — *School Library Journal*

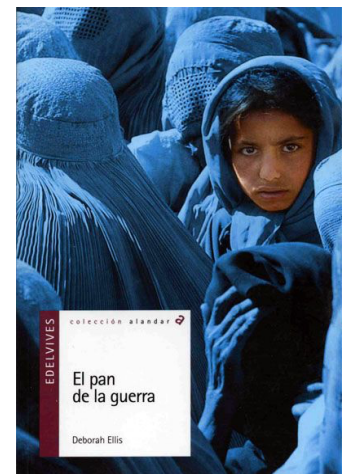
“All girls [should read] *The Breadwinner*, by Deborah Ellis. The book tells the story of a young girl who takes on the challenge of saving her family. I think it's important for girls everywhere to learn how women are treated in some societies. But even though Parvana is treated as lesser than boys and men, she never feels that way. She believes in herself and is stronger to fight against hunger, fear and war. Girls like her are an inspiration. *The Breadwinner* reminds us how courageous and strong women are around the world.” —Malala Yousafzai, *New York Times* (2014)

Awards and Accolades

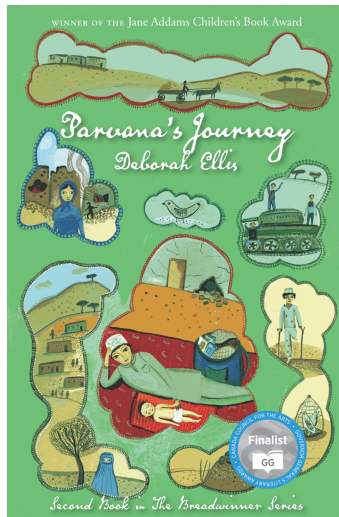
2004: Young Jury Awards (Netherlands) nominee	2003: SYRCA Diamond Willow Award nominee
2003: Ontario Library Association Golden Oak Award nominee	2003: YALSA Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults selection
2003: Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award selection	2002: Middle East Book Award winner
2003: Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Award	2002: Baia delle Favole Prize for ages 9-12 winner
2003: Rocky Mountain Book Award shortlist	2001: Ontario Library Association Red Maple Award nominee
2003: Sweden's Peter Pan Prize winner	

Translations and Foreign Rights

Albanian	Botimet Dritan: Tirana, Albania, 2009
Arabic	Kalimat Group: Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 2015
Basque	Ibaizabal argitaletxea: Amorebieta-Etxano, Spain, 2003
Catalan	Baula (Edelvives): Barcelona, Spain, 2004
Chinese (Complex)	Eastern Publishing: Beijing, China, 2003
Chinese (Simplified)	Beijing Double Spiral Culture & Exchange Company, Ltd: Beijing, China, 2014
Croatian	Znanje: Zagreb, Croatia, 2002
Cyrillic	Ghadyani: Tehran, Iran, 2011
Danish	Gyldendal: Copenhagen, Denmark, 2001
Dutch	Piramide: Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2001
English	Oxford University Press: Oxford, United Kingdom, 2001
English	Allen & Unwin: Crows Nest, Australia, 2002
Farsi	Ghadyani: Tehran, Iran, 2011
French	Hachette Jeunesse: Paris, France, 2000
German	Jungbrunnen Verlag: Vienna, Austria, 2001
Greek	Patakis Publishers: Athens, Greece, 2001
Hebrew	Shocken Publishing: Tel Aviv, Israel, 2004
Indonesian	Kepustakaan Populer Gramedia: Jakarta, Indonesia, 2011
Italian	R.C.S. Libri: Milan, Italy, 2001
Japanese	Saela Shobo: Tokyo, Japan, 2002
Korean	Namu Books: Seoul, South Korea, 2004
Marathi	Mehta Publishing House: Maharashtra, India 2002
Portuguese	Editora Atica: São Paulo, Brazil 2002
Spanish	Edelvives: Madrid, Spain, 2001
Spanish	Ediciones Castillo: Mexico City, Mexico, 2004
Turkish	Citlembik Publications: Istanbul, Turkey, 2004
Welsh	Dref Wen: Cardiff, Wales, 2009



Parvana's Journey (2002)



★ “This sequel to *The Breadwinner* easily stands alone. After her father’s death, 13-year-old Parvana, disguised as a boy, wanders alone through war-torn Afghanistan looking for her mother and siblings who had disappeared in the tumult of the Taliban takeover of Mazar-e-Sharif. Early in her journey, Parvana comes across a baby, the only survivor in a bombed village. She takes him along, as both a burden and comforting company. Taking shelter in a small cave, she discovers an angry one-legged boy who is starved for both food and human companionship. Imagining treasure in their cage, they dig, only to find a cache of bullets—a scene that epitomizes what childhood has become for these young people. The three continue Parvana’s search, stopping for a time in an apparent safe haven on the edge

of a minefield where an eight-year-old lives with a near-comatose grandmother. When their refuge is destroyed, the four children join a long line of refugees, arriving finally at a camp. A bittersweet ending offers some hope for Parvana and her family, but readers are left with a horrifyingly realistic picture of the effect of war on children. While the reading is not difficult, the grim content cries out for discussion. An unforgettable read.” —*School Library Journal*

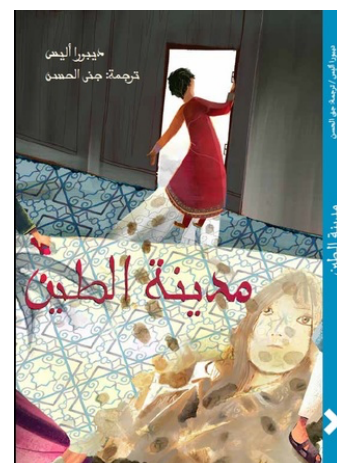
★ “What I found most arresting about the novel was Ellis’s depiction of children in adversity. Parvana and the other characters endure such hardships and traumas that it seems madness and brutality must be the only result. Ellis, a counsellor in a Toronto group home, has travelled to Afghan refugee camps and interviewed women there—apparently the inspiration for the Parvana stories—and her experiences have obviously informed her portrait of children immersed in suffering. In *Parvana’s Journey*, their resilience is nothing short of amazing and heartbreaking. They get on with things. They forage. They plan. They cook and clean and care for malnourished babies. They tidy up and make their squalid living conditions better. They are the personification of pragmatism and compassion. But not always—and this, too, I admired about the book. Ellis is not afraid to show her characters’ moments of selfishness and cruelty. Asif is needlessly insulting (as all children can be), and Parvana herself gets tired of caring for the baby, of its crying and stinking diapers.... This is a book that will open children’s perspectives to the larger world—a glimpse that will almost certainly make readers grateful for what they have. But that’s a window that can just as quickly be shut and forgotten, with a grateful shudder. Ellis, in focusing on the personal struggle of her young character, leaves readers with a lasting impression of another life and culture where—despite desperate hardship—compassion and courage can still prevail.” —*Quill & Quire*

Awards and Accolades

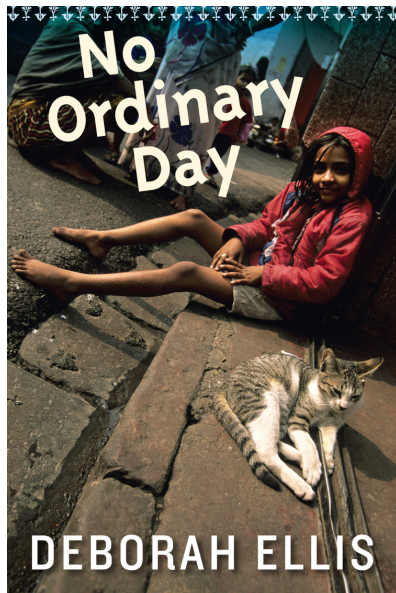
2004: Red Cedar Book Award winner	2003: Ruth and Sylvia Schwartz Children's Book Award winner
2004: Ontario Library Association Golden Oak Award winner	2003: Canadian Library Association Book of the Year Honour Book
2004: Garden State Teen Book Awards (NJLA) nominee	2003: Ontario Library Association White Pine Award nominee
2004: Manitoba Young Readers' Choice Award honour book	2003: YALSA Best Books for Young Adults selection
2004: Young Jury Awards (Netherlands) nominee	2002: Governor General's Award for Children's Literature (Text) finalist
2003: Jane Addams Children's Book Award winner	

Translations and Foreign Rights

Albanian	Botimet Dritan: Tirana, Albania, 2009
Catalan	Baula (Edelvives): Barcelona, Spain, 2004
Chinese (Complex)	Eastern Publishing: Beijing, China, 2004
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French	Hachette Jeunesse: Paris, France, 2002
German	Cbj Verlag: Munich, Germany, 2005
German	Jungbrunnen Verlag: Vienna, Austria, 2002
Greek	Patakis Publishers: Athens, Greece, 2003
Hebrew	Shocken Publishing: Tel Aviv, Israel, 2004
Indonesian	Kepustakaan Populer Gramedia: Jakarta, Indonesia 2011
Italian	R.C.S. Libri: Milan, Italy, 2002
Japanese	Saella Shobo: Tokyo, Japan, 2002
Korean	Namu Books: Seoul, South Korea, 2004
Marathi	Mehta Publishing House: Maharashtra, India, 2009
Portuguese	Editores Atica: São Paulo, Brazil, 2004
Spanish	Edelvives: Madrid, Spain, 2003
Spanish	Ediciones Castillo: Mexico City, Mexico, 2009
Swedish	Bonnier Carlsen: Stockholm, Sweden, 2003



No Ordinary Day (2011)



★ “Valli, an orphan living in Jharia, India, spends her days picking up coal, fighting with cousins, and avoiding the ‘monsters’ (lepers, actually) who live on the other side of the tracks. When she learns her family are not true blood relatives, she runs away to Kolkata, where she survives by ‘borrowing’ what she needs, using it for a while, and then passing it on to someone else. Finally, she meets Dr. Indra, who recognizes that Valli, too, suffers from leprosy, and helps the child to secure treatment and hope for a better future. What keeps this story from becoming maudlin is Valli’s positive outlook. Quick, intelligent, and fearless, she isn’t above begging to ensure her survival, but rarely does she play the victim card. Details about leprosy (causes, symptoms, treatment, prognosis) are carefully woven into the story but never feel forced or didactic. While Valli’s situation will seem alien to most young North Americans, this compelling and accessible novel will enlighten, spark discussion, and prompt readers to try other Ellis titles, in particular *The Breadwinner* trilogy.” —*Booklist*

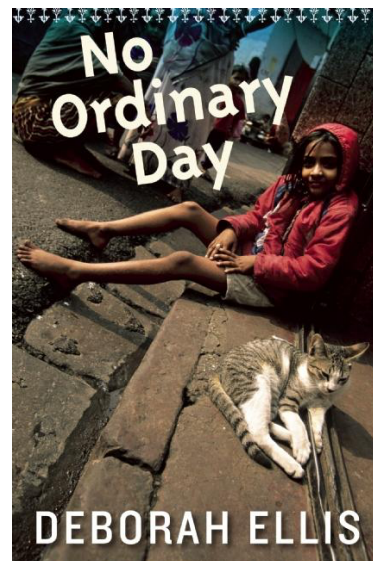
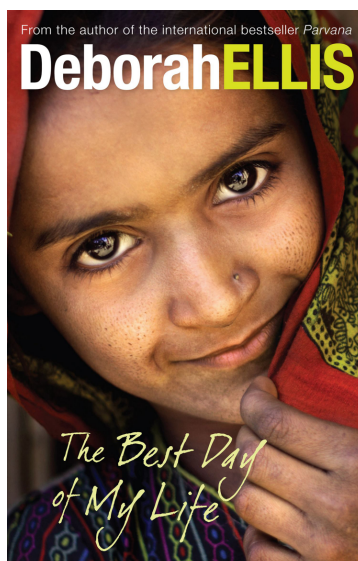
★ “How does a homeless child survive Kolkata’s mean streets? For orphaned Valli, who may be nine (she herself doesn’t know), it’s by ‘borrowing’ items like the hotel blanket she passes on to an even needier mother and children; it’s incorporating poetry scavenged from discarded books into her begging routine, being wary of strangers, and living by her wits and in the moment. Having discovered that her ‘aunt’ wasn’t really kin, Valli escaped to Kolkata on a coal truck, only to have its crew deliver her to what older readers will understand is a brothel. Thrown out because of her telltale symptoms of leprosy, Valli is on her own for months before she encounters a better kind of stranger: Dr. Indra, who—having noticed Valli’s numb, wounded feet—lures her, with masterful tact, to a hospital for lepers. Terrified of these ‘monsters,’ Valli bolts, but eventually returns for the promised cure and with hopes for the future. Ellis writes with great skill, folding character, attitudes, and other vital information into Valli’s desperately simple narrative, depicting the survival skills of India’s poorest with notable insight and compassion.” —*Horn Book*

Awards and Accolades

- 2013: Ontario Library Association Golden Oak Award nominee
- 2012: TD Canadian Children's Literature Award longlist
- 2012: South Asian Book Award Honor Book
- 2012: Ruth and Sylvia Schwartz Young Adult/Middle Reader Book Award finalist
- 2012: Cooperative Children's Book Center Choices, Best of the Year list
- 2012: Booklist Editors' Choice: Books for Youth winner
- 2012: ALA Notable Children's Books List
- 2011: Governor General's Award for Children's Literature (Text) shortlist

Translations and Foreign Rights

- | | |
|---------|--|
| English | Allen & Unwin: Crows Nest, Australia, 2012 |
| Korean | Sanha Publishing Co: Seoul, South Korea, 2013 |
| Marathi | Mehta Publishing House: Maharashtra, India, 2015 |
| Spanish | Ediciones Castillo: Mexico City, Mexico, 2012 |



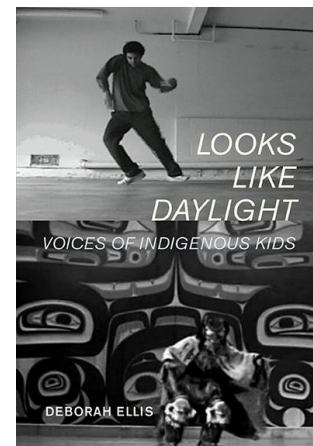
Looks Like Daylight (2013)

★ “Ellis has interviewed 45 young Native people, aged 9 to 18, and the resulting selections often touch on universal problems for Native youth—suicide, alcohol and drug abuse, poverty, broken families, grief. But the voices also speak about opportunities and accomplishments. Many of these young people are leaders in community centers, and one is an actress. Another is a gifted musician, and still another is a mechanical and software engineer. It’s clear, though, that almost all have had to overcome significant societal and cultural challenges. The history of Native and indigenous peoples is one of exploitation, abuse, forced acculturation, and violence. It’s heartening that so many of these young people are positive about their lives, no matter how troubled, and about their futures. ‘We’re going to keep moving forward,’ one boy affirms. Ellis’ book is an excellent opportunity for classroom discussion and individual, empathy-inducing reading.” — *Booklist*

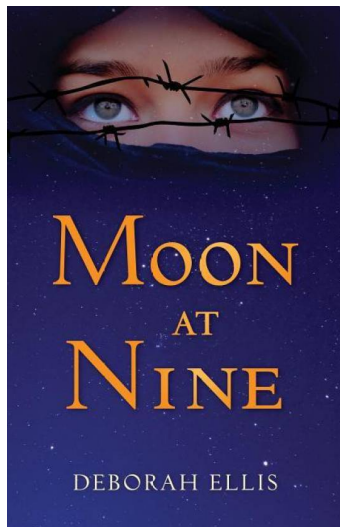
“In distilled interviews, 45 young Native Americans express hope, resilience, optimism—and, rarely, anger—amid frank accounts of families plagued by drug, alcohol and sexual abuse, as well as murder, suicide, extreme poverty, and widespread discrimination, both public and private.... Many are foster children; several suffer from or have siblings with spectrum disorders and other disabilities; nearly all describe tragic personal or family histories. Moreover, the narratives are shot through with evidence of vicious racial prejudice—not just in the distant past: ‘My mother works with residential school survivors,’ tellingly notes Cohen, a Haida teen. Even the youngest, however, display firm tribal identities and knowledge of their collective history and heritage. Also, along with describing typical activities and concerns of modern day-to-day living, these young people embrace their distinctive cultural practices and almost without exception, express a buoyant attitude. As gay Chippewa 16-year-old Zack puts it, ‘They tried really hard to kill us all off, and we’re still here!’—a welcome and necessary reminder to all.”
— *Kirkus*

Awards and Accolades

- 2015: Ontario Library Association Red Maple Award shortlist
- 2014: Cooperative Children’s Book Center Choices, commended
- 2014: Norma Fleck Award for Canadian Children’s Non-Fiction shortlist
- 2014: International Reading Association Notable Books for a Global Society
- 2014: Social Justice Literature Award winner
- 2013: Aesop Prize winner



Moon at Nine (2014)



“In 1988 Iran, wealthy fifteen-year-old Farrin avoids anything that could draw attention to her family; she knows her mother’s anti-Ayatollah political gatherings could bring trouble. However, Farrin’s burgeoning friendship and then romance with new girl Sadira leads her to become more inquisitive and involved in the world around her, and eventually leads to the couple’s discovery and persecution. Ellis skillfully introduces readers to the social and political backdrop, showing in troubling detail how fear, suspicion, and historical animosities fragment Farrin’s world and limit her freedom...the social struggle element is more hard-hitting [than those in Farizan’s recent *If You Could Be Mine* (rev. 11/13)] with a harrowing climax and a realistically bleak ending (both of which may also

be a function of this title’s earlier setting). Secondary characters provide fascinating windows into other perspectives and call attention to Iran’s heterogeneity, creating a multidimensional portrait of corruption and cruelty, resistance and compassion. Set in the final days of the Iran-Iraq war and based on a true story, this novel sheds light on an important chapter in history and the people who experienced it firsthand.” — *The Horn Book*

“Fifteen-year-old Farrin lives with secrets. It is 1988, and Farrin’s wealthy parents are conspiring to install the Shah’s son to the throne. That is their secret; hers is even more dangerous. She is in love with Sadira, the new girl in school, who returns her feelings even though homosexuality is regarded as a crime punishable by death in Iran. When the Revolutionary Guard discovers them together, the girls are taken to prison and threatened with execution. How can they possibly survive?...it is inarguably powerful, and readers will identify with the two star-crossed girls who are victims of what seems to be an inhumane government.” —*Booklist*

Translations and Foreign Rights

English	Allen & Unwin: Crows Nest, Australia, 2015
German	Verlagsgruppe Random House Bertelsmann: Munich, Germany, 2015
Japanese	Saela Shobo: Tokyo, Japan, 2017
Korean	Namu Books: Seoul, South Korea, 2017

Awards and Accolades

- 2016: Manitoba Young Readers' Choice Award nominee
- 2016: Stellar Award (BC Teen Readers' Choice Award) nominee
- 2015: Ruth & Sylvia Schwartz Children's Book Award nominee
- 2015: Amelia Bloomer Project List – Young Adult Fiction selection
- 2015: Bank Street College of Education's Best Children's Books of the Year
- 2015: Cooperative Children's Book Center Choices
- 2015: Canadian Library Association Young Adult Book Award shortlist
- 2015: Saskatchewan Young Readers' Choice Snow Willow Award nominee
- 2014: Quill & Quire Kidlit Books of the Year
- 2014: Ontario Library Association Best Bets (Fiction Reading for Young Adults)
- 2014: Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books for Kids & Teens, starred selection



Profile of Deborah Ellis

Source: Patch, Nick. "Breadwinner author Deborah Ellis remains hopeful." Toronto Star (Nov. 2017)

In the last entry in Deborah Ellis's new short-story collection *Sit*, one of her protagonists — a scrawny daydreamer named Jafar stuck labouring in an Indonesian chair factory — realizes in a moment of silent triumph that stories "come from every country, every group of people, from people who are very, very rich and from people who work very hard for everything they get."



That sure would be an eloquent mission statement for Ellis herself, the decorated Canadian author who has built a bibliography based on careful cultural empathy and deeply researched explorations into the experiences of those whose voices are otherwise rarely broadcast.

Next Friday, her beloved 2000 children's novel *The Breadwinner* will splash across cinema screens in a new animated form and perhaps 17 years ago it would have been hard to imagine a children's novel about an 11-year-old girl in war-ravaged Afghanistan ever receiving a literal Hollywood ending.

Certainly, Ellis herself couldn't have imagined marching across a TIFF stage or mingling with Angelina Jolie (an executive producer on the film who, for the record, Ellis found "very gracious").

Well, if Ellis is as surprised as anyone by the enduring popularity of *The Breadwinner*, the Governor General's Award-winning author does have a theory as to why the tale continues to captivate.

"I think it's just all about courage, right?" she said. "We all look for courage in our own lives. We look for examples of it wherever we can find them because we think if we can learn from other people's courage, that will help us to have courage ourselves. "*The Breadwinner* is all about courage."

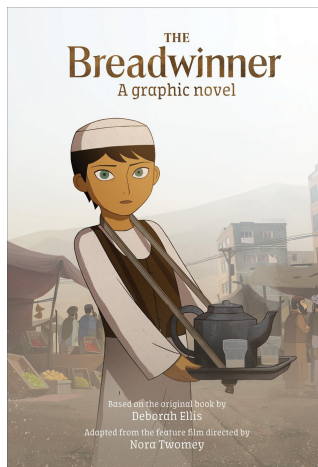
If there's something motivating about the courage of others, Ellis is as inspiring figure in her own right.

The Paris, Ont.-raised writer first became involved in anti-war activism as a 17-year-old driven to despair by the hovering threat of nuclear conflict. In 1996, she was so moved reading about the brutality being

inflicted on women and girls during the Taliban's occupation of Afghanistan that she journeyed to refugee camps in Pakistan to spend months meeting with Afghan women and documenting their stories. There she met a young girl who had chopped off her hair so she could identify as a boy and earn money for her family, who of course inspired *The Breadwinner*.

Since then, Ellis has travelled tirelessly to parts of the world many in the West would rather ignore to find stories that otherwise weren't being told, even as doing so required that she immerse herself in some of the world's most unstable and fraught environments.

For *Three Wishes: Palestinian and Israeli Children Speak*, she visited camps and occupied territories in the Middle East at a time when tension felt particularly high. One of the stories in *Sit* was inspired by her more recent exploration of Japan's Fukushima Exclusion Zone, the evacuated site of the world's second-largest nuclear accident. To research *The Heaven Shop*, she spent time in Malawi, where she was robbed and chased.



She's been threatened with death in camps and menaced by Taliban loyalists who claimed to be following her every move.

Though Ellis continues her work in such persistently precarious situations, she does so knowing her safety is at risk.

"I do get scared," she said. "I think if I had children that would be a different ball game, but I don't. And I'm a woman, so I get welcomed to the world of women and children, which is pretty much the same world everywhere."

Perhaps it's conversations such as those that have imbued Ellis with such respect for the wisdom of children. That faith in the capacity of kids manifests both in the resourceful and tenacious young characters who populate her books, as well as more broadly her trust that young readers are sufficiently mature to absorb complex stories of struggle and suffering told without condescension.

"It just seemed that if we're doing these things to children, then that stuff should be reflected in their literature," she said. "And if we're too ashamed to put it in their literature, we shouldn't be doing it."

(Ellis's publisher at Groundwood Books, Sheila Barry, died on Tuesday of cancer. She championed Ellis's writing, including *The Breadwinner*, telling Quill and Quire in 2015 that it was still "a very relevant book. And children love it.")

When Ellis wrote *The Breadwinner*, she dedicated the royalties of the book to charity because, she reasoned, “it made absolutely no sense for me to go over there and meet people and collect their stories and take money for it.” She figured at the time that the \$3,000 advance she had been given was a “lot of money,” far more than she ever would have been able to raise through fundraising.

Well, Ellis has become quite the altruistic breadwinner indeed; that trilogy has now raised close to \$2 million for Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan. She’s been similarly generous with royalties from her other books: *No Ordinary Day* benefited the Leprosy Mission Canada; *Children of War: Voices of Iraqi Refugees* raised money for the Children in Crisis Fund of the International Board on Books for Young People; *Mud City* helped Street Kids International; and *Looks Like Daylight* boosted the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada.

Ellis has seen progress along the way, but catastrophe too; one Afghan women’s centre funded by Ellis’s contributions was destroyed by a bombing. And after a lifetime of anti-war activism, Ellis is of course troubled by a collective attitude toward war — and especially nuclear warfare — that she sees as increasingly cavalier.

Asked, however, if she ever succumbs to a feeling of hopelessness about the world, Ellis is emphatic.

“I’ve met with people all over the world who have many more reasons to be hopeless than I do, and they still get up every morning and try to make things better for their families and communities. So for someone like me, who has lived a fairly blessed life, to be hopeless; it’s an affectation. It’s an indulgence. Shame on me if I go there. That’s one thing,” she began.

“The other thing is, you think, ‘People are going to be hungry, so why bother to feed them?’ Well, every time they get a meal they’re a little stronger. If they’re hungry tomorrow, at least they ate today. Same thing with Afghanistan. Schools get bombed and they get rebuilt and they get bombed again. But in that interim, kids have had some exposure to education and some exposure to the incredible power of their own minds. They have a sense of what they’re capable of doing.

“They can think. ‘We’ve done this once, it was taken from us, let’s build it up again.’ You have to come to terms with the fact that things often don’t last. The things don’t last, but the qualities that people get from them? They can last.”

Complete (Children's and YA) Bibliography

Fiction

The Breadwinner Series

- 2018 *The Breadwinner: A Graphic Novel* (Groundwood Books: Toronto)
2012 *My Name Is Parvana* (Groundwood Books: Toronto)
2009 *The Breadwinner Trilogy* (Groundwood Books: Toronto)
2003 *Mud City* (Groundwood Books: Toronto)
2002 *Parvana's Journey* (Groundwood Books: Toronto)
2000 *The Breadwinner* (Groundwood Books: Toronto)

The Cocalero Novels

- 2007 *Sacred Leaf* (Groundwood Books: Toronto)
2006 *I Am a Taxi* (Groundwood Books: Toronto)

Our Canadian Girl

- 2007 *Our Canadian Girl / Keeley #4: Keeley's Journey* (Penguin Canada: Toronto)
2006 *Our Canadian Girl / Keeley #3: Keeley and the Mountain* (Penguin Canada: Toronto)
2005 *Our Canadian Girl / Keeley #2: Keeley's Big Story* (Penguin Canada: Toronto)
2004 *Our Canadian Girl / Keeley #1: The Girl from Turtle Mountain* (Penguin Canada: Toronto)

Fiction (Single Novels)

- 2017 *Sit* (Groundwood Books: Toronto)
2014 *The Cat at the Wall* (Groundwood Books: Toronto)
2014 *Moon at Nine* (Pajama Press: Toronto)
2011 *True Blue* (Pajama Press: Toronto)
2011 *No Ordinary Day* (Groundwood Books: Toronto)
2010 *No Safe Place* (Groundwood Books: Toronto)
2008 *Lunch with Lenin and Other Stories* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside: Markham, ON)
2007 *Click: One Novel, Ten Authors* [with David Almond, Eoin Colfer, et al.] (Arthur A. Levine Books: New York)
2007 *Bifocal* [with Eric Walters] (Fitzhenry & Whiteside: Markham, ON)
2007 *Jakeman* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside: Toronto)
2006 *Jackal in the Garden: An Encounter with Bihzad* (Watson-Guptill: New York)
2004 *The Heaven Shop* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside: Markham, ON)
2002 *A Company of Fools* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside: Markham, ON)
1999 *Looking for X* (Groundwood Books: Toronto)

Non-Fiction

- 2013 *Looks Like Daylight: Voices of Indigenous Kids* (Groundwood Books: Toronto)
- 2012 *Kids of Kabul: Living Bravely Through a Never-Ending War* (Groundwood Books: Toronto)
- 2010 *We Want You to Know: Kids Talk about Bullying* (Coteau Books: Regina, SK)
- 2009 *Children of War: Voices of Iraqi Refugees* (Groundwood Books: Toronto)
- 2008 *Off to War: Voices of Soldiers' Children* (Groundwood Books: Toronto)
- 2005 *Our Stories, Our Songs: African Children Talk about AIDS* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside: Markham, ON)
- 2004 *Three Wishes: Palestinian and Israeli Children Speak* (Groundwood Books: Toronto)

Complete Awards & Accolades

Fiction

The Breadwinner Series

The Breadwinner (Groundwood Books, 2000)

- 2004: Young Jury Awards (Netherlands) nominee
- 2003: Ontario Library Association Golden Oak Award nominee
- 2003: Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award nominee
- 2003: Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Award selection
- 2003: Rocky Mountain Book Award shortlist
- 2003: Peter Pan Prize winner
- 2003: SYRCA Diamond Willow Award nominee
- 2003: YALSA Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults selection
- 2002: Middle East Book Award winner
- 2002: Baia delle Favole Prize for ages 9-12 (Italian edition: R.C.S. Libri, Fabbri Editore, 2001) winner
- 2001: Ontario Library Association Red Maple Award nominee

Parvana's Journey (Groundwood Books, 2002)

- 2004: Red Cedar Book Award (B.C.'s Young Readers' Choice Award) winner
- 2004: Ontario Library Association Golden Oak Award winner
- 2004: 2005 Garden State Teen Book Awards (NJLA) nominee
- 2004: Manitoba Young Readers Choice Award honour book
- 2004: Young Jury Awards (Netherlands) nominee
- 2003: Jane Addams Children's Book Award winner
- 2003: Ruth and Sylvia Schwartz Children's Book Award winner
- 2003: Canadian Library Association Book of the Year Honour Book
- 2003: Ontario Library Association White Pine Award nominee
- 2003: YALSA Best Books for Young Adults selection
- 2002: Governor General's Award for Children's Literature (Text) finalist

Mud City (Groundwood Books, 2003)

- 2005: Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award winner
- 2005: Ontario Library Association Red Cedar Book Award nominee
- 2004: New York Public Library Books for the Teen Age
- 2004: Canadian Children's Book Centre Our Choice 2004 selection
- 2004: Cooperative Children's Book Center Choices selection
- 2004: Ruth Schwartz Children's Book Award shortlist

The Breadwinner Trilogy (Groundwood Books, 2004)

- 2004: Jane Addams Children's Book Award – special commendation

My Name Is Parvana (Groundwood Books, 2012)

- 2013/2014: Red Cedar Fiction Award (B.C.'s Young Readers' Choice Award) nominee
- 2013: IODE Violet Downey Book Award finalist
- 2013: Manitoba Young Readers' Choice Award shortlist
- 2013: USBBY Outstanding International Books List
- 2013: Bank Street Center for Children's Literature Book of the Month
- 2013: Capitol Choices Noteworthy Titles for Children and Teens

The Cocalero Novels

I Am a Taxi (Groundwood Books, 2006)

- 2008: Alberta Children's Choice Award shortlist
- 2007: Ruth and Sylvia Schwartz Children's Book Award winner
- 2007: Saskatchewan Young Readers' Choice Snow Willow Award nominee
- 2007: Canadian Children's Book Centre Our Choices selection
- 2007: Canadian Library Association Book of the Year for Children Award – commended
- 2007: Cooperative Children's Book Center Choice selection
- 2007: The Society of School Librarians International Honor Book
- 2007: White Ravens Outstanding New International Books for Children and Young Adults – commended

Sacred Leaf (Groundwood Books, 2007)

- 2008: USBBY Outstanding International Books
- 2008: Cooperative Children's Book Center Choice selection
- 2008: Horace Mann Upstanders Book Award – commended
- 2008: Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books for Kids & Teens selection
- 2008: Americas Award Commended List
- 2007: Canadian Library Association Book of the Year for Children Award longlist
- 2007: National Post's Top New Books
- 2007: Quill & Quire Books of the Year List

Other Fiction

Sit (Groundwood Books, 2017)

- 2019: Manitoba Young Readers' Choice Award
- 2018: Ruth & Sylvia Schwartz Children's Book Award nominee

The Cat at the Wall (Groundwood Books, 2014)

- 2016: Ontario Library Association Red Maple Award shortlist
- 2015: Bank Street College of Education's Best Children's Books of the Year
- 2015: Cooperative Children's Book Center Choices
- 2014: Ontario Library Association Best Bets (Junior Fiction, Honourable Mention)

Moon at Nine (Pajama Press, 2014)

- 2016: Manitoba Young Readers' Choice Award nominee
- 2015-2016: Stellar Award (BC Teen Readers' Choice Award) nominee

- 2015: Ruth & Sylvia Schwartz Children's Book Award nominee
- 2015: Amelia Bloomer Project List – Young Adult Fiction nominee
- 2015: Bank Street College of Education's Best Children's Books of the Year
- 2015: Cooperative Children's Book Center Choices
- 2015: Canadian Library Association Young Adult Book Award shortlist
- 2015: Saskatchewan Young Readers' Choice Snow Willow Award nominee
- 2014: Quill & Quire Kidlit Books of the Year
- 2014: Ontario Library Association Best Bets (Fiction Reading for Young Adults)
- 2014: Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books for Kids & Teens, starred selection

True Blue (Pajama Press, 2011)

- 2013: Bank Street Best Book
- 2012: Hamilton Literary Awards winner
- 2012: Manitoba Young Readers' Choice Award nominee
- 2012: John Spray Mystery Award nominee
- 2012: OLA Best Bets honourable mention

No Ordinary Day (Groundwood Books, 2011)

- 2013: Ontario Library Association Golden Oak Award nominee
- 2012: TD Canadian Children's Literature Award longlist
- 2012: South Asian Book Award Honor Book
- 2012: Ruth and Sylvia Schwartz Young Adult/Middle Reader Book Award finalist
- 2012: Cooperative Children's Book Center Choices, Best of the Year list
- 2012: Booklist Editors' Choice: Books for Youth winner
- 2012: ALA Notable Children's Books List
- 2011: Governor General's Award for Children's Literature (Text) shortlist

No Safe Place (Groundwood Books, 2010)

- 2011: Saskatchewan Young Readers' Choice Snow Willow Award shortlist
- 2011: Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books for Kids & Teens, commended
- 2010: Ontario Library Association Best Bets (Fiction Reading for Young Adults)
- 2010: Resource Links' Year's Best list

Lunch with Lenin and Other Stories (Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2008)

- 2009: Cooperative Children's Book Center, Best of the Year list
- 2008: Resources Links Year's Best list

Bifocal (Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2007)

- 2008: White Ravens' Outstanding New International Books for Children and Young Adults
- 2008: Saskatchewan Young Readers' Choice Snow Willow Award nominee
- 2008: Canadian Children's Book Centre's Best Books for Kids & Teens
- 2007: Foreword Magazine's Book of the Year Awards, Bronze Medal Winner (YA Fiction Category)

Jakeman (Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2007)

- 2008-2009: Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award nominee

- 2008: Diamond Willow Award nominee
- 2008: Canadian Library Association Book of the Year for Children Award shortlist
- 2007: Silver Birch Fiction shortlist
- 2007: VOYA's Top Shelf Fiction for Middle School Readers list

The Heaven Shop (Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2004)

- 2006: Alberta Children's Choice Book Award shortlist
- 2006: Manitoba Young Readers' Choice Award shortlist
- 2005: Ontario Library Association Golden Oak Award nominee
- 2005: Ruth and Sylvia Schwartz Children's Book Award finalist
- 2005: Children's Africana Book Award honor book
- 2005: Jane Addams Honor Book for Older Readers
- 2004: Foreword Magazine Book of the Year Award shortlist

A Company of Fools (Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2002)

- 2004: Manitoba Young Readers' Choice Award nominee
- 2004: Rocky Mountain Book Award nominee
- 2003: Geoffrey Bilson Award for Historical Fiction honour book
- 2003: Ruth Schwartz Award finalist
- 2003: Canadian Library Association Young Adult Book of the Year nominee

Looking for X (Groundwood Books, 1999)

- 2000: Governor General's Award for Children's Literature (Text) winner
- 2000: Ontario Library Association Silver Birch Award nominee

Non-Fiction

Looks Like Daylight: Voices of Indigenous Kids (Groundwood Books, 2013)

- 2015: Ontario Library Association Red Maple Award shortlist
- 2014: Cooperative Children's Book Center Choices, commended
- 2014: Norma Fleck Award for Canadian Children's Non-Fiction shortlist
- 2014: International Reading Association Notable Books for a Global Society
- 2014: Social Justice Literature Award winner
- 2013: Aesop Prize winner

Kids of Kabul: Living Bravely Through a Never-Ending War (Groundwood Books, 2012)

- 2013: Norma Fleck Award for Canadian Children's Non-Fiction winner
- 2013: TD Canadian Children's Literature Award finalist
- 2013: South Asia Book Award (joint winner)
- 2013: USBBY Outstanding International Books List
- 2013: International Reading Association Notable Books for a Global Society

Children of War: Voices of Iraqi Refugees (Groundwood Books, 2009)

- 2010: Ontario Library Association Silver Birch Non-Fiction Award nominee
- 2010: USBBY Outstanding International Books List

Off to War: Voices of Soldiers' Children (Groundwood Books, 2008)

2009: Society of School Librarians International Honor Book

2008: Library Media Connection Editor's Choice Awards – Social Studies

Our Stories, Our Songs: African Children Talk about AIDS (Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2005)

2006: ALA Notable Children's Books

2006: School Library Journal Best Books

2005: Book Links Best New Books for the Classroom

Three Wishes: Palestinian and Israeli Children Speak (Groundwood Books, 2004)

2007: Rocky Mountain Book Award shortlist

2006: Ontario Library Association Silver Birch Award nominee

2006: Stellar Award ((BC Teen Readers' Choice Award) longlist

2005: Canadian Children's Book Centre Our Choice Starred Selection

2005: Cooperative Children's Book Center Choices Best of the Year List

2005: Pennsylvania School Librarians Association YA Top Forty (or so) List

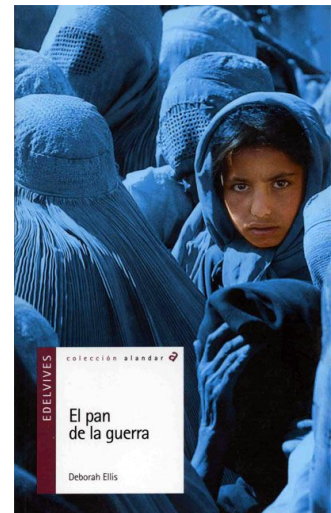
Foreign Rights & Translations

Deborah Ellis's books have been published in twenty-five languages, including Albanian, Arabic, Basque, Catalan, Chinese (complex), Chinese (simplified), Croatian, Cyrillic, Danish, Farsi, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Marathi, Portuguese, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish, and Welsh. Her works are also available in English in Australia, New Zealand, the UK, and the US.

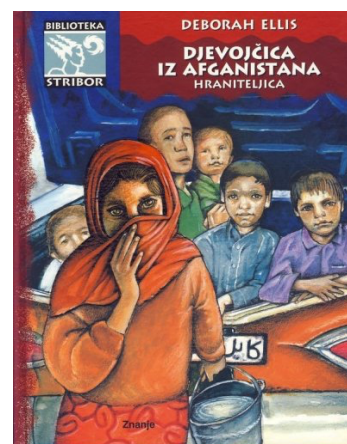
Series

The Breadwinner

Albanian	<i>Të jetosh e mbuluar</i> 2009: Botimet Dritan, Tirana, Albania
Arabic	Title in Arabic script 2015: Kalimat Group, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Basque	<i>Gerrateko Ogia</i> 2003: Ibaizabal argitaletxea, Amorebieta-Etxano, Spain
Catalan	<i>El pan de la guerra</i> 2004: Baula (Edelvives), Barcelona, Spain
Chinese (complex)	Text in Chinese script 2003: Eastern Publishing, Beijing, China
Chinese (simplified)	Title in Chinese script 2014: Beijing Double Spiral Culture & Exchange Company, Ltd., Beijing, China
Croatian	<i>Djevojčica iz Afganistana: hraniteljica</i> 2002: Znanje, Zagreb, Croatia
Cyrillic	Title in Cyrillic script 2011: Ghadyani, Tehran, Iran
Danish	<i>Den usynlige pige</i> 2001: Gyldendal, Copenhagen, Denmark
Dutch	<i>Sluier over Kabul</i> 2001: Piramide, Amsterdam, Netherlands
English	<i>The Breadwinner</i> 2001: Oxford University Press, Oxford, United Kingdom
English	<i>Parvana</i> 2002: Allen & Unwin, Crows Nest, Australia
Farsi	Title in Farsi script 2011: Ghadyani, Tehran, Iran



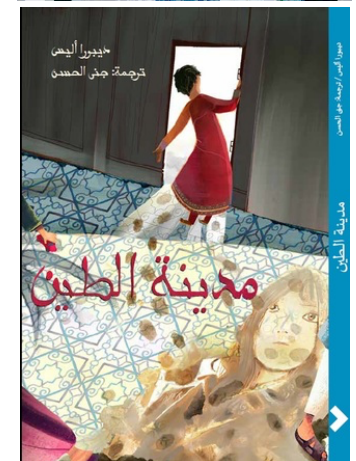
French	<i>Parvana: une enfance en Afghanistan</i> 2000: Hachette Jeunesse, Paris, France
German	<i>Die Sonne im Gesicht</i> 2001: Jungbrunnen Verlag, Vienna, Austria
Greek	Title in Greek script 2001: Patakis Publishers, Athens, Greece
Hebrew	Title in Hebrew script 2004: Shocken Publishing, Tel Aviv, Israel
Indonesian	<i>Parvana 1 Sang Pencari Nafkah</i> 2011: Kepustakaan Populer Gramedia, Jakarta, Indonesia
Italian	<i>Sotto il burqua</i> 2001: R.C.S. Libri, Milan, Italy
Japanese	Title in Japanese script 2002: Saela Shobo, Tokyo, Japan
Korean	Title in Korean script 2004: Namu Books, Seoul, South Korea
Marathi	Title in Marathi 2002: Mehta Publishing House, Maharashtra, India
Portuguese	<i>A Outra Face: Histórica de uma garota afegã</i> 2002: Editora Atica, São Paulo, Brazil
Spanish	<i>El pan de la guerra</i> 2001: Edelvives, Madrid, Spain
Spanish	<i>El pan de la guerra</i> 2004: Ediciones Castillo, Mexico City, Mexico
Turkish	<i>Kabil Sokaklarında Bir Kiz: Parvana</i> 2004: Citlembik Publications, Istanbul, Turkey
Welsh	<i>Penteulu</i> 2009: Dref Wen, Cardiff, Wales



Parvana's Journey

Albanian	<i>Udhëtimi i Parvanës</i> 2009: Botimet Dritan, Tirana, Albania
Catalan	<i>El viatge de le Parvana</i> 2004: Baula (Edelvives), Barcelona, Spain
Chinese	Title in Chinese script

(complex)	2004: Eastern Publishing, Beijing, China
Chinese (simplified)	Title in Chinese script 2015: Beijing Double Spiral Culture & Exchange Company, Ltd., Beijing, China
Cyrillic	Title in Cyrillic script 2011: Ghadyani, Tehran, Iran
Danish	<i>Parvanas rejse</i> 2002: Gyldendal, Copenhagen, Denmark
English	<i>Parvana's Journey</i> 2002: Allen & Unwin, Crows Nest, Australia
English	<i>Parvana's Journey</i> 2002: Oxford University Press, Oxford, United Kingdom
Farsi	Title in Farsi script 2011: Ghadyani, Tehran, Iran
French	<i>Le voyage de Parvana</i> 2002: Hachette Jeunesse, Paris, France
German	<i>Im Herzen die Angst</i> 2005: Cbj Verlag, Munich, Germany
German	<i>Allein nach Mazar-e Sharif</i> 2002: Jungbrunnen Verlag, Vienna, Austria
Greek	Text in Greek script 2003: Patakis Publishers, Athens, Greece
Hebrew	Text in Hebrew 2004: Shocken Publishing, Tel Aviv, Israel
Indonesian	<i>Parvana 2 Lembah Hijau</i> 2011: Kepustakaan Populer Gramedia, Jakarta, Indonesia
Italian	<i>Il viaggio di Parvana</i> 2002: R.C.S. Libri, Milan, Italy
Japanese	Title in Japanese script 2002: Sacla Shobo, Tokyo, Japan
Korean	Title in Korean script 2004: Namu Books, Seoul, South Korea
Marathi	Title in Devanagari script 2009: Mehta Publishing House, Maharashtra, India
Portuguese	<i>A viegem de Parvana: Mais histórias de uma garota afegã</i> 2004: Editora Atica, São Paulo, Brazil



Spanish *El viaje de Parvana*
2003: Edelvives, Madrid, Spain

Spanish *El viaje de Parvana*
2009: Ediciones Castillo, Mexico City, Mexico

Swedish *Parvanas vandring*
2003: BonnierCarlsen, Stockholm, Sweden

Mud City

Albanian *Qyteti I Baltës*
2009: Botimet Dritan, Tirana, Albania

Chinese (simplified) Title in Chinese script
2015: Beijing Double Spiral Culture & Exchange Company, Ltd., Beijing, China

Cyrillic Title in Cyrillic script
2011: Ghadyani, Tehran, Iran

Danish *Byen af ler*
2003: Gyldendal, Copenhagen, Denmark

English *Shauzia*
2003: Allen & Unwin, Crows Nest, Australia

Farsi Title in Farsi script
2011: Ghadyani, Tehran, Iran

French *On se reverra, Parvana*
2004: Hachette Jeunesse, Paris, France

German *Am Meer wird es kühl sein*
2003: Jungbrunnen Verlag, Vienna, Austria

Greek Title in Greek script
2004: Patakis Publishers, Athens, Greece

Indonesian *Parvana 3 Kota Lumpur*
2011: Kepustakaan Populer Gramedia, Jakarta, Indonesia

Italian *Città di fango*
2003: R.C.S. Libri, Milan, Italy

Japanese Title in Japanese script
2003: Saela Shobo, Tokyo, Japan

Korean Title in Korean script
2008: Namu Books, Seoul, South Korea

Spanish *Ciudad de barro*
2010: Edelvives, Madrid, Spain



Swedish *Ler-lägret*
2004: BonnierCarlsen, Stockholm, Sweden

The Breadwinner Trilogy

Cyrillic Title in Cyrillic script
2011: Ghadyani, Tehran, Iran

English *The Breadwinner Collection*
2006: Oxford University Press, Oxford, United Kingdom

Farsi Title in Farsi script
2011: Ghadyani, Tehran, Iran

German *Afghanistan-Trilogie: Die Sonne im Gesicht, Allein nach Mazar-e Sharif, Am Meer wird es kühl sein*
2010: Jungbrunnen Verlag, Vienna, Austria

Italian *La trilogia de burqua*
2004: R.C.S. Libri, Milan, Italy

My Name Is Parvana

Arabic Title in Arabic script
2018: Kalimat Group, Sharjah, UAE

Chinese (simplified) Title in Chinese script
2016: Beijing Double Spiral Culture and Exchange Company, Beijing

English *Parvana's Promise*
2012: Allen & Unwin, Crows Nest, Australia

English *My Name Is Parvana*
2013: Hachette India, Haryana, India

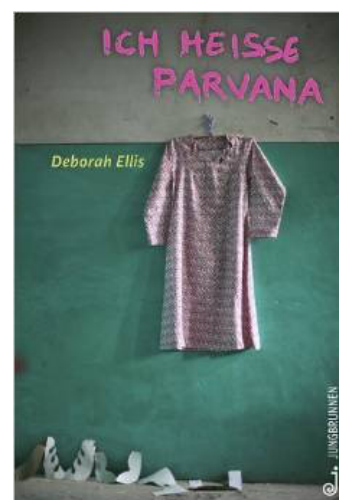
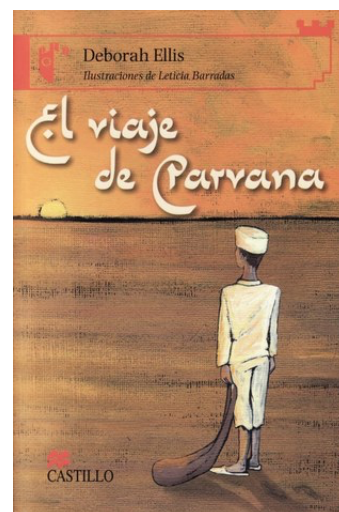
English *My Name Is Parvana*
2013: Oxford University Press, Oxford, United Kingdom

French *Je m'appelle Parvana*
2015: Hachette Jeunesse, Paris, France

German *Ich heisse Parvana*
2014: Jungbrunnen Verlag, Vienna, Austria

Italian *Il mio nome è Parvana*
2013: R.C.S. Libri, Milan, Italy

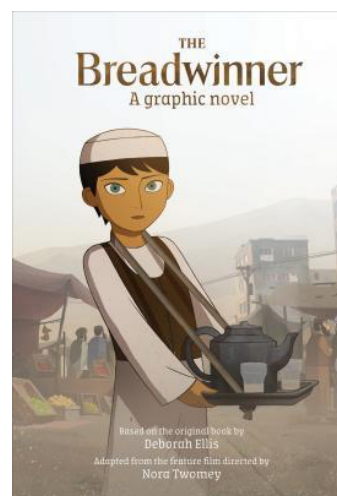
Japanese Title in Japanese script
2012: Japan UNI, Tokyo, Japan



- Spanish *Mi nombre es Parvana*
2013: Edelvives, Madrid, Spain
- Spanish *Me llamo Parvana*
2013: Ediciones Castillo, Mexico City, Mexico

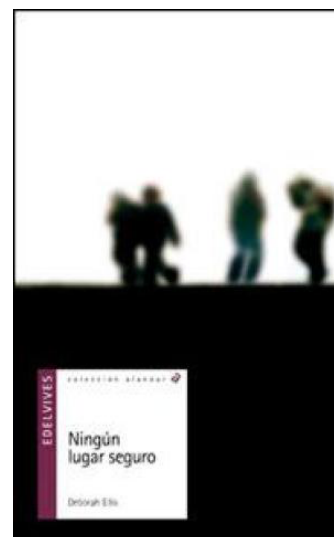
The Breadwinner: A Graphic Novel

- English *Parvana: A Graphic Novel*
2018: Allen & Unwin, Crows Nest, Australia
- English *The Breadwinner: A Graphic Novel*
2018: Oxford University Press, Oxford, United Kingdom
- French *Parvana: Une enfance en Afghanistan, la bande dessinée*
2018: Éditions Scholastic, Toronto, Canada



I Am a Taxi

- English *Diego, run!*
2007: Allen & Unwin, Crows Nest, Australia
- English *The Prison Runner*
2008: Oxford University Press, Oxford, United Kingdom
- Italian *Io sono un taxi*
2007: R.C.S. Libri, Milan, Italy
- Korean Title in Korean script
2014: A Thousand Hope Publishing, Paju, South Korea
- Marathi Title in Devanagari script
2012: Mehta Publishing House, Maharashtra, India



Sacred Leaf

- English *Diego's Pride*
2008: Allen & Unwin, Crows Nest, Australia
- English *Beyond the Barricade*
2009: Oxford University Press, Oxford, United Kingdom
- Marathi Title in Devanagari script
2013: Mehta Publishing House, Maharashtra, India

I Am a Taxi / Sacred Leaf

- Hebrew Title in Hebrew script
2009: Shocken Publishing, Tel Aviv, Israel



Fiction

The Cat at the Wall

- English *The Cat at the Wall*
2015: Allen & Unwin, Crows Nest, Australia
- French *Le chat sur le mur*
2016: Hachette roman, Paris, France
- Korean Title in Korean script
2015: BookInFish Publishing, Seoul, South Korea
- Spanish *La ciudad de los sueños*
2015: Ediciones Castillo, Mexico City, Mexico

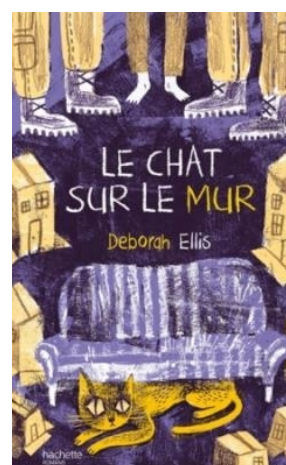


Moon at Nine

- German *Wenn der Mond am Himmel steht, denk ich an dich*
2015: Verlagsgruppe Random House Bertelsmann, Munich, Germany

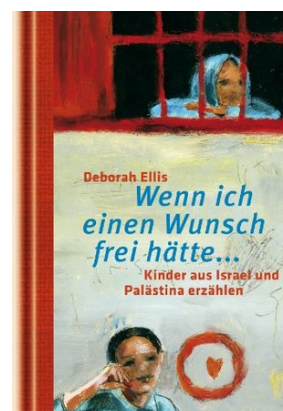
True Blue

- German *Rosen, Tulpen, Nelken, all Blumen welken*
2013: Cbj Verlag, Munich, Germany
- Italian *Il coraggio della libellula*
2013: R.C.S. Libri, Milan, Italy
- Marathi Title in Devanagari script
2013: Mehta Publishing House, Maharashtra, India
- Spanish *Maldita seas, Casey*
2012: Edelvives, Madrid, Spain



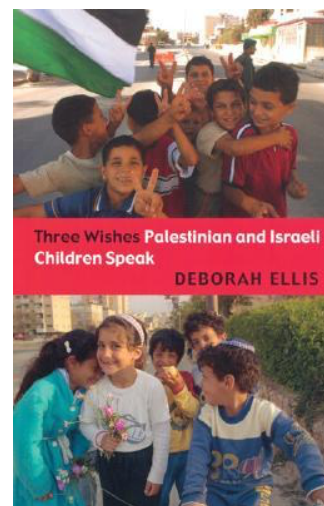
No Ordinary Day

- English *The Best Day of My Life*
2012: Allen & Unwin, Crows Nest, Australia
- Korean Title in Korean script
2013: Sanha Publishing Co., Seoul, South Korea
- Marathi Title in Devanagari script
2015: Mehta Publishing House, Maharashtra, India
- Spanish *No calquier din*
2012: Ediciones Castillo, Mexico City, Mexico



No Safe Place

- Catalan *Cap lloc segur*
2012: Baula (Edelvives), Barcelona, Spain
- English *No Safe Place*
2011: Allen & Unwin, Crows Nest, Australia
- Japanese Title in Japanese script
2011: Saela Shobo, Tokyo, Japan
- Spanish *Ningún lugar seguro*
2011: Edelvives, Madrid, Spain



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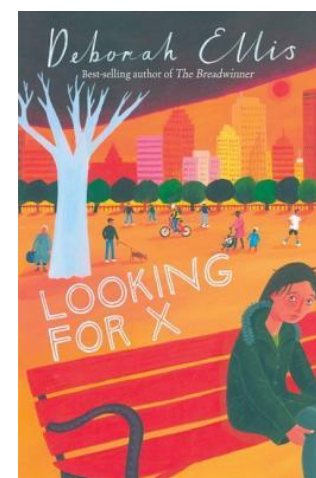
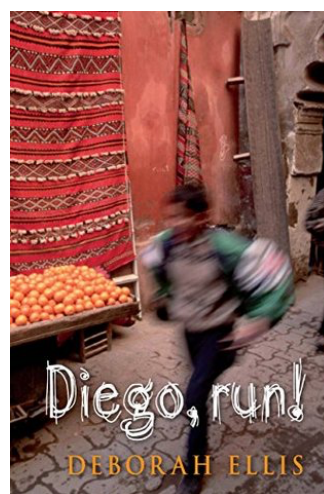
- German *Klick: Zehn Autoren Erzählen einen Roman*
2009: Carl Hanser Verlag, Munich, Germany

Bifocal

- German *Ansichtssache*
2009: Jungbrunnen Verlag, Vienna, Austria

The Heaven Shop

- English *The Heaven Shop*
2005: Allen & Unwin, Crows Nest, Australia
- English *The Heaven Shop*
2005: Oxford University Press, Oxford, United Kingdom
- French *Binti, une enfance dans la tourmente africaine*
2009: Hachette Jeunesse, Paris, France
- German *Das Radiomädchen*
2006: Jungbrunnen Verlag, Vienna, Austria
- Italian *Verso il paradiso: Parlare di AIDS per combatterlo*
2005: R.C.S. Libri, Milan, Italy
- Japanese Title in Japanese script
2011: Saela Shobo, Tokyo, Japan



A Company of Fools

English *A Company of Fools*
2004: Allen & Unwin, Crows Nest, Australia

Spanish *Una compañía de locos*
2007: Ediciones Destino, Barcelona, Spain

Looking for X

Chinese
(complex) Title in Chinese script
2005: Eastern Publishing, Beijing, China

English *Looking for X*
2006: Oxford University Press, Oxford, United Kingdom

Japanese Title in Japanese script
2001: Saela Shobo, Tokyo, Japan

Korean Title in Korean script
2004: Namu Books, Seoul, South Korea

Spanish *Sinnombre*
2003: Ediciones SM, Madrid, Spain



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