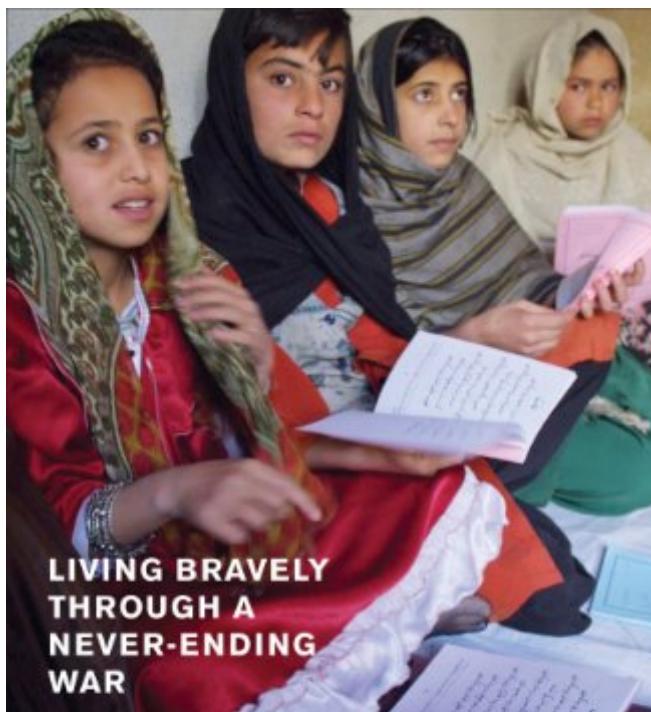


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# Kids Of Kabul: Living Bravely Through A Never-ending War (None)



## KIDS OF DEBORAH ELLIS KABUL



## **Synopsis**

Joint winner of the South Asia Book Award, longlisted for the Children's Literature Roundtables of Canada Information Book Award, selected for the IRA Notable Books for a Global Society List, the Bankstreet College of Education's Best Children's Books of the Year 2013, the USBBY Outstanding International Book List, and the CCBC Choices List Since its publication in 2000, hundreds of thousands of children all over the world have read and loved *The Breadwinner*. By reading the story of eleven-year-old Parvana and her struggles living under the terror of the Taliban, young readers came to know the plight of children in Afghanistan. But what has happened to Afghanistan's children since the fall of the Taliban in 2001? In 2011, Deborah Ellis went to Kabul to find out. She interviewed children who spoke about their lives now. They are still living in a country torn apart by war. Violence and oppression still exist, particularly affecting the lives of girls, but the kids are weathering their lives with courage and optimism: "I was incredibly impressed by the sense of urgency these kids have . . . needing to get as much education and life experience and fun as they can, because they never know when the boom is going to be lowered on them again." The two dozen or so children featured in the book range in age from ten to seventeen. Many are girls Deb met through projects funded by Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan ([www.cw4wafghan.ca](http://www.cw4wafghan.ca)), the organization that is supported by royalties from *The Breadwinner Trilogy*. Parvana's Fund provides grants toward education projects for Afghan women and children, including schools, libraries and literacy programs. All royalties from the sale of *Kids of Kabul* will also go to Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Bought this for the library I am building in Livingstone Zambia . It is a simple, wonderful way for the girls at St. Mary's Private school to understand the people, especially young women, in this part of the world. An introduction for them that I am sure is meaningful.

Love it

The shipping was quick and the quality was better than I expected for a used book. The details said folded pages and those don't really bother me but the actual state of the book was great.

I have just received the book and have not yet had a chance to read it from cover to cover. I have a keen interest in the children of Afghanistan so I am sure this book will be welcomed in my library and I will enjoy the read.

I found this book both heartbreak and inspiring. My daughter picked it up in our local school library. She was intrigued because she had previously met and become friends with a girl from Afghanistan, so wanted to know more about girls' lives there. She was stunned to realize that her friend is one of the subjects of this book and was so touched that she brought it home to share with us. Rather than meeting someone struggling to overcome her traumatic experiences, she had met an exceptional teen who continues to lean forward, determined to educate herself well so she can continue the advocacy work she has already begun on behalf of her sisters at home. Nilab is currently attempting to raise enough funds to cover the costs of a college education here in the US. To return to Afghanistan now would most certainly mean a marriage and the end of her education. If you have any interest in supporting her quest to empower others like her, please check out her crowdrise website entitled, "Help an Afghan girl go to school."

Kids of Kabul includes the stories of a couple dozen kids from Afghanistan told in their own words. Each story begins with a little extra information that does a bit to clarify what the child is talking about (for example, why one child used to live in a jail along with her mom or why another young girl is in prison for running away from her abusive, elderly husband). The stories all have heartbreaking components, but are also extremely hopeful. Reading this book gives hope that the kids will be able to improve the future of Afghanistan.

From the author of the Breadwinner, Deborah Ellis, this captivating book is a must read for middle school and older. Ellis goes back to Kabul and interviews children from the area. The interviews are not for the fainthearted. The children talk about being orphans, forced into marriages, drug abuse and starvation. Even with everything that has happened to them they still are optimistic about their futures.

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