



My Name Is Parvana

By Deborah Ellis

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On a military base in post-Taliban Afghanistan, American authorities have just imprisoned a teenaged girl found in a bombed-out school. The army major thinks she may be a terrorist working with the Taliban. The girl does not respond to questions in any language and remains silent, even when she is threatened, harassed and mistreated over several days. The only clue to her identity is a tattered shoulder bag containing papers that refer to people named Shauzia, Nooria, Leila, Asif, Hassan — and Parvana.

In this long-awaited sequel to *The Breadwinner Trilogy*, Parvana is now fifteen years old. As she waits for foreign military forces to determine her fate, she remembers the past four years of her life. Reunited with her mother and sisters, she has been living in a village where her mother has finally managed to open a school for girls. But even though the Taliban has been driven from the government, the country is still at war, and many continue to view the education and freedom of girls and women with suspicion and fear.

As her family settles into the routine of running the school, Parvana, a bit to her surprise, finds herself restless and bored. She even thinks of running away. But when local men threaten the school and her family, she must draw on every ounce of bravery and resilience she possesses to survive the disaster that kills her mother, destroys the school, and puts her own life in jeopardy.

A riveting page-turner, Deborah Ellis's new novel is at once harrowing, inspiring and thought-provoking. And, yes, in the end, Parvana is reunited with her childhood friend, Shauzia.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 6-10-This sequel to the series is not merely an important book about the difficulty of girls' lives in war-torn, U.S.-occupied Afghanistan. It is also an example of vivid storytelling with a visceral sense of place, loss, distrust, and hope. Strong-willed Parvana, now 15, is inexplicably and stoically silent throughout her incarceration and none-too-gentle interrogation by U.S. troops. Alternate chapters take readers back through the past year during which Parvana and her family (and other beloved characters from previous books) defend their girls' school in a town hostile to the notion of female education. Although Ellis relies heavily upon readers' attachment to certain characters formed in earlier books, newcomers still get a strong sense of personality from Parvana's friends and family members. The Americans and minor Afghani figures are tossed about as caricatures, e.g., the overly suspicious commanding officer, the ignorant racist private, the volatile village men who throw rocks at girls whose head coverings have slipped. Why Parvana remains silent in U.S. custody will be difficult for many young readers to understand, but Ellis makes it easy to immerse oneself in this very foreign place, where hope thrives despite explosions and abused child brides and stonings. A must-buy title.-Rhona Campbell, Georgetown Day School, Washington, DC(c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

From [Booklist](#)

Captured and imprisoned as a suspected terrorist by American soldiers in Afghanistan, 15-year-old Parvana keeps silent and concentrates on her memories. The soldiers connect the teen with the bombing of the ruined school where they found her. Her cell—a room of her own with a bed and running water—seems luxurious, yet she is made to stand for hours, awakened at night, and subjected to constant Donny Osmond music. Throughout the endless days and nights of her captivity, she replays scenes from the past in her head: the triumphant school opening, her frustration at being a lowly student, the threats from the Taliban, and the horror of her mother's death. "This is Afghanistan," her friend Shauzia says. "What do you want—a happy ending?" In her unlikely conclusion, Ellis at least offers some hope, and her author's note provides background context. Readers don't need to have read earlier titles in the Breadwinner series to enjoy this moving story, but those who have will be happy to see how Parvana has kept her resilience and determination intact. Grades 5-8. --Kathleen Isaacs

Review

A Kirkus Best Teen Book of 2012

"This passionate volume stands on its own, though readers new to the series and to Ellis' overall body of work will want to read every one of her fine, important novels. Readers will learn much about the war in Afghanistan even as they cheer on this feisty protagonist." —*Kirkus, starred review*

"This sequel to the series is not merely an important book about the difficulty of girls' lives in war-torn, U.S.-occupied Afghanistan. It is also an example of vivid storytelling with a visceral sense of place, loss, distrust, and hope." —*School Library Journal, starred review*

"...Ellis succeeds in putting a human face on the headlines and the brutality of the Afghan war, while answering many questions about the fate of a heroine whose personality and force of will shine through." —*Publishers' Weekly*

Praise for *The Breadwinner*:

"Newberry Medal worthy . . . This was a fantastic read. — *Washington Times*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

David Hester:

Do you have favorite book? If you have, what is your favorite's book? Publication is very important thing for us to understand everything in the world. Each book has different aim as well as goal; it means that publication has different type. Some people experience enjoy to spend their a chance to read a book. These are reading whatever they get because their hobby is usually reading a book. How about the person who don't like looking at a book? Sometime, man feel need book once they found difficult problem or perhaps exercise. Well, probably you should have this My Name Is Parvana.

Julia Hale:

Nowadays reading books be a little more than want or need but also work as a life style. This reading practice give you lot of advantages. The huge benefits you got of course the knowledge the particular information inside the book that will improve your knowledge and information. The details you get based on what kind of publication you read, if you want drive more knowledge just go with schooling books but if you want feel happy read one having theme for entertaining such as comic or novel. The My Name Is Parvana is kind of reserve which is giving the reader capricious experience.

Kathleen Strickland:

Playing with family within a park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with pals is thing that usually you may have done when you have spare time, subsequently why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. 1 activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition of information. Even you love My Name Is Parvana, it is possible to enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh can happen its mind hangout men. What? Still don't obtain it, oh come on its called reading friends.

John McKeever:

This My Name Is Parvana is great reserve for you because the content which can be full of information for you who also always deal with world and have to make decision every minute. This book reveal it data accurately using great manage word or we can claim no rambling sentences within it. So if you are read that hurriedly you can have whole data in it. Doesn't mean it only provides you with straight forward sentences but difficult core information with lovely delivering sentences. Having My Name Is Parvana in your hand like having the world in your arm, info in it is not ridiculous just one. We can say that no e-book that offer you world within ten or fifteen moment right but this book already do that. So , this can be good reading book. Hello Mr. and Mrs. active do you still doubt that will?

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