



[Traffick](#) by Ellen Hopkins

ISBN: 9781442482883 (Trade Paperback)

Margaret K. McElderry, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, 2017

*Age Range: 14+ (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: 9+ (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

BOOK SYNOPSIS

In her bestselling novel, *Tricks*, Ellen Hopkins introduced us to five memorable characters tackling these enormous questions: Eden, the preacher's daughter who turns tricks in Vegas and is helped into a child prostitution rescue; Seth, the gay farm boy disowned by his father who finds himself without money or resources other than his own body; Whitney, the privileged kid coaxed into the life by a pimp and whose dreams are ruined in a heroin haze; Ginger, who runs away from home with her girlfriend and is arrested for soliciting an undercover cop; and Cody, whose gambling habit forces him into the life, but who is shot and left for dead.

And now, in *Traffick*, these five are faced with the toughest question of all: *Is there a way out?* How these five teenagers face the aftermath of their decisions and experiences is the soul of this story that exposes the dark, ferocious underbelly of the child trafficking trade. Heartwrenching and hopeful, *Traffick* takes us on five separate but intertwined journeys through the painful challenges of recovery, rehabilitation, and renewal to forgiveness and love. All the way home.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"Hopkins' undeniable empathy for young people remains sincere and moving."—[Booklist](#)

"Less startling than its predecessor; a hopeful aftermath tale for readers already attached to these characters."—[Kirkus](#)

"Hopkins's use of free verse allows the raw emotion to shine through, and mature teens will hang on to every word."—[School Library Journal](#)

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- Kansas NEA Reading Circle List High School Title
- Nutmeg Book Award Nominee (CT)
- Amazing Audiobooks for Young Adults - TOP TEN

Updated 3.28.25

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MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Reading Group Guide](#)
- [ACLU Article: Here's What You Lose When You Ban My Books](#)

RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

[KIDS' RIGHT TO READ PROTESTS EFFORTS TO CENSOR YA AUTHOR ELLEN HOPKINS](#)

[NCAC DEMANDS RETURN OF 13 BOOKS BY ELLEN HOPKINS TO HERNANDO SCHOOL DISTRICT LIBRARIES](#)

[NCAC PROTESTS CANCELLATION OF ELLEN HOPKINS APPEARANCE AT TEEN LIT FEST IN TEXAS](#)

AUTHOR STATEMENT

“Censorship comes from a place of fear. We fear that which is different, what we cannot comprehend. Books gift us with understanding, empower us with knowledge. So, obviously, would-be censors have it all wrong.” —Ellen Hopkins

***A NOTE ON AGE RANGES**

A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

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