



Publication Slip

Title: Flexible Wings

ISBN: 978-0-9960357-0-5 (hardcover)

978-0-9960357-1-2 (softcover)

Edition: Hardcover, 294 pages, \$26.99 (Retail up to 55% discount and returnable)

Softcover, 294 pages, \$15.99 (Retail up to 55% discount and returnable)

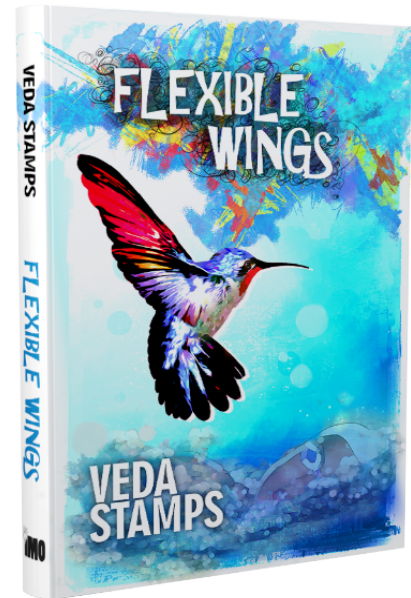
E-book, 294 pages, \$4.99

Author: Veda Stamps

Publication Date: May 14,

2015 **Publisher:** IMO Books

Distributor: Ingram (hardcover, paperback);
Barnesandnoble.com



Book Description:

"Flexible Wings" is a contemporary middle-grade novel that explores the lives of military children. The book delves into themes of sports, race, community, and volunteerism as a way of supporting families through difficult times.

In "Flexible Wings," Summer Stevenson is an eleven-year-old military kid who dreams of having a permanent home and one-day swimming in the Olympics, just like her idol, Olympian Lia Neal. But those things seem out of reach, as her parents "the heroes" continually move the family from house to house like boxed-up toys.

After their last move, she thought her life would never change again, but now the moving truck is idling in front of her house, this time to take the family to Valencia, a small town in Southern California known for its bike trails, roller coasters, and great schools. But things aren't so great for Summer. She worries constantly that her fighter-pilot mom could be redeployed at any moment, and she struggles to make new friends, thus finding herself in humiliating circumstances with her neighbors.

Summer sees a glimmer of hope when her parents sign her up for competitive swimming; unfortunately, she turns out to be the worst swimmer on the team. Inspired by nature and drawing support from friendships both old and new, including



those with Grandma “Bachaan,” her coaches, and other kids on the swim team, Summer seeks the courage she'll need to tackle life's challenges.

Author Bio:

Veda Stamps spent most of her adult life working on projects that empower youth to achieve their dreams.

Flexible Wings, inspired by volunteerism on her daughter's neighborhood swim team, is a creative extension of her work as a community planner.

She currently lives with her husband, two daughters and three dogs in Valencia, California, where she co-owns a community planning firm.



Praise for *Flexible Wings*:

“An entertaining story... Her characters are well-drawn and diverse and her portrait of Summer's Japanese-American grandmother is particularly charming.”

— *Kirkus Reviews*

“A powerful story with a uniquely contemporary heroine and timeless themes of love, family, friendships, and self-acceptance.”

— *Foreword Reviews*, five-star review

“...heartwarming debut is a thoughtful and authentic book for young readers—richly diverse, engagingly written, and deeply genuine.”

— *Blueink Review*

“An incredible story... accurately reflects the emotional struggles military children face.”

— *Portland Book Review*, five-star review

“Marvelous and very inspirational... swimming events are spectacular and great fun.

An awesome read, and you don't have to be a preteen to enjoy it... Highly recommended.”

— *Readers' Favorite*, five-star review

Awards:

2016 IBPA Benjamin Franklin Book Award Best Gold Medal Recipient (New Voice, Children's Young Adult)

2016 Independent Publisher Book Award Bronze Medal Recipient (Multi-Cultural Fiction)

2015 Moonbeam Children's Book Awards Gold Medal Recipient (Preteen Fiction)

2015 Mom's Choice Awards Silver Medal Recipient (Juvenile Fiction 9-12)

2015 Global Ebook Awards Bronze Medal Recipient (Juvenile Fiction)

2015 Readers' Favorite Book Awards Honorable Mention Recipient (Military Fiction)