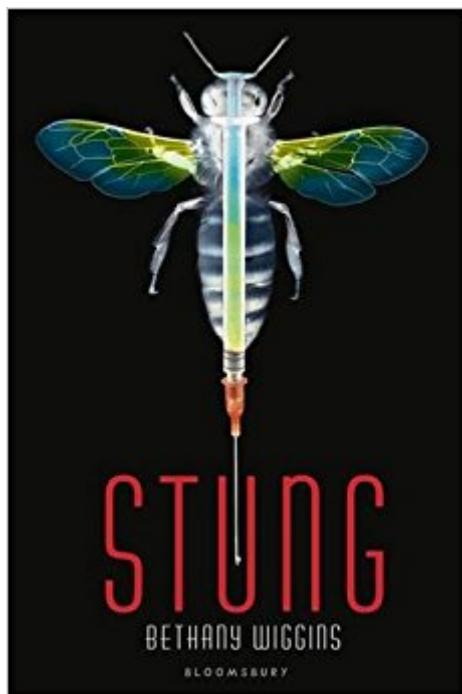


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# Stung



## **Synopsis**

Fiona doesn't remember going to sleep. But when she opens her eyes, she discovers her entire world has been altered-her house is abandoned and broken, and the entire neighborhood is barren and dead. Even stranger is the tattoo on her right wrist-a black oval with five marks on either side-that she doesn't remember getting but somehow knows she must cover at any cost. And she's right. When the honeybee population collapsed, a worldwide pandemic occurred and the government tried to bio-engineer a cure. Only the solution was deadlier than the original problem-the vaccination turned people into ferocious, deadly beasts who were branded as a warning to un-vaccinated survivors. Key people needed to rebuild society are protected from disease and beasts inside a fortress-like wall. But Fiona has awakened branded, alone-and on the wrong side of the wall . . .

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Gr 8 Up-The pesticide developed to kill genetically modified bees that caused a bee flu epidemic killed almost everything else as well, leaving a world in which women are scarce, honey is more valuable than gold, and survival is tenuous. Fiona Tarsis wakes in the ruin of her Colorado home with no memory of how she got there. Lack of recall, however, does not keep her from recognizing a feral attacker as her twin brother, Jonah, and her flight from him through a window is just the beginning of her narrow escapes. Fo is captured by the militia, guardians of the gates to a walled

city. Bowen, a handsome neighbor from Fo's old life, fills in the gaps in her memory. She learns that parents, desperate to save their children, voluntarily put them into comas hoping to keep them stable until a cure for the epidemic was found. The plot relies on coincidence and cannot fully hide weaknesses in characterization with its breakneck speed. Fo was 13 when she went into the coma, and 17 when she awakens with a more mature body and a mind that seemingly continued to develop while she was comatose. The inevitable love story is handled with some heat. Fo reacts instead of acts in the simplistic role of girl in peril. Sent to fight to the death, she is protected in the arena by Jonah until Bowen rescues her in the nick of time. The conclusion is anticlimactic, but the roaring pace keeps world-building to a minimum and makes this a crashing dystopic roller-coaster ride.-Janice M. Del Negro, GSLIS Dominican University, River Forest, ILÂ  Â (c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The last thing Fiona remembers is being 13 and hearing about the dangerous domino effect that could result from the extinction of bees. When she wakes up, she is 17, sporting a strange tattoo, and the world outside is in postapocalyptic chaos. A sewer urchin gives Fiona the short version: Colorado has become a lawless country where bands of marauders attempt to earn their way into the safer walled city. Though Fiona succeeds in concealing herself as a boy (hard to believe, given the manhandling she undergoes), she is captured and identified as a "Ten" -a person infected with a flawed vaccine that will turn her into a zombielike beast unless killed. Thankfully, this group is headed by a protective, hunky former neighbor of Fiona's. As with many teen dystopias, the rushed backstory exists primarily to provide opportunity to squeeze our romantic leads into tight quarters, and the Colosseum-inspired finale feels airlifted from another plot. Wiggins is skilled, however, at dropping bits of Fiona's returning memories at dramatic moments. Finished with Veronica Roth's *Divergent* (2011) et al? Try this. Grades 8-11. --Daniel Kraus --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

To start I really loved how this author always makes me cry! Her other book *Shifting* does it in spades! I also love how she can create this intertwining story using a small town. Because that's just what she did with this book! Everything happens in one town but it feels like you have traveled great distances. So it just makes it more amazing! This has sat on my TBR shelf for a while now (around 3 years) and I'm so happy that I finally got to read it! The characters in this one were great! We really

don't have a lot of them but it still feels like a full cast! I won't go into to much as I don't want to give stuff away. But my fav would have to be the two main ones! Honey is the new currency! I really loved this idea! This is another thing I can't go to much into since it would giveaway the mystery. But it's so well thought out. The mystery in this one was done so well! As Fiona starts remembering we learn about the past through her eyes and the author did an amazing job with it. No info dumping to be seen. The mystery is unfolded seamlessly in this story. On a side note I would love a novella about the world inside the wall and about how they lived etc. Book in a Pinch Dystopian where Honey and Monsters Rule the World! Go Into This One Knowing No cliffhanger, No info dumping, Great Ending! This book was purchased via BAM

This one has been on my TBR Kindle shelf for a long time, and I decided it was time to read it. I'm just sorry I waited as long as I did. This book begins with Fiona waking up in her home to find nothing the way she remembered. She remembers blowing out the candles at her 13th birthday, but doesn't understand what has gone wrong since then. Her house is a wreck, she can't find her family, there is no water, what happened?? And why does she have a crazy tattoo on her hand that she feels the need to cover up? It's even worse when she ventures outside. This is classic dystopian, the kind that is hard to wrap your head around, but it sucks you in, you can't put down and you finish in 2 days. Also, did I mention, honeybees and crazy beasts?! I loved it and can't wait to read Cured! Well done.

Stung is a book that I had a hard time deciding if I loved it or was just meh about it. It pretty much has hovered between 3 and 4 stars for me since I finished it, and I finally decided to go to the lower end because I do have some issues that are still staying with me. Don't get me wrong, for the most part I really liked the book. It was interesting and fast paced. I ended up reading it in less then 12 hours. It only took that long because I had to sleep at some point. I think I'll just get down to the nitty gritty of this review since that's been on my mind since I read it. My first issue was Fiona. She pretty much lucked out on not getting killed early on due to her lack of common sense in a few situations. She honestly could have escaped a few of the situations she was put into easily if she has been using her brain. It just seemed like she wasn't always thinking like someone who was being held captive. Maybe it was the shock of waking up in an unfamiliar world, but she didn't seem to have the mindset of someone who's trying to survive. My second issue was the romance in the book. It's insta-love at

itÃ¢â€šâ€œs finest. I mean they didnÃ¢â€šâ€œt know each other for very long before the declarations of love came about. I wouldnÃ¢â€šâ€œt have minded for it to be more drawn out so that the romance could grow more naturally. I like a good romance, but the story would have been just as interesting without it. Besides the issues I mentioned I liked the book. The story was an interesting look at what an environmental disaster would do to our society. I liked Stung enough to read the next book in the series, and IÃ¢â€šâ€œm looking forward to it.

The first pages definitely hold your attention and make you keep reading until the last page. The story starts with the heroine, Fiona, suddenly waking up and becoming dazed and confused of her surroundings and of herself. As the story progresses, she comes to understand what has occurred to the world and to her family, especially to her twin brother Jonah, whom she loves dearly. The relationship between them, throughout the story, was so heartbreakingly sad, that I literally did not want to read the last few chapters so I wouldn't find out about Jonah's fate. Also, Fiona's journey towards the "wall" was full of action sequences that were quite suspenseful (The little girl/boy, Arrin, was kind of creepy to me from the beginning). Finally, Bowen's love for Fiona was O.M.G cute. They were totally made for each other. I'm definitely reading book two to find out what happens next in this dystopian world in which the cure for a honeybee pandemic instead of helping, has turned the people into psychotic beings. Yikes!\*pg-13 level

Easy to follow lead character but a little predictable . The story is short and to the point and I felt a little rushed to be honest . The author painted a good picture but it could have been a much longer and well thought out journey, which I'm sure she realizes now. The author never left the lead character ,to explore anything else. There were short descriptions of other characters that begged for more development and back story. This book is an entertaining quick read ,which starts off fast and ends before all the characters are truly developed and explored . This book would be a great candidate for a rewrite because it's got a great core with an interesting plot. The publisher should have insisted on the author exploring more in depth, a couple of the other characters, because this book had the potential to be great if it had been reworked just a little more . Never leaving the lead character to follow other characters is a weakness in this book. I'm glad I read it but not blown away by the writing style ,however the concept was well conceived and the story was easy to follow.

Three stars for being very easy to read

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