



Wings - Raymond Huber

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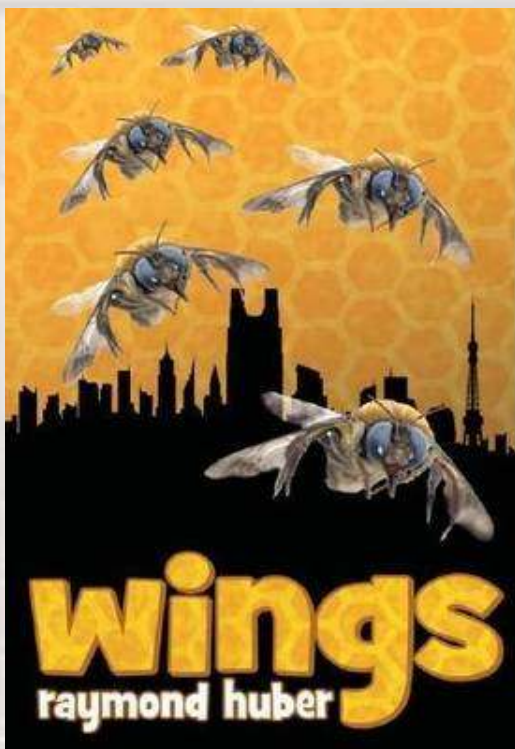
It's unusual to read a junior novel where the good guys are honey bees and their enemies are a gang of hornets. However, Raymond Huber has expert knowledge about his characters. The author lives in Dunedin with 45,000 bees which gives him insight into their behaviours and the environmental challenges they face.

Wings is a fascinating glimpse into the adventures of Ziggy and his team of intelligent bees. Ziggy and his friends are taken to Japan by their keeper, Sophie. The bees in Tokyo are disappearing and Sophie hopes that her bees will help discover the cause of the mystery.

The story zips along with plenty of page-turning excitement. The characters are strong-minded individuals and the situations they find themselves in are believable. There's mystery, danger, friendship and team work. Wrapped up in the entertaining plot are surprising facts about bees, including the varied behaviours of bee colonies in different countries.

This sequel to Huber's earlier novel, *Sting*, can be read as a stand-alone story. It's a superb chapter book for young readers.

Reviewed by children's book author, Jean Bennett.



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