



**Debbi Michiko Florence** is the author of the chapter book series *Jasmine Toguchi*, about a spunky 8-year-old Japanese American girl: *Jasmine Toguchi*, *Mochi Queen* (a Junior Library Guild selection); *Jasmine Toguchi, Super Sleuth*; *Jasmine Toguchi, Drummer Girl* (April 3, 2018); and *Jasmine Toguchi, Flamingo Keeper* (July 3, 2018). A third generation Japanese American and a native Californian, Debbi now lives in Connecticut

with her husband, a puppy named Kiku, a bunny named Aki, and two ducks named Darcy and Lizzy. A former zoo educator and classroom teacher, she loves to travel with her husband and daughter.

**JASMINE TOGUCHI, MOCHI QUEEN** by Debbi Michiko Florence  
*illustrated by Elizabet Vukovic (Farrar Straus Giroux/2017)*

## REVIEWS:

"Florence paints a lovely picture of a warm, extended family whose members truly care about one another and take each other seriously...New readers thirsty for series fiction will look forward to more stories about Jasmine and her family."--**Kirkus**

"This first entry nicely balances humor with the challenges of growing up; readers will devour it." --**School Library Journal**

"...an adorable and heartwarming story about a kid who wants to feel special and do something first for once, along with a nice overview of a Japanese New Year celebration."--**Booklist**

"Florence warmly traces Jasmine's efforts to get strong (and fast), her clashes and tender moments with her family, and the ins and outs of making mochi (a recipe is included). Vukovic's b&w spot illustrations evoke Japanese Sumi-e painting while playfully capturing Jasmine's willfulness and her family's closeness." --**Publishers Weekly**

"The Toguchi family's warmth and affection for one another will leave readers eager to spend more time with them."--**Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books**

"This first in the series handily introduces a plucky, strong-willed girl whose family traditions may be new to many readers but whose frustrations will be familiar to nearly all. Humorous illustrations help young audiences picture the mochi-making process, which is further explained in an author's note. Also appended: a recipe for 'microwave mochi.'" --**The Horn Book**

**Amazon's Best Children's Books of 2017** (ages 6 - 8)

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