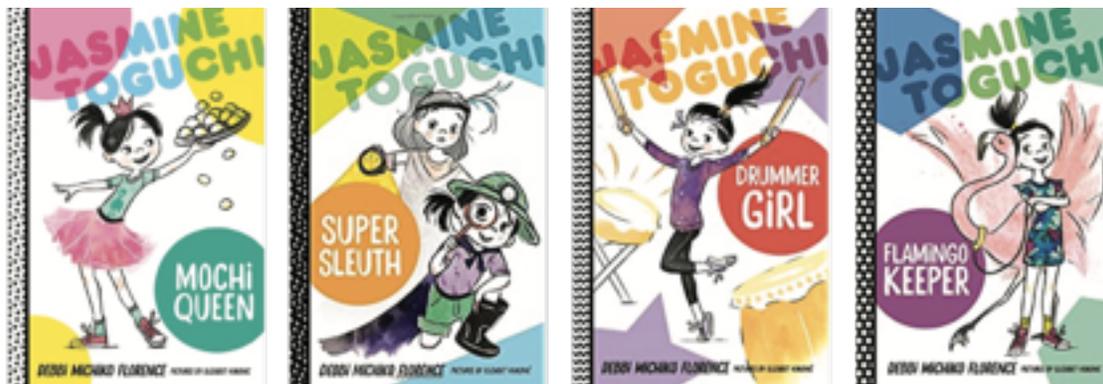




Debbi Michiko Florence is the author of the chapter book series *Jasmine Toguchi*, about a spunky 8-year-old Japanese American girl: *Jasmine Toguchi, Mochi Queen* (a Junior Library Guild selection); *Jasmine Toguchi, Super Sleuth*; *Jasmine Toguchi, Drummer Girl* (a Junior Library Guild selection) (April 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**

(MOCHI QUEEN reviews continued)

"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**

A Junior Library Guild Fall 2017 Selection
An Amazon's Best Children's Books of 2017
An Evanston Public Library's 101 Great Books for Kids List 2017
A Chicago Public Library's Best of the Best Books 2017
A 2017 Nerdy Book Club Award Winner
2018 Amelia Bloomer Booklist

JASMINE TOGUCHI, DRUMMER GIRL by Debbi Michiko Florence
illustrated by Elizabet Vukovic (Farrar Straus Giroux/April 2018)

REVIEWS:

"An enjoyable offering about trying new activities and finding just the right talent that makes us feel "free and strong and happy.'" --*Kirkus*

A Junior Library Guild Fall 2018 Selection

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