***Stung***

By Bethany Wiggins

**Grades 6-8**

### Annotation

* 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 Talk**

* What would happen if bees were on the verge of extinction? Would the government and scientists step in to intervene? What if things went too far and the problem became worse? When Fiona wakes up in a world once familiar, but at the same time very different and no memory of time gone by, the only thing she can recall is to cover up the strange tattoo on her hand and run in order to survive. Can she figure it all out before it is too late?

**Book Trailer**

* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ublGWuM38R4>

### Author on the Internet

* Author’s Website: <http://bethanywiggins.com/>
* Author’s Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/bethany.wiggins.5>
* Author’s Twitter Handle: @WiggB

### Realia/Display Items

* Bumble Bee (Chapter 3, Page 17-18 HB)
* A Leather Belt (Chapter 4, Page 25 HB)
* Photo of a piano or music notes (Chapter 21, Page 165 HB)

### Food

* Honey (Chapter 3, Page 17 HB)
* Peanut Butter Crackers (Chapter 4, Page 24 HB)
* Spam, Peaches (Chapter 18, Page 131 HB)

**Book Charm**

* Bee: <http://www.fitnessfinders.net/Spelling-Bee-p/191-spellingbee.htm>



**Book Club Discussion Questions/Topics**

* According to the book, if bees went extinct, people would start starving to death worldwide. What do you think would happen if other types of insects went extinct? (Chapter 3)
* In this new world, there are certain criteria for being allowed inside the wall. If you lived in this world and it were up to you, which rules would you create? Why? (Chapter 13)
* Do you think Arrin is a trustworthy person? Why or why not? (Chapter 29)

**Non-Fiction Companion Titles**

* *The Case of the Vanishing Honeybees: a Scientific Mystery*, Markle, Sandra, AR 6.0, Lexile 980
* *Swarmed by Bees*, Hamilton, Sue L., AR 5.8, Lexile 940

**What to Read Next**

* *Cured*, Bethany Wiggins, AR 4.0, Lexile 760
* *Ashes*, Ilsa J. Bick, AR 5.0, Lesile 730
* *Maze Runner*, James Dashner, AR 5.3, Lexile 770

Additional Resources

* Interview with the author from Verbosity: <https://verbositybookreviews.wordpress.com/2014/01/13/interview-with-bethany-wiggins-author-of-stung/>
* Interview with the author from Operation Awesome: <http://operationawesome6.blogspot.com/2013/03/blog-tour-interview-stung-by-bethany.html>
* Video about honeybees: <http://ed.ted.com/lessons/the-case-of-the-vanishing-honeybees-emma-bryce>