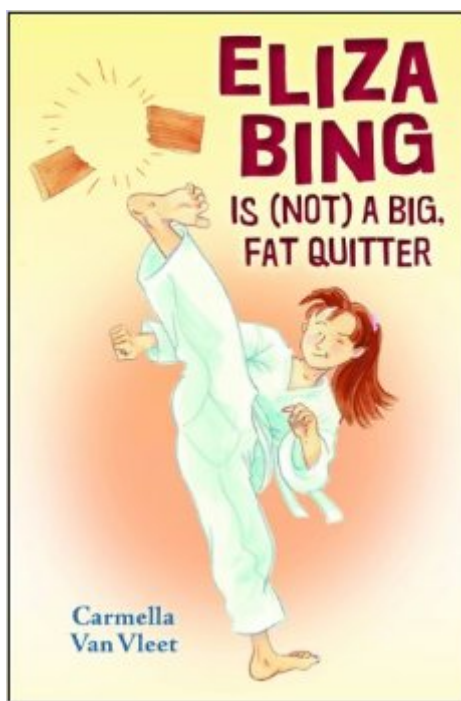


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# Eliza Bing Is (Not) A Big, Fat Quitter



## Synopsis

In this uplifting novel about determination and the rewards of hard work, a preteen girl struggling with ADHD must stick with a summer taekwondo class to prove that she's dedicated enough to pursue her true passion: cake decorating.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 176 pages

Publisher: Holiday House (February 14, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 082342944X

ISBN-13: 978-0823429448

Product Dimensions: 1 x 5.8 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #175,136 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #57 in [Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Martial Arts](#) #231 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Special Needs](#) #675 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Self-Esteem & Self-Respect](#)

Age Range: 7 - 11 years

Grade Level: 2 - 6

## Customer Reviews

This is a great story about a girl who has trouble seeing things through and who is challenged to stick with a taekwondo class for an entire summer. If Eliza can finish taekwondo (which is already paid for because her brother dropped out), then her parents will pay for her to take the more expensive cake decorating class that she really wants to do in the fall. I loved seeing Eliza confront all the difficulties of starting a new sport, and how her growth in taekwondo parallels her emotional growth as she prepares to go to middle school at the end of the summer. I also loved how polished and thoughtful the writing was, while still being easy to understand for children. This is a funny and sweet story that I would definitely recommend for children ages seven through thirteen. I look forward to seeing what Carmella Van Vleet writes next! Here is a list of some of the things that made me really like this book: How the author wove the main character's ADHD into her life in a natural way; how the main character (Eliza) was realistically frustrated with and appreciative of her nuclear family at different times, and the clear and interesting depiction of taekwondo. Great book!

Five stars!

As a Dad on the hunt for good books for my kids, I downloaded this book for my kindle app. This is a great book. I enjoyed the first person narration. It brought back memories of how as a kid everything was an emergency. I like the narrator's journey through disappointment and success. Eliza's first brush with grown up empathy was similar to my own. I enjoyed the descriptions. I will definitely describe a cloudy sky as looking like dirty socks. I liked the mention of the squeak a brand new dobok makes. This book is a winner.

I haven't yet read this, and I might after my daughter is finished, but my daughter is an 11 year old 5th grader recently diagnosed with atypical ADD. Coincidentally, she ALSO just recent started karate a couple of months ago. For Christmas I was looking for the "Want, Need, Wear, Read" items and wanted a meaningful book. She is now a white belt in Okinawan Kempo Karate and in talking to her, she finds that she relates A LOT to the main character. Karate is a way we are trying to help her with focus. I found this book through a recommendation from the website [www.amightygirl.com](http://www.amightygirl.com)

Eleven-year-old Eliza wants to take a cake decorating class with her friend Tony, but her parents say no because it's expensive and she doesn't stick with things, so to prove them wrong she takes her brother's spot in a taekwondo class and learns more about her interests and abilities every day. Eliza is a spunky, fun girl with ADHD, but that status does not overpower this story at all. She navigates friends, family, and her blooming self-confidence through short, punch chapters that are a delight to read. A lovely MG addition to contemporary fiction.

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