



## New Wings:

*Donna Stanley*

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Why is it that when we pray for the supernatural, we are surprised when it shows up?

Seventeen-year-old Olivia Stanton knows the Bible says guardian angels exist, but assumes they only show up when people are dying or need to be saved from some kind of sudden disaster...until her own guardian angel appears to her in the form of a handsome blonde-haired, blue-eyed guy her own age. As Olivia gets to know Mike, she begins to see angels--both good and evil--on a regular basis, and quickly learns how many misconceptions she had about the spiritual realm.

Will Mike be able to prepare Olivia for the daunting spiritual battle about to overtake her small town before it destroys her and everyone she cares about?

### **New Wings: Details**

Date : Published May 7th 2013 by Creation House (first published March 5th 2013)

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Author : Donna Stanley

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## From Reader Review New Wings: for online ebook

### Kathleen (Kat) Smith says

"When we pray for the supernatural, why are we surprised when it actually shows up?"

What an exceptional tagline that immediately made me want to pick up this novel, New Wings by author Donna Stanley. Ever since my first experience with spiritual warfare novels involving angels and demons living among us in the unseen realm through Frank Peretti's amazing Darkness novels, I've been searching for more just like it. Thankfully Donna has come through for me in this latest endeavor of hers. This is definitely a novel geared for young adults but I found such wisdom between the pages I just had to share my thoughts on this novel.

The story takes us into the heart of Olivia Stanton who has always wanted to see her guardian angel. She prays for it and soon God takes her up on the challenge. Her angel Mike appears to her as a teen driving a red Camaro watching her in the high school parking lot. Not really sure who he is at the time, Olivia gets spooked one day driving home and tries to lose Mike as he follows her in his car. When she runs out of gas, Mike offers to get her some gas and sends her on her way. Over the next few days, Olivia soon learns that Mike is her guardian angel and is sent to help prepare her for the spiritual needs of her high school friends. She meets Mike in her dreams who shows her that a close friend is cutting and if she doesn't intervene, she will commit suicide. It is then that Olivia begins to see how God can use her prayers and praise to impact the spiritual world in powerful ways.

Slowly she begins to see how people around her are being influenced and manipulated by demons as well as angels and just what she can do as a prayer warrior for Jesus who can see into the spiritual realm. But even Olivia isn't perfect and finds herself falling under the temptation of finding a boy who will love her and fails to pray about it first. She soon finds herself in a bad situation with a boy who wants nothing to do with falling in love with Olivia and is merely a player. Soon she learns that not everything she faces will be easy and that each day is an opportunity to draw closer to God and that the most powerful weapon a believer possesses is their ability to pray.

I received the novel, New Wings by Donna Stanley compliments of Glass Roads Public Relations and Creation House for my honest review and received no monetary compensation for a favorable one. In light of all the teens paranormal novels inundating the book market, I am relieved to see a breath of fresh air in Donna's novel. It does not imply a worship of angels and instead shows teens how their prayers impact the spiritual world we can't always see. In one situation, Olivia's friend Christina asks her to volunteer at a homeless shelter and Olivia is repulsed and afraid based on a situation she encountered when she was younger, but Mike encourages her to go anyway. In the end, Olivia sees the power of what her actions can do to bless the lives of the people she meets at the homeless shelter serving lunch and God gives her the opportunity to see them through His eyes. This is such a must read novel for any one who loves novels on spiritual warfare. I rate this one a 5 out of 5 stars and will be adding this one to my permanent library. I only hope that Donna continues to writing more in this genre. I think the impact will be life changing. I know just reading this novel has already changed my own prayer life.

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### Landon says

If you are sick of reading about vampires and zombies, I definitely recommend this book! Donna Stanley does an amazing job of incorporating the paranormal without writing about the over-used subject matters in most of today's fiction. This book has a plot readers aren't likely to forget anytime soon.

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### **Jennifer Defoy says**

Before I get into the book itself I have to say that I love this cover. Something about it is so soothing to me. It's so simple and yet the images that it invokes in my brain are very comforting. Why a wing has such strong emotions attached to it I'm not really sure but they're there. So needless to say that even before I started reading this one I was already in love with it. I also love the quote that's on the cover and in the book description. I think that one of the biggest failings we have with religion is that we're not fully ready to accept what can be accomplished through faith. So when our prayers are answered we figure there has to be a different reason. Most people find it hard to believe that someone is truly listening to their prayers - large and small.

Olivia has been chosen to receive a gift. She can see angels - and demons and spirits. I think she handles her new abilities very well. I know that if I were in her shoes I would be much more freaked out about things for much longer than she seems to be freaked out by it. But maybe that's part of the reason why she was given this gift - she was ready for handling it responsibly. As the story progresses and Olivia starts to use the power of prayer more often I started to relate to her a lot better. Even though I'm not a traditional "religious" person I pray regularly for all sorts of things big and small. It seems that at the beginning of the story Olivia only prays for the big things. Her realization that getting help with the small stuff is also an acceptable use of prayer is kind of refreshing for me. I think for many people prayer is seen as what you do when someone is sick, or someone is hurt, or something else big. Praying for someone to find the right words to say to someone who has been hurting isn't really something most people pray about. So out of everything about Olivia I think that realization is my favorite part of her spiritual change. I do have to admit that I didn't get a full image of who her friends and family were. Mike on the other hand is pretty well rounded. I had a good idea of what his reactions to certain situations would be, and I understood why he did the things he did - outside of protecting his charge, Olivia.

The premise of the story is great - being able to see the constant battle that is ensuing between good and evil. I think it was fairly well executed. My only issue with the story is that some things were just a little too convenient. I know that to keep the story from becoming War and Peace certain liberties have to be taken. There were just a couple of occasions where things almost felt out of place in the story because they were so obvious what was going to happen. Outside of those couple instances I can say that I really enjoyed reading this. It helped to reaffirm some of my beliefs about our lives and how we interact with the spiritual realm - or more so what kinds of affect we can have on the spiritual realm. Some of the topics dealt with are a little difficult to read about so I would have to say this is a book for older teens 15 and up. But I think that anyone who's struggling to understand our part in the battle between good vs. evil should read it. Young adults who are just starting to truly look at their faith and beliefs could also benefit from reading this one.

I was provided a copy of this book in exchange for a review. This review is my truthful honest opinion.

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### **Cindy says**

Was not familiar with the author when I picked up this Kindle book but liked the description. Since it involved spiritual warfare, how could I resist? The MC is a senior in high school and becomes able to see not only her guardian angel but others in the spiritual realm as well, including both angels and demons.

The writing at times seems a little disjointed but not enough that it bothered me a whole lot. It certainly didn't take away from my enjoying the book. What I did like about it was how it showed a young, immature Christian becoming stronger in their faith and how God can use each of us with all of our failings to accomplish His will and purposes. Even if we stumble, as we all do at some time, that doesn't knock us out of the running to be used.

I loved the way the author pictured each of the guardian angels. Each one seemed to be from a different culture that didn't necessarily correspond with their human charges.

If you decide to try this book, I don't think you will be disappointed. I will be looking forward to the next in the series when it comes out.

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### **Andi says**

#### **What I Liked . . .**

This is a great spiritual warfare book, along the lines of Frank Peretti and Ted Dekker. It really reminded me a lot of Frank Peretti's first book This Present Darkness.

Olivia is a seventeen and one Sunday she prays and asks God to show her if she has a guardian angel and He begins to show her.

Little did she know that by praying this prayer she would not only see her guardian angel, she would also see into the spiritual realm. This strengthens her faith in so many ways.

#### **What I didn't . . .**

The author wanted to write a book for her daughter that was a positive paranormal. One that would focus on God. I give her a lot of credit for that. However, if you want to write a book that is different from the paranormal books that feature the vampires . . . ie Twilight, then don't write in things like Twilight. Instead of Olivia being the new person, it was Mike her guardian angel, and he is the "hot" guy with the "cool" car. Those things are indicative of Twilight. So, if you want it to be different make it different.

#### **Would I Recommend This . . .**

Yes, I would recommend this book. I would say that there are some parts that for a younger teen could be quite scary. As a parent I would say that you would have to make a judgement on his/her's discernment in this area.

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### **Brenda says**

While sitting in church listening to the preacher talk about entertaining angels unaware seventeen year old Olivia Stanton says a little prayer to God asking him to somehow let her know if she perhaps had a guardian angel. After all high school isn't always easy and a girl can use all the help she can get. When she notices a handsome young man driving a red Camaro seems to be watching her, she worries that he might be a stalker. Instead when he helps her out after she runs out of gas, she gets the feeling she has known him forever, and it won't be long until she realizes just how true that is. Mike has always been with Olivia, because he is her guardian angel, but he had never been able to show himself to her, but when she prays to God to show her that she has a guardian angel it changes the rules and he is now going to be able to appear to her in human form. When Mike shows himself to Olivia, he also explains why he is there, a spiritual battle is taking place, and not only can she see angels but demons as well, but more than that she can see how the demons can influence people. She also is shown what can defeat those dark forces, and that's prayer. Is she strong enough to handle what's going on, and are her prayers enough to save those around her?

A story geared toward teens that is perfect for anyone who has ever enjoyed reading about spiritual warfare and the effects of good versus evil. I actually have been doing an in depth study concerning spiritual warfare and found that this book holds very close spiritually with what I have been learning. Ms. Stanley does an excellent job of hooking us with the storyline, and in doing that she reveals several Biblical truths in the pages of this fiction story. The positive message of prayer was spot on, and I thought she did a great job of showing how prayer is the greatest weapon to battle darkness. A very well written story that will open our spiritual eyes if we let it. I can only hope that Ms. Stanley continues writing these type of stories, because I feel like teens are going to be drawn to them and perhaps be drawn closer to God in the process! On a scale of one to five I would give this book a ten because it's just that good!

A complimentary copy of this book was provided in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Victor Gentile says**

Donna Stanley in her new book, "New Wings" published by Creation House brings us into the life of Olivia Stanton .

From the back cover: The angelic realm isn't pretend; it's real.

It's all around us. It's creatures are beautiful—and deadly.

Why is it that when we pray for the supernatural, we are surprised when it shows up?

Seventeen-year-old Olivia Stanton knows the Bible says guardian angels exist, but assumes they only show up when people are dying or need to be saved from some kind of sudden disaster...until her own guardian angel appears to her in the form of a handsome blonde-haired, blue-eyed guy her own age. As Olivia gets to know Mike, she begins to see angels—both good and evil—on a regular basis, and quickly learns how many misconceptions she had about the spiritual realm.

Will Mike be able to prepare Olivia for the daunting spiritual battle about to overtake her small town before it destroys her and everyone she cares about?

"New Wings" begins with a demon almost succeeding in killing Olivia but the intervention of her guardian angel stops him. Olivia prays, one day, to be allowed to see her guardian angel and God allows that prayer.

Mike, her guardian angel, informs her that not only will she be able to see him but demonic activity as well and what they are doing to her friends. Now the battle is on as Olivia sees the problems and prays for God to resolve them in her friend's lives. However this is not going to be easy as the demons do not want her to succeed in her prayers. "New Wings" is all about our prayers and how they influence the spiritual battles between angels and demons. This is a book about spiritual warfare and our place in it. Ms. Stanley does an excellent job of showing us the value of our prayers, how they affect the lives of others as well as ourselves. "New Wings" delivers suspense, thrills, romance, mystery and excitement. I liked this book very much.

If you would like to listen to interviews with other authors and professionals please go to [www.kingdomhighlights.org](http://www.kingdomhighlights.org) where they are available On Demand.

To listen to 24 hours non-stop, commercial free Christian music please visit our internet radio station [www.kingdomairwaves.org](http://www.kingdomairwaves.org)

Disclosure of Material Connection: I received this book free from Glass Road Public Relations. I was not required to write a positive review. The opinions I have expressed are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255 : "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising."

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### **Zaw says**

This book takes a really unique angle on what it's like to encounter the supernatural in daily life. Acting as a middleman for her guardian angel, who gifts her with knowledge of her friends' troubles, Olivia takes on the tasks of trying to better the lives of her friends. In the process, she becomes a better person herself and learns a lot about guardian angels and the demons that shadow and influence certain people in her life.

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### **Joan says**

I really liked this novel. Donna has a daughter who loves to read novels about the supernatural. When Donna could not find ones she wanted her daughter to read, she decided to write her own. The seventeen year old Olivia can see angels and demons at work. There are several important issues brought up in this novel, such as cutting, date rape, and bullying. Because of some of the subject matter, I would recommend this to older teens, say juniors and seniors in high school. It may be a bit much for younger teens. See my full review at <http://bit.ly/J2Fef0>.

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### **Carol Fleisher says**

am reviewing this book for GlassRoad Public Relations for honest review. and received no compensation for a favorable review.

#### **About the Book:**

Olivia Stanton always knew that the Bible says guardian angels exist. But, in all her seventeen years, she assumed they only showed up when people were dying or needed rescue from sudden disaster. Her

assumption is shattered with the appearance of her own guardian angel - in the form of good-looking Mike, no less. As Olivia gets to know Mike, more and more of her misconceptions about the spiritual realms are revealed. And, as her spiritual eyes are opened to the presence of angels all around, she'll find they can be good or evil.

My thoughts about the book:

This book will change the way you think! It opens your eyes to spiritual warfare and helps you to become more aware things going on around you. This book shows people how prayers impact the spiritual world in ways we can't see or imagine. This book is riveting once you start reading it you will not be able to put it down. This novel is geared toward young adults as an alternative to books about vampires, werewolves, witches and demons. The novel does a great job of dealing with the paranormal genre in a positive manner. This book is a great read with an engaging story and interesting characters.

About the Author:

Donna Stanley lives in the beautiful Endless Mountains of northeastern Pennsylvania with her husband, Jonathan, and their teenage daughter, Olivia. She attended Philadelphia Biblical University, Moody Bible Institute, and Mansfield University, where she studied angelology, demonology, and the anthropology of religion. She was a youth leader for ten years and a pastor's wife for sixteen years. She now serves as a young adult mentor and leader in her local church.

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### **Kaitlyn M Carter\_Author says**

It was a pleasure to meet and speak with Donna Stanley at the Orange County Writer's Conference. She encouraged me much and gave some great advice.

What I loved about this book: Donna cares about the youth of our nation and earnestly desires to impact them. She deals in a real, raw way with the issues facing the youth today. I appreciate that she packed this book with scripture and got the message across clearly and accurately.

What I didn't love so much: I felt that there were too many issues packed in here. Cutting, date rape, the occult, miscarriage, teen deaths, each of these could take a whole book to really minister to the people affected by these issues. I also thought the writing style was very weak and almost choppy in places. One short scene onto the next short scene.

But we definitely need more writers to stand up and take back our youth through the power of the written word. Write for this generation, but write for the glory of the Lord

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### **Erin Greene says**

I enjoyed the concept of this book more than the actual book. The possibility of a visible spiritual realm here on earth, where angels can be seen battling demons in the name of Jesus is fascinating. However, there were many inconsistency in the writing which were hard to ignore.

In the beginning of the book we meet Tessa, Olivia's niece, and find out that Olivia has a much older sister. A few chapters later, Olivia refers to herself as an only child, and the niece she supposedly babysits every week, isn't heard of again until near the end of the book. There was also some confusion regarding how old the author wanted Tessa to be. She is described as 3 years old, early in the book, but later, Olivia refers to her "toothless grin," as though she were a 6 year old losing teeth. 3 year old children typically have all of their

baby teeth.

There were many other instances of small, but also very noticeable oversights on the author's part, from Olivia claiming to have never owned her own Bible as a child, to then stating she had her own King James version, or the scene where her mother cooks the food for her Eden's date night, and Olivia takes it over, presumably just to reheat it and serve it, yet the chapter details how Olivia cooks the shells and everything (which we were told her mother already did) while talking with Mike.

The story was interesting, and the spiritual gifts surrounding the main topic of events is thought provoking, but it seemed to lack an overarching plot, causing it to be very anticlimactic.

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### **Renee says**

New Wings is an action packed read and I found it enjoyable. It is certainly a wonderful answer to the occult related trend in teenage fiction these days. This book presents a Christian perspective interlaced with strong Biblical principles.

I can honestly say I felt the power of God move me while reading this book. The book was so engaging that I didn't want to put it down and soon would find ways to get back to reading it. (Mmmm ... I'm still working through that mountain of laundry I set aside to read this book - LOL!)

As I am not well versed in the Biblical principles of spiritual gifts, angels and spiritual warfare, I can't fully address the accuracy of this book but it has sparked my interest to find out more about them!

I recommend this book as a good read for teenagers and up though I strongly encourage parents to read this book along with or prior to passing it on to your children. The views and principles shared within the pages of this fictional story are quite deep and radical – it challenged my own belief system so I am sure it will also challenge our younger generation as well.

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I am certainly looking forward to many family discussion this book is bound to bring up!

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### **Geoffrey Reesor says**

This review contains spoilers, but I feel that it should be read publicly anyway.

While I appreciate that this was a gifted book, I feel the need to provide an honest review.

I admit that I was slightly disappointed by the end of the book. It started off well with good character introduction and conceptual set up, but from there I encountered problems with how easy Olivia had everything. I understand (I believe) Mrs Stanley's plot basis where faith in the Lord and the power of prayer can fix any problems and, as a practising Christian myself, I can wholeheartedly get behind it. But there was little to no tension in the entire book, since she had her guardian angel effectively right behind her at all times. Where the existence of guardian angels isn't a matter that's really pertinent to this review, she and her friends effectively never encounter difficulties that aren't fixed within a page. To whit, at the point where

Olivia's father was being choked by a demon, she prayed and Mike (her Angel) came to vanquish said demon. Where I can sympathize with the need to assure the reader that all was well, it would have been a much more moving moment had her father needed to be hospitalized for a week or even overnight, instead of him being back to his normal self the instant he got his breath back. Additionally, when Greg and his friend were killed in a car accident, the whole plot point of their existence fizzled out when it was determined that Greg went to Heaven and Olivia had had no way of stopping his friend from going to Hell. It had been made fairly plain that Greg had become something of a love interest to Christina by that point, but from the end of that chapter on, he's completely out of the picture. They don't mention him or think about him or agonize over his loss as a normal teenager would. In fact, Christina is fairly blasé about the entire thing after the funeral.

To close, and not to inspire a faith based debate, my biggest difficulty arose from the fact that all Olivia or Eden or Christina had to do to make the entire world full of roses for another few pages was to pray. Faith without works is dead, as is indicated in James 2:14-26, but it seems as though all that Olivia has to do to make the world a better place is to pray for it and the people in it. It generally takes much more than that. In most good books, there is tension and the need to grow through trials and, where there are a few trials that need to be lived through, they only exist for the briefest of periods with all of them fixed by the same method in the same way and that makes for a rather flat and lifeless plot.

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### **Salma Martinez says**

Donna Stanley's book New Wings conveyed a really good message about how the supernatural can be real she did it in a unique but cliché teen story but overall it was good. Although many people don't believe in it the main chick Olivia Stanton does. The main theme is that even though there can be many obstacles that pass through you, you can always overpass them and never give up. Olivia and her friends but the main one Mike who is like her "guardian angel" go through so many life lessons and teen stories like dealing with fake friends, relationship help, school etc. I haven't really read any other of her books so I can't really compare her work or like her style in which she writes her novels but I thought overall this book was pretty interesting and kept me engaged at all times. The way Donna portrayed her story and characters kinda made you feel as if you were even in the story and as you kept reading it's hard to put the book down because you just want to know what's going to happen next. "Christina brushed a wisp of hair away from his sweating forehead, revealing a fist-sized area of his skin where a chunk of hair had been ripped out." This is a little piece of the book where it shows how detailed and descriptive Donna is and how she makes it easier to picture stuff. The setting takes place in many places but mostly in the school where she deals with most of her problems in life. This book compares to many teens who know a days dealing with a lot of stuff and school problems teens go through and not being understood. This book kinda connects to me on a personal level because some of the problems Olivia went through as I read I kinda understood more how we teens think alike and we are just trying to survive this world who just throws problems at us every minute just to make us stronger. I would really recommend this book to teens but also to parents this book changes your perspectives on how we are all unique people and how we all go through tough situations that god puts in our way to become better and stronger people.

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