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***Footprints Wings Phantasms***  
**by Kathryn Waddell Takara, PhD**

An exciting new book of poetry from Pacific Raven Press, LLC

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“Vitalistic, transformative words call for further explorations into the undefined yet glimmering parts of self and world.” - Peter Dong Feng, PhD

Join Kathryn Waddell Takara, retired professor from the University of Hawai`i, on a breathtaking, beautiful journey to awakening! Released in summer 2018, *Footprints Wings Phantasms* offers a blueprint of what it feels like to fall, rise, and walk with hope. Moving between levels of reality, the poet challenges readers to transcend ordinary life and awaken to the exhilarating possibilities of dreams, discovery, and renewal.

In *Footprints Wings Phantasms*, Takara—author of 10 books, scholar, teacher, and experienced world traveler, wife, mother, grandmother—manifests her dream that life’s beauty is found by embracing journeys of experience along the path to awakening. Everyone celebrates high points and successes, but those who are seekers can appreciate questionings and failures by stepping back, observing, listening, and learning.

Taking an adventurous leap into objective truth, Takara aims to offer various possibilities of self-development to reach for one’s dreams, no matter how far-fetched they may seem, through the process of hesitantly walking, fearlessly flying, and at last exploring various phantasms of the unknown. The poet confirms that we are never too old, or too young, to balance the forces of *yin* and *yang* through self-reflection, practice, and transformation, as we move to more fully understand nature’s creative mysteries.

*Footprints Wings Phantasms* challenges readers to reconceive reality. Takara offers insights one will feel compelled to share. Eyes will be opened. The reader will learn to walk and then fly into phantasms of enlightenment, and new being.

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**About The Author:**

American Book Award winning author, **Kathryn Waddell Takara, PhD**, was also the recipient of the 2016 lifetime Achievement Award presented by the Honolulu NAACP as an “Agent of Change”. Takara is widely respected and admired as a public scholar, lecturer, and performer of her poetry. She coordinated several seminal national conferences on African Americans during her tenure at the University of Hawai`i, and she has been an 8 summer lecturer in China. After retiring from her 30-year position as professor of Black, Political, and Cultural Studies at the University of Hawai`i, she has pursued her career as a writer and publisher. Now widely published, she has authored 10 books and many scholarly articles. In 2008, she began her second career as a publisher and editor in her company Pacific Raven Press, LLC. Dr. Takara has dedicated her life to education, justice, peace, knowledge, history, culture, family, and the environment.

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