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*Healing Words
That Change Lives*

***The Burning Light of Two Stars* Book Club Expectations**

Thanks for inviting me to join your book club meeting! Authors need and cherish readers. I love meeting with book clubs and being in conversation with you. After spending ten years writing *The Burning Light of Two Stars* and a year publishing it, it's a pleasure to have this chance to dive deeper with you, whether we discuss the events in the book, the themes embedded in it, particular passages, or the writing and publishing process.

I look forward to our time together and love that I never know exactly what's going to happen when we get together—because we all bring something different to the conversation.



Before booking a session with me, please review the following best practices I've developed for book club meetings:

- **Book clubs are often as much social events as they are explorations of a title.** If your group typically spends time catching up on your lives or deciding on the next book, consider asking me to arrive a bit later to the conversation. To be clear, I love chatting and getting to know people, but can only spend so much time with each club. I also don't want you to miss out on your important friendship/community check-in time.
- **It's my intention to spend an hour with each book club.** If we've been together more than 60 minutes, know that I'm probably looking for the best way to honor our great conversation and complete our time together.
- **Your group is responsible for deciding on the structure of our conversation.** Though I love teaching and may ask questions of book club participants in discussion, I won't be facilitating the discussion, teaching a workshop, or giving a talk. Consider deciding on a "point person" who will introduce me and move our discussion through its various stages. I'm always happy to answer your questions. If you want me to prepare a reading from the book, let me know ahead of time if possible.
- **I ask that your book club contain at least six participants.** While intimate conversations can be fun, it's not sustainable for me to offer my time to tiny groups as part of this book launch. If your book club is usually micro-sized, consider inviting a few extra friends for this meeting, or merge with another book club for this special event!
- **I ask that a majority of club participants purchase the book.** I am a huge fan of libraries. But I want your group members to know that I published *The Burning Light of Two Stars* with a hybrid press, paying for all production, printing and marketing costs myself. To

break even, I'll need to sell many tens of thousands of copies. If your book club members borrowed the book from a library, consider buying copies of *The Burning Light of Two Stars* as gifts or to discuss in a classroom or support group.

- **Please support independent bookstores with your purchase.** I've been a lover and supporter of independent bookstores for decades and encourage you to support them when you purchase your books. If there's no independent bookstore in your community, you can order independently through [Bookshop.org](https://www.bookshop.org).

- **You can support my book** by: posting about it (and our gathering!) on social media; talking about it with your friends; liking & commenting on posts about it; scheduling me for events through your organizations and schools; telling local bookstores to carry the book or bring me in for a reading; leaving a review on Amazon, Goodreads, or other book or audiobook sites; asking your local library to stock the book, or by attending my book events, both on and offline. You can find them at www.lauradavis.net/events.

- **Subscribe to my email newsletter** so you can stay up to date on upcoming events and offerings and receive a free eBook: *Writing Toward Courage: A 30-Day Practice*. You can sign up here: <https://lauradavis.net/courage/>

- **The discussion questions posted on my website** are available here in a downloadable format (they're also in the back of the print and e-book versions of the book). However, they are geared toward groups conducting a conversation without me present, so they may not be perfect for our experience together. (Most book clubs are more interested in aspects of my book writing process.) However, distributing these questions to your group members for their consideration during and after reading can enrich our conversation.

Thank you for so thoughtfully engaging with *The Burning Light of Two Stars*, and for inviting me to meet with you!

In the spirit of healing,
Laura Davis

P.S. **If you are interested in compensating me** financially for our time together, my Venmo name is @Laura-Davis-22, my PayPal account runs through lauradavis@lauradavis.net

Thanks to [Katherine Standefer](#), author of *Lightning Flowers* for creating an excellent guide to Book Club expectations. I modeled mine on hers.