



Etiquette and Expectations: Book Club

These etiquette and expectations apply to both the moderator(s) and participants. It is intended to help foster a safe, positive environment in which all can exchange ideas, opinions and comments freely and respectfully. If you have a suggestion as to how to progress the book club generally or regarding the particular book topic of the month, contact the author at permissionsp@gmail.com.

All participants are expected to:

1. Make your best effort to read the entire book.
2. Come ready to both share AND to listen.
3. Gather information to help enhance the discussion. This does not mean *formal* research. We pull from our experiences, education and other books we have read.
4. Be prepared to offer counter opinions – even if they differ from your own. The concept of point of view does not only apply to the characters in the book.
5. Be prepared to begin new lines of discussion when necessary as long as we do not veer too far from the topic—that is the selected book of the month.
6. Allow others to participate. Do not monopolize the discussion. Authors are not the only ones who are introverts.
7. Come ready to both share AND listen.
8. Be ready to support your opinions with the "Why".
9. Self-censor.
10. Understand that if necessary, the moderator will intervene if the environment appears to become hostile, participants veer off topic, or if the book club meeting has run excessively over time. Everyone's time, effort and opinions are to be respected. The moderator reserves the right to intervene firmly but respectfully.
11. Participants are encouraged, but not required to leave a book review online.
12. Have a great time — if you stop enjoying it, let the moderator(s) know.