



Reading4Normal Book Club

Guidance Notes

Danielle Jawando *And the Stars Were Burning Brightly*

We hope you find *And the Stars Were Burning Brightly* interesting. It is a story about family and friendship, creativity and communication, and how to be true to yourself. The book features topics you might find difficult, including suicide and mental health issues, and asks some important questions about what it can mean to be a teenager, a sibling, and a friend. The Reading4Normal Book Club is all about your responses to the novel, especially how it makes you feel about your own life.

As you read *And the Stars Were Burning Brightly*, you might want to note down any examples of things that seem normal or ordinary to you:

- write down the page number
- add a short description of what's going on in your example
- add a sentence or two about how this example makes you feel and how it is similar or different to your life now

Here are some suggestions from the book to get you started:

p. 33: A family kitchen

p. 47: Getting on a bus

p. 66: Finding someone on Facebook

p. 99: Getting ready for school

There are no right or wrong ways to complete this activity, so just have some fun with your responses. You can also write about other bits of the novel that interest you if you would like – how you feel about the characters, the storyline, or the style.