

Fleur Bradley

Author & Speaker

I'm the author of numerous mysteries for kids and short stories, as well as a highly rated speaker with 15+ years of experience.

I work as an instructor, coach, and motivational speaker for writers. I'm a literacy advocate who works with individuals, groups, and organizations.



SIGNATURE TOPICS

- ✓ Writing the Book of Your Heart
- ✓ Reaching Reluctant Readers
- ✓ Novel Plotting
- ✓ Love for Mysteries
- ✓ The Power of Reading

11K+

social media followers

250+

author school visits

20+

years as an author

12

books published

AWARDS WON:

SCBWI Crystal
Kite

Florida Media
Educator's
SSYRA

Colorado Book
Award

SPEAKING TOPICS & WORKSHOPS

I'm passionate about two things: mysteries and getting kids to read. Give me a microphone and I'll get anyone inspired to commit to getting books into the hands of kids and engaging all readers. Even those kids who don't like to read.

For writers, I focus on the craft of writing mysteries for kids and teens, plotting using sequences (I love plotting...!), as well as finding a path to publication for the book of your heart. I believe in the power of staying positive in the face of adversity, whether you're a writer or an educator.

My keynote speeches are roughly 20 minutes long and require a projector/screen for PowerPoint with HDMI hookup.

I'll bring my own computer to reduce the odds of tech snafus.

Keynote: How to Write the Book of Your Heart

What's the story that matters most to you? MG author of over a dozen books, including award-winning *Daybreak on Raven Island* and *Midnight at the Barclay Hotel* Fleur Bradley talks about her publishing journey and reviving a stalled career by writing the book of her heart. She shares the ups, downs (including hundreds of rejections) and the challenges of being a writer with dry wit and a positive attitude.

Keynote: Reaching the Kids in the Back Row: How to Get *All* Kids Engaged in Reading

As a reluctant reader herself, Fleur understands all too well what drives kids who just don't want to read. When she was faced with the challenge of educating her daughter who has a reading impairment, Fleur made it her mission to learn everything she could about reluctant readers. While exploring the 'why' she learned as much about herself and her own preconceived notions when it comes to books, reading, and how books can bring everyone together.

Contact Fleur at fleurbradley25@gmail.com





WORKSHOPS FOR WRITERS

I've been writing for more than 20 years, and I love sharing my knowledge to help fellow writers. I've taught both in-person and online, and I'm an active member of SCBWI where I've hosted sessions for my local (Rocky Mountain) chapter as well as other regional chapters like Austin SCBWI, the Southern Breeze chapter, and even SCBWI France. My workshops are mostly for all levels; I adapt to the audience and try to make these sessions as interactive as possible.

Here is a list of topics:

Plotting Using Sequences

Are you struggling with a novel plot outline, or are you having trouble wrangling your novel draft into shape? This session will explain how to use sequences like scriptwriters do, to plot and edit your manuscript to get the pacing perfect. Attendees leave with an outline for their project.

Kidlit 101

So you have this great idea for a novel for kids... But is it a picture book, middle-grade, or YA—and what do all those terms even mean? Whether you're a new writer or an experienced author interested dipping your toe in the growing kidlit market, middle-grade author Fleur Bradley will explain the ins and outs, how to write for kids, and what to understand about marketing, from practical experience.

Creating Kid Characters

Are you thinking of writing a book for kids or teens, or are you simply looking at adding a kid character to your story? Join author of numerous children's books Fleur Bradley for this interactive workshop, where we'll build a cast of kid characters together. By the end of this workshop, you'll have the framework you need to build children's characters for your WIP.

How to Plot a MG or YA Mystery (masterclass/2-3-hours, longer format)

Want to write a middle-grade mystery, but you're not sure how to make the format work? This workshop covers concept (or: how to pick the crime), introducing the suspects, and how to plant clues so they're not too obvious. We'll go over examples of great MG mysteries and what makes them shine, how to create depth with theme and character arcs, and how to create an outline. Attendees leave with a rough outline, with time for Q&A.

Career Planning for Writers (intermediate level)

Join author Fleur Bradley, who manages a freelance writing career as well as several novel and short story projects, to plan your most productive year yet. She'll help you identify your goals, break large projects into manageable chunks, plan your schedule (even when life throws a curveball), and offer helpful advice for when you get off track. By the end of this workshop, you'll have a personalized writer's calendar, plus a list of resources.



WORKSHOPS FOR EDUCATORS

I'm passionate about literacy and reaching reluctant readers. Through personal experience educating my daughter who has a reading impairment, I have developed an expertise on the whys of reluctant readers. I support my presentations with extensive research and share educator experiences I have gathered over the years with each talk.

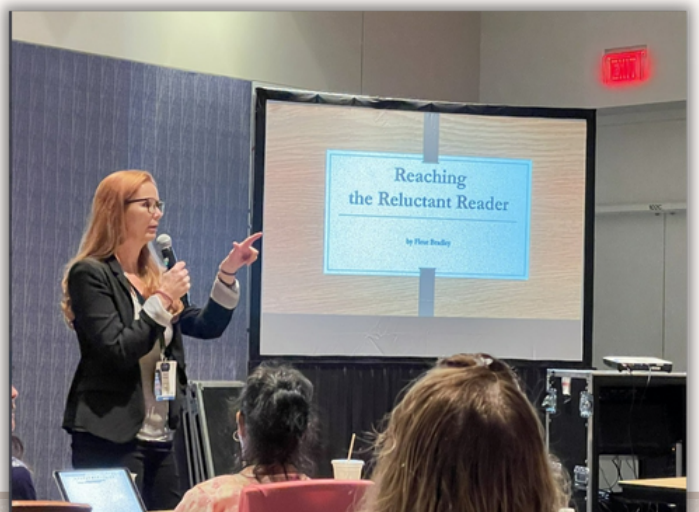
I also believe that author visits can be a very valuable experience for kids and educators. Both sessions are available as in-person workshops or virtual sessions, with a PDF copy of the slides for attendees.

Five Ways to Reach Reluctant Readers

How do you reach that fidgeting, uninterested kid in the back of the class? Fleur covers why kids might not want to read, including well-researched statistics and examples. We'll discuss ways educators can reach reluctant readers by using practical steppingstones. This session includes a slideshow presentation as well as open dialogue: attendees share techniques, success stories, and favorite books. Attendees will leave with practical solutions to use in their classroom or library.

How to Host a (Virtual) Author Visit

Want to have an author visit as part of your curriculum but don't know where to begin? Author Fleur Bradley has done hundreds of virtual and in-person author visits and will share how to get the most out of your event. You'll learn where to find authors, how to schedule and ensure the day goes smoothly, plus grant resources to pay the author's speaking fee. Attendees will leave with a framework and resources to schedule an author visit for their school or library.



WHAT PEOPLE SAY ABOUT FLEUR

I've been speaking at conferences and book festivals all over the country since early 2009. From library conventions to fan conferences, classrooms to school assemblies, there isn't an audience I haven't presented to!

I like to adapt and find ways to engage everyone, so people feel inspired and uplifted. But don't take my word for it; here is what people have to say:

Past Events:

- CO Council International Reading Association Conference (CCIRA)
- CO Association of Librarians Conference (CALCON)
- Rocky Mountain SCBWI Letters and Lines Conference
- Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers Conference
- Pikes Peak Writers Conference
- CO Teen Literature Festival
- Alabama Book Festival
- Alabama Library Association Conference
- Mississippi Library Association Conference
- Mississippi Reading Association Conference
- Louisiana Book Festival
- Denver Comicon
- Denver Festival of Stories
- PPLD Mountain of Authors
- Bouchercon (mystery fan conference)
- Left Coast Crime
- Stokercon/ HWA University
- nErDCamp Connecticut
- nErDCamp Pennsylvania
- Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival
- Florida Association for Media in Education (FAME) Conference
- and many, many more!

Testimonials:

"Our patrons were so pleased with the virtual writing workshop Fleur taught for Arapahoe Libraries. It was **interactive, engaging**, and dug into the elements of writing mysteries so that participants left with tools for writing their own."

-**Kara Seal, Senior Events Specialist**, Teens and Tweens, Arapahoe Libraries, CO

"Fleur's presentation was well-prepared, thorough, and perfectly-structured and she took the time to answer all participants' questions. She was **engaging, approachable, and informative**. If it wasn't already evident from her top-notch novels, Fleur is passionate about children's literature, has impeccable craft, and knows her stuff!"

-**Justin Colón, owner of The Kidlit Hive**

"I would highly recommend Fleur Bradley for a school visit. Her presentations can be **tailored to your specific needs and tie in nicely to the grade level audience**. (..) A great experience for students and staff."

-**Mr. Mavel, EL Coordinator** and Lead Mentor, Banning Lewis Ranch Academy

"Amazing! This was a great talk on a topic that you usually don't hear from an author. Very **unique and approachable and inspiring**. Thanks for the boost!"
-**Librarian** attending *Reaching the Reluctant Reader* workshop at virtual Kids Lit Chat, Mid Atlantic Library Alliance (MALiA)

FEES AND TERMS

Although I love talking to kids, educators, and fellow writers, I'm a professional speaker. That means on most occasions, I have to charge a fee for my time and for sharing my expertise. As you can tell from the testimonials, my workshops, keynotes and presentations add value to your event.

Fees

There are a lot of different scenarios when it comes to events, but I have broken my fees down to the most common situations. Contact me to discuss terms if your event is different; I try to be flexible!

Virtual Events

Virtual events are a great way for me to share knowledge at a far reduced expense; I love doing virtual talks and workshops. All my workshops can be recorded for limited group use, and I'll provide a PDF of the slideshow as a handout to attendees.

Fee per session (up to 60 min.): \$250

Masterclass (2 hour session): \$400

Conference speaking (in-person, plus travel costs):

Keynote: \$1,300

Workshop: \$400 per session, includes PDF handout and limited use recording.

Masterclass format (2-3 hours): \$750 per session.

Panels and manuscript critiques: negotiable as part of a workshop and or/keynote speaking fee.

Travel

I live in the Colorado Springs, Colorado area, and can travel within about a two-hour drive for a day-only event (meaning no lodging). Once I have to travel longer than that, I'll add a night's stay at a hotel, sometimes two depending on the event duration and travel time.

Unless the speaking fee is higher, I expect the event to cover the cost of airfare and hotel. I prefer for the event to book the hotel and I'll take care of booking the flight myself (I mostly fly out of Denver and know how to keep cost down). We can discuss expenses and details as part of the overall speaking fee. I'll cover my own meals and incidentals like airport parking, etc. to keep it simple.

Contact me at fleurbradley25@gmail.com for details and scheduling.



BIO & LINKS

Fleur Bradley has loved mysteries ever since she first picked up an Agatha Christie novel. A strong advocate for literacy and reaching reluctant readers, Fleur is the author of the (scary) middle-grade mystery *Daybreak on Raven Island*, and award-winning mystery *Midnight at the Barclay Hotel* (Viking/Penguin Random House).

Her story *The Perfect Alibi* appeared in Mystery Writers of America's middle-grade anthology *Super Puzzletastic Mysteries*, edited by Chris Grabenstein (HarperCollins). As F.T. Bradley, Fleur wrote the spy mystery adventure trilogy *Double Vision* (HarperCollins). She has also written many non-fiction books for kids, including the hi-lo series *How the World Worships* (Cherry Creek/Sleeping Bear Press).

Fleur regularly does school and Skype visits, as well as librarian and educator conference talks on reaching reluctant readers. Originally from the Netherlands, she now lives in Colorado Springs with her family, including entirely too many rescue animals.

Links:

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