

## Parental Guide

### Guarding Aaron

**Spoiler alert! Some details of the story are revealed!**

**Themes:** includes bullying, fame, friendship, forgiveness, living in the world, broken families, vocations, premarital chastity, power of prayer, overcoming adversity.

**Educational Value:** You can find discussion questions for this novel at the author's website: <https://tmgaouette.com/books/>

**Positive Messages:** A focus on priestly vocation and understanding what God wants for us. Additionally, how selfish actions and hasty decisions can lead to a lot of trouble. Also, discussions on the importance of forgiveness and friendship.

**Spiritual Messages:** Gabriel is discerning priesthood. God has a plan for all of us and we have to trust in Him.

**Positive Role Models:** Gabriel is the primary positive role model, as well as Christian, and Nina. They all encourage Faith to drop her trouble-maker friends and return to her faith. Gabriel and Christian also befriend a Kung Fu student who is being beaten up at school, guiding him in positive ways to deal with his struggles, rather than violent revenge. They also taking it upon themselves to keep an eye on him. Gabriel is contemplating entering the priesthood and he and Christian stay at a monastery recoup after a fight. Gabriel has time to be with God and discuss his vocation with other priests.

**Violence/Gore:** Aaron, a Kung Fu student is bullied and beaten up at school. Gabriel and Christian get caught up in a fight at a party where Faith was hanging out. Tanner is there too and gets hurt.

**Sexuality:** Faith still has a crush on Gabriel. Tanner has returned and she and Gabriel spend more time together. Tanner also has feelings for Gabriel.

**Language:** None

**Drinking, Drugs & Smoking:** Faith and her new friends attend a couple of parties where underage drinking take place. Tanner and Gabriel attend an award ceremony where alcohol and drugs are subtly mentioned.

#### WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW

This story delves deeply in the emotions of a young boy who is dealing with being bullied at school. While Gabriel feels that Kung Fu is necessary for self-defense, he's concerned that Aaron will use it for revenge and really hurt the bully.

**Rating Scale: Moderate**

Scale:

Moderate - Story includes subject matter for teens 13 plus