

NOVEL READINGS

EVENT	Writers Unblock
PROJECT	<i>I Spy</i>
AUTHOR	Gabra Zackman
EXCERPT(S)	Chapters 3&4
NR DIRECTOR	Michael Barakiva

The conversations back and forth previous to the event were deeply helpful - especially regarding stuff related to the time period, as well as conversations about edits and removing dialogue tags. **But what was most helpful were the conversations about time period and style.**

The conversations after with the actors and Michael were extremely valuable to me. Their ideas and insight were remarkable and inspiring, and made my imagination soar in all kinds of ways. **I was particularly inspired by hearing where they wanted the story to go, and what kind of serialized version they were yearning for after digging in to the read.**

It really helped me hear where it was and wasn't working, where the style felt true to the piece and where it felt a bit ham fisted. **Hearing it aloud made it easier for me to hear what WASN'T necessary... I think many more cuts can be made than I initially realized.**

I found this entirely inspiring. It was a real gift to me to showcase my work in this way, and I could feel my creativity sparking in a different direction. The beautiful reading given by the actors made me feel like my work was important.