

### Parable of the Sower Discussion Questions

Book club Wednesday 4/26/23 at 6 PM at Comstock Township Library – Heritage Room

- 1) What was your overall opinion of *Parable of the Sower*?
- 2) *Parable of the Sower* was written in 1993 and begins during a dystopian 2024. How does Butler's vision of the future compare to what is going on today?
- 3) In this world, what does a person's survival depend on?
- 4) How does Lauren's hyperempathy affect her relationships and her choices?
- 5) In Butler's dystopia, who are the "good guys" and who are the "bad guys"? What does the moral grey area look like?
- 6) What do you think of the author's choice not to show what happened to Lauren's dad?
- 7) How do the people that join Lauren's travelling group earn each other's trust?
- 8) How does Lauren become a leader? How would you describe her leadership?
- 9) How does Lauren's vision for an Earthseed community differ from the neighborhood where she grew up?
- 10) What do you think about Lauren's belief that we can change the future by working together towards a common goal? Do you find it too simple?
- 11) From questioning religion, to depictions of sex, violence, and cannibalism, to a negative portrayal of policing, *Parable of the Sower* contains many themes that could cause it to be banned or challenged. What would you say to someone who wanted to ban this book?
- 12) *Parable of the Sower* ends during the year 2027. The sequel, *Parable of the Talents*, begins in the year 2032. Would you be interested in continuing the series? Would you find it too depressing to continue?
- 13) Do you have any other thoughts or questions to share with the group?