



BLAKE GUNNELS



NOVELIST | SPEAKER | LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

Blake Gunnels is an award-winning novelist who speaks on place, craft, and the long road to a finished book. His talks put an audience inside the marsh creeks and lighthouse coasts he writes about—equal parts story, history, and craft, grounded in thirty years of reading real places for a living.

Warm, vivid, and easy to host: in person across Central Florida and the Georgia coast, or virtual. Most talks flex from 15 to 55 minutes with Q&A, and Blake brings books to sign.

TALKS

LIBRARIES & AUTHOR EVENTS

Craft a story behind the books, for public libraries and author series.

- Writing Coastal Fiction & Sense of Place
- From Landscape Architecture to Fiction
- Turning a Lifelong Passion (the origin story)
- Saint Simons Lighthouses

CIVIC & COMMUNITY GROUPS

After-dinner talks for Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, Elks, historical societies & 55+ communities.

- Turning a Lifelong Passion (25-min edition)
- Saint Simons Lighthouses
- From Landscape Architecture to Fiction

Also available—**The Fall**: a performance reading for festivals, podcasts, and literary guilds.

BOOK CLUBS

An evening with the author for groups who've read the books or are about to.

- Building Memorable Settings
- Creating Fiction Rooted in Real Places
- Reader Q&A + discussion guide

FAITH COMMUNITIES

- Lighthouse-rooted messages on Matthew 5:16, for men's & women's groups, classes, and congregations.
- Let Your Light So Shine
- Tend the Light (men's group)

LIBRARIES & AUTHOR EVENTS

Libraries, clubs, societies, and faith communities welcome. To check dates, request a talk, or arrange signed copies, get in touch—Blake will tailor the talk to your audience and time slot.

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Author of By the Light of the Bluff—2025 International Firebird Book Award winner for Southern Fiction—and the Cape Fear thriller series featuring harbormaster Nora Banks.