Node:
1. I added /api to all routes because it is needed for Vite's proxy configuration, os it could send frontend requests to the backend server.
2. For HW1, I would design the API with /api from the start. Also, think about which fields are necessary to give the users a good experience.
3. I used server-side validation only. The backend validates inputs using Zod and returns specific error messages that get displayed in the front end.
4. Server-side pros: more security, error message comes directly from the backend. Cons: Forms need to be submitted by the user to see the error.
5. Client-side pros: provide better feedback, better user experience. Cons: duplicate code between frontend and backend.

React:
1. It was honestly challenging for me. I had a hard time handling the async API calls and how to structure states. I enjoyed seeing the UI update as soon as the state changed.
2. WIth react, the management of states is super clean, components re-render automatically, and I feel that the code is more organized. With JS, it is much simpler to learn, so the learning curve is not that steep, and it is a simpler model for beginners. I prefer React because it challenges me to improve my web dev skills.
3. I used axios.get() to help make sure I was handling response data correctly. Types also forced me to think about cases where data might not exist. At the beginning typing response from Axios was confusing. Also trying to figure out interface vs type. I think I need to look more into that to get more of an understanding.

LLM
1. Yes, I used it to help me write some CSS code. I think this made it easier to make the website look more presentable. Also, I used it to generate some authors, so when users visit, they see how the books are structured.
2. I think using LLM in this homework helped me a lot because I am not a very good designer. So having an LLM generate so much CSS code helped me out a lot and saved me lots of time. I do think it lowers my skills at writing CSS, but I don't really plan to work at a place where I would need to write a lot of CSS, so I am using the time to improve my JavaScript skills.