



LitChat October 30, 2009

Topic of the Week: GRIT LIT

Guest host: Monte Schulz, author THIS SIDE OF JORDAN

Guest Host: Monte Schulz (@ArthurBurtnett)

LitChat Greetings to everyone on this awesome autumn Friday. We're here with Monte Schulz tweeting as @ArthurBurdnett. Join us now for #litchat. -1:00 PM Oct 30th, 2009

LitChat Welcome! We're excited to have you here today. RT @ArthurBurtnett: Im here. #litchat -1:01 PM Oct 30th, 2009
scifichat Tweet! That's the official end of #scifichat this week, but feel free to keep the discussion going. #scifi #fantasy #litchat #followreader -1:01 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ficwriter Finished This Side of Jordan last night and enjoyed Alvin Pendergast's gritty yet amusing journey. #litchat -1:01 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett Arthur Burtnett is the given name of my dwarf character, Rascal. Burtnett is a family name on my father's side. #litchat -1:02 PM Oct 30th, 2009

corb21 Hello @arthurburtnett! #LITCHAT -1:02 PM Oct 30th, 2009

LitChat FYW, @Earinc is Monte's publicist at Fantagraphics. Welcome, Eric. #litchat -1:02 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett Hi everyone! #litchat -1:02 PM Oct 30th, 2009

mariblaser Checking out of #scifichat (thks all for the great convo! :), and checking in at #litchat. Still lurking, I think. -1:02 PM Oct 30th, 2009

LexxClarke @ArthurBurtnett Hi there! #litchat -1:03 PM Oct 30th, 2009

LitChat Eek. I've just discovered I've been tweeting Monte's aka twitter name wrong. My apologies, Monte. It's @ArthurBurtnett. #litchat -1:04 PM Oct 30th, 2009

Earinc I've been outed! #litchat -1:04 PM Oct 30th, 2009

fantagraphics Monte Schulz's (@ArthurBurtnett) real-time tweetchat has just begun! Follow along with the #LitChat hashtag. -1:04 PM Oct 30th, 2009

LitChat If you have a question for Monte, please add it directly to the Twitter stream and Monte will answer it directly. #litchat -1:05 PM Oct 30th, 2009

Earinc Monte, what's the last great book you read? (Besides your own.) ;) #litchat -1:05 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett So, what do you guys want to know about this book? #litchat -1:05 PM Oct 30th, 2009

LitChat Oops. Didn't know you were incognito. Sorry... RT @Earinc: Ive been outed! #litchat -1:05 PM Oct 30th, 2009

LexxClarke @ArthurBurtnett Why did you choose to write under another name? #litchat -1:06 PM Oct 30th, 2009

Earinc You just finished a big book tour. Were there any questions you expected to get asked, but didn't? #litchat -1:06 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett The "great" book was "Andersonville," by MacKinley Kantor. #litchat -1:07 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett I only tweet under another name. I write under Monte Schulz. No reason to hide! #litchat -1:07 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ficwriter I'd love to know where you got the idea for a dwarf found living under the house of his brain-tonic addicted aunt. :) #litchat -1:07 PM Oct 30th, 2009

LitChat Monte, what do you think of the term, "Grit Lit" we coined to describe the edgy realism of THIS SIDE OF JORDAN? #litchat -1:07 PM Oct 30th, 2009

mariblaser Good question! RT @LexxClarke: @ArthurBurtnett Why did you choose to write under another name? #litchat -1:08 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett Good question, Eric. Nobody asked me about the Krakatau story and why and how I made it up. So I'm not telling now! #litchat -1:08 PM Oct 30th, 2009

CarolyBurnsBass What did you enjoy most about ANDERSONVILLE by MacKinley Kantor? #litchat -1:08 PM Oct 30th, 2009

LexxClarke @ArthurBurtnett ah ok I see,thanks :)that makes sense! #litchat -1:08 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett I just had Alvin walking into that yard, and once he was wandering around, I got the idea there was dwarf living under the house. #litchat -1:09 PM Oct 30th, 2009

CarolyBurnsBass Ditto to @ficwriter's question about Rascal. He was my favorite character in THIS SIDE OF JORDAN. #litchat -1:09 PM Oct 30th, 2009

rebeccawoodhead Here! Hope I got the time right this time. Mz LitChat, Ms Twitter UK, beta tester, word nerd etc. What are we talking about? #LitChat -1:10 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett Grit lit, huh? I guess I don't see that for Jordan, except for the killings. It seems more lyrical to me. #litchat -1:10 PM Oct 30th, 2009

LexxClarke @ArthurBurtnett what inspired you to write THIS SIDE OF JORDAN? #litchat -1:10 PM Oct 30th, 2009

CarolyBurnsBass @ArthurBurtnett The discover of Rascal under the house must have given you a writer's buzz. That's the best thing in writing. #litchat -1:10 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett I think the book is more like a tone poem with a plot. The lyric parts interested more than the action. But things need to happen. #litchat -1:11 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett I wanted to write a novel with the same tone as The Member of The Wedding, Wise Blood, and Other Voices, Other Rooms. #litchat -1:11 PM Oct 30th, 2009

LexxClarke @rebecawoodhead RT @LitChat: We're here with Monte Schulz tweeting as @ArthurBurdnett. #litchat -1:12 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett It was just sort of weird finding him under the house, but he was my father's favorite character in the book. #litchat -1:12 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett Andersonville also has vast areas of spectacular lyrical writing and a fantastic use of period dialogue. #litchat -1:13 PM Oct 30th, 2009

rebecawoodhead @LexxClarke righto *listens* #LitChat -1:13 PM Oct 30th, 2009

LitChat FYI, Monte's father is the late, great Charles Schulz, creator of Peanuts. #litchat -1:14 PM Oct 30th, 2009

LexxClarke @ArthurBurtnett Sometimes the best characters are unexpected finds in unusual places #litchat -1:14 PM Oct 30th, 2009

Earinc The Krakatau section could be its own short story. Did you ever consider using it at such? #litchat -1:14 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett Andersonville is one of the greatest novels I've ever read. A friend is reading it now and is stunned. It won the Pulitzer Prize. #litchat -1:14 PM Oct 30th, 2009

Earinc How did you nail that period dialogue? The book kicks right off with it in the dance hall. Old movies? #litchat -1:15 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ficwriter RT @ArthurBurtnett: Wanted to write novel with same tone as The Member of The Wedding, Wise Blood, and Other Voices, Other Rooms. #litchat -1:15 PM Oct 30th, 2009

George9Writer Now on #litchat - Checking out THIS SIDE OF JORDON by Monte Schulz on Amazon
<http://tinyurl.com/yk77ero> -1:15 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett Actually, my old editor at Viking thought I should cut the Krakatau piece! But wife liked it, so it stayed. I like asides. #litchat -1:15 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett I did the period dialogue by reading lots of fiction and non-fiction from the period and copying down expressions. #litchat -1:16 PM Oct 30th, 2009

DebraMarrs RT @LexxClarke: @ArthurBurtnett Sometimes the best characters are unexpected finds in unusual places #litchat -1:16 PM Oct 30th, 2009

Debs1 #Litchat Happy to join again after a few weeks :D -1:17 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett The Krakatua piece would work well as a graphic novel for Fantagraphics. Just telling Augustus's story. #litchat -1:17 PM Oct 30th, 2009

CarolyBurnsBass @ArthurBurtnett I also see it lyrical, which elevates it to literary fiction. Still, plot is dark with shimmering characters. #litchat -1:17 PM Oct 30th, 2009

Earinc Al Columbia could draw it! M., did you read Peanuts when you were growing up, and do you ever revisit it now? With your own kids? #litchat -1:18 PM Oct 30th, 2009

CarolyBurnsBass @ArthurBurtnett Do you mind sharing how you went from Viking to @Fantagraphics with the book? #litchat -1:18 PM Oct 30th, 2009

rebecawoodhead @CarolyBurnsBass 'plot is dark with shimmering characters' - nice image! #LitChat -1:19 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett Even literary fiction needs to have a story. I like my characters, too. But I do believe it's how I wrote it that makes it work. #litchat -1:19 PM Oct 30th, 2009

marisabirns @ArthurBurtnett You're very smart! When it comes down to wife or editor, you did the right thing. #litchat -1:20 PM Oct 30th, 2009

wwwgalelaurecom I am loving this discussion. #litchat GL -1:20 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett My editor left Viking years ago and the marketing people at Viking didn't want to publish it. The novel is really a 1000 pages. #litchat -1:20 PM Oct 30th, 2009

jasonbrow @ArthurBurtnett If you could turn the Krakatua piece into a graphic novel, who would you ideally have as the artist? #litchat -1:21 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett This Side Of Jordan is part of a bigger novel called "Crossing Eden." #litchat -1:21 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett Regarding the language, my editor told me this summer that if I'd written it in a conventional style, he wouldn't have bought it. #litchat -1:22 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett Gary Groth likes the artistic use of language. #litchat -1:23 PM Oct 30th, 2009

Debs1 RT @George9Writer: Now on #litchat - Checking out THIS SIDE OF JORDON by Monte Schulz on Amazon <http://tinyurl.com/yk77ero> -1:23 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett I don't know? Al Columbia??? I like what he did with my jacket art. But Eric might have another choice. #litchat -1:23 PM Oct 30th, 2009

LexxClarke @ArthurBurtnett Does Crossing Eden have the same characters then? #litchat -1:23 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ficwriter Does "Crossing Eden" mean we get to see more of Alvin and Rascal? #litchat -1:24 PM Oct 30th, 2009

LitChat Monte Schulz, son of Peanuts creator Charles Schulz, is talking about his new book, THIS SIDE OF JORDAN, now in #litchat. Join the convo. -1:24 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett Gary told me "plot is overrated!" #litchat -1:24 PM Oct 30th, 2009

Earinc Death is a big theme in the book... Do you think you worry about your own mortality any more than the average joe? #litchat -1:24 PM Oct 30th, 2009

CDominiqueG @LexxClarke hello #litchat ! did I miss it? -1:25 PM Oct 30th, 2009

CarolyBurnsBass @ArthurBurtnett Had the novel been written without the lyrical prose, it would have been just another pulp crime novel. #litchat -1:25 PM Oct 30th, 2009

LexxClarke That sounds like a strapline for NaNo! RT @ArthurBurtnett: Gary told me "plot is overrated!" #litchat -1:25 PM Oct 30th, 2009

Earinc @ArthurBurtnett Plot is a convenience. The words are the Art. #litchat -1:25 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett No, Crossing Eden is three novels interwoven together. Alvin's story, his Aunt Marie's story, and her husband Harry's story. #litchat -1:26 PM Oct 30th, 2009

DebraMarrs RT @ArthurBurtnett: Even literary fiction needs to have a story. I like my characters, too. #litchat -1:26 PM Oct 30th, 2009

CarolyBurnsBass Tell that to those who love a story inside their prose. RT @ArthurBurtnett: Gary told me "plot is overrated!" #litchat -1:26 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett I don't know how the average Joe worries about mortality, except when I see him drive. #litchat -1:26 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett I agree, the novel is more about language and place and time, than story. But Gary told me he wanted to sell books, too! #litchat -1:27 PM Oct 30th, 2009

CarolyBurnsBass @ArthurBurtnett Will we see Alvin more in the next two books? Will he wind up in California? (Fingers crossed for YES.) #litchat -1:27 PM Oct 30th, 2009

21stCscribe All artists do whether they admit 2selves or not. Arrt as posterity RT @Earinc: Do Uthink Uworry re yr own mortality > than avjoe? #litchat -1:27 PM Oct 30th, 2009

Debs1 RT @ArthurBurtnett: I don't know how the average Joe worries about mortality, except when I see him drive. #litchat -1:28 PM Oct 30th, 2009

mizwrite RT @LitChat: Monte Schulz, son of Peanuts creator Charles Schulz, is talking about his new book, THIS SIDE OF JORDAN, now in #litchat. -1:28 PM Oct 30th, 2009

deegospel joining #litchat -1:28 PM Oct 30th, 2009

21stCscribe Tone poems - my kinda writing. Seems less appetite for it these days tho' #litchat -1:28 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett Alvin is going to die of tuberculosis, and he knows it. But you may see Rascal in a novel I'm mulling over now set in California. #litchat -1:28 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett But yeah, actually, I do worry about my mortality. That's present in all my fiction. #litchat -1:29 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett Other Voices, Other Rooms is a long lyric poem. A lovely book. Made Capote famous. #litchat -1:30 PM Oct 30th, 2009

CarolyBurnsBass @ArthurBurtnett The loss of Alvin to TB conveys more of the realism in the story. Will be sorry to see him pass. #litchat -1:30 PM Oct 30th, 2009

Earinc Poor Alvin! I hope he at least gets to kiss a girl. #litchat -1:30 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett His novel "The Grass Harp" is lovely, too. #litchat -1:30 PM Oct 30th, 2009

Earinc @ArthurBurtnett Do you think of your writing as something of an afterlife? Your father certainly lives on thru his work... #litchat -1:31 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtne tt He should've kissed Clare. Blame those circus midgets for ruining that for him! #litchat -1:31 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtne tt Living on a farm, he'll get to kiss a cousin! #litchat -1:31 PM Oct 30th, 2009
LexxClarke There's always a midget in these situations! #litchat -1:32 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ficwriter @Earinc I, too, hoped Alvin would get laid. :) #litchat -1:32 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtne tt I hope so. At the very least, my 8 year olds will be able to read, or maybe some kid in a library or a grad student one day. #litchat -1:32 PM Oct 30th, 2009
George9Writer @ArthurBurtne tt Monte, I like the writing style you use in Crossing Jordan's opening pages - stately, yet moves well. #litchat -1:32 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ficwriter The imagery was beautiful in This Side of Jordan. And my favorite was on the train. #litchat -1:33 PM Oct 30th, 2009
CDominiqueG RT @LexxClarke: There's always a midget in these situations! #litchat /// LOL someone call me??? -1:33 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtne tt Well, when first I wrote Alvin's story, he wasn't even sick. So I needed to give him conflict, and he got TB. #litchat -1:33 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtne tt Alvin might be more likely to get laid, than kissed! #litchat -1:34 PM Oct 30th, 2009
George9Writer @ArthurBurtne tt correction - This Side of Jordan #litchat -1:35 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtne tt Thanks. I really liked the train, too. That lady calling out, "It's that strange little man!" #litchat -1:35 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtne tt Cory Doctorow didn't seem to like little people. He called Rascal a compulsive liar. I believed everything Rascal said! #litchat -1:36 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Earinc @ArthurBurtne tt do you have a favorite line in the book that could fit in a tweet? #litchat -1:37 PM Oct 30th, 2009
LexxClarke Is it important to believe in your characters for the story to work? #litchat -1:37 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtne tt I wanted the book to sound lyrical and beautiful. Carson McCullers said good prose should read like poetry. #litchat -1:38 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtne tt Depends what you mean by believe in my characters. #litchat -1:38 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Earinc @ArthurBurtne tt I still think that you set Rascal up to be a potentially unreliable voice in the first half of the book... #litchat -1:40 PM Oct 30th, 2009
George9Writer @ArthurBurtne tt In terms of writing style, who are your greatest influences? #litchat -1:40 PM Oct 30th, 2009
CarolyBurnsBass @ArthurBurtne tt I've heard they kiss cousins in the city, too. Just sayin'. #litchat -1:40 PM Oct 30th, 2009
LexxClarke In the sense that if you believe them then the reader will too #litchat -1:40 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtne tt I like when Rascal says, "We needn't be children to fix our sights past tomorrow, or the day afterward . . . #litchat -1:40 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtne tt ... and be brave enough to call that our rightful place." #litchat -1:41 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ficwriter Chester reminded me of Clyde Barrow. And, not to give anything away, the ending was perfect. #litchat -1:41 PM Oct 30th, 2009
marisabirns @ArthurBurtne tt Re: good prose should read like poetry. Yes! The music and rhythm that move the words. #litchat -1:41 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Earinc Just want to throw out Jon Hamm (MAD MEN) as the man who should play Chester in the film version. #litchat -1:41 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtne tt I can't say I really think about the readers. That's sort of a mistake for writers because all readers are different, but . . . #litchat -1:41 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtne tt I do believe my characters in all my books. #litchat -1:42 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtne tt Good choice, Eric! #litchat -1:42 PM Oct 30th, 2009
CarolyBurnsBass @Earinc Is there a film version in the wings? Or is this just what writers/publishing people do when they imagine charas? #litchat -1:43 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtne tt Good prose certainly has a music and rhythm to it. #litchat -1:43 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtne tt Hear the rhythm in this: A songbird warbled from a distant tree. I listened to each syllable there. #litchat -1:44 PM Oct 30th, 2009
CarolyBurnsBass @ArthurBurtne tt Is there a film version in the wings? Or is this just what writers/publishing people do when they imagine charas? #litchat -1:44 PM Oct 30th, 2009
wwwgalelaurecom I vote for Jon Hamm, too. #litchat GL -1:44 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett There is always film interest of one sort or another, but except for it earning money for Eric's crew, I don't care about film. #litchat -1:44 PM Oct 30th, 2009
mariblaser I like that! RT @ArthurBurtnett Re: good prose should read like poetry. #litchat -1:45 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Earinc @CarolyBurnsBass I was watching MAD MEN simultaneously with reading JORDAN and couldn't get it out of my head... #litchat -1:45 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett The book is the end game for me. I enjoy movies, but I love literature and reading. #litchat -1:45 PM Oct 30th, 2009
CarolyBurnsBass @ArthurBurtnett What is your writing ritual? Do you blow through first draft, then go back to add the rhythm? #litchat -1:45 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Earinc I do think the picaresque quality of the book would lend itself to film even if the lyricism would be lost. Maybe Terrence Malick.. #litchat -1:46 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett Also, since my work is about language, movies don't play into it at all for me. #litchat -1:46 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett No, I write slowly and steadily, trying for a very strong first draft, then go back and refine. I can't write fast and sloppy. #litchat -1:46 PM Oct 30th, 2009
wwwgalelaurecom I think when it reads like poetry, it becomes beautiful prose. #litchat GL -1:47 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett Trouble is, Malick murdered "The Thin Red Line." Loved the film, loved the book much more. Totally different stories. #litchat -1:47 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Earinc Can you share the first line of the next book (coming in 2011)? #litchat -1:49 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett Thomas Wolfe reads like poetry. They collected his lyrical parts into a separate book, Face Of A Nation. Isn't that right, N? #litchat -1:49 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Earinc @Earinc Oops, 2010! #litchat -1:50 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ficwriter RT @CarolyBurnsBass: @ArthurBurtnett What is your writing ritual? Do you blow through first draft, then go back to add the rhythm? #litchat -1:50 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett Carolyn, did you see my answer to your writing ritual question? #litchat -1:51 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett "The house in Bellemont had a broad sunporch whose middle staircase faced due west . . . #litchat -1:52 PM Oct 30th, 2009
CarolyBurnsBass @ArthurBurtnett Yes, I did, I don't think @ficwriter saw it. I will retweet. #litchat -1:52 PM Oct 30th, 2009
mariblaser RT @ArthurBurtnett: Hear the rhythm in this: A songbird warbled from a distant tree. I listened to each syllable there. #litchat -1:52 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett keeping those sitting out in the wicker chairs warm late into the day." #litchat -1:53 PM Oct 30th, 2009
booksyum Is Chester just a cold-hearted killer, or does he have any redeeming qualities in your mind? #litchat -1:53 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett The novel is set in East Texas, again 1929. #litchat -1:54 PM Oct 30th, 2009
21stCscribe Amen 2 that. Too many novels w/camera angle in mind RT @ArthurBurtnett:my work is about language movies don't play into it at all #litchat -1:54 PM Oct 30th, 2009
CarolyBurnsBass RT @ArthurBurtnett: I write slowly &steadily, trying for very strong first draft,then go back &refine. I cant write fast & sloppy. #litchat -1:54 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett Chester is a sociopath, but he only kills those he believes need to be killed. He did not kill that man and his little boy. #litchat -1:55 PM Oct 30th, 2009
LitChat Five more minutes in #litchat with Monte Schulz (@ArthurBurtnett) talking about his new novel, THIS SIDE OF JORDAN. -1:56 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett By the way, the answer to Chester's true identity is found in the gypsy absinthe scene. #litchat -1:57 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ficwriter @ArthurBurtnett Don't believe I exhaled through entire scene with man and little boy. #litchat -1:57 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Earinc Regarding the syncopated, musical rhythms of fine prose... what do you think of audiobooks? #litchat -1:57 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Earinc @ArthurBurtnett Happy Valentine's Day, Chet. #litchat -1:58 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett Everyone at Fantagraphics thought Chester killed them. And he did in an earlier draft. But I liked the little kid too much. #litchat -1:58 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurtnett He just locked them in the basement. He had no reason to kill them. #litchat -1:58 PM Oct 30th, 2009
CarolyBurnsBass @ArthurBurtnett Interesting take on Chester..."those he believes" needs to be killed. Killed for his own preservation, that is. #litchat -1:59 PM Oct 30th, 2009
rebeccawoodhead Interesting chat. Thanks. Signing off Tweetchat. #LitChat -1:59 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett I can't listen to books read aloud, but I'd love it if Fantagraphics would sell the audio rights. #litchat -2:00 PM Oct 30th, 2009
CarolyBurnsBass @ArthurBurtnett Ooh... will have to go back and reread the gypsy absinthe scene with this in mind. #litchat -2:00 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Earinc @Earinc I ask about audiobooks because I find that I am too easily distracted for them in a way that I am not when reading... #litchat -2:01 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett Chester's a pro and entirely fearless. Capone wouldn't have it any other way. #litchat -2:01 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Donna_Carrick RT @LitChat: #FF Hope you can join us today for #litchat w/guest host Monte Schulz/Would have loved to! Sending Hello to Monte & friends.. -2:01 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett I'll stay and answer longer if anyone wants me to. #litchat -2:01 PM Oct 30th, 2009
wwwgalelaurecom Excellent chat today. Thank you Mr. Burtnett & #litchat. Signing off. GL -2:03 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Donna_Carrick RT @LitChat: Five more minutes in #litchat with Monte Schulz (@ArthurBurtnett) his new novel, THIS SIDE OF JORDAN/I'll check it out! -2:03 PM Oct 30th, 2009
LitChat We love it when authors say this. Thanks! RT @ArthurBurtnett: Ill stay and answer longer if anyone wants me to. #litchat -2:04 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Obsidianmorte RT @LitChat: We love it when authors say this. Thanks! RT @ArthurBurtnett: Ill stay and answer longer if anyone wants me to. #litchat -2:04 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Donna_Carrick RT @ArthurBurtnett: Also,since my work is about language,movies don't play into it at all for me. #litchat /When you love language,it shows. -2:05 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett I did the absinthe scene with the help of Barnaby Conrad II who wrote a book that banned liquor. #litchat -2:05 PM Oct 30th, 2009
LitChat Continuing to chat with Monte Schulz, son of Peanuts creator Charles Schulz, and author of THIS SIDE OF JORDAN. #litchat. -2:05 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ficwriter @ArthurBurtnett Thank you for discussing your beautifully-written and lyrical novel. It was such a joy to read. #litchat -2:05 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Donna_Carrick @ArthurBurtnett Sorry I missed you on #LitChat today. Enjoying reading back your thoughts in language & literature. -2:06 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett Thanks for reading it. It's been wonderful hearing people talk about this book I spent so many years writing. #litchat -2:07 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett Nicole, what did you like best? The language or the story or the characters? #litchat -2:07 PM Oct 30th, 2009
George9Writer Thanks to Monte Schulz for answering questions on today's #litchat - author of THIS SIDE OF JORDAN -2:08 PM Oct 30th, 2009
CarolyBurnsBass @ArthurBurtnett One of the wonderful things about your breaking up 1000 pg manuscript is having two more books coming from it. #litchat -2:09 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett I love the artfully written word. I do read and enjoy lots of popular fiction, but what stays with me is beautiful writing. #litchat -2:09 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett That IS an advantage. for sure, although you'll see, I believe, in 2012, that the entire book is greater than its parts. #litchat -2:10 PM Oct 30th, 2009
CarolyBurnsBass @ArthurBurtnett Can you give us a hint at what Aunt Mary and Uncle Henry's stories contain? #litchat -2:10 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett It's actually Marie and Harry Hennesey. In a downturn in business, he's sent her and their two kids to his mother's house in Texas. #litchat -2:12 PM Oct 30th, 2009
mariblaser @ArthurBurtnett Thank you for you generosity at #litchat. It was very insightful. -2:13 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Earinc @ArthurBurtnett The language! A favorite line: "If all your life were a breath of honey, and heartache left to others, would you... #litchat -2:13 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurtnett Then Harry goes to seek his fortune in The Big Town, where the 20's are really revealed in a larger culture. It's a big book. #litchat -2:13 PM Oct 30th, 2009

ArthurBurnnett Marie's is a woman's story about relationships, and racial and religious intolerance. #litchat -2:14 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Earinc ... have had the courage to come seek me here?" #litchat -2:14 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurnnett I guess Harry's story is found in the line, "A man's hopeful gaze is forever cast upon a life of joy and inspiration." #litchat -2:15 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Earinc I love that whole passage. "our truest blessings can never be soiled by vain utterances and that in the eyes of those... #litchat -2:15 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Earinc ... who love us well, our spirit suffers no lasting stain." #litchat -2:15 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurnnett I really like that line, too, Eric. I have no idea how I made it up. #litchat -2:15 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurnnett I like, "All we know of morals, high and holy, we find in our own hearts." #litchat -2:16 PM Oct 30th, 2009
CarolyBurnsBass Oh... reflecting back to film's loss of lyricism and if THIS SIDE OF JORDAN were filmed, did you see PLACES IN THE HEART? #litchat -2:17 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurnnett Yes, yes, yes. I have no doubt that film was an influence on me, too. I really loved the final scene in the church pews. #litchat -2:19 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurnnett I wanted to write something beautiful like that. #litchat -2:19 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Earinc Gotta a little girl here who is awake from a nap and needs my attention. Signing off, thanks Monte! #litchat -2:21 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurnnett In the next book I have: "Our infirmities in this life proceed from the false witness we bear against each other . . . #litchat -2:21 PM Oct 30th, 2009
CarolyBurnsBass @ArthurBurnnett The church ending is one of my all-time favorite film scenes. I think you wrote in similar imagery. #litchat -2:21 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurnnett "... and the burden of righteousness that shame provides." #litchat -2:22 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurnnett That's Eric! Have a nice weekend! #litchat -2:22 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurnnett Thanks, and you may feel there's more of that in the next book. #litchat -2:22 PM Oct 30th, 2009
Earinc @CarolyBurnsBass there's a beautifully elegiac similarity, for sure.. #litchat -2:23 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurnnett Thanks, Eric. And don't eat your kid's candy tomorrow! #litchat -2:24 PM Oct 30th, 2009
ArthurBurnnett So I guess I should go, too. Thanks for inviting me on here! #litchat -2:25 PM Oct 30th, 2009
LitChat If you would like to know more about Monte Schulz and THIS SIDE OF JORDAN visit here: http://bit.ly/45TmyZ #litchat -2:25 PM Oct 30th, 2009
mariblaser RT @LitChat: If you would like to know more about Monte Schulz and THIS SIDE OF JORDAN visit here: http://bit.ly/45TmyZ #litchat -2:26 PM Oct 30th, 2009
LitChat Let's give Monte Schulz- @ArthurBurnnett -a round of applause for his time and insights in #litchat today. {{{APPLAUSE}}} #litchat -2:26 PM Oct 30th, 2009