



LitChat November 20, 2009

Topic of the Week: THE CRAFT OF WRITING

Guest host: Renni Browne

Guest Host: @EditorialDept (Renni Browne)

LitChat Ready for #litchat? Join us now for great writing advice from @EditorialDept's Renni Browne. -1:02 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana Renni's SELF EDITING FOR FICTION WRITERS is the most important book on writing that I own. #litchat -1:03 PM Nov 20th, 2009
cbrett60 I am ready. Are you? #litchat -1:03 PM Nov 20th, 2009
JLichtenberg RT @LitChat: Ready for #litchat? Join us now for great writing advice from @EditorialDept's Renni Browne. -1:03 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept Hello. Ask me anything you want. Hello. I'm here, ready for questions. Fire away! #litchat -1:04 PM Nov 20th, 2009
IanB022 #litchat - ready in soggy England -1:04 PM Nov 20th, 2009
CarolyBurnsBass Waving to @IanB022! Great to see you here. @MaggieDana is here, too. #litchat -1:05 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblasers Hello Renni, thanks for being here! I'm Mariana from Italy. I'm a former attorney who now writes fantasy. #litchat -1:06 PM Nov 20th, 2009
scgreen @editorialdept Hello. Let's start w/ the niceties. How are you this fine day? #litchat -1:06 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblasers RT @LitChat: Ready for #litchat? Join us now for great writing advice from @EditorialDept's Renni Browne. -1:07 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana @editorialdept Last time we 'spoke', you were working on a book about dialogue. Is it out yet? #litchat -1:07 PM Nov 20th, 2009
techtigger woohoo, I can actually sit in on #litchat today! h'ray! :) -1:07 PM Nov 20th, 2009
Saffy Hovering around #litchat now -1:07 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat Our topic all week has been about the craft of writing. We had two questions from Wednesday we saved from you. Will post next #litchat -1:07 PM Nov 20th, 2009
scgreen @editorialdept in 140 characters, how did you end up where you are today? #litchat -1:07 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblasers Ah, and hello everyone at #litchat. Evening! Welcome here @AnneTylerLord , you'll love this, and learn much! :) -1:07 PM Nov 20th, 2009
RightonMom Here! #litchat -1:08 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @mariblasers fantasy is really hot right now, Mariana. #litchat -1:08 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat #LITCHAT Q1 fm @scgreen Does Craft ever take a back seat to storytelling? -1:09 PM Nov 20th, 2009
marisabirns @editorialdept Very glad to know that since I love reading fantasy! #litchat -1:09 PM Nov 20th, 2009
RightonMom @maggiedana Interesting. Why is that? #litchat -1:09 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblasers @editorialdept So I've heard. I hope it's still burning when my novel comes out. Will take a while yet. #litchat -1:10 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @scgreen I lied about how fast I could type to avoid the secretarial road. Had 22 jobs till I became an editor at Scribners #litchat -1:10 PM Nov 20th, 2009
TheNewAuthor In today's market I would say yes it does. If not many of the top books today would not be doing well. #litchat -1:11 PM Nov 20th, 2009

RightonMom @editorialdept Is this due in part to HP, Twilight, et al? I would imagine a bit. #litchat -1:12 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana @RightonMom Rennie's book, SEffW, has before & after examples. A great way to learn a smoother, better way to write. #litchat -1:12 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @scgreen Dropped out of publishing in 70s so I could keep editing, founded The Editorial Department. #litchat -1:12 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat If you have questions for Renni Browne (tweeting as @EditorialDept) be sure to use the #litchat hashtag. -1:12 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana @editorialdept Maybe my question slipped by you, but did you ever write that book about dialogue? #litchat -1:12 PM Nov 20th, 2009
ghostwoods @LitChat In general, if you want to tell a story, you need the craft. That's what it's there for. So readers can follow. @scgreen #LITCHAT -1:12 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblasers @editorialdept Do you mind sharing your opinion about fantasy books released lately? :) #litchat -1:13 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @RightonMom I think in part. But fantasy writers have gotten so much better. The genre has grown up. #litchat -1:13 PM Nov 20th, 2009
krisriggle House full of kids but wanted to stop in and say THANK YOU to @editorialdept for an amazing and helpful book #litchat -1:13 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat @PatriciaStaino Thanks for the response. Would you mind reposting with the #litchat hashtag so you're tweet gets into chat convo? -1:13 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @maggiedana No, I didn't. I'm too busy editing manuscripts to write another book. I LOVE editing. Maybe when I'm older. :) #litchat -1:14 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat @ghostwoods Thanks for the response. Would you mind reposting with the #litchat hashtag so you're tweet gets into chat convo? -1:14 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @mariblasers I don't have time to read them! My assistant, Shannon Roberts, adores fantasy and is really up on the field. #litchat -1:14 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana My mantra, too! RT @editorialdept: Maybe when Im older. :) #litchat -1:15 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblasers @editorialdept @RightonMom I also heard that with the economical crisis there's an escapism tendency. Do you agree? #litchat -1:15 PM Nov 20th, 2009
RightonMom Q1 I don't see how the two can be separated. Don't they compliment each other, like Capt. and Tenille, :) #litchat -1:16 PM Nov 20th, 2009
morganbaden Will someone be compiling all of today's #litchat tweets? I'd like to catch up on them later -1:16 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblasers @maggiedana Hi Maggie! How are you today/tonight? :) #litchat -1:17 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana I was just thinking of those 2 the other day. Shows how old I am. RT @RightonMom: Capt. and Tenille, :) #litchat -1:17 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat @morganbaden Yes. We always record chats and post to the LitChat website. You can see past chats http://litchat.net/past-litchats #litchat -1:17 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @LitChat Storytelling always comes first, but it won't seduce if craft is weak. #litchat -1:17 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana Waves ... am fine. You? RT @mariblasers: @maggiedana Hi Maggie! How are you today/tonight? :) #litchat -1:18 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblasers @editorialdept That's too bad. I hope you're having time to read your preferred genre at least. :) #litchat -1:18 PM Nov 20th, 2009

CarolyBurnsBass @editorialdept Do you see any trends in how writers are telling stories now, as opposed to when you first began editing? #litchat -1:18 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana @editorialdept As a reader, I want to care about a character. If that doesn't happen, the book doesn't get read. #litchat -1:19 PM Nov 20th, 2009
RightonMom @mariblasers I think genres always drawn ppl, but like @editorialdept, with the influx of better writers, found a stronger niche #litchat -1:19 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblasers RT @editorialdept: @LitChat Storytelling always comes first, but it won't seduce if craft is weak. #litchat -1:19 PM Nov 20th, 2009
Saffy stupid question but are the HP books really badly written? it took me until my 4th reading to spot mistakes & they look like typos #litchat -1:19 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @mariblasers Yes, today we want escape more than ever. But hey, ANY good story is escape. Family drama. Crime. Historical. Etc. #litchat -1:20 PM Nov 20th, 2009
RightonMom @maggiedana hehe..I could still listen to Muskrat Love over and over #litchat -1:20 PM Nov 20th, 2009
TheNewAuthor I have heard that authors like Dan Brown can tell a good story but his skill with the craft of writing is weak. #litchat Is that possible? -1:20 PM Nov 20th, 2009
cbrett60 *headdesk* what is the topic? #litchat -1:20 PM Nov 20th, 2009
agnieszkasshoes @maggiedana @mariblasers Hi!! lovely to be at #LitChat looks like fantasy so I make lurk a little -1:20 PM Nov 20th, 2009
MerredithB Do you ever suggest that writers change their outlines/work based on how you see a piece flowing? Or stick to a "logical" flow? #litchat -1:21 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat @abcde53 Thanks for the response. Would you mind reposting with the #litchat hashtag so you're tweet gets into chat convo? -1:21 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblasers Makes much sense to me. RT @editorialdept: ANY good story is escape. Family drama. Crime. Historical. Etc. #litchat -1:21 PM Nov 20th, 2009
AnneTylerLord @editorialdept I would like to know a little about your book, I'm new and haven't read it #litchat -1:21 PM Nov 20th, 2009
PattyJMurphy Hi, @maggiedana @mariblasers and other litchatters. Thought I'd drop in before we go out for some mushroom ravioli and NEW MOON:) #litchat -1:21 PM Nov 20th, 2009
tericoyne what is the one thing an author can do to become a better self-editor? #litchat -1:21 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblasers @maggiedana I'm good too, and very happy to have made to #litchat ! ;-D -1:21 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @CarolyBurnsBass The biggest trend since I started editing fiction decades ago is that writers tell stories more cinematically #litchat -1:22 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana Reduce adverbs. Substantially. ;-) RT @tericoyne: what is the one thing an author can do to become a better self-editor? #litchat -1:22 PM Nov 20th, 2009
abcde53 #litchat One can't separate Craft from Story- Craft provides the framework to hold the story together -1:23 PM Nov 20th, 2009
herstorian Hey everyone. Sorry I'm late. Waiting at the movies and am sneaking on to #litchat until a little before the hour. #litchat -1:23 PM Nov 20th, 2009
techtigger I say it all the time, I know how to tell a story, but I'm still learning how to write ;) Craft does make storytelling better tho #litchat -1:23 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblasers @agnieszkasshoes @maggiedana That's me pushing around to get info on my genre while I can. *chuckles* #litchat -1:23 PM Nov 20th, 2009

editorialdept @CarolyBurnsBass By cinematic I mean more jump cuts, quicker pace, etc. Today's readers are used to movies and TV. #litchat -1:23 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat @cbrett60 We have a Q&A session going with Renni Browne @EditorialDept, author of SELF-EDITING FOR FICTION WRITERS. #litchat -1:23 PM Nov 20th, 2009
MerredithB @Saffy they're not badly written; I think they're mostly genius. Are they high literature? Maybe not, but who is the audience? #litchat -1:23 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana @editorialdept By 'cinematically,' do you mean shorter scenes for the sound-bite generation? #litchat -1:24 PM Nov 20th, 2009
PattyJMurphy RT @maggiedana: Reduce adverbs. Substantially <--I agree. If your nouns and verbs are POWERFUL, you don't need adjs or adverbs:) #litchat -1:24 PM Nov 20th, 2009
ficwriter RT @LitChat: @cbrett60 We have a Q&A session going with Renni Browne @EditorialDept, author of SELF-EDITING FOR FICTION WRITERS. #litchat -1:24 PM Nov 20th, 2009
marisabirns @editorialdept Yes. For ex. Neil Gaiman has said that he writes with an eye to his stories being adapted for the screen. #litchat -1:24 PM Nov 20th, 2009
CarolyBurnsBass @editorialdept By cinematically, do you mean by using screenwriting techniques (stage direction, 3-act format, etc)? #litchat -1:24 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @tericoyne Use the book! (Self-Editing for Fiction Writers)! #litchat -1:25 PM Nov 20th, 2009
RightonMom @editorialdept @CarolyBurnsBass I see. Don't know if I should laugh or cry: Today's readers are used to movies and TV. #litchat -1:25 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblaser @PattyJMurphy Hello! Hope you enjoy both #litchat and the movie. Of course you'll enjoy the ravioli, lol. ;) -1:26 PM Nov 20th, 2009
tericoyne @editorialdept GOOD ANSWER! #litchat -1:26 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana It's a GREAT book. RT @editorialdept: @tericoyne Use the book! (Self-Editing for Fiction Writers)! #litchat -1:26 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @CarolyBurnsBass mean writing scenes so the reader can SEE them. Frame by frame as if you're directing the movie. #litchat -1:26 PM Nov 20th, 2009
techtigger of course, when I say 'tell' a story, I mean in-person talking. Still working on getting all that verbal/visual info into words #litchat -1:26 PM Nov 20th, 2009
agnieszkasshoes @tericoyne best thing 4 self-editing. 4 lit fic: Read everything aloud 2 yrself. Make EVERY syllable perfect rhythm/cadence #litchat -1:27 PM Nov 20th, 2009
PattyJMurphy @RightonMom: I think a lot of us are visual writers...and readers...so cinematic writing is a good thing...It paints a picture:) #litchat -1:27 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @tericoyne Yeah, I'm a better editor since I figured that out. #litchat -1:27 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblaser @marisabirns I've heard many criticism about this posture on writing. But IMO Gaiman is the one I'd excuse for that! He's great! #litchat -1:28 PM Nov 20th, 2009
CarolyBurnsBass @editorialdept How is that different than in previous styles? Descriptions? Exposition? Setting? More dialog? #litchat -1:28 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @RightonMom Don't cry. Novels written so readers can SEE what's happening are the better for it. #litchat -1:28 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat We have two copies of SELF-EDITING FOR FICTION WRITERS to give away during our chat today. Are your ready? #litchat -1:28 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana Renni's book taught me to slaughter adverbs, that 'said' is only speaker attribution you need, and to RUI (resist urge to explain). #litchat -1:28 PM Nov 20th, 2009

deegospel joining #litchat. him everyone #litchat -1:29 PM Nov 20th, 2009
RightonMom @PattyJMurphy Ah, got it. Didn't Diablo Cody write Juno this way? Anyone? #litchat -1:29 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel @LitChat ready! #litchat -1:29 PM Nov 20th, 2009
deegospel @LitChat yes #litchat -1:29 PM Nov 20th, 2009
tericoyne I've also learned a lot from my editors #litchat -1:29 PM Nov 20th, 2009
patriciastaino @LitChat It always should. Craft serves the writer's needs, storytelling serves the reader's. #litchat -1:29 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat The next tweet that pops into my tweetchat feed wins first copy of SELF-EDITING FOR FICTION WRITERS. Must be on topic w/hashtag. #litchat -1:30 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept Old-style was slower-paced, for sure. But today's fast-pace still needs to give readers some breathing room. #litchat -1:30 PM Nov 20th, 2009
techtigger well, that explains my bad grammar *lol* I write like I talk ;) RT @tericoyne ...Read everything aloud 2 yrself. #litchat -1:30 PM Nov 20th, 2009
IanB022 @editorialdept One of the advantages of a book is that it gets you in someone's head, doesn't cinematic style make that harder? #litchat -1:30 PM Nov 20th, 2009
cbrett60 @editorialdept What is the most encouraging thing you can tell a writer? #litchat -1:30 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana If it's mine, give book to someone else. I have it, and I LOVE IT. #litchat -1:30 PM Nov 20th, 2009
RightonMom @editorialdept Ok. Feel much better! #litchat -1:30 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel #litchat writing can be learnt -1:30 PM Nov 20th, 2009
MESaton RT @LitChat: We have two copies of SELF-EDITING FOR FICTION WRITERS to give away during our chat today. Are your ready? #litchat -1:30 PM Nov 20th, 2009
herstorian By the way, @editorialdept, a writer in my writing group loves SELF-EDITING FOR FICTION WRITERS & has intro'd it to us all! #litchat -1:30 PM Nov 20th, 2009
sharifwrites RT @editorialdept: @RightonMom Novels written so readers can SEE what's happening are the better for it. #litchat -1:31 PM Nov 20th, 2009
AnneTylerLord #litchat Tell me more about how to slaughter adverbs -1:31 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblaser @CarolyBurnsBass I'm loving your questions today. Thank you for them! :) #litchat -1:31 PM Nov 20th, 2009
PattyJMurphy @MESaton Would LOVE to add another GREAT resource to my library:) #litchat -1:31 PM Nov 20th, 2009
agnieszkashoes @maggiedana I'm v ambiguous w/adverbs. I never use them in 1st place. Should I be using them 4 freedom of 1st draft THEN cutting #litchat -1:31 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat @editorialdept Sorry, you can't win your own book. So, it's the next one after yours, @techtigger, wins first copy. #litchat -1:31 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel #litchat well years ago Diana Wynne-Jones told me she was sure my next story would be better. definitely encouraged me! -1:31 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @maggiedana Explaining things to the reader is what I edit out most often. It's such a noble urge, and so counterproductive. #litchat -1:32 PM Nov 20th, 2009
RightonMom @AnneTylerLord Mercilessly, :) #litchat -1:32 PM Nov 20th, 2009
Saffy I would say the craft is how you make the words as you would say them read with the same nuances in someone elses head #litchat story 1st -1:32 PM Nov 20th, 2009

maggiedana Use stronger verbs. RT @AnneTylerLord: #litchat Tell me more about how to slaughter adverbs #litchat -1:32 PM Nov 20th, 2009
rj_anderson Cinematic description can be good but not enough by itself -- reader needs to connect with characters or book is forgettable. #litchat -1:32 PM Nov 20th, 2009
techtigger coolies! Thank you!!! I will put the book to good use :) #litchat -1:32 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel #litchat just be careful when slaughtering adverbs, cos not all ly words are adverbs and not all adverbs are ly words -1:32 PM Nov 20th, 2009
agnieszkasshoes my biggest need for self-editing is "that" & "had" because they're subconscious so need careful excision #litchat -1:32 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LaurelDL LaurelDL @cbrett60 most encouraging thing i can tell a writer: if I can do it, you definitely can... ;) #litchat -1:32 PM Nov 20th, 2009
ReadItForward I'm mostly lurking on #litchat, but it's an interesting discussion about editing if you aren't there already. -1:32 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat Another question from Weds, from @scgreen: At what point do you think Craft comes into play first or subsequent drafts? #litchat -1:33 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel #litchat slaughtering adverbs is done a sentence at a time. do i need this 'carefully'? can i show the person being careful instead? or cut? -1:33 PM Nov 20th, 2009
agnieszkasshoes @buffysquirrel indeed. You could end up having choristers singing "the and theivy" which wld be VERY odd #litchat -1:33 PM Nov 20th, 2009
HowDidUGetThere RT @LitChat: The next tweet that pops in my tweetchat feed wins copy of SELF-EDITING FOR FICTION WRITERS. Must be on topic w/hash. #litchat -1:33 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel #litchat almost any line can be trimmed. is trimmable. la -1:33 PM Nov 20th, 2009
PattyJMurphy @AnneTylerLord: Describe physical characteristics, feelings/moods, and actions of my characters in a concise way + strong verbs! #litchat -1:34 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana @editorialdept Whenever I see an acronym that's similar to RUI, it reminds me of you. #litchat -1:34 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel #litchat yet is an adverb -1:34 PM Nov 20th, 2009
rj_anderson When editing I have to watch for too much description of eyes, looking etc. I also have 1 or 2 striking words/phrases I overuse. #litchat -1:34 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @cbrett60 I told one of our clients whose book I loved that I had post-partum depression when the editing was finished. #litchat -1:34 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana LOL RT @agnieszkasshoes: @buffysquirrel indeed. You could end up having choristers singing "the and theivy" which wld be VERY odd #litchat -1:34 PM Nov 20th, 2009
patriciastaino @LitChat Subsequent drafts. You need to get the basic plot on paper first, and then you can craft the language and imagery. #litchat -1:34 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblaser @editorialdept I'm confused about the use of gerund. Some say it strengthens the writing, others treat it as a sin! Wh/ your view? #litchat -1:35 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel #litchat i think where craft comes into play is going to differ from writer to writer -1:35 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana Um, RUE. Sorry about that. RT @maggiedana: @editorialdept Whenever I see an acronym thats similar to RUI, it reminds me of you. #litchat -1:35 PM Nov 20th, 2009
CarolyBurnsBass @mariblaser Thanks. It's a great topic and a terrific guest host. #litchat -1:35 PM Nov 20th, 2009
HowDidUGetThere Very interesting discussion, just watching #litchat -1:35 PM Nov 20th, 2009
cbrett60 @editorialdept wow that is deep #litchat -1:35 PM Nov 20th, 2009

buffysquirrel #litchat gerunds have their place. but i believe they cut gerundives ;) just don't overuse -1:36 PM Nov 20th, 2009
PattyJMurphy @rj_anderson: I've heard from someone to post SEE, HEAR, SMELL, TASTE, and TOUCH on your computer and remember to use all of them! #litchat -1:36 PM Nov 20th, 2009
HowDidUGetThere I was just having a discussion with an interviewee , he wanted his answers more concise and I loved the information. #litchat -1:36 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel #litchat mostly i find that people who say 'never use x' don't know what x is anyway -1:36 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana Re gerund. Soft g, or hard? Am anxious to learn pronunciation. It's not a word that crops up in every day conversation. #litchat -1:36 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel #litchat writers who outline may have employed craft at that point, even before starting to write! -1:37 PM Nov 20th, 2009
PattyJMurphy RT @maggiedana: Re gerund. Soft g, or hard? g as in giraffe...:) #litchat -1:37 PM Nov 20th, 2009
scgreen @editorialdept What would be the one piece of advice /edit you find yourself saying/doing over & over again? #litchat -1:37 PM Nov 20th, 2009
HowDidUGetThere @maggiedana hard "G" for gerund #litchat -1:37 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel @maggiedana i use hard but tbh i am not sure that's right! #litchat -1:37 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana @PattyJMurphy Excellent advice. I have a sticky note on mine with same list: See, hear, smell, taste, touch. #litchat -1:37 PM Nov 20th, 2009
marisabirns @maggiedana gerund is a soft "g" #litchat -1:38 PM Nov 20th, 2009
CarolyBurnsBass @editorialdept Can you give short example of a sentence that "explains things to a reader." Are you talking about exposition here? #litchat -1:38 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @AnneTylerLord Hey, some adverbs are okay! But -ly adverbs in dialogue are just tacky and make writers look unconfident. #litchat -1:38 PM Nov 20th, 2009
PattyJMurphy RT @buffysquirrel: writers who outline may have employed craft at that point, even before starting to write! <--Isn't it all craft? #litchat -1:38 PM Nov 20th, 2009
HowDidUGetThere @maggiedana no wait! I think it's called soft. Is "george" soft?? #litchat -1:38 PM Nov 20th, 2009
Saffy Again stupid question what is this gerund? #litchat -1:38 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel @marisabirns oh! lol soft 'g' :) #litchat -1:38 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel @PattyJMurphy #litchat some of it is just slog -1:39 PM Nov 20th, 2009
RightonMom RT @editorialdept: @AnneTylerLord Hey, some adverbs are ok! But -ly adverbs in dialogue r just tacky, make writers look unconfident #litchat -1:39 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana Gerund = jerund, then? Right? #litchat -1:39 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept Any time you write something that the reader can figure out for him/herself, it's likely to come off as an explanation. #litchat -1:39 PM Nov 20th, 2009
HowDidUGetThere @marisabirns yes, I was confused!! I say right and point left, too. #litchat -1:39 PM Nov 20th, 2009
PattyJMurphy RT @HowDidUGetThere: @maggiedana no wait! I think its called soft. Is "george" soft??<--God is hard g...giraffe is soft #litchat -1:39 PM Nov 20th, 2009
agnieszkasshoes @maggiedana our Latin teachers always used soft (following French rule of softening). Then again IN Latin it's hard #litchat -1:39 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel @Saffy #litchat fuming, he... running, she... -1:39 PM Nov 20th, 2009

maggiedana A pronunciation conundrum. RT @Saffy: Again stupid question what is this gerund? #litchat -1:40 PM Nov 20th, 2009
PattyJMURPHY RT @buffysquirrel: @PattyJMURPHY #litchat some of it is just slog <--I will respectfully disagree:) #litchat -1:40 PM Nov 20th, 2009
marisabirns @Saffy An ing verb used as a noun is a gerund. Ex. Swimming is fun. #litchat -1:40 PM Nov 20th, 2009
ficwriter Gerund definition and pronunciation: http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/gerund?db=dictionary #litchat -1:40 PM Nov 20th, 2009
4evermore my issue with craft in the story is it can always get better. I always want to improve the language and word choices. #litchat -1:40 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat Getting ready to post the rules for today's giveaway of ms critique. Will precede rules with numbers. #litchat -1:40 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @CarolyBurnsBass When readers put something together they invest a little piece of themselves and are thus involved more deeply. #litchat -1:40 PM Nov 20th, 2009
Saffy ooo I outline RT @buffysquirrel: #litchat writers who outline may have employed craft at that point, even before starting to write! -1:41 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblaser RT @editorialdept: some adverbs are okay! But -ly adverbs in dialogue are just tacky and make writers look unconfident. #litchat -1:41 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat 1) Pitch must be tagged with #litpitch to be considered. #litchat -1:41 PM Nov 20th, 2009
agnieszkasshoes @Saffy gerund is from Latin meaning li "to be borne" it's when something is "to be" so "agenda" = "things to be done" #litchat -1:41 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel #litchat Explaining is when you add to 'Rachel closed her eyes and sank onto the bed' that 'She was tired'. duh, we knew that -1:41 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana @editorialdept "Running into the tent, she took off her trousers." What do you call this silly construct? Can't remember. #litchat -1:41 PM Nov 20th, 2009
tericoyne Great explanation for explanation! @editorialdept #litchat -1:42 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel @editorialdept yes! this! #litchat -1:42 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat 2) Pitch a tagline of your manuscript in 140 words or less (including #litpitch tag). #litchat -1:42 PM Nov 20th, 2009
RightonMom @4evermore Same. The more I write however, the more I find my own 'voice' if you will, better at discerning what should stay or go #litchat -1:42 PM Nov 20th, 2009
HowDidUGetThere @PattyJMURPHY Thanks, now do you mean Philosophically? kidding :) #litchat -1:42 PM Nov 20th, 2009
Gint_Aras #litchat I know a guy who named his dogs, both Pekingese, Gerund and Gide. -1:42 PM Nov 20th, 2009
nancy_lamb My first chat ever! Is there a topic? #litchat -1:42 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel @maggiedana i believe the official name for it is form rejection #litchat -1:42 PM Nov 20th, 2009
agnieszkasshoes @Saffy it's a verb used as a noun (like a participle can be in the way we talk of comings & goings) #litchat -1:42 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept Giving readers cues so they'll put things together isn't in the book and it's a huge secret to writing seductive fiction..... #litchat -1:42 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat 3) #litpitch Contest is open to everyone, published or unpublished authors. #litchat -1:42 PM Nov 20th, 2009

buffysquirrel @maggiedana no, srsly, it's called dangling participle #litchat iirc -1:43 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana @litchat. My pitch: A birthmother searches for the child she gave away and learns what every mother knows: kids change everything. #litchat -1:43 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @nancy_lamb I think the topic is what makes writing seductive. But we're also all over the place. I'm having fun! #litchat -1:43 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana I shudder over the 'dangling' bit. RT @buffysquirrel: @maggiedana no, srsly, its called dangling participle #litchat iirc #litchat -1:43 PM Nov 20th, 2009
marisabirns @maggiedana Your example is in passive voice. #litchat -1:43 PM Nov 20th, 2009
nancy_lamb @editorialdept Thank you! I'll endeavour to keep up! #litchat -1:44 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat 4) Contest begins at 5 pm/est and closes at 5:30 p/e. All pitches received in feed between 5-5:30 p/et will be considered. #litchat -1:44 PM Nov 20th, 2009
cbrett60 @editorialdept What do you tell a write how keeps putting off their work? #litchat -1:45 PM Nov 20th, 2009
PattyJMurphy RT @HowDidUGetThere: Thanks, now do you mean Philosophically? <--I should say I disagree with you...shaking my head... #litchat -1:45 PM Nov 20th, 2009
jxtabook RT @LitChat: Getting ready to post the rules for today's giveaway of ms critique. Will precede rules with numbers. #litchat -1:45 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana Which example? Running into the tent? RT @marisabirns: @maggiedana Your example is in passive voice. #litchat -1:45 PM Nov 20th, 2009
Ms_Menondji Having a discussion on how agents who've rejected works that became monstrous successes afterward feel about missing the mark... #litchat -1:45 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat 5) @LitChat will select 10 finalists to recommend to @EditorialDept. #litchat -1:45 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel #litchat yes, that's what i have to remember when writing/editing...no dangling participles! -1:45 PM Nov 20th, 2009
PattyJMurphy @LitChat Considered for what? Just curious... #litchat -1:45 PM Nov 20th, 2009
dmargulis @maggiedana right #litchat -1:45 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @maggiedana I call it physically impossible. #litchat -1:45 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblaser Rofl! RT @Gint_Aras: #litchat I know a guy who named his dogs, both Pekingese, Gerund and Gide. -1:45 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat 6) @EditorialDept will select 2 winners from the 10 finalists. #litchat -1:46 PM Nov 20th, 2009
JLichtenberg RT @LitChat: 3) #litpitch Contest is open to everyone, published or unpublished authors. #litchat -1:46 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana Made me laugh out loud when I read it in your book. RT @editorialdept: @maggiedana I call it physically impossible. #litchat -1:46 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LisaSpangenberg Folks, no, do not confuse a gerund, a present participle, and a dangling participle. #litchat -1:46 PM Nov 20th, 2009
agnieszkasshoes @buffysquirrel @maggiedana One day I may even tweet a joke that doesn't have a typo in it (#needaneditorfortweets)! #litchat -1:46 PM Nov 20th, 2009
marisabirns @maggiedana Yes. Running into the tent... #litchat -1:46 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel #litchat what makes writing seductive? characters we care about, questions we want answered -1:46 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @cbrett60 A writer writes. #litchat -1:46 PM Nov 20th, 2009

LitChat 7) You may enter as many pitches as you wish for the same, or different mss. Pitches must be clearly different, however. #litchat -1:46 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LisaSpangenberg Also; dangling participles are matters of style and usage; they are not ungrammatical. You may want 'em --esp in dialog #litchat -1:47 PM Nov 20th, 2009
PattyJMurphy RT @mariblaser @Gint_Aras: I know a guy who named his dogs Pekingese, Gerund and Gide <--I have a editor w/a dog named DEADLINE:) #litchat -1:47 PM Nov 20th, 2009
gudmagazine RT @buffysquirrel: #litchat what makes writing seductive? characters we care about, questions we want answered -1:47 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana Not passive voice. RT @marisabirns: @maggiedana Yes. Running into the tent... #litchat -1:48 PM Nov 20th, 2009
PattyJMurphy Yes, people dangle when they talk:) RT @LisaSpangenberg: Also; dangling participles...are not ungrammatical--esp in dialog #litchat -1:48 PM Nov 20th, 2009
cbrett60 @LitChat that contest is in 12 mins right? #litchat -1:48 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @maggiedana w anybody who can take off her pants while running? Save the -ing construction for simultaneous actions. #litchat -1:48 PM Nov 20th, 2009
gudmagazine RT @buffysquirrel: #litchat Explaining is when you add to 'Rachel closed her eyes and sank onto the bed' that 'She was tired'. we knew that! -1:48 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat 8) Note that Renne Browne may not perform the actual critique. A highly trusted and skilled member of her staff will complete. #litchat -1:49 PM Nov 20th, 2009
herstorian @LitChat: For the contest, does your ms have to be a complete draft? #litchat -1:49 PM Nov 20th, 2009
agnieszkasshoes @LisaSpangenberg yup: prpart="buying" ger = "to be bought" dang= "I fell in love with the person buying the shoes" #litchat -1:49 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat 9) Have fun and get those pitches ready! #litchat -1:49 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @4evermore Don't self-edit while you're letting the story come out. It's two different halves of the brain. #litchat -1:50 PM Nov 20th, 2009
ficwriter RT @LitChat: 4) Contest begins at 5 pm/est and closes at 5:30 p/e. All pitches received in feed between 5-5:30 p/et considered. #litchat -1:50 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblaser Could you elaborate? May have confused. RT @LisaSpangenberg: do not confuse gerund, present participle, and dangling participle. #litchat -1:50 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat @herstorian I would say yes, as it's a full ms critique. What do you think, @EditorialDept? #litchat -1:50 PM Nov 20th, 2009
PattyJMurphy RT @editorialdept: @4evermore Dont self-edit while youre letting the story come out. Its twodifferent halves of the brain #litchat -1:51 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat @cbrett60 Time zones can be confusing. The contest begins in 10 minutes. #litchat -1:51 PM Nov 20th, 2009
agnieszkasshoes @LitChat assume you mean 140 char not 140 words? #litpitch #litchat -1:51 PM Nov 20th, 2009
cbrett60 @LitChat nevermind my MS isn't complete yet #litchat -1:51 PM Nov 20th, 2009
techtigger RT @editorialdept Dont self-edit while youre letting the story come out. Its twodifferent halves of the brain. #litchat -1:51 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @LitChat It doesn't have to be a full manuscript. #litchat -1:52 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat Yikes! I need an editor! Yes, 140 characters. RT @agnieszkasshoes: @LitChat assume you mean 140 char not 140 words? #litpitch #litchat -1:53 PM Nov 20th, 2009

Georgia_McBride #FF #YAlitchat #Kidlitchat #askagent #agentpeeves #allaboutagents #litchat http://bit.ly/1WGD2Z (yalitchat on ning) -1:53 PM Nov 20th, 2009
scgreen @editorialdept Have you ever started editing & then stopped midway because of bad/lack of storytelling? #litchat -1:53 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @scgreen Let the reader put this together, it'll be much more effective. #litchat -1:53 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblaser Thank you 4 that! RT @editorialdept:Don't self-edit while you're letting the story come out. It's two different halves of the brain #litchat -1:54 PM Nov 20th, 2009
cbrett60 @editorialdept What is the hardest part about editing? #litchat -1:54 PM Nov 20th, 2009
PattyJMurphy RT @Georgia_McBride: #FF #YAlitchat #Kidlitchat #askagent #agentpeeves #allaboutagents #litchat http://bit.ly/1WGD2Z #litchat -1:54 PM Nov 20th, 2009
herstorian @LitChat: Follow up Q: When does the ms have to be submitted for critique? Do we have a month or two? #litchat -1:54 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat We're ready to give away the final copy of SELF-EDITING FOR FICTION WRITERS to the next tweet that enters my feed. #litchat -1:55 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel @cbrett60 #litchat not throwing the book against the wall when it doesn't go well -1:55 PM Nov 20th, 2009
scgreen #litchat me me me -1:55 PM Nov 20th, 2009
ficwriter RT @LitChat: Were ready to give away the final copy of SELF-EDITING FOR FICTION WRITERS to the next tweet that enters my feed. #litchat -1:55 PM Nov 20th, 2009
cbrett60 @editorialdept What is the hardest thing to tell a writer? #litchat -1:55 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @AnneTylerLord Go to www.editorialdepartment.com and you can read a whole chapter from the book. #litchat -1:55 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat @herstorian That would be up to the winner and @EditorialDept. #litchat -1:56 PM Nov 20th, 2009
morganbaden Good stuff on #litchat -1:56 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat @buffysquirrel You're the winner of the second book! Congrats! #litchat -1:56 PM Nov 20th, 2009
tericoyne Great chat today #litchat -1:56 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel @cbrett60 #litchat go away. they never do -1:56 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel @LitChat #litchat *faints* -1:57 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat Congrats @techtigger and @buffysquirrel, winners of signed copies of SELF-EDITING FOR FICITON WRITERS. Please DM your post addy. #litchat -1:57 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LaurelDL @cbrett60 tell the writer that it doesn't count if they aren't writing. period. sucks, but true.... #litchat -1:57 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana <--- Waves smelling salts. RT @buffysquirrel: @LitChat #litchat *faints* #litchat -1:57 PM Nov 20th, 2009
Saffy @LitChat erm so I shouldn't have posteed my tag lines yet? #litchat -1:59 PM Nov 20th, 2009
techtigger @LitChat - you need to follow me or I can't DM :) #litchat -1:59 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @editorialdept Actually, my son Ross, who runs The Editorial Department, says I should do the dialogue book soon. Think I will. #litchat -1:59 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblaser @editorialdept Did you ever feel compelled to tell someone to give up writing? Ever got to say it? *ducks* #litchat -2:00 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat Before everyone scoots over to #litpitch, let's thank our wonderful and generous guest host, @EditorialDept's Renni Browne. #litchat -2:00 PM Nov 20th, 2009

AnneTylerLord @editorialdept thanks, I will read the chapter from your book - discussion was very helpful, thanks! #litchat -2:00 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana YES! RT @editorialdept: My son Ross, who runs The Editorial Department, says I should do the dialogue book soon. Think I will. #litchat -2:00 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel @LaureIDL #litchat is true. don't i know it. *sigh* -2:00 PM Nov 20th, 2009
RightonMom Lots of great info here today. Now, off to integrate it all somehow. TY @LitChat, @editorialdept for your time and insight! #litchat -2:00 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept I'll be happy to take a few more questions..... #litchat -2:00 PM Nov 20th, 2009
Saffy @agnieszkasshoes @marisabirns @buffysquirrel @marisabirns thanks for the defs #litchat -2:00 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat Of course, she's welcome to stick around here while the #litpitch rolls in. Looks like many of you still have questions. #litchat -2:01 PM Nov 20th, 2009
techtigger @editorialdept thanks so much for fielding questions today - can't wait to read your book! :) #litchat -2:01 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @mariblaser I have told many writers to give up the expectation of mainstream publication but never to give up writing... #litchat -2:01 PM Nov 20th, 2009
cbrett60 thank you @buffysquirrel and @LaureIDL #litchat -2:01 PM Nov 20th, 2009
ficwriter @editorialdept Thank you for a great chat today. And please, listen to your son. #litchat -2:01 PM Nov 20th, 2009
marisabirns @LitChat Thank you @EditorialDept's for spending time here with us. #litchat -2:02 PM Nov 20th, 2009
tericoyne Thanks a bunch @editorialdept #litchat -2:02 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblaser @editorialdept That was kind of you, I think? What compelled you to suggest that? #litchat -2:03 PM Nov 20th, 2009
scgreen @editorialdept Thank you for your time today. It's been fun and informative. Thank you too @LitChat. #litchat -2:03 PM Nov 20th, 2009
marisabirns @Saffy You're very welcome! We all have to help each other along this road, eh? #litchat -2:03 PM Nov 20th, 2009
Saffy #litchat thank you :) @EditorialDept -2:03 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel ty @EditorialDept #litchat -2:03 PM Nov 20th, 2009
PattyJMurphy @editorialdept: In the words of Winston Churchill: "Never ever, ever, ever give up." I could never tell someone to do that... #litchat -2:04 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblaser Ditto! :-D RT @ficwriter: @editorialdept Thank you for a great chat today. And please, listen to your son. #litchat -2:05 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @mariblaser We tell writers the truth, but there are rewards for writing a book other than publication. #litchat -2:06 PM Nov 20th, 2009
PattyJMurphy RT @editorialdept: In the words of Winston Churchill: "Never ever, ever give up." Could never tell ANYONE to give up... #litchat -2:06 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @PattyJMurphy I agree. AND, many of our clients do get published mainstream. Some self-publish. #litchat -2:06 PM Nov 20th, 2009
agnieszkasshoes thank you so much to @editorialdept for wonderful #litchat -2:07 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @mariblaser I plan to. He's got a co-author lined up to make it go faster, and I'm excited. A dialogue book is MUCH needed. #litchat -2:07 PM Nov 20th, 2009

mariblaser @editorialdept Indeed. The writing itself is a reward, but it must be hard to listen to this truth. #litchat -2:07 PM Nov 20th, 2009
herstorian My pitch: Abused girl runs away from home & starts lifelong journey; freedom isn't so free. #litpitch #litchat -2:08 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat @Saffy Please repost your pitches. Only pitches that are time tagged in the contest period are eligible. #litchat -2:08 PM Nov 20th, 2009
deegospel great chat as always. thanks! #litchat -2:08 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblaser @editorialdept Although, I'd prefer that than a patting in the head. Agree with you on always telling the truth. :) #litchat -2:08 PM Nov 20th, 2009
maggiedana Renni, thanks for being here. Your book has been a huge help. #litchat -2:08 PM Nov 20th, 2009
LitChat I haven't abandoned you. I'm hopping between #litchat and #litpitch. #litpitch -2:10 PM Nov 20th, 2009
deegospel thanks @editorialdept i have your book and have worn it out! #litchat -2:10 PM Nov 20th, 2009
MGrantauthor let's see what's up in #litchat today -2:10 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblaser @editorialdept Great! We all could use some extra advice on that. :) #litchat -2:11 PM Nov 20th, 2009
buffysquirrel am seriously hoping this book will help me when it arrives! #litchat -2:13 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @mariblaser It's cruel and unethical to do otherwise. But many of our clients don't realize how good their book COULD be. #litchat -2:13 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblaser @danish_novelist Hi! We're pitching for editorial advice from @editorialdept on our manuscript. :) #litpitch #litchat -2:14 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblaser @editorialdept I dread that above all! That's precisely why my novel will take so long to come out. Learning still. :) #litchat -2:15 PM Nov 20th, 2009
Saffy @agnieszkasshoes roughly yes :) #litchat -2:15 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblaser @editorialdept I hope I'm not holding you up. Everyone seems to have gone, and I know how busy you are. Just making convo here. :) #litchat -2:17 PM Nov 20th, 2009
danish_novelist @mariblaser @editorialdept Thanks. So do you guys help professional writers as well? #litchat -2:19 PM Nov 20th, 2009
cbrett60 @editorialdept What do you tell a writer who starts self-doubting? #litchat -2:19 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @mariblaser We tell our clients what their (realistic, in today's market) expectations are #litchat -2:19 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @mariblaser Not a problem. I've flown into Tucson from NC where I live. GOOD QUESTIONS. #litchat -2:20 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @danish_novelist Indeed we do. Fiction and nonfiction. #litchat -2:20 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblaser @danish_novelist Me? No, I'm just a writer. I do more learning than anything else, lol. #litchat -2:21 PM Nov 20th, 2009
mariblaser @editorialdept Thank you! Good to be home, no? heh #litchat -2:21 PM Nov 20th, 2009
editorialdept @cbrett60 Writers learn from what they're doing right as much as from criticism. Good editors cheer a writer on. #litchat -2:22 PM Nov 20th, 2009

danish_novelist @cbrett60 All writers have self-doubt, or they wouldn't be writers #litchat -2:22 PM Nov 20th, 2009

CarolyBurnsBass @editorialdept Thank you for sharing your knowledge, experience and instinct today. Your answers ring true. #litchat -2:22 PM Nov 20th, 2009

editorialdept @cbrett60 And every good writer I've known has had periods of self-doubt! #litchat -2:23 PM Nov 20th, 2009

CarolyBurnsBass I wonder how many writers owe their start to Renni Browne @editorialdept? #litchat -2:23 PM Nov 20th, 2009

cbrett60 @danish_novelist This is true #litchat -2:23 PM Nov 20th, 2009

editorialdept @mariblasers I'm not home, I live in Asheville N.C. I'm visiting my son Ross, who runs The Editorial Department in Tucson, Arizona. #litchat -2:23 PM Nov 20th, 2009

mariblasers Well said! RT @danish_novelist: @cbrett60 All writers have self-doubt, or they wouldn't be writers #litchat -2:23 PM Nov 20th, 2009

cbrett60 @editorialdept I Keep learning new things. #litchat -2:24 PM Nov 20th, 2009

danish_novelist @mariblasers All writers are in a learning process. If we think we're above learning, we might as well stop writing #litchat -2:25 PM Nov 20th, 2009

mariblasers @editorialdept Oh, right. #brainfail here, lol. Understood the other way around, sorry. *blush* #litchat -2:26 PM Nov 20th, 2009

mariblasers Must be a whole lot! RT @CarolyBurnsBass: I wonder how many writers owe their start to Renni Browne @editorialdept? #litchat -2:26 PM Nov 20th, 2009

editorialdept @CarolyBurnsBass I hope all of you have enjoyed the session as much as I have, I'll definitely do this again. Great questions! #litchat -2:27 PM Nov 20th, 2009

cbrett60 @danish_novelist I can't be above learning. I am too young for that. #litchat -2:27 PM Nov 20th, 2009

mariblasers @danish_novelist Cannot agree more. And this view serves other professions as well, no? I dare say all of them! heh #litchat -2:27 PM Nov 20th, 2009

Donna_Carrick RT @danish_novelist: @mariblasers All writers are in a learning process.If we think we're above learning,might as well stop writing #litchat -2:27 PM Nov 20th, 2009

danish_novelist @cbrett60 I actually think self-doubt is creative. The only people who never doubt are born-again Christians and wide receivers :-)) #litchat -2:27 PM Nov 20th, 2009

mariblasers @cbrett60 IMO there's no age limit for learning, or even to start learning. #litchat -2:28 PM Nov 20th, 2009

buffysquirrel #litchat i want to learn more about writing but am often puzzled what to learn and how -2:29 PM Nov 20th, 2009

mariblasers @editorialdept I'm sure I did enjoy this very much! Thank you for your generous and frank answers. I've learned a lot! #litchat -2:30 PM Nov 20th, 2009

cbrett60 @danish_novelist I am a born-again Christian, and we all have doubts #litchat -2:30 PM Nov 20th, 2009

cbrett60 So True. RT @mariblasers: @cbrett60 IMO theres no age limit for learning, or even to start learning. #litchat -2:31 PM Nov 20th, 2009

danish_novelist @cbrett60 Thank, God. I'm glad to hear it. All the best to you #litchat -2:32 PM Nov 20th, 2009

Saffy @MerredithB I'm a bit confused as to what 'high litrature' is anyway :/ #litchat -2:33 PM Nov 20th, 2009

mariblaser Same here. Seems we got the wrong impression! RT @danish_novelist: @cbrett60 Thank, God. I'm glad to hear it. All the best to you #litchat -2:33 PM Nov 20th, 2009

danish_novelist @buffysquirrel You should find a teacher who knows that there are no rules in writing but who also is willing to teach you a few #litchat -2:35 PM Nov 20th, 2009

buffysquirrel @danish_novelist #litchat that would be great! but i suspect not possible :(-2:36 PM Nov 20th, 2009

cbrett60 @mariblaser @danish_novelist Thank you for your support #litchat -2:37 PM Nov 20th, 2009

danish_novelist @buffysquirrel No, it's totally possible. Find a writer who's a good reader but doesn't have all the answers. #litchat -2:39 PM Nov 20th, 2009

cbrett60 @buffysquirrel @danish_novelist There are no rules, And if there are they amr ment to be broken at some point #litchat -2:40 PM Nov 20th, 2009

cbrett60 @buffysquirrel I can recommend a few teachers #litchat -2:41 PM Nov 20th, 2009

mariblaser @cbrett60 That's what we're all here for! Besides learning and sharing info, of course. :) #litchat -2:41 PM Nov 20th, 2009

cbrett60 @mariblaser :D I am a member of Scribblerati for that too #litchat -2:43 PM Nov 20th, 2009

mariblaser @cbrett60 Nice! I'm not much comfortable with on line critt groups tho. Is it working well for you? #litchat -2:46 PM Nov 20th, 2009

jonpinnock @cbrett60 @buffysquirrel @danish_novelist The rules are there as a contract between the writer and the reader ... #litchat -2:47 PM Nov 20th, 2009

jonpinnock @cbrett60 @buffysquirrel @danish_novelist ... there's no problem in breaking them, but you need to gain the reader's trust first #litchat -2:48 PM Nov 20th, 2009

jonpinnock @cbrett60 @buffysquirrel @danish_novelist As long as you have the reader's trust, you can go anywhere. #litchat -2:48 PM Nov 20th, 2009

agnieszkasshoes may be of interest to writers/ those on #litchat - questions I asked Year Zero authors 4 today's post <http://yearzerowriters.wordpress.com/> -2:53 PM Nov 20th, 2009

editorialdept FYI to all #litchat types, this feed isn't generally run by Renni , but I hope that all the info we provide is informed by her expertise. -2:54 PM Nov 20th, 2009

editorialdept Again, thanks again to all those who participated in #litchat with Renni today. She had a blast, and we'll do this again soon. -2:54 PM Nov 20th, 2009