



LitChat June 18, 2010

Topic of the Week: Beyond Cliché

Guest Host: Aidan Donnelly Rowley, author

The transcripts below cover the #litchat conversation noted above. The order appears sequentially from opening post to the closing post within the #litchat published chat time.

Guest host: @ADonnRowley

LitChat It's time for #litchat. Please join me in welcoming @ADonnRowley, author of LIFE AFTER YES. -1:00 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs We're gonna be #litchat 'n now. If you don't want to see my many tweets, avert your eyes for 60 min. please. And thank you -1:00 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LitChat While everyone is gathering, please take a moment to introduce yourself to @ADonnRowley. #litchat -1:01 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley Hi all! Thrilled to be here. #litchat -1:01 PM Jun 18th, 2010

AuthorWilliam Foot elevated. Check. Kids fed and playing independently. Check. Ready for #litchat! -1:01 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs Welcome @ADonnRowley. Happy to meet you. Happy litchattic here, editor/coach for writers is day job :) #litchat -1:02 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LitChat If this is your first time in a #litchat, make it easy at <http://bit.ly/d0BWh>. Login w/ Twitter info, then type litchat in hashtag box. -1:02 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @AuthorWilliam Thanks for the visual. Welcome! #litchat -1:02 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs @AuthorWilliam Hi yo. You got the bases covered. Props to ya #litchat -1:02 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CoffeesCommutes Hi Aidan!! RT @LitChat: While everyone is gathering, please take a moment to introduce yourself to @ADonnRowley. #litchat -1:02 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @DebraMarrs Nice to meet you! #litchat -1:03 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GLHancock Hello. I'm a professional editor/writer/publishing guide living in paradise, oops, I mean San Diego. Proprietor a 6 y.o. blog & much #litchat -1:03 PM Jun 18th, 2010

AuthorWilliam @ADonnRowley Greetings! I'm William - a published Indie Author of the THE DARK PROVINCE: SON OF DUPRIN. Welcome! Glad you're here. #litchat -1:03 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @CoffeesCommutes Hey you. #litchat -1:03 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @GLHancock Hello! #litchat -1:03 PM Jun 18th, 2010

jevonbolden @ADonnRowley Hi! Jevon, book editor. #litchat -1:04 PM Jun 18th, 2010

sharifwrites Hello all. #litchat -1:04 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GLHancock @ADonnRowley I peeked at your blog and like! What a witty woman you are! #litchat -1:04 PM Jun 18th, 2010

AuthorWilliam @DebraMarrs Wassssuuuuup! :) #litchat -1:04 PM Jun 18th, 2010

marisabirns @ADonnRowley Hello! Happy to meet you at #litchat Would you care for a hot or cold drink? -1:04 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley A question to get things rolling... Do you think we writers are too fearful of cliches? Or not fearful enough? #litchat -1:04 PM Jun 18th, 2010

Madison_Woods Hi, I'm Madison. A writer who is not very good at writing bio's or introductions. #litchat -1:04 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @ADonnRowley Hello. I'm a teacher in Los Angeles. I'm spending my summer vacation working on my writing. #litchat -1:04 PM Jun 18th, 2010

Topic of the Week: June 18, 2010

June 18, 2010

Guest Host: Aidan Donnelly Rowley - p 1

www.litchat.net

lanB022 @LitChat Hello, magazine editor and debut novel out later this year #litchat -1:05 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley @GLHancock Thank you. I do have fun over at Ivy League Insecurities :) #litchat -1:05 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot @ADonnRowley I actually like a good cliché when used in context or twisted into a new direction. #litchat -1:05 PM Jun 18th, 2010
LitChat Our topic this week has been BEYOND CLICHE. We'll be asking @ADonnRowley about how she handles clichés in LIFE AFTER YES. #litchat -1:05 PM Jun 18th, 2010
martithomasberm Hello. My first #litchat! #litchat -1:05 PM Jun 18th, 2010
AuthorWilliam @sharifwrites Medeia! Hello! Good to see you here :-) #litchat -1:05 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CathrynLouis @ADonnRowley Hi! I'm a novelist. #litchat -1:05 PM Jun 18th, 2010
DebraMarrs @AuthorWilliam Man, there is a huge storm banging outside my window. Thunder/lightning. Hope doesn't know me off #litchat -1:05 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley Me too. RT @gamesafoot: @ADonnRowley I actually like a good cliché when used in context or twisted into a new direction. #litchat -1:06 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GLHancock @ADonnRowley Hah! I can tell you true, most beginning authors are utterly unconscious of their use of clichés. #litchat -1:06 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CoffeesCommutes .@ADonnRowley Cliches can be a good starting point for a meaningful exploration & discussion I think #litchat -1:06 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass Love the name of your blog. RT @ADonnRowley: @GLHancock Thank you. I do have fun over at Ivy League Insecurities :) #litchat -1:06 PM Jun 18th, 2010
lanB022 Apparently England v Algeria not going well - #litchat better option -1:06 PM Jun 18th, 2010
DebraMarrs @martithomasberm Welcome. Love new faces, ideas and energy here #litchat -1:06 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley @GLHancock But it is it always bad to use clichés? What if we do so knowingly? #litchat -1:06 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot @ADonnRowley Years ago HQN did a year of "farewell to these clichés" romances: I loved those books. #litchat -1:06 PM Jun 18th, 2010
DavidRozansky Looks like clichés at #litchat will be as thick as bugs on a bumper today. -1:07 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley @CarolyBurnsBass Thank you. Hey, I'm an Ivy Leaguer and full of insecurities, so I figured why not :) #litchat -1:07 PM Jun 18th, 2010
Madison_Woods @LuaFowles Hi Lua! You want to sit in on #litchat? It's happening now :) -1:07 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot @ADonnRowley Some writing situations call for a cliché, whether one likes it or not. Be brave...go for the cliché, if needed. #litchat -1:07 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CathrynLouis How can you truly escape clichés? Isn't it about making a known story fresh? #litchat -1:07 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GLHancock @ADonnRowley I have no objection to clichés in dialogue as long as it fits the character. Highly educated people avoid clichés. #litchat -1:07 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley Indeed. RT @CoffeesCommutes: .@ADonnRowley Cliches can be a good starting point for a meaningful exploration & discussion I think #litchat -1:07 PM Jun 18th, 2010
TonyNoland I'm as pleased as punch to be joining #litchat for a few minutes. -1:08 PM Jun 18th, 2010

Azrael52 @LitChat Won't be able to make it this time, but I'll skim over later. #litchat -1:08 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @CathrynLouis I agree with you. Sometimes, we get too obsessed with originality. #litchat -1:08 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @ADonnRowley Cliches also make good writing prompts/exercises. I use them when I coach writing with students. #litchat -1:08 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CoffeesCommutes @ADonnRowley @GLHancock Cliches are rooted in truth so they are sometimes easier to relate to #litchat -1:08 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @GLHancock "Highly educated people avoid cliches." Not sure I agree. What do you all think? #litchat -1:09 PM Jun 18th, 2010

jevonbolden RT @LitChat: Our topic this week: BEYOND CLICHE. Well be asking @ADonnRowley about how she handles cliches in LIFE AFTER YES. #litchat -1:09 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass @ADonnRowley: Just shows that Ivy League pedigree doesn't buy security. Character does. And it's not printed on a diploma. #litchat -1:09 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @CathrynLouis You are right. We cannot always escape cliches. #litchat -1:09 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley RT @CoffeesCommutes: @ADonnRowley @GLHancock Cliches are rooted in truth so they are sometimes easier to relate to #litchat -1:09 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs @ADonnRowley Cliches, good when serve as shorthand in story dev. Bad when overused to deny fresh literature #litchat -1:10 PM Jun 18th, 2010

martithomasberm I find my critique group responds enthusiastically when I put a new twist on a cliché. #litchat -1:10 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @ADonnRowley the assumption with that statement is that only inexperienced writers use cliches...so what's Stephen King's excuse? #litchat -1:10 PM Jun 18th, 2010

AuthorWilliam RT @CathrynLouis: How can you truly escape cliches? Isn't it about making a known story fresh? #litchat -1:10 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @CarolyBurnsBass Amen. We are all insecure. All of us. #litchat -1:10 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CathrynLouis @ADonnRowley - especially since new ones are always being defined... #litchat -1:10 PM Jun 18th, 2010

IanB022 RT @ADonnRowley: @GLHancock "Highly educated people avoid cliches." Cliches can be a useful tool if used sparingly #litchat -1:10 PM Jun 18th, 2010

Madison_Woods @ADonnRowley It depends on context. Sometimes th cliché expresses neatly what I'm trying to say, w/o roundabout talk to avoid it. #litchat -1:10 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TonyNoland @ADonnRowley I think it depends on context. Speaking informally, probably as susceptible as anyone else. #litchat -1:11 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @DebraMarrs I agree completely. #litchat -1:11 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs @CarolyBurnsBass Brilliant! RT: Just shows IvyLeague pedigree doesnt buy security. Character does. And it isn't printed on diploma. #litchat -1:11 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs @martithomasberm Interesting idea RT: I find my critique group responds enthusiastically when I put a new twist on a cliché. #litchat -1:11 PM Jun 18th, 2010

AuthorWilliam The word "Cliche" is a cliché. It's overused and played out incorporating too many definitions. Sometime a "cliche" is useful. #litchat -1:12 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GLHancock @IanB022 Right -- I ran out of space. Used sparingly and knowingly. It is when author does not realize ms littered with 'em-bad. #litchat -1:12 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley "Resisting becoming a cliché is a cliché in itself, so why bother?" http://bit.ly/aSlddb (Psychology Today) #litchat -1:12 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CathrynLouis General question - which do you try hardest to avoid? Cliches in plot line or cliches in dialogue? #litchat -1:12 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass @ADonnRowley Highly educated people often live cliches. So do lowly educated people. Cliches are inescapable. We can resist, tho. #litchat -1:12 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley @TonyNoland Indeed context is everything. #litchat -1:12 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CathrynLouis @AuthorWilliam You have a point! #litchat -1:12 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot @CathrynLouis I resist cliches in plot line: using cliches in dialogue is human. Everyone speaks in cliches from time to time. #litchat -1:13 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CoffeesCommutes .@ADonnRowley I disagree with that statement. It's about knowing how to use them. That's the mark of a good writer. Balance #litchat -1:13 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley @CarolyBurnsBass Yup. I am a cliché. A Starbucks-swilling lawyer-turned-author. Anyone else? #litchat -1:13 PM Jun 18th, 2010
marisabirns Are we talking about cliches in expression: "butterflies in the stomach" or stereotypes: streetwalker with a heart of gold? #litchat -1:13 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass Because it builds character.RT @ADonnRowley:"Resisting becoming a cliché is a cliché in itself,so why bother?" http://bit.ly/aSlddb #litchat -1:13 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot @ADonnRowley Me, too: Teacher by day, writer by night. #litchat -1:13 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GeneDoucette Missed #scifichat today, maybe I'll hang in here for a few... #litchat -1:14 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley @marisabirns I'd say both. There are many types of cliché. #litchat -1:14 PM Jun 18th, 2010
LitChat Both. RT @marisabirns: cliches in expression: "butterflies in the stomach" or stereotypes: streetwalker with a heart of gold? #litchat -1:14 PM Jun 18th, 2010
DebraMarrs @gamesafoot Gr8 distinction RT: resist cliches in plot line: use cliches in dialogue is human. Everyone speaks in cliches from X2X. #litchat -1:14 PM Jun 18th, 2010
theworldamongus RT @AuthorWilliam: The word "Cliche" is a cliché. It's overused and played out incorporating too many definitions. Sometime a "cliche" is useful. #litchat -1:14 PM Jun 18th, 2010
coffeewithjulie Is that a cliché? RT @ADonnRowley: @CarolyBurnsBass Yup. I am a cliché. A Starbucks-swilling lawyer-turned-author. Anyone else? #litchat -1:14 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GeneDoucette If you don't know if it's a cliché, check and see if Bon Jovi has put it into a song. If he has, it's a cliché. #litchat -1:15 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley Does preoccupation with originality paralyze us though? Maybe there is something liberating about indulging in the periodic cliché? #litchat -1:15 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CathrynLouis @gamesafoot I think so too. #litchat -1:15 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot @coffeewithjulie Oh, yeah. After John Grisham wrote his books while commuting, it seems every other lawyer does the same. #litchat -1:15 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CoffeesCommutes Love that about you! RT @ADonnRowley: @CarolyBurnsBass Yup. I am a cliché. A Starbucks-swilling lawyer-turned-author. Anyone else? #litchat -1:15 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GLHancock Cliches pop out when I'm tired or with friends or writing quickly (as on Twitter or a blog post I want to get out fast). #litchat -1:15 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley @coffeewithjulie I think that on some level we are all clichés. All variations on a well-worn theme... #litchat -1:15 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs @marisabirns Nice Q. Seems we're talking abt both stereotypes and dialogue. Confusing in 140 chars sometimes, tho #litchat -1:15 PM Jun 18th, 2010

mpherndon Hi everyone. Late to the party. #litchat -1:15 PM Jun 18th, 2010

coffeewithjulie I don't automatically put lawyer and novelist together. RT @ADonnRowley: @CarolyBurnsBass Yup. I am a cliché. A Starbucks-...#litchat -1:16 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GeneDoucette @ADonnRowley I gave up on true originality back in college, as a playwright. #litchat -1:16 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @GeneDoucette :) #litchat -1:16 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @mpherndon Dang. Now we have to stop talking about you. :) #litchat -1:16 PM Jun 18th, 2010

marisabirns @ADonnRowley Yes. Trying to reinvent the wheel each time is paralyzing :) #litchat -1:16 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GLHancock You can use 'em in first draft, then edit them out. #litchat -1:16 PM Jun 18th, 2010

AuthorWilliam @ADonnRowley I love the point you're making with that. It's a strong one. Artists communities can get bound by this line of thought #litchat -1:16 PM Jun 18th, 2010

mpherndon @gamesafoot nah, I'm cool like that. #litchat -1:17 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CathrynLouis @ADonnRowley As a new novelist, I probably don't know enough to try to resist clichés. Is writing from the heart a cliché? #litchat -1:17 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @marisabirns From a reader's perspective avoiding clichés may make for clunky writing. #litchat -1:17 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley Can we ever edit them all out though? I don't think so. RT @GLHancock: You can use em in first draft, then edit them out. #litchat -1:17 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @CathrynLouis Good question. #litchat -1:17 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @CathrynLouis "writing from the heart"? Yes, a cliché: but a sweet one so may endear in the right context. #litchat -1:18 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GLHancock @ADonnRowley The problem come in being unable to recognize them. #litchat -1:18 PM Jun 18th, 2010

AuthorWilliam To @ADonnRowley 's point: If we try to hard to avoid clichés we can become cliché in doing so and sever connection with audiience #litchat -1:18 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CoffeesCommutes Timeless is meaningful and never gets tired. Of that I'm certain #litchat -1:18 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot Is it possible to use clichés as "flavoring" to a otherwise bland scene? #litchat -1:18 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @gamesafoot Good point. Sometimes clichés are practical choices. We are trying to communicate after all. #litchat -1:18 PM Jun 18th, 2010

sharifwrites @ADonnRowley It does feel liberating sometimes. #litchat -1:18 PM Jun 18th, 2010

mpherndon @CathrynLouis I am new as well, and I was thinking on Wednesday that I may not be "aware" of cliché' that appears obv to others. #litchat -1:18 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley Define cliché. (I am not sure I can.) #litchat -1:19 PM Jun 18th, 2010

jevonbolden @ADonnRowley Editing out all the clichés can lead to a stilted, unnatural flow. #litchat -1:19 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @gamesafoot Clichés as flavoring the meal of words. I like this. #litchat -1:19 PM Jun 18th, 2010

AuthorWilliam @GLHancock That's a nice point. #litchat -1:19 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CathrynLouis @mpherndon But is that important? If the story has strong characters and dramatic conflict that holds the readers interest? #litchat -1:19 PM Jun 18th, 2010
IanB022 More important to know which are safe to leave in? RT @ADonnRowley: Can we ever edit them all out though? I don't think so. #litchat -1:19 PM Jun 18th, 2010
storiesofsommer @ADonnRowley @AuthorWilliam Being human is a cliché #litchat -1:19 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot Could clichés also be cultural? A cliché to you may not mean the same to me? #litchat -1:20 PM Jun 18th, 2010
TonyNoland I've had beta readers point out clichés in pieces that I would have bet money on being cliché-free. Invaluable. #litchat -1:20 PM Jun 18th, 2010
LitChat Did you deliberately write clichés into LIFE AFTER YES? #litchat -1:20 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GLHancock @ADonnRowley Don't you think a writer's use of clichés may also depend on the intended audience? Dont use 'em in academic writing. #litchat -1:20 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley Absolutely. RT @jevonbolden: @ADonnRowley Editing out all the clichés can lead to a stilted, unnatural flow. #litchat -1:20 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CathrynLouis @ADonnRowley Good point - I'm not sure either. #litchat -1:20 PM Jun 18th, 2010
AuthorWilliam An improv teacher once said of the rules: You can only break rules that you know really, really well. I think applies to clichés #litchat -1:20 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GeneDoucette If you're writing dialogue and find yourself writing what A Person would say rather than what Your Character would say... #litchat -1:20 PM Jun 18th, 2010
mpherndon @CathrynLouis I feel it would depend on the audience for the book/writing #litchat -1:21 PM Jun 18th, 2010
JBaer10314 Cliches suck. #litchat -1:21 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley I believe this. RT @AuthorWilliam: You can only break rules that you know really, really well. I think applies to clichés #litchat -1:21 PM Jun 18th, 2010
marisabirns @ADonnRowley Cliches are tired, overused and don't impart information anymore. Sort of white noise. #litchat -1:21 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley Way to boil it down, Alisha. Brilliant. RT @storiesofsommer: @ADonnRowley @AuthorWilliam Being human is a cliché #litchat -1:21 PM Jun 18th, 2010
AuthorWilliam @ADonnRowley You're right there are so many layers of clichés. I think cliché is more of fragrance at this point than a definition #litchat -1:21 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CathrynLouis @GeneDoucette that I understand. Isn't that bad just bad writing though? #litchat -1:21 PM Jun 18th, 2010
jevonbolden @AuthorWilliam I like that William. I had a teacher who said the same thing. She used a massive run-on sentence written by MLK Jr. #litchat -1:21 PM Jun 18th, 2010
coffeewithjulie Interesting! RT @TonyNoland: I've had beta readers point out clichés in pieces that I would have bet money on being cliché-free.. #litchat -1:21 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass Applies to writing. RT @AuthorWilliam: An improv teacher once said of rules: You can only break rules that you know really well. #litchat -1:22 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GLHancock @LitChat I'd be interested to know who chose this topic and most of all, why? #litchat -1:22 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley I disagree. I think they can be a writer's ally. RT @JBaer10314: Cliches suck. #litchat -1:22 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GeneDoucette @CathrynLouis Yes. And clichés are bad writing. #litchat -1:22 PM Jun 18th, 2010
TaoJoannes Is litchat discussing cliché? #litchat -1:22 PM Jun 18th, 2010

corb21 You know, #litchat, I have a special soft spot in my heart for cliches and puns but they have their place and time. -1:22 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LouiseBroadbent #litchat @AuthorWilliam My creative writing teacher taught me that, too. I think it's a good rule to go by. -1:22 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CoffeesCommutes RT @ADonnRowley: Way to boil it down, Alisha. Brilliant. RT @storiesofsommer: @ADonnRowley @AuthorWilliam Being human is a cliché #litchat -1:22 PM Jun 18th, 2010

moonbridgebooks RT @marisabirns: @ADonnRowley Cliches are tired, overused and don't impart information anymore. Sort of white noise. #litchat -1:22 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley Who decides what is good and bad writing? RT @GeneDoucette: @CathrynLouis Yes. And cliches are bad writing. #litchat -1:22 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot I'm in disagreement that cliches are a bad thing: sprinkled here and there, they can draw in a reader with their familiarity. #litchat -1:23 PM Jun 18th, 2010

jevonbolden RT @AuthorWilliam: A teacher once said of the rules: U can only break rules u know really, really well. I think applies to cliches #litchat -1:23 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @gamesafoot but are you writing for your culture, or a culture you don't understand? #litchat -1:23 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GeneDoucette @ADonnRowley I do. #litchat -1:23 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GeneDoucette @ADonnRowley Just kidding. #litchat -1:23 PM Jun 18th, 2010

mpherndon Well, as a newbie I would ask, are there broad subjects that are cliché' or are we talking about specifics? #litchat -1:23 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @ADonnRowley the reader decides #litchat -1:23 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LouiseBroadbent #litchat Cliches can be abused. -1:23 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LitChat Yes. Cliche has been our topic of the week. RT @TaoJoannes: Is litchat discussing cliché? #litchat -1:23 PM Jun 18th, 2010

cindymariej Just checking into #litchat after a Career Coaching session. Cliches are a great topic! -1:23 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot Cliches can create a platform of commonality between reader and writer. They just need spare usage. #litchat -1:23 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @mpherndon Good question. One I don't know how to answer. #litchat -1:24 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @mpherndon cliches can be phrases, in dialog or narrative, or even characters, settings, events #litchat -1:24 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GeneDoucette OK, problem is, a cliché can be a big thing, like a plot thing. Or it can be a small thing, like in dialogue. #litchat -1:24 PM Jun 18th, 2010

Moribundy On a certain level, readers need cliches. If it's so unfamiliar that no one has experienced it before, how can we relate to it? #litchat -1:24 PM Jun 18th, 2010

so_you_know @LitChat very interesting discussion. again. #litchat just listening... -1:24 PM Jun 18th, 2010

coffeewithjulie @gamesafoot Yes. I often get drawn into a book where I recognize the situation or character but want to see a different response #litchat -1:24 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @Moribundy "Readers need cliches." Interesting. Very interesting. #litchat -1:25 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GeneDoucette A cliché as part of a larger plot may not be a bad thing. But a cliché piece of dialogue is almost always a bad thing. #litchat -1:25 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GLHancock If I were writing a genre novel with, say, a cafe waitress just out of high school, she would use cliches to express herself. #litchat -1:25 PM Jun 18th, 2010

mpherndon @ADonnRowley I just think everything in the world can boil down to cliché at some point, it is in how approached. #litchat -1:25 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CathrynLouis @ADonnRowley from my POV as an author, it's relying on formula and the tried and true instead of 'original' writing. #litchat -1:25 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LouiseBroadbent @ADonnRowley Creative Writing teachers? Editors? Slush monkeys? Agents? Competition judges? #litchat -1:25 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @GeneDoucette right. "star crossed lovers" "hooker with a heart of gold" "white knight" = cliché #litchat -1:25 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LitChat @GLHancock I chose this topic after reading through @ADonnRowley's website where she talks about living and writing cliches. #litchat -1:25 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @coffeewithjulie Exactly. How about someone reveling in a "dark and stormy night"? #litchat -1:25 PM Jun 18th, 2010

sharifwrites @Moribundy Yes, it can segue into originality. #litchat -1:25 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @CathrynLouis But what is "original writing" really? #litchat -1:25 PM Jun 18th, 2010

martithomasberm The thing I find the most difficult is avoiding clichéd gestures when writing character reactions. #litchat -1:26 PM Jun 18th, 2010

mpherndon @CathrynLouis That makes sense. #litchat -1:26 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GeneDoucette @TaoJoannes Yes #litchat -1:26 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @GLHancock sure. A character may USE clichéd dialogue, that would be characterization, probably effective #litchat -1:26 PM Jun 18th, 2010

AuthorWilliam It seems like there is a fine line between the familiar and cliché. We seem to be touching on both here. #litchat -1:26 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CoffeesCommutes There are many great writer's who have been known to use tried & true cliches, b/c they are an extension of real life #litchat -1:26 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GLHancock @LitChat TY And are you Carolyn? #litchat -1:26 PM Jun 18th, 2010

IanB022 Disagree, it can reveal a lot about character. RT @GeneDoucette: But a cliché piece of dialogue is almost always a bad thing. #litchat -1:26 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley My book LIFE AFTER YES is, ultimately, a commentary on cliches in life and love. <http://bit.ly/c4GZXf> #litchat -1:26 PM Jun 18th, 2010

coffeewithjulie Yes. Which are we speaking of? RT @GeneDoucette: OK, problem is, a cliché can be a big thing, like a plot thing. Or it ca... #litchat -1:27 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs Rejoining you. Got bumped off internet. Big lightning strike outside window. Typical FL day in summer :-) #litchat -1:27 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CathrynLouis @ADonnRowley That's why I quoted it. I think it depends on the author and is hard to define. #litchat -1:27 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GeneDoucette @IanB022 Used ironically or as a meta commentary, yes. But then it's not cliché any more, it's commentary on cliché. #litchat -1:27 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GLHancock @TaoJoannes So might the narrator, depending on the intended audience and "character" of the narrator. #litchat -1:27 PM Jun 18th, 2010

notsuperjustmom @CoffeesCommutes Also, cliches become cliches because there is truth in them, so why not use them occasionally. #litchat -1:27 PM Jun 18th, 2010

storiesofsommer "@ADonnRowley: Way to boil it down, Alisha. Brilliant. RT @storiesofsommer: Being human is a cliché #litchat" --- thank you, Aidan. -1:27 PM Jun 18th, 2010

coffeewithjulie @gamesafoot Which is just lazy writing. As opposed to using the cliché for reader engagement #litchat -1:27 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass What if high school waitress working to earn money for freshman year at NYU?RT@GLHancock:she would use clichés to express herself. #litchat -1:27 PM Jun 18th, 2010
LouiseBroadbent @Moribundy Not everything familiar is a cliché, though. #litchat -1:28 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley RT @notsuperjustmom: @CoffeesCommutes Also clichés become clichés because there is truth in them, so why not use them occasionally. #litchat -1:28 PM Jun 18th, 2010
TaoJoannes @GLHancock i think that might get tiresome, though, unless the author is careful #litchat -1:28 PM Jun 18th, 2010
agnieszkasshoes @ADonnRowley hello, another latecomer to #litchat I'd say fashionably late but that'd be a cliché -1:28 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CathrynLouis It seems to me that characters live on the page and if the story flows from them, it can't be cliché. Thoughts? #litchat -1:28 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot My least favorite romantic cliché? "The boy/girl next door is THE one." #litchat -1:29 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley Where is line btwn familiarity and cliché? Is there 1? RT @LouiseBroadbent: @Moribundy Not everything familiar is a cliché, though. #litchat -1:29 PM Jun 18th, 2010
formlit hello #litchat -1:29 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GLHancock @CarolyBurnsBass Career waitress, waiting to snag a man. ;-) #litchat -1:29 PM Jun 18th, 2010
storiesofsommer "@ADonnRowley:I believe this.RT@AuthorWilliam:U cn only break rules that u know really, really well.I think applies 2 clichés #litchat" -yes -1:29 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley Oooh. Not a fan of that one either. RT @gamesafoot: My least favorite romantic cliché? "The boy/girl next door is THE one." #litchat -1:29 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GeneDoucette A writer using clichés that is aware they are clichés is different from a writer who thinks he/she has just written smthng clever #litchat -1:29 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass Guilty. RT @GLHancock: @LitChat TY And are you Carolyn? #litchat -1:29 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley @formlit Welcome. #litchat -1:29 PM Jun 18th, 2010
TaoJoannes @coffeewithjulie Terry Pratchett does well with cliché, but he's obvious about it, like a dramatic gesture, outside of satire, tho #litchat -1:29 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CathrynLouis @gamesafoot But what if it is true for those characters and told in a way that you didn't expect? #litchat -1:29 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GLHancock @gamesafoot My romantic bugaboo is "the love of my life". #litchat -1:30 PM Jun 18th, 2010
notsuperjustmom Clichés should be widely known, but familiarity changes as audience changes, IMO #litchat -1:30 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley @GeneDoucette Yes, awareness of usage makes a profound difference. #litchat -1:30 PM Jun 18th, 2010
so_you_know @CathrynLouis i agree. to make a cliché not fit in a box--the reader's mind--is craft. #litchat -1:30 PM Jun 18th, 2010
TaoJoannes RT @GeneDoucette: A writer using clichés that is aware they are clichés is different from a writer who thinks he/she has just written smthng clever #litchat -1:31 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley @GLHancock Or "the one." #litchat -1:31 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @CathrynLouis Yes. I can live with that...but a truly gifted writer would need to take that on. It's so tired. #litchat -1:31 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LouiseBroadbent @notsuperjustmom Not necessarily, a lot of cliches don't actually make sense. E.g. 'broken heart' - hearts don't literally break. #litchat -1:31 PM Jun 18th, 2010

agnieszkasshoes @GeneDoucette then again saying "I used the cliché in a postmodern fashion as a commentary on clichés" was THE cliché of the 90s #litchat -1:31 PM Jun 18th, 2010

formlit @GLHancock I thought all romances had someone who is the love of their life #litchat -1:31 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @GeneDoucette "It was a dark and stormy night" oh, that's good, that's really good #litchat -1:31 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CoffeesCommutes RT @GeneDoucette: A writer using clichés that is aware of it is diff from one who thinks he/she has just written smthng clever #litchat -1:31 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @GLHancock 2nd least favorite? The alpha boss "discovering" his longtime mousy secretary and having a steamy affair. #litchat -1:31 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GeneDoucette @ADonnRowley I have read more than my share of awful screenplays by people who just plugged in cliché after cliché #litchat -1:31 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CathrynLouis @LouiseBroadbent no - they can just get pulverized... #litchat -1:32 PM Jun 18th, 2010

formlit @TaoJoannes lol yeah though i think my wip begins like that. in a storm, anyway #litchat -1:32 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley Write a sentence that does not include a cliché. Quick. #litchat -1:32 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GeneDoucette @agnieszkasshoes LOL good point #litchat -1:32 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GLHancock @gamesafoot Well, that's a plot or theme. For me, a cliché is a phrase, not a character or plot. #litchat -1:32 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs @gamesafoot re: Cliches create platform of commonality betw. reader and writer, I think of it as shorthand #litchat -1:32 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TonyNoland I don't mind "boy/girl next door is THE one" if this is determined as a result of exploration of other people. Harry Met Sally. #litchat -1:33 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LitChat Will you give a signed book to a winner you choose? RT @ADonnRowley: Write a sentence that does not include a cliché. Quick. #litchat -1:33 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CathrynLouis @TaoJoannes you know, I actually wrote that into my first book - but the character who thought it was making fun of it. #litchat -1:33 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley Major literary cliché? Starting a novel with a dream. Guess what I did? Started my novel with a dream. (And I think it works.) #litchat -1:33 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @gamesafoot my WIP uses the premise. boy next door is smitten. She leads him into a string of crimes #litchat -1:33 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @ADonnRowley She smirked at his feeble attempt at manliness. #litchat -1:33 PM Jun 18th, 2010

BenteGallagher Cliché = bad writing. A good writer can take a cliché - character, situation, dialogue - and make it not a cliché. IMHO. #litchat -1:33 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CathrynLouis @ADonnRowley Hi. #litchat -1:33 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @TaoJoannes Ah. Noir? #litchat -1:33 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GeneDoucette @DebraMarrs Isn't the English language enough of a platform of commonality? #litchat -1:33 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs @gamesafoot Once commonality around cliché established, writer better be fresh after that or I'm not happy reader #litchat -1:33 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ridingnwriting RT @LouiseBroadbent: @notsuperjustmom Not necessarily, a lot of clichés don't actually make sense. E.g. 'broken heart' - hearts don't literally break. #litchat -1:33 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @LitChat Absolutely. I will choose best non-cliché sentence and send a signed copy of LIFE AFTER YES. #litchat -1:34 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @formlit just saw an agent's advice "don't ever start narrative with weather" #litchat :) -1:34 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LitChat RT @gamesafoot: @ADonnRowley She smirked at his feeble attempt at manliness. #clichefest #litchat -1:34 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot YES! RT @DebraMarrs: Once commonality around cliché established, writer better be fresh after that or I'm not happy reader #litchat -1:34 PM Jun 18th, 2010

corb21 RT @BenteGallagher: Cliché = bad writing. A good writer can take a cliché - character, situation, dialogue & make it not a cliché. #litchat -1:34 PM Jun 18th, 2010

Moribundy I agree not everything familiar is cliché, but sometimes it's comforting to have a cliché. You know protag, antag, tragic ending. #litchat -1:35 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CathrynLouis @GLHancock Can't it be any of the three? #litchat -1:35 PM Jun 18th, 2010

martithomasberm @TaoJoannes. All agents say that. #litchat -1:35 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LouiseBroadbent I do think, though, that it's more important to be true to a character's voice than obey rules like 'avoid clichés'. #litchat -1:35 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @gamesafoot prolly can't get much darker, lol #litchat -1:35 PM Jun 18th, 2010

Moribundy We're used to reading about them. As long as you shake things up you're cool. #litchat -1:35 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley Is the quest for originality itself a cliché? #litchat -1:35 PM Jun 18th, 2010

moonbridgebooks The flipside of clichés is trying to write so original that it is distracting to the reader. #litchat -1:35 PM Jun 18th, 2010

Saffy Taking a peek at #litchat to see if anything interesting is happening but thinking a walk about and some #art instead -1:35 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GLHancock A newspaper editor once contacted me asking for a source of clichés. He wanted one for a headline! I was flabbergasted! #litchat -1:35 PM Jun 18th, 2010

formlit @ADonnRowley dreams beginnings annoy me. i get all drawn in, than it turns out that it wasn't real #litchat -1:35 PM Jun 18th, 2010

notsuperjustmom @LouiseBroadbent True. #litchat -1:35 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LouiseBroadbent In saying that, I tend to avoid characters who speak in clichés. #litchat -1:35 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @TaoJoannes Being a big fan of Noir...it's cliché after cliché after cliché spun upon itself. Just read MacDonald or Chandler. #litchat -1:35 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LitChat Thanks! We'll tag em #clichefest. @ADonnRowley: Absolutely. I'll choose best non-cliché sentence & send signed copy LIFE AFTER YES. #litchat -1:35 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GLHancock @moonbridgebooks That's called "literary" #litchat -1:36 PM Jun 18th, 2010

formlit @TaoJoannes i didn't. the storm was there, in the background, and she was out in it #litchat -1:36 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @GLHancock Years ago, there was a website devoted to clichés, but it's long since disappeared. #litchat -1:36 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @formlit Fair enough. I make it clear that it's a dream. Not sure that makes a difference? #litchat -1:36 PM Jun 18th, 2010
TonyNoland RT @moonbridgebooks: The flipside of cliches is trying to write so original that it is distracting to the reader. #litchat -1:36 PM Jun 18th, 2010
Moribundy I believe that even if the story has been written b4, it'll b dif bcuz a dif person, with dif bkgrnd,voice,opinion is writing it. #litchat -1:36 PM Jun 18th, 2010
Moribundy A person brings a bit of themselves into the cliché. #litchat -1:36 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GeneDoucette Is it a cliché if you tell the reader it's a dream? I've done this. #litchat -1:37 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GLHancock @gamesafoot The Cliche Finder is still quite active. Wait a mo, I'll find it. #litchat -1:37 PM Jun 18th, 2010
coffeewithjulie @ADonnRowley She jumped in her mini-van, food stains on her shirt, soccer ball hanging from the rear view mirror ... doh! #litchat -1:37 PM Jun 18th, 2010
AuthorWilliam Her apprehension tore the edges of his heart, pulling them from top to bottom in tiny strips until he was certain she'd withdraw. #litchat -1:37 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot @Moribundy I like to keep an open mind with new writers if they're writing an old "tried and true" story. #litchat -1:37 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley Does commercial fiction contain more cliches than literary fiction? Thoughts on commercial v. literary? #litchat -1:37 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ridingnwriting Is it possible to combine cliches in a way that makes them fresh and interesting? #litchat -1:37 PM Jun 18th, 2010
LitChat After chat, post your best non-cliche sentence w/ #clichifest. @ADonnRowley will choose a winner and send signed LIFE AFTER YES. #litchat -1:37 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot @GLHancock THAT WAS IT! Wow. I need to attend chats more often. #litchat -1:37 PM Jun 18th, 2010
notsuperjustmom @ADonnRowley Perhaps. I'm of the opinion that there are few original thoughts in literature. #litchat -1:37 PM Jun 18th, 2010
formlit @ADonnRowley if it is clear from the beginning it is a dream, than that's okay, but if i find out after? its a turn off for me #litchat -1:37 PM Jun 18th, 2010
TaoJoannes @formlit see, that could be valid, it's all in handling #litchat -1:37 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GLHancock www.westegg.com/cliche/ is a "wellspring" of trite phrases for the cliché-impaired. #litchat -1:38 PM Jun 18th, 2010
coffeewithjulie RT @TonyNoland: RT @moonbridgebooks: The flipside of cliches is trying to write so original that it is distracting to the reader. #litchat -1:38 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley I think so. RT @ridingnwriting: Is it possible to combine cliches in a way that makes them fresh and interesting? #litchat -1:38 PM Jun 18th, 2010
Moribundy RT @TonyNoland: RT @moonbridgebooks: The flipside of cliches is trying to write so original that it is distracting to the reader. #litchat -1:38 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot @ADonnRowley I don't like separating commercial vs. literary. It reeks of segregation. #litchat -1:38 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CathrynLouis @ADonnRowley Isn't literary fiction defined by it's lack of cliché? #litchat -1:38 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley I hate this separation too. RT @gamesafoot: @ADonnRowley I dont like separating commercial vs. literary. It reeks of segregation. #litchat -1:38 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley Compelling question. I don't pretend to know. RT @CathrynLouis: @ADonnRowley Isnt literary fiction defined by its lack of cliché? #litchat -1:39 PM Jun 18th, 2010

Moribundy @ADonnRowley I think just because 1 is commercial or lit doesn't mean it'll have clichés or not - depends on writer #litchat -1:39 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot Piers Anthony's Xanth series features primarily puns, but also a great many clichés. It worked well for him. #litchat -1:39 PM Jun 18th, 2010

Moribundy RT @gamesafoot: @ADonnRowley I don't like separating commercial vs. literary. It reeks of segregation. #litchat -1:39 PM Jun 18th, 2010

agnieszkasshoes RT @moonbridgebooks: The flipside of clichés is trying to write so original that it is distracting to the reader. #litchat >yes! -1:39 PM Jun 18th, 2010

martithomasberm @CathrynLouis. Honest to god, once had an editor at St Martins define literary fiction as using lots of fancy words. Really. #litchat -1:39 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CoffeesCommutes @ADonnRowley I would say commercial fiction isn't as adept at using them, they may be more obvious. #litchat -1:40 PM Jun 18th, 2010

formlit @CathrynLouis don't think it is use of clichés that separates them #litchat -1:40 PM Jun 18th, 2010

so_you_know @gamesafoot it reeks because often it is.doesn't mean good or bad but commercial is different than literary. a few, few, cross over #litchat -1:40 PM Jun 18th, 2010

AuthorWilliam @LitChat I posted mine just in the chatroom and also directly to @AdonnRowley. Will that get me considered? #clichefest #litchat -1:40 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @litchat I guess, the prob with cliché is when you use it to do your work for you, relying on worn images, phrases #litchat -1:40 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley I don't think so. RT @GeneDoucette: Is it a cliché if you tell the reader its a dream? Ive done this. #litchat -1:40 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @martithomasberm My last English Professor said the exact same thing and then started laughing. #litchat -1:40 PM Jun 18th, 2010

agnieszkasshoes @GeneDoucette maybe not so much in lit but Wes Craven certainly got the ball rolling in film #litchat -1:40 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CathrynLouis When does something become cliché? I think vampires are cliché for example, but when did that happen? #litchat -1:40 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs @GeneDoucette True, English language enuf for commonality, but verbose writers may need to use shorthand at times #litchat -1:40 PM Jun 18th, 2010

notsuperjustmom @ADonnRowley YES. Absolutely. A work's ability to endure is known by its quality. Clichéd, repetitive works are not quality. IMO. #litchat -1:41 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley RT @CathrynLouis: When does something become cliché? I think vampires are cliché for example, but when did that happen? #litchat -1:41 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @so_you_know The segregation assumes that readers go one way or another. I read all across genres and styles. #litchat -1:41 PM Jun 18th, 2010

moonbridgebooks @ADonnRowley re don't like separating commercial from literary - well, there is formulaic commercial that is annoying #litchat -1:41 PM Jun 18th, 2010

AuthorWilliam RT @ADonnRowley: I hate this separation too. RT @gamesafoot: @ADonnRowley I dont like separating commercial vs. literary. It reeks of segregation. #litchat -1:41 PM Jun 18th, 2010

coffeewithjulie Hmmm... good point. RT @ADonnRowley: RT @CathrynLouis: Isnt literary fiction defined by its lack of cliché? #litchat -1:41 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LitChat @AuthorWilliam: I suggest you post also to #clichefest #litchat -1:41 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley Are you a cliché? #litchat -1:41 PM Jun 18th, 2010
formlit @CathrynLouis when nearly every romance/urban fantasy out there started featuring them #litchat -1:41 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CoffeesCommutes @ADonnRowley @CathrynLouis I would argue a resounding know. Cliches are abundant, just less obvious #litchat -1:41 PM Jun 18th, 2010
DebraMarrs @GeneDoucette Personally not a fan of verbose nor cliché unless cliché is for humor writing. Then is way funny! #litchat -1:41 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot Remember: what was deemed "commercial" years ago, is now considered "literary". Ex: Pride and Prejudice; Tom Sawyer, Oliver Twist #litchat -1:42 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CathrynLouis @TaoJoannes thank you! I couldn't say it right. #litchat -1:42 PM Jun 18th, 2010
so_you_know @gamesafoot i agree. i do too. BUT i think there is a distinction in the product, not necessarily what is read & by whom. #litchat -1:42 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley @moonbridgebooks Agreed. But there is a lot of writing that is hard to pin down, so why must we label? #litchat -1:42 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GLHancock @ADonnRowley *raises hand tentatively* cranky editor here. #litchat -1:42 PM Jun 18th, 2010
TaoJoannes @CathrynLouis depends on handling. vampire can be archetype. jekyll and hyde, ex. as werewolf, hidden nasty in man #litchat -1:42 PM Jun 18th, 2010
notsuperjustmom RT @so_you_know: @gamesafoot it reeks because often it is.doesn't mean good or bad but commercial is different than literary. a few, few, cross over #litchat -1:42 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GeneDoucette @moonbridgebooks I don't avoid cliché. When I rewrite I find the cliché parts annoying, and remove them. #litchat -1:42 PM Jun 18th, 2010
Moribundy RT @gamesafoot: Remember: what was deemed "commercial" years ago, is now considered "literary". Ex: Pride and Prejudice; Tom Sawyer, Oliver Twist #litchat -1:42 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot @so_you_know A distinction in the product is a mistake made by publishers...and is probably a good discussion topic later. #litchat -1:42 PM Jun 18th, 2010
clairelegrand RT @ADonnRowley: I hate this separation too. RT @gamesafoot: @ADonnRowley I dont like separating commercial vs. literary. It reeks of segregation. #litchat -1:43 PM Jun 18th, 2010
IanB022 RT @CathrynLouis: Isn't literary fiction defined by it's lack of cliché? #litchat - Have you read Atonement? Some horribly clichéd plot -1:43 PM Jun 18th, 2010
AuthorWilliam @ADonnRowley I am a mix. I am both a series of Cliches and perturbing contradictions. :-\ #litchat -1:43 PM Jun 18th, 2010
TaoJoannes RT @GeneDoucette: @moonbridgebooks I don't avoid cliché. When I rewrite I find the cliché parts annoying, and remove them. #litchat -1:43 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CathrynLouis @ADonnRowley probably - but does that make me any less valid? #litchat -1:43 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot @ADonnRowley I hate to say this: we label it so that bookstores know where to shelf books...and I'm a former bookseller. #litchat -1:43 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CoffeesCommutes I suppose in the end, what is literary is all a matter of opinion. And that's the point #litchat -1:43 PM Jun 18th, 2010
so_you_know @gamesafoot my understanding of the definition of commercial is not per se popularity or mainstream #litchat more of a craft thing -1:43 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CathrynLouis @formlit so that says there was a time when vampires weren't cliché... #litchat -1:44 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @gamesafoot Ah, practicality rears its ugly head. (Yes, cliché.) #litchat -1:44 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs @notsuperjustmom Bravo! RT: A work's ability to endure is known by its quality. Cliché, repetitive works are not quality. IMO. #litchat -1:44 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley Absolutely not. I think we are all clichés. RT @CathrynLouis: @ADonnRowley probably - but does that make me any less valid? #litchat -1:44 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CLK_Shortcake RT @ADonnRowley: My book LIFE AFTER YES is, ultimately, a commentary on clichés in life and love. <http://bit.ly/c4GZXf> #litchat -1:44 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @ADonnRowley lol, starving unpublished writer in recovery #litchat -1:44 PM Jun 18th, 2010

Moribundy @IanB022 "Have you read Atonement?" Atonement was bad, imo. And it's "literary"? #litchat -1:44 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @gamesafoot potboilers vs. art, though, a valid distinction IMHO #litchat -1:45 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @so_you_know The labels, though, seem to apply to quality of writing...and that's not true. #litchat -1:45 PM Jun 18th, 2010

so_you_know @gamesafoot not far off from what is & isn't considered a cliché when discussing commercial vs literary etc. #litchat -1:45 PM Jun 18th, 2010

formlit @CathrynLouis yeah. clichés change. just depends on what is being overused, i think. & to know what you have to read current stuff #litchat -1:45 PM Jun 18th, 2010

AuthorWilliam @LitChat Done! #clichéfest #litchat -1:46 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GeneDoucette @RCMurphy Except I usually don't realize they're there until the rewrite. #litchat -1:46 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CoffeesCommutes @ADonnRowley @CathrynLouis That's the point. If we write from personal experience, impossible to avoid the cliché IMHO #litchat -1:46 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @TaoJoannes But the potboilers of 80 years ago are now the "classics" today. Look at Hammett, Chandler, Grey. #litchat -1:46 PM Jun 18th, 2010

notsuperjustmom @DebraMarrs TY. When an author churns out novel after novel after novel I question the quality. Writing becomes formulaic. #litchat -1:46 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley How many of you are novelists? Just curious! #litchat -1:46 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LouiseBroadbent Is a cliché the same as a stereotype? What's the difference? #litchat -1:47 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @ADonnRowley Wannabe novelist...does that count? #litchat -1:47 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs @so_you_know I agree w/you. Literary is a style not necessarily a popularity equation. #litchat -1:47 PM Jun 18th, 2010

martithomasberm Novelist. #litchat -1:47 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley Can avoidance of clichés be taught? I'm not so sure. #litchat -1:47 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GeneDoucette RT @gamesafoot: @TaoJoannes But the potboilers of 80 years ago are now the "classics" today: Hammett, Chandler, Grey./Shakespeare.. #litchat -1:47 PM Jun 18th, 2010

formlit @ADonnRowley raises hand #litchat -1:47 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass Yes. RT @gamesafoot: @TaoJoannes But the potboilers of 80 years ago are now the "classics" today. Look at Hammett, Chandler, Grey. #litchat -1:47 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CathrynLouis @formlit so is that what we mean by cliché - overuse? If that's the case, something cliché today may not be tomorrow. #litchat -1:47 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GLHancock @CoffeesCommutes Avoiding clichés is as easy as defining what the cliché means in other words. Not hard at all! Must 1st recognize #litchat -1:47 PM Jun 18th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @gamesafoot: @ADonnRowley I don't like separating commercial vs. literary. It reeks of segregation. #litchat -1:47 PM Jun 18th, 2010
dosankodebbie @DebraMarrs (whispers: Good morning. I made it. I'll just sneak in and listen quietly if you don't mind) #litchat -1:47 PM Jun 18th, 2010
TaoJoannes @gamesafoot good point, nostalgia tends to lend a bit of weight. but space opera vs hard sci-fi, for example #litchat -1:47 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GeneDoucette @ADonnRowley I am #litchat -1:47 PM Jun 18th, 2010
AuthorWilliam @ADonnRowley {raises hand} #litchat -1:48 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot @LouiseBroadbent Stereotype usually applies to a person or place. clichés I equate more with actions or dialogue. #litchat -1:48 PM Jun 18th, 2010
marisabirns @gamesafoot Yes! Just read about writer of THE HYPNOTIST which is placed in romance section because publisher is known for genre. #litchat -1:48 PM Jun 18th, 2010
deberryandgrant Popping in at 11th hr-- #litchat -1:48 PM Jun 18th, 2010
formlit @gamesafoot so true #litchat -1:48 PM Jun 18th, 2010
coffeewithjulie Can creativity be taught? RT @ADonnRowley: Can avoidance of clichés be taught? I'm not so sure. #litchat -1:48 PM Jun 18th, 2010
TaoJoannes @gamesafoot I love Lensman, but Ender has more literary merit, IMHO #litchat -1:48 PM Jun 18th, 2010
DebraMarrs @notsuperjustmom Oh, yeah. There are a lot of book churners. Sell on popularity of 1 aspect that becomes clichéd, but sells #litchat -1:48 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass Taught. Yes. Learned? Not necessarily. RT @ADonnRowley: Can avoidance of clichés be taught? I'm not so sure. #litchat -1:48 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley Does writer's block boil down to fear of clichés? #litchat -1:48 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot @TaoJoannes I think it has to do with the taste of reading over time. Verne was "crapwriting" of his time. Today he's a jewel. #litchat -1:48 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CathrynLouis @ADonnRowley I am - I say that even though I've only written one so far. #litchat -1:48 PM Jun 18th, 2010
dosankodebbie @ADonnRowley I translate Japanese novels into English. #litchat -1:48 PM Jun 18th, 2010
TonyNoland @ADonnRowley Unpublished as of yet, but yes. #litchat -1:49 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CoffeesCommutes @GLHancock I disagree. That's just disguising the truth. The cliché still exists #litchat -1:49 PM Jun 18th, 2010
TaoJoannes @LouiseBroadbent relying on stereotype and cliché are about the same #litchat -1:49 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot @ADonnRowley Writer's block? Now that's a cliché in itself. And entire writing courses exist to "cure" it. #litchat -1:49 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley @CarolyBurnsBass Good point. So many things can be taught, but not necessarily learned. #litchat -1:49 PM Jun 18th, 2010
formlit He studied the artfulness of her manner and knew she had to die. #clichefest #litchat -1:49 PM Jun 18th, 2010
mpherndon Unpublished. #litchat -1:49 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes RT @CarolyBurnsBass: Taught. Yes. Learned? Not necessarily. RT @ADonnRowley: Can avoidance of cliches be taught? Im not so sure. #litchat -1:49 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley @TonyNoland Good luck! #litchat -1:49 PM Jun 18th, 2010
DebraMarrs @marisabirns @gamesafoot Isn't that something re: THE HYPNOTIST placed in romance section bec. publisher known for genre vs. author #litchat -1:49 PM Jun 18th, 2010
moonbridgebooks @so_you_know My understanding of commercial IS a popularity thing. What you know will sell to masses, involves subject and style #litchat -1:49 PM Jun 18th, 2010
TonyNoland @ADonnRowley There are as many forms/causes of writer's block as there are writers. #litchat -1:49 PM Jun 18th, 2010
agnieszkasshoes @ADonnRowley novelist with a tendency to write too much poetry and let that make my prose somewhat on the fruity side #litchat -1:50 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass Good question. Maybe a subconscious fear. RT @ADonnRowley: Does writers block boil down to fear of cliches? #litchat -1:50 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CathrynLouis @ADonnRowley Not for me #litchat -1:50 PM Jun 18th, 2010
DebraMarrs @dosankodebbie Good morning. Missed your arrival #litchat -1:50 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley Is rejection of cliché a breed of elitism? #litchat -1:50 PM Jun 18th, 2010
AuthorWilliam @ADonnRowley I think writers can grow in their understanding of what is perceived as cliché. #litchat -1:50 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot I think avoidance of cliches comes with experience far more than training. #litchat -1:50 PM Jun 18th, 2010
LouiseBroadbent @ADonnRowley You can be taught that you should avoid them and why, but you will have to apply the lesson yourself. #litchat -1:50 PM Jun 18th, 2010
agnieszkasshoes @ADonnRowley Oh, and a tendency to bring any topic round to food within a four tweet max #litchat -1:50 PM Jun 18th, 2010
formlit commercial is defined by what's popular, but literary isn't. that's more style. & literary style can be popular . . . can't it? #litchat -1:51 PM Jun 18th, 2010
alexistlesa @ADonnRowley @ADonnRowley my writer's block boils down to fear of sucking. #litchat -1:51 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GLHancock @ADonnRowley Not necessarily. I think it is bad writing, and I reject that. #litchat -1:51 PM Jun 18th, 2010
AuthorWilliam RT @ADonnRowley: Does writers block boil down to fear of cliches? #litchat <<<It's not all of it but plays a part, I'd say. -1:51 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot I think the best way to avoid cliches is to read across genres and acquire a familiarity as they apply to different settings. #litchat -1:51 PM Jun 18th, 2010
TaoJoannes @gamesafoot but compare, say formula romance to palahniuk, potboiler vs progressive #litchat -1:51 PM Jun 18th, 2010
marisabirns @agnieszkasshoes Lush and delicious fruity prose! :) #litchat -1:51 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley @CarolyBurnsBass When I get stuck with my writing it is often because I feel unoriginal. #litchat -1:51 PM Jun 18th, 2010
notsuperjustmom @coffeecommuter @DebraMarrs Not saying there's not a place for that. I'm just happy to get my students to read. No matter what. #litchat -1:51 PM Jun 18th, 2010
LouiseBroadbent @gamesafoot Sorry, I should have specified, I meant in the context of characterisation. #litchat -1:51 PM Jun 18th, 2010
DebraMarrs @so_you_know I'm totally agreeing with you on literary vs. commercial #LitChat -1:51 PM Jun 18th, 2010

coffeewithjulie Impossible to avoid all cliché, IMHO RT @ADonnRowley: Is rejection of cliché a breed of elitism? #litchat -1:51 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass Oh, the struggling, misunderstood artist cliché... RT @ADonnRowley: Is rejection of cliché a breed of elitism? #litchat -1:52 PM Jun 18th, 2010

notsuperjustmom @CoffeesCommutes @DebraMarrs But it's not my first choice for my own reading. Not that I'll never read it, but not first. #litchat -1:52 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @TaoJoannes But those "formulas" were original at one time...they've become clichés due to repeated usage. #litchat -1:52 PM Jun 18th, 2010

notsuperjustmom RT @gamesafoot: I think the best way to avoid clichés is to read across genres and acquire a familiarity as they apply to different settings. #litchat -1:52 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs @dosankodebbie So glad to see you. Feel badly that you are up before the birds. You're tweeting for them :) #litchat -1:52 PM Jun 18th, 2010

agnieszkasshoes @marisabirns with too many food metaphors! #litchat -1:52 PM Jun 18th, 2010

jevonbolden RT @ADonnRowley: Does writers block boil down to fear of clichés? / I think so in part. #litchat -1:52 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CathrynLouis @ADonnRowley For me. it's when I'm trying to take my characters down paths they don't want to go. #litchat -1:52 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GLHancock Commercial vs. Literary = \$\$\$ #litchat -1:52 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ExisleMoll RT @marisabirns: @agnieszkasshoes Lush and delicious fruity prose! :) #litchat /you called? -1:52 PM Jun 18th, 2010

mpherndon @gamesafoot I agree, doesn't cliché change with the times? #litchat -1:52 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @gamesafoot Yes, it is about repetition. So when does something become trite and who decides this? #litchat -1:52 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @ADonnRowley maybe anti-cliché is as bad as cliché? #litchat -1:53 PM Jun 18th, 2010

AuthorWilliam RT @gamesafoot I think avoidance of clichés comes with experience more than training. #litchat <<<Yes, because exp is need to recognize them -1:53 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley Do you strive to be original in your life or just your writing? #litchat -1:53 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GeneDoucette Gotta #bike home, gang, thanks for the afternoon chat. Follow me; I'll return the follow... #litchat -1:53 PM Jun 18th, 2010

so_you_know @DebraMarrs depending on how you craft clichés or place them so they can't be 'boxed' easily determines literary vs commercial #litchat -1:53 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @ADonnRowley Ultimately, the power of cliché declaration lies with the readers. #litchat -1:53 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley Maybe so. RT @TaoJoannes: @ADonnRowley maybe anti-cliché is as bad as cliché? #litchat -1:53 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @gamesafoot agreed RT @TaoJoannes But those "formulas" were original at one time...they've become clichés due to repeated usage. #litchat -1:53 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @GeneDoucette Bye! #litchat -1:53 PM Jun 18th, 2010

agnieszkasshoes @ExisleMoll you mean lush and delicious, or fruity prose :) #litchat -1:53 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LouiseBroadbent @ADonnRowley Published short story writer. Tried novels as a teen - never managed to finish, though. #litchat -1:54 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TonyNoland @coffeewithjulie @ADonnRowley Writing that's purposefully 100% cliché free is sometimes fresh, sometimes sounds overwrought. #litchat -1:54 PM Jun 18th, 2010

formlit @CarolyBurnsBass i think clichés just become boring as you go on. because enough will bore you #litchat -1:54 PM Jun 18th, 2010

alexistlesa @ADonnRowley i strive to be original in my writing--being original in life requires too much work. #litchat -1:54 PM Jun 18th, 2010

marisabirns @ExisleMoll Hello! Yes, you have been summoned. :) #litchat -1:54 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GLHancock @gamesafoot Must disagree. Cliché determination rests with editors. #litchat -1:54 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CathrynLouis @ADonnRowley I think readers decide. They like something and then it becomes overabundant and then they tire of it. #litchat -1:54 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs @notsuperjustmom Love that we have our own tastes in reading. I bet you and I love same authors/bks too. Makes the world go around. #litchat -1:54 PM Jun 18th, 2010

coffeewithjulie I'm still trying to avoid a minivan. I am a cliché! RT @ADonnRowley: Do u strive to be original in your life or just your writing? #litchat -1:54 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @mpherndon Completely agree: I love to read literature from 1800's. Their clichés do not parallel our clichés. #litchat -1:54 PM Jun 18th, 2010

so_you_know @ADonnRowley i just try to be ME whatever that means. original or not. :) & same w/ honoring the stories that come #litchat -1:54 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @gamesafoot personally, I'm aiming towards progressive, as much as possible, wouldn't be happy with formula #litchat -1:54 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ExisleMoll RT @agnieszkasshoes: @ExisleMoll you mean lush and delicious, or fruity prose :)/ whole damn shebang #litchat -1:54 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @GLHancock Editors are the first line of "defense". I bow to your opinion. #litchat -1:55 PM Jun 18th, 2010

coffeewithjulie I think I agree with that RT @CathrynLouis: @ADonnRowley I think readers decide. They like something and then it becomes over... #litchat -1:55 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley RT @so_you_know: @ADonnRowley i just try to be ME whatever that means. original or not. :) & same w/ honoring the stories that come #litchat -1:55 PM Jun 18th, 2010

alexistlesa amen. RT @TonyNoland: @ADonnRowley Writing that's purposefully 100% cliché free is sometimes fresh, sometimes sounds overwrought. #litchat -1:55 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TonyNoland @mpherndon @gamesafoot Agreed. No one knows what "rounded heels" implies, since shoes are so disposable today. #litchat -1:55 PM Jun 18th, 2010

formlit @CathrynLouis yeah. and editors only decide when they take note of what readers aren't buying #litchat -1:55 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @TaoJoannes As a writing exercise, I like to take formula and flip it over. #litchat -1:55 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ExisleMoll Has not everything already been written, everything already been metaphoricalised? Therefore inevitable cliché element? #litchat -1:55 PM Jun 18th, 2010

so_you_know @ADonnRowley few basic themes of human condition that have been existing since we could write how we tell determines cliché or not #litchat -1:55 PM Jun 18th, 2010

moonbridgebooks @ADonnRowley Do you strive to be original in your life or just your writing? -ha, ha, definitely just the writing! #litchat -1:55 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs @so_you_know Yummo, agree: depends on how u craft clichés or place them so they can't be boxed easily determines literary vs comm. #litchat -1:55 PM Jun 18th, 2010

AuthorWilliam RT @CathrynLouis: @ADonnRowley I think readers decide. They like something and then it becomes overabundant and then they tire of it. #litchat -1:56 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @TonyNoland That's an ancient saying that I remember from growing up. it's the same as "waffling". #litchat -1:56 PM Jun 18th, 2010

coffeewithjulie LOL RT @alexistlesa: @ADonnRowley i strive to be original in my writing--being original in life requires too much work. #litchat -1:56 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GLHancock @gamesafoot I should have added agents, too. Some refuse to read mss on certain topics bec. the subject is overused, like a cliché #litchat -1:56 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ExisleMoll Language doesn't stand still. Idiom always changes. Cliches get twisted into new meanings, new arrangements. Viva language! #litchat -1:56 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley Is anything truly original? #litchat -1:56 PM Jun 18th, 2010

formlit @ExisleMoll just the themes, i think, maybe archtypes. everything else? not so much #litchat -1:56 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @gamesafoot evolving the cliché, a neat trick. :) #litchat -1:56 PM Jun 18th, 2010

jevonbolden Average reader buys clichés. Pubs looks for clichés. Of course somewhat of a spin on it is quite attractive. #litchat -1:56 PM Jun 18th, 2010

AuthorWilliam I agree with @CathrynLouis on that. Readers ultimately decide for themself what they find cliché. Edtrs can only decide for themslvs #litchat -1:57 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @ADonnRowley only in the details #litchat -1:57 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CathrynLouis @formlit speaking of that, when can something new break through? do some agents chase the cliché because it sells #litchat -1:57 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley "Originality is the art of concealing your sources" - Benjamin Franklin #litchat -1:57 PM Jun 18th, 2010

jevonbolden Cliches are how we can define genres. Nothing is truly unique. #litchat -1:57 PM Jun 18th, 2010

alexistlesa i'm still holding strong, too! i'm all about the SUV. gas prices be damned! RT @coffeewithjulie: to avoid a minivan. @ADonnRowley #litchat -1:57 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley Do you think we writers would be more daring and productive if we weren't so scared of clichés? I do. I really do. #litchat -1:57 PM Jun 18th, 2010

jevonbolden RT @ADonnRowley: "Originality is the art of concealing your sources" - Benjamin Franklin #litchat -1:57 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ExisleMoll @formlit most combinations of words probably exist in some book somewhere. we need new metaphors, new ways of seeing #litchat -1:57 PM Jun 18th, 2010

coffeewithjulie No singular items. But their combination can be original. RT @ADonnRowley: Is anything truly original? #litchat -1:58 PM Jun 18th, 2010

AuthorWilliam Originality is determined from moment to moment. RT @ADonnRowley Is anything truly original? #litchat -1:58 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ExisleMoll @jevonbolden what about writing outside of genre? #litchat -1:58 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot @ADonnRowley I don't worry about clichés: it's pointless. I write genre, so I cannot worry about clichés at this time. #litchat -1:58 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @ADonnRowley not spamming, but case in point, my short "Brand X" alien invasion, but evolved #litchat <http://bit.ly/bUGzBT> cliché? -1:58 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LouiseBroadbent @ADonnRowley Yes and no: Y - the writer as a unique person writing at a unique time in his/her life will produce something original #litchat -1:58 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass Eww. A scent of plagiarism just wafted by. RT @ADonnRowley: "Originality is the art of concealing your sources" - Benjamin Franklin #litchat -1:58 PM Jun 18th, 2010
alexistlesa everything except straightforward plagiarism is original in some way. RT @ADonnRowley: Is anything truly original? #litchat -1:58 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley You must all by book "I Never Metaphor I Didn't Like" by Dr. Mardy Grothe. Metaphors are medicine. #litchat -1:58 PM Jun 18th, 2010
gamesafoot @ADonnRowley I think if I sat down and worried about cliches, it'd paralyze my writing. so I take a deep breath and dive in. #litchat -1:59 PM Jun 18th, 2010
coffeewithjulie RT @ADonnRowley: "Originality is the art of concealing your sources" - Benjamin Franklin #litchat -1:59 PM Jun 18th, 2010
storiesofsommer "@ADonnRowley: Is anything truly original? #litchat" --Nope -1:59 PM Jun 18th, 2010
formlit @CathrynLouis something new will always hard time breaking through if it doesn't fit somewhere a particular genre, theme, something #litchat -1:59 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ExisleMoll @ADonnRowley I'm not scared of cliches. I hunt them down like an exterminator and put them to the linguistic sword! #litchat -1:59 PM Jun 18th, 2010
AuthorWilliam RT @ADonnRowley: Do you think we writers would be more daring and productive if we weren't so scared of cliches? I do. I really do. #litchat -1:59 PM Jun 18th, 2010
AuthorWilliam RT @ADonnRowley: "Originality is the art of concealing your sources" - Benjamin Franklin #litchat -1:59 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley @CarolyBurnsBass That's not what I meant! :) #litchat -1:59 PM Jun 18th, 2010
LouiseBroadbent @ADonnRowley No - no plot is ever original in it's skeletal form. Mythologies. #litchat -1:59 PM Jun 18th, 2010
jevonbolden @ExisleMoll You just enter another genre that has its own cliches.Cliches almost help you know that you've crossed over. #litchat -1:59 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GLHancock "There's nothing new under the sun" but I think each person is original. Writers much it up using cliches and tired plots, themes #litchat -1:59 PM Jun 18th, 2010
mpherndon @storiesofsommer So agree, only if you look at it in a new way. #litchat -1:59 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley @ExisleMoll Linguistic sword. Love that. #litchat -1:59 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CathrynLouis @ADonnRowley Until i joined this chat, I didn't know enough to be afraid of cliches. My biggest fear is being a bad writer. #litchat -1:59 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ExisleMoll Metaphors help us view things in terms of something else. They recreate reality, allow us to rearrange how we see it #litchat -1:59 PM Jun 18th, 2010
LitChat This has been a terrific chat with @ADonnRowley. Great questions from her and super responses and more questions from you. #litchat -2:00 PM Jun 18th, 2010
TaoJoannes RT @ADonnRowley: "Originality is the art of concealing your sources" - Benjamin Franklin #litchat -2:00 PM Jun 18th, 2010
RosalindAdam RT @GLHancock: "There's nothing new under the sun" but I think each person is original. Writers much it up using cliches and tired plots, themes #litchat -2:00 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ExisleMoll @jevonbolden I reject literary genres in my own work. Cliched? I'll have to let readers decide on that #litchat -2:00 PM Jun 18th, 2010
jevonbolden RT @ExisleMoll: @ADonnRowley Im not scared of cliches. I hunt them down like an exterminator and put them to the linguistic sword! #litchat -2:00 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GLHancock "muck it up" it should have been, and yes, that's a cliché! #litchat -2:00 PM Jun 18th, 2010

JulieeJohnsonn we all share the same range of human experiences but we can be original thru our unique take on it...no 2 stories R the same #litchat -2:01 PM Jun 18th, 2010

gamesafoot Well, thank you @litchat for making this happen and thank you @ADonnRowley for your generosity of time. I must go. Good-bye! #litchat -2:01 PM Jun 18th, 2010

moonbridgebooks RT @ExisleMoll: Metaphors help us view things in terms of something else. They recreate reality, allow us to rearrange how we see it #litchat -2:01 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @ADonnRowley try it and see how it works for you #litchat -2:01 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LitChat We're at the top of the hour and our generous guest host let me know that she's headed out of town an can't linger much longer. #litchat -2:01 PM Jun 18th, 2010

formlit @ExisleMoll word combos are limitless. now senseable combos . . . but that's part of being original. seeing new ways to make sense #litchat -2:01 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @litchat if it works, use it, if it doesn't, you will know #litchat -2:01 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @LitChat This is fun and fascinating. Will hang around for a bit, but then it's back to my tiny creatures :) #litchat -2:01 PM Jun 18th, 2010

so_you_know @CathrynLouis u know the saying the more you learn the less u know. one better: must remember to unlearn to remember what u know #litchat -2:01 PM Jun 18th, 2010

alexistlesa @ADonnRowley thanks for the chat! #litchat -2:02 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ExisleMoll @formlit in theory, but too much contemporary writing doesn't rise above and forge these new combos #litchat -2:02 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CathrynLouis @LitChat thanks for hosting. It was fun! #litchat -2:02 PM Jun 18th, 2010

storiesofsommer Isn't it like fashion? It's cyclical, w/ just a slight twist and a hope that a new generation appreciates it's new interpretation? #litchat -2:02 PM Jun 18th, 2010

jevonbolden Thatnks @litchat and @ADonnRowley for a great discussion. #litchat -2:02 PM Jun 18th, 2010

marisabirns @ADonnRowley Thank you so much for spending time with us at #litchat. It was time well spent! :) - 2:02 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LitChat However, if your plans have changed, @ADonnRowley, you're welcome to keep the #litchattics clicking their keys. #litchat -2:02 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes @LitChat thanks for hosting, back to work now. :) #litchat -2:02 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GLHancock @LitChat My thanks to you and @ADonnRowley for a very interesting chat and topic. I love to hear what authors think! #litchat -2:02 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CathrynLouis @ADonnRowley thank you for being here. #litchat -2:02 PM Jun 18th, 2010

dosankodebbie When I translate Japanese cliches into English they sound fresh, vice versa. Good argument for foreign language study. #litchat -2:02 PM Jun 18th, 2010

AuthorWilliam @ADonnRowley This has been awesome, Aidan. Thank you so much for being a part of today's #litchat! -2:02 PM Jun 18th, 2010

coffeewithjulie It's been great. Thanks All!! RT @LitChat: We're at the top of the hour and our generous guest host let me know that she's hea... #litchat -2:02 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs @LitChat @ADonnRowley Gr8 convo today w/new ideas/additions to wrap up the topic of cliché for the week. Thank YOU both! #litchat -2:02 PM Jun 18th, 2010

IanB022 If I wasn't scared of cliches before tonight I am now. Thanks! #litchat -2:03 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ExisleMoll RT @marisabirns: @ADonnRowley Thank you so much for spending time with us at #litchat. It was time well spent! :)/ agreed & thx #litchat -2:03 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley Unplugging for two weeks (to preserve sanity and remind my girls they have a mom), but have a book to promote. Am I nuts? #litchat -2:03 PM Jun 18th, 2010

so_you_know @ADonnRowley yes thank you for your time. and much thanks as always to @DebraMarrs & @LitChat #litchat -2:03 PM Jun 18th, 2010

formlit @storiesofsommer lol yeah. like how 70/80's fashions are back now, but with a twist #litchat -2:03 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GLHancock @IanB022 Be afraid. Be very afraid! #litchat -2:03 PM Jun 18th, 2010

AuthorWilliam RT @dosankodebbie: When I translate Japanese cliches into English they sound fresh, vice versa. Good argument for foreign language study. #litchat -2:03 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ExisleMoll @marisabirns have you got a friday flash this week? #litchat -2:03 PM Jun 18th, 2010

Moribundy Thanks @litchat! That was my first twitter chat =) How exciting #litchat -2:03 PM Jun 18th, 2010

coffeewithjulie LOL! RT @GLHancock: @IanB022 Be afraid. Be very afraid! #litchat -2:04 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs @ADonnRowley {{applause}} for your super additions to the convo on cliches today. Luv ur blog - sending peeps to now also #litchat -2:04 PM Jun 18th, 2010

JulieeJohnsonn can anyone tell me when #litchat is usually booked for? I sort of stumbled upon it accidentally...right at the end! -2:04 PM Jun 18th, 2010

mpherndon @ADonnRowley Thank you for your time! #litchat -2:04 PM Jun 18th, 2010

CathrynLouis @ADonnRowley Nope. You're a writer. :) #litchat -2:04 PM Jun 18th, 2010

mpherndon @Moribundy How was it for you? ;) #litchat -2:04 PM Jun 18th, 2010

MyMessyParadise @ADonnRowley I soooo wish I could do that. I'd go insane, though I think it would allow me to refocus and live life! #litchat -2:04 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley Must jet in a few, but will you guys please come find me at my blog? Pretty please? <http://www.ivyleagueinsecurities.com/> #litchat -2:04 PM Jun 18th, 2010

AuthorWilliam @Moribundy Glad you made it! Every MWF 4pm-5pm EST #litchat -2:05 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley @CathrynLouis Wow. Thanks. Spread the word! #litchat -2:05 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GLHancock RT @mpherndon: @Moribundy How was it for you? ;) || she said, lighting up a cigarette. #litchat -2:05 PM Jun 18th, 2010

coffeewithjulie Oh, so true! RT @TonyNoland: @coffeewithjulie @ADonnRowley sometimes sounds overwrought. #litchat -2:05 PM Jun 18th, 2010

robynmcintyre @dosankodebbie Good tip. Thanks! #litchat -2:05 PM Jun 18th, 2010

so_you_know @Marisabirns if it wasn't for you, who i follow around everywhere, i would NEVER know of any chats. #litchat -2:05 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LitChat Glad you joined us! RT @Moribundy: Thanks @litchat! That was my first twitter chat =) How exciting #litchat -2:05 PM Jun 18th, 2010

mpherndon @GLHancock :) Speaking of cliché! #litchat -2:06 PM Jun 18th, 2010

ADonnRowley Time for shameless self-promo. If you enjoyed this conversation, you will enjoy LIFE AFTER YES. <http://bit.ly/c4GZXf> (Please RT!) #litchat -2:06 PM Jun 18th, 2010

so_you_know @ADonnRowley awesome title of blog (i smell a recovering lawyerholic) hahah :) #litchat -2:06 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GLHancock RT @mpherndon: @GLHancock :) Speaking of cliché! || 8>) #litchat -2:07 PM Jun 18th, 2010

storiesofsommer My first ever #litchat. I heart @ADonnRowley even more than before--if possible :) -2:07 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LitChat Here's today's book giveaway contest: Post non-cliche sentence with #clichefest. @ADonnRowley will select winner for signed book. #litchat -2:07 PM Jun 18th, 2010
IanB022 I'll settle for mildly fretful :) RT @GLHancock: @IanB022 Be afraid. Be very afraid! #litchat -2:07 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley Right back at ya :) RT @storiesofsommer: My first ever #litchat. I heart @ADonnRowley even more than before--if possible :) #litchat -2:07 PM Jun 18th, 2010
AuthorWilliam RT @ADonnRowley: Time for shameless self-promo. If you enjoyed this conversation, you will enjoy LIFE AFTER YES. http://bit.ly/c4GZXf (Please RT!) #litchat -2:07 PM Jun 18th, 2010
LitChat RT @ADonnRowley: If you enjoyed this conversation, you will enjoy LIFE AFTER YES. http://bit.ly/c4GZXf (Please RT!) #litchat -2:08 PM Jun 18th, 2010
AuthorWilliam @ADonnRowley Shame for what? Promote away, author! Already RT'd it. :-) #litchat -2:08 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GLHancock @IanB022 U B fretful, I'll continue to be cranky, proliferating the stereotype AND the cliche. #litchat -2:09 PM Jun 18th, 2010
LitChat Let's give @ADonnRowley a huge round of {{{APPLAUSE}}} for coming prepared today with amazing questions and smart comments. #litchat -2:09 PM Jun 18th, 2010
CathrynLouis RT @LitChat: RT @ADonnRowley: If you enjoyed this conversation, you will enjoy LIFE AFTER YES. http://bit.ly/c4GZXf (Please RT!) #litchat -2:09 PM Jun 18th, 2010
GLHancock Claps for @ADonnRowley #litchat -2:09 PM Jun 18th, 2010
formlit @ExisleMoll yeah that is true. sadly #litchat -2:10 PM Jun 18th, 2010
ADonnRowley Time to be a mom again. But this has been a genuine treat. This writing thing? A dream. A delightful dream. Thx @LitChat! #litchat -2:10 PM Jun 18th, 2010
LitChat Next week it's our annual INDIE AUTHOR SHOWCASE with two of our #litchattics in the ring: @agnieszkasshoes and @AuthorWilliam. #litchat -2:10 PM Jun 18th, 2010
TaoJoannes RT @ADonnRowley: Time for shameless self-promo. If you enjoyed this conversation, you will enjoy LIFE AFTER YES. http://bit.ly/c4GZXf (Please RT!) #litchat -2:11 PM Jun 18th, 2010
AuthorWilliam RT @LitChat: Next week it's our annual INDIE AUTHOR SHOWCASE with two of our #litchattics in the ring: @agnieszkasshoes and @AuthorWilliam. #litchat -2:11 PM Jun 18th, 2010
LitChat Plus, the #litchat summer schedule is up and it's here: http://bit.ly/8sQoTY . It's going to be a great summer for reading. -2:11 PM Jun 18th, 2010
LitChat You're welcome! #litchat RT @GlendaBurgess: @LitChat excellent! Thank you to our guest today! -2:12 PM Jun 18th, 2010
Moribundy RT @LitChat: Next week it's our annual INDIE AUTHOR SHOWCASE with two of our #litchattics in the ring: @agnieszkasshoes and @AuthorWilliam. #litchat -2:12 PM Jun 18th, 2010
Bookgirl96 RT @LitChat: Plus, the #litchat summer schedule is up and it's here: http://bit.ly/8sQoTY . It's going to be a great summer for reading. -2:13 PM Jun 18th, 2010
TaoJoannes @MariamMKobras just #litchat about cliche -2:13 PM Jun 18th, 2010
so_you_know @ADonnRowley reading the words "a delightful dream" sounded so so nice & as if midnight summer's dream is indeed real! :) #litchat -2:13 PM Jun 18th, 2010
exmoorjane RT @LitChat: Next week it's our annual INDIE AUTHOR SHOWCASE with two of our #litchattics in the ring: @agnieszkasshoes and @AuthorWilliam. #litchat -2:14 PM Jun 18th, 2010
BumbyScott RT @ADonnRowley: Must jet in a few, but will you guys please come find me at my blog? Pretty please? http://www.ivyleagueinsecurities.com/ #litchat -2:15 PM Jun 18th, 2010

BumbyScott RT @DebraMarrs: @ADonnRowley {{applause}} for your super additions to the convo on cliches today. Luv ur blog - sending peeps to now also #litchat -2:15 PM Jun 18th, 2010

BumbyScott RT @ADonnRowley: "Originality is the art of concealing your sources" - Benjamin Franklin #litchat -2:16 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs RT @LitChat: #litchat summer schedule is up and its here: <http://bit.ly/8sQoTY>. Going to be a great summer for reading. -2:16 PM Jun 18th, 2010

agnieszkasshoes RT @LitChat Next week it's annual INDIE AUTHOR SHOWCASE with 2 of our #litchattics in the ring: @agnieszkasshoes & @AuthorWilliam. #litchat -2:16 PM Jun 18th, 2010

TaoJoannes Self-published novella - Guacamole Baseball <http://bit.ly/bVF7HE> #amwriting #litchat -2:17 PM Jun 18th, 2010

DebraMarrs RT @LitChat: Next wk its our annual INDIE AUTHOR SHOWCASE with 2 of our #litchattics @agnieszkasshoes and @AuthorWilliam #litchat -2:17 PM Jun 18th, 2010

GLHancock Is "indie author" like "POD" instead of self-publishing? Why not "call a spade a spade"? (JUST JOKING!) #litchat -2:17 PM Jun 18th, 2010

LitChat @GLHancock: Read <http://bit.ly/cQusVP>. Indie Author Showcase features a gamut of independent publishing endeavors. #litchat -2:22 PM Jun 18th, 2010