



LitChat July 19 & 21, 2010

Topic of the Week: Endings

Open Chat

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.

MONDAY: July 19, 2010

LitChat Beginning of another week and we're discussing ENDINGS in #litchat. Join us now and let the chat begin! - 1:00 PM Jul 19th, 2010

LitChat While everyone's gathering, let's have some introductions. Who's with us so far? #litchat -1:00 PM Jul 19th, 2010

David_Heb I think I might join in with #litchat tonight. -1:01 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JulieBritt RT @LitChat: Go to <http://bit.ly/MH5Qs> for easy access to #litchat starting in 10 minutes. Topic this week: ENDINGS. #litchat -1:01 PM Jul 19th, 2010

buffysquirrel @LitChat i'm here in theory #litchat -1:01 PM Jul 19th, 2010

LetterMaster Hey everyone #litchat -1:01 PM Jul 19th, 2010

AuthorWilliam William here, published indie author of THE DARK PROVINCE. Grabbing some water and ready for #litchat -1:01 PM Jul 19th, 2010

CathrynLouis Hi all! #litchat -1:01 PM Jul 19th, 2010

smallswiftbirds I am! #litchat -1:02 PM Jul 19th, 2010

ThetrashyNovel huzzah 4 #litchat, here! -1:02 PM Jul 19th, 2010

PeevishPenman Endings are exactly what I need to learn more about today. Ta Ta, I'll be at #litchat -1:02 PM Jul 19th, 2010

LitChat Some guidelines for good chat: Please save personal pitches or questions not relating to topic until after chat concludes. Thanks! #litchat -1:02 PM Jul 19th, 2010

lydiaruth77 I am #litchat -1:02 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JLichtenberg RT @AuthorWilliam: William here, published indie author of THE DARK PROVINCE. Grabbing some water and ready for #litchat -1:02 PM Jul 19th, 2010

TwinkleChar Whao! #LITCHAT time. Right now. Discussing ENDINGS. Gotta hurry! -1:02 PM Jul 19th, 2010

buffysquirrel poor little endings, so neglected #litchat -1:03 PM Jul 19th, 2010

AuthorWilliam @wildbloom Much thanks! Are you coming to #litchat? -1:03 PM Jul 19th, 2010

SesshasWorld RT @LitChat: Beginning of another week and were discussing ENDINGS in #litchat. Join us now and let the chat begin! #litchat -1:03 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JSterlingS I'm here. Chicago's own tea-fueled storyteller. Glad to be here. #litchat -1:03 PM Jul 19th, 2010

LitChat Jump in with both feet. Or at least hands on keyboard. RT @David_Heb: I think I might join in with #litchat tonight. #litchat -1:03 PM Jul 19th, 2010

PeevishPenman Hi, my name is Carrie, I'm a compulsive novel starter and I struggle with endings. #litchat -1:03 PM Jul 19th, 2010

LetterMaster Endings is a great topic, can't wait to start! #litchat -1:03 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JAPak Hello! #litchat -1:03 PM Jul 19th, 2010

wildbloom @AuthorWilliam Just realized it was going on. Hi, folks! #litchat -1:04 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JulieBritt Hi, litchatters. <http://tinyurl.com/JulieBritt> <http://tinyurl.com/JulieBritt2> <http://tinyurl.com/JulieBritt3> #litchat -1:04 PM Jul 19th, 2010

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jevonbolden RT @LitChat: Beginning of another week and were discussing ENDINGS in #litchat. Join us now and let the chat begin! #litchat -1:04 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo Lurking and working on some ideas for a piece. #litchat -1:04 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehpatton Endings :) Lovely topic! #litchat -1:04 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TwinkleChar Charlene Ann Baumbich, sliding in sideways. Author STRAY AFFECTIONS, DIVINE APPOINTMENTS & DEAREST DOROTHY series. #litchat -1:04 PM Jul 19th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass Do you get to middle or hang at beginning? RT @PeevishPenman: Hi, my name is Carrie, Im a compulsive novel starter and I struggle.. #litchat -1:05 PM Jul 19th, 2010
ThetrashyNovel I just hope the ending ties up all the knots, or unties them that I've set in motion during the story #litchat Endings sometimes change -1:05 PM Jul 19th, 2010
Sheenalgnatia @JKat_miaow @cocktailpr There's authonomy but the people are a bit weird & YouWriteOn has a forum- on twitter there's #litchat & #writechat -1:05 PM Jul 19th, 2010
cindymariej Cindy Marie Jenkins, Storyteller in Los Angeles . Looking forward to #litchat -1:05 PM Jul 19th, 2010
districtbelle Hi guys! I'm Lara. I write memoir, looking to take the plunge into fiction, and endings make me antsy. #litchat -1:05 PM Jul 19th, 2010
David_Heb I'm a reader, joining you for the first time, from here in England. #litchat -1:05 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TwinkleChar To BEGIN today's topic, we shall discuss THE END. Laughs out loud. But the truth is, endings really do matter. #litchat -1:06 PM Jul 19th, 2010
scgreen I'm here for #litchat. I'll hold on for as long as I can. -1:06 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel sometimes i think writers give endings about one-fifth of the attention they give to openings #litchat -1:06 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LitChat Our topic this week is inspired by THE NOBODIES ALBUM by Carolyn Parkhurst @CParkhurst1. See www.litchat.net for more about topic. #litchat -1:06 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehpatton @David_Heb Welcome to the chat! Only a reader? #litchat -1:06 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LitChat We love readers! Welcome and please join in. RT @David_Heb: Im a reader, joining you for the first time, from here in England. #litchat -1:07 PM Jul 19th, 2010
sharifwrites @Sheenalgnatia I deleted my authonomy page for that. #litchat -1:07 PM Jul 19th, 2010
lydiaruth77 First time here...how does this work? #litchat -1:07 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehpatton @buffysquirrel I love my endings 1000x more than my openings, though! But I know exactly what you mean. #litchat -1:07 PM Jul 19th, 2010
deegospel i'm participating in #litchat in realtime using www.tweetgrid.com -1:07 PM Jul 19th, 2010
cindymariej RT @buffysquirrel: sometimes i think writers give endings about one-fifth of the attention they give to openings #litchat -1:07 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TwinkleChar RT @buffysquirrel: sometimes i think writers give endings about one-fifth of the attention they give to openings<<how so? #litchat -1:07 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam An ending to a novel is so important. It is the last taste left in the reader's mouth. #litchat -1:08 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LitChat @suzannehpatton Follow the convo and when you see something that you want to respond to, or ask a question, just type into chat. #litchat -1:08 PM Jul 19th, 2010
GeneDoucette I love endings. It's where I stop writing. That's my favorite part. #litchat -1:08 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JulieBritt As a reader, I'm often disappointed in endings, which makes me worry about my own. How do you create an ending worthy of the book? #litchat -1:08 PM Jul 19th, 2010

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JSterlingS @buffysquirrel Beginning something is simple. Finishing it is the hard part. #litchat -1:08 PM Jul 19th, 2010
PeevishPenman @CarolyBurnsBass 3/4 of the way through. Then, I write the end and that in between part remains like a deep chasm I cannot cross. #litchat -1:08 PM Jul 19th, 2010
EarthsDivide RT @AuthorWilliam: An ending to a novel is so important. It is the last taste left in the reader's mouth. #litchat -1:08 PM Jul 19th, 2010
sharifwrites @cindymariej That's true. I've read fantastic books with rushed endings, or long-drawn out ones that should've ended 50 pgs ago. #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 19th, 2010
danish_novelist @TwinkleChar Endings are important. They should be organic, unpredictable, and "logical" within the universe that's been created #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 19th, 2010
agnieszkasshoes @JulieBritt me too. Especially with well-paced thrillers. They really seem to rush the ending #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JWPARENTE My ending is much more powerful than my opening. Idk how it can't just be a natural occurrence #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 19th, 2010
smallswiftbirds @buffysquirrel There's a reason for that. Beginnings have to grab. Endings...well, but then, you've already got 'em. #litchat \ -1:09 PM Jul 19th, 2010
mom2miles #litchat. new to chat and a quest. how much should your first chapt foreshadow end? -1:09 PM Jul 19th, 2010
ISandusky Endings are easy for me. It's getting there that often takes the oil from my gears. #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JWPARENTE RT @danish_novelist: @TwinkleChar Endings are important. They should be organic, unpredictable, and "logical" within the universe that's been created #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JulieBritt I've lost count of the books I've enjoyed until the last chapter or so, then it fizzles as if the author simply wanted to finish. #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JAPak An avid reader once told me that she always reads the last page before deciding if she'll read the book. #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 19th, 2010
wildbloom @JulieBritt I wish I knew. I ended up writing what came when I got there, and left it. Then henpecked readers for views. :D #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 19th, 2010
David_Heb @suzannehatton Well, reader and book blogger. Thanks for the welcome! #litchat -1:10 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LitChat In THE NOBODIES ALBUM @CParkhurst1 has created a bestselling author who rewrites the endings of her books. Imagine that! #litchat -1:10 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel @TwinkleChar beginnings are often polished; endings are often rushed #litchat (this is a real Bete Noire of mine btw) -1:10 PM Jul 19th, 2010
GeneDoucette it is, in many ways, a LOT easier to build up to an ending than it is to come up with an ending that pays out. #litchat -1:10 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LetterMaster RT @AuthorWilliam: An ending to a novel is so important. It is the last taste left in the reader's mouth. #litchat -1:10 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo @danish_novelist Exactly. The story itself should take you to the ending in an organic and logical manner. #litchat -1:10 PM Jul 19th, 2010
sharifwrites @JulieBritt I know the excitement of finishing when writing, but I also dislike the fizzle as a reader. #litchat -1:10 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel @smallswiftbirds ah, but you also want them to buy the next book, no? :D #litchat -1:10 PM Jul 19th, 2010

PeevishPenman RT @JAPak: An avid reader once told me that she always reads the last page before deciding if she'll read the book. #litchat -1:10 PM Jul 19th, 2010

abigailwrites @AuthorWilliam I tend to write open-endings. Makes you wonder what's next. Doesn't have to be happy or sad. I avoid the finite #litchat -1:10 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JulieBritt @JAPak I've heard that from others (read last page first). We should have asked what was on the last page that grabbed them. #litchat -1:10 PM Jul 19th, 2010

TwinkleChar @danish_novelist A-hah! Key to an ending: "logical" within the universe that's been created. As always, you are brilliant. #litchat -1:10 PM Jul 19th, 2010

dazydaywriter RT @JulieBritt: I've lost count of the books I've enjoyed until the last chapter or so, then it fizzles as if the author simply wanted to finish. #litchat -1:11 PM Jul 19th, 2010

agnieszkasshoes Hi #litchat endings is a super topic. I love satisfying but enigmatic - Norwegian Wood, Unbearable Lightness of Being, Less Than Zero -1:11 PM Jul 19th, 2010

AuthorWilliam @smallswiftbirds Yes, but is you walk away from the book feeling dissatisfied, isn't the "hooking" all for nothing in some ways? #litchat -1:11 PM Jul 19th, 2010

districtbelle @smallswiftbirds True... But I feel like endings can kill a reader wanting to come back for more (if there's a follow-up book). #litchat -1:11 PM Jul 19th, 2010

buffysquirrel the end is implicit in the beginning #litchat (well, ideally....) -1:11 PM Jul 19th, 2010

deegospel because i write suspense i must know my ending in the beginning.i also like my first & last chapter to have a circular relationship #litchat -1:11 PM Jul 19th, 2010

LitChat Let's begin by discussing what makes a good ending? Does it have to be happy? Completely tied to every thread? #litchat -1:11 PM Jul 19th, 2010

lydiaruth77 All good story stucture makes sure there are no lose ends...this to me is a good ending everytime #litchat -1:11 PM Jul 19th, 2010

smallswiftbirds @JAPak Funny. I read the first page before deciding. So, I guess that skews my perspective a little. #litchat -1:11 PM Jul 19th, 2010

MatchesMalone RT @deegospel: because i write suspense i must know my ending in the beginning.i also like my first & last chapter to have a circular relationship #litchat -1:11 PM Jul 19th, 2010

TwinkleChar @buffysquirrel Describe how you know an ending is rushed. You mean pace? Actualy story? # of words? #litchat -1:11 PM Jul 19th, 2010

tadbo RT @GeneDoucette: it is, in many ways, a LOT easier to build up to an ending than it is to come up with an ending that pays out. #litchat -1:11 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JulieBritt Some authors seem to have a template for endings. Ex: Anne Rivers Siddons who nearly always kills a major character at the end. #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010

LetterMaster Yes, I agree. RT @buffysquirrel: the end is implicit in the beginning #litchat (well, ideally....) -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010

wildbloom @LitChat Answering as a reader instead of an author this time, I like varied endings. Not always happy ones. #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010

AuthorWilliam I hear you on that, @abigailwrites In fact all types of endings can work I think. #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010

cindymariej RT @deegospel: b/c i write suspense i must know my ending in the beginning.i also lk my 1st & last chapter 2 have a circular relat. #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010

deegospel @AuthorWilliam no, the ending has to satisfy the reader. a great example is Inception, which is playing in movies now. great end #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010

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smallswiftbirds @districtbelle Totally! Especially if you've worked n worked. You want the ending to pay off w/o going over the top. #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JSterlingS @LitChat I don't want a story to tie EVERY thread, I want to tie some of them myself. #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010
agnieszkasshoes @PeevishPenman YES. Getting to the ending is so tricky. But often that's cos t ending is a darling that needs killing #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo So many things I've read and watched that had excellent build up and then plateaued and didn't deliver. #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010
GeneDoucette @LitChat No, but it needs to be an exhale. Most of the book is the inhale, and the exhale needs to be just as complete. #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel @LitChat it has to be satisfying #litchat and that can be achieved numerous ways -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JWPARENTE @LitChat Absolutely not. The ending of my ms is heartwrenching, but begs for more story. It's the clear hook. #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010
David_Heb I think a good ending to a book can make all the difference. It can set the tone of one's final impression of a book. #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010
cindymariej @LitChat I prefer when there are still questions. It makes my mind imagine more! #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010
SesshasWorld hardest thing ever - I split 1 book into 2 . Reimagining a different ending was incredibly tough, now I can't imagine it otherwise #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JAPak @JulieBritt She said if the ending made her want to know what happened at the beginning, she'd take the plunge. #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010
kashicat I consider a plot good if it works up to ending so that it's almost as though nothing COULD happen differently. #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehpatton @deegospel Re: Inception and yet some people just dont like it :) I loved it, but my family thought it was stupid! #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010
PeevishPenman A lot of excellent books have last sentences that correspond to first sentences. #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JulieBritt @LitChat I don't require a happy ending, and I hate happy endings that don't work with the story... #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 19th, 2010
marisabirns Ending to REMAINS OF THE DAY made sense. Sadly. #litchat -1:13 PM Jul 19th, 2010
danish_novelist @JulieBritt Yeah, and endings should make you think, unless you write horror, then they should make you vomit #litchat -1:13 PM Jul 19th, 2010
deegospel i read most of my books last chapter paragraph first #litchat -1:13 PM Jul 19th, 2010
lydiaruth77 just so long as the reader walks away w/out asking too many questions...just like in a good film #litchat -1:13 PM Jul 19th, 2010
CathrynLouis I try 2 write an ending that gives an 'Ahhh...' feeling. Harder 2 do than say. #litchat -1:13 PM Jul 19th, 2010
GeneDoucette RT @kashicat: I consider a plot good if it works up to ending so that its almost as though nothing COULD happen differently. #litchat -1:13 PM Jul 19th, 2010
quietriot_girl I don't like endings. Unless it is a thriller, if a book is really good, I don't want it to end. I say that as a reader #litchat -1:13 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LetterMaster @LitChat ending doesn't have to be "happy" or tied to every thread - I think that it can be just as satisfying with some mystery #litchat -1:13 PM Jul 19th, 2010

tadbo A good ending is satisfying. Bottom line. You don't feel cheated or disappointed by how it turns out. #litchat -1:13 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JAPak I think the difficulty lies in that a great ending is really a transition, one that has to be satisfying. #litchat -1:13 PM Jul 19th, 2010
VagabondagePres #litchat I do great endings. It's the last half of the second half of the first act where I drag. -1:13 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel @TwinkleChar i always think of it as balance--the beginning, middle, end should have the same 'weight' #litchat -1:13 PM Jul 19th, 2010
deegospel @generousmind cool i will check it out tonight #litchat -1:13 PM Jul 19th, 2010
mom2miles #litchat think it's important that the change in the mc is evident in the end -1:13 PM Jul 19th, 2010
agnieszkasshoes @LitChat it's trite but an ending is good if it fits the book. I love lit fic that needs a slight enigma (there must be tears too!) #litchat -1:14 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JulieBritt @LitChat If an MC agonizes over something for 300 pages, it feels contrived if he/she solves everything in last 10 pages. #litchat -1:14 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JAPak @quietriot_girl An ending of a great book is a great sadness for me too! #litchat -1:14 PM Jul 19th, 2010
CathrynLouis RT @PeevishPenman: "A lot of excellent books have last sentences that correspond to first sentences. #litchat" -1:14 PM Jul 19th, 2010
RubyJubilee RT @quietriot_girl: I don't like endings. Unless it is a thriller, if a book is really good, I don't want it to end. I say that as a reader #litchat -1:14 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam @deegospel I think we're agree on that. It's best for readers to feel satisfied and the ending plays a major role. #litchat -1:14 PM Jul 19th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass Endings don't have to be happy, or perfectly resolved. They must, however, leave me with a sense of purpose. #litchat -1:14 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehatton A good ending, imo, leaves me satisfied so much so that I want to read again to be with the characters & their lives once more. #litchat -1:14 PM Jul 19th, 2010
deegospel RT @JAPak: @quietriot_girl An ending of a great book is a great sadness for me too! Me, three! #litchat -1:14 PM Jul 19th, 2010
GeneDoucette @quietriot_girl yes, but that's a good thing. It means you want to keep living with the characters, right? #litchat -1:14 PM Jul 19th, 2010
danish_novelist @abigailwrites Open endings are my favorites, too. We shouldn't be Nazis dictating every emotion or solution to the reader #litchat -1:14 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TwinkleChar RT @tadbo: A good ending is satisfying. Bottom line. You dont feel cheated or disappointed by how it turns out.<<nice #litchat -1:14 PM Jul 19th, 2010
agnieszkasshoes @LitChat happy endings don't work 4 me bcos they impose a false cut-off you don't get in life #litchat -1:14 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LetterMaster @LitChat This might not be best ex., but Olive Kitteridge by Strout has an incredibly sat. ending but didn't answer all questions #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 19th, 2010
kashicat @LetterMaster I agree. I actually like some mystery or perhaps a question or two left unanswered in an ending. Like real life. #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 19th, 2010
deegospel @suzannehatton me, too. that's why i read Pride & Prejudice over and over. smh #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LetterMaster RT @CarolyBurnsBass: Endings don't have to be happy, or perfectly resolved. They must, however, leave me with a sense of purpose. #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 19th, 2010

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AuthorWilliam An ending is a gateway out of the world the reader has shared for however much time they've spent there. #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JulieBritt I like endings that leave things up to the imagination, if enough clues are there for me to imagine an ending for myself. #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 19th, 2010

tadbo Indeed. RT @JAPak: @quietriot_girl An ending of a great book is a great sadness for me too! #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 19th, 2010

GeneDoucette I blew up the entire last 1/3 of Immortal, took out a ton of stuff for use in a follow-up book, and rewrote from scratch. tough. #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 19th, 2010

agnieszkasshoes RT @quietriot_girl: I don't like endings. Unless it is a thriller, if a book is really good, I don't want it to end. I say that as a reader #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 19th, 2010

AuthorWilliam RT @suzannehatton: A good ending, imo, leaves me satisfied so much so that I want to read again to be with the characters & their lives once more. #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 19th, 2010

deegospel @suzannehatton lol. it kept me up all night. that ending #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 19th, 2010

VagabondagePres #litchat I love endings. My favorite part. I always know my ending going in. -1:15 PM Jul 19th, 2010

deegospel @generousmind definitely #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 19th, 2010

robertjbennett I usually think of the ending first. Everything else is the mathematics leading up to the final proof. #litchat -1:16 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JulieBritt I don't think you have to tie up all loose ends neatly, but you can't leave 500 of them hanging, like on the #Lost finale. #litchat -1:16 PM Jul 19th, 2010

districtbelle @LitChat Definitely doesn't have to be happy. Some lack of resolution ok, but hate it when a sequel's too obvious. #litchat -1:16 PM Jul 19th, 2010

David_Heb @quietriot_girl I think a good ending can enrich a book, though. #litchat -1:16 PM Jul 19th, 2010

agnieszkasshoes @quietriot_girl @JAPak I leave my endings open enough that the reader is at perfectliberty to imagine the story stretching forever #litchat -1:16 PM Jul 19th, 2010

suzannehatton I also love endings that require me to think more about what I've read before. Something that makes me reconsider myself, too. #litchat -1:16 PM Jul 19th, 2010

cindymariej Also love when I put it down for a while because i do NOT want it to end (Mists of Avalon, Lost Books of the Odyssey). #litchat -1:16 PM Jul 19th, 2010

buffysquirrel @deegospel i read P&P over and over too; once i finished and turned immediately back to page one! #litchat -1:16 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JAPak I usually know what the ending will be in theory, but giving it clothes is a different matter! #litchat -1:16 PM Jul 19th, 2010

LetterMaster @LitChat would you say that a short story ending can be more open than a novel? #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 19th, 2010

PeevishPenman Does anyone have an example of a really good ending? #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 19th, 2010

suzannehatton @JulieBritt I liked the #Lost finale :) I think the openness of it was wonderful. I know not everyone agrees though! #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 19th, 2010

CathrynLouis @suzannehatton That's a good way of putting it. #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 19th, 2010

LitChat Good question for chat: RT @LetterMaster: @LitChat would you say that a short story ending can be more open than a novel? #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 19th, 2010

deegospel @generousmind i just downloaded, so i can read it after #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 19th, 2010

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AuthorWilliam RT @districtbelle: @LitChat Definitely doesn't have to be happy. Some lack of resolution ok, but hate it when a sequel's too obvious. #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 19th, 2010

tadbo @danish_novelist Yes. Open endings tickle the mind and call for rereads to determine the true shape of what has happened. #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 19th, 2010

sharifwrites @AuthorWilliam Yes, an ending that leaves me with good feelings makes me want to either read a sequel or read the book over again. #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 19th, 2010

deegospel RT @buffysquirrel: @deegospel i read P&P over and over too; once i finished and turned immediately back to page one! #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 19th, 2010

cindymariej @sharifwrites I prefer when there's still unanswered questions #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 19th, 2010

LetterMaster @JulieBritt Hahaha, so true. Oh, #lost #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 19th, 2010

girlfrombim Clearly twitter/tweetchat are having issues today cause while I can see the discussion there's no where to post comments! #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 19th, 2010

ErikaRobuck RT @CarolyBurnsBass: Endings don't have to be happy, or perfectly resolved. They must, however, leave me with a sense of purpose. #litchat -1:18 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JAPak @agnieszkasshoes Exactly...also, the emotional life of a book goes on and the writer needs to consider that. #litchat -1:18 PM Jul 19th, 2010

brandg @LitChat Man, I hope an ending doesn't have to be happy. I'm rewriting 1984. #litChat -1:18 PM Jul 19th, 2010

deegospel @LitChat yes. short fiction is the perfect vehicle to have an open ending. it can carry so many layers #litchat -1:18 PM Jul 19th, 2010

suzannehpatton @girlfrombim are you signed into Tweetchat? I've had that happen to me when I accidentally wasn't signed in. #litchat -1:18 PM Jul 19th, 2010

LetterMaster @suzannehpatton I agree with you. When an ending makes me think over, in depth, what I just read. It's a good read. #litchat -1:18 PM Jul 19th, 2010

ErikaRobuck I don't need a happy ending for all characters, but I do need redemption. #litchat -1:18 PM Jul 19th, 2010

ErikaRobuck BTW, Hi all, just passing through. #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JSterlingS A good ending like a good story should have you in thought during and after it. #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 19th, 2010

kashicat @PeevishPenman My fave ending of any book/series, ever: Checkmate, by Dorothy Dunnett. About 10 pgs of glory. #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 19th, 2010

robertjbennett The most important thing that an ending must do is satisfy. Or, if it does not, it must fail to satisfy with intent. #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 19th, 2010

GeneDoucette I need there to be no more pages left after the ending. That's important to me. #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 19th, 2010

agnieszkasshoes @LitChat @LetterMaster I think people use "it's a short story" as an excuse for "a twist" that makes it more like joke's punchline #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JulieBritt A lot of literary short stories leave you guessing at the end. The character has progressed somewhat, but his/her story isn't over. #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 19th, 2010

tadbo RT @JSterlingS: A good ending like a good story should have you in thought during and after it. #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 19th, 2010

abigailwrites @danish_novelist the story is a moment of the characters lives. So unless the character dies, we don't know the "ending" #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 19th, 2010

TwinkleChar 1/2 I wrote a six-book series, same town & cast of chars..Each bk had to have satisfactory end but reader still want more. #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehpatton I don't know if short stories are long enough to allow for enough avenues of thought when they have an open ending. #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 19th, 2010
agnieszkasshoes @LitChat @LetterMaster likewise people use "it's a novel" as an excuse for an unimaginative ending #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LetterMaster @LitChat open end in short story is great, but then it gets more difficult when you have a collection of short stories into novel. #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehpatton RT @JSterlingS: A good ending like a good story should have you in thought during and after it. #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 19th, 2010
wildbloom Dean Koontz' Servants of Twilight had a wrap around beginning/end, one of my favorites. #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 19th, 2010
cindymariej RT @GeneDoucette: I need there to be no more pages left after the ending. That's important to me. #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 19th, 2010
kashicat I'd have thought short story needed tighter ending than novel, bc it's more of vignette dealing with more specific plot #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JulieBritt RT @robertjbennett: The most important thing an ending must do is satisfy. Or, if it does not, it must fail to satisfy with intent. #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam @ErikaRobuck I agree. I don't need the ending to be happy, either. #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 19th, 2010
deegospel @wildbloom one of mine, too #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo RT @robertjbennett: The most important thing that an ending must do is satisfy. Or, if not, it must fail to satisfy with intent. #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LetterMaster @agnieszkasshoes Very true. Or when they simply can't end a story. #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 19th, 2010
sharifwrites RT @tadbo: RT @JSterlingS: A good ending like a good story should have you in thought during and after it. #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehpatton @kashicat My thought exactly re: specific plot of short stories #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 19th, 2010
PeevishPenman @kashicat I think I'll have to read that now. #litchat an ending that sustains for 10 pages sounds exceptional. -1:20 PM Jul 19th, 2010
agnieszkasshoes @JAPak Yes! my favourite books are those I don't "get" at the time but will NOT leave my head #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JulieBritt @GeneDoucette You demand too much. #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 19th, 2010
lydiaruth77 good endings leave me feeling the time I've spent away frm my family,n the world of the story,was worth it,whether openended or not #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 19th, 2010
wildbloom @deegospel Did you stop, just for a second, and wonder if it meant something else? #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel reading The Road i remember thinking, they can't die! the book isn't over yet! there's more pages! #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe Pah my twitchat won't work, some am having to follow #litchat in time lapse style -1:21 PM Jul 19th, 2010
GeneDoucette @JulieBritt you wouldn't be the first woman to say so. #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TwinkleChar 2/2 Bk #6, all things pointed to conclusions for main chars.. Pub pulled plug. Readers still angry. Can't IMAGINE obvious. #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 19th, 2010

Topic of the Week:

Endings - p 9

July 19 & 21, 2010

www.litchat.net

agnieszkasshoes @LetterMaster interesting reading Bridport Prize judges. Tracy Chevalier wanted a twist, Ali Smith no twist as I remember #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 19th, 2010
cindymariej Who's seen the M*A*S*H episode "The Light That Failed"? They all share a book to read but there is no last pg. #hilarious #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robertjbennett Not sure who said this... Wilde? But there is no such thing as a happy ending. It's just where you choose for the story to stop. #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 19th, 2010
CathrynLouis The only thing that truly bothers me is an abrupt ending...where the book just stops. I feel cheated. #litchat -1:22 PM Jul 19th, 2010
kashicat @PeevishPenman Of course, you go through 6 books of heavy history & some tragedy first, so those 10 pgs help make it better. :-) #litchat -1:22 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JulieBritt When an ending disappoints me, I try to determine why so I won't make the same mistake. Sometimes the reason isn't obvious, though. #litchat -1:22 PM Jul 19th, 2010
brandg The ending is delicate, because it's the point where a person has to stop and ask themselves, "Was this worth it?" #litchat -1:22 PM Jul 19th, 2010
deegospel @wildbloom always with Koontz. he does so much with every sentence, every paragraph... #litchat -1:22 PM Jul 19th, 2010
smallswiftbirds @GeneDoucette That's what I hated about Bleak House. After you know that she died, what's the point of reading 50 more pages? #litchat -1:22 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehpatton By ending are we talking about the climax, or what comes afterward? Some things end quickly after the climax. #litchat -1:22 PM Jul 19th, 2010
brandg Some people get around that delicacy by adding so much action to the end, we feel like we have no right to complain. #litchat -1:22 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe beginnings, middles & ends. Depends on what Uwrite of course, but real life doesn't follow such a schemata. I like oblique spirals #litchat -1:22 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LetterMaster @kashicat It can be tighter but a shrt sty can be one moment, expanded, 2 b the stry. it doesn't tell the big picture. #litchat -1:22 PM Jul 19th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass Short fiction must deliver a story in fewer words, every word works harder for impact, yet ending can be ambiguous. #litchat -1:22 PM Jul 19th, 2010
kashicat @girlfrombim Have you tried something like TweetDeck? So far it's working okay for me today. #litchat -1:22 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TwinkleChar RT @lydiaruth77: good endings leave me feeling the time I've spent away frm my family,n the world of the story,was worth it,whether openended or not #litchat -1:23 PM Jul 19th, 2010
DrSci I've read too many books that hurried in the last 5 pages to tie up the plot points. @JAPak #litchat -1:23 PM Jul 19th, 2010
wildbloom @deegospel He really does. A great inspiration for an aspiring author. His pacing is second to none, IMHO. #litchat -1:23 PM Jul 19th, 2010
smallswiftbirds And, I should say that I LOVED Bleak House. But once the mystery was solved, the rest was just housekeeping. #litchat -1:23 PM Jul 19th, 2010
kashicat @LetterMaster Yes, I don't think short story can tell big picture. But it kind of narrows focus on one more specific area. #litchat -1:23 PM Jul 19th, 2010
SesshasWorld @ALPACAJUNCTION writer's discussing various topics - this wk it's endings, search #litchat to follow the discussion, use it to contribute -1:23 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe Please don't tell me an ending is about some sort of 'redemption' This feels like an outmoded trope to me. #litchat -1:23 PM Jul 19th, 2010

chislehurst I agr..! RT @CathrynLouis: The only thing that truly bothers me is an abrupt ending...where the book just stosp. I feel cheated. #litchat -1:23 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LitChat @suzannepatton Good question about when/what is the ending. Let's send this into the chat. #litchat -1:23 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robertjbennett Some endings disappoint purposefully. The Rules of Attraction ends mid-sentence, because the character has nothing worth saying. #litchat -1:23 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel @smallswiftbirds Bleak House is horribly flawed. 'woman who done wrong must die' #litchat -1:23 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam RT @lydiaruth77: good endings leave me feeling the time I've spent away frm my family,n the world of the story,was worth it,whether openended or not #litchat -1:23 PM Jul 19th, 2010
marisabirns William Styron quote: "A good book should leave you...slightly exhausted at the end. You live several lives. #litchat -1:24 PM Jul 19th, 2010
deegospel RT @CarolyBurnsBass Short fiction must deliver a story in fewer words every word works harder for impact yet ending can be ambiguou #litchat -1:24 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LetterMaster RT @CarolyBurnsBass: Short fiction must deliver a story in fewer words, every word works harder for impact, yet ending can be ambiguous. #litchat -1:24 PM Jul 19th, 2010
deegospel @wildbloom so true #litchat -1:24 PM Jul 19th, 2010
VagabondagePres @brandg #litchat - Cormac McCarthy didn't seem to worry about a happy ending. :) -1:24 PM Jul 19th, 2010
GeneDoucette My best/worst example is Stephen King's It: one of my favorite books... until the ending. #litchat -1:24 PM Jul 19th, 2010
deegospel @ALPACAJUNCTION i see you #litchat -1:24 PM Jul 19th, 2010
kashicat RT @GeneDoucette: I need there to be no more pages left after the ending. That's important to me. #litchat [Good way to view it] -1:24 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe I like endings that turn everything on its head, makes the reader question in what way they thought they were reading the book #litchat -1:24 PM Jul 19th, 2010
agnieszkasshoes RT @robertjbennett: Some endings disappoint purposefully. The Rules of Attraction ends mid-sentence, because the character has nothing worth saying. #litchat -1:24 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LitChat Q fm @suzannepatton When does the ending begin? At the climax? Or is the ending simply the final chapter or paragraphs? #litchat -1:24 PM Jul 19th, 2010
SesshasWorld @ALPACAJUNCTION search #litchat - then make sure that hashtag is in your response -1:25 PM Jul 19th, 2010
wildbloom @GeneDoucette Ironically, I couldn't get past the first 3 pages for some reason. #litchat -1:25 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel @DrSci this i've also noticed, with short stories as well as novels. it's like the writer sees the wordcount piling up and panics #litchat -1:25 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannepatton For my current #wip I worry about the ending because I have loose ends for a planned sequel. I don't know what readers will think. #litchat -1:25 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo @GeneDoucette Hmm. I don't remember the ending of it, but I remember the story. Pennywise. *shudders* #litchat -1:25 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam Like the ending of a comedy show. Of course we want it gangbusters the whole way but we'll take a better ending than a better open #litchat -1:25 PM Jul 19th, 2010

PeevishPenman This moment during #litchat is the first time in 2 months I'm compelled to start working on the end of my novel. Thanks you guys! #inspired -1:25 PM Jul 19th, 2010
kashicat @wildbloom I'm not sure what you mean by "wrap around beginning/end"? Sounds interesting. #litchat -1:25 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel @21stCscribe still a pretty popular one tho #litchat -1:25 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LetterMaster @LitChat Where/ when the ending is depends on what purpose the ending is serving for the character/plot #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 19th, 2010
GeneDoucette @tadbo big spider. City streets erupting, but mostly: big spider. Um... #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LuaFowles I like endings where things are not black & white- I like a little room to be able to imagine what would have happened next #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo I don't think about climax. A story, for me, ends when you write the last word and put that final period. #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 19th, 2010
wildbloom @kashicat He ended it with the same sentence he started with, but in reverse. 'It began on a/it ended on a..' #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehatton @LitChat Thanks for sharing my question! Although you forgot the H in my username :) It's a tricky one. #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam I think an ending is just that. The end. That last image, breath, moment. #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robynmcintyre RT @buffysquirrel: @DrSci i've noticed w/ short stories as well as novels. it's lk the writer sees the wrdcount piling up & panics #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe 2 Lane Blacktop a road movie has wonderful ending. The blacktop burns turns into the film stock burning- I want that in a book #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel @LitChat the ending is when the reader feels the story is over #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TwinkleChar I consider the end The Actual End. For me, a book's climax to the storyline leads me to the soft exit, for many genres. #litchat -1:27 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe RT @buffysquirrel: @21stCscribe still a pretty popular one tho #litchat / sure., it's a personal thing. I just don't buy it -1:27 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JAPak RT @agnieszkasshoes my favourite books are those I don't "get" at the time but will NOT leave my head #litchat <Now that's a great ending! -1:27 PM Jul 19th, 2010
cookiebiscuit Oops. I forgot to put #litchat on the end of my last 2 tweets. -1:27 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JulieBritt @suzannehatton Have you read Stieg Larsson? He ended the first 1 satisfactorily. Readers don't have to read the others to get it. #litchat -1:27 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TwinkleChar The End is also when The Editor says she'll send it through and you can get paid. :) #litchat -1:27 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo @GeneDoucette OHHHHH...that. Well. That tied back into his whole universe-cosmos-spanning-mythos...yeah. #litchat -1:27 PM Jul 19th, 2010
lydiaruth77 I agree completely! RT @AuthorWilliam I think an ending is just that. The end. That last image, breath, moment. #litchat -1:27 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehatton @buffysquirrel "when the reader feels the story is over" so when I think I'm done? If so I end lots of books on the 1st page! #litchat -1:27 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo #truth. Hence why some can run too long. RT @buffysquirrel: @LitChat the ending is when the reader feels the story is over #litchat -1:27 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LetterMaster My favorite way to end stories is with an image #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 19th, 2010

Topic of the Week:

Endings - p 12

July 19 & 21, 2010

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CarolyBurnsBass Bravo! Will expect updates. RT @PeevishPenman:This moment during #litchat is the first time in 2 months Im compelled to start worki #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 19th, 2010

kashicat @wildbloom Oh, I like that! #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 19th, 2010

TwinkleChar RT @AuthorWilliam: I think an ending is just that. The end. That last image, breath, moment.<<nice. real nice #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 19th, 2010

tadbo RT @AuthorWilliam: I think an ending is just that. The end. That last image, breath, moment. #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JulieBritt @TwinkleChar We get paid?! #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 19th, 2010

robynmcintyre I like a sharp ending for the plot, but open for the chars, yet hate endings so open I can't imagine wht they might do next. #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 19th, 2010

suzannehatton @JulieBritt I started reading his 1st book but haven't gotten beyond chapter 1 just yet. I'll probably pick it back up in a bit #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 19th, 2010

AuthorWilliam @buffysquirrel Interesting. If the reader feels the good ending is on the 4th to last chapter but the book drags on 3 more chapters #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 19th, 2010

21stCscribe Endings are new beginnings for the sequel! #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 19th, 2010

AuthorWilliam @buffysquirrel ..how does that reader rate that books ending? #litchat -1:29 PM Jul 19th, 2010

agnieszkasshoes @JAPak yes, Murakami does that to me almost all the time. #litchat -1:29 PM Jul 19th, 2010

wildbloom @kashicat It was different for me at the time, and he puts a great, dark twist on it. #litchat -1:29 PM Jul 19th, 2010

21stCscribe I don't like endings that tie up all the lose threads into a pretty bow #litchat -1:29 PM Jul 19th, 2010

suzannehatton RT @21stCscribe: Endings are new beginnings for the sequel! #litchat -1:29 PM Jul 19th, 2010

TaoJoannes @litchat death begins with conception, the first word begins the ending. #litchat -1:30 PM Jul 19th, 2010

21stCscribe I also like a stream of false endings. Shakespeare did this sometimes #litchat -1:30 PM Jul 19th, 2010

TaoJoannes @litchat death begins with conception #litchat -1:30 PM Jul 19th, 2010

GeneDoucette personally, I always know the ending of my novels b4 starting, so figuring them out hasn't been a problem so far. #litchat -1:30 PM Jul 19th, 2010

kashicat @suzannehatton I have #wip with sequel too, & constantly wrestle w/whether it shd actually have 1. Yet it can stand alone if nec. #litchat -1:31 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JulieBritt Do you sequel writers know there'll be a sequel, or does the "end" of book 1 tell you so? #litchat -1:31 PM Jul 19th, 2010

GeneDoucette and down goes twitter. #litchat -1:31 PM Jul 19th, 2010

robynmcintyre Aftr the mystery is solved, any "housekeeping" shld read as a lead into the future. #litchat -1:31 PM Jul 19th, 2010

BumblingMemoir #litchat was it Eudora Welty who said: a story should begin like you pick up a puppy-a little in front of the middle. -1:32 PM Jul 19th, 2010

deegospel love this chat, but i have to leave. my daughter just arrived. will read the archives. great stuff, guys #litchat -1:32 PM Jul 19th, 2010

kashicat RT @TwinkleChar: The End is also when The Editor says she'll send it through and you can get paid. :) #litchat [Ha! Now there's satisfying!] -1:32 PM Jul 19th, 2010

Topic of the Week:
Endings - p 13

July 19 & 21, 2010

www.litchat.net

AuthorWilliam RT @GeneDoucette: and down goes twitter.<<<seriously #litchat -1:32 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe @agnieszkasshoes is there something re Japanese culture/lit that=a different narrative structure? I'm thinking approach 2 time #litchat -1:32 PM Jul 19th, 2010
ErikaRobuck @LitChat The ending is the denouement--when all threads of the plot are complete. #litchat -1:32 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannepatton @21stCscribe I'm glad you don't like pretty bows. My #wip is left open in places for a sequel & I worry about it. #litchat -1:33 PM Jul 19th, 2010
wildbloom @JulieBritt We chatted about this yesterday, lol! I thought my 1st would only be one book, but the ending opened me up for 2. #litchat -1:33 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TwinkleChar RT @JulieBritt: @TwinkleChar We get paid?! #litchat<< Stops and counts payment blessings ... Amen. -1:33 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TaoJoannes @GeneDoucette what happened to "I don't outline" lol #litchat -1:33 PM Jul 19th, 2010
wildbloom @deegospel Have a great day! #litchat -1:33 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JulieBritt Why does #litchat kill Twitter? #litchat -1:34 PM Jul 19th, 2010
kashicat @JulieBritt For me, I could see a sequel when I got to end. But whether message of 1st bk should go farther is what I ponder. #litchat -1:34 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel @suzannepatton me too! or against the wall, out the window.... #litchat -1:34 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LetterMaster The loose ends that you leave in your 1st ending, can be where you pick up with your 2nd book #litchat -1:34 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel @JulieBritt i think for me the untold story clamouring in my head tells me so.... #litchat -1:34 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe The ending is when there is no more meaning to be wrung from any further words #litchat -1:34 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannepatton @kashicat I'm not sure mine is a standalone, but the sequel jumps off a subplot of the 1st novel that I have no room to solve #litchat -1:34 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JulieBritt @TwinkleChar I got \$30 for a short story. Doesn't quite pay off that MFA loan. :) #litchat -1:34 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robynmcintyre @JulieBritt I developed seven general plots for my current chars before I started writing the 1st bk. #litchat -1:34 PM Jul 19th, 2010
ErikaRobuck I'm particularly fond of Epilogues that punch the reader in the stomach, ie: POSSESSION. #litchat -1:35 PM Jul 19th, 2010
techcommdood And they all lived happily ever after. The end." ;) RT @PeevishPenman: Does anyone have an example of a really good ending? #litchat -1:35 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JoLynneValerie Hello, #litchat! Popping in to soak up some bookish #positive #energy! Happy Monday afternoon, everyone. Scrolling back to get our topic... -1:35 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LetterMaster @JulieBritt Hey that's awesome too! #litchat -1:35 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TaoJoannes @ErikaRobuck shave and a haircut. (two bits) and then the elves and hobbits spent twenty pages saying goodbye to each other #litchat -1:35 PM Jul 19th, 2010
David_Heb For all that I like good endings, I think it's important for a story (novels especially) not to rely too much on its ending. #litchat -1:35 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannepatton @kashicat no room to solve in the 1st book itself. but it's an important subplot and deserve it's own novel I think. #litchat -1:35 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JHammons Robert Stone's novel A Flag for Sunrise @PeevishPenman Does anyone have an example of a really good ending? #litchat -1:35 PM Jul 19th, 2010

LitChat See you Weds R @deegospel: love this chat, but i have to leave. my daughter just arrived. will read the archives. great stuff, guys #litchat -1:35 PM Jul 19th, 2010

GeneDoucette @TaoJoannes I don't. I just know what the ending is. That's not outlining; I have no idea how I'm getting to it. #litchat -1:35 PM Jul 19th, 2010

LitChat What are the worst threads to leave unwoven in an ending? #litchat -1:35 PM Jul 19th, 2010

AuthorWilliam @JoLynneValerie Hey Jo Lynne! It's ENDINGS :-) #litchat -1:36 PM Jul 19th, 2010

kashicat @suzannepatton I can see where that cd be a problem. Must handle carefully. Cd. open you to accusations of opportunism, cdn't it? #litchat -1:36 PM Jul 19th, 2010

robynmcintyre @ErikaRobuck Vicious. LOL #litchat -1:36 PM Jul 19th, 2010

suzannepatton @JulieBritt Because #litchat is amazing! :) -1:36 PM Jul 19th, 2010

cindymariej RT @21stCscribe: The ending is when there is no more meaning to be wrung from any further words #litchat -1:36 PM Jul 19th, 2010

tadbo RT @21stCscribe: The ending is when there is no more meaning to be wrung from any further words #litchat -1:36 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JulieBritt @deegospel Bye #litchat -1:36 PM Jul 19th, 2010

buffysquirrel @LitChat anything that much was made of earlier but which hasn't played out, i think #litchat -1:36 PM Jul 19th, 2010

GeneDoucette @TaoJoannes although my ending is sometimes "and then a guy gets killed and my guy lives" which isn't much. #litchat -1:36 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JoLynneValerie @ErikaRobuck Without spoilers or TMI, what was it about that Epilogue that really got you? Curious... #litchat -1:36 PM Jul 19th, 2010

kashicat @suzannepatton Will people wonder why subplot was in 1st bk in the first place, or do you think you can explain that okay? #litchat -1:36 PM Jul 19th, 2010

LetterMaster @LitChat probably romantic ones - nothing i hate more than two ppl not being together! lol #litchat -1:36 PM Jul 19th, 2010

suzannepatton @kashicat what do you mean? re: accusation of opportunism #litchat -1:36 PM Jul 19th, 2010

kashicat @suzannepatton Not criticizing; just really curious how you'll handle this. #litchat -1:37 PM Jul 19th, 2010

CathrynLouis Saved! I said something bit risque & wished I hadn't. RT @AuthorWilliam: "RT @GeneDoucette: & down goes twitter.<<<seriously #litchat" -1:37 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JAPak RT @marisabirns: Styrone quote < Exhausted but exhilarated like a great love affair! #litchat -1:37 PM Jul 19th, 2010

cindymariej @TaoJoannes Yes but then I personally love all the supplemental lit to #LOTR #litchat -1:37 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JoLynneValerie RT @AuthorWilliam Hey Jo Lynne! It's ENDINGS :-) #litchat << Aw, TY, friend! -1:37 PM Jul 19th, 2010

AuthorWilliam @CathrynLouis LOL #litchat -1:37 PM Jul 19th, 2010

smallswiftbirds @suzannepatton I think that's fine. U can just leave that character w/ some sort of pseudo-resolution that picks up in sequel. #litchat -1:37 PM Jul 19th, 2010

TwinkleChar RT @BumblinMemoir: #litchat was it Eudora Welty who said: a story should begin like you pick up a puppy-a little in front of the middle. -1:38 PM Jul 19th, 2010

itsKysis @LitChat I am so excited for this #litchat! I am in the last fourth of my novel and really needed this push! 1:38 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robertjbennett Almost every part of a book must do 3 things: add to plot, theme, or character. Endings must do only 1: qualify everything before. #litchat -1:38 PM Jul 19th, 2010
adam_r_stephens RT @LetterMaster: The loose ends that you leave in your 1st ending, can be where you pick up with your 2nd book #litchat -1:38 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe RT @LitChat: What are the worst threads to leave unwoven in an ending? #litchat / why the book has the title it does! -1:38 PM Jul 19th, 2010
katmagendie Well, can get into #litchat, but can't do anything but read - *shrug* have no idea why can't retweet or reply. -1:38 PM Jul 19th, 2010
marisabirns @JoLynneValerie Hello! Glad to see you here, it's been too long! :) #litchat -1:38 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannepatton @kashicat 1st novel is more about a group of ppl, 2nd focuses on 1 person and only his storyline which grows from the subplot #litchat -1:39 PM Jul 19th, 2010
BumblingMemoir of course I dive into #litchat right after varnishing a table, so my fingers are sticking together. but great discussion, folks! -1:39 PM Jul 19th, 2010
GeneDoucette really, as with every other kind of writing discussed here, there aren't any rules abt endings. #litchat -1:39 PM Jul 19th, 2010
GeneDoucette Other than "make sure it does not suck" there's not much else to say. #litchat -1:39 PM Jul 19th, 2010
ALPACAJUNCTION @SesshasWorld So by hashtag you mean #litchat is that right? But how do you get it to be red????? -1:39 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TaoJoannes @PeevishPenman #litchat RE: great endings Gatsby believed in the green light, the orgastic future that year by (cont) http://tl.gd/2kb7ls -1:39 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JoLynneValerie RT @marisabirns @JoLynneValerie Hello! Glad to see you here, it's been too long! :) #litchat << It *has* been too long. Sooo busy lately! -1:39 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TwinkleChar Chat proves 1 thing: do not agree on the job of ending. Some like neat bows; others like to imagine. Write to satisfy self, eh? #litchat -1:39 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel @21stCscribe hah! i remember my mother laughing at me cos i couldn't understand why The Millstone had that title #litchat -1:39 PM Jul 19th, 2010
girlfrombim Me either. RT @katmagendie: Well, can get into #litchat, but can't do anything but read - *shrug* have no idea why can't retweet or reply. -1:40 PM Jul 19th, 2010
quietriot_girl RT @tadbo: Indeed. RT @JAPak: @quietriot_girl An ending of a great book is a great sadness for me too! #litchat -1:40 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannepatton RT @GeneDoucette: really, as with every other kind of writing discussed here, there aren't any rules abt endings. #litchat -1:40 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel RT @TwinkleChar: Chat proves 1 thing: do not agree on the job of ending. Some like neat bows; others like to imagine. Write to satisfy self, eh? #litchat -1:40 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robynmcintyre RT @twitterapi: Seeing weird, malformed HTTP responses to API requests? We're looking into it! http://t.co/SsqlwOp #litchat -1:40 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo #truth. RT @GeneDoucette: really, as with every other kind of writing discussed here, there aren't any rules abt endings. #litchat -1:40 PM Jul 19th, 2010
wildbloom Speaking of writing, I have a deadline lurking. Nice to see you all! #litchat -1:40 PM Jul 19th, 2010

tadbo XD RT @21stCscribe: RT @LitChat: What are the worst threads to leave unwoven in an ending? #litchat / why the book has the title it does! -1:40 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe @robertjbennett I think your schemata is too reductive. Not all books have to qualify everything in them #litchat -1:40 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TaoJoannes @GeneDoucette lol, my wip ends "she jumped in an RV full of college kids and turned me into the cops" don't tell nobody #litchat -1:40 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JoLynneValerie I can say that unless there's a sequel coming, I like an ending to literally wrap things UP. Tie entire book together, ie. closure. #litchat -1:40 PM Jul 19th, 2010
WNW RT @CathrynLouis: The only thing that truly bothers me is an abrupt ending...where the book just stosp. I feel cheated. #litchat -1:40 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehpatton RT @21stCscribe: RT @LitChat: What are the worst threads to leave unwoven in an ending? / why the book has the title it does! #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 19th, 2010
cindymariej RT @tadbo: #truth. RT @GeneDoucette: as with every other kind of writing discussed here, there aren't any rules abt endings. #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JulieBritt @girlfrombim Try refreshing. Twitter has been over capacity during chat. #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam @TwinkleChar Yeah there is a vast array of thoughts on endings here. Good to hear all the views though. #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam RT @CathrynLouis: The only thing that truly bothers me is an abrupt ending...where the book just stosp. I feel cheated. #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JoLynneValerie RT @wildbloom Speaking of writing, I have a deadline lurking. Nice to see you all! #litchat << Same! #litchat is my guilty pleasure today. -1:41 PM Jul 19th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass ★RT @robertjbennett: ...book must do 3 things: add to plot, theme, or character. Endings must do only 1: qualify everything before. #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LetterMaster Gotta run, folks! Great #litchat today -1:41 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel RT @CathrynLouis: The only thing that truly bothers me is an abrupt ending...where the book just stosp. I feel cheated. #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehpatton If I don't know the reasoning behind the title by the end, then I won't be satisfied with it. #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel @CathrynLouis too true #litchat i hate when a story just stops -1:41 PM Jul 19th, 2010
wildbloom @JoLynneValerie It was mine yesterday. :) take care! #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JoLynneValerie However, my next book is 1st in a series, so my structure of that ending will be an entirely different beast. I'll create questions #litchat -1:42 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo @AuthorWilliam Sometimes and abrupt ending can work like a sucker punch that makes you rethink the story. #litchat -1:42 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TwinkleChar RT @robertjbennett: Almost every part of a book must do 3 things: add to plot, theme, or character. Endings must do only 1: qualify everything before. #litchat -1:42 PM Jul 19th, 2010
BumblingMemoir #litchat sometimes I like it when endings just stop. I don't want to see the next moment. e.g. thelma & louise. -1:42 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo Endings are such an organic creation in my mind. The story dictates where it starts, what happens and where it ends. #litchat -1:42 PM Jul 19th, 2010
kashicat @suzannehpatton It sounds like it could really work, then. :-) #litchat -1:42 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robertjbennett @21stCscribe Ha, yeah, it's hard to fit all the subtlety into 140 chars. #litchat -1:43 PM Jul 19th, 2010

Topic of the Week:

Endings - p 17

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www.litchat.net

robynmcintyre I will 'fess up - HATED the end of HP Deathly Hallows. #litchat -1:43 PM Jul 19th, 2010
katrinalantzov Oh, late to the chat. Endings are so hard to write! #litchat I agree w those saying it sucks when they just stop. But I also hate dragging.. -1:43 PM Jul 19th, 2010
rbwood I love endings that make you think...and leave room for the imagination of the audience. #litchat -1:43 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TwinkleChar RT @tadbo: Endings are such an organic creation in my mind. The story dictates where it starts, what happens and where it ends./yep #litchat -1:43 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robynmcintyre RT @BumblinMemoir: #litchat sometimes I like it when endings just stop. I don't want to see the next moment. e.g. thelma & louise. -1:43 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TaoJoannes @tadbo I think the ending dictates the rest of the story #litchat -1:44 PM Jul 19th, 2010
ALPACAJUNCTION so is this how you communicate on this ? #litchat -1:44 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehatton I love lit chat. It makes me feel like I'm doing something meaningful in a day of laziness! #litchat -1:44 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LenBogarad At the ending the Theme must be proven. #Litchat -1:44 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe I'm always questioning triangular relationship of author, reader & main character. I like endings that change our interrelationship #litchat -1:44 PM Jul 19th, 2010
GeneDoucette Books as Buffy season: once the Big Bad is defeated, summer break. #litchat -1:44 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JoLynneValerie RT @CathrynLouis Only thing that truly bothers me is an abrupt ending...book just stops.<Yes! Abrupt/weak ending can RUIN a good bk #litchat -1:44 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo @taojoannes I think the story dictates the story. Really. I can't see how it can be otherwise. #litchat -1:44 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel @katrinalantzov oh yeah, those 'the story's over, why are you still writing?' endings #litchat -1:44 PM Jul 19th, 2010
katrinalantzov RT @suzannehatton: I love lit chat. It makes me feel like I'm doing something meaningful in a day of laziness! #litchat -1:44 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo Structure but also a lot of heart. RT @GeneDoucette: Books as Buffy season: once the Big Bad is defeated, summer break. #litchat -1:45 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LitChat Most agree an ending must not be perfectly wrapped or happily ever after. But what MUST it have to complete the book? #litchat -1:45 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JoLynneValerie RT @rbwood I love endings that make you think...and leave room for the imagination of the audience. #litchat << AMEN and ditto to that! -1:45 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe RT @LenBogarad: At the ending the Theme must be proven. #Litchat /especially if the theme is life has no endings other than death) -1:45 PM Jul 19th, 2010
cmdrsue RT @GeneDoucette: Books as Buffy season: once the Big Bad is defeated, summer break. #litchat -1:45 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JAPak Of course it's all so subjective: 1 person's great ending is another's WHAT? #litchat -1:45 PM Jul 19th, 2010
BumblinMemoir #litchat I tend to rewrite my beginnings more, but I sit around and think more intently on my endings. -1:45 PM Jul 19th, 2010
katrinalantzov I do think that loose threads are okay, though. Life isn't always tied up in a neat bow. #litchat #endings -1:45 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo Interesting. RT @LenBogarad: At the ending the Theme must be proven. #Litchat -1:45 PM Jul 19th, 2010

Topic of the Week:

Endings - p 18

July 19 & 21, 2010

www.litchat.net

TwinkleChar RT @21stCscribe: I'm always questioning triangular relationship of author, reader & main character. I like endings that change our interrelationship #litchat -1:45 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JoLynneValerie RT @tadbo @taojoannes I think the story dictates the story. Really. I can't see how it can be otherwise. #litchat << Agreed. Each one diff. -1:45 PM Jul 19th, 2010
David_Heb I don't mind what happens in an ending, as long as it works in context. #litchat -1:45 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam @tadbo For me ending shows me the door out..so if I get sucker punched then shown the door, I feel there better be a good reason #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehpatton I love open/loose thread endings, but then if an author wraps things up so perfectly, I'm still happy with it. #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 19th, 2010
GeneDoucette @LitChat what MUST it have? the point. #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JulieBritt @robertjbennett And make you want to read the author's next book. Some endings have marked certain writers off my list. #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe @LitChat permission for the reader to go back to the real world, hopefully feeling sated by the book #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TaoJoannes @tadbo i guess it's in how you look at the craft. like building house, the roofline dictates loadbearing walls, etc #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TwinkleChar RT @JulieBritt: @TwinkleChar I got \$30 for a short story. Doesn't quite pay off that MFA loan. :) #litchat <<Hear ya, but CONGRATS! -1:46 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JoLynneValerie @buffysquirrel @katrinalantznov Imo, it's a skill, knowing *when* to end a story. Some authors ♥ their book so much it goes on & on #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehpatton @AuthorWilliam How do you mean sucker punched? #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robynmcintyre @ALPACAJUNCTION Hello! #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo @AuthorWilliam That is true. The story itself had better be exceptional to dictate such harsh treatment...but it can work. #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 19th, 2010
itsKysis I've always loved a tragic ending that requires a choice and a change. Sadly haven't found many books with that exact cut, though. #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam @tadbo So yes it can, but I am admittedly critical about those. #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 19th, 2010
katrinalantznov @buffysquirrel Yes! Denouement must be short, but fulfilling. Tricky for writers. Imperative for readers! #litchat #endings -1:47 PM Jul 19th, 2010
districtbelle @LitChat Must resolve at least one major pending question or make some fairly major statement about all the prior pages. #litchat -1:47 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel @JoLynneValerie rowling... #litchat -1:47 PM Jul 19th, 2010
agnieszkasshoes @21stCscribe I don't know - it's there in Yoshimoto too. For Murakami there's lots of Kyoto School philosophy #litchat -1:47 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robynmcintyre RT @21stCscribe: I'm always questioning triangle author, reader & main character. I like endings that change our interrelationship #litchat -1:47 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JoLynneValerie RT @suzannehpatton I love open/loose thread endings, but then if an author wraps things up so perfectly, I'm still happy with it. #litchat -1:47 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe an ending ushers the reader out of the world of the book, but hopefully taking some of that world back into their real life #litchat -1:47 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam @suzannehpatton We were discussing abrupt endings and how they can feel like being sucker punched. #litchat -1:47 PM Jul 19th, 2010

JAPak RT @JulieBritt Some endings have marked certain writers off my list. <wow #litchat -1:47 PM Jul 19th, 2010
agnieszkasshoes @21stCscribe by which I mean time isn't a narrative but a series of concentrated moments that cast long shadows #litchat -1:47 PM Jul 19th, 2010
dazydaywriter RT @suzannehpatton: I love open/loose thread endings, but then if an author wraps things up so perfectly, I'm still happy with it. #litchat -1:48 PM Jul 19th, 2010
CathrynLouis If the book is set up 4 an abrupt ending, that's one thing. I'm referring 2 where the book just stops. #litchat -1:48 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TaoJoannes @suzannehpatton I call it Shyamalaned #litchat -1:48 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehpatton RT @21stCscribe: an ending ushers the reader out of the world of the book, but taking some of that world back into their real life #litchat -1:48 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam @tadbo Agreed. #litchat -1:48 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe @itsKysis I don't know what genre you favour, but real life just isn't like that? #litchat -1:48 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo @AuthorWilliam I can understand that stance. #litchat -1:48 PM Jul 19th, 2010
dazydaywriter RT @suzannehpatton: RT @21stCscribe: an ending ushers the reader out of the world of the book, but taking some of that world back into their real life #litchat -1:48 PM Jul 19th, 2010
kashicat @agnieszkasshoes You keep reminding me that I MUST investigate Murakami! Argh! Not enough hours in the day! #litchat -1:48 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehpatton @AuthorWilliam Gotcha! I do agree, sudden endings should be well thought out. #litchat -1:48 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robnymcintyre @LitChat A: I think the mst import. thing is tht the ending satisfies. Nothing else really matters to me. #litchat -1:48 PM Jul 19th, 2010
dazydaywriter RT @21stCscribe: I'm always questioning triangular relationship of author, reader & main character. I like endings that change our interrelationship #litchat -1:49 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TwinkleChar @buffysquirrel Denouement must be short, but ...<<remember 1st time ed said I did that well. Had no idea what word meant. #lucky #litchat -1:49 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehpatton Anyone here have read Everything Is Illuminated? Talk about sudden ending! Wasn't it midsentence? I forget. #litchat -1:49 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JoLynneValerie Rt @buffysquirrel @JoLynneValerie rowling... #litchat <<Sure. Sometimes, on and on...Those particular readers ♥ series & don't seem to care. -1:49 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo @taojoannes True, the roof does dictate the house. I don't look at the roof till the house is at least a framework, though. #litchat -1:49 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robertjbennett What do we think of Neal Stephenson's endings? They always just kind of... stop. And I never expect it. #litchat -1:49 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe @agnieszkasshoes yes that's the sort of thing. "The End" has no meaning then? #litchat -1:49 PM Jul 19th, 2010
smallswiftbirds The best ends are the ones that leave you sitting, stunned, rereading, rethinking, satisfied but sad. How to achieve that? Magic. #litchat -1:49 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JoLynneValerie @suzannehpatton @AuthorWilliam I do not mind a shocking ending but best make the rest of the book *damned* good if I'm 2 be shocked #litchat -1:50 PM Jul 19th, 2010
travisking @LitChat Ending must clearly indicate resolution of conflict or transformation of main character, or at least possibility thereof. #litchat -1:50 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam Readers can have very harsh feelings toward books that don't end well for them. #litchat -1:50 PM Jul 19th, 2010

tadbo #truth. RT @GeneDoucette: @LitChat what MUST it have? the point. #litchat -1:50 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robynmcintyre RT @21stCscribe: an ending ushers the readr out of the wrld of the bk, but hopefully taking sm of tht world bk into their real life #litchat -1:50 PM Jul 19th, 2010
itsKysis @21stCscribe I'm a fantasy fan, though I delve into sci-fi now and then. >.> Most seem to end in epic battles, sadly. #litchat -1:50 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JoLynneValerie RT @suzannehatton: RT @21stCscribe: an ending ushers the reader out of the world of the book, but taking some of that world back into their real life #litchat -1:50 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe @suzannehatton I've read it, enjoyed it but can't really remember ending - so not stand out for me #litchat -1:50 PM Jul 19th, 2010
GeneDoucette @tadbo @taojoannes I'm not fond of the house-building metaphor here. You can't build a house based on the shape of the roof. #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robynmcintyre RT @TaoJoannes: @suzannehatton I call it Shyamalaned <== LOL #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 19th, 2010
katrinalantznov RT @TaoJoannes: @suzannehatton I call it Shyamalaned #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo Ouch. RT @JAPak: RT @JulieBritt Some endings have marked certain writers off my list. <wow #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 19th, 2010
agnieszkasshoes @21stCscribe Not really no. There are pivotal moments (the well in Wind-up, the Wheel in Sputnik, Stone in Kafka), never at the End #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam I think readers feel this way because they agreed to accept and intimate invitation and entrusted feelings and openness. #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe @smallswiftbirds I would also hope to have that effect throughout the book, not just a punch at the end? #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo XD RT @TaoJoannes: @suzannehatton I call it Shyamalaned #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robertjbennett Stories have shapes. The ending must complete the story in a way that the overall shape can now be discerned. #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JoLynneValerie @GeneDoucette As if you read my mind... #HouseMetaphor #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TaoJoannes @AuthorWilliam "and he woke up, and it was all a dream" Why the hell did I just spend 400 pages reading it then? #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TwinkleChar RT @21stCscribe: an ending ushers the reader out of the world of the book, but hopefully taking some of that world back into their real life #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo @GeneDoucette I think he's more talking about the kind of roof as opposed to the shape. Weight, dimensions, so on.... #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 19th, 2010
agnieszkasshoes @21stCscribe "end" meant teleologically not chronologically - part that gives the book its meaning, not what comes last #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo Ouch! RT @TaoJoannes: @suzannehatton I call it Shyamalaned #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robertjbennett Stories have shapes. The ending must complete the story in a way that the overall shape can then be discerned. #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 19th, 2010
cookiebiscuit It depends whether you read a book for its own literary merit or because you want to know the story and how it ends. #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 19th, 2010

kashicat And I've decided over the years that with certain kinds of books, you really can't *have* a satisfying ending. #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo RT @agnieszkasshoes: @21stCscribe by which I mean time isn't narrative but a series of concentrated moments that cast long shadows #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 19th, 2010
agnieszkasshoes @kashicat I think you'd love it. Some (After Dark) v short but a great intro to him #litchat -1:53 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JoLynneValerie #litchat Eh, I come back to my core feeling that each individual story dictates the ending. They're different, each time, for each book. -1:53 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robynmcintyre I love a book that makes me stop every once in a while, lower it and say, "wow." #litchat -1:53 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe @agnieszkasshoes I approve of that. #litchat -1:53 PM Jul 19th, 2010
GeneDoucette Gotta run, #bike home... see everyone later. #FF @me, I'll return it. #litchat -1:53 PM Jul 19th, 2010
cindymariej I like this image. @robertjbennett: Stories have shapes. ending must complete the story [so] overall shape can then be discerned. #litchat -1:53 PM Jul 19th, 2010
David_Heb The ending is the last piece to be placed in the jigsaw of a story - but some of the pieces can still be missing. #litchat -1:53 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TaoJoannes @GeneDoucette I'm workin on it, lol. The idea is that structure depends on the payoff at the end #litchat -1:53 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam @taojoannes Exactly. #litchat -1:53 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TwinkleChar Do certain genres demand questionable endings? #litchat -1:53 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehpatton AGREE! this needed caps. RT @robynmcintyre: I love a book that makes me stop every once in a while, lower it and say, "wow." #litchat -1:53 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo Yup. RT @robynmcintyre: @LitChat A: I think the mst import. thing is tht the ending satisfies. Nothing else really matters to me. #litchat -1:53 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe @robertjbennett Sort of agree with your shape analogy, but sometimes I want to write like an abstract expressionist picture! #litchat -1:54 PM Jul 19th, 2010
dazydaywriter RT @robynmcintyre: I love a book that makes me stop every once in a while, lower it and say, "wow." #litchat -1:54 PM Jul 19th, 2010
travisking @LitChat Re threads: If there is foreshadowing (symbolic or otherwise) of a specific ending, that ending should come to pass. #litchat -1:54 PM Jul 19th, 2010
marisabirns I like stories that entertain, enlighten, and leave me not ready to leave fictive dream at end and wanting more. #litchat -1:54 PM Jul 19th, 2010
smallswiftbirds @21stCscribe If the book didn't do that throughout u wouldn't get that feeling. The end is not a punch. Just the lifting of a spell #litchat -1:54 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LitChat Be safe. See you Weds. RT @GeneDoucette: Gotta run, #bike home... see everyone later. #FF @me, Ill return it. #litchat -1:54 PM Jul 19th, 2010
agnieszkasshoes @21stCscribe yes, I only thought of it on the hoof, but it's quite interesting for thinking about (anti)structure #litchat -1:55 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JoLynneValerie Okey doke, #litchat, gots to go! Deadline calls & I need to wrap this day feeling *accomplished*. Follow me & I'll follow back, book tweeps! -1:55 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe @agnieszkasshoes wait, teleological is no good surely? #litchat -1:55 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robertjbennett @21stCscribe Right, but wouldn't the ending sort of establish it as abstract and expressionist? #litchat -1:55 PM Jul 19th, 2010

Topic of the Week:

Endings - p 22

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AuthorWilliam @JoLynneValerie Some endings take certain risks. That's okay. If you yank the floor from your reader then book better rock. #litchat -1:55 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robynmcintyre I hate a book that makes me stop every once in a while, lower it and say, "What the...?" #litchat -1:55 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TwinkleChar @GeneDoucette Just writing today in WIP about someone biking. Yes, be CAREFUL! #bike #FF #litchat -1:55 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robertjbennett @21stCscribe Not having an ending says just as much as having one. #litchat -1:55 PM Jul 19th, 2010
TaoJoannes @tadbo "see, the aliens that invaded a planet composed of 70% water, ARE ALLERGIC TO WATER! It's genius!" #litchat -1:56 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehatton @robynmcintyre I love those! Depending on what I'm questioning. I love a good surprise. Re: "What the...?" #litchat -1:56 PM Jul 19th, 2010
JoLynneValerie @AuthorWilliam If you yank the floor from your reader then book better rock. #litchat <<That was my thought *exactly*. #IndieMindsThinkAlike -1:56 PM Jul 19th, 2010
agnieszkasshoes @21stCscribe I mean teleological in a directional sense - all things point to the "end" from their respective positions #litchat -1:56 PM Jul 19th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass A lit prof in college encouraged us to read with a pencil in hand to underline the pause-worthy moments in a book. #litchat -1:56 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe @smallswiftbirds That's fair enough #litchat -1:56 PM Jul 19th, 2010
ErikaRobuck @JoLynneValerie I'm trying to find a way not to spoil, but I can't. All I can say is, Oh, the misunderstanding... #litchat -1:56 PM Jul 19th, 2010
kashicat @CarolyBurnsBass I just bought Moleskin reader's notebook with sections for similar types of quotes in a book. #litchat -1:57 PM Jul 19th, 2010
ErikaRobuck @robynmcintyre Sorry, Robyn! #litchat -1:57 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannehatton RT @AuthorWilliam If you yank the floor from your reader then book better rock. #litchat -1:57 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo @taojoannespoint. Oy. XD #litchat -1:57 PM Jul 19th, 2010
dazydaywriter Hope you'll strike out on your own to venture by my Sunny Room for this post @ http://tinyurl.com/2d5pku3 (a summer book journey) #litchat -1:57 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe RT @robertjbennett: @21stCscribe wouldn't ending sort of establish it as abstract & expressionist? #litchat /Funnily enough, not necessarily -1:57 PM Jul 19th, 2010
Ditchwalk The only useful definition I can think of is that an ending should be appropriate to the intent and spirit of the story as a whole. #litchat -1:58 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe RT @robertjbennett: @21stCscribe Not having an ending says just as much as having one. #litchat -1:58 PM Jul 19th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass Sounds cool. RT @kashicat: I just bought Moleskin readers notebook with sections for similar types of quotes in a book. #litchat -1:58 PM Jul 19th, 2010
cindymariej RT @suzannehatton: RT @AuthorWilliam If you yank the floor from your reader then book better rock. #litchat -1:58 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam When I read I want to go on a journey. So I want to arrive SOMEWHERE. And I want that somewhere to feel relevant to why I went. #litchat -1:58 PM Jul 19th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass ★ RT @Ditchwalk: ... an ending should be appropriate to the intent and spirit of the story as a whole. #litchat -1:59 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe @agnieszkasshoes ah but do they? The ending can pull the rug from under all that has gone before but not in a hoary old 'twist' way #litchat -1:59 PM Jul 19th, 2010

suzannehpatton RT @AuthorWilliam: When I read I want to go on a journey. I want to arrive SOMEWHERE. & I want that to feel relevant to why I went. #litchat -1:59 PM Jul 19th, 2010

21stCscribe @CarolyBurnsBass Sack that Professor??? Or change class at least #litchat -1:59 PM Jul 19th, 2010

tadbo I love those. :) RT @robynmcintyre: I hate a book that makes me stop every once in a while, lower it and say, "What the...?" #litchat -1:59 PM Jul 19th, 2010

suzannehpatton @AuthorWilliam I write for the same reason re: to go on a journey #litchat -2:00 PM Jul 19th, 2010

CathrynLouis Gotta run, it was fun - as always! #litchat -2:00 PM Jul 19th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass @AuthorWilliam: Your reading journey is a good reflection of what I meant by the ending must have purpose. #litchat -2:00 PM Jul 19th, 2010

TwinkleChar RT @suzannehpatton: @AuthorWilliam I write for the same reason re: to go on a journey<<Me too. #litchat -2:00 PM Jul 19th, 2010

agnieszkasshoes @21stCscribe I was explicating Murakami not laying diktats #litchat -2:00 PM Jul 19th, 2010

PerlyGatesa balance between some sort of closure, and yearning for more. #litchat -2:00 PM Jul 19th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass Why? RT @21stCscribe: @CarolyBurnsBass Sack that Professor??? Or change class at least #litchat -2:00 PM Jul 19th, 2010

AuthorWilliam RT @suzannehpatton @AuthorWilliam I write for the same reason re: to go on a journey #litchat <<<Me too, or to share one I've been on. :-) -2:01 PM Jul 19th, 2010

quietriot_girl I like poetry because it is not so concerned with conclusions. you get the whole poem in one go #litchat -2:01 PM Jul 19th, 2010

21stCscribe RT @agnieszkasshoes: @21stCscribe I was explicating Murakami not laying diktats #litchat /would never accuse you of latter (only former!) -2:01 PM Jul 19th, 2010

AuthorWilliam RT @CarolyBurnsBass: Endings don't have to be happy, or perfectly resolved. They must, however, leave me with a sense of purpose. #litchat -2:02 PM Jul 19th, 2010

agnieszkasshoes @quietriot_girl unless it's the Rime of the Ancient Mariner! :) #litchat -2:02 PM Jul 19th, 2010

buffysquirrel RT @CarolyBurnsBass: Endings don't have to be happy, or perfectly resolved. They must, however, leave me with a sense of purpose. #litchat -2:02 PM Jul 19th, 2010

robynmcintyre @quietriot_girl Yes, and can be just as engrossing as a novel. #litchat -2:02 PM Jul 19th, 2010

househomeauthor RT @AuthorWilliam: When I read I want to go on a journey. So I want to arrive SOMEWHERE. And I want that somewhere to feel relevant to why I went. #litchat -2:03 PM Jul 19th, 2010

AuthorWilliam @CarolyBurnsBass Right with you. #GreatMinds :-)) #litchat -2:03 PM Jul 19th, 2010

21stCscribe RT @quietriot_girl: I like poetry because it is not so concerned with conclusions. you get the whole poem in one go #litchat /V.good point -2:03 PM Jul 19th, 2010

TwinkleChar RT @CathrynLouis: Gotta run, it was fun - as always!<< (poem) Me too. Great convo today. Hard to keep up! #litchat -2:03 PM Jul 19th, 2010

agnieszkasshoes @21stCscribe I don't think he pulls any rugs. I think he sets up epistemological Archimedean points about 3/4 through #litchat -2:03 PM Jul 19th, 2010

LitChat This chat's not even close to ending, but still, we are at the end of our scheduled hour. Thanks everyone for terrific convo. #litchat -2:03 PM Jul 19th, 2010

suzannepatton @quietriot_girl But if the poem doesn't have a good ending line, I still won't be satisfied. #litchat -2:03 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe @CarolyBurnsBass reading a novel with analytical pencil in hand? Spoils the experience #litchat -2:03 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel @quietriot_girl many a poem goes on too long #litchat -2:03 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam @TwinkleChar Yeah it's been hoppin' in here today! #litchat -2:04 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannepatton @LitChat Thanks for the chat, as always! #litchat -2:04 PM Jul 19th, 2010
LitChat Be sure to come back for more discussion about endings on Weds, and again on Friday for guest host @CParkhurst1. #litchat -2:04 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robynmcintyre @21stCscribe Once you've been taught to read critically, it's hard to get totally lost in a bk again. #litchat -2:04 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robynmcintyre @LitChat Really good conversation on endings. Thanks! #litchat -2:05 PM Jul 19th, 2010
rbwood RT @CarolyBurnsBass: Endings don't have to be happy, or perfectly resolved. They must, however, leave me with a sense of purpose. #litchat -2:05 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam RT @LitChat: Be sure to come back for more discussion about endings on Weds, and again on Friday for guest host @CParkhurst1. #litchat -2:05 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam RT @suzannepatton: @LitChat Thanks for the chat, as always! #litchat -2:05 PM Jul 19th, 2010
suzannepatton RT @LitChat: Be sure to come back for more discussion about endings on Weds, and again on Friday for guest host @CParkhurst1. #litchat -2:05 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe RT @agnieszkasshoes: @quietriot_girl unless it's the Rime of the Ancient Mariner! :) #litchat / The drugs don't work! -2:05 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel @robynmcintyre that's true; it's why I loved Waters' Affinity and McCarthy's The Road; totally engrossed me #litchat -2:05 PM Jul 19th, 2010
tadbo Excellent chat today as always! :) #litchat -2:06 PM Jul 19th, 2010
katmagendie @girlfrombim Happening for you, too? Weird! I've tried to sign in several times to tweetchat for #litchat, but no go. Oh well! Another day! -2:06 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe @PerlyGates OOh, I like denying full closure. Too pat #litchat -2:06 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe RT @suzannepatton: I write for the same reason re: to go on a journey #litchat / Me too. If author goes on 1, chances reader will too -2:06 PM Jul 19th, 2010
buffysquirrel @21stCscribe or deepens it, depending on the experience you seek #litchat -2:06 PM Jul 19th, 2010
AuthorWilliam Thanks everyone for a great #litchat! You are all awesome and make being a writer and reader more awesome than it has even been in history. -2:07 PM Jul 19th, 2010
robertjbennett This was fun. I'll have to do this again. #litchat -2:07 PM Jul 19th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass @21stCscribe Was not referring to analytical elements of reading w/pencil in hand, but WOW moments that make you pause & remember. #litchat -2:07 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe @robynmcintyre I feel sorry for you then. I go on instinct. Preserves me as both reader and a writer #litchat -2:07 PM Jul 19th, 2010
twistedjamie I thought that at the end of The Dark Tower books RT @21stCscribe I like endings that turn everything on its head #litchat -2:07 PM Jul 19th, 2010
21stCscribe RT @robynmcintyre: @LitChat Really good conversation on endings. Thanks! #litchat / seconded - 2:07 PM Jul 19th, 2010

LitChat On Wednesday let's talk more about novels with endings we love, endings we hate, and endings that just don't work. #litchat -2:08 PM Jul 19th, 2010

WEDNESDAY: July 21, 2010

LitChat Follow #litchat easily from <http://bit.ly/MH5Qs>. Login w/Twitter info and away you go. -1:00 PM Jul 21st, 2010

SesshasWorld RT @LitChat: More ENDINGS discussion in #litchat today. Endings we love, endings we hate, and endings that just don't work. 4pmET -1:01 PM Jul 21st, 2010

mdbenoit2 Hi there, SF writer in Ottawa, Canada. #litchat -1:01 PM Jul 21st, 2010

writersclub RT @LitChat: Follow #litchat easily from <http://bit.ly/MH5Qs>. Login w/Twitter info and away you go. -1:01 PM Jul 21st, 2010

AllieDillon Hello, Allie from Austin here... #litchat -1:02 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sharifwrites RT @LitChat: Join us in 20 minutes for #litchat. We're continuing discussion of ENDINGS of novels. -1:02 PM Jul 21st, 2010

JAPak Hello! #litchat -1:03 PM Jul 21st, 2010

PIBarrington Hello, I write crime thriller in a near-future setting. I've pretty much mastered the cliffhanger but problem w/ending wrap up #litchat -1:03 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sticky_t Hi, guys! I'm here again today. (Writer/blogger/beta-reader from AZ). #litchat -1:03 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GeneDoucette disappearing into #litchat, apologies in advance to followers... -1:03 PM Jul 21st, 2010

lacarrington1 Hello, Lori from Pennsylvania =) #litchat -1:03 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CathrynLouis Hi! #litchat -1:03 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock Hello? Hello? Is this thing on? My clock reads after 1 p.m. Has the time changed for #litchat -1:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010

LitChat A question for published authors: Have you ever regretted or wanted to change an ending to a book after it was published? #litchat -1:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010

lacarrington1 Please join us for #litchat, happening right now. -1:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010

FrankDiCesare Hello, litchatters. Frank from Lake Charles here. Happy b-day to Papa Hemingway, a master of the novel ending. #litchat -1:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010

PIBarrington My problem (to me at least) is creating an ending that isn't sappy, esp. if the book is not conducive to "happily ever after". #litchat -1:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010

LitChat @GLHancock We are here and I see your posts. Are you not seeing us? #litchat -1:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TwinkleChar Sharpening brain so can better keep up with ENDINGS discussion today. It FLEW on Monday! #litchat -1:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010

rebeccadiann Hi #litchat, I'm looking in from Alaska today. #litchat -1:05 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TwinkleChar RT @LitChat: A question for published authors: Have ever regretted or wanted to change an ending to a book after published?<no #litchat -1:05 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GeneDoucette @TwinkleChar Yes, monday's chat never seemed to END! #litchat -1:05 PM Jul 21st, 2010

lacarrington1 There's also the "cliffhanger" type endings, making the reader want more..you just want to guess a sequel is coming! #litchat -1:05 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock Don't think I've ever regretted an ending to anything I've written. What good would it do. It's already published! #litchat -1:05 PM Jul 21st, 2010

AuthorWilliam RT @LitChat: A question for published authors: Have you ever regretted or wanted to change an ending to a book after it was published? #litchat -1:05 PM Jul 21st, 2010
lobstermayo Dickens changed an ending due to popular demand. Did he regret this sell out? #litchat #litchat -1:05 PM Jul 21st, 2010
JSterlingS Greetings #litchat from the (not very) Windy City - Chicago. -1:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 @LitChat Q1: I have four books out and like all my endings. The one I'm writing now is another matter. I'm rewriting the ending. #litchat -1:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010
AllieDillon RT @LitChat: A question for published authors: Have you ever regretted or wanted to change book ending after it was published? #litchat -1:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010
Hallie_Sawyer RT @LitChat: Follow #litchat easily from http://bit.ly/MH5Qs . Login w/Twitter info and away you go. -1:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TwinkleChar RT @GeneDoucette: @TwinkleChar Yes, mondays chat never seemed to END!//HAHAHAHA Good one! I was exhausted. Eyes dizzy. #litchat -1:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sticky_t That's the problem I always have, ha. Too slow. @TwinkleChar: Sharpening brain so can better keep up with ENDINGS discussion today. #litchat -1:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010
AuthorWilliam William checking in, published Indie Author of THE DARK PROVINCE. Glad to be at #litchat today. :-) -1:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010
JAPak Dickens had several endings for Great Expectations. #litchat -1:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010
LitChat @danishnovelist: Question for pub'd novelists: Have you ever regretted or wanted to change an ending after book was published? #litchat -1:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010
anya_howard RT @AuthorWilliam: William checking in, published Indie Author of THE DARK PROVINCE. Glad to be at #litchat today. :-) -1:07 PM Jul 21st, 2010
PIBarrington I have an unpubbed mss that I am struggling with the ending. #litchat -1:07 PM Jul 21st, 2010
FrankDiCesare @GeneDoucette Yes, sir. I moved to Lake Charles, LA a year ago next week. It was a big change from Quincy, MA. #litchat -1:07 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 @AuthorWilliam Hey, William. Nice to see you again #litchat -1:07 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo #cosign. RT @GeneDoucette: disappearing into #litchat, apologies in advance to followers... -1:07 PM Jul 21st, 2010
JAPak With eBooks, will books be like films with authors coming out with different versions, inc endings? #litchat -1:07 PM Jul 21st, 2010
LitChat @ADonnRowley: Question for pub'd novelists: Have you ever regretted or wanted to change an ending after book was published? #litchat -1:07 PM Jul 21st, 2010
danish_novelist @LitChat No, but I think some of my earliest novels were too short or too long or too ... everything? But I still love my toddlers #litchat -1:07 PM Jul 21st, 2010
robertjbennett I think a book should be able to roughly stand on its own, so I tend to dislike cliffhanger endings. #litchat -1:07 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock @LitChat Never published a novel, but plenty published. What good would it do anyway, if the work were published? #litchat -1:07 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GeneDoucette @FrankDiCesare LOL I'm I live in Cambridge, dad's side of the fam from Malden and Quincy. Maybe u and I are related. #litchat -1:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo Lurking in #litchat, as usual. Happy to be here. :) -1:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TwinkleChar RT @JAPak: With eBooks, will books be like films with authors coming out with different versions, inc endings?//Not this author. #litchat -1:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010

AuthorWilliam I spent some time considering two potential endings of my THE DARK PROVINCE though I knew all along which one needed to be there. #litchat -1:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 @JAPak Why would it be different with ebooks? Published is published. #litchat -1:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @JAPak Maybe the print version will offer a different (& more exclusive) ending? #litchat -1:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010
robertjbennett I would really dislike it if authors starting going all George Lucas on books and swapping stuff around. #litchat -1:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010
LitChat @Eugenia_Kim: Question for pubd novelists: Have you ever regretted or wanted to change an ending after book was published? #litchat -1:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GeneDoucette There is no regret for an ending; there is only after-the-fact rationalizing. #litchat -1:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TwinkleChar @danish_novelist Early books = toddlers. I like that. Thanks. Very warm and fuzzy, sir. #litchat -1:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock @JAPak That is an excellent point about ebooks available in several versions: Happy Ending. San Ending. No End in sight! #litchat -1:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 RT @robertjbennett: I would really dislike it if authors starting going all George Lucas on books and swapping stuff around. #litchat -1:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010
robertjbennett I would really dislike it if authors starting going all George Lucas on books and changing stuff after the fact. #litchat -1:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010
LitChat @FDbytheword: Question for pubd novelists: Have you ever regretted or wanted to change an ending after book was published? #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sticky_t Ha, yep. @robertjbennett: I would really dislike it if authors starting going all George Lucas on books and swapping stuff around. #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 Well said! RT @GeneDoucette: There is no regret for an ending; there is only after-the-fact rationalizing. #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 21st, 2010
LitChat @SPressfield: Question for pubd novelists: Have you ever regretted or wanted to change an ending after book was published? #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock @mdbenoit2 It is incredibly easy to publish multiple versions of a work. When hypertext began people though we would have choices. #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 21st, 2010
FrankDiCesare @GeneDoucette I always knew I had a long-lost brother out there somewhere. #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CathrynLouis RT @GeneDoucette: "There is no regret for an ending; there is only after-the-fact rationalizing. #litchat" -1:09 PM Jul 21st, 2010
writersclub RT @LitChat: Question for published authors: Have you ever regretted/wanted to change ending to a book after it was published? #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 21st, 2010
LitChat @heididurrow: Question for pubd novelists: Have you ever regretted or wanted to change an ending after book was published? #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @LitChat Ha good Q. I wanted to shorten the last word "expenses" to the slang "X's" which also echoes ex-husbands & hits #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mwiings hello all! #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 21st, 2010
AuthorWilliam @GeneDoucette LOL #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 21st, 2010
LitChat @deberryandgrant: Question for pubd novelists: Have you ever regretted or wanted to change an ending after book was published? #litchat -1:09 PM Jul 21st, 2010
lacarrington1 @mwiings Hello! #litchat -1:10 PM Jul 21st, 2010

Topic of the Week:
Endings - p 28

LitChat @Clairecookbooks: Question for pubd novelists: Have you ever regretted or wanted to change an ending after book was published? #litchat -1:10 PM Jul 21st, 2010

mdbenoit2 @GLHancock IMO, if you have diff. versions then your book may not be ready for pub. #litchat -1:10 PM Jul 21st, 2010

SarahGale #litchat I was disappted when they changed the end of My Sister's Keeper in the movie of Jodi Picoult's book. The book was more her style -1:10 PM Jul 21st, 2010

AuthorWilliam @LitChat Is @heididurrow in the house today? #litchat -1:10 PM Jul 21st, 2010

LitChat @KatieForde: Question for pubd novelists: Have you ever regretted or wanted to change an ending after book was published? #litchat -1:10 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett I'm pubbd with 1 bk out and another coming in Feb... I always think of the ending first. I can't imaging changing one. #litchat -1:10 PM Jul 21st, 2010

AuthorWilliam @mdbenoit2 Hey there! Good to see you too! Glad to be sharing a #litchat with ya! :-)) -1:11 PM Jul 21st, 2010

LitChat I'm just throwing out names of past guest hosts. RT @AuthorWilliam: @LitChat Is @heididurrow in the house today? #litchat -1:11 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sticky_t @SarahGale Really? I didn't know that. Been meaning to read My Sister's Keeper. That's interesting. #litchat -1:11 PM Jul 21st, 2010

lacarrington1 It drives me up the wall when the film version endings aren't the same as the book's, or even similar. #litchat -1:11 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett I'm pubbd with 1 bk out and another coming in Feb... I always think of the ending first. I can't image wanting to change one. #litchat -1:11 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock @mdbenoit2 No, no. This is for published ebooks. You don't remember their beginnings? Choices of endings. Some paperbooks do this 2 #litchat -1:11 PM Jul 21st, 2010

tadbo @SarahGale My wife hated that book, just so you know. She said that the ending made the book seem like a waste. #litchat -1:11 PM Jul 21st, 2010

PIBarrington RE: ebooks, I have a series on ebook and I treat it like a print.The end is the end unless my publisher wants to add another novel. #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sticky_t @lacarrington1 I know, I'm also horrible when it comes to adaptations. I'm too nit-picky. :) #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 21st, 2010

mwiings i usually start my stories with an end so changing one when i'm done means writing new story #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 21st, 2010

AuthorWilliam @LitChat Awesome, got it. :-)) #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 21st, 2010

lacarrington1 I'm still on the editing stage, hoping to be published soon #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 21st, 2010

mdbenoit2 @GLHancock I remember hypertext. Don't think it took that well. Maybe reading is too linear or we're trained that way. #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 21st, 2010

girlfrombim Woot! Tweetchat let me in today! Hi everyone! :) #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 21st, 2010

SarahGale #litchat @lacarrington1 I know. Especially when the ending should make you reflect back on the whole story. -1:12 PM Jul 21st, 2010

FrankDiCesare RT @lacarrington1: It drives me up the wall when the film version endings arent the same as the books, or even similar. > I agree. #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 21st, 2010

LitChat @carleenbrice: Question for pubd novelists: Have you ever regretted or wanted to change an ending after book was published? #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GeneDoucette Now, changing an ending before publishing, that's really really normal. #litchat -1:12 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes Oh, is litchat on? #litchat -1:13 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sticky_t Interesting to see how many writers think of the ending first - I always write the other way around...tend to "surprise" myself. #litchat -1:13 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CathrynLouis RT @mwiings: "i usually start my stories with an end so changing one when i'm done means writing new story #litchat" -1:13 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock @mdbenoit2 But hypertext is the basis of web pages with links. You use it all the time. #litchat -1:13 PM Jul 21st, 2010
LitChat @krisriggle Question for pubd novelists: Have you ever regretted or wanted to change an ending after book was published? #litchat -1:13 PM Jul 21st, 2010
lacarrington1 RT @GeneDoucette: Now, changing an ending before publishing, thats really really normal. #litchat -1:13 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 @sticky_t Same thing with Slumdog Millionaire. Loved the book, hated the movie. #litchat -1:13 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sticky_t Haha, I know the feeling. :) RT @girlfrombim: Woot! Tweetchat let me in today! Hi everyone! :) #litchat -1:13 PM Jul 21st, 2010
AuthorWilliam @taojoannes It is indeed! #litchat -1:14 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 @GLHancock I do but not to choose where I'm going in a story. I want the author to lead me. #litchat -1:14 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock @LitChat I like multiple choice endings. I like to see how author's mind works. Decide for myself which I want. #litchat -1:14 PM Jul 21st, 2010
robertjbennett @sticky_t I know the beginning and the end... it's the middle that's always surprising. #litchat -1:14 PM Jul 21st, 2010
exmoorjane @lacarrington1 or if the TV series is TOTALLY different from the books (ahem, True Blood)...sorry, barging in and shouldn't be on #litchat -1:14 PM Jul 21st, 2010
danish_novelist @TwinkleChar Your first books ARE toddlers. They walk and fall and foam at the mouth #litchat -1:14 PM Jul 21st, 2010
lacarrington1 They've even done the same thing with television movie adaptations. #litchat -1:14 PM Jul 21st, 2010
LitChat @ASWinn: Question for pubd novelists: Have you ever regretted or wanted to change an ending after book was published? #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TattooedWriter @writersclub Oh god yes...my first published book had an historical date at the end that was wrong! I'm sure it wasn't my mistake! #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mwiings @lacarrington1 hi! my first time taking part in #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 @danish_novelist Foam at the mouth, or drool? #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 21st, 2010
kimi_silva RT @LitChat: I'm just throwing out names of past guest hosts. RT @AuthorWilliam: @LitChat Is @heididurrow in the house today? #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @GLHancock I actually made a wiki with this concept, lol http://taojoannes.wikidot.com/ #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sticky_t @mdbenoit2 That's another one I have to add to my "to read" list. This is why I love @LitChat. :) #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe maybe the moral of the tale is novels shouldn't be turned into films! #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 21st, 2010
danyelsmith @LitChat not an ending, but a whole bunch of other little stuff. #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 21st, 2010

LitChat @TwinkleChar: Question for pubd novelists: Have you ever regretted or wanted to change an ending after book was published? #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 21st, 2010
AuthorWilliam I always have a potential ending for a story going in, but am open to it changing as the work progresses. #litchat -1:15 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sticky_t Ha. XD Love that. RT @danish_novelist: @TwinkleChar Your first books ARE toddlers. They walk and fall and foam at the mouth #litchat -1:16 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo RT @robertjbennett: @sticky_t I know the beginning and the end... it's the middle that's always surprising. #litchat -1:16 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock You can find versions of novels on the market with diff endings. Great Expectations is one of them. #litchat -1:16 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GeneDoucette @21stCscribe as a screenwriter who has turned one of my novels (unpubbed) into a script... #litchat -1:16 PM Jul 21st, 2010
jjochwat @danish_novelist Your first books also piss in your bed. Just sayin' #litchat -1:16 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CathrynLouis 4 me, it' not whether there's a different ending, it's how much or little 2 end with. #litchat -1:16 PM Jul 21st, 2010
PIBarrington @21stCscribe Are U going to turn down a \$600,000 film option, lol? #litchat -1:16 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GeneDoucette @21stCscribe ...one has to learn to accept that novels and films are different art forms, and thus tell diff stories diff ways. #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TwinkleChar @LitChat Already answered, but still haven't changed my mind: No. :-) #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock @TaoJoannes Give us the gist? Pro or con or inbetween with strengths on all sides? #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 I rarely have a precise ending when I start a novel. The ending is an organic progression of the characters and story developments. #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolBMTbooks Late as usual, sorry to say. Hello to all #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @GeneDoucette Maybe it's different if the same person is responsible for both. #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GeneDoucette @21stCscribe I tell myself this to feel better abt every bad book adaptation I've seen. #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @21stCscribe insanity! so long as they're treated well, novels make the BEST films #litchat -1:17 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @GeneDoucette Absolutely agree #litchat -1:18 PM Jul 21st, 2010
LitChat Oops... missed it when peppering out Qs. RT @TwinkleChar: @LitChat Already answered, but still havent changed my mind: No. :-) #litchat -1:18 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock @CarolBMTbooks Heigh ho! #litchat -1:18 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sticky_t @GeneDoucette Totally agree with you there - I'm still learning about the differences between book and film. #litchat -1:18 PM Jul 21st, 2010
Eugenia_Kim @LitChat Not a book (end change), but one memoir essay and a short story. With distance and age, comes wisdom. #litchat -1:18 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GeneDoucette @21stCscribe true. And the novel's unpubbed, so I'm free to molest it repeatedly. #litchat -1:18 PM Jul 21st, 2010
danish_novelist I hate when everything's spelled out like in cheap thrillers. The second you know the butler did it, you lose interest #litchat -1:18 PM Jul 21st, 2010

Topic of the Week:

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21stCscribe @PIBarrington Proud to say as a stream of consciousness, my books are probably unfilmable! #litchat -1:18 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TwinkleChar RT @CarolBMTbooks: Late as usual, sorry to say. Hello to all//Hi back.Have had same Q for 18 mins, so u haven't missed much. :) #litchat -1:18 PM Jul 21st, 2010
SesshasWorld RT @danish_novelist: @TwinkleChar Your first books ARE toddlers. They walk and fall and foam at the mouth #litchat nasty but lovable?! -1:18 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 @GeneDoucette There's adaptation, then there's destruction. Some movies just destroy the concept. #litchat -1:18 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @GLHancock the gist of it was "write your own adventure" like "choose your own adventure" where you could add new story forks #litchat -1:18 PM Jul 21st, 2010
robertjbennett A book remains separate from the film, in any case. As Chandler said, "They're still there. They're fine." Nothing changes. #litchat -1:18 PM Jul 21st, 2010
ADonnRowley Labored over ending of LIFE AFTER YES, but feel I got it right ultimately. No regrets here. #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock @danish_novelist Do you agree that the type of ending depends on the genre, audience expected (US or EU)? #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe Your first book uses you as a scratching post. Still, better than damaging the furniture I spouse #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TwinkleChar RT @danish_novelist: ...The second you know the butler did it, you lose interest<< He DID?! Doink! #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 21st, 2010
FrankDiCesare I like to think that I approach my endings the same way a pilot prepares for a landing. #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 21st, 2010
danish_novelist @jjochwat Yes, my first books pissed in bed, but I did change the sheets :-)) #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 21st, 2010
Figmentfiction Sometimes I wish I could see different endings for the same book. Like a choose-your-adventure story. #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 21st, 2010
blogmum RT @21stCscribe: Your first book uses you as a scratching post. Still, better than damaging the furniture I spouse #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sharifwrites @danish_novelist Predictable endings are a turn-off. #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 21st, 2010
Hallie_Sawyer For readers, the ending has to be powerful. It is where the puzzle pieces finally fit and the reader is enlightened. #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GeneDoucette @mdbenoit2 true. The "we never got the point of this book, but here's some shit that happened in it" adaptations. #litchat -1:19 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @GLHancock but multimedia novels, as genre, r compelling. a way to work in all the char studies, back story, etc, thinking on that #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo @21stCscribe @GeneDoucette Or if the writer is even on the creative team behind the film, that might be a huge help. #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolBMTbooks I haven't changed my mind for either of my two (so far) novels. I don't think I'll ever write a "downer" ending. #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 21st, 2010
editorialdept Films tend to be (ultimately) written by committee while novels remain truer to an author's vision. Not necessarily bad, just diff. #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 Definitely! RT @sharifwrites: @danish_novelist Predictable endings are a turn-off. #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 21st, 2010
danish_novelist @Figmentfiction You should read Fowles' The French lieutenant's Woman. It HAS two endings. It's a post modern masterpiece #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 21st, 2010

Topic of the Week:

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megwaiteclayton #litchat Just wrote an author note for my 1st novel, THE LANGUAGE OF LIGHT, explaining why I did change the ending for the pback version -1:20 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sticky_t @tadbo: Yes! The Harry Potter films were like that. #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 21st, 2010
PIBarrington @GLHancock Strange.The author knows what the ending should be--they created it. Multiple ends for what reason? Too MadLibs-ish 4 me #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 21st, 2010
robertjbennett For some books, it's not the ending but how you get there. Prose, theme, character... these may matter more. #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 21st, 2010
AuthorWilliam RT @editorialdept: Films tend to be (ultimately) written by committee while novels remain truer to an author's vision. Not necessarily bad, just diff. #litchat -1:20 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 @GeneDoucette Or, we got the point but we didn't like it so we changed it. #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @TaoJoannes A novel is a novel and a film is a film. One one slides across 2 other, it loses its integrity & becomes something else #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo #truth. RT @mdbenoit2: @GeneDoucette There's adaptation, then there's destruction. Some movies just destroy the concept. #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010
krisriggle @LitChat Have I ever regretted an ending? No! Not really "here" but will peek in. #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @mdbenoit2 simon birch. grrrrrr #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock @TaoJoannes And the future of culture is multimedia. Get used to it! #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolBMTbooks @TaoJoannes I've been thinking of multi-layered novels, but the technology would be daunting. #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass "With distance and age, comes wisdom" says @Eugenia_Kim. Wonder how many authors who publish very young feel decades later. #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010
SesshasWorld @CarolBMTbooks I killed both main characters in a romance novel - 6 chapters before the end - never again #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010
Figmentfiction Definitely. But so are the ones that come out of left field. @sharifwrites: @danish_novelist Predictable endings are a turn-off. #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @21stCscribe story is story #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010
danish_novelist @GLHancock Yes, I agree. The endings have to be organic and fit the style of the book or everybody feels cheated #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 @danish_novelist I'd forgotten about the Fowles book. It does have 2 endings. #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TheNewAuthor Actually, about 2 months ago I completely fell out of love with the ending of my 1st novel. I plan to fix it soon. #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo RT @GeneDoucette: @mdbenoit2 true. The "we never got the point of this book, but here's some shit that happened in it" adaptations. #litchat -1:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sticky_t @robertjbennet Yeah, even if an ending is less than happy, if it's powerful throughout, then I love it just as much. #litchat -1:22 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sharifwrites @mdbenoit2 I like something of a twist and turn. I don't mind foreshadowing, but not hints that scream the ending to me. #litchat -1:22 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock @PIBarrington Charles Dickens did it. So does the author of the "Goosebumps" series. Seems to work for them. #litchat -1:22 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TheNewAuthor Which was a tough spot for me because that very same novel was being reviewed by a publisher. #litchat -1:22 PM Jul 21st, 2010

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Hallie_Sawyer Don't like the idea of multiple choice endings. Think it compromises true intention of the story and it's message. #litchat -1:22 PM Jul 21st, 2010

tadbo @editorialdept Well then, bad novel adaptations are a brutal and ongoing vote against writing by committee, isn't it? #litchat -1:22 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe RT @TaoJoannes: @21stCscribe story is story #litchat/ Ah, but why are we artists telling them? -1:23 PM Jul 21st, 2010

megwaiteclayton #litchat for me, change was to restore ending to original that was changed in pub process; I do love Ballantine! -1:23 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock @danish_novelist "Cheated" is how I felt when I began reading contemporary literary short stories. US uses EU model. No happy ends. #litchat -1:23 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass I enjoyed both endings in THE FRENCH LIEUTENANT'S WOMAN. It worked because of Fowles' authorial direction/interruption. #litchat -1:23 PM Jul 21st, 2010

editorialdept YES :) RT @tadbo: @editorialdept bad novel adaptations are a brutal and ongoing vote against writing by committee, isnt it? #litchat -1:23 PM Jul 21st, 2010

mdbenoit2 @sharifwrites I rarely read whodunnits; I always guess who done it before the end. #litchat -1:23 PM Jul 21st, 2010

nzesylva I don't let negative comments or reviews weigh me down. What good is it, d work is already published. #Litchat -1:23 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @TaoJoannes Always feel the material chooses the best medium to express itself - be it film, graphic novel, novel or stage play #litchat -1:23 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sticky_t Because we can? :) RT @21stCscribe: RT @TaoJoannes: @21stCscribe story is story #litchat/ Ah, but why are we artists telling them? #litchat -1:24 PM Jul 21st, 2010

SesshasWorld @CarolBMTbooks I had ended it w/ the deaths - the publisher wanted the minor characters to continue . . . #litchat -1:24 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sharifwrites @Figmentfiction I know what you mean. Read a few jumping the shark endings before. I prefer unpredictable, gradual & believable. #litchat -1:24 PM Jul 21st, 2010

PIBarrington @GLHancock 2 a certain extent yes&no. Crime thrillers can have a satisfying ending just as romance. It's how the author handles it. #litchat -1:24 PM Jul 21st, 2010

JAPak Interesting! RT @21stCscribe Maybe the print version will offer a different (& more exclusive) ending? #litchat -1:24 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes @21stCscribe film can be just as transcendental as literature, and a good story can survive the transition #litchat -1:24 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sticky_t @21stCscribe: That reminds me of a Mark Twain quote...at least I think it was Mark Twain. #litchat -1:24 PM Jul 21st, 2010

danish_novelist @TwinkleChar It's like watching thrillers. I love the suspense part but the second the eyeballs roll on the floor, YAWN! #litchat -1:24 PM Jul 21st, 2010

AuthorWilliam @SesshasWorld Wow, gutsy though. What was your thinking at the time? #litchat -1:25 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock @CarolyBurnsBass That's another great example! I've read both too and enjoyed each one. #litchat -1:25 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GeneDoucette I prefer endings where it never occurs to me to attempt to predict them. #litchat -1:25 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @sticky_t Then ask yourself who's listening and why? #litchat -1:25 PM Jul 21st, 2010

mdbenoit2 What I don't like is epilogues that "improve" the ending of the book. #litchat -1:25 PM Jul 21st, 2010

Topic of the Week:

Endings - p 34

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JAPak @GLHancock How about the "Writer's Cut" the way they have the "Director's Cut"? ;) #litchat -1:25 PM Jul 21st, 2010
JSterlingS @mdbenoit2 Ahhh, but a good whodunnit, leads you to a wrong guess. #litchat -1:25 PM Jul 21st, 2010
JAPak @mdbenoit2 There is a fluidity, the easy possibility of endless change in ebooks. Which is also a danger. #litchat -1:25 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sticky_t @danish_novelist: I'm the same way, haha. #litchat -1:25 PM Jul 21st, 2010
AllieDillon @danish_novelist so what is an "organic" ending? #litchat -1:25 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass Yes, these seem like cop-outs. RT @mdbenoit2: What I dont like is epilogues that "improve" the ending of the book. #litchat -1:25 PM Jul 21st, 2010
Figmentfiction If the ending makes me want to re-read the book again right away, it was successful. #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 21st, 2010
editorialdept I just finished Life of Pi and felt exactly like this RT @mdbenoit2: What I dont like is epilogues that "improve" ending of book. #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 True, but not many of those RT @JSterlingS: @mdbenoit2 Ahhh, but a good whodunnit, leads you to a wrong guess. #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 21st, 2010
ADonnRowley Should an ending satisfy or leave readers craving a bit more? #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolBMTbooks @SesshasWorld An indie writer doesn't have to listen to publishers! LOL! #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 21st, 2010
lacarrington1 RT @JAPak: @GLHancock How about the "Writers Cut" the way they have the "Directors Cut"? ;) #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 21st, 2010
FrankDiCesare RT @GeneDoucette: I prefer endings where it never occurs to me to attempt to predict them. >> A true sign of a well-written ending. #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 21st, 2010
JSterlingS @mdbenoit2 Some epilogues just shouldn't exist *cough* Harry Potter *cough* #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @TaoJoannes agree 1st part, not second. Apocalypse now a wonderful transposing & updating of Conrad novel #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock @JAPak "Writer's Cut" would be great for those trad. pubb'd who hate what pub. did to book! #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 21st, 2010
PIBarrington @GLHancock RU talking commercial success? Dickens was a literary master. Goosebumps, not literary masterpiece tho successful. #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 21st, 2010
danish_novelist @GLHancock But I love happy endings. I'm an optimist at heart. Happiness isn't more predictable than unhappiness :-)) #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TwinkleChar Curious: most saying don't want to be able to predict ending. No romance readers? Readers plan on A + B t finally getting together. #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 21st, 2010
JAPak RT @AllieDillon: @danish_novelist so what is an "organic" ending?<That's a million \$ question! #litchat -1:26 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sticky_t Totally agree with that. RT @Figmentfiction: If the ending makes me want to re-read the book again right away, it was successful. #litchat -1:27 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 @JAPak All my books are available as ebooks. It's just a format for me. #litchat -1:27 PM Jul 21st, 2010
SesshasWorld @CarolBMTbooks the contract is up soon - I think I'll put it back the way it was and rerelease it myself #litchat -1:27 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GeneDoucette Hey, what's wrong with prologues? Y'all going to start listing as bad things I did in Immortal, again? #litchat -1:27 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @editorialdept Are they improving or merely turning the whole thing on its head from all that's gone before? #litchat I like that -1:27 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sticky_t @TwinkleChar: I make that exception for romance. ;) #litchat -1:27 PM Jul 21st, 2010
JAPak RT @GLHancock: @JAPak "Writers Cut" would be great for those trad. pubbd who hate what pub. did to book!<I know! #litchat -1:27 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 Exactly. RT @JSterlingS: @mdbenoit2 Some epilogues just shouldnt exist *cough* Harry Potter *cough* #litchat -1:27 PM Jul 21st, 2010
lacarrington1 I'm kind of a softy for happy endings, but as long as it's also realistic. #litchat -1:27 PM Jul 21st, 2010
nzesylva In Nigeria, you need to win an international awards to be seen as a successful or good writer. #Litchat -1:27 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TwinkleChar Surprise ending has to have some building blocks, though. Otherwise "surprise" can just read like a lame trick. #litchat -1:27 PM Jul 21st, 2010
PitchMyNovel RT @GeneDoucette: I prefer endings where it never occurs to me to attempt to predict them. #litchat -1:27 PM Jul 21st, 2010
FrankDiCesare Like great writing, great endings are memorable. I will never forget the ending of Steinbeck's Of Mice and Men. #litchat -1:27 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @21stCscribe but you're agreeing, lol! adaptation of the material. it's a new beast, but same story #litchat -1:27 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mwiings @mdbenoit2 Epilogues are a sign that the author lost a fight with the editor and that was the only middle ground #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 21st, 2010
pussreboots RT @lacarrington1: I'm kind of a softy for happy endings, but as long as it's also realistic. #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 21st, 2010
LitChat Let's discuss some actual novel endings, starting with THE KITE RUNNER by Khalid Hosseini. Have you read? Like/dislike? Worked/Not? #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolBMTbooks @SesshasWorld Good for you! Write it the way it should be and go for it! I love being an indie! #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock @PIBarrington We weren't discussing success, but multiple endings. These are examples of published works that have them. #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @21stCscribe example: adaptation (2002) #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sharifwrites @mdbenoit2 I know what you mean about whodunnits, but the ones where I'm wrong are wonderful. #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TwinkleChar RT @sticky_t: @TwinkleChar: I make that exception for romance. ;) //What we do for love, eh? #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 21st, 2010
danish_novelist @AllieDillon The ending has to work in the universe that the author has created. You can't kill Santa Claus with an icepick #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 21st, 2010
pussreboots @LitChat Sorry... haven't read it. #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sticky_t @TaoJoannes: I think that's the trickiest part of all - the only thing that's really the same in adaptations is the story. #litchat -1:28 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo @TwinkleChar Romance is about the journey more than the ending, I think. Its about the romance. #litchat -1:29 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock @nzesylva In America, many are overjoyed to be a hit in Japan. Accolades from home country no so valued. #litchat -1:29 PM Jul 21st, 2010

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sticky_t Ha, yep. RT @TwinkleChar: RT @sticky_t: @TwinkleChar: I make that exception for romance. ;) //What we do for love, eh? #litchat -1:29 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 @mwiings Well, some epilogues work, but rare. #litchat -1:29 PM Jul 21st, 2010
SesshasWorld @CarolBMTbooks at least i learned early how many changes are too many! I won't make that mistake again (I hope) #litchat -1:29 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolBMTbooks One thing that makes formula writing so dull to read is the predictability. Some find that comforting, but not me. #litchat -1:29 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sticky_t @tadbo I was just thinking that! Mind-reader. #litchat -1:29 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @TaoJoannes Apoc Now exception that proves the rule!!! #litchat Adaptation - Spike Jones movie? Haven't read bk #litchat -1:29 PM Jul 21st, 2010
ajimenez9317 RT @GeneDoucette: I prefer endings where it never occurs to me to attempt to predict them. #litchat -1:29 PM Jul 21st, 2010
lacarrington1 @SesshasWorld Right, you can't please everyone, just like I tried to say in my "Just Write" post #litchat -1:30 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 Haven't read, can't comment RT @LitChat: Lets discuss some actual novel endings, starting with THE KITE RUNNER by Khalid Hosseini. #litchat -1:30 PM Jul 21st, 2010
ClaireCookbooks You write the best book you can then let it go and move on! @LitChat Have you ever regretted an ending after book was published? #litchat -1:30 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TwinkleChar @tadbo Yes, of course. But still, can predict ending from P. 1, otherwise, PHOOEY! So "surprise ending" request not universal. #litchat -1:30 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolBMTbooks @GeneDoucette I think prologues work just fine, but they're out of style just now. #litchat -1:30 PM Jul 21st, 2010
AuthorWilliam @SesshasWorld Understood. I believe you told me about the location changes. Wow, quite a list of change you were given #litchat -1:30 PM Jul 21st, 2010
writebythewater RT @ClaireCookbooks: You write the best book you can then let it go and move on! @LitChat Have you ever regretted an ending after book was published? #litchat -1:30 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @danish_novelist that would be a great beginning, though, #litchat -1:30 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sticky_t I always love an ending that can make me cry. Of course, sometimes I hate it for making me cry. It's a love/hate relationship. #litchat -1:31 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolBMTbooks I love being an indie author! #litchat -1:31 PM Jul 21st, 2010
Figmentfiction So true. They can completely undercut what had been a great story. @mdbenoit2: @mwiings Well, some epilogues work, but rare. #litchat -1:31 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo @TwinkleChar Oh, in terms of surprise endings? Definitely. #litchat -1:31 PM Jul 21st, 2010
SesshasWorld @lacarrington1 that's true - you end up with a garbled mess. Know when it's okay to say no to a change #litchat -1:31 PM Jul 21st, 2010
AuthorWilliam RT @CarolBMTbooks: I love being an indie author! #litchat -1:31 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo #truth RT @GLHancock: @nzesylva In America, many are overjoyed to be a hit in Japan. Accolades from home country not so valued. #litchat -1:31 PM Jul 21st, 2010
lacarrington1 As do !! RT @CarolBMTbooks: I love being an indie author! #litchat -1:31 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GeneDoucette @CarolBMTbooks I got it all going on. Epilogues, prologues, chapters, section breaks... #litchat -1:31 PM Jul 21st, 2010
AuthorWilliam @CarolBMTbooks Rock on, Indie! :) #litchat #IndieLove -1:32 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass I didn't need a HEA ending for KITE RUNNER, but I thought it went on too long. As if the first resolution wasn't tragic enough. #litchat -1:32 PM Jul 21st, 2010

mwiings @mdbenoit2 do they? I think they're a bit of a cop out. #litchat -1:32 PM Jul 21st, 2010

nzesylva Some people believe to win awards n international acclaim as an African writer, u must tell tales of war, famine n poverty #Litchat -1:32 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks @sharifwrites Surprising whodunits are wonderful, but fairly rare. With thrillers there's little or no mystery. #litchat -1:32 PM Jul 21st, 2010

SesshasWorld @AuthorWilliam unfortunately they came in dribs and drabs so I didn't see the scope until I looked at it with fresh eyes 6 m later #litchat -1:32 PM Jul 21st, 2010

indiepride RT @CarolBMTbooks: I love being an indie author! #litchat -1:32 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock @danish_novelist I prefer happy endings too. But I'm learning I don't have to be able to imagine that to write stories. #litchat -1:32 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks @SesshasWorld Never say never. I'm old enough to forget some of my mistakes and make them again! :-) #litchat -1:33 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes @21stCscribe yeah, spike jonze, screenplay charlie kauffman, based on "The Orchid Thief" a must see #litchat -1:33 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe I don't favour bks that just snip the umbilical cord on delivering ending. I want some afterbirth 2 slip out long after I'm done #litchat -1:33 PM Jul 21st, 2010

mwiings @nzesylva it does seem a bit like 'african' means the story should be wretched #litchat -1:34 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks @GeneDoucette If it works, it works. The trouble with complex structures is to control for the reader's sake. #litchat -1:34 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sticky_t Haha. RT @CarolBMTbooks: @SesshasWorld Never say never. Im old enough to forget some of my mistakes and make them again! :-) #litchat -1:34 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @TaoJoannes seen the film, just not read the book. #litchat -1:35 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks @AuthorWilliam You, too, AW! #litchat -1:35 PM Jul 21st, 2010

FoundingEditor Get to know our world of brevity! <http://bit.ly/9ZUboH> - "Great things come in small packages" #haiku #jtanka #WW #FF #litchat #writegoal -1:35 PM Jul 21st, 2010

pussreboots Thrillers about suspense... instead of the thrill of the hunt for answers (as in a who done it) #litchat -1:35 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GeneDoucette @CarolBMTbooks novel's told in first person. I needed a lot of different tools to get exposition covered. #litchat -1:35 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TwinkleChar I don't outline so never know how book will end. Still, oftentimes *I* am surprised by twisty-turns, where chars lead ending. #litchat -1:35 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TheNewAuthor @21stCscribe I like your description; painted a vivid picture. #litchat -1:35 PM Jul 21st, 2010

tadbo @nzesylva I'm always more interested in stories that are true to the writers themselves. Those are always more powerful. #litchat -1:36 PM Jul 21st, 2010

JSterlingS @mwiings And to write as an African American is either a ghetto tale or religious inspirational. #litchat -1:36 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe RT @TheNewAuthor: @21stCscribe I like your description; painted a vivid picture. #litchat /thx -1:36 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks @SesshasWorld A girl can dream, yes. That's why we're writers! #litchat (Guys, too.) -1:36 PM Jul 21st, 2010

mdbenoit2 RT @TwinkleChar: I dont outline so never know how book will end. Oftentimes *I* am surprised by twisty-turns, where chars lead end #litchat -1:36 PM Jul 21st, 2010

FrankDiCesare Many good endings provide a creative framework for novels; they show the writer using his or her head. #litchat -1:36 PM Jul 21st, 2010

LitChat Who's read THE ROAD by Cormac McCarthy? What about that ending? #litchat -1:37 PM Jul 21st, 2010

Madmothwhat @TwinkleChar Me too! When I write I'm oohing and aahing along with everyone else. At the end I'm like "I never saw that coming" #litchat -1:37 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sticky_t @TwinkleChar: I'm that way too. Outline? Pfft. What outline. #litchat -1:37 PM Jul 21st, 2010

mdbenoit2 Yes! RT @JSterlingS: @mwiings And to write as an African American is either a ghetto tale or religious inspirational. #litchat -1:37 PM Jul 21st, 2010

lacarrington1 As for my book, it's an idea I've been working on for a little over two years. =) #litchat -1:37 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks @GeneDoucette The Virginian by Owen Wister uses 1st person to follow 1 character, 3rd when that ch. narrates the other's story. #litchat -1:37 PM Jul 21st, 2010

lacarrington1 May not be everyone's thing, but some may enjoy it. #litchat -1:37 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock @LitChat My book club members complained about never knowing what had happened or, at the end, what would happen. #litchat -1:37 PM Jul 21st, 2010

AlexWilde RT @LitChat: Follow #litchat easily from <http://bit.ly/MH5Qs>. Login w/Twitter info and away you go. - 1:37 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett McCarthy's stories almost always end with a quiet reflection on an image that develops the theme of the book. #litchat -1:38 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie RT @AlexWilde: RT @LitChat: Follow #litchat easily from <http://bit.ly/MH5Qs>. Login w/Twitter info and away you go. #litchat -1:38 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett I probably would not put his work in a "read for plot" or "what's gonna happen" category, personally. #litchat -1:38 PM Jul 21st, 2010

nzesylva @GLHancock Here most writers seem to be writing with awards in mind. Any award would do esp if it is awarded abroad. #Litchat -1:38 PM Jul 21st, 2010

danish_novelist @mdbenoit2 I don't outline, either which means you have to rewrite your stuff again and again. Rewriting is king! #litchat -1:38 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks There's too much negativity in the world now. I write grim stories that end in hope. #litchat -1:38 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @LitChat The Road - I can't even remember the ending? The book 2 me was 1 paced & 1 toned, then ending clearly didn't stand out 4me #litchat -1:39 PM Jul 21st, 2010

mwiings @JSterlingS which is tragic if its a re-hashed stereotype tale #litchat -1:39 PM Jul 21st, 2010

lacarrington1 I see plenty of talented scribes tweeting, so why aren't you with the rest of us in #litchat? -1:41 PM Jul 21st, 2010

SesshasWorld @CarolBMTbooks that's much better - I did that as well with the last one, it was much more satisfying to reach the end #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie testing -sorry to test, but keep trying to reply and receive an error code, trying out posting directly without reply to #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 21st, 2010

latta @LitChat i couldn't get through The Road. i tried multiple times w/o success. for me it was a yawnfest. #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock @CarolBMTbooks Your attitude is sterling! And so true. Folks, Carol does happy endings in spades! #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 21st, 2010

AllieDillon @danish_novelist thank you for stepping up to--not in--the organic description. I'll always remember due to Santa & the ice pick... #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 21st, 2010

LitChat What recent, well-known novels have had the most memorable endings, and why? #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TwinkleChar Have had interesing convos with editors about foreshadowing re enough and too much. Fine line ... #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie @CarolBMTbooks Yes, hope; if book hs no hope, I'm left exhausted. I wonder why I took the time to read: what was my purpose in it #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sticky_t Ain't that the truth. RT @danish_novelist: Rewriting is king! #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 21st, 2010

PIBarrington RT @CarolBMTbooks: There's too much negativity in the world now. I write grim stories that end in hope. #litchat Open ended hope is good. -1:41 PM Jul 21st, 2010

mdbenoit2 @danish_novelist Agreed. I rarely have less than four versions #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 21st, 2010

linc0lnpark RT @CarolBMTbooks: I love being an indie author! #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe RT @CarolBMTbooks: ...I write grim stories that end in hope. #litchat/ do u set out at start committed 2 hopeful ending? #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie RT @lacarrington1: I see plenty of talented scribes tweeting, so why arent you with the rest of us in #litchat? #litchat -1:41 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett @LitChat Should have directed previous comments @ you, sorry! I loved the Road, but my fav is still Suttree. #litchat -1:42 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks @sticky_t Thank you. True enough! #litchat -1:42 PM Jul 21st, 2010

LitChat @katmagendie: Question for pubd novelists: Have you ever regretted or wanted to change an ending after book was published? #litchat -1:42 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett @LitChat but the fatalism so common in most of his works means that you can't really read it for plot. #litchat -1:42 PM Jul 21st, 2010

malenalott @litchat Endings are fascinating as a reader and writer. I like that sigh that comes after the last sentence of the last page. #litchat -1:42 PM Jul 21st, 2010

Figmentfiction Endings should be retrospectively obvious; only after the fact should it become clear that the whole book led up to that moment. #litchat -1:42 PM Jul 21st, 2010

AngieLedbetter RT @katmagendie: RT @lacarrington1: I see plenty of talented scribes tweeting, so why arent you with the rest of us in #litchat? #litchat -1:43 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie @sticky_t Ain't that the truth. RT @danish_novelist: Rewriting is king! >>>>yes! #litchat -1:43 PM Jul 21st, 2010

nzesylva I had teacher parents. Growing up, books were my toys. No knetwork, no PS2. Just Heinenmann African Writers series titles. #LitChat -1:43 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock @CarolBMTbooks But if a writer must have experienced happy endings in order to write about them I'm sorta doomed. What do you think #litchat -1:43 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @LitChat Not Ian McEwan's Solar that's 4 sure. ridiculous deux ex machina 2 bring all characters together in 1 place #litchat -1:43 PM Jul 21st, 2010

mdbenoit2 @malenalott I like books that make me slow down my reading toward the end because I'm sad to finish the book #litchat -1:43 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie @LitChat for pubd novelists: Have you ever regretted or wanted to change an ending after book was published?>>>>Not so far! #litchat -1:43 PM Jul 21st, 2010

indiepride @malenalott I actually prefer books that makes me gasp at the end #litchat -1:43 PM Jul 21st, 2010

Topic of the Week:

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www.litchat.net

tadbo Look who it is! :) RT @linc0lnpark: RT @CarolBMTbooks: I love being an indie author! #litchat -1:43 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sticky_t Me too! RT @mdbenoit2: @malenalott I like books that make me slow down my reading toward the end because I'm sad to finish the book #litchat -1:44 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie @AngieLedbetter Angie! welcome - are you in litchat? It's a wonderful group of ppl who love/write/read/are books/writing/literature #litchat -1:44 PM Jul 21st, 2010

indiepride @mdbenoit2 yes I like books that I have to make myself finish them because I don't want them to end. I space the last pages out #litchat -1:44 PM Jul 21st, 2010

JSterlingS To me, a good ending leaves me demanding more. #litchat -1:44 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @Fimgentfiction The whole book leading up to end -why? In real life there is no ending, except the finality of death. #litchat -1:44 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TwinkleChar @GLHancock Sometimes we write about the world we wished we lived in, the escape we lead readers too. #litchat -1:44 PM Jul 21st, 2010

monkeywillow RT @FoundingEditor: Get to know our world of brevity! <http://bit.ly/9ZUboH> - "Great things come in small packages" #haiku #jtanka #WW #FF #litchat #writegoal -1:44 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock RT @JSterlingS: To me, a good ending leaves me demanding more. #litchat -1:44 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks @21stCscribe i have a positive outlook, and I like my readers. Endings evolve from the characters' actions. #litchat -1:45 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass @nzesylva: You were very blessed, as were all of us who found friendship within books. #litchat -1:45 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie @indiepride @mdbenoit2 yes I like books that I have to make myself finish them because I don't want them to end. >>>love this too! #litchat -1:45 PM Jul 21st, 2010

mdbenoit2 Anyone read Tigana, by Guy Gavriel Kay? The ending is awesome and surprising #litchat -1:45 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sambgood I remember a short story I read in HS that had no ending. Author said to readers to decide what it is on their own. Thought it was cool #litchat -1:45 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @GLHancock why, all literature is fictional. You can write yourself a happy ending no matter you don't have it in life #litchat -1:45 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GeneDoucette @21stCscribe yes, fine, but STORIES have endings. stories aren't life, they're what we do to fill up the time. #litchat -1:45 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock @TwinkleChar I've heard of that technique, useful in psychotherapy. Applying it to imagining a story escapes me! #litchat -1:45 PM Jul 21st, 2010

susanmpls @mdbenoit2 often w/ books that I don't want to end, I start re-reading as soon as done, especially fave passages/chapters. #litchat -1:45 PM Jul 21st, 2010

AllieDillon @LitChat memorable ending? Girl with dragon tattoo. The antisocial girl (for good reason) gets a new start with plenty of loot... #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie Pet Peeve: running into a brick wall endings, a wall you didn't see coming. Actually turning the last page thinking there is more #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sticky_t @TwinkleChar: That sure explains my writing. #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 21st, 2010

indiepride RT @21stCscribe: @GLHancock why, all literature is fictional. You can write yourself a happy ending no matter you don't have it in life #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 21st, 2010

latta #litchat i don't want the ending or the resolutions of the arcs to be predictable halfway through the book. if i liked that i would watch tv -1:46 PM Jul 21st, 2010

Topic of the Week:
Endings - p 41

TaoJoannes @21stCscribe then you know what I mean, film becomes a new thing, same base #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @CarolBMTbooks just you made it sound like a commitment. You have positive outlook, yet write 'grim' novels? #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 21st, 2010

AuthorWilliam May sound weird but to me a good ending welcomes me out just as I was welcomed in, leaving me with good memories of my trip. #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 21st, 2010

districtbelle @sambgood I kind of disagree. No ending to me seems like a cop out. #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie @sambgood yes, I think short stories can get away with the "no beg/middle/end" thing much better than novels can. #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks @GLHancock Life ain't perfect, and I've had my share of troubles, but I also have faith. Life is not uniformly bleak. #litchat -1:46 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock @21stCscribe What I'm saying is that it is almost impossible for me to imagine a happy ending, writing about my experiences. #litchat -1:47 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TheNewAuthor @LitChat Rabbit: Chasing Beth Rider by Ellen maze had a strong ending and gave insight to the possibility of a second book. #litchat -1:47 PM Jul 21st, 2010

mdbenoit2 @susanmpls Yes. Those books I buy. #litchat -1:47 PM Jul 21st, 2010

JAPak @GeneDoucette I think stories are what helps us understand life, not just fill time... #litchat -1:47 PM Jul 21st, 2010

AuthorWilliam I don't think I'm hard on endings, I just don't want them to take a good ride and flush it all down the toilet. #litchat -1:47 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes @GeneDoucette heroes have it easy, there's no "golden days" to pine about losing #litchat -1:47 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sambgood Trying to follow #litchat at work on a phone that isn't web-enabled. Shh. (I'm still working promise) - 1:47 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett Life is not story-shaped, but a story should say something about life, or be true to it. The endings should reflect that. #litchat -1:47 PM Jul 21st, 2010

deberryandgrant @LitChat Not so far. We had a "hold the presses" moment and were allowed to adjust the ending of Uptown to account for last minute #litchat -1:47 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks @latta You betcha! TV Filmed in the dark. #litchat -1:47 PM Jul 21st, 2010

indiepride @katmagendie yes! brick wall endings are bad. I also don't like neat bow endings. I want to be disturbed by at least one thing #litchat -1:47 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @GeneDoucette I'd hope they do more than fill up time. Again, what R stories for? Why do we let them organise life artificially? #litchat -1:48 PM Jul 21st, 2010

nzesylva Writing has left me with very few close friends. Solitude is priceless for real creative writing #Litchat - 1:48 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GeneDoucette @JAPak Sure, they can. They don't have to. You could say the same thing about religion, philosophy or, well, just about anything. #litchat -1:48 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes RT @TwinkleChar: @GLHancock Sometimes we write about the world we wished we lived in, the escape we lead readers too. #litchat -1:48 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie RT @AuthorWilliam: May sound weird but good ending welcomes me out just as I ws welcomed in, leaving me w/good memories of my trip. #litchat -1:48 PM Jul 21st, 2010

latta #litchat i want the "ending" not to end my contemplation of the lives i have just shared, merely to mean that i'm out of pages. -1:48 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @GeneDoucette I just like to reflect on nature of fiction and storytelling within my books #litchat - 1:48 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TwinkleChar Laughing here. Convo could have all of us thick into WIP quaking in boots about reader expectations for endings. FEARLESSNESS! #litchat -1:48 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sgoings7 RT @AuthorWilliam: May sound weird but to me a good ending welcomes me out just as I was welcomed in, leaving me with good memories of my trip. #litchat -1:48 PM Jul 21st, 2010
latta rt @nzesylva Writing has left me with very few close friends. Solitude is priceless for real creative writing #Litchat -1:49 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @TaoJoannes can fall between 2 stools, different but familiar from having already read it... #litchat - 1:49 PM Jul 21st, 2010
JAPak I like endings that show me that the writer understood the essence of her own ending. #litchat -1:49 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolBMTbooks @21stCscribe Writing about Vigilantes and hangings is no picnic, but the subplot ending was hopeful.#litchat (A metaphoric sex scene.) -1:49 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo RT @JAPak: @GeneDoucette I think stories are what helps us understand life, not just fill time... #litchat - 1:49 PM Jul 21st, 2010
girlfrombim RT @latta: i want the "ending" not to end my contemplation of the lives i have just shared, merely to mean that im out of pages. #litchat -1:49 PM Jul 21st, 2010
nicholemcgill #litchat -1:49 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TheNewAuthor The secret to a good ending is that it leaves you with something; be it sad the ride is over, happy or in disbelief from a twist. #litchat -1:49 PM Jul 21st, 2010
robertjbennett We write and read so that we can see life from new perspectives, and so understand more about it. #litchat -1:49 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GeneDoucette @21stCscribe IMO, stories are primarily for entertainment. Edification, lesson-learning, enlightenment, none are necessary #litchat -1:49 PM Jul 21st, 2010
indiepride RT @latta: #litchat i wnt the "ending" not 2 end my contemplation of the lives ive just shared, merely 2 mean that i'm out of pages. YES YES -1:49 PM Jul 21st, 2010
susanmpls @katmagendie not sure I agree. a good short story has beg/mdle/end, tells a whole story, just does it in fewer pgs. #litchat -1:49 PM Jul 21st, 2010
JAPak Whoops...I should have said, understood her own story. #litchat -1:49 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @LitChat "Dark Tower" series, what a crappy ending, SK gettin 2 high off his own fumes #litchat - 1:49 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @GLHancock No that's fair enough. But I think happy/sad spectrum is bit limiting. #litchat -1:49 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GeneDoucette @21stCscribe ...doesn't mean they CAN'T be there also, but they don't have to be. #litchat -1:49 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sticky_t @LitChat Loved the ending to Beautiful Creatures - very fitting. Almost predicted it, but it threw me for a loop. #litchat -1:50 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe RT @JAPak: @GeneDoucette I think stories are what helps us understand life, not just fill time.#litchat / aha. Fiction to probe real life... -1:50 PM Jul 21st, 2010
FrankDiCesare A good ending makes me glad I invested the time to read the story in the first place. #litchat -1:50 PM Jul 21st, 2010
AuthorofPatches RT @robertjbennett: Life is not story-shaped, but a story should say something about life, or be true to it. The endings should reflect that. #litchat -1:50 PM Jul 21st, 2010

nzesylva I love endings that leaves much to my imagination...I hate abrupt endings #LitChat -1:50 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo @GeneDoucette Stories and storytelling are far, far more than just entertainment. #litchat -1:50 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @TaoJoannes No more heroes anymore? Maybe lit ought to reflect that. #litchat -1:50 PM Jul 21st, 2010
robertjbennett Wolfe's defin. of literature is fiction that can be reread with greater pleasure. A purely entertaining story rarely provides that. #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 21st, 2010
ASWinn Think u can edit frvr, but have to let it go. RT @LitChat: Have u ever regretted or wanted to change ending after book was pubbed? #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 21st, 2010
deberryandgrant We like to end our books w/characters at a new beginning and love when readers tell us they "wonder" what/how characters are doing. #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 21st, 2010
malenalott @mdbenoit2 @sticky_t @indiepride Such great anticipation as I edge towards the end. I get so antsy. #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 21st, 2010
katmagendie @indiepride Yes, if evrthg at end's "summed up" I feel writer jst wants to get the thing DONE; make sure they check off their list #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @21stCscribe word, I loved the recent Sherlock Holmes, kept the flavor of stories, even stole dialogue, lol, new, but familiar #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 21st, 2010
latta @indiepride if i am immediately on to the next thing or the next book, #notagoodsign. #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TwinkleChar What we're saying is, It ain't satisfactorily over till fat lady sings or cries or laughs or kills self, then waits for afterbirth. #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TheNewAuthor I like endings that make me want to pick up another book. Be it from the same author or just the same genre but I need to read. #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 21st, 2010
sticky_t @tadbo That's what I try to tell people. #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 @FrankDiCesare A good ending is not necessarily a happy ending. #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GeneDoucette @tadbo Fundamentally? I disagree. They CAN be more, but they HAVE to entertain. everything else is optional. #litchat -1:51 PM Jul 21st, 2010
AuthorWilliam @nzesylva I'm with you on that. Bring me in for a landing don't kick me out of the plane at 15,000 feet. #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 21st, 2010
indiepride @latta exactly. If i enjoy a book but end up forgetting it after I read the last page... #notagoodsign #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @CarolBMTbooks It's not too daunting, getting all those pieces and parts and making it presentable is challenge #litchat (my next wip?) -1:52 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass Has anyone here read LITTLE BEE by Chris Cleave? What an unforeseen --yet satisfying--ending. #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 21st, 2010
malenalott The beauty of the revisions stage is you can revise until you get that a-ha feeling & when you read it 10x and still love it, DONE. #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 21st, 2010
katmagendie @susanmpls Yes, short stories can and do this, but, was only speaking of a certain way of writing of some literary shorts #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock I think it is difficult to imagine anything, experience, you've had little of in your life. You don't know how it feels, works, is #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 21st, 2010
franklinwhite RT @ASWinn: Think u can edit frvr, but have to let it go. RT @LitChat: Have u ever regretted or wanted to change ending after book was pubbed? #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 21st, 2010

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21stCscribe @GeneDoucette Not necessary, but my personal preference. I don't read 2 escape this world #litchat I ask myself why I might want 2 escape it -1:52 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TwinkleChar RT @tadbo: @GeneDoucette Stories and storytelling are far, far more than just entertainment. #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sticky_t I'm with you on that one. RT @mdbenoit2: @FrankDiCesare A good ending is not necessarily a happy ending. #litchat -1:52 PM Jul 21st, 2010

indiepride @TheNewAuthor I like books that make me want to go to a quiet space to reflect on it and break it down #litchat -1:53 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett @GeneDoucette I agree that stories have to entertain. But if they do nothing more, they're not literature. #litchat -1:53 PM Jul 21st, 2010

deberryandgrant RT @robertjbennett: Life is not story-shaped, but story should say something about life, or be true to it. Endings shld reflect that. #litchat -1:53 PM Jul 21st, 2010

tadbo @GeneDoucette I agree that they should entertain but that is like the foundation on which you build the house of storytelling. #litchat -1:53 PM Jul 21st, 2010

indiepride @katmagendie that's how I feel about it too -- they just want to get the story done #litchat -1:53 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GeneDoucette @21stCscribe but that's entertainment. #litchat -1:53 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett @indiepride That's the best feeling an author can ever shoot for. #litchat -1:54 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GeneDoucette @robertjbennett sure they are. #litchat -1:54 PM Jul 21st, 2010

FrankDiCesare @mdbenoit2: A good ending is not necessarily a happy ending. >> I already know that. What's your point? #litchat -1:54 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sticky_t @robertjbennett: Nicely said. #litchat -1:54 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GeneDoucette at the risk of getting stuck in the office... #litchat -1:54 PM Jul 21st, 2010

AngieLedbetter @katmagendie No...not in #litchat. Just reading from the Twitter sidelines. (Twidelines?) *snort* -1:54 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe Don't confuse writing about life in fiction with living your life as a fiction - Scarlett Thomas. very wise words #litchat -1:54 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett @GeneDoucette Literature is something that provides increased pleasure on rereading. Purely entertaining stories rarely do that. #litchat -1:54 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GeneDoucette Y'all put writing on too much of a pedestal. If the reader isn't entertained they aren't going to keep reading, period. #litchat -1:54 PM Jul 21st, 2010

latta #litchat i read Wolf Hall this year, and the ending was good for me--even though it is a story that (most of us) already know. -1:54 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TheNewAuthor @indiepride Yea, I've had a few moments like that but it only drives me to get the next. #litchat -1:55 PM Jul 21st, 2010

mdbenoit2 @FrankDiCesare People are talking about happy endings. Some endings just work even if they're not HE #litchat -1:55 PM Jul 21st, 2010

AuthorWilliam @TheNewAuthor After a good journey I like to spend some time with it before reading again. The after feeling is part of the value. #litchat -1:55 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock You can write with whatever purpose you want. The readers will still read for their own purposes. I want to escape my life! #litchat -1:55 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie @indiepride yes! If the author is "present" at the end, it can "sour" the entire experience. I rarely hate an ending, but I have! #litchat -1:55 PM Jul 21st, 2010

latta #litchat and i think sometimes what somebody's mama said is true: leave 'em wanting a little more. -1:55 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GeneDoucette @robertjbennett and you're significantly downplaying the difficulty and importance of keeping a reader entertained. #litchat -1:55 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett @GeneDoucette No one's saying that it can't be entertaining. It's just that most people want more. #litchat -1:55 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie @AngieLedbetter Come in, water's fine! There's way to get in via tweechat-but I can't remember zactly how-it's easy to follow then #litchat -1:55 PM Jul 21st, 2010

FrankDiCesare @mdbenoit2 Indeed. Some of the best ending I've ever read are far from happy ones. #litchat -1:56 PM Jul 21st, 2010

ofabookworm RT @latta: #litchat i wnt the "ending" not 2 end my contemplation of the lives ive just shared, merely 2 mean that i'm out of pages. -1:56 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock RT @latta: #litchat and i think sometimes what somebodys mama said is true: leave em wanting a little more. #litchat -1:56 PM Jul 21st, 2010

ErikaRobuck RT @GeneDoucette: Y'all put writing on too much of a pedestal. If the reader isn't entertained they aren't going to keep reading, period. #litchat -1:56 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett @GeneDoucette No, I think I'm sticking with the idea of entertainment being the foundation of good literature. #litchat -1:56 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @indiepride I like stories that beat me up and shake my preconceptions #litchat Particularly with their use of language -1:56 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GeneDoucette @robertjbennett why is "entertainment" a dirty word here? Why is it something you're putting aside from "literature"? #litchat -1:56 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sambgood @districtbelle true.But it pushes rdrs to look back & see if there was an ending the writer knew bout but was never explicitly said #litchat -1:56 PM Jul 21st, 2010

AngieLedbetter RT @GeneDoucette: Y'all put writing on too much of a pedestal. If the reader isn't entertained they aren't going to keep reading, period. #litchat -1:56 PM Jul 21st, 2010

mdbenoit2 @joswartz Which book? Tigana? #litchat -1:56 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe RT @GeneDoucette: @21stCscribe but that's entertainment. #litchat / Not to me. It's a personal thing I concede -1:57 PM Jul 21st, 2010

indiepride RT @21stCscribe: @indiepride I like stories that beat me up and shake my preconceptions #litchat Particularly with their use of language YES -1:57 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sticky_t @GeneDoucette Those are good points. The key is to balance telling your story and entertaining your reader. Which can be hard. :) #litchat -1:57 PM Jul 21st, 2010

LeahPetersen @robertjbennett I don't agree with that at all. #litchat -1:57 PM Jul 21st, 2010

lacarrington1 RT @21stCscribe: Dont confuse writing about life in fiction with livng your life as a fiction - Scarlett Thomas. very wise words #litchat -1:57 PM Jul 21st, 2010

LeahPetersen RT @GeneDoucette: Y'all put writing on too much of a pedestal. If the reader isn't entertained they aren't going to keep reading, period. #litchat -1:57 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie I'm much more easy on an author's: begin/middle/end now tht my own books are out-I know how difficult it is 2 keep every1 happy! :D #litchat -1:57 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GeneDoucette @robertjbennett I'm nearly positive you said the opposite of that earlier. #litchat -1:57 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks @21stCscribe Positive outlook/grim novels Yup. They explore hard questions from #MT history. Contradictory, but it works. #litchat -1:57 PM Jul 21st, 2010

latta #litchat thankfully, there is a whole world out there of readers with different expectations and writers prepared to fulfil them. -1:57 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett @GeneDoucette I'd suggest that entertainment is more sensory, or superficial, perhaps. It's not inferior. It's just limited,a bit. #litchat -1:57 PM Jul 21st, 2010

tadbo @GeneDoucette No no. Its not the writing that I put on a pedestal, its the storytelling, no matter the artform. #litchat -1:57 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TheNewAuthor @AuthorWilliam I remember reading the Fellowship of the Ring; when I was done I spent the night thinking on it but... #litchat -1:58 PM Jul 21st, 2010

ambercleveland RT @GLHancock: You can write with whatever purpose you want. The readers will still read for their own purposes. I want to escape my life! #litchat -1:58 PM Jul 21st, 2010

LitChat @ErikaRobuck You mentioned THE POSTMISTRESS by Sarah Blake on Monday. Tell us about the ending. #litchat -1:58 PM Jul 21st, 2010

deberryandgrant RT @AuthorWilliam: @nzesylva Im with you on that. Bring me in for a landing dont kick me out of the plane at 15,000 feet. #litchat -1:58 PM Jul 21st, 2010

JAPak @GeneDoucette Great lit is entertaining as hell! #litchat -1:58 PM Jul 21st, 2010

FrankDiCesare @ErikaRobuck As Tom Wolfe once said -- a writer must first entertain. #litchat -1:58 PM Jul 21st, 2010

mdbenoit2 @GeneDoucette I agree. I read for pleasure. If I want to learn, I read non-fiction #litchat -1:58 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TwinkleChar Occurs to me that "surprise ending" is also in eye of beholder. Not every reader thinks story's going same way. #litchat -1:58 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @GeneDoucette entertained - yes, but what is the nature of pleasure, or happiness? These things lit ought 2B exploring, thru words #litchat -1:58 PM Jul 21st, 2010

LeahPetersen RT @GLHancock: You can write with whatever purpose you want. The readers will still read for their own purposes. I want to escape my life! #litchat -1:58 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett @GeneDoucette I said *purely* entertaining stories. Ones with minimal rereadability. I do believe ALL fiction need to entertain. #litchat -1:58 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TheNewAuthor @AuthorWilliam the next morning my first priority was to get the second nd third book. That was a great journey. #litchat -1:58 PM Jul 21st, 2010

atfmb Hello #litchat people. I am going to lurk for a bit. Blame @TheNewAuthor -1:58 PM Jul 21st, 2010

deberryandgrant @TwinkleChar Agreed! #litchat -1:58 PM Jul 21st, 2010

LeahPetersen RT @TwinkleChar: Occurs to me that "surprise ending" is also in eye of beholder. Not every reader thinks story's going same way. #litchat -1:59 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes @GeneDoucette I think he's just saying pure entertainment is 1 thing, but literature must entertain as matter of course #litchat -1:59 PM Jul 21st, 2010

latta #litchat i think that if the reader was looking for one thing and felt hoodwinked they'll likely not be buying that author again. -1:59 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie @AngieLedbetter RT @GeneDoucette: Y'all put writing on too much of a pedastal.>>>writers like to be up on our pedastals :-D #litchat -1:59 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock If simply enjoying the reading is "entertainment" then sure, all reading must be entertaining. Who wants to read crap? #litchat -1:59 PM Jul 21st, 2010

LeahPetersen RT @FrankDiCesare: @ErikaRobuck As Tom Wolfe once said -- a writer must first entertain. #litchat -1:59 PM Jul 21st, 2010

deberryandgrant @TwinkleChar We have readers who see (find) things we never saw and didn't intend... #litchat -1:59 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sticky_t @TwinkleChar: Yeah, sometimes I'm totally off-base, and then other times I'm dead-on. #litchat -1:59 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GeneDoucette I came from the theater, and NOTHING annoyed me more than soapbox plays. Figure out how to entertain first, lecture if you can. #litchat -1:59 PM Jul 21st, 2010

tadbo @GeneDoucette Anyone who says 'entertainment' should be separate from 'literature' is seriously out of touch. With all literature. #litchat -1:59 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks Stories that entertain can be enlightening, too. #litchat -1:59 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes RT @tadbo: @GeneDoucette No no. Its not the writing that I put on a pedestal, its the storytelling, no matter the artform. #litchat -1:59 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @indiepride Language is after all what's unique to literature. Film has imagery & mis en scene #litchat -1:59 PM Jul 21st, 2010

alexandra_field Children tend to need a resolution at the end of a book. Adults not so much. #litchat -1:59 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie RT @latta: thankfully, there's a whole world out there of readers with different expectations and writers prepared to fulfil them. #litchat -1:59 PM Jul 21st, 2010

FeelingFiction @lacarrington1 When and where is #litchat? Do you just include #litchat in your text order to be included. -2:00 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass Thumbs up from this pilot's wife. @AuthorWilliam...Bring me in for a landing don't kick me out of the plane at 15,000 feet. #litchat -2:00 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes @tadbo in that respect, different medium uses different tools to accomplish the same ends #litchat -2:00 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie RT @mdbenoit2: @GeneDoucette I agree. I read for pleasure. If I want to learn, I read non-fiction #litchat -2:00 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TwinkleChar RT @deberryandgrant: @TwinkleChar We have readers who see (find) things we never saw and didnt intend...<<I HEAR YOU! Me too. #litchat -2:00 PM Jul 21st, 2010

indiepride @21stCscribe I completely agree #litchat -2:00 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock But if by "entertaining" you mean humorous, that just does not work. Show me the humor in THE ROAD, please. #litchat -2:00 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks @GeneDoucette I dislike being preached at, too. #litchat -2:00 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass ★ RT @alexandra_field: Children tend to need a resolution at the end of a book. Adults not so much. #litchat -2:01 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TheNewAuthor @atfmb It's about time you made it here. Now we need to pull @CliftonHill into the mix. #litchat -2:01 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett All fiction must entertain. Literature is a matter of ambition, of attempting to change or challenge the reader. #litchat -2:01 PM Jul 21st, 2010

lacarrington1 @FeelingFiction <http://tweetchat.com/room/litchat> #litchat -2:01 PM Jul 21st, 2010

AuthorWilliam @TheNewAuthor Yeah, I understand the feeling. Just had a good read. Want to have that joy again. My "after" time varies book 2 book #litchat -2:01 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @tadbo storytelling is just 1 element. An organising framework. Getting inside human emotion is the key all Lit should be aiming 4 #litchat -2:01 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes @FeelingFiction yep, that's it, then click on #litchat to search/follow -2:01 PM Jul 21st, 2010

FrankDiCesare Many great novels end with a final sentence that is unforgettable. Think Gatsby, Catcher in the Rye, The Sun Also Rises etc. #litchat -2:01 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GeneDoucette @GLHancock entertain, engage, whatever you want to call what keeps the reader turning the pages. #litchat -2:01 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolBMTbooks @taojoannes The fun of writing fiction is the challenge. #litchat -2:02 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mdbenoit2 @GLHancock I read "entertaining" as bringing pleasure. If you have to slog thru a book, it doesn't work. #litchat -2:02 PM Jul 21st, 2010
latta #litchat i would just add that being with litchatters on my laptop beats the heck out of trying to keep up on the blackberry. -2:02 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass RT @GLHancock: But if by "entertaining" you mean humorous, that just does not work. Show me the humor in THE ROAD, please. #litchat -2:02 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock @robertjbennett Oh, poo! What about humor writing? Where's the great social, noble goal? #litchat -2:02 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe RT @FrankDiCesare: @ErikaRobuck As Tom Wolfe once said -- a writer must first entertain. #litchat /he failed in Bonfire of vanities -2:02 PM Jul 21st, 2010
katmagendie @CarolBMTbooks @GeneDoucette I dislike being preached at, too. >>"preaching" at me will have me put down the book. #litchat -2:02 PM Jul 21st, 2010
robertjbennett @GLHancock You don't find Mark Twain funny? ;) #litchat -2:03 PM Jul 21st, 2010
AllieDillon RT @FrankDiCesare: great novels end with final sentence that is unforgettable. Think Gatsby,Catcher in the Rye,The Sun Also Rises #litchat -2:03 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GeneDoucette OK, I'm really past my departure time now. #litchat -2:03 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GeneDoucette gotta #bike in the rain. #litchat -2:03 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass Entertainment simply means "keeping one's attention." It doesn't mean something has to be funny. #litchat -2:03 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo @21stCscribe There is no one aim for literature, in my opinion, but to tell the stories the writers wish to tell, individually. #litchat -2:03 PM Jul 21st, 2010
lacarrington1 Instruction/help books are good, as long as they don't have the "preachy" aura to them. #litchat -2:03 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @GeneDoucette and now theatre is a virtually dead art form. Lit could go same way if it doesn't pull its finger out #litchat -2:03 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TwinkleChar The word literature does not matter to me. I just figured that out. Lightbulb moment. #litchat -2:03 PM Jul 21st, 2010
FrankDiCesare RT @21stCscribe: As Tom Wolfe once said -- a writer must first entertain. #litchat /he failed in Bonfire of vanities >>> LOL ;) #litchat -2:03 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo @21stCscribe It is what is created out of the swarming of these millions of individual stories that literature will then be about. #litchat -2:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010
robertjbennett RT @CarolyBurnsBass: Entertainment simply means "keeping one's attention." It doesn't mean something has to be funny. #litchat -2:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock @robertjbennett What's going to happen if I say "yes"? I have enjoyed, laughed at some parts of Twain's writing. Why? #litchat -2:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @CarolBMTbooks once I get a novel or two pubbed, will use that to do the multimedia/hypertext, lol, need distribution! #litchat -2:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010
falseprophecy RT @tadbo @GeneDoucette Anyone who says 'entertainment' separate from 'literature' is out of touch. With all literature. #litchat -2:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010

Topic of the Week:

Endings - p 49

July 19 & 21, 2010

www.litchat.net

joeinformatique RT @tadbo @GeneDoucette Anyone who says 'entertainment' separate from 'literature' is out of touch. With all literature. #litchat -2:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie RT @tadbo @21stCscribe There is no one aim for literature, in my opinion, but to tell the stories the writers wish to tell. #litchat -2:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @TaoJoannes emotion is the only pedestal I'm interested in. Plot, story, narrative all vestal vrigins serving it #litchat -2:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010

AllieDillon Off to turn another page. Nice group...Good day. #litchat -2:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010

LitChat Looks like our regular hour of #litchat is over. Carry on the convo, it's still bubbling. But be sure to return Friday at same time. -2:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010

deberryandgrant RT @CarolyBurnsBass: Entertainment simply means "keeping ones attention." It doesnt mean something has to be funny. #litchat -2:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010

latta or perhaps, mature readers. rt @CarolyBurnsBass RT @alexandra_field: Children tend 2need resolution@end of bk. Adults not so much. #litchat -2:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010

tadbo @21stCscribe ...theatre is a dead art form? Really? I honestly didn't notice this. #litchat -2:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010

mdbenoit2 Must run, folks. Thanks for the great convo! #litchat -2:04 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GeneDoucette bye all... catch you another time... #litchat -2:05 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sticky_t RT @21stCscribe: @TaoJoannes emotion is the only pedestal Im interested in. Plot, story, narrative all vestal vrigins serving it #litchat -2:05 PM Jul 21st, 2010

AuthorWilliam Great chat today, everyone. Gotta go feed the offspring. See you all Friday! #litchat -2:05 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes @GLHancock I always have an excuse to bring up Terry Pratchett, lol. Satire is social commentary. #litchat -2:05 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe RT @robertjbennett: All fiction must entertain. Lit is a matter of ambition, of attempting to change or challenge the reader. #litchat /Yup -2:05 PM Jul 21st, 2010

LitChat Friday #litchat features Carolyn Parkhurst @CParkhurst, author of THE NOBODIES ALBUM. See <http://bit.ly/6rvjzD> for more about her. -2:05 PM Jul 21st, 2010

tadbo RT @robertjbennett: RT @CarolyBurnsBass: Entertainment means "keeping one's attention." It doesn't mean something has to be funny. #litchat -2:05 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks @taojoannes You can do the multimedia/hypertext on the Web, no need for distribution, just promote like crazy. Issue on DVD? #litchat -2:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010

HoodedMan Story is the foundation. You may add a lot of stuff to that, but without the story it's rarely much #litchat -2:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie When I'm writing novel, I don't think about who will like what -until I finish it & it's pub'd, bc don't want to stilt the writing. #litchat -2:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sticky_t @LitChat Looking forward to that! Love, love, love Carolyn Parkhurst. #litchat -2:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010

alexandra_field The Road has the perfect ending. From page 1 the ending was being set up. #litchat -2:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TheNewAuthor The first sentence of a novel sets the hook; the last sentence should make sure it stays there. #litchat -2:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010

latta #litchat rt @CarolyBurnsBass Entertainment simply means "keeping one's attention." It doesn't mean something has to be funny. <--YES -2:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010

sticky_t Bye, everyone! Awesome chat, as always. Now I need food. :) #litchat -2:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @CarolyBurnsBass that's not how I define entertainment. But agree doesn't have to be humourous #litchat -2:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie RT @LitChat: Friday features Carolyn Parkhurst @CParkhurst, author of THE NOBODIES ALBUM. See <http://bit.ly/6rvjzD> for more . #litchat -2:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010

HoodedMan Today, on the great day of July 21, 2010 I publish my anticipated story The Defenseless <http://bit.ly/bgunkS> #litchat -2:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes @21stCscribe emotion is a function of the storytelling. without THAT, it's just history/facts/dead #litchat -2:06 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @tadbo agree there's no overall aim, but it should talk to us as humans, ie delve and deal in emotions. #litchat -2:07 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass RT @TaoJoannes: @21stCscribe emotion is a function of the storytelling. without THAT, its just history/facts/dead #litchat -2:07 PM Jul 21st, 2010

FrankDiCesare RT @latta: Entertainment simply means "keeping ones attention." It doesnt mean something has to be funny. >>> Couldn't agree more. #litchat -2:07 PM Jul 21st, 2010

katmagendie See y'all later! Go read a book so we can talk about it :-)*rides off into the sunset* #litchat -2:07 PM Jul 21st, 2010

HoodedMan Entertainment, as it is mostly understood today should not be a part of a story at all #litchat -2:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks @tadbo Right on! No one aim in literature. Tell the story as best you can & it may become literature. Aim for lit & go unread. #litchat -2:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @tadbo that sounds like a collective unconscious to me??? We already know the stories, it's emotions behind them that vary #litchat -2:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock The world seems divided bet. writers who write for themselves and those who write for readers. Seems. You can do both w/compromise #litchat -2:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010

Thandelike RT @CarolyBurnsBass: Entertainment simply means "keeping one's attention." It doesn't mean something has to be funny. #litchat -2:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes Storytelling is the art of presentation, to make it interesting, cause emotional identification #litchat -2:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks RT @TaoJoannes: @21stCscribe emotion is a function of the storytelling. without THAT, it's just history/facts/dead #litchat -2:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett @21stCscribe I absolutely agree. You don't HAVE to. But I like that sort of thing. #litchat -2:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes RT @CarolyBurnsBass: Entertainment simply means "keeping one's attention." It doesn't mean something has to be funny. #litchat -2:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TwinkleChar RT @TaoJoannes: @21stCscribe emotion is a function of the storytelling. without THAT, it's just history/facts/dead #litchat -2:08 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @tadbo Come to the home of Shakespeare then ... It's dead in the water my friend. it fails to speak to today's generations #litchat -2:09 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes @HoodedMan I don't follow. A story should not entertain? #litchat -2:09 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks @taojoannes The novels I've pubbed might not lend themselves to hypertext. I'll write a story that does. Someday. #litchat -2:09 PM Jul 21st, 2010

tadbo @21stCscribe ...do you know my story? Anything at all about me? I don't know yours either. When we tell them, then others know. #litchat -2:09 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock @CarolyBurnsBass I never said 'entertaining' had to be funny. I said if that's so, I disagree that all lit must be entertaining. #litchat -2:09 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @alexandra_field why can't I remember the ending then? It didn't stand out for me #litchat -2:10 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett @taojoannes The problem with a lot of this is that we have different standards and definitions for "entertainment." #litchat -2:10 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes @21stCscribe it just moved to the new world, lol.#litchat Wicked was a smashing success. -2:10 PM Jul 21st, 2010

tadbo @GeneDoucette In thinking about your statement about entertainment, I've realized how narrow my definition of entertainment is. #litchat -2:10 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @TaoJoannes No, without emotion the story is both dead and we've heard it all before anyway #litchat -2:10 PM Jul 21st, 2010

LitChat #litchat occurs every M-W-F, 4-5pmET. See www.litchat.net @lacarrington1 When and where is #litchat? <http://bit.ly/9QIs3W> -2:10 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes @robertjbennett that's why I prefer the dictionary, takes all the guess work out of words, lol #litchat -2:11 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock @CarolBMTbooks What do you imagine a story suitable for hypertext is/looks like/has/includes ...? #litchat -2:11 PM Jul 21st, 2010

ErikaRobuck @LitChat Ending sad yet satisfying. Title referred to more than just the mail carrier--but also to those who deliver the news... #litchat -2:11 PM Jul 21st, 2010

ErikaRobuck @LitChat & whether telling the truth is always best. #litchat -2:11 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett There's a belief that "great" art cannot be "fun." What does everyone think of that? #litchat -2:11 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes @CarolBMTbooks definitely need a new story for it, it's a different form, needs different approach, bite-sized chunks #litchat -2:11 PM Jul 21st, 2010

HoodedMan @taojoannes Nope. Entertain=sucking up to the reader/audience #litchat -2:12 PM Jul 21st, 2010

tadbo @21stCscribe The home of shakespeare is in England. Theatre, of which he was only one contributor, is alive and well. :) #litchat -2:12 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett @tadbo I agree with the idea that entertainment is the drive that keeps you reading. But there's all kinds of things that do that. #litchat -2:12 PM Jul 21st, 2010

lacarrington1 RT @LitChat #litchat occurs every M-W-F, 4-5pmET. See www.litchat.net @lacarrington1 When and where is #litchat? <http://bit.ly/9QIs3W> -2:12 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @TaoJoannes aha, so it is functional then!!! A framework #litchat -2:12 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass CarolyBurnsBass @GLHancock I knew what you were getting at and muchly agree.#litchat -2:12 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett @tadbo Some people like to keep reading because the character has a gun to his head, and they want to see what happens. #litchat -2:13 PM Jul 21st, 2010

tadbo @robertjbennett I believe that our definitions of 'fun' and 'entertainment' are skewed. #litchat -2:13 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes @21stCscribe without storytelling craft, there is no emotion. #litchat -2:13 PM Jul 21st, 2010

ErikaRobuck RT @CarolyBurnsBass: Entertainment simply means "keeping one's attention." It doesn't mean something has to be funny. #litchat -2:13 PM Jul 21st, 2010

robertjbennett @tadbo Others keep reading because, say, they find dissection of the faith of the Huguenots absolutely fascinating. #litchat -2:13 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe RT @TaoJoannes: @HoodedMan I don't follow. A story should not entertain? #litchat / by 2day's stds of entertainment -talent shows/reality TV -2:13 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock @CarolyBurnsBass Oh, I'm so glad that you remember, because I don't most of the time. #litchat -2:13 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo @robertjbennett Exactly. So when we say entertainment we really talk about 'the reasons why we keep interacting with this story'. #litchat -2:14 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolBMTbooks @GLHancock Hypertext is nonlinear, story makes sense no matter where the reader jumps to. I did one in '93, wasn't easy. #litchat -2:14 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @tadbo there are only 7 stories in the world. Lots of versions.variants of course, but 7 basic plots #litchat -2:14 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolBMTbooks RT @TaoJoannes: @21stCscribe without storytelling craft, there is no emotion. #litchat -2:14 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @21stCscribe Two kids fell in love. Their families hated each other so they committed suicide = emotion w/o storytelling #litchat -2:14 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo @robertjbennett Admittedly, I was thinking of 'entertainment' in a lot more narrow sense before you clarified it. #litchat -2:14 PM Jul 21st, 2010
robertjbennett @tadbo Yeah. Absolutely. Entertainment is the reader being engaged by the story. #litchat -2:14 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @robertjbennett No, we as a society can't actually define Entertainment, pleasure, happiness . As writers we should help them #litchat -2:14 PM Jul 21st, 2010
robertjbennett @tadbo So, when I said that purely entertaining stories have little rereadability, you can see what I mean... #litchat -2:15 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @TaoJoannes I'm very happy for the new world.! I speak as an ex-playwright #litchat -2:15 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock What do you call the factor that makes a reader say/think/feel, "I can't wait to read what happens next!?" #litchat -2:15 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo #truth. Just realised this. RT @robertjbennett: @tadbo Yeah. Absolutely. Entertainment is the reader being engaged by the story. #litchat -2:15 PM Jul 21st, 2010
alexandra_field @21stCscribe Really? I didn't think there was any other possible ending. #litchat -2:15 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @21stCscribe that's just using half the phrase "popular entertainment" ;P #litchat -2:15 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolBMTbooks @taojoannes Multimedia is intriguing, but putting all the technical pieces together is beyond me now. #litchat -2:15 PM Jul 21st, 2010
nzesylva Tomorrow I would be at a literary fxn in #Abuja, #Nigeria with writers Helon Habila, Madeleine Thien n TsiTsi Dangaremba #Litchat -2:15 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @TaoJoannes I like th epatterns & frequency analysis you get with a thesaurus more than a dictionary #litchat @robertjbennett -2:16 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @robertjbennett they'd be wrong! #litchat -2:16 PM Jul 21st, 2010
robertjbennett @GLHancock Suspense, maybe? #litchat -2:16 PM Jul 21st, 2010
LucidGlow RT @HoodedMan Today, on the great day of July 21, 2010 I publish my anticipated story The Defenseless http://bit.ly/bgunkS #litchat -2:17 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock @nzesylva That's great! {Who are those people he mentioned?} Have a god time! Give us a report? #litchat -2:17 PM Jul 21st, 2010
ErikaRobuck To be a published author, you must be mindful of your audience--it's a relationship. #litchat -2:17 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @CarolBMTbooks I'm available for hire, cheap, lol #litchat and idea I had, here http://taojoannes.wikidot.com/ -2:17 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @tadbo well I live here, in the Capital city and it ain't. Playwrights jump ship asap to film & TV where money is #litchat -2:17 PM Jul 21st, 2010
ErikaRobuck To paraphrase Steven King: "The first draft is for you, all the other drafts are for your readers." ON WRITING #litchat -2:17 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo @21stCscribe You and I will agree to disagree there. We are all the same, but different. #litchat -2:17 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock @robertjbennett I've had that feeling when laughing my way through humor, deeply embedded in sci-fi, wallowing in erotica, etc #litchat -2:18 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @robertjbennett only marginally preferable to the reader having a gun to their head to keep reading!!! #litchat -2:18 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock RT @ErikaRobuck: To be a published author, you must be mindful of your audience--its a relationship. Finally! Some sense! #litchat -2:18 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @TaoJoannes Disagree. I don't really write stories, though there are story elements. But I wld claim to write emotions #litchat -2:18 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TheNewAuthor RT @ErikaRobuck: To paraphrase Steven King: "The first draft is for you, all the other drafts are for your readers." ON WRITING #litchat -2:18 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @21stCscribe but for definitions, you can't beat the OED, lol #litchat @CarolBMTbooks -2:18 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @TaoJoannes It's a bit radical and as my name implies, I'm looking to drag our beloved art form into the current Century #litchat -2:19 PM Jul 21st, 2010
ErikaRobuck BTW, I'm not implying U write to a trend. You should write to your passions, in your voice. Readers w/ similar passions will find U #litchat -2:19 PM Jul 21st, 2010
mommylebron RT @LitChat: #litchat occurs every M-W-F, 4-5pmET. See www.litchat.net @lacarrington1 When and where is #litchat? http://bit.ly/9QIs3W -2:19 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolBMTbooks @taojoannes I'll check that out. Haven't yet tried wiki-novels. #litchat -2:19 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo @21stCscribe Where I live you can't find a Dungeons and Dragons book anywhere in any bookshop. Does that mean its dead? #litchat -2:20 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @21stCscribe so, what, poetry? methinks you're being obstinate on the definition, lol. #litchat -2:20 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo @21stCscribe Things grow, go through cycles, evolve and reemerge. Theatre is no different. #litchat -2:20 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @TaoJoannes ridiculous example. Do paintings have emotion in them? I write like I would paint. layered. chiraoscuro etc #litchat -2:20 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock RT @21stCscribe:... Im looking to drag our beloved art form into the current Century by pronouncements of pontification? #litchat -2:20 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo RT @taojoannes: Storytelling is the art of presentation, to make it interesting, cause emotional identification #litchat -2:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @alexandra_field to what? Sorry, lost the thread of this one #litchat -2:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010

nzesylva @GLHancock They are all internationally acclaimed writers. They just finished holding creative writing wrkshop for budding writers.#litchat -2:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes @21stCscribe what I'm defining as storytelling is the presentation of events in an engaging fashion, without that what do you have? #litchat -2:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010

FrankDiCesare @ErikaRobuck The first draft of any story is the writing equivalent to singing off-key in the shower. Nobody cares. #litchat -2:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe RT @TaoJoannes: @21stCscribe that's just using half the phrase "popular entertainment" ;P #litchat / what 'larenter'? -2:21 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks @taojoannes Definitions, etymology, idiom. The F word is basic Old English from the 10th century. The more things change... #litchat -2:22 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes @21stCscribe yes, but you use storytelling to communicate your artistry #Litchat -2:22 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe RT @tadbo: @21stCscribe You and I will agree to disagree there. We are all the same, but different. #litchat /agreed -2:22 PM Jul 21st, 2010

ErikaRobuck Ha--Yes! RT @FrankDiCesare: The first draft of any story is the writing equivalent to singing off-key in the shower. Nobody cares. #litchat -2:23 PM Jul 21st, 2010

GLHancock @nzesylva Hmm. Are they on Amazon? The one I get? What does "internationally acclaimed" mean to you? #litchat -2:23 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @tadbo we'll see re theatre. Lit facing threat of new technologies. It may prevail, it may not #litchat -2:23 PM Jul 21st, 2010

ErikaRobuck You all are so, stinkin' interesting, but I've got to run. Nice chatting (briefly) with you. #litchat -2:23 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @GLHancock no, through the art itself.As you seem to be also suggesting with non-linear technologies - exactly my thinking too #litchat -2:24 PM Jul 21st, 2010

wiremamma Brilliant RT @aswinn: Think u can edit frvr, but have to let it go. RT @LitChat: re: to change ending after book was pubbed? #litchat -2:24 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @TaoJoannes 2 me storytelling is arrangement of things into a narrative. Entertainment is a byproduct, not organising factor #litchat -2:24 PM Jul 21st, 2010

tadbo @21stCscribe Book publishing facing threat of new technologies. Literature is alive and well. ;) #litchat -2:25 PM Jul 21st, 2010

nzesylva @GLHancock suspense! Twist! Dragging d tale and keeping d reader guessing without becoming drab. #litchat -2:25 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @TaoJoannes very kind of you to say so, but I'd say i use the language and emotional intelligence. #litchat -2:25 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @tadbo like I say, we'll see. As a writer, I hope so. #litchat -2:26 PM Jul 21st, 2010

CarolBMTbooks RT @tadbo: @21stCscribe Book publishing facing threat of new technologies. Literature is alive and well. ;) #litchat -2:26 PM Jul 21st, 2010

RChazzChute RT @Noni_Writes The profession of book-writing makes horse racing seem like a solid, stable business. John Steinbeck #writechat #litchat -2:26 PM Jul 21st, 2010

tadbo @21stCscribe Yeah. Look at the Kindle, Nook, so on. Traditional publishers will have to sweeten the pot in time. #litchat -2:27 PM Jul 21st, 2010

nzesylva @GLHancock I dare add a 3rd grp: writers who write to please judges so as to win awards :) #Litchat -2:27 PM Jul 21st, 2010

TaoJoannes @21stCscribe what are you limiting that to a linear narrative? #litchat -2:27 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo @21stCscribe I prefer the tactile sensation of reading a book myself, but...change is relentless. #litchat -2:28 PM Jul 21st, 2010
GLHancock Sorry if I miss u. Must evaluate a ms. for possible editing. Strangest job ever proposed: change all verb tenses. It's huge! #litchat -2:28 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe RT @tadbo: @21stCscribe Where I live can't find Dungeons & Dragons book in any bkshop. Does that mean its dead? #litchat /hope so 4 Yr sake -2:28 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes RT @tadbo: @21stCscribe Book publishing facing threat of new technologies. Literature is alive and well. ;) #litchat -2:28 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CarolBMTbooks Have to leave, #litchat. Good discussion, intelligent people. Fun! (Pick up elderly car from .) -2:29 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @tadbo don't get me wrong I'm an absolute print luddite, I only want print books in hand. But... #litchat -2:29 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe RT @TaoJoannes: @21stCscribe what are you limiting that to a linear narrative? #litchat /no. Non-linear for me -2:29 PM Jul 21st, 2010
nzesylva @GLHancock Perhaps googling d names wld explain. I have only read Habila who is a Nigerian thou based in the US. #litchat -2:30 PM Jul 21st, 2010
tadbo @21stCscribe Yeah...I too frown at this reading books on a screen foolishness. Balderdash! But I can't ignore the opportunities. #litchat -2:30 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @21stCscribe no, I mean your definition of storytelling. Storytelling need not be linear narrative. #litchat -2:31 PM Jul 21st, 2010
CathrynLouis RT @LitChat: "#litchat occurs every M-W-F, 4-5pmET. See www.litchat.net @lacarrington1 When and where is #litchat? http://bit.ly/9QIs3W "; -2:31 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @TaoJoannes agree. But non-linear isn't just about chopping up the timeline #litchat -2:32 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe RT @taojoannes: @21stCscribe anti-hero is old hat, current trend, bring back "The Hero" maybe old enough 2B new? #litchat /Just seen this> -2:34 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @21stCscribe perhaps I just need to see an example of your non-storytelling emotion artistry to understand. got some? #litchat -2:34 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @taojoannes the alternative 2a hero is not just an anti-hero #litchat I've blogged re heroes in society & lit. Take too long here #litchat -2:34 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @TaoJoannes very kind of you to label it artistry. Yeah I got some. #litchat -2:36 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @taojoannes I'm not really intersted in storytelling, other than as a framework, or exploring why we feel need 2 tell stories #litchat -2:38 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @21stCscribe well where is it? I'm just looking to understand what you're getting at. #litchat -2:38 PM Jul 21st, 2010
alexandra_field Thanks for the chat.Deadlines beckon. #litchat -2:39 PM Jul 21st, 2010
21stCscribe @taojoannes I prefer 2 take down wall seprating reader & writer, make it clear it's a fiction no need 2 suspend their belief #litchat -2:40 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @21stCscribe that's great, the proof is in the pudding, do you have any examples I can look at? #litchat -2:41 PM Jul 21st, 2010
TaoJoannes @21stCscribe and not to be argumentative or anything, by any means, just curious as to how this philosophy is applied #litchat -2:42 PM Jul 21st, 2010

Topic of the Week:

Endings - p 56

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www.litchat.net

21stCscribe @taojoannes novel opening <http://bit.ly/5VBNF1> short <http://bit.ly/dwuQy2> #litchat I'll dig around for non-linear give me a moment -2:42 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @TaoJoannes for non-linear lit, 3 short examples culled fm novel (but not represented in novel in this form) <http://bit.ly/bHJfhv> #litchat -2:45 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @TaoJoannes Not saying I've got it right or even part mastered it yer. It's a journey... #litchat -2:48 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @taojoannes oh gawd, I can't even remember which one I gave you? what was it about again? !!! #litchat -2:51 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @taojoannes Oh wait I remember. There isn't even a character in it. Not a human one anyway. I see it more as a mood piece #litchat. > -2:53 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @taojoannes > there's no narrative movement as such, or very little. No development, no beginning, middle, maybe there's an end.#litchat -2:54 PM Jul 21st, 2010

21stCscribe @taojoannes Groundbreaking? probably not. But am keen to bring all the elements tog that will make it relevant to current century #litchat -2:54 PM Jul 21st, 2010

calliopeconsult RT @danish_novelist: @mdbenoit2 I don't outline, either which means you have to rewrite your stuff again and again. Rewriting is king! #litchat -3:14 PM Jul 21st, 2010

calliopeconsult RT @danish_novelist: @AllieDillon The ending has to work in the universe that the author has created. You can't kill Santa Claus with an icepick #litchat -3:14 PM Jul 21st, 2010