



LitChat August 18, 2010

Topic of the Week: Stranger Than Fiction

Guest Host: Jon Clinch, author

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

Guest host: @jonclinch

LitChat Are you ready for #litchat? Today we have @jonclinch, author of KINGS OF THE EARTH and FINN as guest host. -12:59 PM Aug 20th, 2010

LitChat Please join me in welcoming @jonclinch to #litchat. -1:00 PM Aug 20th, 2010

LitChat Easiest way to follow #litchat is through <http://bit.ly/MH5Qs>. Login w/Twitter and you're in the room. -1:00 PM Aug 20th, 2010

LitChat While everyone gathers and introduces themselves, please remember, no off-topic URLs, hashtags, or pitches until after #litchat. Thanks. -1:01 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch Oops. Just signed in. Forgot I had to. Hey. #litchat -1:01 PM Aug 20th, 2010

Juanofwords Welcome! And Hello =) RT @LitChat Please join me in welcoming @jonclinch to #litchat. -1:01 PM Aug 20th, 2010

IanB022 Good evening from soggy England RT @LitChat: Please join me in welcoming @jonclinch to #litchat. #litchat -1:02 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie RT @LitChat: Easiest way to follow #litchat is through <http://bit.ly/MH5Qs>. Login w/Twitter and you're in the room. #litchat -1:02 PM Aug 20th, 2010

LitChat Great to have you here, @jonclinch. We have had a great convo all week about novels that are STRANGER THAN FICTION. #litchat -1:02 PM Aug 20th, 2010

elizabethkarr Hi, Everyone~ Looking forward to the chat with @jonclinch #litchat -1:02 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie RT @LitChat: Are you ready for #litchat? Today we have @jonclinch, author of KINGS OF THE EARTH and FINN as guest host. #litchat -1:02 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch Hey, Ian! #litchat -1:02 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CathrynLouis Hi all! Happy to be here with you, @litchat and @jonclinch. #litchat -1:02 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie Hello everyone! #litchat -1:02 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch Thanks for having me, guys. #litchat -1:03 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch It's 72 degrees in Vermont. Not soggy in the least. #litchat -1:03 PM Aug 20th, 2010

LitChat There will be many questions as chat rolls, but @jonclinch, would you please start with a bit of info about KINGS OF THE EARTH. #litchat -1:04 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie RT @jonclinch: Its 72 degrees in Vermont. Not soggy in the least.>>>>we've been 70's here in the smokies as well - ain't it grand? #litchat -1:04 PM Aug 20th, 2010

robymcintyre Ah - @SciFiChat - today has been fun, fun, fun. Running away to #litchat now. Thanks! #scifichat -1:05 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch The book springs from not just one true story but many. The main one being the tragedy of the Ward Brothers of upstate NY #litchat -1:05 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass In a few months I can give you a weather report from the Blue Ridge Mtns, but for now, SoCal is sunny and delightful. #litchat -1:05 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch Real story: Four brothers on a very poor dairy farm. Lifetimes side by side. One morning one of them is dead in their shared bed. #litchat -1:06 PM Aug 20th, 2010

Topic of the Week: Stranger Than Fiction

August 20, 2010

Guest Host: Jon Clinch- p 1

www.litchat.net

katmagendie RT @jonclinch: The book springs from not just one true story but many. >>>>this is fiction taken from real events? or? #litchat -1:06 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch Oldest remaining brother is tried for murder. KINGS has only three brothers total, no trial... #litchat -1:06 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch Within KINGS is a whole set of other stories based on family legends within my own family. Unrelated in reality. Only in fiction. #litchat -1:07 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CathrynLouis @jonclinch how did you decide what to fictionalize about the brothers? #litchat -1:08 PM Aug 20th, 2010

LitChat I read background of Ward Bros after I read KINGS. They were throwbacks to another time, making a story unbelievably strange. #litchat -1:08 PM Aug 20th, 2010

elizabethkarr Did you need to get permission from the family to write about it? Lifestory rights? #litchat -1:08 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch Frankly, everything except their living conditions. And that one died at (perhaps) the hands of the other(s). #litchat -1:09 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch I really don't know that much about the brothers. Only what I read in the papers. This was 1990. #litchat -1:09 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @elizabethkarr: Did you need to get permission from the family? The brothers are all dead with no offspring. #litchat -1:09 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch The book really isn't presented as their story, since it's not. #litchat -1:10 PM Aug 20th, 2010

MissLiberty RT @LitChat: Are you ready for #litchat? Today we have @jonclinch, author of KINGS OF THE EARTH and FINN as guest host. #litchat -1:10 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CathrynLouis RT @jonclinch: The book really isnt presented as their story, since its not. << Oh, I see. #litchat -1:10 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch The brothers' story was documented in the film Brother's Keeper. Fantastic., BTW. #litchat -1:10 PM Aug 20th, 2010

wwwgalelaurecom #litchat is on. -1:11 PM Aug 20th, 2010

RVABookChik RT @MissLiberty: RT @LitChat: Ready for #litchat? Today we have @jonclinch, author of KINGS OF THE EARTH and FINN as guest host. #litchat -1:11 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass Another reason why it is such a good read. RT@jonclinch: The book really isnt presented as their story, since its not. #litchat -1:11 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch Key point on this truth-v-fiction chat: For me, the truth was known and documented. I was interested in something else.#litchat -1:12 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CathrynLouis @jonclinch What was it about their story that drew your interest? #litchat -1:12 PM Aug 20th, 2010

Holli_Moncrieff What about the brothers inspired you to write KINGS? #litchat #litchat -1:12 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch By which I mean some OTHER truth. #litchat -1:12 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass Something obviously captured your imagination about the Ward Bros. What was it and how long did you let it simmer? #litchat -1:12 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @CathrynLouis What was it about their story that drew your interest? Culture clash, maybe. Their presence on the edge of... #litchat -1:13 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CathrynLouis RT @jonclinch: Key point on this truth-v-fiction chat: 4 me the truth was known and documented. I was interested in something else. #litchat -1:13 PM Aug 20th, 2010

lanB022 @jonclinch Were you conscious of that truth/fiction line whilst writing it? #litchat -1:13 PM Aug 20th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass What did you discover? RT @jonclinch: By which I mean some OTHER truth. #litchat -1:13 PM Aug 20th, 2010
elizabethkarr @jonclinch That's a great jumping off point 4 novel. Story was already in collective memory of newspaper readers.#litchat -1:13 PM Aug 20th, 2010
jonclinch ...the town where I grew up, producing foodstuffs that we all consumed without thinking of their sources. #litchat -1:13 PM Aug 20th, 2010
katmagendie Who is your favorite character - or the one you liked writing about/POV from the most? #litchat -1:14 PM Aug 20th, 2010
jonclinch RT @lanB022: Were you conscious of that truth/fiction line whilst writing it? Absolutely. I knew that I was making most of it up. #litchat -1:14 PM Aug 20th, 2010
jonclinch There were some real things taken from life: The school bus full of turkeys. How they got it, though, was my idea. #litchat-1:15 PM Aug 20th, 2010
jonclinch RT @katmagendie: Who favorite character? Preston Hatch, the neighbor, is the book's heart. Dealton Poole, though, was most fun #litchat -1:16 PM Aug 20th, 2010
jonclinch RT @elizabethkarr: Thats a great jumping off point 4 novel. Story was already in collective memory of newspaper readers. YEP #litchat -1:16 PM Aug 20th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass Foodstuffs, yes. @jonclinch I have friends who own dairies. Had a hard time w/that aspect of novel. Rigid standards required. #litchat -1:16 PM Aug 20th, 2010
katmagendie Have readers emailed you to say "that's not how it happened . . . this is how it happened!" :-D #litchat -1:17 PM Aug 20th, 2010
jonclinch Among 10 first-person narrators, only Dealton doesn't address reader. We OVERHEAR one side of his conversations.#litchat -1:17 PM Aug 20th, 2010
jonclinch RT @CarolyBurnsBass: Foodstuffs, yes. Rigid standards. Truth: Ward farm famous for high quality, cleanliness. Just not brothers. #litchat -1:18 PM Aug 20th, 2010
jonclinch RT @katmagendie: Have readers emailed you to say "thats not how it happened . . . this is how it happened!" :-D They will. #litchat -1:18 PM Aug 20th, 2010
katmagendie @jonclinch Have readers emailed you to say "thats not how it happened" :-D RT They will. #litchat >>>laughing!#litchat -1:21 PM Aug 20th, 2010
CathrynLouis @jonclinch Was using so many POVs difficult?#litchat -1:21 PM Aug 20th, 2010
Holli_Moncrieff @jonclinch How did it feel to be chosen as O Mag's top book of the summer? How did this affect your sales? #litchat#litchat -1:22 PM Aug 20th, 2010
jonclinch RT @CathrynLouis: Was using so many POVs difficult? I wanted many diff. takes on the "truth" of the story. A community of voices. #litchat -1:23 PM Aug 20th, 2010
jonclinch RT How did it feel to be chosen as O Mags top book of the summer? How did this affect sales? #litchat A surprise, and who knows? #litchat -1:23 PM Aug 20th, 2010
elizabethkarr I really liked the Rashoman aspect of the different narrators' voices/POV's. #litchat -1:23 PM Aug 20th, 2010
jonclinch POVs: Lots of decisions. Speech and thought patterns, yes. Also ability of voices to range through time. How much to know. #litchat -1:24 PM Aug 20th, 2010
jonclinch RT @elizabethkarr: I really liked the Rashoman aspect of the different narrators voices/POVs. Glad to hear it. #litchat -1:25 PM Aug 20th, 2010
CathrynLouis @jonclinch 'A community of voices'. I like the phrasing. #litchat -1:25 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CathrynLouis RT @jonclinch: POVs: Lots of decisions. Speech & thought patterns, yes. Also ability of voices 2 range thru time. How much to know. #litchat -1:27 PM Aug 20th, 2010

J_GriffinB #litchat would you have to reach for a particular headspace to write some POVs, having to do particular things to reach that voice or? -1:27 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @J_GriffinB: #litchat would you have to reach for a particular headspace? Sad to say, nah. #litchat -1:28 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass KINGS hops about time, rather than a chronological story arc. Why did you approach the story in this way? #litchat -1:28 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch Nah, by which I mean I spent thirty years writing advertising copy eight hours a day. You do it. #litchat -1:28 PM Aug 20th, 2010

kmcgiveron RT @CathrynLouis: RT @jonclinch: POVs: Lots of decisions. Speech & thought patterns, yes. Also ability of voices 2 range thru time. How much to know. #litchat -1:28 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @CarolyBurnsBass: KINGS hops about time. Why? One very clear reason? Because in order, Tom's story would have been final third. #litchat -1:29 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @CarolyBurnsBass: KINGS hops about time. Why? More pointedly, I wanted the feeling of family storytelling. Around the table. #litchat -1:30 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie @jonclinch I love the idea of "storytelling" #litchat -1:31 PM Aug 20th, 2010

elizabethkarr @jonclinch Thought u really captured unique char voices & idiosyncrasies. Personalities of chars came thru. #litchat -1:31 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @katmagendie: @jonclinch I love the idea of "storytelling" But it's hard to manufacture. And you can't just let it run, either. #litchat -1:32 PM Aug 20th, 2010

LitChat In email prior to chat, you said: "many writers have this urge to put real stories onto the page and pass it off as fiction...#litchat -1:32 PM Aug 20th, 2010

LitChat ...that "write what you know" business... turns into "I don't have make it credible, since it really happened this way." Comment? #litchat -1:33 PM Aug 20th, 2010

elizabethkarr @jonclinch "I wanted the feeling of family storytelling. Around the table." I got that. Reminded me of way my fam discusses 'family lore' #litchat -1:33 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie @jonclinch Yes - I agree - (on the storytelling thoughts) #litchat -1:34 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CathrynLouis @jonclinch Also, that type of storytelling goes against 'conventional wisdom', whatever that is. Were you concerned about that? #litchat -1:34 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch re eliz. and litchat: Many stories were true, inlaid in major arc. Stuff from my dad's childhood. Rooster tattoo. Horsehair cig #litchat -1:35 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch re eliz. and litchat: Trick was modifying them and bending them to add up to new reality. Actual reality doesn't need to make sense #litchat -1:35 PM Aug 20th, 2010

niltiac @LitChat I've never interpreted "write what you know" as deriving plot from real-life events. To me, it's about emotional truth. #litchat -1:36 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @CathrynLouis: That type of storytelling goes against conventional wisdom Were you concerned about that? Don't understand. #litchat -1:36 PM Aug 20th, 2010

elizabethkarr @jonclinch That is the alchemy that a true artist does. Bending & shaping 'facts' to compelling story w/ its own 'truth.' #litchat -1:37 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @niltiac: Never interpreted as deriving plot from real-life events. To me, about emotional truth. YES. But many think otherwise #litchat -1:38 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie RT @elizabethkarr: @jonclinch That is the alchemy a true artist does. Bending & shaping facts to compelling story w/ its own truth. #litchat -1:38 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CathrynLouis @jonclinch 'conventional wisdom' tends to steer authors toward cron story with single or few povs... #litchat -1:38 PM Aug 20th, 2010

latta #litchat just joining after reading carolyn's brief on the website. -1:38 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass Sounds as if drawing from real life for fiction is a way to explore the other truths without being restricted to facts.#litchat -1:39 PM Aug 20th, 2010

elizabethkarr YES!RT@niltiac:I've never interpreted "write what you know" as deriving plot from real-life events.To me, its about emotional truth. #litchat -1:39 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie RT @niltiac: @LitChat I've never interpreted "write what you know" as deriving plot from real-life events. To me, it's about emotional truth. #litchat -1:39 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @CathrynLouis: conventional wisdom tends to steer authors toward cron story with single or few povs... Then screw it.#litchat -1:39 PM Aug 20th, 2010

latta rt @elizabethkarr That is the alchemy that a true artist does. Bending & shaping 'facts' to compelling story w/ its own 'truth'.#litchat -1:40 PM Aug 20th, 2010

elizabethkarr Makes brking rules sweet when its works.RT@CathrynLouis: @jonclinch conventional wisdom tends to steer authors toward cron story.. #litchat -1:40 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CathrynLouis RT @jonclinch: RT @CathrynLouis: conventional wisdom tends 2 steer authors toward cron story, single or few povs... Then screw it. #litchat -1:41 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CathrynLouis @jonclinch Yay!! I agree. #litchat -1:41 PM Aug 20th, 2010

Holli_Moncrieff RT @jonclinch: : conventional wisdom tends to steer authors toward cron story with single or few povs... Then screw it. #litchat -1:41 PM Aug 20th, 2010

latta #litchat there is fact. and then there is what is believably true. we strive for believably true and compelling. -1:41 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie @jonclinch How are your friends reacting to your success? & family? (esp if they think they "see themselves" in your work. #litchat -1:42 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie RT @latta: #litchat there is fact. and then there is what is believably true. we strive for believably true and compelling. #litchat -1:42 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch Screw it but be careful. You'll alienate some readers no matter what. #litchat -1:42 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @katmagendie: How are your friends reacting to? & family? Preston is in many ways my dad, and he still hates the French. #litchat -1:43 PM Aug 20th, 2010

latta #litchat if i wanted something that was solely grounded in fact, I would spend my time reading almanacs. Need a visceral connection. -1:43 PM Aug 20th, 2010

elizabethkarr RT@latta: there is fact. and then there is what is believably true. we strive for believably true and compelling.<Yes& emo resonant #litchat -1:44 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CathrynLouis RT @jonclinch: Screw it but be careful. Youll alienate some readers no matter what.<< Got it. #litchat -1:44 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch I couldn't have told these old family stories without the Proctor brothers' frame, though. Hmmm. #litchat -1:44 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie @jonclinch Did you have a sense of your potential readers while writing, or? #litchat -1:44 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie @jonclinch I couldn't have told these old family stories without the Proctor brothers' frame>>>>What would you have written then? #litchat -1:45 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @katmagendie: have a sense of your potential readers while writing, or ..? Not really. I write books I'd like to find on a shelf #litchat -1:45 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @katmagendie: What would you have written then? >> It wouldn't have occurred to me to tell them at all! #litchat -1:46 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie @jonclinch Not really. I write books I'd like to find on a shelf>>>>Yes! Smiling - me too! #litchat -1:46 PM Aug 20th, 2010

latta @jonclinch did you permission-peek within the family structure? i think 'whose story is it, anyway' is an element.#litchat -1:46 PM Aug 20th, 2010

elizabethkarr My ancestors 1 of finding fams of Cedarburg, WI. Recognized many of your chars from lore. A good thing! Family loved the book. #litchat -1:46 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie @jonclinch I mean, what book would you have written? :) #litchat -1:46 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CathrynLouis RT @katmagendie: @jonclinch Not really. I write books I'd like to find on a shelf>>>>Yes! Smiling - me too!#litchat -1:46 PM Aug 20th, 2010

elizabethkarr @jonclinch " I write books I'd like to find on a shelf" < Best advice I've heard for writers! #litchat -1:47 PM Aug 20th, 2010

32poems RT @LitChat: ...that "write what you know" business... turns into "I don't have make it credible, since it really happened this way." Comment? #litchat -1:47 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie RT @elizabethkarr: @jonclinch " I write books I'd like to find on a shelf" < Best advice I've heard for writers! #litchat -1:48 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @katmagendie: I mean, what book would you have written? :) One I'm on now. Top secret, of course. #litchat -1:48 PM Aug 20th, 2010

lanB022 RT @jonclinch: ... stories without the frame >> Isn't that true of a lot of fiction? Finding a hook to hang our own experience on? #litchat -1:48 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass Must say @jonclinch is one of my literary heroes. He is a brilliant author who never gave up writing in face of rejection. #litchat -1:48 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @32poems: : ... "I don't have make it credible, since it really happened this way." Comment? Terrible excuse for terrible work. #litchat -1:48 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie @jonclinch what book would u have written? :) One I'm on now. Top secret, of course>>>>ah! he's being coy & mysterious! *smiling*... #litchat -1:49 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @lanB022: ... stories without the frame >> Isn't that true of a lot of fiction? Finding a hook to hang our own experience on? YEP #litchat -1:49 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie RT @CarolyBurnsBass: @jonclinch is one of my literary heroes. A brilliant author who never gave up writing in face of rejection. #litchat -1:49 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @CarolyBurnsBass: ...never gave up writing in face of rejection. Five novels in the drawer before FINN. Live and learn.#litchat -1:50 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie @CarolyBurnsBass That is such a wonderful thing to say about an author (@jonclinch) . . . #litchat -1:50 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass RT @jonclinch: ...never gave up writing in face of rejection. Five novels in the drawer before FINN. Live and learn.#litchat -1:50 PM Aug 20th, 2010

elizabethkarr think @jonclinch is being smart not to talk about book he's working on but to just write it. 2nd best advice to authors: Write! :) #litchat -1:51 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie RT @jonclinch: Five novels in the drawer before FINN. Live and learn. >>>& write again! Bravo to you! #litchat -1:51 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CathrynLouis @jonclinch Five novels? Wow - how long did you write before FINN? Any plans 2 release the others? #litchat -1:51 PM Aug 20th, 2010

Holli_Moncrieff @elizabethkarr I'd say that has to be the first. So many writers don't actually write anything! Sad but true. #litchat -1:52 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass Can you point at why your early work was passed and then FINN and KINGS success? Did you change or did the market, or what? #litchat -1:52 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @CathrynLouis: @jonclinch Five novels? >> Ten years total. Other stuff will never see light of day. Not good enough.#litchat -1:52 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @CathrynLouis: @jonclinch Five novels? > I still throw stuff out all the time. Whole novels and parts. Maybe 3/4 of what I write #litchat -1:53 PM Aug 20th, 2010

latta #litchat the road to success is paved with rejection letters. and elbow grease. -1:53 PM Aug 20th, 2010

elizabethkarr RT @Holli_Moncrieff: @elizabethkarr Id say that has to be the first. So many writers dont actually write anything! Sad but true. #litchat -1:53 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @CarolyBurnsBass: Did you change or did the market? I learned how to write. Really. I found my voice and material. It took work. #litchat -1:54 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie @latta the road to success is paved with rejection letters & elbow grease.>>>& slamming our arse against the chair day after day! #litchat -1:54 PM Aug 20th, 2010

elizabethkarr @Holli_Moncrieff u're right about writing. All of us suffer from fear that it won't be good enuf, but we won't know until we do it. #litchat -1:54 PM Aug 20th, 2010

J_GriffinB #litchat do you actually toss it or put it in a 'slush pile' for later mining? -1:54 PM Aug 20th, 2010

AS_King Rock on, Jon. RT @jonclinch Five novels? >> Ten years total. Other stuff will never see light of day. Not good enough.#litchat -1:54 PM Aug 20th, 2010

JulieBritt Hi. Poking head in way late. #litchat -1:55 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @J_GriffinB: #litchat do you actually toss it or put it in a slush pile for later mining? Toss. It. Out. #litchat -1:55 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass If you were leading a master class for novelists, what would be your key lesson? #litchat -1:55 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CathrynLouis @jonclinch I see. I keep everything... I have 'FalseStarts' and 'OMG' folders. #litchat -1:55 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass Good question! RT @J_GriffinB: #litchat do you actually toss it or put it in a slush pile for later mining? #litchat -1:55 PM Aug 20th, 2010

robynmccintyre RT @jonclinch: RT @CarolyBurnsBass: nvr gve up writing in face of rejection. Five novels in the drawer before FINN. Live and learn. #litchat -1:55 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @CarolyBurnsBass: If you were leading a master class for novelists, what would be your key lesson? VOICE.#litchat -1:55 PM Aug 20th, 2010

Quantamancer "If you want a best seller, write for people who move their lips when they read." #litchat That quote always makes me smile. -1:56 PM Aug 20th, 2010

latta @katmagendie assiduous application of effort is the cure for "writer's block" and "why doesn't anyone like my brilliant work?"#litchat -1:56 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @AS_King: Rock on, Jon. >> Never let 'em see your rejects. #litchat -1:56 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CathrynLouis RT @jonclinch: RT @CarolyBurnsBass: If you were leading a master class for novelists, what would be your key lesson? VOICE. #litchat -1:56 PM Aug 20th, 2010

elizabethkarr RT@jonclinch I learned how to write. Really.I found my voice and material.It took work.<Testament-best thing 4 writers is 2 write. #litchat -1:56 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie RT @CathrynLouis: @jonclinch I see. I keep everything... I have FalseStarts and OMG folders. >>>>:-) !#litchat -1:56 PM Aug 20th, 2010

niltiac @jonclinch Luckily not everyone thinks so or the world would be devoid of fantasy and science fiction and maybe historical fiction. #litchat -1:56 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass VOICE. Yes. Where does it come from? Can it be learned? Is it like singing and must be practiced? #litchat -1:57 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie RT @jonclinch: RT @AS_King: Rock on, Jon. >> Never let em see your rejects. >>>laughing! #litchat -1:57 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie @latta *laugh!* - so true! #litchat -1:58 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @CarolyBurnsBass: VOICE. Yes. Where does it come from? You manufacture it. Like a chair. Mainly you throw out words. #litchat -1:58 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie RT @CarolyBurnsBass: VOICE. Yes. Where does it come from? Can it be learned? Is it like singing and must be practiced? #litchat -1:58 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch I mean you throw out the wrong words. And keep putting new ones in. #litchat -1:58 PM Aug 20th, 2010

Holli_Moncrieff @CarolyBurnsBass I'm sure people will disagree, but--while it can be honed--voice is either something you have or you don't. #litchat -1:59 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass Glad you clarified that. RT @jonclinch: I mean you throw out the wrong words. And keep putting new ones in.#litchat -1:59 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie RT @jonclinch: I mean you throw out the wrong words. And keep putting new ones in.>>>yes! #litchat -1:59 PM Aug 20th, 2010

Quantamancer Writing is like any art, it takes lots time. You can't be virtuoso on any instrument if you don't practice for many hours, daily. #litchat -1:59 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass What do you think, @jonclinch? RT@Holli_Moncrieff: ...while it can be honed--voice is either something you have or you dont. #litchat -2:00 PM Aug 20th, 2010

katmagendie I do think, however, that voice is also a gift, just as singers/artists/atheles have-but still have to practice practice practice #litchat -2:00 PM Aug 20th, 2010

robynmcintyre @Holli_Moncrieff Or maybe smthing you develop by writing - a lot. #litchat -2:00 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @Holli_Moncrieff: while it can be honed--voice is something you have or you dont. ...but it's not natural. #litchat -2:00 PM Aug 20th, 2010

elizabethkarr @Holli_Moncrieff Talent/voice are innate but can be more clearly articulated over time. Strongly believe that. #litchat -2:00 PM Aug 20th, 2010

robertjbennett I once read that an author's style is what he can't change when writing different stories. Is it the same of voice?#litchat -2:01 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch LOST THIS RT: while it can be honed--voice is something you have or you dont. Disagree. It's something you can do or not...#litchat -2:01 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch RT @robertjbennett. an authors style is what he cant change. Is it the same of voice?>> No. Voice is control. #litchat -2:02 PM Aug 20th, 2010

LitChat We've hit the end of the hour @jonclinch promised us. Of course he's welcome to say, but we need to let him go if he must.#litchat -2:03 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch Can you tell I'm a control freak? It's the voice obsession that gives it away. #litchat -2:03 PM Aug 20th, 2010

CathrynLouis RT @jonclinch: LOST THIS RT: while it can be honed--voice is something u have or u dont. Disagree. Its something u can do or not.. #litchat -2:03 PM Aug 20th, 2010

jonclinch Must run to the farmer's market. Local everything, but only until six. #litchat -2:04 PM Aug 20th, 2010
latta rt @elizabethkarr Talent/voice are innate but can be more clearly articulated over time. Strongly believe that. <- +1 #litchat-2:04 PM Aug 20th, 2010
jonclinch Thank you thank you thank you. #litchat -2:04 PM Aug 20th, 2010
katmagendie @jonclinch Can you tell I'm a control freak? It's the voice obsession that gives it away >>>*smiling* #litchat -2:04 PM Aug 20th, 2010
jonclinch Writers, keep at it. Readers, keep at it. Everybody, keep at it. #litchat -2:04 PM Aug 20th, 2010
katmagendie @jonclinch Thank you for a great hour! good luck with the book(s)! #litchat -2:04 PM Aug 20th, 2010
CathrynLouis RT @jonclinch: Can you tell Im a control freak? Its the voice obsession that gives it away. << abs voice control, best storytellers #litchat -2:04 PM Aug 20th, 2010
katmagendie RT @jonclinch: Writers, keep at it. Readers, keep at it. Everybody, keep at it. #litchat -2:04 PM Aug 20th, 2010
jonclinch Aloha... #litchat -2:05 PM Aug 20th, 2010
IanB022 @jonclinch Thank YOU ;) #litchat -2:05 PM Aug 20th, 2010
elizabethkarr @LitChat @jonclinch & everyone here- This has been a real Tweet Treat! Loved the insights and getting to see behind the curtain. #litchat -2:05 PM Aug 20th, 2010
LitChat When you think about classics, voice is often of strongest. RT @jonclinch:.. Its the voice obsession that gives it away.#litchat -2:05 PM Aug 20th, 2010
Holli_Moncrieff @jonclinch Thanks for answering our questions! Good luck and continued success with your writing. #litchat -2:05 PM Aug 20th, 2010
robynmcintyre @jonclinch Seems to have worked for you! Thank you for sharing your thoughts & process. #litchat -2:05 PM Aug 20th, 2010
CathrynLouis @jonclinch @LitChat thanks for a wonderful, informative hour! Have a great weekend everyone. #litchat -2:05 PM Aug 20th, 2010
CathrynLouis RT @jonclinch: Writers, keep at it. Readers, keep at it. Everybody, keep at it. #litchat -2:06 PM Aug 20th, 2010
LitChat Thank you, @jonclinch, for joining us today. Wishing you the best for KINGS and that mystery novel you're speaking into existence. #litchat -2:06 PM Aug 20th, 2010
latta @jonclinch thanks, jon, for joining #litchat today. -2:07 PM Aug 20th, 2010
LitChat Shall we all give @jonclinch a HUGE round of #litchat {{{APPLAUSE}}} for joining us today? #litchat -2:07 PM Aug 20th, 2010
MissLiberty RT @LitChat Shall we all give @jonclinch a HUGE round of #litchat {{{APPLAUSE}}} for joining us today? #litchat -2:08 PM Aug 20th, 2010
robynmcintyre RT @LitChat: Shall we all give @jonclinch a HUGE round of #litchat {{{APPLAUSE}}} for joining us today? #litchat -2:08 PM Aug 20th, 2010
LitChat Thanks also to everyone who joined us today and throughout STRANGER THAN FICTION week.Your questions and comments were outstanding. #litchat -2:08 PM Aug 20th, 2010
elizabethkarr Yes! #LitChat rocks! RT @LitChat: Shall we all give@jonclinch a HUGE round of #litchat {{{APPLAUSE}}} for joining us today? #litchat -2:09 PM Aug 20th, 2010