

**LitChat date**

Topic of the Week: Animals As Characters

Moderated by @LitChat [Carolyn Burns Bass]

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

MONDAY: November 1, 2010

LitChat Welcome to #litchat on the first day of November. We are coming to you live from the majestic Ahwahnee Hotel in #Yosemite. -1:00 PM Nov 1st, 2010

LitChat Our topic for this week is ANIMALS AS CHARACTERS. We'll begin with introductions. Who's joining us today? #litchat -1:01 PM Nov 1st, 2010

LitChat The easiest way to follow #litchat is at <http://bit.ly/9JDsr0>. Login w/Twitter and you're in the room. -1:01 PM Nov 1st, 2010

IanDBarker @LitChat This is an hour early, it doesn't feel right! #litchat -1:02 PM Nov 1st, 2010

candlemarkgleam @LitChat Candlemark & Gleam, independent speculative fiction publisher, checking in for #litchat ! -1:02 PM Nov 1st, 2010

LitChat If you have a question to pose to the chat, precede it with Q and send it into the feed. #litchat -1:02 PM Nov 1st, 2010

BlueMonarch Present! RT @LitChat: Our topic for this week is ANIMALS AS CHARACTERS. We'll begin with introductions. Who's joining us today? #litchat -1:03 PM Nov 1st, 2010

LitChat Time falls back earlier in UKRT @IanDBarker: @LitChat This is an hour early, it doesnt feel right! #litchat -1:03 PM Nov 1st, 2010

elizabethkarr @LitChat Would love to join, but am buried w/ #amproducing. Will try to pop in later. Hi to everyone. *waving* #litchat -1:04 PM Nov 1st, 2010

LitChat How have animals been used as characters in all manner of storytelling through the years? #litchat -1:05 PM Nov 1st, 2010

EJ_Knapp Hi all. #litchat -1:05 PM Nov 1st, 2010

GeneDoucette Afternoon. Gene Doucette, author of Immortal and a general pest, checking in. #litchat -1:05 PM Nov 1st, 2010

AdiAlsaid Hello, all! One of my favorite books, Timbuktu by Paul Auster has a dog as the main character. #litchat -1:05 PM Nov 1st, 2010

elizabethkarr Gr8 insights> RT @LitChat Our topic for this week is ANIMALS AS CHARACTERS. We'll begin with introductions. Who's joining us today? #litchat -1:06 PM Nov 1st, 2010

candlemarkgleam As everything from PoV char to sidekick... RT @LitChat: How have animals been used as characters in storytelling through the years? #litchat -1:06 PM Nov 1st, 2010

EJ_Knapp @LitChat Lovely place, isn't it. #litchat -1:06 PM Nov 1st, 2010

GeneDoucette @LitChat well there's the obvious anthropomorphism, the granting them of speech, and the "faithful ____" #litchat -1:06 PM Nov 1st, 2010

LynThorneAlder *pokes head in to #litchat* The first thing that comes to mind is Raven/Coyote legends in Native Am. stories. And Br'er Rabbit, Aesop... -1:07 PM Nov 1st, 2010

IanDBarker There's the whole Jungle Book animals as source of wisdom thing #litchat -1:08 PM Nov 1st, 2010

LynThorneAlder #litchat in general - animals as characteristics, like morality plays. -1:09 PM Nov 1st, 2010

GeneDoucette Animals as a way to soften a cultural/social critique is interesting. Like in Maus or Animal Farm. #litchat -1:10 PM Nov 1st, 2010
EJ_Knapp @IanDBarker And then, of course, there's Animal Farm. #litchat -1:10 PM Nov 1st, 2010
EJ_Knapp @GeneDoucette I'm not sure the animals in Maus or Animal Farm soften much of anything. #litchat -1:11 PM Nov 1st, 2010
candlemarkgleam Metaphor is key use, yeah RT @GeneDoucette: Animals as way to soften social critique is interesting. Like in Maus or Animal Farm. #litchat -1:11 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JAPak Hi, All! Animals are often used to show how good/nasty a person is too. If a dog doesn't like a character, forget it. #litchat -1:12 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JulieBritt Hi. Love animal books. Walter Farley's Black Stallion series hooked me in 2nd grade. Also Black Beauty. #litchat -1:12 PM Nov 1st, 2010
GeneDoucette Animals are also a nice way to introduce a fantasy element without a fantasy creature. #litchat -1:13 PM Nov 1st, 2010
LynThorneAlder Let's not forget the "telepathic horse" subgenre of YA fantasy #Litchat -1:13 PM Nov 1st, 2010
candlemarkgleam @JulieBritt Oh, I loved Black Stallion. Very good example of how a non-anthropomorphic animal can be used as an eloquent character. #litchat -1:14 PM Nov 1st, 2010
AdiAlsaid Can't forget children's literature and making reading interesting kid-friendly by using animal characters #litchat -1:14 PM Nov 1st, 2010
AaronPound Anthromorphized animals are a common feature of fantasy . . . #litchat -1:14 PM Nov 1st, 2010
Toujours_Diva @JAPak Definitely. The Island of Dr. Moreau #litchat -1:15 PM Nov 1st, 2010
AaronPound Especially if making a point that would be unpalatable or politically dangerous if a human character is used. #litchat -1:15 PM Nov 1st, 2010
GeneDoucette @EJ_Knapp I think they do. It's a way of distancing, ever-so-slightly. #litchat -1:15 PM Nov 1st, 2010
AaronPound The hwynyms (did I spell that right) from Gulliver's Travels too. #litchat -1:15 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JAPak Also characters being turned into animals, from Arabian Nights to Kaftka. #litchat -1:16 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JLichtenberg RT @LitChat: Our topic for this week is ANIMALS AS CHARACTERS. We'll begin with introductions. Who's joining us today? #litchat -1:17 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JAPak Great example of animal lit. RT @Toujours_Diva: The Island of Dr. Moreau #litchat -1:17 PM Nov 1st, 2010
LynThorneAlder .@JulieBritt Mercedes Lackey's Valdamer Companions being the most famous example, but it's common in girls' YA fantasy #litchat ~ -1:18 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JLichtenberg @LitChat #litchat Jacqueline Lichtenberg widely pub'd SF/F writer jacquelinelichtenberg.com -1:18 PM Nov 1st, 2010
LynThorneAlder .@JulieBritt ~unicorns & horses and other girl-friendly mammals with sentience & telepathy. Cats, too. #litchat -1:18 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JulieBritt I had a horse that tried to talk. Always wondered what he wanted to say. Probably "Get off my back." #litchat -1:21 PM Nov 1st, 2010
LitChat Fantasy, mythology and allegory are ideal containers for animal stories. Let's continue discussing the fantastical animals today. #litchat -1:21 PM Nov 1st, 2010

inventrix If we're talking about animals as characters, you can't forget about the entire Redwall series. #litchat - 1:21 PM Nov 1st, 2010
livenewflesh Nabokov's lecture on Kafka's Metamorphosis (unsure who is actually speaking): http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=boSFjzWJXcU #litchat -1:21 PM Nov 1st, 2010
GeneDoucette @JulieBritt Hah. I have cats and a dog. I believe the cats are all saying "shut up and pet me, bitch." #litchat -1:22 PM Nov 1st, 2010
AaronPound How far into the fantastical do we go before something is no longer an animal? Is a unicorn an animal? #litchat -1:22 PM Nov 1st, 2010
Toujours_Diva Wolves give Dracula a cuddly vibe. :D #litchat -1:22 PM Nov 1st, 2010
livenewflesh Interesting point from Nabokov on Metamorphosis: "vermin" described was a beetle -- able to fly the whole time. #litchat -1:23 PM Nov 1st, 2010
inventrix In the vein of @LynThorneAlder's mentioned telepathic animals, there's Pern. And the Ghatti's Tale series, for an older demographic #litchat -1:23 PM Nov 1st, 2010
LynThorneAlder @Inventrix of that (a horse-shifter http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Each_uisge) - Whisky - wonderful novel if you haven't read it. #litchat -1:24 PM Nov 1st, 2010
LynThorneAlder @Inventrix #litchat Tailchaser's song, entirely from the POV of cats. -1:25 PM Nov 1st, 2010
DeBelle77 Richard Adams' "Watership Down" is one of the best talking animals stories I know. #litchat #litchat - 1:25 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JAPak @inventrix Dragons are always popular, aren't they? Telepathic & talking & fire-breathing. ;) #litchat -1:26 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JAPak Does Winnie the Pooh count? #litchat -1:27 PM Nov 1st, 2010
DeBelle77 Anyone ever read Mary Stanton's "The Heavenly Horse from the Outermost West"? It's a tale of horses w/their own myths? Fantastic! #litchat -1:27 PM Nov 1st, 2010
Booksflutterby How could Winnie the Pooh not count? #litchat -1:28 PM Nov 1st, 2010
EJ_Knapp @Booksflutterby And Tigger too. #litchat -1:29 PM Nov 1st, 2010
LynThorneAlder @Booksflutterby @JAPak If Pooh counts, than the Velveteen Rabbit should as well. #litchat - 1:29 PM Nov 1st, 2010
AaronPound When we talk about dragons, are we still talking about talking animals, or are they too far removed from reality to count? #litchat -1:29 PM Nov 1st, 2010
uniquecomunica "@JulieBritt: I had a horse that tried to talk. Always wondered what he wanted to say. Probably "Get off my back." #litchat" -1:29 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JAPak Totally RT @LynThorneAlder: @Booksflutterby If Pooh counts, than the Velveteen Rabbit should as well. #litchat -1:29 PM Nov 1st, 2010
IanDBarker @JAPak Yes, but only up to 6 probably :) #litchat -1:29 PM Nov 1st, 2010
LynThorneAlder ...it's possible I read a great deal of animal-based fiction as a child. A Horse and His Boy. Bunnicula/Howliday Inn. #litchat -1:29 PM Nov 1st, 2010
Booksflutterby @LynThorneAlder @JAPak Absolutely! #litchat -1:30 PM Nov 1st, 2010
DeBelle77 "@AaronPound: When we talk about dragons r we still talking about talking animals, or r they too far removed from reality to count? #litchat -1:30 PM Nov 1st, 2010
GeneDoucette @DeBelle77 you make it sound like dragons aren't real or something. #litchat -1:31 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JAPak RT @AaronPound: re dragons, then there are minotaurs & their ilk... #litchat -1:31 PM Nov 1st, 2010

Topic of the Week:

livenewflesh Angela Carter does some interesting things translating/reworking old folk tales. Company of Wolves was great. #litchat -1:31 PM Nov 1st, 2010

EJ_Knapp @AaronPound Well, talking animals in general are pretty far removed from reality. #litchat -1:31 PM Nov 1st, 2010

JAPak Carter is amazing RT @livenewflesh: Angela Carter does some interesting things translating/reworking old folk tales. #litchat -1:32 PM Nov 1st, 2010

candlemarkgleam Are dragons and minotaurs etc. still animals, or "fantastical creatures" or monsters instead? #litchat -1:32 PM Nov 1st, 2010

AaronPound The question I am asking is: is there a point where you are no longer talking about talking animals anymore, but something else? #litchat -1:32 PM Nov 1st, 2010

JAPak RT @EJ_Knapp: @AaronPound talking animals are pretty far removed from reality. <Have U seen Barbara Walter's dog say I Wuv You? #litchat -1:33 PM Nov 1st, 2010

DeBelle77 @GeneDoucette Nah t'was @AaronPound's idea. xD Course dragons are real. #litchat -1:33 PM Nov 1st, 2010

LitChat Q @AaronPound: Is there a point where you are no longer talking about talking animals anymore, but something else? #litchat -1:33 PM Nov 1st, 2010

EJ_Knapp @JAPak No, can't say I have. #litchat -1:33 PM Nov 1st, 2010

GeneDoucette @AaronPound mm, that was a point I was veering toward earlier. U can create a "fantasy" story with a boy and a talking dog. #litchat -1:33 PM Nov 1st, 2010

JAPak @candlemarkgleam I think of dragons as re-imagined dinosaurs... #litchat -1:33 PM Nov 1st, 2010

GeneDoucette @AaronPound and tell the same basic story with a boy and a leprechaun #litchat -1:34 PM Nov 1st, 2010

JAPak @EJ_Knapp YouTube video. #litchat -1:34 PM Nov 1st, 2010

EJ_Knapp @AaronPound What, then, would they be? They're not human. #litchat -1:34 PM Nov 1st, 2010

candlemarkgleam @AaronPound Personally, I think yes. There are animals, which exist and can talk in stories, and then there are mythical creatures. #litchat -1:34 PM Nov 1st, 2010

AaronPound @EJ_Knapp But then is everything that is not human an animal? You're cutting a pretty broad swath there. #litchat -1:35 PM Nov 1st, 2010

EJ_Knapp @AaronPound So, what would they be if not 'animal'? #litchat -1:36 PM Nov 1st, 2010

GeneDoucette I think there is a distinction to be made between gifting an existing species with speech and with creating a new species. #litchat -1:36 PM Nov 1st, 2010

AaronPound @EJ_Knapp At that point then Heinlein's "bugs" and Harrison's "chingers", and Niven/Pournelle's "moties" are in the conversation. #litchat -1:36 PM Nov 1st, 2010

EJ_Knapp @AaronPound Sure, why not? #litchat -1:37 PM Nov 1st, 2010

AaronPound @GeneDoucette I would agree. I think there is a difference between say, Mr. and Mrs. Beaver and Mr. Tumnus. #litchat -1:37 PM Nov 1st, 2010

GeneDoucette @AaronPound at least for the purpose of this discussion. #litchat -1:38 PM Nov 1st, 2010

AaronPound @EJ_Knapp Because at that point you've broadened the definition to uselessness. Tolkien's dwarves and elves become animals frex. #litchat -1:38 PM Nov 1st, 2010

KimFalconer RT @LitChat How have animals been used as characters in all manner of storytelling through the years? #litchat <As people, gods and demons! -1:39 PM Nov 1st, 2010

LitChat Esp w/ fantrasy. RT @GeneDoucette: there is a distinction... between gifting an existing species w/speech & creating a new species. #litchat -1:39 PM Nov 1st, 2010
EJ_Knapp @AaronPound I don't think so. Dwarves and elves are dwarves and elves. An alien being is an alien being. #litchat -1:40 PM Nov 1st, 2010
candlemarkgleam Would agree RT @GeneDoucette: distinction to be made between gifting an existing species w/ speech and with creating a new species #litchat -1:40 PM Nov 1st, 2010
AaronPound @EJ_Knapp But they are not human, and you defined an animal as "anything not human". #litchat -1:40 PM Nov 1st, 2010
EJ_Knapp Is the Predator an animal? I think not. I think the 'animalness' depends on the context in which the character appears. #litchat -1:41 PM Nov 1st, 2010
IanDBarker @EJ_Knapp You can have alien animals, eg Dune's sandworms #litchat -1:41 PM Nov 1st, 2010
EJ_Knapp An alien for alpha-centuri is not human yet I wouldn't define it as an animal. #litchat -1:41 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JAPak @livenewflesh My favorite is still The Bloody Chamber collection. #litchat -1:42 PM Nov 1st, 2010
EJ_Knapp @IanDBarker Indeed. Someone mentioned the dragons of Pern. Are the not dragons of Pern human? I don't think so. #litchat -1:43 PM Nov 1st, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass When writing fantasy/sci-fi, it's important to distinguish what are sentient beings, rather than simply humans. #litchat -1:45 PM Nov 1st, 2010
GeneDoucette I put a dragon into Immortal, but not as a sentient being; just a large animal. #litchat -1:46 PM Nov 1st, 2010
buffysquirrel RT @CarolyBurnsBass: When writing fantasy/sci-fi, it's important to distinguish what are sentient beings, rather than simply humans. #litchat -1:46 PM Nov 1st, 2010
TraceyBaptiste Hi guys, I'm late #litchat #litchat -1:49 PM Nov 1st, 2010
TraceyBaptiste @GeneDoucette There's a dragon in Immortal? Really REALLY need to get my copy. #litchat -1:50 PM Nov 1st, 2010
GeneDoucette @TraceyBaptiste yes, you really really do! :-) #litchat -1:50 PM Nov 1st, 2010
GeneDoucette @TraceyBaptiste Plus I'm getting edgy again. Nobody's bought a copy for three whole days. #litchat -1:51 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JLichtenberg RT @CarolyBurnsBass: When writing fantasy/sci-fi, it's important to distinguish what are sentient beings, rather than simply humans. #litchat -1:51 PM Nov 1st, 2010
TraceyBaptiste @GeneDoucette Don't get edgy! I'll buy my copy tonight. You can bank on ONE. #litchat -1:52 PM Nov 1st, 2010
GeneDoucette Have to bike home now in "48 feels like 42" weather. Yeeeha. #litchat -1:52 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JLichtenberg #litchat then there are animals found on other planets, both with and w/o a sentient species, who can become pets to humans. Sehlat anyone? -1:52 PM Nov 1st, 2010
GeneDoucette @TraceyBaptiste hee. Fair enough. I'll put down the gun and the speedball. #litchat -1:53 PM Nov 1st, 2010
TraceyBaptiste @GeneDoucette Good! #litchat -1:54 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JLichtenberg @genedoucette I think you hit on it in #scifichat - IMMORTAL needs to be dramatized, a TV Series - #litchat -1:54 PM Nov 1st, 2010
TraceyBaptiste When I was working on my current novel, I was advised to read Patricia Wrightson... #litchat -1:54 PM Nov 1st, 2010

TraceyBaptiste Wrightson's book involved ancient aboriginal spirits that lived among people. #litchat -1:55 PM Nov 1st, 2010
GeneDoucette @JLichtenberg I've been thinking about that for years now, yes. It'd play REALLY well as a cable series. #litchat -1:55 PM Nov 1st, 2010
TraceyBaptiste My own novel also involved ancient spirits, but ones from the Caribbean. They're sentient, but definitely not human. #litchat -1:56 PM Nov 1st, 2010
GeneDoucette Bundling up and checking out peeps. Wish me luck. #litchat -1:56 PM Nov 1st, 2010
LitChat Good luck. See you on Weds. RT @GeneDoucette: Bundling up and checking out peeps. Wish me luck. #litchat -1:57 PM Nov 1st, 2010
EJ_Knapp @GeneDoucette Have a safe ride. #litchat -1:57 PM Nov 1st, 2010
agnieszkasshoes missed #litchat owing to clocks changing but see people on Wednesday :) -1:58 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JLichtenberg #litchat Science Fiction fans are generally cat-people, and often pets (even dogs) figure in SF novels -1:58 PM Nov 1st, 2010
LitChat Animals are a very rich literary topic. Today we discussed fantasy, sci-fi, mythological and allegorical animal stories. #litchat -1:58 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JLichtenberg #litchat anyone ever watch LASSIE (the TV series)? Lassie was played by a dog who played a sentient creature. -1:59 PM Nov 1st, 2010
AaronPound Andre Norton certainly was a cat person. @JLichtenberg Science Fiction fans are generally cat-people #litchat -1:59 PM Nov 1st, 2010
LitChat On Wednesday we'll discuss books and stories that feature traditional (reality) animals and their relationships with humans. #litchat -2:00 PM Nov 1st, 2010
elizabethkarr @JLichtenberg Philip K. Dick gives char of Phil-himself-and Nick both cats in Radio Free Albemuth (@RFAMovie). #litchat -2:00 PM Nov 1st, 2010
AaronPound Heinlein too. @JLichtenberg #litchat -2:00 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JAPak RT @JLichtenberg: Science Fiction fans are generally cat-people, and often pets (even dogs) figure in SF novels <Interesting! #litchat -2:00 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JLichtenberg RT @AaronPound: Heinlein too. @JLichtenberg #litchat -2:00 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JLichtenberg RT @elizabethkarr: @JLichtenberg Philip K. Dick gives char of Phil-himself-and Nick both cats in Radio Free Albemuth (@RFAMovie). #litchat -2:00 PM Nov 1st, 2010
LitChat On Friday, @SaraGruen, author of APE HOUSE and WATER FOR ELEPHANTS will be guest host. Don't miss it. #litchat -2:00 PM Nov 1st, 2010
TraceyBaptiste Would not have guessed that most sci fi fans are cat people. #litchat -2:01 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JLichtenberg RT @AaronPound: Andre Norton certainly was a cat person. @JLichtenberg Science Fiction fans are generally cat-people #litchat -2:01 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JAPak @JLichtenberg Cats do attract a lot of myth and SF is forward-thinking myth... #litchat -2:01 PM Nov 1st, 2010
elizabethkarr @LitChat I'm late. But did you all cover Orwell's Animal Farm? Kinda wrote the book on sentient animal human like chars. #litchat -2:01 PM Nov 1st, 2010
LitChat We've completed the moderated hour of #litchat, but do continue chatting as you wish. Just be sure to come back Wednesday. #litchat -2:01 PM Nov 1st, 2010
elizabethkarr RT @LitChat: On Friday, @SaraGruen, author of APE HOUSE and WATER FOR ELEPHANTS will be guest host. Dont miss it. #litchat -2:02 PM Nov 1st, 2010
JanetBoyer @LitChat Oh no, I missed this edition of #litchat! :o/ -2:02 PM Nov 1st, 2010

Topic of the Week:

November 1 & 3, 2010

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www.litchat.net

LitChat Now that the moderated hour is over, it's time to pitch and crow. Got any good news? Reviews? Book clues? Share them now. #litchat -2:03 PM Nov 1st, 2010

TraceyBaptiste RT @JAPak: @JLichtenberg Cats do attract a lot of myth and SF is forward-thinking myth... #litchat -2:03 PM Nov 1st, 2010

EJ_Knapp My novel, Stealing The Marbles has both cats and dogs in it. #litchat -2:04 PM Nov 1st, 2010

JAPak Thanx for the great litchat! I write about the Arabian Nights, tales full of animals, at my blog this week: <http://www.ja-pak.com/> #litchat -2:04 PM Nov 1st, 2010

BookRambler @agnieszkasshoes snap!! #litchat -2:04 PM Nov 1st, 2010

EJ_Knapp Oh, and today is launch day for Ian Barker's novel, Fallen Star. #litchat -2:06 PM Nov 1st, 2010

LeftyWritey RT @LitChat: On Friday, @SaraGruen, author of APE HOUSE and WATER FOR ELEPHANTS will be guest host. Don't miss it. #litchat -2:06 PM Nov 1st, 2010

elizabethkarr .@LitChat Any of you who live in #Sydney, @RFAMovie premieres @FPFilmFestival NOV 4. New reviews: <http://tinyurl.com/2a3xlex> #litchat -2:06 PM Nov 1st, 2010

EJ_Knapp Well, my dogs have very distinctly told me that if I don't get them out for their afternoon walk, they will pee on my leg. Bye all. #litchat -2:06 PM Nov 1st, 2010

missyfeller RT @CarolyBurnsBass: When writing fantasy/sci-fi, it's important to distinguish what are sentient beings, rather than simply humans. #litchat -2:06 PM Nov 1st, 2010

elizabethkarr RT @LeftyWritey: RT @LitChat: On Friday, @SaraGruen, author of APE HOUSE and WATER FOR ELEPHANTS will be guest host. Dont miss it. #litchat -2:06 PM Nov 1st, 2010

EJ_Knapp See you all on Wednesday. #litchat -2:07 PM Nov 1st, 2010

JAPak Congrats! RT @EJ_Knapp: Oh, and today is launch day for Ian Barkers novel, Fallen Star. #litchat -2:07 PM Nov 1st, 2010

EJ_Knapp @JAPak You can read my interview with Ian at <http://www.ejknapp.com/> #litchat -2:08 PM Nov 1st, 2010

Toujours_Diva Shhh. I eavesdropped on the pros over at #litchat. -2:10 PM Nov 1st, 2010

LitChat HAPPY LAUNCH DAY to @IanDBarker for his debut novel, FALLEN STAR, now available now. Ian, post the link! #litchat -2:10 PM Nov 1st, 2010

AS_King RT @LitChat: HAPPY LAUNCH DAY to @IanDBarker for his debut novel, FALLEN STAR, now available now. Ian, post the link! #litchat -2:12 PM Nov 1st, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass RT @LitChat: HAPPY LAUNCH DAY to @IanDBarker for his debut novel, FALLEN STAR, now available now. Ian, post the link! #litchat -2:12 PM Nov 1st, 2010

LitChat Plus, @IanDBarker is a guest host of #litchat on November 12. Don't miss it. #litchat -2:13 PM Nov 1st, 2010

WEDNESDAY: November 3, 2010

LitChat Welcome to Wednesday's #litchat. We're continuing convo about ANIMALS AS CHARACTERS today. Do join us now. -1:00 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

julichilliard RT @LitChat: Welcome to Wednesday's #litchat. We're continuing convo about ANIMALS AS CHARACTERS today. Do join us now. -1:01 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

LitChat The easiest way to follow #litchat is at <http://bit.ly/9JDsr0>. Login w/ Twitter and you're ready to chat. -1:01 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

LitChat While the moderated hour of #litchat is on, please hold your off-topic URLs, hashtags and personal pitches until later. Thanks! -1:02 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

LitChat Who's with us today? Animal lovers? Writers? Readers? All of the previous? #litchat -1:03 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
LitChat If you have a question for the chat, precede it with a Q and post it to the feed. #litchat -1:04 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
JAPak Reader & writer here! Hello, everyone. #litchat -1:04 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
novhill All of the above, and realized earlier that my new novel (almost) in progress has an animal as character. :) #litchat -1:05 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
LitChat On Monday we discussed animals in fantasy/sci-fi and use of non-human sentient beings. Today let's look at real animals in fiction. #litchat -1:07 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
SCookRay RT @LitChat: The easiest way to follow #litchat is at http://bit.ly/9JDsr0 . Login w/ Twitter and you're ready to chat. -1:07 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @LitChat is there a topic tonight? Thanks #litchat -1:07 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @LitChat author, literary theorist /terrorist Animal lover? Well spiders and vultures certainly ...#litchat -1:08 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
LitChat Discussing animals as characters in fiction. Not fantasy or sci-fi. RT @21stCscribe: @LitChat is there a topic tonight? Thanks #litchat -1:08 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
J_GriffinB poking head in to say hola and monitor. and bring Old Yeller up. #litchat -1:08 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
GeneDoucette in honor of today's chat I'm sending my dog in to talk for me. #litchat -1:10 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @LitChat I love Life of Pi but the animals there may ultimately only be symbols #litchat -1:10 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
JAPak RT @GeneDoucette: in honor of todays chat Im sending my dog in to talk for me. <What's your dog's name? And what kind of dog is he? #litchat -1:11 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
LitChat Can animals be effective characters in reality-based fiction? #litchat -1:11 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
J_GriffinB Old Yeller. #litchat -1:11 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe Gosh just realised I have a wolf in WIP who travels with the Mongol army #litchat -1:11 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
GeneDoucette @JAPak *drool* WOOF! *pant* *pant* [naps] #litchat -1:12 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @LitChat it's very hard because of anthropomorphism. If they think or talk, it's lost realism #litchat -1:12 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
buffysquirrel @LitChat whaddya mean by 'reality-based fiction'? #litchat i mean i want to cite the cat in Door Into Summer, but...time travel? XD -1:13 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe RT @GeneDoucette: @JAPak *drool* WOOF! *pant* *pant* [naps] #litchat /phonetically speaking (barking) that is.... -1:13 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
DasiFriend RT @LitChat: Discussing animals as characters in fiction. Not fantasy or sci-fi. RT @21stCscribe: @LitChat is there a topic tonight? Thanks #litchat -1:13 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
buffysquirrel @21stCscribe animals think #litchat most particularly, they think 'ooh i like chicken, i'm having that' -1:13 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
Nobilis @LitChat #litchat Call of the Wild? -1:14 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass Sounds interesting. Is it tamed? RT @21stCscribe: Gosh just realised I have a wolf in WIP who travels with the Mongol army #litchat -1:14 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
GeneDoucette *barking* @buffysquirrel #litchat -1:15 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @buffysquirrel they think, but they are instinctual. They don't think like we do. They have whole different sense of time. No story #litchat -1:15 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

Topic of the Week:

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www.litchat.net

LitChat @J_GriffinB Tell us why OLD YELLER has endured as a classic. #litchat -1:15 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
JAPak RT @Nobilis: @LitChat #litchat Call of the Wild? <Old Yeller too. #litchat -1:15 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
LitChat Good example. Tell us about it. RT @Nobilis: @LitChat #litchat Call of the Wild? #litchat -1:15 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
buffysquirrel @21stCscribe it's true, they don't think like us. but they do *think*. would be hard to write with any degree of conviction tho #litchat -1:16 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
JAPak RT @21stCscribe: Gosh just realised I have a wolf in WIP who travels with the Mongol army <That's so great! #litchat -1:16 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @CarolyBurnsBass well it's mainly symbolic. He presents himself as visiting Chair of Critical Hermeneutics wthin fairy tale setting #litchat -1:16 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
J_GriffinB Boy. Dog. Pain. Action. Relationship. Solid foundation for any story. #litchat -1:16 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
Nobilis @LitChat #litchat **sheepish** Haven't read Call of the Wild since middle school. All I remember is that it had a dog... -1:16 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe RT @buffysquirrel: @21stCscribe it's true, they don't think like us. but they do *think*. would be hard to write with any degree of conviction tho #litchat -1:16 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
novhill There are many nonfiction books that look at the emotional lives of animals - as well as their use of logic. #litchat -1:16 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
curlyrbr Cujo #litchat -1:17 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
DasiFriend RT @LitChat: If you have a question for the chat, precede it with a Q and post it to the feed. #litchat -1:17 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
ficwriter Hello, everyone. Just wanted to pop in and bark for a few minutes. #litchat -1:17 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
LitChat @buffysquirrel On Monday we discussed fantastical/sci-fi beasts and other creatures. Today let's stick to animals of this world. #litchat -1:17 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
GeneDoucette @ficwriter *sniff* #litchat -1:17 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
curlyrbr Are we talking about animals as MCs or supporting characters? #litchat -1:17 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe animals may have character but they are not characters in literary sense? #litchat -1:18 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
JAPak RT @J_GriffinB: Boy. Dog. Pain. Action. <& the dog was written so well, you understood why the book is called Old Yeller. #litchat -1:18 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
DasiFriend RT @LitChat: Who's with us today? Animal lovers? Writers? Readers? All of the previous? #litchat -1:18 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
J_GriffinB @GeneDoucette butt or crotch? #litchat -1:18 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
LitChat Both. RT @curlyrbr: Are we talking about animals as MCs or supporting characters? #litchat -1:18 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
candlemarkgleam @LitChat Candlemark & Gleam, speculative fiction publishers, checking in to #litchat -so...animals as characters? -1:19 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
DasiFriend RT @LitChat: The easiest way to follow #litchat is at http://bit.ly/9JDsr0 . Login w/ Twitter and you're ready to chat. -1:19 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe by which I mean animals can't really have character arcs? #litchat -1:19 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
ficwriter @GeneDoucette I walked right into that one. Down, boy. #litchat -1:19 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

Topic of the Week:

GeneDoucette I'd have asked the cats to stop by, but none of them listen to me. #litchat -1:19 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
curlyrbr Cujo, Where the Red Fern Gorws, Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH (could be scifi I guess) #litchat -1:20 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
LitChat What human characteristics are most often written into animal characters? #litchat -1:20 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
mmj5170 Read "Demons of Stoney River" told story from animal perspective but did not humanize them. Fascinating! #litchat -1:20 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
curlyrbr *Grows* #litchat -1:20 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robynmcintyre @LitChat In Moby Dick we get a whale out for revenge. #litchat -1:20 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
GeneDoucette @LitChat um, all of them, really. #litchat -1:20 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
gstickle RT @LitChat: What human characteristics are most often written into animal characters? #litchat -1:20 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
J_GriffinB @LitChat loyalty, caring, love #litchat -1:20 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe I wrote a short story from pov of vultures waiting for smoke to clear from battleground full of child soldiers... #litchat -1:21 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
curlyrbr Harry Dresden's dog Mouse #litchat -1:21 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @LitChat loyalty, bravery, redemption... #litchat -1:21 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robynmcintyre My dachshund Buffett says, "Don't forget gluttony. We dogs are big on that." #litchat -1:22 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
ficwriter Fiction is drawn from writers' imaginations and their lives. Animals are a part of both. Stories feel real when pets play a part. #litchat -1:22 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass In MOBY DICK, is the whale really out for revenge, or does the human motivation imply that? @robynmcintyre #litchat -1:22 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
curlyrbr bravery, viciousness to add a few #litchat -1:23 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
buffysquirrel @21stCscribe it's true they can't make moral decisions. but they can change #litchat -1:23 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe re my vulture story hardest thing was deciding on vocabulary, do they call it the sun or something else? Smoke or black breeze etc #litchat -1:23 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
buffysquirrel @CarolyBurnsBass i think that's projection #litchat -1:23 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
GeneDoucette @LitChat I am constantly disagreeing with my wife abt her rampant anthropomorphizing of the animal kingdom around us. #litchat -1:23 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
novhill In Edgar Sawtelle, there is a gorgeously written chapter from a dog's POV. Very authentic and well done. #litchat -1:24 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @buffysquirrel Thing is I don't think many humans can really change, let alone animals... #litchat -1:24 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
gstickle RT @ficwriter: Fiction is drawn from writers' imaginations and their lives. Animals are a part of both. Stories feel real when pets play a part. #litchat -1:24 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robynmcintyre @CarolyBurnsBass I read somewhere that the impetus for the story was an event where a whale actually sought to destroy a boat. #litchat -1:24 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
gstickle RT @LitChat: Can animals be effective characters in reality-based fiction? #litchat -1:24 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
GeneDoucette I think most of the behavior we attribute to pets as being humanistic is learned behavior. Big fan of Skinner. #litchat -1:25 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

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buffysquirrel @21stCscribe ah, so you deny the character arc regardless of whether cats or people? interesting #litchat -1:25 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robbyncintyre @buffysquirrel How do we know they don't make moral decisions? We only judge by our own morals. #litchat -1:25 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
curlyrbr Cujo was certainly effective #litchat -1:26 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
GeneDoucette Any1 see that Dexter's Lab ep where he gave a dog the gift of speech? An all the dog said was "look at the hole! Look at the hole!" #litchat -1:26 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
buffysquirrel @robbyncintyre it is based on a real story--there's a book called In the Heart of the Sea by Nathaniel Philbrick that explains #litchat -1:26 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
buffysquirrel @robbyncintyre well, i *don't* know, but i see them making pragmatic decisions #litchat -1:26 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robbyncintyre @buffysquirrel Thanks. Couldn't remember where I read that. #litchat -1:26 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
ficwriter In my completed (yey!) memoir collaboration, Deirdre Gogarty's dog, Shoobee, is one of my favorite characters. #litchat -1:27 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
buffysquirrel @robbyncintyre yw. is very interesting book. #litchat -1:27 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @buffysquirrel it's not denying xcharacter. it's denying character arcs, redemption etc. People are habitual #litchat -1:28 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
JAPak Often, animals are used to bring on a crisis, like the deer in Rawling's The Yearling & the turtle in Blume's Fudge series. #litchat -1:28 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @robbyncintyre social behaviour in animals (packs etc) is not moral. it is instinctual #litchat -1:29 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robbyncintyre @GeneDoucette How about "Up": I just met you, but I love you already! That's a Golden for you. #litchat -1:29 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
JAPak @GeneDoucette I think the best ex of that was in The Simpsons, the episode where Bart tries to train the dog. #litchat -1:29 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
J_GriffinB work beckons #litchat -1:29 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robbyncintyre RT @JAPak: Often, animals are used to bring on a crisis, like the deer in Rawling's The Yearling & the turtle in Blume's Fudge series. #litchat -1:30 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
curlyrbr Wasn't "My Dog Skip" a book before it was a movie? #litchat -1:30 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
curlyrbr Ug, The Red Pony #litchat -1:31 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
novhill a favorite quote from Frans de Waal: To endow animals with human emotions has long been a scientific taboo. #litchat -1:31 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robbyncintyre @21stCscribe Of course, but that's only because they don't talk about morality. Otherwise, pragmatism might be part of their code. #litchat -1:31 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass @novhill Agreed. I thought the breeding, training and individuality of the dogs was the best part of EDGAR SAWTELLE. #litchat -1:31 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
novhill cont: But if we do not, we risk missing something fundamental, about both animals and us. #litchat -1:31 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
val_jane So as kids we loved animals as characters but as adults it's a turn off? Are we so jaded? #litchat -1:31 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
ficwriter @curlyrbr My Dog Skip was written by Willie Morris and is a wonderful book. #litchat -1:32 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe Anyone read Barry Hines "A Kestrel For A Kanve"? Maybe too British, but wonderful book about disadvantaged boy taming a hawk #litchat -1:32 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

Topic of the Week:

LitChat Good question! RT @val_jane: So as kids we loved animals as characters but as adults its a turn off? Are we so jaded? #litchat -1:32 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

robynmcintyre There have been a rash of dog books in the last decade w/ the "what I learned from my dog" thread, w/ dog dying at the end. #litchat -1:33 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

GeneDoucette @val_jane I don't think it's a turnoff, but there r a lot of things I don't like now that I liked as a kid. #litchat -1:33 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

21stCscribe @val_jane no, we just have a concept of symbols and another one of reality that are far more merged in children #litchat -1:33 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

robynmcintyre @CarolyBurnsBass Like Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance? #litchat -1:33 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

buffysquirrel @21stCscribe well, to an extent i agree #litchat but not entirely -1:33 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

GeneDoucette @val_jane I don't think jaded is part of the equation. #litchat -1:33 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

buffysquirrel @21stCscribe TOO BRITISH???? and he doesn't *tame* the kestrel; he establishes a relationship with it #litchat -1:34 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

GeneDoucette 'course, I'm working with a MC who looks at most pets and wonders first what they might taste like. #litchat -1:34 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

robynmcintyre Ascribing human emotions to animals makes what would be a boring/irritating lecture on morality palatable: Aesop's Fables. #litchat -1:35 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

buffysquirrel RT @robynmcintyre: Ascribing human emotions to animals makes what would be a boring/irritating lecture on morality palatable: Aesop's Fables. #litchat -1:35 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

21stCscribe @buffysquirrel just depends what 1 wants from their literature. Approximate reality or have moral tales with things like redemption #litchat -1:36 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

robynmcintyre @GeneDoucette Uh - doesn't everyone do that? Oops. #litchat -1:36 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

candlemarkgleam Good point RT @val_jane: So as kids we loved animals as characters but as adults it's a turn off? Are we so jaded? #litchat -1:36 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

21stCscribe @buffysquirrel too British in its vernacular #litchat -1:36 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

buffysquirrel @21stCscribe i live in reality. i don't need to read about it xd #litchat -1:36 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

21stCscribe @robynmcintyre key word being 'fable' as in fabulation. as in simplification #litchat -1:37 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

PeevishPenman Where did all these literary philosophers come from? Check out #litchat Looks good today... - 1:37 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

buffysquirrel @21stCscribe the distributors of the film made from it wanted the Northern vernacular subtitled for southerners #litchat true dat -1:37 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

21stCscribe @buffysquirrel there we have to part then I'm afraid. I want to examine that reality that makes so many people want to escape it... #litchat -1:37 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

robynmcintyre @21stCscribe Well, you like to challenge readers. Some readers resist a challenge. #litchat -1:37 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass ♥ RT @robynmcintyre: @CarolyBurnsBass Like Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance? #litchat -1:38 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

GeneDoucette @robynmcintyre hahah. He's also not really comfortable around house cats. bad memories. #litchat -1:38 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

novhill Love this topic but have a client coming - to do an equine-assisted psychotx session. :) #litchat -1:38 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

Topic of the Week:

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21stCscribe @buffysquirrel I gavew it to my 12 year old son to read. He handed it back saying it was a foreign language... #litchat -1:38 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
buffysquirrel @21stCscribe i don't mind examining reality while i'm *not* reading fiction :) #litchat -1:38 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
yobyh RT @LitChat: Good question! RT @val_jane: So as kids we loved animals as characters but as adults its a turn off? Are we so jaded? #litchat -1:38 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @robynmcintyre entirely fair enough. Readers are king (and queen) #litchat -1:39 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
ficwriter Lost the thread as my cat scratched on the door to be let in, and my dog barked at a neighbor. #litchat -1:39 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
buffysquirrel @21stCscribe hahahahahahaha poor kid #litchat (needs the annotated version!) -1:39 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robynmcintyre @novhill Pet the nice horsie for me! #litchat -1:39 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
JAPak Isn't it just that kids replace animals in adult lives? @yobyh @LitChat @val_jane #litchat -1:40 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @buffysquirrel he did like the opening to the film with the marvellous Brian Glover (RIP) #litchat -1:40 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
buffysquirrel i like animal characters in fiction but they need to be less anthropomorpdsfds...human #litchat -1:41 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robynmcintyre I asked Buffett what he thought of animals in fiction and he said, "I can't read. Can I have a cookie?" #litchat -1:41 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
GeneDoucette @buffysquirrel the word you're looking for is anthropofuckit #litchat -1:42 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @JAPak they develop a sophisticated symbolic system. Friendly tigers & hungry catepillars no longer fit the schemata #litchat -1:42 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe RT @buffysquirrel: i like animal characters in fiction but they need to be less anthropomorpdsfds...human #litchat -1:42 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @robynmcintyre did he convey that in sign language? #litchat -1:42 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
candlemarkgleam @buffysquirrel can go either way - either animal is fully anthropomorphic, or all animal. In-between is annoying, best for fables. #litchat -1:43 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robynmcintyre @21stCscribe No; I'm actually an animal telepath (LOL) #litchat -1:44 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
PFwriteright People paint animals (and ants) as hard working when said animals are just about seeking food. #litchat -1:44 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe animals Rcreatures of action. Esp wild animals. If the writing was largely restricted to that rather than their thought processes #litchat -1:44 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
LitChat Join us in 15 minutes for #litchat. Continuing topic is ANIMALS AS CHARACTERS. 4-5 pmET at http://bit.ly/9JDsr0 . -1:45 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @robynmcintyre how do they work the dial with their claws? #litchat -1:45 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
ficwriter Ooh, I just thought of Charlotte's Web. As an adult I still love that story and everything written by E.B. White. #litchat -1:45 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robynmcintyre @PFwriteright I guess people have a need to see themselves reflected in everything in their world. #litchat -1:46 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

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buffysquirrel @CandlemarkGleam *nods* #litchat i love when an animal character is well-observed as their animal self, tho -1:46 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
JAPak @PFwriteright Actually some animals R really geared 4 social interaction. Baby bunnies will die w/o other baby bunnies around them. #litchat -1:46 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robynmcintyre @21stCscribe They use voice activated dialing. #litchat -1:46 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe Life of Pi anyone...? #litchat -1:46 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
GeneDoucette @21stCscribe I was gonna bring that up, but I never read it so.... #litchat -1:47 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
LitChat Oops... went wonky in TweetDeck, I thought I set that previous tweet to go out at 12:45pmET. False alarm, we're already chatting. #litchat -1:47 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
candlemarkgleam @JAPak @pfwriteright Many birds, too. I have a pet parrot who gets awfully depressed if he's not around a "flock." #litchat -1:47 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe RT @robynmcintyre: @21stCscribe They use voice activated dialing. #litchat / Non-verbal though... -1:47 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
ficwriter @LitChat I need to run but don't want to leave without mentioning @JulieKlam's latest You Had Me At Woof. Enjoyed the chat. #litchat -1:50 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
buffysquirrel @CandlemarkGleam i wanted a llama but apparently they don't do well on their own. #litchat cue: allarma jokes -1:51 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
JAPak Whoops! Meant last post for @candlemarkgleam: I have a parrot who's a main attraction in a short story. #litchat -1:51 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
GeneDoucette I have lengthy conversations with one of our cats. He will actually wait for me to stop talking before meowing again. #litchat -1:51 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @GeneDoucette It's almost 2 completely different books, but both excellent #litchat -1:51 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
TBlackford3 RT @GeneDoucette: I have lengthy conversations with one of our cats. He will actually wait for me to stop talking before meowing again. #litchat -1:51 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @CarolyBurnsBass yes, not convinced that the switch to the symbolic value at the end entirely worked.... #litchat -1:51 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robynmcintyre @buffysquirrel You have to watch out for llamas; they can take over. Example: Monty Python & Holy Grail #litchat -1:51 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robynmcintyre RT @ficwriter: @LitChat I need to run but don't want to leave without mentioning @JulieKlam's latest You Had Me At Woof. #litchat -1:53 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
candlemarkgleam @buffysquirrel Clearly, you need a pair of llamas and a guanaco. You can start a farm! #litchat -1:53 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @GeneDoucette he is merely providing you with punctuation then? Since neither of you share a lingua franca #litchat -1:53 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
buffysquirrel i had a cat who used to swear at me when i told her to do something she didn't want to do #litchat course i don't understand cat swears, but -1:53 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
candlemarkgleam RT @robynmcintyre: Black Beauty made me cry. Humanizing an animal can make us empathise, informing/instructing/changing viewpoint #litchat -1:53 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
buffysquirrel @CandlemarkGleam would love to... #litchat then i could write a whole series of books about llamas, lol -1:53 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
candlemarkgleam @buffysquirrel Have you ever read the Llama Llama series? AWESOME kids stories #litchat -1:54 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

Topic of the Week:

GeneDoucette @21stCscribe Me: what are you doing? Pepper: Mrowww Me: well stop doing that. Pepper: wrow Me: yes I mean now. #litchat -1:54 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
JAPak @buffysquirrel We had a hummingbird swear at us. #litchat -1:54 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robymcintyre @buffysquirrel I had one who used to meow at me while I was in the shower. Guess she couldn't figure why I'd get wet on purpose #litchat -1:54 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
candlemarkgleam @buffysquirrel Parrot swears are very easy to understand. Can ALWAYS tell when bird is pissed w/ me. #litchat -1:55 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robymcintyre @JAPak They do that a lot. Hummingbirds are antisocial. #litchat -1:55 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @GeneDoucette you called him Pepper, I think he's calling you on that ... hence the attitude #litchat -1:55 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
candlemarkgleam @JAPak Oh, definitely. My boyfriend's parrot is presently trying to woo him. She's a little ticked w/ me. #litchat -1:55 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
GeneDoucette OK me and the menagerie have to head home. #litchat -1:56 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe we had siamese who used to screech so that when on phone, people though we had a baby in house #litchat -1:56 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robymcintyre Far Side - You: Bad girl, Ginger! I told you to stop that, Ginger! What Ginger hears: blah blah, Ginger, blah blah #litchat -1:56 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
buffysquirrel @robymcintyre bathing: you're doing it wrong! lol #litchat -1:56 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
FictionChick RT @DravenAmes: New blog post. Networking and Local Authors. Writing tips and short stories. http://dravenames.blogspot.com/ #litchat #writing #authors -1:56 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
buffysquirrel RT @robymcintyre: Far Side - You: Bad girl, Ginger! I told you to stop that, Ginger! What Ginger hears: blah blah, Ginger, blah blah #litchat -1:57 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe thinking about it I use animals a lot in my books, but their physiology & movements more than characters. Chameleons, dolphins> #litchat -1:57 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
GeneDoucette @robymcintyre I quote that Far Side ALL THE TIME. #litchat -1:57 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robymcintyre @GeneDoucette Buffett says *Snort. Uff* #litchat -1:57 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe > snakes, butterflies, centipedes, tarantulas #litchat So I suppose they are mainly symbols -1:58 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
LitChat Interesting. RT @21stCscribe: ... I use animals a lot in my books, but their physiology & movements more than characters. #litchat -1:58 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @GeneDoucette why, do you take them to work with you? #litchat -1:58 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
GeneDoucette @21stCscribe afternoon snack. #litchat -1:59 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robymcintyre @21stCscribe That's cool. Like illustration for the mood? #litchat -2:00 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @LitChat the chameleon for example, not just colour changing, but ability to flatten itself & incredible tongue #litchat -2:00 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @robymcintyre more metaphorical maybe. #litchat -2:00 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robymcintyre @GeneDoucette Nothing like a big bowl of warm cat. #litchat -2:00 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
buffysquirrel one of my cats is now rolling around on the hearthrug. nothing enjoys itself like a cat. #litchat -2:01 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robymcintyre @21stCscribe Very cool. #litchat -2:01 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @robymcintyre also insect swarms for certain human behaviours - eg nightclub dancefloor, foam party as insect slime #litchat -2:01 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

LitChat Great chat today. Animals are ideal mirrors for human emotion, motives and ethics in life as well as literature. #litchat -2:02 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
Suelnge RT @LitChat: Great chat today. Animals are ideal mirrors for human emotion, motives and ethics in life as well as literature. #litchat -2:02 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
LitChat We're crossed the hour and now it's time for crows and pitches. Got any good news to crow or bray or roar? #litchat -2:03 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe I use butterflies in almost every piece I do. used 'em this past week's #fridayflash So rich for imagery #litchat -2:03 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robynmcintyre @LitChat Great chat; gave me some new insights. Thanks. #litchat -2:03 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
LitChat Crowing about this: @SaraGruen, author of APE HOUSE and WATER FOR ELEPHANTS joins us Friday in #litchat -2:04 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
JAPak End already! Thanx, everyone. Here's my parrot & cockroach story: http://www.ja-pak.com/Drive.html #litchat -2:04 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robynmcintyre RT @LitChat: Crowing about this: @SaraGruen, author of APE HOUSE and WATER FOR ELEPHANTS joins us Friday in #litchat -2:04 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
candlemarkgleam RT @LitChat: Great chat today. Animals are ideal mirrors for human emotion, motives and ethics in life as well as literature. #litchat -2:05 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robynmcintyre @litchat Now I have two new ideas for short stories! #litchat -2:06 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
jbeemills RT @LitChat: Crowing about this: @SaraGruen, author of APE HOUSE and WATER FOR ELEPHANTS joins us Friday in #litchat -2:06 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
exmoorjane RT @LitChat: Crowing about this: @SaraGruen, author of APE HOUSE and WATER FOR ELEPHANTS joins us Friday in #litchat -2:06 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe here's my vulture story http://sulcicollective.blogspot.com/2009/11/rick-pickings-flash-fiction.html #litchat -2:06 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
candlemarkgleam Wow, you caught parrot personality SPOT ON RT @JAPak: Here's my parrot & cockroach story: http://bit.ly/9EzSi8 #litchat -2:07 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robynmcintyre RT @21stCscribe: here's my vulture story http://sulcicollective.blogspot.com/2009/11/rick-pickings-flash-fiction.html #litchat -2:07 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
robynmcintyre RT @JAPak: End already! Thanx, everyone. Here's my parrot & cockroach story: http://www.ja-pak.com/Drive.html #litchat -2:08 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
buffysquirrel RT @21stCscribe: here's my vulture story http://sulcicollective.blogspot.com/2009/11/rick-pickings-flash-fiction.html #litchat -2:08 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
buffysquirrel RT @JAPak: End already! Thanx, everyone. Here's my parrot & cockroach story: http://www.ja-pak.com/Drive.html #litchat -2:08 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
candlemarkgleam There's no animals, really, other than a maggot infestation, but have to crow about this review of EREKOS: http://bit.ly/aGzb7f #litchat -2:08 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe RT @robynmcintyre: RT @21stCscribe: here's my vulture story http://sulcicollective.blogspot.com/2009/11/rick-pickings-flash-fiction.html #litchat -2:08 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe @robynmcintyre Many thanks for RT! #litchat -2:08 PM Nov 3rd, 2010
21stCscribe RT @robynmcintyre: RT @JAPak: End already! Thanx, everyone. Here's my parrot & cockroach story: http://www.ja-pak.com/Drive.html #litchat -2:09 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

buffysquirrel #gudmagazine Issue 6 now on sale :) #litchat lots of human animals ;) -2:09 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

buffysquirrel RT @candlemarkgleam: There's no animals, really, other than a maggot infestation, but have to crow about this review of EREKOS: <http://bit.ly/aGzb7f> #litchat -2:09 PM Nov 3rd, 2010

samredlich many animals die in my #wip. like life. #litchat -2:09 PM Nov 3rd, 2010