















## Guest Host: Cecelia Ahern (@Cecelia\_Ahern)




The following is the #litchat conversation held through Twitter on June 4, 2014.













#LitChat was founded in 2009 and is moderated by Carolyn Burns Bass (@LitChat). [www.litchat.com](http://www.litchat.com)










15:59	@LitChat		Welcome to # <a href="#">LitChat</a> . Today we have a special guest: Caroline Leavitt, @ <a href="#">LeavittNovelists</a> . Join us!
16:00	@LitChat		While # <a href="#">litchat</a> is underway between 4-5pmET with moderated convo, please don't use the hashtag unless contributing to the topic.
16:00	@LitChat		# <a href="#">litchat</a> was founded in 2009 and is moderated by @ <a href="#">CarolynBurnsBass</a> . We chat M W F, 4-5pmET. <a href="http://t.co/6EsesNfJPi">http://t.co/6EsesNfJPi</a>
16:00			@ <a href="#">richmagahiz</a> has entered the channel
16:00	@LitChat		Follow # <a href="#">litchat</a> easily from <a href="http://t.co/5uq9fwj4Jq">http://t.co/5uq9fwj4Jq</a> . Simply login/authorize and you're in the convo.
16:00	@LitChat		Who's with us today in # <a href="#">litchat</a> ? Please introduce yourself and let the convo begin.
16:01			@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> has entered the channel
16:01	@Leavittnovelist		I'm here! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:01	@LitChat		We are absolutely thrilled to have you, @ <a href="#">LeavittNovelist</a> . While everyone is getting started, would you share a bit about yourself? # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:01	@mvw888		@ <a href="#">LitChat</a> I'm here, notebook in hand, ready for pearls of wisdom. # <a href="#">litchat</a>
16:02			@ <a href="#">brywig</a> has entered the channel
16:02	@Leavittnovelist		I'm NYT bestseller of last two novels, which I think I owe to story structure!# <a href="#">LitChat</a>












16:02	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		A student of mine at UCLA told me about John Truby story structure and got me hooked. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:03	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		It's a way of telling a story that's deeper, and richer, because you're dealing with character wants and needs. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:03	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Wow, you heard about this method from one of your students. We never stop learning--from anyone! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:04	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Yep. She sent me box filled with tapes & at first I thought story structure was going to be boring or artificial but it frees you. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:04	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		Can you begin by encapsulating what is "The Rolling Stones Method" of story structure? # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:04	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		From the song, You can't always get what you want, but if you try (struggle), then sometimes you can get what you need. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:04	@ <a href="#">brywig</a>		Truby's notes on premise were jet-fuel for my WIP # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:05	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		character starts outwanting something , but they have misconception about themselves, which stops them from seeing what they need. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:05	@ <a href="#">WeGiveBooks</a>		RT @ <a href="#">TeacherVision</a> : Read Bunny Cakes, 2014 Read for the Record book, free online via @ <a href="#">WeGiveBooks</a> <a href="http://t.co/hQoreSGewt">http://t.co/hQoreSGewt</a> # <a href="#">litchat</a> # <a href="#">kidlit</a>
16:05	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Isn't Truby great, @ <a href="#">brywig</a> ? # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:06	@ <a href="#">richmagahiz</a>		# <a href="#">LitChat</a> Hello everyone. Sneaking a visit from the day job # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:06	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Yay! Thank you from coming. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>

16:06	@LitChat		Shh! RT @richmagahiz @LitChat Hello everyone. Sneaking a visit from the day job #LitChat
16:06	@brywig		Yes, still digesting, but he totally reoriented me to how to start a novel #LitChat
16:07	@Leavittnovelist		A lot of novelists feel that you have to wait for the muse and discover as you go along, but I feel that that is like driving.. #LitChat
16:07	@Leavittnovelist		from Boston without knowing where you are ending up. I always know my ending. #LitChat
16:07	@Leavittnovelist		Truby's classes are so great! #LitChat
16:07	@richmagahiz		@LitChat They probably want me to have a decent @klout score anyhow#LitChat
16:07	@authorwritis		@Leavittnovelist What novels (other than your own) can you see that method in structure? #litchat
16:07	@IanDBarker		Good evening #litchat
16:07	@Leavittnovelist		Hi Ian, and authorwritis, Thank you for being here. #LitChat
16:08	@Leavittnovelist		I see structure in just about every novel I've read. Look at The Dive From Clausen's Pier. Woman #LitChat
16:08	@brywig		It's intuition + intellect. I pants the premise, outline the structure #LitChat
16:08	@LitChat		Hey, Ian. RT @IanDBarker Good evening #LitChat

16:08	@LitChat		RT @brywig It's intuition + intellect. I pants the premise, outline the structure #LitChat
16:08	@LitChat		RT @Leavittnovelist I see structure in just about every novel I've read. Look at The Dive From Clausen's Pier. Woman #LitChat
16:08	@Leavittnovelist		is about to break with fiancé, he becomes paralyzed showing off. Her moral choice is does she stay out of guilt or leave? #LitChat
16:08	@Leavittnovelist		She wants to leave, and she does, but she needs to face what has happened, and she ends up #LitChat
16:08	@Leavittnovelist		coming back. #LitChat
16:09	@Leavittnovelist		Yep, and then once you map out the structure, it DOES change as you write, but the basic premise is the same. #LitChat
16:09	@brywig		Structure books are great. But I find I have to "kill the Buddha" at some point to find MY way. #LitChat
16:10	@authorwritis		@Leavittnovelist That is a brilliant way of seeing structure. #litchat
16:10	@Leavittnovelist		Absolutely. You make discoveries as you go along. Things do surprise you, #LitChat
16:10	@LitChat		@brywig What do you mean by "kill the Buddha"? #LitChat
16:10	@Leavittnovelist		and sometimes you just feel something is wrong. #LitChat
16:11	@robynmcintyre		Learning about the 'Rolling Stones' method to structuring a novel at #LitChat

16:11	@brywig		My favs: Truby, Brooks, Swain, Bickham #LitChat
16:11	@Leavittnovelist		I'm blabbing about everything on #Litchat. Come say hello--do a search for the hashtag and you'll find me.
16:11	@Leavittnovelist		Oh, I don't know Brooks, Swain or Bickham. How do they differ? #LitChat
16:11	@LornaSuzuki		If you'd like to learn more about @Leavittnovelist & her writing process, I interviewed her here: <a href="http://t.co/XIQF4FgdzC">http://t.co/XIQF4FgdzC</a> #Litchat
16:11	@Leavittnovelist		Hello Lorna! Thank you for posting that! #LitChat
16:11	@brywig		Brooks: strict 4-part template #LitChat
16:12	@Leavittnovelist		Doctorov says writing a novel like driving in fog with headlights. I say, yes, but you still have to know your destination. #LitChat
16:12	@Leavittnovelist		Wow. I'll have to look into that. What are the four parts? #LitChat
16:13	@mvw888		@Leavittnovelist Does the wants and needs progression relate to plot structure? Almost seems like it lends itself to three acts...#litchat
16:13	@Leavittnovelist		Some writers do not outline or do structure, at least not deliberately and they still succeed brilliantly. #LitChat
16:13	@JanDBarker		@Leavittnovelist Definitely agree on destination. I need to know where the end is fairly early in the writing process. #litchat
16:14	@Leavittnovelist		No 3 acts. You start with a character who wants something, with stakes attached, who is pushed into action.--more coming-- #LitChat




16:14	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		the character has a misbelief about him or herself and the world which the plot will force him or her to overcome. more to come # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:14	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Things build in the middle to what I call the BIG DOOM, when all seems lost. In that moment, there is self revelation. more to come # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:15	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Character realizes that what he or she wanted is not what he or she needs.# <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:15	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		RT @ <a href="#">LornaSuzuki</a> If you'd like to learn more about @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> writing process, I interviewed her here: <a href="http://t.co/XIQF4FgdzC">http://t.co/XIQF4FgdzC</a> # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:16	@ <a href="#">robynmcintyre</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> What changes if any would you make to this structure for a short story instead of a novel? # <a href="#">litchat</a>
16:17	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Great question. I don't write short stories anymore, but I still would have the want, and the revelation and the need. Much tighter # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:17	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Novels can meander and bring in subplots, but short stories have to have every element count. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:17	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Wait, not that a novel doesn't either... # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:17	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		RT @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Novels can meander and bring in subplots, but short stories have to have every element count. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:18	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		Aha... but in a different way? RT @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Wait, not that a novel doesn't either... # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:18	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		There are psychological weakness in the character--things that are hurting himself or her--and a moral weakness, hurting others # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:19	@ <a href="#">brywig</a> has left the channel		





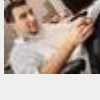
16:19	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Like an alcoholic hurts himself by drinking, losing his job. Hurts the greater world, his family, by being destructive. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:19			@ <a href="#">brywig</a> has entered the channel
16:19	@ <a href="#">richmagahiz</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Considering a story where the main char seeks something but is being misled # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:19	@ <a href="#">brywig</a>		"Kill the Buddha" means, learn from others, but find your own way # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:19	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		what does the character want/ # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:20	@ <a href="#">Imecham</a>		The incomparable @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> tweeting some story structure gold right now. Follow along: # <a href="#">litchat</a>
16:20	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		RT @ <a href="#">Imecham</a> The incomparable @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> tweeting some story structure gold right now. Follow along: # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:21	@ <a href="#">richmagahiz</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> He thinks he's on his way to find his missing parents. It's true only in a manner of speaking # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:21	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Rich, I mean, I love characters who are misled, but the misleading should intensify the character's misconception. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:21	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Oh, I like that. And so what does he find instead? # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:21	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		You never give characters what they want, but you try to give them what they need, or at least the potential for that. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:21	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Some novels have a main character that does not change. Leaving Las Vegas. Guy wants to drink himself to death. He does! But # <a href="#">LitChat</a>


















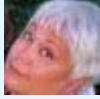








16:22	<a href="#">@richmagahiz</a>		<a href="#">@Leavittnovelist</a> I'm thinking something more cosmic, which he didn't know he would ever consider # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:22	<a href="#">@Leavittnovelist</a>		supporting character, prostitute he hires to help him, falls for him, tries to stop him, changes in the process. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:22	<a href="#">@Leavittnovelist</a>		That sounds totally fascinating! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:23	<a href="#">@brywig</a>		RT <a href="#">@Leavittnovelist</a> I hear you about meandering, but I gutted my first novel to get a clean throughline # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:23	<a href="#">@Leavittnovelist</a>		Well, by meandering I meant subplots. I agree with you, you want a clean through line. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:24	<a href="#">@LitChat</a>		I've read tightly structured novels that feel forced. What can a writer do to avoid this? # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:24	<a href="#">@Leavittnovelist</a>		When I start a novel, I know why the character is in trouble, and I know where he or she is going to end up. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:24	<a href="#">@Leavittnovelist</a>		That's a great question. I think the answer is to deal with character, Not plot. Plot comes out of character. We remember the \ # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:24	<a href="#">@richmagahiz</a>		<a href="#">@LitChat</a> I hate it when it feels like the author's driving the characters on a little railroad # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:24	<a href="#">@LitChat</a>		RT <a href="#">@Leavittnovelist</a> That's a great question. I think the answer is to deal with character, Not plot. Plot comes out of character. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:25	<a href="#">@Leavittnovelist</a>		character. (Everyone knows Huck Finn, but what happened in the book?) If you have a complex real alive character...it works # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:25	<a href="#">@brywig</a>		RT <a href="#">@Leavittnovelist</a> got it. Scrivener's binder structure was the key that let me organize the novel # <a href="#">LitChat</a>



























16:25	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Scrivener's made me crazy! I'm too obsessive compulsive. But I do have folders and folders of notes, post its, etc. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:26	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		there's a wonderful novel called JIM THE BOY. Nothing happens in it. But you love the character, so you will follow him anywhere. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:26	@ <a href="#">robynmcintyre</a>		@ <a href="#">brywig</a> @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> I like Scrivener, but prefer Word. I really like Aeon Timeline for keeping my timing right. # <a href="#">litchat</a>
16:27	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Oh, what's Aeon Timeline? I always have my characters aging two years in two days. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:27	@ <a href="#">brywig</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Sorry. For me, Word's a blunt instrument. I need multiple panes to orient myself # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:28	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Everyone has different ways of working and most people DO love Scrivener. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:28	@ <a href="#">robynmcintyre</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Here you go: <a href="http://t.co/POlvA0hokp">http://t.co/POlvA0hokp</a> # <a href="#">litchat</a>
16:28	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Oh cool! Thank you Robyn! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:29	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> My WIP is in Scrivener, but am not sure I'll begin my next novel in it. I like the continuity of a single file. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:29	@ <a href="#">brywig</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Here's a post that shows how I leverage it <a href="http://bit.ly/1syDuNW">http://bit.ly/1syDuNW</a> # <a href="#">LitCHat</a>
16:29	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		Link to Aeon Timeline. RT @ <a href="#">robynmcintyre</a> @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Here you go: <a href="http://t.co/POlvA0hokp">http://t.co/POlvA0hokp</a> # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:29	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		I'm also a big believer in what I call the never-ending story, where everything is not all neatly tied up. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>

16:30	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		I want readers to be a little disoriented, to wonder and yearn about what's going to happen next after they shut the book. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:30	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		Real life. MT @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> ...what I call the never-ending story, where everything is not all neatly tied up. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:30	@ <a href="#">robynmcintyre</a>		I often write out my plot as an outline and then fill in, erasing the outline as I go. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:30	@ <a href="#">brywig</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> And yes, Aeon rocks for proofing plausibility. Plus, integrates with Scriv. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:30	@ <a href="#">JRSinason</a> has entered the channel		
16:31	@ <a href="#">richmagahiz</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> I've been wondering how to tell when a particular scene is the actual ending # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:31	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		We're chatting in # <a href="#">litchat</a> for next 30 minutes with @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> about The Rolling Stones method of story structure.
16:31	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		Good Q. RT @ <a href="#">richmagahiz</a> @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> I've been wondering how to tell when a particular scene is the actual ending # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:31	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		When a scene is the ending? I usually write it to its logical end, and then cut back so there are no tightly wound ends. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:31	@ <a href="#">brywig</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Does "never ending story" overlap Plot Whisperer's "Universal story?" # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:32	@ <a href="#">JRSinason</a>		@ <a href="#">LitChat</a> @ <a href="#">richmagahiz</a> @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> I feel like a scene should end about three lines before someone has an epiphany # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:32	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		For example, if someone has been wanting a job, I might show finally calling the person, but we don't get to hear if he got it. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>

16:32	@ <a href="#">JRSinason</a>		until the ending of course # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:32	@ <a href="#">richmagahiz</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> I remember all the chatter about the last scene of The Sopranos which stopped a little bit short # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:32	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		What is the Plto Whisperer's Universal Story? # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:33	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		I LOVED the ending of the Sopranos. I thought it was perfect. People were upset, but hey, they were thinking about it. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:33	@ <a href="#">brywig</a>		<a href="http://plotwhisperer.blogspot.com/">http://plotwhisperer.blogspot.com/</a> # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:33	@ <a href="#">JRSinason</a>		I end scenes just when someone is starting to actually learn something new and get out before they put things together # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:33	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		thank you! I'm learning so much here1 # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:33	@ <a href="#">AlexGeorge</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Yes! It's a curious balance of leaving them satisfied but also wanting more. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:33	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		JR, YES! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:34	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Remember Six Feet Under finale? Montage where Claire sees her life as a young girl-- as she is dying. Or you can think that the # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:34	@ <a href="#">mvw888</a>		@ <a href="#">richmagahiz</a> @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> I'm not sure you can ever please EVERYBODY with any ending! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:34	@ <a href="#">brywig</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Alderson's book draws parallel between writer's journey and protag journey # <a href="#">LitChat</a>













16:34	<a href="#">@JRSinason</a>		I want the reader to feel like they're watching a five year old do a puzzle just a little bit too hard for him # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:34	<a href="#">@Leavittnovelist</a>		young woman is imagining life moving forwards. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:34	<a href="#">@Leavittnovelist</a>		JR, that's wonderful. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:34	<a href="#">@robynmcintyre</a>		<a href="#">@richmagahiz</a> I always had the feeling it meant nothing had really changed for them. # <a href="#">litchat</a>
16:34	<a href="#">@Leavittnovelist</a>		No, you can't please everybody. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:34	<a href="#">@JRSinason</a>		if I can capture that feeling I'm satisfied # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:35	<a href="#">@Leavittnovelist</a>		I thought that, too re Sopranos. Nothing has changed. this is their life.# <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:35	<a href="#">@brywig</a>		<a href="#">@JRSinason</a> My writing group calls that "the gap" space reader jumps between your prose and mental image # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:35	<a href="#">@richmagahiz</a>		<a href="#">@mvw888</a> Not in Hollywood you can't. But books and TV aren't so bound by rules <a href="#">@Leavittnovelist</a> # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:35	<a href="#">@Leavittnovelist</a>		Right. TV actually has more interesting drama than commercial movies. Indie movies are different. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:36	<a href="#">@Leavittnovelist</a>		I love that, the gap space! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:36	<a href="#">@Leavittnovelist</a>		You basically want your character to be somehow moved in space. Changed. For good or for bad. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>













16:36	@ <a href="#">JRSinason</a>		@ <a href="#">brywig</a> it's hard to do because you're trusting them and trusting your work too, takes a lot of confidence in your writing # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:36	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		And who has confidence in their writing? No writer that I know! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:36	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		RT @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> You basically want your character to be somehow moved in space. Changed. For good or for bad. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:37	@ <a href="#">brywig</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> I think of that space all the time and believe it's heart of reader satisfaction # <a href="#">Litchat</a>
16:37	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		I had a lot of emails from people wanting me to write a sequel to one of my novels because the ending upset her so much. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:37	@ <a href="#">JRSinason</a>		@ <a href="#">brywig</a> sometimes I chicken out if it myself # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:37	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		You want the reader to change, as well as your characters. Oh, you gotta be BRAVE. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:37	@ <a href="#">JRSinason</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> that means they're invested so good job # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:38	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		But she was really MAD. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:38	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> One of the benefits of an ambiguous ending is wrapping it all up in my own mind. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:38	@ <a href="#">brywig</a>		@ <a href="#">JRSinason</a> So hard to find that balance between over explaining and cryptic writing # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:38	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		when i write, I am writing just for myself, to figure out a question the novel is asking that haunts ME. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>











16:38	@ <a href="#">AlexGeorge</a>		RT @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> : And who has confidence in their writing? No writer that I know! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:38	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Overexplaining comes out with draft after draft after draft. And with a good editor! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:38	@ <a href="#">JRSinason</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> that's why I can't self pub. I need someone to tell me when I'm full of myself # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:38	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		RT @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> when i write, I am writing just for myself, to figure out a question the novel is asking that haunts ME. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:39	@ <a href="#">ExitZeroSuzi</a>		# <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:39	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Sometimes you're so deeply in the work, you can't tell. That made me laugh JR. I can't tell. I need someone to push and prod! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:39	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		prod. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:39	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		I think about the reader after publication. But every reader brings something unique to a book. Not everyone loves your work! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:39	@ <a href="#">richmagahiz</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Did you answer them? Or decide to write a sequel after all? # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:39	@ <a href="#">brywig</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> April Eberhardt Oct WD article shows middle ground between Self and Trad pub. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:40	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		I would never write a sequel. Once I'm done with a novel, I itch to move on. Plus, I ended it the way it had to end. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:40	@ <a href="#">mvw888</a>		@ <a href="#">JRSinason</a> You can pay an editor to tell you that! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>










16:40	@LitChat		Can we talk about creating urgency and momentum? How are these best leveraged in the Rolling Stones method? #LitChat
16:40	@Leavittnovelist		If you have a character who wants something, you have to give stakes--if he doesn't get the meds, his child will die, for example #LitChat
16:41	@Leavittnovelist		That creates urgency. You have to raise the stakes throughout, which creates momentum, and you have to keep putting obstacles out. #LitChat
16:41	@AlexGeorge		@leavittnovelist Agreed. Always new things to write about. #LitChat
16:42	@Leavittnovelist		Alex! Hi! #LitChat
16:42	@authorwritis		@Leavittnovelist What is the difference between momentum and urgency? #litchat
16:42	@AS_King		I am stopping by @LitChat to say that @Leavittnovelist is one of the best people in the world and a damn amazing writer. Carry on. #litchat
16:42	@richmagahiz		@Leavittnovelist Suspense is a technique that's up there with conflict in the novelist's toolkit #LitChat
16:42	@Leavittnovelist		ASKING is an award-winning incredible writer! #LitChat
16:43	@Leavittnovelist		Momentum means the novel is moving forward, one scene following the next. Urgency is--why is this issue crucial to the character? #LitChat
16:43	@LitChat		Mutual admiration is a good thing. RT @Leavittnovelist @AS_KING is an award-winning incredible writer! #LitChat
16:44	@Leavittnovelist		Please go out and buy A. S. King's novels and Alex George's. Terrific examples of spectacular writing. #LitChat














16:44	@ <a href="#">AlexGeorge</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Hi, Caroline! Enjoying your tweets!! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:44	@ <a href="#">JRSinason</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> does momentum come with establishing conflict?# <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:44	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		The crucial thing about writing is that word want, for me. That feeling of yearning. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:44	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		RT @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> The crucial thing about writing is that word want, for me. That feeling of yearning. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:44	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Momentum does come with conflict and with making your character complex. it all has to do with character. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:44	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		RT @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Momentum does come with conflict and with making your character complex. it all has to do with character. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:45	@ <a href="#">SarahMMcCoy</a>		@ <a href="#">AlexGeorge</a> : @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Hi, Caroline! Enjoying your tweets!! # <a href="#">LitChat</a> Me too. LOVE seeing her face pop up on my deck. # <a href="#">GorgeousHappy</a>
16:44	@ <a href="#">brywig</a>		I try to maintain inner momentum in protag spiritual develop. Outer in plot develop. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:45	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		And buy Sarah McCoy's amazing new book The Mapmaker's daughter!# <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:45	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		We have only 15 more minutes in # <a href="#">litchat</a> with @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> about The Rolling Stones method of story structure. Ask your questions now!
16:45	@ <a href="#">AlexGeorge</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> I love the way that readers take ownership of books for themselves. Nothing but respect for everyone's opinion. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:45	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		It really has to do with what haunts YOU. What do you want? What do you need? Why is your novel important to you personally? # <a href="#">LitChat</a>








16:46	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		when I wrote about open adoption, people with same experience loved the book, people with opposite experiences hated it, & me! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:46	@ <a href="#">JRSinason</a>		RT @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> The crucial thing about writing is that word want, for me. That feeling of yearning. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:46	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		RT @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> And buy Sarah McCoy's amazing new book The Mapmaker's daughter! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:46	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		But that's what books do, that's how they change readers. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:46	@ <a href="#">brywig</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Sorry, did I miss link to "Rolling Stone Method?" # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:47	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		The Rolling stones method is just wants and needs. You can't always get what you want, but with struggle (if you try), SOMETIMES # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:47	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		you can get what you need. (Which is different.) # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:47	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		It's here: <a href="http://www.thebookdoctors.com/rolling-stones-method-caroline-leavitt-plotting">http://www.thebookdoctors.com/rolling-stones-method-caroline-leavitt-plotting</a> RT @ <a href="#">brywig</a> @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Sorry, did I miss link to "Rolling Stone Method?" # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:47	@ <a href="#">SarahMMcCoy</a>		I ♥☐ you. RT @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> : And buy Sarah McCoy's amazing new book The Mapmaker's Children! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:47	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Oh, thank you! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:47	@ <a href="#">brywig</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Got it, thanks! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:47	@ <a href="#">AlexGeorge</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Aww, thank you! My son INHALED all of A.S. King's books. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>

16:47	@Leavittnovelist		You should be changed from writing your book. If you are, hopefully, readers will be, too. #LitChat
16:48	@richmagahiz		@Leavittnovelist That's why I'm surprised with the obsession with series out there. I wouldn't want to be writing a seven-parter #LitChat
16:48	@Leavittnovelist		I wouldn't either. I want to meet new people in my novels! #LitChat
16:48	@Leavittnovelist		But people read for different reasons. #LitChat
16:49	@AlexGeorge		@Leavittnovelist But you engaged them all, and that's the important thing, right? #LitChat
16:49	@Leavittnovelist		I should add that there are no rules. whatever works, works! Alex, I did. Anger is a response! #LitChat
16:50	@Leavittnovelist		So is making a reader uneasy. #LitChat
16:50	@Leavittnovelist		I think writers tend to write the kind of books they personally want to read. #LitChat
16:50	@LitChat		How do you maintain traction with a character's inner journey and the outer journey? #LitChat
16:51	@Leavittnovelist		I map it all out before hand. I do the inner stuff first. What does the character want? What actions would show this? #LitChat
16:51	@Leavittnovelist		then I have inner thoughts or dialogue when the character is realizing or musing about something. #LitChat
16:51	@Leavittnovelist		I try to burrow so deeply into the character that I am the character. #LitChat

16:52	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		And i have come to realize that each book is different. And it is never easy. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:52	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		RT @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> And i have come to realize that each book is different. And it is never easy. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:52	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		I'm starting a new novel now, and I'm on shaky ground. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:52	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		Why? Do you always feel this way at beginning? RT @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> I'm starting a new novel now, and I'm on shaky ground. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:52	@ <a href="#">brywig</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Thanks for validation. I got nowhere till I outlined evolution of protag, not just plot # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:53	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		I always do. I have a glint of an idea and I'm trying to map it out a bit more, and there's always self doubt. anxious personality # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:53	@ <a href="#">AlexGeorge</a>		@ <a href="#">leavittnovelist</a> I would *much* rather have anger than indifference. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:53	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Yes to that! And yes, it's all about character, plot comes out of the character's yearnings, anger, emotions. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:53	@ <a href="#">satiricalmama</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> I live w/ my characters such that I feel as though I'm the fly on the wall, desperately wanting in on action. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:54	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		Satirical, me, too. I have photos that I think are them pasted all over the filing cabinet by my desk. I look at them all day. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:54	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> What is the basis of the anxiety? That you won't be able to pull it together? That you will run out of ideas? ??? # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:54	@ <a href="#">brywig</a>		@ <a href="#">satiricalmama</a> So strange we have such close relationships with people who don't exist # <a href="#">LitChat</a>

16:55	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		That I'm neurotic. That I won't pull it off. There is a great John Irving quote that says, if you don't feel like you are # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:55	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		on the edge of humiliation, you're not trying hard enough in your writing. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:55	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		RT @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> on the edge of humiliation, you're not trying hard enough in your writing. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:55	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		But the characters do exist. If you are hypnotized, your brain doesn't know the difference between a suggested burn & real one. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:56	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		We cry and laugh over characters. We feel. And that impacts us as readers. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:56	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		Do you write sequentially from opening to ending, or do you write scenes and then stitch them together? # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:56	@ <a href="#">brywig</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> That's what gets me out of bed every morning at 5 am # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:56			@ <a href="#">JRSinason</a> has left the channel
16:56	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		My writers synopsis is sequential, but when I write, I might move around in the novel and then stitch it together. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:56	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		5AM! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:57	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		I wake at 10. Or 11. But I stay up until 1 or one thirty. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
16:57	@ <a href="#">brywig</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> I'm all about the subconscious. It sings to me at 5. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>

16:57	@LitChat		@Leavittnovelist Do you put in your best writing early in the day, or late at night before bed? #LitChat
16:58	@Leavittnovelist		I start work around noon, and it usually takes me about an hour to get into that zone. Sometimes a whole bad day will kick in by 5. #LitChat
16:58	@brywig		@Leavittnovelist If I go to bed with a story problem, it's solved before the coffee cup's dry #LitChat
16:59	@Leavittnovelist		Really? Sometimes I try to solve story that way, but then I forget my answer in the morning. #LitChat
16:59	@Leavittnovelist		I need to keep a notebook handy! #LitChat
16:59	@TheGreyIdris		@LitChat Keep track of their perspective. Make sure they're constantly learning as events progress, so they aren't left behind #LitChat
16:59	@brywig		@Leavittnovelist Great chat. Thanks so much! #LitChat
17:00	@Leavittnovelist		Thank YOU all so much for showing up. And for the suggestions. And for the FUN. And thank you #litchat.
17:00	@richmagahiz		@Leavittnovelist Do you reward yourself by jumping to the scenes you think will be most fun to write sometimes? #LitChat
17:00	@Leavittnovelist		Absolutely, I do! #LitChat
17:00	@LitChat		We are at the end of the hour with the fabulous Caroline Leavitt @Leavittnovelist. Let's give her a round of THANKS {{{APPLAUSE}}} #LitChat
17:00	@richmagahiz		@LitChat @Leavittnovelist Many many thanks #LitChat

17:01	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a>		THANK YOU ALL SO, SO MUCH! I had a blast. And thank you LITCHAT!# <a href="#">LitChat</a>
17:01	@ <a href="#">robynmcintyre</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> Thanks for sharing your Rolling Stones method! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
17:01	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		thank you THANK YOU thank you! RT @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> THANK YOU ALL SO, SO MUCH! I had a blast. And thank you LITCHAT! # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
17:02	@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> has left the channel		
17:02	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		Come back for more # <a href="#">LitChat</a> on Wednesday when @ <a href="#">greatwaveink</a> is here to discuss his sci-fi breakout novel, ORBS.
17:03	@ <a href="#">robynmcintyre</a>		@ <a href="#">LitChat</a> Great, great chat, Carolyn. Thanks to you and @ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
17:04	@ <a href="#">LitChat</a>		Welcome new voices: @ <a href="#">brywig</a> @ <a href="#">Imecham</a> @ <a href="#">AlexGeorge</a> @ <a href="#">satiricalmama</a> . We're here M&W, 4-5pmET. <a href="http://www.litchat.com">www.litchat.com</a> # <a href="#">LitChat</a>
17:06	@ <a href="#">richmagahiz</a> has left the channel		
17:07	@ <a href="#">brywig</a> has left the channel		
17:58	@ <a href="#">satiricalmama</a>		@ <a href="#">Leavittnovelist</a> to some extent I agree--writers should want to read own work. But I don't write lit fiction yet love to read it. # <a href="#">LitChat</a>