

LitChat: Owen Sheers, novelist, playwright, poet

The following is the #LitChat conversation with novelist, playwright and poet Owen Sheers. This #LitChat was held through Twitter on July 13, 2015. #LitChat was founded in 2009 and is moderated by Carolyn Burns Bass (@LitChat). www.litchat.com.



LitChat
@LitChat

Welcome to #LitChat. Today we have @owensheers with us as guest author. Join us! #LitChat



AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
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While #LitChat is underway with moderated convo from 4-5pmET, please don't use the hashtag unless contributing to topic. Thanks.



AN HOUR
AGO



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The easiest way to participate in #LitChat is through @Nurph. Just login at nurph.com/litchat, authorize and you're in the chat.



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#LitChat was founded in 2009 and is moderated by @CarolyBurnsBass (@LitChat). Visit our website at litchat.com.




AN HOUR
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While everyone is gathering, please introduce yourself and let the convo begin. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Beverly Tan
@BeverlyTanFilm

Hello there #Litchat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


Hello everyone from a Welsh summer night, and thanks so much for the invitation. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



billie hinton
@novemberhill

Hello from November Hill. Billie Hinton here. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



J Sinason
@JRSinason

what up #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Rose Ketring
@blurosemd


Hello! I am Rose from Bohemian NERD blog #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat


We are thrilled to have [@owensheers](#), playwright, poet & novelist with us. His latest novel is I SAW A MAN. Please welcome Owen. [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



billie hinton
@novemberhill


Welcome [@owensheers](#). [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



**Sequoia
Red**
@xscrewedx


Hi! [#litchat](#) amateur writer here from Canada. Looking forward to hearing about the book and author.

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
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Before we dive into I SAW A MAN with [@owensheers](#), let's ask him about his rich background in the literary arts. [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


Thank you - and don't worry, I'm a litchat newcomer myself... [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



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.@owensheers You are a playwright and poet, in addition to writing fiction (long and short form). Which came first for you? #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

My writing and reading life began with poetry, and that is still where I return to harbour. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


I used to say I was a poet writing in other forms. But with I SAW A MAN I wanted to feel, think and write as a pure novelist #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



billie hinton
@novemberhill


Did anything from I SAW A MAN begin in a poem? #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

And actually not much short form fiction - I think poems soak up that short story side of the mind... #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Elizabeth

Law

@ElawReads

Hey @Leah_Thaxton, @owensheers is talking about his work on Twitter right now, just enter #LitChat. And thx for introducing me to his work.



AN HOUR

AGO



Owen Sheers

@owensheers

Well, the title for one, which is from a version of Antigone by Hugh Mearns. There were a few other lines lifted from notebooks #LitChat



AN HOUR

AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

.@owensheers What drew you to poetry in the beginning and how old were you then? #LitChat



AN HOUR

AGO



Owen Sheers

@owensheers

I think all children are instinctively drawn to rhythm and rhyme - as are adults. I know my 16 month old daughter is! I was no #LitChat



AN HOUR

AGO



Lara Reid

@Ammonites_Stars

Hello from Edinburgh, been reading Owen's work for years, lovely to hear more! #LitChat



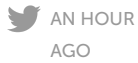
AN HOUR

AGO



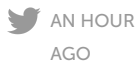
StephenC79
@stephenC79

Any plans for anymore poetry documentaries? Was really inspired by A Poet's Guide to Britain series and book to read those poets [#litchat](#)



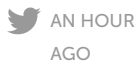
Owen Sheers
@owensheers

exception. As I grew older I became fascinated by the potential for a poem to take you a great intellectual and emotional distance [#LitChat](#)



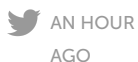
LitChat
@LitChat

.@owensheers The title kept me wondering about whether someone would report seeing Michael in that place (no spoilers). [#LitChat](#)



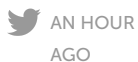
Owen Sheers
@owensheers

at the same time, across a short space of page. For me it's still the most intimate and immediate form of written communication [#LitChat](#)



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

Ah yes - well, I hoped the title would shift and cast different shadows as the story evolves. [#LitChat](#)



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


In a way the final 'man' is seen right at the very end... [#LitChat](#)





billie hinton
@novemberhill


RT @owensheers ... I became fascinated by the potential for a poem to take you a great intellectual & emotional distance. LOVE! #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

.@owensheers The title was a layer in itself, a forecast of what might come. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


I'd love to make more of 'A Poet's Guide to Britain' but there's been no appetite from the BBC. I hope to make one on David Jones #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



billie hinton
@novemberhill


Also love the title layering/forecasting what is to come. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

I recently made one on Dylan Thomas too, focusing on 6 of his poems across his life. That was a pleasure to film. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


This question of layers is interesting. I wanted to discover how much layering - of time, meaning - a strong initial draw buys you #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat


.@owensheers In addition to your velvet handling of an explosive situation, I was awed at the poetic beauty of the story. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


On the forecasting - does anyone else enjoy those novels where the tension pulls both ways? Forwards, but also back too? #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

Thank you. I like to think you can have a lyricism of plot as well as language. However dark a tale may be, it can be beautiful #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat


We are chatting for the next 15 minutes with novelist, playwright & poet @owensheers in #LitChat. Join us at nurph.com/litchat.

 AN HOUR
AGO



Lara Reid
@Ammonites_Stars


Can you talk a little about landscape and the way it (un)consciously infiltrates our lives and ourselves? Seems a recurring theme! #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat


.@owensheers The pulling back created relief to the knotting feeling in my gut for what was about to or could happen. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



billie hinton
@novemberhill

Definitely enjoy novels where the tension pulls both ways. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


it is! One description of fiction could be characters moving across a landscape. I've always been drawn to the idea of natural #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

.@Ammonites_Stars Yes, the descriptions of landscape was brilliant in I SAW A MAN. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


landscape helping characters to rediscover their humanity. I also need to write against a clearly visualised location. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


I hope, in ISAM, that at various points the Heath is a site of healing for the characters. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


But also a place transfigured by their actions - especially for Michael of course. [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



Lara Reid
@Ammonites_Stars


Image of Caroline falling in love with Michael as the Cornish sea was terrific. Blame growing up by the sea for my restlessness! [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat


What [@owensheers](#) refers to landscape here is what I call "lifescape." He creates each charas lifescape with a vivid brush. [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


Ah yes, that liminal, restless, playful coastal resonance. causes all sorts of trouble. And bliss. [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



billie hinton
@novemberhill

site of healing and site transfigured by their actions - brilliant. [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat


Exactly, [@owensheers](#)! The Heath was a character in itself. Sometimes foreboding, sometimes welcoming. Always there and watching. [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


Landscape. I like that. maybe Michael and Caroline are characters in search of a landscape too, though, after their nomadic lives? #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Lara Reid
@Ammonites_Stars


RT @owensheers Ah yes, that liminal, restless, playful coastal resonance. causes all sorts of trouble. And bliss. - How beautiful #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


I was brought up near the intimate drama of the Black Mountains in Wales. I'm sure that association plays into my use of landscape #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat


.@owensheers The search for a landscape in which to plant themselves led them to the cottage in Wales, right? #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Lara Reid
@Ammonites_Stars


I've picked that feeling up in quite a bit of your work, certainly #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


back to poetry - if you don't know this site, I highly recommend it. A wonderful place to HEAR poems - poetryarchive.org #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

.@owensheers The intimacy to Wales was palpable, yet so was the descriptions of New York and even the Nevada desert. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



A L Richards
@HopeNow84

Any advice for epic poem writers trying to get their stuff reviewed?! #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


Yes, the cottage is an important moment of settling, of rooting. A glimpse of what might be. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


Epic poems. It's tough. My verse drama PINK MIST had a rough ride until it was found by schools and teachers. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


So maybe find the audience first, and the reviews will follow? Do you perform it? I find that's also where longer, narrative poetry [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


finds its footing... it's a wonderful form though, and so deeply seamed within us. [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


I'm glad the US landscapes felt real. I lived in NYC, so that helped. Nevada was written from the desk, but I did go to check... [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat


.@owensheers Can you speak some about your research into drone warfare? I found this fascinating. [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



billie hinton
@novemberhill


The collective unconscious helps, if we have tapped deeply enough to access it while writing. Sounds like you did. [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


My interest in PTSD began with my work with wounded UK soldiers, and that led to me reading about drone operators. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


A lot of the research was online, and in some great recent books. But I did also visit Nevada, and drive out to Creech. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


I hung out in the casino bar next door and listened in on conversations. For the broader canvas this website was very useful: #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat


.@owensheers The drone scene was so realistic. I asked my retired USMC husband read that section and he agreed. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


geographicalimagination.com/about/ It gives a wonderful overview of the 'Everywhere war'. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



**Jeanne Lyet
Gassman**
@JLyetGassman

[@owensheers](#) Do you think the physical removal from drones has a neg. psych effect? Curious.
[#litchat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



Drone Maniac
@dronemaniac


RT Jeanne Lyet Gassman JLyetGassman :owensheers Do you think the physical removal from
drones has a neg. psych effect? Curious. [#litchat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


yes, on both sides. So much of an operator's job is to witness, in a way fighter pilots never had to.
To be at war, then go home... [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat


[.@owensheers](#) In fact, my USMC hubby did flight ops at Creech back when it was called Indian
Springs. [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



**Jeanne Lyet
Gassman**
@JLyetGassman


[@owensheers](#) Sounds like a great place for research! Eavesdropping is always revealing. :)
[#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


It's a juxtaposition the human mind wasn't built to contain. Then on the ground, the constant threat, the noise, is so damaging [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


to the psychologies of entire communities. Within the novel the role is, I guess, the most obvious manifestation of its theme [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


That of an intimate engagement in other people's lives, but a dislocation in consequence and aftermath [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



**Jeanne Lyet
Gassman**
@JLyetGassman


[@LitChat](#) [@owensheers](#) Ah, I remember when it was Indian Springs, too! (Revealing my age!)
[#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

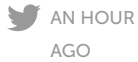
We are chatting for the next 30 minutes with playwright, poet & novelist [@owensheers](#) in [#LitChat](#).
Join us at nurph.com/litchat.

 AN HOUR
AGO



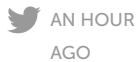
Owen Sheers
@owensheers

Indian Springs - yes, the town is still called that isn't it? [#LitChat](#)



Jeanne Lyet Gassman
@JLyetGassman

[@owensheers](#) That sounds fascinating. [#LitChat](#)



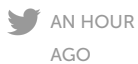
Jeanne Lyet Gassman
@JLyetGassman

[@owensheers](#) Like playing a video game with real lives. [#LitChat](#)



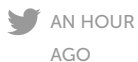
Justine
@JayEmmTee1

I loved ISAM. How much did the writing of Pink Mist inform the book and vice versa? (Haven't seen the play, btw) [#litchat](#)



LitChat
@LitChat


[.@owensheers](#) Speaking of intimate engagements, there were times I was unsure of whether Michael and Samantha would connect as such. [#LitChat](#)





Owen Sheers
@owensheers

Well, more intimate than that I think. Sometimes pilots will learn the habits, the routines of those they will strike. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



**Jeanne Lyet
Gassman**
@JLyetGassman

@owensheers Yes, I think so. Part of my wip takes place at the Nevada Test Site, so I've spent some time there lately. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

Ah, Michael and Samantha. Yes, I wanted that to feel like a viable possibility. Part of setting out a cast of characters #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

.@owensheers I saw them as two volcanoes ready to blow at the same time, flowing into the same lava plain. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


all of whom could be inside the house... and with whom very different things might happen if Michael met them there #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



**Jeanne Lyet
Gassman**
@JLyetGassman

[@owensheers](#) Brings up another question. Do they then identify more emotionally w/ targets
[#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



Laurie Muchnick
@lauriemuchnick


[@likaluca](#) [@BretsTypewriter](#) [@notsowiseowl](#) [@CalMorgan](#) [@Casey_CAC](#) [@cynan1975](#) Just noticed Owen's having a [#litchat](#) right now!

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

is that the WalesBookclub I see there? [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat


[.@owensheers](#) Do you mind talking about the craft of fiction for a wee bit? [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



Justine
@JayEmmTee1


[@owensheers](#) I was genuinely surprised at who Michael encountered - and what happened afterwards. [#litchat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

I'm sure it varies according to the individual, but in my research, yes, certainly more than a fighter pilot ever did. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

Craft of Fiction - happy to. What aspect in particular? #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

.@owensheers How do you approach story? Do you begin with an idea? Characters? A setting? #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


In this case it was the opening image. A man entering his neighbour's house though the back door. But that was very unusual #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


Normally I'd begin with an existing story, or an element of, that intrigues me. I do like to have a skeleton structure. #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

.@owensheers That was rather eerie. Gave reader the sensation something was going to happen. "I saw a man..." #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers


I tend to need to know where the novel or story is going to end, even if I'm not sure how to get there #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

.@owensheers Did you have this sense of direction with I SAW A MAN? #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Justine
@JayEmmTee1


@owensheers The structure of ISAM is complicated when trying to describe it, but feels natural on the page. How did you tackle >>> #litchat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

Yes, absolutely. I knew the broad arc of Michael's journey, and that I wanted his slow progress through the house to form the spine #LitChat

 AN HOUR
AGO



Justine
@JayEmmTee1


@owensheers <<<the different timelines - did you write them separately? #litchat

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

So true. MT [@JayEmmTee1](#) [@owensheers](#) The structure of ISAM is complicated when trying to describe it, but feels natural on the page. [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

Good Q. RT [@JayEmmTee1](#) [@owensheers](#) <<<the different timelines - did you write them separately? [#LitChat](#)

 AN HOUR
AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

No, I wrote the book chronologically, but had lots of maps and lists in my notebook! I also began the first 10,000 words 3 times [#LitChat](#)

 44 MINUTES AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

This was absolutely brilliant. Hitchcockesque. RT [@owensheers](#) ... I wanted his slow progress through the house to form the spine [#LitChat](#)

 44 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

Then threw them away 3 times... but that was about searching for an authentic voice. [#LitChat](#)

 44 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

That slow progress was also there to contrast against the pacy, vignette structure for the backstories [#LitChat](#)

 44 MINUTES AGO



Lee Waters

@Amanwy

Just finished White Ravens, and struck how violence is a recurring theme in your work
[@owensheers](#) - why? [#LitChat](#)



43 MINUTES AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

.[@owensheers](#) Did you know Michael's story would collide with Daniel's story from the beginning?
[#LitChat](#)



43 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers

@owensheers

Good Q. It isn't intentional. In the case of WR it was there in the original myth I was responding to.
[#LitChat](#)



43 MINUTES AGO



Lara Reid

@Ammonites_Stars

Part of the authenticity for me comes from the nods to simple yet intricate details - things that only that person would see [#LitChat](#)



42 MINUTES AGO



J Sinason

@JRSinason

[@owensheers](#) is it always that intensive finding a voice? [#LitChat](#)



42 MINUTES AGO



Justine

@JayEmmTee1

[@owensheers](#) The structure felt very 'filmic', for want of a better word, to me. [#LitChat](#)



42 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

In my other work - well, my writing life has run parallel with the post 9/11 conflicts. So it's hard not to be aware of violence #LitChat

 42 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

In my other work - well, my writing life has run parallel with the post 9/11 conflicts. So it's hard not to be aware of violence #LitChat

 42 MINUTES AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

We have only 15 more minutes in #LitChat with novelist, playwright & poet @owensheers. Join us at nurph.com/litchat.

 41 MINUTES AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

We have only 15 more minutes in #LitChat with novelist, playwright & poet @owensheers. Join us at nurph.com/litchat.

 41 MINUTES AGO



Carys
@CarysCarysmegan

@owensheers Did you always intend to include the drone element? I'm intrigued by the recurring theme of war in your recent work! #LitChat

 41 MINUTES AGO



Carys
@CarysCarysmegan

@owensheers Did you always intend to include the drone element? I'm intrigued by the recurring theme of war in your recent work! #LitChat

 41 MINUTES AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

Yes, cinematic. RT [@JayEmmTee1](#) [@owensheers](#) The structure felt very 'filmic', for want of a better word, to me. [#LitChat](#)

 41 MINUTES AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

Yes, cinematic. RT [@JayEmmTee1](#) [@owensheers](#) The structure felt very 'filmic', for want of a better word, to me. [#LitChat](#)

 41 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

I didn't know Daniel and Michael would collide initially. But then that presented itself as a good conduit for this idea of [#LitChat](#)

 41 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

I didn't know Daniel and Michael would collide initially. But then that presented itself as a good conduit for this idea of [#LitChat](#)

 41 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

an intimate novel about our globalised world. I wanted the book to be both close, and global, domestic and of the wilderness [#LitChat](#)

 40 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

an intimate novel about our globalised world. I wanted the book to be both close, and global, domestic and of the wilderness [#LitChat](#)

 40 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

I've written some screenplays, so maybe that cinematic quality was at the back of my mind. But then sometimes writing feels like [#LitChat](#)

 39 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

I've written some screenplays, so maybe that cinematic quality was at the back of my mind. But then sometimes writing feels like [#LitChat](#)

 39 MINUTES AGO



**Jeanne Lyet
Gassman**
@JLyetGassman

[@owensheers](#) Really like this idea of lists and maps--great ways to track movement & time.
[#LitChat](#)

 39 MINUTES AGO



**Jeanne Lyet
Gassman**
@JLyetGassman

[@owensheers](#) Really like this idea of lists and maps--great ways to track movement & time.
[#LitChat](#)

 39 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

playing a private film in your head. What did Conrad say? it is the writer's duty, above all, to make us 'see' [#LitChat](#)

 39 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

playing a private film in your head. What did Conrad say? it is the writer's duty, above all, to make us 'see' [#LitChat](#)

 39 MINUTES AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

.@owensheers That wilderness you speak of. Is it that place we all wander through, whether inside the city, suburb or in the wild? #LitChat

 38 MINUTES AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

.@owensheers That wilderness you speak of. Is it that place we all wander through, whether inside the city, suburb or in the wild? #LitChat

 38 MINUTES AGO



billie hinton
@novemberhill

I am thinking of the wilderness of spirit. #LitChat

 38 MINUTES AGO



billie hinton
@novemberhill

I am thinking of the wilderness of spirit. #LitChat

 38 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

Yes - I mean as a condition more than a place - societal as well as personal. A moral wilderness perhaps..? #LitChat

 37 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

Yes - I mean as a condition more than a place - societal as well as personal. A moral wilderness perhaps..? #LitChat

 37 MINUTES AGO



Jeanne Lyet

Gassman

@JLyetGassman

[@owensheers](#) This makes me think of Deliverance--where domestic meets wild. [#LitChat](#)



37 MINUTES AGO



Jeanne Lyet

Gassman

@JLyetGassman

[@owensheers](#) This makes me think of Deliverance--where domestic meets wild. [#LitChat](#)



37 MINUTES AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

I SAW A MAN was cinematic, the pacing so like a Hitchcock film, yet I could imagine Scorsese doing a great job with it. [#LitChat](#)



36 MINUTES AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

I SAW A MAN was cinematic, the pacing so like a Hitchcock film, yet I could imagine Scorsese doing a great job with it. [#LitChat](#)



36 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers

@owensheers

Yes - isn't that where human society began though, on that very border? [#LitChat](#)



36 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers

@owensheers

Yes - isn't that where human society began though, on that very border? [#LitChat](#)



36 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

Scorsese! Well, the film rights have just gone, so if anyone wants to tell him... [#LitChat](#)

 35 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

Scorsese! Well, the film rights have just gone, so if anyone wants to tell him... [#LitChat](#)

 35 MINUTES AGO



**Jeanne Lyet
Gassman**
@JLyetGassman

[@owensheers](#) Yes, I also think of wilderness as untamed, a state where rules no longer apply. Could be internal or external. [#LitChat](#)

 35 MINUTES AGO



**Jeanne Lyet
Gassman**
@JLyetGassman

[@owensheers](#) Yes, I also think of wilderness as untamed, a state where rules no longer apply. Could be internal or external. [#LitChat](#)

 35 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

The Heath is interesting here - a verisimilitude of wilderness, a 'sense' of the wild, but not the real thing. [#LitChat](#)

 34 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

The Heath is interesting here - a verisimilitude of wilderness, a 'sense' of the wild, but not the real thing. [#LitChat](#)

 34 MINUTES AGO



Lara Reid

@Ammonites_Stars

A place of overlapping histories - like the hunter's pathway in NYC, too [#LitChat](#)



33 MINUTES AGO



Lara Reid

@Ammonites_Stars

A place of overlapping histories - like the hunter's pathway in NYC, too [#LitChat](#)



33 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers

@owensheers

I was always intrigued by that hunters' pathway. I'm sure I used to feel it when riding the A train. But then NYC is imbued with [#LitChat](#)



32 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers

@owensheers

I was always intrigued by that hunters' pathway. I'm sure I used to feel it when riding the A train. But then NYC is imbued with [#LitChat](#)



32 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers

@owensheers

that hunter's instinct, no? A searching, a survivalist's hunger? [#LitChat](#)



32 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers

@owensheers

that hunter's instinct, no? A searching, a survivalist's hunger? [#LitChat](#)



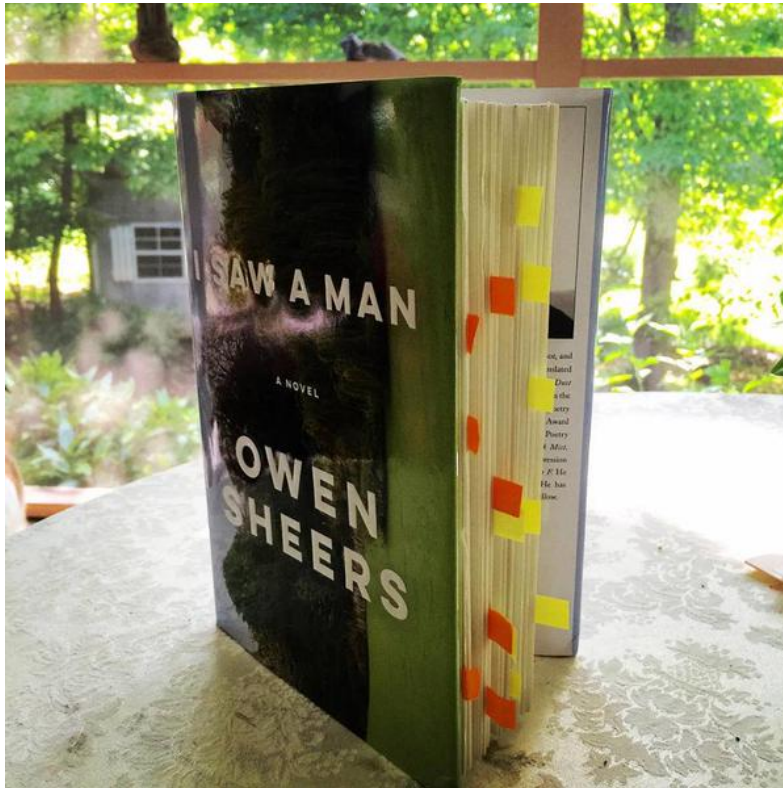
32 MINUTES AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

Only 5 more minutes in #LitChat with novelist, playwright & poet @owensheers. Ask your questions now at nurph.com/litchat.

 32 MINUTES AGO



Here is a photo of the book when I finished reading. So many passages to go back and revisit.
[#LitChat pic.twitter.com/szmrPvodjc](https://pic.twitter.com/szmrPvodjc)

 LITCHAT @LITCHAT · 32 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

That's a wonderful image to see. Looks like you know it better than me... [#LitChat](#)

 31 MINUTES AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

One of my favorites: "He was tired of being unseen. Of being dislocated from his actions. Of witnessing but never being witnessed." [#LitChat](#)

 30 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

A line I hope bleeds into the lives of the other male characters too, within their own fields. #LitChat

29 MINUTES AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

.@owensheers That passage applies to anyone, any age, any gender. The angst of living the anonymous life. #LitChat

28 MINUTES AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

Final question: What did you learn about yourself while writing I SAW A MAN? #LitChat

28 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

Yes, but maybe with Daniel it is motivated by an edge of guilt too? A need to be attached to his actions, and their consequences #LitChat

27 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

Good final Q - That I can be surprisingly stubborn in pursuit of a book, even when I can only just taste it - and that in writing #LitChat

25 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

about children and being a father, I could only brush the surface until I was a father myself #LitChat

25 MINUTES AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

.@owensheers Absolutely that. Daniel's psyche is deeply wounded from the dislocation. The brutal effects of a real life video game. #LitChat

 25 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

If I had to write just one genre for the rest of my life, it would be poetry. But ISAM has whet my appetite for more fiction too... #LitChat

 24 MINUTES AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

.@owensheers We could go on and on about how parenthood changes a person (even Josh was deeply affected by what happened, right?). #LitChat

 23 MINUTES AGO



Lara Reid
@Ammonites_Stars

Will there be a new poetry collection soon? (Please?!) #LitChat

 23 MINUTES AGO



Justine
@JayEmmTee1

Thanks very much, @owensheers and @LitChat - I thoroughly enjoyed #LitChat tonight.

 23 MINUTES AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

.@owensheers For what it's worth, each line of your novel reads like poetry. So think of it in those terms. Few authors do. #LitChat

 23 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers
@owensheers

I think especially Josh... but we shouldn't give too much away. Poetry collection. I hope so!
#LitChat

 22 MINUTES AGO



Rose Ketring
@blurosemd

I just wanted to say that I thoroughly enjoyed listening to @owensheers responses, especially about poetry. #LitChat

 22 MINUTES AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

We've crossed the hour and it's late over there in Wales where @owensheers is sitting before his computer. Must let him go. #LitChat

 22 MINUTES AGO



billie hinton
@novemberhill

I'm so looking forward to reading I SAW A MAN by @owensheers. Thanks to @LitChat for bringing it to my radar screen. #LitChat

 22 MINUTES AGO



**Jeanne Lyet
Gassman**
@JLlyetGassman

@owensheers Thanks for the great conversation! #LitChat

 21 MINUTES AGO



Lara Reid
@Ammonites_Stars

Thank you, Owen, see you at the Edinburgh Book Festival :-)
#LitChat

 21 MINUTES AGO



Lara Reid

@Ammonites_Stars

Thank you, Owen, see you at the Edinburgh Book Festival :-) [#LitChat](#)



21 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers

@owensheers

Thank you, I've enjoyed being here. Time for bed now here in Wales. Take care everyone. [#LitChat](#)



21 MINUTES AGO



billie hinton

@novemberhill

Thanks to all! Really lovely conversation today. [#LitChat](#)



21 MINUTES AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

Let's give [@owensheers](#) a HUGE round of THANKS for being our guest today. {{{APPLAUSE}}}
[#LitChat](#)



21 MINUTES AGO



Owen Sheers

@owensheers

(bows) Nosda pawb. [#LitChat](#)



21 MINUTES AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

If you'd like more information about [@owensheers](#) and his poetry, plays or novels, visit his webstie at owensheers.com. [#LitChat](#)



20 MINUTES AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

Be sure to return next week when [@lorilansens](#) is guest author to discuss her novel, THE MOUNTAIN STORY. [#LitChat](#)



19 MINUTES AGO