

LitChat: Kathleen Burkinshaw, Author

The following is the #LitChat conversation held through Twitter on August 22, 2016 with Kathleen Burkinshaw, author of THE LAST CHERRY BLOSSOM. #LitChat was founded and is moderated by Carolyn Burns Bass (@LitChat). www.litchat.com.



Welcome to #LitChat. We're here today with [@klburkinshaw1](https://twitter.com/klburkinshaw1). Join us for the next hour in #LitChat. pic.twitter.com/qQgAzwZl6V

 LITCHAT @LITCHAT · A DAY AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

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

 A DAY AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

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

 A DAY AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

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

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

Hi everyone! Thanks so much for inviting me Carolyn! #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

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

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

Hi all, I'm Kathleen and my MG hist fic *The Last Cherry Blossom* just published on Aug 2nd :) #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

We are thrilled to have [@klburkinshaw1](#) here in #LitChat. Her debut novel, THE LAST CHERRY BLOSSOM, is wonderful. #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

Thank you so much! #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

****We am thrilled**** Really, we are. (Brain and fingers don't always work together in [#LitChat](#).)
[#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

hee hee. I definitely get that :) [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

You are a fascinating person, Kathleen. Please tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
[@klburkinshaw1](#) [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Michelle Kassorla
@drkassorla

George Orwell's letter from his former French teacher, Aldous Huxley, about Nineteen Eighty-Four
boingboing.net/2016/08/22/geo... [#litchat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

We moved to NC about 9 yrs ago. I began writing TLCB 6 years ago. I actually began doing school presentations 1st [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

I used to write and negotiate health care contracts before writing [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

What did you train for educationally, @klburkinshaw1? Did you always intend to be a writer?
#LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

I have a degree in HealthCare Admin. I used to set up phys and hosp organizations and contract with HMOs on their behalf #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

I also worked for an assisted living center. But I was diagnosed with Reflex Sym dystrophy and spent many weeks in a hospital #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

I'm sure you did your share of writing in healthcare admin field, but it doesn't satisfy the creative side, neh? @klburkinshaw1 #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

No it definitely did not! #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

My daughter was 4 when I became ill so I started writing little stories for her since I was away so much #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

That sparked my creative writing juices once again :) [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

What exactly is Reflex Sym Dystrophy? I understand from your website it's a longterm condition causing great pain. [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Yes, It is a neurological progressive chronic pain disease. I have it in my legs and mos recently spread to my hands [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

For me it is a result of a blood clot that damaged nerves in my leg [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

I have been living with it for 15 years now [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

We moved to NC for the milder winters, cold increases the pain [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

I've interviewed several writers who have had career changes due to illness and who have turned to writing. #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

Absolutely! #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

Writing helps me to work through the pain or in spite of it #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

But after all my mom went through on AUg 6th I feel that I should be able to create through my pain and tell her story #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

What did you want to do as a child? Were you a creative, imaginative child, or did you steer closer to sciences, @klburkinshaw1? #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

Well for every occasion, I wrote cards with poems and even drew little UPC codes on the back of the paper card.. #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

But I loved doing essays and blue books--very weird I know! [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

I originally wanted to be a vet :) [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

Would your teachers have said you "have a way with words," even in the essay books?

[@klburkinshaw1](#) [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Yes, they actually did. I enjoyed public speaking and also acted in plays--so that skill has helped in my healthcare career and now [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

presenting to schools [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin

@CBaldwinAuthor

[@Nurph](#) the links to [#LitChat](#) aren't working. [@CarolyBurnsBass](#)



A DAY AGO

Chat with author
KATHLEEN BURKINSHAW
 in #LitChat,
 August 22, 2016
 4 pm/ET

LIT Ch@t
 All book chat
 www.twitter.com/LitChat

KATHLEEN BURKINSHAW
The Last Cherry Blossom

We're chatting for the next 45 mins in #LitChat with @klburkinshaw1, author of THE LAST CHERRY BLOSSOM. pic.twitter.com/qQgAzwZl6V

LITCHAT @LITCHAT · A DAY AGO

LitChat
 @LitChat

Which links? RT @CBaldwinAuthor @Nurph the links to #LitChat aren't working.
 @CarolyBurnsBass #LitChat

A DAY AGO

LitChat
 @LitChat

Let's talk now about your novel, THE LAST CHERRY BLOSSOM. @klburkinshaw1 Why did you choose fiction for this story? #LitChat

A DAY AGO

Viv Writes
 @VivWrites

@klburkinshaw1 vet is a wonderful profession! do animals still play a part in your books? #litchat

A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Hi @VivWrites! well, not yet. But I have some ideas in mind... #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

I understand THE LAST CHERRY BLOSSOM is based on your mother's experiences in Hiroshima and the A-bomb during WWII, @klburkinshaw1 #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Yes, the book is based on events in her life. The things that are fiction are mostly the order of events #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Of course, conversations would have to be fictional. However, the bombing itself, and who she lost and her family secrets all true #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

Curious why you chose fiction rather than biography for your mother's Hiroshima story, @klburkinshaw1. #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Well, I wanted to tell a story that would let readers learn about daily life in Hiroshima in 1945 #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Viv Writes
@VivWrites

Got Qs for #MG author @klburkinshaw1, whose debut is coming from Sky Pony Press? Join #litchat now! #pitchwars @KAKraft

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

I thought that the best way to do that would be to create a window and a story around that world #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin
@CBaldwinAuthor

That's a good question, #LitChat. But I think stories for kids are so powerful built around historic events #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

Hi @carolbaldwinauthor :) Yes I agree #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

I felt that the reader would identify more with Yuriko that way #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin
@CBaldwinAuthor

Definitely! #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Sorry, spelled the name wrong--welcome CBaldwinAuthor :) #LitChat



A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin

@CBaldwinAuthor

no problem. :) #LitChat



A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

I enjoyed the frame around the story, the family drama and confusion for Yuriko. Was the family "secret" fictional? #LitChat



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Thank you . Sadly , it was all true. #LitChat



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

But her love for her Papa never faded. #LitChat



A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

The family drama and the Yuriko's reactions seemed so typical of teenagers. The angst of self is true in any culture. #LitChat



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

I completely agree. I felt that a mg reader would identify with her emotions regardless of what year it was [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin

@CBaldwinAuthor

Isn't teenager = angst?? [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

I'm not getting specific about the family drama, [@klburkinshaw1](#). I don't want spoilers for anyone who hasn't read the book. [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Oh yeah!! [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Since I started presenting first, I was surprised at how interested kids were in the actual life in Japan [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

When you were growing up, how much did your mother speak of the atrocities she experienced in Hiroshima? [@klburkinshaw1](#) [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

She didn't like to talk about it much. I knew she was born in Hiroshima and lost her home on Aug 6th [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

I do remember her nightmares every August and the screams--even when she was in her 50s and I was still home [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin

@CBaldwinAuthor

My parents lived through WWII. They didn't want to talk about it either. [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Tough memories for any family involved or living through war [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin

@CBaldwinAuthor

Wow--nightmares that many years later. But makes sense. PTSD [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Yes. When she would talk to me about it even a couple years ago, she would still cry . It would break my heart [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

However, she wasn't comfortable talking about it in public so she made sure I never told my teachers that she survived Aug 6th [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

It was my daughter's request that had my mom talking to me about more details of that time [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin

@CBaldwinAuthor

Very interesting. Grandmothers can't resist their grandkids! [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin

@CBaldwinAuthor

So glad she finally did talk about it [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Yes indeed. I am very glad too. [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

When I first got sick, she told me more about her younger years with her beloved Papa and her friend [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

So I loved learning more about her childhood [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

The picture in the book was my mother's favorite-it was her and her Papa. She was about 4 yrs old in the picture. [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

She didn't own any pictures of her older than that-they were all destroyed with her home from the bombing [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

She only had this one and 4 others because they were at a cottage in the country area not bombed [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

Have you sent the book to anyone at the Peace Memorial Museum? I think it would be a great addition to the history, [@klburkinshaw1](#) [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

I will be donating it to the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Hall library and the Peace museum will be selling my book at their bookshop [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

soon. I was lucky to visit there last year and honor my mom at the memorial wall [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

It was unbelievable to be standing on the same ground that she did and imagining what she must have seen [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

Will the book be sold in Japanese? [@klburkinshaw1](#) [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin

@CBaldwinAuthor

What reactions are you receiving from kids who are reading it? [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

Good question! RT [@CBaldwinAuthor](#) What reactions are you receiving from kids who are reading it? [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Hoping that it will be translated.... [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

So far, they have really enjoyed the story. It has touched them and informed them more than a couple par in a text book [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Yuriko seems to touch them and they relate to her and feel her pain [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin

@CBaldwinAuthor

That's why I LOVE historical fiction. Wish I had books like this when I was growing up! [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Me too [@CBaldwinAuthor](#) Me too! [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

I've visited Peace Park and the Museum, [@klburkinshaw1](#). I think every human should make a pilgrimage there in a gap year. [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Oh, wow [@LitChat](#) . That is wonderful. I agree. [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin

@CBaldwinAuthor

I guess that's why we write them! [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Perhaps then maybe the talk or threat of using nuclear weapons would cease [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

The scene where Yuriko sees the child with the melted face. I saw photos in the museum that looked like your description. [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

Yes. RT [@klburkinshaw1](#) Perhaps then maybe the talk or threat of using nuclear weapons would cease [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Yes, sadly it was actually worse than the wax figures, but I had to dial it down a little for the age group, [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

Yes. Stories open the imagination more than biography. RT [@CBaldwinAuthor](#) I guess that's why we write them! [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin

@CBaldwinAuthor

:) [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Yes so true! #LitChat



A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin

@CBaldwinAuthor

gosh, Kathleen, I'm realizing even more how hard this must have been to write! #LitChat



A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

The age group. I wondered about that too, @klburkinshaw1. It was such an atrocity, just describing the scene would be hard. #LitChat



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Yes, it really was a labor of love. @CBaldwinAuthor #LitChat



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Yes @LitChat definitely went back and forth a few rounds during edits #LitChat



A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

What was the hardest part of writing THE LAST CHERRY BLOSSOM, @klburkinshaw1? #LitChat



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Writing about August 6th and imagining it as I would have reacted to it as a 12 year old and mixing that with my mom's description #LitChat



A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin
@CBaldwinAuthor

another good question, [@CarolyBurnsBass](#) ! [#LitChat](#)

A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin
@CBaldwinAuthor

Big sigh... [#LitChat](#)

A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

I cried writing those scenes and am tearing up now [#LitChat](#)

A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

also a big writing piece was the conversation [#LitChat](#)

A DAY AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

Was there a point when you had to separate yourself from the book and just get the words down, [@klburkinshaw1](#)? [#LitChat](#)

A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

Yes, I did have to do that. [#LitChat](#)

A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin
@CBaldwinAuthor

at [@HighlightsFound](#) I heard you know it's good when you cry as you write... [#LitChat](#)

A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

I had to separate my heart so to speak to get the bulk of the story objectively and then layer it with emotion [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

What rituals, practices, disciplines did you draw upon to separate your emotion from the writing?
[@klburkinshaw1](#) [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

I found that if I started researching for a chapter first, I would get caught up in what I was learning
[#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

I also did a lot of praying. [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

"No tears for the writer; no tears for the reader." [@klburkinshaw1](#) [@carolbaldwinout](#) [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

[@LitChat](#) absolutley true! My editor said that as well :) [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

The other difficult part was the conversations [#LitChat](#)

A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Trying to stay true to the culture but not to sound stilted since they spoke so formally (and still do) [#LitChat](#)

A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

What was the most interesting fact you learned while researching THE LAST CHERRY BLOSSOM, @klburkinshaw1? [#LitChat](#)

A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin

@CBaldwinAuthor

that would be challenging [#LitChat](#)

A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

The most interesting fact was when we were in Hiroshima and they pulled out the map and showed me that my mom lived only 2 miles [#LitChat](#)

A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

Yes! RT @klburkinshaw1 Trying to stay true to the culture but not to sound stilted since they spoke so formally (and still do) [#LitChat](#)

A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

away from epicenter, she always said she was further away #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Also, that there was not as much hatred to the enemy. Their view was that that was war and they followed Emperor #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

When we lived in Iwakuni, about 30 miles southeast of Hiroshima, I looked for people to interview about Aug 6. No one came forth. #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Not saying, my mother wasn't angry or hated that it happened, just the whole war in general they were happy it was over, t #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Not happy with how it was over though. #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

A lot of people didn't always want to talk about that day. My mother was very private #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin
@CBaldwinAuthor

My parents were from Germany. My impression was they didn't want to talk about the war either.
[#LitChat](#)

A DAY AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

I think it's the same for war vets. My uncle was in WWII and would NOT talk about it. [#LitChat](#)

A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

I think for my mom, she was still young enough that she didn't quite understand why it all was happening, but old enough she [#LitChat](#)

A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

never forgot [#LitChat](#)

A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin
@CBaldwinAuthor

sounds right [#LitChat](#)

A DAY AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

You were born here in America, right, [@klburkinshaw1](#)? When did your mother come over?
[#LitChat](#)

A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

My mom came to the US in 1959, became a US citizen shortly after that and I was born in the US
[#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

What brought your mother to the US? Your maiden name is not Japanese. Did she marry an American GI? [@klburkinshaw1](#) [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Yes, my dad was in the air force stationed not too far from where she lived in Tokyo [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

They married at the embassy in Japan and then went to the US [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

After being a citizen, my mom then worked on the first circuit boards used in the space mission to the moon! [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

That is a sweet symmetry to her story, [@klburkinshaw1](#). [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

@LitChat yes, it was. #LitChat



A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

When you were growing up, did you ever feel bullied, or awkward because of your Asian heritage, @klburkinshaw1? #LitChat



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

She did have a tough time at first, learning the language and there was still prejudice she dealt with as well #LitChat



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

@LitChat yes, I was made fun of a lot for being Asian #LitChat



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

As a child I really looked Asian #LitChat



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

It was difficult. But my mom tried to make everything American in her home. She didn't teach me Japanese-which I wish she had! #LitChat



A DAY AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

Children can be so cruel to one another. They are afraid of things that are "different," as though it will threaten their safety. #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

Are you working on another book now that THE LAST CHERRY BLOSSOM is in the hands of readers? #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

@LitChat yes that's so true. That is why I hope books like mine, or with the #MGGetsReal help to inform readers that the enemy #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

I can imagine you writing a great book about growing up with mixed roots, being different, etc. @klburkinshaw1 #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

is not so different from ourselves. And we don't always know as much as we think #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin
@CBaldwinAuthor

Profound! #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

I'm slowly working on another historical fiction. but very very early stages. When my mom passed away I could not write [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

I do at some point want to involve a main character dealing with mixed roots. [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



LitChat

@LitChat

What era and in which culture are you setting your new novel, [@klburkinshaw1](#)? [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

It would be post WWII. I have also gotten a lot of requests to find out what happens to Yuriko [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin

@CBaldwinAuthor

Sequel?? [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

possibly..... [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

:) [#LitChat](#)

 A DAY AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

Oh, a sequel to THE LAST CHERRY BLOSSOM, would be fabulous, [@klburkinshaw1](#). #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



LitChat
@LitChat

Final question for [@klburkinshaw1](#): What did you learn about yourself while writing THE LAST CHERRY BLOSSOM? #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin
@CBaldwinAuthor

another great question! #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

I'd have to say that I was stronger than I thought. I didn't think I could finish the book because of the RSD pain. That I could #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

not create any longer. But my brain still worked even if my body was rebelling. #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw
@klburkinshaw1

And that strength I inherited from my wonderful mom #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin
@CBaldwinAuthor

Praise the Lord!! #LitChat

 A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Yes indeed [@CBaldwinAuthor](#) [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Carol A Baldwin

@CBaldwinAuthor

very cool chat. Glad to hear a little more I didn't know! [#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

Thank you so much Everyone and [@LitChat](#) for having me . I have enjoyed my time chatting :)
[#LitChat](#)



A DAY AGO



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That is the kind of answer we love in [#LitChat](#), [@klburkinshaw1](#). "I was stronger than I thought...."
Congratulations! [#LitChat](#)



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Kathleen Burkinshaw

@klburkinshaw1

THank you so very much! :) [#LitChat](#)



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We've just spent the last hour chatting with [@klburkinshaw1](#), author of THE LAST CHERRY BLOSSOM. [#LitChat](#)



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Let's give [@klburkinshaw1](#) a HUGE round of THANKS for joining us today in [#LitChat](#).
{{{APPLAUSE}}} [#LitChat](#)

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Kathleen Burkinshaw
[@klburkinshaw1](#)

Blg smile and bowing ensues :) [#LitChat](#)

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Be sure to come back next week when [@katharinemcgee](#) is here to discuss her blockbuster, THE THOUSANDTH FLOOR. [#LitChat](#)

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Want to know more about the Hiroshima A-bomb and THE LAST CHERRY BLOSSOM by [@klburkinshaw1](#)? kathleenburkinshaw.com. [#LitChat](#)

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