

#ThrillerChat Transcript for February 22, 2010

All times are Pacific Time

- [12:09 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: ATTENTION: [#thrillerchat](#) starts at 8PM EST with guest Graham Storrs, author of the sci-fi thriller TIMESPLASH - <http://bit.ly/av4IHb>
- [12:51 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: A pdf transcript of tonight's [#thrillerchat](#) will be available on my website tomorrow morning for those not able to join us.
- [12:52 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: To join in the discussion, follow [#thrillerchat](#) or join us using tweetchat.com.
- [12:53 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Join me for a [#thrillerchat](#) TweetChat at: <http://tweetchat.com/room/thrillerchat> [#thrillerchat](#)
- [12:57 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Tonight's [#thrillerchat](#) should be fun. About two minutes to go. [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:00 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Welcome to [#thrillerchat](#)! We're back after switching days and a week off. [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:02 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Welcome Graham Storrs, author of TimeSplash, a sci-fi thriller just recently released. [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:03 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Thank you for joining us, Graham! [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:03 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: Hi Chris. It's good to be here. [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:04 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Your novel was recently released. Tell us a little about it. [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:05 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: TimeSplash is a near-future sci-fi thriller featuring a time-hopping terrorist and a race against time to save London. [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:05 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: That's literally a race against time, you understand :-)) [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:06 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: Just to get the plug out of the way, you can find the book here: <http://bit.ly/av4IHb> [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:06 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Yes, quite literally, isn't it? Nice play on words there. [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:08 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: People talk aboutsci-fi being the 'literature of ideas' but it's also a natural genre for thrillers too. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:08 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: I purchased my copy this evening and am looking forward to jumping into it. I've been excited about it for quite some time [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:09 am](#) **[gioclair](#)**: Hello there, [#thrillerchat](#). Hope I'm not too late.

[1:11 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: @[gioclair](#) Hi. You a thriller writer too? [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:11 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Sci-fi does seem like a natural genre suited for thrillers. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:11 am](#) **[BatVader](#)**: agreed! | RT @[graywave](#) People talk aboutsci-fi being the 'literature of ideas' but it's also a natural genre for thrillers too [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:11 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: Just look at a movie like 'Alien' - so many great ideas - including feminist themes - yet a first class thriller. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:12 am](#) **[SGRedling](#)**: [#thrillerchat](#) How restrictive did you find the time travel element? Or was it liberating? laws of physics etc?

[1:12 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Nice to have you, @[gioclair](#) and @[BatVader](#)! [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:14 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: @[SGRedling](#) Time travel is so heavily used in sci-fi, it was very hard to come up with something original! Big fun though. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:15 am](#) **[SGRedling](#)**: [#thrillerchat](#) No doubt. there are so many thriller aspects to time travel. the clock is literally ticking

[1:16 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: Thrillers have always favoured exotic locations. I think the future is a natural setting for the genre - and the past! [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:17 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: There is nothing more exotic than the future. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:18 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: @[SGRedling](#) Some models of time travel would spoil the ticking clock element -you can go back and fix things, or get more time. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:19 am](#) **[SGRedling](#)**: [#thrillerchat](#) Never thought of that - of course then theres the butterfly effect. My head is spinning!

[1:19 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: @[Selorian](#) - When you write sci-fi, the future is literally what you make it. I like to make it exciting. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:19 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: When you started writing TimeSplash, did you set out to write a thriller, or did it just happen that way? [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:20 am](#) **[SGRedling](#)**: [#thrillerchat](#) Do you rely on technology? or culture shifts? something else?

[1:20 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: @[graywave](#) I had a Back to the Future moment there. Can I call you Doc Brown? [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:20 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: @[Selorian](#) The idea came to me in a flash - time travel as an extreme sport that goes badly wrong. It just had to be a thriller [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:21 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Join me for a [#thrillerchat](#) with author Graham Storrs at: <http://tweetchat.com/room/thrillerchat> [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:21 am](#) **[merrileefaber](#)**: Thrillerchat currently running! RT @[Selorian](#): To join in the discussion, follow [#thrillerchat](#) or join us using tweetchat.com.

[1:22 am](#) **[SGRedling](#)**: [#thrillerchat](#) A cool take - Shaun White in a worm hole! Any trouble selling it as a genre straddler?

[1:24 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: @[SGRedling](#) - For TimeSplash, the technology leads to big cultural problems - ones that might threaten everything. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:25 am](#) **[gioclair](#)**: @[graywave](#) Is your novel a SF thriller, or a thriller with SF elements? [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:25 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: @[SGRedling](#) - You know, I never even thought of it as a genre traddler - so much good sci-fi is also thriller and vice versa [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:26 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: @[gioclair](#) - Good question. How do I tell? [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:27 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Sci-fi focuses on the technology, right? [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:27 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: @[gioclair](#) - It's much more of a sci-fi story than, say, most Michael Chrichton novels, if that's where you're going? [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:27 am](#) **[gioclair](#)**: RT @[graywave](#): Good question. How do I tell? Are the SF elements more setting or more plot? [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:29 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: @[gioclair](#) - Setting, I guess. Our heroes live in the future. Our bad guy is a time traveller but I could have used the same... [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:30 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: @[gioclair](#) ...characters and story with a modern-day or historical setting. It's very much about the characters. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:31 am](#) **[gioclair](#)**: I was thinking of Richard Morgan's Altered Carbon as an example of a SF thriller. With setting and plot intertwined [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:31 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: All you really need is some poor schmuck facing insurmountable odds, armed only with stubborn persistence and a true heart. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:32 am](#) **[gioclair](#)**: But I guess we should talk thriller more than SF--right? :) [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:33 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: @[gioclair](#) My previous time travel novel (unpublished) is much more like that. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:34 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: RT @[gioclair](#): But I guess we should talk thriller more than SF--right? :) < probably, but I'm happy either way [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:34 am](#) **[SGRedling](#)**: [#thrillerchat](#) What prompted you to shift?

[1:34 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: The element of the future being forever changed (destroyed?) lends well to the high stakes expected of a thriller. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:35 am](#) **[gioclair](#)**: RT @[graywave](#): Can you tell us more about your characters? [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:36 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: @[Selorian](#) - Ah, don't jump to any conclusions until you've read it. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:36 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: @[SGRedling](#) Shift? [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:36 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: @[graywave](#) Haha! Good point. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:37 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: @[gioclair](#) TimeSplash is about two people saving the world and saving themselves in the process I love dysfunctional characters [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:37 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Join me for a [#thrillerchat](#) TweetChat at: <http://tweetchat.com/room/thrillerchat> [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:38 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: I really wanted to explore dysfunctional love in this book. Sounds sappy, huh? But love hurts. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:39 am](#) **[SGRedling](#)**: [#thrillerchat](#) LOL so now its a romance too??? ;-0

[1:40 am](#) **[gioclair](#)**: @[graywave](#) Do they have emotional arcs? Do they change? Not that they should as a rule. Depends on the story. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:41 am](#) **[graywave](#)**: @[SGRedling](#) - Oh yes, an odd one, but all these genres overlap. I <3 Georgette Heyer as well as Ray Bradbury and Tom Clancy [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:41 am](#) [jessrosenbooks](#): [#ThrillerChat](#) Please, save me from "functional" characters. Dysfunctional is much more genuine for individuals. Relationships, either way.

[1:41 am](#) [graywave](#): [@gioclair](#) - very much so (at least, my leading lady does) [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:42 am](#) [graywave](#): [@jessrosenbooks](#) Absolutely! Couldn't agree more! [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:42 am](#) [with headphones](#): RT [@jessrosenbooks](#): [#ThrillerChat](#) Please, save me from "functional" characters. Dysfunctional is much more genuine for individuals. Relationships, either way.

[1:46 am](#) [Selorian](#): After writing a ci-fi thriller (or thriller with sci-fi elements) do you have any tips for those wanting to write one? [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:46 am](#) [graywave](#): An interesting thing is that Hollywood tends to 'thrillerize' science fiction (cf Do Androids Dream vs Bladerunner) [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:46 am](#) [iamwritermom](#): RT [@jessrosenbooks](#): [#ThrillerChat](#) Please, save me from "functional" characters. Dysfunctional is much more genuine for individuals. Relationships, either way.

[1:47 am](#) [Selorian](#): [@graywave](#) That is very true. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:47 am](#) [SGRedling](#): [#thrillerchat](#) Since this is more thriller than your previous sci fi, how did u find the pacing changed?

[1:49 am](#) [graywave](#): [@SGRedling](#) - I like writing (and reading) fast-paced stories but sometimes you just have to take the start slow(er) and ... [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:50 am](#) [graywave](#): [@SGRedling](#) ... explore the characters and their relationships. My last novel was more of a psychological thriller. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:51 am](#) [SGRedling](#): [#thrillerchat](#) Did explaining the tech slow you down at first? Any recommendations for writers incorporating tech?

[1:53 am](#) [graywave](#): [@Selorian](#) - getting the plot as tight as possible. The villain is so hard in a thriller. Finding a sensible motivation so ... [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:55 am](#) [graywave](#): [@Selorian](#) ... the villain isn't just a comic-book character is possibly the hardest thing. I like characters to be realistic. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:56 am](#) [graywave](#): [@SGRedling](#) - People say sci-fi and fantasy novels are longer than most so the author can explain the tech and build the world [#thrillerchat](#)

1:57 am **graywave:** @[SGRedling](#) I don't think that's a good excuse. I say just write the story, let the world and the tech come through on its own. #[thrillerchat](#)

1:57 am **Selorian:** @[graywave](#) Yes, that aspect would be very important. It's so easy to go over the top with them. #[thrillerchat](#)

1:57 am **SGRedling:** #[thrillerchat](#) Weapons & tech are important in sci fi & thrillers but can be over explained. How do you walk that line?

1:58 am **graywave:** @[SGRedling](#) I think the tech tends to make writing a synopsis really hard though! #[thrillerchat](#)

1:58 am **jessrosenbooks:** #[ThrillerChat](#) I like cyberpunk because of lack of explanations - reader is dropped into world/lingo and told "keep up!"

1:58 am **graywave:** @[SGRedling](#) I err on the side of uner-explaining. Let the reader use their imagination. It's half the fun! #[thrillerchat](#)

2:00 am **graywave:** @[jessrosenbooks](#) I remember the Gret Sky River series by gregory Benford. Even the language people are speaking is strange... #[thrillerchat](#)

2:00 am **SGRedling:** #[thrillerchat](#) Sorry to run - gotta work. Enjoyed this & look forward to reading the transcript and the book. Thanks @[Graywave](#)

2:01 am **graywave:** @[jessrosenbooks](#) ...it was a real struggle (but well worth it.) #[thrillerchat](#)

2:01 am **Selorian:** Any wrap up questions for Graham before he heads out? #[thrillerchat](#)

2:02 am **Selorian:** @[SGRedling](#) Thank you for coming. The transcript will be up tomorrow. I'll tweet the link when it is available. #[thrillerchat](#)

2:03 am **gioclair:** #[ThrillerChat](#) "In cyberpunk, the future is seen as bleak and largely caused by technology, whereas in post-cyberpunk, technology IS society"

2:03 am **graywave:** @[Selorian](#) Thanks for having me. And If anyone wants to know what I was on about, here it is: <http://bit.ly/av4lHb> #[thrillerchat](#)

2:04 am **gioclair:** #[ThrillerChat](#) That was from Lawrence Person's article, which introduced the term "post-cyberpunk"

2:06 am **Selorian:** Thank you for joining us, Graham. The link you provided is to where TimeSplash is available, right? #[thrillerchat](#)

2:07 am **Selorian:** It's been great fun. Best of luck to you, your book, and all your future endeavors! #[thrillerchat](#)

2:08 am **jessrosenbooks**: #ThrillerChat Congrats & thanks, @Graywave. TIMESPLASH sounds terrific, looking forward to getting hands on: <http://bit.ly/av4IHb>

2:09 am **Selorian**: Thank you everyone for coming tonight. I hope to see you all back next week at the same day and time for more #thrillerchat!
#thrillerchat

2:11 am **Selorian**: The pdf transcript of tonights chat will be available on my website tomorrow. I'll tweet the link when up using the hashtag #thrillerchat

2:11 am **gioclair**: @Selorian: Than you! #thrillerchat

2:12 am **graywave**: Thanks @Selorian You were the perfect host, Cliff. And thanks to all the others keeping me company on #thrillerchat

2:14 am **Selorian**: @graywave Thank you. Maybe we can have you back again someday. #thrillerchat

2:15 am **Selorian**: Check out TimeSplash @ <http://bit.ly/av4IHb> . I bought my copy tonight and can hardly wait to start reading it. #thrillerchat

2:17 am **Selorian**: Good night, everyone. Thank you for the chat. Join us next week for more #thrillerchat. Now off to seperate fighting kids.
#thrillerchat

2:25 am **jessrosenbooks**: .@Selorian Thanks for organizing and hosting #ThrillerChat. Great guests, participants & info. (Mondays, 8pm EST US, be there aloha!)

7:14 am **graywave**: Thx for the RTs @jessrosenbooks @Rajknow @Selorian @merrileefaber @Tara_Moss @ljsellers @BatVader and thx for having me over #thrillerchat