

ThrillerChat Transcript for July 14, 2010

All times are Pacific Time

July 15, 2010

- [12:03 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Another adrenaline filled [#thrillerchat](#) starts now. Starting Topic: Has the Thriller Trend Peaked?
- [12:04 am](#) **[portiaalex](#)**: RT [@Selorian](#): Another adrenaline filled [#thrillerchat](#) starts now. Starting Topic: Has the Thriller Trend Peaked?
- [12:04 am](#) **[jterzieff](#)**: RT [@portiaalex](#): RT [@Selorian](#): Another adrenaline filled [#thrillerchat](#) starts now. Starting Topic: Has the Thriller Trend Peaked?
- [12:05 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: I don't remember the link, but I read a comment from an agent stating thrillers were waning? Have they ran their course? [#thrillerchat](#)
- [12:05 am](#) **[MetaPhoenix](#)**: When describing a "thriller trend", perhaps we should define which films are included. It's not always obvious. [#thrillerchat](#)
- [12:06 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: What are your thoughts? [#thrillerchat](#)
- [12:07 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Good point, although I was referring more to books than to films. They do go hand in hand though. [@MetaPhoenix](#) [#thrillerchat](#)
- [12:07 am](#) **[MetaPhoenix](#)**: [@Selorian](#) Are we referring to books, film, TV, or all of the above? [#thrillerchat](#)
- [12:07 am](#) **[portiaalex](#)**: I think good writing, good plot will always be successful, regardless of trends [#thrillerchat](#)
- [12:08 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: I totally agree, [@portiaalex](#). [#thrillerchat](#)
- [12:09 am](#) **[MetaPhoenix](#)**: [@Selorian](#) True. More thriller books make it into a finished film than other genres such as SF and fantasy. [#thrillerchat](#)
- [12:09 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Thank you, Bob. They do and I think the thriller will be around in some form forever. [@bobspear](#) [#thrillerchat](#)
- [12:09 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Mainly books, but we can dip into the other forms as well. [@MetaPhoenix](#) [#thrillerchat](#)
- [12:10 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: I see the more traditional, straight thrillers possibly waning, but the sub-genres are going strong. [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:11 am](#) [Selorian](#): RT @bobspear: Thrillers will always be with us, but how they're packaged or themed changes. For example, terrorist situations are in now #thrillerchat

[12:12 am](#) [HeatherMcCorkle](#): Agreed! RT @portiaalex I think good writing, good plot will always be successful, regardless of trends #thrillerchat

[12:13 am](#) [Selorian](#): RT @bobspear: Platoon was a thriller as well as a war flick. The conflict kept ramping up. I came out of the theater shaking from adrenaline #thrillerchat

[12:13 am](#) [HeatherMcCorkle](#): I don't think the thriller trend has peaked, I think it's changing, evolving, just like all genres. #thrillerchat

[12:14 am](#) [Selorian](#): Another good point, @bobspear #thrillerchat

[12:14 am](#) [portiaalex](#): Yes! RT @HeatherMcCorkle: I don't think the thriller trend has peaked, I think it's changing, evolving, just like all genres. #thrillerchat

[12:14 am](#) [MetaPhoenix](#): I can comment on the TV thriller angle. Now that Lost is done, there'll be a vacuum for suspense and books could fill the void #thrillerchat

[12:15 am](#) [Selorian](#): True, @HeatherMcCorkle #thrillerchat

[12:16 am](#) [Selorian](#): RT @bobspear: The Platoon example was given because many would only consider it a war flick but it is a thriller too. #thrillerchat

[12:17 am](#) [portiaalex](#): @HeatherMcCorkle It's a fun idea to be a leader in a trend, too! #thrillerchat

[12:18 am](#) [MetaPhoenix](#): @Selorian I stopped following 24 after a few seasons, but you are correct that a vacuum will exist there also. #thrillerchat

[12:20 am](#) [Selorian](#): I remember in high school, 20 years ago, post World War 3 military thrillers were big. The Hard Corps, The Guardians, Death Lands #thrillerchat

[12:20 am](#) [Selorian](#): RT @bobspear: I never made it thru 1st season of Lost, too improbable. Started watching 24 from its 1st season. Works for me #thrillerchat

[12:20 am](#) [Selorian](#): RT @bobspear: Many of the vampire and paranormal books fit into the thriller format. #thrillerchat

[12:21 am](#) [Selorian](#): Being a leader is a fun idea, isn't it? @portiaalex #thrillerchat

[12:22 am](#) [MetaPhoenix](#): Can someone name a good historical thriller novel published after The Da Vinci Code? [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:22 am](#) [Selorian](#): I never got into Lost or 24, but they will leave an empty space to be filled in TV thrillers. [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:23 am](#) [portiaalex](#): I think there's a thriller element to many stories, even if it's a subplot, i.e. romantic suspense. Or am I off base? [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:23 am](#) [Selorian](#): They do. YA Paranormal Thrillers basically. [@bobspear](#) [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:25 am](#) [portiaalex](#): My 4 YO is an aspiring screenwriter, BTW. He's always "making movies" :-)
[#thrillerchat](#)

[12:25 am](#) [Selorian](#): RT [@bobspear](#): Post apocalypse is coming back in a big way. People are wondering if they face such future soon. [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:26 am](#) [HeatherMcCorkle](#): [@portiaalex](#) I agree. I think the thriller element fits well into many other genres. [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:26 am](#) [MetaPhoenix](#): [@Selorian](#) I'm fairly sick of YA paranormal thrillers, but then I'm not a big fan of run-of-the-mill adult paranormal thrillers
[#thrillerchat](#)

[12:27 am](#) [Selorian](#): I've noticed that, Bob, And that is supposedly the route YA is going on the tail of vampires. [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:27 am](#) [HeatherMcCorkle](#): I also think thriller writers cross over to other genres very successfully because so many people love a thrill in their read.
[#thrillerchat](#)

[12:27 am](#) [Selorian](#): That's too cute. Maybe the next Steven Spielberg in the making.
[@portiaalex](#) [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:28 am](#) [HeatherMcCorkle](#): Consider bestselling thriller author James Rollins who also writes fantasy under the name James Clemens. He's genius! [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:28 am](#) [Selorian](#): RT [@bobspear](#): Some mysteries are really thrillers. A lot depends on the focus on problem solving vs ramped conflict. [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:28 am](#) [Selorian](#): I hear you, [@MetaPhoenix](#). [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:30 am](#) [Selorian](#): I agree. Great author. And he has a series of YA Thrillers as well.
[@HeatherMcCorkle](#) [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:30 am](#) [Selorian](#): RT [@bobspear](#): The interesting thing about YA thrillers is how many big authors are now writing them. [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:31 am](#) [AtlasTakesAim](#): RT [@HeatherMcCorkle](#): Agreed! RT [@portiaalex](#) I think good

[am](#) writing, good plot will always be successful, regardless of trends
[#thrillerchat](#)

[12:32](#) [Selorian](#): Even not so big-name thriller authors is jumping in on the YA
[am](#) thriller wagon. [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:34](#) [portiaalex](#): I enjoyed Shutter Island, although I know I know some people
[am](#) didn't [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:35](#) [Selorian](#): RT [@bobspear](#): The key to good thriller is how believable is it.
[am](#) Lost had to die because it just wasn't believable anymore.
[#thrillerchat](#)

[12:37](#) [Selorian](#): It's an older one, but I liked Brotherhood of the Wolf and would
[am](#) classify that as a thriller. [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:37](#) [MetaPhoenix](#): [@Selorian](#) I try not to diss the paranormal YA trend too much,
[am](#) because I know it creates more readers for other genres.
[#thrillerchat](#)

[12:37](#) [Selorian](#): I want to see that. It looks good. [@portiaalex](#) [#thrillerchat](#)
[am](#)

[12:38](#) [HeatherMcCorkle](#): [@portiaalex](#) *shhh!* I liked Shutter Island too! [#thrillerchat](#)
[am](#)

[12:38](#) [Selorian](#): RT [@bobspear](#): To me, its not about which subgenre is in now
[am](#) but how well its written [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:38](#) [portiaalex](#): Agreed! RT [@bobspear](#): The key to good thriller is how
[am](#) believable is it. Lost had to die because it wasn't believable
anymore. [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:39](#) [MetaPhoenix](#): [@bobspear](#) Series arc was over anyway. It didn't die so much as
[am](#) wrap up. Thriller series arent meant to be double-digit seasons
[#thrillerchat](#)

[12:39](#) [Selorian](#): Anything that gets younger people reading is good at least for
[am](#) that. [@MetaPhoenix](#) [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:39](#) [Selorian](#): RT [@bobspear](#): The rush to YA is because many more adults are
[am](#) reading them, [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:42](#) [Selorian](#): A side-topic maybe, but do you believe agents & publishers
[am](#) mostly stick to the trends & what they believe to be the next one?
[#thrillerchat](#)

[12:42](#) [MetaPhoenix](#): [@bobspear](#) You seem not to like paranormal or sci-fi tropes
[am](#) (correct me if I'm wrong), so believability is relative. [#thrillerchat](#)

[12:44](#) [Selorian](#): I have two thrillers in the works as of now and I'm really not

[am](#) worried that I missed the spike in interest. #[thrillerchat](#)

[12:45 am](#) **[MetaPhoenix](#)**: @[Selorian](#) Since Harry Potter and Twilight, it isn't all about good writing, sadly. Publishers are looking at trends more. #[thrillerchat](#)

[12:46 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: I would definitely hope that is the case. I've just heard of so many books passed on because it wasn't in. @[portiaalex](#) #[thrillerchat](#)

[12:47 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Exactly what I was referring to. @[MetaPhoenix](#) #[thrillerchat](#)

[12:48 am](#) **[portiaalex](#)**: Although being at the end of a trend definitely has its drawbacks--writing vampires could be challenging now #[thrillerchat](#)

[12:51 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: RT @[portiaalex](#): Although being at the end of a trend definitely has its drawbacks--writing vampires could be challenging now #[thrillerchat](#)

[12:51 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Agreed. @[portiaalex](#) #[thrillerchat](#)

[12:52 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: There is one writer who is shopping an urban fantasy novel around and his agent told him that boat has sailed & is sinking. #[thrillerchat](#)

[12:53 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: RT @[bobspear](#): 10 yrs ago, pubs planned 3 years out. I think today its a total crap shoot. #[thrillerchat](#)

[12:55 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Just a reminder that tonight's #[thrillerchat](#) is 2 hours since I missed last week. Second hour is open to discuss whatever.

[12:56 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: RT @[bobspear](#): 2nd guessing the market boils down primarily to luck. #[thrillerchat](#)

[12:56 am](#) **[MetaPhoenix](#)**: I'm much more a fan of YA SF than YA paranormal. A good YA SF book would be Little Brother by Cory Doctorow: thriller elements #[thrillerchat](#)

[12:56 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Heard that was a really good book. @[MetaPhoenix](#) #[thrillerchat](#)

[12:58 am](#) **[BellaVidaLetty](#)**: great movie, really enjoyed it @[Selorian](#) an older one, but I liked Brotherhood of the Wolf would classify that as a thriller. #[thrillerchat](#)

[12:59 am](#) **[jterzieff](#)**: Was making/eating dinner so missed most of #[thrillerchat](#)

[1:00 am](#) **[portiaalex](#)**: @[BellaVidaLetty](#) I loved Brotherhood of the Wolf--awesome! #[thrillerchat](#)

[1:00 am](#) [jterzieff](#): RT @portiaalex: Agreed! RT @bobspear: The key to good thriller is how believable is it. Lost had to die because it wasn't believable anymore. #thrillerchat

[1:01 am](#) [Selorian](#): Yes, you do! >RT @bobspear: @Selorian Cliff, u know my writing better than anyone else here. Do I practice what I preach? #thrillerchat

[1:01 am](#) [jterzieff](#): RT @HeatherMcCorkle: @portiaalex *shhh!* I liked Shutter Island too! #thrillerchat >>> dont tell, but me too!

[1:01 am](#) [portiaalex](#): @jterzieff Good to see you here now :-) #thrillerchat

[1:01 am](#) [jterzieff](#): RT @AtlasTakesAim: RT @HeatherMcCorkle: Agreed! RT @portiaalex I think good writing, good plot will always be successful, regardless of trends #thrillerchat

[1:02 am](#) [jterzieff](#): RT @bobspear: Post apocalypse is coming back in a big way. People are wondering if they face such future soon. #thrillerchat

[1:02 am](#) [Selorian](#): Make that 2 hour chat. Oops. @jterzieff #thrillerchat

[1:02 am](#) [jterzieff](#): RT @portiaalex: @jterzieff Good to see you here now :-) #thrillerchat >> Thanks luv! just trying to catch up!! :-)

[1:02 am](#) [Selorian](#): RT @bobspear: The problem with market predictions is there is a 6 to 24 month lag from acceptance to release date. #thrillerchat

[1:04 am](#) [Selorian](#): Bob most definitely practices what he preaches. I've read all 5 of his Leavenworth Mystery books and the last was a thriller. #thrillerchat

[1:04 am](#) [MetaPhoenix](#): @Selorian Near-future YA SF could trend big soon. Kids who are genetically engineered could make good main characters. #thrillerchat

[1:05 am](#) [Selorian](#): RT @MetaPhoenix: @Selorian Near-future YA SF could trend big soon. Kids who are genetically engineered could make good main characters. #thrillerchat

[1:06 am](#) [jterzieff](#): Ewwwww yes ... @MetaPhoenix @Selorian genetically engineered kids give me the heebee-jeebies!!! #thrillerchat

[1:07 am](#) [Selorian](#): That's a great prediction, @MetaPhoenix #thrillerchat

[1:08 am](#) [jterzieff](#): ...reality is, many well written shows fail. trends count. in a perfect world, good writing would win (via @daylonstuddard) #thrillerchat

[1:10 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: How many people believe self-publishing is now a viable option to get books out that have been passed over because of trends? [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:12 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: RT [@bobspear](#): Patterson's Maximum Ride teens with wings fits that description to a Tee. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:13 am](#) **[MetaPhoenix](#)**: [.@jterzieff](#) Which is why genetic engineering tropes could be hot. Teenagers love an "us vs. them" mentality. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:14 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: [@MetaPhoenix](#) Late, but 33 A.D. and Silver come to mind. David McCaffe & Steve Saville (spelling may be wrong). [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:15 am](#) **[MetaPhoenix](#)**: [@Selorian](#) Until ebooks command a much greater marketshare than now, self-publishing is a mistake IMO. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:15 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: RT [@bobspear](#): Self-publishing first depends primarily on how well you do it. I've done it since 1989; its where angels fear to tread. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:17 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Interesting and valid view. [@MetaPhoenix](#) [#thrillerchat](#) (forgot hash tag)

[1:19 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: RT [@bobspear](#): I'm self-publishing mysteries but only at my own store for now. What I learn from customers & fans can then be used beyond that [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:20 am](#) **[MetaPhoenix](#)**: I gtg. Great chat! [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:20 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: How have digital sales been so far? Don't have to go into detail, just general as I was wondering. [@bobspear](#) [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:21 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: [@MetaPhoenix](#) Glad you could make it. See ya! [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:23 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Since making apps for android is easier iPhones etc, I'm looking into making an app for my [#StoryStarters](#) book. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:25 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: [@bobspear](#) Interesting. That's too bad but great about the paper books. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:27 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Anyone is free to throw out new topics to discuss if they want to. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:33 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: If the chat is winding down, I may head out. I'll post the .pdf transcript tomorrow on my site & tweet the link. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:34 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Thanks to everyone that joined in on tonight's [#thrillerchat](#). I had a blast, hope you did too. Another chat next week. Same time and place.

1:35
am

Selorian: @[jterzieff](#) Sorry to hear that. Hope it's alright. Always a pleasure to have you, even when it's lurking. #[thrillerchat](#)

1:39
am

portiaalex: @[Selorian](#) Thanks again for a great chat! #[thrillerchat](#)

1:41
am

Selorian: @[portiaalex](#) My pleasure. Thank you! Always awesome to see you here when you get to make it. #[thrillerchat](#)

1:43
am

jterzieff: RT @[Selorian](#): @[jterzieff](#) Sorry to hear. Hope it's alright. Always a pleasure to have u, even when it's lurking. #[thrillerchat](#) >>
THANKS!!!!