

thrillerchat Transcript from February 6, 2010

All times are Pacific Time

- [12:56 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Tonight's [#thrillerchat](#) topic: The use of humor in thriller novels. Starts in 5 minutes.
- [12:58 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Join me for a [#thrillerchat](#) TweetChat at: <http://tweetchat.com/room/thrillerchat> [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:01 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Welcome! Tonight's chat topic is using humor in thriller novels. [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:02 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Chat transcript available tomorrow for those not able to make it tonight. [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:02 am](#) **[Debberzz](#)**: RT @[Selorian](#) Join me for a [#thrillerchat](#) TweetChat at: <http://tweetchat.com/room/thrillerchat> [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:03 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Does humor have a place in thriller novels? What role can it play? What are your thoughts? [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:04 am](#) **[TonyNoland](#)**: Awesome, thanks. RT @[Selorian](#): Chat transcript available tomorrow for those not able to make it tonight. [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:04 am](#) **[portiaalex](#)**: I love humor in thrillers. It tempers the tension or the horror in the story [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:05 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: @[TonyNoland](#) My pleasure. [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:05 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: @[portiaalex](#) I do too. It's an excellent way to let people have a moment to catch their breath. [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:06 am](#) **[jkoyanagi](#)**: @[Selorian](#) As in all genres, it works if it's well-executed. If not, it just elicits groans. [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:06 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: @[portiaalex](#) Glad you could make it, btw. [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:07 am](#) **[portiaalex](#)**: The fates aligned tonight! Good to be here [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:08 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: @[jkoyanagi](#) Very true. Do you think it's easier to fall into the realm of overkill more in thrillers? [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:09 am](#) **[jkoyanagi](#)**: @[Selorian](#) Not necessarily. A good thriller writer will know when to inject humor and how to do so. [#thrillerchat](#)
- [1:10 am](#) **[egtalbot](#)**: My favorite thrillers keep you guessing but don't take themselves too seriously. Humor is important for that [#thrillerchat](#)

1:11 am **Selorian**: @[jkoyanagi](#) As in every genre, it takes a deft touch, then. [#thrillerchat](#)

1:12 am **Selorian**: @[egtalbot](#) Good point. [#thrillerchat](#)

1:14 am **Selorian**: Do you think humor can help in making your reader connect with your main character by showing a lighter side to him? [#thrillerchat](#)

1:14 am **portiaalex**: Side note: Had to explain to husband that [#thrillerchat](#) is writing related, not Michael Jackson ;-)

1:14 am **Selorian**: @[portiaalex](#) Haha! [#thrillerchat](#)

1:16 am **portiaalex**: Absolutely! We feel much closer to someone who can make us laugh, especially a main character [#thrillerchat](#)

1:17 am **Selorian**: I know I really like the humor in some of Clive Cussler's books. Sahara for an example. [#thrillerchat](#)

1:18 am **jkoyanagi**: @[Selorian](#) I think it helps to know your audience, too. Will help with character development, including humor. [#thrillerchat](#)

1:19 am **Selorian**: @[jkoyanagi](#) That's true too. Knowing your audience is always important. [#thrillerchat](#)

1:20 am **egtalbot**: @[Selorian](#) Cussler is grt example of how the type of humor has to match the author. Cussler's silly situations work with. . . [#thrillerchat](#)

1:21 am **egtalbot**: @[Selorian](#) . . .his direct writing style. Ludlums 2 humrous thrillers OTOH match his melodramatic style [#thrillerchat](#)

1:22 am **Selorian**: Join me for a [#thrillerchat](#) TweetChat at: <http://tweetchat.com/room/thrillerchat> [#thrillerchat](#)

1:25 am **Selorian**: @[egtalbot](#) Good point, too. [#thrillerchat](#)

1:26 am **portiaalex**: I enjoy the thrillers that temper the really gross stuff with humor. If you can make me laugh about it I'm impressed! [#thrillerchat](#)

1:27 am **Selorian**: Jonathan Maberry uses humor quite well in his Patient Zero as well. [#thrillerchat](#)

1:31 am **Selorian**: @[portiaalex](#) Humor has a way of making us relax. It makes the gross more bearable and the tense more endurable. [#thrillerchat](#)

1:33 am **Selorian**: In more action style thrillers, do you think a sidekick is better suited as comic relief? [#thrillerchat](#)

1:33 **portiaalex**: @[Selorian](#) Totally agree! I'd never thought of it that way.

[am](#) [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:34 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: @[portiaalex](#) Could it be used to cause us to let our guard down to make the scare or thrill even more intense [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:35 am](#) **[jkoyanagi](#)**: @[Selorian](#) I'm not a fan of humorous sidekick characters because it's a cliché. That said, it may just be personal preference. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:35 am](#) **[jkoyanagi](#)**: @[Selorian](#) I much prefer intelligent wit from the main character. :) [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:36 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: @[jkoyanagi](#) It is used so often that it has become somewhat cliché. So it should be done with care, if at all. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:36 am](#) **[portiaalex](#)**: @[Selorian](#) Absolutely! Humor = we think we've released the tension. Then WHAM! [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:37 am](#) **[portiaalex](#)**: Agree! RT @[jkoyanagi](#): I much prefer intelligent wit from the main character. :) [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:40 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: @[jkoyanag](#) @[portiaalex](#) Overaall I enjoy more intelligent wit too. Though I do enjoy the occasional over-the-top, if it... [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:40 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: fits the story. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:41 am](#) **[egtalbot](#)**: @[Selorian](#) @[jkoyanagi](#) yes, lots of cliché pitfalls w/ humor/thrillers. I luv when author uses cliché and STILL makes me laugh [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:41 am](#) **[portiaalex](#)**: I've always thought the humor is what makes the Dexter series successful [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:42 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: @[egtalbot](#) Agreed, cliché isn't always bad. Sometimes it is what makes something work. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:43 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: @[portiaalex](#) Good point. It very well could be. When dealing with certain subjects, it makes us more open to them. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:45 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: I've been reading @[jeremyrobinsonauthor](#)'s book BENEATH and am enjoying the sprinkle of humor in it. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:52 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: I think an hour for tonight's chat will be good, so about eight minutes to wrap it up? [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:53 am](#) **[Selorian](#)**: Maybe list some example's of thriller novels you believe the humor is handled well in? [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:56 am](#) **[portiaalex](#)**: Hmm, I enjoy the Dexter books. [#thrillerchat](#)

[1:57](#) **[thebookjournal](#)**: @[Selorian](#) sorry i'm late..... [#thrillerchat](#)

am

1:57 **Selorian**: @[portiaalex](#) I haven't read any of them. I'll have to give them a try.
am #[thrillerchat](#)

1:57 **thebookjournal**: @[Selorian](#) I dont' like humour in thrillers....sarcastic humour
am maybe...but flat out humour...no #[thrillerchat](#)

1:58 **DexterFanWeb**: RT @[portiaalex](#) Hmm, I enjoy the Dexter books. #[thrillerchat](#)
am

1:59 **egtalbot**: @[Selorian](#) numerous Cussler, the two "Road" Ludlum books, A
am Deadly Silver Sea-Bob Morris, DeMille's John Corey books
#[thrillerchat](#)

1:59 **portiaalex**: Sarcasm always works for me :-) RT @[thebookjournal](#): I dont' like
am humour in thrillers....sarcastic humour maybe... #[thrillerchat](#)

1:59 **Selorian**: @[thebookjournal](#) Hello. No problem. Sarcastic humor is one of my
am favorites. #[thrillerchat](#)

2:01 **Selorian**: Okay, I think that's it for tonight. Thank you all for joining in. Feel
am free to mill around and continue on if you wish. #[thrillerchat](#)

2:01 **thebookjournal**: @[Selorian](#) i'll make the next one....you do good #[thrillerchat](#)
am

2:02 **Selorian**: I think I'm going to change the night for the chat as well. I'm not sure
am a Saturday night is best for participation. #[thrillerchat](#)

2:02 **portiaalex**: Great chat! Thanks! #[thrillerchat](#)
am

2:03 **Selorian**: @[thebookjournal](#) Thank you. I'm still trying to find my sea legs, but
am I enjoy the discussions we have. #[thrillerchat](#)

2:03 **Selorian**: @[portiaalex](#) Thank you. Hope to see you at the next one too.
am #[thrillerchat](#)

2:04 **jessrosenbooks**: Well shoot, I missed #[thrillerchat](#). See you at the next one, everyone.
am

2:05 **Selorian**: Thank you everyone for coming. The transcript will be posted on my
am site at <http://cliffordfryman.com/thrillerchat/> #[thrillerchat](#)

2:06 **Selorian**: @[jessrosenbooks](#) Awww, I'm sorry. Just doing an hour tonight.
am #[thrillerchat](#)

2:06 **Selorian**: I'll post a poll tomorrow to get input about a new night for the chat.
am #[thrillerchat](#)