

**LIVE CHAT WITH CHRIS KEESLAR**  
**SENIOR EDITOR, DORCHESTER**  
SEPTEMBER 2005

Welcome

jax has joined the chat.

ChrisKeeslar has joined the chat.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] evening Chris :)

[jax] Wow, Full house

[ChrisKeeslar] Hey, all.

[jax] So, I'm going to go over the rules again

[jax] If anyone has a question they will type a ?

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] good idea, gotta keep these heathens under control

[maria] :D

[Fabulous\_Neon] lol..yup that's me

[GemmaHalliday] who us?;

[jax] Lisa and I will call the person in the order that the question comes in

[NYdeb] not me...I'm following the rules tonight

[jax] When Chris is done answering the question he will put a :)

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] good girl Deb :)

[Fabulous\_Neon] me too deb ;) me too

[ChrisKeeslar] Er, is a that icon the same as MSN? :)

[ChrisKeeslar] Yes. I guess so.

[jax] Yes

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] yes-looks like it

[jax] I think so

[Sela] my mama raised me to follow the rules. poor woman. i'm a great disappointment. ;-)

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] lol Sela

[Fabulous\_Neon] hehehe

[maria] lol sela

[TawnyTaylor] Thanks for coming tonight, Chris!

[jax] Remember the rules or I'll crack the \*whip\*

[maria] not tonight you're a Diva ;-)

[Sela] Eeek!

[GemmaHalliday] lol... love the whip crack

[ChrisKeeslar] No problem. And, er, just don't crack the whip on me, thanks.

[jax] So Chris, to start off the chat, how about introducing yourself

[ChrisKeeslar] Sure. Hi, all. I'm Chris Keeslar, a senior editor at Dorchester Publishing. I've been there 10 years in November, and been editing for a little over 8. I do all different types of romance--futuristic, time-travel, historical, paranormal, etc.

[StaceyI15] And the room falls silent...



# Romance Divas

---

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] we're listening...

[ChrisKeeslar] At Dorchester we're looking for submissions of about 90-100,000 words, and we accept unsolicited and agented submissions.

[ChrisKeeslar] Um, do you guys know all this?

[maria] nope please keep going :-D

[ChrisKeeslar] It's tough to tell who's here, and who knows what?

[jax] I think it's good to go over it for those who don't

[NYdeb] taking notes

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] not everyone knows it all, so it's good you're telling us

[ChrisKeeslar] Okay. Good.

[Fabulous\_Neon] ditto that

[dragonfly] happy to hear info...

[ChrisKeeslar] There are two other romance editors at Dorchester--Alicia Condon (my boss, and the Editorial Director) and Leah Hultenschmidt.

[ChrisKeeslar] Leah does all the Chick Lit.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Chris, do you deal only with the paranormal/fantasy genres?

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] is that your editor, Gemma?

[GemmaHalliday] yup. tehe

[ChrisKeeslar] Nope. I do pretty much all genres--except Chick Lit. I tend to like paranormal best--or at least a lot of the projects I've been working on lately have been paranormal. But I do other things, too. :)

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Chris-Gemma here just sold to Dorchester

[ChrisKeeslar] Really? Gemma...who?

[ChrisKeeslar] And congrats?

[GemmaHalliday] (taking small bow) mio.

[jax] She also won the Golden Heart recently

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] yep she did!

[ChrisKeeslar] Cool. Congrats. That's great.

[GemmaHalliday] thanks. :)

[ChrisKeeslar] You sold to Leah, then.

[GemmaHalliday] i did. she's fantastic.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] yes, a brilliant chick lit!

[ChrisKeeslar] Yes. She's great. It's a great crew at Dorch.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] ?

[DivaJenna] ?

[Fabulous\_Neon] ?

[ChrisKeeslar] Because we're so small--there's really only an in-house staff of around 15 people.

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Hey Fabulous Neon (cool nickname)

[jax] Okay, lets start the questioning queue

[DivaJenna] I've got a million Lisa, so whenever there is a lull call me up

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] since nobody else has raised a question, I'm going to go ahead and go

[ChrisKeeslar] --we have to get along really well and work well together.

[Fabulous\_Neon] thanks Brenda ;)

[jax] it's Lis, Jenna, Fabu

[jax] First question.. Go Lisa

[JAC2] ?

[Sela] ?

[NYdeb] ?

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Chris-does Dorchester have a plan to follow the recent erotica rage? If so, can you tell us anything about it?

[ChrisKeeslar] Okay--in terms of "following the recent erotica rage," the answer is pretty simple: We never try to follow any rages.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] sorry,,L ol-shal i rephrase?

[ChrisKeeslar] Because we're small, there's no point in us trying to do what everyone else is doing.

[ChrisKeeslar] No, that's okay. I'll keep answering.

[sashatomaszycki] ?

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] ?

[Stacey] Dial-up -I get kicked out easily and posts show up late. Sorry!

[jax] After Chris answers his question it's: Jenna, Fabu, Jac2, Sela, NYDeb,Sasha

[ChrisKeeslar] We do all sorts of romances, ranging in sensuality from sweet to fairly erotic, but none right now that are going to be positioned as simply erotica. Part of the reason for that is (as I understand it) that one of our larger distributors--Anderson Merch, and

[ChrisKeeslar] Wal-Mart--aren't too keen on it as a genre. Of course, if we found material that we really loved, we would find a way to package it.

[ChrisKeeslar] We're nothing if not creative.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] ahh-thanks!

[maria] then Brenda :D

[TawnyTaylor] :)

[ChrisKeeslar] We try to go where the material we find takes us, rather than riding the wave of any trend. :)

[jax] Jenna's up

[DivaJenna] Let's start at the VERY beginning. What kind of query catches your eye? Formal.

Hook-y. Perfumed pink paper. pitch-y. envelope stuffed with chocolate

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] okay-next question is Diva Jenna

[DivaJenna] ?

[jax] For those who missed the question.. Jenna asked,"Let's start at the VERY beginning. What kind of query catches your eye? Formal. Hook-y. Perfumed pink paper. pitch-y. envelope stuffed with chocolate"

[ChrisKeeslar] Hm. I don't think perfumed paper is going to do it. It's gotta come through my assistants first, and by then all the perfume will have worn off.

[ChrisKeeslar] Heh.

[maria] lol

[GemmaHalliday] ha!

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] jeez-and i was worried nobody would show up! we have 23 people!

[Jenn] lol

[TawnyTaylor] Ha ha

[LynnDaniels] :)

[jax] I knew it would be big

[jax] they saw his pic

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] LOL

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] LOL!

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] \*snork\*

[ChrisKeeslar] Um, I think it's less important to have a gimmick than to write a concise letter that states what your book's generally about, and why you think it will appeal to the Love Spell readership.

[ChrisKeeslar] Or Leisure.

[ChrisKeeslar] A lot of people fill cover letters with crap, because they think it should be long, but I'm just going to look at a long letter as an annoyance.

[NYdeb] great tip

[ChrisKeeslar] Just give me the gist of the book, ways for me to market it to anyone I want to sell the book to (marketing & sales, my bosses, etc.) and let me get to the story. :)

[jax] In the question queue update: Fabu, Jac2, Sela, NYDeb, Sasha

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Linda (Fab Neon) is next

[Fabulous\_Neon] How hot is para right now? Has it hit its stride, or does the trend seem to be headed downhill, it's a pretty saturated market now. I'm knee deep in one and wanted to know if you guys were looking for things outside the typical vamp, were..etc

[ChrisKeeslar] You're asking...if I'm still looking at vampires?

[ChrisKeeslar] And paranormals?

[ChrisKeeslar] Or if the trend is dying?

[maria] ?

[NYdeb] hey, that was my question

[DivaJenna] ?

[Fabulous\_Neon] no, I'm writing one about death...as a man, not the concept of death...whew, that's confusing, and yes is the trend dying

[ChrisKeeslar] As far as I know, I'm still seeing a lot of great stuff, and as long as that happens, I'll keep buying it.

[NYdeb] whew

[Stacey] Yay!!

[TawnyTaylor] ?

[ChrisKeeslar] As I mentioned before, it' be suicide for us to try to chase other companies, so we do whatever comes to us that we love. That's why we had Christine Feehan in the first place.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] JAC is next

[Fabulous\_Neon] that's good to know

[Fabulous\_Neon] and Marjorie...love the crimson city series

[maria] Cool answer

[ChrisKeeslar] And I agreed to do Jade Lee's erotic historicals (although not erotica, per se) before the erotica craze really went nuts.

[ChrisKeeslar] :)  
[Fabulous\_Neon] thx!  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] I have Sela, Deb, Sasha, Brenda, Maria, Jenna, Tawny  
[JAC2] Two part question: What are you looking for in futuristics? I've had a partial with Dorchester for 14 months, wondering if I've missed the boat.  
[ChrisKeeslar] Uh. Hm. Here come the questions about the manuscripts I use to prop up my desk.  
[jax] In the queue: Sela, Deb, Sasha, Brenda, Maria, Jenna, Tawny  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] lol  
[TawnyTaylor] lol  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] oh dear  
[Fabulous\_Neon] hehehehe, but I don't know if that's actually funny as a writer...oh heck, it's funny  
[LynnDaniels] lol  
[jax] Jac  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] LOL Linda  
[maria] lol  
[dragonfly] lol  
[ChrisKeeslar] Uh, some of those are manuscripts that I thought weren't bad--but not great enough to keep reading. Sometimes, because I pride myself on ability to help authors work through issues, I see potential in mss. that other editors might reject immediately.  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] 14 months does sound like a long time...  
[Fabulous\_Neon] oooohhhh, that's really good to know  
[ChrisKeeslar] And some of those manuscripts are lost in a pile, or somewhere in the office.  
[ChrisKeeslar] :P  
[Fabulous\_Neon] okay, that's not  
[ChrisKeeslar] Uh...sorry. Did I miss something about 14 months?  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] JAC said Dorchester has had her ms for 14 months  
[GemmaHalliday] (sorry, hit one of those shiny buttons at the bottom and got booted out)  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] should she follow up?  
[Fabulous\_Neon] heheheh gemma  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] np Gemma :)  
[ChrisKeeslar] Heh. Well, it never hurts to come up and introduce yourself to me at conferences, because then I'm more likely to know your face and feel guilt (sigh) at keeping something so long.  
[ChrisKeeslar] Er, yes, you should follow up.  
[Dani\_Gurl\_] lol  
[ChrisKeeslar] Keep pestering me.  
[Fabulous\_Neon] snort!  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] by e-mail? Or snail mail?  
[JAC2] I'm wondering if there's still a market for futuristics.  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] rofl!

[ChrisKeeslar] Ah. Is your question about futuristics, then? I see. To answer THAT question: Futuristics have always (in my time at Dorch) had a small but devoted audience.

[ChrisKeeslar] We're happy to continue publishing them, and I am, but it's also (for us) a matter of buying things that jump out at us.

[ChrisKeeslar] It's been a while since I've seen something really new and innovative done with a futuristic.

[ChrisKeeslar] :)

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Sela will be next...

[ChrisKeeslar] Is that helpful?

[JAC2] Yes. Thanks.

[Sela] Does Dorchester have any plans to publish novellas from first time authors or do you publish anthologies with only published authors?

[maria] very interesting I think

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] ahh-good question!

[ChrisKeeslar] BTW, follow up by email with me. Send me a note tomorrow.

[C.C.] ?

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] np

[Dani\_Gurl\_] ?

[jax] is he talking to Jac?

[jax] to follow up, right

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] CC-you are in queue

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] yep

[ChrisKeeslar] Ah...anthologies. No, I have no plans to publish an anthology of unpubbeds. Unfortunately, in my experience at the company, the only thing that sells anths is a big name. And rarely you get that in a package with a bunch of unpubbeds.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Deb will be next...

[Sela] Ah well. It was worth a shot. Thanks Chris.

[NYdeb] my question was about paranormals and it's been answered

[Fabulous\_Neon] sigh, well you tried sela. :)

[ChrisKeeslar] It's a matter of positioning. If I happened to need a filler with an anthology and saw a novella that was brilliant, I might do it, but the odds of that are astronomical.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] ahh..Sasha is next

[ChrisKeeslar] I mean, it'd be unlikely I'd be reading through anthology stories in my slush reading. :)

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] kk

[sashatomaszycki] This is a two part question

[Fabulous\_Neon] so you're saying there's a chance...yesssss

[Sela] Good point. Thanks.

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] \*grins at Fab

[ChrisKeeslar] Uh. but I'm saying the odds are astronomical. Do you play the lottery?

[sashatomaszycki] What is the difference between Leisure and Lovespell?

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] aren't you the optimistic one? LOL

[Fabulous\_Neon] sure, I've won...seriously \*)



# Romance Divas

---

[ChrisKeeslar] In general (and all rules are to be broken), Leisure publishes our historical romances and Love Spell handles everything else.

[sashatomaszycki] Also, will you be attending the RWA NYC Golden Apple Awards next Thursday in NYC?

[sashatomaszycki] Formerly the Wine & Cheese

[Stacey] ?

[jax] In the queue: Brenda, Maria, Jenna, Tawny, CC, Dani, Stacey

[ChrisKeeslar] Of course, that isn't always true. Basically, they're just two imprints. :)

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Ah crap, I'm next?? :|

[ChrisKeeslar] Will I be attending the Big Apple Awards? Um, I don't think I got the invitation. I don't remember having seen it.

[ChrisKeeslar] :)

[Fabulous\_Neon] well I got booted, puter hates me

[DivaJenna] I've got lots B, want some?

[maria] remove me from the questions He just answered :D

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Brenda-if you're not ready you can trade places

[sashatomaszycki] Awe schucks. hoped on meeting you in person. Thanks:)

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] No, that's okay. Give me a moment to type.

[ChrisKeeslar] np

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] okay Brenda-np

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] meanwhile, a musical interlude...

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] \*harp\*

[Fabulous\_Neon] lalallalalala

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] sorry-that's all I've got

[NYdeb] I'll sing

[ChrisKeeslar] heh. thanks. I figured I'd manage.

[Fabulous\_Neon] do re me fa so la ti do

[ChrisKeeslar] 'sokay. It's all good.

[GemmaHalliday] roflmao... i love you divas

[dragonfly] lol

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Last year I queried Dorchester and got a reply from Jessica (insert last name here because I don't have it in front of me) \*thwacks Lisa\* Anyway, after I got the reply, I went to my first RWA Nationals, realized HUGE problems with the script.....

[ChrisKeeslar] MacDonnell.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] after Brenda will be Jenna, Tawny, CC, Dani, Stacey

[ChrisKeeslar] And you want to resubmit.

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Needless to say, I didn't send it (you'd have rejected it...promise). It's fixed, so do I re-query or send, since the premise is the same?

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] thwack me??? What did i do?

[ChrisKeeslar] Sure, that's fine. Email me tomorrow and I'll find a way to swap it out.

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Oh look - he's brilliant AND reads minds. Love it!

[ChrisKeeslar] Oh.

[Jenn] lol

[TawnyTaylor] lol  
[LynnDaniels] lol  
[ChrisKeeslar] It was never submitted in the first place  
[Fabulous\_Neon] agreed brenda...are you buttering him up, cause that's my job  
[maria] lol  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Brenda lives to butter  
[ChrisKeeslar] If she said you can send it, go ahead. It's okay.  
[NYdeb] lol  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] No, just queried and got that reply (thanks for the last name)  
[jax] You gals are silly \*slap\*  
[Fabulous\_Neon] :D  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] I'm behaving! Sorta...  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Even a year later? Rock ON! Thanks!  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Jenna-you're up next  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Oh  
[DivaJenna] The dreaded synopsis - how does an editor view these? would you like them short and sweet? as detailed as can be? focused on hook? focused on emotion? focused on plot? single spaced? R-rated? Courier new? What matters and what is fluff?  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Should I mention the reason for the delay and remind her that she'd requested it?  
[DivaJenna] sorry Bren  
[ChrisKeeslar] Well, to be honest, the query process isn't the only way to get us to look. If you don't query, we'll look. You're just saving yourself postage by finding out whether or not it sounds like something we'd do.  
[ChrisKeeslar] :)  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] No, that's okay - delayed thought there on my part.  
[Fabulous\_Neon] huh?  
[DivaJenna] ?  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Chris-not sure which question you just answered??  
[NYdeb] I'm sorry, confused here...don't query  
[Fabulous\_Neon] you're kidding right, cause the query is the bane of my existence  
[C.C.] hee, hee...  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Editors shouldn't be allowed to kid about the query. That's just ...wrong. On many levels.  
[JAC2] Queries get faster responses than partials?  
[ChrisKeeslar] As for synopses, I like them to be anywhere from 3-10 pages, maybe. Every editor's different. And I only go to check the synopsis if I'm reading and things look promising, and it gives me a general overview of the plot. (So, focused on plot, I guess.)  
[Fabulous\_Neon] agree brenda \*high five\*  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] \*back atcha\*  
[Fabulous\_Neon] did I say agree...sheesh  
[Fabulous\_Neon] don't judge me off my bad spelling chris

[ChrisKeeslar] Back about queries--again, I don't ever see those. They go to the assistants who check out if it sounds like something we do.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] just for clarification Chris...should we query with a partial and synopsis?

[jax] In the queue: Tawny, CC, Dani, Stacey, Jenna

[maria] TY Lisa :-)

[DivaJenna] So you're saying you read the syno after the partial? Wild!

[ChrisKeeslar] Well, I think of a query letter as a simple page. You can feel free to submit 3 chapters and a synopsis if you think your stuff is perfect for us.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] thank you Chris :)

[NYdeb] oh, I'm excited now!

[Fabulous\_Neon] I never knew that either, but it makes sense in a skewed way I guess...

[maria] So Cool

[Fabulous\_Neon] tres cool

[ChrisKeeslar] And I'm saying I glance at the synopsis likely in the middle of reading the synopsis, trying to make sure I have a sense of where the story is going.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] nods nods

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Tawny is up next

[ChrisKeeslar] I mean, I'm not going to buy something based on the synopsis.

[ChrisKeeslar] Of course, if it's REALLY lousy... :)

[maria] lol

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] rofl

[TawnyTaylor] Hi Chris. This may not be your game, but I was wondering if you could tell us a little about Dorchester's YA program? Readership age range, contact editor, genres of interest, etc.

[DivaJenna] so you have seen my synopsis

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] some publishers take only a Query and synopsis before they even request a partial, hence teh question

[ChrisKeeslar] Okay. Actually, Dorchester's YA program isn't acquiring right now. It's on hiatus. Leah is handling the books currently bought.

[ChrisKeeslar] Leah Hultenschmidt, if you need her whole name.

[ChrisKeeslar] :)

[TawnyTaylor] Thanks.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] next up will be CC, then Dani, Stacey, Jenna

[ChrisKeeslar] And...er, I don't know if I've seen your synopsis, Jenna.

[C.C.] Hi, Chris

[GemmaHalliday] piping up again... Leah's so cool!

[Fabulous\_Neon] ?

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] lol Gemma

[TawnyTaylor] lol Gemma!

[ChrisKeeslar] Hello?

[ChrisKeeslar] Typing...?

[GemmaHalliday] can you tell i'm excited? <g>

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] O think she's typing...

[C.C.] I wanted to know if Dorchester would look at two different genres by the same author?

[DivaJenna] sorry - I think I'm funny

[TawnyTaylor] Naw.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] um...rather 'I' think she's typing...not that I can tonight, apparently-sheesh!

[C.C.] I simply don't know which one to send since both may fit.

[ChrisKeeslar] Would Dorch look at 2 submissions of different types at the same time. Yes.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] ooh-good news!

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] go, CC, go!

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Woohoo!

[C.C.] Great! Thanks.

[ChrisKeeslar] Are they both done? Personally, I always say send the one you feel stronger about, but you can do it either way.

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Go CC! (And Chris!)

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Dan-get ready with your question

[Fabulous\_Neon] cool...

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] oops-Dani, that is

[ChrisKeeslar] Of course, two manuscripts of different types might get routed to different editors.

[ChrisKeeslar] :)

[Dani\_Gurl\_] Although you're not the chicklit editor, do you know what Leah is looking for?

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] ?

[C.C.] One is Horror with romantic elements and one is romantic comedy

[Dani\_Gurl\_] sorry i panic clicked lol

[ChrisKeeslar] Er, no. I don't know what Leah is looking for as a Chick Lit editor. Sorry. :(

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] np Dani :)

[GemmaHalliday] piping up once again...

[Dani\_Gurl\_] awww thanks anyway

[ChrisKeeslar] You should have HER on this chat.

[ChrisKeeslar] :)

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] ahhh....Dani-talk to Gemma (GG on the boards) she just sold chick lit to Leah

[Dani\_Gurl\_] lol

[jax] I'll ask her :)

[sashatomaszycki] ?

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] we'd love to have her here!

[Dani\_Gurl\_] ok i will

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Woot Jax!

[GemmaHalliday] Leah told me she would look at most any chick lit

[jax] In the queue: Stacey, Jenna, Linda, Sasha

[GemmaHalliday] as long as it's good

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] ?

 *Romance Divas*

---

[ChrisKeeslar] I think one of her writers told me she likes books with good shoes and no plot.  
[ChrisKeeslar] Heh. Just kidding.  
[Fabulous\_Neon] LOL  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] actually, Brenda is in que before sasha  
[TawnyTaylor] lol  
[Fabulous\_Neon] that's awful  
[GemmaHalliday] lol... hey, that's my book!  
[LynnDaniels] lol  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] gotta love good shoes!  
[jax] I'm tattle telling Chris  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] \*snork\* Gemma  
[Fabulous\_Neon] stilleto baby, it's all about the stilleto  
[NYdeb] as a great bag  
[TawnyTaylor] ?  
[NYdeb] oops, I mean "and" a great bag  
[ChrisKeeslar] Heh. Okay. Next.  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Stacey is next  
[ChrisKeeslar] (Since I can't discuss shoes.)  
[Stacey] I write historical paranormal -Do you suggest, since it is paranormal, to market it under that or historical?  
[Fabulous\_Neon] ahhh...I see grasshopper  
[jax] In the queue: Stacey, Jenna, Linda, Sasha, Tawny  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] tehn Jenna, Linda, Brenda, Sasha, Tawny  
[Fabulous\_Neon] ?  
[jax] Whoops, Sorry Brenda. I had you in there.  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] A Freudian slip?  
[maria] lol I can't do shoes either  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] <G>  
[ChrisKeeslar] I would call a paranormal historical a paranormal. The defining element is the paranormal, right? I mean, no one really thinks there were vampires in ancient Greece, right? So that's how you'd sell it.  
[NYdeb] ?  
[Stacey] Thanks!  
[Stacey] Thought so.  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Jenna is next  
[C.C.] ?  
[ChrisKeeslar] Unless of course we're talking about a minor element that can be explained away as a natural (or New Age-y?) phenomenon. Then you can call it an historical--but make sure you mention the phenomenon in the cover letter! :)  
[DivaJenna] Biggest writing pet peeve? Backstory dumps? Passive voice? inexplicable commas?  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] nods-good to know-and makes sense  
[Stacey] No, it has druids. -Paranormal  
[Stacey] Thanks, again.

[ChrisKeeslar] Badly thought-out books. I hate when people are copying what they see and have no sense of what they're doing.

[ChrisKeeslar] I think this is most often illustrated by telling and not showing. New writers do that a lot.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] next will be Linda, Brenda, Sasha, Tawny, Deb, CC

[ChrisKeeslar] Create situations that will illustrate your characters, don't put the characters in situations and then tell us what they're thinking and why. That's SOOOOO boring.

[maria] \*wiping new off clothing\* :D

[ChrisKeeslar] :)

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Linda-you're up Fab girl

[DivaJenna] ?

[Fabulous\_Neon] I know you say you accept unsolicited, but how much does it help to have an agent as opposed to just winging it with only a prayer to your name?

[ChrisKeeslar] Depends on the agent. The best agents are really those who have contacts in the publishing world. If I know an agent well, of course I'm going to look at the material s/he sends me before I look at the material some other shmo sends.

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Yeah, um, that's was my question...so unque me please!

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] ok Brenda

[ChrisKeeslar] :)

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] That makes me wonder which agents ya "know". :P

[ChrisKeeslar] I mean, there are other reasons to have an agent, but the first is to get a foot in the door. :)

[Fabulous\_Neon] oh boy, \*gulp\* no pressure right?

[ChrisKeeslar] I don't want to push any in particular, as there are a lot of good ones.

[Fabulous\_Neon] how very pc of you ;)

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Sasha is next

[ChrisKeeslar] Heh. Aren't we on pc's? Seemed appropriate.

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] lol

[Fabulous\_Neon] lol

[maria] lol

[sashatomaszycki] Kris. First off, I want to thank you for having vision and doing the 2176 series "Legend of Banzai Maguire". I loved Susan's work and getting to read her and all the other talented authors write a kick butt series w/ action totally rocked!

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] I o I (that dang smilie is drivin' me batty. Short drive)

[LynnDaniels] \*snork\*

[sashatomaszycki] Is Dorchester thinking about doing another 2176 series in the future?

[ChrisKeeslar] Thanks! Those books were a lot of fun to do, and I was thrilled Sue came to me with the idea. I owe her for that.

[ChrisKeeslar] I was equally thrilled when Liz came to me with the Crimson City idea.

[sashatomaszycki] She mentioned you. Said you were the go to guy:)

[Fabulous\_Neon] LOVED THAT!

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] in que are Tawny, Deb, CC, Jenna

[Fabulous\_Neon] ?

[ChrisKeeslar] (Liz Maverick.) Hope you're all reading those. Lots of great books to come.  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Liz is awesome!  
[Fabulous\_Neon] yeppers I read them...  
[jax] I love Liz. She's the coolest  
[sashatomaszycki] Oh, and by the way. Since no one invited you to the Golden Awards in NYC. You can come w/ me. I have no date.  
[ChrisKeeslar] We're definitely open to doing more. I haven't got one set up yet, but I am considering. But I have to keep all that under wraps. Maintain my editorial mystique.  
[jax] :D  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] LOL Sasha  
[Sela] My fave was the Marjorie Liu one.  
[Fabulous\_Neon] Ditto that Sela, she's just good any way she comes  
[ChrisKeeslar] Heh. Well, I don't have a favorite on record, but I do love Marjorie's books.  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Tawny is next  
[Fabulous\_Neon] of course, chris, of course ;)  
[TawnyTaylor] Can you give us some idea of how large your romance program is? Roughly how many romance novels are published per year and how many are from newly acquired authors?  
[maria] nice question Tawny!  
[Fabulous\_Neon] good question tawny!  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] That pc thang again, Fab.  
[Fabulous\_Neon] heh  
[TawnyTaylor] Hope I didn't step on toes. Was waiting for Chris' smilie.  
[Fabulous\_Neon] I noticed that  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] oops-my fault Tawny  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Good question!  
[ChrisKeeslar] We do about 8 - 9 romances per month between Leisure and Love Spell, and 6-7 of them are original. We probably average 1-2 new authors a month.  
[ChrisKeeslar] :)  
[Fabulous\_Neon] nice...  
[NYdeb] wow  
[TawnyTaylor] That's a significant percentage!  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] wow-that's a lot!  
[ChrisKeeslar] Yup. We definitely do a lot of new people.  
[GemmaHalliday] gotta love those newbies. <g>  
[Fabulous\_Neon] good odds, sorta, considering there's millions of people in this world, I've got a great chance!!  
[NYdeb] feeling the vibes  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Whoa. Nice numbers!  
[jax] Yeah. I second that  
[TawnyTaylor] Thanks Chris.  
[jax] Deb, get ready  
[LynnDaniels] I second Jax's second. ;)  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] maybe I need to give up erotica and go back to writing romance

[Dani\_Gurl\_] lol  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] lol Lisa  
[jax] LOL Lynn.  
[ChrisKeeslar] heh  
[Dani\_Gurl\_] do both  
[Fabulous\_Neon] lol  
[maria] I o l lisa  
[Sela] Maybe I need to start writing longer books!  
[TawnyTaylor] Is there anyone in the cue?  
[ChrisKeeslar] ...  
[jax] And I was just getting into erotica  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] next is deb  
[TawnyTaylor] lol jax  
[jax] Deb's up  
[NYdeb] give me a sec  
[Fabulous\_Neon] you're not kidding sela  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] after Deb is CC, Jenna, Fab Linda  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] np Deb  
[sashatomaszycki] ?  
[joelysue] ?  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Dani-I have written both erotica nad romance, but right now the erotica is more in demand  
[DivaJenna] joelysue - we've been battling for crits on ebay  
[NYdeb] Back to the paranormal arena, can it be a light paranormal with just a few ghosts and visions, but mostly a contemp feel?  
[joelysue] Nods!!  
[joelysue] Most of them are out of my price range...  
[DivaJenna] hello there!  
[DivaJenna] mine too  
[NYdeb] No vamps, werewolves etc.  
[ChrisKeeslar] Wait. Is the question how much paranormal is enough, and what settings are okay?  
[NYdeb] yes  
[maria] love the question deb!  
[Dani\_Gurl\_] I know that. I don't know why I said it. I o l  
[Stacey] Good question!  
[NYdeb] thanks  
[TawnyTaylor] ?  
[ChrisKeeslar] Okay. Um, well, I don't have a set percentage. As I said earlier, we don't chase trends or fill slots ONLY based on type of book, so we don't have too many parameters we have to fill. Write the book you want to write, know why it will sell and people will love it, and send it to me. :)  
[NYdeb] that's what I needed thanks

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] CC is next!  
[C.C.] Is there a place at Dorchester for Horror with romantic elements? Or noir-style thrillers?  
[sashatomaszycki] ?  
[ChrisKeeslar] Horror with romantic elements? Straight horror? That'd go to Don D'Auria, who's one of the premiere editors in that genre right now.  
[ChrisKeeslar] He's awesome.  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] excellent question CC  
[ChrisKeeslar] You should submit to him, but know that he's awfully busy.  
[C.C.] Straight. Very straight up  
[DivaJenna] Writing credits - do they matter if you don't see either query anyway, or are assistants told to look for them? What do you like to see in terms of credits? e-pub? reviews? articles? shorts? workshops?  
[ChrisKeeslar] If it's romance with a lot of horror in it, I'll take a look at it. Melanie Jackson's Wildside books are kind of horrific, or dark fantasy....  
[ChrisKeeslar] :)  
[C.C.] Thanks  
[DivaJenna] ?  
[jax] linda  
[jax] Go  
[Fabulous\_Neon] This may sound ridiculous to you, but no lie I read it on agent 007's blog. How important is an authors look when it comes to signing them. She said it could make a huge difference..is that myth, or truth?  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] sorry Chris-I jumped teh gun and Jenna already asked her next question-lemme know if you need her to repeat  
[Fabulous\_Neon] ooopppssss  
[ChrisKeeslar] If you have writing credits that will help sell you, summarize them really quickly in the cover letter. You can provide a separate page if they're REALLY impressive, but ultimately I'm buying based on the material. Sorry, but "What have you done for me lately?"  
[ChrisKeeslar] :)  
[Fabulous\_Neon] thought I saw my name  
[ChrisKeeslar] How important is it how authors look!!!  
[Fabulous\_Neon] yup!  
[ChrisKeeslar] Is that a joke?  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] ok-looks like you're next anyway Linda-um Fabu  
[JAC2] Good question, Fabu  
[Fabulous\_Neon] nope!  
[jax] Isn't that a song. LOL  
[TawnyTaylor] No joke.  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] \*strikes a pose  
[ChrisKeeslar] Um, well, I never buy based on looks. What would I do, request head shots with the material?  
[NYdeb] I saw that blog about looks too

[ChrisKeeslar] Heh.  
[jax] That's my fault Linda. I jumped the gun  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] I don't think an editor knows what a writer looks like until after they buy most of the time  
[Fabulous\_Neon] it was on agent's 007 blog and she pretty much said that's a very big selling factor for her  
[TawnyTaylor] Evidently some agents/editors scope out the authors' sites.  
[jax] That would be funny.  
[DivaJenna] she checks blogs  
[ChrisKeeslar] I'm sure that a presentable appearance makes it easier if you're doing promotion, but...  
[Fabulous\_Neon] thanks! I'm no ugly duckling mind you, but that didn't sit well with me  
[NYdeb] she said she googles the author  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] wow-that sounds weird to me  
[ChrisKeeslar] Um, I don't do that. I don't have time to rate authors' appearances.  
[jax] Thankfully so.  
[NYdeb] thank god - even I am a diva  
[LynnDaniels] That's a relief!  
[DivaJenna] hey, I'm cute!  
[DivaJenna] LOL  
[jax] \*evil\*  
[Fabulous\_Neon] me too jenna, me too!!!  
[Fabulous\_Neon] ;)  
[jax] haha.. had to do it  
[maria] lol  
[Fabulous\_Neon] at least my dog thinks so anyway  
[ChrisKeeslar] Great. All you cute authors will have an easier time promoting yourselves. Now go write a great book.  
[Fabulous\_Neon] <grin>  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Okay, that made me jump  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] hey-we're all cute, but can we write?  
[ChrisKeeslar] :)  
[Fabulous\_Neon] that's the million dollar question lisa  
[NYdeb] I am writing...every day!  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] ok-Sasha is next  
[TawnyTaylor] That's what he wants to know.  
[jax] Of course we can write, we're Divas  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] true Jax!  
[Fabulous\_Neon] hahahah...love ya JAX  
[LynnDaniels] Absolutely, daaaaaahlink!  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] <---wrote a book, not sure about that cute part though  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] so why am I stuck on chapter 9 right now?  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] New thing to stress over. (sigh)

[Fabulous\_Neon] LOL  
[C.C.] Yeah, but you guys don't have to worry about being a look-a-like--that could hurt my potential career  
[DivaJenna] make it rain - weather is always a saver for me  
[Dani\_Gurl\_] come up to maine  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] um..who do you look like CC? Charles Manson? How could it hurt??  
[DivaJenna] LOL  
[Fabulous\_Neon] snort!!  
[Dani\_Gurl\_] lol  
[LynnDaniels] BWAHAHAHAHA!  
[TawnyTaylor] lol Lisa  
[C.C.] LOL!  
[jax] Next question.  
[Fabulous\_Neon] you're so mean...hehehehehe  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] go ahead Sasha  
[TawnyTaylor] Running out of time :(  
[maria] lol  
[Fabulous\_Neon] ?  
[jax] We're wrapping up. This is a 15 minute warning...  
[Fabulous\_Neon] oh no :(  
[sashatomaszycki] What should we be looking for in the future to come from Dorchester? any new writers that we should look forward to. Another Christine Feehan, perhaps?  
[ChrisKeeslar] Uh, yes. Must get to next question.  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Yikes, Jax!  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] next in que is joelysue, Tawny, Fab Linda  
[sashatomaszycki] Heloo sorry my question disappeared  
[GemmaHalliday] (new writer here) sorry, had to...  
[sashatomaszycki] ?  
[DivaJenna] ?  
[ChrisKeeslar] Hm. Well, I'm proud of all my authors, of course. It'd be tough for me to list them all, and to list some and not others... That'd be rough, eh?  
[maria] understandable :D  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] PC thing  
[Fabulous\_Neon] of course ;)  
[jax] blame it on the PC  
[ChrisKeeslar] I mean, I'm thrilled about Crimson City.  
[ChrisKeeslar] There's a book, The Ravencliff Bride by Dawn Thompson out this month.  
[Fabulous\_Neon] nice name  
[ChrisKeeslar] And Melanie Jackson's The Master.  
[ChrisKeeslar] Those are good.  
[NYdeb] cool shes in my RWA local chapter  
[ChrisKeeslar] :)

 *Romance Divas*

---

[ChrisKeeslar] And there's a book by Marjorie (the next after Tiger Eye) in February) that's awesome.

[ChrisKeeslar] It's called Shadow Touch.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] joelysue-you're next

[maria] Cool Title

[NYdeb] I'll have to rub elbows with Dawn this weekend to get the good luck vibes

[Fabulous\_Neon] oh already saw the cover on her website

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Sorry, Fab! I can't tell if I have a question or not!

[joelysue] How much "fantasy" are you looking for in a fantasy romance? there don't seem to be very many romances in an entirely made up world, which is course what I like to write. \*wg\*

[sashatomaszycki] They sound juicy. Going to have to save up my pennies. Still waiting on a book contract. LOL

[Fabulous\_Neon] lol brenda

[ChrisKeeslar] Well, fantasy books are difficult. You have to make them compelling AND logical for me to really love them.

[Rebecca] ?

[jax] Aren't we all Sasha.. haha

[ChrisKeeslar] I love fantasy, but it's tough for first time authors to write truly compelling worlds--even tougher than any other subgenre.

[ChrisKeeslar] I'm really picky.

[Fabulous\_Neon] I love fantasy, which it would come back with a vengeance

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Yeah, okay, I guess I have a ? after all.

[joelysue] picky is good \*g\*

[ChrisKeeslar] So...er, I don't have an amount. Do as much as you can do with any competence. Heh. That's not a good answer. Sorry. :P

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] I may be indecisive. I'm not sure yet.

[ChrisKeeslar] I love Fantasy, too.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Tawny is next

[joelysue] Thanks!

[TawnyTaylor] Chris, if you had to sum up Dorchester's romance program--its vision, its scope, what sets it apart in the marketplace, how would you describe it? (Hope that makes sense.)

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Tawny Linda Jenna Brenda Rebecca

[Fabulous\_Neon] tawny you're too smart for me, good question

[TawnyTaylor] Gotta know the house to know what they'll like :)

[maria] smart cookie

[ChrisKeeslar] It does make sense. It's funny, though, if I had to sum up the program, I'd say unlimited--especially since we're always doing so many things. I have my own books--characterized by things like Marjorie and 2176 and Crimson City and Melanie--and then

[Fabulous\_Neon] of course, and I would have ended this chat and thought doh..why didnt' I ask that...good thing we've got you around

[ChrisKeeslar] there are the books that Alicia buys--Connie Mason and Cassie Edwards and Nina Bangs--and then there are the books that Leah is going to buy.

[ChrisKeeslar] We all have very specific tastes, but are open to many different things at one time.

[maria] Love Connie Mason!

[TawnyTaylor] Anyone like sassy/funny?

[jax] Last Queue: Linda, Jenna, Brenda, Rebecca -- Then a wrap up from Chris

[sashatomaszycki] ?

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Gawd let's hope, Tawny. Good question.

[ChrisKeeslar] Again, what sets us apart is that we're not chasing trends. It's really that simple. There aren't any rules we won't break if there's a good reason and an audience.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Sasha-not sure we'll have time to add you to the que-sorry!

[ChrisKeeslar] Sassy/funny? Hm. Well, since humor is subjective, that's a difficult question.

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Take mine out and put in Sasha's. That's fine with me. (I was weirdin' out anyway.)

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] LOL-okay Brenda

[sashatomaszycki] Thanks Brenda

[ChrisKeeslar] I like humorous books with great dialogue, but it's tough to know if our definitions are the same. That's a good question for a query, I guess. :)

[TawnyTaylor] Thanks Chris! Very thought provoking.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] okay- Our Fab Linda is next

[Fabulous\_Neon] How willing are you guys to handle a book from a newbie if it's part of a series? It can definitely stand alone, but what are your thoughts on that?

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] No problem, Sasha (but ya owe me! Kidding. Maybe)

[TawnyTaylor] Yes. I enjoy snappy dialogue.

[Fabulous\_Neon] brenda you're crackin me up

[C.C.] LOL

[GemmaHalliday] Neon - i just sold a series to Leah as a newbie... it can be done:)

[ChrisKeeslar] I have no problems with buying the first book in a series, or a series in greater volume if they're all well written.

[Fabulous\_Neon] well of course mine are

[ChrisKeeslar] It's just tough enough for most authors to write ONE good book.

[jax] And it gives me hope Gemma....

[Fabulous\_Neon] of course \*)

[jax] :D

[ChrisKeeslar] To build a whole series and then have it be mediocre...

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Sorry, Fab Linda Girl!

[ChrisKeeslar] It's just a huge gamble.

[ChrisKeeslar] :)

[Dani\_Gurl\_] me too Gemma

[DivaJenna] How long do you read a book before throwing in the towel -- 2 lines? two paras? two pages? how long before you know you'll work with an author? two lines? two paras? two pages? two chapters? whole thing?

[Fabulous\_Neon] thx... :)

[Fabulous\_Neon] nice jenna

[C.C.] Good question  
[NYdeb] jenna - great question  
[LynnDaniels] Good question, Jenna. Especially after BOH.  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Good, Jenna! When does he fling!  
[GemmaHalliday] (or course i only have the first book written...)  
[ChrisKeeslar] Not the whole thing! :P That'd be crazy.  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] have we noticed Jenna likes specifics? <G>  
[jax] Those are door stops  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] And I'm glad she does!  
[DivaJenna] I'm the questionable diva for a reason  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] LOL Jax  
[Fabulous\_Neon] hahahaha  
[C.C.] :)  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] hehehe  
[ChrisKeeslar] It depends. I want to keep reading, and as long as you give me reasons to give you the benefit of the doubt, I'll keep going...until there's finally too much to fix. That's one thing that's different about me rather than many other editors.  
[ChrisKeeslar] Of course, that's also why I have a 3 year waiting list.  
[ChrisKeeslar] :S  
[ChrisKeeslar] :P  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] akk! 3 years?? I'd be old by then!  
[Fabulous\_Neon] sigh, you had to put that in there...seeing my future crumble in a fiery inferno of doubt now  
[TawnyTaylor] Ack. 3 years?  
[jax] Figures.  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Wait-I'm old already  
[ChrisKeeslar] It really depends on the manuscript.  
[maria] :o three years? wow!  
[jax] Can I bribe you?  
[ChrisKeeslar] Heh. Well, that's \*mostly\* a joke.  
[maria] lol  
[Fabulous\_Neon] mostly just ain't good enough  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] 3 years?!  
[C.C.] Ouch!  
[ChrisKeeslar] Bribe me? Sure, we editors don't make very much money.  
[TawnyTaylor] Whew!  
[NYdeb] how much is mostly  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] \*feels her right eye start to twitch\*  
[Fabulous\_Neon] LOL  
[jax] \*\*jax writes a blank check. LOL  
[JAC2] Jenna, make him be more specific!  
[Fabulous\_Neon] hehehehehe  
[GemmaHalliday] lol

 *Romance Divas*

---

[Fabulous\_Neon] LOL, agreed JAC  
[TawnyTaylor] lol Jax.  
[LynnDaniels] LOL Y'all are too funny.  
[NYdeb] how about chocolate - or I can bake  
[ChrisKeeslar] Actually, it's my intention to be caught up by Xmas this year.  
[NYdeb] I'm a good cook  
[ChrisKeeslar] So...there'll be a lot of rejection slips going out.  
[Fabulous\_Neon] NO!!!!  
[DivaJenna] NOT FUNNY  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] \*snork\*  
[C.C.] Derby Party, Millionaire's Row enough?  
[joelysue] ouch  
[Fabulous\_Neon] oh wait, I don't have anything there right now, reject away  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] \*snickers\* Mine's not there yet, so that's okay.  
[jax] \*\*please don't let it be mine. haha :?  
[ChrisKeeslar] But later submissions will be answered more quickly, so that's good. :)  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Amen, Fab!  
[DivaJenna] yes, clear the way for my literary greatness  
[Fabulous\_Neon] yee haw!  
[NYdeb] how much later  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Sasha-you're up!  
[Fabulous\_Neon] that's right jenna!  
[ChrisKeeslar] We have about 2 minutes left, I think...  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] ok-quick Sasha, then Rebecca  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Poor guy is countin' down freedom.  
[JAC2] So you're starting from the top of the pile and working down?  
[Rebecca] You may already answered this since I'm late, so just tell me if you did. Do you see futuristics still going strong in the future at Dorchester?  
[sashatomaszycki] You probably just finished Reno, but I am curious to know if you are scheduled to appear at any other conventions, seminars, chapter meetings, awards, etc. in the upcoming months? (Seriously, Sept.22nd is the Wine & Cheese RWA NYC Chapter in downtown NYC)  
[ChrisKeeslar] I'm still buying them, yes. And they still have their limited but devoted following.  
[Rebecca] sorry  
[ChrisKeeslar] (Futuristics.)  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] I think he did discuss futuristics earlier  
[ChrisKeeslar] I will continue to do them and hope one gets written that busts the genre wide open.  
[ChrisKeeslar] :)  
[JAC2] My question was about futuristics  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] San Antonio next week for KOD's Retreat? Maybe? Yes??? \*PLEASE?!\*  
[Fabulous\_Neon] well you won't have to wait long Chris, give me a bit and it'll get there ;)  
[C.C.] LOL

 *Romance Divas*

---

[ChrisKeeslar] The 22nd, eh? I'm not sure about that. I'll have to check my schedule tomorrow at work. I keep my calendar there.

[TawnyTaylor] Neon's got the Dive 'tude :)

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Woot!

[Fabulous\_Neon] hey I live in Tonio

[ChrisKeeslar] And next week, um...that's a little short notice.

[Fabulous\_Neon] what's going on here

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] okay-let's wrap up and let Chris go do..uh..whatever he wants to do...

[jax] Okay, let's wrap up now. Sorry Divas

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Unwoot.

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] Chris-any parting words?

[ChrisKeeslar] (Plus it's my birthday week. I might be a little busy.)

[sashatomaszycki] Yeah! Hope that you are free.

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Happy Birthday

[Fabulous\_Neon] happy birthday

[TawnyTaylor] unload his desk??

[jax] I didn't get an invite

[NYdeb] Happy birthday!

[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] ooh-Happy Birthday! A Virgo like me!

[jax] haha

[Sela] Happy Birthday!

[LynnDaniels] Happy Birthday!

[sashatomaszycki] Happy Birthday!

[Briana] Happy Birthday!

[GemmaHalliday] happy birthday to you...happy birthday to you...

[Dani\_Gurl\_] Happy B-Day!

[ChrisKeeslar] Thanx.

[TawnyTaylor] Happy Birthday!

[Jenn] Happy Birthday!

[C.C.] Happy Birthday!

[jax] Any last words Chris before you depart?

[Fabulous\_Neon] okay, now since we were so nice do we get to send you our work and get past that stinkin slush pile? I mean a girl can ask right? :D

[ChrisKeeslar] Uh, last words? No. Thanks for having me, all. You were a lot of fun, and I hope I was helpful.

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] I'd sing it in French to be all impressive-n-crap, but I can't SPELL it in French, so nevermind.

[dragonfly] HAPPY BDAY!

[maria] Thanks Chris for enduring us Divas and our questions, it's been a very enjoyable chat and I hope come back and join us soon. Thank you.

[ChrisKeeslar] Well, maybe you should wait until after Xmas, Neon.

[ChrisKeeslar] :)

[GemmaHalliday] thanks for hanging with us chris!



---

[Brenda\_Bradshaw] Thank you, Mr. Keeleslar!!!  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] thanks so much for coming and talking to the Divas, Chris!  
[LynnDaniels] Thanks for being here, Chris!  
[DivaJenna] thanks!  
[TawnyTaylor] Very helpful. Thank you!  
[Fabulous\_Neon] LOL...!ll stamp my packet with Neon...  
[joelysue] thank you, and happy birthday!  
[NYdeb] Thanks for coming...  
[Stacey] Thanks!  
[ChrisKeeslar] It's all good.  
[Briana] Thanx!  
[dragonfly] Thank you Chris!  
[Sela] Thanks for coming, Chris. We appreciate your time and your candor.  
[C.C.] Thanks for your time! It's much appreciated!  
[Fabulous\_Neon] Thanks for coming, sorry for yanking your chain so much, well just a little anyway, very informative!  
[Diva\_Lisa-moderator] we hope you'll come back again some time!  
[JAC2] Thanks, Chris  
[Rebecca] Thanks!  
[Brenda\_Bradshaw] San Antonio (not-so-subliminal message) San Antonio...  
[ChrisKeeslar] No problem. I mostly have a good sense of humor because I can remember your handles and reject you later. ;)  
[ChrisKeeslar] Heh. No prob. We done? (Thanks for having me. It was fun.)  
[jax] Thanks Chris. Have a great dinner!  
[jax] Now you guys can talk about him.. whoops, he's still here  
[ChrisKeeslar] Okay, I'm out of here, ladies. Thanks for all.  
[TawnyTaylor] Good night Chris. Thanks again!  
[GemmaHalliday] bye chris  
[dragonfly] thx again..  
[C.C.] Bye and thanks again  
[ChrisKeeslar] np, bye.  
[Stacey] Thanks again.  
ChrisKeeslar has left the chat.