

## Intro Transcript

>>Welcome back. For this session, we will explore character. Characters are, of course, at the heart of every fictional experience, and so how we come to build character is of utmost importance. In this session, we'll hear from Edward Carey and how he develops his characters by actually sketching them out. We'll hear from Bernice Chauly about how one might be able to build a character questionnaire. And we'll hear from Douglas Trevor about creating flaws and limitations for our characters in order to learn more about them. Edward Carey is a writer and an illustrator; he's the author of the novels, "Observatory Mansions," and "Alva & Irva, The Twins Who Saved a City," which has been translated into thirteen languages and both of which he illustrated. He's taught creative writing at the Iowa Writers Workshop and at the Michener Center for Writers at the University of Texas at Austin. He's an alumnus of the International Writing Program, as is Bernice Chauly, who is the author of the poetry collections, "Going There and Coming Back," "The Book of Sins," and "Onkalo," the short story book, "Lost in KL" (KL: Kuala Lumpur, where she is from: Malaysia), and the memoir "Growing Up with Ghosts," winner of the 2012 Readers' Choice Awards for Non-fiction. Her award-winning films have been screened at international film festivals and she is the co-founder of Rhino Press, and one of Malaysia's longest running literary platforms, Readings. Douglas Trevor is the author of the novel, "Girls I Know," and the short story collection, "The Thin Tear in the Fabric of Space." "Thin Tear" won the 2005 Iowa Short Fiction award and was a finalist in the 2006 Hemingway Foundation/PEN award for First Fiction. His short fiction has appeared in The Paris Review, Glimmer Train, Epoch, Black Warrior Review, The New England Review, and about a dozen other literary magazines. He lives in Ann Arbor, where he is an associate professor of Renaissance literature and creative writing in the English department in the University of Michigan. Enjoy.