

Alice McDermott

Quotes

*Writing, World, Character, Reading, Stories, Book, Language, Parent, Lying,
Tools, Prejudice, Needs, Vulgar, Glorious, Intellectual, People, Voice, Guilt,
Artist, Sooner Or Later*

Language is the writer's only tool - we really don't have anything else - but our language contains within it our entire experience of the world.

~Alice McDermott

We are surrounded by story.

~Alice McDermott

A good writer sells out everybody he knows, sooner or later.

~Alice McDermott

Guilt is glorious when it's well earned.

~Alice McDermott

Heightism is the last unchecked prejudice.

~Alice McDermott

The writing itself is the thing that generates stories for me.

~Alice McDermott

When I'm not writing, I can't make sense of out anything. I feel the need to make some sense and find some order, and writing fiction is the only way I've found that seems to begin to do that.

~Alice McDermott

I'd like to be better at short, snappy answers.

~Alice McDermott

Without explaining why, and, most of all, without naming other authors or books, I can only say my novels are influenced by love and death.

~Alice McDermott

We are at the mercy of time, and for all the ways we are remembered, a sea of things will be lost. But how much is contained in what lingers!

~Alice McDermott

I'm always telling my students, don't - don't worry so much third person, first person. It doesn't make that much difference.

~Alice McDermott

A book tour is, first and foremost, an exercise in humility.

~Alice McDermott

The world was a cruder, more vulgar place than the one I had known. This was the language required to live in it, I supposed.

~Alice McDermott

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