

# Anne McCaffrey

## Quotes

*Writing, Needs, Thinking, People, Dragons, Stories, Book, Horse, Emotion,  
Mean, Life, Use, Night, Music, Inspirational, Singers, Victim, Succeed, Certain,  
Children*

I wouldn't encourage new writers to start off publishing through electronic media... it still isn't wide enough for the readership they would need to get a good start

~Anne McCaffrey

I have a shelf of comfort books, which I read when the world closes in on me or something untoward happens

~Anne McCaffrey

But I will say that living in Ireland has changed the cadence and fullness of speech, since the Irish love words and use as many of them in a sentence as possible

~Anne McCaffrey

Make no judgments where you have no compassion.

~Anne McCaffrey

I think the Internet, particularly the availability of information, is great. I do a lot of correspondence on-line and have a chat line to talk to my fans as well

~Anne McCaffrey

I did not have a chance to write novels until my youngest child started school fulltime

~Anne McCaffrey

I think writers need windows on a view to remind them that a whole world is out there, not the minutiae with which they might be dealing on a close scale

~Anne McCaffrey

How much can a dragon carry? As much as it thinks it can

~Anne McCaffrey

What I used to do between writing fits was feed my kids, ride my horse and go shopping for cat and dog food.

~Anne McCaffrey

The thing is, emotion - if it's visibly felt by the writer - will go through all the processes it takes to publish a story and still hit the reader right in the gut. But you have to really mean it.

~Anne McCaffrey

Living is struggling to do something impossible; To succeed or die, knowing that you had tried.

~Anne McCaffrey

Step by step Moment by moment We live through Another day

~Anne McCaffrey

Above us, outlined against the brilliant sky, dragons crowded every available perching space on the Rim. And the sun made a gold of every one of them.

~Anne McCaffrey

I'm very fond of the Talent series, and also the Crystal Singer trio.

~Anne McCaffrey

Tell a story! Don't try to impress your reader with style or vocabulary or neatly turned phrases. Tell the story first!

~Anne McCaffrey

Tell the readers a story! Because without a story, you are merely using words to prove you can string them together in logical sentences.

~Anne McCaffrey

Who wills, Can. Who tries, Does. Who loves, Lives.

~Anne McCaffrey

I do outlines when I'm writing with someone, but they also need to have a certain amount of freedom

~Anne McCaffrey

Because we build the worlds we wouldn't mind living in. They contain scary things, problems, but also a sense of rightness that makes them alive and makes us want to live there.

~Anne McCaffrey

I have my good days and my bad days, but I don't have as much energy as I used to back when I was young and foolish and didn't count the cost - and it takes a lot - to write

~Anne McCaffrey

The blackest night must end in dawn, the light dispel the dreamer's fear.

~Anne McCaffrey

Mostly I'm telling people that they don't have to be victims

~Anne McCaffrey

That's such a thrill - a story I wrote at the beginning of my career, and it's still packin' the house.

~Anne McCaffrey

I would recommend the short story form, which is a lot harder to write since you have to be so careful with words, until there is plenty of time to doodle through a novel

~Anne McCaffrey

People have freaked out when I tell them that my dragons are scientifically based... what else can you call a genetically engineered life form?

~Anne McCaffrey

I didn't mean to stay up all night to finish Windhaven, but I had to!

~Anne McCaffrey

Drummer, beat, and piper, blow  
Harper, strike, and soldier, go  
Free the flame and sear the grasses  
Til the dawning Red Star passes

~Anne McCaffrey

I also don't have organized religion on Pern. I figured - since there were four holy wars going on at the time of writing - that religion was one problem Pern didn't need.

~Anne McCaffrey

The horse, the noblest, bravest, proudest, most courageous and certainly the most perverse and infuriating animal that humans ever domesticated

~Anne McCaffrey

Fight only in direst need  
Not for lust or petty greed  
Honor those that do give birth  
Respect them well for their full worth

~Anne McCaffrey

I'm 78, I'm on my pension in Ireland, and all that good stuff

~Anne McCaffrey

I don't often reread my own books, unless I am going into another in the series and need to refresh my mood when originating the concept

~Anne McCaffrey

I didn't raise Todd to be a writer, but he happened to be one anyway

~Anne McCaffrey

To cry was to release all sorts of ugly little pressures and tensions. Like waking out of a long, dark dream to a sun-filled day.

~Anne McCaffrey

I have always used emotion as a writing tool. That goes back to me being on the stage

~Anne McCaffrey

How could she have believed such an artificial life as the theatre was suitable?

~Anne McCaffrey

A real scientist solves problems, not wails that they are unsolvable.

~Anne McCaffrey

Fear has its uses but cowardice has none.

~Anne McCaffrey

My eyes are green, my hair is silver and I freckly; the rest is subject to change without notice.

~Anne McCaffrey

That's what writing is all about, after all, making others see what you have put down on the page and believing that it does, or could, exist and you want to go there.

~Anne McCaffrey

But Ship Who Sang remains my favorite story. I really rocked folks with that and still cannot read it aloud myself without weeping at the end

~Anne McCaffrey

At age 77, I need the help of someone with more energy than I can now summon to finish a book

~Anne McCaffrey

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