

Brian McKnight

Quotes

Song, Years, People, Records, Thinking, Writing, Want, Done, Careers, Labels, Guy, Technology, Artist, Play, World, Chance, Worry, Creating, Creative, Hate

A fine timepiece is part of dressing like a gentleman. When I first made a little money, I bought my first watch which was a Rolex Daytona. It was just one of those things that said I was successful.

~Brian McKnight

I write about moments, and I don't make blanket statements about anything because no one has all the answers; nobody's come up with a foolproof way to do anything when it comes to emotions.

~Brian McKnight

There's only one thing that everyone in this world has in common: whether you want to love somebody and you want to be loved in return.

~Brian McKnight

I decided I am not going to say things I do not mean anymore.

~Brian McKnight

People don't like when you point out to them and remind them that they're not very smart.

~Brian McKnight

It doesn't matter the genre or type of art, if it's authentic there's an apparent beauty to it and as an artist, that's very inspiring.

~Brian McKnight

I'm creating music - it doesn't matter if anyone else likes it.

~Brian McKnight

I do not wear my emotions on my sleeve; I write about them.

~Brian McKnight

It's just exciting to be part of something that is brand-new.

~Brian McKnight

The guy comes up to the plate, there's always a chance where he can get a grand slam and everybody forgets about all the times he missed.

~Brian McKnight

He knows I rip him off every day. He's the godfather for me. Nobody can say they aren't influenced by what Stevie Wonder has done.

~Brian McKnight

It is great to have your own label; you can cultivate your own artists I've worked with pretty much everyone I wanted to.

~Brian McKnight

When it's your chance to step up to the plate, just hit it out of the park, and everybody will forget about everything that came before.

~Brian McKnight

I was a nerd academically. But I was also an athlete and a musician. I never wanted to be shut out of any situation. I think it was that more than anything.

~Brian McKnight

I was brought up to be a gentleman. That means you know how to walk, talk and dress the part.

~Brian McKnight

I just want people to take a step back, take a deep breath and actually look at something with a different perspective. But most people will never do that.

~Brian McKnight

I've been a jazz artist playing pop and R&B my entire career.

~Brian McKnight

There's no substitute to being successful on an actual chart.

~Brian McKnight

Music used to be essential and meaningful, but now it's disposable.

~Brian McKnight

I just want to be as creative as I possibly can.

~Brian McKnight

Everything I have now is so real, so vivid.

~Brian McKnight

Every song that I've done is me in one way or another.

~Brian McKnight

I kind of hate the fact that people are always trying to put you into a category. I hate walls, and I hate boundaries. I don't like that. I listen to everything.

~Brian McKnight

I listen to all kinds of songs. There's something to be learned from every type of music and from the one making it, whether it's pop or jazz or hip-hop.

~Brian McKnight

I'll always write music. Whether I release a record, whether I let the public hear it or not, I'm always writing music.

~Brian McKnight

I am a writer - that is what I am before being a performer or musician. I love waking up in the morning and then going to sleep that night with something that did not exist.

~Brian McKnight

I wanted to put jazz on the record, all the loves of music that I had on

the record, so I could show people I was ahead of my 19 years. It may have been over the heads of some people.

~Brian McKnight

By 17, I had a whole band that would go in and play. It was called Spontaneous Inventions, after a Bobby McFerrin album.

~Brian McKnight

Being a musician, you want to be able to do the hardest stuff there is. People would think it's classical, but in classical, it's all on the page and the difficulty is keeping up with the music.

~Brian McKnight

I am at my core a singer/songwriter a la James Taylor or a la Billy Joel. It's not that I don't want to work with people, but I do just love doing my own thing.

~Brian McKnight

Stevie didn't use the technology to drive the song. He used it to enhance. I use the tools to further my work, I don't use my work to further the tools.

~Brian McKnight

I grew up in a time where anything was possible.

~Brian McKnight

I used to play pianos in bars. You know in hotels, you'd see guys playing piano with a snifter? That was me, with a painted-on mustache. I was about 15.

~Brian McKnight

I started as a writer and when I sent my demos out everyone wanted to know who was singing and if that person wanted a record deal.

~Brian McKnight

I think I've tried to stay true to my music since the beginning. It's kind of hard because of the access and technology but I just do what I do.

~Brian McKnight

I'm never satisfied with what I do.

~Brian McKnight

For me able to do the records I want to do and not have to worry about this producer or that producer or that trend, I'm not really interested in that.

~Brian McKnight

I hope at some point in my career when my name is mentioned, someone will say "Oh yeah he has a good song!" I'd be happy with that.

~Brian McKnight

I hate the pigeonholing that's happened in the music business in the last 30 years.

~Brian McKnight

The hardest thing to do in this business is to still be around. When music changes, when labels' resources have dried up, it becomes harder and harder to continue to make a living at this.

~Brian McKnight

You know, most of my career I wrote about moments in time. All of us have felt one thing or another and it didn't last very long. Now I'm drawing from real experience. It's a huge difference.

~Brian McKnight

I've always been serious about music. After you've done it for so many years, you get back to the basics.

~Brian McKnight

It feels really great to be popular.

~Brian McKnight

I watch my contemporaries, and they love to live in the studio and I don't. I have a life. I treat it as a 9-to-5. I try to create something new every day, and then I get on with my life.

~Brian McKnight

I don't care how small the game. I want to win.

~Brian McKnight

My fans are the best in the world! They've grown up with me and stayed with me through this entire journey.

~Brian McKnight

When somebody shows up and they believe in you, it makes all the difference.

~Brian McKnight

I've worked with jazz artists, country artists, classical artists, pop artists. I never wanted there to be categories, because when I was a kid there weren't.

~Brian McKnight

You'd hear Willie Nelson, then Earth, Wind & Fire, then Chicago, then Billy Joel on the same radio station. Nowadays, everything is compartmentalized.

~Brian McKnight

I was probably six years old when I first sang before an audience.

~Brian McKnight

Lionel Richie told me forget about the critics. But if you come back with hit after hit, you don't have to worry about anything.

~Brian McKnight

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