

Chris Van Allsburg

Quotes

Ideas, Writing, Thinking, Book, Believe, Art, Doe, Change, Years, Children, Eight, Christmas, Magic, Two, Problem, Perfectionist, People, Racing, Asking Questions, Events

The Polar Express began with the idea of a train standing alone in the woods. I asked myself, What if a boy gets on that train? Where does he go?

~Chris Van Allsburg

I write for what's left of the eight-year-old still rattling around inside my head

~Chris Van Allsburg

its not bad to be different. Sometimes it's the mark of being very very talented.

~Chris Van Allsburg

The idea of the extraordinary happening in the context of the ordinary is what's fascinating to me

~Chris Van Allsburg

Following my muse has worked out pretty well so far. I can't see any reason to change the formula now.

~Chris Van Allsburg

I don't think ordinary things are very interesting, so I try to imagine a world that is less ordinary.

~Chris Van Allsburg

The opportunity to create a small world between two pieces of cardboard, where time exists yet stands still, where people talk and I tell them what to say, is exciting and rewarding.

~Chris Van Allsburg

I pore over every word on the cereal box at breakfast, often more than once. You can ask me anything about shredded wheat.

~Chris Van Allsburg

Santa is our culture's only mythic figure truly believed in by a large percentage of the population. It's a fact that most of the true believers are under eight years old, and that's a pity.

~Chris Van Allsburg

Certain peer pressures encourage little fingers to learn how to hold a football instead of a crayon. I confess to having yielded to these pressures.

~Chris Van Allsburg

An award does not change the quality of a book.

~Chris Van Allsburg

I've always thought of the book as a visual art form, and it should represent a single artistic idea, which it does if you write your own material.

~Chris Van Allsburg

My ideas are not meant to suggest dreams or reality, but a surreal quality.

~Chris Van Allsburg

At first, I see pictures of a story in my mind. Then creating the story comes from asking questions of myself. I guess you might call it the 'what if - what then' approach to writing and illustration.

~Chris Van Allsburg

Though I've grown old, the bell still rings for me as it does for all who truly believe.

~Chris Van Allsburg

I think most people agree there is a component of skill in art making; you have to learn grammar before you learn how to write.

~Chris Van Allsburg

Some artists claim praise is irrelevant in measuring the success of art, but I think it's quite relevant. Besides, it makes me feel great.

~Chris Van Allsburg

If you don't know where you're going, stop racing to get there. -- from Just Desert by M. T. Anderson

~Chris Van Allsburg

As much as I'd like to meet the tooth fairy on an evening walk, I don't really believe it can happen.

~Chris Van Allsburg

There was a great deal of peer recognition to be gained in elementary school by being able to draw well. One girl could draw horses so well, she was looked upon as a kind of sorceress.

~Chris Van Allsburg

There must be something to think about at the end.

~Chris Van Allsburg

The Dick, Jane, and Spot primers have gone to that bookshelf in the sky. I have, in some ways, a tender feeling toward them, so I think it's for the best.

~Chris Van Allsburg

Your house is all about routine, not the unexpected events of your life.

~Chris Van Allsburg

I take my ideas from my experiences.

~Chris Van Allsburg

I'm not a perfectionist. I'm just very observant.

~Chris Van Allsburg

I have lots of ideas. The problem for me has always been which one to do.

~Chris Van Allsburg

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