David Gelernter Quotes

Book, Beautiful, Years, Learning, Cutting, Way, Thinking, Ideas, Important, Computer, Information, Parent, Taught, Video, Symphony, Surprise, School, Teacher, Worry, Programming

if we were forced to choose just one, there would be no way to deny that Judaism is the most important intellectual development in human history.

~David Gelernter

Beauty is the ultimate defense against complexity.

~David Gelernter

Really good ideas are always good beyond what you anticipated originally.

~David Gelernter

Computers make people stupid.

~David Gelernter

We can't share the earth with pure evil anymore than we can share the earth with smallpox.

~David Gelernter

I think the print media have failed to make the most of their opportunity. They may all disappear because they are approaching things in the wrong way.

~David Gelernter

Good programmers know what's beautiful and bad ones don't.

~David Gelernter

Beauty is more important in computing than anywhere else in technology because software is so complicated. Beauty is the ultimate defense against complexity.

~David Gelernter

If this is the information age, what are we so well-informed about?

~David Gelernter

The book is a form in which some of the greatest masterpieces that mankind has ever achieved are expressed.

~David Gelernter

Readable text and authority so that readers know how to spend - no matter how much information there is, I have the same number of minutes in my day, and I need to look to sources that I trust.

~David Gelernter

There are great science books that were conceived as books. Feynman's famous introductory lectures in physics, which have a beginning and an end, which are written with style.

~David Gelernter

I think the universities as we know them will be dead in a future years. I'd like to see them replaced by something better, instead of something worse, and it's not clear which way it will go.

~David Gelernter

Abolishing the book is like abolishing the symphony, or sonata form, or the sonnet, or the wall painting.

~David Gelernter

The best computer scientists are...technologists who crave beauty.

~David Gelernter

I would love to see writing taught online because at university like Yale, there are not enough teachers who are able to teach writing well, or in some cases, there are none.

~David Gelernter

There are certain subjects which seem to me can be taught very effectively online, although they aren't.

~David Gelernter

At the same time, on the networks, there are thousands of groups that are building lifestreams, or lifestreaming for themselves in their own way. We'd love to see this activity.

~David Gelernter

The first step is always to succeed in becoming surprised - to notice that there is something funny going on.

~David Gelernter

We still have books because they are so brilliantly suited to the way human beings absorb information and at their best, they are among the most beautiful things we have.

~David Gelernter

The book is a unit and is such a brilliant ergonomic unit.

~David Gelernter

Surprise is the beginning of wisdom.

~David Gelernter

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