

Debra Dean Quotes

*Writing, Thinking, Book, Jobs, Summer, Stories, New York, Years, Teaching,
Moving, Russia, Carols, Acting, Bored, Peculiar, Vision, Evening, Marine,
Unusual, Mother*

Before I got my present job, I spent many years teaching writing part-time, so-called, at community colleges and universities. It's academia's version of migrant labor.

~Debra Dean

You're unusual. That's better than popular if you have some courage.

~Debra Dean

Peculiar as I was, and remain, I was trained to be practical. I'm still amazed at the radical temerity of my friends, you included, Julie, who choose poetry as their vocation. I envy your faith.

~Debra Dean

I loved short stories, and they were all I wanted to write. I love the compression of them and the exactitude needed to get a whole world into such a small space.

~Debra Dean

Whatever one may say about the perils of workshops, they help writers internalize an awareness of audience.

~Debra Dean

I figured that to be a writer I would need to have been born in the nineteenth century, be British, or have three names. So I turned my sights elsewhere . . . to acting.

~Debra Dean

Unless you're Stephen King or Joyce Carol Oates, no one's going to recognize you on the street, and you're promoting your book, not yourself.

~Debra Dean

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