

Elizabeth Kostova

Quotes

*Book, Thinking, Historical, Heart, People, Home, Real, Mind, Trying, Eye,
Different, Passion, Believe, Remember, Library, Writing, Events, Running, War,
Found*

It was good to walk into a library again; it smelled like home.

~Elizabeth Kostova

The heart does not go backward. Only the mind.

~Elizabeth Kostova

When you handle books all day long, every new one is a friend and a temptation.

~Elizabeth Kostova

As you know, human history is full of evil deeds, and maybe we ought to think of them with tears, not fascination.

~Elizabeth Kostova

...History it seemed could be something entirely different a splash of blood whose agony didn't fade overnight or over centuries.

~Elizabeth Kostova

It's funny; in this era of e-mail and voice mail and all those things that even I did not grow up with, a plain old paper letter takes on amazing intimacy.

~Elizabeth Kostova

It was not the brutality of what occurred next that changed my mind and brought home to me the full meaning of fear. It was the brilliance of it.

~Elizabeth Kostova

The problem is simply finding the right person. Ask Plato. Just make sure she finishes your thoughts and you finish hers. That's all you need.

~Elizabeth Kostova

...what will we someday do, I always wonder, without the pleasures of turning through books and stumbling on things we never meant to find?

~Elizabeth Kostova

There is nothing harder, at moments, than talking to someone who has all the power of silence.

~Elizabeth Kostova

I believe in walking out of a museum before the paintings you've seen begin to run together. How else can you carry anything away with you in your mind's eye?

~Elizabeth Kostova

Recently abandoned women can be complicated.

~Elizabeth Kostova

Sometimes people damage paintings or sculpture because they love it. They throw their arms around a statue in a fit of hysterical passion and it falls over.

~Elizabeth Kostova

It touched me to be trusted with something terrible.

~Elizabeth Kostova

And how could anyone consent to give up the smell of open books, old or new?

~Elizabeth Kostova

He can't really love anyone, you know, and in the end such people are always alone, no matter how much other people once loved them.

~Elizabeth Kostova

I wondered why she craved this knowledge and found myself remembering that she was, after all, an anthropologist.

~Elizabeth Kostova

My guess is that he remembers some of me, some of us together, and the rest rolled off him like topsoil in a flash flood.

~Elizabeth Kostova

The very worst impulses of humankind can survive generations, centuries, even millennia. And the best of our individual efforts can die with us at the end of a single lifetime.

~Elizabeth Kostova

In the end, I always act from the heart, even if I also value reason and tradition. I wish I could explain why, but I don't know.

~Elizabeth Kostova

For the first time, I had been struck by the excitement of the traveler who looks history in her subtle face.

~Elizabeth Kostova

Faith is simply whatever is real to us.

~Elizabeth Kostova

I've noticed Dracula was often as practical a fellow as he was a nasty one.

~Elizabeth Kostova

Then you must say to her, 'Madame, I observe that your heart is broken. Allow me to repair it for you.'

~Elizabeth Kostova

I love to cook and I've cooked a lot of Bulgarian food over the years.

~Elizabeth Kostova

If there is any good in life, in history, in my own past, I invoke it now. I invoke it with all the passion with which I have lived.

~Elizabeth Kostova

Festina Lente (Hurry in slowly)

~Elizabeth Kostova

Every writer hopes his or her book will be its own thing.

~Elizabeth Kostova

You are a total stranger and you want to take my library book.

~Elizabeth Kostova

Boys mystified me, although I dreamed vaguely of men.

~Elizabeth Kostova

I've read there is no such thing as a single tear, that old poetic trope. And perhaps there isn't, since hers was simply a companion to my own.

~Elizabeth Kostova

I've always been interested in foreign relations. It's my belief that study of history should be our preparation for understanding the present rather than an escape from it.

~Elizabeth Kostova

These atheist cultures were certainly diligent in preserving the relics of their saints.

~Elizabeth Kostova

For me, Dracula has always been associated with travel and beautiful historical places.

~Elizabeth Kostova

We Gypsies know that where Jews are killed, Gypsies are always murdered too. And then a lot of other people, usually.

~Elizabeth Kostova

I think it's important to recognise that 'The Da Vinci Code' opened up a vast new audience for a general readership interested in historical detective stories and research into history.

~Elizabeth Kostova

I keep telling myself I should try very hard to write a novel of about 210 pages... I don't seem to be capable of it, but I keep hoping it will happen.

~Elizabeth Kostova

No book that is written for an external purpose is going to be a passionately felt book for the writer or the reader. I don't see the point in doing that.

~Elizabeth Kostova

I wasn't brought up to be dazzled by money or fame.

~Elizabeth Kostova

He brought his great hand to rest on an early edition of Bram Stoker's novel and smiled, but said nothing. Then he moved quietly away into another section.

~Elizabeth Kostova

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