

Emily Barton Quotes

*Thinking, Writing, People, Book, Years, Past, Teaching, Block, Husband, Mean,
Fashion, Two, Thinker, World, Today, Fiction, Historical, Berating, Taken,
Classroom*

A novel is a way to rethink and rewrite and re-envision the past, and also a way to speak to people who haven't been born yet about what we think about right now.

~Emily Barton

I think that novels are one of the best means that we have to communicate both with the past and with the future.

~Emily Barton

A lot of people have come up after Brookland and asked, "What happens to her at the end of the novel?" and I will very politely say, well, here are the two possibilities.

~Emily Barton

Trying to talk through and figure out new answers really helps me figure out more about what I'm doing - and what we're all doing.

~Emily Barton

Historical fiction is a collaboration between the time in which it's written and the time that it's writing about and the far future, when we don't know what people are going to think about yet.

~Emily Barton

Nobody thinks that there were never mechanical horses in the world. Everybody knows that there aren't really golems.

~Emily Barton

Maybe one of the reasons that I don't ever experience myself as having writer's block is I don't feel that I need to be producing every minute of every day.

~Emily Barton

If I don't write every day for one week or even, frankly, one year, I don't really think too much about that.

~Emily Barton

It would have been a hard year if I'd spent it berating myself for not working on the book.

~Emily Barton

I think that we're all always just working on finding how that balance functions for us, given today's circumstances.

~Emily Barton

A good book is a good book, and there are a lot of different ways to approach writing or reading one.

~Emily Barton

As a Jewish thinker, I don't think of myself in relationship to the dominant culture's religion.

~Emily Barton

I tend to think of writing as a more collaborative project than I think some people do.

~Emily Barton

Tom, my husband, who converted to Judaism when we got married, and as a consequence, we were learning about historical conversions to Judaism. Really, every time it pops up, it's very strange.

~Emily Barton

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