

# Erik Larson

## Quotes

*Book, Cities, People, Men, Reading, Chicago, Writing, Dream, Politics,  
Thinking, Bookstores, Ifs, Political, Ideas, Serial Killer, Eye, Helping, Remove,  
Fear, Inspiration*

His weakness was his belief that evil had boundaries.

~Erik Larson

I was born with the devil in me,' [Holmes] wrote. 'I could not help the fact that I was a murderer, no more than the poet can help the inspiration to sing.

~Erik Larson

Time lost can never be recovered...and this should be written in flaming letters everywhere.

~Erik Larson

I thought I'd go to a bookstore and see what moved me.

~Erik Larson

It was so easy to disappear, so easy to deny knowledge, so very easy in the smoke and din to mask that something dark had taken root. This was Chicago, on the eve of the greatest fair in history.

~Erik Larson

Beneath the stars the lake lay dark and sombre," Stead wrote, "but on its shores gleamed and glowed in golden radiance the ivory city, beautiful as a poet's dream, silent as a city of the dead.

~Erik Larson

I must confess a shameful secret: I love Chicago best in the cold.

~Erik Larson

Chicago has disappointed her enemies and astonished the world

~Erik Larson

. . . why some men choose to fill their brief allotment of time engaging the impossible, others in the manufacture of sorrow.

~Erik Larson

Leaves hung in the stillness like hands of the newly dead.

~Erik Larson

There's something so relentless and foul about Hitler and his people, and the way things progressed from year to year. It just got to me in the strangest way.

~Erik Larson

I'm very perverse. If someone tells me I have to read a book, I'm instantly disinclined to do so.

~Erik Larson

Whenever I finish a book, I start with a blank slate and never have ideas lined up.

~Erik Larson

No one cared what St. Louis thought, although the city got a wink for pluck.

~Erik Larson

I was never concretely aware of the extent of anti-Semitism in the United States and in the upper levels of the State Department.

~Erik Larson

The intermittent depression that had shadowed him throughout his adult life was about to envelop him once again.

~Erik Larson

Great murderers, like great men in other walks of activity, have blue eyes.

~Erik Larson

I pride myself on having a journalistic remove.

~Erik Larson

I started reading the big histories and the small histories, the memoirs and so forth. At some point, I found the diary of William E. Dodd.

~Erik Larson

Reading is such a personal thing to me. I'd much rather give someone a gift certificate to a bookstore, and let that person choose his or her own books.

~Erik Larson

I like all kinds of music, though I tend to prefer jazz and classics.

~Erik Larson

Reading Mission to Paris is like sipping a fine Chateau Margaux:  
Sublime!

~Erik Larson

I don't listen to music when I write, but I do turn on appropriate music when I read portions of my manuscripts back to myself - kind of like adding a soundtrack to help shape mood.

~Erik Larson

Dodd continued to hope that the murders would so outrage the German public that the regime would fall, but as the days passed he saw no evidence of any such outpouring of anger.

~Erik Larson

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