

# Eugen Herrigel

## Quotes

*Archer, Art, Lying, Two, Thinking, Waiting, Mind, Letting Go, Teacher,  
Reflection, Artist, Archery, Men, Buddhism, Hands, People, Self, Tension, Effort,  
Goal*

He grows daily more capable of following any inspiration without technical effort, and also of letting inspiration come to him through meticulous observation.

~Eugen Herrigel

In the case of archery, the hitter and the hit are no longer two opposing objects, but are one reality.

~Eugen Herrigel

The shot will go smoothly only when it takes the archer himself by surprise.

~Eugen Herrigel

The more a human being feels himself a self, tries to intensify this self and reach a never-attainable perfection, the more drastically he steps out of the center of being.

~Eugen Herrigel

The right shot at the right moment does not come because you do not let go of yourself. You do not wait for fulfilment, but brace yourself for failure.

~Eugen Herrigel

By letting go of yourself, leaving yourself and everything yours behind so decisively that nothing more is left of you but a purposeless tension .

~Eugen Herrigel

You must act as if the goal were infinitely far off.

~Eugen Herrigel

Far from wishing to awaken the artist in the pupil prematurely, the teacher considers it his first task to make him a skilled artisan with sovereign control of his craft.

~Eugen Herrigel

The man, the art, the work--it is all one.

~Eugen Herrigel

This, then, is what counts: a lightning reaction which has no further need of conscious observation. In this respect at least the pupil makes himself independent of all conscious purpose.

~Eugen Herrigel

Zen Buddhism does not preach. Sermons remain words. It waits until people feel stifled and insecure, driven by a secret longing.

~Eugen Herrigel

You must learn to wait properly.

~Eugen Herrigel

Assuming that his talent can survive the increasing strain, there is one scarcely avoidable danger that lies ahead of the pupil on his road to mastery.

~Eugen Herrigel

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