

# Frederick Busch

## Quotes

*Writing, Book, People, Thinking, Reading, Done, Fiction, Art, Nonfiction, Years,  
Baseball, Kids, Trying, Important, Believe, Novelists, Beautiful, Certain, Verbs,  
Hero*

Oh, a bookshop. Why not pop in and buy a little Kant? And perhaps just a quarter-pound of Kafka. Don't bother to wrap it, thanks. I'll eat it here.

~Frederick Busch

Good art is a form of prayer. It's a way to say what is not sayable.

~Frederick Busch

Baseball is a game where you are always waiting, and then when something happens it's like turning a kaleidoscope when you were a kid.

~Frederick Busch

I love thrillers. I would even read certain science fiction, although I haven't been a devotee for many years.

~Frederick Busch

There is a lack of context in contemporary education. And contemporary consideration - because we live in those interiorities so much. Especially young kids who live by surfing the Web.

~Frederick Busch

I love baseball. What I love about baseball is that you are always waiting.

~Frederick Busch

It's harder to get hold of the world. It's harder to understand the world, to encompass the literature necessary for the information.

~Frederick Busch

I always had good students.

~Frederick Busch

Let's look at what the books are that are being produced. More and more they are being made like movies. To sell. They are being tested

out.

~Frederick Busch

Hollywood is the model for publishing, more and more. Not just blockbusters either.

~Frederick Busch

I don't think I want to write a third book. But the more people talk to me about it, the more I think maybe I do.

~Frederick Busch

When you are writing a character, what the character says is obviously crucial. But what the character doesn't say is absolutely as important as his words.

~Frederick Busch

I know important literary writers who can't get published.

~Frederick Busch

I always write the best that I can. And I won't publish it until I have done it right.

~Frederick Busch

I have found myself writing poetry shortly after I retired. Which I hadn't done in forty years.

~Frederick Busch

The best defense is a good story.

~Frederick Busch

Never use 'submit' as a verb for sending work to magazine or book publishers; say 'offer,' and never, ever submit. Keep your knees unbent. Be brave.

~Frederick Busch

What to know about pain is how little we do to deserve it, how simple it is to give, how hard to lose.

~Frederick Busch

If there is some blood on the pages then you have some readership.

~Frederick Busch

I always want to read Gore Vidal's nonfiction. Because everything he writes is an essay and it's worth reading.

~Frederick Busch

I don't think the world is particularly responsive to - our world, the culture we are in, to art right now.

~Frederick Busch

The importance to the world of what we scribblers write is in doubt, I would think.

~Frederick Busch

The culture is with some rapidity fearing its imagination. I don't know why. Imagination is not of interest.

~Frederick Busch

You have to read history. You have to have a sense of history.

~Frederick Busch

I'm an amateur, so I read what's interesting to me.

~Frederick Busch

It's hard to read real fiction. It takes time. It takes a sustained attention.

~Frederick Busch

What I try to do is read stuff that won't deal with the dangerous dark things I hope I am writing about.

~Frederick Busch

When I am writing a novel I try not to read great prose stylists into which I will fall.

~Frederick Busch

My heroes are people like Philip Levine, who is simply like a god to me, as a writer. And he is a very good man, too.

~Frederick Busch

I read a lot of poetry. I read some history.

~Frederick Busch

History is beautiful stories or scary stories, yeah.

~Frederick Busch

I'm not a philosopher. I am the next thing to a jock, which is a novelist.

~Frederick Busch

I can't imagine having the courage to ask a publisher to do a whole book of my poems.

~Frederick Busch

I enjoy going to campuses and reading and doing a class or teaching and then running away and not having to grade papers.

~Frederick Busch

I get to meet writers, and I love writers.

~Frederick Busch

Stephen King has the exact ability that Charles Dickens had. To get to his readers in spite of or despite anything the reviews say.

~Frederick Busch

Nonfiction, for the most part, is facts, and it's "how I was mistreated. I was mistreated. Were you mistreated? Weren't we all mistreated?"

~Frederick Busch

The people who make reality are angry peasants with old cannon shells wired together, an anti-vehicle device.

~Frederick Busch

People do not read, by and large. They watch television.

~Frederick Busch

I have a wonderful editor who believes in fiction and poetry. She herself is a novelist and poet.

~Frederick Busch

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