

# Guillermo del Toro

## Quotes

*Thinking, People, Believe, Kids, Monsters, Directors, World, Way, Two, Trying,  
Horror, Film, Needs, Book, Giving, Children, Men, Firsts, Spiritual, Movie*

When I was a teenager there was no video in my country. Betamax came to Mexico very slowly.

~Guillermo del Toro

But I think we are seeing a resurgence of the graphic ghost story like *The Others*, *Devil's Backbone* and *The Sixth Sense*. It is a return to more gothic atmospheric ghost storytelling.

~Guillermo del Toro

In a world where we are so pragmatic and materialistic, fear is the only emotion that allows even a sophisticated person to believe in something beyond.

~Guillermo del Toro

You only find yourself when you disobey. Disobedience is the beginning of responsibility, I think.

~Guillermo del Toro

The butterfly does not look back upon its caterpillar self, either fondly or wistfully; it simply flies on.

~Guillermo del Toro

If you're not operating on an instinctive level, you're not an artist.... Reason over emotion is bullshit, absolute bullshit... We suffocate ourselves in rules. I find fantasy liberating.

~Guillermo del Toro

I have a sort of a fetish for insects, clockwork, monsters, dark places, and unborn things

~Guillermo del Toro

Well, the first thing is that I love monsters, I identify with monsters.

~Guillermo del Toro

You have to believe the magic to see it.

~Guillermo del Toro

Night is real. Night is not an absence of light, but in fact, it is daytime that is a brief respite from the looming darkness.

~Guillermo del Toro

I think video games are going to completely take over storytelling in our society. Video games are not a fad.

~Guillermo del Toro

There is beautiful in the grotesque.

~Guillermo del Toro

There's nothing that defines who you are more than boundaries, whether you cross them or not, in every aspect of your life, and horror is a really great boundary.

~Guillermo del Toro

For Devil's Backbone I loved it but I felt very pressured but so I was neurotic on the shoot.

~Guillermo del Toro

I like actors that are good with pantomime and that can transmit a lot by their presence and attitude more than through their dialogue

~Guillermo del Toro

My life is a suitcase. I am the traveling Mexican.

~Guillermo del Toro

You can't explain success in retrospect. The moment you leap into the void, that moment is impossible to negate, after success.

~Guillermo del Toro

...to all the monsters in my nursery: May you never leave me alone.

~Guillermo del Toro

I love REAL set construction and think that sets are very important part of the storytelling and scope of a film.

~Guillermo del Toro

I believe in man. I believe in mankind, as the worst and the best that has happened to this world.

~Guillermo del Toro

Your heart is uncomplicated. It knows what it knows and acts accordingly. Greater wisdom is hard to find.

~Guillermo del Toro

In real life, what scares me is politicians, corporations and people that think they know what the world should be.

~Guillermo del Toro

I was an altar boy, a spokesperson for the Virgin Mary, I was a choir boy but then at the age of 14 I discovered masturbation and all that went out the window.

~Guillermo del Toro

You give yourself to the world for people to either praise or destroy.

~Guillermo del Toro

video games are the comic books of our time... It's a medium that gains no respect among the intelligentsia".

~Guillermo del Toro

I'm the freaky version of that superhero who says, wherever there is injustice, I shall be there. Whenever there is a difficult project, I'd like to be there.

~Guillermo del Toro

Movies that look safe are less interesting.

~Guillermo del Toro

Frankfurt, discussing a stuntman: He missed being killed in that shot by literally half an inch.

~Guillermo del Toro

I was part of a group that had a cinema club so every week we would project two or three movies on 16 or 35mm.

~Guillermo del Toro

I like John Carpenter. I like some of his films more than others

~Guillermo del Toro

What happens to me is that I am first and foremost a film geek.

~Guillermo del Toro

You can always go back to not making any money, and then you get the freedom. And I'm going to continue doing it, because it really is a fantastic sense of liberation.

~Guillermo del Toro

For eight years I did effects for other movies until I got my movie made

~Guillermo del Toro

I see horror as part of legitimate film. I don't see it as an independent genre that has nothing to do with cinema.

~Guillermo del Toro

When you work with a great director, you can have a great partnership.

~Guillermo del Toro

I love the creation of these things â€” I love the sculpting, I love the coloring. Half the joy is fabricating the world, the creatures.

~Guillermo del Toro

They're getting more and more experience on what to expect, and the Hellboy audience is such a faithful and fanatic audience as I am, and you have to really be very open about what you do

~Guillermo del Toro

There are two levels of vampirism: one is the regular vampire, which is just like it has always been; and then there's the super vampires, which are a new breed we've created.

~Guillermo del Toro

Hellboy is the first movie where both ends of the spectrum are combined

~Guillermo del Toro

You can only be a good father in relationship to your childhood.

~Guillermo del Toro

We're in three living groups, 'cause even after the world's ended some assholes still can't get along.

~Guillermo del Toro

Never fly commercial. That's the moral of this story.

~Guillermo del Toro

Genius is the true mystery, and at its edge--the abyss.

~Guillermo del Toro

Power revealed is power sacrificed. The truly powerful exert their influence in ways unseen, unfelt. Some would say that a thing visible is a thing vulnerable.

~Guillermo del Toro

I think when the joke comes from the situation in a horror film, it's really great. I don't like jokey horror films like where people are cracking a joke or being post-modern about it.

~Guillermo del Toro

The point of being over 40 is to fulfill the desires you've been harboring since you were 7.

~Guillermo del Toro

The reality is that I feel that fear is a very spiritual emotion.

~Guillermo del Toro

I think when you get all the money and all the freedom, rarely do you get a good movie out of it or a movie that you're proud of.

~Guillermo del Toro

If you get bored with nothing to do, you are not a writer.

~Guillermo del Toro

What we read and why we do so defines us in a profound way. You are what you read, I suppose. Browsing through someone's library is like peeking into their DNA.

~Guillermo del Toro

I believe, as a producer/director, your duty is to create a beautiful horror film that really resonates.

~Guillermo del Toro

I started when I was eight, doing super 8 films

~Guillermo del Toro

The other thing that I started doing for myself was, I went through my

diary of ideas that I keep and made sure that the translation of the comic to the movie was good.

~Guillermo del Toro

I have my library separate from the family home, and every room is a different genre. The only room that I can guarantee I've read everything is the horror room.

~Guillermo del Toro

You think if you work hard enough, you can fix the precious things you've broken - rather than being careful with them in the first place.

~Guillermo del Toro

I think that is the ultimate cowardice, when someone makes your choices for you in an institutional way. And you just say, "Well, I have no other option."

~Guillermo del Toro

You need to adjust your compass to an obtainable goal.

~Guillermo del Toro

I thought the tooth fairy was a very creepy concept as a kid. "Put your tooth under the pillow." I was like "Why does someone want my teeth?".

~Guillermo del Toro

The only thing you can do as an artist is to come to the world, see what no one is doing, and leave behind one or two things that wouldn't have happened without you.

~Guillermo del Toro

I'm a movement Nazi. It used to be my way before. Now, in the last three projects. I found a way to let the actors find their comfort and still find the precision in the show. It's a change in me.



~Guillermo del Toro

The movies that I do are in love with cinema, and I try to show that I am in love with cinema. I want them to be, in other ways, drinking from other sources.

~Guillermo del Toro

I have "fat-guy syndrome." If they give me \$50 million to make a movie, I'll try to make it look like it cost a hundred. If they give me \$60 million, I'll try to make it look like it cost \$120.

~Guillermo del Toro

I think there is a very quiet power in things that are not on screen

~Guillermo del Toro

America is old tobacco: gold and green. It's lush and literally feels like wealth, like optimism, turn of the century America where everything was blooming.

~Guillermo del Toro

I think Hollywood has a habit of developing 100 times more than they actually shoot.

~Guillermo del Toro

Screenplay is the toughest form of writing for me, because you need to be in present tense. You need to be describing things as they occur.

~Guillermo del Toro

For me, lost causes are the only ones that are worth fighting for. The other stuff is not worth fighting for.

~Guillermo del Toro

When the monster has a dimension that allows you to humanize it, that's the route I usually want to go.

~Guillermo del Toro

I believe that the physical effect, the physical set, whenever you can, is ten times better than the digital effect.

~Guillermo del Toro

If you're doing a big spectacle film, you've got to be mindful of large masses. Even then, you've got to be responsible only to your storytelling.

~Guillermo del Toro

I think that during the shoot, you should never be there, unless something goes really wrong and as producer, you're responsible. The sign you did your job right is if you are not there.

~Guillermo del Toro

The only true immortality is when you don't care if you die. The moment you stop giving credence to gain is when you become invulnerable to pain.

~Guillermo del Toro

Even if one understands that what one is doing is mad, it is indeed still madness -

~Guillermo del Toro

I'm a big fan of the Harry Potter books, but I'd love to do one where one of the kids dies, or one of the main characters dies. I love for those things to have a little bit more tragedy.

~Guillermo del Toro

Somebody said to me, in a very well-meaning way, at a screening, "We love the movie but it's too violent. If you tone down the violence you could reach a great audience of kids."

~Guillermo del Toro

...there's something about maternal love - it might just be the strongest human spiritual bond there is.

~Guillermo del Toro

The underground of the city is like what's underground in people. Beneath the surface, it's boiling with monsters.

~Guillermo del Toro

When you shoot in America, you have huge beams of sunlight in the windows, very vivid sunlight - it's faster in a way.

~Guillermo del Toro

I think part of making movies is dealing with restrictions of freedom and budget. I'd rather deal with restrictions of budget. It's better to feel free within any budget.

~Guillermo del Toro

Without context, things are not scary. Without context, like humor, horror doesn't work.

~Guillermo del Toro

There are two types of producing deals, and I've had both. I've produced over 20 movies now. You are either watching in horror, as the cars take the curve in the grand prix, or you're enjoying it.

~Guillermo del Toro

I only produce directors and movies that I have a lot in common with.

~Guillermo del Toro

It's as hard to explain as a sexual proclivity. Some guys like high-heeled shoes. I like horror.

~Guillermo del Toro

I always thought what if you took a myth of childhood like the tooth fairy

and made it a central scary thing. We did it on Hellboy and we did it on 'Don't be afraid of the dark'.

~Guillermo del Toro

I think damage to the eye or damage to the teeth is one of the most universally cringing things you can do in a movie and these are very fragile sounds.

~Guillermo del Toro

Films are fantastic - they are one of the peaks of human narrative. But I'm sorry to break the news to the movie industry: So is a video game.

~Guillermo del Toro

Survival often feels like an indignity.

~Guillermo del Toro

I think there are movies that are so gigantic that you need a second unit

~Guillermo del Toro

I think that The Eye is a particularly Americanized take on horror

~Guillermo del Toro

Well I think effects are tools

~Guillermo del Toro

for in the absence of God he had found Man. Man killing man, man helping man, both of them anonymous: the scourge and the blessing.

~Guillermo del Toro

You'll meet her. She's very pretty, even though sometimes she's sad for many days at a time. You'll see, when she smiles, you'll love her.

~Guillermo del Toro

At some point, in order to gain his identity, the kid goes "I'm not my dad" or "I'm not my mom."

~Guillermo del Toro

I had gotten to the point where I just didn't want to perform anymore - I didn't want to be on the chopping block anymore. I started to want to withdraw and retreat from it.

~Guillermo del Toro

I don't want to move over to Beverly Hills. My goal is to make the movies I want to make and support the people I want to support. That's it.

~Guillermo del Toro

Its a bit cloudy in London but people are already drinking out on the streets- God Bless the pubs.

~Guillermo del Toro

Studios look backward. Filmmakers look forward.

~Guillermo del Toro

As a first-time director, you cannot have final cut. But as a producer, you can have final cut.

~Guillermo del Toro

There are a lot of period movies where they say, 'This is a portrait of Lady Whatever.' And it's done in like a 1950s or 60s style.

~Guillermo del Toro

I really wanted the house to be a character. And I knew, I said, I'll produce that one, but if I direct it, I need to build a house.

~Guillermo del Toro

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