

Guy Davenport Quotes

*Art, Attention, World, Indifference, Valuable, Powerful, Teacher, Space, Views,
Force, Strings, Exhausted, Athlete, Reading, Limits, Horse, Book, Naps, Forget,
Perception*

Sometimes when reading Goethe I have the paralyzing suspicion that he is trying to be funny.

~Guy Davenport

The poet is at the edge of our consciousness of the world, finding beyond the suspected nothingness which we imagine limits our perception another acre or so of being worth our venturing upon.

~Guy Davenport

Art is always the replacement of indifference by attention.

~Guy Davenport

Imagination is like the drunk man who lost his watch and must get drunk again to find it.

~Guy Davenport

We will always return to the private and inviolable act of reading as our culture's way of developing an individual.

~Guy Davenport

I've carved the puppet, and I manipulate the strings, but while it's on stage, the show belongs to the puppet.

~Guy Davenport

In curved Einsteinian space we are at all times, technically, looking at the back of our own head.

~Guy Davenport

A work of art is a form that articulates forces, making them intelligible.

~Guy Davenport

Unless the work of art has wholly exhausted its makers attention, it fails. This is why works of great significance are demanding and why they are infinitely rewarding.

~Guy Davenport

I never intended to be a teacher. I just like going to school and learning things.

~Guy Davenport

nothing now exists that is so valuable as whatever theoretically might replace it.

~Guy Davenport

Originality houses many rooms, and the views from the windows are all different.

~Guy Davenport

Art is the attention we pay to the wholeness of the world.

~Guy Davenport

Theres nothing like being a soldier for confidence or learning your limits or enduring utter humiliation.

~Guy Davenport

The birds suffer their suffering each in a lifetime, forgetting it as they go.

~Guy Davenport

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