

Harold Pinter

Quotes

Literature, Writing, Thinking, Years, World, Believe, Art, Hands, America, Night, Criminals, Fall, Mean, People, Difficult, Government, Past, Men, Iraq, Court

One is and is not in the centre of the maelstrom of it all.

~Harold Pinter

There are some things one remembers even though they may never have happened.

~Harold Pinter

All that happens is that the destruction of human beings - unless they're Americans - is called collateral damage.

~Harold Pinter

The past is what you remember, imagine you remember, convince yourself you remember, or pretend you remember.

~Harold Pinter

Language in art remains a highly ambiguous transaction, a quicksand, a trampoline, a frozen pool which might give way under you ... at any time.

~Harold Pinter

Good writing excites me, and makes life worth living.

~Harold Pinter

I don't think there's been any writer like Samuel Beckett. He's unique. He was a most charming man and I used to send him my plays.

~Harold Pinter

Referees are the law. They have a whistle. They blow it. And that whistle is the articulation of God's justice.

~Harold Pinter

I never think of myself as wise. I think of myself as possessing a critical intelligence which I intend to allow to operate.

~Harold Pinter

I tend to think that cricket is the greatest thing that God ever created on earth - certainly greater than sex, although sex isn't too bad either.

~Harold Pinter

Don't forget the earth's about five thousand million years old, at least. Who can afford to live in the past?

~Harold Pinter

This particular nurse said, Cancer cells are those which have forgotten how to die. I was so struck by this statement.

~Harold Pinter

The more acute the experience, the less articulate its expression.

~Harold Pinter

Apart from the known and the unknown, what else is there?

~Harold Pinter

I found the offer of a knighthood something that I couldn't possibly accept. I found it to be somehow squalid, a knighthood. There's a relationship to government about knights.

~Harold Pinter

I don't write with any audience in mind. I just write. I take a chance on the audience. That's what I did originally, and I think it's worked--in the sense that I find there is an audience.

~Harold Pinter

Sometimes you feel you have the truth of a moment in your hand, then it slips through your fingers and is lost.

~Harold Pinter

Clinton's hands remain incredibly clean, don't they, and Tony Blair's smile remains as wide as ever. I view these guises with profound

contempt.

~Harold Pinter

It was difficult being a conscientious objector in the 1940's, but I felt I had to stick to my guns.

~Harold Pinter

The crimes of the U.S. throughout the world have been systematic, constant, clinical, remorseless, and fully documented but nobody talks about them.

~Harold Pinter

The invasion of Iraq was a bandit act, an act of blatant state terrorism, demonstrating absolute contempt for the concept of international law.

~Harold Pinter

I was brought up in the War. I was an adolescent in the Second World War. And I did witness in London a great deal of the Blitz.

~Harold Pinter

I know little of women. But I've heard dread tales.

~Harold Pinter

I don't give a damn what other people think. It's entirely their own business. I'm not writing for other people.

~Harold Pinter

Be careful how you talk about God. He's the only God we have. If you let him go he won't come back. He won't even look back over his shoulder. And then what will you do?

~Harold Pinter

How can the unknown merit reverence?

~Harold Pinter

I know the place. It is true. Everything we do Corrects the space
Between death and me And you.

~Harold Pinter

Iraq is just a symbol of the attitude of western democracies to the rest
of the world.

~Harold Pinter

I can't really articulate what I feel.

~Harold Pinter

One's life has many compartments.

~Harold Pinter

Occasionally it does hit me, the words on a page. And I still love doing
that, as I have for the last 60 years.

~Harold Pinter

I think that NATO is itself a war criminal.

~Harold Pinter

There is a movement to get an international criminal court in the world,
voted for by hundreds of states-but with the noticeable absence of the
United States of America.

~Harold Pinter

While The United States is the most powerful nation the world has ever
seen, it is also the most detested nation that the world has ever known.

~Harold Pinter

The weasel under the cocktail cabinet.

~Harold Pinter

One way of looking at speech is to say it is a constant stratagem to

cover nakedness.

~Harold Pinter

It's so easy for propaganda to work, and dissent to be mocked.

~Harold Pinter

I mean, if a thing works, if a thing is right, respect that, acknowledge it, respect it and hold to it.

~Harold Pinter

I don't intend to simply go away and write my plays and be a good boy. I intend to remain an independent and political intelligence in my own right.

~Harold Pinter

There are places in my heart...where no living soul...has...or can ever...trespass.

~Harold Pinter

I believe the US is a truly monstrous force in the world, now off the leash for obvious reasons.

~Harold Pinter

The Companion of Honour I regarded as an award from the country for 50 years of work - which I thought was okay.

~Harold Pinter

I also found being called Sir rather silly.

~Harold Pinter

It's very difficult to feel contempt for others when you see yourself in the mirror.

~Harold Pinter

I no longer feel banished from myself.

~Harold Pinter

I think it is the responsibility of a citizen of any country to say what he thinks.

~Harold Pinter

My second play, *The Birthday Party*, I wrote in 1958 - or 1957. It was totally destroyed by the critics of the day, who called it an absolute load of rubbish.

~Harold Pinter

I would never use obscene language in the office. Certainly not. I kept my obscene language for the home, where it belongs.

~Harold Pinter

I thought the plays would speak for themselves. But they didn't.

~Harold Pinter

I saw Len Hutton in his prime, Another time, another time.

~Harold Pinter

I believe an international criminal court is very much to be desired.

~Harold Pinter

Rationality went down the drain donkey's years ago and hasn't been seen since.

~Harold Pinter

Beckett had an unerring light on things, which I much appreciated.

~Harold Pinter

I sometimes wish desperately that I could write like someone else, be someone else. No one particularly. Just if I could put the pen down on

paper and suddenly come out in a totally different way.

~Harold Pinter

I could be a bit of a pain in the arse. Since I've come out of my cancer, I must say I intend to be even more of a pain in the arse.

~Harold Pinter

I ought not to speak about the dead because the dead are all over the place.

~Harold Pinter

There are no hard distinctions between what is real and what is unreal, nor between what is true and what is false. A thing is not necessarily either true or false; it can be both true and false.

~Harold Pinter

I hate brandy...it stinks of modern literature.

~Harold Pinter

Most of the press is in league with government, or with the status quo.

~Harold Pinter

Isn't it true that every aristocrat wants to die?

~Harold Pinter

Nothing is more sterile or lamentable than the man content to live within himself.

~Harold Pinter

There's a tradition in British intellectual life of mocking any non-political force that gets involved in politics, especially within the sphere of the arts and the theatre.

~Harold Pinter

I've had my fill of these city guttersnipes--all that scavenging scum! They're the sort of people, who, if the gates of heaven opened to them, all they'd feel would be a draught.

~Harold Pinter

A short piece of work means as much to me as a long piece of work.

~Harold Pinter

The Room I wrote in 1957, and I was really gratified to find that it stood up. I didn't have to change a word.

~Harold Pinter

If Milosevic is to be tried, he has to be tried by a proper court, an impartial, properly constituted court which has international respect.

~Harold Pinter

When you lead a life of scholarship you can't be bothered with the humorous realities, you know, tits, that kind of thing.

~Harold Pinter

In Cuba I have always understood harsh treatment of dissenting voices as stemming from a "siege situation" imposed upon it from outside. And I believe that to a certain extent that is true.

~Harold Pinter

There are some good rules and there are some lousy rules.

~Harold Pinter

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