

Hilton Als Quotes

*Thinking, People, Artist, Book, Men, Girl, Challenges, Crazy, Long, White,
Feels, Fashion, Beautiful, Writing, Memories, Expectations, Successful, Lots Of
Money, World, Sometimes*

I think you're not really teaching anyone unless you're learning yourself.

~Hilton Als

For black people, being around white people is sometimes like taking care of babies you don't like, babies who throw up on you again and again, but whom you cannot punish, because they're babies.

~Hilton Als

I was so well loved by my mother that if people have any expectations of me I really don't notice because I'm hardest on myself.

~Hilton Als

Inspiration takes many forms, but it's rarely pure.

~Hilton Als

Challenging is good, like good conversation, yes? Who wants to have dinner with the same old easy listening music sounding friends all the time?

~Hilton Als

One of the things I noticed when I worked at Vibe was that backstage at a fashion show, they always referred to the black models as "black girls." I thought, "They never say 'white girls.'"

~Hilton Als

Images are really powerful. People fall in love with images, and as a way of falling in love with someone because they're like an image.

~Hilton Als

People are quick to make monuments of anything they live long enough to control.

~Hilton Als

Who says reading should be easy? Shouldn't it challenge you as hard sometimes as love. Maybe "hard" is not the right word in this context.
Ha!

~Hilton Als

There were so few black men who were successful and who successfully conveyed black male fear - how America can make you feel crazy, and how America can create interesting levels of contradiction.

~Hilton Als

I'm a draftsman. And also, I really respond to love.

~Hilton Als

People have a copyright on their own life.

~Hilton Als

I think writing is an act of remembrance, I think that Instagram is an act of remembrance, and I think curating a show is an act of memory, too.

~Hilton Als

It's very hard to find artists in the history of western art who don't make portraiture ideological in some way.

~Hilton Als

Recalling, for me, is a great way of living, so not to forget.

~Hilton Als

I don't know what makes fashion cruel, except I feel nothing but spiritual depletion around it. There's nothing enriching, spiritually.

~Hilton Als

I really don't think we should dismiss a book because we feel messed about intellectually. Or emotionally. That's the writer's job!

~Hilton Als

I think it's cultural racism more than anything, which dovetails with actual racism, but the cultural racism to me is even more shocking.

~Hilton Als

I think that if you feel imaginatively towards a subject, you really shouldn't do it in a journalistic context, because then you're just fabricating, and that's crazy.

~Hilton Als

Nothing is more flattering for a writer than when someone knows your work.

~Hilton Als

I thought of the structure as musical. The first piece, for instance, contains the names/subject matter of every person to come in the book. Like a piece of music with themes, etc.

~Hilton Als

I don't make a lot of money, but I get to have freedom.

~Hilton Als

I feel like there are so few girls in New York like that anymore, who are not focused on getting a man with money.

~Hilton Als

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